

# 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

December 30, 2014

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO: Kate Husband

Office of Human Environment NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley Care Medhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Replace Bridge 27 over Scott Creek and Southern RR on US 23, B-5905, Jackson County,

ER 14-2717

Thank you for your December 10, 2014, memorandum transmitting the Historic Structures Survey Report for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and have several concerns.

First, there is no map that clearly illustrates the Area of Potential Effects or a description of how the area is defined. Minus the map and definition, we wonder why only the C. C. Mason House, but not the adjacent Parson Kincaid House, was evaluated. The Parson Kincaid House has been on the State Study list since 1992. If the C. C. Mason House falls within the APE, it is likely that the Parson Kincaid House does as well, given the nature of the project and the topography.

Second, the properties to which the C. C. Mason House is compared are not necessarily the most appropriate comparables. The National Register-listed Elias Brendle Montieth House, built circa 1908, is a two-and-a-half-story farmhouse located on what was the edge of Dillsboro. While it displays Craftsman-style elements, including the exposed rafter tails and battered porch posts, the dwelling is earlier and larger than the C. C. Mason House and relates more to its agricultural context and outbuildings. The C. C. Mason House, on the other hand, is more closely related to "downtown" Dillsboro.

The bungalows at 51 Younge Lane, 12 East Hemlock Street, and 28 Church Street in Dillsboro have all been altered to some degree, rendering them ineligible for listing in the National Register. The property at 28 Church Street has been so greatly expanded in the 1980s or 1990s that it can hardly be considered a bungalow: While it retains the inset porch and shed dormer, the tall addition on the rear of the building completely alters its form. The bungalow at 434 Haywood Road is the least altered, but appears to be much smaller than the C. C. Mason House.

The dwellings on East Main Street and Dillsboro Road in Sylva, while excellent examples of the bungalow form and Craftsman style are not necessarily appropriate comparisons, because they relate more to the architectural context and history of Sylva, which is a significantly larger town and the two structures, are distant from the C. C. Mason House.

To illustrate our concerns we attach several photographs. The first depicts the C. C. Mason House from across the street, to better show the 5-bay-wide porch and gabled dormer. The second photo shows the Mason House and the adjacent two-story, three-bay-wide Parson Kincaid House. This image clearly illustrates the more sprawling mass of the Mason House as opposed to dwellings constructed in the late nineteenth century. The third photo shows the house at 434 Haywood Road, with a passing car for scale. It is clear from these images that the C. C. Mason House stands out among the later dwellings, and within its physical context in the Town of Dillsboro.

Finally, the evaluation states the house retains a moderate level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, setting, feeling, and association. Based on the documentation provided in the architectural description, the C. C. Mason House appears to retain a high degree of integrity in all of these areas. Even the light fixtures flanking the front door appear to be historic. The report states that it is not an outstanding example of the Craftsman style or bungalow form, but it is an excellent example of both within the context of Dillsboro. Commerce and, consequently, development, after 1913 shifted largely to Sylva after incorporation of that town as the Jackson County seat of government (its having moved from Webster). Business directories indicate that, for a time, Dillsboro was actually a more prosperous and commercially active town than both Sylva and Webster. While commerce did continue in Dillsboro through the 1920s, it changed and shifted more to auto-oriented development along Highway 10. Ultimately, the C. C. Mason House is one of only a handful of Craftsman-style bungalows in Dillsboro. Of this small collection, it is the largest and the best preserved, with intact landscape features including the stone retaining wall and stone steps as well as the stone root cellar and frame barn. Thus, we would consider the C. C. Mason House eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for architecture.

While we concur that the entire town of Dillsboro is not eligible for the National Register as a historic district, a smaller portion of it might be considered representative of either the town's commercial and/or residential history. This possibility should be considered in the event any future undertaking more central to the town is proposed.

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 <a href="mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov">environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</a>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT <u>mfurr@ncdot.gov</u>







# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE C.C. MASON HOUSE (JK 666) AND THE TOWN OF DILLSBORO, JACKSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

B-5905: Replace Bridge No. 27 over Scott Creek and Southern Railroad on US 23 Jackson County, North Carolina WBS No. 48037.1.1

## Prepared for:

North Carolina Department of Transportation Human Environment Unit 1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1598

## Prepared by:

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. P.O. Box 71220 Richmond, Virginia 23255

S. Alan Higgins, M.S. Principal Investigator

November 2014

November 14, 2014

S. Alan Higgins, Principal Investigator Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.

Date

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

# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS OF THE C.C. MASON HOUSE (JK 666) AND THE TOWN OF DILLSBORO, JACKSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

B-5905: Replace Bridge No. 27 over Scott Creek and Southern Railroad on US 23 Jackson County, North Carolina WBS No. 48037.1.1

# I. INTRODUCTION

In October 2014, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA), conducted an intensive-level historic architectural analysis for the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) in association with the project to replace Bridge No. 27 over Scott Creek and Southern Railroad on US 23 in Jackson County, North Carolina (WBS No.: 48037.1.1). The goal of the historic architectural analysis was to evaluate the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of the property identified as the C.C. Mason House (JK 666), located on a .63-acre parcel at 308 Haywood Road in Dillsboro in Jackson County (Figures 1 and 2); the historic architectural analysis also included the evaluation of the overall building inventory of the town of Dillsboro to determine if the town, or a part of it, may be eligible for listing in the NRHP as a historic district (Figures 3 and 4). CRA's investigation, completed October 6–9, 2014, included a combination of archival research, visual investigations, and photographic documentation of extant buildings and structures and their contextual setting.

CRA conducted the historic architectural analysis in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974; Executive Order 11593; and Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 660-66 and 800 (as revised, 1999). The field research and report meet the requirements specified in the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation" (Federal Register 48: 190:44716-44742) (U.S. Department of the Interior 1983), as well NCDOT's Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines (2003) and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office's (NC HPO) Architectural Survey Manual: Practical Advice for Recording Historic Resources and Digital Photography for Historic Property Surveys and National Register Nominations, Policy and Guidelines (2012). Based on archival research and a detailed physical investigation, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., recommends that the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) is not individually eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A, B, C, or D and that a historic district is not located within the boundaries of the town of Dillsboro.

# II. RESEARCH DESIGN

#### Archival Research

Prior to fieldwork, CRA performed background research to gain an understanding of the development of Jackson County. CRA consulted the NC HPO's online HPOWEB GIS service to ascertain the level of existing documentation of architectural resources within Dillsboro or of others within the area that might share a similar context. HPOWEB confirmed that the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) had not been previously surveyed; however, HPOWEB indicated that 14 historic (50 years of age or older) architectural resources (JK 10, JK 46, JK 116, JK 117, JK 123, JK 331, JK 332, JK

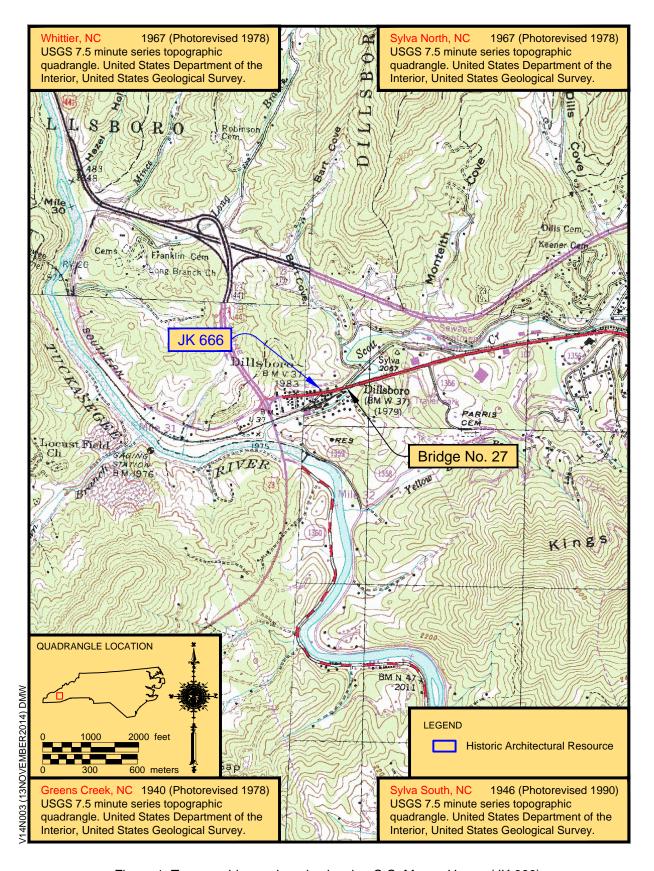


Figure 1. Topographic quadrangle showing C.C. Mason House (JK 666).

