

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

July 9, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap

Office of Human Environment NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley Que Ysledhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Widen NC 73 from SR 2693 to US 29,

R-5706 A&B, PA 17-09-0005, Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, ER 18-1310

Thank you for your May 21, 2018, letter transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur that the following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to the lack of integrity outlined by the author.

- Blackwelder-Litaker House (CA0309)
- Cashion & Moore Family Cemetery (MK2916)
- Bradford Store (MK2811)

These properties are in addition to the eight other properties that were previously evaluated within the Area of Potential Effects. Of those eight, the two listed below were determined eligible and are locally designated landmarks.

- Bradford House (MK1283)
- Jesse and Mary K. Washam Farm (MD2455)

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, <u>mfurr@ncdot.gov</u>

Received: 06/12/2018

State Historic Preservation Office

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER GOVERNOR JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

ER 18-1310

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

Due -- 7/5/18

H-

Dear Gledhill-Earley:

RE:

Historic Structure Survey Report, TIP# R-5706A&B, PA# 17-09-0005, Widen NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Rd) to US 29 in Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to Widen NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Rd) to US 29 in Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties. S&ME prepared the attached Eligibility Report and recommends none of the properties surveyed 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

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 Report TIP No. R-5706A&B, WBS No. 46378.3.2, PA No. 17-09-0005 Widen NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Road) to US 29 Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

PREPARED FOR

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

PREPARED BY

S&ME, Inc. 620 Wando Park Boulevard Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

April 2018



Historic Structures Report TIP No. R-5706A&B Widen NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Road) to US 29 Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina

FINAL REPORT WBS No. 46378.3.2, PA No. 17-09-0005

Prepared for:

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

Prepared by:

S&ME, Inc. 620 Wando Park Boulevard Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

Heather Carpini, M.A.

Principal Investigator, S&ME, Inc.

April 30, 2018

Date

Mary Pope Furr Supervisor, Historic Architectural Resources Group North Carolina Department of Transportation

April 2018

Date

Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

Management Summary

On behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), S&ME, Inc. (S&ME) has completed a historic architectural analysis of three resources located within the project area for the widening of NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Road) in Mecklenburg County to US 29 in Cabarrus County (TIP No. R-5706A&B, WBS No. 46378.3.2, PA No. 17-09-0005) (Figures 1.1 and 1.2).

NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project, which corresponded to the Environmental Study Area for the proposed widening. TIP No. R-5706A covers the portion of the project in Mecklenburg County and TIP No. R-5706B covers the portion of the project in Cabarrus County. This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFA 2015). An NCDOT Architectural Historian defined the APE and conducted a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately 50 years of age or more within the APE. Only three resources warranted an intensive National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation and are the subject of this report. There are eight resources in the APE that have been recently evaluated in other reports. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined the eligibility of those eight resources remains valid (Table 1). Additionally, all other properties over 50 years of age are not worthy of further study and evaluation, due to lack of historical significance or integrity. In March 2018, S&ME conducted a historic architectural analysis and eligibility evaluation on the three resources, two previously recorded and one previously unrecorded, within the project area (Table 2). S&ME recommends the three properties (CA0309, MK2916, and MK2811) as ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Table 1. Summary of previously evaluated properties within the R-5706A&B project area.

Property Name	NC-HPO	Eligibility	Criteria
	Survey Site No.	Determination	
Southern Railway Overpass Bridge	CA1086	Not Eligible	NA
Bradford House/Farm	MK1283	Eligible (Local Landmark)	B, C
Tib Morehouse Tenant House	MK2277	Not Eligible	NA
Caldwell Tenant House	MK2279	Not Eligible	NA
Columbus Chapel AME Zion Church	MK2281	Not Eligible	NA
Marcus and Nancy Caldwell House	MK2444	Not Eligible	NA
William and Kate Mayes House	MK2448	Not Eligible	NA
Jesse and Mary K. Washam Farm	MK2455	Eligible (Local Landmark)	С

Table 2. Summary of properties surveyed in the R-5706A&B project area.

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site No.	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
Blackwelder-Litaker House	CA0309	Not Eligible	NA
Cashion & Moore Family Cemetery	MK2916	Not Eligible	NA
Bradford Store	MK2811	Not Eligible	NA

April 2018 ii

Historic Structures Report

Tip No. R-5706 A&B; WBS No. 46378.3.2

Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

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Historic Structures Report Tip No. R-5706 A&B; WBS No. 46378.3.2Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

1.0 Introduction (Methodology)

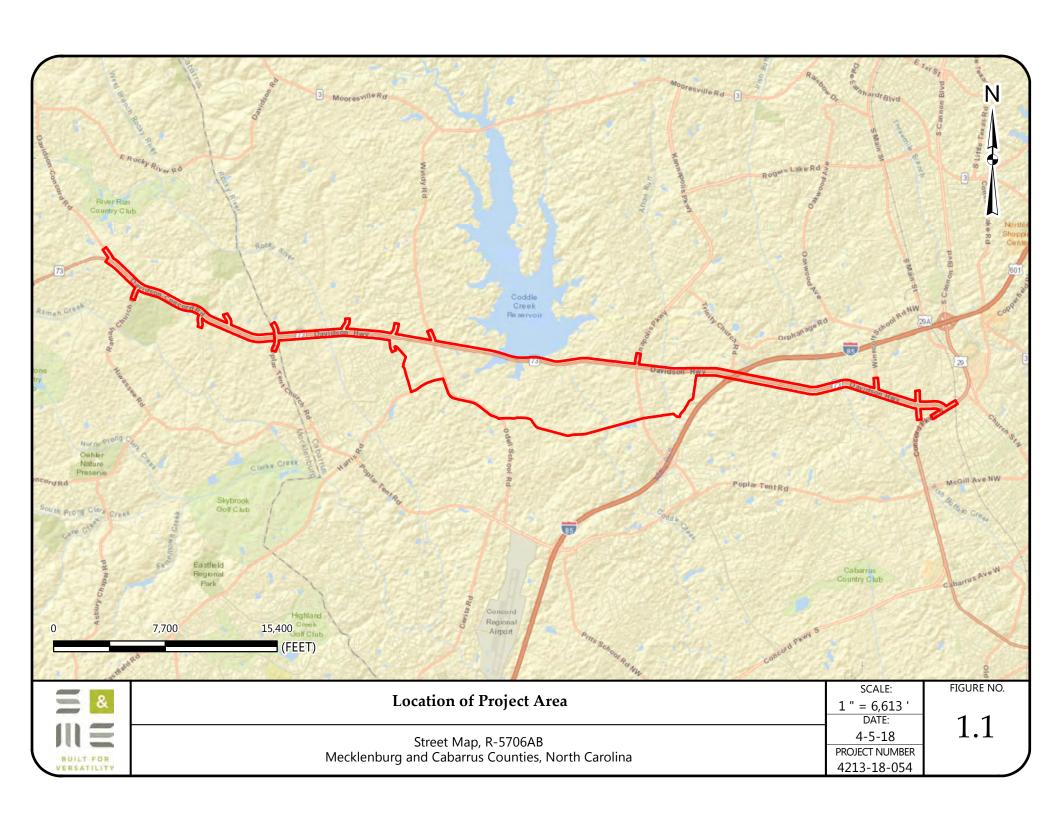
On behalf of the NCDOT, S&ME has completed a historic architectural analysis of three resources located within the project area for the widening of NC 73 from SR 2693 (Davidson-Concord Road) in Mecklenburg County to US 29 in Cabarrus County (TIP No. R-5706A&B, WBS No. 46378.3.2, PA No. 17-09-0005) (Figures 1.1 and 1.2). Work was conducted in general accordance with the agreed-upon scope, terms, and conditions presented in the Proposal No. 42-1800184, dated February 16, 2018.

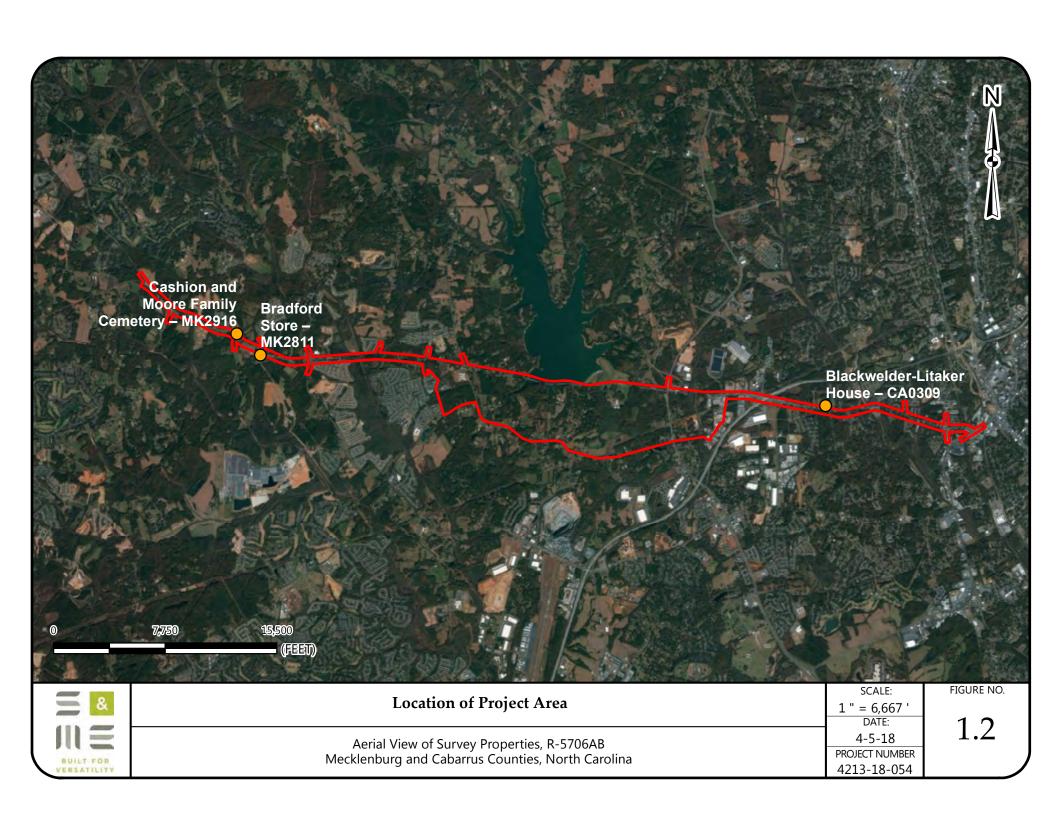
NCDOT architectural historians established an APE for the project, which corresponded to the Environmental Study Area for the proposed widening. TIP No. R-5706A covers the portion of the project in Mecklenburg County and TIP No. R-5706B covers the portion of the project in Cabarrus County. A windshield survey of the APE conducted by NCDOT identified three resources greater than 50 years old that warranted further evaluation to determine NRHP eligibility.

