



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

August 23, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
From: David Brook *David Brook*
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Re: Replacement of the 16th Street Bridge. TIP No. B-3930.
Guilford County, ER 01-7106

Thank you for your letter of July 5, 2000, transmitting the survey report by Richard L. Silverman, NCDOT concerning the above project.

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that the following eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under the criterion cited:

The 16th Street Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion (Design/Construction) as it is a rare example of a pedestrian-vehicular bridge in Greensboro displaying unique design features, such as the Egyptian Revival style obelisks, that exhibit the importance of urban design in the early part of the twentieth century. We concur with the boundaries as noted on page 6 of the report.

White Oak Cemetery – Cone Mausoleum is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C (Design/Construction) as an unique, intact example of a family cemetery. These features include the Greek Temple, walking paths, roads, fencing and landscape elements. White Oak Cemetery also meets Criterion Consideration D (cemeteries). We concur with the boundaries as noted on page 10 of the report.

We do not concur that the White Oak Cemetery is eligible under Criterion B for its association with Caesar Cone as it is not associated with his productive life and there are other National Register Properties in the area, such as the Proximity Mill that convey his significance in local history.

	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
ADMINISTRATION	507 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919) 733-4763 • 733-8653
ARCHAEOLOGY	421 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4619	(919) 733-7342 • 715-2671
RESTORATION	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4613	(919) 733-6547 • 715-4801
SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4618	(919) 733-6545 • 715-4801

Page 2 of 2
William H. Gilmore
August 23, 2000

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, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, Environmental Review Coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

DB:kgc

cc: Mary Pope Furr

bc: ~~Brown/Montgomery~~
County
RF



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

PHASE II

FINAL IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

ABRIDGED

REPORT PREPARED BY : RICHARD L. SILVERMAN, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

B-3930

PROJECT:

16TH STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

LOCATION:

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

STATE PROJECT No:

8.2494901

FEDERAL AID No:

BRZ-0708(8)

GF

192

2000

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

16TH STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
CITY OF GREENSBORO
GUILFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
TIP No. B-3930
STATE PROJECT No. 8.2494801
FEDERAL AID No. BRZ-0708(8)



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
REPORT PREPARED BY
RICHARD L. SILVERMAN

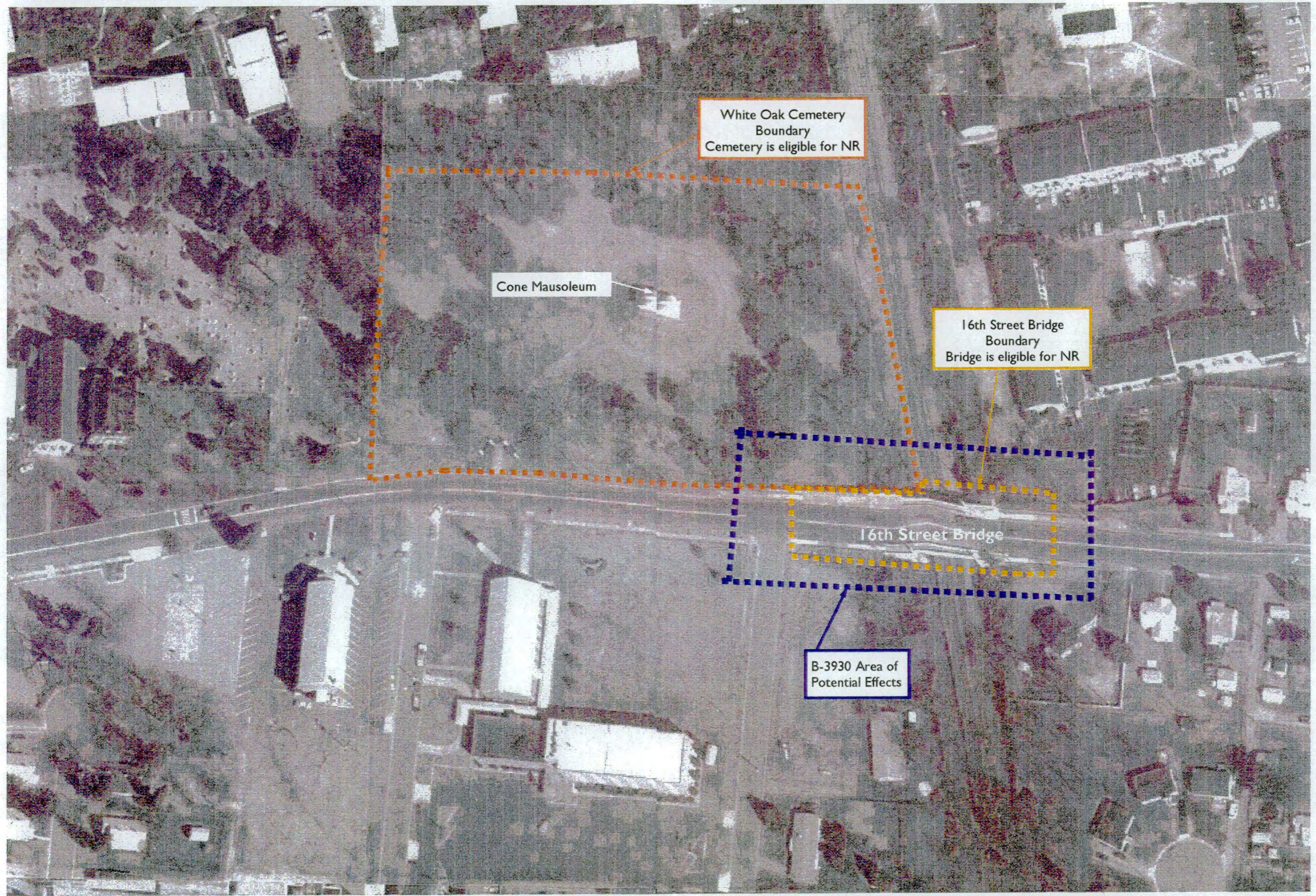
JUNE 2000

Richard Silverman
Principal Investigator
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

