

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

May 22, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick, Architectural Historian

vepatrick@ncdot.gov

NCDOT/EAU/Historic Architecture Group

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley

Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report, R-5836, Widening of US 601 from I-74 to SR 1104,

Surry County, ER 20-0821

Thank you for your April 8, 2020, memorandum forwarding the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

Paner Bledhill-Earley

We concur that sites SR1483, SR1485, SR1486, SR1487, SR1488, SR1489, and SR1490 are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, we do not concur that SR1484 and SR0251 are eligible for listing; rather, we find that SR1484 is not eligible due to apparent lack of significance and SR0251 is not eligible due to lack of integrity.

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 <u>mfurr@ncdot.gov</u>

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

Widening of US 601 from I-74 to SR 1104 (Cody Trail), Surry County TIP No. R-5836 WBS No. 47106.1.1 PA No. 18-05-0006

Prepared for:

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

Prepared by:

NV5 CALYX

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MARCH 2020

Kenneth Joel Zogry, PhD, Principal Investigator

3/25/20 Vate

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

Date

Management Summary

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen US Highway 601 to four lanes from I-74 to Secondary Road (SR) 1104 (Cody Trail) in Surry County. The project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by NCDOT, is a 350-foot buffer to the west and a 250-foot buffer to the east along a corridor illustrated in Figure 2. At certain intersections 400-foot buffers extend down the intersecting roads approximately 900 feet. Study area limits have also been extended to accommodate potential realignments at South Main Street, Collins Road, and Smith Road.

The project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). NCDOT architectural historians conducted preliminary documentary research and a site visit to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Nine resources within the APE warranted further evaluation for potential National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility and are the subject of this report. NCDOT architectural historians determined that all other properties are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

Surry County was comprehensively surveyed in 1981-82 for the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office by architectural historian Laura Phillips. The Snow House (SR0251) was documented at that time, although it was not identified by historical name, and the property was in a considerably different state than it is today. None of the other eight resources in this study were included in the 1981-1982 survey.

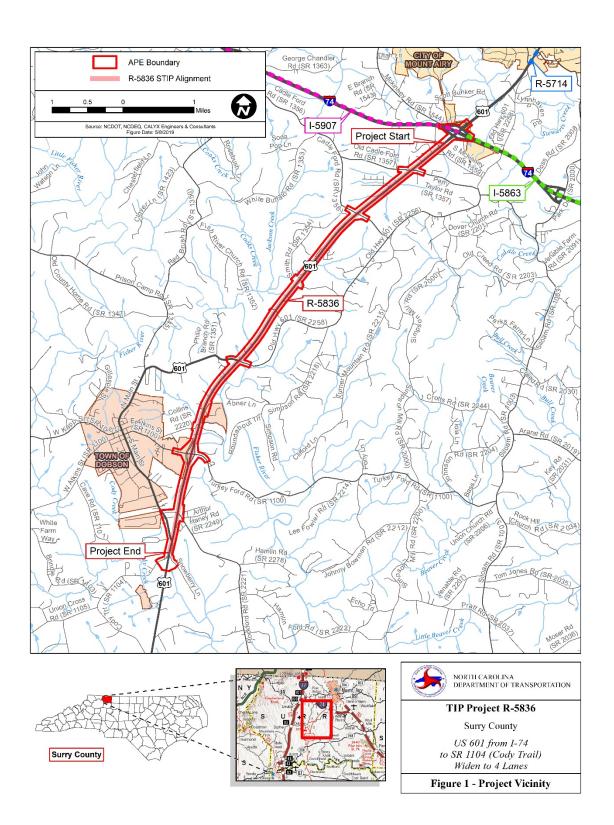
In 2019, NCDOT requested that CALYX Engineers and Consultants (CALYX) complete documentary research, an intensive-level historic resources field survey, and NRHP evaluations for these nine properties. The results are as follows:

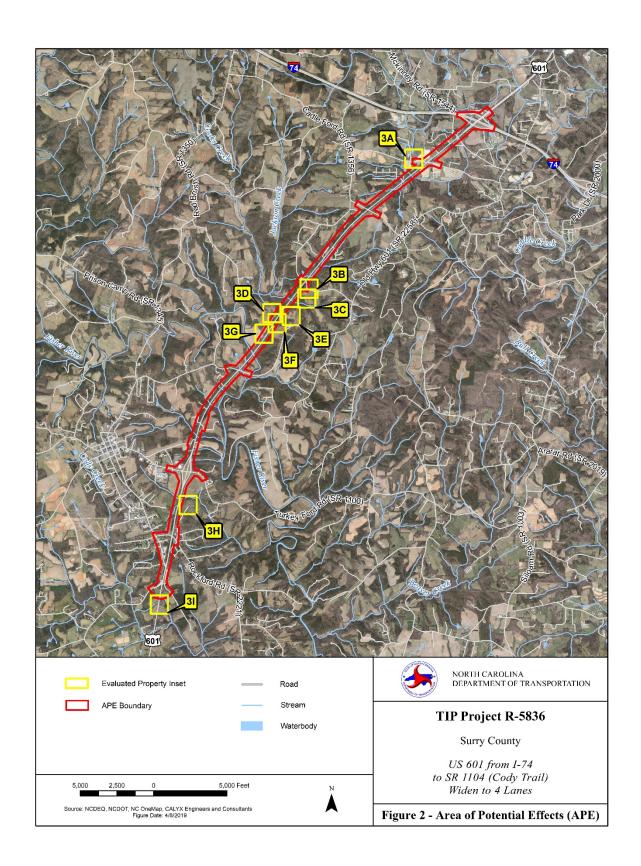
	NCHPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Determination	Criteria
Nichols Farmstead	SR 1483	Not Eligible	N/A
Brintle House	SR 1484	Eligible	С
Draughn-Barnes Farmstead	SR 1485	Not Eligible	N/A
Lambert-Wright-Gettings House	SR 1486	Not Eligible	N/A
Lambert Farmstead	SR 1487	Not Eligible	N/A
Hughes Burial Ground	SR 1488	Not Eligible	N/A
Bingman Cemetery	SR 1489	Not Eligible	N/A
Wood-Hardy Farmstead	SR 1490	Not Eligible	N/A
Snow House	SR 0251	Eligible	С

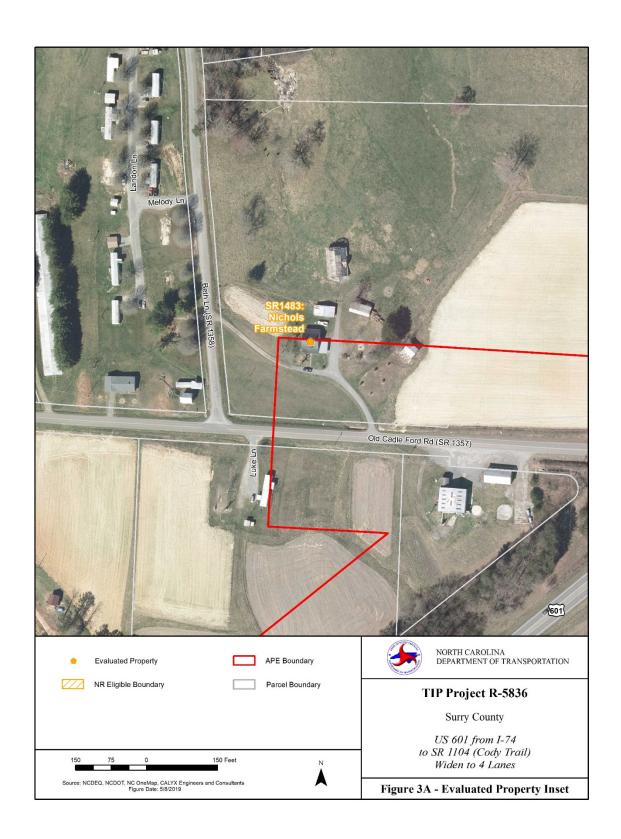
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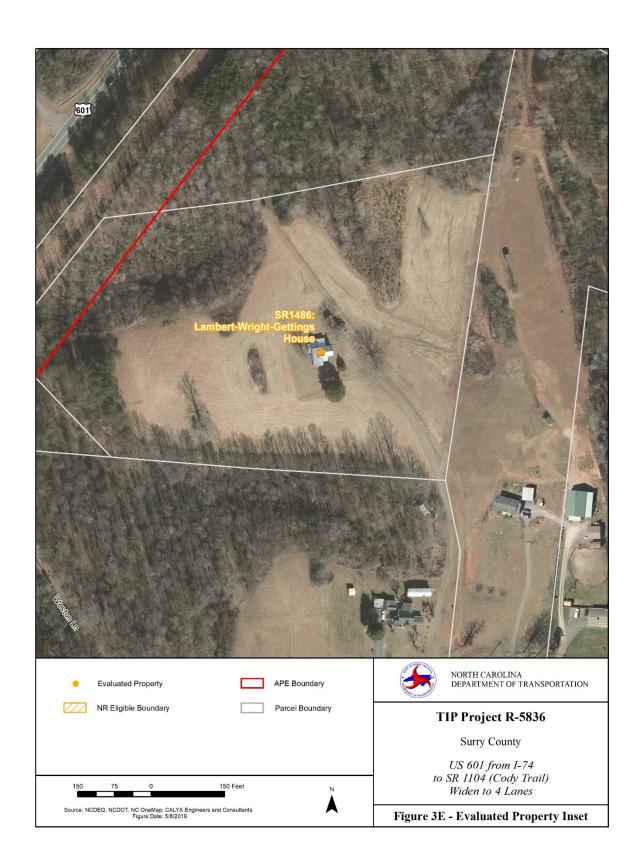






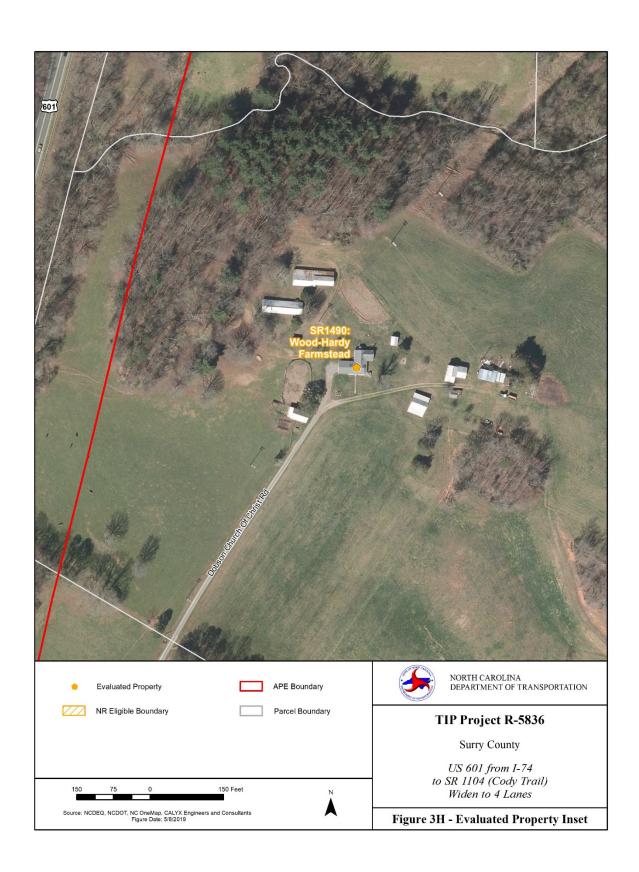


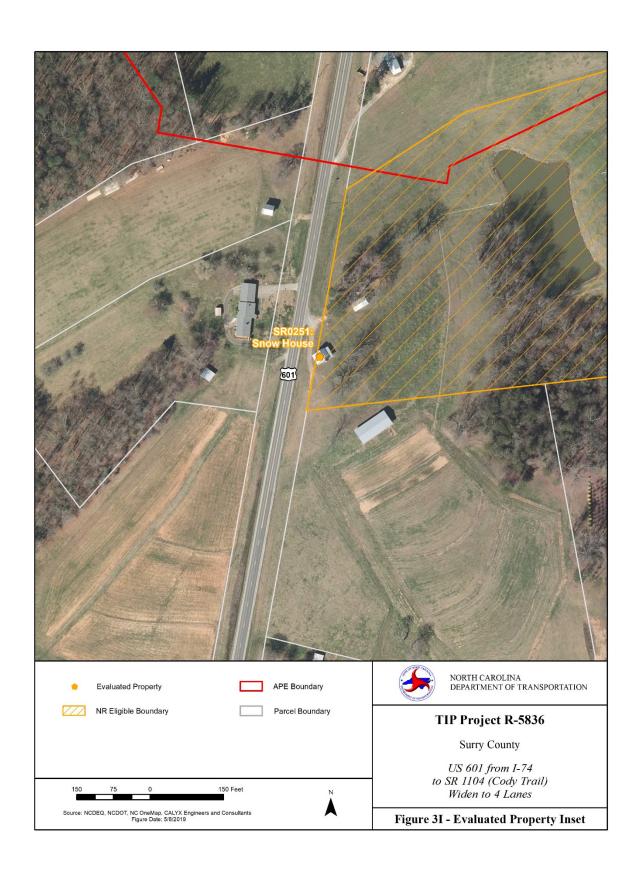












Methodology

On March 5, 6, and 7, 2019, CALYX Senior Architectural Historian Matt McDaniel and Architectural Historian Kenneth Zogry conducted a field survey of the nine potentially eligible properties located within the APE for this project. Four property owners were interviewed on site, and subsequently three others were contacted by telephone. Kenneth Zogry returned to the area on March 27 and conducted further fieldwork, and interviewed one more property owner, along with local historian, Kenneth Badgett.

