

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

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper

Secretary D. Reid Wilson

June 21, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vanessa Patrick vepatrick@ncdot.gov
NC Department of Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit, Historic Architecture Group

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *RGE for Ramona M. Bartos*
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report for R-5807, Proposed improvement to NC 343 from US 158 to SR 1119, PA 18-10-0034, Camden County, ER 21-0824

Thank you for your April 5, 2021, memorandum transmitting the above-referenced report that we had to hold for review pending receipt of the needed deliverables. Having received that information and reviewed the report, we provide the following comments.

We concur with the report's recommendations that the Stevens House as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for Architecture. We also concur that the following properties are not eligible for listing:

- Gregory House
- G. M. Bray House
- Berry House
- Nash Place
- Morrisette House
- Hughes-Williams House

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

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT mpfurr@ncdot.gov



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

To: Renee Gledhill-Earley, NCHPO
From: Vanessa E. Patrick, NCDOT
Date: April 5, 2021
Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report for TIP No. R-5807, Camden County, North Carolina. WBS No. 46969.1.1. PA Tracking No. 18-10-0034.*

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Enclosed for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of seven historic architectural resources in the R-5807, Camden County project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). Survey photographs, GIS data, and survey site forms are also included on the CD-ROM.

The report considers the Gregory House (CM0211), G. M. Bray House (CM0046), Stevens House (CM0030), Berry House (CM0237), Nash Place (CM0238), Morrisette House (CM0021), and Hughes-Williams House (CM0191) and recommends the Stevens House as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Initial screening of the project area by NCDOT Historic Architecture identified which resources warranted additional study.

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

V.E.P.

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
IMPROVE NC 343 FROM US 158 TO SR 1119 (S. TROTMAN ROAD)
CAMDEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP PROJECT R-5807
WBS NO. 46969.1.1
PA TRACKING NO. 18-10-0034**

**Prepared for:
The North Carolina Department of Transportation
Environmental Analysis Unit
Century Center A
1020 Birch Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27610**

**Prepared by:
Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc.
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TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27886**

**Megan Funk
*Architectural Historian***

NCR-0811

AUGUST 2019

**HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT
IMPROVE NC 343 FROM US 158 TO SR 1119 (S. TROTMAN ROAD)
CAMDEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TIP PROJECT R-5807
WBS NO. 46969.1.1
PA TRACKING NO. 18-10-0034**

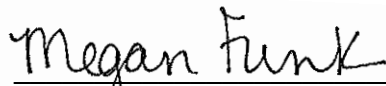
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Megan Funk
Architectural Historian

NCR-0811

AUGUST 2019



**Megan Funk, Principal Investigator
Commonwealth Heritage Group**

08-22-2019

Date

**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor
Historic Architecture Group, NCDOT**

Date

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to improve NC 343 in Camden County. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) equates with the study area and spans from US 158 to SR 1119 (S. Trotman Road). The project is included in the North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) as Project Number R-5807 and is state funded. Federal permits are anticipated.

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

This report represents the documentation of seven properties located within the APE for this project, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. For the preparation of this evaluation report, the Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc. (Commonwealth), architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the requested properties in the study area. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Camden County Register of Deeds and online, in addition to using other online sources. This report recommends the Stevens House as eligible for listing in the NRHP and recommends the Gregory House, G. M. Bray House, Berry House, Nash Place, Morrisette House, and Hughes-Williams House as not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

PROPERTY NAME	HPO SSN	ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION	CRITERIA
Gregory House	CM0211	Not Eligible	-
G. M. Bray House	CM0046	Not Eligible	-
Stevens House	CM0030	Eligible	C
Berry House	CM0237	Not Eligible	-
Nash Place (Hickory's)	CM0238	Not Eligible	-
Morrisette House	CM0021	Not Eligible	-
Hughes-Williams House	CM0191	Not Eligible	-

CONTENTS

Contents	ii
Methodology.....	1
Physical Environment.....	1
Property Inventory and Evaluations.....	4
Gregory House.....	4
Setting.....	4
Property Description.....	6
Historical Background.....	9
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	14
G. M. Bray House.....	18
Setting.....	18
Property Description.....	20
Historical Background.....	25
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	31
Stevens House	35
Setting.....	35
Property Description.....	38
Historical Background.....	46
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	49
Berry House.....	54
Setting.....	54
Property Description.....	56
Historical Background.....	64
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	68
Nash Place	72
Setting.....	72
Property Description.....	74
Historical Background.....	82
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	86
Morrisette House	90
Setting.....	90
Property Description.....	92
Historical Background.....	98

NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	102
Hughes-Williams House.....	106
Setting.....	106
Property Description.....	108
Historical Background.....	116
NRHP Criteria Evaluation.....	119
References Cited.....	123

METHODOLOGY

For the preparation of this report, the Commonwealth architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth NRHP evaluations of the requested properties in the study area in July and August 2019. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Camden County Register of Deeds and online, in addition to using other online sources. This report includes the architectural analysis and in-depth evaluation of seven properties in the Area of Potential Effects (APE): the Gregory House, G. M. Bray House, Stevens House, Berry House, Nash Place, Morrisette House, and Hughes-Williams House. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the public.

Commonwealth prepared this historic architectural resource evaluation report in accordance with the provisions of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*,¹ NCDOT's *Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources*, and the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office's (HPO's) *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports*. Resources are evaluated according to NRHP criteria. The location of the project area and the evaluated resources are shown in Figures 1 and 2.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The study area extends east from Camden to Shiloh and is crossed by two tributaries of the Pasquotank River – Mill Dam Creek and Areneuse Creek – as well as many narrow channels used for drainage and irrigation. The study area is characterized by agricultural land and historic dwellings with scatterings of new houses and planned neighborhoods. Aside from a number of churches and agricultural related businesses, commercial and institutional development is concentrated at the western and eastern ends of the study area in Camden and Shiloh. Three of the studied properties, the Gregory House (CM0211), the G. M. Bray House (CM0046), and the Stevens House (CM0030), are located near Shiloh, at the eastern end of the study area, while the others are located in the center of the study area and somewhat closer to Camden. All of the resources are located on NC Highway 343 (Figures 1 and 2).

¹ National Park Service, 2017. 48 CFR 44716; 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60.

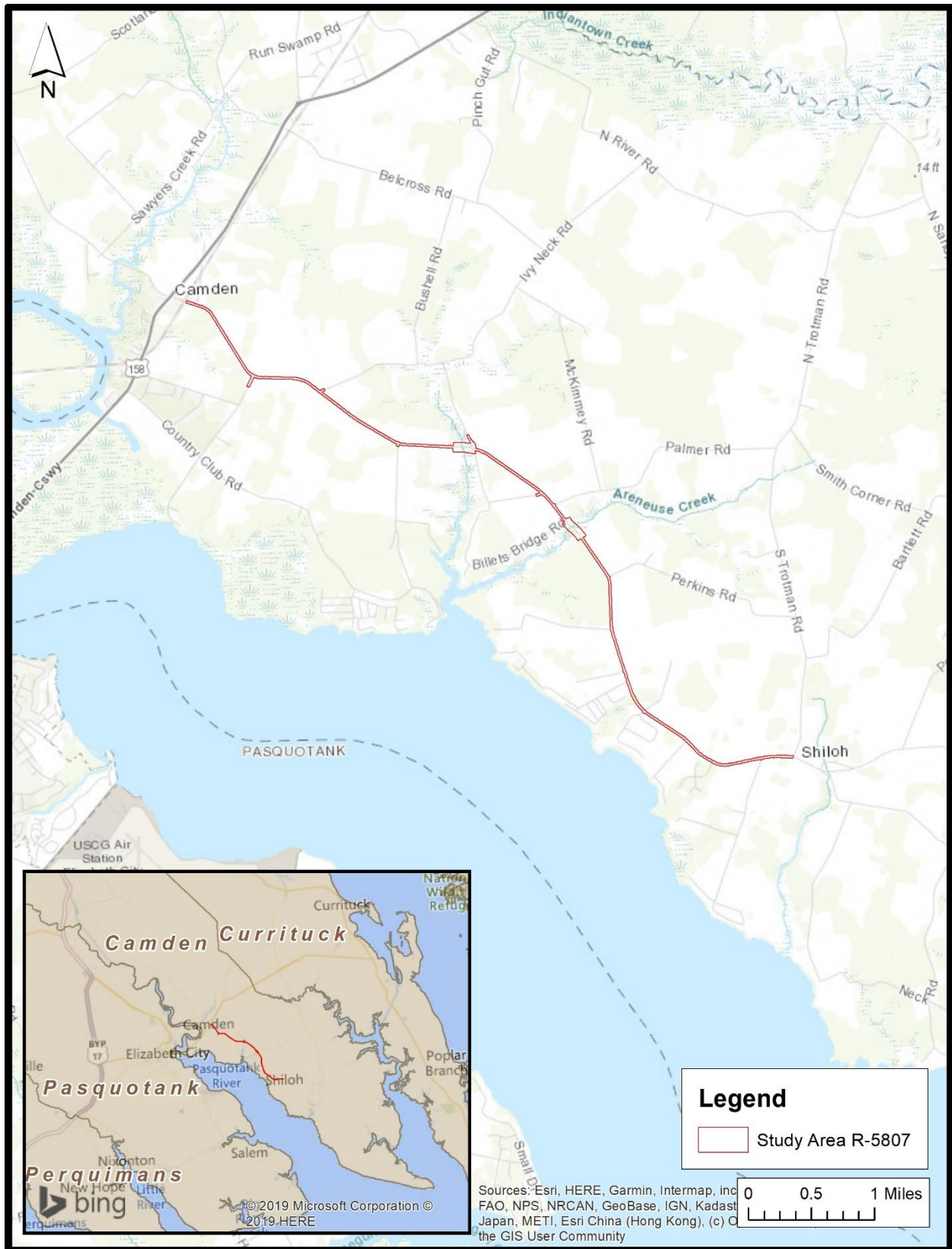


Figure 1: Project Location.



Figure 2: Area of Potential Effects.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Resource Name:	Gregory House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	001
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0211
Location:	913 NC Highway 343, Shiloh, NC 27974
Parcel ID:	038953048026360000
Dates(s) of Construction:	Mid- to Late Nineteenth Century
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 3: Gregory House, Looking Southwest.

Setting

The house is located on the south side of NC Highway 343 between fields to the west and south, tract homes to the southwest, and a Dollar General store to the east. Across the main road are a number of one- and two-story dwellings that date from 1926 through 2005 and a convenience store.² The dwelling is oriented north toward the highway and stands approximately 120 feet from the road. It is situated near the center of a roughly one-acre domestic yard that is lined on the east and west by a variety of mature trees. The yard is overgrown, and a clothesline stands behind the house. The domestic yard is nestled in the northeast corner of the 3-acre parcel and

² Camden County Parcel Map, https://maps2.roktech.net/ROKMAPS_Camden/#, accessed August 20, 2019.

touched on the west and south by a grassy field. Milltown Road follows the western boundary of the parcel and a field of corn follows the southern boundary (Figure 4).

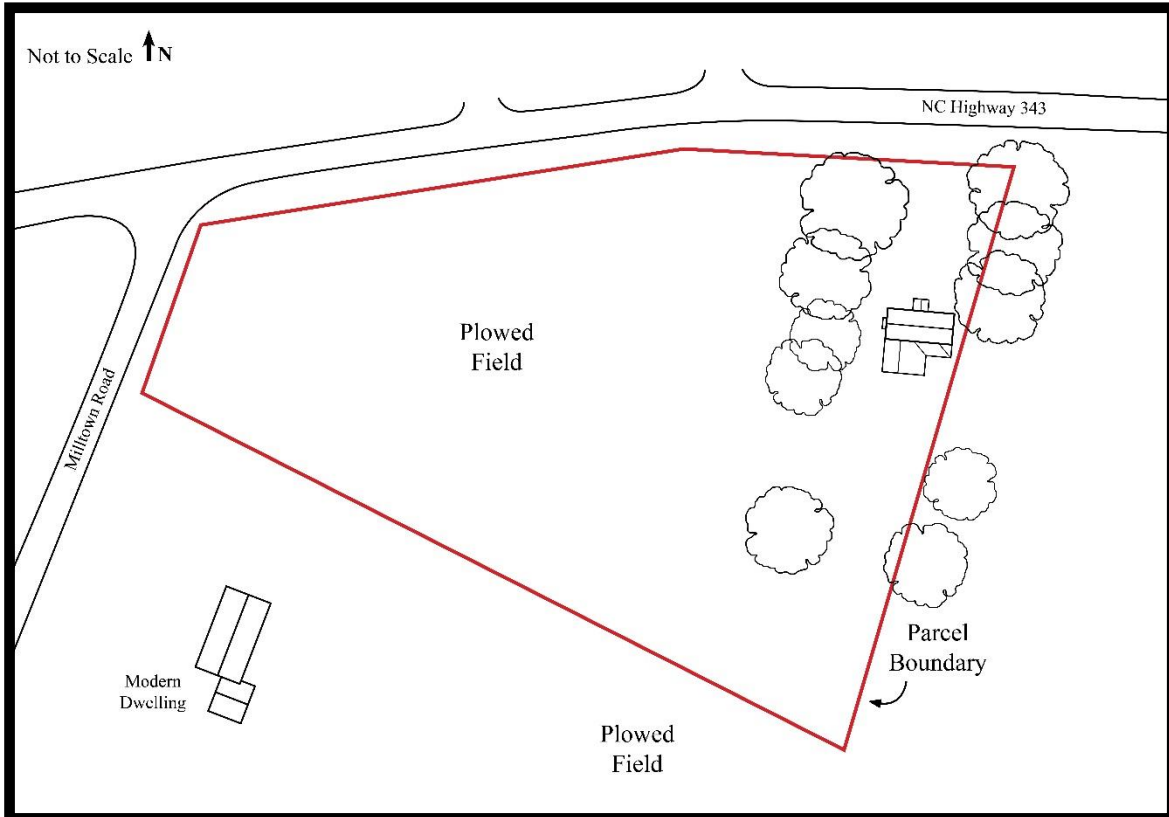


Figure 4: Sketch Map of the Gregory House.

Property Description

Exterior

The dwelling is an I-house with a side-gabled asphalt shingle roof and two small rear additions. It rests on a continuous foundation of modern bricks at the front with brick piers at the rear and is clad with vinyl siding. Its three-bay façade features a centrally placed, front-gabled porch supported by tripled columns that rise from a modern brick stoop. The porch, which is encased with aluminum, shelters a six-panel entry door flanked by sidelights. The porch is flanked by eight-over-eight wooden sash windows, and three identical windows fill the upper story bays (Figure 5). Most of the dwelling's windows are covered by storm screens.

The west (side) elevation features a brick exterior end chimney laid in common bond. It is flanked on both stories by six-over-six wooden sash windows. A one-and-one-half story, rear-gabled wing extends from the south side of the elevation. Its west (side) elevation contains an off-center pair of six-over-six wooden sash windows (Figure 6).

The south (rear) elevation is defined by two additions. The largest, and likely oldest, is the wing featuring an asymmetrical gable. The roof design and fenestration pattern suggest that it originally had an integral porch on the east side that has been enclosed. The elevation is lit by two six-over-six wooden sash windows on the first story and a four-over-four wooden sash window on the half story. A small one-over-one vinyl sash window lights the enclosed porch. The second addition is one story and has a hipped roof. It spans the remainder of the south (rear) elevation from the wing to the southeast corner and contains a modern door and two six-over-six



Figure 5: Gregory House, Looking South.



Figure 6: Gregory House, Looking Southeast.



Figure 7: Gregory House, Looking Northwest.



Figure 8: Gregory House, Looking West.

wooden sash windows. A thin brick chimney rises from the hip-roofed addition along the rear elevation of the main block. It is flanked by two six-over-six wooden sash windows (Figure 7).

The east (side) elevations of the additions are blind while the main block is lit by two six-over-six wooden sash windows on each story and features cornice returns below the roof's eave (Figure 8).

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the house. Additionally, though property listings could be found on multiple realtor websites, no interior photos were provided with the listings.

Historical Background

An 1850 map of the Pasquotank River depicts a farm complex in the location of the Gregory House while the property's parcel card provides a construction date of 1845 (Figure 9). A sales listing for the property, however, states that the original dwelling burned during the Civil War and was reconstructed by the Gregory family in 1870, giving the dwelling two potential construction dates.³ Due to its simple I-house form, which was popular during both timeframes, as well as a number of twentieth century material changes that compromise or conceal its original design, it is possible that either date is correct.

Based on the 1845 construction date, the first owners of the dwelling were likely William and Mary Gregory. Little is known about the couple except that they had five sons – Marshall, Major, Willoughby, William, and Arthur – and that William (father) was a farmer.⁴ It also appears that if they were the original owners of the house, they did not live there long as Mary died in 1852 and William in 1862.⁵ Eventually, their son Willoughby, who was only 16 when



Figure 9: 1850 Map of the Pasquotank River Showing the Location of the Gregory House (North Carolina Maps).

³ Camden County Property Records, PIN 038953048026360000, https://maps2.roktech.net/ROKMAPS_Camden/#, accessed July 9, 2019 and Realtor.com, "913 NC Highway 343 S, Shiloh, NC 27974," https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/913-NC-Highway-343-S_Shiloh_NC_27974_M54489-96923, accessed July 19, 2019.

⁴ Ancestry.com, "William Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/410054438325/facts>, accessed July 9, 2019 and United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Seventh Census of the United States, (Washington, District of Columbia: Bureau of Census, 1850).

⁵ Ancestry.com, "William Gregory."

his father passed away, became the owner of the house and at least a portion of the associated property, the original size of which is unknown.⁶

It is possible that Willoughby is responsible for the reconstruction of the dwelling, which would have occurred only a few years after his 1865 marriage to Jane Stevens. The 1870 Census lists him as a farmer with a personal estate of \$150 and real estate worth \$125. The 1880 Census shares similar information, as well as the names of Willoughby and Jane's five children – Marshall, Addie, Curtis, Ella and Luke. The 1900 Census provides additional information about the property, indicating that it was a farm that was owned but mortgaged. By 1910, Willoughby's son, Curtis, is listed as the head of the household and the farm is shown as being owned free and clear. Though no street name is provided for either census, it is likely that Willoughby and Curtis's households both relate to the studied property.⁷ This seems particularly likely given that the previous census lists Curtis as renting a house versus living on a farm. Also living in the household was Curtis's wife, Meddie Tillett, their three children – Guy, Malvin and John – and his sister, Addie, who appears to have never married.⁸

In January 1917, Willoughby passed away leaving his homeplace to Addie, his oldest surviving child, for life, then to the heirs of C. S. (or Curtis Stevens) Gregory.⁹ Two years later, in March 1919, Addie passed away initiating the transfer of the property to her brother's children.¹⁰ At the time, his children were between the ages of seven and 21. The 1920 Census suggests that Curtis, Meddie and their four youngest sons continued to live on the property as it lists them as living on a farm on Shiloh Road. The census, however, also indicates that the farm is mortgaged suggesting that the family owed money for the property or there was a lien against it.¹¹

Interestingly, a soil map depicting the 1920s time frame does not indicate a residence or farm in the location of the house (Figure 10). This is particularly perplexing given the presence of a dwelling on the 1850 map as well as the inclusion of the phrase "all houses which the said W. D. Gregory now lives" in Willoughby's 1917 will.¹² It does seem possible, however, that paired with the 1920 Census data that indicates the farm was mortgaged, that the family may have constructed a new house on the old site. This theory is also substantiated by the squat eight-over-eight façade windows, a detail that was not common for nineteenth century dwellings but was common in the 1920s and 1930s. Conversely, the windows could also relate to a later remodel, such as when the vinyl siding was added, though they appear to be constructed of wood and original to the house.

⁶ Camden County Will Book E, page 532.

⁷ Ancestry.com, "Willoughby D. Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/410054437908/facts>, accessed July 9, 2019.

⁸ Ancestry.com, "Curtis Stevens Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/44244814435/facts>, accessed July 9, 2019.

⁹ Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998*, "W. D. Gregory," https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=9061&h=2173225&tid=&pid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=nec351&_phstart=successSource, accessed July 9, 2019.

¹⁰ Ancestry.com, "Addie Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/410054438016/facts>, accessed July 9, 2019.

¹¹ Ancestry.com, "Curtis Stevens Gregory."

¹² Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998*, "W. D. Gregory."

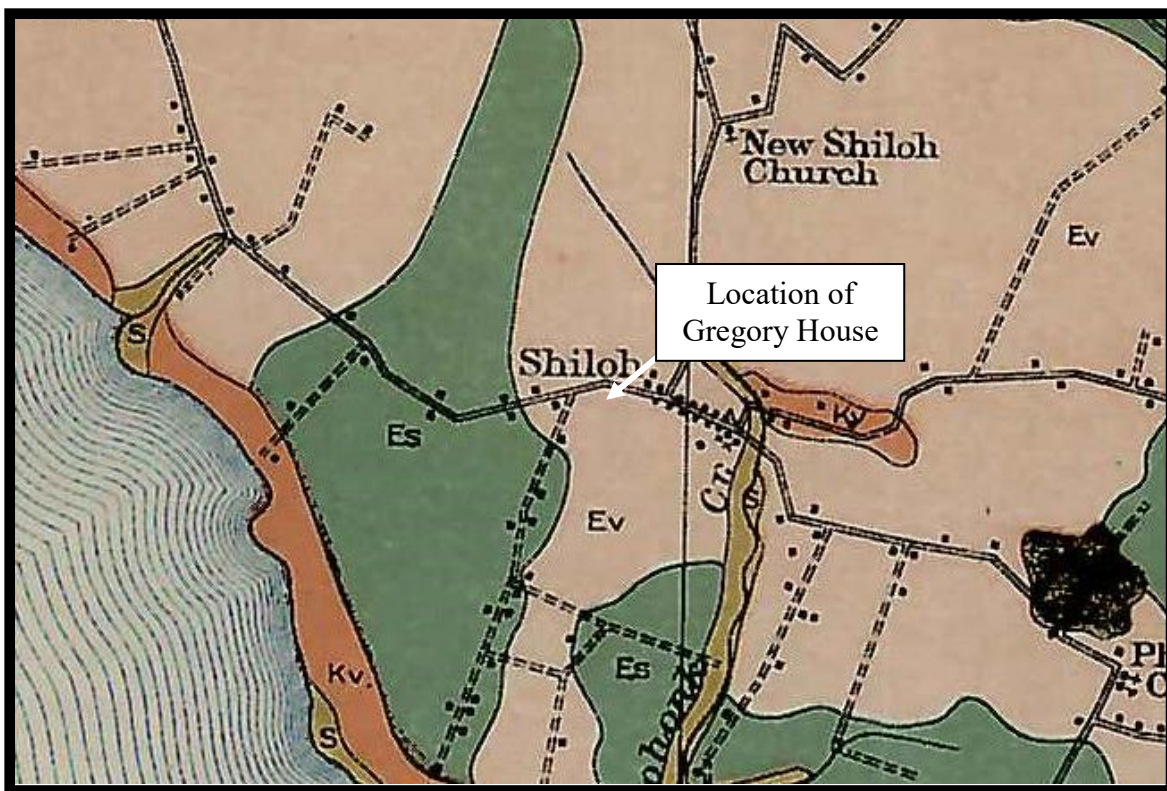


Figure 10: 1923 Camden County Soil Map Showing Location of the Gregory House (North Carolina Maps).

