



**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

November 15, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kate Husband
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley
Environmental Review Coordinator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renee Gledhill-Earley".

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Widen NC 111 from US 64 Alternate to NC 122,
U-4424, PA 18-03-0039, Edgecombe County, ER 18-3396

Thank you for your October 15, 2018, memorandum transmitting the above-referenced survey report. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We concur that the following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for the reasons outlined in the report.

- Johnston House and Store (ED1661)
- Saint Paul AME Zion Church (ED0055)
- Norfleet House on its current site (ED1659)

We concur that the following properties are eligible for listing in the National Register for the reasons outlined and that their proposed boundary appears appropriate with the noted exception.

- Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower (ED1662) under Criterion A
- Merrimeade (ED1312) under Criteria B and C. However, there is another house on the property just off the main entrance road to the right that is historically associated with the resource. Unless it has been demolished in recent times, it should be addressed in the report and included within the Merrimeade boundary.

Please note that on page 4 under the titled section "Settings" the report has the town as "Benson" when it should be Tarboro.

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 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

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



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

ER 18-3396

October 15, 2018

Due -- 11/21/18

MEMORANDUM

TO: Renee Gledhill-Earley
Environmental Review Coordinator
North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

H- ER 18-3396
Renee 11/9/18

FROM: Kate Husband
Architectural Historian
NCDOT Division of Highways

SUBJECT: U-4424: Widen NC 111 (Wilson Street) from US 64 Alternate to NC 122,
PA No. 18-03-0039, Edgecombe County

Enclosed please find the Historic Structures Survey Report, survey site database, and additional materials for the above referenced project for your review and comment per 36CRF.800. Please contact me by phone (919-707-6075) or email (klhusband@ncdot.gov) if you have any additional questions or comments.

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
WIDEN NC 111 (WILSON STREET) FROM US 64 ALTERNATE
(WESTERN BOULEVARD) TO NC 122 (MCNAIR ROAD),
EDGECOMBE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP Project U-4424
WBS No. 39062.1.1
PA No. 18-03-0039**

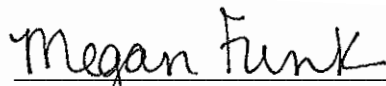
**Prepared for:
The North Carolina Department of Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit
Century Center B
1020 Birch Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**Prepared by:
Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc.
P.O. BOX 1198
201 WEST WILSON STREET
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886**

**Megan Funk
*Architectural Historian***

NCR-0781

OCTOBER 2018



**Megan Funk, Principal Investigator
Commonwealth Heritage Group**

10-09-2018

Date

**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor
Historic Architecture Group, NCDOT**

Date

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
WIDEN NC 111 (WILSON STREET) FROM US 64 ALTERNATE
(WESTERN BOULEVARD) TO NC 122 (MCNAIR ROAD),
EDGECOMBE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP Project U-4424
WBS No. 39062.1.1
PA No. 18-03-0039**

**Prepared for:
The North Carolina Department of Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit
Century Center B
1020 Birch Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**Prepared by:
Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc.
P.O. BOX 1198
201 WEST WILSON STREET
TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886**

**Megan Funk
*Architectural Historian***

NCR-0781

OCTOBER 2018

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen NC 111 (Wilson Street) from US 64 Alternate (Western Boulevard) to NC 122 (McNair Road), Edgecombe County, North Carolina. The study limits extend approximately 2.25 miles along NC 111 (West Wilson Street) from NC 122 (McNair Road) in the west to US 64 Alternate (Western Boulevard) in the east. This project is included in the North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) as Project Number U-4424 and is federally funded. NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project to include the study area for the project.

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. Five resources warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation and are the subject of this report. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined that there are no other properties over 50 years of age in the APE worthy of evaluation.

This report represents the documentation of five properties located within the APE for this project, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. For the preparation of this evaluation report, the Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth), architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the requested property in the study area. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Edgecombe County Register of Deeds, both online and on site. Additional background research was conducted at the Commonwealth library in Tarboro, North Carolina, and using online sources. This report does not recommend the Johnston House and Store, Saint Paul AME Zion Church, or Norfleet House (formerly the Norfleet Plantation) as eligible for listing on the NRHP but does recommend Merriemeade and the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower as eligible for listing on the NRHP.

PROPERTY NAME	HPO SSN	ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION	CRITERIA
Merriemeade	ED1312-SL	Yes	B and C
Johnston House and Store	ED1661	No	-
Saint Paul AME Zion Church	ED0055	No	-
Norfleet House (Current Site)	ED1659	No	-
Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower	ED1662	Yes	A

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Management Summary	i
Methodology	1
Physical Environment	1
Property Inventory and Evaluations.....	4
Merriemeade	4
Johnston House and Store.....	27
Saint Paul AME Zion Church.....	46
Norfleet House	61
Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower	84
References Cited	96

METHODOLOGY

For the preparation of this report, the Commonwealth architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth NRHP evaluations of the requested properties in the study area in September 2018. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Edgecombe County Register of Deeds, both online and on site, and at the Commonwealth library in Tarboro, North Carolina, in addition to using online sources. This report includes the architectural analysis and in-depth evaluation of five historic properties in the APE, Merriemeade (ED1312), Johnston House and Store (ED1661), Saint Paul AME Zion Church (ED0055), Norfleet House (ED1659), and Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower (ED1662). One of the properties, Merriemeade (ED1312), was previously added to the North Carolina Study List, a precursor for listing on the NRHP. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the public.

Commonwealth prepared this historic architectural resources evaluation report in accordance with the provisions of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*¹ and NCDOT's *Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources*. This report meets NCDOT and National Park Service guidelines. Resources are evaluated according to NRHP criteria. The location of the project area and the five evaluated resources are shown in Figure 2.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The study area consists of a roughly 2.25-mile stretch of NC 111 (Wilson Street) in Tarboro, North Carolina, characterized by mostly residential development with some commercial development at the US 64 Alternate (Western Boulevard) intersection, the northwest corner of which is currently being developed as a fuel station/restaurant complex. Aside from an NCDOT Maintenance Yard, Edgecombe Community College, and a US Forest Service Facility, a majority of the property on NC 111 south of the US 64 Bypass is undeveloped. Near the center of the project area, Bridge No. 152 carries NC 111 across the US 64 Bypass. The bridge is 236 feet long and 32.8 feet wide. The properties included in this study are roughly distributed between US 64 Alternate (Western Boulevard) and NC 122 (McNair Road) with one, Merriemeade (ED1312), located just east of US 64 Alternate (Western Boulevard).

¹ National Park Service, 2017. 48 CFR 44716; 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60.

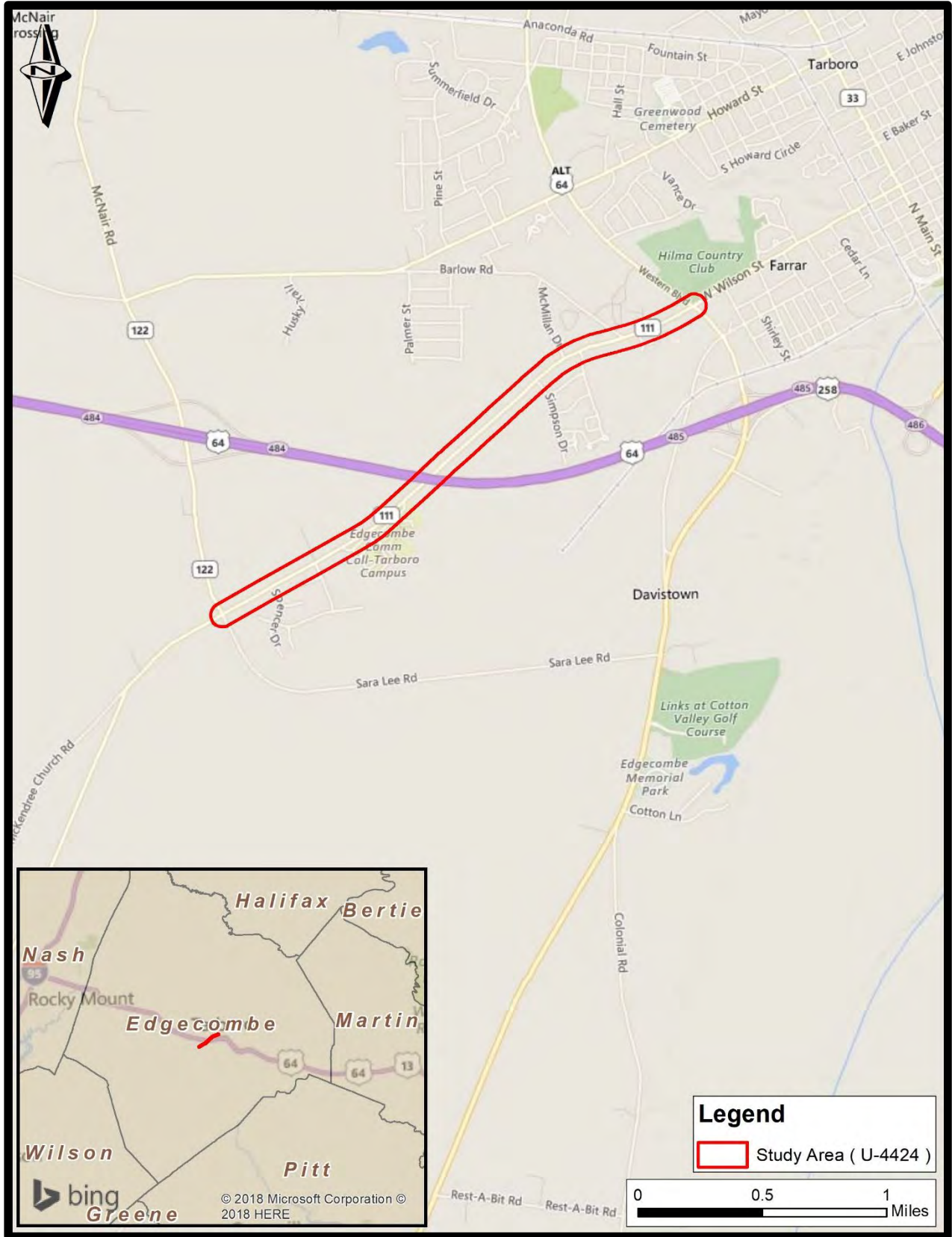


Figure 1: General Location.

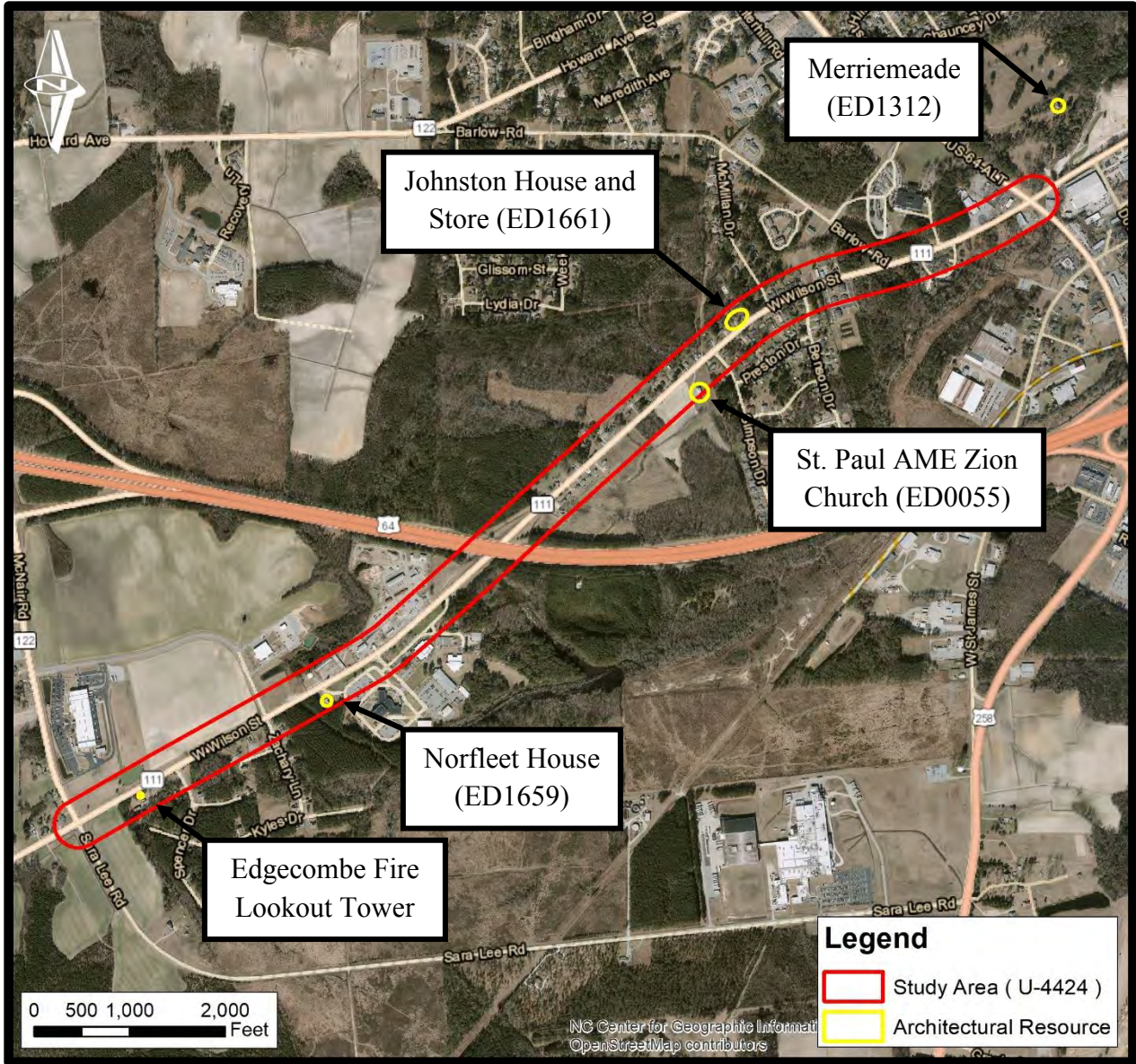


Figure 2: Location of Resources.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Merriemeade
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	001
HPO Survey Site Number:	ED1312
Location:	1001 West Wilson Street, Tarboro, NC
Parcel ID:	4728-84-9123
Dates(s) of Construction:	1927
Recommendation:	Eligible



Figure 3: Merriemeade, Looking East.

Setting

Merriemeade is located on the eastern edge of a 38.95-acre parcel near the intersection of US 64 Alternate and NC 111 in Benson, North Carolina. The dwelling faces east away from US 64 Alternate, from which it sits back approximately 1000 feet, and is sheltered from the road by lines of trees and a row of commercial development. It sits approximately 700 feet north of NC 111 and is shielded from the road by wooded areas as well as a recently completed apartment complex and an under-construction gas station at the corner of NC 111 and US 64 Alternate. A driveway approaches the house from US 64 Alternate. Near the dwelling the driveway passes through a brick wall and gate and terminates with a circle at the rear of the dwelling. The driveway is flanked by mature trees that begin roughly 400 feet from the house. A large yard wraps the south and east sides of the dwelling and trees surround the yard. Other pockets of

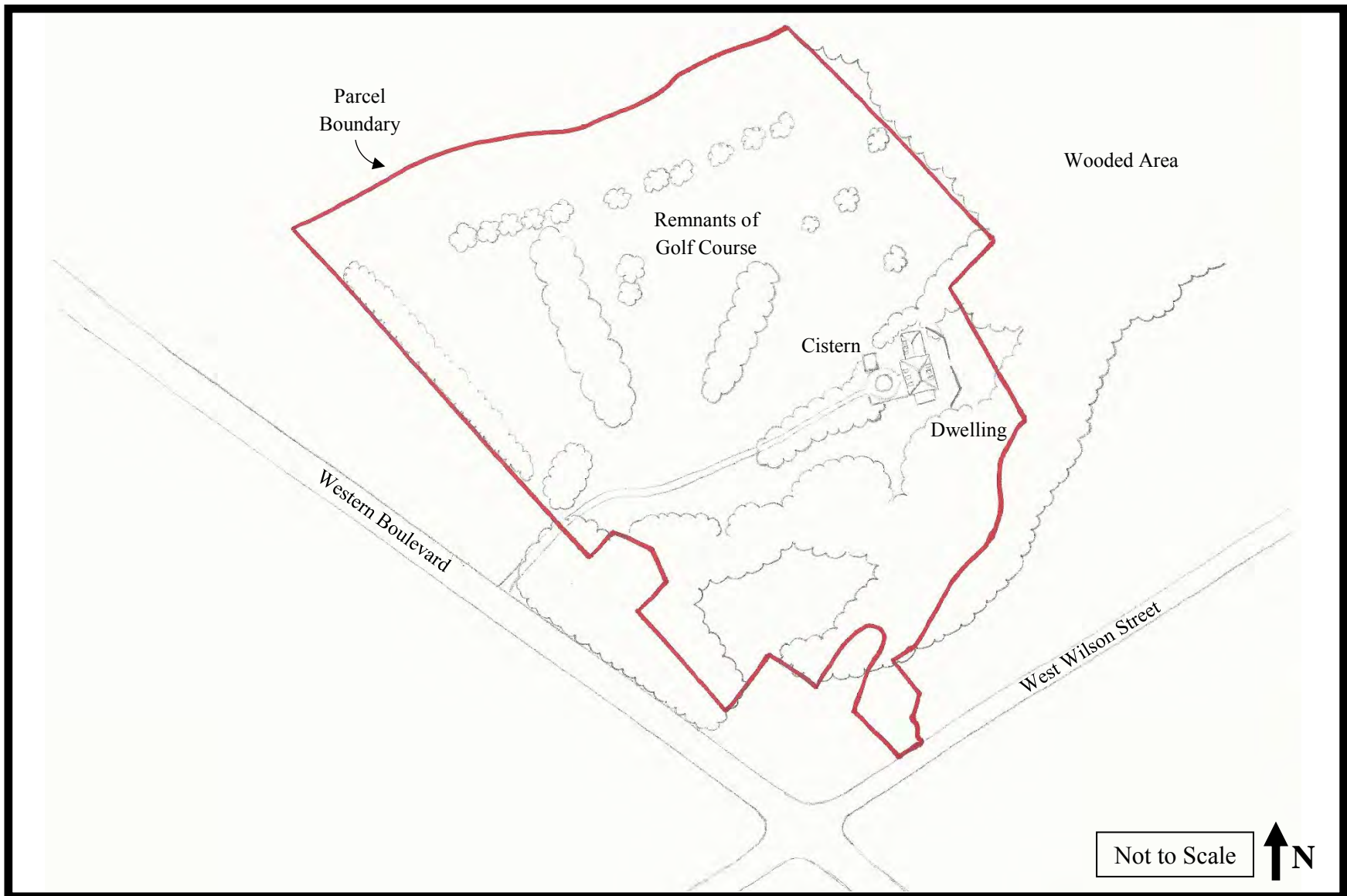


Figure 4: Sketch Map of Merriemeade.

trees are scattered about the parcel, which has an irregular shape defined by a creek on the southeast edge, a large wooded area on the east, and a neighborhood of tract homes on the north. Mature trees follow the boundary on all sides (Figures 3 and 4).

