

**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

June 28, 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, Convert At-Grade Intersection at
US 29/US70 70/Business 85 at SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd), R-5737, PA 17-12-0007,
Davidson County, ER 18-1228

Thank you for your May 21, 2018, letter concerning the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the materials submitted and offer the following comments.

We do not concur that the Alexander Caldcleugh House (DV0389) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The consultant's claims that the house is "one of the oldest in the county" and "likely one of the largest and better-finished houses ... at the time of construction" are not defensible arguments for significance under Criterion C. Further, the house does not retain integrity to its period of construction. Most of the windows, the porch, and the addition post-date the construction period. Vinyl siding covers or has replaced most of the original siding and changes the window trim profiles. The consultants were not allowed access to the interior, but the owners report that no original interior woodwork remains.

The above comments are offered in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation at 36 CFR 800, If you have any questions concerning them, please contact me at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov

Please use the above assigned tracking number for any correspondence or questions concerning this undertaking. Failure to do so may cause delays in our response. We appreciate your time and consideration.

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

Received: 06/04/2018
State Historic Preservation Office



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

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

May 21, 2018

ER 18-1228

Due -- 6/26/18

Dear Gledhill-Earley:

RE: Historic Structure Survey Report, TIP# R-5737, PA# 17-12-0007, Convert At-Grade Intersection at US 29/US 70/Business 85 at SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd) in Davidson County

H-GRB
6/25/18
email
ER letters
6/25/18

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to convert at-grade intersection at US 29/US 70/Business 85 at SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd) in Davidson County. Calyx prepared the attached Eligibility Report and recommends the Alexander Caldcleugh House (DV0389) eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PDEA-HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SECTION
MAIL SERVICE CENTER 1598
RALEIGH NC, 27699-1598

Telephone: (919) 707-6000
Fax: (919) 212-5785
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968
Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1020 BIRCH RIDGE RD
RALEIGH NC 27610

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

Convert At-Grade Intersection at US 29/US 70/Business 85 at SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Road), Davidson County

TIP# R-5737

WBS# 50195.3.1

PA# 17-12-0007

Prepared for:

Environmental Analysis Unit

North Carolina Department of Transportation

1598 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699

Prepared by:



CALYX Engineers and Consultants

6750 Tryon Road

Cary, North Carolina, 27518

MAY 2018

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

Convert At-Grade Intersection at US 29/US 70/Business 85 at SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Road), Davidson County

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Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699

Prepared by:



CALYX Engineers and Consultants

6750 Tryon Road

Cary, North Carolina, 27518

MAY 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Woodard David".

Sarah Woodard David, Principal Investigator

May 10, 2018

Date

Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor

Historic Architecture Group

North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes converting an at-grade intersection to an interchange at U.S. Highway 29/U.S. Highway 70/Business Interstate 85 at Secondary Road (S.R.) 1798 (Old Greensboro Road) in Davidson County. The project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by NCDOT is illustrated in Figure 2.

This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). An NCDOT Architectural Historian defined an APE and conducted a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only one resource warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation, and it is the subject of this report. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

Davidson County was comprehensively surveyed in 1980. The Alexander Caldcleugh House was surveyed at that time and was placed on the Study List in 1983.

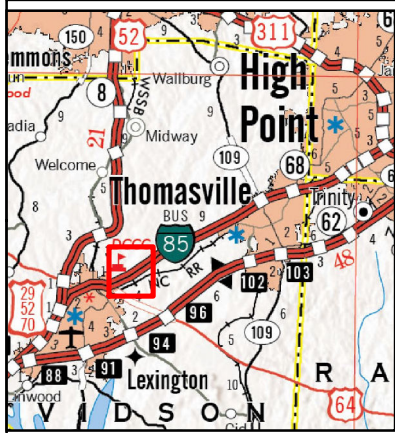
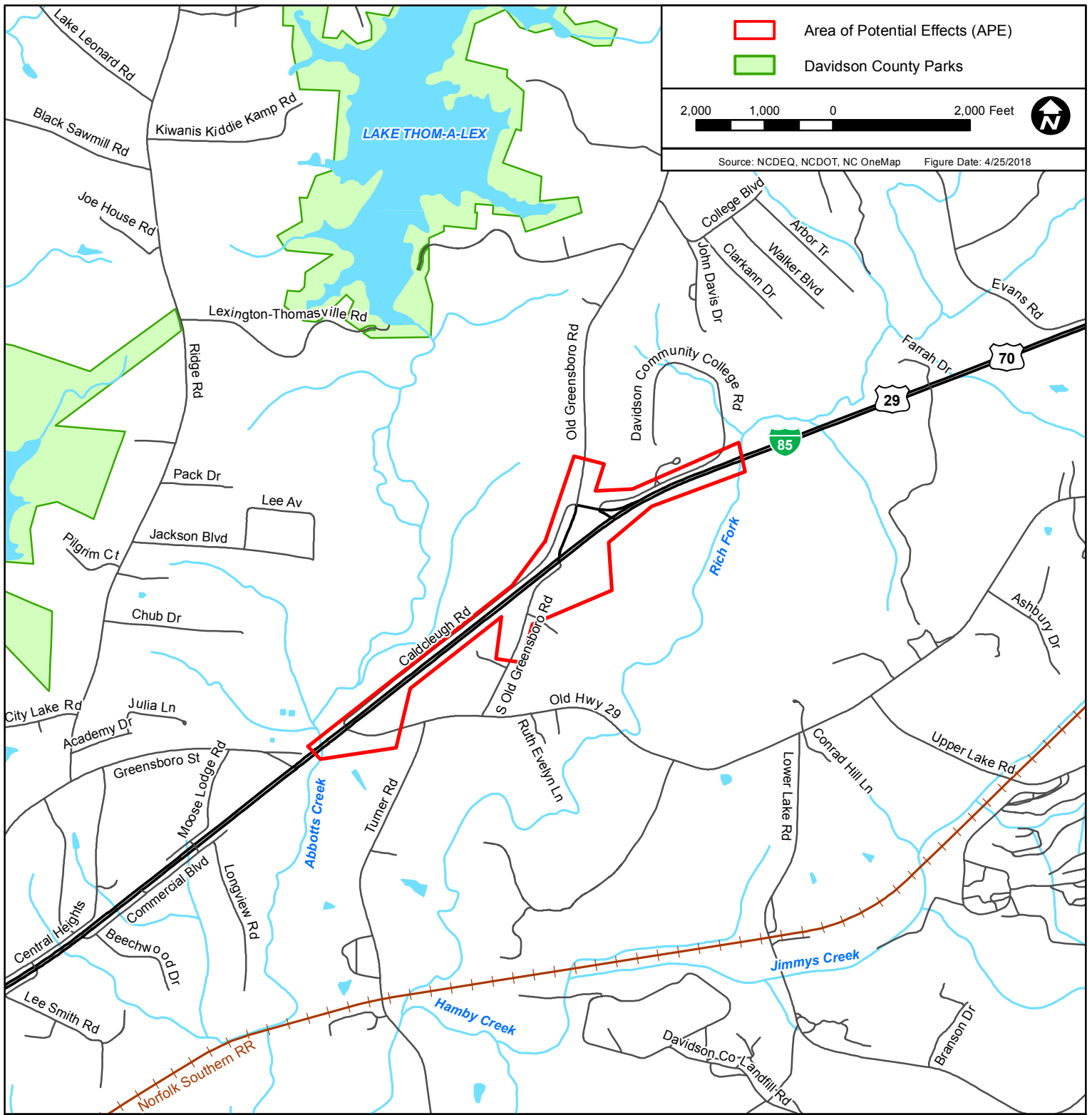
In March 2018, NCDOT requested that CALYX Engineers and Consultants (CALYX) complete research, an intensive-level historic resource field survey, and NRHP evaluation for this property.

