



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office

Peter B. Sandbeck, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary  
Jeffrey J. Crow, Deputy Secretary

Office of Archives and History  
Division of Historical Resources  
David Brook, Director

April 24, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Greg Thorpe, Ph.D., Director  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch  
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Peter Sandbeck *PSB*

SUBJECT: Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Replace Bridge 7 on SR 1250 over Tar River,  
B-4503, Edgecombe County, ER 05-1195

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 2006, transmitting the survey report by Sarah Woodward David for the above project.

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that the following property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places because it no longer retains integrity:

*EB-0792 ED0620*

- Cherry House, NC Highway 97, Rocky Mount 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, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above-referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr  
Sarah Woodward David

bc: Brown/McBride  
County

ADMINISTRATION  
RESTORATION  
SURVEY & PLANNING

Location  
507 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC  
515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC  
515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh, NC

Mailing Address  
4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617  
4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617  
4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617

Telephone/Fax  
(919)733-4763/733-8653  
(919)733-6547/715-4801  
(919)733-6545/715-4801



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT  
SECRETARY

April 6, 2006



HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Mr. Peter B. Sandbeck  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
4617 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

Ref. # ER 05-1195

~~TX~~

S -

Dear Mr. Sandbeck:

RE: TIP No. B-4503, Replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over Tar River Edgecombe *DUE 4/25/06*  
County, North Carolina

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Please find attached two copies of the Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, which meets the guidelines for survey procedures for NCDOT and the National Park Service. This report evaluates the Cherry House and the area comprising the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for their eligibility for listing to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please review the attached survey report and provide us with your comments. If you have any questions concerning the accompanying information, please contact me at 715-1361.

Sincerely,

Sarah Woodard David  
Historic Architecture

Attachment

cc (w/attachment): John F. Sullivan, Federal Highway Administration  
Hank Schwab, Project Engineer, PDEA

APR 10 2006

# Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report

Replacement of Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over Tar River  
Edgecombe County, North Carolina

TIP No. B-4503  
WBS No. 33734.1.1  
Federal Aid No. BRSTP-1250(2)



**Sarah Woodard David**  
**Architectural Historian**  
**North Carolina Department of Transportation**

March 2006

**Edgecombe County Report #434**  
Replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250  
(Over Tar River)  
ER 05-1195, TIP No. B-4503

APR 10 2006


# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

Replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over the Tar River  
Edgecombe County, North Carolina

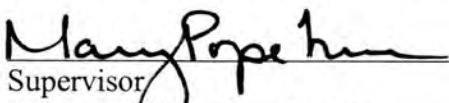
TIP No. B-4503  
WBS No. 33734.1.1.  
Federal Aid No. BRSTP-1250(2)

Sarah Woodard David  
Architectural Historian  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

March 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Investigator  
Historic Architecture Section  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

3-29-2006  
date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor  
Historic Architecture Section  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

3/29/2006  
date



## Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over the Tar River in Edgecombe County. Bridge No. 7 is a five-span, 238-foot long, steel-stringer bridge built in 1954 and reinforced in 1980. NCDOT's Historic Bridge Inventory determined that this bridge is not eligible for the National Register. The new bridge will span the Tar River immediately west of the existing structure. SR 1250 will be improved to the north and south of the new bridge to facilitate the addition of turn lanes at the intersection of SR 1250 and NC 97. Between NC 97 and the north end of the new bridge, SR 1250 will be realigned to accommodate the approach to the new bridge. To the south of the new bridge, a new section of SR 1250 will be built and will tie into the existing SR 1250 at a point about five hundred feet south of the south end of the new bridge. Bridge No. 7, the section of SR 1250 between Bridge No. 7's north end and NC 97, and the section of SR 1250 between the south end of Bridge No. 7 and the point where the new approach ties into SR 1250 will be removed.

NCDOT historian, Penne Sandbeck, visited the project area in October 2005, delineated the project Area of Potential Effects (APE), and photographed the project area. Eight properties over fifty years in age were recorded in the APE. Seven of those were determined not eligible for the National Register and not worthy of further evaluation. On January 10, 2006, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office requested more information concerning one property, property no. 4, the Cherry House. This report is prepared as an evaluation of the Cherry House's historical and architectural significance. The property is not considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The project is federally funded, F.A. Project Number BRSTP-1250(2), and state funded, WBS No. 33734.1.1.

