



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

February 18, 2014

MEMORANDUM

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

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

SUBJECT: Replace Bridge 261 on SR 1597 over Hickory Creek, PA12-08-0082,
Henderson County, ER 14-0263

Thank you for transmitting the Historic Structures Survey Report for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the materials that we received on February 10, 2014 and are unable to concur that the **Riley Wall House (HN1274)** is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Rather, we believe that it may be eligible for listing under Criterion C for architecture. Our reasons for this conclusion are outlined below.

On page 10, the report states that the house “is believed to date from the late nineteenth century....” The original 1979 architectural survey by Margaret Owen states that the house is a “typical rural vernacular dwelling of mid-late 19th cent.” That the building features heavy timber frame construction suggests a date closer to the mid-19th century rather than the later 19th century. By the 1880s or 1890s, even in rural Henderson County, one would expect to see a lighter frame construction. In addition, it is not exactly appropriate to give a heavy timber frame dwelling such as the Riley Wall House a date of the 1880s or 1890s (as suggested on page 12), without better confirmation of interior features. Considering that the interior was not accessible at the time of the survey, and given that the building’s framing is of an earlier method, the date should either be given an earlier or wider date range, with greater emphasis placed on the earlier end of the wider range. While the construction is attributed to Wall, who apparently arrived in the area in the 1870s, there is no exploration of an alternate narrative that might attribute construction to another individual. Rather than refer to the house as “plain,” as stated on page 30, “vernacular” would seem to be a better descriptor.

The issue of the building’s date of construction is important, not only for the narrative of this property, but also because it may have a significant impact on the comparable buildings—both in form and vintage—that are considered its context. The evaluation on page 30 states that there are “a number of recorded nineteenth and turn-of-the-twentieth-century rural frame dwellings still extant in the county,” but it may well be that the appropriate architectural context is limited to those structures of the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Certainly, the loss of these structures would jeopardize the property’s integrity under Criterion A, but it is not necessarily appropriate to say that the lack of extant outbuildings “often associated with rural properties” is an aggravating factor when considering eligibility under Criterion C. Given that the house features heavy timber frame construction (likely dating from the third quarter of the nineteenth century); appears to retain a remarkable degree of original materials on the exterior; based on the 1979 architectural survey notes retains much of its historic interior; and retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association, we could consider the property eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.

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: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
Intensive Evaluation: Riley Wall House**

**Replace Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597 over Hickory Creek
Henderson County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 17BP.14.R.18**

**Prepared for:
Human Environment Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1583**

**Prepared by:
Acme Preservation Services, LLC
825C Merrimon Avenue, #345
Asheville, NC 28804
828-281-3852**

January 2014

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January 2014



Clay Griffith, Principal Investigator
Acme Preservation Services, LLC

January 24, 2014

Date

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

Date

**Replace Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597 over Hickory Creek, Henderson County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 17BP.14.R.18**

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597 (Little Bearwallow Road) over Hickory Creek in Henderson County. The project area is located in the northeastern section of the county near the Buncombe County line. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as 300 feet from either end of the bridge and 75 feet on either side of the center line.

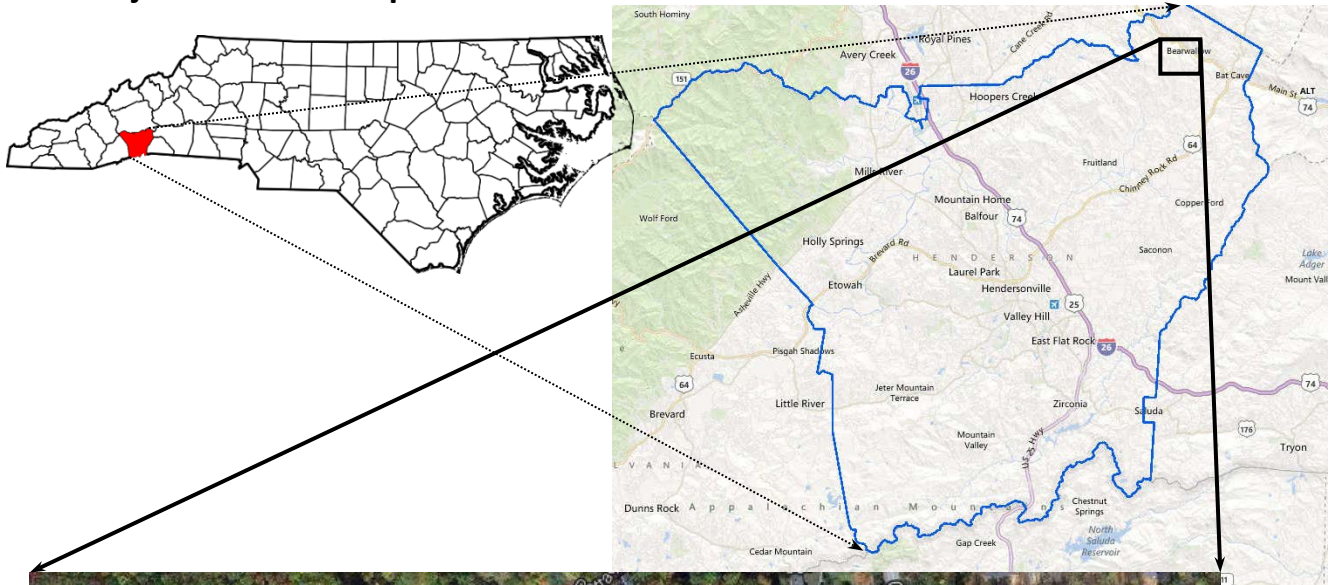
NCDOT contracted with Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) in March 2013 to complete an intensive historic resources evaluation of the Riley Wall House at 6940 Bearwallow Mountain Road. Architectural historian Clay Griffith conducted the fieldwork in September 2013, photographing and mapping the property, and authored the report. Primary source investigation included research at the Henderson County Courthouse, Henderson County Public Library, and Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office's Henderson County survey files at the Western Office of Archives and History in Asheville were searched to provide some architectural context. After an intensive evaluation following the National Register of Historic Places criteria for eligibility, the Riley Wall House (HN 1274) was found to be not eligible due to a lack of any special historic and architectural significance and compromised integrity.