Documentary research was conducted at the Mt. Airy Public Library, the Mt. Airy Regional Museum Archives, and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (HPO). Online sources utilized were the HPO Web, Surry County Tax Assessor and Register of Deeds records, Surry County Historical Society website, NCpedia.com, NPS.gov, Find-A-Grave.com, Ancestry.com, and Newspapers.com. A full list of individual works and interviews cited is included at the end of this report.

Historical and Architectural Overview

Surry County is located in northwestern North Carolina along the Virginia border; the Blue Ridge Mountains rise to the west, and the Yadkin River flows to the south. The rolling foothills provide fertile land for small farms. Native American settlement of the land dates back several thousand years and includes members of the Cherokee and other nations. European settlement in the area began in the mid eighteenth century, when immigrants of English, French, and German heritage arrived down the Great Wagon Road. Tradition holds that among the first settlers were a group of native Africans, brought to Virginia as slaves in the early eighteenth century, who were given their freedom after a period of years of servitude and came to the area to establish their own farms.¹

Although a few plantations developed in the county during the antebellum era, the lack of expansive open land for field crops and lack of major waterway access to market goods led to the growth of small, single-family subsistence farms. Most of these "yeoman" families rarely owned slaves, and kept kitchen gardens, a few cows, pigs, and chickens, and planted a few acres of corn, hay, and sometimes wheat. The limited trade that occurred before the Civil War was usually transacted in nearby Salem, a craft and trade center established by German Moravians in 1766. As with much of western North Carolina, where the practice of slavery was limited, strong Unionist sentiment existed in Surry County (only about 12 percent of the population were enslaved African Americans in 1860). The region was considered important enough as a source of supplies to the Confederate army, however, that Union General William T. Sherman sent General George Stoneman to raid the area on a march to Virginia in the spring of 1865. The path of "Stoneman's Raid" followed along the old road between Dobson and Mt. Airy, which predated the construction of modern US 601 in the mid-1960s and was located generally within or just outside the APE for this study.²

¹ J.G. Hollingsworth, *History of Surry County* (Southern Historical Press: 1935), pp. 165-168; Laura A. Phillips, *Simple Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County* (Surry County Historical Society: 1987), pp. 1-6; Evelyn Scales Thompson, *Around Surry County*, Black America Series (Arcadia Publishing: 2005), pp 8-17.

² Ibid; William Link, North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State (Harlan Davidson: 2009), pp. 207-209.

The initially large county was sub-divided three times before reaching its current boundaries in 1850. In the last subdivision the town of Dobson was made county seat, and that town served as the center of commerce until Mt. Airy grew in significance through the opening of a tobacco market in 1874 and the opening of furniture and granite industries in the early twentieth century. As a result, the road between the two towns (the approximate APE of this study) became an important regional thoroughfare. Several National Register listed properties are in the area, though well outside of the APE, including Haystack Farm (SR0461) associated with the Bunker family (Chang and Eng Bunker, the famous Siamese twins), and the Surry County Courthouse (SR0494).³

Historical and architectural research into the seven houses and farmsteads located within this project's APE reveal close familial relationships between the sites, and distinct patterns of usage and structural development from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. All seven of the houses in this study at one time anchored farmsteads 50 to 120 acres in size, usually averaging 60-70 acres. Outbuildings, often of log construction, typically included a barn, smokehouse, corncrib, and, following the Civil War when tobacco became an important cash crop, one or more tobacco barns and pack houses. Despite the Germanic settlers in the area who brought with them unique architectural forms and styles, especially in log structures, the numerous log houses and outbuildings in Surry County are distinctly American in character. The farmsteads in this study were usually passed down for generations, and most of these farm families are related by blood or marriage.⁴

Four of the seven farmhouses in this study—Snow, Draughn-Barnes, Lambert-Wright-Gettings, and Wood-Hardy – were originally constructed as single- or double-pen log dwellings, one story with a loft. Built approximately between 1850 and 1875 they were simply constructed, with hewn timbers utilizing various joinery methods; mud, lime, and hay or grass daubing to seal the walls; stacked-stone foundations and exterior chimneys; one or two board-and-batten doors and a small number of windows (usually glazed with two to six panes and simply framed single or double sash). "Log construction has played a major role in the architectural history of Surry County," Laura Phillips writes in Simple Treasures: An Architectural History of Surry County, adding that these log houses "were often built in virtually the same way for generations, making it difficult to date many of [them]." Phillips' research also determined that frequently these original log structures were reused by the frugal area farmers in subsequent expansions and remodeling. In fact, all of the nineteenth-century log houses in this study were at least modestly enlarged and updated during periods of economic boom, when tobacco prices were high (as described in the next section). Between the 1880s and 1920s, all were sheathed in a wood siding (either weatherboard or German siding) that encased the original log structure and later additions, resulting in a uniform outward appearance that obscures the more modest original dwelling. In one instance, the Snow House, the siding and additions have been recently removed and the original log structure uncovered and restored. Phillips notes that log construction became less utilized in the late nineteenth century in Surry County as mill-sawn lumber became more available.⁵

³ Phillips, pp. 5, 72, 75.

⁴ Interviews with current owners or descendants of previous owners, see "Works and Sources Cited" for full list.

⁵ Phillips, pp. 7-12. For a discussion of log architecture in the region, see Catherine Bishir, Michael T. Southern, & Jennifer F. Martin, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina* (UNC Press: 1999), pp. 22-24.

Periods of peak tobacco demand and prices after 1890 define the history of these four early log houses, as well as the other three farmhouses in this study, all of mill-sawn frame construction. The Lambert House was likely built about 1910 on the foundations of an earlier nineteenth century double-pen log building, and then substantially expanded around 1925. The Nichols and Brintle Houses were both built in the mid-1920s.

Understanding the development of the tobacco industry in the region is central to understanding the history of this study's seven farmsteads. In the years following the Civil War, Surry County became an important supplier of flue-cured, bright-leaf tobacco. Through the 1870s and into the 1880s, a growing number of small local factories processed the area's raw product into chewing, pipe, and loose tobacco for cigarette rolling. To facilitate this process, the Mt. Airy Tobacco Market opened in 1874. However, once the Bonsack Cigarette Roller became a practical mechanized alternative to hand-rolling in the early 1880s – the fastest human worker could roll 2,400 cigarettes a day, one Bonsack machine could roll 120,000 – the demand for flue-cured tobacco skyrocketed. By 1890, Surry was the tenth largest tobacco producing county in the state. Also, by the 1890s the small local factories gave way to the companies which would dominate the tobacco industry during much of the twentieth century, principally R.J. Reynolds in Winston-Salem, and American Tobacco in Durham.⁶

Despite overall growth, the tobacco market was unpredictable and prices for the crop could fluctuate dramatically. National economic recessions, known as "Panics," occurred several times during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. By the late 1890s, however, a combination of factors generally stabilized the market. As mentioned, two major manufacturers in North Carolina quickly dominated the burgeoning national cigarette industry by mechanizing the rolling process and forcing out competition by acquiring the small factories in Surry County and elsewhere. They also drove up demand by pioneering national product marketing and advertising – the first trading cards ever issued were scantily-clad women and sports figures slipped into cigarette packs. American soldiers in World War I were issued cigarettes with their field rations, resulting in an entire generation of young men hooked on the product. By the 1920s social change also drove increased cigarette sales; along with winning the right to vote in 1920, liberated women of the era bobbed their hair, exposed their knees in daringly short dresses, danced the scandalous "Charleston," and most shockingly – began smoking cigarettes in public. ⁷

The dramatic growth of the tobacco industry from the 1880s through the 1920s, coupled with the smaller but significant development of furniture manufacturing and a few other industries, brought great wealth to several regional families including the Reynolds Family in nearby Winston-Salem; moderate wealth to towns in the region including High Point, Mt. Airy, Elkin, and Pilot Mountain; and trickled down to provide a good living for area farmers. Not surprisingly, all seven of the farmhouses in

⁶ Hollingsworth, pp. 166-171; Carol J. Leonard, "The Development of Agricultural Industries in Surry County, North Carolina, 1860-1920," unpublished paper (Mt. Airy Regional Museum: 1982), pp. 6-17; William F. Carter and Connie Y. Carter, "Footprints in the Hollows, or Surry County and Her People," booklet (Northwestern Regional Library: 1976), pp. 91-92; Paul D. Escott, *Many Excellent People: Power and Privilege in North Carolina, 1850-*1900 (UNC Press: 1985), pp. 175-179, 196; Link, p. 252.

⁷ Hollingsworth, pp. 170-172; Leonard, pp. 15-16; Link, pp. 320-324.

this study were either expanded and updated or newly constructed during this era, though none, with the exception of the 1925 Brintle House, aspired to grand style. The existing single- or double-pen log structures were expanded with frame additions, sometimes larger than the original house. Early smaller windows were replaced, taller roofs constructed of mill-sawn lumber, brick chimney stacks and heating stoves added, and exteriors clad in more stylish wooden weatherboard or German siding. From the time of the First World War through the 1920s further improvements were made, which usually included the first plumbed indoor kitchens and bathrooms, and often more stylish Craftsman/bungalow style windows and doors.⁸



Figure 4: Members of the Lambert family harvesting tobacco, Surry County ca. 1915 (Courtesy of Kenneth Badgett)

The Great Depression brought remodeling and new construction to an abrupt end. Even though the cigarette industry weathered the economic downturn better than most, the price of tobacco paid to the farmers plummeted from a high of 25 cents a pound in 1925 to 6.6 cents in 1930. Production also tumbled as farmers went bankrupt. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" initiatives included the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 (AAA), which stopped the freefall by establishing price supports for tobacco and other farmed products across the country. Prices soon rebounded to 15.5 cents per pound, and production increased. A more long-term solution was achieved by 1938, when the first of the tobacco allotment programs went into effect. The result, in terms specific to Surry County, was that the

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⁸ Phillips, pp. 33 – 53.

farm families in this study annually grew to bacco on 10 percent of their land into the 1980s or 1990s, when all phased out of it. 9

Although New Deal programs stabilized tobacco farming both in terms of acreages and price per pound, none of the houses in this study underwent major renovations again, with the exception of newer siding products in the 1960s and later (such as asphalt, aluminum, stucco, and vinyl) and storm windows and doors.

⁹ Hollingsworth, pp. 170-174, 270-271; Link, pp. 344-347. Author's interviews with property owners, see Works Cited for complete list.

Evaluation: Nichols Farmstead

Resource Name	Nichols Farmstead
HPO Survey Site Number	SR 1483
Street Address	188 Old Cadle Ford Road
PIN	591801276704
Construction Dates	ca. 1920
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

The Nichols Farmstead, located at 188 Old Cadle Ford Road a short distance west of US 601, is an agricultural parcel of approximately 60 acres. The farmhouse sits at the center of a large rolling grassy covered lawn. It is a typical one-and-one-half-story, side-gable, bungalow-style farmhouse of framed construction, with an engaged shed-roofed porch, punctuated in the center of the front (southern) elevation with a shed dormer. The dormer is framed on each side by a chamfered Craftsman-style knee brace, and features a pair of fixed windows, each divided by three wooden mullions into four vertical panes of glass. Along the east and west gable ends of the main roof, seven chamfered knee braces are present under each eave. Two brick chimney stacks rise from the interior of the house though the roof's ridge line. At some point, likely in the 1960s, the entire house was clad in aluminum siding, including careful cladding of each of the 16 knee braces.

The southern, or front, elevation is entered by a single-leaf door, with four vertical panes of glass separated by wooden mullions on the top third, and what appears to be three horizontal inset wood panels on the lower two thirds (the door was partly obscured by an aluminum storm door and plastic sheeting). To the west of the door is a single double-hung six-over-six window, and to the east are a pair of identical windows. Four turned wooden posts, which are replacements, support the porch roof and rest on a poured concrete floor supported by a brick foundation. The house is occupied by renters, and the interior could not be accessed for evaluation.



