



**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

December 3, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick
Human Environment Unit
NC Department of Transportation

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

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, U-5733, Extension of NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road) on
New Location from US 258 (Richlands Highway) to SR 171308 (Gum Branch Road),
PA 18-12-0023, Onslow County, ER 19-4961

Thank you for your October 22, 2019, memorandum transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We concur with the following eligibility determinations and proposed property boundaries.

The following property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A.

- Edney Chapel School, 5578 Richlands Highway (ON1107)

The following properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to the loss of historic integrity and not possessing the level of significance necessary to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation:

- James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, 302 Briarneck Road (ON0198)
- Jefferson D. Greer House 101 Half Moon Church Road (ON0167)

The following previously surveyed property has been demolished:

- Richard Heritage House 5311 Richlands Highway (ON0197)

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



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ER 19-4961

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III
SECRETARY

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO

From: Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT

Due -- 12/6/19

Date: October 22, 2019

Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report. Extension of NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road) on New Location from US 258 (Richlands Highway) to SR 1308 (Gum Branch Road), Onslow County, North Carolina. TIP No. U-5733. WBS No. 51076.1.1. PA No. 18-12-0023.*

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The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Enclosed for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of historic architectural resources in the U-5733, Onslow County project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). GIS data, mapping, and survey site forms also are included on the CD-ROM and survey photographs on a second CD-ROM. Hard copies of the site forms, mapping, and photographic proof sheets are also provided.

The report considers four resources – the Edney Chapel School (ON1107), the Richard Heritage House (ON0197), the James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House (ON0198), and the Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167). The Edney Chapel School is recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the remaining three resources as not eligible. Initial screening of the project area by NCDOT Historic Architecture identified which resources warranted additional study.

We look forward to receiving your comments on the report. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at vepatrick@ncdot.gov or 919-707-6082. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "V.E.P.", written over a horizontal line.

V.E.P.

Attachments

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SECTION
MSC 1598
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1598

Telephone: (919)-707-6000
Fax: (919)-212-5785
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Location:
1020 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE
RALEIGH, NC 27610

Website: www.ncdot.gov

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

**EXTENSION OF NC 111 (CATHERINE LAKE ROAD) ON NEW LOCATION FROM US 258
(RICHLANDS HIGHWAY) TO SR 1308 (GUM BRANCH ROAD)
ON SLOW COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP No. U-5733
WBS No. 51076.1.1
P.A. Tracking No. 18-12-0023
Limited Services Contract No. 7000019082**

Prepared by:

**Frances Alexander, Project Manager
Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.
2228 Winter Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205**

Prepared for:

**North Carolina Department of Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit
Raleigh, North Carolina**

10 October 2019

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10 October 2019

MATTSON, ALEXANDER AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

Frances P. Alexander

10 October 2019

Frances P. Alexander, M.A.

Date

Richard L. Mattson, Ph.D.

Date

North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is extending NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road) on new location from US 258 (Richlands Highway) to SR 1308 (Gum Branch Road) in Onslow County. This project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). NCDOT architectural historians delineated an area of potential effects (APE) for the project which is defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes to the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects (APE) for this project lies generally between US 258 (Richlands Highway) and Gum Branch Road, north of Jacksonville in Onslow County. On the west side, the APE begins on NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road), at a point roughly 1.2 miles west of its intersection with US 258 (Richlands Highway). From here, the APE extends east, generally following Briarneck Road before crossing the New River and ending at Gum Branch Road, just south of Howard Road. The APE extends north along Gum Branch for a short distance before ending just south of Rhodestown Road. From this point, the APE extends south along Gum Branch Road and terminates at Half Moon Creek. The APE runs west from this location to cross the New River, Briarneck Road and Nancy Drive before ending on the west side of the US 258 and NC 111 intersection.

NCDOT architectural historians also conducted a field investigation of the APE to identify and assess all resources that appeared to be fifty years of age or older. Four resources—the Edney Chapel School (ON1107), the Richard Heritage House (ON0197), the James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House (ON0198), and the Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167)—warranted intensive-level survey to determine National Register eligibility. These properties are the subjects of this report. NCDOT architectural historians determined that all other properties and districts in the APE were not worthy of further study and evaluation due to a lack of historical significance and/or integrity. The project location is depicted in **Figure 1**, and the APE is shown in **Figures 2a-2c**.

This architectural resources investigation consisted of background research into the historical and architectural development of the study area and in-depth field investigations of the four properties. The field survey was conducted in April, May, and June 2019. The Richard Heritage House (ON197), the James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House (ON0198) (recorded in 1988 as the Heritage House), and the Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167) were all surveyed originally in 1988 during a county-wide architectural resources survey. Edney Chapel School (ON1107) has not been surveyed previously but is part of the Jacksonville-Onslow African-American Heritage Trail, sponsored by the local chamber of commerce. Edney Chapel School is the only property recommended for National Register eligibility. The other three resources no longer have sufficient integrity for eligibility (**Table 1**).

Table 1

Property Name	PIN	Survey Site Number	Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
Edney Chapel School	434901255729	ON1107	Eligible	A
Richard Heritage House	434903421996	ON0197	Not Eligible	N/A
James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House	434902761166	ON0198	Not Eligible	N/A
Jefferson D. Greer House	436909179422	ON0167	Not Eligible	N/A

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I. INTRODUCTION

This eligibility report was prepared in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) project entitled, *Extension of NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road) on New Location from US 258 (Richlands Highway) to SR 1308 (Gum Branch Road)*. The TIP Number is U-5733, and the WBS Number is 51076.1.1. As shown in **Figure 1**, the project is located in Onslow County.

The area of potential effects (APE) for this project lies generally between US 258 (Richlands Highway) and Gum Branch Road, north of Jacksonville in Onslow County. On the west side, the APE begins on NC 111 (Catherine Lake Road), at a point roughly 1.2 miles west of its intersection with US 258 (Richlands Highway). From here, the APE extends east, generally following Briarneck Road before crossing the New River and ending at Gum Branch Road, just south of Howard Road. The APE extends north along Gum Branch for a short distance before ending just south of Rhodestown Road. From this point, the APE extends south along Gum Branch Road and terminates at Half Moon Creek. The APE runs west from this location to cross the New River, Briarneck Road and Nancy Drive before ending on the west side of the US 258 and NC 111 intersection. Four resources—Edney Chapel School (ON1107), Richard Heritage House (ON0197), James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House (recorded in 1988 as the Heritage House) (ON0198), and the Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167)—warranted further, intensive-level investigation. These resources are shown on the APE map (**Figures 2a-2c**).

This investigation was conducted to evaluate the four resources for National Register eligibility. The current eligibility report is part of the environmental studies undertaken by NCDOT and is on file at NCDOT, Raleigh, North Carolina. This documentation complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800), the National Register criteria set forth in 36 CFR 61, and NCDOT's current *Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products*. The report also complies with the *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina* established by the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (HPO). Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effect of federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects on properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office a reasonable opportunity to comment.

In order to evaluate these resources for National Register eligibility, the principal investigators conducted a field investigation of the four resources and conducted research into the history and architecture of both the general study area and the properties. For the research phase, the principal investigators examined both primary and secondary sources which included deeds, a master's thesis, National Register nominations, environmental studies, the HPO survey files from the 1988 survey of Onslow County, and the 1993 publication, *The Heritage of Onslow County*, and the *Architectural History of Onslow County, North Carolina* (1998) by architectural historian, J. Daniel Pezzoni. Lisa Whitman-Grice, Director of the Onslow County Museum, and local property owners, Sheila Petteway Blue, Larry Petteway, Reba Bryant, and Deron Satchell, provided invaluable assistance in the research phase of the project. In developing the historic and architectural contexts for this project, the principal investigators also identified properties comparable to the four resources under evaluation. Site visits were made to each of the comparable properties during the field investigation.

Field work took place in April, May, and June 2019. Each resource, along with any outbuildings and landscape features on the properties, was examined and documented with photographs to assess the current level of integrity. The current tax parcels for the James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, the Richard Heritage House, and the Jefferson D. Greer House and the proposed National Register boundary map for Edney Chapel School are all shown on site maps included in the evaluations (**Figures 3-7**).

