



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

January 22, 2015

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report for Widen and Pave SR 1601 (Payne Road),
Forsyth County, ER 14-2813

Thank you for providing us the above-referenced report. Having reviewed it we concur that the **Bill Spainhour House (FY1448), John Ward House (FY1449) and Winfree-Speas House (FY1451) are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.** While the Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214) appears to be undisturbed and, thereby, still eligible for listing in the National Register, we believe that this is a determination better made by an archaeologist.

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 environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
Intensive Evaluation**

**Widen and Pave SR 1601 (Payne Road)
Forsyth County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 9C.034100**

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

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

December 2014

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Clay Griffith, Principal Investigator
Acme Preservation Services, LLC

Date

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

Date

Widen and Pave SR 1601 (Payne Road), Forsyth County
North Carolina Department of Transportation
WBS No. 9C.034100

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes widening and paving SR 1601 (Payne Road) in the Donnaha community near the Yadkin River, which forms the western boundary of Forsyth County. The project is located in the Tobacconville area of the county to the northwest of Winston-Salem, the county seat. In addition to widening and paving the existing narrow, unpaved road, NCDOT proposes to replace the existing 15-foot by 25-foot pipe with an 18-foot by 40-foot pipe. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as 100 feet to either side of the center line of Payne Road for the length of the project, which extends 2,696 feet.

NCDOT contracted with Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) in October 2014 to complete an intensive historic architectural resource evaluation for four previously identified properties located within the APE for the subject project. Architectural historian Clay Griffith conducted the field survey in October 2014, photographing and mapping the properties, and authored the report. Primary source investigation was conducted by Forsyth County GIS and Register of Deeds online records, at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville, and an examination of existing survey site files for the four properties within the project area.

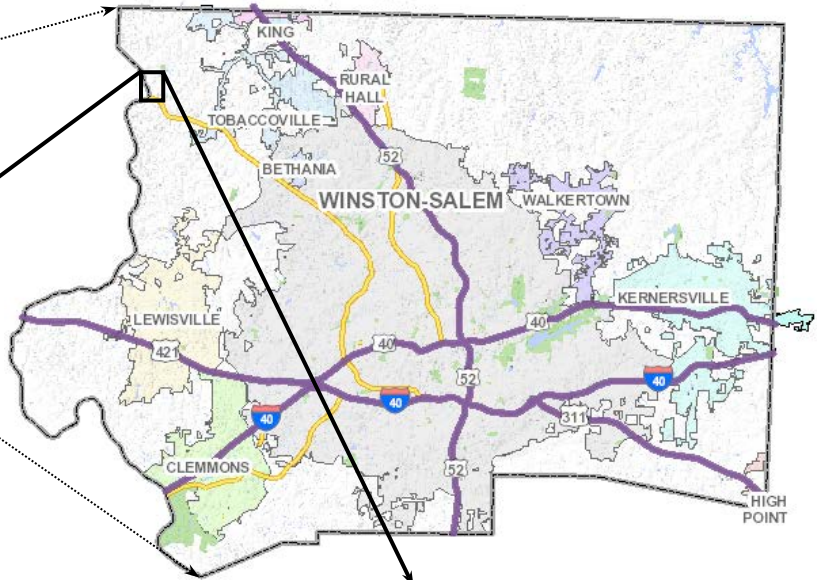
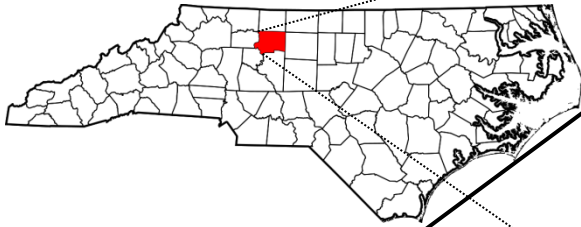
After an intensive evaluation following the National Register of Historic Places criteria for eligibility, the Bill Spainhour House (FY1448), the John Ward House (FY1449), and the Winfree-Speas House (FY1451) were determined to be not eligible due to lack of historic significance and loss of historic integrity due to alterations. The Bill Spainhour House and John Ward House have undergone substantial material alterations and additions that have compromised their historic integrity. The Winfree-Speas House was destroyed by fire in 2012. The Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214) was listed in the National Register in 1984 as an archaeological site. The 22-acre site, which consists of a large, open, grass field, contains no built resources and appears to remain eligible for the National Register.