## Table of Contents

Project Description	1
Purpose of Survey and Report	1
Methodology	1
Summary of Survey Findings	4
Property Evaluation: Cherry House	5
Setting	5
Property Description	5
Historic and Architectural Context	10
National Register Evaluation	14
Bibliography	16
Appendix I	
Concurrence form for properties Not Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places	17
Appendix II	
Photographs of properties Not Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places	19

## Maps and Illustrations

Figure 1.	Vicinity Map and Area of Potential Effects	3
Figure 2.	Cherry House, north elevation	6
Figure 3.	Cherry House, east gable end	7
Figure 4.	Cherry House, west gable end	7
Figure 5.	Cherry House, current setting	8
Figure 6.	Cherry House, historic setting	8
Figure 7.	Cherry House, current view with original gable-end profile outlined in yellow	9
Figure 8.	Map showing Cherry House's original and current locations	9
Figure 9	Cherry House, documentary photograph	10

### Project Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over the Tar River in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. Bridge No. 7 has a sufficiency rating of 42.9 out of a possible 100. The bridge is considered structurally deficient and functionally obsolete. Therefore, the bridge needs to be replaced. The project is federally funded, F.A. Project Number BRSTP-1250(2), and state funded, WBS No. 33734.1.1.

### Purpose of Survey and Report

NCDOT conducted a survey and compiled this report in order to identify historic architectural resources located within the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE) as part of the environmental studies performed by NCDOT and documented by a categorical exclusion (CE). This report is prepared as a technical appendix 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 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 is 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 Historic Architectural Resources Survey and Procedures and Report Guidelines (NCDOT, 2003). This survey and report meet the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

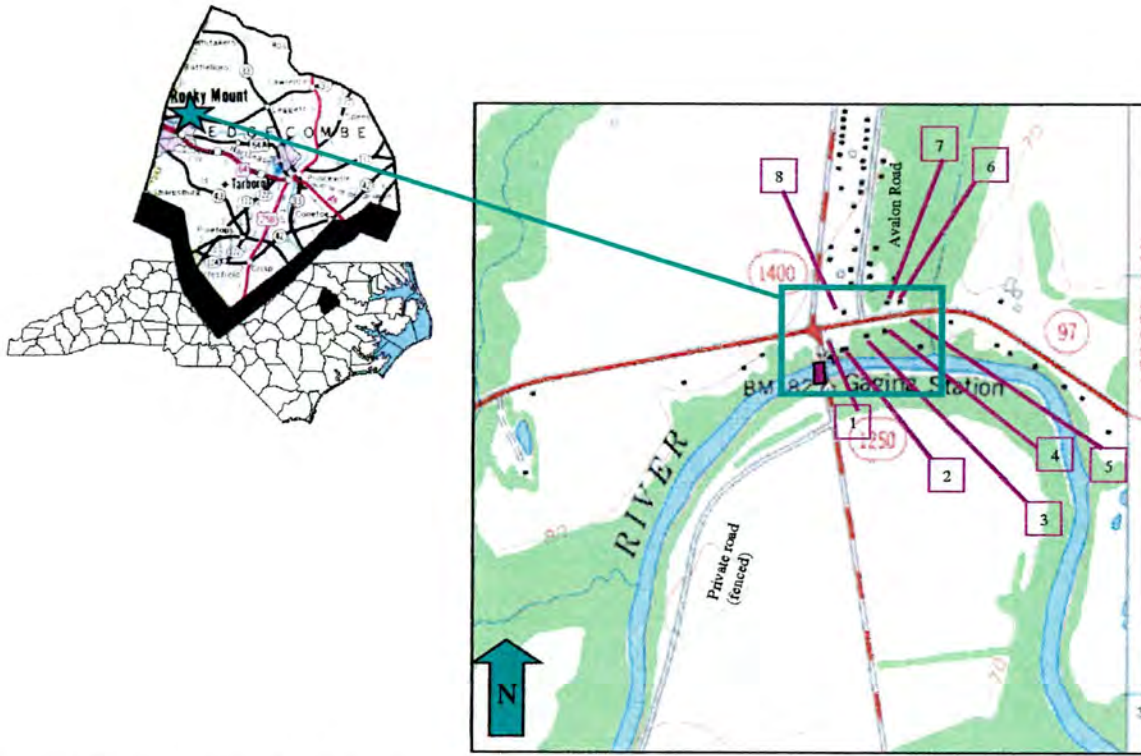
NCDOT conducted a Final Identification and Evaluation survey with the following goals: 1) to determine the APE, defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist; 2) to identify all significant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

Penne Sandbeck visited the project area in October 2005, delineated the project APE, and took photographs of the project area. Seven properties in the APE were determined Not Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at a meeting between NCDOT and the HPO on January 10, 2006 (see Appendix I). Bridge No. 7 was determined not eligible as part of the 2003 statewide Historic Bridge Survey. HPO requested that property #4, the Cherry House, be evaluated for National Register eligibility. On March 1, 2006, Sarah Woodard David and Courtney Foley photographed the house, visited the dwelling's original location, and evaluated the National Register


eligibility of the property. Survey methodology for the Cherry House consisted of field examination of the building and historical research of the property and project area.