By 1930, it appears that Curtis and Meddie lived in Elizabeth City, where Curtis worked as a truck driver.¹³ Their oldest son, Guy, who would eventually own the dwelling, had married Lillah Toxey (or Torksey) Sawyer in November of 1919. Though listed in the 1920 Census as living on Shiloh Road in the home of Lillah’s parents, Coston and Hasseltine Sawyer, the 1930 Census shows them living in their own home, a farm, on Highway 343 (Shiloh Road) with their son, Marcelle, and Lillah’s father.¹⁴

In January 1932, Curtis and his heirs, all having reached adulthood, sold the homeplace to M. B. Torksey.¹⁵ Though the deed uses only initials for M. B., it is likely that he is Lillah’s grandfather, Marshall Brown Torksey.¹⁶ This seems even more likely as later that year, M. B. sold the property to Lillah. The transaction is interesting as it does not mention Guy. The deed does reference W. D. Gregory’s will and refers to the property as the “W. D. Gregory Home place.” It also describes the property as an eight-acre parcel and as including “all the houses and improvements thereon.” Unlike the 1923 map, a 1938 map again places a dwelling on the property (Figure 11).

¹³ United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States, (Washington, District of Columbia: Bureau of Census, 1930).

¹⁴ Ancestry.com, “Lillah Toxey Sawyer,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/410054612929/facts>, accessed July 9, 2019.

¹⁵ Camden County Deed Book 17, page 174.

¹⁶ Ancestry.com, “Lillah Toxey Sawyer.”

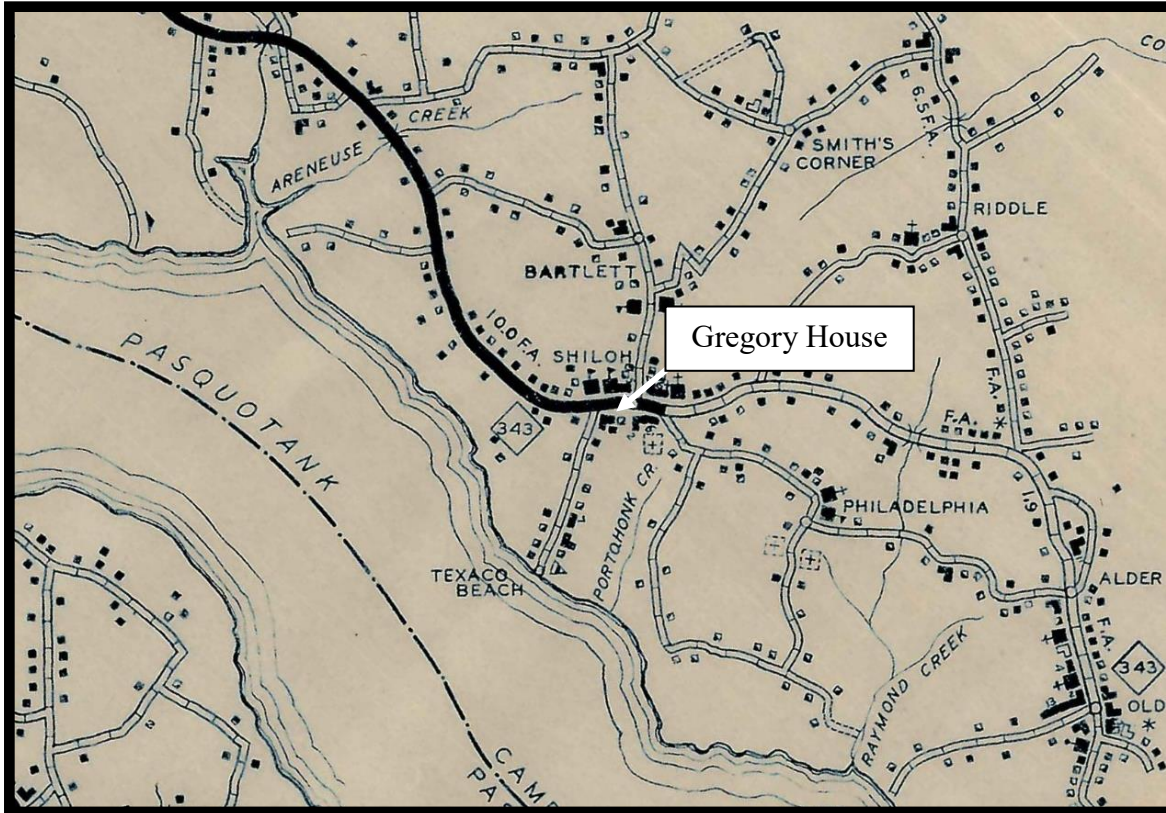


Figure 11: 1938 Camden County Highway Map Showing Location of the Gregory House (North Carolina Maps).

In contrast to the Gregory family, which was composed primarily of farmers, Lillah's grandfather was a merchant, opening a store in Shiloh as early as 1891, and her father was for some time a huxter, or peddler.¹⁷ Guy is listed as a farm laborer or farmer in the 1920 and 1930 Censuses but as an automobile salesman in the 1940 Census.¹⁸

After Lillah's death in 1971, the property was inherited by her son, Marcelle Sawyer Gregory, who married Pauline Tillett in 1941.¹⁹ From 1943 through 1946 Marcelle served in the army, achieving the rank of sergeant. His occupation after being released from the military is unknown though Pauline's obituary shares that she was a homemaker.²⁰ After Marcelle's death in 1992, the property transferred to Pauline's ownership. Two years later, in 1994, Pauline granted 2.99 acres of the property to one of her sons, Randall Tillett Gregory and his wife, Sara Kay Stamey-Gregory. The deed states that Pauline retained for herself a life estate in the property, suggesting that she continued to reside at the house.²¹ In 2007, she executed a deed of gift between herself

¹⁷ "Camden," *The Weekly Economist*, January 6, 1891.

¹⁸ Ancestry.com, "Guy Tillett Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/44369206436/facts>, accessed July 10, 2019.

¹⁹ Ancestry.com, "Marcelle Sawyer Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/410054613344/facts>, accessed July 10, 2019.

²⁰ Twiford Funeral Homes, "Frances Pauline Tillett Gregory," <https://www.twifordfh.com/frances-pauline-tillett-gregory/>, accessed July 10, 2019.

²¹ Camden County Deed Book 104, page 49.

and her daughter, Marlene G. Harris, for a 3.55-acre parcel along the eastern edge of the studied parcel. It appears that this parcel relates to a larger tract (41.75 acres) sold by Curtis and his heirs to Lillah in 1940.²²

After Pauline's death in 2009, the studied property passed fully to Randall and Sara, who according to current property records live in Cary, North Carolina.²³ Listings on various realtor websites suggest that they attempted to sell the property but have not had any luck. Marlene, however, was able to sell her portion and in early 2019 a Dollar General store was constructed on the adjoining property.

²² Camden County Deed Book 257, page 472.

²³ Twiford Funeral Homes, "Frances Pauline Tillett Gregory and Camden County, Property Report (PIN 038953048026360000), https://maps2.roktech.net/ROKMAPS_Camden/#, accessed August 19, 2019.

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Gregory House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

Though the dwelling remains in its original location, its setting has slowly evolved with the addition of houses constructed from the 1920s through the early 2000s. Sheltered from most of this development by mature trees along the domestic yard's eastern and western boundaries and cultivated fields at the south, the greatest detractor to its setting is the recently constructed Dollar General store on the adjoining parcel. The house retains a low level of historic integrity regarding design, materials, and workmanship with original features expressed only through its I-house form and wooden sash windows. The encapsulation of its entry porch with aluminum and addition of vinyl siding represent the dwelling's greatest loss of character. These materials coupled with the loss of the additional buildings depicted on the 1938 map compromise the dwelling's feeling as a nineteenth century residence as well as its association with that era of Camden County's history.

Criterion A

The Gregory House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Gregory House is historically associated with general farming, resulting in an expectation of crop storage facilities and agricultural fields. Though agricultural fields do remain south of the dwelling, no ancillary buildings, agricultural or otherwise, remain on the property. The effect is a loss of historic integrity relating to setting and design of a farm complex. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property is historically associated with the Gregory family, whose productive life was spent maintaining the family farm. Research did not reveal their activities to be historically significant

within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

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

At the most basic level, the dwelling is representative of a nineteenth century, vernacular dwelling with an I-house form. This form was popular for much of the mid- to late nineteenth century and can be observed throughout Eastern North Carolina in both rural and urbanized areas. The popularity of the form is likely due to its simple, often symmetrical façade, and straightforward, side-gabled roof. The form is also easily dressed-up by more ornate styles while also displaying a pleasant appearance when finished with more vernacular or traditional methods.

The Gregory House appears to have been constructed with traditional details including its exterior end chimney with brick laid in a common bond and a pedimented porch. However, alterations, including the replacement of its wooden siding with vinyl siding, and its atypical eight-over-eight window sashes, which may reflect an early-twentieth-century remodel, detract from its ability to represent the nineteenth-century era of architecture. Other examples of nineteenth century architecture in Camden County include the William Riley Abbott House (CM0003) and the Upton House (CM0142).

The William Riley Abbott House is the only nineteenth-century dwelling in Camden County that is listed on the NRHP (Figure 12).²⁴ More high style than the Gregory House, it is an additional two bays in width and has a wide, two-story, pedimented porch. The porch is supported by four Tuscan columns and shelters a balcony above a detailed entry door. Flanking windows display wide stylized surrounds as well. Though the house has been clad with vinyl siding and its roof has been replaced with a Queen Anne-era pressed metal, the dwelling still conveys the feeling of the mid-nineteenth century. Furthermore, it stands on a nearly 150-acre parcel of agricultural land surrounded primarily by additional agricultural land as opposed to the Gregory House's divided parcel located beside the Dollar General store.

The Upton House is more comparable to the Gregory House in that it is three bays wide and lacks any ornate details. Also like the Gregory House, it has been clad with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof, and similar to how the Gregory House's porch has been encased with vinyl, the decking of the Upton House's porch has been replaced with a brick stoop. One difference, however, is that the Upton House's wooden sash windows appear to relate to its late nineteenth-century construction date, while the Gregory House's windows appear later.²⁵ Due to the high

²⁴ The Lamb-Ferebee House was listed in 1980 but was destroyed by a fire in 2011 (HPOWeb).

²⁵ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028934011770470000.



Figure 12: William Riley Abbott House (CM0003), Looking Southwest.



Figure 13: Upton House (CM0142), Looking East.

amount of alterations and replacement materials, the Upton House was determined ineligible for the NRHP.²⁶ It would follow that the Gregory House, which displays a similar level or less of material integrity, would also be found ineligible for the NRHP.

For these reasons, the Gregory House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Gregory House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

²⁶ HPOWeb, CM0142.

Resource Name:	G. M. Bray House (Formerly the William Wilson House)
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	002
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0046
Location:	859 NC Highway 343, Shiloh, NC 27974
Parcel ID:	038953045055560000
Dates(s) of Construction:	1838
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 14: G. M. Bray House, Looking Southwest.

Setting

The house is located on the south side of NC Highway 343 and the west side of Tulip Tree Road, which accesses a mid-2000s neighborhood of tract homes called Magnolia Manor that surrounds the property on the west, south, and east sides. The house is oriented north toward the highway, from which it stands approximately 230 feet, and is approximately 100 feet from Tulip Tree Road. Across the highway are a number of one-story dwellings that date from 1947 through 2015.²⁷ A dirt ribbon driveway leads from the highway to the east elevation of the dwelling. East of this is a fenced in area with chickens and a small front-gabled barn. A wire fence spans from the dwelling to the barn and encompasses the southeast corner of the yard. A row of mature trees form a buffer on the western edge of the property while a row of crepe myrtles

²⁷ Camden County Parcel Map.

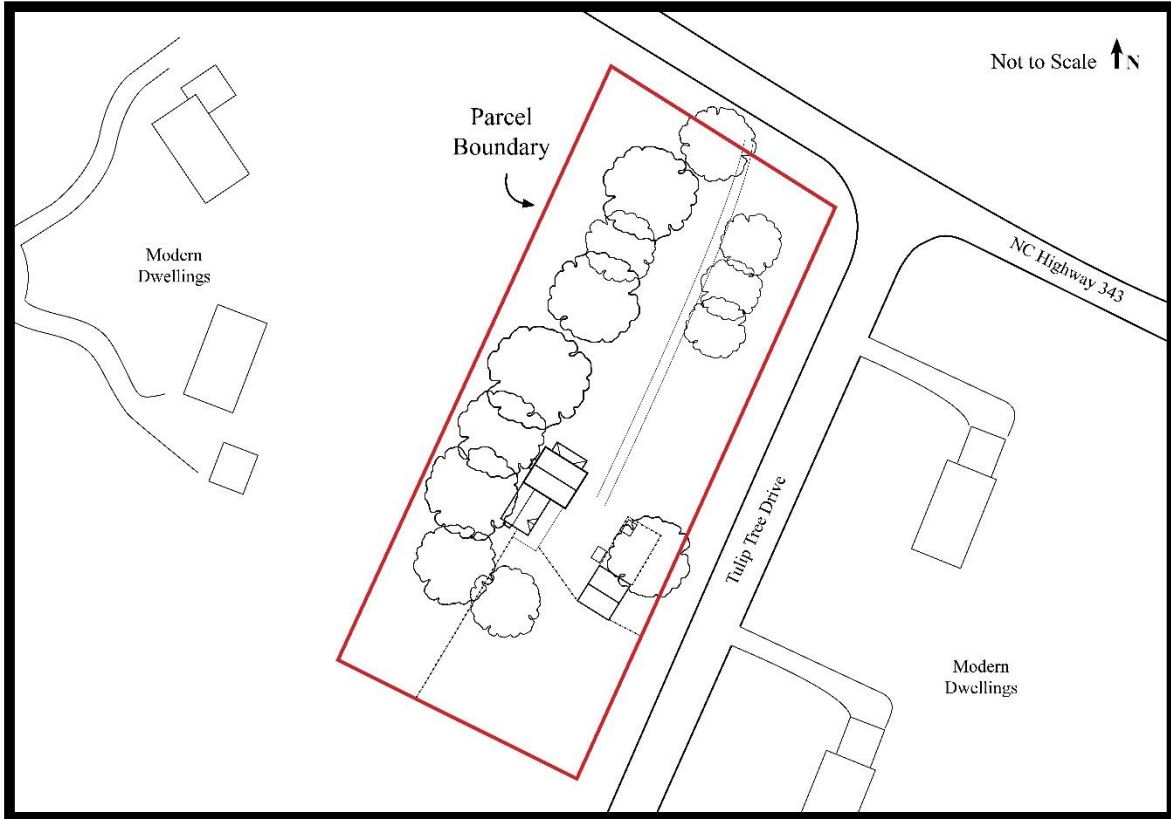


Figure 15: Sketch Map of the G. M. Bray House.
follow the eastern edge of the driveway. Additional mature trees shade the yard as well (Figure 15).

Property Description

Original Dwelling

Exterior

The two-story, side-gabled dwelling exhibits an almost symmetrical façade with a one-story, enclosed, hip-roofed porch and a gabled rear wing. It rests on a brick pier foundation infilled with sheets of pressed metal, is clad primarily with asbestos siding, and has an asphalt shingle roof. The enclosed porch is clad with wooden siding below asphalt shingles, suggesting that it may have had screens above the wooden siding before being completely enclosed. Its front elevation contains a metal screen door flanked by paired one-over-one vinyl sash windows and its side elevations each contain an individual one-over-one vinyl sash window. On the interior of the porch is a Craftsman-style entry door flanked by a wooden sash window with four vertical panes over a single large pane on the east and similar paired windows on the west. Vertical light windows, which are most often seen on Craftsman-style dwellings constructed in the early twentieth century, are present on a majority of the dwelling's elevations suggesting that the house was remodeled around this time. Above the porch are three unequally spaced windows – the center window tracks slightly east – with nine-over-nine vinyl sashes (Figure 14).

The west (side) elevation of the main block contains a double-shouldered brick chimney. The base of the chimney is laid in a common bond while the chimney stack, which has been replaced, is laid in stretcher bond. The chimney is flanked on both stories by two windows. On the first story, the south window has a wooden sash with four vertical panes over a single large pane while the north window has a vinyl sash with ten undivided panes. The windows also have



Figure 16: G. M. Bray House, Looking Southeast.

different surrounds, the first being a more typical surround and the second being wide boards. The upper windows differ as well with the north window containing a wooden sash with three vertical panes over a single large pane and the south window, which is also smaller, containing a six-over-six vinyl sash (Figure 16).

The west (side) elevation of the rear wing contains a one-over-one, horizontal-pane, vinyl sash window and a paired, sliding-pane, vinyl or metal sash window, while its south (rear) elevation displays an asymmetrical gable and contains a single-shouldered brick chimney laid in common bond. The east (side) elevation of the wing contains a gabled entrance that is flanked on the south by a wooden sash window with three vertical panes over a single large pane and on the north by two paired wooden sash windows with three vertical panes over single large panes. An interesting element of this elevation is that the gabled entrance is flush with the exterior wall whereas most entrances might project. This seems to suggest that the elevation may have once sheltered a porch or was pushed forward encompassing the original entry (Figures 17 through 19).

Though dominated by the rear wing, the south (rear) elevation of the main block contains a single window wooden sash window with three vertical panes over a single large pane on the first story (east of the wing) and three nine-over-nine vinyl sash windows across the second story. The upper windows are arranged as to avoid the peak of the wing. The east (side) elevation of the main block is lit by two windows on each elevation – wooden sash windows with three vertical panes over a single large pane on the first story and nine-over-nine vinyl sash windows on the second story (Figure 19).



Figure 17: G. M. Bray House, Looking East.



Figure 18: G. M. Bray House, Looking North.



Figure 19: G. M. Bray House, Looking Northwest.

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the house. The placement of the front door at the center of the dwelling, however, suggests that the house has a center-hall plan, and the presence of only one chimney on the gable end suggests the main block is only one room deep.

Ancillary Buildings

Ancillary structures associated with the dwelling include a small front-gabled barn that faces the dwelling and two modern chicken houses. The barn is clad with asbestos siding over flush boards and has a concrete block foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. It is entered through large board and batten doors on the front (west) elevation and was once lit by a window south of the doors that is now boarded over. A six-over-six window lights the north (side) elevation and faces an area that is fenced in and contains chickens (Figures 20 and 21).



Figure 20: G. M. Bray House, Barn, Looking Northeast.



Figure 21: G. M. Bray House, Chicken Houses, Looking Southeast.

Historical Background

According to Camden County property records, the dwelling was constructed in 1838. It is unknown who owned the property at this time or who constructed the dwelling, but property records suggest that the first owner was Gideon M. Bray. Gideon was born in Camden County in 1835 and lived there until his death in 1886. Censuses list him as a farmer and an 1890 Veterans Schedule shows that he served in the Civil War. He was married to Susan Needham and they had three sons – Enos, Daniel and Gideon.²⁸ A year after Gideon's death, Susan married Mark Toxey Gregory.²⁹ The family likely resided on the studied property as in 1898, Susan's surviving sons, Daniel and Gideon, conveyed the property to Mark, which suggests that they inherited it from their father. At the time, the property measured 80 acres.³⁰

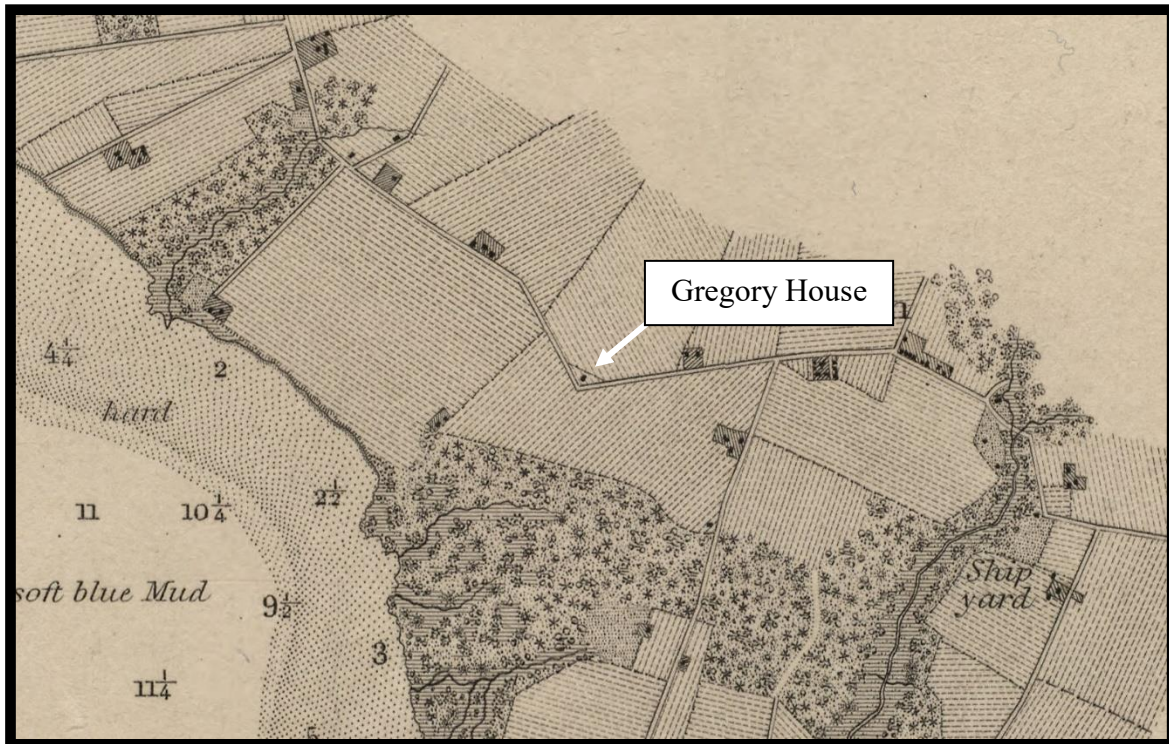


Figure 22: 1850 Map of the Pasquotank River Showing the Location of the G. M. Bray House Before Rerouting of NC Highway 343 (North Carolina Maps).

