



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

February 1, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick
Human Environment Unit
NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley 
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from East of Alfen Lane to West of the US 264/NC 32 Intersection to a Four-lane, Divided Superstreet, PA 18-07-0016, W-5702G, Beaufort County, ER 19-0082

Thank you for your December 19, 2018, memorandum transmitting the report for the above-referenced undertaking. 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 due to the loss of historic integrity and not possessing the level of significance necessary to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation:

- Mixon House, 5140 US Highway 264E (BF1401), Washington vicinity
- Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House, 5819 US Highway 264E (BF1395), Washington vicinity

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@ndot.gov



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

ER 19-0082

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO

From: Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT

Due -- 2/5/19

Date: December 19, 2018

Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report. Convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from East of Alfen Lane to West of the US 264/NC 32 Interchange to a Four-lane, Divided Superstreet, Beaufort County, North Carolina. TIP No. W-5702G. WBS No. 44848.1.7. FA No. HSIP-0264(064). PA No. 18-07-0016.*

H-

ER Gledhill-Earley
1/30/19

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Enclosed for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of historic architectural resources in the W-5702G, Beaufort County project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). Survey photographs, GIS data, and site forms are included on the CD-ROM, and hard copies of the site forms are also provided.

The report considers two resources – the Mixon House (BF1401) and the Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House (BF1395). Both resources are recommended as not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Initial screening of the project area by NCDOT Historic Architecture identified which resources warranted additional study.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the report. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at vepatrick@ncdot.gov or 919-707-6082. Thank you.



V.E.P.

Attachments

Historic Structures Survey Report
Convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from 0.45 mile east of Alfen Lane to 0.45 mile west of
the US 264/NC 32 interchange to a four-lane, divided superstreet
Beaufort County, North Carolina
T.I.P. No. W-5702G
WBS No. 44848.1.7
Federal Aid No. HSIP-0264(064)
PA No. 18-07-0016

Prepared for:

LJB Engineering
1401 Averasboro Road
Suite 215
Garner, North Carolina 27529

and

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

Prepared by:

MdM Historical Consultants Inc.
Post Office Box 1399
Durham, NC 27702
919.368.1602

November 2018

Historic Structures Survey Report
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November 2018

Jennifer F. Martin, Principal Investigator
MdM Historical Consultants, Inc.

Date

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

Date

Historic Structures Survey Report
Convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from 0.45 mile east of Alfen Lane to 0.45 mile west of the
US 264/NC 32 interchange to a four-lane, divided superstreet
Beaufort County, North Carolina
T.I.P. No. W-5702G
WBS No. 44848.1.7
Federal Aid No. HSIP-0264(064)
PA No. 18-07-0016

Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from 0.45 mile east of Alfen Lane to 0.45 mile west of the US 264/NC 32 interchange to a four-lane, divided superstreet. The project is located approximately four miles east of Washington in Beaufort County, North Carolina. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project extends approximately 100 feet from each end of the proposed 0.80-mile project length and 150 feet from the centerlines of each existing outer lane of US 264 to encompass anticipated construction activities and possible physical and visual impacts. The project area is delineated on a map on page 4 of this report.

This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015) and will be reviewed for compliance with both GS 121-12(a) and Section 106. An NCDOT architectural historian defined an APE and conducted preliminary research and a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only two resources warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation, and they are the subjects of this report. NCDOT architectural historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

In October 2018, Mdm Historical Consultants (Mdm) documented the two properties requiring evaluation. Mdm principal Jennifer Martin conducted the fieldwork on October 22, 23, and 30, 2018, photographing and mapping all the built resources and landscapes associated with the two subject properties located within the APE. Jennifer Martin and Cynthia de Miranda conducted research on the Beaufort County Register of Deeds website, the Beaufort County GIS website, at the Beaufort County Clerk of Court office, the Beaufort County Register of Deeds Office, on HPO Web, and at the North Carolina State Library and Archives in Raleigh. Ms. Martin interviewed Richard Whitley III, the owner of the Mixon House and a Beaufort County native, and Opal Parrott, granddaughter of Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard. Ms. Martin authored this report.

