



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory
Secretary Susan Kluttz

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

November 4, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Pope Furr
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Ramona M. Bartos *RMB for Ramona M. Bartos*

RE: Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Replace Bridge 142 on SR 1431 (Grassy Creek Road) over Grassy Creek, PA 12-06-0100, Granville County, ER 13-2088

Thank you for your submittal of September 12, 2013, transmitting the above survey report. We apologize for the delay in our response.

For the purpose of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that **Weary's Supply** (GV 0685), including the **House** at 9155 Grassy Creek Road (GV 0686), is *eligible* for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture, and that the proposed National Register boundaries appear appropriate. At this time, without an assessment of the interior integrity we cannot concur with the report's recommendation regarding **Noblin's Store** (GV 0687).

We also concur that at this time, barring additional information to the contrary, the following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register:

- **Grassy Creek Baptist Church** (GV 0682);
- **Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery** (GV 0683);
- **Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage** (GV 0684); and,
- **Grassy Creek Garage** (GV 0688).

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or renee.gledhill-earley@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Travis Fulk, Southeastern Archaeological Research, Travis@searchinc.com

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 142 ON SR 1431 (GRASSY CREEK RD) OVER GRASSY CREEK
GRANVILLE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

FINAL REPORT

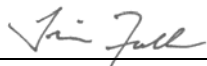
WBS No. 17BP.5.R.16

PREPARED FOR
THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



REPORT PREPARED BY
SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH, INC.

SEPTEMBER 2013



Travis N. Fulk, M.A.
Principal Investigator
Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc.

9/10/2013

Date

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

Date

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

This report represents historic resource documentation of properties located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project “Replace Bridge No. 142 on SR 1431 (Grassy Creek Rd) over Grassy Creek Granville County, North Carolina.” According to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Scope of Work dated 28 September 2012, the purpose of this survey is to “evaluate three historic resources as a possible historic district and also their individual eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).” Those resources are: Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary’s Supply Store, and the former gas station now known as Noblin Heating and Air Conditioning. In accordance with the Scope of Work, all three buildings were photographed, along with other buildings in the direct vicinity that may have contributed to a historic district. NCDOT proposes to increase safety on the roadway by replacing Bridge No. 142 (not evaluated as part of this survey). Investigations comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, other state and federal regulations, and NCDOT’s current *Guidelines for Survey Reports for Historic Architectural Resources*.

The parcels containing Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary’s Supply Store, and the former gas station now known as Noblin Heating and Air Conditioning are shown on **Figure 1: Project Area Map** and **Figure 2: Historic Resources Map**. This architectural resources survey consisted of background research into the historic and architectural development of the area, background research relating to each of the resources, and a field survey of the resources. During the field survey, three additional historic resources were identified in the direct vicinity and were considered for their potential to contribute to a possible historic district. The historic resources surveyed during this project are:

- Property 1A (GV682): Grassy Creek Baptist Church, 9142 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 1B (GV683): Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, 9142 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 1C (GV684): Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage, 9136 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 2A (GV685): Weary’s Supply, 9153 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 2B (GV686): Single Family Residence, 9155 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 3A (GV687): Noblin’s Store, 3006 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd.; and
- Property 3B (GV688): Grassy Creek Garage, 3008 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd.

Two of the surveyed resources are individually eligible for listing in the NRHP; Property 2A (Weary’s Supply, GV685) and Property 3A (Noblin’s Store, GV687). The remaining properties are not eligible due to the fact that they lack historic significance and architectural distinction. No potential historic district exists in the project area due to a lack of a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. In addition, the group as a whole is not associated with any significant historic context.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	i
Table of Contents.....	iii
List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	iv
Introduction	1
Methodology.....	3
Summary of Findings.....	4
Historic Context	6
NRHP Evaluation of Individual Historic Resources	9
NRHP Evaluation of the Historic Resources as a Possible District	31
Bibliography	33

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.	Project Area Map	1
Figure 2.	Historic Resources Map	2
Figure 3.	Representative Views of the Project Area	5
Figure 4.	Map of Granville County, North Carolina, 1880	7
Figure 5.	Soil Map, North Carolina, Granville County sheet, 1910	7
Figure 6.	Map of Rural Delivery Routes, Granville County, NC, circa 1921	8
Figure 7.	North Carolina County Road Survey of Granville County, 1936	8
Figure 8.	Site plan for Grassy Creek Baptist Church	10
Figure 9.	Grassy Creek Baptist Church	11
Figure 10.	Grassy Creek Baptist Church	12
Figure 11.	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery	13
Figure 12.	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage	14
Figure 13.	Two examples of comparable churches to Grassy Creek Baptist Church	16
Figure 14.	Weary's Supply.....	19
Figure 15.	Weary's Supply.....	20
Figure 16.	Single family residence at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd	21
Figure 17.	Single family residence at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd	22
Figure 18.	Weary's Supply interior	24
Figure 19.	Boundary and site plan for Weary's Supply.....	25
Figure 20.	Noblin's Store.....	27
Figure 21.	Noblin's Store.....	28
Figure 22.	Grassy Creek Garage	28
Figure 23.	Boundary and site plan for Weary's Supply.....	30

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.	Historic Resources recorded in the Project Area	3
Table 2.	Properties 1A-3B evaluated as a potential district	31

INTRODUCTION

This report represents the evaluation of three historic resources (Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary's Supply Store, and the Noblin Store) as a possible historic district and also their individual eligibility for National Register listing resource documentation of properties, located in the Grassy Creek area, Granville County, North Carolina. North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to increase safety on the roadway by replacing Bridge No. 142 (not evaluated as part of this survey). Investigations comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, other state and federal regulations, and NCDOT's current *Guidelines for Survey Reports for Historic Architectural Resources*. The location of the project area and the parcels containing the Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary's Supply Store, and Noblin Heating and Air Conditioning are shown on **Figure 1: Project Area Map** and **Figure 2: Historic Resources Map**.

