



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton  
April 22, 2019

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

MEMORANDUM

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

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

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek,  
PA 18-09-0061, BR-0089, Madison County, ER 19-1096

Thank you for your memorandum of March 25, 2019, transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur that the Gentry-Tweed Homestead (MD0303) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for the reasons outlined in the report.

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 [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT, [mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

ER 19-1096

March 25, 2019

MEMORANDUM

Due -- 4/23/19

**TO:** Renee Gledhill-Earley  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office

H- 2/15/19  
4/15/19

**FROM:** Kate Husband  
Architectural Historian  
NCDOT Division of Highways

**SUBJECT:** BR-0089 Replace Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek,  
PA 18-09-0061, Madison County

Enclosed please find the Historic Structures Survey Report, survey site database, and additional materials for the above referenced project for your review and comment per 36CRF.800. Please contact me by phone (919-707-6075) or email (klhusband@ncdot.gov) if you have any additional questions or comments.

# **HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT**

for

**Replace Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek**

**Madison County**

**North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**TIP No. BR-0089**

**WBS No. 67089.1.1**

**Prepared for:**

**Environmental Analysis Unit**

**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**

**March 2019**

# **HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT**

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828-281-3852**

**March 2019**

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Clay Griffith, Principal Investigator  
Acme Preservation Services, LLC

Date

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

Date

**Replace Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek, Madison County**  
**North Carolina Department of Transportation**  
**TIP No. BR-0089 | WBS No. 67089.1.1**

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek in Madison County. The project area is located in the north-central portion of the county in the White Rock community. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as 500 feet from either end of the bridge and 150 feet on either side of the center line.

The project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). NCDOT Architectural Historians defined an APE and conducted a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only one resource warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation, which is 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.

NCDOT contracted with Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) in February 2019 to complete an intensive historic resources evaluation of the Gentry-Tweed Homestead at 3700 NC 212 Hwy. Architectural historian Clay Griffith conducted the fieldwork on February 28, 2019, photographing and mapping the resources and project area, and authored the report. Background investigation included research through the Madison County Register of Deeds Office, Madison County GIS, and Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office’s Madison County survey files at the Western Office of Archives and History in Asheville were searched to provide some architectural context. After an intensive evaluation following the National Register of Historic Places criteria for eligibility, the Gentry-Tweed Homestead was found to be not eligible due to a lack of physical integrity and any special historic and architectural significance.

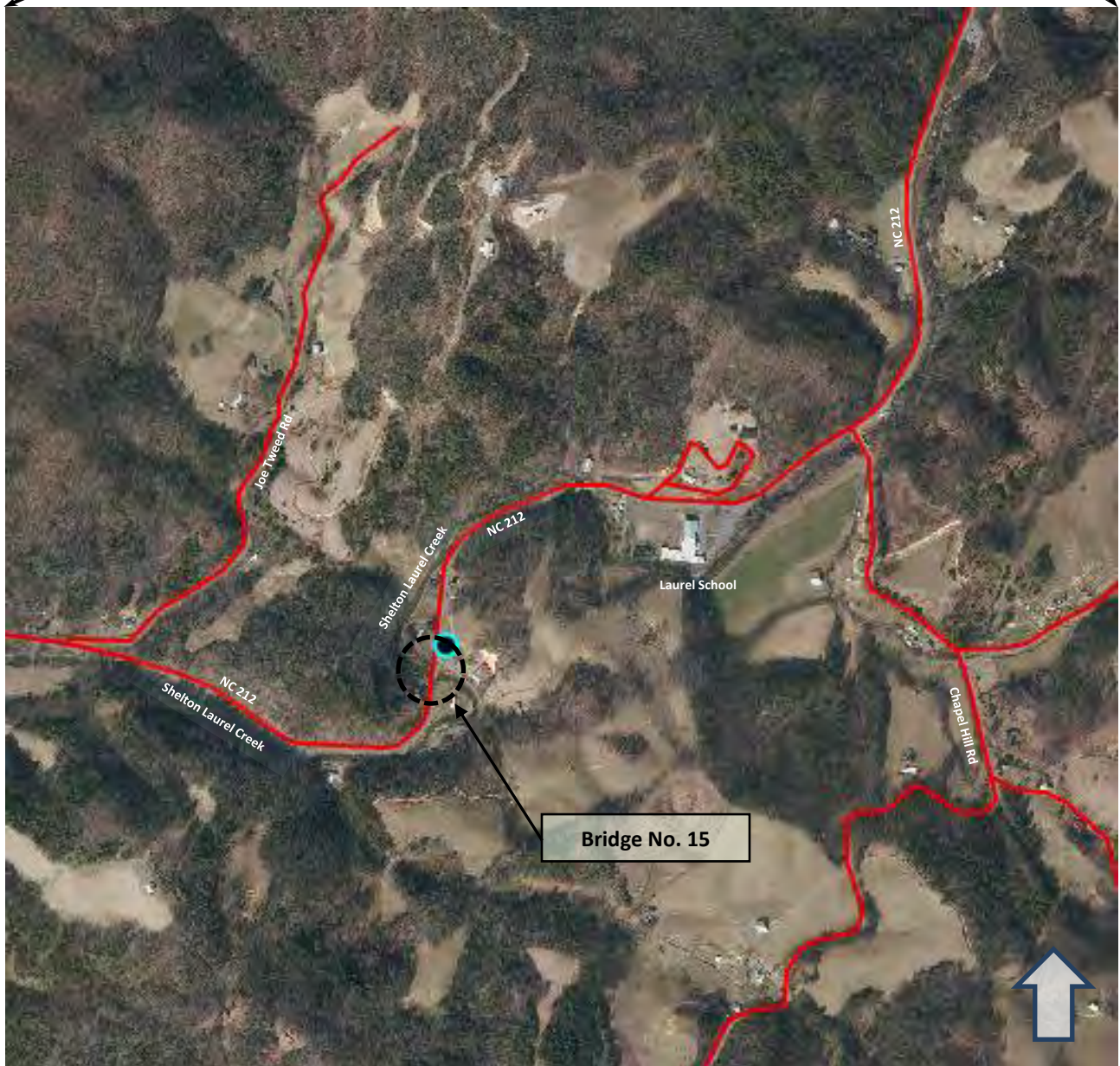
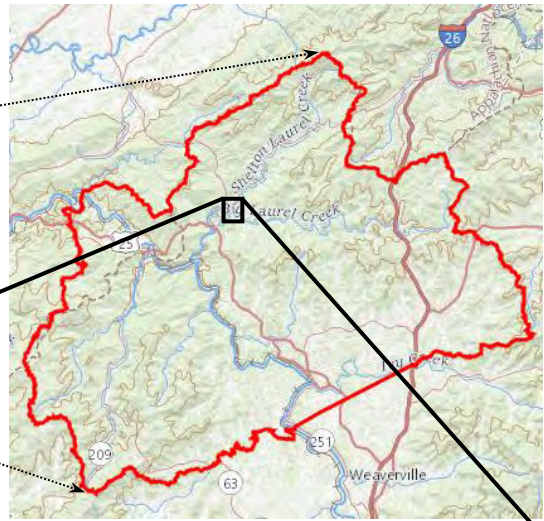
APS conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; the HPO’s *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*; and NCDOT’s current *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products*. This property evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