The historic architectural survey within the APE associated with the W-5702G project was carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Secretary of the Interior's standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; and the NCDOT document entitled Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines (2003). This evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

In order to meet the requirements of the above laws, regulations, and guidelines, the work plan for the intensive-level survey included the following items: (1) conducting general historical and architectural background research in order to develop contexts within which to evaluate the potential National Register eligibility of the resources located within the APE; (2) an intensive-level field survey of the APE, including surveying, describing, evaluating, and proposing specific National Register boundaries for any resources believed to be eligible for the NRHP; (3) specific historical and architectural research on the resources inventoried at the intensive level; and (4) preparation of a report developed pursuant to the above-referenced laws, regulations and guidelines. The report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the general public.

Property Name and Survey Site Number	Address and PIN	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation/Criteria
Mixon House BF1401	5140 US 264E Washington vic. 6605-35-8253	Not eligible under any criteria
Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House BF1395	5819 US 264E Washington vic. 6605-74-1547	Not eligible under any criteria

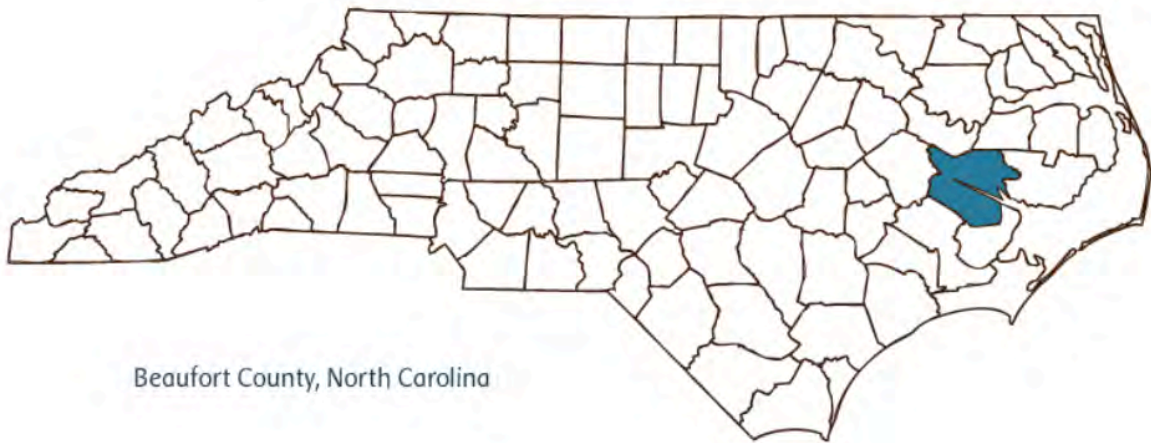
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I. Project Location Maps



Project area (created from HPO Web)



Beaufort County, North Carolina

Location of Beaufort County in North Carolina (image from Politics North Carolina, www.politicsnc.com)



US 264 at the beginning of project area at Alfen Lane, view to the southeast



US 264 in project area with Beaufort County Community College on the right, view to the west-northwest

II. Introduction

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to convert US 264 (John Small Avenue) from 0.45 mile east of Alfen Lane to 0.45 mile west of the US 264/NC 32 interchange to a four-lane, divided superstreet. The project is located in central Beaufort County, North Carolina, north of the Pamlico River. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project extends approximately 100 feet from each end of the proposed 0.80-mile project length and 150 feet from the centerlines of each existing outer lane of US 264 to encompass anticipated construction activities and possible physical and visual impacts.

The project area is approximately four miles east of Washington along US 264 (John Small Avenue), a busy four-lane road with a median turning lane. The project extends from 0.45 mile east of Alfen Lane to west of the US 264/NC 32 interchange. This APE is developed and includes approximately thirty residential, commercial, and institutional resources dating from the 1900s to the 2010s. About one-third pre-date 1970.

The project area is located in a community historically known as Bunyon. Broad Creek, which originates in western Beaufort County, flows south through Bunyon, under US 264, and empties into the Pamlico River. A post office operated at Bunyon from 1880 to 1902.¹ In 1889, the Roanoke Railroad and Lumber Company began building the Washington and Plymouth Railroad from Plymouth to Washington, a route that took the line through Bunyon. The rail line opened to passenger service in 1902, providing excursions from Washington to Plymouth with stops along the way, including one at Bunyon. In 1904, the Norfolk and Southern Railway bought the Washington and Plymouth Railroad and converted its narrow-gauge rails to standard gauge opening the line to passenger and freight service.²

