



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

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Governor Roy Cooper
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Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

November 17, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap, Architectural Historian slreap@ncdot.gov
NCDOT/PDEA/HES

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

RE: Historic Structures Survey Report for replacement of Bridge 16 on SR 1145 over
Buckhorn Creek, Sampson County, ER 17-1920

Thank you for your letter of October 9, 2017, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have read the report and do not concur that the Boney House and Mill (SP0714 that includes SP0139 and SP0713) are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Our reasons for this finding are as follows.

It would be very difficult, if not impossible, to write a nomination that makes the case for the property's eligibility. It is significant and it might compare well with other extant Sampson County mills and associated houses of the period, but we disagree that it retains sufficient integrity to be eligible. The extensive structural damage to the mill by Hurricane Matthew, along with the draining of the mill pond fifty years ago (and its subsequent replacement with woodland), the removal of the millstones, sluice gates, and turbines many years ago, and the recent loss of the remnants of the dam have resulted in significant loss of integrity. The mill might appear fairly intact from the exterior, despite its severe listing to one side, but if it's not safe to enter, we would be inclined to classify it as a ruin.

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, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above-referenced tracking number.

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

National Register Eligibility Evaluation of the Boney House and Mill for the Replacement of Bridge No. 16 on SR 1145 (Boney Mill Road) over Buckhorn Creek

Sampson County, North Carolina

WBS #17BP.3.R.61



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**National Register Eligibility Evaluation of the Boney House and Mill
for the Replacement of Bridge No. 16 on SR 1145 (Boney Mill Road) over Buckhorn Creek**

Sampson County, North Carolina

WBS# 17BP.3.R.61

Report submitted to:
North Carolina Department of Transportation, Human Environment Section
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1598

Mary Pope Furr - Historic Architecture Supervisor

Report prepared by:
New South Associates, Inc.
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Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083



Mary Beth Reed – Principal Investigator

Ellen Turco – Historian and Author

September 27, 2017 • **Final Report**
New South Associates Technical Report 2756

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 16 on SR 1145 (Boney Mill Road) over Buckhorn Creek in Sampson County (WBS# 17BP.3.R.61). This project is subject to review under the *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects in North Carolina* (NCDOT 2009). NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) and conducted a preliminary investigation, identifying two properties, the Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139) and the Matt E. Boney House (SP 713) warranting additional study and a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this project is approximately 400 feet from each end of Bridge No. 16 and 100-feet on each side of the road centerline.

In July 2017, NCDOT requested New South Associates, Inc. (New South) assess the NRHP eligibility of the Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139) and the Matt E. Boney House (SP 713) and provide this report. For purposes of this evaluation, a new Survey Site number was assigned to encompass the Vann-Boney Mill, the Matt E. Boney House and associated outbuildings. The combined resource name is the Boney House and Mill and the site number is SP 714.

As a result of this study, for the purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, New South recommends The Boney House and Mill as eligible for the NRHP.

Survey Site No.	Resource Name	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
SP 714	Boney House and Mill	Eligible	A and C

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I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 16 on SR 1145 (Boney Mill Road) over Buckhorn Creek in Sampson County (WBS# 17BP.3.R.61) (Figure 1). The bridge is approximately seven miles due south of the county seat of Clinton. This project is subject to review under the *Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects in North Carolina* (NCDOT 2009). NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) and pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(b) identified two architectural resources, the Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139) and the Matt E. Boney House (SP 713), that might be affected by the undertaking. The APE for this project is approximately 400 feet from each end of Bridge No. 16 and 100 feet from both sides the road centerline (see Figure 1).

In February 2017, NCDOT requested New South Associates, Inc. (New South) intensively survey the Vann-Boney Mill and the Matt E. Boney House (SP 713) and prepare a report assessing the properties' eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Matt E. Boney House was not previously surveyed. The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (NC HPO) has assigned survey site number SP 713 to this house. SP 714 was assigned to the legal parcel containing the Vann-Boney Mill and the Matt E. Boney House and associated outbuildings.