Property Description

Exterior

Constructed in 1927, Merriemeade is a two-story Georgian Revival-style dwelling with a frame structure finished with brick veneer in a Flemish bond pattern and a hipped slate roof. The east (front) elevation of the main block of the dwelling is symmetrical with a centered entry door flanked by two six-over-six wooden sash windows on each side. The door is topped with a circular arch transom and flanked by round pilasters capped with volutes. An architrave with a plain frieze and a denticulated cornice rests on top of the pilasters. Five six-over-six wooden sash windows span the second story, and a plain frieze below a denticulated cornice wraps the dwelling. Three round arched dormer windows project from the forward slope of the roof. Though the windows are boarded over, photos show that they were filled with pointed arch lights (Figures 3 and 5).



Figure 5: Entry Door, Merriemeade, Looking West.

A one-story sunroom extends from the south (side) elevation of the dwelling while a two-story service wing extends from the north (side) elevation. The sunroom has a set of French doors on its east and west elevations and two sets of French doors on its south elevation. Tall windows flank the doors and divided light transoms span the tops of the doors and windows. Tuscan columns separate the doors and windows while fluted square pilasters form the corners of the sunporch. The porch has a flat roof that is accessible from a door on the second story, and a window west of the door balances the second story elevation. An interior brick chimney rises at the center of the elevation and displays the initials “HCB” for Henry Clark Bridgers. An identical chimney rises from the north (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling as well (Figures 6 and 7).

The two-story wing, which also has a hipped roof, is set back slightly from the main block of the dwelling and two four-over-four wooden sash windows – one on the first story and one on the second – light the north (side) elevation of the main block in the space created by the set-back wing. The east (front) elevation of the wing is symmetrical with two paired windows (boarded over) on the first story and two six-over-six wooden sash windows on the second story. The windows on the second story have pediments that intersect and rise above the eave of the roof, and the lower windows, like other first story windows, are topped with jack arches. All of the windows have molded window sills (Figures 8 and 9).



Figure 6: Merriemeade, Looking Northeast.



Figure 7: Chimney Detail, Merriemeade, Looking North.



Figure 8: North Wing, Merriemeade, Looking Southwest.



Figure 9: Window Detail, Merriemeade, Looking West.

The north (side) elevation of the wing has two three-over-six wooden sash windows (sash visible from interior) below a centered six-over-six wooden sash window that is pedimented like those on the east (front) elevation (Figure 10). The west (rear) elevation of the wing contains a garage on the north and a shed-roofed porch on the south, which rests in the L created by the main block and wing. The integral garage, a rare feature for the 1920s, is made even more impressive by the inclusion of a drain and overhead water spigot for washing vehicles, and the porch is supported by slender Tuscan columns and shelters a door to the garage, a window, and an enclosed section that contains a door that opens to the pantry. There are three pedimented, six-over-six, wooden sash windows above the garage and porch and a four-over-four wooden sash window lights the north elevation of the main block above the porch (Figures 11 and 12).



Figure 10: North Wing, Merriemeade, Looking Southeast.



Figure 11: Window Detail, Merriemeade, Looking West.



The west (rear) elevation of the main block is more elaborate than the east (front) elevation with an entry door flanked by sidelights and topped with a molded plaster fanlight. A portico supported by unfluted Ionic columns shelters the entrance and has a fluted frieze with patera at the corners, and above the portico is a Palladian window. Tripled windows – two small flanking one large – exist north and south of the entrance and two upper-story windows are centered above the tripled sets. Three round arched dormer windows, like those on the east (front) elevation, project from the forward slope of the roof (Figure 13).

Figure 12: Garage Detail, North Wing, Merriemeade.



Figure 13: Merriemeade, Looking East.

Interior

Though Merriemeade has been uninhabited since at least 2012, the interior retains many of its original finishes including plaster walls that were painted in the kitchen, bathrooms, and service areas and finished with Alabastine, a type of tinted gypsum, in the dining room, living room, study, and other primary areas of the dwelling. Additional areas were finished with wallpaper. The living room, hall, and dining room have wainscot and decorative trim lines the walls of the living room and hall. Ornate mantles that were modeled after colonial motifs can be found in the living room, dining room, and “Master’s Room.” Other original details include window seats in the living room, a half-turn stair and stylized entablatures above the doors in the hall, built-in bookcases in the study, cedar closets, wall sconces, and original kitchen and bathroom fixtures and finishes (Figures 14 through 20).



Figure 14: Living Room, Merriemeade.



Figure 15: Living Room, Merriemeade.



Figure 16: Vestibule, Merriemeade.



Figure 17: Bedroom, Merriemeade.



Figure 18: Hall, Merriemeade.



Figure 19: Stair Landing/Palladian Window, Merriemeade.



Figure 20: Bath Room, Merriemeade.

Ancillary Structures

The only extant ancillary structure is a cistern to the west of the dwelling that is housed in a brick and concrete block structure with a flat roof (Figures 21 and 22).



Figure 21: Cistern, Looking Southwest.



Figure 22: Interior of Cistern.

Historical Background

The land that Merriemeade stands on can be traced to a 13.5-acre tract deeded from John Luther Bridgers, Jr. and his wife, Laura Placidia Clark Bridgers, to their son, Henry Clark Bridgers in 1923.² In the deed the tract is described as the western part of the Hilma Property, which was the homeplace of Laura's father, Governor Henry Toole Clark, until his death in 1874, and is named for Laura and her siblings – Haywood, Irwin, Laura, Maria, and Arabella. It is uncertain if John and Laura obtained the land through deed or inheritance, but popular belief dictates that it began as a 330 acre-parcel purchased by Governor Clark from Robert Norfleet in 1850.³

In 1850, John was born just a few miles from Hilma at the Grove, or Blount-Bridgers House, (ED0002). He represents the fourth generation of Bridgers in the area, with his father, John Luther Bridgers, Sr., a noted agriculturalist and soldier having been born on a farm in southwest Edgecombe County in 1821, and his grandfather, John Bridgers, having been brought to the area by his mother and stepfather, Joseph Pender, around 1770.⁴ After studying military and civil engineering at the Virginia Military Institute, John returned to North Carolina where he chose to practice law and rose to be the judge of Edgecombe County's first inferior court. John also wrote a *History of Edgecombe County* in partnership with J. Kelly Turner. On top of this, he managed over 1,400 acres of farmland, including Hilma.⁵

John's son, the eventual builder of Merriemeade, Henry Clark Bridgers, spent his younger years at Hilma before attending the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee and the University of North Carolina (UNC). While at UNC, he represented the school in tennis and shooting, and is credited with introducing golf to the campus. Henry is also credited with transforming the western portion of Hilma (where Merriemeade stands) into a golf course that was later revamped by Gene Hamm. The course operated as the second oldest golf course in the state until 2012.⁶

After receiving his law degree, Henry returned to Tarboro and joined his father's law firm. In 1898, at the age of 22, he organized the East Carolina Railway and by 1901, the railway extended from Tarboro to Farmville where it connected with the Norfolk Southern Railway. Though the line was acquired by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in 1935, Henry continued to be involved in its operations until his death in 1951.⁷ Henry also established himself in the banking industry becoming the president of the First National Bank in Tarboro in 1913, and later the banks of Pinetops, Macclesfield, Fountain, and Hookerton – all of which lay on the East Carolina Railway. Additionally, he owned a large amount of farm land, was the president of at least ten other companies, and acted as attorney for the Southern Railway Company.⁸

² Deed Book 243, page 499.

³ NCHPO Survey File, ED1312.

⁴ "John Luther Bridgers," NCpedia, electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-john-luther>, accessed August 21, 2018.

⁵ "John Luther Bridgers, Jr.," NCpedia, electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-john-luther-jr>, accessed August 21, 2018.

⁶ "Henry Clark Bridgers," NCpedia, electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-henry-clark>, accessed August 21, 2018.

⁷ W. Terry Smith, "Farmville collector shares passion for railroads with Tarboro," *The Daily Southerner*, September 3, 2010, electronic document, <https://web.archive.org/web/20100922051535/http://dailysoutherner.com/tgif/x373696319/Farmville-collector-shares-passion-for-railroads-with-Tarboro>, accessed August 21, 2018.

⁸ "Henry Clark Bridgers," NCpedia.

In 1912, he married Mary Meade Bernard, from Petersburg, Virginia. Mary Meade was the daughter of Judge David Meade Bernard II and Lucia Beverly Morrison. Over the next six years, the couple had two children – a son, Henry Clark, Jr. and a daughter, Lucia “Beverly.”⁹ In 1923, they obtained the parcel on which Merriemeade now stands from Henry’s parents. The deed gave ownership of the land to Henry and Mary Meade for the duration of their lives and stipulated that after their deaths it would pass to Henry Clark, Jr. and Beverly, for the duration of their lives. It also stated that the next owner would be determined by the will of Henry, who choose to allocate it to any living grandchildren after the deaths of his children.¹⁰ Soon after obtaining the parcel, the couple enlisted the expertise of architect Dwight James Baum of New York to design their new home. Baum, who is known for revival styles, took inspiration from the many Georgian Plantation dwellings situated along the James River, and in 1927, Merriemeade was complete.¹¹

A few years later, in May of 1931, the house was featured on the cover of “Southern Architect and Building News.” The accompanying article also included interior and exterior photos and floor plans as well as a “construction data sheet” with information on interior and exterior materials – brick veneer over stud frame, Flemish bond; variegated colored slate, graded in thickness and exposure, all sheet metal copper; floors of quarry tile in the sun room, tile in the bathrooms, linoleum in the kitchen and pantry, and strip oak elsewhere – as well as heating and lighting equipment – brass pipes for hot and cold water, enameled iron and vitreous china fixtures, chromium metal fittings, a septic tank, and dry wells for rain water; and flexible conduit wiring, special lighting fixtures, an annunciator system, public telephone and radio wiring, outlets and plugs. The data sheet states the cost of the house as 62 cents per cubic foot for a total of \$49,750 (Figures 23 through 25).¹²

Dwight James Baum, who was born near Newville, New York in 1886 and graduated with an architecture degree from Syracuse University in 1909, had worked for a number of architecture firms in New York including that of Frank M. Andrews before breaking away and focusing on his own projects. One of his first residential projects was his own dwelling, a Dutch Colonial style house, in the Riverdale area of West Bronx. Developers in the area were so pleased with his design that they recommended him to new property owners and between 1914 and 1939, he designed 140 houses in the area, many of which were in the Tudor and Greek Revival styles. In 1931, he won the Better Homes in America Gold Medal for the best two-story house constructed between 1926 and 1930 and honorable mention for another two-story house. The awards made him the first architect who had not studied at the Beaux Arts School in Paris or Rome to win two awards in the competition. President Herbert Hoover, an honorary chairman of the competition, personally presented the gold medal to Baum.¹³

⁹ “Henry Clark Bridgers,” NCpedia.

¹⁰ Deed Book 243, page 499.

¹¹ NCHPO Survey File, ED1312.

¹² “The House of Henry Clark Bridgers,” *Southern Architect and Building News*, (Harman Publishing Co.: Atlanta, GA) May 1931, p. 21-27.

¹³ “Dwight James Baum,” *Syracuse Then and Now*, electronic document, http://syracusetheandnow.org/Architects/Baum/dwight_james_baum.htm, accessed August 21, 2018.



Figure 23: “House of Henry Clark Bridgers, Tarboro, N.C.” *Southern Architect and Building News*, May 1931 (Harman Publishing Co.: Atlanta, GA).



Figure 24: “House of Henry Clark Bridgers, Tarboro, N.C.” *Southern Architect and Building News*, May 1931 (Harman Publishing Co.: Atlanta, GA).

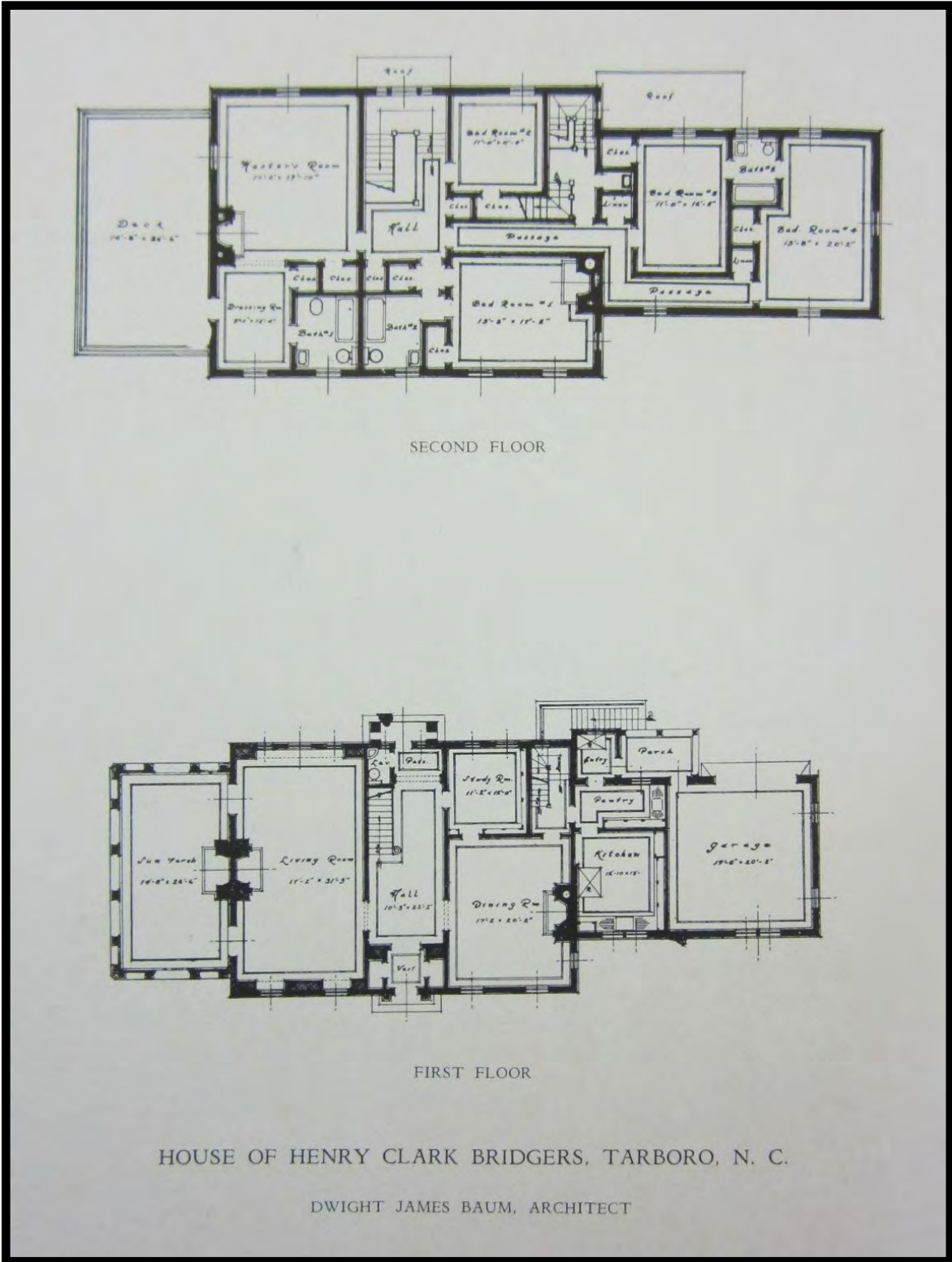


Figure 25: First and Second Floor Plans of the “House of Henry Clark Bridgers, Tarboro, N.C.” *Southern Architect and Building News*, May 1931 (Harman Publishing Co.: Atlanta, GA).