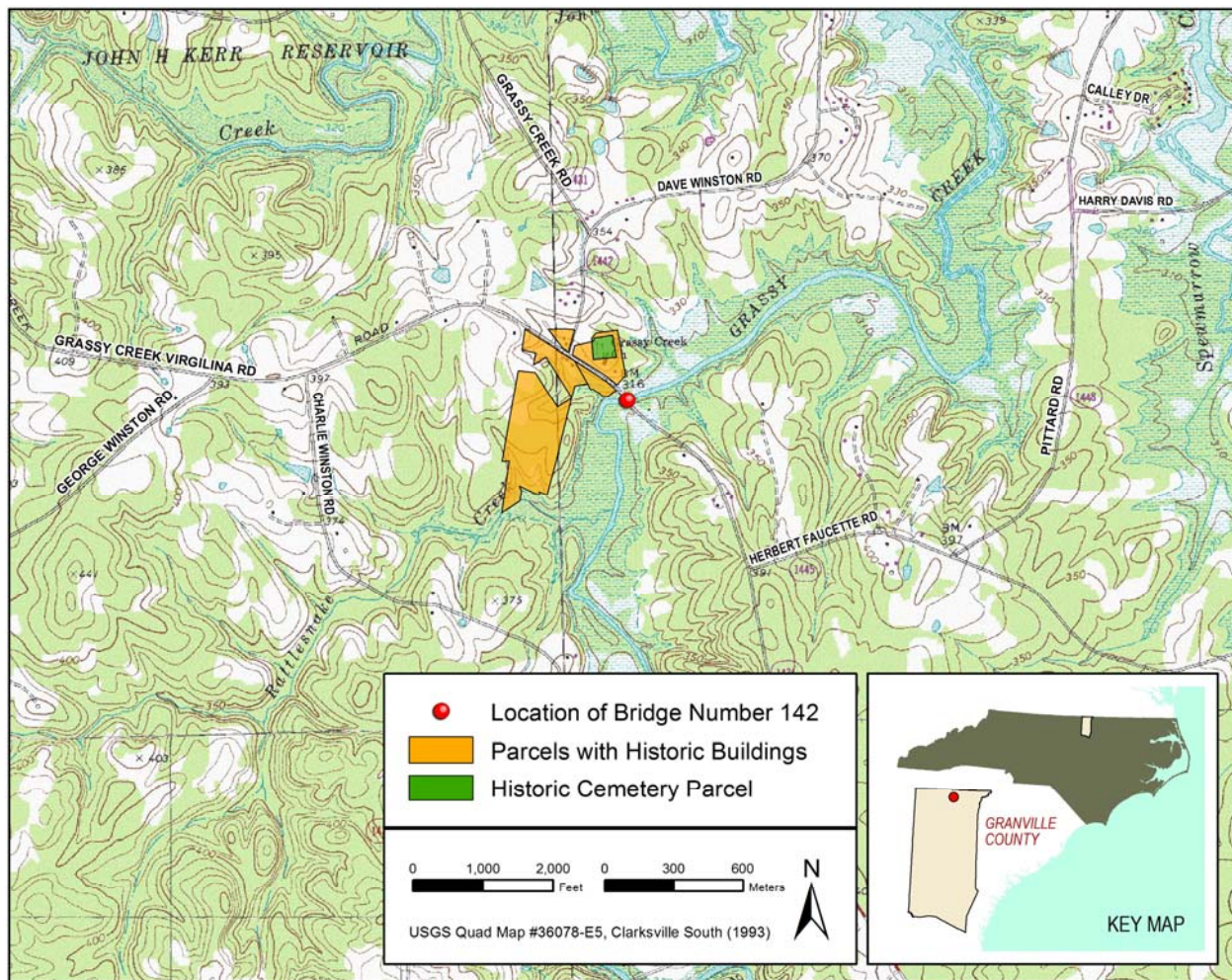


Figure 1. Project Area Map.

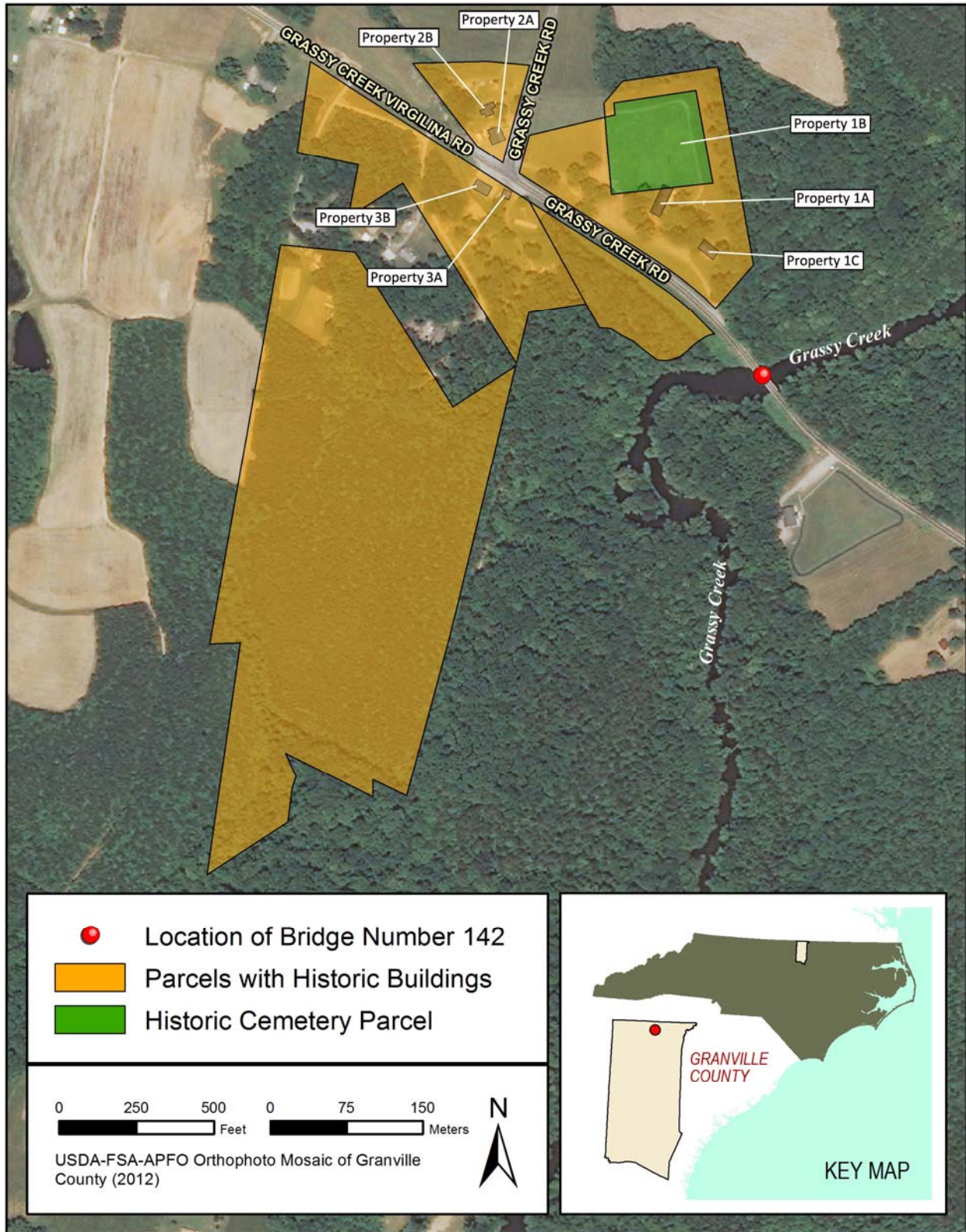


Figure 2. Historic Resources Map.

This architectural resources survey consisted of background research into the historic and architectural development of the area, background research relating to each of the resources, and a field survey of the resources. During the field survey, three additional historic resources were identified in the immediate vicinity and were considered for their potential to contribute to a possible historic district. The historic resources surveyed during this project are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Historic Resources recorded in the Project Area.

Survey No.	NC-HPO Inventory No.	Name	Address	Parcel Record No.	Built Date
Property 1A	GV682	Grassy Creek Baptist Church	9142 Grassy Creek Rd	27620	1935
Property 1B	GV683	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery	9142 Grassy Creek Rd	27617	---
Property 1C	GV684	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage	9136 Grassy Creek Rd	27620	1959
Property 2A	GV685	Weary's Supply	9153 Grassy Creek Rd	25280	ca. 1937
Property 2B	GV686	Single Family Residence	9155 Grassy Creek Rd	25280	ca.1939
Property 3A	GV687	Noblin's Store	3006 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd	6099	ca. 1940
Property 3B	GV688	Grassy Creek Garage	3008 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd	6099	ca. 1960

METHODOLOGY

SEARCH conducted the survey of historic architectural resources and prepared this report in accordance with provisions of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR44716); 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60; and the Section 106 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 November 2012, SEARCH architectural historians conducted an intensive field survey of the above mentioned resources. Before entering the field, potential historic resources were identified through a search of NC-HPO records, property appraiser information, and US Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle maps, for structures constructed prior to 1962. The architectural survey for the project utilized standard procedures for the location, investigation, and recording of historic properties. All previously identified historic resources, and all resources encountered in the field appearing to have been constructed prior to 1962, were photographed with a digital camera. Detailed field notes were taken to record pertinent information regarding the architectural style, distinguishing characteristics, and condition of each resource. Upon completion of fieldwork, field notes and photographs were returned to the SEARCH offices for analysis. Date of construction, design, architectural features, condition, and integrity of the structure, as well as the relation of resources to one another and the surrounding landscape, were carefully considered. The resources were categorized according to their significance for listing in the NRHP and then recommended as eligible or not eligible.