Based on the field survey, background research, and the evaluations documented in this report, the recommendation for the NRHP is as follows:

Property Name	NCHPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Determination	Criterion
Alexander Caldcleugh House	DV 389	Eligible	C

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NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
 TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &
 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT






TIP Project R-5737

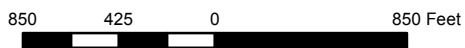
Davidson County

*Convert At-Grade Intersection to an
 Interchange at US 29/US 70/Business I-85 at
 SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd)*

Figure 1 - Project Vicinity



- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|---------------|
|  | APE Boundary |  | Property Line |
|  | NR-Eligible Boundary |  | Road |
| | |  | Stream |



Source: NCDEQ, NCDOT, NC OneMap
Figure Date: 4/25/2018



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT

TIP Project R-5737

Davidson County

*Convert At-Grade Intersection to an
Interchange at US 29/US 70/Business I-85 at
SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd)*

Figure 2 - Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Methodology

On April 17, 2018, CALYX Architectural Historian Sarah Woodard David visited Davidson County and completed photo documentation for the Alexander Caldcleugh House. The investigator undertook research at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, the Davidson County Register of Deeds, the North Carolina State Library, and the North Carolina State Archives. The investigator also used online research tools and resources, including the Rowan County and Davidson County Register of Deeds websites, the website findagrave.com, and the web-based subscription services ancestry.com and newspapers.com. The investigator drove throughout eastern Davidson County in search of comparable building types and specifically targeted the oldest buildings documented in the county's 1980 countywide architectural survey.

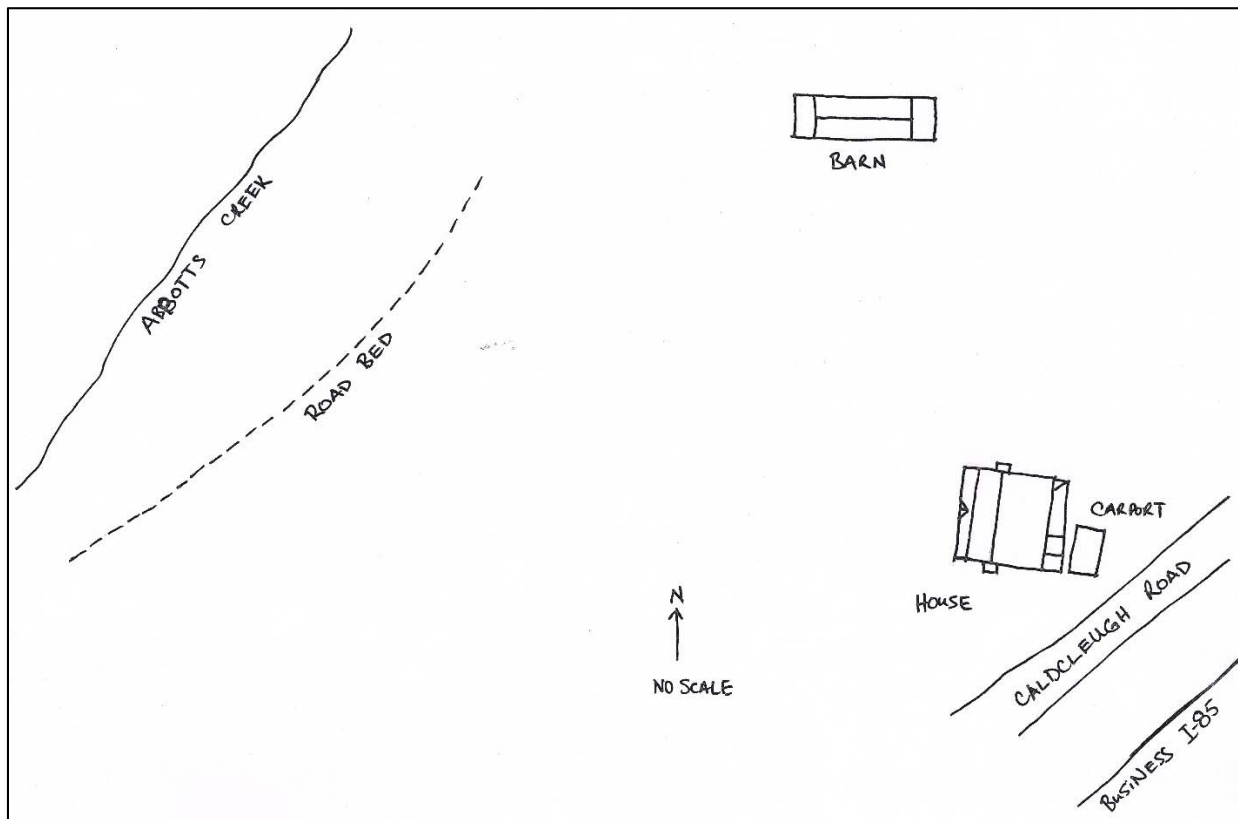
CALYX conducted all fieldwork, research, and evaluations to meet the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800, as well as NCDOT's *Guidelines for the Survey Reports for Historic Architectural Resources*.