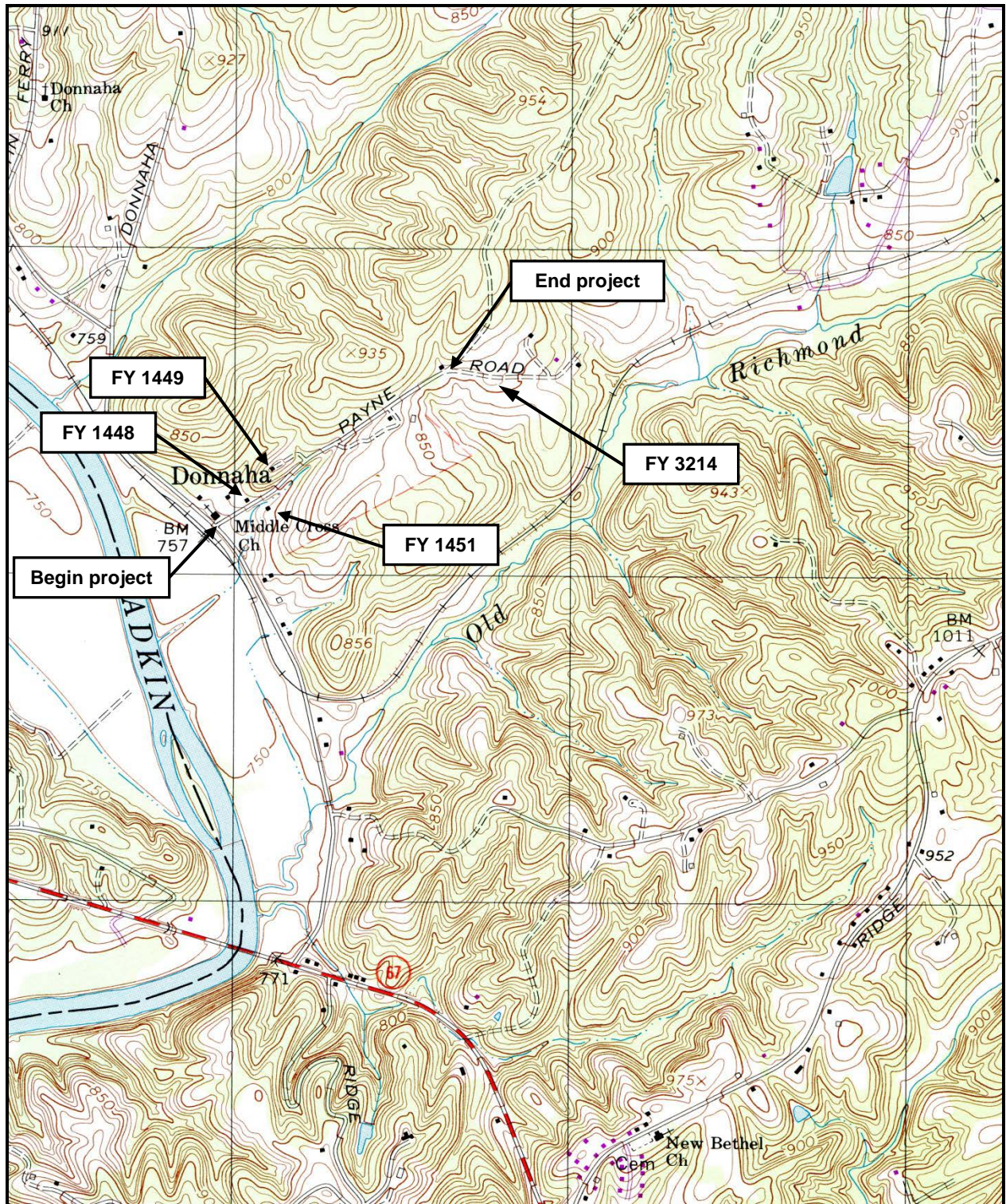
APS conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; and the NCDOT document entitled *Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines* (2003). This property evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