New South senior architectural historian Ellen Turco visited the site on August 1, 2017. Mr. Terry Pearson, the property owner, met Ms. Turco on site and provided a recent history of the buildings and the Boney family. The Matt E. Boney House was visually inspected and the exterior, associated outbuildings, and setting were documented through written notes and digital photographs. The house's interior was inaccessible. Storm flooding in October 2016 left the mill building structurally unsound, according to the property owner. The exterior of the mill was documented with written notes and digital photographs, but it was not possible to access the interior or closely inspect the exterior.

Documents at the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office were accessed online at the office's website. The statewide architectural survey records of the HPO were reviewed using the HPOWEB, the HPO's online GIS service. One previously recorded aboveground resource, the Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139) was found in the project APE. Historic topographic maps and aerial photos were viewed at historicaerials.com, nationalmap.gov, and the U.S. Geological Survey's historical topographic map collection. U.S. Census records were reviewed at Ancestry.com. The historical development, architecture, and cultural significance of the house and mill was assessed and evaluated within its respective context according to the established NRHP criteria. The following resources were referenced to develop a local context and identify and comparable resources: Sampson County Multiple Resource Nomination (Butchko 1979) and the online document "Gristmills of Sampson County" (Anders 2015).

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION OF THE BONEY HOUSE AND MILL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 16 ON SR 1145 (BONEY MILL ROAD) OVER BUCKHORN CREEK

Figure 1. Project Location



Source: USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map, Clinton South (1972)

The results of this intensive-level investigation and NRHP evaluation are presented in the following chapters of this report. This report complies with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations on the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR 800); and NCDOT's current Historic Architecture Group *Procedures and Work Products* and the NC HPO's *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/ Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*.

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II. NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION OF THE BONEY HOUSE AND MILL

Resource Name and HPO Survey Site #	Boney House and Mill (SP 714) **Includes Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139) and Matt E. Boney House (SP 713)**
Location	2177 Boney Mill Road, Clinton vicinity
PIN	17009860005
Date(s) of Construction	Circa 1935
Recommendation	Eligible Under A and C

DESCRIPTION



SETTING

The long and narrow 29-acre parcel containing the Boney House and Mill is situated in South Clinton Township in central Sampson County between NC 421 and NC 701, approximately seven miles due south of the county seat of Clinton (see Figure 1). This part of the county is a rural patchwork of wood lots and cultivated fields. The parcel is bounded on the south side by Boney Mill Road (where there is approximately 800 linear feet of frontage) and on the west side by the east bank of Buckhorn Creek. The east and west boundaries meet at a point on Buckhorn Creek approximately 3,000 feet north of Bridge 16. From there, the east parcel boundary appears to roughly follow the high water mark of the floodplain on the east side of the creek. This boundary also corresponds to the east shoreline of the millpond, now gone.

The parcel is mostly wooded, except for the cleared area around the house, which slopes down to the road and to Buckhorn Creek and the mill. There are five resources on site: the dwelling and gristmill, both circa 1935; a shed-smokehouse built in two stages around 1935 and 1970; a circa 1997 well shed; and an above-ground swimming pool which dates to circa 2012 (Figure 2). The sheds and pool are situated near the dwelling, while the mill is approximately 320 feet west of the dwelling on Buckhorn Creek. An unpaved driveway runs north for about 200 feet from Boney Mill Road to an irregularly-shaped gravel parking pad south of the house.

