



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

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

August 12, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Shelby Reap
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT Division of Highways

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

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge 267 on SR 3336 over Climax Creek,
PA 19-01-0022, Guilford County, ER 19-2356

Thank you for your July 29, 2019, letter transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur that the Coble Farms Rural Historic District (GF 9124) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C and that the following properties are contributing resources in the district.

- David Daniel Coble Farm, (GF9120)
- Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121)

The recommended boundary shown in Figure 7.1 on page 88 appear appropriate.

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: 07/30/2019
State Historic Preservation Office



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

July 29, 2019

ER 19-2356

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley
Environmental Review Coordinator, State Historic Preservation Office
North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources
4617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4617

Due -- 8/21/19
ER letters
7/31/19

Dear Renee:

H-

RE: Historic Structures Survey Report, Replace Bridge No. 267 on SR 3336 (Coble Church Road) over Climax Creek in Guilford County PA# 19-01-0022, WBS# 17BP.7.R.136

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 268 in Guilford County. NCDOT contracted New South to propose a National Register to evaluate two properties on either side of the bridge. We recommend that the Coble Farms Rural Historic District is eligible for National Register listing.

The report and survey materials are enclosed for your review and comment per 36CFR.800. Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding this project. I can be reached at (919) 707-6088 or by email at sleap@ncdot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelby Reap".

Shelby Reap
Historic Architecture Team

Attachments

Mailing Address:
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PDEA-HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SECTION
MAIL SERVICE CENTER 1598
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1020 BIRCH RIDGE RD
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National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Evaluation Report for the Replacement of Bridge No. 267 on SR 3336 (Coble Church Road) over Climax Creek

Guilford County, North Carolina

WBS No. 17BP.7.R.136
P.A No. 19-01-0022



New South Associates, Inc.

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National Register of Historic Places
Eligibility Evaluation Report
for the Replacement of Bridge No.267 on SR 3336 (Coble Church Road)
over Climax Creek

Guilford County, North Carolina

WBS No. 17BP.7.R.136
P.A No. 19-01-0022

Report submitted to:

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

Mary Pope Furr – NCDOT Architectural Historian

Report prepared by:
New South Associates, Inc.
1006 Yanceyville Street
Greensboro, North Carolina 27405



Mary Beth Reed – Principal Investigator

Brittany Hyder – Historian and Author

July 16, 2019– **Draft Report**

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1.0. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace the two-lane Bridge No. 267 on SR 3336 (Coble Church Road) over Climax Creek in the unincorporated Julian community in southeast Guilford County (WSB# 17BP.7.R.136). The project area is located approximately 12.6 miles southeast of Greensboro, the Guilford County seat. This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). A NCDOT architectural historian defined the Area of Potential Effects (APE) as the project site, adjacent parcels, and all properties within the viewshed that may be impacted by the project. The NCDOT subsequently determined that two agricultural properties located within the APE warranted an intensive National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation.

On March 28, 2019, the NCDOT contracted with New South Associates, Inc. (New South) to undertake the NRHP evaluation of these agricultural properties. Subsequent research indicated that both of the previously identified properties, as well as an adjacent property, are historically associated and NCDOT staff determined that these resources should be evaluated as a rural historic district.

On April 3, 2019, New South architectural historian, Brittany Hyder, surveyed and documented the potential rural historic district for its NRHP eligibility. As a result of this study and additional research, for the purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, New South recommends that the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120), the Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121), the Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122), and the C.A. Coble Farm (GF9123) are eligible for listing on the NRHP as contributing resources to the Coble Farms Rural Historic District (GF9124).

Table 1. Surveyed Properties

Survey Site #	Resource Name/Address	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
GF9124	Coble Farms Rural Historic District, Julian	Eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A and C
GF9120	David Daniel Coble Farm, 5357 Code Church Road, Julian	Contributing resource to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District*
GF9121	Coble General Store and Filling Station, 5356 Coble Church Road, Julian	Contributing resource to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District*

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT
FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 267 ON SR 3336 OVER CLIMAX CREEK.

GF9122	Shafter Coble Farm, 5356 Coble Church Road, Julian	Contributing resource to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District*
GF9123	C.A. Coble Farm, 5358 Coble Church Road, Julian	Contributing resource to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District*

*These resources are located within the boundaries of the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District and were not evaluated for individual eligibility but were documented as contributing resources to the district.

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2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The NCDOT proposes to replace the two-lane Bridge No. 267 on SR 3336 (Coble Church Road) over Climax Creek in the unincorporated community of Julian in southeast Guilford County (WSB# 17BP.7.R.136). The project area is located approximately 12.6 miles southeast of Greensboro, the Guilford County seat. This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). A NCDOT architectural historian defined the APE as the project site, adjacent parcels, and all properties within the viewshed that may be impacted by the project and conducted a site visit to identify and assess all properties with resources of approximately 50 years of age or more within the APE (Figure 2.1). Subsequently, the NCDOT determined that two properties warranted an intensive NRHP eligibility evaluation. Bridge No. 267 was evaluated in 2005 and was determined not eligible for the NRHP.

On March 28, 2019, the NCDOT requested that New South survey and evaluate properties located at 5357 and 5356 Coble Church Road and prepare a report evaluating their eligibility for listing on the NRHP. The properties had not been previously surveyed. The North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) assigned survey site numbers GF9120 and GF9122 to these resources. A roadside general store and filling station is located on the same parcel as resource GF9122, the Shafter Coble Farm at 5356 Coble Church Road. Per recommendation of the SHPO, the general store and filling station was assigned survey site number GF9121. Subsequent research indicated that each of the previously identified properties, as well as an adjacent property, are historically associated and NCDOT staff determined that these resources should be evaluated as a potential rural historic district.

Prior to fieldwork, the statewide architectural survey records of the SHPO were reviewed using HPOWEB, their online GIS service, which showed no previously surveyed properties in the APE. Historic topographic maps and aerial photographs were viewed at historicaerials.com, nationalmap.gov, the North Carolina Maps collection online at the University of North Carolina, the Map Collection at the Greensboro Public Library, and the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) historical topographic map collection. Property information was obtained from the Guilford County Assessor's website. Deed records were searched through the Guilford County Register of Deeds Remote Site. The genealogy and local history resources at the Guilford County library, the North Carolina Collection at the Forsyth County Library, historic newspapers, census records, and U.S. City Directories were also consulted.

On April 3, 2019, New South architectural historian, Brittany Hyder, surveyed the resources located at 5356 and 5357 Coble Church Road, including the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120), the Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121), and the Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122). The exteriors of the dwellings and outbuildings were documented, as well as the interiors of the David Daniel Coble Farm and the Coble General Store and Filling Station. While completing

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION REPORT
FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 267 ON SR 3336 OVER CLIMAX CREEK.



Source: ESRI Resource Data (2019)

Figure 2.1. Project Location Map showing Bridge No. 267 and Area of Potential Effect (APE).

fieldwork, a property owner informed the surveyor that the parcel adjoining the Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122) was also historically associated with the Coble family and retained a dwelling constructed in 1902. Due to its association after receiving guidance from NCDOT architectural historians, the farmstead at 5358 Coble Church Road was also surveyed and was assigned SHPO survey site number GF9123. Unless noted, all photographs in this report were taken in April 2019.

The historical development, architecture, and cultural significance of these resources was assessed and evaluated within their respective context according to the established NRHP criteria. Per NCDOT, comparable resources were also identified through the HPOWEB as defined in the original scope of work. The following sources were referenced to develop a local context and identify comparable resources: “City of Greensboro, North Carolina Historic Architecture Survey Update, Phase 1-A” (Turco et al. 2007); “City of Greensboro, North Carolina Historic Architecture Survey Update Phase 1-B” (Montgomery et al. 2008); “Historic and Architectural Resources of Greensboro, North Carolina, 1880-1941” (Brown 1991); “Alamance County Architectural Inventory” (Alamance County Historic Properties Commission 2014); “Architectural Survey and Evaluation Replacement of Bridge No. 272 over Climax Creek on Watchtower Road (SR 3368)” (Goesbeck 2015); “Historic Structures Survey Report Replace Pipe 2053 on NC 62 in Guilford County, North Carolina” (Funk 2018); and Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms National Register of Historic Places Nomination (Fearnbach 2009).

The results of this intensive-level investigation and NRHP evaluation are presented in the following chapters. This report complies with the basic requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations on the Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR 800); NCDOT’s current *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products*; and the North Carolina HPO’s *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*.

As a result of this study and additional historic research, New South recommends that all the surveyed resources including the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120), the Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121), the Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122), and the C.A. Coble Farm (GF9123) are eligible for listing in the NRHP as the Coble Farms Rural Historic District.



Source: ESRI Resource Data (2019)

Figure 2.2. Map of Surveyed Resources and Bridge No. 267.

3.0 COBLE FARMS RURAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (GF9124)

Resource Name	Coble Farms Rural Historic District
HPO Survey Site #	GF9124
Location	5356, 5357, and 5358 Coble Church Road
PIN	8800778350; 8800851863; 8800755130
Date(s) of Construction	Multiple from 1875-2000
Recommendation	Eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A and C



Figure 3.1. View of the Recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District, Looking Northeast from the Shafter Coble Farm.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

According to the National Park Service a rural historic district is, “a geographically definable area, possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of landscape components which are united by human use and past events, or aesthetically by plan or physical development (Melnick et al. 1984).” Usually distinguishable from their surroundings, rural historic districts can be comprised of a variety of features or landscapes that have been controlled, altered, or manipulated by humans for multiple generations. Rural historic districts can include many variations such as fishing villages that are reliant on a body of water, small farmsteads with cultivated fields, orchards, outbuildings, barns, and fences; and sawmills or grist mills supported by a mill race, mill ponds,

commissaries, and a mill village. Like individual buildings or structures, these landscapes qualify for listing in the NRHP when they are historically significant and maintain integrity. Through documentation and analysis of the landscape's features it is possible to determine the landscape's period of significance and to evaluate if the rural historic district has been significantly altered. Additionally, historic land-use patterns and structures must be present and delineated from the surrounding area (Birnbaum 1996).

The buildings and agricultural fields that comprise the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District were identified by New South in 2019. The proposed boundary includes roughly 117.16 acres of land historically associated with the Coble family. The proposed boundary includes 38 contributing resources including dwellings, barns, outbuildings, and a general store/service station. All of the contributing resources are located on three parcels (Figure 2.2).

3.2 DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

Located in southeast Guilford County, the potential district lies just south and east of the Greensboro city limits in the unincorporated Julian community in Clay Township. The district contains buildings typically associated with a rural agricultural community. Each retains an anchor dwelling and supporting outbuildings constructed between 1875 and 2000 including a smokehouse, tobacco packhouses, corn cribs, pumphouses, farm equipment sheds, barns, two ponds, garages, carports, and five greenhouses. The dwellings are representative of domestic and agricultural architecture spanning the late nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. The dwelling at the David Daniel Coble Farm is particularly reflective of a farmhouse that was modified in multiple stages as the family grew and prospered. The recommended district is centered around Coble Church Road and the Coble General Store and Filling Station directly east of Climax Creek. The fields in the district are actively cultivated or used as pasture and continue to reflect the historic setting and feel of late nineteenth and mid-twentieth-century farmsteads (Figure 3.2- 3.5).

