

# North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

#### **State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper Secretary Susi H. Hamilton Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

March 19, 2019

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO: Vanessa Patrick

Human Environment Unit

NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Widen NC 127 from SR 1132 to SR 1008, PA 18-03-0009,

Sledhill-Earley

U-2530A, Catawba County, ER 19-0888

Thank you for your February 26, 2019, memorandum transmitting the report for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and concur that the following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for the reasons outlined in the report.

• Teague House (CT1803)

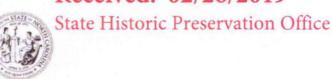
• Deal House (CT1804)

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 919-814-6579 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>

Received: 02/26/2019



# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER GOVERNOR JAMES H. TROGDON, III

SECRETARY

ER 19-0888

To:

Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO

From:

Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT

Due -- 3/20/19

Date:

February 26, 2019

H- 8 Puller 5/18

Subject:

Historic Structures Survey Report for TIP No. U-2530A, Widen NC 127 from SR 1132 (Huffman Farm Road) to SR 1008 (Zion Church Road),

Catawba County, North Carolina. WBS No. 34824.1.3. PA Tracking No.

18-03-0009.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Enclosed for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of historic architectural resources in the U-2530A, Catawba County project area (one hard copy and two CD-ROMs). Survey photographs, GIS data, and site forms are also included on the CD-ROMs, and hard copies of the site forms are also provided.

The report considers two resources and recommends both as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: the Teague House (CT1803) and the Deal House (CT1804). Initial screening of the project area by NCDOT Historic Architecture identified which resources warranted additional study.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the report. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:vepatrick@ncdot.gov">vepatrick@ncdot.gov</a> or 919-707-6082. Thank you.

V.E.P.

Attachments

Mailing Address: NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SECTION MSC 1598 RALEIGH, NC 27699-1598 Telephone: (919)-707-6000 Fax: (919)-212-5785 Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

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Website: www.ncdot.gov

# HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

Widen NC 127 from SR 1132 (Huffman Farm Road) to SR 1008 (Zion Church Road), Catawba County
TIP# U-2530A
WBS# 34824.1.3
PA# 18-03-0009

Prepared for:

Environmental Analysis Unit North Carolina Department of Transportation 1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699

Prepared by:

→ CALYX

CALYX Engineers and Consultants
6750 Tryon Road

Cary, North Carolina, 27518

FEBRUARY 2019

# HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

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CALYX Engineers and Consultants 6750 Tryon Road Cary, North Carolina, 27518

FEBRUARY 2019

Christopher R. Morgka
Chris Mroczka, Principal Investigator

February 22, 2018

Date

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

Date

# **Management Summary**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen N.C. Highway (NC) 127 from Secondary Road (SR) 1132 (Huffman Farm Road) to SR 1008 (Zion Church Road) in Catawba County. The project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by NCDOT, is a 300-foot-wide corridor illustrated in Figure 2. NCDOT architectural historians reviewed the properties within the APE and determined that two individual properties greater than 50 years of age warranted further evaluation for potential National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility.

This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). An NCDOT Architectural Historian defined an APE and conducted preliminary documentary research and a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Two resources within the APE warrant intensive National Register eligibility evaluations, and they are the subjects of this report. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

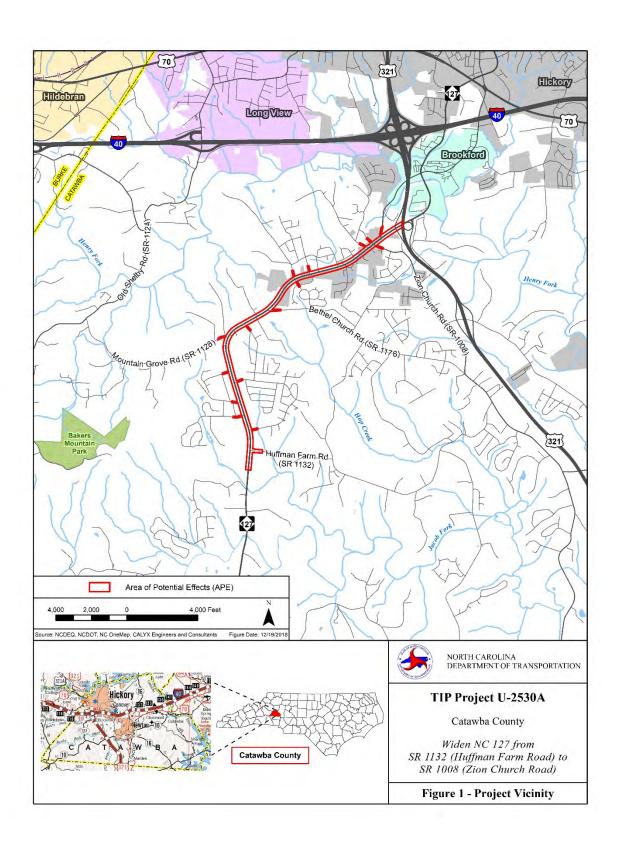
Catawba County was comprehensively surveyed in 1991, and neither the Teague House or Deal House were surveyed and documented at that time.