Figure 5: Site Map

Two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows are evenly spaced along the eastern elevation, with a matching single window centered above on the second floor. A later two-vehicle carport, consisting of a flat metal roof and six metal posts resting on a concrete slab, is attached to this elevation. Protruding from the rear, or northern elevation, is an enclosed porch that runs the length of the structure and is under a truncated engaged shed roof that appears to be original. Later double-hung aluminum storm windows, single-pane and narrow, comprise the east elevation's eastern end, turn the corner, and run a little more than midway across the rear north elevation, where a door and a set of brick stairs is located. A nine-pane fixed window is present to the west of the door, as well as a small cinderblock gabled shed attached to the structure and an older standing oval metal oil tank.

On the west elevation's first floor are four six-over-six, double-hung sash windows; two standard size windows placed asymmetrically at either end and a pair of adjoining smaller windows in between. A single six-over-six window is centered on the second level in the roof's gable end.

Principal outbuildings consist of two early tobacco barns, and several twentieth-century structures including two cattle barns and two sheds. The tobacco barns are located west and south of the house. Both are of log construction, dating to the mid to late nineteenth century, and, like those on the Draughn-Barnes and Lambert Farms in this study, were moved from previous locations. The barns both have stacked stone foundations and v-notch corner joints. To the north and east of the house are a woodshed of frame construction with a shallow-gabled corrugated metal roof, and a general-purpose framed shed with a corrugated metal shallow-gable roof. A large feed barn with cinderblock walls and a

gambrel roof, open at each end and constructed of corrugated metal, stands north of the farmhouse. A smaller wooden barn with a corrugated metal gable roof is located due east. 10



Figure 6: South elevation detail

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¹⁰ Author's interview with Tony Nichols, March 8, 2019.



Figure 7: Looking northwest



Figure 8: East elevation



Figure 9: North elevation



Figure 10: Looking southeast



Figure 11: West elevation



Figure 12: Log tobacco barn, 19th century. Southwestern side of property previously moved from another location.



Figure 13: Looking northwest from the farmhouse; cinderblock and corrugated metal barn on the right



Figure 14: Shed on western side of property

History and Architectural Context

The Nichols family has been in Surry County for two centuries. Though the family has long owned this parcel of land, it was not established as a farm until the 1920s, when tobacco prices were at an historical peak. The bungalow-style farmhouse is believed to have been built by John M. Nichols (1872-1940) and his wife Lilla Badgett Nichols in the early 1920s. In 1930 they were living on the farm with their children and two male boarders who worked as laborers. The property has passed down several generations and remains in the family, though it is currently occupied by renters. ¹¹

The farm contains approximately 60 acres, and historically six acres (10 percent) were farmed as a tobacco allotment. Other land was used to raise hay and to support a small number of cattle, pigs and chickens. As with the Lambert and Draughn-Barnes farmsteads, the log tobacco barns of the Nichols farm were historically moved from site to site as fields were opened or rotated. Two nineteenth-century tobacco barns are extant on the property today and predate the main house. Sturdy, durable, and easily moved, these log barns survive in some numbers in the region. ¹²

The farmhouse is a typical and undistinguished example of the bungalow style. It follows the overall bungalow form and does feature certain Craftsman style details including the knee braces under the roof eaves, the design of the front door, and the windows in the shed dormer. It is likely that other now-missing original elements of the house were in the Craftsman manner, particularly the front porch and windows (probably matching those present in the dormer). However, the house was remodeled in the 1960s, when aluminum siding was added, and then again sometime since the 1980s, when most of the windows were replaced and vinyl trim added in certain locations. At some point the original columns and other porch elements were removed.

"Bungalows suited North Carolina's needs and habits," architectural historian Catherine Bishir writes in *North Carolina Architecture.* "They were cheaply and easily built. They ranged in size and elaboration to accommodate all economic levels, and they communicated a message of simplicity, unpretentious coziness, and modernity." Bungalows were equally at home in town or on the farm, and stylistically they often displayed elements of the Craftsman movement, which sought to strip away excess Victorian ornament in architecture and decorative arts. Architecturally this meant revealing the "purity" and hand crafting of construction in details such as exposed rafter tails, knee braces under eaves, and even, where possible, exaggerating joinery methods (such as extended through-tenons on mortise-and-tenon joints). In North Carolina, bungalows of various styles were built from the early twentieth century well into the 1930s.¹³

Comparable Examples

As one of the most popular architectural types throughout the United States and North Carolina during the first third of the twentieth century, bungalows can be found from simple and plain to highly

¹¹ Tony Nichols interview; Author's interview with Carolyn Nichols, April 16, 2019; 1930 Census for Surry County, and North Carolina Death certificates 1799 -1965, both accessed via Ancestry.com.

¹² Tony Nichols interview.

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¹³ Catherine W. Bishir, North Carolina Architecture (UNC Press: 1990), p. 426.

ornamented Craftsman-style examples with custom stone and millwork. In Surry County, numerous examples along this spectrum survive. At the high end are two examples in neighboring Mt. Airy built about 1920, the W.E. Lindsay House (SR0276, Figure 15) and the John Banner House (SR0398, Figure 16). Much original fabric of the Lindsay House remains, including the stone foundation and chimney stacks, and knee braces and exposed rafter ends under the eaves. The original Craftsman style windows have apparently been removed. The John Banner House has also survived a century in a largely original state.

In terms of farmhouses, the nearby ca. 1925 example outside of Mt. Airy (2482 Siloam Road, Figure 17) is an excellent comparable to the Nichols House. Also anchoring a large farmstead, this rural example is less compromised architecturally than the Nichols House, retaining much of its original fabric as well as outbuildings. The house is well-proportioned but very simple, with no visible Craftsman architectural details such as knee braces, exposed rafter tails, or other trim.



Figure 15: W. E. Lindsay House (SR0276) ca. 1920, 1065 S. Main St., Mt. Airy

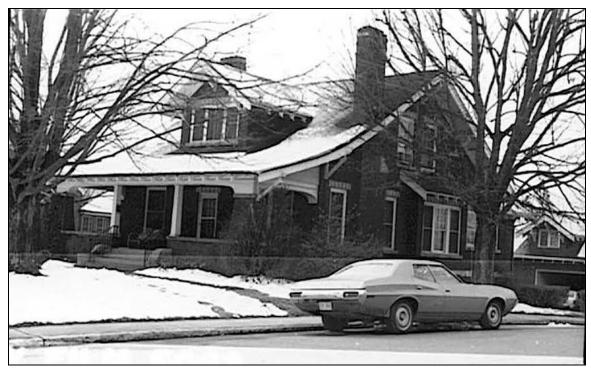


Figure 16: John Banner House (SR0398) ca. 1920, 400 S. Main Street, Mt. Airy (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 17: Bungalow farmhouse, ca. 1925, 2482 Siloam Road, Mt. Airy

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Nichols Farmstead retains integrity of location, setting, and association as a rural farmstead. However, there is a loss of integrity of feeling, as the house is now rented to a non-farming family and the Nichols only maintain limited farming operations. Tobacco farming ceased some years ago. In terms of design, materials, and workmanship, the overall bungalow form of the house is retained. However, many of the original elements have been removed, compromised, or covered. The entire front porch has been replaced with new non-sympathetic components (including mass-produced wooden posts and vinyl cladding on the shed roof); the house has been clad in aluminum siding (including the original Craftsman style knee braces); and other added elements such as the aluminum carport, newer six-oversix sash windows, and rear enclosed aluminum porch windows all detract from the original design.

Criteria Evaluations

The Nichols Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The farm is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer at the center of a functioning tobacco farm typical of the area in the 1920s when it was built.

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

The Nichols Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. While the main form of the house is intact, many architectural components have been lost or compromised, including the front porch, siding, and most of the windows. Even if the house was intact, it is a typical and undistinguished example of a very common form. There are many other area bungalows and Craftsman-style examples with more architectural significance and in more original condition. Though two nineteenth century tobacco barns remain, they are not unique in the area, where many survive. The other outbuildings date to the mid twentieth century or later and are unremarkable examples.

The Nichols Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important the history of building design or technology.

Evaluation: Brintle House

Resource Name	Brintle House
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1484
Street Address	408 Smith Road
PIN	590700685353
Construction Dates	1925
NRHP Recommendation	Eligible – Criteria C



Description

The Brintle House is located in Dobson Township, and faces south to Smith Road, which winds up the side of a hill from US 601, parallel with the rear of the house and property. The house was once at the center of a 55-acre farm, subsequently subdivided, and aside from a large modern rear shed, no supporting outbuildings are extant. The current parcel is 8.65 acres in size. The house has been unoccupied for an unspecified period of time and shows signs of significant deterioration.

In form the house is an enlarged pyramidal cottage, with a steep main truncated hipped roof that terminates in a flat central parapet punctuated by three cross-wing, hip-roofed dormers, one each on the south, east, and west elevations. All roofs on this complex structure are shingled, except the western one-room addition, which currently is covered by an older vertical standing-seam metal roof. The house appears to be raised from the ground on a series of concrete blocks supporting the wooden sills. The small crawl space is covered by skirting of various types and ages.

The southern façade features a central single-leaf front door with a large oval glazed opening and a pair of narrow glazed single-pane sidelights; the entry is symmetrically flanked on each side by one large double-hung window. The original sash in all windows appears to have been bungalow contained four vertical panes separated by painted wooden mullions on the upper section of the double-hung sash, with a single pane on the bottom sash. This form is present on the northern window, but the southern window has what appears to be a replacement six-over-six upper sash. The front dormer features a pair of abutting smaller similar windows, though three of the four upper sash mullions are missing in the southern window. The black shutters present on the first-floor windows are inoperable and later additions.

A semi-engaged hip-roofed shed porch wraps around the façade, extending beyond the western end of the house and terminating. The porch also extends beyond the façades' eastern end where it turns and continues three-quarters of the way along the eastern elevation. A centrally located, single-bay, pedimented portico protrudes from the center of the porch, in line with the front door. The portico and

the porch proper feature square hollow wooden columns supporting the roof from the eave two thirds of the way down to the porch floor, terminating at a balustrade which is constructed of overlapping shingles mounted on a wooden frame, thus presenting the appearance of a solid lower wall. Two columns support the protruding portico, with a total of six columns along the façade (one is missing; replaced by a wooden support post). One more column on the western side elevation allows the porch to extend beyond the main structure and supports another pediment at the terminus of the porch roof. Three columns support the three-quarter length porch along the eastern elevation. The columns are Colonial Revival in style, with applied two-part milled moldings along the top and base of each. The same double half-round molding that comprises the column trim appears as a belt course on the porch fascia boards and eaves.

The German wood siding, painted white, is a flush-mounted milled product that when installed gives the impression of weatherboard because of the half-round detail that runs along the bottom of each horizontal plank. Two red brick chimney stacks rise from the interior of the house and exit near the opposing peaks of the main roofline. Another exterior chimney stack is present on the northern end of a one-story room at the house's rear that terminates the wrap-around porch.

The eastern elevation features two pairs of double-hung, single-pane sash windows, and a small room at the eastern end of the truncated porch. A single-leaf door provides access to and from the porch, and a pair of double-hung, single-pane sash windows constitute the fenestration of the small one-story section. The elevation features two pairs of four-over-one double-hung sash windows, along with another hipped-roof dormer and the extension of the front porch.

The northern or rear elevation, without fenestration, provides an interesting perspective on the well-proportioned massing of the house and the complexity of the multiple sections and corresponding hipped roofs. The single-room section terminating the wrap-around porch on this elevation's east end shows evidence of a previous window, now covered with siding. Another single room addition with a hipped roof projects to the north.

The Brintle House currently sits on a relatively small lot surrounded by a decaying grass lawn and a gravel "U" shaped drive that circles around the rear of the house, opening to a large gravel parking area. Due north of the house is a large modern wooden shed with three open bays, and a gable-end shingled roof. The house is abandoned, and the interior was inaccessible for survey.