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION OF THE BONEY HOUSE AND MILL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 16 ON SR 1145 (BONEY MILL ROAD) OVER BUCKHORN CREEK

Figure 2. Aerial Photograph of the Boney House and Mill



Source: Bing Maps Hybrid 2017

Figure 3. Boney House Setting



INVENTORY LIST

Matt E. Boney House (SP 713), 1935; circa 1950

The circa 1930 Matt E. Boney House is a 1,616 square-foot one-story altered Craftsman-influenced bungalow (Figure 3 and 4). Its exterior appearance suggests there have been three additions to the house over the years. Aerial photographs also suggest it reached its current configuration by 1951, although the order of the additions was not confirmed. The original front-gable block has a gabled dormer with a pair of east-facing one-over-one windows on top of the ridgeline (Figure 5). On the front (south side) of the main entrance is an enclosed front porch, or sunroom, with four-over-one Craftsman windows on the east and west sides, and a large single, fixed-pane picture window flanked by four-over-one sashes on the south side. On the east side of the enclosed porch is a small, open inset porch with a square post at the southeast corner. Under the porch are the glazed-and-paneled main entrance door and a four-over-one window south of it. The east wall of the original block has two four-over-one Craftsman windows.

A shed addition was built on the west side of the house sometime prior to 1951 (Figure 6). This addition is set back from the front wall (south) of the house but is flush with the rear wall and extends the rear roofline (Figure 7). Triple and quintuple bands, respectively, of four-over-one

Craftsman windows are on the front (south) and west sides of this addition (See Figure 6). A lower shed addition abuts from the north, rear wall of the west shed addition (See Figure 7). A brick chimney flue is visible is sandwiched between the two additions. A square post at the northwest corner supports the projecting roofline of the north shed addition. There are two four-over-one Craftsman windows on the north side. A gabled addition was built on the rear of the house, flush with the east exterior wall (See Figure 5). Its ridgeline is lower than that of the main block. It has one four-over-one Craftsman window on the east side.

All of the dwelling's visible roof planes are covered with 5V metal sheets. The original block and the additions sit on a continuous brick foundation. Vinyl siding covers the exterior walls and masks the original window trim and eave treatments.

Above-Ground Swimming Pool, Circa 2012

Approximately 25 feet northeast of the house is an above-ground swimming pool with a wood deck that wraps from the west to the south side. Photographs of this pool are unavailable.

Shed-Smokehouse, Circa 1930; circa 1970

Approximately 10 feet northwest of the house is a two-part building built in two phases (Figure 8). On the east side is a concrete block shed with a shed roof (Figure 9). Matt E. Boney built this section. On the west side is a frame, shed-roof smokehouse built by Claxton Pearson around 1970 (Terry Pearson, personal communication 2017). It has an open shed on the west side. The smokehouse has weatherboard siding, a set of double doors with diagonal weatherboards on the south side, and aluminum sash windows. The roof of both sections covered with 5V metal sheets. The foundation was not visible.

Well Shed, circa 1997

Approximately 75 feet southwest of the house is a windowless shed-roof well shed (Figure 10). White vinyl siding covers the exterior walls. There is a door on the east side. The shed sits on a concrete block foundation and the roof is covered with 5V metal sheets.

Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139), 1935

This mill was erected around 1935 on the east bank of Buckhorn Creek (Figure 11). Flooding caused by Hurricane Matthew in October 2016 damaged the building and site. Due to the current condition of the building, the exterior was not closely inspected and the interior was not accessed. The description below is based on field observations, the 1979 HPO survey file, a documentary photograph, and a conversation with the present owner, Mr. Terry Pearson.

The rectangular, 25x20-foot, bi-level mill has a steeply-pitched gabled roof and, until October of 2016, an open shed on the west side (Figures 12 and 13). The building is covered with plain weatherboard siding, with the exception of the west side, which is covered with German siding. The roof is covered with 5V metal sheets over wood skip sheathing that is visible in the gable ends. There are three four-over-four window sashes on the north and south sides. One four-over-four light window sash and one door opening with a solid door were observed on the west side (Figure 14). Prior to the flood, an open shed on the east side sheltered a loading area of hard packed earth (See Figure 12). Above the shed is a four-over-four window and north of it is a board-and-batten entry door. Floodwaters collapsed the shed and deposited a wall of sand and vegetative debris on the north and east sides of the building, altering the grade on these sides.