Of interest is an 1850s map which shows a dwelling in the vicinity of the house but on the opposite side of the road (Figure 22). To some extent, this can be explained by the removal of the sharp turn in the road just south of the dwelling. The house, however, appears to have always faced north toward the current road. This may be explained by the narrow road or drive

²⁸ Ancestry.com, "Gideon Merchant Bray," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/33817095/person/252030875961/facts>, accessed July 10, 2019.

²⁹ Ancestry.com, "Susan Bray," *North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1741-2011*, https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&dbid=60548&h=10525321&tid=&pid=&usePUB=true&_phsrc=nec384&_phstart=successSource, July 10, 2019.

³⁰ Camden County Deed Book QQ, page 349.

which crosses the property on the north side of the house but could also indicate that the small rear portion of the house is the original structure.

In 1929, after Mark's death, his neighbor and executor, J. W. Walston conveyed the property to Dr. W. L. (William Leary) Stevens for \$4,000. The deed refers to the property as the "G. M. Bray place."³¹

Though W. L. was a doctor, it is possible that he also farmed the parcel as a source of additional income. Another option is that he purchased it as an investment. This theory is supported by some uncertainty around when he disposed of the property. A 1950 deed, however, states that he conveyed it to J. N. (James Nelson) Davenport. The deed also refers to the property as the "Mark Gregory Farm" as opposed to the "G. M. Bray place." James Nelson was married to Laura V. Kemp, and after his death in 1943, the property passed to her ownership. The 1950 deed details the conveyance from her to their son, William Wilson Davenport.³²

In 1968, William executed a deed adding his wife, Ruth S. (Sawyer Berry) Davenport as an owner of the property. At the time, the property still measured 80 acres.³³ It was during their

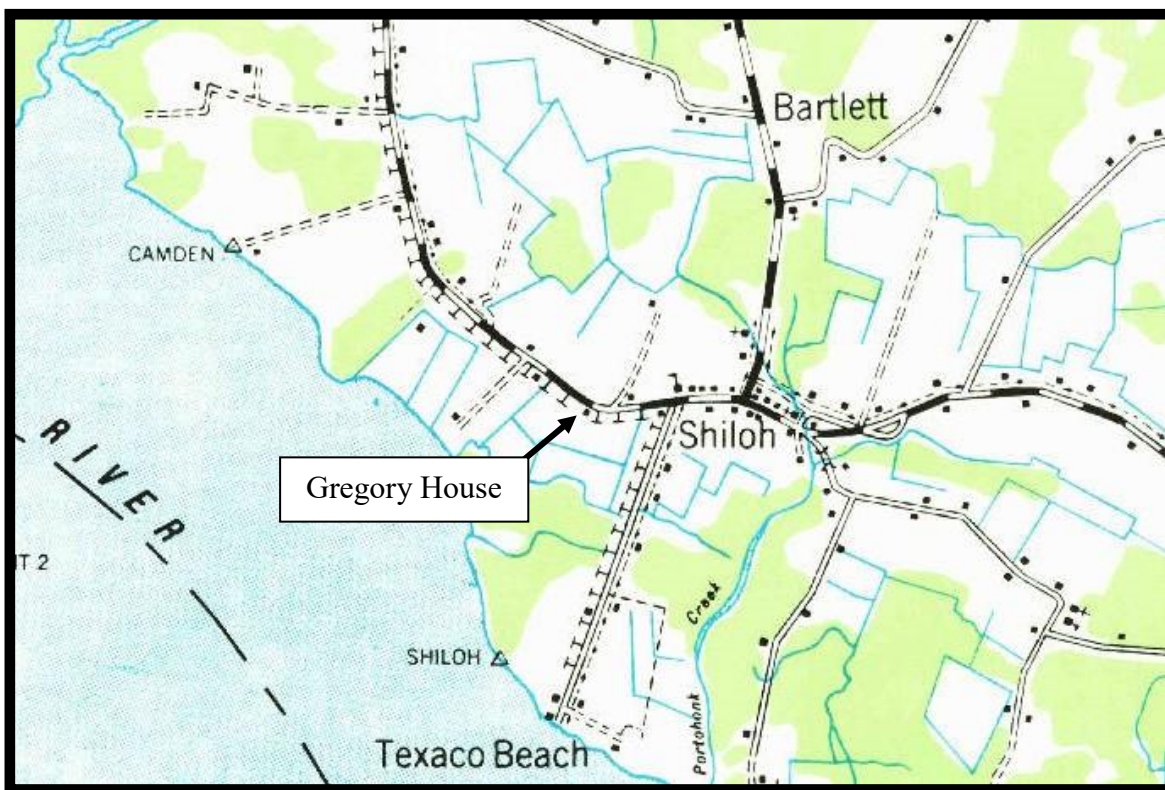


Figure 23: 1920 USGS Map, Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Showing the Location of the G. M. Bray House After Rerouting of NC Highway 343 (North Carolina Maps).

³¹ Camden County Deed Book 31, page 254.

³² Ancestry.com, "James Nelson Davenport," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/44244843284/facts>, July 10, 2019 and Camden County Deed Book 31, page 254.

³³ Camden County Deed Book 52, page 274.

ownership that the property was first surveyed by the HPO. Photos from this survey show the house with many of the same material changes exhibited today, though with vertical light windows on the second story where there are now vinyl windows (Figure 24).

Though the deed adding Ruth as an owner is the last deed listed on the property report, a plat drawn in 1985, one year after Ruth's death, refers to the tract as the property of Elsie Davenport Perry and Laura Lee Davenport Riddick, who are William and Ruth's daughters (Figure 25).

In 1988, the daughters and their husbands sold the large tract to Henry Self and his wife, Elizabeth.³⁴ The Selfs later sold the property surrounding the studied parcel through two transactions to William Charles Sawyer and his wife, Bess T. Sawyer (Figure 26).³⁵ This larger tract passed through a series of owners before being developed as Magnolia Manor in the mid-2000s (Figure 27). In 1995, the Selfs sold the studied parcel, which measures 1.4 acres, and the dwelling to the current owner, Lynanne Pridgen.³⁶



Figure 24: G. M. Bray House (HPO Survey File, CM0046).

³⁴ Camden County Deed Book 88, page 617.

³⁵ Camden County Deed Book 103, page 624 and Book 105, page 115.

³⁶ Camden County Deed Book 109, page 745.

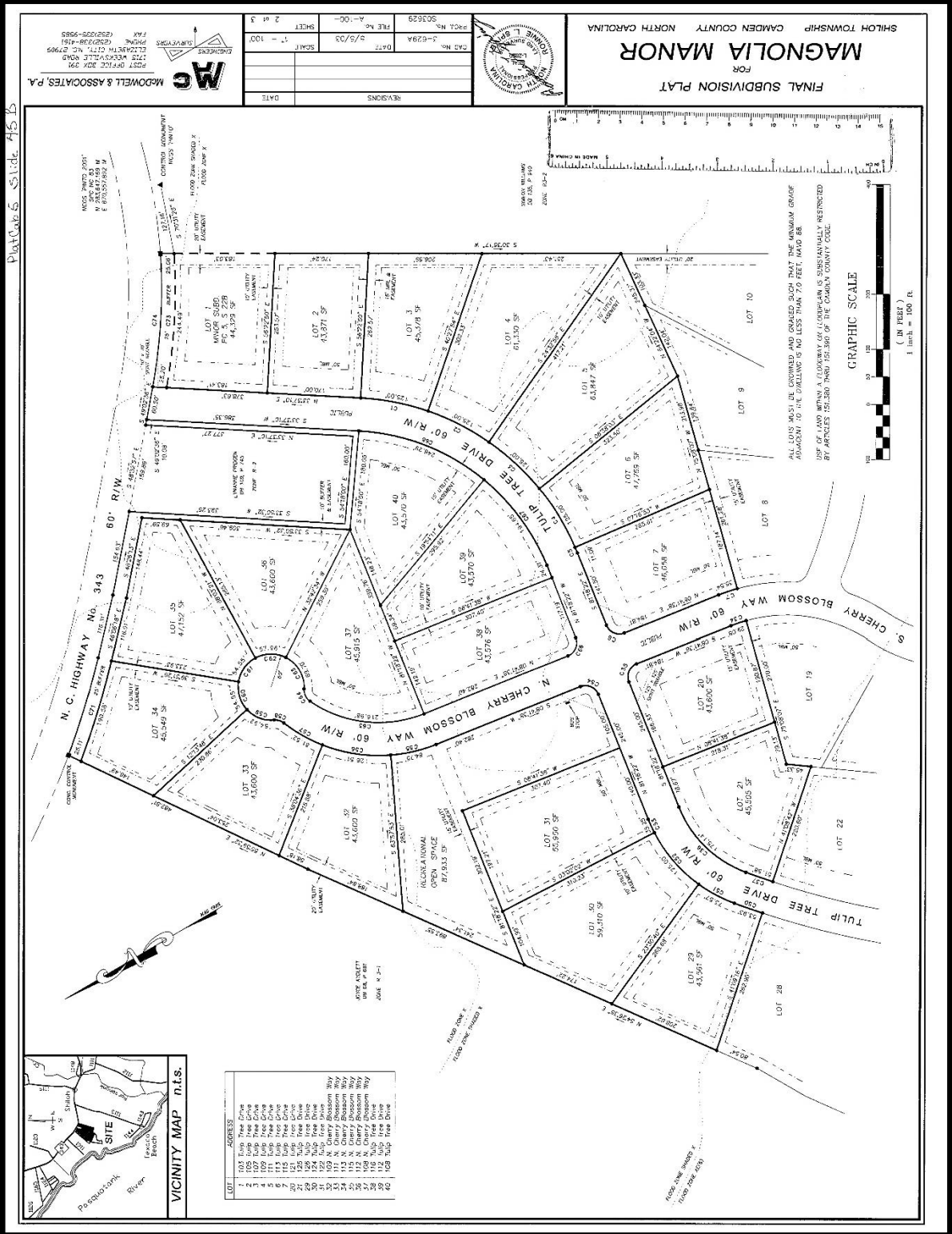


Figure 27: Final Subdivision Plat for Magnolia Manor (Plat Book 5, page 45b).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the G. M. Bray House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The dwelling remains in its original location but its immediate setting, which was once characterized by agricultural fields, is now a planned neighborhood with two-story dwellings constructed in the 2000s. The house retains a low level of historic integrity regarding design, materials, and workmanship due to the replacement of its exterior cladding and windows. The loss of these materials as well as the replacement of its agricultural fields with modern housing has greatly compromised its feeling as a mid-nineteenth-century dwelling and its association with Camden County's nineteenth-century agricultural industry.

Criterion A

The G. M. Bray House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The G. M. Bray House is historically associated with general farming resulting in an expectation of crop storage facilities and agricultural fields. Though a small barn remains on the property the fields have been replaced by a neighborhood of twenty-first century dwellings. The effect is a loss of historic integrity relating to setting and function. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property has been associated with multiple families since the mid-nineteenth century including the Bray, Gregory, and Davenport families. Their productive lives, however, appear to have been spent maintaining the farm and no other contributions to the past were identified. Research did not reveal their activities to be historically significant within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The G. M. Bray House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

The G. M. Bray House represents a narrow articulation of the popular I-House form, which was common throughout North Carolina in the nineteenth century. Composed of a three-bay façade with an enclosed porch, the dwelling is narrow compared to its height while also appearing to be deeper than many similarly constructed structures. Despite its exterior proportions, it appears to have a similar interior arrangement with a hall-and-parlor or center-hall plan typical of I-houses. The house has been heavily altered with the replacement of many of its original materials, including its wooden siding and windows, and the enclosure of its front porch. A significant portion of these alterations reflect the Craftsman style and appear to relate to the early twentieth century while others, such as the roof and second story windows, appear to relate to the late twentieth century. Similarly scaled nineteenth-century dwellings include the Grandy House (CM0031) in Camden County and the Eldon Jones Farmstead in Currituck County (CK0329).

The Grandy House, while not quite as narrow as the G. M. Bray House, represents a smaller version of the I-house form (Figure 28). Like the G. M. Bray House, it is clad with replacement siding and has an altered porch, in this case a replacement with Craftsman-style details. The dwelling retains more integrity through the retention of nine-over-nine and nine-over-six wooden sash windows. Its original roof has also been replaced with metal sheets opposed to the G. M. Bray House's asphalt shingle roof. Furthermore, it is surrounded by agricultural outbuildings, some of which appear historic, and roughly 110 acres of plowed fields and wooded areas.

The ca. 1875-1910 Eldon Jones Farmstead displays a similarly narrow version of the I-house though it does not appear as deep as the G. M. Bray House (Figure 29).³⁷ It also shows how the form could be adapted on the interior with a side-hall plan. Found ineligible in 2013, the dwelling exhibits a higher level of design and workmanship through the retention of most, if not all, of its original wooden windows, its entry door, and simple hip-roofed front and side porches. However, alterations similar to those made to the G. M. Bray House, including the replacement of its wooden siding and metal roof, have decreased its architectural integrity to a level unacceptable for inclusion on the NRHP.

Though an ideal NRHP-worthy property was not identified for comparison, the above discussed properties exhibit the commonality of the three-bay, side-gabled form in eastern North Carolina during the nineteenth century. The dwellings also exhibit the common alterations made to the form and show that the G. M. Bray House is not an outstanding example of the dwelling type, a particular architectural style, or the period in which it was constructed.

For these reasons, the G. M. Bray House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

³⁷ HPOWeb, CK0329.



Figure 28: Grandy House, Looking East.



Figure 29: Eldon Jones Farmstead (CK0329), Looking South.

Criterion D

The G. M. Bray House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Resource Name:	Stevens House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	003
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0030
Location:	802 NC Highway 343, Camden, NC 27921
Parcel ID:	038953033381530000
Dates(s) of Construction:	1854
Recommendation:	Eligible



Figure 30: Stevens House, Looking Southwest.

Setting

The house is located on the northeast side of NC Highway 343 and the southeast side of Beech Ridge Road on a 30.99-acre parcel and, aside from a one-acre parcel that was cut from the corner of the tract, the parcel fills the east quadrant of the intersection. The dwelling is oriented southwest toward the highway, from which it stands approximately 165 feet, near the center of a roughly one-acre domestic yard. Agricultural fields surround the yard, filling all but a roughly 3.5-acre swath at the east corner of the parcel, which is wooded. Across the highway is a row of trees that thinly buffer the property from a ca. 2000 neighborhood of tract homes. Though the aerial image provided by the Camden County GIS website shows a dirt or gravel driveway leading to the front of the dwelling, the lawn is now overgrown with grass and the

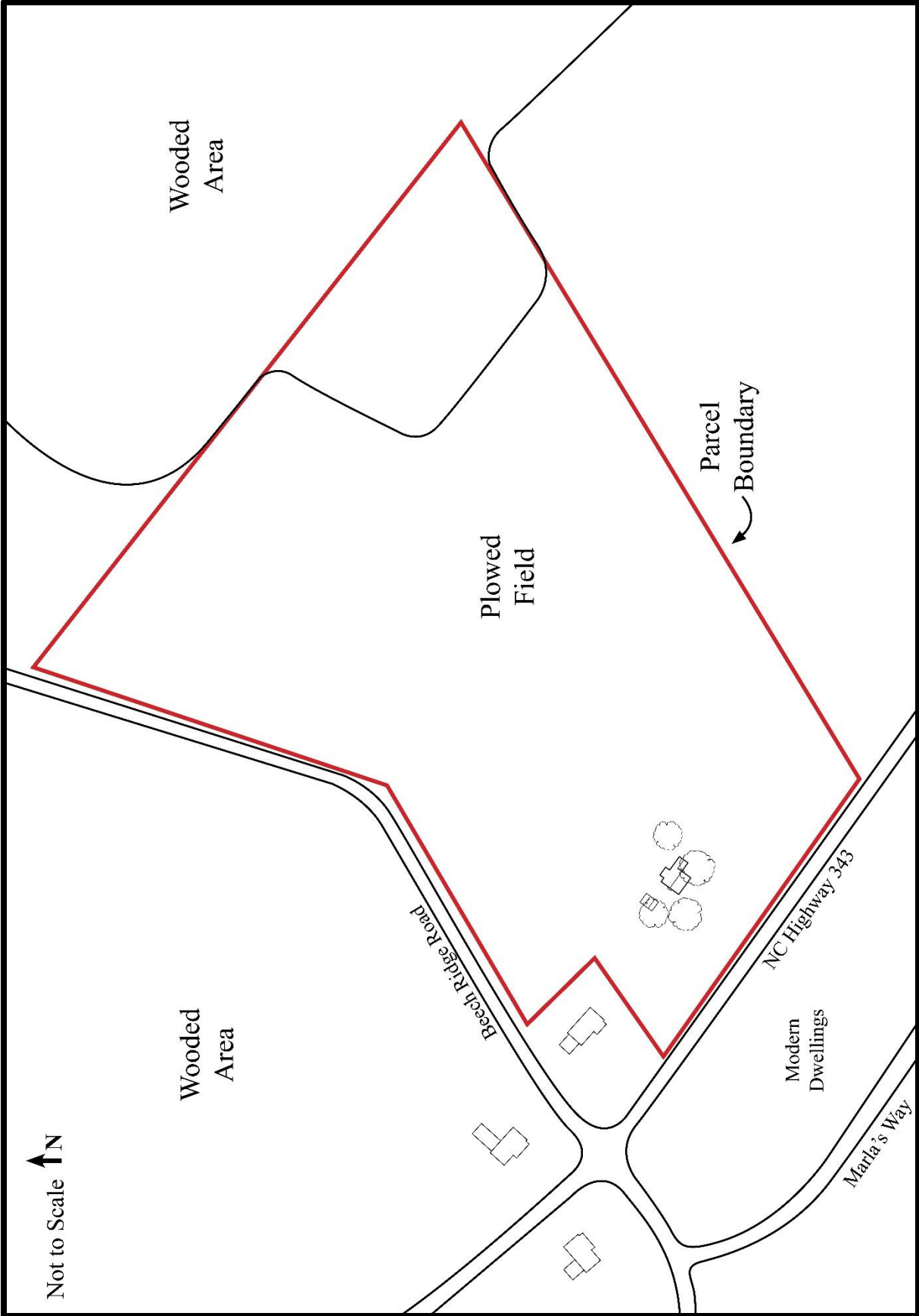


Figure 31: Sketch Map of the Stevens House.

driveway is only somewhat apparent at the edge of the road.³⁸ A variety of mature trees, including a very large tree near the south corner of the house, dot the domestic yard, and a shed, also surrounded by trees, exists along the western edge of the yard. At the rear of the dwelling is a small area surrounded by a picket fence, and there is a clothesline outside of the fenced area (Figure 31).

³⁸ Camden County Parcel Map.

Property Description

Original Dwelling

Exterior

The core of the dwelling is a one-and-one-half story, side-gabled structure with an integral porch and two brick gable-end chimneys. Small additions include a gabled side addition and a shed-roofed rear addition. The main section of the house appears to rest on brick piers infilled with concrete and is clad with wooden weatherboard siding and covered by an asphalt shingle roof. The integral porch is supported by tapered square columns and shelters a symmetrical façade with a modern entry door flanked by nine-over-six, wooden sash windows. The porch decking is simple boards and its ceiling is beadboard (Figure 30).

Though seamless from the exterior, the property's survey file indicates that when it was surveyed in 1975 the attic and roof framing was new and that the homeowner stated the house had once been two stories. This is substantiated by a ca. 1900 photo of the dwelling that shows a split pitch roof (Figure 32). The height of the house, however, does not seem to vary significantly from its current form suggesting that it has always been one-and-one-half stories, but the upper story may no longer be livable space. The survey file also shares that the tapered porch columns and rear shed porch were present at the time.³⁹



Figure 32: Late Nineteenth Century Photograph of Mary Matilda Stevens Godfrey with Her Husband, Thomas Burgess Godfrey, Daughter, Luna, Son, Will, and a Neighbor (to the Right) Standing in Front of the Stevens House (Photo Source: Bess Tillitt Godfrey Sawyer and William D. Godfrey).

³⁹ HPO Survey File, CM0030.

A side-gabled addition extends from the rear corner of the southeast (side) elevation. The portion of the main dwelling's elevation that is not concealed by the addition contains a nine-over-six, wooden sash window on the first story and two small two-over-two wooden sash windows on the second story. The upper windows flank the chimney stack which has a corbelled top and shows some signs of repair/reconstruction (Figure 33). The southwest (front) elevation of the addition has a small shed-roofed room that projects forward, concealing the base of the chimney, and contains mechanical equipment. It rests on a modern brick and concrete block foundation and appears to significantly post-date the rest of the dwelling. To its east is a six-over-six, wooden sash window (Figure 34). The southeast (side) elevation of the addition contains a centered six-over-six, wooden sash window. The addition also rests on a concrete block foundation that may have been added for stabilization (Figure 35).

The northeast (rear) elevation of the addition is seamless with the rear elevation of the dwelling. Both sections contain a six-over-six, wooden sash window to the east of a shed-roofed addition. The rear elevation of the addition contains an additional six-over-six, wooden sash window and a Craftsman-style door with six lights over panels, and one more six-over-six, wooden sash window lights the rear of the main block west of the addition (Figure 36). The side elevations of the addition are blind.



