



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

February 6, 2017

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 for the Replacement of Bridge 28 on SR 1119
Over North Little Huntington Creek, PA 16-08-0012, Yadkin County, ER 17-0028

Thank you for your letter of January 4, 2017, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed it and believe that the documentation for the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498) is not correct. The author states that the building was constructed ca. 1846, however, we and the Yadkin County surveyor judge the mill to date to the turn of the 20th century. This appears to be a later mill, built perhaps at the same location as an earlier mill, but it is not a mid-19th century building.

Our conclusions are based on the overall appearance of the exterior of the mill. It is difficult to see the interior structural system, and two of the four interior photos are of the early 20th century addition. Very little is shown of the interior of the two-story building. Heavy timber construction can date as late as the early 20th century, especially in rural areas such as Yadkin County.

Based on the incorrect and limited information in the report, we cannot determine whether this building is eligible under Criterion A. Very little information is offered for the 20th century operation of the mill, and how it would have been important to farmers at that time. Given that the interior information in the report is minimal, we also wonder if the mill retains sufficient integrity to be eligible.

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



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL L. HOLDER
Acting Secretary

ER 17-0028

To Ann Swallow
Due Y29

Due 1/30/17

January 4, 2017

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

Dear Ms. Gledhill-Earley:

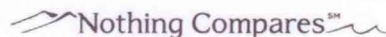
RE: **Historic Structures Report:** PA # 16-08-0012, Replace Bridge No. 28 on SR 1119 (Sloan's Mill Rd) over North Little Huntington Creek in Yadkin County

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 sreap@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Shelby Reap
Historic Architecture Group

Attachment



HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

for

**Replace Bridge No. 28 on SR 1119 (Sloans Mill Rd) over North Little Hunting
Creek**

Yadkin County

North Carolina Department of Transportation

WBS#17BP.11.R.130

Prepared for:

Human Environment Section

North Carolina Department of Transportation

1598 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

Prepared by:

Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.

1318-F Patton Avenue

Asheville, NC 28806

December 2016

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
for**

**Replace Bridge No. 28 on SR 1119 (Sloans Mill Rd) over North Little Hunting Creek
Yadkin County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS#17BP.11.R.130**

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

**Prepared by:
Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.
1318-F Patton Avenue
Asheville, NC 28806**

December 2016

Hillary Cole, RLA Historic Preservationist

Date

Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor

Date

Historic Architecture Section

North Carolina Department of Transportation

**Replace Bridge No. 28 on SR 1119 (Sloan's Mill Rd) over North Little Hunting Creek Yadkin County
North Carolina Department of Transportation WBS#17BP.11.R.130**

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 28 on SR 1119 (Sloans Mill Road) over North Little Hunting Creek in Yadkin County. The project area is located in the southwestern portion of the county near the community of Hamptonville. Bridge No. 28, built in 1964, carries two lanes of traffic on a prestressed concrete channel superstructure supported by precast, prestressed concrete caps on timber posts and concrete sills. The bridge is temporarily shored and is classified as both structurally deficient and functionally obsolete. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as approximately 400 feet northwest of the bridge to 500 feet southeast of the bridge and 70 feet on either side of the center line.

NCDOT contracted with Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc (V&M) in November 2016 to complete an intensive evaluation of a property adjacent to the bridge location: 2712 Sloans Mill Road (PIN No. 487500003388). The parcel contains the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498), a nineteenth century water-powered mill recorded by Kirk Mohny in March 1986 during a county-wide survey of Yadkin County's historic architectural resources. Architectural Historian Hillary Cole conducted the fieldwork on December 2, 2016, photographing and mapping the property, and authored the report. Primary source investigation included research at the Yadkin County Register of Deeds Office, the Surry County Register of Deeds office, the Yadkinville Public Library, the Statesville Public Library, and oral history interviews with members of the Sloan and Knight families. The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (HPO) survey site files provided comparative resource examples.

After an intensive evaluation following the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for eligibility, the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498) was determined to be eligible due to its clear identification as an early nineteenth century water-powered grist mill. It is one of the last remaining testaments to the self-sufficiency of farm life that has been lost to modern industrialization as there is only one other comparative water-powered grist mill documented in Yadkin County.

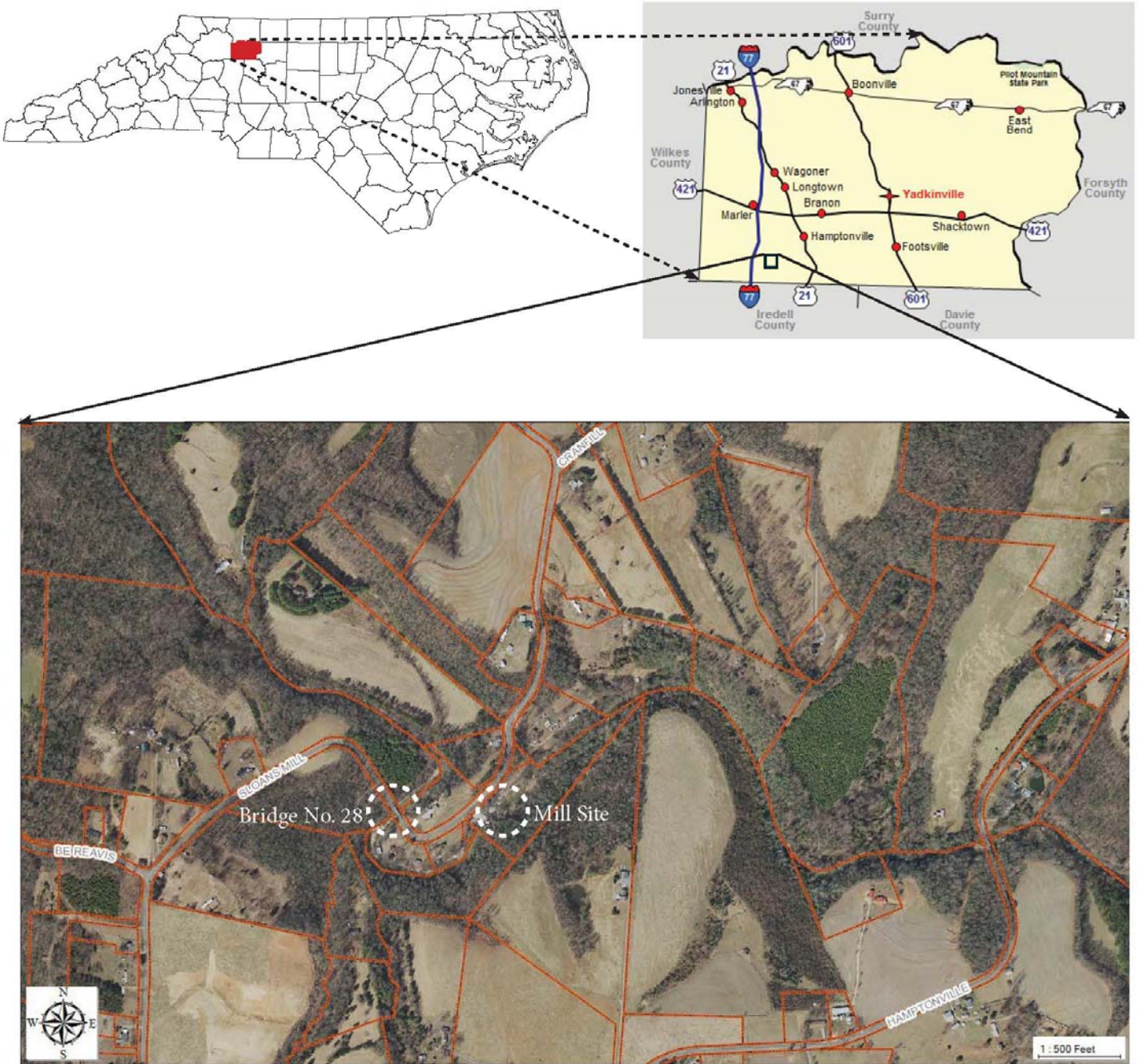
V&M conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; the HPO's Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina; and NCDOT's current Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products. This property evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