The project area is located in the northern portion of Mecklenburg County and the northwestern portion of Cabarrus County, between the communities of Huntersville and Concord, North Carolina. Interstate 85 travels southwest-northeast, crossing the project corridor near its eastern terminus, in Cabarrus County. Although this portion of both Cabarrus and Mecklenburg counties was once primarily rural, the growth and expansion of the Charlotte metropolitan area, has led to increased residential development in the area. Many new subdivisions have been constructed during the late-twentieth and early-twenty-first century, resulting in the demolition of many older structures in the area, as well as the division and parceling off of many of the large tracts of farmland that once dominated the rural landscape.

The historic architectural analysis included surveying, analyzing, and evaluating three historic properties according to NRHP criteria. Fieldwork for the project was conducted in March 2018, by Senior Architectural Historian Heather L. Carpini, who completed photography, mapping, research, and authored the report. Research was conducted at the Cabarrus County Register of Deeds and the Cabarrus County Public Library in Concord, North Carolina and at the Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds and Mecklenburg County Library in Charlotte, North Carolina. Additional information was compiled from survey records of the NC-HPO survey files and additional research was conducted using online federal census data, historic maps, and other county records.

This report has been prepared in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1979; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CRF 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); procedures for the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR Part 800); 36 CFR Parts 60 through 79, as appropriate; NCDOT's current Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Report Products (2015); and NC-HPO's Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina (2015).





Cabarrus and Mecklenburg Counties, North Carolina S&ME Project No. 4213-18-054

2.0 Eligibility Evaluations

2.1 Blackwelder-Litaker House (CA0309)

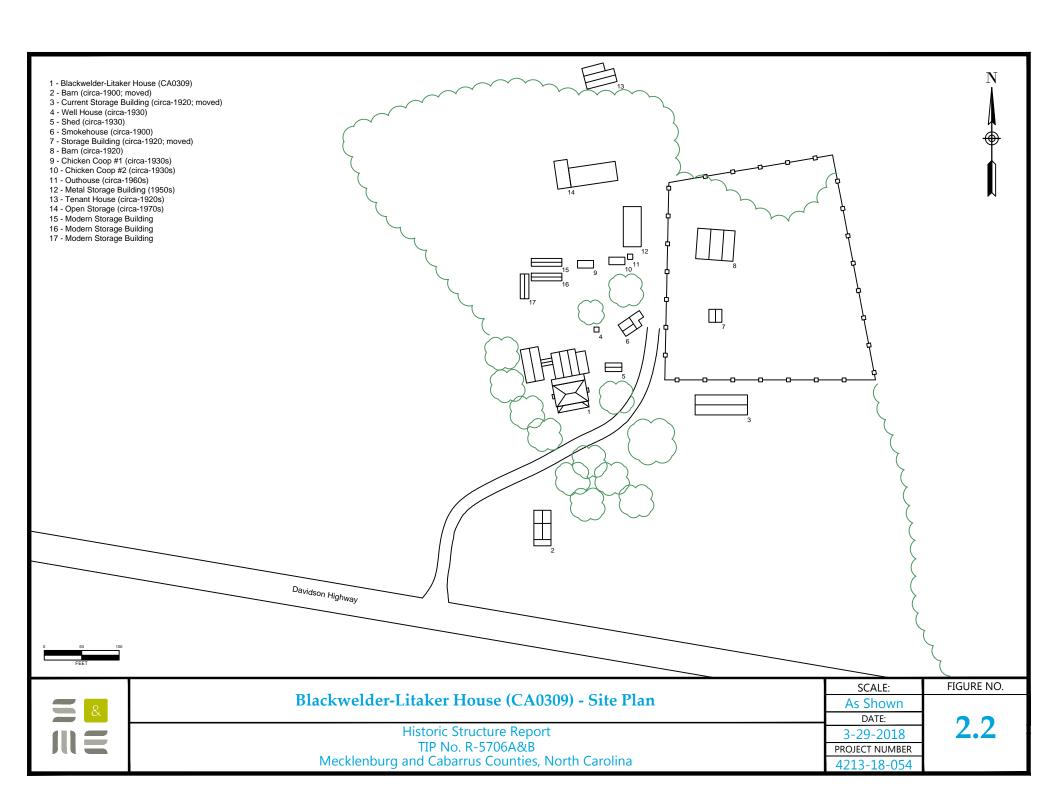
Resource Name	Blackwelder-Litaker House
HPO Survey Site #	CA0309
Street Address	3900 Davidson Highway
PIN	5611-07-2521
Construction Date(s)	Circa-1850; 1908; 1980s
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Figure 2.1. View of the Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing north.

The Blackwelder-Litaker House (CA0309) sits on a large parcel of land, over 81 acres, that spans both sides of NC 73 (Davidson Highway), west of Concord in Cabarrus County (Figure 1.2). The parcel contains the house, which was originally built around 1850, and 16 outbuildings that date from the early-twentieth century to the twenty-first century (Figures 2.1 and 2.2). The Blackwelder-Litaker House was originally surveyed in 1980 as part of the historic architectural survey of Cabarrus County (Kaplan 2004). The house is set back from the road and is sheltered by a grove of large magnolia trees, making the structure difficult to see from the public right-of way. S&ME attempted to gain interior access to the property but could not.

The house is a two-story, single-pile, frame structure with a low-pitched hipped roof; it rests on a brick pier foundation that has been infilled with newer brick. The front elevation has a full-width, hipped roof porch that is



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Figure 2.3. Blackwelder-Litaker House, porch detail, facing west.

supported by fluted Doric columns with a plain frieze; the wide eave overhang of the porch roof features exposed rafter tails that are mostly hidden behind the porch's gutter system (Figure 2.3). The porch foundation is modern brick. The slightly off-center door has a simple surround and three-pane sidelights. To the east of the door is a single six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash window, while to the west is a pair of six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows; these first story windows have Greek Revival window surrounds with corner blocks, which are the only exterior details that remain from the original mid-nineteenth century construction of the house. The upper story has three symmetrically placed six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows, which are smaller in size than those on the lower story. The roof is composition shingle and the eaves have a slight overhang that is covered with a vinyl soffit; the exterior of the original section of the house is sheathed in wooden weatherboard.

The house is two bays deep, with an exterior brick chimney centered along the east elevation, flanked by single six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows on both the lower and upper stories; like along the front elevation, the upper story windows are smaller than those on the lower story (Figures 2.4 and 2.5). The western elevation of the original house has the same configuration as the eastern elevation (Figure 2.6). A shed-roofed porch along the rear elevation has been enclosed and has a single six-over-six double-hung, wooden sash window on both its east and west elevations (Figures 2.5 and 2.6).

Attached to the rear of the enclosed porch are multiple other additions, dating from the mid-to-late-twentieth century (Figures 2.7–2.9). A single story, gabled, rear ell extends back from the enclosed porch and has a pent-roofed addition to its eastern side, which is attached to an open wooden deck and has a modern entry door and prominent exterior brick chimney. Both of these additions are covered with vinyl siding and have modern, vinyl sash windows of differing pane configurations, including six-over-six and nine-over-nine. There are two brick chimneys, one interior and one exterior, visible above the roof of the rear ell addition, suggesting that it may have

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formerly been a detached kitchen that was attached to the house and enclosed with more modern framing. Along the west elevation of the rear ell, there is a side-gabled hyphen, enclosed primarily with large, multi-pane vinyl windows and French doors, which connects to a circa-1980s single story, gabled addition. This late-twentieth-century addition has vinyl siding and various configuration of vinyl sash windows, including four-over-four, eight-pane casement, nine-over-nine, six-over-nine, and semi-circular arched (Figures 2.9 and 2.10).



Figure 2.4. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing northwest.



Figure 2.5. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing west.

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Figure 2.6. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing northeast.



Figure 2.7. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing southwest.



Figure 2.8. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing south.



Figure 2.9. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing southeast.

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Figure 2.10. Blackwelder-Litaker House, facing northeast.

South of the house, east of the driveway leading from the road, is a circa-1920s barn. The barn has multiple sections that may represent separate building periods or possibly, that more than one building was combined to create the current structure (Figure 2.11). The majority of the barn is wooden-framed, sheathed in wooden siding, covered with a standing-seam metal roof, and has visible rafter tails. The northern section of the barn is two-stories with a gabled roof. The western bay is open and there is a loft door on the upper story that is accessed by a wooden stairwell. The central section is one story tall, with a gabled roofline that has a steeper pitch than the northern section (Figure 2.12). The western elevation has two single entry doors. The southernmost section is wooden framed, but is more modern than the other two sections, with a shed roof and standing-seam metal used as siding; the western elevation of this section is open (Figure 2.13).