3.3 INVENTORY LIST

The recommended district boundary is described in Section 7 of this report and contains 38 contributing resources that are over 50 years old or older. The resources are located on three parcels and are associated with the following properties: the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120), the Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122), the Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121), and the C.A. Coble Farm (GF9123). These resources will be described in detail in the subsequent sections of this report.



Figure 3.2. The Shafter Coble Farm, Looking South.



Figure 3.3. The Shafter Coble Farm, Looking Southeast. Northeast.



Figure 3.4. The David Daniel Coble Farm, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.5. The David Daniel Coble Farm, Looking Northeast.

3.3.1 DAVID DANIEL COBLE FARM (GF9120)

Resource Name	David Daniel Coble Farm
HPO Survey Site #	GF9120
Location	5357 Coble Church Road
PIN	8800778350
Date(s) of Construction	Circa 1875; circa 1910; circa 1930
Recommendation	Contributing to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District



Figure 3.6. David Daniel Coble Farm, Façade and West Elevation, Looking Northwest.

DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The David Daniel Coble Farm is on the north side of Coble Church Road (SR 3336), northeast of Bridge No. 267 (Figure 2.1). Located on a 23.77-acre tract at 5357 Coble Church Road, the resource retains its rural agricultural setting. The lot is surrounded by other agricultural parcels, most retaining an anchor dwelling and outbuildings. Directly to the east is a small cluster of mid-twentieth-century dwellings including Ranch houses and Minimal Traditional dwellings that exhibit features of the revival styles. This tract contains a primary dwelling initially constructed circa 1875 and extensively altered circa 1910 and 1930, an 1875 smokehouse, a 1930 potting shed and trellis, a 1930 wash house, three circa 1950 silos, a circa 1930 gable-roof barn, a non-historic equipment shed, a circa 1900 storage building and corn crib, a circa 1950 equipment shed,

five non-historic hooped and gabled greenhouses, a circa 1960 pole barn, a circa 1960 slant roof workshop, a circa 1955 low-pitched gabled livestock barn, and a circa 1950 pond. The adjacent parcel contains a two-story frame tobacco packhouse constructed circa 1890 and a circa 1890 log barn - these two agricultural outbuildings are associated with the Coble farmstead and have been moved numerous times.

The main dwelling is situated on a hill that gradually slopes to the two man-made ponds, one is on the adjacent parcel, fronting Coble Church Road. The dwelling and farmstead are accessed by a gravel drive that travels between the east and west ponds and lends access to a second gravel drive that circles the main dwelling. The outbuildings and greenhouses are located behind the dwelling to the north and west. A large pasture is situated on the western half of the parcel and is separated from the dwelling and farm complex by a circa 1950 wooden rail fence and metal gate. The pasture is fenced with modern wood posts and barbed wire.

The dwelling is surrounded by mature trees and a row of shrubbery on the south façade. A paved pedestrian path lends access to the dwelling from the south side of the circular drive. The ponds fronting Coble Church Road are also surrounded by mature trees and natural shrubs.

INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory includes descriptions of the twenty-one buildings located on the parcel, beginning with the primary dwelling.

DAVID DANIEL COBLE HOUSE

Exterior

The primary dwelling is a two-story, 2,316 square-foot building with a circa 1875 log core, which was enlarged and renovated circa 1910 and again in the Craftsman-style circa 1930. The original log section of the dwelling was constructed by David Daniel Coble and was a two-story or lofted, center passage dwelling of log or rough-hewn plank construction with a foundation of stone piers. The dwelling was altered in various stages as the Coble farm gained success in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Around 1910, a rear ell with and shed roof porch was added to the original log core of the house. At that time, the exterior was clad with weatherboard siding and exterior end chimneys were constructed on the east, west, and north elevations (the chimneys have since been replaced). The rear ell retains the original double-hung, six-over-six wood sash windows. The windows on the east and west elevations of the original core are double-hung, two-over-two wood sash dating to the late nineteenth century. The most extensive alteration took place around 1930 when the Cobles added a two-story, Craftsman-style wing to the south façade. This section has a gable-front roof with exposed rafter ends, wood shakes in the gable field, and knee-brace brackets below the eaves. Contained within the roof is a one-story porch that is supported

by tapered wood columns with panel insets resting on brick piers with concrete caps. A set of cast concrete steps lends access to the porch which extends across the entire façade. A pair of original double-hung, four-over-one wood sash windows centered in the gable field; these windows are flanked by smaller four-over-one wood windows.

The main entrance is located centrally on the south façade and has an original to the renovation four-light, three panel glass and wood door flanked by original double-hung, four-over-one wood windows. A second entrance is recessed on the south façade and has a circa 1930 four-light, three panel glass and wood door that provides access to the original core of the house. The circa 1930 addition has a continuous brick foundation and a central brick chimney with a corbeled brick cap. Large, gable-roof dormers are situated on the east and west elevations of the circa 1930 addition. The west dormer contains a pair of original four-over-one wood windows, wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, and knee-brace brackets. The dormer on the east façade contains a pedestrian entrance with a circa 1950 metal awning, flanked by three-light sidelights. The second story is accessed by a wood stairway with a picketed balustrade at the landing. Installed around 1950, the second-floor entrance landing is supported by round metal poles and the stairway has a wrought iron railing. When the Craftsman-style façade was added the entire dwelling was reroofed with pressed tin shingles. In the 1950s, a carport was added to the north elevation that is supported by square wood posts and has an asphalt shingle roof (Figures 3.6 - 3.11).

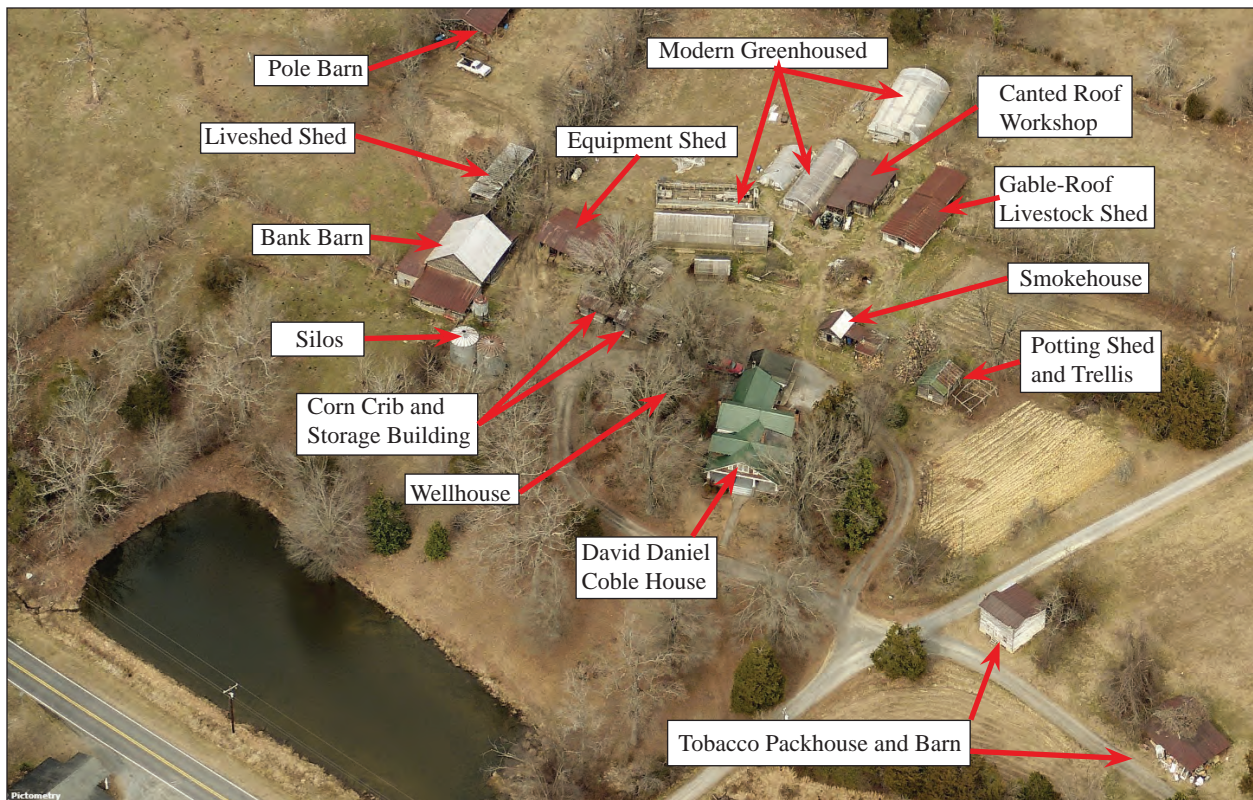


Figure 3.7. David Daniel Coble Farm, Site Map



Figure 3.8 David Daniel Coble Farm House, Façade and West Elevation, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.9. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Circa 1900 Additions and Rear Ell, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.10. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Façade and East Elevation, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.11. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Rear Ell and Carport, Looking Southwest.

Interior

The interior of the historic log core of the dwelling retains its circa 1900 clapboard wall coverings and low beadboard ceiling. A quarter-landing staircase with solid square balusters and streamlined, plain shaft wood newel post is also located in the historic core of the house and lends access to the second floor. The dwelling retains most of the circa 1900 three, four, and six panel wood doors. The kitchen, located in the rear ell, retains a circa 1920 wood stove as well as wooden cabinetry updated in the 1960s. The circa 1930 addition retains some of the original features including the plaster walls and wood plank ceiling (Figure 3.12 -3.16).



Figure 3.12. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Interior of the Historic Core, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.13. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Interior of the Historic Core, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.14. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Circa 1930 Addition, Looking Southwest



Figure 3.15. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Staircase, Looking East.



Figure 3.16. David Daniel Coble Farm House, Kitchen in the Rear Ell, Looking Northwest.

POTTING SHED AND TRELLIS

A front-gable, frame potting shed is situated to the northeast of the dwelling. Constructed around 1930, the potting shed has a concrete block foundation, a weatherboard siding exterior, and an original standing seam metal roof. A pedestrian entrance is located on the south façade and has an original six-light, multi-panel glass and wood door; an original six-over-six wood sash window is located on the east elevation. A trellis of rough sawn wood posts is located directly east of the potting shed (Figure 3.17 and 3.18).

SMOKEHOUSE

Directly west of the potting shed and north of the main dwelling, is a smokehouse that dates to 1875. Constructed of hand-hewn logs, the smokehouse features half dovetail joints and the original adze marks. A single entrance with vertical board door is located on the south façade and, as is traditional for smokehouses, there is no other fenestration. Around 1930, the gable-front roof was updated with standing seam metal and corrugated metal sheets. Around that time, the smokehouse was connected to a frame equipment shed with a flat roof hyphen. This equipment shed contains two primary bays and has a flat roof with exposed rafter ends that is supported by rough-sawn wood posts. The exterior has rough-cut weatherboard siding (Figure 3.19 and 3.20).



Figure 3.17. Potting Shed and Trellis, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.18. Potting Shed and Trellis, Looking North



Figure 3.19. Smokehouse, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.20. Smokehouse, Looking Northwest.