Figure 33: Stevens House, Looking North.



Figure 34: Stevens House, Looking Northeast.



Figure 35: Stevens House, Looking Northwest.



Figure 36: Stevens House, Looking Southwest.



Figure 37: Stevens House, Looking Southwest.

The northwest (side) elevation is divided by a partially parged end chimney, which is flanked by nine-over-six, wooden sash windows on the first story and small two-over-two, wooden sash windows on the second story. An additional six-over-six, wooden sash window is located north of the other windows on the first story (Figure 37).

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the house. Photos, however, were taken through unobstructed windows and revealed that some original materials remain, such as doors, while others have been removed or concealed, such as flooring and ceiling materials. Due to blinds and curtains, photos could only be taken of the additions and no views of the core of the dwelling were feasible (Figures 38 and 39). The HPO's survey file shares that when the property was surveyed in 1975 that the front rooms were finished with large flat panels with heavy applied molding.⁴⁰

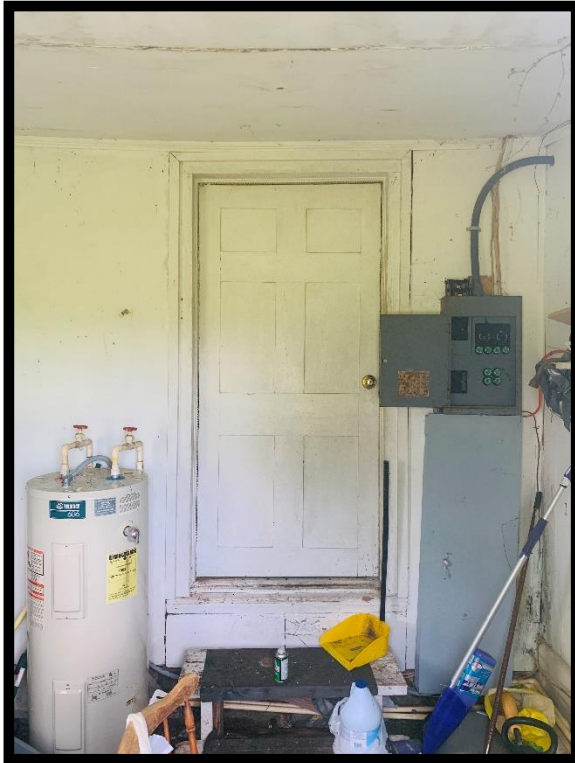


Figure 38: Stevens House, Interior of Rear Addition, Wooden Door.

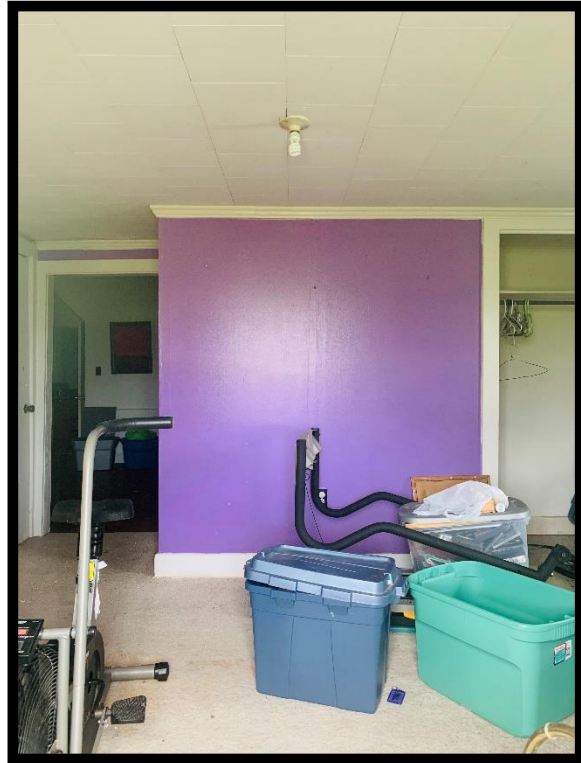


Figure 39: Stevens House, Interior of Side Addition, Modern Flooring and Ceiling Materials and Possible Dry Wall in Place of Plaster.

⁴⁰ HPO Survey File, CM0030.

Ancillary Buildings

A dilapidated shed stands east of the dwelling. It is frame with wooden weatherboard siding, a front-gabled asphalt shingle roof, a shed-roofed wing along the south elevation, and a board-and-batten door (Figures 40 and 41).



Figure 40: Stevens House, Shed, Looking Northwest.



Figure 41: Stevens House, Shed, Looking North.

Historical Background

One of the first owners of the property was John Roberts Gregory. Little is known about him except that he was born around 1795 in Camden County and died in 1838, also in Camden County. In 1834, he married Mary Bell Sawyer and in 1837, his only child, Sarah “Sally” Sawyer Gregory was born.⁴¹

In 1854 Sally married Noah Berry Stevens.⁴² According to their great-great-grandson, Carl Franklin Cannon, Jr., Sally inherited the homeplace from her father. Family lore asserts that the dwelling had fallen into poor condition and that Noah made various repairs after the deed was assigned to him. This information contradicts Camden County’s records for the property, which provide 1854, the year of their marriage, as the construction date for the dwelling. It is possible, however, that the date relates to Noah’s renovations. In 1865, Noah died of typhoid fever and pneumonia at the age of 35. He left a will that granted a lifetime interest in the property to Sally then to their children.⁴³

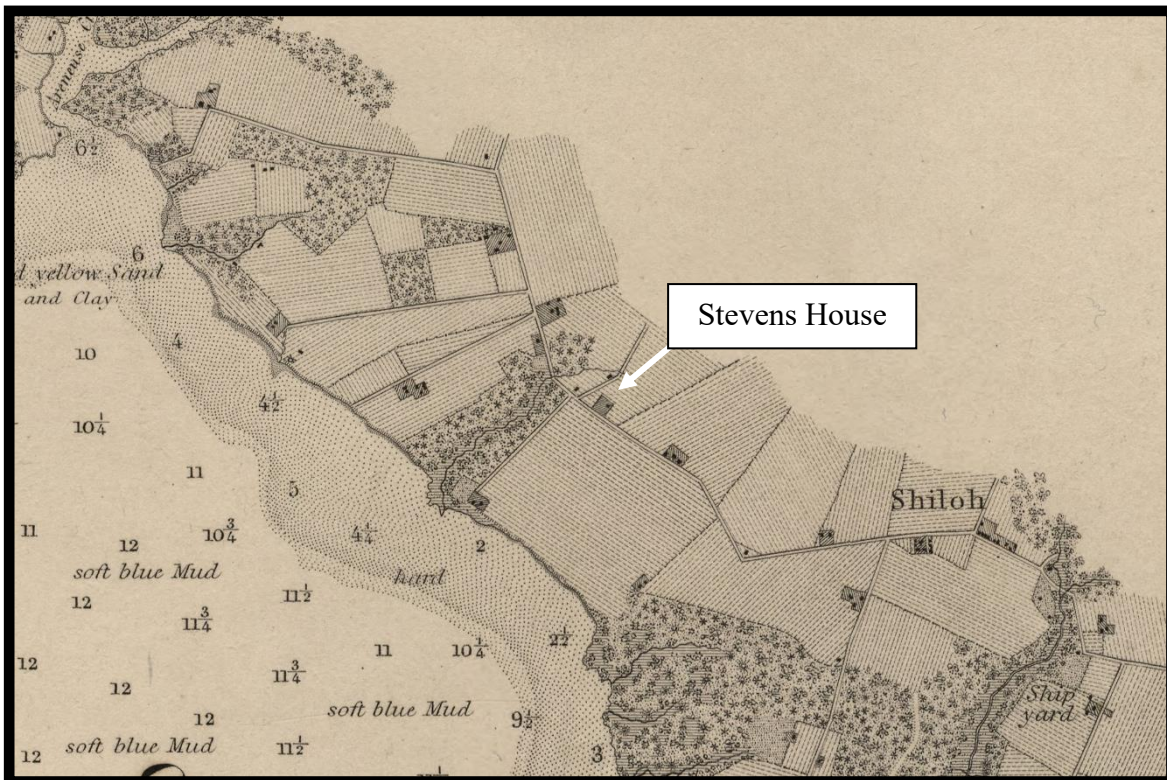


Figure 42: 1850 Map of the Pasquotank River Showing the Location of the Stevens House (North Carolina Maps).

⁴¹ Ancestry.com, “John Roberts Gregory,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/57525182/person/34026841737/facts>, accessed July 25, 2019.

⁴² Ancestry.com, “Noah Berry Stevens,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117251/person/6966331276/facts>, accessed July 12, 2019.

⁴³ Find A Grave, “Noah Berry Stevens,” <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/102463193/stev>, accessed July 12, 2019.

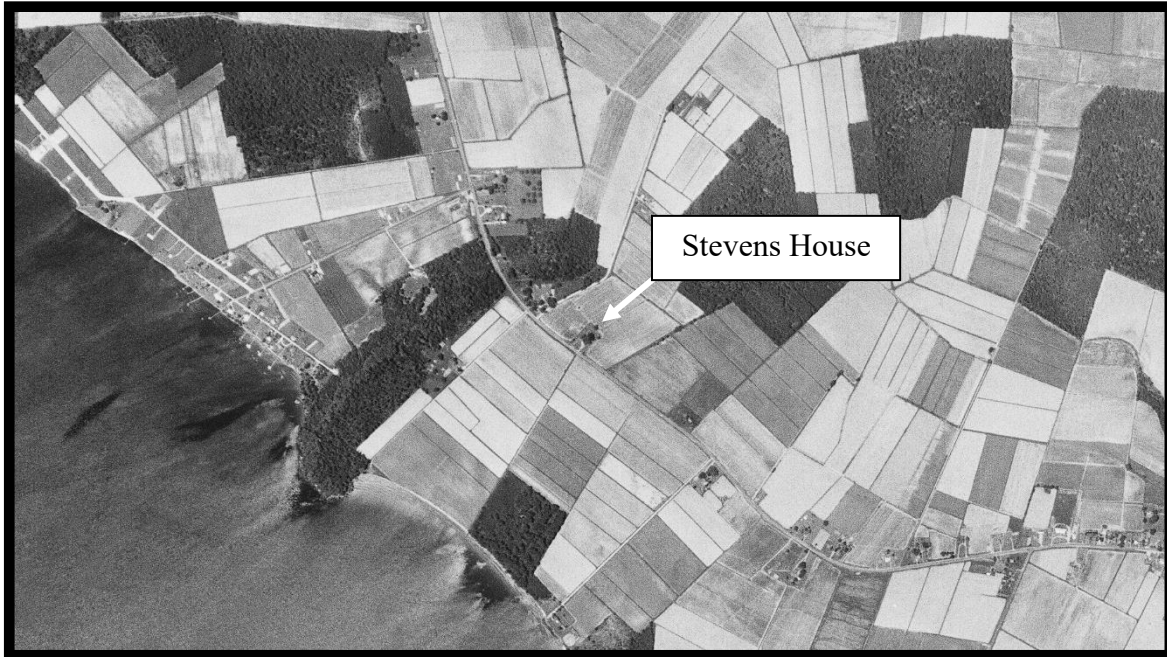


Figure 43: 1961 Aerial Showing the Stevens House and Associated Land (EarthExplorer).

The year after Noah's death, Sally married Enoch Sanderlin, who had previously lived with the family and helped on the farm, and they had five children in addition to those from Sally's first marriage.⁴⁴ However, per Noah's will, when Sally passed away in 1892 the homeplace was left only to his and her children.⁴⁵ It is unknown how the property was divided, except that the dwelling came into the ownership of Mary Matilda "Mamie" Stevens who had married Thomas Burgess Godfrey.⁴⁶ A ca. 1900 photo shows her family in front of the house. The photo shows that the side addition was once larger with an integral porch and a chimney. It also shows a small shed that may relate to the extant shed, and additional outbuildings (see Figure 32).

After Mamie's death in 1949, the property was inherited by her youngest son, Harry S. Godfrey. Harry retained the property for only a short time, selling it in May 1955 to Frank Burgess. The deed describes the property as containing roughly 27 acres of cleared land and 10 acres of woodland and states that it was devised to Harry through his mother's will. The deed also references a 1954 deed of trust which refers to the property as the "Noah Stevens Tract."⁴⁷

Frank retained the property for an even shorter period of time, selling it to his brother, Dempsey Burgess, the next month.⁴⁸ Though the property contains agricultural fields, Dempsey's death certificate lists him as a teacher at Camden County School and the 1940 Census lists him as a

⁴⁴ Ancestry.com, "Sarah Sawyer Sallie Gregory," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117251/person/6966481350/facts>, accessed July 12, 2019.

⁴⁵ Find A Gave, "Noah Berry Stevens."

⁴⁶ Ancestry.com, "Mary Matilda Mamie Stevens," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/117251/person/6966494150/facts>, accessed July 12, 2019.

⁴⁷ Ancestry.com, "Mary Matilda Mamie Stevens," Camden County Deed Book 35, page 399, and Camden County Deed Book 34, page 73.

⁴⁸ Camden County Deed Book 35, page 416.



Figure 44: Stevens House in 1975 (HPO Survey File, CM0030).

guide at the US Capitol.⁴⁹ Despite his professional career, it is possible that he farmed on the side or that Frank farmed the land and that that was reason he purchased the property then sold it to Dempsey. After Dempsey's death in 1974, the property passed to his wife, Selma Burgess, for the remainder of her life, then to their son, Dempsey Dennis Burgess, Sr., who is the current owner.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ Ancestry.com, "Dempsey Burgess Burgess," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/119011255/person/112018651242/facts>, accessed July 15, 2019.

⁵⁰ Camden County Property Records, PIN 03895303338153.

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Stevens House is recommended eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The dwelling remains in its original location and its immediate setting is still characterized by plowed fields, though a planned neighborhood does exist on the opposite side of the highway. The house retains a high level of historic integrity regarding design, materials, and workmanship due to the retention of its wooden weatherboard siding and windows and its brick chimneys. Its original double-slope roof, which better reflected the massing of a coastal cottage, has been replaced with a more typical roof with an unbroken slope, and its porch elements have been replaced with Craftsman-style posts. These alterations, however, have not greatly compromised the dwelling's feeling as a mid-nineteenth-century dwelling or its association with Camden County's nineteenth century agricultural industry.

Criterion A

The Stevens House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Stevens House is historically associated with general farming resulting in an expectation of crop storage facilities and agricultural fields. Though it is still surrounded by cultivated fields, the only ancillary building that remains is in a dilapidated state and appears to relate more to the dwelling than to the property's agricultural functions. Due to the loss of agricultural buildings, the property no longer conveys this association. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property is historically associated with the Gregory, Stevens and Godfrey families. Their productive lives, however, appear to have been spent maintaining the farm and research did not reveal their activities to be historically significant within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Stevens House is recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

The Stevens House displays the form of a Coastal Cottage with its integral full-width porch and small rear rooms. Constructed throughout the Coastal Plain region of North Carolina, the dwelling type was popular among middling farmers during much of the nineteenth century and is still observed on farms across Camden County.⁵¹ One example, though more altered than the Stevens House, is the ca. 1854 Charles Whitehurst House (CM0167).

Reportedly constructed the same year as the Stevens House, the Charles Whitehurst House is slightly smaller and has a single interior end chimney in comparison to the Stevens House's two exterior end chimneys (Figure 45). The house has been altered with asbestos siding added to its side (and likely rear) elevations, though it appears to retain its wooden sash windows, double-slope roof, and an early entry door. The house is located in the northern part of Camden County in a particularly agricultural area with only a handful of twentieth century dwellings in its vicinity. While both dwellings display alterations that were commonly made to nineteenth century dwellings during the twentieth century, they also stand out for being better preserved and more structurally sound than many of their observed contemporaries. The Stevens House also surpasses the integrity of the Charles Whitehurst House through the preservation of its wooden siding.

Though there are many one-and-a-half story dwellings listed in HPOWeb, there are only 61 "coastal cottages" listed in the state, none of which are located in Camden County. The Charles Whitehurst House, discussed above, along with the Stevens House represent two of the better preserved of the type in the county. An even more well-preserved example was identified in nearby Chowan County, the ca. 1810 Cullen and Elizabeth Jones House (CO0258, Figure 46). Listed on the NRHP, the dwelling began as a one-room log structure that predates the Stevens House by roughly 40 years. In the second quarter of the nineteenth century, it was enlarged, taking on a one-and-a-half story form with exterior end chimneys, a full-width porch and enclosed rear rooms that is very similar to the Stevens House. The dwelling underwent restoration in the early 2000s with the reconstruction of a chimney, the replication of original porch columns, and the removal of aluminum siding.

While the Stevens House falls short of the well-preserved state of the Cullen and Elizabeth Jones House, it far exceeds the altered and often deteriorated state of many of its Camden County contemporaries. Due to this, the dwelling remains as possibly the best preserved of its type in the county and as one of the few remaining examples of the housing constructed by middle-class farmers in the nineteenth century. For this reason, the Stevens House is recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

⁵¹ Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina*, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996.



Figure 45: Charles Whitehurst House (CM0167), Looking Southwest.



Figure 46: Cullen and Elizabeth Jones House (CO0258), Looking Northeast.

Criterion D

The Stevens House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

National Register Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Stevens House has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties. The boundary is drawn to include the dwelling, outbuilding and domestic yard, as well as the associated farmland (Figure 47). The boundary contains approximately 30.99 acres. The National Register boundary is identified as parcel 038953033381530000 (Camden County PIN).



Figure 47: NRHP Boundary.

Resource Name:	Berry House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	004
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0237
Location:	588 NC Highway 343, Camden, NC 27921
Parcel ID:	028944008189870000
Dates(s) of Construction:	Ca. 1885
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 49: Berry House, Looking North.

Setting

The Berry House is located on the northeast side of NC Highway 343 just east of an intersection with South Mill Dam Road. The dwelling is oriented toward the highway and stands approximately 100 feet from the road near the northwest edge of its one-acre parcel. There is no apparent driveway though a garage stands north of the dwelling and two sheds stand to its southeast. The parcel is bordered on the west and east by twentieth-century dwellings, constructed in 1991 and 1947, respectively.⁵² Along the northeast edge of these properties are agricultural fields that extend a significant distance from the dwellings. A ca. 2000 planned neighborhood exist on the southwest side of the highway and surround a roughly 100-acre plowed field south of South Mill Dam Road while other dwellings are scattered around and between fields north of the road (Figure 50).

⁵² Camden County Parcel Map.

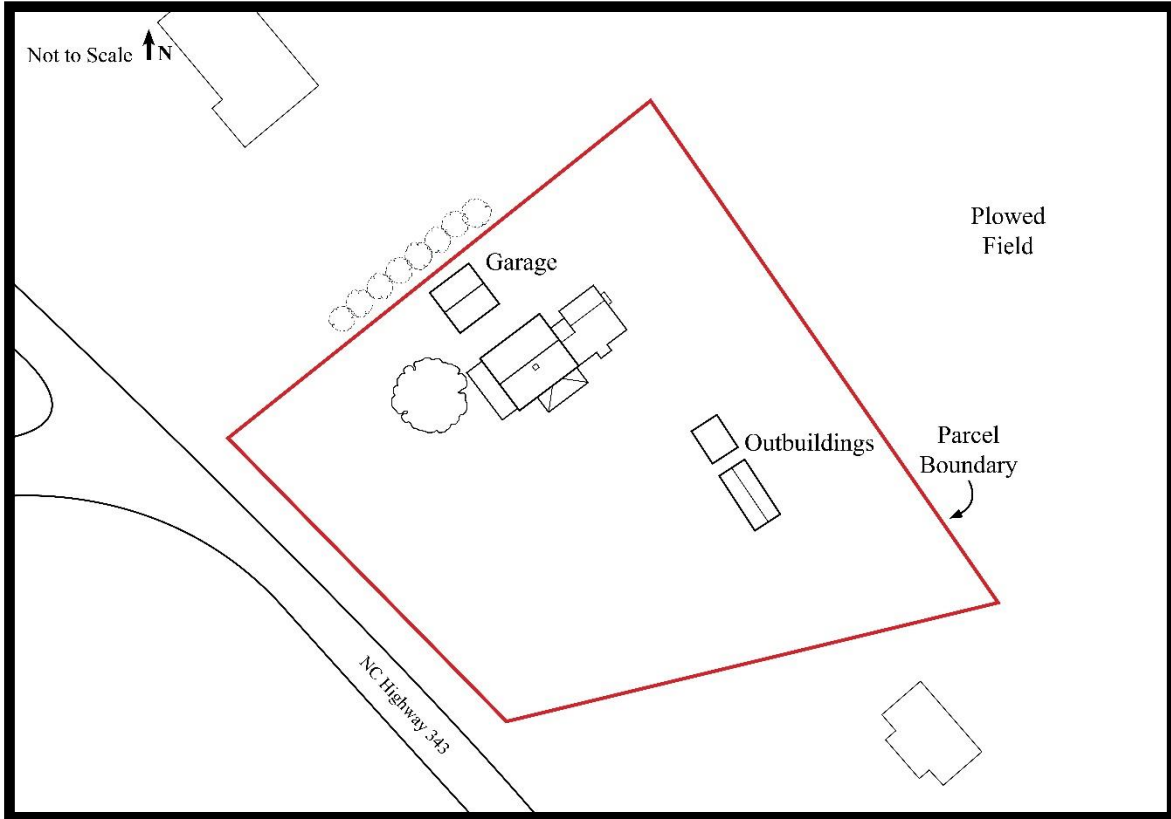


Figure 50: Sketch Map of the Berry House.

Property Description

Exterior

The house is a two-story vernacular dwelling with a brick pier foundation, asbestos over wooden siding, and a front-gabled asphalt shingle roof. It has a one-story, full-width, hip-roofed porch supported by plain wooden posts. The deck of the porch and steps, which are located at the west corner of the porch, appear to be newly constructed. There are decorative sawn brackets on the columns where the porch meets the house but not on any other columns. It is uncertain if these are original elements of the porch or if they were added later. The porch shelters an asymmetrical façade with a modern entry door to the west of two two-over-two, wooden sash windows with modern shutters. The portion of the façade that is below the porch is also clad with vinyl siding, unlike the rest of the dwelling. The second story of the façade is lit by three one-over-one, replacement sash windows that align with the apertures below and have modern shutters. A circular fanlight is centered on the gable and lights the attic. Cornice returns also adorn the gable (Figure 49).