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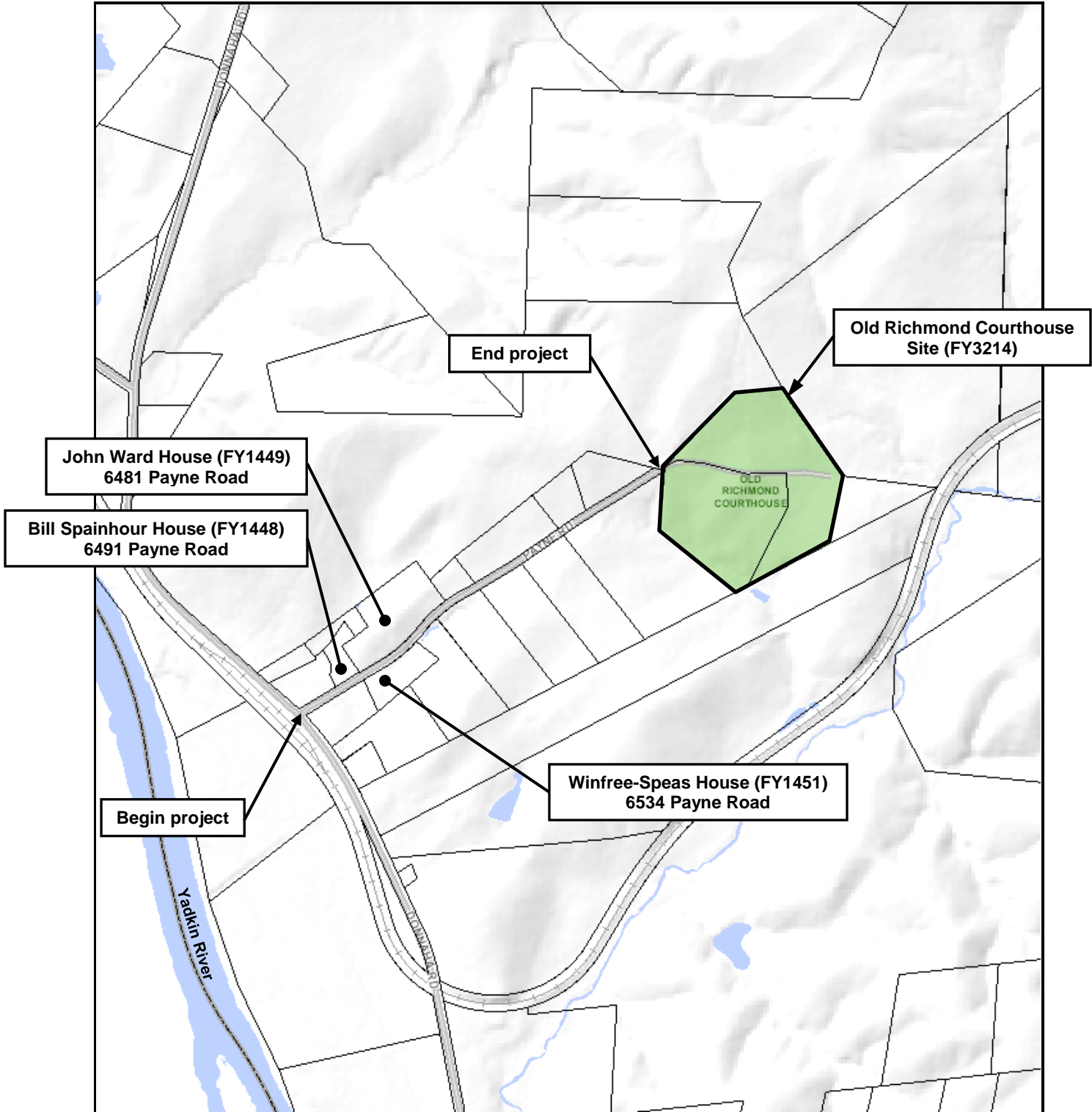
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I. Project Location Maps





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



Forsyth County tax map showing property locations and boundaries of Old Richmond Courthouse Site (shaded)

(Map source: Forsyth County GeoData Explorer)

II. Introduction

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen and pave Payne Road (SR 1601) in the northwestern section of Forsyth County. In addition to widening the narrow, unpaved road, NCDOT proposes to replace the existing 15-foot by 25-foot pipe with an 18-foot by 40-foot pipe. Located in the general vicinity of Tobacoville, the project area lies immediately to the east of the Yadkin River and approximately 16 miles northwest of the county seat at Winston-Salem. Payne Road intersects Donnaha Road (SR 1600) approximately 0.9-mile north of NC 67, near the bridge over Yadkin River. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed improvements is 100 feet to either side of the center line of Payne Road for the length of the project, which extends 2,696 feet. The proposed improvements begin at the intersection of Payne and Donnaha roads and end where Payne Road enters the tax parcels comprising the Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214).

The Richmond Courthouse Site, which was reviewed as part of this survey and evaluation, comprises a large, open field lying on either side of the road. The eighteenth-century Richmond Courthouse was destroyed by a natural disaster in 1839. Archaeological evidence of the courthouse and town site has been investigated and resulted in the site being listed in the National Register in 1984. The property, which consists of two parcels owned by Forsyth County [PINs 5970-95-9956.000 and 5980-06-3488.000] totaling 22 acres, was planted in tobacco during the twentieth century. The present grass field is bisected by unpaved Payne Road as it extends through the site from the northwest to the southeast and providing access to a house and 53-acre tract at 5880 Payne Road. According to the owner of the adjacent property, Forsyth County maintains the road through the Richmond Courthouse Site.¹ There do not appear to be any disturbances or changes at the site that would negatively affect the National Register listing of the Richmond Courthouse Site and no standing structures are located on the property.

The general project area is characterized by rural farmland and smaller residential communities with little commercial development in the immediate area. The gentle, rolling terrain is largely undeveloped. A small railroad siding located on the west side of Donnaha Road at its intersection with Payne Road originally served for the loading and transfer of locally harvested tobacco and timber. Payne Road follows a gradual rise as it travels east from Donnaha Road, until it reaches the Richmond Courthouse Site.

¹ Mack Brown, personal communication with author, October 17, 2014.



Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214), view to southeast from project end



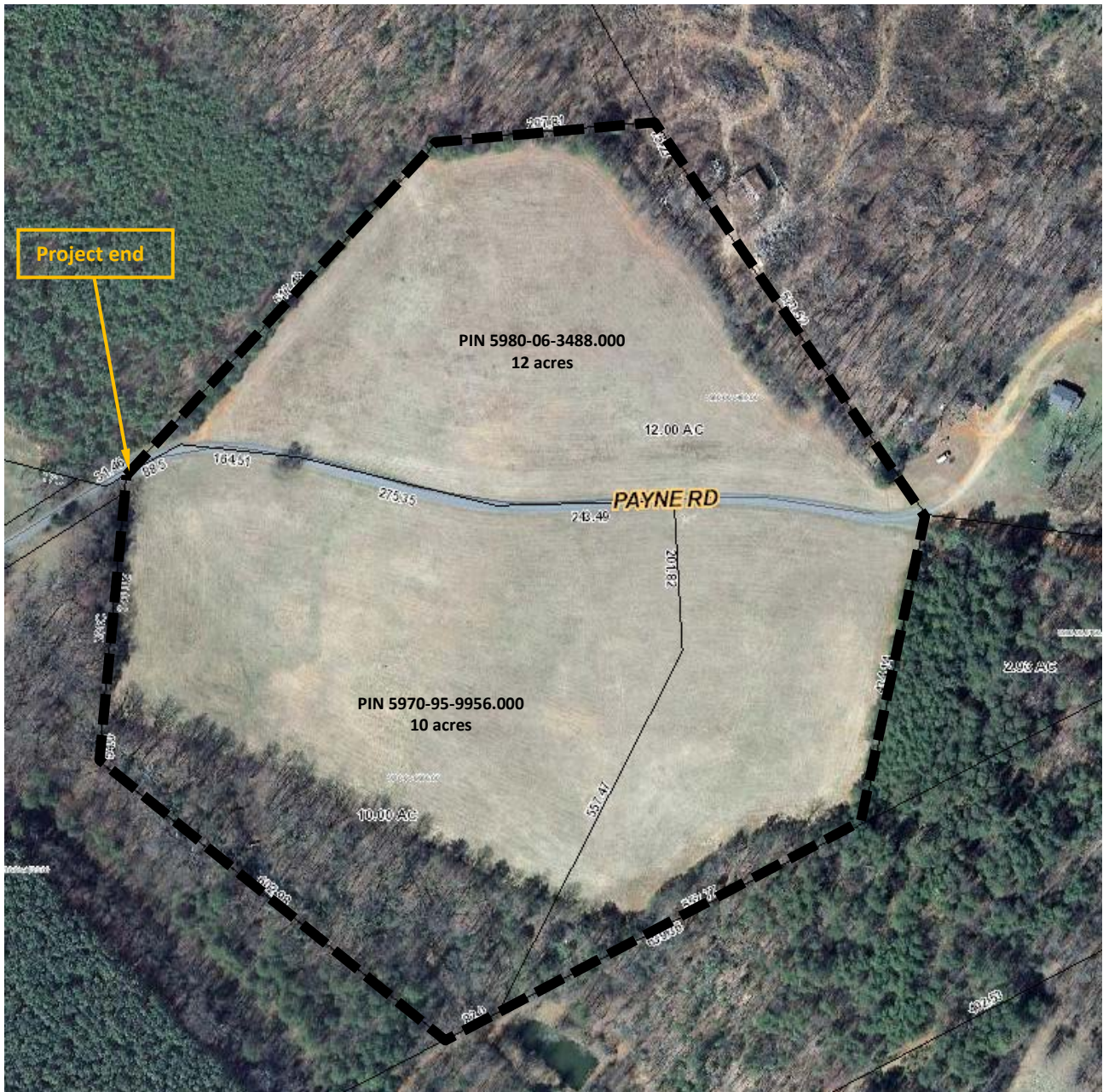
Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214), view to east from project end



Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214), view to southeast



Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214), view to west



**Boundary Map – Old Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214),
 boundary shown by heavy dashed line
 (Map source: Forsyth County GeoData Explorer)**

III. Methodology

The field survey was conducted on October 17, 2014, and the properties containing the Bill Spainhour House, the John Ward House, the Winfree-Speas House, and the Richmond Courthouse Site were photographed and recorded. Basic research on the project area was conducted by consulting Forsyth County's online GIS and tax records, the Register of Deeds online database, Pack Memorial Library in Asheville, and existing survey site files for the properties located within the project area. Local architectural historian Heather Fearnbach, who completed Phase I of the Forsyth County Survey Update in 2006-2007, was consulted prior to conducting the fieldwork.