WELL HOUSE

Situated to the west of the main dwelling, facing north is a circa 1930 well house. The well house is constructed on a foundation of brick piers and stacked stones and is clad with rough saw weatherboard. The gable-front roof is clad with standing seam metal. A canopy shed supported by square wood posts provides shelter for a brick well with a cast concrete cap. The main entrance is offset on the north façade and has an original door of vertical boards, the building has no other fenestration (Figure 3.21).

CORN CRIB AND STORAGE BUILDING

Directly across the gravel drive from the well house and west of the smokehouse is a combined corn crib and storage building. Likely constructed circa 1930, this frame corn crib has a side-gable roof of standing seam metal and weatherboard siding on the east, west, and north elevations. The south wall is comprised of open slats to ventilate the building and allow ears of corn to dry. An open storage bay has been added to the east elevation with a corrugated metal roof supported by round wood posts. A one room storage building constructed circa 1875 is located directly west of the corn crib and is connected to the corn crib with a flat roof hyphen. This storage building has a rough-sawn weatherboard exterior, a side-gable roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends, and a single entrance on the south façade with a vertical board door. A flagstone step has been placed in front of the entrance (Figure 3.22 and 3.23).



Figure 3.21. Wellhouse, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.22. Corn Crib and Storage Building, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.23. Corn Crib and Storage Building, Looking North.

METAL SILOS

Three silos of corrugated metal construction are situated at the southwest corner of the farm complex, one is adjacent to the bank barn. The silos are comprised of sheets of corrugated metal riveted horizontally indicating that they likely date to the 1940s or 1950s. Each silo has a standing seam metal roof and metal ladder; the silo closest to the bank barn has a tapered funnel at the base (Figure 3.24).

LIVESTOCK AND EQUIPMENT STORAGE BARN

A circa 1930 gable-roof barn with a side passage is located directly north of the paired silos and creates the western boundary of the farm complex. The barn is bounded by the pasture on the west side and has a weatherboard siding exterior, a side-gable roof of standing seam metal, and shed roof runs on the north and south elevations. The primary bay is located on the west façade (Figure 3.25).

EQUIPMENT SHED

Directly north of the barn is a frame equipment shed. A review of historic aerials reveals that this equipment shed was constructed sometime between 1969 and 1982. The shed has a concrete slab foundation supported by concrete blocks, wood post framing, and a flat roof of corrugated metal. Adjacent to the shed is a non-historic metal gate that accesses the pasture (Figure 3.26).



Figure 3.24. Corrugated Metal Silos, Looking West.



Figure 3.25. Barn and Corrugated Metal Silo, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.26. Equipment Shed, Looking Northwest.

POLE BARN

A pole barn constructed between 1955 and 1969 is located in the pasture at the northeastern corner of the farm complex. This barn is of frame construction, has a corrugated metal side gable roof, and a vertical board exterior (Figure 3.27).

TRACTOR SHED

A circa 1950 tractor shed is located directly east of the equipment shed. The three-bay tractor shed is set into a bank and has a cast concrete slab foundation with visible form board impressions. Supported by vertical poles, the frame tractor shed has a corrugated metal exterior and a side gable roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. A greenhouse is attached to the east end (Figure 3.28).



Figure 3.27. Pole Barn, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.28. Tractor Shed, Looking North.

GREENHOUSE COMPLEX

Situated to the north and east of the original farm complex are five greenhouses currently utilized by Sam's Greenhouse, a produce and plant business owned and operated by Ray Coble. Each of the greenhouses exhibits basic frame construction with concrete block foundations and vents in the gable ends for air circulation. The southernmost greenhouses date to the late 1970s and are of wood frame construction with gable roof forms and corrugated, translucent polycarbonate exteriors. The northernmost greenhouses were constructed in the 1990s with metal frames and hooped roofs that support heavy plastic coverings. One metal hooped greenhouse is uncovered and currently under construction. Each greenhouse features an entrance door at the gable end. The greenhouse interiors feature tables for supporting plants (Figure 3.29 - 3.31).

WORKSHOP

To the east of the greenhouse complex is a canted roof workshop constructed between 1955 and 1969. This workshop has a continuous brick foundation, a vertical board and batten exterior, and a canted roof with metal panels and exposed rafter ends. Located on the south façade, the vertical board entrance door is flanked by a stationary eight-pane, wood window. A band of window openings has been cut along the west elevation. The building is currently used for storage (Figure 3.32).



Figure 3.29. Greenhouse Complex, Looking East.



Figure 3.30. Greenhouse Complex, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.31. Greenhouse Complex, Looking North.



Figure 3.32. Canted Roof Workshop, Looking Northwest.

LIVESTOCK BARN

A circa 1950 partially enclosed livestock barn is situated at the northeastern corner of the farm complex, adjacent to the greenhouses and workshop and directly behind the smokehouse. This building has a low-pitched gable roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. The southern portion is enclosed with mixed materials and the north section is of rough-cut frame construction with slatted fencing to corral livestock (Figure 3.33).

TOBACCO PACKHOUSE

On the west side of the gravel driveway that leads to the dwelling and farm complex are an additional outbuilding and barn. While these two buildings are located on the adjacent parcel, they are associated with the Coble farmstead and, according to historic aerials, have been at this location since at least 1955. One of these is a late nineteenth-century, two-story frame building that was originally a residence and converted into a tobacco packhouse. Archival research indicates that in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the Coble family had at least one lodger living on site, perhaps in this building. The building is situated on a slope; the rear section is supported by brick piers and the front section has a cast concrete foundation with visible form board impressions. The building features a weatherboard exterior and a side-gable roof with exposed rafter ends. The main entrance is located centrally on the south façade and has a circa 1920 five panel wood door that is flanked by double-hung, six-over-six wood sash windows. There are no windows on the second story or the east elevation. A single, four-over-four wood sash window is located on the first floor of the west elevation. This window is flanked by a non-historic exterior end concrete block flue. This building fronts a gravel path and the westernmost pond (Figure 3.34 - 3.35).

LOG BARN

Just west of the tobacco packhouse is a gable-front barn of hand-hewn logs joined with half dovetails and chinking between each log. A shed roof shelter extends from the south façade and is supported by log knee braces. Dating from the late nineteenth century, this log barn has been at this location since at least 1955. Its location and construction suggest that it may have been used as a tobacco packhouse, the area beneath the shed roof would have been used for separating tobacco leaves during the season. This building fronts a gravel path and the westernmost pond (Figure 3.36).



Figure 3.33. Gable-Roof Livestock Barn, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.34. Tobacco Packhouse, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.35. Tobacco Packhouse, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.36. Barn, Looking Northeast.

PONDS

At the southern edge of the parcel are two man-made ponds created from a tributary of Climax Creek that runs eastward. These ponds are likely used for watering livestock and a review of historic aerials and USGS quad maps reveals that these ponds were constructed between 1920 and 1955 (Figure 3.37).



Figure 3.37. Ponds, Looking South.

CONTEXT AND EVALUATION

The David Daniel Coble Farm is representative of a rural farmstead in Guilford County. Constructed between 1875 and the 1990s, the dwelling and outbuildings illustrate the common practice of updating a farm complex as families grew and the farm gained financial success. The rear section of the main dwelling is representative of a simple log dwelling that was upgraded to a two-story I-House around 1910. Most commonly two rooms wide and one room deep, I-Houses gained popularity among middle class farmers in the mid-nineteenth century and are often seen as the anchor dwelling or farmsteads. Their construction and level of ornamentation was often a statement of the owner's financial success and long rear ell's were often added to the supporting elevations as seen at the main dwelling of the David Daniel Coble Farm.

The addition of the front, two-story Craftsman-style wing is particularly representative of the trend of updating the anchor dwelling of a farm complex. Craftsman-style bungalows were constructed throughout urban areas, small towns, and rural sections of North Carolina beginning in the 1920s. Originating in southern California, the Craftsman style gained popularity in the U.S. between 1905 and 1930 through the circulation of pattern books and popular magazines. Influenced by the Art and Crafts movement, these dwellings incorporated simplistic, well-crafted designs utilizing natural materials. As seen in the front addition of the main dwelling of the Daniel Coble Farm, these dwellings were typified by their substantial massing and brick and wood details such as the tapered wood columns, wood shake in the gable field, and knee brace brackets. The paired four-over-one wood sash windows, exposed rafter ends, and substantial gable-roof dormers on the east and west elevations are also representative of the style.

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3.3.2 SHAFTER COBLE FARM (GF9122)

Resource Name	Shafter Coble Farm
HPO Survey Site #	GF9122
Location	5356 Coble Church Road
PIN	8800851863
Date(s) of Construction	1928
Recommendation	Contributing to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District



Figure 3.38. Shafter Coble Farm House, Façade and East Elevation, Looking Southwest

DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The Shafter Coble Farm is located on the south side of Coble Church Road (SR 3336), southeast of Bridge No. 267 (Figure 2.1). Located on a 49.01-acre parcel at 5356 Coble Church Road, this property retains its rural agricultural setting. The parcel is bound by Coble Church Road to the north, a 44.38-acre agricultural parcel to the south (C.A. Coble Farm - GF9123), and three wooded parcels to the east. A branch of Coble Church Road, extending south from SR 3336, divides the parcel and provides access to the rear lots. A small cluster of mid-twentieth-century dwellings including Ranch houses and Minimal Traditional dwellings exhibiting features of the revival styles are located to the east on Coble Church Road. The parcel contains a primary dwelling constructed

in 1928 by Shafter Coble and his father C.A. Coble and 13 domestic and agricultural outbuildings, including two storage sheds, pumphouse, double pen crib, two chicken coops, garage, carport, two equipment sheds, two tobacco barns, and a gable roof barn. According to the current property owner and a review of historic aerials, these outbuildings date from 1928 through the early 2000s. The circa 1920 Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121) is located on the north edge of the parcel, fronting Coble Church Road. This resource is addressed separately in Section 6 of this report.

The main dwelling and outbuildings are set back on the parcel and front Coble Church Road. The dwelling and farmstead are accessed by a gravel drive that extends south from Coble Church Road. The outbuildings are located behind the dwelling to the west and south. A dense grove of trees separates the smaller domestic outbuildings (i.e. chicken coop, pumphouse, and garage) from the larger agricultural buildings at the rear of the parcel. Cultivated hay fields are located behind the outbuildings to the south and to the east of the gravel drive and Coble Church Road extension. There are no fences on the property.

The dwelling is surrounded by mature trees and shrubbery with little landscaping with exception of a paved path and patio at the rear of the dwelling. A paved path lends access to the dwelling from the garage and carport on the south side.

INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory includes descriptions of the fourteen buildings located on the parcel, beginning with the primary dwelling.