The southeast (side) elevation was likely symmetrically arranged with two two-over-two, wooden sash windows on each story when the dwelling was constructed. Today, the lower right window is obscured by a one-story, hip-roofed addition clad with flush board and plywood (roof and elevations). The left windows are still visible while the upper right window is covered with plywood. Though the small addition is not lit on its southeast elevation, it does contain paired three-over-one, vertical-light, wooden sash windows on its southwest elevation. A brick interior chimney rises from the center of the dwelling near the roof's peak (Figure 51).



Figure 51: Berry House, Looking Northwest.

A gabled, one-story structure is attached to the northeast (rear) elevation of the dwelling by a hyphen. The structure likely began as a kitchen house with an integral porch, that has now been enclosed, along its southeast elevation. Today, this elevation, which is flush with the hyphen, contains plywood covered windows that flank a wooden entry door. The entry door has a large light over panels and is sheltered by a shed roof. The northeast elevation of the structure contains two windows to the east of a single-shouldered brick chimney with a replacement stack. The east most window is covered with plywood while the second window contains a two-over-two, horizontal-light, wooden sash window and an air conditioning unit. The northwest elevation of the kitchen house contains two evenly spaced two-over-two, horizontal-light, wooden sash windows. The northwest elevation of the hyphen is recessed and blind. A raised platform with mechanical equipment is nestled in the recess. While the hyphen is clad with vertical beadboard on the southeast side, it is clad with asbestos sheets on the northwest side and the kitchen house is clad with German siding on the southeast, northeast, and northwest elevations and plain weatherboard on the southwest elevation. The kitchen house rests on a foundation of brick piers infilled with concrete blocks (Figures 52 and 53).

The northeast (rear) elevation of the main block of the dwelling contains two boarded over windows along the second story and one two-over-two, wooden sash window in the lower right corner. It may have had an additional window or entry door in the lower left corner that was adapted as a connection point for the hyphen and kitchen house (Figure 53).



Figure 52: Berry House, Looking West.



Figure 53: Berry House, Looking South.



Figure 54: Berry House, Looking West.

The northwest (side) elevation of the main block contains four symmetrically placed windows. Three are covered with plywood while the upper left window is uncovered and contains a two-over-two, wooden sash (Figure 54).

Interior

The dwelling does not appear to be inhabited and attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful. However, the arrangement of the façade and placement of the chimney suggest that the dwelling has a side-hall plan. Photographs taken through windows show the original exterior wall of the kitchen house, a flush board wall and wooden doors, at least one of which appears to be original (Figures 55 and 56).

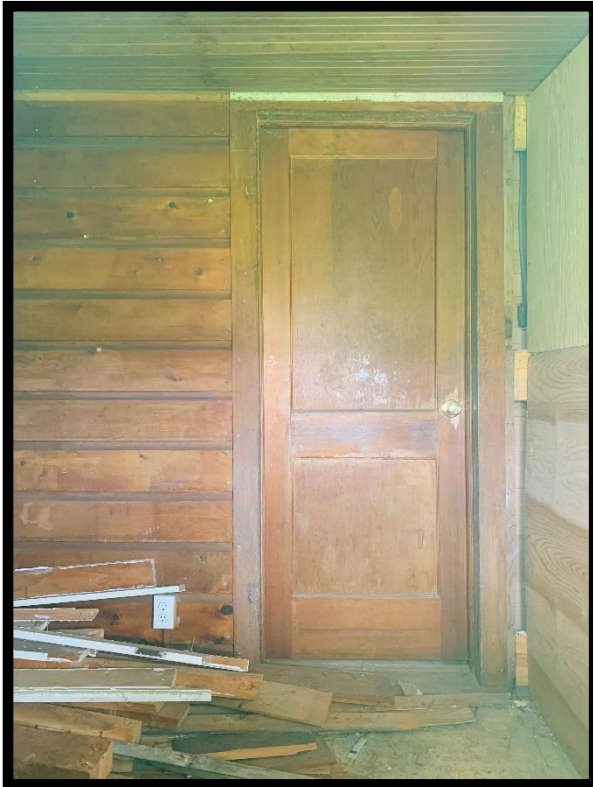


Figure 55: Berry House, Kitchen House, Looking Northwest.

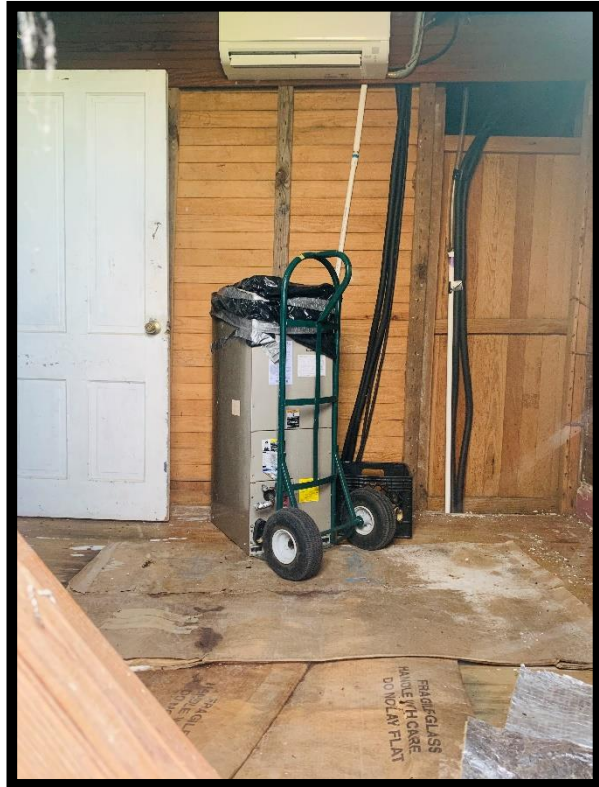


Figure 56: Berry House, Rear Room, Looking Southwest. Note possible original door on left.

Ancillary Buildings

Ancillary structures associated with the dwelling include a front-gabled garage that stands just west of the dwelling. The garage rests on a concrete block foundation, is clad with both vinyl and asbestos siding, and is covered by an asphalt shingle roof. Its front facade has a modern garage door flanked on the west by a modern entry door and its other elevations are blind (Figures 57 and 58).

East of the dwelling, near the parcel line and the edge of a plowed field, are two additional ancillary structures. The first has a sunken-in, asphalt shingled, shed roof and is clad with plain weatherboard siding. It has two entry doors on its southwest (front) elevation and is blind on its other elevations. The second is more modern, in much better condition, has a side-gabled asphalt shingle roof, and is clad with sheets of paneling. It is a long structure, and its southwest (front) elevation contains a double-leaf board and batten door entrance flanked by four-over-four, vinyl sash windows (Figures 59 and 60).



Figure 57: Berry House, Garage, Looking North.



Figure 58: Berry House, Garage, Looking South.



Figure 59: Berry House, Sheds, Looking East.



Figure 60: Berry House, Sheds, Looking West.

Historical Background

Though a complete chain of title could not be assembled for the studied parcel, it appears that it was once a part of the 45-acre tract to its east which is owned by the same three individuals who granted the property to its current owner.⁵³ These individuals – Ruth Perry McCulloch, Byron Perry, and Laura Lee Davenport Riddick – are the mother, uncle, and great aunt, respectively, of the current owner, Jamie McCulloch Sherrill. It is also unclear how they obtained the property, but it is reasonable to believe that Ruth and Byron inherited it from their mother, Elsie Davenport Perry, and that she and Laura Lee, her sister, inherited it from their mother, Ruth Berry Davenport.⁵⁴

A plat of the studied property provides additional information about the history of the parcel and the surrounding land by listing an estate file and a 1939 deed associated with the larger tract (Figure 61). The deed lists six of the seven children of George Loyall Berry and his wife, Gertrude Jones Sawyer Berry, including Ruth Berry Davenport, as grantors and their seventh child, Ray D. Berry, as grantee. Written the year after George's death, the deed pertains to the sale of a 59-acre tract and an 8-acre tract. The 59-acre tract appears to have been the parent tract of the studied parcel and 45-acre parcel while the 8-acre tract was located nearby.⁵⁵

The timing of the sale suggests that the children inherited the land from their father who was born in Camden County in 1860. George and Gertrude married in 1894 and according to the 1900 Census, George was employed as a farmer who owned a house and farm free and clear. The 1910 and 1920 Censuses share similar information and the 1910 Census indicates that they lived on Courthouse House Road, likely an early name for Highway 343, and likely at the studied property.⁵⁶ Though the property record provided by Camden County lists 1885 as the construction date, it is possible that the house was constructed around the time of their marriage and was their first home. Another unknown is how George and Gertrude obtained the property, but it is possible that they received it from family. This assumption is substantiated by a reference to the “lands of L. R. Sawyer heirs” in a deed for a nearby property, which suggests that Gertrude's family owned land in the area. It should be noted, however, that no direct connection between L. R. Sawyer and Gertrude was identified.

A few years after purchasing the land from his siblings, Ray married Mary Stevens White, a widow who also lived in Camden County. The couple does not appear to have had any children and research did not reveal any deeds that pertain to the parcel.⁵⁷ However, a 1988 deed for the property on the northwest side of the studied parcel, which was executed between Mary S.

⁵³ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028944009233210000.

⁵⁴ Miller Funeral Home, Obituaries, “Laura Lee Davenport Riddick,” https://www.millerfhc.com/obituaries/print?o_id=5273749, accessed July 3, 2019 and Camden County Deed Book 333, page 599.

⁵⁵ Camden County Deed Book 22, page 149.

⁵⁶ Ancestry.com, “George Loyall Berry,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/44244798660/facts>, accessed July 3, 2019.

⁵⁷ Ancestry.com, “Ray Dolby Berry,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/71746967/person/44244798664/facts>, accessed July 3, 2019.

Berry, unmarried, and Faye S. Leary, references the will of Ray Berry, suggesting that the parcel was inherited. The deed also includes a plat that shows Mary as the owner of the surrounding parcels (Figure 62).⁵⁸ It is somewhat unclear if Mary is Ray's wife, since she is listed as unmarried as opposed to being listed as a widow, but no other Mary could be identified as a close relative.

Having had no children of her own, it appears that Mary devised the land either to her sister-in-law, Ruth Berry Davenport, or directly to her nieces, Elsie Davenport Perry and Laura Lee Davenport Riddick, who then devised it to their descendants, including the current owner.

⁵⁸ Camden County Deed Book 89, page 131.

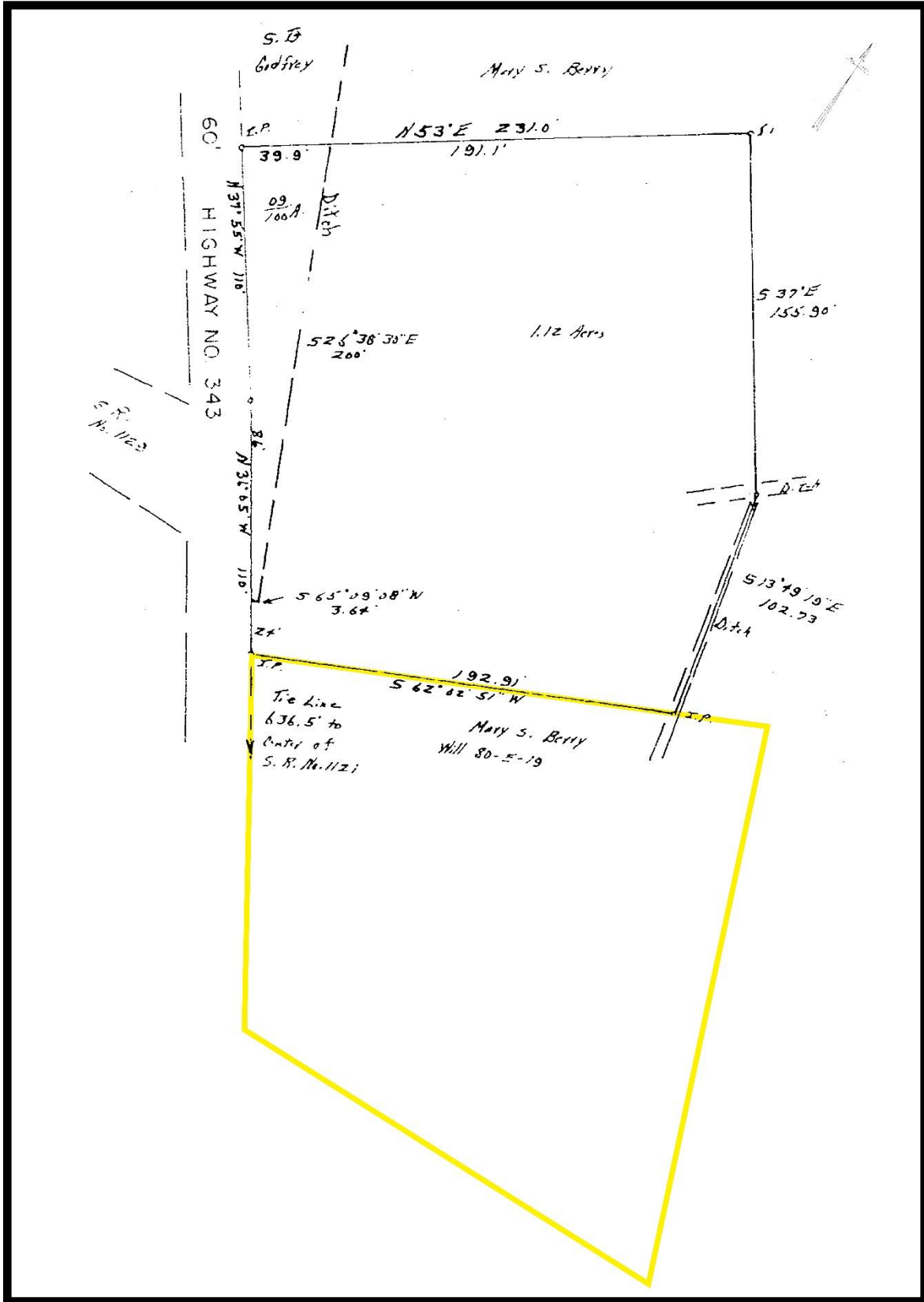


Figure 62: Cropped 1988 Plat of Faye Leary Property with Outline of the Berry Property Showing Mary S. Berry as Owner (Camden County Deed Book 89, Page 132).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Berry House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The dwelling remains in its original location within a setting that has been altered by the construction of both twentieth- and twenty-first century dwellings. Despite this, the property is still surrounded by large swaths of agricultural land hinting at its association with the nineteenth-century agricultural economy of Camden County. The parcel, however, has been separated from this land and though it has two small outbuildings, it does not retain any that appear to be associated with agricultural practices. As for the dwelling, it retains a moderate level of historic integrity regarding design, materials, and workmanship due to the covering of its wooden weatherboard siding with vinyl and asbestos siding, the replacement of some of its wooden sash windows, and the expansion of the dwelling with one historic and one non-historic section, which has negatively altered its overall massing. Though the core of the dwelling still conveys the feeling of a late-nineteenth century rural dwelling, it has been compromised by its own additions, including the small garage, the construction of twentieth-century and later dwellings, and its disassociation with the surrounding agricultural land.

Criterion A

The Berry House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Berry House is historically associated with general farming, resulting in an expectation of agricultural fields as well as crop storage facilities. Though the property is still sited in a very agricultural area, it has been parceled off from its agricultural fields and, aside from small more-domestic outbuildings, there do not appear to be any agricultural outbuildings in the vicinity. This contributes to a loss of historic integrity relating to the property's history as the center of a rural homestead. For this reason, the property is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property is historically associated with the Berry family, whose productive life was spent maintaining the family farm. Research did not reveal their activities to be historically significant within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

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

The two-story Berry House displays a somewhat atypical residential form for the nineteenth century with a front-gabled roof. In fact, only one dwelling in Camden County, that is not a gable and wing form, is denoted in HPOWeb as having a front gable. To some extent this low number is reflective of the low number of recorded resources in the county, only 230, as well as a lack of description for every resource. Despite this, the type is present in the county, but it is much less prevalent than the I-house, which dominated the nineteenth century, and two-story, gable-and-wing forms, which rose in popularity toward the end of the century as a part of the Queen Anne style. Additionally, the front-gabled dwellings that were observed were often found to be altered with aluminum or vinyl siding, new porches, and replacement windows, while many others were observed as being two bays wide differing from the Berry House's three-bay configuration.

The resource identified in HPOWeb is a ca. 1914 dwelling that is also located on NC Highway 343 and, though in better condition, exhibits an even lower level of architectural integrity than the Berry House with vinyl siding, replacement windows, and an enclosed porch (CM0208, Figure 63).⁵⁹ An additional front-gabled dwelling is located in the study area and included as a part of this report, the Nash Place (CM0238, Figure 64). This property also exhibits a low level of architectural integrity, though it does retain its wooden sash windows and a moderate to high level of interior elements.

A better example of the front-gabled form is the ca. 1826 Morgan House (PK0001) which is located in Perquimans County and was listed on the NRHP in 1972 (Figure 65).⁶⁰ Though the house is larger than the Berry House and exhibits a symmetrical façade with a pedimented entry porch, it is similar in its use of three bays and placement of a circular fanlight in the gable. Constructed in a period of transition between the Federal and Greek Revival styles, the Morgan House is also a more complete expression of popular nineteenth-century architectural styles. In addition to the application of architectural detail, the house retains a significant amount of original materials and workmanship through the retention of its wooden siding and window sashes, cornice details, and porches and is overall a much better representation of a NRHP-worthy property.

⁵⁹ HPOWeb, CM0208.

⁶⁰ HPOWeb, PK0001.



Figure 63: 922 NC Highway 343 (CM0208), Looking North.



Figure 64: Nash Place (CM0238), Looking North.



Figure 65: Morgan House, Looking North.

For these reasons, the Berry House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Berry House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Resource Name:	Nash Place or Hickory's
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	005
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0238
Location:	366 NC Highway 343, Camden, NC 27921
Parcel ID:	028944002451690000
Dates(s) of Construction:	1858
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 66: Nash Place, Looking North.

Setting

The house is located on the north side of Highway 343 and faces south toward the highway. It stands near the center of a 1.15-acre parcel, which was once the domestic yard of a roughly 100-acre farm, and its front elevation is approximately 90 feet from the road. A paved driveway extends north from near the southeast corner of the parcel and turns west to connect with a rear garage. Mature trees dot the yard in front of the house and a row of trees defines the western boundary of the parcel. Behind the house is a dilapidated shed and along the north boundary is a sturdier shed and a concrete pad that once served as the foundation for a metal silo. There are also some small overgrown garden beds in the northwest quadrant of the yard. The west, north, and east boundaries of the parcel are bordered by plowed fields. On the south side of the highway is a T-intersection with Sand Hills Road, which is also bordered by plowed fields (Figure 67).

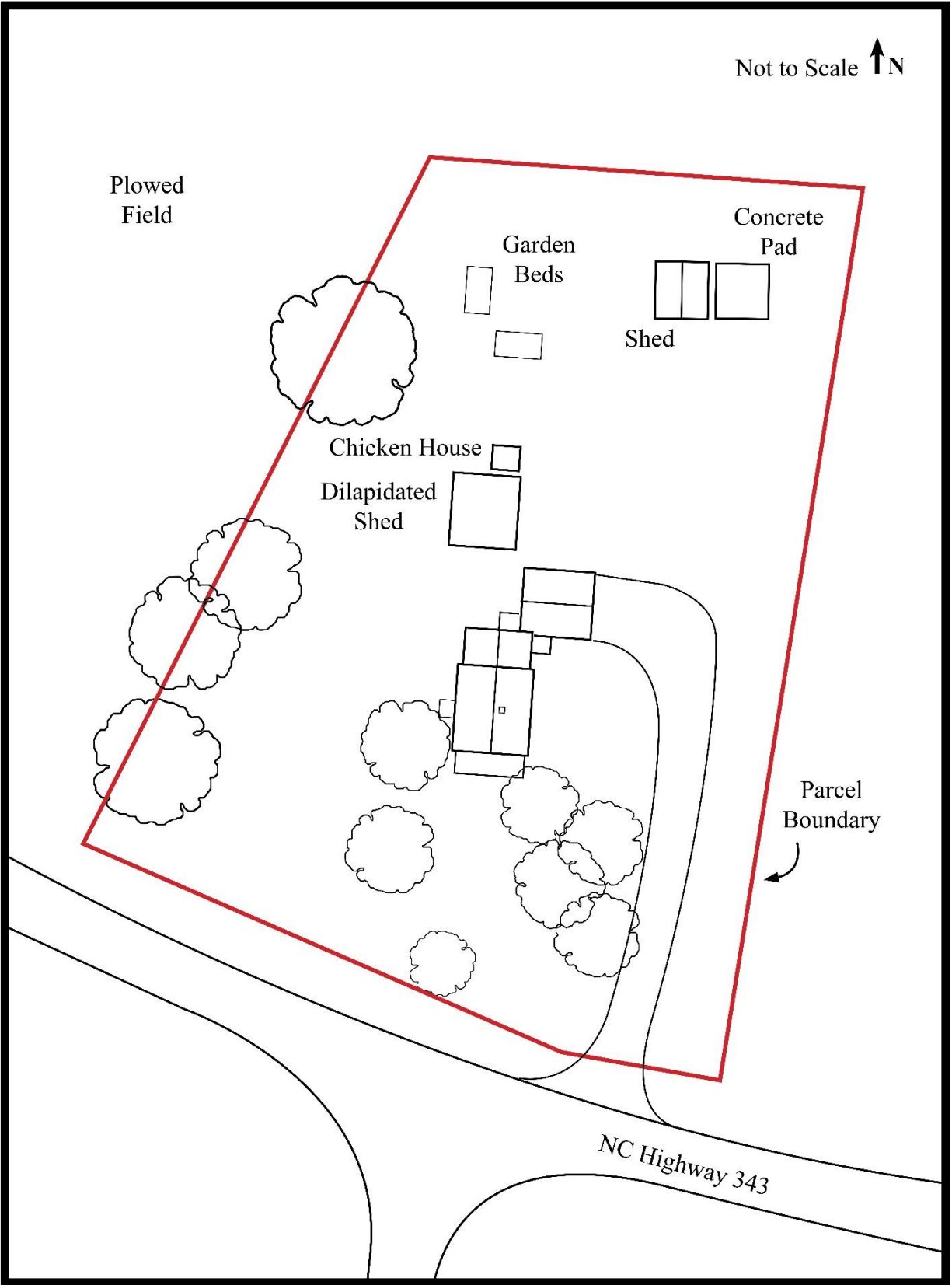


Figure 67: Sketch Map of the Nash Place.