Background research and NRHP evaluation of the properties in the project area included the following materials and sources: Granville County deeds and tax records accessed online and at the Granville County Courthouse in Oxford, NC; files located in the Richard H. Thornton Library in Oxford, NC; the Granville County Historical Society; and interviews with local informants. Numerous online databases were searched for information relating to the Grassy Creek community including: *Access Newspaper Archive*, *Proquest Historical Newspapers*, *Gale NewsVault*, *DigitalNC*, *North Carolina Newspapers*, *North Carolina Rural Data Bank*, and *North Carolina Maps*.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The field survey identified the three (3) historic resources scoped for evaluation (Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary's Supply Store, and the Noblin Store) and three (3) additional resources over 50 years of age within the direct vicinity. The locations of all surveyed properties are keyed to **Figure 2: Historic Resources Map**. The historic resources surveyed during this project are:

- Property 1A (GV682): Grassy Creek Baptist Church, 9142 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 1B (GV683): Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, 9142 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 1C (GV684): Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage, 9136 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 2A (GV685): Weary's Supply, 9153 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 2B (GV686): Single Family Residence, 9155 Grassy Creek Rd.;
- Property 3A (GV687): Noblin's Store, 3006 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd.; and
- Property 3B (GV688): Grassy Creek Garage, 3008 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd.

Two of the surveyed resources are individually eligible for listing in the NRHP; Property 2A (Weary's Supply, GV685) and Property 3A (Noblin's Store, GV687). The remaining properties are not eligible due to the fact that they lack historic significance and architectural distinction. No potential historic district exists in the project area due to a lack of a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development (**Figure 3**). In addition, the group as a whole is not associated with any significant historic context.



Figure 3. Representative views of the project area showing: the Grassy Creek Baptist Church, cemetery, and parsonage, facing south (top); and the intersection of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd., facing southwest (middle) and northwest (bottom). Photos taken November 2012.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The community of Grassy Creek is so named after a tributary of the Roanoke River which flows through the area. In his *Granville County North Carolina Gazetteer*, Dean describes the community simply as “a community in northern Granville County about 14 miles from Oxford” (2011). The community itself is not referred to on historic maps as “Grassy Creek” until 1936. From the mid-nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century, maps show the region as sparsely settled, as it currently remains.

The first settlers arrived in Granville County around 1715, with some of the first permanent settlements established in Granville County were located along the northern border of Grassy Creek. Granville County was formed from Edgecombe in 1746. In 1749, a court house and jail were built in what is now Warren county, seven miles above Gaston, on Rocky Creek. Granville was divided in 1764, forming Bute County, which was further divided into Warren and Franklin Counties in 1779. After Granville was reduced to its present dimensions in 1764, the courthouse was moved to the vicinity of the town of Henderson, on the road leading to Oxford, and eventually moved to Oxford around 1769. There were no public roads or mail facilities; for, in 1812, Williamsboro was the only post office in the county, and up to 1816, there were only three: Williamsboro, Oxford, and Lemay's X Roads (Devin 1880).

Little specific information is available for the Grassy Creek area for the first half of the nineteenth century. The Grassy Creek Baptist Church is depicted along Grassy Creek in maps as early as 1868. Maps from 1880 (**Figure 4**) and 1895 depict the Grassy Creek Baptist Church located near the community of Brownsville, along a road with an east-west orientation which connects Buchanan to the west to Bullock to the east. A 1910 soil map of Granville county shows Grassy Creek Church located at a crossroads, with an east-west road connecting Buchanan and Bullock, and a north-south road connecting Callahan to Cornwall and Stovall; however, the roads to Bullock and Stovall are not direct routes (**Figure 5**). A circa 1921 Rural Delivery Route map, shows that the vicinity of project area received mail delivery at the time (**Figure 6**). The first reference to the community as “Grassy Creek” identified during the map search appears in 1936 (**Figure 7**). Background research did not indicate any connection between the community of Grassy Creek and Kerr Lake.

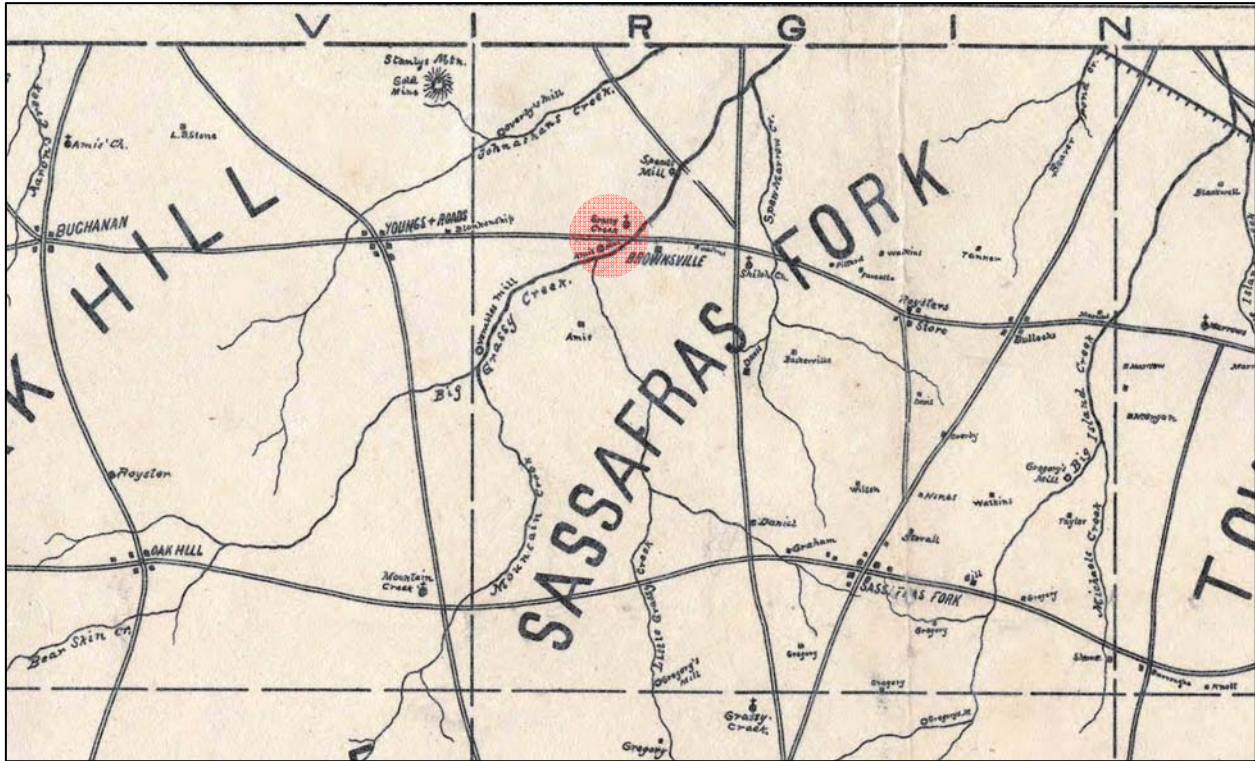


Figure 4. Map of Granville County, North Carolina, 1880. The vicinity of the project is highlighted in red.
Source: North Carolina Maps.