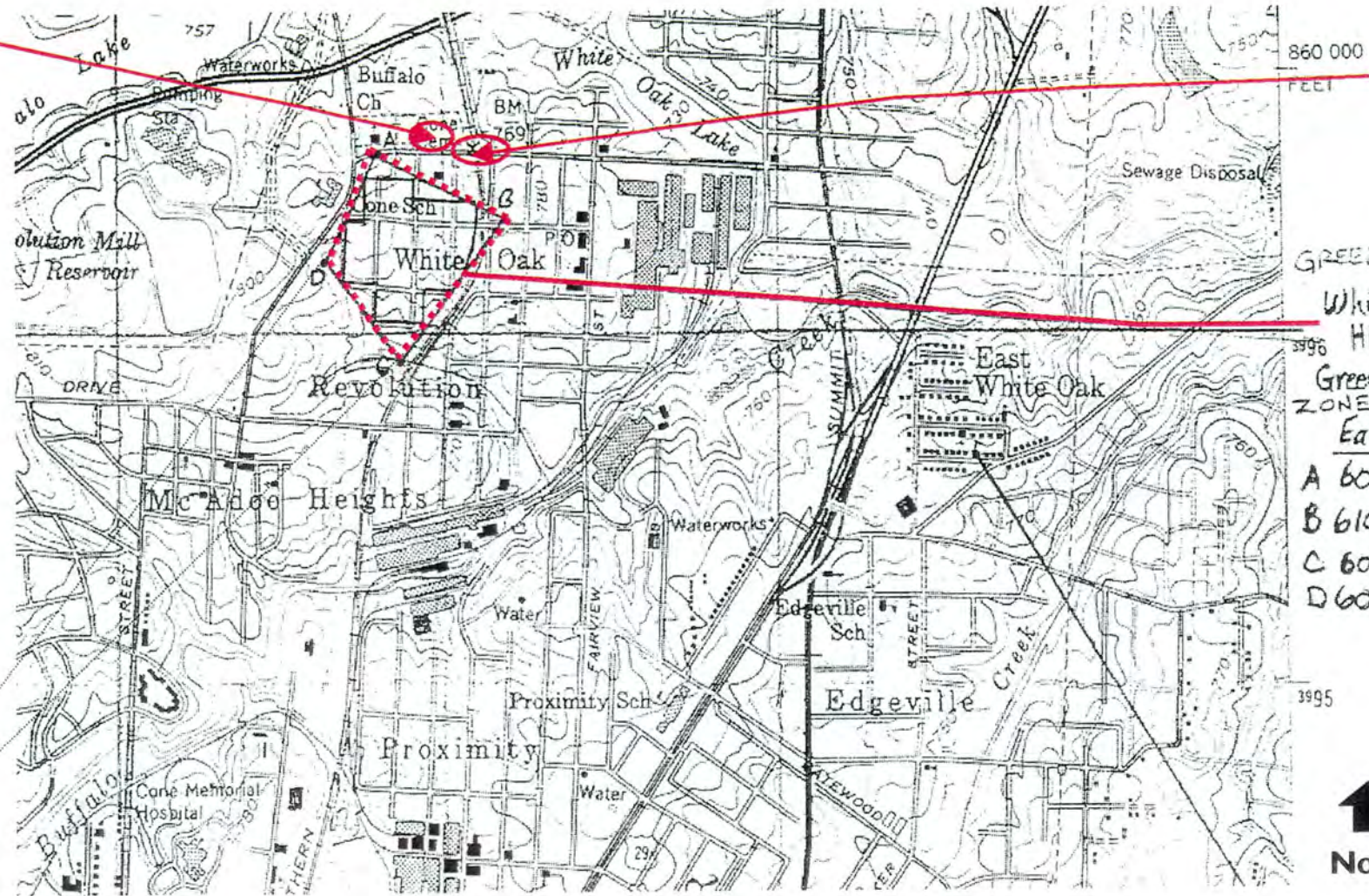
21 June 2000
Date

Barbara Church
Barbara Church, Head
Historic Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

June 21, 2000
Date



White Oak Cemetery



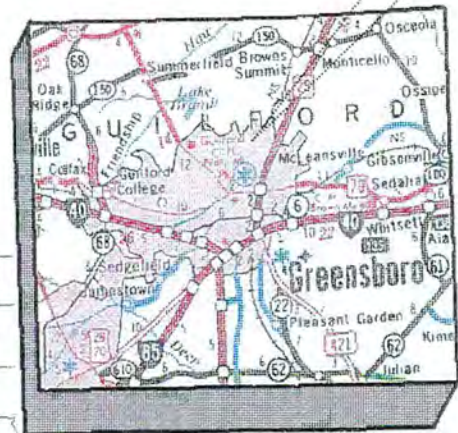
16th Street Bridge

GREENSBORO ZONE 17
 White Oak New Town
 Hist. Dist.
 Greensboro, Guilford Co., NC
 ZONE 17 1:24000
 Easting Northing

A	609800	3996500
B	610190	3996330
C	609860	3995920
D	609630	3996200



State Historic Preservation Office Map



MAP-2

16th Street Bridge
Vicinity Map

THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE SECTION - NCDOT

Project Description

Replace 16th Street Bridge

Location

Greensboro, Guilford County, NC

Historic Architecture Principal Investigator

R. Silverman

Drawn By

R. Silverman

Date Drawn

06-05-2000



W.O. No.

8.2494901

TIP No.

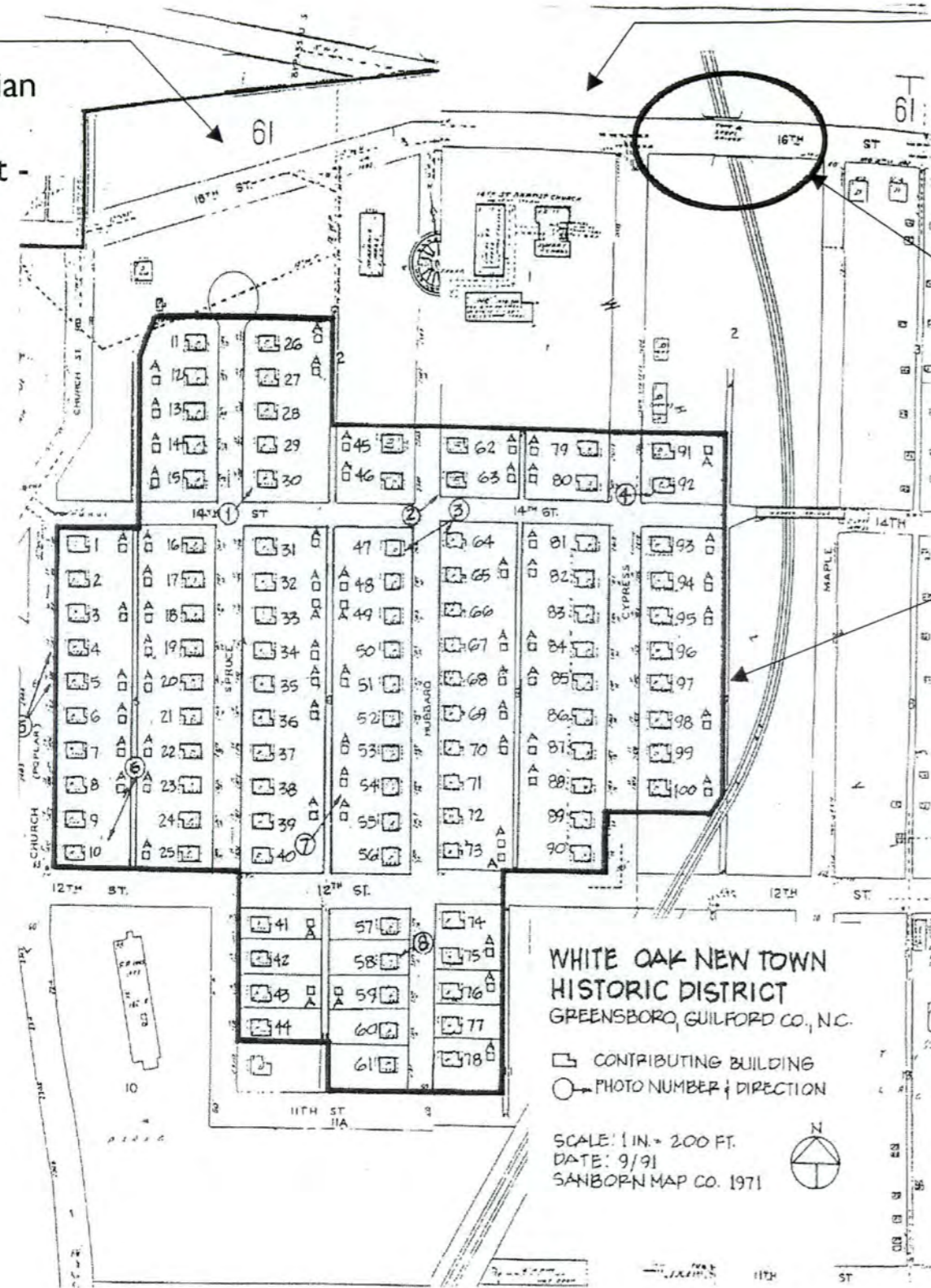
B-3930

Buffalo Presbyterian Church
(Study List - Rejected)

White Oak Cemetery
(Eligible for NR)

16th Street Bridge
(Eligible for NR)

White Oak New Town Historic District
(Existing Historic District)



THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE SECTION - NCDOT

Project Description

Replace 16th Street Bridge

Location

Greensboro, Guilford County, NC

Historic Architecture Principal Investigator

R. Silverman

Drawn By

R. Silverman

Date Drawn

06-05-2000



W.O. No.