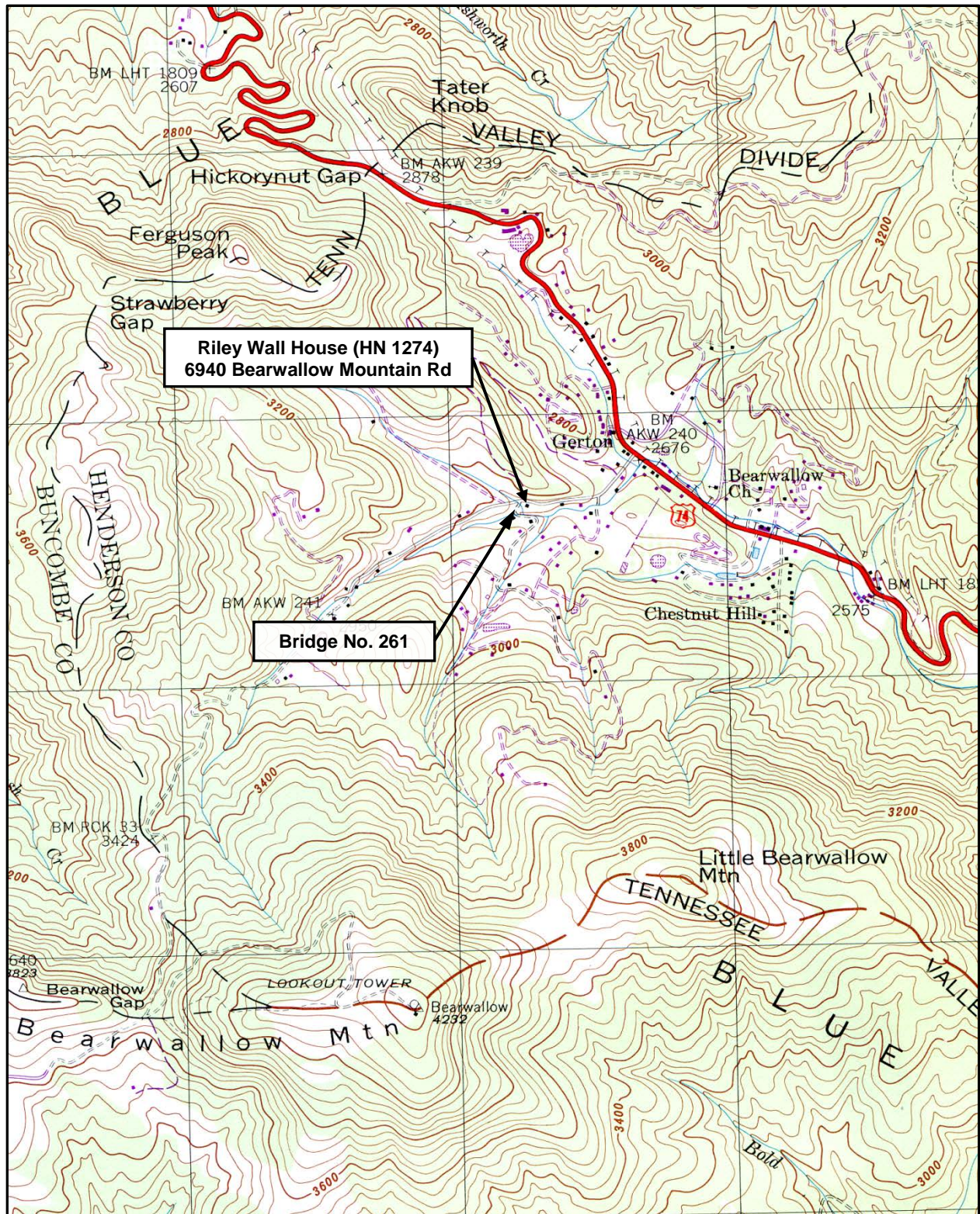
APS conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; and the NCDOT document entitled *Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines* (2003). This property evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

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I. Project Location Maps





Location Map – Bat Cave, NC USGS topographic quadrangle map (1997)

II. Introduction

The project area is located in the community of Gerton in northeastern Henderson County. Bridge No. 261 is located on Little Bearwallow Road (SR 1597) immediately south of its intersection with Bearwallow Mountain Road (SR 1594). The bridge is located on a tight S-curve in the road that descends from its intersection with Bearwallow Mountain Road and begins to climb beyond the bridge. The previously recorded Riley Wall House (HN 1274) is partially encircled by the upper part of the “S” in Little Bearwallow Road.

An on-site reconnaissance survey of the project area was conducted on October 22, 2012, and all resources within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) were photographed to the extent possible from public right-of-way. In addition to the Wall House, three properties over fifty years of age are located within the APE. None of the other identified resources, however, appear to possess any special historic or architectural significance to be eligible for the National Register. Following a review of the findings of the reconnaissance survey, NCDOT contracted with Acme Preservation Services to complete an intensive evaluation of the Riley Wall House.¹

The general project area is characterized by heavily wooded rural mountain terrain and some open pastures and agricultural land. The project site is located in the far northeastern portion of Henderson County near the Buncombe County line and the eastern Continental Divide. The Wall House stands approximately 0.3-mile southwest of US 74A, which passes through the rugged and scenic Hickory Nut Gorge. The highway follows the route of a nineteenth-century drover’s road and stagecoach line between Asheville and Rutherfordton. Sherrill’s Inn (NR, 1975), which is located roughly two miles north of the Wall House, served as a popular stop for travelers along the route before and after the Civil War.

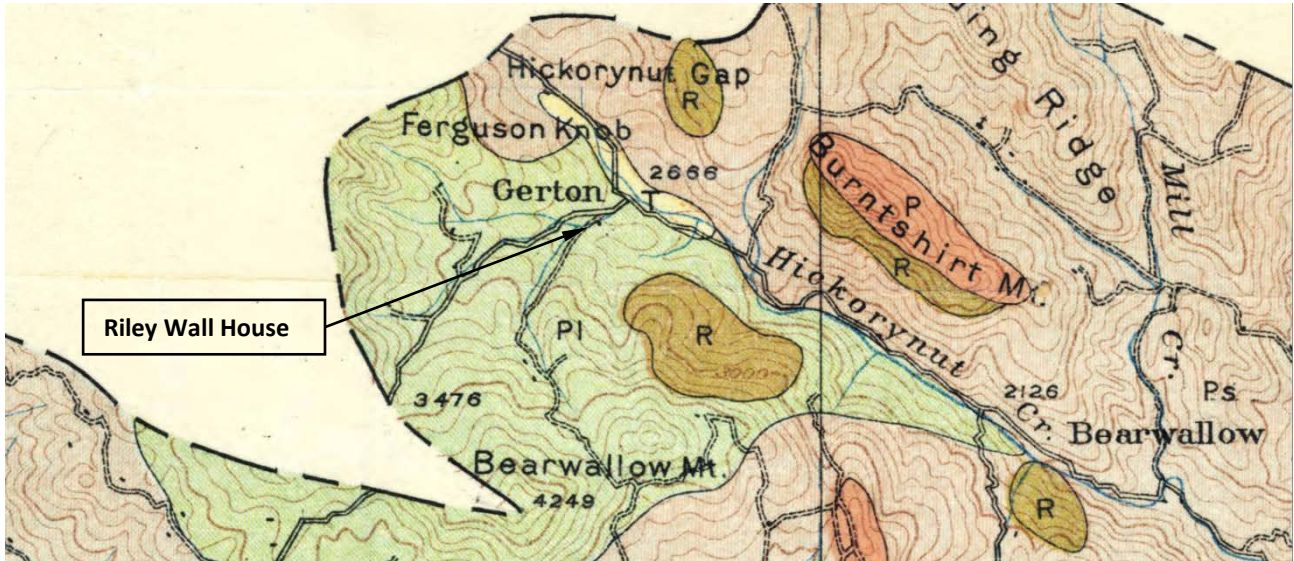
III. Methodology

The field survey was conducted in September 2013, and the property within the APE containing the Riley Wall House and associated buildings was photographed and recorded. Basic research on the project area was conducted by consulting with the Henderson County GIS and tax records, Register of Deeds office, Henderson County Public Library, and at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. The project area is not covered by Sanborn maps, but USGS topographic quadrangle maps dating back to 1935 were reviewed.