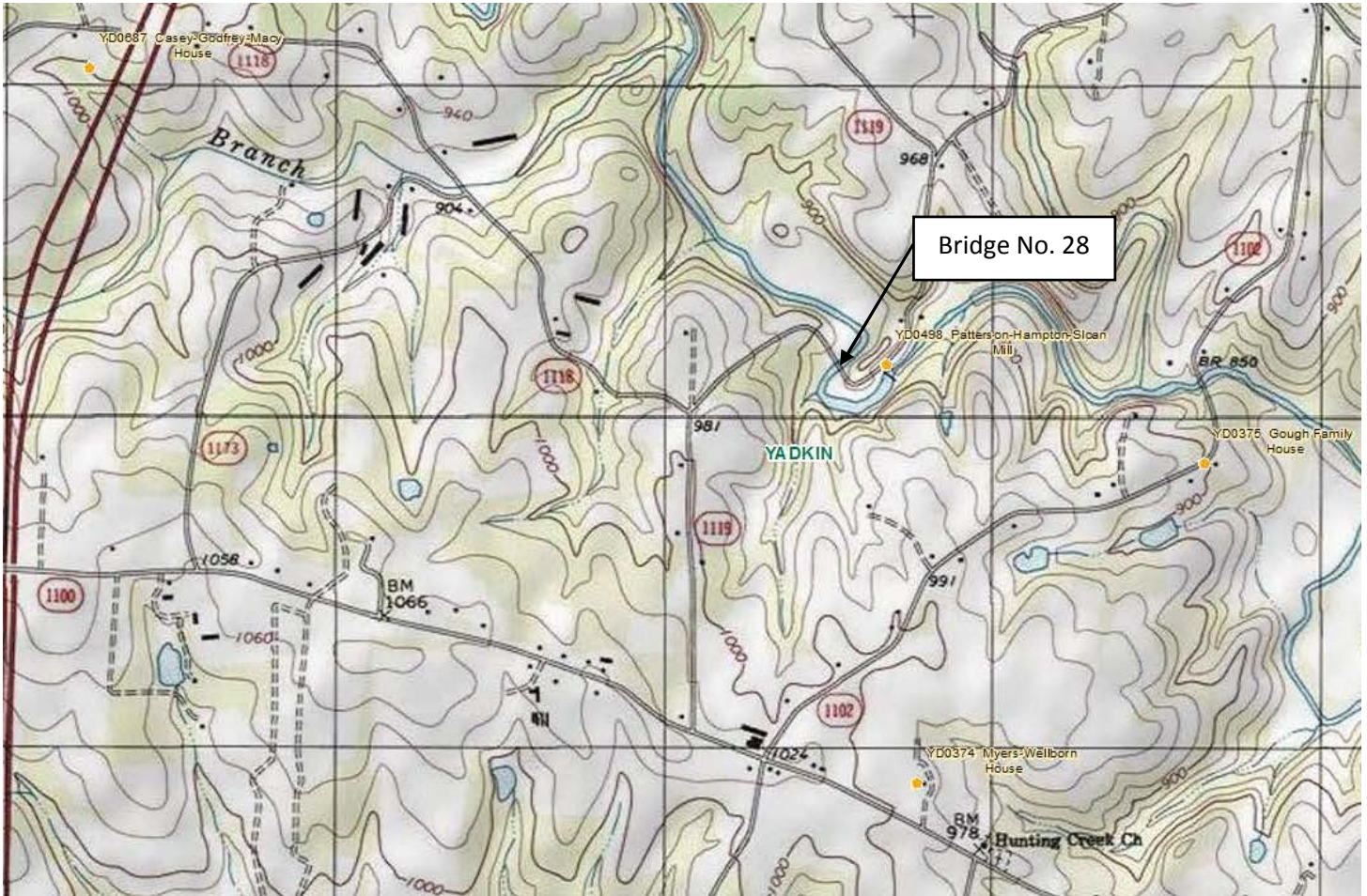
SSN	Property Name	Address	PIN	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
YD0498	Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill	2712 Sloans Mill Road	487500003388	Eligible	A

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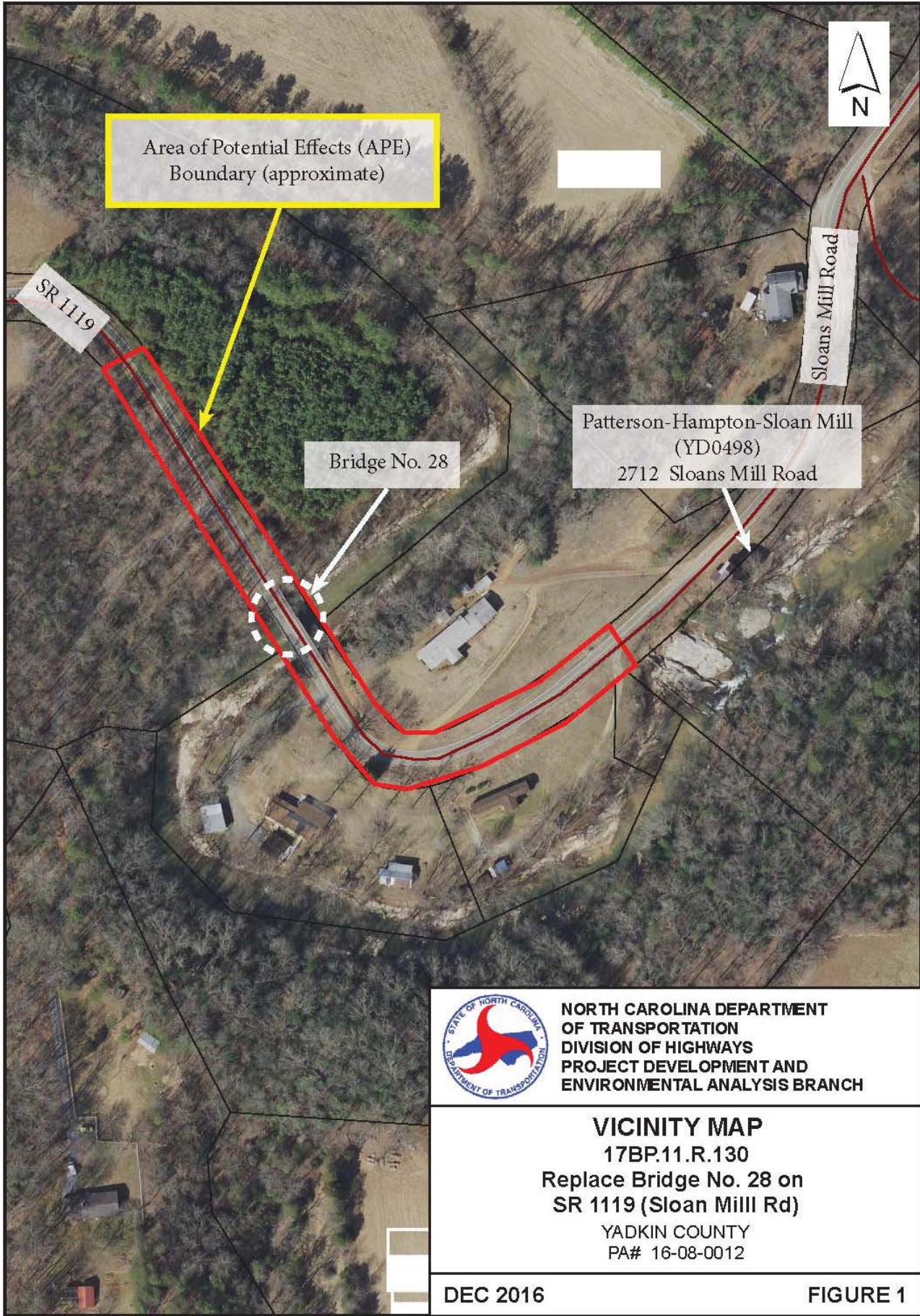
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I. Project Location Maps





**Location Map – Hamptonville South, NC-SC USGS topographic quadrangle map (1982)
(Source: HPOWeb GIS Service, <http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpweb/>)**



Area of Potential Effects (APE)
Boundary (approximate)