In the 1920s, Baum visited Florida and established a second office in Sarasota. One of his most well-known residential commissions in the area, as well as overall, was for John Ringling, of the Ringling, Barnum and Bailey Circus, and his wife, Mabel. He also designed the Sarasota County Courthouse and the Sarasota Times Building. By the end of his career, his designs could be found all along the eastern coast. Aside from his residential work, his designs included the Riverdale Country Club and the Arrowhead Inn both in Riverdale, New York; the West Side YMCA in New York City; the Federal Building in Flushing, New York; and three buildings on the campus of his alma mater, Syracuse University.¹⁴

In 1930, John and Laura sold an additional 22 acres to Mary Meade for \$4,000. The deed had similar terms to the 1923 deed though it specified that after Henry Clark, Jr. and Beverly's deaths the land would be allocated to the oldest living child of the first to pass away.¹⁵ Though Mary Meade died at Merriemeade soon after the execution of the second deed, Henry continued to live at the residence until his death in 1951.¹⁶ By this time, Henry Clark, Jr. had graduated college and entered the Navy as an aviator. His job with the Navy moved him from California to Florida, as well as overseas during World War II. A city directory from 1947 lists him as living in Newport, Rhode Island and attending the US Naval War College. In 1963, he earned the rank of captain and assumed command of the Naval Station at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico then the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Range. After a heart attack in 1965, he returned home and began writing books about the railroad and banking in eastern North Carolina.¹⁷ He passed away in 1981.¹⁸ Beverly married Leland Stanford Short, Jr. in 1956 in Petersburg, Virginia and resided in that state until her death in 2002.¹⁹ During the period that Henry Clark, Jr. and Beverly lived out of state the house was rented.²⁰

After the death of both Henry Clark, Jr. and Beverly, the property with the dwelling was inherited by Henry's granddaughters, Meade Bernard Bridgers Horne and Penelope Hays Bridgers. Both were daughters of Henry Clark, Jr., Beverly having had no children. The 22-acre parcel was inherited by Meade, who soon thereafter deeded a fifty percent interest to Penelope. In 2006, the sisters formed The Bridgers Girls LLC and deeded their interest in the property, including other land interests inherited from the Bridgers family, to the LLC. In 2012, they sold four tracts, including the cumulative 35.78 acres described here to Hilma LLC, an entity of local resident Charles Ainsley.²¹ Since then, the property has been unoccupied, and sometime after 2012, its windows and doors were boarded over.

¹⁴ "Dwight James Baum," *Syracuse Then and Now*.

¹⁵ Deed Book 295, page 582.

¹⁶ "Henry Clark Bridgers," NCPedia.

¹⁷ "About the Author," *Steamboats on the Tar*, electronic document, <https://www.amazon.com/Steamboats-Capt-Henry-Clark-Bridgers/dp/1460943392>, accessed August 21, 2018.

¹⁸ Findagrave.com, "Capt Henry Clark Bridgers," <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/95693261/henry-clark-bridgers>, accessed August 27, 2018.

¹⁹ "Lucia Beverly Bridgers," "McKinney Family Tree," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/38240240/person/420194180835/facts>, accessed August 21, 2018.

²⁰ Conversation with Jennifer Shearin.

²¹ Deed Book 1585, page 992.



Figure 26: “Merriemeade—Tarboro, N.C.” (Durwood Barbour Collection of North Carolina Postcards, North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill).



Figure 27: Front Elevation of Merriemeade Before Windows and Doors were Covered (Monika Fleming, 2012).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, Merriemeade is recommended as eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

Though fallen into disrepair, Merriemeade stands in its original location and still exhibits much of the grandeur of its original design as envisioned by architect Dwight James Baum. The dwelling also retains a considerable amount of original materials and workmanship, including mantles, doors, flooring, and light fixtures. Its setting is also preserved, though somewhat altered by the abandonment of the golf course. Remnants of the course's sand traps and other landscaping features are still visible as are expanses of trees that separate the parcel from surrounding twenty-first-century development. The dwelling is further buffered by trees that surround the immediate yard providing a peaceful, tucked away setting. Due to the retention of quintessential architectural features and the preservation of the immediate setting, the dwelling retains its feeling and association with the early twentieth century as well.

Criterion A

Merriemeade is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The property is not associated with a specific event, pattern of events, or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of the community, the state, or nation and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

Merriemeade is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

Merriemeade was constructed by Henry Clark Bridgers, Sr. who established a railway from Tarboro to Farmville and was key to the development of the communities of Pinetops, Macclesfield, and Fountain. The dwelling was also the home of Henry Clark Bridgers, Jr. who served as a captain in the Navy before returning to Edgecombe County where he is remembered as a local historian and author. Other buildings in Tarboro that are associated with Henry Clark Bridgers, Sr. are the Grove (ED0002), where he was born, and the Henry Clark Bridgers

Building (ED0124) on Main Street, which served as the headquarters for the East Carolina Railway. Though these structures are well-preserved examples of their types, Merriemeade retains a stronger connection with Henry Clark Bridgers, Sr. and the Bridgers family having been owned by the family for nearly 100 years. It is also the resource on which Henry Clark Bridgers, Sr. exerted a greater amount of his own influence and proclivities through the establishment of the golf course and the construction of the dwelling. For these reasons Merriemeade is most closely associated with his life and is therefore recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

Merriemeade is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Merriemeade is a stately example of a Colonial Revival-style dwelling designed by renowned architect Dwight James Baum. Constructed at a time when the Edgecombe County population was drastically increasing, 20.4 percent in 1910, 18.7 percent in 1920, and 26.1 percent in 1930, the dwelling displays the epitome of high-style architecture and wealth in the community.²² The style, which was influenced by a nostalgia for colonial designs, emerged in the late nineteenth century and persisted well into the twentieth century. Reflective of the Georgian and Federal styles, Colonial Revival-style architecture often exhibits a symmetrical façade with columns or pilasters, pediments, fanlight transoms and sidelights, multi-pane windows with shutters, Palladian windows, and decorative trim and details including dentils and quoins. Modern adaptations often include sunrooms and side porches or garages. Other examples of the style can be found throughout Edgecombe County including a number of high-style examples in Tarboro. HPOWeb lists 34 examples, of which none are listed on the NRHP and only three, including Merriemeade, have been study listed and/or determined eligible. The other two are both schools – East Carolina Industrial Training School (ED0623) and Mayo School (ED0838).

Two dwellings that are similar to Merriemeade include the Lyn Bond House (ED0182) and a house on Norfleet Court (ED1460). All three houses are two stories with symmetrical five-bay facades, elaborate entrances, and side wings. Constructed roughly ten years after Merriemeade, the dwelling on Norfleet Court differs in that it has a side gabled roof and large eight-over-twelve wooden sash windows above panels that light the first story as well as small oculus windows that flank the entry door. Its door surround exhibits a comparable take on the Colonial Revival style with pilasters – square and fluted versus round – and a transom – rectangular versus arched – that is topped with a dentilled arch (Figure 28). The ca. 1924 Lyn Bond House displays another variant of the style with taller windows on the first story than the second story, narrow rectangular windows that flank the entrance, and a stylized swan’s neck pediment. Its form and scale, however, are almost identical to Merriemeade with a hipped roof pierced by arched dormer windows. The house also has a tripartite window above the entry door, though

²² US Census Bureau, *Population of the States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990*, Electronic document, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/PopulationofStatesandCountiesoftheUnitedStates1790-1990.pdf>, accessed September 2018.



Figure 28: 102 Norfleet Court, Tarbor, NC (ED1460).



Figure 29: Lyn Bond House, 1307 St. Andrew Street, Tarboro, NC (ED0182).

the center sash is not arched like the center sash of Merriemeade's rear Palladian window (Figure 29). The largest contrast between the dwellings, particularly in terms of retention of materials, is the preservation of Merriemeade's original slate roof versus the replacement of the other dwelling's roofs with asphalt shingles.

In conclusion, Merriemeade is a well-preserved example of the Colonial Revival style and one of the few early twentieth century dwellings in Edgecombe County designed by a nationally renowned architect. Also, though it is not the only high-style example of the Colonial Revival style in Edgecombe County, it is by far one of the most elaborate articulations of the style as well as one of the most unaltered, and its retention of original materials, finishes, and fixtures (interior and exterior) far surpasses that of other early twentieth-century dwellings of any style in the county. For these reasons, Merriemeade is recommended eligible under Criterion C.

Criterion D

The Merriemeade is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

NRHP Boundary Justification

The NRHP boundary for Merriemeade has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties. The boundary follows the right-of-way of NC 111 (Wilson Street) for a short distance and is drawn to include the house and associated land. The NRHP boundary is identified as the current parcel 4728-84-9123 (Edgecombe County PIN). The boundary contains approximately 39 acres (Figure 30).



Figure 30: Merriemeade, NRHP Boundary.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Johnston House and Store
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	002
HPO Survey Site Number:	ED1661
Location:	1714 West Wilson Street, Tarboro
Parcel ID:	4728-51-8933
Dates(s) of Construction:	Pre-1900
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 31: Johnston House, Looking Northwest.

Setting

The House and Store are located on the north side of West Wilson Street in Tarboro, North Carolina. The house, which stands west of the store, is placed approximately 75 feet from the road while the store is approximately 45 feet from the road. Both face southeast toward a row of Ranch-style dwelling constructed in the 1960s. Other Ranch-style residences flank the buildings, including a brick dwelling on the same parcel as the store.²³ The front yard is landscaped with small bushes near the house and closer to West Main Street, and large trees follow the property line and shade the back yard. A driveway follows the northeast (side) elevation of the dwelling wrapping behind the house, as well as making a loop around a tree at the side of the house. Two ancillary structures – a barn and a shed – stand behind the dwelling. The rest of the dwelling's

²³ Edgecombe County GIS Website.



Figure 32: Sketch Map of Johnston House and Store.

parcel, which extends well beyond the house, is wooded. The parcel with the store is long and narrow extending well beyond the store and associated Ranch-style house. It is bordered on the southwest by the wooded area associated with the Johnston House and on the northeast by a wooded neighborhood with houses constructed in the 1970s. There is also a large garden behind the house (Figures 31 and 32).

Property Description

Dwelling

Exterior

Constructed in the early 1900s, the Johnston House is a one-story dwelling with a gable-and-wing main block, two rear ells, and Queen Anne details. It is clad with vinyl siding, covered by a cross-gabled asphalt shingle roof, and rests on a brick pier foundation with brick and concrete block infill. A hip-roofed porch supported by turned wooden posts with decorative brackets and a turned post balustrade fills the L created by the gable and wing. The porch rests on a concrete block foundation and is accessed by a set of concrete steps. The porch shelters an original entry door with a large light surrounded by smaller colored lights above a decorative carved panel. The door is flanked on the east by a six-over-one, vinyl sash window, and the front gable contains a six-over-one, wooden sash window (Figures 31 and 33).

The northeast (side) elevation is composed of the side gable and the side of a gabled rear wing. A six-over-six, vinyl sash window lights the gable and two two-over-two, wooden sash windows light the side of the rear wing. A brick chimney also rises from the roof of the rear wing near the main block of the dwelling (Figures 34 and 35).

The northwest (rear) elevation has two gables. The north gable is more prominent than the south, recessed, gable and contains a small six-over-six, vinyl sash window. An enclosed, shed-roofed porch has been built along the southwest side of the rear wing and is entered through an entry door on the rear elevation. Large, single-pane windows flank the entry door and once wrapped the southwest side of the porch. The second gable is lit by a two-over-two, wooden sash window (Figure 36).

The southwest (side) elevation is composed of the side elevation of the rear wing and the side elevation of the front gable. The side of the rear wing contains two six-over-one, vinyl sash windows with a plywood surround – the space was likely filled with ribbon windows when first constructed (Figure 37). The side of the gable contains a one-over-one, vinyl sash window and a six-over-one, wooden sash window. A chimney rises from the center of the roof where the gable and wing meet (Figure 38).

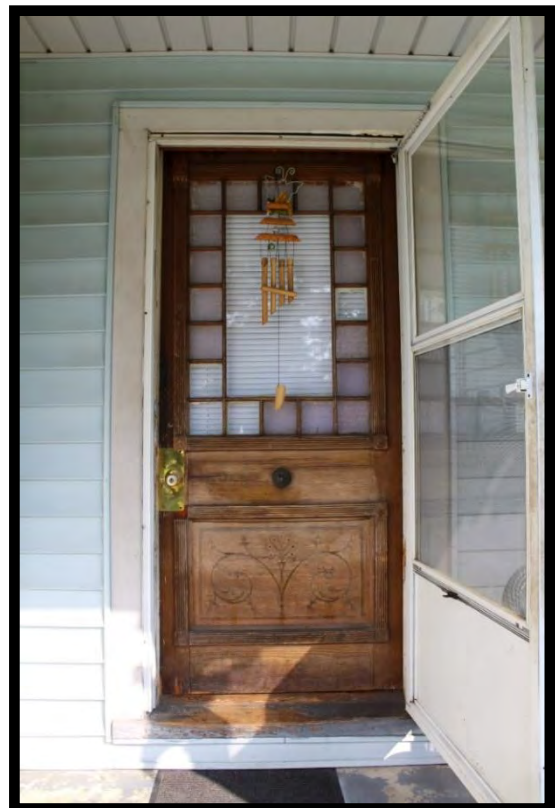


Figure 33: Entry Door, Johnston House.



Figure 34: Johnston House, Looking Northwest.



Figure 35: Johnston House, Looking South.



Figure 36: Johnston House, Looking Southeast.



Figure 37: Johnston House, Looking Northeast.



Figure 38: Johnston House, Looking Northeast.

Interior

Though the owner was present at the time of survey, she declined to have the interior of the dwelling photographed.

Ancillary Structures

A barn, shed, and two wells exist in the rear yard. The barn is front gabled with shed-roofed wings. The center section is clad with vertical board and battens and has a centered entry door, while the west wing is clad with horizontal boards and has a large door. A section of the east wing half enclosed and half open. The open portion is clad with vertical board and battens and has a small entry door. A metal roof covered by kudzu and other vegetation shelters the barn (Figure 39).

A small shed with an asymmetrical front gable sits north of the dwelling. It is clad in wooden paneling and has two entry doors on the southwest (front) elevation. The roof is clad with standing seam metal (Figure 40).

Two wells rest slightly northwest of the dwelling. One is round and constructed of parged brick and the other is rectangular and constructed of brick (Figure 41).



Figure 39: Barn, Looking North.



Figure 40: Shed, Looking East.



Figure 41: Wells, Looking South.

Store

Exterior

Likely constructed in the 1950s, the store is a one-story, front-gabled structure with a shed-roofed section on its northeast (side) elevation. It is clad with brick veneer and covered by a standing seam metal roof. Its southeast (front) elevation is lit by two large display windows with wooden surrounds that flank an off-center entry door. The entry is composed of boards arranged in a V pattern and shielded by a wooden screen door. The gable, which projects slightly and shelters only the western two-thirds of the elevation, is clad with wooden weatherboard siding and has a Pepsi sign at its peak (Figure 42).

The northeast (side) elevation is blind except for two small vents near the foundation and has exposed rafter tails below its eave (Figure 43). A wooden fence encloses a space at the rear of the building, partially obscuring the northwest (rear) elevation. This elevation contains a boarded over window with a metal grate centered below the gable. The grate has been cut, likely to fit an air conditioning unit, which has been removed and the window is sheltered by a metal awning. A truncated chimney rises along the elevation west of the window (Figure 44). The southwest (side) elevation contains an entry door toward the rear of the building as well as at least one vent near the foundation (Figure 45).



Figure 42: Store, Looking Northwest.



Figure 43: Store, Looking East.



Figure 44: Store, Looking Southeast.



Figure 45: Store, Looking Northeast.