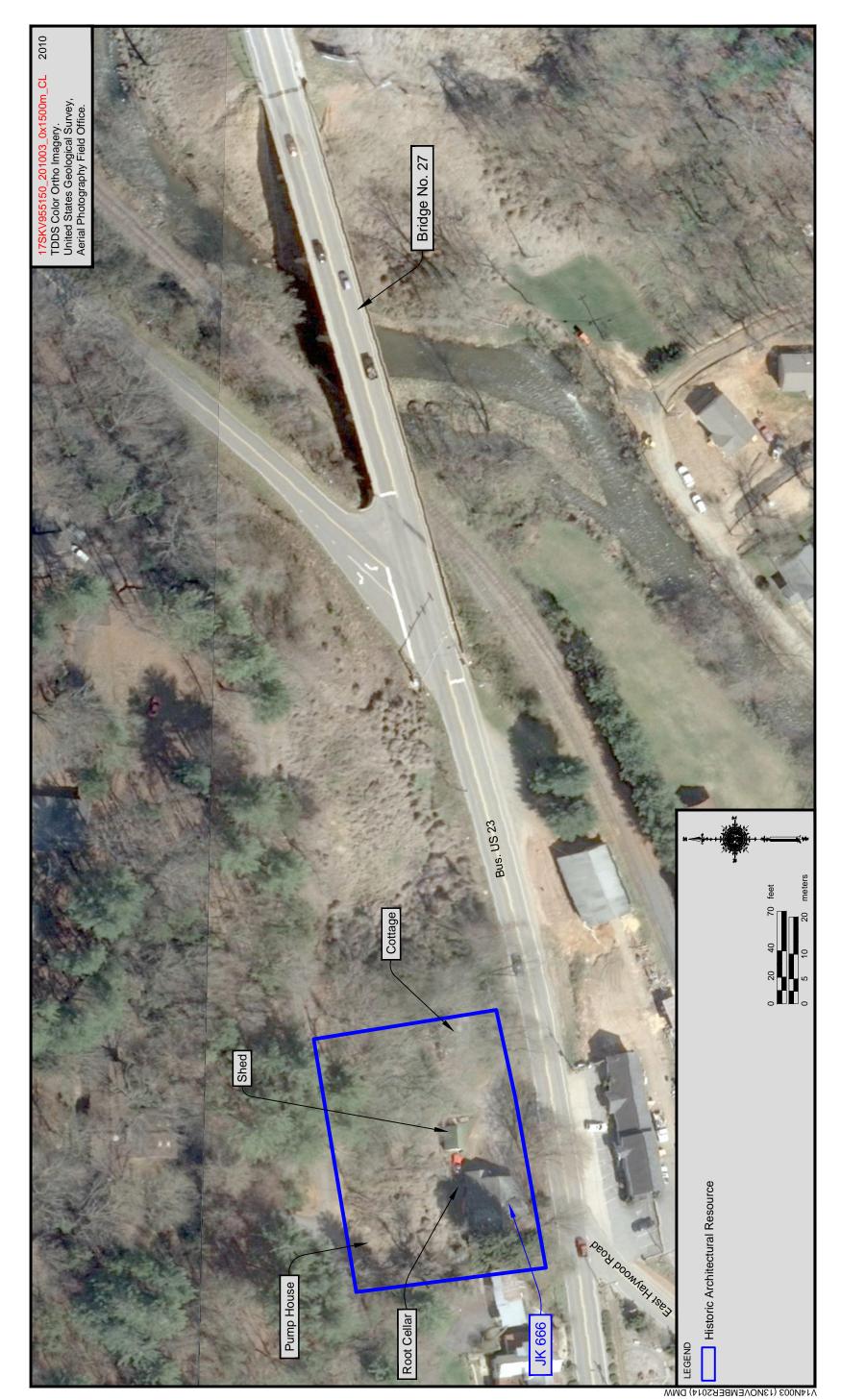


Figure 2. Aerial photograph showing the location of the C. C. Mason House (JK 666).

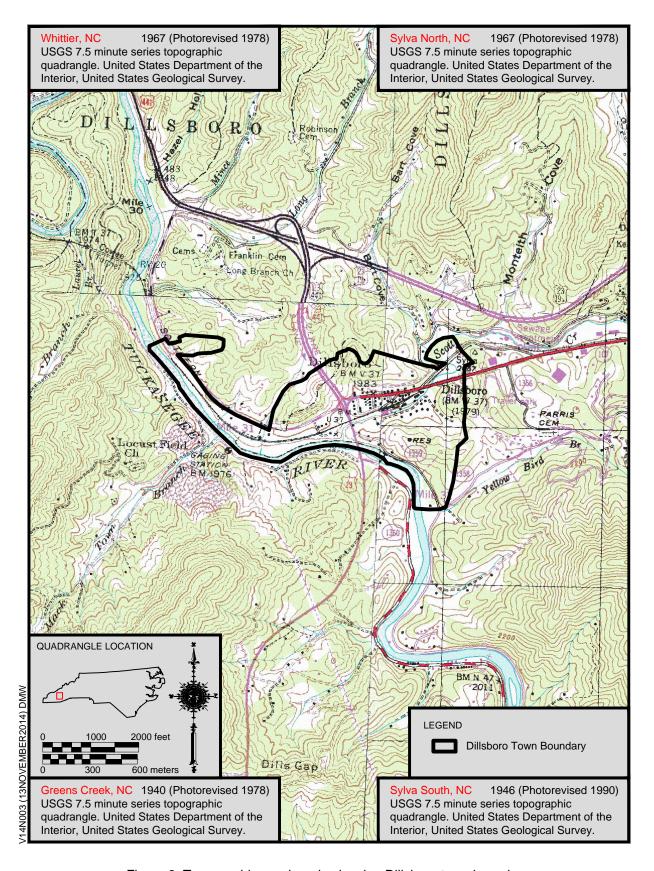


Figure 3. Topographic quadrangle showing Dillsboro town boundary.

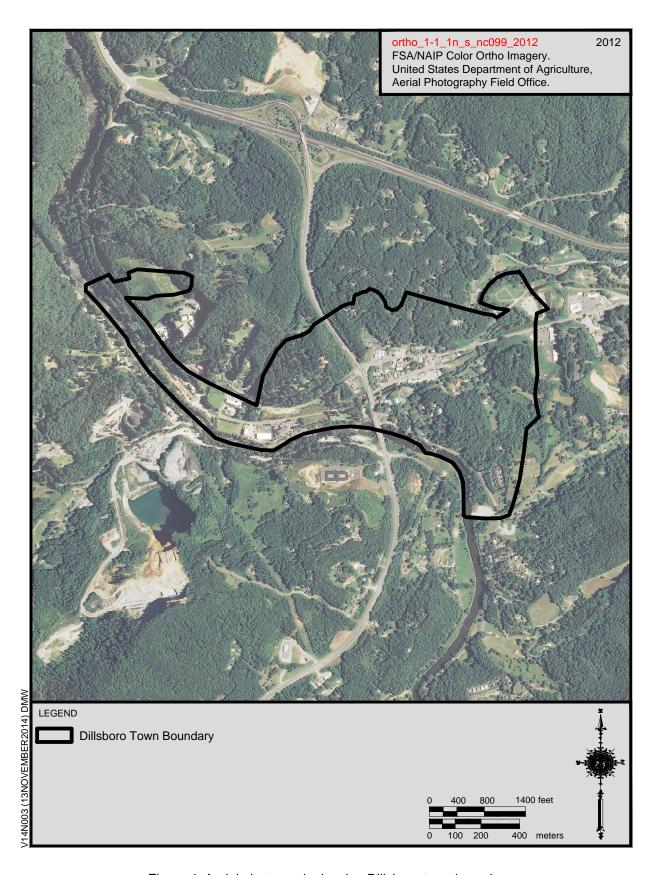


Figure 4. Aerial photograph showing Dillsboro town boundary.

