

**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

January 22, 2018

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, R-5743B, Widen US 23/US 441 from US 64 to
SR 1652 to South of SR 1649, PA 16-05-0025, Macon County, ER 17-3109

Thank you for your letter of December 20, 2017, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

Union United Methodist Church Parsonage (MA0305)

We do not concur that the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria. The report fails to consider that the parsonage was one of sixteen nineteenth-century dwellings placed on the State Study List in 1994 following the Macon County survey. It was placed on the Study List because it is an excellent, if restrained, and intact example of the Queen Anne style in a center-hall form. While relocation of the road may have jeopardized its integrity of setting, the dwelling's façade was not reoriented. Instead, it retained its original façade orientation even though the new road was paved to the east of the building in the late twentieth century. The report also contends that the building's integrity of association is compromised because it ceased to be used as a parsonage in 1949. Although its historic association with the nearby church was affected, the building continued to be used as a residence into the late twentieth century. That the building is vacant and the parcel overgrown, has not reduced its architectural significance under Criterion C for which it was Study-Listed in 1994. It appears to retain all its character-defining features, including original clapboard and shingle siding, cornice boards, porch posts, and windows. On the interior, original materials include floor, wall, and ceiling finishes as well as the original stair balustrade. We, therefore, believe the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage remains eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of a Queen Anne-style dwelling in rural Macon County. We consider the parcel on which the parsonage is located to be an appropriate boundary.

Union United Methodist Church and Cemetery (MA0272)

We concur that the Union United Methodist Church and Cemetery is not eligible for the National Register under any criteria due to extensive alterations to the building's interior and exterior.

Relax Inn (MA0803)

We concur that the Relax Inn is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the mid-twentieth-century tourism industry in Macon County. The .78-acre parcel on which the Relax Inn is located is the most appropriate boundary for the resource.

Carolina Motel (MA0804)

We do not concur that the Carolina Motel is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the mid-twentieth-century tourism industry in Macon County. The circa 1959 motel has been too heavily renovated within the past twenty years to be considered NR-eligible.

Virginia Jones House (MA0805)

We concur that the Virginia Jones House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of Modernist residential architecture from the mid-twentieth century. This evaluation is informed primarily by our knowledge of the residential resources in and around Franklin and southern Macon Counties and not by the contents of the report. The only comparison used in the discussion of architectural context is an un-surveyed house in the Haw Creek area of east Asheville, with the photo drawn from the NC Modernist Houses website and does not clearly illustrate its Modernist features. It appears as though there was little, if any, fieldwork done to assess the significance of the Virginia Jones House within the context of Franklin/southern Macon county. This house is fairly unique within the local context as we do not often see such an elaborate and intact expression of the style in the far western region. The report refers to, but does not provide an illustration of, the Annie Reed House in the Kenilworth neighborhood in Asheville. This 1948 house is an inappropriate comparable for the Virginia Jones House because the former is more representative of the International style rather than Mid-Century Modernism. The 1.8-acre parcel on which the house is located is the most appropriate boundary for the eligible property.

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

Received: 12/29/17
State Historic Preservation Office



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

December 20, 2017

Renee Gledhill-Earley
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
4617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

ER 17-3109

*\$ Anne
1/2
Due 1/20*

Due -- 1/24/18

*ER Letters
update db w/
original & 5/1
comments*

Dear Gledhill-Earley:

H-

RE: Historic Structure Survey Report, PA# 16-05-0025, Widen US 23/US 441 from US 64 to SR 1652 (Wide Horizon Drive/Belden Circle) to south of SR 1649 (Prentiss Bridge Road) in Macon County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes widen US 64 south of Franklin in Macon County. Santec prepared the attached Eligibility Report and recommends three properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: Relax Inn (MA0803), Carolina Motel (MA0804), and the Virginia Jones House (MA0805).

The report and survey materials are enclosed for your review and comment per 36CFR.800. Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this project. I can be reached at (919) 707-6088 or by email at slreap@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

Shelby Reap

Shelby Reap
Historic Architecture Section

Attachment

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PDEA-HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SECTION
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Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1020 BIRCH RIDGE RD
RALEIGH NC 27610

**Historic Structure Survey for
TIP# R-5743B, Widen US 23/US
441 from US 64 to SR 1652
(Wide Horizon Drive)/SR1152
(Belden Circle) to South of SR
1649 (Prentiss Bridge Road),
Franklin, Macon County,
North Carolina**

WBS# 50192.1.1
PA# 16-05-0025



Prepared for:

North Carolina Department of
Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1598

Prepared by:

Sandra DeChard
Senior Architectural Historian

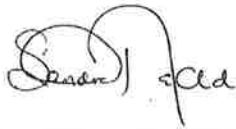
and

Ellen Brady
Senior Principal Investigator

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
1049 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen VA 23059
(804) 355-7200

November 17, 2017

This document entitled Historic Structure Survey for TIP# R-5743B, Widen US 23/US 441 from US 64 to SR 1652 (Wide Horizon Drive)/SR1152 (Belden Circle) to South of SR 1649 (Prentiss Bridge Road), Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina was prepared by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. ("Stantec") for the account of North Carolina Department of Transportation (the "Client"). Any reliance on this document by any third party is strictly prohibited. The material in it reflects Stantec's professional judgment in light of the scope, schedule and other limitations stated in the document and in the contract between Stantec and the Client. The opinions in the document are based on conditions and information existing at the time the document was published and do not take into account any subsequent changes. In preparing the document, Stantec did not verify information supplied to it by others. Any use which a third party makes of this document is the responsibility of such third party. Such third party agrees that Stantec shall not be responsible for costs or damages of any kind, if any, suffered by it or any other third party as a result of decisions made or actions taken based on this document.



Prepared by _____
(signature)

Sandra DeChard



Reviewed by _____
(signature)

Ellen Brady



Approved by _____
(signature)

Steve Smallwood

Approved by _____
(signature)

**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor
Historic Architecture Group
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to widen US 23/441/Georgia Road from SR 1652/Wild Horizon Drive and SR 1152/Belden Circle on the northern terminus of the project area to SR 1649/Prentiss Bridge Road, the southern end of the project area. The proposed project would include the installation of a raised grass median, channelized left turn lanes, five-foot wide bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the road, and improved access management at key locations.

In August 2017, NCDOT requested Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (Stantec) to conduct a National Register eligibility evaluation for five resources within the Area of Potential Effects (APE); the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage (MA0305), the Union United Methodist Church (MA0272), the Relax Inn (MA0803), Carolina Motel (MA0804), and the Virginia Jones House (MA0805). The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage and the Union United Methodist Church had been previously recorded.

The evaluation of each property, at an intensive level, utilized established National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria to determine each resource's eligibility for listing. Two resources, the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage and the Union United Methodist Church, based on the fieldwork and subsequent research and evaluation, have been recommended as not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP. The Relax Inn and Carolina Motel, as examples of mid-twentieth century motels reflecting the growth of the automobile culture and increased tourism in Macon County, have been recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion A. The Virginia Jones House, an example of Mid-Century Modern architecture, has been recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion C.

Resource Name	HPO Survey #	Location	PIN	Date(s) of Construction	Recommendation
Union United Methodist Church Parsonage	MA0305	3817 Georgia Road	6582686441	c. 1890	Not Eligible
Union United Methodist Church and Cemetery	MA0272	3768 Georgia Road	6582781717	c. 1908; 1934	Not Eligible
Relax Inn	MA0803	3100 Georgia Road	6583529092	c. 1958; c. 1994	Eligible under Criterion A
Carolina Motel	MA0804	2601 Georgia Road	6583543841	c. 1959; c. 2000	Eligible under Criterion A
Virginia Jones House	MA0805	2507 Georgia Road	6583554296	c. 1959	Eligible under Criterion C

Table of Contents

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY	III
1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY.....	1
2.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND.....	3
3.0 NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATIONS	6
UNION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PARSONAGE.....	6
UNION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND CEMETERY	18
RELAX INN	39
CAROLINA MOTEL.....	49
VIRGINIA JONES HOUSE	66
4.0 REFERENCES.....	77

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The NCDOT is proposing to widen US 23/441/Georgia Road from SR 1652/Wild Horizon Drive and SR 1152/Belden Circle on the northern terminus of the project area to SR 1649/Prentiss Bridge Road, the southern end of the project area. The proposed project would include the installation of a raised grass median, channelized left turn lanes, five-foot wide bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the road, and improved access management at key locations (Figure 1).

In August 2017, NCDOT requested Stantec conduct a National Register eligibility evaluation for five resources within the APE; the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage (MA0305), the Union United Methodist Church (MA0272), the Relax Inn (MA0803), Carolina Motel (MA0804), and the Virginia Jones House (MA0805) (Figure 2). The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage and the Union United Methodist Church had been previously recorded.

On August 23, 2017, Jennifer Saunders, Architectural Technician, surveyed the five resources under the supervision of Stantec's Senior Architectural Historian Sandra DeChard. The documentation of each of the five resources included a visual inspection as well as exterior photographs of the primary and any secondary resources located on the property. Interior photographs, where accessible, were also taken. Access to the interior of the Relax Inn (MA0803) and the Virginia Jones House (MA0805) was not granted by the owner and, therefore, the resource descriptions and evaluations are based on exterior features only. During the survey, original architectural features as well as alterations to the resource were noted. A sketch map was also drawn depicting the resources located on the property and the relationship of the buildings to any prominent landscape features and roadways. Floor plans were also drawn for resources where the interior was accessible.

The results of the National Register eligibility evaluation, based on the fieldwork and subsequent historical research, architectural and cultural context, are presented in the following report. The eligibility evaluation of the resources was based on established NRHP criteria. The report complies with requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, Executive Order 11593, relevant sections of 36CFR60 and 36CFR800, NCDOT's *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products* (2015), the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*, National Register Bulletin 15, *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (USDI 1981, 1983, 1991), and North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (HPO) *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determination of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*.

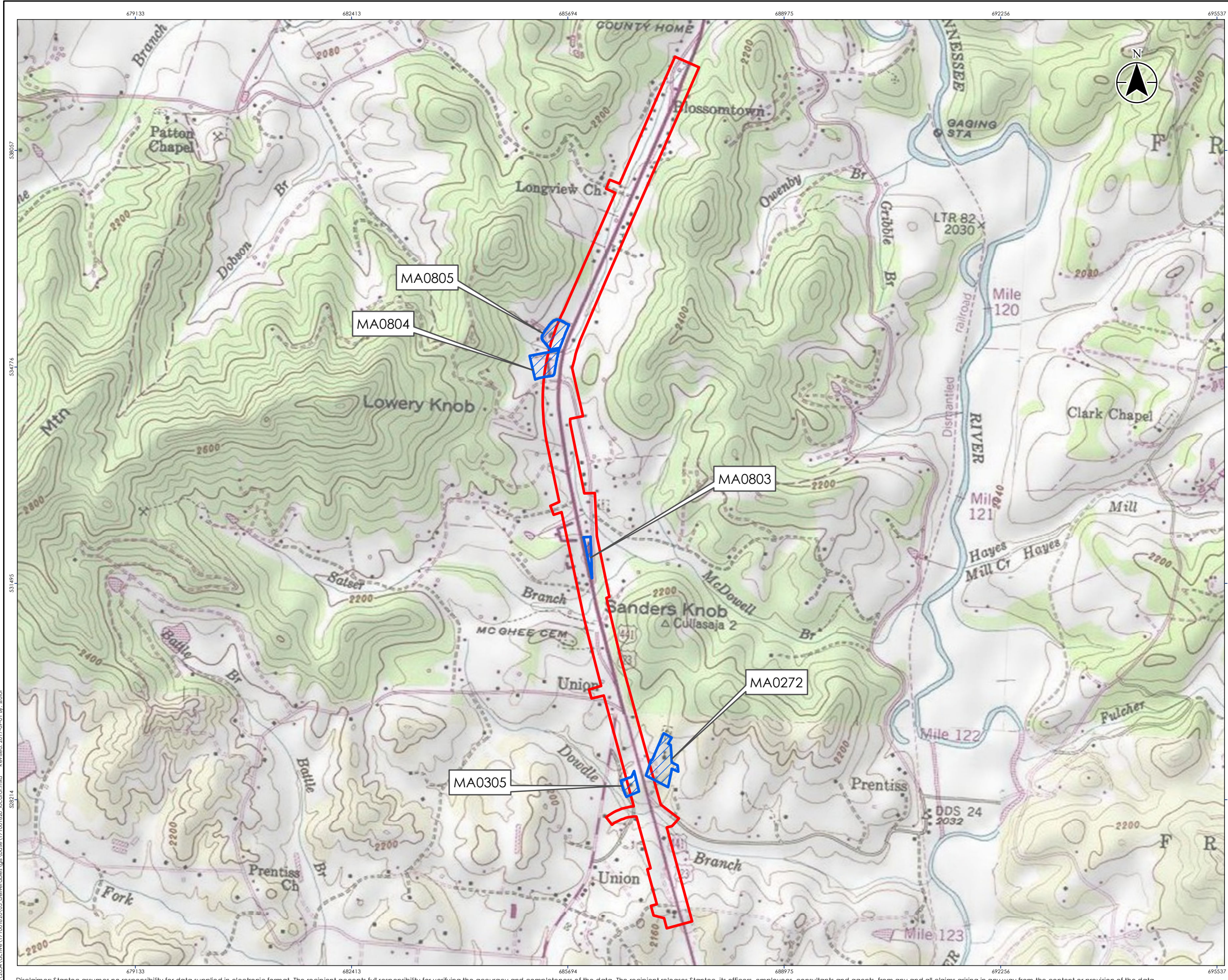
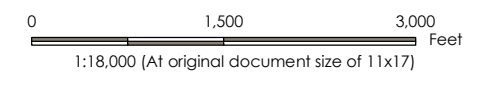
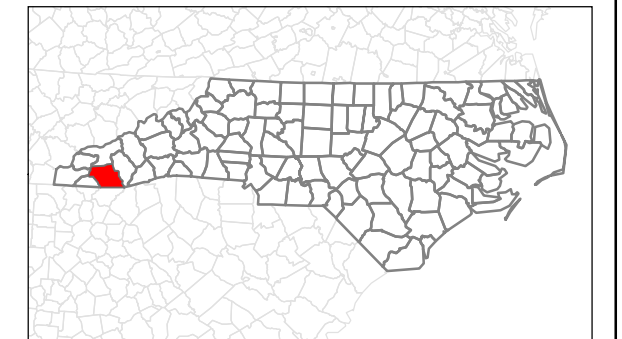
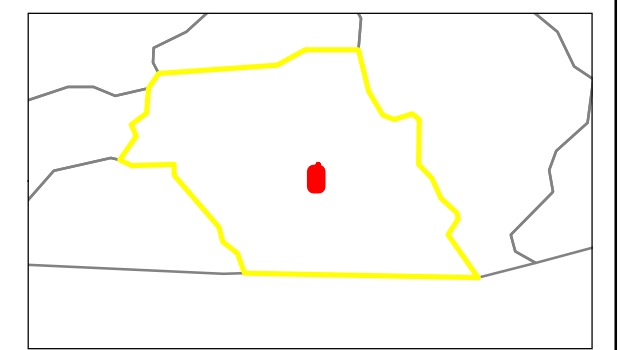