Figure 18: Site Map



Figure 19: Looking northeast



Figure 20: Front porch and front door detail



Figure 21: East elevation



Figure 22: West elevation



Figure 23: North elevation



Figure 24: Looking southeast



Figure 25: Looking southwest, with shed in rear



Figure 26: Looking southeast toward US 601 from rear of the house



Figure 27: Looking south from front of the house; Draughn-Barnes Farmstead in the distance



Figure 28: Looking northwest down Smith Road toward US 601

History and Architectural Context

The Nichols Family has been in Surry County and farmed land near Dobson since 1812, according to family history (see also the Nichols Farmstead, 188 Old Cadle Ford Road in this study). In 1921, Jacob Spencer Brintle (1900-1980) married Hattie Pearl Nichols (1903-1941) and established a 55-acre farmstead on the northern side of what is today Smith Road. Typical of the area, the Brintles engaged in small-scale farming to supply the family, and also grew, processed, and sold flue-cured tobacco as a cash crop. With the arrival of price supports and later crop allotments as a result of the federal Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, the Brintle Farm cultivated six acres of tobacco annually for about 50 years. At one time there were three tobacco barns on the property (now gone). As with other farmsteads in this study and in the area, the sought-after flue-cured tobacco was taken to market in Winston-Salem and Mt. Airy and sold to the nation's largest cigarette manufacturers. ¹⁴

The Brintles had 10 children, and after Hattie Brintle died, Jacob married her sister, who bore two more children. To accommodate his growing family, Jacob built a substantial and stylish home in 1925. According to his son Blaine, Brintle supplemented his farming income by working as a builder in the nearby towns. For his own family, he constructed a dwelling that was architecturally more ambitious and atypical of area farmhouses in this study. Brintle's son also recalled that his father consulted design books and was most interested in structure, proportion, and form, as opposed to ornament. The house

¹⁴Author's interview with Blaine Brintle, March 5, 2019; North Carolina Death Records, 1799 – 1977, accessed via Ancestry.com.

showcases his familiarity with a range of architectural styles favored in the first quarter of the twentieth century. ¹⁵

This house's pyramidal four-square cottage form derives from several sources: Queen Anne Victorian (mixture of several architectural styles, truncated steep hipped roof, and the shingled porch railing); Colonial Revival (pediment over front porch entrance and western end, porch columns, simplified white exterior with little embellishment); and Craftsman (story-and-a-half construction, single dormers punctuating the main roof, overall roofline, and bungalow style windows). In a survey of four-square houses across the country, historian Thomas Hanchett notes that often the individual stylistic elements were less important than the overall form, especially when interpreted by rural builders. These vernacular one-story cottages with pronounced pyramidal roofs were constructed in some numbers in North Carolina, though this is a particularly sophisticated example in terms of the carefully composed massing, proportions, and interrelationships of the main structural components (especially the roofs, best seen in the front and rear elevations). ¹⁶

Although the house is in near-derelict condition and the interior could not be accessed or examined, Blaine Brintle provided a detailed story about an unusual original mechanical system, acetylene lighting. Without access to natural gas or electrical power lines, an alternative to candles and kerosene lamps in the early twentieth century was a self-contained system which utilized acetylene gas for lighting. This included an outdoor well-like mechanism that used the chemical reaction of calcium carbide and water to create the gas and feed it through pipes to fixtures inside the house. Acetylene gas lighting had other applications including early automobile headlamps and was one of the first products of the nascent petrochemical industry.¹⁷

Further, this major industry had its roots to North Carolina, as the chemical reaction was discovered by a company owned by the Morehead family in nearby Spray (now Eden). The process was further refined at UNC-Chapel Hill by chemistry professor Francis Venable and students John Motley Morehead III and William Rand Kenan Jr; as a result, Morehead and Kenan became key figures in the early development of the Union Carbide Corporation, today part of Dow Chemical. Their involvement with Union Carbide provided the basis for large fortunes, and both families became significant philanthropists in the state. If elements of this rare original lighting system – a costly addition in the 1920s – remain in the Brintle House, that would further enhance its historical significance and National Register eligibility.¹⁸

Comparable Examples

The somewhat exaggerated form of this pyramidal four-square cottage, most notably the truncated steep main roof punctuated by dormers at several elevations, wrap-around porch, and off-center brick interior chimney stacks, appears to be a regional variant. The basic house type was popular, and can be

¹⁵ Brintle interview.

¹⁶ Thomas W. Hanchett, "The Four Square House in the United States," M.A. thesis (University of Chicago: 1986), pp. 1-5; Catherine Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (UNC Press: 1990), p. 493.

¹⁷ Brintle interview; Ada P. Haylor, "John Motley Morehead III," and Thomas S. Kenan, III, "William Rand Kenan Jr," both from the *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography* (UNC Press: 1979-1996), accessed via NCpedia.com. ¹⁸ Ibid.

found throughout Surry County in a variety of stylistic modes. In the general vicinity these pyramidal four-square cottages range from more urban examples with extensive decorative to simplified farmhouse variants dating as early as the late 1890s.

The Cleveland Dobbins House (SR0554, Figure 29), near the study property is late Victorian in style, with a simpler roofline but greater amount of machine-sawn decorative wood trim. In Mt. Airy, the Matthew D. Moore House (SR0364, Figure 30) of the same era is finished in the Colonial Revival manner. Also following Colonial Revival fashion is the Taylor Flippin House (SR0202, Figure 31) in Siloam, which, notably, bears a resemblance to Frank Lloyd Wright's transitional houses, built as he was evolving from a variant of the Shingle Style to his fully developed Prairie Style. 19

The 1924 George Washington Bowman House (SR0253, Figure 32) in adjoining Eldora township is closely related in terms of form and massing to the Brintle House, and interestingly, was also built for a farm family with a large number of children (11). It is a somewhat simplified version of the Brintle house, and based on family history, there is a distinct possibility this structure was also built by Jacob Brintle. None of the comparable properties identified, however, feature hip-roofed dormers (all are gable).²⁰



Figure 29: Cleveland Dobbins House (SR0554), ca. 1907, 167 Horse Haven Lane, Dobson

¹⁹ Brintle interview. For example, see Wright's home and studio in Oak Park, Illinois (1889/1898).

²⁰ Brintle interview.



Figure 30: Matthew D. Moore House (SR0364), ca. 1905, 328 W. Pine Street, Mt. Airy



Figure 31: Taylor Flippin House (SR0202), ca. 1910, SR 1003, Siloam (Surry County Historical Society Archives)



Figure 32: George Washington Bowman House (SR0253), ca. 1915, Eldora Township (HPO Survey Files)

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Brintle House retains integrity of location and to some extent setting, as it remains in a rural location. However, there is a loss of integrity of feeling and association as a rural farmstead, as farming ceased some years ago, the land has been subdivided, and more modern homes and farm buildings are within sight. No cultivated lands are extant. The Brintle House retains integrity of design, materials and workmanship, as it remains essentially as originally built. While the architectural elements of the house remain highly original and little altered, it has been unoccupied for some years and overall the property is in derelict condition with some exterior materials visibly failing.

Criteria Evaluations

The Brintle House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The former farm is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer at the center of a functioning tobacco farm typical of the area in the 1920s when it was built.

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

The Brintle House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The main form and elements of the house are intact, even though the overall structural condition is poor. The house

was designed and built by Jacob Brintle, a farmer without formal architectural training, as his family home. It is a sophisticated interpretation of a type popular in the area for several decades that adds a distinct Prairie Style flavor, with deft handling of complicated massing and multiple intersecting rooflines. In that regard it is likely a prime example of an untrained rural master builder – an architectural "folk artist" of sorts. The parameters of this study do not allow for an extensive research project to identify other potential examples of this builder's work, but they likely exist (including the Bowman House).

If elements of the rare original acetylene gas lighting system remain – as is likely – that would further enhance its architectural and historical significance and National Register eligibility under Criterion C.

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

Boundary Description and Justification

The Brintle House boundary follows the parcel lot line of the associated piece of land (Surry County PIN 590700685353), bounded to the west by the right-of-way for US 601, and south by the edge-of-pavement of Smith Road; see Figure 33 on page 41. The boundary to the north stops at the modern shed, and to the east at the existing tree line. The parcel encompasses the Brintle House and accompanying immediate yard.



Figure 33: Brintle House (SR1484) Boundary

Evaluation: Draughn-Barnes Farmstead

Resource Name	Draughn-Barnes Farmstead
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1485
Street Address	345 Smith Road
PIN	590700676032
Construction Dates	ca. 1850, 1890, 1920
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead is located at 345 Smith Road and is accessible by a long unpaved road behind a circa 1960s brick ranch style house, currently owned by Glen Barnes. The farmstead consists of a small L-shaped farmhouse and several outbuildings of various dates of construction on a rolling verdant landscape. The property was historically approximately 45 acres, but it has been incorporated into the larger Barnes family holdings in the area. Pastureland extends from the southern side of the farmhouse down a slope to the existing nineteenth-century, double-pen log barn, and east to former crop fields, now dormant. The house is currently unoccupied and has been for about 20 years.

The one-story, wood-framed house has been expanded; the original, side-gabled main mass is on the south. Two shallow hip-roofed porches originally extended across both the north and south elevations, though the southern façade, facing away from Smith Road and US 601 beyond, was considered the front of the house. In the 1960s an indoor bathroom and small storage room/additional bedroom were added to the northern side (in two stages), creating an L-shaped plan, and truncating the porch on that elevation. A small north-facing engaged shed-roofed porch was added at that time to the addition, meeting the existing porch at a perpendicular angle. The porches are all supported by plain square wooden posts, five on the south side and five on the north. All roofs are now covered in green asphalt-type shingles. The ridgeline of the main roof features a circa 1900 metal weathervane in the center and a pair of matching circa 1900 lightning rods with white milk-glass balls, one at the pinnacle of each gable end.

The gable ends of the roofs on both the main house and additions are finished with simple wooden fascia boards. The gable ends of the main house also feature additional simple milled moldings along the roofline, and the fascia and milled moldings are replicated along the inside of the gable reveal, flush with the weatherboarding.

The visible foundations of the main house and additions are constructed of stacked cinderblock, as is a small exterior flue-stack on the addition's northern side. The exposed southeastern corner of the main mass's foundation appears to have been originally constructed of stacked stone, suggesting an earlier date of construction. The floor of the southern porch is wood plank, and the floor of the two-part northern porch is poured concrete. A chimney stack on the eastern elevation is constructed of stacked stone up to its shoulders, with red brick laid in common bond above, terminating in a simple decorative double-belt course and exposed clay flue.

The southern façade has two off-center single-leaf doors, each with glazed panes in the upper section and currently covered with circa 1960s aluminum storm/screen doors. Two six-over-six double-hung sash wood windows are located in the façades outer bays. The rear elevation likely had a similar arrangement, though only the eastern window and door are extant. Apparently, the western door on this elevation was moved to the rear addition and now faces east. On the two-part addition, two six-over-one square windows flank either side of the north elevation's cinderblock flue stack. The western elevation contains two narrow, four-over-four double-hung sash windows on the storeroom/bedroom, and a three vertical pane over single pane double-hung sash window in the bathroom.

The farmstead consists of eight principal outbuildings. The earliest of these appears to be the large nineteenth-century, double-pen log barn with later standing seam metal roof, and the smaller log corncrib, also with a later standing seam metal roof. Both of these structures extend due south of the main house, down a fairly steep slope. An early log smokehouse is present north of the house, along with a later frame feed barn, tobacco barn, and two sheds (one of which is slightly southwest of the house). All of these structures are of frame construction with metal roofs of various ages. A late twentieth-century cinderblock well house with a shingled roof is located just northwest of the house.



Figure 34: Site Map



Figure 35: South elevation



Figure 36: East elevation



Figure 37: North elevation



Figure 38: West elevation



Figure 39: Looking south from front of house to double-pen log barn and corncrib



Figure 40: Northern elevation of nineteenth century double-pen log barn, twentieth century standing seam metal roof



Figure 41: Looking northeast, house and outbuildings



Figure 42: Looking southwest, outbuildings behind the house



Figure 43: Looking north from behind the house; Brintle House in the distance, center, US 601 beyond

History and Architectural Context

According to interviews with Glen Barnes and Blaine Brintle (see Brintle House in this study), this farmstead dates to 1858 and was established by the Draughn family, who have been in Surry County since the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. The earliest owner who could be established was Peter Franklin Draughn (1863-1944), son of Eli and Nellie Draughn, who are listed in the 1870 Census as owning and living on a farm valued at \$1,000 in the neighboring Eldora Township. Peter Franklin Draughn married Sarah Millie (1859-1944) in 1887 and likely acquired this farmstead at that time. The 1900 Census notes Peter Franklin, a farmer, and his wife Sarah Millie living on the property (and carrying a mortgage) with their three children and a 23-year-old boarder, Henry Bullin, who is listed as a laborer. After Peter Draughn's death in 1944, the farmstead was acquired by Dallas Barnes, father of the current owner, Glen Barnes. The Barnes and Draughn families were related by marriage. Members of the Barnes family lived in the house until the mid-1990s. It is now unoccupied, but generally maintained by Glen Barnes and his family, who live on adjoining property.²¹

Similar to other area farmsteads surveyed for this study, the Draughn-Barnes Farmstead contained approximately 66 acres, and supported small-scale gardening (Blaine Brintle referred to it as a "kitchen garden") and care of two cows, two pigs, a few chickens and beehives to provide subsistence for the

²¹ Author's interview with Glen Barnes, March 5, 2019; Brintle interview; 1870 United States Census for Surry County, accessed via Ancestry.com; 1900 United States Census for Surry County, accessed via Ancestry.com; North Carolina Death Certificates, 1799-1977, accessed via Ancestry.com

family. In addition, tobacco was grown and flue-cured for sale as a cash crop. From the 1930s until the 1980s, the family cultivated 6 acres of tobacco as their federal allotment, and then leased out the land for tobacco production for approximately another ten years.²²

Although the interior of the house could not be examined, all indications are that the core of structure is built of log and dates to the third quarter of the nineteenth century with small additions, new weatherboard sheathing, and roof completed by the 1920s.