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, people in Bunyon primarily farmed, but several ran businesses. W.S.D. Eborn owned the Bargain House, while W.C. Woolard and J. S. Cutler operated general merchandise stores.³ W.S.D. Eborn opened a water-powered saw mill in Bunyon where he made, among other products, wood shingles.⁴ In 1912, he built a cotton gin in the community.⁵ Leonard Shepard made wooden truck barrels for storing farm products for shipping that were sold in nearby Washington.⁶ Others in the community, including Rufus Johnson and Edgar Jackson worked on the railroad. Women worked alongside their husbands on farms or in stores or for themselves. Eighty-year-old Lucretia Boyd served as a midwife. Brothers Oliver and Joseph Allgood painted houses, while their brother, Willie worked as a carpenter.⁷

¹ William S. Powell and Michael Hill, *The North Carolina Gazetteer*, Second Edition (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010), 80.

² "Norfolk Southern Railway," en.wikipedia.org, accessed October 24, 2018; "Railroad Deal in Washington," *The Charlotte News*, August 22, 1903.

³ "Magic Oil Sold," *Washington Progress*, May 8, 1902.

⁴ "From River Road Station," *Washington Progress*, January 2, 1908.

⁵ "From River Road Station," *Washington Progress*, October 24, 1912.

⁶ Advertisement for Truck Barrels, *The Washington Gazette*, May 5, 1892.

⁷ 1900 Census of the Population, Long Acre Township, Beaufort County, North Carolina, www.ancestry.com, accessed October 25, 2018.

Like small communities throughout the county during this period, citizens living in Bunyon formed a kinship through a shared rural experience and their institutions such as churches, schools, and lodges. Franklin Cogelton founded the Charitable Brotherhood at Bunyon in 1892 to help people in need. Reporting in 1904 on the construction of a new lodge for the group, a local newspaper remarked that “Old Bunyon and her good people never do anything half way.”⁸

Road improvement and construction stood as a crucial issue in the first decades of the twentieth century. Bunyon farmers especially relied on access to outside markets and before the advent of the state highway department, citizens looked to the county to build and improve roads. In 1908, a local newspaper reported that “the public road at Bunyon where the mill stream crosses has been made in good condition with a force of convicts under the supervision of Capt. John Hill.”⁹ In 1916, the county conducted a survey for a road from Washington to Bunyon, but it is unclear if the road was built or what kind of surface it had.¹⁰ As the state’s Good Roads Movement took hold, the Beaufort County Road Commission spearheaded the construction of numerous roads, including, in 1922, the 5.3-mile road from Washington to Bunyon using funds from a million dollar bond issue.¹¹ Later that year, the State Highway Commission funded a hard-surface, eighteen-foot-wide road from Bunyon to Belhaven.¹²



Former Washington and Plymouth Railroad (later the Norfolk Southern Railway) tracks in Bunyon, photo taken from US 264, view to the north

⁸ “Well Known Beaufort County Man Suicides,” *The Daily Journal* (New Bern), February 7, 1914; “City Briefs,” *The Gazette-Messenger* (Washington), April 28, 1904.

⁹ “From River Road Station,” *Washington Progress*, January 23, 1908.

¹⁰ “River Road Station,” *Washington Progress*, May 11, 1916.

¹¹ Frank Kugler, Chairman of Beaufort County Road Commission, “Road Situation in Beaufort County,” *Washington Progress*, February 2, 1922.

¹² “Local and Personal,” *Washington Progress*, September 28, 1922; “Beaufort Co. to Get More Roads,” *The New Bern Sun Journal*, September 29, 1922.

III. Methodology

The field survey was conducted on October 22, 23, and 30, 2018. All buildings, structures, and landscapes historically associated with the Mixon House (BF1401) at 5140 US 264 (PIN: 6605-35-8253) and the Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House (BF1395) at 5819 US 264 (PIN: 6605-74-1547) were documented and photographed. The principal investigators reviewed files generated from previous survey projects in Beaufort County in order to develop a context for evaluating the two subject resources. Over the course of two days, they conducted a reconnaissance survey of the county to field-check other examples of the architectural styles and forms represented by the two subject properties. In most cases, those comparable properties were documented through photographs and field notes. Research on the project area was conducted on the Beaufort County Register of Deeds website, the Beaufort County GIS website, at the Beaufort County Clerk of Court office, at the Beaufort County Register of Deeds Office, on HPO Web, and at the North Carolina State Library and Archives in Raleigh. Ms. Martin interview Richard Whitley III, the owner of the Mixon House and a native of Beaufort County and Opal Parrott, granddaughter of Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard. Ms. Martin authored this report.