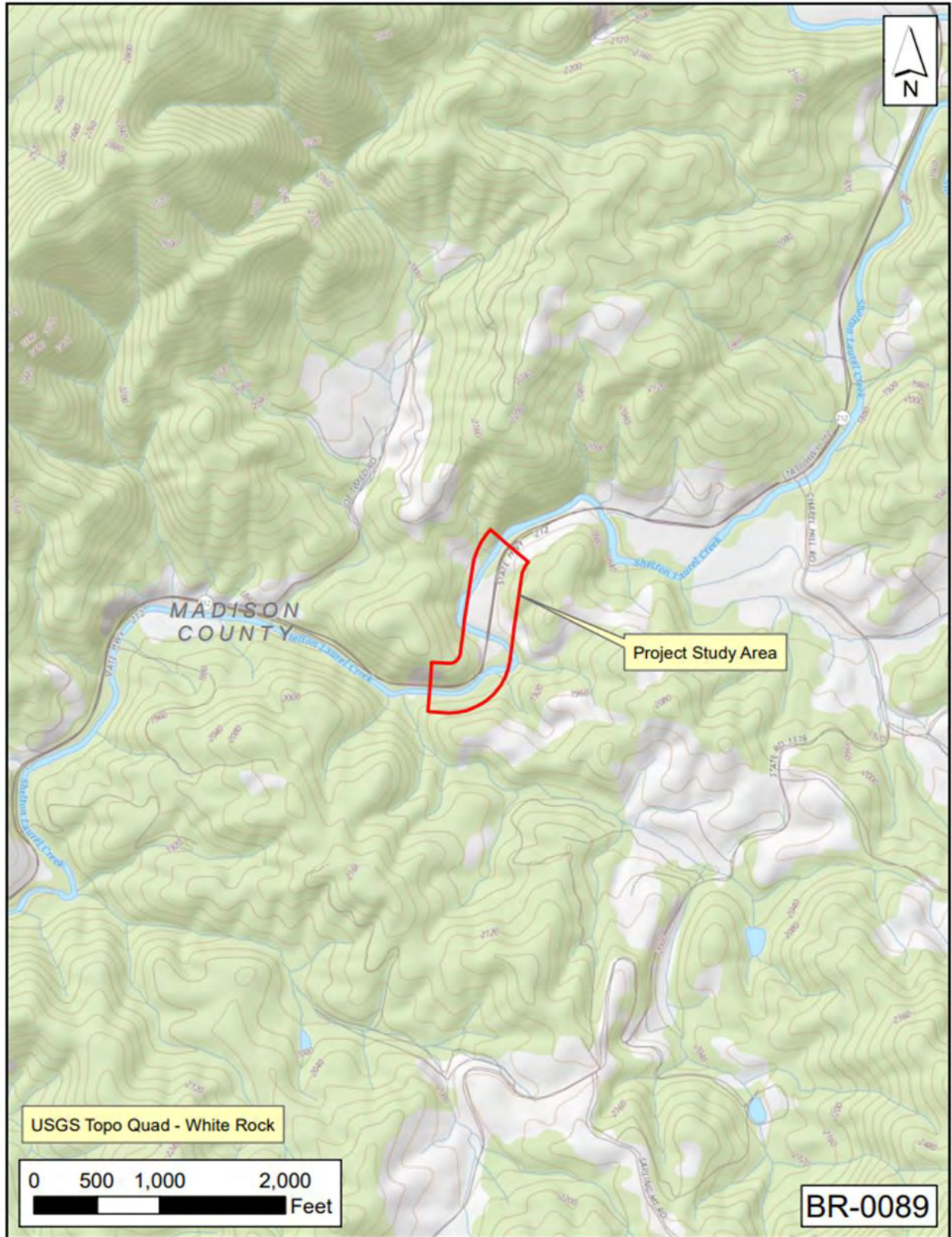
SSN	Property Name	Address	PIN	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
MD 303	Gentry-Tweed Homestead	3700 NC 212 Hwy	9802-22-1009	Not eligible	