East of the house and the grove of magnolia trees, is a circa-1920 structure that is currently used as storage but may have originally had a different function, potentially a tenant house or school building (Figure 2.14). It is one-story, of frame construction, and has a side-gabled roofline and visible rafter tails along the eaves and curved brackets along the gable ends (Figure 2.15). The central doorway is a modern metal door, which is flanked by bands of five six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows on either side. The rear elevation has two symmetrical doorways, one covered by a gabled hood that is supported by triangular bracing (Figure 2.16). The gable ends each have a rectangular attic vent as their only exterior opening. The structure sits on a modern concrete block foundation and appears to have been moved to this location. The form of the structure, except the lack of windows on all but the front elevation of the building and the addition of doors on the rear elevation, is similar to Rosenwald Community School Plan Number 3, suggesting a former use as a school, although no interior access was granted to determine the floorplan of the structure.



Figure 2.11. Barn, circa-1900, facing southeast.



Figure 2.12. Barn, circa-1900, facing east.



Figure 2.13. Barn, circa-1900, facing northwest.



Figure 2.14. Current storage building, circa-1920, facing northeast.



Figure 2.15. Current storage building, circa-1920, facing northwest.



Figure 2.16. Current storage building, circa-1920, rear elevation facing southeast.

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Additional outbuildings are located to the north and northeast of the house. Just north of the house is a circa-1930 wellhouse that is of brick construction and has a flat concrete top (Figure 2.17). East of the house, along the driveway, is a circa-1930s shed. The one-story structure is of frame construction, with a gabled roof, wooden weatherboard siding, standing-seam metal roof, and visible rafter tails (Figure 2.18). The western elevation has a single entry door centered in it and the south elevation also has a doorway; there is a square casement window in the second story of the east elevation. Northeast of the circa-1930s shed is a circa-1900 smokehouse. The smokehouse is a two-story, wooden frame structure with a gabled roof that overhangs the front and is supported by wooden bracing (Figure 2.20). The exterior of the smokehouse is covered with horizontal wooden siding and the roof is standing-seam metal. The front has two symmetrically placed entry doors; the rear elevation has a small, square casement window centered within it. The south elevation has a single story, shed-roofed addition that has a central double entry door on its south elevation (Figure 2.21). This addition is also covered with horizontal wooden siding and has a standing-seam metal roof. The rear of the smokehouse has two flat-roofed additions, of frame construction with standing-seam metal used as siding (Figure 2.22).

Northeast of the house, located in a fenced pasture used for horses, are two wooden-framed outbuildings, a barn and a storage building that date from the early-to-mid-twentieth century (Figure 2.23). The storage building is located to the south of the barn and is a single-story, gabled-roof structure that sits on a block foundation. The exterior is covered with horizontal wooden siding and the roof is covered with standing-seam metal. Along the southern elevation is a former window-type opening that has been enclosed with plywood and metal grating (Figure 2.24). The corners of the structure have vertical trim boards (Figure 2.25). To the north is a two-story, lofted barn structure that has a low-pitched gable roof and has both walls and roof covered with standing-seam metal (Figure 2.26). There is a large opening centered in the southern elevation and a smaller opening, covered by a tarp, in the northern elevation (Figure 2.27). Along the eastern side, a shed-roofed open extension, supported by timber posts, holds hay.



Figure 2.17. Wellhouse, circa-1930s, facing north.



Figure 2.18. Shed, circa-1930, facing west.



Figure 2.19. Shed, circa-1930, facing east.



Figure 2.20. Smokehouse, circa-1900, facing north.

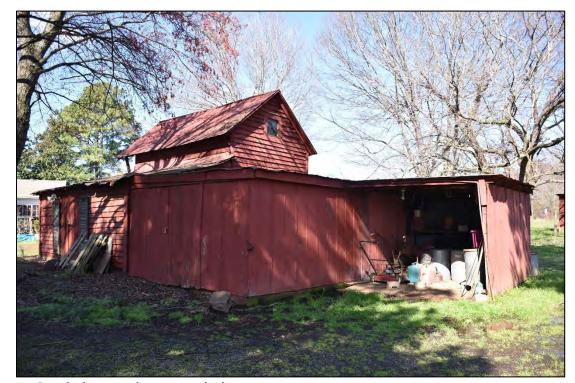


Figure 2.21. Smokehouse, circa-1900, facing west.



Figure 2.22. Smokehouse, circa-1900, facing southwest.



Figure 2.23. Barn and storage building, circa-1920, facing northeast.



Figure 2.24. Storage building, circa-1920, facing north.



Figure 2.25. Storage building, circa-1920, facing east.



Figure 2.26. Barn, circa-1920, facing north.



Figure 2.27. Barn, circa-1920, facing southeast.

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North of the smokehouse is a grouping of four early-to-mid-twentieth century outbuildings that are arranged roughly in an L-shape (Figures 2.28–2.30). Along a dirt extension of the property's driveway, there is a circa-1930s wood-framed, pent-roofed storage building; it has horizontal wooden siding, a standing-seam metal roof, and visible rafter tails (Figure 2.28). The western elevation of this building has a single entry door. West of this storage structure is a second wood-framed, pent-roofed building that has the same form, size, and basic detailing as the first. Its exterior has been covered with plywood and metal panels. The two structures appear to have been originally used as chicken coops, although now they have been converted to storage and a dog enclosure. Northeast of this structure is a small, wood-framed, pent-roofed outhouse building that is in disrepair; it has horizontal wooden siding and a standing-seam metal roof (Figure 2.29). North of the outhouse is a rectangular, flat-roofed storage building that has a corrugated-metal exterior covering and a standing-seam metal roof (Figure 2.30).

At the northern edge of the property is the remains of an early-twentieth-century structure that may have been a tenant house (Figure 2.31). Although in significant disrepair and overgrown with vegetation, the house appears to have been a duplex-style residence, with a side-gabled roofline and shed-roofed extension along the rear elevation (Figures 2.31 and 2.32). There are two door-sized openings in the front elevation, along with at least three window openings; the east and west elevations each have a window opening as well. A chimney is visible above the roof of the rear extension. The roof of the house is covered with standing-seam metal and the exterior is sheathed in horizontal wooden siding.



Figure 2.28. Chicken coops, circa-1930s, facing northeast.



Figure 2.29. Storage buildings and outhouse, circa-1900 through 1960s, facing northwest.



Figure 2.30. Storage buildings and outhouse, circa-1900 through 1960s, facing east.



Figure 2.31. Tenant house, circa-1920s, facing northeast.



Figure 2.32. Tenant house, circa-1920s, facing southwest.

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Located north of the house and west of the earlier outbuildings is a group of four late-twentieth to early-twenty-first-century outbuildings. The northernmost structure is a circa-1970s open storage area, with a flat roof supported by square wooden posts, and corrugated metal along a portion of it (Figure 2.33). Two modern storage buildings, oriented east-west, are located south of the open storage structure (Figure 2.34). One is a modern wooden building, with a gambrel roof, vertical wooden paneled exterior, and a garage door bay on its eastern elevation. The second is a prefabricated gabled structure, with a garage door bay on its eastern elevation and four four-over-four, vinyl windows and a central double door on its southern elevation (Figure 2.35). West of these two structures is another modern wooden building, with a gambrel roof, standing-seam metal roof, and wooden paneled exterior; it is oriented north-south and has a barn-style door bay on its southern elevation.



Figure 2.33. Open storage, circa-1970s, facing south.



Figure 2.34. Modern storage buildings, facing southwest.



Figure 2.35. Modern storage buildings, facing north.

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2.1.1 History

The Blackwelder-Litaker House (CA0309) was recorded as part of the architectural survey of Cabarrus County in 1980. Information from the survey file provides an oral history of the house from the owner at the time and dates the original portion of the house to prior to the Civil War (Survey File CA0309). Family tradition indicates that the house has been owned by the Litaker family since the late 1800s and that a second story was added to the house around 1908. An unreproducible tintype photograph was shown to the surveyor in 1980, showing the house as a one-story, gable-end cottage with a full-width front porch and single end chimney. The information in the survey file also indicates that the original rear porch has been enclosed and that there was once a separate kitchen house; there is also mention of a slave graveyard on the property.

A brief oral history from the 1980 property owner indicated that the Blackwelder-Litaker House was constructed before the Civil War by "Squire Blackwelder", who sold the property to Ephraim Litaker; eventually the property passed to Ephraim's son, William C. Litaker. Deed research on the property traces the tracts that make up the current parcel, including the land on which the house stands, to the ownership of Adolphus Ephraim Litaker (Cabarrus County Register of Deeds 1899 Book 54:293). Adolphus Ephraim Litaker was born in 1837 and in 1860 he remained in his father's household in eastern Cabarrus County, working on the family farm (United States Census Bureau 1860). Ten years later, he had married Margaret Winecoff and was living with her and their four children, with his occupation listed as farmer, in Township 4 of Cabarrus County; Township 4 includes the portion of the county northwest of the town of Concord and would encompass the property on which the Blackwelder-Litaker House stands. Many of the neighboring residents enumerated in the census were members of the Blackwelder family.