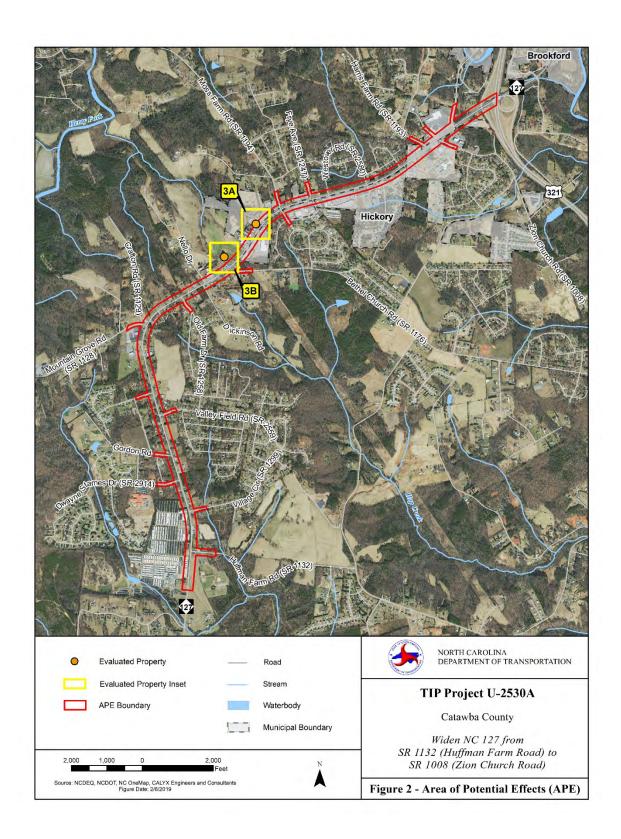
In September 2018, NCDOT requested that CALYX Engineers and Consultants (CALYX) complete research, an intensive-level historic resources field investigation, and NRHP evaluations for the Teague House and the Deal House. Based on this study, the recommendations for the NRHP are as follows:

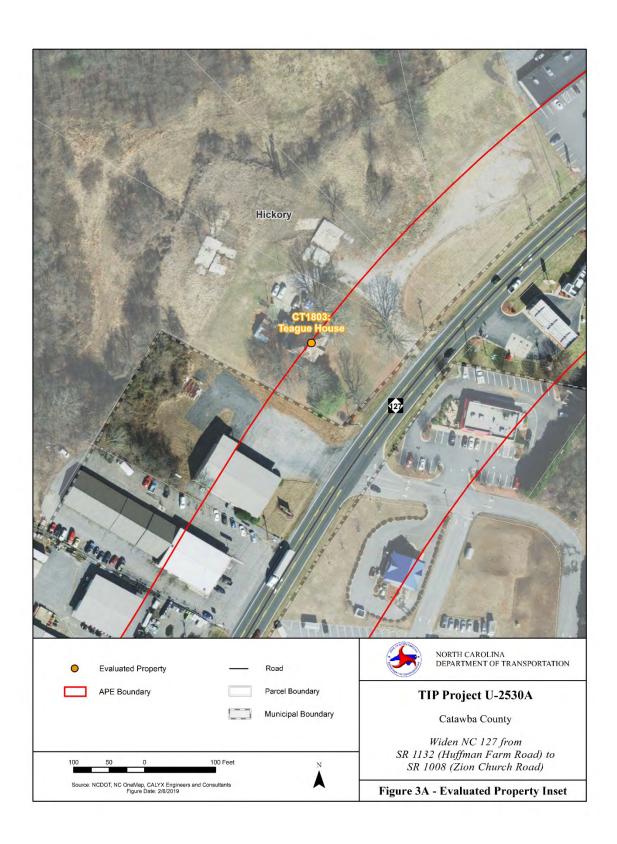
Property Name	NCHPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
Teague House	CT 1803	Not Eligible	N/A
Deal House	CT 1804	Not Eligible	N/A

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# Methodology

The U-2530A, Catawba County project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). An NCDOT Architectural Historian defined an APE and conducted preliminary documentary research and a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only two resources within the APE warrant intensive National Register eligibility evaluations, and they are the subject of this report. NCDOT Architectural Historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

On November 6, 2018, CALYX Architectural Historian Sarah David visited Catawba County and completed photo documentation of both resources; she also drove portions of southwest and southeast Catawba County in search of comparable building types. David undertook documentary research at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, while CALYX Architectural Historian Chris Mroczka consulted online research tools and resources, including Catawba County GIS Mapping, Catawba County Register of Deeds, the website findagrave.com, and the web-based subscription services ancestry.com and newspapers.com. Mroczka also reviewed published resources about the history and architecture of Catawba County and the town of Hickory.

CALYX conducted all fieldwork, research, and evaluations to meet the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800, as well as NCDOT's *Guidelines for the Survey Reports for Historic Architectural Resources*.