333, JK 370, JK 371, JK 372, JK. 373, JK 374, and JK 376) have been previously recorded within the limits of the town of Dillsboro. Archival research also included an investigation at the NC HPO Western Office and an inspection of archival resources, published histories, historic aerial images, topographic quadrangle maps, and historic map collections available through facilities such as the Jackson County Public Library and the Jackson County Genealogical Society, and through resources such as the North Carolina Maps project. CRA also examined property tax records available through the Jackson County Tax Administrator's Office and deed records at the Jackson County Register of Deeds.

# Field Investigation

Following the archival research, CRA architectural historians Hallie Hearnes and Holly Higgins performed an intensive-level field investigation of the C.C. Mason House (JK 666). Architectural historians took detailed notes and made a sketch site plan of the property to facilitate an understanding of the property's contextual setting. The property is currently occupied by tenants. Despite multiple attempts, the property owner could not be reached to provide permission to access the interior of the buildings to create floor plans and take interior photography. Prior to the start of the project, the property owner was notified of the upcoming project via a postcard sent to the post office box address provided on the tax assessment data for Jackson County. Additionally, CRA staff made multiple visits to the property and left additional post cards and contact information for the tenants and/or owners. Knocking at each of the doors to the house did not result in contact with any tenants. Recordation of the exterior included documenting physical characteristics, dates of construction, character-defining features, and integrity. All buildings and structures were marked on a USGS topographic quadrangle map and aerial photograph.

CRA also completed extensive photographic documentation of all accessible portions of the property according to NC HPO standards and guidelines. Digital photographs were taken of the site and contextual setting and exterior of all buildings and structures. Emphasis was placed on capturing building forms, character-defining features, and changes that have occurred throughout the property's history.

In addition to the intensive-level documentation of the C.C. Mason House, CRA completed a field survey of the entire town of Dillsboro to determine if the town, or a part of it, may be eligible for listing in the NRHP as a historic district. Using the tax parcels of the town as a guide, the survey focused on photographing and documenting primary buildings associated with each parcel. Architectural historians noted materials, forms, types, alterations, demolitions and recent construction of buildings to determine if part or the entire town retained a level of integrity to convey significance as a historic district.

Based on the available historical information and field observations, CRA has provided a recommendation regarding the NRHP eligibility of the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) and the town of Dillsboro for listing in the NRHP.

# III. Description

# C.C. Mason House (Jk 666)

Address: 308 Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.)

Dillsboro, NC 28725

Quad: Cullowhee, NC

Map: see Figures 1 and 2

Deed Book/Page: 137/503

PIN No.: 7631-36-7769 Date(s) of construction: 1924-1935

Setting: Located in Dillsboro in Jackson County, the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) is situated on the north side of Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.), immediately north of its intersection with Depot Street and approximately .10 mi east-northeast of its intersection with Dillsboro Road (SR 1380) and Bridge No. 27 over Scott Creek and the Southern Railroad. The .63-acre parcel is situated on three level areas along a hillside above Dillsboro bounded by Haywood Road to the south and Hill Street to the north (Figure 5). Dense vegetation obscures much of the view of Haywood Road from the façade of the C.C. Mason House (Figure 6). The Parson Kincade House (JK 116), which was previously surveyed and added to the Study List in 1992, and its associated carport are located to the west of the C.C. Mason House. A wooded lot is located to the east and north and the northern half of the lot is overgrown with vegetation (Figure 7). Bridge No. 27 can be seen from Haywood Road, across from the end of the driveway to the C.C. Mason House (Figure 8). Downtown Dillsboro is located immediately south of the C.C. Mason House.

The property includes five pre-1965 buildings and structures: a circa 1924–1935 residence, a root cellar, a shed, a barn converted into a residence, and a pump house (see Figures 5–8). An uncoursed stone wall runs along the southern edge of the property and connects the C.C. Mason House with Haywood Road via a flight of stone stairs (Figures 6, 9, and 10). This parcel is accessed by a paved drive.



Figure 5. West-northwesterly view from Haywood Road toward the C.C. Mason House.



Figure 6. Southerly view to Haywood Road from the porch of the C.C. Mason House.



Figure 7. Southerly view of the rear of the C.C. Mason House from Hill Street.



Figure 8. East-northeasterly view toward Bridge No. 27 on Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.) across from the driveway to the C.C. Mason House.

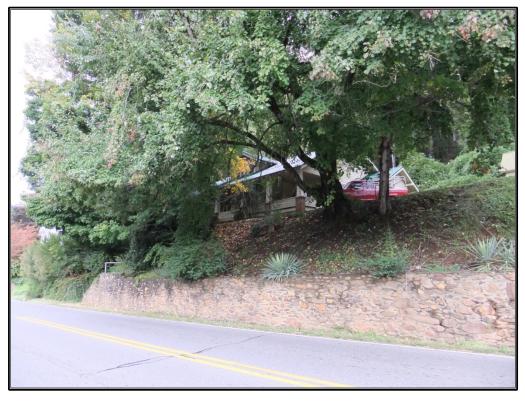


Figure 9. Northwesterly view toward the C.C. Mason House from the south side of Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.).



Figure 10. Northerly view toward the C.C. Mason House from the base of the stairs at Haywood Road.

House, overview: The house, totaling 1,278 square feet of living space, is comprised of the original, one-and-one-half-story, side-gable Bungalow form (Figure 11). Tax and deed records indicate that the house was constructed between 1924 and 1935. The Craftsman style and bungalow form reflect common residential construction during that period. Despite multiple attempts to contact the property owners, they could not be reached to provide permission to access the interior of the buildings. Since interior access was not granted, it is uncertain whether the house is built of balloon framing; however, given the shallow profile of the window openings and the date of construction, it likely features balloon frame construction. Situated on a continuous brick foundation, the entire house is clad in wood German siding. A low-pitched side-gable roof clad in v-crimp metal shelters the house. The roof features exposed rafter tails and purlins that extend beyond the exterior walls on the gable ends, and single front-gabled dormers on the front and rear of the house.

House, exterior: The house features a simple side-gable Bungalow form. The façade entry, which is likely original, is comprised of a central single-leaf door flanked by full-height sidelights with a wood surround (Figure 12). The single-leaf entry features a Craftsman nine-light wood door. Nine-light sidelights with storm windows flank the entry. Wood panels at the top and bottom of these sidelights are concealed behind the aluminum panels of the storm windows. The entry is centered on a three-bay central projection and opens to an incised full-width wood porch. The integrated side-gable roof over the porch is supported by battered wood columns set on brick piers. A solid wood balustrade clad in German siding spans between the porch supports; a double-leaf cross-braced wooden picket gate encloses the porch at the top of stone stairs (see Figure 10). Besides those on the enclosed porch and the rear dormer, windows are comprised of paired original three-over-one, double-hung wood sashes with metal storm windows. A single window is centered on the first floor of the west elevation. The rear elevation features a single window and two pairs of windows with original three-over-one, double-hung wood sashes.



Figure 11. West-northwesterly view of the façade and east elevation of the C.C. Mason House.

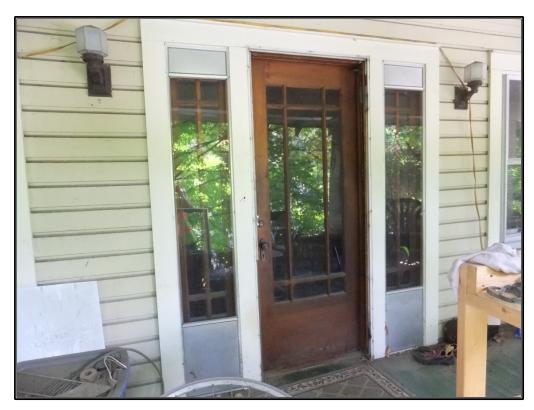


Figure 12. North-northeasterly view of the façade entry.