A. E. Litaker died in 1876 and his widow was awarded 132 acres of land as her dower, while the remainder of his property passed to his children, who were minors at the time of his death (Cabarrus County Probate Records 1876). In 1899, the official division of A. E. Litaker's lands was recorded with the register of deeds, although it appears that the actual division of the property had taken place earlier, as there is a deed where one of the tracts of the Ephraim Litaker estate was sold by one of his sons in 1897 (Cabarrus County Register of Deeds 1897 Book 51:560; 1899 Book 54:293). As part of the division of A. E. Litaker's land, William C. Litaker acquired Tract 5, totaling 88 acres; he also purchased Tract 3, totaling 67 acres, from his brother Thomas. William C. Litaker was born in 1863 and was 13 years old when his father died. In 1880, he was living with his mother and siblings and working on the family farm (United States Census Bureau 1880). In 1890, he married Elizabeth Holbrooks and presumably they took ownership of his portion of his father's property (The Standard [Concord, North Carolina] 10 Jan 1890:3). By 1900, William C. and Elizabeth Litaker were living in Township 4 of Cabarrus County with their four children; William listed his occupation as a farmer and he owned his residence (United States Census Bureau 1900). Litaker and his family continued to reside within Township 4, and he remained as the owner of his farm and working as a farmer, until his death in 1930 (United States Census Bureau 1910, 1920, 1930). Articles in the local newspaper during the early-twentieth century discuss the quality of wheat and cotton that W. C. Litaker was growing on his farm in Township 4 (The Standard [Concord] 26 June 1902:1; The Concord Times 15 November 1909:3; The Concord Daily Tribune 23 November 1910:1).

A plat of the estate of W. C. Litaker, drawn in 1930, shows his 163.5 acres of property, located on both sides of NC 73, divided into six tracts (Figure 2.36). The Blackwelder-Litaker House is depicted as being on Tract 1. As part of the disposition of her father's estate, Carrie Litaker Holshouser and her husband William acquired Tract 1 and they also purchased Tracts 3 and 4 from her brother Robert Litaker and her sister Margaret Litaker Crawford, resulting

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in the approximate current tax parcel (Cabarrus County Probate Records 1930 1:264; Cabarrus County Register of Deeds 1947 Book 207:264, 265). In 1993, Willie H. Foster inherited the property.

The history of the property before the ownership of A. E. Litaker is unclear. There is no record of Adolphus Ephraim Litaker as the grantee of property in Cabarrus County before 1875, when he purchased a 110 acre tract on Irish Buffalo Creek from M. M. Litaker and wife; however, this property transfer references the land being adjacent to land already owned by A. E. Litaker, indicating that he had already acquired property along Irish Buffalo Creek, potentially through an inheritance (Cabarrus County Register of Deeds 1875 Book 26:82). A 1917 newspaper article about the Phifer cemetery makes reference to Wilson Blackwelder, who "built the house that Mr. W. C. Litaker lives in on the mill tract" (*The Concord Daily Tribune* 20 November 1917). Although there are no recorded property transfers in Cabarrus County with Wilson Blackwelder as the grantor, there was a Wilson Blackwelder (1818–1857) who was a nephew of A. E. Litaker's neighbor, Noah Blackwelder (United States Census Bureau 1860). There were two Wilson Blackwelders with approximately the correct birth year in Cabarrus County during the 1850 census, but a pinpointed location for either of their residences is not noted (United States Census Bureau 1850). Additionally, in the division of the estate of George Litaker, A. E. Litaker's father, Lot No. 5, which contained 31.5 acres, as well as a saw mill and cotton gin, was allotted to A. E. Litaker and his brother William N. Litaker; this might be the mill tract referred to in the 1917 article, although it is still unclear how the tract passed from the Blackwelder ownership to George Litaker (Cabarrus County Deed Book 1863 Book 21:284).

Historic aerial photographs and USGS topographic maps from the 1940s through the 1990s show the evolution of the farm property during the mid-twentieth century. The 1948 photograph shows the house located within a grove of trees; the chicken coops, storage buildings, smokehouse, tenant house, and barn are also visible, as are an outbuilding along the road and one across the street (Figure 2.37). There also appears to be a portion of the circa-1920s barn located south of the house, although the later alteration to the driveway configuration makes it difficult to tell; however, the storage building in the horse pasture is not shown in its current location and the current storage building that has the appearance of a school is not shown. A 1949 USGS topographic map also depicts an outbuilding along NC 73, southwest of the house. By 1965, the Blackwelder-Litaker House had less tree cover surrounding it, showing that the gabled rear ell had already been added (Figure 2.38); the majority of the current outbuildings are present in this photograph, including the storage building in the horse pasture and the metal storage building, while the outbuilding near the road is no longer there. The current storage building that has the appearance of a school is not in this photograph, nor is it in the aerial photograph from 1976 (Figure 2.39). A USGS topographic map, photorevised to 1988, shows a structure in the location of the current storage building that has the appearance of a school, indicating that it was likely moved to the property sometime between 1976 and 1988; the structure is clearly visible on a 1993 aerial photograph (Figure 2.40).

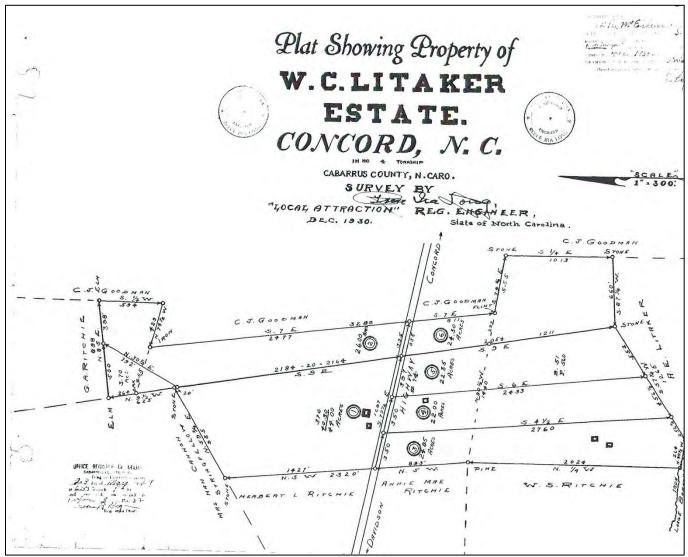


Figure 2.36. Plat of the W. C. Litaker Estate, 1930 (Cabarrus County Plat Book F:22).



Figure 2.37. USGS aerial photograph (1948) showing Blackwelder-Litaker House and property.



Figure 2.38. USGS aerial photograph (1965) showing Blackwelder-Litaker House and property.



Figure 2.39. USGS aerial photograph (1976) showing Blackwelder-Litaker House and property.



Figure 2.40. USGS aerial photograph (1993) showing Blackwelder-Litaker House and property.

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2.1.2 Architectural Context

The area of western Cabarrus County along NC 73 has historically been made up of primarily farm tracts, with homes surrounded by open fields, with agricultural outbuildings on the property, but few other homes in the general vicinity; these characteristics are generally retained by the Blackwelder-Litaker House. Although original survey information indicates that the Blackwelder-Litaker House was built in the mid-1800s, the current form of the house more closely identifies with the vernacular farmhouse style that was relatively common in rural Cabarrus County from the late-1800s through the early-1900s; the form was often used as a base for construction, with contemporary architectural and stylistic details added (Kaplan 2004).

An assessment of the historic architectural inventory conducted in 1980 indicates that "the traditional two-story, single-pile house with end chimneys and the entrance on the long side was consistently chosen for dwellings of the wealthiest farmers, as well as their substantial, but less prosperous counterparts" (Kaplan 2004). Although more contemporary forms, specifically L-shaped homes with Victorian detailing, became popular among the wealthier residents of Cabarrus County, traditional-style homes continued to be constructed and "remained quite popular among substantial but less affluent landowners until 1910"; the 1980 survey did not inventory all of the houses fitting into this category because they were numerous and many lacked significant architectural details (Kaplan 2004). The Blackwelder-Litaker House, which, in its current form, dates to the end of the heyday of this type of rural construction, has symmetrical exterior end chimneys and retains six-over-six, double-hung, wooden sash windows. The non-symmetrical façade, with two windows west of the door and one window east of the door, along with the window surrounds, are vestiges of the original house construction (circa-1850) and the Greek Revival style; its full-width front porch and fluted Doric column supports can align with either the Greek Revival style of the 1850s or also fit within the Colonial Revival style that was popular during the early 1900s renovation date. In contrast with many contemporary (1880–1910) examples, which were primarily gabled, the Blackwelder-Litaker House has a low hipped roof.

Cabarrus County has experienced significant growth during recent decades, resulting in a decrease in historic housing stock; the rural portion of western Cabarrus County near the project area has begun seeing increased residential development since the 1980 historic architectural survey of the county. As the portion NC 73 near the Interstate 85 interchange has developed, a large number of new residential subdivisions and commercial developments has altered the landscape of the area; many of these developments have resulted in the demolition of older homes.

In terms of comparative architecture for the original construction period of the Blackwelder-Litaker House, the most significant contemporary example is the NRHP-listed Mill Hill plantation house (CA0003). Unlike the Blackwelder-Litaker House, the original single story portion of Mill Hill was not altered by the addition of a second story. The main section of Mill Hill is likely similar to the original appearance of the Blackwelder-Litaker House, as evidenced by the non-symmetrical arrangement of the door and windows on the front elevation and the similar porch supports and frieze (Figure 2.41). Early-twentieth-century alteration and enlargement of the Blackwelder-Litaker House, however, have greatly obscured its original form, aligning its architecture more with that of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Examples of architecture from this time period remain visible throughout the county, despite increased residential building in the area. The circa-1890 Cannon House (CA0341), which is unevaluated for NRHP eligibility, is located less than two miles from the Blackwelder-Litaker House and has the same two-story form as the Blackwelder-Litaker House (Figure 2.42). An unsurveyed structure at 6208 Stirewalt Road (no survey number – NSN), while exhibiting the central gable of a Triple-A style structure, was built around the same period and exhibits a similar form and style (Figure 2.43). The Marcus and Nancy Caldwell House (MK2444), while located

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eight miles to the west in Mecklenburg County, is similarly situated along NC 73; it exhibits the same architectural form and styling but was determined ineligible for the NRHP in 2007 (Figure 2.44).