Figure 1
Project Location Map

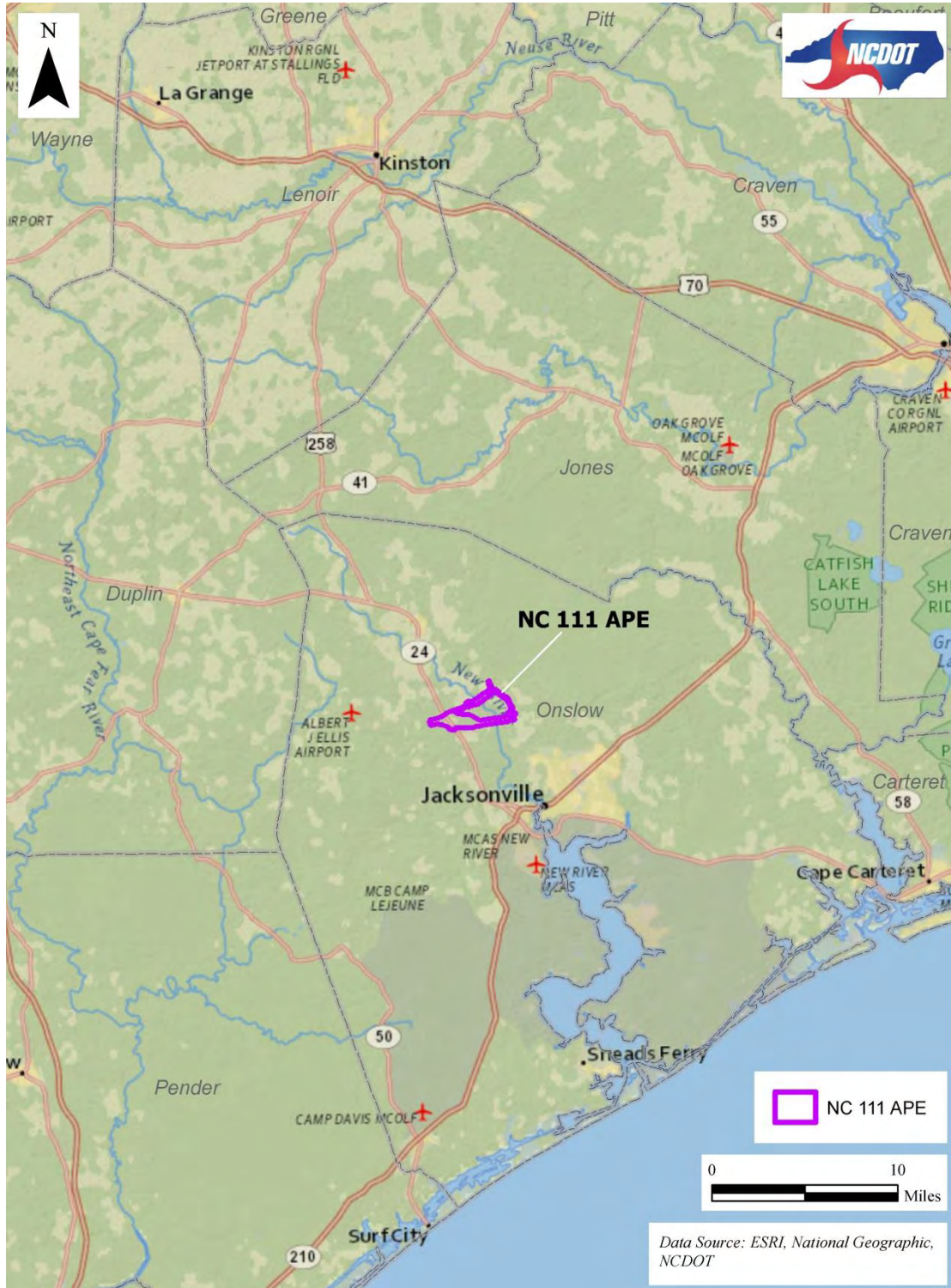


Figure 2a
Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map
Overall View

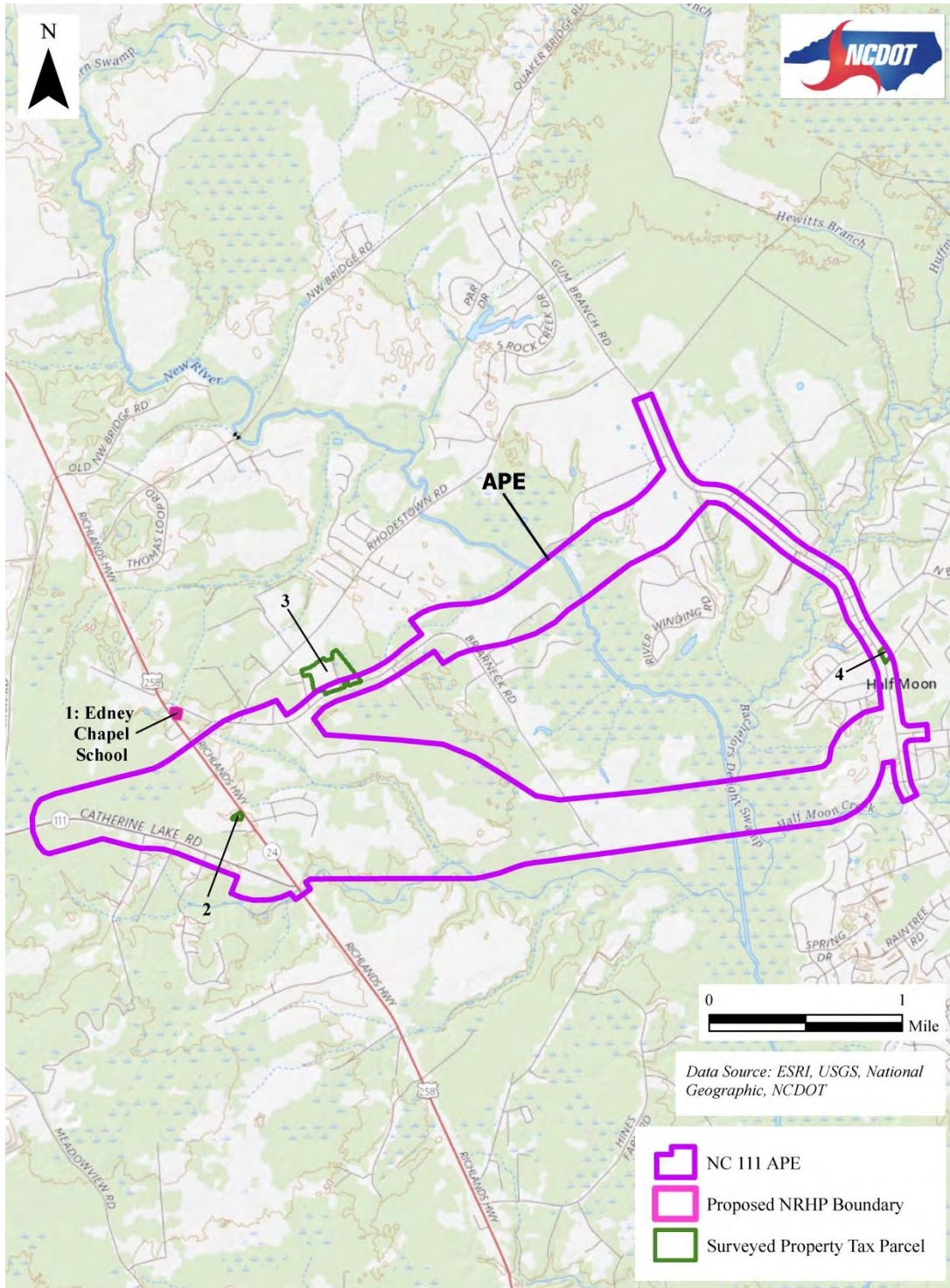


Figure 2b
Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map
Western Section