A three-bay front-gable dormer, with exposed rafter tails and purlins that extend beyond the exterior walls, breaks the plane of the roof on the façade, or south, elevation (see Figure 10); a set of three windows with three-over-one-light wood sashes are centered on the dormer. The trim along the corners of the dormer is missing, exposing the edges of the wood German siding cladding the exterior of the front dormer. An off-center, two-bay, front-gable dormer pierces the roof on the rear, or north, elevation (Figure 13). The windows on the rear dormer have been altered; only one of the windows from the original set of three remains. The original window retains three-over-one, double-hung wood sashes; the altered opening features an off-center single window with one-over-one, vinyl replacement sashes. Like the front dormer, the corner trim is missing, exposing the edges of the wood German siding cladding the exterior of the rear dormer.

The east elevation features a pair of single windows that are centered on the first floor and gable end (Figure 14). A one-story, one-room gabled projection, likely an enclosed side porch, extends from the first floor of the northeast corner of the house. A single-leaf side entry with an aluminum storm door is centered on the enclosed porch. A single window with wood, three-over-one, double-hung sashes is located to the left of the side entry and a single window with one-over-one, metal replacement sashes is located to the right of the entry. The north elevation of the enclosed porch features a pair of windows with metal one-over-one replacement sashes on the rear, or north, elevation. The west elevation features a single window and a pair of windows on the first floor and a pair of windows centered on the gable end (Figure 15).

Root Cellar: A circa 1924–1935 rectangular coursed and mortared stone root cellar is located approximately 20 feet north of the rear of the C.C. Mason House (Figure 16). The structure, which is set into the hill, features an arched poured concrete roof, parged interior, and a vent pipe surrounded by cinderblock that pierces the roof and extends several courses above like a chimney. The root cellar features a single-leaf entry; however, it does not retain a door. A cinderblock staircase to the right of the cellar leads up the hill behind the residence.



Figure 13. Southwesterly view of the rear elevation and dormer.



Figure 14. West-southwesterly view of the east elevation.



Figure 15. East-northeasterly view of the west elevation.



Figure 16. Northerly view of the exterior of the root cellar.

Shed: A circa 1924–1935 one-story frame shed is located approximately 20 feet east-northeast of the rear of the residence. Set upon a stone pier foundation, this rectangular shed is clad in weatherboard siding and features a side-gabled roof clad in corrugated metal (Figure 17). The façade of the shed features a single-leaf entry with a five-panel wood door and a single window with two-over-two-light wood sashes is located to the right of the entry. The west elevation of the shed features a single window; however, its sashes are obscured by vegetation. The east elevation of the shed features a single window, which is boarded, and an open lean-to carport.

Secondary Residence: A circa 1924-1935 one-and-one-half-story frame barn, which has been converted to a secondary residence, is located approximately 100 feet east-northeast of the primary residence. Its rectangular form, size, and materials, including vertical board siding as well as its location away from the house, suggest its prior use as a small barn or agricultural outbuilding. The building features frame construction clad in vertical board siding, a front-gable roof clad in corrugated metal, and one-by-one sliding metal windows (Figure 18). The façade features a single-leaf façade entry with a cross-braced wood plank door sheltered by a frame awning clad in metal that opens to a concrete stoop. Single windows are located to the left of the entry and centered on the gable end of the façade. The north and south elevations each feature two single windows. A single window is centered on the gable end of the east elevation.

Pump House: A circa 1950–1960 pump house is located approximately 80 feet north-northeast of the rear of the residence, just south of the northern boundary of the property at Hill Street (Figure 19). The small concrete block building and its smaller extension feature gabled roofs clad in asphalt shingles. The gable ends of the roofs are clad in flat metal panel siding.



Figure 17. North-northwesterly view of the shed.



Figure 18. Northeasterly view of the circa 1924–1935 secondary residence converted from a barn.



Figure 19. Southwesterly view of the pump house from Hill Street.

#### **Historic Context**

The C.C. Mason House (JK 666) is situated within the town of Dillsboro, in Jackson County. The Mason family settled in the Dillsboro vicinity in the 1880s. J.J. Mason, a building contractor and the father of C.C. Mason, was born December 20, 1853, in South Carolina. While living in Buncombe County, he met Helen McAfee, and the two were soon married. In the 1880s, J.J. and Helen moved to Dillsboro from Barkers Creek. J.J. constructed a home where the Captain William Alfred Enloe House (JK0331) currently stands at 78 Front Street in Dillsboro. J.J. and Helen had three sons: McBee, Charles, and Cromwell. In addition to operating an extensive sawmill business, producing hardwood lumber, walnut squares, and dimensional logs, J.J. was also instrumental in the construction and organization of the first church and school in Dillsboro. He was also appointed the first town marshal in 1889, upon the incorporation of Dillsboro (Gray 1959: 20, 23, and 33; Wood 1992).

Charles C. Mason, who likely constructed the house at 308 Haywood Road (JK 666), was born on April 4, 1884. He married Cumi Enloe, daughter of S.S. Enloe, and they had four children: James Sevier Mason, Louise Thomas, Elma Donahue, and Dorothy who died in 1925 at the age of six (The Jackson County Genealogical Society 2001; Wood 1992). On February 12, 1924, Charles, or Charlie as he was known locally, purchased the parcel between Haywood Street and Hill Street that is occupied by the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) (Jackson County Register of Deeds [JCRD] Book 86:198). Charlie purchased the property for the sum of \$250 from W. E. Moore and R.P. Potts, the surviving trustees of the Presbyterian Church of Jackson County, who along with W.L. DeWitt, had purchased the land for \$100 from W.A. and Alice Dills on June 28, 1897 (JCRD Book 24:149). Jackson County tax records indicate that the house was originally constructed in 1920; however, given the low purchase price of \$250, the house was likely constructed after his purchase, between 1924 and 1935. Furthermore, the house features a side-gabled Bungalow form and Craftsman style that was popular between 1905 and 1930 (McAlester and McAlester 1990:452-463). The house first appears on the 1935 USGS map of the Cullowhee, North Carolina quadrangle (Figure 20).

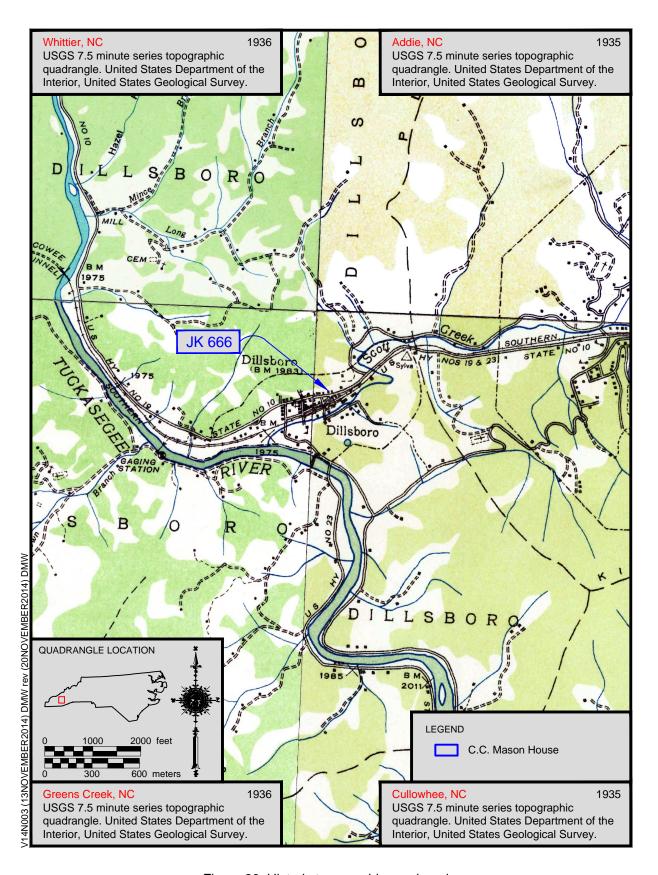


Figure 20. Historic topographic quadrangle.