Figure 2.41. Mill Hill (CA0003), facing south.



Figure 2.42. Cannon House (CA0341), facing north.



Figure 2.43. House at 6208 Stirewalt Road (NSN), facing north.



Figure 2.44. Marcus and Nancy Caldwell House (MK2444), facing south.

Historic Structures Report

Tip No. R-5706 A&B; WBS No. 46378.3.2

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2.1.3 Integrity

Evaluation of the seven aspects of integrity required for National Register eligibility for the Blackwelder-Litaker House are as follows:

Location: Medium to High

The Blackwater-Litaker House remains in its original location; a number of the outbuildings have been relocated to their current positions on the property.

<u>Design</u>: Low

The Blackwater-Litaker House has been significantly enlarged since its original construction, including the addition of a second story in the early-twentieth century. The front portion of the house retains its basic early-twentieth-century form, however it has undergone additional alterations, including multiple additions to the rear of the structure. It is likely that the front porch is an alteration from an original porch structure.

Setting: Medium

When the Blackwelder-Litaker House was constructed, in the mid-nineteenth century, this portion of Cabarrus County was a rural farm community with a number of extended families living nearby; this condition remained into the early twentieth century, when the main section of the house obtained its current form. Currently, although some nineteenth through early-twentieth-century residences, farm buildings, and open land remain, the area has begun to experience significant new development, including modern commercial and residential construction.

Materials: Medium

The Blackwelder-Litaker House and its associated structures retain much of their original material. The Blackwelder-Litaker House retains its original framing and foundation materials, as well as windows and siding from its early-twentieth-century renovation. The outbuildings have undergone some changes since their original construction, including covering of exterior walls with modern building materials, such as sheet metal.

Workmanship: Medium

The original workmanship on the Blackwelder-Litaker House exterior has been altered by the addition of a second story to the house and the related changes to the windows and siding. However, the workmanship from that early-twentieth-century renovation remains intact overall, despite multiple additions to the house in the late-twentieth century. The workmanship on the outbuildings remains mostly unchanged.

<u>Feeling</u>: Medium

The Blackwelder-Litaker House is a mid-nineteenth-century to mid-twentieth-century family farmstead, which represents the growth and development of small farms in western Cabarrus County during this period. However, the house does not convey its mid-nineteenth century construction date from the exterior and reads more like a late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century vernacular farm residence. The presence of the outbuildings contributes to the feeling of the property as a farm, but the lack of active agricultural fields, minus the enclosed horse pasture, detracts from this feeling.

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Association: Medium

The Blackwelder-Litaker House retains its association with the Litaker family, who took ownership of the property in the late-nineteenth century. The main portion of the house obtained its current form during the Litaker family ownership and descendants of the Litaker family continue to own the property. The house and farm have undergone significant changes since the Blackwelder ownership of the property, including a significant enlargement of the residence; therefore, it does not retain its association with the Blackwelder family.

2.1.4 Eligibility

The Blackwelder-Litaker House is recommended as ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A, as it does not have a significant association with a particular event or broad pattern of history. Although it represents a turn of the twentieth-century rural residence and farm, there have been alterations to the property that have undermined its integrity in this respect. Additions and loss of historic material on the house that have compromised its feeling of an early-twentieth-century residence, relocation of agricultural and support outbuildings on the property, and changes to the land use, which is no longer cultivated as agricultural fields, have affected the significance of the Blackwelder-Litaker House as a farmstead. Additionally, there are other, better preserved examples of this property type in the surrounding area, including the NRHP-listed Boger-Hartsell Farm (CA0425) and the NRHP-eligible Goodman Farm (CA1055). The house is recommended ineligible under Criterion B, as it does not have an association with a prominent person. The house was owned by members of the Blackwelder and Litaker families, who were well known in the local community; however, they did not achieve a level of prominence to elevate them above the other nearby residents. While the Blackwelder-Litaker House is an example of a rural farmhouse residence, it has undergone alterations that have compromised its original architectural form and detail, as well as losing materials and workmanship, making it ineligible under Criterion C. The house is unlikely to yield important historical information, so it is considered ineligible under Criterion D, for building technology.

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2.2 Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery (MK2916)

Resource Name	Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery		
HPO Survery Site #	MK2916		
Street Address	Davidson-Concord Road, north of intersection with McAuley Road		
PIN	4662-92-4367		
Construction Date(s)	Mid-1800s		
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible		



Figure 2.45. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery (MK2916), facing west.

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery (MK2916) is located north of NC 73 (Davidson-Concord Road), north of its intersection with McAuley Road (Figure 1.2). The cemetery was designated by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission as a local landmark in 2007 (Survey File MK2916; Morrill 2005). Communication from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission Preservation Planner Stewart Gray indicated that the commission currently considers the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery a landmark and the landmark designation includes approximately 1.6 acres of land surrounding the cemetery (Gray to Carpini, e-mail communication 25 April 2018). The cemetery is located within a grove of trees, approximately 150 feet from the shoulder of NC 73 (Figures 2.45 and 2.46). The tree grove measures approximately 40 meters north/south by 30 meters east/west, although the cemetery is contained within the central portion of the grove and does not appear to extend to the boundaries of the treed area. The cemetery contains seven marked graves and there are eight depressions that may indicate unmarked burials (Figure 2.47).



Figure 2.46. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, view from NC 73, facing north.

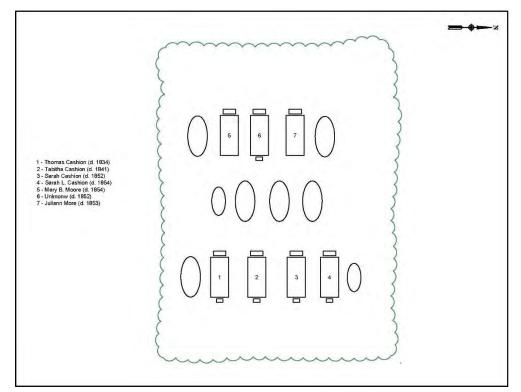


Figure 2.47. Site plan of the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery.

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The marked burials in the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery are arranged in two distinct rows, with graves oriented east-west. The eastern row contains four burials (south to north): Thomas Cashion (died 1834), Tabitha Cashion (died 1841), Sarah Cashion (died 1852), and Sarah L. Cashion (died 1854); there are also two grave-sized depressions in this row, both oriented east-west, with one located south of Thomas Cashion's burial and one located north of Sarah L. Cashion's burial (Figures 2.48–2.54). Each of the marked burials in the Cashion family row has both a headstone and footstone. Thomas and Tabitha Cashion's markers are carved in the same style. The stones are simple rectangular slabs, with the names of the interred carved in an arch shape and the death dates inscribed below (Figures 2.49 and 2.51). Thomas Cashion, a Revolutionary War veteran, has a Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) flat-style marker next to his footstone, which was probably placed there in the early-twentieth century (Figure 2.50). The marker for Sarah Cashion is similar to those of Thomas and Tabitha Cashion. It is fashioned out of a simple rectangular slab, but it has some decorative carving, including wavy lines behind the name "Sarah"; it also contains a family relationship indicator in addition to her death date (Figure 2.52). The final Cashion family burial marker, Sarah L. Cashion, is the most simple of the grouping, with a slightly thicker slab and no decorative carved details, only the death date and age of the interred (Figure 2.53).



Figure 2.48. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Cashion family burials, facing southwest.



Figure 2.49. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Thomas Cashion headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.50. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Thomas Cashion footstone and DAR marker, facing east.

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Figure 2.51. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Tabitha Cashion headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.52. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Sarah Cashion headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.53. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Sarah L. Cashion headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.54. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, potential grave depression, facing southwest.

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North of the row of Cashion family burials is a second row of marked interments. This row contains three marked graves, belonging to members of the Moore/More family (south to north): Mary Moore (died 1854), unknown (died 1852), and Juliann More (died 1853). The two unbroken stones in this row belong to children and, based on birthdates on the stones, Mary Moore and Juliann More were twins. In addition to the marked burials, there are two grave-sized depressions in this row, both oriented east-west, with one located south of Mary Moore's burial and one located north of Juliann More's burial (Figures 2.55–2.59). The graves of the Moore/More family are simpler than those of the Cashion family. Only the unknown grave has both head and footstones, while the graves of the two children have only headstones. The headstones for both Mary and Juliann Moore/More are simple slabs with slightly pitched tops, basic carving, and no decorative detailing (Figures 2.56 and 2.58). The stones list the birthdate, death date, and ages of both girls; Juliann's stone has a corrected misspelling of "MEMORY", suggesting that the stone was likely not carved by a professional carver and also that it may have been placed later, instead of at the time of her burial. The unknown burial has a broken headstone, with the missing top contain the name of the interred; the remaining portion of the stone suggests that it was similar in form and carving to the stones of the two Moore/More girls (Figure 2.57). The location of this burial, between the two girls, and similarity of the stones indicate a familial relationship; the age of the deceased (38) and the date of death (eight days after the birthdate of the twins) suggest that the burial may be the girls' mother.