Historical Background

In 1900, Caroline Johnston conveyed to George Harrison five acres of land known as her Dower Land and adjoining the land of Fredrick Philips for \$200.²⁴ Though the deed between Caroline and George does not mention a house, the reference to dower land as well as the style of the dwelling suggest that it existed on the property before the sale. At the time, George, who was African American, was listed in the census as a brick mason. George retained the property until his death around 1908 when he died intestate. His property then passed to his wife, Susan Harrison, later Susan Harrison Dickens, and his two children, George H. Harrison and Susan Harrison. By the time of Susan Harrison Dickens's death in 1942, their daughter had also died with no children and having never married.²⁵ A will for Susan Harrison Dickens written in 1935 devised the allocation of her possessions including a 15.2-acre tract of land purchased from the heirs of Fredrick Philips in 1917 which was allocated to her granddaughter, Mary Geneva Harrison, and Mary's daughter, Susie Helen Harrison.²⁶

It appears, however, that the five-acre parcel purchased by George passed to George H. Harrison. In the 1920 Census, George H. is listed as a farmer, but by 1930, he was listed as a brick mason and his wife, Vernal, was listed as a servant. The census also shows that they owned their home. In 1943, a year after Susan Harrison Dickens's death, the couple sold the property to William Henry Bridgers for \$2,100.²⁷ Prior to this, the 1930 and 1940 Censuses, list William as a farmer and renting a house. Over time, William and his wife, Lula Martha Ann Bridgers, sold some of the parcel or other properties they owned to their children while other parts were inherited after their deaths, both in 1969.

The parcel with the house was inherited by their oldest son, William Leslie Bridgers. His will also included a hand-written note designating his daughter, Doris B. Capps, as William Leslie's guardian. Doris, however, never qualified as a guardian and William Leslie was never legally declared incompetent leading to questions about the validity of a deed executed in 1972 in which William Leslie, who was 56 years old at the time, deeded a 2.5-acre tract to his sisters, Noris B. Harrell, Doris B. Capps, and Mildred B. Gladson. To resolve the question of ownership, the children of his brother, Quincy Jackson Bridgers, who was the only other possible heir of the property, executed a quit claim deed releasing themselves of any ownership to the land in 1978.²⁸ Less than a year after the quit claim deed was executed, the sisters and their husbands sold the property to Moses Worsley and his wife, Stella Mae Worsley.²⁹

In 2012, a deed of gift was executed from Moses and Stella to David Worsley, Lena Worsley, Stella Ann Worsley, Tjany Wheeler, and LaPrisha Doward. The deed also reserved a life estate for the natural life of the grantors.³⁰ Today the Edgecombe County GIS website lists the property owner as the Moses Worsley Life Estate, et al, and lists its acreage as 1.85 acres.

²⁴ Deed Book 92, page 526.

²⁵ Deed Book 409, page 357.

²⁶ Will Book N-p-442; Deed Book 200, page 488.

²⁷ Deed Book 409, page 357.

²⁸ Estate File 69-E-17; Deed Book 794, page 122; Deed Book 880, page 592.

²⁹ Deed Book 890, page 263.

³⁰ Deed Book 1585, page 847.

The Store Tract

Though deeds exist between Quincy and his parents, it is unclear if they pertain to the parcel with the store, or if the parcel was inherited. Also unclear is when the store was established, though the property records kept by Edgecombe County state 1950. This suggests that it was constructed by William – possibly as a way to sell goods from his farm or to sell other goods as a means of additional income. It could have also been established by Quincy, before or after the death of his parents. Regardless of when it came in to his ownership, after his death in 1970, it was inherited by Mable B. Bridgers, his widow, and Sharon Jean Bridgers Overton, his daughter. In 1985, they, along with Sharon’s husband, Kenneth, sold three tracts of land to Reginald Anthony Moss and his wife, Judith Lewis Moss.³¹ Reginald passed away in 2016 leaving the property to Judith who is the current owner.³² A Ranch-style dwelling rests behind the store that according to the parcel’s property record was constructed in 1965.³³

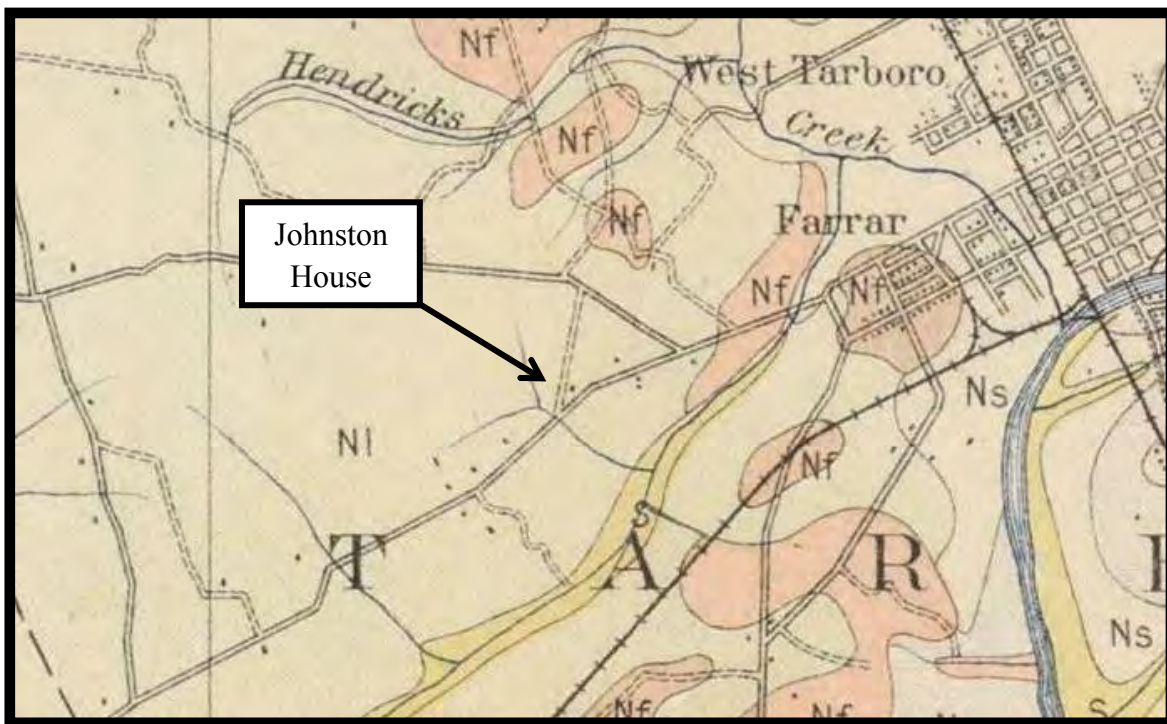


Figure 46: 1908 Soil Survey of Edgecombe County Showing the Location of the Johnston House (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina Collection).

³¹ Deed Book 960, page 545.

³² “Reginald Anthony Moss Sr.,” Legacy.com, electronic document, <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/Rocky-mounttelegram/obituary.aspx?n=reginald-anthony-moss&pid=177551509&fhid=26161>, accessed August 22, 2018.

³³ Edgecombe County, Property Records, PIN 4728-52-9083-00.

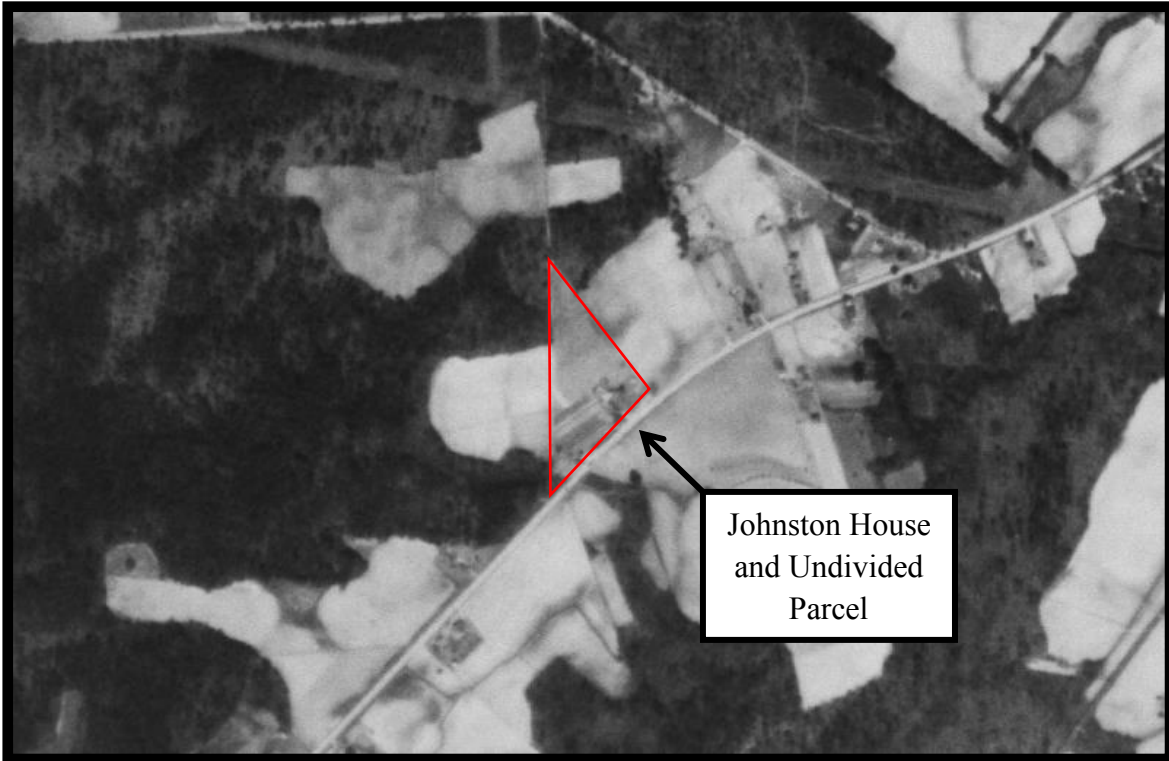


Figure 47: 1950 Aerial Showing the Location of the Johnston House and the Original Parcel (Earth Explorer).

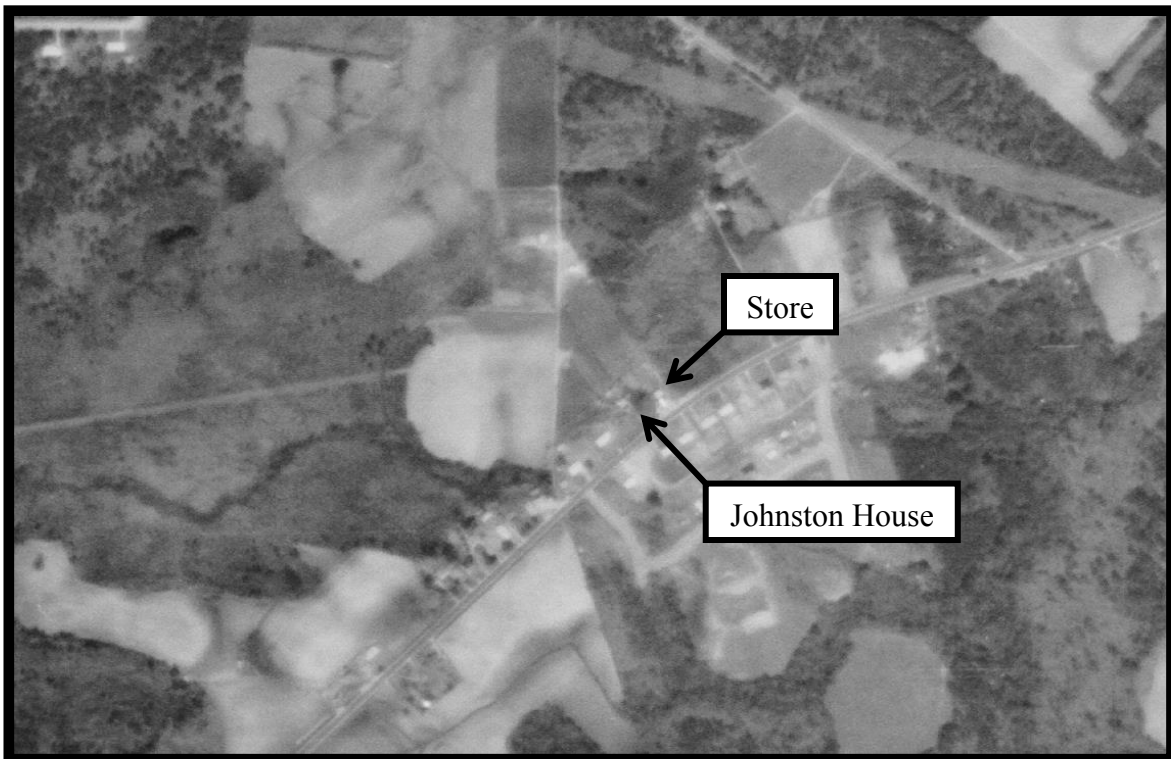


Figure 48: 1964 Aerial Showing the Location of the Johnston House and Store (Earth Explorer).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Johnston House and Store are not recommended as eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The Johnston House has remained in its original location and retained much of its original design, materials, and workmanship, particularly in the preservation of its front porch details. It, however, has been altered with the addition of vinyl siding and an asphalt roof. Furthermore, its setting has been compromised by residential development along West Wilson Street and the abandonment and/or development of its associated farm land. The store, which also remains in its original location and retains a majority of its original design, materials, and workmanship, has experienced the same change in setting. These changes have compromised both the feeling of these structures as well as their associations with the periods in which they were constructed.

Criterion A

The Johnston House and Store is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Johnston House is associated with agriculture in Edgecombe County as an example of a small-scale farming operation as well as the upward mobility of African American families at a time when few were able to purchase their own property. However, the house and barn have lost integrity of materials as well as setting and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Rural stores, such as the one associated with the Johnston House, have a long history in North Carolina. Following the Civil War, stores played an increasingly important role in rural communities often providing additional income for farmers as well as providing patrons with the lines of credit that were necessary to operate their own farming operations and/or provide for their families.³⁴ In 1896, the population of Edgecombe County was 24,075 with most residents living in rural areas. At the time, there were 151 general and grocery stores, the majority of which were located in the county's two largest towns, Tarboro and Rocky Mount.³⁵ In the early twentieth century, two advancements led to a decline in rural stores. The first, the automobile allowed people to travel longer distances to purchase goods. The second was rural electrification and the refrigerator, which allowed people to store food longer. Between 1902 and 1915, the number of rural stores dropped from 21 to four.³⁶ Of those that remained, many owners installed gas pumps to accommodate the growing number of drivers, a precursor of today's gas stations and convenience stores. The surveyed store was constructed towards the end of this evolution but is nonetheless a part of the development

³⁴ Heather Fearnbach, *Historic Store Context. Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford Counties*, Historic Architecture Resources Survey Report, prepared for NCDOT, 2012.

³⁵ Levi Branson, ed., *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896, Volume VIII*, 256-57.

³⁶ The News and Observer, *The North Carolina Yearbook*, 218. Electronic document, <https://archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1902#page/218/mode/1up>, accessed September 2018 and The News and Observer, *The North Carolina Yearbook*, 201. Electronic document, <https://archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1915rale#page/201/mode/1up>, accessed September 2018.

of roadside commerce. It, however, has lost much of its integrity of setting, as well as no longer functioning as a store, and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

The Johnston House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

The property is not associated with the life or lives of persons significant to our past and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Johnston House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Constructed in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, the Johnston House with its gable-and-wing form and light Queen Anne details is representative of many small residences in Edgecombe County and North Carolina as a whole. The type, however, is not well represented in HPOWeb which identifies zero dwellings with the gable-and-wing form and only 45 as Queen Anne. The database also lists less than ten dwellings as nineteenth/twentieth century traditional/vernacular, a classification which often catches smaller, more simplistic structures. Nonetheless, there are many similar dwellings in Tarboro's historic district and on peripheral streets. These include a dwelling on Howard Avenue and the Whitney Bridgers House on Main Street (ED0139) (Figures 49 and 50).

Both houses share similarities and differences with the Johnston House. For example, the ca. 1910 house on Howard Avenue is most similar to the form of the Johnston House with simple moderately sloped gabled roofs while the roof of the ca. 1925 Whitney Bridgers House has a steeper pitch and is hipped in the center. The house on Howard Avenue differs however, in that it is not as tall due to being lower to the ground as well as having less attic space. The gables of the dwellings are also treated differently with the Johnston House's gable – which lacks eave returns and a cornice - being the most simplistic. They have similar porches, each with decorative brackets, and a balustrade. Aside from form, the greatest difference in the dwellings is the retention of original materials. The Whitney Bridgers House is the most well preserved of the group with its wooden drop siding and standing seam metal roof, while the Johnston House and the dwelling on Howard Avenue have been covered with vinyl siding and asphalt shingle roofs.

As for the store, there are 32 such structures listed on HPOWeb, 11 of which are marked as gone. An unknown number of unsurveyed stores survive in the county as well. Of those that survive, most have been abandoned or are used for storage while a handful have been repurposed. The stores are most often found at the intersection of two major roads while many others are located on long stretches of road often sitting in the front yard of a dwelling. Each of the stores is representative of the time period in which it was constructed with the surveyed store standing out for its brick construction. The earliest road side stores, constructed in the nineteenth or early twentieth centuries, were often of frame construction with wooden weatherboard siding, with only large urban stores being constructed of brick. After the development of concrete masonry units many small stores and gas stations were constructed using that material. By the time brick veneer became popular, rural general stores were on the decline.