8.2494901

TIP No.

B-3930

Map-3

Map of White Oak New Town Historic District

Location of 16th Street Bridge also shown

16th Street Bridge Replacement
City of Greensboro
Guilford County, North Carolina
TIP No. B-3930

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The city of Greensboro, North Carolina has signed a Municipal Bridge Agreement (MBA) with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and proposes to replace the 16th Street Bridge over the Norfolk Southern Railway with a new structure on the same location of the existing bridge. The funding is being provided by the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement & Rehabilitation Program. The 16th Street Bridge is a single span on reinforced concrete deck on plate girders and floor beam system encased in concrete on reinforced concrete abutments. The bridge was constructed in 1927 with an overall length on the centerline of 66 feet 10 inches. It has a 36 foot clear roadway width with 5 foot 9 inch sidewalks on both sides. The crossing has a posted weight limit of 3 tons, no trucks. It maintains a sufficiency rating of 29.5 compared to 100.0 for a new structure. The bridge is in use at the time of this report, June, 2000. Traffic will be routed away from the project site during the new bridge construction.

The “Do-Nothing” or “No-Build” alternative ignores an already deficient crossing. If the existing crossing is not eventually reconstructed, this section of 16th Street would have to be closed when the bridge can no longer safely accommodate traffic. Such a closure would separate established neighborhoods and have a very undesirable effect on the traffic operations in the area by increasing travel distances and travel time for local motorists and emergency vehicles that currently depend on the crossing for access. Due to the service provided by the 16th Street Bridge, this alternative is not considered prudent.

Located in the White Oak neighborhood in northeast Greensboro (map-1), land use in the vicinity of the proposed project is mainly residential, however commercial and religious uses are also present. Near the bridge replacement project, but not within the project Area of Potential Effects (APE) is the White Oak New Town Historic District, comprised largely of early twentieth century detached mill houses (maps-2 and 3).

The APE for historic architectural resources was delineated by a NCDOT staff architectural historian and reviewed in the field. The APE boundary is shown on the attached map (map-1).

PURPOSE OF SURVEY AND REPORT

NCDOT conducted a survey and compiled this report in order to identify historic architectural resources located within the APE as part of the environmental studies performed by NCDOT and documented by a Categorical Exclusion (CE). This report is prepared as a technical addendum to the CE and as part of the documentation of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the NHPA requires that if a federally funded, licensed, or permitted project has an effect on a property listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be given an opportunity to comment. This report is on file at NCDOT and available for review by the public.

METHODOLOGY

NCDOT conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of FHWA Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60; and Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources by NCDOT. This survey and report meet the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service. In addition, this report conforms to the expanded requirements for architectural survey reports developed by NCDOT and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office dated February 2, 1996.

NCDOT conducted an intensive survey with the following goals: (1) to determine the APE, defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist; (2) to identify all significant resources within the APE; and (3) to evaluate these resources according to the National Register of Historic Places criteria.

The survey methodology consisted of a field survey and background research on the project area. A NCDOT staff architectural historian conducted a field survey on February 23, 2000, by car and on foot. All structures over fifty years of age in the APE were photographed and keyed to an area map.

Background research was conducted at the Guilford County Courthouse in Greensboro, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh, and the North Carolina State Library in Raleigh.

SUMMARY FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

The project is situated on 16th Street between Cyprus and Yanceyville Streets in the White Oak neighborhood. A scoping meeting for project B-3930 was held on August 11, 1999, with officials from NCDOT present. The SHPO was not in attendance. Following the scoping meeting, (1) The 16th Street Bridge was evaluated for National Register eligibility; (2) Additional historic architecture fieldwork and research was conducted for this project. There are no properties that are eligible under Criteria Consideration G in the APE.

Properties Listed on the National Register or North Carolina State Study List:

The 16th Street Bridge – Study List Property (4/12/90)
Figures 1-10

Properties Evaluated and Considered Eligible for the National Register:

White Oak Cemetery – Cone Mausoleum
Figures 11-13

Properties Evaluated and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register:

None

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

*Properties on the North Carolina State Study List –
Evaluated and Considered Eligible for the National Register*

16th Street Bridge

Location

The 16th Street Bridge is located between Cypress and Yanceyville Streets in the White Oak neighborhood in the City of Greensboro.

Description

Constructed in 1927, the 16th Street Bridge is a single-span reinforced concrete deck on plate girders and floor beam system encased in concrete on reinforced concrete abutments. The bridge has an overall length of 66 feet 10 inches. It has a 36 foot clear roadway width with 5 foot 9 inch sidewalks on both sides. The primary design features of the bridge are: battered pier bases that are articulated by scored bands that suggest rustication; a cast-concrete rail design with base, recessed panel, and coping details. Marking the four corner locations where bridge deck engages the pier abutments are multi-faceted obelisks derived from Egyptian Revival style detailing. The obelisks once supported decorative lighting fixtures that have since been removed. Situated in the area between the pedestrian walkways and the asphalt-paved 16th Street is the steel girder structure that rises above grade several feet.¹

Secondary features of the bridge do not embody the same sense of design that is found in the poured concrete sections. On the south side of the bridge, the girder supports a cast-iron pipe that runs the length of the bridge. The pipe is capped by a metal guard rail made of sections of pipe. On the north side of the bridge, beyond the span of the deck, there is a substantial grade change in the area fronting the White Oak Cemetery. A retaining wall and concrete rail protect cars and pedestrians in this area. The bridge spans over two rail lines owned by Norfolk Southern. The original bridge plate, typically used to identify and date a bridge, was not found on site.²

Historic Context and Background Information

The 16th Street Bridge and the Bessemer Avenue Bridge (located nearby) were built in 1927 and 1928 by the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company.³ Almost identical, they consist of two cast-iron barrier rails on either side of the roadway. Cast concrete paneled walls are found outside these rails. Placed at the four corners of the paneled walls are found decorative obelisks that were once used for lamp stands. The 16th Street Bridge differs slightly, with an attached iron pipe running the length of one of its cast-iron rails. Both bridges were designed by New York architects Alfred Fellheimer and Steward Wagner, who were responsible for the Southern Passenger Station on East Wilmington Street in Greensboro.⁴

¹ Historic Architectural Resources Survey by Richard L. Silverman, February 2000.

² Ibid.

³ NCDOT, "Finding of Adverse Effect Documentation for Replacement of Bridge No. 580 on Bessemer Avenue, TIP No. B-2877, October 1993", p. 3.

⁴ Ibid.

In 1994, the Bessemer Avenue Bridge was replaced by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The design of the new bridge was developed in consultation with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the City of Greensboro to reflect the character and design of the original bridge (fig. 14). This included a decorative concrete-paneled rail design meeting the current safety regulations; the inclusion of four decorative lampposts with light fixtures on the new bridge; salvaging and preserving the original plate on the new bridge; and the use of sidewalks on both sides of the new structure. The Bessemer Avenue bridge replacement project was determined to have no adverse effect on an adjoining Fisher Park Historic District, and received concurrence from the SHPO.⁵ A copy of the 1920's construction drawings for the Bessemer Street Bridge survive today in the office of the SHPO. Since the original Bessemer Avenue Bridge no longer stands, the 16th Street Bridge stands as the only known example of a bridge of this design in the State of North Carolina.