Figure No. **2**
 Title **Architectural Resources within the Study Area**
 Client/Project North Carolina Department of Transportation
 Project Location 171001820
 County: Macon Prepared by SWS on 2017-09-01
 Quad: Franklin, Prentiss Technical Review by SLD on 2017-09-01
 Independent Review by EMB on 2017-09-01



Legend
 [Red Outline] Study Area
 [Blue Hatched Box] Architectural Resources



- Notes
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane North Carolina FIPS 3200 Feet
 2. Topographic Map © USGS, ESRI
 3. Microsoft product screen shot(s) reprinted with permission from Microsoft Corporation
 4. Microsoft Corporation
 5. Archaeological Resources digitized from NC Office of State Archaeology (OSA)



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2.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

Macon County, due to its remoteness, remained rural for much of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Settlements were sparse and roads limited. During this time, the quality of the few existing roads in Macon County was a concern to residents as their condition made transportation of goods and people by cart or carriage problematic due to substantial ruts, which often made them impassible. In an effort to improve roads, the court selected a jury and overseer. Construction, however, fell to local militias. Men from each community were required to work on road crews one day of each month, unpaid. Work was backbreaking and slow (Sutton 1987:32; Martin n.d.).

One of the first major road construction projects was a route from Franklin to the Tuckasegee River. This route connected to a turnpike, which extended to the Tennessee line. Even with this thoroughfare, the number of roads in the county were few. To alleviate the problem, North Carolina passed several road construction project bills in 1848 and 1849. The turnpike from Salisbury to Tennessee, which branched off to Georgia, was one of the roads which resulted from the passage of these bills. Known as the Great Western Turnpike, the toll road was completed in 1856 (Martin n.d.).

Even with improvements, the quality of roads was still problematic during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Conditions of existing roads often rendered them impassible. According to an article in *The Franklin Press* (1990), the first automobile to arrive in Franklin came not under its own power, but that of oxen. Additional challenges in road construction in Macon County was the result of its mountainous terrain. In an attempt to alleviate the continuous problems, R. N. Moses drafted a letter in 1919 to the state Senate for a road from Highlands to Franklin to be constructed (Martin n.d.).

In the early to mid-twentieth century further improvements in road networks were initiated. Along the project area, Georgia Road, also known as US 23/441, had undergone a series of realignments and widenings over its history. Historically, a major transportation route from Macon County to Georgia, the road, now four lanes, still functions in the same capacity (Martin n.d.).

Part of the impetus for road improvement projects in the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century was the increase of tourism to the region. In an effort to bring tourism to the area, Samuel Kelsey and Clinton Hutchinson from Kansas ventured across the Appalachian Mountains in search of a location to build a resort town. The men purchased an 839-acre parcel, which would later become the Town of Highlands. The town was marketed for its health benefits and ideal, temperate weather conditions as well as for its scenic beauty. Residents and visitors espoused on the many advantages of the resort, which, in turn, spurred Highlands' growth during the late nineteenth century as one of the "south's finest resort towns" (Martin n.d.).

Highlands main draw was the more well-to-do from both the north and south; however, it was not the only area to attract tourists. Several hotels were constructed in the late nineteenth century in Macon County; the Franklin Hotel, Cunningham House, Hotel Jarrett, and Railroad House Hotel in Franklin, and Whiteside's Hotel in Horse Cove. Smaller boarding houses were also established in the surrounding areas (Martin n.d.).

The twentieth century saw continued development with the popularity of the automobile and motor touring. More rural areas outside of town centers became more accessible. As these areas became popular stops, motels and other commercial enterprises to support tourists were constructed along the main by-ways (Henderson 2009:23-43; University of Vermont 2017). The development of America's twentieth century roadside landscape is a direct result of the increased popularity of the automobile in the twentieth century. The automobile, from its early inception during the opening decades through the mid-twentieth century, allowed Americans to travel to places not accessible by train, and motorists could stop and take in the natural beauty of the landscape whenever suited them. The rise of the automobile also provided an escape from the urban industrial areas, which were destroying the nation's wilderness areas at a rapid pace (Henderson 2009:23-24).

As the popularity of motor touring increased, the need for suitable and convenient accommodations did as well. Motorists found the traditional railroad hotels, which were near railroad stations in the town centers, not conducive for travel by car in more remote areas. Tourists in the early days of the motoring craze often set up camp along the roadside; however, this created problems as many left cans and other types of trash behind. As a result, towns and other areas set up designated automobile camping areas, often with amenities such as picnic tables and restroom/shower facilities. As the demand for suitable accommodations arose during the 1920s, the municipal campgrounds were replaced by small individual cabins giving rise to the "motor court" (Henderson 2009:23-38; University of Vermont 2017). During the years after World War II, the popularity of the cabins diminished and the style of a linear, typically one-story building with a series of rooms, became ubiquitous (Henderson 2009:31-32; University of Vermont 2017). The Relax Inn (MA0803) and Carolina Motel (MA0804), surveyed during the current project, reflects this type of motel architecture popular during the mid-twentieth century. Additional motels have been constructed in Macon County from the 1970s to the early twenty-first century and continue to support tourism in the area.

Early settlement, like the roads, was limited. Dwellings, due to the rural nature of the area and the abundance of lumber, were commonly constructed of log. Log construction continued to predominate through the nineteenth and into the twentieth century. During the mid-to late nineteenth century, frame dwellings covered in weatherboards began to emerge. The frame dwellings were more expensive than log and were built by residents with the economic means to do so. These larger and more costly dwellings still tended to have limited ornamentation. New architectural styles, due to the remote nature of Macon County, were brought in by outsiders to the area. One example, the Queen Anne style, became popular in Macon County in the late

nineteenth and early twentieth century. While more vernacular in execution than in more urban areas, examples in Macon County are extant, including the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage and the Edwards House. In the first half of the twentieth century, the Colonial Revival style also became popular for newly constructed residences in the county (Martin n.d.; HPO Site Files).

This change in building technology signified the transition of Macon County from a frontier to a more refined community. Although most of the dwellings remained modest in size, some more prosperous residents built larger-scale residences. In the Town of Franklin, several brick stores had been constructed by wealthier merchants. By 1890, Franklin was an established town with commercial buildings and frame dwellings at its core (Sutton 1987:35-38; Martin n.d.).

As part of the built environment of Macon County and the surrounding area, churches were constructed on land grants in the nineteenth century. In 1832, the Baptist Church was granted three acres and 72 poles for its church. In 1835, three acres were granted to the Methodist Episcopal Church. Permission to acquire additional land in town was granted to both the Baptist and Methodist Church in 1842 (Sutton 1987:36).


By the mid-nineteenth century, churches dotted the landscape of Macon County and offered residents not only spiritual guidance, but also social interaction. The two most prominent religions during the mid-to late nineteenth century were the Baptists and Methodists. Ministers to each sect typically preached at more than one church. For example, in 1867 the eastern area of the county had 13 Methodist churches served by seven ministers. By 1872, approximately 23 churches were located in the county, mainly Baptist and Methodist; however, Presbyterian churches were noted in the area surrounding Franklin. During the early twentieth century, the number of Baptist churches exceeded those of Methodist congregations, although the Methodists still maintained a large church population in Macon County (Martin n.d.).

Towards the end of the nineteenth century, several African-American churches were established, mainly in Franklin and Cowee and included the Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1884 and the New Hope church between 1885 and 1890. In 1887, the St. Cyprians Episcopal Church was established by James Kennedy, a black minister and child of slaves (Martin n.d.).

Churches in the county became firmly established from the turn of the twentieth century and into the following decades. In Macon County, the design of churches was high style or modest vernacular buildings with little ornamentation (Martin n.d.). Rural churches were numerous, and included examples such as the Union United Methodist Church, the Buck Creek Church, and the Cartoogechaye Church, among others. The churches were simple vernacular frame buildings with weatherboard exteriors and small bell towers (HPO Site Files). Throughout Macon County, many of these rural churches are still in use today.

3.0 NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATIONS

Union United Methodist Church Parsonage

Resource Name	Union United Methodist Church Parsonage	
HPO Survey Site #	MA0305	
Location	3817 Georgia Road	
PIN	6582686441	
Date(s) of Construction	c. 1890	
Recommendation	Not Eligible for Listing on the NRHP	

DESCRIPTION

Setting

The house is set approximately 122 feet from US 441/Georgia Road on rolling terrain. No drive was observed. At the time of this survey, the house was surrounded by grass in excess of six feet high. The house faces southwest towards Old Prentiss Road, one of the original roads in the area prior to the construction of Georgia Road, now four lanes, located to the northeast (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Aerial Depicting Landscape Surrounding Resource MA0305 (Google Maps 2017).

Structures

House (c. 1890)

The former Union United Methodist Church parsonage is a one-and-a-half story, three-bay, single-pile frame house. Its exterior is plain weatherboard, and its side gable roof is seamed metal (Figures 5-7). The eaves overhang slightly, and are covered by wood fascia boards. Several of the boards are detached from the building. Two, central parged brick chimneys extend from the ridge of the roof. Scalloped wood shingles ornament the gable ends, as well as the projecting front gable. The front entry, which features three recessed wood panels with three vertical glass panels above, is sheltered by a one-story, three-bay porch with a hipped roof supported by turned wood posts. A one-story gable roof ell is on the east side (rear) of the house and features an enclosed shed roof porch off its south side. Fenestration varies and comprises paired three-over-one wood double-hung sash windows on the lower story and two-over-two wood double-hung sash windows in the gables of the upper story. The ell features a mixture of two-over-two and three-over-one wood double-hung sash windows. The three-over-one sash windows are an early twentieth century update (Figures 3-9).

The house was padlocked at the sole entry during the survey; thus, the interior was not observed except at limited viewpoints through windows and doors. The view through the front door was limited to the front hallway and a small area of the room behind. Construction materials are located in the hallway. The upper floor is accessed by a dog-leg staircase with simple banister and balusters. The walls are horizontal boards, some are painted. Access to the room behind is through a raised four-panel door with simple molded surround. The view through the window in the ell, also limited, shows the house has wood floors, low baseboards, plain board door surrounds, and interior four-panel wood doors (Figures 10 and 11).

The previous survey, conducted in 1994, marked the house's condition as "excellent." It appears to have been neglected for a significant amount of time, and can now be considered "deteriorated." The weatherboards, window frames, and porch posts show significant paint loss, and the metal roofing is rusted. Portions of the frame are exposed at the foundation, and the eaves are exposed in places. The house is currently unoccupied.



Figure 3. Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking Northeast.



Figure 4. Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking Southwest.



Figure 5. Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, Looking Northwest.



Figure 6. Detail of Projecting Pediment, Looking Northeast.



Figure 7. Detail of South Gable End, Looking Northwest.



Figure 8. Detail of Windows, Looking Southwest.



Figure 9. Entry Door, Looking Northeast.