The principal investigator's primary information sources were the HPO's survey file concerning the building, the local history room at the Edgecombe County Public Library in Tarboro, the Edgecombe County Register of Deeds, and Alan Watson's published history of Edgecombe County.





Penne Sandbeck / Historic Architecture NCDOT, 10/2005

	<p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION          DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS          PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH          HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE GROUP</p>
<p>— APE boundary</p>	<p>EDGECOMBE COUNTY          REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 7 OVER TAR RIVER AT SR 1250          B-4503</p> <p><b>FIGURE 1: VICINITY MAP AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS</b></p>

## Summary of Survey Findings

The project area contains the following historic resources fifty years old or older:

*Properties Determined Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (DOE)*  
None

*Properties Listed on the National Register of Historic Places*  
None

*Properties Listed on the North Carolina Study List*  
None

*Properties that are Locally Designated*  
None

*Properties Evaluated and Recommended Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places*  
None

*Properties Evaluated and Recommended not Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places*  
Cherry House

*Properties Evaluated and Recommended not Eligible for the National Register of  
Historic Places*

**Cherry House**

*Property #4 on the Project Vicinity and APE Map (Figure 1)*

**Location and Setting**

The Cherry House is located between NC Highway 97 and the north bank of the Tar River in western Edgecombe County, about one mile north of Rocky Mount's northern city limit and about one-and-a-half-miles east of the Edgecombe-Nash County line. The county's topography is generally flat with a landscape of actively farmed fields and stands of pines and deciduous hardwoods. Vegetation is particularly dense along the Tar River, the county's primary waterway. The Cherry House is situated on land that was part of a 1947 subdivision called Avalon on the River. Most of the houses associated with that development line Avalon Road to the north of the Cherry House. The Cherry House itself stands on a well-treed half-acre lot among a scattering of mid- and late-twentieth-century dwellings along NC 97. Directly behind the house, a steep bank descends to the Tar River.

Until the Cherry House was moved in the 1980s, it stood in the Gethsemane community, about ten miles north-northeast of its current location. The original site was on a slight rise near the intersection of SR 1409 and SR 1404. Here, a relatively flat, open lawn with two mature hardwood trees, a mature magnolia tree, and a small cedar tree framed the house. Documentary photographs also show shrubs planted close to the dwelling. A twentieth-century, frame barn still stands on the lot. Open, cultivated fields stretch to the north, south, and east while a turn-of-the-twentieth-century rural church stands to the northwest. To the east, a line of woods separates the Cherry House property from another farm complex that retains a large number of outbuildings, a late nineteenth century house, and an early-nineteenth or possibly late-eighteenth-century dwelling. It is not known with certainty, but the Cherry House and this complex to the east were likely related historically given their close proximity. Whether related or not, however, if the Cherry House still occupied its original site, the visibility of a complete farm complex so close to the Cherry House would have contributed significantly to the integrity of the Cherry House's original location, feeling, and association. Conversely, the Cherry House would have contributed to the integrity of a potential rural historic district containing the other farm complex to the east, the church to the west, and the Cherry House.

**Property Description**

The Cherry House is a one-story, frame dwelling with a side-gable roof. Shed additions, built around 1985, extend along the entire length of both the front and rear elevations. Plain weatherboards cover the exterior; molded weatherboards cover the dwelling's original exterior side-gable walls, which are now interior walls. Four-over-four sash windows flank double-shoulder, Flemish bond chimneys on each gable. These chimneys replaced earlier single-shoulder chimneys that were removed when the house was relocated. The original chimneys had been stuccoed but the bricks were likely expensive, high-quality, imported bricks. Modern replacement windows arranged in pairs, pierce the



shed additions; these windows replaced nine-over-nine sash windows salvaged from another early dwelling and installed when the additions were constructed.

The surviving remnant of the original Cherry House features a single-pile, center hall plan. An enclosed corner stair rises from the hall to an attic. A door with six raised panels connects the hall to the east room. A door with the unusual configuration of two long flat panels above a wide flat panel opens from the hall into the west room. This difference in door styles may indicate that the house originally had a hall-parlor plan. The mantelpieces in both rooms are composed of a heavily molded mantelshelf above two horizontally-oriented raised panels with plain flat boards flanking the sides of the firebox opening. In both rooms, six-over-six sash occupy the north wall (originally an exterior wall), which now separates the original core from the front shed addition. A five-light transom caps the original double-leaf entry of two narrow leaves, each with three raised panels. This door composition, which is in its original location, now connects the center hall to the front shed addition. In the east room, a large opening cut into the original exterior wall connects that room to the rear shed addition.