Evaluation

The 16th Street Bridge, Greensboro, North Carolina, is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. 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.⁶ The historic significance of the 16th Street Bridge is based on its design and engineering features and it does not directly contribute to the development of Greensboro or the White Oak New Town community.

The 16th Street Bridge is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association 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. For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with persons individually significant within the historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when 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.⁷ There are no persons of national, state, or local significance associated with the 16th Street Bridge.

The 16th Street Bridge is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (Design/Construction) for its significance in architecture. 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

⁵ Categorical Exclusion and Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation and Approval, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and NC Department of Transportation, Division of Highways, March, 1994.

⁶ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 15.

a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.⁸ The 16th Street Bridge is a rare surviving example of a pedestrian-vehicular bridge in Greensboro that exhibits unique design features, such as the use of Egyptian-Revival style obelisks. Designed by New York architects Alfred Fellheimer and Steward Wagner, who were responsible for the Southern Passenger Station on East Wilmington Street, the 16th Street Bridge represents the development of the importance of urban design in Greensboro during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Many of the bridge's original design features remain intact and are in good condition. Except for the removal of the decorative light fixtures, previous repairs of the bridge have not led to the concealment of any of the character-defining features of the structure.

The 16th Street Bridge is not **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (Information Potential). 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 or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.⁹ The architectural component of the bridge is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology; therefore the 16th Street Bridge is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

Boundary

The National Register boundary for the 16th Street Bridge has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary is limited to the footprint of the bridge, its abutments, retaining walls, and railings that were defined by its original construction (map-1).

A site map and the historic boundary is delineated on the aerial photograph found at the end of this report.

National Register Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the 16th Street Bridge has been drawn to include all of the contributing resources.

⁸ Ibid., 17.

⁹ Ibid., 21.

Properties Evaluated and Considered Eligible for the National Register:

White Oak Cemetery & Cone Mausoleum

Location

White Oak Cemetery is located in the White Oak neighborhood in the northeast section of the city of Greensboro, North Carolina. The main entrance to the cemetery faces the north side of 16th Street. To the east of the property is Buffalo Presbyterian Church; to the west is the Norfolk Southern Rail Line; to the southeast is the 16th Street Bridge.

Description

White Oak Cemetery is situated on an approximately 1.25 acre site in the White Oak neighborhood. The site is relatively flat and is characterized by an open, parklike space graced with mature deciduous and evergreen trees, drives and paved walkways, a Greek-temple style mausoleum, family grave plots, formal gates, and wrought-iron fencing. The cemetery is accessed by an entry gate that features four stone Classical-revival style designed piers that open onto a curved, paved drive leading to the Cone Mausoleum, designed for Caesar Cone who died in 1917.

The Cone Mausoleum is based on a Greek Doric temple form. There are seven columns on the sides of the mausoleum and four on the pediment ends. The mausoleum is set on a three-stepped plinth on a gently-sloping rise. The temple form mausoleum is the sole structure in the cemetery and it occupies a position of prominence that is suggestive of its importance in the context of the cemetery.

To the north and west of the cemetery are eight family cemetery plots that range in size from 36' by 60' to 36' by 65'. Plots 1-3 are situated to the north of the mausoleum and Plots 4-8 are located to the west (figure 13).

Historic Context and Background Information

White Oak Cemetery

The White Oak Cemetery was founded by Caesar Cone (22 April 1859— 1 March 1917), who chose his burial site on 16th Street, adjacent to the Buffalo Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. The site was established by Proximity Manufacturing Company, a textile business founded and owned by Caesar and Moses Cone. After Caesar's death in 1917, Proximity Manufacturing Company constructed the mausoleum, built the decorative wrought-iron fence and maintained the cemetery, then known as the Buffalo Cemetery. During the course of the twentieth century, the White Oak Cemetery became the final resting place of many prominent Cone family members.

In the period between the 1920's and 1940's, several Cone family members were buried at White Oak Cemetery. Among those include: Irving Cone Long, Julius Cone, Jr., Clarence Cone, Sr., and Julius Cone, Sr. In 1945, Proximity Manufacturing Company, which still owned and maintained the grounds, prepared to divest itself of the property. It deeded the cemetery acreage to Caesar's widow, Jeanette. She, in

turn, established the White Oak Cemetery Trust with other Cone family members and deeded the property to the trust.

Between 1948-1955, Cone family members, donated money annually to pay expenses of grounds upkeep. In September, 1954 the White Oak Cemetery became a charitable corporation. From the 1950's and into the 1960's Herman Cone, Bernard Cone, Jeanette Cone, Sadie Cone, Lolly Cone, Laura Cone, Ed Loewenstein were buried at White Oak. In 1955-56 the trustees of the cemetery made an effort to establish an endowment so that earned income would provide enough expense for cemetery upkeep. Additional substantial gifts came from Cone family members. In 1963-64, the endowment was replenished with additional contributions.

Maintenance from the 1950's through the 1970's generally included grass mowing with little attention to other items. Trees and shrubbery, the wrought iron fence, the mausoleum, driveway, and the general perimeter had not been fully maintained during this period. In 1978-80, Benjamin and Betty Cone's began a campaign to repair the deterioration that accrued over those thirty years. In the 1980's Benjamin Cone, Sr. was buried at White Oak Cemetery. At the time of this report, June 2000, The White Oak Cemetery, Inc., continues to direct the affairs of the cemetery.

Caesar Cone (1859-1917) and the Cone Family

Caesar Cone, for whom the mausoleum was built, was the son of Herman and Helen Guggenheimer Cone. His parents were natives of Bavaria, born about ten miles apart but unacquainted until they met in Richmond, Virginia, where they were married in 1856. It was in Richmond that Herman owned a mercantile business. Later, Herman established another business in Jonesboro, Tenn., where Caesar was born.

In 1891, Caesar and his Brother Moses founded the Cone Export and Commission Company with offices in New York. It soon became the largest textile selling organization in the world. The two brothers began acquiring land in and around Greensboro and in 1892 established their first textile works in Greensboro, the Southern Finishing and Warehouse Company. Caesar Cone married Jeanette Siegel in 1894. Then settled in Greensboro, Caesar and Jeanette would have three sons, Herman, Benjamin, and Caesar (all of whom are now buried in White Oak Cemetery).

In 1895-96 Caesar and Moses opened a large cotton mill, the Proximity Manufacturing Company, with Caesar serving as acting president. The original mill had only 240 looms, but in less than ten years the company had enlarged its capital stock and built another very large plant, the White Oak Mill. This second mill became the largest denim manufacturing plant in the world. White Oak Mill was named for a large, old white oak that was used as a starting point in surveying the property. The Cone's denim mill provided a durable, dependable, and lasting cloth for work clothes. By reducing the cost of production, the Cones lowered the cost of clothes and helped stabilize the world market.

The Cone brothers, Caesar and Moses, established model villages around their mills and generously supported the schools and churches there. The White Oak New Town (now listed in the National Register as a Historic District), housed approximately 15,000 workers in 1925, according to the company. The houses in White Oak New Town were located within walking distance of the mill, shopping, school, churches,

and the YMCA, all of which were built or subsidized by the company. The establishment of White Oak New Town, and other Cone mill villages reflects the power and importance of the Cone family as it developed and dominated the textile business in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in Greensboro.