The rectangular frame building sits on two parallel, bi-level concrete foundation walls on the east and west sides, that formed a millrace through which water was channeled to the turbines under the mill (Figure 15). According to the property owner, the millstones, sluice gates and turbines were removed many years ago. The 65-acre millpond north of the mill was drained in 1965, but Mr. Pearson states that the dam spanning Buckhorn Creek remained partially in place until the 2016 flooding. Photographs taken in 1979 show that the dam was built of log cribbing and earth. The flood damaged the foundation leaving the mill listing severely to the west side.

The 1979 HPO survey file described the interior as “split level interior construction with two stones and all of the remaining machinery” (SP 139, 1979). According to Mr. Pearson, before the recent flooding, two wood box hoppers remained in the upper level and the meal boxes that caught the ground corn were in place on the lower level.

HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Sampson County is located in North Carolina’s southern Inner Coastal Plain, an area characterized by its level, low topography and fertile soils. Historically, longleaf pine forests covered the area, but those are greatly reduced in acreage today. Sampson County is situated within the Cape Fear River Basin, one of four basins that drain the state. Six Runs Creek, the Great Creek, and Little Coharie Creek drain most of the county, merging with the Black and South rivers in the south. Many smaller creeks and tributaries also drain the land. The abundance of waterways have played an essential role in the development of the county, as they provided transportation and water for irrigation and generated power for grist and saw mills. The landscape is dotted with manmade mill and farm ponds, some going back to the early 1800s. Buckhorn Creek, whose tannin-dark waters powered Boney Mill, begins south of the county seat of Clinton and flows south for approximately three miles south to its merger with Crane Creek.

Figure 4. Boney House South Side



Figure 5. Boney House East Side



Figure 6. Boney House West Side



Figure 7. Boney House North Side



Figure 8. Shed-Smokehouse South Side



Figure 9. Shed-Smokehouse East Side



Figure 10. Well Shed South and East Sides



Figure 11. Mill Looking North Up Buckhorn Creek



Figure 12. Mill South and East Sides



Figure 13 Mill South Side



Figure 14. Mill South and West Sides



Figure 15. Detail of West Foundation Wall

Sampson County was established in 1784 by the English, Scotch-Irish, Highland Scots, and Irish who settled there in the preceding decades. The earliest settlers relied on subsistence farming and naval stores, the county's first cash crop, from the longleaf pine forests that covered the southern parts of the county. After the Civil War, naval stores production dropped sharply and agriculture in the northern half of the county became the county's economic driver. Cotton, Sampson County's "agricultural mainstay," and corn and were grown in the central and northern parts of the county where the Boney House and Mill are located (Butchko 1979:7.1:7.6-7). In 1880, 16 mills were producing flour and meal. By 1899, Sampson County produced 605,000 bushels of corn for both human and animal consumption (Butchko 1979:8.14-15). By 1952, Sampson County was among the top corn producing counties in the state (Hobbs 1958:87-88). Farmers erected community gristmills along the county's creeks and streams to process the corn into meal.

After completion of the Sampson County historic architecture inventory in 1979 and Sampson Multiple Resource Nomination in 1986, Thomas Butchko stated that industrial architecture was limited to second- and third-generation grist mills dating from the 1920s and 1930s, with two exceptions; the 1812 timber-frame House-Autry Mill (SP 414), the county's oldest surviving gristmill and the 1870 Warren Mill (SP 421) (Butchko 1979:7.12) (Figure 16). The twentieth-century mills were typically wood frame, weatherboarded structures with the millstones contained within a two-level gable section. The mill sat on a concrete foundation and was on or adjacent to the dam, which could be built of earth or log cribbing on concrete. The sluice gates and water turbines were under the mill (Butchko 1979:7.12). It was common for the mill operator's residence to be nearby.