SR 1119

Bridge No. 28

Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill
(YD0498)
2712 Sloan Mill Road

Sloans Mill Road



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH**

VICINITY MAP
17BP.11.R.130
Replace Bridge No. 28 on
SR 1119 (Sloan Mill Rd)
YADKIN COUNTY
PA# 16-08-0012

DEC 2016

FIGURE 1

II. Introduction:

The project area is located in the southwestern section of Yadkin County, approximately four miles from the Hamptonville community. Bridge No. 28 carries Sloans Mill Road (SR 1119) over North Little Hunting Creek. The rural setting is characterized by pasture and woods. The bridge stands amidst gently rolling topography that is predominantly wooded. North Little Hunting Creek is full of large rocks and creates a sharp curve directly to the west of the bridge structure. The remnants of the mill dam to the east of the bridge formed the small mill pond on North Little Hunting Creek.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed bridge replacement project is delineated as approximately 400 feet northwest of the bridge to 500 feet southeast of the bridge and 70 feet on either side of the center line. The area to the north of the bridge contains multiple parcels, one of which is owned by Hilda Sloan, widow of the former mill owner George Sloan. On the south side of the bridge there are the residences of four separate property owners, including the current mill property owners, Pete and Judy Knight, and various members of their immediate family. The mill structure is located approximately 1,000 feet east of the bridge. The mill property encompasses a nine-acre parcel bisected by Sloans Mill Road and contains both the mill and Knight's home, built in 1994.



Bridge No. 28, view to southeast along Sloans Mill Road (SR 1119)



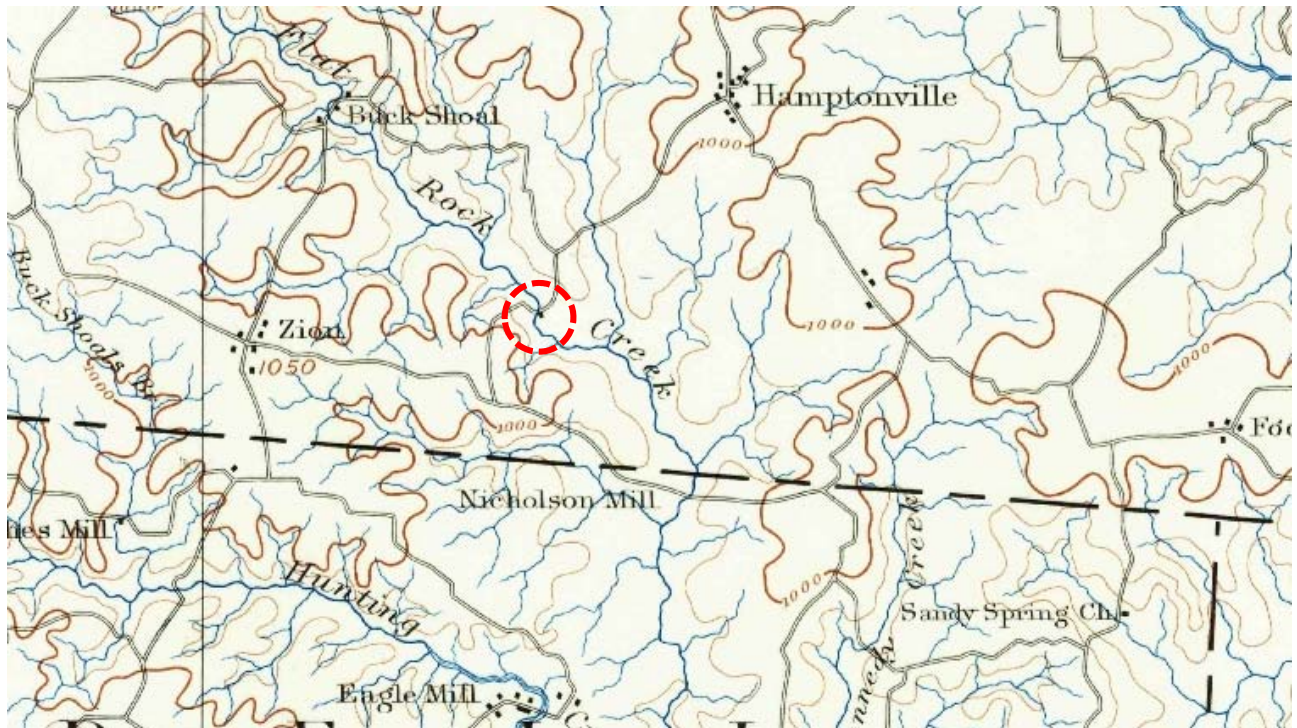
Bridge No. 28, oblique view to the northwest



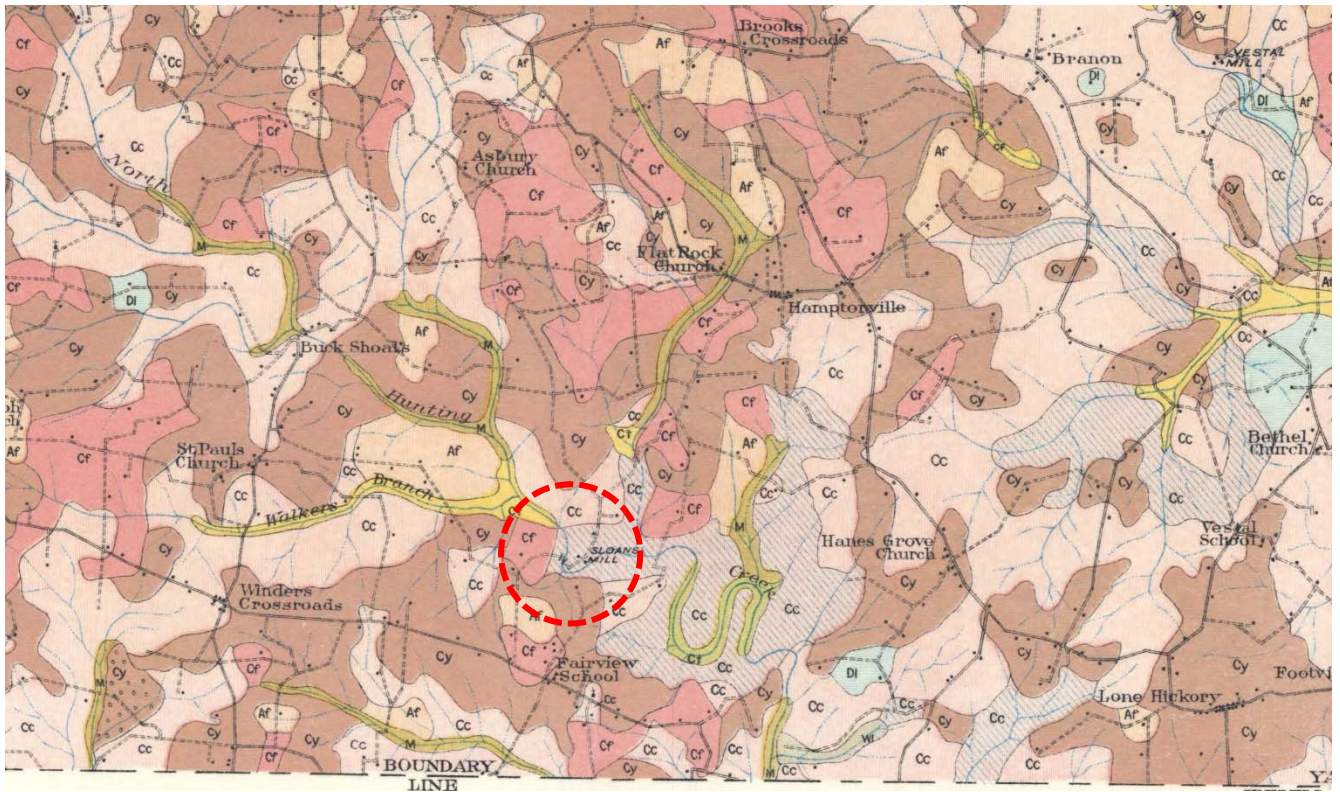
Bridge No. 28 view to the northwest along Sloans Mill Road

III. Methodology:

The field survey of the bridge replacement project was conducted on December 2, 2016, and structures within the APE were photographed and recorded. Bridge No. 28 is located northwest of the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, mill pond, and circa 1950 Chester C. Sloan House at 2836 Sloans Mill Road. Basic research on the project area was conducted by consulting with the Yadkin County GIS Records, the Yadkin County Register of Deeds Office, the Surry County Register of Deeds office, the Yadkinville Public Library, the Statesville Public Library, and oral history interviews with members of the Sloan and Knight families. The project area is not covered by Sanborn maps, but it is shown on historic surveys and USGS topographical maps dating back to the 1890s.