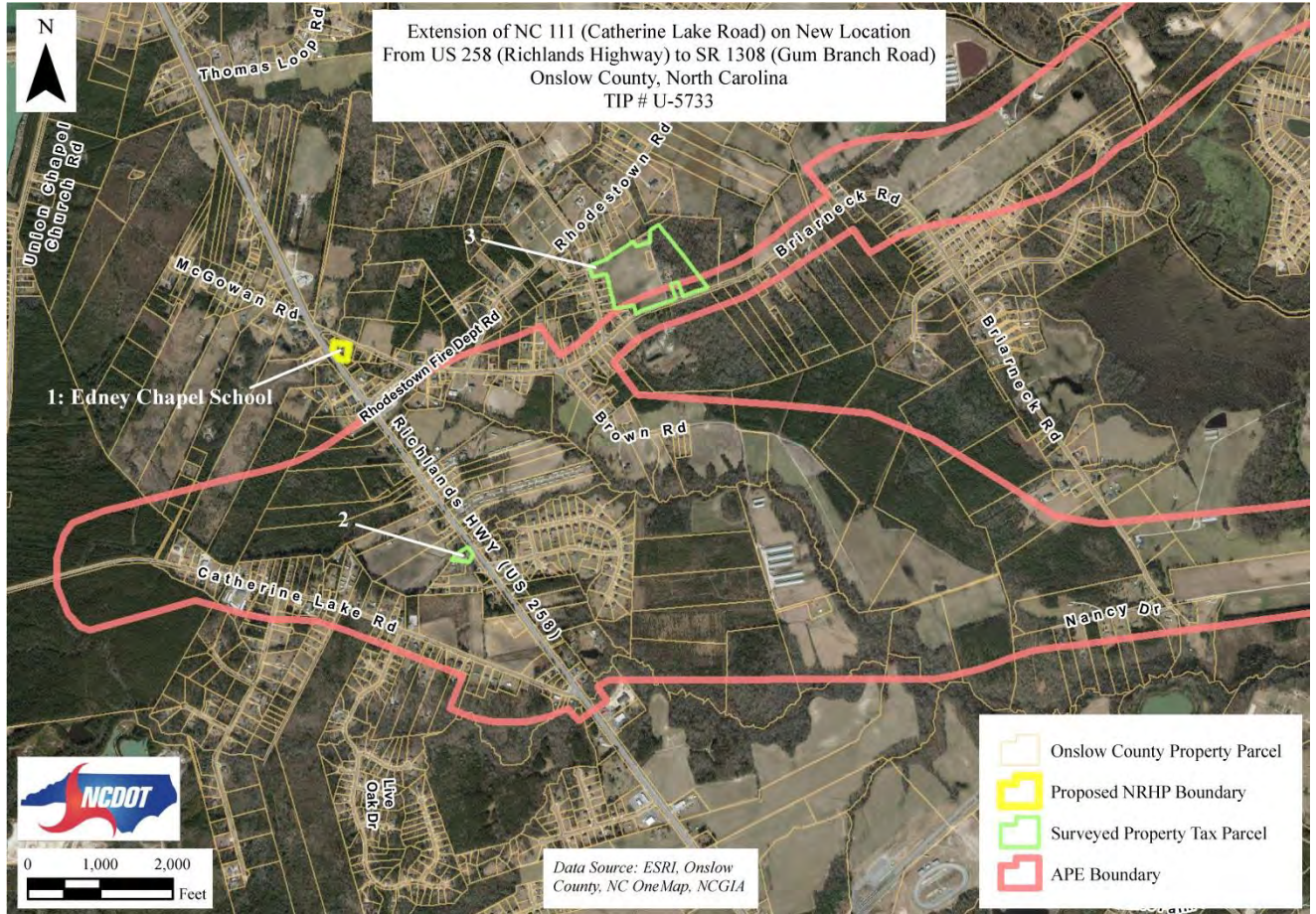
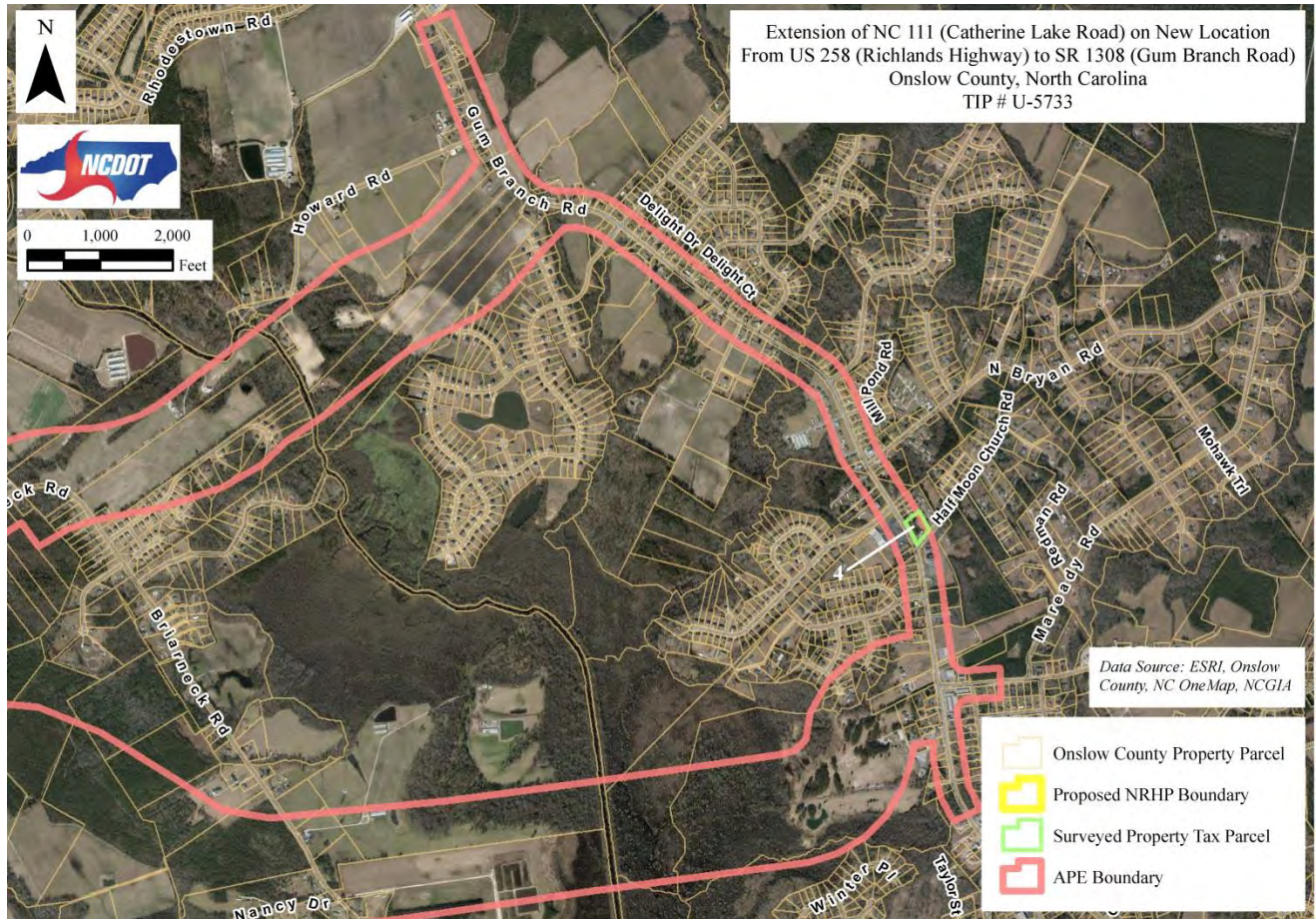


Figure 2c
Area of Potential Effects (APE) Map
Eastern Section



II. PROPERTY EVALUATIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

**No. 1 Edney Chapel School (ON1107)
(PIN 434901255729)
5578 Richlands Highway
Jacksonville, Onslow County**



Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible
Date of Construction: ca. 1879

Physical Description

The ca. 1879 Edney Chapel School occupies a 0.89-acre clearing on the east side of Richlands Highway (US 258) in the rural Rhodestown community of Onslow County. Facing east, away from the highway, the school building shares this parcel with the ca. 1970 Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church (now Moses Temple New Generation AME Zion Church) which stands just south of the school.

Edney Chapel School is a one-story, frame building that is four bays wide and two bays deep. Capped by a side-gable roof, the school still rests on its original brick-pier foundation although some piers are now reinforced with concrete blocks. The vinyl-sash windows with flat, wooden window surrounds are modern replacements of the original six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash windows. Located in the north bay of the main (east) elevation, the entrance has a modern door and concrete steps. A paved sidewalk leads from the stairway to the church next door.

The main (east), side (south), and rear (west) elevations of the school have unpainted weatherboard siding, attached with square-cut nails. The weatherboarding was installed over a siding of vertical boards, indicating that the original school probably had board-and-batten siding. Lower sections of the vertical boarding remain exposed beneath the weatherboards along the east and west elevations. The side (north) elevation has composition-board siding attached with wire-cut nails. The composition-board sheathing was added in the 1960s after a storm destroyed a frame, cross-gable addition probably built in the 1920s to house an additional classroom. The weatherboarding may have been installed during the 1920s when the addition was constructed, and the square-cut nails may have been reused when the battens were removed. A 1947 documentary photograph of the school—with a whitewashed exterior—shows the 1920s wing (Robinson 2007: 53-54; Sheila Petteway Blue Interview 2019).

During the 2007 renovation of the building, a modern standing-seam metal roof replaced the existing metal roof, the new windows and door were installed, and the weatherboards were repaired as necessary. By then the exterior whitewash had largely worn away, and the remaining traces were removed to leave the exterior unpainted.



Edney Chapel School, 1947. Original Building (Left) and 1920s Addition (Right). Documentary Photograph. Source: Farnell 1947: 42.

The interior of the school retains its original one-room plan. During the 2007 renovation, modern floor tiles were laid over the original wood flooring, and plywood was affixed to the existing tongue-and-ceiling. The tongue-and-groove walls remain largely intact. However, the north wall, which once held the chalkboard and was later damaged by the 1960s storm that destroyed the addition, has now been boarded over. The interior tongue-and-groove woodwork as well as the exterior weatherboarding may have been part of some improvements to the building when it was absorbed into county public school system in the early twentieth century, but this has not been confirmed. A pair of the two-person, wooden bench seats remains extant (Sheila Petteway Blue Interview 2019).

The ca. 1970 church on the parcel is a one-story, gable-front, concrete-block building with horizontal-sash windows and a later entry porch capped by a gable roof. This building replaced the original Edney Chapel Primitive Methodist Church, a frame building dating to ca. 1879 that occupied this site. A modern, prefabricated storage shed with a gambrel roof stands just behind the church and school. The grounds also include an unpaved, semi-circular driveway with two signs facing the highway denoting both the earlier Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church and the current Moses Temple New Generation AME Zion Church.



Edney Chapel School, Overall View of School (Left) and Church (Right), Looking Northeast.



Edney Chapel School, Main (East) Elevation), Looking West.



Edney Chapel School, Rear (West) and Side (South) Elevations, Looking Northeast.



Edney Chapel School, Side (North) and Rear (West) Elevations, Looking Southeast towards Church.



Edney Chapel School, Side (South) Elevation, Looking North.



Edney Chapel School, Weatherboard Siding with Cut Nails.



