



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

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Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

June 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick
Human Environment Unit
NC Department of Transportation

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

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, R-5809, Improve NC 45 from Washington County Line to South of Colerain, PA 18-01-0055, Bertie County, ER 19-1576

Thank you for your April 30, 2019, letter transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur with all the eligibility calls except for the Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery (BR0029). Although the church has been covered with vinyl siding, it retains its overall form and details and interior elements. Therefore, we believe that it represents a good, and somewhat rare expression of the Romanesque Revival style for a rural church building and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. Please provide an appropriate boundary for this property

To confirm the other evaluations, we concur that the following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any criteria.

- ◆ Ella and Eugene Phelps House (BR1356)
- ◆ Taylor's Store (BR0560)
- ◆ Bowen House (BR0568)
- ◆ Henry H. Williams House (BR1358)
- ◆ Riverside Baptist Church and Cemetery (BR1359)
- ◆ Mizelle House (BR1360)
- ◆ Harrell House (BR1361)
- ◆ Farless House (BR0223)
- ◆ Cullipher House (BR0224)
- ◆ Hassell Cemetery (BR1363)
- ◆ Wilson House (BR1362)
- ◆ Hughes House (BR0748)
- ◆ Hillcrest Cemetery (BR0626)

The following properties are already listed on the National Register or eligible for listing under the criterion shown.

- ◆ Shipyard Landing (BR0539) - Criteria A &C
- ◆ Eastbrook (BR0540) – Criterion C
- ◆ Margaret and Richard Smith House (BR0536) – Criterion C
- ◆ Ashland School (BR0564) - A and C
- ◆ Ashland (BR0007) – Listed under Criterion C
- ◆ Womble House (BR0225) – Criterion C
- ◆ Hardy House (BR0057) – Criterion C
- ◆ Hughes House (BR0749) – Criterion C

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or 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

Received: 05/02/2019

State Historic Preservation Office



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

ER 19-1576

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO

From: Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT

Due -- 5/23/19

Date: April 17, 2019

Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report for TIP No. R-5809, Improve NC 45 from Washington County Line to South of Colerain, Bertie County, North Carolina. WBS No. 46976.1.1. PA Tracking No. 18-01-0055.*

H- ER letters
V.E.P.
5/25/19

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 R-5809, Bertie County project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). Survey photographs, GIS data, and site forms are also included on the CD-ROM, and hard copies of the site forms are also provided.

The report considers twenty-two resources and recommends seven as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. 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 vepatrick@ncdot.gov or 919-707-6082. Thank you.

V.E.P.

Attachments

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**Historic Structures Survey Report
Improve NC 45 from Washington County Line to South of Colerain
Bertie County, North Carolina**

**T.I.P. No. R-5809
WBS No. 46976.1.1
PA No. 18-01-0055**

Prepared for:
Environmental Analysis Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

Prepared by:
MdM Historical Consultants Inc.
Post Office Box 1399
Durham, NC 27702
919.368.1602

April 12, 2019

**Historic Structures Survey Report
Improve NC 45 from Washington County Line to South of Colerain
Bertie County, North Carolina**

T.I.P. No. R-5809
WBS No. 46976.1.1
PA No. 18-01-0055

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April 12, 2019

Jennifer F. Martin, Principal Investigator
MdM Historical Consultants, Inc.

Date

Cynthia de Miranda, Principal Investigator
MdM Historical Consultants, Inc.

Date

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

Date

Historic Structures Survey Report
Improve NC 45 from Washington County Line to South of Colerain
Bertie County, North Carolina
T.I.P. No. R-5809
WBS No. 46976.1.1
PA No. 18-01-0055

Management Summary

MdM Historical Consultants (MdM) prepared this report in December 2018 and April 2019 in support of the proposed improvements to NC 45 from the Washington County line to south of Colerain in Bertie County, North Carolina (TIP# R-5809). The project lies in eastern rural Bertie County just west of the Chowan River. The Area of Potential Effects (APE), the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, extends approximately 250 feet in each direction off the center line of the highway. The APE for the project is delineated on a series of maps on pages 9 to 13 of this report.

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 a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Twenty-five resources warranted an intensive National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation 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.

In October and November 2018, MdM principal investigators spent a total of six days in the field and conducting research in Bertie County. During that work, they determined that two properties were no longer standing:

- Williams House (BR0583), which was located at 928 NC 45
- House (BR0247), which was located at 1507 NC 45

In addition, any physical evidence of the Martin Perry Cemetery could not be found. A thorough examination of its reported location at 540B NC 45 revealed no cemetery. The site is currently part of a tree farm owned and operated by Weyerhaeuser Corporation.

MdM documented the remaining twenty-two properties located in the APE. MdM principal Jennifer Martin conducted the fieldwork photographing and mapping all the built resources and landscapes associated with the twenty-two subject properties located within the APE. MdM also conducted a reconnaissance-level survey of Bertie County to locate and document comparable examples of the fourteen property types represented by the twenty-two resources in the APE. All the comparable properties were field-checked and most were photographed.

Jennifer Martin and Cynthia de Miranda conducted research on the Bertie County Register of Deeds website, the Bertie County GIS website, the Bertie County Clerk of Court office, HPOWEB, and at the North Carolina State Library and Archives in Raleigh. They interviewed local residents Ricky

Hughes, Colleen and Stephen Karl, and Kathryn Myers. Ms. Martin and Ms. de Miranda authored this report.

The historic architectural survey within the APE associated with the improvement of NC 45 from the Washington County line to south of Colerain in Bertie County, North Carolina was carried out 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 evaluation meets the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

In order to meet the requirements of the above laws, regulations, and guidelines, the work plan for the intensive-level survey included the following items: (1) conducting general historical and architectural background research in order to develop contexts within which to evaluate the potential National Register eligibility of the resources located within the APE; (2) an intensive-level field survey of the APE, including surveying, describing, evaluating, and proposing specific National Register boundaries for any resources believed to be eligible for the NRHP; (3) specific historical and architectural research on the resources inventoried at the intensive level; and (4) preparation of a report developed pursuant to the above-referenced laws, regulations and guidelines. The report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the general public.

Property Name and Survey Site Number	Address and PIN	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation/Criteria
Shipyards Landing BR0539	1422 NC 45 and 118 Shipyards Landing 6860-65-7835 6860-65-783501	Eligible under Criteria A and C
Eastbrook BR0540	1422 NC 45 6860-65-783501	Eligible under Criterion C
Margaret and Richard Smith House BR0536	729 Old Merry Hill Road 6862-65-7835	Eligible under Criterion C
Ella and Eugene Phelps House BR1356	728 Merry Hill Road 6862-01-8348	Not eligible under any Criteria
Taylor’s Store BR0560	135 NC 45 6854-40-5544	Not eligible under any Criteria
Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery BR0029	740 Ledrew Perry Road 6854-36-2124	Not eligible under any Criteria
Bowen House BR0568	637 NC 45 6855-43-5459	Not eligible under any Criteria
Ashland School BR0564/Study List	901 NC 45 6855-87-3892	Eligible under Criteria A and C
Henry H. Williams House BR1358	923 NC 45 6855-88-5644	Not eligible under any Criteria

Ashland BR0007/NRHP	948 NC 45 6855-99-5597	Remains eligible under Criterion C
Riverside Baptist Church and Cemetery BR1359	1206 NC 45 6866-05-5405	Not eligible under any Criteria
Mizelle House BR1360	1243 NC 45 6866-07-4339	Not eligible under any Criteria
Harrell House BR1361	1326 NC 45 6866-19-1000	Not eligible under any Criteria
Farless House BR0223	1341 NC 45 6866-19-0912	Not eligible under any Criteria
Cullipher House BR0224	1403 NC 45 6867-00-9447	Not eligible under any Criteria
Womble House BR0225	1417 NC 45 6867-11-4349	Eligible under Criterion C
Hassell Cemetery BR1363	1529B NC 45 6857-93-4963	Not eligible under any Criteria
Wilson House BR1362	1701 NC 45 6857-87-4559	Not eligible under any Criteria
Hughes House BR0748	2047 NC 45 6858-35-5977	Not eligible under any Criteria
Hardy House BR0057/Study List	2050/2112 NC 45 6858-56-6171	Eligible under Criterion C
Hughes House BR0749	2119 NC 45 6858-47-2133	Eligible under Criterion C
Hillcrest Cemetery BR0626	2517 NC 45 6859-76-6950	Not eligible under any Criteria



One of the few curves in NC 45 in the project area, near its intersection with Mount Gould River Road, view to the north



NC 45 near the Hardy House (BR0057), view to the south

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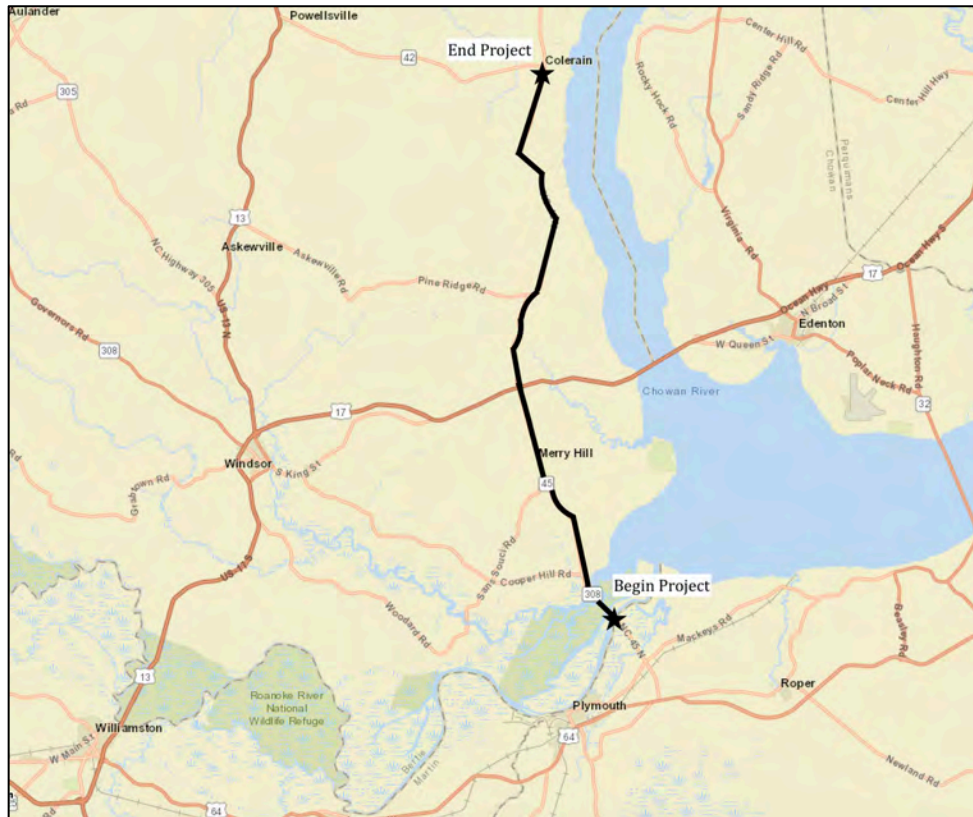
Bridge over Cashoke Creek built in 1967 near the south end of the project area, view to the south

I. Project Location Maps

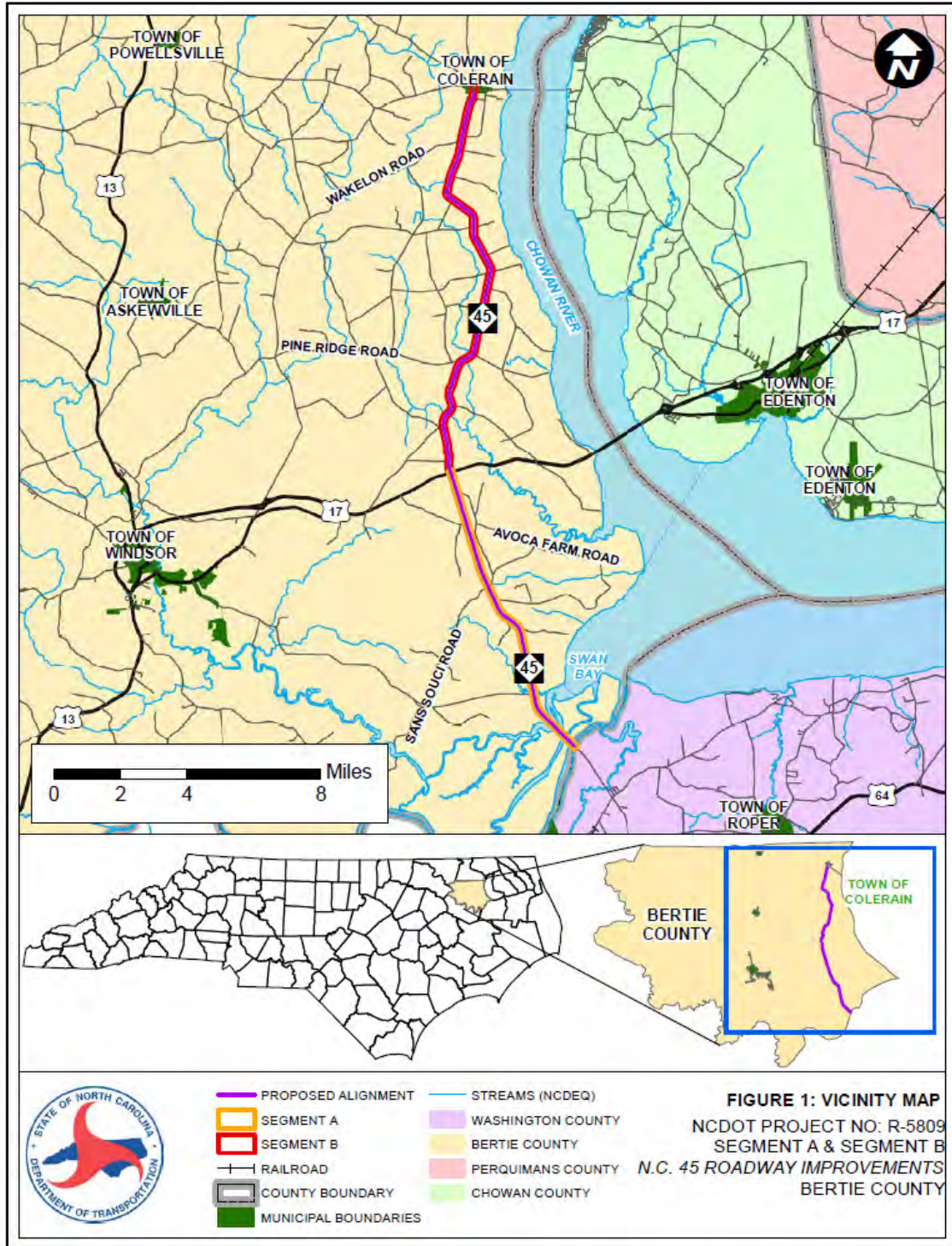


Bertie County, North Carolina

Location of Bertie County in North Carolina (image from NCpedia website, www.ncpedia.org)