While Caesar Cone, and his brother Moses, have been well documented as the primary figures in the development of Greensboro's textile industry in the early twentieth century, the Cone family remains well known to this day for their charitable endeavors in North Carolina and elsewhere. Moses Cone, who is not buried in the White Oak Cemetery, left a trust of \$15 million from which support has been given to a wide variety of causes. The Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital also takes its name from him.

Evaluation

White Oak Cemetery, Greensboro, North Carolina, is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. 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.¹⁰ White Oak Cemetery does not contribute to the development of the White Oak New Town community.

White Oak Cemetery is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association 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. For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with persons individually significant within the 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.¹¹

White Oak Cemetery is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association with the life of Caesar Cone (1859-1917). White Oak Cemetery, established by Proximity Manufacturing Company, is the final resting place of the company's founder, Caesar Cone. The development of early twentieth century Greensboro as an industrial center for textile manufacturing in a large part must be attributed to Caesar Cone, and his brother Moses Cone. In the first quarter of the twentieth century, the Cone family played a primary role in shaping the physical as well as economic development of Greensboro. Caesar Cone's importance to the Cone family as well as to Greensboro is represented architecturally by the Cone

¹⁰ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 15.

Mausoleum and its surrounding design and landscape features. It remains today as a tribute to the leading textile industrialist in twentieth century Greensboro.

White Oak Cemetery is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (Design/Construction) for its significance in architecture. 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.¹²

White Oak Cemetery is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C because it is a unique example of a family cemetery designed during the first quarter of the twentieth century in Greensboro. The main design features, which all survive intact, are the Greek Temple mausoleum, the roads and walking paths, fencing, and landscape elements. The Greek temple form mausoleum stands alone in the cemetery as the only prominent structure, intended to honor Caesar Cone, founder of Proximity Manufacturing Company. The White Oak Cemetery's site, structure, and landscape features have not seen significant alteration since their initial construction shortly after Caesar Cone's death in 1917.

White Oak Cemetery also meets Criterion Consideration D (Cemeteries) because it contains the grave of a person of outstanding importance. Caesar Cone is a person of outstanding importance in the course of events in the local history of Greensboro, North Carolina. The life of Caesar Cone and the industrial development of Greensboro, North Carolina in the early twentieth century are inextricably linked. The built legacy of Caesar Cone is represented in the industrial growth of Greensboro, specifically the development of Proximity Mill and its associated mill villages.

Boundary

The National Register boundary for White Oak Cemetery has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary is documented by a plot plan prepared by Herman Cone, Sr. It is drawn to include all elements and site features present at the White Oak Cemetery, including the original wrought-iron fencing and stone gates surrounding the burial grounds (figure 13).

The historic boundary is delineated on the aerial photograph found at the beginning of this report (map-1).

¹² Ibid., 17.

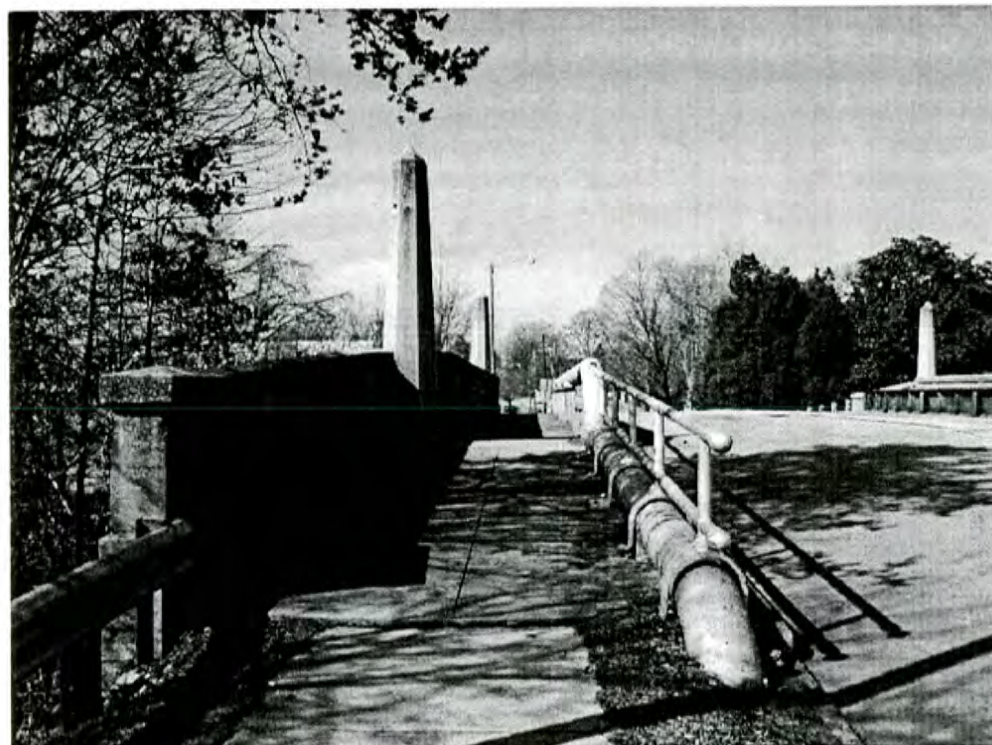
National Register Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for White Oak Cemetery has been drawn to include all of the contributing resources.