Between the two rows of marked burials is a space that contains four depressions that could potentially indicate an additional, unmarked row of graves. These depressions are each the approximate size of the surrounding burials and they are oriented east-west, like the marked burials. Although difficult to see in photographs, the depressions were pronounced and easily recognizable in the field (Figures 2.60 and 2.61)



Figure 2.55. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Moore family burials, facing southwest.



Figure 2.56. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Mary Moore headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.57. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, unknown headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.58. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, Juliann More headstone, facing west.



Figure 2.59. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, potential grave depression, facing north.



Figure 2.60. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, row of potential grave depression, facing south.



Figure 2.61. Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, row of potential grave depression, facing southeast.

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2.2.1 History

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is a small rural cemetery with seven marked graves, which date from the 1830s through the 1850s. In 2007, the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery was designated as a local landmark by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. The research report on the property prepared for the local landmark designation indicates that the property on which the cemetery is located was purchased by Thomas Cashion in 1802 (Morrill 2005). Despite the age of the cemetery, it does not appear on historic maps.

Thomas Cashion was born in Virginia in 1758. He fought in the Virginia militia during the Revolutionary War and moved to the Mecklenburg County area sometime around the turn of the nineteenth century, along with at least one of his siblings, Burwell Cashion. Thomas and Burwell Cashion were married to sisters Tabitha and Judith Traylor, respectively. Between 1802 and 1811, Thomas and Burwell Cashion purchased five tracts of land in Mecklenburg County, near the Rocky River; presumably one of these tracts contained the land on which the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is located (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1802 17:749, 750; 1803 17:791; 1804 18:121; 1811 19:586).

Thomas Cashion first appeared in Mecklenburg County in the 1810 census, when his household included five free white members (presumably himself, his wife Tabitha, and three of their children) and two slaves (United States Census Bureau 1810). Ten years later, the household composition was similar, but the number of slaves had increased to five (United States Census Bureau 1820). By 1830, Thomas and Tabitha Cashion were living alone in their household with five slaves; their son, Thomas Cashion, Junior, had a separate household with himself, his wife, their two daughters, and two slaves (United States Census Bureau 1830). In 1840, following the death of Thomas Cashion, Senior, Tabitha Cashion was living in her son's household, along with his wife and daughters, as well as six slaves (United States Census Bureau 1850).

Burwell Cashion also first appeared in Mecklenburg County in the 1810 census, with a household that included seven free white members (presumably himself and his wife Judith, as well as five of their children) and three slaves (United States Census Bureau 1810). In 1820, Burwell Cashion owned one slave and lived in a household that included himself, his wife, and one of his daughters (United States Census Bureau 1820). Ten years later, Burwell and Judith Cashion were living alone in their house, with four slaves; in 1840, the couple owned only two slaves (United States Census Bureau 1830, 1840).

In 1811, Burwell Cashion deeded to his son John 82 acres of land along the Rocky River (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1811 19:605). Although the cemetery is not specifically mentioned, it is likely that this tract contained the present location of the cemetery. John B. Cashion appeared in his own household for the first time in 1820, nine years after acquiring the Rocky River property from his father. At the time, he owned one slave and lived in a household with his wife, Margaret, and two children under the age of ten (United States Census Bureau 1820). By 1830, the family had grown to include John Cashion and his wife, as well as six children, with no slaves living in the household (United States Census Bureau 1830). Ten years later, John and Margaret Cashion had five of their children, as well as two slaves, in their household (United States Census Bureau 1840).

John Cashion died in 1845. In 1857, the Mecklenburg County Court of Equity awarded his lands along the Rocky River to his son William Henry Cashion (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1857 3:230). William Cashion first appeared in his own household in 1860, listing himself as a farmer with real estate worth \$900 and personal property worth \$500; William was living with his wife Edith and six children (United States Census Bureau 1860). In 1870, William and Edith Cashion were enumerated in Cabarrus County, which may indicate the location of their

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property near the county boundary, with seven children; Cashion listed his profession as a farmer and his real estate and personal estate both worth \$300 (United States Census Bureau 1870). Ten years later, William Cashion was living with his second wife, Mary and three of his children from his first marriage; he continued to list his occupation as farmer (United States Census Bureau 1880).

William Cashion died in 1884; two years later, Mary A. Cashion, William Cashion's widow, executed a quit claim deed to his heirs for his lands along the Rocky River (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1886 54:546). The portion of William Cashion's lands containing the cemetery passed to William's daughter Sarah L. Cashion and her husband Thomas Baxter White. In 1888, Mary Cashion, as guardian of minor child Samuel Harris Cashion, granted interest in the property on the Rocky River formerly held by William Cashion, 90 acres total, to Thomas B. White; five years later, William T. Cashion and his wife Betty, Sarah Cashion White's brother and sister-in-law, also deeded their interest in the Rocky River lands of William H. Cashion to Thomas Baxter White (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1888 62:557; 1893 150:640).

Thomas Baxter White was born in 1862 and married Sarah L. Cashion in 1883. In 1900, he was enumerated in Mecklenburg County, along with his wife, five children, and a servant; he listed his occupation as farmer and owned his farm (United States Census Bureau 1900). In 1910, Thomas and Sarah White's residence, where they lived with six of their children, was listed as being on the Concord Road; he worked as a farmer and owned his farm (United States Census Bureau 1910). In 1920, Thomas and Sarah White lived in the same location, with five children, they owned their farm, and he listed his occupation as farmer (United States Census Bureau 1920). Sarah White died in 1928 and by 1930, Thomas B. White was living in the North Carolina State Hospital for the Insane, in Morganton (United States Census Bureau 1930). Upon Thomas White's death in 1935, Thomas White's lands passed to his son, William Alexander White, who lived in the house, with his wife and family, listing his occupation as farmer, in both 1930 and 1940 (United States Census Bureau 1930, 1940). William A. White owned the property until his death in 1971, when it passed to his son Hugh Alexander White (Mecklenburg County Probate Records). Hugh A. White's children, Hugh Allan White and Laura Ann White Hite, inherited the property in 1983; the White family held the property until transferring it to Mecklenburg County for use as a park in 2006 (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 2006 21338:955).

In their review of the local landmark designation for the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, the NC-HPO raised questions about the information contained in the survey and research report (Claudia R. Brown to Stewart Gray, letter, 17 October 2006). The report alternately refers to the cemetery as the Rocky River Baptist Church Cemetery and references the Rocky River Baptist Church in relation to the Moore family burials, suggesting, per the former owner, that the "cemetery was initially a family burial ground and later was used by Rock River Baptist Church" (Morrill 2005). The NC-HPO letter asks "Where was the Rocky River Baptist Church in relation to the cemetery?" and suggests that the small number of post-Cashion family graves does not fit into the narrative of the cemetery being used by the Rocky River Baptist Church. Research into historic Mecklenburg County deeds finds no reference to the Rocky River Baptist Church as grantor or grantee of property in Mecklenburg County from the late 1700s to the present, making the use of the cemetery by the church unlikely. It is more likely that the Moore family burials have some, as yet unfound, familial connection to the Cashion family, potentially the children or grandchildren of a female relative who married into the Moore family.

2.2.2 *Architectural Context*

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is a traditional Southern Folk Cemetery. Research into rural cemeteries throughout the south has created a broad definition of a Southern folk cemetery, which was usually a smaller

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cemetery located close to a homestead, containing burials of one or two related families (Clauser 1994). "The upland folk cemetery is a distinctive type of burial ground widely dispersed across the south...characterized by hilltop locations, scraped ground, mounded graves, east-west grave orientation, creative decorations expressing the art of making do, preferred species of vegetation, the use of graveshelters, and cults of piety" (Meyer 1989:108). Clauser defined the layout of such cemeteries as "ordered chaos"; although most examples of this type of cemetery have a rectangular form, with graves oriented west-east, in discernable rows, there is much variation among different examples (1994). The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery fits these broad pattern markers. One of the hallmarks of the Southern folk cemetery is the variation in grave markers from cemetery to cemetery, ranging from wooden stakes, to fieldstones, to cement markers. Although location and economic status influenced the type of markers, the temporal division between pioneer cemeteries, transitional cemeteries, and modern cemeteries is also a significant factor in marker choice. "Until the early twentieth century, fieldstone markers at both the head and foot of the grave were probably the most common type of folk marker for North Carolina graves" (Clauser 1994). And Fairey suggests that elaborate gravestones were expensive investments that were dependent on social status: "besides the cost of carving, there was a hauling fee and other funeral costs. Therefore, for those few people who could erect a tombstone, it became a statement of economic and social superiority" (1990). Both the marked burials in the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, as well as the likely presence of unmarked burials, fit this pattern.

Traditional Southern Folk cemeteries and small family cemeteries are relatively common throughout rural North Carolina, with over 30,000 cemetery records in the North Carolina Archives. However, many of these cemeteries are located on private land and are not readily visible from the public right-of-way, so they are difficult to find for comparative purposes. A number of other cemeteries from similar time periods remain within Mecklenburg County as well, so grave markers in those were also used for comparative purposes.

