



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

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

August 21, 2020

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Kate Husband, Architectural Historian [klhusband@ncdot.gov](mailto:klhusband@ncdot.gov)  
NCDOT/EAU/Historic Architecture Group

From: Renee Gledhill-Earley *RGE*  
Environmental Review Coordinator

Re: Historic Structure Survey Report for U-5969 Madison Boulevard (US 158/501) from  
South of US 158 to SR1601 (North Main Street) Roxboro, PA 18-03-0018, Person County,  
ER 20-1631

Thank you for your May 8, 2020, memorandum transmitting the above report. We apologize for our delay in offering the following comments.

We concur with the report's findings that the Roxboro Commercial Historic District, (PR0194), which is listed in the National Register, retains its eligibility for listing in the National Register. We also concur with the report's proposed boundary changes to the existing National Register Historic District.

We concur that the following resources are eligible for the National Register for the reasons cited in the report:

- North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)
- South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0328)
- Central Carolina Farmers Exchange (PR0301)
- Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310)
- Home Savings and Loan (PR0312)

We concur that the following resources are not eligible for the National Register for the reasons cited in the report, but do contribute to the proposed historic districts as noted in the report:

- Newell House (PR0303)
- Master House (PR0304)
- Merritt House (PR0299)
- Clayton House (PR0306)
- Stryhorn-Peters House (PR0313)
- The Bungalow (PR0314)
- James Sidney Bradsher House (PR0278)
- Dallas William Long House (PR0317)

- Hester House (PR0318)
- Rock Inn (PR0319)
- M.W. and Preston Satterfield House (PR0320)

We also concur that the following resources are not individually eligible for the National Register for the reasons cited in the report:

- Flav-O-Rich Building (PR0302)
- Roxboro Presbyterian Church (PR0305)
- Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307)
- Former Esso Service Station (PR0308)
- T.T. Hester and Co. Cotton Gin (PR03090)
- Former New Zion Baptist Church (PR0311)
- Former Person County Health Center (PR0315)
- McGee's Mill (PR0243)
- Quinn's Chapel AME Church ((PR0322)
- Norfolk and Western Railway Underpass (PR0323)
- Roxboro Broom Works (PR0114)

Finally, we do not concur with the following findings:

The report states that the Former First Baptist Church (PR 321) is not individually eligible, but that it would be contributing to the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327). The church has lost too much architectural integrity to contribute to the district's architectural or historical character.

The report also states that the Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324) and the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery (PR0325) are eligible for the National Register. We do not concur with this finding. The cemeteries may be the best examples of their type in Roxboro, but neither are exceptional and neither cemetery achieves the requirements of Criteria Considerations C or D.

Overall, the report was very good, and we appreciate the investigator's work. The investigator is to be commended for gaining interior access at many locations. Additionally, the historic images were extremely helpful and we appreciate the effort to find them. The mapping for the historic districts was very well done, and the investigator produced complete and thorough contexts and histories throughout the document.

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 919-807-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

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cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

[mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)



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**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT  
MADISON BOULEVARD (US 158/501) FROM SOUTH  
OF US 158 TO SR 1601 (NORTH MAIN STREET),  
PERSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP Number: U-5969  
WBS#: 45957.1.1  
PA#: 18-03-0018**

Received 08/05/2020  
State Historic Preservation Office  
**ER 20-1631**

*by*

**Caitlin Sylvester, Adriana T. Moss, Danae Peckler, Heather Dollins Staton,  
Katherine McCarthy Watts, Mical Tawney, and Melissa Butler**

*Prepared for*

**NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit**

*Prepared by*

**DOVETAIL**  
CULTURAL RESOURCE GROUP

**April 2020**

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# Historic Structures Survey Report

**Madison Boulevard (US 158/501) from South of US 158 to SR 1601 (North Main Street), Person County, North Carolina**

**TIP Number: U-5969**

**WBS#: 45957.1.1**

**PA#: 18-03-0018**

*Prepared for*

**North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Environmental Analysis Unit**

1598 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1598

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Dovetail Job #19-044

April 2020

Principal Investigator  
Dovetail Cultural Resource Group

April 24, 2020

Date

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Supervisor, Historic Architecture Group  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Dovetail Cultural Resource Group (Dovetail) conducted a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility evaluation on behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Environmental Analysis Unit in preparation for a road improvement project along Madison Boulevard (US 158/501) from just south of US 158 to SR 1601 (North Main Street) in Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina. The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) number is U-5969 and the WBS# is 45957.1.1.

The U-5969 project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects.<sup>1</sup> In June 2018, NCDOT architectural historians defined an area of potential effects (APE) and Dovetail conducted a site visit and preliminary documentary research to identify and assess all resources of approximately 50 years of age or more within the APE. Based on the reconnaissance fieldwork, 300 resources over 50 years in age are located in the APE. The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (NC-HPO) and NCDOT determined that thirty-two of these resources warranted an intensive NRHP eligibility evaluation. They further determined that all other properties and districts located within the project's APE did not warrant further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity. The scope of the current investigation included an eligibility evaluation of those 32 properties noted by NC-HPO and NCDOT (Table 1, p. ii). Four of the resources (PR0114, PR0194, PR0243, and PR0278) have been previously recorded with the NC-HPO prior to the current effort.

The goals of this investigation were to: first, document the architectural and landscape features of each property or district; second, gather archival data on each property or district; and third, examine the physical and historical information collected within the appropriate context to properly evaluate each property or district under established criteria for the NRHP. The fourth goal of this investigation was to propose NRHP boundaries for each property or district should it be recommended eligible for listing. Work on this project was conducted in August 2019 and March 2020, in accordance with relevant state and federal regulations as part of the compliance process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800).

As a result of this investigation, Dovetail recommends that 10 resources are eligible for the NRHP (The Roxboro Commercial Historic District, PR0194; Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, PR0301; Roxboro Municipal Building, PR0310; Home Savings & Loan Association, PR0312; The Bungalow, PR0314; Burchwood Cemetery, PR0324; Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery, PR0325; The North Roxboro Residential Historic District, PR0326; The South Roxboro Residential Historic District, PR0327; and the Reamstown Residential Historic District, PR0328). **The Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) is recommended to remain eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criteria A, C, and D**

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<sup>1</sup> NCDOT 2015.

**with a boundary change.** The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange (PR0301) is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with agricultural development and commerce at the local level. The Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310) and the Home Savings & Loan Association (PR0312) are recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as excellent examples of the Modern Period in Roxboro. The Bungalow (PR0314) is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as a unique and representative example of the Craftsman style at the local level. The Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324) is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as the only example of the lawn-park cemetery style in Roxboro. The Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery (PR0325) is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as an example of a segregated cemetery in Roxboro. The North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) and the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) are recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C for their association with significant trends that shaped the expansion of Roxboro along its dominant transportation corridor during a significant period of growth in the community. The Reamstown Residential Historic District (PR0328) is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A as the first, oldest, and largest suburban neighborhood in the City of Roxboro.

The remaining 22 resources are recommended not eligible for the NRHP (PR0114, PR0243, PR0278, PR0299, PR0302, PR0303, PR0304, PR0305, PR0306, PR0307, PR0308, PR0309, PR0311, PR0313, PR0315, PR0317, PR0318, PR0319, PR0320, PR0321, PR0322, PR0323).

Twelve resources are located within one of two historic districts (North Roxboro Residential Historic District [PR0326] and the South Roxboro Residential Historic District [PR0327]). All of those twelve resources were built within the district's period of significance and are representative of the district's architectural trends and integrity. As such, despite individual eligibility, is recommended that these resources contribute to their respective district.

Table 1: Eligibility Recommendation in Order of Presentation in Report.

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
North Roxboro Residential Historic District	PR0326	Recommended Eligible	Criteria A and C
South Roxboro Residential Historic District	PR0327	Recommended Eligible	Criteria A and C
Reamstown Historic District	PR0328	Recommended Eligible	Criterion A
Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, 1208 and 112 N. Main Street	PR0301	Recommended Eligible	Criterion A
Flav-O-Rich, 1016 N. Main Street	PR0302	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
Newell House, 501 N. Main Street	PR0303	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)	N/A
Masten House, 103 Ivey Street	PR0304	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)	N/A
Merritt House, 26 Oak Street	PR0299	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)	N/A
Roxboro Presbyterian Church, 319 N. Lamar Street	PR0305	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Clayton House, 29 Oak Street	PR0306	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)	N/A
Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church, 217 N. Lamar Street	PR0307	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Former Esso Service Station, 203 N. Lamar Street	PR0308	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
T. T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin, 210 Reams Avenue	PR0309	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Roxboro Commercial Historic District	PR0194	Recommended to Remain Listed with Boundary Change	Criteria A, C, and D
Roxboro Municipal Building, 105 S. Lamar Street	PR0310	Recommended Eligible	Criterion C
Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church, 202 W. Gordon Street	PR0311	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Home Savings & Loan Association, 123 S. Lamar Street	PR0312	Recommended Eligible	Criterion C

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
Strayhorn-Peters House, 213 S. Lamar Street	PR0313	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
The Bungalow, 219 S. Lamar Street	PR0314	Recommended Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	Criterion C
Former Person County Health Center, 204 W. Barden Street	PR0315	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
McGehee's Mill, 112 W. Barden Street and 333 N. Lamar Street	PR0243	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
James Sidney Bradsher House, 421 S. Main Street	PR0278	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
Dallas William Long House, 425 S. Main Street	PR0317	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
Hester House, 509 S. Main Street	PR0318	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
Rock Inn, 519 S. Main Street	PR0319	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
M. W. and Preston Satterfield House, 526 S. Main Street	PR0320	Recommended Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	N/A
Former First Baptist Church, 603 S. Main	PR0321	Recommended Not Individually Eligible;	N/A

Property Name	NC-HPO Survey Site Number	Eligibility Recommendation	Criteria
Street		Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)	
Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church, 824 Durham Road	PR0322	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Norfolk and Western Railway Underpass, Over Old Durham Road	PR0323	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Roxboro Broom Works, 25 Weeks Drive	PR0114	Recommended Not Eligible	N/A
Burchwood Cemetery, Old Durham Road	PR0324	Recommended Eligible	Criterion C, Criteria Considerations C and D
Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Old Durham Road and Tombstone Drive	PR0325	Recommended Eligible	Criteria A and C, Criteria Consideration D

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## INTRODUCTION

Dovetail conducted a NRHP eligibility evaluation on behalf of the NCDOT environmental Analysis Unit in preparation for a project a road improvement project along Madison Boulevard (US 158/501) from just south of US 158 to SR 1601 (North Main Street) in Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina (Figure 1). The TIP number is U-5969 and the WBS# is 45957.1.1.

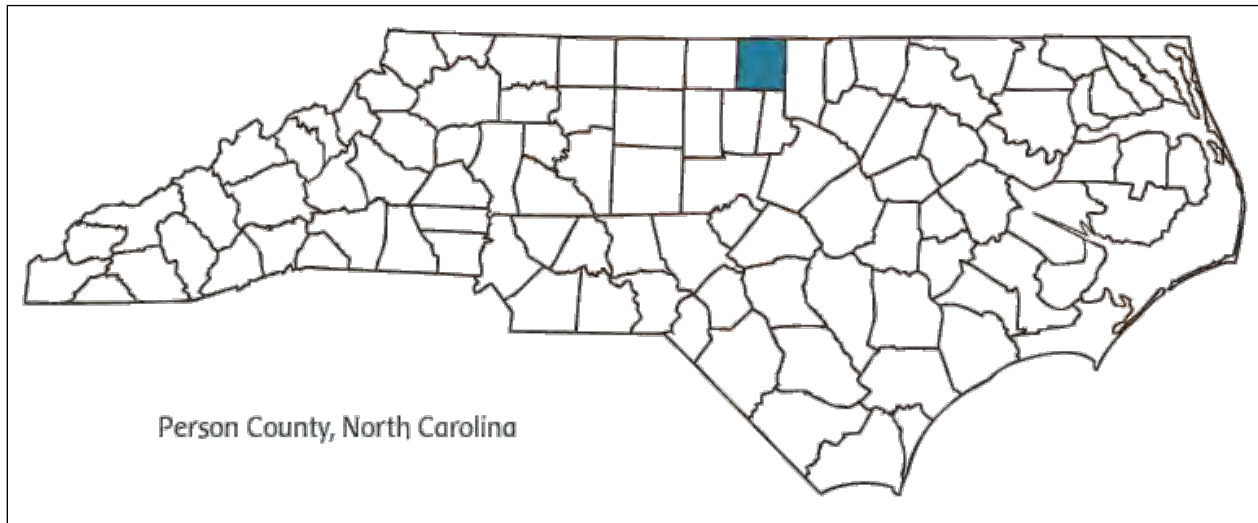


Figure 1: Map of Person County within the State of North Carolina.<sup>2</sup>

The U-5969 project is subject to review under the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects.<sup>3</sup> NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit's architectural historians defined the APE (Figure 2, p. 9). Dovetail conducted a site visit and preliminary documentary research in 2018 to identify and assess all resources of approximately 50 years of age or more within the APE. During this study, 300 resources over 50 years in age were identified in the APE. Based on a review of the field data, the NC-HPO, in consultation with NCDOT, determined that 32 resources required further study for NRHP evaluation (Figure 3–Figure 7, pp. 10–14). The NC-HPO and NCDOT determined that the remaining 268 properties and districts do not warrant of further study and evaluation due to lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

Documentation and research for this project was conducted in accordance with relevant state and federal guidelines as part of the compliance process established in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800). Dovetail Architectural Historians, Adriana T. Moss Danae Peckler, Caitlin Sylvester, and Heather Dollins Staton, with Field Directors, Katherine Watts, Mical Tawney, and Melissa Butler, performed the work for this

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<sup>2</sup> NCPedia 2006.

<sup>3</sup> NCDOT 2015.

project with Caitlin Sylvester serving as Project Manager. Dr. Kerri S. Barile was the Principal Investigator. Dr. Barile and Misses Moss, Peckler, Sylvester, and Staton all meet and exceed the standards established for Architectural Historian and Historian by the Secretary of the Interior (SOI).

During this period, historic data was collected from the NC-HPO Survey and Planning Archives in Raleigh, North Carolina; Person County Register of Deeds in Roxboro, North Carolina; the local history room at the Person County Public Library in Roxboro, North Carolina; the State Archives of North Carolina in Raleigh, North Carolina; and the North Carolina Government and Heritage Library in Raleigh, North Carolina. Online repositories such as Ancestry, Fold3, and others were also consulted.

Following a review of NC-HPO records, Dovetail conducted fieldwork and archival research between August 5 and August 23, 2019. This report meets the standards set forth by the NC-HPO's *Architectural Survey Manual, Practical Advice for Recording Historic Resources*, as well as those outlined by NCDOT in *Sections 106 Procedures and Report Guidelines*.

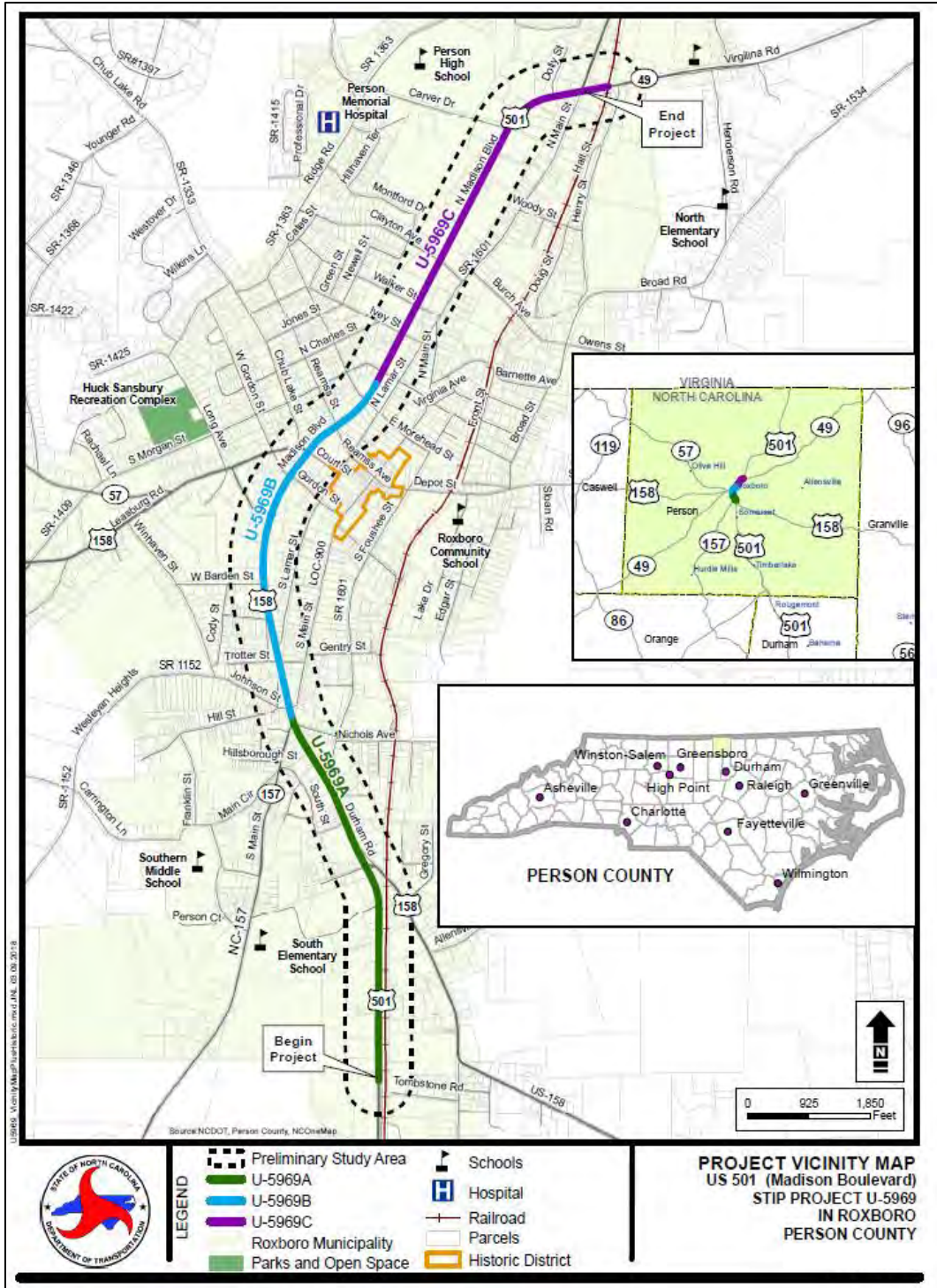


Figure 2: Project Area Map.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> NCDOT 2019.





Figure 3: Map of Surveyed Individual Resources (Yellow) North to South over Current Aerial, Map 1.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Esri 2019.



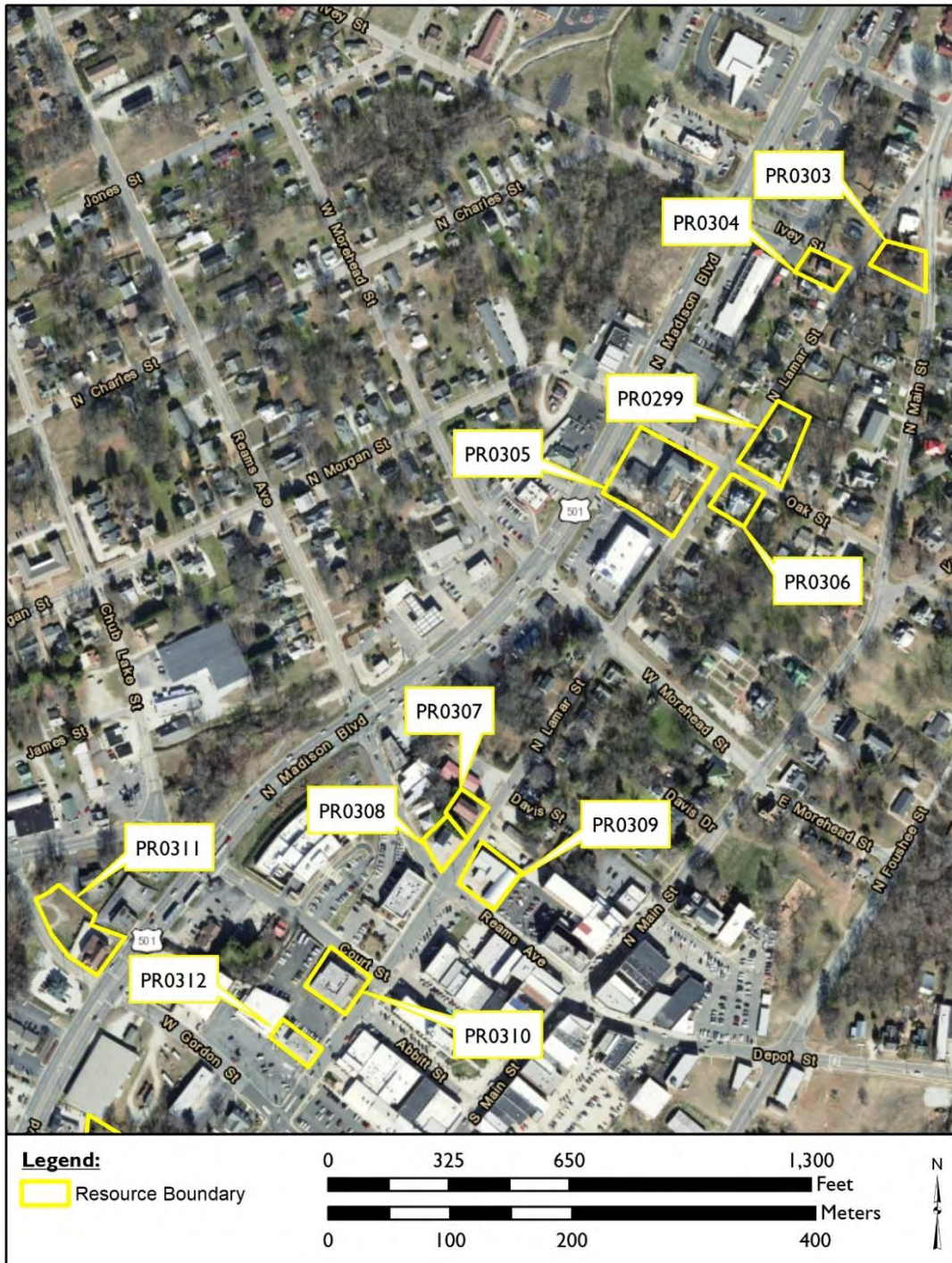


Figure 4: Map of Surveyed Individual Resources (Yellow) North to South over Current Aerial, Map 2.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Esri 2019.



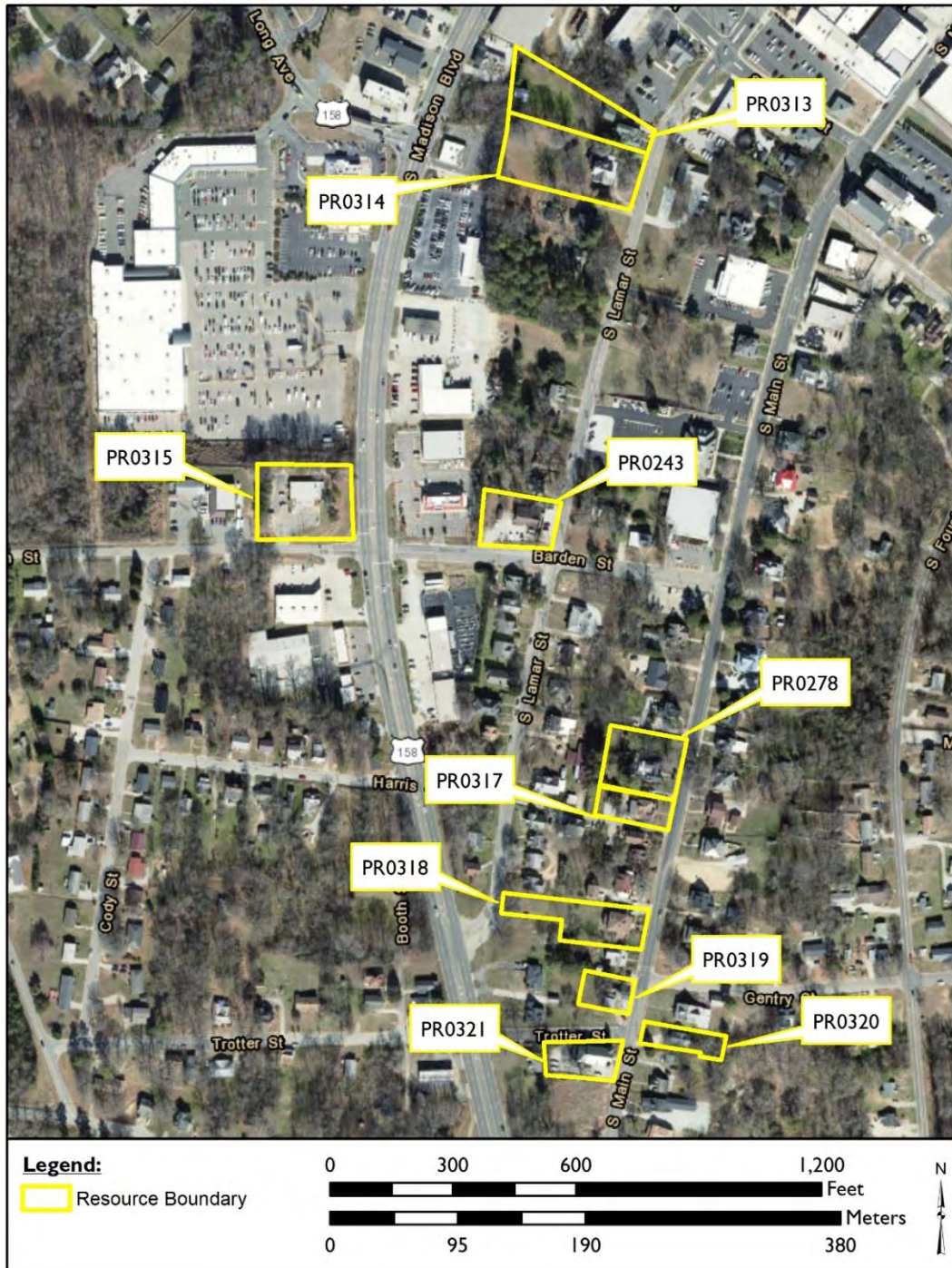


Figure 5: Map of Surveyed Individual Resources (Yellow) North to South over Current Aerial, Map 3.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Esri 2019.



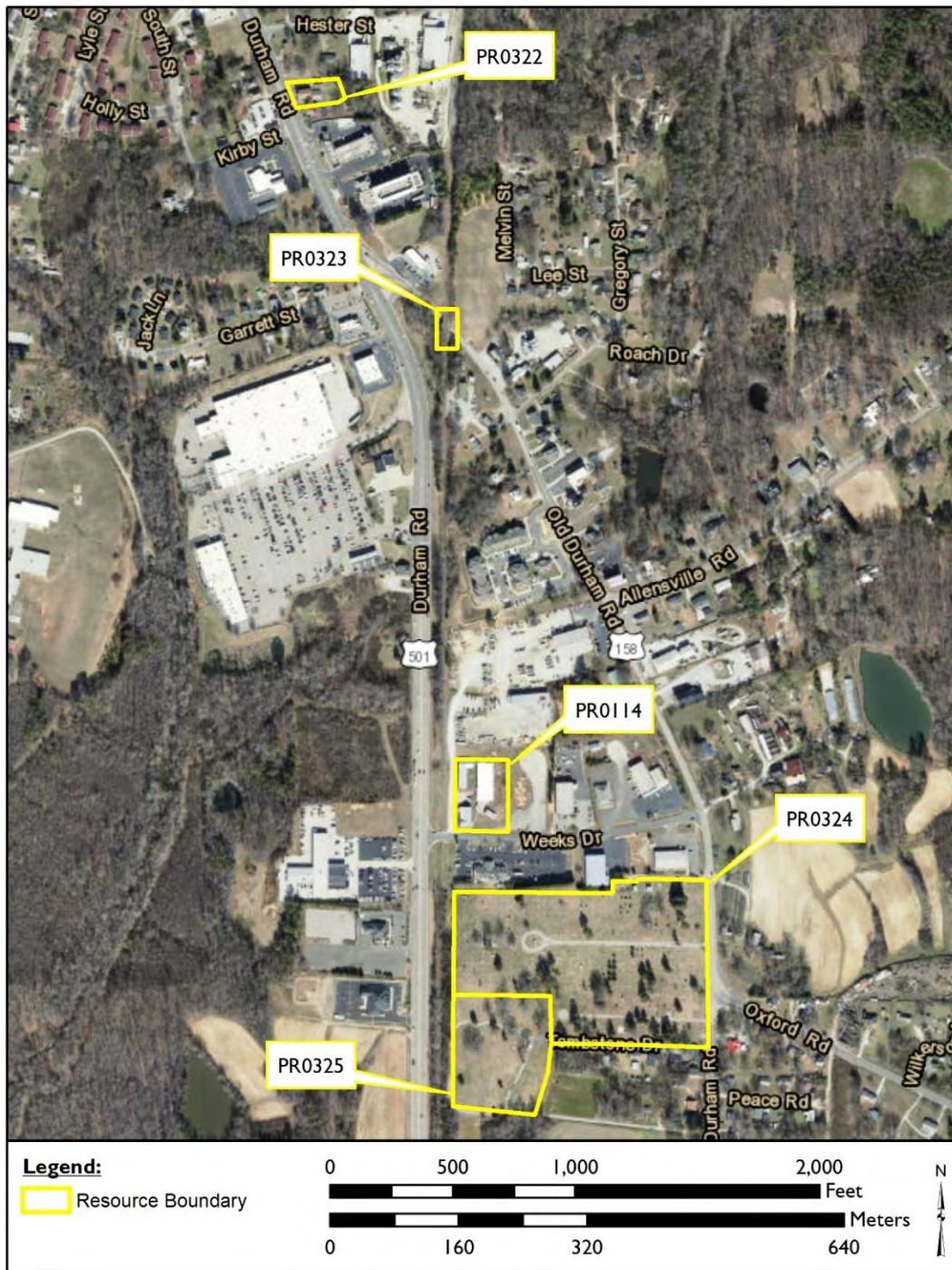


Figure 6: Map of Surveyed Individual Resources (Yellow) North to South over Current Aerial, Map 4.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Esri 2019.



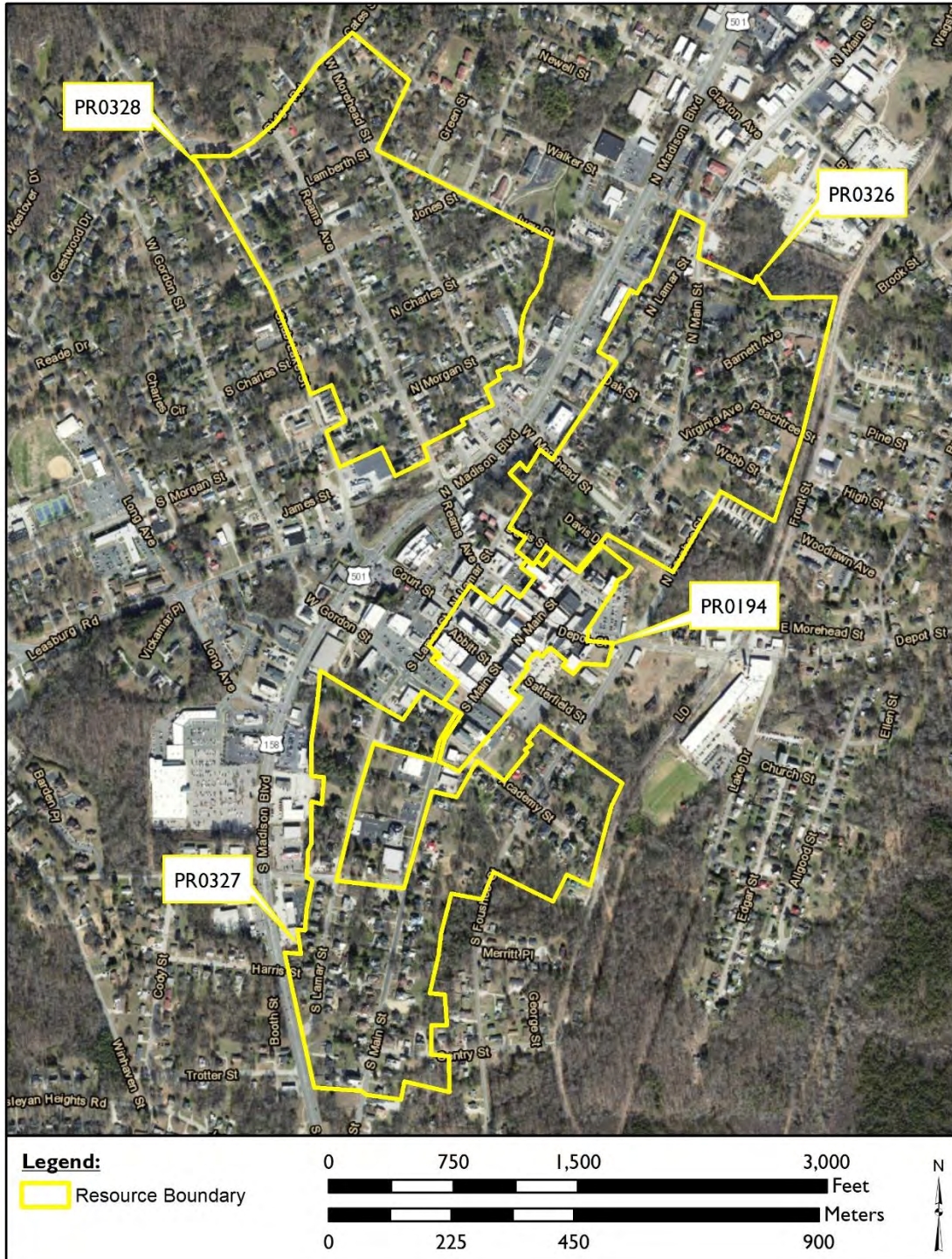


Figure 7: Map of Surveyed Historic Districts (Yellow) over Current Aerial.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Esri 2019.



## ELIGIBILITY EVALUATION

### **Residential Historic Districts-PR0326: North Roxboro Residential Historic District/ PR0327: South Roxboro Residential Historic District/ PR0328: Reamstown Residential Historic District**

PR0326: North Roxboro Residential Historic District

Date of Construction: ca. 1842–Present  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: Multiple

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible for the  
NRHP under Criteria A and C



PR0327: South Roxboro Residential Historic District

Date of Construction: ca. 1875–Present  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: Multiple

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible for the  
NRHP under Criteria A and C



PR0328: Reamstown Residential Historic District

Date of Construction: ca. 1890–Present  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: Multiple

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible for the  
NRHP under Criterion A



During this project, three residential historic districts were newly identified: North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326), South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327), and Reamstown Residential Historic District (PR0328). Due to the shared history between these three districts, one historic district chapter will discuss them all. Each district has its own architectural description, though the historic context and evaluations have been combined, with comparisons pointed out and discussed when necessary.

## *Architectural Descriptions*

### *North Roxboro Residential Historic District Architectural Description*

The North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) highlights the area north of the city's commercial core and is generally bounded by N. Lamar Street on the west, Walker Street on the north, the Norfolk Southern (NS) Railroad and N. Foushee Street on the east, and partly by Davis Drive on the south. This district contains roughly 100 one- to two-story dwellings constructed between 1842 and 1960 with architectural features of the Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical, Prairie, Craftsman, Tudor Revival, Minimal Traditional, Transitional Ranch, and Ranch styles in a small-town suburban setting.

North Main Street passes through the center of the district in a north-south direction, connecting with a series of east-west side streets largely laid out in a gridded pattern. Irregularly shaped blocks and lots of varying size reflect the diversity of more than a century of development in the district (Figure 8, p. 17). Poured-concrete gutters line both sides of the streets in the district. Streetlights consist of standard lamps atop utility poles and are relatively few in number, particularly on east-west side streets. The area's suburban character is reinforced by the district's general lack of sidewalks, though poured-concrete walkways line both sides of Main Street as it extends north from the commercial core of Roxboro to the intersection with Virginia Avenue and for smaller stretches along one side of Webb, Barnett, and N. Lamar streets. Individual lots within the district feature manicured grassy lawns, ornamental plantings, and large shade trees. Short retaining walls bound some properties where the sloping topography was cut to grade a roadway, driveway, or sidewalk. Detached garages accompany some dwellings on larger lots, but are not commonplace.

According to local tax records, nearly one-third of houses in the district were constructed prior to 1910.<sup>10</sup> The oldest house in the North Roxboro Residential Historic District is the located at 315 N. Main Street and was constructed circa 1842 with elements of the Greek Revival style (Photo 1, p. 18). An early outlier, this resource is a two-story, front-gable-and-wing, frame dwelling that was used as the Roxboro Male Academy and by the Person County Methodist Church Circuit Riders as a Parsonage in the latter half of the nineteenth century.<sup>11</sup> Another outlier is a log dwelling that is said to have been relocated behind the house at 429 N. Main Street in the late-twentieth century.<sup>12</sup> The majority of dwellings built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century feature elements of the Italianate and Queen Anne style. These are commonly one- and two-story, frame, central-passage, front-gable-and-wing, or T-plan, single-family dwellings.

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<sup>10</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>11</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.



Figure 8: Location of the North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326).<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Esri 2019.



Roughly half of the dwellings in the district were constructed between 1910 and 1939 during a noteworthy period of growth in Roxboro's history.<sup>14</sup> Houses from the first decade of the twentieth century include two-and-a-half-story, frame, Queen Anne and Free Classic-styled, single-family dwellings with complex rooflines, like the Newell House (PR0303) at 501 N. Main Street and lumber-salesman William Cobb Watkins' dwelling and showpiece at 200 Peachtree Street (Photo 2).



Photo 1: East Elevation of 315 N. Main Street (Left) and Northeast Oblique of Log Cabin at 425 N. Main Street (Right).



Photo 2: Northeast Oblique of Newell House (PR0303) at 501 N. Main Street (Left) and Southwest Elevation of Watkins House at 200 Peachtree Street (Right).

Other dwellings from the first three decades of the twentieth century are diverse in shape, size, and materials, but commonly possess features of the Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Craftsman, and Minimal Traditional styles. High-style examples with larger footprints dot either side of N. Main Street, including the Colonial Revival-styled house at 400 N. Main Street constructed in 1922 and the circa-1920 Craftsman house at 245 N. Main Street (Photo 3, p. 19). Smaller and less ornate examples from this period include one-story, front-gabled

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<sup>14</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

bungalows and two-story, hipped-roof, Massed-plan houses, among other common early-twentieth-century house types (Photo 4 and Photo 5). Roughly a dozen dwellings in the district were constructed post 1940. These houses predominantly feature Minimal Traditional styling with a handful of Transitional Ranch and Ranch dwellings.



Photo 3: Southeast Oblique of 400 N. Main Street (Left) and Northeast Oblique of 245 N. Main Street (Right).



Photo 4: East Elevation of 419 N. Lamar Street (Left) and Southeast Oblique of 118 Virginia Avenue (Right).



Photo 5: View Looking Southwest at 215–219 Barnett Street.



While the majority of historic resources in the district are detached single-family dwellings, six duplexes and apartment buildings date between 1901 and 1960. This includes the circa-1920, two-and-a-half-story, hipped-roof, Prairie-style duplex at 329–331 N. Main Street and the Colonial Revival-style duplex at 237–239 N. Lamar Street built around 1938 (Photo 6). Although they are not common, outbuildings associated with some of the district's dwellings include detached, single-car garages or small storage sheds (Photo 7).



Photo 6: East Elevation of 329–331 N. Main Street (Left) and East Elevation of 237–239 N. Lamar Street (Right).



Photo 7: View of Detached Garage at 400 N. Main Street, Looking North (Left), and View of House and Detached Garage at 306 N. Lamar Street, Looking East (Right).

Less than a handful of buildings in the North Roxboro Residential Historic District constructed between 1901 and 1960 were designed for something other than residential purposes, all of which are located at the fringe of the district boundary. These include one church, the circa-1922, one-story, stone-veneered St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 422 N. Main Street constructed by a prominent local builder, George Kane; and one industrial resource, a storage facility for Kane's

Contracting Company at 225 Barnett Street (Photo 8).<sup>15</sup> A single commercial property at 505 N. Main Street also contributes to the district's significance, likely constructed as a service station circa 1945 (Photo 9).



Photo 8: View of Circa-1925 Warehouses of George Kane at 225 Barnett Street, Looking South.



Photo 9: View of Commercial Building at 505 N. Main Street, Looking South Towards N. Lamar Street Intersection.

Of the seven resources in the district constructed after 1960, all are residential buildings. Three are apartment buildings or a cluster of attached townhouses. Two stories or less in height, these multi-family dwellings were designed in a similar scale and with similar materials as older residential resources in the district. Most of the more recently constructed buildings are set back at a greater distance than neighboring historic resources.

Many of the houses within the North Roxboro district have been modified and updated over time. Common alterations include the introduction of replacement roofing materials like asphalt shingles or metal sheeting; aluminum, asbestos, fiberboard, vinyl, or cementitious siding; and vinyl windows. When present, these common modifications can negatively impact the historic

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<sup>15</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company (Sanborn) 1925.

integrity of individual resources within the district, but on the whole, they do not diminish the historic character of this architecturally diverse residential area within the City of Roxboro.

### *South Roxboro Residential Historic District Architectural Description*

The South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) highlights the area south of the city's commercial core and generally includes dwellings on either side of the north-south streets of S. Lamar and S. Main between the east-west streets of Gordon Street at the north and Trotter Street at the south, and on either side of Academy Street as it extends east to the NS Railroad. This district contains roughly 90 one- to two-story dwellings constructed between 1875 and 1955 with architectural features of the Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Foursquare, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Neo-Classical, Prairie, Craftsman, and Minimal Traditional styles in a small-town suburban setting.

South Main Street traverses the center of the district, connecting with a series of east-west side streets in a gridded pattern. Irregularly shaped blocks and lots of varying size reflect the diversity of more than a century of development in the district (Figure 9, p. 23). Poured-concrete curbs and gutters line both sides of most streets in this district. Streetlights consist of standard lamps atop utility poles and are relatively few in number, particularly on east-west side streets. Poured-concrete sidewalks line both sides of Main Street and much of Academy Street with smaller stretches along portions of S. Lamar Street; however, much of the area is devoid of sidewalks. Individual lots within the district feature manicured grassy lawns, ornamental plantings, and large shade trees. Short retaining walls bound some properties where the sloping topography was cut to grade a roadway, driveway, or sidewalk. Detached garages accompany some dwellings on larger lots, but are not commonplace.

Based on local tax records, a majority—nearly half—of the buildings within the South Roxboro Residential Historic District were constructed prior to 1910.<sup>16</sup> Older houses include the circa-1879, two-story, central-passage dwelling of William H. Long at 205 S. Main Street, and other less prominent examples like the two-story, cross-gabled, Italianate dwelling at 110 Gentry Street or the one-story, central-passage, cross-gabled houses at 213 S. Foushee and 513 S. Main streets that likely date to the 1890s (Photo 10, p. 24). Other late-nineteenth-century dwellings, particularly along South Main and Academy streets, reflect more high-style architectural traditions. Some examples include the Queen Anne houses of prominent Roxboro businessmen such as the James A. Long (PR0271) at 217 S. Main Street and what is now known as the James Sidney Bradsher House (PR0278) at 421 S. Main Street (Photo 11, p. 24).<sup>17</sup> Other early dwellings in the district were built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century in more vernacular forms with elements of Italianate and Queen Anne styling. These are commonly one- and two-story, frame, central-passage or T-plan, single-family dwellings.

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<sup>16</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>17</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.



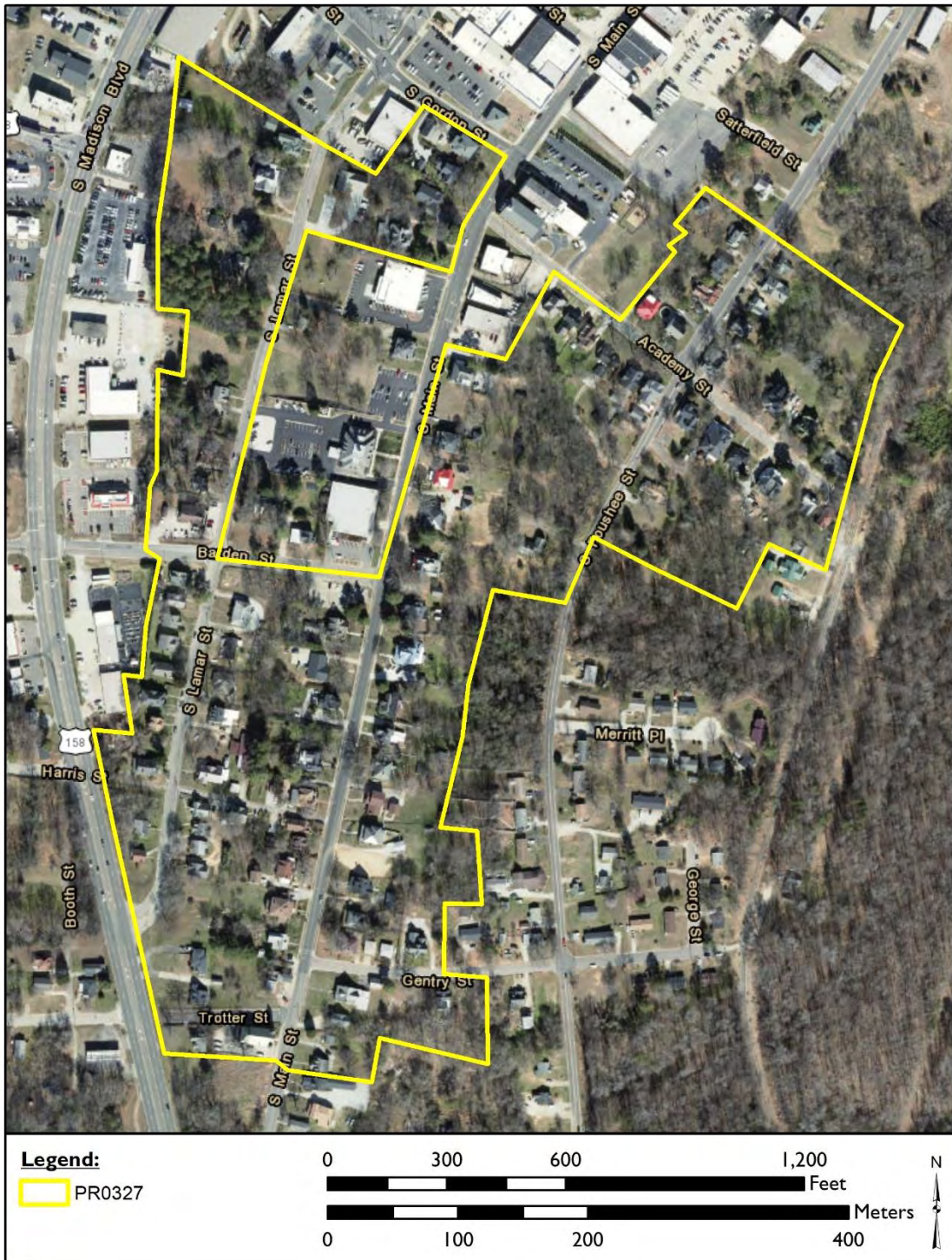


Figure 9: Location of South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327).<sup>18</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Esri 2019.





Photo 10: East Elevation of the House at 513 S. Main Street.



Photo 11: East Elevation of J.A. Long House at 217 S. Main Street (Left) and Southeast Oblique of James Sidney Bradsher House at 421 S. Main Street (Right).

Approximately one-third of the dwellings in this district were constructed between 1910 and 1939 during a significant period of growth in Roxboro's history.<sup>19</sup> High-style houses built in this period include the two-and-a-half-story, frame, Free Classic and Queen Anne-styled dwellings like that of the circa-1910 Joseph Noell House at 208 Academy Street and the Prairie- and Craftsman-styled house at 318 S. Main Street built by Durham architects Rose & Rose for Dr. William Bradsher in 1922 (Photo 12, p. 25).<sup>20</sup> More vernacular dwellings from the period include one- and one-and-a-half-story frame buildings with Classical Revival, Craftsman, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival features, many of which are located along either side of S. Lamar Street (Photo 13 and Photo 14, p. 25).

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<sup>19</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>20</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.





Photo 12: Southeast Oblique of 208 Academy Street (Left) and West Elevation of 318 S. Main Street (Right).



Photo 13: View Looking North at 421–413 S. Lamar Street.



Photo 14: Northeast Oblique of 501 S. Main Street (Left) and View Looking Northwest at 331 S. Lamar Street (Right).

About 20 houses in the district were built between 1940 and 1955. Most are located along of S. Lamar Street and at the north end of S. Foushee Street, while a handful were constructed to infill lots between older dwellings on Gentry, Trotter, Academy, and S. Main streets. These houses exhibit elements of the Colonial Revival, Minimal Traditional, and Transitional Ranch styles (Photo 15). Detached garages are associated with roughly one-third of the single-family dwellings in the South Roxboro district, though some were constructed after the primary resource. Other outbuildings in the district are commonly small storage sheds and pergolas.



Photo 15: West Elevations of 500 S. Lamar Street (Top Left), 524 S. Lamar Street (Top Right), and 414 S. Lamar Street (Bottom).

While the majority of historic resources are detached single-family dwellings, six duplexes and apartment buildings in the district were constructed between 1915 and 1955. Examples of these multi-family dwellings range from one to two-and-a-half stories tall with features of the Prairie, Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical, and Minimal Traditional styles (Photo 16, p. 27).

A few properties built for uses other than residential are located within the district. The commercial property at 519 S. Main Street historically known as the Rock Inn service station dates from the 1920s (see p. 360). This resource contributes to the district's significance and illustrates a common development pattern for early automobile-related properties. It is located at the corner of Main Street and what is now Trotter Street and was designed to blend with residential architecture in form and materials. Another resource that historically served in a semi-



commercial capacity was Fred Long's electrical company's shop situated east of the house at 426 S. Lamar Street, facing south on Harris Street. Built circa 1932, this two-story workshop was likely constructed at the same time as the Craftsman- and Colonial Revival-style residence with which it is associated, and is now reserved for domestic use (Photo 17). One church (PR0321) located at 603 S. Main Street is in the district and has operated as the Hester, Whitted, and Daye Funeral Home since 1980. Built in the last quarter of the twentieth century as the First Baptist Church, this resource once served one of Roxboro's oldest African American congregations (see p. 388). The Farley Cemetery, located in the 100 block of Gentry Street, is also situated within the district boundaries and considered a contributing resource.

One resource known as McGehee's Mill (PR0243) at 112 W. Barden Street, is a late-eighteenth-century industrial building that was relocated in the 1980s. As such, it is one of six non-contributing resources within the South Roxboro Residential District (see p. 279). Five other buildings, built between 1985 and 2007, include two single-family residences and three small, one- to one-and-a-half-story, office buildings designed in a similar scale and with similar materials to older residential resources in the district.



Photo 16: East Elevations of Duplex at 427–429 S. Lamar Street (Left) and Three-Unit Apartment Building at 437–439 S. Lamar Street (Right).



Photo 17: South Elevation of Long's Workshop on Harris Street.

Many of the houses within the South Roxboro district have been modified and updated over time. Common alterations include the introduction of replacement roofing materials like asphalt shingles or metal sheeting; aluminum, asbestos, fiberboard, vinyl, or cementitious siding; and vinyl windows. When present, these common modifications can negatively impact the historic integrity of individual resources within the district, but on the whole, they do not diminish the historic character of this architecturally diverse residential area within the City of Roxboro.

### *Reamstown Residential Historic District Architectural Description*

The Reamstown Historic District (PR0328) highlights a suburban residential neighborhood west of Roxboro's commercial core in an area bounded on the north by Ridge Road, the southwest by Chub Lake Street, the northeast by Ivey Street, and what remains of the Tan Yard Branch waterway on the south. This district contains roughly 135 one- to two-story dwellings constructed between 1890 and 1967 with architectural features of the Italianate, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Craftsman, Minimal Traditional, Transitional Ranch, and Ranch styles. Local tax data indicates that more than 30 additional resources in the district date between 1980 and 2005.

Platted in 1890, this subdivision was laid out in a standard grid pattern with Reams Avenue traversing its center in a northwest-southeast direction flanked by W. Morehead Street and Chub Lake Road—all connected by a series of northeast-southwest side streets to create regularly shaped blocks. Initially, 105 rectilinear lots between 0.25–0.35 acres were platted in Reamstown, but over time parcels were further subdivided, resulting in lots of varying size that reflect the diversity of more than a century of development in the district (Figure 10, p. 29). Poured-concrete curbs and gutters line both sides of the streets in Reamstown, while streetlights consisting of standard lamps atop utility poles are relatively few in number. Concrete sidewalks line both sides of Reams Avenue and portions of N. Morgan Street, but are otherwise absent from the district. Individual lots feature manicured grassy lawns, ornamental plantings, and large shade trees. Short retaining walls line some properties where the topography necessitated grading for a driveway or sidewalk, particularly on Reams Avenue. Detached garages accompany some dwellings on larger lots, but are not commonplace.

Based on local tax records and information gathered during fieldwork, nearly one-third of the houses over 50 years old in the Reamstown Historic District were constructed prior to 1910.<sup>21</sup> The oldest dwellings in Reamstown are commonly one- to two-story, frame, single-family dwellings commonly built in central-passage, I-house, T-plan, front-gable-and-wing, or asymmetrical forms. Some of these dwellings exhibit high-style elements of the Queen Anne style, including Italianate and Free Classic variations like the Mitchell-Clayton House at 302 Reams Avenue and the houses at 403 and 308 Reams Avenue (Photo 18, p. 30). More vernacular examples of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century dwellings include one-story, T-plan and central-passage houses like those at 301 N. Morgan and 303 Charles streets (Photo 19, p. 30).

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<sup>21</sup> Person County, NC 2019.





Figure 10: Location of Reamstown Residential Historic District (PR0328).<sup>22</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Esri 2019.





Photo 18: South Oblique of Mitchell-Clayton House at 302 Reams Avenue (Top); Southeast Oblique of 403 Reams Avenue (Bottom Left) and West Elevation of 308 Reams Avenue (Bottom Right).



Photo 19: Southwest Oblique of 301 N. Morgan Street (Left) and Southeast Oblique of 303 N. Charles Street (Right).



Another third of dwellings built prior to 1965 in the Reamstown district date between 1910 and 1944.<sup>23</sup> High-style examples from this period include one- to two-story, frame and brick-clad dwellings with Prairie, Craftsman, Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, and Minimal Traditional stylistic elements (Photo 20 and Photo 21).<sup>24</sup> These houses typically consist of rectilinear forms like central-passage, bungalows, and Cape Cods, and often infilled open lots between older dwellings in blocks at the southeast of the neighborhood but also appeared further north on Morehead and Jones streets. More than 50 houses in this district were built between 1945 and 1965, some of which were constructed as infill while others populated previously undeveloped areas along Chub Lake, Ridge, Jones, and Lamberth streets. These houses exhibit elements of the Colonial Revival, Minimal Traditional, Transitional Ranch, and Ranch styles.



Photo 20: View Looking Southwest at 319 Reams Avenue (Left) and East Elevation of 221 Reams Avenue (Right).



Photo 21: West Elevation of 212 Reams Avenue (Left) and North Elevation of 214 N. Morgan Street (Right).

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<sup>23</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>24</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.

Difficult to date and categorize without examination of interior layout and property-specific research, several types of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century cottages or small houses are repeated throughout Reamstown. Many are one-story, three-bay dwellings with a central brick chimney, commonly located in small groupings along side streets or at the fringes of the neighborhood (Photo 22). Some appear to have originally rested on a brick-pier foundation that has since been infilled, while others have lost the interior chimney during recent roof work.



Photo 22: View Looking Southeast at 501–507 Ivey Street (Top); West Towards 215–217 N. Charles Street (Middle); and Southwest at 216–222 Lamberth Street (Bottom).



In addition to detached single-family dwellings, 14 duplexes and apartment buildings in the district were constructed prior to 1965. These multi-family dwellings are predominantly one- to one-and-a-half-stories tall with modest architectural ornamentation though some feature elements of the Craftsman, Colonial Revival, and Minimal Traditional styles (Photo 23). Detached garages are associated with roughly one-third of the single-family dwellings in the district, though some were constructed after the primary resource. Other outbuildings in the district are commonly small storage sheds and carports.



Photo 23: East Elevation of Duplex at 211 W. Morehead Street (Top Left); Northeast Oblique of Duplex at 218 N. Morgan Street (Top Right); and Southwest Oblique of Four-Unit Apartment Building at 205 Charles Street (Bottom).

Overwhelmingly residential in character, just two resources in Reamstown were built for uses other than housing. These properties include a former gas station at 122 N. Morgan Street that dates from the 1920s and a small commercial store at 416 Chub Lake Street likely dating from the 1920s or 1930s (Photo 24, p. 34).

Approximately 30 buildings in the district built after 1965 may be considered non-contributing resources; however, all are all residential in use. Local tax data indicates that more than half were erected in the 1980s, while the most recent example was constructed in 2005. Many are multi-family residential buildings including townhouses, duplexes, and small apartment buildings. Similar to new infill buildings elsewhere in the city, all of these resources are one to two stories tall and feature similar materials as older residential resources in Reamstown (Photo 25 and Photo 26, p. 34).



Photo 24: East Elevation of Former Gas Station at 122 Reams Avenue (Left) and Southwest Oblique of Store at 416 Chub Lake Road (Right).



Photo 25: View of Late-Twentieth-Century Houses Looking Southwest at 210–212 Jones Street.



Photo 26: View of Late-Twentieth-Century Apartment Buildings at 209 Lamberth and 603 W. Morehead Streets, Looking West.

A majority of buildings within the Reamstown district have been modified and updated over time. Common alterations include the introduction of replacement roofing materials like asphalt shingles or metal sheeting; aluminum, asbestos, fiberboard, or vinyl siding; and vinyl windows. Other modifications like replaced porch posts and railings, the enclosure of a front porch, and removal of original chimney stacks, have negatively impacted the historic integrity of individual resources within the district. At a broader level, more than a dozen vacant lots resulting from

recent demolitions in the neighborhood and incompatible new construction have diminished the historic character of this architecturally diverse residential area.

### ***Combined Historic Context: Residential Development in Roxboro***

Established as the Person County seat of in 1793, Roxboro remained little more than a village at the intersection of a few overland trading routes into the late-nineteenth century. The City of Roxboro was incorporated in 1855 and remains to this day the only municipality in Person County. The city limits, as defined in its 1887 charter, included 800 square yards around the courthouse.<sup>25</sup>

The city's growth in the latter half of the nineteenth century was largely fueled by the region's tobacco and textile industries as wealthy farmers became merchants and industrialists. The largest impetus for the community's expansion was the construction of the Lynchburg & Durham (L&D) Railroad, completed in 1890. After several failed attempts to facilitate the passing of a railroad through the community, the L&D, later known as the Durham Line of the Norfolk & Western (N&W) Railroad now part of the NS Railroad, spawned significant changes in the community, creating new industrial, commercial, and residential development therein.

Roxboro's population rose from less than 400 inhabitants in 1870 to roughly 1,400 people in 1910, and more than doubled between 1910 and 1920 to contain 3,214 residents.<sup>26</sup> The City's first annexation in 1903 included land to the east of the courthouse square, adding the industrial complex and worker housing erected by the Roxboro Cotton Mills Company along Lake Drive and Allgood and Edgar streets.<sup>27</sup> A second annexation in 1925 added sizable swaths of land to the city limits, incorporating surrounding suburban development to the north, south, and west of the commercial core (Figure 11, p. 36). This ambitious expansion explains why Roxboro's population continued to grow throughout the mid-twentieth century, rising from roughly 3,600 residents in 1930 to more than 5,100 inhabitants in 1960.<sup>28</sup> A third annexation occurred in 1963, followed by a series of smaller additions to city limits in 1965, 1966, and 1970.<sup>29</sup> Substantial transportation improvements like the construction of Madison Boulevard in 1950 furthered economic expansion in the community, securing Roxboro's position as a regional commercial and industrial urban center (Figure 12, p. 37).

Roxboro's origins as a small rural crossroads community with periods of incremental growth are visible in the street network where many roads intersect at odd angles and vary in width, disrupting any uniformity in the grid. Street names often stem from prominent families who subdivided and redeveloped larger tracts of land around the city over time. Radiating out from the commercial core, residential development in Roxboro emerged slowly throughout the nineteenth century, but gained momentum around the turn of the twentieth century, reflecting the area's

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<sup>25</sup> City of Roxboro n.d.:Part I.

<sup>26</sup> Wright 1974:221.

<sup>27</sup> City of Roxboro n.d:Appendix A.

<sup>28</sup> Wright 1974:221.

<sup>29</sup> City of Roxboro n.d.:Appendix A.



population growth. The form and appearance of Roxboro’s neighborhoods is in keeping with common development patterns, emerging organically as small groupings of similarly sized lots split from larger tracts over time, or as orderly subdivisions with similarly sized lots and clusters of similarly styled dwellings along a shared roadway or street network. Major periods of building activity in Roxboro’s residential areas are similar to those of its commercial core where significant growth “occurred between 1890 and 1914, during the decade of the 1920s and during the late 1940s.”<sup>30</sup> In the post-war period, a fourth period of growth occurred between 1945 and 1960, during a time of national prosperity after World War II and following substantial investments in transportation improvements, including the construction of Madison Boulevard.



Figure 11: 1947 Map of Roxboro Showing City Limits Created by 1925 Annexation in Red.<sup>31</sup>

Early residential development in Roxboro was concentrated in three locations—to the north, south, and west of the commercial core—driven primarily by natural features and early transportation routes leading to the north, south, and northwest of the courthouse (Figure 13, p. 38). The part of town now referred to as “Uptown Roxboro” is located on either side of a natural ridge that runs in a north-south direction, flanked by Marlowe Creek on the east and Tan Yard Branch on the west. An important trade route through Person County, Main Street lines the peak of this ridge with land sloping down from either side of the roadway at varying grades. The relatively narrow width of the ridge resulted in the development of two concentrated areas of residential growth in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, identified in this investigation as the North Roxboro Residential Historic District and South Roxboro Residential Historic District. The third area of early residential development in Roxboro is geographically

<sup>30</sup> Dickinson 1983:2.

<sup>31</sup> City of Roxboro 1947.

separated from “Uptown Roxboro” and the commercial core by the Tan Yard Branch, a small waterway now buried below commercial development along Madison Boulevard. At the core of this area is the suburban neighborhood known as Reamstown that was originally platted in 1890 from a portion of James T. Cates’ farm, which is identified in this investigation as the Reamstown Residential Historic District. All three of these areas contain houses of similar form and architectural style, while simultaneously illustrating subtle differences reflective of the individuals that both created and occupied them for more than a century.

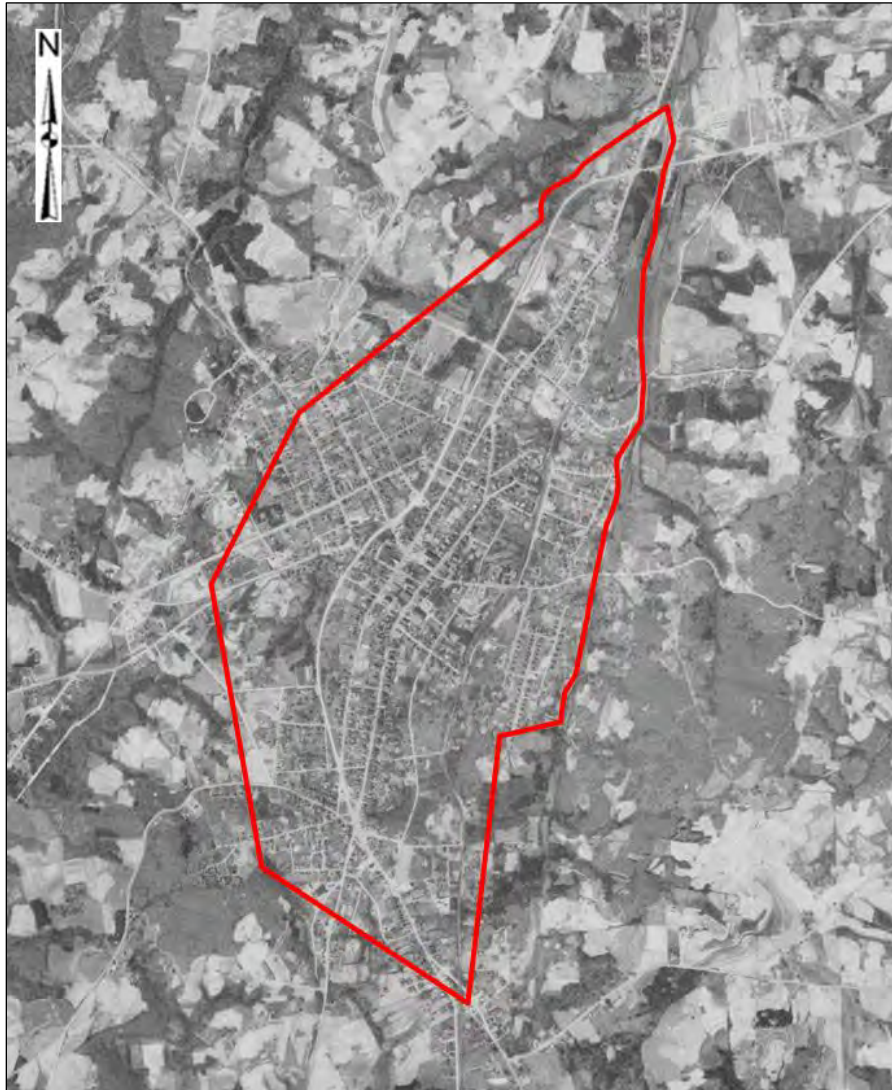


Figure 12: Detail of 1950 Aerial Photograph with Roxboro City Limits (1925–1963) in Red.<sup>32</sup>  
Image not to scale.

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<sup>32</sup> United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1950.



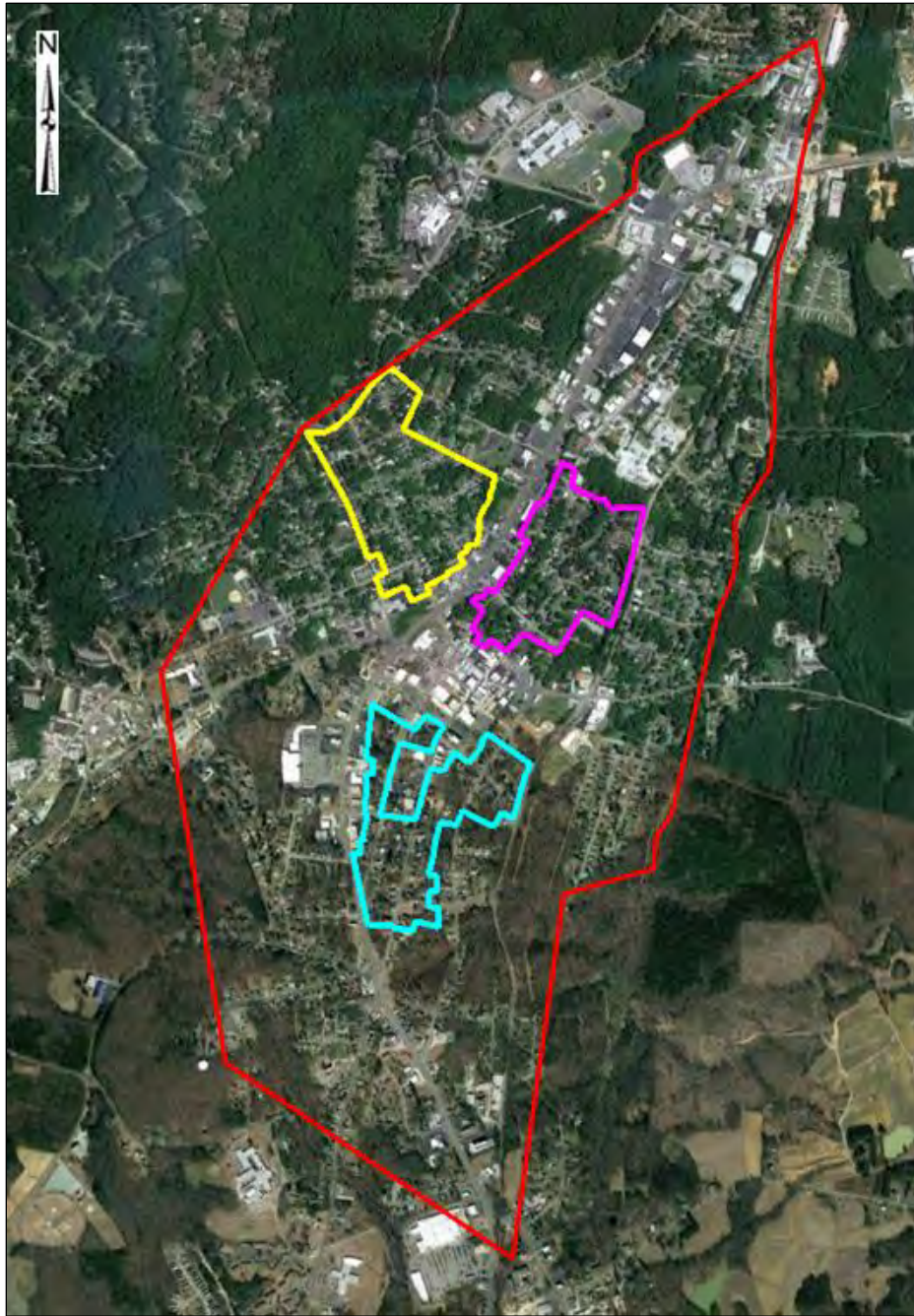


Figure 13: Map Showing Roxboro’s City Limits (1925–1963) in Red and Proposed Boundaries for the North Roxboro Residential Historic District in Magenta, South Roxboro Residential Historic District in Teal, and Reamstown Residential Historic District in Yellow.  
Map not to scale.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>33</sup> Google Earth 2019.



The local paper regularly published notices of construction in various parts of the city, identifying a few residential contractors and builders. In the 1890s, contractor J.G. Bowles was credited with at least one house in Reamstown, while George W. Kane and William Cobb Watkins, owner of Bullock & Watkins Lumber Company appear during the early- to mid-twentieth century (Figure 14).<sup>34</sup> Kane became a regional builder with corporate offices in Roxboro, Greensboro, and Durham, and was most known for constructing the 1930 Person County Courthouse. He remained in business into the late 1960s, advertising in Roxboro city directories along with other local contractors Graham Duncan, the Carver Agency, and E.M. Wilkerson & Son in the 1950s and 1960s.<sup>35</sup> These businesses and other contractors active in Roxboro likely referenced popular pattern books, industry publications, and other commercial sources in the construction of dwellings throughout the city during the twentieth century. Although no exact models have been identified, it is possible that some mail-order, kit-type houses from this period also exist within the community.

**I Have Always Stood  
for North Carolina's  
Upbuilding!**

And the More Building the More Prosperity!

**Build Before  
Costs Advance**

500 Construction Jobs  
Over North Carolina,  
WORTH SEVERAL MILLIONS  
ATTEST KANE ABILITY

WE SPECIALIZE IN  
**Contracting**  
WORK FULLY GUARANTEED  
JOBS FINISHED ON TIME

**GEO. W. KANE**  
CONTRACTOR  
OFFICES: ROXBORO - GREENSBORO AND DURHAM, N. C.

**KANE has the  
Organization,  
Equipment  
and Materials**

**SOME PROMINENT KANE CONTRACTS**  
COLLINS-AIKMAN PLOSH MILL, SOMERSET TOWER,  
MILL, ADDITION TO ROXBORO, COTTON MILLS,  
PERSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, HIGH SCHOOL, R.  
R. STATION, ADDITION TO WATTS HOSPITAL, DUR-  
HAM. OTHER DURHAM JOBS: SNOW BUILDING,  
SOUTHERN FIRE BUILDING, Y. W. C. A., DUKE ME-  
MORIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL, JOHNSON GARAGE, ETC.

Figure 14: Advertisement in *The Roxboro Courier Golden Jubilee Development Edition*,  
Printed June 6, 1934.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>34</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1890d:3, 1934a:3; Roxboro Development Group n.d.

<sup>35</sup> Miller 1956:19–20, 1962:18–19.

<sup>36</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1934a:3.

*North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)*

The area highlighted by the North Roxboro district primarily includes two types of residential development, the older of which is a traditional pattern of accretion where residences emerged slowly over time as landowners sold off small portions of their family's holdings adjoining the city's center, often infilling or subdividing larger lots. The other pattern is a form of planned suburban development that created entire neighborhoods in the early-twentieth century.

One example of a suburban neighborhood in North Roxboro is the "Hill Crest" subdivision platted in 1909 from the property of W. E. Webb, wherein 22 lots were platted on land north of Webb Street, east of Virginia Avenue, and south of Barnett Avenue.<sup>37</sup> Some houses in the development appear to have been constructed before or around the same time as the neighborhood was platted; however, few Hill Crest lots manifested as they were intended, resulting in parcels and dwellings of varying size and architectural composition, a few of which remain undeveloped today. Smaller subdivisions of land along N. Lamar Street and on side streets in this district enabled similar groupings of houses, with a range of forms, materials, styles.

One physical characteristic that sets this district apart from other residential areas in town is a higher number of early-twentieth-century brick dwellings. Similar to Roxboro's commercial core, the prominence of brick construction among high-style dwellings, particularly along N. Main Street reflects the cultural values of its residents as "leaders and builders saw the permanence and quality of brick building as an important sign of urban progress."<sup>38</sup>

*South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)*

In the South Roxboro district, residential development kept to the more traditional pattern and was even more incremental than in the north. Large landholding families slowly divided their property to provide space for the next generation to live nearby. This was the case with the Long family in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, some of whom intermarried with the Satterfields, a family that had owned much of the land south of Roxboro's commercial core. These families built houses on large suburban lots along Main Street that often stretched the entire distance west to the "back street," or what is now S. Lamar Street, like The Bungalow (PR0314) at 219 S. Lamar Street (see p.279).<sup>39</sup> Around the turn of the century when Roxboro's population began to increase as a result of the railroad and other economic forces, residential development generally followed this suburban pattern. One example from the early- to mid-twentieth century is visible in the three lots subsequently filled by three single-family houses at 203–225 S. Lamar Street, built by three of W.H. Long's children between 1910 and 1938.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Person County Plat Book [PCPB] 2:43.

<sup>38</sup> Dickinson 1983:Section 8-7.

<sup>39</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2016a.

<sup>40</sup> PCPB 4:90; Person County, NC 2019.

Although some efforts to establish planned suburban neighborhoods occurred in the South Roxboro district, success was limited to small stretches of land where similarly sized lots and houses often date from the 1900s to 1940s. In some instances, the houses pre-date the plat filed to illustrate the development, such as with the survey of seven lots on the west side of Lamar Street depicted on a 1937 survey of M.W. Satterfield's property where dwellings date from 1901 to 1934.<sup>41</sup> Plats depicting the subdivision of larger lots of land in this part of town often illustrate unfulfilled real estate ambitions of landowner's heirs, like the 1943 subdivision of Alexander R. Foushee's estate that created a path for a roadway between S. Main and Foushee streets south of Academy Street that was never completed and 33 lots that remain undeveloped to the present day.<sup>42</sup>

### *Reamstown Historic District (PR0328)*

The Reamstown Historic District is set apart from the North and South Roxboro residential districts as the oldest and largest planned suburban development in Roxboro. Laid out as a cohesive neighborhood and marketed by businessmen-turned-real estate developers with broad economic interests in the region, Reamstown reflects the ideals of suburban living around the turn of the twentieth century.

In 1888, James T. and Susan Cates partnered with Durham attorney, Henry A. Reams, with the intention of developing a portion of their family's farm lying just northwest of "Uptown Roxboro."<sup>43</sup> The local paper reported that streets "through the property of Messers Reams and Cates" were laid out and finished in March 1890, while a July advertisement in the *Durham Daily Globe* gave notice of a public auction with special trains running to Roxboro the morning of August 20 for the event.<sup>44</sup> The ad included a plat of the neighborhood that also illustrated its proximity to the commercial center of town and provided promotional language about the City of Roxboro and its projected growth (Figure 15, p. 42). The day after the sale, *The Roxboro Courier* reported that, despite the L&D Railroad being not yet finished to Durham, demand for tickets encouraged the company's President to "run the excursion" and that more than 30 people, from in and out of state, purchased lots in the development.<sup>45</sup>

The name "Reamstown" was given to the subdivision soon afterward in acknowledgement of Mr. Reams' efforts to promote and develop the neighborhood with houses rising rapidly in "the most desirable part of the Town to build in."<sup>46</sup> Reams does not appear to have lived in Roxboro during the time in which he marketed real estate in Reamstown, though he is known to have worked with local attorney, W.W. Kitchen, who was later elected to the United States (U.S.) House of Representatives and served as Governor of North Carolina from 1909 to 1913.<sup>47</sup> At the

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<sup>41</sup> PCPB 4:106; Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>42</sup> PCPB 4:110.

<sup>43</sup> Person County Deed Book (PCDB) GG:453.

<sup>44</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1890a:3; Durham Daily Globe 1890:7.

<sup>45</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1890b:3.

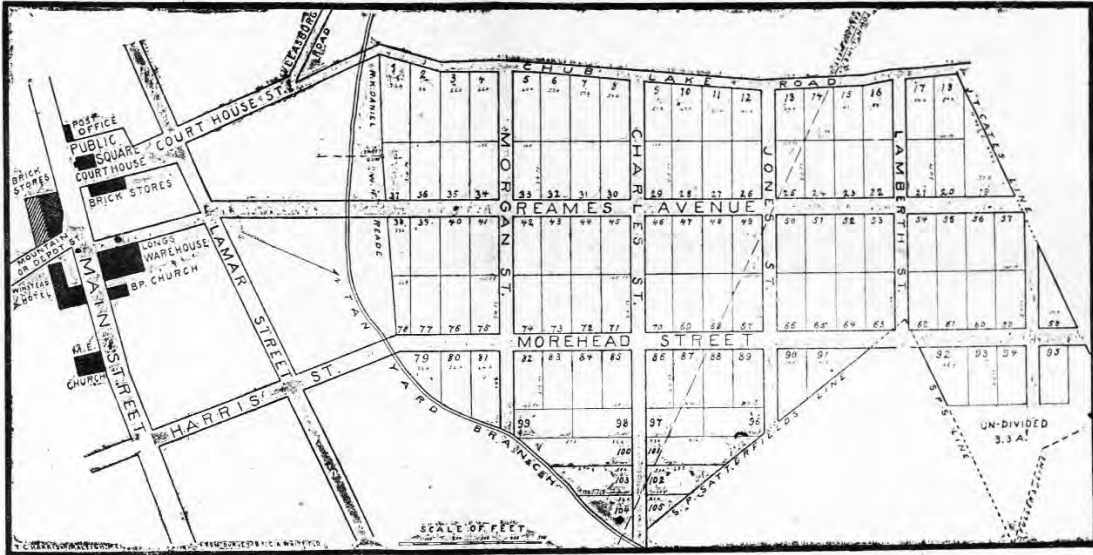
<sup>46</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1890c:3.

<sup>47</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.



time of his death in 1920, Henry A. Reams was identified as a “tobacconist” most known for being the first to establish a loose-leaf tobacco warehouse and market in 1871 in Durham in partnership with Alex Walker of Person County.<sup>48</sup>

**ONE HUNDRED LOTS  
TO BE SOLD AT ROXBORO,  
August 20th, 1890, at Auction!**



These Lots are conveniently and beautifully located, and streets have been laid off and nicely graded, giving sidewalks to each lot. Roxboro is the County Seat of Person, situated in one of the Finest Tobacco Sections in North Carolina, and midway between Durham and South Boston, on the Durham & Lynchburg Railroad, where the projected Road from Greensboro, to connect with the Atlantic & Danville Railroad crosses.

Roxboro has a population of 400 or 500, seven stores, and others being erected, two drug stores, two millinery stores, two carriage factories, one harness and saddle factory, three repairing shops, one flouring mill, one saw mill, two tobacco factories already built, and the Farmers' Alliance are making arrangements to build a very large tobacco factory, one large brick warehouse for the sale of leaf tobacco is nearing completion, and others to be built, and several prize houses will be erected in time for housing the 1890 crop.

We do not claim that Roxboro will be a magic city, but do believe, owing to the advantages of the location, that it will grow and increase far beyond many places that have formed large land and improvement companies, and are being boomed as the coming cities of the nation, where land is being sold at fancy prices. In fact, Roxboro has the foundation upon which to build superior to many of these places.

Remember, these lots have not been sold to stock companies at high prices, so you will have the chance of becoming the original purchaser and get in on the ground floor.

**THIS IS A FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN INVESTMENT! NO DANGER OF A RELAPSE!**

For Roxboro has a sure, steady and healthy growth, with a bright future. There is a demand in Roxboro for houses at this time. Be sure to attend the sale, or you may regret your lost opportunity.

Special trains will be run from Lynchburg and Durham on the morning of the 20th to accommodate all wishing to attend the sale or visit Roxboro, at reduced rates. Everybody is invited to go.

**TERMS OF SALE—ONE-HALF CASH, BALANCE IN TWELVE MONTHS.**

For further particulars, call on or address W. W. KITCHEN, Esq., at Roxboro, N. C., or the undersigned, at Durham, N. C.

**H. A. REAMS, Attorney.**

Figure 15: July 1890 Advertisement for the Initial Sale of Lots in Reamstown.<sup>49</sup>

Evidenced by the extant architecture in Reamstown, lots along both sides of Reams Avenue and those located closest to the city center were generally the earliest to be developed and feature houses of varying size with stylish embellishments from the early-twentieth century. Common to

<sup>48</sup> Foushee 1917:15; North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1920.

<sup>49</sup> Durham Daily Globe 1890:7.

such early suburban neighborhoods, groups of lots were often sold to a single buyer as an investment, leading to the clustered construction of similar house types like the small cottages from 413–507 Ivey Street and 317–329 N. Charles Street.

It is not known if any formal deed restrictions were placed on lots sold in Reamstown to restrict the ownership or residency of African Americans, but it is unlikely as federal census records report several black households on and around Reams Avenue from the 1910s into the 1930s.<sup>50</sup> By the 1930s, side streets in Reamstown like Jones and Lambreth were almost entirely populated by African Americans. City directories from the late 1950s and early 1960s indicate that the neighborhood was occupied by both black and white residents, although they appear to have been fairly segregated by street. Many of the African Americans living on Ivey and Jones streets were identified as owning their houses, but other streets like Charles, Morgan, Lambreth, and Reams Avenue were almost entirely occupied by white residents.<sup>51</sup>

### *Evaluation*

As the seat of and sole municipality in Person County, the City of Roxboro has much in common with neighboring county seats like Oxford in Granville County to the east and Hillsborough in Orange County to the south. Situated in the state’s Piedmont region, all three of these cities began as crossroad communities in the latter half of the eighteenth century and benefited from their proximity to a railroad in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries.

The Hillsborough Historic District (OR0077) is listed in the NRHP and includes residential, civic, industrial, and commercial architecture at the core of the community.<sup>52</sup> Initially listed in 1973 with a boundary expansion in the late 1980s and a period of significance expansion in 2013, the Hillsborough Historic District includes 556 contributing resources and 409 non-contributing properties.<sup>53</sup> Listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C with a period of significance from 1754 to 1963, this district is significant in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, Commerce, Conservation, Education, Military, Political, Religious, Science, Social and Ethnic Heritage. Residential resources in the district illustrate a wide range of forms, styles, and construction methods dating from 1772 until 1963.

The Oxford Historic District (GV0521) was listed in the NRHP in 1988 under Criteria A and C for important associations with Architecture, Commerce, and Industry. This district “embraces the first developed sections of town” including 246 resources, most of which are residential buildings, dating from the early-nineteenth century into the 1930s.<sup>54</sup> Other resources include historic commercial, civic, religious, industrial, and institutional properties. Of the 246 properties in this district, just 32 post-date 1937. In 2018, an expansion of the Oxford Historic District to include resources built between 1845 and 1965, most of which are residential properties, was

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<sup>50</sup> United States Federal Population Census (U.S. Census) 1910, 1920, 1930.

<sup>51</sup> Miller 1956.

<sup>52</sup> Slane 2013.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid.

<sup>54</sup> Brown and Esperon 1987.

added to the NC-HPO's study list. Four distinct residential districts in Oxford are also on the study list, including the Williamsboro-Military Historic District (GV0707), highlighting a residential neighborhood with resources dating from the 1850s to 1955; the Overhills Historic District (GV0701) that encompasses a 1937 to circa-1960 residential neighborhood with period cottages; the Green Acres Historic District (GV0697), which includes a Ranch and Split-Level residential development built between 1951 and 1968; and the Eastman Park Historic District (GV0696), a residential African American development built between 1944 and the 1960s.<sup>55</sup>

Recent expansions of the Hillsborough and Oxford Historic Districts and identification of surrounding historic residential subdivisions indicate that surrounding communities in the Piedmont are increasingly recognizing older residential neighborhoods and suburban development as important illustrations of these localities' development. House forms and architectural styles in the older residential areas that border civic and commercial centers of the county seats of Roxboro, Oxford, and Hillsborough follow common trends in design seen elsewhere in the Piedmont region and the state, at large, but they also reflect the community's history and how its people embraced specific patterns of suburban development.

Today, Roxboro continues to grow at its edges and redevelop land around its civic center. All three of Roxboro's residential districts reflect various historical patterns that shaped the growth and appearance of the city as it transitioned from a small crossroads community to the largest municipality in Person County. Each of the proposed districts recorded during this study were examined under the criteria of the NRHP and relevant guidance from the National Park Service (NPS). According to the NPS guidelines for evaluating historic residential suburbs, a neighborhood or district is eligible under Criterion A if it meets one of the following items:

- Neighborhood reflects an important historic trend in the development and growth of a locality or metropolitan area;
- Suburb represents an important event or association, such as the expansion of housing associated with wartime industries during World War II, or the racial integration of suburban neighborhoods in the 1950s;
- Suburb introduced conventions of community planning important in the history of suburbanization, such as zoning, deed restrictions, or subdivision regulations;
- Neighborhood is associated with the heritage of social, economic, racial, or ethnic groups important in the history of a locality or metropolitan area;
- Suburb is associated with a group of individuals, including merchants, industrialists, educators, and community leaders, important in the history and development of a locality or metropolitan area.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> NC-HPO 2019.

<sup>56</sup> Ames et al. 2004:F-58-59.



For a historic suburb to be eligible under Criterion B, it must be “directly associated with the life and career of an individual who made important contributions to the history of a locality or metropolitan area.”<sup>57</sup>

Under Criterion C, the NPS states that a suburb can be eligible for the NRHP when it contains a “collection of residential architecture [that] is an important example of distinctive period of construction, method of construction, or the work of one or more notable architects” or reflects “principles of design important in the history of community planning and landscape architecture, or is the work of a master landscape architect, site planner, or design firm.”<sup>58</sup>

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant. With regard to suburban development, the NPS states that “neighborhoods likely to yield important information about vernacular house types, yard design, gardening practices, and patterns of domestic life” could be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.<sup>59</sup>

In general, no particular individual is directly associated with residential development in the City of Roxboro. While important leaders in the community were involved in real estate development throughout the city, the events and actions for which they have attained historical significance are not attributed to their contributions to its housing stock. Therefore, all three of the residential districts in Roxboro are recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criteria B. Furthermore, given the date of their construction and development, all three of Roxboro’s residential districts are not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. As such, all three districts are also recommended not eligible under Criterion D. As all three districts feature a different building stock and various periods of significance, their significance under Criteria A and C will be assessed in individual sections below.

#### *North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326)*

The North Roxboro Residential Historic District is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C as it reflects significant trends that shaped the expansion of Roxboro along its dominant transportation corridor during a significant period of growth in the community with a variety of distinctive architectural forms and styles. Blending traditional patterns of mid- to late-nineteenth century incremental growth and early-twentieth-century patterns of planned suburban neighborhoods, the street network and compilation of architectural forms and styles within the district also reflect significant trends in residential design. The period of significance for the district is recommended to extend from 1842 to 1960.

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<sup>57</sup> Ames et al. 2004: F-58–60.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

<sup>59</sup> Ames et al. 2004: F-60–61.

The North Roxboro Residential Historic District retains a high to moderate level of historic integrity in its location, setting, and design as a majority of its historic streetscape and architectural resources remain extant and in good condition. While some individual resources feature replacement materials that have negatively impacted their integrity of design and materials, the district on the whole continues to convey a high to moderate level of integrity in design, materials, feeling, and association.

The proposed boundary of the North Roxboro Residential Historic District is generally bounded by N. Lamar Street on the west, Walker Street on the north, the NS Railroad and N. Foushee Street on the east, and Davis Drive on the south (Figure 16, p. 48).

#### *South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)*

The South Roxboro Residential Historic District is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C as it also reflects significant trends that shaped the growth and expansion of Roxboro along its dominant transportation corridor during a significant period of growth in the community with a variety of distinctive architectural forms and styles that differ somewhat from those highlighted by the North Roxboro residential district. This district largely reflects traditional patterns of incremental residential growth that was largely unplanned at a broad scale. The street network and compilation of architectural forms and styles within this district reflect significant trends in residential design similar to those found north of the commercial core, but with a greater degree of difference between high-style dwellings and the vernacular resources that line side streets throughout the area. The period of significance for the district is recommended to extend from 1875 to 1955.

The South Roxboro Residential Historic District retains a high to moderate level of historic integrity in its location, setting, and design as a majority of its historic streetscape and architectural resources remain extant and in good condition. While some individual resources feature replacement materials that have negatively impacted their integrity of design and materials, the district on the whole continues to convey a high to moderate level of integrity in design, materials, feeling, and association.

The boundary for the South Roxboro Residential Historic District generally includes dwellings on either side of South Lamar and South Main Street, between Gordon and Trotter streets, and on either side of Academy Street as it extends east to the NS Railroad (Figure 17, p. 49).