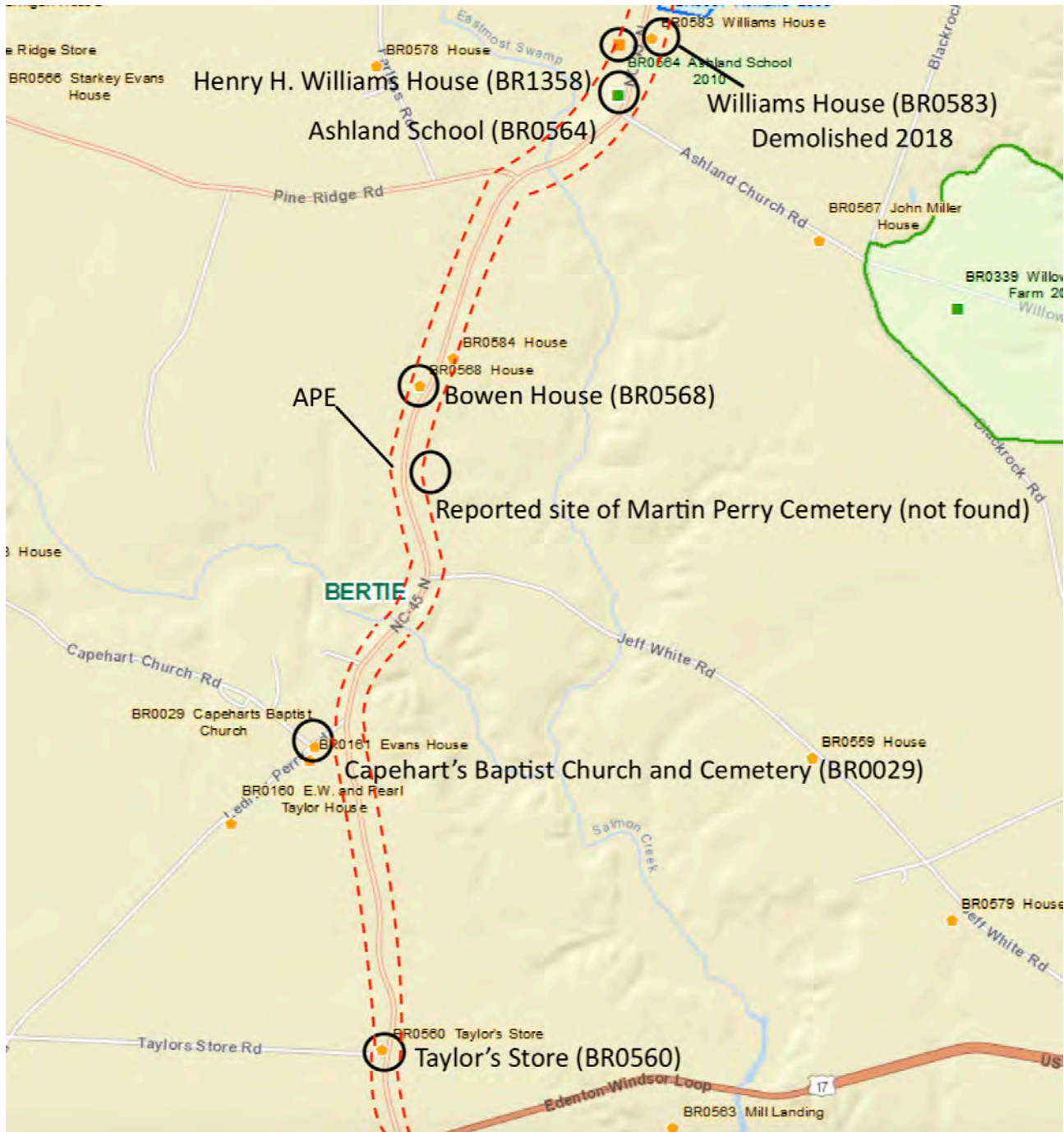
Map showing project location and route, created from HPOWEB



Study area for the project, map courtesy of NCDOT



Map 1 of 5 indicating evaluated properties in relation to the APE, created from HPOWEB



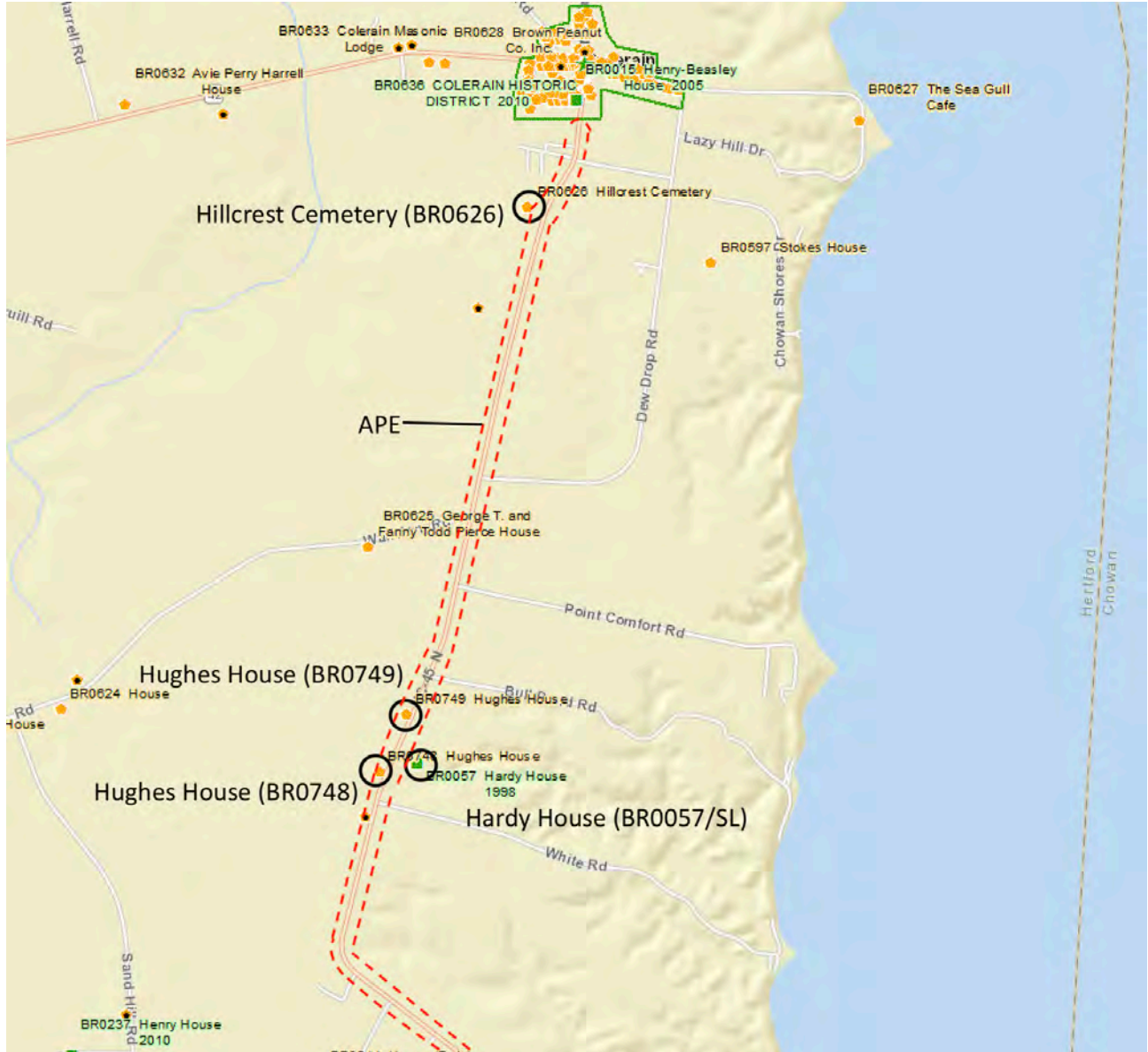
Map 2 of 5 indicating locations of evaluated properties in relation to the APE, created from HPOWEB



Map 3 of 5 indicating locations of evaluated properties in relation to the APE, created from HPOWEB



Map 4 of 5 indicating the location of the evaluated properties in relation to the APE, created from HPOWEB



Map 5 of 5 indicating the location of the evaluated properties in relation to the APE, created from HPOWEB



Bridge over the Roanoke River at the south end of the APE, view the northeast

II. Introduction

This eligibility report was prepared in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) project entitled, *Improve NC 45 from the Washington County line to south of the town of Colerain* in eastern Bertie County, North Carolina. The TIP No. is R-5809, and the WBS No. is 46976.1.1.

The APE for the proposed project follows along NC 45 between its two termini, extending approximately 250 feet from the centerline of the existing highway. The southern terminus where the project begins is the border of Bertie County and Washington County near the Bachelor Bay gamelands and the Roanoke River. The APE encompasses twenty-two resources that warranted intensive-level investigation (see pages 2 and 3). One property, Ashland (BR0007) is listed in the NRHP. Ashland School (BR0564) and the Hardy House (BR0057) are on the HPO Study List of properties that appear eligible for the NRHP. An additional twelve resources were intensively surveyed in the 2009 comprehensive survey of Bertie County conducted by Laura Ewen Blokker.

NC 45 begins at the ferry terminal at Ocracoke, traverses across the Pamlico Sound on the Swan Quarter-Ocracoke Ferry. At Swan Quarter, the road continues at a northwesterly direction; merging

with several highways along the way, including US 264, NC 99, US 64, and NC 461. In the project area, NC 45 parallels the west side of the Chowan River before ending at US 13/158 near Winton.

III. Methodology

The field survey was conducted over several days in November and December in 2018. All buildings, structures, and landscapes historically associated with the twenty-two historic resources were documented and photographed. Research on the project area was conducted on the Bertie County Register of Deeds website and at their office in the Bertie County courthouse, the Bertie County GIS website, at the Bertie County Clerk of Court office, HPOWEB, and at the North Carolina State Library and Archives in Raleigh. The principal investigators interviewed local residents Ricky Hughes, Colleen and Stephen Karl, and Kathryn Myers. Jennifer Martin and Cynthia de Miranda authored this report.

IV. Historic Context

The 2010 report “Comprehensive Architectural Survey of Bertie County” by Laura Ewen Blokker presents a thorough summary of Bertie County’s development and architectural history. Blokker’s report places building practice and style in the context of the economic and social trends that affected the county. Historical narrative and current significance analyses in this report are grounded in the information contained in that document. Rather than include a general summary, relevant historic contextual material from the report and from individual property survey files is included with individual resource histories to aid in assessing their eligibility for the NRHP.

V. Architecture Context

This report includes architectural context for each of the twenty-two properties in the APE. Fifteen properties fall into one of four contexts: Rural Domestic Architecture, 1870-1920; Rural Bungalows, 1920-1940; and Rural Cemeteries. The remaining properties are each of a different type. For simplicity and clarity, the three contexts that cover multiple properties are included in this section rather than repeated at each individual resource. The relevant architectural context for the remaining properties, the Hardy House (BR0057), Ashland (BR0007, NR 2003), Shipyard Landing (BR0539), Taylor’s Store (BR0560), Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery (BR0029), Ashland School (BR0564), and Riverside Baptist Church and Cemetery (BR1359) appears with each individual property.

Rural Domestic Architecture, 1870-1920

After the Civil War, architectural style shifted in rural Bertie County even as vernacular patterns of domestic building continued. The pendulum swung from the austerity of the Greek Revival to the lively embellishment of the Italianate and later the Queen Anne. Towards the end of the period, styles swung back toward more restrained classicism in the form of the Colonial Revival.

An example of the early shift in styles is the 1871 Abram Burden House (BR0023), an Italianate house with some vestigial Greek Revival elements. The house has notable bracketed pilastered cornerboards ornamented with diamond appliques as well as decorative bargeboards and raking cornices. Greek Revival style is present in the symmetry of the side-gabled two-story dwelling as



The Italianate-style Albert Burden House (BR0023), view to the south

well as at some interior mantels. Similar pilastered cornerboards appeared at other rural Bertie County houses and reflect a local building tradition, perhaps one influenced by pattern books. The Italianate style persisted into the 1890s, appearing in rural areas and in towns.¹

The Queen Anne style emerged later in the nineteenth century. Good examples of high style Queen Anne houses were built in towns as early as the 1880s; later, less articulated examples appeared on the rural landscape. Dwellings range from one to two stories and tend to exhibit more complicated massing than vernacular houses or those built in older architectural styles and with timber frames. Forms

include side-gabled and gable-front-and-wing houses as well as double-pile dwellings with hipped or cross-gabled roofs. Higher-style examples have towers or turrets creating variety of form. Queen Anne ornament is also highly varied and includes exuberant, rounded shapes in turned balusters, porch posts, pendants, newels, and finials in addition to sawnwork brackets, porch posts, balustrades, and bargeboard.²

Advancing technology bolstered the Queen Anne style—both in its ornament and massing. The easy production of manufactured rather than hand-built components created a plentiful stock of ornament to be applied to buildings at construction or after-the-fact. Both steam-powered machines for manufacture of pre-made parts and the growing railroad network contributed to the availability. The highly decorative trim could easily be applied to vernacular houses as well those pattern-book Queen Anne-style dwellings more likely built in towns. Blokker reports that the doors, mantels, and trim at the interior of Eastbrook (BR0540), a Queen Anne built in 1915, are all factory made.³

New construction methods likewise affected building patterns in the county. The balloon frame was used in rural Bertie County in the mid-nineteenth century, eventually replacing heavy timber frames and enabling construction of the complicated massing of the Queen Anne. A very early balloon-framed house is the transitional Greek Revival-Italianate Liberty Hall (BR0068, NR 19882), built in the 1850s when most houses were still timber-framed. Eastbrook's (BR0540) early twentieth-century balloon frame comprises circular-sawn two-by-fours. The house also featured a novel form of interior sheathing, a predecessor to today's wallboard.⁴

¹ Laura Ewen Blokker, "Comprehensive Architectural Survey of Bertie County," April 30, 2010, 65-66, 138; Bertie County Survey, HPO Web, www.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb.

² Gabrielle M. Lanier and Bernard L. Herman, *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), 159; Bertie County Survey.

³ Blokker, 60-61, 67, 78.

⁴ Blokker, 78.

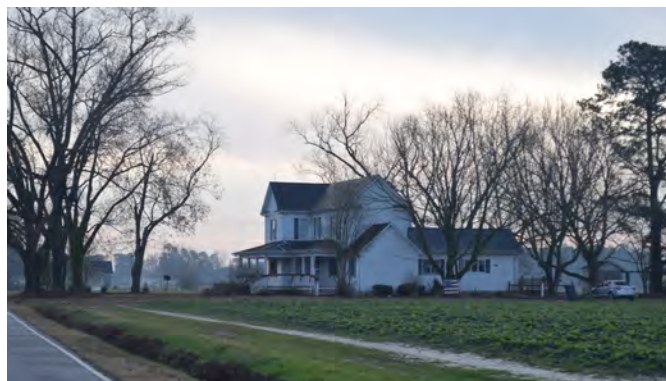
In rural areas, builders copied the overall massing or some individual exterior forms or decoration of a Queen Anne house but continued to organize interior space according to traditional floor plans. In fact, the gable-front-and-wing sometimes resulted from a late-nineteenth century addition to an earlier side-gabled house. The form reflects a vernacular version of the asymmetrical Queen Anne style. An example is the Alfred Jackson Mizelle House (BR0784), built as a center-hall plan house with an enclosed winder stair and rear shed rooms; the kitchen is a separate building. The projecting front-gabled bay was added later.⁵

Houses originally built in a gable-front-and-wing form were popular at the turn of the twentieth century, commonly with gable end returns and boxed eaves. A number of examples remain. In Colerain stands a ca. 1890 house (BR0666) that also includes a bracketed eave at a front porch that spans the width of the façade wing. Turned porch posts and an interior chimney remain, but the windows have been replaced and the house sided in aluminum. Another example, the ca. 1890 Scott White House (BR0783) near Askewville, has an exterior end chimney at the gable wall at the southwest side elevation. Sidelights with carved panels flank the front entry, but windows have been replaced and aluminum siding applied. Original porch posts were replaced with Craftsman-style battered wood post



Vernacular Queen Anne-style house (BR0666) in Colerain, view to the east

on brick piers. The early-twentieth-century, two-story gable-front-and-wing house (BR0559) at 409 Jeff White Road in Merry Hill has a hip-roofed wraparound porch and a single-story rear ell. Gable-end returns remain, but this house also has replacement windows and aluminum siding. The 1915



Two-story, L-plan house (BR0559) at 409 Jeff White Road, view to the south

Eastbrook (BR0540) may be one of the county's most intact examples of a two-story, gable-front-and-wing house. It retains its one-over-one windows and weatherboard exterior. It also has gable-end returns, a wraparound porch, and a front entry with sidelights and transom. The original metal roof is still extant as well.

Hip- and pyramidal-roofed houses date to the later part of this period and are less common in the county than gable-roofed dwellings. An excellent and intact example is the ca. 1915 Colonial Revival J.E.R. Perry House

⁵ Bertie County Survey; Blokker 68.