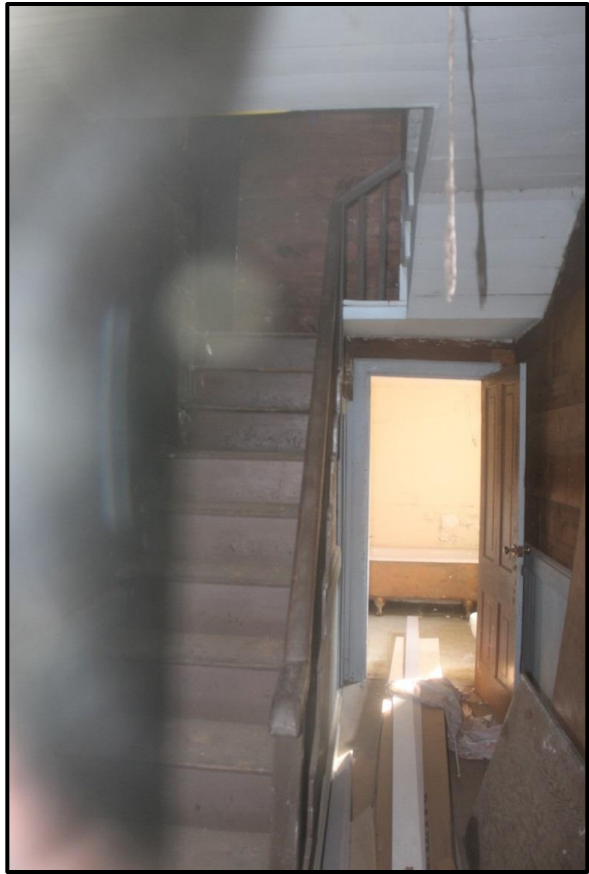


Figure 10. Front Hallway, Looking Northeast through Front Entry Door.



Figure 11. Interior, Looking Northwest through Window in Ell.

Canning House (c. 1900)

The canning house, noted during the previous survey of the property, is a one-story, frame building with raised, parged foundation (Figure 12). The upper portion of the walls are Bricktex and the roof is standing seam metal. Sections of the roof are missing. The southern elevation of the building features an open, one-story, shed-roofed wing. The supporting wall for the roof is board-and-batten. The interior of the building features wood shelving on at least two sides. A number of empty jars are still present on the shelves (Figure 13). Currently the building is in a deteriorated condition and abandoned.



Figure 12. Canning House, Looking West.



Figure 13. Interior of Canning House, Looking North.

HISTORY

The Union United Methodist Church parsonage was constructed on a parcel currently belonging to the heirs of James and Nina Sanders. Prior to the Sanders ownership of the parcel, the property was owned by Bruce and Cleo Bates, who bought the house in the 1940s. Bates, born October 28, 1910, was the son of Wiley Bates and Allie Sanders. In 1940, Bruce was employed by the Addington Dairy in Franklin. By this time, he and Cleo had three children under the age of 7, Lenard, Mildred, and Dolon. The Bates family did not own the property long, and in 1949 the couple sold the parcel to Grady and Nina Cunningham and moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. In 1949, J. W. Addington donated land for a new parsonage and the former parsonage reverted to a private house. The Cunningham family retained the house until 1964 when it was sold to James and Nina Sanders (United States Federal Census 1940; ancestry.com; Macon County Registry of Deeds Book C-7:164; Greene 2017).

James, the first member of the Sanders family to own the property, was a minister, although current research could not determine if he was a pastor at the Union United Methodist Church. In 1997, a year after his wife, Nina, died the property was divided among their children, Ernie, Ralph, Billy, and Joel. The division consisted of four parcels (Figure 14); the 1.35-acre property where the parsonage is located (Tract 4); the 1.0-acre parcel to the north, which at the time contained a barn (Tract 3); Tract 2, a small triangular parcel on the eastern side of Georgia Road which contained a section of the dirt driveway formerly leading to the church; and a larger, 2.76-acre parcel (Tract 1) to the north, also on the east side of the road. Tract 1 contained a house and barn at the time of the transfer.

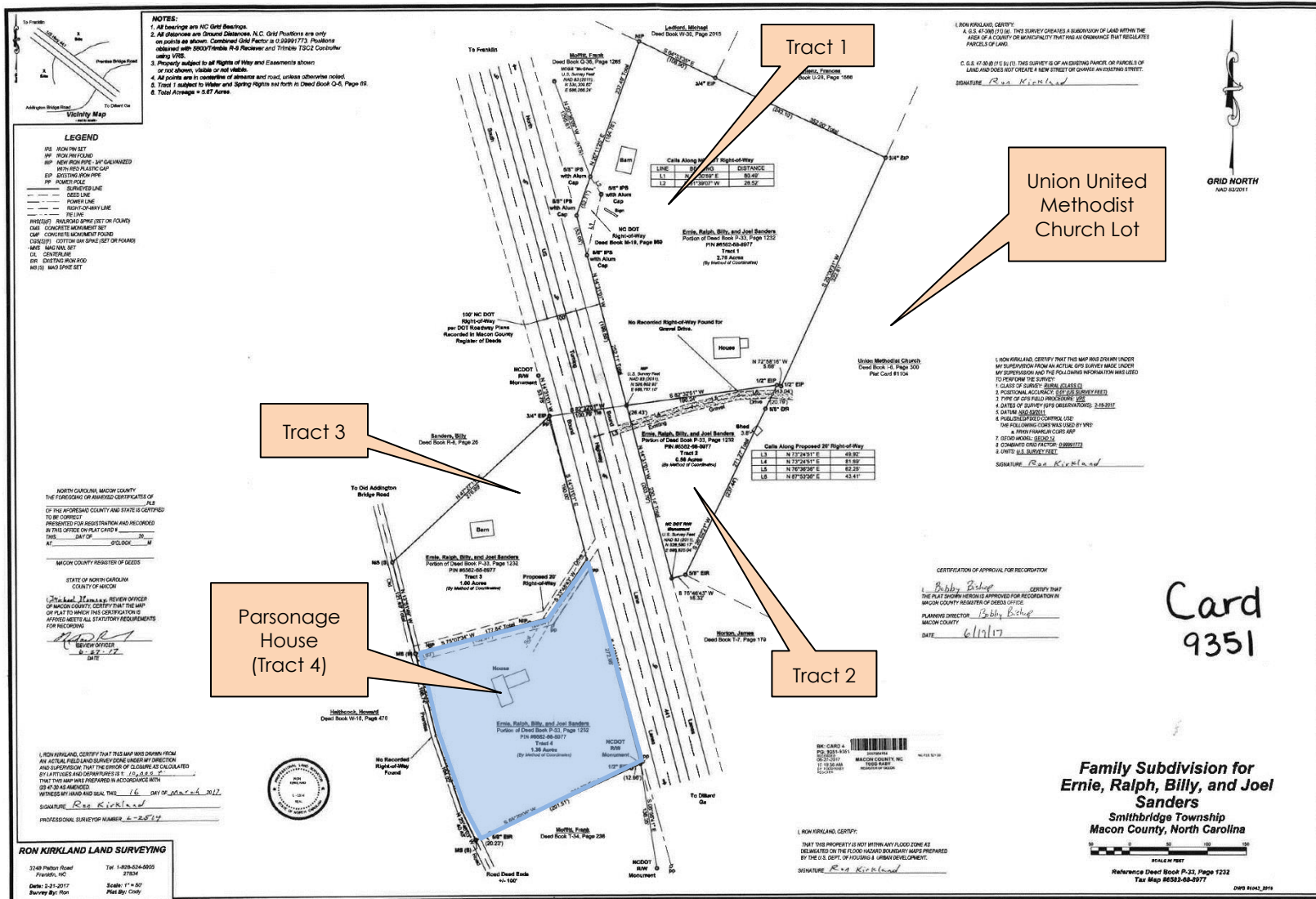


Figure 14. 2017 Plat Map of the Subdivision of the Sanders Family (Mason County Registry of Deeds Plat 4:9351).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The Queen Anne style, named after Queen Anne (1702-1714), originated in England and gained popularity in the late nineteenth century, particularly through noted English architects who were responsible in promoting the style. In the United States, the Queen Anne style was known through pattern book designs and was popular from approximately 1880 to 1900. The style is characterized by its ornate decorative elements, steep roof with cross gables, large porches with turned wood posts or columns, round tower, asymmetrical façade, patterned shingles, and projecting bay window (Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission 2015).

Typical of a number of styles, the use of the architectural features of the Queen Anne style varied in degree. Larger scale, more urban dwellings featured most of the characteristic architectural embellishments; however, in more rural areas, the style was toned down and may only feature a few of the elements. The examples of the Queen Anne style dwellings in Macon County reflect the latter and featured patterned shingles in the gables, projecting front gable, and turned wood posts supporting a one-story porch.

Examples extant in Macon County reflect an understated Queen Anne style similar to the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage (MA0305). The most relevant example closest in appearance to the parsonage is the Edwards Family House located within the NRHP-listed Highlands North Historic District.

The Edwards Family House, located at 856 North Fifth Street in Highlands, is similar in appearance to the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage and features a center projecting gable with patterned wood shingles, which also appear on the upper portion of the gable ends (Figure 15). The house incorporates weatherboard exterior walls, an interior central chimney, stone piers, two-over-two wood double-hung sash windows, and a single-bay front entry porch with shed roof and wood support posts (Figure 17). The house, constructed c. 1883, was not visible from the road. According to real estate records, the house was renovated in 1983 (Realtor.com).



Figure 15. Edwards Family House (NRHP-Listed Highlands North Historic District), 856 North Fifth Street (Photograph from Previous Survey; HPO Site Files).

INTEGRITY

The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage possesses integrity of materials, workmanship, and design. The building retains original architectural features such as pattern wood shingles in the gable ends, front porch, and two-over-two windows on the ell. Although the dwelling sits in its original location, the original approach to the house, which faced Old Prentiss Road, is now accessed by a driveway off Georgia Road and has altered the resources integrity of setting. Additionally, since the resource ceased to function as a parsonage in 1949, the resource's association and feeling has been compromised.

EVALUATION

Criterion A: Under Criterion A, a property can be eligible for listing on the NRHP if there is an association with a significant event or broad pattern in history at a local, state, or national level. The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, under NRHP Criterion A, reflects the general development of Macon County during the late nineteenth century and is not associated with any event or pattern of history that would meet the level of significance required under Criterion A. Therefore, it is recommended that the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, under Criterion A, is not eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Criterion B: Under Criterion B, the Parsonage can be considered eligible if it is associated with a person or persons of significance within the context of the community, state, or nation. The persons associated with the Union United Methodist Church Parsonage do not appear to have been of


transcendent importance on a local, state or national level. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, to be eligible under Criterion C, must “embody distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value.” Although the Queen Ann-style dwelling retains original architectural features, such as doors and windows, and patterned wood shingles in the gables, the house is a common I-house form constructed during the late nineteenth century, does not possess high artistic value, nor does it represent the work of a master. Additionally, the dwelling is in a deteriorated condition. It is therefore recommended that the property does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.

Criterion D: Criterion D is typically utilized for the evaluation of archaeological sites. Criterion D, according to NRHP Bulletin 15 addresses those properties that can only answer questions important to “human history that can only be answered by the physical material of cultural resources.” Resources considered for evaluation under Criterion D are typically “properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions” (NRHP 1997:21). The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage is unlikely to yield information not available from primary sources and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion D.

The Union United Methodist Church Parsonage, although generally reflective of the late nineteenth century development of Macon County, lacks direct and/or important associations under Criteria A, B, C, and D. As such, it is recommended that the resource is not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Union United Methodist Church and Cemetery

Resource Name	Union United Methodist Church and Cemetery	
HPO Survey Site #	MA0272	
Location	3868 Georgia Road	
PIN	6582781717	
Date(s) of Construction	c. 1908; 1934	
Recommendation	Not Eligible for Listing on the NRHP	

DESCRIPTION

Setting

The Union United Methodist Church and cemetery is set back approximately 360 feet from Georgia Road on a 2.08-acre parcel and accessed by a curved gravel and dirt driveway. The church structure sits on a level landscape and is surrounded by a manicured lawn with wooded areas at the periphery. Located on a slight slope behind the church is the cemetery slope, which extends from the rear of the structure towards the woods. The cemetery is bordered by wooded areas to the north, east, and west. The view from the church and cemetery towards Georgia Road is partially obscured by trees (Figures 16-18).