#### *Reamstown Historic District (PR0328)*

The Reamstown Historic District is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A as the first, oldest, and largest planned suburban neighborhood in the City of Roxboro. The district's historical associations with Roxboro's growth around the turn of the century and the completion of the L&D Railroad reflect economic and cultural aspirations for the community's future by local and regional businessmen. Its location at a distance from the commercial core and other design features like a gridded street network, spatial organization, and type of dwellings

within the district illustrate popular trends in suburban residential development that illustrate Roxboro's prosperity relative to surrounding municipalities and county seats. At the fringe of the city, this area also became an affordable and relatively safe place for African Americans to reside during the early- and mid-twentieth century during the Jim Crow era. For this reason, the period of significance for the district extends from 1890 to 1965.

While this district contains a similar mix of house forms and architectural styles as the North and South Roxboro districts, it suffers from an increased number of vacant lots, new construction, and an abundance of replacement materials. These alterations have diminished its historic integrity of setting, design, materials, and workmanship, though the district retains a strong sense of historic location, feeling, and association.

As a collective, the district retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as the oldest and largest historic residential suburb of Roxboro. However, a majority of the 135 historic resources in Reamstown have been altered over time. Replacement windows, siding, and porch materials are the rule rather than the exception with some of the older cottages being currently vacant or in a ruinous state. In addition to the regular incidence of replacement materials, the rhythmic pattern of historic resources on some streets in the district clustered in small numbers has been interrupted by more recently constructed buildings, often townhouses or apartment buildings that are incompatible with the historic character of the neighborhood, particularly in areas at the north end of the development. These alterations reflect changing socio-economic conditions and the higher rate of rental property in this part of t. While they detract from the architectural significance of the neighborhood, they do not diminish its general historic suburban character. As such, the Reamstown Historic District it is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

The boundary for the Reamstown Residential Historic District is Ridge Road to the north, Chub Lake Street to the southwest, Ivey Street to the northeast, and what remains of Tan Yard Branch on the south (Figure 18, p. 50)

**In sum, the North Roxboro Residential Historic District is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP at the local level under Criteria A and C; the South Roxboro Residential Historic District is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C; and the Reamstown Historic District is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A.**





Figure 16: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) as Shown in Red.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>60</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 17: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) as Shown in Red.<sup>61</sup>

<sup>61</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 18 Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Reamstown Residential Historic District (PR0328) as Shown in Red.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>62</sup> Esri 2019.



## PR0301: Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, 1208 N. Main Street

Date of Construction: ca. 1956

Modifications: n/a

1208 N. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-08-88-4338

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under Criterion A



### *Architectural Description*

The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange at 1208 N. Main Street is located at the intersection of N. Main Street and Virgilina Road in Roxboro. The resource is situated on a single parcel of land totaling 1.81 acres and faces west towards N. Main Street (Figure 19–Figure 20, pp. 52–53). The N&W Railway is located to the east of the resource and the south and west sides of the parcel have open gravel parking areas for customers and service vehicles. A propane tank is located on the south of the parcel, accessed via Virgilina Road. Additionally, a concrete pad and concrete-block building that formerly served as a weight station is located on the south portion of the parcel. Chain-link fencing separates the western parcel boundary from the railroad, and is also used to delineate the parking area on the east side of the building. The resource is located north of downtown Roxboro in a mixed-use, industrial, residential, and commercial area.

### *Primary Resource: Exterior*

The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building was constructed as a one-story, multi-bay, commercial building in 1956. It is unclear if the northern addition to the main core was constructed at the same time, or if it was a later addition. The building is separated into retail space, office and storage areas, and distribution/receiving areas. The building rests on a continuous concrete-block foundation. The concrete-block walls are clad in a common-bond brick veneer and topped by a moderately pitched, side-gabled, corrugated metal-clad roof with overhanging eaves. A stepped parapet is located on the south elevation of the building (Photo 27, p. 54). Ten large, conical, metal vents pierce the roof ridge of the building (Photo 28, p. 54).

Stretching across the façade, or east elevation, is a one-story, multi-bay, overhanging eave which provides covering for the multiple entry bays along this elevation (Photo 29, p. 55). The west elevation has a partial awning over the loading bays. Contemporary double-leaf, sliding, metal-framed doors are located on the west elevation and currently provide access to the interior of the resource (Photo 30, p. 55). A secondary entrance, filled by a single-leaf, glass-and-metal door is on the west elevation as well. The east elevation of the building, which faces the railroad, was constructed as a loading/unloading area for agricultural merchandise, and has several loading dock areas and an elevated wood and concrete deck. The south elevation functions as the current truck loading and unloading dock, and features an open bay sheltered by a metal awning

supported by metal brackets. Pedestrian access is gained via a concrete and brick ramp extending from the west side of the dock (see Photo 27, p. 54).



Figure 19: Location of the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange (PR0301).<sup>63</sup>

<sup>63</sup> Esri 2019.



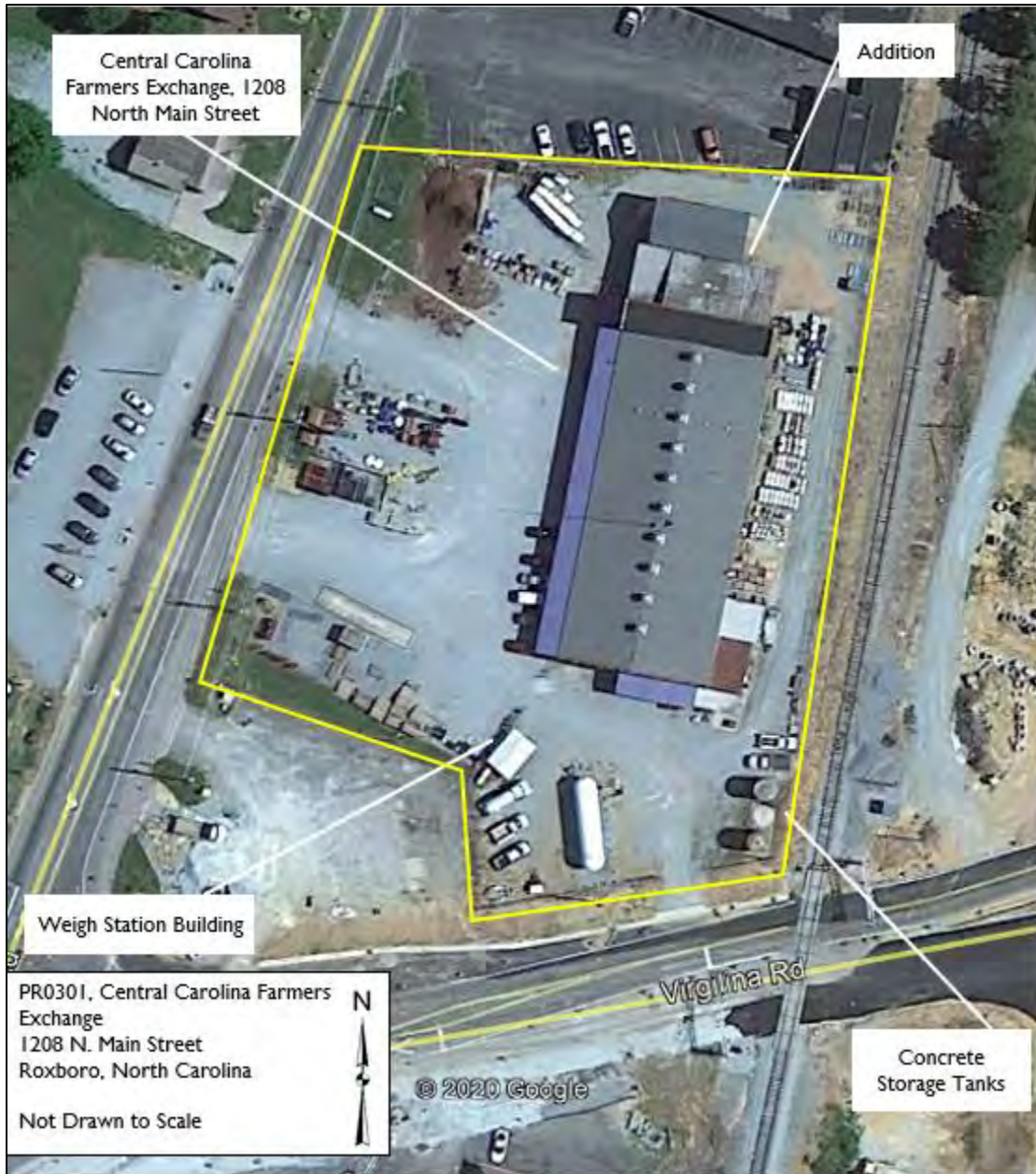


Figure 20: Site Plan of Central Carolina Farmers Exchange at 1208 N. Main Street.<sup>64</sup>

A large, two-story building was constructed immediately north of the original building around the time of construction, circa 1960. Although originally a separate building, it now functions as an addition and is connected to the main building by a flat roof supported by metal poles (Photo 31, p. 56). This two-story building rests on a continuous foundation and has concrete-block walls topped by a low-pitched, gabled roof with vinyl siding in the gable ends. This addition is likely

<sup>64</sup> Google Earth 2018.



used for inventory or equipment storage, as it does not have doors or windows. Fenestration is limited to a single open bay on the west elevation of the addition. It is accessed from the property's gravel parking area by a paved concrete ramp.



Photo 27: Detail of Southeast Oblique; Note Stepped Parapet and Loading Dock.



Photo 28: Overview of the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, Facing Southeast.



Photo 29: West Elevation Facing Southeast.



Photo 30: Detail of Primary Entry to Retail Store on West Elevation.





Photo 31: Southwest Oblique of Addition, Facing Northeast.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The interior of the original core is divided into two primary sections: retail and office (southern two-thirds) and inventory storage (northern one-third) (Figure 21, p. 57). The retail and office space consist of a large, central store area with three offices and utility rooms, such as bathrooms and closets, to the south. A combination of hardwood (both original and replacement) and poured-concrete flooring are found in the portions of the retail area. A dropped ceiling was installed in this section of the building at an unknown date (Photo 32, p. 58). Interior doors throughout this section include single-leaf, wood paneled original and replacement doors and double-leaf, metal doors (Photo 33, p. 58). Storage areas in the southern portion of the building are clad in the same materials as other sections of the core, including wood and concrete flooring, exposed rafter and drop-ceilings, and drywall or frame walls. A set of wood stairs in the southern one-third leads to a lofted area that is used for storage.



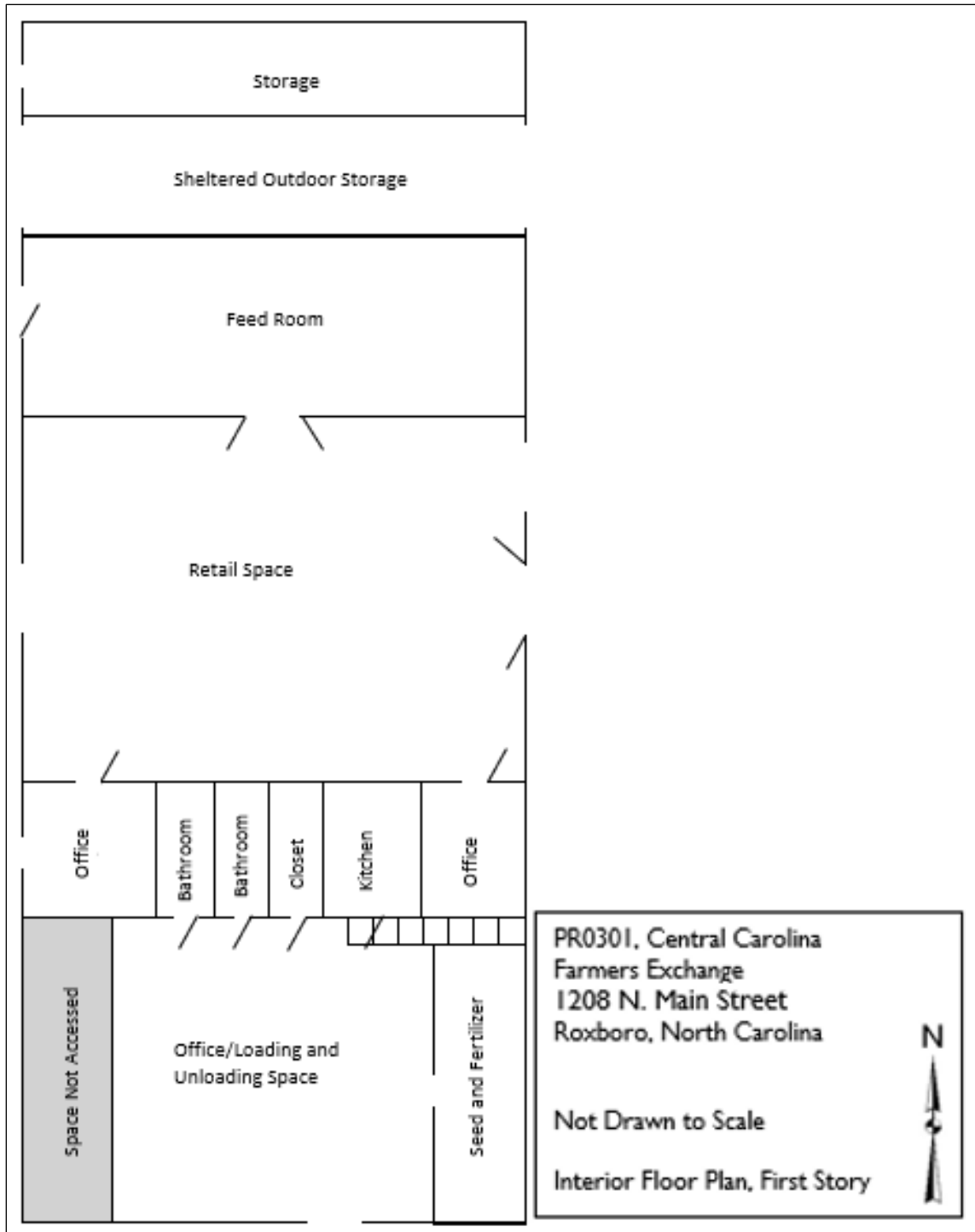


Figure 21: Interior Floorplan.



Photo 32: Detail of Interior Office Space, Facing West (Left) and Interior of Retail Space (Right).



Photo 33: Detail of Exterior Staircase Facing Southeast (Left) and Interior Wood Doors, Facing North (Right).

### *Secondary Resources*

As this building has served an agricultural industrial function, secondary structures on the property relate to its continued use in that capacity. They primarily relate to the servicing of vehicles for shipping goods, and include a weigh station and concrete storage tanks. The one-story, one-bay, flat-roofed, concrete-block weigh station building is located southwest of the primary resource. It was constructed circa 1960 and is accessed via a single-leaf metal door. Additional fenestration includes fixed metal windows. This building is located next to a concrete pad which formerly related to the use as a weigh station and likely once contained a scale (Photo 34, p. 59).

Likewise, two large concrete storage tanks are situated on the east side of the building, between the building and the railroad. These circular structures were likely constructed around the same time as the weigh station, circa 1960. It is unclear what they stored or if they are still in use in their original capacity.



Photo 34: Weigh Station Structure, Facing West (Left). Concrete Storage Tanks Located Southeast of Building (Right).

### *Historic Context*

Roxboro, as the county seat of Person County, was the primary commercial center in an otherwise agriculturally dominant county.<sup>65</sup> Crops central to this economy included cotton and tobacco, as well as edibles like corn, vegetables, and wheat.<sup>66</sup> The county experienced growth and prosperity after the N&W Railway was constructed through Roxboro in 1890, as farmers could now more easily distribute their agricultural products.<sup>67</sup> The establishment of this railroad allowed for an increase in economic ventures, like textile mills, tobacco warehouses, and the production of commercial goods.

To support the thriving agricultural economy of the twentieth century, the current resource was built in 1956 for the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, an agricultural distribution and informational center headquartered in Durham.<sup>68</sup> The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange stored and distributed agricultural supplies, like fertilizers, in bulk to farmers in the counties in which they constructed facilities. Typically, these buildings were located along established transportation routes, like railroads and primary vehicular thoroughfares, for economical distribution. They also featured large storage areas and ventilation systems designed to

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<sup>65</sup> Boatwright 2006:11.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid.

<sup>67</sup> Ibid.

<sup>68</sup> Open Durham 2019a.



accommodate the storage of off-gassing materials like fertilizer (Figure 22, p. 60). Central Carolina Farmers Exchange outposts were constructed to serve a wide community; this resource of study is the only example constructed in Person County.



Figure 22: Circa-1950s Image of the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange Building in Pittsboro, North Carolina.<sup>69</sup>

Central Carolina Farmers Exchange in Roxboro began as the Durham Farmers Exchange, which served the surrounding agricultural community (Photo 35 and Photo 36, p. 61). In 1930, the Durham Hosiery Mill was converted for use by the Durham Farmers Exchange by John Sprunt Hill and George Watts Hill. By the 1950s, the organization merged with the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange and additional facilities were acquired or newly constructed, like the Feed Mill at 909 Gilbert Street and the Dye House at 708 Gilbert Street in Durham (Photo 37, p. 61; Figure 23, p. 62). Central Carolina Farmers Exchange merged with the North Carolina-based Farmer's Cooperative Exchange (FCX), a farm supply company, in 1980 (Figure 24, p. 63).<sup>70</sup> It continued to serve in a similar capacity as the agricultural extension office, retail and distribution center.<sup>71</sup> FCX started in Burlington in 1934 as a helpful organization for farmers in the state who suffered through the Great Depression.<sup>72</sup>

With easy access to the N&W Railway, the location was prime for running the business of agricultural good transportation and resale. In the late 1980s, Southern States Cooperative Inc., based in Richmond, Virginia, bought out the assets of FCX.<sup>73</sup> After this buyout, in 1986, the farm and agricultural supply retailer used the building as their primary retail and distribution center in Person County. Southern States Cooperative Inc. is similar in purpose as the original Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, but with a broader geographic reach and network capacity. Today, the building serves as a retail store with office and warehouse space for the company.

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<sup>69</sup> Chatham Farm Supply 2020.

<sup>70</sup> PCDB 5:267.

<sup>71</sup> Knight 1984.

<sup>72</sup> Ibid.

<sup>73</sup> PCDB 185:880; Southern States 2019; UPI 1986.



Photo 35: Durham Hosiery Mill at 801 Gilbert Street, Durham, Facing Northeast.



Photo 36: Circa 1965 Central Carolina Farmers Exchange Feed Mill at 909 Gilbert Street, Durham, Facing Northeast.



Photo 37: Commercial Building (Former Dye House) at 708 Gilbert Street, Durham, Facing South.

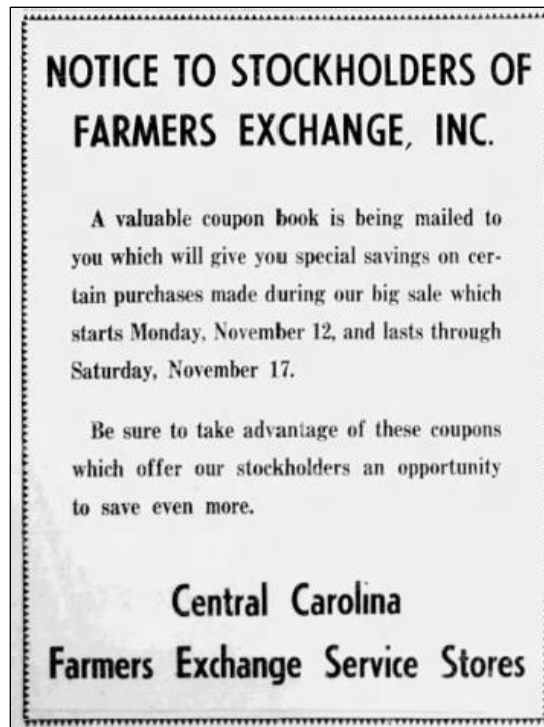


Figure 23: 1956 Advertisement for Central Carolina Farmers Exchange Service Stores.<sup>74</sup>

### *Evaluation*

The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building at 1208 N. Main Street was constructed as a one-story, multi-bay, commercial building in 1956. Both the form and style of this building are relatively common for mid-century warehouses along rail corridors throughout the country, region, and in central North Carolina. Research did not reveal an architect or builder; however, it has operated in the same capacity since its construction.

The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange retains a relatively high level of historic integrity of location and setting, having not been moved and continuing to be surrounded by other industrial and commercial buildings in northern Roxboro. Given modifications over time to suit slight changes in function as a retail store, including replacement storefront windows and doors and reconfiguration of interior space, this resource has a moderate level of historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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<sup>74</sup> The Chatham Record 1956:6.



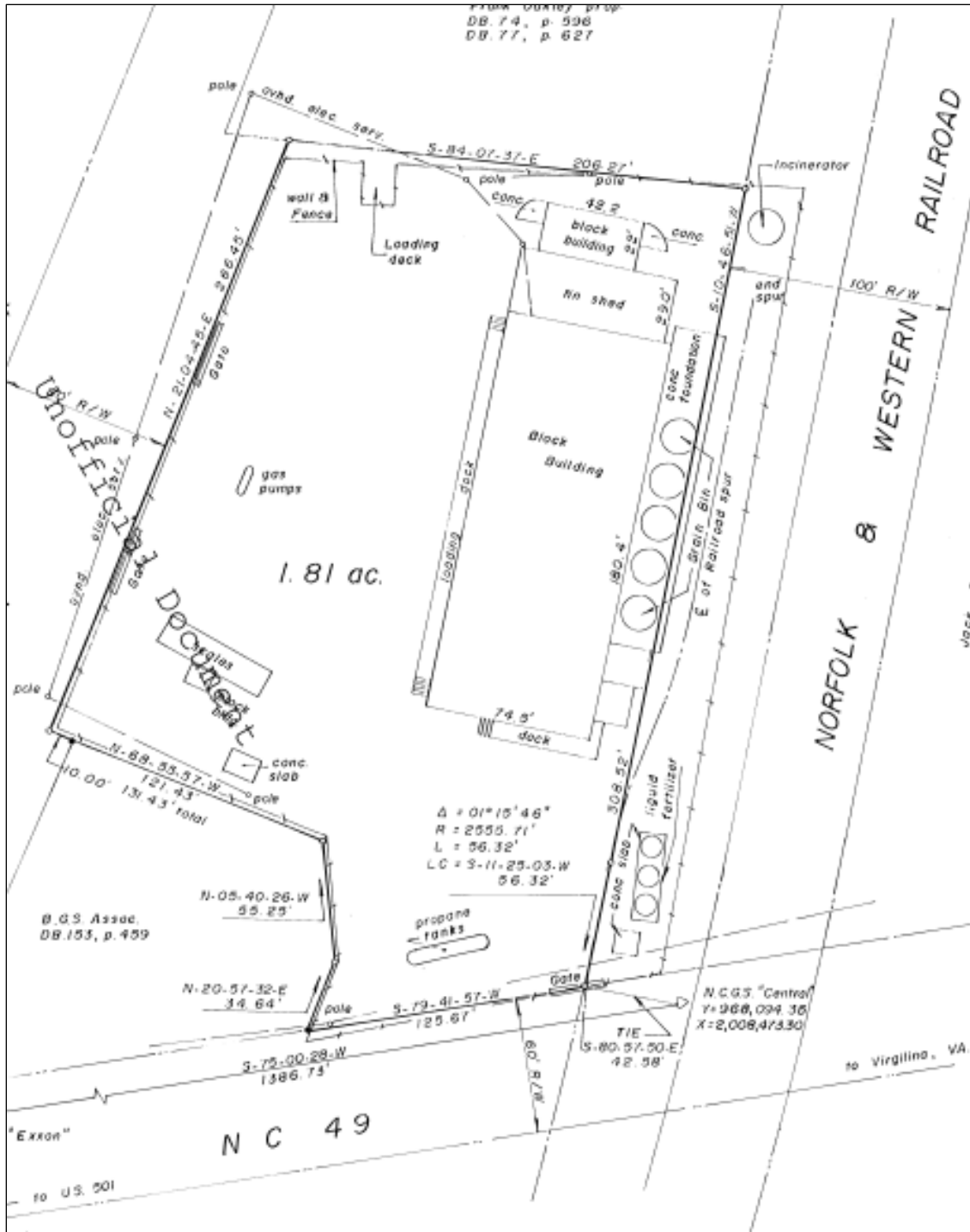


Figure 24: 1983 Plat of Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, Then Known as the FCX Property.<sup>75</sup>

<sup>75</sup> PCPB 3:132.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>76</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>77</sup> The resource of study has operated as an agricultural depot and retail store in Roxboro since the mid-1950s, and continues to serve the City and Person County in that capacity. Person County’s primary economic development agent has been its agricultural industry since Roxboro’s incorporation in the nineteenth century, and the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, FCX, and Southern States in turn, have supported that industry within Roxboro and the county as a whole.<sup>78</sup>

The service store and granary at Frank Whitfield Road in Roxboro is a previously unrecorded resource which served a similar agricultural product storage capacity as the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange (Photo 38). Constructed around 1950, the building was designed to store and distribute agricultural products, serving the agricultural industry within the City and the surrounding county.



Photo 38: Service Store and Granary at Frank Whitfield Road and Burlington Road in Roxboro, Facing Northwest.

The Durham Hosiery Mill, which was converted from hosiery production to an agricultural center in 1930 by the Durham Farmers Exchange and merged with the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange in the 1950s, is an example of a repurposed building that functioned as a Central Carolina Farmers Exchange facility. The hosiery mill building was possibly selected based on the needs of the Durham Farmers Exchange; open interior space, which would allow for

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<sup>76</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> Boatwright 2006:11.

agricultural product storage and distribution, and proximity to transportation via the railroad. Both of those aspects were later adopted when the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange constructed their own purpose-built centers elsewhere in the state, such as the Roxboro center. The success of the Durham Farmers Exchange merging with the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange probably created the capital necessary to expand their operations elsewhere in the state, including neighboring Person County. The design of the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building in Roxboro reflects the needs of the company for large open interior spaces, and proximity to the railroad.

The buildings at 909 Gilbert Street and 708 Gilbert Street in Durham are extant examples of other regional Central Carolina Farmers Exchange buildings (see Photo 37, p. 61). While not associated with the Durham Hosiery Mill, they are located close by in an industrial area of Durham. These buildings do not resemble other examples of purpose-built Central Carolina Farmers Exchange buildings, as they were originally constructed for other uses, but were operated as farmers exchange outposts and supplementary buildings. The Durham Hosiery Mill building, and the buildings at 909 and 708 Gilbert Street are not currently functioning in an agricultural capacity.

Though no significant events are known to have taken place in this building, its historic function is unique and significant in Roxboro and Person County, as it is the only building associated with the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange, an enterprise which helped shape agricultural development and commerce in Roxboro and Person County. As the building was constructed during a booming time in the agricultural industry, it exemplifies this historical trend, and additionally the commerce and exchange of goods and information within helped continue to contribute to the agricultural prosperity in Person County throughout the twentieth century. The building continues to serve the region in the same capacity, under the Southern States brand, which was established for a similar purpose as the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange. Additionally, the building retains the original features which convey its purpose as an agricultural distribution center. For these reasons, this resource is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A at the local level for its contribution to the agricultural development within Roxboro and Person County.

The known owners and merchants historically associated with the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. As such, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>79</sup> Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility under Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable

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<sup>79</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>80</sup> The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building is typical of agricultural distribution centers constructed in the early- to mid-twentieth century in North Carolina. Furthermore, several additions and modifications have been made to the building as it has changed over time, somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

In order to properly evaluate the resource's NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. As Central Carolina Farmers Exchange buildings were located regionally, to serve a wide area, there are no other examples of these buildings within Person County. However, Roxboro does have examples of similar types of warehouse storage and shipping facilities, which relate structurally to the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building in their goods storage and distribution function.

The service store and granary at Frank Whitfield Road was constructed for a similar purpose as the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange Building (see Photo 38, p. 64). Constructed circa 1950, this complex includes a street-facing building with a monitor roof, designed for the ventilation of off-gassing materials. This is similar to the ridge vents at the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building. The building is smaller in scale and capacity than the resource being evaluated. It does appear to currently function as a storage, service, and distribution center; however, at a much smaller scale. The building appears to be fairly unaltered.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>81</sup> The Central Carolina Farmers Exchange building is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

**In sum, the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange Building is recommended eligible under Criterion A.** A recommended period of significance for this resource is based on the construction of the building in 1956 until 1970 based on the 50-year rule of eligibility, as it continues to function as a store and distribution center for local agriculture. The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigation conform to the existing tax parcel(s) (8 19) (Figure 25, p. 67). The boundaries include the primary resource, the weigh station, the concrete storage tanks, and all concrete pads, parking areas, and landscaping associated with the property.

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<sup>80</sup> Ibid.

<sup>81</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



Figure 25: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Central Carolina Farmers Exchange (PR0301) as Shown in Red.<sup>82</sup>

<sup>82</sup> Esri 2019.

## **PR0302: Flav-O-Rich, 1016 N. Main Street**

Date of Construction: 1965

Modifications: ca. 1983

1016 N. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-08-87-1606

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The Flav-O-Rich building (known today as Libby's Tax Services) at 1016 N. Main Street is located on the southeast side of N. Main Street and the northeast side of Elizabeth Street in Roxboro (Figure 26–Figure 27, pp. 69–70). The resource is situated on a single parcel of land totaling 0.75 acre that is accessed by two paved parking lots: one that extends from N. Main Street on the north side of the parcel and another on the south portion of the parcel accessed via Elizabeth Street. The building faces northwest towards N. Main Street. A manicured lawn with several small bushes occupies the southwest corner of the lot. Pedestrian access from N. Main Street is provided by a paved concrete sidewalk and it is decorated with two raised, brick, planting boxes on either side of the sidewalk. During this survey, interior access was granted but limited to the northwestern office portion of the building.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Flav-O-Rich building appears to have been constructed in a singular phase in 1965 as a one-story, one-bay, commercial building constructed in a modest interpretation of a Modernist style with a multi-bay loading dock on the rear of the building. After the property was purchased by the Ansun Broadcasting Company in the mid 1980s, this loading dock area was likely remodeled to its current configuration of subdivided space containing several individual businesses. The building rests on a continuous concrete-block foundation and concrete-block walls are clad in stretcher-bond brick veneer. Six brick projections extend from on the primary (southwest) elevation. The building is topped by a flat roof with slight overhang and lined with metal coping (Photo 39, p. 71).

Stretching across the façade (southwest elevation) is a flat roof with soffit that shelters the main entrance to the building. The central bay of the building contains the primary entrance, which is a single-leaf, metal-framed door surrounded by fixed metal-framed windows. The doors and windows on the façade date from the building's construction. The north and south elevations of the building contain central bays filled with fixed and sliding, metal-framed original windows (Photo 39 and Photo 40, p. 71).





Figure 26: Location of Flav-O-Rich (PR0302).<sup>83</sup>

<sup>83</sup> Esri 2019.



Figure 27: Site Plan of the Flav-O-Rich Building at 1016 N. Main Street.<sup>84</sup>

A large, one-story, metal-framed loading dock, which is now office space, extends across the rear (east) elevation of the original portion of the building (Photo 41, p. 72). It rests on a poured-concrete foundation and has a metal-sheet-siding-clad structural system topped by a flat roof. Fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows. Access to the rear portion of the building is provided by single-leaf, fiberglass doors which are paired with three windows on the north and south elevations. Each door is sheltered by a metal awning. This addition was initially constructed as a loading dock and was remodeled in the 1980s.

<sup>84</sup> Google Earth 2018.





Photo 39: West Elevation and Primary Entry Detail.



Photo 40: Southwest Oblique (Top) and View of Converted Loading Dock Area, Facing North (Bottom).





Photo 41: View of Converted Loading Dock Area Facing West.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior was granted but limited to the original core (western portion), and as such, the following section does not include an interior description of the rear addition. The original section of the building primarily consists of one central rectangular room with five smaller rooms containing offices and restrooms placed around the perimeter (Figure 28, p. 73; Photo 42 and Photo 43, pp. 74–75). Towards the eastern end of the original core, two restrooms are present and feature original tiling. The doors and associated hardware in this section of the building also appear to be original. It is unclear if the current office configuration matches the 1965 interior design, but it is possible that the spatial arrangement is similar to that originally built. Linoleum floors are located throughout much of the original core's interior; one office has replacement, laminate faux-wood flooring. Interior walls are typically exposed concrete block. A dropped ceiling has been inserted into the office section of the building and holds overhead fluorescent lighting. An original safe is located in one of the offices in the western portion of the building and is attached to the floor.

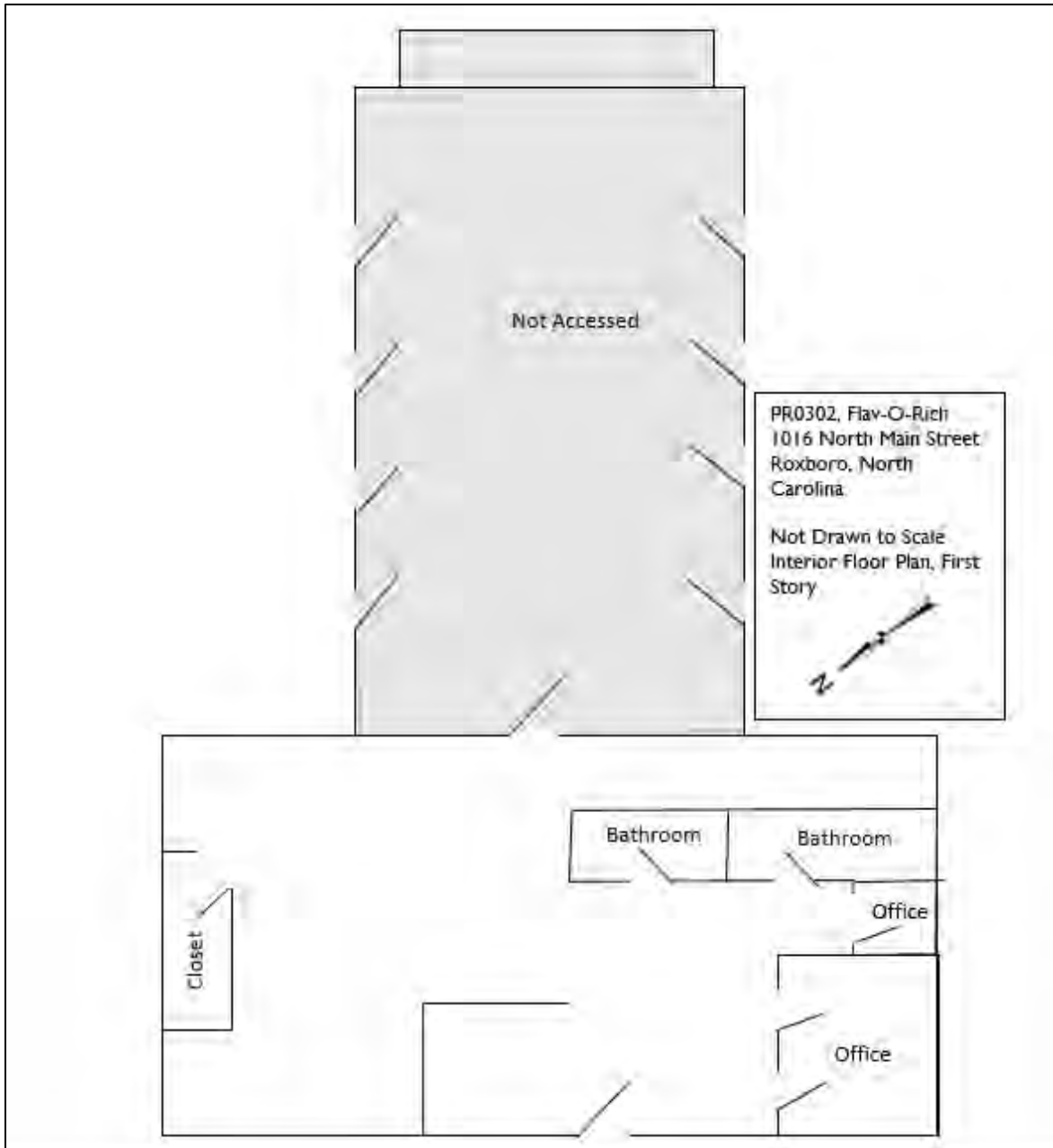


Figure 28: Interior Floor Plan of the Flav-O-Rich Building.

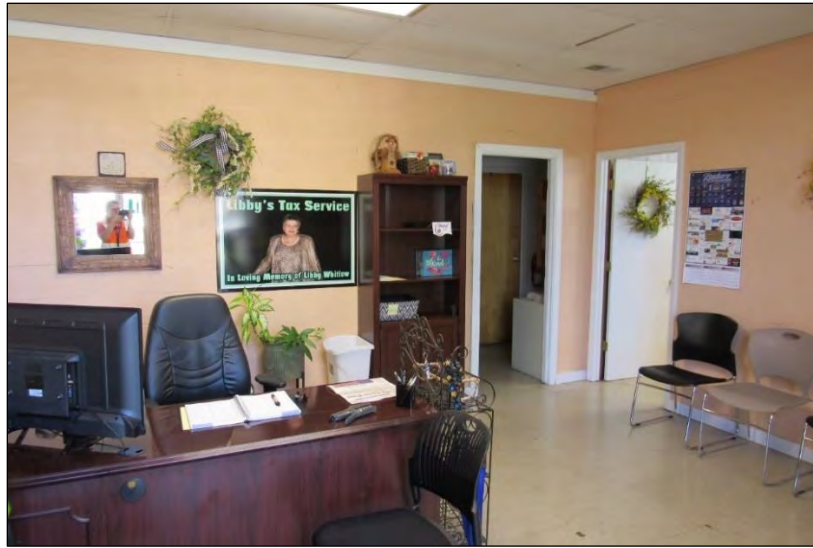


Photo 42: View of Office Space, Facing Southeast (Top), and Storage Room Facing South (Bottom).





Photo 43: View of Office Space, Facing Southwest (Top) and Restrooms on Left of Photo, Facing Southeast (Bottom).

### *Historic Context*

This resource was constructed in the mid-twentieth century for Flav-O-Rich Inc., a Kentucky-based agricultural product distribution company.<sup>85</sup> This land was surveyed in 1953 as R.E. and R.G. Long's property and purchased by Flav-O-Rich Inc. in 1964<sup>86</sup> In the 1960s, Flav-O-Rich Inc. entered a period of territorial expansion to increase their wholesale sales of dairy products, and the construction of a Roxboro office contributed to their expansion plan.<sup>87</sup> The building on N. Main Street was constructed shortly after the sale in 1964, facilitated by the Roxboro Finance Company, Inc.<sup>88</sup> Inside the office was a small retail section, which sold milk and ice cream under the name Long Meadow, possibly the local name for the corporation, or a brand name for the dairy products it sold (Figure 29; Figure 30–Figure 31, p. 77).



Figure 29: Advertisement for Long Meadow Milk and Ice Cream in The Roxboro High School Yearbook, 1968.<sup>89</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> PCDB 104:648.

<sup>86</sup> PCPB 5a:109; PCDB 104:648, 176:203.

<sup>87</sup> Asheville Citizen-Times 1964:11.

<sup>88</sup> PCDB 104:648; Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC (NETR) 1964, 1998.

<sup>89</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1968.



Figure 30: 1976 Person County Senior High School Yearbook Advertisement for Flav-O-Rich.<sup>90</sup>



Figure 31: Circa-1971 Image of the Loading Dock Area.<sup>91</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> The Annual Staff of Person County Senior High School 1976.

<sup>91</sup> The Annual Staff of Person County Senior High School 1976.



The Flav-O-Rich company maintained a corporate office in Roxboro until the building was sold to the Ansun Broadcasting Company in 1983.<sup>92</sup> Ansun Broadcasting was a radio broadcasting network that housed several local channels.<sup>93</sup> A plat generated during this transaction shows that the building consisted of two parts; an office space which faced northwest towards N. Main Street and a long, rectangular, loading dock (Figure 32).<sup>94</sup> The enterprise's tenancy on N. Main Street was short-lived, as the following year the building was conveyed to James Danny and Luri Lynne Clayton.<sup>95</sup> In 1990, the property was sold to the current owner, Nesbit A. King, Jr. Libby's Tax Services, named for Libby Whitlow, the owner of the business, has occupied the building as the tenant for the last 30 years.<sup>96</sup> The loading dock was possibly remodeled during their occupancy to contain individual office spaces, as seen today.<sup>97</sup>



Figure 32: 1983 Plat Showing the Front Office and the Loading Dock. <sup>98</sup>

<sup>92</sup> PCDB 176:203.

<sup>93</sup> Open Corporates n.d.

<sup>94</sup> PCPB 1:468.

<sup>95</sup> PCDB 178:268.

<sup>96</sup> Staff of Libby's Tax Services, personal communication 2019.

<sup>97</sup> PCPB 5a:109; 1:468.

<sup>98</sup> PCPB 1:468.

## *Evaluation*

The Flav-O-Rich at 1016 N. Main Street is a one-story, one-bay, masonry commercial building constructed in 1965 in a modest interpretation of a Modernist style. Both the form and style of this building are relatively common for its time period throughout the country and the City of Roxboro. It is not known who designed or constructed the building, though it was purpose built as the regional headquarters and distribution center for Flav-O-Rich Inc.

The Flav-O-Rich building retains a relatively high level of historic integrity of location and setting, having not been moved and continuing to be surrounded by mid-twentieth-century commercial and industrial resources along upper N. Main Street. Given modifications in the 1980s to convert the loading dock area to office space, and lack of association with the food industry and Flav-O-Rich, this resource has a moderate level of historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>99</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>100</sup> The resource of study operated as the regional office for Flav-O-Rich Inc., for just under 20 years, and then briefly served as the Ansun Broadcasting Company Headquarters before operating as Libby’s Tax Services for almost 30 years. No significant events are known to have taken place in this building and its historic function is not of particular importance to shaping commerce in Roxboro. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The Flav-O-Rich company and related persons did not play a role in the development of Roxboro, nor did the individuals associated with the Ansun Broadcasting Company and subsequent business occupant Libby’s Tax Services. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B, which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>101</sup> As such, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period; method of construction; that represent the work of a master; that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>102</sup> The architect and builder of the Flav-O-Rich building are not known, and therefore cannot be determined to have attained historic

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<sup>99</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>100</sup> Ibid.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid.

<sup>102</sup> Ibid.

significance at the state or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. To properly evaluate the resource's NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area.

The Flav-O-Rich building is an example of a mid-century commercial building with a vertical emphasis, as was a feature some styles within the Modern era of architecture. The brick projections that separates the façade into five sections are an example of this feature, as is the lack of applied ornament elsewhere on the building. There are many examples of buildings with similar forms, scale, and style within Roxboro. The commercial building at 33 Gordon Street is also a mid-twentieth century brick building with rectangular form with a fenestration pattern reminiscent of a Modernist style (Photo 44). This building has a similar massing and form as the Flav-O-Rich building, but is more modest and utilitarian.

Ross Appraisals at 214 South Gordon Street was constructed around the same time as the Flav-O-Rich building, but features different stylistic details, like the asymmetrical façade and suspended canopy over the primary entrance (Photo 44). Rather than a vertical emphasis, Ross Appraisals has a horizontal emphasis indicated by the suspended canopy with a fixed ribbon window immediately above the canopy. These elements are common among some Modernist-style buildings. Additionally, the massing and scale of the Ross Appraisals building is similar to the office portion of the Flav-O-Rich building.

The Former Person County Health Center (PR0315) at 204 W. Barden Street and the Home Savings and Loan Association (PR0312) are examples of mid-century, brick, commercial buildings with prominent horizontal emphasis and a squat appearance, like the Flav-O-Rich building (Photo 45, p. 81). The inset-metal commercial-style windows on the façade of the Former Person County Health Center are similar to the inset entry-bay of the Flav-O-Rich building, though it is asymmetrically placed. Another similarity is the use of brick for linear emphasis; the former medical building has delineated brick walls which protrude past the inset windows, creating a division between materials. The mid-century Home Savings and Loan Association building is the best example of a building of similar scale with well-emphasized vertical and horizontal elements. The wide overhanging flat roof provides a horizontal emphasis, while the vertical window muntins and support posts draw the eye up and down. This is a more refined effect than that employed at the Flav-O-Rich building by the use of vertical columns on the façade.





Photo 44: Commercial Building at 33 Gordon Street, Facing Southeast (Left) and Ross Appraisals at 214 South Main Street, Facing Southeast (Right).



Photo 45: Former Person County Medical Center at 204 West Barden Street, South Oblique (Left), and Home Savings and Loan Association at 123 S. Lamar Street, South Oblique (Right).

The Flav-O-Rich building is typical of commercial buildings constructed in the mid-twentieth century throughout Person County. Furthermore, several additions and modifications have been made to the building as it has changed over time, somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>103</sup> The Flav-O-Rich building is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Flav-O-Rich building is **recommended not eligible under any criteria for listing in the NRHP.**

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<sup>103</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

### **PR0303: Newell House, 501 N. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1910

Modifications: n/a

501 N. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-15-54-8376

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic District  
(PR0326)



#### ***Architectural Description***

The Newell House at 501 N. Main Street is located on the west side of N. Main Street within a residential and commercial area of the City of Roxboro in Person County (Figure 33–Figure 34, pp. 83–84). It is bounded by a commercial property on the north, Ivey Street to the south, and N. Lamar Street to the west and located in the northern section of the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326). A poured-concrete public sidewalk lines N. Main Street. The resource, which includes a single-family dwelling, is set on a gently sloping 0.28-acre parcel covered with a manicured grass lawn spotted with large deciduous trees that is lined with a stone retaining wall along the south and west parcel boundaries. The property is accessed by a short gravel driveway that extends north from Ivey Street. Additional pedestrian access is provided by a poured-concrete walkway that extends west from the public sidewalk of N. Main Street and terminates at the primary entrance of the dwelling.

#### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The primary resource is a two-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed around 1910 in an L-shaped plan in the Queen Anne style (Photo 46 and Photo 47, p. 85). The frame structural system is clad in weatherboard and is set upon a continuous parged, brick foundation. The siding is currently stripped of paint and has several large holes throughout the building, making it somewhat exposed to the elements. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, L-shaped, gabled roof with full returns as well as a front-gabled projecting bay at the southeast corner. Covered by asphalt shingles, the roof features boxed eaves, decorative bracketing with star motifs, verge board, and is pierced by front-gabled peak situated to the north on the façade (east elevation). An interior-central coursed brick chimney pierces the roof ridge.

The primary entrance is centered in the façade and is filled with a large, single-leaf, half-glazed, three-paneled, wood door featuring original hardware and an integrated doorbell, located within a modest wood surround (Photo 48, p. 86). Other fenestration includes single, one-over-one, double-hung-sash vinyl windows as well as boarded up window bays. Small, four-light, stained-glass, round windows are located on projecting bay. All extant windows have unadorned wood surrounds. A one-story, multi-bay, wrap-around porch lines a portion of the south and the entirety of the east elevations. The porch, raised on a continuous parged brick foundation, is

covered by a low-pitched, hipped roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The roof is supported by wood, Tuscan columns. A set of poured-concrete steps set in front of the primary entrance provides access to the porch.



Figure 33: Location of the Newell House (PR0303).<sup>104</sup>

<sup>104</sup> Esri 2019.



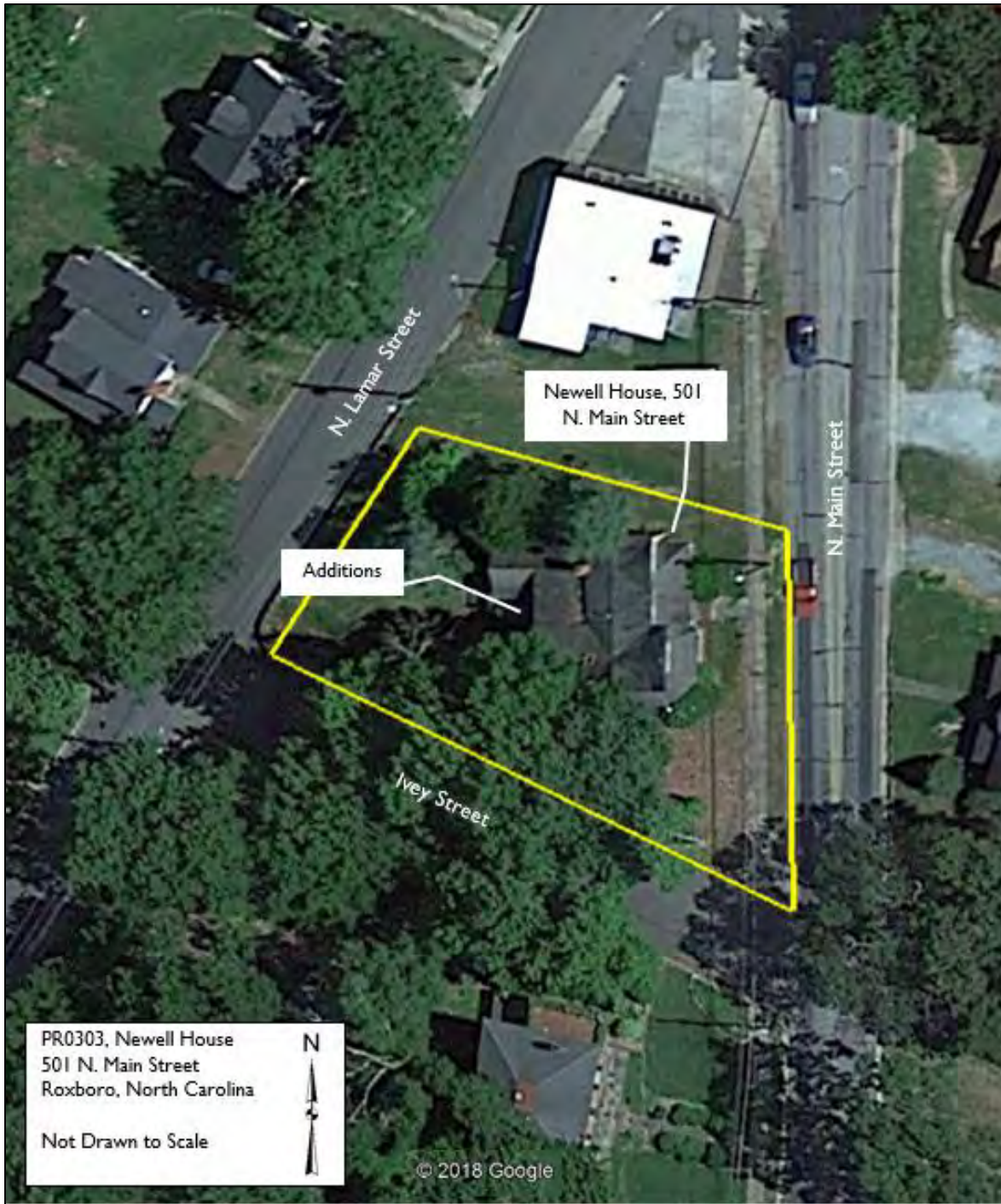


Figure 34: Site Plan for the Newell House (PR0303).<sup>105</sup>

<sup>105</sup> Google 2018.





Photo 46: Newell House, Northeast Oblique.



Photo 47: Newell House, Southeast Oblique.





Photo 48: Primary Entry Detail (Left) and Decorative Bracketing Detail (Right).

This resource features three large additions that all extend from the rear (west elevation) of the house (Photo 49). They all appear to date to shortly after the initial construction of the house, are on raised, field stone foundations, clad in weatherboard, and covered with asphalt-sheathed roofs. The first is a one-and-a-half-story, one-bay, front-gabled addition that extends from the northwest corner and features a louvered vent in the gable end and boarded up window bays. This addition also features a lean-to extension to the north and a coursed brick chimney along the roof ridge. The second addition extends from the west elevation and fills in the area between the first addition and the rear L-shaped projection of the main block. It is two stories tall and one bay wide with a shed roof and features a one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl window. The third and last addition extends from the west elevation and stretches across the second addition and the rear L-shaped projection of the main block. It is a one story in height, two bays wide, and covered with a hipped roof. Fenestration openings are boarded over.



Photo 49: View of the Three Rear Additions, West Elevation.



*Primary Resource: Interior*

The interior of the house was not accessed during the current survey as the house is currently vacant and the property owner lives elsewhere. Based on the form and massing, as well as looking in the windows with permission from the property owner, it can be determined one enters into a central hall with a sitting room to the south.<sup>106</sup> The floors are wood and the walls and ceiling are plaster. There are numerous fireplaces with wood mantels throughout the house as well. The interior is currently in poor condition.

*Historic Context*

The lot that the Newell House currently sits on was sold to William Henry Badger Newell in November 1912 by H.J Regens.<sup>107</sup> The 0.55-acre lot included the entire triangular parcel created by the intersections of Ivey, N. Main, and N. Lamar streets, although the Newell House is located in the southern half of the larger lot.<sup>108</sup> According to Robert Newell, William's grandson, the Newell House was built about two years before William purchased it.<sup>109</sup> This, along with the form, massing, and style of the house, places it at circa 1910.

William Henry Badger Newell (1856–1913) was born in Dupin County and later moved to Harnett County where he married Fannie Watts Harrington in 1880.<sup>110</sup> Shortly thereafter they moved to Roxboro and in 1889 he purchased “a one story brick building” along Depot Street and opened a jewelry store, which he owned for the rest of his life.<sup>111</sup> William and Fannie had nine children, several of whom worked in the jewelry store.<sup>112</sup> William died in 1913, just one year after purchasing the Newell House lot. Though records of a will could not be found, several of his William's landholdings, including the Newell House lot and the jewelry store, passed to his son, George Lawrence Newell, after his death. Lawrence sold those two lots as well as an additional residential lot to his brother, Bruce B. Newell, in 1914 for \$1,150.<sup>113</sup>

Bruce B. Newell (1889–1979) worked in his late father's jewelry shop until 1919 when he purchased the Roxboro Broom Works (PR0114), a company that had been incorporated in 1905 by William F. Long, J.D.K. Richmond, Sim Meadows, W.H. Crisco, B.R. Long, and W.E. Ferree.<sup>114</sup> For more information about the history of Roxboro Boom Works, see page 427.

Bruce B. Newell married Cornelia Sample in about 1923 and together they had four children.<sup>115</sup> He continued to own and work at Roxboro Broom Works until 1943, when he retired and passed

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<sup>106</sup> Robert Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>107</sup> Eaker 1981:165; PCDB 21:279.

<sup>108</sup> PCDB 21:279.

<sup>109</sup> Robert Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>110</sup> Eaker 1981:165.

<sup>111</sup> Eaker 1981:197; PCDB 24:108.

<sup>112</sup> Eaker 1981:197

<sup>113</sup> PCDB 24:108.

<sup>114</sup> Findagrave.com 2019; Person County Record of Corporations 1:85.

<sup>115</sup> U.S. Census 1930.

the company onto his son, Henry O. Newell, Sr.<sup>116</sup> Though records could not be found, it is likely that Bruce leased the remainder of the 0.55-acre Newell House lot during this time, as by 1925 there was another dwelling on the lot (currently demolished) and by 1943 a filling station was constructed, which is still located at the corner of N. Main and N. Lamar streets (Figure 35).<sup>117</sup>

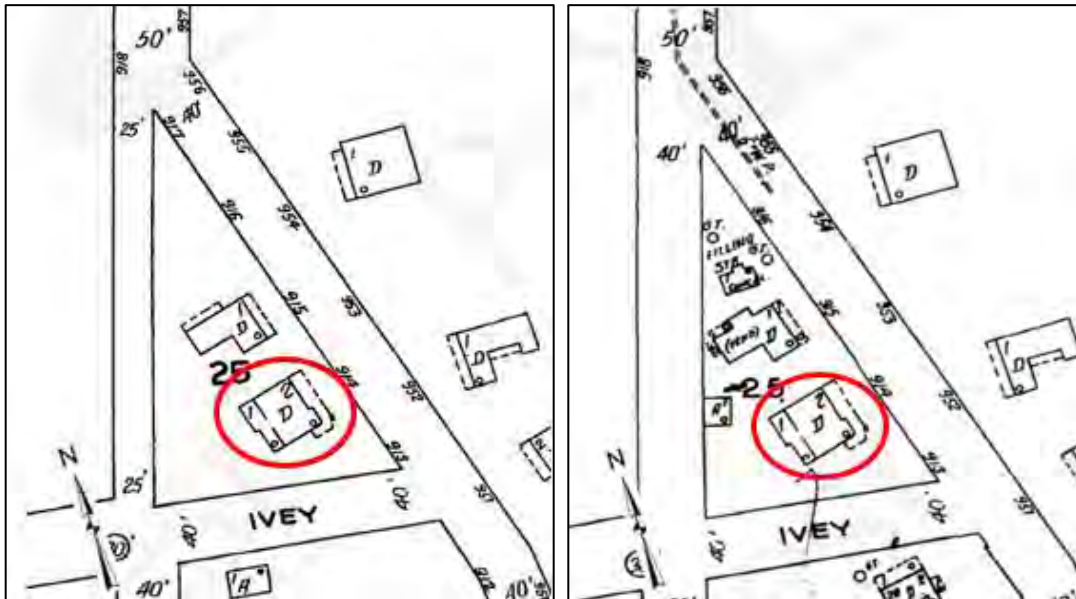


Figure 35: Sanborn Maps from 1925 (Left) and 1943 (Right).<sup>118</sup> Note the Newell House circled in red as well as the additional buildings to the north. Not to scale.

In May 1966, in preparation for selling the northern portion of the lot, Bruce B. Newell had his lot subdivided and platted, with the house lot being “lot 2” (Figure 36, p. 89). The next month, Bruce sold “lot 1” to the Land Company Inc, a North Carolina business corporation with principal offices in Lexington.<sup>119</sup>

Bruce B. Newell died in 1979, and as stipulated in his will, three of his four children, William Badger Newell, Bruce B. Newell, Jr., and Elizabeth Newell Humphries, received one-quarter of his estate and each of his grandchildren were granted one-twentieth.<sup>120</sup> As his fourth son, Henry O. Newell, Sr., was the executor of the will, he was not deeded any property. Bruce’s wife Cornelia was granted a life-right to the entire estate which included the Newell House.<sup>121</sup>

<sup>116</sup> Roxboro Broom Works 2002.

<sup>117</sup> Sanborn 1925, 1943.

<sup>118</sup> Ibid.

<sup>119</sup> PCDB 109:495.

<sup>120</sup> PCDB 160:370.

<sup>121</sup> Ibid.

In 1988, all of the family members granted their interest in the Newell House to Robert Davis Newell, one of Bruce B. Newell’s grandsons.<sup>122</sup> Robert is the current owner, though he now lives in Williamsburg, Virginia. He plans on rehabilitating the house and would like to lease it to a local business for office space.<sup>123</sup>



Figure 36: 1966 Plat of the “Property of B.B. Newell”.<sup>124</sup> Note the approximate location of the Newell House in red. Not to scale.

### ***Evaluation***

The Newell House located at 501 N. Main Street is a two-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed around 1910 in the Queen Anne style. The Newell House retains a high level of integrity in its location and setting. It has not been moved and, although the surrounding area has had some additional commercial construction, it appears that this area of Roxboro remains a moderately populated, rural city. This resource, though vacant, continues to function as a residence and had not been converted for other use, retaining a high level of association. The house is currently vacant and in poor condition, with stripped paint, holes in the walls and foundation, and broken windows; furthermore, the house has undergone modifications such as replacement windows. As such, the resource maintains a low of integrity of workmanship, design, materials, and feeling.

<sup>122</sup> PCDB 199:856.

<sup>123</sup> Robert Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>124</sup> PCPB 10:301.



The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context... and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>125</sup> While it is clear that the Newell family was involved economically with the commercial and manufacturing community in Roxboro and in Person County, there is no evidence that they or their business were innovators in the area, and that influence would be better represented through buildings associated with their businesses, such as the Roxboro Broom Works (PR0114). Furthermore, there are no known associations of the property with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Newell House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>126</sup> Although the Newells were and continue to be a prominent Roxboro family, none of the owners of the house are known to have had any individual significance locally, statewide, or nationally; consequently, the Newell House is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C as outlined by the NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>127</sup> For a resource to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>128</sup>

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The Queen Anne style was prevalent throughout the United States around the turn of the twentieth century, especially near railroads, as they made pre-cut architectural details conveniently available through much of the nation.<sup>129</sup> Due to this fact, there are multiple examples of Queen Anne-style dwellings in Roxboro that are analogous to the Newell House. The Winstead House (PR0275) at 408 S. Main Street, the House at 208 Academy Street (PR0201), the James Sidney Bradsher House (PR0278) at 421 S. Main Street, and the Clayton House (PR0306) at 29 Oak Street are all Queen Anne-style dwellings in Roxboro dating to the turn of the twentieth century, none of which have had an eligibility determination made by the NC-HPO. They are all two-story, three-bay dwellings that have one-story, wrap-around porches, are covered by complex roofs, and feature decorative elements including verge board, bracketing, and fish-scale shingles. These resources, though not identical in

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<sup>125</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>126</sup> Ibid.

<sup>127</sup> Ibid.

<sup>128</sup> Ibid.

<sup>129</sup> McAlester 2013:268.

form and massing to the Newell House, help to demonstrate the pervasive nature of the Queen Anne-style dwelling throughout Roxboro and Person County (Photo 50, p. 92).

The James A. and Laura T. Long House (PR0271) at 217 S. Main Street is an excellent example of a high-style, Queen Anne house constructed for a prominent Roxboro family. The two-story, multi-bay, single-family dwelling was constructed in 1896 and features two prominent, round towers that flank the primary entry (Photo 51, p. 92). It was listed in the NRHP in 2004 under Criterion B for its association with James A. Long and Criterion C for bring an exceptional local example of the Queen Anne style.:

J. A. Long, the “founder of modern Roxboro,” built the locally significant house, and this is the only extant residence associated with him. Long, a local businessman and industrialist founded Roxboro’s first cotton mill and is credited with bringing the railroad to Roxboro[...] In addition to its association with J. A. Long, the house is the most outstanding example of Queen Anne design in Roxboro, and its grandeur and mass-produced materials represent post-Civil War mechanization and Long’s personal prosperity that resulted from New South industrialization[...] The interior reveals lavish use of mahogany paneling and decorative mantelpieces with fanciful tiles surrounding the fireboxes. A grand mahogany staircase leads from the first floor hallway up three flights to the attic, which is finished with the same paneled doors with enriched Eastlake style hardware seen on the two lower levels.<sup>130</sup>

Access to the interior of the Newell House was not permitted during the current effort as the property owner is not local and the house currently sits vacant. According to the property owner and by looking through a window, the house, though in poor condition, remains mostly intact on the interior.<sup>131</sup> Despite not being able to fully evaluate the integrity of the interior, Dovetail’s archival research and local comparisons with other similar and better-preserved resources provide sufficient information with which to evaluate the Newell House under Criterion C. Though the Newell House has many of its original features such as exterior cladding and doors as well as decorative elements like the bracketing and porch, the style, form, and materials are all very common to the area. Due to the vacant and poor condition of the house which has resulted in a loss of integrity, the dwelling does not possess high artistic value. Furthermore, the Newell House is not known to have been built by a noted architect or designer. As such, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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<sup>130</sup> Woodard 2004:81.

<sup>131</sup> Robert Newell, personal communication 2019.



Photo 50: James Sidney Bradsher House (PR0278) at 421 S. Main Street, Northeast Oblique (Top Left); Clayton House (PR0306) at 29 Oak Street, North Oblique (Top Right); House at 208 Academy Street (PR0201), South Oblique (Bottom Left); and Winstead House (PR0275) at 408 S. Main, Northwest Oblique (Bottom Right).



Photo 51: James A. and Laura T. Long House (PR0271) at 217 S. Main Street, Southeast Elevation.



For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>132</sup> The Newell House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Newell House is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

In addition to the resource's individual eligibility recommendation, the Newell House is located within the boundaries of the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) and was built within the district's period of significance (1842–1960) and is representative of a form and style found throughout the proposed district. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing to the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District.**

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<sup>132</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

**PR0304: Masten House, 103 Ivey Street**

Date of Construction: 1922

Modifications: ca. 1985

103 Ivey Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-15-54-6363.000

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to North Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0326)

***Architectural Description***

The Masten House at 103 Ivey Street is located at the intersection of Ivey Street and N. Lamar Street in Roxboro. The resource is situated on a single parcel of land totaling 0.22 acre, with 125 feet of frontage along Ivey Street and 75.97 feet of property along N. Lamar Street (Figure 37–Figure 38, pp. 95–96). The house faces northeast and is situated on a grassy manicured yard. Along the west side of the resource is a poured-concrete driveway that extends south from Ivey Street to a covered carport. A concrete sidewalk with brick pavers extends northwest from N. Lamar Street to the southwest elevation of the dwelling. A low brick wall also lines the sidewalk on the northeast and southwest of the dwelling, where it terminates with two decorative brick columns on either side of a brick walkway, connected by wood fencing rails. Land to the west of this resource is occupied by a parking lot for a shopping center on the west side of Madison Boulevard. Interior photography was not permitted as a part of this study, but access to the exterior and living room on the first floor was permitted. This resource is located in the western section of the North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326).

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Masten House at 103 Ivey Street appears to have been constructed in one phase after the land was purchased by Gilmer B. Masten in 1922. It is a two-story, four-bay, side-gabled, single-family dwelling constructed with elements of the Tudor Revival and Craftsman styles, such as porches incorporated into exaggerated roof-slopes and tapered porch columns popularly featured in pattern books of the 1920s and 1930s (Photo 52, p. 97). The house rests on a continuous brick foundation, which supports a frame structural system clad in aluminum siding and topped by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof (Photo 53, p. 97). The dwelling has two brick chimneys, one exterior-end chimney centered on southeast elevation and an interior-end chimney in the north corner of the dwelling.

On the northeast elevation, a Tudor Revival and Craftsman style, one-story, one-bay, partial-width entry porch with shed roof extends from the core, continuing the roof slope. The primary entrance is filled by an original, single-leaf, wood paneled door with multiple lights and a metal and glass storm door. Additional doors date from the circa-1984 renovation of the building. A

secondary entrance, filled by a single-leaf, wood-paneled door is located on the south elevation. This secondary entrance also dates from the circa-1984 renovation. Additional fenestration includes vinyl replacement windows with fixed louvered shutters.



Figure 37: Location of the Masten House (PR0304).<sup>133</sup>

<sup>133</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 38: Site Plan of Masten House at 103 Ivey Street.<sup>134</sup>

A two-story, wood deck addition extends across the rear (south) elevation of the original portion of the building and was added circa 1984 (Photo 54, p. 98). This addition rests on brick patio with poured-concrete foundation. A single-leaf door leads from a second-story bedroom to the deck.

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<sup>134</sup> Google 2018.



Photo 52: Northeast Elevation (Left) and East Oblique (Right).



Photo 53: Southeast Elevation.





Photo 54: Detail of Deck on Southwest Elevation.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Although interior photographs and full access to the inside of the dwelling were not permitted during this survey, the homeowner did allow access to the living room in the first floor and provided information about the existence of original materials and finishes, such as wood trim and brick around the first-story fireplace. A set of wood stairs lead to the second story of the dwelling from the northwest corner of the first story. According to her knowledge, all interior woodwork except the crown molding is original to the construction of the house.<sup>135</sup> Additionally, the first-floor fireplace, located on the southeast wall, is faced with original brick, and the primary entry door is original. When the house was constructed, one bathroom was located on the second floor.

*Secondary Resources*

A one-story, open carport built circa 1984 is attached to the west side of the dwelling (Photo 55, p. 99). It is composed of a wood structural system clad in wood lattice. The frame structure supports a front-gabled roof clad in asphalt shingles. The carport rests on a continuous concrete slab which is also the driveway.

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<sup>135</sup> Shirly Suitt, personal communication 2019.





Photo 55: View of Carport, Facing Southeast.

### *Historic Context*

The Masten House at 103 Ivey Street was built circa 1922 by Gilmer B. Masten, a house painter from Roxboro.<sup>136</sup> In 1922, Masten married Bertha Fetherstone, both Roxboro natives, and shortly after, they built the house.<sup>137</sup> The 1930 federal population census records Masten and his wife residing with his parents, H. H. and Iris Masten, on Oak Street, but it is unknown when they moved out of the Ivey Street house, nor was the record of sale from the Mastens to James. W. and Lois Newman identified.<sup>138</sup> By 1940, James W. Newman, his wife Lois, and his brother, James Norwood, resided in the 103 Ivey Street house and were noted to be living there for at least five years.<sup>139</sup> In 1942, several members of the Newman family, including Norwood Newman, officially conveyed the house to James W. and Louis C. Newman, who resided at the house until 1978.<sup>140</sup> During the Newman family's occupation of the property, a detached garage was located southwest of the dwelling and was likely removed prior to the construction of the carport in 1984 (Figure 39, p. 100).

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<sup>136</sup> PCDB 30:465.

<sup>137</sup> Eaker 1981.

<sup>138</sup> U.S. Census 1930.

<sup>139</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>140</sup> PCDB D53:163.

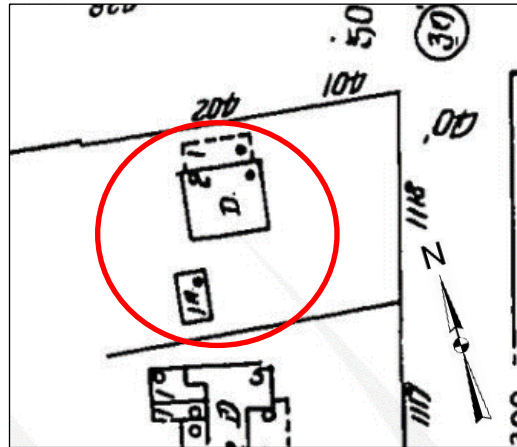


Figure 39: 1943 Sanborn Map Showing House at 103 Ivey Street Circled in Red.<sup>141</sup> Note the detached garage south of the dwelling, which is no longer extant.

The house was uninhabited from 1978 until 1984 and fell into poor condition, when James E. and Eunice S. Ramsey, trustees for many real estate transactions in Roxboro through this time, conveyed it to Shirley O. Suitt.<sup>142</sup> According to her recollections, the porch was partially collapsed and the front door overgrown with ivy. She undertook a program of restoration on the house which included remodeling the kitchen, adding a second-story deck to the rear of the house, adding a bathroom to the first story, building a carport, and inserting a back door, basement door, and door from an upstairs bedroom to the wood deck.<sup>143</sup> Additionally, she restored the first-story fireplace to its original condition.<sup>144</sup>

### *Evaluation*

The Masten House is a two-story, two-bay, frame dwelling constructed with Tudor Revival and Craftsman style elements, which likely came from a pattern book. The scale and overall style of the building are relatively common throughout the country, region, and in Person County, despite the visually interesting sloped roof and entry porch incorporated into the roof overhang. The dwelling was built by house painter, Gilmer B. Masten, and has remained a single-family dwelling since its construction in 1922, rendering it a high level of historic integrity of association and feeling. The Masten House retains a relatively high level of historic integrity of location and setting, having not been moved from its original location and its surroundings have remained fairly unchanged from mainly early- to mid-twentieth-century residential buildings. Modifications to the building in the mid-1980s include the addition of doors, a two-story deck, carport, and replacement aluminum siding and vinyl windows. Given these modifications, this resource has a moderate level of historic integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

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<sup>141</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>142</sup> PCDB 183:146.

<sup>143</sup> NETR 1964; Shirley Suitt, personal communication 2019.

<sup>144</sup> Shirley Suitt, personal communication 2019.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>145</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>146</sup> The Masten House is not known to be associated with any historical trends. For this reason, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known builder and owners historically associated with the house at 103 Ivey Street are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>147</sup> Gilmer B. Masten, the builder of the house, was a professional house painter. It is likely that he painted primarily in Roxboro and Person County. However, as Masten is not known to be a locally significant individual, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. While there are no exact examples in Roxboro of a similar model house, there are examples of similarly sized, single-family dwellings with Tudor Revival, and Craftsman elements. The circa-1920 single-family dwelling at 508 S. Main Street has similar Craftsman-style porch supports for a porch incorporated into the overhanging eave of the roof (Photo 56, p. 102). However, this house lacks any Tudor Revival elements, and no other houses with Tudor Revival elements were found in Roxboro.

The circa-1920 house at 318 S. Main Street also has comparable Craftsman-style porch supports (Photo 57, p. 102). The Masten House has a vertical emphasis due to the extending roof slope which covers the primary entry porch, whereas the house at 318 S. Main Street has more of a horizontal emphasis as the overhanging roof eaves are echoed by the overhanging eaves of the porch. Additionally, the massing of the house at 318 S. Main Street is slightly larger overall compared to the Masten House. At 505 S. Main Street, the circa-1920, single-family dwelling on that lot is also likely constructed based on a pattern-book design, and it has several unique features as does the Masten house (Photo 58, p. 102). The house at 505 S. Main Street has two eyebrow-dormers on the façade, which have a curvilinear nature emphasized by the curved, one-story, one-bay entry porch. A fanlight above the door further highlights the curves of the dwelling. Though the overall massing is similar to that at the Masten House, the house at 505 S. Main Street is one-and-one-half stories tall and has a horizontal presence, rather than vertical.

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<sup>145</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>146</sup> Ibid.

<sup>147</sup> Ibid.





Photo 56: House at 508 S. Main St. Roxboro, West Elevation.



Photo 57: House at 318 S. Main Street, West Elevation.



Photo 58: House at 505 S Main Street, Southeast Oblique.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>148</sup> The Masten House is a typical example of a single-family dwelling built in the 1920s in Roxboro, constructed of common materials and form. While it is likely an example of a pattern book house, based on similarities to existing patterns in contemporary books, this does not warrant individual eligibility. Pattern book houses are fairly common given the prevalence of pattern books during the early decades of the twentieth century.

The asymmetrical slope of the north elevation, a Tutor Revival style detail, which creates a one-bay entry porch around the primary entrance, is a feature found in several pattern book houses from the 1920s (Figure 40; Figure 41, p. 104).<sup>149</sup> The Standard Homes Company, started in 1917 by A. Gales Johnson, published pattern books with examples including *The Somerset* and *The Victoria* in 1926, which resemble the current resource in massing, scale, and form.<sup>150</sup> While the Masten House does not perfectly match any of these patterns, it is possible that the inspiration for such a roof slope came from a book, as there are no other examples in Roxboro of the same roof slope and entry porch.



Figure 40: Plan 357 by Olsen & Urbain.<sup>151</sup>

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<sup>148</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>149</sup> McAlester 2013:449452.

<sup>150</sup> Antique Home n.d.

<sup>151</sup> Antique Home Style n.d.

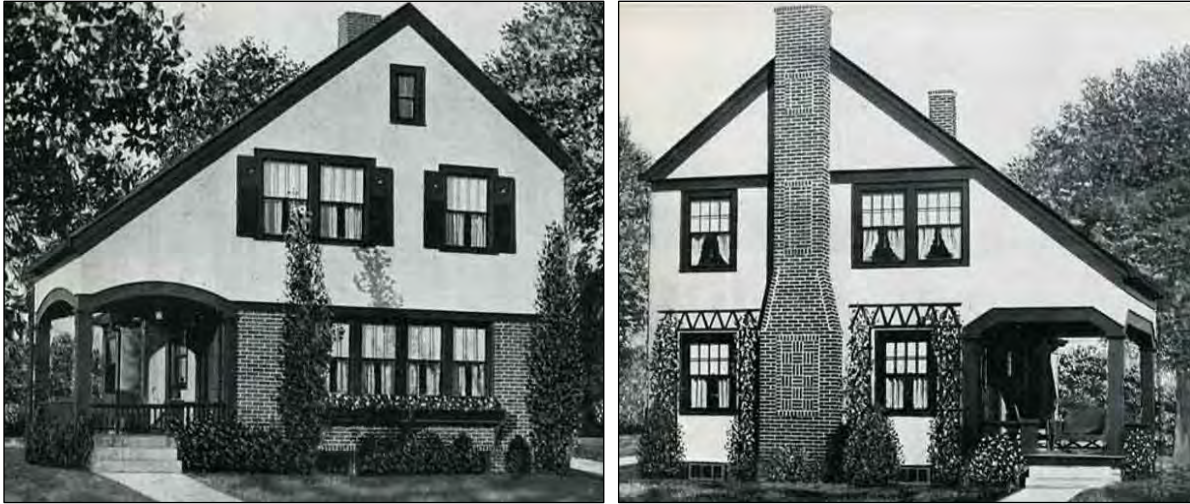


Figure 41: 1926 Standard Home Plans for The Somerset (Left) and The Victoria (Right).<sup>152</sup>

Furthermore, the addition of a rear second-story deck and attached carport, and modifications have been made to the building, such as replacement siding and windows, as it has changed over time, somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>153</sup> The Masten House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Masten House is **recommended not individually eligible under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the Masten House is located within the boundaries of the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District and was built within the district's period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, the resource is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>152</sup> Antique Home n.d.

<sup>153</sup> Ibid.



**PR0299: Merritt House, 26 Oak Street**

Date of Construction: 1905

Modifications: Early-twentieth century

Address: 26 Oak Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-15-53-5837.000

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to the North Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0326)

***Architectural Description***

The Merritt House at 26 Oak Street is located on the northeast side of Oak Street and southeast of N. Lamar Street in Roxboro. The primary resource, a single-family dwelling which faces southwest and is set slightly back from Oak Street, is situated on a single parcel of land totaling 0.53 acre (Figure 42–Figure 43, pp. 106–107).<sup>154</sup> Along the southeast side of the parcel is a poured-concrete driveway that extends northeast from Oak Street. The northern (rear) yard is enclosed by wood picket fencing and contains an in-ground pool, shed, playground area, chicken coop, and fenced garden. The current property owner, Benjamin Gault IV, did not permit interior access to the primary resource, but access to the parcel was allowed. This resource is immediately surrounded by late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century, single-family dwellings in the western section of the North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326), situated north of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194).

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The house at 26 Oak Street was constructed in 1905. The core of the building is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed with elements of the Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles (Photo 59, p.108). The building rests on a continuous brick foundation with ventilation holes, likely indicating a crawl space, with sections of brick piers filled in to be continuous. The frame walls of the structure are clad weatherboard siding with wood corner boards and the building is topped by a steeply pitched, hipped-roof clad in crimped metal and a wood boxed eave and soffit. The roof features three gabled eyebrow dormers on the southwest, southeast, and northwest elevations, and feature a fixed, square, wood-frame window. Two symmetrical corbeled brick chimneys pierce the roof slope of the core of the dwelling.

The primary entrance, centered on the southwest elevation (façade), is filled by a single-leaf, paneled wood door with decorative carvings in the Eastlake style.<sup>155</sup> The door is topped by a transom light inscribed “Wildmer” (Photo 60, p.108). Additional fenestration includes one-over-

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<sup>154</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>155</sup> McAlester 2013:335.

one, vinyl replacement windows with faux vertical muntins to imitate two-over-two sashes, flanked by fixed louvered wood shutters.



Figure 42: Location of the Merritt House (PR0299).<sup>156</sup>

<sup>156</sup> Esri 2019.



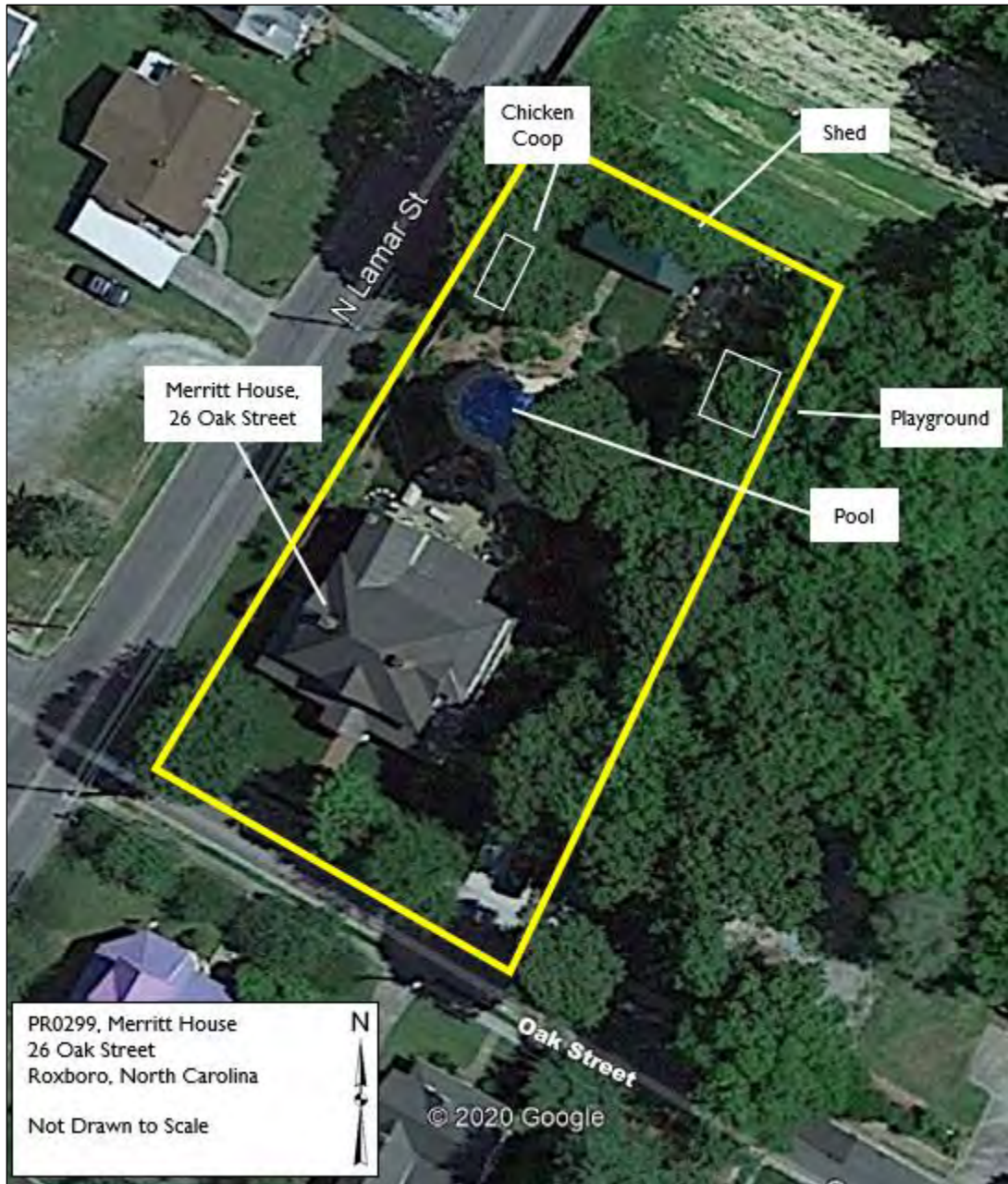


Figure 43: Site Plan of the Merritt House at 26 Oak Street.<sup>157</sup>

<sup>157</sup> Google Earth 2018.





Photo 59: Southwest Elevation.

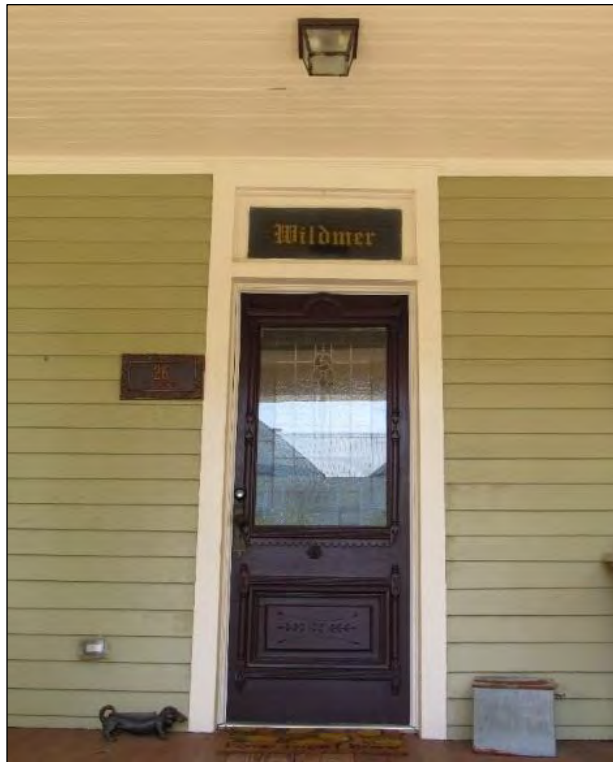


Photo 60: Primary Entrance on the Southwest Elevation.

Stretching across the façade is a wrap-around, one-story porch with a crimped-metal hipped roof and gabled projection over the brick steps centered on the southwest elevation. The roof features a wooden soffit and fascia and is supported by slightly tapered wood posts on brick plinths, echoing the Craftsman style (Photo 61; Photo 62, p. 110). A squared wood rail lines the porch between each support. A secondary entrance in the western half of the façade leads to an enclosed porch that was once possibly open and a part of the wrap-around porch indicated by the continuation of the cornerboard from the second story. It is filled by a double-leaf, paneled door with paneled wood sidelights and a four-light transom.

An early-twentieth century, two-story, enclosed addition is located on the southeast and northeast elevations (Photo 62, p. 110). It has a hipped roof and is accessed from the first-story porch by a single-leaf, paneled wood door with transom. It rests on a continuous brick foundation and has frame walls clad with weatherboard. This may have been added as a sleeping porch in the early-twentieth century, based on its location on the dwelling, fenestration pattern, and materials. The dwelling also has a two-story, one-bay, front-gabled addition on the northeast elevation (Photo 63, p. 110). This addition is clad in the same materials as the core of the dwelling and features an interior-slope brick chimney. The date of this addition is unknown, but was likely constructed in the early-twentieth century.

An additional early-to-mid-twentieth century shed-roofed addition is also located on the northeast elevation. The one-story, three-bay addition is clad in the same materials as the primary core of the dwelling and features a one-bay, engaged porch (Photo 64, p. 111). The porch is supported by wood posts set on a wood deck, supported by a continuous brick foundation.



Photo 61: West Oblique.





Photo 62: South Oblique.



Photo 63: Northwest Elevation.





Photo 64: View of Northeast Elevation and Circa-2010 In-ground Pool.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Interior access was not granted during this survey.<sup>158</sup> The homeowner denied interior access; however, the building likely has a double-pile, center-hall plan with interior staircase located in the center hall, based on the short glimpse of the interior granted while speaking with the homeowner.

*Secondary Resources*

The Merritt House features four secondary resources: a pool, a chicken coop, a playground, and a shed. A circa-1950 storage shed is located on the northernmost portion of the property. The frame structure sits on a concrete slab foundation and is topped by a side-gabled, crimped-metal clad roof (Photo 65, p. 112). The shed has a small shed-roofed addition on the east side that is also topped by a metal roof. A double-leaf, wood paneled door fills the primary entry, and additional fenestration includes fixed four-light and six-light wood windows. A one-story, two-bay, frame chicken coop constructed circa 1980 is located northwest of the primary resource, along the west side of the yard (Photo 65, p. 112). It is composed of an enclosed section, and a screened-in bay, which are sheltered by a low-pitched, side-gabled roof clad in V-crimp metal. The in-ground pool, constructed circa 2010, located north of the primary dwelling (see Photo 64, p. 111). The pool is surrounded by a paved concrete pool deck. The playground was likely added around the same time as the pool, and it consists of a wood play structure surrounded by wood rail fencing enclosed with metal screening.

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<sup>158</sup> Benjamin S. Gault, personal communication 2019.



Photo 65: Shed North of Dwelling, Facing North (Left) and Chicken Coop, Facing West (Right).

### *Historic Context*

The Merritt House was constructed in 1905 for Dr. William D. Merritt (1824–1904) and his family. Dr. Merritt, who was born in Milton, served the Person County community as a medical doctor for 51 years and as a representative in the North Carolina Senate in 1897.<sup>159</sup> He died a year before the house was completed and never lived there. Upon their father's death, his sons, William and John, each inherited one half of their father's 0.53-acre property.<sup>160</sup> His family, including his wife, Mary Catherine Hamlett Merritt, and children, Nannie Lou, William Daniel, Jr., Addie Mae, Anna Price, and John Hamlett, moved into the house when it was completed, and it remained in the Merritt family until it was purchased by Robert W., Mary, and Robert E. Johnson in 1988.<sup>161</sup> During the Merritt family's occupation, it was updated and expanded as the family's needs changed in the early-twentieth century, including a two-story addition on the northeast elevation, and enclosed porch on the northwest elevation. An outbuilding is evident in the 1925 Sanborn map, though this was removed at a later date (Figure 44, p. 113). In 1930, William D. Merritt, Jr. was listed in federal population census records as the head of the household at 26 Oak Street with his wife, Josephine; sons, William and John; and his mother-in-law, Anna Cole.<sup>162</sup> During this time, he practiced law. In the 1940 federal population census, the family was still listed as living at 26 Oak Street.<sup>163</sup>

Upon his death in 1961, his son, William Daniel Merritt, III, inherited his father's property and continued to reside in the house until his death in 1983. After holding the property for five years, siblings and cousins of William Daniel Merritt, III conveyed the property Robert W. Johnson and his wife, Mary, and Robert E. Johnson in 1988.<sup>164</sup> The Johnsons occupied the premises until 2000, when it was conveyed to Joan Mathis and her husband, Ebrima Njie.<sup>165</sup> The property was

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<sup>159</sup> Gordon 2003.

<sup>160</sup> PCDB 199:450.

<sup>161</sup> Ibid.

<sup>162</sup> U.S. Census 1930.

<sup>163</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>164</sup> PCDB 199:450.