Charles was a United States Marshal and was later elected to serve as sheriff of Jackson County. On June 16, 1938, Charlie Mason was killed in the line of duty. Sheriff Mason and Deputy Homer Turpin went to the home of Donald Ashe on Ashe Branch in the Webster community to serve papers for an evaluation of Mr. Ashe's sanity. As they exited their car and approached the residence, Sheriff Mason was struck in the shoulder and chest by a shotgun blast. He died almost instantly. The deputy returned to Sylva to report the murder and Charlie's son-in-law, P.A. Donahue, Chief of Police Holden, and Deputy Turpin returned to the Ashe residence and found Donald Ashe dead on a bed upstairs with a pistol wound to the head. The case was declared one of murder followed by suicide committed by the murderer. Following his death, his wife, Cumi, completed Charlie's term as sheriff with their son, James, as one of her deputies. James later served as a policeman in Canton and Sylva. His son, Charles William (Bill) Mason, served as a North Carolina Highway Patrolman. Four generations of the Mason family served in law enforcement (Wood 1992; Jackson County Genealogical Society 1992).

In 1940 following Charlie Mason's death, the parcel containing the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) was purchased by James and Louise Mason (JCRD Book 137:503). The parcel was the fourth of seven tracts conveyed by Elma Mason Donahue (the daughter and heir of Charlie Mason) and her husband P.A. Donahue to her brother and sister, James and Louise, in exchange for the sum of \$1,000.

Following the death of James S. Mason on January 31, 1962, his sole heirs at law (Dorothy M. Dishman, Margaret Ann and Bill Woods, Charles and Marilou Mason, James S., Jr. and Patsy Mason, Mary M. and Albert Smith, and Charles Clarence and Peggy Mason), excluding Kenneth H. Mason who had not yet turned 21, granted the property of James S. Mason to his widow, Margaret Mason (JCRD Book 292:181). This transfer, completed on March 20, 1964, included the parcel containing the C.C. Mason House (JK 666).

The following year, on April 5, 1965, Margaret Mason, the widow of James S. Mason, conveyed two tracts, including the parcel containing the C.C. Mason House (JK 666) to Charles B. Thomas and his wife, Louise Thomas (JCRD Book 292:515). The second tract, which was also situated between Hill and Haywood Streets in Dillsboro and described as the Sisk Hotel lot, was located to the east of an alley that bisected the property, likely between the shed and the barn. On July 13, 1981, the Board of Aldermen for the Town of Dillsboro voted to close the old alley on the old C.C. Mason property, thereby eliminating the division of the parcel (JCRD Book 528:601).

The current owners of the C.C. Mason House (JK 666), Thomas Hartwell Goodson, Jr., and his wife, Sarah Bennett Goodson, purchased the property on November 30, 1982, from Charles B. and Louise Thomas (JCRD Book 549:389). The C.C. Mason House is likely divided into multiple apartments due to the variety of cars parked outside during each of the visits to the property. The barn, which has been converted to an apartment, is also occupied by a tenant.

#### **Evaluation**

The C.C. Mason House (JK 666) is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A, B, C, or D. The resource retains a moderate level of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, location, setting, feeling, and association; however, it is not an outstanding example of the Craftsman style or Bungalow form. While the house very broadly reflects the growth of Dillsboro in the early twentieth century, the house is not directly associated with a particular event or explicit pattern of events that would warrant eligibility under Criterion A. Therefore, lacking specific association with a particular event or pattern of events, the C.C. Mason House is ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

C.C. Mason was the son of early settlers of Dillsboro and was a United States Marshal and Jackson County Sheriff who died in the line of duty; however, his significance within the history of Dillsboro does not rise to the level warranting eligibility under Criterion B.

The Craftsman style and Bungalow form of the C.C. Mason House reflects a common house type in Dillsboro and Jackson County and throughout the United States between 1905 and 1930. Like many houses of this form, the C.C. Mason House features Craftsman details, including a full-width porch supported by battered wood columns on brick piers; an entry door and sidelights that feature a nine-light design with three smaller panes on the top and bottom and larger, tall lights in the center; front-gable dormers; and a wide, low-pitched side-gable roof with purlins that extend beyond the exterior walls and exposed rafter tails. While the C.C. Mason House is a representative example of this common style, it is undistinguished in its construction or design. Likewise, the house is not a particularly early example of this form or style, which was commonplace throughout the early twentieth century in this area. Several examples of the Bungalow form and Craftsman style are located within Dillsboro (Figures 21–25) and Sylva (Figures 26–28) within Jackson County, which reflect the form's popularity and common use of elements included at the C.C. Mason House. Outbuildings are likewise undistinguished examples of their respective types. As such, the property does not stand out as a noteworthy example of a property containing a noteworthy collective of buildings. Thus, the C.C. Mason House is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

Early- to mid-twentieth-century constructions are common to the region and country as a whole, and neither the house nor the outbuildings are likely to yield any important historical information regarding the building technology of the period not readily available from other sources. The C.C. Mason House is ineligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.



Figure 21. View of the circa 1908 Elias Brendle Montieth House and outbuildings on W. Hometown Place in Dillsboro, which feature the Craftsman style and were listed in the NRHP in 2008.



Figure 22. View of the Bungalow at 51 Younge Lane in Dillsboro.



Figure 23. View of the Bungalow at 12 E. Hemlock Street in Dillsboro.



Figure 24. View of the Bungalow at 434 Haywood Road in Dillsboro.



Figure 25. View of the Dillsboro Chocolate Factory at 28 Church Street in Dillsboro.



Figure 26. View of a Bungalow on East Main Street in Sylva.



Figure 27. View of a Craftsman Style Bungalow at 30 Dillsboro Road in Sylva.



Figure 28. View of Bungalow at 574 Dillsboro Road in Sylva.

## Town Of Dillsboro

Address: Dillsboro, NC 28725

Quad: Cullowhee, NC

Map: see Figures 3 and 4

Date(s) of construction: 1871–2014

Setting: Located in central Jackson County, North Carolina, Dillsboro is a late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century railroad town on the banks of Scott Creek and the Tuckasegee River in the North Carolina Smoky Mountains (Figure 29). Less than three hours from Atlanta, Charlotte, Chattanooga, Greenville, and Knoxville, and less than an hour from Asheville, Cherokee, and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Dillsboro remains a tourist destination with a population of approximately 200. Haywood Street (US 23 Bus.) is the main thoroughfare through the town that connects US 23 and US 441 to Sylva, to the east of Dillsboro. The Great Smoky Mountain Railroad, formerly the Western North Carolina Railroad, also runs throughout Dillsboro, roughly parallel to Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.). Operated as a passenger train, the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad makes regular stops for visitors to explore the many shops in Dillsboro. Businesses in Dillsboro offer many local products and include shops such as local craft and art galleries, clothing shops, a Christmas specialty shop, a general store, a wine shop, and a chocolate factory. Some of the late-nineteenth-century frame commercial buildings remain in use today.



Figure 29. Southwesterly overview of Dillsboro from Hill Street.

Downtown Dillsboro is comprised of a central two-block commercial core, roughly bounded by Haywood Street (US 23 Bus.) on the north (Figure 30), Front Street on the south (Figure 31), Webster Street on the west, and Depot Street on the east. Historic and recently constructed residences are scattered throughout the slopes and ridges surrounding the core. As illustrated on the tax map of Dillsboro, the highest concentration of historic architectural resources are concentrated at the downtown core, along the north side of Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.) north of the downtown core, and to the south of Scott Creek along E. Hemlock and Mason Streets (Figure 32).

Dillsboro features property types consistent with late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century railroad towns (Table 1). The majority of historic architectural resources in Dillsboro feature frame construction; the remaining structures feature stone construction. Common residential forms include the I-House, Upright and Wing, side-gable vernacular cottage, and Bungalow forms. Front-gable frame storefronts are the most common form reflected in the commercial architecture of the town. Residential and commercial resources feature Italianate, Queen Anne, and Craftsman detailing.