An example of a typical twentieth century store is the ca. 1955 C & S Grocery on NC 33 north of Tarboro (Figure 51). The concrete block building is front-gabled with an integral porch supported by concrete block columns and a symmetrical façade with large paired windows that flank centered double doors. Like many stores from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the windows are covered by metal bars to protect from theft. Like the surveyed store, the gable of the grocery store is filled with wooden weatherboard siding and exposed rafter tails peak from below the eaves.

A second mid-twentieth century store can be found at the intersection of Seven Bridges Road and Speights Chapel Road (Figure 52). It deviates from the typical store form with a side-gabled roof, though it also displays exposed rafter tails like the surveyed store and grocery store. It is also constructed of brick, though the bricks appear to be larger than a standard brick and are painted. The store's side-gabled form is typical of other stores constructed in the time period, and though subtle, hints at the larger changes that would soon occur in the world of roadside architectures.

Though the Johnston House has retained many original elements including most of its wooden sash windows, its entry door, and its decorative porch elements, it displays only a moderate level of preservation compared to other dwellings in Tarboro and Edgecombe County. Furthermore, the store, with its brick veneer and asymmetrical façade, is not exemplary of typical rural stores constructed in the mid-twentieth century. For these reasons, the Johnston House and Store are not recommended eligible under Criterion C.

Criterion D

The Johnston House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.



Figure 49: 605 Howard Avenue, Tarboro, NC.



Figure 50: Whitney Bridgers House, 1301 Main Street, Tarboro, NC (ED0139).



Figure 51: C & S Grocery, NC 33, 6 Miles North of Leggett, Edgecombe County, NC.



Figure 52: Store, Speights Chapel and Seven Bridges Roads, Edgecombe County, NC.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	St. Paul AME Zion Church
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	003
HPO Survey Site Number:	ED0055
Location:	1811 West Wilson Street, Tarboro, NC
Parcel ID:	4728-50-6989
Dates(s) of Construction:	2008
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 53: St. Paul AME Zion Church, Looking South.

Setting

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is located on the southeast side of West Wilson Street and sits back approximately 175 feet from the road. The church faces slightly west of due north toward a row of small dwellings constructed in the 1950s and 1960s and its trapezoid-shaped parcel is bordered on the southwest and southeast by plowed fields and a large wooded area.³⁷ Residential lots border the northeastern edge of the parcel, some of which are densely wooded. A driveway leads from West Wilson Street to an asphalt parking lot on the west side of the church, and a concrete sidewalk follows the eastern edge of the parking lot leading to the front of the church and to a side entrance (Figures 53 and 54).

³⁷ Edgecombe County GIS Website.

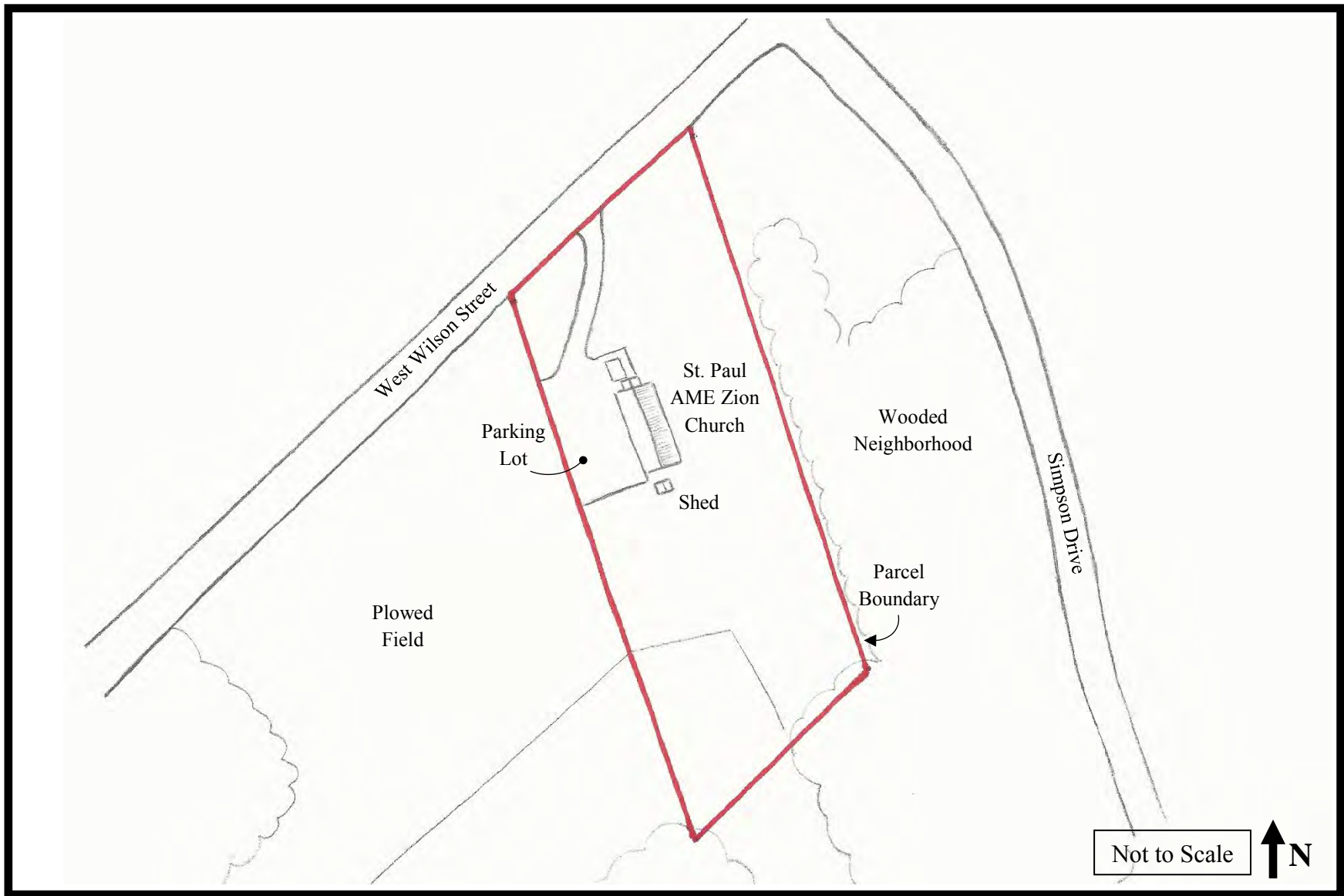


Figure 54: Sketch Map of St. Paul AME Zion Church.

Property Description

Exterior

Constructed in 2008, St. Paul AME Zion Church is a one-story, front-gabled vernacular-style church with a standing seam metal roof and vinyl siding. A pediment supported by four square, vinyl posts shelters two modern six-panel doors and a small poured concrete and brick porch. The porch is flanked by fixed-pane windows with vinyl muntins. A tall steeple rises from the ridge of the roof. It has a square base with vents and a square spire that tapers and is topped with a cross (Figure 53).

The southwest (side) elevation has five apertures – three windows that span the north end of the elevation, a door, and a fourth window. Though the apertures are equally spaced, they are not centered on the elevation (Figure 55). The southeast (rear) elevation has a rectangular stained-glass window centered below its gable (Figure 56). The northeast (side) elevation mirrors the southwest (side) elevation with five apertures, except that the door is sheltered by a small gabled porch that is accessed from the south by a brick and poured concrete ramp and from the north by steps (Figure 57).



Figure 55: St. Paul AME Zion Church, Looking Northeast.



Figure 56: St. Paul AME Zion Church, Looking Northwest.



Figure 57: St. Paul AME Zion Church, Looking Southwest.

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the church.

Ancillary Structures

The bell from the original church stands on display in front of the new church buildings. Its stand, which is composed of three metal crosses that rise above the bell, is positioned above a stone base/monument that commemorates the original, ca. 1866, church (Figure 58).

A small shed stands behind the church. It has a side-gabled, asphalt shingle roof and is clad with vertical battens. Its southwest (front) elevation has a centered six-panel entry door flanked by small one-over-one windows. Its other elevations are blind (Figure 59).



Figure 58: Bell from Original Church Building, Looking South.



Figure 59: Shed, Looking Northeast.

Historical Background

St. Paul AME Zion Church was organized in Tarboro, North Carolina in 1866 under the leadership of George C. Caine. In 1869, it erected a sanctuary on the southeast corner of Granville and St. David Streets. According to a historical marker, trustees of the church include John C. Dancy, Jr., who served as editor of the *Star of Zion* and trustee of Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina and Franklin D. Dancy who served as Tarboro's first African American mayor in 1882 as well as serving as a town commissioner and a state senator.³⁸

The original building was front-gabled with three bays across the front elevation and four bays along each side. The façade displayed slight gothic influences with pointed arch windows on the upper portion of the façade and the side elevations, and an engaged tower with a steeply pitched hipped roof rose from the center bay of the façade. Entry doors with round arches existed in each bay and at the base of the tower. Around 1960, the exterior was remodeled with stucco and stone veneer. The interior of the church was characterized by chamfered posts on piers that rose to an ornate paneled ceiling with beams forming a grid pattern and circles where the light fixtures hung. Arches separated the pulpit and a space for the organ from the center of the sanctuary, and a balcony with a sawnwork balustrade provided additional seating (Figures 60 through 62).³⁹

Located near the Tar River, the church was destroyed in 1999 by floodwaters resulting from Hurricane Floyd. Nine years passed before the church rebuilt on its current site on West Wilson Road (Figure 63). The new church rests on a parcel of land that was once known as the Gaither Place and was owned by James Pender, then Richard Wimberly before passing through the Wimberly family and being sold to the Edgecombe Entrepreneur Organization in 2003 and the Trustees for Eastern North Carolina Episcopal District African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 2006.⁴⁰ Roughly two years later, a team of approximately one hundred volunteers from Charlie Fields' Meshach's Carpenters, a volunteer group that formed after Hurricane Floyd and has rebuilt churches across the Southeast, erected the new church in just over a week. The group installed the church bell, the only remnant of the original church, at the site as well (Figures 65 and 66).⁴¹

³⁸ "St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church," Historical Marker on the corner of Granville and St. David Streets, original site.

³⁹ NCHPO Survey File, ED0055.

⁴⁰ Deed Book 865, page 303; Deed Book 1462, page 850; and Deed Book 1379, page 22.

⁴¹ "Tarboro Church Rebuilt 9 Years After Flood," *WRAL.com*, Capitol Broadcasting Company, June 20, 2008.



Figure 60: St. Paul AME Zion Church at the Corner of Granville and St. David Sts.



Figure 61: Sanctuary, St. Paul AME Zion Church.

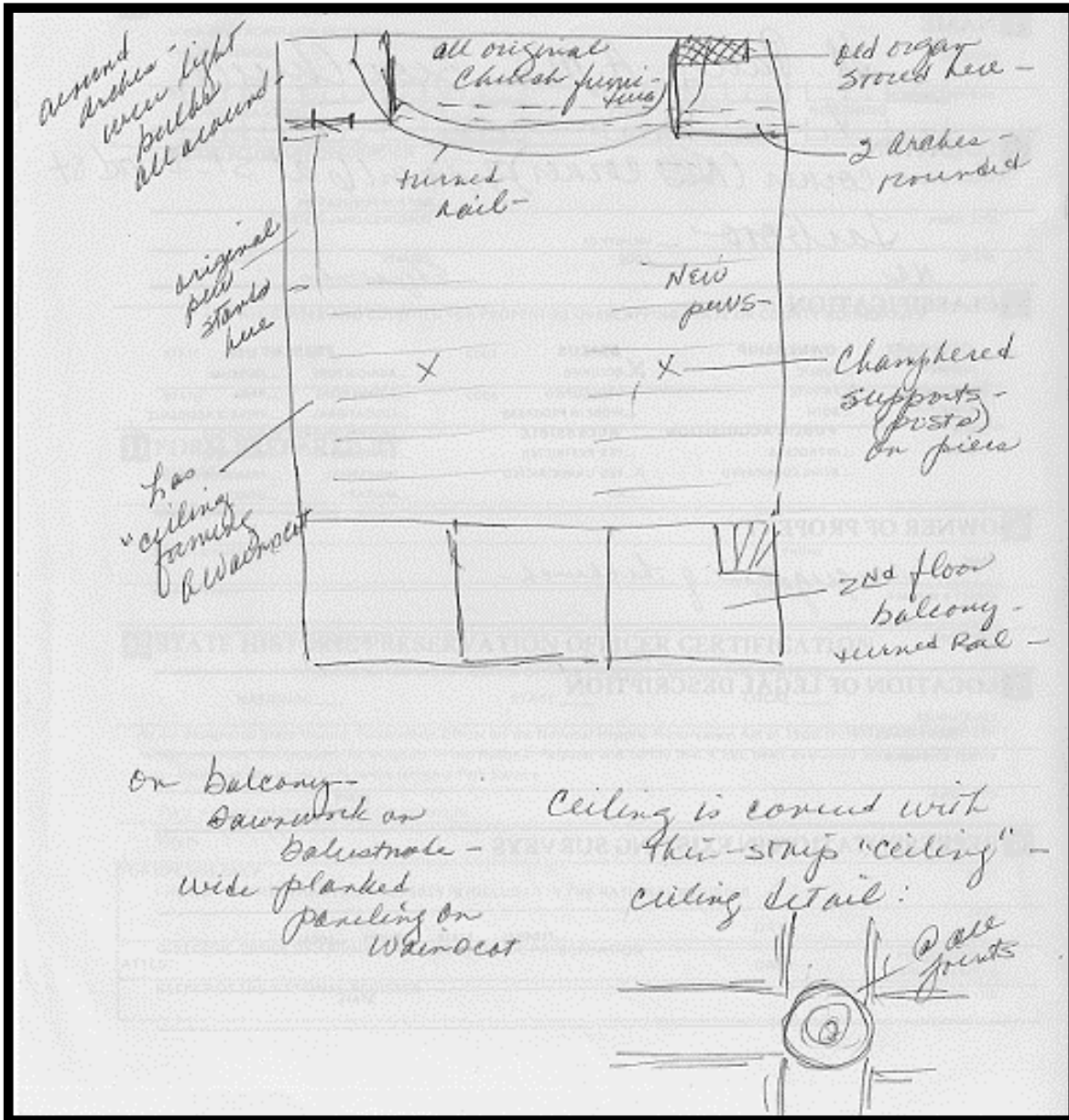


Figure 62: Plan and Ceiling Detail of St. Paul AME Zion Church Before Flood (NCHPO Survey File, ED0055).



Figure 63: Original and Current Locations of St. Paul AME Zion Church (Google Earth).



Figure 64: Original Site of St. Paul AME Zion Church.



Figure 65: Volunteers from Meshach's Carpenters Placing the Trusses of the New St. Paul AME Zion Church (Meshach's Carpenters Facebook Page).



Figure 66: Aerial View of St. Paul AME Zion Church Near Completion (Meshach's Carpenters Facebook Page).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended as eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

Though the current St. Paul AME Zion Church remains in its original location, the original church was located in downtown Tarboro on East Granville Street in an urban setting versus the new church's more rural setting. The new church also displays a more modern church design with few architectural details beyond its simple pedimented entrances and steeple and bears no reflection to its original composition. Also, though the ten-year-old church retains its original materials and workmanship, their quality is only a fraction of that of the original church which had pointed arch windows and an engaged two-story tower. The new site does retain and prominently display the bell that hung in the tower of the original church and is arguably the most historically significant feature of the site. However, overall, the reconstructed church conveys little to no association or feeling with the post emancipation era in which the congregation formed and the original church was constructed.

Criterion A

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

Though the property is associated with the development of African American churches after the abolition of slavery, it is not associated with a specific event, pattern of events, or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of the community, the state, or nation and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

The property is not associated with the life or lives of persons significant to our past and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Though the congregation's first church dates to the 1860s, its current building was constructed in 2008 and does not meet the NRHP's criteria for age. Furthermore, it does not embody distinctive characteristics, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value. It's one historic element, it's bell, is well-preserved and does retain a considerable amount of integrity in terms of design, material, and association, but does not in itself possess enough significance to warrant eligibility. In contrast, the church is reflective of the construction methods and designs used by other late nineteenth and early twenty-first century churches in the area including one just outside of Tarboro on Howard Avenue. Like St. Paul, the church is front gabled with a pedimented entrance and a tall steeple that rises from the crest of the roof. The church differs in that it is finished with brick and though still very simple has pointed arch windows (Figure 67).

An example of a nineteenth century church in the area that is listed on the NRHP is St. Paul Baptist Church (ED0432). The frame church has a somewhat irregular plan for a church with a pyramidal roof topped with a cupola and intersected by a lower gable on each elevation as well as a tower with a pyramidal roof that rises from the southeast corner of the church. The gables are lit by tripled stained glass windows with ornate pointed arch surrounds and have robust cornices filled with additional decorative details. Though its original roof has been replaced with asphalt shingles it retains many other original elements including its wooden weatherboard siding and entry doors (Figure 68).