The Mason Cemetery (NSN) is a family cemetery located in southern Mecklenburg County (Figure 2.62). Although larger than the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, it has burials that date to around the same time period (Figures 2.63 and 2.64). Many of these stones are simply carved (Figure 2.63), similar to those in the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, but others exhibit more decorative detailing, such as the weeping willow tree (Figure 2.64), indicating a higher social status for some of the persons interred in the Mason Cemetery. The Tunis-Hood Cemetery (MK2311), formerly the second Philadelphia Presbyterian Church Cemetery, is a larger, more formal cemetery than the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, with a delineated stone wall boundary. However, it does contain graves dating from through mid-nineteenth century, which aligns with the same time period as the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery (Figure 2.65). These grave markers also range from simply carved rectangular stones to more elaborately carved stones (Figures 2.66 and 2.67). Similarly, the Phifer Cemetery (CA1591), although located in Cabarrus County, is eight miles east of the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery and located along the NC 73 corridor, putting it in similar geographical range as the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery. Its earliest burials date from the late-eighteenth century, but it also contains graves dating to the mid-1800s. It is also larger than the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery, with delineated boundaries, but has similar styles of grave markers (Figures 2.68 through 2.70)



Figure 2.62. Mason Cemetery (NSN), facing north.



Figure 2.63. Mason Cemetery, headstone of David Partlow (died 1850), facing west.

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Figure 2.64. Mason Cemetery, headstone of Daniel Smith (died 1859), facing west.



Figure 2.65. Tunis-Hood Cemetery (MK2311), facing west.

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Figure 2.66. Tunis-Hood Cemetery (MK2311), grave marker, facing west.



Figure 2.67. Tunis-Hood Cemetery (MK2311), grave marker, facing west.



Figure 2.68. Phifer Cemetery (CA1591), facing northwest.



Figure 2.69. Phifer Cemetery (CA1591), grave markers, facing west.

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Figure 2.70. Phifer Cemetery (CA1591), grave markers, facing west.

2.2.3 Integrity

Evaluation of the seven aspects of integrity required for National Register eligibility for Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery are as follows:

Location: High

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery remains in its original location.

Design: High

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery retains its original plan and design, with most of its grave markers remaining intact.

Setting: Low to Medium

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is a traditional Southern Folk Cemetery, which were generally located on homesteads in rural areas. Although there has been some modern development in the surrounding areas, the lands immediately adjacent to the cemetery remain primarily rural and retain some of the characteristics of the farmland that surrounded the cemetery during the mid-nineteenth-century. However, the homestead of Thomas Cashion and his family would have likely been nearby, based on the traditional burial practices of Southern Folk cemeteries, and the homestead is no longer extant, nor it its location evident.

<u>Materials</u>: High

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The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery retains its original materials. It is unlikely that the cemetery originally had a formal boundary, so no wall or fence has been removed from the site. The existing seven stones in the cemetery are the original stones and, although the cemetery is overgrown, they are in overall good condition, with only one stone broken.

Workmanship: High

The grave markers in the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery retain their original, simple workmanship. They have not been altered since they were placed on the burials, despite the overgrowth of trees and vegetation around the cemetery. Although one marker is broken, the workmanship of the carving on that stone is still mostly evident in the remaining portion.

Feeling: High

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery evokes the feeling of a small, rural, family burial place.

Association: High

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery retains its association with the Cashion and Moore families; the graves of members of these two families remain in the cemetery and they are relatively unchanged from the time in which they were buried. The land was owned by descendants of the Cashion family until it was purchased by the county for a future park in 2006, so the abandonment and overgrowth of the cemetery took place during the ownership of extended family of the Cashion's.

2.2.4 Eligibility

The Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is a nineteenth century traditional Southern Folk Cemetery. The cemetery has been abandoned and is no longer in use, but the most recent marked grave dates to 1854. Cemeteries are not usually considered eligible for listing in the NRHP, however, they can be eligible under certain Criteria Considerations, and usually Criteria Consideration D. Criteria Consideration D states that: "a cemetery is eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events." However, the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery does not meet the standards outlined in this Criteria Consideration. The site is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history (Criterion A), is not associated with the lives of significant persons in the past (Criterion B), does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or methods of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic values; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (Criterion C), and is unlikely to yield significant information on the history of the area (Criterion D). As such, the Cashion and Moore Family Cemetery is recommended ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP under each of the four Criteria.

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2.3 Bradford Store (MK2811)

Resource Name	Bradford Store	
HPO Survey Site #	MK2811	
Street Address	15915 Davidson-Concord Road	
PIN	4672-10-2220	
Construction Date(s)	1911	
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible	



Figure 2.71. Bradford Store (MK2811), facing southeast.

The Bradford Store (PIN 4672-10-2220) is located at 15915 Davidson-Concord Road, south of NC 73 (Davidson-Concord Road), approximately 0.4-mile east of its intersection with McAuley Road, east of the community of Caldwell in Mecklenburg County. The structure, which is currently set back approximately 250 feet from the road, is a single-story, gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building, built around 1911 (Figure 2.71). The store was originally surveyed in conjunction with the Bradford House/Farm (MK1283), which is located across NC 73 to the northeast, in 1988. In 2002, the Bradford House and Store were designated as a local historic landmark by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. In 2006, the Bradford Store was moved back from its original location, directly adjacent to NC 73, to accommodate road improvements. Communication from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission Preservation Planner Stewart Gray indicated that the commission considers the Bradford Store a landmark at its current, moved, location and the landmark designation includes the 16.5 acres that make up the tax parcel on which the Bradford Store sits (Gray to Carpini, e-mail communication 25 April 2018). Also in 2006, a Study List application for the store, referred to as the Bradford Farm

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Store, was denied by the North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee because the relocation of the store building had compromised important elements of its integrity. In 2011, the Bradford Store was evaluated for NRHP eligibility for an environmental review project and was recommended as ineligible for the NRHP; NC-HPO concurred with this recommendation (Survey File MK1283). During previous investigations, the Bradford Store has been included within the MK1283 survey number that designates the Bradford House/Farm. In 2011, the Bradford House/Farm was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria B and C and the boundary for the MK1283 property was drawn as the NRHP boundary; therefore, as part of this survey, the Bradford Store was assigned a unique survey number (MK2811).

The Bradford Store is a concrete block building, with a rectangular plan and gabled roofline; the concrete block on the overall structure is plain-faced, but the corner blocks are rusticated. The front elevation of the structure has a wide overhang of the main roofline that creates a porch that is supported by square posts and is accessed by a central stairway (Figure 2.72). The gable end of the structure is covered with weatherboard siding and the porch ceiling is tongue-and-groove boards. The central double doorway is flanked by 25-pane, wooden-framed display windows and there are three five-pane transoms that cover the entire door and window combination. Along the east elevation, there is a porch addition and an entry door, along with foundation vents (Figures 2.73 and 2.74). The rear elevation has two single one-over-one, vinyl-sash windows that have wooden lintels and frames (Figure 2.75). The rear gable end is also covered with wooden weatherboard and has a rectangular attic vent centered within it. A single one-over-one, vinyl-sash window is located on the west elevation of the store (Figure 2.76).



Figure 2.72. Bradford Store, facing south.



Figure 2.73. Bradford Store, facing southwest.



Figure 2.74. Bradford Store, facing west.



Figure 2.75. Bradford Store, facing north.



Figure 2.76. Bradford Store, facing northeast.

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The interior of the Bradford Store is a single, open room. The ceiling, which is covered with wooden board-and-batten sheathing, is supported by a central row of square posts attached to a central beam (Figures 2.77 and 2.78). East of center, there is a coal-burning stove that vents through the ceiling. Although most of the display space in the store is non-fixed, along the western wall there is an attached shelving unit and a non-moveable display counter (Figure 2.79).



Figure 2.77. Interior view of the Bradford Store, facing northeast.



Figure 2.78. Interior view of the Bradford Store, facing south.

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Figure 2.79. Interior view of the Bradford Store, facing northwest.

Since it was surveyed in 1988 and designated a local landmark in 2002, the Bradford Store has undergone some significant alterations. The most significant alteration was the 2006 change in location of the store. Although the building remains on the same property as it was originally situated, to accommodate improvements to NC 73, the store was moved southwest of its original location. The store formerly sat along the southern edge of NC 73, while it currently is set approximately 250 feet back from the road. As part of the move, the Bradford Store was also placed on a raised foundation, to accommodate the topography of the new location, and a staircase was constructed to access the front entryway. The construction of the central staircase required the restructuring of the supports of the roof overhang, which originally had three equally spaced supports, with one being located in the center of the façade (Figure 2.80).

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Figure 2.80. View of the Bradford Store, circa 2002, facing southwest.

2.3.1 History

The Bradford Store (MK2811) was recorded in 1988, during the Mecklenburg County architectural survey, in conjunction with the Bradford Farm (MK1283). A survey form was completed for the store, but it was considered an outbuilding of the house and was included in the file along with the information on the Bradford House/Farm. In 2002, the Bradford House and Store were designated as a local historic landmark by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. In 2006, the Bradford Store was moved back from its original location, directly adjacent to NC 73, to accommodate road improvements. Also in 2006, a Study List application for the store, referred to as the Bradford Farm Store, was denied by the North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee because the relocation of the store building had compromised important elements of its integrity. In 2011, the Bradford Store was evaluated for NRHP eligibility for an environmental review project and was recommended as ineligible for the NRHP; NC-HPO concurred with this recommendation (Survey File MK1283).