**Detail of Yadkinville, N.C., 1:125,000, USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map (1891)
The mill structure is shown on the map but is not labeled.**



Detail of Soil Map, North Carolina, Yadkin County Sheet (1924)

IV: Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498)

Resource Name	Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill
HPO Survey Number	YD0498
Location	2712 Sloans Mill Road
PIN	487500003388
Date(s) of Construction	Ca.1846
Eligibility Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria A



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD 0498), 2712 Sloans Mill Road, façade, view to the east

The two-story Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill stands approximately eight hundred and fifty feet from the southeast end of Bridge No. 28 and just ten feet from the edge of Sloans Mill Road. Built into the side of an embankment overlooking North Little Hunting Creek, the front of the mill presents an elevation of two stories while the two sides and rear elevations are much taller due to the dry fieldstone foundation. Portions of the dry fieldstone dam remain approximately a thousand feet southwest of the mill. This dam historically formed a mill pond along North Little Hunting Creek. The remnants of a dry fieldstone channel that formed the millrace extends from the former dam to the turbine on the southeast corner of the mill. Photographs taken by Kirk Mohney in 1986 show the exterior of the mill to be very similar to its current state. Mohney's interior photos showed more milling equipment almost all of which has been removed.



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, west elevation, view to the northeast



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, west elevation, view to the east



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, south elevation, view to the northwest.



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, south elevation, view to the west



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, east elevation, view to the southwest

The mill building is constructed of a heavy timber frame with traditional pegged mortise-and-tenon joinery. The framing members are primarily chestnut, with lighter structural members of yellow pine. The two-story mill measures approximately thirty-eight feet by thirty-two feet. The front gable building is covered with original weatherboards. The mill is capped by a standing-seam metal roof with exposed, scroll-sawn rafter tails. The main two-story block has a metal clad gable roof dormer on its west elevation and shed additions to both the front and west sides. Built on a slight slope, the mill is supported by a dry fieldstone foundation.

The front façade of the mill faces Sloans Mill Road. This was the original entrance to the mill which was accessed through a set of wooden double-doors reached by wooden steps. According to the Knight family, vandals stole the original doors and currently a plywood door covers the entryway.¹ Sometime after 1920, a warming room metal roof shed addition was added to this front façade along with a metal roof porch attached to it. The warming room is a structure associated with some mills in order to provide a heat source for the mill since many mills weren't heated. It was used by both the mill workers and farmers waiting for their goods to be milled. This addition is supported by concrete block piers. The gable of this elevation contains a replacement window that displays no exterior trim. A couple of the original three-over-one windows are intact and are being stored within the structure. The rest of the windows were stolen in the late 1980s early 1990s at the same time as the original front entrance doors.²

The two-bay east elevation features four single replacement windows, one of which has plywood sheathing. There is a large opening in the foundation that was created to run the belts and pulleys from the turbine to the lumber mill, which was added approximately thirty feet to the east of the mill structure sometime between 1918 and 1919.

The south elevation has two windows on the original building and one on the shed addition. The turbine, and the associated wheels and other mechanisms are still in place on the northwest corner. Chester Sloan purchased the turbine in 1919 in Shelby, North Carolina. Historically there was a waterwheel associated with the mill, but no documentation could be found as to when it was removed.³ The remnants of the wood structure around the turbine are still apparent. There is an opening in the foundation that allowed the water from the turbine system to be released back into the creek. The wood structure that transported the water can be seen through this opening.

The roofline shows exposed rafter tails along a metal roof dormer which is attached to the original building along the west elevation and contains one empty window frame that has been boarded up. The west elevation contains the metal roof and exposed rafter tails shed roof addition. The shed roof addition containing the warming room contains one small boarded up window. There is one empty window frame with no exterior trim along this elevation. An open west-to-south passage beneath the mill provided access to the belts and pulleys that led to the turbine mechanism.

The interior of the mill contains roughhewn posts joined with mortise and tenon and pegs. The rafter plate joints are hewn and pegged. The floors are wide thick planks of oak and pine. In the 1990s the family added plywood dividing walls to the first floor interior to create a recreational room for their

¹ Pete and Judy Knight. Interview with the author, December 2, 2016.

² Knight

³ Knight

children.⁴ A narrow open string stair rises to the second floor platform, supported on posts and open to the first floor. Only a few isolated remnants of the machinery including wooden pulleys, wheels, chutes and bins still remain. The millstone was removed by George Sloan after the mill was vandalized in the late 1980s. The millstone resides at George Sloan's widow's house at 2836 Sloans Mill Road.



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, first floor



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, first floor

⁴ Knight



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, second floor



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, second floor looking down

Remnants of the dam survive to the west of the mill on North Little Hunting Creek and portions of the original stacked fieldstone are still visible along the east embankment of the creek. The second dam was destroyed in 1963 when a rainstorm flooded the area and a large tree trunk from upstream knocked the dam down. The dam was rebuilt soon after by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers using concrete and wood. That dam was destroyed in 1970 by another downed tree trunk. The U.S. Army Corps asked George Sloan if he wanted them to rebuild another one and he declined. The dry stacked fieldstone mill race is located a few feet offshore and is visible at normal water levels.



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill Dam remnants, eastern bank of creek, facing southwest



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill Dam remnants, facing east upstream of the mill



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill Race remnants, western bank of the creek, facing northeast

A historic Sloan-Knight family photograph taken in 1920 shows the lumber mill that no longer exists off the east elevation of the mill. Due to evidence regarding lumber mill ownership of past owners, it is assumed that the site where Chester Sloan built his lumber mill in 1919 was the same site as previous lumber mills. Chester Sloan utilized the dry stacked fieldstone foundation remnants as the foundation for the lumber mill he built. This photograph also shows that the warming room (a separate building) was originally located directly across the road northwest of the mill. The warming shed was torn down and a new one was built attached to the west elevation of the mill sometime in the 1930s or 1940s.



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill, Lumber Mill Foundation Remnants, facing southwest

Local tradition holds that there has been a mill of some sort on this site since the early settlers came to Hamptonville in 1805. According to the Knight family, their grandfather Chester Cornish Sloan said that the Hamptons reported that the mill, the race, and the dam were all built by slaves which would put the construction of the site at some time in the early to mid-1800s.⁵ But there is no hard evidence to support this early date. The property can be traced back to 1782 and the John Wright III family. Captain John Wright III was the patriarch of the widespread Wright family in Surry County (the land on which the mill is located became Yadkin County in 1850) and the head of a large family in the immediate area around Hamptonville. He owned 1,220 acres on Hunting Creek. Following Captain John Wright's death in 1789, he deeded land in the area to his son Daniel Wright, his son John Wright Jr., and his son Thomas Wright. The first mention of the "mill" site is when Thomas Wright's son, Sheriff John Wright owned 1,500 acres including a "mill tract" along Hunting Creek around 1820-1830. It is not clear which Wright family member

⁵ Knight.

passed the land down to Sheriff John Wright. In 1846 Sheriff John Wright sold the land to Captain Uriah Douthit, who then transferred the “mill tract” to his father Jacob Douthit in 1856. In 1857 Jacob Douthit sold the “mill tract” of 15 acres to Thomas Patterson. In 1869 Alfred Hampton bought the “mill tract” and 413 acres of land around it from Thomas Patterson. Upon his death, Alfred Hampton willed his property to his wife, Jane Patterson Hampton. In 1918 Jane and her children, heirs of Alfred Hampton, sold the “old Mill tract” of 40 acres to Chester Cornish Sloan. Chester and his son Vander Sloan ran the mill until 1963. Chester Sloan had eight sons and deeded the land to his youngest son George Sloan in 1963. According the family, Chester deeded it to George in order to entice him to stay in the Hamptonville area. George Sloan deeded the land to his niece Judy Knight in 1992.⁶