SHAFTER COBLE HOUSE

The primary dwelling is a two-story, 2,130 square-foot Craftsman Bungalow constructed by C.A. and Shafter Coble in 1928. This dwelling has a side-gable roof of replacement asphalt shingles with a break in the façade slope. Contained with the roof is a full-width porch supported by tapered columns resting on brick piers that extend across the entire width of the north façade and partially across the east elevation. A set of cast concrete stairs lends access to the wood plank porch. The dwelling is clad with synthetic vinyl siding, installed around 2000, and has original wood shake in the gable fields, the fascia and soffit have also been wrapped with vinyl siding. The main entrance is slightly offset on the north façade and has an original glass and wood door with twelve vertical panes. A secondary entrance with an identical door is recessed on the east side of the façade. A gable-roof dormer also clad with wood shake is located centrally on the north façade and contains a bank of three replacement, one-over-one vinyl windows and solid knee-brace brackets. Windows throughout the dwelling have been replaced with one-over-one vinyl sash and are usually set in



Figure 3.39. Shafter Coble Farm, Site Map

banks of two and three. Each of the gable ends retains two original, twelve-light stationary wood windows that flank a pair of vinyl replacement sash. An exterior end brick chimney is located on the west elevation and is flanked by a circa 1990 shed roof awning that is supported by square wood posts. The dwelling has two interior brick chimneys. A one-story gabled, entrance porch is located on the rear (south) elevation that is supported by square wood posts. The porch retains an original cast concrete circular well that drew groundwater with a hand-operated mechanical chain and bucket. On the south side of the porch is a set of ground-level metal doors providing access to a brick-lined root cellar. The rear porch was partially enclosed in the 1990s (Figures 3.39 - 3.44). The property owner denied access to the dwelling's interior.



Figure 3.40. Shafter Coble Farm House, Facade, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.41. Shafter Coble Farm House, Façade and West Elevation, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.42. Shafter Coble Farm House, West and South Elevations, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.43. Shafter Coble Farm House, South and East Elevations, Looking Northwest



Figure 3.44. Shafter Coble Farm House, Well and Cellar, Looking East.

STORAGE SHED

Situated at the northwest corner of the parcel is a one-story frame storage shed with a board and batten exterior and a side gable roof of standing seam metal. This shed dates from the early to mid-twentieth century (Figure 3.45).

PUMPHOUSE

Near the northwest corner of the dwelling is a small pumphouse constructed in the early to mid-twentieth century. This gable-front pumphouse is of concrete block construction and has a standing seam metal roof with exposed rafter ends. A vertical board door centered the east facade lends access to the building (Figure 3.46).

CORN CRIB

Constructed in the early twentieth century, a double pen corn crib is situated to the southeast of the pumphouse near the northwest corner of the dwelling. This side-gable building was likely used to store dry goods and agricultural products such as corn, and has a foundation of stacked stone piers, an original weatherboard siding exterior, and a roof of original standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. The building is divided by a central wall and each pen is accessed by its own vertical board door located on the east façade. The building has no additional fenestration (Figure 3.47).



Figure 3.45. Board and Batten Storage Shed, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.46. Pumphouse, Looking West.



Figure 3.47. Corn Crib, Looking Southwest.

SMALL CHICKEN COOP

Directly southwest of the corn crib is a canted roof chicken coop with a foundation of stone piers, vertical board siding exterior, and a standing seam metal roof with exposed rafter ends. The coop is accessed by an open-door frame on the west elevation. A secondary entrance, also on the west elevation, has a vertical board siding door. This coop most likely dates from the mid-twentieth century (Figure 3.48).

GARAGE

Dating from the early to mid-twentieth century, a detached frame garage with an attached shed roof run is located near the southeast corner of the dwelling. This garage is clad with original weatherboard siding and has a front-gable roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. A shed roof wing is located on the north side of the building and is likely original to the structure. There are two garage bays on the east façade, each has a pair of vertical board doors (Figure 3.49).

CARPORT

A detached carport is located directly to the north of the frame garage. Built on a cast concrete slab, this prefabricated carport is comprised of ten metal posts that support an arched corrugated metal roof. The carport was constructed between 2003 and 2008. A poured concrete sidewalk connects the carport to the main dwelling (Figure 3.50).



Figure 3.48. Small Chicken Coop, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.49. Garage, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.50 Carport, Looking Southeast.

EQUIPMENT SHED

A frame equipment shed is located to the south of the garage. Clad with vertical boards, this equipment shed has a canted roof of original standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. The shed likely dates from the mid-twentieth century (Figure 3.51).

STORAGE SHED

Situated centrally in the parcel, within a dense grove of trees behind the main dwelling, is a frame storage shed with a board and batten exterior and a canted roof of original standing seam metal. A large open window is located on the south elevation. This building dates from the mid-twentieth century (Figure 3.52).

LARGE CHICKEN COOP

Also, within this grove of trees is a second, larger chicken coop constructed around 1980. This coop is of frame constructed with a foundation of stacked stone piers and a canted roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. The top half of the south elevation is open, and the bottom half is enclosed with vertical boards. An open storage area is located on the east side of the coop that is supported with rough-sawn wood posts (Figure 3.53).



Figure 3.51. Equipment Shed, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.52. Circa 1940 Canted Roof Storage Coop, Looking North.



Figure 3.53. Large Chicken Coop, Looking North.

MULTI-PURPOSE BARN

On the south side of the grove, toward the rear of the parcel is a gable roof, two-story barn with four bays set entirely within the roofline. Likely constructed around 1930, this barn has an asymmetrical roofline and retains its frame interior with heavy braced frame construction and a hay loft. The barn was clad with corrugated metal sheets in the 1950s. The central bay is accessed by a large opening on the east façade and two livestock bays are situated under the south side of the roof and are enclosed with paneled wood gates. A single storage bay is located on the north side of the barn and is accessed by a square opening. This multi-purpose barn was used to house hay, farm equipment, and livestock (Figures 3.54 - 3.55).

EAST TOBACCO PACKHOUSE

Located directly east of the barn are two gable-front tobacco packhouses. Based on an analysis of the cladding and construction methods, the eastern most packhouse was likely constructed circa 1920 and rests on a foundation of rough-cut stone piers. The packhouse is rectangular in shape with an asymmetrical gable roof clad in standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends. Most of the building is clad in circa 1920 weatherboard but the rear (south) elevation is enclosed with corrugated metal sheets. A storage run, enclosed on three sides, is located on the east side of the packhouse and is accessed through a large open bay on the north façade. The main entrance to the enclosed portion of the packhouse is centralize on the north façade and has an original four-panel wood door. A transom or loft access is situated directly over the door and retains its original wood casements and vertical board door (Figures 3.56- 3.58).

WEST TOBACCO PACKHOUSE

To the west of the first packhouse is a second frame gable-front tobacco packhouse. Likely constructed later, this packhouse rests on a foundation of rough-cut stone piers and has an asymmetrical gable roof of circa 1940 standing seam metal. Most of the building is clad with weatherboard siding but the east elevation is clad with open wood slats to allow for air circulation. The rear elevation is clad with corrugated metal sheets. A storage run, enclosed on three sides, is located on the west side of the packhouse and is accessed by a large open bay. The main entrance to the enclosed portion of the pack house is located centrally on the north façade and has vertical board door (Figure 3.59).

FARM EQUIPMENT SHED

Directly to the south of the packhouses is a concrete block farm equipment shed with a gable roof of standing seam metal and exposed rafter ends. The equipment shed has three bays that open to the east. The roof is supported by square wood posts. A review of historic aerials reveals that this shed likely dates to the early 1950s (Figure 3.60).



Figure 3.54. Barn, Looking West.



Figure 3.55. Barn Interior, Looking West.



Figure 3.56. Tobacco Packhouses, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.57. East Tobacco Packhouse, Façade, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.58. East Tobacco Packhouse, East and South Elevations, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.59. West Tobacco Packhouse, Façade and East Elevation, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.60. Farm Equipment Shed, Façade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest.

CONTEXT AND EVALUATION

The primary dwelling at the Shafter Coble Farm is an example of an early twentieth-century, modest Craftsman-style dwelling on a farm complex in rural Guilford County. Craftsman-style bungalows were constructed throughout the urban areas, small towns, and rural sections of North Carolina beginning in the 1920s. As seen at the main dwelling of the Shafter Coble Farm, the Craftsman-style bungalows constructed in rural areas were often less elaborate than their urban counterparts. Like the main dwelling at the Shafter Coble Farm, rural examples are often one to one and one-half stories in height and typify the style with integral porches on the main facade that are supported by tapered wood columns on brick piers, large knee brace brackets at the eaves, the use of novelty siding or wood shake in the gable fields, and large dormers like the one located centrally on this dwelling's facade.

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3.3.3 COBLE GENERAL STORE AND FILLING STATION (GF9121)

Resource Name	Coble General Store and Filling Station
HPO Survey Site #	GF9121
Location	5356 Coble Church Road
PIN	8800851863
Date(s) of Construction	Circa 1920; Circa 1965
Recommendation	Contributing to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District



Figure 3.61. Coble General Store and Filling Station, Façade, and East Elevation, Looking Southwest.

DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The Shafter Coble General Store and Filling Station is situated on the south side of Coble Church Road (SR 3336), southeast of Bridge No. 267 (Figure 2.1). Located on the same 49.01-acre tract as the Shafter Coble Farm at 5356 Coble Church Road, the parcel is bounded by Coble Church Road to the north, a 44.38-acre agricultural parcel to the south (C. A Coble Farm GF9123), and three wooded lots to the east. The circa 1920 Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121) is located on the north edge of the parcel, fronting Coble Church Road and is accessed by a gravel turn off. An open gravel lot and field is located directly east of the store that likely served as a parking lot for customers. The store is surrounded by mature trees to the west and south and a frame shed is situated directly south of the building. This section of the parcel has no landscaping.

INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory list contains individual descriptions of two buildings located on the parcel.

COBLE GENERAL STORE AND FILLING STATION

According to correspondence with the daughter and son-in-law of the current property owner, Florence Coble Berry, this roadside general store and service station was moved to this location by Shafter Coble and his father C.A. between 1920 and 1928. Oral tradition states that the store was previously located at the intersection of Coble Church Road and Amick Road, approximately 0.4-southeast of its current site, however, the stores does not appear on the 1920 Soil Map of Guilford County. The building is located on its current site in a 1955 historic aerial. Coble Church Road was a prime location for a farm store and filling station as it connects Alamance Church Road (SR 1005), at the northwest edge of the Julian community, to SR 3346 (Kimesville Road) in the Liberty community. Historically this section of Guilford County was dotted with small-scale subsistence farms, pastures, and large-scale farms producing cash crops like corn and tobacco.

Coble Church Road intersects NC 62 about three miles southeast of the Shafter Coble General Store and Filling Station. Established in 1928, NC 62 is a primary state highway in the Piedmont Triad that initially began in Asheboro and traveled northwest through the Liberty community to its terminus in Yanceyville. Between 1940 and 1960, it was extended to travel northeast to the Virginia State Line.

The general store and filling station were operated by C.A and Shafter Coble who sold vegetables from their own farms, general household items, and farm supplies such as feed for livestock. According to the property owner, in 1934 the Coble family began selling Texaco products and fuel pumps were added under the canopy shed. In the 1980s, the family was recognized for their long-term affiliation with the brand. The east wing and rear room containing a kitchenette was added in the 1950s. A small pass-through window added to the interior in the 1950s suggests that the store likely sold ready-made food items. The store was operational until the 1980s and is utilized by the Coble family for informal music rehearsals.

Exterior

The Coble General Store and Filling Station features a central bay located under a gable-front roof with two side wings under shed roof extensions supported by knee-brace brackets. The building has a foundation of brick piers, original weatherboard siding exterior, a central flue, and a gable roof of asphalt shingles and exposed rafter ends. A drive-through canopy shed extends north from the main façade and is supported by rough sawn, tapered wood posts. The canopy shed sheltered parked cars, an attendant, and likely two fuel pumps. The fuel pumps have been removed and no physical evidence remains.