Figure 2: Cherry House, north elevation





Figure 3: Cherry House, east gable end



Figure 4: Cherry House, west gable end





Figure 5: Cherry House, current setting



Figure 6: Cherry House, historic setting (house stood at the center of the image, in the space between the trees adjacent to the road and the barn)

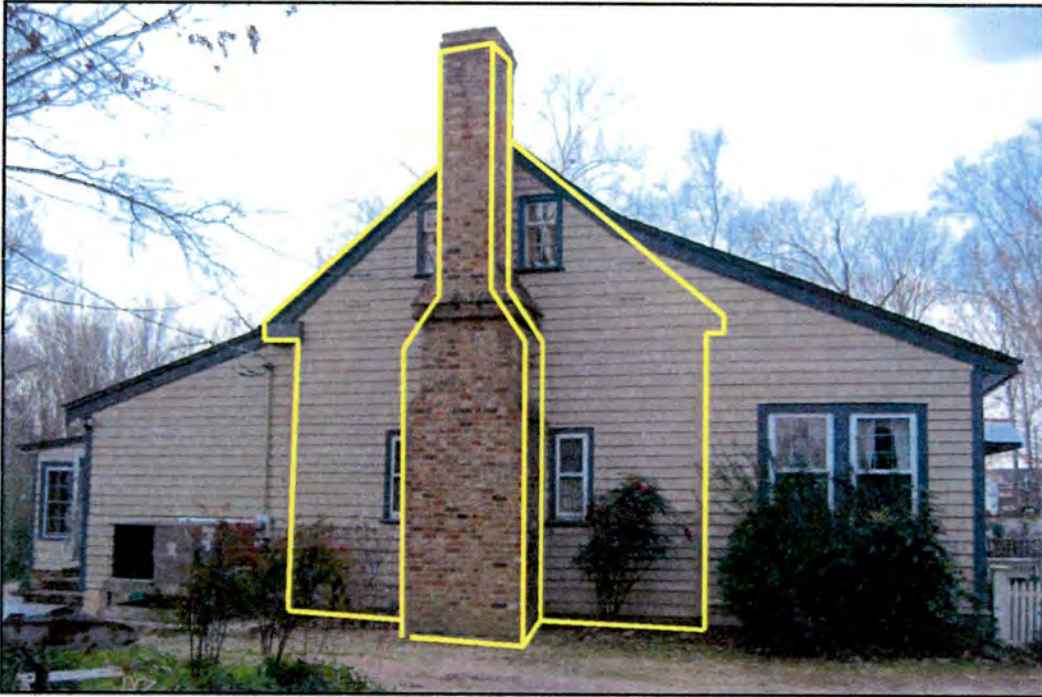


Figure 7: Cherry House, current view with original gable-end profile outlined in yellow