Gwynne Taylor conducted a comprehensive county-wide survey of historic architectural resources in 1978, and published the results of the survey in *From Frontier to Factory: An Architectural History of Forsyth County* (1981). The Bill Spainhour House (FY1448), the John Ward House (FY1449), and the Winfree-Speas House (FY1451) were surveyed and documented in 1978. A search of State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) records indicated that the Richmond Courthouse Site (FY3214) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984. A few other scattered houses and farmsteads were recorded in the Tobaccolville area, including a house (FY1456) on the east side of Donnaha Road, 0.3 mile south of its intersection with Payne Road. Additional resources and examples of comparable property types recorded in the HPO survey files were reviewed. Updated survey records from the Forsyth County Survey Update, completed in 2007 and provided by Fearnbach History Services, Inc., were also consulted.



Payne Road (SR 1601), view east from the intersection of Donnaha Road (SR 1600)



Payne Road (SR 1601), view to northeast



Payne Road (SR 1601), view southeast to intersection with Donnaha Road (SR 1600)



Payne Road (SR 1601), view southeast to John Ward House, 6481 Payne Road



View northeast along Payne Road (SR 1601) to project end

IV. Historical Background

Located in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, Forsyth County was officially formed in 1849 from Surry and Stokes Counties. Bordered on the west by the Yadkin River, the topography of Forsyth County is characterized by rolling hills and red clay soil typically found in the region. Major settlement along the Yadkin River was first established by Native Americans, followed by Moravians, who came to the region from Pennsylvania in the mid-eighteenth century. The Moravians initially established a community at Bethabara in 1753, within what was known as the “Wachovia Tract,” a 100,000-acre tract deeded to the Moravians by Lord Granville of England. That same year Rowan County was formed, dividing the Wachovia Tract. The county border was later redrawn in 1773, placing the entire tract within Surry County.²

A new county seat was established for Surry County in 1774, when construction of the Richmond Courthouse was completed. Built on land on the east side of the Yadkin River, the courthouse was located near the site of an earlier Native American site called Donnaha. Early records of Native American history in the Piedmont region include information regarding the Saura, Tutelo, and Saponi tribes. Archaeological investigations were conducted by Wake Forest University in January 1973. Evidence recovered indicated that a small society of game hunters and farmers occupied the area. It was estimated from skeletons and other findings that there was a population of three hundred villagers at the peak of their society.³

Just ten years after Richmond Courthouse was officially chartered by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1779, Surry County was again divided in 1789, and a new county called Stokes was formed, into which the majority of Forsyth County fell. At the time the new county was formed, Germantown was decided upon for the seat of Stokes County, while the Surry County seat was moved to Rockford, leaving the Richmond Courthouse abandoned. According to Surry County court records, Andrew Jackson became a member of the United States bar at the Richmond Courthouse in 1787. In 1839, a cyclone devastated Richmond Town, destroying every building, and no efforts to rebuild the town were made.⁴

Due in part to the mild climate enjoyed in the Piedmont, agricultural pursuits, particularly tobacco, flourished as settlement in Forsyth County continued to grow throughout the nineteenth century. Although tobacco had been grown for home consumption from the early years of settlement, it wasn't until 1858 that the first large quantity of tobacco was cultivated in the northern part of the county. Soil conditions in the area yielded returns of fine, yellow leaf tobacco, which “had no superior in texture, oil, or aroma, not even in the famed leather-wood district of Henry County,

² Bill Sharpe, *A New Geography of North Carolina*, Vol. I (Raleigh, NC: Sharpe Publishing Company Inc., 1954), 115-119; and Gwynne Stephens Taylor, *From Frontier to Factory: An Architectural History of Forsyth County* (Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, 1981), 1-3; and Adelaide L. Fries, et al., *Forsyth, A County on the March* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1949), 114-122.

³ Fries, et al., 114-122; and Eric Hill Associates, *Richmond Courthouse Historic Sites Survey*, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, 1978.

⁴ *Ibid.*

Virginia.”⁵ Tobaccolville was one such community in the northern section of the county, whose name derived from the crop that had become so prolific in the area.

By 1870, production had grown to more than 250,000 pounds of tobacco processed in the county. In 1872, the first warehouse dedicated solely to the sale of leaf tobacco was opened by T. J. Brown. The first factory for processing tobacco was also opened that same year. Following completion of a railroad connection with the Western Railroad of North Carolina in 1873, tobacco production boomed as trade increased across the state and beyond. Within 22 years of the opening of the first factory, thirty-seven tobacco manufacturers were registered in Forsyth County. By the turn of the twentieth century, tobacco manufacturers had begun to consolidate. R. J. Reynolds was one such manufacturer who, after beginning operations in 1875, quickly began consolidating other manufacturers under his company name, beginning an era of tobacco business that established Forsyth County as one of the most successful and vastly profitable tobacco manufacturers in the world.⁶

Forsyth County enjoyed a period of significant economic growth during the first part of the twentieth century. Tobacco profits were reinvested in other industries, such as textiles, hosiery, banking, and general manufacturing. The Hanes family, hailing from Winston-Salem, left an extensive legacy including the largest hosiery plant, the largest cigarette paper plant, the largest bank, and the largest underwear factory in the country. Although growth slowed somewhat during the Great Depression and two World Wars, businesses adapted to defense work and war production. During the second half of the twentieth century, Forsyth County continued to expand on existing industries, while also branching out into new manufacturing ventures, such as the production of electrical equipment.⁷

⁵ Fries, et al., 170-174.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Sharpe, 115-119; Fries, 199.