The main entrance is situated under the drive-through canopy shed and has an original vertical board door flanked by two, original two-over-two vertical-light wood sash windows. Each of the windows has a full-width vertical board shutter with strap hinges. A secondary entrance provides access to the west wing which likely served as a store office. This entrance also has an original vertical board and an aluminum screen door. A wooden raised entry porch lends access to the doors that is shielded with lattice and accessed by wood stairs with a wood railing on the east side. The east wing and rear room that houses a kitchenette was added in in the 1950s. A rear entrance is located on the east elevation of the rear wing that is accessed via a wood accessibility ramp with a wood railing and picketed balustrade. The rear entrance has a circa 1950 single-light door with jalousie windows and is flanked by two jalousie windows. The remaining windows in the 1950s addition are two-over-two horizontal-light wood sash (Figure 3.61 – 3.64).



Figure 3.62. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Façade, and West Elevation, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.63. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, South and West Elevations, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.64. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Main Entrance, Looking South.

Interior

The interior retains much of its original features including the original wood sales counter, display shelves, slant-front glass display cabinet, and beadboard interior paneling. During the 1950s renovation, a portion of the ceiling was dropped, and drywall was added to the main room. At this time, a half-wall was built separating the store from a small storage room adjacent to the kitchenette. The floors in the center bay and 1950s addition are linoleum. The kitchenette retains some of the original 1950s features including wooden cabinetry and linoleum floors. The west wing that likely housed the store office and retains most of the building's original interior finishes including horizontal board walls, wood ceiling, wood floors, and an interior cast iron safety grate over the window (Figure 3.65 – 3.69).



Figure 3.65. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Central Bay and Original Store Counter, Looking Southeast.



Figure 3.66. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Central Bay, Looking Northeast.



Figure 3.67. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Kitchenette, Looking Southwest



Figure 3.68. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Office, Looking Northwest



Figure 3.69. Coble Farm Store and Filling Station, Cast Iron Safety Grate, Looking West

SHED

A circa 1930 frame, equipment shed is located behind the general store and filling station to the south. This shed is clad with horizontal boards on three sides and has an open bay on the west elevation. The canted roof is clad with standing seam metal and has exposed rafter ends (Figure 3.70).

CONTEXT AND EVALUATION

The Coble General Store and Filling Station is an example of a rural multi-use service station in Guilford County. Multi-use crossroad stores were a key part of any agrarian community and like this example, were often affiliated with a nearby farm that provided fresh produce and grain for sale. As development patterns have changed, the number of historic crossroad general stores and service stations has rapidly decreased. Since the implementation of the Interstate Highway System in the late 1950s, service stations have been constructed near interstate interchanges or in commercial strips outside of city centers. Historic rural service stations often lost business as interstates replaced local routes and traffic along the two-lane state routes decreased. As seen at the Coble General Store and Filling Station, historic filling stations regularly served multiple purposes.



Figure 3.70. Shed, Looking Southwest.

With the advent of the fuel pump for automobiles in 1905, smaller outfits including grocery stores and hardware stores installed curbside pumps. These multi-use stations were especially popular in rural areas where there were fewer retail options and existing structures that housed grocery and general stores were modified to include fuel pumps. Due to the nature of development, rural stations were able to supply larger parking areas and drive-in spaces for cars, often under a canopy shed, as seen at the Coble General Store and Filling Station. Service stations in rural and urban areas were often located on corner lots and incorporated a slight setback from the main road (Randl 2008). Another local example can be found about three miles southeast of the project area at the southeast corner of Coble Church Road and NC 62. Identified in 1995 during the Guilford County Resource Inventory Photo Update, this service station was assigned survey site number GF1924 by the HPO. This service station also affiliated with the Coble family was constructed circa 1930. Like many of the remaining rural service stations, it is no longer operational and is in a state of disrepair. The original posts that support the canopy shed have been replaced with square wood posts (Figure 3.71). In contrast, the Coble General Store and Filling Station is in good condition and retains its original features, representing an aspect of rural life that is disappearing from Guilford County's landscape.



Figure 3.71. Coble's Store (GF1924), Looking Southeast.

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3.3.4 C.A. COBLE FARM (GF9123)

Resource Name	C.A. Coble Farm
HPO Survey Site #	GF9123
Location	5358 Coble Church Road
PIN	8800755130
Date(s) of Construction	1902
Recommendation	Contributing to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District



Figure 3.72. C.A. Coble Farm, Façade and East Elevation, Looking Southwest.

DESCRIPTION AND SETTING

The C.A. Coble Farm is situated in the northwest quadrant of the 44.38-acre parcel at 5358 Coble Church Road, south east of Bridge No. 267 (Figure 2.1). The tract is bounded by the parcel containing the Shafter Coble Farm to the north and west and two large parcels containing dense wooded areas and dwellings to the south and west. The parcel is characterized by a dense wooded area that comprises most of the north east section of the lot and a cultivated field in the southeast corner. The C.A. Coble Farm is accessed by an unpaved circular driveway that extends south and west from the branch of Coble Church Road that travels south from the road’s primary east/west alignment. The parcel contains a primary dwelling constructed in 1902 by C.A. Coble and two circa 1930 garages. A non-historic metal fuel tank is located directly behind the dwelling to the south. A review of historic aerials reveals that additional outbuildings, including a large barn were demolished or moved between 2003 and 2008.

INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory includes descriptions of the three buildings located on the parcel beginning with the primary dwelling.

C.A. COBLE FARM

The primary dwelling is a two-story 1,848 square-foot, I-House with a rectangular rear wing. Constructed in 1902, this three-bay I-House features a continuous brick foundation, two exterior end brick chimneys, and a side-gable roof of circa 1920 standing seam metal. The house underwent a renovation around 2000 that resulted in new windows, doors, siding, and other features. The windows throughout the dwelling are double-hung, simulated divided light vinyl sash flanked by vinyl paneled shutters. The dwelling was clad with vinyl siding and the roof of the rear wing was replaced with non-historic standing seam metal. A one-story, hipped roof porch with non-historic asphalt shingles is located centrally on the north façade and is supported by square fluted columns. The columns rest on a raised brick foundation and the porch has a paneled wood floor. The main entrance is located centrally under the hipped roof porch and has an original single-pane, multi-panel glass and wood door and a synthetic screen door (Figure 3.72 – 3.74).

Attempts to contact the property owner were unsuccessful and interior access was not granted.

CONCRETE BLOCK GARAGE

Situated directly west of the dwelling is a circa 1930 garage of concrete block construction. The garage features a flat roof of standing seam metal with exposed rafter ends and has one original two-over-two, vertical-light steel sash window on its north façade. A rectangular garage bay is located on the north façade and has a wood door of vertical boards. A pedestrian entrance is located on the east elevation and is sheltered by an integral porch that is supported by rough-sawn wood posts. A flue is located on the rear (south) elevation indicating that the building likely served as a workshop or service area that would have been utilized by the residents on a regular basis in all seasons (Figure 3.75).

GARAGE/CARPORT

To the northwest of the dwelling and garage is a second concrete block garage with a canted roof of standing seam metal. On the east elevation is a large shed roof awning, serving as a carport, which is supported by four round metal posts. A garage bay is located on the south side of east elevation and has an original vertical board door. A pedestrian entrance is located on the north side of the east elevation, and also has an original vertical board door. This building likely dates from the mid-twentieth century (Figure 3.76).



Figure 3.73. C.A. Coble Farm, East and South Elevations, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.74. C.A. Coble Farm, South Elevation, Looking Northwest.



Figure 3.75. C.A. Coble Farm, Garage, Looking Southwest.



Figure 3.76. C.A. Coble Farm, Garage/Carport, Looking Southwest.

CONTEXT AND EVALUATION

The C.A. Coble Farm is an example of an early twentieth-century farmstead in rural Guilford County. The main dwelling is representative of the two-story I-House form that is two rooms wide and one room deep. This house form gained popularity among middle class farmers in the mid-nineteenth century and is often seen as the anchor dwelling for farmsteads. Their construction and level of ornamentation was often a statement of the owner's financial success and long rear eaves were often added to the supporting elevations as seen at the C.A. Coble Farm.

I-Houses were ubiquitous across rural Guilford County, a search of the HPOWEB database reveals that at least four of the 41 properties identified as farms in Guilford County included an I-House as the anchor dwelling.

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4.0 HISTORIC CONTEXT

4.1 AGRICULTURE IN GUILFORD COUNTY

Founded in 1771, Guilford County is situated in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. Prior to the rapid industrialization and transportation developments that followed the Civil War, agriculture supported Guilford County's economy. The county's farmers produced raw materials such as cotton and timber, and tobacco was the county's primary cash crop. The tobacco market dissolved shortly after the Civil War in response to poor farming practices and the prolonged absence of a labor force. Only about one-third of Guilford County's residents were slaveowners meaning that farmers primarily worked their own land (Salsi and Salsi 2002). According to the 1860 Farm Schedule, Michael Coble farmed the lands associated with the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120) during this era. At this time, the farm consisted of about 280 acres of improved land and 80 acres of unimproved land. A review of the agricultural schedules reveals that, like many Guilford County farmers, the Cobles did not cultivate a cash crop like tobacco or cotton in the years directly before and after the Civil War. Instead, the Cobles produced crops of wheat, corn, and oats, in addition to raising livestock (U.S. Census Bureau 1860).

In response to the devastation caused by the Civil War, organizations like the Northern Quakers of Baltimore Association established aid programs to reinvigorate the county's farms. The Northern Quakers of Baltimore Association formed in 1865 and assisted in repairing homes, meeting houses and schools. As part of this effort, the group founded a Model Farm in southwest Guilford County that demonstrated new farming methods and equipment. By 1871, 1,000 people had visited the farm (Salsi and Salsi 2002). As a result of these efforts, 15,000 acres of the county's farm land were restored and although the county did not have a strong cash crop at this time, it was well-known for the production of dried fruit and produce (Robinson and Stoesen 1981).

Guilford County's farms began to rebound in the early twentieth century. By 1910, 99 miles of hard surface roads were constructed in Guilford County allowing farmers situated in the county's periphery to easily transport their crops to the urban centers (Salsi and Salsi 2002). Additionally, the Guilford County Agricultural Association was formed in 1911 and taught vocational agriculture and home economics. As early as 1909, tobacco cultivation began to regain popularity and by 1919 tobacco was the leading cash crop in the county. In 1919, 345,764 pounds of tobacco were sold in Greensboro's warehouses. Although agricultural schedules for individual farms are not available for this era, county statistics indicate that 11,702 farms in Guilford County produced 8,154,405 pounds of tobacco in 1929 (U.S. Census Bureau 1929). Correspondence with the current property owners of the farms in the Coble Farms Rural Historic District, reveals that the Coble family produced tobacco on a small-scale in the early twentieth century. Three tobacco related buildings are extant in the district today.

Guilford County's tobacco markets collapsed in the 1930s and the county's warehouses would not reopen until 1949. During this era, many farmers, including the Cobles shifted their focus to the small-scale production of vegetables and hay for livestock. The Cobles in particular took part in "truck farming," the practice of transporting crops and produce to local markets (Robinson and Stoesen 1981).