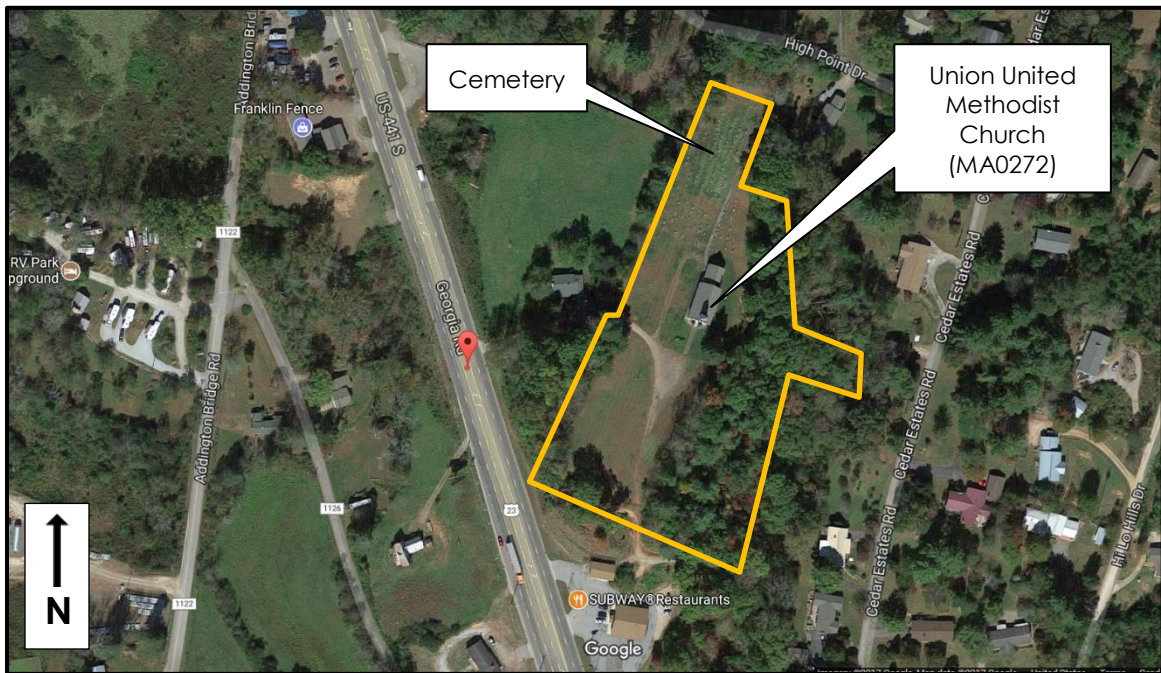


Figure 16. Aerial Depicting Landscaping Surrounding Resource MA0272 (Google Maps 2017).



Figure 17. Viewshed from Union United Methodist Church Looking West towards Georgia Road.



Figure 18. Viewshed from Union United Methodist Church Cemetery Looking West towards Georgia Road.

Structures

Church (c. 1908; 1934)

The church is a one-story, frame building with a single-entry bay on the façade. The exterior walls are covered in vinyl siding added in the 1960s over the original weatherboards. The church sits on a continuous foundation, which appears to be concrete with a concrete block section at the location of the basement door and adjacent window. The concrete block foundation was also added in the 1960s, at the time the basement was dug out and the current furnace installed (Greene 2017). A tall, square bell tower with pyramidal roof sits over the vestibule along the ridgeline of the front gable roof. A one-story ell, constructed in 1934 as classroom space, is located off the rear of the main block of the church. Fenestration consists of Gothic Revival single-hung wood sash windows incorporated into the main block with a Gothic Revival transom over the front entry. The ell features two-over-two wood double-hung sash windows. An early twentieth century wood and glass panel door provides entry into the basement, while the primary entrance features a pair of modern six-panel doors (Figures 19-24).

The interior is accessed by a pair of wood raised-panel doors, which open into the vestibule. A bathroom and interior access to the basement, both added in 1995, are located in the western portion of this space. The interior stairs to the basement, which formerly served as the bell ringing room, is accessed through a single door in the southern wall of the main sanctuary (Greene 2017). A second set of paneled wood doors open into the sanctuary, an open rectangular space with a chancel area at the north end. Exposed wood beams are visible in the ceiling. The pews within

the space are original to the church. The older pews date to the 1860s and came from the first church. The longer pews were constructed by Rufus C. Green in 1909 (Greene 2017). A door on the northwest end of the sanctuary leads to the fellowship hall in the ell. The fellowship hall is divided in four parts by a central column and walls that reach approximately one-third of the way down from the ceiling. Illustrating the space's ability to be subdivided, one quadrant was closed off by a wooden screen at the time of survey. This area is accessible independently of the sanctuary through a door at the west elevation (Figures 25-30).

The interior of the main block of the church was extensively renovated in 1995 and included the addition of the wood paneling simulating wainscoting, the addition of acoustical tiles in the ceiling, the interior wall surfaces, which comprise rectangular panels, lighting, and ceiling fans (Figures 25-30; Greene 2017).



Figure 19. Union United Methodist Church (MA0305), Looking North.



Figure 20. Union United Methodist Church (MA0305), Looking West.



Figure 21. Union United Methodist Church (MA0305), Looking Southeast.



Figure 22. Rear Ell, View Looking Southeast.



Figure 23. Detail of Bell Tower, Looking West.



Figure 24. Stairs to Basement, Looking North.



Figure 25. Overview of Sanctuary Interior, Looking Northeast.



Figure 26. Overview of Sanctuary Interior, Looking Southwest.



Figure 27. Altar, Looking Northeast.



Figure 28. Detail of Ceiling.



Figure 29. Overview of Fellowship Hall (Rear Ell), Looking Northeast.



Figure 30. Detail of Wood Panel Doors in Fellowship Hall, Looking Southwest.

Well (c. 1980)

The well is a small, low, rectangular poured concrete structure with poured concrete cap (Figure 31).



Figure 31. Poured Concrete Well, Looking Southeast.

Pump (c. 1970)

The pump, which is located at the top of the poured concrete stairs leading to the basement, is a single metal pipe with metal spigot (Figure 32).

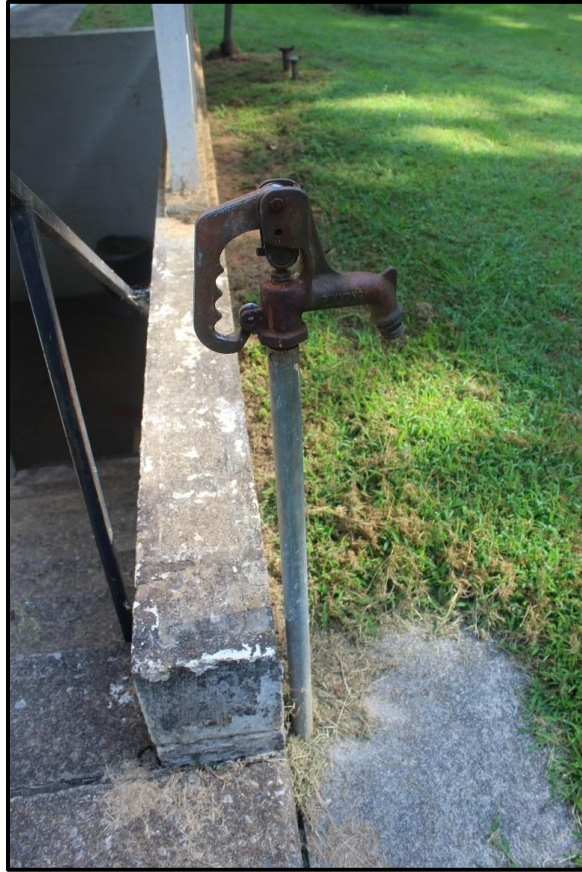


Figure 32. Pump, Looking North.

Cemetery (c. 1917)

The cemetery contains approximately 200 graves set in linear alignments. A majority of the markers are granite headstones; however, a number of graves are set flush with the ground surface and featured bronze plaques attached to a granite base (Figure 33). Several metal temporary markers were also noted. The oldest marked interment belonged to A. L. McDowell (b. August 29, 1839; d. February 4, 1917). The cemetery is still active with the most recent burial (Marked by the tent in the photograph) belonging to Barbara Hedden Ledford (b. April 11, 1834; d. August 2017) (Figures 33 and 34).



Figure 33. Overview of Cemetery, Looking Northeast.



Figure 34. Ledford Grave Marker (Newest), Looking Northwest.



Figure 35. McDowell Grave Marker (Oldest), Looking West.

HISTORY

Historic documentation of the Union United Methodist Church, located to the south of Franklin, North Carolina, states that a smaller log building, which served as both the church and as a school, was constructed on the parcel in the 1860s. Records indicate that the Methodist church served as a place of worship for all denominations due to its rural location, hence the "Union" portion of the church's name (HPO Site Files). The log building was later replaced by a larger, presumably frame structure in 1875. As the congregation grew, the 1875 structure was torn down and the present church building was constructed in 1908 utilizing some of the materials of the late nineteenth century structure. (HPO Site Files). Historic USGS topographic maps from 1907 and earlier do not depict the church or school (Cowee, NC USGS Topographic Quadrangle, 1907); however, two buildings, a school and church, are depicted on the 1935 Prentiss, NC quadrangle, suggesting that the school building was separate from the church (Figures 36 and 37). By 1945, the cemetery behind the church is also depicted (Figure 38). The original cemetery for the church was located

behind the Dowdle Farm Supply store located at 3431 Georgia Road, to the northwest of the church (Greene 2017). The school appears to have been demolished by 1978 (Figure 39).

The site of the present church building and cemetery, according to Reverend Greene, was donated by John McGee in 1852. According to deed records, the parcel was owned by the Addington family in the early twentieth century. In 1913, the parcel was deeded by the heirs of J. B. Addington to J. W. Addington. According to documentation on the church, the ell, originally constructed for classroom space, was built in 1934 as part of the expansion of the church. In May 1956, J. W. Addington and his wife, Nina, transferred 2.08 acres, the current size of the lot, of the original property to the Trustees of the Union Methodist Church; Elmon Teague, Woodrow Teague, J. Frank Shope, Carey Cabe, and J. W. Addington (Macon County Deed I-6: 300; HPO Site Files; Greene 2017).

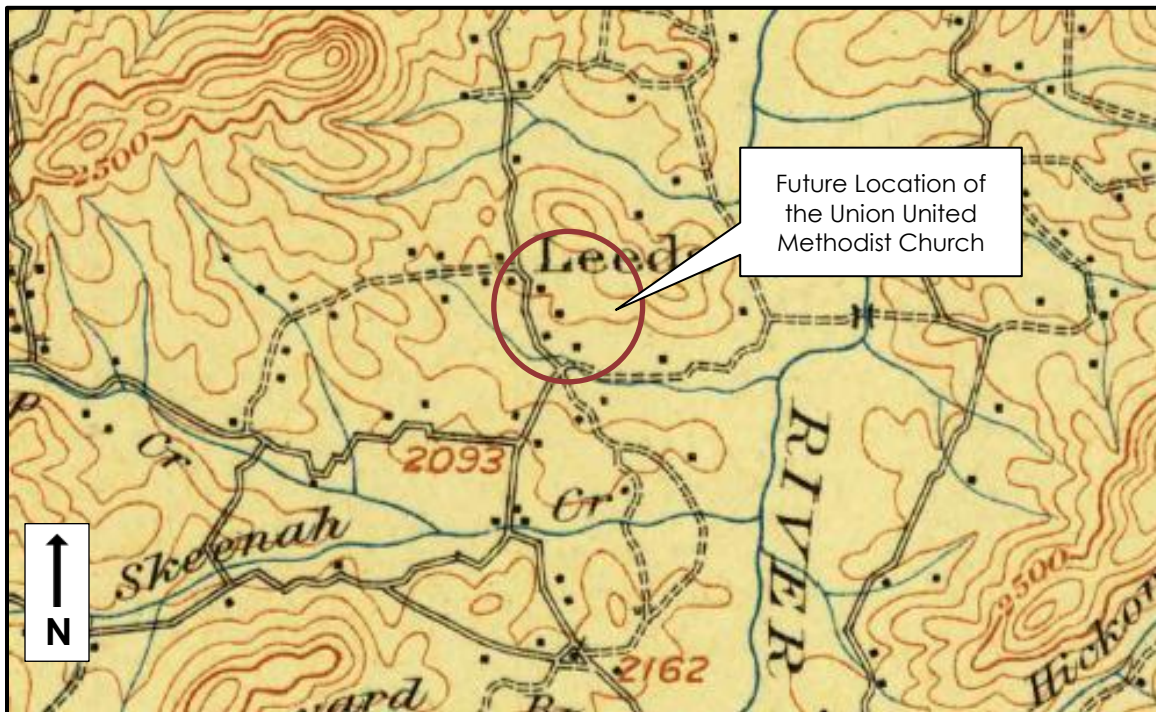


Figure 36. Detail of Cowee, NC USGS Topographic Quadrangle (1907) Depicting Future Location of Union United Methodist Church (<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

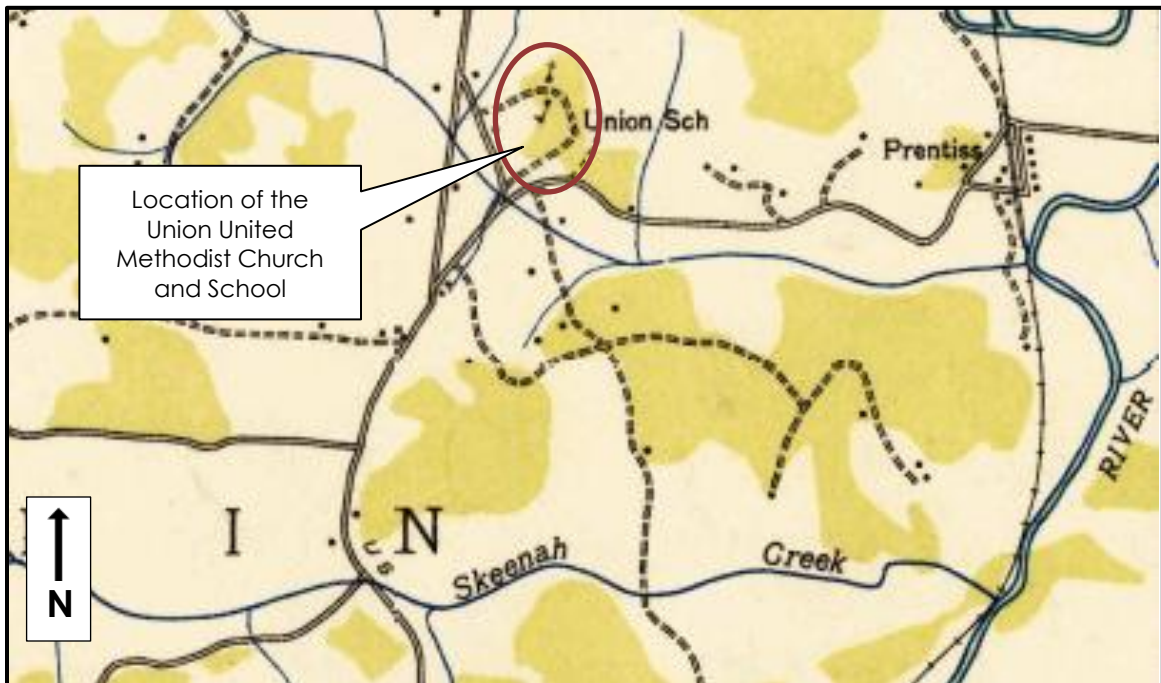


Figure 37. Detail of Prentiss, NC USGS Topographic Quadrangle (1935) (<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