Edney Chapel School, Interior, Tongue-and-Groove Walls and Bench Seat.



Edney Chapel School, Interior, Tongue-and-Groove Walls.



Edney Chapel School, Interior, Detail, Tongue-and-Groove Walls.



Edney Chapel School, Interior with Members of the Petteway Family.



Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church, Looking Southeast.

Historical Background

Edney Chapel School was built ca. 1879 on this site as a school for African American students in this area of Onslow County. Like many black schools in North Carolina and throughout the South after the Civil War, the school was established and supported for much of its history by a church and the local community. Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church was probably erected on the grounds the same year as the school, and church leaders established and nurtured the adjacent school. Seven years earlier, in 1872, white landowner, Durant Hatch Rhodes, gave black tenant farmer and Primitive Baptist minister, George Washington Petteway (1834-1902) approximately one acre of land. In the 1872 deed, Durant declared that the parcel was being donated specifically for the building of a church and school, “in consideration of the kind feeling I entertain for the colored race and the case of religion” (Robinson 2007: 25; Onslow County Deed Book 36: 583).

With the benefit of Durant’s donation, Petteway and his wife, Celia Ann White, became leaders in the formation and operation of both Edney Chapel church and the school. The one-room, frame schoolhouse was among a small collection of African American schools built in Onslow County during the aftermath of the Civil War. An 1885 report on education in the county recorded nineteen black school districts containing just ten schoolhouses, three of which were log. In the absence of specific school buildings, students were often educated in nearby churches and private homes. In common with other black schools of the period, Edney Chapel School initially served grades one through seven, and the average school term was 108 days. The county’s first public high school for blacks opened in Jacksonville in 1919, but did not receive full public financial support—including funding for buses—until the 1930s (Bellamy 1998: 271; Sheila Petteway Blue Interview 2019).

Edney Chapel School was absorbed into the county public school system in the early twentieth century and continued to educate African American students through the Jim Crow era. An additional classroom wing was added to the one-room building probably in the 1920s, but the wing was lost during a storm in the 1960s. The original Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church, a one-room, frame, gable-roofed building, was also severely damaged in this storm and was subsequently moved and demolished. The present concrete-block church was built in the early 1970s (Sheila Petteway Blue Interview 2019).

A 1947 University of North Carolina master's thesis by Edward Newton Farnell on the physical state of black schools in Onslow County recorded fourteen existing facilities, including Edney Chapel School. Although exact dates of construction were not noted in the thesis, with the exception of the mid-1930s, red-brick Georgetown High School in Jacksonville, the schools were frame buildings with one or two classrooms that had been erected between the late 1870s and the 1920s. Some had unpainted, board-and-batten siding while others were covered in whitewashed weatherboarding. The study concluded that all of these rural schools were in substandard condition, according to North Carolina state law, and lacked sufficient lighting, heating, bookcases, and desks. Farnell noted that seventy-five students attended the two-room Edney Chapel School which lacked electricity and was "dark and sooty". He further noted that the teachers had made all the window shades (Farnell 1947: 42, 148-152; Hughley 2016: 87).

Despite such dire conditions, Edney Chapel School and other African American schools played vital roles in educating black children after the Civil War and through the Jim Crow decades. Former student, Larry Petteway, who attended the school in 1949 and 1950, described its effect on his life. "It means a lot to me. It's where I got my start, my education. And it is very important to celebrate." Edney Chapel School was permanently closed in 1957 when the modern, brick Woodson Elementary School for African Americans opened in nearby Richlands. The Edney Chapel School building was renovated ca. 2007 by members of the Petteway family who remain the owners of the property. The building has subsequently been used for classroom space by the adjacent Moses Temple AME Zion Church (www.jdnews.com/news/20161012/edney-chapel-school-african-american-heritage-trail. Accessed 29 April 2019; www.starnewsonline.com/article/NC/20150401/News/605040800. Accessed 31 May 2019; Sheila Petteway Blue Interview 2019; Larry Petteway Interview 2019).

In 2016, Edney Chapel School was added to the African American Heritage Trail, a register of local African American historic sites created by the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce. A metal interpretative sign is located in front of the school.

National Register Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Edney Chapel School is recommended **eligible** for the National Register eligibility under Criterion A for Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black. The period of significance extends from ca. 1879 when the school was constructed to 1957 when the school was closed permanently.

Integrity

Edney Chapel School retains the seven aspects of integrity needed for National Register eligibility. The school remains on its original site on the east side of US 258, south of Richlands, and thus has integrity of location. Edney Chapel School also has integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The school still occupies the clearing within the roughly one-acre parcel that Daniel Hatch Rhodes deeded to George Washington Petteway in 1872, and although the original Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist is no longer extant, the present church (ca. 1970), a gable-front, masonry building, now stands in its place. While altered with modern windows and door and the loss of a 1920s addition, the school has sufficient integrity of design, workmanship, and materials for eligibility under Criterion A. The school displays its original side-gable, rectangular form with original or early weatherboarding covering three elevations. The interior retains its one-room plan and wood flooring, walls, and ceiling although the ceiling is now covered with plywood, and there are modern floor tiles.

Criterion A

Edney Chapel School is recommended **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A for Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black. To be eligible under Criterion A, the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 12*).

The ca. 1879 Edney Chapel School stands out as extremely rare surviving example of a nineteenth-century school for African Americans. The school is tangible evidence of the efforts to educate African Americans in Onslow County after the Civil War and through the racially segregated Jim Crow era. In its form, materials, and construction, the school clearly typifies the African American elementary schools built in the county after the Civil War and into the early twentieth century. Edney Chapel stands today as the county's only existing African American school and one of just two late-nineteenth-century schools that remain extant.

Historic Contexts for Education and Ethnic Heritage: Black

As throughout the South, African Americans in Onslow County emerged from slavery believing that education was key to realizing the benefits of freedom. At the end of the Civil War, the federal government established the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (the Freedmen's Bureau) to form publically supported schools for former slaves. Consequently, the North Carolina General Assembly amended the state constitution in 1868 to create a uniform, public graded school system and authorized limited funding for the construction of schoolhouses and the education of "all the children of the State between the ages of six and twenty-one years". However, the economic and political upheaval of the war and its aftermath meant chronic underfunding for all schools, and educational progress in the state was slow. In 1875, the state constitution was again amended to create a comprehensive, three-part public school system that segregated whites, African Americans, and American Indians, but funding continued to come entirely from the counties and towns. Two years later, the State Colored Education Convention was convened in Raleigh to plan educational improvements for African Americans, including the establishment of graded schools for black students and normal schools for training black teachers. However, resources for schools remained scarce, and African American communities continued to rely heavily on their own resources to

build and maintain schoolhouses and to fund supplies and educators. Churches and northern aid societies also provided assistance, but the aid organizations often focused their efforts on colleges and teacher training. The dismal state of all schools was reflected in North Carolina's illiteracy rate which in 1880 was the highest in the nation at thirty-three percent for whites. By 1900, the literacy rate for whites had improved, but twenty percent still could not read. Although across the South, literacy rates for blacks improved by thirty percent during the postbellum period, one-half of all African American adults in North Carolina were still illiterate at the turn of the twentieth century (Ayers 1992: 418; Anderson 1988: 2-32, 148-149; Crow et al. 1992: 135, 154-155; Katz 1968: 824).

In 1897, North Carolina began to provide state funding for the operation of the public schools, but the apportionment of public money was inequitable. While the schooling of white children in the rural South during these decades was also generally discouraged by the political establishment—which stressed low taxes and opposed compulsory school attendance—black schools were even more beleaguered by a dearth of funds for adequate schools and teacher salaries. However, with state funding and oversight, public schools for both African Americans and whites began to improve throughout North Carolina by the early twentieth century. In 1903, the state legislature passed a bill to lend funds to counties for building schools. The bill also specified that the building designs needed approval by the state superintendent. In 1907, the General Assembly appropriated funding for a comprehensive, statewide system of public education and established high schools for rural whites. In 1910, the state began funding public elementary schools for blacks, and three years later, North Carolina established the office of Supervisor of Rural Elementary Schools to foster black education. With the new state funding, the 1910 census recorded that sixty-eight percent of black children between the ages of six and fourteen attended Onslow County schools (Lefler and Newsome 1973: 589-591; Crow et al. 1992: 154-155; Leloudis 1996: 183; US Bureau of Commerce 1914: 589-606).

In Onslow County, enslaved blacks had numbered 3,499 in 1860, or forty percent of the total population, and African Americans constituted roughly thirty percent of the populace into the mid-twentieth century. After the Civil War, the formal education of the county's freed African Americans began in 1868 in the port town of Swansboro where the northern-based American Missionary Association (AMA) opened a one-teacher school. The new school in Swansboro was constructed at a cost of \$397.20 with contributions from the AMA and the federal Freedmen's Bureau. Local blacks provided the labor as well as money for operational expenses. The reception among African Americans was enthusiastic, and in April 1868, a member of the association observed:

One of the principal colored men was so pleased with the idea of the school that he said he would come every morning to see if he could aid the teacher about any chore that she might want done while she remained there...The application to me to start two other schools in that vicinity—where could be 30 scholars was a plea to the Normal school [Hampton Institute] to hasten its teachers. They begged me to send them teachers (Bellamy 1998: 261).