Evaluation: Alexander Caldcleugh House

Resource Name	Alexander Caldcleugh House
HPO Survey Site Number	DV 389
Street Address	1212 Caldcleugh Road
PIN	6746-02-58-6353
Construction Dates	1797
NRHP Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria C



Description



1: Caldcleugh House, site plan

The Caldcleugh House is located in central Davidson County, about five miles north of the county seat of Lexington. The vicinity is essentially suburban in nature with recent construction spread along rural roads between vestiges of farmsteads. The Caldcleugh House stands on the very edge of Business I-85, but despite the road's proximity, the house is nestled in a grove of trees on a slight rise overlooking a road bed and Abbotts Creek to the west. To the north of the house stands a turn-of-the-twentieth-century barn.

The Caldcleugh House is a two-story, side-gable house dating from the late 1700s. The house retains a double-shouldered, Flemish bond chimney into which a heart shape has been executed in glazed headers. It is the only known remaining example of figurative decorative brickwork in Davidson County. The house also has a saltbox profile with the rear roof slope breaking at the plane of the main block's rear wall to extend over a two-story rear shed. Gable returns added in the early 1900s at the point of this break heighten the impression that the rear shed is an addition, but it is an original component of the house.

The symmetrical façade is three bays wide with a centered front door. The original, six-panel front door has been replaced since 1980, but it is topped with a four-light, rectangular transom and flanked by six-over-six sash windows. Original beaded weatherboards and molded door and window surrounds remain under the porch.

The full-width porch features a concrete floor, square posts, and a gable peak over the entrance. The porch has been screened, and a geometric balustrade was added between 1940 and 1980.

The upper level of the façade has three windows. The north window retains original six-over-nine sash. The middle window has two-over-two historic replacements, and the south window retains an original six-light upper sash above a single-light lower sash that was in place prior to 1980.



2: Caldcleugh House, west elevation



3: Caldcleugh House, Historic American Buildings Survey Photograph by Thomas Waterman, 1940



4: Caldcleugh House, west elevation



5: Caldcleugh House, west elevation detail, seen through porch screening



6: Caldcleugh House, west elevation detail, seen through porch screening

The side elevations feature windows flanking the chimney on both the upper and lower level and one window in each level of the side elevation of the rear shed. A brick chimney flu rises on the north end of the shed. The north gable end chimney is a brick, single-shouldered chimney built in 1896, while the south chimney is a double-shouldered, Flemish bond chimney in which a heart shape has been executed in glazed headers. At the bottom of the lower shoulder, a brick course projects slightly. The corners of the brick may be intentionally rounded, or they may be deteriorated to the point of appearing intentionally molded.



7: Caldcleugh House, south elevation



8: Caldcleugh House, south elevation detail



9: Caldcleugh House, south elevation chimney detail



10: Caldcleugh House, south elevation chimney detail



11: Caldcleugh House, north elevation

A one-story gabled ell was added to the rear elevation prior to 1940, but was truncated when the service road was cut along the property's eastern edge in the second half of the twentieth century. A one-story, enclosed porch extends from the ell's north elevation across the rest of the rear elevation of the rear shed. Original beaded weatherboards are exposed on the original exterior wall inside the now-enclosed back porch.

A modern, metal carport is situated directly adjacent to the east elevation.



12: Caldcleugh House, east elevation and carport

The house stands on a stone and brick foundation, but the foundation has been parged with concrete. The rear ell and back porch both stand on continuous brick foundations.

The investigator was not allowed to enter the house, but original beaded weatherboards could be seen on the rear elevation of the rear shed, inside the enclosed back porch, indicating that the rear shed was an original element of the house's design.

The current occupant reported that the entire interior had been remodeled and that no original woodwork remained. Notes on the interior in 1940 and 1980 do not describe the woodwork except to note that the ceilings and walls were sheathed and that no plaster was used in the house.

The original floor plan, which seems to remain intact based on the current occupant's verbal description, is a double-pile plan with the front section having a hall-parlor layout with the front door opening into the larger of two front rooms. Behind the hall-parlor block, the shed is divided into three rooms with the center room housing the staircase.