<sup>165</sup> PCDB 312:270.

conveyed to a trustee in 2003, and in 2005 was purchased by Nathan and Laura C. Wilkins.<sup>166</sup> The Wilkins owned the house for five years before conveying it to Dennis E. Daniels.<sup>167</sup> Benjamin Gault, IV and Chelsea Gault, the current owners, purchased the property from the Daniels in 2018.<sup>168</sup>

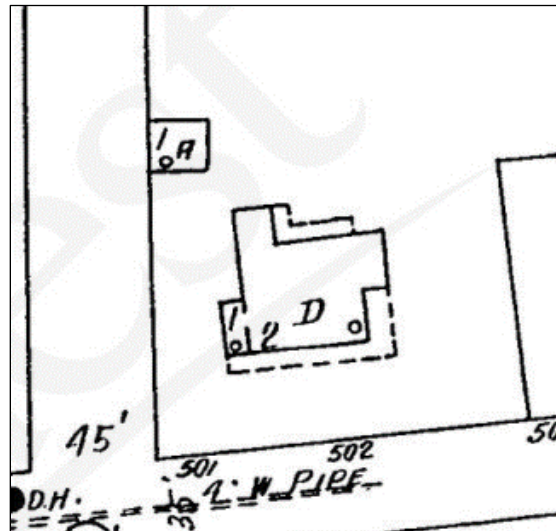


Figure 44: 1925 Sanborn Map Showing the Merritt House at 26 Oak Street.<sup>169</sup> Note the detached outbuilding, which is no longer extant.

### ***Evaluation***

The Merritt House is a two-and-one-half story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed in 1905 in the Craftsman style with Colonial Revival-style massing. In 2003, this property was surveyed by William Gordon, Jr. At that time, it was rejected from the study list on the grounds that it was not significant under Criterion C for its architectural merit. Both the form and style of this building are relatively common throughout the country, region, and in Person County. The dwelling was constructed for Dr. William Merritt, who is not known to be associated with other buildings in Roxboro, as our research was not exhaustive. His son, Dr. John Merritt, is associated with his doctor's office, now located in the yard of the Person County History Museum (PR0257). The Merritt House retains a relatively high level of historic integrity of location and setting, having not been moved from its original location and continuing to be surrounded by turn-of-the-century residential properties north of the Roxboro commercial core. Currently serving as a single-family dwelling with few early-twentieth century alterations, it retains high integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

<sup>166</sup> PCDB 412:65, 532:508, 568:134.

<sup>167</sup> PCDB 743:108.

<sup>168</sup> PCDB 982:262.

<sup>169</sup> Sanborn 1925.



In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>170</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>171</sup> The Merritt House has functioned as a single-family dwelling since its early-twentieth-century construction. No significant local, state, or national events are known to have taken place on the property; therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

Although the Merritt family was involved with the City of Roxboro and Person County as doctors, the house at 26 Oak Street is not associated with their medical practice and accomplishments. The known residents associated with the Merritt House are not known to have attained historic significance at the state, local, or national level in their respective fields. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>172</sup> As such, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The Merritt House is an example of a dwelling with Craftsman stylistic details and Colonial Revival massing. Hipped-roof Colonial Revival dwellings with full-width porches, referred to as the Classic Box subtype, can have porches with classical columns, or can have an Foursquare form, features commonly observed in Roxboro.<sup>173</sup> The single-family dwelling at 207 Academy Street is similar to the Merritt House in form, with its hipped roof and wrap-around porch (Photo 66, p. 115). Both dwellings have overhanging-eaves and feature dormers on the façade, though the dormer on the house at 207 Academy Street is a hipped-roof eyebrow dormer, rather than a gabled eyebrow dormer. The massing and scale of both dwellings are similar as well.

Likewise, the dwellings at 323 North Main Street, 502 South Main Street, and 318 South Main Street also have similar forms with hipped roofs, overhanging eaves, symmetrical fenestration, and full-width porches, and are similar in massing and scale as the Merritt house. (Photo 67, p. 115). The house at 323 North Main Street, constructed circa 1910, features a Craftsman-style hipped dormer and decorative eave brackets.

The materials in which the Craftsman-style is rendered vary, the house at 207 Academy Street and 318 South Main Street are brick dwellings, while the houses at 323 North Main Street and 502 South Main Street are frame dwellings clad in siding. While the materials vary, the form

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<sup>170</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>171</sup> Ibid.

<sup>172</sup> Ibid.

<sup>173</sup> McAlester 2013:409.

expressed is common within Roxboro. Additionally, all four of the comparable dwellings appear to maintain their original footprints, or have few additions, unlike the Merritt House, which has several iterations of expansion dating to the early- to mid-twentieth century.



Photo 66: House at 207 Academy Street, Facing Southwest (Left) and House at 323 North Main Street, Facing North (Right).



Photo 67: House at 502 South Main Street, Facing East (Left) and House at 318 South Main, Facing East (Right).

Eligibility under Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>174</sup> The builder of the dwelling is unknown. Although the Merritt House is a typical example of its type, made of common materials. Furthermore, several additions and modifications have been made to the building over time, somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

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<sup>174</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>175</sup> The Merritt House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Merritt House is **recommended not individually eligible under any criteria.**

At the time of the previous survey of this resource in 2003, it was recommended as a potential contributing element should a residential historic district ever be established.<sup>176</sup> Despite its individual eligibility recommendation, the Merritt House is located within the boundaries of the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) and was built within the district's period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing element to the district.**

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<sup>175</sup> Ibid.

<sup>176</sup> Gordon 2003.



## **PR0305: Roxboro Presbyterian Church, 319 N. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: 1950  
Modifications: ca. 1953, ca. 1970, 2005

319 N. Lamar Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0906-15-53-1747 and 0906-15-53-2777  
Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The Roxboro Presbyterian Church at 319 N. Lamar Street in Roxboro is bounded on the north by Oak Street, on the west by N. Madison Boulevard, on the east by N. Lamar Street, and on the south by a commercial building. The resource boundaries comprise two parcels, one along N. Lamar Street and one at N. Madison Street. Vehicular access to the property is obtained from Oak Street, which extends into a paved-asphalt parking lot. Sidewalks connect the parking lot and streets to the two buildings (Figure 45–Figure 46, pp. 118–119). The remainder of the resource’s landscape is covered by manicured grass, medium-sized shrubbery with mature trees at the southern border and a reflection garden at the southeast corner. The church faces east toward N. Lamar Street. East of this resource is a residential neighborhood dating to the early-twentieth century, while the development along N. Madison Boulevard is almost entirely commercial in nature dating to the late-twentieth century.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The original core of this resource consisted of a rectangular sanctuary located immediately southwest of the N. Lamar and Oak streets intersection. This portion of the building is a one-story, three-bay church constructed in 1950 in the Colonial Revival style (Photo 68, p. 120). The brick foundation and structural system are laid in a five-to-one common bond configuration. A moderately pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles covers the building and features a square steeple at the building’s east elevation. The steeple features a brick base with fixed circular windows, a vinyl-clad, frame central section, and a conical metal spire topped with a cross. The frame, central section was once vented on all sides, but has been modified since construction.<sup>177</sup>

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<sup>177</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007:94–95.



Figure 45: Location of the Roxboro Presbyterian Church (PR0305).<sup>178</sup>

<sup>178</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 46: Roxboro Presbyterian Church (PR0305) Site Plan.<sup>179</sup>

<sup>179</sup> Google 2019.





Photo 68: Early-1950s Photograph of the Roxboro Presbyterian Church, Southeast Oblique (Left) and Roxboro Presbyterian Church Sanctuary, East Elevation (Right).<sup>180</sup>

The primary entrance is centered on the east elevation and contains wooden double-leaf doors set below a six-light, fixed transom, all within a Colonial Revival-style door surround of the same material (Photo 69, p. 121). Two identical bricked-in window openings with a segmental brick arch flank the primary entrance. Early photographs of the sanctuary suggest that this was their original design.<sup>181</sup> Windows on the sanctuary are currently 15-over-nine, wood-framed, double-hung sashes with a soldier row at the top (Photo 69, p. 121). Although the exact date is unknown, these units replaced the original stained glass awning or hopper windows.<sup>182</sup> A one-story, three-bay, portico spans the façade (east elevation); it rests on a brick foundation and has wood, fluted, Doric columns that support the front-gabled roof. Full-width brick steps on the east elevation provide access to the portico. The rear (west) elevation features a stained-glass window, two six-over-six, wood-framed windows, and a secondary entrance that contains a single-leaf door flanked by sidelights.

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<sup>180</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007:94.

<sup>181</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007: 94–95.

<sup>182</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007:95.



Photo 69: Detail of Primary Entrance, East Elevation (Left) and North Elevation (Right).

Soon after construction was completed on the sanctuary, the congregation added a one-story, one-bay brick side entrance to the building's south elevation near the southwest corner (Photo 70, p. 122).<sup>183</sup> Within this wing is an interior set of stairs to allow access between the lower and main levels. Although it was later expanded and modified, original elements that remain include the side-gabled roof, single-leaf entrance with wood-framed door surround and pediment, and a brick chimney (Photo 70, p. 122). By 1964, this one-story wing was enlarged to the south to include classrooms and offices.<sup>184</sup> The congregation expanded the church again around 1970 by adding a two-story, front-gabled building to the earlier addition's south elevation, creating the current educational wing present today (Photo 71, p. 122).<sup>185</sup> The educational wing has five-to-one, common bond structural cladding, an interior brick chimney, and features modest elements of the Colonial Revival style, such as pediments above the door on the east elevation (Photo 71, p. 122). Entrances are located on the second story of the south elevation, accessed by a metal staircase, and on the lower level of the east and west elevations. Vinyl-framed, one-over-one, double-hung sashes with faux muntins fill the window openings, all of which are set below a soldier row. A one-story, shed-roofed covered walkway spans the west elevation (Photo 72, p. 122)

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<sup>183</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007:95.

<sup>184</sup> United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 1964.

<sup>185</sup> USDA 1977.

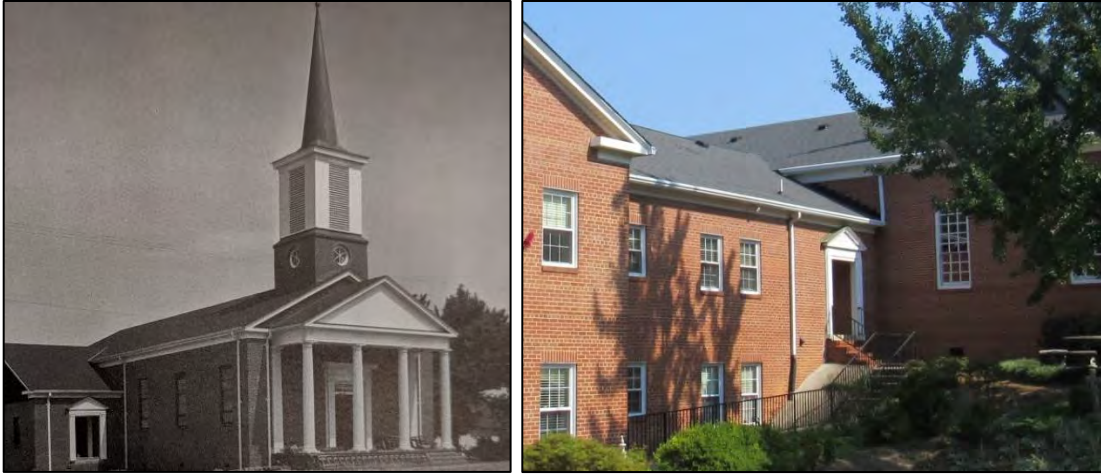


Photo 70: Mid- to Late-1950s Photograph of the Roxboro Baptist Church, Showing the Early Wing, Southeast Oblique (Left) and Current View of the Early Wing (Right).<sup>186</sup>



Photo 71: Educational Wing, East Elevation (Left) and Entrance Detail (Right).



Photo 72: Northwest Oblique of the Roxboro Presbyterian Church.

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<sup>186</sup>Talbert and Gray 2007:95.



*Primary Resource: Interior*

The primary entrance on N. Lamar Street leads into the narthex, a small space that has hardwood floors and the walls and ceiling are covered in drywall. A chandelier hangs from the ceiling. Flanking the narthex are square-shaped rooms currently used for storage. They are accessed from the narthex by wooden, single-leaf doors and have double-leaf, solid wooden doors on the western wall that, when opened, allow the congregation to use the space for overflow seating (Photo 73; Figure 47, p. 124).<sup>187</sup> Wooden double-leaf doors on the narthex's west elevation provide entry into the main part of the sanctuary, the nave, a large room with carpeted floors, walls and ceiling finished with drywall, and chandeliers. The corner is rounded where the ceiling meets the walls, and a modest chair rail and baseboard line the sanctuary. Window- and door-opening surrounds have a wide sill and are decorated with a keystone centered on the top. The pews are laid out in two symmetrical sections, creating a central aisle that leads from the narthex to the chancel. Shallow steps provide access to the chancel, which contains the pulpit and choir loft, a full-width space separated by an approximately 3-foot tall wooden partition (Photo 74 and Photo 75, p. 125).



Photo 73: Looking West Toward Nave from Narthex (Left) and Northernmost Storage/Overflow Space from Narthex, Looking North (Right).

<sup>187</sup>Evan Walker, personal communication 2019.

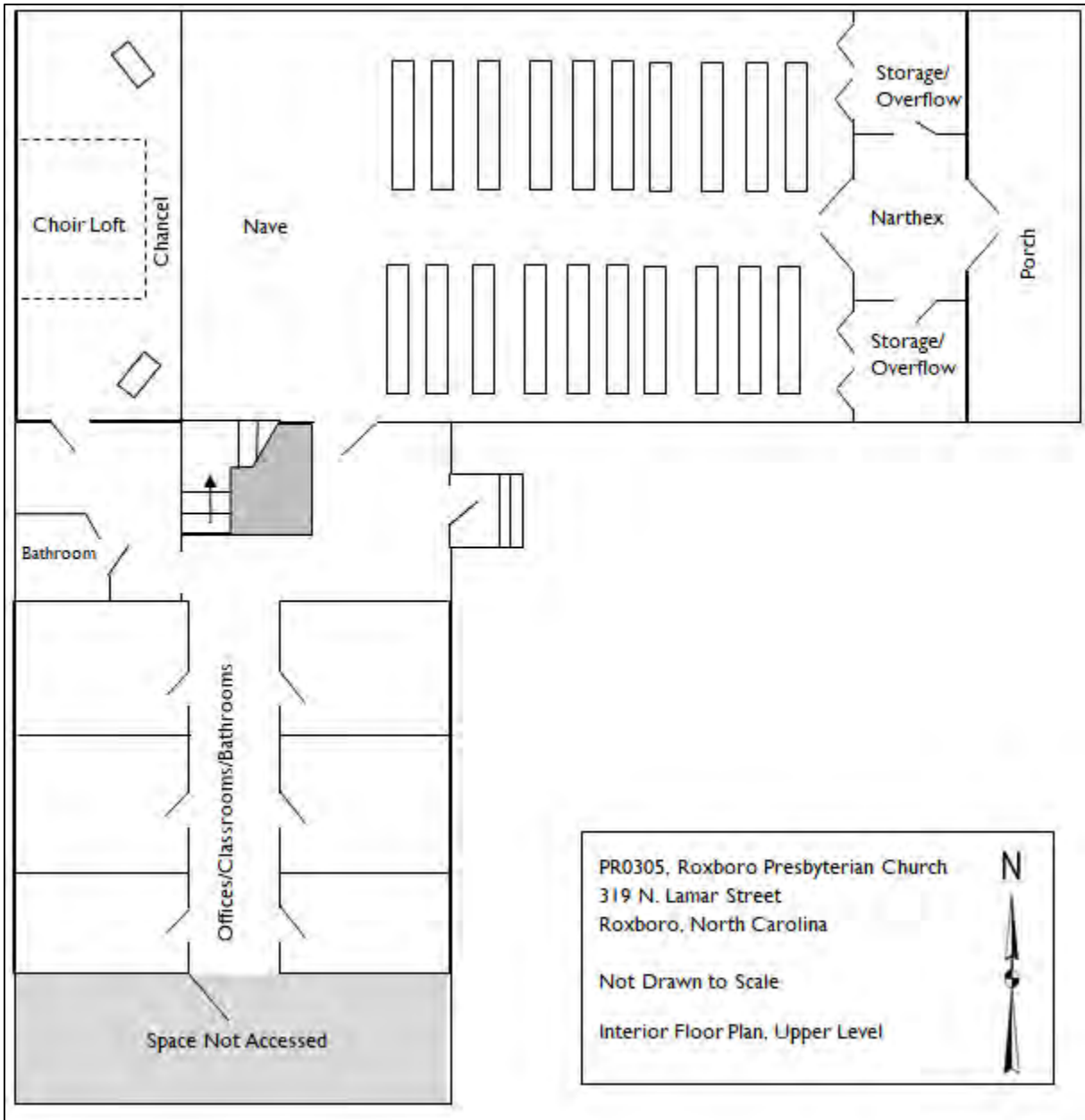


Figure 47: Roxboro Presbyterian Church (PR0305) Interior Floor Plan, Upper Level.

A single-leaf door on the sanctuary's south elevation exits to the early wing and interior stair case that leads to the lower level. This room has hardwood flooring, drywall-covered walls and ceiling, and a baseboard that lines the perimeter (Photo 76, p. 126). The staircase is located on the northern wall and is lined with a wooden balustrade. A door on the western wall leads to a small addition that contains a bathroom and allows access to the choir loft. This space, along

with the remainder of the educational wing, was remodeled in 2005.<sup>188</sup> An opening on the southern wall provides entrance to the circa-1964 educational wing, which comprises a long central hallway flanked by classrooms, offices, meeting spaces, and bathrooms (Photo 76, p. 126). Tile and drywall cover the floor and walls, respectively, and each room has a solid, single-leaf door. Drop ceiling tiles clearly distinguish this space from the sanctuary and early wing. At the southern end of the hallway is a door that leads to the circa-1970 portion of the educational wing; this was not accessed during the survey.



Photo 74: Nave, Looking Northeast Toward Narthex (Left) and Nave, Looking West Toward Chancel (Right).



Photo 75: Chancel, Looking West.

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<sup>188</sup>Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019.





Photo 76: Interior of the Early Wing, Looking Southwest (Left) and View of the Educational Wing, Looking South (Right).

The lower level features the same materials as the upper level of the educational wing: tiled floors, drywall on the walls, drop ceilings, and baseboards. The space below the sanctuary is a community room, accessed from the exterior by a door on the west elevation; a door on the southern wall leads to the early wing, which provides access to the staircase leading to the upper level. On the upper level, the educational wing extends from this space and comprises a hallway lined with rooms (Photo 77; Figure 48, p. 127). A large kitchen is located at the southern end of the hallway of the lower level of the circa-1970 addition, which leads into a large space that functions as a fellowship hall for the congregation (Photo 77).



Photo 77: Lower Level of the Educational Wing, Hallway, Looking North (Left) and Fellowship Hall, Looking Southeast (Right).

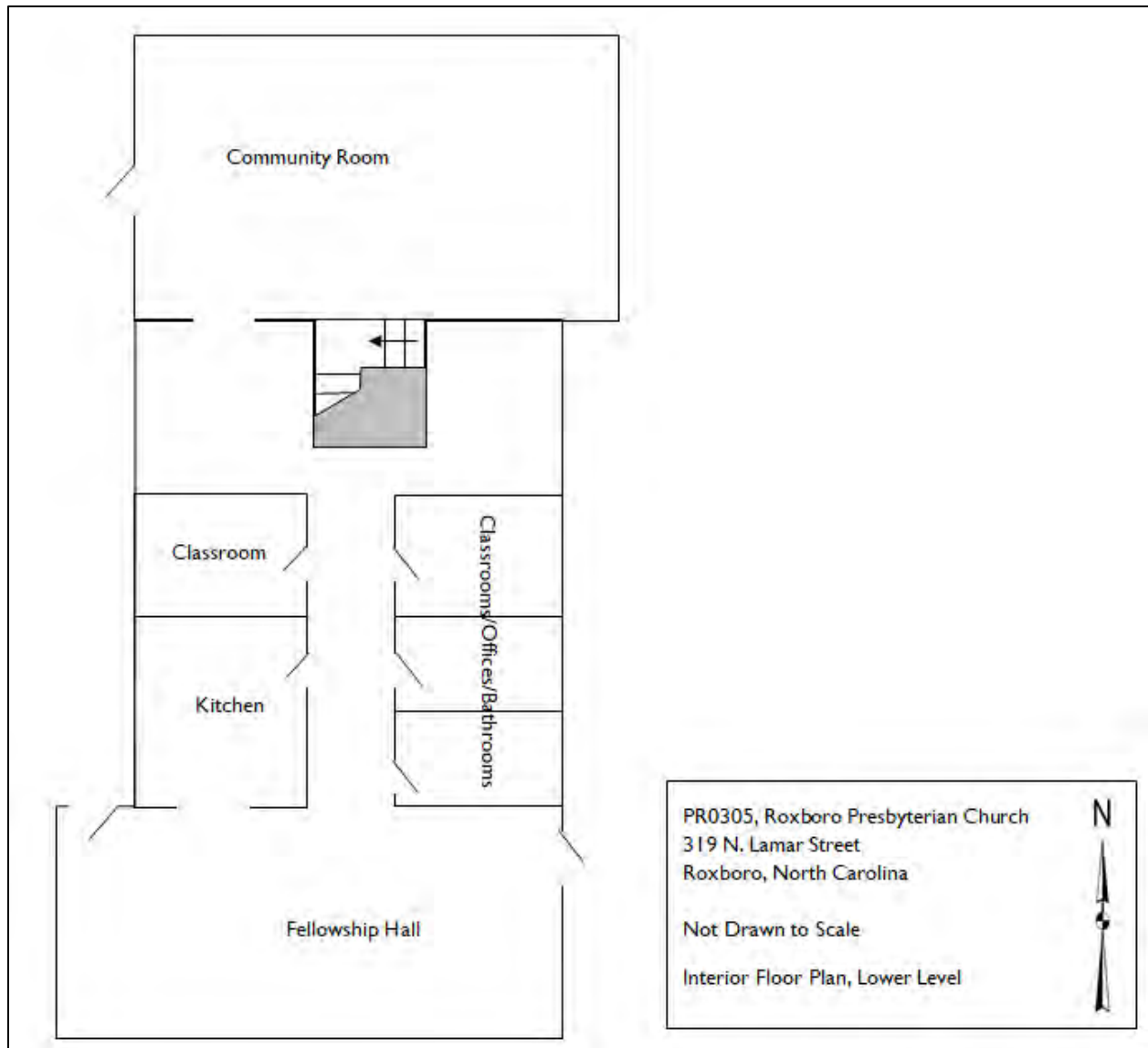


Figure 48: Roxboro Presbyterian Church (PR0305) Interior Floor Plan, Lower Level.

### *Secondary Resources*

Immediately west of the church is a one-story, three-bay manse, constructed around 1959.<sup>189</sup> This Ranch-style building has a brick, stretcher-bond veneer and currently functions as a rental property owned by the church (Photo 78, p. 128). An asphalt-shingled, side-gabled roof with wide eaves covers the residence and is pierced by an interior-slope, brick chimney. Off-centered on the primary (north) elevation is the primary entrance: a single-leaf wood door and storm exterior door flanked by sidelights. Other fenestration includes secondary entrances on the east

<sup>189</sup> USDA 1959.

and west elevations, one of which features an elaborate Colonial Revival-style surround, vinyl-framed fixed and one-over-one windows, and a fixed 15-light picture window on the north elevation. A brick stoop lined with a metal handrail is located in front of the primary entrance. Access to the manse was not granted during the survey.



Photo 78: Manse at the Roxboro Presbyterian Church, Northeast Oblique.

There are three signs on the property. One is a 2001 brick sign at the corner of Oak and N. Lamar streets.<sup>190</sup> It has a poured-concrete cap and features a granite text panel that reads “Roxboro Presbyterian Church est. 1892.” A larger sign stands at the corner of N. Madison Boulevard and Oak Street. This circa-1970 sign has a brick, U-shaped base that holds a metal-framed changeable letter sign. The third sign is just west of the manse and was likely constructed around 1990. The rectangular vinyl sign that reads “United Way” sits atop an unadorned, route, metal pole (Photo 79, p. 129).

A landscaped reflection space, known as the Sabbath Garden, was completed in 2001.<sup>191</sup> Located near the resource’s southeast corner, it contains low rock walls, gravel walkways, and a large circle filled with granite tiles, all of which form a cruciform (Photo 80, p. 129). Just south of the circa-1970 education wing addition is a playground completed in 2016.<sup>192</sup> It is surrounded by wood-plank retaining walls and accessed by a set of wooden steps (Photo 80, p. 129).

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<sup>190</sup> Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019.

<sup>191</sup> Ibid.

<sup>192</sup> Ibid.



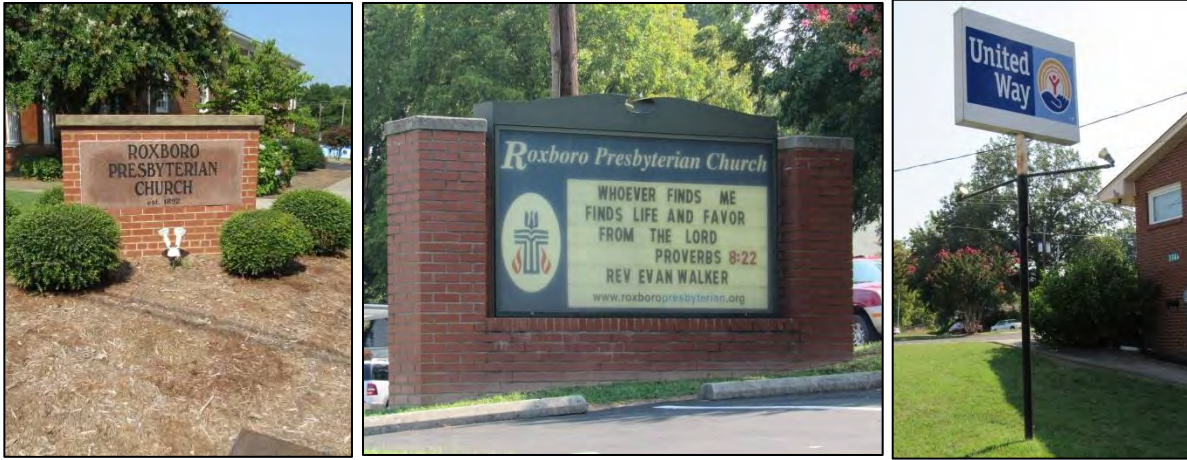


Photo 79: 2001 Sign, Looking West (Left), Circa-1970 Sign, Looking Northeast (Center), and Circa-1990 Sign, Looking Northeast (Right).



Photo 80: Sabbath Garden, Looking Southeast (Left) and Playground, Looking East (Right).

### *Historic Context*

The congregation currently known as the Roxboro Presbyterian Church organized in 1892. Although there were earlier Presbyterian congregations in the area dating to the mid-nineteenth century, they dissolved prior to the turn of the twentieth century.<sup>193</sup> Following its organization, the congregation met at a local Methodist Church until their own house of worship, “a white frame church building on South Lamar Street,” was completed in 1894; M. McG. Shields served as their first minister.<sup>194</sup> By the 1940s, the congregation had outgrown its small church and they began the effort of selecting a site for a new sanctuary; and by the end of the decade, they had

<sup>193</sup> Eaker 1981:81.

<sup>194</sup> Eaker 1981:81; Norris 1998a; Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019.

selected a location on N. Lamar at the intersection with Oak Street.<sup>195</sup> In 1947, church trustees purchased the lot from the heirs of George T. Watkins for \$10,000.<sup>196</sup> The cost of the new building was estimated at over \$50,000 but:

[...] records indicate that the congregations had to borrow only \$7,000 for its building program [...] This was possible because some \$28,000 in cash and real estate had been acquired over the years for this purpose. Another \$15,350 was given to the church by a Mebane family, not local residents, on the condition that the church be called “Mebane Memorial” in honor of Mrs. Carrie Holt Mebane and Mr. James Kerr Mebane.<sup>197</sup>

As a result of this monetary donation, the church, which was completed in 1950, and its congregation became known as Mebane Memorial Presbyterian Church.<sup>198</sup> That same decade, construction continued and in 1953, an educational wing was added to the sanctuary’s south elevation, which was then later expanded around 1970, and in the late 1950s, they built the manse, a one-story, brick-clad building just west of the sanctuary.<sup>199</sup> In recent years, “after considering issues such as community identification, the congregation decided to return to the original name, Roxboro Presbyterian Church.”<sup>200</sup> The building continues to house the Roxboro Presbyterian Church congregation to this day.

### *Evaluation*

The Roxboro Presbyterian Church, constructed in 1950, retains a high integrity of location and association, as it has not been moved from its original location and continues to function as a church. This part of Roxboro was already developed with a mix of residential and commercial buildings when the church was constructed at the intersection of N. Lamar and Oak streets and as such, the resource’s level of setting integrity remains high. Despite the construction of a 1953 education wing addition, some interior remodeling, and sanctuary window replacement, much of the original fabric remains intact, resulting in a moderate to high level of integrity of feeling, materials, design, and workmanship.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events:... a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>201</sup> However, NPS goes on to say that “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be

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<sup>195</sup> Eaker 1981:81.

<sup>196</sup> PCDB 60:79.

<sup>197</sup> Eaker 1981:81.

<sup>198</sup> Eaker 1981:81; Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019.

<sup>199</sup> Eaker 1981:81; Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019; USDA 1964, 1977.

<sup>200</sup> Roxboro Presbyterian Church 2019.

<sup>201</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:12.

considered important as well.”<sup>202</sup> Although the congregation was associated with religious trends in Roxboro, research has not uncovered any information suggesting that the resource exhibits significance within that trend, or any other event at the local, state, or national level. For these reasons, the Roxboro Presbyterian Church is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The resource has no known association with an individual who is “significant within a historic context” or has “gained importance within his or her group or profession” which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B.<sup>203</sup> Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

To place this property in context, several nearby churches reflecting the same architectural style were documented including some with on-site parsonages/manses. The Roxboro Presbyterian Church is just one of several mid-twentieth-century Colonial Revival religious facilities in the area. Located approximately 0.5 mile southeast on S. Main Street is the Roxboro Baptist Church (PR0269); the current house of worship for a congregation was established in 1882. Like the Presbyterian Church, the Roxboro Baptist Church sanctuary, constructed in 1951, has a brick veneer and features a temple-style façade with wood columns and a pediment. Both have similar steeples capped by a metal roof, as well as several additions to their rear and side elevations (Photo 81, p. 132). This resource has not been formally evaluated for the NRHP by NC-HPO staff.

Other churches in the small city feature more modest displays of the Colonial Revival style, such as the East Rock Community Church at 306 Front Street (1965) and Providence Baptist Church at 1319 Virgilina Road (1967). Both of these buildings have a front-gabled portico supported by columns, double-leaf doors providing access to sanctuary accentuated by Colonial Revival elements, such as pilasters, and steeples with arched windows or vents. Another similarity to the Roxboro Presbyterian Church is the construction of wings/additions to provide space for classrooms and offices, a common feature among churches of this period (Photo 82, p. 132).

Longhurst United Methodist Church at 265 Providence Road is similar to Roxboro Presbyterian Church as it reflects the Colonial Revival style and has an associated parsonage. Constructed around 1910, Longhurst is a one-story, front-gabled brick church with double-leaf, wooden door surrounded by pilasters and a broken pediment. A one-story, brick-clad educational wing extends from the church’s east elevation. Adjacent to the church is a one-story, four-bay residential building that serves as the congregation’s parsonage (Photo 83, p. 133).

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<sup>202</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:12.

<sup>203</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:14.





Photo 81: Roxboro Baptist Church (PR0269) at 202 S. Main Street; Northwest Elevation (Left) and North Oblique Showing Education Building (Right).



Photo 82: East Rock Community Church at 306 Front Street, Northwest Oblique (Left) and Providence Baptist Church at 1319 Virgilina Road, Southeast Oblique (Right).

Although not an example of the Colonial Revival style, Quinn's Chapel A.M.E Church at 824 Durham Road also has an associated parsonage. This worship facility was constructed in 1932 and reflects the Gothic Revival style. The parsonage, currently used as an office for the pastor, is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay residence constructed around 1940 situated immediately northeast of the church; it has been heavily modified with replacement siding and windows (Photo 84, p. 133).

Although the Roxboro Presbyterian Church retains a moderate to high level of historic integrity, the building has undergone some modifications since it was first constructed in 1950, including

original sanctuary window replacement and a 2005 interior renovation. This church building is one of several brick Colonial Revival worship facilities in Roxboro constructed during the mid-twentieth century and does not possess significance for its design, nor is it the work of a master. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for the NPHP under Criterion C.



Photo 83: Longhurst United Methodist Church Sanctuary (Left) and Parsonage (Right), Looking Northwest.



Photo 84: Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church, Northwest Oblique (Left) and Associated Parsonage, Southwest Oblique (Right).

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>204</sup> The Roxboro Presbyterian

<sup>204</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:21.

Church is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor or significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Roxboro Presbyterian Church is **recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**



## **PR0306: Clayton House, 29 Oak Street**

Date of Construction: 1907

Modifications: Early twentieth-century

29 Oak Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-15-53-4731

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to the North Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0326)



### ***Architectural Description***

The Clayton House at 29 Oak Street is located at the intersection of Oak Street and N. Lamar Street in Roxboro. The resource is situated on a single parcel of land totaling 0.26 acre (Figure 49–Figure 50, pp. 136–137). The house faces north and is situated on a corner lot. Along the east of the resource is a poured-concrete driveway that extends south from Oak Street. The parcel is covered by a manicured lawn accented with moderate-sized deciduous trees. One secondary resource, a circa-2008 shed, is located southeast of the dwelling. The property is surrounded by single-family dwellings. The current property owner, Jayne Burch Loftis, did not permit exterior or interior access to the property; therefore, images were taken from the public right-of-way. This resource is located in the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326). Access to the exterior of the building was not permitted by the owners during the current effort; all the following photographs were taken from the public right-of-way

#### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Clayton House at 29 Oak Street appears to have been built in two or three phases, beginning in 1907. The dwelling was constructed as a two-story, three-bay, single-family house in the Queen Anne style with one-story, wrap-around porch on the north elevation (Photo 85, p. 138).

The house rests on a continuous brick foundation, which supports a frame structural system clad in weatherboard siding. The dwelling is topped by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof sheathed with crimped pressed metal and includes one projecting gable and one peak on the northeast elevation. All gable ends feature full returns lined with a wood vergeboard and filled with square-butted wood shingles. Two interior-slope, brick chimneys are pierce the roof on the southwest elevation. Additionally, a small metal flue is located on the roof slope of the south elevation.



Figure 49: Location of Clayton House (PR0306).<sup>205</sup>

<sup>205</sup> Esri 2019





Figure 50: Site Plan of the Clayton House at 29 Oak Street.<sup>206</sup>

The primary entry, located on the northeast elevation, is filled by a single-leaf, wood-paneled door with an oval light and storm door and is flanked by sidelights (Photo 86, p. 139). Additional fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl replacement windows and one-over-one, double-hung-sash, aluminum windows, all with unadorned wood surrounds. Stretching across the façade or north elevation is a one-story, wrap-around porch with a hipped roof supported by wood columns with plain Tuscan capitols (Photo 87, p. 140). The columns rest on a wood deck, which is accessed by a set of wood stairs that lead to a concrete sidewalk that extends northeast to Oak Street.

A small, one-story, multi-bay, frame addition is located on the southwest elevation of the dwelling, on the west side. This small addition was likely constructed in the early-twentieth

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<sup>206</sup> Google 2018.



century, shortly after the dwelling was constructed (Photo 87, p. 140). It sits on a continuous brick foundation and is clad in the same materials as the core of the dwelling.



Photo 85: Northeast Elevation.

A large, one-story, frame addition extends across the rear or southwest elevation of the original portion of the building (Photo 88, p. 140). Sanborn insurance maps show that the addition was present in 1925, and it was likely added shortly after the house was constructed in 1907. It rests on a continuous, stretcher-bond, brick foundation which supports a frame structure clad in weatherboard. The foundation elevates the one-story addition. The addition is topped by a low-pitched, front-gabled roof clad in crimped metal. Fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash vinyl windows and a four-over-four, double-hung-sash, wood-frame window. A basement entrance is located on the south elevation and is filled by a single-leaf, wood paneled door.

Additionally, a third extension to the dwelling is located on the east side of the southwest elevation. This hipped-roof addition is only visible on aerial imagery, but appears to be one-story in height and clad in the same materials as the core of the dwelling.<sup>207</sup>

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<sup>207</sup> Google 2018.



Photo 86: Primary Entry Detail on Northeast Elevation.



Photo 87: Northwest Elevation with Pyramidal Roof Addition and Front-Gabled Addition.



Photo 88: Northwest Elevation.



*Primary Resource: Interior*

Interior access was not permitted as a part of this survey.<sup>208</sup> Based on the form, massing, and style of this house, the dwelling likely has a center-passage plan with stairway located in the central hall. General living space is likely located on the first floor with bedrooms on the second floor.

*Secondary Resources*

A one-story, one-bay, prefabricated shed is located to the southeast of the primary dwelling. This shed was likely added circa 2008.<sup>209</sup> Due to access restrictions, this shed was not visible at time of survey, but is visible on aerial imagery.<sup>210</sup>

*Historic Context*

The Clayton House at 29 Oak Street was built by Albert Winfrey (A.W.) Clayton (1877–1952) in 1907. W.W. Kitchin and his wife, Marsetta, local residents who owned large amounts of land in the surrounding area, conveyed a tract of land to A.W. Clayton, on which he would build the house at 29 Oak Street. It fronted Oak Street 100 feet in length and Lamar Street at 200 feet.<sup>211</sup> Clayton was employed as a merchant and grocer during the early- to mid-twentieth century, and in 1920 the family had a domestic servant in their employ.<sup>212</sup> Little else is recorded about the grocery store owned by the Clayton family except that in 1906, Clayton advertised in the local paper that he could furnish the inquirer with canned goods, meat, or lard (Figure 51, p. 137). Additionally, Clayton worked in real estate development within Roxboro, with partner William Alexander (W.A.) Sergeant. By 1925, the dwelling had an outbuilding which is no longer extant, that was constructed during the Clayton Family's occupation of the property (Figure 52, p. 142).

The Clayton family lived in the house until Albert Clayton's death in 1952. Around that time, his son, Albert W. Clayton, Jr., took ownership of the dwelling. Albert, Jr. and his wife, Elizabeth F. Clayton, resided in the dwelling until 1962 when the property was conveyed to a relative, Jerry M. Clayton. The property remained in the Jerry M. Clayton family until it was conveyed to the current owner, Jayne Burch Loftis, in 2008.<sup>213</sup>

*Evaluation*

The Clayton House is a two-story, four-bay, frame dwelling constructed in 1907. Both the form and Queen Anne style of this building are relatively common throughout the country, region, and in Person County. The dwelling was built by A. W. Clayton, a grocer and merchant, and

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<sup>208</sup> Jayne Burch Loftis, personal communication 2019.

<sup>209</sup> NETR 2008.

<sup>210</sup> Google 2019.

<sup>211</sup> PCDB 11:253.

<sup>212</sup> U.S. Census 1910, 1920, 1940.

<sup>213</sup> PCDB 699:185.

remained in the Clayton family until 2008. In addition to this dwelling, Clayton either built or occupied the house next door at 25 Oak Street, which was built in 1902. There are no other known buildings that he resided in associated with him in Roxboro or Person County. The Clayton House retains a relatively high level of historic integrity of location and setting, having not been moved and the immediate surroundings remaining residential in nature. It retains a moderate level of integrity of material, design, workmanship, feeling and association as well, as the dwelling has original exterior cladding, but replacement windows and additions. Modifications to the dwelling include replacement windows and reconfiguration of the rear addition in the late-twentieth century.

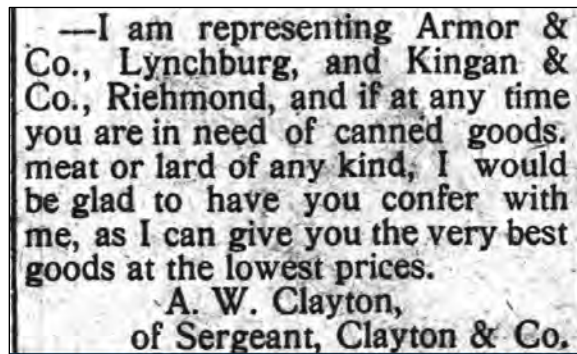


Figure 51: 1906 Clayton Grocery Advertisement.<sup>214</sup>

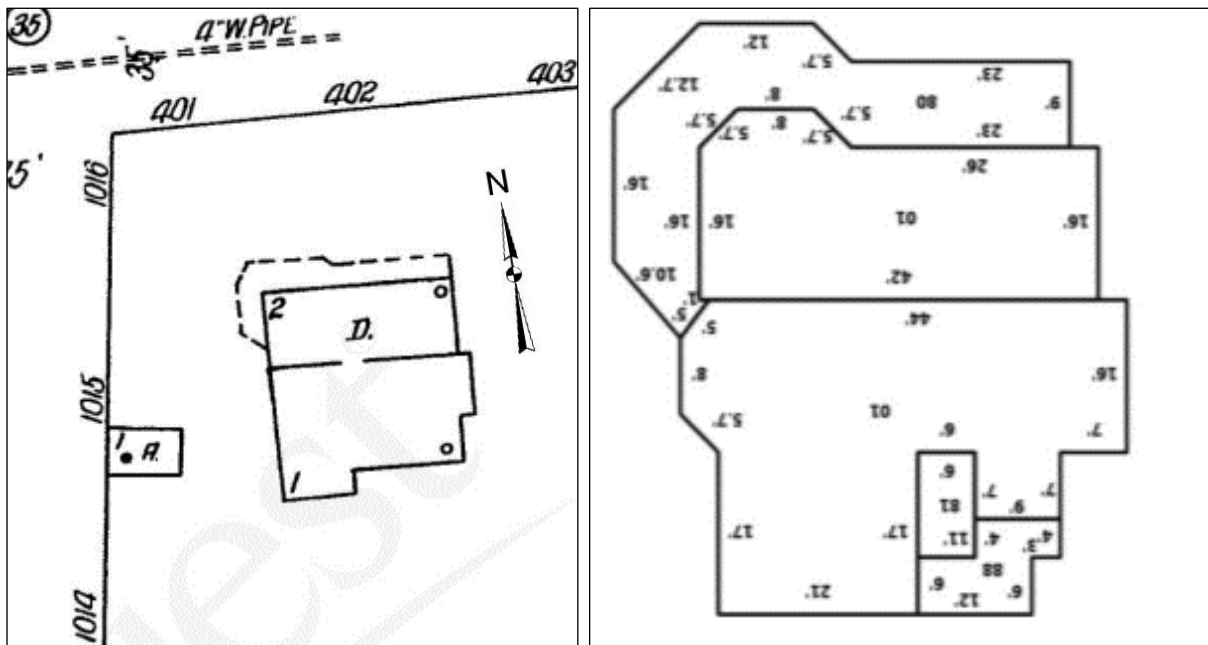


Figure 52: 1925 Sanborn Map (Left) and Circa-2017 Plan of Building (Right).<sup>215</sup> Not to scale.

<sup>214</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1906:5.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>216</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property’s specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>217</sup> No significant local, state, or national events are known to have taken place at the Clayton House and its historic function is commonplace throughout rural communities in the state and not of particular importance to shaping residential development or architectural trends in Roxboro. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known persons historically associated with the Clayton House are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>218</sup> A.W. Clayton was a grocer and merchant in the City of Roxboro in the early-twentieth century; however, he is not known to have played an important role in the local economy of Roxboro. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The Queen Anne style was prevalent throughout the United States around the turn of the twentieth century, especially in communities with proximity to railroads, as pre-cut architectural details could be shipped easily by rail transport.<sup>219</sup> Because of this convenient access to these architectural ornaments, there are multiple examples of Queen Anne-style dwellings in Roxboro that are similar to the Clayton House.

The circa-1892 James Sidney Bradsher House at 421 South Main Street (PR0278) is one of many Queen Anne-style dwellings in Roxboro that have similarities to the Clayton House, such as its form, massing, and stylistic details. The James Sidney Brasher House, constructed earlier than the Clayton House, has a similar form and scale, with carved wood details in the gable end and has details such as decorative spandrels, spindlework, and brackets under the eaves (Photo 89, p. 144). These details are reminiscent of the decorative applied pre-cut architectural details on the Clayton House, such as the square-butted shingles in the gables, and the spindlework in the gables. The Newell House at 501 North Main Street (PR0303), constructed three years after the Clayton House, has even more similarities to the Clayton House, including the side-gabled roof with projecting front gable, which are also typical among Queen-Anne style dwellings. The wrap-around front porch found on the Newell House also resembles the Clayton House porch

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<sup>215</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>216</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>217</sup> Ibid.

<sup>218</sup> Ibid.

<sup>219</sup> McAlester 2013:268.



(Photo 90) (more photos and full description p. 82). However, both the Newell House and the Clayton House lack original windows and have replacement materials.



Photo 89: The James Sidney Bradsher House at 421 South Main Street, Southeast Oblique.



Photo 90: The Newell House at 501 North Main Street, Northeast Oblique.

A high-style example of a Queen Anne-style house, the Long, James A. and Laura Thompson, House (PR0271) at 217 South Main Street, has more stylistic details typically associated with this dwelling type, such as a tower, spindle work, and complex hipped roof (Photo 91, p. 145).<sup>220</sup> It was listed in the NRHP in 2004 under Criterion B for its association with James A. Long and Criterion C for bring an exceptional local example of the Queen Anne style. While these resources are not identical to Clayton House in form, massing, and stylistic detail, they help to demonstrate the prevalence of the Queen Anne-style dwelling throughout Roxboro and Person County.

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<sup>220</sup> McAlester 2013:346; Woodard 2004.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>221</sup> Despite not being able to fully evaluate the integrity of the interior, Dovetail's archival research and local comparisons with other similar and better-preserved resources provide sufficient information with which to evaluate the Clayton House under Criterion C. The Clayton House is typical of single-family dwellings constructed in the Queen Anne style in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Furthermore, several additions and modifications have been made to the building as it has changed over time, somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.



Photo 91: James A. Long and Laura Thompson House (PR0271) at 217 South Main Street, East Elevation.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>222</sup> The Clayton House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Clayton House is **recommended not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the Clayton House is located within the boundaries of the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District and was built within the

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<sup>221</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>222</sup> Ibid.

district's period of significance and reflects a style and form found throughout the district. Therefore, it is **recommended as a contributing element to the proposed North Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326).**



**PR0307: Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church,  
217 N. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1930  
Modifications: n/a

217 N. Lamar Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: n/a  
Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



***Architectural Description***

Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church is located on the northeast side of N. Lamar Street in a moderately populated, commercial and residential area of Roxboro. Built on a small rectangular lot measuring approximately 0.19 acre, the church is immediately surrounded by a manicured grass lawn on all sides with a wooded area to the west and south (Figure 53–Figure 54, p. 148–149). The resource is accessed directly from the N. Lamar Street and the public sidewalk by a short, poured-concrete path that leads northwest to the primary entrance. Another poured-concrete path leads northeast from the sidewalk and terminates at a handicap accessible ramp that provides access to the building though a secondary entrance on the church’s southwest elevation.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The primary resource is a one-story, one-bay unadorned church constructed around 1930 in a linear plan (Photo 92, p. 150). The foundation and structural system, though not visible, are both clad in a running-bond brick veneer with a soldier row located just above foundation. The building is topped by a moderately pitched, front-gabled roof with a boxed cornice and sheathed in asphalt shingles. A louvered, wooden vent on a brick sill and topped by a jack arch is located in the southeast gable-end. An interior-end brick chimney pierces the southwest roof along the northwest elevation.

The primary entrance is centered on the southeast elevation and is filled with a replacement, double-leaf, flush metal door located within a metal surround (Photo 92, p. 150). The door is accessed by a set of brick steps with metal railing and is located beneath a one-story, one-bay, shed-roofed, entry porch supported by square, wood posts. Other fenestration includes large, nine-over-nine, double-hung-sash, wood-framed windows, some of which have been replaced with one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows with faux muntins meant to mimic the original windows. All of these units are feature brick sills and topped by a brick jack arch. Small two-light, metal-framed, sliding windows line the basement level. This resource features two secondary entrances: one along the northeast elevation to provide access to the basement and another on the southwest elevation used as a handicapped entrance (Photo 93, p. 150). The basement entrance is filled with a single-leaf, half-glazed, flush-metal door that is accessed by a

set of concrete-block stairs and metal railing. The handicapped entrance is filled with a double-leaf, flush, metal door topped by a six-light transom and a flat, pent roof. The door is accessed by a wooden handicap ramp. A set of brick steps that previously led to the door is now covered by a ramp. The rear (northwest) elevation of the resource features bathroom entrances labeled “men” and “ladies,” both filled with a single-leaf, flush wood door and are separated by a short, brick wall upon a poured-concrete landing (Photo 94, p. 150).



Figure 53: Location of the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307).<sup>223</sup>

<sup>223</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 54: Site Plan for Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307).<sup>224</sup>

<sup>224</sup> Google 2018.





Photo 92: West Oblique (Left) and Primary Entrance Detail (Right) on the Southwest Elevation.



Photo 93: South Oblique. Note the ramp and secondary entrance along the southwest elevation.



Photo 94: East Oblique (Left) and Bathroom Entrance Detail on Northeast Elevation (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The primary entrance on the southeast elevation leads into the narthex, a small space that has hardwood flooring and wood paneling on the walls with a chair rail (Photo 95). Single-leaf, paneled wood doors lead northeast and southwest into the sanctuary. The sanctuary itself is a large open room with wood flooring, wood paneled walls with a chair rail, and a wood ceiling. Globe light fixtures and a fan hang from the ceiling and the windows that line the walls are within modest, wood surrounds. The wooden pews are laid out in three rows, creating two aisles, which lead from the narthex to the chancel (Photo 96). A section of pews in the southeast section of the sanctuary was removed to create more space for fellowship activities. Three carpeted steps lead up to the carpeted chancel which features a wooden pulpit. A baptismal pool is located beneath the pulpit and carpet. Two small rooms flank the chancel which were previously used as dressing rooms for the clergy and those getting baptized. They now serve as bathrooms and each feature a single-leaf, paneled wood door. A double-leaf, flush, metal door on the southwest wall near the bathroom leads to the outdoor handicap accessible ramp (Figure 55, p. 152).

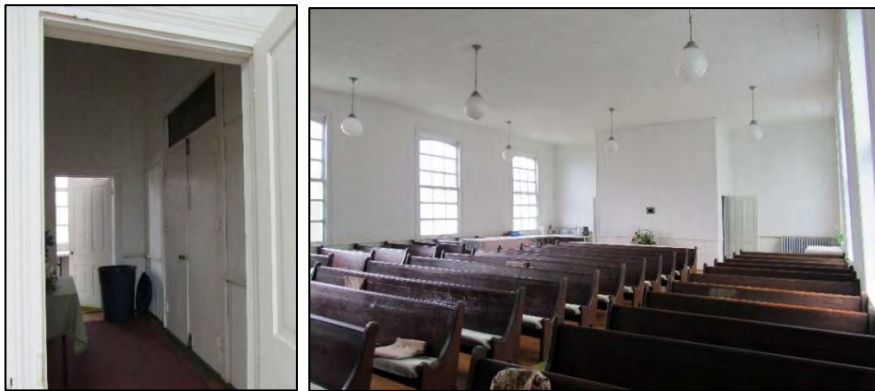


Photo 95: View of Narthex, Looking Northeast (Left), and View of Sanctuary Looking South Towards the Narthex (Right).



Photo 96: View of Sanctuary, Looking North (Left), and View of Chancel, Looking Southwest (Right).

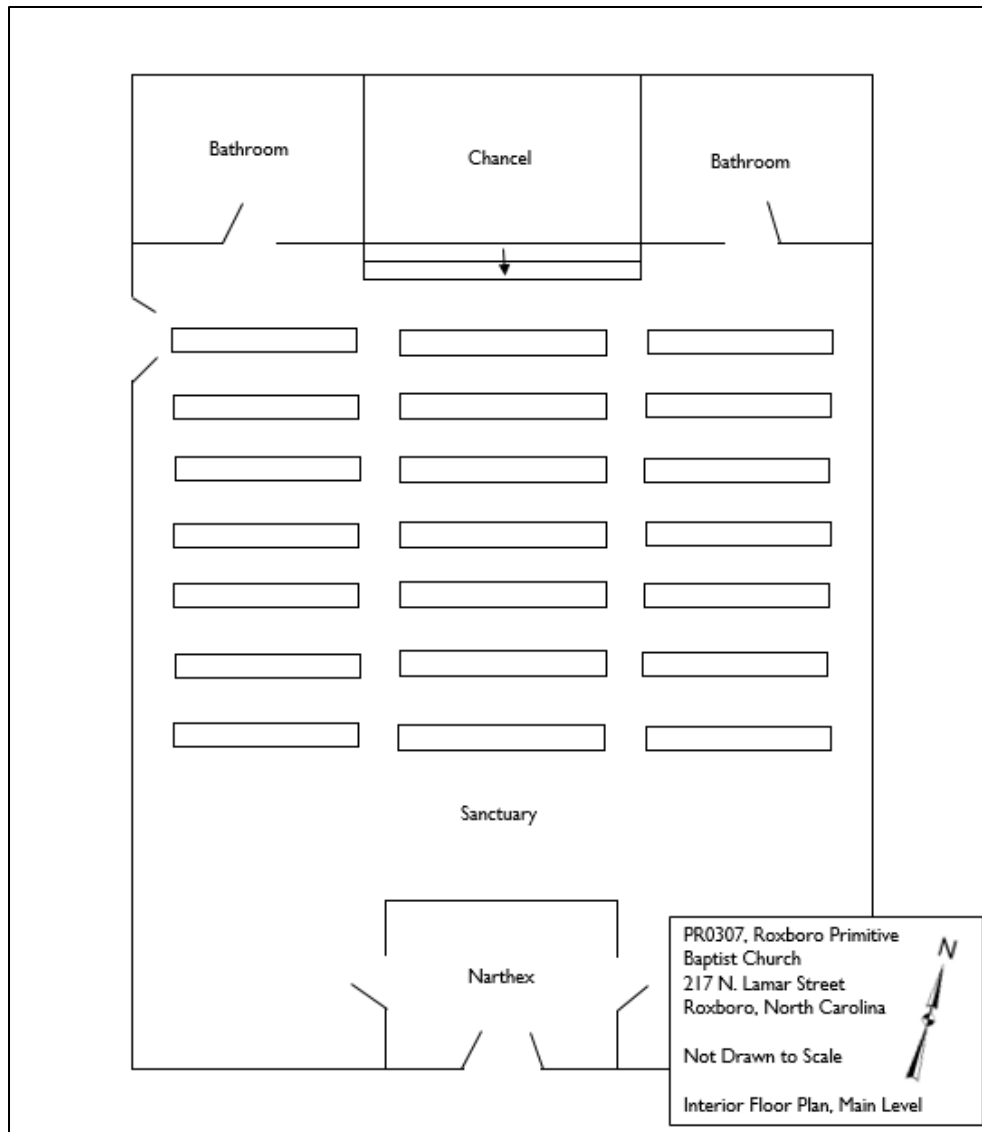


Figure 55: Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307) Interior Floor Plan of the Main Level.

The basement is only assessable from outside through a single-leaf, half-glazed, flush-metal door on the northeast elevation. That door leads to a large open room with a poured-concrete floor and parged walls (Photo 97, p. 153). The ceiling is unfinished and consists of the flooring and floor joists from the sanctuary above. A long support beam with metal support poles runs down the center of the basement. The basement was used as a fellowship hall, but because it is not handicap accessible, it is no longer used. Two bathrooms are also located on the basement level but are only accessible from outside on the northwest elevation. Both bathrooms feature a poured-concrete floor, brick walls, and a wood ceiling. The bathrooms are not used much as there are now bathrooms inside the church on the main level.





Photo 97: View of Basement, Looking North (Left), and View of Bathroom, Looking Southeast (Right).

### *Historic Context*

The Primitive Baptist Church denomination was established in the early-nineteenth century when various churches issued separation statements, such as the *Kehukee Declaration* by the Kehukee Church in Halifax County. These declarations stated that scripture did not call for evangelism, missionary work, theological seminaries, or Sunday schools, among other things being practiced and preached in Baptist churches, and therefore, they felt the need to form a new association without those additional practices.<sup>225</sup> Due to these strict views, Primitive Baptists (primitive meaning original in this context, since though they were established in the nineteenth century, congregants believe that the Primitive Baptist Church has theological ties to the first Christian churches) also do not believe in having images or decoration or using musical instruments in their churches, which influences the architecture of the church buildings.<sup>226</sup>

The plan for the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church began in 1898 when E.D. Reade sold the parcel on the “west side of Lamar Street” to the trustees of the Primitive Baptist Church in Roxboro “in consideration for the high esteem he has to the Church and ten dollars cash in hand.”<sup>227</sup> The land was sold under the stipulation that it “may be used for said Church purposes and for no other purpose.”<sup>228</sup> At a meeting in January of the following year it was “unanimously agreed that the church be built at once [and that it] would be of credit to the denomination and to the City of Roxboro.”<sup>229</sup> It was also determined that the church should be 30 feet by 60 feet. As can be noted in the 1894 Sanborn map of the church (noted as “Hard Shell Baptist Church,” another name for Primitive Baptists at the time), it was a one-story, frame building with a hipped roof that appears to feature a steeple or tower (Figure 57, p. 155).

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<sup>225</sup> Guthman 2008:iii; Kehukee Association 1827.

<sup>226</sup> Guthman 2008:175; Kehukee Association 1827.

<sup>227</sup> PCDB II:49.

<sup>228</sup> Ibid.

<sup>229</sup> Norris 1998a.

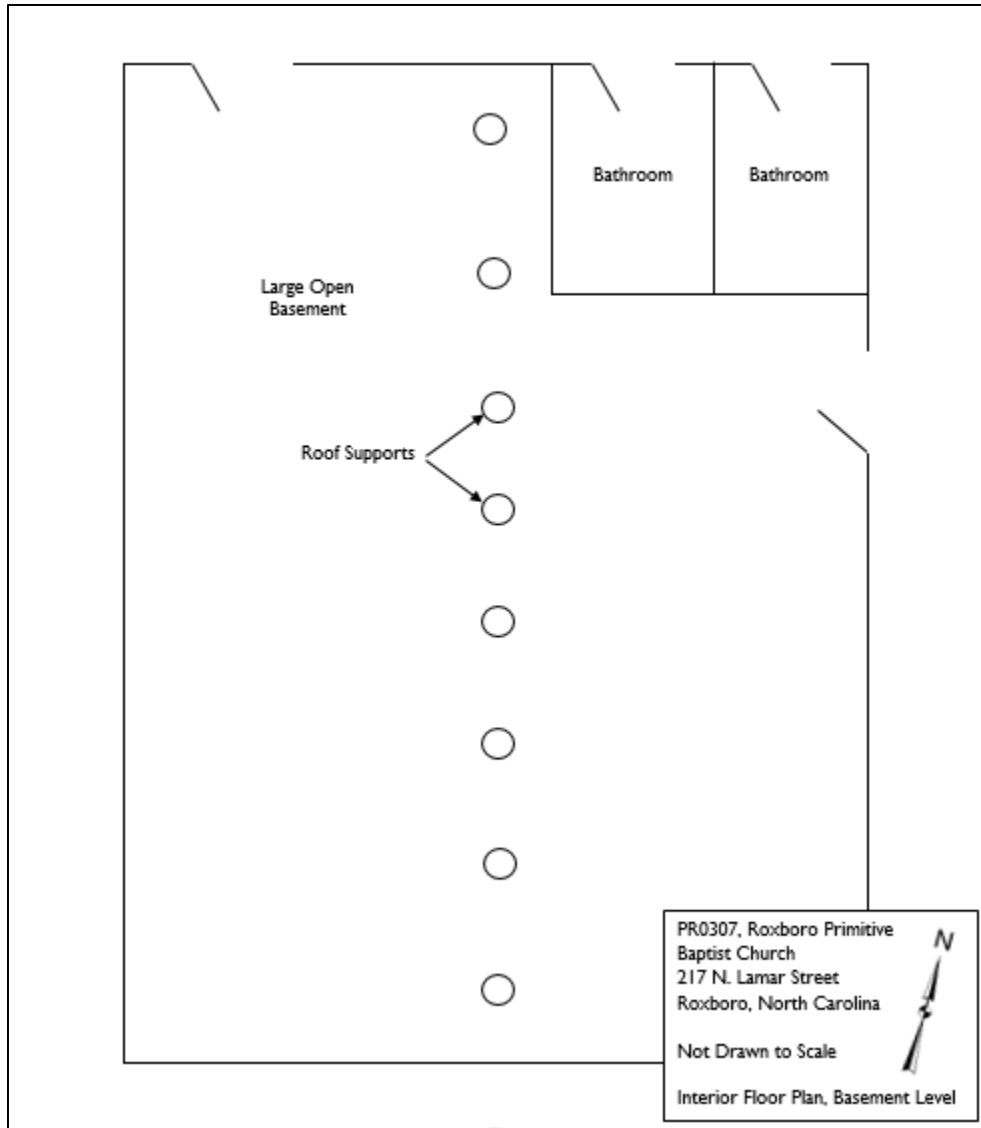


Figure 56: Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307) Interior Floor Plan of the Basement Level.

In February 1891, the church was officially established when elders and deacons from the nearby Stories Creek Primitive Baptist Church met to start a congregation in the new church building.<sup>230</sup> Eleven people from other neighboring Primitive Baptist churches including Wheelers, Ebenezer, Surl, and Stories Creek all presented letters to the elders and deacons, presenting themselves for membership to the new Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church.<sup>231</sup> John S. Clayton and C.T. Hudgins were ordained as deacons and James D. Draughn was ordained as the first Elder (the term

<sup>230</sup> Eaker 1981:93.

<sup>231</sup> Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church 1928.

Primitive Baptist's use for the church leader).<sup>232</sup> The first service was March 7, 1891 and later that same month, the first new members that were not transfers from other churches were admitted and baptized.<sup>233</sup> Later that year the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church sent its first messengers to, and was accepted as members at, the County Line Association, which was an association of neighboring Baptist churches that was established in 1805.<sup>234</sup>



Figure 57: 1894 Sanborn Map Showing the “Hard Shell” Baptist Church.<sup>235</sup> Not to scale.

By 1892, the debt that the church incurred by constructing the building had not been fully repaid and a decision was made “to ask the warehouses of Roxboro to give the profits of one day’s sale of tobacco towards paying for the church” and to set up boxes outside the church building so that people could put their donations there if they chose.<sup>236</sup> Through this the debt was paid. In 1919, the Trustees of the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church purchased a small adjoining lot for \$150 for use as a driveway. Around 1930, the decision was made to demolish and rebuild the church building. This is the current, front-gabled building on the lot today (Figure 58, p. 156).

Although the congregation is small, the church is still in use today, and they now use a circuit Elder and only meet in the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church once a month.<sup>237</sup> The church also continues to be a member of the same association, though it is now known as the Lower County Line Association due to an earlier division. The building has not been modified much since it was built with the exception of the baptismal dressing rooms flanking the chancel being converted to bathrooms as well as the replacement of several windows and the addition of the handicapped assessable ramp around 2010.<sup>238</sup>

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<sup>232</sup> Ibid.

<sup>233</sup> Eaker 1981:93.

<sup>234</sup> Eaker 1981:72, 93.

<sup>235</sup> Sanborn 1894.

<sup>236</sup> Eaker 1981:93.

<sup>237</sup> Linda T. Perkins, personal communication 2019.

<sup>238</sup> Ibid.



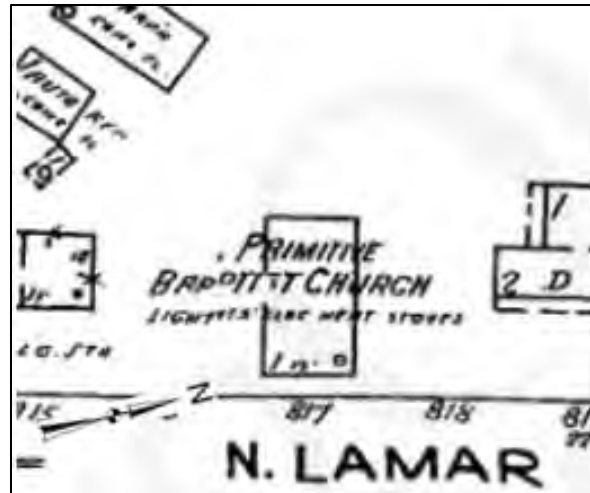


Figure 58: 1940 Sanborn Map Showing the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church (PR0307).<sup>239</sup> Not to scale.

### *Evaluation*

Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church is a one-story, one-bay, unadorned church constructed around 1930 with a linear plan. The massing, form, and style are all common to Roxboro as well as Person County. Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church retains integrity of location; the church has not been moved. The church has a moderate level of integrity of materials, workmanship, and design due to replacement materials such as the windows and doors. This part of Roxboro was already developed with a mix of residential and commercial buildings when the church was constructed, being located just outside the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0914) and it still operates as a church and as such, the resource retains a moderate level of integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events:... a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>240</sup> However, NPS goes on to say that “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property’s specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>241</sup> Although the congregation was associated with religious trends in Roxboro, research did not reveal that the resource exhibits significance within that trend, or any other event at the local, state, or national level. For these reasons, the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

<sup>239</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>240</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:12.

<sup>241</sup> Ibid.

The resource has no known association with an individual or group of individuals, such as the elders, deacons, or congregants of the church who are “significant within a historic context” or have “gained importance within his or her group or profession” which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B.<sup>242</sup> Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

To place this property in context, several nearby churches reflecting similar architectural style were surveyed. Primitive Baptist church architecture is defined by unadorned, often modest buildings which reflects the religious beliefs of the congregants that the focus should not be on material items or the church building itself. As these churches have their own unique style, three other Primitive Baptist churches in Person County were visited during this study in order to place the current resource into context. The Flat River Primitive Baptist Church on Flat River Church Road in Roxboro, which is a part of the Lower County Line Primitive Baptist Association (previously known as the Lower County Line Association) along with the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church, is a one-story, one-bay, front-gabled, unadorned church organized in 1750 with the building dating to 1948 (Photo 98). The building has the same form and massing as the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church and features some of the same modifications including replacement windows and doors.



Photo 98: Flat River Primitive Baptist Church, South Oblique.

The Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church (PR0298) just south of Roxboro in Hurdle Mills, is a one-story, two-bay, front-gabled church constructed in 1889, which though similarly unadorned, features lancet windows as well as triangular lights above the doors and serves as an early example of this type of architecture (Photo 99, p. 158). This building features the more traditional configuration of two entrances on the façade which were used to separate the genders

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<sup>242</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:14.

during service until the early-twentieth century. This resource has not been formally evaluated for the NRHP by NC-HPO staff.

The third Primitive Baptist church visited during this survey is the Helena Primitive Baptist Church in Timberlake (Photo 100, p. 158). This one-story, three-bay, front-gabled church was constructed around 1940. The building has the same form and massing as the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church and is similarly clad in a brick veneer and features a replacement primary entrance, though does feature a few stylistic elements such as lancet windows.



Photo 99: Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church (PR0298), Southeast Oblique.



Photo 100: Helena Primitive Baptist Church, Southwest Oblique.

Although the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church retains a moderate level of historic integrity, the building has undergone some modifications since it was first constructed around 1930, including original window and door replacement. This church building is one of several similar worship facilities, including other Primitive Baptist churches in Roxboro and Person County constructed during the early-twentieth century and does not possess significance for its design, nor is it the



work of a master. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for the NPHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>243</sup> The Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor or significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

**In sum, the Roxboro Primitive Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>243</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:21.

## PR0308: Former Esso Service Station, 203 N. Lamar Street

Date of Construction: ca. 1935

Modifications: ca. 1980s

203 N. Lamar Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-14-42-6823

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### *Architectural Description*

The Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street is situated at the northwest corner of the intersection of Reams Avenue and Lamar Street in the City of Roxboro. Currently occupied by Sierra Auto Shop, the building faces south and east, featuring two garage bays at the north end of the latter (Figure 59–Figure 60, pp. 161–162). Most of the 0.21 acre surrounding the building is covered by a concrete parking lot that abuts the public poured-concrete sidewalk along the south and eastern sides of the property parcel. A metal sign post topped by a decorated, square, metal frame is located at the northeast corner of the property, though it is somewhat hidden within the cluster of cedar trees that lines the lot’s northern boundary.

### *Primary Resource: Exterior*

The resource at 203 N. Lamar Street is a one-story, three-bay, automotive building with Spanish Eclectic- and Mission Revival-style features believed to have been constructed circa 1935 (Photo 101–Photo 103, pp. 163–164). The architectural details indicate that it was one of the Standard Oil Company’s designs for Esso stations featuring tile roofs and stucco walls. The building rests on a continuous concrete foundation with solid masonry walls lined by a brick water table. The south and east elevations are also clad in stucco. It is covered by a low-pitched shed roof with a parapet wall ornamented by Mission-style elements including rows of American Spanish tile separated by sculpted vertical elements, the pinnacle of which imitate arched buttresses. A small brick flue, likely a vent for the bathroom plumbing, is located near the southwest corner of the building’s roof.

The east elevation depicts the building’s use through two distinct divisions of space: the northern half marked by two garage service bays for the auto-service portion and the southern half contains the sales office. In the service bays, both aluminum overhead garage doors are replacements while the four, steel-framed, multi-light windows with central pivot sash at the west and north elevations are original. Around the south and east elevations of the sales area, the original fenestration pattern remains though some materials have been replaced. Original wood-framed, transom windows line the top of the sales area, although they have been painted over. Each of the fixed, two-light, wood-framed, display windows are replacements (Photo 104, p. 164). At the east elevation, the main entrance to the sales area is filled by a half-glazed, metal-

frame, replacement door, while the single-leaf, half-glazed, wood-framed door to the office at the south elevation is original. Near the southwest corner of the building, a single-leaf, hollow-core, wood door provides outdoor access to a restroom. It is topped by a textured glass transom that appears original to the building. At the west elevation, three original, one-over-one, wood-framed, double-hung windows provide light to the southwestern end of the building.



Figure 59: Location of Former Esso Service Station (PR0308).<sup>244</sup>

<sup>244</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 60: Site Plan for the Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street (PR0308).<sup>245</sup>

<sup>245</sup> Esri 2019.



Photo 101: View of East Elevation, Showing Storefront and Service Bays.



Photo 102: Former Esso Station, Southwest Oblique.





Photo 103: View of Northeast Corner and North Elevation (Left) and Detail of Sculpted Pinnacle at Southeast Corner (Right).



Photo 104: Detail of Storefront Looking South Along East Elevation.



*Primary Resource: Interior*

The division of space is straightforward inside the building; the service bays provide access a large, open room while the southern half is split into two primary spaces: a rectangular sales office area with a more narrow space reserved for a public restroom, a private restroom, and a supply closet along the rear or west side of the building (Figure 61).

At the interior, the service room has a poured-concrete slab floor with one recessed area built into the center of the northern bay to facilitate working below the vehicles. The walls are all exposed, five-to-one, American-bond brick. A majority of the tongue-n-groove wood ceiling remains intact although a rectangular section at the center of the room was removed as repairs were made to the roof rafters above (Photo 105, p. 166). These repairs appear to have included minor changes to the roof's pitch, increasing its slope westward and the addition of two steel posts to support its load. At the southwest corner of the room, an original five-panel wood door leads to the supply closet. Two openings provide access to the sales and office area from the service room: a single-leaf replacement door situated close to the east wall and a larger, recently constructed opening that is loosely covered by plastic sheeting (Photo 106, p. 166).

Inside the sales office space, large square tiles have been laid over what was previously a linoleum-tile floor. Behind the recently constructed sales counter and shelving, the underlying poured-concrete flooring is exposed and continues in the private restroom, accessed via the original, five-panel, wood door (Photo 107– Photo 108, p. 167). The walls in this portion of the building are clad in stucco with dropped-tile ceilings. Plumbing fixtures including the sink and toilet in the private restroom are not original. The public restroom was not accessible at the time of survey (Photo 109, p. 168). The shelving and other materials inside the supply closet largely appear to be original.

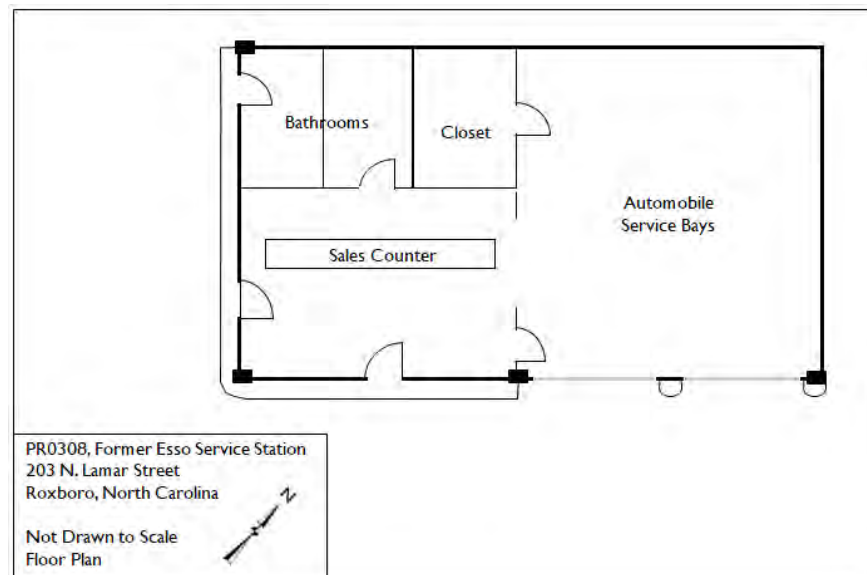


Figure 61: Floor Plan of 203 N. Lamar Street. Not to scale.



Photo 105: Interior View of Service Area, Looking North-Northeast.

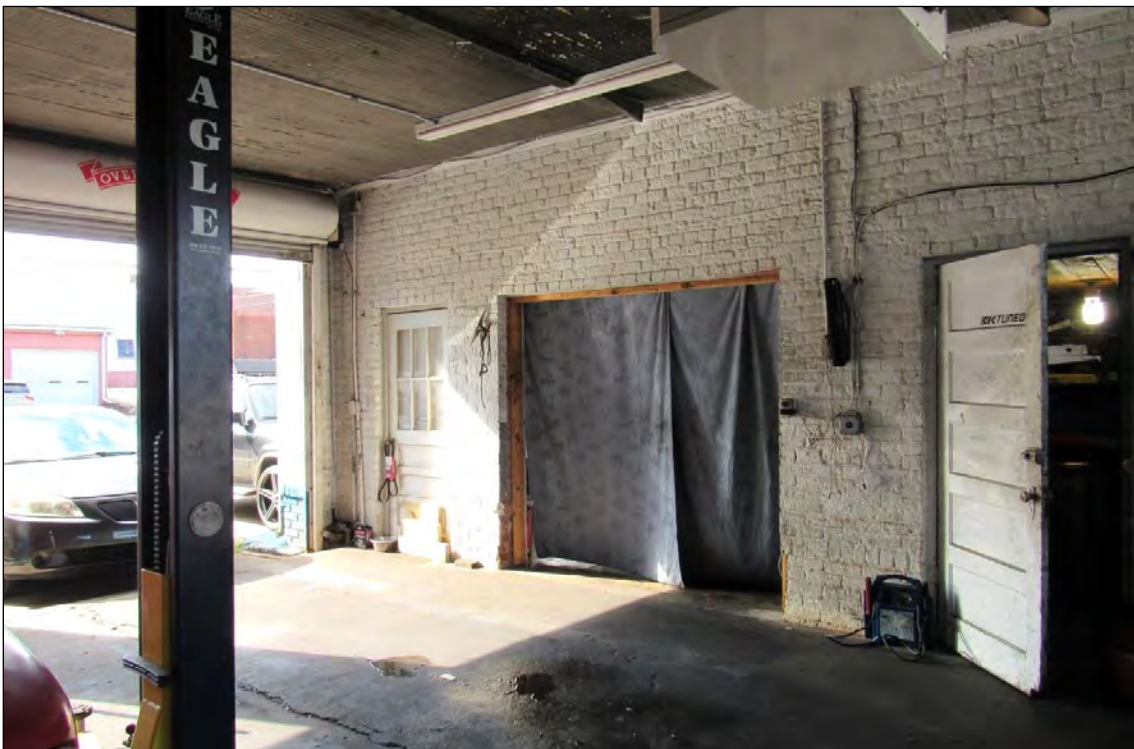


Photo 106: View of South Wall in Service Area, Looking Southeast.





Photo 107: Interior View of Storefront, Looking East.



Photo 108: Interior View of Sales Area, Looking West.





Photo 109: Detail of Private Restroom and Transom Above South Entry at Interior.

*Secondary Resources*

The sign post associated with this resource was last painted white and is largely hidden from view by an evergreen tree at the northeast corner of the lot. It consists of a single, octagonal, tapered, metal pole bolted to a metal plate atop a poured-concrete foundation. A metal bar extends east from a point near the top of the pole that features decorative spear-tip finials at the east and west ends (Photo 110).



Photo 110: View Looking Northwest at Sign Post (Left) and Detail of Decorative Arm (Right).

### *Historic Context*

The land on which the Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street now stands was owned by William Alexander (W.A.) Sergeant and Alexander W. (A.W.) Clayton, proprietors of Sergeant & Clayton grocery on N. Main Street, at the time the building was constructed.<sup>246</sup> The pair got their business started with assistance from J.A. Long, for whom W.A. Sergeant's father, Captain James Trotter Sergeant, had worked as a bookkeeper.<sup>247</sup> In 1923, the men initially purchased the property of study as part of a trio with J.J. Winstead from W.C. Watkins and W.C. Bullock, co-owners of the Watkins & Bullock Lumber Company.<sup>248</sup>

Like other entrepreneurial businessmen in Roxboro during the early-twentieth century, Sergeant & Clayton actively participated in real estate development, buying land through partnerships with other entrepreneurs and as individuals in conjunction with their wives. In 1935, the pair offered the site, then used as "a filling station," to the federal government in a bid for the City's new post office.<sup>249</sup>

The property is known to have been used as a gas station and automotive repair shop as early as 1934, operated by E. "Lundie" Harris who reported selling Shell Oil products.<sup>250</sup> In March 1935, the local paper announced that Lundie Harris had taken the job of shop foreman at the Crowell-Lowe Motor Company, while Sam Oliver, Jr. and Nat Harris were now leasing Harris Service Station on Lamar Street and "planning to make this one of the most attractive service stations in town."<sup>251</sup> It is unclear how long Harris and Oliver operated the station at 203 N. Lamar Street, but a 1948 article in *The Daily Times-News* of Burlington, North Carolina, indicates that local automobile dealer Nat Harris left town after his father's death in Roxboro.<sup>252</sup> A 1949 contract between the property owners and the Esso Standard Oil Company of Delaware suggests that for \$1,500 a year, the company obtained the sole right to use, modify, and sub-let the property.<sup>253</sup> In the late 1940s, Sergeant & Clayton's heirs continued to lease the property to Esso Standard Oil throughout the 1950s.

City directories identified the property as the "Lamar Esso Service" station in 1956 and 1957, changing to "Lamar Pure Oil" in 1958.<sup>254</sup> A 1959 historic aerial photograph of the property reveals the location of two gas island pumps, one to the east and another to the south of the sales area (Figure 62, p. 170). In the 1950s and 1960s, the Lamar Esso station had a lot of competition from new stations built along the recently completed Madison Boulevard and throughout the community. Of the 31 gasoline stations listed in the 1957–1958 city directory for Roxboro, four

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<sup>246</sup> Eaker 1981:307.

<sup>247</sup> Ibid.

<sup>248</sup> PCDB 33:159; Roxboro Development Group n.d.

<sup>249</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1935a:1.

<sup>250</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1934b:8.

<sup>251</sup> The Roxboro Courier, 1935b:1.

<sup>252</sup> The Daily Times-News 1948:2.

<sup>253</sup> PCDB D60:517.

<sup>254</sup> Miller 1956:157; 1958:157.

were identified with “Esso” in their name.<sup>255</sup> By 1962, the number of gas stations in the local directory had risen to 34.<sup>256</sup>

In 1979, the estate of Sergeant & Clayton sold the property to Reginold B. Jones.<sup>257</sup> Jones’ daughter, Ellen Dillard, indicated that her parents purchased the station as an investment to supplement their income in retirement. Prior to retiring, Reginold Jones had worked across the street as a machinist at Tom’s Auto Supply for 35 years.<sup>258</sup> During Jones’ ownership, the property no longer sold gasoline, but continued to function as either a car repair or sales facility.

There were at least four stations in Roxboro that featured “Esso” in the business name listed in the city directories in the late 1950s; no surviving examples exhibit the same Spanish Mission Revival-style design of 203 N. Lamar Street. However, one other example of this particular design of Esso station exists on Person Street in the City of Raleigh. Currently occupied by Gringo-A-GoGo restaurant, a historic image of the building taken circa 1948 reveals what the station at 203 N. Lamar looked like shortly after its construction (Figure 63, p. 171). This station was visited during work for this project and it was found to retain original display windows, transom lights, and one original door to the sales area, but doors to the garage bays have been replaced while other fenestration patterns and the floor plan of the building had been altered to accommodate new uses over time (Photo 111, p. 171).



Figure 62: Detail of 1959 Aerial Photograph Showing 203 N. Lamar Street.<sup>259</sup>

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<sup>255</sup> Miller 1956:226.

<sup>256</sup> Miller 1962:224.

<sup>257</sup> PCDB 158:691; 161:35.

<sup>258</sup> Ellen Dillard, personal communication 2019.

<sup>259</sup> Person County Tax Assessor Records 1959.





Figure 63: Circa-1948 Photograph of Blowes Esso Service Station, Now Gringo-A-GoGo Restaurant on Person Street in Raleigh.<sup>260</sup>



Photo 111: Current View of Former Blowes Esso Station Building, Looking Northeast.

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<sup>260</sup> Morris 2010.

## *Evaluation*

The Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street reflects an important step in the evolution of this commercial property type with its oblong box form, while also connecting to the past with its Spanish Mission Revival architecture, used by the Standard Oil companies to build brand recognition and fit in with the residential and stylish commercial properties during the early-twentieth century. Its location at the edge of Roxboro's commercial core on a corner lot was also a common feature of its property type.

Through the current effort, no plans were discovered to detail the original design of this circa-1938 station building though it shares many characteristics with known Esso station buildings from the 1930s and 1940s, including the former Blowes Esso station on Person Street in Raleigh. Though its integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association are strong, modifications to the spatial organization of the interior and the introduction of some materials, including replacement storefront windows and doors, have somewhat diminished its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

Published in 2016, the "Field Guide to Gas Stations in Texas" indicates that the most important characteristics of such properties include building form, architectural style or influence, presence of display and service areas, visible service bays (if applicable), canopy (if applicable), distinctive site features, and signage.<sup>261</sup> Common alterations to gas stations identified as the least destructive to their historic integrity include "change in use; branding change; replacement service bay doors; removal of signage; removal of gas pumps; plywood or other covering over windows; [and] small rear addition."<sup>262</sup> However, the context acknowledges the cumulative effect of such minor modifications to an individual property. Looking at similar resources in the City of Roxboro and Person County constructed between 1925 and 1950, few such properties possess stylistic features akin to those of the station at 203 N. Lamar Street and none retain all of their original architectural features. It is likely that this Former Esso Service Station is the earliest example of its type in Person County though it has a moderate level of historic integrity.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, "a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation."<sup>263</sup> However, "mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well."<sup>264</sup> The building at 203 N. Lamar Street was constructed as an Esso brand station, though the site is known to have sold gasoline and service automobiles since the early 1930s. Sometime in the 1970s, the station stopped selling fuel and shifted to auto repair and sales. The function of this property is relatively commonplace throughout Roxboro and Person County; no significant

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<sup>261</sup> Jones 2016:112.

<sup>262</sup> Ibid:12-11.

<sup>263</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>264</sup> Ibid.

events are known to have taken place in this building nor has this business played a role of particular importance to shaping commerce in the city. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known owners and merchants historically associated with the former Esso station are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments related to the automobile industry in Person County. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>265</sup> A.W. Clayton and W.A. Sergeant were successful merchant grocers in Roxboro, but are not known to have had a strong association with the study property. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>266</sup> Of the earliest extant station buildings identified in the City of Roxboro and Person County during the current survey effort, none appear to remain active in the automotive business. The oldest examples were constructed prior to 1935 in the “house and canopy” form. Some of these properties are augmented by service bay additions or detached garage buildings, adapting to the growing industry’s needs over time like the Rock Inn at 519 S. Main Street examined elsewhere in this report (see p. 360) and the station known as Foushee’s Garage at 9525 Hurdle Mills Road (Photo 112). The most well-maintained example from this early period of station development is now a residence, located at 422 Morgan Street (Photo 113, p. 174).



Photo 112: Old Foushee Garage at 9525 Hurdles Mill Road, Looking Southeast.

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<sup>265</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>266</sup> Ibid.





Photo 113: View of Former Gas Station at 422 N. Morgan, Looking Northwest.

The design of the Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar was a departure from the earlier buildings constructed to service automobiles and sale gasoline; the old “house and canopy” form evolved into a longer “oblong box,” the latter persisting from 1930 until 1960.<sup>267</sup> In this new form: “stations no longer featured hip or gable roofs or historically-inspired architectural details, but—perhaps in line with the growing interest in Modern architecture and the International Style—the gas station became a flat-roofed rectangular box with little ornament and large expanses of plate glass.”<sup>268</sup> Furthermore, “larger gas stations with three or more bays were often called ‘super service stations,’ and advertised ‘one stop’ automotive service for washing, lubricating, engine brake and muffler repair.”<sup>269</sup> Such stations thrived during the Depression era when gas sales dwindled and the need for repairs and replacement parts grew.

The station at 203 N. Lamar Street was one of the earliest oblong box service buildings of its type in downtown Roxboro, combining the sales and office area of the “house” with a sales area and attached garage bays to enable repair and maintenance of vehicles. As automobiles increased in popularity and corporations sought to profit from an association with sleek new Modernist designs in the post-World War II era, new and larger service stations proliferated across the City of Roxboro and Person County, at large, at well-traveled crossroads and along newly constructed and improved highways. Several examples of these new station designs remain extant along Madison Boulevard and date to the early 1950s. The current investigation and scope of work does not include the creation of a complete historic context for gas stations in the City; however, a review of these properties provides a better concept of this particular property type in Roxboro (Photo 114–Photo 117, pp. 175–176).

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<sup>267</sup> Penick and Smith 2006:F-15.

<sup>268</sup> Penick and Smith 2006:F-16.

<sup>269</sup> Penick and Smith 2006:F-16.

Within the City of Roxboro, mid-twentieth-century oblong box stations are a fairly common type. Many examples of these oblong box station types are still in use for automobile service and occasionally for the sale of gasoline as well. Standard Oil and its Esso companies continued to modify station designs throughout the mid-to-late twentieth century, later changing names to become Pure Oil, and now most commonly known as Exxon.

In a previous investigation led by Dovetail, the circa-1959 Gulf gas station at 915 Capitol Boulevard in Raleigh, was determined to be not eligible for the NRHP due to “the loss of the original bay doors, entrance doors, lighting fixtures, and gas pumps [that] have compromised the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.”<sup>270</sup> The Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street has undergone similar modifications, including the removal of two of the three pedestrian doors and both garage doors, alteration of spatial arrangement of the sales area, replacement display windows, and the loss of gas pumps, light fixtures, and original signage. As such, the resource at 203 N. Lamar Street is recommended not eligible for individual listing on the NRHP under Criterion C.



Photo 114: Circa-1958 Service Station at 225 N. Madison Boulevard, Northwest Oblique.



Photo 115: Circa-1945 Former Service Station at 505 N. Main Street, Looking South.

<sup>270</sup> NC-HPO to NCDOT, letter, 7 August 2012, NC-HPO, Raleigh.



Photo 116: Circa-1958 Former Service Station at 126 S. Madison Boulevard, West Elevation.



Photo 117: Circa-1957 Service Station at 701 N. Madison Boulevard, Southeast Oblique.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant. Due to the large-scale modifications of the surrounding landscape during land development at the time of the business' establishment, subsurface deposits throughout this area have been greatly disturbed through the installation of subsurface gas tanks and other utilities. Moreover, the commonality of mid-century construction precludes the potential for below-ground remains associated with this resource to provide notable data on commercial structural technology in this area. As such, it is recommended that the resource is not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Former Esso Service Station at 203 N. Lamar Street is **recommended not eligible under any criteria.**



## **PR0309: T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin, 210 N. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: 1924

Modifications: ca. 1940s, ca. 1940–1960

210 N. Lamar Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-14-42-7760

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin, now known as Bumpass Parts and Supplies, at 210 N. Lamar Street is located at the intersection of Reams Avenue and N. Lamar Street in Roxboro. The resource comprises a single parcel of land totaling 0.36 acre (Figure 64–Figure 65, pp. 178–179). The primary resource, an industrial building that currently functions as an automotive business, faces northwest towards N. Lamar Street, while a Quonset hut addition on the east end of the parcel faces southwest towards Reams Avenue. Along the southwest side of the resource is a paved parking area that extends south to Reams Avenue. and is accessed by a paved-asphalt driveway which extends south from N. Lamar Street along the northeast side of the primary resource. A concrete curb cut along Reams Avenue also provides access to the concrete parking area southwest of the resource. A paved concrete sidewalk lines the resource along Reams Avenue and N. Lamar Street. Interior access was granted to the Quonset hut portion of this property, but the property owner denied permission to access and photograph the interior of original brick core. The resource is located west of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) in a mixed residential and commercial part of town.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin building at 210 N. Lamar Street appears to have been constructed in phases beginning in 1924. The oldest portion of the building is a two-story, two-bay building that originally housed first functioned as a cotton gin and seed storage (Photo 118, p.180). The building's core rests on a continuous brick foundation that supports a common-bond brick structural system topped by a flat roof with stepped parapet sheathed in vertical wood siding on the northwest elevation. An exterior-end brick chimney is located on the northeast elevation.