V. Property Descriptions and Evaluations

Bill Spainhour House (FY 1448)

6491 Payne Road, Donnaha vic. [PIN 5970-75-5282.00]



Bill Spainhour House (FY1448), 6491 Payne Road, façade, view to northwest

Description

The Bill Spainhour House stands on a 0.99-acre parcel of land along the north side of Payne Road approximately 400 feet northeast of its intersection with Donnaha Road. The property is bordered by a low, double-rail wooden fence with wire insets. Wooden gates mark the entries at the front of the house along Payne Road and from the driveway to the east.

The Spainhour House is a two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with a side-gable roof, weatherboards, cornice returns, and a metal roof. Covered in weatherboards, the house rests on a brick foundation and displays a single interior brick chimney. A second interior chimney, evident in earlier survey photos, is no longer visible along the roofline. The original hip-roof porch, now enclosed, featured turned supports and decorative brackets. The enclosed porch currently displays weatherboard siding, a polygonal bay window, a one-over-one window, and an aluminum storm door over a six-panel single-leaf wood door. The original front entry containing a paneled door



Bill Spainhour House, oblique front view to northeast



Bill Spainhour House, rear wing, oblique view to northwest

with beveled glass panes and sidelights is now enclosed within the porch. An octagonal bay window with a metal roof is located on the first story of the west elevation, and a second polygonal bay window is located on the east elevation. On the second story, modern six-over-six windows have replaced the original two-over-two sash. A single window on the second-story east elevation has been boarded over.

A one-story gable-roof ell extends to the rear (north) and exhibits a metal roof, weatherboards, and both three-over-one and modern two-over-two double-hung sash windows. A rear wing, which contains a three-bay garage, was added sometime after the property was surveyed in 1978. The addition is a one-story gable-roof structure that extends from the rear ell and features an asphalt-shingle roof, weatherboards, six-over-six windows, and glazed-and-paneled overhead doors in the garage bays. A projecting gable-roof canopy on the east elevation is supported on triangular brackets and shelters a single-leaf entry door.

During her 1978 survey of the house, Gwynne Taylor inspected and recorded several features on the interior, including flush sheathing, fluted door and window surrounds with corner blocks, and a staircase with decorated riser ends.

Two agricultural outbuildings stand immediately west of the house, with a garden plot located in the rear yard. The one-story frame barn has a metal front-gable roof, vertical wood sheathing, and large double-leaf plywood doors on the façade. A large, metal-roof shed extension on the west elevation wraps around the north end of the barn structure. The west side of the shed is enclosed with a solid wall, but the north and south ends are open. A one-story front-gable frame shed stands directly behind the barn to the north. The small structure has metal roof sheathing, weatherboards, and a single-leaf wood door on the east elevation.

Historical Background

The house was built in the late nineteenth century by Bill and Mattie Spainhour. According to previous survey data and United States Census records, William A. (Bill) Spainhour was born in 1868, and married his wife Mattie in 1898. Spainhour owned and operated a dry goods store (no longer standing) located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Donnaha and Payne Roads. The store sold general merchandise such as furniture, clocks, paint, fertilizer, and groceries, as well as other sundries.⁸

The property was purchased from the Spainhours by the Goolsby family during the first part of the twentieth century, and it was later sold to Francis E. Speas. Francis Speas and his wife Eliza lived on the property, where he farmed with their daughter, Lonie, who inherited the property upon her father's death.⁹

⁸ Gwynne Taylor, Bill Spainhour House Historic Sites Survey, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1978.

⁹ Ibid. Forsyth County Register of Deeds.



Barn, view to north



Shed, oblique front view to northwest

Lonie Speas married Walter R. Winfree in 1931. According to federal census records dating from 1910, Winfree had been a border at the Spainhour house when it was still under the ownership of Bill and Mattie Spainhour. A 1930 city directory notes that Walter Winfree had a chiropractic practice in Winston-Salem. The couple retained ownership of their property until Lonie Winfree died in 1968, when the property was willed to their granddaughter, Jaunita Winfree Hunter (Deed 996/396-401).¹⁰

Jaunita Hunter, along with several other family members, sold the property to William D. and Ruth Hicks in 1971 (Deed 1016/300). The Hickses later divorced and the property was deeded to Ruth Hicks in 1984 (Deed 1432/436). In October 1991, the Spainhour House was sold to Jimmy Lee Hicks (Deed 1728/984), who maintained the property until it was sold to its current owners, James K. and Karen K. Kimbrell in December 2004 (Deed 2532/1345).¹¹

Evaluation

The Bill Spainhour House is a good example of a typical two-story three-bay frame farmhouse, a common house type found throughout North Carolina, but it has been substantially altered in the years after it was surveyed by Gwynne Taylor in 1978. Since that time the one-story wraparound porch has been enclosed and decorative porch elements removed, the majority of windows have been replaced, and a large rear wing has been attached to the rear of the house. Due to these significant material changes and additions, the historic integrity and architectural character of the house have been severely compromised, such that it does not appear to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.