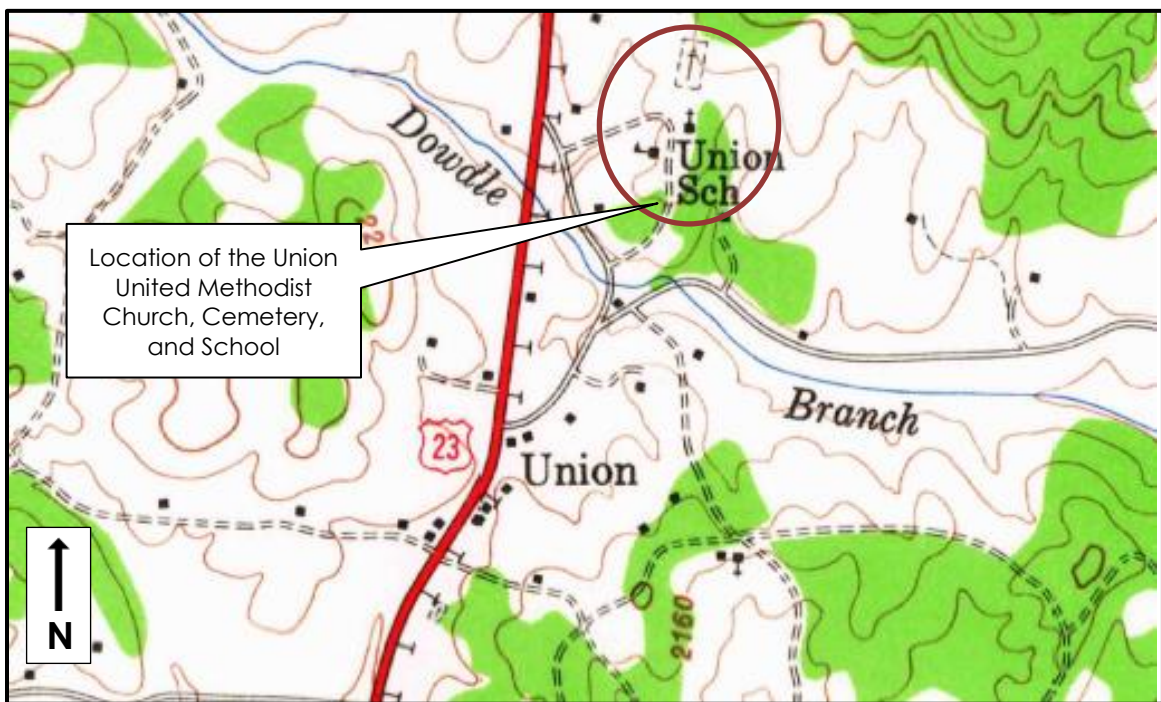


Figure 38. Detail of Prentiss, NC USGS Topographic Quadrangle (1945) (<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

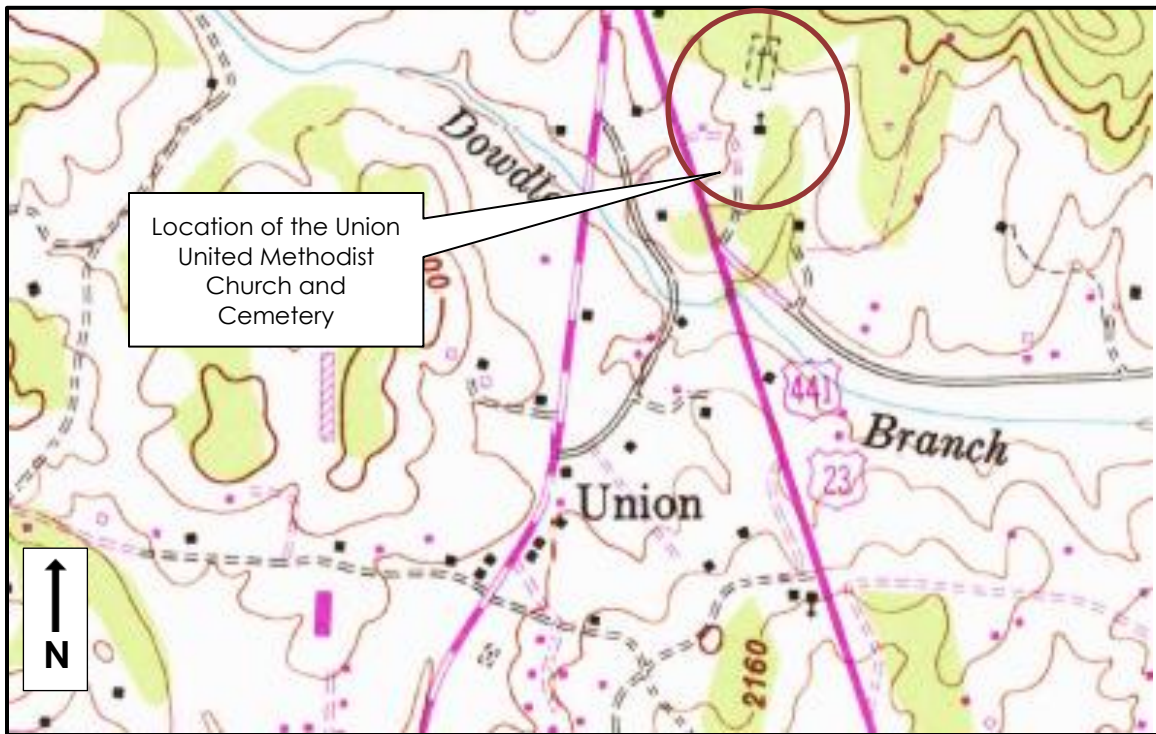


Figure 39. Detail of Prentiss, NC USGS Topographic Quadrangle (1978) (<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Small rural, wood-framed churches throughout the western area of North Carolina are still common and continue to support local congregations. A number of churches similar in type to the Union United Methodist Church are located in Macon County. Several, including the Pleasant Hill Church (MA0067; Figure 40), the Mountain Grove Baptist Church (MA0202; Figure 41), and the Buck Creek Church (MA0196; Figure 42) closely resemble the Union United Methodist Church in style and configuration and were utilized as comparisons for the evaluation of this resource. The resources represent rural, one-room plan churches with small congregations constructed in the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. The Pleasant Hill Church is thought to have been constructed in the 1870s, although exterior sheathing materials and nails suggest the weatherboards were replaced around 1900 (see Figure 40). The church retains its wood weatherboards. The building is austere and features plain architectural elements. During stabilization of the building in 1997 the original stone piers were replaced by concrete blocks. The once open bell tower has also been filled in to prevent damage from weather. The church appears to be a contributing resource to the Cowee West's Mill Historic District, listed on the NRHP in 2000 (Ervin and Martin 2000).



Figure 40. Pleasant Hill A.M.E. Church, Snow Hill Road
(<http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM996E> Pleasant Hill AME Church Cowee NC).

The Mountain Grove Baptist Church, constructed in the early twentieth century, is also rectangular in form and frame construction, and features a center entry with small bell tower (see Figure 42). The church also incorporates an exterior brick flue, similar to the flue found at the Union United Methodist Church. Unlike the other examples cited, the Mountain Grove Baptist Church incorporates a raised, three-bay, gable-roofed entry porch and a full-length shed-roofed wing.



Figure 41. Mountain Grove Baptist Church (<https://www.pinterest.com/loveandlamont/churches-in-america/>).

The third comparative example is the Buck Creek Church, constructed in the early twentieth century. The church, according to the previous survey, appears to have been heavily altered with the addition of a gable-roofed wing off the main front entry (see Figure 43). The entry also appears to have been altered. The porch is now enclosed with a large single-bay garage style opening with vinyl siding. An additional large-scale addition has been constructed off the southwest elevation of the original block.



Figure 42. Buck Creek Baptist Church (<https://www.findagrave.com/>).

INTEGRITY

The Union United Methodist Church and cemetery possesses integrity of setting, feeling, association, and location. The building sits on its original location and retains, for the most part, its spatial relationship to the cemetery and surrounding woods. The circular driveway, however, was bisected by Route 23/441 (Georgia Road) in the 1970s (see Figure 39). In addition, the church still functions as a church and has a small, but active congregation. The building's integrity of workmanship, materials, and design have been compromised by the alterations to the building including the vinyl siding, modern entry doors, the addition of a handicapped bathroom, and the installation of acoustical ceiling, paneled walls, interior lighting, and ceiling fans.

EVALUATION

Under the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, properties owned by a religious organization, used for religious purposes, and/or cemeteries are not considered individually eligible for listing on the NRHP unless the property is integral to a historic district or derives its primary "significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance." Since the building is used for religious purposes and is owned by a religious organization, the resource must be evaluated for significance pursuant to National Register Criteria A, B, C, and D and must also meet the significance criteria under Criterion Consideration A: Religious Properties. As stated in the National Register Criterion Consideration A, a religious property can be eligible for its significance under a

“theme in the history of religion having secular scholarly recognition” or “under another historical theme, such as exploration, settlement, social philanthropy, or education” or the property is “significantly associated with traditional cultural values.”

Criterion A: The resource, under NRHP Criterion A, does not individually express any distinctive themes relating to the development of Macon County and does not contribute significantly to the county’s growth. The Union United Methodist Church is one of many examples of rural churches constructed during this time period to serve rural Macon County. In addition, the church and cemetery are not associated with any significant event or pattern of events that made historical contributions on a local, state or national level. It is recommended, therefore, that the Union United Methodist Church does not meet the criteria necessary for individual listing on the NRHP under Criterion A as the property was constructed in response to the general development of the area and is commonly represented in Macon County.

Criterion B: Under Criterion B, a resource can be considered eligible if it is associated with a person or persons of significance within the context of the community, state, or nation. The persons associated with the Union United Methodist Church and who are buried in the cemetery do not appear to have been of transcendent importance on a local, state or national level. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The Union United Methodist Church and cemetery, to be eligible under Criterion C, must “embody distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value.” The Union United Methodist church is a common form within Macon County, does not possess high artistic value, nor does it represent the work of a master. In addition, due to the alterations to the building in the 1960s and 1995, the church’s architectural integrity has been diminished. Similarly, the grave markers within the cemetery are relatively unadorned, do not possess high artistic value or represent the work of a master, and are common types and materials found throughout Macon County. It is therefore recommended that the property does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.

Criterion D: Criterion D is typically utilized for the evaluation of archaeological sites. In order to be eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion D, a building must be likely to yield important historical information and must be the primary source of that information. The Union United Methodist Church is unlikely to yield information not available from primary sources and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion D.


In the case of a cemetery, in which the potential exists for unmarked or previously undocumented grave sites, Criterion D is an appropriate measure for evaluation. Criterion D, according to NRHP Bulletin 15 addresses those properties that can only answer questions important to “human history

that can only be answered by the physical material of cultural resources." Resources considered for evaluation under Criterion D are typically "properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions" (NRHP 1997:21). Although there may be unmarked and previously unrecorded interments within the bounds of the Union United Methodist Church cemetery, it is not recommended for listing under Criterion D as the site does not appear to have the potential to yield important information about history that is not currently known.

Criteria Consideration A: Since the property is used for religious purposes and is owned by the Union United Methodist Church trustees, the resource must also be evaluated under Criterion Consideration A. To be eligible under Criterion Consideration A, the property must be significant in religious history or have "secular scholarly recognition," have significance in the themes of "exploration, settlement, social philanthropy, or education," or be "significantly associated with traditional cultural values." Similar to Criterion A (see above), the church is not significant in the theme of history of religion, or have scholarly recognition, is not significantly associated with the themes of exploration, settlement, social philanthropy, or education nor is the Union United Methodist Church significantly associated with traditional cultural values. As such it is recommended that the resource is not eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion Consideration A.