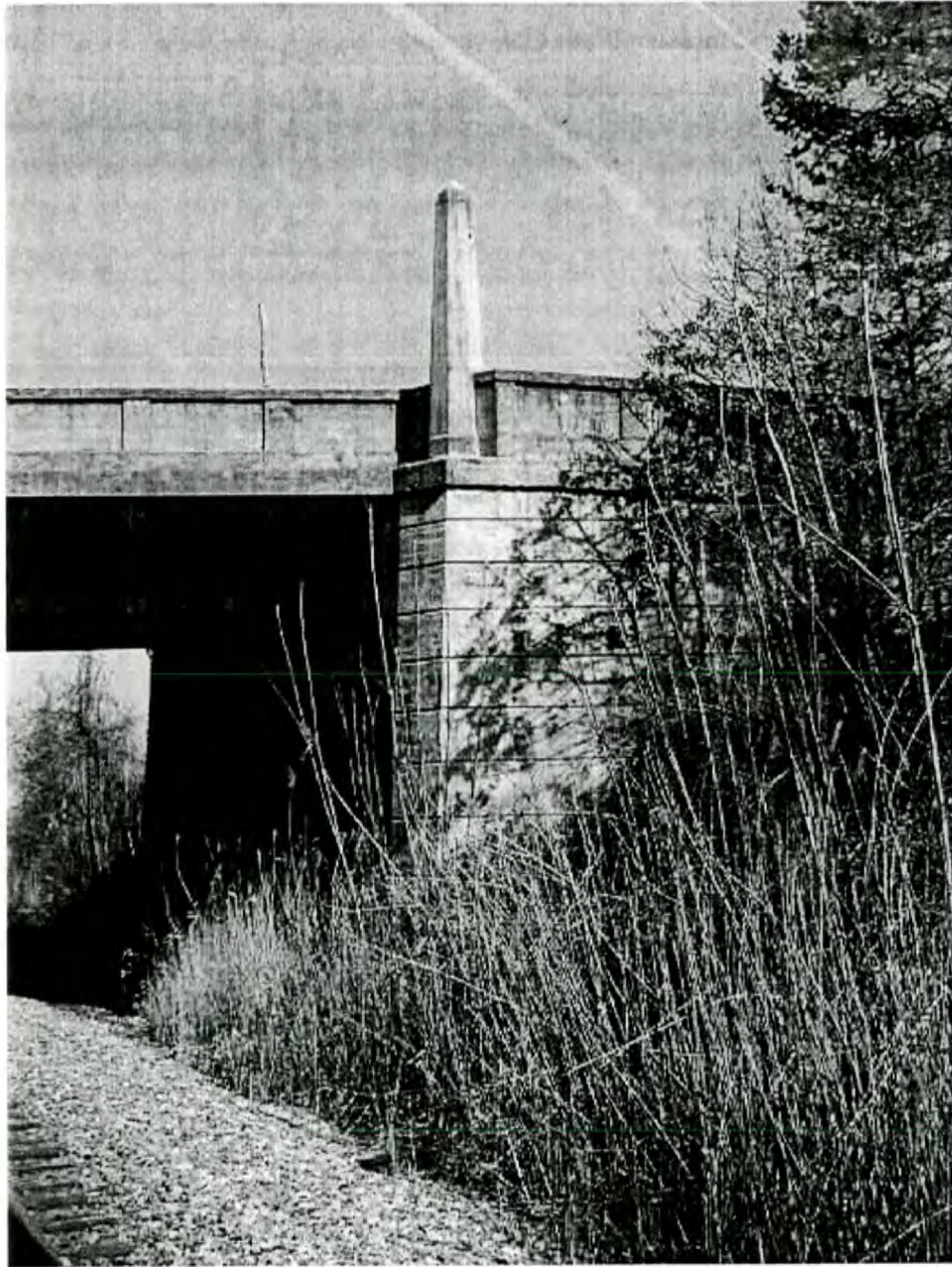
ILLUSTRATIONS



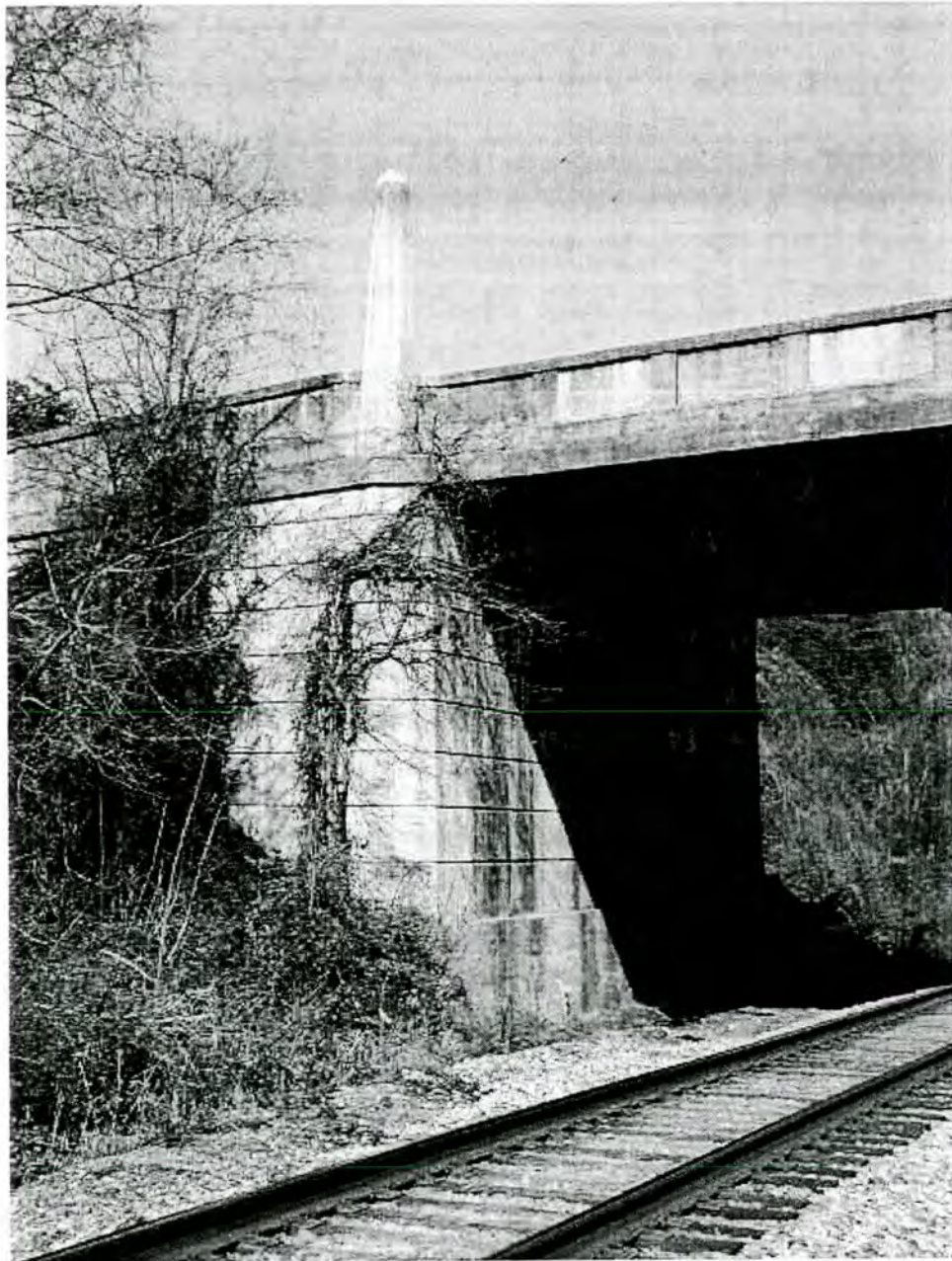
(FIG. 1) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



(FIG. 2) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



(FIG. 3) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



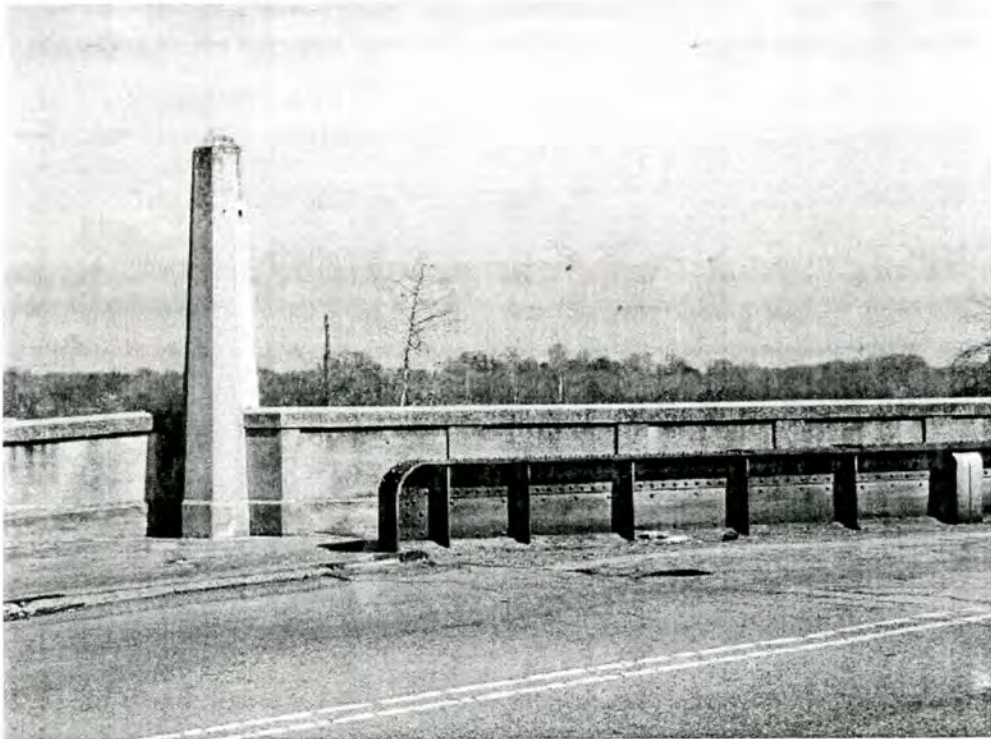
(FIG. 4) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