Additionally it does not appear that the property is eligible for the National Register under any other criteria. In the absence of Spainhour's store at the intersection of Donnaha and Payne Roads, there is insufficient evidence to claim significance under Criterion A for commerce. The Spainhour, Speas, and Winfree families Hollifields and the Ellers were part of extended families in the area, but neither attained the level of prominence and significance required for National Register listing under Criterion B. 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.

¹⁰ Ibid. Ancestry.com. *1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012.

¹¹ Ibid.



Site plan – Bill Spainhour House (FY1448), 6491 Payne Road
(Map source: Forsyth County GeoData Explorer)

John Ward House (FY 1449)

6481 Payne Road, Donnaha vic. [PIN 5970-75-9407.00]



John Ward House (FY1449), 6481 Payne Road, oblique view to northwest from the west

Description

The John Ward House stands on a 4.58-acre parcel of land on the north side of Payne Road, approximately 0.2 miles northeast of the intersection with Donnaha Road. The property is characterized by a prominent grassy knoll located roughly in the middle of the parcel, on which the house was built. The knoll is surrounded on all sides by mature trees. A driveway enters from the southeast and turns southwest to approach the house from the rear.

The John Ward House is a two-story, three-bay frame farmhouse with a metal side-gable roof, cornice returns, and a one-story gable-roof rear ell. Resting on a brick foundation and clad with vinyl, the house has exterior end chimneys with stone bases and corbelled brick stacks. An attached one-story hip-roof porch was originally supported by chamfered posts with decorative brackets, but the brackets have been removed and many of the porch balusters have been damaged. The porch, which sits on a concrete block foundation, shelters a single-leaf four-panel entry door framed by sidelights and a two-light transom. The windows are predominantly two-over-two double-hung sash with some replacement one-over-one windows. The rear ell, which includes an enclosed L-shaped porch, has modern six-over-six windows.



John Ward House, façade, view to northeast



John Ward House, oblique rear view to northwest



John Ward House, side elevation, view to south



John Ward House, rear elevation and garage, view to southwest

The foundation beneath the rear ell appears to have been rebuilt sometime in the mid-twentieth century. The concrete block foundation contains a single-bay garage in the basement below the ell. The garage bay, which is entered on the north elevation through a glazed-and-paneled overhead door, is approached by a short, straight driveway bordered by concrete block retaining walls. A detached, front-gable, one-bay garage is located at the rear of the house. The structure appears as an open carport in earlier survey photographs, but it has been enclosed with a metal roof, metal siding, and a metal overhead door.

A single frame outbuilding is located to the northeast of the house, along the northern edge of the driveway. The one-story side-gable building features a metal roof, board-and-batten siding, exposed rafter tails, and four-over-four double-hung sash windows. A simple, single-leaf wood door marks the entry on the center of the façade. According to earlier survey data, a central interior chimney that is no longer visible above the roofline was present in the building. An open shed wing, added in recent years, extends from the northeast elevation. It has wood pole supports and a corrugated metal roof. A frame hunting stand is located to the north of the main house at the edge of the surrounding woods. Resting on a raised wooden platform, the small enclosure is capped by a flat roof and reached by metal steps.

Historical Background

The house was built between 1880 and 1900 by John A. Ward. His son, Robert E. Ward was a minister in the Methodist church and resided at the house for many years. Robert married Georgia Hauser, and had one son, Samuel Lawrence Ward. The family is interred at Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church Cemetery in Tobaccoville.¹²

The property was acquired by Ezra L. and Wilma T. Brown later in the twentieth century. The couple was married in 1948, and purchased a significant amount of land at the east end of Payne Road in the 1960s, where they raised their sons. The Browns lived in the house at 5880 Payne Road (outside the APE), on the east side of the Richmond Courthouse site, which was built by the Hickses in the early twentieth century. One of the Browns' sons, Jerry L. Brown, and his wife, Bonita, currently own the John Ward House. They reside in King and use the house as a base for deer hunting.¹³

Evaluation

The John Ward House is a good example of a typical two-story three-bay frame farmhouse, a common house type found throughout North Carolina, but it has been substantially altered in the years after it was surveyed by Gwynne Taylor in 1978. Since that time the house has been covered with vinyl siding, some of the windows have been replaced, and decorative porch elements have removed or damaged. The house also exhibits a modern porch foundation and rebuilt foundation at the rear of the house containing a single-bay basement garage. Due to these significant material

¹² Gwynne Taylor, John Ward House Historic Sites Survey, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1978.