The primary entry, located on the northwest elevation (façade) is filled by a single-leaf, half-glazed wood door (Photo 119, p. 180). Patchwork brick repairs and repointing suggest that this is a replacement door, and that the primary entry and additional fenestration on the façade and northeast elevation has been modified over time (Photo 120, p. 181). Additional fenestration on this 1924 section of the building includes a fixed, metal commercial window, a fixed, eight-light wood window with brick header sills, four-light awning windows flanked by two-light fixed

windows on the top and bottom, eight-light, steel-framed windows; a fixed, square, wood-framed window, and one-over-one, double-hung-sash, aluminum-framed windows.



Figure 64: Location of the T.T. Hester Company Cotton Gin.<sup>271</sup>

<sup>271</sup> Esri 2019.



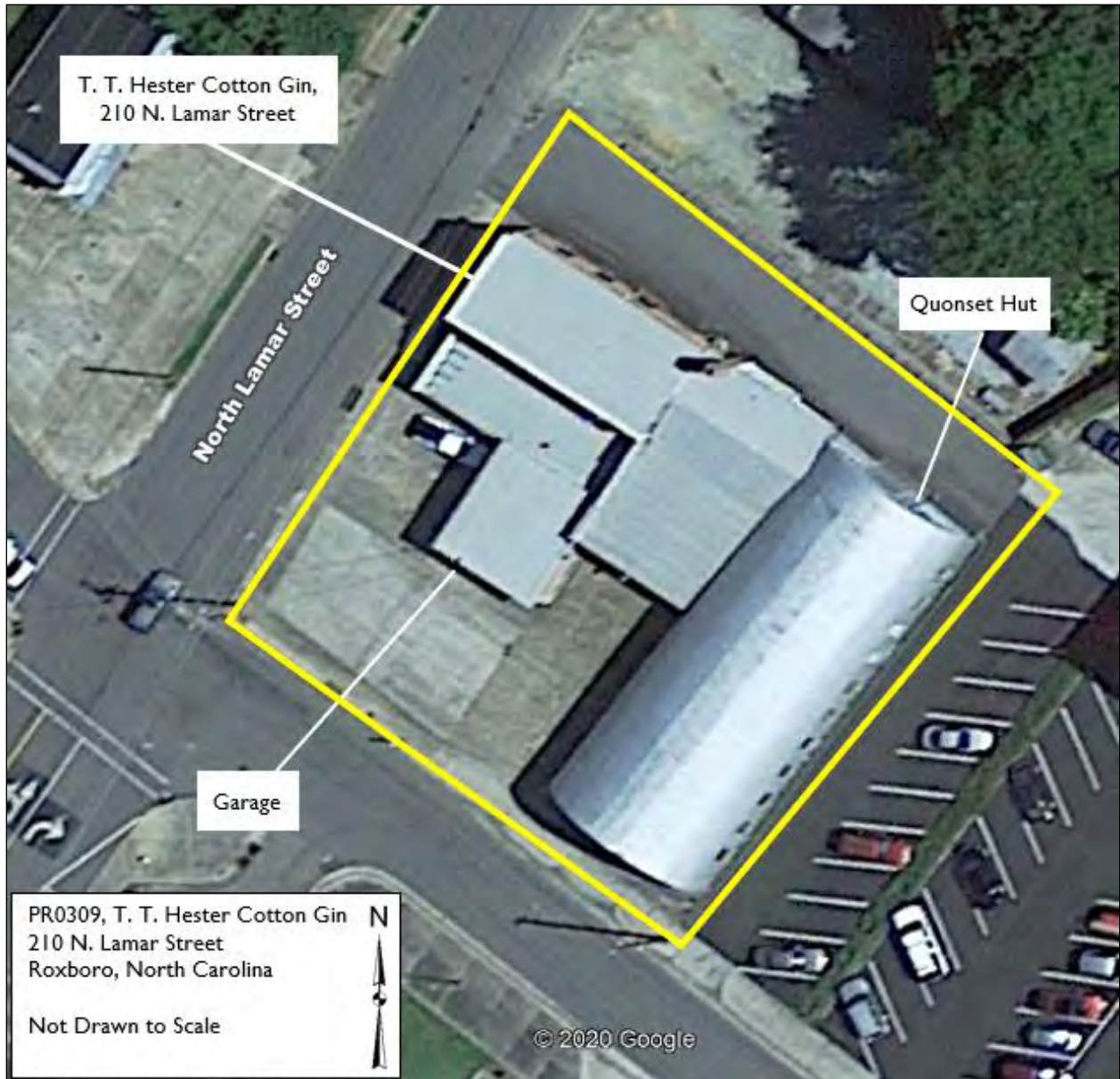


Figure 65: Site Plan of T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin (PR0309) at 210 N. Lamar Street.<sup>272</sup>

<sup>272</sup> Google 2018.





Photo 118: North Oblique from N. Lamar Street.



Photo 119: Detail of Primary Entry from N. Lamar Street.



Photo 120: Detail of Fenestration on Northeast Elevation. Note the modifications to the exterior windows sizes, indicated by the patchwork of brick repairs.

Shortly after construction of the core, an addition was made to the southwest elevation of the building. A small, one-story, two-bay, brick addition is attached to the southwest elevation of the original portion of the building (Photo 121, p.182). It rests on a continuous brick foundation that supports a common-bond-clad, brick structural system topped by a low-pitched, shed roof. This section is accessed by a set of double-leaf wood doors with single rectangular lights, which are located on the northwest elevation. Additional fenestration includes a fixed metal-framed window.

After the property was purchased by R.D. Bumpass in the 1940s, the building was modified to transition the property from a Cotton Gin to automotive use. A smaller addition was made to the southeast side of the building in the middle of the twentieth century (Photo 122, p. 182). This two-bay, one-story, flat-roofed addition rests on a poured-concrete slab foundation and has concrete-block walls covered by a brick veneer. Fenestration is limited to the two metal garage doors on the northwest elevation.

A Quonset hut was installed on the site prior to 1964 (Photo 123, p. 183).<sup>273</sup> It is attached to the primary resource via a one-story, front-gabled, brick hyphen on the rear of the primary building, and is visible on the northeast elevation. This connection is accessed by two metal garage doors on the southwest elevation. The Quonset hut rests on a continuous concrete-slab foundation that supports the corrugated metal-clad structure. The building is accessed from the exterior by a

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<sup>273</sup> NETR 1964.



metal garage door. Additional fenestration includes metal-frame four-light hopper or awning windows over two-light fixed metal windows.



Photo 121: Southwest Elevation from Reams Avenue.



Photo 122: Detail of Building Addition and Quonset Hut Connection on the Northeast Elevation with Awning Window Left of Chimney Stack.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior of the building was limited to looking through a window into original brick building and limited access to the interior of the Quonset hut addition. The property owner denied access to the original 1924 component of the complex. Based on Sanborn maps, the



oldest portion of the brick building appears to have been constructed as one large room, with a storage room in the southeast portion of the building (Figure 66, p. 184). The 1943 Sanborn mapping shows the same storage room, and a partition wall separating the back quarter of the open room (Figure 66, p. 184). It is likely that the interior configuration is similar today, though interior space may have been further divided to accommodate offices as the building has changed use over time.



Photo 123: South Elevation of Quonset Hut from Reams Avenue.

Inside the Quonset hut addition, the layout consists of one large rectangular room with concrete floor (Photo 124, p.184). The barrel-shaped corrugated metal walls are supported by wood framing members. Drop-ceiling panels installed over wood joists create a flat interior roof and separate the first and second story. Stairs lead to a second story room above a drop-ceiling. A plywood room divider with fixed metal windows separates the interior open bay from the garage next door. Access to the garage interior was not permitted by the owner during this survey.

### *Historic Context*

The land on which the T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin building was built was initially a part of the J.A. Long Company Tobacco Prize House property (Figure 66, p. 184).<sup>274</sup> Research during this effort uncovered little information about T.T. Hester aside from his ownership of the T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin Building. In the 1920s, the older building was demolished and the current brick building was constructed to house a cotton gin (Figure 66, p. 184).<sup>275</sup> The cotton gin, run by T.T. Hester and Company, advertised in *The Roxboro Courier* in the mid 1920s, calling to farmers to bring their cotton to the gin on N. Lamar Street for the seeds to be removed (Figure 67, p. 185).<sup>276</sup> The seeds removed by the gin from the cotton would be stored adjacent in the small building on the south side of the cotton gin building, and was resold to

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<sup>274</sup> Sanborn 1914.

<sup>275</sup> Sanborn 1914; Sanborn 1925.

<sup>276</sup> Sanborn 1925.

farmers by the T.T. Hester and Company.<sup>277</sup> Advertisements highlighted the modern equipment inside the building, such as the Murray all-steel air blast ball bearing, and that the efficiency of the gin, which could process four bales of cotton per hour (Figure 68, p. 185). By 1943, the smaller portion of the building was recorded as a tin shop. It is unclear if the larger portion still functioned as a cotton gin, but the T.T. Hester and Company was no longer advertising their services in the local paper by the 1940s.

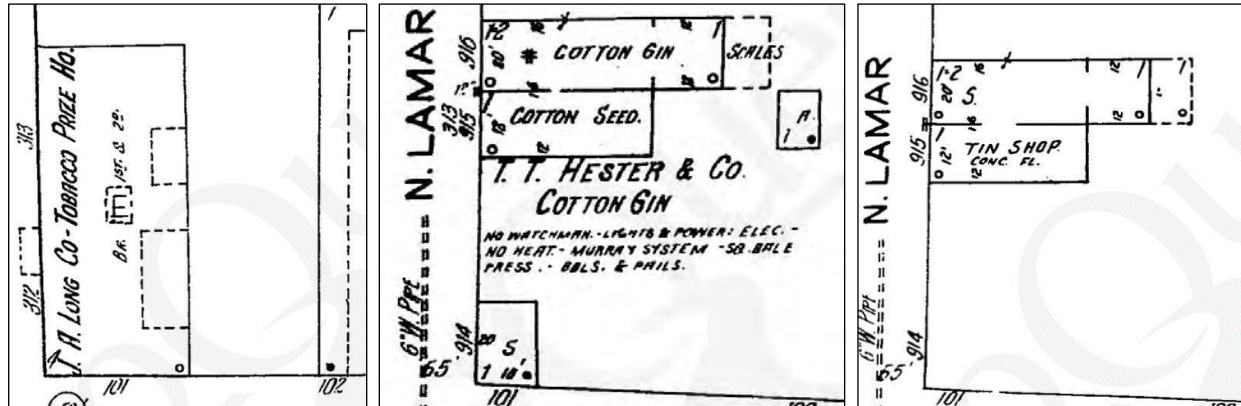


Figure 66: 1914 (Left), 1925 (Center), and 1943 (Right) Sanborn Maps Showing the Building and Use Changes of the 210 N. Lamar Street Lot.<sup>278</sup>



Photo 124: Interior of the Quonset Hut Addition, Facing North.

<sup>277</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1925a.

<sup>278</sup> Sanborn 1914, 1925, 1943.



Figure 67: 1925 Cotton Gin Advertisement in the Roxboro Courier.<sup>279</sup>



Figure 68: Advertisement for T.T. Hester & Company, Date Unknown.<sup>280</sup>

<sup>279</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1925.

<sup>280</sup> Advertisement at the Shops of Hall Way, Roxboro, North Carolina, site visit, 2019.



The property was purchased by Roxboro Cotton Mills in 1946, a move that centralized the cotton production system in Roxboro. In the same year, the property was conveyed to Bumpass-Long Sales, Inc.<sup>281</sup> The property has remained in the Bumpass family since 1946.<sup>282</sup> In the early-twentieth century, the Bumpass family was known in Roxboro for their automotive business. In 1935, R.D. Bumpass and business partner, Coy E. Day, purchased Whitfield's service station in Roxboro, and from that expanded their automotive business.<sup>283</sup> After Bumpass-Long Sales, Inc., run by R.D. Bumpass, purchased the Cotton Gin in 1946, they likely began the expansion of the property to include the garage and Quonset hut additions to provide covered space for an automobile service facility.

The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin likely functioned as the location of Bumpass's automobile dealership through the middle of the twentieth century. In 1968, R.D. Bumpass was elected treasurer of the North Carolina Automobile Dealership Association.<sup>284</sup> The building complex remains in automotive use today, and remains in the Bumpass family, having been purchased by R.D. Bumpass, Jr., in 2013.<sup>285</sup> Interior space is rented out individually as automobile storage or as small garages.

### *Evaluation*

The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin is a two-story industrial building constructed in 1924 to house a cotton gin and seed storage. Several additions were constructed between 1943 and 1964.<sup>286</sup> Both the form and utilitarian style of this building are relatively common throughout the country, region, and in Person County. The builder or architect, likely hired by T.T. Hester and Company to build the resource, are not known. R.D. Bumpass, an automobile dealer who purchased the property in the 1940s, is responsible for the expansion of the building through the construction of a garage addition and the placement of a Quonset hut on site. Bumpass is not associated with any other known extant buildings in Roxboro.

The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin retains a moderate level of historic integrity of location and setting, having never been moved and its immediate surroundings continuing to reflect commercial uses associated of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194). The extensive additions and modifications to suit the building's automotive use, including replacement storefront windows and doors, has negatively impacted the level of historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, "a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend

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<sup>281</sup> PCDB 57:618.

<sup>282</sup> PCDB 66:61, 586:49.

<sup>283</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1935c:8.

<sup>284</sup> The Robenssonian 1968:2.

<sup>285</sup> PCDB 856:49.

<sup>286</sup> NETR 1964.

that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>287</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property’s specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>288</sup>

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion A in a local context, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. As an agriculturally based economy, the production of cotton was an essential industry within Roxboro and Person County in the early-twentieth century.<sup>289</sup> The Roxboro Cotton Mill (PR0219) was the largest cotton production facility in Person County in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century, and was the primary point of cotton processing (Photo 125). T.T. Hester and Company’s Cotton Gin, in comparison, operated on a small scale and worked with individual farmers to process smaller crops, rather than scale the seed-removal process for large-scale industrial use and textile production. The Roxboro Cotton Mill had a larger impact on the local economy, employing far more people due to the size and production capability of the larger facility, compared to the T. T. Hester and Company facility.



Photo 125: Roxboro Cotton Mill, Looking Northwest.

The broom-making industry in Roxboro, while different from cotton production, also relied on similar-scale industrial buildings. The former Carolina Broom Works (PR0114) building, located

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<sup>287</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>288</sup> Ibid.

<sup>289</sup> Boatwright 2006:11.

at the southeast corner of Depot and Foushee streets, was constructed in the mid 1940s for the Carolina Broom Works company (Photo 126, p. 188).<sup>290</sup> This one-story, masonry building with a stepped parapeted roof is not currently in use as a manufacturing building, but it is similar in scale to the current resource. However, the output capability of the broom works was also larger than that of the T. T. Hester and Company building, and sold a product with wider distribution. The T. T. Hester Company worked directly with farmers to gin their cotton for the Roxboro Market, whereas the Broom Works produced a completed product that had a wider regional market.



Photo 126: Historic Image of the Carolina Broom Works Building, West Elevation (Top) and Current View of Building, Northwest Oblique (Bottom).<sup>291</sup>

The resource of study operated as a cotton gin in Roxboro for a little more than 20 years, and was bought by R.D. Bumpass to use as an automotive facility and continues to operate in that capacity to this day. Although many of these industrial brick building are located in and around Roxboro, most of them no longer serve their original functions, and have been modified to suit other purposes or are unoccupied. The TT. Hester Cotton Gin was modified in the mid-twentieth century to accommodate a different function, and only related to the cotton industry in Roxboro for a short period of time. No significant events are known to have taken place in this building

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<sup>290</sup> Talbert and Grey 2007:43.

<sup>291</sup> Talbert and Grey 2007:43.



and its historic function is commonplace throughout rural communities in the state and not of particular importance to shaping industry or commerce in Roxboro. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known individuals and groups of individuals historically associated with T.T. Hester Cotton Gin and subsequent Bumpass automotive business are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>292</sup> Little information was identified about T.T. Hester during this survey, likely indicating that he or the company achieved little significance in the community. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>293</sup> The T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin is an unadorned example and typical of small industrial buildings constructed in the early-twentieth century for Roxboro and Person County. Likewise, the building has been modified over time to serve the purpose of the R. D. Bumpass automotive facility. These common modifications, including additions, replacement windows and replacement doors, are typical of early-twentieth century industrial buildings within Roxboro and Person County. These additions and replacement materials diminish the historic integrity of this resource. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>294</sup> T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the T.T. Hester and Company Cotton Gin is **recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>292</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>293</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>294</sup> Ibid.

## PR0194: Roxboro Commercial Historic District

Date of Construction: 1889-1945

Modifications: n/a

Main Street, Academy Street, Gordon Street,  
Abbitt Street, Lamar Street, Court Street,  
Reams Avenue, Depot Street, and Davis Drive  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: Multiple

Eligibility Recommendation: Remain Eligible for  
and Listed in the NRHP; Proposed Boundary Change



### *Architectural Description*

At the request of NCDOT, Dovetail completed a brief revisit of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) to ensure that the resource retains the same level of architectural significance and historic integrity as it did when it was listed in the NRHP in 1983 and determine if the district boundaries should remain the same (Figure 69, p. 191). A small section on the west side of the district has been altered by the demolition of four circa-1900 brick commercial buildings that were then replaced by a parking lot for the circa-2007 Roxboro Police Department at 109 N. Lamar Street (Figure 70, p. 192).<sup>295</sup> Besides this area, the Roxboro Commercial Historic District does not appear to have been significantly modified since it was listed in the NRHP (Photo 127, p. 192).<sup>296</sup> Because of this, an abbreviated architectural description of the district as it appears today is included below. The original nomination states:

Anchored by the central Courthouse Square, the compact district extends three blocks along Main Street and includes one block of Depot, Abbitt and Reams Streets and two blocks of Court Street. In addition to the commercial structures, there is an important sprinkling of other types of buildings including two churches at the north and south edges of the district, a house which once served as the Community Hospital and is now divided into apartments, an Art Deco theatre, and various governmental/ institutional buildings. Tobacco warehouses, once an important architectural feature on Main and Depot Streets, have largely disappeared, with only a portion of the former Hyco Warehouse, c. 1900 remaining on Depot Street [...] The 1891 Pioneer Warehouse at Main and Reams Streets was razed for construction of the four story International Style Roxboro Building in 1949, and the Winstead Tobacco Warehouse was replaced in 1971 by the Leggett Department Store on Main near Abbitt. Few intrusions and infill buildings are found within the district. These include service stations, taxi stands, and recent commercial structures. The Historic District encompasses 70 buildings:

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<sup>295</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:7-5.

<sup>296</sup> P. Dickinson 1983.

51 buildings are pivotal and contributing structures and 19 are fill or intrusive structures.<sup>297</sup>



Figure 69: Location of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District with Proposed Boundary Change.<sup>298</sup>

<sup>297</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:7-1.





Figure 70: 2006 (Left) and 2018 (Right) Aerial Photography Showing the Demolished Section of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194).<sup>299</sup>



Photo 127: Current Photo of Court Street, Looking Northwest (Left) and 1983 Photo of Court Street, Looking Southeast.<sup>300</sup>

The commercial buildings, which make up the majority of the district, mainly range from one to four stories in height and between two and six bays wide. Most date from the early- to mid-twentieth century, feature a full or partially brick-veneered façade, a parapet or flat roof, and store-front entrances with modest ornamentation (Photo 128, p. 193). The commercial buildings feature elements of common commercial styles from the first half of the twentieth century such as Colonial and Classical Revival, Art Deco, Modernist and International (Photo 129, p. 194).

Although the district is mainly composed of commercial resources, there are a few other resource types, such as civic, recreational, and industrial properties, throughout the district that date to the

<sup>298</sup> Esri 2019.

<sup>299</sup> Google 2006, 2018.

<sup>300</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:Attachment.

similar time period and feature the same styles (Photo 130, p. 195). This includes the circa-1930 courthouse as well as other governmental and municipal buildings that support Roxboro as the county seat for Person County. Churches, recreational areas, a tobacco warehouse, and a theater are also scattered throughout the district.



Photo 128: Example of Typical Commercial Buildings in the Roxboro Commercial Historic District. View of N. Main Street, looking northeast from Depot Street (top), and view of N. Main Street, looking northeast from Court Street (bottom).





Photo 129: Example of Forms and Styles Found in the Roxboro Commercial Historic District. The modernist Green Jewelers building (top left), the Colonial Revival-style Courier-Times building (top right), the International-style Roxboro Building (bottom left), and the Classical Revival-style Main Street Grande building (bottom right).

*Historic Context*

Because this resource is already listed in the NRHP, additional archival research was not completed as a part of this effort. Instead, this section includes a brief summary of the history presented in the NRHP nomination as well as a boundary discussion.





Photo 130: Examples of Other Building Types in the Roxboro Commercial Historic District. The Merrit Commons (top left), the Long United Methodist Church (top right), the Kirby Theater (bottom left) and the Courthouse (bottom right).

Prior to the L&D (now the NS) Railroad arriving in Roxboro, the current city was primarily a small crossroads town based on an agricultural, primarily tobacco, economy.<sup>301</sup> Between 1850 and 1889, 26 attempts were made by individuals and the town of Roxboro to obtain a spur line or direct connection to another state railroad. J.A. Long, an entrepreneur, is primarily credited with bringing the railroad to town and is considered “the builder or modern Roxboro.”<sup>302</sup> He also founded the People's Bank and the Pioneer Warehouse and “his speculative building largely shaped the Commercial Historic District.”<sup>303</sup>

The growth of Roxboro after the railroad was phenomenal. The population tripled between 1883 and 1893, from 450 inhabitants to 1200. Many of the old frame stores on Main Street were torn down and whole blocks of brick buildings rose in their place. Like many North Carolina towns, its leaders and builders saw the

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<sup>301</sup>P. Dickinson 1983:8-6.

<sup>302</sup> Ibid.

<sup>303</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-6.

permanence and quality of brick building as an important sign of urban progress. This, coupled with more money and the easier availability of brick, meant that thousands of brick commercial buildings throughout the towns of the urbanizing state to replace older frame buildings. Many of the buildings comprising the Roxboro historic district were built during the decade of the 1890s and remain in use today.<sup>304</sup>

Construction continued into the twentieth century as more roads were laid out and telephone and water lines were installed.<sup>305</sup> The jail and courthouse were both torn down and rebuilt, with the current 1930 Neoclassical courthouse building serving as the centerpiece in the commercial district.<sup>306</sup> The last vacant lot in downtown on Main Street was sold in 1923, with the decade's long building boom ending shortly after with the Great Depression.<sup>307</sup>

After World War II, another smaller building boom took place in the commercial district. Major changes that took place during that time included the demolition of the 1890 Pioneer Warehouse at the corner of Main Street and Reams Avenue and replacing it with the four-story International style Roxboro Building as well as the adjoining Art Deco-style Kirby Theatre.<sup>308</sup> The district looks much the same now as it did at that time.

### *Evaluation*

In 1983, the Roxboro Commercial Historic District was listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for community planning and development, Criterion C for architecture, and Criterion D for the potential to yield data important to history or prehistory. According to the nomination form:

The Roxboro Commercial Historic District encompasses 70 commercial and governmental buildings located within a compact, architecturally unified and largely intact eight block area, centered around the Courthouse Square highlighted by a handsome 1930 Neo-Classical Courthouse with a sophisticated blend of classical and modernistic ornament. The structures within the district represent historically and architecturally significant buildings in this small, piedmont county seat and commercial center. The area comprising the district is associated with Roxboro's slow growth as a government seat and modest trading center for the rural population after Person County's formation in 1792. The construction of the Durham & Lynchburg Railroad serving Roxboro precipitated a major period of growth from 1890-1914, with other significant periods of building activity occurring between 1920 and 1930 and during the late 1940s. The buildings in the district reflect the various, locally popular architectural styles, and include Classical Revival and Art Deco, with a predominance of early twentieth century

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<sup>304</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-7.

<sup>305</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-10.

<sup>306</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-13.

<sup>307</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-12

<sup>308</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-14

vernacular brick commercial buildings. Commercial prosperity came late to Roxboro architectural changes occurred slowly. Most of the structures representative of the town's primary growth periods, remain intact and continue in use, with few intrusions or infill buildings. In Roxboro's architecture can be seen the growth patterns which transformed the isolated hamlet into the lively governmental and commercial center of Person County.<sup>309</sup>

During the current survey, Dovetail revisited the district to assess the district's current level of historic integrity (Figure 71, p. 198). Following a close examination of the nomination and a field visit, it appears that the majority of the district continues to embody the characteristics that made it eligible for the NRHP in 1983 under Criteria A, C, and D. Most of district has not undergone extensive alterations and retains many of its original character defining features that made it significant. A small section on the west side of the district, containing four circa-1900 brick commercial buildings, has been demolished and replaced by a parking lot for the ca. 2007 Roxboro Police Department at 109 N. Lamar Street.<sup>310</sup> As such, Dovetail **recommends that Roxboro Commercial Historic District remain listed in the NRHP and the boundaries be updated to remove the small demolished section at the north corner of the intersection of N. Lamar Street and Reams Avenue.**

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<sup>309</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:8-1.

<sup>310</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:7-5



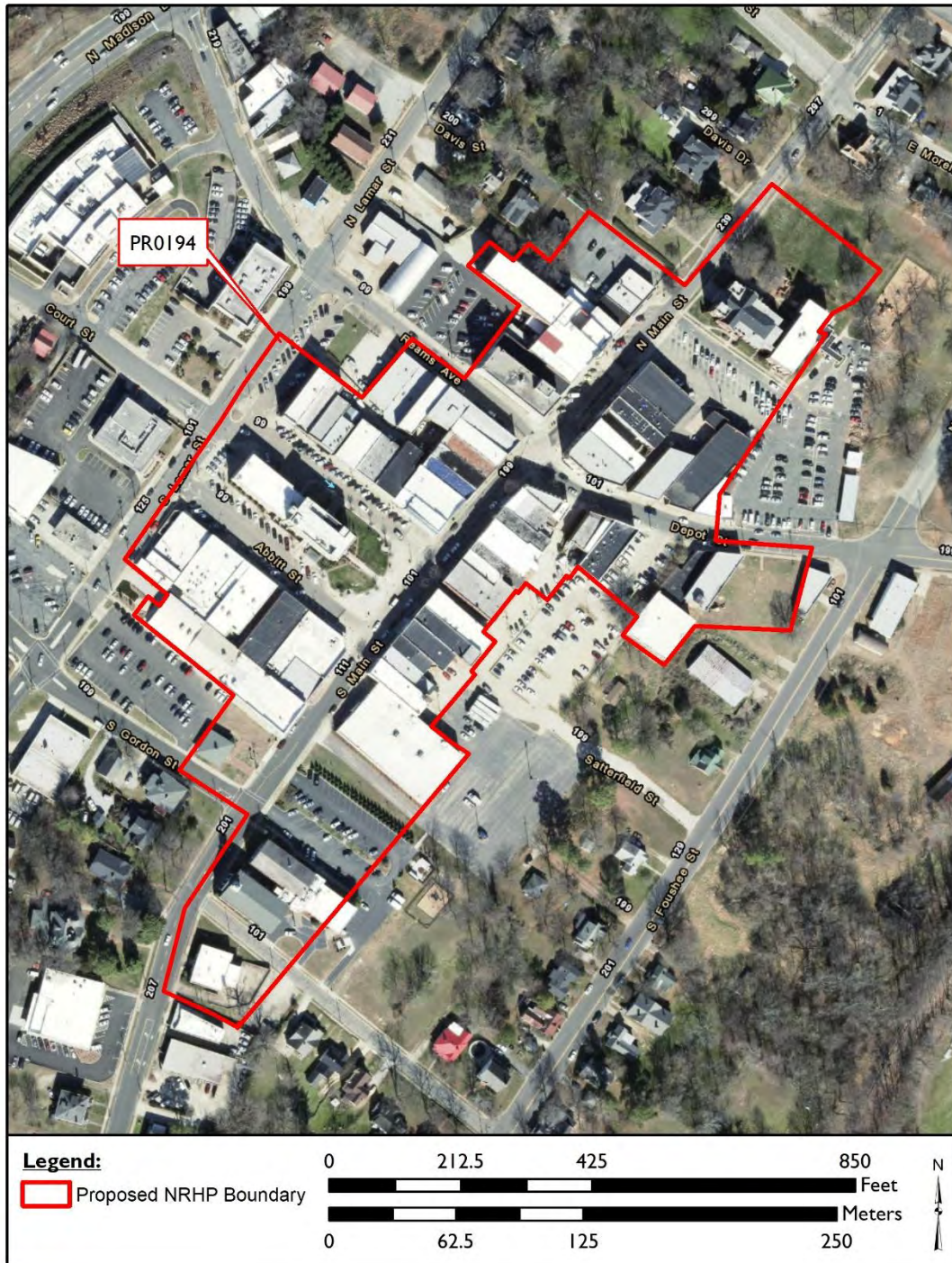


Figure 71: Proposed Updated NRHP Boundaries of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) as Shown in Red.<sup>311</sup>

<sup>311</sup> Esri 2019.

## **PR0310: Roxboro Municipal Building, 105 S. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: 1964  
Modifications: Early-21<sup>st</sup> century

105 S. Lamar Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0906-18-42-3462  
Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under  
Criterion C



### **Architectural Description**

The Roxboro Municipal Building at 105 S. Lamar Street is located across the street from the Person County Courthouse (PR0235) and Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) in the City of Roxboro. The resource occupies a 0.37-acre, square-shaped parcel at the northwest corner of Court and S. Lamar streets (Figure 72, p. 200). A large parking lot also owned by the city surrounds the building on the west and south sides of the parcel. The primary resource is a multi-purpose municipal building, including city offices on the upper floor and a fire station on the lower floor. The sloping lot features a manicured lawn along S. Lamar Street that is supported by a retaining wall. Planter beds within a granite brick retaining wall line the entrance and stairwell from S. Lamar Street. A concrete driveway provides access to the three fire engine bays that face Court Street. An asphalt driveway runs along the south side of the building underneath the drive-thru canopy for the teller window and night deposit box and rejoins the asphalt parking lot that surrounds the Roxboro Municipal Building on the south side (Figure 73, p. 201). Poured-concrete sidewalks surround the lot along S. Lamar and Court streets, as well as around the majority of the building itself. The secondary resources associated with this building are two flagpoles, one located near the entrance along S. Lamar Street and one near the fire station entrance on Court Street, and a small memorial area to the fire department with two small stone veneer plaques and a historic two-wheel hose reel.

#### *Primary Resource: Exterior*

The Roxboro Municipal Building at 105 S. Lamar Street is a two-story, multi-bay, mid-century modern, municipal building built in 1964, designed by architect M.A. Ham, Associates, Inc. and built by contractors E.M. Wilkerson & Son (Photo 131, p. 201). Architectural works of Ham's were all distinctly Modern in design, with clean lines, glass curtain walls, and a clear expression of the structural support system; the Municipal Building was no exception. The continuous foundation and steel structural system are clad in a light-colored, running-bond, brick veneer that is separated into vertical sections that match the width of each window. The flat roof has metal coping and wide overhanging eaves in areas where fenestration is recessed. There is a flat-roofed projection extending the width of the roof eaves along part of the southeast elevation and all of the northeast elevation, creating a horizontal separation between the lower and upper floors. A



later metal screen has been added to the roof along the northeast elevation, likely to hide more recent heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) or mechanical equipment.



Figure 72: Location of Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310).<sup>312</sup>

<sup>312</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 73: Site Plan of Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310).<sup>313</sup>



Photo 131: Southeast Elevation.

<sup>313</sup> Google Maps 2018.

Although there are four entrances to the building, the one on S. Lamar Street appears to be the primary. This entrance is off-centered and filled with a double-leaf, fully glazed aluminum door that reads “City of Roxboro Customer Entrance” in the portion of the building that is recessed under the roof eave (Photo 132). Access to this door is via a long concrete stair with metal rail or from a sidewalk that runs parallel to the façade from the teller drive-thru. A secondary entrance on the rear (northwest) elevation is filled by a single-leaf, fully glazed aluminum door that is accessed by an exterior replacement metal stairwell and landing. Near the teller window and drive-thru canopy on the southwest elevation is an entrance marked “Employees Only” with a single-leaf, fully glazed, aluminum door approached by concrete steps with a metal railing. The flat-roofed metal drive-thru canopy is supported by two square metal posts and located at the corner of the southeast and southwest elevations (Photo 133, p. 203).

The northeast elevation of the building is dominated by the fire station (Photo 134, p. 203). There are three fire engine bays filled with overhead aluminum garage doors; a single-leaf, fully glazed aluminum door; and a sliding glass door leading to a small patio area enclosed by a granite brick retaining wall at the east corner of the building (Photo 135, p. 204). Other fenestration throughout the whole building includes fixed aluminum-framed ribbon windows with metal panels above and below each window and transom (Photo 136, p. 204). The primary entrance fits seamlessly into this ribbon window design. The teller window is an aluminum and glass rectangular unit inserted into the brick veneer (Photo 136, p. 204).



Photo 132: Primary Entrance Detail (Left) and Sign to South of Primary Entrance along S. Lamar Street (Right).





Photo 133: Detail of Drive-Thru Canopy Over Teller Window, Looking Southeast.



Photo 134: Northeast Elevation and Fire Station Entrance.





Photo 135: Fire Station Door (Left) and Garage Door (Right) Details on Northeast Elevation.



Photo 136: Window (Left) and Drive-Up Teller Window and Night Deposit Box (Right) Detail on Southwest Elevation.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The interior of the Roxboro Municipal Building is divided by use between the two floors, with the city offices on the upper level and the fire station on the ground level. The southwest corner of the building is publicly accessible, while the remainder of the upper floor is for staff only. There is an original internal staircase with a mural that connects the two floors located in the central east part of the building (Photo 137). Much of the original material survives intact on both floors. The upper level features terrazzo floors, wood wall paneling, exterior metal windows, interior wood doors, all bathroom fixtures and tile floors, and the Council Chamber curved desk and auditorium-style seating are all original (Figure 74, p. 206; Photo 138, p. 207). The only change to the floor plan (for security purposes) was the recent insertion of a single-leaf, fully glazed metal door with sidelight between the entry area off of S. Lamar Street and the office space that reads “Staff Only” and requires permission to enter (this modification is noted in red in Figure 74, p. 206).

The public area of the building is accessed by the primary entrance on the southeast elevation and comprises one small room with a customer service counter for utilities/billing on the southwest side. Upon entry to the staff only area, a hallway to the north leads to offices for the city manager, city clerk, finance director, administrative assistant, and personnel officer. The Council Chamber is also accessed from this hallway on the west side. To the south is another hallway that leads to offices for Accounts Payable, Collections, Payroll, and Utilities Billing (Photo 139, p. 207). To the west, down this second hallway are restrooms, the Planning office, a computer room, the City Council conference room, a lounge, and the Mayor’s office.



Photo 137: Interior Stairwell with Mural Connecting Upper and Ground Levels (Left), Looking East, and Fire Station Training Room (Right), Looking South.

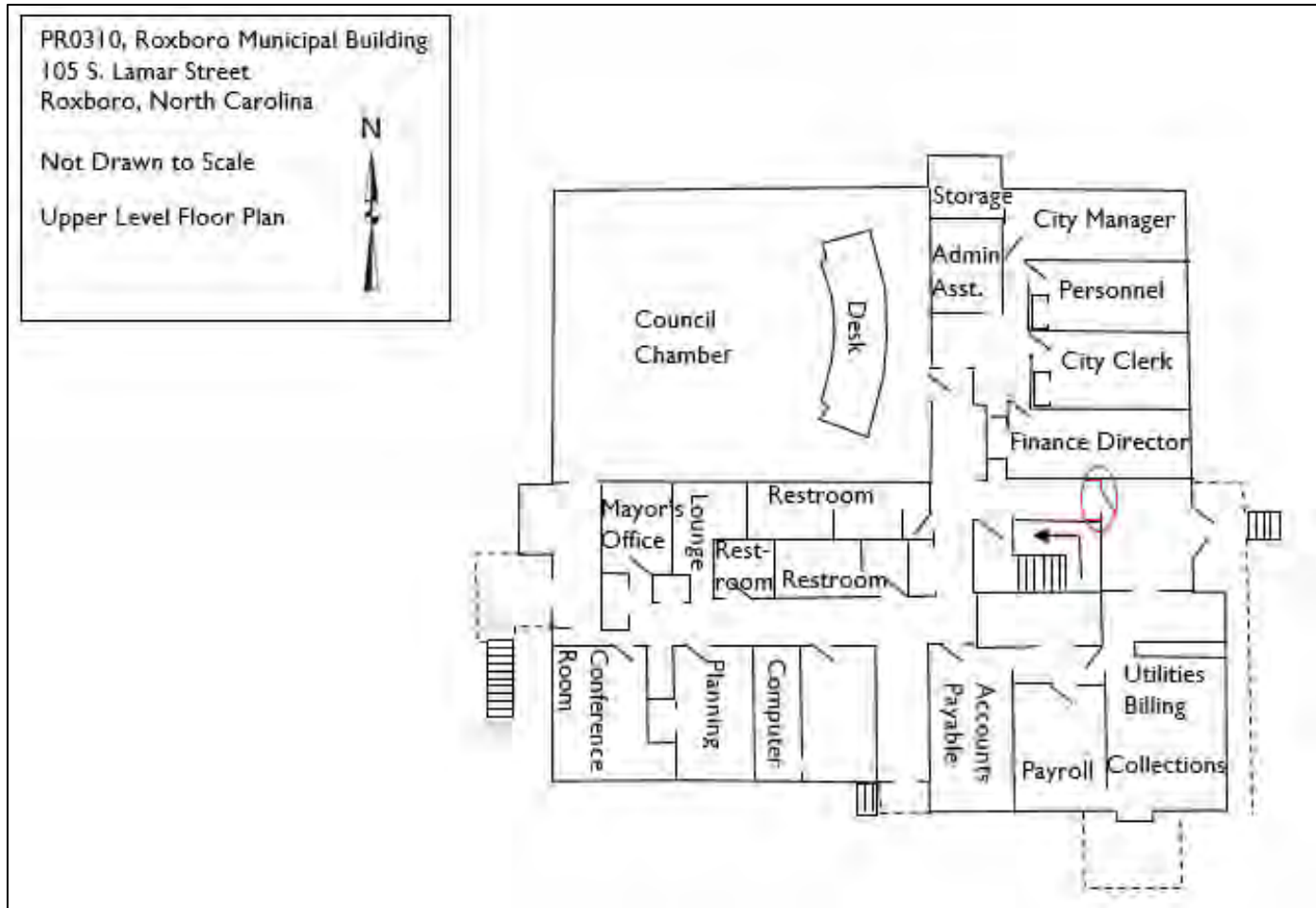


Figure 74: Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310), Upper-Level Floor Plan with Recent Security Door in Red. Not to Scale.





Photo 138: Council Chamber, Looking Northeast (Left) and Northwest (Right), Upper Floor.

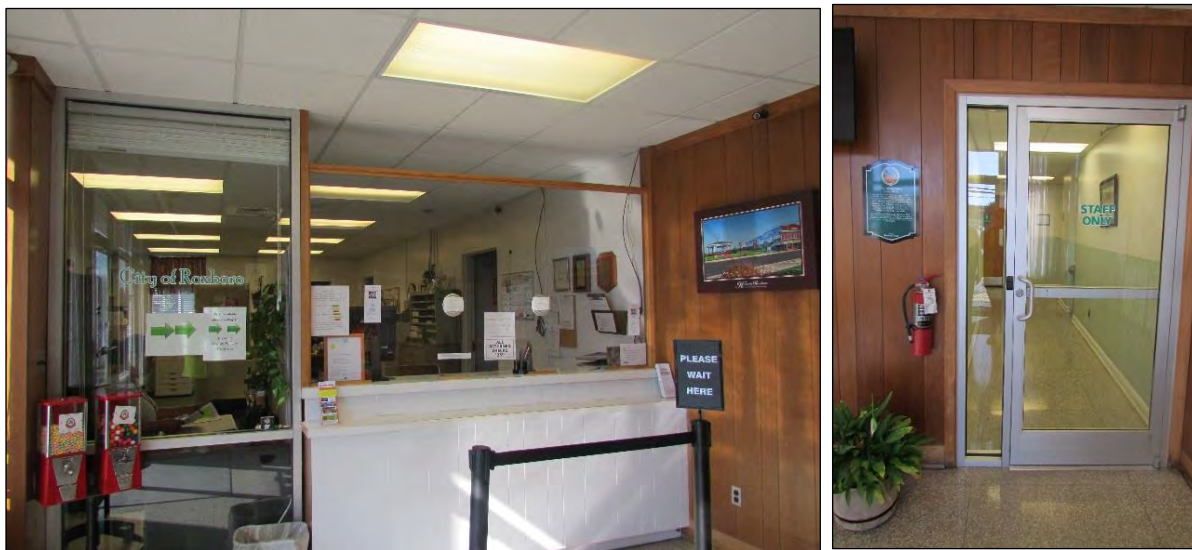


Photo 139: Interior of Customer Entrance off of S. Lamar Street (Left), Looking Southwest and Recently Added Interior Security Door (Right), Looking Northwest.

The majority of the ground-level floor plan is encompassed by the three garage bays for storage of fire engines. The garage is a big open space, with two storage and two investigation rooms along the south wall. Five single-leaf metal doors along the east wall provide access to rooms related to vehicle and equipment maintenance. A sixth single-leaf metal door in the north half of the east wall leads to a long hallway in the office and training portion of the ground level. Three offices and a storage room are situated to the southwest of the internal staircase that leads from the city offices above. The hallway that connects these fire station offices to the rest of the building also provides access to the locker room, restroom, and showers on the east side of the hall (Photo 140, p. 209). The training room with a kitchenette and additional lockers is also accessible via this hallway, located in the northeast corner of the building, with a sliding glass door on the northeast elevation that leads to a small patio area (see Photo 137, p. 205). An

additional office is located along the northeast elevation abutting the garage bays. From the garage bays several equipment and tool storage rooms are accessible on the east and south sides, as well as a mechanical room (Photo 141, p. 209).

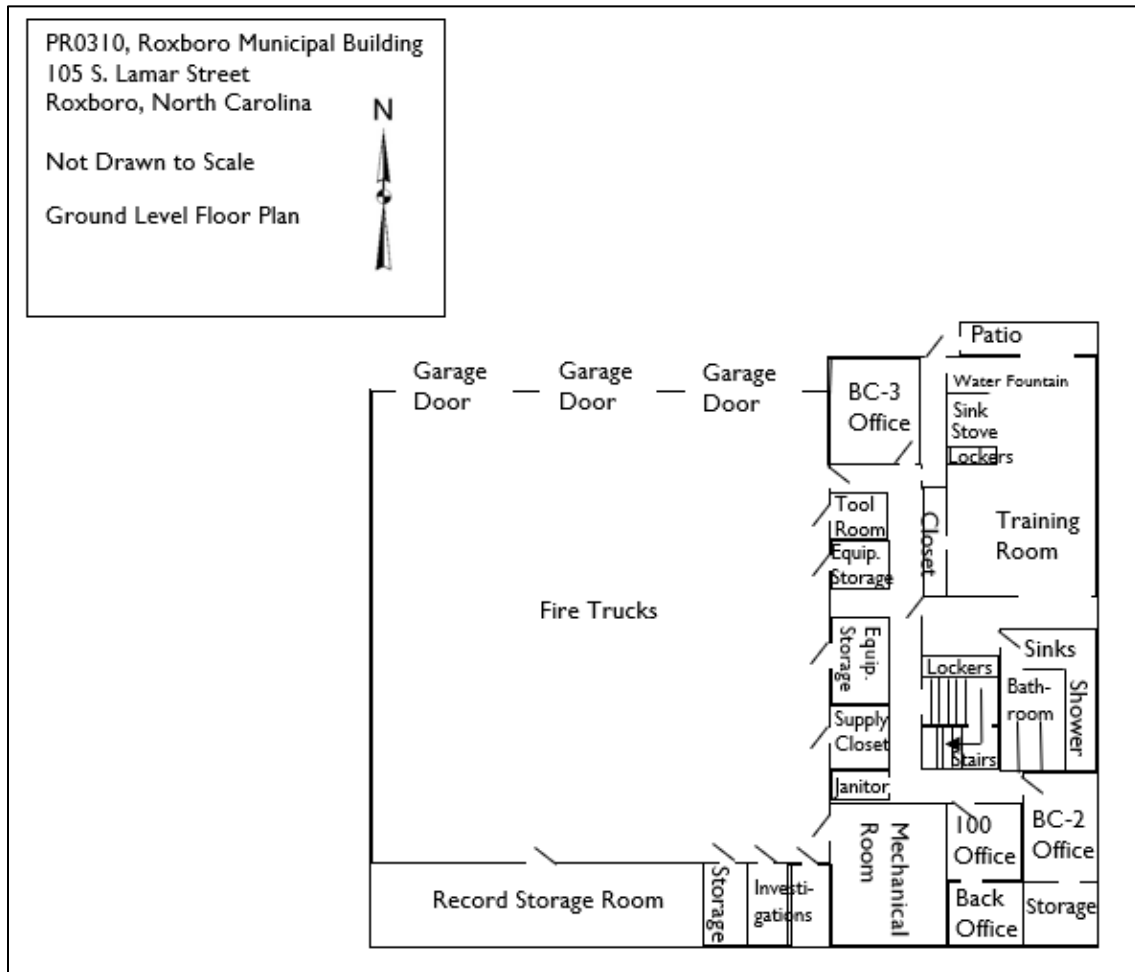


Figure 75: Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310), Ground-Level Floor Plan. Not to Scale.



Photo 140: Fire Station Locker Room (Left) and Restroom (Right), Looking Southeast.



Photo 141: Fire Station Garage, Looking Southwest.

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1964 metal flagpole resting upon the poured-concrete pad is located east of the primary entrance along S. Lamar Street (Photo 142, p. 210). A second circa-2000 metal flagpole is located north of the building along Court Street, near the fire department memorial area, resting on a small slate sidewalk. This area includes a nineteenth-century, two-wheel, hose reel, a circa-2000 stone sign commemorating the start of the fire department in 1855, and a circa-2000 metal plaque on a small granite base dedicated to Graves Elmo Dixon “who served the Roxboro Fire Department from April 20, 1963 until March 10, 1984” (Photo 143, p. 210).





Photo 142: Flagpole at Entrance on S. Lamar Street (Left), Looking West and Memorial Area and Flagpole on Court Street (Right), Looking Southwest.



Photo 143: Fire Station Memorial Area Northeast Elevation (Left) and Plaque (Right), Looking Southwest.

### ***Historic Context***

Historic Sanborn mapping showed a variety of commercial and residential buildings, including a blacksmith shop, and a house finishing material (paints and oils) business, on the corner of S. Lamar and Court streets where the current Roxboro Municipal Building stands today.<sup>314</sup> In the early Sanborn maps, Court Street was known as Jail Street, until about 1914.<sup>315</sup> By 1943, the Watkins & Bullock Lumber Yard (Watkins & Bullock) label extended all the way to the corner

<sup>314</sup> Sanborn 1900, 1914.

<sup>315</sup> Sanborn 1914.

of Lamar and Court streets.<sup>316</sup> This coincides with a plat drawn by W.R. Cates on November 23, 1942 of the Watkins & Bullock Property which shows six lots on Lamar Street, of which, Lots 1 through 3 and part of Lot 4 would eventually become the site for the Roxboro Municipal Building.<sup>317</sup>

The Watkins & Bullock was established around 1909, but the original lumber company building and the adjacent cotton gin burned in a fire in the mid 1920s.<sup>318</sup> By a deed dated November 1942, the partnership between W.C. Watkins, owner of the Watkins & Bullock, his wife, and his daughter, Anne Watkins Pemberton, was dissolved, and Anne purchased her parent's interest in the lands belonging to the partnership. Tract 1 in the deed is described as "that lot lying within the intersection of Court and Lamar Streets within the City of Roxboro and lying to the south of Court Street and to the west of Lamar Street, and being all of that lot or tract of land used for many years past by Watkins & Bullock in the conduct of their building material business."<sup>319</sup> In May 1946, Anne W. Pemberton sold land to John W. Tillman and Stonewall Jackson along Lamar Street, including Tract 1, previously described in the deed from 1942.<sup>320</sup> By 1963, the city had acquired the land at the corner of S. Lamar Street and Court Street, as "lands of the City of Roxboro" are referenced as a boundary in the deed for the neighboring Home Savings & Loan Association (PR0312) property at 123 S. Lamar Street.<sup>321</sup> The Roxboro Municipal Building has been in continuous use by the city since construction and still functions today as the city offices and the fire station.

The Roxboro Municipal Building at 105 S. Lamar Street was built in 1964 and was designed by architects firm M.A. Ham, Associates, Inc. from Durham and built by contractors associated with E.M. Wilkerson & Son of Roxboro, with A.D. Slagle as superintendent (see Photo 132, p. 202). M.A. Ham, Associates, Inc. was a sole proprietorship run by Marion Arthur Ham (1898–1971) who was born in Florence, South Carolina and educated at Clemson University.<sup>322</sup> According to his 1946 questionnaire for the Architect's Roster on file with the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Ham served in World War I and then attended art school (likely the Corcoran School in Washington, D.C.) from 1920 to 1921.<sup>323</sup> He worked as a draftsman in several architecture firms from 1922 until 1927, when he was made a partner at R.R. Markley & Company. He was also a partner at J.P. Rose from 1936 to 1940 where after he gained his architectural license. Ham started his own firm in 1944 and was the consulting architect for the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association. Ham's firm began with small commercial and residential projects including five drug stores, a Lion's Club Workshop for the Blind, a garage, and several houses.

After establishing a good reputation, Ham's projects grew larger in scale. Some of his principal works include the Club Boulevard School (1949) and Music and Arts Building (1950) in

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<sup>316</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>317</sup> PCPB 3B:85.

<sup>318</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2016b.

<sup>319</sup> PCDB 54:257.

<sup>320</sup> PCDB 58:355.

<sup>321</sup> PCDB 99:404.

<sup>322</sup> Brown 2015:K.18-206.

<sup>323</sup> AIA 1946.

Durham; the Chowan Hospital (1950) in Edenton; Vaughan's Radiation Clinic (1952) in Durham; and the Spaulding School (1954) and Education Building (1955) in Durham. In addition to his repertoire, he was the local consulting architect on the well-known North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Building in Durham (DH2477), with principal architect as Welton Becket of Los Angeles, California (Photo 144 and Photo 145).<sup>324</sup> He also lectured at the University of North Carolina from 1943 to 1944.<sup>325</sup>



Photo 144: North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Building, 411 West Chapel Hill Road, Durham.<sup>326</sup>



Photo 145: 1964 Photograph of Principals of North Carolina Mutual with Billboard Announcing New Office Building.<sup>327</sup> M.A. Ham, Associates, Inc., circled in red.

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<sup>324</sup> Brown 2015:K.18-206.

<sup>325</sup> AIA 1956, 1962.

<sup>326</sup> Brown 2015:K.18-204.



Architectural works of Ham's were all distinctly Modern in design, with clean lines, glass curtain walls, and a clear expression of the structural support system. The Roxboro Municipal Building is unique in its multi-purpose nature as both a fire station and city offices and meeting space. Built near the end of Ham's career, the Roxboro Municipal Building was not included in his AIA Directory list of principal works, likely simply because it had not yet been built. Ham retired by 1970.<sup>328</sup> Prior to his retirement, Ham was hired to design the Roxboro Municipal Building, and was likely chosen for his experience with a variety of educational, medical, and commercial building types. He had even previously designed a fire station in the Lakewood neighborhood of Durham in 1960.<sup>329</sup>

E.M. Wilkerson & Son was a local general contractor and building supplier for commercial, residential, and industrial properties. Emmett M. Wilkerson (circa 1904–1981) and his son E. Payne Wilkerson (1927–2004) were the two principals of the company, established in 1951.<sup>330</sup> According to local city directories, they operated their business at 305 Reams Avenue in Roxboro.<sup>331</sup> Alfred D. Slagle (1912–1999), the superintendent for the project, worked in construction and lived in the Roxboro area.<sup>332</sup>

### ***Evaluation***

The Roxboro Municipal Building constructed in 1964 by E.M. Wilkerson & Son and designed by the architectural firm M.A. Ham, Associates, Inc., is a two-story, multi-bay municipal building and fire station in the mid-century Modern style. The building is in its original location and continues to be surrounded by other municipal and commercial properties, rendering it a high level of integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The building retains a majority of its original materials and has an absence of additions or large material replacements; therefore, yielding a high level of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The only insertion into the original floor plan is the security door between the lobby and office space, on the upper level along the entrance at S. Lamar Street.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>333</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>334</sup> The Roxboro Municipal Building has served as a fire station and center of local

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<sup>327</sup> Ibid:K.18-206.

<sup>328</sup> AIA 1970.

<sup>329</sup> Open Durham 2019b.

<sup>330</sup> Findagrave.com 2010a, 2013a; Social Security Administration 1981.

<sup>331</sup> Miller 1962:19.

<sup>332</sup> Miller 1962:207.

<sup>333</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>334</sup> Ibid.

government since its construction in 1964. No significant events are known to have taken place in this building and its historic function is commonplace throughout county seats and small urban centers in the state. Furthermore, it is not known to be of particular importance to shaping government in the state of North Carolina or at the local level in Person County. Although valuable local government operations utilize the building, simple association with local government does not warrant eligibility under this criterion. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known mayors and individuals who worked at the Roxboro Municipal Building that are historically associated with it are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. Therefore, the resource does not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>335</sup>

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>336</sup> The Roxboro Municipal Building was designed by architect, Marion A. Ham, known throughout North Carolina for his mid-century modern designs in commercial, educational, medical, residential, and civic architecture. Not only is the Roxboro Municipal Building fully intact, it is an excellent example of the Modern design for which Ham was known. It is unique in its multi-purpose functional design as both a city office building and a fire station. Ham had previously designed a stand-alone Modernist fire station in Durham in 1960, but the Roxboro Municipal Building surpasses this fire station in its size and functionality as a multi-purpose Modern space.<sup>337</sup> The Roxboro Municipal Building was also built towards the end of Ham’s career, when he was at the peak of his success.

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The Roxboro Municipal Building is an example of a mid-century governmental building that is representative of the Modern-era of architecture, and designed by an architect. While there are many buildings in Roxboro that may be of similar form and scale, few match the Roxboro Municipal Building in terms of style; similarly, the other buildings belonging to local government do not match the Roxboro Municipal Building in age or style.

There are only a few other buildings in the Roxboro area that reflect the Modern-era of architecture. The Roxboro Municipal Building stands out because it has high-style, character-defining features commonly found in this period, while the others possess modest representations of Modernism styles. The Flav-O-Rich Building at 1016 N. Main Street (current Libby’s Tax Services) (PR0302) (for photos and full description see p. 68) is an example of a mid-century,

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<sup>335</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>336</sup> Ibid.

<sup>337</sup> Open Durham 2019b.

one-story, masonry commercial building that was constructed around the same time as the Roxboro Municipal Building, but with only a nod to Modernist style with its façade (Photo 146). Due to the additions and modifications to its interior over the years, its integrity has been diminished. Ross Appraisals at 214 S. Main Street (formerly the Roxboro Building and Loan Association) was constructed around the same time as the Roxboro Municipal Building, and has more stylistic details than most other local commercial or municipal buildings of this era, like the asymmetrical, Modern façade and suspended canopy over the primary entrance (Photo 146). The Home Savings and Loan Association at 123 S. Lamar Street (PR0312) (for photos and full description see p. 219) is another example of a Modern-styled commercial building, located adjacent to the Roxboro Municipal Building (Photo 147). While a smaller in scale, the Home Savings and Loan Association has a similar level of exterior styling and interior integrity as the Roxboro Municipal Building.



Photo 146: Flav-O-Rich Building at 1016 N. Main Street (PR0302) Looking Southeast (Left) and Ross Appraisals at 214 S. Main Street (formerly the Roxboro Building and Loan Association) Looking Southeast (Right).



Photo 147: Home Savings and Loan Association (Time Financing Service today) at 123 S. Lamar Street (PR0312), Looking West.



There are also a range of municipal buildings with which to compare, but the majority were built in the last 50 years or are stylistically different than the Roxboro Municipal Building. The historic Person County Courthouse (PR0235), the Former Person County Health Center at 204 W. Barden Street (PR0315), and the Roxboro Police Station at 109 N. Lamar Street, all share a similar governmental function to the Roxboro Municipal Building. The NRHP-listed, circa-1930 Person County Courthouse (PR0235) is mainly Neoclassical in style with Art Deco design elements (Photo 148). While it is similarly high style and municipal in function, it is from a different era than the Roxboro Municipal Building. The former Person County Health Center (for photos and full description see p. 279) at 204 W. Barden Street (PR0315) is now the Person County Information Technology building (Photo 148). It is a mid-century masonry office building with minimal detailing. The windows along the east elevation facing Madison Boulevard are really the only nod to the Modern Period. The interior of the former Person County Health Center has been heavily altered for its new function and lacks integrity. The Roxboro Police Station was built around 2007 in a basic rectilinear form with little ornamentation. While it shares a similar function to the Roxboro Municipal Building, with its lower level occupied by a fire station, the Roxboro Police Station building is not remarkable, nor is it historic (Photo 149).



Photo 148: Former Person County Health Center at 204 W. Barden Street (PR0315) Looking Northwest (Left) and Person County Courthouse at 120 Court Street (PR0235) Looking Northwest (Right).



Photo 149: Roxboro Police Station at 109 N. Lamar Street, Looking Northeast.

The Roxboro Municipal Building is an outstanding example of mid-century Modern design and one of only a few local examples. It is architect-designed and serves as an exceptional example of M.A. Ham's work. The Roxboro Municipal Building has a high level of integrity, with more than 90 percent original materials inside and out. It also stands out for its unique Modernist architectural style. Because the Roxboro Municipal Building retains such a high level of historic integrity and architectural significance, it is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>338</sup> The Roxboro Municipal Building is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Roxboro Municipal Building **is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for being a unique example of the mid-century Modern design at the local level.** A recommended period of significance for this resource is based on the construction of the building in 1964. The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigation conform to the existing tax parcel(s) and include the building, teller canopy, flagpoles, and memorial area, and associated surrounding landscape (Figure 76, p. 218).

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<sup>338</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



Figure 76: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of the Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310) as Shown in Red.<sup>339</sup>

<sup>339</sup> Esri 2019.



## **PR0311: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church, 202 Gordon Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1920  
Modifications: ca. 1950, late-twentieth century

202 Gordon Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0906-14-32-7502 and 0906-14-32-6526  
Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church at 202 Gordon Street, currently known as the Azusa Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ Apostolic Faith, is bounded on the southwest by Gordon Street, on the southeast by N. Madison Boulevard, on the northwest by an empty parcel and Leasburg Road, and on the northeast by a brick commercial building (Figure 77–Figure 78, pp. 220–221). Situated in a predominately commercial region of Roxboro, the resource boundaries comprise two parcels, one at the northwest corner of Gordon Street and N. Madison Boulevard, and one that fronts Gordon Street between a vacant parcel and the church. An asphalt and poured-concrete access road surrounds the church itself and has access points on both Gordon Street and N. Madison Boulevard. Additional parking is located on the westernmost parcel, which has a gravel, semi-circular drive but is otherwise covered by a grass lawn. The two parcels are separated by a poured-concrete retaining wall. Strips of grass and medium-sized shrubbery line the church’s south and east elevations. The church’s primary elevation faces south toward Gordon Street.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The original core of the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church is a rectangular, one-story building constructed around 1920 with elements of the Gothic Revival style. The building sits on a cinderblock basement that runs the entire length of the building and the structural system is clad in a brick, stretcher-bonded veneer. On the southwest elevation (façade) is a stone that reads “New Mount Zion Church May 27, 1901.” This date refers to when the New Mount Zion Baptist Church separated from the Mount Zion Baptist Church, not the building’s construction date.<sup>340</sup> A front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles covers the building and is lined with a wooden cornice. A square, brick tower capped by a hipped roof stands at original core’s west corner. This tower features two types of ventilation: a circular vent (southwest elevation) and a vent created by several rectangular-shaped spaces between the bricks (southwest and northwest elevations) (Photo 150–Photo 151, p. 222).

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<sup>340</sup> Eaker 1981:89.



Figure 77: Location of the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church (PR0311).<sup>341</sup>

<sup>341</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 78: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church (PR0311) Site Plan.





Photo 150: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church, Southwest Elevation.



Photo 151: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church, South Oblique.

The southwest elevation contains two main entrances, both of which are double-leaf, wooden doors set below lancet windows filled with painted glass and wood muntins. Shed-roofed entry

porches supported by turned posts cover the brick steps that lead to each door. The central bay on the façade contains a large, wood-framed fixed, lancet window with painted glass, reflective of the Gothic Revival style and circular opening near the roof's peak, which is currently filled in with replacement material (Photo 152). Additional windows are four-over-four, double-hung-sash, lancet windows with painted glass panes. These same windows are found in the circa-1950 and circa-1985 additions, suggesting that they are later additions. Access to the basement is gained by an exterior staircase and door on the southeast elevation.



Photo 152: Primary Entrances and Window on the Southwest Elevation.

The first addition the church extends from the northeast elevation and was built around 1950.<sup>342</sup> The square-shaped, brick-clad building is two stories in height covered by a hipped roof sheathed in asphalt shingles (Photo 153, p. 224). Fenestration on this addition includes two single-leaf doors, double-hung-sash, wood-framed, lancet windows with painted glass, and single and paired, wood-framed, double-hung sash windows. A poured-concrete set of stairs lined with metal handrails leads to the door on the southeast elevation and a pent roof sheathed in metal is above the door on the northeast elevation.

A two-story, brick-clad, circa-1985 addition covered by a hipped roof spans the original core's northwest elevation.<sup>343</sup> It features the same double-hung-sash, lancet windows with painted glass as the circa-1920 church and the earlier addition, as well as wood-framed, six-over-six, double-hung-sash windows and single-leaf, solid doors (Photo 154, p. 224). The most recent addition is square-shaped at the church's north corner and was constructed around 1995. It is two stories in

<sup>342</sup> NETR 1955; Dr. Melvin Bullock, Sr., personal communication 2019; Sanborn 1943.

<sup>343</sup> Google Earth 1993; USDA 1950, 1964, 1977.



height and has a brick veneer laid in a stretcher bond and flat roof (Photo 155, p. 225). Fenestration includes a single-leaf, paneled door on the northeast elevation and wood-framed, six-over-six, double-hung-sash windows.



Photo 153: Circa-1950 Addition, East Oblique (Left) and Northeast Elevation (Right).



Photo 154: Circa-1985 Addition, Northwest Elevation.





Photo 155: Circa-1995 Addition, North Oblique.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The southernmost entrance on the façade leads into the sanctuary, a large room with original wooden floors partially covered in carpet and plastered walls and ceiling. Following the construction of the circa-1920 and circa-1985 additions, the original northwest and northeastern walls were removed, expanding the sanctuary to comprise the original core and much of these two additions (Figure 79, p. 226; Photo 156–Photo 157, pp. 227–227). During this renovation, the sanctuary’s orientation was rotated and the pulpit moved to its current location on the northwest wall. Choir and band areas lined with low, wooden walls flank the slightly raised pulpit and are located directly behind it is a baptismal pool (Photo 158–Photo 159, p. 228). This space is lighted by recessed lights, track lighting, and chandeliers and is lined with a chair rail and wainscoting. Further modifications to the sanctuary include the addition of a sound room on the southeast wall and the creation of an enclosed boiler room around the westernmost double-leaf door and tower on the southwest elevation (Photo 160, p. 229).

The circa-1950 addition is primarily composed of two offices and an enclosed staircase that leads to the fellowship hall and kitchen. This space retains the original wooden paneling on the walls above the wainscoting and square, wooden pilasters (Photo 161, p. 229). Within the circa-1995 addition is an office, bathrooms, a staircase that leads to the basement, and an access point to the baptismal pool (Photo 162, p. 230).

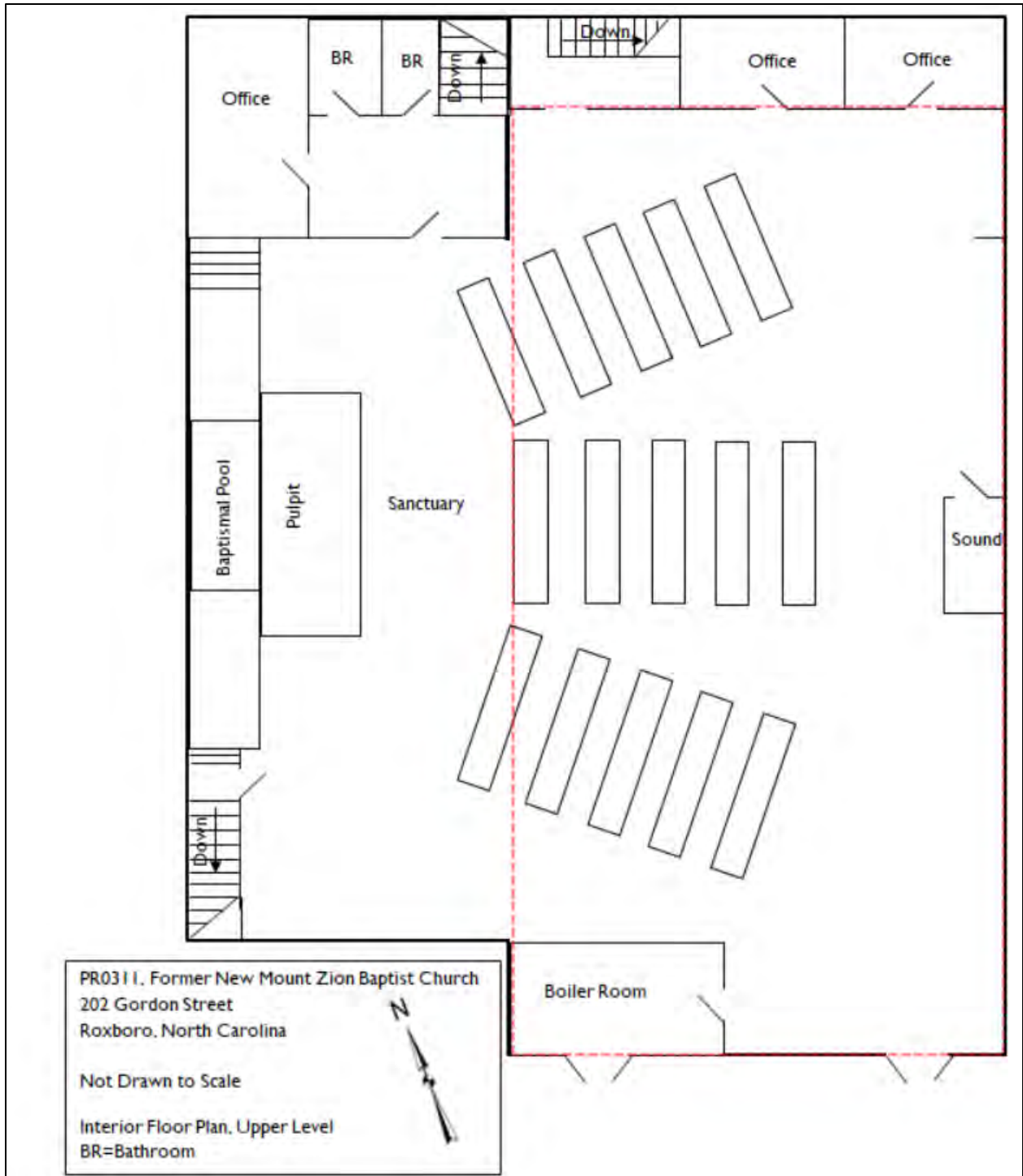


Figure 79: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church (PR0311), Upper Level Interior Floor Plan.  
Note: the original church core is noted in red.



Photo 156: Sanctuary, Looking South.



Photo 157: Sanctuary, Looking North. The red arrow denotes the former location of the original church's walls.





Photo 158: Pulpit and Baptismal Pool, Looking Northwest.



Photo 159: Choir/Band Area, Looking West.



Photo 160: Boiler Room, Looking Northwest (Left), and Sound Room, Looking South (Right).



Photo 161: Access to the Staircase Looking Northeast (Left) and Surviving Pilaster and Wooden Paneling, Looking West (Right), Both within the Circa-1950 Addition.





Photo 162: Bathroom, Looking Northeast (Left) and Office, Looking North (Right) in the Circa-1995 Addition.

The basement is accessed from several exterior doors, as well as two interior staircases, one at the northeast elevation and one at the west corner (Figure 80, p. 231). Much of the area that is below the original core is an open space that functions as a fellowship hall with floor-to-ceiling, concrete-block piers that provide support for the upper level (Photo 163–Photo 164, pp. 232–232). This space was renovated in early 2019; originally this space had a poured-concrete floor with linoleum tiles. Today, it has a new tiled floor, drop ceiling, and fluorescent lights. The walls remain uncovered and display the poured-concrete foundation. At the fellowship hall’s western corner are two bathrooms and two closets. A kitchen and storage closets are located at the northeastern edge of the fellowship hall and are contained within the circa-1950 addition (Photo 165, p. 233). The walls that divide the spaces from the rest of the fellowship hall are made of a variety of materials, including vertical pressed wood panels, dry wall, and vertically laid wood boards.

A door and two steps on the northwestern wall lead to a narrow hallway that spans the length of the circa-1985/circa-1995 additions. Square-shaped rooms extend from the hall and two bathrooms and a staircase are situated at the hall’s southwestern terminus (Photo 166, p. 233). The spaces in this addition have tiled or carpeted floors, drop ceilings, and uncovered walls, leaving the brick or concrete-block exposed. There are two staircases within this section of the building: one at the southwest wall that leads to the baptismal pool on the upper level and one on the northeast wall (Photo 167, p. 234).



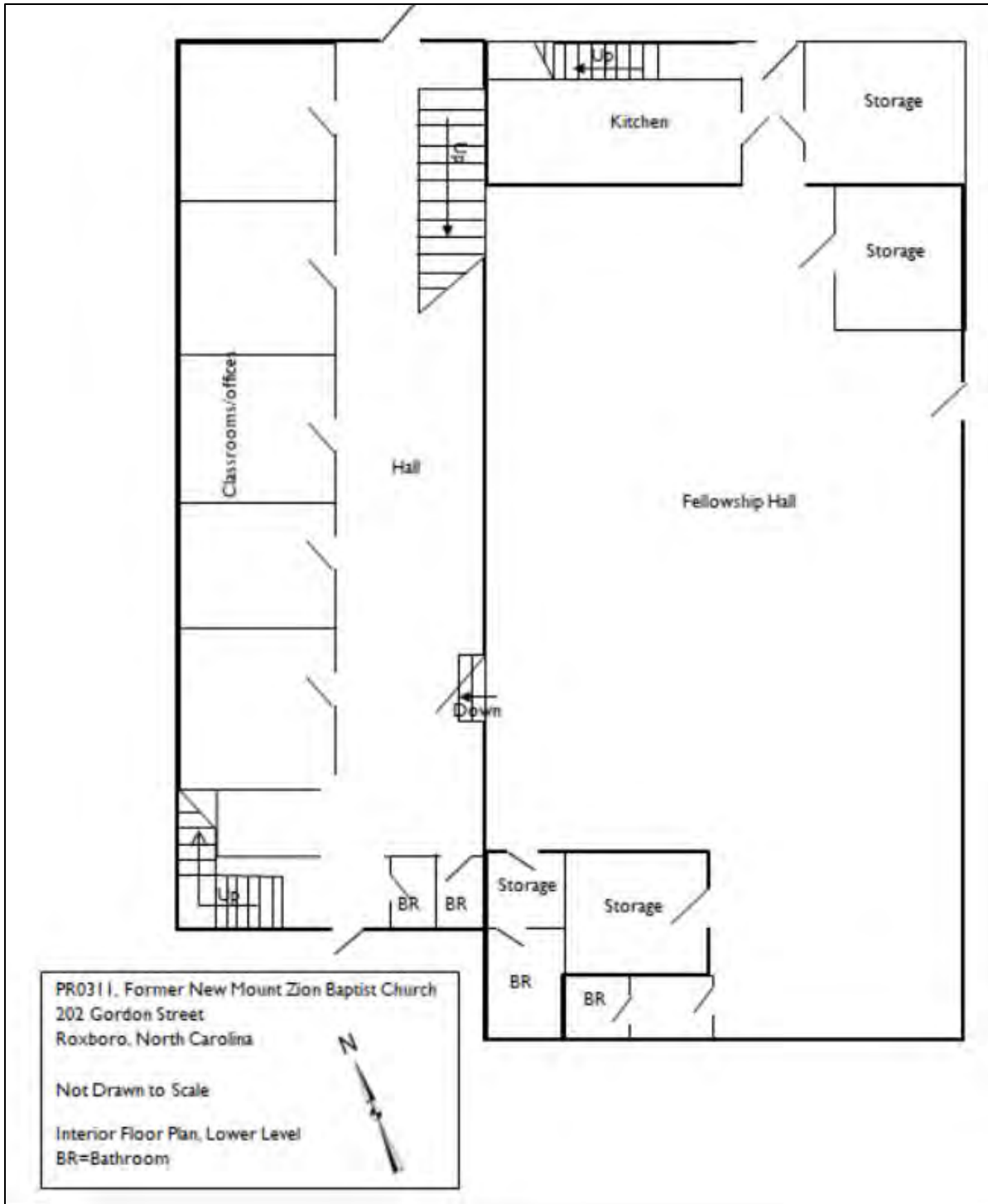


Figure 80: Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church (PR0311), Basement Interior Floor Plan.



Photo 163: Fellowship Hall, Looking South.



Photo 164: Fellowship Hall, Looking West.



Photo 165: Kitchen, Looking Northwest.



Photo 166: Circa-1985 Addition Hallway, Looking Southwest (Left) and Room off of Hallway, Looking Northwest (Right).



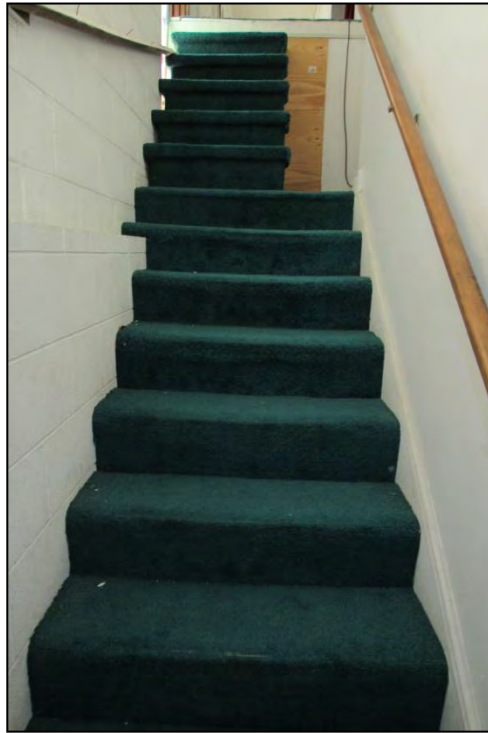


Photo 167: Staircase Leading to Baptismal Pool, Looking Southeast.

*Secondary Resources*

Immediately southwest of the church between the building and the sidewalk along Gordon Street is a circa-1950 brick sign with a concrete cap (Photo 168). Currently, a sheet of metal or plastic is appended to the front of the sign and provides information for the Azusa Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ Apostolic Faith.



Photo 168: Sign on Gordon Street, Looking East.

### *Historic Context*

The New Mount Zion Baptist Church formed from the Mount Zion Baptist Church, later known as the Old Mount Zion Baptist Church, a congregation that dates to the mid-nineteenth century.<sup>344</sup> In December 1898, Trustees for the Second Baptist Church, also noted as the “second colored Baptist Church” in the deed, purchased a lot of land adjacent to a tan yard for \$36 from the estate of W.C. Satterfield.<sup>345</sup> During research for this project, this deed is the only time the new congregation is referred to as the Second Baptist Church; all subsequent references are to the New Mount Zion Baptist Church.<sup>346</sup> Three years later the two congregations formally split and in 1907 they constructed a new house of worship on what was then known as Factory Street, a dead-end street that extended from Lamar Street and was predominately lined with one-story residences. According to Sanborn mapping, the New Mount Zion Baptist Church was a one-and-a-half-story, frame building covered by a hipped roof with a one-story addition on the rear. It was heated by stoves and had oil lamps for lighting (Figure 81).<sup>347</sup>

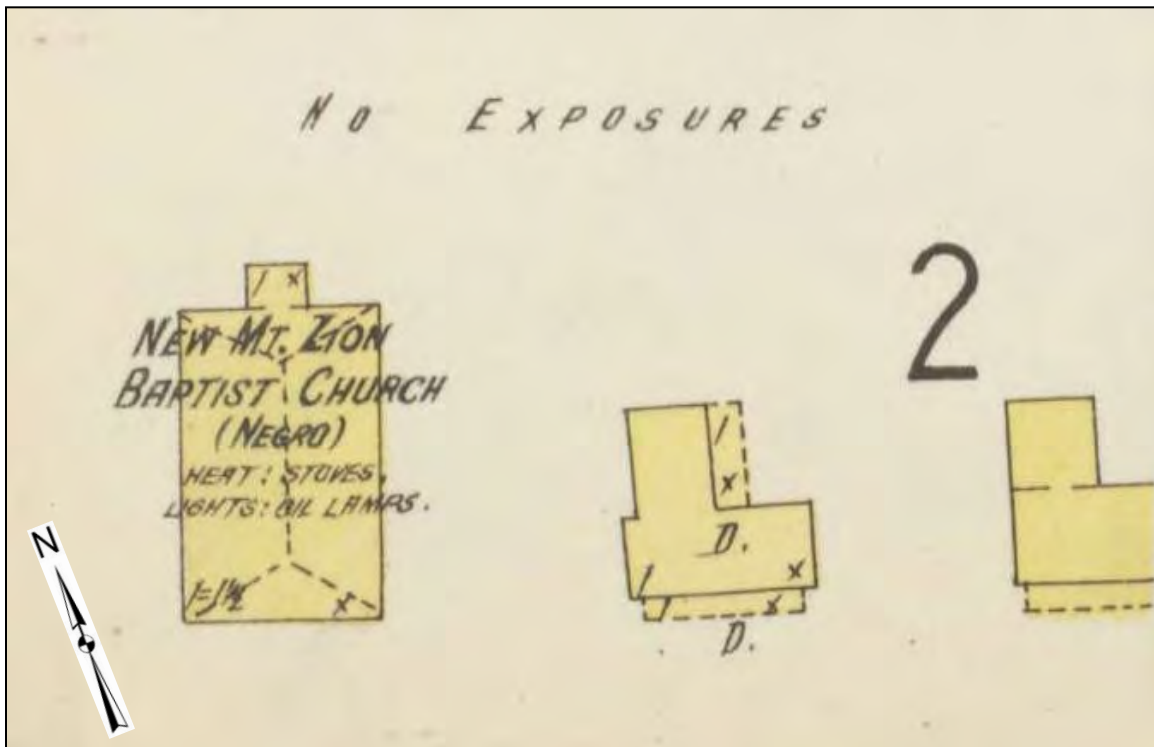


Figure 81: Detail of the 1914 Sanborn Map that Shows the Frame Church Building on Factory Street.<sup>348</sup> Not to scale

<sup>344</sup> Eaker 1981:89.

<sup>345</sup> PCDB RR:286.

<sup>346</sup> Ibid.

<sup>347</sup> Eaker 1981:89; New Mount Zion Baptist Church 2019; Sanborn 1914.

<sup>348</sup> Sanborn 1914.

Although the exact reasoning is unknown, between 1914 and 1925 the congregation constructed a brick building with a stove and electric lighting on the same location as the previous frame church. This is the current building at 202 Gordon Street.<sup>349</sup> The New Mount Zion Baptist Church remained at this location until 2001, when they moved to a new location approximately 0.5 mile north on Walker Street.<sup>350</sup> In December of that same year, the trustees of the New Mount Zion Baptist Church sold the property to the trustees of the Fisher of Men Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc., who later changed their name to the Azusa Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>351</sup>

### *Evaluation*

The Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church, constructed around 1920, retains a high integrity of location, feeling, and association, as it has not been moved from its original location and continues to function as a church. Although there were more dwellings surrounding the church when it was built than there are today, this part of Roxboro had already contained a mix of residential and commercial buildings when it was constructed, and as such, the resource's level of setting integrity remains high. This church has undergone several large modifications, including the construction of large additions, the removal of two original walls (northwest and northeast), possible fenestration replacement, and loss of original material which has resulted in a loss of integrity of materials, design, and workmanship.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events:... a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>352</sup> However, NPS goes on to say that “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>353</sup> Although the congregation was associated with religious trends in Roxboro, research has not uncovered any information suggesting that the resource exhibits significance within that trend, or any other event at the local, state, or national levels. For these reasons, the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The resource has no known association with an individual who is “significant within a historic context” or has “gained importance within his or her group or profession” which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B.<sup>354</sup> Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

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<sup>349</sup> Eaker 1981:89; New Mount Zion Church 2019; Sanborn 1914, 1925.

<sup>350</sup> New Mount Zion Baptist Church 2019.

<sup>351</sup> PCDB 354:799, 697:365.

<sup>352</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:12.

<sup>353</sup> Ibid.

<sup>354</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:14.



To place this property in context, several nearby churches reflecting a similar architectural style and form were identified during a windshield survey where it was determined that this resource is just one of several early-twentieth-century, brick churches in Roxboro. Located less than 1 mile east of the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church is the Grace United Methodist Church at 313 Grace Street. Originally known as the Grace M.E. Church, this one-story, brick building was constructed in 1916, according to a date stone (Photo 169). It has a brick veneer, off-centered tower, and lancet windows, much like the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church. This building has also undergone modifications and alterations, such as the construction of a large addition and replacement of the primary entrance.



Photo 169: Grace United Methodist Church at 313 Church Street, South Elevation.

The Former First Baptist Church (PR0321) at 603 S. Main Street in Roxboro was constructed in the late-nineteenth century and is similar to the current resource in original style and form. The Former First Baptist Church, also a historically African American church, is a one-story, brick building with square towers and Gothic Revival-inspired elements, such as the wood-framed lancet windows (Photo 170). Although no large-scale additions have been constructed, it is likely that the interior was heavily altered in the late-twentieth century when it became a funeral home.



Photo 170: Former First Baptist Church (PR0321), Southeast Oblique (Left) and Window Detail (Right).

Quinn's Chapel A.M.E Church at 824 Durham Road was constructed in 1932 and has a similar size and form as the original core of the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church. It also has similar architectural details, such as the elements reflecting the Gothic Revival style and a tower, although the one at Quinn's Chapel A.M.E Church is centered on the façade (Photo 171). Although only inspected from the exterior, this church appears to retain a high level of integrity.



Photo 171: Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church, Northwest Oblique.

The Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church has experienced a loss of historic integrity and has a low level of architectural significance. Architecturally, this resource does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, is not the work of a master, and does not possess high artistic style. Furthermore, it is one of several similar, surviving buildings within Roxboro. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>355</sup> The Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor or significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Former New Mount Zion Baptist Church is **recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>355</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:21.



## **PR0312: Home Savings & Loan Association, 123 S. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: 1964

Modifications: Early-21<sup>st</sup> century

123 S. Lamar Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-18-42-2245

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under Criterion C



### ***Architectural Description***

The Home Savings & Loan Association building at 123 S. Lamar Street is located across the street from the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) in the City of Roxboro. It is located approximately 500 feet east of Madison Boulevard and occupies a rectangular 0.19-acre parcel in the middle of the block on S. Lamar Street between Gordon and Court streets (Figure 82, p. 241). A small parking lot is immediately west of the building, which is flanked by single-lane, one-way driveways. The primary resource is a one-story commercial building that faces southeast, while the secondary resources include a small storage shed located northwest of the primary resource in the corner of the parking lot and a sign located southeast of the building along S. Lamar Street. A poured-concrete driveway supported by a small poured-concrete retaining wall lines the northeast side of the building and provides one-way vehicular access to the parking lot at the rear of the building. The driveway then loops around to the southwest side of the building, providing access to the teller window and night deposit box, ultimately returning the cars to S. Lamar Street (Figure 83, p. 242). Concrete planter beds line all four elevations of the building and are filled with shrubs and mulch. Surrounding the base of the sign is a small rock garden that is the width of the façade.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Home Savings & Loan Association building at 123 S. Lamar Street is a one-story, one-bay, mid-century modern commercial building built 1964 (Photo 172, p. 243). The building stands on a continuous, poured-concrete (likely slab) foundation while the structural system is clad in a stretcher-bond brick veneer. There are metal poles surrounding the building on the two side elevations (southwest and northeast), possibly structural elements for the flat roof with wide overhanging eaves (Photo 173, p. 243). There is a central-interior brick chimney with concrete cap that may serve as a vent for the HVAC equipment.



Figure 82: Location of Home Savings & Loan Association (PR0312).<sup>356</sup>

<sup>356</sup> Esri 2019.



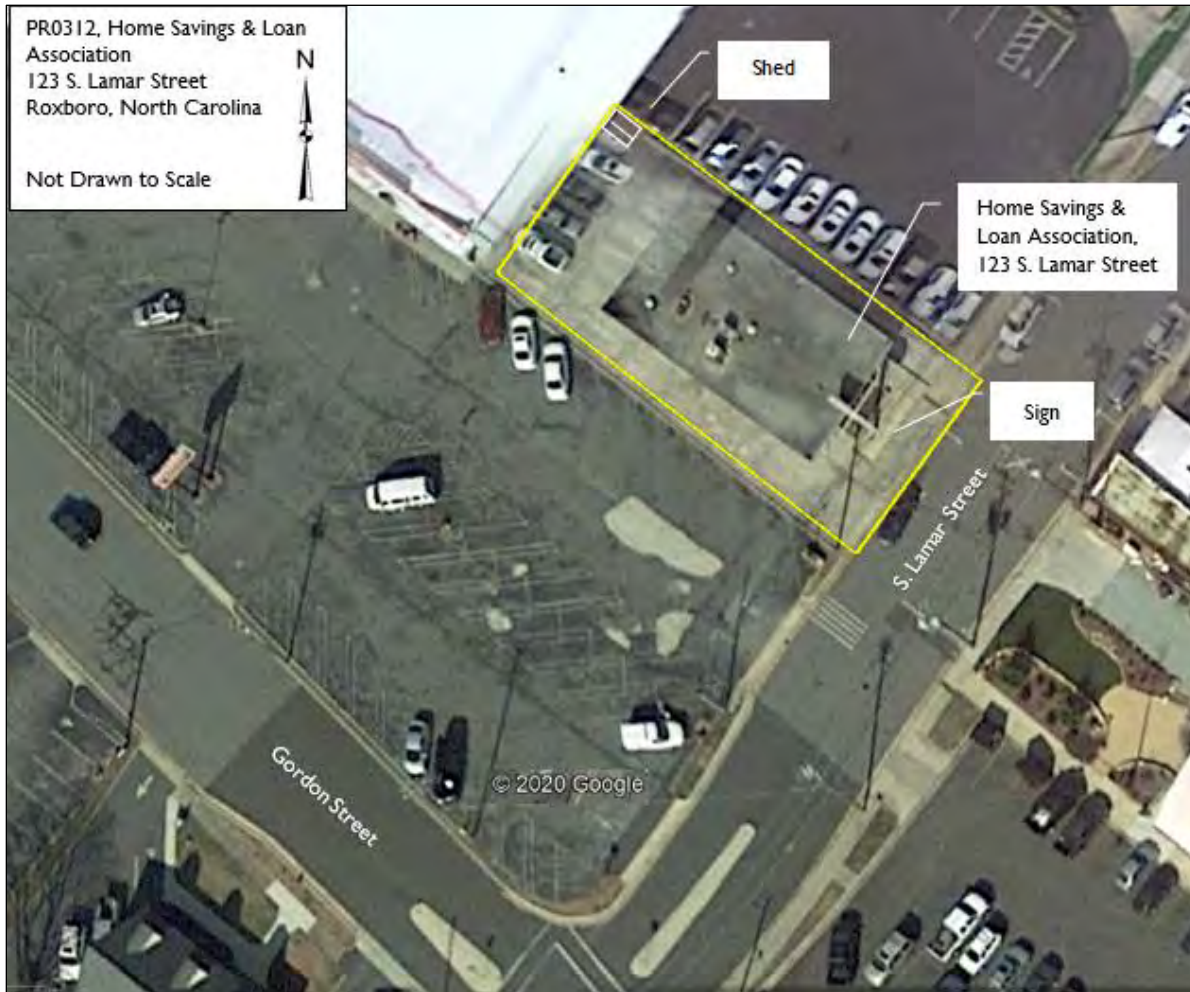


Figure 83: Site Plan of Home Savings & Loan Association (PR0312).<sup>357</sup>

The primary entrance is accessed from a glass-enclosed vestibule on the southeast elevation (façade). A single-leaf, aluminum-framed, fully-glazed door provides access to the interior. There is an identical door on both the northeast and southwest elevations, at each corner. The vestibule that fills the majority of the façade contains fixed panes of glass with metal frames and white, metal panels at the top of each window. The side elevations (southwest and northeast) feature three-light awning windows with aluminum sashes (Photo 173, p. 243). The rear (northwest) elevation is punctuated by two doors (Photo 174, p. 244). One door is centered on the rear elevation with a single-leaf, wood door with two-light wood transom above, which appears to be original, as it almost matches the door on the southwest elevation (Photo 175, p. 244). Northeast of this door on the rear elevation is a single-leaf, paneled metal replacement door. The southwest elevation also contains a metal night deposit box and an aluminum and glass teller's window.

<sup>357</sup> Google Maps 2018.





Photo 172: Southeast Elevation of Home Savings & Loan Association Building.



Photo 173: North Oblique of Home Savings & Loan Association Building.



Photo 174: West Oblique.