The Union United Methodist Church and cemetery, although generally reflective of the late nineteenth and mid-twentieth century development of Macon County, lacks direct and/or important associations under Criteria A, B, C, and D. The church also does not meet the threshold of significance for consideration under Criteria Consideration A necessary for listing on the NRHP. As such, it is recommended that the resource is not individually eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Relax Inn

Resource Name	Relax Inn	
HPO Survey Site #	MA0803	
Location	3100 Georgia Road	
PIN	6583529092	
Date(s) of Construction	c. 1958	
Recommendation	Eligible for Listing on the NRHP under Criterion A	

DESCRIPTION

Setting

The motel sits on the east side of Georgia Road on a 0.78-acre triangular lot. The lot is relatively level and features a paved driveway and parking area in front of the building with a line of trees behind. Terrell Road runs adjacent and parallel to the rear boundary of the parcel. A small grass strip separates the parking area from the Georgia Road. To the south of the building is an open grassy area. Across the street from the resource is a mid-twentieth century, likely late 1960s to early 1970s, motel, now the Colonial Inn. To the south and north of the Relax Inn, modern commercial buildings have been constructed, including a restaurant directly to the north and a Tractor Supply and Exxon Station across the street to the northwest (Figures 43-45).

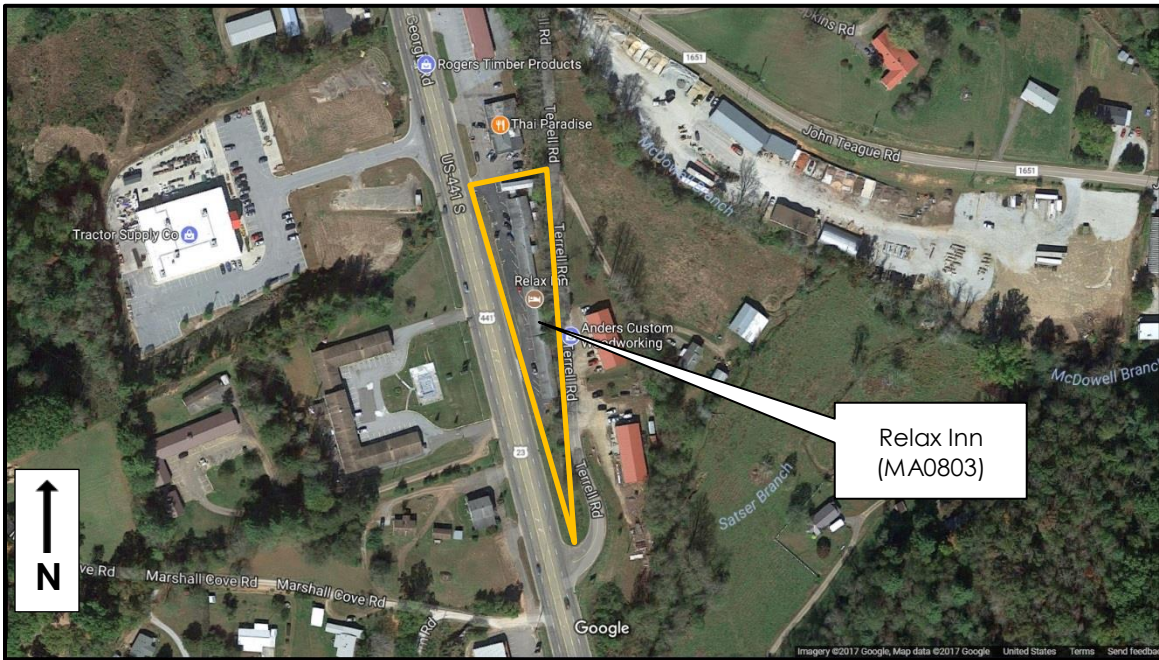


Figure 43. Aerial Depicting Landscaping Surrounding Resources MA0803 (Google Maps 2017).



Figure 44. Viewshed from Motel, Looking Northwest.



Figure 45. Viewshed from Motel, Looking Southwest.

Structures

Relax Inn Motel (c. 1959)

The Relax Inn Motel consists of 21 rooms, an office, and a laundry building. The guest rooms are arranged in a linear fashion running roughly parallel to US 441/Georgia Road. The building comprises three sections. The block closest to the office is deeper than the two sections constructed off its southern gable end. The building is brick veneer with a side gable roof covered by asphalt shingles. Plain weatherboards are in the gable ends (Figures 46-49).

Each unit features an individual entry door and a fixed horizontal four-pane window on the facade. The doors vary in style, and include single recessed panel doors, doors with four recessed panels and a four-pane fan light, and doors with multiple panels and a small fixed pane in the center. The northernmost suite appears to be larger than the rest, and has large picture windows adjacent to the door and on the north elevation of the building. The entry into the guest rooms is sheltered by a full-width, engaged porch supported by scrollwork metal posts (Figures 49 and 50).

North of the suites, a gable-roofed trailer clad in corrugated metal serves as the motel office (Figure 51). According to Google Earth aerial photography, the trailer was added between 1994 and 1998. Access to the office is sheltered by a small wooden porch with a flat roof, which runs east and connects to the guest suites to form a porte-cochere. A screened-in wood frame structure topped by a flat roof shelters the inn's laundry facilities.

Access to the interior of the motel rooms or office was not granted at the time of the survey.



Figure 46. Relax Inn (MA0803), Looking Southeast.



Figure 47. Relax Inn (MA0803), Looking Northeast.



Figure 48. Detail of Porch along Front Façade of Motel, Looking Southeast.



Figure 49. Detail of South Gable End of Motel, Looking Northeast.



Figure 50. Door Detail, Looking East.



Figure 51. Motel Office, Looking East.

Shed (c. 2010)

The shed is a modern, one-story, frame building sheathed in vinyl siding and features a large central entry door on the west façade and a corrugated metal-clad front gable roof (Figure 52). The resource, which sits at the edge of the parking lot immediately to the south of the main motel building, is supported by concrete pavers.



Figure 52. Modern Shed, Looking East.

Sign (c. 1980)

In front of the hotel is a free-standing sign reading "Relax Inn." The sign is constructed with metal support posts and a metal frame, which contains a glass or plastic red panel with the name of the motel. The arrow on top of the sign may be an older element from the original sign. Below is a modern letter board advertising the motel's amenities. Surrounding the base of the sign is a low poured concrete wall (Figure 53).



Figure 53. Motel Sign, View Looking South.

HISTORY

The Relax Inn Motel was constructed on a 0.78-acre parcel along the western side of the historic alignment of Route 23 and reflects the growing tourist industry and automobile culture of the mid-twentieth century. Information regarding the ownership of the parcel is currently limited, although the parcel appears to have been split off from the parcel to the north. During the 1990s, and possibly earlier, BMC Partners owned the motel parcel as well as the parcel to the north. On April 16, 1997, the parcel was conveyed to W. Lloyd Barber and his wife, Joyce. Two days later, the Barbers sold the property to Thomas A. Barber. Thomas Barber and his wife, Karla, retained ownership until May 2012 when the property was sold to Hemli, Inc. In 2015, the property was sold to its current owner, Magan Corp (Macon County Registry of Deeds U-36:24-26, Y-34:367-369, X-721-722, and X-21:718).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Few comparative examples built in the mid-twentieth century prior to 1967 were located in the survey area or the surrounding areas within Macon County. Aside from the Carolina Motel surveyed during the current project, one example, the Sapphire Inn, was constructed in 1964. The motel comprises three, two-story blocks of rooms and a one-story office. The two-story buildings feature engaged, full-length, two-story porches, supported by columns with ornate railings on the second floor, and original entry doors. The one-story office features a shallow-pitched gable roof and engaged porte-cochere. Projecting from the roof is a small cupola with pyramidal roof. The office appears to retain its original window configuration with solid panels above (Figure 54). The motel retains a high degree of architectural integrity including workmanship, materials, and design. The building also has integrity of location, feeling, and association. The setting has changed with the construction of modern commercial development to the southwest.



Figure 54. Sapphire Inn, 761 E. Main Street, Franklin, NC (www.sapphireinn.com).

INTEGRITY

The Relax Inn possesses integrity of association, location, materials, workmanship, and design. The building sits on its original location and retains, for the most part, its spatial relationship to the road. The resource appears to retain a significant degree of architectural integrity including original windows, porch posts, and a majority of its entry doors. The building's integrity of setting and feeling have been compromised by the construction of modern larger-scale commercial buildings across the street and on either side.

EVALUATION

Criterion A: The Relax Inn, under NRHP Criterion A, reflects the development of the tourist industry in Macon County as well as the overall development of the automobile culture in western North Carolina during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The motel was constructed at a time when the western part of the state was promoting tourism to middle-class tourists. Aside from the Carolina Motel and the Sapphire Inn (see Figure 54), few representative examples of motels built during this time period were located within Macon County. As such, it is recommended that the Relax Inn is eligible under Criterion A for its association with broad patterns of history as a mid-twentieth century road-side motel associated with the tourism industry and the expansion of the automobile touring culture of the time period.


Criterion B: Under Criterion B, the motel can be considered eligible if it is associated with a person or persons of significance within the context of the community, state, or nation. The persons associated with the Relax Inn do not appear to have been of transcendent importance on a local, state or national level. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The Relax Inn, to be eligible under Criterion C, must "embody distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value." Although the motel retains original architectural features, such as doors and windows, the motel is a common form constructed during the mid-twentieth century, does not possess high artistic value, nor does it represent the work of a master. It is therefore recommended that the property does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.

Criterion D: Criterion D is typically utilized for the evaluation of archaeological sites. Criterion D, according to NRHP Bulletin 15 addresses those properties that can only answer questions important to "human history that can only be answered by the physical material of cultural resources." Resources considered for evaluation under Criterion D are typically "properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions" (NRHP 1997:21). The Relax Inn is unlikely to yield information not available from primary sources and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion D.

The Relax Inn is generally reflective of the mid-twentieth century tourist industry in Macon County. As such, the motel is recommended as eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the tourism industry and expanding automobile touring culture. The motel, however, lacks direct and/or important associations under Criterion B, C, or D for historical significance necessary for listing on the NRHP.

Carolina Motel

Resource Name	Carolina Motel	
HPO Survey Site #	MA0804	
Location	2601 Georgia Road	
PIN	6583543841	
Date(s) of Construction	c. 1959	
Recommendation	Eligible for Listing on the NRHP under Criterion A	

DESCRIPTION

Setting

The motel is set back from the road and is accessed by a paved driveway. The drive leads to the porte-cochere of the motel as well as to the parking spaces in front of each room. The porte-cochere is also accessed by a paved drive leading from Lowery Lane. The parcel on which the motel is sited features a large manicured lawn as well as a pool, playground, and fire pit. Behind the motel is an area of woods (Figure 55).

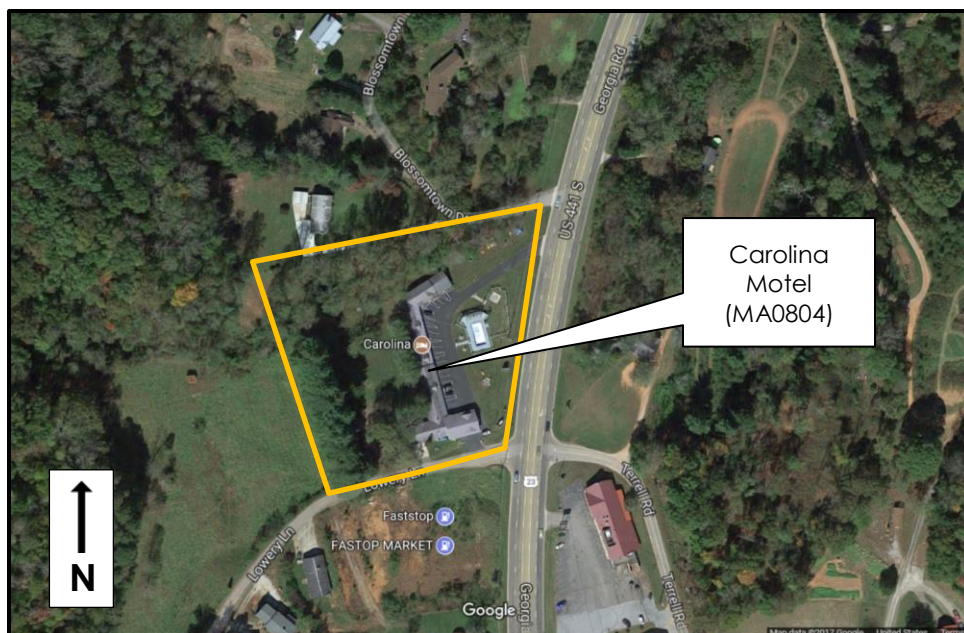


Figure 55. Aerial Depicting the Landscaping Surrounding the Resource MA0804 (Google 2017).

Structures

Carolina Motel (c. 1959)

The Carolina Motel building consists of 21 rooms, a lobby and dining area, and a residence. The building is roughly a shallow C-shape, wrapping around a central outdoor area with a paved parking lot, swimming pool, and fire pit. The motel was extensively altered in the late 1990s to early 2000s. A postcard from the mid-1970s depicts the extent of the changes to the motel resulting from the renovations (Figure 56).



Figure 56. Carolina Motel (c. 1974) Depicting Original Configuration and Signage (<https://www.cardcow.com/221697/carolina-motel-franklin-north/?cat=65478>).