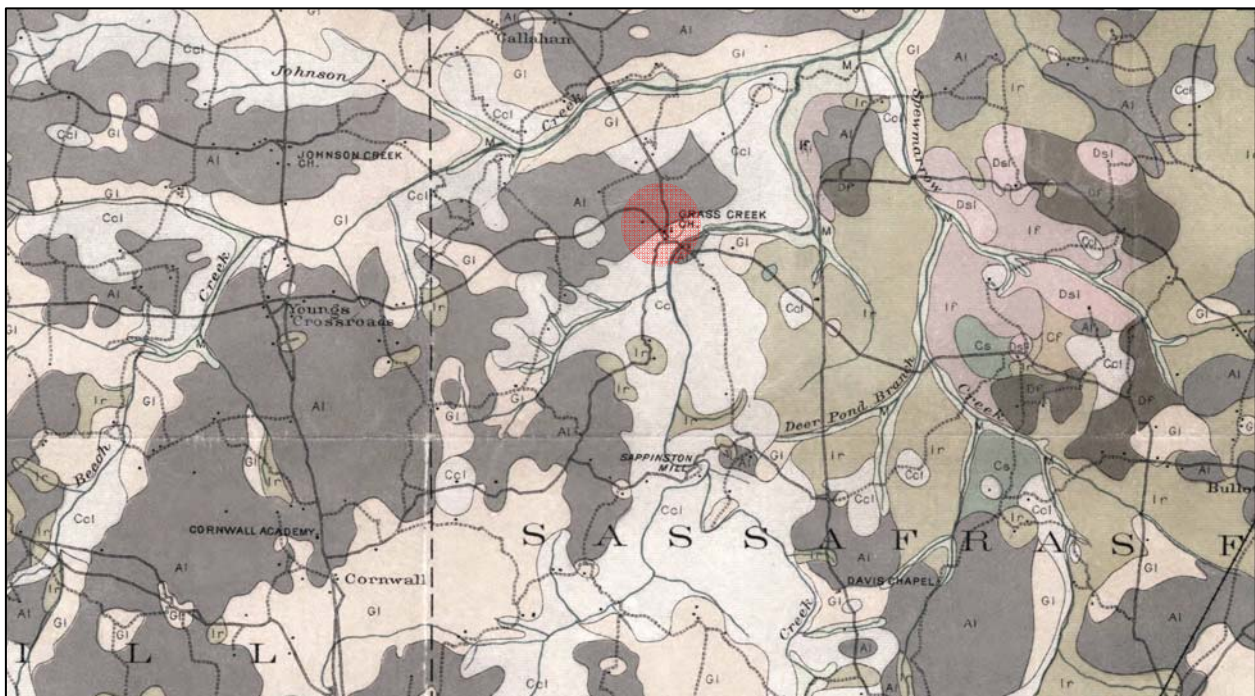


Figure 5. Soil Map, North Carolina, Granville County sheet, 1910. The vicinity of the project is highlighted in red. Source: North Carolina Maps.

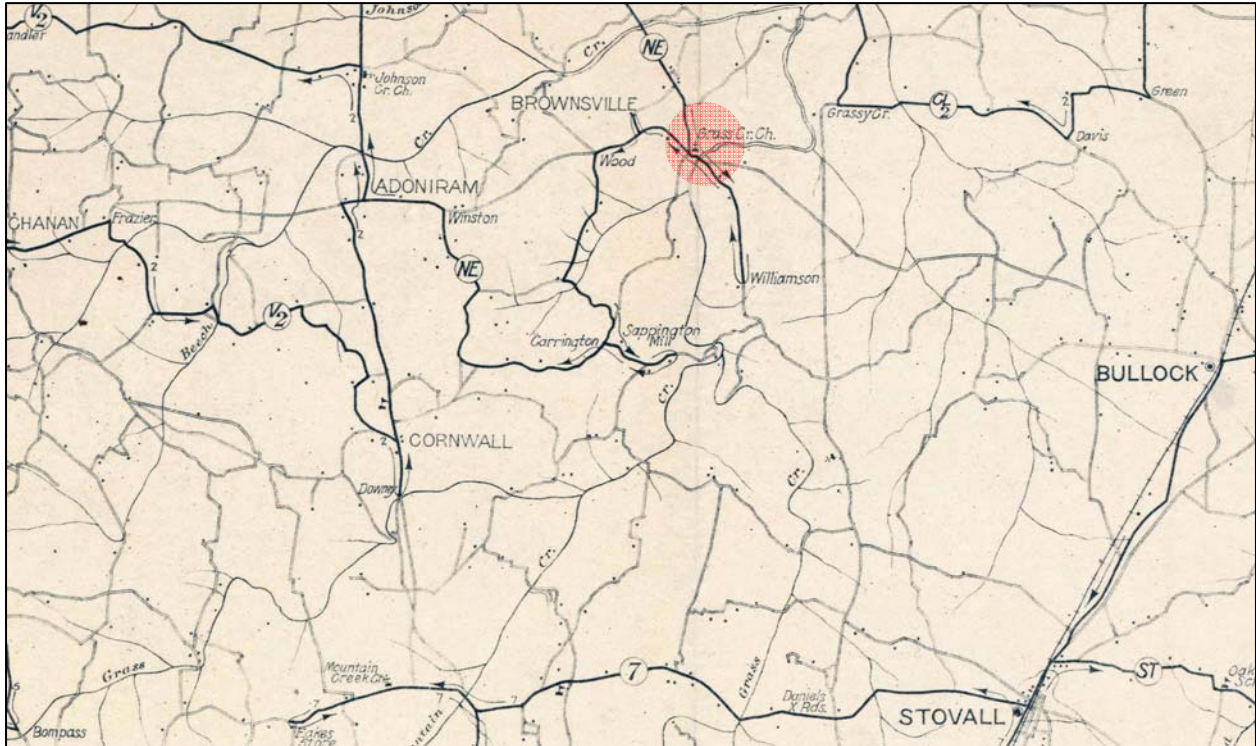


Figure 6. Map of Rural Delivery Routes, Granville County, NC, circa 1921. The vicinity of the project is highlighted in red. Source: North Carolina Maps.