(BR0813) at 206 W. Main Street in Powellsville. The house has a main two-story pyramidal block with a substantial projecting two-story gabled bay at the rear. Both the gable at the bay and the gabled dormer on the front roof slope have boxed cornices and end returns; the main roof also has a



J.E.R. Perry House (BR0813) in Powellsville, view to the northwest

boxed cornice. The single-story wraparound porch has a gabled entry portico. This gable and that in the dormer have diagonal flush-board sheathing; the rest of the house is covered with weatherboards. Windows are one-over-one sash. The ca. 1918 two-story dwelling at 253 Old Merry Hill Road has a pyramidal roof over the first story and a substantial gabled dormer in the front roof slope to shelter a full second story with paired windows under a gable with end returns and a boxed cornice. Original two-over-two windows and

weatherboard sheathing remain. Interestingly, the house also has a Craftsman porch: a full-width shed-roofed porch with exposed rafter tails supported by squared posts on brick piers. The porch extends past one side elevation to terminate in a gabled section. It also has a projecting gabled portico with a shallower pitch than seen at the large dormer in the main roof directly above. The porch gable has exposed rafter tails and a bracketed eave. The 1913 Jim Mitchell House is a more traditionally massed two-story house with pyramidal roof. It has a full wraparound porch and a broad vented gable in the front roof slope. The house has replacement windows and aluminum siding.⁶

Another vernacular type, the two-story, single-pile dwelling known as the I-house, easily adapted to a multitude of architectural styles. I-houses were built in Bertie County as early as the late eighteenth century. They are at least three bays wide and the hall-parlor and center hall floor plans were both employed. The circa 1780 Castellow-Tarkington House (BR0535) and the ca. 1800 Garrett-White House (BR0108, NR 1982) are two of the county's oldest examples. Early versions such as these feature more asymmetry at the façade than later examples, as well as Georgian and transitional Georgian-Federal detailing at the interior. The ca. 1855 Starkey Evans House (BR0566) in Merry Hill is a transitional Federal-Greek Revival I-house. It has flush gable ends, six-over-six-sash, a single-story ell, and a shed-roofed porch with the common later alteration of Craftsman-style porch posts. Its original floor plan was a hall-parlor arrangement. The building's broad, rather than tall, proportions show the influence of the Greek Revival.⁷

Late nineteenth-century I-houses in the county, like other vernacular types of this period, took on Italianate and Queen Anne style. The pilastered cornerboards accented with a diamond shape seen

⁶ Bertie County Survey; Construction date for 253 Old Merry Hill Road and from Bertie County GIS website.

⁷ Blokker, 35-37, 42-43, 118; J. Marshall Bullock, "Garrett-White House," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1980; Heather Fearnbach, "Ashland," National Register of Historic Places Form, 2003.

at the Abram Burden House appeared on Myers-Davison House (BR0586), a center-passage I-house with original attached kitchen built circa 1880. The house also features Italianate bracketed eaves with turned pendants along with sawnwork porch brackets and channeled porch posts with decorative perforations. Other stylistic elements include original two-over-two windows, sidelights at the centered front door, and a nearly full-width hip-roofed porch.

An I-house at 346 Old Merry Hill Road in Merry Hill is a mix of details from different periods and styles. It has nine-over-nine sash at the first floor and two-over-two sash at the second, including a paired set over the centered entry in the three-bay-wide house. The hip-roofed front porch has a



Jimmie Ruffin House II (BR0186), view to the west

gabled portico with Craftsman-style battered porch columns and a bracketed eave at the gable end. Two I-houses associated with the Ruffin family are the circa 1890 Joseph Ruffin White House (BR0194) and the ca. 1910 Joseph Ruffin House II (BR0186) Both are three bays wide with weatherboard exteriors, six-over-six windows, and single-leaf front entries with sidelights. The latter is much wider, and both appear to have altered front porches. The ca. 1880 Jimmie Love is a heavily altered I-house. Aluminum siding covers original sheathing and

aluminum shutters flank the windows. A single-room addition has been made to one end of the house, balanced by a large carport on the other end. The full-height porch shelters the entire façade, which includes six-over-six sash arranged in three bays with a centered front entrance of a single-leaf door.⁸

Another feature added to I-houses in this late nineteenth century period was part of a trend that spawned what is now known as the triple-A house. A gable centered along the front roof slope introduced a third A-shape to the roofline, complementing those at the gable ends. The use of the center front gable can be traced to the Gothic Revival style, a fuller expression of which was often seen in the county's churches but not in rural domestic architecture. Triple-A I-houses are common on the landscape, Blokker noted after her 2010 survey, sometimes seen with "scalloped shingles or swanwork brackets" in Bertie. While triple-A houses may trace lineage back to the Gothic Revival, many were better expressions of the Queen Anne in rural Bertie County.⁹

⁸ Blokker, 66, 140; Bertie County Survey.

⁹ Lanier and Herman, 150; Blokker, 70-71.

The Samuel and Sallie Adams House (BR0555) is an excellent example of a triple-A I-house in Bertie County. The ca. 1908 weatherboarded house has an arched vent in the front gable, a hipped front porch with turned posts and sawn corner brackets, a porch rail with turned balusters and molded handrail, and two-over-two sash. The house has a metal roof and interior corbelled chimneys. While the porch appears to have had screens installed, all original elements appear intact. Interestingly, the interior has Georgian-style mantels, likely from the ca. 1800 Nicholls-Webb house that previously stood in its place. A more altered triple-A with some notable remaining original details is the E.W. and Pearl Taylor House (BR0160), built around 1915. The house has diamond-shaped shingles in the gables on the front roof slope and at the center of the shed-roofed porch. A round-arched window with stained-glass lights pierces the gable at the main roof; other sash are two-over-two. The front door has sidelights, and the porch posts are battered posts on brick piers. The house is clad in aluminum siding and aluminum shutters flank the windows.¹⁰



E. W. and Pearl Taylor House (BR0160), view to the south

The center gable was added to basic single-story side-gabled houses as well, although examples without it were built in this period also. The side-gabled farmhouse at Overflow Farm south of Powellsville has replacement windows, aluminum siding, and a new metal roof, as well as battered porch posts on brick piers likely replaced in the 1920s. Its original ca. 1873, single-shoulder, exterior brick chimneys laid in stretcher bond at the gable ends remain. The house was built with a center-passage plan, but alterations in the twentieth century removed one of the walls of the passage. The dwelling at 333 Indian Woods Road lacks even gable at its porch, employing a simple shed roof on its nearly full-width porch. The main roof's boxed eave is a nod to the building traditions of the period.¹¹

Despite the injection of architectural style, many vernacular dwellings built at and around the turn of the twentieth century remain in rural Bertie County. Their lack of attention to architectural style reflects the subsistence nature of the lives of the occupants. Such houses lack individual architectural significance, but their continued presence on the landscape offers an understanding of the breadth of experiences in the county. Additionally, the relative simplicity of rural houses as

¹⁰ Blokker, 113; Bertie County Survey.

¹¹ Jeroen van den Hurk, "Historic Architectural Resources Evaluation Report TIP No. B-4916," July 2015; Bertie County Survey.

compared to houses in Bertie County towns illustrates the economic shift from agriculture to other livelihoods.

Rural Bungalows, 1920-1940

The influence of pattern books dates back to the eighteenth century but exploded in the early 1900s. Rural Bertie County dwellings in this period were heavily influenced by architectural plans readily available for purchase as well as by mail-order kits that included plans as well as all materials for construction. The vernacular tradition no longer informed construction of dwellings.

Bungalows first appeared in Bertie County in the 1920s and continued to be built into the 1940s. The type is a one- to one-and-a-half story dwelling with compact proportions and a sheltering porch. Most brick examples are located in the towns, while the majority of weatherboard or German-sided bungalows stand in rural areas. A side-gabled roof with gabled dormer on the front slope along with a full-width front porch characterize the rural Bertie County bungalow. Most have modest Craftsman detailing.

Sheathed in wood shingles, the side-gabled Clingman and Mary Mitchell House (BR0978) at 306 Broad Street in Aulander dates to circa 1917 and is an outstanding and intact example of a Craftsman bungalow. The one-and-a-half-story dwelling features a deep, full-width front porch with exposed rafter tails. A pair of hip-roofed dormers grace the façade. More typical of rural bungalows is the house (BR 1131) at 1737 Early Station Road near Aulander that represents a more modest example of the side-gabled dwelling form. Built around 1923, the house displays a recessed full-width porch with battered wood posts on brick plinths and original four-over-one Craftsman-style windows. A gabled dormer rests on the front roof slope, which is sheathed in asbestos-shingle tiles.



Wadsworth Farm (BR1216) bungalow, view to the southwest

The circa 1920 weatherboard bungalow on the Wadsworth Farm (BR1216) at 143 Indian Woods Road south of Lewiston is a one story side-gabled house with intact shed dormer, six-over-six windows and full-width porch with pairs and trios of slender battered porch posts on brick piers. The one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled Butterton-Phelps House (BR0541) at 326 Sutton Road near Merry Hill retains its original windows but has been sheathed in aluminum siding. A particularly intact

side-gabled weatherboard bungalow stands at 109 Morris Road near Colerain. Built around 1920, it features a front-gabled dormer and a full-width porch with battered posts on brick plinths. The B.

Carter House (BR0815) at 302 West Main Street in Powellsville is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow with asbestos siding. Built around 1940, the house demonstrates the persistence of the house-form in Bertie County.

Cemeteries

Small cemeteries primarily from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries—some with five or fewer marked graves—are a common fixture on the rural landscape of Bertie County. They can be found in the front and rear yards of houses or standing in solitude in the middle of a cultivated field. The hardscrabble often isolated existence of some families from this period dictated that the deceased might be interred on the farm on the family property instead of a church or public cemetery. Many small rural cemeteries remain in good condition with their stones upright and well-tended.

Larger cemeteries—some under the care of a municipal government—in Bertie County tend to occupy flat parcels at a main roadway. Simple paved lanes divide the acreage into rounded-off squares and rectangles. Stones are a mix of marble and granite, standing and in-ground. Cemeteries often have decorative gateposts at one entry, and some have metal signs on tall posts over metal gates.

Eastview Cemetery in Aulander is a roughly 8-1/2-acre municipal cemetery on a relatively flat



Eastview Cemetery in Aulander, view to the east

parcel north of Brick Mill Road. Entry gate posts of brick flank an asphalt-paved lane that extends to the back of the cemetery parcel and returns to the roadway in a squared U shape. Another lane enters from the roadway, extends halfway toward the back of the cemetery, then turns east to intersect with the first lane, outlining rounded squares and rectangles for access to grave

sites. Three lanes enter again from the roadway to the west, each extending straight back and connecting at their far ends with a lane parallel to the roadway. Despite these lanes the west half of the cemetery has no markers, but the east portion appears full. Marble markers date to the early

twentieth century, and granite markers date to the late twentieth century and the early twenty-first century.

Hoggard Memorial Cemetery occupies about three acres on the east of NC Highway 11 north of Lewiston. The land was deeded to the Town of Lewiston in two parts—first in 1941 with an added section in 1969. The pedestrian entrance has simple squared brick gate posts at a concrete stair with an iron gate and mesh metal sign on tall metal gateposts. The cemetery’s name is spelled out in simple black letters against the diamond-pattern metal mesh. A lane exits the highway and circles around the perimeter of the polygonal parcel back to the roadway. Burials date to the early twentieth century; the cemetery appears to still be active for burials. Stones are typical of their periods: marble in the early twentieth century, and more standardized granite markers from the later twentieth century.¹²



Hoggard Cemetery entrance, view to the east

¹² Property Card, PIN 5847146652, Bertie County GIS website.

VI. Shipyard Landing: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Shipyard Landing
HPO Survey Site #	BR0539; 31Brl (Office of State Archaeology site number)
Location	109-112 Shipyard Landing, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6860-65-7835 and 6860-65-783501
Construction date	Unknown; circa 1880; circa 1940; circa 1950;
Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria A and C



Guy Smith Fish House (left) and J.A. Layton Fish House (right) on Cashoke Creek, view to the west

Description

Setting

Shipyard Landing is located alongside Cashoke Creek, which flows into the Cashie River, which in turn, runs into the Albemarle Sound. The NC 45 bridge over Cashoke Creek and the Cashie River is immediately to the east.

Shipyard Landing

The complex of frame buildings stands on the south side of a 169-acre parcel that contains Eastbrook (BR0540), an early twentieth-century dwelling. Shipyard Landing includes two circa 1940 frame fish houses perched on the side of Cashoke Creek, a circa 1950 concrete block store, a circa 1880 former kitchen, a hunting cabin, a modern bath house, and a wooden pier.



Guy Smith fish house, south elevation, view north-northwest



Guy Smith fish house, north corner, view south



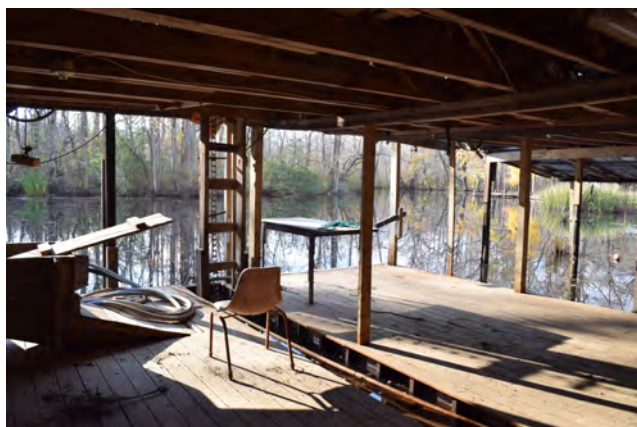
Site Plan, created from HPOWEB

Inventory

Guy Smith Fish house

Circa 1940

The one-story, gable-roofed building is sided in vertical wood and corrugated metal. On the river side, the building is open so that boats can dock underneath the gable roof. The rest of the building is used for processing and selling fish. The interior was not accessible.



J.G. Layton fish house, creekside docks beneath gable roof on left (view to the west); interior looking at front door (view to the east-northeast)



J.G. Layton fish house on Cashoke Creek, west side, view to the southeast

J. G. Layton Fish house
Circa 1940

The one-story gable-roofed building is sided in vertical wood. On the river side, the building is open so that boats can dock underneath the gable roof. The fishermen used the chain remaining on the creek side of the building to haul fish into the upper loft. The interior still contains a wooden chute from the upper level through the main level floor to the water below where fish parts were discarded. The main level of the interior space was used for selling fish.



Dick Smithwick Store, view to the west

Dick Smithwick Store
Circa 1950

The circa 1950 concrete block store is a rectangular, front-gabled building with asbestos shingles in the front gable and a shed-roof porch with rafter tails sheltering a two-bay façade. The interior has been altered in order to convert the building to a hunting and fishing lodge. Richard (Dick) Smithwick (1911-1981) built the concrete block store around 1950. According to owner Ricky Hughes, the store served residents in this area of Bertie County before the construction of the bridge across the Roanoke River in 1967, which allowed easy access to Plymouth.



Former kitchen, façade, on left (view to the north) and interior, on right (view to the east)

Former Kitchen
Circa 1880, 2015

A side-gabled cabin just to the northwest of the store is sheathed with half-round log sheathing. The interior contains one large room and a bathroom on the west side. The building originally functioned as the kitchen for Eastbrook, the dwelling just to the north. The current owner moved the kitchen around 2000 and later added the log siding to the exterior.



Bath House, view to the east

Bath House
Circa 2000

A modern bath house with vertical composite wood siding and a side gabled roof is on the east side of the complex.



Hunting cabin facade, on left (view to the east); interior, on right (view to the northeast)

Hunting Cabin
Circa 1940

Just to the south of the bathhouse stands the side-gabled, weatherboard cabin with a standing-seam metal roof. A shed-roofed porch shelters its two front doors. Some of the siding has been replaced. The interior has modern sheathing on the walls, floors, and ceiling.