The door and window arrangement on a house of this size – each main room has exterior access – suggests that the original building was either a double-pen log structure or, possibly, a single-pen to which another existing single-pen was moved and added before 1900. This arrangement may have proven practical to accommodate the five members of the Draughn Family and the single boarder in the small home. The exposed stacked stone foundation on the southeastern corner of the structure, along with the stacked-stone chimney, also strongly indicate third-quarter nineteenth century log construction.

Between 1900 and 1920 the exterior was sheathed in weatherboard, a new frame roof added with the existing eaves and details, and a small addition built on the western end that may have been a bathroom. At that time the upper half of the stacked-stone chimney above the shoulder line was replaced with common-bond brick, including a simple decorative brick cap. Front and rear porches were also added at this time.²³

A final updating occurred in the mid to late 1960s. It appears that the six-over-six, double-hung sash windows present in the main section replaced earlier windows at that time, and the aluminum storm windows and doors also added. A final addition was built on the northern elevation, attaching to both the original structure and the 1920s bathroom. Smaller one-over-one aluminum windows were installed in this addition, and a cinderblock flue added (likely for a heating system).

In terms of architectural context, the evolution of this house from a log structure to its current state as described places it within the same regional category as the Snow House, Wood-Hardy House, and Lambert-Wright-Gettings House in this study. These early log buildings with later additions are standard farmhouse configurations in Surry County and much of western North Carolina, as discussed in some detail in *Small Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County* and *A Guide to Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina*.²⁴

Comparable Examples

While the expansion of original log farm structures is almost ubiquitous in Surry county from 1850 to 1925, there are distinct variations. Some original log structures become rear ells for two-story additions (see the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House in this study), while others became part of larger one-story

²² Brintle and Barnes interviews.

²³ 1890 United States Census for Surry County, accessed via Ancestry.com.

²⁴ Phillips, p. 7-12 and passim; Bishir, Southern, and Martin, pp. 21-24 and passim.

frame houses. As another two-room log house expanded into a larger one-story frame structure between 1900 and the 1920s, the Wood-Hardy House in this study is a strong comparable. The Wood-Hardy Farmstead was also approximately the same acreage, and retains a full complement of outbuildings, including two of log construction that date to the nineteenth century.

The Chilton House (SR0027, Figure 45) in Westfield is another interesting comparable to the Draughn-Barnes house, as it is a double-pen structure with two front entrances and corresponding windows, a rear ell, and a hip-roofed porch across the façade. It differs only in having a full loft with small windows, and chimney stacks at both ends of the structure.

The William Lacy Simpson House (SR0046, Figure 46) in Eldora is also a good comparable, as it began as a one-story single-pen log house around 1846, and was expanded over time, with several one-story additions and a Victorian era front porch.

Finally, a one-story farmhouse with an engaged front porch (435 Highway 269, Figure 47), very likely expanded from a smaller nineteenth-century log structure and with two log tobacco barns extant, was located near Pilot Mountain.



Figure 44: Wood-Hardy House, looking south, showing several outbuildings (SR1490)



Figure 45: Chilton House (SR0027), ca 1895; SR 1799, Westfield Township (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 46: William Lacy Simpson House (SR0046), ca. 1846; SR 2202, Eldora Towbship (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 47: Farmhouse, likely expanded from nineteenth century log structure, 435 Highway 268, Pilot Mountain.

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead retains integrity of location, setting, and association as a rural farmstead, especially with the survival of several original nineteenth-century outbuildings. However, there is a loss of integrity of feeling, as the house is unoccupied and farming on the property ceased some twenty years ago. As the original nineteenth century log core of the house is now encased in later additions, and as windows and doors have been replaced, there is a loss of design, original materials, and workmanship.

Criteria Evaluations

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The farm is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer a functioning tobacco farmstead typical of the area from the 1880s to the late twentieth century.

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the farm was a significant figure in history.

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. While the main form of the nineteenth-century log house may be intact, it is encased in later

additions and now on a mostly twentieth-century cinderblock foundation. Elements including windows and doors have been replaced since the 1960s. Although the development of this dwelling adds to the overall understanding of similar houses in this study, this is not an unusual example, nor does it have any unique architectural elements. The physical components of the farmstead complex remain largely intact, including a number of outbuildings, fields, and internal roads; however, the complex is not unique enough to warrant eligibility.

The Draughn-Barnes Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important to the history of building design or technology.

Evaluation: Lambert-Wright-Gettings House

Resource Name	Lambert-Wright- Gettings House
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1486
Street Address	2806 Old Highway 601
PIN	590700560418
Construction Dates	ca. 1850, 1895, 1925
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

Approached via a gravel driveway behind a more modern house along Old US 601, the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House sits on the crest of a flat hill, with its rear (northern) elevation facing US 601 off to the distance. There is one extant outbuilding on the property.

The two-story, L-shaped farmhouse features a cross-gabled roof, with the east-west oriented gable truncated where it meets the north-south gable. There is a standing seam metal roof across both sections, and a stacked-stone chimney rises from the eastern gable end. A brick chimney rises from the interior of the western cross gable and terminates in a simple decorative cap above the roof's ridgeline. The foundation is partly stacked stone, partly brick, and partly concrete block.

The southern façade features dual entrance doors facing different directions, one on each ell. A square concrete pad creates a porch floor partially serving both ells, with decorative wrought iron posts and a flat aluminum roof. The first floor has a total of three double-hung sash windows on this elevation, with four vertical panes over one. The three second floor windows are two-over-two double-hung sash. The entire façade is covered with stucco, which is painted red and scored by hand to resemble commonbond brick. The rear or northern elevation is a combination of white painted wooden weatherboard and German siding. Aluminum storm doors and windows are present.

The eastern and western two-story elevations, including the exterior chimney stack on the eastern elevation, are also clad in the faux brick-scored stucco. The eastern gable end has no windows. This gable end and the other two exposed gable ends have pronounced eaves that are embellished with a simple molding affixed to the centerline of the bargeboard. The first floor of the western elevation consists of a pair of nine-over-six, double-hung sash windows on the northern end, and a single four-over-one window on the southern end. The second floor of this elevation features two window openings at each end, both of which are now covered in plywood. A rear, northern one-story gable-end addition is clad in weatherboard.



Figure 48: Site Map



Figure 49: Looking south from front of house down access road to old US 601



Figure 50: Looking northwest



Figure 51: South (front) elevation



Figure 52: East elevation



Figure 53: North elevation



Figure 54: West elevation



Figure 55: Looking north from rear of house toward US 601 in distance



Figure 56: Remains of shed northwest of house

History and Architectural Context

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House began about 1850 as one of the older farmsteads in this study. The names of the original owners could not be determined, but the property was purchased by David F. Lambert (1856-1921) and Chanie Culler Lambert in 1899. The farm passed down through the family to Melba Hutchens Wright, whose heirs sold it to Dennis and Cheryl Gettings in October 2018. From the 1850s to the 1970s, the property was used for semi-subsistence farming along with a small amount of acreage employed to cultivate tobacco.²⁵

The current exterior cladding of the house hides a more complex structural heritage, though earlier elements appear where the faux brick stucco veneer has deteriorated. Interior inspection and family tradition suggest that the house's earliest portion was originally a single-pen log structure, now comprising part of the eastern ell. The hewn log sills remain, as does the location of a corner enclosed stair, a typical feature in early Surry County log dwellings. The original stacked-stone chimney remains, as do remnants of the original stacked stone foundation. In the 1890s the log building was dismantled down to the foundation, and a new frame structure was built up from the original log sill, retaining the dimensions of the single-pen, the low height of the ceiling (about seven feet), and the location and footprint of both the corner staircase and original fireplace and hearth. The location of an exterior door on the southern elevation likely approximates the original opening, as do the window openings on the

²⁵ Author's Interview with Dennis Gettings, March 27, 2019; Email from Kenneth Badgett to author, March 30, 2019. North Carolina Death Certificates, 1909-1977, accessed via Ancestry.com.

southern and northern elevations. Except for the sills and location and footprint of the features mentioned, no elements of the original log structure remain. Interior single- and four-panel doors and base metal fittings date to the 1890 - 1920 period. 26

During this 1890s renovation a larger two-story, gable-end four-room I-plan addition was added to the original structure's western end, creating an overall L-plan. The ceilings of the rooms in this addition were built to a more standard eight feet. A central interior brick chimney-stack in the addition originally served fireplaces and heating stoves in the four rooms, and terminates above the ridge of the roofline in a simple decorative brick cap. About 1920 a small rear (northern) addition was added, possibly as a modern kitchen and bath. The Craftsman-style glazed wooden front door on the south façade's western end (under the front porch) and the three-over-one wooden sash windows of the same style appear to have replaced earlier fenestration at this time.

Another major renovation of the house occurred sometime in the early to mid-1960s. Most notably, the entire south (front), east, and west elevations – the wooden weatherboards, the stacked stone chimney, and the foundation – were encased in a veneer of white stucco, which was then smooth-troweled and painted brick red. As a finishing touch, grout lines to suggest common-bond brick were carefully and laboriously scribed into the red paint by hand, exposing the white stucco beneath. The job was expertly done, and not obvious except on close inspection and in the places where the veneer has peeled away. The kitchen and bath were gut-renovated at this time. The front (southern) wooden porch was removed and replaced with a concrete pad on which stand pre-fabricated wrought-iron decorative support posts, which hold up a flat pre-fabricated aluminum roof. On the northeastern end of the 1920s rear addition it also appears that another porch was enclosed at this time. Aluminum storm/screen window casings were installed on the exterior over the 1920 wooden windows and doors during the 1960s renovation.

In terms of architectural context, the evolution of this house from a log structure to its current state as described places it within the same regional category as the Draughn-Barnes House, Wood-Hardy House, and Snow House in this study. These early log buildings with later additions are standard farmhouse configurations in Surry County and much of western North Carolina, as discussed in some detail in *Small Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County* and *A Guide to Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina*.²⁷

Comparable Examples

In an historical sense, the other three farmhouses in this study which began in the nineteenth century as small log structures and were later enlarged during times of high tobacco profits (the Draughn-Barnes, Wood-Hardy, and Snow farmsteads), are comparable examples. However, the two-story frame addition of this house, creating the gable-front-and-wing form, is unique among that group.

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²⁶ Ibid. Phillips mentions several examples of interior corner stairs in log houses of the area, pp. 68-74.

²⁷ Phillips, p. 7-12 and passim; Bishir, Southern, and Martin, pp. 21-24 and passim.

Stylistically, a close comparable to the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House is the nearby Jesse Haymore House (SR0517, Figure 58) in Dobson. The original log structure, circa 1850, became the side ell to a two-story gable-end frame addition built around 1888. Often in these types of renovations the front entrance is moved to the center of the opposing façade of the new addition, and the log structure becomes the rear kitchen. In the case of the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House, the front entrance was maintained with adjacent doors into both the older and newer sections. In the Jesse Haymore House, entrances were placed in both the front and rear elevations of the new addition, and a wrap-around porch provided covered access to all three exterior doors.

Another interesting comparable is the circa 1890 Charles Wesley Ray House (SR0538, Figure 59) in Poplar Springs. In this instance the entire farmhouse was built new of frame construction, but curiously followed the pattern of earlier gable-front-and-wing structures, such as the Haymore House, which had evolved over time. The fact that the Ray House was built new in this configuration confirms the popularity of the form present in the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House in Surry County during the late Victorian era.



Figure 57: Snow House (SR0251), ca.1870 with later additions and asphalt siding, shown in 1981 before recent renovation (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 58: Jesse Haymore House (SR0517), ca. 1850 and 1888; Dobson (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 59: Charles Wesley Ray House (SR0538), ca. 1890; Poplar Springs (HPO Survey Files)

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House retains integrity of location. However, there is a loss of integrity of setting, feeling, and association, as the house is now unoccupied (though slated for renovation), and tobacco and all other forms of farming ceased some years ago. In addition, the land has been subdivided and the house now effectively sits behind a mid-twentieth century house built along Old Highway 601 and is only accessed via that property. All but one of the attendant outbuildings have been destroyed. There is a loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship of both the original nineteenth-century log structure and subsequent circa 1895 addition, resulting from the extensive 1960s renovation that included the faux brick stucco and replacement of the front porch.