Comprised of mostly adult students, the Swansboro mission school operated between March and June 1868 when the AMA ceased supplying teachers. But the education of African Americans continued with local black churches providing leadership and financial support. In 1869, three church-sponsored schools for black students were operating along the New River and a fourth school along the Trent River. By 1877, the county had twenty-four schools serving 702 white

students and twelve schools for 370 black students. Roughly half of eligible white children and a third of eligible African Americans attended schools which offered instruction through the seventh and eighth grades. An 1885 report on education in Onslow County noted that the county's nineteen black school districts contained only ten schoolhouses, three of which were log, and only one had a fireplace. In the absence of specific school buildings, students were taught in assorted churches and private homes. In 1890, two teacher training institutes—one for whites and one for blacks—were established in the county, and in 1893, the two institutes certified forty-five white teachers and sixteen African Americans (Brown 1960: 148-154 Bellamy 1998: 260-267).

With extensive school construction campaigns underway during the early decades of the twentieth century, numerous one-room and two-room, frame schools were constructed across the state. Although counties issued bonds and raised taxes to finance school construction, new compulsory attendance laws, longer school years, and other educational reforms made overcrowding a chronic problem. With growing public support for education, the North Carolina legislature passed a series of appropriations for school construction in 1921, 1923, 1925, and 1927. Ninety-nine of the state's one hundred counties borrowed money from the state coffers to construct more than 1,000 schools (Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc. 2009, Section 8: 7).

Although reforms in the early twentieth century brought much improvement to the public schools of North Carolina, funding and reforms were not applied equitably. If substandard buildings, overcrowded classrooms, a dearth of text books, and poorly trained teachers plagued most of these districts, the privations generally fell hardest on black communities. Between 1900 and 1918, 5,070 new rural schools were built throughout the state for whites but only 1,293, or just 20 percent of the total number of schools built, were erected for black students. (In 1910, African Americans constituted 31.6 percent of the total state population and 30.8 percent of the rural population.) By the early 1900s, Onslow County, which was thirty percent African American, had fifty-three white and twenty African American school districts. In 1901, thirty-five white schools in the county, but only one black school, had libraries, and in 1910, the county's sole remaining log schoolhouse was one for African Americans students. The average number of students per rural school was seventy-eight for whites but 104 for blacks, and the property value of white schools far exceeded black facilities. By the 1910s, the county boasted three public high schools for whites in the towns of Richlands, Swansboro, and Jacksonville yet the first black high school—Georgetown High School in Jacksonville—did not receive full public funding until 1930 even though the school had opened in 1919, one year after the first high schools for African Americans had been established (Brown 1960: 160-162; Bellamy 265-270; Crow et al. 1992: 154-155; US Bureau of Commerce 1914: 589-606).

Georgetown High School had its foundation in the Trent River Oakey Grove Collegiate and Industrial Training School, a private African American academy established in 1908 by the Oakey Grove Missionary Baptist Association. The high school was supported by a variety of sources, and in some cases, the teachers contributed their last checks of the month to meet expenses. The school never flourished, and the academic year 1920-1921 reported an enrollment of only 150 students. By 1919, the facility had been deeded to the county though the school was still supported, in part, by private money. In 1930, its name was changed to Georgetown High School, and a year later the county provided funds for school buses. The school was rebuilt on a new site in the mid-1930s with money provided by the Works Progress Administration, a federally funded, New Deal program. New classroom wings were added in the 1950s, but Georgetown High School was permanently closed during the racial integration of county schools in 1966. That same year the building was destroyed by fire under suspicious circumstances (Pezzoni 1998: 217; Bellamy 1998: 271-273).

African American public education in North Carolina and across the South also received a major boost in the 1920s from the Julius Rosenwald Fund which built two schools in rural Onslow County in 1928 and 1929. Between 1927 and 1932, the fund provided financial assistance for the design and construction of 5,300 black schools in the South, including 813 facilities in North Carolina, more than in any other state. In Onslow County, the Duck Creek and Marines Rosenwald schools were small, one-teacher buildings serving the elementary grades. Both schools are now gone ([www.files.nc.gov/ncdcr/historicpreservationoffice/PDFs/Rosenwald Schools in NCHPO Survey](http://www.files.nc.gov/ncdcr/historicpreservationoffice/PDFs/Rosenwald_Schools_in_NCHPO_Survey). Accessed 30 April 2019).

Such philanthropic efforts were limited, however, and the physical state of African American schools in the county remained poor through the first half of the twentieth century. A 1947 master's thesis on the condition of black educational facilities in Onslow County surveyed fourteen schools. They were primarily small, one-story, frame buildings substandard to state law, the study concluded. The schools were overcrowded, underfunded, and generally in disrepair, without sufficient lighting, heating, bookcases, and desks (Farnell 1947).

The statewide construction of schools for both whites and African Americans improved markedly by the 1950s, sparked by the 1949 issuance of bonds for the erection and repair of educational facilities. Approximately fifty million dollars was awarded to county and city school systems. In an address to educators in Raleigh, Governor Kerr Scott, declared, "We are going to have the money to bring up the level of grammar schools and high schools for the minority race." In 1953 and again in 1961, additional state funds were allocated for school construction campaigns (*Carolina Times*, 15 October 1949).

In Onslow County, modern African American schools were constructed in the Silverdale community in 1954 (Silverdale Elementary) and Richlands in 1957 (Woodson Elementary) while new classroom wings for the elementary grades were added to Georgetown High School in Jacksonville. These well-lit, brick facilities, with their multiple classrooms, large windows, offices, cafeteria, auditoriums, and restrooms, were dramatic improvements over the typical one-room, frame schoolhouses they replaced. Many of these schools were not in use long or remained unaltered as the county system was reorganized during the desegregation movement of the 1960s. Following the completion of integration in 1966, the original Woodson Elementary School was demolished for a larger facility, and Silverdale Elementary was extensively expanded and remodeled (Pezzoni 1998: 166, 217-218).

Today, Edney Chapel School stands as the only remaining school built for African Americans in Onslow County. No other black schools from the post-Civil War period survive, and only the rear classroom wings of the original 1954 Silverdale Elementary School remain from the post-World War II years. Now part of a large, modern campus, Silverdale's mid-century classroom wings still display the low scale, flat roofs, and banks of metal-sash windows typical of the Modernist-inspired designs used for both white and black schools of this period. Since the 1988 architectural inventory of Onslow County, the 1920s Sneads Ferry School (ON0593)—erected to serve white students and later used by blacks—and the original Silverdale School (ON0471), built in the 1920s, have been razed (Pezzoni 1998: 166, 210).



Silverdale Elementary School, Silverdale Vicinity, 1954 Rear Classroom Wing, Looking North.

In addition to Edney Chapel School, Onslow County has one other schoolhouse from the late nineteenth century, the 1889 Adams School near Richlands (ON048). Built for white students, this weatherboarded building typifies the small, rural schools of the period with its simple rectangular form, gable roof, and one-room plan. This standard design is distinguished by the gable-end cupola and shallowed-arched lintel above the doorway. In the late 1970s, Adams School was relocated some fifty yards from its original site along Huffmantown Road and restored by the Hominy Swamp Community Association (Pezzoni 1998: 117).



Adams School (ON048), 1889, Richlands Vicinity, Looking Southwest.

Criterion B

Edney Chapel School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15*: 14).

The property is not eligible under Criterion B because the school is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context.

Criterion C

Edney Chapel School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15*: 17).

Although retaining its original gable-roofed, rectangular form and early weatherboarding on three elevations, Edney Chapel School does not have sufficient integrity for eligibility under Criterion C. The building now has replacement windows and door, and modern composition siding on the north elevation. Furthermore, a 1920s classroom addition was destroyed by a storm in the 1960s and is no longer extant.

Criterion D

Edney Chapel School is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory; and 2) the information must be considered important (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 21*).

The property is not eligible under Criterion D because it is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology.

National Register Boundary Description and Justification

The proposed National Register boundary for Edney Chapel School has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, *Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties*.

The proposed boundary encompasses the 0.89-acre tax parcel on which the church and school sit. The parcel corresponds roughly to the one-acre parcel deeded to George Washington Petteway by Durant Hatch Rhodes in 1872. The west side of the boundary follows the right-of-way along US 258 (Richlands Highway). The school is the only contributing resource. A non-contributing resource, the ca. 1970, concrete-block Edney Chapel Primitive Baptist Church occupies the site of the original church that was associated with the school. The proposed National Register boundary is depicted in **Figure 3**.

Figure 3
Edney Chapel School
Site Plan and Proposed National Register Boundary



Source: North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, GIS Data Services

Scale: 1" = 150'

**No. 2 Richard Heritage House (ON0197)
(PIN 434903421996)
5311 Richlands Highway
Jacksonville, Onslow County**

Eligibility Recommendation: Demolished
Date of Construction: ca. 1900



Physical Description (Figure 4)

The Richard Heritage House was destroyed by fire in April 1988, two months after being surveyed. According to the 1988 architectural survey, the ca. 1900, one and one-half story, frame dwelling had been altered with vinyl siding and a later gable-front porch supported by battered piers on brick pedestals. The main block of the house had both six-over-six sash and four-over-four sash windows and a brick, exterior-end chimney. An enclosed breezeway to the rear connected the single-pile house to a remodeled, frame wing that was said to have been a former school (HPO File; Reba Bryant Interview 2019).