The town of Dillsboro contains several historic architectural resources that have been previously evaluated or surveyed. Two resources, the Elias Brendle Montieth House (JK 376) and the Mount Beulah Hotel (JK 10), are individually listed in the NRHP. Six resources, including the John C. Watkins House (JK 332), the J.J. Hooker House (JK 333), the Capt. William Alfred Enloe House (JK 331), the Greystone Building (JK 123), the Ray-Schneider House (JK 117), and the Parson Kincaid House (JK 116) have been added to the Study List. Three additional resources, including the S.T. Early House (JK 370), the Brooks House (JK 371), and the William Allen Dills House (JK 372), have been previously surveyed. Three previously recorded resources, including the Dillsboro Dam & Powerhouse (JK 374), the Western NC Railroad Trestle (JK 46), and the Nantahala Power & Light Worker's House (JK 373), have been demolished.

Table 1. Identified Architectural Resources in Dillsboro.

Survey No.	Date of Construction	Property Name	Address	HPO Site ID
1	Circa 1924- 1935	C. C. Mason House	308 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 666
2	1939	Bridge No. 27 over Scott's Creek and the Southern RR	US 23 Bus. Route Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
3	Circa 1990-	Western NC Railroad Trestle	W. Hometown Place Dillsboro, NC 28779	Current trestle replaced JK 46 (added to Study List in 1992)
4	Circa 1855; 1999	Murphy Branch of the Western NC Railroad; Norfolk Southern; Great Smoky Mountain Railroad (present)	Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
5	1985	Four-span Concrete Culvert over Scott's Creek on Old US 23	W. Hometown Place Dillsboro, NC 28779	N/A
6	1908	Elias Brendle Montieth House and Outbuildings	111 W. Hometown Pl. Dillsboro, NC 28779	JK 376 Listed in the NRHP in 2008

7	Circa 1910	N/A	1631 Dillsboro Road Dillsboro, NC 28779	N/A
8	2002	Dillsboro Court Shopping Center	250 Marsh Lily Dr. Sylva, NC 28779	N/A
9	2005	N/A	305 Hill Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
10	1963; 1990	N/A	303 Hill Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
11	1964; 1980	N/A	279 Hill Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
12	1979	N/A	219 Hill Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
13	1969; 1985	N/A	221 Hill Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

_					
	14	2008	N/A	265 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	15	2001	N/A	276 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	16	1988	N/A	281 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	17	1989	N/A	442 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	18	2005	N/A	540 Crocus Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	19	1987	N/A	420 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	20	1987	N/A	425 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

21	1993	N/A	361 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
22	1988	N/A	318 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
23	1987	N/A	306 Jarrett Hills Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
24	1973	N/A	148 Hill St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
25	1971	N/A	110 Hill St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
26	1970	N/A	103 Hill St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
27	1945; 1960	N/A	103 Hill St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

	28	1988	N/A	55 Hill St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	29	2003	Dillsboro Crossing	31 N. Ridge Pt. Units D7-D8 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	30	2003	Dillsboro Crossing	30 N. Ridge Pt. Units T1-T5 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	31	2004	Dillsboro Crossing	171 N. Ridge Pt. Units V1- V3 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	32	2004	Dillsboro Crossing (Units 4-6)	197 N. Ridge Pt. Units V4-V6 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
NOOL HOUSE	33	1994	Huddle House and Cash Points ATM	611 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	34	1885; 1970	John C. Watkins House (Formerly Squire Watkins Inn)	657 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 332 Added to Study List in 1992

35	1962; 1976	N/A	12 Younge Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
36	1968; 1990	N/A	52 Younge Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
37	1868; 1975	N/A	51 Younge Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
38	2002	N/A	83 Younge Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
39	1998	N/A	115 Younge Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
40		Bridge over the Tuckasegee River	US 23/US 441 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
41	1880; 1960	J. J. Hooker House	831 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 333 Added to the Study List in 1992

42	1940; 1965	N/A	843 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
43	1999	N/A	843 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
44	1996	Stephens Professional Plaza	931 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
45	1940; 1965	N/A	919 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
46	c. 2000	N/A	WBI Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
47	2002	Best Western Plus River Escape Inn & Suites	248 WBI Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
48	2000	Western Builders, Inc.	128 WBI Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

49	2000	Western Builders, Inc.	128 WBI Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
50	1960; 1975	Great Smoky Mountain Railway, Inc.	973 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
51	1970	Jackson County Green Energy Park, facility and canopy	84 Green Energy Park Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
52	1995	Jackson County Green Energy Park, facility and canopy	84 Green Energy Park Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
53	1940; 1975	N/A	18 Moody Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
54	1970	N/A	214 Moody Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
55	1960	N/A	214 Moody Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

56	1977	N/A	74 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
57	2000	N/A	402 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
58	1975	N/A	92 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
59	1977	N/A	187 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
60	1983	N/A	218 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
61	2006	N/A	240 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
62	1999	N/A	354 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

63	1974; 1979	N/A	358 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
64	2008	N/A	347 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
65	1975	N/A	83 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
66	1990	N/A	388 Dills Hills Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
67	Circa 1930	Nantahala Power & Light Worker's House	N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 373  Destroyed by Fire in 1990; Only Garage Remains; Previously Surveyed
68	1974; 1985; 2001	Dillsboro Inn	146 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
69	1930; 1960	N/A	153 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

70	1945; 1960	N/A	153 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
71	1927	Dillsboro Dam & Powerhouse (Nantahala Power & Light Co.)	N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 374  Demolished; Previously Determined NRHP Eligible
72	2011	C. J. Harris Access Area	150 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
73	1994	River Crest Apartments	93 Windcrest Ridge Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
74	2005	N/A	201 Windcrest Ridge Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
75	1995	N/A	315 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
76	1961; 1975	N/A	175 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

77	1973	N/A	146 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
78	1985	N/A	117 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
79	1984	N/A	117 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
80	1962; 1980	N/A	67 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
81	2014	N/A	68 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
82	1977	N/A	45 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
83	1964	N/A	44 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

84	1962; 1975	N/A	31 Reservoir Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
85	1983	N/A	143 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
86	1940; 1975	Brooks House; Leatherwood House	89 N. River Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 371 Previously Surveyed
87	1885; 1970	William Allen Dills House; Riverwood Shops (present)	17 Craft Circle Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 372 Previously Surveyed
88	1930; 1980	Riverwood Shops	17 Craft Circle Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
89	1973; 1975	Riverwood Shops	17 Craft Circle Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
90	1979	Riverwood Shops	17 Craft Circle Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

1					
	91	1986	Bridge No. 105 over Southern RR, Access Rd., and Scott's Creek	US 23/US441 Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	92	1950-1990	Bridge over Scott's Creek	Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	93	2008	Dogwood Wellness Center	114 W. Hemlock St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	94	2000	Dogwood Wellness Center	114 W. Hemlock St. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	95	1950-1980	Pedestrian Bridge across Scott's Creek	W. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	96	1958; 1965	N/A	25 W. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	97	1950-1980	Bridge over Scott's Creek	Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

98	1930; 1960	N/A	12 E. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
99	2010	N/A	11 Cornflower Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
100	2009	N/A	31 Cornflower Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
101	2009	N/A	36 Cornflower Lane Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
102	1955; 1985	N/A	92 E. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
103	1985	N/A	56 Patterson Drive Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
104	1900; 1965	S.T. Early House; The Osborne- Mason House	44 Mason Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 0370 Previously Surveyed

105	1958; 1965	N/A	116 Mason Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
106	1948; 1970	N/A	117 Mason Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
107	1982	N/A	45 Mason Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
108	1890; 1970	The Fisher-Tatham House	56 E. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
109	1998	N/A	22 E. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
110	1940; 1975	N/A	52 E. Hemlock Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
111	1957; 1965	N/A	115 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

112	2004	N/A	66 Dills Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
113	1940-1970	N/A	66 Dills Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
114	1960-1990	The Express	Dills Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
115	1960; 1990	Sandy's Sampler	2 Dills Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
116	1975-1980	N/A	119 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
117	1975-1980	N/A	119 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
118	1986	N/A	289 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

119	1993; 1995	Western Carolina Properties	335 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
120	1983	Claymates	31 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
121	1950; 1985	N/A	20 Depot Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
122	1880s; 1940; 1975; 1988; 1990	Bradleys General Store	50 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
123	1985; 1990	N/A	64 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
124	1880; 1977	Captain William Alfred Enloe House; The Hopberry (currently)	78 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 331 Added to the Study List in 1992
125	1890	Harris Clay Co.; Dillsboro and Sylva Electric Light Co.; Tunnel Mountain Crafts (currently)	94 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