Photo 175: Night Deposit and Teller Window on the Southwest Elevation (Left) and Rear Entrance Door and Transom (Right) on the Northeast Elevation.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Much of the interior of the Home Savings & Loan Association building is original (Figure 84, p. 245). Original materials include terrazzo floors, bathroom fixtures and tile floors, kitchen

cabinets, stove, and sink, wood wall paneling, windows, service counter, teller's window, and the glass and wood floating panels behind the teller's window. Upon entry to the vestibule located on the southwest elevation, the terrazzo floors are immediately visible along with an original tall, narrow desk with built-in calendar and pens, located along the windows, where customers can prepare paperwork (Photo 176, p. 246). From the vestibule there is a double-leaf, aluminum-framed, fully glazed door that provides access to the teller's desk and office spaces (Photo 177, p. 246.). The teller's area has two bays for staff members at a counter to help customers, which has its original layout and likely original materials as well, as shown in the Roxboro High School yearbook photo from 1970 (Photo 178, p. 247). The aluminum and glass teller's window, although not currently in use, is still in its original location on the southwest wall, with the drive-thru just outside.

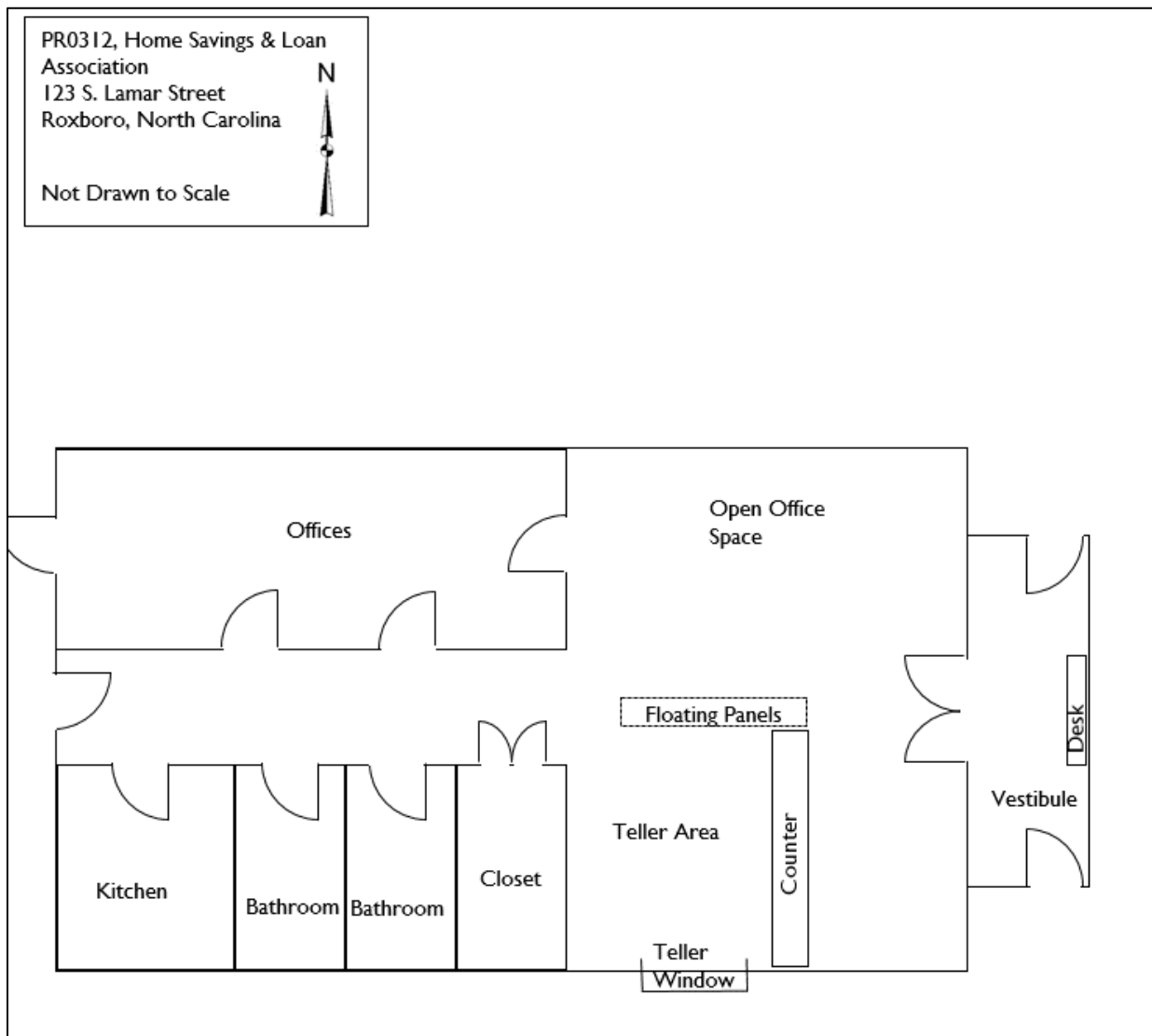


Figure 84: Interior Floor Plan of Home Savings & Loan Association.





Photo 176: Desk in Vestibule at Interior of Home Savings & Loan Association, Looking Southeast.



Photo 177: Interior of Home Savings & Loan Association, Looking Southeast.

A wall of panels of wood-framed glass attached to vertical wood poles via metal horizontal poles, creating the illusion of floating panels, separates the teller's area from the office space and walkway (Photo 179, p. 247). Wood paneling separates the interior space horizontally, with one-third of the space open with the teller area and open office spaces, and the other two-thirds down a hallway and behind the paneled walls. Down the hallway are a closet, bathrooms, and a kitchen

to the southwest and private offices to the northeast (Photo 180, p. 248). Original elements of the kitchen include metal cabinets, sink, and stove, while the bathrooms retain fixtures, stalls, and tile floors. In the hallway between the two bathrooms, there is a small tiled insert on the southwest wall where a water fountain was once located, likely removed in the late-twentieth or early-twenty-first century.

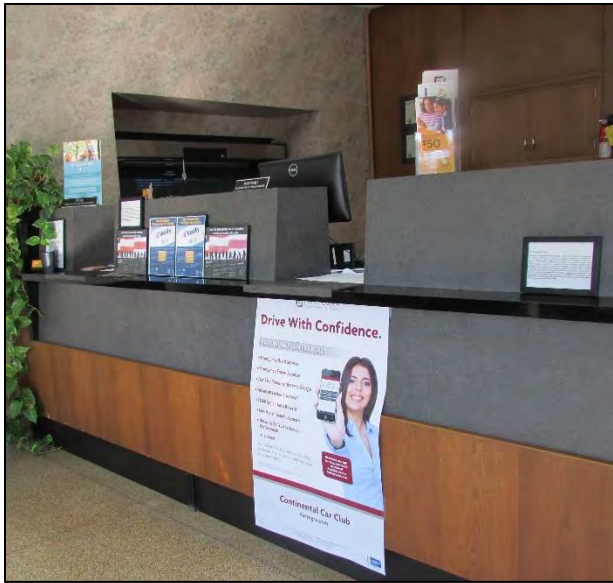


Photo 178: Customer Service Counter, Looking Northwest (Left) and 1970 Roxboro High School Yearbook Advertisement with Photo of the Same Counter Area (Right).<sup>358</sup>



Photo 179: Floating Wood and Glass Wall Panels at Home Savings & Loan Association Interior, Looking Southwest.

<sup>358</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1970.





Photo 180: Bathroom Fixtures and Tile (Left) and Kitchen Cabinet, Stove, and Window (Right) at Home Savings & Loan Association.

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-2010 storage shed is located northwest of the primary resource, in the corner of the parking lot (Photo 181, p. 249). The one-story, one-bay, front-gabled building is sheathed asphalt shingles and rests upon a skid foundation. The structural system is clad in fiberboard siding and it is accessed by a double-leaf, board-and-batten-style fiberboard door. A circa-1990 sign is located southeast of the primary resource with a square metal pole in a concrete base. The sign is rectangular in shape with rounded corners and has plastic on both sides with the current business's name (Time Financing Service), logo, phone number, and web address. This is a replacement sign, as 1960s Roxboro High School yearbook photos show a larger sign that displayed the time and temperature and had a taller pole that extended much further beyond the height of the building's roof (Figure 85, p.250).<sup>359</sup> It is not clear if this sign was installed when Home Savings & Loan Association merged with Branch Banking & Trust Company (BB&T) in 1991, or when Reginald L. Gray purchased the building from BB&T in 1994.<sup>360</sup>

<sup>359</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1965, 1966.

<sup>360</sup> BB&T 2020; PCDB 238:854.





Photo 181: Shed (Left) in Rear Parking Lot, Looking Northwest, and Sign along S. Lamar Street (Right), Looking Southwest, at Home Savings & Loan Association.

### *Historic Context*

There were few commercial buildings in Roxboro in 1853.<sup>361</sup> With the arrival of the railroad and the subsequent economic boom, the first banks were established in Roxboro by 1893 and merged into one by 1899: the People's Bank and the Farmer's Bank.<sup>362</sup> The two banks would merge in 1899.<sup>363</sup> The People's Bank survived the Great Depression and thrived after World War II. By the time it merged with First Union National Bank of Charlotte in 1969, there were several other competing financial institutions, including the Home Savings & Loan Association.<sup>364</sup>

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<sup>361</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:Item 8-3.

<sup>362</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:Item 8-9.

<sup>363</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:Item 8-10.

<sup>364</sup> Eaker 1981:51-52.



"Security" of the customer and his future is the key idea offered at the new modern office.

## HOME SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION

Home Loans and Insured Savings

Phone 599-3173  
210 S. Lamar St.



Roxboro, North Carolina

Figure 85: 1965 Roxboro High School Yearbook Advertisement for the Home Savings & Loan Association.<sup>365</sup>

John W. Tillman and wife, Erma B., sold owned a tract of land that was previously part of the Watkins & Bullock Lumber Yard to the Home Savings & Loan Association of Durham in September 1963.<sup>366</sup> The deed between the Tillmans and the Home Savings & Loan Association guaranteed that the sellers had the right to remove any existing buildings on the premises.<sup>367</sup> Any remaining buildings or structures associated with the former lumber yard were then demolished and construction of the current resource must have begun immediately thereafter and was likely completed in 1964, because the Home Savings & Loan Association took out an advertisement with a photograph of the completed building in the 1965 Roxboro High School Yearbook (see

<sup>365</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1965.

<sup>366</sup> PCDB 99:404-405.

<sup>367</sup> PCDB 99:405.

Figure 85, p. 250).<sup>368</sup> In 1991, Home Savings & Loan Association merged with the BB&T, who subsequently sold the land and building at 123 S. Lamar Street in August 1994 to Reginald L. Gray and his wife, Donna C.<sup>369</sup> In December 2012, Reginald L. Gray transferred the property to R. Gray Holdings, LLC, who is still the current owner.<sup>370</sup> The building has always served as a financial institution, with Time Financing Service now operating out of this location and offering personal loans.

Advertisements in the Roxboro High School yearbooks of the 1960s emphasized security the “new modern office” space (see Figure 85, p. 250).<sup>371</sup> Just one year later the advertisement noted “Free time, temperature, and dividends” referring to the large digital sign out front which had the time and temperature (Figure 86 and Figure 87, pp. 251–252).<sup>372</sup> During archival research, attempts were made to contact some of the original employees of the Home Savings & Loan Association, however, no connections were made.

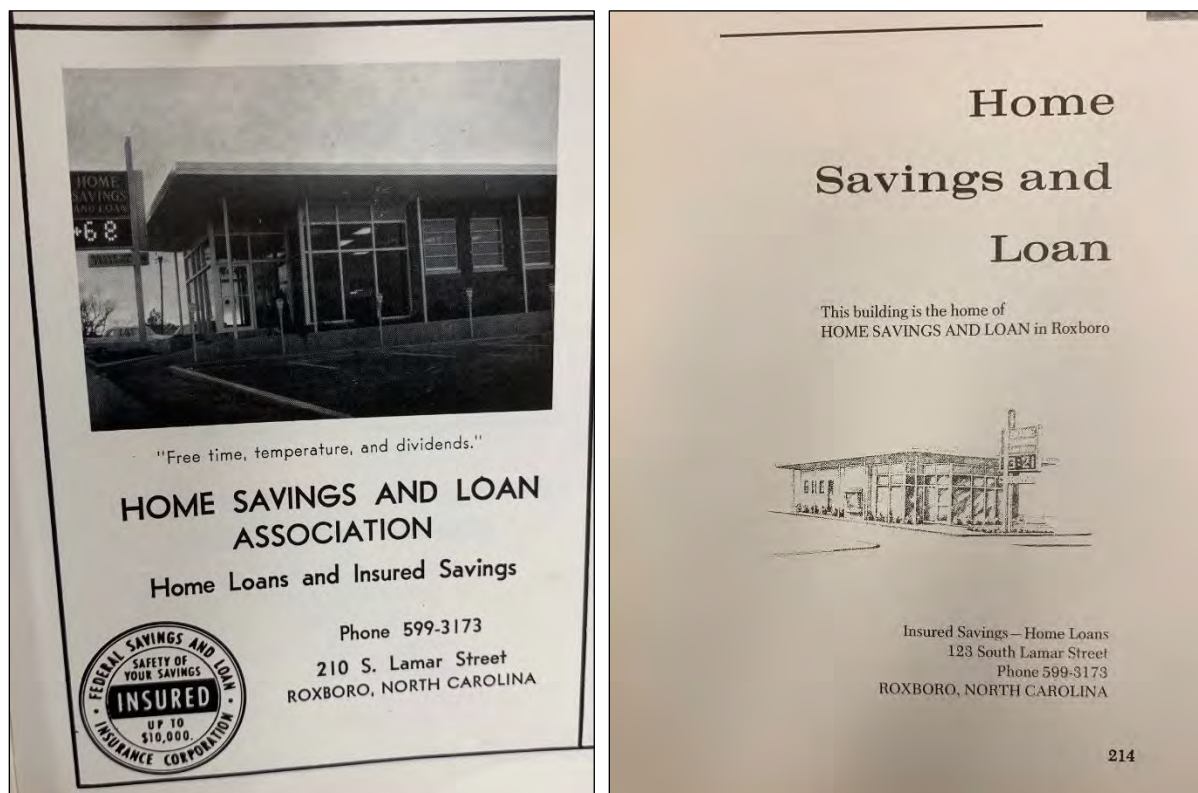


Figure 86: Roxboro High School Yearbook advertisements for Home Savings & Loan Association from 1966 (Left) and 1967 (Right).<sup>373</sup>

<sup>368</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1965.

<sup>369</sup> PCDB 238:854; BB&T 2020.

<sup>370</sup> PCDB 826:820.

<sup>371</sup> Ibid.

<sup>372</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1966.

<sup>373</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1966, 1867.





Figure 87: Roxboro High School Yearbook Advertisement from 1981 for Home Savings & Loan Association.<sup>374</sup>

### ***Evaluation***

There is a high level of integrity in the Home Savings & Loan Association building, a one-story, multi-bay, commercial building constructed in 1964 with elements of a mid-century Modern style. The building is in its original location and continues to function in its original purpose as a financial institution; and therefore, maintains a high level of integrity of location, setting, and association. The building retains a majority of its original, character-defining features and unique elements, such as the terrazzo floors, teller window, and faux-floating panel wall, and has an absence of additions or large material replacements, so its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship is intact. The only noticeable change is the replacement laminate flooring in the kitchen and the removal of the water fountain from the hallway.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>375</sup>

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<sup>374</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1981.

<sup>375</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>376</sup> The Home Savings & Loan Association building has served as a financial institution since construction in 1964. No significant events are known to have taken place in this building and its historic function is commonplace throughout small urban centers in the state. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known employees and patrons of the Home Savings & Loan Association who are historically associated with the resource are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. Therefore, the resource does not meet the requirements for Criterion B, which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group,” and is recommended as not eligible for listing under this criterion<sup>377</sup>

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>378</sup> Not only is the Home Savings & Loan Association building remarkably intact, it is an excellent example of a Modernist design. It has always served as a financial institution since its construction in 1964 and is one of only two high-style Modern designs in Roxboro.

To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The Home Savings & Loan Association building is an example of a mid-twentieth century bank building that is representative of the Modern Period of architecture. While there are many buildings in Roxboro that may be of similar form and scale, few match the Home Savings & Loan Association building in terms of style. For the contextual examples for the Home Savings & Loan Association, please see the evaluation section for the Roxboro Municipal Building, p. 213.

According to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Modernism is “defined as a design language with an emphasis on form rather than ornament; structure and materials rather than picturesque constructions; and the rational and efficient use of space.”<sup>379</sup> The Home Savings & Loan Association building shows its structure with supporting metal poles visible on three elevations. The clean lines of the glass windows and stretcher-bond brick veneer also emphasize the materials as clean and simplistic ornamentation rather than additional ornamental elements being added. The Home Savings & Loan Association is one of only a two high-style examples of the Modern Period in Roxboro, while others only give a nod to the style. Because the Home Savings & Loan Association building retains a high level of historic integrity and architectural

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<sup>376</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>377</sup> Ibid.

<sup>378</sup> Ibid.

<sup>379</sup> National Trust for Historic Preservation 2020.

significance as a Modern style bank building, it is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C at the local level.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>380</sup> The Home Savings & Loan Association building is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Home Savings & Loan Association building **is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for its mid-century Modern design at the local level.** A recommended period of significance for this resource is based on the construction of the building in 1964. The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigation conform to the existing tax parcel (Figure 88, p. 255). The boundaries include the building itself, the shed, and the sign.

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<sup>380</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.





Figure 88: Proposed NRHP Boundaries for the Home Savings & Loans Association (PR0312) as Shown in Red.<sup>381</sup>

<sup>381</sup> Esri 2019.

## **PR0313: Strayhorn-Peters House, 213 S. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: 1911

Modifications: ca. 1919, ca. 1940, ca. 1980, 2002

213 S. Lamar Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-18-31-8819

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible;  
Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)



### ***Architectural Description***

The Strayhorn-Peters House (also known as the Gentry Boarding House) at 213 S. Lamar Street is located south of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) and in the northwest section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) in the City of Roxboro (Figure 89, p. 257). It is located approximately 450 feet east of Madison Boulevard. The resource occupies an irregularly shaped parcel of 0.91 acre on the west side of S. Lamar Street, between Gordon Street and W. Barden Street. The resource has not been previously surveyed; however, it is a part of the Person County Heritage Trail.<sup>382</sup> The primary resource, a single-family dwelling, is slightly set back from S. Lamar Street on the eastern portion of the lot (Figure 90, p. 258). Two secondary resources are associated with the house, a circa-1980 garage, located northwest of the dwelling, and a 1917 stable, situated near the western property boundary. A poured-concrete driveway extends west from S. Lamar Street toward the garage. There is also a poured-concrete sidewalk from the public sidewalk that lines the street to the primary entrance. About half of the rear yard is fenced by a vinyl picket fence that begins at the rear corners of the house and extends approximately 90 feet west; it also encloses the space around the garage. The stable is outside of the fenced-in area. There is a metal fence around the property line to the north. The lot is covered by a grassy lawn and shrubbery lines the primary resource's east elevation.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Strayhorn-Peters House is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay Free Classic variant of the Queen Anne style house constructed in 1911 (Photo 182, p. 259).<sup>383</sup> The foundation is composed of running-bonded brick, while the frame structural system is clad in aluminum siding. There is vertical aluminum siding on the portion of the façade covered by the front porch. The pyramidal roof with gabled projections is sheathed in asphalt shingles. An interior-slope brick chimney with corbeled cap is located on the south side of the roof ridge of the front-gabled projection. There

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<sup>382</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2015a.

<sup>383</sup> McAlester 2013:346.



was originally a second interior brick chimney located on the side-gabled portion of the roof, but it was removed in the early-twenty-first century.<sup>384</sup>



Figure 89: Location of Strayhorn-Peters House (PR0313).<sup>385</sup>

<sup>384</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>385</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 90: Site Plan of Strayhorn-Peters House (PR0313).<sup>386</sup>

The current primary entrance is a centered, single-leaf wood door with four panels and four small lights at the top, located on the east elevation (façade). The door is surrounded by two small fixed vinyl windows, giving the illusion of sidelights (Photo 183, p. 260). The current front door is not the original, as the front porch was enclosed to create a vestibule around 1940. The original primary entrance is still extant in the foyer and features a single-leaf, half-glazed, wood door with three horizontal panels below the light. Other fenestration includes single, paired, and triple one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows with faux muntins to simulate a six-over-six sashes. These replacement vinyl windows were installed in 2002.<sup>387</sup> There is one original window left on the façade: a fixed wood, 11-light window with textured, colored, and opaque glass is found in the gable end on the south side of the façade (Photo 184, p. 260). Vinyl louvered shutters flank the windows along the north, east, and south elevations (Photo 185, p. 261).

<sup>386</sup> Google Maps 2018.

<sup>387</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

The house currently has a one-story, two-bay, hipped-roof front porch that was added around 1940 when the owners enclosed the existing hipped-roof porch.<sup>388</sup> The current porch roof is supported by four Craftsman-style tapered wood columns resting upon brick plinths with a concrete cap. The former porch is now enclosed and functions as a vestibule.

There have been several additions to the house over the years, in addition to modifications of the interior floor plan. A two-story, partial-width, rear addition was added around 1940 to provide two additional bedrooms for the creation of a boarding house; it is now clad in the same materials as the original core (Photo 186, p. 261). Around the same time, the rear porch was enclosed to create a sitting room and half-bath off of the downstairs master bedroom for the current owners. The remainder of the rear porch was enclosed and converted to a laundry room around 1980 when the house became a single-family home again. A rear deck was added around 1980, and enlarged around 2002 when the current owners purchased the house (Photo 186, p. 261).<sup>389</sup>



Photo 182: East Elevation (Façade).

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<sup>388</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>389</sup> Ibid.





Photo 183: Primary Entrance (Left) and Column Detail (Right) on Façade.



Photo 184: Original Window Detail on Façade.





Photo 185: Southeast Oblique.



Photo 186: Rear (West) Elevation (Left) and Deck Detail, Looking East (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The interior of the house at 213 S. Lamar Street has been modified several times over the years, reflecting the transitions between a boarding house and single-family dwelling (Figure 91, p. 263). Upon admittance to the vestibule, one is confronted by two doors (Photo 187, p. 262). The door to the north, a single-leaf, half-glazed, paneled wood door, is permanently closed, serving as the former boarding house dining room entrance for those who did not reside there, while the door straight ahead to the west and permanently left open is the original primary entrance (Photo 188, p. 264). This leads to a central entry hall which contains a stair with a half landing at the

western end. To the north is the wood-paneled den, which was once the boarding house dining room, enlarged around 1940 to accommodate more people (Photo 189, p. 264). To the south are the parlor and the current dining room (former master bedroom). The floors throughout the first story are heart of pine, except in the current dining room, which had evidence of an early- to mid-twentieth-century chimney fire and replacement oak floors. The walls in the entry hall are the original plaster; other walls have been covered in sheetrock over time. The original portions of the house feature window and door surrounds with fluted wood molding and bullseyes in the top corners (Photo 190, p. 265).

Beyond the staircase to the west is a laundry room in what used to be a rear porch (converted around 1993). To the south of the laundry room are two bathrooms. The southernmost half bath was added around 1940 to a sitting room (also within the former rear porch) and the second bathroom was added around 1980. Beyond the laundry room to the north is the former cook's bedroom that was added with the circa-1940 rear addition for the boarding house. A bathroom was added to this bedroom around 1980. The kitchen is also accessible from the laundry room and features an original built-in kitchen cabinet on the west wall (Photo 190, p. 265). A butler's pantry was located east of the kitchen, between the boarding house dining room (now den) and the kitchen, but it was removed during the circa-1980 kitchen remodel.<sup>390</sup>



Photo 187: Original Primary Entrance Door Detail, Looking Northeast (Right).

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<sup>390</sup> Ibid.

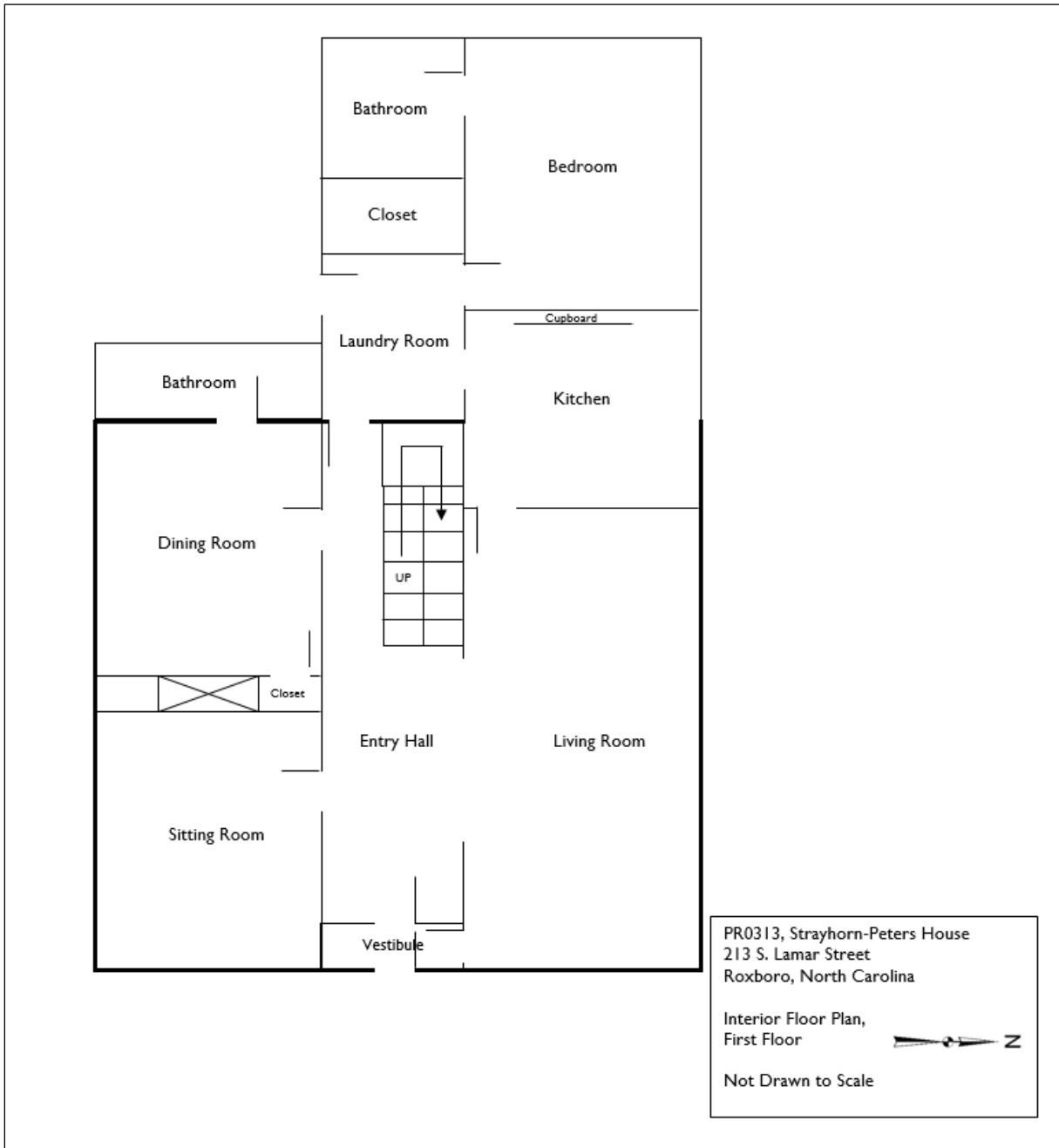


Figure 91: Interior First-Level Floor Plan of Strayhorn-Peters House.





Photo 188: Secondary Entrance Door from Vestibule to Boarding House Dining Room Added Circa-1940, Looking Southeast (Left), and Original Fireplace Mantel Detail in Parlor, Looking Southwest (Right).



Photo 189: Former Boarding House Dining Room, Enclosed Porch Section, Looking Northeast.



Photo 190: Original Built-In Kitchen Cabinet, Looking West (Left) and Door and Surround Detail in Current Dining Room (Former Master Bedroom) Looking East (Right).

The stairs in the entry hall ascend westward and turn halfway up at a landing, heading east (see Photo 187, p. 262). The space at the top of the steps on the second story was once open hall space, but it was converted into a small bedroom when the dwelling became a boarding house in the 1940s (Figure 92, p. 266). Another modification to this story during this period is the addition of a built-in wood cabinet with wood and tin doors was installed in the hallway this small bedroom and the two original bedrooms (Photo 191, p. 267). To the south of the stair hall are the two original bedrooms with original fireplace mantels centered on the interior walls with flanking closets (Photo 192, p. 267). To the west of the two larger bedrooms is the first bathroom in the house, added with the advent of modern plumbing, around 1920 with a claw-foot tub that is likely the original (Photo 191, p. 267).<sup>391</sup> The large original bedroom on the north side of the second floor had a wall added to the south side around 1940 to create a hallway to the bedrooms in the rear addition. Two bedrooms are accessible from this hallway along the north and west walls, added around 1940 as the rear addition. The 1940s rear addition and other alterations are visually apparent, as they used unadorned window and door moldings, transoms above the doors, and shallower closets (Photo 193, p. 268).<sup>392</sup>

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<sup>391</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>392</sup> Ibid.

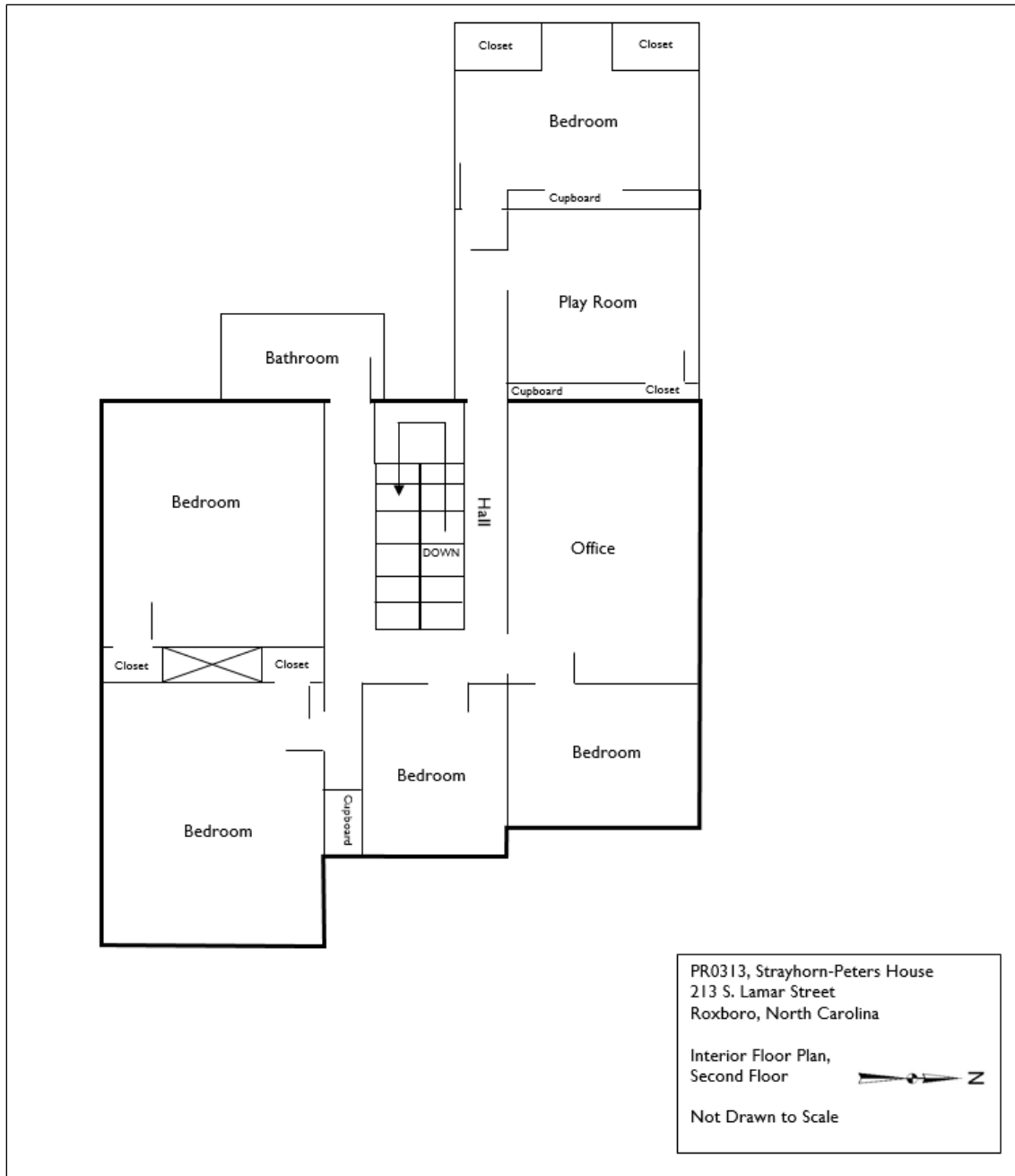


Figure 92: Interior Second Story Floor Plan of Strayhorn-Peters House.





Photo 191: Upstairs Circa-1920 Bathroom, Looking Southwest (Left), and Boarding House Hall Closet, Looking East (Right).



Photo 192: Original Second-Story Bedroom, Looking Northwest (Left), and Fireplace Mantel Detail, Looking West (Right).



Photo 193: Ceiling and Transom Detail in Boarding House Bedroom Addition, Looking South.

### *Secondary Resources*

A 1917, two-story, three-bay stable is located west of the primary resource (Photo 194, p. 269). The wood-framed stable rests upon a stone foundation and is clad in vertical wood siding. The front-gabled roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal. There are window openings along most elevations and a centered entrance opening is located on the façade (east elevation) with a clipped-cornered wood frame above; however, all fenestration has been removed. Above this entry is a hinge that likely remains from a hay loft door on the second floor. On the south elevation is a small one-story, open-bay shed-roofed lean-to with a v-crimp metal roof. This likely served as place to store machinery. The interior of the stable is mostly a large open space (but may have previously had stalls), while the east end is divided into two small rooms with a center passageway (Photo 195, p. 269). Both of these rooms have elevated floors and are finished with shiplap, and have single-leaf wood doors with locks (Photo 196, p. 270). One of these rooms likely served as a tack room, as it has a metal chain strung across the wall, as if to hold equipment. The other room may have been storage or living space. A wooden ladder-style stair provides access to the second floor from the large open space to the west of these two small rooms and center hall. The second floor was not safe to access at the time of survey.

A circa-1980, one-and-one-half-story, two-bay garage is located northwest of the primary resource (Photo 197, p. 270). The garage rests upon a continuous concrete foundation and the structural system is clad in aluminum siding. The front-gabled roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Fenestration includes two metal garage doors (east elevation), a single-leaf, half-glazed wood door (south elevation), and single and paired one-over-one, double-hung-sash, wood-framed windows (Photo 198, p. 271).





Photo 194: Southeast Oblique of the Stable.



Photo 195: Interior of Stable, Looking East.





Photo 196: Entrance Detail on East Elevation (Left) and Door and Interior Detail of Northeast Room in Stable (Right).



Photo 197: Circa-1980 Garage, East Elevation, Looking West.



Photo 198: Door Detail on South Elevation (Left) and Window Detail on West Elevation (Right) of Circa-1980 Garage.

### *Historic Context*

The house at 213 S. Lamar Street is known as the Strayhorn-Peters House for the widowed half-sisters who had commissioned its construction in 1911. The land where the house currently sits had been part of the Long family's large landholdings. To learn more about the Longs' landholdings, please see *The Bungalow*, p. 256. Margaret "Maggie" Strayhorn purchased a lot on the west side of Lamar Street from J.A. Long and his wife, Laura, in 1911.<sup>393</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* announced on June 7, 1911 that Lucy and Maggie had "moved into their beautiful new home on Lamar Street."<sup>394</sup> The original house was two stories tall with two large bedrooms upstairs, one bedroom downstairs, a large central entry hall, dining room, parlor, butler's pantry, kitchen, and L-shaped, partial wrap-around front and rear porches. The floors were of heart pine, the walls plastered, with fluted molding surrounding the doors and windows and bullseyes in the top corners, the ceilings were of bead board, and there was a fireplace in each room.<sup>395</sup> By September 1911, Lucy advertised in the local newspaper that they could accommodate boarders who would eat only but not reside at the house, known as table boarders (Figure 93, p. 272).<sup>396</sup> Lucy Peters passed away at their home on June 21, 1914, after suffering from poor health for the previous three years.<sup>397</sup> After Lucy's death, Maggie advertised in the paper that rooms or the entire house on Lamar Street were available for rent (Figure 94, p. 272).<sup>398</sup>

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<sup>393</sup> PCDB 21:22–23.

<sup>394</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1911a:5.

<sup>395</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>396</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1911b:8.

<sup>397</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1914a:4.

<sup>398</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1914b:5.

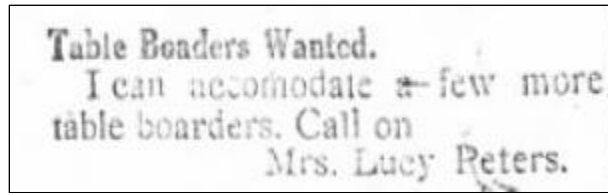


Figure 93: 1911 Advertisement Published in *The Roxboro Courier* for Table Boarders.<sup>399</sup>

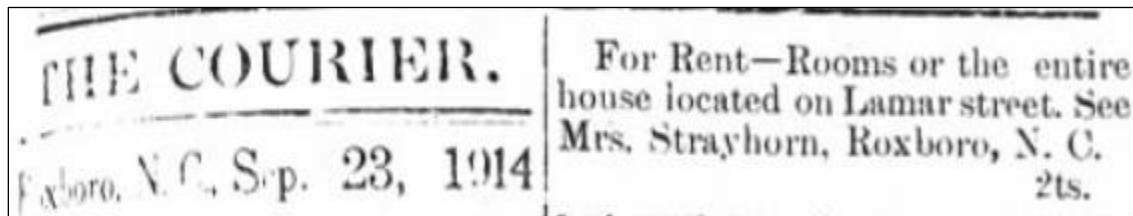


Figure 94: 1914 Rental Advertisement Published in *The Roxboro Courier*.<sup>400</sup>

In 1917, John T. Walker and his wife, Corinna, purchased the house from Maggie Strayhorn.<sup>401</sup> Although they would only own this lot for one year, during their ownership, the Walkers expanded the property to include two town lots, an additional one to the west, allowing for a pasture and a stable on the second lot, west of the house.<sup>402</sup> The sold the house and expanded property to Emma Bradsher Richmond and her husband, John Daniel Kerr Richmond (J.D.K.), in 1918.<sup>403</sup> J.D.K. Richmond was “one of Roxboro’s most popular tobacconists” who frequently spent time away from home on the various tobacco markets throughout North Carolina.<sup>404</sup> In her book, *Back Street Memories*, Mildred Long Montague remembered that the Stalvey family and their six children rented the house from the Richmond family, who was frequently absent from Roxboro because of J.D.K.’s job.<sup>405</sup> It was likely during the Richmonds’ ownership that the bathroom was added to the rear of the second floor, around 1920.<sup>406</sup>

The 1925 Sanborn map of Roxboro depicts the dwelling, L-shaped front and rear porches, and a small one-story auto garage to the west of the house (Figure 95, p. 273).<sup>407</sup> A mortgage was taken out on the house by Emma and J.D.K. in 1927, followed by Emma’s death in December 1928; after her passing, J.D.K. let the house be repossessed by trustee L. P. McLendon, who sold it at

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<sup>399</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1911b:8.

<sup>400</sup> Ibid.

<sup>401</sup> PCDB 24:590.

<sup>402</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>403</sup> PCDB 27:180.

<sup>404</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1914c:8.

<sup>405</sup> Montague 1998: 3.

<sup>406</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>407</sup> Sanborn 1925.



auction to Dr. W.H. Boone in 1930.<sup>408</sup> It is not clear if Dr. Boone ever resided in the house, as it was sold at auction again in 1934.

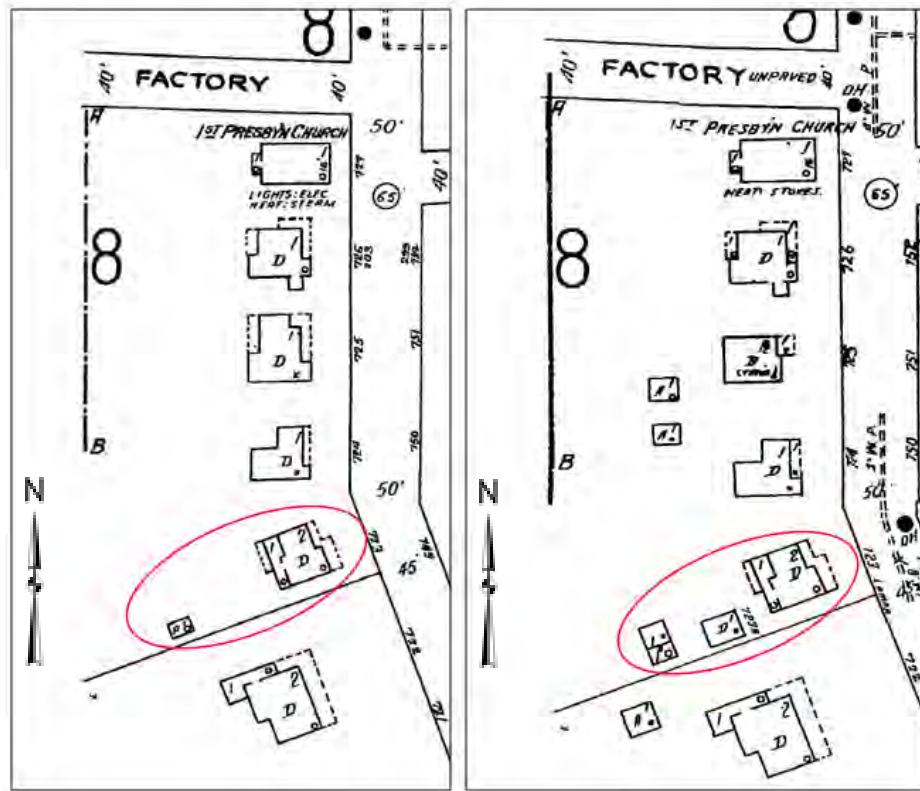


Figure 95: 1925 (Left) and 1943 (Right) Sanborn Maps Showing Strayhorn-Peters House in Red.<sup>409</sup> Not to scale.

Lenora “Nonie” Gentry purchased the house and the two lots on Lamar Street at the auction in 1934.<sup>410</sup> Around 1940, the Gentrys remodeled and put an addition onto the house to once again become a boarding house. On the first floor they enclosed the original L-shaped front porch to create a vestibule and enlarge the dining room. They constructed a new one-story, hipped-roof front porch to the east of the original, added a cook’s bedroom behind the kitchen, and enclosed part of the back porch to create a sitting room and half-bath for their first-floor master bedroom. On the second floor they added two bedrooms to the rear of the house and enclosed a portion of the landing to create an additional small bedroom. They also took one larger original bedroom on the north side of the second floor and divided it into two, and created a small hallway to access the bedrooms in the rear addition. The Gentrys added a heating system to the house with baseboard hot water-circulating units and individual thermostats in all of the rooms. The

<sup>408</sup> Findagrave.com 2012; PCDB 38:146–147, 40:69.

<sup>409</sup> Sanborn 1925; 1943.

<sup>410</sup> PCDB 44:456.

additions made by the Gentrys feature pine floors, unadorned window and door frames, over-door ventilating transoms, beadboard ceilings, and shallow closets. Knotty pine paneling was added to the new vestibule, the enlarged dining room, and the kitchen.<sup>411</sup>

The 1940 federal population census listed Nonie and W. Radford Gentry living on S. Lamar Street with 10 boarders, including one married couple and eight men.<sup>412</sup> W. Radford's profession is listed as salesman for Monument Company, while Nonie is listed as taking boarders at their boarding house. The eight men have a variety of jobs including carpenter for the Works Progress Administration (WPA), weavers at the plush mill, and apple peddlers. Harry Thompson, the married boarder, is also listed as a salesman for ABC Monument Company, like W. Radford.<sup>413</sup> The Gentry boarding house likely had table boarders like Lucy Peters and Maggie Strayhorn did before them, as they significantly expanded the dining room during the circa-1940 renovations and added a separate entrance directly into the dining room from the vestibule. The current homeowners have a photograph of W. Radford standing in front of the house at 213 S. Lamar Street with his car during the 1930s, which shows the original, full-width front porch, before it was enclosed (Photo 199).<sup>414</sup> During the period of the Gentry boarding house, the property contained a one-story secondary dwelling immediately west of the main house (see Figure 95, p. 273).<sup>415</sup> The current homeowner did not know anything about this secondary dwelling, and there is no evidence of it in the current landscape. Nonie Gentry, owned the house at 213 S. Lamar Street until her death in 1979.<sup>416</sup>



Photo 199: Historic Photo of W. Radford Gentry in Front of the Strayhorn-Peters House Prior to Circa-1940 Renovations.<sup>417</sup>

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<sup>411</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>412</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>413</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>414</sup> Photo Courtesy Martha Butler, Personal Collection.

<sup>415</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>416</sup> Findagrave 2010.

<sup>417</sup> Photo Courtesy Martha Butler, Personal Collection.

Randall M. and Melba C. Thompson bought the house in 1980 from the executrix of Nonie Gentry's estate and converted the house back to a single-family dwelling.<sup>418</sup> A plat was also drawn at the time of Nonie's death, showing the house, three outbuildings to the west of the house and the 1917 stable at the far west edge of the lot (Figure 96).<sup>419</sup> The two outbuildings on the 1979 plat resemble the garage and its addition and the secondary dwelling from the 1943 Sanborn map (see Figure 95, p. 273).<sup>420</sup> It is likely that all three of these were demolished during Thompson's ownership. The circa-1980, one-and-one-half-story garage that is still in use today was built by the Thompsons, in addition to a rear deck. On the interior of the house the Thompsons remodeled the interior of the house to operate as a single-family dwelling.<sup>421</sup> Randall, Melba, and their children lived in the house until 2002.

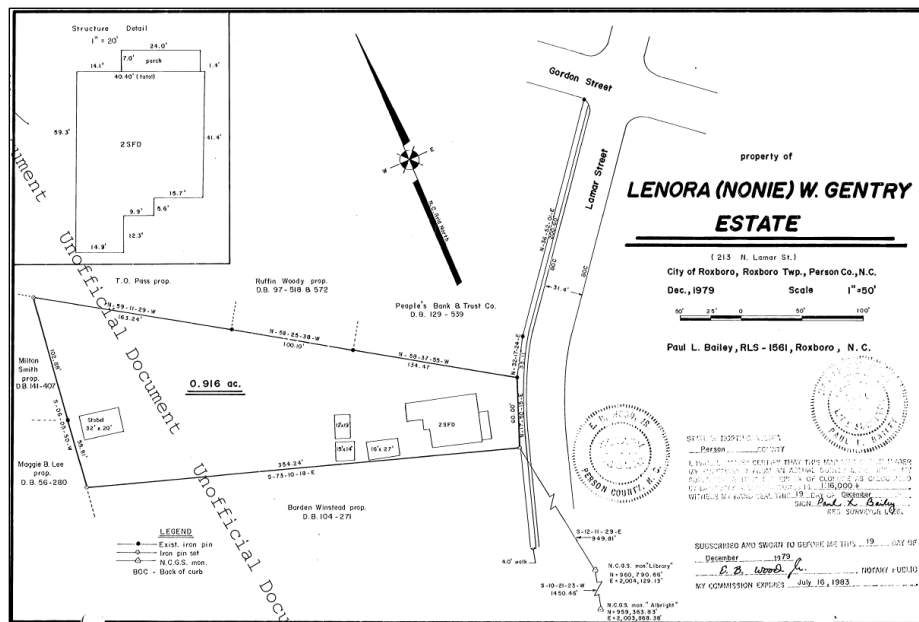


Figure 96: 1979 Plat of 213 S. Lamar Street.<sup>422</sup>

In 2002, the current homeowners, J. Daniel and Martha E. Butler, purchased the house from the Thompsons.<sup>423</sup> The Butlers added central heat and air conditioning, wiring upgrades, double pane vinyl replacement windows, fencing, made cosmetic changes to the interior, and enlarged the rear deck. Martha Butler conducted extensive archival research on the house and its owners and wrote the history of their house for the Person County Heritage Trail, sponsored by the Person County Museum of History in 2015.<sup>424</sup>

<sup>418</sup> PCDB 162:601.

<sup>419</sup> PCPB 24:88.

<sup>420</sup> PCPB 24:88; Sanborn 1943.

<sup>421</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>422</sup> PCPB 24:88.

<sup>423</sup> PCDB 384:480.

<sup>424</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.



## *Evaluation*

While the Strayhorn-Peters House at 213 S. Lamar Street retains integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association, it has a low to moderate level of integrity of materials and workmanship. The house is still located on its original site of construction in the core of Roxboro and continues to operate as a residential building. It still retains the feeling and association of an early-twentieth-century house with a modest Free Classic variant of the Queen Anne style. According to McAlester, about 35 percent of Queen Anne houses are Free Classic, meaning they use classical columns, Palladian windows, cornice-line details, and other classical details instead of the delicate spindlework seen in other Queen Anne houses.<sup>425</sup> Due to the repeated conversion from a single-family dwelling and a boarding house throughout its lifetime, the original floor plan has been significantly modified, the original front porch was enclosed, a rear addition was added, and the rear porch was enclosed on two different occasions. The house is also lacking in integrity of materials. There is both replacement siding and windows throughout the house. The only room with its original plaster is the first-floor entry hall. In other rooms sheetrock was necessary to replace damaged plaster, and the original molding was re-installed after.<sup>426</sup> The workmanship of the circa-1940 rear addition and modifications are more understated than those from the original construction.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>427</sup> However, “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>428</sup> The Strayhorn-Peters House was built as a home for two widowed half-sisters who opened it up to boarders. The house was then owned by two families who used it as a single-family dwelling. For the majority of the twentieth century, the house was operated as a boarding house by Nonie and W. Radford Gentry, until it was converted to a single-family home once again in 1980. No significant events are known to have taken place in this dwelling and its historic function as both a single-family home and as a boarding house is commonplace throughout small communities in the state, and not of particular importance to shaping commerce in the City of Roxboro. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known owners and boarding house operators historically associated with the Strayhorn-Peters House are not known to have attained historic significance at the state or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields, despite being respected local citizens. Therefore, they do not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained

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<sup>425</sup> McAlester 2013:346.

<sup>426</sup> Martha Butler, personal communication 2019.

<sup>427</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>428</sup> Ibid.

importance within his or her profession or group;” and therefore, the resource is recommended as not eligible under Criterion B.<sup>429</sup>

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>430</sup> To properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. There are several examples of Queen Anne-style houses in Roxboro. The most well-known is the J.A. Long House (PR0271) at 217 S. Main Street with its symmetrical towers, wrap-around porch, and decorative trimwork on the façade and cornice. For more information on the J.A. Long House, please see the Newell House evaluation, p. 89. By comparison, the Strayhorn-Peters House is modest in both size and style. While it does have the cross-gabled shape that is so common for Queen Anne houses, it does not have the typical trim or other architectural details.

Other more modest examples of the Queen Anne style include the James Sidney Bradsher House at 421 S. Main Street (PR0278) and 219 Reams Avenue (Photo 200). For more information on the James Sidney Bradsher House, please see p. 309. There have not been any significant modifications to the interior floor plan of the James Sidney Bradsher House, unlike at the Strayhorn-Peters House. The circa-1908 house at 219 Reams Avenue is a two-story, three-bay, complex-roofed house with replacement siding and a mix of original and replacement windows. The house has a similar amount of exterior replacement materials as the Strayhorn-Peters House.



Photo 200: House, 219 Reams Avenue.

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<sup>429</sup> Ibid.

<sup>430</sup> Ibid.

The Strayhorn-Peters House is typical in its L-shaped form and Free Classic variant of Queen Anne-style houses constructed in the early-twentieth century. However, it is lacking in the architectural details, spindlework, and trim typically seen on a Queen Anne, and is modest by comparison to other Free Classic Queen Anne houses in Roxboro. Furthermore, the rear addition and the modifications to the floor plan when converting to and from a boarding house over time have diminished the historic integrity of this resource. The replacement windows, siding, and sheetrock have further diminished the integrity of materials. For these reasons it is recommended not eligible under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>431</sup> The Strayhorn-Peters House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Strayhorn-Peters House is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any Criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination the Strayhorn-Peters House is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district's period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>431</sup> Woodard 2005.



## **PR0314: The Bungalow, 219 S. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1915  
Modifications: 2018

219 S. Lamar Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0906-18-31-8727  
Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under Criterion C;  
Contributing to the South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)



### ***Architectural Description***

The resource known as The Bungalow at 219 S. Lamar Street is located on the west side of S. Lamar Street within the City of Roxboro in Person County and in the northern half of the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327). It is bounded by residential properties on the north and south, a commercial property on the west, and S. Lamar Street on the east (Figure 97–Figure 98, pp. 280–281). The resource, which includes a single-family dwelling and a garage, is set on a gently sloping 1.19-acre parcel covered with a manicured grass lawn spotted with large deciduous trees, two of which are Champion American Linden trees.<sup>432</sup> The house is lined with shrubbery and plantings. The property is accessed by a U-shaped gravel driveway and a poured-concrete walkway extends from the driveway towards the primary entrance of the dwelling.<sup>433</sup>

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The primary resource is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed in 1915 with Craftsman-style elements. The frame structural system is clad in a combination of siding including original weatherboard and replacement aluminum, and vinyl. It is set upon a brick foundation.<sup>434</sup> The building is covered by a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with partial returns on the gabled ends. Covered by asphalt shingles, the roof features a vinyl-boxed eave and is pierced by a central hipped dormer situated in the north elevation (façade). The building contains three brick chimneys: two interior-end, one in the northwest corner and another centered in the south elevation, and one interior-slope on the north side of the roof ridge in the western portion of the building (Photo 201 and Photo 202, pp. 282–283).

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<sup>432</sup> Person County Heritage Trails 2016b; Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>433</sup> Ibid.

<sup>434</sup> Lois McIver Winstead, personal communication 2019.



Figure 97: Location of The Bungalow (PR0314).<sup>435</sup>

<sup>435</sup> Esri 2019.



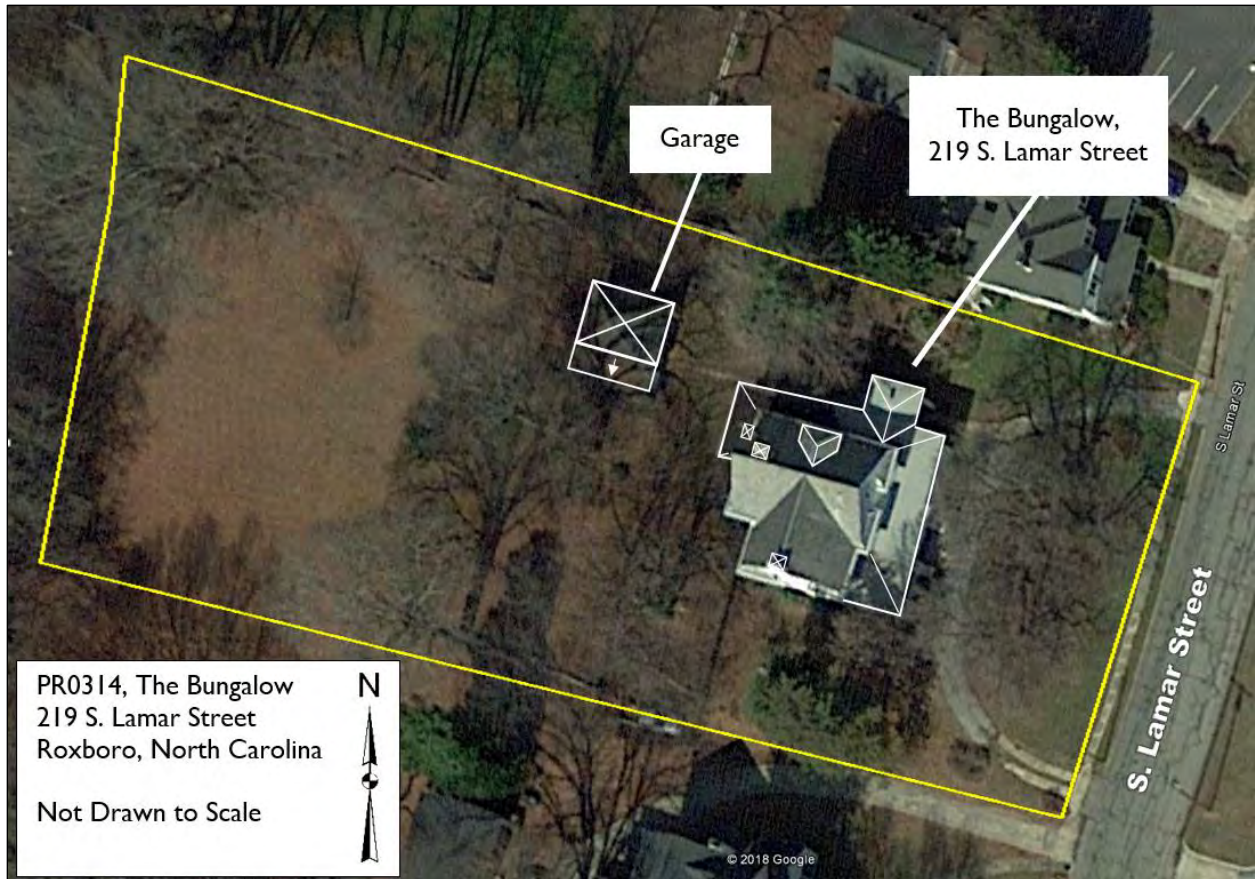


Figure 98: Site Plan of The Bungalow at 219 S. Lamar Street (PR0314).<sup>436</sup>

The primary entrance, filled with a large, single-leaf, two-paneled, wood door with two lights and a wood screened storm door, is centered in the east elevation of the building's core (Photo 202, p. 283). The Craftsman-style door surround features six-light, wood-frame sidelights and an eight-light, wood-frame transom. Other fenestration includes single and paired Craftsman-style, eight-over-three, wood-frame, double-hung-sash windows and three-light, wood-frame, awning windows which feature vertical muntins. The windows have simple aluminum surrounds. A secondary entrance is situated in the east half of the north elevation and is filled with a double-leaf, wood, paneled door with two large, slender lights and wood screen doors. It is topped by a Craftsman-style, wood-framed transom.

A one-story, multi-bay, wrap-around porch lines a portion of the north and the entirety of the east elevations. The porch, raised on a continuous brick foundation, is covered by a low-pitched, hipped roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The roof is supported by wood posts featuring a geometric design set on brick plinths, calling to the Craftsman architectural style, and the wood deck of the porch is lined with a wood rail.<sup>437</sup> A set of wood steps lined with an iron rail set in

<sup>436</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>437</sup> McAlester 2013:552.



front of the primary entrance provides access to the porch. A second access to the porch is situated on the north elevation and is composed of wood steps.

A one-story, hipped-roof porte-cochere extends north from the east side of the façade and features the same supports as the porch. According to the current homeowner, a large tree fell on the porte-cochere approximately 18 months ago and was reconstructed by a local builder.<sup>438</sup>



Photo 201: Northeast Oblique (Top) and the Northwest Oblique (Bottom) of the Primary Resource.

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<sup>438</sup> Lois McIver Winstead, personal communication 2019.



Photo 202: Detail of Dormer on North Elevation (Left); Primary Entrance on East Elevation (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Interior access to the primary resource was granted by the current owner; however, portions of the upper level were closed off (Figure 99–Figure 100, pp. 284–285). The entire interior of the dwelling still operates on the original electrical system and heating system which utilizes radiators. The lower level features wood parquet floors with varying geometric borders in each room except for the kitchen which has tile flooring (Photo 203, p. 285). The upper level is covered with wood flooring. The walls throughout the house are painted or wall-papered plaster with dark wood baseboards and door trim. All doors in the house are paneled wood and are of mortise-and-tenon construction.

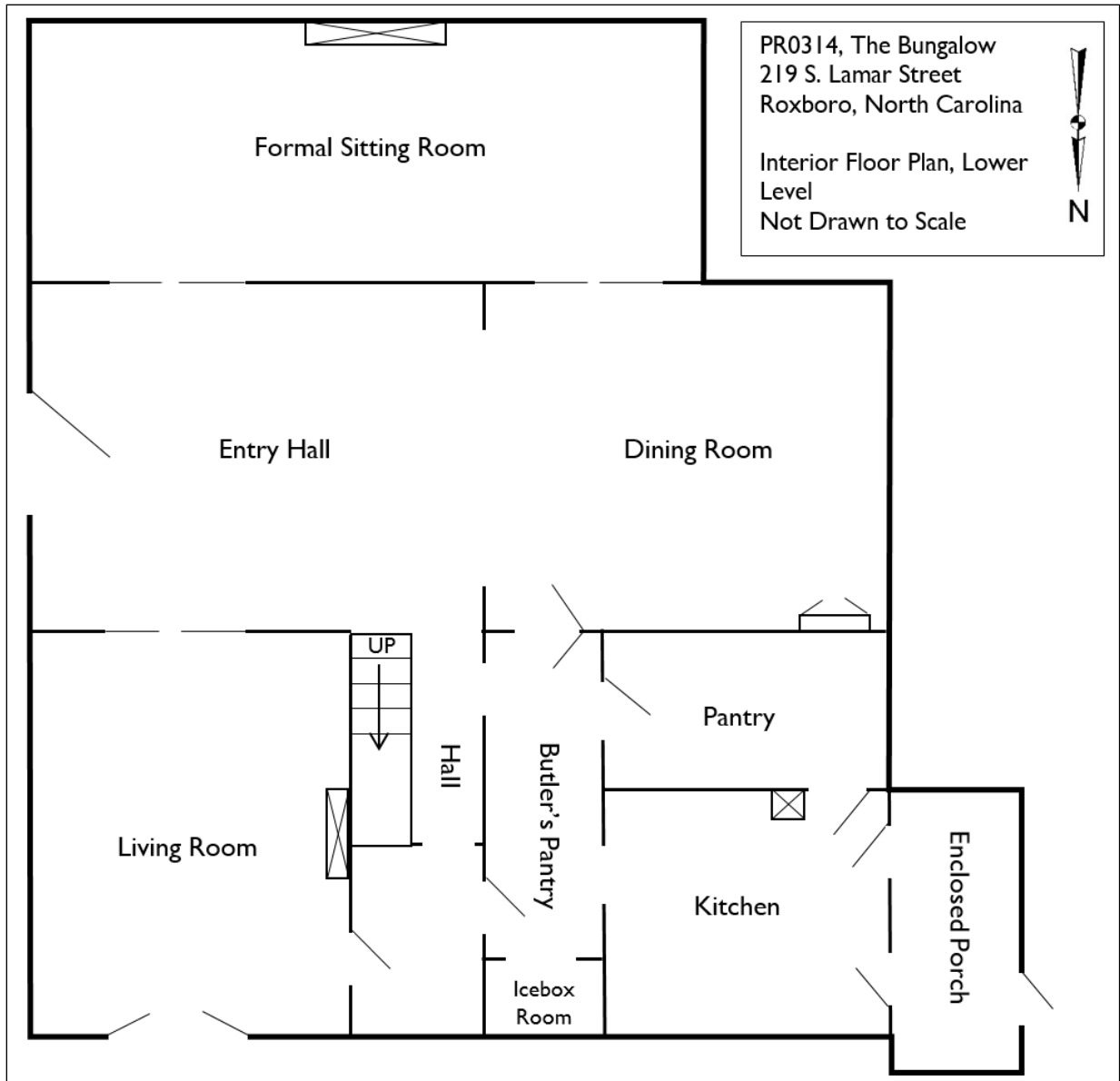


Figure 99: Lower Level Floor Plan of The Bungalow (PR0314).



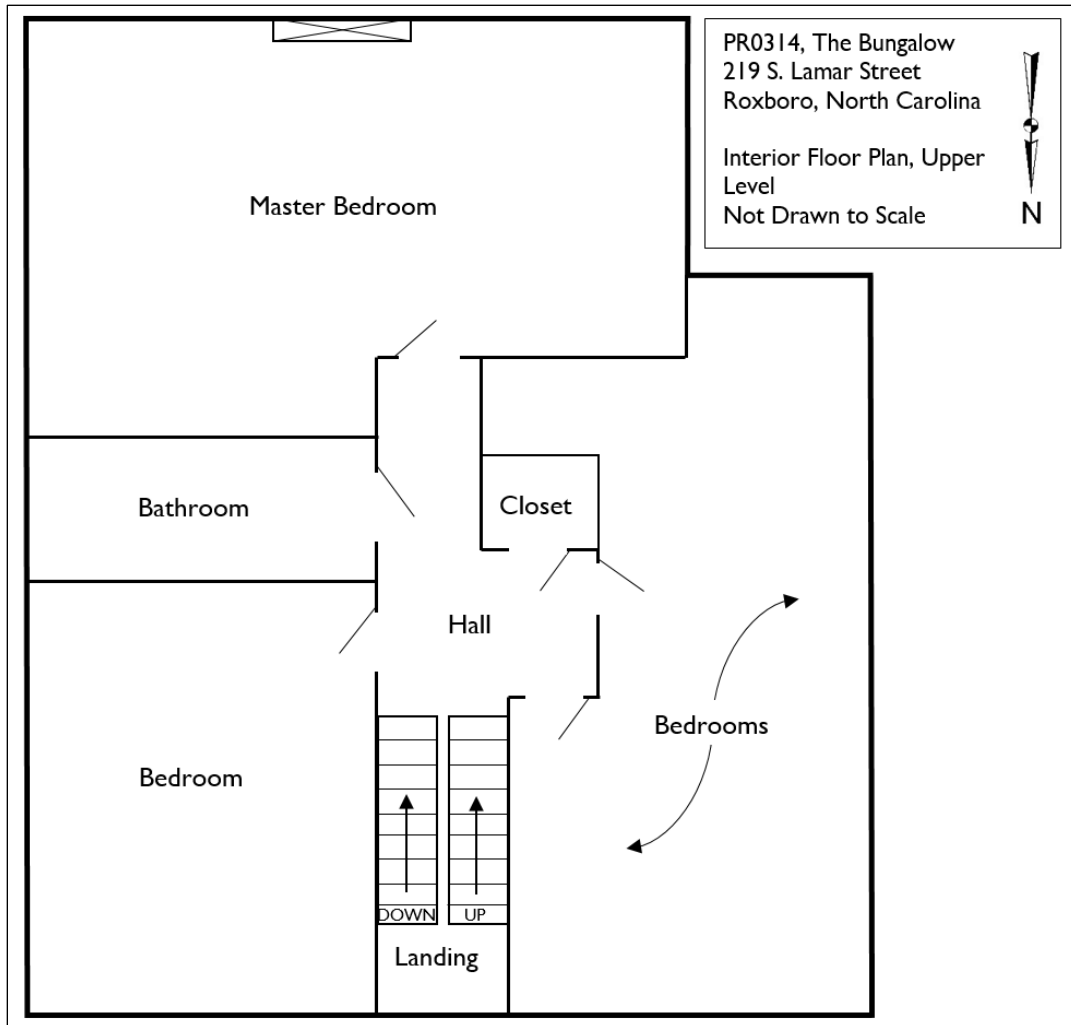


Figure 100: Upper Level Floor Plan of The Bungalow (PR0314).



Photo 203: Details of Parquet Flooring in Lower Level.

The primary entrance pens into an entry hall (see Figure 100, p. 284). Wood paneled pocket doors lead to a living room (to the north) and a formal sitting room (to the south) and a large opening on the west wall provides access to the dining room (Photo 204). A set of wood U-shaped stairs that lead to a landing and the upper level are located on the north side of the entry hall, immediately west of the living room (Photo 204). They are lined by a squared balustrade accented by a squared newel post with protrusive paneling and a rounded curtail starting step.

The living room has a fireplace centered in the west wall, a single-leaf door south of the fireplace accessing a hallway, and a secondary entrance centered in the north wall. The formal sitting room features an intricate exposed wood beam ceiling and has a central fireplace in the south wall with a subway tile surround and a dark wood mantelpiece with fluted pilasters and a denticulated cornice below the shelf (Photo 205, p. 287). The hearth is also made of subway tile. A pocket-door entrance to the dining room from the formal sitting room is situated in the west half of the north elevation. The dining room features a built-in cabinet in the west half of the south wall as well as a single-leaf door which leads to a butler's pantry. The butler's pantry provides access to an additional pantry, room for an icebox, and the kitchen, all of which are situated in the northwest corner of the dwelling.



Photo 204: View of Entry Hall and Living Room, Looking North from Formal Sitting Room (Left); U-Shaped Staircase, Looking Northeast (Right).



Photo 205: View of Mantelpiece in Formal Sitting Room, Looking South.

The upper level is accessed by the U-shaped staircase in the northern half of the dwelling (see Photo 204, p. 286). It opens to a central hall that leads to various bedrooms, one bathroom, and one closet (Photo 206). The bathroom is located in the east portion of the building and has tile flooring that continues hallway up the walls. The main bedroom, which sits at the southern end of the building, features a fireplace along the south wall that has a subway tile surround and hearth and a wood mantelpiece.

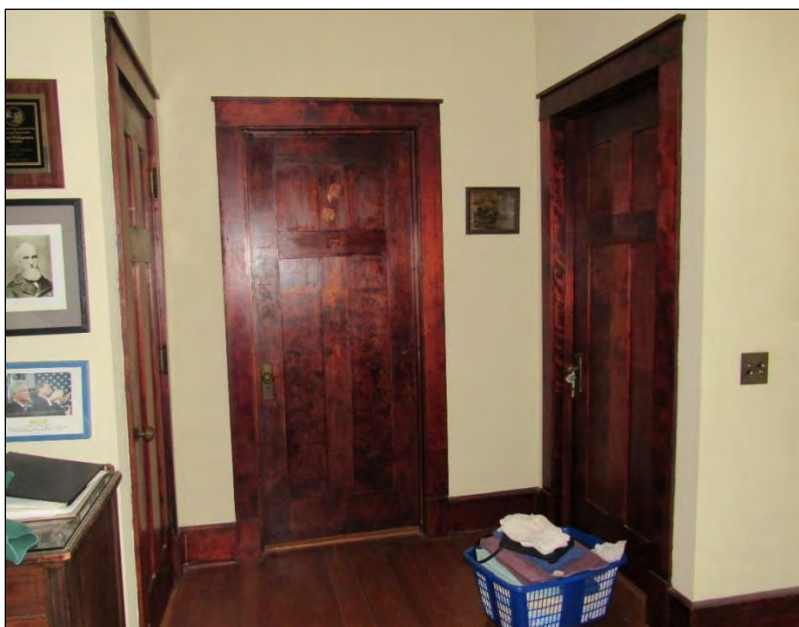


Photo 206: View of Upper Level Hall, Looking West.



### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1940, one-story, one-bay, masonry garage is situated northwest of the primary resource. The building is constructed of brick laid in a five-to-one, common bond and a steel support post is centered in the open bay. It is covered by a pyramidal roof sheathed in asphalt shingles (Photo 207).<sup>439</sup> A large, garage door opening is located in the east elevation of the building. Other fenestration includes six-over-one, wood-frame, double-hung-sash windows all with a simple wood surround and a wood lintel. A single-leaf, wood paneled door in the southern wall with a missing screen or glass pane leads to a one-story, frame, shed-roof lean-to that is clad in wood siding. This portion of the building is currently acting as garden equipment storage. An additional pedestrian entrance is situated in the east elevation of the lean-to and it is filled a single-leaf, board-and-batten door.



Photo 207: East Elevation of Garage (Right); Detail View of Window in West Wall Looking West (Left).

### *Historic Context*

The Bungalow property was originally part of a larger tract owned by James Anderson (Dee) Long (1841–1915).<sup>440</sup> James died intestate; however, his widow, Laura Rebecca Thompson Bradsher, and heirs carried out James’ intentions to give his son, Matt Ransom Long, a 1.19-acre lot, known as “The Meadow Lot,” in 1918.<sup>441</sup> According to the current owner, the house was built by Matt on his father’s land and James passed away before a deed could be drawn.<sup>442</sup> The deed for the 1918 transaction states that Matt was already living on the lot prior to the document’s recording, providing further evidence for the approximate construction date for this house. A 1925 map of the dwelling shows the two-story, L-shaped house, the wrap-around

<sup>439</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>440</sup> North Carolina, Deaths 1915.

<sup>441</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2016a; PCDB 27:81.

<sup>442</sup> Lois McIver Winstead, personal communication 2019.

porch, and one-story northern addition.<sup>443</sup> The building is said to have been called The Bungalow due to its proximity to larger family homes to the east.<sup>444</sup>

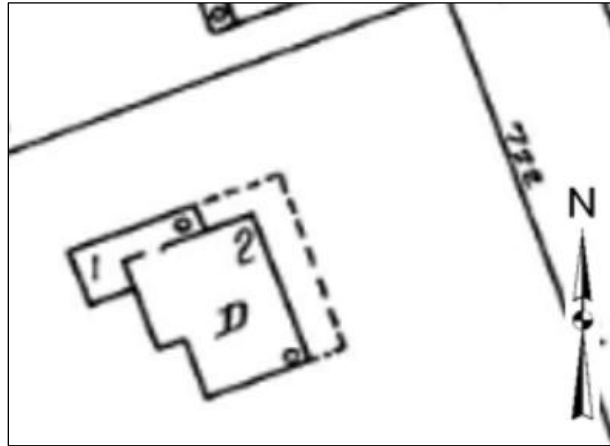


Figure 101: The Bungalow on the 1925 Sanborn Map.<sup>445</sup> Not to scale.

Matt Ransom Long (1888–1953) was “an entrepreneur as was his father and started several businesses on his own.”<sup>446</sup> He married Elizabeth Ovieda Page (1888–1975), commonly called Ovieda, in 1914 and they had two children named Laura Ovieda and Matt Ransom, Jr.<sup>447</sup> In June 1917, Matt registered for World War I where he listed his occupation as president of Roxboro Light and Power Company.<sup>448</sup> Matt was also elected temporary president of the Roxboro Chamber of Commerce in 1922.<sup>449</sup>

In 1925, Matt was forced to dissolve his electricity company when a statewide company came to Roxboro to provide electrical power.<sup>450</sup> Shortly before 1930, Matt and Ovieda divorced and Matt moved to Greenville, North Carolina to work as the president of the Greenville Cotton Mill. Ovieda and their children remained in the house at 219 S. Lamar Street, at that time recorded as 316 S. Lamar Street in the city directory, along with an African American servant and cook named Myrtle Holeman.<sup>451</sup> In 1933, Matt officially transferred the property to Ovieda, who continued to reside at The Bungalow with her son for the next three decades.<sup>452</sup> Around this time, Ovieda added a one-story garage to the property (Figure 102, p. 290).

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<sup>443</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>444</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.

<sup>445</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>446</sup> Young 2019.

<sup>447</sup> North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1953, 1975; Selected Passports 1924; U.S. Census 1920.

<sup>448</sup> United States, Selective Service System 1917.

<sup>449</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1922a:1.

<sup>450</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1925b:2.

<sup>451</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1935d:2; U.S. Census 1930.

<sup>452</sup> PCDB 39:58; U.S. Census 1940.

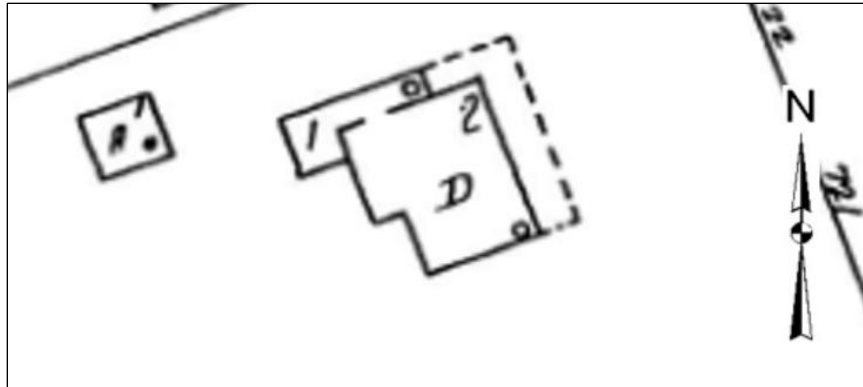


Figure 102: The Bungalow on the 1943 Sanborn Map.<sup>453</sup> Note the addition of the garage to the west of the dwelling. Not to scale

In 1964, Ovieda sold The Bungalow and lot to Barden and Lois McIver Winstead.<sup>454</sup> Barden (1922–2013) served with the United States Army during World War II after which he obtained a graduate degree in social work from Tulane University followed by serving the American Red Cross in Korea and Japan. Lois worked for an environmental firm, was on the local school board, and is a board member of the Person County Tourism Development Authority and the Natural Heritage Trust Fund Board of Trustees.<sup>455</sup> She is most notable for becoming the first female mayor for the City of Roxboro and she held the position for 10 years.<sup>456</sup> She continues to host her family and friends in her historic home that she has filled with antiques that she has acquired locally and internationally.

### *Evaluation*

The resource known as The Bungalow, located at 219 S. Lamar Street in the northern half of the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327), is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling constructed around 1915 with Craftsman-style elements. The Bungalow retains a high level of integrity in its location and setting. It has not been moved and, although the surrounding area has had some additional commercial construction, it appears that this area of Roxboro remains a moderately populated, small city. This resource continues to function as a residence, retaining a high level of association. As only a few modifications have been made to the building such as a rear addition and replacement windows, the resource maintains a high level of integrity of workmanship, design, materials, and feeling.

The National Park Service (NPS) outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined

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<sup>453</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>454</sup> Cremation Society of the Carolinas 2013; PCDB 104:271.

<sup>455</sup> Humphries 2007; Lois McIver Winstead, personal communication 2019; Person County, NC n.d..

<sup>456</sup> Wilkins 1993:A-1.



historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context... and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>457</sup> There is no evidence that the resource is associated with an important local, state, or national event in history. Therefore, The Bungalow is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

While the Long family was well-known and active in the community of Roxboro and owned several properties in the area, Matt and Ovieda in particular are not known to have had any individual significance locally, statewide, or nationally. The current owner, Lois McIver Winstead, was the first female mayor for the City of Roxboro and held the position for 10 consecutive years; however, archival research completed during this survey uncovered no evidence that the current resource is particularly representative of this achievement. Therefore, this resource does not meet the requirements for Criterion B which is defined by the NPS as needing to have an association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>458</sup> Consequently, The Bungalow is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C as outlined by the NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>459</sup> For a resource to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>460</sup>

There are several examples of Craftsman-style dwellings located within the City of Roxboro as well as in the surrounding counties, and in order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared to similar resources within the area. The Craftsman style is abundant across the United States as well as throughout North Carolina and Roxboro. It was the “dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the country” in the first quarter of the twentieth century.<sup>461</sup> Most of these examples in the vicinity that were built in the 1910s and 1920s feature the bungalow or American Foursquare form, unlike the current resource which was constructed in an L-plan with a central entry hall. Similarly styled dwellings in the vicinity are more commonly understated in their decoration. Most feature squared or tapered porch supports set upon masonry plinths, unlike The Bungalow which has elaborate geometric wood supports (Photo 208–Photo 209, p. 292–292). However, unlike The Bungalow, many other examples contain decorative brackets or modillions within their wide roof eaves. Two-and-one-half-story, Craftsman-style examples frequently have a central hipped dormer, similar to the current resource.

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<sup>457</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>458</sup> Ibid.

<sup>459</sup> Ibid.

<sup>460</sup> Ibid.

<sup>461</sup> McAlester 2013:568.

Located south of the current resource at 318 S. Main Street is a two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, single-family dwelling built in 1927 (Photo 208).<sup>462</sup> The dwelling features many Craftsman-style elements such as a low-pitched, hipped roof with wide boxed eaves with paired decorative brackets, porch supports composed of tapered wood posts on brick piers, and a central dormer in the façade.<sup>463</sup> Unlike The Bungalow, this building is clad in a brick veneer and was constructed in the American Foursquare form. An almost exact copy of the house at 318 S. Main Street, the Hester House at 509 S. Main Street (PR0318) is clad in replacement aluminum siding rather than a masonry veneer, features a porte-cochere, and has replacement fenestration (Photo 208). Decoration is even more limited in this example which is evident in its plain, squared brick porch supports posts. The only exterior adornment visible for this dwelling are the modillions within its wide eaves and the lattice, wood-frame window in its dormer.



Photo 208: West Elevation of 318 S. Main Street (Left), West Elevation of the Hester House at 509 S. Main Street (PR0318) (Right).



Photo 209: Northeast Oblique of 425 S. Lamar Street (Left) and Southwest Oblique of 424 S. Lamar Street (Right).

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<sup>462</sup> Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>463</sup> McAlester 2013:551–578.

The more common smaller-scale examples in the area are typically one to one-and-one-half story in height and feature limited exterior adornment such as the house at 425 S. Lamar Street (see Photo 209, p. 292). The brick-clad, front-gabled dwelling features a one-story porch lined with a brick wall and has tapered wood posts upon brick plinths. The house at 424 S. Lamar Street is also covered in a brick veneer but has a side-gabled roof (see Photo 209, p. 292). This example contains slightly more ornamentation than the previously discussed, with wood brackets situated in its wide roof eaves and half-timber detailing and gabled returns in the porch's gabled end, similar to the current resource.

The Craftsman style was also popular in neighboring counties. Situated south of Roxboro at 1124 N. Roxboro Street in the City of Durham is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay, Craftsman-style dwelling constructed in 1920 previously recorded as the McKissick House (DH2865) (Photo 210).<sup>464</sup> Although this house also has a central primary entry, it features a porch with a continuous brick foundation and wood, tapered posts on brick piers. It also contains paired wood-frame, sash windows in the same configuration as the current resource which are typical of high-style examples of the Craftsman architectural style.<sup>465</sup> However, unlike The Bungalow, the entire building is clad in replacement vinyl siding and it appears to have been constructed in the American Foursquare form. Despite its replacement siding, the NC-HPO listed the resource on the Study List in 2011.<sup>466</sup>



Photo 210: Northeast Oblique of the McKissick House (DH2865) at 1123 N. Roxboro Street.

Although other examples of dwellings constructed with Craftsman-style elements exist within Roxboro as well as the surrounding counties, they are generally muted in adornment and

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<sup>464</sup> NC-HPO 2019.

<sup>465</sup> McAlester 2013:554.

<sup>466</sup> NC-HPO 2019.



decoration compared to the current resource which features many higher style elements. The Bungalow maintains many of its original features such as fenestration, flooring, style, layout, and decorative elements such as the geometric porch supports and mantelpieces for interior fireplaces rendering a high level of historic integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Although the resource has some replacement siding and a recent accident necessitated the reconstruction of the porte-cochere, the retention of a majority of the resource's original characteristics outweigh the negative effect of those alterations on the resource's historic integrity. Compared to local examples, The Bungalow is an excellent representative example of the Craftsman style in Roxboro and Person County as a whole. As such, this resource is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C at the local level.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>467</sup> The Bungalow is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, The Bungalow located at 219 S. Lamar Street is **recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C for its significance in architecture at the local level with a period of significance of 1915-1916, the year of the resource's construction.** The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigation conform to the existing tax parcel (PIN 0906-18-31-8727) (Figure 103, p. 295). They include the dwelling and the garage.

In addition, The Bungalow is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district's period of significance (1875-1955) and was constructed in a prevalent form and style found in the district. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing resource to the district.**

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<sup>467</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



Figure 103: Proposed NRHP Boundary for The Bungalow (PR0314) as Shown in Red.<sup>468</sup>

<sup>468</sup> Esri 2019.

## **PR0315: Former Person County Health Center, 204 W. Barden Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1960  
Modifications: ca. 2010

204 W. Barden Street  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0906-18-30-1974  
Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The Former Person County Health Center at 204 W. Barden Street, currently occupied by the Person County Information Technology Department, is situated on the north side of W. Barden Street and northwest of the intersection of W. Barden Street and Madison Boulevard within Roxboro (Figure 104–Figure 105, pp. 297–298). The resource, situated atop a small knoll, is accessed by an asphalt driveway from W. Barden Street near the parcel’s southwest corner, which extends into a large parking lot that surrounds the building on the west and south sides. A thick line of mature trees borders the parcel’s west, north, and east edges and the lot features terraced landscaping between the building and S. Madison Boulevard. The area surrounding this resource is commercial in nature.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

This one-story, T-shaped municipal building was constructed around 1960 and modestly reflects some trends of the Modern architectural era (Photo 211–Photo 212, pp. 298–299). Set on a continuous foundation, the concrete-block structural system is clad in a brick, stretcher-bonded veneer. The exposed structural system as seen from the interior suggests that the one-story projection on the south elevation, which creates the building’s T shape, was either added at a later date or heavily modified. A flat roof covers the building and is lined with metal coping and a wide, metal cornice. Near the northeast corner, an interior, brick chimney pierces the roof.

The primary entrance, a single-leaf, metal-framed door set below a fixed transom, is recessed on the south elevation (Photo 213, p. 299). Secondary entrances, all single-leaf, metal-framed doors, are located on the south and east elevations. The entrances are accessed by poured-concrete walkways or ramps. Original fixed, metal-framed windows topped by awning windows line the east elevation; however, the original glass panes were replaced with ones that are reflective, likely around the time this building became the County’s technology headquarters around 2010 (Photo 214, p. 300). Other fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl-framed, replacement windows (north elevation) and fixed, wood-framed windows (south elevation).





Figure 104: Location of the Former Person County Health Center.<sup>469</sup>

<sup>469</sup> Esri 2019.



Figure 105: Former Person County Health Center (PR0315) Site Plan.<sup>470</sup>



Photo 211: Southwest Oblique.

<sup>470</sup> Google Earth 2019.





Photo 212: Southeast Oblique.



Photo 213: Primary Entrance (Left) and Secondary Entrance (Right) on the South Elevation.





Photo 214: Original Windows on the East Elevation (Left) and Replacement Vinyl Windows on the North Elevation (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The primary entrance of the Former Person County Health Center leads into a narrow foyer, which has tiled floors and drywall ceilings and walls (Figure 106, p. 301). The foyer empties into a hallway, which extends the length of the building from east to west (Photo 215, p. 302). Offices, equipment labs, and conference rooms with carpeted floors and drywall walls line the hallway. Ceiling types vary throughout the building and include drywall and drop tile. Some of the spaces have exposed brick walls, such as the lab's southern wall and an office's west wall (Photo 216, p. 302). Each room is lit by fluorescent light fixtures and the doorways are filled with solid, wood doors with modest, wooden door frames. Two single-occupancy bathrooms are located at the building's northwest corner, each with tiled flooring, a toilet, and a sink (Photo 217, p. 303).

The projection on the south elevation contains a training room—a mostly open space currently filled with long tables, chairs, and projection equipment with a kitchen and bathroom along the east wall (Photo 218, p. 303). While most of the walls feature exposed concrete block in this area, the northernmost portion of the western wall is exposed brick laid in a stretcher bond (the location of the exposed brick is noted in red on the interior floor plan). The combination of visible concrete blocks and brick veneer on this interior wall suggests that this portion of the building was either added after initial construction or heavily modified.

Research did not uncover accounts or photographs of the original interior layout; however, it is possible that many of the rooms that currently function as offices were used for patient rooms. All other character-defining elements of health facilities, such as waiting rooms and receptionist areas are no longer intact or are not recognizable in their current state.

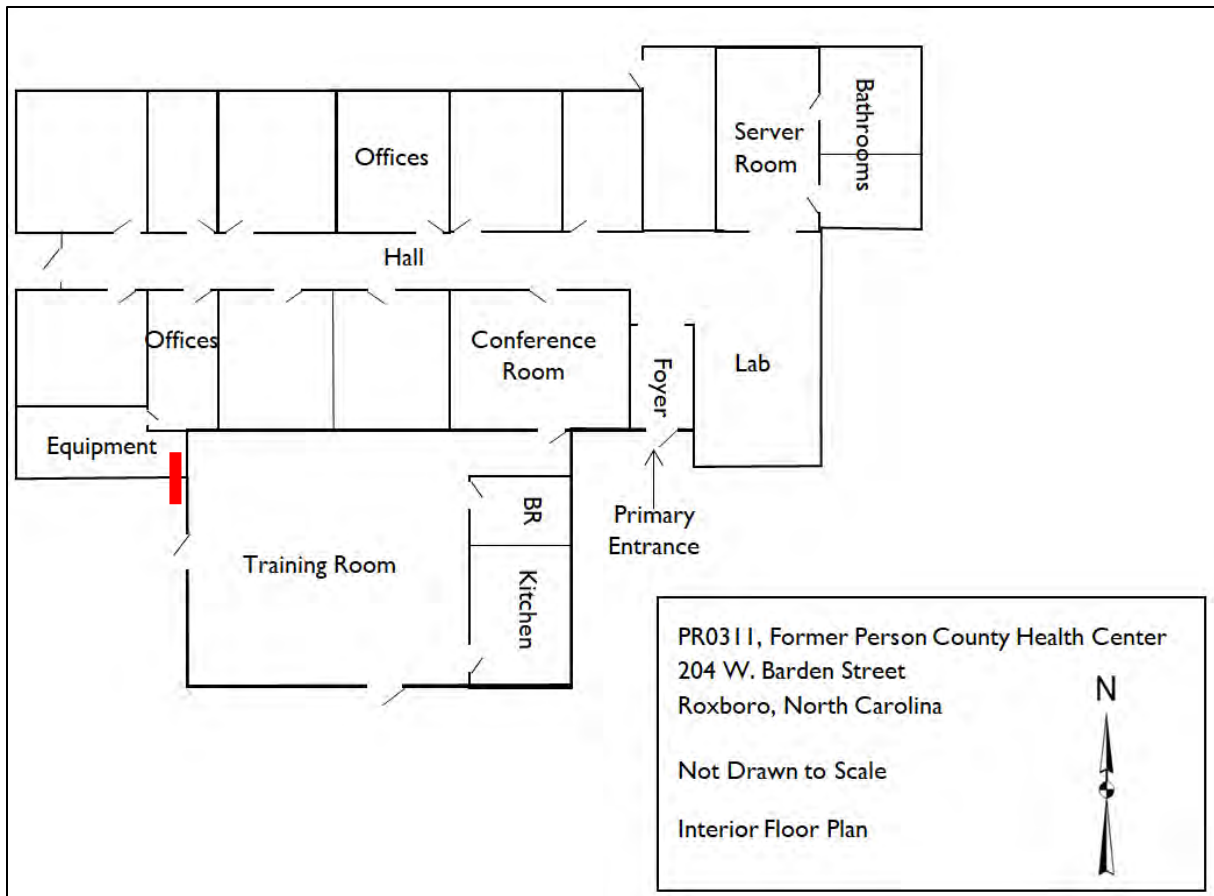


Figure 106: Former Person County Health Center (PR0311) Interior Floor Plan. Note: The red line notes exposed brick within the Training Room. The rest of the walls in that space are exposed concrete block.