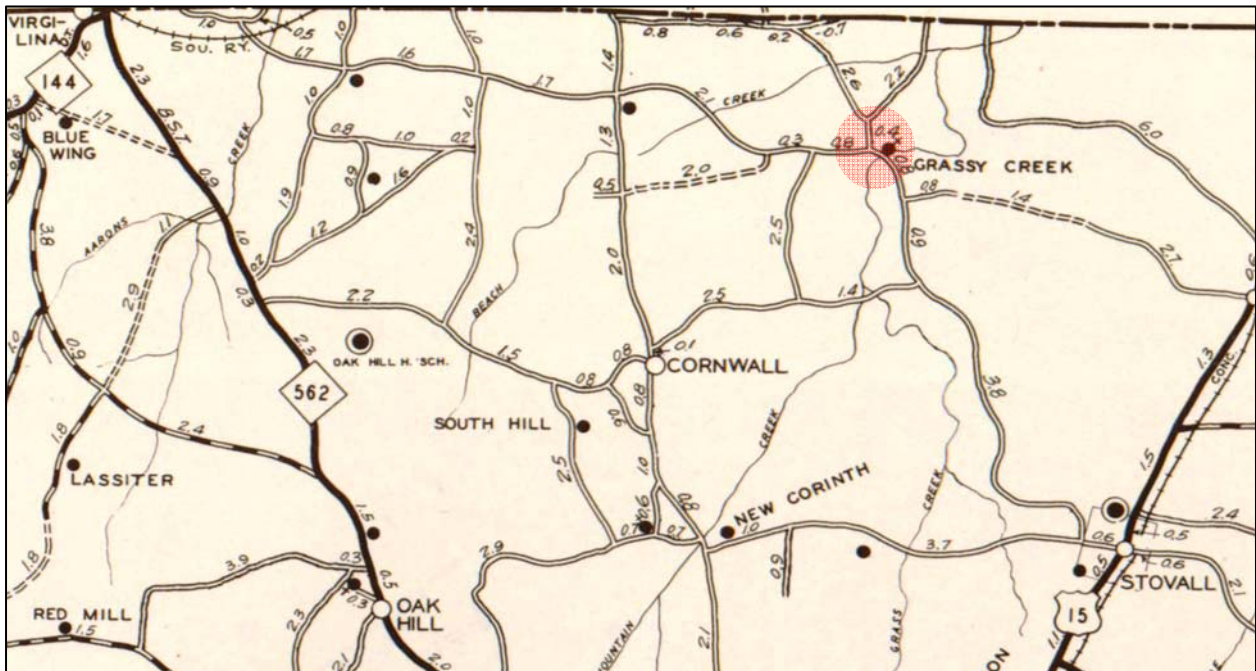


Figure 7. North Carolina County Road Survey of Granville County, 1936. The vicinity of the project is highlighted in red. Source: North Carolina Maps.

NRHP Evaluation of Individual Historic Resources

Properties 1A-1C: Grassy Creek Baptist Church (GV682-GV684)

9142 Grassy Creek Rd.

Granville County Parcel Record Numbers: 27617 and 27620

Location and Setting: Grassy Creek Baptist Church is located on the north side of Grassy Creek Rd., approximately 500 feet to the east of the intersection of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd. The church is situated in a rural setting with sparse residential and commercial development. A cemetery (Property 1B, discussed below) is located to the north, at the rear of the church, and a parsonage (Property 1C, discussed below) is located to the east (**Figure 8**).

Description: Property 1A, the Grassy Creek Baptist Church, built in 1935, is a masonry religious building with modest Neoclassical elements (**Figures 9-10**). The church is two stories in height, with the original portion of the church being one story raised over a full basement and a later rear addition (ca. 1965) being two full stories. A pedimented portico is located along the south elevation and is supported by Tuscan columns. An arched fanlight is located in the pediment. The portico shelters the main entrance to the church, which features a brick stairway leading up to a paneled double-door. The front-gable roof is clad with composition shingles and a steeple (added ca. 1965) projects from the ridge above the portico. The exterior fabric of the building consists of brick veneer laid in a running bond. Exterior brick chimneys are located along the east and west eave walls of the original portion of the building, each slightly offset to the north. Another exterior chimney is centered along the east eave wall of the rear addition. Fenestration of the original portion of the building consists of double-hung wood-sash windows with twelve-over-twelve and six-over-six light configurations, as well as wood-sash windows with six light configurations; each of which is surmounted by a flat arch with keystone. Fenestration of the rear addition consists of double-hung wood-sash windows with six-over-six light configurations.

Several substantial alterations, as well as the rear addition, were made to the church circa 1965. Alterations include: the replacement of the original square brick columns with Tuscan columns; the addition of a steeple; and the cladding of the entablature and pediment with aluminum siding. The two-story rear addition extends from the north elevation and is sheltered by a dropped gable roof. An entrance ramp was added along the east elevation at an undetermined date. An attempt was made to access the interior of the church through the front door, however the door was locked. Attempts to contact the church via phone prior to fieldwork were unsuccessful and no one was present at the church or the adjacent parsonage during fieldwork.

Property 1B, the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, occupies a 1.45 acre square of land and contains approximately 465 graves with markers of assorted styles, primarily headstones (**Figure 11**). The markers are arranged in 21 rows, which have a roughly north-south orientation. The earliest marker dates to 1888, with 4 additional markers dating to the nineteenth century, 406 markers dating to the twentieth century (87%), and 54 markers with no date.

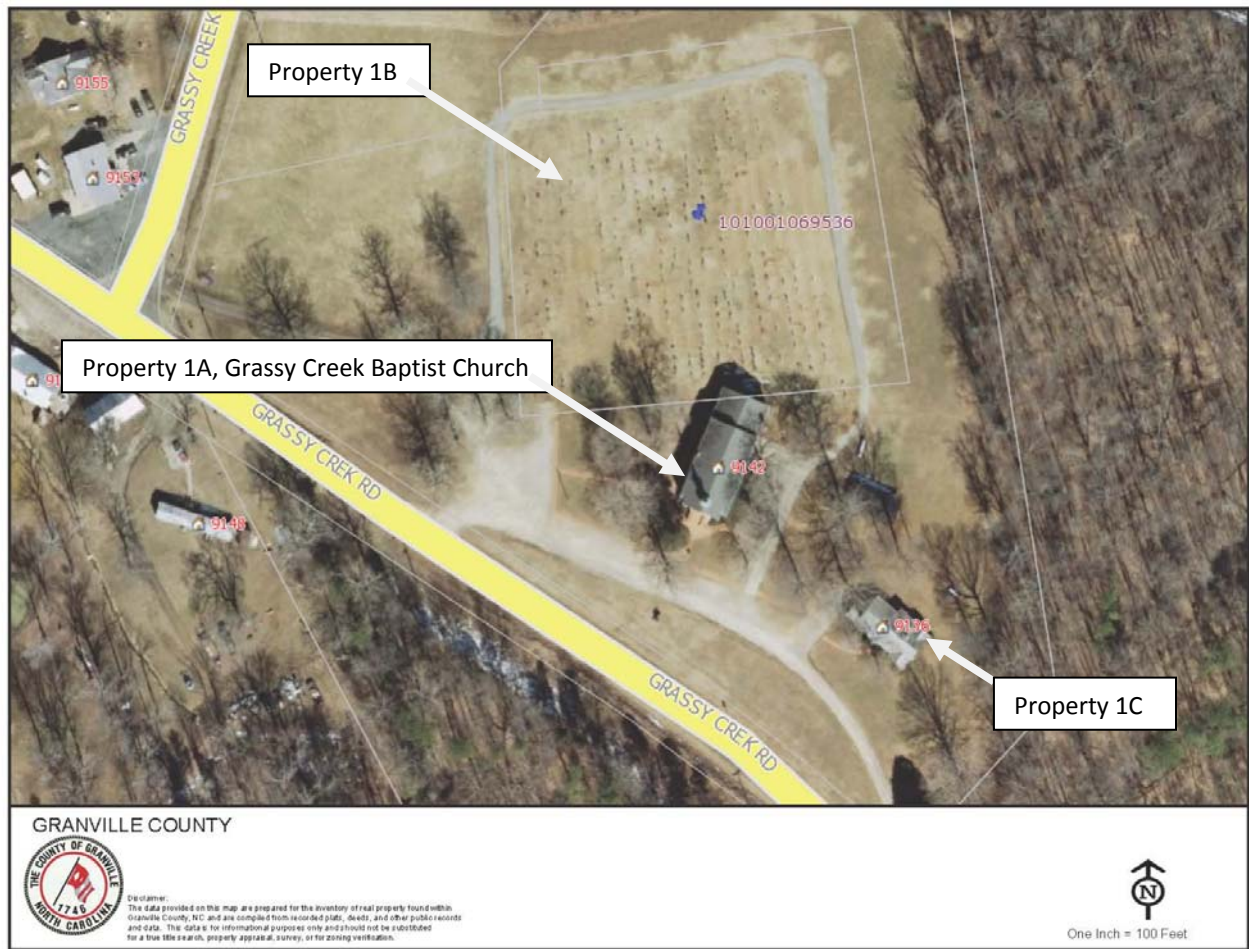


Figure 8. Site plan for Grassy Creek Baptist Church. Image source: Granville County GIS.