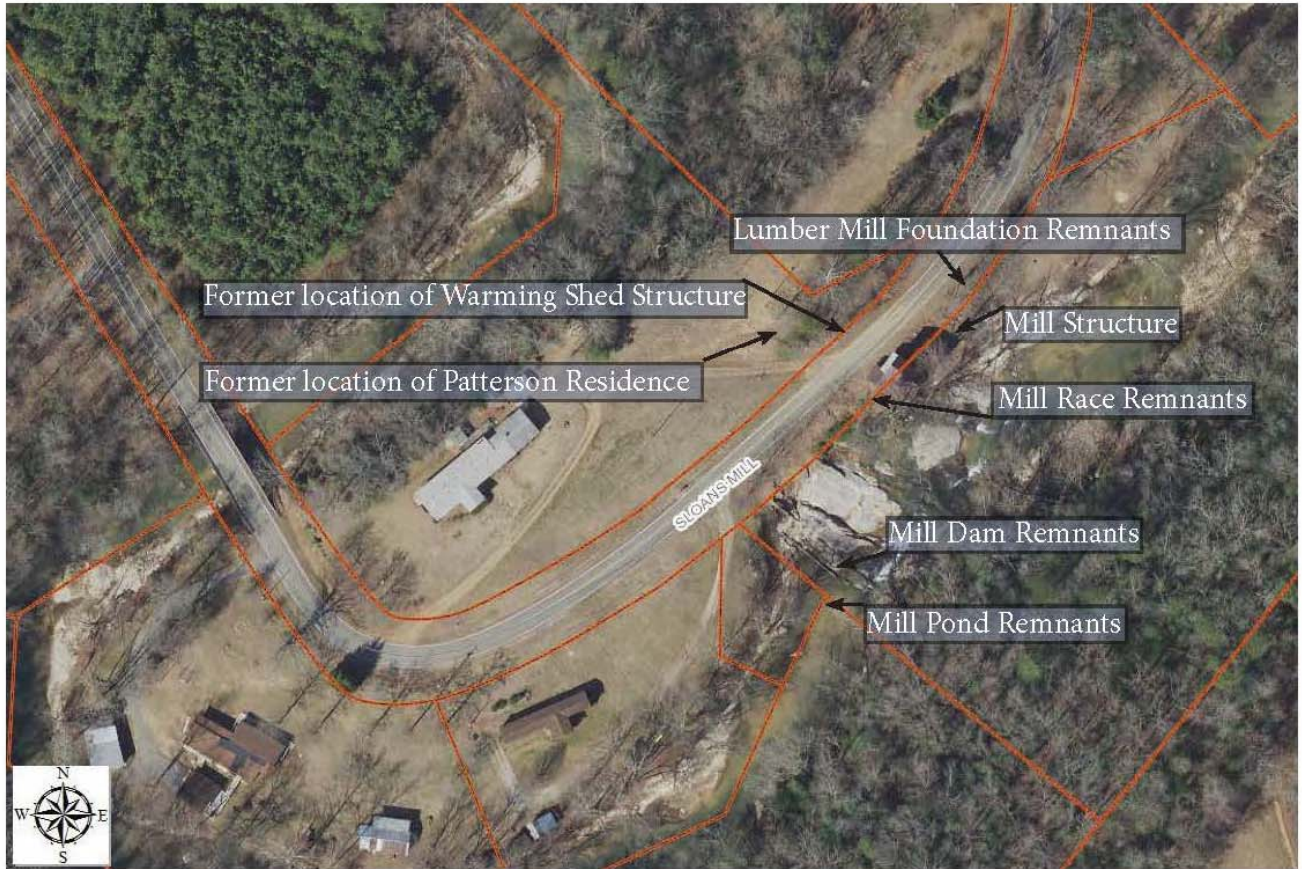
A historic Sloan-Knight family painting shows a one-story side-gable wood house, built by the Patterson family, located directly across the road west of the mill. In 1918 this structure became the Chester Sloan family residence up until 1950 when Chester built another residence a quarter of a mile up the road located at 2836 Sloans Mill Road. This residence is a brick bungalow with a side-gable shingle roof and a vinyl siding addition connecting the main structure and the garage. The original Patterson residence associated with the mill was left vacant, and in 1970 vandals burned the house down.⁷

The Vander Sloan residence, located at 2634 Sloans Mill Road approximately one thousand feet northwest of the mill, is a one story front gable vinyl sided bungalow with a covered front porch. It was built in the 1930’s.

Located on a grassy knoll northeast of the bridge and across the road from the mill, the Knights built a one-story modular home with vinyl siding in 1994.

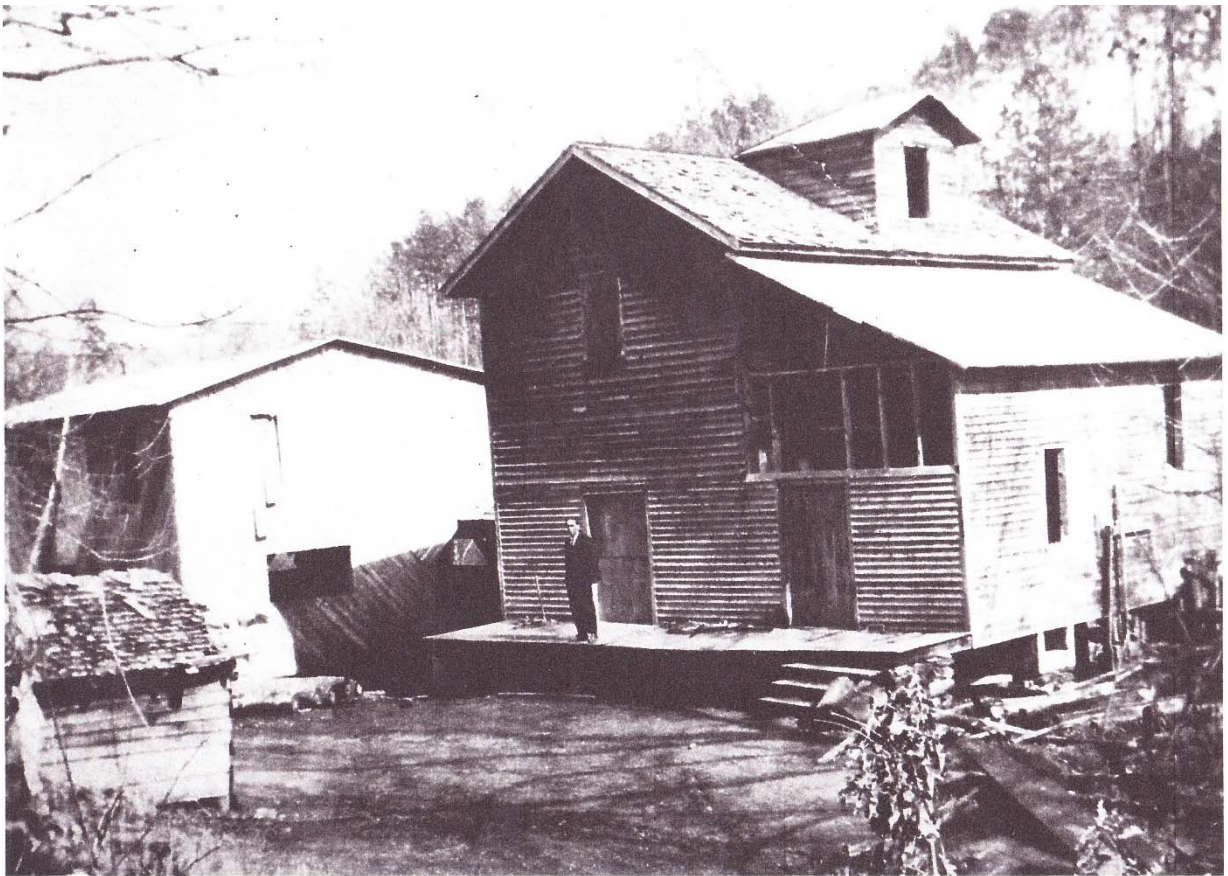
⁶ Register of Deeds Office, Yadkin County Courthouse, Yadkinville, NC.