1938 Highway map showing Bunyon's location on US 264 (map from the North Carolina State Archives map collection, Raleigh, North Carolina)

IV. Mixon House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Mixon House
HPO Survey Site #	BF1401
Location	5140 US 264E, Washington vic.
PIN	6605-35-8253
Construction date	Circa 1910, circa 1920
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Mixon House façade, view to the southwest

Description

Setting

The Mixon House stands on a 1.41-acre site on the south side of US 264 in the unincorporated community of Bunyon in Long Acre Township east of Washington, Beaufort County, North Carolina. The house is located in a developed area typical for zones outside larger towns and county seats in eastern North Carolina where dwellings and other buildings primarily from the post-World War II era stand close together along a major highway or state route.

The yard surrounding the Mixon House is level and dotted on the west side with small trees and shrubs. A large magnolia tree looms over the southwest corner of the rear ell. A grove of substantial hickory and cedar trees shades the yard east of the house. Compact shrubs front the house, while an overgrown bush is just off the northeast front corner of the dwelling. An expansive agricultural field not associated with the property spreads out behind the parcel. A deep drainage ditch extends along the front of the parcel within the right-of-way for US 264.



Mixon House site plan (created from HPO Web)



Northwest (front) corner of the Mixon House, view to the south



Southeast corner of the Mixon House, view to the north



Southwest corner of rear ell, view to the northeast



Detail of front porch, view to the west



Mantel in parlor (northwest room), view to the southwest



Central passage with front door and door to northeast, front room, view to the northeast



Den in rear ell, view to the south-southwest

Mixon House

The asymmetrically-massed, one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling is a blend of vernacular Craftsman and Queen Anne styles. An off-center, front-facing gabled wing projects from the hipped-roof main block and a one-story gable-roofed ell with an interior chimney extends from the rear elevation. According to the current owner, the ell originally stood as a separate building that was later attached to the rear of the dwelling. The open brick pier foundation is obscured by vinyl siding.

The hipped-roof main block features gabled dormers on the front and rear roof slopes and a single interior brick chimney. Craftsman-style battered wood posts atop brick plinths support a one-story hipped roof porch that extends along the façade and wraps around to the west (side) elevation. The porch was likely altered in the 1920s when the current Craftsman-style supports replaced the Queen Anne-style porch. The original slender turned balusters from the original porch are stored in the attic. A portion of the porch ceiling in front of the main door has collapsed due to water damage. The porch is screened on the west elevation. Windows on the main portion are two-over-two wooden, double-hung sash, while the ell displays replacement one-over-one vinyl sash. The exterior of the front door and its transom has been covered with plywood and assorted wood.

A metal shingle roof tops the main block, while a standing-seam metal roof crowns the front wing and rear ell. The original wood shingle roof remains intact under the standing seam roof and is visible in the attic. Vinyl siding sheathes the entire exterior.

The interior follows a central-passage plan with rooms on each side of a wide hallway. A stair with a hefty turned newel post and a balustrade with slender turned balusters rises from the rear of the hallway and leads to the upper level containing a large room on the east and an attic space on the west. Several stock mantels remain throughout and the upper room on the east side displays original beadboard sheathing. Most of the finishes, including faux wood paneling and wallpaper, date to the mid-twentieth century during the period when the Simmonses occupied the house.

A small collection of outbuildings stands around and behind the house. A circa 1950 weatherboard, shed-roofed shed with exposed rafter tails and off-center double doors is located in the hickory tree grove on the east side of the parcel. It rests on a concrete block foundation. A circa 1970 one-story, gable-roofed, vinyl-sided workshop on a concrete foundation stands southeast of the house. Southwest of the house is a large circa 1920 front-gabled, board-and-batten barn with a standing-seam metal roof and double front doors. Just in front of the barn is the circa 1920 hipped-roof garage with rafter trails and a modern off-center garage door. It features an original five-panel door on its east elevation. A one-story, shed-roofed addition with four-over-one windows is attached to the rear elevation. According to the current owner, a large grape arbor once occupied the east yard, but it has been removed and replaced with a modern commercial building on its own parcel.