*Secondary Resources*

Immediately south of the building and adjacent to W. Barden Street is a circa-2010, wooden, post-in-ground sign. It was likely added when the building became the Information Technology headquarters for the County (Photo 219, p. 304).



Photo 215: Foyer, Looking South (Left) and Hall, Looking West (Right).



Photo 216: Conference Room, Looking North (Left) and Office with Exposed Brick Wall, Looking Northwest (Right).





Photo 217: Bathroom, Looking Northeast (Left) and Server Room, Looking Northeast (Right).



Photo 218: Training Room, Looking Southwest.



Photo 219: Sign, Looking East.

### *Historic Context*

Prior to the early 1950s, the land on which the Former Person County Health Center was owned by Samuel Garland (S.G.) and Kate Barden Winstead and covered with agricultural fields and clusters of mature trees (Figure 107, p. 305).<sup>471</sup> S.G. (1879–1961) and his family lived on S. Lamar Street, where he worked as a farmer and attorney and was also involved in local real estate.<sup>472</sup> On June 16, 1952, S.G. and Kate Winstead sold 0.97 acre between Winhaven Street and Madison Boulevard to the Board of Commissioners of Person County, who soon thereafter constructed the one-story, brick-clad building to function as the Person County Health Center.<sup>473</sup>

Public health care had been a part of Person County, specifically Roxboro, for decades. “Prior to the 1920s, the program of health services consisted of local doctors [...] The first organized effort toward Public Health came in May 1922, when the American Red Cross sent a nurse to Roxboro. Person County hired its own nurse, Mrs. Ruth McCollum O’Briant in July 1929.”<sup>474</sup> Following O’Briant’s efforts, “plans were made for affiliation with the State Health Program [...] and federal] funds were available [in 1936] with social security legislations, and a complete whole-time staff was selected, that consisted of a health officer for Person [...] one clerk and two nurses.”<sup>475</sup> In 1949, construction began on a new hospital facility. This brick, utilitarian, rectangular two-story building was built on Ridge Street and continues to serve as the county hospital today. It is possible that the new hospital played a role in the construction of the public health center on W. Barden Street.

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<sup>471</sup> PCDB 68:407

<sup>472</sup> North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1961.

<sup>473</sup> Miller 1956; Miller 1958.

<sup>474</sup> Eaker 1981:48.

<sup>475</sup> Eaker 1981:49.

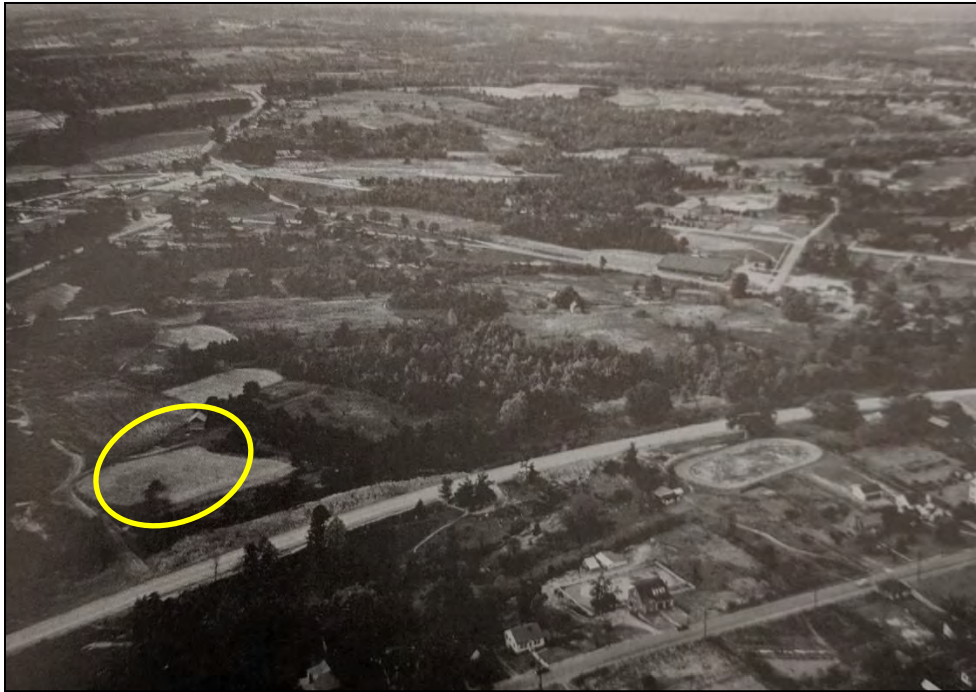


Figure 107: Circa 1940 Aerial Photograph of S. Madison Boulevard and S. Lamar Street, Looking West Toward Present-Day W. Barden Street. The approximate location of the Former Person County Health Center is circled in yellow.<sup>476</sup>

For decades, the Person County Health Center functioned as a place for county residents to receive medical care that was not serious enough to warrant a trip to the hospital; in addition, the Public Health Department “promot[ed] its education program through home and school, ideas and methods of prevention and health protection.”<sup>477</sup> Around the turn of the twenty-first century, county officials moved the health center to its current location, just north of 204 W. Barden Street, in a large building that once housed Wal-Mart.<sup>478</sup> In recent years, the Person County Information Technology Department was transferred to this building, and they continue to occupy the building today.

### ***Evaluation***

The circa-1960 Former Person County Health Center retains a high integrity of location, as it has not been moved from its original location. When the Person County government constructed the building, although there was some development, the area was predominately residential and agricultural in nature.<sup>479</sup> Today it is heavily commercial, surrounded by stores, restaurants, and other businesses. As such, the resource has a moderate level of feeling and setting integrity.

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<sup>476</sup> Talbert and Gray 2007.

<sup>477</sup> Tonya Wilson, personal communication 2019.

<sup>478</sup> Talbert and Gray 2007; Tonya Wilson, personal communication 2019.

<sup>479</sup> NETR 1964.



Although the building continues to be a local government-owned and occupied space, it no longer functions as a county health center, resulting in only a moderate level of association integrity. Modifications to the buildings, such as the projection on the south elevation, fenestration replacement, and extensive changes to the interior, have resulted in a diminished level of integrity of materials, workmanship, design, and feeling.

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, “a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events:... a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation.”<sup>480</sup> However, NPS goes on to say that “mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well.”<sup>481</sup> Although it was associated with local health care within the county, it does not appear that this resource individually exhibits significance within that trend. It is not the first example of healthcare in the county, nor has it been found that it played a notable or important role in this pattern among public health-care facilities. For these reasons, the Former Person County Health Center is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A.

The resource has no known association with an individual who is “significant within a historic context” or has “gained importance within his or her group or profession” which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B.<sup>482</sup> Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The Former Person County Health Center is an unadorned utilitarian building that modestly reflects some trends of the Modern architectural era, such as the large, floor-to-ceiling windows on the east elevation, and the visual horizontal emphasis through the use of the wide, metal cornice. Similar resources in Roxboro include the former Courier Times building at 109 Clayton Avenue. This circa-1970, one-story, flat-roofed building is clad in a brick veneer laid in a stretcher bond and covered by a flat roof (Photo 220, p. 307). Overall, it lacks decorative elements and displays an emphasis on the horizontal. Fenestration includes single-leaf, metal-framed door flanked by side lights and fixed, narrow windows. Like the Former Person County Health Center, this building has additions, although larger in scale.

The utilitarian, late-1960s building at 702 N. Main Street currently houses the Person Family Medical Center and is similar to the current resource in style and form (Photo 221, p. 307). It stands one story tall and, like the Former Person County Health Center, is clad in brick laid in a stretcher bond and features large, metal-framed windows, most of which appear to be fixed. The flat roof is lined with a wide, metal veneer along the façade (west elevation). Another modest one-story, brick-clad building is located at 33 Gordon Street (Photo 222, p. 308). Constructed around 1965, this rectangular-shaped commercial building has a flat roof lined with thin, metal

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<sup>480</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:12.

<sup>481</sup> Ibid.

<sup>482</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:14.

coping. Most of the windows are on the north and west elevations clustered near the entrance at the northwest corner. These units appear to be three-light, fixed windows. Although a close examination of the current entrance was not completed, it is likely that it was modified in recent decades.



Photo 220: Former Courier Times Building at 109 Clayton Avenue, Looking West.



Photo 221: The Person Family Medical Center at 702 N. Main Street, Looking East.

Other buildings within Roxboro better represent Modern-era architecture, such as the Roxboro Municipal Building (PR0310) at 105 S. Lamar Street. This two-story, brick resource was constructed in 1964 designed by architect Marion A. Ham. It features wide, overhanging eaves, canopies, and large spans of metal-framed windows. In addition, Ham utilized the landscape along with the building's elements to create a streamlined, horizontal appearance. For additional

photographs and information on the architectural style and historic context of this resource, please refer to page 190.

Architecturally, the Former Person County Health Center resource does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, is not the work of a master, and does not possess high artistic style. Furthermore, it is one of several similar, surviving buildings within Roxboro. Therefore, it is recommended that the resource is not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.



Photo 222: 33 Gordon Street, Looking South.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>483</sup> The Former Person County Health Center is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor or significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Former Person County Health Center is **recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>483</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:21.



**PR0243: McGehee's Mill, 112 W. Barden Street and 333 S. Lamar Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1776–1815

Modifications: rebuilt 1937, relocated 1973 and 1984

112 W. Barden Street & 333 S. Lamar Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-18-30-6990

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible

***Architectural Description***

McGehee's Mill at 112 W. Barden Street and 333 S. Lamar Street is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro (Figure 108–Figure 109, pp. 310–311). The resource is located in the mid-west section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327). The property comprises a lot measuring approximately 0.52 acre covered in a paved parking lot and following the natural slope of W. Barden Street. McGehee's Mill is bound by W. Barden Street to the south, S. Lamar Street to the east, Gordon Street to the north, and S. Madison Boulevard to the west. A paved parking lot is located on the south side of the property and an elevated parking deck is located on the east side of the property. The lot is moderately covered with shrubs and small trees, particularly on the southern portion of the lot close to W. Barden Street. The primary resource, the mill, faces south towards W. Barden Street. A circa-1985 shed and a 1984 waterwheel are associated with this resource.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The primary resource is a two-story, six-bay (originally four), wood-framed, former mill currently utilized as an office building constructed between 1776 and 1815 (Photo 223, p. 312). First built along Hyco River, now Hyco Lake, 11 miles northwest of the mill's current location, the mill was relocated in August of 1973 about a quarter of a mile from its original site after the Carolina Power & Light Company (now Duke Energy) purchased the land and planned to flood it to make the lake. The mill was relocated again in 1984 to its present location on W. Barden Street (Photo 224, p. 312). In that same year, a two-story addition was added to the west elevation of the mill making it its current six-bay length.

The current continuous stone foundation is likely not original due to its several relocations (Photo 225, p. 312). Clad in replacement vinyl siding, the mill features a moderately pitched, side-gabled roof with asphalt shingles (Photo 226, p. 313). The rear elevation has a continuation of the roofline creating the illusion of a saltbox roofline; it is not certain if this extension is a later addition or part of the building's core. Five metal flues pierce the roof's northern slope.



Figure 108: Location of McGehee's Mill (PR0243).<sup>484</sup>

<sup>484</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 109: Site Plan of McGehee's Mill (PR0243).<sup>485</sup>

The first level's primary entrance, filled with a single-leaf, wood door with an oval decorative light is off-centered on the façade (south elevation) near the west side of the building (Photo 227, p. 313). Another entrance is located on the east side of the front elevation and is filled with a similar door (Photo 227, p. 313). Other fenestration on the mill is an additional single-leaf, half-glazed wood door (the main entrance to the second level), a single-leaf wood door, and one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows. A full-width porch accessed by a set of stone steps or a wood ramp lines the south elevation its shed roof is supported by six, wood posts and two wood pilasters and (see Photo 226, p. 313). A small recessed area on the rear (north) elevation contains a wooden deck and enclosed storage space (Photo 228, p. 314). Additionally, a long flight of wood stairs provides separate access from the rear of the building to the mill's second story (Photo 228, p. 314).

<sup>485</sup> Google Maps 2018.





Photo 223: Southwest Oblique (Left) and East Elevation (Right).



Photo 224: South Elevation (Left) and West Elevation (Right).



Photo 225: Stone Foundation on South Elevation of McGehee's Mill.





Photo 226: Roof Detail and Porch Detail on McGehee's Mill on South Elevation.



Photo 227: Detail of Main Entrance at Noblett Dentistry, South Elevation (Left) and Door on East Side of the South Elevation (Right).



Photo 228: Recessed Area on Rear Elevation (Left) and Stairway on Rear Elevation to Second Floor (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The current property owners, Dr. Jeff Noblett and Donald Wilson, permitted limited interior access to the building. Since the first floor is a dental office, photography was only permitted to spaces with no patients in them. Interior access was also granted to the second floor, an accounting office currently, by S. Wilson, Donald Wilson's son.

The main entrance of the dental office opens into a waiting room in the southwest corner of the building with separate space for reception (Figure 110, p. 315). A hallway accessed by a door along the north wall provides access to all four dental rooms, bathrooms, and closets. There are two half-bath restrooms in the public area, one at the center of the hallway and another on the far west side of the first level. A large room on the east side of the building functions as a private office and lounge space for the dental staff. This room also contains all the grist mill equipment from its previous use, which survived despite the multiple moves (Photo 229, p. 315). Two mill stones are located in this section of the building along with gears and what appears to be a grist collection area (Photo 230, p. 316). The supporting timbers around the machinery appear to be original. The flooring is carpet and linoleum and walls are composed of drywall in the western two-thirds of the first level, while the eastern third containing the mill machinery is left as exposed timber framing.

The main entrance of the accounting office on the second level opens into a partitioned office space (Figure 111, p. 316; Photo 231, p. 317). The other six offices are located in enclosed rooms all connected by a hallway which runs centrally east-west through the building. A bathroom is located at the western end of the hallway and another is located within the central office along the north wall. This office also has access to a large set of stairs at the rear (north) of the building. To the west of the main entrance into the second level is a smaller set of stairs that permits access to a loft area; the loft is currently being used for storage space (Photo 232, p. 317). Below the loft sits two millstones. These millstones are connected to the stones below in the dental staff's lounge (Photo 233, p. 318).



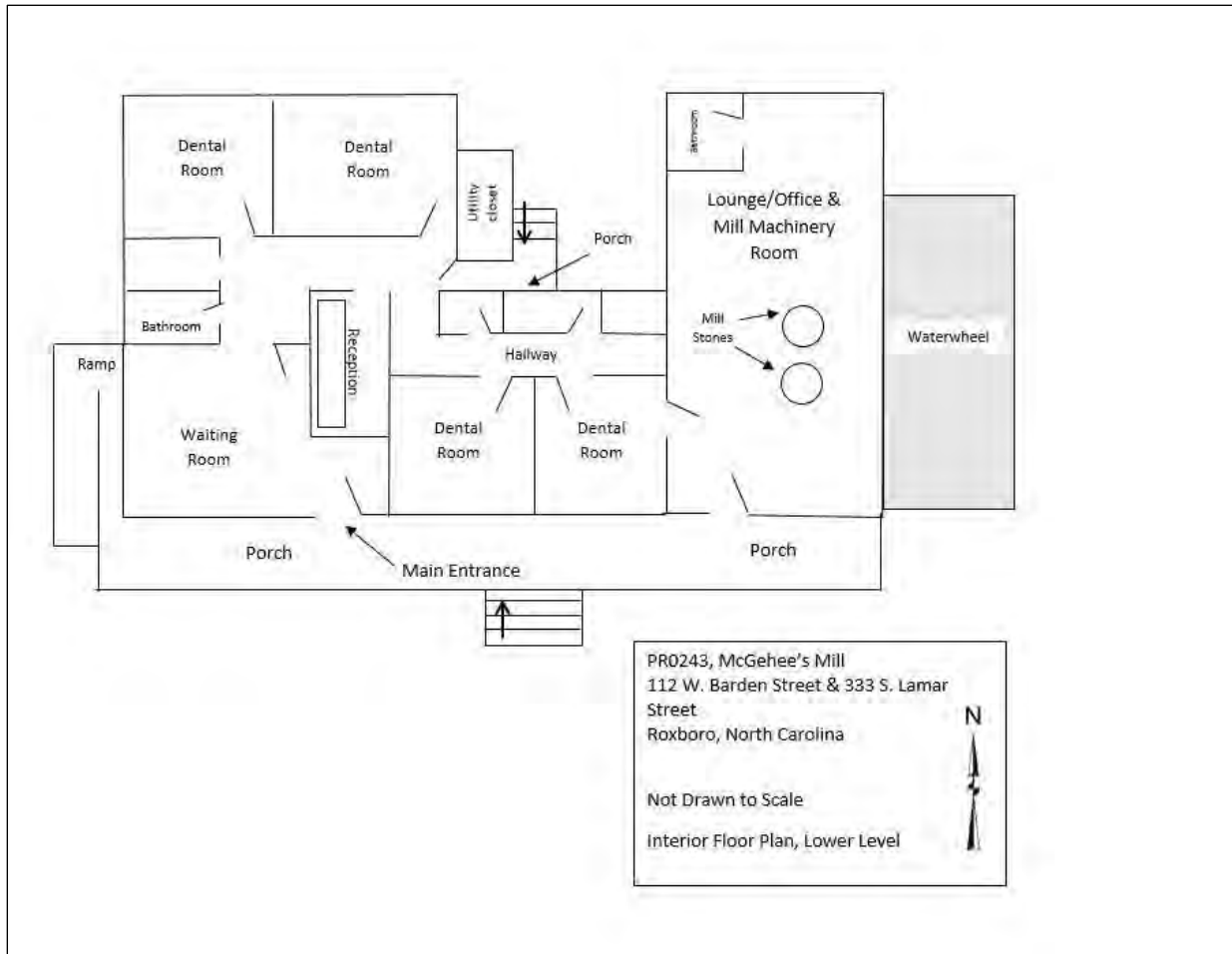


Figure 110: McGee's Mill (PR0243) Interior Floor Plan, Lower Level.



Photo 229: Interior Images of Dental Office Lounge and Mill Machinery.



Photo 230: Detail of the Two Mill Stones.

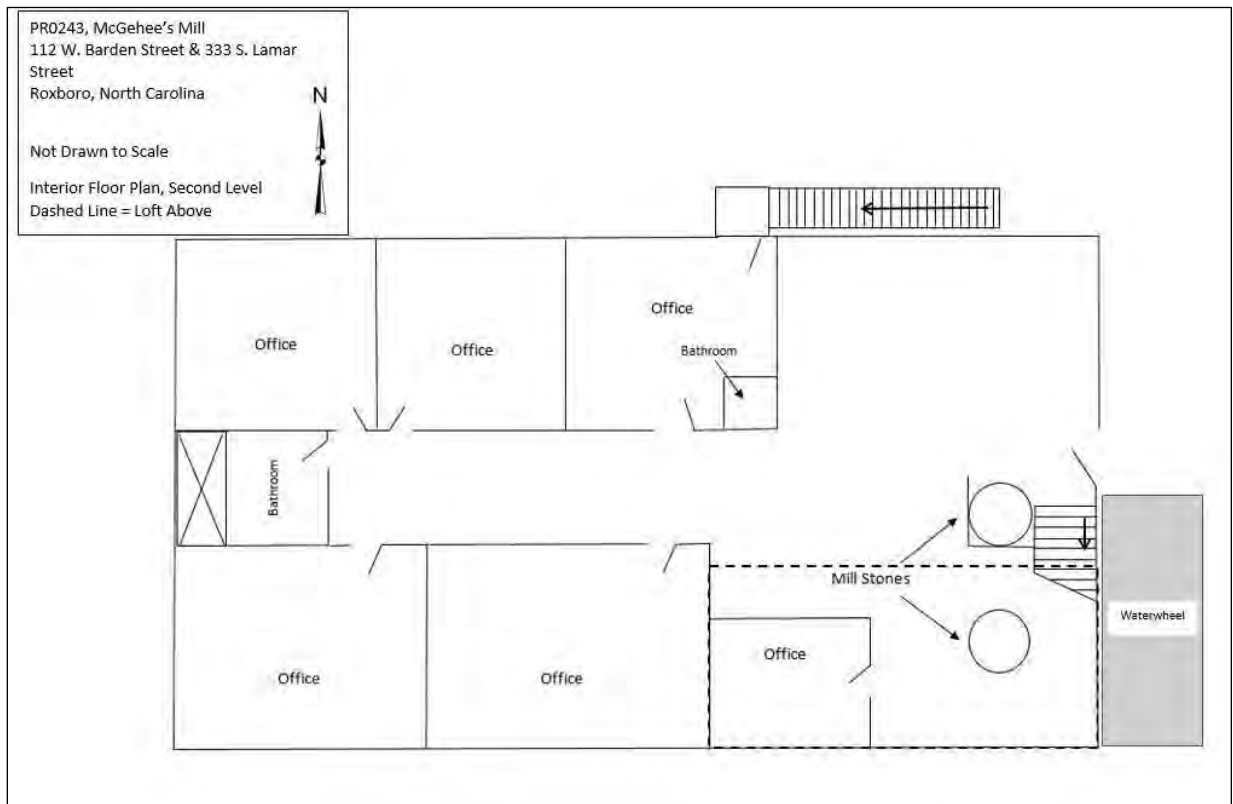


Figure 111: Interior Floor Plan, Second Level.



Photo 231: Interior Images of Second Level.



Photo 232: Stairs to Loft Area on Second Level of Mill.

The accounting office level of the mill contains several pieces of mill equipment in addition to the millstones, which retain original wood encasements, called hoops. Two wood hoppers, or funnels are located directly above the millstones (Photo 233–Photo 234, pp. 318–318; Figure 112, p. 319). The original wood timbers and structural system at this level appear original. One



ceiling beam contained Roman numeral markings a holdover from the numerical system used by framers when putting frame buildings together (Photo 235, p. 319). Besides original mill equipment, the accounting office also had several antique tools and other ephemera on the walls. Furthermore, the office had several examples of flour bags from the mill during its operation in the early- to mid-twentieth century (Photo 236, p. 320). The flooring is primarily carpet and walls are covered in drywall and wood paneling. The ceilings have exposed beams; some have been filled in with plaster, others with wood paneling.



Photo 233: Millstone Enclosed in Wood Hoop on Second Level, Looking South.



Photo 234: Wood Hopper Machinery, Looking South.

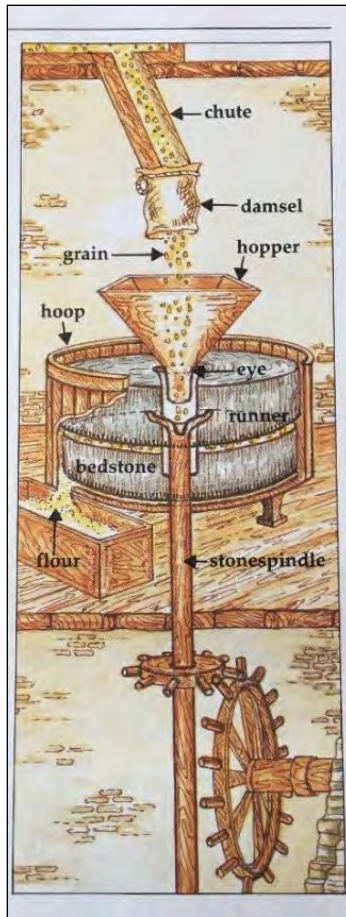


Figure 112: Diagram of Mill Machinery.<sup>486</sup>



Photo 235: Roman Numeral Markings on Ceiling Beam in Second Floor Office Space.

<sup>486</sup> Kalman 1990:19.





Photo 236: Tools Near Stairwell and Flour Bag on Ceiling Beam in Central Hallway.

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1985 one-story, one-bay, shed is located on the west side of the property (Photo 237). The front-gabled roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The structure is covered in T1-11 siding and is raised on wood and concrete slab piers. The only fenestration is a centered double-leaf, wood door on both the south and north elevations.



Photo 237: South Elevation (Left) and North Elevation (Right) of Shed.

The mill's waterwheel is located on the east side of the property (Photo 238, p. 321). Made completely of wood, the wheel is designed in the overshot wheel form with a wooden millrace at the top. It no longer rotates or functions. The wooden frame is supported by large roughly cut stone and concrete piers. An article from 1979 mentions the mill's use of both a waterwheel and a turbine wheel to power its functions indicating that a wheel was present with the mill even after



its move in 1973.<sup>487</sup> The materials of the waterwheel appear to be newer than those of the building; according to one of the current owners, [name] father built the waterwheel currently associated with the lot in 1984 when the mill was moved to its present location along S. Lamar Street (Photo 239, p. 321).<sup>488</sup>



Photo 238: Waterwheel Detail.



Photo 239: Details of Wood Work and Condition.

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<sup>487</sup> Eaker & Bell 1979.

<sup>488</sup> S. Wilson, personal communication 2019.

### *Historic Context*

Established in 1791, Person County was, and still remains, primarily agricultural and rural in nature and it was a well-established plantation center before the Civil War.<sup>489</sup> Agricultural staples for the area included tobacco, cotton, corn, wheat, and some vegetables.<sup>490</sup> Growth was slow in the area, particularly during the Reconstruction era. It was not until 1890 that Roxboro experienced economic prosperity: this was the year that the N&W Railway Company ran a railroad through the town.<sup>491</sup> With the railroad came growth in the market as well as in industry. Tobacco warehouses and textile mills started to dot the Person County landscape.<sup>492</sup> This growth persisted into the twentieth century, but the area continued to focus on mostly agricultural economic ventures.

Mills were an important contributing element to the economy of colonial America, including Person County.<sup>493</sup> Typically, once a mill was formed, a small community would grow around it. Gristmills, such as McGehee's Mill, became particularly important in that it eased the workload of families: community members could drop off their grain to be ground into flour for them to make bread, an essential part of the early diet, allowing them to focus their energies elsewhere.<sup>494</sup>

The location of a mill was vital. Most early mills were located alongside fast-flowing and shallow rivers so that the mill would have a constant supply of water-power year-round.<sup>495</sup> Grist mills were primarily made of wood or stone: the timber framing soaked up any moisture from the river and the stone foundations withstood any floods or strong storms.<sup>496</sup> Typically, grist mills were three-stories high: the bottom floor held the gears and machinery for the grinding, the second floor was where the grinding took place, and the third floor was where the grain was stored (Figure 113, p. 323). Power for the machinery was provided through a waterwheel that was typically located outside of the mill building.<sup>497</sup> The energy provided by the waterwheel was transferred to the gears inside the mill that turned the millstone that would grind the grain into flour.<sup>498</sup> The person who kept this operation in motion was the miller who typically lived nearby.<sup>499</sup>

Often, the mill became a place where community members would meet and talk while they waited for their grain to be ground into flour and soon towns began to form around mills, which can be observed in Person County. McGehee's Mill was an important mill center for Person County. Built by Mumford McGehee, it was an integral part of his large land holdings and a

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<sup>489</sup> Boatwright 2006:11.

<sup>490</sup> Ibid.

<sup>491</sup> Boatwright 2006:11.

<sup>492</sup> Ibid.

<sup>493</sup> Boatwright 2006:47.

<sup>494</sup> Kalman 1990:8.

<sup>495</sup> Ibid.

<sup>496</sup> Ibid.

<sup>497</sup> Kalman 1990:10.

<sup>498</sup> Kalman 1990:16.

<sup>499</sup> Kalman 1990:12.

small mill town named after the mill was formed.<sup>500</sup> Mumford McGehee (1744–1815) was born in Prince Edward County, Virginia.<sup>501</sup> After marrying Sarah Ann Moore (1744–1793), they sold their property in Virginia and moved to Caswell County (which became Person County) in 1776.<sup>502</sup> Mumford purchased land on both sides of the Hyco River from James and Catherine Stewart as well as three other tracts of land near the river bringing his total holdings to 1,000 acres.<sup>503</sup>

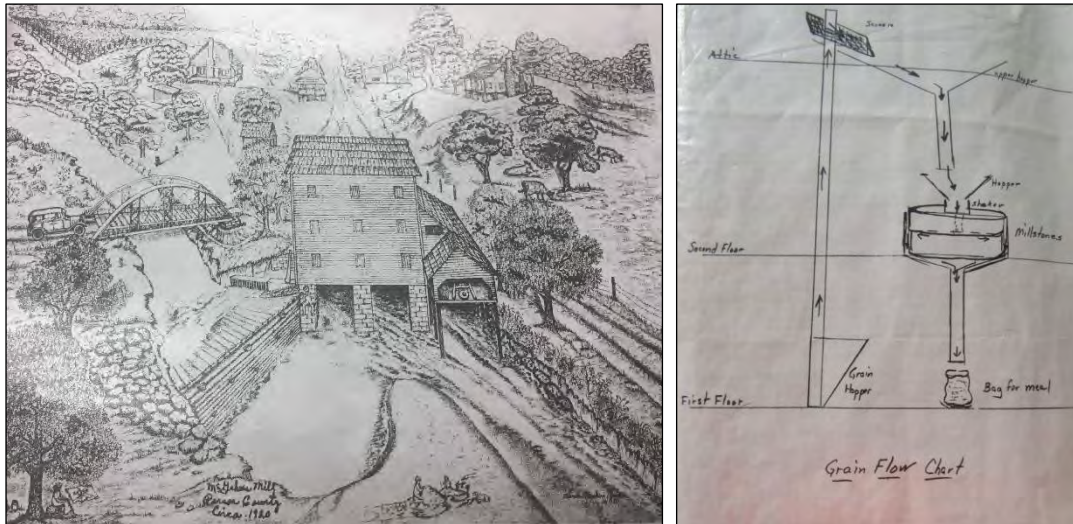


Figure 113: Drawing of McGehee's Mill and Grain Flow Chart by Sarah Norris, ca. 1980s.<sup>504</sup>

It is not exactly known when the grist mill was constructed, but in his will, Mumford gave the grist mill to his son, Thomas, along with several enslaved people, farming equipment, and a saw mill.<sup>505</sup> This indicates the grist mill would have had to be constructed sometime between Mumford's arrival in Person County in 1776 and his death in 1815. Thomas McGehee (1785–1867) developed the property of his father into a large and productive plantation and milling operation, called "Woodburne Estates."<sup>506</sup> At the time of Thomas's death, he left the 1,400-acre plantation and mill to his son, Montford McGehee. Montford moved to Raleigh in 1887 and sold Woodburne Estates to Colonel C.S. Winstead.<sup>507</sup> When Colonel Winstead passed away in 1908, the land, plantation, and mill were purchased at public auction by J.A. Long and R.E. Pullman; the land had been divided into small lots and platted.<sup>508</sup>

<sup>500</sup> Boatwright 2006:48.

<sup>501</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>502</sup> Eaker 1981.

<sup>503</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>504</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>505</sup> Norris n.d.; Person County Will Book [PCWB] 6:82–84.

<sup>506</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>507</sup> Ibid.

<sup>508</sup> Ibid.



In 1919, R.D. Long and A.C. Munday purchased the tract of land which held the grist mill, saw mill, and mill house, a total of 30 acres.<sup>509</sup> In 1928, Long purchased Munday's portion of the land and became the sole owner.<sup>510</sup> Long died that same year and the land was purchased by J.C. Tingen (1898–1978) who operated the mill as its miller in 1929.<sup>511</sup> Due to water damage, Tingen had the mill rebuilt in 1937 (Photo 240).<sup>512</sup> The mill was rebuilt as a two-story building that functioned as both a country store and a grist mill (Photo 241).<sup>513</sup> A carpenter named Lidge Horton completed the work and reused the framework and several elements, such as doors, from the original building in the construction of the new one.<sup>514</sup> The canal sluice gate, turbine wheel, and other mill machinery were left intact.<sup>515</sup>

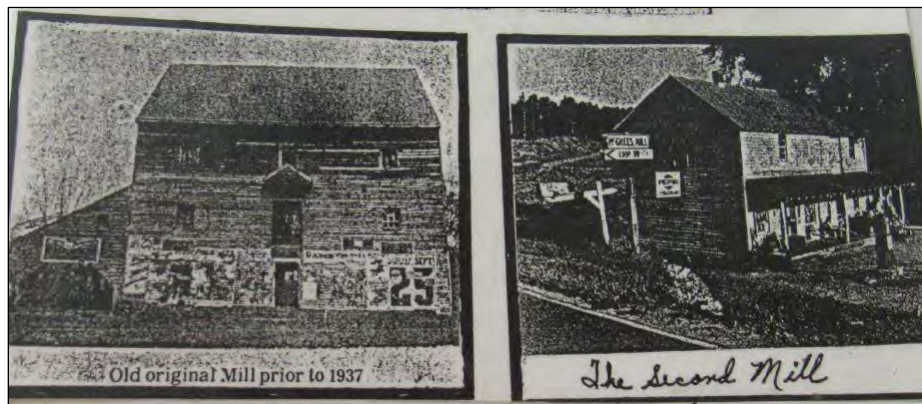


Photo 240: 1937 Photo of Original Mill and Reconstructed Mill.<sup>516</sup>



Photo 241: Circa-1970 Photo of McGee's Mill under Tingen Ownership.<sup>517</sup>

<sup>509</sup> Ibid.

<sup>510</sup> Ibid.

<sup>511</sup> PCDB D38:441.

<sup>512</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>513</sup> Turberg 1972.

<sup>514</sup> Ibid.

<sup>515</sup> Ibid.

<sup>516</sup> Norris n.d.

Tingen operated the mill until the early 1960s, using only one millstone to grind corn.<sup>518</sup> Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L), now Duke Energy, acquired the property on which the mill stood in the 1960s and had plans to flood the area to create a lake that would serve as a cooling reservoir for their power plant.<sup>519</sup> On August 10, 1973, the mill was relocated 0.25 mile away from its original location to a temporary location provided by CP&L. It was at this time that the Person County Historical Society grew interested in preserving the mill and relocating it to a more permanent place.<sup>520</sup> After 11 years of attempting to find funding to move the mill, the Person County Historical Society sold the mill at public auction to Dan and Tommy Lawrence.<sup>521</sup> Jimmy Stovall purchased the miller's house, which accompanied the mill in the sale, and restored it along Hyco Lake as a lakeside cottage.<sup>522</sup>

Dan and Tommy Lawrence had planned on moving the mill to their farm in Roxboro, but they were approached by Donald Wilson, a local accountant, who suggested they move it closer to downtown Roxboro and turn it into an office space. Dan, Tommy, and Donald became partners in the McGehee Mill Developers venture and moved the mill to its current location in December of 1984; Donald moved his accounting business to the second floor and made plans to rent the lower level to someone in the medical profession (Photo 242).<sup>523</sup> By 1989, the McGehee Mill Developers group, composed of Dan and Tommy Lawrence and Donald Wilson, sold the mill property to the McGehee Developers II, a group made of Donald Wilson, Marilou Fox, and Jeffery Noblett.<sup>524</sup> Jeffery Noblett, a local dentist, occupied the first level of the mill. In 1990, the group renamed themselves McGehee's Mill Developers, Inc.<sup>525</sup> They are the present owners and occupants of the property.



Photo 242: Move of the Mill to Temporary Location in 1973.<sup>526</sup>

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<sup>517</sup> Flickr 2012.

<sup>518</sup> Norris n.d.

<sup>519</sup> *The Courier-Times* 2019; Hyco Lake 2017.

<sup>520</sup> Featherson 1998.

<sup>521</sup> *The Courier-Times* 1984.

<sup>522</sup> Billings 1984.

<sup>523</sup> *The Courier-Times* 1984.

<sup>524</sup> PCDB 201:496.

<sup>525</sup> PCDB 210:35.

<sup>526</sup> S. Wilson, personal collection 2019.

### *Evaluation*

McGehee's Mill is a two-story, six-bay, wood-framed mill built between 1776 and 1815, rebuilt in 1937, relocated in 1973, and relocated again in 1984 and currently used as an office building. Given the fact that the mill was rebuilt in the 1930s and relocated twice, the resource has low integrity of association, design, felling, setting, and location. Furthermore, most of the original materials are gone, such as the waterwheel which was completely rebuilt in 1984. Although the mill does retain some of the original mill machinery equipment and elements were repurposed in the 1937 iteration of the mill, the lack of other original materials determines that the mill has low integrity of materials and workmanship.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: "To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context...The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context...and it must retain historic integrity."<sup>527</sup> Although mills were important to the area and to the growth of communities, there are no known associations of McGehee's Mill with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, McGehee's Mill is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with "individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented . . . within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person's important achievements."<sup>528</sup> Mumford McGehee built the mill and his son, Thomas, transformed it and the plantation into a profitable endeavor. Neither Mumford nor Thoams are known to have made a significant impact locally, statewide, or nationally; consequently, McGehee's Mill is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource's NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. McGehee's Mill is an example of a typical mill property type for the area in that it is of timber-frame construction with a stone foundation. It was once three stories in height, a common attribute to a mill building; however, was demoted to two stories in the 1937 reconstruction. Similarly, McGehee's Mill was originally located along the Hycy River and used a waterwheel as its main power source; this characteristic element to the property type has also been removed. A local example of this mill type is Hurdle Mills (PR089) (Photo 243, p. 327). Located along Hurdle Mills Road in Hurdle Mills, Person County, the mill is situated along Bushy Fork Creek and the Flat River. Like the original McGehee's Mill, Hurdle Mills is a three-story building with mortise-and-tenon construction and a stone pier foundation. Now a part of the Hurdle Mills Feed & Farm Supply Company, the mill was originally a grist mill, like McGehee's Mill. A note in the NC-HPO file for Hurdle Mills states

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<sup>527</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>528</sup> Ibid.



that it was water powered and built around 1890.<sup>529</sup> No waterwheel remains with the property today, although it does appear to retain some mill machinery.



Photo 243: Northeast Oblique of Hurdle Mills.

Like McGehee's Mill, Hurdle Mills has some replacement materials and two additions. The siding is corrugated metal, but original wood, two-over-two, double-hung-sash windows remain. Little history of the mill was provided in the NC-HPO file, but the website for Hurdle Mills Feed & Farm Supply notes that the company started in 1929 when the current owner's grandfather purchased the property.<sup>530</sup> His grandfather converted it from a mill to a store and made several repairs on the building, particularly the roof as it was heavily damaged.<sup>531</sup> Although a later example, Hurdle Mills is a three-story, water-powered mill that was converted to a store, similar to the original McGehee's. However, Hurdle Mills serves as a better example of a grist mill in that it has remains in its original location and has retained its original form from 1890 to the present.

Roxboro had another mill operation, but this mill produced a different material: cotton. The Roxboro Cotton Mill (PR0219) was built in 1899 with the financial backing of several local and regional businessmen (Photo 244, p. 328).<sup>532</sup> Supplied by the cotton grown by local farmers, production in the cotton mill began in 1900.<sup>533</sup> By 1924, the Roxboro Cotton Mills Company was producing over 3,000,000 pounds per year between its mill in Roxboro and its Longhurst Mill.<sup>534</sup>

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<sup>529</sup> NC-HPO n.d.a

<sup>530</sup> Hurdle Mills Feed and Farm Supply 2018.

<sup>531</sup> Ibid.

<sup>532</sup> Ehrfurth 2009.

<sup>533</sup> Ibid.

<sup>534</sup> Ibid.

The success of the mill transformed the economic system in Roxboro from a community centered on farming, to an area that focused on manufacturing.<sup>535</sup> Several additions and transformations took place in the mill throughout the twentieth century. In 1973, the mill was purchased by the Tully Corporation, an organization that created Tultex Yarns, who operated the mill until it closed in 1999.<sup>536</sup> After a year of renovations, the mill reopened in 2006 as the Roxboro Community School.<sup>537</sup> Although the mills were utilized for different materials, the Roxboro Cotton Mill for cotton, the McGehee’s Mill for flour, both are representative of the historic economic community in Roxboro.



Photo 244: Roxboro Cotton Mill (PR0219), Looking North.

The Roxboro Cotton Mill was listed on the NRHP in August 2009 under Criterion A for its contributions to the local development of Roxboro’s textile mill. The Roxboro Cotton Mill is more emblematic of the local economy: it began with the backing of several local businessmen and employed many native Roxboro citizens during its heyday. In comparison, McGehee’s Mill, while noteworthy, did not have as large of an economic, social, and physical impact on Roxboro as did the Roxboro Cotton Mill.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>538</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose

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<sup>535</sup> Ibid.

<sup>536</sup> Ehrfurth 2009.

<sup>537</sup> Ibid.

<sup>538</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>539</sup> Since McGehee’s Mill was rebuilt and relocated twice, the building does not possess high artistic value and is severely lacking integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. For these reasons, McGehee’s Mill is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>540</sup> McGehee’s Mill is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, McGehee’s Mill is recommended **not eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

McGehee’s Mill is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was moved to this location outside of the district’s period of significance (1875–1955). The mill does not contribute to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. **It is therefore recommended as non-contributing to the district.**

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<sup>539</sup> Ibid.

<sup>540</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



**PR0278: James Sidney Bradsher House,  
421 S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1890

Modifications: post-1973

421 S. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-18-30-9391

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)***Architectural Description***

The James Sidney Bradsher House (J.S. Bradsher House) (PR0278), previously recorded as the Wilburn House, at 421 S. Main Street is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro (Figure 114–Figure 115, pp. 331–332). The house, the primary resource, is located in the southern section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327). The property comprises a grassy lot measuring approximately 0.66 acre. The J.S. Bradsher House is bound by S. Main Street to the east, Harris Street to the south, S. Lamar Street to the west, and E. Barden Street to the north. An asphalt driveway is located on the south side of the house and a stone walkway extends from S. Main Street to the dwelling's main entrance of the house. The primary resource faces east towards S. Main Street. One secondary resource, an attached shed, is associated with this property. The lot is surrounded by heavy vegetation; shrubs, small trees, and bushes line the south, west, and north sides of the lot. Decorative vegetation lines the walkway to the main entrance and a large tree sits on the north side of the façade.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The house is a two-story, five-bay, cross-gabled building constructed circa 1890 in the Queen Anne style with a T plan (Photo 245–Photo 247, p. 333). The foundation is continuous parged brick supporting a structural system that is clad in aluminum siding. The cross-gabled roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Scrolled wood modillions and a denticulated cornice are located under the roof eave and additional decoration in the cantilevered gable in the south half of the east elevation includes wood bargeboard and bracketing (Photo 247, p. 333). There are four brick chimneys: three are corbeled and one has a wide, stepped base (Photo 248, p. 334). The first interior chimney is located on the east side of the side-gabled roof slope; the second interior chimney is located on the west side of the side-gabled roof slope. The other two are both exterior-end chimneys and are located at the rear of the building: one is on the north side and the other is on the south side.

The primary entrance is centered on the east elevation and features a double-leaf, half-glazed, wood door with decorative trim and a metal storm door. Above the door is a fixed, transom light

(Photo 249, p. 334). Other fenestration on the house includes fully-glazed, metal, double-leaf doors; one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows; and two sets of two-story bay windows. Predominately, the house has one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows with simulated muntins to provide the appearance of a two-over-two window.



Figure 114: Location of J.S. Bradsher House (PR0278).<sup>541</sup>

<sup>541</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 115: Site Plan of J.S. Bradsher House (PR0278).<sup>542</sup>

An asymmetrical wrap-around wood porch set on brick piers and covered by a hipped roof covers a portion of the east elevation and all of the north elevation of the house (see Photo 245, p. 333). The roof is supported by round, wood, Doric columns. A large deck is located on the rear of the house: made of composite wood, the deck covers the length of the back of the house and is gated with vinyl fencing (Photo 250, p. 335). A flight of stairs with a vinyl railing located on the north elevation provides access to the deck from the rear yard. A smaller set of stairs from the asphalt driveway also provides access to the deck from the south side of the house. The shed is connected to the deck.

There are a few additions to the house all of which are located on the west elevation. A majority of these additions were added to the house during its restoration after 1973. They comprise a two-story addition with a shed roof, a one-story addition with a hipped roof, and a one-story, one-bay addition with a hipped roof. All exterior materials are the same as the core of the house (Photo 246, p. 333).

<sup>542</sup> Google Maps 2018.





Photo 245: East Elevation (Left) and Northeast Oblique (Right).



Photo 246: Southwest Oblique (Left) and Northwest Oblique (Right).



Photo 247: Queen Anne-Style Exterior Details, Looking East (Left) and Southwest (Right).



Photo 248: Corbeled Chimney Detail, Looking East (Left) and Stepped Base Chimney Detail, Looking East (Right).



Photo 249: Main Entrance Details, Looking West.





Photo 250: Rear Deck Details, Looking North (Left) and Southeast (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

The primary entrance to J.S. Bradsher House opens into a foyer with an intricately designed partition marking the space between the foyer and the hall (Figure 116, p. 336; Photo 251, p. 337). On the south side of the foyer is the sitting room and on the north side of the foyer is the living room (Photo 252, p. 337). Both rooms feature original door moldings and mantelpiece moldings. The casing around the doors is fluted and at each corner at the top has a rosette. There is either no door in the doorways on the first floor or a double-leaf, wood paneled door. The fireplaces are framed in wood; marble lines the outside of the fireplace and two columns, one on either side, outline the edge. A mantel sits above it and decorative swags sit at the center of the frieze of the fireplace. The fireplaces in both the living room and sitting room are located on the west wall. Past the foyer partition is the hallway with a staircase to the second floor on the north side. The linear staircase has wood paneling on the side as well as a storage space, accessed via a single-leaf, wood door, underneath. The wood railing along the staircase is supported by turned posts and ends with a newel post at the bottom. On the south side of the hallway is the dining room which has an original fireplace (located on the east wall), original mantel, original door molding, and original wall paneling (Photo 253, p. 337). The door moldings and fireplace details are the same as those in the living room and sitting room. A wall panel wraps around the room and is capped with a chair rail.

Past the core of the house and into the northwest addition (on the north side of the staircase) is the large family room as well as a hallway that leads to a half bath, a storage space, and an office on the north side of the house. The family room was used by the current owners, when they first moved into the house, as their bedroom.<sup>543</sup> To the west of the hallway is the entrance into a breakfast room and kitchen (Photo 254, p. 338). The breakfast room and kitchen are located in the addition located on the southwest side of the house which was added by the current owners after 1973.<sup>544</sup> Off of the kitchen, between it and the dining room, is a small space that contains the laundry room and the kitchen pantry (Photo 255, p. 338). Originally, both of these spaces had

<sup>543</sup> Barbara Alexander, personal communication 2019.

<sup>544</sup> Ibid.



been the butler's pantry. The flooring on the first floor is primarily carpet, with the exception of the breakfast room and kitchen, which feature linoleum tile and the walls throughout are composed of drywall. The original pine wood floors are underneath the carpet.

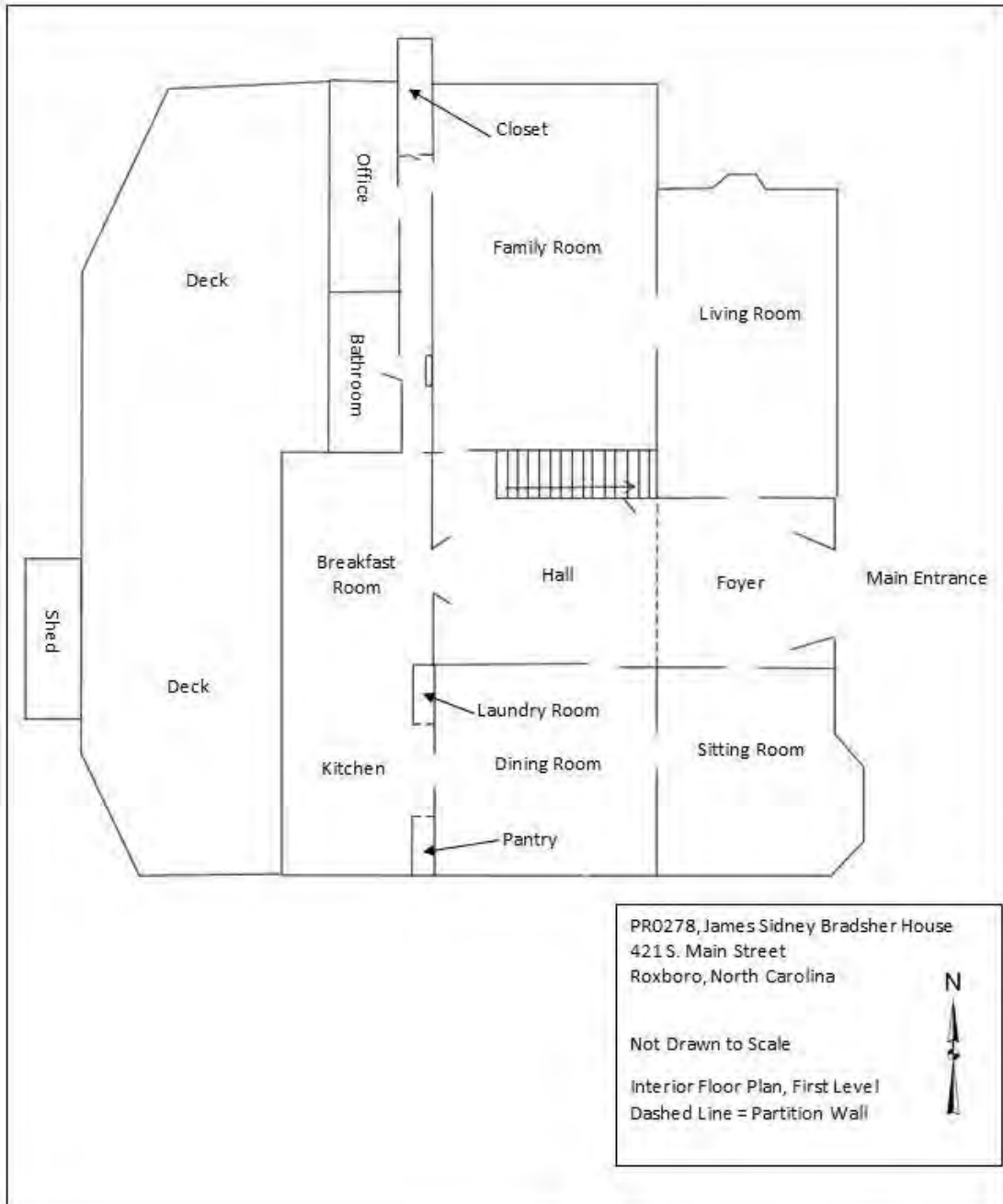


Figure 116: J.S. Bradsher House (PR0278) Interior First Level Floor Plan.

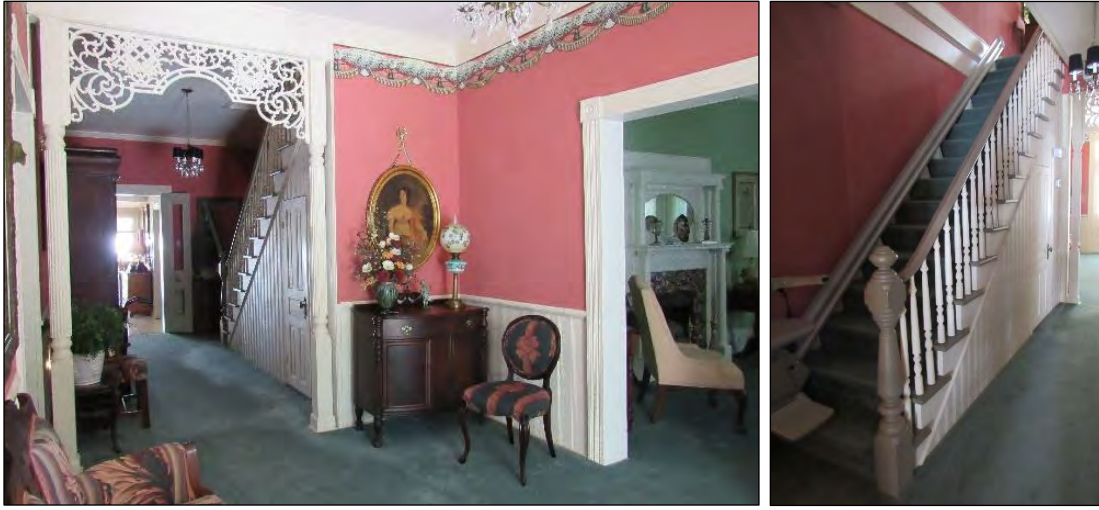


Photo 251: View of Staircase from Foyer, Looking East (Left) and Staircase Detail, Looking East (Right).



Photo 252: Living Room, Looking North (Left) and Sitting Room, Looking South (Right).



Photo 253: Dining Room, Looking South (Left) and Looking East (Right).

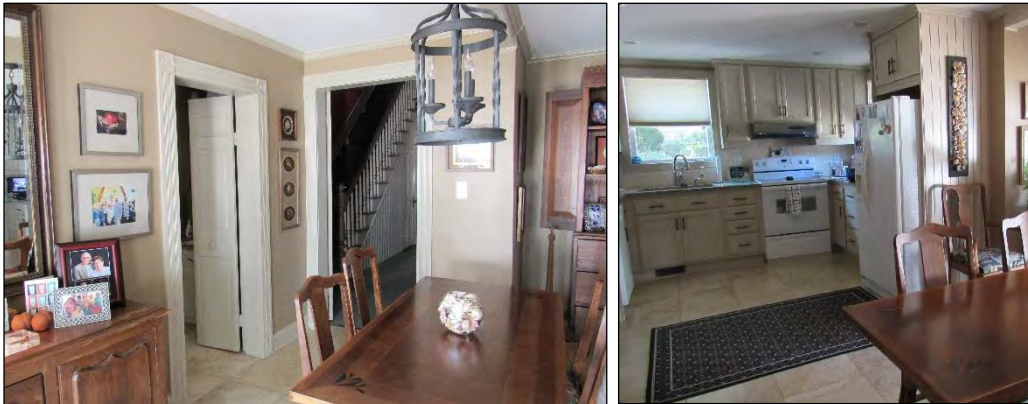


Photo 254: Breakfast Room, Looking East (Left) and Kitchen, Looking South (Right).

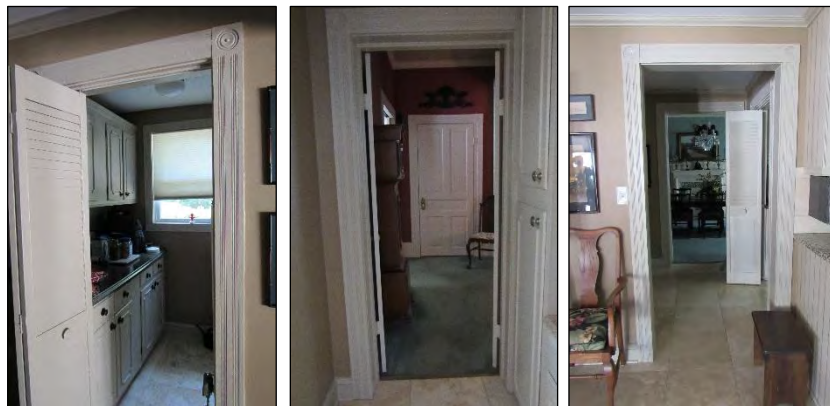


Photo 255: View into Pantry, Looking South (Left), View Down Hall Towards Storage Room/Office, Looking North (Center), and View into Dining Room from Kitchen, Looking East, (Right).

The second level is accessed via the main staircase in the hallway (Figure 117, p. 339; Photo 256, p. 340). Upstairs, there are four bedrooms and two bathrooms (Photo 257, p. 340). Two bedrooms have bay windows and one bedroom has an en suite half bathroom (Photo 258, p. 341). The other bathroom is located in the hallway, to the east of the staircase. All bedrooms feature original fireplaces, original mantels, original wood paneling underneath the windows, and original door moldings. The fireplaces, mantels, and door moldings are the same as those on the first floor. Each bedroom has a single-leaf, wood-paneled door with an ornate, metal doorknob. A few of the bedrooms also retain original built-in storage spaces (Photo 259, p. 341). Flooring and walls are similar to that of the first floor except for the bathrooms with feature tiled floors.



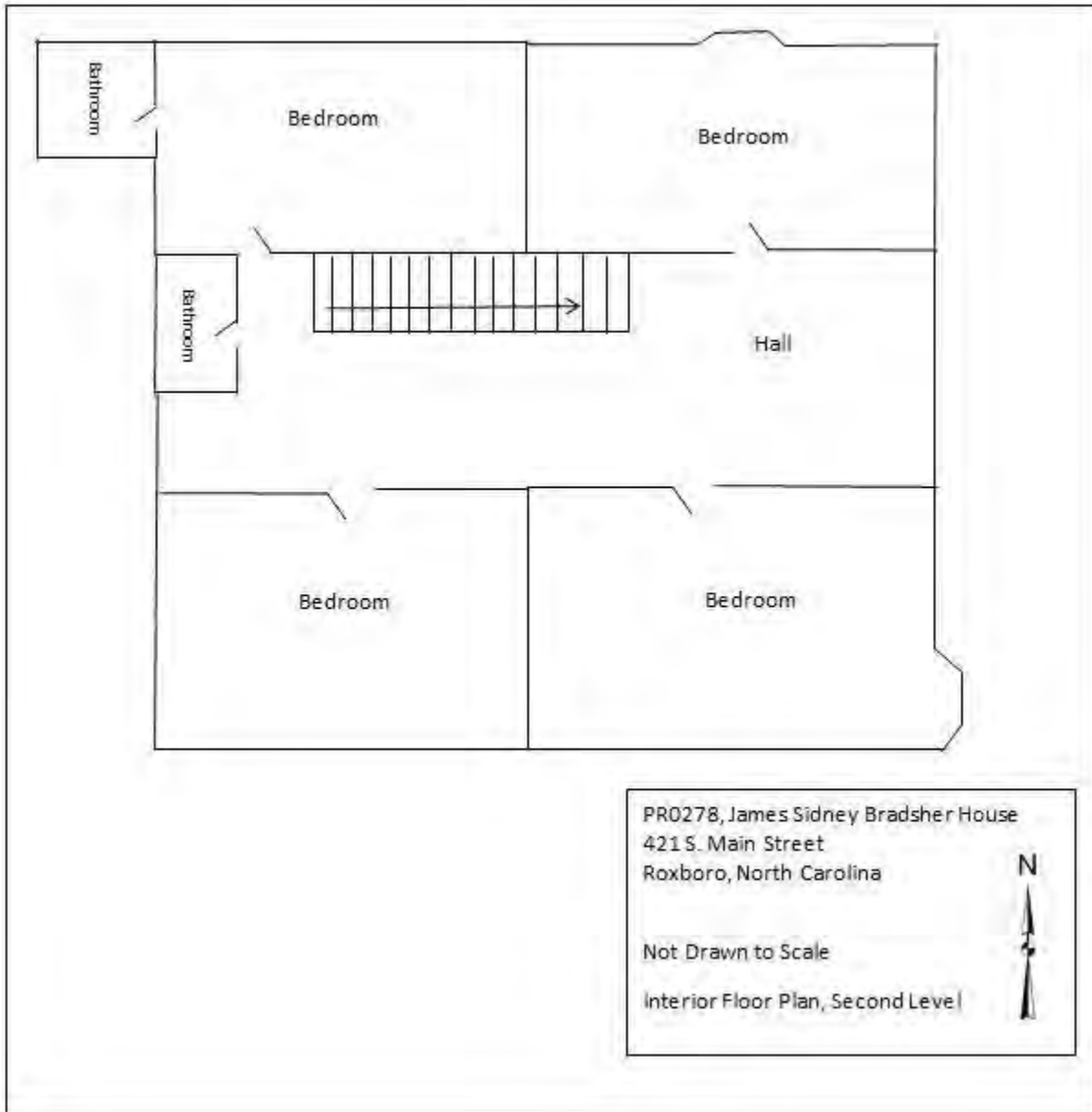


Figure 117: J.S. Bradsher House (PR0278) Interior Second Level Floor Plan.



Photo 256: Staircase from Second Floor, Looking West.



Photo 257: View from Southwest Bedroom towards Northeast Bedroom (Left) and Northeast Bedroom (Right).

The house has had a few alterations, but a majority of the house's interior details are original. Barbara Alexander shared that when she and her husband purchased the house, they created an additional room on the second floor and rented it out as an apartment; this room is the bedroom

with the half-bath en suite.<sup>545</sup> The original clawfoot tub is no longer in the bathroom upstairs; it was removed due to its weight and leakage issues. Despite these changes, as mentioned above, several rooms retain original fireplaces, original crown molding, original door surrounds, and original wood paneling (Photo 260, p. 342). None of the fireplaces are working as the chimneys have been closed off; the current owners filled them with sheet rock and then put the original trim and paneling back on top.



Photo 258: Half-Bathroom Entrance, Looking West (Left) and Bedroom Detail, Looking East, (Right).

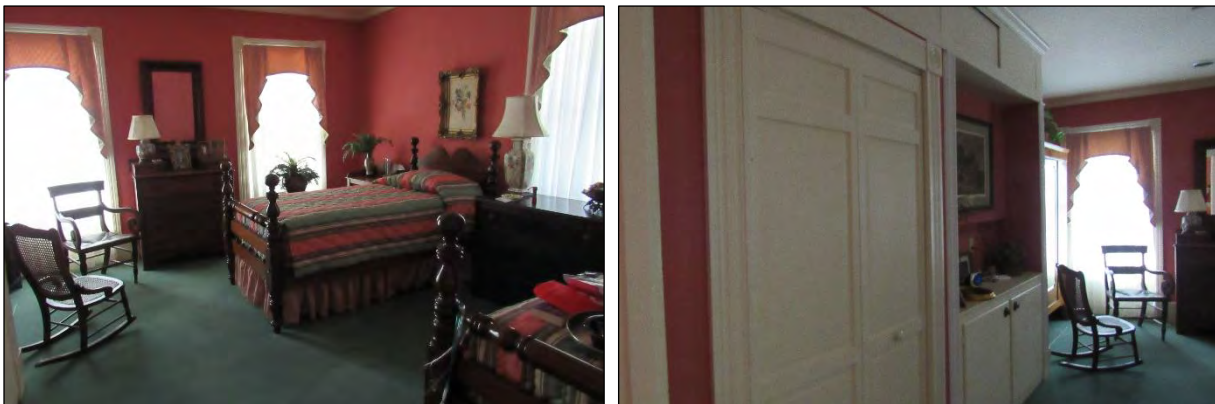


Photo 259: Bedroom, Looking West (Left) and Built-In Storage Detail (Right).

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1975, one-story, two-bay shed is associated with this resource (Photo 261, p. 342). It is attached to the rear deck of the house and sits on a fieldstone pier foundation. The wood-frame structural system is clad in vinyl siding and covered by a side-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The primary entrance, a single-leaf, metal storm door, is located on the west side of the shed (Photo 261, p.342). Surrounding this entrance is an shed-roofed entry porch that features

<sup>545</sup> Barbara Alexander, personal communication 2019.



vinyl latticed siding. Evidence of two single-leaf, original wood doors, located on the east side of the shed, is visible from the interior. Other fenestration includes one aluminum awning window. On the south side of the shed is a covered deck (Photo 262, p. 343). The walls inside the shed are exposed weatherboard: some areas are painted while others are not (Photo 263, p. 343). A small built-in ladder is located on the south side of the shed; this may indicate that it once had a loft. Currently, the shed is used for storage.



Photo 260: Fireplace Details in Living Room, Looking West (Left) and Fireplace in Upstairs Bedroom, Looking Southeast (Right).



Photo 261: Shed, Looking East (Left) and Detail of Shed Entrance (Right).

### *Historic Context*

During a period of economic success for Roxboro, the population boomed and residential construction increased, particularly along Main Street. Several examples of high style

architectural trends, such as houses in the Queen Anne or Italianate style, are located on S. Main Street. The J.S. Bradsher House, built by James Sidney Bradsher, was constructed around 1890, the same year that the railroad came to Roxboro and brought with it economic prosperity.



Photo 262: Open-Air Area on the South Side of the Shed, Looking East.



Photo 263: Interior Details of Shed: Looking East (Left) and Looking South (Right).

James Sidney Bradsher (1870–1961) was the grandson of James Bradsher (1774–1840), one of the first members of the Bradsher family to live in Person County. In 1891, James Sidney married Sallie Vale Thompson (1870–1949), and they moved into the house at 421 S. Main Street and had eight children.<sup>546</sup> James Sidney worked as a cashier at the Farmer’s Bank in Roxboro.<sup>547</sup> He, along with J.A. Long, W.W. Kitchin, A.R. Foushee, J.C. Pass, W.F. Reade, and R.E. Long are considered to be some of the “key leaders who helped make a transition to a more diversified economic base after the Civil War.”<sup>548</sup> Although no further information was found on how James Sidney helped diversify the economy of Roxboro, it is clear that he was considered a leader in the community.

<sup>546</sup> FindAGrave.com 2008a; North Carolina Marriage Records 1891.

<sup>547</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2015b; U.S. Census 1900, 1910.

<sup>548</sup> Boatright 2006:11.

In 1916, James Sidney moved sold his house at 421 S. Main Street to the People's Bank of Roxboro.<sup>549</sup> In 1919, the People's Bank sold the property to Robert and Elizabeth Wilburn.<sup>550</sup> Robert Lee (1861–1941) and Mildred Elizabeth “Bessie” Wilburn (1876–1973) lived in Bushy Fork, Person County prior to moving into the J.S. Bradsher House. According to census data, Robert Lee worked as a merchant in retail items and dry goods.<sup>551</sup> He advertised in the local newspaper with the business name “Wilburn & Satterfield” (Figure 118).<sup>552</sup> Ads for clothing items were most noted in the newspapers and one notice mentioned their store's prominent location on Main Street.<sup>553</sup> Bessie was an artist and several of her works remain in Roxboro today.<sup>554</sup>



Figure 118: 1933 Advertisement for Wilburn & Satterfield Store.<sup>555</sup>

After Bessie passed away in 1973, her daughters, Winnie Campbell, Louise Clayton, and Mildred Timberlake, obtained ownership of the J.S. Bradsher House. That same year, they sold the house to the present owners, Thomas Allen and Barbara R. Alexander.<sup>556</sup> The Alexanders

<sup>549</sup> PCDB 24:336.

<sup>550</sup> PCDB 29:85.

<sup>551</sup> U.S Census 1910, 1930.

<sup>552</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933a.

<sup>553</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933b.

<sup>554</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2015b.

<sup>555</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933a.

<sup>556</sup> PCDB 131:190.



bought the house for \$15,000 and completed extensive work on its restoration.<sup>557</sup> Now retired, Thomas Alexander worked as a dentist at his practice located next door at 415 S. Main Street.

### *Evaluation*

The J.S. Bradsher House at 421 S. Main Street is a two story, six-bay, cross-gabled single-family dwelling constructed circa 1890 in the Queen Anne style and modified post-1973. Although the house was renovated in the 1970s and features additions, the resource retains much of its original exterior and interior materials, rendering it a moderate to high level of historic integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. The resource has not been relocated from its original site and the surrounding area continues to function as a primarily residential neighborhood indicating that it has a high level of historic integrity of feeling, location, and setting. The house has continually been used as a family house throughout its history, and therefore, has a high level of integrity of association.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context...The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context...and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>558</sup> There are no known associations of the J.S. Bradsher House with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the J.S. Bradsher House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented...within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>559</sup> Although James Sidney Bradsher was noted as a leader in the Roxboro community, his contributions to history are limited or unknown. Furthermore, Robert Lee Wilburn was another notable citizen of Roxboro, but he also did not have specific contributions of note. No information was uncovered about the artistic contributions of Bessie Wilburn to the community of Roxboro. It is for all of these reasons that the J.S. Bradsher House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with other similar resources within the area. The J.S. Bradsher House is an example of Queen Anne-style architecture in Roxboro. Due to the popularity of the Queen Anne style during the housing and economic boom in Roxboro at the turn of the twentieth century, the style is relatively common. The most noted example of Queen Anne architecture in Roxboro is the J.A. Long House (PR0271) located at 217 S. Main Street; which is listed in the NRHP under Criteria B and C (see the Newell House [PR0303] section of the report for further details, pp. 82–89).

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<sup>557</sup> Barbara Alexander, personal communication 2019.

<sup>558</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>559</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

Built in 1897, a few years after the construction of the J.S. Bradsher House, the J.A. Long House was home to the most prominent businessman in Roxboro. The house features several elements of the Queen Anne style: the one-story front porch that wraps on both sides of the house, the irregular roof line, the presence of towers, the presence of details like finials, gable ornament, decorative molding, and patterned masonry chimneys.<sup>560</sup> In comparison to the Long House, the J.S. Bradsher House is of a more modest design though it also features important elements of the Queen Anne style such as the use of the asymmetrical porch, bay windows, decorative chimneys, gable ornament, and lace-like brackets. As this house was built around 1890 it was one of the earlier examples of the Queen Anne style in Roxboro.

Other examples of the Queen Anne style are found on S. Main Street, such as the Winstead House (PR0275), located at 408 S. Main Street (also see the Newell House (PR303) section of the report for further details, p. 82–89), and the Critcher House (PR0277), located at 412 S. Main Street (Photo 264). It is estimated that both of these houses were built in the late-1800s. Both houses are two-story frame dwellings that feature asymmetrical porches. Both have examples of intricate woodwork detailing such as decoration in the gables, roof brackets, or porch railings. The Critcher House has a second-story, one-bay porch with a front-gable roof; the Winstead House has a large addition on the north side of the house.



Photo 264: The Winstead House (PR0275) (Left), Looking East and The Critcher House (PR0277) (Right), Looking East.

Another example is the Willson House located at 415 S. Main Street, across from the current resource (Photo 265, pg. 347). The property was purchased by Charles T. Willson in 1899 from James Sidney Bradsher.<sup>561</sup> The current owners of the James Sidney Bradsher House purchased the Willson House in 1983 and restored and converted it from a dwelling into a dental office.<sup>562</sup> This house also has a few Queen Anne elements, although it is the most modest of all the examples in this contextualization. The asymmetrical porch was torn down during the restoration as was an addition on the rear.<sup>563</sup> The brackets in the eaves are evocative of both the Italianate

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<sup>560</sup> McAlester 2018:347.

<sup>561</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2015d.

<sup>562</sup> Ibid.

<sup>563</sup> Ibid.

and Queen Anne style. The front doors are not original to the house, but were purchased from the Long Memorial Church and reinstalled here.<sup>564</sup> The corbelled chimney and the asymmetrical roofline are other elements of the Queen Anne style.



Photo 265: The Willson House, Looking Southwest.

The plethora Queen Anne-style houses on S. Main Street reflects the newly acquired access to materials as a result of the railroad and the style's overall popularity in Roxboro, a common trend that was taking place throughout North Carolina and the United States during this period. The J.S. Bradsher House is one example of this style found throughout Roxboro.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>565</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>566</sup> Given that much of the original house and its decorative work, both on the exterior and interior, remain, the building does possess a moderate level of artistic value; however, the J.S. Bradsher House is just one example of many in Roxboro of the Queen Anne style. Furthermore, there are several other local examples that better embody the Queen Anne style such as the NRHP-listed J.A. Long House (PR0271). It is for these reasons that the J.S. Bradsher House is recommended as not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or

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<sup>564</sup> Ibid.

<sup>565</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>566</sup> Ibid.



prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>567</sup> The J.S. Bradsher House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the J.S. Bradsher House is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

In addition to the resource's recommended individual eligibility determination, the J.S. Bradsher House is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district's period of significance (1875–1955). This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>567</sup> Ibid.

**PR0317: Dallas William Long House, 425  
S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1895

Modifications: ca. 1960

425 S. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0906-18-30-9179

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to the South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)

***Architectural Description***

The Dallas William Long House (D.W. Long House) (PR0317) at 425 S. Main Street is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro in the southern section of the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0326) (Figure 119–Figure 120, pp. 350–351). The property comprises a lot measuring approximately 0.31 acre covered in a grassy lawn. The lot has decorative vegetation near the main entrance and moderate tree coverage on the south and southwest side of the house. The D.W. Long House is bound by S. Main Street to the east, Harris Street to the south, S. Lamar Street to the west, and E. Barden Street to the north. A gravel driveway is located on the southwest side of the house with access from Harris Street. A concrete walkway leads from S. Main Street to the main entrance of the house on the east elevation, which faces toward the road. Three secondary resources are associated with this resource and include a shed, a garage, and a stone hearth.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The D.W. Long House (PR0317) is a two-story, three-bay building with a basement level constructed circa 1895 with subdued elements of the Italianate style with a rear addition added circa 1960 (Photo 266, p. 352). The foundation is parged brick and supports a structural system clad in aluminum siding. The L-plan house features a hipped roof with a hipped roof projection from the southern half of the east elevation (façade), all of which is clad in asphalt shingles. Wood scrolled modillions are located under the boxed eaves (Photo 267, p. 352). An interior, corbeled brick chimney pierces the roof where the main hipped roof connects with the hipped roof projection. A shed dormer is centered on the west elevation and features two fixed, vinyl windows.

The primary entrance is centered on the east elevation and filled with a single-leaf, fully-glazed, wood door with nine lights and a band of horizontal lights at the top. The door is covered by a metal storm-door. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows; single-leaf, half-glazed, fiberglass doors; and a half-glazed, single-leaf, wood basement door accessed via a wood bulkhead door (Photo 268, p. 352).



Figure 119: Location of the D.W. Long House (PR0317).<sup>568</sup>

<sup>568</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 120: Site Plan of the D.W. Long House (PR0317).<sup>569</sup>

A one-story, partial-width, wood porch spans the northern half of the façade (Photo 269, p. 353). Covered with a low-pitched, hipped roof clad in asphalt shingles, this roof is supported by wood, fluted, Doric-style columns. Two concrete stairs lead to the porch in front of the primary entry and an original hexagonal porch light fixture remains; it is composed green glass with a metal frame (Photo 270, p. 353). A two-story addition is located on the rear of the house; clad in aluminum siding, the addition was perhaps once used as a rental apartment (Photo 271, p. 353). Built circa 1960, the addition has a flight of stairs that lead to a single-leaf, half-glazed door on the second floor. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows. It supported by a combination of brick piers and parged concrete block. Another entrance on the first floor to the addition is located on the south side; the single-leaf, half-glazed fiberglass door is accessed via a wood ramp with a wood railing on the side closest to S. Main Street (Photo 272, p. 354). An interior, corbeled brick chimney pierces the slope of the addition's roof at the center.

<sup>569</sup> Google Maps 2018.



Photo 266: Façade (Left) and Northeast Oblique (Right).



Photo 267: Bracket Details (East Elevation).



Photo 268: Bulkhead Door and Entrance to Basement on West Elevation.





Photo 269: Porch on Façade (Left) and Porch Column Detail, Looking Northeast (Right).



Photo 270: Original Porch Light Over Primary Entrance on East Elevation.



Photo 271: Rear Addition, Southwest Oblique (Left) and West Elevation (Right).





Photo 272: Rear Addition Entrances: Looking North (Left) and Looking North (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior of 425 S. Main Street was not permitted during this effort. The homeowners did not provide much information about the interior when asked, but did note that “nothing original” remained in the house.<sup>570</sup> Based on photographs and aerials, the L-shaped house likely has a central-hall floor plan.

*Secondary Resources*

A circa-1950, one-story, two-bay, front-gabled garage is located at the northwest corner of the house (Photo 273, p. 355). It has a stone foundation and a five-to-one, common-bond brick structural system. The north elevation is clad in weatherboard and the gable end of the roof has T1-11 siding. The front-gabled roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Fenestration includes a single-leaf, half-glazed, fiberglass door a one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl window with fixed wood shutters, both on the south elevation. The garage has physical evidence that it once had a sliding garage door but has since been infilled with T1-11 siding, a new door, and window.

A circa-1980, one-story, one-bay, gambrel-roofed shed is located to the west of the garage (Photo 274, p. 355). The shed has a wood pier foundation and the structural system is clad in T1-11 siding. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and features a prominent hay hood on the south elevation. The primary entrance, a double-leaf, board-and-batten, T1-11 door, is located on

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<sup>570</sup> Sybil Knapp, personal communication 2019.

the south elevation. Two one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows are located on the west elevation.



Photo 273: Garage, Looking Northeast.



Photo 274: Shed, Looking Northwest.

A circa-1950 stone hearth is situated at the far west side of the property (Photo 275, p. 356). The hearth stands about 4 feet tall and is made of both stone and concrete block. The hearth had evidence of repairs made with concrete.



Photo 275: Stone and Concrete Hearth, Looking Southwest.

### *Historic Context*

The D.W. Long House, built by Dallas William Long, was constructed during a period of economic prosperity for the locality around the turn of the twentieth century, coinciding with the arrival of the railroad.

D.W. Long (1869–1953) purchased the empty lot from C.S. Winstead, who had been appointed to manage William Clement Satterfield’s estate.<sup>571</sup> Long was a member of the prominent Long family in Roxboro

A quitclaim deed description mentions D.W. Long’s residence at 425 S. Main Street, and according to Historic Uptown Roxboro Walking Tour brochure, D.W. Long was responsible for constructing the house in the late 1890s and lived there throughout the early-twentieth century.<sup>572</sup> Dallas married Mollie B. Wright (1878–1962) and they had two sons: Robert Erwin (1903–1988) and Fred Alwyn Long (1899–1984). Early in his career, Dallas worked as a salesman of dried goods, but later worked as a lumber dealer; his father Alexander Monroe Long started a building and contracting company in 1884 and it is likely that Dallas continued with the business after his father passed away in 1920.<sup>573</sup> In an article about the marriage between Fred Long and Wilma Thomas, the Long family, along with the Thomas family, was described in the following manner: “As both families are prominent this wedding is of special interest to many friends throughout the County and State” indicating the popularity of both families in the locality.<sup>574</sup> A 1925 Sanborn map shows the house at 425 S. Main Street, along with three outbuildings, under D.W. Long’s ownership (Figure 121, p. 357).

After Dallas and Mollie passed away, the house was left to Robert, Fred, and Fred’s wife, Wilma Long.<sup>575</sup> In 1964, Fred and Wilma sold their share of the property to Robert and his wife, Leiotte

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<sup>571</sup> PCDB MM:474.

<sup>572</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d..

<sup>573</sup> U.S. Census 1930; Wright 1974:145.

<sup>574</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1924.

<sup>575</sup> PCDB 100:523



Long. In the deed, the land was described as “the property on which Dr. Robert E. Long now resides.”<sup>576</sup> Robert was a dentist, but research could not determine where his office was located in Roxboro.<sup>577</sup> After Leiotte passed away in 2004, the property was sold by Paul E. Long, executor of Leiotte’s estate, to Bruce T. and Sybil Burlingham Knapp, the current owners.<sup>578</sup> Bruce and Sybil Knapp have continued to live in the house at 425 S. Main Street from 2005 to the present.

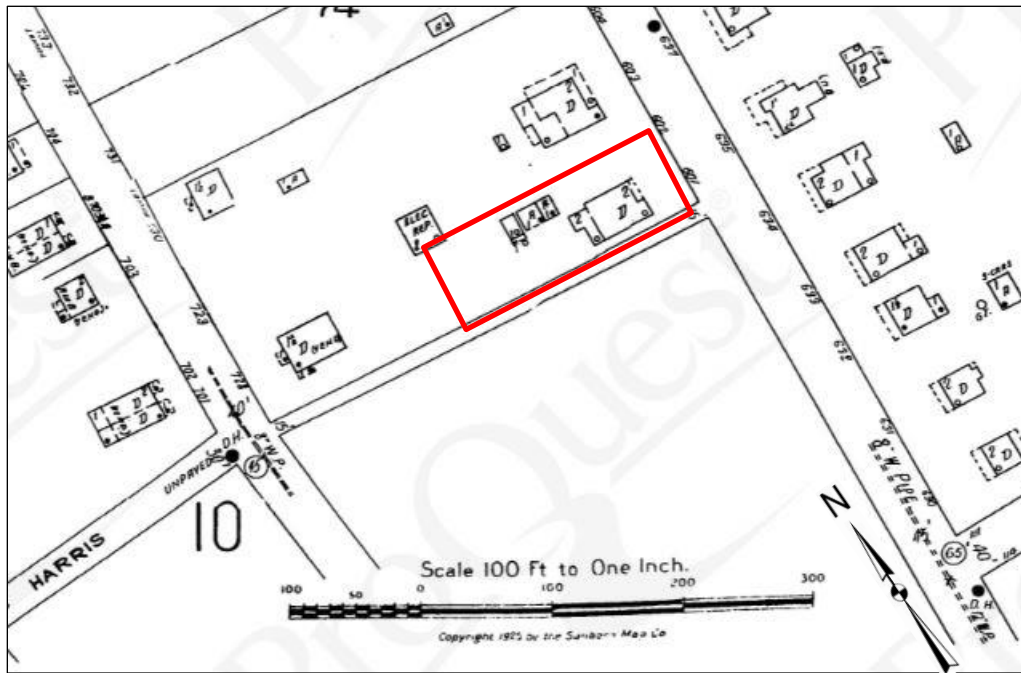


Figure 121: 1925 Sanborn Map of Roxboro with the D.W. Long House Shown in Red.<sup>579</sup>

### ***Evaluation***

The D.W. Long House is a two-story, three-bay, hipped roof building constructed circa 1895 with elements of the Italianate style. A rear addition was built in circa 1960 and several architectural elements have been replaced with vinyl, aluminum, or asphalt, rendering a low to moderate level of historic integrity of design, feeling, materials, and workmanship. The resource still operates in its original function as a single-family residence, has never been moved from its original location, and the area surrounding remains unchanged from its period of construction. Therefore, the resource retains a moderate to high level of association, location, and setting.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The

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<sup>576</sup> PCDB 100:523.

<sup>577</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>578</sup> PCDB 537:727.

<sup>579</sup> Sanborn 1925.

event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>580</sup> There are no known associations of the D.W. Long House with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the D.W. Long House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented [...] within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>581</sup> Although the Long family was a noted and prominent family in Roxboro, D.W. Long’s contributions to local, state, or national history are limited or unknown. It is for all of these reasons that the D. W. Long House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. The D.W. Long House is an example of Italianate architecture in Roxboro. There are other examples of Italianate-style houses throughout the city and along S. Main Street. A majority of the examples are modest in design, featuring only a few elements of the Italianate style, similar to the current resource. One such example is a house at 314 S. Main Street (Photo 276, p. 359). Built circa 1901, the two-story, three-bay, hipped-roof house is located on a grassy lawn along S. Main Street. The aluminum-clad building features a roof with modillions and a denticulated cornice. The primary entrance is accessed by a partial-width entry porch with narrow squared supports. The narrow windows, modestly decorated crowns around the windows, and roof eave decoration are all elements of the Italianate style.

Another example of an Italianate house is the Willson House located at 415 S. Main Street; see the J.S. Bradsher section of the report for detailed information about the house (see Photo 265, p. 347). Built around 1895, the property was purchased by Charles T. Willson in 1899 from J.S. Bradsher.<sup>582</sup> This house has elements of both the Queen Anne style and the Italianate style: the overall form of the house is Queen Anne, but it has overt, decorative elements on the façade that evoke the Italianate style. The brackets in the eaves, the narrow, tall windows, and the small entry-porch are all elements of the Italianate style. There are several similarities, such as the tripartite bay windows and the use of tall, narrow windows, between the Willson House and the house at 314 S. Main Street.

The D.W. Long House, the Willson House, and the house at 314 S. Main Street are all modest examples of the Italianate style on S. Main Street. All three feature components such as modillions and partial-width porches. When compared, the D.W. Long and the house at 314 S. Main Street have the most obvious Italianate forms. Despite its Italianate form, the D.W. Long House remains modest in its design and the large additions on the rear elevation have altered the overall massing of the house. The house at 314 S. Main Street serves as a more representative example of the Italianate style in Roxboro.

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<sup>580</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>581</sup> Ibid.

<sup>582</sup> Person County Heritage Trail 2015d.



Photo 276: House, 314 S. Main Street, Looking East.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>583</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>584</sup> A few examples of Italianate architecture exist throughout the City of Roxboro, some of which feature stronger elements of Italianate design, such as the trademark narrow windows and flat roofed porches and bay windows. The current resource is a modest representation of the Italianate style and is not known to be the work of a master. Therefore, the D.W. Long House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>585</sup> The D.W. Long House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the D.W. Long House is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the D.W. Long House is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district’s period of significance and embodies a style, form, and property type found throughout, contributing to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing to the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327).**

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<sup>583</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>584</sup> Ibid.

<sup>585</sup> Ibid.



## **PR0318: Hester House, 509 S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1920

Modifications: Early-Twentieth Century

509 S. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-06-39-8944

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible;  
Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)



### ***Architectural Description***

The Hester House at 509 S. Main Street is located south of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) and within the southwest section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) in the City of Roxboro (Figure 122, p. 361). It is located approximately 400 feet east of Madison Boulevard. The resource occupies a 0.64-acre, narrow parcel on the west side of S. Main Street, between Trotter and Harris streets. The primary resource, a single-family dwelling, is slightly set back from S. Main Street on the eastern portion of the lot (Figure 123, p. 362). There is a gravel driveway that extends west from S. Main Street and terminates at the rear of the porte-cochere. Two poured-concrete sidewalks extend from the city sidewalk with an oval-shaped grass median in the middle of them. The lot slopes down to the rear (west) yard and is covered by a grassy lawn. The façade (east elevation) is lined with bushes and the lawn is dotted with deciduous trees. There are no secondary resources associated with this house.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Hester House at 509 S. Main Street is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay house constructed around 1920 in a American Foursquare form with Prairie-style details (Photo 277, p. 363). The foundation of Flemish-bonded brick supports a frame structural system clad in vinyl siding. The house is built into the lot's natural landscape, resulting in a basement on the building's western half. The hipped roof with a central hipped dormer on the façade is sheathed in asphalt shingles (Photo 278, p. 363). The wood eave features modillions and a plain cornice. There are two interior-slope brick chimneys: one pierces the rear slope of the roof and the other on the south slope.

The primary entrance is centered on the façade with a single-leaf, 15-light wood door and metal storm door, both set below a three-light wood transom (Photo 279, p. 364). The dormer features what appear to be fixed, multi-light, wood windows, including one with a diamond lattice pattern, and fixed multi-light wood windows in the basement, while the remainder of the house features four-over-four and six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood-framed and one-over-one,

double-hung-sash, replacement vinyl windows with faux muntins (Photo 281, p. 365). The double-hung-sashes are configured as a single, pair, and tripartite pattern. It is possible that the windows in the dormer and basement are hopper or awning to allow for airflow.



Figure 122: Location of Hester House (PR0318).<sup>586</sup>

<sup>586</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 123: Site Plan of Hester House (PR0318).<sup>587</sup>

A one-story, full-width, hipped-roof front porch runs across the façade supported by square brick supports (Photo 279, p. 364). The pressed concrete decking is lined with decorative brick arcaded balustrade with concrete coping and the porch is approached by concrete steps with metal railings (Photo 280, p. 364). On the north elevation is a one-story, one-bay, hipped-roof porte-cochere supported by square brick posts (Photo 283, p. 366). Steps that face west and go down from the front porch provide pedestrian access to the porte-cochere. On the south elevation is a one-story, one-bay sunroom extension with a flagstone patio that connects to the front porch (Photo 282, p. 365). The sunroom is accessed by a double-leaf, 15-light wood door with multi-light wood sidelights and transom, covered by storm windows. The sunroom has a basement level that appears to function as a gardening room. There is also a one-story, multi-bay, hipped-roof extension with a basement level on the rear (west) elevation (Photo 283, p. 366). The

<sup>587</sup> Google Maps 2018.



foundation of this rear addition is of six-to-one common-bonded brick. The fenestration includes wood ribbon windows. The rear extension is accessed by a wood deck with wood stairs on the northwest corner. The front porch, the porte-cochere, the sunroom, and rear extension all have the same modillions beneath their eaves, similar to the core of the house.



Photo 277: Overview of Hester House, Looking West.



Photo 278: East Elevation.



Photo 279: Primary Entrance (Left) and Column Detail (Right) on East Elevation.



Photo 280: Brick Arcade Balustrade Detail on East Elevation.





Photo 281: Detail of Dormer with Original Windows on East Elevation.



Photo 282: Southeast Oblique of Hester House.





Photo 283: Rear (West) Elevation of Hester House.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior of 509 S. Main Street was not permitted during this effort by the current homeowners, Frank J. “Jack” Hester III and his sister, Elizabeth Hester Vernon. The homeowners did not provide much information about the interior, but when asked Mr. Hester stated that “98 percent of the interior is original,” including the doors and pine and oak hardwood floors. He also indicated that the sunroom and rear extensions were original to the house. Mr. Hester also mentioned that all but one of the fireplaces had been “plugged up” and were no longer functional.<sup>588</sup> Based on the form and massing, the house likely has four rooms upstairs and four rooms downstairs in the original core, as is common in the American Foursquare form.<sup>589</sup>

*Secondary Resources*

There are no secondary resources currently associated with the Hester House. However, according to the Historic Uptown Roxboro Walking Tour brochure, up until the 1970s secondary resources included a garage, smokehouse, chicken house, small barn, and garden.<sup>590</sup>

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<sup>588</sup> Frank J. Hester III, personal communication 2020.

<sup>589</sup> McAlester 2013:555.

<sup>590</sup> Roxboro Development Group n.d.