A modern one-story, frame dwelling was subsequently built on the original house site, but this house was destroyed by Hurricane Florence in 2018. In 2019, a one-story, prefabricated dwelling was constructed on the property. A heavily altered, former tobacco packhouse associated with the Richard Heritage farm still stands behind the house site on an adjacent parcel (PIN 434903420870), owned by a Bryant son (Reba Bryant Interview 2019).



Richard Heritage House, Survey Photograph. Source: HPO File, 1988.



Modern Residence on the Richard Heritage House Site, Looking South.



Tobacco Packhouse behind the Richard Heritage House Site, Looking West.

Historical Background

Richard Heritage probably erected his house in the early 1900s, following the subdivision of the 670-acre Heritage family farm. Richard Heritage was a son of James S. and Sarah Rhodes Heritage who had acquired farmland from the Rhodes family following their marriage in 1873. In 1900, the farm was divided among five children with Richard Heritage receiving approximately 233 acres. In 1910, the US census records Richard Heritage (born 1875) as a farmer married to Annie Laura. In 1913, their only child, Constance, was born. Richard Heritage sold the property before his death in the 1930s to relatives, Leia and Sibyl Franck. Reba J. Bryant bought the property from the Francks in 1968, and the property remains in the Bryant family (Onslow County Deed Books 39: 359; 70: 236; 375: 304; James Simmons Herritage, www.findagrave.com, accessed 30 May 2019; U.S. Census, Onslow County, Population Schedules, 1880-1940; HPO File).

National Register Criteria Evaluation

The Richard Heritage House is no longer extant. The property (ON0197) was destroyed in a fire not long after being surveyed in 1988. The house constructed on the site after the fire was lost in 2018 during Hurricane Florence.

Figure 4
Richard Heritage House
Site Plan
(2018 Tax Map Prior to Hurricane Destruction)



Source: Onslow County Tax Map

Scale: 1" = 250'

No. 3 James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House (ON0198) (PIN 434902761166)
302 Briarneck Road
Jacksonville, Onslow County



Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible
Date of Construction: ca. 1875

Physical Description (Figures 5-6)

The ca. 1875 James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House is located in the northwest corner of a 64.11-acre tract surrounded by modern suburban development and several large storage facilities. The land is no longer agricultural, and a new roadway through the tract anticipates more construction. No outbuildings associated with the house and farm remain extant although several mature pecan trees still shade the yard. The house has been long vacant.

Displaying a traditional form with restrained classical traits, the frame, two-story, single-pile (I-house) dwelling has a symmetrical, three-bay façade, center doorway, and side-gable roof with flush eaves. A hip-roofed porch shelters the entrance and flanking windows. Two interior, brick chimneys with deteriorated corbelled caps pierce the standing-seam, metal roof. Beneath the modern roof, the original wood-shingled roof remains intact. Although now partially boarded over, narrow, paneled sidelights flank the doorway. The house stands on an open, limestone-pier foundation, and the façade has original weatherboarding secured with square-cut nails.

Since the 1988 architectural survey of the property, the Heritage House has undergone numerous alterations. The original weatherboard siding on the side (north and south) and rear (east) elevations has been replaced by new weatherboards with wire-cut nails. The house now has modern, metal doors, both front and rear, and replacement vinyl-sash windows. (Many of the original six-over-six sash windows, in need of repair, are in storage inside the house.) The front porch has its original exposed ceiling framework, but its chamfered posts with simple caps have been replaced with simple wood supports. The wood porch flooring is also new. Finally, the large, two-room rear ell with board-and-batten siding and an engaged porch that was recorded in the 1988 survey has been demolished. A nearby board-and-batten corncrib also documented in 1988 no longer exists (HPO File).

Most of the original interior wood finish survives although portions of the woodwork are deteriorated, and the plaster walls are now ruinous. The dwelling retains its center-hall plan, wood flooring, beaded-board ceilings, and four-panel doors. The hall stairway features chamfered newels and square balusters. The mantels in the four principal rooms remain intact. The parlor mantel (north first-floor room) is the most decorative, displaying paneled pilasters and frieze and ornamental moldings. The mantel in the north upstairs bedroom has decorative moldings and reeding. Those in the other main rooms have simpler post-and-lintel designs.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, House and Setting, Looking East.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, House and Setting, Looking North.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Façade and Side (North) Elevation, Looking South.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Rear (East) Elevation, Looking West.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Façade, Looking East.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Rear (East) Elevation, Replacement Window and Siding, Looking West.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, First-Floor Stair Hall.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, Staircase.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, North Room, Looking East towards Rear Door.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, North Room, Mantel.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, South Room, Looking South.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, Second Floor, Stair Hall, Looking East.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, Second Floor, South Room and Mantel.



James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House, Interior, Second Floor, North Room Where Original Windows are Stored.

Historical Background

James S. Heritage (1824-1885) and his wife, Sarah Rhodes (1843-1898), erected this house ca. 1875, on Rhodes farmland she inherited from her family. Sarah's parents, Durant Hatch Rhodes and Esther Spicer Rhodes, operated a large farm in the Richlands area of Onslow County which later became known as the Rhodestown community. James S. Heritage, originally a farmer in bordering Jones County, married Sarah in 1873 following the 1871 death of his first wife, Serena Rhodes, Sarah's sister. As recorded in the 1880 census, the James and Sarah Heritage household included seven children—including five from the second marriage—as well as Sarah's brother, John W. Rhodes (HPO File; US Census, Onslow County, Population Schedules, 1870, 1880; Onslow County Deed Book 39: 359; James Simmons Herriage, www.findagrave.com, accessed 30 May 2019).

In 1900, the Heritage farm, containing approximately 670 acres, was subdivided among the five children of James and Sarah. The house and sixty-five acres were acquired by son, Jere I. Heritage (1877-1958). The 1910 census records him as a civil engineer residing in Jacksonville, the seat of Onslow County. The house was by then occupied by African American farm tenants. The families of both Lincey Guy and Louise Thompson Petteway and Charlie and Lucy Thompson rented Heritage property along Briarneck Road in the early twentieth century. In 1945, the Petteways and Thompsons purchased 266 acres from Jere I. and Mary Louise Heritage which included the current house tract. In 1966, the property was inherited by Lincey Guy Petteway, Jr., and the tract remains in the Petteway family (Onslow County Deed Books 70: 236; 621: 28; 832: 148; 1026: 652; US Census, Onslow County, Population Schedules, 1910-1940; Larry Petteway Interview 2019).

National Register Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) the James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House is recommended **not eligible** for the National Register eligibility under any criterion because of a loss of integrity. The property was originally surveyed in 1988 as the Heritage House (ON0198).

Integrity

The James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House does not retain the seven aspects of integrity needed for National Register eligibility. Although remaining on its original site, the house no longer has its historic farm setting or its rural feeling and association. No related agricultural fields or outbuildings survive, and modern residential development characterizes sections of the original farm tract. Now compromised by modern alterations, the house has also lost much of its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. The house has replacement windows, doors, and porch posts, and new siding has been installed on three elevations. Furthermore, the rear ell has been removed, and the interior plaster walls are ruinous.

Criterion A

The Heritage House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A, the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be

associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 12*).

The Heritage house is not eligible under Criterion A because the property is not associated with any major event or pattern of events important to the history of Onslow County. Specifically, the Heritage house lacks agricultural significance. Although once the seat of a large farm, the property no longer retains the agricultural outbuildings or farmland needed to illustrate important patterns of agriculture in Onslow County.

Criterion B

The Heritage house is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 14*).

The James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House is not eligible under Criterion B because the property is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context.

Criterion C

The James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 17*).

The ca. 1875 Heritage house no longer retains sufficient integrity of design, materials, or workmanship for eligibility under Criterion C. Although the original two-story, single-pile form of the house remains intact, and the interior retains its center-hall plan and key design elements, the house has undergone major changes since the 1988 architectural survey. The windows and doors are modern, and square, wood posts have replaced the original chamfered posts. The rear ell has been demolished, and new weatherboarding has been installed on the side (north and south) and rear (east) elevations. The plaster interior walls are ruinous. Although the original six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash windows are in storage on the second floor, the principal investigators are not aware of any pending restoration efforts. In its current condition, the house does not possess the level of architectural integrity required for eligibility under Criterion C for architecture.

With its two-story, single-pile form, the Heritage House illustrates the traditional I-house. This domestic type is so named because the essential form was first recognized as a commonplace vernacular dwelling in Midwestern states beginning with the letter "I" and because its tall, narrow

profile resembles a block I. The term I-house was coined by geographer, Fred B. Kniffen, who subsequently studied the strong geographical associations of the house type with the Upland South. His work spurred numerous other analyses of this traditional domestic form, including the 1978 study of North Carolina I-houses by architectural historian, Michael T. Southern (Kniffen 1965: 549-577; Southern 1978: 70-83).