Shed from circa 1950, view to the southeast



Vinyl-sided workshop from circa 1970, view to the southwest



Garage (foreground) and barn from circa 1920, view to the south



Board-and-batten circa 1920 barn, view to the southeast

History

The dwelling's history remains somewhat unclear because of a lack of living heirs and a chain of title involving at least three estates. It is certain that Frances Morris Mixon Simmons (1932-2000) and her husband James Stuart Simmons (1924-1989) were the most recent occupants of the house. The current owner, who purchased the house from the Frances Simmons' half-sister, Mary Ellen Snyder, confirms this information.¹³

Merchant and farmer James G. Mixon (1882-1934) and his wife Mary Eborn Mixon (1889-1967), who operated a general merchandise store with her husband, built the house around 1910. The two had married in 1904 and in 1908, they had their only child Guy Lester Mixon.¹⁴ Little is known about the dwelling's early history, but in the fall of 1911, the local newspaper reported that "J. G. Mixon of Bunyon is making improvements at his home with new paint."¹⁵

In September 1910, fire destroyed J.G. Mixon's store and all the merchandise inside. The local newspaper reported that the loss totaled between three and five thousand dollars.¹⁶ Mixon rebuilt the store—then called Bunyon Supply Company—and in 1920, a newspaper reporter remarked that "the goods are first class and Mr. and Mrs. Mixon and all of the clerks are so nice and polite to every one [sic] that there is a great attraction for customers."¹⁷ According to the house's current owner, the store stood just across US 264.¹⁸ It was likely around this time that the Mixons updated the porch with Craftsman-style posts.

In 1931, Guy L. Mixon married Ellen Morris and the couple had a daughter, Frances Morris Mixon. Tragically, Guy Mixon died in 1935 at twenty-seven years old from a ruptured appendix.¹⁹ His widow, Ellen Morris Mixon and her three-year-old daughter went to live with her late husband's newly-widowed mother, Mary Eborn Mixon.²⁰ Frances Mixon married James S. Simmons (1924-1989) in 1956 and the couple lived in the house for several decades. James Simmons died in 1989, followed by Frances Simmons in 2000. She bequeathed the house built by her grandfather to her half-sister, Mary Ellen Dupree Snyder, who died in 2017.²¹ Mary Ellen Snyder's widower, James Snyder, sold the house to the current owner in 2018.²²

¹³ Frances Mixon Simmons. *Social Security Death Index, Master File*. Social Security Administration, www.ancestry.com, accessed October 24, 2018; Beaufort County Deed Book 1967, page 63, Beaufort County Register of Deeds Office; Robert Whitley III, interview with Jennifer Martin, October 23, 2018.

¹⁴ "From Mishville," *Washington Progress*, July 26, 1900; "From Bunyon," *Washington Progress*, March 6, 1902; Robert Whitley III, interview with Jennifer Martin, October 23, 2018.

¹⁵ "From River Road," *Washington Progress*, September 7, 1911.

¹⁶ "News in Washington," *The Raleigh Times*, September 15, 1910.

¹⁷ "River Road Station," *Washington Progress*, April 1, 1920.

¹⁸ Robert Whitley III, interview with Jennifer Martin, October 23, 2018.

¹⁹ Guy Lester Mixon Death Certificate dated August 9, 1935, Beaufort County Register of Deeds, Washington, North Carolina.

²⁰ 1940 Census of the Population, Long Acre Township, Beaufort County, North Carolina, www.ancestry.com, accessed October 24, 2018.

²¹ Will of Frances Mixon Simmons, File No. 00E105, Beaufort County Clerk of Superior Court, Washington, North Carolina.

²² Robert Whitley III, interview with Jennifer Martin, October 23, 2018.



Woolard House (BF1324) at 5067 Slatestone Road, view to the north

Context: Early twentieth century hipped and gable-and-hipped-roof houses in Beaufort County

Beaufort County contains a substantial number of early twentieth century hipped-roof houses, similar to the form at the core of the Mixon House. Typically, farmers built these vernacular houses in rural locations across the county. The form was easily adaptable to additions and could be updated by adding dormers or Craftsman or Queen Anne porch elements. Most examples have been altered with synthetic siding or replacement windows, or both. The house (BF1324) at the Woolard Farm at 5067 Slatestone Road northeast of Washington is a one-and-a-half-story, hipped-roof vernacular bungalow with battered porch posts on brick plinths. Aluminum siding covers the house and its windows have been replaced. The farm associated with the house retains an impressive collection of weatherboard outbuildings from the early twentieth century.