Michael Ann Williams conducted a comprehensive county-wide survey of historic architectural resources in 1980, and following the survey presented the findings in a report entitled “The Architecture of Henderson County, North Carolina.” A search of the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) records revealed the Wall House to be in the project area, but few other resources were recorded in the vicinity of Gerton. A cursory windshield survey of one- and two-story, late-

¹ The house is recorded as the Railey Wall House in the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office survey files. It appears, however, from census and deed records that the correct first name spelling is “Riley.”

nineteenth and early twentieth-century frame dwellings was conducted in November 2013. The purpose of the windshield survey was to generally observe the survival rate and condition of comparable properties recorded during the county-wide survey.



Detail of Soil Map, North Carolina, Henderson County Sheet (1907)



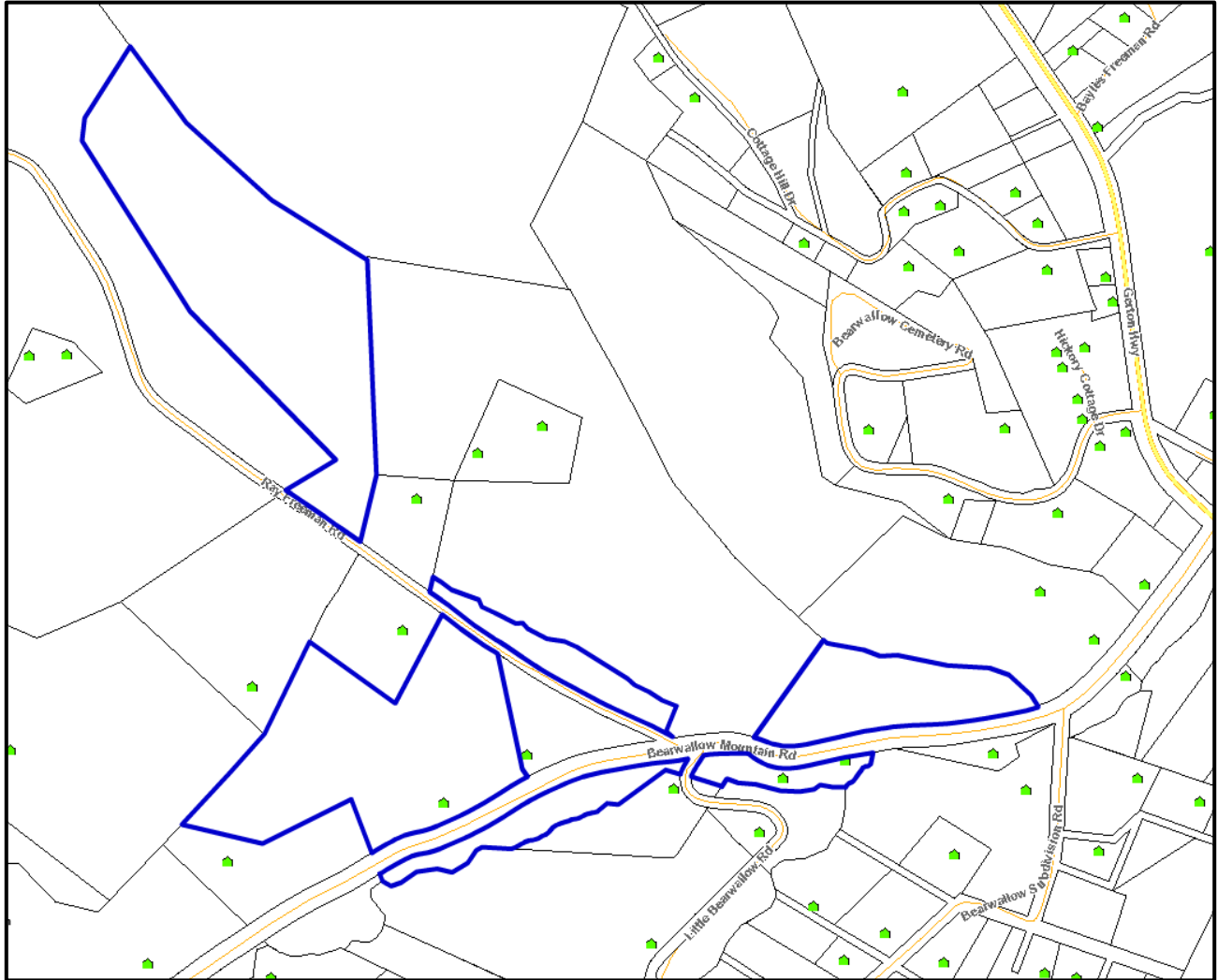
Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597 (Little Bearwallow Road) over Hickory Creek, view to southwest



Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597, view northeast to intersection with Bearwallow Mountain Road (SR 1594)



View east along Bearwallow Mountain Road (SR 1594) from intersection with Little Bearwallow Road (SR 1597)



Tax Parcel Map - Riley Wall House (HN 1274), 6940 Bearwallow Mountain Road
Henderson County PIN 0604153900 (highlighted by heavy solid lines)
(Source: Henderson County GIS)