History

Oral tradition relates that Shipyard Landing has been the location of human activity since Native American occupation in what is now Bertie County. The current property owner has found numerous projectile points, pottery sherds, and ballast stones on the site. The tradition also contends that the site was used by the Spanish and English for ship building. The property owner possesses a Spanish coin dating to 1733 found here. In the 1970s, two separate archaeologists surveyed the site with one observing that the midden was intact and of an extremely high yield.¹³

Shipyard Landing is said to have served as a small port for English and French ships. An 1818 advertisement identified the site as Shipyard Plantation and described it as “lying on Cashoke Creek, near the head of Albermarle Sound.”¹⁴ Historic maps identify this spot on Cashoke Creek, sometimes spelled Cashote Creek, as Smithwicks (1915) and Cashote Landing (1918).

The earliest standing structures are the fish houses built by Guy Smith and J.G. Layton in the 1940s and the small, side-gabled frame hunting lodge from around the same period. According to

¹³ North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, North Carolina Archaeological Survey, site no. 31Brl, site name Smithwick, dated June 8, 1971.

¹⁴ “Lands for Sale,” *Weekly Raleigh Register*, October 23, 1818.

the current owner, a long row of fish houses similar to the two that remain stood along the north bank of Cashoke Creek during the mid-twentieth century. Each fish house belonged to an individual fisherman where he would sell his catch—namely herring—to locals.

Context: Fish houses in Eastern North Carolina

Fish houses have likely stood in eastern North Carolina for hundreds of years. A fish house served as a place where fishermen and women could dock their boats, unload the catch, process the fish, and sell to paying customers. In eastern North Carolina, the industry typically involved entire families with the children helping with the work.¹⁵ These buildings were constructed primarily of wood or concrete block.

A reconnaissance-level survey of Bertie County revealed no other extant fish houses. These buildings do survive elsewhere in eastern North Carolina such as in Pamlico County where a small, front-gabled building with vertical wood siding clings to the banks of Alligator Creek. Historian Ruth Little documented several fish houses in Carteret County including the Monroe Taylor fish house (CR1043), a small frame building still in operation on Cedar Creek as of 2012.¹⁶



Pottery sherds, possibly Woodland period, found at Shipyard Landing, November 2018

¹⁵ Barbara Garrity-Blake and Barry Nash, “Inventory of Fish Houses in North Carolina,” North Carolina Sea Grant, no date (circa 2015).

¹⁶ M. Ruth Little, “A Comprehensive Architectural Survey of Carteret County: North Carolina’s Archipelago,” (survey report for the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, 2012), 89-90.

Evaluation

Integrity

Shipyards Landing remains at its original location along Cashoke Creek and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The four historic buildings (the fish houses, hunting cabin, and concrete block store) remain largely intact and therefore retain their integrity of workmanship, design, and feeling. The integrity of association for the historic buildings remains intact because they clearly reflect the period in which they were built.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Shipyards Landing is associated with the history of fishing and commerce in Bertie County. Shipyards Landing served as the location of numerous fish houses where fishermen docked their boats and sold fish to the public. Smithwick's Store served those coming to the creek to buy fish and other locals who were isolated from retail stores because of the lack of a river crossing until 1967 when the bridge was built over the Cashie River. Shipyards Landing, with its two extant fish houses, a hunting lodge, and a small store, is recommended eligible for the NRHP under criterion A in the area of commerce.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. No one associated with Shipyards Landing—including Guy Smith, J. G. Layton, or Dick Smithwick—achieved significance on the local, state, or national level. Therefore, the site is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Shipyards Landing is a small, rural complex located on the north bank of Cashoke Creek. The two remaining fish houses represent a significant vernacular building type and form associated with the small-scale fish industry of the mid-twentieth century in eastern North Carolina. Both buildings feature a recessed open space on the creek side where boats were tethered to docks tucked under the main roofline and a spartan interior space where the public purchased fish from the fishermen. The Smithwick Store is a typical form for rural stores in Bertie County. The complex at Shipyards Landing is recommended eligible for the NRHP on the local level under criterion C for architectural significance.

An analysis of Shipyards Landing's archaeological significance is outside the scope of work for this project. Eligibility for the NRHP under Criterion D appears likely, but should be determined by a professional archaeologist.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for Shipyard Landing includes approximately seven acres containing the buildings and natural areas making up the property. The seven acres is a portion of a 169-acre parcel containing Eastbrook, a farm dating to the early twentieth century. The east boundary for Shipyard Landing borders the west right-of-way for NC 45, while the south boundary follows the contour of Cashoke Creek and extends into the creek approximately thirty-five feet in order to include a portion of the significant natural feature associated with Shipyard Landing and the activities that occurred there.



NRHP Boundary, created from Bertie County GIS website

VII. Eastbrook (Tom Smithwick House): Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Eastbrook
HPO Survey Site #	BR0540
Location	1422 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6860-65-7835
Construction date	Circa 1908
Recommendation	Eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C



Façade, view to the west

Description

Setting

The early twentieth-century farm occupies 169 acres on the west side of NC 45 near Merry Hill. The house stands about thirty-seven feet from the highway. The outbuildings are southwest of the dwelling and the group of buildings is flanked by farm fields. Thick trees cover about two-thirds of the property on its the west side. Cashoke Creek, which flows southeast into the Albemarle Sound, forms much of the farm’s western and southern boundary. A dirt drive from NC 45 leads to the small complex.

Eastbrook

The circa 1908 two-story, Queen Anne-style, L-plan weatherboard dwelling features molded cornices above the windows and along the eaves and eave returns, and a one-story porch wrapping from the façade to the south and west elevations. Brick interior chimneys rise through the interior roof ridge and from the ridge on the one-story ell that extends from the rear elevation.

A standing seam metal roof covers the intact dwelling. The interior follows a central-passage plan and contains a grand staircase. The main block remains mostly intact with original woodwork, doors, and mantels. New wallboard has replaced the original plaster. The ell has been substantially renovated and an exterior porch along its south elevation incorporated into the interior.

Outbuildings include a weatherboard tobacco barn, a concrete block mule barn, and a small modern storage building. The mule barn has been converted to a bunk house. Two farm ponds are southwest of the agricultural complex.



Eastbrook site plan, created from HPOWEB



South elevation, view to the north



Central passage of main block looking into rear ell, view to the west southwest



Kitchen in rear ell, view to the northwest



Tobacco barn, view to the northeast



Mule barn, view to the southwest



Mule barn interior, view to the north

History

According to the current owner, Thomas A. Smithwick (1873-1953) built the house. The Smithwicks grew cotton and tobacco and raised mules.

Evaluation

Integrity

Eastbrook stands in its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The house has original windows and siding. The main block's interior remains intact, but the rear ell has been greatly altered. Overall, the house retains its integrity of workmanship, design, and materials. The house remains in a rural area of Bertie County and retains its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The tobacco barn retains integrity, but the mule barn has been converted to a bunk house for hunters. It no longer retains integrity of workmanship, design, materials, feeling, and association.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Eastbrook is a rural vernacular dwelling built in the early twentieth century. The house stands on an agricultural tract with two historic outbuildings—a mule barn and tobacco barn from the mid-twentieth century. Eastbrook lacks a full complement of intact outbuildings and little is known of its historic field patterns, two factors that might contribute to its significance in the area of agriculture. Eastbrook is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. No known person, including any member of the Smithwick family, has made significant contributions in any field is associated with Eastbrook. Therefore, it is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. In a county where intact two-story Queen Anne-style houses are rare, Eastbrook, a mostly intact vernacular rural house built in the early twentieth century, is recommended eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. Eastbrook is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for Eastbrook includes approximately three acres containing the house and outbuildings. The three acres is a portion of a 169-acre parcel and is an appropriate setting for the house eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.



NRHP Boundary, created from HPOWEB

VIII. Margaret and Richard Smith House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Margaret and Richard Smith House
Other Names	Guy Smith House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0536
Location	729 Old Merry Hill Road, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6862-10-4813
Construction date	Circa 1909
Recommendation	Eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C



Façade, view to the southeast

Description

Setting

The Margaret and Richard Smith House stands at the end of a long drive framed by crepe myrtles on a nearly-three-acre parcel. Boxwoods line the front sidewalk and extend along the front of the dwelling. A large field spreads out behind the house.

Margaret and Richard Smith House

The two-story, weatherboard vernacular Queen Anne-style house with asymmetrical massing features a two-story rear wing, two-over-two windows, and turned posts and balusters supporting the one-story wraparound porch. A one-story, gable-roofed wing extends from the rear elevation and features a shed-roofed porch spanning its south (side) elevation. A board-and-batten shed with a nearly flat roof stands east of the house.

The principal investigator contacted the owner, who lives in Raleigh, but received no response. Despite two site visits, the investigators were not able to access the interior. The 2009 survey file indicates the interior was mostly intact at that time and retained significant wood work and original finishes. The file describes the house as “carefully preserved.”



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

History

Engineer and architect Jonathan Rhodes Smith (1880-1965) designed the house for his parents, Margaret Rhodes Smith (1862-1935) and William Richard Smith (1852-1924), who were married in 1879. Jonathan Smith was the oldest of the couple’s ten children. In 1905, he earned a Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering from North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, now North Carolina State University.¹⁷ In 1908, he worked for the Phoenix Bridge Company and later at the Jobson Gifford Company and Walter Kidde Construction, both in New York. He married Florence Myer Smith.¹⁸



Jonathan Rhodes Smith, from the Agromeck, North Carolina State College yearbook, 1905

William Richard Smith was a farmer and merchant. He first married Margaret R. Smith and later married Irma Shield (1884-1936).¹⁹ Guy Hill Smith (1905-1983) inherited the house and lived there with his wife, Avelyn Smith, and their children. The Smiths farmed the property.

¹⁷ *The Agromeck* (North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts Yearbook): Volume Three, 1905, 45; “Forty Graduates Given Diplomas,” (Raleigh) *News and Observer*, June 1, 1905.

¹⁸ Death Certificate for Jonathan Rhodes Smith, dated Mary 26, 1965. North Carolina Death Certificates, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

¹⁹ “Services are Held for William Smith,” (Rocky Mount) *The Evening Telegram*, September 30, 1938.

In 1984, Avelyn Smith, a widow living in Buncombe County, sold the 2.69-acre property that included the house to Ruth A. and John E. Miller of Washington County, North Carolina.²⁰ An LLC in Raleigh now owns the property.



Driveway looking toward Old Merry Hill Road, view to the northwest



West (side) elevation, view to the east

²⁰ Bertie County Deed Book 644, page 421, dated June 1, 1984. Bertie County Register of Deeds Office, Windsor, North Carolina.



Southeast (rear) elevation, view to the north-northwest

Evaluation

Integrity

The Smith House retains integrity of workmanship, design, materials, feeling, and association. The house stands in its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The house remains in a rural area of Bertie County, which contributes to its integrity of setting.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Smith House functioned as a farm, but only one outbuilding remains on the property. Because of a lack of a full range of outbuildings and adequate acreage, the Smith House does not appear to possess significance under Criterion A, specifically in the area of agriculture.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. No one associated with the Smith House made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Margaret and Richard Smith House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Margaret and Richard Smith House is an intact

example of an early-twentieth-century weatherboard dwelling with Queen Anne massing and is recommended eligible under Criterion C for its architectural significance. The house is not eligible under Criterion C as the work of a master, specifically as the work of Jonathan Rhodes Smith, about whose career little is known.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Margaret and Richard Smith House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for the Margaret and Richard Smith House includes approximately the 2.69 acres containing the house, its outbuilding, and driveway, a significant landscape element. The acreage provides an appropriate setting for the house eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.



NRHP Map, created from HPOWEB

IX. Ella and Eugene Phelps House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Ella and Eugene Phelps House
HPO Survey Site #	BR1356
Location	728 Old Merry Hill Road, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6862-01-8348
Construction date	Circa 1925
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Southeast corner, view to the northwest

Description

Setting

The Ella and Eugene Phelps House faces southeast and stands on an eight-acre parcel at the northeast intersection of Old Merry Hill Road and NC 45 in Merry Hill. The house and its outbuildings occupy an open field bordered on the northwest by a thick forest of trees. A small farm pond is northeast of the house near the property's north boundary.

Ella and Eugene Phelps House

The one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, vinyl-sided bungalow displays battered wood posts atop brick plinths supporting a hip-roofed wraparound porch. A large front-gabled dormer rests on the front roof slope. The foundation consists of rusticated concrete block piers infilled between with modern smooth-face concrete blocks. The interior chimneys have been removed above the roofline. Windows are modern replacements.

A large modern metal-sided shed with an attached pergola stands west of the house. Two gable-front wood sheds possibly dating to the period of the house stand behind the house.

The principal investigators were unable to access the interior.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

History

Ella Lawrence Phelps (1903-1989) and her husband, Eugene Hathaway Phelps (1899-1980) likely built the bungalow around 1925. The couple married in 1921.²¹ The Phelpses had six children and farmed the land around the house. In 1982, following her husband’s 1980 death, Ella Phelps sold the property.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Ella and Eugene Phelps House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with replacement windows, vinyl siding, and the removal of two brick chimney stacks, lacks integrity of workmanship, design, association, and materials.

²¹ Grave of Eugene Hathaway Phelps, Edgewood Cemetery, Windsor, North Carolina.



Southwest corner of the dwelling and outbuildings, view to the north-northeast

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Ella and Eugene Phelps House is a circa 1925 bungalow accompanied on its eight-acre parcel by three outbuildings or storage buildings. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area including agriculture and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Phelpses, who built the house, but it does not appear they made any significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Ella and Eugene Phelps House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Ella and Eugene Phelps House is an altered bungalow, a house form common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Ella and Eugene Phelps House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

X. Taylor's Store: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Taylor's Store
HPO Survey Site #	BR0560
Location	135 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6854-40-5544
Construction date	1906
Recommendation	Not eligible under any Criteria



Façade (east elevation), view to the west

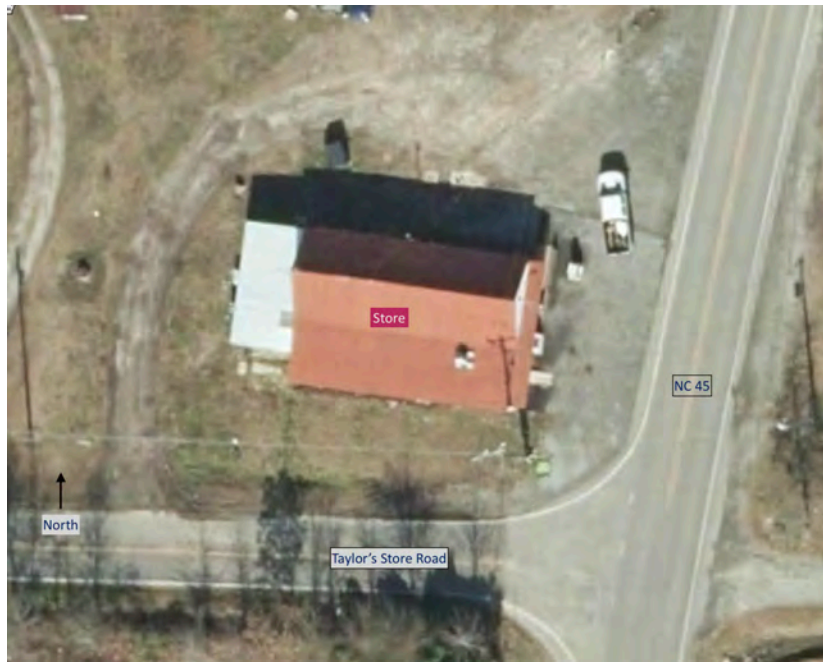
Description

Setting

Taylor's Store stands on the west side of NC 45 in a rural area of eastern Bertie County. Gravel-surfaced parking areas and driveways surround the store on the east, north, and west sides. Taylor's Store Road, which intersects with the west side of NC 45, is immediately to the south.

Taylor's Store

The one-story, gable-front, weatherboard building retains its recessed entry flanked by windows. The one-story addition to the south is a flat-roofed building with entry doors flush with its flanking windows. A shallow awning extends across the façade of both sections. A small, nearly flat-roofed, vinyl-sided addition on concrete blocks extends from the rear. All of the windows except for one on the rear elevation have been replaced.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

The interior maintains wooden shelves with turned supports and original wood floors. All surfaces have been painted white throughout the building.