Transportation improvements, including the construction of more than 6,200 miles of state roads, dramatically affected the county's development patterns. During the 1920s and 1930s, the county's urban centers began to expand and encroach upon rural farmsteads. A 1920s edition of *The Daily News* describes these road networks as bringing "an end to the isolation of farm life." A study executed by the federal government during the Great Depression indicated that due to a dependence on tobacco cultivation and poor farming practices, 20 percent of the county's farmland was "unfit and unsuitable for active farming." In the following years, New Deal programs were established to aid farms with soil conservation and rural electrification (Robinson and Stoesen 1981).

As of 2012, 90,750 of the 421,120 acres in Guilford County were categorized as farmland. Of this, only 45.9 percent was used for cropland, 20.4 percent for pastures, and 26 percent was comprised of wooded areas (USDA Agriculture Census 2012). In keeping with this trend, the remaining fields in the Coble Farms Rural Historic District are used as pasture or contain cover crops. Ray Coble currently operates a small-scale produce and plant business called Sam's Greenhouse on the parcel associated with the David Daniel Coble Farm (GF9120).

4.2 HISTORY OF THE COBLE FAMILY

Guilford County deed records can be traced to 1973 for the property containing the David Daniel Coble Farm at 5357 Coble Church Road, however, archival research indicates that this parcel and neighboring lands in the Clay Township have been in the Coble family since the late eighteenth century. On May 11, 1973, Harvey C. Coble and his wife Cora conveyed the parcel containing 5357 Coble Church Road to their eldest son Dwight B. Coble in a gift deed for a sum of ten dollars (Guilford County 1973). At this time, the parcel was bounded by three family tracts owned by Paul Coble, Mr. and Mrs. George Coble, and Mr. and Mrs. Jay Coble. Although the deed was gifted to Dwight B. Coble, the property was occupied by Harvey's youngest son George Lee Coble and his wife Pearl May. The tract on the south side of Coble Church Road was owned by Harvey's brother, Charles Augburn (C.A) Coble.

Family records and archival research reveals that the Coble family's connection to this region can be traced to March 20, 1780, when George Coble's third great grandfather, George Coble (1733-1816), a German immigrant, received a land grant for 200 acres near Little Alamance Creek in the Clay Township (Pruitt). In Sallie W. Stockard's *The History of Guilford North Carolina*, the Coble family is identified as one of the first European American families to settle in eastern

Guilford County (Stockard 1983). Exiles from the Rhineland-Palatine and Baden-Wurttemberg regions of Germany began migrating to the United States as early as 1708 when Queen Anne provided Protestant Germans passage to the colonies, often in exchange for labor. Born in the village of Hoffenheim-Sinsheim in the Baden/Rhine Neckar region of southwest Germany, George Coble was one of these immigrants seeking refuge from religious quarrels, heavy taxation, and the region's severe environment (Alamance County Historical Association 1974). In 1787, Lutheran missionary, Christopher Bernhardt, noted that there were hundreds of Germans settled in Guilford County (Robinson and Stoesen 1981).

According to Coble family records, three Coble brothers came to North Carolina in the late eighteenth century. The Coble name likely evolved from Kobel, Cobble, or Cobell as a result of spelling errors and misinterpretations over the years or the family's effort to assimilate. Like many Palatine Germans, the Cobles likely chose the Carolinas because of their familiarity with John Lederer's earlier explorations to the region in 1670 and the region's proximity to the Saxe-Gotha Settlement founded in South Carolina in 1735. Records indicate that six Coble families were mentioned in groups of early settlers including Anthony, John George, and John Jacob Coble. John Jacob and John George were brothers and first cousins of Anthony; both of the brothers likely dropped their first names and were known by their middle names. Jacob and George immigrated to North Carolina from Hoffenheim, Germany by way of New York. Jacob initially lived near Low's Church, approximately five miles east of Climax Creek and the present-day David Daniel Coble Farm.

The Fred Hughes Maps of Guilford County which identify landowners, mills, schools, and churches extant prior to 1800, illustrates the homes of George, Anthony, and John Coble on McCulloh Tract No. 11. According to the map, George Coble's homeplace in 1779 was located in the southwestern portion of the McCulloh Tract No. 11, north of Beaver Creek (Hughes 1988). Beaver Creek is about five miles north east of the present-day David Daniel Coble Farm. Owned by London merchant, Henry McCulloh, the No.11 tract was situated just east of modern Greensboro and extended south into Randolph County. A former benefactor of Governor Johnston, McCulloh received two grants of 62,000 and 72,000 acres. A third grant for that 1.2 million acres. The 1.2 million acre grant was conditionally awarded and dictated that six thousand Protestants be settled on the land within ten years and quitrents (small annual fees) be paid (Russell 1991). As German Protestants, the Cobles settlement helped to fulfill this condition.

George Coble (1733-1816) married Maria Barbara Glass (1735-1816) in North Carolina in the eighteenth century. Born in Orange County, Virginia, Glass was likely born during her parents' journey from Pennsylvania to the North Carolina Colony. Both George and Maria Barbara are interred at Cobles Lutheran Cemetery (organized in 1812 as Mt. Zion Lutheran Church), located about 0.9-mile northeast of the present-day Coble Farms. A plaque at his grave site indicates that George fought for the independence of the colonies in the American Revolution.

Archival research indicates that the land containing the present-day David Daniel Coble Farm was passed from George Coble to his son John Nicholas Coble (1780-1816) and his wife Christina Jane Shatterly (1785-1846); then to John's son, Michael Coble (1813-1981) and his wife Temperance "Tempy" Elizabeth Coble (1832-1884). As early as the 1870s, the Cobles utilized their lands for general subsistence farming and produced tobacco as a cash crop for sale and trade. The farm expanded under the ownership David Daniel Coble (1854-1944), the son of John and Tempy, who took ownership of the farm upon his marriage to Ellen Greeson (1856-1927) on June 20, 1875. The Cobles likely constructed the log core of the present-day house at the David Daniel Coble Farm during that year. By 1880, David and Ellen had two children, Charley and Minnie, and resided on the land adjoining David's parents who also operated a general farm (U.S Census Bureau 1880).

The C.M. Miller Map of Guilford County indicates that by 1908, "Dave Coble's" residence stood on the east side of Climax Creek and all of the land lying south of the north branch of Big Alamance Creek, west of Coble Church Road, and east of Old Julian Road was owned by the Coble family (Figure 3.6) (Miller 1908). Multiple branches of the Coble family resided in this area and members of the Coble family were instrumental in the foundation of the nearby Coble Lutheran Church, approximately 0.9-mile northwest of the project area, however; determining the potential for a larger rural historic district associated with the Coble family is beyond the scope of this project.

According to the 1910 U.S. Census, David and Ellen Coble resided in Clay Township and their general farm. Their son Harvey lived with them and attended the local school (U.S Census Bureau 1910). Harvey would go on to attend his second year of high school, achieving a comparatively high level of formal education. David and Ellen had three children: Harvey Cline, Minnie D., and Charles Augburn (C.A.). By the 1930 U.S. Federal Census, 75-year-old David Daniel Coble lived with his son Harvey Cline Coble (1888-1983) and his wife Cora Elizabeth Shoffner. Married in 1912, Harvey and Cora had six children and operated the family's general farm. By 1930, David's eldest son, C.A. and his wife Georgie lived across Coble Church Road to the south and also operated a general farm. The 1940 U.S. Federal Census indicates that Harvey lived at the same address as in previous years with his wife Cora, oldest son Dwight, and children Jay Cline, Clifton, George, and Millie. His father David still resided with the family along with a lodger named Lizzie Thom. Harvey worked as a general farmer on his own account with a home valued at \$2,000 dollars. This value and residents suggests that the substantial Craftsman-style front wing of the dwelling may have been constructed during this era.

In 1928 Harvey's brother, C.A., and his son, Shafter, constructed a Bungalow dwelling on the south side of Coble Church Road. Perhaps at this time C.A., Shafter, Harvey, and his sons built the Craftsman-style front wing at the David Daniel Coble Farm. Through this era, George and Dwight were laborers on their father's farm and registered for the draft in 1940. (U.S Census Bureau 1940). According to Dwight's draft card, at the time, he was also employed by Standard Hosiery Mill in Alamance County (Anon 1940).

At the time of his enlistment in the U.S. Army in 1942, George Lee Coble worked as a farmer. George Lee Coble was awarded a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star as a result of his service. According to the Greensboro City Directories, Dwight married Alice L. Smith and relocated to Burlington, North Carolina after World War II, where he worked as a supervisor at Western Electric throughout the 1950s and 1960s (Anon 1960). According to the present-owner, George continued farming the Coble lands and resided at the David Daniel Coble Farm after his wedding to Pearl May in March of 1951. George Lee Coble lived at the property until his death in 2005 and is interred at Coble's Lutheran Church (Anon 2005). Pearl Coble resides in the house today and their son Ray operates a small nursery and plant sale business on site.

Deed records for the parcel containing the Shafter Coble Farm and the Coble General Store and Filling Station at 5356 Coble can be traced to 1951 when C.A. Coble conveyed the property containing the farm and store to his son, Shafter. It is unclear when the property containing these resources came into the Coble family, but it is likely that it was all part of one tract associated with the original Coble homesite, the David Daniel Coble Farm, north of Coble Church Road. It is evident that the rear section of the parcel (present-day 5358 Coble Church Road) was occupied by C.A. Coble as early as 1908.

The eldest son of David Daniel Coble, C.A. Coble was born on June 19, 1876 in Clay Township. C.A. married Georgia Etta Smith on February 16, 1898 and they had two children, Shafter Lee and Nora. According to the 1900 U.S. Census, C.A. rented and farmed land in the Clay Township. The census indicates that C.A. and his wife Georgia lived in Dwelling No. 144 with his son Shafter, born in 1898. His entry is listed next to other members of the Coble family indicating that he likely rented and farmed lands nearby his father's farm (U.S. Census Bureau 1910).

According to correspondence with the current property owner, C.A. initially lived on the parcel directly behind 5356 Coble Church Road which has a current address of 5358 Coble Church Road and is referred to as the C.A. Coble Farm (GF9121) throughout this report. This information was confirmed by the 1908 C.M. Miller Map of Guilford County which depicts C.A.'s residence on the parcel south of Coble Church Road, set back a substantial distance from the road (Figure 4.1) (Miller 1908). By the 1910 Census, C.A. owned this tract of land, a dwelling, and a general farm at the site listed as "Dwelling 81" (U.S. Census Bureau 1910). C.A. Coble continued to reside and farm at this property throughout the early twentieth century and likely constructed the 1902 I-House on the site.

According to C.A.'s great granddaughter, Lynn Coble, who was on site at the time of survey, C.A. and his son Shafter participated in what was commonly known as "truck farming," the practice of producing crops of vegetables on smaller-scale farms to be shipped or "trucked" to local grocers and markets. Possibly inspired by this business, the Cobles founded their own general store on the property.