Versions of I-houses appeared throughout North Carolina and the region from the late eighteenth century into the early twentieth century. They were the houses of successful farmers and small-town business people and were symbols of economic attainment. While generations of builders perpetuated the basic I-house form—often including formal center hallways by the mid-nineteenth century—the applied ornamentation as well as the pitch and configuration of the roof varied over time to reflect architectural trends (Southern 1978: 70-83).

In its symmetrical three-bay façade, side-gable roof, center-hall plan, and conservative embellishments, the ca. 1875 James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House was typical of I-houses built in Onslow County and across the state through the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, variations on this basic I-house design often included center roof gables, creating what has been called the Triple-A roof configuration, wraparound verandahs, and decorative sawnwork along porches and gables to express the latest picturesque styles. The adoption of such new stylistic elements was encouraged by the proliferation of architectural pattern books and the growth of lumber mills and sash-and-blind factories which made decorative trim and new building materials more affordable and accessible (Bishir 1990: 273-295).

Onslow County contains a collection of I-houses from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Located in an agrarian setting near Pumpkin Center, the well-preserved, ca. 1900 Benton House (not previously surveyed) clearly illustrates the traditional I-house form in Onslow County, simply treated with popular classical and picturesque motifs. The house displays thick, turned porch posts and a turned-post balustrade, two-over-two sash windows, and a broad frieze with cornice returns.



Benton House, ca. 1900, 386 Ramsey Road, Pumpkin Center Vicinity.

In the Belgrade community, the ca. 1890 Charles and Elizabeth Gerock House (ON0157) also remains in its rural setting. The tree-shaded dwelling features a two-tiered front porch with chamfered posts on the upper level. Sidelights frame the center doorways on both stories, and like the Heritage House, the house has a pair of interior, brick chimneys with corbelled caps. However, in recent years, the house has been remodeled with vinyl siding, replacement window sash, and the removal of decorative sawnwork on the upper tier of the porch (Pezzoni 1998: 121).



Charles and Elizabeth Gerock House, ca. 1890, 2601 Belgrade-Swansboro Road, Belgrade Vicinity.

Of the small towns in Onslow County, Swansboro contains the greatest number and variety of I-houses, built mostly during the lumber boom between the 1880s and early twentieth century. Many of these houses are still found in the center of town within the heart of the Swansboro Historic District (National Register 1990). As stated in the National Register nomination, I-houses became the “dominant house form” in Swansboro as the town grew and prospered in the years around 1900. Typically with three-bay façades, center-hall plans, and sidelights around the entries, their elements of design varied from enduring classical themes to up-to-date center roof gables and fancy sawnwork trim, reflecting the mainstream architectural tastes of this boom period (Pezzoni 1990: 2).



David G. Ward House, ca. 1902, 114 Street Main Street, Swansboro Historic District.



Clyde Pittman House, ca. 1906, 206 Elm Street (Foreground), Swansboro Historic District.



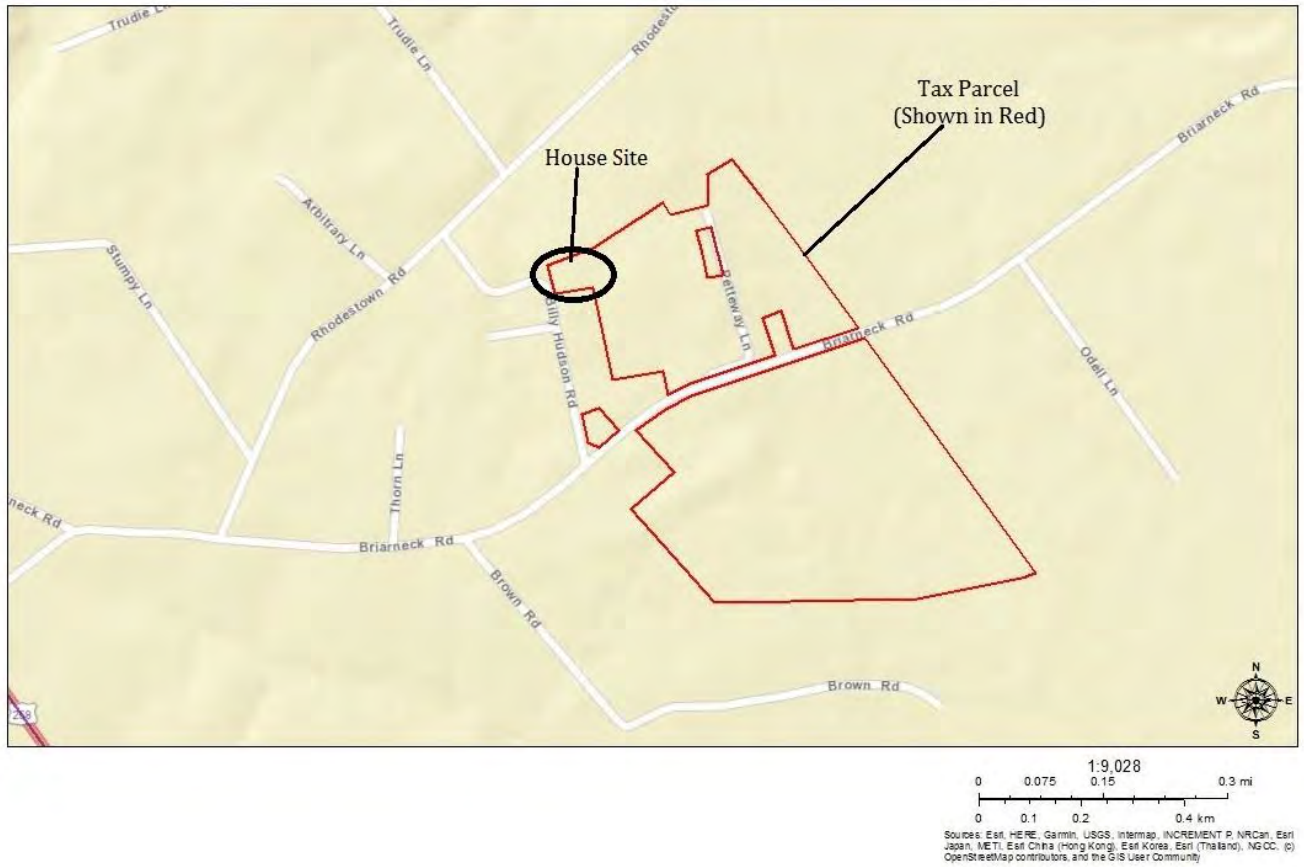
Andrew Mason House, ca. 1910, 204 Elm Street, Swansboro Historic District.

Criterion D

The James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory; and 2) the information must be considered important (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 21*).

The property is not eligible under Criterion D because it is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology.

Figure 5
James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House
Site Plan
Entire Tax Parcel



Source: Onslow County Tax Map

Figure 6
James S. and Sarah R. Heritage House
Site Plan
Detail of House Site



Source: Onslow County Tax Map

**No. 4 Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167)
(PIN 436909179422)**
101 Half Moon Church Road
Jacksonville, Onslow County

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible
Date of Construction: 1922



Physical Description (Figure 7)

Situated at the intersection of Gum Branch and Half Moon Church roads, the Jefferson D. Greer House occupies a 1.73-acre parcel in the Half Moon community, north of Jacksonville. The dwelling faces west towards Gum Branch Road with an unpaved driveway leading from the road along the south side of the house. A tree-shaded yard lies north and east of the house, and a modern, double-car garage stands behind the house.

This one-story, frame dwelling has a double-pile main block and a gable-roofed rear ell with later extension. The main block features a hip roof—nearly pyramidal in configuration—with secondary gables on each side. The house originally had a wraparound porch, but the section along the side (south) elevation has been fully enclosed. The turned posts supporting the porch are original, but the railing and sawn brackets have been removed and the porch screened. In addition, the concrete porch deck is later. A brick flue survives on the side (north) elevation, but a vinyl-sided, interior chimney has replaced the original brick chimney that was lost in a fire. The house has a symmetrical, three-bay façade with an original single-leaf door with upper glazing and lower paneling. The brick-pier foundation has been infilled with concrete block.

Since first being surveyed in 1988, the house has been heavily altered with vinyl siding, replacement windows, an extension to the rear ell, a porch enclosure, and added doors. The tall window openings on the main block are original, but vinyl sash has replaced the original two-over-two sash windows. The wraparound porch, which had been partially enclosed at the time of the 1988 survey, has since been fully enclosed. The L-plan porches that extended across the rear (east) elevation of the house and the south elevation of the rear ell had been enclosed by 1988, but a new porch and deck have been added in recent years. The enclosed porches and rear ell have horizontal-sash windows as well as several later windows. (The horizontal-sash windows indicate that the original porch enclosures occurred in the 1950s.) The diamond-shaped louvered vents under the gables have also been covered in vinyl siding, and the sawn brackets on the porch and the porch railings have been removed. The extension to the rear ell has a modern sliding-glass door, and modern French doors have replaced paired windows on the north elevation of the rear ell. The modern garage has a gable-front roof, composition siding, and a lean-to wing.