### *Historic Context*

The house at 509 S. Main Street is known as the Hester House, as it was built by Franklin Jackson Hester, Sr. (1878–1969), and his wife, Foy Bradsher Hester (1880–1948), around 1920 and has been owned and occupied by the Hester family ever since.<sup>591</sup> While the men in the family are named Franklin Jackson Hester, the first two generations went by the nickname of Frank and the third generation goes by Jack. The house is currently owned by Frank J. “Jack” Hester, III, and his sister, Elizabeth Hester Vernon; the present occupants of the house are Frank J. “Jack” Hester, III, and his wife, Kathryn G. Hester.<sup>592</sup>

In the 1920 federal population census, Frank J. Hester, Sr., and his wife, Foy, were recorded as living on a farm outside of Roxboro in Hurdle Mills on Bushy Fork Road with their three daughters, Sue, Margrette, and Mary, and one son, Frank J. Hester, Jr.<sup>593</sup> In October, 1929, Frank J. Hester, Sr. purchased Lot #3 on the west side of Main Street from E.G. Thompson and his wife, Nannie Thompson; this lot contained the two-and-a-half-story Hester House.<sup>594</sup> Research and oral history suggests that Frank K. Hester, Sr. built the house at 509 S. Main Street, so this could either be a deed recordation delay or perhaps he was involved in house construction prior to buying the lot.

Frank J. Hester, Sr., worked in the local tobacco industry and was listed as the co-owner of Winstead tobacco warehouse, along with J.J. Winstead.<sup>595</sup> By 1930, Frank, Sr., and his family were listed as living in the City of Roxboro, although the address is N. Main Street instead of south, which is possibly an enumerator error.<sup>596</sup> Frank, Sr., is listed in federal census records at this time as a merchant in the grocery business. According to *The Roxboro Courier*, in the fall of 1931, Frank, Sr., was still running Winstead Warehouse on the local tobacco market.<sup>597</sup> However, by 1933, Hester changed jobs and was working at the Hyco Warehouse, where his family is still involved today (Figure 124, p. 368).<sup>598</sup> In addition to his family, Carrie Sue Vernon, a teacher, is listed as a boarder in the Hester household in 1930.

The 1940 federal population census lists Frank, Sr., as a tobacconist and fertilizer salesman and at this point, Frank, Jr., is the only child living at the family home.<sup>599</sup> The Hesters continued to open their house to boarders as a Dan L. McLaurin, a farm supervisor with the Farm Services Administration, is listed in their household in 1940.<sup>600</sup>

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<sup>591</sup> Findagrave.com 2012.

<sup>592</sup> Findagrave.com 2008b.

<sup>593</sup> U.S. Census 1920.

<sup>594</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>595</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1927a:8.

<sup>596</sup> U.S. Census 1930.

<sup>597</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1931a:1.

<sup>598</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1933c:3.

<sup>599</sup> U.S. Census 1940.

<sup>600</sup> *Ibid.*

The image contains two side-by-side newspaper advertisements. The left advertisement is a notice from F. J. Hester & Co. regarding the Winstead Warehouse. The right advertisement is a promotional piece for the Roxboro Tobacco Market, listing various warehouses and their operators, including a mention of Hyco Warehouse.

**F. J. HESTER & CO.**  
**TO RUN THE WINSTEAD**

Well Known Firm Will Operate On Roxboro Market Again This Season

Messrs. F. J. Hester & Co., who have successfully run the Winstead Warehouse for the past several years, will again have charge of this splendid house. They are well known Person county citizens and the farmers know their ability to care for them when it comes to selling tobacco.

This season there will again be four houses here, all of which have been rented save the Pioneer, and we are assured that this house will be ready when the market opens. With these four houses the farmers are assured of the best of attention, and they can bring their tobacco here feeling sure they will receive courteous treatment and the best prices possible.

**Mr. Tobacco Farmer:**

Naturally you are interested in getting the most money that you can for the crop of tobacco which you have worked so hard to raise. You are entitled to it and if you will bring it to Roxboro we will see that not a single basket of it is overlooked. We haven't as yet (although each year we are increasing our sales) the "biggest" market in the belt, but we are going to do our "dead level" best to make it the **BEST MARKET IN THE BELT**, and if working hard will do it, the same will be accomplished.

All the companies this season, both Domestic and Foreign, will have their buyers on the Roxboro market. We cannot add more to this, for when a market gets all of them, there are no more to get, and that's what Roxboro has.

Our warehouse facilities are better than ever before and Roxboro this season says with all candor and sincerity that the heads of each of the four (4) warehouses are men who have no superiors in "running the sale" in the tobacco world.

The four (4) warehouses will be run as follows:  
Winstead Warehouse—J. G. Chambers, John Brewer and S. B. Winstead.  
Pioneer Warehouse—J. J. Winstead and R. L. Hester.  
Planters Warehouse—J. D. Perkins.  
Hyco Warehouse—W. T. Pass, George Walker, Frank Hester.

**START WITH US AND WE WILL GUARANTEE TO PLEASE YOU, FOR WHAT IT TAKES TO SELL TOBACCO, ROXBORO HAS IT.**

YOUR FRIENDS,  
**THE ROXBORO TOBACCO MARKET**  
— SEASON OF 1933 —  
TEN MILLION POUNDS IS OUR GOAL

Figure 124: *The Roxboro Courier* article about Frank J. Hester, Sr. from 1931 (Left) and an advertisement for Hyco Warehouse from 1933 (Right).<sup>601</sup>

The current homeowner, Frank, III, stated that all of the house is original and there have been no structural changes since it was built by his grandfather, Frank J. Hester, Sr. The 1925 Sanborn map of Roxboro shows the Hester House with its rear and side extensions, but without the porte cochere (Figure 125, p. 369).<sup>602</sup> The 1943 Sanborn map of Roxboro, alternatively, shows the Hester House with the porte cochere and the rear and side extensions, just as it is today (Figure 126, p. 369).<sup>603</sup> Although the porte-cochere is not indicated in the earlier mapping of the dwelling, the current homeowner states that it is original to the house.<sup>604</sup>

<sup>601</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1931a:1, 1933c:3.

<sup>602</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>603</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>604</sup> Frank J. Hester III, personal communication 2020.



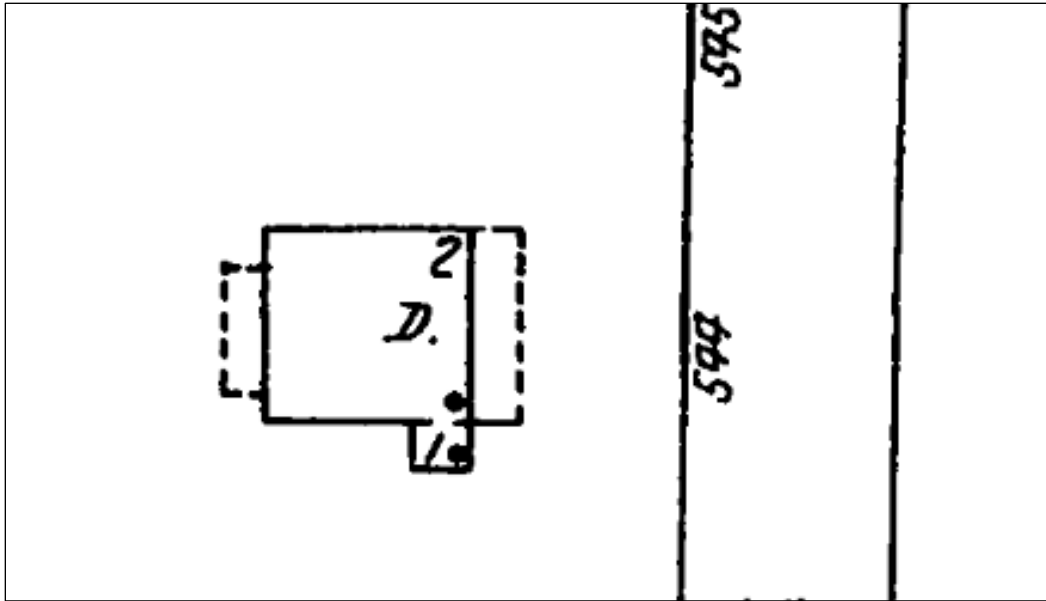


Figure 125: 1925 Sanborn Map of Roxboro of the Hester House.<sup>605</sup>

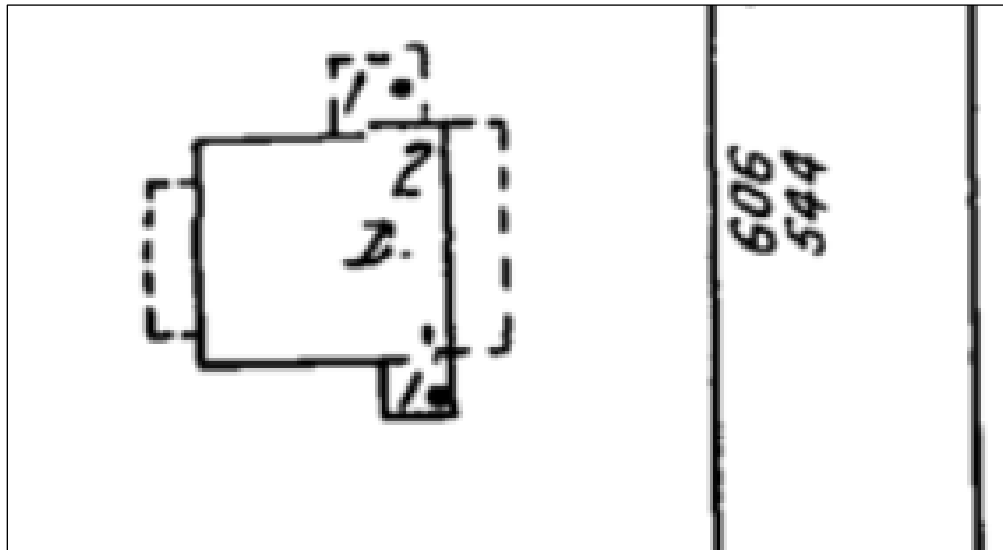


Figure 126: 1943 Sanborn Map of Roxboro of the Hester House.<sup>606</sup>

Like his father, Frank, Jr., (1918–1995) was a well-known Roxboro tobacconist and the co-owner of Hyco Tobacco Warehouse, which his son Frank J. “Jack” Hester III runs to this today. When Frank, Jr., died in 1995, he was still living at 509 S. Main Street. He was survived by his wife, Sara Cole Hester (1920–2004), who then passed the house onto their children when she

<sup>605</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>606</sup> Sanborn 1943.

died.<sup>607</sup> Sara Hester was an active member of the Roxboro Baptist Church and studied music at Meredith College. She taught music in Person County schools, in addition to private piano lessons.<sup>608</sup>

### *Evaluation*

The Hester House (PR0318) is a two-and-one-half-story, three-bay, hipped-roof dwelling constructed around 1920 in the American Foursquare form. Several architectural elements have been replaced, including the siding, and the majority of the windows. Given this, the resource has low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It has a high level of historic integrity of association and feeling as it continues to function in its original capacity as a single-family dwelling. Finally, the house has not moved from its original location and its surroundings remain residential in nature, rendering a high level of historic integrity of location and setting.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>609</sup> There are no known associations of the Hester House with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Hester House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented [...] within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>610</sup> Although the Hester family was a noted and prominent family in Roxboro, Frank J. Hester, Sr.’s contributions to history are not known to be historically significant. The known owners and occupants historically associated with the Hester House are not known to have attained historic significance at the state or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. For these reasons, the Hester House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>611</sup> In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. The Hester House is an American Foursquare form. There are many other houses in Roxboro that derive their architectural stylistic elements from the Arts and Crafts Movement,

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<sup>607</sup> Findagrave.com 2008c.

<sup>608</sup> Findagrave.com 2008b.

<sup>609</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>610</sup> Ibid.

<sup>611</sup> Ibid.

including several with similar form and design elements as the Hester House. Two houses that have a similar form and overall massing to the Hester House are 201 and 318 S. Main Street. The two-story, three-bay, brick-clad, foursquare dwelling at 201 S. Main Street has large brackets under its deep eaves, rather than modillions, and also features masonry balustrade on the front porch and replacement windows (Photo 284). The house at 318 S. Main Street is also two-and-a-half stories in height, clad in brick, and features a central hipped dormer on its façade. However, the building retains its original wood-framed windows and higher overall integrity. Both of these houses possess character-defining features typical of the Craftsman style in the American Foursquare form, whereas the Hester House is a more modest example of these architectural trends,

In the northern section of Roxboro is the house at 323 N. Main Street. Similar in height and width as the Hester House, it also features an identical central dormer and dormer fenestration, though it also maintains its weatherboard siding and wood-framed windows (Photo 285, p. 372). The Bungalow (PR0314) at 219 S. Lamar Street is an example of a two-and-one-half-story, circa-1915 house with Craftsman-style elements that is recommended eligible for the NRHP as part of the current effort. Please see p. 256 for more information on The Bungalow. Compared to other local examples, The Bungalow is a unique and representative example of the Craftsman style in Roxboro and Person County as a whole and maintains a higher level of integrity than the Hester House.



Photo 284: House at 201 S. Main Street (Left) and House at 318 S. Main Street (Right).

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>612</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>613</sup> The Hester House is just one of many foursquare-plan houses with Craftsman-style elements within the City of Roxboro. Compared to

<sup>612</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>613</sup> Ibid.



these other iterations, it is a modest example of its form and style with a diminished level of historic integrity due to replacement materials. Furthermore, the resource is not known to be the work of a master. As such, the Hester House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.



Photo 285: House at 323 N. Main Street.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>614</sup> The Hester House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Hester House **is recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the Hester House is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district's period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, the Hester House is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>614</sup> Ibid.

**PR0319: Rock Inn, 519 S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1925

Modifications: ca. 1935, ca. 1960

519 S. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-06-39-9705

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible;  
Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)

***Architectural Description***

The Rock Inn service station at 519 S. Main Street is located approximately 0.5 mile southwest of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) and within the southwest section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) in the City of Roxboro. It is located about 400 feet east of Madison Boulevard (Figure 127, p. 374). The resource occupies a 0.24-acre, rectangular-shaped parcel on the west side of S. Main Street. Rock Inn faces east with a semi-circular concrete driveway passing beneath its canopy connecting to S. Main Street (Figure 128, p. 375). The primary resource, a service station, is surrounded by trees and a steeply sloped grassy lawn on the west (rear) side of the building. Three secondary resources are associated with the service station, including a circa-1935 auto service building located south of the station a circa-2018 shed located north of the station, and a circa-1935 shed situated northwest of the primary resource.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The Rock Inn at 519 S. Main Street is a one-story, three-bay former service station built circa 1925 that currently functions as a dwelling. The façade (east elevation) is clad in a fieldstone veneer with raised mortar joints, while the side elevations are clad in metal sheeting that simulates a brick veneer (Photo 286, p. 375). The hipped roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. There appears to be a chimney flue on the north portion of the hipped roof; it was seen on aerials but not seen at the time of survey.

A single-leaf, half-glazed wood door with horizontal panels is centered on the façade. The door shows evidence of re-working or reuse over the years. It was likely a swinging door at one time, but at some point, the lock and hinges were switched from one side to the other. The windows also show signs of reuse and adaptation over the years. Two paired windows with painted metal lintels flank the primary entrance. Windows on the façade are either 12-light or four-light (horizontal muntins), wood-frame, casements. One vinyl louvered shutter is located on the outermost edge of each paired window. A rounded poured-concrete stoop is located below the paired window on the south portion of the façade (Photo 287, p. 376). The north elevation features a six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood-framed window covered by a storm window and

a round exhaust vent, perhaps indicative that there was a small café or portion of the service station dedicated to cooking.



Figure 127: Location of Rock Inn (PR0319).<sup>615</sup>

<sup>615</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 128: Site Plan of Rock Inn (PR0319).<sup>616</sup>



Photo 286: Northeast Oblique (Left) and South Elevation (Right).

<sup>616</sup> Google Maps 2019.



Photo 287: Window (Left) and Door (Right) Detail on the Façade.

A front-gabled canopy that once covered the island for the gas pumps extends from the façade. The canopy is supported by two square, fieldstone-veneered posts with raised mortar joints that match the façade. The posts are topped by square pre-cast concrete caps that extend past the roof eave. The supports show evidence of reworking, suggesting that the canopy was raised higher at a later date. A metal pole near the north stone post likely held the gas station sign in the past. Vertical wood siding is situated in the gable end of the canopy and replacement vinyl soffit is beneath the roof eave. Concrete block surrounds the former gas pump island at the edge of the canopy between the supports (Photo 288, p. 377). A shed-roofed, one-story, lean-to addition was appended to the rear of the service station building around 1960 and is also clad in metal sheeting simulating brick veneer. The corrugated metal roof of the lean-to has partially caved in, causing structural instabilities and leaving the rear of the building exposed to the elements.





Photo 288: Northeast Oblique of Canopy (Left) and South Elevation (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Due to the structural damage from the lean-to addition roof caving in, the interior was not accessible at the time of survey. However, the interior is visible from the windows on the façade and shows one large open room that is in poor condition and currently used as storage (Photo 289). The floors were not visible during the survey; however, the walls were noted to be covered by manufactured metal sheeting. On the south side of the room is a small wooden cabinet with a glassed-in section at the top, which likely served as the checkout counter for the service station, and is possibly original. There is a square support post located about halfway across the rear of the original portion of the building. Everything beyond this post has caved in (Figure 129, p. 378).



Photo 289: Interior of Rock Inn, Looking West.



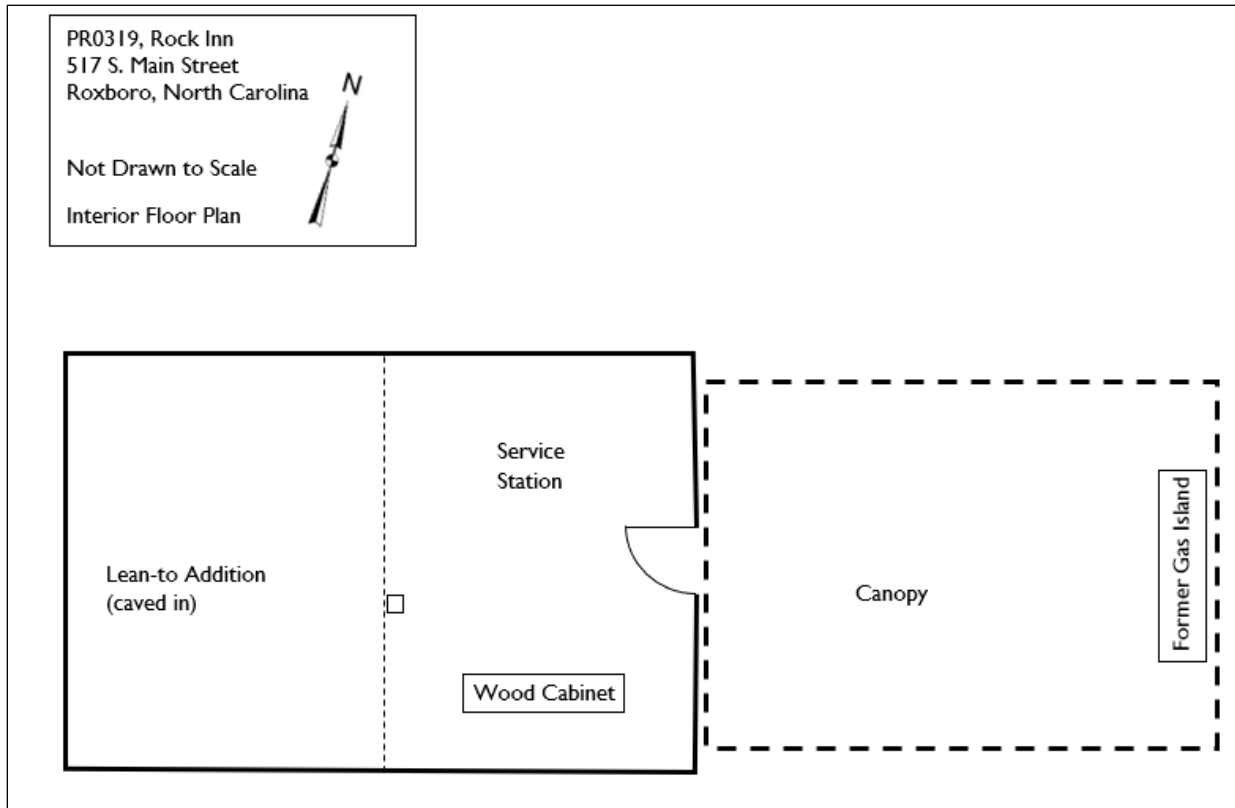


Figure 129: Rock Inn (PR0319) Interior Floor Plan.

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1935, one-story, two-bay auto service building is located south of the primary resource (Photo 290, p. 379). The flat roof has a parapet wall (partially visible on the rear elevation) and a faux gambrel roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The foundation and structural system are clad in metal sheeting to simulate a brick veneer. Two double-leaf, hinged metal doors are situated on the façade (east elevation). Two bays (possibly window openings) on the south elevation have been filled in with vertical metal sheeting. No other fenestration was visible. This auto service building is shown in a 1930s photograph posted to the “Reminiscing in Roxboro” Facebook group with the name Clayton’s on the canopy of the gas station.<sup>617</sup> Clayton operated the Rock Inn in the mid 1930s, providing evidence for the circa-1935 construction date.<sup>618</sup> This auto service building is also visible in a photograph in a 1960 Roxboro High School yearbook advertisement with both bays on the façade open and an Esso Service sign above them.<sup>619</sup> This building likely functioned as a space to service automobiles, although it is currently used for storage.

<sup>617</sup> Rogers 2016.

<sup>618</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933d:10

<sup>619</sup> Long and Dallas 1960.



Photo 290: Auto Service Building at Rock Inn, Southeast Oblique.

A circa-1935, one-story, one-bay, v-crimp metal-clad shed is located northwest of the primary resource and west of the circa-2018 shed (Photo 291). The front-gabled roof is sheathed in v-crimp metal. The façade (east elevation) features a single-leaf metal door. Vegetation covers much of this shed, so other fenestration was not visible.



Photo 291: Circa-1935 Shed at Rock Inn, East Elevation.

A circa-2018, one-story, three-bay pre-fabricated shed is located north of the primary resource (Photo 292, p. 380). The front-gabled roof is sheathed in pressed metal. The structural system is clad in T1-11 siding, which sits upon a wood pier foundation. It features two single-leaf, fiberglass doors and vinyl windows.



Photo 292: Circa-2018 Shed at Rock Inn, Northeast Oblique.

### Historic Context

The first automobiles arrived in Person County in the 1910s, but it would take several years before better, paved roads were built, as the local newspaper had years of headlines complaining about existing road conditions in the early-twentieth century.<sup>620</sup> The arrival of automobiles in Person County necessitated filling and service stations. Gas stations as we know them today evolved greatly throughout the first half of the twentieth century from simple roadside filling stations in the 1910 and 1920s, to being called gasoline or gas stations in the 1920s through the 1940s, to the term service stations from about 1920 through post-World War II, reflecting a place that still provided gas, but also other services for automobiles, like tires and oil.<sup>621</sup>

The lot where the Rock Inn is located was owned by G.E. and Nell Moore beginning in 1923.<sup>622</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* advertisement announced on June 24, 1925 that the naming contest for the service station received more than 250 entries and the name “Rock Inn” had been chosen (Figure 130, p. 381). Therefore, the primary resource at the Rock Inn service station with its eponymous rock (stone) façade, was likely built by the spring of 1925. At this point, the station was operated by Robert “Hassell” Long and Robert A. Whitfield, partners of Long & Whitfield Auto Company. Although their partnership dissolved in 1927 when Long bought out his partner, the service station business continued at Rock Inn with operations managed by Long.<sup>623</sup> During its initial years of operation, the station offered Michelin tires and tubes, and Galtex gas, oil, and accessories.<sup>624</sup>

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<sup>620</sup> Eaker 1983:47.

<sup>621</sup> Jones 2003:1.

<sup>622</sup> PCDB 33:162.

<sup>623</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1927b:4

<sup>624</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1925c:5.



With its location on the southern edge of the City, along the route to Durham, the Rock Inn was likely frequented by many motorists going to and from Roxboro, especially before the Madison Boulevard bypass was constructed around 1947.<sup>625</sup> Early advertisements for the Rock Inn appealed to tobacco growers who came to Roxboro to sell their cured tobacco at the warehouses near downtown.<sup>626</sup>

In October 1933, a newspaper advertisement stated that the Rock Inn business had been sold to Lester (Joe Bill) Clayton, who was in the process of remodeling and painting the station previously run by Hassell Long (Figure 131, p. 382).<sup>627</sup> A mid-1930s photograph of the Rock Inn shows the name “Clayton’s” on the canopy sign (Photo 293, p. 382).<sup>628</sup> The Moores continued to own the land the service station occupied until 1935 when it was to Person Oil Company.<sup>629</sup> Person Oil Company was only in operation for five years (1930–1935) before their dissolution after which the trustees sold the Rock Inn to Standard Oil Company of New Jersey in 1937.<sup>630</sup>



Figure 130: 1925 *The Roxboro Courier* Advertisement for Rock Inn.<sup>631</sup>

<sup>625</sup> Piatt and Davis 1947.

<sup>626</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1933d:10.

<sup>627</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>628</sup> Rogers 2016.

<sup>629</sup> PCDB 39:324.

<sup>630</sup> PCDB 45:575; *The Roxboro Courier* 1935e:8.

<sup>631</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1925c:5.

**SOLD OUT** **ROCK INN** **SERVICE STATION**

..... **TO** .....

**Lester Joe Bill Clayton**

Washing  
Greasing  
Polishing  
Lubricating  
-and-  
Battery  
Service  
—  
TIRES  
-and-  
TUBES

MR. CLAYTON who purchased the ROCK-INN SERVICE STATION, has already started remodeling and painting the old and well-established place formally run by Hassel Long. Mr. Clayton says as soon as repairing and decorating is finished he will have a complete and up-to-date automobile service station. Smokes, light lunch and soft drinks and I sincerely hope my many friends of Roxboro and thruout the county will give me the opportunity to serve them. I will assure them of a clean, courteous service at all times as I will personally be there to serve them.

Smokes  
Soft  
Drinks  
—  
Light  
Lunch  
-and-  
Candies  
—  
TIRE  
-and-  
TUBE  
Repairing

**TO MY** Many tobacco grower friends of Person county, I trust you will see fit to sell your tobacco on the Roxboro market where you will be assured of a square deal.

**ROCK INN**  
**SERVICE STATION**

Phone  
30-  
For  
Prompt  
Service

We  
Call For  
and  
Deliver  
Your Car

Lester (Joe Bill) Clayton, Prop. — Roxboro, N. C.

Figure 131: *The Roxboro Courier* 1933 Advertisement for Rock Inn.<sup>632</sup>



Photo 293: 1930s Photo of the Rock Inn, Looking West.<sup>633</sup>

<sup>632</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933d:10.

<sup>633</sup> Rogers 2016.

The Rock Inn was one of the earlier filling stations to arrive in Roxboro, but by 1935, there was significant competition. A 1935 advertisement in *The Roxboro Courier* appealing to tobacco growers listed all of the businesses in Roxboro that would serve a farmer well, including eight other gas or service stations, not including the Rock Inn.<sup>634</sup> The Rock Inn served Shell gasoline and oil from 1933 to 1934 under Lester Clayton's operation, according to *The Roxboro Courier* newspaper advertisements.<sup>635</sup> They also offered cigarettes, soft drinks, candy, light lunch items, and other services for automobiles including washing, battery service, and tire and tube repairs and sales (see Figure 131, p. 382). The light lunch offered by the Rock Inn in 1933 may be related to the exhaust vent on the north elevation of the primary resource. A 1935 advertisement also offered cold beer and wine at the Rock Inn service station.<sup>636</sup>

In 1957, Esso Standard Oil Company (formerly Standard Oil Company of New Jersey) sold the Rock Inn filling station and lot to Garland L. Oakley and his wife, Myrtle, for \$7,000.<sup>637</sup> The 1960 Roxboro High School yearbook advertisement shows Esso gasoline pumps and the two-bay auto service building with an "Esso Service" sign above the bays (Figure 132, p. 384). A 1970s photo shows that the Rock Inn was serving Humble brand gasoline at this point, and gates or some other barrier were seen in the two bays of the auto service building (Photo 294, p. 384).<sup>638</sup> Oakley owned and operated the Rock Inn until 1983, when he sold it to Nebraska Beatty and his wife, Norma, who were indebted through a deed of trust to Garland and Myrtle Oakley for \$20,000 plus interest, payable by monthly installments of \$200 over 12 years.<sup>639</sup> In 1999, Pecolia Beatty, the sister of Nebraska Beatty, sold the Rock Inn to the current owner, Clarice Russell Turner.<sup>640</sup>

## Evaluation

While the Rock Inn at 519 S. Main Street retains a moderate to high amount of historic integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association, it is lacking in integrity of materials and workmanship. Although the Rock Inn still has the appearance of an early-twentieth-century service station, it no longer functions as such, diminishing its historic integrity of association and feeling. The building remains in its original location and retains a high level of historic integrity of location. Several surrounding buildings have been demolished in recent years, negatively impacting its historic integrity of setting. The resource is currently in poor condition, as it features replacement materials, removal of key elements to a service station operation, and a caved-in roof, all of which negatively affects its historic integrity of materials, design, and workmanship.

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<sup>634</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1935f:7.

<sup>635</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1933d:10.

<sup>636</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1935g:5.

<sup>637</sup> PCDB 81:71.

<sup>638</sup> White 2012.

<sup>639</sup> PCDB 99:631.

<sup>640</sup> PCDB 211:310, The Courier Times 2020.





Figure 132: Rock Inn Advertisement in the 1960 *The Rocket*, Roxboro High School Yearbook.<sup>641</sup>



Photo 294: 1970s Photo of the Rock Inn, Looking West.<sup>642</sup>

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<sup>641</sup> Long and Dallas 1960.

<sup>642</sup> White 2012.

According to W. Dwayne Jones' "Field Guide to Gas Stations in Texas," the most important characteristics that should be present when evaluating a gas station are: building form, architectural style or influence, presence of display and service areas, visible service bays (if applicable), canopy (if applicable), distinctive site features, and signage.<sup>643</sup> The Rock Inn retains its "house with canopy" building form, although the house has been modified by its rear addition. The canopy is still a prominent feature of the Rock Inn, but appears to have been altered, and signage and display areas are no longer present. The two service bays in the secondary resource, the auto service building, have been enclosed and are used for storage. All signage from the resource has been removed and the building no longer functions as an auto service and gas filling station (see Figure 132, p. 384).<sup>644</sup>

In order for a resource to be considered eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, "a property can be associated with either (or both) of two types of events: [...] a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history [or] a pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a State, or the nation."<sup>645</sup> However, "mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A: the property's specific association must be considered important as well."<sup>646</sup> The Rock Inn operated as a service station from the 1920s until around 1990, changing owners several times, who each left their mark by remodeling and adding onto the complex of buildings at 519 S. Main Street. No significant events are known to have taken place in this building and its historic function is commonplace throughout rural communities in the state and not of particular importance to shaping commerce in the City of Roxboro. For these reasons, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The known owners and operators historically associated with the Rock Inn are not known to have attained historic significance at the state or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields. Therefore, the resource does not meet the requirements for Criterion B which requires association with a person who is "individually significant within a historic context" and has "gained importance within his or her profession or group."<sup>647</sup> The Rock Inn is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion B.

Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>648</sup> The Rock Inn is typical of service station buildings constructed in the early-twentieth century. Furthermore, the rear addition and modifications that have been made to the building have somewhat diminishing the historic integrity of this resource. Despite not being able to fully evaluate the integrity of the interior,

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<sup>643</sup> Jones 2003:112.

<sup>644</sup> Long and Dallas 1960.

<sup>645</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>646</sup> Ibid.

<sup>647</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>648</sup> Ibid.

Dovetail’s archival research and comparisons with other similar resources in the area provide sufficient information with which to evaluate the Rock Inn under Criterion C.

The Rock Inn is an example of an early-twentieth-century service station with the house with canopy architectural form. This form was common throughout the United States from the 1910s to the 1930s.<sup>649</sup> The service station at 203 N. Lamar Street (PR0308) is a good local example of an early-twentieth-century service station that is still in use today. For more information see p. 160. While neither the station at 203 N. Lamar Street nor the Rock Inn retain their gas pumps, the station at 203 N. Lamar Street is still in use as an auto service business. While the station at 203 N. Lamar Street was built using the Esso brand’s corporate architectural model, and Rock Inn was built as a local variant of the house with canopy form, overall the station at 203 N. Lamar Street retains a higher level of integrity and is eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

Since the other extant service stations within Roxboro are of a later or corporate architectural style than the Rock Inn, two examples in surrounding Person County serve as better contextual examples. The abandoned service station at the intersection of Pixley Pritchard Road and Route 158 is constructed in the same “house with canopy” form as the Rock Inn (Photo 295, p. 387). This circa-1930 one-story, two-bay, side-gabled service station with a front-gabled canopy sheathed in asphalt shingles is clad in a mix of wood and aluminum siding. This station has similar integrity issues as the Rock Inn, as it has at least one addition and its function as a service station has also long been abandoned. Although some vegetation is growing around this station, its roof is still intact, unlike at the Rock Inn, and it still appears to be structurally sound. This station is still at a crossroads location, whereas Rock Inn has been bypassed by the use of Madison Boulevard to the west.

Foushee’s Garage at the intersection of Hurdle Mills and Union Grove Church roads in Person County is another “house with canopy” form example (Photo 296, p.387). The early-twentieth-century, one-story, three-bay service station is clad in aluminum siding with a hipped roof and hipped canopy sheathed in v-crimp metal. It also has two stone posts supporting its canopy like the Rock Inn. This station has a large addition, likely for servicing automobiles in the past. It is structurally sound and although not used for servicing automobiles, does appear to be maintained on a regular basis, unlike the Rock Inn. It has original wood-framed windows covered by metal bars. The gas pumps and company signage have been removed from all three resources’ gas pump islands, and they all no longer function as a service station any longer. Although both “house with canopy”-form contextuials have a slightly diminished integrity of association, feeling, and materials, they retain a higher amount of all seven aspects of historic integrity when compared with the Rock Inn and are better quality examples of the form. The Rock Inn is in fairly poor condition and is not known to be the work of a master. For these reasons, this property is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or

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<sup>649</sup> Jones 2003:17.



prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>650</sup> The Rock Inn service station is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history in the area. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.



Photo 295: Former Service Station at Intersection of Route 158 and Pixley Pritchard Road, Person County.



Photo 296: Foushee's Garage, Former Service Station at Intersection of Hurdle Mills Road and Union Grove Church Road, Person County.

In sum, the **Rock Inn is recommended not individually eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the Rock Inn is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district's period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, the Rock Inn is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>650</sup> Ibid.

## **PR0320: M.W. and Preston Satterfield House, 526 S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1930  
 Modifications: Late-Twentieth Century

526 S. Main Street  
 Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
 PIN: 0905-06-49-0693

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible; Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327)



### ***Architectural Description***

The M.W. and Preston Satterfield House at 526 S. Main Street is located south of the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194) and within the southwest section of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) in the City of Roxboro (Figure 133, p. 389). Situated approximately 500 feet east of Madison Boulevard, this resource occupies a long, narrow rectangular parcel measuring 0.25 acre on the east side of S. Main Street, south of Gentry Street and east across Main Street from Trotter Street. The primary resource, a single-family dwelling, is located near the center of the gently sloping lot which is covered by a grassy lawn dotted with deciduous trees (Figure 134, p. 390). In the late-twentieth century this single-family dwelling was converted to a multi-family rental house. There is a gravel driveway that extends east from S. Main Street and terminates on the south side of the house. There are no secondary resources associated with this house.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The M.W. and Preston Satterfield House at 526 S. Main Street is a one-and-one-half story, three-bay, cross-gabled house constructed around 1930 in the bungalow form with Craftsman-style elements (Photo 297, p. 390). The brick-pier foundation has been infilled with additional brick to resemble a continuous foundation (Photo 298, p. 391). The structural system is clad in weatherboard siding and covered by a cross-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles with a wood boxed eave and simple narrow cornice (Photo 299, p. 391). There are two interior-ridge brick chimneys with metal flashing that flank each side of the cross-gable (Photo 300, p. 392).

The primary entrance is centered on the west elevation (façade) and filled with a single-leaf, nine-light, wood, Craftsman-style door (Photo 301, p. 392).<sup>651</sup> Much of the other fenestration has been replaced with one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl-framed windows with faux muntins; however, original Craftsman-style windows are still extant in a four-over-one, diamond-patterned, double-hung-sash configuration. Additional fenestration includes a four-light, fixed, wood-framed window; a fixed, metal-framed window; and tripartite wood-framed windows in

<sup>651</sup> McAlester 2013:554.

the gable end on the north and west elevations (Photo 300, p. 392). Windows on the façade are flanked by fixed, vinyl louvered shutters.



Figure 133: Location of M.W. and Preston Satterfield House (PR0320).<sup>652</sup>

<sup>652</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 134: Site Plan of M.W. and Preston Satterfield House (PR0320).<sup>653</sup>



Photo 297: Northwest Oblique.

<sup>653</sup> Google Maps 2018.





Photo 298: Entrance Detail on West Elevation (Left) and Foundation Detail on South Elevation (Right).



Photo 299: Northwest Oblique.





Photo 300: Original Window Detail on North Elevation (Left) and Chimney Detail, Looking Southwest (Right) at M.W. and Preston Satterfield House.



Photo 301: West Elevation.

The primary entrance is accessed by a one-story, full-width, wood porch that is recessed under the roof (see Photo 298, p. 391). The porch is supported by brick posts topped by replacement square wood posts and is lined with wood railings. Centered wood steps lined with brick piers and wood railings provide access to the porch. According the homeowner on record at the time of survey, Wayne G. Winstead, Sr., the single-family dwelling was converted in the late-twentieth century to include two rental apartments on the first floor and two rooms for rent on the second floor. The rear (east) elevation has a circa-1950, one-story, one-bay, shed-roofed addition as well as a wooden staircase leading to an entrance that provides access to the second



floor rental spaces through the gable end (Photo 302). The entrance is filled with a single-leaf, half-glazed, paneled fiberglass door. The first floor of the rear elevation contains a section of replacement T1-11 siding with a single-leaf replacement door and storm door and one fixed, metal-framed window.



Photo 302: Rear (East) Elevation (Left) and Detail of Rear Addition (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior of 526 S. Main Street was not permitted during this effort by the current homeowner, Wayne G. Winstead, Sr. The homeowner did not provide much information about the interior, but mentioned that some original hardwood floors and one original fireplace mantel on the first floor remained intact. Walls were added to divide the house into multiple rental units.<sup>654</sup>

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<sup>654</sup> Wayne G. Winstead, Sr., personal communication 2019.

### Historic Context

The house at 526 S. Main Street was likely built by brothers Melvin W. (M.W.) and Preston Satterfield. They purchased the property from F.H. Willson and his wife, Sallie H. Willson, in 1923.<sup>655</sup> Deeds reference the land as the “Jeff Farley Place” and a plat was drawn in November 1913 by Atlantic Coast Realty.<sup>656</sup> Jeff Farley of “the Jeff Farley Place” was likely Jefferson M. Farley (1837–1917) of Roxboro, an African American carpenter.<sup>657</sup> In Section B of the map of the Jeff Farley Place, Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 were purchased by F.H. Willson in 1922 from W.R. Hambrick. It is likely that the house at 526 S. Main Street was eventually built on Lot 3 because it is set 140 feet from the corner of S. Main and Gentry (known as First at this time) streets.<sup>658</sup> The 1925 Sanborn map of Roxboro does not show any buildings where 526 S. Main Street is today; however, it appeared in the updated 1943 Sanborn map (Figure 135).<sup>659</sup>

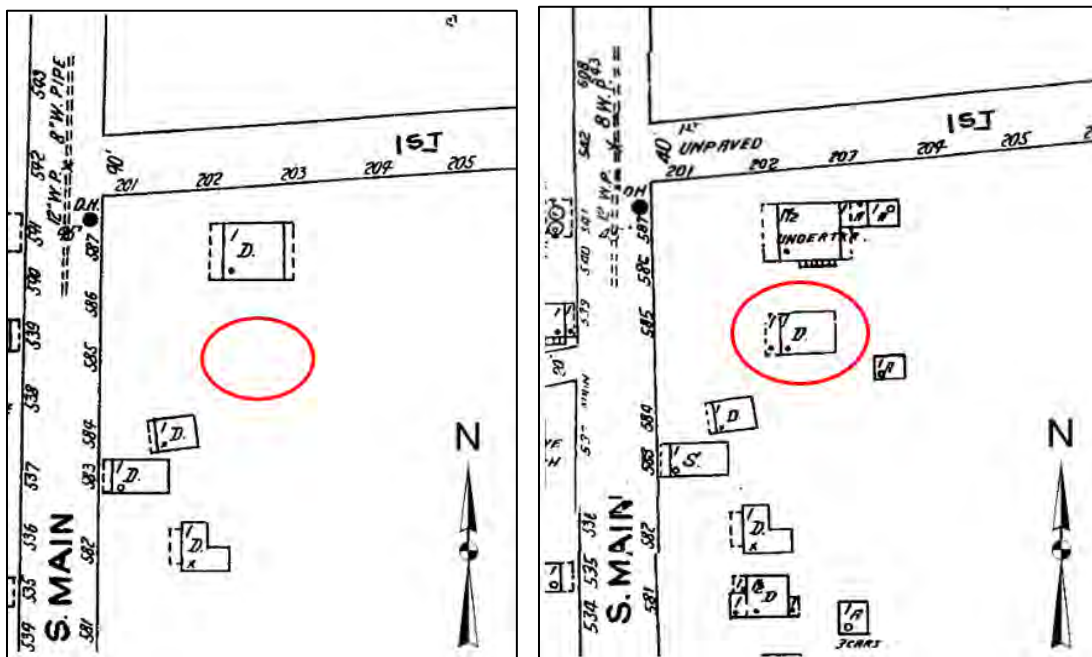


Figure 135: 1925 Sanborn Map Showing Location of M.W. and Preston Satterfield House (Left) and 1943 Sanborn Map with M.W. and Preston Satterfield House Circled in Red (Right).<sup>660</sup>

In 1931, Preston Satterfield bought out the half interest from his brother, M.W. Satterfield.<sup>661</sup> The Satterfields owned the property from 1923 until 1999 when the heirs of Preston Satterfield, sold the property to Wayne G. Winstead, Sr., and his wife, Judith, who subdivided the house into

<sup>655</sup> PCDB 33:142.

<sup>656</sup> PCPB 1:119; PCDB 30:487.

<sup>657</sup> U.S. Census 1880, 1900; North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics 1917.

<sup>658</sup> PCDB 30:487.

<sup>659</sup> Sanborn 1925, 1943.

<sup>660</sup> Sanborn 1925; 1943.

<sup>661</sup> PCDB 37: 457.

multiple rental units for tenants.<sup>662</sup> Another dwelling located at 119 Academy Street in the City of Roxboro is known to be the home of Preston Satterfield (PR0200), along with their father's, the S.P. Satterfield House (PR0273), which is now demolished, so it is likely that M.W. and Preston rented out the house at 526 S. Main Street to tenants.

M.W. (1877–1952) and Preston Satterfield (1888–1968) were the sons of Samuel P. Satterfield and his wife, Louisa (also seen as Louie or Lou) M. Winstead Satterfield. By 1910, Samuel was an insurance agent and Preston worked as a bookkeeper in his father's office.<sup>663</sup> Melvin W., often called Mellie or just M.W., began his career also working in his father's office, but eventually worked as a clothing merchant at Wilburn & Satterfield.<sup>664</sup>

### *Evaluation*

The M.W. and Preston Satterfield House (PR0320) is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay, cross-gabled dwelling constructed around 1930 constructed in the bungalow form with elements of the Craftsman style. Several architectural elements have been replaced and the once single-family dwelling has been subdivided for multiple separate rental apartments. Therefore, the resource has low to moderate level of historic integrity of design, materials, feeling, association, and workmanship. Finally, the house has not moved from its original location; however, several of the properties surrounding have been demolished or no longer operate in the same function in which they were first constructed, rendering a moderate level of integrity of location and setting.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>665</sup> There are no known associations of the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented [...] within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person's important achievements.”<sup>666</sup> The known owners and occupants historically associated with the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House are not known to have attained historic significance at the national, state, or local level for important events or accomplishments in their respective fields, despite being respected local citizens. It is for all of these reasons that the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

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<sup>662</sup> PCDB 301:377.

<sup>663</sup> U.S. Census 1910.

<sup>664</sup> U.S. Census 1910; 1920.

<sup>665</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>666</sup> Ibid.



Eligibility for Criterion C encompasses buildings, structures, sites, and objects that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.<sup>667</sup> In order to properly evaluate the resource's NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. The M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is a house with a bungalow form and Craftsman-style design elements. It is one of several in this style or form in Roxboro, a style that was quite common in the early twentieth century.<sup>668</sup> The circa-1929, two-story, three-bay house at 1522 Durham Road, constructed in the same form and style as the current resource, features similar original four-over-one, diamond patterned, double-hung-sash wood windows. Although this house retains a majority of its original fenestration, it is clad in replacement siding and appears to be abandoned (Photo 303).



Photo 303: 1522 Durham Road, Looking Southwest.

The circa-1930, one-and-one-half story, three-bay house at 413 S. Lamar Street has a similar cross-gabled bungalow form as the current resource. It also features a similar recessed front porch supported by square wood posts (Photo 304, p. 397). This building has both replacement and original windows and minimal Craftsman-style details.

Another local example akin to the current resource is the house at 102 Leasburg Road. The circa-1921, one-story, three-bay, cross-gabled house has a stone foundation and original windows, and a cross-gabled roof (Photo 305, p. 397). The house appeared to have some water damage and was in fair condition. Unlike the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House, the house at 102 Leasburg Road features aluminum siding and a projecting front porch supported by turned wood posts and

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<sup>667</sup> Ibid.

<sup>668</sup> McAlester 2013:568.

bracketing and gable eave returns, more indicative of a Victorian-era dwelling. These contextual examples show that the cross-gabled bungalow form is quite common in Roxboro during the early-twentieth century. None of these examples are of high artistic value and integrity levels are low to moderate throughout.



Photo 304: 413 S. Lamar Street, Looking Northwest.



Photo 305: 102 Leasburg Road, Looking Southeast.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and

artwork.”<sup>669</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>670</sup> The current resource is not considered an excellent representative of its style and form, nor is it known to be the work of a master. Furthermore, replacement architectural elements and materials as well as conversion from a single-family to a multi-family dwelling have negatively impacted the resource’s historic integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. It is for all of these reasons that the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>671</sup> The M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the M.W. and Preston Satterfield House is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district’s period of significance. This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it **is recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>669</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>670</sup> Ibid.

<sup>671</sup> Ibid.



## **PR0321: Former First Baptist Church, 603 S. Main Street**

Date of Construction: ca. 1880

Modifications: ca. 1965

603 S. Main Street

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-06-39-8548

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Individually Eligible,  
Contributing to South Roxboro Residential Historic  
District (PR0327)



### ***Architectural Description***

The Former First Baptist Church (First Baptist Church) (PR0321), currently the Hester, Whitted, and Daye Funeral Home, at 603 S. Main Street is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro in the southwestern section of the South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) (Figure 136–Figure 137, pp. 400–401). The property comprises a lot measuring approximately 0.36 acre covered in a paved parking lot and following the natural slope of Trotter and S. Main streets. First Baptist Church is bound by Trotter Street to the north, S. Madison Boulevard to the west, S. Main Street to the east, and Johnson Street to the south. A gently sloped paved parking lot is located on the south side of the property and a more steeply pitched paved parking lot is situated on the west and northwest sides. A corrugated concrete retaining wall lines the south side of the parking lot. The primary resource, the church, faces east towards S. Main Street. No secondary resources are associated with this property. The lot is surrounded by moderate vegetation, particularly on the south and northwest sides of the property. Some decorative shrubs and plants line the main entrance on S. Main Street. The current property owners, James M. Hester and Dr. Linwood T. Daye, did not permit exterior or interior access to the property. Images were taken from the right of way.

### ***Primary Resource: Exterior***

Access to the exterior of the building was not permitted by the owners during the current effort; the following notes and photographs were taken from the right-of-way.

The church is a one-story, five-bay, building constructed circa 1880 with Gothic Revival-style elements (Photo 306, p. 401). The continuous foundation and structural system are clad in a brick veneer laid in a stretcher bond. The front-gabled roof is moderate in pitch and features two asymmetrical hip-roofed towers on the south and north corners of the east (primary) elevation. The northern tower is slightly taller than the southern tower and was likely used as a belfry; it also features a more steeply pitched roof and visibly bricked-in arches (Photo 307, p. 402). All parts of the roof are clad in standing seam metal. An exterior-end brick chimney is located on the south elevation (Photo 308, p. 402).



Figure 136: Location of First Baptist Church (PR0321).<sup>672</sup>

<sup>672</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 137: Site Plan of Former First Baptist Church (PR0321).<sup>673</sup>



Photo 306: East Elevation (Left) and North Elevation (Right).

<sup>673</sup> Google Maps 2018.





Photo 307: Southeast Oblique.



Photo 308: Chimney Detail, Looking West (Left) and Primary Entrance Detail, Looking West (Right).

The church's primary entrance is centered on the east elevation. It features a double-leaf, fully-glazed, commercial style metal door (see Photo 308, p. 402). Few decorative elements are used on the front entrance with the exception of a slightly recessed pattern of brick made to resemble an arch above the door. Windows are primarily one-over-one, wood-framed, lancet, double-hung-sashes, many of which have been covered over with wood siding; these windows outline the nave of the church (Photo 309). Other windows are fixed stain-glass arched windows on the towers and one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl-framed windows. Several window openings have been filled in with brick, including in the towers (Photo 310, p. 404). Other fenestration at the church includes a single-leaf, fiberglass door at the basement level and on the south elevation under the gabled entry porch.

An entry-porch and ramp provides access to the secondary entry on the south elevation (Photo 311, p. 404). The side-gabled roof is clad in standing-seam metal and is supported by two vinyl posts. A metal railing surrounds the porch. The base of the porch is clad in brick veneer and parged concrete. A concrete ramp is the only method of access to porch; no stairs are present.



Photo 309: Window Details: North Elevation (Left) and East Elevation (Right).

A circa-1965, one-story addition extends from the west elevation (Photo 312, p. 405). It is clad in corrugated concrete and spans the width of the church. Little fenestration is present except for one six-over-six, double-hung-sash, wood-framed window. The retaining wall on the south side of the parking lot matches the corrugated concrete of the addition; it is likely they were added to the property around the same time.



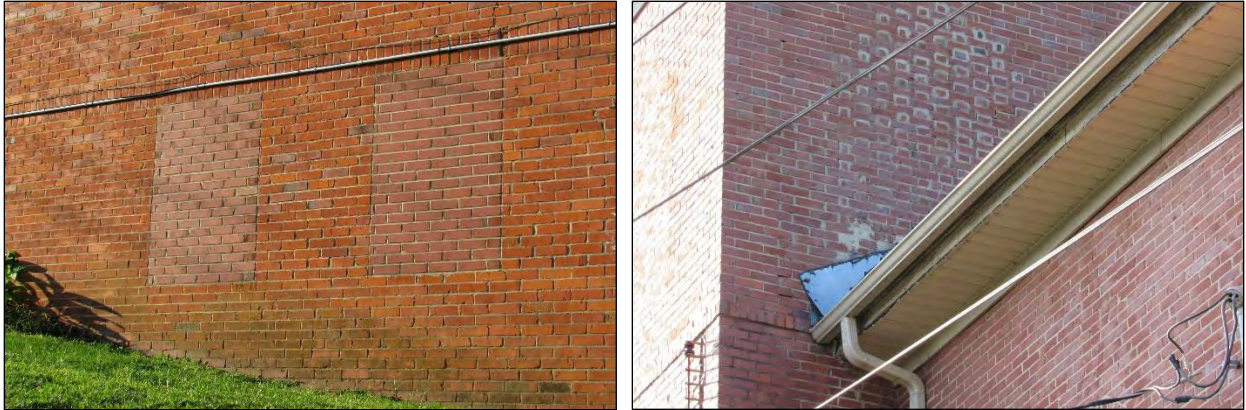


Photo 310: Detail of Bricked-in Areas on North Elevation (Left) and Bricked-in Area on Towers, Looking East, Right.



Photo 311: Ramp and Entry-Porch on South Elevation.

*Primary Resource: Interior*

After speaking with the owners over the phone, access to the interior of the building was not permitted during the current effort. Based on aerials and the form and massing of the building, it is likely that the church has a chancel. The view from the right-of-way into the primary entrance



allowed a partial view of the narthex. One resource notes that when the church was renovated into a funeral home, the renovation included a chapel that could seat 150 people.<sup>674</sup> Furthermore, the door on the north elevation and markings of bricked-in windows indicate that there is a basement level to the church. The rear addition is likely on this level given its height and location on the building.



Photo 312: View of Rear Addition, Looking East (Left) and Detail of Window (Right).

### *Historic Context*

During the eighteenth and early- to mid-nineteenth centuries, it was common in the rural South for enslaved African Americans to attend the church of their white owner or, in rare cases, attend a church that was established specifically for them by their owner.<sup>675</sup> It was not until after the Civil War that newly emancipated African Americans were free to worship where and as they pleased. In *Under Their Own Vine and Fig Tree: The African-American Church of the South, 1865–1900*, William E. Montgomery writes, “No longer required to attend racially mixed churches or chapels established for them by whites, thousands of blacks began organizing their own autonomous congregations. The months that followed emancipation marked the beginning of a new era for the black church: it was a time when the church began to mature and to take on new forms and functions.”<sup>676</sup> In Person County, this would have been the case for many African Americans. Historically, Roxboro had a large African American community. In the 1860s, enslaved African Americans constituted 48 percent of the population.<sup>677</sup> As the African American population grew and became more autonomous, community amenities and centers, such as

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<sup>674</sup> Norris 1998b.

<sup>675</sup> Center of Historic Preservation Middle Tennessee State University (CHP) 2000:28.

<sup>676</sup> CHP 2000:28.

<sup>677</sup> Featherson 1998.

churches, grew as well, particularly after the emancipation of slaves at the end of the Civil War.<sup>678</sup>

The Baptist denomination, both historically and at present, is one of the leading faiths in African American communities.<sup>679</sup> Baptist beliefs and rituals had much in common with African religious traditions, but the church's message of salvation, equality, and freedom also resonated with members of the enslaved African American community.<sup>680</sup> By 1870, the number of African American Baptists rose from 150,000 to 500,000 members.<sup>681</sup>

The First Baptist Church of Roxboro, a historically African American church, was established in 1864; at that point, the church was called Pleasant Grove Baptist Church.<sup>682</sup> It retained that name until 1898 when the church changed its name to First Baptist Church.<sup>683</sup> No records were found that named First Baptist Church as the first church for African Americans in Roxboro, but given the date in which the congregation formed, it was certainly one of the earliest African American religious communities to organize in Roxboro.

Church gatherings and meetings were originally held in homes until the congregation built a church.<sup>684</sup> Records indicate that the land on which the church was originally built was purchased from Green D. Satterfield in 1872, but records also state that the original church building was located on a farm owned by John Ray.<sup>685</sup> Green D. Satterfield was a large land-holder and prominent white citizen in Person County; no records were found on the identity of John Ray.

Several people helped start the First Baptist Church of Roxboro. The founding members of the church were as follows: Peter Apple, Aaron Bailey, Alexander Blackwell, Willis Cates, Johnny Elder, Jeff Farley, Jesse Harris, Calvin Hester, Aaron Mitchell, Jake Norwood, Harrison Satterfield, and Francis Thompson.<sup>686</sup> The earliest pastor was Dudley Williams.<sup>687</sup> Census records indicate that the founders of the church, including the first pastor, were African American and worked primarily as farmers, farm laborers, or laborers in tobacco factories.<sup>688</sup> Although records are limited on the early history of the church, including when the current church was constructed, the founders of the church were likely local leaders in the African American community given that they founded an important institution for their community together.

The church was probably built around 1880 based on its architecture. The First Baptist Church community occupied the S. Main Street church location for a little over a hundred years; in 1979,

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<sup>678</sup> CHP 2000:20.

<sup>679</sup> CHP 2000:17.

<sup>680</sup> CHP 2000:18.

<sup>681</sup> CHP 2000:20.

<sup>682</sup> Eaker 1981:73.

<sup>683</sup> Ibid.

<sup>684</sup> Ibid.

<sup>685</sup> Ibid.

<sup>686</sup> Ibid.

<sup>687</sup> Ibid.

<sup>688</sup> U.S. Census 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1930.

the church leaders decided to build a new church at a different location.<sup>689</sup> The new location, 14 Main Circle, was a significant spot to the African American community as it was former site of the first public high school for African Americans, the Person County Training School (Photo 313).<sup>690</sup> In June 1979, the Trustees of the First Baptist Church sold the church to James M. Hester, Fred Whitted, and Dr. Linwood T. Daye.<sup>691</sup> By May 1980, the congregation had laid the cornerstone for their new church.<sup>692</sup>



Photo 313: First Baptist Church at New Location, 14 Main Circle.

James M. Hester, Fred Whitted, and Dr. Linwood T. Daye started their funeral home business in 1978.<sup>693</sup> Their first funeral home was located at 703 S. Main Street, where the Sharpe Funeral Home formerly stood.<sup>694</sup> In October 1980, Hester, Whitted, and Daye moved into the newly renovated church and have remained in this location since (Figure 138, p. 408). Few records on the lives of Hester, Whitted, and Daye were uncovered during this effort. As Lynn Rainville points out in her book *Hidden History: African American Cemeteries in Central Virginia*, funeral directors in the African American community were likely members of the social or economic elite due to their need of business attire and close ties to the community.<sup>695</sup> It was confirmed that Fred Whitted passed away in April 2018, leaving James M. Hester and Dr. Linwood T. Daye as the current owners.<sup>696</sup>

Today, both the church congregation and the funeral home remain in operation and largely serve African American citizens of Roxboro. While conducting fieldwork at Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery, several markers were located in the historically African American section of the

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<sup>689</sup> Eaker 1981:73.

<sup>690</sup> Ibid.

<sup>691</sup> PCDB 158:566.

<sup>692</sup> Eaker 1981:73.

<sup>693</sup> Norris 1998b.

<sup>694</sup> Ibid.

<sup>695</sup> Rainville 2014:70.

<sup>696</sup> Hester, Whitted, & Daye Funeral Service 2019.



cemetery that came from the Hester, Whitted, and Daye funeral home. This indicates that many members of the African American community likely choose Hester, Whitted, and Daye's services when preparing for the afterlife of a loved one. Furthermore, several of the services for those who have passed are held at both the funeral home and at the new location of the First Baptist Church; it is clear that both the church and the funeral home continue to work with each other to serve as community centers for the African American community in Roxboro.

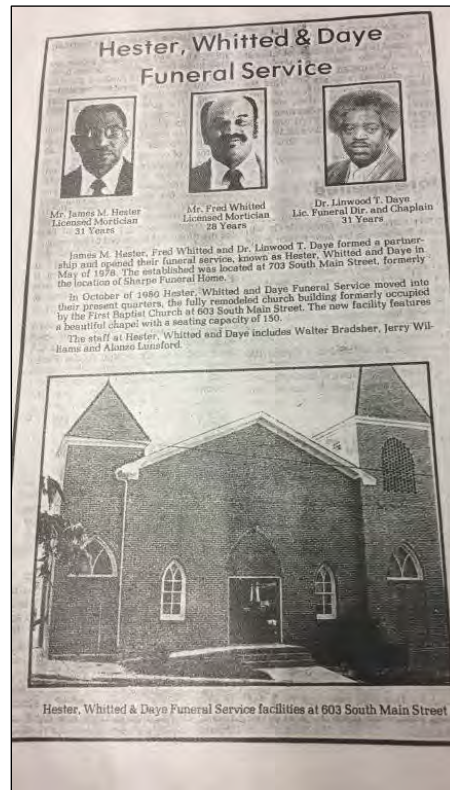


Figure 138: Historic Ad for Hester, Whitted, and Daye Funeral Services.<sup>697</sup>

### ***Evaluation***

The First Baptist Church is a one-story, five-bay, front-gabled, building built circa 1880 with Gothic Revival-style elements. Although the building has remained in the same location, it has changed its function from that of a church to a funeral home. Given the different functions of these entities, it is likely that the interior has been changed to serve the buildings new needs. This indicates that the First Baptist Church has a moderate level of historic integrity of location and setting, but that it has low historic integrity of design, feeling, materials, association, and workmanship.

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<sup>697</sup> Norris 1998b.

NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context . . . The event of trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context . . . and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>698</sup> The First Baptist Church is a historic representation of the changing trends in religion, particularly within the African American community in Person County. While it remains unknown whether the church was the first Baptist church for the Roxboro community, the date in which it was formed suggests that it may have been. Furthermore, the church community still retains membership today, albeit in another building. While the First Baptist Church is clearly representative of early religious trends in the African American community, the church’s physical and historic integrity is assumed to be low given the fact that the church now functions as a funeral home and no longer fully represents its original core function in the local African American community. In addition, the research did not uncover any evidence that this resource had any other historic association with, or played a significant role in, an event or trend, such as the Civil Rights movement. It is for this reason the First Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have an association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented . . . within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>699</sup> Although the founders of the church, such as Peter Apple, Aaron Bailey, Harrison Satterfield, and Calvin Hester, to name a few, were leaders in their community, none of them, nor any of the reverends of the church, are known to have made a significant impact locally, statewide, or nationally. Furthermore, James M. Hester, Fred Whitted, and Dr. Linwood T. Daye, the current owners and staff of the funeral home, are also not known to have made a significant impact locally, statewide, or nationally. For these reasons, the First Baptist Church is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. Despite not being able to evaluate the integrity of the interior, archival research and comparisons with other similar resources in the area provide sufficient information with which to evaluate the resource under Criterion C. The First Baptist Church is an example of a typical church for Roxboro constructed towards the end of the nineteenth century, but it is a unique form for a funeral home. In order to properly evaluate, the First Baptist Church will be compared with both a local funeral home and local churches.

Brooks and White Funeral Home, located at 907 Durham Road is an example of a typical funeral home in Roxboro (Photo 314, p. 410). Founded in 1914 by George D. Brooks and Cyrus Clifton, the funeral home has been serving the Roxboro community for over a hundred years.<sup>700</sup> The funeral home was located in a few other places in Roxboro before moving to its current location

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<sup>698</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>699</sup> Ibid.

<sup>700</sup> Brooks and White Funeral Home 2019.

in 1981.<sup>701</sup> The Brooks and White families still own and operate the funeral home.<sup>702</sup> The current location is a one-story, multi-bay, brick-clad building with a front-gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles. It is unclear where the primary entrance is located, but fenestration includes the following: single-leaf, multi-light, fiberglass doors and one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl windows. The central portion of the building has a pair of long and narrow, decorative windows that run the height of the building. A large attached carport is located on the south side of the building; it is supported by seven large brick square columns. There is an addition on the north side; this is also a one-story, multi-bay section, but it has a faux-mansard roof clad in asphalt shingles.



Photo 314: Brooks and White Funeral Home.

The Brooks and White Funeral Home is different in basic form to the First Baptist Church, but their functions are currently the same in that they both operate as funeral homes. Historic aerials and records indicate that the Brooks and White Funeral Home was purpose built in 1981 whereas the First Baptist Church was converted and repurposed into a funeral home by Hester, Whitted, and Daye around 1979. The Brooks and White Funeral Home is significantly larger than the First Baptist Church and is more representative of the style commonly found in the area for funeral homes; the First Baptist Church, currently Hester, Whitted, and Daye Funeral Home, is unique in that it is a funeral home that operates in a former church. This was not commonly found in Roxboro.

While it currently serves as a funeral home, the original purpose of the Former First Baptist Church was as a church for the African American community. In this regard, the building serves as a common example of the type of churches in the area constructed in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. One such church is the Quinn's Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church (PR0322). For further information about the chapel, please see the following chapter. Despite being built almost 50 years apart, both Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church and the current resource have several similarities including cladding materials, Gothic Revival-stylistic

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<sup>701</sup> Ibid.

<sup>702</sup> Ibid.



elements, and general forms, albeit the current resource features two towers instead of one centralized tower.

Another comparable resource is the Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church (Pine Hill), located at 1521 Charlie Monk Road in Hurdle Mills. The church is a one-story, two-bay, front-gabled building (PR0298) (Photo 315). Founded in 1889, the church's frame structural system, which sits on vermiculated blocks, is clad in vinyl siding. The church features two main entrances: historically, this separated the genders when attending church.<sup>703</sup> The doors are single-leaf, fiberglass replacement doors with pyramidal "fanlights" set above and windows are wood-frame, lancet, double-hung sashes. A northern addition was added in 2002 and is used as a fellowship hall.<sup>704</sup> Much like the First Baptist Church, Pine Hill is modest in decoration. Both churches were built around the same time and served African American communities; however, the Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church serves as a better example of a historically African American church in the region due to the church's modest decoration, integrity of association, and representation of the Primitive Baptist religion.<sup>705</sup>

Additionally, the Former New Mount Zion Church (PR0311) (see p. 219 for further information) is another great comparison. The Former New Mount Zion Church was constructed around 1920 and has a similar form to that of the Former First Baptist Church: both churches features towers and similar materials, such as brick veneers and arched windows. Given their similar forms and materials, it is likely that this church form was common in Roxboro.



Photo 315: Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church (PR0298).

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>706</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive

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<sup>703</sup> CHP 2000:24.

<sup>704</sup> NC-HPO n.d.b

<sup>705</sup> CHP 2000 :23.

<sup>706</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>707</sup> Although access to the interior was not granted, given that the First Baptist Church has changed its function from that of a church to that of a funeral home, it can be inferred that the interior has changed from what it looked like originally. Furthermore, the exterior does have some modifications such as bricked-in or covered and replacement fenestration. The First Baptist Church is not architecturally significant as an individual resource and is not known to be the work of a master, as demonstrated above. For these reasons, the First Baptist Church is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>708</sup> The First Baptist Church is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the First Baptist Church is **recommended not individually eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

Despite its individual eligibility determination, the First Baptist Church is located within the boundaries of the proposed South Roxboro Residential Historic District (PR0327) and was built within the district’s period of significance (1875–1955). This resource also contributes to the integrity and feeling of the district as a whole. Therefore, it is **recommended as contributing to the district.**

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<sup>707</sup> Ibid.

<sup>708</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

**PR0322: Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church, 824 Durham Road**

Date of Construction: 1932

Modifications: 1963

824 Durham Road

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-10-47-6462

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible

***Architectural Description***

Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church (also referred to as Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church and currently known as Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church) is located on the east side of Durham Road in a moderately populated, commercial and residential area of Roxboro, just south of the City's commercial core. Built on a rectangular lot measuring approximately 0.42 acre, the church is immediately surrounded to the north and east by an asphalt parking lot (Figure 139–Figure 140, pp. 414–415; Photo 316, p. 416). A manicured lawn is just east of the resource while an affiliated secondary building is located northeast of the primary resource, the church. A sign is also associated with the church. The resource and parking lot is accessed directly from the road by two driveways that extend east from Durham Road, located to the north and south of the church.

***Primary Resource: Exterior***

The primary resource is a one-story, three-bay church constructed in 1932 with Gothic Revival-style elements in a linear plan. The foundation is continuous parged concrete block and the structural system, though not visible, is clad in a running-bond brick veneer with a soldier row located just above foundation. The building is topped by a moderately pitched, front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles with a centered projecting tower piercing the roof along the façade (west elevation). The tower is clad in the same running-bond brick veneer as the main body of the church and is topped by a square belfry that has been enclosed with vinyl siding and capped by a pyramidal roof clad in asphalt shingles. The tower also features a lancet window opening with a brick sill and surround that has been filled in with brick and a decorative cross made of poured concrete. Two chimneys pierce the southern roof slope; the first is an exterior-end brick chimney that is centered on the south elevation and the second is an interior-central brick chimney located near the east (rear) elevation (Photo 317, p. 416).





Figure 139: Location of the Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church (PR0322).<sup>709</sup>

<sup>709</sup> Esri 2019.

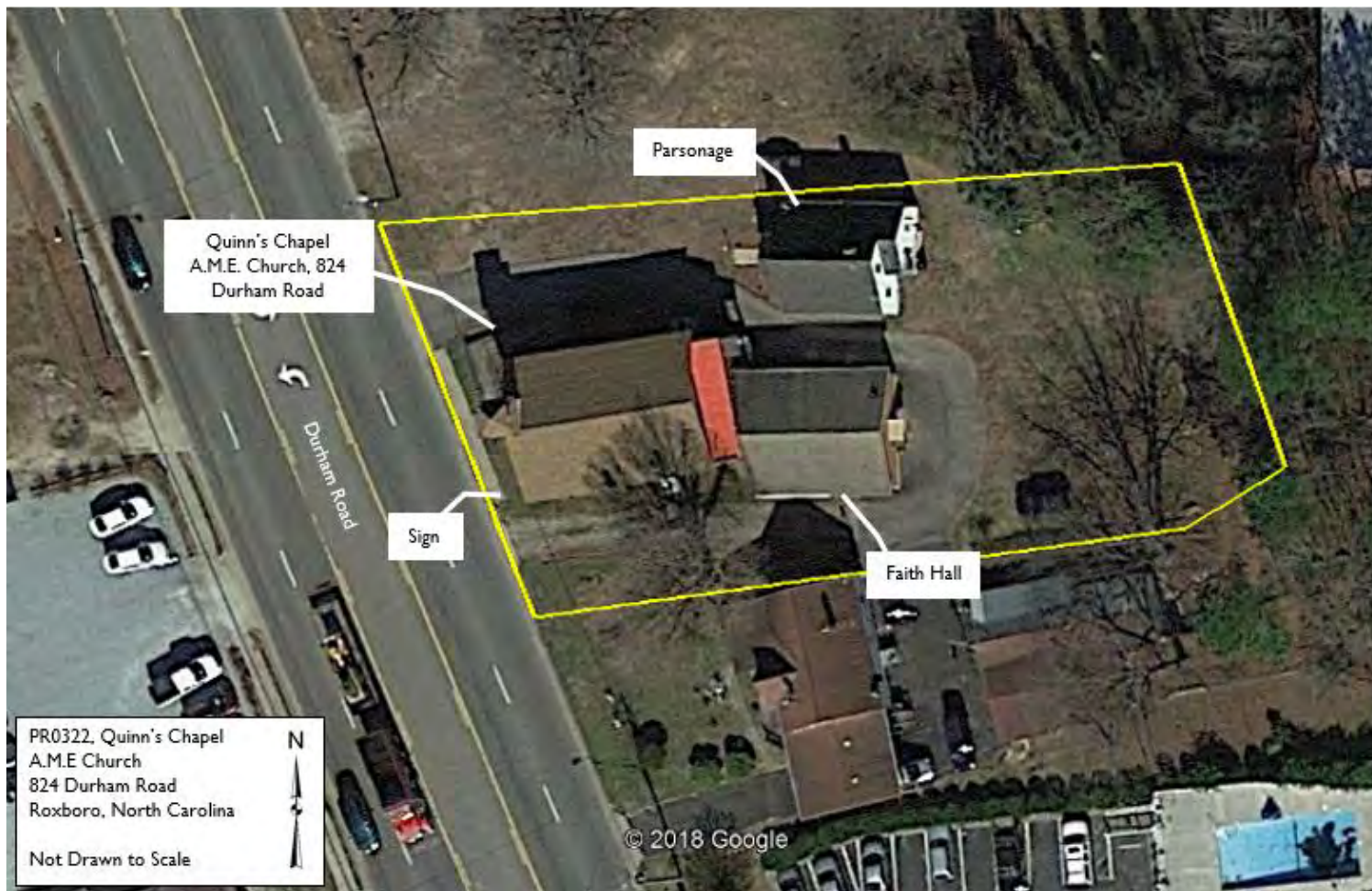


Figure 140: Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church (PR0322) Site Plan.<sup>710</sup>

<sup>710</sup> Google 2019.





Photo 316: Northwest Oblique.



Photo 317: Detail of Foundation, Siding, and Chimneys, North Elevation.



The primary entrance is centered on the façade at the base of the projecting tower and is filled with a replacement, double-leaf, fully glazed, fiberglass door topped by a large stained glass, lancet fanlight featuring a dove (Photo 318). The door is flanked by single-light, fixed, lancet, stained-glass windows with brick sills featuring religious motifs. Two cornerstones are located at the northwest corner of the façade. The first was taken from the previous Quinn’s Chapel building and reads “A.M.E 1883” and the other was made for the new building and reads “QUINNS CHAPEL A.M.E. CH. 1883–REBUILT–1932” and contains the names of church leaders from that time (Photo 318). Fenestration along the north and south elevations include single-light, fixed, lancet, stained-glass windows on brick sills featuring religious motifs (Photo 319, p. 418). A set of poured-concrete steps with brick veneer and metal railing leads east from the sidewalk that is located directly west of the resource, parallel to the road. The steps lead to a landing at the primary entrance which is also accessed by a wheelchair accessible ramp composed of the same materials. A small, circa-1960, one-story, full-length, rear addition composed of the same materials as the main block and covered by a shed-roof sheathed in pressed metal extends from the east elevation and appears to be contemporary with the main building. This addition features a single-leaf, replacement, paneled metal door on the east elevation that is accessed by a set or brick stairs with metal railing and is covered by a shed roof supported by decorative, wrought metal posts (Photo 319, p. 418).



Photo 318: Primary Entrance Detail (Left) and Cornerstones (Right), Both on Façade.



Photo 319: Window Detail (Left) and Addition Entrance on Northeast Corner (Right).

A large, one-story, one-bay, rear addition called “Faith Hall” extends east from the rear addition and was constructed in 1963 (Photo 320). The hall is clad in a running-bond brick veneer and is covered by a low-pitched, front-gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Fenestration includes two entrances, one on the east elevation and one on the west, both of which are filled with single-leaf, flush metal doors covered by a metal-and-fiberglass storm door. The eastern entrance is covered by a metal awning and a date stone that reads “FAITH HALL BUILT JUNE 1963 REV. J.M. VINSON PASTOR” is located to the south of the western entrance. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl-framed windows with brick sills along the north and south elevations.



Photo 320: Faith Hall, Southeast Oblique (Left) and Southwest Oblique (Right).



*Primary Resource: Interior*

Multiple attempts were made to contact the property owner including a certified letter, phone calls, email, and in-person visits, but unfortunately a connection to the property owners or someone connected to the church interior access was not obtained. Due to the form and massing of the church, it likely that one enters a small narthex which then leads to the large, open sanctuary. A photo on the church website of the sanctuary shows a large, open room with three rows of wooden pews, creating two aisles (Photo 321, p. 419). The floor is carpeted and the wood ceiling is curved with decorative banding. Large, hanging brass pendant light fixtures extend from the roof. The chancel is located at the rear (east) of the building and is bordered by a low, decorative, wood, sanctuary rail. The chancel features a large wooden alter as well as a wooden pulpit and lectern, both with decorative carvings. Behind (east of) that is a choir rail and then the choir seating. Single-leaf doors lead to the north and south of the chancel.



Photo 321: View of the Interior of the Sanctuary, Looking Southeast.<sup>711</sup>

*Secondary Resources*

A circa-1940, one-and-one-half-story, three-bay, parsonage, currently used as the pastor's office, is located northeast of the primary resource (Photo 322–Photo 323, p. 420). It is set on a concrete-block foundation and is clad in vinyl siding. The resource is covered by a front-gabled roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. The primary entrance is centered on the west elevation and is

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<sup>711</sup> Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church n.d.



filled with a half-glazed, paneled wood door covered by a storm door. The door is located beneath a one-story, one-bay, front-gabled entry porch with a wood railing. The porch roof is supported by square wood posts and accessed by a set of concrete-block steps. Other fenestration includes one-over-one, double-hung-sash, vinyl-framed windows. A circa-1990 vinyl sign with vinyl posts is located just west of the primary resource (Photo 324, p. 421).



Photo 322: Parsonage, Southwest Oblique.



Photo 323: Parsonage, Northeast Oblique.



Photo 324: Sign, Looking East.

### *Historic Context*

The A.M.E. Church was founded in 1787 in Philadelphia as the first Protestant denomination founded by African Americans.<sup>712</sup> Due to the denomination's active role in the abolition movement, the A.M.E. Church was primarily barred from expanding into the South, including North Carolina, until after the Civil War and emancipation.

No longer required to attend racially mixed churches or chapels established for them by whites, thousands of blacks began organizing their own autonomous congregations. The months that followed emancipation marked the beginning of a new era for the black church, a time during which it began to mature and to take on new forms and functions.<sup>713</sup>

In 1868, just a few years following the Civil War, the North Carolina Annual Conference of the A.M.E. Church was organized in Wilmington and A.M.E. churches spread across the state.<sup>714</sup>

Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church was founded in 1883 by five trustees: W. H. Woods, John F. Woods, George Johnson, Edmond Goins, and John Mangum with Reverend E.S.W. Simmons

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<sup>712</sup> Criner 2006.

<sup>713</sup> Montgomery 1995.

<sup>714</sup> Ibid.

serving as the first pastor.<sup>715</sup> They purchased a plot of land measuring 35 yards by 35 yards from Cary and Harriett Brooks for \$16 to build a:

...house or place of worship for the use of the members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church according to the rules and discipline of the said church, which from time to time, may be adopted and agreed upon, by the ministers and preachers of the said church at their General Conference.<sup>716</sup>

Though the material of the church building is not known, it was likely a small, frame chapel. According to Sanborn mapping, in the first quarter of the twentieth century, the area along Durham Road near Quinn's Chapel was primarily inhabited by African Americans and other churches as well as schools for African Americans lined the road.<sup>717</sup> In 1919, the trustees expanded the church property and by 1925 the parsonage to the northeast of the church had been built (Figure 141, p. 423).<sup>718</sup> The parsonage was built on land donated by the Roxboro M.E. Circuit, which was a group composed of the trustees of three Roxboro A.M.E. churches, Bailey's Chapel, Allen's Chapel, and Quinn's Chapel.<sup>719</sup> It is likely around this time that ownership of the church was also granted to the Roxboro M.E. Circuit, although a deed could not be found, as they are noted as the owners in later land transactions.

In 1932, under Pastor N.A. Rice, the church was rebuilt.<sup>720</sup> According to Sanborn maps, the church was rebuilt upon the same footprint as the previous building and was clad in a brick veneer.<sup>721</sup> This likely denotes that size was not an issue with the previous building, but instead there was a need for more long-lasting materials, such as brick. A small Sunday school building was added around that time as well (no longer extant).

In 1963, Faith Hall, the large addition to the rear (east) of the church that currently serves as a multi-purpose room with a kitchen and assembly room, was constructed.<sup>722</sup> It was the:

...climax of a twenty year dream by the members of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church [...] Money, materials and labor were contributed by members and friends, and the project became possible with the appointment of Reverend J. M. Vinson in 1960 [...] The name Faith Hall was given to this building because the idea of getting it was founded on hope, hard labor and most of all undying faith.<sup>723</sup>

In 1991 the Trustees of the Roxboro M.E. Circuit disbanded and gifted the land and buildings back to the Trustees of the Quinn's Chapel A.M.E.<sup>724</sup> Following that, various updates were made

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<sup>715</sup> Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church n.d.

<sup>716</sup> PCDB HH:588

<sup>717</sup> Sanborn 1925.

<sup>718</sup> PCDB 16:273; Sanborn 1925.

<sup>719</sup> Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church n.d.

<sup>720</sup> Ibid.

<sup>721</sup> Sanborn 1943.

<sup>722</sup> Noted on plaque on building.

<sup>723</sup> Quinn chapel A.M.E. Church n.d.

<sup>724</sup> PCDB 230:201



to the church, parsonage, and Faith Hall. In 1995, the roof of the parsonage, by then used as the pastor's office and study, was renovated and other repairs were made. Two years later, Faith Hall was repainted and storm doors were added. Other smaller repairs have been made to the sanctuary as well.<sup>725</sup>

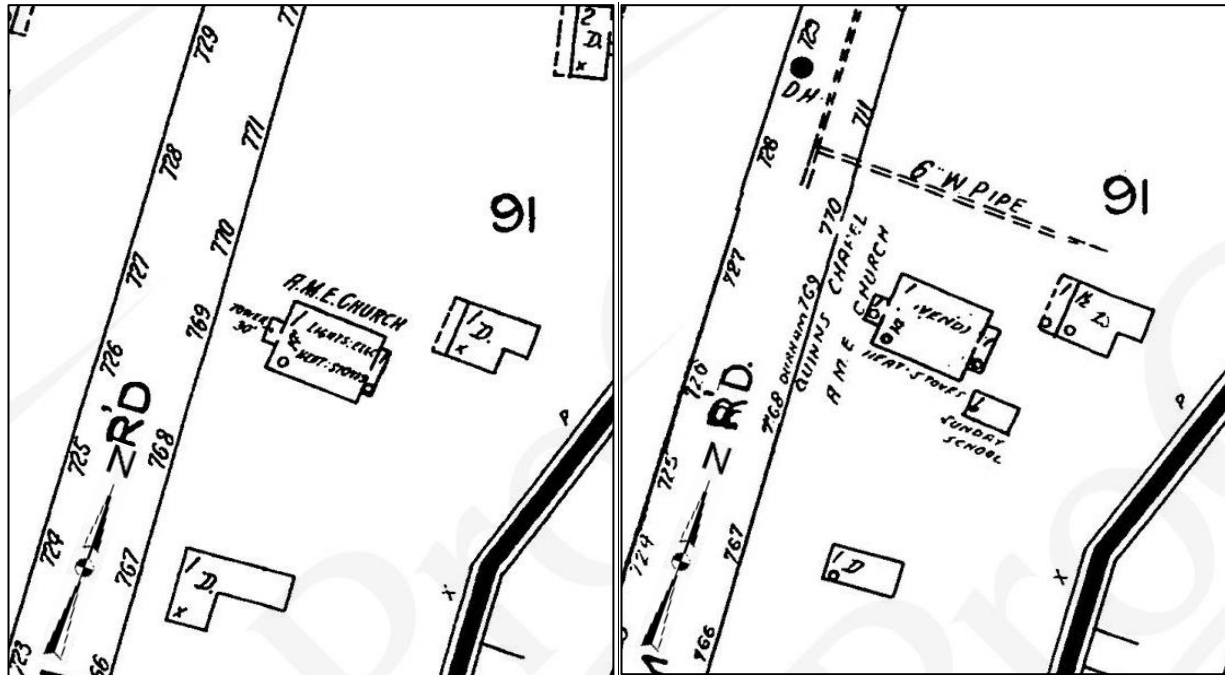


Figure 141: 1925 (Left) and 1943 (Right) Sanborn Maps of Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church.<sup>726</sup>  
Not to scale.

### Evaluation

Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church is a one-story, three-bay church constructed in 1932 in the Gothic Revival style with a linear plan. The massing, form, and style are all common to Roxboro as well as Person County. A parsonage and sign are affiliated with this resource. Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church retains integrity of location; the church has not been moved and the associated secondary resources appear to be in their original locations, although the original Sunday School building was demolished and replaced by the current Faith Hall. The church has a moderate level of historic integrity of materials, workmanship, and design due to the large rear addition. The church is still located within a primarily residential area, although more recent commercial development and the widening of Durham Road have had a somewhat negative impact. It is also still an operating church and as such, the resource retains a moderate to high level of integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

<sup>725</sup> Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church n.d.

<sup>726</sup> Sanborn 1925, 1943.

Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church is an early African American church in Person County; however, it was not the first congregation. And although the growth of the church follows an important pattern in the development of African American churches throughout the South following the Civil War, the current primary resource was constructed significantly later and the church itself is not associated with an important event, or historic trend within the larger community. Therefore, the Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

The church has no other known association with an individual who is "significant within a historic context" or has "gained importance within his or her group or profession" which are necessary qualifications for it to be eligible under Criterion B.<sup>727</sup> Therefore, the resource is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

To properly evaluate the resource's NRHP eligibility, it must be compared with similar churches within the area, this included surveying historic African American churches as well as those with affiliated parsonages. The Former First Baptist Church (PR0321), discussed previously in this report is a good comparison for Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. (see photos and description on p. 388). Although currently used as a funeral home, it is one of, if not the, first church established by African Americans in Person County in 1864.<sup>728</sup> After meeting in members' homes for many years, the land for the current building was gifted to the First Baptist Church (then known as Pleasant Grove Baptist Church) in 1872 and the church was constructed soon after by members of the congregation.<sup>729</sup>

Allen's Chapel A.M.E. Church and Cemetery is another African Methodist Episcopal church located in Roxboro (Photo 325, p. 425). The congregation likely dates to the turn of the twentieth century due to the date of internments in the cemetery, though the current building was likely constructed circa 1940. Allen's Chapel shares many architectural features with Quinn's Chapel such as the modest adornment, square steeple, rear-wing addition, and lancet stained-glass windows. Allen's Chapel was part of the Roxboro M.E. Circuit along with Quinn's Chapel until the circuit disbanded in 1993.

An excellent example of an early-twentieth century church with a large addition and parsonage is the Longhurst United Methodist Church in Roxboro. It is a one-story, three-bay, church built around 1910 that is clad in brick veneer (Photo 326, p. 425). The resource features stained-glass windows, a square steeple, and a projecting narthex. A large side addition dating to circa 1940 extends from the east elevation and sympathetic to the materials and massing of the church. A circa-1940, one-story, four-bay, side-gabled parsonage in the Transitional Ranch form is located just east of the church.

The Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church building is a common form and type of the era and region in which it was constructed. It is not the work of a master nor does it possess high artistic values. It

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<sup>727</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:14.

<sup>728</sup> Eaker 1981:73.

<sup>729</sup> Ibid.

also does not represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may be, singly, undistinguished. There are also more noteworthy examples of early- to mid-twentieth-century churches with Gothic Revival-style elements in the surrounding area as discussed above. Furthermore, this resource has a large rear addition. For these reasons, the resource is recommended not eligible for the NPHP under Criterion C.



Photo 325: Allen's Chapel A.M.E. Church, Southeast Oblique.



Photo 326: Longhurst United Methodist Church and Addition, South Elevation (Top) and Parsonage (Bottom).



For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>730</sup> The Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church is not likely to yield to any new information pertaining to the history of architectural design or technology for education facilities. Therefore, this resource is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the Quinn's Chapel A.M.E. Church **is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>730</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990:21.

## **PR0323: Norfolk and Western Railway Underpass, Old Durham Road/N.C. Highway 158**

Date of Construction: 1936  
Modifications: n/a

Old Durham Road/ N.C. Highway 158  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 3090-74-8389  
Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### ***Architectural Description***

The Norfolk and Western Railway Underpass south of downtown core of Roxboro, was constructed in 1936 to carry the railway in a north-south direction over Old Durham Road, also known as N.C. Highway 158 (Figure 142–Figure 143, pp. 428–429).<sup>731</sup> This resource consists of a rigid concrete structure historically associated with the Durham Line of the N&W Railway, now part of the NS Railroad corridor.

The entire underpass was constructed from concrete that was cast in place over a network of reinforced steel rods using materials and methods common to the period in which it was erected. The structure's north and south abutments, each featuring a long and short wing wall at opposing corners, are connected by a concrete-slab girder deck lined by a low parapet wall along the east and west elevations (Photo 327–Photo 330, pp. 430–431). At the northwest corner, the long wing wall extends more than 45 feet from the parapet wall atop the concrete-slab deck. The long wing wall at the southeast corner of the underpass extends more than 25 feet from the east portal opening and parapet, while shorter wing walls at the northeast and southwest corners are between 11 and 14 feet long.<sup>732</sup>

The portal of the underpass provides roughly 25 feet for Old Durham Road below and another 5 feet along the north side of the structure for a pedestrian walkway. The walkway is separated from the roadway by a 2.5-foot-wide concrete wall punctuated by a series of narrow openings, making an interior arcade (Photo 331–Photo 333, pp. 431–432). The condition of the drains, ballast, and tracks are unknown, although overgrown vegetation lines either side of the structure.

At present the railroad line above and underpass is owned by NS Railroad, though it is part of a larger conglomeration that includes CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT). The L&D line fell out of use in the 1980s, shortly after the NS was established by the merger of the Southern Railway and N&W Railroad in 1982.<sup>733</sup>

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<sup>731</sup> N&W Railway 1934.

<sup>732</sup> Ibid.

<sup>733</sup> Lewis 2016.



Figure 142: Location of the N&W Railway Underpass.<sup>734</sup>

<sup>734</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 143: Current Satellite Imagery of N&W Railway Underpass (PR0323).<sup>735</sup>

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<sup>735</sup> Google Earth 2019.



Photo 327: East Elevation of Underpass.



Photo 328: View of East Elevation, Looking Southwest.



Photo 329: West Elevation of Underpass.





Photo 330: Detail of Company Name at East Wall.



Photo 331: East Entrance to Pedestrian Walkway (Left) and Detail of Date Stamp, East Elevation (Right).





Photo 332: Detail of Pedestrian Walkway, East Elevation.



Photo 333: View of West Wall from Walkway Showing Various Form Marks.