The building today is a concrete block structure with stucco exterior. The side gable roof covering the guest suites features decorative projecting front gables, all clad in asphalt shingles. Vinyl siding is located in the gable ends. The massing at the south end, topped by a front gable roof, serves as a lobby and dining area, and incorporates a porte-cochere. The porte-cochere appears to have been added or enlarged during the renovations in 1989-1990, according to Google Earth imagery. Large picture windows and glass doors make up most of the east façade. The porte-cochere displays decorative side gables with four-light fan windows and vinyl siding in the gable ends (Figures 57-61).

An ell off the west of the south portion appears to serve as an innkeeper's residence. This part of the structure could be a minimal Ranch-styled residence, if taken separately, and exhibits a side gable roof, Chicago-style window, and a garage with two retractable metal vehicle doors. The interior of this portion was not accessible during the survey (Figure 62).

The reception area faces the front doors, with tables and chairs to either side. An office area appears to be partially walled off behind the front desk; this area was not accessible at the time of the survey. A door at the far north side of the lobby area leads to the guest suites. A brick chimney or flue is visible at the junction of the lobby area and the guest suites. The interior walls and ceiling of the reception area/dining area are modern drywall (Figures 63-65).

The guest suites are accessed individually through slab doors with modern single fixed-pane picture windows adjacent. Globe lights provide exterior illumination. The rooms are simple in the interior, with tiled bathrooms in a far corner and four-pane metal frame jalousie windows on the far wall. Entry into each guest room is sheltered by a full-width, engaged porch supported by square stucco-clad columns. A breezeway connects the south and north blocks of guest rooms (Figures 60 and 66).



Figure 57. Carolina Motel (MA0804), Looking Southwest.



Figure 58. Detail of Eastern Gable End, Looking West.



Figure 59. Eastern Section of Motel, Looking Northwest.



Figure 60. Porch, Looking Northwest.



Figure 61. Lobby, Looking Southwest.



Figure 62. Porte-Cochere and Residence, Looking Northwest.



Figure 63. Interior of Lobby, Looking West towards Reception Desk.



Figure 64. Dining Area in Lobby, Looking Southeast.



Figure 65. View of Lobby, Looking Northwest.



Figure 66. Example of Hotel Room, Looking West.

Sign (c. 2008)

A freestanding sign reading "Carolina Motel" and noting the motel's services stands off US 441/Georgia Road east of the building. It also includes the motel's logo of an anthropomorphic waxing/waning moon wearing a nightcap (Figure 67).



Figure 67. Motel Sign, Looking South.

Lamp Posts (c. 1997)

The north entrance to the parking area is flanked by four-globe style lamps. The globes are supported by an ornate metal armature which is in turn supported by an abstract fluted column and poured concrete plinth (Figure 68).



Figure 68. Lamp Posts Flanking Entry, Looking North.

Pool (c. 2008)

The pool, located to the northeast of the motel building, is enclosed by a metal fence with poured concrete posts (Figure 69). The fence also encloses an area of lawn to the northeast of the pool. The rectangular-shaped pool is surrounded by poured concrete sidewalks with a pergola over the northern concrete area. Google Earth imagery suggests the pool was renovated c. 2008.



Figure 69. Pool, Looking West.

Fire Pit and Patio (c. 2008)

The location of the fire pit was formerly occupied by a large deciduous tree until c. 2006, according to Google Earth imagery. The pit is approximately 1 to 2 feet in height and composed of modern pre-cast concrete blocks. A masonry walkway surrounds the fire pit, which in turn is surrounded by Adirondack style chairs (Figure 70).



Figure 70. Fire Pit, Looking Southeast.

Playground (c. 2010)

The current playground, according to Google Earth imagery, appears to have replaced an earlier playground in the same location. The age of the former playground is unknown. Currently the area is surrounded by a chain link fence (Figure 71).



Figure 71. Playground, Looking North.

Horse and Wagon (c. 2000)

The horse and wagon, located to the east of the porte-cochere, according to a postcard from c. 1974 and Google Earth aerial photography, appears to have been added to the complex in 1999 or 2000 (Figure 72).



Figure 72. Horse and Wagon, Looking Northwest (Google 2016).

HISTORY

The motel was constructed in 1959 on land owned by Gilmer A. Jones and his wife, Maud; R. S. Jones and his wife, Lois; and Virginia L. Jones by Cecile Gibson, attorney in fact. The property was part of the initial layout of the Longwood Acres development (Figure 73). The property was transferred in September 1958 to Paul and Dora Carpenter (Macon County Registry of Deeds P-6:74). In 1974, the land and motel, including its furnishings, was purchased by David and Delores Rusch and Frank Myatt. In 2014, the property was purchased by the Myatt Family LLC, the current owners (Macon County Registry of Deeds D-10:33 and I-36:1248-1251).

The motel was constructed on parcels 1 through 11 within Section 2 of the Longview Acres development (Figures 73 and 74). The development of Longwood Acres (Sections 1 and 2) was laid out in long narrow lots in 1958 on land belonging to J. A. Sanders and his wife, Nina (Macon County Registry of Deeds P-6:79). The development was reserved for the construction of motels and residences only, no buildings used for livestock or outhouses were permitted. In addition, houses constructed within Section 2 had to meet stringent construction criteria. These stipulations stated that no roof could be clad in sheet metal, and the exterior walls must be masonry, or clad in asbestos or similar material, or weatherboards or similar. These covenants transferred with the property until 1988. The hotel, which is masonry construction with an asphalt shingle roof, conforms to the stipulations outlined in the covenants for the development (Macon County Registry of Deeds P-6:79).

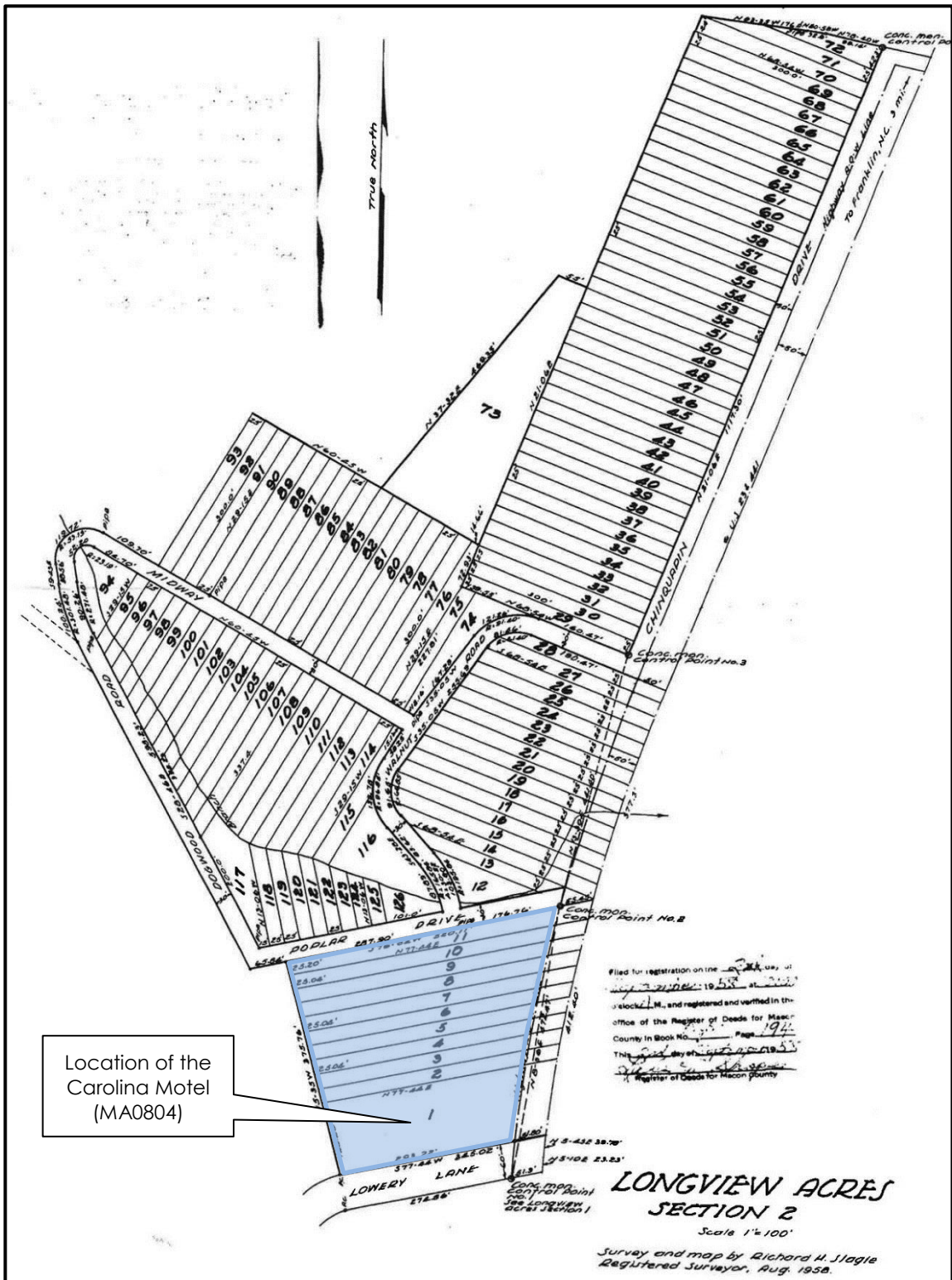


Figure 73. 1958 Plat Map Depicting the Location of the Carolina Motel (MA0804), 2601 Georgia Road (Macon County Registry of Deeds: Plat 1:194).



Figure 74. Detail of Franklin, NC USGS Topographic Map (1967)
(<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Few comparative examples built in the mid-twentieth century prior to 1967 were located in the survey area or the surrounding areas within Macon County. Aside from the Relax Inn surveyed during the current project, one example, the Sapphire Inn, was constructed in 1964. The motel comprises three, two-story blocks of rooms and a one-story office. The two-story buildings feature engaged, full-length, two-story porches, supported by columns with ornate railings on the second floor, and original entry doors. The one-story office features a shallow-pitched gable roof and engaged porte-cochere. Projecting from the roof is a small cupola with pyramidal roof. The office appears to retain its original window configuration with solid panels above (Figure 75). The motel retains a high degree of architectural integrity including workmanship, materials, and design. The building also has integrity of location, feeling, and association. The setting has changed with the construction of modern commercial development to the southwest.



Figure 75. Sapphire Inn, 761 E. Main Street, Franklin, NC (www.sapphireinn.com).

INTEGRITY

The Carolina Motel possesses integrity of setting, feeling, association, and location. The building sits on its original location and retains, for the most part, its spatial relationship to the road and maintains its original set-back. In addition, the motel still functions as a motel. The building's integrity of workmanship, materials, and design have been compromised by the extensive alterations to the building in 1989 including the installation of drywall in the interior walls, modern windows, and the expansion of the porte-cochere.

EVALUATION

Criterion A: The Carolina Motel, under NRHP Criterion A, reflects the development of the tourist industry in Macon County as well as the overall development of the automobile culture in western North Carolina during the late 1950s and early 1960s. The motel was constructed at a time when the western part of the state was promoting tourism to middle-class tourists. Aside from the Relax Inn and the Sapphire Inn (see Figure 54), few representative examples of motels built during this time period were located within Macon County. As such, it is recommended that the Carolina Motel is eligible under Criterion A for its association with broad patterns of history as a mid-twentieth century road-side motel associated with the tourism industry and the expansion of the automobile touring culture of the time period.

Criterion B: Under Criterion B, the motel can be considered eligible if it is associated with a person or persons of significance within the context of the community, state, or nation. The persons associated with the Carolina Motel do not appear to have been of transcendent importance on

a local, state or national level. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The Carolina Motel, to be eligible under Criterion C, must “embody distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value.” The motel is a common form constructed during the mid-twentieth century, does not possess high artistic value, nor does it represent the work of a master. In addition, the motel was extensively renovated in 1989, which has significantly compromised the building’s architectural integrity. It is therefore recommended that the property does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.

Criterion D: Criterion D is typically utilized for the evaluation of archaeological sites. Criterion D, according to NRHP Bulletin 15 addresses those properties that can only answer questions important to “human history that can only be answered by the physical material of cultural resources.” Resources considered for evaluation under Criterion D are typically “properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions” (NRHP 1997:21). The Carolina Motel is unlikely to yield information not available from primary sources and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion D.

The Carolina Motel is generally reflective of the mid-twentieth century tourist industry in Macon County. As such, the motel is recommended as eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the tourism industry and expanding automobile touring culture. The motel, however, lacks direct and/or important associations under Criterion B, C, or D for historical significance necessary for listing on the NRHP.

Virginia Jones House

Resource Name	Virginia Jones House	
HPO Survey Site #	MA0805	
Location	2507 Georgia Road	
PIN	6583554296	
Date(s) of Construction	c. 1959	
Recommendation	Eligible for Listing on the NRHP under Criterion C	

DESCRIPTION

Setting

The house is set at the top of a hill, and seems to have been built to complement the terrain. It is surrounded by trees and vegetation. A winding gravel drive leads to a small paved parking area north of the house (Figure 76). The manicured lawn that immediately surrounds the house is supported by a low stone retaining wall wrapping around the north side. Three stone steps provide access from the parking area.