⁷ Knight.



Site plan: Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (RF0498), 2712 Sloans Mill Road, aerial view

(Map Source: Yadkin County WebGIS, 2014 Aerial)



Sloan Grist Mill, Lumber Mill, and Warming Shed, 1920 (Source: Knight Family Personal Photo)



Sloan Grist Mill, Lumber Mill, and Mill Dam, 1960 (Source: *Old Mill of Guilford* by Joe Brown pg 191)

History

The origin of the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill remains unclear although local tradition holds that the mill dates back to the earliest settlers in the Hamptonville area in the 1780s and 1790s. The earliest mention of a mill that could be the existing structure appears in 1846, when John Wright sold 1,400 acres, including the “mill tract”, and nine slaves to Uriah Douthit in 1846.⁸ He owned the property with the mill on it before 1846 but the Deed books from that period have been moved from Surry County to the Division of Archives and Records North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in Raleigh and any earlier deeds have not been found.

The property descended from the family of Captain John Wright III (1728-1789) a native of Prince William (now Fauquier) County, Virginia. He was the Official Surveyor of Fauquier County, Virginia in 1771. He was a Field Officer in The Commonwealth of Virginia and Private in the American Revolution, serving in the 4th Carolina Regiment under Captain Smith. John and his wife moved to Surry County, North Carolina (now Yadkin) in 1774. He settled on the “Big Branch of the North Fork of Hunting Creek”, (the Northern Fork is now called Flat Rock Creek) to “Buck Shoal at Deep Creek”. John claimed 1900 acres by “Settlers Rights” and reported the fact to the Entry Taker. He applied for a survey grant at a later date. By 1779 he had five separate tracts in Surry County (now Yadkin).⁹ The 1782 Surry County tax list shows John Wright with 300 acres on Deep Creek and 1,220 Acres on Hunting Creek.¹⁰ He is listed as owning land in 1790 in the area of the along the Trading Road near Flat Rock Creek which is northeast of the Sloan’s Creek site according to the Yadkin County North Carolina Historical Documentation Map.¹¹

Sheriff John Wright (1781-1850/1853) was born in Surry County as the grandson of Captain John Wright III through his son Thomas Wright. John Wright was one of the most prominent men in the County, serving as Sheriff of Surry County from 1812 until 1824. In addition to his role as sheriff, he was a plantation owner and it seems likely that the operation of the mill was simply one of the plantation’s agricultural pursuits. John Wright sold 1,400 acres, including the “mill tract” to Uriah Douthit in 1846 in order to pay off his debts.¹²

Captain Uriah Douthit (1817-1867) was listed as being a machinist in the 1850s census, an occupation suitable for a miller and cotton manufacturer. Captain Uriah Douthit also owned a cotton mill nearby called “Hunting Creek Factory” which opened in 1838. The cotton mill was also located on Hunting Creek and it produced cotton yarn mill using a steam powered milling process.¹³ In 1856 Uriah Douthit transferred the “mill tract”, that he bought from John Wright, to his father Jacob Douthit (1787-1858) and also gave his father Power of Attorney in preparation for Uriah’s departure to Arkansas. The Power of Attorney mentions that his father was “to recover from Greensboro Mutual Insurance Company the amount of insurance due me on my cotton factory”.¹⁴

⁸ Lewis Brumfield ed., with Kirk Franklin Mohny, *Historical Architecture of Yadkin County, North Carolina* (Yadkinville, NC: Yadkin County Historical Society, 1987), 131.

⁹ Francis Harding Casstevens, *The Heritage of Yadkin County* (Yadkinville, NC: Hunter Publishing Company, 1981), 677-688.

¹⁰ Jo White Lynn, Surry County, North Carolina, Wills, 1771-1827: Annotated Genealogical Abstracts (Genealogical Publishing Com, 1992) 215.

¹¹ Fred Hughes, Historical Land Grant Map of Yadkin County (Jamestown, NC: The Custom House, 1981).

¹² Register of Deeds, Surry County, Surry County Courthouse, Dobson, NC.

¹³ History North Carolina website. List of NC Textile Mills (prior to 1860). <http://www.historync.org/NCtextilespre1860.htm>; accessed December 2016

¹⁴ Register of Deeds. Yancey County.

In 1857 Jacob Douthit sold the “mill tract” of 15 acres to Thomas Patterson for \$500. The deed also mentions the “mill road” and “mill dam”.¹⁵ Thomas Patterson (1770-1848) was from an old family of Surry and Yadkin County millers. He was the son of John (1773-ca.1850) and Edith Johnson Patterson (1770-1848). John was the son of Greenberry Patterson (1745-1798) who obtained land on “Mill Creek” near Deep Creek Friends Meeting in 1780 and built a mill on North Deep Creek in 1791. The site had located by the remnants of a very old mill dam made of enormous fifteen and twenty-foot-long rocks with signs of an iron forge operation close by. The site is just above the bridge over Ninth Deep Creek on the Jack Shore Road. Thomas Patterson was listed as owning a “saw mill” in the 1872 Branson’s but not a grist mill.¹⁶ As a farmer, it is likely that the operation of the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill was simply one of Thomas’ agricultural pursuits.

Thomas Patterson first married Jane Ladd (1799-1853) and after she died he married Rebecca Ladd (1805-1877) in 1855. Rebecca Ladd’s daughter from a previous marriage, Jane Ladd (1837-1922), married Alfred Hampton in 1855. Alfred Hampton (1832-1892) was the son of Dr. John Hampton and the grandson of Henry Hampton, the founder of Hamptonville.¹⁷ In 1869 Alfred Hampton bought the “mill tract” and 413 acres of land around it from Thomas and Rebecca Patterson for \$1,500. The deed refers to it as the “land Patterson bought from Jacob Douthit”. Among the landmarks listed are “Flat Rock Branch, Aaron Martin’s Spring Branch, and an old ford across Hunting Creek called Rockford.”¹⁸ Alfred Hampton was born in Hamptonville. He was licensed as a doctor but never practiced due to his wife’s wishes.¹⁹ Choosing the occupation of a farmer, he bought land near Hamptonville, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. During the Civil War he served as a member of the Home Guards.²⁰ He was listed in 1889 as owning a “saw mill” in the Branson Directory.²¹ Alfred Hampton willed his property to his wife, Jane Patterson Hampton (1837-1922). In 1918 Jane and her children, heirs of Alfred Hampton, sold the “old Mill” tract of 40 acres for \$2,500 to Chester Sloan.²²

Chester Cornish Sloan (1885-1972) was born in Iredell County as the son of a miller. Sloan moved his family to Yadkin County to operate a grain mill “on Hunting Creek in Bucks Shoals Township”. This appears to have been the Old Buck Shoals Mill, which is no longer standing. In 1918, the Patterson-Hampton-Mill, located further down the creek became available.²³ Chester Sloan and his son Vander Couch Sloan (1911-1989) operated the Sloan Grist Mill in conjunction with a lumber plant until 1963 when the original dam was destroyed by a downed tree.²⁴ There was also a “Sloan Sawmill” and a “Sloan Cane Mill” listed as his businesses along with the “Sloan Grist Mill”.²⁵ In the 1918 Directory “C.C. Sloan’s Planing Mill” was listed with C.C. Sloan as owner and the “Sloan and Seagraves F. and G. Mill” was listed as a

¹⁵ Register of Deeds. Yancey County.

¹⁶ Branson’s North Carolina Business Directory. 1872. Online archive. <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/search/collection/dirnc>; Accessed December 2016

¹⁷ Casstevens, 533.

¹⁸ Register of Deeds. Yancey County.

¹⁹ William E. Rutledge, Jr. An Illustrated History of Yadkin County 1850-1980, 1981 (Yadkinville, NC: Yadkin, NC Post Office Box 7, 1981), 13.