To the north of the house is a frame, turn-of-the-twentieth-century barn. The side-gable structure features a center drive-through, and shed wings stand on each gable end. The structure is covered in

wide plank siding. A pent roof, a common feature to barns in Davidson County, extends across the side-gable section just under the eave.



13: Caldcleugh House, barn, south elevation

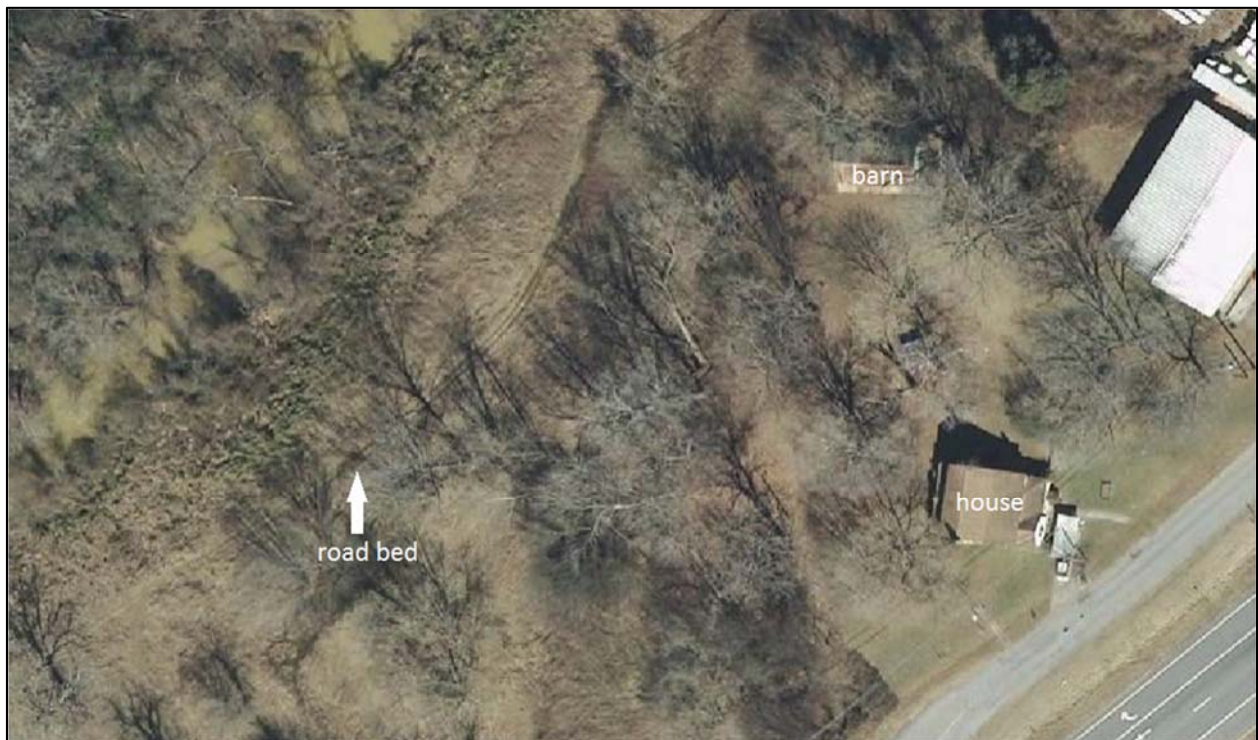


14: Caldcleugh House, barn, south elevation



15: Caldcleugh House, south elevation detail

To the west of the house, a road bed follows Abbotts Creek. The house faces this road. The road is discernable on the ground, but overgrown vegetation made it difficult to photograph. However, an aerial image provides a clear illustration. An 1890 map also shows the road's route, crossing Abbotts Creek and turning sharply north to jog between the house and the creek. The grist mill is located directly west of the house while a sawmill is situated just to the north.



16: aerial photograph of the Caldcleugh House calling out the road bed



17: Detail Map of Davidson County, 1890, accessed via UNC's North Carolina Maps website, <https://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/ncmaps/id/371/rec/8>

Historical Background

The construction of the Alexander Caldcleugh (pronounced Claw-clue) House has long been attributed to Alexander Caldcleugh, but based on architectural evidence and documentary evidence regarding where Alexander Caldcleugh lived, the original owner was most likely Alexander's parents, Andrew and Sarah Caldcleugh. When Thomas Waterman photographed the house in 1940 for the Historic American Buildings Survey, the Conrad family, who owned it at the time, reported that the house was constructed in 1797, which aligns with the remaining original material.¹

Andrew Caldcleugh was a native of Scotland while his wife, Sarah Zimmerman, was the daughter of German immigrants. According to a descendant's obituary and to a brief newspaper note from 1880, Andrew was a Quarter Master for George Washington.² Their only child, Alexander, was born in 1784.³

In 1785 and 1786, Andrew Caldcleugh purchased more than seven hundred acres along Abbotts [Abit's] Creek in three transactions from Valentine and Margaret Beard. By the time of the 1786 transaction, he was described in the deed as a resident of Rowan County, from which Davidson would later be carved. That comports with local tradition that Andrew, his wife, Sarah Zimmerman, and their only child, Alexander, moved to the area at that time. However, he clearly maintained his connection to Philadelphia because a 1796 agreement for Caldcleugh to serve as an attorney for a man from Salisbury

¹ Thomas Waterman notes in the Alexander Caldcleugh House Survey File, DV 389, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

² *The Chatham Record* (Pittsboro), December 16, 1880, 3.