Nearly flat-roofed addition on rear, view to the northeast



Front (northeast) corner, view to the southwest



Interior of main portion, view to the west

History

William Henry Taylor (1888-1955) built the main part of the store in 1906. The southern portion originally stood on the opposite side of NC 45 and was owned by the Gill family. Taylor purchased it and attached it to his store sometime in the early twentieth century. Besides running the store, William H. Taylor farmed and dealt in lumber.²² He married Annie Sue White (1891-1963) in 1910.²³

William Harry Taylor (1920-2006), a World War II veteran, took over his father's store and operated it for about forty years. In 1947, he married Amelia Lawrence. He later married Edna Reece. According to locals, the store had the community's first radio, television, and slot machine.

The store is no longer in the Taylor family. It currently serves as a clothing and home goods retail store.

Context: Early Twentieth-Century Stores in Bertie County

The country store functioned as an integral part of rural life in Bertie County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Small, independent stores sold goods that a family farm could not provide, but also served as a gathering place for rural residents who would otherwise remain isolated. Stores also functioned as locations for the county to collect taxes and as polling places. Approximately fourteen country stores remain in Rural Bertie County.



Myers Store (BR0761), view to the west

Myers Store (BR0761) at 1305 Meadow Road in north-central Bertie County is an intact, one-story, front-gabled weatherboard building with original windows. The Pruden Store (BR0556) in Merry Hill is a mostly intact circa 1900 two-story, front-gabled weatherboard building with a one-story, shed-roofed porch.

As automobiles became a common fixture in the county, several stores were built to accommodate gas pumps. The most intact of these rural gas stations is Leary Store

(BR0857), which dates to around 1935 and is an intact, one-story, hip-roofed store with an overhanging canopy supported by substantial wood posts.

²² William Henry Turner Death Certificate, dated April 19, 1955. Bertie County Register of Deeds Office, Windsor, North Carolina.

²³ Marriage Certificate for Annie Sue White and William Henry Taylor, dated June 5, 1910. Bertie County Register of Deeds Office, Windsor, North Carolina.



Pruden Store in Merry Hill, view to the northeast



Leary Store (BR0857), view to the southwest

Evaluation

Integrity

Taylor's Store stands in its original location alongside NC 45 in a rural setting in Bertie County and therefore retains its integrity of location and setting. The building's original recessed storefront and most of its weatherboard siding remain intact. However, the majority of its windows have been replaced recently, an alteration that compromises its integrity of workmanship, design, feeling, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Taylor's Store is one of approximately fourteen rural stores remaining in Bertie County. While it served as a point of commerce, many other standing structures in the county served the same purpose and retain a higher degree of integrity. Because of its loss of integrity compared to other country stores, Taylor's Store is not eligible for the NRHP.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Neither William Henry Taylor, who built the main part of the store in 1906, or his son, William Harry Taylor, who took over his father's store and operated it for about forty years demonstrates any particular significance in the history of Bertie County. Therefore, Taylor's Store is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Bertie County retains a significant number of intact rural stores. Taylor's Store—because it lacks integrity—does not convey significance in the area of architecture.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. Taylor's Store is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

XI. Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery
HPO Survey Site #	BR0029
Location	740 Ledrew Perry Road, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6854-36-2124
Construction date	1918; 1927; 1953; 1964
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Front (northwest) corner, view to the south-southeast

Description

Setting

The church, cemetery, and parsonage occupy a 2.86-acre parcel at the crossroads of Ledrew Perry Road and Capehart Church Road. The church and cemetery stand on approximately 1.9 acres on the southeast side of Ledrew Perry Road. The parsonage occupies a .6-acre portion of the tract on the opposite side of Ledrew Perry Road, west of its junction with Capehart Church Road. The parcel is level with a few large trees standing near the church. A thick, tall hedge borders the southwest side of the parking lot on the southwest side of the church. The cemetery contains no trees. The parcel is surrounding by agricultural fields.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery

Built in 1918, the weatherboard church covered in vinyl siding features two towers with spires of differing heights flanking a front-facing gable marked by a small round stained-glass window containing the dates 1824 and 1918, the year the church was founded and the construction date of the current building. Below the gable, three arches with hanging pendants top a recessed porch partially filled by a bay window. Stained glass fills the numerous round-arch windows on the main block. The vinyl siding covers all window trim.

The two-story, gable-roofed Sunday School wing built in 1927 intersects with the rear of the church building. Vinyl siding covers the wing, which retains its original two-over-two windows. The one-story, front-gabled 1964 addition attaches to the east end of the 1927 wing. It includes a gable-roofed carport on its east side. A modern shed with an attached open-sided storage structure stands behind the building.

The interior of the sanctuary remains unchanged since the 2009 county survey. A balcony extends along the south wall and original lights hang from the ceiling. Rows of curved pews occupy the gently sloping sanctuary floor.

The large cemetery spreads out in a field east of the church and contains mostly modern granite markers. The earliest grave markers date to the 1920s, but the large majority are from 1970 and later.

A 1953 parsonage stands northwest of the church, but on the same parcel. The side-gabled house has an inset porch on its façade. Vinyl siding and new windows alter the dwelling. A small modern storage building stands behind and to the northwest of the house.



Rear of 1927 classroom wing, view to the north-northeast

History

In 1824, seventy-four members of the Wiccacon and Cashie Baptist Churches formed Capeharts Baptist Church. Ten of the seventy-four charter members were African American. The congregation called Elder Rueben Lawrence as its first pastor. The first church building was constructed in 1870.²⁴

The original portion of the present building was constructed in 1918. According to local tradition, parishioner Frank Taylor filled a cart with sawdust to retrieve the stained-glass windows that had been transported to the county down the Chowan River. A Sunday School addition dates to 1927. The parsonage was built in 1953. In 1964, an addition was added to the 1927 wing. A modern one-story addition with a carport was added in the 2000s.

²⁴ "Capehart's Baptist Church, Merry Hill," *The Bertie Ledger-Advance*, September 28, 1972.



Northeast corner, view to the southwest



1964 addition and carport, view to the south-southwest



Sanctuary looking toward rear balcony, view to the south, photo from church Facebook page, April 2018



Cemetery, view to the west-southwest

Context: Early Twentieth-Century Churches in Bertie County

Early twentieth-century churches in Bertie County are overwhelmingly front-gable brick or weatherboard buildings with Gothic Revival-style elements, mostly notably arched windows. Capeharts Baptist Church and Greens Cross Missionary Baptist (BR0174) near Windsor are the only examples of Romanesque Revival-style churches. Like Capeharts Church, Greens Cross Missionary Baptist Church, which dates to 1923, is a vernacular Romanesque Revival-influenced weatherboard church with arched windows. The church located near Windsor features a single tower on its ship's prow façade. Vinyl siding covers the exterior.



Greens Cross Missionary Baptist Church (BR0174), view to the north-northwest

Evaluation

Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery remains at its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The church possesses integrity of setting because it remains in a rural setting where it was built in 1918. The church's integrity of material has been compromised by the covering of the exterior, including original window trim, with vinyl siding. The church's integrity of association has been compromised by the vinyl siding. However, the integrity of association is bolstered by the continuous use of the building by the Capeharts Baptist Church congregation. The church ability to evoke the aesthetic or historic sense of a rural church from 1918 has been compromised leading to its lack of integrity of feeling. The property's integrity of workmanship has been compromised by the application of vinyl siding. Finally, the composition of elements that constitute the form, plan, space, and style of a vernacular Romanesque Revival-influenced church are deficient and therefore the property lacks integrity of design.

Ordinarily properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes are not considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are a

religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Although Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery has served the spiritual needs of its congregants and as a community gathering place, it does not demonstrate significance for its association with events or patterns of events, including the history of religion in Bertie County, and therefore it is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

No one associated with Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery achieved any particular significance on the national, state, or local level. Therefore, the building is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Because of modern alterations that compromise its integrity, Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion. The covering of the exterior, including important architectural elements, prevent the church from adequately conveying its embodiment of the vernacular Romanesque Revival-style architecture in Bertie County.

It is unlikely that additional study of this property would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. Therefore, Capeharts Baptist Church and Cemetery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

XII. Bowen House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Bowen House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0568
Location	637 NC 45, Ashland vicinity
PIN	6855-43-5459
Construction date	Circa 1870-1890
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Façade (east elevation), view to the west

Description

Setting

The Bowen House stands near the south end of a sixty-seven-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45. The house occupies the north end of a four-acre field. The remaining sixty-three acres is covered with trees and an agricultural field. The dwelling’s immediate setting is overgrown.

Bowen House

The extremely deteriorated, one-story, side-gabled house rests on concrete blocks and sawn wood and is composed of two, three-bay sections with different exterior claddings. It appears the southern section was built first, followed by the northern block. Plain weatherboard covers the southern section. The front wall of the northern section is sheathed in board-and-batten, while the rest of that part of the dwelling is weatherboard. Each side of the facade features a door with a window to one side. An engaged porch shelters the full-width front porch. The dwelling’s poor

condition prevented interior inspection, but it appears the southern section contains one room. The interior of the northern section whose façade is sheathed in board-and-batten was not accessible. A portion of the porch has collapsed, as has most of the rear exterior wall leaving the interior open to the elements. The north gable end has also collapsed.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Front porch, view to the north-northwest



Rear elevation, view to the east-northeast

History

Little is known about this abandoned house. Deed references suggest it once belonged to members of the Bowen family.

Evaluation

The Bowen House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house retains its original siding and some original windows but has suffered from extreme neglect resulting in the partial collapse of the front porch and full collapse of most of the rear elevation where the back wall is missing. In addition, much of the roofing is gone and a large portion of the upper chimney has collapsed. Because of its current condition, the house lacks integrity of workmanship, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Bowen House does not appear to possess significance in any area. Specifically, a lack of outbuildings makes it not eligible for agricultural significance. Therefore, the Bowen House is not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Bowens, who built owned the house, but it does not appear they made any significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Bowen House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Bowen House is a severely deteriorated late-nineteenth-century weatherboard house in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Bowen House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



North gable end, view to the southwest

XIII. Ashland School: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Ashland School
HPO Survey Site #	BR0564, Study List
Location	901 NC 45, Ashland vicinity
PIN	6855-87-3892
Construction date	Circa 1930
Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria A and C



Façade, view to the west-northwest

Description

Setting

Ashland School stands on the north end of a four-acre parcel it shares with modern brick Ashland Baptist Church. A cemetery associated with the church is just to the west and southwest of the school. The parcel is mostly void of trees.

Ashland School

The one-story, rectangular, weatherboard building resting on concrete blocks features a symmetrical façade with a projecting front-gabled portico sheltering two five-panel doors. A single door pierces the south gable end. The rear elevation displays four small high windows to allow in western light. A roof with exposed rafter tails and covered with standing-seam metal crowns the school.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Rear elevation, view to the east-southeast



Southeast (front) corner, view to the northwest



Interior, view to the north-northeast



Detail of front portico, view to the west-northwest



North gable end, view to the east

The interior retains its original finishes and pull-down classroom divider. A hole in the roof has compromised not only a portion of the roof structure, but also the ceiling boards and floor boards under the hole.

History

In February 1922, E.L. and Ella Gatling sold a parcel of land near Merry Hill to the Bertie County Board of Education. The deed indicates that some of the funding for the purchase came from two African American farmers, Plummer Gaskins and Israel Pearlie Cobb, and “others.”²⁵ Gaskins and Cobb were members of Ashland Missionary Baptist Church, which stands adjacent to the school and likely helped to support the school during segregation.²⁶ In 1963, the county board of education sold the building to the church, which still owns it.²⁷ In 2003, Hurricane Isabel damaged the building, most notably the roof.

Context: Early Twentieth Century African American Schools in Bertie County

As the twentieth century dawned in Bertie County and across the state of North Carolina, schools for whites and blacks remained separate. Despite campaigns waged by parents and community leaders for equalization in materials and facilities for African American students, schools remained separate, but unequal into the late twentieth century.

Public education became available to African Americans in Bertie County during the early twentieth century largely because of the work of the Rosenwald Fund, which was started in 1917 by Julius Rosenwald, the head of Sears, Roebuck, and Company. Nineteen Rosenwald schools were budgeted for construction in Bertie County between 1918 and 1930. At least four have been demolished or lost to neglect, but several remain standing. Sam’s Chapel School (BR0778) at 511 Governors Road dates to circa 1919 and is a one-teacher school topped with a hipped roof. The window openings have been reduced and vinyl covers the exterior. St. Francis School (BR1123) on St. Francis Road southwest of Windsor is an altered two-teacher, Rosenwald school built in 1919-1930. A hip-roofed projecting block is located on the façade of the side-gabled main building. The school retains its original weatherboard siding.

In addition to buildings financed through the Rosenwald Fund, the county constructed schools based on Rosenwald plans distributed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. The two-teacher Cashie School on NC 308 (BR0322, Study List), also known as St. Luke’s School, dates to 1923-1924. The hip-roofed weatherboard building rests on rusticated concrete blocks and displays a dentil cornice and vernacular Greek Revival-style corner posts.

²⁵ Bertie County Deed Book 218, page 80, Bertie County Register of Deeds, Windsor, North Carolina.

²⁶ *Historic African American Churches in Bertie County* (Windsor, North Carolina: Black Experience Committee, Historic Hope Foundation, Roanoke Chowan Heritage Center, 1997), 1.

²⁷ Bertie County Deed Book 522, page 163, Bertie County Register of Deeds, Windsor, North Carolina.



St. Francis School (BR1123) view to the south

Evaluation

Ashland School stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The school retains its original siding and portico but has suffered from hurricane damage resulting in the partial collapse of a portion of the roof. Despite the damage, the school, with its intact interior and fenestration patterns, retains integrity of workmanship, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Ashland School is significant in the areas of education and black ethnic heritage for its role in educating African American students in Bertie County from circa 1930 into the 1960s.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. It does not appear that anyone associated with Ashland School made specific significant contributions in any field. Therefore, Ashland School is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Built during the Great Depression, Ashland School's style and form draws heavily from plans issued by the Rosenwald Fund and distributed by the

State of North Carolina after the program’s demise. Ashland School is a rare surviving two-teacher Rosenwald plan school with significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. Ashland School is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for Ashland School includes an area of approximately 0.30 acres at the northeast corner of the legal parcel owned by Ashland Missionary Baptist Church (PIN 6855-87-3892). The boundary includes the school and its immediate setting. The east boundary follows the existing right-of-way along NC 45, while the north boundary is part of the northern property line for the church. The west and south boundaries are drawn to encompass the school and an appropriate setting for conveying the building’s significance in the areas of education, black ethnic heritage, and architecture on the local level of significance. The boundary represents the land resources, and features associated with Ashland School, which has been associated with this parcel since its construction around 1930.



Recommended NRHP boundary shaded in blue, created from HPOWEB

XIV. Henry H. Williams House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Henry H. Williams House
HPO Survey Site #	BR1358
Location	923 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6855-88-5644
Construction date	Circa 1930
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Facade, view to the west

Description

Setting

The house stands on a 1.73-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45. The area around the house and outbuildings is level, grass-covered terrain. Trees cover the rear or west side of the parcel.

Henry H. Williams House

One-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow features original three-over-one windows and a full-façade recessed porch supported by square posts on brick plinths. A shed-roof dormer with three windows rests on the front roof slope. A single brick chimney rises from the interior near the house’s north end. Aluminum siding sheathes the exterior. A side-gabled carport with round metal posts extends from the west side of the south elevation. A two-story, front-gabled wood packhouse and a one-story metal-sided shed stand behind the house.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Southwest (rear) corner showing carport addition, view to the northeast



West (rear) elevation, view to the east



Packhouse and garage behind the house, view to the west

History

Deeds suggest farmer Henry H. Williams (1880-1962) built the house around 1930. In 1946, he sold the property to his son, William Williams.²⁸ It has changed ownership several times.

²⁸ Bertie County Deed Book 337, page 97, Bertie County Register of Deeds, Windsor, North Carolina.