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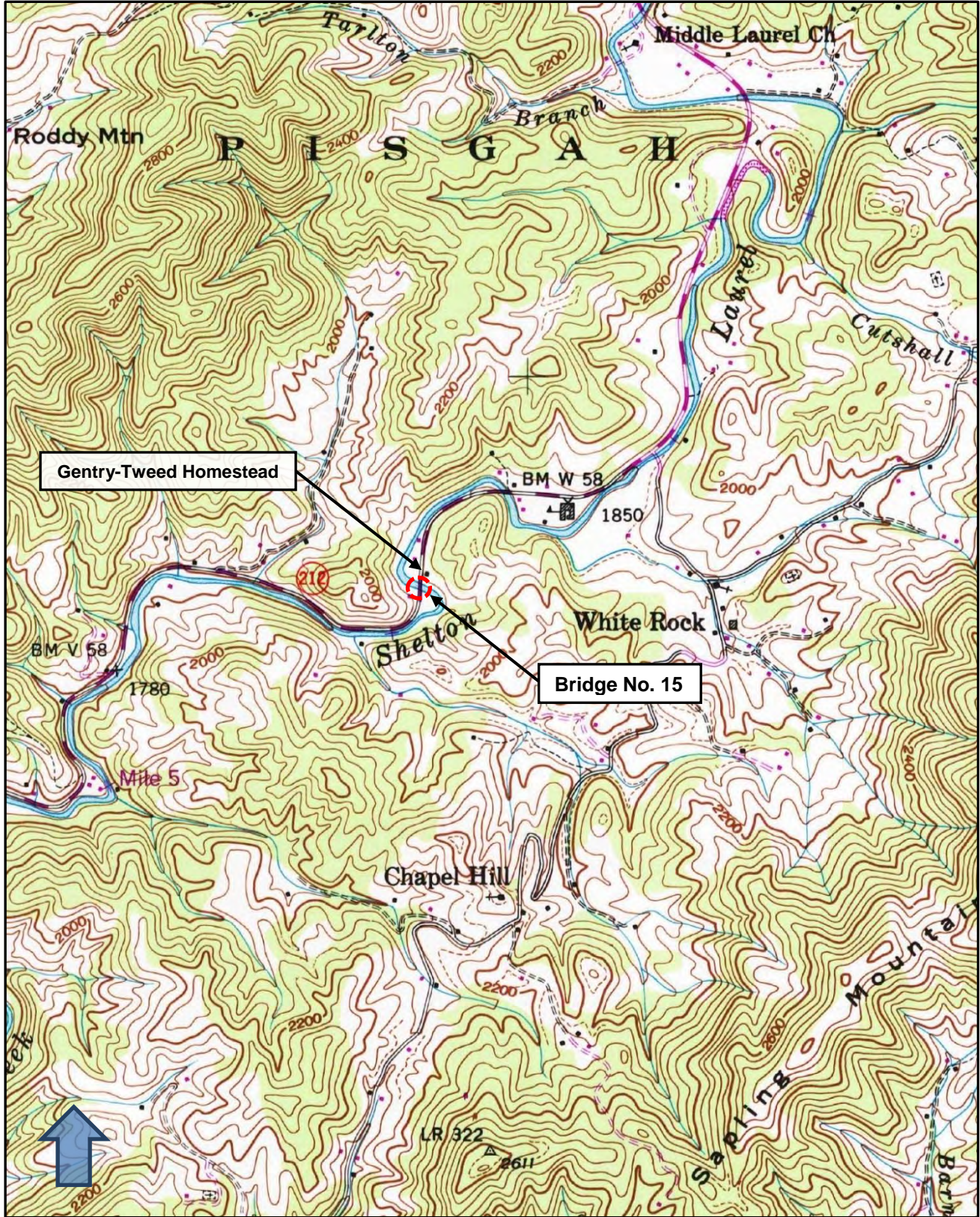
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# I. Project Location Maps









Location Map – White Rock, N.C. USGS topographic quadrangle map (1939; photorevised 1978)