Figure 9. Grassy Creek Baptist Church. Photos taken November 2012, facing north (top photo) and southeast (bottom photo).



Figure 10. Grassy Creek Baptist Church. Top photo taken November 2012 facing northwest. Bottom photo taken 1954 facing northwest. Bottom photo source: Richard H. Thornton Library.



Figure 11. Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. Photos taken November 2012, facing southwest (top) and south (bottom).



Figure 12. Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage. Photos taken November 2012, facing northwest (top) and northeast (bottom).

Property 1C, the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage is a Minimal Traditional residential building constructed in 1959 (**Figure 12**). The building is irregular in plan and is one-story in height over a full basement. The side-gable roof is clad with composition shingles and features a cross-gable extending from both the north and south slopes, with each cross-gable offset to the east. An external brick chimney is located along the west gable wall, offset to the south, and an internal brick chimney pierces the north slope, offset to the east. A sunroom addition extends from the west elevation under a dropped gable roof. The exterior fabric of the building consists of brick veneer laid in a running bond, while aluminum siding clads the cross-gables and the sunroom addition. Fenestration consists of single-hung metal-sash windows with one-over-one lights with faux shutters. A picture window flanked by single-hung metal-sash windows with one-over-one lights is located along the south elevation. The main entrance is also located along the south elevation and features brick steps leading up to a paneled door which is flanked by full-height faux shutters.

History: The exact date that the congregation of Grassy Creek Baptist Church was organized is undocumented, however the church claims it may have been as early as 1754. In 1833 a new meeting house was constructed some 200 yards from the site of the original. The replacement meeting house was renovated in 1879 and finally, in 1935, the current church building was constructed. In 1959, a parsonage was built to the east of the church and circa 1965, the church building was subjected to a series of alterations and an addition was made to the north elevation (Devin 1880; Richard H. Thornton Library Local History Room - vertical files). The congregation remains active.

NRHP Evaluation: Ordinarily, properties owned by religious institutions, or used for religious purposes, shall not be considered eligible for the NRHP. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the NRHP criteria or if they fall within certain categories, also referred to as Criteria Considerations. Grassy Creek Baptist Church is not a contributing resource within a potential or existing historic district. To be considered eligible for the NRHP, Grassy Creek Baptist Church must meet Criteria Consideration A, as a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance. The church is not an important example of a particular style due to its modest influences, and generally lacks architectural distinction. Throughout the United States, and even the region, there are numerous examples of buildings not unlike Grassy Creek Baptist Church (e.g. Peace's Chapel Baptist Church, Oxford, NC; Island Creek Baptist Church, Williamsboro, NC; Ashley's Grove Baptist Church, Conway, NC; Union Chapel Baptist Church, Butner, NC; Gorman Baptist Church, Durham, NC; Ephesus Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, NC; Grace Baptist Church, Wilson, NC; Beulaville Baptist Church, Beulaville, NC; Corinth Baptist Church, Rose Hill, NC; Lovedale Baptist Church, Sylva, NC; Bethany Baptist Church, Old Gilreath, NC; Chilhowie Baptist Church, VA) (**Figure 13**). Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that Grassy Creek Baptist Church is closely associated with any specific activities, events, or persons significant within the history of Granville County, North Carolina, or any other significant context. Consequently, Grassy Creek Baptist Church does not meet Criteria Consideration A and is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

According to National Register Bulletin 15, “Integrity is based on significance: why, where, and when a property is important. Only after significance is fully established can you proceed to the issue of integrity” (National Parks Service 1991). The church building is determined not significant by this survey, and therefore integrity cannot be assessed. However, the building has been subjected to several substantial alterations which could potentially affect the integrity of the property, including a rear addition, the replacement of the original square brick columns with Tuscan columns, the addition of a steeple, and the cladding of the entablature and pediment with aluminum siding.

According to NC-HPO GIS (<http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/>) and the National Parks Service NRHP NPS Focus webpage (<http://nrhp.focus.nps.gov>), only two churches in Granville County are listed in the NRHP: Brassfield Baptist Church (Wilton vicinity) and Salem Methodist Church (Huntsboro). The Brassfield Baptist Church is eligible under Criterion C as the oldest intact church building in Granville County, built in the early 1840s, and as the county’s finest and least-altered non-residential example of the Greek Revival style. Salem Methodist Church is eligible under Criterion C for its Greek Revival, Italianate, and Gothic Revival style architecture, and as one of only three extant church buildings in the county raised prior to the Civil War.

Ordinarily, cemeteries and properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes shall not be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the NRHP criteria or if they fall within certain categories, also referred to as Criteria Considerations. The cemetery is not a contributing resource within a potential or existing historic district. To be considered



Figure 13. Two examples of comparable churches to Grassy Creek Baptist Church Island Creek Baptist Church, Williamsboro, NC (top); Ashley's Grove Baptist Church, Conway, NC (bottom).

eligible for the NRHP, the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery must meet Criteria Consideration C, as a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or Criteria Consideration D, as cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.

Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery is closely associated with any specific activities, events, or persons significant within the history of Granville County, North Carolina, or any other significant context. Consequently, Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery does not meet Criteria Considerations C or D. The Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery is not eligible for listing in the NRHP

Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage is closely associated with any specific activities, events, or persons significant within the history of Granville County, North Carolina, or any other significant context. The residence is not an important example of a particular style due to its modest influences, and generally lacks architectural distinction. Consequently, the Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage does not meet Criteria Consideration A and is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Properties 2A-2B: Weary's Supply and House (GV685-GV686)

9153 Grassy Creek Rd.

Granville County Parcel Record Number: 25280

Location and Setting: Weary's Supply store is located on the northwest corner of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd. The store is situated in a rural setting with sparse residential and commercial development. A single family residence (Property 2B, discussed below) is located on the parcel, to the rear (north) of the store.

Description: Weary's Supply store is a one-story wood-frame commercial building constructed circa 1939 (**Figures 14-15**). The building is rectangular in plan and set on a continuous concrete block foundation. The front-gable roof, which is clad in 5V-crimp sheet metal, features exposed rafter tails, and an internal brick chimney pierces the west slope near the ridge, offset to the north. Exterior fabric of the building consists of wood weatherboard siding. Fenestration consists of fixed wood-sash windows with twelve-light configurations (three horizontal lights by four vertical lights) and metal security bars. The main entrance is located along the south elevation and is sheltered by a canopy created by an extension of the front-gable roof. The canopy is supported by plain, square wood posts with brick piers. Two gas pumps are also sheltered by the canopy. A rear addition was made to the store circa 1950 and a side addition was made circa 1975 (personal communication, Charles Weary, owner).

The house at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd. is a one-story, wood-frame residence constructed circa 1939 (**Figures 16-17**). The residence has an irregular plan, which is set on a continuous concrete-block foundation. The side-gabled roof is clad with composition shingles and has boxed eaves. A cross-gable extends from both the east and west slopes, with each cross-gable offset to the north. An internal chimney is centered along both the eastern and western slopes of the gable roof. Exterior fabric of the building consists of wood weatherboard siding. The main entrance is located along the east elevation, and is sheltered by a one-story, half-width porch under an extended roof, which is supported by plain square posts. Fenestration consists of double-hung wood-sash windows with six-over-six lights. An enclosed rear entry porch is located along the west elevation and is sheltered by an extension of the rear cross gable.