Surviving twentieth-century water powered grist mills documented or noted by Butchko included the 1935 Vann-Boney Mill (SP 139); the 1924 Stacy Crumpler Mill (SP 513) (Figure 17); the 1935 Rob Crumpler Mill (SP 512) (Figure 18); the 1965 Turlington-Riley Grist Mill (SP 520); the circa 1920s and 1930s Tart Mill (SP 199); the circa 1930 Preston Jernigan Mill (SP 197); and the Lewis Jernigan Mill, which was subsequently correctly identified as the Malcolm Jernigan Mill and recorded as a dependency to the Malcolm Jernigan Property (SP 711) (Figure 19). All of these mills, with the exception of the Vann-Boney Mill, were located in the northwest part of the county in the area between Newton Grove and Spivey's Corner. Butchko also identified a number of former mill sites. An attempt was made to locate each of these mills during the fieldwork phase of this project for the purpose of comparing the Boney Mill to structures similar in age and construction. The Turlington-Riley Grist Mill is no longer standing; the Tart Mill was on private property and was not visible from the public right-of-way; and the Preston Jernigan Mill could not be located and is also assumed to be demolished. The Malcolm Jernigan Mill does not have an individual entry in the HPOWEB, and therefore was not identified as a potential comparable property prior to fieldwork, and was not field checked. Aerial photography from 2017 shows the

Figure 16. Warren Mill



Figure 17. Stacy Crumpler Mill



Figure 18. Rob Crumpler Mill



Figure 19. Malcolm Jernigan Mill

Source: Richmond 2016



mill standing. None of the eight twentieth-century gristmills identified by Butchko were evaluated for NRHP eligibility at that time. In 2016, the Malcolm Jernigan Mill was determined not eligible for the NRHP due to alterations (Richmond 2016).

The Boney House and Mill are on a single legal parcel owned by Mr. Terry Pearson. Mr. Pearson purchased the 29-acre property from his parents Rhee B. and Claxton B. Pearson, in 1991 (Sampson County Register Of Deeds Office (SCROD) 1991, Deed Book [DB] 1123.573). Claxton Pearson had acquired the property in 1983 from his widowed aunt, Elizabeth Robinson Boney, who retained a life estate and died in 1991 (North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1991; SCROD 1983, DB 1002.581). It was Elizabeth and her husband Matt E. Boney (1886-1967), who built the mill around in 1935. The Boneys married on July 17, 1920. In 1924 and 1925, Matt Boney acquired a total of 572 acres near and around the mill tract (SCROD 1924, DB 393.186; 1925, DB 419.235). In January of 1935, Matt Boney purchased the mill parcel, including 109-acres “embracing the Old Vann water mill and pond,” from Hugh and Addie Vann for \$1,000 (SCROD 1935, DB 475.201). The deed describes the parcel boundary, in part, as “the H.W.M. [high water mark] of the mill pond (When the dam and mill are rebuilt),” indicating that the Vann’s dam, pond, and mill and were damaged or gone at the time of the transaction. The age of the Vann’s mill building, the time of its destruction, and if the damage to the property was

natural or manmade, is unknown. The survey file for SP 139 notes a family recollection that Hugh Vann was the fourth generation of his family to operate a mill at this site. This statement was not confirmed as part of this project; however, the Vanns are recorded in the U.S. Census records for Sampson County as far back as 1810. Regardless of how long the mill had been in operation, the fall on Buckhorn Creek was an ideal spot for Matt Boney to continue with this enterprise.