## II. Introduction

NCDOT proposes to replace Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek in Madison County. The project area is located in the north-central section of the county in the White Rock community in Shelton Laurel township. Bridge No. 15, built in 1965, is a single-span steel stringer bridge that spans the meandering creek.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed project is delineated as 500 feet from either end of the bridge and 150 feet on either side of the center line. The APE intersects two parcels on the south side of the creek that contain mobile homes with the addresses 3664 and 3665 NC 212 Hwy. A steep hillside rising to the southwest of the bridge is the site of a one-story front-gable house at 3663 NC 212 Hwy. The small dwelling and a frame barn occupy the site well above the elevation of the bridge and the road. On the north side of the creek the APE intersects a 49-acre tract on both sides of the highway that contains the Gentry-Tweed Homestead and associated structures at 3700 NC 212 Hwy, which is the subject of this report.

The general project area is defined by the twisting route of the highway alongside the meandering course of the creek. Steep and rolling hillsides of dense forest and open pasture surround the roadway, which is punctuated by small farmsteads. The collection of buildings around the Gentry-Tweed Homestead includes several parcels that were subdivided for family members over the years. Just around the curve to the north of the APE, the landscape opens a little in the White Rock community, which includes the former Laurel School, White Rock Presbyterian Church, and ruins of the White Rock Hospital.



**Bridge No. 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek, view southwest from Gentry-Tweed Homestead**



**Bridge No. 15 over Shelton Laurel Creek, view to south along NC 212**



**Bridge No. 15 over Shelton Laurel Creek, view to north along NC 212**

### III. Methodology

The field survey of the project area was conducted on February 28, 2019, and the APE around Bridge No. 15 was photographed and recorded. Basic research on the project area was conducted by consulting with Madison County GIS records, the Register of Deeds online records, and at Pack Memorial Library in Asheville. Attempts to contact the property owners and individuals knowledgeable of local history were unsuccessful. The project area is not covered by Sanborn maps, but it is shown on USGS topographic quadrangle maps dating back to 1936. Genealogical information including United States census records, death certificates, and other recorded documents were reviewed online through Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com/>).



**White Rock, N.C. USGS topographic quadrangle map (1936)**

A review of the HPOWEB GIS Service (<http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpweb>) revealed no recorded properties within the immediate project area. Several other resources associated with Tweed family, neighboring families, and community buildings have been recorded on NC 212 and Chapel Hill Road (SR 1316). A comprehensive survey of historic architectural resources in Madison County was begun in 1984 but never fully completed. Available survey files at the Western Office of Archives and History in Asheville were searched to provide some architectural context. Additionally, no survey report was prepared and submitted to the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO).

## IV. Gentry-Tweed Homestead

Resource Name	Gentry-Tweed Homestead
HPO Survey Site Number	MD 303
Location	3700 NC 212 Hwy
PIN	9802-22-1009
Date(s) of Construction	Ca. 1935
Eligibility Recommendation	Not Eligible



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, 3700 NC 212 Hwy, overall view to northeast**

### *Description*

Located in the remote Shelton Laurel section of Madison County, the Gentry-Tweed Homestead (MD 303) is a modest mountain farmstead located along the meandering course of Shelton Laurel Creek. The main house, which was built around 1935, occupies a slightly elevated site oriented to the southwest overlooking a sweeping bend in the creek. It is a one-story front-gable Craftsman-influenced frame dwelling resting on an irregularly-coursed stone foundation and covered with German siding. The house has a metal-clad roof with exposed rafter tails, an exterior brick chimney flue on a stone base, and an attached hip-roof porch, which is carried on square wood posts with a replacement wood railing. A one-story shed-roof wing projects on the northwest side of the house with an attached wooden ramp that wraps around the front and side



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, façade, view to east**



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, oblique front view to north**



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, north elevation, view to south**



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, view to northeast**

elevations of the wing and connects on the north side of the front porch. Originally containing three-over-one double-hung wood sash windows, the windows have been replaced in recent years with one-over-one sash. A small stone well house is attached at the rear of the house. On the southeast elevation, a one-story stone wing connects to a two-story outbuilding. Resting on an irregularly-coursed stone base, the frame upper story displays a metal-clad gable roof, exposed rafter tails, asbestos shingle siding, and four-over-one or four-over-four windows. A single-leaf door on the southeast elevation is reached from attached wooden stairs. The interior of the house was not available for inspection.

A farm road on the south side of the house splits from a gravel driveway that leads to a residence further south (3690 NC 212 Hwy) under separate ownership. The farm road accesses **three barns** associated with the Gentry-Tweed Homestead. Two barns are located close behind the house and stand a short distance apart. The smaller structure is a one-story shed-roof livestock barn with metal sheathing, a metal-clad roof, and an attached open shed on the north elevation. The structure appears to have animal pens located under the open shed with a fenced paddock extending east of the building. A large, two-story barn is located to the east of the livestock barn. The frame structure is capped by a metal-clad front-gable roof and is covered with vertical wood plank siding. The first story of the west elevation is accessed through wide, wooden, sliding doors. A two-story shed-roof wing projects to the north and exhibits materials similar to the main block. A tall, one-story open shed addition was erected around 2005 and extends along the north elevation of the barn. The farm road passes along on the south side of the large barn and continues to a third structure set back from the highway. The third barn is barely visible from the public right-of-way but appears to be a tall one-story frame structure with a metal-clad gable roof, metal sheathing, and vertical wood plank siding below the eaves.