The survey file information and the local landmark designation cite two potential construction dates for the structure, 1911 and 1913. However, a newspaper account from 1911 confirms the earlier date of construction, as it notes that "Caldwell & Bradford, a mercantile firm near the Cabarrus line, have just completed their new concrete store building, some 25 by 60 feet, and will move into it tomorrow" (*The Charlotte Observer* 23 September 1911:7). The store first appears on a circa 1912 United States Postal Service (USPS) rural delivery route map (Figure 2.81)

Caldwell and Bradford was owned by William Bradford and Sylvestus T. Caldwell, both notable planters in Mecklenburg County, in addition to their mercantile business. The store was constructed on land that was formerly owned by the McAuley family, which was deeded by Mary M. McAuley to her daughter, Margaret

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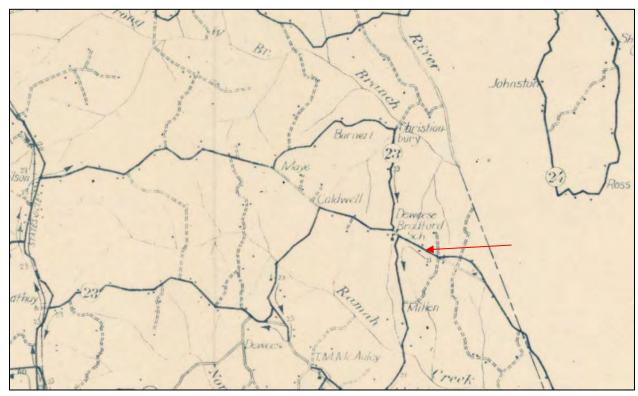


Figure 2.81. USPS rural delivery route map (circa 1912), showing location of Bradford Store.

McAuley Bradford, wife of William Bradford, in 1901 (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1901 151:349). Mary M. McAuley, had purchased a parcel of land from H. J. and B. J. Washam in 1888 and the tract purchased by Margaret was a portion of that land; presumably Margaret and William Bradford inherited the balance of the land from her mother's estate when she died (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1888 88:560).

William Bradford (1860–1938) was a prominent local farmer and merchant in the northern portion of Mecklenburg County. From 1911 to 1919, he served as a county commissioner (*The Charlotte Observer* 2 March 1912:2). In addition to his house, across NC 73 from the store property, Bradford also had a blacksmith shop and cotton gin on his property. In addition to being a notable local mercantile establishment, Caldwell and Bradford was also a tax listing location in Deweese Township (*Lincoln County News* 11 March 1913:2; *Salisbury Evening Post* 21 December 1914:1; The *Charlotte News* 2 April 1920:10; *Statesville Landmark and Record* 19 December 1933:3). From 1900 to 1920, William Bradford was living in Deweese Township with his wife and children, listing his occupation as a farmer, on a farm which he owned (United States Census Bureau 1900, 1910, 1920). In 1930, Bradford was living with his son Hurd Grier Bradford and identified his occupation as a merchant at a retail grocery store (United States Census Bureau 1930). Sylvestus T. Caldwell (1859–1938) was also a prominent local farmer. Throughout the early-twentieth century, he was listed as living in Deweese Township with his wife and children and identified his occupation as farmer, on a farm which he owned (United States Census Bureau 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930).

In 1928, William Bradford deeded two tracts of land, including the one containing the store, to his son William Orr Bradford (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1928 790:337). Sometime around 1933, William Bradford declared bankruptcy and his assets, as well as the estate of Caldwell and Bradford, were sold off by a bankruptcy

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trustee; a deed recorded in 1933 confirmed the earlier sale of the two tracts of land, including the store parcel, to William Orr Bradford (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1933 1035:547). William Orr Bradford died in 1952 and his property passed to his heirs, William O. Bradford, Junior, James H. Bradford, and Edith Bradford, his widow. In 1975, the heirs of William Orr Bradford deeded the parcel containing the store to Mary Stewart Covington Bradford, who sold a portion of the property to Herd Grier and Kim Bradford in 1983 and transferred the remainder of the property to HGB Holdings, Inc., a corporation owned by Herd Grier Bradford, in 2006 (Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds 1975 3755:765; 1983 4654:172; 2006 21571:727).

In 2006, the Bradford Store was moved back from its original location along the roadway, to accommodate improvements to US 73 (Figures 2.80 and 2.82).



Figure 2.82. Aerial photograph (2005) showing original location of the Bradford Store.

2.3.2 Architectural Context

The area of northeastern Mecklenburg County along NC 73 has historically been made up of primarily farm tracts, with homes surrounded by open fields, with agricultural outbuildings on the property, but few other homes in the general vicinity. Rural stores, were built throughout Mecklenburg County during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-centuries; the presence of these commercial establishments along main thoroughfares, close to the road, allowed them to retain visibility and made them easy to access by community residents.

Mecklenburg County has experienced significant growth during recent decades, resulting in a decrease in stock of historic structures. Although the rural, northern portion of Mecklenburg County near the project area has not grown as fast as other areas of the county, it has begun seeing increased residential development since the 1988

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historic architectural survey of the county. As the portion NC 73 between Huntersville and Concord has developed, a large number of new residential subdivisions and commercial developments has altered the landscape of the area; many of these developments have resulted in the demolition of older homes and other buildings. Particularly, agricultural and older commercial structures, often associated with the farms, have fallen victim to demolition, as many of the commercial buildings have become unused and obsolete.

Comparative examples of crossroads stores in the northern portion of Mecklenburg County are difficult to find, especially since because many of the smaller rural stores have been lost to new commercial development. The majority of historic commercial structures in the vicinity of the project area are of brick or frame construction. Of these previously recorded store buildings, the Mill Store (MK1735) has been previously identified as demolished; a windshield survey of the area indicated that the Pinoca Store (MK1689) has either been demolished or subsumed into a newer structure and is unrecognizable, and an unnamed store near the intersection of Park Road and Sharon Road (MK1722) is also no longer extant. The Hayses-Bynam Store (MK1367) in the southern portion of the county is extant, but dates to an earlier period than the Bradford Store and is a more traditional brick commercial building, with a parapet roof (Figure 2.84). Similarly, the previously unrecorded store building at 3601 Oakdale Road is also a gabled brick building with a front parapet roof (Figure 2.85). The frame-construction Stillwell-Hubbard Store (MK3693) was determined eligible for listing in the NRHP in 2017, under Criterion A, as part of a complex with the Stillwell-Hubbard House and Farm Buildings (Figure 2.86). As a crossroads store, the Stillwell-Hubbard Store, which was converted into a store after use as a residence, is a smaller but better preserved example of rural commercial architecture. Located in Cabarrus County, to the east, the D. W. Flowe Store (CA0403) dates to approximately 30 years earlier than the Bradford Store, and is of frame construction, but its plan and detailing are similar, with the front-gabled roof and supported overhang to shelter customers (Figure 2.87). It retains its location along the roadside, of Flowes Store Road, and is listed in the North Carolina Study List.

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Figure 2.84. Hayes-Bynum Store (MK1367), facing northwest.



Figure 2.85. Store at 3601 Oakdale Road (NSN), facing southwest.

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Figure 2.86. Stillwell Hubbard Store (MK3693), facing southeast.



Figure 2.87. D.W. Flowe Store (CA0403), facing west.

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2.3.3 Integrity

Evaluation of the seven aspects of integrity required for National Register eligibility for the Bradford Store are as follows:

Location: Low

The Bradford Store was moved from its original location in 2006. Although it is located on the same tax parcel, the store building was moved back from the road approximately 250 feet; location of rural commercial structures along roadsides was integral to their function and, therefore, the change of location is a significant detriment to the integrity of the structure.

<u>Design</u>: Medium

The Bradford Store retains its basic form, however, it apparently has undergone changes to its exterior, primarily through the moving of the building to its new location. No longer a ground-level structure, it sits on a raised foundation and is accessed by a newly installed stairway to its porch overhang.

Setting: Medium

When the Bradford Store was constructed in the early-twentieth century, this portion of Mecklenburg County was part of a long-standing rural, farming tradition. There have been significant changes to the surrounding area, especially with increased residential and commercial development over the past two decades. The section of NC 73 along which the Bradford Store sits primarily retains its rural character, with residences spaced out and open land located along the road. However, there is a large residential development to the north, accessed by a new roadway, and significant commercial development to the east.

Materials: Medium

The Bradford Store retains its concrete-block construction, although a new foundation was added when it was moved in 2006. The weatherboard siding and window framing on the store appear to be original, as do the floors, ceiling, and supports on the interior, as well as the front entry door and display windows. The front porch supports, which were likely not original in 2002 when the Bradford Store was designated a local landmark, have been altered to accommodate the central stairway necessary for access to the newly lifted structure.

• Workmanship: Medium to High

Much of the original workmanship on the structure's exterior and interior remains. Although the Bradford Store has been moved from its original location, the move was completed without dismantling the building, retaining its original workmanship.

<u>Feeling</u>: Medium

Despite changes to the Bradford Store, the structure continues to evoke the feeling of a small, rural, early-twentieth-century commercial establishment. Its roof overhang, double entry doors, and large display windows are all elements that are common in early-twentieth-century rural stores. However, the relocation of the store, 250 feet from the roadside, has compromised some integrity of feeling, as the location of rural commercial buildings near roads was integral to their function and visibility.

Association: High

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The Bradford Store retains its association with the Bradford family, who were the original owners of the store. The store continues to be operated by members of the Bradford family. The changes to the structure were completed during the Bradford family ownership and, therefore, would not compromise the store's association with the family.

2.3.4 Eligibility

The Bradford Store is recommended as ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A, as it does not bear a significant association with a particular event or broad pattern of history. While it was a good example of an early-twentieth-century rural commercial structure, the change in location of the store has compromised this association and there exist more significant examples of this structure type in the surrounding area. The store is recommended ineligible under Criterion B, as it is not associated with a prominent person. Although it was owned and operated by members of the Bradford family, who were well known in the area, the nearby Bradford Farm has a more significant association with William Bradford and his family. The Bradford Store is a unique example of an early twentieth-century concrete block structure in rural Mecklenburg County; however, the moving of the building and the changes to its foundation and elevation have compromised its architectural significance, making it ineligible under Criterion C. The store is unlikely to yield any new information about building technology, so it is considered ineligible under Criterion D.

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