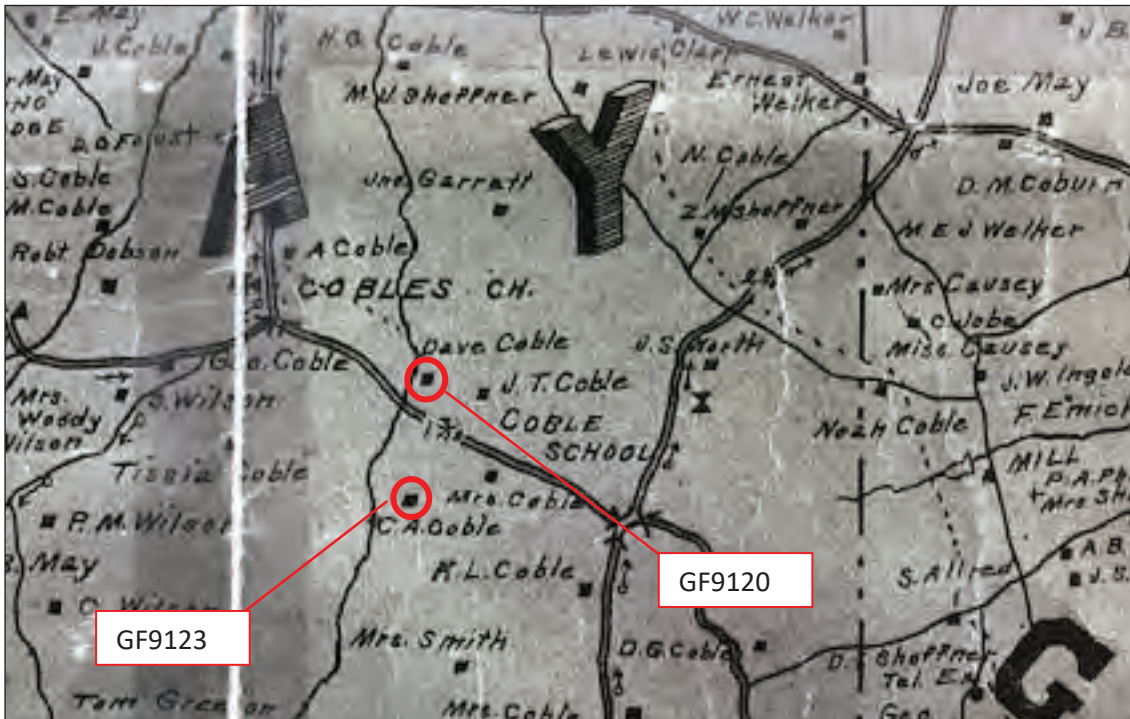


Figure 4.1. The C.M. Miller Map of Guilford County, 1908.

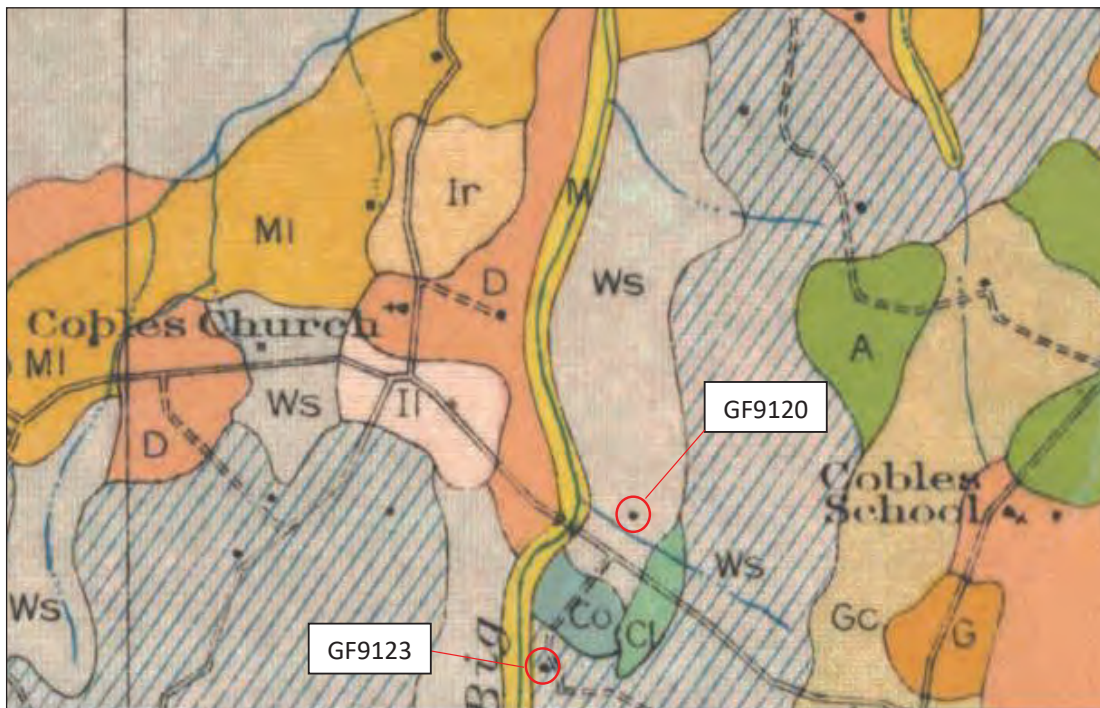


Figure 4.2. Soil Map of Guilford County, North Carolina, 1920.

Correspondence with the Coble family revealed that the building that houses the Coble General Store and Filling Station (GF9121) was moved to its current location prior to the construction of the dwelling at Shafter Coble Farm (GF9122) in 1928. The building is not shown on a soil map produced in 1920 which depicts the 1902 C.A. Coble Farm House sited a substantial distance south of Coble Church Road (Figure 4.2) (United States Department of Agriculture 1920). The store was operated by C.A. and Shafter Coble who sold vegetables from their own farm, general household items, and farm supplies such as feed for livestock. In 1934, they began selling Texaco products and fuel pumps were likely added under the canopy shed though no evidence remains. The east wing and rear room containing a kitchenette were added in the 1950s. A small pass-through window added to the interior in the 1950s suggests that the store may have sold ready-made food items.

Shortly following the relocation of the store, C.A. and his son Shafter Coble constructed the Craftsman-style dwelling at 5356 Coble Church Road in 1928. These buildings are referred to as the Shafter Coble Farm (GF1922) in this report. According to the 1930 U.S. Census, the property was occupied by C.A. and his wife Georgie, as well as Shafter Coble and his wife Annie (U.S. Census Bureau 1930). Shafter and Annie Maude Coble were married in 1921 by a Lutheran minister at the residence of her father, Henry Harrison Coble, also in the Clay Township (Ancestry.com 2015). Although deed records were not available, the Cobles likely conveyed the parcel containing the C.A. Coble Farm (GF9121) at 5358 Coble Church Road to Cecil K. and Elizabeth Humble around this time (a 1951 deed refers to the tract containing the 1902 Coble house as belonging to the Humble family, alluding to its earlier conveyance). In 1930, C.A. listed his occupation as manager of his own general farm and Shafter was laborer on the farm. By the 1940 census, Shafter was working on his own farm account and according to his U.S. World War II Draft Card, Shafter was self-employed by 1942 (U.S. Selective Service System 2010). Shafter and Annie Coble would later have a daughter named Florence (Betty).

In 1951 the parcel containing the Shafter Coble Farm and Coble General Store and Filling Station was deeded to Shafter and Annie Coble from C.A. and Georgie Coble for a sum of ten dollars (Guilford County 1951). The Cobles continued to operate the Coble General Store and Filling Station until the late 1970s following C.A. Coble's death in 1971. When C.A. Coble died at Greensboro's Cone Memorial Hospital, his death certificate listed his occupation as farmer and merchant. Almost 20 years later in 1988, Shafter Coble died at his home at the age of 90. Both men are buried at the nearby Coble Lutheran Church (Ancestry.com 2018). Although the Coble General Store and Filling Station is no longer operational, the building is utilized by the Coble family for small family events.

The parcel containing the Shafter Coble Farm and Coble General Store and Filling Station is currently owned by Florence Coble Berry, the daughter of Shafter and Annie Coble. Florence resides in a 1951 dwelling adjacent to the parcel and the dwelling at the Shafter Coble Farm is currently occupied by Florence's daughter, Lynn, and her husband, Ray Coble. In 2013, the parcel containing the C.A. Coble Farm was placed in the Humble Family Trust (Guilford County 2013).

5.0 ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Most of the county-wide architectural surveys executed in Guilford County have focused on resources in the city limits of Greensboro and the early streetcar and postwar suburbs directly surrounding the city's urban core. In 1991, a multiple property listing of the "Historic and Architectural Resources of Greensboro, North Carolina, 1880-1941" including approximately 3,000 properties was prepared by Marvin A. Brown and was based in part on the city survey completed by Callie Lou Dalton between 1988 and 1989. Between 1975 and 1977, a county-wide windshield survey was completed by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Division of Archives and History. This rural reconnaissance survey was updated between 1995 and 1996. In 2008 and 2009, Phase I-A and Phase I-B of the Greensboro Survey Update were completed and at this time, only one area of the city was identified as containing rural farmsteads – the Guilford College area in northeast Guilford County. During the previous survey period from 1988 to 1991, 21 rural farmsteads were surveyed and listed on an individual form, but by the 2009 update only six of these 21 remained. Due to the rapid growth of the city of Greensboro in the mid-twentieth century, many historic farmsteads have been demolished and replaced with sprawling residential and commercial development. A county-wide rural survey has not been executed since the mid-1990s.

Extensive development and the changing economy have significantly impacted large farms within Guilford County. Once common in the rural parts of Guilford County, the size of farms has been steadily decreasing since the late twentieth century. The United States Department of Agriculture reported 864 farms in Guilford County in 1997, by 2002 that number had decreased to 769 (Fearnbach 2009). As of March 2019, only five rural historic districts in North Carolina have been listed in the NRHP. None of the listed districts are located in Guilford County or in the project's direct vicinity, however, the Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms, a multi-farm complex in southeast Guilford County, was listed in 2009. Listed and eligible districts, as well as a sampling of forty-one properties identified as farms in Guilford County, were identified and reviewed through the HPOWEB in an effort to identify resources comparable to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District.

Southeastern Guilford County retains a sampling of extant rural farmsteads, but few have been determined eligible for, or listed in, the NRHP. A search of the HPOWEB database reveals that 41 properties identified as farms in Guilford County have been recorded during previous surveys. Eleven of these have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, and one of these, the Adams Farm (GF0219) has been demolished. Farms in this section of Guilford County display a variety of architectural trends. In the Julian vicinity, most of the extant nineteenth-century farm complexes are anchored by a dwelling representative of a variation of the I-House form. Most commonly two

rooms wide and one room deep, the I-House gained popularity among middle class farmers in the mid-nineteenth century. As seen at the David Daniel Coble House, I-Houses were often constructed around log cores. Their construction and level of ornamentation was often a statement of the owner's financial success and long rear eaves were added to the supporting elevations. The Austin Coble House (AM0091), approximately eight miles northeast of the project area, was previously surveyed in 1980 and 2002 and was assigned survey number AM0091 by the HPO (Figure 5.1). Like the David Daniel Coble House, the oldest portion of the dwelling is a rectangular log house. A two-story, two-bay I-House was added to the front of the log dwelling in the early twentieth century that is reminiscent of the house at the C.A. Coble Farm and the David Daniel Coble Farm before its circa 1930 renovation. The I-House form is also seen approximately three miles southwest of the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District at the Thomas R. Greeson Farm (Figure 5.2 and 5.3) (GF1923). In a letter dated April 7, 2015, the HPO determined the Thomas R. Greeson House and Farm eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture. The two-story I-House has three bays and a rear wing built in 1881. Character-defining elements such as the turned wood posts that support the partial-width porch and decorative millwork brackets add interest to the façade. The farmstead retains a sampling of original outbuildings including a barn and corn crib.