(FIG. 5) WHITE OAK CEMETERY FENCE AND PIER & 16TH STREET BRIDGE



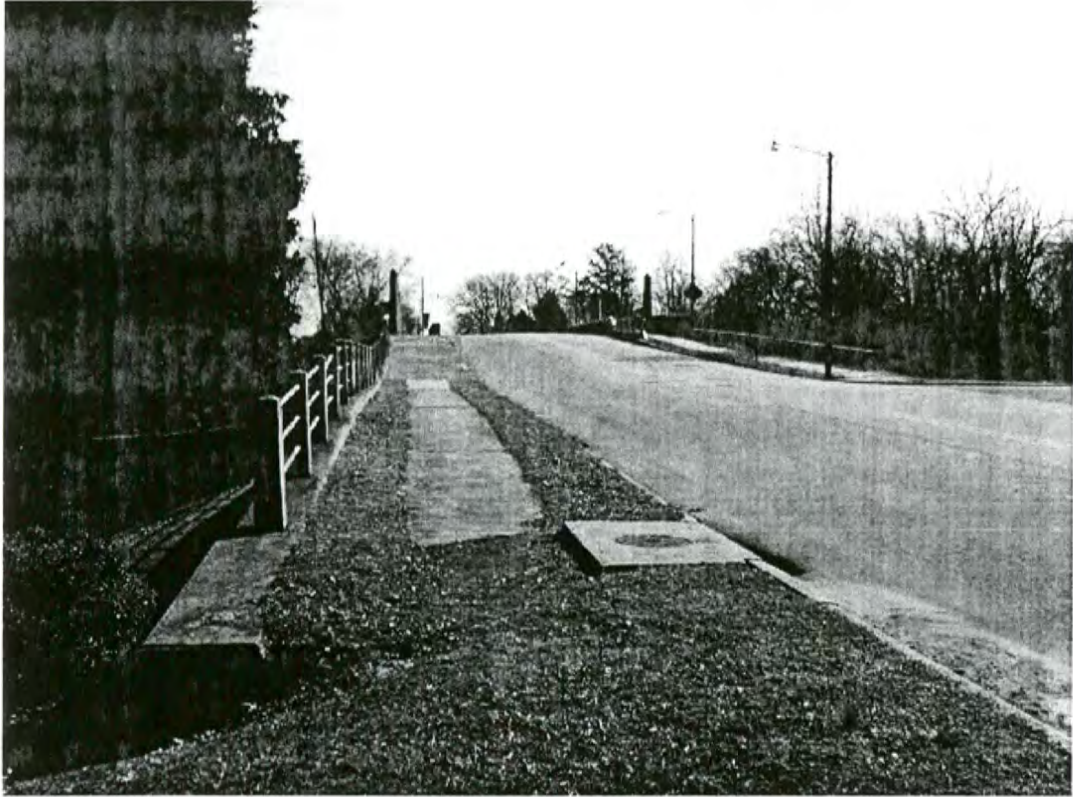
(FIG. 6) WHITE OAK CEMETERY FENCE AND PIER & 16TH STREET BRIDGE



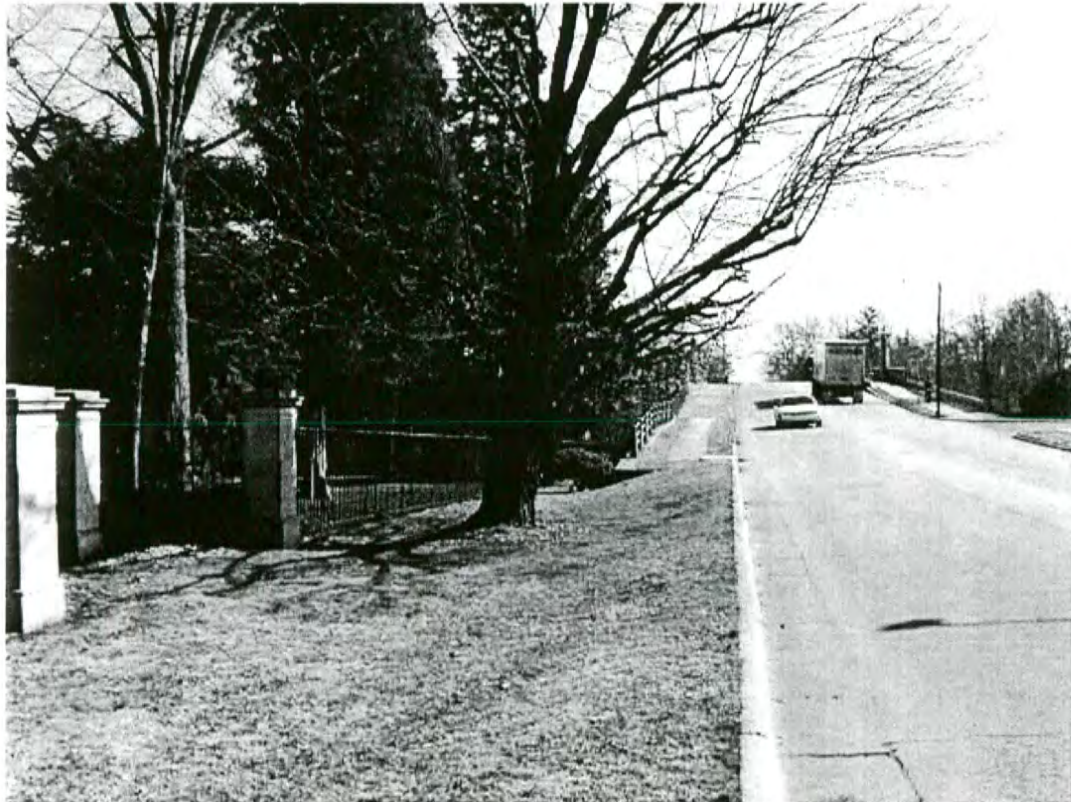
(FIG. 7) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