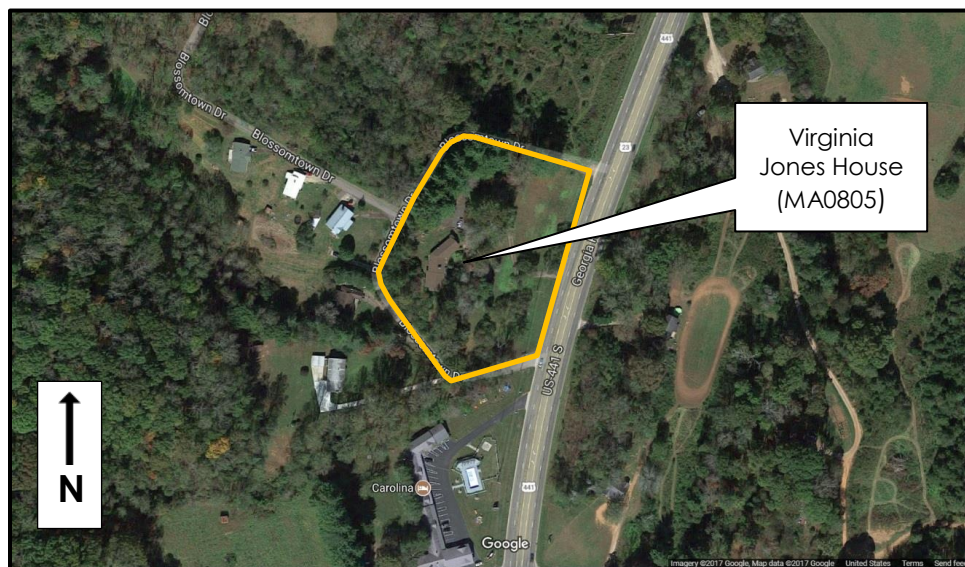


Figure 76. Aerial Depicting Landscape Surrounding Resource MA0805 (Google Maps 2017).

Structures

House (c. 1959)

This house is a one-story residence, reflecting a mid-twentieth century style. The house is constructed of ashlar stone, and is topped by a front gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. The eaves overhang around the entirety of the structure. The primary entry is on the northeast side through a wood slab door. To the left of the door are three vertical fixed pane windows, which extend to the peak of the gable end. The windows are intersected by a nearly flat-roofed porch, supported by square wood columns. Four of the five are grouped to the right of the door, creating an asymmetry that nevertheless balances the windows on the other side. Rounding the corner to the west elevation, a pair of full-length fixed pane windows illuminate the entry, and are followed by four small single-pane windows. Moving south, there is a wood slab door with a picture window adjacent, and this window is separated by vertical wood boards from a three-pane picture window. These same vertical wood boards run the length of the façade under the soffit. Another entry is sheltered by an engaged porch as the house bends to the south. An interior ashlar stone chimney sits roughly at the center of the house. The exterior walls of the southern portion of the home are clad in dark vertical wood board, though the foundation still appears to be stone. There is yet another entry at a small projecting wing on the east façade, along with varied fenestration (Figures 77-82).

A two-story screened wood frame porch covers the south elevation and may have been added at a later date. The house thus appears to have at least a partial basement cut into the side of the hill. The east elevation was blocked by trees and vegetation, and was not accessible or visible (Figure 83).

The owner of the property did not grant access to the interior of the house and was reluctant to provide any information regarding the history or construction of the structure during the survey.



Figure 77. House, Looking North.



Figure 78. Detail of Western Elevation, Looking East.



Figure 79. House, Looking Southeast.



Figure 80. House, Looking South.



Figure 81. Detail of Front Entry, Looking Southeast.



Figure 82. Detail of Gable End, Looking Southwest.



Figure 83. Porch Detail, Looking East.

Well (c. 1970)

The well is constructed of poured concrete and features a poured concrete cap (Figure 84).



Figure 84. Well, Looking Northeast.

HISTORY

The mid-twentieth century house, located at 2507 Georgia Road, was constructed c. 1959 and modestly reflects a mid-century dwelling style. Although Mid-Century dwellings were often architect-designed, the only known architect working in Macon County was James J. Baldwin, who died four years prior to the house's construction (NCSU Library 2017). No other architect or designer associated with the house was identified through current research.

The house was constructed on parcels 12 through 28 within Section 2 of the Longview Acres development (Figures 85 and 86). The development of Longwood Acres (Sections 1 and 2) was laid out in long narrow lots in 1958. A portion of the development was located on land belonging to J. A. Sanders and his wife, Nina; however, it is currently unknown if the parcel on which the house is constructed, was part of the Sanders property (Macon County Registry of Deeds P-6:79). According to Google Earth imagery (2015), much of the area slated for development has not been built on. The development was reserved for the construction of motels and residences only, no buildings used for livestock or as outhouses were permitted. In addition, houses constructed within Section 2 had to meet stringent construction criteria. These stipulations stated that no roof could be clad in sheet metal, and the exterior walls must be masonry, or clad in asbestos or similar material, or weatherboards or similar. These covenants transferred with the property until 1988 (Macon County Registry of Deeds P-6:79). The c. 1959 house located at 2507 Georgia Road appears to have been constructed to conform to these stipulations with its wood and stone siding and asphalt shingle roof.

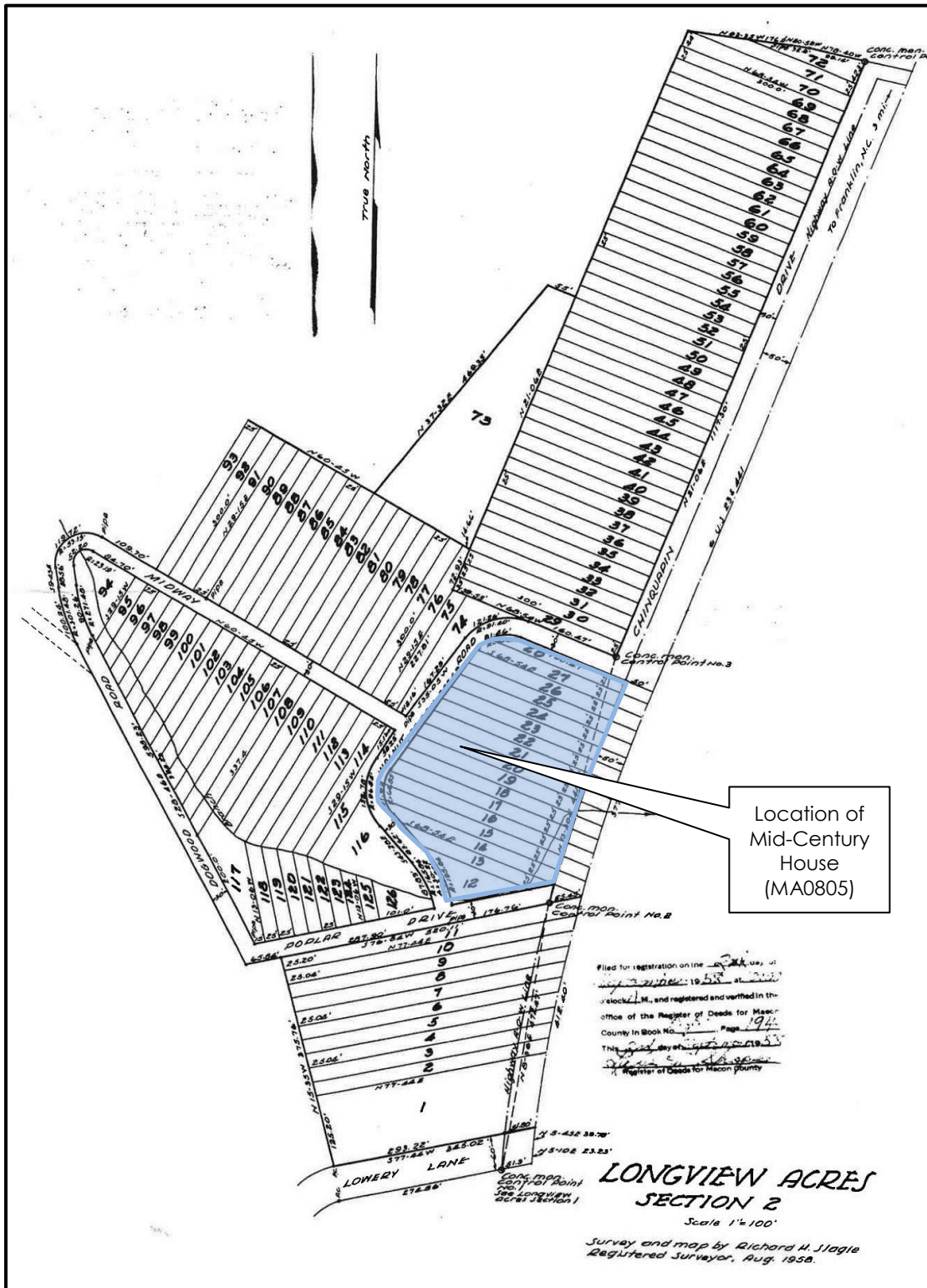


Figure 85. 1958 Plat Map Depicting the Location of the House (MA0805), 2507 Georgia Road (Macon County Registry of Deeds: Plat 1:194).



Figure 86. Detail of Franklin, NC USGS Topographic Map (1967)
 (<http://historicalmaps.arcgis.com/usgs/>).

In February of 1960, Virginia Jones, owner of the property (parcels 12 through 28), petitioned the surrounding residents of Longwood Acres for an exception to the established covenants for the development. At that time, Virginia Jones requested to have the stipulation of only residential buildings and garages waived in order to construct the house on the lot to serve as both a residence and retail craft shop. The request was granted as the addition of a small retail establishment was not felt to be a detriment to the development (Macon County Registry of Deeds I-6:624). Virginia appears to continue to own the property until 1992. A connection between Virginia Jones and Maude Bivins could not be made at this time, but it appears, Maude (b. 1927), the current owner, has resided in the house since approximately 2011 or perhaps earlier.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Mid-Century Modern dwellings are characterized by clean geometric and curvilinear lines, little adornment, large windows and open floor plans. Garages and carports were incorporated within the designs, where prior to World War II garages were detached buildings. Natural and contrasting materials, such as wood and stone, were often incorporated within the designs. Designs also incorporated new materials such as plastics and metals. Above all, designs focused on form and function. A majority of the Mid-Century Modern residences constructed in the 1940s through 1960s

were designed by noted architects of the time. The style's longevity was limited, however, and by the mid-1960s to the turn of 1970, Mid-Century Modern buildings were no longer fashionable (Huset 2014).

The Eugenia and Frank W. Hunnicutt House, located at 13 Honey Drive, is similar in plan and configuration to the dwelling located at 2507 Georgia Road (MA0805) (Figure 87). The Mid-Century Modern house, built in 1965, was constructed towards the end of the style's popularity. The dwelling, while not exhibiting the prominent horizontal lines of the Annie J. Reed House, has large window walls that do incorporate strong horizontal lines, which divide the larger rectangular windows from the upper windows adjacent to the roof line (Figure 93). The design, although the architect is unknown, incorporates contrasting textures and materials, a typical characteristic of the style, including brick and horizontal wood siding.



Figure 87. Example of Mid-Century Modern House (1965), 13 Honey Drive, Asheville (<http://www.ncmodernist.org/asheville>).

INTEGRITY

The Virginia Jones House possesses integrity of setting, feeling, association, location, materials, workmanship, and design. The building sits on its original location and retains, for the most part, its spatial relationship to the road and wooded areas and maintains its original set-back. The house appears to retain, on the exterior, its original materials and does not seem to have been altered to any great extent.

EVALUATION

Criterion A: Under Criterion A, a property can be eligible for listing on the NRHP if there is an association with a significant event or broad pattern in history at a local, state, or national level. The Virginia Jones House, under NRHP Criterion A, reflects the general development of Macon County during the mid-twentieth century and is not associated with any event or pattern of history that would meet the level of significance required for meeting Criterion A. Therefore, it is recommended that the Virginia Jones House is not eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A.

Criterion B: Under Criterion B, the Virginia Jones House can be considered eligible if it is associated with a person or persons of significance within the context of the community, state, or nation. The known persons, Virginia Jones and Maude Bivins, associated with the house do not appear to have been of transcendent importance within historic contexts on a local, state or national level. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource does not meet the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The Virginia Jones House, to be eligible under Criterion C, must “embody distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value.” The house does embody distinctive characteristics of style, such as high windows and its use of textural materials to provide a contrast. The building, however, does not appear to be associated with a noted architect practicing in North Carolina at the time the house was constructed. As the house exhibits distinctive characteristics of type, it is recommended that the property meets the criteria necessary for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C at a local level.

Criterion D: Criterion D is typically utilized for the evaluation of archaeological sites. Criterion D, according to NRHP Bulletin 15 addresses those properties that can only answer questions important to “human history that can only be answered by the physical material of cultural resources.” Resources considered for evaluation under Criterion D are typically “properties that have the potential to answer, in whole or in part, those types of research questions” (NRHP 1997:21). The Virginia Jones House is unlikely to yield information not available from primary sources and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion D.

The Virginia Jones House, as a resource, embodies distinctive characteristics of type (Mid-Century Modern) and is therefore recommended as eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.

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