126	1985; 1990	The Cheddar Box General Store	104 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
127	1870; 1975	J. J. Hooker Law Office; Barber Shop; Haircuts by Jill (currently)	112 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
128	1870; 1970	Roy Ray's; Holmes Bryson's; Cannon Brothers General Store; Shirley's Boutique (present)	124 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
129	1986; 1990	Cannon's Corner	130 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
130	1950-1990	Public Restrooms	Dills Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
131	1970; 1990	Treehouse Pottery	150 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
132	1939; 1975	Indulgence Salon	164 Front Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

133	1986; 1990	The Kitchen Shop	Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
134	1930; 1975	Cannon's Cabins; Dogwood Crafters (present)	90 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
135	1981; 1985	Country Traditions Wine Shop	73 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
136	1970	N/A	83-85 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
137	1907; 1965	Jarrett-Snyder House; Golden Carp (present)	107 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
138	1905; 1965	The Cannon- Wilson House	112 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
139	1939; 1940	N/A	112 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

	140	1889; 1960	The McCoy Queen House	121 Webster Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	141	1982; 1986; 1988	Kostas Family Restaurant	489 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
I KOTAL I	142	1900; 1990	Kostas Family Restaurant, office	475 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	143	1938; 1980	Greystone Building	441 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 123 Added to Study List in 1992
	144	1993	N/A	423 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	145	1941; 1975	N/A	429 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
	146		S. T. Early House	Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 370 Demolished; Previously Surveyed

147	1930; 1970	Dillsboro Smokehouse	403 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
148	1940; 1980	N/A	393 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
149	1968; 1980	Dillsboro Post Office	385 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
150	1888; 1990	Dillsboro Chocolate Factory	28 Church Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
151	1980; 1990	Rabbit Creek Pottery	27 Church Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
152	1937; 1977	Jarrett Memorial Baptist Church	16 Church Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
153	1930; 1970	Dillsboro Methodist Church; Jarrett Memorial Baptist Church Fellowship Hall (present)	16 Church Street Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

154	1884; 1910	Mount Beulah Hotel; Jarrett Springs Hotel; Jarrett House (present)	100 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 10 Listed in the NRHP in 1984
155	Pre-1884; 1960	Dills House; Jarrett House Annex (present)	100 Haywood Road. Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
156	1987	N/A	130 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
157	Pre-1900; 1985	Nancy Tutt's Christmas Shop	488 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
158	1989	N/A	470 & 476 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
159	1988; 1990	Hamilton Court Shops	486 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
160	1935; 1965	N/A	434 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A

161	Pre-1900; 1935; 1972	Shular-Messer House	402 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	N/A
162	1889	Ray-Schneider House; The Pebble Dash House	382 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 117 Added to the Study List in 1992
163	1878; 1900; 1988	Parson Kinkaid House; Olde Towne Inn	364 Haywood Road Dillsboro, NC 28725	JK 116 Added to the Study List in 1992



Figure 30. Easterly overview of Dillsboro from the intersection of US 23/441 and Haywood Road (US 23 Bus.).



Figure 31. Northeasterly overview of Front Street in Dillsboro.

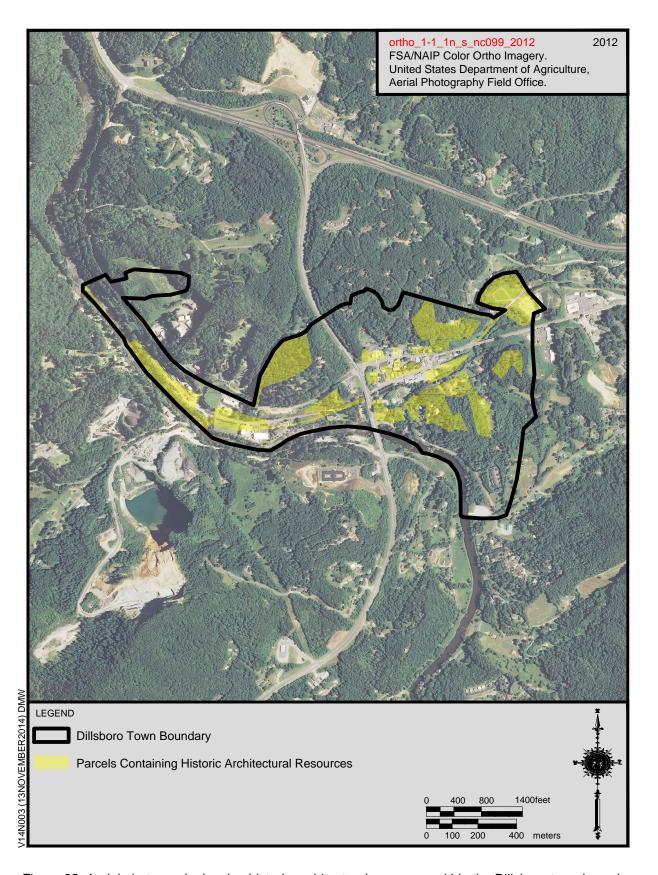


Figure 32. Aerial photograph showing historic architectural resources within the Dillsboro town boundary.

#### Historic Context

Formed in 1851 from parts of Haywood and Macon Counties, Jackson County is located in the Appalachian Mountains of western North Carolina. William Allen Dills and his wife, Alice Enloe Dills were some of the earliest settlers in the community that became Dillsboro (Powell and Hill 2010:1853). W.A. Dills, a confederate war veteran, purchased a farm along the Tuckasegee River and constructed his first home overlooking the river in 1871. In 1882, the Western North Carolina Railroad crossed Dills' land and he provided land for some of the first lots of New Webster, or Webster Station, which later became Dillsboro. The passenger and freight trains that arrived twice daily provided opportunities for farmers from the rural area to bring goods to market, for residents to purchase dry goods from distributors and general stores along Front Street, and for visitors to arrive for summer stays. The construction of the railroad brought prosperity and growth to Dillsboro; however, it also brought tragedy as 19 of the shackled convicts hired to construct the railroad drowned while being ferried across the Tuckasegee River (Gray 1959:13-17; Bishir et al. 1999:355; Argintar 2008:11).

In 1889, with the assistance of W. A. Dills, who was elected to the General Assembly in Raleigh, the town of Dillsboro was incorporated. While named for Dills, Col. Andrews, President of the Western North Carolina Railroad, provided the name. In addition to imparting their name on Dillsboro, W. A. and Alice Dills constructed two homes and a boarding house, which are still standing, and the Mount Beulah Hotel, now Jarrett House, in Dillsboro; and they raised three daughters, among them Gertrude Dills McKee, who became the first woman senator in the North Carolina General Assembly (Gray 1959:13-16; Bishir et al. 1999:355; Argintar 2008:11).

The arrival of the train and incorporation of Dillsboro spurred much growth as development soared at the turn of the century. Entrepreneurs and businessmen flocked to Dillsboro as real estate boomed. One of these entrepreneurs, Charles Joseph Harris, relocated to Dillsboro in 1889. After setting up his new home in the first W.A. Dills home (JK 372), Harris began working at the Hog Rock clay mine with his brothers. In 1891, they purchased the mine, forming the Harris Clay Company (Cook et al. 2014:12). The kaolin, a white fine-grained clay used in ceramic production including long stemmed clay pipes of the eighteenth and nineteenth century, was brought via wagon to the factory where it was washed and dried in a specially-designed shed. After drying, it was shipped to potteries throughout the United States and England, including famous Wedgwood of England (Gray 1959:22).

Since 1886 and the arrival of daily passenger trains, Dillsboro has served as a tourist destination. Early visitors, who enjoyed fishing and swimming in the cool waters of Scott Creek and the Tuckasegee River, arrived via train and utilized accommodations at inns including the Mt. Beulah Hotel (later Jarrett Springs Hotel and Jarrett House), the Potts House, and the Arcadia Hotel. While the latter two were destroyed by fire, the Mt. Beulah Hotel continues to serve as the Jarrett House Inn and Restaurant and was listed in the NRHP in 1984 (Gray 1959:28-31; Williams 1983).