IV. Riley Wall House (HN 1274)

6940 Bearwallow Mountain Road, Gerton vic., Henderson County
PIN 0604153900

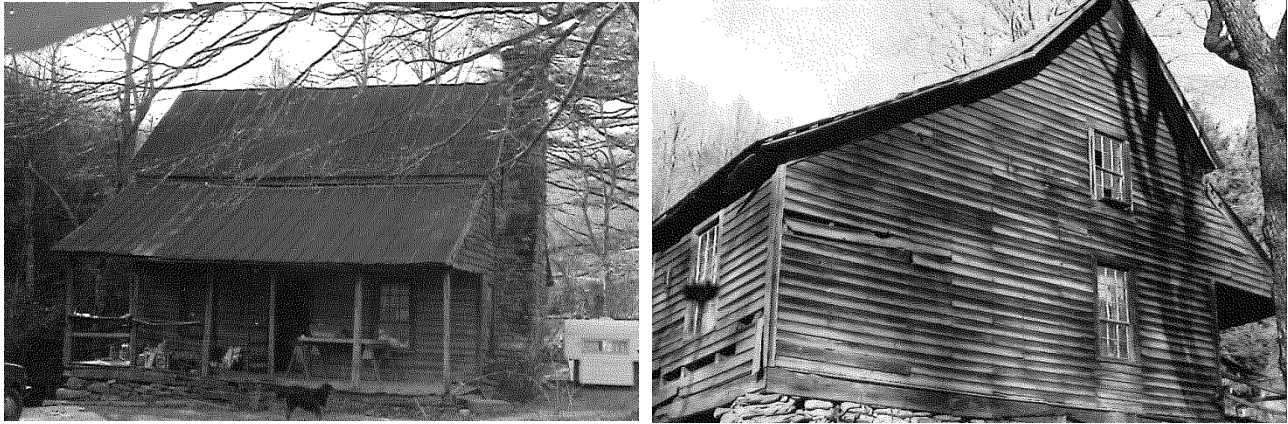


Riley Wall House (HN 1274), façade, view to west

The Riley Wall House is believed to date from the late nineteenth century and its construction is attributed its original owner, Riley H. Wall (1840-1940). Resting on a stone foundation, the one-and-a-half-story heavy timber frame dwelling is covered with weatherboards and capped by a standing-seam metal, side-gable roof. An engaged full-width porch carries across the façade and a shed-roof kitchen addition extends across the rear elevation. An exterior stone chimney rises against the north side elevation. The porch, which is supported on chamfered wood posts, shelters a single-leaf wood door. Windows are typically nine-over-six double-hung sash on the first story and six-over-six sash on the upper story. The house is vacant and deteriorating with sections of the roofing material missing, broken weatherboards, and a collapsing porch floor. The material degradation of the house is noticeable in comparison with photographs taken during the county-wide survey around 1980.

The house was constructed with a heavy timber frame supported by locust log sills and joists. According to Michael Ann Williams' survey notes, the frame has mortise and tenon joints. This detail could not be verified, however, even in areas where the weatherboards have worn away to reveal the structural framing members. The rear shed addition, which contained the kitchen, was built later and displays nailed framing and the original exterior weatherboards on the

now interior rear wall of the house. Williams noted that the interior features a central stair, flush wall sheathing, and replacement brick mantel. The interior was not available for inspection.



**Riley Wall House, front view to west (l) and oblique view to north (r),
photographs by Margaret Owen, 1980, from collection of NC HPO**

Riley Hubert Wall was born in Rutherford County, the eldest son of John H. (“Jackie”) and Melinda Padgett Wall and one of nine children. Along with his father Jackie and his brother Simeon, Riley Wall fought in the Civil War. Riley Wall was severely wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines (also known as the Battle of Fair Oaks or Fair Oaks Station) in Virginia, but had recovered sufficiently to be present at General Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomattox; Simeon was killed in battle. Following the war, Jackie and Riley Wall returned to Rutherford County, but the family soon moved to Fairview in southern Buncombe County, where Jackie Wall operated a grist mill. The family later moved across Bearwallow Mountain into Henderson County and settled on Turkey Knob.²

Soon after the Confederate surrender, Riley Wall married Tinsey Elizabeth Huntley (1844-1906) and together the couple had five children. It is unclear where Riley and Tinsey Wall settled after getting married, but they are recorded as residents of Henderson County in the 1880 census. Riley Wall is listed as a farmer and his two oldest sons, George, age 13, and Marion, age 11, are noted as working on the family farm. The earliest indexed deed record for Riley Wall, however, was not recorded until February 1892, when Riley Wall purchased one acre and 40 poles from R. A. and L. E. Freeman for \$15. The transferred property, which lay along “Hickory Nut Creek” and included the “land and premises,” was a portion of a 50-acre tract the Freemans acquired from B. M. Hamrick in 1889 (Deed 32/319). In the deed for the 50-acre tract from Hamrick to Freeman, the property is described as adjoining the “lands of Lapun Freeman, W. S. Freeman, Riley Wall and others” (Deed 25/578). This reference suggests that Wall already owned property in the area by 1889.³

² George Alexander Jones, ed., *The Heritage of Henderson County, North Carolina*, Vol. 1 (Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, Publishers, 2003), 365. Military History Online website (<http://www.militaryhistoryonline.com/genealogy/editancestor.aspx?id=9454&state=North%20Carolina&type=4&rid=2409>); accessed August 22, 2013).

³ Henderson County Register of Deeds Office, Henderson County Courthouse, Hendersonville, NC. Census records reviewed at Ancestry.com (accessed September 2013).

As it appears that the house was built in the 1880s or 1890s, Riley and Tinsey Wall most likely resided here, raised their family, and farmed as much cultivable land as they could manage. By 1900, the Wall's children had mostly left home except for their youngest child, Mary Elgiva (known as "Giva" or "Givie"), who was 19 years old. However, Tinsey Wall's mother and brother—Sarah Huntley and Thomas Huntley—had moved in with the family, along with a seventeen-year-old nephew, Eric Huntley. The Wall's son George lived nearby and farmed. George Wall was appointed postmaster for Gerton (then known as "Pump") in 1894, and served until 1898, when he was replaced by Fielden Hamrick. George Wall became postmaster again 1899, following Hamrick's brief tenure, and served continuously until February 1940.⁴

The first decade of the twentieth century brought significant changes to Riley Wall's family. Mary "Giva" Wall married Noble Tilden Freeman in 1906 and established themselves on a small farm near her father. By 1910, Noble and Mary Freeman had three sons, with another two children to follow over the next several years. Tinsey Wall died in 1906, leaving Riley Wall a widower as he approached 70 years of age. Between 1910 and 1920, Riley Wall moved in with his son George and his wife, Martha. Thomas Huntley also resided as a boarder with George and Martha Wall and helped on the farm. As his age advanced, Riley Wall ceased farming and resided with his daughter Mary Freeman, a widow herself by 1930. Riley Wall was nine months shy of his one hundredth birthday when died in 1940, and was one of only thirty surviving Confederate veterans in North Carolina. Riley and Tinsey Wall are both buried in the Bearwallow Cemetery in Gerton.⁵

It appears that the property has been owned continuously by Wall's descendants to the present time. It is unclear if the house remained in use or simply stood abandoned on the family's land. Ownership of the house seems to have passed from Mary Freeman to her son, Raymond Freeman, who farmed the land and eventually built a house to the northwest on Ray Freeman Road. Ray Freeman married Rita Searcy in 1938 and together they had three children. Following his death in 1982, the property has been owned by the youngest of Ray and Rita Freeman's children, daughter Virginia Freeman Williams, who was living in the mobile home adjacent to the Riley Wall House prior to her father's death. Ms. Williams built a new house for herself in 1995 on a separate parcel on the north side of Bearwallow Mountain Road.⁶

⁴ Census records. Lenoir Ray, *Postmarks: A History of Henderson County, 1878-1968* (Chicago, IL: Adams Press, 1970), 254-257.