Criteria Evaluations

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The property is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer at the center of a functioning tobacco farm typical of the area from the 1880s to the late twentieth century.

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the farm was a significant figure in history.

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. While elements of the three main periods of development remain, a number of architectural components have been lost or compromised, including the front porch and siding. Even if the house was intact, it is an undistinguished example of a common form in the area. There are many area examples with more architectural significance and better retain original design features and materials, including the Jesse Haywood House and Charles Wesley Ray House.

The Lambert-Wright-Gettings House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important to the history of design or building technology.

Evaluation: Lambert Farmstead

Resource Name	Lambert Farmstead
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1487
Street Address	152 Lambert Farm Trail
PIN	590701266694
Construction Dates	ca. 1910 and 1925
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

The Lambert Farmstead at 152 Lambert Farm Trail in Mt. Airy is accessed by a steep winding asphalt and gravel road off of US 601, leading to a flat promontory that offers extensive vistas for miles in all directions. It remains a 120-acre working farm, primarily with cattle and hay production.

The farmhouse was built in several stages. The earliest section is the central one-story, two-room hall-parlor plan with a central interior chimney stack and gable roof. A semi-engaged bungalow-style shed porch extends across the eastern and southern elevations, supported by nine decorative open-work wrought-iron posts which rest on a concrete slab foundation and floor. The roofs of the earliest section, a later western ell wing, and porch are shingled. The roofs of the smaller one-room additions are standing seam metal.

The southern and eastern elevations both feature a central single-leaf door and a set of double twoover-two, vertical pane, double-hung sash windows, creating in essence two façades. Additions and modifications have been made over the years expanding the house to six rooms, including a larger ell wing to the west, and two smaller one-room additions at the southern and western ends of the wrap around porch. The house was modified in the 1950s-1960s, including aluminum siding and storm doors, and pre-fabricated metal awnings and wrought iron porch posts. The interior of the house could not be accessed for evaluation.

The north and west elevations show the growth of the house over a period of years, with various small gable and shed room additions. The fenestration on these two elevations has been partially or entirely covered over by painted plywood and plastic sheeting.

Several sheds and outbuildings are extant. Originally there was a log smokehouse and pack house, now gone, and five tobacco barns. Two log tobacco barns dating from the nineteenth century remain on the property: one southeast of the house is two-story, end-gable, with a shed porch extension and later standing-seam metal roof (Figure 65); the other, due west of the house, is one-story with a gable-end

shingled roof (Figure 66). The remaining sheds and barns are twentieth century, and of frame or metal construction. Large pasture land stretches north and west of the house, and hayfields dot the landscape.²⁸



Figure 60: Site Map

²⁸ Author's interview with Tommy Lambert, March 28, 2019.



Figure 61: South elevation



Figure 62: East elevation



Figure 63: North elevation



Figure 64: West elevation

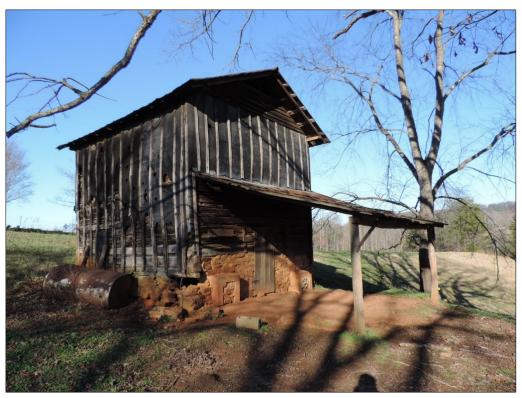


Figure 65: Log tobacco barn, nineteenth century



Figure 66: Looking northwest behind house; collection of twentieth century sheds and outbuildings



Figure 67: Shed southwest of house



Figure 68: Looking west up Lambert Farm Trail from US 601

History and Architectural Context

The Lambert family has farmed land in this area of Surry County since the mid-eighteenth century. This farmstead was established about 1910 by Solomon Seaton Lambert (1883-1965), son of David F. and Chanie Culler Lambert, who owned the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House in this study, and grandfather of the current owner, Tommy Lambert. Originally 60 acres, the family raised corn, wheat, hay, and cattle. Additional land was acquired before 1920, roughly doubling the size of the farmstead. Like the other families in this study, the Lamberts also grew and flue-cured tobacco for sale as a cash crop. Because the farmstead was larger than others in this study, the tobacco allotment was twelve acres and at one time five tobacco barns stood on the property. Tommy Lambert recalled that the cured tobacco was taken to Winston-Salem for market, as it brought a higher price than Mt. Airy. A photograph exists from around 1915 showing members of the Lambert family taking their cured tobacco to market (Figure 4). 29

The farmhouse is currently unoccupied, and the interior could not be inspected. The architectural development of the house is uncertain. Most likely a small nineteenth century log building similar to the Draughn-Barnes, Lambert-Wright-Gettings, Wood-Hardy, and Snow houses in this study first stood on the site, which was then dismantled by Solomon Lambert and replaced with a one-story, wood frame hall-parlor plan house with a central chimney stack. That circa 1910 structure forms the core of the current house. This conjectural evolution is supported by the fact that Lambert's parents also dismantled an earlier log structure in the late 1890s and built an ell of a new house on the original foundation and sill plates, retaining the overall footprint (the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House).

About 1925 the house was substantially remodeled, likely with a modern kitchen in the new western ell addition, and a modern bath on the end of the southern elevation. At that time a semi-engaged shed porch was added across the eastern and southern elevations, and it appears another door was added to the southern elevation to move the front orientation from the eastern elevation. To unify the structure stylistically, a stepped-back gable following the lines of the main roof gable was added to the porch roof's southern end, and plain wooden bargeboards were added to the eaves of the original roof, to match the new ell and porch. At a later date, small additions were added to the main mass's northern and eastern ends, bringing the total number of rooms to six. In the 1960s sections of the exterior were clad in aluminum siding, the wooden porch floor replaced with poured concrete, and open-work wrought iron porch posts, metal awnings, and aluminum storm doors and windows added.³⁰

The evolution of this house and farmstead places it within the same regional category as the familial-related Lambert-Wright-Gettings House in this study, as well as the Draughn-Barnes, Wood-Hardy, and Snow houses. These early log buildings with later additions are standard farmhouse configurations in Surry County and much of western North Carolina, as discussed in some detail in *Small Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County* and *A Guide to Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina*.³¹

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²⁹ Lambert interview. 1910 United States Census for Surry County accessed via Ancestry.com; North Carolina Death Certificates, 1909- 1977, accessed via Ancestry.com.

³⁰ Lambert interview.

³¹ Phillips, p. 7-12 and passim; Bishir, Southern, and Martin, pp. 21-24 and passim.

The two extant log tobacco barns are contemporary with the original farm on the property, and other current outbuildings date to the twentieth century. Tommy Lambert noted that the log tobacco barns, in particular, were moved around and re-purposed as needed.³²

Comparable Examples

The Lambert Farmstead is comparable to the other farmsteads in this study because it operated as a semi-subsistence family farm growing tobacco as a cash crop likely beginning in the late nineteenth century, and as 10 percent of its acreage was cultivated for tobacco from the 1930s to the 1980s during the era of government allotments.

In terms of the structure itself, the Lambert farmhouse is most closely comparable to the Draughn-Barnes (SR1485, Figure 70) and Wood-Hardy (SR1486, Figure 71) properties in that they are all modest one-story buildings with four to six rooms and porches that extend along two elevations, anchoring farmsteads with multiple extant outbuildings. Despite exterior appearance, its architectural heritage is likely more similar to that of the Lambert-Wright-Gettings House, owned by Solomon Lambert's parents.

Stylistically a relatively nearby comparable property is shown in Figure 72 (101 Bray Ford Road, Dobson), a massed-plan side-gable frame farmhouse-built around 1910. Interestingly, in this case the earlier log structure was left intact just a few yards away, and an entirely new house was constructed.



Figure 69: Draughn-Barnes Farmstead (SR1485)

³² Lambert interview.



Figure 70: Wood-Hardy Farmstead (SR1490)



Figure 71: Farmhouse, ca. 1910, 101 Bray Ford Road, Dobson. Original log house out of frame to the left.

Integrity

The Lambert Farmstead retains integrity of location, setting and feeling. Of all the farmsteads in this study, it retains the highest level of integrity of association as a working farm, and it remains in the Lambert family, the historical owners. However, tobacco farming ceased several decades ago. To some extent integrity of design, workmanship, and materials remain; however, none of these are distinguished in any way, and architectural elements have been compromised over the years.

Criteria Evaluations

The Lambert Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The farm is not known to be associated with any specific significant historical event or the development of Surry County agriculture.

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

The Lambert Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. While the main form of the house is intact, many architectural components have been lost or compromised, including the replaced siding, porch foundation/flooring and posts, and some windows. Multiple additions also obscure the house's original form. Therefore, the house is not a good or intact example of a farmhouse type. The larger agricultural complex does include two nineteenth-century log tobacco barns, but those are undistinguished. While this property remains a working farm, none of the other outbuildings or agricultural features are remarkable.

The Lambert Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important to the history of building design or technology.

Evaluation: Hughes Burial Ground

Resource Name	Hughes Burial Ground
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1488
Street Address	East side of US Hwy 601
PIN	N/A (State owned)
Construction Dates	Late 19 th or early 20 th century
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description and Historical Context

Located on a wooded knoll at the summit of a steep drive east of US 601, and across from Lambert Farm Trail, is an area with several irregularly spaced depressions in the ground, at least one of which appears to be marked with two or three plain, flat stones. The site is located just south of an old asphalt parking area, which once served a now-demolished small house used for some years as a local NCDOT office, and the parcel remains owned by the State.

Though it is difficult to discern anything from the current state of the site, local historian Kenneth Badgett brought the area to the attention of NCDOT in the fall of 2018. CALYX architectural historian Kenneth Zogry conducted email and telephone correspondence with Badgett about this property, and on March 27, 2019, travelled to Surry County, met with Badgett at the site, and marked the area using a global positioning iPad system (see Figure 72).

According to Badgett, his grandfather took him to the site in the early 1980s and told him that it was a nineteenth century burial ground for approximately six African Americans who lived in the area. Badgett provided a copy of a typed diagram and brief description of the area created by his grandfather in 1978, included in this report (Figure 73). In addition, Badgett's aunt, Susan Johnson, recently relayed a story to him passed down by her mother. This oral history suggests an African American man visited the area in the 1940s and wanted to see this burial ground, which he said was the final resting place of members of his family (surname Hughes).³³

³³ Email from Kenneth Badgett to Author, March 30, 2019.



Figure 72: Site Map

Though African American families have lived in the area, research in the Mt. Airy Regional Museum Archives and other sources failed to identify any local African American family with the surname "Hughes." ³⁴

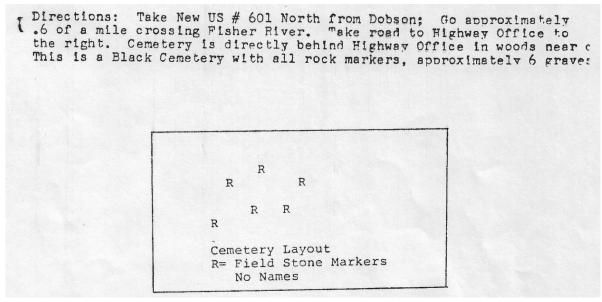


Figure 73: Directions to and diagram of the Hughes Burial Ground, 1978 (Courtesy of Kenneth Badgett)

R-5836 Widen US 601 - Surry County

³⁴ Notably, the family name Hughes does not appear in Evelyn Scales Thompson's book, *Around Surry County*, part of the "Black America Series" (Arcadia Publishing: 2005), the only published work about African American history in the region.



Figure 74: Looking south toward site. Road to remains of NCDOT office asphalt parking area in foreground



Figure 75: Depression in ground and several flat stones partly covered by brush, at site as marked on upper right-hand side of Figure 73 diagram.



Figure 76: Looking south from remains of asphalt parking area behind now-demolished former NCDOT office

Comparable Examples

Nineteenth and early twentieth-century small family burial grounds on private property are fairly common in Surry County, though only a few are associated with African American familes. In addition, those without extant stone markers are difficult to identify.

The Hull Family Burial Ground, located south of Watson Road in Mt. Airy (Fig. 78), does not have stone markers and by tradition contains three graves.

Ararat Cemetery on Mt. View Drive in Mt. Airy (Fig. 79) is an example of an African American burial ground. It is unlike the Hughes Burial Ground, however, in that there are 131 graves, most with stone markers, and as the cemetery is associated with a church congregation.