A one-story **woodshed** is located on the east side of NC 212 a short distance north of the house. The metal-frame, metal-clad structure appears to have been erected around 2012 and built over an existing frame crib with horizontal slat siding. The shed has a front-gable bay with a wide opening and a shed-roof wing to the south. The woodshed stands opposite a ca. 1974 two-story split-level house at 3721 NC 212 Hwy. The brick-veneer dwelling occupies one of several small tracts transferred to Tweed descendants.

The original barn associated with the Gentry-Tweed Homestead appears to be the tall, two-story frame structure on the west side of the highway, opposite the house. Erected around 1935 and known as the **Tweed Barn**,<sup>1</sup> the building has a metal-clad gable roof, open vents below the eaves, metal sheathing on the lower story, and vertical wood plank siding on the upper story and gable ends. A sliding door is located on the north elevation, but a two-story shed-roof addition was built on the front of the barn around 1947. A replacement metal sliding door accesses the interior of the shed addition. A two-story shed-roof addition on the west elevation, which is partially open on the first story, was added later and used for drying tobacco. At the rear (north) of the barn is a frame outbuilding on a stone foundation built into the hillside that appears to function as a **cellar**.

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<sup>1</sup> Jim Murphy, "Ray Loves... Tweed Barn Story," Blog entry, October 12, 2013, Appalachian Barn Alliance website (<https://appalachianbarns.org/media-coverage/historic-barn-series/ray-loves-tweed-barn-story-october-16-2013/>; accessed February 28, 2019).





**Barns, view to northeast**



**Barn, view to southeast**



**Barn, view to northeast**



**Barn, view to east**



**Woodshed, view to east**



**Ball House, 3721 NC 212 Hwy, facade, view to northwest**



**Tweed Barn, south elevation, view to north**



**Tweed Barn and cellar, view to southwest**



**Mobile home, 3709 NC 212 Hwy, façade, view to northwest**



**House, 3689 NC 212 Hwy, façade, view to west**



**Site Plan – Gentry-Tweed Homestead, 3700 NC 212 Hwy [PIN 9802-22-1009]**  
 (Source: Madison County GIS)

The upper portion of the building displays a metal-clad gable roof, rolled asphalt siding, and one-over-one windows.

Two additional residences associated with the Gentry-Tweed Homestead are located on the west side of the highway opposite the main house. A single-wide **mobile home** is located southwest of the Tweed barn. Located at 3709 NC 212 Hwy, it is approached from a gravel driveway and has an attached wooden entry porch. A second dwelling, situated close to the creek, is located at 3689 NC 212 Hwy. The one-story Rustic Revival style **house** is constructed of frame but displays stone veneer and board-and-batten siding. The residence has a metal-clad front-gable roof, exterior stone chimney, and an attached hip-roof porch. The porch has been enclosed with vertical wood siding and a single-leaf entry door. The porch is enclosed above the solid balustrade and stone piers that originally carried the porch posts. A shed-roof frame wing projects to the north and displays a deep overhanging eave and replacement six-over-one windows.

### *Historic Background*

The Tweed family established itself in the Shelton Laurel section of Madison County in the early nineteenth century. Martin and David Shelton were the first European settlers to claim this section of beautiful and unforgiving country in the late eighteenth century. Bold creeks and streams drain the deep hollers and rocky soil, and patches of flat, fertile land are at a premium. The Sheltons spread out through the area and were joined by branches of the Tweed, Cutshall, Gentry, and Wallin families.

William Tweed sailed from Ireland to Charleston, South Carolina, in 1792, with his wife, son, and daughter, as well as a pregnant young woman, Peggy Neely, who gave birth at sea to a daughter Rachel. Tweed's son, James, later married Rachel Neely and moved from South Carolina to Cane River in neighboring Yancey County. Around 1820, James and Rachel Tweed traded cash, handmade clay pipes, whiskey, and four hogs for land in Shelton Laurel. They raised six sons: Neely, Rueben, Thomas, Abner (A. G.), John, and Joshua.<sup>2</sup>

In 1851, the North Carolina General Assembly created Madison County from portions of Buncombe and Yancey. The county seat was established at Marshall, located on the banks of the French Broad River and an important stop on the Buncombe Turnpike. Three of the Tweed sons died during the Civil War on the side of the Union. Neely Tweed served as the county's first Clerk of Superior Court, and A. G. Tweed served as sheriff from 1867 to 1883. Chapel Tweed succeeded his father as sheriff from 1883 to 1886.<sup>3</sup>

The house at 3700 NC 212 Hwy appears to have been built around 1935 by Bartlett and Roxie Tweed Gentry. Bartlett Benjamin (Bartley) Gentry (1907-1975), who was native to Shelton Laurel,