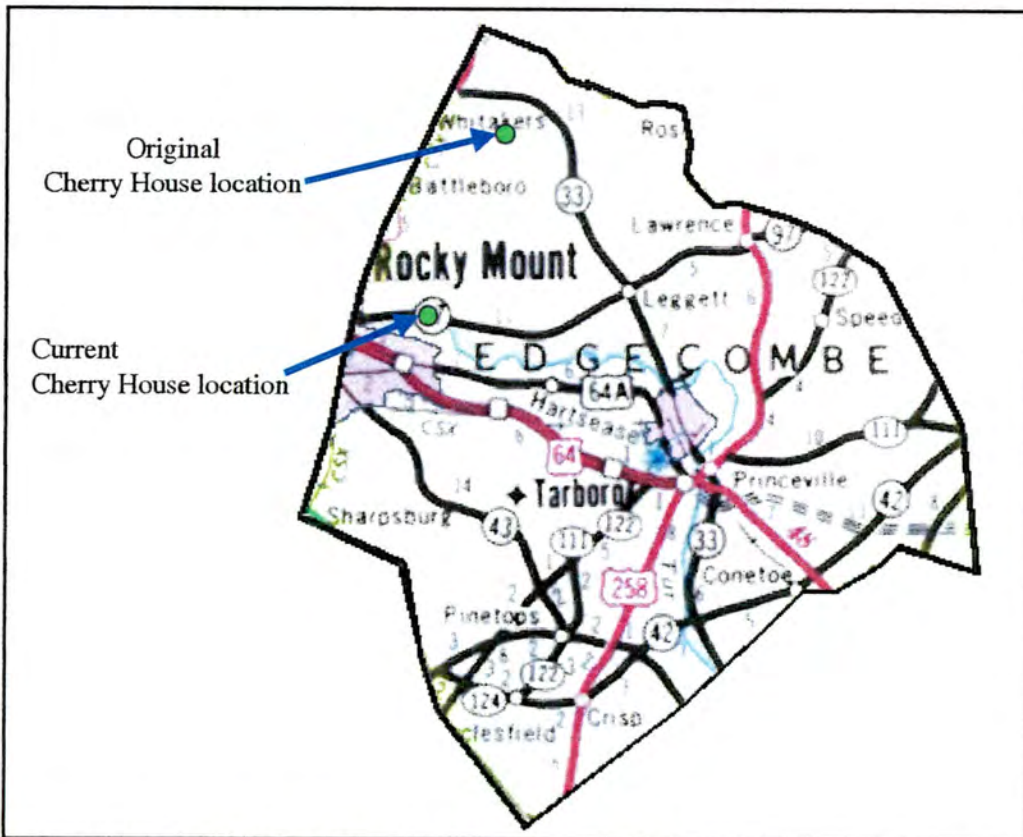


Figure 8: Map showing Cherry House's original and current locations



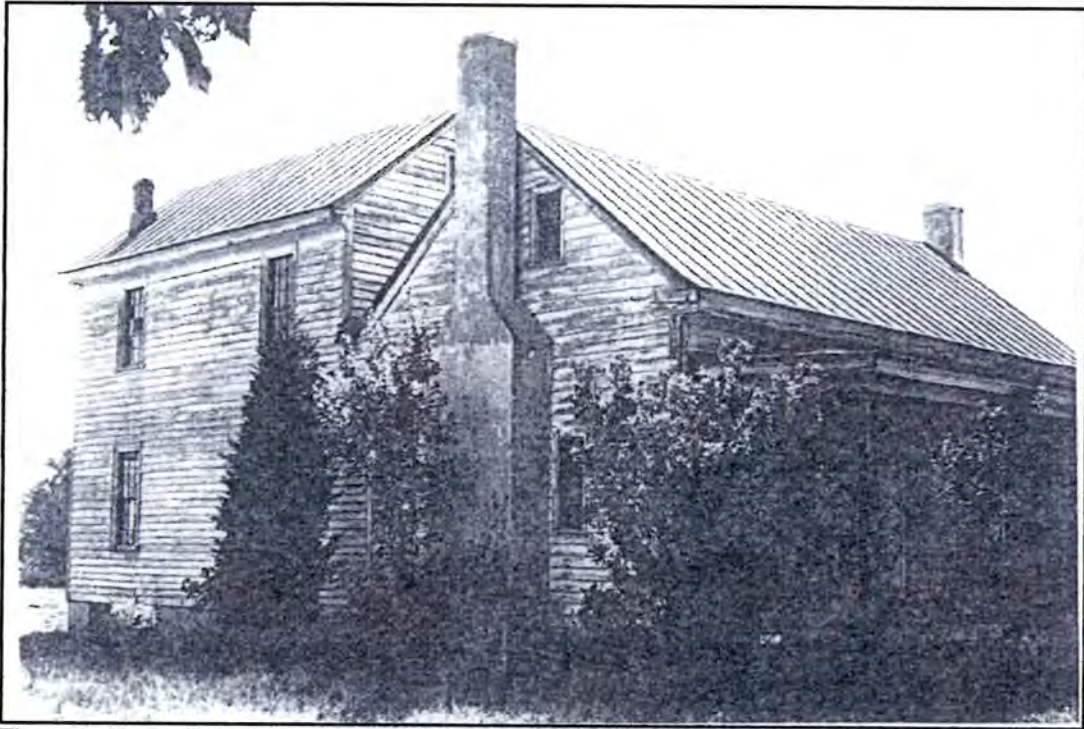


Figure 9: Cherry House, documentary photo of north gable end (current east gable end) with two-story section intact

### Historic and Architectural Context

In 1732 North Carolina's royal governor George Burrington established a new county from a portion of Bertie County. He named the new jurisdiction Edgecombe County in honor of England's Lord Edgecombe. Because of conflicts and controversies among the General Assembly, the governor, and the region's citizens, the legislature did not officially recognize Edgecombe County until 1741. During the mid-eighteenth century, the assembly carved several additional counties from Edgecombe's territory, which necessitated the relocation of the county seat. In 1764 the legislature named Tarboro as the county seat.<sup>1</sup>