⁵ Census records. Riley Wall managed to be recorded twice in the 1930 census. He was recorded in the Edneyville township of Henderson County on April 4, 1930, as part of Mary Freeman's household. He was recorded a second time in Rutherford County on April 28th as the father-in-law of Leonard and Ruth Freeman; Riley Wall was Leonard Freeman's grandfather. Thomas Huntley was also a member of this household.

⁶ Henderson County Register of Deeds. During the preparation of this report Ms. Williams was undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments; she died on November 26, 2013. Virginia "Ginger" Freeman obituary, Thos. Shepherd & Son Funeral Directors website (http://www.thosshepherd.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2339505&fh_id=10745, accessed December 2013).



Riley Wall House, north elevation, view to south



Riley Wall House, detail of north elevation, view to southwest



Riley Wall House, porch detail, view to west



Riley Wall House, oblique front view to northwest



Riley Wall House, oblique rear view to southeast



Riley Wall House, framing detail at northeast corner, view to south



Mobile home, overall view to south

With the nineteenth-century Wall House no longer occupied, the principal residence on the property is a single-wide mobile home that dates from the 1970s. The one-story gable-roof vinyl-clad dwelling stands to the east of the Wall House. The house is approached by an attached wooden walkway and uncovered front deck. A metal-roof shed is located at the rear of the mobile home and overlooks the creek to the south. A front-gable metal car shelter, with corrugated metal siding extending continuously from the roof to ground level on the sides, is located immediately east of the mobile home.



Mobile home and car shelter, view to west



Storage shed, overall front view to southwest from Bearwallow Mountain Road

A one-story frame shed is located alongside the unpaved gravel driveway at the far eastern end of the property. The structure, which rests on a masonry foundation, is covered with board-and-batten siding and is capped by a standing-seam metal roof. Square window openings have been boarded over with plywood. A six-panel single-leaf door provides access to the interior. The building probably dates from the early twentieth century, possibly the 1920s.



Storage shed, overall front view to southwest from Bearwallow Mountain Road



Bankhouse, view to north

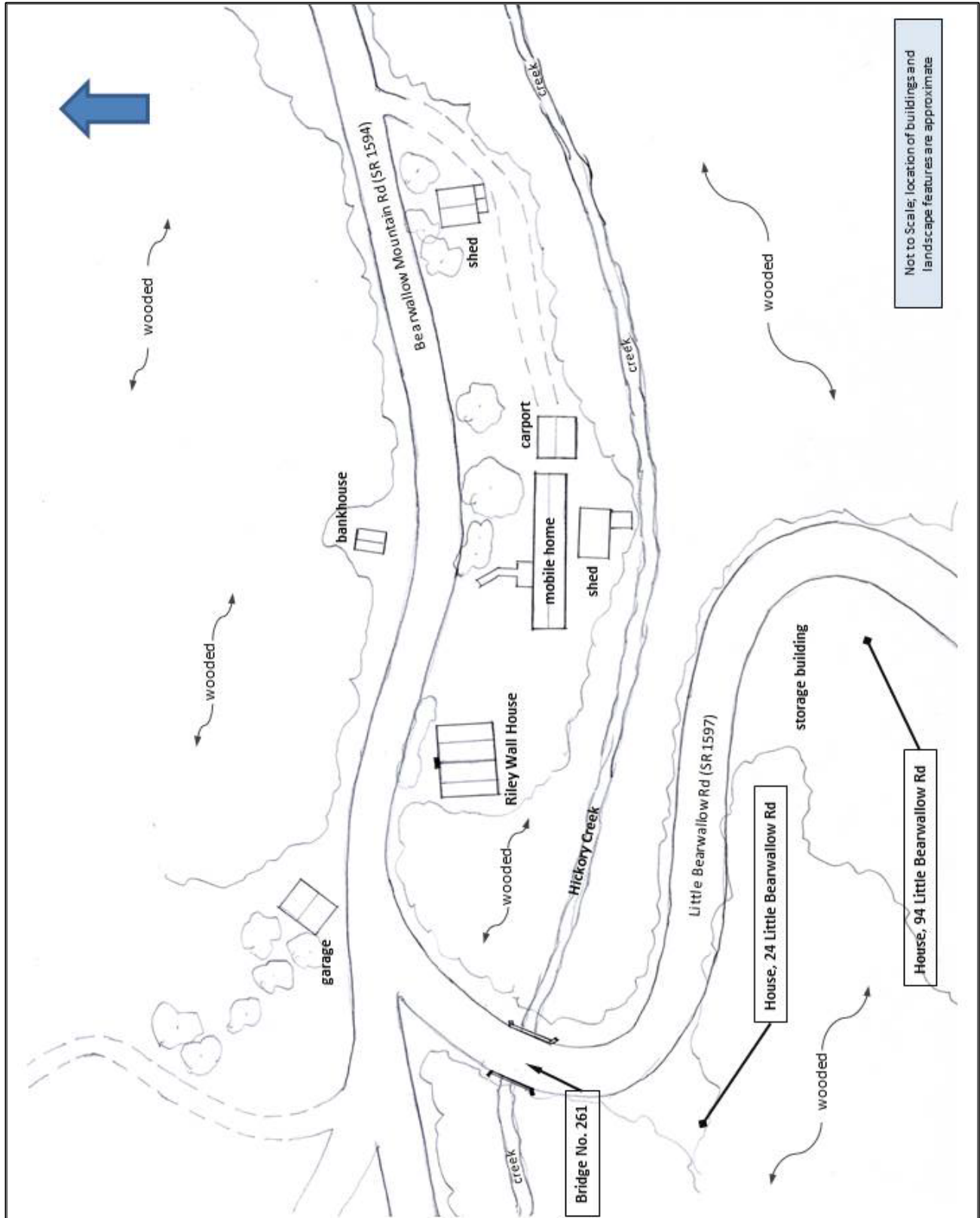
A stone bankhouse, located across from the Wall House on the north side of Bearwallow Mountain Road, occupies another section of the property. Set into the sloping hillside and constructed of irregularly-coursed ashlar masonry, the structure is capped by a standing-seam metal, front-gable roof. The bankhouse features exposed rafter tails, weatherboards in the front-gable end, and a narrow single-leaf four-panel entry door.