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<sup>2</sup> "The Saga of Neely Tweed," Blog entry, September 15, 2011, A Thousand Country Roads website (<https://www.athousandcountryroads.com/2011/09/the-saga-of-neely-tweed.html>; accessed February 28, 2019). In 1861, Neely Tweed shot and killed Sheriff Ransom Merrill following an altercation with Tweed's son Elisha. The incident, along with the infamous Shelton Laurel Massacre in 1863, contributed to the county's nineteenth-century moniker "Bloody Madison." Neely Tweed fled to Tennessee, where he joined the Union army, and was later found not guilty of wrongdoing in the death of Sheriff Merrill.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

married Roxie Tweed (1908-1988), granddaughter of Chapel Tweed, in 1935. The couple acquired 44 acres from her father, Major Tweed, that same year on the waters of Shelton Laurel Creek [DB 59:31]. Bartley Gentry farmed and his wife worked as a substitute teacher at the nearby Laurel School. By the opening of World War II, the Gentrys moved north to Indianapolis and worked in the automobile industry.



**Gentry-Tweed Homestead, photograph by Steve Tweed, Appalachian Memory Keepers blog, 2016**

Bartley and Roxie Gentry sold their farm, which had grown to approximately 70 acres, to Ted and Lula Tweed in 1941 [DB 66:278]. Theodore Roosevelt (Ted) Tweed (1899-1975) married Lula Davis (1906-2005) in 1920. They met working in the timber industry: Ted assisting with mule teams and Lula as a camp cook. The first of the Tweeds' twelve children was born in 1922, and the family settled into farming in the White Rock community. Census records for 1930 and 1940 show the Tweeds renting a house on Cutshall Road between the families of Major Tweed and Chapel Tweed. Ted and Lula Tweed scrimped and saved to purchase their own farm but struggled to raise enough for a down payment. According to family lore, the Tweeds were finally able to secure a mortgage with the assistance of a Wallin family neighbor. The property they purchased from the Gentrys included a frame house and barn. Ted and Lula Tweed moved into their new home on December 7, 1941.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Steve Tweed, "Ted & Lula Tweed – Tuesday with Tweed," Blog entry, August 23, 2016, Appalachian Memory Keepers blog (<https://appalachianmemorykeepers.org/ted-lulu-tuesdays-with-tweed/>; accessed February 28, 2019).



The Tweeds grew tobacco on their farm, part of a strong countywide market. The farm had a large garden, apple trees, cherry and pear trees, chickens, hogs, milk cows, and a mule named Kate. Lula Tweed took work as a custodian and lunchroom cook at the elementary school. Ted Tweed became sick and bedridden with emphysema in 1965, and the family had to take out a second mortgage on their farm. The Tweeds' grandson, Ray Tweed, assumed operation of the farm after Ted Tweed fell ill.<sup>5</sup>

Glen Ray (Rayboy) Tweed was born to Robena Tweed (1934-2018), daughter of Ted and Lula Tweed, in the early 1950s.<sup>6</sup> Born out of wedlock, he was raised by his grandparents and developed a strong work ethic in their shadow. Ray Tweed dropped out of high school to run the farm following his grandfather's illness. He cultivated the tobacco plot, raised livestock, and tended the garden, potato patch, and sorghum field. He expanded the farm by starting a modest crop of tomatoes and two calves. By the late 1970s he had raised a sizeable herd of cattle and an extensive tobacco crop. By the early 2010s, Tweed stopped growing tobacco and divided his farm property among his daughters. The house, barns, and 49 acres passed to Jennifer Tweed Ball, the current owner, in 2011 [DB 525:335].<sup>7</sup>

The Gentry-Tweed Homestead and associated farm buildings represent fairly common examples of rural domestic and agricultural buildings in Madison County. Due to its relative isolation, among other factors, the county's architectural development progressed slowly through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Prior to the late nineteenth century, there was little distinction between the domestic architecture found in the towns and rural areas, with frame dwellings often replicating the size and proportions of log dwellings. The railroad era helped bring outside influences and introduced examples of nationally popular styles, although traditional forms and building practices persisted into the twentieth century.

In the White Rock community surrounding the Gentry-Tweed Homestead, two Tweed-family properties illustrate the broad range of domestic architecture. The ca. 1895 Mary Tweed House at 4505 NC 212 Hwy (MD 201) is a two-story three-bay single-pile frame dwelling with a side-gable roof, exterior brick end chimneys, and a two-tiered front-gable porch. A two-story gable-roof wing projects to the rear with an engaged two-story shed-roof porch on the south elevation. The vernacular form is embellished with sawtooth sawn work below the eaves, sawn brackets, turned porch posts with curved brackets, turned balustrades and spindle friezes, and molded porch hoods. Several barns and agricultural outbuildings are associated with the house including a double-crib log and frame barn for tobacco and livestock. In contrast to the neat applied ornament of the Mary Tweed House, the Joseph Tweed House (MD 200) at 371 Joe Tweed Road is a one-and-a-half-story log dwelling with half-dovetail notching, an attached shed-roof porch, a shed-roof rear wing covered with board-and-batten siding, and replacement one-over-one windows. The

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Glen Ray Tweed as given the nickname "Rayboy" to distinguish him from Ray Tweed (1925-1972), who served as a teacher and principal at the Laurel School. The elder Ray Tweed was the son of Chapel and Mary Wallin Tweed.