Like the economies and populations of most North Carolina counties during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Edgecombe's people lived within a rural landscape and participated in an agrarian economy. Additionally, as one of the state's coastal plain counties, which produced large quantities of cotton and other cash crops, Edgecombe became particularly dependent on slavery and a plantation system. According to the 1790 census, Edgecombe County's white planters owned over three thousand enslaved persons, giving the county the eighth largest slave population in the state. As the nineteenth century dawned and progressed, a growing reliance on cotton drove the slave population up. In 1840 the white population numbered 7,915 (an increase of fifteen

<sup>1</sup> Alan D. Watson, *Edgecombe County: A Brief History* (Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1979), 3-4, 6.



percent since 1790), but the slave population stood at 7,439 (an increase of 135% over the same period). During the two decades before the Civil War, cotton's continued profitability fueled an expansion of the plantation-based economy so that by 1860 Edgecombe County's whites numbered 7,268, a decrease of over 600 persons over twenty years, while the slave population had ballooned to 10,108, marking a thirty-five percent jump. Despite these numbers, however, fifty-five percent of the county's white families did not own slaves.<sup>2</sup>

Although nineteenth-century Edgecombe County was overwhelmingly rural, Tarboro emerged as a small but well-heeled port and market. Plantation-based prosperity financed construction of a wide array of fashionable dwellings in town and fostered remarkable stylishness in the countryside. These early-nineteenth-century dwellings were part of a post Revolutionary War building boom during which Georgian designs gave way to the delicate, attenuated Neoclassical tastes of the Federal or Adamesque style. Builders produced symmetrical three- and five-bay-wide houses that either disguised the owner's preference for the older and usually asymmetrical hall-parlor plan or expressed the dwelling's up-to-date center hall form. The five-bay Savage-Combs House, built around 1820 and best known for its vibrant decorative finishes, is a finely finished, one-story Federal hall-parlor dwelling. Although the Joseph Pippin House is a two-story building, it too displays a hall-parlor plan and, like the Savage-Combs House, well-executed Federal woodwork.<sup>3</sup>

Lunsford Cherry built the dwelling now known as the Cherry House during this era of plantation expansion and Federal-style construction—probably around 1825 or 1826. The original dwelling was a one-story, side-gable house. It probably had a hall-parlor plan that illustrated the builder's or owner's continued penchant for an open plan where the absence of a hallway gave visitors immediate access to the household. Later in the building's history, as such arrangements became less desirable, a partition created a center passage.

The Cherry family began purchasing land in Edgecombe County during the late eighteenth century. Aaron Cherry (ca. 1760-1835), who resided in Bertie County in 1790 first bought land in Edgecombe County in 1787.<sup>4</sup> Aaron and his wife Elizabeth (1773-1841) moved to Edgecombe County before 1800, and Aaron continued purchasing land in Edgecombe County throughout the early 1800s. By 1810 Aaron and Elizabeth's household included two sons, two daughters, and sixteen enslaved persons.<sup>5</sup> Ten years

---

<sup>2</sup> Census data extracted from the University of Virginia Library Census Browser Website, accessed via <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus> on March 7, 2006.

<sup>3</sup> Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, 1996), 29 and 311, and Henry Taves, *The Rural Architectural Heritage of Edgecombe County, North Carolina* (unpublished manuscript, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 1985), 8-9.

<sup>4</sup> Edgecombe County Deed Book 4, page 691, and Aaron Cherry's obituary in the *Tarborough Press*, October 10, 1835.

<sup>5</sup> Second Census of the United States, 1800: Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh), and Third Census of the United States, 1810: Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Population

later, Aaron and Elizabeth's son Lunsford (born 1798) headed a household consisting of himself and four slaves.<sup>6</sup> Lunsford first purchased land in 1824 followed in 1825 by the acquisition of about 280 acres on which he built his house.<sup>7</sup> In 1826, Lunsford married Millie Pitman.<sup>8</sup> The 1830 census indicates that Lunsford and Millie owned four slaves, but in 1832, Lunsford married Mary George.<sup>9</sup>

It may have been around the time of his marriage to Mary George that Lunsford expanded his house. Based on documentary photographs, a two-story wing with flush gable ends, a boxed cornice, and nine-over-nine and nine-over-six sash windows joined the one-story dwelling. Tradition states that this two-story section was an addition to the older one-story portion, but the two-story wing's design, including its likely hall-parlor plan, does not indicate a significantly later construction date, and the apparent awkwardness of the connection between the sections suggests that the complex was created by moving two buildings together.