In 1935, Boney set about rebuilding a modern mill on his new property. Around the same time, he built the small frame Craftsman-influenced bungalow on a rise east of the mill for his residence. This proximate arrangement of mill and dwelling was not inadvertent, as it was typical for the miller to live on site to manage the operation. Boney is reputed to have had help with the mill from a local father and son team of Tommy and Stacy Crumpler (Anders 2015). This is plausible since the Crumplers were active in the construction and rebuilding at least two gristmills in the 1920s and 1930s in the northwest quadrant of Sampson County, including the 1924 Stacy Crumpler Mill and the 1935 Rob Crumpler Mill. In 1965, Stacy Crumpler rebuilt the Turlington-Riley Grist Mill on Bearskin Creek.

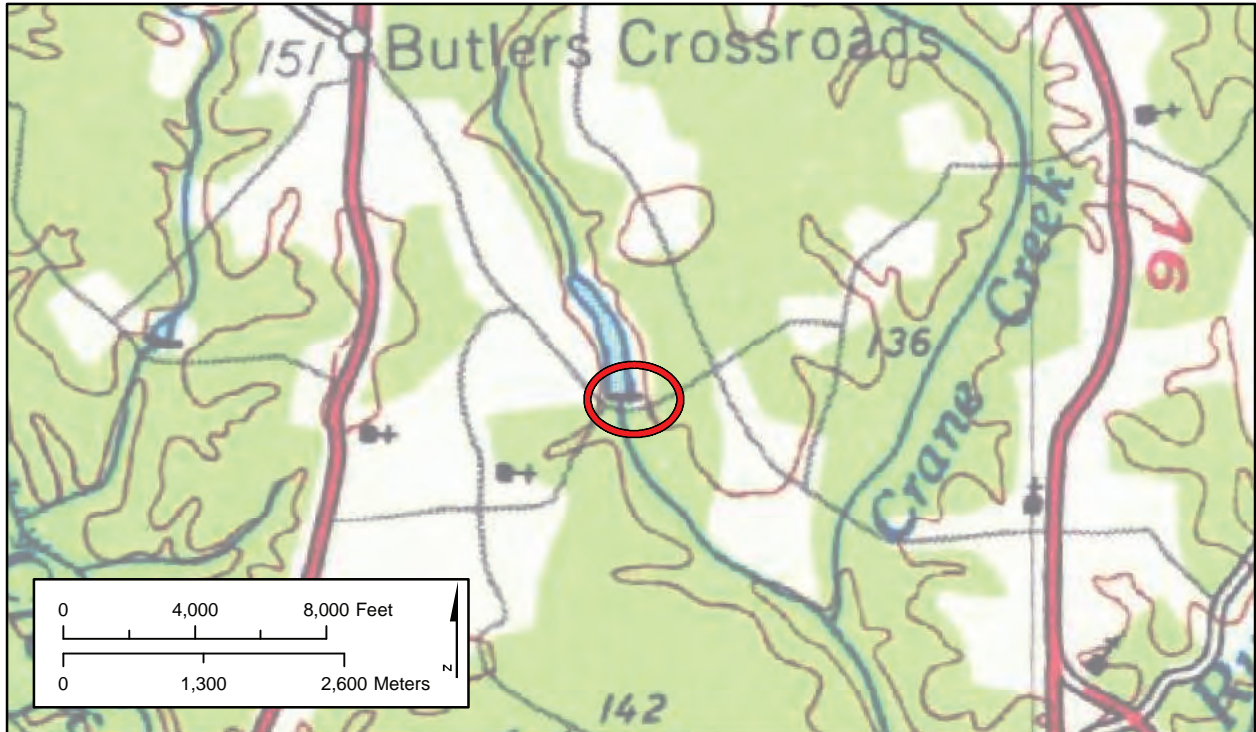
The Boneys operated the mill on Buckhorn Creek until 1956 (Figures 19 and 20). The lake was drained in 1965. Matt Boney died in 1967. His death certificate lists him as a farmer and miller (North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1967). Elizabeth Boney remained in the Craftsman house uphill from the mill until her death in 1991. Hurricane Matthew damaged the mill in October of 2016. Terry Pearson currently occupies the Matt E. Boney House.