# **Evaluation: Teague House**

Resource Name	Teague House
HPO Survey Site Number	CT 1803
Street Address	3181 South N.C. Highway 127
PIN	279118423423
Construction Dates	c. 1910
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



#### Description

The Teague House is located in western Catawba County, approximately four miles southwest of downtown Hickory. The property is located at 3181 South NC Highway 127 between Bethel Church Road (CR 1176) and Moss Farm Road/Woodridge Road. The house is set within a series of non-historic commercial properties along NC 127. The surrounding commercial properties include a gas station, restaurant, and strip shopping center, all built during the late twentieth to early twenty-first century. The Teague House faces southeast towards NC 127 from a 6.48-acre parcel. A side-gabled historic outbuilding is located northwest of the house.



Figure 4: Teague House Site Plan

The Teague House is a two-story foursquare house. The house has a brick veneer exterior in running bond, hipped roof with pressed metal shingles, and two interior brick chimneys. The windows throughout the house's main body appear to be historic one-over-one wood sash with decorative brick lintels and sills, and flanked by modern shutters. The foundation is poured concrete slab. A wraparound hipped roof porch spans the façade, northeast side elevation, and rear elevation. The wraparound porch has pressed metal shingles and is partially enclosed with brick on the northeast side elevation and fully enclosed with brick across the rear elevation. The open porch area on both the façade and northeast side elevation is supported by Tuscan style wood columns. Based on visual inspection, the enclosed portion of the porch appears to date to the mid-twentieth century. The porch has a concrete floor and brick foundation. The windows throughout the enclosed porch area appear to be repurposed historic one-over-one wood sash.

The Teague House's façade is two stories and three bays wide. Along the ground story, the historic single-light, wood-paneled front door is located in the central bay and is flanked by single windows in the outer bays. The upper story's central bay is fronted by a gabled porch supported by wood columns. Both the upper porch's gable and base are clad in Masonite siding. Additionally, the wood railings along the upper porch's perimeter do not appear original. The upper story's central bay is symmetrically flanked by single windows in the outer bays.



Figure 5: Teague House, facing northwest to façade

The wraparound porch spans the house's northeast side elevation along the ground story. On this elevation's north side, the porch is partially infilled with brick and contains three wood windows; an entrance faces south onto the open porch. An entrance into the house's main block is located in this open porch area. The northeast side elevation's upper story has a single wood window and paired wood windows.



Figure 6: Teague House, facing southwest to northeast side elevation

The rear elevation's first floor is fronted by the brick-infilled wraparound porch. A concrete patio fronts the house's northwest corner where the enclosed porch contains a non-historic metal door entryway and a single wood window. A gabled concrete block addition projects from the center of the rear elevation. The addition has a non-historic metal door on its northeast elevation and an infilled window on its northwest elevation. Based on discussions with the owner, the addition covers a well. To the addition's south, on the enclosed porch's rear elevation, are paired wood windows. A narrow exterior brick chimney rises from the porch roof near its junction with the rear concrete-block addition. The rear elevation's upper story has a single, central two-over-two wood window.



Figure 7: Teague House, facing southwest to northeast side and rear elevations



Figure 8: Teague House, facing southeast to rear elevation



Figure 9: Teague House, facing southeast to rear elevation

The house's southwest side elevation consists of the house's two-bay main block on the south and the enclosed rear porch to the north. The enclosed rear porch has a one-over-one wood window. The main block's first floor has paired one-over-one wood windows on the north and an enclosed side porch to the south. The enclosed side porch has a flat roof, a non-historic vertical wood siding exterior, and a single two-over-two wood window on its northwest elevation. The upper story has a single and paired set of one-over-one wood windows.



Figure 10: Teague House, facing northeast to southwest side and rear elevations



Figure 11: Teague House, facing northwest to southwest side elevation and façade

The Teague House's interior retains historic features including plain Colonial Revival mantels and a newel post on the stairway. The mantels surround the two infilled fireplaces. Additionally, beaded wainscoting was observed in the northeast room. Based on interior observation of the first floor, the house's foursquare plan is intact. First-floor joinery and finishes, such as the main staircase, paneled doors, mantelpieces, door and window trim, and flooring, appear to be original and generally intact.



Figure 12: Teague House, interior photo of newel post



Figure 13: Teague House, interior photo of Colonial Revival style mantel

The Teague House sits on generally flat terrain with large hardwood trees scattered throughout the property which lacks any sign of agricultural fields. A large lawn surrounds the house. The house accesses NC 127 to the southeast by a gravel driveway that wraps around to the house's rear. A concrete parking pad is located behind or northwest of the house. A historic gabled brick outbuilding is located on the

parking pad. The outbuilding has a sheet metal roof and a side addition with a concrete exterior; its use is unknown.