³ Andrew, Sarah, and Alexander Caldcleugh grave markers in the Lexington City Cemetery, U.S. Census Records, accessed via ancestry.com, and Sarah Caldcleugh's obituary published in the *Readinger Adler*, a German newspaper published in Berks County, Pennsylvania, and translated and quoted as part of Sarah Caldcleugh's entry on findagrave.com, accessed April 2018 via <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15022142>.

states that Caldcleugh lived in Philadelphia where he was a merchant. An 1801 directory for Philadelphia businesses also lists Caldcleugh as a merchant in that city.⁴

Later deeds refer to a mill on Abbotts Creek near the Caldcleugh House, and it appears that Andrew established that enterprise, as opposed to his son. A ledger book inscribed with “A Caldcleugh Mill April 28 1803” is housed in the University of Alabama Special Collections. The finding aid describes the ledger as containing receipts and accounts from 1778 until about 1811. Entries suggest that the mill was a saw mill and that Caldcleugh was also dealing in other items, such as hats and fabric. That information combined with other references to Andrew as a “merchant” suggest that he operated a store here, too. Additionally, the book includes a receipt acknowledging that he had paid Elizabeth Hinkle \$26 for “keeping his House at the Mill from May 1805 to May 1806.”⁵

Aside from being a Revolutionary War veteran and a significant landowner in the area, very little is known of Andrew’s life. In 1810, he enslaved ten people, but the output of his farm is unknown. In 1811, he was appointed to the first board for the Salisbury branch of the Bank of North Carolina.⁶

Sarah Zimmerman Caldcleugh died from breast cancer in 1814, and Andrew died in 1821. Based on his will, the enslaved people working his land at the time of his death included Dave, Willet, Hannah, Frank and his son, also named Frank, Fanny Kelly, Sarah Zimmerman, and David. He left an additional, but unknown, number of enslaved people to his son, Alexander.⁷

His will also detailed significant sums of money and household items including a landscape painting distributed to various relatives. All of his land, however, went to Alexander.

Andrew Caldcleugh’s will also freed three enslaved people: Fanny Kelly, her young daughter, Sarah Zimmerman, and a man named Dave. Fanny and Dave were freed for their “meritorious services to my wife and myself during our sicknesses.” Fanny was to be freed one month after Caldcleugh’s death, Sarah immediately upon his death, and Dave three years after his death. His will provided for transportation to Philadelphia to the Abolition Society of Philadelphia should his executors not be able to legally free the trio in North Carolina. Andrew also provided Fanny with two good horses and one of his best milch cows. For Sarah, who was younger than 10 when Andrew died, he provided \$500 for the purchase of “a piece of land with comfortable improvements” in her name, \$1000 in a trust fund to “support and educate” Sarah, furniture, and money to purchase provisions for Sarah and Fanny for one year. For Dave, Andrew bequeathed blacksmithing tools, bellows, and a new suit of clothes. Dave’s fate

⁴ Valentine and Margaret Beard to Andrew Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 10, page 186, May [illegible], 1785; Valentine and Margaret Beard to Andrew Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 10, page 187, April 7, 1785; Valentine and Margaret Beard to Andrew Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 10, page 516, May 23, 1786; David Cowan and Andrew Caldcleugh, agreement, Rowan County Deed Book 9, page 656, May 13, 1796; and Cornelius William Stafford, ed., *The Philadelphia Directory* (Philadelphia: William W. Woodward, 1801), 31, accessed from the Internet Archive, April 2018 via <https://archive.org/details/philadelphiadire1801phil>.

⁵ Andrew Caldcleugh Account Book, University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama; and Dedpepl Blog, “Research Notes—Caldcleugh Mill Account Book,” accessed April 2018 via <http://dedpepl.blogspot.com/2018/03/research-notes-caldcleugh-mill-account.html>.

⁶ U.S. Census Record, 1810, accessed via ancestry.com, and James Brawley, *The Rowan Story, 1753-1953: A Narrative History of Rowan County, NC* (Salisbury, NC: Rowan Printing Company, 1953), 274.

⁷ *The Raleigh Minerva*, February 25, 1814, 3; Andrew Caldcleugh grave marker, Lexington City Cemetery; and Andrew Caldcleugh Will, Will and Estate Papers (Rowan County), 1663-1978, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC.

is unknown, but Fanny and Sarah continued living in Davidson County as free women, with Sarah being listed as head of her single-person household by 1850.⁸

While no slave houses survive, Fanny, Sarah, and Dave would have spent a significant amount of time in the main house, and may have lived in the house with the family especially while the Caldcleughs were sick.

Alexander Caldcleugh followed in his father's footsteps and became a wealthy and prominent citizen of Lexington. In 1807, at age 23, Alexander bought his first piece of land, Lot 2 in Lexington, making him one of the earliest property owners in the town.⁹ The lot contained a "stone house and counting room." The next year, he made two more purchases, both larger tracts on Abbotts Creek, with one of them being on the road connecting Lexington and Guilford Courthouse.¹⁰ If Alexander built this house, it was likely after these 1811 land transactions, which would mean the chimney and beaded weatherboards are late examples of their use.

Alexander married Elizabeth S. and they had seven children. The family appears to have lived in Lexington where Alexander was a merchant, but he oversaw the mill operation on Abbotts Creek. References to the mill during Alexander's lifetime are numerous and the mill appears to have served as a local gathering spot and a place from which news could be disseminated, as most mills were in North Carolina. Although Alexander frequently visited the mill, he did not live here and it is unknown how this house was used during this era. It may have become the miller's house or Alexander may have maintained it for his own use when attending to business at the mill.¹¹

In addition to his business interests, Alexander was heavily involved in local politics and held several leadership positions. In 1817, he was appointed as Lexington's post master.¹² This further supports the notion that he was not living at the Caldcleugh House on Abbotts Creek. In 1822, he served as a delegate from newly-founded St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Lexington to the diocese's convention in Raleigh.¹³ Also in the early 1820s, he advocated for the creation of Davidson County from Rowan and was one of the commissioners assigned with organizing the new county at its creation in 1822.¹⁴

With the new county came a dispute about where the county seat should be located: in the community of Lexington or Marion. Caldcleugh favored Lexington, of course, and mounted a campaign for state Senate on that platform. His opponent, I. Smith, favored the selection of Marion and the election was, essentially, a referendum on the location of the county seat. Caldcleugh won by 4 votes: 409 to 405, and served as the county's first Senator. Lexington became the county seat, and Caldcleugh was one of several men charged with selecting contractors to build a courthouse and jail.¹⁵

⁸ Andrew Caldcleugh Will, and U.S. Census Records, 1830, 1840, and 1850, accessed via ancestry.com.