Integrity

The Henry H. Williams House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with the application of aluminum siding, lacks integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Henry H. Williams House is a circa 1930 bungalow accompanied on its 1.73-acre parcel by a pack house and corrugated metal garage. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area including agriculture and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Henry H. Williams, who built the house, but it does not appear he or his descendants made any significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Henry H. Williams House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Henry H. Williams House is an altered bungalow, a house form common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Henry H. Williams House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

XV. Ashland: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Ashland
HPO Survey Site #	BR0007/NRHP
Location	948 NC 45, Ashland vicinity
PIN	6855-99-5597
Construction date	Circa 1840
Recommendation	Remains eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C for Architecture



Facade of Ashland, view to the east-southeast

The following description and history come from the National Register nomination for Ashland prepared by Heather Fearnbach (2003).

Description

Setting

Ashland stands on an eight-acre parcel on the east side of NC 45. The house stands back approximately 250 feet from the road and is surrounded by agricultural fields. An original brick walk leads from the front porch towards NC 45. A lone cedar near the road and several hardwoods behind the house remain from the mid-nineteenth-century landscape plan. A modern barn is just south of the house and a swimming pool, country store converted into a pool house, and a pergola over a carport are behind the main dwelling.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

Ashland

The gable-roofed, framed weatherboard, Greek Revival-style dwelling stands two stories and displays five bays on its façade. The single-pile house includes a two-story rear ell. One-story, shed-roofed porches grace the front and rear elevations of the main block and the side elevations of the ell. Resting on brick piers with modern brick lattice infill, Ashland displays three single-shouldered, brick, three-to-one common bond, gable end chimneys. Fluted architraves with decorative square corner blocks surmount the plain sills of the original double-hung, six-over-six windows throughout. Mutule blocks with guttae enhance the boxed cornices on the main block. At the entrance, a four-light fixed transom above the hand-grained door illuminates the central passage. The front porch is a reconstruction of the original.

Two parlors on the first floor and two bedrooms on the upper level flank the center hall. In addition to the main stair, a service stair serves the rear ell. Both stairs feature narrow, rectangular balusters, rounded handrails, and tapered newel posts. The interior includes twelve-foot ceilings, heart-pine floors, tall baseboards, Greek Revival mantels, and architraves with a variety of cornerblocks.

Two outbuildings, a swimming pool, and a pergola-topped carport have been added to the property since it was listed in the NRHP in 2003. Since the listing, a former rural commercial building was moved to the backyard to serve as a pool house and a pool was built just to the south of the former store. A modern metal barn and workshop was constructed in the south yard.



Rear elevation, view to the west

History

The slaves of Augustus Holley (1808-1882) built Ashland on land he inherited from his father, Thomas Holley, in the 1830s. By around 1840, Augustus Holley and his wife, Martha Holley, occupied the house located on a prosperous and large plantation. By the eve of the Civil War, he reigned as one of Bertie County's wealthiest men making money from agriculture, real estate, and his successful fishing operation. After Martha Holley died in 1872, Augustus married Sally Jernigan, who inherited Ashland when her husband passed away in 1882.

J. P. Hoggard, who bought the property from Sally Jernigan Holley's heirs in 1911, sold off much of the land associated with the house. Later owners sold additional acreage. The current owners bought the house and 6.93 acres in 1996. The parcel currently contains eight acres.



South elevation, view to the north



Stair in central passage, view to the north-northeast



Relocated store now a pool house in rear yard, view to the north-northwest



Modern barn and workshop, view to the southeast

Context: Greek Revival Architecture in Bertie County

Bertie County's eighteenth-century Georgian-influenced dwellings gave way to the taller, lighter Federal style in the nineteenth century. In turn, the use of Federal-style adornment slowly waned toward the middle of the nineteenth century as the Greek Revival style came into vogue. The latter style was introduced in the state in the 1820s with prominent buildings in Edenton and Raleigh and was further popularized by pattern books.

Characterized by broader proportions overall and in detail, the style is well-represented in Bertie County with several examples listed in the NRHP. Listed houses include those with transitional Federal-Greek Revival designs, houses built strictly in the Greek Revival style, and older houses of other styles with Greek Revival-style additions or renovations. Scotch Hall (BR0099, NR 1982) is an early example and one that shows the shift from the Federal style, employed at the molding, to the Greek Revival, seen in its mantels.

Another Federal-Greek Revival example is the circa 1840 Taylor-Simmons House (BR0156), a two-story, side-gabled, four-bay wide house. The Taylor-Simmons House has weatherboard siding, six-over-nine windows, pilastered cornerboards, and a sawnwork bargeboard at the hip-roofed porch. A vestigial cornerboard between the third and fourth bays indicate an expansion of the original house. The house may have been originally a side-passage plan but the added rooms altered the original configuration. The house has exterior brick chimneys, boxed eaves, and metal roofing.



Taylor-Simmons House, view to the northeast

The circa 1840 Henry Beasley House (BR0015) is a two-story, side-gabled Greek Revival dwelling in Colerain. Its façade is five bays wide with a gabled portico with fluted squared columns at the centered front entry. Molded architraves with peaked lintels and Greek key cornerblocks accent the nine-over-nine sash. The front entry has sidelights and a transom, weatherboards sheathe the exterior, and a brick exterior end chimney is at each pedimented gable-end wall. Another side-gabled, five-bay wide Greek Revival example is the circa 1845 Lane House (BR0587), which has a nearly full-width, hip-roofed porch with Tuscan columns, weatherboard exterior, nine-over-nine sash, and double-leaf front entry, and exterior brick chimneys at pedimented gable ends. The Henry Beasley and Lane Forehand houses are both I-houses.²⁹

Greek Revival additions and alterations are evident at some of the county's older dwellings as well. Augustus Holly purchased a late-eighteenth-century coastal cottage known as the Hermitage (BR0059, NR 1982) with a large addition rendered in a combination of Federal and Greek Revival styles. Interior details, including architraves and mantels, have much in common with the pattern-book Greek Revival designs at Holly's other home, Ashland. Elmwood (BR0107, NR 1982), built circa 1860 near Windsor, also introduced Greek Revival designs with a mid-nineteenth century expansion to a Federal period dwelling. It, too, has similarities to the trim at Ashland's architraves. Surviving Bertie County rural dwellings also show the shift in form throughout the first half of the nineteenth century. Houses generally stood taller on the landscape by the end of this period. Some reflected separate building periods and transitional styles, while later houses were more consistent expressions of the Greek Revival style that came to dominate in the years just before the Civil War.³⁰

²⁹ Marshall Bullock, "Scotch Hall," National Register of Historic Places Form, 1980; Bertie County Survey Files.

³⁰ Blokker, 41-45; Heather Fearnbach, "Ashland," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 2003, 1-2, 5-6.



Henry Beasley House in Colerain, view to the west

Evaluation

Integrity

Ashland retains a high degree of integrity and is little changed since it was placed on the NRHP in 2003. It stands in its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The original floor plan, as well as significant exterior and interior elements including pattern book architraves, window sash, doors, and single-shouldered chimneys of the Greek Revival-style house have been preserved. One of the most intact mid-nineteenth-century plantation houses in the county, Ashland possesses integrity of workmanship, design, and materials. The house remains intact and in a rural area of Bertie County and therefore retains its integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Under the Holley's ownership, Ashland served as the seat of a plantation, but nineteenth or early twentieth century outbuildings or landscapes that would contribute to the property's significance in the area of agriculture do not remain. Ashland does not appear to possess significance under Criterion A, specifically in the area of agriculture.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Augustus Holley (1809-1882) was a planter and owned a fishery on the Chowan River. He became one of the wealthiest men in Bertie County just before the Civil War and gave generously to Wesleyan Female College and Wake Forest College. J. P. Hoggard purchased the property in 1911. Neither Holley

nor Hoggard made discernable contributions to local, state, or national history therefore Ashland is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Ashland is an exceptionally intact Greek Revival-style dwelling that demonstrates significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. Ashland is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

When Ashland was listed in the NRHP in 2003, two acres was included as part of the nominated parcel. To remain consistent with those boundaries, the recommended NRHP boundary for Ashland is two acres, which includes the dwelling and the original front brick walk and the noncontributing barn, former store, and swimming pool. This setting provides a historically appropriate setting for the house, which is listed in the NRHP for its architectural significance.



Ashland NRHP Boundary, created from HPOWEB

XVI. Riverside Baptist Church and Cemetery: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Riverside Baptist Church and Cemetery
HPO Survey Site #	BR1359
Location	1206 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6866-05-5405
Construction date	1967, 1983
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Facade of sanctuary, view to the east-southeast

Description

Setting

The church and its parsonage, cemetery, and support structures stand on a 5.89-acre site on the east side of NC 45 near Merry Hill. The parcel is flat and with a few scattered trees.

Riverside Baptist Church

The church is a roughly T-shaped brick building. The main body containing the sanctuary displays a ship’s prow front-facing gable. A wall of metal-framed windows with double-leaf entrance doors is tucked beneath the overhang on the façade and flanked by projecting brick walls. The steeple dates to 1980. The original fellowship hall on the north side of the church features a ship’s prow gable-roofed wing containing double-leaf doors with large sidelights at the

entrance on the south end of the façade. Double-leaf doors with a transom pierce the north gable end. The south end of the fellowship hall is topped with another ship's prow gable that intersects with the main gable. The south brick wing dates to 1983 and is topped by a gable roof. It features a double leaf door on the north end of its façade.

The cemetery is south of the church building. Approximately sixty of its approximately 170 graves date to 1968 or prior with the oldest grave dating to 1908. Grave stones are overwhelmingly modern and made from granite.

A freestanding gable-roofed shelter (circa 1990) with a gable roof stands behind the church. Just to the south stands a modern shed added to the site in 1989. A tennis/basketball court is east of the parsonage and a baseball field is directly east of the church.

The significantly-altered parsonage dates to the late 1940s and is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled dwelling with a front-gabled porch supported by simple posts. An interior brick chimney is located on the roof ridge. The side porch was enclosed in 1985 and vinyl siding was applied in 1998. Windows are modern replacements. In the early 2000s, a carport was added to the rear yard.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Original north wing built in 1967, view to the southeast

History

Riverside Baptist Church was organized in 1913 at Mizelle School (not extant) with forty-four members from area churches.³¹ Dora Corbett, who lived near the Chowan River, suggested the name. Rev. J. O. Alderman served as the first pastor. Church members erected the first building in 1914 and added a classroom building in 1919-1920. The parsonage was built in the late 1940s.



Interior of sanctuary, view to the west, photo from Facebook, 2018

³¹ "Riverside Baptist Church: A New Church Organized Near Mt. Gould, on Chowan River," *Windsor Ledger*, November 6, 1913; *History of Riverside Baptist Church* (Merry Hill, North Carolina: Riverside Baptist Church, 2003), 1-4.



South wing added in 1983, view to the east



Rear of north wing and portion of 1990 picnic shelter, view to the southwest



Cemetery, view to the east



Parsonage, view to the east

The church hired Edenton Construction Company and White and Woodley Contractors of Ahoskie to build the current church, which was completed and dedicated in January 1967.³² The original church was demolished that same year. The tennis courts were built in the mid-1970s

³² *Bertie Ledger-Advance*, September 28, 1972.

and the steeple was added in 1980. A new Sunday school wing was added to the south side in 1983 and the baseball field was built in the mid- to late 1980s. In 1985, the church enclosed the porch on the parsonage and in 1987 it built the tower to display the bell from the original 1914 church. In 1989, a storage building was constructed. In the early 1990s, a playground was built and a recreation shelter added to the fellowship hall. In 1998, the parsonage was covered with vinyl siding. In the early 2000s, a carport was added to the rear of the parsonage.³³

Context: Modernist Mid-Twentieth-Century Churches in Bertie County

The overwhelmingly dominant style of church from the 1960s in Bertie County is a red-brick, front-gabled Colonial Revival-style building topped with a steeple. Modernist churches are far less common and striking in their departure from the traditional ecclesiastical idiom.

Built in 1962, Windsor United Methodist Church at 408 South Queen Street in Windsor is a red-brick building with a soaring ship's prow gable. A swath of the façade's center wall projects forward and is flanked by windowless expanses on both sides. An original metal-shingle-clad steeple rises from the roof's ridge. An original one-story, flat-roofed classroom wing retains its metal awning-style windows. The sanctuary displays original wood sheathing on the walls and ceiling.



Windsor United Methodist Church, view to the north

³³ Rhodes H. Pratt and James N. Matthews, "History of Riverside Baptist Church," archive.org.; Excerpts from Riverside Baptist Church minutes, archive.org.



Peterson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, view to the southeast

Peterson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church at 514 Avoca Farm Road in rural east Bertie County dates to 1974. The restrained modernist red-brick edifice built for an African American congregation displays a ship's prow front gable sheltering a cross crafted from white brick. Other modernist churches in Bertie County include Askewville Assembly of God built in 1960 and Windsor Assembly of God from 1973.

Evaluation

Riverside Baptist Church remains at its original location and therefore retains integrity of location. The church possesses integrity of setting because it remains in a rural setting where it was built in 1967. The integrity of association is bolstered by the continuous use of the building by the Riverside Baptist Church congregation. The church's ability to evoke the aesthetic or historic sense of a rural modernist church from 1967 contributes to its integrity of feeling. The addition of a 1983 wing somewhat compromises the church's integrity of workmanship, materials, and design.

Ordinarily properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes are not considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP if they are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Although Riverside Baptist Church has served the spiritual needs of its congregants and as a community gathering place, it does not demonstrate significance for its association with events or patterns of events, including the history of religion in Bertie County, and therefore it is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

No one associated with Riverside Baptist Church achieved any particular significance on the national, state, or local level. Therefore, the building is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Built in 1967, Riverside Baptist Church is a modernist rural church with a south wing added in 1983. Although it is mostly intact, it holds no architectural significance in Bertie County.

It is unlikely that additional study of this property would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. Therefore, Riverside Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

XVII. Mizelle House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Mizelle House
HPO Survey Site #	BR1360
Location	1243 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6866-07-4339
Construction date	Circa 1925
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Southeast (front) corner, view to the northwest

Description

Setting

The house stands on a 1.58-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45. The area around the house and outbuildings is level, grass-covered terrain. A few trees dot the parcel, but tree coverage is thicker on the west side of the tract.

Mizelle House

One-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow features a full-façade recessed porch supported by battered posts on brick plinths and a one-story gabled rear ell. A front-gable dormer with three replacement windows rests on the front roof slope. Chimneys flues have been removed and all windows have been replaced. Vinyl siding sheathes the exterior. Three modern outbuildings

stand behind the house: a large metal-sided barn, a front-gabled storage building with an open shed on the south side and a metal storage building that is open on its façade.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Northeast (front) corner, view to the southwest



Three outbuildings in rear yard, view to the west

History

Tax information suggests the Mizelle family built the house. Repeated attempts to reach the owner for additional proof proved unsuccessful.