One additional structure is located at 6713 Bearwallow Mountain Road, on a separate portion of the property. The building, which appears to be a rental house, is a one-story, side-gable concrete block dwelling that dates from the 1960s. Covered with thin stucco, the house features an interior concrete block chimney flue, six-over-six double-hung sash, and a single-leaf entrance on the northeast gable end. The house was not photographed during the field survey because it was not known to occupy the same tax parcel as the Wall House, but it was observed during the fieldwork. The house appears in similar condition to the accompanying photograph from the tax record.⁷

⁷ Henderson County Real Property Data Property Summary, Parcel Number 1006440 (<http://taxinfo.hendersoncountync.org/PropertySearch/PropertySummary.aspx?REID=1006440&YearFor=2014>; accessed September 2013)



House, 6713 Bearwallow Mountain Road, oblique front view to west



Site plan – Riley Wall House (HN 1274), 6940 Bearwallow Mountain Road

V. Architectural Context

The architectural development of Henderson County largely mirrors building trends and development patterns found in other western North Carolina counties. The earliest settlers built simple log and frame dwellings as they cleared the land and established their homesteads. Log and frame buildings were quickly erected using the abundant timber of the area. Traditional building practices persisted through the late nineteenth and into early twentieth century. During her county-wide survey, Michael Ann Williams noted that the survival rate of nineteenth-century log and frame dwellings was not equal; log structures appeared to be more durable and survive in greater numbers than their frame counterparts. For this reason Williams had difficulty determining when frame construction superseded log as the favored building technology. Among the surviving nineteenth-century frame houses, it was evident that they were not significantly different from log houses in plan. Rural frame dwellings were typically two rooms with exterior chimneys, although they were frequently greater in height than log houses. These structures often lack stylistic expression, but some modest decoration is frequently found on larger houses and the homes of more prosperous families. Decorative elements are typically limited to exterior and interior woodwork. The small vernacular houses from this period are representative of the predominantly agricultural lifestyle and are important as continuations of the farming and folk traditions.⁸

A number of log houses recorded during the county survey have since been demolished, moved, or substantially altered for use as outbuildings. Despite this rate of attrition, a selection of log houses survives in the county. The same is true for nineteenth and early-twentieth century rural frame dwellings. Williams recorded a good number of examples during her survey, but among these, a number of houses have since been demolished or been abandoned and become deteriorated.

The principal investigator searched the survey files at the Western Office of the Office of Archives and History in Asheville to establish some context for evaluating the Wall House. Comparable properties were identified from the survey files based on their general age, style, and location in the central and eastern parts of the county, including Bat Cave, Edneyville, and Fruitland townships. A cursory windshield survey was undertaken to review the status of comparable properties in the field. Although a number were found to be demolished or removed from their site, a selection of surviving late-nineteenth and early twentieth-century rural frame houses were identified to provide context.

The Riley Wall House (HN 1274) survives as a good example of a late-nineteenth century frame dwelling in Henderson County with some minor integrity issues to go along with deteriorating materials. The one-and-a-half-story dwelling rests on a stone foundation and features a stone chimney rising against the north elevation. The house is covered with weatherboards and capped by a metal side-gable roof. The engaged full-width porch is supported on chamfered posts and shelters a three-bay façade with a central single-leaf entry door flanked by nine-over-six double-hung sash. A shed-roof kitchen addition was built on the rear of the house

⁸ Michael Ann Williams, *The Architecture of Henderson County, North Carolina* (Report, North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Asheville, NC, 1980), 3-6.

at some point. Construction of the house is attributed to its original owner, Riley Wall, and it is believed to be built with mortise-and-tenon joinery.

The Hickory Nut Gorge area of Henderson County was, and remains, fairly sparsely settled due its rugged terrain and lack of cultivable farmland. Development increased in the mid-twentieth century with the expansion of automobile tourism. While the Wall House is a relatively intact example of its type, several other surviving late-nineteenth and turn-of-the-century frame houses are scattered through the Henderson County portion of the gorge. Dating from ca. 1893, the Ceif Huntley House (HN 1178) at 155 Possum Hollow Road is a one-and-a-half-story single-pen frame house with a stone foundation and an exterior stone chimney. A hip-roof addition to the side expands the house to the west. An engaged porch is supported by square wood posts with a simple wood balustrade. The windows are six-over-six double-hung sash and four-light fixed sash. The Plenny Freeman House (HN 1149) at 196 Possum Hollow Road dates from around 1900 and occupies a knoll across the road. The one-story frame house is covered with board-and-batten siding and capped by a broken-pitch side-gable roof that engages a full-width front porch. The Freeman House is somewhat overgrown and poorly maintained.



Ceif Huntley House (HN 1178), 155 Possum Hollow Road, view to north

The William Huntley House (HN1179) is located at the intersection of Middle Fork Road and Toms Falls Road and rests on a stone foundation. Built around 1900, the large one-and-a-half-story frame house with a tall side-gable roof, prominent gabled front dormer, interior stone chimney, decorative purlin brackets, and original two-over-two and replacement six-over-six windows. The hip-roof wraparound porch is carried on turned posts with a balustrade composed of turned balusters. A one-story ell extends to the rear. The 1885 G. W. Freeman House (HN 1148) is a frame I-house with a triple-A roof located on US 64 a short distance west of the intersection of US 64 and US 74A in Bat Cave. Covered with weatherboards and resting on a stone foundation, the house features decorative shingles in the gable ends, one-story rear ell, an attached hip-roof porch, two

single-leaf entrances on the façade, and four-over-four double-hung sash. A front-gable bankhouse stands to the northwest of the house and consists of a frame upper story resting on a tall, stone lower story.



William Huntley House (HN 1179), 1444 Middle Fork Road, view to northeast



G. W. Freeman House (HN 1148), 4761 Chimney Rock Road, view to northeast

Lying just beyond the steep slopes of the Hickory Nut Gorge, the rolling topography of the Edneyville, Blue Ridge, and Fruitland sections of eastern Henderson County offered some of the richest agricultural land and, as a result, were among the earliest portions of the county to be settled. A number of nineteenth-century houses, constructed of both log and frame, remain in this portion of the county. Many of these properties were surveyed by Michael Ann Williams although additional resources were identified during the windshield survey that had not been previously recorded. Several previously recorded houses were not found during the windshield survey, including the George Hyder House (HN 1181), which stood on Union Hill Church Road, and the Jim Whiteside House (HN 1283). The loss of these properties recorded by Ms. Williams indicates the ongoing attrition of historic resources in the county.



George Hyder House (l) and Jim Whiteside House (r)



Lyda House at Bee Hive Inn (HN 1092), 417 Beehive Road, view to south, photographs by Michael Ann Williams, 1980, from collection of NC HPO

The Lyda House, built around 1900 by Andrew Lyda and used as a boarding house for teachers in Edneyville, was later joined by a three-and-a-half-story structure to accommodate tourists as the Bee Hive Inn (HN 1092). Though the larger building no longer stands, the two-story side-gable frame house with an exterior stone end chimney and two-tiered portico remains intact. Located at 417 Beehive Road, the Lyda House displays weatherboard siding, exposed rafter tails, a two-story rear ell, and four-over-one double-hung sash. Large two-over-two windows flank the central single-leaf entry. A scattering of small, rustic pole-log cabins are located around the house and appear to have been part of the tourist accommodations offered at the Bee Hive Inn. By contrast, the two-story Zeb Dalton House (HN 1124) at 3045 Old Clear Creek Road has been significantly altered and enlarged. The form of the original two-story side-gable house and exterior stone end chimney remain visible, but the few surviving features of the house are overwhelmed by vinyl siding, replacement doors and sash, new porch elements, and an attached garage at the rear. A side wing added around 2010 is larger than the original house.