As tastes transitioned, different styles were adopted for anchor dwellings on Guilford County farmsteads. Simplified variations of the Craftsman style are found throughout the Julian vicinity, however, only one has been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP, the Moser Farm (GF8985). Determined eligible in a letter dated June 11, 2018, the Moser Farm is situated near the crossroads of NC 62 and Ferguson Road, approximately seven miles northwest of the project area. Similar to farms in the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District, the Moser Farm is representative of an early to mid-nineteenth-century farm complex and includes an intact collection of agricultural outbuildings including two barns, a chicken house, and a garage. Architecturally, the house is a modest example of the Craftsman style, much like the circa 1930 addition at the David Daniel Coble Farm and the dwelling at the Shafter Coble Farm, the dwelling features Craftsman-style elements such as knee-brace brackets at the eaves and an incised porch supported by tapered wood columns resting on brick piers (Figure 5.4 and 5.5).

Another example of the Craftsman style in the Julian vicinity can be found at the farm at 4307 Old Julian Road. Approximately two miles south and east of the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District, this previously unidentified dwelling is similar to the David Daniel Coble House in massing and detail. Unlike the dwelling at the David Daniel Coble Farm, it appears that this dwelling was all constructed all at one time. A prominent gable-front wing characterizes the dwelling and a one-story porch supported by tapered wood columns extends along the façade and south elevation. Knee-brace brackets are situated at the eaves. Like the dwelling at the David Daniel Coble Farm, this house has original six-over-one and two-over-one wood sash windows. The dwelling is clad in replacement, asbestos shingle siding (Figure 5.6).



Figure 5.1. Austin Coble House (AM0091), Looking Northeast.



Figure 5.2. Thomas R. Greeson House (GF1923), Looking North.



Figure 5.3. Thomas R. Greeson House and Farm (GF1923), Looking Southeast.



Figure 5.4. Moser Farm (GF8985), Looking West.



Figure 5.5. Outbuildings at the Moser Farm, Looking Northwest.



Figure 5.6. 4307 Old Julian Road, Looking Northeast.

Stylistically, the resources in the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District are typical of the farmsteads in southeastern Guilford County, however, their concentration and prolonged association with the Coble family make them a unique resource. Though not listed as a district, the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District is comparable to the Foust-Carpenter and Dean Farms (GF4959) in the Whitsett vicinity of eastern Guilford County in layout and composition. This collection of farms was listed on the NRHP in 2009 under Criterion A for their association with Guilford County's agrarian economy from the late nineteenth century to mid-twentieth century. Similar to the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District, this site encompasses multiple (six) dwellings and 29 outbuildings constructed between 1875 and 1958. Visually, the district consists of gently rolling topography and agricultural fields. Larger than the recommended Coble farms district, this site consists of 325.24 acres associated with Foust, Carpenter, and Dick families of Guilford County. The boundaries and period of significance are defined by the dwellings and outbuildings that convey the farm's continuous agricultural function and association with three families.

The most intact residence in the Foust-Carpenter and Dean Farms District is the John C. and Barbara Foust House at the corner of Mt. Hope Church and Cook-Stewart Roads. Constructed circa 1894, this two-story I-House has a circa 1910 one-story, two-room ell that extends from the rear elevation. The dwelling retains its original weatherboard cladding, deep boxed cornice, and metal roof. Other notable features include two tenant houses constructed circa 1875, a circa 1863 log house, the circa 1940 Carpenter family's lake house, and a sampling of contemporary agricultural outbuilding including barns, corn cribs, a granary, packhouses, equipment sheds, and the ruins of a log tobacco barn (Fearnbach 2009). Much like the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District, the contributing resources at the Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms are situated on contiguous, historically associated parcels that are actively cultivated and retain a sampling of domestic and agricultural buildings representative of the farm's tenure. Both properties illustrate the evolution of farming practices and the changing taste of the residents in Guilford County (Figure 5.7 and 5.8).



Figure 5.7. Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms Historic District, Looking South.



Figure 5.8. Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms Historic District, Looking Northeast.

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6.0 INTEGRITY EVALUATION

The boundaries and contributing resources of the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District are in keeping with the listed or eligible resources evaluated above. At the evaluated sites, contributing resources were situated on contiguous parcels with little to no modern intrusions and retained a historic dwelling on each parcel. According to the National Register Bulletin: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*, historic integrity is defined by seven qualities: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association (McClelland et al. 1989). The lack of non-historic intrusions and retention of the historic spatial organization and design of the proposed Coble Farms Rural Historic District, has preserved the district's historic location, setting, and feel. Though modern buildings have been constructed along Coble Church Road, dense wooded areas and substantial setbacks shield the historic resources from the highway and minimal surrounding development. All but three of the 34 contributing resources in the district are situated on their original sites and a portion of the farms' fields are actively cultivated or used as pasture. The land retains its historic association with the Coble family who have been in this area since 1780. Although two of the residences in the district have been altered with the addition of vinyl siding and some replacement windows, the alterations have not affected the dwellings' overall form and function thereby preserving the district's historic design, materials, and workmanship. The recommended district possesses clearly defined boundaries and distinct historic complexes that are representative of early to mid-nineteenth-century agrarian life in Guilford County.

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7.0 NRHP EVALUATION

Properties and districts can be eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion A if they are associated with events or patterns of events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history at the local, state, or national level. Each farm in the recommended district is associated with Guilford County's agricultural economy, specifically truck farming and early agricultural commerce. Founded in the late nineteenth century, the Coble farmsteads are an example of agricultural resiliency and illustrate the challenges faced by Guilford County farmers. Founded as small-scale subsistence farms, the Coble farmsteads expanded during the twentieth century to produce tobacco, the county's primary cash crop. Following the tobacco market's collapse in the 1930s, the Cobles returned to the small-scale vegetable and hay production and sold their products at a small on-site general store. The agricultural outbuildings, dwellings, and roadside Coble General Store and Filling Station are intact, well-maintained resources. The agricultural landscape which includes two man-made ponds, livestock pastures, and cultivated agricultural fields has been controlled for multiple generations, strengthening the district's integrity. Therefore, the Coble Farms Rural Historic District is recommended eligible for listing under Criterion A.

Properties can also be eligible for the NRHP if they are associated with person or persons that have made contributions significant to our past under Criterion B. Though the farms remain under the ownership of the Coble family, longtime farmers and citizens of Guilford County, archival research did not reveal that the family significantly contributed to a singular event of local, regional, or national historic significance. Therefore, the Coble Farm Rural Historic District is recommended not eligible for listing under Criterion B.

Properties that embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value can be eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion C. The primary dwellings at the David Daniel Coble Farm, the Shafter Coble Farm, and the C.A. Coble Farm are intact representative examples of late nineteenth- and mid-twentieth-century farmsteads in rural Guilford County. With the exception of the C.A. Coble Farm, the resources have undergone limited non-historic alterations and retain their historic design, setting, feeling, and association. A search of comparable properties found that while the buildings in the recommended district are typical in this section of Guilford County, their concentration and prolonged association with the Coble Family make them a unique resource. For these reasons, the Coble Farms Rural Historic District is recommended eligible for listing under Criterion C.

It is unlikely that additional study of these properties would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. Therefore, the Coble Farms Rural Historic District is recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP under Criterion D.

The consultant recommends the Coble Farms Rural Historic District as eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C. The recommended period of significance is 1875 to 1970, which spans from the date of the earliest extant buildings to the period when the farms transitioned from truck farming and small-scale tobacco cultivation to a plant-sale and greenhouse operation.

The proposed Coble Rural Farms Historic District contains the remaining cultivated fields, pastures, and adjacent woodlands historically associated with the David Daniel Coble Farm, the Coble General Store and Filling Station, the Shafter Coble Farm, and the C.A. Coble Farm. The recommended district contains 34 contributing resources and seven non-contributing resources.

The five non-historic greenhouses at the David Daniel Coble Farm and the carport and non-historic large chicken coop at the Shafter Coble Farm are recommended non-contributing. The proposed district NRHP boundary is roughly dictated by the parcel lines of these resources and has an area of approximately 117.16 acres.

The district's southern boundary is created by the southern parcel lines of 5356 and 5358 Coble Church Road. The district's landscape south of Coble Church Road is characterized by wooded areas and three cultivated fields. A review of historic aerials reveals that a bulk of the wooded areas were historically used as farmland and have been slowly overtaken by trees between 1955 and 2019. Most of the wooded areas are comprised of new growth. Historically, any surrounding woodlands would have been a resource to the Cobles, providing firewood for stoves or raw materials for the construction of outbuildings. For these reasons, they have been included in the district boundary. The southern boundary runs directly north of a 1998 dwelling on an adjacent parcel.

South of Coble Church Road, the eastern boundary follows the eastern parcel lines of 5356 and 5358 Coble Church Road. From the corner of the lot containing 5356 Coble Church Road (the Shafter Coble Farm) the boundary travels east creating a section of the northern boundary along the existing right-of-way of 5356 Coble Church Road. The boundary excludes a 1.088-acre parcel at 5372 Coble Church Road. This dwelling is associated with the Coble family but was not constructed until the 1950s and it is not reflective of the farm's historic agricultural narrative. The boundary travels west along the existing right-of-way and crosses Coble Church Road to the north. The boundary extends north to include the easternmost livestock pond, tobacco packhouse, and log barn associated with the David Daniel Coble Farm. These resources are situated on the southwestern corner of the residential lot at 5361 Coble Church Road, also owned by the Coble family, the other resources on this lot are non-historic and are not part of the recommended Coble Farms Rural Historic District. The boundary then meets the eastern parcel line of 5356 Coble Church Road, which contains the David Daniel Coble Farm. The entire parcel is included in the district and the landscape is primarily comprised of livestock pasture. The pasture extends onto the parcel directly north of the David Daniel Coble Farm, a 26.18-acre lot owned by Deborah Jones

Coble. Although these lands were likely part of the historic Coble landholdings, a transmission line runs between the two parcels creating a distinct visual boundary. Therefore, the northern parcel boundary serves as the northernmost district boundary.

North of Coble Church Road the western boundary follows the western property line of 5357 Coble Church Road and crosses Coble Church Road, just east of Bridge No. 267, to join with the western parcel line of 5356 Coble Church Road. Bridge No. 267 and Coble Church Road, though within the proposed district boundaries, are not recommended contributing resources. These are non-historic resources that do not contribute to the district's overall architectural and agricultural significance and, as stated in the earlier sections of this report, Bridge No. 267 was evaluated in 2005 and was determined not eligible for the NRHP (Figure 7.1).

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE NO. 267 ON SR 3336 OVER CLIMAX CREEK



Source: ESRI Resource Data (2019)

Figure 7.1. Recommended NRHP Boundary for the Coble Farms Rural Historic District.

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