Figure 14: Teague House, facing southwest to historic outbuilding

#### History

Catawba County was carved out of Lincoln County in 1842 in response to area residents petitioning for a more conveniently located county seat. The first white settlers of what is presently Catawba County came to the area in 1747. Among them were the Scotch-Irish and Germans who initially left Europe for areas of the northeast including Pennsylvania and Maryland because of lack of religious freedom and political and economic pressures. By the mid-eighteenth century, many Scotch-Irish and German families were migrating out of Pennsylvania towards North Carolina due to high land prices.<sup>1</sup>

Agriculture was the primary occupation in Catawba County. The 1820 census indicates that approximately 98% of North Carolina's population lived in rural areas. Caused by lack of transportation to ship goods, farming in the Catawba County area included subsistence crops such as corn, wheat, cotton, flax, fruits, and vegetables. During the Antebellum era, farms and plantations in Catawba County were typically developed on smaller tracts of land of a few hundred acres or less. Additionally, there was a relatively low number of slaves during this time in North Carolina's Piedmont area owing to the smaller farms and Scotch-Irish and German reluctance to own large numbers of slaves. Similar to other areas of the South, the Civil War had a negative effect on the Catawba County economy, but, by the 1870s, farming in the county and the state was back to pre-war volume production. During the 1870s, Catawba County farms

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sidney Halma (Project Director), *Catawba County: An Architectural History* (Virginia Beach: The Downing Company, 1991), 11-12.

in particular were typically under 100 acres and produced primarily grain crops such as corn, wheat, and oats. By the twentieth century, industrial development in Catawba County was drawing the farm population to jobs in Hickory and Newton. In 1925, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture listed 259 farm owners in Catawba County with an average farm size of 75 acres.<sup>2</sup>

The Western North Carolina Railroad was charted in 1855 and by the Civil War had extended into Catawba County just north of Newton and through Hickory. Following the Civil War, the Western North Carolina Railroad spurred industrial development throughout the county. The railroad alignment bypassed Newton, the county seat, but ran through the heart of Hickory resulting in the town becoming a regional trade center. Although aided by the railroad, Hickory officially emerged as an industrial town during the 1890s when the First National Bank of Hickory was founded. The town's grid pattern was laid out in response to the railroad depot and the railroad alignment's east-west corridor. Numerous businesses surrounded the railroad corridor including saw mills, warehouses, and building supply manufacturers. Due to Hickory being a manufacturing center, its industries managed to remain active during the Great Depression. Hickory's growth was slowed during World War II as materials were needed elsewhere for the war effort. However, the city quickly rebounded in the years following the war as a multitude of jobs were available in manufacturing and, especially the furniture industry. The increase in jobs brought more people to Hickory resulting in the need for additional houses. The need for increased housing, coupled with increasing automobile ownership, caused the city to expand outward. Further, the postwar economic boom resulted in a shift of the farming population, where farmers began working in manufacturing and the furniture industry as their primary source of income and transitioned from growing crops to raising cattle as a side business.3

Based on Catawba County tax records and information from the Catawba County Historical Association, the Teague House was built c. 1910. The house was surveyed as part of a countywide survey conducted by the Catawba County Historical Association during the late 1970s to early 1980s. The Teague House, with a photo and caption entitled simply "House," appears in the book *Catawba County: An Architectural History*. However, based on a discussion with a Catawba County Historical Association staff member, a survey site form or survey site number for the property could not be located. Based on the survey photo in the book, the enclosed southwest side elevation's porch originally had a brick exterior. During the November 2018 site evaluation, this brick exterior has been covered by synthetic wood.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid, 17-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This account of mid-twentieth-century to mid-twenty-first-century Hickory history was drawn from Sidney Halma (Project Director), *Catawba County: An Architectural History* (Virginia Beach: The Downing Company, 1991), Acme Preservation Services, "Hickory Survey Update: Summary Report October 2015, Barbara Kooiman, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Catawba County, North Carolina," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, Section E, Page 20, and Leslie Keller, *From Tavern to Town: An Architectural History of Hickory, North Carolina,*" (Hickory: Hickory Landmarks Society, 2017).



Figure 15: Teague House photo from "Catawba County: An Architectural History<sup>4</sup>

#### House

Located on Highway 127 south of Brookford, this two-story frame house was built circa 1910. It is three bays wide double pile with a high hipped roof accented by a pediment and second-story porch. The first story, hipped-roof porch is wraparound, supported by Tuscan columns. Other features are shutters and two interior brick chimneys.

Figure 16: Teague House caption from "Catawba County: An Architectural History." The caption mentions the house's twostory frame construction but neglects to mention the brick veneer

Known locally as the Teague House, the house's original builder or the date the Teague family acquired the property could not be determined. According to the 1920 census records, James Morrison Teague was born in 1883 in Burke, North Carolina and worked as a "woods foreman" in the lumber industry. In 1904 he married Annie Moran in Burke, North Carolina. James Morrison Teague's son, James Herbert Teague Sr., was born in 1907. According to the 1930 census records, James Herbert Teague Sr. was married to a Rosa Lee Donkle and lived in a house off Sherford Farm road in Hickory. The property was not listed as a farm and his occupation was a truck driver in the lumber industry. According to the 1940 census records, and his United States World War II draft card, James Herbert Teague Sr. had changed his occupation to a farmer and lived in a home located along Route 1 in Hickory, presumably the Teague House located at 3181 South NC Highway 127 Highway. The current property owner, Dianne Davenport, inferred that the Teague House served as a farmhouse on a larger parcel of land that has subsequently been subdivided

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Halma, "Catawba," 200.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid.

into residential lots and sold. Additionally, a historic barn on the property has been removed. It is unknown what type of crops were historically produced on the farm. The property shows no signs of current agricultural activity.