<sup>7</sup> Steve Tweed, "Rayboy – Tuesday with Tweed," Blog entry, July 12, 2016, Appalachian Memory Keepers website (<https://appalachianmemorykeepers.org/rayboy-tuesdays-with-tweed/>; accessed February 28, 2019).

small farmstead includes a one-story saddle-notched log and frame barn, a pole-log shed, other small frame buildings, and a two-story frame and concrete block structure built into the hillside. Dating from around the turn of the twentieth century, the Joseph Tweed House is located approximately 0.3 mile northwest of the Gentry-Tweed Homestead and 0.7 mile west of the Mary Tweed House.



**Mary Tweed House (MD 201), 4505 NC 212 Hwy (l) and Joseph Tweed House (MD 200), 371 Joe Tweed Rd (r)**

In the absence of many academic or high-style examples of popular architectural styles, vernacular dwellings predominated. These were typically simple, one- or two-story, frame dwellings with minimal decoration that emphasized the unpretentiousness and efficiency of the subsistence farming culture that they served. While the architecture of Madison County was not often directly influenced by nationally popular styles, the prevalence of common vernacular house types and forms indicates certain stylistic influences that filtered down from the more populated areas of the state and into wide use based on their broad appeal.<sup>8</sup>

One of the most popular house types to gain widespread use in rural western North Carolina was the Craftsman-influenced bungalow. In the early twentieth century, bungalows and their essential features were popularized Gustav Stickley's *The Craftsman* magazine (1901-1916) and the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement that spread from England to the United States in the late nineteenth century. Through his magazine Stickley defined the Craftsman style and became the chief advocate of the ideals of vernacular revival, honest expression of structure, responsiveness to site, and the use of local materials for comfortable domestic architecture.<sup>9</sup>

Many of the Craftsman design elements promoted by Stickley fostered the creation of a comfortable and secure home environment, which was perceived as antithetical to the corrupting influence of commercial and industrial expansion in the early twentieth century. Therefore, efforts to simplify the home concentrated on removing applied ornament from domestic architecture emphasized the beauty inherent in fine craftsmanship and natural materials. Typical Craftsman elements included a dominant roofline to define the scale of the house, augmented by deep

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<sup>8</sup> Catherine Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 1990), 425-427.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.; Elizabeth Cumming and Wendy Kaplan, *The Arts and Crafts Movement*, World of Art Series (New York: Thames and Hudson, Inc., 1991), 107, 122-124, and 141-142.

eaves, multiple gables or dormers, eave brackets, exposed rafter tails, porches with bold porch posts, large windows, and convenient, informal floor plans. In residential architecture the Craftsman style often employed wood or shingle siding (frequently in combination), unenclosed eave overhangs with exposed roof rafters, decorative beams or brackets in gable ends, and square or tapered porch posts supported by piers extending from above the porch floor to ground level without a break. Door and windows also typically contained a distinctive glazing pattern with multi-pane areas across the top or multiple lights over a single pane in double-hung sash. The most common bungalow form was one story tall with one or more front-facing gables that integrated the porch and house. A frequent bungalow variant was one-and-a-half stories with a side-gable roof that engaged a full-width front porch and large front dormers.<sup>10</sup>

Examples of modest Craftsman-influenced frame dwellings from the first half of the twentieth century are found throughout in the White Rock community and throughout the Shelton Laurel section, often with a tobacco barn, or barns, located on the property. These local examples, however, do not typically utilize the popular one-story front-gable or one-and-a-half-story side-gable forms, which are seen more broadly throughout the rest of Madison County. Instead, the Craftsman influence was incorporated through other common elements such as multi-light windows and doors, exposed rafter tails, and attached or engaged porches.



**House, 5015 Chapel Hill Road (l) and House, 4458 NC 212 Hwy (r)**

The small house at 5015 Chapel Hill Road is a one-story side-gable frame dwelling. Resting on a concrete block foundation, the house has been covered with aluminum siding, but still exhibits an interior brick chimney, engaged porch on square wood posts, three-over-one double-hung wood sash windows, and a single-leaf entry door composed of three vertical lights over panels. A side wing appears to be a later addition. Several barns and outbuildings are located behind the house. The heavily remodeled residence at 4458 NC 212 Hwy, opposite the Mary Tweed House, is a one-story hip-roof frame house with a replacement metal roof, vinyl siding, and replacement one-over-one windows. An attached hip-roof porch is carried on boxed wood posts. Three large frame barns stand to the rear of the house.

An unusual Craftsman-influenced dwelling at 1969 NC 212 Hwy, approximately 1.7 miles southwest of the Gentry-Tweed Homestead, appears to have been built in the middle decades of

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<sup>10</sup> Paul Duchscherer and Douglas Keister, *The Bungalow: America's Arts & Crafts Home* (New York: Penguin Studio, 1995), 38-41.

the twentieth century. Resting on a concrete block foundation, the one-story frame house has a metal-clad hip roof and asbestos shingle siding. An attached partial-width shed-roof porch carried on square wood posts shelters a single-leaf entry door. The front entry door, along with a side entrance door, are composed of three vertical lights over three horizontal panels. The windows are three-over-one double-hung wood sash. The house, like others in the area, presents a tentative comingling of simple vernacular forms with basic Craftsman elements. A one-story gable-roof frame barn stands in the woods on a hillside just north of the house.