Property Description

Exterior

The house is a two-story vernacular dwelling with a front-gabled, standing seam metal roof. It rests on a foundation of brick piers infilled with concrete blocks and according to its owner retains layers of wooden and asbestos siding below the exposed vinyl siding.⁶¹ The façade is composed of three bays, and a one-story, hip-roofed, enclosed porch spans the first story (Figure 66). Before being enclosed, the porch had decorative brackets, which the owners still possess (Figure 68). The façade of the porch contains a modern entry door flanked on the east by two two-over-two, horizontal-pane, wooden sash windows, which are typical of the dwelling. According to the owner, the windows date to when the dwelling was remodeled in the 1930s or 1940s. Above the porch are three evenly spaced windows, and an additional window, with only a one-over-one sash, lights the gable. The eave of the dwelling retains delicate sawnwork cornice and brackets below the gable peak and cornice returns (Figure 69). Along with the porch details, these elements suggest the dwelling once had a carpenter gothic aesthetic.

The west (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling has two evenly spaced windows on each story, and a small shed-roofed room or utility closet with a Craftsman-era door protrudes from between the lower windows. The eave is finished with the same details as the façade. A one-story, rear-gabled addition extends from the north (rear) elevation of the dwelling. It



Figure 68: Nash Place, Detail of Removed Porch Brackets.

⁶¹ Jimmy Varnadoe, interview with author, August 7, 2019.



Figure 69: Nash Place, Façade, Detail of Eave.



Figure 70: Nash Place, Looking Southeast.

contains a kitchen and was likely added during the early twentieth-century remodel as the windows reflect those elsewhere in the house. Two such windows light its west (side) elevation while a set of paired windows light its north (rear) elevation. The north elevation of the main block contains two windows on its second story, one to the east and one to the west of the one-story addition. A window with a one-over-one sash lights the gable as well. A one-story, gabled garage is attached to the northeast corner of the addition and a small concrete block, shed-roofed structure, that likely houses a water pump, is nestled in the corner of the two structures. The garage contains a modern entry door on its west elevation (Figure 70). The north elevation of the garage contains a centered boarded-over window and the east elevation contains two modern garage doors and a small one-over-one sash attic window (Figure 71).

The garage projects east of the kitchen addition creating a space for a small shed-roofed stoop. The stoop shelters two modern entry doors – one that accesses the garage and one that accesses the kitchen. The kitchen door is flanked on the south by a window. The east (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling contains two evenly spaced windows on each story (Figure 72).



Figure 71: Nash Place, Looking Southwest.



Figure 72: Nash Place, Looking West.

Interior

The homeowner shared that the dwelling was remodeled in the 1930s or 1940s and the original wall and ceiling materials were replaced with sheetrock. The chimney was also enclosed behind sheetrock and the mantels removed. A brick hearth remains in a second story bedroom. Despite the removal of some features, the interior woodwork, including flooring, doors, and a staircase, is still in place as is the original side-hall passage floor plan (Figures 73 and 74). The original windows were likely replaced with the current wooden windows during the 1930s or 1940s remodel, and the rear kitchen was likely added at this time or soon thereafter as well.⁶²

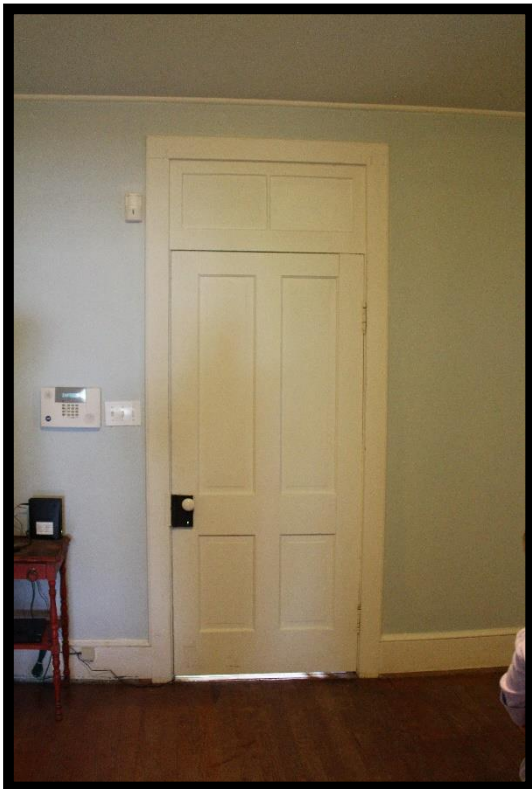


Figure 73: Nash Place, Interior, Front Door.

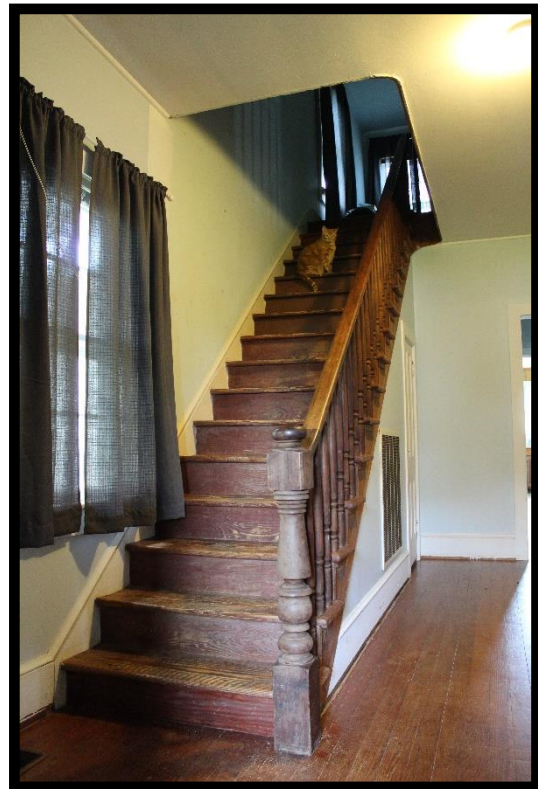


Figure 74: Nash Place, Interior, Staircase.

⁶² Varnadoe, interview.

Ancillary Buildings

Ancillary structures associated with the dwelling include a shed-roofed structure that is open on the east side and is clad with metal sheets. Its roof is collapsed at the rear and an overgrown chicken coop stands to its north (Figures 75 and 76). A front-gabled shed faces south toward the dwelling. It is also clad with metal sheets (siding and roof) and has a double-leaf particle board entry door with clipped corners. Next to the shed is a concrete pad that was occupied by a silo (Figures 77 and 78).



Figure 75: Nash Place, Shed, Looking Southwest.



Figure 76: Nash Place, Shed, Looking Northeast.



Figure 77: Nash Place, Shed, Looking Northeast.



Figure 78: Nash Place, Shed and Concrete Slab, Looking Southwest.

Historical Background

The dwelling is recorded as being constructed in 1858. However, little is known about its early existence, except that it was sold from a Mrs. Sarah Nash to Robert J. Williams sometime prior to his death in 1896, and was at that time known as the “Hickory’s” or “Nash Place.”⁶³

Robert J. Williams was a prominent farmer in Camden County and upon his death the property was left to his wife, Marena Williams, for life and in remainder to the children of their son, Patrick Henry Williams. Marena outlived Robert by twenty years dying in 1916. Following her death, the property appears to have stayed under Patrick’s control as his will references and reiterates the intentions of his father’s will.⁶⁴

Patrick, who is arguably the most noteworthy of the Williams family, was born in Camden County in 1869 and by 1900 entered the business realm of Elizabeth City, where he practiced as a lawyer and was also a director of the Frist National Bank, president of the Savings Bank and Trust Company, and secretary/treasurer of the Elizabeth City Hosiery Company. He married his first wife, Minnie White, around 1890 but she died one year later after giving birth to a daughter, also named Minnie.⁶⁵ In 1898, he married his second wife, Ella Kramer, and they had six children, including only one son who died before his second birthday. An undated newspaper post describes him as a large landowner in both Camden and Pasquotank Counties. In 1923, he was elected to the North Carolina Senate, where he served two terms. His obituary indicates that he served as assistant director of the budget under Governor Angus Wilton McLean and advocated for a bridge between Edenton and Windsor.⁶⁶

Though Patrick likely managed the farm, maybe renting the farmland and dwelling, censuses from 1900 through 1930 list him and his mother as living in Elizabeth City.⁶⁷ It is also possible that one of his daughters and son-in-laws lived on and tended the land.

In 1944, roughly nine years after his death, a deed was executed devising six shares of land to his six daughters – Ruth, Rachel, Minnie, Sara, Frances, and Helen (Figure 80).⁶⁸ The studied parcel was devised to Ruth, who by this time had married Thomas Hardy Rothrock and resided in Raleigh. Ruth remained in Raleigh until her death in 1969 suggesting that she and Thomas were also never residents of the dwelling. Though outlived by her husband the property was inherited by her three children – Thomas, Sarah, and Patrick.⁶⁹

⁶³ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028944002451690000 and Ancestry.com, “Patrick Henry Williams,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/108876527/person/370101052449/facts>, accessed July 8, 2019.

⁶⁴ Find A Grave, “Patrick Henry Williams,” <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/13772871>, accessed July 8, 2019, Ancestry.com, “Patrick Henry Williams,” and Ancestry.com, “Marena Torksey,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/108876527/person/370101053431/facts>, accessed July 8, 2019.

⁶⁵ Ancestry.com, “PH Williams Obit,” https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/tree/108876527/person/370101052449/media/e11ac722-1388-497b-8902-54236f7f1fc1?_phsrc=nec334&_phstart=successSource, accessed July 8, 2019.

⁶⁶ Ancestry.com, “Patrick Henry Williams,” Ancestry.com, “PH Williams Obit” and Find A Grave, “Patrick Henry Williams.”

⁶⁷ Ancestry.com, “Patrick Henry Williams.”

⁶⁸ Camden County Deed Book 25, page 512.

⁶⁹ Ancestry.com, “Ella Ruth Williams,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/108876527/person/370101052603/facts>, July 8, 2019 and Camden County Deed Book 55, page 492.

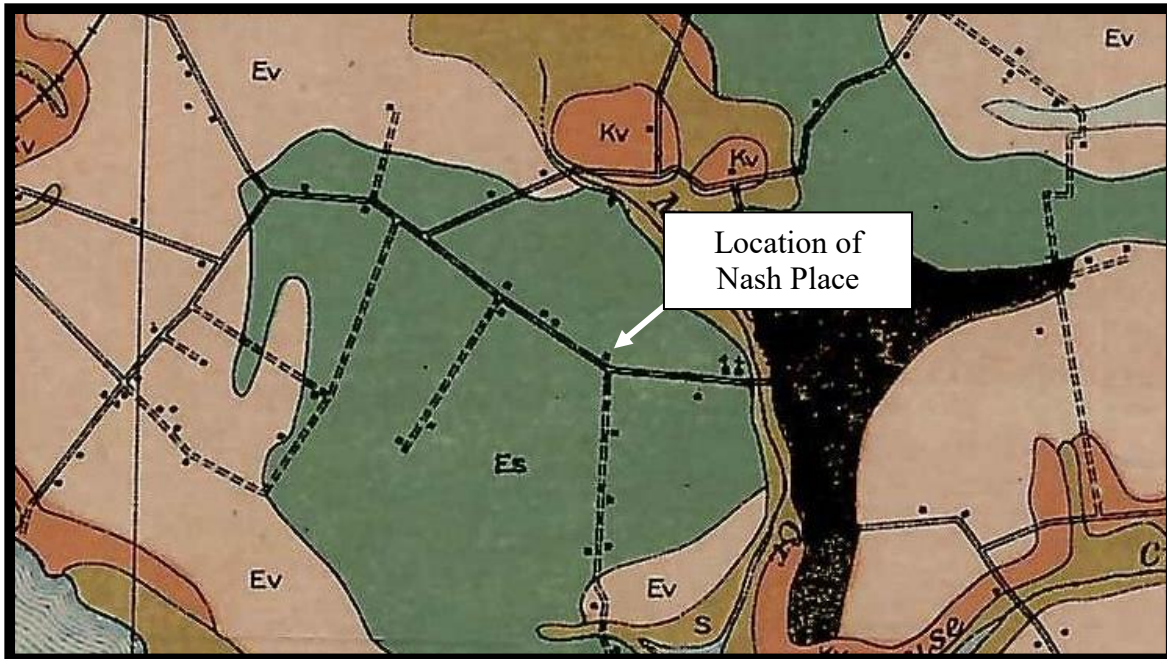


Figure 79: 1923 Camden County Soil Map Showing Location of the Nash Place (North Carolina Maps).

In 1972, they sold the 103.6-acre tract to Harry G. McPherson and his wife, Doris Turner McPherson. The deed reiterates the historic names of the “Hickory’s” and the “Nash Place” as well as demarcating the land as “Share 1” of the “P. M. Williams Division.”⁷⁰ On the same day, the McPherson’s sold the majority of the land, all but the 1.15-acre tract containing the dwelling, to Russell E. Twiford and O. C. Abbott (Figure 81).⁷¹ The current homeowner, Jimmy Varnadoe, shared that the McPherson’s were related to the previous owners, though he was not sure the connection, and that the McPherson’s had lived across the street in an eighteenth century dwelling that burned sometime before they purchased the studied dwelling.⁷²

The parcel containing the dwelling remained in the hands of the McPherson’s until their respective deaths, Harry’s in 2006 and Doris in 2011. Their obituaries describe them as a World War II veteran, farmer, and “state wildlife protector,” and a homemaker, respectively.⁷³ After Doris’s death, the property was inherited by their three children – Janet Clark, Vivian McPherson and Harry G. McPherson, Jr.⁷⁴ In 2013, Janet passed away as well and in early 2014 her siblings sold the property to the current owners, Jimmy Varnadoe, Jr. and his wife, Valenne.⁷⁵

⁷⁰ Camden County Deed Book 58, page 136.

⁷¹ Camden County Deed Book 58, page 139.

⁷² Varnadoe, interview.

⁷³ Legacy.com, “Harry McPherson Sr.,” <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dailyadvance/obituary.aspx?n=harry-mcpherson&pid=17262605>, accessed August 7, 2019 and Twiford Funeral Homes, “Doris McPherson,” <https://www.twifordfh.com/doris-mcpherson/>, accessed August 7, 2019.

⁷⁴ Camden County Deed Book 325, page 724.

⁷⁵ Legacy.com, “Janet M. Clark,” <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dailyadvance/obituary.aspx?n=janet-m-clark&pid=166581242>, accessed August 7, 2019 and Camden County Deed Book 325, page 724.

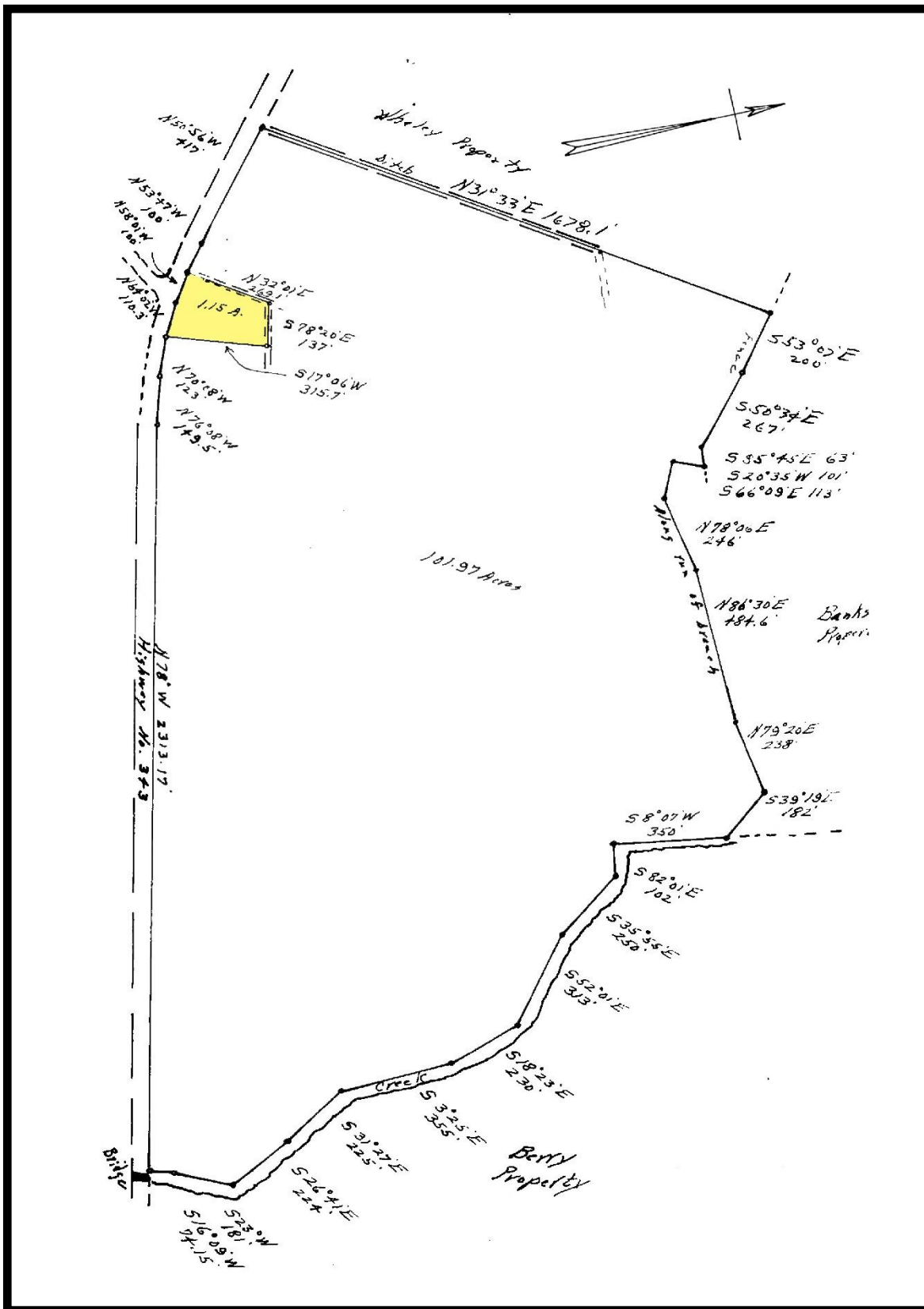


Figure 81: Cropped 1972 Plat of R. E. Twiford & O. C. Abbott Property with the McPherson Parcel Shaded (Camden County Deed Book 58, Page 139a).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Nash Place is not recommended eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The dwelling remains in its original location within an agricultural setting of plowed fields. It retains a moderate level of historic integrity including its sawnwork eave details, brackets, and wooden windows, that while not original are historic and represent the owner's attempts to update the dwelling, and interior features like its doors, baseboards, and floors. The eave details, in particular, hint at the dwelling's original design and still display the workmanship that went into its construction. While its vinyl siding and horizontal-pane windows lessen its feeling as a mid-nineteenth-century dwelling, its retained architectural details and nearly unaltered surroundings reaffirm its association with Camden County's nineteenth-century agricultural economy.

Criterion A

The Nash Place is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Nash Place is historically associated with general farming, resulting in an expectation of agricultural fields and crop storage facilities. Though these resources are still present on nearby parcels, including the parent tract of the studied parcel, the dwelling no longer serves as the center of the farm is no longer associated with the farming activities in the area. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

Though associated with Patrick Henry Williams, a two-term North Carolina Senator, research did not reveal the dwelling to be his residence or to be associated with his productive life, which was defined primarily by his involvement in politics and business. Other owners were not

discovered to have had a historically significant impact within local, state, or national historic contexts as well. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Nash Place is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

Though today the Nash Place presents as a vernacular/traditional-style dwelling, its massing and lightly applied details hint at the time period and popular aesthetics of when it was constructed. For example, its front-gabled, pediment-like form was most likely derived from the Greek Revival style, which served as the dominate style of architecture in the mid-nineteenth century, while its sawn details hint at the influence of the burgeoning Gothic Revival style, which became more prevalent during the second half of the century.

The front-gabled form is not uncommon in the area, appearing at two nearby properties (CM0208 and CM0237, Figures 63 and 49) as well as on properties throughout Camden and nearby counties. Many of the dwellings, however, particularly those in Camden County, exhibit low architectural integrity with replacement siding and windows and altered porches.

Resources identified outside of Camden County include the ca. 1900 J. W. Poyner House (CK0222, Figure 82) and the ca. 1890 Alonzo Riddick Winslow House (PQ0308, Figure 83). Despite being constructed nearly 50 years after the Nash Place, the dwellings present very similar three-bay facades with small windows or vents in their gables and entry doors placed to the side indicating side-hall plans. They also display the application of different architectural details such as the J. W. Poyner House's porch and the Alonzo Riddick Winslow House's shingled gable. Additionally, the houses display a higher level of material integrity through their retained wooden siding and porch details, though they do have replacement windows and could use some maintenance.

A resource identified in Currituck County that serves as a better example of a well-maintained, front-gabled dwelling with a three-bay façade is Culong (CK0006, Figure 84). Constructed in 1812, nearly 50 years before the Nash Place, for Thomas Cooper Ferebee, the house displays how the often high-style temple form could be adapted for rural dwellings. Though larger and statelier than the Nash Place, Culong exhibits little architectural flare beyond its pedimented entry porch supported by square posts. Nonetheless, its finely executed and well-preserved composition contribute to it being a better example of the rural, front-gabled dwelling than the Nash Place.