NRHP EVALUATION

Integrity

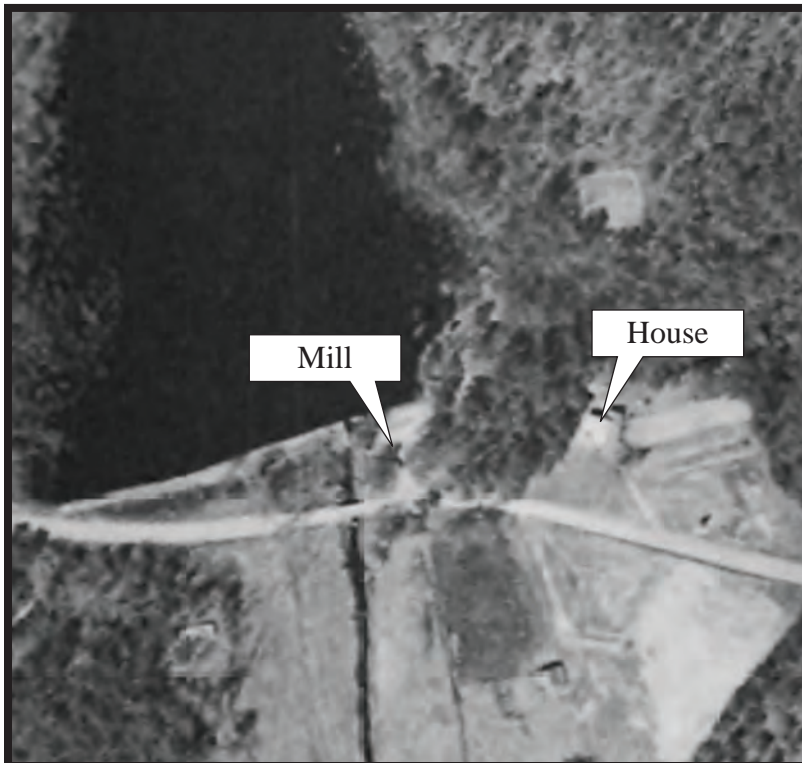
The foundation of the Vann-Boney Mill was severely damaged by Hurricane Matthew 2016. The damage has caused the building to list severely to the west. The hurricane also resulted in the loss of the dam and the collapse of the open shed on the east side of the mill. Despite this, the mill retains varying degrees of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The mill remains on its original location, and its immediate setting on the east bank of Buckhorn Creek and downslope from the Matt E. Boney House is intact. The associated millpond was drained in 1965. The mill is strongly associated with the context of twentieth-century grist milling in Sampson County. The mill substantially retains its original side-gable form and possesses a high degree of original or historic exterior materials including board siding, a concrete foundation, doors, windows, and metal roofing. Known missing features include the dam, gates, and turbines that were under the mill. The design and workmanship of the builders is evident in the building's simple yet functional appearance and depicts how twentieth-century gristmills were constructed and operated.

Figure 20. 1953 Topographic Map Showing Location of Mill and the Former Mill Pond



Source: USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map, Clinton South (1972)

Figure 21. 1951 Aerial Photograph Showing Location of Boney House and Mill



The Matt E. Boney House has undergone changes that have eroded its historic design, materials, and workmanship. These changes include the construction of at least three form-altering additions and the installation of vinyl siding, which obscures the original siding, trim, and eave treatments. However, the house, which is the residence of the mill's builder and operator, contributes to the property's overall setting and feeling and is strongly associated with the mill through its linkage to Matt E. Boney. The pool, well shed, and shed-smokehouse do not distract from the historic setting but due to their age, or alterations in the case of the shed-smokehouse, render them non-contributing to the historic site.

Together, the Matt E. Boney House and Vann-Boney Mill retain enough of their essential physical features to convey historic significance. These buildings are evaluated below as one resource, the Boney House and Mill, with the mill being the primary resource and the house, due to its alterations, being a contributing feature to the overall site.