Integrity

The Mizelle House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with the application of vinyl siding and replacement of its windows, lacks integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Mizelle House is a circa 1925 bungalow accompanied on its less-than-two-acre parcel by three modern outbuildings. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Mizelles, but it is unlikely members of the family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Mizelle House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a

master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Mizelle House is a significantly-altered bungalow, a house form common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Mizzelle House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

XVIII. Harrell House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Harrell House
HPO Survey Site #	BR1361
Location	1326 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6866-19-1000
Construction date	Circa 1925
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



House, view to the northeast

Description

Setting

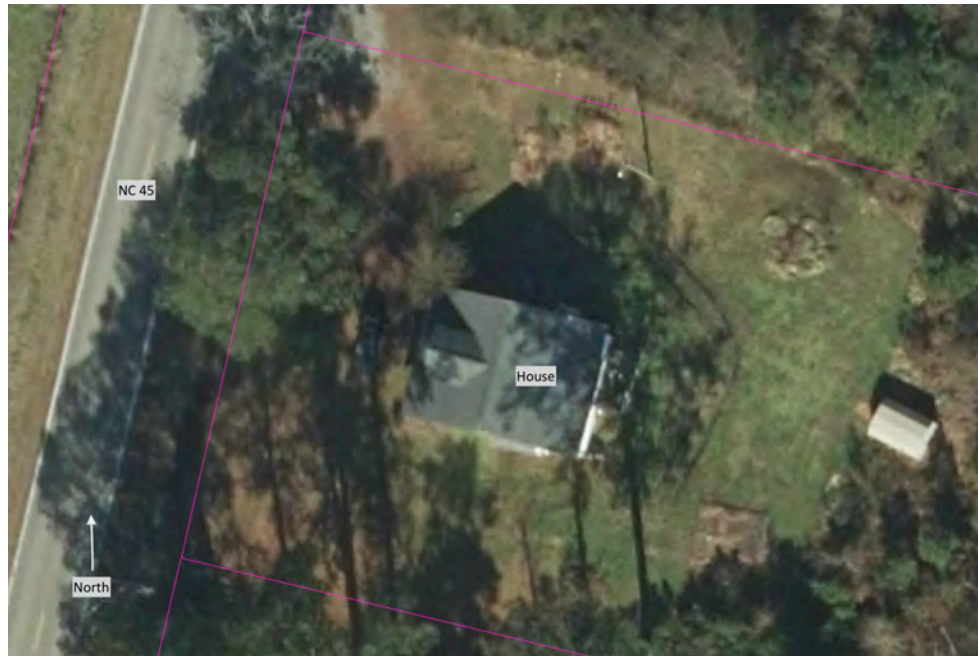
The house stands on a less-than-one-acre parcel on the east side of NC 45. A few trees dot the parcel, with tree coverage thicker on the east side of the tract.

Harrell House

The one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow features a full-façade recessed porch supported by battered wooden full-height posts. A front-gable dormer with three replacement windows rests on the front roof slope. Chimneys flues have been removed and all windows have been replaced. Aluminum siding sheathes the exterior. The house retains rafter tails and triangular knee braces.

History

According to a local source, the Harrell family built this bungalow. The house has had several owners since the Harrells sold it in the 1990s.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

Evaluation

Integrity

The Harrell House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with the application of vinyl siding and insertion of replacement windows, lacks integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Harrell House is a circa 1925 bungalow on a less-than-one-acre parcel. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Harrells, but it is unlikely members of the family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Harrell House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Harrell House is an altered bungalow, a house form common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Harrell House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



Facade, view to the east

XIX. Farless House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Farless House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0223
Location	1341 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6866-19-0912
Construction date	1907
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Façade, view to the west

Description

Setting

The house stands on a less-than-one-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45. A few trees dot the parcel, with tree coverage thicker on the west side of the tract.

Farless House

The two-story, triple-A house features a one-story, full-façade, hip-roofed porch supported by slender replacement posts and crowned at the center by a small front gable. Diamond wood shingles sheathe the larger front gable above. Brick chimneys rise from the gable ends of the main block, which also feature returns common on I-houses from the early twentieth century. Original six-over-six windows remain throughout the dwelling. Vinyl siding covers the exterior.

A hip-roofed, one-story room and a one-story ell with flush gable ends extends from the rear elevation. A porch runs along most of the south (side) elevation of the ell. The flue on the chimney at the west end of the ell has been replaced after being knocked down by Hurricane Isabell.

According to the owner, the interior has been altered with the installation of wall paneling and acoustical tiles.

A modern, gable-front storage building stands in the rear yard.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Southwest (rear) corner, view to the northeast



North gable end, view to the south

History

Henderson Farless likely built this house in 1908. His son, William Farless (1893-1971), was a long-time owner and occupant. The house stood at the center of a farm that produced cotton, corn, tobacco, and soybeans.³⁴ It has changed ownership several times.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Farless House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with the application of vinyl siding, lacks integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Farless House is a 1908 triple-A dwelling on a less-than-one-acre parcel. No historic outbuildings associated with the house remain standing. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

³⁴ Michele Meishcheid, interview with Jennifer Martin, November 10, 2018.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known of the Farlesses, but it is unlikely members of the family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Farless House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Farless House is an altered triple-A dwelling, a house form fairly common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Farless House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



Storage building in rear yard, view to the west

XX. Cullipher House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Cullipher House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0224
Location	1403 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6867-00-9447
Construction date	Circa 1910
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Facade, view to the west-northwest

Description

Setting

The house stands on a less-than-one-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45 at its intersection with Nixon Road. Only two trees stand on the parcel. Some overgrown shrubbery grows close to the house.

Cullipher House

The I-house features a one-story, partial-width, hip-roofed porch supported by full-height battered wood posts. Paneled and glazed sidelights flank the four-panel wood front door. Each gable end displays returns. Chimneys have been removed and the exterior covered in asphalt sheathing. A one-story gabled ell with a south (side) elevation shed-roofed porch extends from

the rear elevation. A door on the ell's north elevation has been covered with plywood. Original six-over-six windows remain throughout the dwelling.

The parcel contains a front-gabled outbuilding with an attached single-bay garage and an open-sided shed.

The principal investigators could not gain access to the interior since the owner lives out of state.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Front door, view to the west-northwest



South elevation and outbuilding, view to the northwest



Northeast corner, view to the southwest

History

According to a neighbor, Jack Cullipher owned and occupied the house for many years. It now stands vacant.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Cullipher House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house, altered with the application of asphalt siding and the removal of all of its chimneys, lacks integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Cullipher House is a circa 1910 I-house on a less-than-one-acre parcel. One historic outbuilding remains on the less-than-one-acre parcel. The altered dwelling does not appear to possess significance in any area and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. The Cullipher family likely built the house. It does not appear members of the family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Cullipher House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Cullipher House is an altered I-house, a dwelling form common in rural Bertie County. It does not appear to hold significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Cullipher House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

XXI. Womble House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Womble House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0225
Location	1417 NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6867-11-4349
Construction date	Circa 1900
Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria C



Facade, view to the east

Description

Setting

The Womble House stands on a twenty-one-acre parcel on the east side of NC 45 at its intersection with Mount Gould River Road. A few large trees stand near the house, but farm fields cover the remainder of the tract.

Womble House

The one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled dwelling with a one-story, gable-roofed ell displays a shed-roofed front porch with slender wood replacement posts and brick chimneys on each gable end of the main block. Original weatherboard and some German siding remain on the exterior. Three front-gabled dormers rest on the front roof slope, while two front-gabled dormers occupy the rear roof slope. A shed roofed porch extends along the rear elevation continuing to the south (side) elevation of the ell. The house rests on brick foundation piers.

The interior retains original beadboard sheathing on the ceilings and walls, wood floors, and window trim with simple molded corner blocks.

The parcel contains a front-gabled packhouse standing southeast of the house.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Detail of front porch, view to the north-northeast



South gable end, view to the north



Southeast corner, view to the northeast



Northeast corner, view to the southwest

History and Architectural Context

The 2009 Bertie County architectural survey identified the house as associated with the Womble family. It appears to have stood vacant for many years.

The Womble House represents a rare intact building type in Bertie County. The one- or one-and-a-half-story house, the latter sometimes identified as “a story and a jump,” typically stood at the center of an agricultural complex and sometimes carried Victorian elements such as turned posts or sawnwork on porches. A few examples of the one-and-a-half-story, single-pile weatherboard house survive, but none retains the level of integrity of the Womble House.

The Bond House at 333 Indian Woods Road southwest of Windsor is a one-story, side-gabled weatherboard house that retains its weatherboard siding. A full-width shed-roofed porch extends along the façade and a single interior brick chimney rises from the roof ridge near the deteriorated dwelling’s north end.



South parlor taken from front window, view to the east

Overflow Farm (BR0764) at 2949 NC 13N contains a one-story, side-gabled dwelling with gable end brick

chimneys. The single-pile house with a later Craftsman porch has been altered with vinyl siding and a modern metal roof.



Bond House at 333 Indian Woods Road, view to the southeast



House on the Overflow Farm (BR0764), view to the west

Evaluation

Integrity

The Womble House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The highly-intact house retains integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Womble House is a circa 1900 one-and-half-story, single-pile, side-gabled house. One historic outbuilding remains on the parcel. Because of a lack of additional outbuildings or discernable historic field patterns, the dwelling does not appear to possess significance for agriculture or in any other area and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

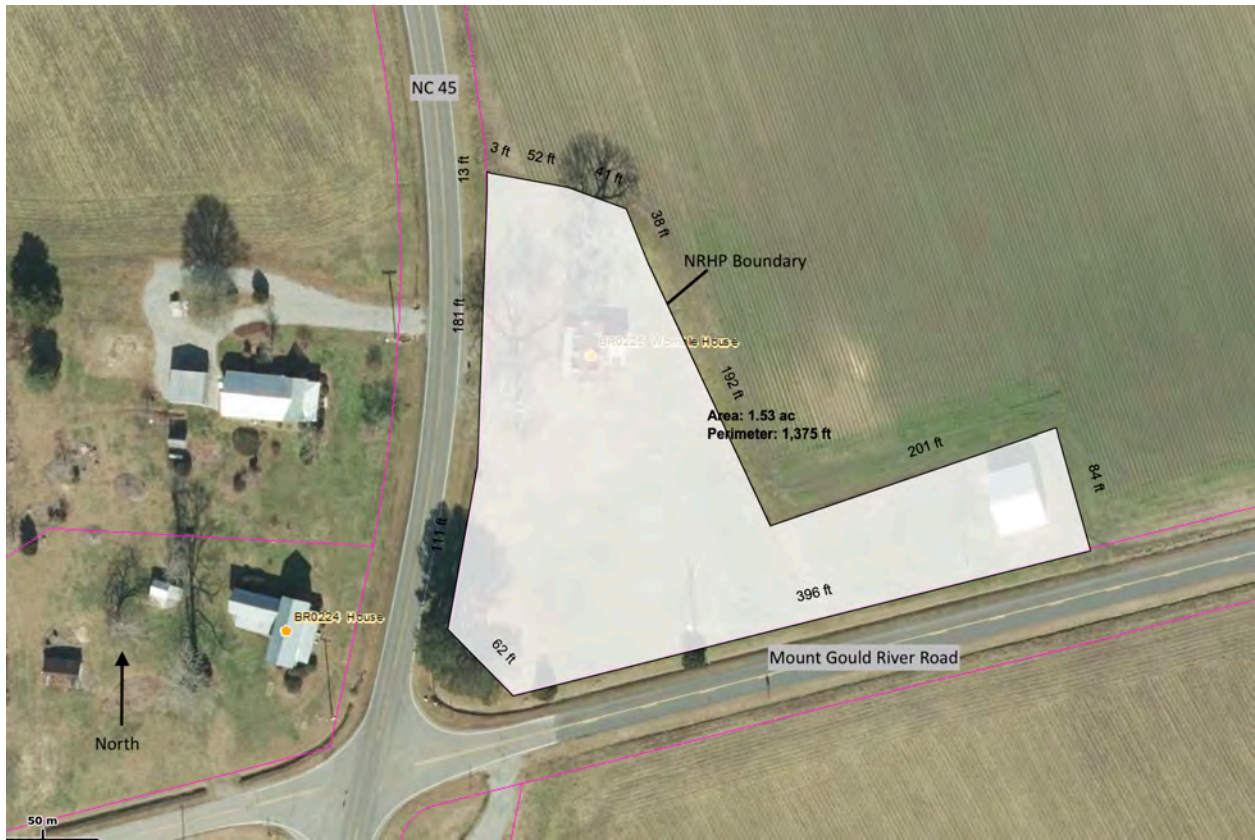
Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. The Womble family likely built or were early occupants of the house. It does not appear members of the family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Womble House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Womble House is a highly-intact vernacular dwelling from around the turn of the twentieth century. It stands as the most intact of its form and style in the county and represents the type of house built by prosperous farmers during that period. The Womble House holds significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Womble House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for the Womble House is the 1.5 acres containing the house, packhouse, and immediate yard. The boundary follows the right-of-way along NC 45 and Mount Gould River Road and the edge of the cultivated fields on the north and west sides of the buildings. The boundary excludes the remainder of the twenty-one-acre tract. The 1.5-acre boundary provides a historically appropriate setting for the house, which is recommended eligible for the NRHP for its architectural significance.



Womble House NRHP boundary map, created from HPOWEB

XXII. Hassell Cemetery: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Hassell Cemetery or Leary Cemetery
HPO Survey Site #	BR1363
Location	1529B NC 45, Merry Hill vicinity
PIN	6857-93-4963
Construction date	1866-1990
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Hassell Cemetery, view to the southwest

Description

Setting

Hassell Cemetery, also called Leary Cemetery, occupies an approximately six thousand square foot parcel in the center of a cotton field on the west side of NC 45. A modern ranch house stands just to the northeast.

Hassell Cemetery

The small family cemetery contains twenty identical grave markers installed at the same time or within a short period of one another. Each grave is marked by a gray granite slanted upright headstone behind a flat unmarked rectangular flush ledger tablet. An upright marker at the rear of the cemetery is inscribed “Leary” for the surname of some of the occupants.



Hassell Cemetery site plan, created from HPOWEB



Hassell Cemetery, view to the east-southeast toward NC 45



Cemetery, view to the west

History

The small cemetery contains the graves of members of the Hassell and Leary families and their relatives. The oldest marked burial is for Dr. Joseph Henry, who was born in Bertie County in 1835 and died in 1866. Minnie C. Leary, who died in 1990, is the most recent burial.

Evaluation

Integrity

Hassell Cemetery is located in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. All of the slanted upright granite headstones are modern. They cemetery and its grave markers do not possess the integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Cemeteries and graves are among the properties not considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP unless they meet special requirements. However, under Criteria Consideration D, a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events will qualify for the NRHP.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Hassell Cemetery serves as a burial ground for extended

members of at least two families—the Hassells and the Learys. The site does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. It does not appear members of the Hassell, Leary, or related families made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the cemetery is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Hassell Cemetery contains modern grave markers that lack distinctive design features. The cemetery lacks significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Hassell Cemetery is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

XXIII. Wilson House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Wilson House
HPO Survey Site #	BR1362
Location	1701 NC 45, Colerain vicinity
PIN	6857-87-4559
Construction date	Circa 1910
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Façade, view to the west

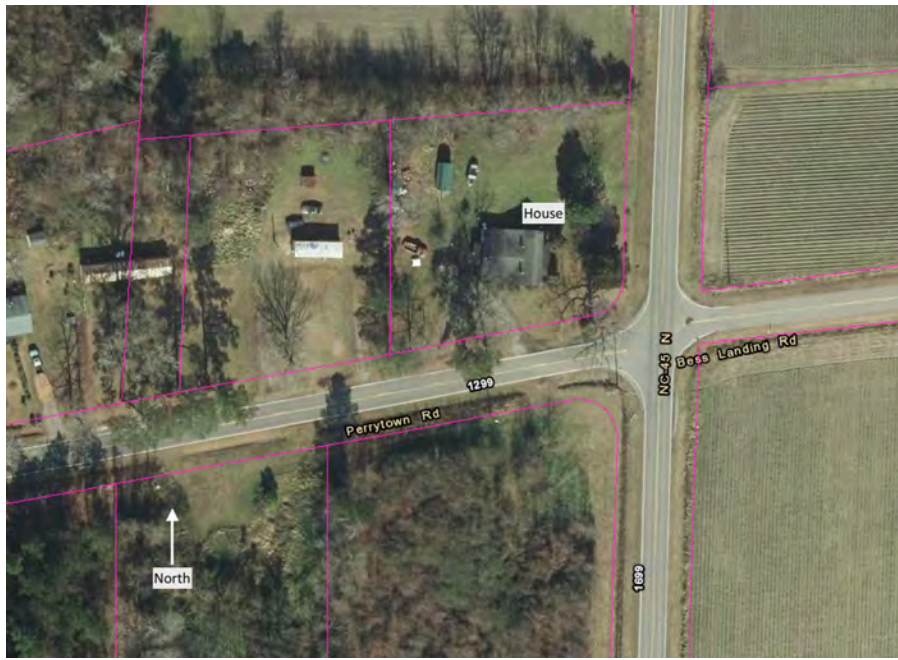
Description

Setting

The Wilson House stands on a less-than-one-acre parcel at the northwest corner of the intersection of NC 45 and Perrytown Road about five miles south of Colerain.