Regardless, however, of how the Cherry House was expanded, the addition of new rooms during the first half of the nineteenth century illustrates the Cherry family's participation in the increasing prosperity of the region's planters during the antebellum period. Throughout the antebellum era, Lunsford and Mary added children, other free white people, and slaves to their household. By 1860, the house sheltered Lunsford, Mary, their daughter Josephine who was a twenty-year-old school teacher, teenage sons George and Charles, twelve-year-old son Lewis, sixty-four-year-old Elizabeth Pender, and fifteen-year-old David Hines. Census data documenting the family's slaves in 1860 is partially illegible but Lunsford and Mary owned at least six slaves and maintained five slave houses. The family's real estate was valued at \$1,500, which included 300 acres of improved farmland.<sup>10</sup>

The Civil War devastated Edgecombe County's economy and social structure. Without free labor, planters with large landholdings could not profitably work their fields. Owners subdivided their plantations and entered into the sharecropping system with both white and African American tenants. By 1869, Lunsford Cherry had been involved in a court

---

Schedule, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

<sup>7</sup> Edgecombe County Deed Book 24, page 132 and Harrod Pitman to Lunsford Cherry, January 8, 1825, Edgecombe County Deed Book 18, page 238.

<sup>8</sup> Edgecombe County marriage bond, Lunsford Cherry and Millie Pitman, March 3, 1826, transcribed in Ruth Smith Williams, *Marriages of Early Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868* (Rocky Mount: Dixie Letter Service, 1958) no page numbers.

<sup>9</sup> Fifth Census of the United States, 1830: Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh), and Edgecombe County marriage bond, Lunsford Cherry and Mary George, July 4, 1832, transcribed in Ruth Smith Williams, *Marriages of Early Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868* (Rocky Mount: Dixie Letter Service, 1958) no page numbers.

<sup>10</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

case that resulted in the sale of some or all of his property at auction. Mary purchased 340 acres “on which she now resides at Cherry’s Crossroads” on November 19 of that year.<sup>11</sup>

Upon Mary Cherry’s death in 1886, the house passed to her son Charles and in 1887, he purchased the land his sister Josephine inherited.<sup>12</sup> In November 1922, the C.C. Cherry Farm was divided for sale. The plat map drawn for the sale illustrates the “homeplace” with two outbuildings on Lot 1.<sup>13</sup> Like hundreds of houses that sheltered prosperous white planters and farmers in eastern North Carolina during the plantation system’s heyday, the Cherry House passed through several owners and fell into disrepair as the region’s fortunes waned in the twentieth century. The current owner purchased the Cherry House in the mid-1980s, at around the time the property on which it stood was subdivided as part of an estate settlement.<sup>14</sup> At that time, the owner moved the one-story block about ten miles south to its present site, and the two-story block was demolished.<sup>15</sup>

After the relocation, the owner undertook an extensive renovation. At the new site, the owner transformed the Cherry House from its original side-gable form into a coastal plain cottage by constructing shed additions across both original side-gable elevations and reconfiguring the front roof slope. The relocation did not include the original, single-shoulder chimneys, and double-shoulder, Flemish bond chimneys took their places on both gable ends. Inside, paneled doors and mantelpieces remain, but remodeling created a large opening in the wall between the south shed addition and what was probably the original parlor.

Overall, the Cherry House retains almost none of its original integrity. Its relocation demolished a historic wing and replaced historic chimneys with double-shoulder chimneys designed to give the house an older appearance. The building was taken from its open, agricultural landscape where it faced west and reoriented to face north among numerous trees on the banks of the Tar River; no agricultural fields are visible from the new location. In addition to being moved, extensive alterations resulted in the creation of a coastal plain cottage form, which destroyed the dwelling’s original side-gable, single-pile form. In summation, the move and remodeling completely obliterated the Cherry House’s original setting and appearance, resulting in a nearly total loss of historic architectural character.

---

<sup>11</sup> Edgecombe County Sheriff to Mary Cherry, November 19, 1869, Edgecombe County Deed Book 39, page 418.

<sup>12</sup> Josephine C. and H.W. Gorham to Charles C. Cherry, January 31, 1887, Edgecombe County Deed Book 65, page 79, and Will of Mary Cherry, September 27, 1886, probated November 1886, Edgecombe County Will Book H, page 39.

<sup>13</sup> “C.C. Cherry Farm, Owned by George T. Burnette and E.W. Bulluck,” November 1922, Edgecombe County Plat Book 2, page 31.

<sup>14</sup> “Property of J. Herbert Pittman Estate: Cherry, Gorham and Dixon Farms,” January 1985, Edgecombe County Plat Book PC1, page S-105A.

<sup>15</sup> The current owner did not respond to requests for information about the dwelling, and the house’s history is based on information in the HPO survey file for the Cherry House. An assessment of the dwelling’s state of repair before it was moved is based on documentary photographs and HPO survey photographs from 1976 included in the HPO survey file for the Cherry House.