For these reasons, the Nash Place is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.



Figure 82: J. W. Poyner House (CK0222), Looking North.



Figure 83: Alonzo Riddick Winslow House (PQ0308), Looking Northwest.



Figure 84: Culong (CK0006), Looking North.

Criterion D

The Nash Place is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Resource Name:	Morrisette House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	006
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0021
Location:	290 NC Highway 343, Camden, NC 27921
Parcel ID:	02894400059525000
Dates(s) of Construction:	Ca. 1840
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Figure 85: Morrisette House, Looking Northeast.

Setting

The dwelling stands roughly 270 feet northeast of NC Highway 343 at the far edge of a domestic yard, which is surrounded by mature trees and faces southwest toward the highway. A driveway follows the eastern edge of the domestic yard leading to the side of the dwelling. The mature trees, including deciduous and evergreens, form a dense row along the northwestern edge of the yard while consuming a larger wooded area on the northeastern and southeastern edges. Plowed fields characterize the area to the west and north of the trees and a low-lying area follows the property’s southeastern boundary. The land on the southwest side of the highway is agricultural as well, aside from a ca. 2006 dwelling (Figure 86).

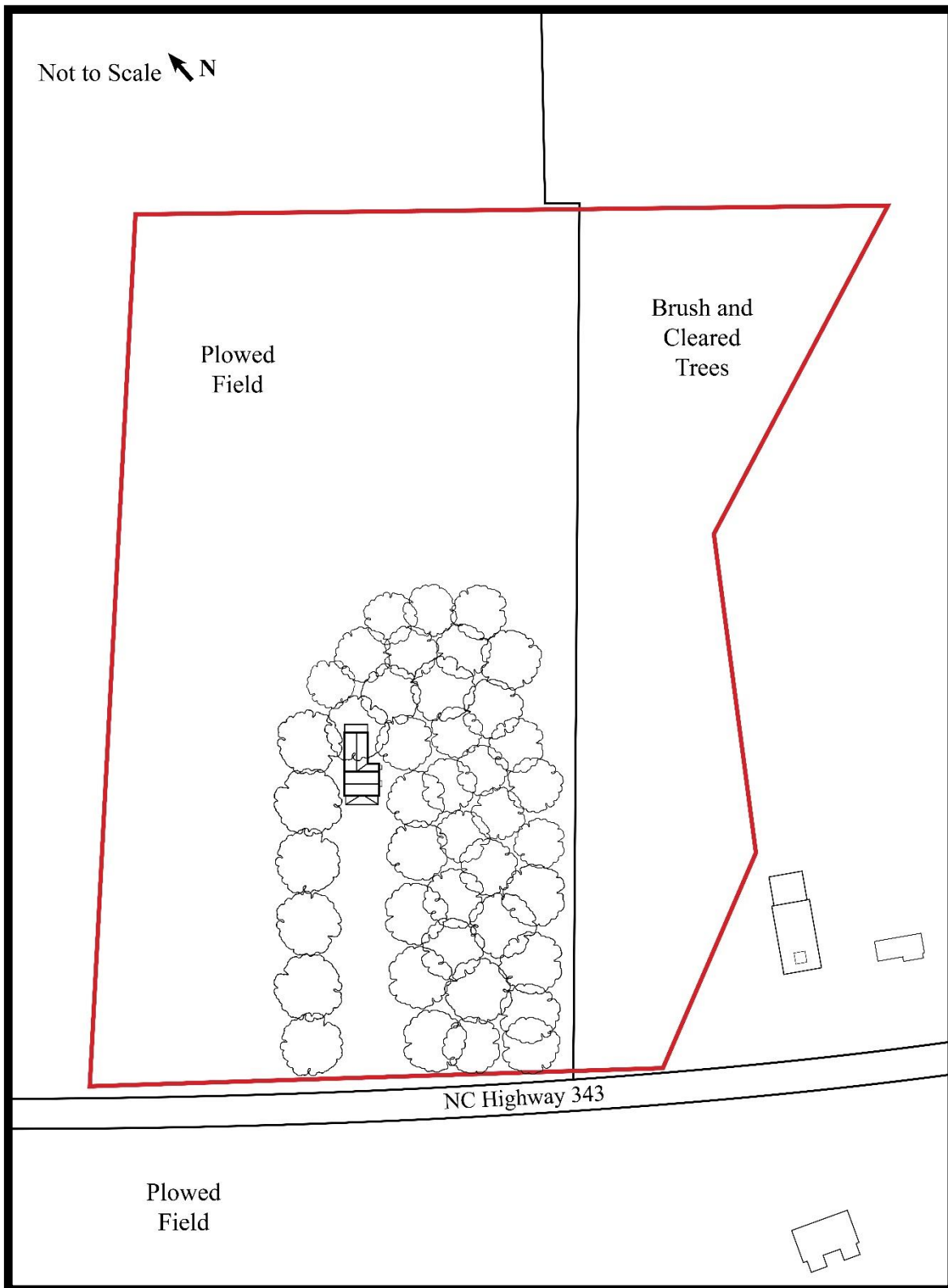


Figure 86: Sketch Map of Morrisette House.

Property Description

Exterior

The dwelling is an I-house clad with wooden shingles and sheltered by a standing seam metal roof. A one-story porch with an asphalt shingle hipped roof and Craftsman-style details, including tapered columns on brick pedestals, spans the elevation. The porch is screened with an entry door in the last bay to the west. According to the resource's survey file, the porch and shingles were likely added in the early twentieth century.⁷⁶ The application of shingles, however, became popular in the late nineteenth century around the same time as the Queen Anne style. The porch shelters an asymmetrical façade with a wooden entry door and transom flanked on the east by nine-over-six, wooden sash windows. Though the house is greatly unrestored, the ceiling and decking of the porch appear new. The shingles below the porch are also stained blue while those elsewhere show only faint signs of having been finished. Above the porch are three evenly spaced six-over-six, wooden sash windows (Figures 87 through 89).

The southeast (side) elevation is defined by two double-shouldered chimneys. The first heats the two-story, I-house portion of the dwelling, while the second, which is shorter, heats a shed-roofed rear section of the house. Both chimneys are laid with a common bond pattern, and according to the properties survey file, the rear chimney's stack was newly reconstructed when it was surveyed in 1969. The taller chimney is flanked on the first story by two slender six-over-



Figure 87: Morrisette House, Looking East.

⁷⁶ HPO Survey File, CM0021.



Figure 88: Morrisette House, Front Door.



Figure 89: Morrisette House, Front Windows.

four, wooden sash windows and on the second story by two four-over-four, wooden sash windows (Figures 90 and 91). A one-story, gabled wing extends from the northeast (rear) elevation. Its southeast (side) elevation contains a bank of four six-over-six, wooden sash windows to the south of a screened entry door. A small gabled addition appears to extend from the wing, but overgrown vegetation prevented further evaluation (Figure 92).

The northeast (rear) elevation of the main block contains a single six-over-six, wooden sash window on the rear of the shed-roofed section and three evenly spaced six-over-six, wooden sash windows on the second story (Figure 93).

The northwest (side) elevation of the I-house contains an off-center, nine-over-six, wooden sash window on the first story and a centered, six-over-six, wooden sash window on the second story (Figure 94). Only a portion of the wing, which is flush with the side of the I-house, was visible revealing a two-over-two, horizontal pane, wooden sash window (Figure 95). The rest is consumed with vegetation. Photos from 1969, however, show the elevation with individual and paired six-over-six, wooden sash windows and at least one two-over-two window (Figure 96).



Figure 90: Morrisette House, Looking North.



Figure 91: Morrisette House, Window Detail.



Figure 92: Morrisette House, Looking Northwest.



Figure 93: Morrisette House, Looking Southwest.

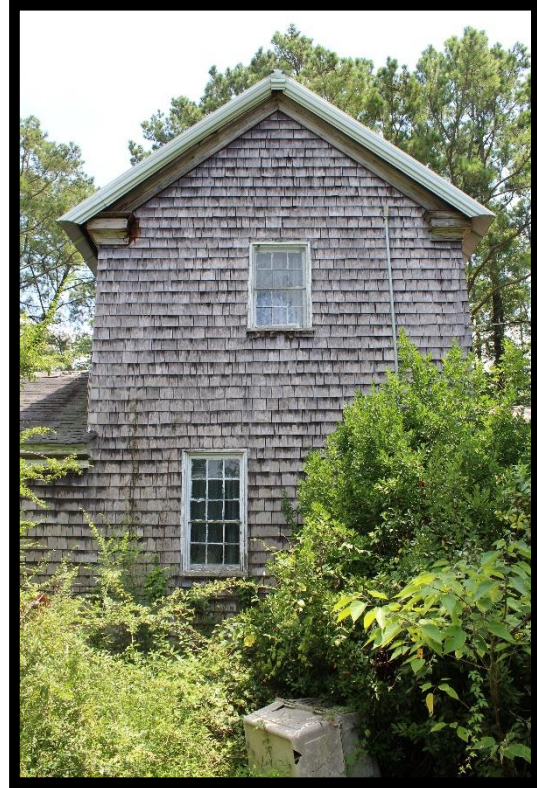


Figure 94: Morrisette House, Looking Southeast.



Figure 95: Morrisette House, Looking South.



Figure 96: Morrisette House, Northwest Elevation, Looking East and South, Respectively (HPO Survey File, CM0021.)

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the house. The arrangement of the façade and placement of the double-shouldered chimneys, however, suggest that the dwelling has a side-hall plan with heated rooms on the southeast side. The rear wings may also represent a kitchen house that was either moved closer to or connected to the main house at some point.

Ancillary Buildings

Any ancillary buildings were unidentifiable due to the overgrowth of vegetation around the dwelling. A 2008 aerial image shows some indication of structures east of the dwelling but their type and size are indecipherable (Figure 97).



Figure 97: 2008 Aerial of the Studied Property (Google Earth Pro).

Historical Background

The earliest deed pertaining to the property that could be found dates to January 8, 1870 and is between Marshall B. Hughes and William J. Morrisett, trustees of the county and state, and Phillip G. Morrisett. The deed shares that Phillip paid \$1,200 for the property and that it contained roughly 76.5 acres. It seems that William is Phillip's father though this relationship is not mentioned in the deed.⁷⁷

If the construction date provided in the property's survey file, ca. 1840, is correct, then the dwelling would have been around 30 years old when Phillip purchased it.⁷⁸ Because the deed lists William and Marshall as trustees, it is unclear who the property actually belonged to, but it seems that it belonged to someone in the Morrisett family. While it is unlikely that he was the owner, background research on William does provide some insight into the Morrisett family. In 1860, ten years before Phillip bought the property, his father was listed in the census as a merchant with real estate valued at \$13,350 and a personal estate valued at \$12,350. These numbers dwarf the highest numbers shown for other persons on the same census page.⁷⁹

Little could be found about Phillip's productive life, but his will devises his land first to his wife, Mollie C. Morrisett, for the remainder of her life, then equally to his son, E. G. Morrisett, and grandson, Willie J. Morrisett.⁸⁰

Eventually, the land passed solely into the ownership of Willie who, along with his wife, Minnie S. Morrisette, sold the property in 1918 to Lula Stevens, the wife of P. W. Stevens. The transaction was made at a cost of \$4,000 and the deed stipulates that the Morrisettes retained possession of the property until January 1, 1919.⁸¹ At the time, Willie was 24 years old and had been married for almost six years. His WWI draft card shares that he was self-employed as a farmer and that his dependents included his wife, mother, and two children.⁸² It should also be noted that until this point, Morrisette was spelled without the final "e" but from here forward, the family used the slightly longer spelling.

Lula retained the property until 1933 when she sold it to Bailey H. Cartwright for \$2,600. Interestingly, though the size of the parcel, 76.5 acres, had not changed since Phillip purchased it in 1870, Lula sold the property for much less than she purchased it for in 1918. This could be a result of the ongoing Great Depression or another event that reduced the value of the property.⁸³ It is also possible that the house had fallen into disrepair resulting in the lower price and encouraging the new owners to remodel with the Craftsman-style porch and shingles.

⁷⁷ Camden County Deed Book CC, page 518 and Ancestry.com, "William Jones Morrisette," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/9819890/person/6054555304/facts>, accessed August 6, 2019.

⁷⁸ HPO Survey File, CM0021.

⁷⁹ United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, *Eighth Census of the United States* (Washington, District of Columbia: Bureau of Census, 1860).

⁸⁰ Ancestry.com, "Phillip Gregory Morrisette," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/9819890/person/24663660768/facts>, accessed August 6, 2019.

⁸¹ Camden County Deed Book 10, page 571.

⁸² Ancestry.com, "William Jones Morrisette III," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/9819890/person/200182547528/facts>, accessed August 6, 2019.

⁸³ Camden County Deed Book 17, page 280.

After the death of Bailey and his wife, Molly, in 1952 and 1963, respectively, the property came into the ownership of their son, Melvin Lin Cartwright. In 1994, Melvin and his wife, Brenda, sold ten acres of the parcel to Mark Cartwright, the current owner. Mark is likely related to

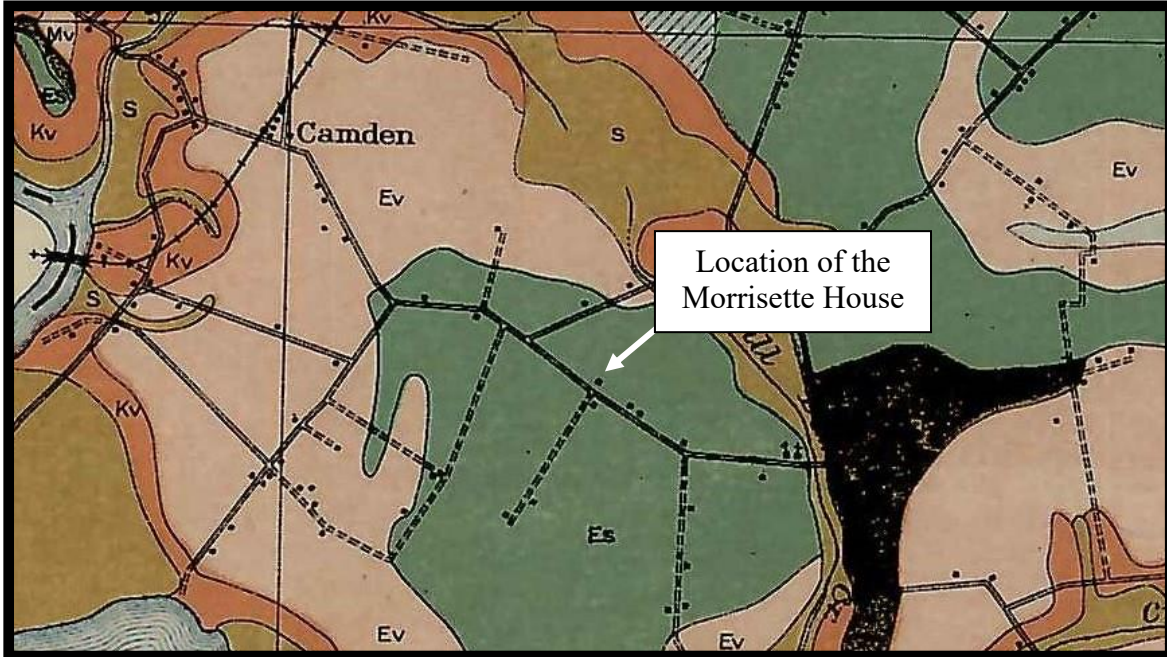


Figure 98: 1923 Camden County Soil Map Showing Location of the Morrisette House (North Carolina Maps).



Figure 99: 1993 Aerial of the Studied Property (Google Earth Pro).

Melvin and Brenda, but their relationship is unknown.⁸⁴ At the time, the majority of the parcel was characterized by plowed fields and woodlands but in the early 2000s it was divided into roughly 10-acre lots (Figures 99 through 101).

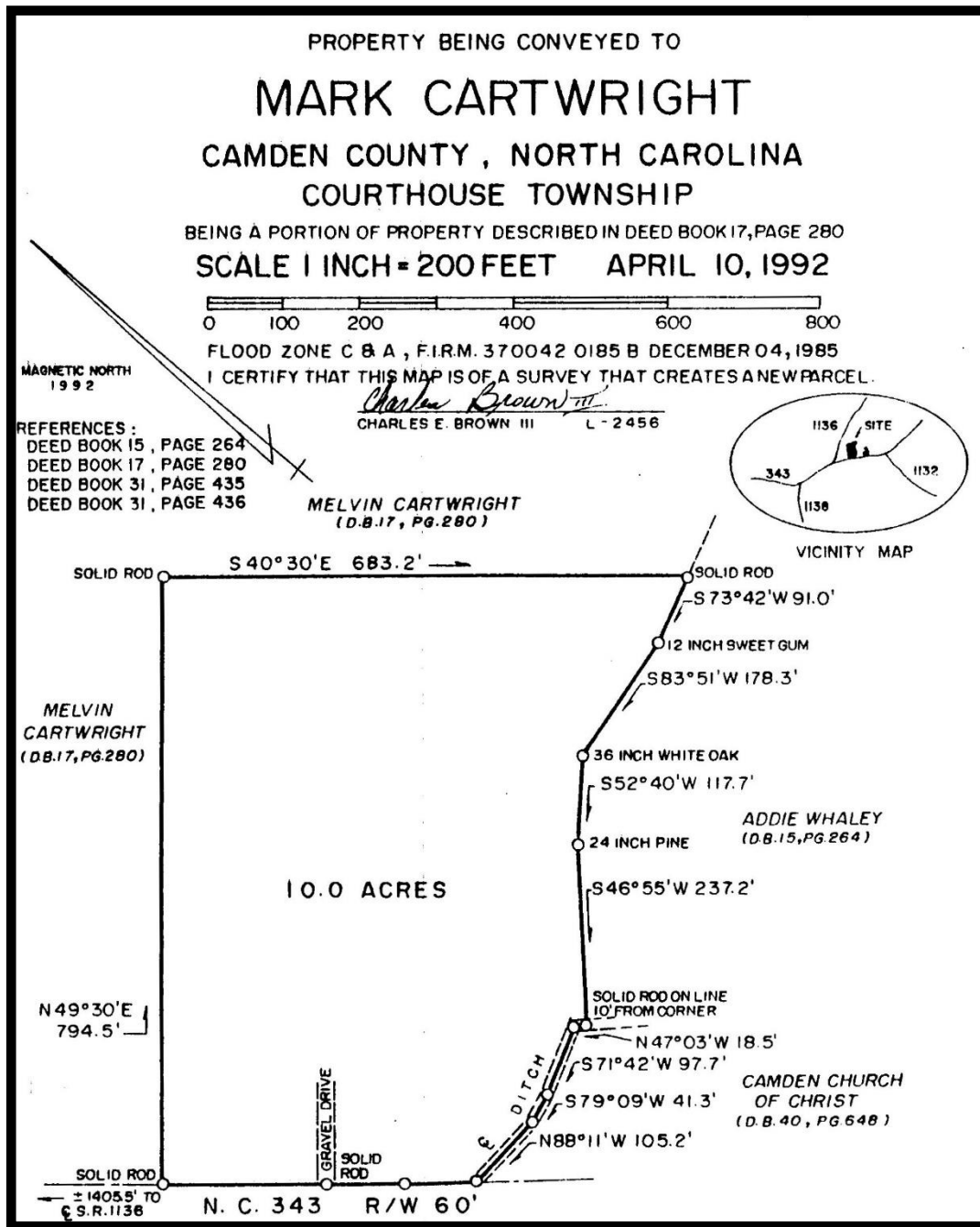


Figure 100: 1994 Plat of Property Being Conveyed to Mark Cartwright (Camden County Deed Book 105, Page 898).

⁸⁴ Ancestry.com, "Bailey Harrell Cartwright," <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/102712835/person/350081256707/facts>, accessed August 6, 2019 and Camden County Deed Book 105, page 896.