⁹ John Carson, executor of Thomas Carson's estate, to Alexander Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 21, page 43, February 19, 1807.

¹⁰ Jacob and Lydia Huff to Alexander Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 22, page 214, June 1, 1811, and George Fritz to Alexander Caldcleugh, Rowan County Deed Book 22, page 328, June 1, 1811.

¹¹ M. Jewell Sink and Mary Green Matthews, *Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, NC* (High Point, NC: Hall Printing Company, 1972), 41, 43, 75, and 77, and Genealogical Society of Davidson County, *The Heritage of Davidson County* (Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing Company, 1982), 84.

¹² Sink and Matthews, 416.

¹³ Jethro Rumble, *A History of Rowan County, NC* (1881; repr., Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1974), 309.

¹⁴ Jacob Calvin Leonard, *Centennial History of Davidson County* (Raleigh, NC: Edwards and Broughton, 1927), 26.

¹⁵ Sink and Matthews, 41 and 43.

mill to Berrier. In 1848, his sister, Margaret, sold 218 acres to Jacob Berrier, and in the 1850s, Margaret and Elizabeth (Alexander's widow), advertised land along Abbotts Creek.²⁰

Elizabeth described her land as "running up to the bridge at Berrier's Mill", which supports the notion that the mill was on the land Andrew sold to Berrier in 1846. The description of Elizabeth's land continues by noting that it lies on both sides of Abbotts Creek," and contains "some 250 acres." She does not mention any buildings on the property, but notes that the mill is a steam-powered sawmill.

In 1859, Jacob Berrier bought Elizabeth's 229-acre lot, described as Lot 1 in the mill tracts land.²¹

Jacob Berrier was a Davidson County farmer born in 1815. The 1850 census describes him as a farmer owning \$2,000 of real estate. By 1860, he owned over six hundred acres of land that had belonged to Alexander Caldcleugh, and he was still listed as a farmer, but his household included his son, Henry, who was a miller, and a man named H.L. Grimes, who was a sawyer. His real estate was valued at \$6,600 and his personal estate stood at \$2,280, reflecting his acquisition of land during the previous decade. By 1870, he was still described as a farmer, but enumerated next to him are his daughter, Eliza, and her husband, Lindsay Conrad, who is a miller.²²

Jacob Berrier died in 1879, and when his land was divided in 1885, Eliza and Lindsay Conrad received what appears to be lots 1 and 2 from Alexander's divisions of lands, meaning the 195 acres Andrew Caldcleugh sold to Berrier in 1846, which apparently included the mill, and the land that included the house sold to Berrier by Elizabeth Caldcleugh in 1859.²³

Lindsay and Eliza Conrad undertook several changes to the house. They also replaced the north gable-end chimney in 1896. A few years later, around 1902, they replaced the front porch, installing a hip-roof porch with central gable faced with decorative shingles over the entrance and turned posts.²⁴ After the house passed out of the Conrad family, George and Laura Curry purchased it in 1945, and the Currys owned it until 1977.²⁵ During the 1970s and 1980s, it changed hands several times. Robert and Grace Garner bought the property in 1984.²⁶ Grace Garner continues to live in the house, but her brother has owned it since 1989.²⁷

Architectural Context

In the mid-1700s, Scottish, Scotch-Irish, English Quaker, and German settlers poured down the Shenandoah Valley following the Great Wagon Road into North Carolina's Piedmont.

They built a small range of house types in both frame and log, using stone or brick in some instances. The earliest houses were one-room structures or two-room, hall-parlor plans that were one-story, one-

²⁰ Margaret Caldcleugh to Jacob Berrier, Davidson County Deed Book 11, page 250, January 19, 1848, and *Greensboro Patriot*, March 6, 1857, 4.

²¹ Elizabeth Caldcleugh to Jacob Berrier, Davidson County Deed Book 16, page 297, March 15, 1859.

²² U.S. Census Records, 1850, 1860, and 1870, accessed via ancestry.com.

²³ Jacob Berrier Division of Lands, Davidson County Deed 30, page 483, November 16, 1885.

²⁴ Alexander Caldcleugh House Survey File, DV 389, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC.

²⁵ R.L. and Ruth Green to George and Laura Curry, Davidson County Deed Book 159, page 307, February 12, 1945.

²⁶ Clarence and Judith LeBeau to Robert and Grace Garner, Davidson County Deed Book 632, page 254, March 29, 1985.

²⁷ Grace Garner to John Martin Blaylock, Davidson County Deed Book 710, page 946, April 11, 1989.

and-a-half-story, or two-stories in height. Germans sometimes built distinctive three-room plans. By the late 1700s, some builders and their most prosperous clients were refining their plan choices and began incorporating center hallways or rear stair halls. Center halls provided the owner with greater privacy and control as guests entered a hallway rather than coming directly into a living space. If a builder or owner preferred the hall-parlor plan, adding a room at the back of the main block, replacing an enclosure along a wall or in a corner, allowed the front rooms of a house to have more symmetry and formality.