### *Historic Context*

The N&W Railway underpass is situated along the railroad line initially purchased for use of the L&D Railroad, and was later constructed by the N&W Railway Company to eliminate an above-grade crossing over what was then the primary road south to Durham. The origins of the N&W Railway began in eastern Virginia in 1836 with the charter of the City Point Railroad; however, the line did not operate in North Carolina until closer to the turn of the twentieth century.<sup>736</sup>

The N&W Railway was established in September 1896 from a merger of the Norfolk, Lynchburg & Durham Railroad, formerly known as the L&D, and the Norfolk & Western Railroad Company.<sup>737</sup> The N&W Railway took over operations of the L&D line, along with Roxboro's combination freight-passenger station, and began referring to it as the Durham Line or Durham Division (Figure 144).<sup>738</sup> Its stop at Roxboro was considered important for its location at the head of the Tar and Neuse rivers and connecting with Person County's developing tobacco, textile, and resort industries.<sup>739</sup> The N&W merged with the Southern Railway in 1998 to form the NS Railroad.<sup>740</sup> "Today, the original L&D line out of Lynchburg is active only to a point just south of Roxboro, and is used by NS primarily to supply coal to a coal-fired power plant at Hyco Lake located near Roxboro."<sup>741</sup>

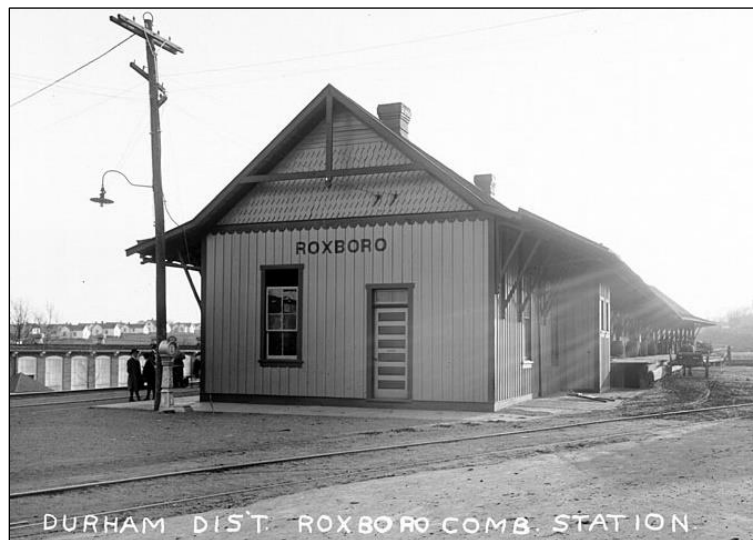


Figure 144: Circa-1917 Photograph of the Roxboro Combination Station on the Durham Division Taken During a Valuation Survey Conducted by the N&W Railway.<sup>742</sup>

<sup>736</sup> American-Rails.com 2020; Lewis 2018a.

<sup>737</sup> Lewis 2018b.

<sup>738</sup> Lewis 2018a; 2018b.

<sup>739</sup> The Daily Virginian 1891.

<sup>740</sup> Ibid.

<sup>741</sup> Lynchburg and Central Virginia Historic Railroad Photographs n.d.

<sup>742</sup> Norfolk & Western Historical Photograph Collection ca. 1917.

In the summer of 1934, the Roxboro paper reported that the N&W had expanded to include a network of 4,500 miles of track in six states, supporting the region's agricultural and industrial economy with four freight trains daily.<sup>743</sup> Since 1923, the N&W was said to have spent more than \$600,000 on improvements to the Durham Line, modernizing the track by laying heavier rails, constructing new bridges, and strengthening various structures. This modernization effort was due in part to a significant increase in freight shipped along the line. Between 1900 and 1934, freight tonnage coming into the Roxboro station rose from 6,089 tons to 36,372 tons, while tonnage going out increased from 2,515 to 23,583.<sup>744</sup>

One such improvement was the construction of the N&W Railway underpass on the old Durham Road. Under the guise of the N&W Railway, designs for the underpass were produced by the Office of the Chief Engineer in Roanoke, Virginia, in 1934 and finalized after receiving approval from the company's chief engineer in December 1935.<sup>745</sup> At the northeast corner of the east parapet wall, the date 1936 is inscribed into the concrete. Original drawings for the resource detail its construction using poured concrete and reinforced steel bars or re-bar along the railroad's alignment (Figure 145 and Figure 146, pp. 435–436).

Historic aerials indicate that the area around the underpass was more developed in the early- to mid-twentieth century (Figure 147, p. 437). Underpasses and overpasses along railroad corridors were not an uncommon structure to be constructed at this time when automobiles were increasingly common and roadways were more heavily travelled in the second and third quarters of the twentieth century. Designs for such structures were catered to suit each grade and crossing in which they were employed, as few instances presented the same environmental conditions. Not all railroad underpasses feature a pedestrian walkway, but these are not wholly uncommon elements since the purpose of the structure was to eliminate the obstacles and hazards of at-grade crossings.

A few examples of underpasses constructed by the N&W Railway in the 1930s remain extant and share similar design characteristics, including one with a pedestrian walkway on either side of Route 60 in Buena Vista, Virginia. Constructed in 1938, the deck of this underpass is believed to have been replaced though original poured-concrete retaining walls ornamented by crisp beveled lines and arcaded walkway remain (Photo 334, p. 437). Similar to this structure and likely constructed around the same time is the underpass over Wiley Drive SW in the City of Roanoke, Virginia (Photo 335, p. 438). It has one pedestrian walkway along the north side that does not feature arcaded openings at either portal, but does have an interior arcaded wall separating the sidewalk from the roadway and another between both lanes of traffic. Strikingly similar to the form and design of the underpass south of Roxboro is the Barlow Road underpass located just outside of Maybeury, West Virginia. This structure is believed to have been constructed circa 1935 and likely remains extant (Figure 148, p. 438). In keeping with the Roxboro underpass, this resource also featured the railway company's name engraved across the middle of the bridge deck above the roadway.

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<sup>743</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1934a:2.

<sup>744</sup> Ibid.

<sup>745</sup> N&W Railway 1934.



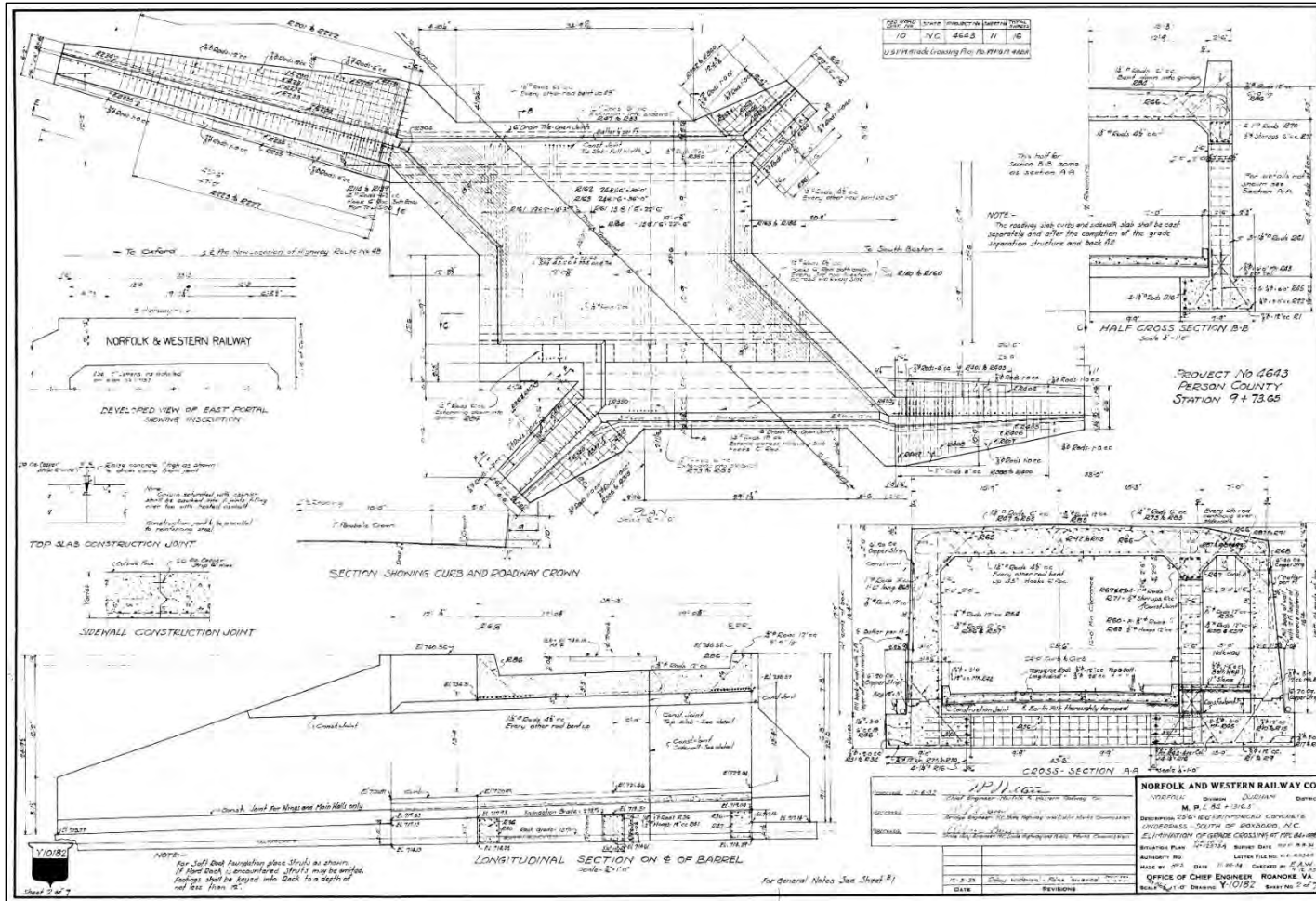


Figure 145: Original Construction Drawing for N&W Railway Underpass South of Roxboro.<sup>746</sup>

<sup>746</sup> N&W Railway 1934, Sheet 2 of 7.

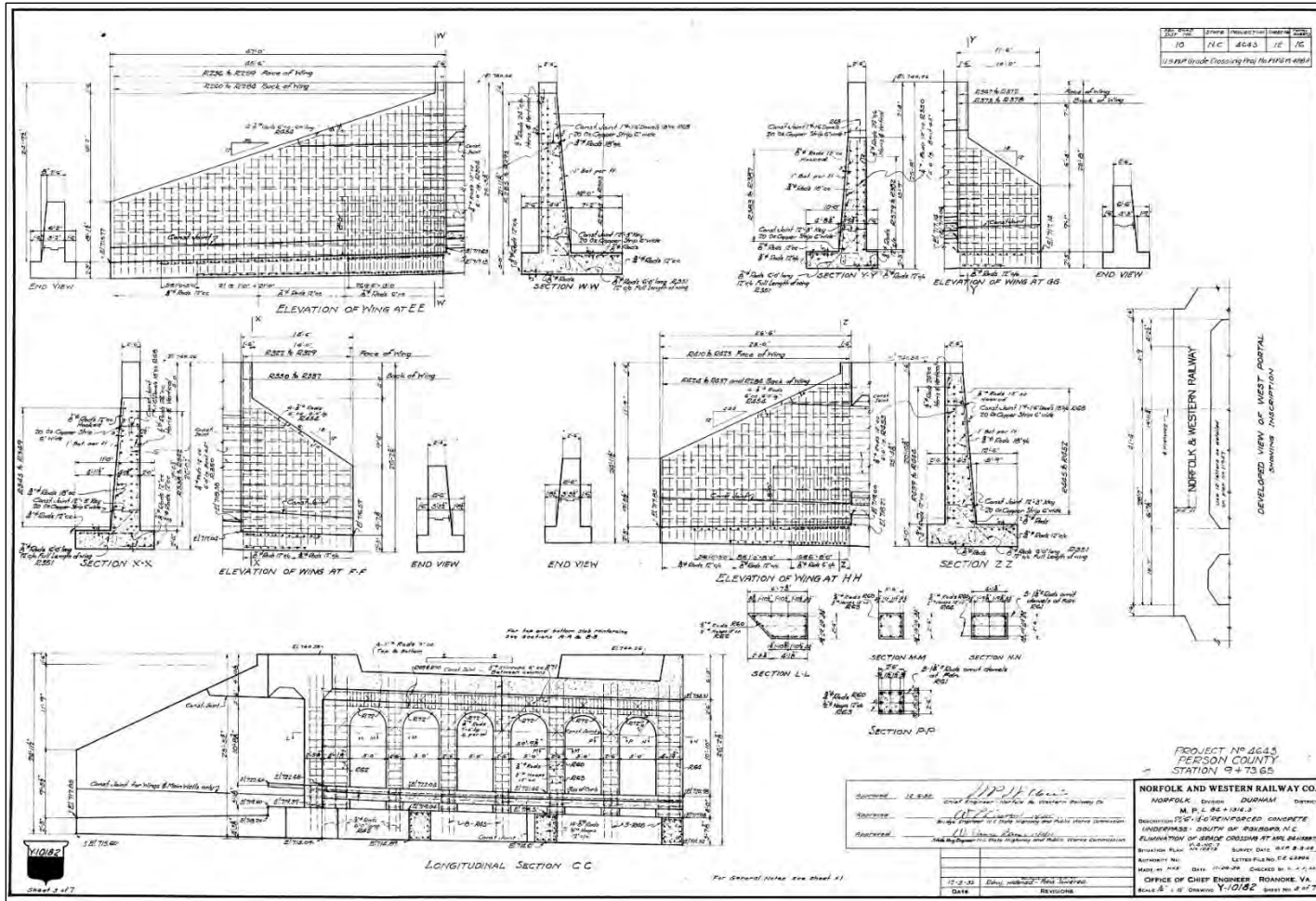


Figure 146: Original Drawing of Wall Details for N&W Railway Underpass South of Roxboro.<sup>747</sup>

<sup>747</sup> N&W Railway 1934, Sheet 3 of 7.

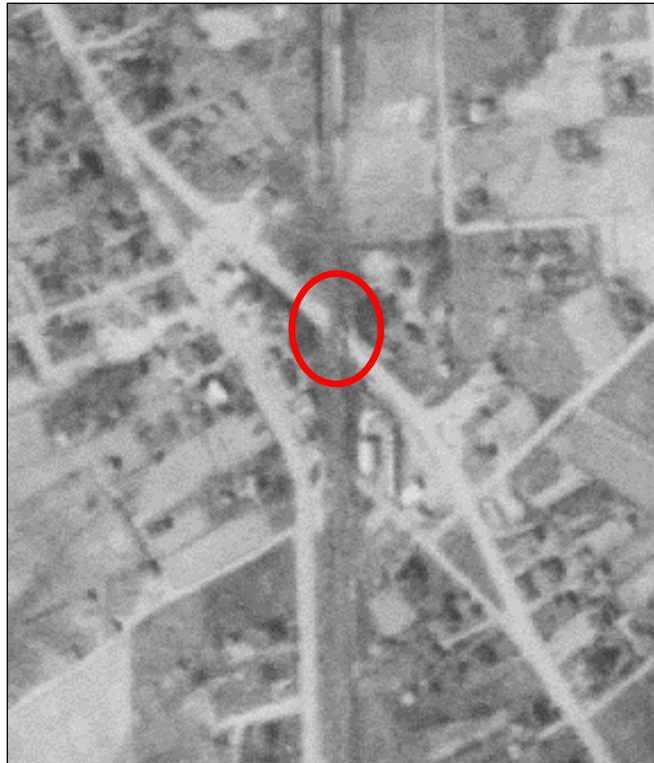


Figure 147: Detail of 1950 Aerial Photograph of Showing N&W Railroad and Surrounding Roadways.<sup>748</sup> Underpass highlighted by red circle.



Photo 334: View Looking West at Circa-1938 N&W Railway Underpass Over Route 60 in Buena Vista, Virginia.<sup>749</sup>

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<sup>748</sup> USDA 1950.

<sup>749</sup> Google Streetview 2020.





Photo 335: View Looking East at Circa-1938 N&W Railway Underpass Over Wiley Drive SW in Roanoke, Virginia.<sup>750</sup>



Figure 148: Historic Photograph of N&W Railway Barlow Road Underpass Near Maybuery, West Virginia.<sup>751</sup>

<sup>750</sup> Google Streetview 2020.

<sup>751</sup> Norfolk & Western Historical Society Archives n.d.

### *Evaluation*

The 1936 N&W Railway underpass is situated along the railroad line previously purchased for use of the L&D Railroad, but was constructed to eliminate an above-grade crossing on what was the main road south to Durham from the City of Roxboro, now Old Durham Road. After completion of the circa-1950 bypass of Durham Road along a new path west of the underpass, most through vehicular and pedestrian traffic no longer flows under the structure as did during the time in which it was constructed. Today, the railroad company no longer operates on this line, leading the underpass to become overgrown with vegetation along the deck and abutments.

Despite being idle, this reinforced poured-concrete underpass remains in fairly good condition. It has a high level of historic integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, and association. However, because it is no longer in use, its historic integrity of feeling is somewhat diminished.

As a singular structure on a larger railroad built in second quarter of the twentieth century, there is little data to support that this individual resource is historically significant for its association with important events that led to broad trends within the field of transportation or community planning. As part of the Durham Division of the N&W Railway, the rail line impacted local and regional transportation; however, the underpass itself did not make important contributions to this pattern of events.<sup>752</sup> Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for individual inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B, it must be associated with an important individual within a specific historic context or they must be considered significant within their profession or group.<sup>753</sup> While the N&W Railway was responsible for the construction of this underpass along with other improvements to the railroad corridor at large, this particular resource is not the best representative example of any individual's work or that of the N&W Railway Company in North Carolina. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible for the listing under Criterion B.

The NPS indicates that for a property to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, it must exemplify distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic value or distinguishable characteristics.<sup>754</sup> Further, it can also be significant for its "physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork."<sup>755</sup> Railroads have traversed the landscape of North Carolina since the 1830s with countless miles of track laid across the state throughout the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Obstacles such as steep hills, mountainsides, and crossing roads and waterways resulted in engineering accomplishments.

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<sup>752</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>753</sup> Ibid.

<sup>754</sup> Ibid.

<sup>755</sup> Ibid.

However, over time as railroad companies consolidated and the field of engineering evolved, the design of many railroad bridges, underpasses, and overpasses became standardized.

By the second quarter of the twentieth century, the design of such structures required slight modifications to fit a particular crossing, but was essentially repeated throughout the rail company's network. As such, similar designs to the N&W Railway Underpass can be found along N&W corridors and those of competing railroad companies in North Carolina and its Piedmont region. One example is the previously unrecorded N&W Railway underpass over Trinity Avenue in Durham County. Also identified as a NS Railway bridge, this structure remains intact, but is also closed to railroad traffic.<sup>756</sup> It features a circa-1940, steel-stringer deck supported by cast-in place concrete abutments with two pedestrian walkways on either side of a two-lane roadway, each framed by a series of arched openings. Similar to the N&W Railway Underpass of this study, the pedestrian walkways are separated from the roadway by a concrete arcaded wall; however, this underpass does not appear to be ornamented or feature any noticeable inscriptions (Photo 336, p. 441).

Another reinforced-concrete underpass from this period is the Southern Railway Bridge (DH2504) or underpass that travels over S. Roxboro Street in Durham, North Carolina. Built circa 1935, this structure also features two pedestrian walkways on either side of a two-lane roadway (Photo 337, p. 441). Determined eligible under Criteria A and C in 1999 and found to retain significance and integrity in a 2015 investigation conducted for the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit project, this resource is larger and more ornate than the underpass of study.<sup>757</sup> It features regularly spaced beveled lines along the surface of its concrete walls as well as recessed blocks designed to imitate paneling across the bridge deck and parapet wall. Above each walkway is a small metal sign that reads "The Southern Serves the South." Both pedestrian walkways are separated from the roadway by arcaded concrete walls while the concrete abutments are catered to suit the topography and street network.

Another underpass located in Norlina, has not been previously recorded but is located along the Raleigh & Gaston Rail Corridor (NC0008), a 60-mile rail corridor that was one of the first self-propelled railroads in North Carolina listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for important historical associations with transportation in 2007.<sup>758</sup> This underpass in Warren County enables U.S. Highway 158/401 S to pass below and was likely built by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (Photo 338, p. 442). The circa-1940, reinforced-concrete underpass features a recessed-paneled concrete deck lined with a balustrade composed of a metal rail with concrete pilasters. Like other such structures from the 1930s and 1940s, poured-concrete walls feature regular beveled lines and although the single pedestrian walkway is separated from the road by an arcaded wall, the design of this wall is less substantial than other examples.

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<sup>756</sup> Braughn and Contributors 2019.

<sup>757</sup> Reed et al. 2015:K.18-58.

<sup>758</sup> Stokes 2007.





Photo 336: NS Railway Trinity Avenue Bridge, Looking East from W. Trinity Avenue (Top) and Pedestrian Walkway, Looking Northeast (Bottom).<sup>759</sup>



Photo 337: Southern Railway Bridge (DH2504) over S. Roxboro Street, Looking North.

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<sup>759</sup> Haley and Haley 2015.



Photo 338: Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Underpass on Former Raleigh & Gaston Rail Corridor (NC0008) at U.S. Highway 158/401 S near Norlina, North Carolina.

In order to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, a resource must retain history integrity reflecting distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or be the work of a master, possessing high artistic value. This underpass is one of several examples of its form and design for the underpass that was produced by the Office of the Chief Engineer in Roanoke, Virginia.<sup>760</sup> These designs were utilized many times for various underpasses along the N&W Railway and architects, engineers, and builders of historic properties are more

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<sup>760</sup> N&W Railway 1934.

appropriately considered within the context of a resource's design under Criterion C. Many of these types of underpasses exist throughout the county and surrounding counties. The resource does retain a moderate to high level of historic integrity and original characteristics the pedestrian walkway and inscription on the deck; however, those elements do not warrant eligibility alone. Many examples of this structural type exist in the county and surrounding counties, some of which are in far better condition. Therefore, the N&W Railway Underpass is not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C.

According to the NPS, a property must meet two requirements in order to be eligible under Criterion D. The property but likely to contribute historic or prehistoric information and the information must be considered significant.<sup>761</sup> The amount of grade construction along a railroad renders this resource not likely to yield new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology or outdoor theatre operations and is, therefore, recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D.

In sum, the N&W Railway underpass south of Roxboro is **recommended not eligible for listing as an individual resource in the NRHP under any criteria**. A full study and NRHP evaluation of the N&W Railway corridor was outside the scope of this investigation; however, this structure has the potential to contribute to a larger railroad district.

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<sup>761</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.



## PR0114: Roxboro Broom Works

Date of Construction: ca. 1920

Modifications: n/a

25 Weeks Drive

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-15-54-353

Eligibility Recommendation: Not Eligible



### *Architectural Description*

The resource, known as the Roxboro Broom Works, is located at 25 Weeks Drive on the north side of Weeks Drive in the southern portion of the City of Roxboro, Person County (Figure 149–Figure 150, pp. 445–446). The 1.45-acre parcel that contains the resource is bounded by Weeks Drive on the south, the N&W Railway and Durham Road (U.S. Route 501/NC 57) on the west, an industrial property on the north, and a commercial property on the east. The property is accessed by a shared gravel driveway that extends north from Weeks Drive and leads to a gravel parking area situated between a cluster of buildings. The remainder of the parcel is covered by grass. The resource is comprised of three warehouses and is currently owned by Newell Novelty Co., Inc. and listed for sale through Real Estate Associates<sup>762</sup>

### *Primary Resource: Exterior*

The primary resource of the Roxboro Broom Works is a one-story, four-bay, masonry warehouse with an L-plan constructed in 1924 (Photo 339, p. 447).<sup>763</sup> The original building was originally used as the main “old factory building;” however, was noted to be used for storage during a previous survey.<sup>764</sup> The building’s continuous brick foundation supports structural system clad in a stretcher-bonded brick veneer. A single row of soldier-bond brick is located in the gabled ends. The building is covered by a moderately pitched, cross-gabled roof featuring overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails and sheathed in v-crimp pressed metal. The remnants of a brick chimney flue pierce the western roof slope towards the center of the southern portion of the L-plan.

There are multiple entrances to the building. The potential primary entrance is situated in the west half of the north elevation and is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door. The entryway features a simple wood door frame topped by a flat lintel composed of a row of soldier-bond brick. Other fenestration openings have been bricked in; however, small window openings situated in the gabled ends of the building have been left open. All window opening are bounded by a soldier-bond brick lintel and a header-bond brick sill. According to the previous survey on file with the NC-HPO, the building once had 16-over-12, wood-frame, sash windows; it was not

<sup>762</sup> Person County, NC 2019; Real Estate Associates 2019.

<sup>763</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>764</sup> NC-HPO n.d.c

specified what type of fenestration was located in the gabled ends.<sup>765</sup> One window opening in the gable is left open and another is filled with a one-over-one, vinyl-frame, double-hung sash protected by a metal gate.



Figure 149: Location of the Roxboro Broom Works (PR0114).<sup>766</sup>

<sup>765</sup> NC-HPO n.d.c

<sup>766</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 150: Site Plan of the Roxboro Broom Works at 25 Weeks Drive.<sup>767</sup>

<sup>767</sup> Google Earth 2018.





Photo 339: Southwest Oblique (Top) and Southeast Oblique (Bottom).

There are several secondary entrances for the building. One entrance, located in the southern corner on the west elevation of the southern portion is barely visible due to overgrown vegetation; however, it can be accessed by a set of brick steps lined by brick walls topped by concrete slabs. The previous survey shows that this entrance was once filled with a single-leaf, paneled, wood door with six lights; however, currently it is bricked in (Figure 151, p. 448).<sup>768</sup> Another entrance is situated in the east half of the south elevation and is filled with a sliding wood door. This entry is accessed by a brick and concrete stoop. Two entrances are situated in the northeast corner of the building: one at the northernmost section and the other just after the interior corner of the L-plan just south (Photo 340, p. 448). The northernmost is filled with a single-leaf, board-and-batten door while the other entrance is filled with a single-leaf, paneled, replacement door.

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<sup>768</sup> NC-HPO n.d.c



Figure 151: Historic Image of the Original Building of the Roxboro Broom Works Looking Northeast.<sup>769</sup>



Photo 340: Secondary Entrance at Northeast Corner (Left); Secondary Entrance on East Elevation at Interior Corner of L-Plan (Right).

*Primary Resource: Interior*

Access to the interior of the Roxboro Broom Works was not permitted during the current effort as the property owner was not able to meet the survey crew and the property is currently listed for sale. However, historic images taken of the interior of the primary resource show a timber frame structural system supported by interior posts with knee braces (Figure 152, p. 449). Wood paneling also appears to cover the ceilings.

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<sup>769</sup> NC-HPO n.d.c

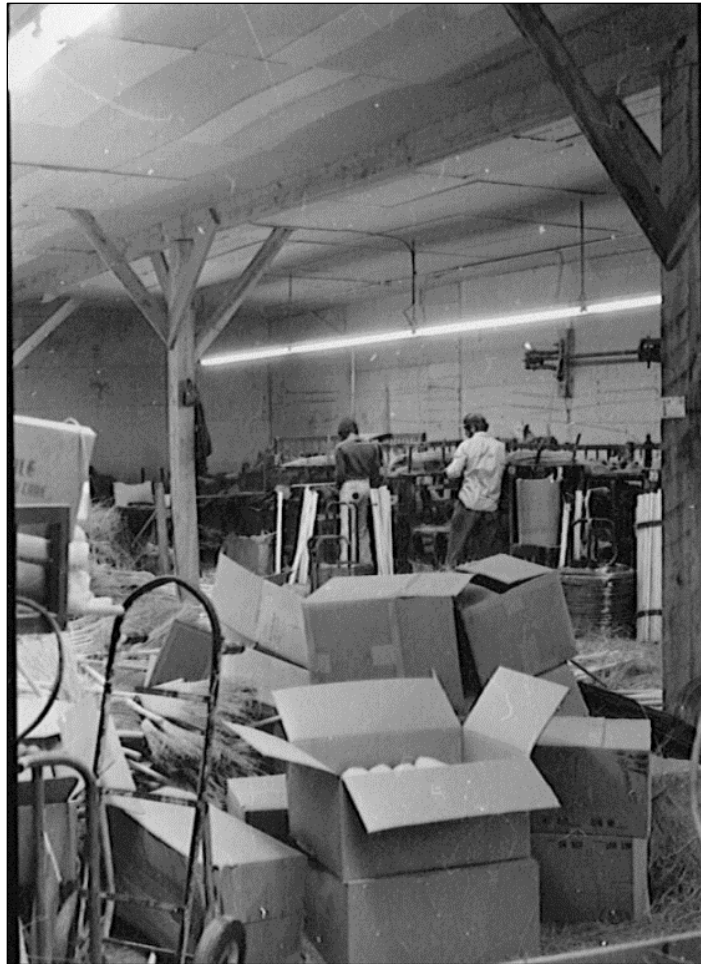


Figure 152: Historic Image of Interior of Overall Machinery of the Original Building, or the “Old Factory Building.”<sup>770</sup>

### *Secondary Resources*

A circa-1924, one-story, frame storage warehouse is situated south of the primary resource (Photo 341, p. 450).<sup>771</sup> The building is set on a mixed foundation of brick and stone piers filled-in with concrete block, all of which are parged with small metal-grated openings for access to the crawl space. It is clad in replacement vinyl siding and covered by a steeply pitched, gabled roof sheathed in v-crimp metal with slightly overhanging eaves covered in vinyl. Multiple entrances are located in the north elevation and filled with single- or double-leaf, wood doors.

A one-story, shed-roofed, full-width addition lines the west elevation and another similar addition lines the south elevation. Unlike the remainder of the building, the southern addition’s roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. A vinyl garage door is situated in the east elevation of the

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<sup>770</sup> NC-HPO n.d.c

<sup>771</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.



southern addition. Various wood and metal signage advertising a variety of businesses are located in the south half of the west elevation.



Photo 341: Northwest Oblique (Top) and Southeast Oblique (Bottom) of Circa-1920 Frame Warehouse.

A one-story, concrete-block warehouse constructed between 1964 and 1977 is situated to the east of the primary resource and circa-1924 frame warehouse (Photo 342, p. 451).<sup>772</sup> The building sits on a continuous concrete-block foundation and the frame structural system is clad in pressed metal siding. The low-pitched, front-gabled roof features vinyl-boxed, overhanging eaves with faux rafters and metal brackets and is covered in asphalt shingles. The building has several access points concentrated on the west and south elevations: a single-leaf, metal door and a metal, roll-up garage door is located in the south elevation while an additional pedestrian door and vinyl, roll-up garage door is in the south half of the west elevation. A concrete ramp lined by

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<sup>772</sup> NETR 1964, 1977.

a concrete-block retaining wall topped with an iron rail provides access to the pedestrian door on the west elevation.



Photo 342: South Elevation of Frame Warehouse.

### *Historic Context*

After the L&D Railroad was constructed through Roxboro, many industrial and commercial ventures began to establish themselves in the late-nineteenth century.<sup>773</sup> “The coming of the railroad in 1890 precipitated the first of three major periods of commercial growth and construction activity for Roxboro” which lasted from the last decade of the nineteenth century through the 1940s.<sup>774</sup> As Roxboro began to grow during at the turn-of-the-century, industrial and commercial properties began to appear along the railroad tracks just outside of the core of the city.

A group of entrepreneurs began a broom manufacturing factory in town along the west side of the railroad line and on the north side of Depot Street; research did not identify if that building is still extant.<sup>775</sup> In 1905 William F. Long, J.D.K. Richmond, Sim Meadows, W.H. Crisco, B.R. Long, and W.E. Ferree filed a Certificate of Incorporation for their business which they called the Roxboro Broom Works.<sup>776</sup> In 1919, the operation was purchased by Bruce B. Newell (1889–1979), a Franklin County native whose family moved to Roxboro in the 1880s.<sup>777</sup> Bruce’s father, W. Henry B. Newell, owned a jewelry store established in Roxboro in 1889 where Bruce worked until he entered the broom-manufacturing business.<sup>778</sup> In July 1919, the *Greensboro Daily News* said “Roxboro is moving forward by leaps and bounds and it is doubtful if there is another place

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<sup>773</sup> Lewis 2018a.

<sup>774</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:2.

<sup>775</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019; U.S. Census 1900; United States, Selective Service System 1918.

<sup>776</sup> Person County Record of Corporations 1:85.

<sup>777</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>778</sup> Greensboro Daily News 1919:6; Roxboro Broom Works 2002; The Roxboro Courier 1928:12; U.S. Census 1900, 1920.

near its size in the state where so much improvement is in progress or contemplated this year.”<sup>779</sup> The broom manufacturing endeavor was mentioned to be opening later in the year at a new location, helping Person County to become “one of the best in the state and is making rapid strides along progressive lines.”<sup>780</sup>

Although advertisements touted a new location in 1919, land records indicate that Bruce did not purchase the current property until 1923. They suggest that Bruce purchased a 1.5-acre tract of land on the west side of the N&W Railway right-of-way on the south side of the City of Roxboro for this venture from W.T. Carver and his wife in October 1923 for \$800, which W.T. Carver obtained from C.B. Brooks in 1922.<sup>781</sup> It is possible that the recordation of the land transaction lagged behind the transaction itself. In 1921, advertisements in local newspapers requested “one or two good broom makers” to be hired by the Roxboro Broom Works and by 1922, three broom makers, one stitcher for the Baltimore machine, and one foreman were wanted by the operation.<sup>782</sup> By the 1930s, Bruce and the Roxboro Brooms works appeared to hit a stride of success. The local Leggett’s Department Store advertised for a week in June 1931 to purchase products made in North Carolina which included brooms from the Roxboro Broom Works.<sup>783</sup> Later that year in August, the Roxboro Broom Works obtained their largest single order to date for “1,800 brooms, ranging from \$2.50 to \$7.00 per dozen” contracted by the North Carolina Division of Purchase and Contract (Figure 153).<sup>784</sup> In 1933, the broom manufacturer obtained another order with the State to provide brooms for schools and hospitals (Figure 153).<sup>785</sup>

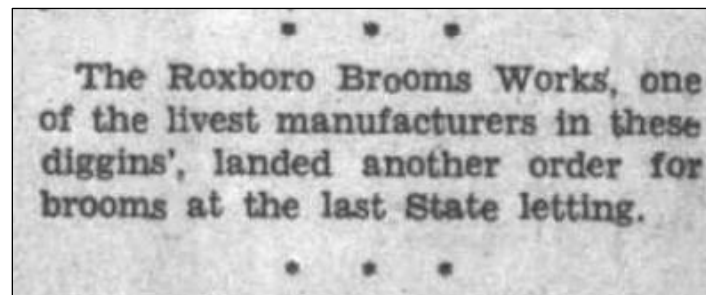


Figure 153: Notification of State Contract with the Roxboro Broom Works.<sup>786</sup>

In 1949, Bruce passed the company to his son, Henry O. Newell, Sr.<sup>787</sup> Henry, Sr., continued to operate the Roxboro Broom Works with his wife, Jean, while he began the Newell Novelty Company, an equipment and supplies manufacturer (Figure 154, p. 453).<sup>788</sup> His son, Henry O.

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<sup>779</sup> Greensboro Daily News 1919:6.

<sup>780</sup> Ibid.

<sup>781</sup> PCDB 30:469, 33:246.

<sup>782</sup> The Charlotte Observer 1922:35; Greensboro Daily News 1921:9.

<sup>783</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1931b:3.

<sup>784</sup> The Roxboro Courier 1931c:1.

<sup>785</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019; The Roxboro Courier 1933e:8.

<sup>786</sup> Ibid.

<sup>787</sup> Roxboro Broom Works 2002.

<sup>788</sup> Amfibi 2019; The Annual Stuff of Roxboro High School 1966; Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.



Newell, Jr., began working in the broom business in 1971. David B. Newell, brother of Henry, Jr., began the Newell & Sons mop division after returning from college in 1974.<sup>789</sup>

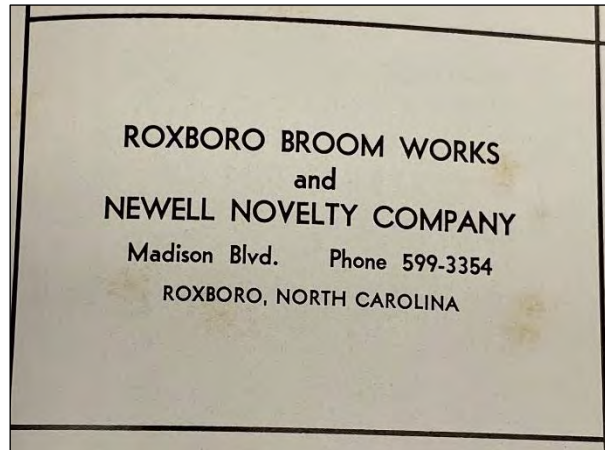


Figure 154: 1966 Rocket Yearbook Advertisement.<sup>790</sup>

According to Robert Newell, brother of Henry, Jr., and David, Roxboro Broom Works had several successful long-term contracts including producing broom for the restaurant chain McDonalds for almost 30 years through a distributor.<sup>791</sup> He also noted that his family company purchased Carolina Broom Works, once located at 201 Depot Street in Roxboro, in 1974.<sup>792</sup> In recent years, the business got smaller due to the importation of brooms and the switch from natural fibers, which was the Roxboro Broom Works specialty, to synthetic material for sanitation reasons.

### ***Evaluation***

The resource known as the Roxboro Broom Works located at 25 Weeks Drive is a light industrial property composed of three warehouses constructed between 1920 and 1977. The Roxboro Broom Works retains a moderate to high level of integrity in its location and setting. It has not been moved and, although the surrounding area has had some additional commercial construction, it appears that this area of Roxboro remains the southern outskirts of a moderately populated, small city. Although listed for sale, this resource continues to function as a light industrial property, retaining a high level of association and feeling. Alterations such as fenestration removal on the primary resource and the destruction of the chimney as well as overgrown vegetation have rendered a low level of historic integrity of workmanship, design, and materials.

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<sup>789</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>790</sup> The Annual Staff of Roxboro High School 1966.

<sup>791</sup> Robert Newell, personal communication 2019.

<sup>792</sup> Jean Newell, personal communication 2019.

In order for a property to be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A, the NPS requires the “property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event or trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context... and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>793</sup> While it is clear that the Newells were involved economically with broom and equipment manufacturing in the community Roxboro and in Person County, there is no evidence that they were innovators in the area. Furthermore, there are no known associations of the property with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Roxboro Broom Works is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

To be eligible under Criterion B, a resource must have an association with a person who is “individually significant within a historic context” and has “gained importance within his or her profession or group.”<sup>794</sup> Although the Newell family has owned the property and the operation consistently since shortly after its conception, that does not warrant eligibility under this criterion. None of the members of the Newell family are known to have had any individual significance locally, statewide, or nationally; consequently, the Roxboro Broom Works is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

The NPS outlines that for a property to be eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>795</sup> The property could be significant “for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>796</sup>

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with similar resources within the area. The City of Roxboro contains the Roxboro Commercial Historic District (PR0194), composed of a concentration of the commercial and light industrial properties at the core of the city constructed between 1890 and the late 1940s.<sup>797</sup> Due to this fact, there are multiple examples of these resource types in the surrounding area of the City of Roxboro that are comparable to the Roxboro Broom Works. Situated between Satterfield Street and Depot Street, and 0.13 mile northwest of the railroad line, is a previously recorded brick warehouse (PR0225). The two-story building was originally built as a tobacco warehouse around 1900 with a five-to-one, common brick bond and a shed roof with a stepped parapet (Photo 343, p. 455).<sup>798</sup> The building is currently used as a senior center rendering it a low level of historic integrity of association; however, the building appears to be fairly unaltered save for replacement fenestration.

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<sup>793</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>794</sup> Ibid.

<sup>795</sup> Ibid.

<sup>796</sup> Ibid.

<sup>797</sup> P. Dickinson 1983:25.

<sup>798</sup> T. Dickinson 1983.



Photo 343: Southwest (Top) and Northeast (Bottom) Oblique of Brick Warehouse (PR0225).

The Somerset Mills, located on the west side of Old Durham Road on the south side of the City of Roxboro, is a light industrial property constructed around 1923 (Photo 344, p. 456).<sup>799</sup> The combination brick and frame building is larger in scale compared to the Roxboro Broom Works warehouses and is covered by a gabled roof with a ridge vent. The building has had multiple additions and replacement fenestration since 1964, negatively impacting its historic integrity of workmanship and materials.<sup>800</sup> The complex also features a water tower and a frame warehouse.

The former Carolina Broom Works building, never recorded with the NC-HPO, is located at the southeast corner of Depot and Foushee Streets (Photo 345, p. 456). This one-story, masonry building with a stepped parapeted roof was constructed around the mid 1940s for a broom manufacturing company known as the Carolina Broom Works.<sup>801</sup> Currently, it is not used for broom manufacturing and may be used exclusively for storage due to the boarded-up window openings, similar to the Roxboro Broom Works building.

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<sup>799</sup> Ehrfurth 2009; Person County, NC 2019.

<sup>800</sup> NETR 1964.

<sup>801</sup> Talbert and Grey 2007:43.





Photo 344: Northeast Oblique of the Primary Resource (Top) and Frame Warehouse (Bottom) of the Somerset Mills on Old Durham Road, Roxboro, North Carolina.



Photo 345: Historic Image of the Carolina Broom Works Building, West Elevation (Top) and Current View of Building, Northwest Oblique (Bottom).<sup>802</sup>

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<sup>802</sup> Talbert and Grey 2007:43.

Access to the interior of the Roxboro Broom Works was not permitted during the current effort. Despite not being able to evaluate the integrity of the interior, Dovetail's research and comparisons with other similar resources in the area provide sufficient information with which to evaluate the Roxboro Broom Works under Criterion C. The Roxboro Broom Works' primary resource in particular has been heavily modified through fenestration removal and is in general poor condition, all of which negatively impacts its historic integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Overall, the resource does not possess high artistic value and is not the known work of a master. Furthermore, the Roxboro Broom Works is not known to have been built by a noted architect or designer. As such, this resource is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

According to the NPS, a property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and the information must be considered significant in order for it to be considered eligible under Criterion D.<sup>803</sup> The Roxboro Broom Works is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

In sum, the Roxboro Broom Works is **recommended not eligible for the NRHP under any criteria.**

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<sup>803</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

## PR0324: Burchwood Cemetery, Old Durham Road

Date of Construction: ca. 1885

Modifications: n/a

Old Durham Road

Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina

PIN: 0905-15-53-7946

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under Criterion C and Criteria Considerations C and D



### *Architectural Description*

The Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324) at Old Durham Road is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro, just south of the downtown core of the city (Figure 155–Figure 157, pp.459–461). Burchwood Cemetery is bound by Old Durham Road to the east, Tombstone Road to the south, Durham Road to the west, and Weeks Drive to the north. A paved road provides access directly from Old Durham Road on the east side of the cemetery; two stone pillars and a metal gate mark the entrance of the cemetery. This is the primary entrance. The road runs approximately 657 feet to the west and ends in a paved circular-driveway with a grassy lawn and gravestones at the center of the circle (Photo 346, p. 462). A secondary entrance, marked by simple stone pillars, is located on the southeast side of the cemetery. The paved road runs approximately 669 feet before it meets with Tombstone Road in the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325) located to the southwest of the Burchwood Cemetery. Cedar, evergreen, and other trees dot the landscape of the cemetery. Heavier vegetation is located on the west side of the cemetery, closest to Durham Road, and on the southern side. The City of Roxboro maintains the cemetery; it serves as one of the three municipal cemeteries in Roxboro.

The cemetery covers approximately 12.76 acres with about 3,700 marked gravesites that are plotted in a grid pattern over gently rolling land (Photo 347, p. 462).<sup>804</sup> Established in around 1885, the earliest graves are located on the east section of the cemetery, close to the entrance, with the later gravesites located on the west side of the cemetery (Photo 348, p. 462). The older section of the cemetery has a variety of cedar, evergreen, and other trees that dot the landscape. Significantly fewer trees are located in the later sections, on the west side, although the western boundary of the cemetery is outlined by a thick line of trees, affording protection and privacy from Durham Road. Predominately, graves are organized by family, but follow a grid-like pattern.

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<sup>804</sup> Findagrave.com 2000.





Figure 155: Location of Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324).<sup>805</sup>

<sup>805</sup> Esri 2019.



Figure 156: Site Plan of Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324).<sup>806</sup>

<sup>806</sup> Google Earth 2018.

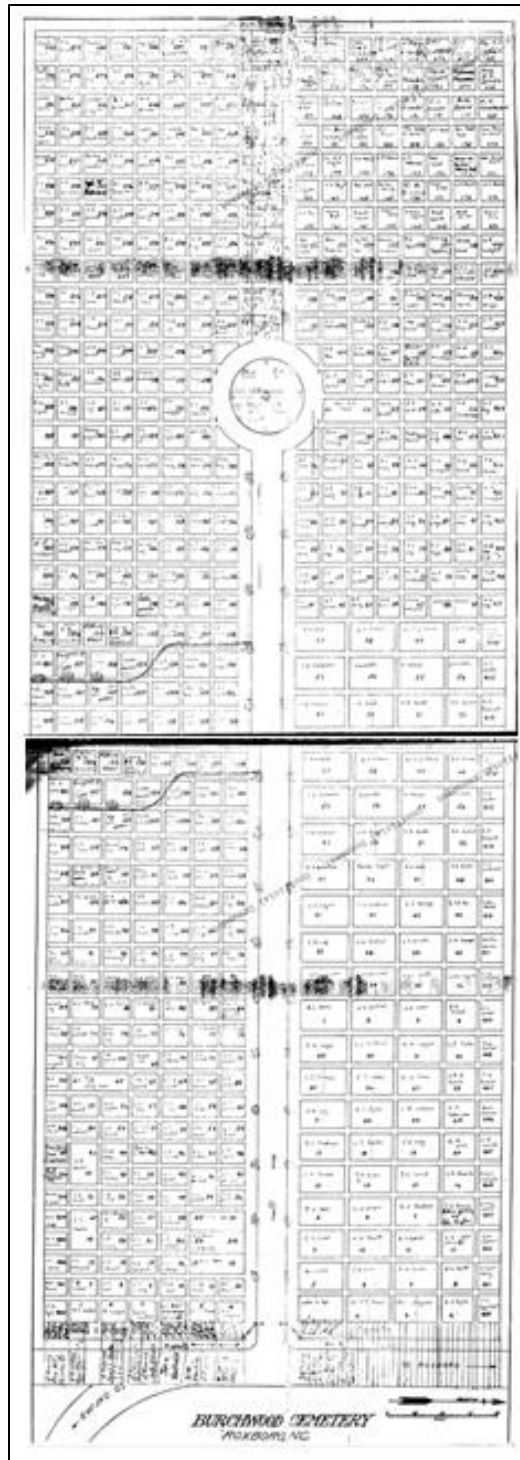


Figure 157: 1887 Plat of Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324).<sup>807</sup>

<sup>807</sup> PCPB 1:126-127.





Photo 346: View of Center of Circular Driveway, Looking West (Left) and Driveway Looking Towards Old Durham Road (Right).



Photo 347: View of Cemetery, Looking West (Left) and View of the Southern Section, Looking North (Right)

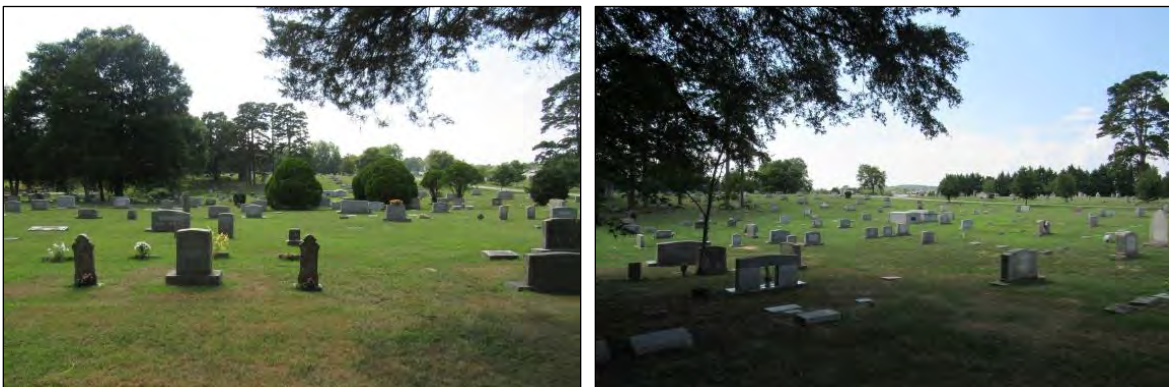


Photo 348: View West (Left) and Northwest (Right) of Cemetery.

A variety of markers are found throughout the cemetery. In older (eastern) sections, the headstones follow Victorian-era burial customs and are composed of marble, granite, and concrete (Photo 349). Several families have separate plots; many of which have granite fences or markers around the plot to demarcate it from the other gravesites. Typically, those family plots have one larger marker to indicate the family name with other individual gravestones around it for each interment (Photo 350). One plot for the influential Long family was noted in this section of the cemetery, but the large marker at the center belongs to the grave of J.A. Long (1841–1915); previously noted in this report for his impact on the economic growth of Roxboro which is reflected by his prominent gravesite as well as his status as the patriarch of the Long family (Photo 351, p. 464).



Photo 349: Examples of Victorian-era Gravestones in Northeast Section.



Photo 350: Andrews Family Plot, Looking West.

Many of the older markers are illegible due to the damage from the outdoor elements; however, those that are legible have the following symbols: hand-shakes, floral designs, doves, cross-branches, family names, the Free Masonry mark, and modest inscriptions (Photo 352, p. 464). Grave marker types include upright, oval or arched headstones; obelisks; die, base, & cap monuments; and barrel ledger markers; barrel-vaulted above-ground; and government-issued, military tombstones. The largest obelisk belongs to the Foushee family, a prominent family in



Roxboro, and it is made of granite. Other obelisks are smaller in size. One, belonging to Arthur Fields, is made of “monumental bronze,” or zinc alloy, that was created by a company in Connecticut.<sup>808</sup> The material allowed for the creation of cheaper and more durable headstones and grave markers (Photo 353, p. 465).<sup>809</sup>



Photo 351: Long Family Plot, Looking Southwest (Left) and J.A. Long Gravestone, Looking West (Right).



Photo 352: Handshake Detail (Left) and Dove Detail on Gravestones (Right).

A few examples of the barrel-vaulted, above-ground and barrel ledger markers exist. One example, belonging to Kathleen and George Ellmore, is made of brick and concrete. Another, belonging to Eliza Lawson, is deeper in the ground and made of concrete as well (Photo 354, p. 465). The government issued, military marble tombstones lay flush with the ground and have a

<sup>808</sup> Snider 2017:36.

<sup>809</sup> Ibid.



cross at the top with the name of the person interred, the branch of the military they served in, the war they fought in, and their birth and death dates at the bottom (Photo 355, p. 466).



Photo 353: Foushee Family Obelisk, Looking Northwest (Left) and Monumental Bronze Obelisk, Looking West (Right).



Photo 354: Barrel-Vaulted, Looking Northeast (Left) and Barrel-Ledger Grave Examples, Looking West (Right).



Photo 355: Military, Government Issued Grave Marker.

Only one mausoleum was located in Burchwood. Dedicated to the Eanes family, the one-story, one-bay, flat-roofed structure is clad in textured-stone veneer. The materials appear relatively modern even though the structure is located on the northeast side of the cemetery, close to the older gravesites. To the west of the mausoleum, is a chain-link fence surrounding a small family plot and another structure. This resource, also a one-story, one-bay, brick-veneered structure, does not function as a mausoleum. It more than likely functions as a storage space for the city (Photo 356).



Photo 356: Eanes Family Mausoleum and Storage Space, Looking Northwest.



Burchwood Cemetery has other unique examples of headstones, such as the tombstone shaped like an open book or the tombstone made to look like a log. The log tombstone has multiple layers of symbolism. While it typically indicated a life cut short, the log was also the marker used by members of the organization Woodmen of the World. Started in 1890, the Woodmen of the World organization was a fraternal group for young men that offered health and death benefits to its members.<sup>810</sup> The axe, sledge, and wedge on these tombstones were meant to represent the employment of the interment (Photo 357).<sup>811</sup> The open book gravestone, also found in the cemetery, is likely to represent an open Bible. One final unique headstone at Burchwood is the diamond headstone; only a few examples are located in the cemetery and typically belonged to graves of those who died at a very young age. The marker could either indicate the young age of the person or was potentially a less expensive option for the families of those deceased (Photo 358, p. 468).



Photo 357: Example of Woodmen of the World Headstone, Looking West.

Starting towards the middle and further west in the cemetery, the gravestones are representative of newer and later designs (Photo 359, p. 468). Several examples of granite headstones exist with standard, modest engravings. Another common example in Burchwood Cemetery is the headstones with a space for an urn with cremated remains to be stored. Many married couples also shared headstones; like in other cemeteries, the husband is located on the left side of the tombstone and the wife is on the right side. Families have included benches in some areas of the cemetery; they are meant to serve as a place for visitors to rest and contemplate the life of those deceased. One recent grave had a lamppost next to the grave; although it was daytime, the lamppost was lit indicating that it more than likely always remains lit.

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<sup>810</sup> Snider 2017: 171.

<sup>811</sup> Ibid.





Photo 358: Open Book Gravestone (Left) and Diamond Gravestone (Right).



Photo 359: Later Section of the Burchwood Cemetery, Looking West.

At the entrance of the cemetery, a cedar tree sits at the center of the road. Directly at the base is a metal water pump (Photo 360,p. 469). No longer in use, the water pump was manufactured by a company called The F.E. Myers and Bro. Company out of Ashland, Ohio. It was likely in use when the cemetery first opened, during the early-twentieth century, providing the visiting public with drinking water as they walked around the cemetery.

### *Historic Context*

Few extant records were found pertaining to Burchwood Cemetery. Documentation located on Findagrave.com and during the field investigation show that the earliest known interment was in 1841, although a majority of the earlier interments took place in the 1880s to the 1910s.<sup>812</sup> Although this does not mean that there are not earlier graves (pre-1840) in the cemetery, particularly those that are unmarked; however, it appears unlikely.

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<sup>812</sup> Findagrave.com 2000.



Photo 360: Water Pump, Looking Southeast.

A large majority of Roxboro and Person County cemeteries are family cemeteries (Figure 158, p. 470). As such, the number of city-maintained cemeteries is small (three). Given these facts and the burial landscape of Person County, prior to the creation of Burchwood Cemetery, most citizens of the county buried their dead within family graves and likely on their own land. It is important to keep in mind, however, that those who had access to family cemeteries owned land on which they could bury their dead. Other members of Roxboro’s society, such as people in a lower income bracket or enslaved African Americans, had to bury their dead elsewhere. Person County does have record of a “pauper cemetery” as well as a slave cemetery. The pauper’s cemetery is located along O’Briant Miller Road and the slave cemetery is located about 850 feet east of American Road off of Ned Moore Road. The other option was to be buried in your church cemetery, but even this was a less popular option for Person County residents. Church cemeteries are represented by the dark blue dots on the map; in comparison, there are still significantly more family cemeteries over church cemeteries (Figure 158, p. 470).

The increasing population and expanding urban areas in the nineteenth century were some factors that led to the creation of large community- and locality-owned cemeteries. This became known as the “rural cemetery movement;” typically, these cemeteries were nonsectarian, designed to appear like a garden or evoke a romantic feeling.<sup>813</sup> At the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth centuries, the “lawn-park” cemetery became the popular design; this was a combination of the earlier rural garden-like cemeteries and the newer park-like cemeteries. These park-like cemeteries were built to encourage people to not only go to cemeteries to commemorate the dead, but to also enjoy the outdoors.<sup>814</sup> This design tradition is what the early Burchwood Cemetery grew from.

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<sup>813</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014:125, 129.

<sup>814</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014: 145.

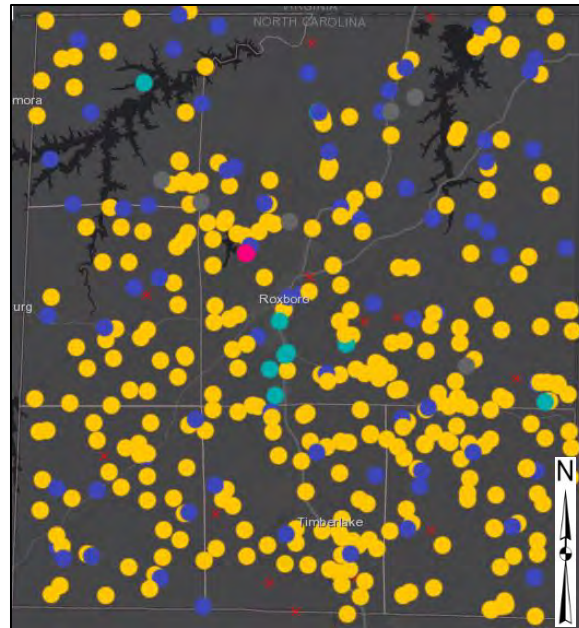


Figure 158: Map of Cemeteries in Person County; the Yellow Dots Indicate a Family Cemetery.<sup>815</sup> Not to scale.

Like many other cemeteries of this time, the Burchwood Cemetery evokes patterns from both the lawn-park and rural traditions. The rolling hills, presence of trees, and lawn-like appearance are design trademarks of the lawn-park cemetery movement. Furthermore, the use of family lots and granite family monuments in the cemetery is another element of this stylistic movement: the open lawns allowed for the monuments to stand out and further showcase the wealth and status of certain families.<sup>816</sup> The design for the Burchwood Cemetery centered on one road that terminated in a circle with grave sites lining the road in an orderly, gridded pattern (Figure 157, p. 461). This design is influenced by the lawn-park movement; however, its actual execution shows the remaining influence of the rural cemetery tradition in Roxboro. The Burchwood Cemetery does have more order than earlier cemeteries, but there are still areas without a strict grid. Furthermore, the continued influence on family and family plots reflects the continued dominance of the rural cemetery tradition which centered on the use of family cemeteries. In this way, the Burchwood Cemetery is a unique and excellent example of the transitional stage between these two burial styles and design movements.

By the late-nineteenth century, the lawn-park cemetery had increased in usage and popularity.<sup>817</sup> It was during this time the Burchwood Cemetery was established as a burial ground; from 1880 to 1910, 172 burials took place. Burchwood Cemetery became a popular choice for the citizens of Roxboro as a final resting place. While it was accessible to most, it was not available as a choice for everyone. Racial segregation continued even in death; rather than allow African

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<sup>815</sup> Esri 2020.

<sup>816</sup> Ibid.

<sup>817</sup> Ibid.



American citizens to be buried in the same cemetery, many communities had designated “black or colored” cemeteries. Roxboro was no different; its historically African American cemetery is located to the southwest side of the Burchwood Cemetery. Labeled as the “annex to Burchwood Cemetery” on a 1942 plat, the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325) was much smaller in scale and land size than the Burchwood Cemetery.<sup>818</sup> Further information on the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery can be found on page 458, but it is important to note here as it provides further context and information about the Burchwood Cemetery.

There is limited information about the land on which the Burchwood Cemetery is currently located; no files were located that determined who owned the land at the time burials began, who maintained it early in its inception, or why its location was selected. This would indicate that the formation of the cemetery was organic in nature. *The Roxboro Courier*, a local newspaper, covered some of the cemetery’s early development. In 1892, the newspaper stated that the City commissioners had created a plat for the cemetery and were ready to sell sections to the public.<sup>819</sup> It was also noted that “all money received from the sale of the lots will be spent in beautifying the grounds.”<sup>820</sup> It appears that by 1898, the funding for the cemetery was low—the Cemetery Committee created a report which revealed that many residents in Roxboro owed money for their lots.<sup>821</sup> One article stated that the cemetery was “in a condition to make us all blush with shame... Let us show more respect for the dead, the location of the cemetery is good, it is only our neglect and lack of pride that is wanting.”<sup>822</sup> By 1900, fewer notices were made in the papers, but the Chairman of the Cemetery Committee did write a note urging those who had not paid for their lots to make a payment so that the committee could complete the fence around the cemetery.<sup>823</sup>

By the early 1900s, the cemetery had become a permanent fixture of the Roxboro community. It served as a space to reflect upon life, pay respect to the dead, demonstrate one’s status within the community, and enjoy the outdoors. The Cemetery Committee was the first group established to take care of the cemetery; eventually this was transferred to the City of Roxboro at an unknown date.

### *Evaluation*

The Burchwood Cemetery at Old Durham Road was established in 1885 and currently contains about 3,700 marked gravesites. Made in the lawn-park design tradition, Burchwood Cemetery retains a high level of integrity in its location and setting. The cemetery has not been larger expanded or encroached upon by other development since its establishment. Furthermore, the resource also retains a high level of association and feeling given that it still functions as a cemetery today. Finally, the cemetery has a high level of integrity of workmanship, design, and materials since so many original headstones and gravemarkers remain throughout the landscape.

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<sup>818</sup> PCPB 1:126.

<sup>819</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1892.

<sup>820</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>821</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1898.

<sup>822</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>823</sup> *The Roxboro Courier* 1900.

The NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event of trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>824</sup> There are no known associations of the Burchwood Cemetery with an important event in local, state, or national history. Therefore, the Burchwood Cemetery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented [...] within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>825</sup> Although there are several historically prominent Roxboro citizens buried in the Burchwood Cemetery, the cemetery commemorates their lives rather than illustrates their achievements during their lifetimes; and therefore, is not the best representative of their significance, if any. It is for this reason that the Burchwood Cemetery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. Burchwood Cemetery is one of three public cemeteries in Roxboro: Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery (PR0325) and Person Memorial Cemetery are the other two. Peace Memorial Garden functioned historically as a segregated annex to the Burchwood Cemetery. Established around 1900, the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery is much smaller in size and scale, both in regards to the acreage and to the memorials of those buried. The cemetery was called the “Burchwood Cemetery Annex” as well as the “Roxboro Colored Cemetery” and was certainly planned as a portion of the Burchwood Cemetery complex. The Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is organized by family, like Burchwood, but it follows less of a grid pattern than the burials in Burchwood. There are a larger number of temporary markers in the cemetery, when compared to Burchwood, such as metal markers and plants. Another section of this report covers the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery in more detail (see the following chapter on p. 458), but it is important to note here since the Burchwood Cemetery historically included the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery when it was originally established.

The other local public cemetery, the Person Memorial Cemetery on Durham Road, is located to the southwest of Burchwood Cemetery. Durham Road lines the east side of the property, commercially developed property sits to the south, and a mobile home park is located to the north. The property is flat and sparsely landscaped. A marble sign marks the main entrance along Durham Road. A paved driveway connects with Durham Road and provides access to the entire cemetery which has two parts: an additional area was constructed between 1964 and 1998 to the northwest of the original section. The earliest burials took place around 1930 and continue to this day. Grave markers are flat, rectangular, and at lawn level. Many feature urns on top for flowers. The grave sites are laid out uniformly in a grid-like pattern. At the center of the addition to the

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<sup>824</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>825</sup> Ibid.

north is a cross that is outlined with poured concrete; the concrete cross is implanted in the ground and is visible from aerial views (Photo 361; Figure 159).



Photo 361: View of Person Memorial Cemetery, Looking East (Left) and Gravestone (Right).

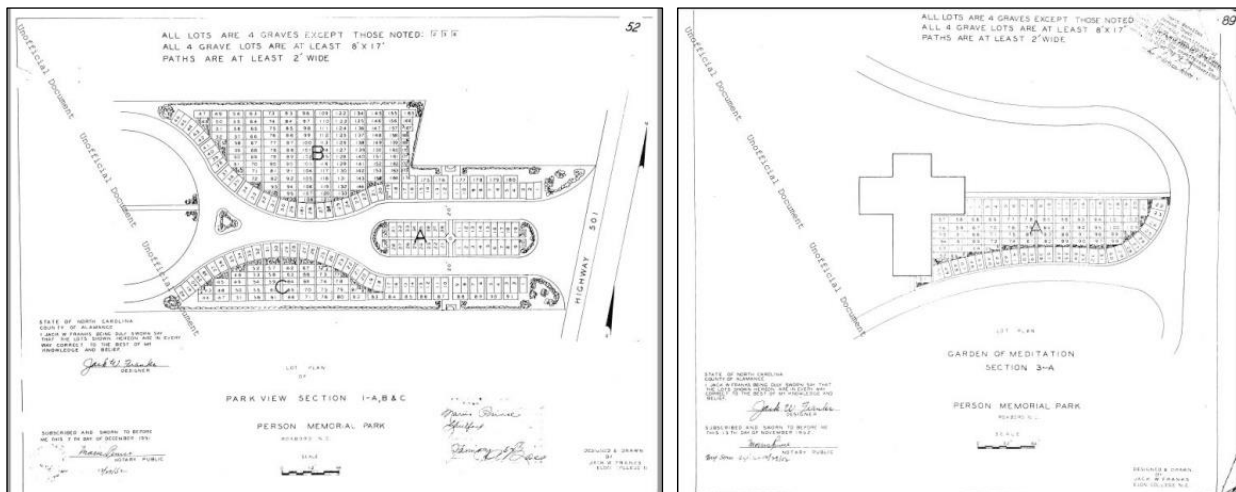


Figure 159: 1951 (Left) and 1952 (Right) Plats of Person Memorial Cemetery.<sup>826</sup>

Burchwood Cemetery and Person Memorial Cemetery are examples of two different cemetery designs. As noted above, Burchwood Cemetery is an example of a lawn-park cemetery, the transitional design between rural family cemeteries and Victorian-era memorials. The Person Memorial Cemetery is a memorial park cemetery type. This design gained in popularity during the early-to-mid twentieth century.<sup>827</sup> As medicine advanced, people began living longer and this changed the American citizens perception of death; the focus shifted from emotional expressions of mourning to motifs that emphasized peace and serenity.<sup>828</sup> Cemetery landscapes soon evoked

<sup>826</sup> PCPB 5:52, 89.

<sup>827</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014:150.

<sup>828</sup> Ibid.



this shift as memorial park cemeteries were designed to be minimal and uniform, to have little to moderate vegetation, and to be quiet and reflective spaces.<sup>829</sup> Grave markers in memorial parks tend to be flat and low to the ground; typically, individuality is not expressed in the same way that Victorian era markers expressed the financial and personal success of a person.<sup>830</sup> Person Memorial Cemetery embodies and displays all these characteristics.

Besides both being cemeteries, there is little in common between Burchwood Cemetery and Person Memorial Cemetery. Both serve as examples of the different cemetery designs in America during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries: Burchwood evokes the lawn-park cemetery while Person Memorial embodies the attributes of a memorial-park cemetery. When comparing these designs, the shifting attitudes towards death in American society become more apparent. The use of both these cemeteries by the Roxboro community shows how pervasive the cultural changes were towards death and cemetery design across America. Given that Person Memorial Cemetery is the only other public cemetery in Roxboro, besides Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Burchwood Cemetery is the only cemetery that evokes the lawn-park cemetery style.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to “properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork.”<sup>831</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.”<sup>832</sup> Since Burchwood Cemetery is the only cemetery that evokes the lawn-park cemetery style in Roxboro, it has a high level of architectural significance to the community. The wide variety of unique markers, in both type and material, give the cemetery high artistic value. Although the design of the cemetery is not known to be the work of a master, it serves as a prominent physical reminder of the American understanding of death and society in Roxboro with high levels of historic integrity in workmanship, design, feeling, setting, and association. For these reasons, the Burchwood Cemetery is recommended as eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>833</sup> The Burchwood Cemetery is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

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<sup>829</sup> Ibid.

<sup>830</sup> Ibid.

<sup>831</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>832</sup> Ibid.

<sup>833</sup> Ibid.

Given that this resource is a cemetery it has been considered under Criteria Consideration D which applies to cemeteries. Burchwood Cemetery attains significance from its association with the early period of Roxboro history. Furthermore, the cemetery reflects the national change in cemetery design and demonstrates the pervasiveness of this change within the Roxboro community. Finally, Burchwood Cemetery has the potential to yield important information about the burial practices of the Roxboro community. It is for all these reasons that the cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D.

Additionally, the Burchwood Cemetery has been considered under Criteria Consideration C for its association as the final resting place of J.A. Long, one of the most prominent Roxboro citizens. Long's strong influence on the local economic development of Roxboro makes his burial place significant. It is for all of these reasons that Burchwood Cemetery meets the Criteria Consideration C.

In sum, the Burchwood Cemetery is **recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C as well as Criterion Considerations C and D for its high level of architectural and cultural value at the local level.** A recommended period of significance for this resource is based on the time period of its establishment to the height of its usage (1885–1950). The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigations conform to the existing tax parcel (98 60) (Figure 160, p. 476). The boundary includes the main entrance to the cemetery, the cemetery as a whole, and the utility building associated with the property.



Figure 160: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324) as Shown in Red.<sup>834</sup>

<sup>834</sup> Esri 2019.



## **PR0325: Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Old Durham Road/Tombstone Road**

Date of Construction: ca. 1900  
Modifications: n/a

Old Durham Road/Tombstone Road  
Roxboro, Person County, North Carolina  
PIN: 0905-15-53-3572

Eligibility Recommendation: Eligible under Criterion C  
and Criteria Consideration D



### ***Architectural Description***

The Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325) at Old Durham Road is located in a moderately populated area in Roxboro (Figure 161–Figure 162, pp. 478–479). Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is bounded by Old Durham Road to the east, Durham Road to the west, Tombstone Road to the south, and Burchwood Cemetery to the north. Tombstone Road provides access directly from Old Durham Road on the east side of the cemetery; two stone pillars mark the primary entrance. The pillars are connected by an iron fence that includes the name “Peace Memorial Garden” written in metal at the top (Photo 362, p. 480). The entire sign is covered in heavy vegetation. Tombstone Road runs approximately 1,025 feet to the west and wraps around the cemetery in a circle (Photo 363, p. 480). A secondary entrance, marked by modest stone pillars, is located on the southwest side of Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324), which is situated immediately north. This paved road runs approximately 669 feet before it meets with Tombstone Road which wraps around the cemetery in a circle (Photo 364–Photo 365, pp. 480–481). Cedar, evergreen, and other trees dot the landscape of the cemetery, particularly on the north side. Yucca plants are also found throughout. Heavy vegetation lines the west side of the cemetery. Moderate vegetation covers the portion of the cemetery that connects with Burchwood Cemetery. An empty field, with no marked burials, sits on the north side of Tombstone Road. Two single-dwellings sit alongside Tombstone Road; however, they have separate tax parcel boundaries and have no known historic association with the cemetery. The City of Roxboro maintains the cemetery; it serves as one of the three municipal cemeteries for the city.

The cemetery covers approximately 3.34 acres with about 827 marked gravesites that are plotted in a slight-grid pattern over gently rolling land (Photo 366, p. 481).<sup>835</sup> Established around 1900 as the African American cemetery of Roxboro or “Burchwood Cemetery Annex,” the earliest graves are located on the north side of the cemetery, close to Burchwood Cemetery. The older (northern) section of the cemetery has a variety of cedar, evergreen, and other trees that dot the landscape. Significantly fewer trees are located in the later sections, in the southern section, although the western boundary of the cemetery is thickly outlined with trees, affording protection

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<sup>835</sup> FindAGrave.com 2008d.

and privacy from Durham Road. Predominately, graves are organized by family and do not follow a strict grid-like pattern.



Figure 161: Location and Parcel Boundaries of Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325).<sup>836</sup>

<sup>836</sup> Esri 2019.





Figure 162: Site Plan of Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325).<sup>837</sup>

A variety of markers are found throughout the cemetery. In older sections, the headstones follow Victorian-era- burial customs and are composed of marble, granite, and concrete. While a majority of the burials are organized by family, there are only two family plots that are delineated with chain-link fencing (Photo 367, p. 481). There are no large markers dedicated to family names found in the cemetery. On the southern side, the markers and burials are newer. Several gravesites are marked with metal markers; meant to be temporary, these metal markers were typically used by families who did not have the financial resources at the time to purchase a more permanent marker. Once a permanent marker was purchased, sometimes families would keep the metal marker with the new one (Photo 368, p. 482). This was found throughout Peace Memorial Gardens.

<sup>837</sup> Google Earth 2018.





Photo 362: View of Entrance, Looking West (Left) and Detail of Entry-Gate (Right).



Photo 363: View of Cemetery from Tombstone Road, Looking West (Left) and View of Tombstone Road, Looking East (Right).



Photo 364: View of East Side of Circle around Cemetery, Looking North (Left) and View of West Side of Circle, Looking South (Right).





Photo 365: View Towards Burchwood Cemetery to the North: Looking East (Left) and Looking North (Right).



Photo 366: View of Cemetery, Looking West (Left) and View of Cemetery, Looking East (Right).



Photo 367: Webb/Barnett Family Lot, Looking East (Left) and Jones Family Lot, Looking Northwest (Right).



Photo 368: Examples Gravesites with Two Markers.

There are a wide variety of symbols found on the gravestones throughout the cemetery including floral designs, sun rays, hearts, the Free Masonry mark, hands shaking, open books, photographs, hands praying, hands pointing upward, and geometric designs (Photo 369, p. 483). Some of the graves are made of rough stone and are hand-etched (Photo 370, p. 483). There are also a few government-issued military graves throughout the cemetery (Photo 371, p. 484). One headstone featured the “gates ajar” symbol: this symbol became popular after a book, written by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, called *The Gates Ajar* was published in 1868 (Photo 372, p. 484).<sup>838</sup> The book tells the story of a young woman who questions her faith after her brother dies during the American Civil War; she finds solace when a family member tells her that the gates to Heaven are ajar and not closed which allows loved ones to watch from above.<sup>839</sup> Although this book had critics, it became widely popular and the motif was soon adopted across America, including by those designing headstones.

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<sup>838</sup> Snider 2017:67.

<sup>839</sup> Ibid.





Photo 369: Headstone with Dogwood Flowers (Left) and Headstone with Free Masonry Symbol (Right).



Photo 370: Headstones with Hand-Etched Markings.

There are two obelisks in the cemetery; both are located in the older section. The first is the grave of K.C. Cunningham (1868–1906) and it is made of granite. The obelisk sits on a square base and tapers into a pyramid at the top with an urn-like fixture at the center. At the bottom of the obelisk are floral designs. The epitaph is written at the center and above it is a hand pointing upwards, a common symbol on gravestones of this period (Photo 373, p. 485). The other obelisk, also made of granite, belongs to Ida Pointer (1873–1910). Again, the obelisk stands on a terraced base and tapers to the top. The family name of “Pointer” is engraved at the base on the east side of the obelisk and Ida’s epitaph is located at the center

on the west side. At the top is an acorn; acorns are also common symbols in cemeteries since they represent oak trees, which typically live long, and rebirth (Photo 373, p. 485).<sup>840</sup>



Photo 371: Military Headstones.



Photo 372: Gravestone with Gates Ajar Motif.

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<sup>840</sup> Snider 2017:67.





Photo 373: Headstone of K.C. Cunningham (Left) and Headstone of Ida Pointed (Right).

There is only one barrel-vaulted, above-ground grave at Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery. It belongs to members of the Barnette family, several of which are buried in the cemetery. A large granite stone sits on the west side of the vault: its only inscription is the family name. The vault belongs to two people. It is made of brick and concrete and located in the newer section of the cemetery, on the south side (Photo 374).



Photo 374: West Side of Grave (Left) and East Side (Right).

There are two examples of unique headstones shaped like diamonds. One belongs to George E. Williams (1919–1952). This headstone is made of granite and has no design; the only markings are the epitaph. The diamond sits on a point which is attached to the base that sits in the ground (Photo 375, p. 486). There are similar markers to this one in the Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324), but were noted to be mainly utilized for adolescents. This potentially indicates that the style was local. It is also possible that the marker, in its modest style and shape, was a less expensive option for the families of those deceased. The other diamond marker is different in style and newer. It belongs to Ellen E. Lawrence (1917–2009) and is



also made in granite. The stone sits on a square base; it is not a perfect diamond shape, but has rather oblong sides that come to a point at the top. The engravings are less modest than the stone belonging to Williams: this gravestone features a cross at the top and a floral design at the bottom. While it is different in design and time period from the one belong to George E. Williams, it is worth noting that the diamond shape was used again at a later date.



Photo 375: George E. Williams Grave (Left) and Ellen E. Lawrence Grave (Right).

There are no benches or landscape features in the cemetery; it is modest in its design and layout. The only maintenance building is located along Tombstone Road at the junction between Burchwood Cemetery and Peace Memorial Gardens. It is a one-story, one-bay building with a flat roof. It is clad in an aggregate siding and features a double-leaf, metal door on the west elevation. There are also no graves that feature urns or mausoleums. Generally, starting at the middle and towards the south are gravestones that are representative of newer and later designs. Several examples of granite headstones exist with standard, modest engravings.

### *Historic Context*

A large majority of Roxboro and Person County cemeteries are family cemeteries. As such, the number of city-maintained cemeteries is small: there are only three in Person County. Given these facts and the burial landscape of Person County, prior to the creation of Burchwood Cemetery, most citizens of the county buried their dead within family graves. It is important to keep in mind however that those who had access to family cemeteries owned land on which they could bury their dead. Other members of Roxboro's society, such as people in a lower income bracket or enslaved African Americans, had to bury their dead elsewhere. Person County does have record of a "pauper cemetery" as well as a slave cemetery, both discussed in the previous section of the report (see p. 427). The other option was to be buried in your church cemetery, but even this was a less popular option for Person County residents. Church cemeteries are represented by the dark blue dots on the map; in comparison, there are still significantly more family cemeteries over church cemeteries.

The increasing population and expanding urban areas in the nineteenth century were some factors that led to the creation of cemeteries in more rural areas. This became known as the

“rural cemetery movement;” typically, these cemeteries were nonsectarian, designed to appear like a garden or evoke a romantic feeling.<sup>841</sup> At the end of the nineteenth century and early-twentieth century, the “lawn-park” cemetery became the popular design: this was a combination of the earlier rural garden-like cemeteries and the newer park-like cemeteries. These park-like cemeteries were built to encourage people to not only go to cemeteries to commemorate the dead, but to also enjoy the outdoors.<sup>842</sup> This design tradition is what the early Burchwood Cemetery, the cemetery located to the north and northeast of Peace Memorial Garden, grew from and is further discussed within that chapter (see p. 427).

Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery was originally plotted around 1900 as the African American cemetery. In a plat drawn in 1942, the cemetery is labeled as the “Roxboro Colored Cemetery” or “Burchwood Cemetery Annex” (Figure 163, p. 488).<sup>843</sup> Since Peace Memorial Gardens was established around the same time as Burchwood Cemetery, they both follow the lawn-park cemetery style; however, given that Peace Memorial was a segregated space, it has a more complex historic context and stylistic understanding. By the start of the twentieth century, public, segregated cemeteries became available to African Americans.<sup>844</sup> Prior to the 1900s, African Americans were either buried in family cemeteries or in church cemeteries and they continued to be “segregated in death as they had been in life.”<sup>845</sup> Given that most African Americans struggled financially at the end of slavery, they tended to use locally available stone or cast-off carved stones to use as markers.<sup>846</sup> Furthermore, they also used organic materials, such as plants, like the yucca, as markers.<sup>847</sup> Given their exclusion from society, African Americans, like many other minorities in America, were inclined to maintain their own mortuary practices rather than follow the national trends.<sup>848</sup> It was for all of these reasons that during the early-twentieth century, African American cemeteries featured handmade markers and a diversity of styles that were not featured in white graveyards.<sup>849</sup>

Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery follows these developmental patterns. The cemetery has fewer highly stylized markers and the predominant presence of metal markers. There is also the inclusion of organic materials, such as yucca. The organization of Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery follows an east-west pattern, but the burials are grouped by family rather than in a strict grid system. This pattern was noted by Ruth Little when she was observing burial grounds in North Carolina as well as across the American South: she stated that

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<sup>841</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014:125, 129.

<sup>842</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014:145.

<sup>843</sup> PCPB 24:156.

<sup>844</sup> Rainville 2014:16.

<sup>845</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014: xvi; Rainville 2014: 16.

<sup>846</sup> Rainville 2014:27.

<sup>847</sup> Rainville 2014:25.

<sup>848</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014: xvi.

<sup>849</sup> Rainville 2014:31.

“African American burials are generally oriented east-west but may not be placed in even rows. Families are loosely grouped.”<sup>850</sup>

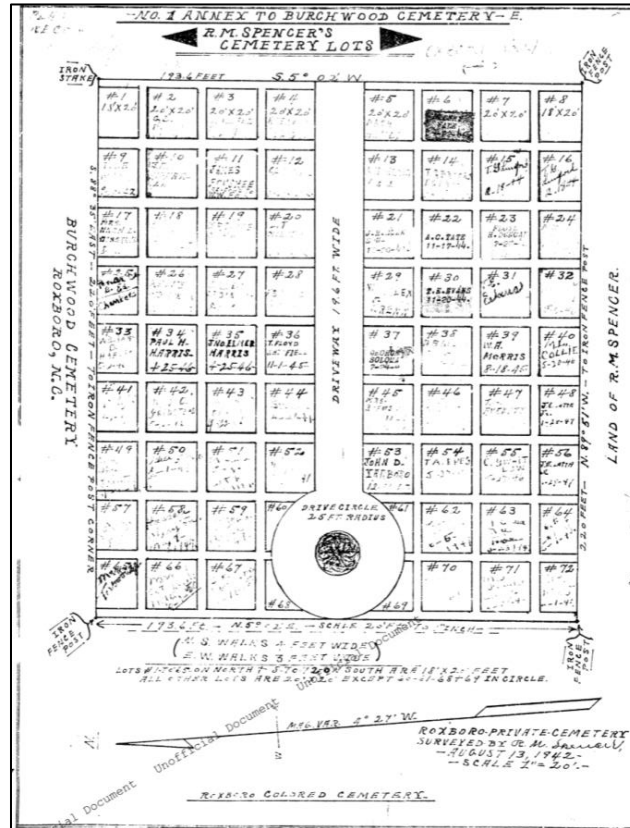


Figure 163: 1942 Plat of Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325).<sup>851</sup>

Few extant early records were found regarding the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery. In September 1997, the City of Roxboro purchased the cemetery land from the Trustees of the Community Development Council of Person County.<sup>852</sup> No records were found on when the Council purchased the cemetery prior to the 1997 sell date. It is also unclear what the mission of the Council was or what individuals were involved. Today, the City of Roxboro continues to maintain the property. People are still buried in the cemetery today.

**Evaluation**

The Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery at Old Durham Road is a cemetery established around 1900 with about 827 marker gravesites. The historically African American cemetery of Roxboro retains a high level of integrity in its location and setting. The cemetery has not

<sup>850</sup> Braugher and Veit 2014: 175.  
<sup>851</sup> PCPB 24:156.  
<sup>852</sup> Person County Deed Book [PCDB] 273:510.



been largely expanded or encroached upon by other development since its establishment. Furthermore, the resource retains a high level of association and feeling given that it still functions as a cemetery today. Finally, the cemetery has a high level of integrity of workmanship, design, and materials since so many original headstones and grave markers remain throughout the landscape.

NPS outlines the considerations for which a property can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A. They are as follows: “To be considered for listing under Criterion A, a property must be associated with one or more events important in the defined historic context [...] The event of trends, however, must clearly be important within the associated context [...] and it must retain historic integrity.”<sup>853</sup> There are no known associations of the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery with an important event in local, state, or national history; however, the cemetery does represent the broad patterns of history in Roxboro, particularly, the intersection of culture and segregation within the south. It serves as a reminder of how pervasive segregation was in the South: even in death, African American citizens were segregated from the white community. Physically, the cemetery yields a wealth of information about the heritage of the African American community in Roxboro. Therefore, the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.

For a resource to be eligible under Criterion B, it must have association with “individuals whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented [...] within a local, state, or national historic context. The criterion is generally restricted to those properties that illustrate (rather than commemorate) a person’s important achievements.”<sup>854</sup> Although there is the potential for prominent Roxboro citizens to be buried in the cemetery, the cemetery commemorates their lives rather than illustrates their achievements during their lifetimes. For these reasons, the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.

In order to properly evaluate the resource’s NRHP eligibility under Criterion C, it must be compared with resources within the area. Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery is one of three public cemeteries in Roxboro, the others being Burchwood Cemetery (PR0324) and Person Memorial Cemetery; however, it is the only segregated cemetery. As noted above, the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery was established around the same time as the Burchwood Cemetery and historically functioned as the segregated annex to the Burchwood Cemetery (see the chapter on the Burchwood Cemetery for further details, p. 468). Burchwood is much larger in size and scale, both in regards to the acreage and to the memorials of those buried. In contrast to Peace Memorial Garden, Burchwood follows a stricter grid-like pattern, but it also follows a pattern of burying by family. There is a larger variety of markers and materials used in Burchwood as well. Another report covers the Burchwood Cemetery in more detail, but it is important to note here since the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery was historically included with the Burchwood Cemetery when it was originally established.

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<sup>853</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>854</sup> Ibid.

Given that Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery is the only segregated cemetery in Roxboro, comparable resources were located in surrounding counties of North Carolina. The historically segregated section of the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery (OR0496) in Chapel Hill was selected for comparison. This cemetery is listed in the NRHP under Criteria A and C for its association with the early history and development of University of North Carolina (UNC) and its distinctive collection of monuments and grave markers. The cemetery was established as a burying ground for the Chapel Hill area in the late-eighteenth century.<sup>855</sup> In total, the cemetery is 6.98 acres and has six different areas with a total of 1,700 burials. African Americans, both freed and enslaved, were buried in the western sections of the cemetery (labeled as Section A and B in the NRHP nomination).<sup>856</sup> Portions of the segregated section are outlined by rubble stone walls: along the eastern side of the cemetery, a stone wall separates the African American section of the cemetery from the white section.<sup>857</sup> There is heavy vegetation; cedar, evergreen, and other trees dot the landscape and yucca is planted in various locations. Gravestones are laid out in an east-west pattern but do not follow a strictly gridded system. A one-story, brick utility building, built in 1949, sits at the center of the cemetery and was considered non-contributing to the eligibility of the cemetery.<sup>858</sup> To the southeast of the utility building, is a covered pavilion; the frame structural system features a cross-gabled roof (Photo 376). Paved pathways provide pedestrian access to the entire cemetery. A few gravestones and groups of gravestones are outlined by iron fences, but predominately, gravestones sit unenclosed (Photo 377, p. 491).



Photo 376: View of Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, Looking North (Left) and View of Utility Building and Pavilion at Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, Looking East (Right).

There are a variety of gravestones in the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery. Several are made of fieldstones and are either uninscribed or have hand-carved epitaphs. Other headstones are made of brownstone, sandstone, marble, concrete, and granite. There are a few military markers and one example of an above-ground vault. There are a few obelisks; the most prominent belongs to Wilson Swain Caldwell who was a servant to UNC until he died in

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<sup>855</sup> Baten and Little 1994.

<sup>856</sup> Ibid.

<sup>857</sup> Ibid.

<sup>858</sup> Ibid.

1891.<sup>859</sup> A few gravestones feature symbols. The gravestone of Elsie Hargrove (unknown–1923) features ivy entwined around an anchor at the top. Another gravestone features an animal at the top; its exact species is unintelligible although it appears to resemble a cat (Photo 378, p. 491). Other popular symbols, such as roses, floral designs, and shaking hands, also appear throughout the cemetery. Many gravestones also have no design except for a simple epitaph.



Photo 377: Examples of Enclosed Graves, Looking North (Left) and an Enclosed Gravesite at Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, Looking East (Right).



Photo 378: Detail of Elise Hargrove Grave (Left) and Detail of Animal on Grave (Right).

The Old Chapel Hill Cemetery is significant for a variety of reasons, but the African American section is significant for the fact that it features several inscribed gravestones and that it served both the enslaved and freed African American community.<sup>860</sup> In contrast, the Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery developed much later than the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery. Both were segregated spaces, but the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery is unique in that it

<sup>859</sup> Baten and Little 1994.

<sup>860</sup> Ibid.



served the African American community after slavery had ended in the United States. It serves as a physical reminder of the Jim Crow era in the South and how segregation continued well into the twentieth century. Both cemeteries feature similar layouts and the use of similar materials: although they developed out of different time periods, both cemeteries have examples of gravestones made of fieldstone and with etched epitaphs as well as examples of gravestones with symbolic meanings to them.

While there are similarities between Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery and the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, both represent different time periods and cultural developments. The Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery's significance lies within its historic context: it is the only cemetery in Roxboro that reflects the historically pervasive nature of segregation within the community throughout the early- to mid-twentieth century. The resource also demonstrates the societal and cultural differences of the African American community in Roxboro through the various uses of materials, symbols, and placement of gravestones within the cemetery. The cemetery features several of the typical features found within African American cemeteries in the South, such as yucca plants, the use of fieldstones, and the familial organization of the cemetery, and serves as a physical reminder of how the African American community in Roxboro created and maintained their own cultural norms during a time of segregation.

Criterion C as outlined by NPS pertains to "properties significant for their physical design or construction, including such elements as architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and artwork."<sup>861</sup> In order for a resource to be eligible under Criterion C, it must "embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, represent the work of a master, possess high artistic value, and represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."<sup>862</sup> Since Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is the only segregated cemetery in Roxboro, it has a high level of architectural significance to the community. Although the design of the cemetery is not known to be the work of a master, its strength lies in that it was created by the African American community of Roxboro during the height of segregation. The organization of the cemetery and use of materials and symbols all give the resource high cultural and artistic value. It serves as a reminder of how pervasive segregation was in the South: it played a dominant role in Roxboro's understanding of death and society. It is for these reasons that Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is recommended as eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.

For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered significant.<sup>863</sup> The Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design or technology, nor of significant patterns of history or prehistory in the area. Therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion D.

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<sup>861</sup> Shrimpton et al. 1990.

<sup>862</sup> Ibid.

<sup>863</sup> Ibid.

Given that this resource is a cemetery it has been considered under Criteria Consideration D which applies to cemeteries. Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery attains significance from its association with the early period of Roxboro history and history of local segregation. Furthermore, the cemetery reflects the national change in cemetery design and demonstrates the pervasiveness of this change within the rural Roxboro community. Finally, Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery has the potential to yield important information about the burial practices of the Roxboro community, particularly that of the African American community. It is for all these reasons that the cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D.

In sum, the Peace Memorial Gardens Cemetery is **recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criteria A and C as well as Criterion Consideration D for its significance as a historically segregated space in Roxboro, its ability to yield further information about the heritage of the African American community, and its high artistic and cultural value at the local level.** A recommended period of significance for this resource is based on the time period of its establishment to the height of its usage (1900–1950). The NRHP boundaries for the property as determined during the current investigation conform to the existing tax parcel (Figure 164, p. 494). The boundary includes the main entrance, Tombstone Road, the cemetery as a whole, and the utility building associated with the property.



Figure 164: Proposed NRHP Boundaries of Peace Memorial Garden Cemetery (PR0325) as Shown in Red.<sup>864</sup>

<sup>864</sup> Esri 2019.



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