²⁰ Connor, R. D. W. (Robert Digges Wimberly), 1878-1950; Boyd, William Kenneth, 1879-1938; Hamilton, Joseph Grégoire de Roulhac, 1878-1961, History of North Carolina v. 4-6. North Carolina biography, by special staff of writers (Chicago : New York : Lewis Publishing Co., 1919), 710.

²¹ Branson’s North Carolina Business Directory. 1889. Online archive. <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/search/collection/dirnc>; Accessed December 2016

²² Register of Deeds. Yancey County.

²³ Casstevens, 236.

²⁴ Knight.

²⁵ Joe Brown, *Old Mill of Guilford* (Clemmons, NC: Haystack Press, 2013), 195.

partnership.²⁶ The Sloan and Knight families, when asked in oral interviews, have no recollection of a "Seagraves" or anyone else being a partner with Chester Sloan.²⁷ In 1919-1920 this mill was mentioned as the "Sloan and Seagrove Flour and Grist Mill in Hamptonville (flour, meal, and feed)" along with "C.C. Sloans Planing Mill".²⁸

Chester deeded 40 acres, including the Mill, to his son George Wendell Sloan (1936 to 2007) on November 22, 1968.²⁹ Under George's ownership, the mill was not put into production.³⁰

Judy and Pete Knight were deeded the land from George Sloan on March 11, 1992 and are the current owners.

²⁶ M.L. Shipman Commissioner, *Thirty-Second Report of the Department of Labor and Printing in the State of North Carolina 1919-1920* (Raleigh, NC: Edwards & Broughton Printing Co. State Printers, 1921), 374.

²⁷ Knight.

²⁸ Shipman, 622 and 374

²⁹ Register of Deeds, Yadkin County.

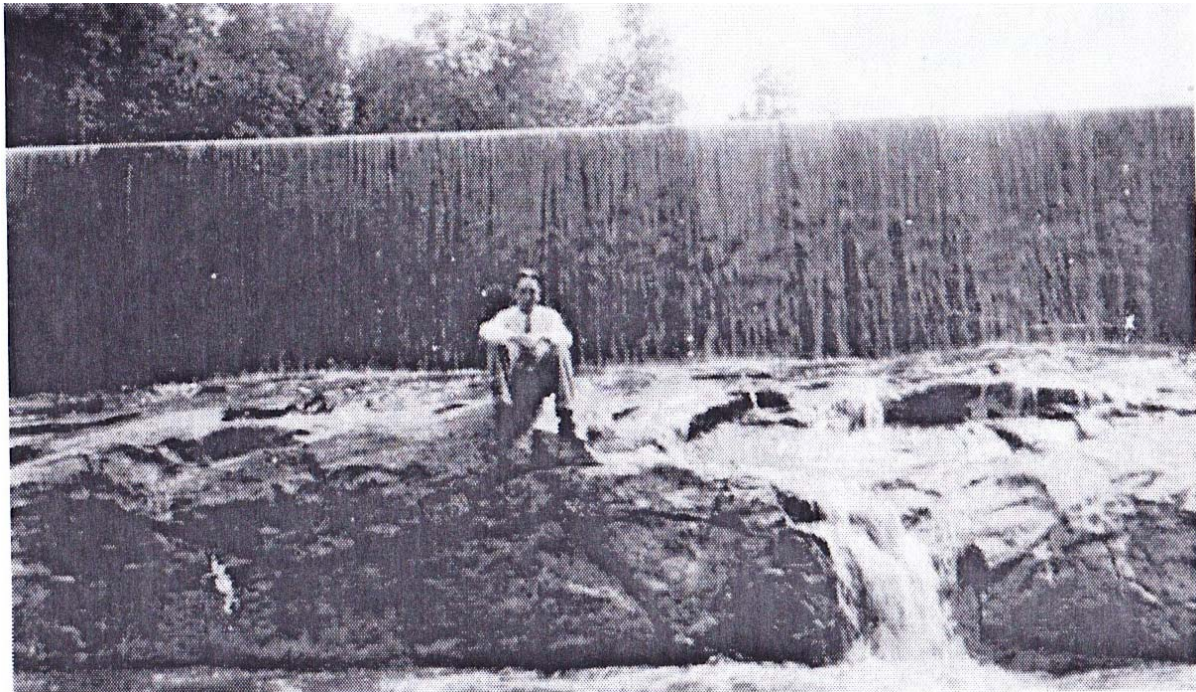
³⁰ Knight.



Sloan Lumber Mill, 1960 (Source: *Old Mill of Guilford* by Joe Brown, page 192)



Sloan Lumber Mill, 1960 (Source: *Old Mill of Guilford* by Joe Brown, page 193)



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill Dam, 1960 (Source: *Old Mill of Guilford* by Joe Brown, page 189)



Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill Dam and Mill Race, 1960 (Source: *Old Mill of Guilford* by Joe Brown, page 191)

V. Architectural Context

Census figures from the time Yadkin County was formed in 1850 from the southern part of Surry County to the present show a slow growth for the most part, due mainly to the lack of industry. Since it was founded, Yadkin County has been comprised of farming communities with crops including grains, corn, soybeans, tobacco, and various livestock operations. The early settlers were a self-sufficient people due to the lack of transportation networks in the county. Water power was available to operate mills in each community. Grist mills were established early in this area of Northwestern North Carolina. The first recorded mill was “Frost’s Old Mill” in 1755 on Deep Creek, not far from Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River. The first pioneers had just recently crossed the Yadkin River and settled in the area that would later be Yadkin County. A mill was a necessary and profitable business, as farmers in the area grew wheat, oats, barley, corn and rye to feed their families and their livestock. It was essential that grist mills were located nearby where farmers could have their corn ground into cornmeal and their wheat into flour. As an added incentive to the establishment of a grist mill or a saw mill was a colonial law that granted 50 acres of land, timber rights to adjacent land, and exemption from taxes and military service to those who established these mills.³¹

The Yadkin County community of Hamptonville was founded by Henry Hampton in 1805, who set aside 50 acres of his land for a town. Twenty-five acres of the land was to be used as a business district and twenty-five acres were divided into one acre lots.³² In 1878 Hamptonville was listed as having twenty-three grain mills; four sawmills; one carding mill; and two tanneries.³³ The 1840 census identifies 95 residents in Hamptonville, but that population only increased to 100 residents by 1902.

The rural areas around Yadkin County and Hamptonville remained largely agricultural-based areas with emphasis on families and kin groups, like the Wright and Sloan families, and grist mills played a vital role in commercial activity at a local level. In addition to corn and wheat for grinding, farmers sometimes brought surplus goods and crops to barter and sell to other farmers at the mill. In the nineteenth century, grist mills served many needs of the community and frequently operated as part of a rural industrial complex that might include saw and planing mills, a cotton gin, general store, blacksmith shop, or a miller’s residence. The Murray’s Mill Historic District in Catawba County near Statesville (NR, 1979) retains the village character of a rural mill complex.³⁴

The number and size of grist mills grew in the late nineteenth century, and the traditions and convenience of farmers taking their crops to the local mill continued well into the twentieth century. Transportation was difficult over unimproved roads, and since much of the product was still consumed by the farmer and his family, there was never much need for farmers to travel to other areas of the country or other mills to sell their crops.

No comprehensive survey of grist mills throughout the state has been conducted and existing data must be collected from a variety of sources. Seventeen grist mills in North Carolina were added listed in the National Register between 1970 and 1998, and of this number two have since been demolished.

³¹ Brown, 28.

³² Rutledge, 19.

³³ L.V. and E.T. Blum, *Guidebook of N.W. North Carolina containing Historical Sketches of the Moravians in North Carolina, A Description of the County and its Industrial Pursuits* (Salem, NC: L.V. and E.T. Blum Printers, 1878), 73.

³⁴ Grimsley T. Hobbs, *Exploring the Old Mills of North Carolina* (Chapel Hill, NC: The Provincial Press, 1985), 54.

Grimsley T. Hobbs featured twenty-five mills in his book, *Exploring the Old Mills of North Carolina (1985)*, with shorter descriptive entries for an additional fourteen grist mills. Joe Brown's book, *Old Mill of Guilford (2013)*, contains very short descriptions of five mills in Yadkin County, six mills in Wilkes County, and various mills in Iredell County.