Evaluation

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The 1986 Sampson County Multiple Resource Nomination identifies Vann-Boney Mill as one of eight surviving twentieth-century water-powered gristmills and associates it with the context of industry in Sampson County. Corn was one of Sampson County's most lucrative crops and gristmills were a necessary part of twentieth-century farming and processing. The Boney House and Mill is significant within this context as it is one of four mills from the early twentieth century time period known to survive. *Therefore, the Boney House and Mill is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they are associated with persons significant within community, state, or national historic contexts. The Boney House and Mill are historically associated with Matt E. Boney, the owner, builder, and mill operator. Boney was a local middle-class farmer and was not known to have gained notable importance within this category of citizens. The father and son team of Tommy and Stacy Crumpler may have assisted Boney with the construction of the mill, but this has not been established with certainty. *Therefore, the Boney House and Mill is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.*

Properties may be eligible under Criterion C if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. The Boney House and Mill is a largely intact example of its type and period: a water-powered, bi-level gristmill and mill operator's residence from the 1930s. The resources on

the property possess varying degrees of the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and associations. The hurricane damage and subsequent listing of the mill means that its future is not assured. However, the structure retains enough physical integrity at present to counterbalance this significant detractor. The house has been altered, but its Craftsman-influenced design remains evident, and more importantly, its location in view of the gristmill was part of the overall design of the site.

The Boney House and Mill is important because it is a surviving example of a historically significant and vanishing property type. Its historic significance lies in its strong and enduring associations with the themes of twentieth-century agriculture, industry, and mill building techniques in Sampson County. Eight twentieth-century gristmills were described in the 1986 Sampson County Multiple Resource Nomination; since that time three have been lost, one was inaccessible, and four remain standing with varying degrees of physical integrity. The bi-level Stacy Crumpler Mill remains highly intact, retaining all of its original materials and its setting on an intact earthen dam at the south edge of a millpond. A house associated with this mill was not identified. The Rob Crumpler Mill, another bi-level mill, has replacement siding and has lost its windows. The dam has broken and millpond has drained. The Rob Crumpler House (SP 511), an intact hybrid of the Queen Ann and Craftsman styles stands nearby on the property. The single level Malcolm Jernigan Mill has been altered with aluminum siding and replacement doors but does retain historic site features such as the earth and concrete dam and an intact millpond. The larger setting has been altered with the construction of circa 1995 and circa 2000 dwellings between the historic circa 1929 dwelling and the mill. The Boney House and Mill compares well with the other surviving Sampson County gristmills and retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic significance at the local level. *Therefore, the Boney House and Mill is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.*

It is unlikely that additional study of this property would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. *Therefore, the Boney House and Mill is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.*

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The recommended NRHP boundary contains approximately five acres at the south end of the 29-acre legal parcel (Figure 22). The boundary corresponds with the north edge of pavement of Boney Mill Road and the west bank of Buckhorn Creek. The east boundary follows the legal parcel line. The north boundary begins approximately 200 feet north of the mill building and connects the west and east boundary lines. The parcel contains the mill, house and yard, outbuildings and a segment of Buckhorn Creek.

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION OF THE BONEY HOUSE AND MILL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 16 ON SR 1145 (BONEY MILL ROAD) OVER BUCKHORN CREEK

Figure 22. Recommended NRHP Boundary of Boney House and Mill



Source: Bing Maps Hybrid 2017

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- 2017 Personal Communication with Ellen Turco.

Richmond, Charles A.

- 2016 Historic Architectural Resources Eligibility Evaluation, Replace Bridge No. 169 On SR 1620 (Timothy Road) over Big Juniper Run, Sampson County, North Carolina. Project Number: TIP # B-5631, WBS # 45586.1.1. Report prepared for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina. Report available from McCormick Taylor, Inc., Raleigh, North Carolina.

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