Figure 14. Weary's Supply. Photos taken November 2012, facing north (top) and west (bottom).



Figure 15. Weary's Supply. Photos taken November 2012, facing east (top) and northeast (bottom).



Figure 16. Single family residence at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd. Photos taken November 2012, facing west (top) and southwest (bottom).



Figure 17. Single family residence at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd. Photos taken November 2012, facing northeast (top) and northwest (bottom).

History: According to current owner, Charles Weary, the parcel containing Weary's Supply store and the nearby residence, previously belonged to Crawford Timberlake, who constructed both buildings. An earlier store building was once located on the property, but was destroyed by fire and replaced circa 1939. Charles Weary acquired the property in 1962. Besides providing goods and gas, the store has historically served as a gathering spot for members of the local community. Locals would gather and sit on benches in the store, sharing stories and playing cards. One of the birch benches from the store is currently on display in the Granville History Museum located in Oxford, NC. According to Mr. Weary, the idea for the Grassy Creek Christmas parade, a local tradition for more than 25 years, originated in the store during one such gathering. Weary's Supply continues to operate as a rural general store.

NRHP Evaluation: According to *Historic Store Context* (Fearnbach 2012), rural commercial buildings that retain integrity are potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. To be eligible under Criterion B, the store must be the only extant resource associated with the proprietor's achievements, if he or she made significant contributions to history. Finally, it is unlikely, but not impossible, for general stores to be eligible under Criterion D.

Weary's Supply store retains its character-defining features relating to historic and current function as a general store. The property was constructed on its current site, on the northwest corner of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd., and retains integrity of location. Additions were made to rear (1950) and west elevation (1970); though they did increase the massing of the building somewhat, they were completed in a manner sensitive to character of the building and therefore the store retains integrity of design. According to maps and aerial photos, despite some minimal non-historic intrusions including some light commercial and residential development, the appearance of the surrounding area has changed little over the past 74 years and the store retains integrity of setting. The original materials and workmanship are apparent and the building is easily recognizable as late-1930s general store. The property retains integrity of feeling due to features such as the extended canopy, the signage, and the security bars over the front windows, as well as interior details such as shelving and counters, which all convey the property's historic character and function as a rural general store. The building continues to function as a general store and retains integrity of association (**Figure 18**).

Weary's Supply retains integrity and is eligible under Criterion A, for its function as the economic and social center of the Grassy Creek community, offering a range of goods and services in addition to a space for locals to socialize. Weary's Supply also is eligible under Criterion C as an intact example of a rural commercial building. Background research did not indicate that any proprietor of Weary's Supply made any significant contributions to history; therefore the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The property is not eligible under Criterion D because it is not likely to yield any new information important in prehistory or history.

Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that the house at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd. is closely associated with any specific activities, events, or persons significant within the history of Granville County, North Carolina, or any other significant context; thus, it is not

eligible under Criterion A or B. The residence is not an important example of a particular style due to its modest influences, and generally lacks architectural distinction, and is therefore not significant under Criterion C. Finally, the resource has not yielded and is not likely to yield any additional information important to history and is not eligible under Criterion D. The residence at 9155 Grassy Creek Rd. does not meet the minimum criteria for individual listing in the NRHP; however, the house contributes to the NRHP-eligible Weary Supply property as an associated building.

Boundary: The red outline on **Figure 19** shows the parcel boundary, according to Granville County GIS, which also serves as the NRHP property boundary. The eligible property includes the store, the proprietor's residence, the parking area for the store, and the associated lot identified by Parcel Record Number 25280 and Parcel ID 101001063795. The boundary follows the existing right of way along Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd., or the maintained limits if no right of way is recorded.



Figure 18. Weary's Supply interior. Photos taken November 2012.



Figure 19. Boundary and site plan for Weary's Supply. Image source: Granville County GIS.

Properties 3A-3B: Noblin's Store and Grassy Creek Garage (GV687-GV688)

3006 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd.

Granville County Parcel Record Number: 6099

Location and Setting: Noblin's Store is located along the south side of the intersection of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd., just south of Weary's Supply (Property 2A, discussed previously). The store is situated in a rural setting, surrounded by sparse residential and commercial development.

Description: Noblin's Store is a one-story wood-frame commercial building constructed circa 1940 (**Figures 20-21**). The building is rectangular in plan and set on pre-cast concrete piers. The front-gable roof, which is clad in 3V-crimp sheet metal, features exposed rafter tails, and an interior brick chimney that pierces the ridge, offset to the south. Exterior fabric of the building consists of wood weatherboard siding. Fenestration consists of double-hung wood-sash windows with six-over-six light configurations and metal security bars. The main entrance is located along the south elevation, and is sheltered by a canopy created by an extension of the front-gable roof. The canopy is supported by plain, round wood posts. A rear addition was made to the store circa 1950. The building once served as a gas station, however all equipment relating to such operation has been removed. Interior access was not granted for the Noblin Store.

The Grassy Creek Garage is a one-story masonry commercial building constructed circa 1960, with a major expansion circa 1970, which more than doubled the size of the building (**Figure 22**). The building is rectangular in plan and set on a concrete slab-on-grade foundation. Due to the expansion, the roof is now cross-gable, which is clad in 5V-crimp sheet metal. The roof of the original portion of the building features exposed rafter tails, and an internal concrete block chimney that pierces the west slope, near the eave wall. The structural system and exterior fabric of the building consists of concrete blocks. Fenestration consists of fixed wood-sash windows with metal security bars. The original portion of the building contains one single-vehicle bay with a sliding door, while the 1970s expansion contains two single-vehicle bays each with a roll up door.



Figure 20. Noblin's Store. Photos taken November 2012, facing west (top) and south (bottom).

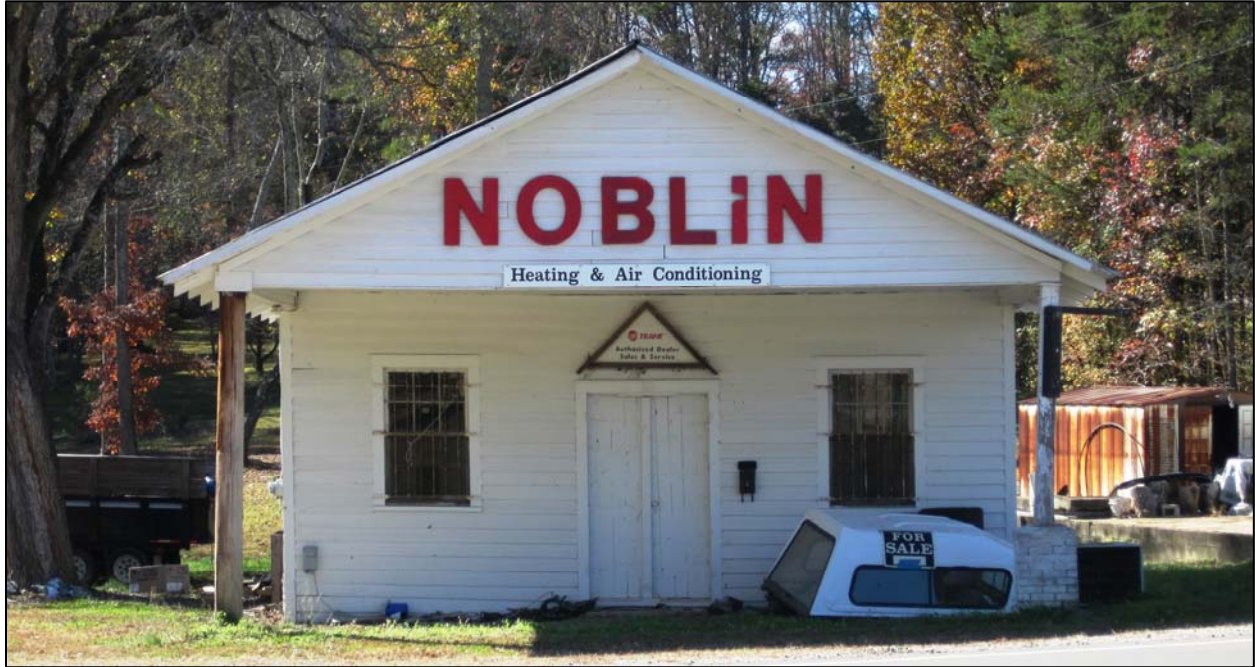


Figure 21. Noblin's Store. Photo taken November 2012, facing southwest.