The Yadkin County Historical Society compiled a list of historically known grist mills in Yadkin County. The list dated January 22, 2006 showed twenty-five mills. But a survey of the architecture of Yadkin County in 1986 by Kirk Mohney found only six surviving mills. These mills are also included in Lewis Brumfield and Kirk Mohney's book, *Historical Architecture of Yadkin County, North Carolina (1987)*. Out of these six mills, only four remain standing in various stages of repair.

The ca. 1850 Huff-Butner-Allgood Grist Mill (YD0083) is the oldest and best preserved of the surviving Yadkin County water-powered grist mills. Located near East Bend along Butner Road, the Huff-Butner-Allgood Mill was placed on the Study List in 1982. The original mill on Mill Creek in the East Bend area was built by John Shore sometime before the Civil War, probably around 1850. The mill has had a number of owners and operators over the years. The original mill was a grist mill and had to be rebuilt by J.C Huff at one time, along with the dam, due to a flood that did extensive damage. Ed Butner purchased the mill in 1932 and it was operated by George Butner from 1936 to 1946. The mill was purchased and repaired by Robert Allgood around 1962. New parts and new equipment were installed.

The Butner Mill, mill pond, miller's house and barn stand along a quarter-mile section of Butner Road. The mill and mill pond are on the west side of the road and the house and the barn are on the east side of the road. The mill is a tall three-story structure. It has a broad gable-front roof that takes the shape of a New England saltbox. The east gable frames a shed-roof porch on the first story, three windows on the second story, two on the third, and a single window in the attic. The pattern is repeated, except on the first floor, on the rear (west) elevation. A shed-roof addition carries across the north elevation. The entire building rests on a fieldstone foundation. Located to the west, the mill dam is at the head of the race which follows a curvilinear path through corrugated pipe supported by wooden trestles to the overshot wheel. To the north of the mill stands the miller's house. The one-story T-shaped building is lavishly decorated with brackets, bargeboards, intricately sawn window hoods, and a scalloped cornice. It has a hip roof front porch and paired interior chimneys.³⁵

³⁵ John, Pruett, "The Huff-Butner-Allgood Mill" National Register Nomination Application (1994).



Huff-Butner-Allgood Grist Mill (YD0083). Photos by Author December 2016.

The Boonville Feed Mill (YD0477) is a turn-of-the-twentieth-century roller mill. By most accounts it was originally built in 1880 by James Monroe Jones, who owned the adjacent store, but business directories do not record a mill in Booneville until 1902. A two-story main block with various small sheds and a large gable-roof storage wing comprise the primary building. A large corn crib stands to the south. Both buildings stand on an open brick pier foundation. Corrugated metal sheaths the exterior and six-over-six sash windows illuminate the interior. The mill still operates today and a 1986 historic architectural survey by Kirk Mohny documented an interior featuring a system of wooden chutes, grain elevators, and three roller mills operated by a system of belts and pulleys. In 1986, NC HPO added the Booneville Feed Mill to its Study List.³⁶



Boonville Feed Mill (YD0477). Photos by Author December 2016.

³⁶ Booneville Feed Mill Survey File (YD0047) from the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources State Historic Preservation Office/Survey & National Register Branch. Email dated December 8, 2016.

Wilhelm-Smitherman Roller Mill (YD0347) located in East Bend appears to have been constructed in the early twentieth century. The mill's builder has not been positively identified. However, family tradition holds that it was built by Ezekial Wilhelm (1858-1924). Wilhelm appears in the 1916 edition of the *North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory* as the operator of a roller mill, but as early as 1910 the "East Bend Roller Mill" was in operation. The structure was surveyed by Kirk Mohney in 1986, and at that time he mentioned that the majority of the mill equipment was still located within the structure. This structure has since then been renovated. The building, which has new siding and a new metal roof has been set up on wood posts and brick pillars. The renovation removed one of the original window openings along the entrance façade and covered it up with siding. The entire enclosed shed roof portion of the building has been removed along the west and north elevations. The window located along the west elevation gable has also been covered up with siding. The structure is also not associated with a water body and was powered by a diesel engine.³⁷



Wilhelm-Smitherman Roller Mill (YD0347). Photos by Author December 2016.

³⁷ Wilhelm-Smitherman Roller Mill Survey File (YD0347) from the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources State Historic Preservation Office/Survey & National Register Branch. Email dated December 8, 2016.

The Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill was built for utility and function rather than for ornamentation and therefore lacks much of the formal decoration that is found in other or more elaborate buildings of this era. The mill, judging from documentary photos, also lacked the spare stylistic elements found on other mills such as the Huff-Butner-Allgood Grist Mill. The Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill retains its historic two-story two-bay form with a front gable roof and shed addition. The building is covered with the original weatherboard and metal roofing. The original dry stacked field stone foundation is impressive to behold. The interior of the structure has had minimal updates and remnants of the original milling chutes, pulleys, wheels, and belts are still located within the structure. The turbine that was installed in 1918 is still in place with some of the accompanying turbine related mechanics. The loss of the original entrance door, windows, and the majority of the milling equipment diminish the historic integrity of the mill structure. The destruction of the associated mill dam, race, and mill pond diminish the historic integrity of the surrounding site. As does the loss of the original Patterson house and the Sloan Lumber Building which were associated buildings to the mill. The presence of the modern owner's residence and the adjacent residences further diminish the historic integrity of the site. The preservation of the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill is a testament to the dedication of its property owners and offers a glimpse of a way of life and historic resource type that is quietly fading away with time.

VI. Evaluation

The National Park Service's description of criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places is:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498) is **eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A (event). *To be eligible under Criterion A, a property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American pre-history or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or the nation. Furthermore, a property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, a property's specific association must be important as well.* The mill is eligible due to its association with early industrial activity in this mostly rural, agricultural-based county. The rivers and streams of Yadkin County, including Hunting Creek and its many branches, supported several small grist and saw mills in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Only four documented grist mills remain in Yadkin County. There is only one comparative type of water-powered grist mill to the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill. The Huff-Butner-Allgood Grist Mill (YD0083) located in East Bend along Butner road is on the Study List. The Huff-Butner-Allgood Mill and related structures very clearly depict the rural industrial complex often associated with grist mills in the area. While the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill stands alone due to the loss of the associated lumber mill and the Patterson house, it still reflects the traditions of self-sufficiency that sustained and entwined families and communities in the rural sections of the state through the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The mill retains integrity for its location, design, workmanship, feeling, and association, which clearly identify the property as a water-powered grist mill.

The Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill is **not eligible** for National Register 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 has been associated with various owners including the Wright, Douthit, Patterson-Hampton, and Sloan families. While several of the owners achieved prominence in other areas, milling was a very small part of their activities and not the best representation of their productive life and therefore do not appear to possess the prominence and significance related to milling required for National Register listing under Criterion B.

Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill is **not eligible** for the National Register 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 lack individual distinction.* The Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill is a two-story 2-block building resting on an impressive dry stacked fieldstone foundation and covered with the original weatherboard and metal roof. The 1918 turbine and its associated mechanics are still attached to the mill. The interior of the structure has been altered with plywood sheathing and partition walls and the majority of the milling equipment has been removed. Only a handful of wooden chutes, bins, pulleys, wheels, and belts can still be seen inside the mill. While the majority of the structure is intact, the loss of the original windows, front entrance door, and the vast majority of the milling equipment significantly diminishes the historic integrity of the structure and therefore should be considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its design and construction.

Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill is **not eligible** for the National Register 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 or pre-history, and 2) the information must be considered important.* Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill as a mid-nineteenth-century mill site is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Recommended boundary

The recommended National Register of Historic Places boundary is that of the portion of parcel 116817 (PIN No. 487500003388) that is located on the east side of Sloans Mill Road. This portion of the parcel contains the mill structure and North Little Hunting Creek flows through it.



**Proposed Boundary for the Patterson-Hampton-Sloan Mill (YD0498)
(Map Source: Yadkin County WebGIS, 2014 Aerial)**

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