Zeb Dalton House (HN 1124), 3045 Old Clear Creek Road, view to northwest

William and Dovie Jones built a one-story side-gable frame house in the Blue Ridge community of eastern Henderson County around 1900. Located at 5603 Sugarloaf Road, the William Jones House (HN 1187) remains largely intact despite appearing to be vacant. The house is covered with weatherboards and features an exterior stone end chimney, full-width shed-roof porch, and six-over-six double-hung sash. A one-story gable-roof kitchen wing was added to the rear of the house about 1930, which includes a shed-roof porch supported on square wood posts along the southwest elevation. A concrete block addition was built onto the northeast side of the rear ell in the late twentieth century.



William Jones House (HN 1187), 5603 Sugarloaf Road, oblique view to north



J. J. Justice House (HN 1193), 68 Chestnut Stump Road, view to south

The J. J. Justice House (HN 1193) at 68 Chestnut Stump Road, also in the Blue Ridge community, presents the common one-story side-gable form and is covered with weatherboards. The house, which is deteriorating, may date from the late nineteenth century and features an exterior stone end chimney, stone foundation, asphalt shingles in the gable ends, and an attached shed-roof porch. A small gable-roof ell and shed addition extend from the rear of the house. The windows, which are covered with storm windows, appear to contain two-over-two and six-over-six double-hung sash. The Rev. J. J. Justice, one of several Justice families in the area, formerly owned the house.

Two other nearby houses that were previously recorded have undergone fairly substantial alterations but remain standing. The Holbert Maxwell House (HN 1210) at 403 Union Hill Church Road is a simple side-gable dwelling covered with board-and-batten siding. At the time it was recorded, the house was being used as temporary housing for migrant farm workers; it is currently used as an agricultural storage building. The James L. Ward House (HN 1276) at 543 Ward Holler Road is a one-story two-room dwelling that was later converted to a barn shed extensions. Both structures were built around the turn of the twentieth century.



**Holbert Maxwell House (l) and James L. Ward House (r),
photographs by Michael Ann Williams, 1980, from collection of NC HPO**

Two properties identified during the windshield survey, which were not previously recorded, offer some of the most intact examples of late-nineteenth century frame dwellings in the eastern part of the county. Located between the Blue Ridge and Fruitland communities, the house at 2886 Chimney Rock Road is a one-story side-gable frame dwelling that may date from the 1880s. The house sits on the south side of US 64 and rests on a stone pier foundation. It is covered with weatherboards and capped by a metal roof of pressed tin shingles. A seam in the siding on the façade suggests that the house may be composed of two smaller structures that were joined in saddlebag fashion on either side of the stone chimney. An attached shed-roof porch is supported by Tuscan columns and shelters two single-leaf entry doors composed of a large single light over two panels. The windows are typically six-over-six double-hung sash, and a gable-roof ell extends to the rear. The front of the property is bordered by a low stone retaining wall.



House, 2886 Chimney Rock Road, view to southeast



House, 1995 Pace Road, oblique view to southwest

A house located on 1995 Pace Road shows a slightly higher level of refinement than the Wall House (and most of the others noted above), but it survives as an intact example of houses from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The house is a one-story hip-roof frame dwelling with a stone pier foundation and weatherboard siding. A corbelled interior brick chimney rises from the ridgeline of the roof, and a hip-roof ell extends to the rear. The three-bay façade features a central single-leaf entry door flanked by single windows. The windows throughout are two-over-two double-hung sash. The attached full-width hip-roof porch may be a later addition or remodeling with tapered wood posts supported on brick piers with cast concrete caps. Brick has also been used to infill the foundation around the stone piers. A T-shaped addition has been constructed on the rear ell and may date from the mid-twentieth century. It appears to be constructed of concrete block and have a central gable roof flanked by shed-roof wings.

Four frame outbuildings are located to the west of the house along a gravel driveway. These structures, which include a large barn and several sheds, probably date from the second quarter of the twentieth century. The outbuildings typically have weatherboard siding, standing-seam metal gable roofs, exposed rafter tails, concrete foundations, and glazed multi-light windows. The shed closest to the house is covered with board-and-batten siding. Three of the structures are entered through wood sliding doors.

According to tax records, the house was built in 1918, but the overall form and certain details suggest that it is earlier than that date. The Craftsman-style porch posts give an appearance more compatible with the 1918 date, but it is out of character with rest of the house, which suggests that it was a later addition or remodeling. Tax records indicate that the outbuildings were erected in 1940, which appears to be a reasonable estimate of their construction.



Outbuildings at 1995 Pace Road, view to west

VI. Evaluation

The Riley Wall House is a plain, one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling from the late nineteenth century located in the mountainous northeastern corner of Henderson County. Its construction is attributed to Wall, the original owner, who came to the area with his family in the 1870s. The house is a good, if undistinguished, example of a common form with a stone foundation and exterior stone end chimney, weatherboard siding, an engaged full-width porch, and nine-over-six double-hung sash. At some point, a shed-roof kitchen addition was built at the rear of the house; the interior mantel was replaced more than 30 years ago. The Wall House maintains a relatively good degree of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, although it does suffer from material deterioration. The integrity of the property's setting and feeling, however, has been more severely compromised with newer construction and the absence of associated agricultural features. With a number of recorded nineteenth and turn-of-the-century rural frame dwellings still extant in the county, the Wall House appears to lack the requisite significance and distinguishing characteristics to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its architecture.

The Wall House is not recommended as eligible under any other National Register criteria. The property is typical of late nineteenth century vernacular frame dwellings in Henderson County, but lacks most of the outbuildings often associated with rural properties. Riley Wall and his family resided here and farmed the surrounding property during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Wall was a Confederate veteran of the Civil War and one of the oldest surviving in North Carolina at the time of his death. It does not appear that Wall's farming rose much above the subsistence level, although he seems to have been successful enough to support a large and extended family. Without additional documentation or evidence the family's farming operation, the Riley Wall House does not appear to possess any special distinction that would allow it to be eligible under Criterion A for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. It is unlikely that the house is eligible for National Register listing under Criterion B due to its association with Riley Wall. Moreover, the property is unlikely to yield information about our past not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records, making it ineligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