James Hebert Teague Sr's death certificate from 1971 lists him living at the same address and still married to Rosa Lee Teague. According to birth records, James Herbert Teague Jr. was the son of Teague Sr. and Rosa Lee Teague and was born in 1941.<sup>6</sup> It is inferred that James Herbert Teague Jr. was born in the Teague House and lived there until at least 1990. The property's earliest available deed record was dated April 20, 1990, and detailed the property changing hands from the Teague family to the Condeelis family. James Herbert Teague Jr. passed away in Hickory in 2016.

Dianne Davenport, the current owner, stated that her father bought the farm property and house from the Teague family, a direct reference to the property changing hands in 1990. According to Davenport, her father never lived in the house and utilized the property for rental purposes. She did not recall her father making any physical changes to the property other than demolishing a historic barn in 2016. She also mentioned a well located to the immediate rear of the house that had been enclosed by the Teague family. Davenport and her siblings inherited the property after her parents passed away and continue to operate it as a rental property.

#### Architectural Context

Houses in Catawba County during the mid- to late eighteenth century were usually of log construction, one to two stories high and one bay wide with gabled ends, and lacked high-style architectural features. During Catawba County's Antebellum period, beginning around 1800, the predominant house type was constructed of log or frame and was two stories high and three bays wide. These houses typically had end chimneys and one-story front shed porches. Some were provided with double-hung sash windows and modest ornamentation.<sup>7</sup>

Post-Civil War through late-nineteenth-century houses in Catawba County were significantly influenced by new technology and building materials, such as balloon framing and pre-cut lumber, brought to the North Carolina frontier farmer from the railroad. The two-story high and three bay wide I-house became a popular vernacular house type during this time period. The early twentieth century brought significant demographic changes to Catawba County, as swift industrial growth from the textile and furniture industries shifted populations from the farm to small cities such as Hickory. During this time period, the popular house types in the county's small cities included hipped-roofed cottages, Bungalow and Craftsman style houses, and Colonial Revival style houses.<sup>8</sup>

As for Hickory itself, the town's emergence as a regional trade center in the early twentieth century brought a significant increase in business and wealth. Residential construction during this time reflected

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Accessed via Ancestry.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Halma, "*Catawba*," 20-22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ibid, 22-24.

prosperity through the latest architectural trends and styles. Common architectural styles found in Hickory included late Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, Period Cottages, and Craftsman bungalows.<sup>9</sup>

The foursquare house is defined as having a simple square or rectangular plan with four rooms downstairs and four rooms upstairs. The foursquare house typically has a hipped roof and symmetrical façade, with the entrance being either centrally located or off-center. Also, wings and porches are subordinate to the principal two-story main block.<sup>10</sup> The foursquare house was advertised as "a simple, straightforward house of the block shape" and served as a plain but ideal house image that represented a successful farming family.<sup>11</sup>

#### Comparable Examples

In an effort to obtain comparable examples to the Teague House, portions of southwestern and southeastern Catawba County were explored. The windshield survey of the county did not result in any comparable examples of a two-story foursquare house. Therefore, the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Web (NC HPOWEB) was searched for comparable foursquare examples both in Catawba County and in the neighboring counties of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, and Lincoln. As a result of this search, four comparable examples were found. The examples were all located within urban residential neighborhoods surrounded by dense historic residential development.

The Shufor-Morris House (CT 1641) is located at 339 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW in Hickory and was built in 1912. This foursquare house has wood siding and a full width front porch with Craftsman style supports. The windows appear to be original one-over-one, wood-framed units, and the façade has multi-paned decorative windows along the upper story. The house does appear to have an addition on the rear elevation, but the original porch design remains unchanged. The Shuford-Morris house lacks the double interior chimneys found on the Teague House.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Acme, "Hickory," 11,42-43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Random House, 2013), 551 and 555.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Catherine W. Bishir, North Carolina Architecture (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2005), 499.



Figure 17: Shufor-Morris House (CT 1641)

The Floyd and Julia Smith House (ID 1787) is located at 634 North Main Street in Mooresville and was built c. 1936. This house has a brick exterior and double interior chimneys similar to the Teague House. In contrast to the Teague House, this example has a lower and upper story full width porch. The upper story porch appears supported by original decorative wrought iron posts and railings. Also, the house has a double front entry and appears to have retained historic one-over-one wood windows.



Figure 18: Floyd and Julia Smith House (ID 1787)

The foursquare house (ID 1614) located at 103 Cabarrus Street in Mooresville was built in 1925. This example appears to retain architectural integrity and has wood siding, a hipped roof with double interior chimneys, and a full-width, hipped-roof front porch. This house also exhibits elements of the Craftsman style, often associated with foursquare houses, through its exposed rafter tails and support post and rail porch design. The house appears to have retained its original one-over-one wood windows.



Figure 19: 103 Cabarrus Street, Mooresville (ID 1614)

The McDowell-Gurley House (GS 1690) is located at 201 West Main Street in Cherryville and was built in 1920. Similar to the Teague House, this example has a brick exterior and hipped roof with double interior chimneys. The house's prominent front porch is supported by brick columns and spans the majority of the façade while also extending across the driveway to create a porte-cochère. The house maintains a variety of historic wood windows including six-over-one, four-over-one, and fixed twelve-light patterns. An addition has been added to the rear elevation, but the façade and front porch remain intact.