Wilson House

The Wilson House is a one-story weatherboard house standing on a concrete block pier foundation with a side-gabled roof that extends to a shed roof on the rear elevation. A partial-width, shed-roofed porch with plain wood posts and a wood floor shelters the replacement front door. A later ell with a low-pitched gable roof and a plywood exterior extends from the rear elevation. Two brick interior flues extend through the shed-roofed portion of the main block. Window bays on the main block have been minimized and fitted with vinyl replacement windows.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

History

Rosa Lee and John T. Wilson, both deceased, are the earliest known owners. Their son currently owns the house.



Front and north gable end, view to the west-southwest



Southwest (rear) corner, view to the northeast

Evaluation

Integrity

The Wilson House is located in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house's integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials have been compromised by the alteration of the window openings and replacement of the original windows with vinyl units.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Wilson House does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. It does not appear members of the Wilson family made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the cemetery is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Wilson House is an alerted example of a one-story,

single-pile dwelling with rear shed rooms. It lacks significance in the area of architecture and therefore is not eligible or the NRHP under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Wilson House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



South (side) elevation, view to the north

XIV. Hughes House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Hughes House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0748
Location	2047 NC 45, Colerain vicinity
PIN	6857-35-5977
Construction date	Circa 1890
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



Southeast corner with view of some of the modern farm equipment, view to the northwest

Description

Setting

The Hughes House occupies the northeast corner of a 118-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45 south of Colerain. The dwelling shares its immediate yard with a small complex of modern agricultural buildings and structures including bulk barns, grain bins, and tractor sheds standing just to the north of the house. Half of the remainder of the parcel is devoted to farm fields, while the other half is heavily wooded.

Hughes House

The weatherboard I-house displays a shed-roofed, one-story front porch with decorative iron and wooden posts with lattice. The porch shelters a single-leaf front door with paneled wood and glazed sidelights and a wooden porch floor. Brick chimneys—both damaged at their flues—mark each gable end of the main block. The dwelling features a standing-seam metal roof, a boxed cornice, and intact two-over-two windows. A one-story shed room with a nine-over-six window

on its west elevation and a gabled ell extend from the rear elevation. An inset porch spans a portion of the south side of the ell. Some bricks at the top of the ell's chimney have been knocked off.

The principal investigators could not gain access to the interior, but the 2009 survey file notes that a mantel with two-tiered pilasters and a stepped shelf was the only decorative feature remaining.

As noted by intensive architectural survey of 2009, the house contains material salvaged from at least one nineteenth century house, including a mortise-and-tenon four-panel front door, a two-panel, Greek Revival-style rear door, and the nine-over-six sash in the rear shed room.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



Northeast corner, view to the southwest



North elevation, view to the south-southwest



Southwest (rear) corner, view to the northeast



Modern farm buildings and structures located just north of the house, view to the northwest

History

The 2009 intensive architectural survey of Bertie County identified the house as the Hughes House. According to a neighbor, the Perry family has owned the house for decades and continues to own the house. The principal investigator made several unsuccessful attempts to contact the Perry family both by letter and in person.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Hughes House is in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. Although the house has suffered some neglect, it retains its original form and many original finishes and therefore retains its integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Although the Hughes House served as a farm dwelling, no historic outbuildings remain. The adjacent agricultural buildings are modern and are part of a large-scale operation owned by the Perry family. The Hughes House does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events, including agriculture, and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. It does not appear members of the Hughes or Perry families made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the house is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Hughes House is a late-nineteenth-century I-house, a form common in rural Bertie County. Although it remains mostly intact, albeit very deteriorated, there are several more intact examples of the style in rural Bertie County. Therefore, the Hughes House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Hughes House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.



Façade, view to the west

XXV. Hardy House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Hardy House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0057, Study List
Location	2050/2112 NC 45, Colerain vicinity
PIN	6858-56-6171
Construction date	Circa 1800
Recommendation	Eligible under Criteria C



Facade, view to the east

Description

Setting

The Hardy House stands on a roughly triangular, twelve-acre tract on the east side of NC 45N. The south property line follows a branch that flows under NC 45 to the northeast. The southern and eastern portions of the parcel are wooded and some trees stand near the house and barn. A farm field covering about five acres extends along the right-of-way and takes up the center of the parcel.

Hardy House

The house faces west-northwest and sits back from NC 45 approximately 420 feet. The two-story, side-gabled house displays a weatherboard exterior—some of which has been replaced in kind with wood from houses of the same period—and a wood shake roof. Portions of the weatherboard are beaded. The front-gabled portico with square posts and simple caps is a modern addition that replaced a circa 1920 Craftsman-style porch. The current portico is based

on a portico of an early-nineteenth-century house in Edenton. Windows are original nine-over-six and six-over-six double-hung sash. The south gable end chimney is laid in English garden wall bond and is split vertically at its center as a result of the 1886 Charleston earthquake. Two doors pierce the rear elevation. The northernmost door displays six panels and HL hinges. The wooden wave sawn element on the gable end of the eaves is repeated on the stair treads on the interior.

The interior follows a side-hall plan with three rooms on the first level and four on the second. A dog leg stair displays treads with a wave pattern. The mantel in the first-level parlor is not original to the house but came from an early-nineteenth-century dwelling. The current owners are currently restoring the house, which includes re-plastering the interior walls.

A large concrete block barn, likely built in the 1960s, stands southeast of the house. A gable roof tops the barn with metal-frame windows.



Site plan, from HPOWEB

History

The early history of this house remains unclear. According to the current owners, John and Ella Hardy lived in the house in the mid-nineteenth century. It is possible, her grandfather, Benjamin Hardy, built the house around 1800. One source claims Lewis T. Smallwood (1867-1954) acquired the house from Ella Hardy, then sold it to Lewis Lipsitz. Mrs. Frank White bought it around 1910.³⁵ The current owners purchased it in the 1990s from Preservation North Carolina and are currently restoring it.³⁶

³⁵ "Hardy Documentation," December 24, 2004, bjhughes.org, accessed December 12, 2018.

³⁶ Colleen and Stephen Karl, interview with Jennifer Martin, November 30, 2018.

Context: Nineteenth-Century Side-Hall Plan Dwellings

Prosperous Bertie County farmers' houses of the early nineteenth century both continued the well-established building traditions and forms of the previous century and exhibited changing architectural style and form. Traditional floor plans and building techniques remained in use, as did timber frame construction with mortise-and-tenon connections. Meanwhile, the size and arrangement of space in houses evolved. Dwellings of the less-well-off in this period were not as solidly built and have not survived.³⁷

The simple hall-parlor and center-passage floor plans from seventeenth-century building traditions continued in use well into the nineteenth century. A third-floor plan, the side-passage plan, is less often found in surviving dwellings from this period. It is generally associated with double-pile dwellings, also relatively rare, for the access the side hall provides to the full depth of the dwelling. The one-and-a-half-story, double-pile, circa 1830 Eason House (BR0046) has a side-passage, opening to two downstairs rooms. A single room occupies the half-story. An unusual single-pile side-hall example is the circa 1828 Federal-style second phase of the King-Freeman-Speight House (BR0098, NR 1982). The use of the side passage with the shallower depth could relate to its status as an addition to an older house. The passage holds the open stair, and provides access to the parlor on the first floor and three small rooms above. The Eason House and the King-Freeman-Speight house also have decorative painting in common and similar original or early paint colors.³⁸



North elevation of the King-Freeman-Speight House (BR0098, NR), view to the south

³⁷ Laura Blokker, "Bertie Comprehensive Architectural Survey of Bertie County Final Report," April 3, 2010, 25-42.

³⁸ Blokker, 42-43; J. Marshall Bullock, "King-Freeman-Speight House," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1980.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Hardy House stands in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house retains most of its original siding, original windows and chimney, and retains its side hall plan configuration. Despite the loss of some interior finishes, the interior remains mostly intact. The Hardy House possesses the integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Hardy House retains a mid-twentieth-century concrete block barn, but no other historic outbuildings that would convey the property's significance in the area of agriculture. The Hardy House does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. The Hardys were planters and farmers, but there is no evidence that they made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Hardy House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Hardy House is an outstanding example of an early-nineteenth-century side-hall plan house and is recommended eligible for the NRHP in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Hardy House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for the Hardy House is the twelve acres containing the house, outbuilding, and surrounding acreage. The boundary follows the right-of-way along NC 45, the branch flanked by thick trees along that forms the south and east property line and the south edge along the cultivated field directly to the north. The twelve-acre boundary provides a historically appropriate setting for the house, which is recommended eligible for the NRHP for its architectural significance.



NRHP boundary map, created from HPOWEB

XXVI. Hughes House: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Hughes House
HPO Survey Site #	BR0749
Location	2119 NC 45, Colerain vicinity
PIN	6858-47-2133
Construction date	Circa 1890
Recommendation	Eligible under Criterion C



Southeast (front) corner, view to the northwest

Description

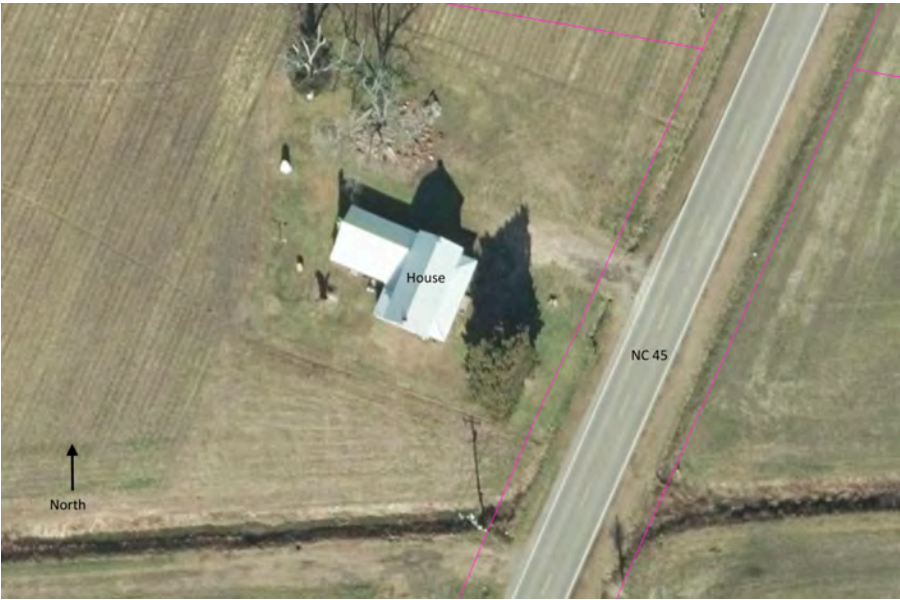
Setting

The Hughes House occupies the northeast corner of a fifty-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45N two-and-a-half miles south of Colerain. Approximately three acres nearest the house on the east side of the property is under cultivation. Forest covers the remaining acreage.

Hughes House

The weatherboard I-house stands on brick pier foundation and is topped with a standing seam metal roof. The dwelling displays restrained Greek Revival-style elements most notable in the cornerboards with caps and the paneled and glazed sidelights flanking the front door. The nearly-unpainted house features a one-story, hip-roofed front porch with replacement wood posts, cornice returns, and a pair of interior end brick chimneys on the main block. A small shed room attaches to the south end of the rear of the main block. A one-story, gable-roofed ell with an exterior end chimney extends from the rear elevation. A partial width recessed porch spans the

south elevation of the ell. A variety of windows grace the dwelling including later sash with two horizontal lights over two horizontal lights and six-over-six and two-over-two, double-hung sash. According to the occupant, the interior follows a central passage plan and most of its original or early finishes. No outbuildings remain in the immediate yard.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB



North gable end, view to the south



West elevation, view to the east



Southwest corner, view to the northeast

History

The 2009 intensive architectural survey of Bertie County identified this dwelling as the Hughes House. Little is known of the Hughes family or the history of this house. The Perry family has owned it for many years. The principal investigators made several unsuccessful attempts to contact the Perry family to get information about the property. The house is currently occupied by a renter.

Evaluation

Integrity

The Hughes House is located in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The house retains its original weatherboard siding, cornice returns, cornerboards, many of its original windows, and an intact brick pier foundation. The intact I-house retains its integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Hughes House does not retain any historic outbuildings that would help convey the property's significance in the area of agriculture. The Hughes House does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. Little is known about the Hughes family, but it does not appear that they made significant contributions in any field. Therefore, the Hughes House is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. The Hughes House is an intact I-house built at the end of the nineteenth century. Its form and numerous intact finishes and features epitomize vernacular I-houses from the period. The current occupant confirms that the interior is mostly intact. The Hughes House is recommended eligible for the NRHP in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. The Hughes House is unlikely to contribute significant information pertaining to building technology or historical documentation not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records.

Boundary Description

The recommended NRHP boundary for the Hughes House is the one-half acre containing the house and immediate yard. The boundary follows the right-of-way along NC 45 and the border of the immediate yard containing the house. The boundary excludes the remaining forty-nine-and-a-half acres of the tract because that acreage is unrelated to the house's significance in the area of architecture. The .5-acre boundary provides a historically appropriate setting for the house, which is recommended eligible for the NRHP for its architectural significance.



NRHP boundary map, created from HPOWEB

XXVII. Hillcrest Cemetery: Property Description and Evaluation

Resource Name	Hillcrest Cemetery
HPO Survey Site #	BR0626
Location	2517 NC 45, Colerain
PIN	6859-76-6950
Construction date	1893 to present
Recommendation	Not eligible under any criteria



North entrance from NC 45, view to the west

Description

Setting

Hillcrest Cemetery occupies a rectangular 4.76-acre parcel on the west side of NC 45 on the south side of the town of Colerain. The cemetery stands on a level rise so that the burial yard is slightly higher than the highway.

Hillcrest Cemetery

A metal archway on tall metal poles marks the north entrance to the cemetery. White-brick and iron gates flank the arched entrance. The driveway under the arch continues westward and extends on the north side of property. Four dirt driveways extend roughly north south between the main north entrance road to the parallel south secondary entrance. These four drives divide the cemetery into five unequal sized sections.



Site plan, created from HPOWEB

The cemetery contains one large mausoleum for the Perry family and several smaller free-standing burial vaults associated with other families. The Perry mausoleum is a flat-roofed marble edifice inscribed with the family name and festooned with a wreath motif above its traceried metal double-leaf doors. A pair of marble urn-like objects flank the entrance. Elsewhere, the cemetery contains typical markers such as obelisks and flat and upright tablets. Granite is the most common material for markers.



Perry Mausoleum, view to the west



View to the northeast



View to the northwest

History

The oldest marked grave at Hillcrest Cemetery is for John Pulaski Nowell (1859-1893). The vast majority of markers date to the twentieth century, most from second half.

Evaluation

Integrity

Hillcrest Cemetery is located in its original location in rural Bertie County and therefore retains integrity of location and setting. The majority of the headstones are modern and dating to the last half of the twentieth century and the first decades of the twentieth-first century. The majority does not possess the integrity of workmanship, feeling, design, association, and materials of historic grave markers.

Cemeteries and graves are among the properties not considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP unless they meet special requirements. However, under Criteria Consideration D, a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events will qualify for the NRHP.

Significance

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they retain integrity and are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. Hillcrest Cemetery serves as a public burial ground. The site does not appear to derive significance from any historic event or patterns of events and is therefore not eligible for the NRHP under criterion A.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they retain integrity and are associated with the productive lives of persons significant in our past. It does not appear any person interred at Hillcrest Cemetery made significant contributions in any field or that any individual graves are the best representation of the contributions of any person interred there. Therefore, the cemetery is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they retain integrity and embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; possess high artistic value; or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Hillcrest Cemetery contains mostly modern grave markers that lack distinctive design features. The cemetery lacks significance in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if it has or had important information to contribute to our understanding of human history or pre-history. Hillcrest Cemetery is 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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