The Jimmy Norris House (BF1720) at 910 Windmill Road dates to circa 1910 and is a one-story hipped-roofed house with a projecting gable wing on its east (side) elevation. Although overgrown with vegetation, the house retains its original siding and windows. A highly intact bungalow (BF1350) with a hipped roof stands at 24330 US 264 southwest of Pantego. Built circa 1930, the weatherboard house (not pictured) has exposed rafter tails, a front dormer with a clipped gable, and two brick chimneys on its north elevation. An intact collection of frame outbuildings stands behind the dwelling.



Jimmy Norris House (BF1720) AT 910 Windmill Road, view to the south



House, 510 East Second Street, Washington, view to the north

The house at 510 East Second Street in the Washington Historic District (BF0188, NR) is similar in form to the Mixon House, except that its main roofline is side gabled instead of hipped. The house in Washington displays a front-facing gable with returns and a partial width porch with bungalow supports.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Mixon House remains at its original location in a residential and commercial area and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. Its integrity of workmanship, design, and feeling have been compromised by the application of vinyl siding, which obscures character-defining features of an early-twentieth-century vernacular Queen Anne/Craftsmen dwelling. The house's character is someone intact, most notably in its massing and form. But the application of synthetic siding compromises this character and therefore compromises its integrity of association.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Mixon House is a fairly typical house built at the beginning of the twentieth century. The Mixon Store, operated by James and Mary Mixon, does not survive. Although a few outbuildings remain on the 1.4-acre property, the house and its support buildings do not convey significance in the area of agriculture or any other area of significance related to local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Mixon House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. James G. Mixon and his wife, Mary Eborn Mixon, were farmers and merchants in Bunyon. Neither the Mixons nor later owners, including Frances and James S. Simmons, made contributions that strongly impacted local, state, or national history. Therefore, the house is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Mixon House represents a common vernacular form found in rural eastern North Carolina from the early twentieth century. Furthermore, many better-preserved examples of the house form remain in the vicinity of the Mixon House. Its lack of integrity and lack of significance render it ineligible for the NRPH under Criterion C in the area of architecture.

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

V. Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House
HPO Survey Site #	BF1395
Location	5819 US 264E, Washington vic.
PIN	6605-74-1547
Construction date	Circa 1910
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Façade, view to the north

Description

Setting

The Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House stands on a three-acre site on the north side of US 264 in Long Acre Township approximately five miles east of Washington, Beaufort County, North Carolina. Singleton Street is immediately to the east of the house. The house is located in a developed area typical for zones outside larger towns and county seats in eastern North Carolina where dwellings and other buildings primarily from the post-World War II era stand close together along a major highway or state route.

The house stands close to US 264 on a level parcel. The area immediately around the dwelling is covered with grass. Two large trees are northwest of the house. A post and wire fence runs east to west behind the house and separates it from a two-acre farm field that extends northward and is part of the property.



House site plan (created from HPO Web)



Northeast (rear) corner, view to the southwest



West elevation, view to the east



Overall property, view to the east

Rose Bell and Doyle Woodall House

The I-house—a two-story, single-pile frame dwelling—with a standing-seam metal roof features a corbelled stepped shoulder stretcher bond chimney on its west gable end. A hipped-roof one-story porch with replacement wood posts extends along a portion of the façade. Two-over-two double-hung sash on the main block are original, as is the five-panel front door. A one-story gabled ell extends from the rear elevation. It features altered windows on the east elevation and a concrete block flue on its north end. Vinyl siding covers the entire house.

A small, modern, front-gabled storage building stands behind the house.

The property owner lives in Morehead City and was unable to open the house for inspection by the principal investigators.