Figure 20: McDowell-Gurley House (GS 1690)

#### National Register Evaluation

#### **Integrity**

The Teague House retains integrity of location as it remains at its historic construction site. The property's integrity of setting has been compromised by the lack of agricultural fields and removal of a historic barn. Additionally, the surrounding area is characterized by non-historic commercial buildings further diminishing the historic rural farmhouse setting. Due to substantial alterations, including partial infill of the wraparound porch and two visually prominent additions, the property's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has also been diminished. These changes obscure the house's original design and historic appearance and so also diminish its integrity of feeling and association as an early-twentieth-century foursquare house.

#### Criteria Evaluations

The Teague House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. Although the property retains its historic farmhouse, it does not retain any agricultural fields and its historic barn was demolished. Additionally, based on background research, the Teague House property appears to be significantly smaller than when it operated as a farm. Therefore, the property no longer conveys a significant association with agriculture.

The Teague House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the house was a significant figure in history.

The Teague House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. This two-story, brick-clad foursquare house on the outskirts of Hickory reflects the financial stability of the area at the turn of the twentieth century. Reconnaissance-level survey also suggests the foursquare house is relatively unusual in Catawba County. However, substantial and visually prominent alterations include the brick enclosure of the wraparound porch, enclosure of a side porch with brick and non-historic

vertical wood siding, and a concrete block addition to the rear elevation. Collectively, these changes obscure the house's original design and plan. Due to the alterations to the historic house's design and its subsequent lack of integrity, the Teague House does not represent an intact or otherwise architecturally significant foursquare house.

The Teague House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yielded nor is it likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.

## **Evaluation: Deal House**

Resource Name	Deal House
HPO Survey Site Number	CT 1804
Street Address	3265 South N.C. Highway 127
PIN	279118325389
Construction Dates	1940
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



#### Description

The Deal House is in western Catawba County, approximately four miles southwest of downtown Hickory. The property is located at 3265 South NC Highway 127, slightly north of the NC 127 /Bethel Church Road (CR 1176) intersection. The Deal House is set amongst non-historic commercial properties along NC 127. The surrounding commercial properties include a gas station, restaurant, and strip shopping center and were built during the late twentieth to early twenty-first centuries. The Deal House is set back approximately 350-feet from the roadway and faces east towards NC 127 from a 32.66-acre parcel. One historic outbuilding, in addition to a non-historic carport, are located to the immediate rear or west of the house. A non-historic barn is located approximately 375 feet behind or west of the house.



Figure 21: Deal House Site Plan

The Deal House is one-story, has a T-shaped plan with a cross-gabled roof, and has elements of the Tudor Revival style, including a stone exterior and prominent stone chimney on the façade. Additionally, the house has two interior stone chimneys. The roof's eaves are clad with vinyl siding. The façade has a centrally located entrance with a stone-clad, gabled front entry sheltering a concrete stoop. The front entryway has a historic six-light, wood paneled door. The façade entryway is flanked on the south by the exterior stone chimney and a vinyl-clad window, and to the north by a vinyl-clad window.



Figure 22: Deal House, facing west to façade

The south side elevation consists of a gabled stone porch on the east and a metal-framed awning porch supported by metal poles with decorative scroll work on the west. Within the gabled stone porch is a historic six-light, wood paneled door and one vinyl-clad window. The rear or western portion of the south side elevation, fronted by the awning, consists of an entryway and two pairs of vinyl-clad windows. The house's southwest corner has a brick exterior that contrasts with the house's stone exterior.



Figure 23: Deal House, facing north to south side elevation



Figure 24: Deal House, facing east to porch interior along south side elevation

The rear elevation consists of two sets of paired vinyl-clad windows. Additionally, a two-light wood casement window is located along the basement level. On this elevation, a gabled brick projection appears to serve as an entry way to the basement level or to a cellar.

The north side elevation is heavily obscured by large bushes but appears to consist of three sets of paired, vinyl-clad windows. Also, a two-light wood casement window is located along the basement level.

The on-site investigator was unable to access the house's interior.



Figure 25: Deal House, facing east to rear elevation



Figure 26: Deal House, facing south to north side elevation

The Deal House sits on generally flat terrain with a large pasture area. Several large hardwood trees are clustered around the house and its outbuilding while the remaining land serves as agricultural fields. An asphalt driveway intersects NC 127 and travels several hundred feet along the property's south side. To the house's rear or west is a non-historic carport supported by metal poles and a historic outbuilding that serves the house as a storage shed. The property owner believed the historic outbuilding once served as a produce stand for the farm. A non-historic barn is located several hundred feet to the house's rear along the asphalt driveway.