Figure 77: Location of Hull Family Burial Grounds, Mt. Airy



Figure 78: Ararat Cemetery, Mt. Airy

Integrity

The Hughes Burial Ground retains integrity of location, based on oral tradition. However, there is a loss of integrity of setting, feeling, and association, as the site is minimally documented and has for many decades been abandoned behind a more modern house, itself now destroyed. There are no readily identifiable gravestones, markers, or funerary structures present on which to evaluate integrity of design, materials, or workmanship.

Criteria Evaluations

The Hughes Burial Ground is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion D for an association with an event or broad pattern of history.

The Hughes Burial Ground is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B and Criterion D. No one associated with the site could be identified, and thus there are no significant historical figures.

The Hughes Burial Ground is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C and Criterion D. There are no identifiable gravestones, markers, or funerary structures present.

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

Evaluation: Bingman Cemetery, ca. 1850-1920

Resource Name	Bingman Cemetery
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1489
Street Address	W. side of US 601
PIN	590700351206
Construction Dates	ca. 1850-1920
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

The Bingman Cemetery is a private burial ground of approximately two-dozen marked gravesites, located atop a small promontory accessible only by climbing a steep hill by foot. No longer owned by the family, the cemetery and markers are heavily overgrown and neglected. It is bounded to the west by cleared fields, to the north by the Lambert Farmstead (SR1487, also in this study), to the south beyond more fields to the Fisher River, and a few yards to the east by US 601 (at the bottom of the hill).

Several of the markers are professionally carved, and a few retain readable inscriptions. Other markers consist of flat, irregularly shaped stones without inscriptions simply stuck into the ground. All of the professionally carved stones appear to be of marble. Not all of the markers could be located in the approximately 15 or 20 square yard area, because of the growth of small trees and thick brush.



Figure 79: Site Map



Figure 80: Looking north up to the Bingman Cemetery from a short unpaved access road off US 601.



Figure 81: Marker of America Bingman Hickman (1845-1921)



Figure 82: Marker of Benjamin Wood



Figure 83: Typical uninscribed stone marker

History and Architectural Context

According to descendant and local historian Kenneth Badgett, the larger parcel of land on which the cemetery is located was originally settled by Eli Bingman about 1850. He constructed a log house for his family at a point about one-quarter mile due west of the existing cemetery, around which were outbuildings, a stone well, and two other small burial grounds. The log house, outbuildings, and well are destroyed, as the land is now totally cleared for fields. According to family history, the other small burial grounds were located near the original Dobson-Mt. Airy Road (superseded by US 601 in the 1960s) and consisted of a few graves of children who died along the wagon road in the mid-1800s as families moved west to settle. Those graves were marked simply with stones and were plowed under by the current owner.35

In 1978, Glen Badgett, descendant of Eli Bingman and grandfather of Kenneth Badgett, gave an oral history of the family cemetery in which he identified fourteen people buried in the plot. His descriptions and locations of the graves were transcribed into the document shown in Figure 84. This cemetery demonstrates the familial ties between most of the historical owners of the farmsteads in this study: Bingman and Wood; and then by extension, Lambert, Wright, Hardy, Nichols and Brintle. A branch of the Snow family (SR0251 in this study), also related by marriage, now owns the property.³⁶

The oldest of the readable inscribed stones marks the grave of Benjamin Frank Wood (1840-1908) and notes his service as colonel in the 2nd Regiment North Carolina Infantry of the Confederate army during the Civil War. Formed in May of 1861, the 2nd North Carolina was one of the first regiments formed in the state after secession and consisted of just over 1,300 men from ten counties, including Surry. The regiment saw action at some of the notable engagements in the war, including Cold Harbor, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg and Chancellorsville. Down to 243 men by the battle of Gettysburg, the regiment suffered 25 percent casualties in that seminal conflict. No specific information was located regarding Benjamin Frank Wood's service, though the death date on the marker indicates that he did survive the war.³⁷

³⁵ Author's interview Kenneth Badgett, February 27, 2019; Lambert interview.

³⁶ Badgett interview.

Directions: Take Old US # 601 North from Dobson to New US # 601 turn left go approximately .4 of a mile crossing Pisher River. The cemetery is on the hill on the left just beyond picnic area.

- 1861 B. D. Aug. Mary Jane Bingman 12, 1924 wife of Darius Bingman 18, 1850 B. March Darius Raleigh Bingman 9, 1918 D. Nov. 27, 1840 9, 1908 B. Mav 3. Benjamin Frank Wood D. April Co. B 2 N. C. Infantry CSA 31, 1921 D. Jan. 4. America F. Bingman Hickman 76 years wife of Louis Hickman
- * 5. Emmett Wood
- * 6. Jean Wood
- * 7. Siney Wood
- * 8. John Bingman's child
 - *Mary Bingman
 - *Eli Bingman
 - *Shetton Bingman
 - * Bingman
 daughter of Darius Bingman
 - * Frank Wood's daughter is buried in the pines above this cemetery, no marker at her grave.

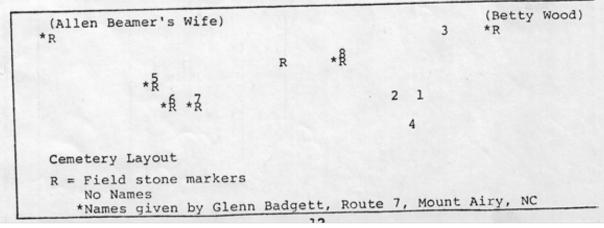


Figure 84: 1978 identification of Bingman Cemetery gravesites by Glenn Badgett (Courtesy of Kenneth Badgett)

Comparable Examples

Nineteenth and early twentieth-century small family burial grounds on private property are fairly common in Surry County, though in various states of preservation.

The Davis-Snow Cemetery on New Life Church Road in Mt. Airy (Fig. 85) is also comparable to the Bingman Cemtery. There are 23 identified graves, and the size and types of markers, as well as overall overgrown setting, is very similar to the Bingman Cemtery.

The Boles Family Cemetery on Hamlin Road in Mt. Airy (Fig. 86) contains 20 graves and is similar in size and setting to the Bingman Cemetery, though better maintained. The stone grave markers are also of the same era, and generally of similar type and design.



Figure 85: Davis-Snow-Cemetery, Mt. Airy



Figure 86: Boles Family Cemetery, Mt. Airy

Integrity

The Bingman Cemetery retains some degree of integrity of location and association as a burial ground; however, the setting and feeling has been mostly lost due to the previous construction of US 601 to the east in the mid-1960s, and the more recent reconfiguration of the land to the west as newly plowed fields by the current owner. A few of the professionally carved stone markers, in various states of decay, do retain integrity of design, workmanship, and materials, as they have not been altered.

Criteria Evaluations

The Bingman Cemetery is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion D for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The cemetery is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer in use.

The Bingman Cemetery is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B and Criterion D. No one associated with the cemetery is known to have been a significant figure in history.

The Bingman Cemetery is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C and Criterion D. None of the extant markers have any distinct architectural or artistic merit as funereal art. The cemetery as a whole exhibits no distinctive or unusual design features.

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

Evaluation: Wood-Hardy Farmstead

Resource Name	Wood-Hardy Farmstead
HPO Survey Site Number	SR1490
Street Address	336 Dobson Church of Christ Road
PIN	499600833350
Construction Dates	ca. 1870, 1920, 1960
NRHP Recommendation	Not Eligible



Description

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead is located on a flat, 45-acre parcel oriented parallel to US 601, accessible only from a driveway off the rear asphalt parking lot of the Dobson Church of Christ. The property consists of fields, a farmhouse at the end of the long drive, and a number of outbuildings of various ages and in various states of repair, connected by patches of lawn and occasional small beds of flowers.

Architecturally the farmhouse appears deceptively simple upon approach to the current south façade. The one-story ranch appearance masks an evolution of elements dating from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, creating an overall squared-off "S" configuration in plan consisting of three intersecting principal ells or wings. The façade is the main side-gable wing, with a single-leaf central door and a pair of six-over-six, double-hung wooden sash windows, one on each side, framed by inoperable shutters. The front porch roof is fully engaged with the main roof and is supported by six plain square wooden posts resting on a brick foundation with a concrete floor. On the western end a newer side-gable carport has been added, with wooden posts that match those on the porch. Both wooden weatherboard and German siding are present on different section of the exterior.

The eastern elevation provides evidence of a more complex structure. A hipped porch roof is created at the eastern end of the main shed porch roof, where it turns the corner. The southern gable end of another wing is truncated and incorporated into the rear eastern end of the front wing; the junction of the two sections indicated by a vertical bargeboard across the horizontal German siding. At the rear of the second wing, a third wing, parallel to the front wing, extends east. It also features an engaged shed roof, seamlessly integrated into the second wing at a perpendicular angle.

Two one-over-one double-hung sash windows and a door are present on the east elevation. One window is centered on the gable end of the front wing; the other is located beyond the vertical bargeboard that indicates the terminus of that wing, roughly centered in its respective section. A door is

located where the second wing meets the third. Another door and window, facing south, are present on the third wing.

The northern or rear elevation also reveals the complex massing of the three wings. A single six-over-six double hung sash window is present on the eastern wing, and a pair of similar but smaller windows flank a small gable-end structure (which may be the entrance to the cellar). Apparently, enclosure of a western facing porch left a single, turned wood Victorian porch post at the elevation's western rear corner.

The western elevation again shows the massing of the three wings and carport, and fenestration is limited to single pane double-hung sash window on the end of the front wing, framed by inoperable shutters.

The roofs on all parts of the structure are shingled, and exposed rafter tails can be seen on the gable ends of the three main wings. A brick chimneystack rises through the ridgeline of the roof between the two rear wings of the house, and a cinder block stacked flue is present at the end of the northern side of the eastern wing.

This property is the most intact in this study in terms of extant farmstead structures. More than a dozen remain, ranging from a nineteenth century log feed barn and two log tobacco barns (Figures 94 and 95) to more mid-twentieth century sheds and buildings serving various functions. Most notable, aside from the early log barns, are two very large early twentieth century wood frame chicken coops on the northwestern end of the property (Figures 98 and 99). The outbuildings are clustered to the east and west of the farmhouse, and crop fields extent to the north and south.



Figure 87: Site Map



Figure 88: Looking northeast



Figure 89: South (front) elevation



Figure 90: East elevation



Figure 91: North elevation



Figure 92: West elevation



Figure 93: Looking north off access road, showing relationship to outbuildings



Figure 94: Log feed barn, nineteenth century



Figure 95: Log tobacco barn, nineteenth century



Figure 96: Looking west toward house in distance, row of outbuildings



Figure 97: Corncrib



Figure 98: One of two large chicken coops



Figure 99: Second large chicken coup

History and Architectural Context

According to current owner Linda Hardy, the farmstead dates back at least to the 1870s, to the time of her husband's grandfather, William Riley Wood. The farm has always been approximately 45 acres in size, and from the 1930s to the 1980s, 10 percent of the land was used for tobacco production. The farm also had a small number of cattle and pigs, a kitchen garden and hay fields, and, in a slight variation from the other farms in this study, chickens were raised here in significant numbers for sale (eggs and poultry). Though the property is the smallest in this study in terms of acreage, it retains the largest number of associated outbuildings.³⁸

Family history reveals that the house began as a simple two-room, one-story-and-loft log structure in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Apparently, the eastern wing, facing south, was the original structure. Sometime between 1890 and about 1905 a perpendicular wing was added to the western end, with a porch facing west supported by several Victorian style turned wood posts. Probably in the 1920s, the front facing wing was constructed, bringing the house to its present form. Most likely the Victorian porch was enclosed at the time, leaving the single corner post. Indications are that to unify the three structures, the building was also sheathed in German siding and an entire new roof added with the Craftsman style exposed rafter tails. In the 1960s and later the carport was added and some doors and windows replaced, along with porch elements and portions of the siding.³⁹

³⁸ Author's interview with Linda Hardy, March 12, 2019.

³⁹ Ibid.

In terms of architectural context, the evolution of this house from a log structure to its current state places it within the same regional category as the Draughn-Barnes House, Lambert-Wright-Gettings House, and Snow House in this study. These early log buildings with later additions are standard farmhouse configurations in Surry County and much of western North Carolina, as discussed in some detail in *Small Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County* and *A Guide to Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina*.⁴⁰

Comparable Examples

The Draughn-Barnes House (SR1485, Figure 100) in this study is a close comparable to the Wood-Hardy House. The front section presents a simple façade with shed porch, but the rear façade shows the structure's evolution over time and its overall massing and intersection of side-gable ells bears a strong resemblance to the east and north elevations of the Wood-Hardy House. The two farmsteads, with multiple surviving outbuildings including several of log construction, are also comparable.