Dillsboro continued to grow throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century with the addition of businesses and residences to supply goods and services for the growing population. Dillsboro remained a tourist destination during the automobile age with the construction of Highway 10 in the 1920s and Highway 19/US 23 in the 1940s (Argintar 2008:12). The arrival of highways signaled changes in Dillsboro, particularly within the downtown core, as the main thoroughfare through town shifted from the rail line along Front Street to Haywood Road (US Bus. 23). Buildings designed around the automobile, including the former garage and car dealership, currently Dillsboro Smoke House, and commercial buildings, like the Greystone Building (JS 123), were constructed to serve vehicular traffic passing through Dillsboro on Haywood Road. As auto-touring gained popularity, many of Dillsboro's visitors required parking spaces for their cars. This was a new need, as most visitors had previously arrived on the train and walked through town. Parking lots began to

replace demolished buildings previously associated with the freight and passenger service on the railroad. As automobile use continued to replace passenger trains, residential growth shifted to the areas along the highways. By the 1960s and 1970s, as the Ranch style and form grew in popularity, additional residences were constructed along the periphery of the downtown core. Recent construction, which is much slower than the growth at the turn of the last century, is focused on the outside edge of the Dillsboro town limits.

Tourists continue to visit today via the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad, which makes regular stops in downtown Dillsboro. Visitors also enjoy the recreation area and park with nature trails located on the Monteith Farmstead, a 16-acre circa 1908 house and outbuildings listed in the NRHP in 2008 that is owned and opened to the public by the Town of Dillsboro. In 2013, the Town of Dillsboro entered into a formal agreement to enable the restoration of the 1908 farmhouse to serve as the location of the Appalachian Women's Museum (Argintar 2008; Town of Dillsboro 2014).

## **Evaluation**

Using the tax parcel map as a guide, each property within Dillsboro was documented during field survey. Historic architectural resources, including bridges, rail corridors, and other structures, were evaluated to determine if part, or all, of the town represented a NRHP-eligible historic district. While the rail corridor that crosses through Dillsboro may be potentially significant as a part of the larger Western North Carolina Railroad, evaluation of the full corridor was outside the scope of work for this project. While Dillsboro represents a turn of the century railroad town, it no longer retains integrity needed to support associations under Criterion A and C. Based on the results of field survey and documentation as outlined in Table 1, Dillsboro does not contain a potential historic district that is eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

Dillsboro is significant as a representation of a turn-of-the-century rail town; however, it no longer retains collective integrity to continue to reflect that era of development and settlement under Criterion A. The highest concentrations of historic resources within the town of Dillsboro are centered within the two-block core of downtown Dillsboro, on the north side of Haywood Road to the north of the downtown core, and along E. Hemlock and Mason Streets south of Scott Creek (see Figure 32). In order to convey significance under Criterion A, Dillsboro should retain a cohesive, contiguous collection of resources that reflect its turn-of-the-century development with a clearly defined boundary.

While Dillsboro broadly reflects forms and styles of residential and commercial architecture popular at the turn of the twentieth century, particularly in the downtown core, the collection of resources has been disrupted by intrusions of non-historic buildings and parking lots and the demolition of historic resources that have broken the cohesiveness of the area and diminished the integrity of feeling and association necessary for listing in the NRHP. In the downtown core, half of the 18 parcels contain resources constructed since 1965; 3 parcels currently contain large parking lots. On the north side of Haywood Road, 37.5 percent of the 16 parcels contain post-1965 resources; 1 parcel contains a parking lot and 2 are wooded with no structures. Along E. Hemlock and Mason Streets, 41.18 percent of the 17 parcels contain non-historic resources constructed since 1965; 3 of these parcels do not currently contain structures. Additionally, within each of the three major areas of concentration of historic resources, less than 40 percent of the parcels contain historic resources (38.89 percent in the downtown core, 18.75 percent on the north side of Haywood Road, and 11.76 percent on E. Hemlock and Mason Streets) that reflect Dillsboro's significance as a turn-of-thecentury railroad town with construction dates between 1870 and 1920. Furthermore, within each of the areas of high concentration of historic resources, alterations including the replacement of roofs, windows, doors and siding; the construction of additions; and the enclosure of porches have diminished the integrity of materials, design, and workmanship on most of the buildings in the area to such a degree that they can no longer collectively reflect the era in which they were constructed and thusly convey significance under Criterion A. In all three areas of high concentration of historic resources, at least one-third of the resources (38.46 percent of the 18 parcels in the downtown core, 33.33 percent of the 16 parcels along the north side of Haywood Road, and 42.86 percent of the 17 parcels on E. Hemlock and Mason Streets) reflect major material alterations or major additions.

Research revealed that Dillsboro is associated with several individuals including W.A. Dills and his daughter, Gertrude Dills McKee, who both served in the North Carolina General Assembly, and C.J. Harris of Harris Clay Company. Specific extant resources associated with these individuals remain in Dillsboro. Two extant residences (including JK 372) and the Mt. Beulah Hotel (JK 10), which was listed in the NRHP in 1984, are associated with W.A. Dills and Gertrude Dills McKee. The former location of the Harris Clay Company offices, headed by C.J. Harris, also remains on Dillsboro's Front Street. These associations, however, are primarily and more explicitly tied to these individual resources within the community rather than the larger town and thus do not rise to the level of significance required for listing of Dillsboro or a portion thereof in the NRHP as a historic district under Criterion B.

While the historic architectural resources of Dillsboro, particularly in the three areas of highest concentration, reflect common architectural styles and types found in a turn-of-the-century railroad town and reflect common principles of town development along a rail line, they no longer collectively retain integrity needed to support listing in the NRHP under Criterion C. As previously discussed, the integrity of materials, design, and workmanship of historic resources within Dillsboro as a whole have been diminished by alterations including the replacement of roofs, windows, doors and siding; the construction of additions; and the enclosure of porches, particularly within the three areas of highest concentration of historic architectural resources, which have significantly altered interpretation of the architectural character of the community. While a few individual resources retain high levels of integrity, collectively, they no longer appropriately reflect their period of construction or period of significance for development of the town and do not retain sufficient integrity to be eligible within their context as a collection of late-nineteenth- to early-twentieth-century architecture in a railroad town under Criterion C.

The historic resources within the boundaries of Dillsboro are common to the region and country as a whole and reflect a turn-of-the-century railroad town; therefore, they are not likely to yield any important historical information regarding the building technology of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century not readily available from other sources. Thus, there is no district eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

# V. REFERENCES

Argintar, Sybil

2008 Elias Brendle Montieth House and Outbuildings. National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

Bishir, Catherine W., Michael T. Southern, and Jennifer F. Martin.

1999 A Guide to Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina. University of North Carolina Press. Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Cook, Tyler, Michael Lovett, Susan Shelton, and Betty Farmer.

2014 A Guide to Historic Dillsboro. Moonshine Press. Franklin, North Carolina.

Gray, Minnie Dills

1959 A History of Dillsboro North Carolina. The Stephens Press. Asheville, North Carolina.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester.

1990 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

### North Carolina Department of Transportation

2003 Historic Architectural Resources Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines. North Carolina Department of Transportation.

### North Carolina Historic Preservation Office

2012 Architectural Survey Manual: Practical Advice for Recording Historic Resources and Digital Photography for Historic Property Surveys and National Register Nominations, Policy and Guidelines. North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina.

### Powell, William S. and Michael Hill

2010 *The North Carolina Gazetteer: A Dictionary of TarHeel Places and their History*, Second Edition. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

## The Jackson County Genealogical Society

1992 *Jackson County Heritage North Carolina 1992*. Walsworth Publishing Company. Marceline, Missouri.

2001 The Cemeteries of North Carolina. The Jackson County Genealogical Society, Cullowhee, NC.

#### Town of Dillsboro

2014 Montieth Farmstead. Electronic document: www.dillsboronc.info/montieth.html, accessed October 2014.

### United States Department of Interior

1983 Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

### Williams, Michael Ann

1983 Mount Beulah Hotel. National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

### Wood, Margaret Ann Mason

1992 "Mason" in *Jackson County Heritage North Carolina 1992*. Walsworth Publishing Company. Marceline, Missouri.