Figure 27: Deal House, north to non-historic carport



Figure 28: Deal House, facing northwest to historic outbuilding



Figure 29: Deal House, facing west to non-historic barn



Figure 30: Deal House, facing west along driveway towards house and pasture

#### History

Catawba County was carved out of Lincoln County in 1842 in response to area residents petitioning for a more conveniently located county seat. The first white settlers of what is presently Catawba County came to the area in 1747. Among the first white settlers were the Scotch-Irish and Germans who initially left Europe for areas of the northeast including Pennsylvania and Maryland because of lack of religious freedom and political and economic pressures. By the mid-eighteenth century, many Scotch-Irish and German families were migrating out of Pennsylvania towards North Carolina due to high land prices. <sup>12</sup>

Agriculture was the primary occupation of the early white settlers in Catawba County. The 1820 census indicates that approximately 98% of North Carolina's population lived in rural areas. Caused by lack of transportation to ship goods, farming in the Catawba County area included subsistence crops such as corn, wheat, cotton, flax, fruits, and vegetables. During the Antebellum era, farms and plantations in Catawba County were typically developed on smaller tracts of land of a few hundred acres or less. Additionally, there was a relatively low number of slaves during this time in North Carolina's Piedmont area owing to the smaller farms and Scotch-Irish and German reluctance to own large numbers of slaves. Similar to other areas of the South, the Civil War had a negative effect on the Catawba County economy, but, by the 1870s, farming in the county and the state was back to pre-war volume production. During the 1870s, Catawba County farms in particular were typically under 100 acres and produced primarily grain crops such as corn, wheat, and oats. By the twentieth century, industrial development in Catawba County was drawing the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Sidney Halma (Project Director), *Catawba County: An Architectural History* (Virginia Beach: The Downing Company, 1991), 11-12.

farm population to jobs in Hickory and Newton. In 1925, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture listed 259 farm owners in Catawba County with an average farm size of 75 acres. 13

The Western North Carolina Railroad was charted in 1855 and by the Civil War had extended into Catawba County just north of Newton and through Hickory. Following the Civil War, the Western North Carolina Railroad spurred industrial development throughout the county. The railroad alignment bypassed Newton, the county seat, but ran through the heart of Hickory resulting in the town becoming a regional trade center. Although aided by the railroad, Hickory officially emerged as an industrial town during the 1890s when the First National Bank of Hickory was founded. The town's grid pattern was laid out in response to the railroad depot and the railroad alignment's east-west corridor. Numerous businesses surrounded the railroad corridor including saw mills, warehouses, and building supply manufacturers. Due to Hickory being a manufacturing center, its industries managed to remain active during the Great Depression. Hickory's growth was slowed during World War II as materials were needed elsewhere for the war effort. However, the city quickly rebounded in the years following the war as a multitude of jobs were available in manufacturing and, especially the furniture industry. The increase in jobs brought more people to Hickory resulting in the need for additional houses. The need for increased housing, coupled with increasing automobile ownership, caused the city to expand outward. Further, the postwar economic boom resulted in a shift of the farming population, where farmers began working in manufacturing and the furniture industry as their primary source of income and transitioned from growing crops to raising cattle as a side business.<sup>14</sup>

Chase Blalock, the current owner of the Deal House property, stated the property is a multi-generational farm, and that his wife's great-grandfather, James Deal, built the existing stone house in 1940. Additionally, stone used to build the house came from the property, and the original house design, including the brick portion on the southwest corner, remains intact. Blalock could not recall how long the Deal family had owned the land, but mentioned the property had a previous farmhouse owned by the Deal family dating from the 1920s. According to 1910 census records, James Quincey Deal lived on 15<sup>th</sup> Street in Hickory and was a laborer in the tanning industry. The 1920 census records indicate Deal had moved outside of Hickory and that his occupation was a farmer. Based on this census record research, it appears James Quincey Deal acquired the land in the 1910s, which coincides with Blalock's assessment of when the first house on the land was occupied by the Deal family. Since the 1920s, the property has been handed down within the Deal family. Blalock further mentioned the 1920s farmhouse, as well as a historic barn, were demolished. The Deal family originally utilized the property as a strawberry farm; during the 1960s, the property transitioned to a cattle farm which continues to operate during the present day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ibid, 17-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> This account of mid-twentieth-century to mid-twenty-first-century Hickory history was drawn from Sidney Halma (Project Director), *Catawba County: An Architectural History* (Virginia Beach: The Downing Company, 1991), Acme Preservation Services, "Hickory Survey Update: Summary Report October 2015, Barbara Kooiman, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Catawba County, North Carolina," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, Section E, Page 20, and Leslie Keller, *From Tavern to Town: An Architectural History of Hickory, North Carolina,*" (Hickory: Hickory Landmarks Society, 2017).