Unlike St. Paul Baptist Church, St. Paul AME Zion Church does not exhibit such distinctive architectural details. Nor is the church old enough to warrant listing on the NRHP. For these reasons St. Paul AME Zion Church is not eligible for listing on the NRHP, and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion C.

Criterion D

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Criterion Consideration G

The St. Paul AME Zion Church is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion Consideration G (properties that have achieved significance within the past fifty years). For a property to be eligible under Criterion Consideration G, it must be of exceptional importance.

The ten-year-old church is not associated with any event or person of exceptional importance and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion Consideration G.



Figure 67: Pender's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, 3246 Howard Ave., Tarboro, NC.



Figure 68: St. Paul Baptist Church, 900 Lloyd Street, Tarboro, NC (ED0432).

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Norfleet House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	004
HPO Survey Site Number:	ED1659
Location:	2009 West Wilson Street, Tarboro, NC
Parcel ID:	Part of 4727-28-9085
Dates(s) of Construction:	Ca. 1810, 1840
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 69: Norfleet House, Looking Southeast.

Setting

The Norfleet House is located on the south side of West Wilson Street on the edge of the Edgecombe Community College campus. It sits back approximately 100 feet from the road and faces northwest toward the original Norfleet Plantation where its original site (ED0446) is located to the northwest. The part of the plantation directly across from the dwelling's current site contains a water tower maintained by the Town of Tarboro and just east of the tower is a site developed by the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission.⁴² While the college campus extends to the east of the dwelling, the dwelling itself is bordered on the southwest and southeast by dense woodlands that partially shield it from the campus. An asphalt drive from West Wilson Street to an access road that loops the western half of the campus passes

⁴² Edgecombe County GIS Website.

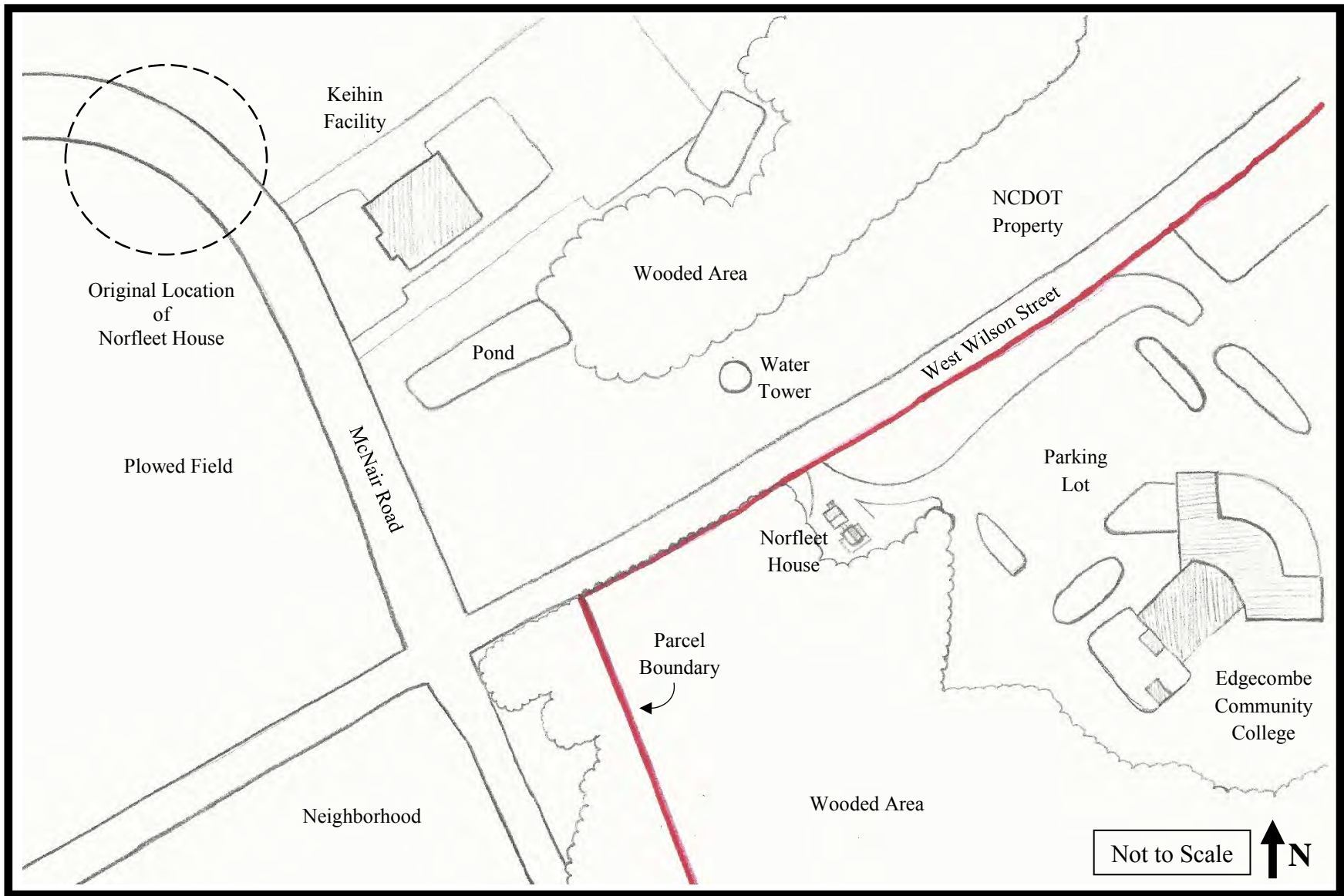


Figure 70: Sketch Map of Norfleet House.

roughly 50 feet from the northeast corner of the dwelling, and a gravel area bridges the space between the drive and the house (Figures 69 and 70).

Property Description

Exterior

Likely constructed between 1808 and 1824, the Federal style Norfleet House is a one-and-one-half story dwelling with a side-gabled, wooden shingle roof, beaded weatherboard siding, box cornices, molded corner boards, and a foundation composed of concrete block piers finished with brick veneer. The northwest (front) elevation contains a recently-reconstructed front-gabled porch that is supported by tapered square posts, has a simple square post balustrade, shelters a six-panel entry door, and is accessed by a set of wooden steps. West of the porch are two six-over-nine wooden sash windows (Figure 69).

The southwest (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling is defined by two single-shouldered chimneys that rise from the center of the elevation. Six-over-nine wooden sash windows flank the chimneys on the first story and paired four-over-four wooden sash windows rest between the chimney stacks. The chimneys, which were reconstructed in 2015, differ from the original chimneys in that they are laid in Flemish bond and their shoulders are curved versus stepped (Figures 71 and 72). A hyphen lit by paired six-over-nine wooden sash windows attaches the main block of the dwelling with a rear addition (Figure 73). On the southeast (rear) elevation of the main block, the hyphen is flanked by six-over-nine wooden sash windows. There are no windows on the northwest (front) elevation of the addition.

The addition, which exhibits elements of the Greek Revival style and was likely constructed in the 1840s or 1850's, is one story with a front-gabled, wood shingle roof, plain weatherboard siding, box cornices, simple corner boards, and concrete block and brick foundation piers. Both its southwest (side) and southeast (rear) elevations contain two nine-over-six wooden sash windows with corner blocks while the northeast (side) elevation contains two similar windows flanking an entry door. The windows and door are sheltered by a ca. 2014 porch that replaced a twentieth-century porch. The replacement porch has a flat roof and draws from late nineteenth-century designs with paired square posts connected at the top by cross beams and has a simple square post balustrade. A handicap ramp begins on the south side of the porch and wraps the southeast (rear) and southwest (side) elevations of the addition (Figures 74 and 75).

The northeast (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling contains two six-over-nine wooden sash windows on the first story and two four-over-four wooden sash windows on the second story (Figure 76).



Figure 71: Norfleet House, Looking East.



Figure 72: *Norfleet Farm, Tarboro vic., Edgecombe County, North Carolina*, Frances Benjamin Johnston Collection, Library of Congress.



Figure 73: Norfleet House, Looking Northeast.



Figure 74: Norfleet House, Looking North.



Figure 75: Norfleet House, Looking Southwest.



Figure 76: Norfleet House, Looking Southwest.

Interior

The main block of the Norfleet House contains three rooms, one of which spans the front of the house and includes an enclosed winder stair in the north corner. Two unequal rooms, used now as a library and office, span the rear of the block. The addition consists of one large room that is used as a classroom, and the upper floor is divided into two rooms, but was likely constructed as one large room. The interior of the house has been restored to reflect its original appearance with plaster walls, wainscoting, and Federal- and Greek Revival-style mantels. Where possible, original elements, such as the random-width heart pine floor and enclosed stair, have been retained and repaired (Figures 77 through 83).

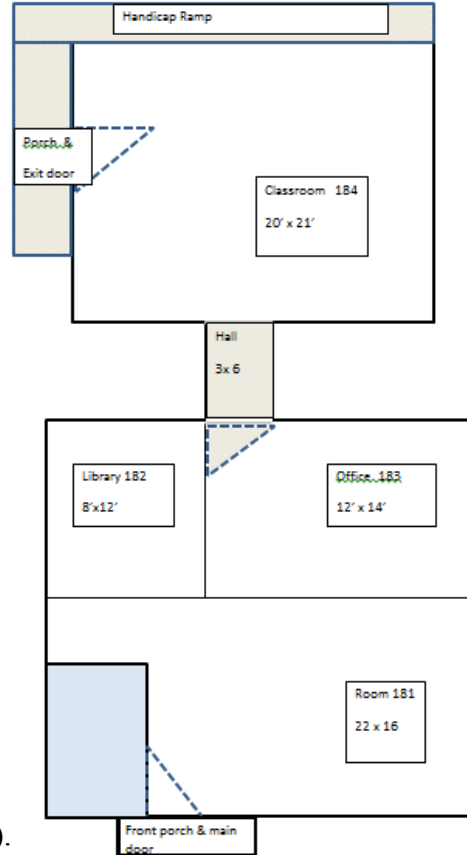


Figure 77: Current Floor Plan of Norfleet House (Monika Fleming).



Figure 78: Front Room, Norfleet House.



Figure 79: Front Room, Norfleet House.

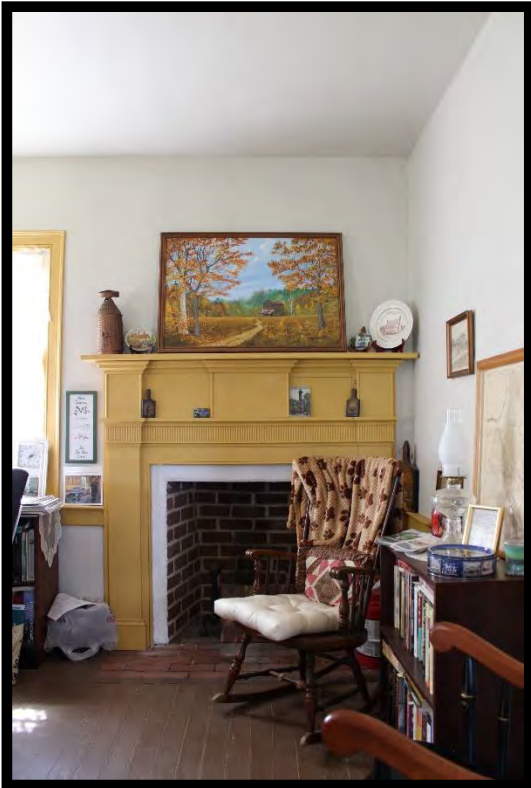


Figure 80: Reconstructed Mantel, Norfleet House.



Figure 81: Reconstructed Door, Norfleet House.



Figure 82: Rear Room, Norfleet House.



Figure 83: Upper Floor, Norfleet House.

Current Ancillary Structures

Three structures exist behind the dwelling, as well as a modeling station used to demonstrate the application of wooden shingles to a roof. Two of the structures, which serve as shelters for small animals, were constructed as class projects and display the application of weatherboard siding, board and batten siding, and wooden shingles. The third is a frame shed with weatherboard siding and a gabled, asphalt shingle roof (Figures 84 through 86).



Figure 84: Demonstration Table, Norfleet House, Looking South.



Figure 85: Animal Shelters, Norfleet House, Looking East.



Figure 86: Shed, Norfleet House, Looking East.

Historical Background

The Norfleet Plantation was developed between 1808 and 1824 by Isaac Norfleet. Isaac, who was born in Chowan County, North Carolina around 1780, was a merchant and over time operated stores in Hertford, Bertie, and Edgecombe Counties. In 1806, he married his first wife, Mary Scull, in Hertford County. Mary, however, died shortly after the wedding and in 1807, Isaac married his second wife, Christiana Ward.⁴³

By 1810, Isaac and Christiana resided in Edgecombe County and Isaac began purchasing large quantities of land in the area.⁴⁴ Though it is possible that they constructed the dwelling around this time it is also possible that it already existed on the property. Nonetheless, over the next three decades Isaac grew his farm into a large plantation with more than 2,000 acres of land and more than 30 slaves. At some point, the couple added the rear addition to the dwelling, likely to accommodate their ten children, and around 1840, Isaac constructed a large mule-driven press (ED0007). The press was originally used in the production of cider and wine but was converted to a cotton press around 1860.⁴⁵ In the 1930s, both the dwelling and the press were photographed by Frances Benjamin Johnston (Figures 87 and 88). The press, which was also documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey, was moved to the Tarboro Town Common in the late 1930s and listed on the NRHP in 1970.

In 1855, after Isaac's death in 1844 and Christiana's death in 1853, Isaac's estate was divided between his children.⁴⁶ Deed research indicates that a large portion of his land, including the parcel with the dwelling, was inherited by his son Thomas. The property likely passed to his wife, Azula Mehegan, then to his surviving children, Sarah "Sallie," James, Mary Christina, and Emily. Both James and Emily passed away in 1904, one year after Azula, leaving only Sallie, who never married, and Mary Christina, who married Frank Stronach, as heirs. A 1905 map labels the dwelling as "Mrs. S. Norfleet" indicating that Sallie lived there (Figure 89). Having no children of her own, it appears that Sallie left her interest in the property to Mary Christina's son, James Norfleet Stronach, as one year after Sallie's death, James sold 802.85 acres to the State Highway and Public Works Commission.⁴⁷ Due to multiple divisions of the parcel since 1933, it is difficult to determine the exact bounds of the parcel, but reference to the deed of sale can be found in the deeds of parcels on both sides of West Wilson Street making it possible that this tract included the original site of the dwelling and its current location on the Edgecombe Community College campus.⁴⁸

A few years prior to purchasing the parcel, the North Carolina General Assembly passed the Conner bill, which allowed the state to assume control of the state's prisons and inmates. The

⁴³ "Five Generations of Norfleets," Sally's Family Place, Electronic document, <https://sallysfamilyplace.com/maple-lawn/five-generations-of-norfleet>, accessed September 2018.

⁴⁴ US Census, 1810; Wilsons District, Edgecombe County, NC, Population Schedule, Roll 40, Page 726, Image 00093, Family History Library Film: 0337913.

⁴⁵ John B. Well and Sherry I. Penney, "Cotton Press," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, North Carolina Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, 1970.

⁴⁶ "Isaac Norfleet," "Isaac Norfleet Family Tree," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/68924427/person/44189818651/facts>, accessed September 2018.

⁴⁷ Deed Book 324, page 435.

⁴⁸ Deed Book 823, page 57 and Deed Book 838, page 868.