VII. Reference Table of Surveyed Properties

HPO SSN	Property Name	Property Address	Parcel Number
HN 1092	Beehive Inn (Lyda House)	417 Beehive Road Edneyville vic.	0602-43-3110
HN 1124	Zeb Dalton House	3045 Old Clear Creek Road Edneyville vic.	9692-75-7051
HN 1148	G. W. Freeman House	4761 Chimney Rock road Bat Cave vic.	0612-69-0251
HN 1149	Plenny Freeman House	196 Possum Hollow Road Bat Cave vic.	0613-87-3982
HN 1178	Ceif Huntley House	155 Possum Hollow Road Bat Cave vic.	0613-77-9831
HN 1179	William Huntley House	1444 Middle Fork Road Bat Cave vic.	0614-54-6097
HN 1181	George Hyder House	Union Hill Church Road Blue Ridge vic.	Demolished
HN 1187	William Jones House	5603 Sugarloaf Road Blue Ridge vic.	0600-02-0048
HN 1193	J. J. Justice House	68 Chestnut Stump Road Blue Ridge vic.	9599-97-0605
HN 1210	Holbert Maxwell House	403 Union Hill Church Road Blue Ridge vic.	0600-31-2746
HN 1276	James L. Ward House	543 Ward Holler Road Blue Ridge vic.	0509-77-4085
HN 1283	Jim Whiteside House	St. Pauls Road Edneyville vic.	Demolished
HN 1274	Riley Wall House	6940 Bearwallow Mountain Road Gerton vic.	0604-15-3900
HN 1355	House	2886 Chimney Rock Road Fruitland vic.	9680-23-1016
HN 1356	House	1995 Pace Road Blue Ridge vic.	9690-34-7058

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Appendix A

Professional Qualifications

CLAY GRIFFITH

President/Architectural Historian

ACME PRESERVATION SERVICES, LLC

825C Merrimon Ave, #345

Asheville, NC 28804

Tel 828 281 3852

cgriffith.acme@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Master of Architectural History (1993)
University of Virginia
- Bachelor of Science, Architecture (1990)
Georgia Institute of Technology
- Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law (1994)

EXPERIENCE

- **Acme Preservation Services, LLC, Asheville, NC**
November 2007 – present

Formed independent firm to provide historic preservation consulting services. Services provided include preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., Asheville, NC**
January 2002 – October 2007

Served as Senior Architectural Historian in Asheville office of private consulting firm. Responsibilities included preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Western Office, Asheville, NC**
July 1998 – January 2002

Preservation Specialist serving the 25-county western region of North Carolina. Administered State Historic Preservation Office programs including statewide inventory of historic properties, survey and planning grant supervision, National Register of Historic Places nominations, environmental review, technical assistance, and public education.

- **North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, NC**
June 1993 – June 1998

Preservation Specialist with Historic Architectural Resources Section. Responsible for conducting and preparing documentation in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and other state and federal environmental laws and regulations. Duties included conducting field work, identifying and documenting historic resources, evaluating National Register eligibility, and assessing effects to minimize impacts of NCDOT undertakings.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- *West House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 87 on SR 1140 over Hyatt Mill Creek, (for NCDOT), Clat County, North Carolina*
- *Phillips & Son Texaco Station Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 293 on SR 1411 over Bald Mountain Creek, (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report , Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 11 on NC 143B over Long Creek (for NCDOT), Graham County, North Carolina*
- *Boxed House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 121 on SR 1103 over Silvermine Creek, (for NCDOT), Swain County, North Carolina*
- *Murrell House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 23 on SR 1152 over Burlingame Creek, (for NCDOT), Transylvania County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Widening NC 294 from SR 1130 to SR 1312-A, TIP No. R-3622B (for NCDOT), Cherokee County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Survey for Replace Bridge No. 112 on SR 1124 over Indian Creek (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report , Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 217 on SR 1358 over Guilders Creek (for NCDOT), Yancey County, North Carolina*
- *Francis Grist Mill National Register Nomination (co-author), Waymesville vic., Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Improve Intersection NC 225/SR 1164/SR 1779, TIP No. U-5105 (for NCDOT), Henderson County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Survey for Replace Bridge No. 244 on SR 1137 over Clarks Creek (for NCDOT), Watauga County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 14 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Cherokee, Clay, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, and Polk Counties, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 13 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), McDowell, Mitchell, and Yancey Counties, North Carolina*
- *Tryon Country Club National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Dr. Samuel Stringfield House and Dr. Thomas Stringfield House Local Landmark Designation Reports, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation for SR 1419 (Old Fanning Bridge Road) Improvements and new access road, TIP No. 5524 (for NCDOT), Buncombe and Henderson Counties, North Carolina*

- *Historic Architectural Resources Inventory Presentation and Chapman House Intensive Evaluation Report, US 64 Improvements, TIP No. R-2409D (for NCDOT), Transylvania County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Intensive Evaluation, for Replace Bridge No. 115 on SR 1908 over Dan River (for NCDOT), Stokes County, North Carolina*
- *Johnson House and Store Intensive Evaluation Report (for NCDOT), Wilkes County, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Newton Historic District National Register Nomination, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *Adams-Millis Corporation Plant No. 8 National Register Nomination and Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 11 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Watauga and Wilkes Counties, North Carolina*
- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 14 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NCDOT), Graham, Henderson, Swain and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Asheville Historic District Boundary Increase III, Boundary Decrease and Additional Documentation, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Sunnydale National Register Nomination and Tax Credit Application Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Supply & Foundry Company Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Survey Update, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Spread Out Historic District National Register Nomination, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Dougherty Heights Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation (for USDA Forest Service), Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina*
- *Lyncote National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *South Montreat Road Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Pink Beds Picnic Shelters and Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service), Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina*
- *Biltmore High School National Register Nomination, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Claremont High School Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation National Register Nomination, Hickory, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *East Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina*

- *Mill Farm Inn National Register Nomination*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Richard Sharp Smith House Local Designation Report and National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Broyhill Conover Plant Redevelopment Determination of Eligibility and Recordation (for City of Conover)*, Conover, Catawba County, North Carolina
- *Tryon Downtown Survey and Trade Street Commercial Historic District Study List Application*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Monte Vista Hotel National Register Nomination and Local Landmark Designation Report*, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Bank of Tryon National Register Nomination*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Wilson Lick Ranger Station Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina (co-authored with Lynn Marie Pietak, Ph.D., Archaeologist)
- *Graham County Courthouse National Register Nomination*, Robbinsville, Graham County, North Carolina
- *Historic Workcenters Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina
- *Charles E. Orr House National Register Nomination*, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina
- *Franklin-Penland House National Register Nomination*, Linville Falls, Burke County, North Carolina
- *West Asheville End of Car Line Historic District / West Asheville-Aycock School Historic District National Register Nominations*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Lookout Towers Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, North Carolina
- *South Carolina Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Survey Report, US 21 Bridge over Catawba River (for Ralph Whitehead Associates)*, York County, South Carolina
- *Biltmore Hospital National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

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- Contributing author, "North Carolina Architects & Builders: A Biographical Dictionary" (Website: <http://ncarchitects.lib.ncsu.edu>)
- "Henry Bacon," "Douglas Ellington" and "Grove Arcade" in *The Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. University of Tennessee Press, 2006.
- "An Inventory of Douglas Ellington's Architectural Work in Western North Carolina," in *May We All Remember Well, Vol. 2*. Robert S. Brunk Auction Services, Inc., 2001