Historian Catherine Bishir notes that during the Federal era, the continued use of traditional open plans, such as the hall-parlor, three-room, and various four-room arrangements is striking, and carried on even among the wealthier property owners who continued preferring to have the main entrance open directly into the principal room. Bishir also notes that including the stair in a rear room, instead of a center hall or in an enclosure, was relatively common during the late 1700s and early 1800s.²⁸

The Caldcleugh House's hall-parlor plan with a rear shed that encloses a center room for the stair reflects this continued preference for an open plan combined with a simultaneous movement toward greater formality as the utilitarian stair is located in the back of the house. When viewed from the exterior, the two-story rear shed appears to be an addition, but its original exterior wall, visible within the enclosed back porch, was clad in beaded weatherboards to match those on the façade, suggesting the rear shed and main block were built at the same time.

Beaded weatherboards are a common feature of well-finished houses of the eighteenth-century and very early-nineteenth century. According to the current occupant, weatherboard siding is present under the existing vinyl, but that siding likely dates to the Conrad family's remodeling in the early 1900s as the siding on the porch appears to differ from the rest of the siding in Thomas Waterman's 1940 Historic American Buildings Survey photograph. Original beaded siding can be seen in the enclosed back porch and on the façade under the front porch. Thomas Waterman also noted paneled shutters on the rear elevation in 1940.

The other notable architectural feature of the Caldcleugh House is its narrow double-shouldered Flemish bond chimney with a heart created from glazed headers. During the late 1700s, builders began using Flemish bond in brick construction, which was rapidly becoming the material-of-choice for the Piedmont's most substantial houses. Catherine Bishir describes an apparently sudden regional development of patterned brickwork in initials, dates, and decorations flourishing from the late 1780s through the very early 1810s. The work is often associated with German influences in the Piedmont, but it originated with English Quakers in the mid-Atlantic. Of many examples across the Piedmont, the three Bishir cites in *North Carolina Architecture* are located in Rowan and Lincoln Counties, relatively close to the Caldcleugh House, and all three were constructed by owners with German roots and/or who had lived in Pennsylvania before coming to North Carolina.²⁹ The Davidson County architectural survey of 1981 recorded six examples of patterned brickwork, defined as Flemish bond or other use of glazed headers, not necessarily the use of lozenges, Xs, hearts, initials, dates, or other common motifs. Of those six, the two most elaborate examples were the chimney at the Caldcleugh House and the three double-

²⁸ Catherine Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, portable edition, 2005), 128 and 131, and Catherine Bishir, interview with the author, April 24, 2018.

²⁹ Bishir, 161-163.

shouldered chimneys at the Kinney-Clinard House (dismantled and moved to Forsyth County). The Kinney-Clinard House chimneys featured intersecting diagonals of glazed headers.³⁰

Andrew Caldcleugh's immigration from Scotland brought him first to Pennsylvania for several years and although he was not German, his wife's parents had immigrated from Germany and Alexander Caldcleugh's personal library contained Lutheran hymn books. In short, like the other owners associated with decorative brickwork in the Piedmont, the family blended English and German customs in the type of house that Bishir would describe as "the product of local craft knowledge and direct interaction between the client and the craftsmen who planned the structure and, with minor exceptions, fabricated all its components."³¹

The house underwent notable updating at the turn of the twentieth century. The north chimney was replaced in 1896, as documented by a dated brick. The Conrad family made other changes around 1902, according to notes in the survey file. Those changes include extending the roof to the chimney stack to create a deeper overhang and gable returns and replacing the porch with a full-width porch with turned posts and a shingled gable over the entrance. In the later twentieth-century, but prior to 1981, the turned posts were replaced with square columns and the existing balustrade and screening was added. After 1940, the porch floor was replaced with concrete. Before 1940, a one-story rear ell was added. It is not known if the back porch is original or an addition, but the back porch has been enclosed. Over time, original window sash, which appear to have been six-over-six and six-over-nine light configurations based on remaining examples, were replaced with two-over-two sashes. All of the changes except the installation of vinyl siding are historic alterations reflecting an updating of the house as fashions changed and as repairs were needed.

Comparable Examples

Because the Caldcleugh House dates to the late eighteenth century, there are few buildings to which it can be compared. The Saintsing House (DV 377), on Old Greensboro Road, north of the Caldcleugh House, is perhaps the best comparison. This hall-parlor plan house dates to the early 1800s, features Flemish bond chimneys, and a compliment of outbuildings. It has been covered in vinyl siding and the windows were replaced historically with two-over-two sash, but its porch form, a simple, full-width shed, is original and it retains flush gable eaves and a boxed cornice, which probably reflect the original appearance of the Caldcleugh House. The Saintsing House is on the state's Study List and would likely be eligible for the National Register because it retains its overall form as an early hall-parlor house with original Flemish bond chimneys. Additionally, it would likely be eligible for the Register as a good example of a farm with a notable number of extant outbuildings and barns.

³⁰ Historic Resources of Davidson County, National Register of Historic Places, Multiple Properties Documentation Form, 1982, section 7, page 8, and Paul Baker Touart, *Building in the Backcountry: An Architectural History of Davidson County* (Lexington, NC: Davidson County Historical Association, 1987), 19.

³¹ Bishir, 128.



19: Saintsing House, Old Greensboro Road



20: Saintsing House, Old Greensboro Road

Beallmont (DV 7) is another early house, but many historic alterations make its original appearance difficult to discern. It is a side-passage house, but with a rear section that was moved to join the main block in the 1840s. The rear section is a hall-parlor plan and the stair hall is located in this section, suggesting that the front was built in the 1840s at the time the hall-parlor section was relocated. This house has been cut into several pieces and moved to a field across the road and about a half-mile east of its original location. Beallmont was listed in the National Register at its original site; because its significance is related to its architecture, rather than its setting, and because the move was relatively short, it may be able to retain eligibility in its new location, but that is uncertain.