History

Rosa Bell Sheppard Woolard (1875-1961) and Doyle Woolard (1880-1929) built the house around 1900, not long after their marriage in 1898. The Woolards grew tobacco and corn.²³ Doyle Woolard died in 1929 leaving his wife to live on the farm until her death in 1961. In her will dated November 11, 1960, Rosa Bell directed that her grandson, William Bobby Woolard (1937-1988), inherit the “home and all of the land that I own on both sides of the Highway 264 in Beaufort County.”²⁴ After her brother William Bobby Woolard’s death in 1988, Opal Parrott, the current owner, inherited the house. Ms. Parrott reports that the house has been moved two or three times to accommodate the widening of US 264. According to Ms. Parrott, the sole remaining outbuilding built by her grandparents—a packhouse—burned in recent years.

Context: Early Twentieth-Century I-houses in Beaufort County

Rural Beaufort County contains a substantial number of I-houses from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Overwhelmingly, these dwellings display chimneys on one or both main gable ends, a one-story front porch, and an array of porch posts. I-houses in Beaufort County are weatherboard, but the majority have been covered in synthetic siding. An ell containing the kitchen typically extends from the rear elevation of the main block. I-houses from the turn of the twentieth century and the surrounding decades typically follow a central-passage plan.

²³ Opal Woolard Parrott, interview with Jennifer Martin, November 8, 2018; 1910 Census of the Population, Long Acre Township, Beaufort County, North Carolina, www.ancestry.com, accessed November 24, 2018; Rosa Bell Woolard Death Certificate, dated December 6, 1961, Beaufort County Register of Deeds, Washington, North Carolina; Doyle Woolard Death Certificate, dated November 26, 1929, Beaufort County Register of Deeds, Washington, North Carolina.

²⁴ Will of Rosa Bell Woolard, file No. 993, Beaufort County Wills, Beaufort County Clerk of Court, Washington, North Carolina; William Bobby Woolard in North Carolina Death Indexes, www.ancestry.com, accessed November 24, 2018.



House at 1985 NC 33 near Chocowinity, view to the south

The I-house at 1985 NC 33 near Chocowinity dates to circa 1900 and features brick chimneys on both gable ends. A shed-roofed porch supported by modern turned posts extends across the entire façade and shelters an unusual asymmetrical fenestration pattern where the front door is off center. It is possible the vinyl siding that covers the house has obscured an additional front door. An elongated one-story ell extends from the rear. The six-over-six double-hung sash are original.



House (BF1474) at 32 Camp Leach Road, view to the southwest

A more intact I-house stands at 32 Camp Leach Road. Sheathed in original weatherboard, the house (BF1474) dates to the late nineteenth century and features gable returns, a gable-end chimney and a hipped-roof porch with replacement posts. Windows throughout are original six-over-six double-hung sash. Beadboard sheathes the center of the first level of the façade.

The I-house (BF1319) at 8249 NC 99 between Bath and Belhaven (not pictured) dates to 1897 and displays original gable-end brick chimneys and an original door with arched lites. The stamped metal shingle roof remains intact, but the house has been covered with vinyl siding. The weatherboard Cutler House (BF1595) dates to around 1900 and is a three-bay I-house with exterior end brick chimneys and original six-over-six windows. A one-story, shed-roofed porch shelters a single-leaf wood door with sidelights. The main block and its ell remain intact, but large additions extend from the rear elevation.



Cutler House (BF1595), view to the southwest

Evaluation

Integrity

The Rosa Bell and Doyle Woolard House remains in a rural residential area and therefore retains integrity of setting. According to the current owner, a granddaughter of the original owners, the house has been moved two or three times in order to accommodate the widening of US 264. Therefore, its integrity of location has been compromised. Its integrity of workmanship, design, and feeling has been compromised by the application of vinyl siding. The application of synthetic siding compromises the dwelling's character and therefore compromises its integrity of association.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Woolard House is a fairly typical house built at the beginning of the twentieth century. Although the house is in a rural location in Beaufort County, it does not convey significance in the area of agriculture or any other area of significance related to local, state, or national history. Several Beaufort County farms with collections of intact outbuildings convey significance in the area of agriculture. Therefore, the Woolard House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Neither Rosa Bell Sheppard Woolard or Doyle Woolard or later owners have made contributions that strongly impacted local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Woolard House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Woolard House represents a common vernacular form from the early twentieth century. Many other houses of similar form in Beaufort County retain a higher level of integrity than the Woolard House. Its lack of integrity and lack of significance render it ineligible for the NRHP under Criterion C in the area of architecture.

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



Farm field just behind (north) of the house and included in its acreage, view to the south-southwest

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