The Lambert House (SR1487, Figure 101) in this study is another comparable property. It also is a one-story massed-plan side gable house which evolved over a period of years, though likely the original log structure was dismantled and the first portion of the house built on its foundation, circa 1910. It too has a comparable farmstead of multiple extant outbuildings, including two log tobacco barns.

A third comparable resource is located at 435 Highway 268 near Pilot Mountain (Figure 102). The exterior appearance, when compared to others in this study and the region, strongly suggests this one-story massed-plan side gable farmhouse with engaged front shed porch roof originated as a small nineteenth-century log structure. Like other similar properties in this study, it was likely expanded over the years and eventually the entire exterior was sheathed in asphalt shingles. Two nineteenth-century log tobacco barns are also associated with this property.

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⁴⁰ Phillips, p. 7-12 and passim; Bishir, Southern, and Martin, pp. 21-24 and passim.



Figure 100: Draugn-Barnes House (SR1485), north (rear) elevation



Figure 101: Lambert House (SR1487), south elevation



Figure 102: Farmhouse, likely expanded from nineteenth century log structure, 435 Highway 268, Pilot Mountain

Integrity

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead retains integrity of location, setting, and association as a rural farmstead with its many extant outbuildings. However, there is a loss of integrity of feeling, as the house is now rented to a non-farming family and the Hardy family only maintains limited farming operations. Tobacco farming ceased some years ago. There is a loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, as the house has been altered and expanded several times in the twentieth century, and siding and windows have been replaced.

Criteria Evaluations

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The farm is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer a functioning tobacco farm typical of the area from the 1870s to the late twentieth century. The property is not known to have played a historically significant role in the development of Surry County agriculture.

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B. No one associated with the farm was a significant figure in history.

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. While the main form of the house is intact, many architectural components have been lost or compromised, including the front porch and siding. Much of the siding and many of the windows have been replaced since 1980. The larger farm complex is relatively intact, but only two log barns and a pack house predate 1900, and these are unremarkable in form or condition. A number of other similar outbuildings exist in the area.

The Wood-Hardy Farmstead is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D because it has not yet yielded nor is likely to yield information important to the history of building design or technology.

Evaluation: Snow House

Resource Name	Snow House
HPO Survey Site Number	SR0251
Street Address	6839 US Hwy 601
PIN	499500677170
Construction Dates	ca. 1865-1875, restored 2012-2015
NRHP Recommendation	Eligible





Figure 103: Snow House before renovation, 1981 (HPO Survey Files)

Description

Located a few yards off US 601 just south of the exit to downtown Dobson, this recently restored structure sits on a level piece of property 14.45 acres in size, surrounded by a well-maintained grass lawn. There is also a 1940s two-story weathered wooden tobacco pack house on the northern end of the property.

The house is a single-pen one-story with loft log structure, constructed using half-dovetail joinery. Logs and joints show evidence of being cut with a handsaw and possibly an adz. Several logs have been patched with newer wooden sections. Synthetic chinking is present between the logs. The gabled ends are sheathed in horizontal wood planking. Full-length shed porches run across both the southwestern facade and northeastern (rear) elevations, with plank wood floors, rough-hewn wooden posts (four per porch), horizontal wooden planking on the ends under the eaves, and standing seam metal roofs. The wooden components of the porches, except the posts, are all modern machine-milled stock, and the corrugated metal roofs are new. The main structure also features a new corrugated metal roof. A single stacked-stone chimney rises along the southeastern elevation. The visible foundation for the structure consists of low stacked-stone piers.

The southwestern and northeastern elevations are each entered via a central single-leaf solid, wooden, board-and-batten door, with the boards assembled in a vertical pattern. The southwestern or front façade also features a single six-over-six double-hung window with thin wooden mullions and "wavy" hand-blown glass. The doors and windows are finished with a wide wooden flat trim. A single six-over-six, double-hung sash window with wooden mullions is present on the northwestern wall, and a one-over-one double-hung sash window is present in the gable above, lighting the loft. On both the front and rear elevations, under the porch roofs, a row of through-tenons is visible just above the door casings, indicating the location of joists which support the loft floor above.

The interior, which could only be viewed through the windows, consists of a hall-parlor plan. All visible surfaces are faced in unfinished yellow pine planking. The larger room (the "hall" in medieval parlance) features a fireplace surround of simple design of matching planking, and the exterior of an enclosed interior corner stair is also present.

The only extant outbuilding on the property is a ca. 1940 wood-frame tobacco pack house, two stories in height, with a front-facing gable end featuring vertical board-and batten wooden doors centered on each level.

A carved and painted wooden sign, hung on a wooden post, is stationed a few feet off US 601 and identifies the property's designation as a "Century Farm" by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. The Century Farm program, established in 1970, is an honorary program with no regulatory function, which honors North Carolina farms that have remained in the same family for more than 100 years. 41

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⁴¹ "2016 Century Farms Directory," pamphlet, North Carolina Department of Agriculture.



Figure 104: Site Map



Figure 105: Southwestern (front) elevation



Figure 106: Southeastern elevation



Figure 107: Northwestern elevation



Figure 108: Detail of southwestern elevation wall and porch



Figure 109: Detail of repaired original logs and new chinking on northwestern elevation



Figure 110: Interior view of the "hall," showing original plank walls, fireplace surround, and enclosed stairs to loft



Figure 111: 1940s tobacco barn



Figure 112: Looking south, US 601 to left; wooden "Century Farm" plaque and post visible near road



Figure 113: Looking west across US 601 to ca. 1955 ranch house owned by the Snow family

History and Architectural Context

The Snow family has been in Surry County for over two centuries, and are connected by marriage to many other local families, creating a number of genealogical branches. The Snows have primarily been farmers, cultivating subsistence crops and tobacco for sale to the large American cigarette manufacturers via the Winston-Salem and Mt. Airy tobacco markets. From the 1980s until 2017, this branch of the family operated a large and well-known "pick-your-own" strawberry farm on adjacent property.42

The HPO survey of Surry County identified several extant nineteenth-century log houses built and owned by the Snow family, including two earlier, larger log structures owned by the Snow family (SR0246) and SR0256). According to the current owner of the property, Terry Snow, this farmstead was established about 1870 by John Byrd Snow (1850-1921). The original house was likely constructed at that time and was the center of a 120-acre farm that once included a number of log outbuildings including a smokehouse, corncrib, feed barn, and tobacco barns. All three nineteenth-century log outbuildings recorded in the 1981 HPO Surry County Survey adjacent to the house have been subsequently razed, although one early tobacco barn remains on the western side of US 601 behind a 1950s brick ranch house owned by Terry Snow's father, James Trenton Snow. 43

Architectural historian Laura Phillips states in her book, Simple Treasures: The Architecture of Surry County, that log construction was common in the area from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth, and that building technology changed little over the period. Close examination of the Snow House's structure, especially the shaping and joining of the log frame with half-dovetail joints, suggests techniques consistent with the third quarter of the nineteenth century. 44

In terms of the recent extensive renovations, Terry Snow stated in an interview that the house had been encased in some type of asphalt siding earlier in the early twentieth century, the porches had been removed, and there were a couple of room additions. He researched log cabin restoration and removed the later siding, additions, and roof. What remained was the log frame and a number of interior elements. Snow stated that all of the early chinking had been removed prior to the house being sided in asphalt, and he decided to use a weather-resistant synthetic product to approximate the look of the original chinking, while providing lower long-term maintenance. Although the porches and roof are completely new, they closely follow original local period examples. Apparent care was taken with extant original fabric; damaged logs were carefully spliced with new material by an expert craftsperson; the windows were repaired by a restorer in Winston-Salem who has done work for Historic Old Salem; and all original/early interior elements were retained.⁴⁵

⁴² Snow interview.

⁴³ Ibid; Phillips, pp. 68, 74, and 259-260; HPO Survey Files for Surry County, SR0251. In variance with the family history, the Surry County tax records note the date of construction as 1899, and the Century Farms designation states 1891. However, documentary evidence suggests these sources are in error. In 2007, the tax records give the structure itself a value of \$0, and in 2012 note that the building was being renovated.

⁴⁴ Phillips, pp. 7-12.

⁴⁵ Snow interview.

Mr. Snow stated that all of the interior elements are original. The author was unable to access the interior to substantiate this information. The yellow pine planking covering all surfaces – floors, walls, ceilings, interior doors and the hall mantel – gives the strong appearance of being mill-sawn, and possibly attached with hand-wrought nails. Architectural historian Laura A.W. Phillips does establish both that log structures were being constructed in Surry County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and that mill-sawn lumber was available locally soon after the Civil War. Whether the house was purposefully constructed of hand-hewn logs, but the entire interior finished in mill-sawn lumber (available ca. 1870), or the interior was fitted at a later date, is impossible to determine without closer inspection. 46



Figure 114: Northwestern elevation, 1981, showing later additions and siding (HPO Survey Files)

⁴⁶ Phillips, pp. 9-12.



Figure 115: Nineteenth century log corncrib and barn, now destroyed (HPO Survey Files)

Comparable Examples

Log architecture was ubiquitous in Surry County from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth, and the area has one of the highest concentrations of extant examples in the state. Dating these structures can be difficult, as styles and construction techniques remained largely consistent over decades. The Snow House bears a strong resemblance to the nearby ca. 1805 Bartholomew-Hodges House (SR0505, Figure 116), though that may be due in part to recently reconstructed elements based on the Bartholomew-Hodges House as a model (particularly the porches and fenestration on the northwestern façade). With this exception, it is best to compare the Snow House to others of the same period, the third quarter of the nineteenth century.

The ca. 1850 Jonathan Preston Burlington House (SR0084, Figure 117) in nearby Pilot Mountain is an excellent comparable, as all major elements of the Snow House are present. Looking past later additions and renovations, the original log structure is a one-story and loft, hall-parlor design, with half-dovetail joinery. There is a stacked stone foundation, stacked stone chimney on one gable end, and a single centered window on the first floor and loft of the opposite gable end. The gable loft ends are sheathed in horizontal weatherboard, as are the gable ends of the shed porch. The interior features an enclosed corner stair leading to the loft, a typical Surry County feature.⁴⁷

⁴⁷ Phillips, p. 190, and HPO Survey Files, State of North Carolina Archives and History Building, Raleigh.

Another excellent comparable is an unrecorded ca. 1875 log house on Siloam Road (Figure 118) only a few miles from the study property. It too is a one-story and loft log structure with a stacked stone foundation and chimney at one gable end. There is a shed front porch with standing seam metal roof, a standing seam metal roof on the house itself, and horizontal weatherboarding is present in the gable ends of both the porch and main house roofs. Exposed through-tenons of the loft floor joists are present on the front façade, and the wooden door and window frames have plain casings similar to the Snow House.



Figure 116: Bartholomew-Hodges House (SR0505), ca. 1805, Dobson



Figure 117: John Preston Burlington House (SR0084), ca. 1850, Pilot Mountain (HPO Survey Files)



Figure 118: Nineteenth century log house, 1828 Siloam Road, Mt. Airy

National Register Evaluation

Integrity

The Snow House retains integrity of location, association as a farmstead, and to some extent setting, as it sits on its original foundation in what remains a rural environment. However, there is a loss of integrity of feeling as tobacco and other farming operations have ceased, original outbuildings have been razed since 1981, and as the house now sits close to US 601 built in the 1960s. The Snow House retains significant integrity of design, workmanship, and materials, both in the extant original elements and in the sympathetic recent renovation. As a result, the appearance of the house is now close to how it looked when first constructed ca. 1870.

Criteria Evaluations

The Snow House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for an association with an event or broad pattern of history. The farm is not associated with any specific significant historical event and is no longer at the center of a functioning tobacco farm typical of the area from the 1870s to the 1920s.

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

The Snow House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The Snow House is a good regional example of third-quarter of the nineteenth-century log farmhouse construction in Surry County, and remains in the family that built it. The Snow House sits on its original site and foundation, and retains much of its original building fabric, including most of the log exterior, windows and doors, stacked stone exterior chimney, and interior corner stair and fireplace surround. The exposed through-tenons on the exterior marking the loft floor, the interior corner stair, and the stacked stone gable-end chimney in particular are all elements identified with regional log house design. Experts were consulted in the recent renovation and specialized craftspeople employed to repair existing elements and replace missing ones. Overall, the restoration is highly sympathetic to the original design, workmanship, and materials. Thus, in terms of both design elements and existing condition, the Snow House is a good extant example of a log farmhouse type once ubiquitous in the area.

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

Boundary Description and Justification

The Snow House boundary follows the parcel lot line of the associated piece of land (Surry County PIN 499500677170) bounded to the west by the right-of-way for US Highway 601, and to the east by the edge-of-pavement along Snowberry Lane; see Figure 119. This encompasses the house and one extant outbuilding, and some of the original intact farmland to the east and south.



Figure 119: Snow House (SR0251) Boundary

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