### National Register Evaluation

The Cherry House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event) for agriculture. *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 History or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contributing 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.* Although once the seat of an Edgecombe County farm, the Cherry House no longer stands in its original agricultural setting of cultivated fields; it now stands on the wooded banks of the Tar River and does not retain its integrity of location, setting, feeling, or association.

The Cherry House is **not eligible** for the National Register 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.* No person of distinguished historic importance is known to be associated with this house.

The Cherry House is **not eligible** for the National Register 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 lack individual distinction.* The Cherry House has undergone significant alterations that have destroyed the dwelling's architectural integrity. What was once a one-story, side-gable dwelling built in the early nineteenth century now appears to be a coastal plain cottage with double-shoulder chimneys intended to create an eighteenth-century appearance. It does not retain integrity of design, materials, or workmanship.

The Cherry House is **not eligible** for the National Register 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 contributing to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.*

The Cherry House **does not** meet Criterion Consideration B which states that a property that has been moved from its original location is eligible for the National Register if the moved building *is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event.* The Cherry House



is not associated with a historic person or event. Additionally, because of significant alterations, the house no longer retains architectural integrity. Furthermore, the house's current location on a wooded lot on the edge of the Tar River does not resemble its historic situation among the cultivated fields of northern Edgecombe County.

## Bibliography

- Bishir, Catherine and Michael T. Southern. *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1996.
- Edgecombe County Deed Books.
- Gammon, David B. *Edgecombe County Will Abstracts: 1824-1857*. Volume III. Raleigh: by the author, 1993.
- Gammon, David B. *Edgecombe County Will Abstracts: 1858-1910*. Volume IV. Raleigh: by the author, 1994.
- North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. Cherry House Survey File, Survey Site No. ED 620. Raleigh: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.
- Taves, Henry V. "The Rural Architectural Heritage of Edgecombe County, North Carolina." Unpublished manuscript, North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 1985.
- University of Virginia Library Historic Census Browser website:  
<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/index.html>.
- Watson, Alan D. *Edgecombe County: A Brief History*. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1979.
- Williams, Ruth Smith. *Marriages of Early Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868*. Rocky Mount: Dixie Letter Service, 1958.

Appendix I

---

Concurrence form for properties Not Eligible for the  
National Register of Historic Places

Federal Aid # BRSTP-1250(2)

TIP # B-4503

County: Edgecombe

**CONCURRENCE FORM FOR PROPERTIES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR  
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Project Description: Replace Bridge No. 7 on SR 1250 over Tar River

On 01/10/2006, representatives of the

- North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- Other

Reviewed the subject project at

- Scoping meeting
- Historic architectural resources photograph review session/consultation
- Other

All parties present agreed

- There are no properties over fifty years old within the project's area of potential effects.
- There are no properties less than fifty years old which are considered to meet Criteria Consideration G within the project's area of potential effects.
- There are properties over fifty years old within the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), but based on the historical information available and the photographs of each property, the property identified as **Bridge # 7, Props 1-3, 5-B** is considered not eligible for the National Register and no further evaluation of it is necessary.
- There are no National Register-listed or Study Listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- All properties greater than 50 years of age located in the APE have been considered at this consultation, and based upon the above concurrence, all compliance for historic architecture with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and GS 121-12(a) has been completed for this project.
- There are no historic properties affected by this project. (Attach any notes or documents as needed)

Signed:

Manya Pope 1/10/06  
Representative, NCDOT Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
FHWA, for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency Date  
[Signature] 1/10/06  
Representative, HPO Date

Renee Hedhill-Early 1-10-06  
State Historic Preservation Officer Date

If a survey report is prepared, a final copy of this form and the attached list will be included.

**\* #4 Cherry Hse - to be evaluated.**



Appendix II

Photographs of properties Not Eligible for the National  
Register of Historic Places



Property No. 1: The Bridge Grocery and Grill, NC 97 and SR 1250. Clerk did not know year store was built, but Henry Taves' information suggests this was part of the late 1940s/early 1950s "Avalon on the River" development. Replacement windows and doors, plus roof.



Property No. 1, north and east elevations





Property 2 : Duplex, 1931-1941 NC 97. Brick identical to grocery store, duplex appears to be ca. 1955-1960.



Property 3: House, 11135 NC 97. Asbestos-shingled 1950s-1960s side-gable with replacement windows and porch.





Property 5: House, 2025 NC 97. This appears to be a moved and altered building as well. Low brick foundation, and door cut in.



Property 6: House, 11016 NC 97. Circa 1955-60





Property 7: House, 11100 NC 97. Circa 1960-70? Re-sided with replacement porch/  
windows



Property 7 : Garage, 11100 NC 97 (ca. 1960s as well)





Property 8: House, 11164 NC 97. Circa 1960-1970