Figure 87: *Norfleet Farm, Tarboro vic., Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Dwelling, Frances B. Johnston, 1936 (Library of Congress).*



Figure 88: *Norfleet Farm, Tarboro vic., Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Cotton Press, Frances B. Johnston, 1936 (Library of Congress).*

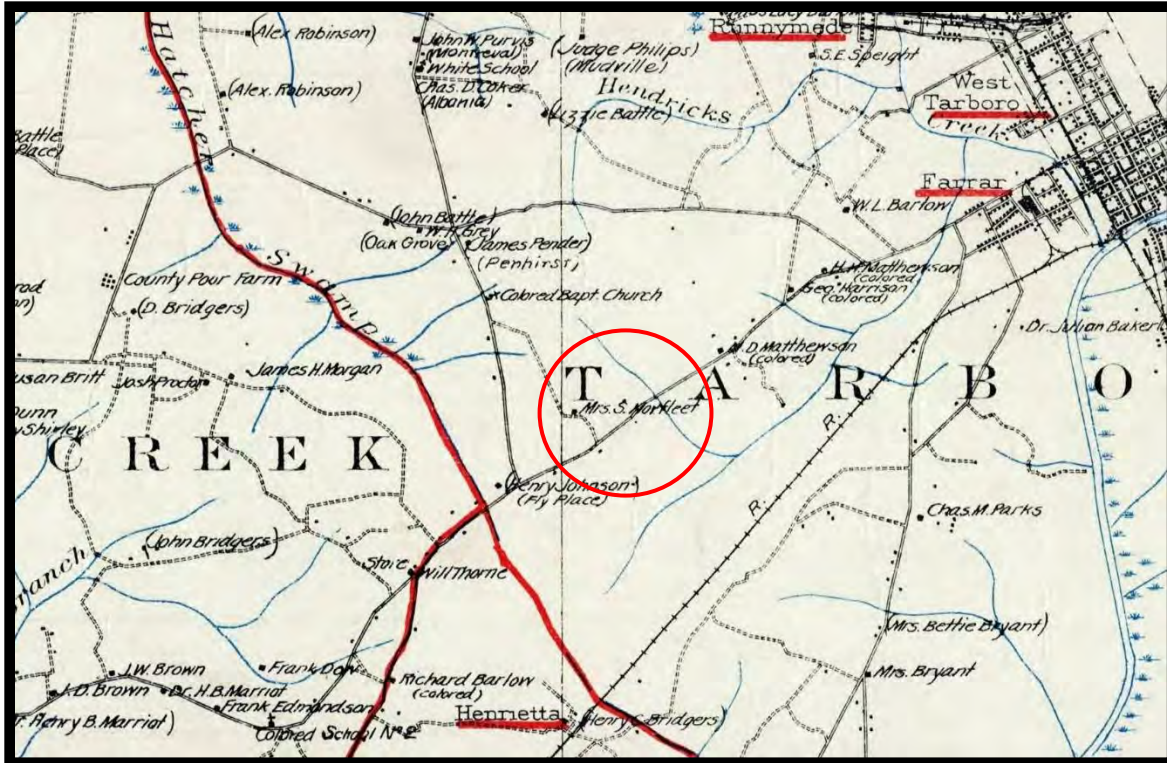


Figure 89: Map of Edgecombe County North Carolina (Albert Pike), 1905 (UNC Library).

state also chose to combine the State Highway Commission and the State Prison Department, a move that increased the funding available to prison facilities for much needed renovations and repairs. In 1933, the same year that the commission purchased the Norfleet parcel, a bond issue of \$400,000 was created for the establishment of new prison camps. The prison camps, or road camps, were permanent facilities designed to house 100 inmates each and to provide a convenient source of labor for road construction and repair.⁴⁹ One of the new camps was constructed on the south side of West Wilson Street, likely on a portion of the Norfleet tract, and for much of the next decade, the Norfleet House was used as the home of the prison superintendent (Figures 90 through 93).⁵⁰

In 1946, the commission sold a 702-acre parcel including the dwelling to Philip and Lena Shugar. The sale excepted two small parcels, one that contains a fire tower (ED1662) and a second that contains the Norfleet family cemetery.⁵¹ In 1973, Lena, who was by this time a widow, executed a deed of gift for a 344.9-acre parcel lying south of West Wilson Street to her children.⁵² The next year, she deeded the portion of the parcel north of West Wilson Street to her children and in 1981, the North Carolina Department of Transportation filed a declaration of taking for this tract.⁵³ By the mid-1990s, the tract was owned by Edgecombe County and the Town of Tarboro, who divided it and set it aside for industrial development. In 1997, the parcel

⁴⁹ "History of the North Carolina Correction System," North Carolina Department of Public Safety, <https://www.doc.state.nc.us/admin/page1.htm>, accessed September 2018.

⁵⁰ Norfleet Family History, PowerPoint Presentation, Monika Fleming.

⁵¹ Deed Book 420, page 231.

⁵² Deed Book 823, page 57.

⁵³ Deed Book 838, page 868 and Deed Book 918, page 269.



Figure 90: 1937 Aerial Image of the Norfleet House and Edgecombe Prison Camp (EarthExplorer).



Figure 91: Norfleet House, During Residency of Brown Family, ca. 1930 (Brown Family Photos).



Figure 92: *Edgecombe County Prison Camp* (M.S. Brown Collection, Edgecombe County Memorial Library).



Figure 93: Former Edgecombe County Prison Camp Building, Now Used by Edgecombe Community College.

east of the dwelling was purchased by Carolina System Technology, LLC and developed with a large-scale manufacturing facility, and in 2010, the company, which now goes by Keihin Carolina System Technology, LLC, purchased the parcel on which the dwelling once stood.⁵⁴ This parcel has been left undeveloped and is currently used for row crops.

In the mid-1990s, when the site was being prepared for development, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) was formed between the United States Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. The MOA stipulated the relocation of the dwelling to Batts Farm (ED0464) on US 258 North. Other stipulations included the recordation of the house and remaining outbuildings and the salvage of architectural elements from the outbuildings that were to be demolished.⁵⁵ In May 1998, the house was moved to the new site, where it underwent some renovation. In 2009, the house was moved a second time when Edgecombe Community College's newly formed preservation trades program requested to use it as hands-on restoration project for students as well as for the program's headquarters. Since then a restroom addition has been removed, modern sheetrock has been replaced with plaster, the asphalt roof has been replaced with wooden shingles, the chimneys have been reconstructed, and many of the wooden elements, including the porch, siding, and windows have been repaired or replaced. Other elements, such as doors and mantels, that were held in a storage building and damaged by floodwaters from Hurricane Floyd in 1999 have been reconstructed (Figures 94 and 95).



Figure 94: Norfleet House During 2009 Move (Monika Fleming).

⁵⁴ Deed Book 1195, page 170 and Deed Book 1560, page 477.

⁵⁵ Memorandum of Agreement, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 1998, and Viola Harris, "Council on Aging Approved," Rocky Mount Telegram (Rocky Mount, NC), June 3, 1998.



Figure 95: Norfleet House During Restoration (Monika Fleming).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Norfleet House is not recommended as eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

Having been moved twice, the Norfleet House now stands near its original location on the edge of the Edgecombe Community College campus. Its new setting, which starkly contrasts its original setting of plowed fields, consists of a small open area bordered on two sides by woodlands and on another side by the campus. The design of the house has been well-preserved through the restoration of many original elements with advisement from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NCHPO) restoration branch

. Other elements, however, have had to be reconstructed due to earlier renovations, damage, and moving the dwelling. In doing so, the current owners have placed an emphasis on using historically accurate materials and techniques and replicating the dwelling's original workmanship. For these reasons, the dwelling retains a strong feeling and association with the early nineteenth-century development of Edgecombe County, though it retains less feeling and association with the agricultural economy with which it was so closely tied.

Criterion A

The Norfleet House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

Though the property is associated with the early development of Edgecombe County, it is not associated with a specific event, pattern of events, or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of the community, the state, or nation and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

The Norfleet House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

The property is not associated with the life or lives of persons significant to our past and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Norfleet House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

The Norfleet House is a rare example of extant Federal-style architecture in Edgecombe County. Most likely constructed in the early nineteenth century, the main block of the dwellings exhibits simple details like beaded weatherboard siding, box cornices, and molded corner boards that would have been incorporated into the design of many buildings constructed in the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century. HPOWeb lists 26 other such structures in Edgecombe County as Federal while listing at least 46 structures as being constructed in the late eighteenth century or early to mid-nineteenth century. Of those listed as Federal, six are marked as gone, three are listed on the NRHP, and five are study listed. The Norfleet house was determined eligible at its original site but has not been reevaluated since being moved. Two of the resources listed on the NRHP are two-story dwellings with more high-style detailing while the third, the William and Susan Savage House (ED0460), is a one-and-one-half story dwelling with exterior details that are similar to the Norfleet House (Figure 96). The house does differ, however, in that it is five bays wide and has a hall-and-parlor plan with chimneys on both gable ends. The Savage House also retains more of its original materials having lost only two of five mantels, a porch, and window shutters. Other than these features, the dwelling's original interior and exterior details are described in its NRHP nomination as "amazingly intact" and "strongly reflecting the early nineteenth-century period in which the house was built." Furthermore, the lost mantels have been reconstructed from documentary photographs, and the owners have rebuilt the porch based on photographs taken before the aging, deteriorated porch was removed.⁵⁶ The Norfleet House's features are also reflective of the time frame in which it was constructed, but many of them, including the porches, chimneys, doors, wainscot, and mantels, have been reconstructed. And, though there is documentary evidence of some of the dwelling's early features, only one of the mantels was able to be reconstructed from photographs, and other features, such as the porch and chimneys, differ greatly from the photographic evidence that is available. A second dwelling that bears resemblance to the Norfleet House is the Lloyd-Jones-Lichtenstein-Weddell House (ED0403), which contributes to Tarboro's NRHP Historic District. This dwelling shares the Norfleet House's three-bay façade with a front-gabled entry porch filling the left bay and has very similar massing. It also has similar gable end configurations with relatively large upper story windows and single shouldered chimneys, though the chimneys are not paired as on the Norfleet House. Differences include dormer windows, slightly larger first-story windows – nine-over-nine versus nine-over-six – and less pronounced cornices (Figures 97 and 98). The house is also another example of an early dwelling that was moved to avoid modern development having once stood on East Church Street and possibly at another location as well. The nomination form for the historic district states that it has been "extensively renovated and an effort made to restore its early appearance" though it does not specify what the renovation entailed.⁵⁷ In summary, though the Norfleet House is a well-preserved and restored example of Federal-style architecture in Edgecombe County, it falls short of the NRHP listed

⁵⁶ William and Susan Savage House, National Register Nomination Form.

⁵⁷ Tarboro Historic District, National Register Nomination Form.

William and Susan Savage House, which retains a higher percentage of original materials and character defining features as well as remaining in its original location and within its original setting. The Norfleet House is more on par with the Lloyd-Jones-Litchenstein-Weddell House which shares its form and has also been moved from its original location and renovated.

In conclusion, the Norfleet House is a well-preserved example of Federal-style architecture maintaining many of the style's character defining features through skilled restoration. However, it is not the only example of its form or the only example of early nineteenth-century architecture in Edgecombe County. Furthermore, a high percentage of the dwelling's features (porches, doors, chimneys and mantels) have been wholly reconstructed. It is for these reasons that the Norfleet House is not recommended eligible under Criterion C.



Figure 96: William and Susan Savage House, 704 NC 97, Leggett, NC (ED0460).



Figure 97: Lloyd-Jones-Lichtenstein-Weddell House, 120 West Phillips Street, Tarboro, NC (ED0403).



Figure 98: Lloyd-Jones-Lichtenstein-Weddell House, 120 West Phillips Street, Tarboro, NC (ED0403).

Criterion D

The Norfleet House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Criteria Consideration B

The Norfleet House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria Consideration B (moved properties). For a property to be eligible under Criteria Consideration B, it must meet two requirements: 1) it must be significant primarily for architectural value, or 2) it is the surviving property most importantly associated with a historic person or event.

The building does not retain sufficient architectural integrity to be considered for its architectural value and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criteria Consideration B.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	005
HPO Survey Site Number:	ED1662
Location:	3091 West Wilson Street, Tarboro, NC
Parcel ID:	4717-96-8705
Dates(s) of Construction:	Ca. 1932
Recommendation:	Eligible

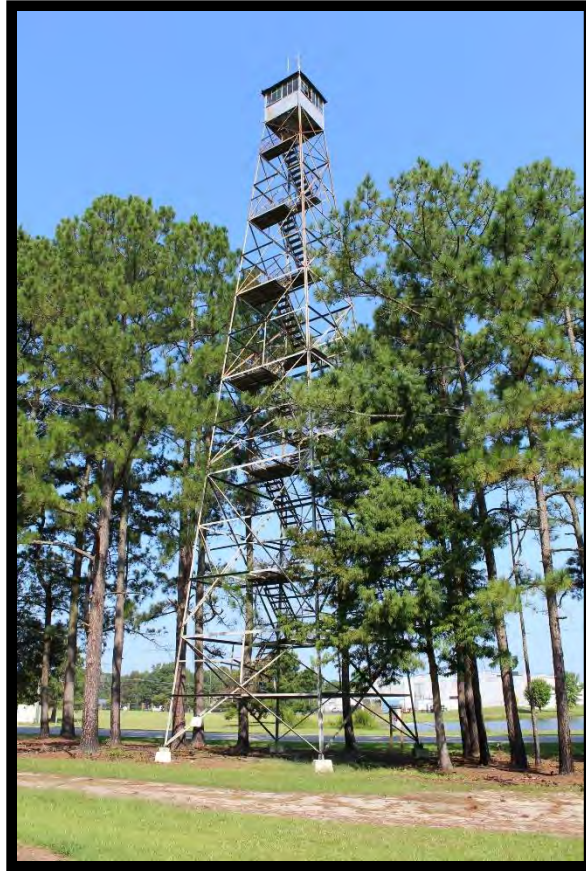


Figure 99: Fire Lookout Tower, Looking East.

Setting

The Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is located on the south side of West Wilson Street near the intersection of West Wilson and McNair Roads. The tower sits back approximately 35 feet from the road in a row of tall pines. Across the road from the tower is a retention pond associated with the Keihin Carolina System Technology, LLC facility, which is located on the northeast corner of West Wilson and McNair Roads. East of the pond is a roughly 30-acre plowed field. Southeast of the tower is a small office building and southeast of it is a shed. There is also a large equipment shelter west of the office and shed. A gravel A-shaped driveway crosses the property twice – once between the lookout tower and office and once between the office and shed. The perimeter of the property is lined with mature trees that shield the parcel from its surroundings (Figures 99 and 100).

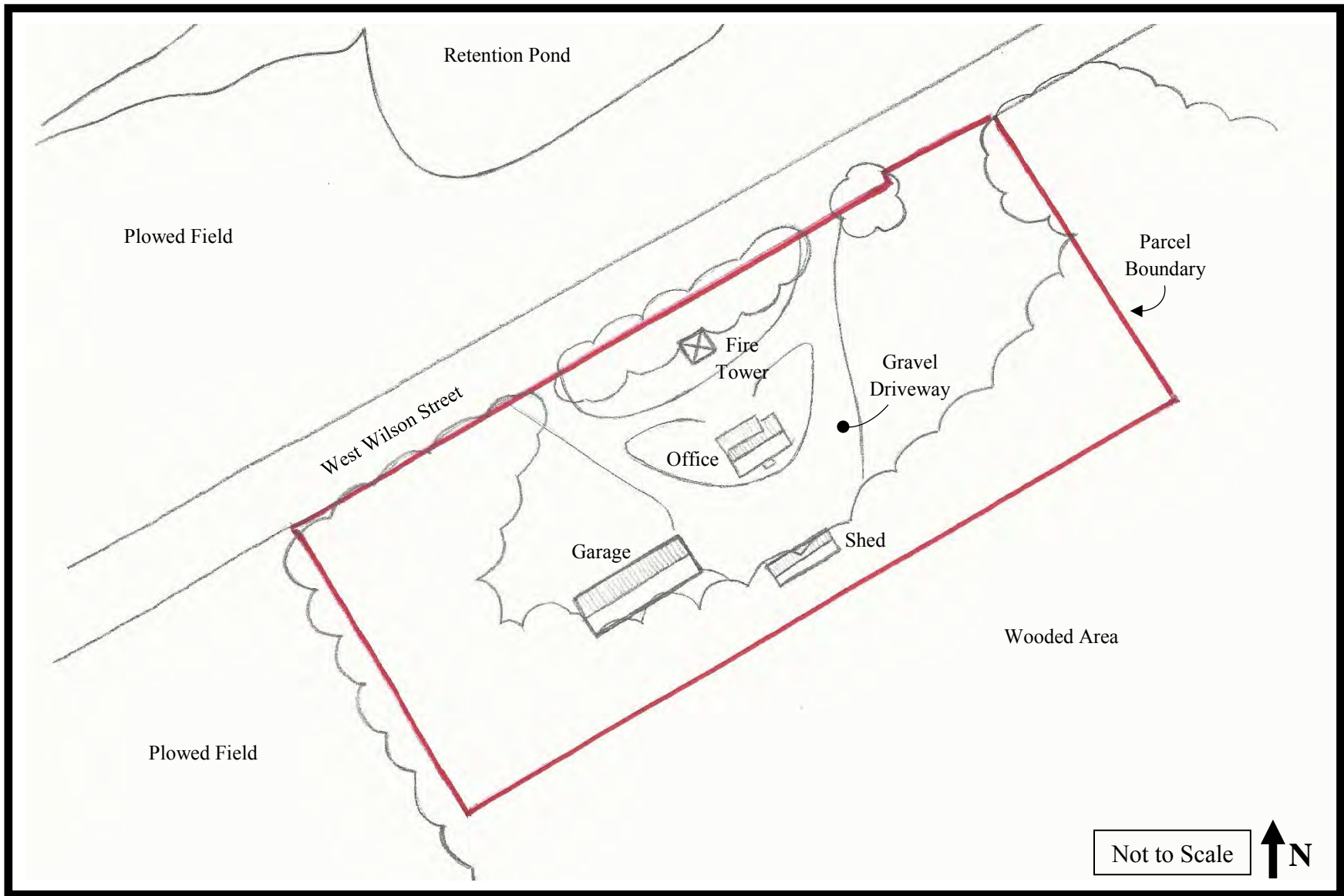


Figure 100: Sketch Map of Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower.