**House and barn, 1969 NC 212 Hwy, view to northwest**

In addition to the domestic architecture of the area, a significant number of twentieth century frame barns remain extant in the Shelton Laurel section. Although decreasing in overall number, many examples are visible along the approximately three miles of NC 212 from its intersection with NC 208 to the White Rock community. The barns range in size from one to three stories with metal-clad gable or gambrel roofs and vertical wood plank siding. The barns were used primarily for livestock and tobacco, which remained an important farm product in Madison County for much of the twentieth century. These small mountain farmsteads, with their modest dwellings and associated barns and outbuildings, continue to inform the visual character of rural Madison County.



**Barn, 3968 NC 212 Hwy (l) and Barn, east side NC 212, 1.9 miles NE of NC 208 (r)**



**Barns, 1570 NC 212 Hwy (l) and Barn, 2980 NC 212 Hwy (r)**

## VI. Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, Gentry-Tweed Homestead (MD 303) at 3700 NC 212 Hwy is **not eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places. The house and farm buildings are undistinguished examples of common building types found on twentieth-century farmsteads throughout Madison County. The property retains integrity of location, workmanship, feeling, and association. The setting of the Gentry-Tweed Homestead has been diminished with the construction of additional family residences on parcels carved out of the original farm. The physical integrity of the house has been compromised by design and material changes and additions to the residence.

The Gentry-Tweed Homestead is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). *To be eligible under Criterion A, a property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American pre-history or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or the nation. Furthermore, a property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, a property's specific association must be important as well.* The house and outbuildings are primarily associated with the Tweed family, who owned the property from 1941 to the present. The house and principal barn, however, appear to have been built in the mid-1930s by Bartley and Roxie Gentry, who sold the property to Ted and Lula Tweed in 1941. The Tweeds farmed through the mid-twentieth century until Ted Tweed became ill and bedridden in 1965. After Ted Tweed became unable to maintain the farm, Glen Ray Tweed, a grandson, took over operation of the farm. In the 1970s Ray Tweed became owner of the property, where he grew tobacco and tomatoes and raised livestock. The property retains pasture and woodlands that may reflect historic patterns of agriculture associated with the Tweeds, but little evidence of fields, gardens, or crop production remains visible since Ray Tweed retired around 2010. The elder Tweeds sustained themselves through farming but remained relatively undistinguished in their activities. The property appears to have been at its most productive and profitable during the period from the 1970s to around 2010. As such, the property does not possess sufficient significance or integrity to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion A.

The Gentry-Tweed Homestead is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person). *For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance, and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group.* The farmstead is closely associated with Ted and Lula Tweed, who purchased the property in 1941 and lived here into the 1970s. The Tweeds' grandson, Ray Tweed, assumed operated of the farm in the late 1960s after Ted Tweed became too ill to work. The Tweeds were one of numerous rural farming families residing in this section Madison

County, but they did not attain the level of prominence and significance required for National Register listing under Criterion B.

The Gentry-Tweed Homestead is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). *For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.* Built around 1935, the one-story front-gable frame Gentry-Tweed Homestead is an undistinguished vernacular example of a common Craftsman-influenced house. It displays typical elements including a front-gable roof, German siding, attached porch, and three-over-one double-hung sash windows. Front-gable Craftsman houses were among the most common house types of the 1920s and 1930s in western North Carolina. Although few similar residences are located in the immediate vicinity of the Gentry-Tweed Homestead, other examples of the front-gable form exist throughout the county. Evidence of the Craftsman influence is seen in other houses in Shelton Laurel and the White Rock community, but the influence is often manifest as vernacular interpretations of the widely popular style and simple applications of its most common elements. The incorporation of Craftsman details is more of a pragmatic response to house planning and design than a stylistic exercise. Local residences from the 1930s and 1940s, including the Gentry-Tweed Homestead, generally lack the dominant roof and integral porches of Craftsman houses but utilize readily available materials, such as three- and four-over-one double-hung windows, made popular in Craftsman bungalows. The Gentry-Tweed Homestead suffers from diminished integrity due to replacement windows and side wing addition. A second dwelling on the property, located across the road at 3689 NC 212 Hwy, similarly lacks historic integrity due to additions and alterations. The attached hip-roof porch of the stone and frame house has been enclosed with board-and-batten siding. The associated farm buildings include several gable-roof frame barns, a cellar, and modern woodshed. The barns, which generally remain in good condition, are common examples of their type with numerous similar examples found NC 212 through the project area. Taken as a whole, the property lacks any distinctive architectural features and sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C.

The Gentry-Tweed Homestead is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). *For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history, and 2) the information must be considered important.* Begun around 1935, the Gentry-Tweed Homestead and farm property is typical of similar properties in the area and unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

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