#### **Architectural Context**

Houses in Catawba County during the mid- to late eighteenth century were usually of log construction, one to two stories high and one bay wide with gabled ends, and lacked high-style architectural features. During Catawba County's Antebellum period, beginning around 1800, the predominant house type was constructed of log or frame and was two stories high and three bays wide. These houses typically had end chimneys and one-story front shed porches. Some were provided with double-hung sash windows and modest ornamentation.<sup>15</sup>

Post-Civil War through late-nineteenth-century houses in Catawba County were significantly influenced by new technology and building materials, such as balloon framing and pre-cut lumber, brought to the North Carolina frontier farmer from the railroad. The two-story high and three bay wide I-house became a popular vernacular house type during this time period. The early twentieth century brought significant demographic changes to Catawba County, as swift industrial growth from the textile and furniture industries shifted populations from the farm to small cities such as Hickory. During this time period, the popular house types in the county's small cities included hipped-roofed cottages, Bungalow and Craftsman style houses, and Colonial Revival style houses.<sup>16</sup>

As for Hickory itself, the town's emergence as a regional trade center in the early twentieth century brought a significant increase in business and wealth. Residential construction during this time reflected prosperity through the latest architectural trends and styles. Common architectural styles found in Hickory included late Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival, Period Cottages, and Craftsman bungalows.<sup>17</sup>

The Tudor Revival style of architecture is loosely based on early English building traditions yet is also known to incorporate details from the American Craftsman house. The Tudor Revival style in the United States was uncommon before World War I but gained significant popularity during the 1920s, as improved masonry veneering workmanship allowed modest examples to mimic the brick and stone exteriors of the English model. The character of Tudor Revival-style houses varied geographically, and local materials typically influenced the house's appearance, as is the case with the Deal House being built from local stone found on the property. A Tudor Revival-style house typically has a steeply pitched roof, façade dominated by one of more prominent front facing gables, tall narrow windows typically in multiple groups, character-defining chimneys, and a front door or front entry porch embellished by a round arch of masonry material.<sup>18</sup>

#### Comparable Examples

The brick house located at 4184 South N.C. Highway 127 in Hickory was built in 1945. The house serves as a good example of a mid-twentieth-century house built with Tudor Revival-style elements. The house has several character-defining features including a brick exterior and both gabled and sloped roof projections

<sup>17</sup> Acme, "Hickory", 11,42-43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Halma, "Catawba," 20-22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ibid, 22-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> A Field Guide to American Houses, 449-455.

on the façade. Additionally, it has a prominent chimney located on the façade and a rounded brick arch above the front entryway.



Figure 31: 4184 S NC 127 Hwy, Hickory

The stone house located at 4287 South NC Highway 127 in Hickory was built in 1951. This house offers a few characteristics comparable to the Deal House including gabled roofs projecting from the façade and an exterior stone chimney adjacent to the front entry. However, this house has an arcaded stone porch which serves as a high-style feature not found on the Deal House.



Figure 32: 4287 S NC 127 Hwy, Hickory

The stone house located at 4937 West NC Highway 10 in Newton was built in 1939. This house is a plainer example of the Tudor Revival style. The house has a stone exterior, projecting front-gabled entryway with a rounded arch above the doorway, and an exterior chimney adjacent to the façade. The house is sidegabled accompanied with a non-historic side addition, resulting in a simple linear plan. Similar to the Deal House, this house appears to have non-historic replacement windows.



Figure 33: 4937 W NC 10 Hwy, Newton

The stone house located at 2414 South Center Street in Hickory was built in 1940. This house offers a prominent, steeply-pitched, front-gabled projected entryway with an arched doorway. In addition, the gable has a low eave line occasionally found with the Tudor Revival style. The historic arched three-light wood door further contributes to the house's character-defining front entry. The house does appear to have non-historic windows.



Figure 34: 2414 South Center Street, Hickory

### National Register Evaluation

#### Integrity

The Deal House retains integrity of location, as it remains at its historic construction site. Integrity of setting has been compromised by the removal of a historic barn associated with agriculture. Additionally, the surrounding area is characterized by non-historic commercial buildings further diminishing the property's historic rural, agricultural setting. The house's original design remains substantially intact, thus the Deal House retains integrity of design. However, due to material alterations, including the application of vinyl siding and replacement vinyl-clad windows, the property's integrity of materials and workmanship has been diminished. Due to the lack of integrity of setting and materials, the property no longer retains integrity of feeling and association as a mid-twentieth-century farmhouse.

#### Criteria Evaluations

The Deal House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The property retains a historic farmhouse and agricultural fields but lacks historic barns and outbuildings due to demolition to adequately convey the property's historic association with agriculture. The property historically operated as a strawberry farm before transitioning to cattle, but background research did not indicate the small farm had a significant impact on Catawba County's agricultural development. Therefore, the property does not convey a significant association with agriculture.

The Deal House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the house was a significant figure in history.

The Deal House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The stone house with elements of the Tudor Revival style reflect the architectural trends of Hickory and the surrounding area during the early to mid-twentieth century due to the financial prosperity of the community. Modest houses with Tudor Revival details appear to be common in Hickory and Catawba County. Material alterations to the Deal House, including the replacement of windows with non-historic materials and the application of vinyl-siding to the roof eaves, have diminished this example's integrity of materials and workmanship. Therefore, due to this lack of integrity, the Deal House does not represent an intact or architecturally significant stone house with elements of the Tudor Revival style. Multiple historic stone houses within the county serve as better examples of mid-twentieth-century stone houses in the Tudor Revival style, including 4184 NC Highway 127 and 4287 South NC Highway 127, both in the immediate Hickory area.

The Deal House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yielded nor is it likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.

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