¹³ Mack Brown, personal communication with author, October 17, 2014.



Hunting stand, view to north



Shed, façade, view to northwest

changes and additions, the historic integrity and architectural character of the house have been severely compromised, precluding it from National Register-eligibility under Criterion C for its architecture.

Additionally it does not appear that the property is eligible for the National Register under any other criteria. The property contains only one significant outbuilding and insufficient evidence to claim significance under Criterion A for agriculture. Members of the Ward family associated with the house did not attain the level of prominence and significance required for National Register listing under Criterion B. 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.



Site plan – John Ward House (FY1449), 6481 Payne Road
(Map source: Forsyth County GeoData Explorer)

Winfree-Speas House (FY 1451)

6534 Payne Road, Donaha vic. [PIN 5970-75-9162.00]



Remains of the Winfree-Speas House (FY1451), 6534 Payne Road, view to northeast

Description

The Winfree-Speas House has been completely destroyed by fire since the last survey update of the area in 2006. Built around 1918, the house occupied a 1.84-acre parcel lying on the south side of Payne Road.

According to previous survey data, the Winfree-Speas House was a two-story, frame farmhouse typical of other vernacular houses in the area. It featured a metal side-gable roof, projecting front-gable bays, and weatherboard siding. A wraparound hip-roof porch was supported by tapered posts with a simple wood balustrade. The central front entrance was flanked by sidelights. It had two interior brick chimneys, one-over-one double-hung sash windows, and a one-story rear wing.¹⁴

¹⁴ Gwynne Taylor, Winfree-Speas House Historic Sites Survey, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1978.

Historical Background

The Winfree-Speas House was built by Walter R. Winfree around 1918. Prior to building the house, Winfree had once been a boarder in the Bill Spainhour House at 6491 Payne Road around 1910. According to U.S. Census and Social Security records, Walter Robert Winfree was born August 25, 1885 and worked as a chiropractor. He married Addie Speas in December of 1911, and later married Lonie Speas in 1931. Winfree died in 1966.

John J. Speas purchased the house from Winfree. According to census records, John Speas was married to wife, Malissia, with whom he had two children, Annie and Vestel. He later sold the property to Israel Eugene (Gene) Speas, a farmer in the Tobaccoville area.

The property was later sold to Wilfred Shermer, a farmer, whose daughter, Margaret, eventually inherited the house. Margaret Shermer Hudson, along with her husband, Willie Robert Hudson, sold the Winfree-Speas house in 1975 to Kenneth W. Lindsay (Deed 1156/ 106). Kenneth Lindsay and his wife Joann lived in the house, until selling it to David E. and Jo Ann Cromer in 1993 (Deed 1773/1861). The property is currently owned by the Cromer's son, Michael Keith Cromer (Deed 2333/3079).¹⁵

Evaluation

The Winfree-Speas House is not eligible for the National Register under any criteria due to a complete lack of historic integrity as a result of a fire that destroyed the dwelling. Built around 1918, the house was a good example of an early twentieth century vernacular frame farmhouse, but it has been reduced to little more than the brick foundations and a standing brick chimney. The vacant site has become overgrown. 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.

¹⁵ Ancestry.com. *1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012; Ancestry.com. *US, Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014*. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011; Forsyth County Register of Deeds.



Winfree-Speas House (FY1451), façade, view to northeast, photograph by Heather Fearnbach, Oct. 2006



Site plan – Winfree-Speas House (FY1451), 6534 Payne Road (no longer standing)
(Map source: Forsyth County GeoData Explorer)

VI. Bibliography

Ancestry.com. *1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012.

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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

- *Flat Rock Historic District Boundary Increase, Boundary Decrease and Additional Documentation National Register Nomination*, Flat Rock, Henderson County, North Carolina
- *Bruce Bristol House Intensive Evaluation Report, Spot Safety Improvement Project, SR 1388 (Bristol Avenue), TIP No. W-51240 (for NCDOT)*, Andrews, Cherokee County, North Carolina
- *Enterprise Building National Register Nomination*, High Point, Guilford County, North Carolina
- *West-Asheville-Aycock School Historic District Boundary Increase National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Rhoney-Sain House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 34 on SR 1907 over Rock Creek (for NCDOT)*, Burke County, North Carolina
- *Mt. Helen Estates Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 184 on SR 1102 over Winter Star Branch (for NCDOT)*, Yancey County, North Carolina
- *Riley Wall House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 261 on SR 1597 over Hickory Creek (for NCDOT)*, Henderson County, North Carolina
- *West House Intensive Evaluation Report, Replace Bridge No. 87 on SR 1140 over Hyatt Mill Creek (for NCDOT)*, Clay 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

PUBLICATIONS

- 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