21 Beallmont, Belmont Road

Haden Place (DV 317) is another hall-parlor example dating from the early 1800s. It features a shed roof porch that may be similar to the original Caldcleugh porch, but its chimneys are single-shoulder, common bond chimneys, and it is more Greek Revival in style than Federal or late Georgian. Haden Place is listed on the National Register, but it has undergone extensive alterations including the application of vinyl siding and installation of modern vinyl windows and a replacement front door. It retains several historic outbuildings, but the landscape has become overgrown making interpretation as a farm difficult. Continued eligibility would likely hinge on interior integrity and the level of integrity it retains as a farm.



22: Haden Place, Old Wesley Chapel Road

Brummel's Inn (DV 3), dating from around 1800 with substantial changes made around 1814, is a roadside inn and tavern, but it, too, has a double-shouldered, Flemish bond chimney and it retains good architectural integrity. Brummel's Inn is listed on the National Register, and the site retains a tobacco barn and a drive-through barn similar to the one at the Caldcleugh House.



23: Brummel's Inn, West Lexington Avenue Extension

The unsurveyed home at the corner of Junior Order Home Road and Old Linwood Road appears to be a hall-parlor house with gable-end chimneys to which a two-story wing was added to the west gable with a small, simple Greek Revival portico sheltering two doors. The house may have included a store or office in this gable-end wing, but at its core, it is likely an early nineteenth-century hall-parlor house.



24: Unsurveyed House, corner of Junior Home Order Road and Old Linwood Road



25: Unsurveyed House, corner of Junior Home Order Road and Old Linwood Road

Several barns, standing with contemporary houses or with a modern house, can be found throughout Davidson County and make good comparisons to the barn at the Caldcleugh House. A single barn without an associated complex must retain exceptional architectural integrity and merit and would need to display a particularly old or unique design or construction method. The barn at the Caldcleugh House is not individually eligible for the National Register, and it is one of many large, turn-of-the-twentieth-century barns seen in Davidson County.



26: Unsurveyed Barn, 4491 Wallburgh-High Point Road



27: Unsurveyed Barn on Old Greensboro Road, near the intersection with Motsinger Road



28 Barns at the Clyde Payne Farm, DV 115, on Old Greensboro Road

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Alexander Caldcleugh House retains integrity of location. The construction of U.S. Highway 29/U.S. Highway 70/I-85 Business and Caldcleugh Road immediately to the east of the house, the loss of surrounding farmland, and the intrusion of overgrown woods around the house to the west and south has negatively affected the house's integrity of setting and association with farming in the Piedmont region. Vinyl siding and interior changes have also detracted from the house's integrity of materials, design, workmanship, and feeling, however, the vinyl siding does not cover the entire house. Original, beaded weatherboards remain exposed on the front porch and on the original rear exterior wall, visible inside the now-enclosed back porch. The house also retains a Flemish bond chimney with the county's only extant figurative decoration. The original layout is intact and incorporates a small rear stair hall with a hall-parlor plan. These three elements, the weatherboards, floor plan, and chimney, are notable aspects of architectural integrity directly associated with late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth-century craftsmanship in North Carolina's Piedmont. The house may be the oldest in the county, and although its integrity has been somewhat compromised, it retains sufficient architectural integrity to communicate its place in the county's architectural record.

Criteria Evaluations

The Alexander Caldcleugh House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for a significant historic association. The house only retains a single barn from the turn-of-the-twentieth century and no cultivated fields remain to communicate the house's association with agriculture. The mill associated with the property is also no longer standing, so the house does not retain an association with manufacturing or commerce.

The Alexander Caldcleugh House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. Alexander was a central figure in the formation of Davidson County and in Lexington's early development. He was the county's first Senator, and he was one of several "founding fathers" of Lexington. However, it is likely his father had this house built and it does not appear that Alexander lived here after his childhood. His political and civic contributions are not well associated with this property; instead, Alexander's productive life and the period of his greatest contributions to Lexington's history were associated with his time living in the town of Lexington.

The Alexander Caldcleugh House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The house has undergone numerous changes, but the house is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, house in the county, making it an important representative of the county's early architecture. The heart in its chimney is the only known example of figurative decoration still standing in Davidson County. Given the Caldcleugh family's wealth, it was likely one of the larger and better-finished houses in the county at the time of its construction and although altered, it retains materials and a floorplan sufficient to communicate its architectural significance. The house represents a melding of an open-plan design with a desire to remove the utilitarian stair to a less public place, and it represents the use of stylish beaded weatherboards with regionally popular decorative brickwork.

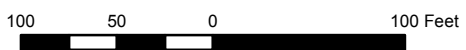
The Alexander Caldcleugh House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yielded nor is it likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.

Boundary Description and Justification

The Alexander Caldcleugh House boundary follows the parcel line of the tract (PIN 6746-02-58-6353) on which the house stands today except for a short distance along the southeastern edge where it comes to the edge-of-pavement along Caldcleugh Road to provide a buffer around the building. This boundary is sufficient to communicate the building's architectural significance.



- APE Boundary
- NR-Eligible Boundary
- Property Line
- Road
- Stream



Source: NCDEQ, NCDOT, NC OneMap
Figure Date: 4/25/2018



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT

TIP Project R-5737
Davidson County
*Convert At-Grade Intersection to an
Interchange at US 29/US 70/Business I-85 at
SR 1798 (Old Greensboro Rd)*

Proposed National Register Boundary

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