Figure 22. Grassy Creek Garage. Photo taken November 2012, facing south.

History: According to current owner, James Noblin, the parcel containing Noblin's Store and the Grassy Creek Garage previously belonged to his grandfather, Samuel Noblin, and then to his father, Samuel Noblin. The parcel once contained a single family residence which was destroyed by fire. A mobile home is now located on the site where the home once stood. A hammer mill also was once located on the property but was removed prior to 1960. The store is currently used as commercial space for Noblin Heating and Air Conditioning, but no longer serves as a rural general store.

NRHP Evaluation: According to *Historic Store Context* (Fearnbach 2012), rural commercial buildings that retain integrity are potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. Under Criterion A, these stores functioned as the economic and social center for their respective rural communities, offering a range of goods and services in addition to a space for locals to socialize. To be eligible under Criterion B, the store must be the only extant resource associated with the proprietor's achievements, if he or she made significant contributions to history. Finally, it is unlikely, but not impossible, for general stores to be eligible under Criterion D.

Noblin's Store retains its character-defining features relating to historic function as a general store. The property was constructed on its current site, on the southeast corner of Grassy Creek Rd. and Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd., and retains integrity of location. An addition was made to rear in 1950 which slightly increased the massing of the building, but was completed in a manner sensitive to character of the building; therefore, the store retains integrity of design. Despite some minimal non-historic intrusions, including some light commercial and residential development, the appearance of the surrounding area has changed little over the past 74 years and the store retains integrity of setting. The original materials and workmanship are apparent and the building is easily recognizable as late-1930s general store. The property retains integrity of feeling due to features such as the extended canopy, the signage, and the security bars over the front windows, which all convey the property's historic character and function as a rural general store. Interior access was not granted for Noblin's Store and the integrity of the interior will need to be verified.

Noblin's Store retains integrity and is eligible under Criterion A, for its function as the economic and social center of the Grassy Creek community, offering a range of goods and services in addition to a space for locals to socialize. Noblin's Store also is eligible under Criterion C as an intact example of a rural commercial building. Background research did not indicate that any proprietor of Noblin's Store made any significant contributions to history; therefore the property is not eligible under Criterion B. The property is not eligible under Criterion D because it is not likely to yield any new information important in prehistory or history.

Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that the Grassy Creek Garage is closely associated with any specific activities, events, or persons significant within the history of Granville County, North Carolina, or any other significant context; thus, it is not eligible under Criterion A or B. The store is not an important example of a particular style due to its modest influences, and generally lacks architectural distinction, and is therefore not significant under

Criterion C. Finally, the resource has not yielded and is not likely to yield any additional information important to history and is not eligible under Criterion D. The Grassy Creek Garage store lacks historical and architectural significance, and does not meet the minimum criteria for listing in the NRHP, either individually or as a contributing resource within a potential or existing historic district.

Boundary: The northern and southern portions of the parcel on which Noblin’s Store is located have been physically divided by modern subdivision and development. The northern portion of the parcel contains Noblin’s Store which has been flanked by non-historic buildings. For the most part, the parcel itself lacks integrity; therefore, the NRHP property boundary for Noblin’s Store is defined as the area related to commercial activities on the parcel, indicated by the red outline on **Figure 23**.



Figure 23. Boundary and site plan for Noblin’s Store. Image source: Granville County GIS.

NRHP Evaluation of Properties 1A-3B as a Potential District

The purpose of this survey is to identify, analyze, and evaluate three historic resources as a possible historic district and also their individual eligibility for listing in the NRHP. The survey focused on the Grassy Creek Baptist Church and Cemetery, Weary's Supply, and the former gas station now known as Noblin's Store, with consideration to other buildings in the direct vicinity that may have contributed to a historic district. All of the identified buildings were constructed between 1935 and ca. 1960.

Table 2. Properties 1A-3B evaluated as a potential district.

Survey No.	Name	Address	Parcel Record No.	Built Date
Property 1A	Grassy Creek Baptist Church	9142 Grassy Creek Rd	27620	1935
Property 1B	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Cemetery	9142 Grassy Creek Rd	27617	---
Property 1C	Grassy Creek Baptist Church Parsonage	9136 Grassy Creek Rd	27620	1959
Property 2A	Weary's Supply	9153 Grassy Creek Rd	25280	ca. 1937
Property 2B	Single Family Residence	9155 Grassy Creek Rd	25280	ca. 1939
Property 3A	Noblin's Store	3006 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd	6099	ca. 1940
Property 3B	Grassy Creek Garage	3008 Grassy Creek-Virgilina Rd	6099	ca. 1960

Description: Properties 1A-3B are located in the community of Grassy Creek, NC, approximately 16 miles north of Oxford, NC, and 2 miles south of the North Carolina-Virginia state line. The surrounding area can be characterized by heavily wooded areas interspersed with agricultural lands and light residential and commercial development. The Granville County Property Appraiser lists construction dates for the buildings ranging from 1935 to 1960.

District NRHP Evaluation: NRHP-eligible districts must possess a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. NRHP-eligible districts and buildings must also possess historic significance, integrity, and association with a significant historic context. The resources also must have existed during the period covered by the historic context.

Two of the properties, Weary's Supply and Noblin's Store, are considered NRHP-eligible under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. However, this does not represent a significant concentration. Background research did not reveal any information to indicate that the grouping of buildings as a whole is associated with any other significant context relating to Granville County or North Carolina. No potential historic district exists in the project area due to a lack of a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A windshield survey of the surrounding area did not indicate a significant concentration of resources that would potentially contribute to a larger district beyond the project area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dean, Leonard F.

2011 Granville County North Carolina Gazetteer. Self-published.

Devin, Robert I.

1880 A History of Grassy Creek Baptist Church. Raleigh: Edwards, Broughton & Co.

Granville County Register of Deeds. Oxford, North Carolina.

National Park Service. National Register Bulletin 15. Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, 1991.

National Park Service. National Register Bulletin 21. Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, 1997.

National Park Service. National Register Bulletin 22. Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, 1990.

Noblin, James. Personal Communication. November 2012. Mr. Noblin is the owner of Property 3 (Parcel Record Number 6099), which was previously owned by his grandfather, then father. Mr. Noblin is also the owner of Noblin Heating and Air Conditioning.

North Carolina Maps

Carolina Digital Library and Archives. <http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/>

Richard H. Thornton Library, Oxford, NC. Local History Room - vertical files.

Weary, Charles. Personal Communication. November 2012. Mr. Weary is the owner of Property 2 (Parcel Record Number 25280) and Weary's Supply.

Weary, Charles Jr. Personal Communication. November 2012. Mr. Weary is the son of the owner of Property 2 (Parcel Record Number 25280).