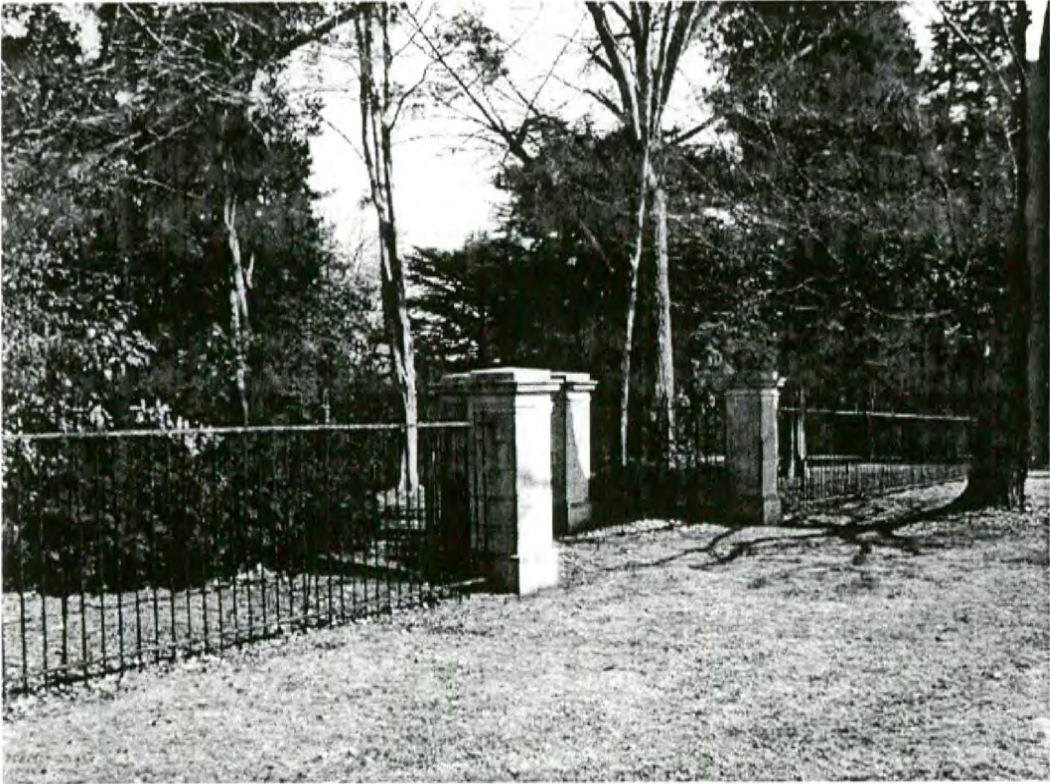
(FIG. 8) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



(FIG. 9) 16TH STREET BRIDGE



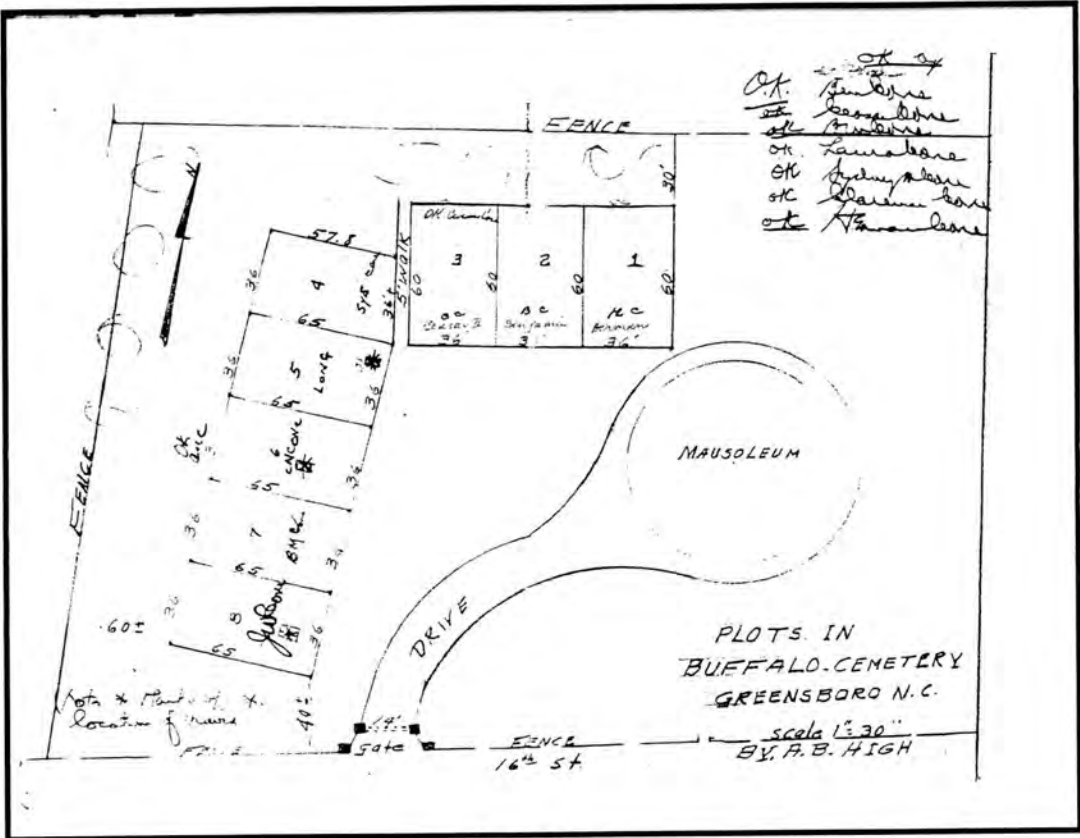
(FIG. 10) 16TH STREET BRIDGE & WHITE OAK CEMETERY



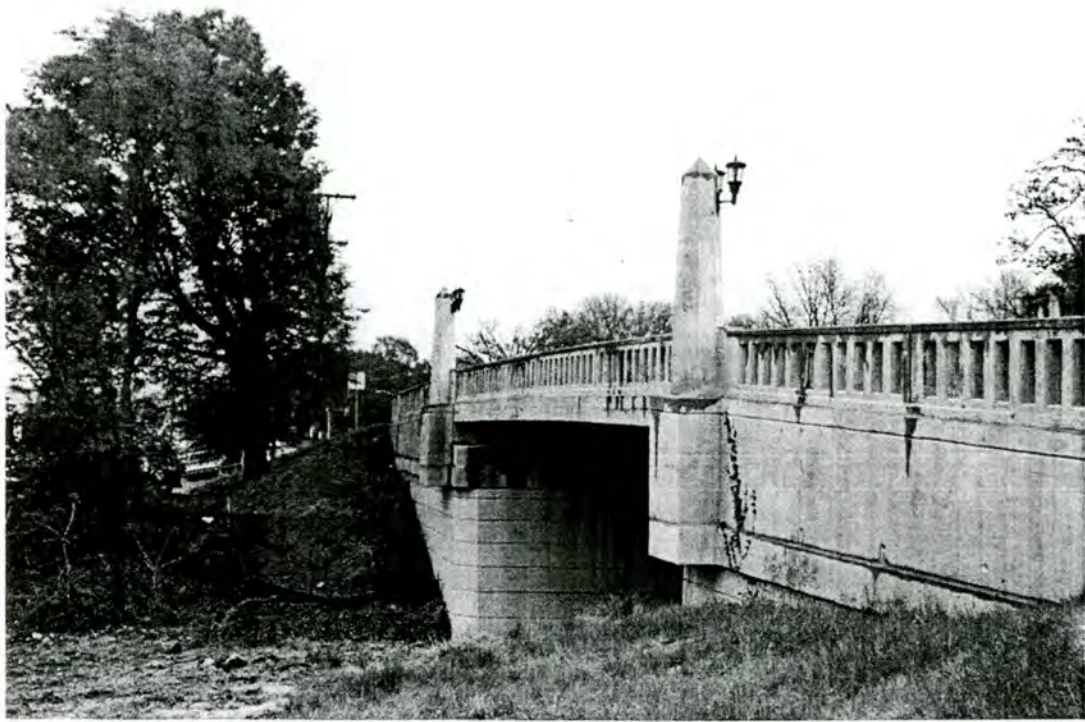
(FIG. 11) WHITE OAK CEMETERY



(FIG. 12) WHITE OAK CEMETERY- CONE MAUSOLEUM



(FIG. 13)
 WHITE OAK CEMETERY - PLOT PLAN
 (PROVIDED BY ELIZABETH CONE OF GREENSBORO, NC)



(FIG. 14) BESSEMER AVENUE BRIDGE, GREENSBORO (BY NCDOT)

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