Property Description

Exterior

Erected in 1932, the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is a four-sided truss frame tower constructed of heavy galvanized steel members. It stands 93 feet tall and has an interior stair that rises to an enclosed cabin and rests on four tapered concrete footers that are roughly 18 inches square at their base. Horizontal beams reinforce the diagonal truss frame and provide support for the stair, which doubles back and forth, and thirteen landings. Though the support elements and stair runners are metal, the planer elements of the steps and landings are constructed of wood. Metal handrails also line the stairs and at some point metal wire, similar to fencing, was used to fill the open space between the steps and handrails. The one-room cabin appears to be made of metal sheets below ribbons of nine-light windows, some of which are broken, and is sheltered by a pyramidal roof clad with metal sheets (Figures 99 and 101).



Figure 101: Fire Lookout Tower, Looking West.

Ancillary Structures

Three mid- to late twentieth-century structures exist south of the lookout tower including an office, a shed, and an equipment shelter. The office is a one-story, side-gabled building with a concrete block foundation, vinyl siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. A shed-roofed porch partially spans the façade sheltering a tripled, six-over-six, vinyl sash window, an entry door, and a paired, six-over-six, vinyl sash window. A single six-over-six, vinyl sash window lights each gable end and an AC unit protrudes from the northeast gable end while a shed-roofed access for a crawl space is located on the southwest gable end. The southeast (rear) elevation has an off-center entry door sheltered by a metal awning and flanked by a squat six-over-six, vinyl sash window and regular six-over-six, vinyl sash window. An AC unit protrudes from the elevation west of the squat window (Figures 102 and 103).

A one-story, side-gabled shed stands south of the office on a concrete block foundation. It is clad with wooden vertical paneling and has an asphalt shingle roof. The western end of the shed is open and shelters a poured concrete pad as well as an entry door that accesses the enclosed eastern half of the structure. Double doors on the northwest (front) elevation also access the enclosed section (Figure 104).

West of the shed is a tall, one-story equipment shelter. It is front gabled and faces northeast and has a concrete block foundation, vinyl siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. A large garage door on the façade provides access to the interior (Figure 105).



Figure 102: Office, Fire Lookout Tower, Looking East.



Figure 103: Office, Fire Lookout Tower, Looking Northwest. Note fire tower in background of photo.



Figure 104: Shed, Fire Lookout Tower, Looking South.



Figure 105: Equipment Shelter, Fire Lookout Tower, Looking West.

Historical Background

By the early twentieth century, unrestrained timbering across the United States had given rise to concerns over the preservation of natural areas as well as the longevity of the timber industry, which by the 1920s was one of the largest contributors to North Carolina's economy. This concern led to the construction of fire towers throughout the state and elsewhere in the United States as part of a larger movement by the federal and state governments to manage and protect their natural and economic resources. In 1915, the state legislature created the position of State Forester and assigned the responsibility of preventing and controlling forest fires to the State Geological Board. In 1921, the legislature passed a second act for the purpose of creating a statewide forest protection network with the counties acting as units within the network and by 1922, many counties had hired forest wardens. In 1925, the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development (NCD CD) was established to administer the program, and by 1927, it had constructed its first fire lookout tower. By 1936, the program had constructed 71 towers across the state with additional towers constructed by the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service to protect federally owned land.⁵⁸

A 1927 North Carolina *Manual of Instructions for Forest Wardens* detailed the nomination of sites for new towers, which were to be submitted by County Forest Wardens to the District Forester, and stipulated the responsibility of the County Forest Warden to assist in purchasing or obtaining leases for chosen sites once funds were acquired for the construction of the tower.⁵⁹ In Edgecombe County, the parcel for the tower was purchased by the State Highway and Public Works Commission as a part of a large, 802.25-acre tract in September 1933.⁶⁰ The parcel was purchased roughly one year after the construction of the tower suggesting that it was leased prior to its purchase.⁶¹ A photograph from March 1933 shows a group of unemployed African Americans making improvements to the fire tower property before its purchase as well (Figure 106). Five other towers were constructed between 1930 and 1932. These include towers at Chadbourn, Nakina, Sassafras Mountain, Corbin Mountain, and Warren. The tower in Warren County was the first tower in North Carolina to be added to the NRHP (WR0310).

In 1946, the State Highway and Public Works Commission sold all of the parcel except for the 2.4-acre parcel with the fire tower to Philip and Lena Shugar.⁶² The only other recorded activity on the fire tower tract is the construction of a Towerman's residence between 1958 and 1960.⁶³ It is unclear if the current office building was adapted from the residence, but it appears that it, as well as the shed and equipment shelter, was constructed prior to 1994 (Figure 109). By 1990, the Division of Forestry had moved away from the use of fire towers in favor of more modern methods of detection. Despite this, the parcel is still used as the county headquarters for the state Forest Service.

⁵⁸ Nancy Van Dolsen, Warren County Fire Tower National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

⁵⁹ Department of Conservation & Development, *Manual of Instructions for Forest Wardens*, (Raleigh, NC: Capital Printing Company, State Printers, 1927).

⁶⁰ Deed Book 324, Page 435.

⁶¹ Department of Conservation and Development, *4th Biennial Report* (Raleigh, NC: Edwards & Broughton Company, State Printers, 1932).

⁶² Deed Book 420, Page 231.

⁶³ Department of Conservation and Development, *18th Biennial Report* (Raleigh, NC: State Printers, 1960).



Figure 106: “Improvements - fire lookout tower. With use of unemployed serving as a fire crew. Edgecombe County, North Carolina.” (Forest History Society, Durham, N.C.)

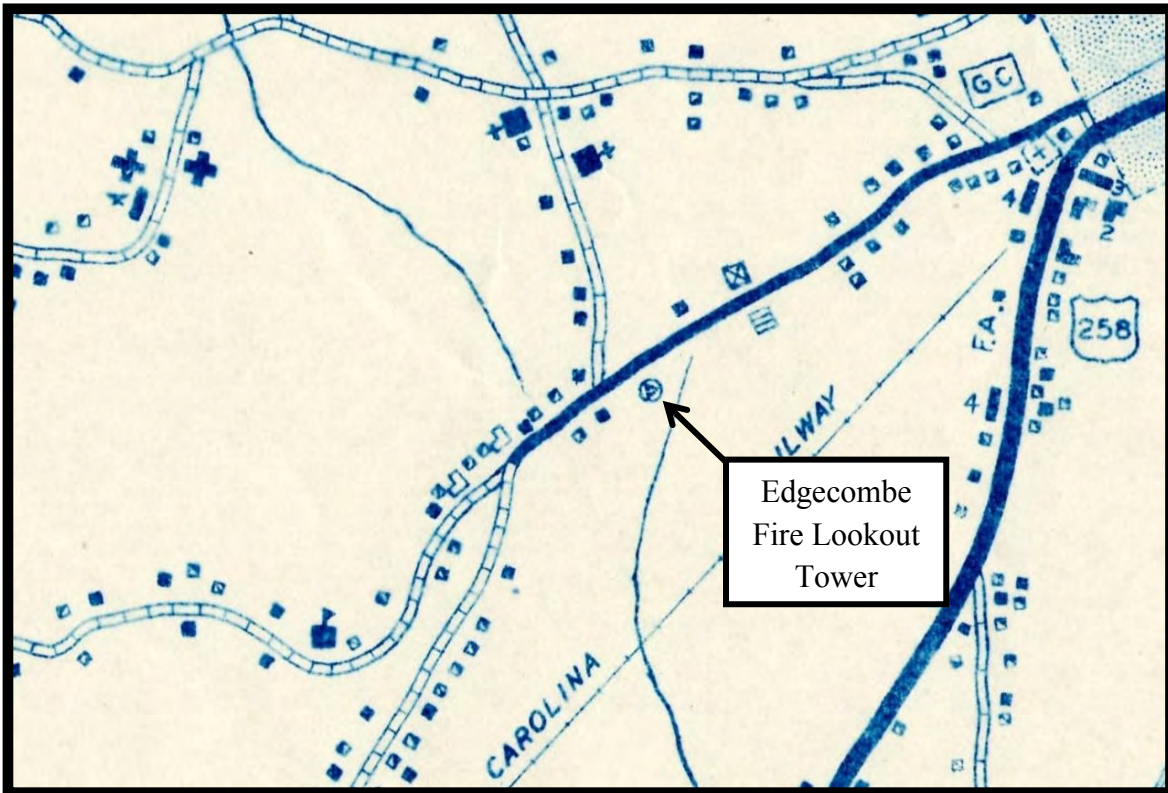


Figure 107: 1938 Edgecombe County, North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission Map (North Carolina State Archives). Note emblems for the state highway garage and the penal institution east of the fire tower.



Figure 108: 1964 Aerial of Edgecombe County Showing the Location of the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower (EarthExplorer).



Figure 109: 1994 Aerial of Edgecombe County Showing the Location of the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower (Google Earth).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is recommended as eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

Though no longer in use, the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower remains in its original location surrounded by a perimeter of woodlands and farm land that shelters it from a large manufacturing facility and a small residential neighborhood. The tower also retains its original design, materials, and workmanship having undergone little alteration over the past 85 years. Due to its unaltered state as well as its recognizable form, the tower conveys the feeling of and is easily associated with the early twentieth century and the practice of erecting fire towers for the protection of woodlands for their economic value as well as their scenic beauty.

Criterion A

The Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The fire lookout tower is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the history of North Carolina's organized fire protection efforts with a period of significance from 1915 through the 1990s, during which time the state forestry division was developed and approximately 210 fire lookout towers were constructed. The tower is also the only remaining fire tower in Edgecombe County, a second fire tower, the ca. 1959 Fountain Fire Lookout Tower, having been demolished in 2017. For these reasons, the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is recommended eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

The Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group.

The fire lookout tower is not associated with the life of lives of persons significant to our past and therefore is not recommended eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Though the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower displays a high degree of architectural integrity, its steel truss design and use of wooden elements is typical of other fire towers constructed during the era. One such example is the ca. 1949 Medoc Fire Lookout Tower in Halifax County. Despite being constructed over ten years after the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower, the tower in Medoc displays a strikingly similar steel truss frame that rises to a small cab with ribbons of nine-light windows and a pyramidal roof. The only noticeable difference is the use of longer flights of stairs that span from corner to corner, rather than side to side, and have triangular shaped landings (Figure 110). A second tower, the Warren Fire Lookout Tower (WR0310), was constructed the same year as the Edgecombe County tower and displays a nearly identical configuration. Due to its well-preserved state, as well as being the first fire tower in North Carolina to have a fire tower operator, Bessie Haithcock, the tower was listed on the NRHP in 2000.⁶⁴



Figure 110: Medoc Fire Lookout Tower, Medoc Mountain Road, Brinkleyville, NC.

In summary, the fire tower represents a common design and method of construction for such structures and therefore is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

⁶⁴ Nancy Van Dolsen, Warren County Fire Tower National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

NRHP Boundary Justification

The NRHP boundary for the Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties. The boundary follows the right-of-way of West Wilson Street and is drawn to include the fire tower and ancillary structures. The NRHP boundary is identified as the current parcel 4717-96-8705 (Edgecombe County PIN) and contains approximately 2.5 acres (Figure 111).



Figure 111: Edgecombe Fire Lookout Tower, NRHP Boundary.

REFERENCES CITED

Ancestry.com

- 2018 "Lucia Beverly Bridgers," "McKinney Family Tree,"
<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/38240240/person/420194180835/facts>, accessed August 2018.
- 2018 "Isaac Norfleet," "Isaac Norfleet Family Tree." <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/68924427/person/44189818651/facts>, accessed September 2018.

ArcGIS Image Service

- 2018 ESRI World Imagery. Electronic document, http://services.arcgisonline.com/ArcGIS/rest/services/world_imagery/Mapserver, accessed August 2018.

Bisher, Catherine and Joe Mobley

- 1979 *Tarboro Historic District*, National Register Nomination Form. On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

Branson, Levi, ed

- 1896 *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896, Volume VIII*. Raleigh: Levi Branson.

Department of Conservation & Development

- 1932 *4th Biennial Report*. Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton Company.
- 1960 *18th Biennial Report*. Raleigh: State Printers.
- 1927 *Manual of Instructions for Forest Wardens*. Raleigh: Capital Printing Company.

Edgecombe County Estate Files (Tarboro, North Carolina)

69-E-17
N-p-442

Edgecombe County GIS Website

- 2018 <http://206.107.103.203/>

Edgecombe County Register of Deeds (Tarboro, North Carolina)

Deed Book 92, page 526
Deed Book 200, page 488
Deed Book 243, page 499
Deed Book 295, page 582
Deed Book 324, page 435
Deed Book 409, page 357
Deed Book 420, page 231
Deed Book 794, page 122
Deed Book 823, page 57

Deed Book 838, page 868
Deed Book 865, page 303
Deed Book 880, page 592
Deed Book 890, page 263
Deed Book 918, page 269
Deed Book 960, page 545
Deed Book 1195, page 170
Deed Book 1379, page 22
Deed Book 1462, page 850
Deed Book 1560, page 477
Deed Book 1585, page 847
Deed Book 1585, page 992

Edgecombe County Tax Office
PIN 4728-52-9083-00

Fearnbach, Heather

2012 *Historic Store Context. Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford Counties*, Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, prepared for North Carolina Department of Transportation. Electronic document, <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/surveyreports/HistoricStoreContext%28BK,CW,CL,MC,RF%29-2012.pdf>, accessed September 2018.

Findagrave.com

2018 "Capt Henry Clark Bridgers," <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/95693261/henry-clark-bridgers>, accessed August 2018.

Fleming, Monika

n.d. Norfleet Family History, PowerPoint Presentation.

Harris, Viola

1998 "Council on Aging Approved," Rocky Mount Telegram. Electronic document, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/339143921/?terms=norfleet%2Bhouse>, accessed September 2018.

Legacy.com

2018 "Reginald Anthony Moss Sr.," Legacy.com. Electronic document, <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/Rockymounttelegram/obituary.aspx?n=reginald-anthony-moss&pid=177551509&fhid=26161>, accessed August 2018.

National Park Service

2017 National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Electronic document, www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm, accessed September 21, 2017.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

- 1998 Memorandum of Agreement Between the United States Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer Submitted to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(a) for Norfleet Plantation, Tarboro, Edgecombe County, North Carolina. On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Survey Files

ED1312
ED0055

NCPedia

- 2018 "John Luther Bridgers," NCPedia. Electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-john-luther>, accessed August 2018.
- 2018 "John Luther Bridgers, Jr.," NCPedia. Electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-john-luther-jr>, accessed August 2018.
- 2018 "Henry Clark Bridgers," NCPedia. Electronic document, <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bridgers-henry-clark>, accessed August 2018.

The News and Observer

- 1902 *The North Carolina Yearbook*. Raleigh: The News and Observer. Electronic document, <https://archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1902#page/218/mode/1up>, accessed September 2018.
- 1915 *The North Carolina Yearbook*, Raleigh: The News and Observer. Electronic document, <https://archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1915rale#page/201/mode/1up>, accessed September 2018.

North Carolina Department of Public Safety

- 2018 "History of the North Carolina Correction System," North Carolina Department of Public Safety. Electronic document, <https://www.doc.state.nc.us/admin/page1.htm>, accessed September 2018.

Phillips, Laura A. W.

- 2014 *William and Susan Savage House*. National Register Nomination Form. On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

Sally's Family Place

- 2018 "Five Generations of Norfleets," Sally's Family Place. Electronic document, <https://sallysfamilyplace.com/maple-lawn/five-generations-of-norfleet>, accessed September 2018.

Shearin, Jennifer

2018 Personal communication.

Smith, W. Terry

2010 "Farmville collector shares passion for railroads with Tarboro." *The Daily Southerner*, September 3, 2010. Electronic document, <https://web.archive.org/web/20100922051535/http://dailysoutherner.com/tgif/x373696319/Farmville-collector-shares-passion-for-railroads-with-Tarboro>, accessed August 2018.

Southern Architect and Building News

1931 "The House of Henry Clark Bridgers," *Southern Architect and Building News*. Atlanta: Harman Publishing Co., May 1931.

Steamboats on the Tar

2018 "About the Author," *Steamboats on the Tar*. Electronic document, <https://www.amazon.com/Steamboats-Capt-Henry-Clark-Bridgers/dp/1460943392>, accessed August 2018.

Syracuse Then and Now

2018 "Dwight James Baum," *Syracuse Then and Now*. Electronic document, http://syracusethenandnow.org/Architects/Baum/dwight_james_baum.htm, accessed August 2018.

U.S. Census Bureau

1810 United States Federal Census, Edgecombe County, NC, Population Schedule, Wilsons District, Roll 40, Page 726, Image 00093, Family History Library Film: 0337913.

1996 *Population of the States and Counties of the United States: 1790 to 1990*. Electronic document, <https://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/PopulationofStatesandCountiesoftheUnitedStates1790-1990.pdf>, accessed September 2018.

Van Dolsen, Nancy

2000 *Warren County Fire Tower*. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

Well, John B. and Sherry I. Penney

1970 *Cotton Press*, National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form. On file, North Carolina Division of Historic Resources, Raleigh.

WRAL.com

2008 "Tarboro Church Rebuilt 9 Years After Flood," *WRAL.com*, Capitol Broadcasting Company, June 20, 2008. <https://www.wral.com/news/local/story/3081637/>, accessed August 2018.