The principal investigators were denied access to the interior, but the 1988 survey file noted that the house retained its four-room plan with center hall and rear kitchen ell. The interior retained tongue-and-groove ceilings and molded chair rails in the hall. However, the sole mantel, with two stages and colonnettes, had been moved from another house following a fire. The file further noted that the interior had been reworked in recent years, notably in 1981. According to the current owner, the house retains its tongue-in-groove ceilings, wood floors, and mantel, but the interior doors have been replaced (Deron J. Satchell Interview 2019; HPO File).



Jefferson D. Greer House, Façade. Survey Photograph. Source: HPO File, 1988.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Side (North) Elevation. Survey Photograph. Source: HPO File, 1988.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Side (South) and Rear (East) Elevations. Survey Photograph.
Source: HPO File, 1988.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Façade, Looking East.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Side (South) Elevation, Rear Ell, and Rear Extension, Looking North.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Side (South) Elevation, Showing Enclosed Wraparound Porch, Looking North.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Rear Ell, Rear Extension, and Modern Porch and Deck, Looking North.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Rear (East) Elevation, Rear Ell, and Rear Extension, Looking West.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Side (North) Elevation and Modern French Doors to Rear Ell, Looking Southwest.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Façade, Showing Front Door, Porch Posts, and Replacement Windows.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Modern Garage, Looking North.



Jefferson D. Greer House, Back Yard, Looking North.

Historical Background

According to the 1988 architectural survey, the house was built for Onslow County native, Jefferson D. Greer (1875-1961), and his wife, Roberta Hawkins Greer (1878-1962), in 1922 and 1923. The Greers hired prolific Richlands carpenters, Benjamin “Mack” Findeisen and Joe Coston, to erect the dwelling. The heart pine used to build the house was cut on the property and milled nearby at Albert Venter’s sawmill. Other lumber was milled into moldings and trim work at a Jacksonville mill. Beauregard Lanier was the brick mason for the foundation and an interior chimney (now gone) (HPO File).

Jefferson, a farmer, and his wife, Roberta, built the house after two of their four children were grown. Following the Greers’ deaths in the early 1960s, their children sold the house to Carol Fox, and the property has changed hands a number of times since then (Jefferson Davis Greer, www.findagrave.com, Roberta Hawkins Greer, www.findagrave.com, accessed 13 June 2019; HPO File; Onslow County Deed Books 4371: 872; 1879: 969; 1148: 623; 857: 621; 733: 782; 421: 629; US Census, Onslow County, Population Schedule, 1920).

National Register Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Jefferson D. Greer House (ON0167) is recommended **not eligible** for the National Register under any criterion because of a loss of integrity. The property was surveyed originally in 1988 during the Onslow County architectural survey.

Integrity

The 1922-1923 Greer house does not possess all seven aspects of integrity needed for National Register eligibility. The dwelling occupies its original location at the intersection of Gum Branch and Half Moon Church roads in the Half Moon community and thus has integrity of location. However, the integrity of its setting has been compromised by the loss of trees and other mature landscaping during recent storms. Furthermore, its once rural feeling and association have been altered by postwar residential construction as well as modern residential and commercial development in the area.

The house has also lost much of its integrity of design, workmanship, and materials because of modern alterations and additions. Notably since the 1988 survey, the house has lost many of its picturesque elements of style. The house been vinyl sided, the two-over-two sash windows have been replaced, and the wraparound porch is now fully enclosed. The turned porch posts remain extant, but the sawn brackets ornamented with tulip motifs have been removed. The rear ell already had an enclosed porch at the time of the survey but retained its friezeboard returns with decorative sawn stops. These decorative elements are now covered in vinyl siding. Since the late 1980s, a porch and extension have been added to the rear ell, and modern French doors have replaced a pair of windows on the north elevation of the rear ell. The current owner state that the mantel, tongue-and-groove ceilings and wood floors are all intact, but the doors have been replaced (HPO File; Pezzoni 1998: 44-45; Deron J. Satchell Interview 2019).

Criterion A

The Jefferson D. Greer House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A, the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 12*).

The Greer house is not eligible under Criterion A because the property is not associated with any major event or pattern of events important to the history of Onslow County.

Criterion B

The Jefferson D. Greer House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (Person). For a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 14*).

The property is not eligible under Criterion B because the house is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context.

Criterion C

The Jefferson D. Greer House is recommended **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: 17*).

The Greer house does not possess the integrity required for eligibility under Criterion C. While retaining its original three-bay, double-pile, hip-roofed form, the dwelling has undergone significant alterations that include vinyl siding and replacement windows. Notably, the house has lost many of its picturesque elements of style. The wraparound porch has been fully enclosed so that the porch now only extends across the façade, and while the turned posts are intact, the decorative sawn brackets and railing have been removed. The original two-over-two sash windows have also been replaced with six-over-six, vinyl sash. Furthermore, the window surrounds, molded box eaves, and friezeboard returns are now obscured by vinyl siding. Finally, the rear ell has been reworked with a rear extension, enclosed porches, and added porches, decks, and French doors.

The Jefferson D. Greer House was built as a restrained picturesque version of the double-pile, hip-roofed house type but, as noted, no longer has the integrity to exemplify this traditional design.

Although the county has suffered much destruction from hurricanes in recent years, a number of hip-roofed, double-pile dwellings that are better preserved than the Greer house still survive.

This regional domestic form was erected across the state from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth centuries but was especially popular between the 1890s and the 1920s. The one-story, boxy main block, with its hip roof and broad porch, has been identified in scholarly literature as a Southeastern domestic type. The characteristic large porch and hipped roof helped to shade and ventilate the dwelling during the heat of the long summer season while segregating the kitchen in a rear ell was also a response to climate as well as the threat of fire. Thus well suited to the Southeast, the hip-roofed cottage also lent itself to stylistic variation which helped ensure its popularity and longevity. Mid-nineteenth century examples, usually with low hip roofs and gabled porches, illustrated the enduring influence of the Greek Revival while examples from the late nineteenth century, often with wraparound porches, jutting bays, and picturesque detailing, were inspired by the Queen Anne style. Based upon his 1988 survey of the county, architectural historian, Daniel Pezzoni observed that double-pile cottages with hip roofs and Greek Revival detailing became popular in Onslow County during the 1850s and remained so even into the 1880s and early 1890s. However, by the late nineteenth century, the burgeoning lumber industry, milling operations, and rail construction transformed the local economy and made mass-produced architectural elements readily available to a growing population. Houses executed in nationally popular picturesque styles, notably the Queen Anne with its hallmark irregular massing and a variety of decorative elements, were built in both town and country locations. In Richlands, for example, where the population nearly trebled in the first decade of the twentieth century, dwellings with complex forms, bay windows, and ornamental styling were built alongside other residences, more similar to the Greers', that combined the traditional one-story, hip-roofed, double-pile form with restrained applications of picturesque detailing, particularly on the porches (Pezzoni 1998: 27-28, 43-45; Glassie 1968: 109-112; Lewis 1975: 20; Noble 1984: 99-100; Jakle et al. 1989: 72, 131, 138. 165-167).

Situated within the Richlands Historic District (National Register 1990), the Del Barbee House (ON0692), at 109 West Foy Street, is a well-preserved example of the Queen Anne cottage. Built by local carpenters, Mack Findeisen and Joe Coston, for a mail carrier, the one and one-half story, frame house has an asymmetrical form, a high hip roof with pedimented gables, and an elaborate wraparound porch with turned posts, spindle frieze, and saw brackets. A contributing resource in the Richlands Historic District, the Barbee house remains largely unaltered (Pezzoni 1998: 206; Pezzoni 1990).



Del Barbee House, ca. 1910, 107 West Foy Street, Richlands.

The Brinson Venters House (ON0780) at 108 East Hargett Street in Richlands, like the Greer house, combines the traditional cubic, hip roofed form with picturesque detailing. Despite having undergone some alterations, the Venters house, unlike the Greers', retains its wraparound porch supported by turned posts. The Venters house is a contributing resource within the Richlands Historic District.

The Jere and Annie Fountain House (ON0140) on Catherine Lake Road near Richlands is a rural example of the double-pile, hip-roofed cottage dating from after World War I. Built ca. 1920 for farmer and mail carrier, Jere Fountain, and his wife, Anne Cavanaugh, the house was surveyed originally in 1988. Although now vinyl sided, the dwelling has a broad, five-bay façade, a high hip roof with a center gable, and an intact porch and porte cochere supported by classical columns resting on brick pedestals. The single-leaf door has an oval window that is original although the windows are horizontal-sash replacements dating to the postwar period. When surveyed in 1988, the interior, with its beaded-board sheathing, was intact. Despite the destructive storms of recent years, the agrarian setting of the house also retains intact (Pezzoni 1998: 150).



Brinson Venters House, ca. 1910, 108 East Hargett Street, Richlands.



Jere and Annie Fountain House (ON0140), ca. 1920, 2880 Catherine Lake Road, Richlands Vicinity.

Criterion D

The Jefferson D. Greer House is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory; and 2) the information must be considered important (National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15*: 21).

The property is not eligible under Criterion D because it is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology.

Figure 7
Jefferson D. Greer House
Site Plan



Source: Onslow County Tax Map

Scale: 1" = 300'

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