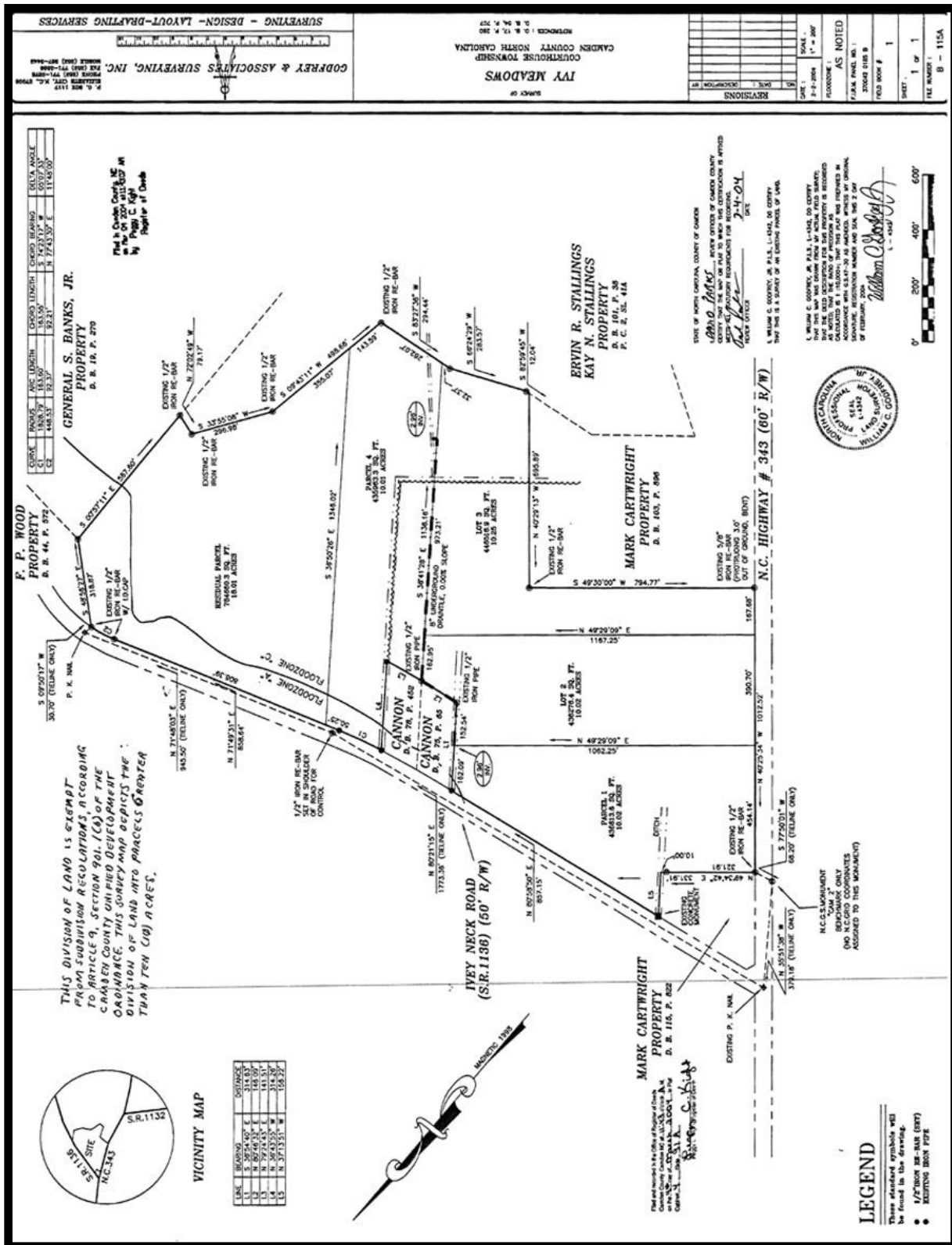


Figure 101: Plat of Cartwright Property as Ivy Meadows (Camden County Plat Book 4, Page 91a).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Morrisette House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The dwelling remains in its original location and though still surrounded primarily by plowed fields and wooded areas, its domestic yard has not been maintained and has greatly encroached on the dwelling. This occurrence leads to the dwelling appearing to exist in a forested area as opposed to a rural one. The house retains a high level of historic integrity regarding design, materials, and workmanship, though some of these elements pertain more to early twentieth-century changes. Nonetheless, the dwelling still conveys the feeling of a nineteenth or early twentieth-century dwelling through its I-house form and retained materials. However, due to the mature trees, which visually separate it from the surrounding plowed fields, and the development of some of this land for residential use in the early twenty-first century, the property's association with Camden County's early agricultural economy has been compromised.

Criterion A

The Morrisette House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Morrisette House is historically associated with general farming resulting in an expectation of crop storage facilities and agricultural fields. While agricultural fields still surround the domestic yard, there do not appear to be any remaining outbuildings. Furthermore, some of the acreage originally associated with the property has been developed into large parcels that are now characterized by residences and mowed lawns. The effect is a loss of historic integrity relating to setting and design of a farm complex. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property is historically associated with the Morrisette, Stevens, and Cartwright families. It appears, however, that their productive lives were spent maintaining the family farm. Research

did not reveal their activities to be historically significant within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

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

The Morrisette House displays the I-House form, which was popular during most of the nineteenth century, and still retains many nine-over-six wooden sash windows, which are suggestive of an early nineteenth century construction date. The dwelling's wooden shingles, however, are an unusual sheathing choice for this time period indicating that it may have been remodeled in the late-nineteenth or early twentieth century when the Queen Anne and Shingle styles were popular. The dwelling also stands out from other I-houses for being narrower. This characteristic is likely a product of its side-hall plan.

A very similarly scaled and well-preserved example of the form is the ca. 1830 Alfred Moore Gatlin House (CM0072, Figure 103). Like the Morrisette House, its entry door is placed in the first bay from the left and sheltered by a full-width porch. In the case of the Alfred Moore Gatlin House, the porch wraps the left side of the house as well, and like the Morrisette House it appears that it may have been replaced, reflecting the classical revival motifs that were popularized in the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Though the house is situated a considerable distance from the road, making it difficult to ascertain its materials, Camden County property records state that it retains its wooden lap siding and that its interiors are still characterized by plaster walls and pine floors.⁸⁵ A small collection of historic outbuildings is also present behind the dwelling, harkening to its original function as the center of a rural farmstead. These features, along with its well-maintained state and the retention of its original exterior cladding, contribute to the Alfred Moore Gatlin House as a better example of a rural I-house with a side-hall plan.

Other well-preserved I-houses with side-hall and center-hall plans were observed in the urban and rural sections of nearby counties. Most of these post-date the Morrisette House, displaying how the form continued to dominate the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Some of the best preserved of these include a ca. 1905 Colonial Revival-style dwelling, the Hinton-Pailin House (PK0038, Figure 104), in Elizabeth City and the ca. 1940 Thomas Lee Nixon Family House (CO0805, Figure 105).⁸⁶ Though representative of different eras, these houses stand as better examples of the popular dwelling type's original articulation, particularly in regard to design, materials, and workmanship as well as their respective settings.

⁸⁵ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028934025565200000.

⁸⁶ Pasquotank County Property Card, PIN 891308795794, <http://67.239.148.135/taxcard/taxcard.cfm?PP2=70961>, accessed August 21, 2019 and Chowan County Property Card, PIN 688900466946, <http://taxonline.chowancounty.nc.email/itspubliccw/AppraisalCard.aspx?id=688900466946>, accessed August 21, 2019.



Figure 102: Alfred Moore Gatlin House (CM0072), Looking Southwest.



Figure 103: Hinton-Pailin House (PK0038), Looking North.



Figure 104: Thomas Lee Nixon Family House (CO0805), Looking Southwest.

For these reasons, the Morrisette House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Morrisette House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

Resource Name:	Hughes-Williams House
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	007
HPO Survey Site Number:	CM0191
Location:	285 NC Highway 343, Camden, NC 27921
Parcel ID:	028934048379990000
Dates(s) of Construction:	1843
Recommendation:	Not Eligible



Hughes-Williams House, Looking South.

Setting

The house is located on the southwest side of NC Highway 343 just south of a T-intersection with Ivy Neck Road. The house is oriented northeast toward the highway, from which it stands approximately 230 feet. Across the highway is an open field. A dirt driveway leads from the highway past the west elevation of the dwelling to a barn on an adjoining parcel. Near the property line, the driveway turns northwest then northeast around a barn on the studied property, past the west elevation of a ca. 1964 dwelling on the studied property, and on to the highway. The driveway essentially divides the roughly two-acre parcel in two, with the southeast half containing the Hughes-Williams House and the northwest half containing the ca. 1964 dwelling and barn. The domestic yard of the Hughes-Williams House is dotted by a few mature trees and some landscaping (Figure 106).

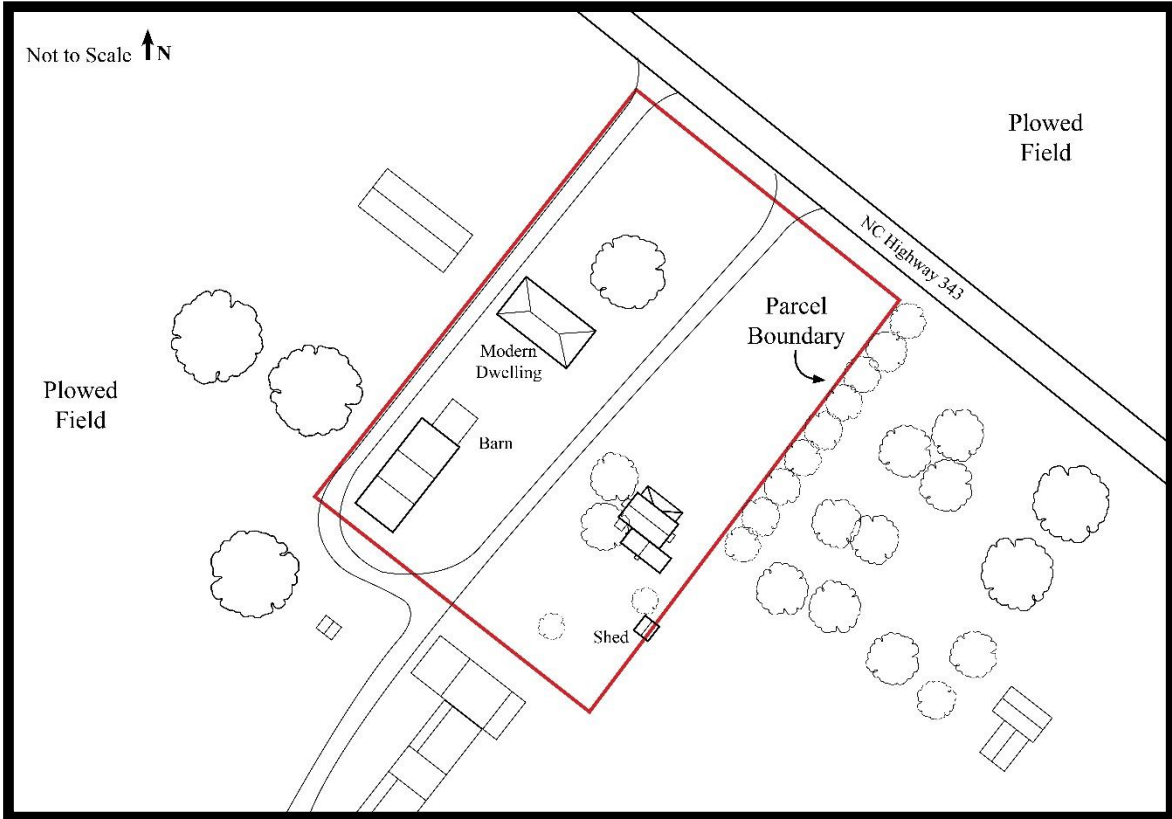


Figure 106: Sketch Map of the Hughes-Williams House.

Property Description

Exterior

The dwelling is an I-house with a brick pier and concrete block infill foundation, vinyl siding, and an asphalt shingle roof. It has a three-bay façade with an off-center entry door. The entry door has four lights over panels and is topped by a linear three-light transom (Figure 108). It is flanked by nine-over-six wooden sash windows and sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by thin chamfered posts. Above the porch are three six-over-six wooden sash windows (Figures 107 and 109). Unless otherwise noted, all first story windows have nine-over-six wooden sashes and all second story windows have six-over-six wooden sashes.

The northwest (side) elevation contains a single-shouldered brick chimney laid in common bond and flanked by two windows on the first story and two windows on the second story. A small four-light window, also with a wooden sash, exists to the north of the chimney and lights the attic. A gabled, one-story wing projects from the southwest (rear) elevation of the dwelling. Its northwest (side) elevation is divided into two bays, one of which projects forward and contains a two-over-two vinyl sash window, while the second bay contains a four-over-four vinyl sash window. A small shed-roofed section, that likely houses a pump or accesses a basement, is located in the corner created by the main block and wing. It is composed of concrete block and wooden shingles (Figure 110).



Figure 107: Hughes-Williams House, Looking Southwest.



Figure 108: Hughes-Williams House, Front Door.

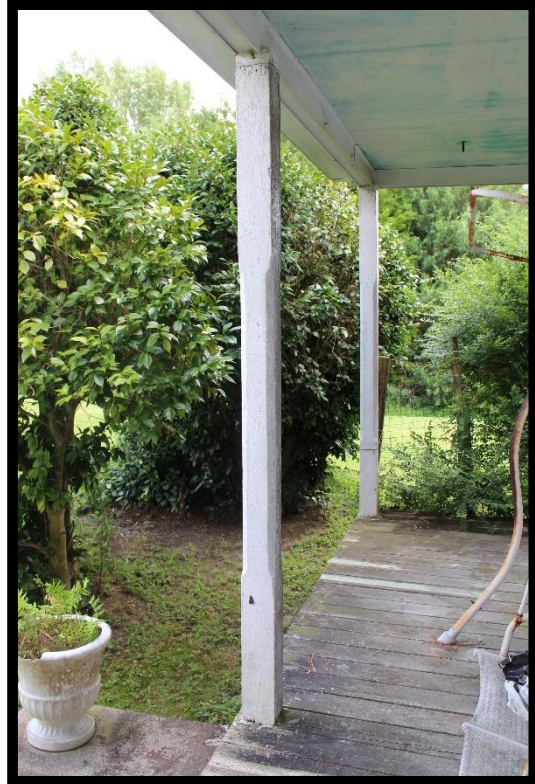


Figure 109: Hughes-Williams House, Porch Posts.



Figure 110: Hughes-Williams House, Looking South.



Figure 111: Hughes-Williams House, Looking Northeast.



Figure 112: Hughes-Williams House, Looking Northwest.

The southwest (rear) elevation of the main block has one window on the first story and two windows on the second story to the west of the rear wing and one second story window to the east of the wing (Figure 110). The southwest (rear) elevation of the wing is divided by a thin brick chimney. To the west of the chimney is an entry door, four-over-four vinyl sash window, and a louvered attic vent. The east side roughly mirrors the west side but is missing the attic vent and has a one-over-one metal sash window east of the door (Figure 111).

The southeast (side) elevation of the wing is lit by a one-over-one metal sash window. The southeast (side) elevation of the main block of the dwelling is the same as the northwest (side) elevation except that its chimney is double shouldered, and it is missing the small attic window. The upper portion of the stack has been replaced as well (Figure 112).

Interior

Attempts to contact the owner were unsuccessful and the surveyor was unable to gain access to the interior of the house.

Ancillary Buildings

Ancillary structures on the studied parcel include a front-gabled barn and a small shed. The barn stands west of the dwelling and faces southeast. It is clad with wooden and metal sheets and has a gabled, metal roof. Its façade features a centrally placed, sheet metal door below a similar loft door that is flanked by two modern garage doors. One-over-one vinyl or metal sash windows flank the south garage door and a modern entry door exists north of the north garage door. Two-bay, shed-roofed wings that are open on the front façade flank the gabled center section (Figure 113).

South of the dwelling is a front-gabled shed that faces northeast. The shed, which has sustained significant damage on its northwest and southeast (side) elevations and roof, is clad with vinyl siding and lit by one-over-one vinyl or metal sash windows. It has an asphalt shingle roof (Figures 114 and 115).

Northwest of the dwelling is a 1964 dwelling that is clad with brick veneer and sheltered by a hipped, asphalt shingle roof. Its façade, which faces northeast, is composed of two entry doors within an arrangement of paired, tripled, and individual windows (Figure 116).



Figure 113: Hughes-Williams House, Barn, Looking Northwest.



Figure 114: Hughes-Williams House, Shed, Looking West.



Figure 115: Hughes-Williams House, Shed, Looking East.



Figure 116: Hughes-Williams House, 1964 Dwelling, Looking East.



Figure 117: Hughes-Williams House, Barn, Looking West.

A second barn stands southwest of the dwelling on a separate parcel but faces northeast toward the dwelling. It is clad with vertical sheathing and has an asphalt shingled, double-pitch roof. It is front gabled and has an asymmetrical façade with, from east to west, a sliding garage door, a double board-and-batten door below a loft door, and a modern garage door. It has been expanded on its rear elevation with multiple sections that extend from one another (Figure 117).

Historical Background

The house once associated with the studied parcel is now located on a 1.9-acre parcel along the highway. According to the Camden County Tax Assessment Office, it was constructed in 1843.⁸⁷ Though much later in time, the earliest owner of the parcel appears to be J. P. Hughes, who was born in 1852 and died in 1919 in Elizabeth City. While the house was likely in existence during his ownership, census data suggests that the Hughes family did not live on the property but instead lived in Elizabeth City. There, J. P. is listed as working as a merchant and manager in both the 1900 and 1910 censuses.⁸⁸ It is uncertain how he obtained the property, though it seems likely that it was inherited through the family of his wife, Bettie B. Dozier, as deeds for the property reference a “corner of the farm known as the M. D. Dozier Farm.” The earliest document that could be found linking him with the property is a 1929 deed of trust executed between his heirs and W. G. Gaither for a 175-acre tract along the main road from Camden Court House to Shiloh.⁸⁹

In 1934, W. G. Gaither resigned as the trustee of this and a number of other properties.⁹⁰ It is uncertain if the property remitted to the family at this point, but in 1937, Bettie Dozier Hughes, J. P.’s widow and her descendants conveyed a tract of “approximately 70 acres of woodland” to the First & Citizens National Bank of Elizabeth City.⁹¹ A second deed pertaining to the minor children of Oden L. Hughes, the deceased son of J. P. and Bettie, states that “the entire interest in said land conveyed by this deed is one undivided eighth, subject to the dower of Mary Hughes, mother of said infants.” Mary Hughes in this case is the wife of Oden and the statement reflects her inheritance from her husband.⁹²

The chain of title becomes somewhat unclear at this point, but in 1940 the First & Citizens National Bank of Elizabeth City sold a 230-acre tract containing similar calls and referencing the same property holders to R. E. Wynn.⁹³ Though the numbers do not add up, it appears that this tract is some combination of the earlier 175-acre tract and the 70-acre tract.

In 1945, R. E. and his wife, Lizzie, sold the property to Ralph Howard Williams.⁹⁴ Prior to purchasing the property, Ralph lived in Elizabeth City with his wife, Margaret, and son, Franklin, where he rented an apartment and was employed as a farmer in the truck farm industry.⁹⁵ It would appear that he moved his family to the farm after purchasing it though no city directories or other sources could be found to substantiate this claim.

Eventually the property passed into the ownership Ralph’s son, Franklin. In 1995, Franklin, along with his wife, Mary, deeded the western half of the studied parcel to the current owner,

⁸⁷ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028934048379990000.

⁸⁸ Ancestry.com, “J P Hughes,” <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/74816421/person/432014504333/facts>, Accessed July 20, 2019.

⁸⁹ Camden County Deed Book 16, page 103.

⁹⁰ Camden County Deed Book 18, page 204.

⁹¹ Camden County Deed Book 23, page 159.

⁹² Camden County Deed Book 23, page 160.

⁹³ Camden County Deed Book 23, page 278.

⁹⁴ Camden County Deed Book 26, page 438.

⁹⁵ United States Department of Commerce, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930.

Thomas E. Thompson, III, via a deed of gift.⁹⁶ In 2000, the couple deeded the eastern half of the property, including the Hughes-Williams House, via a second deed of gift to Thomas. This deed stipulates that the two parcels be combined and treated as a single parcel (Figure 118).⁹⁷

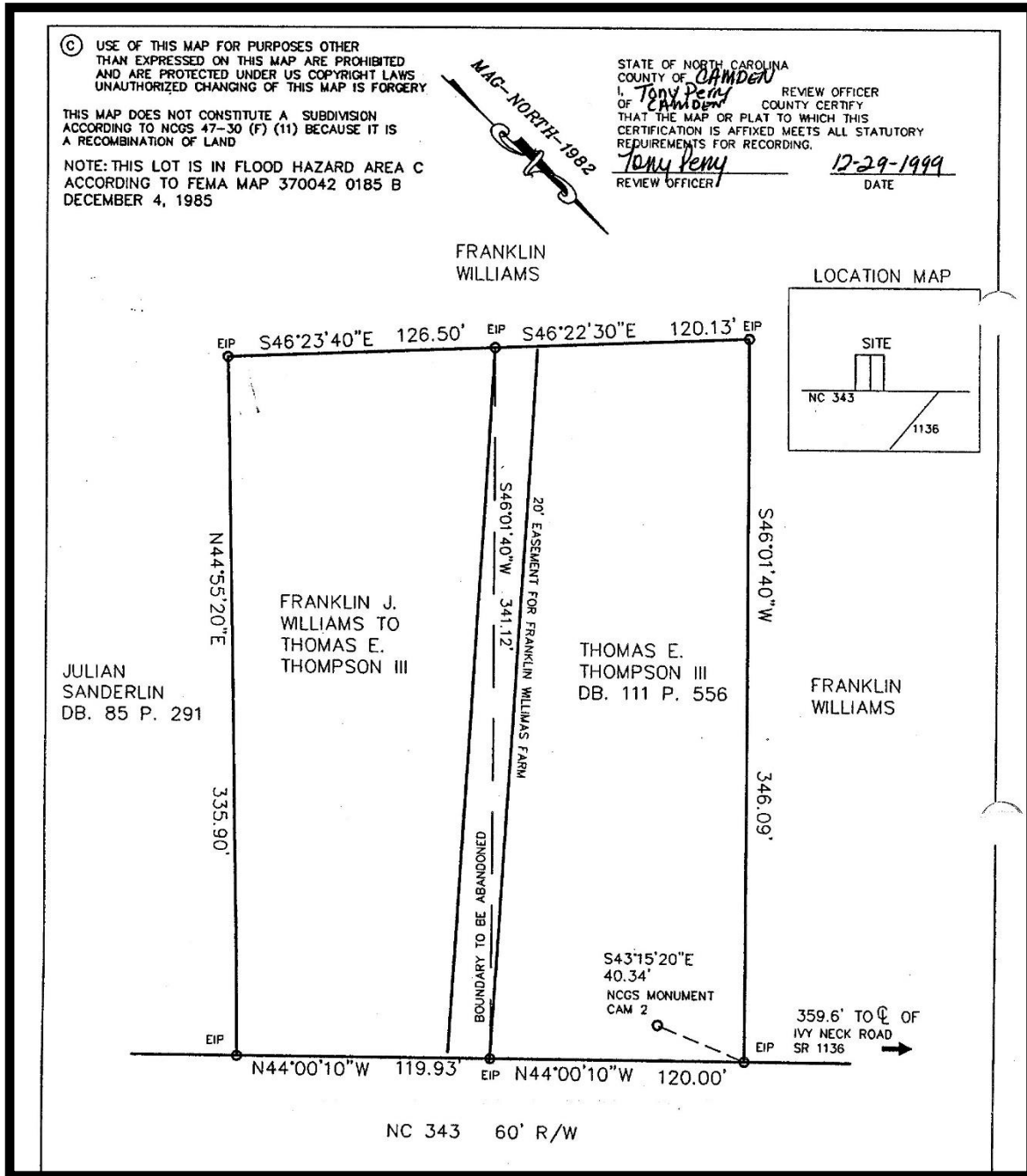


Figure 118: Parcels Deeded from Franklin J. Williams to Thomas E. Thompson (Camden County Plat Book 7, Page 191).

⁹⁶ Camden County Deed Book 111, page 556.

⁹⁷ Camden County Deed Book 134, page 511.

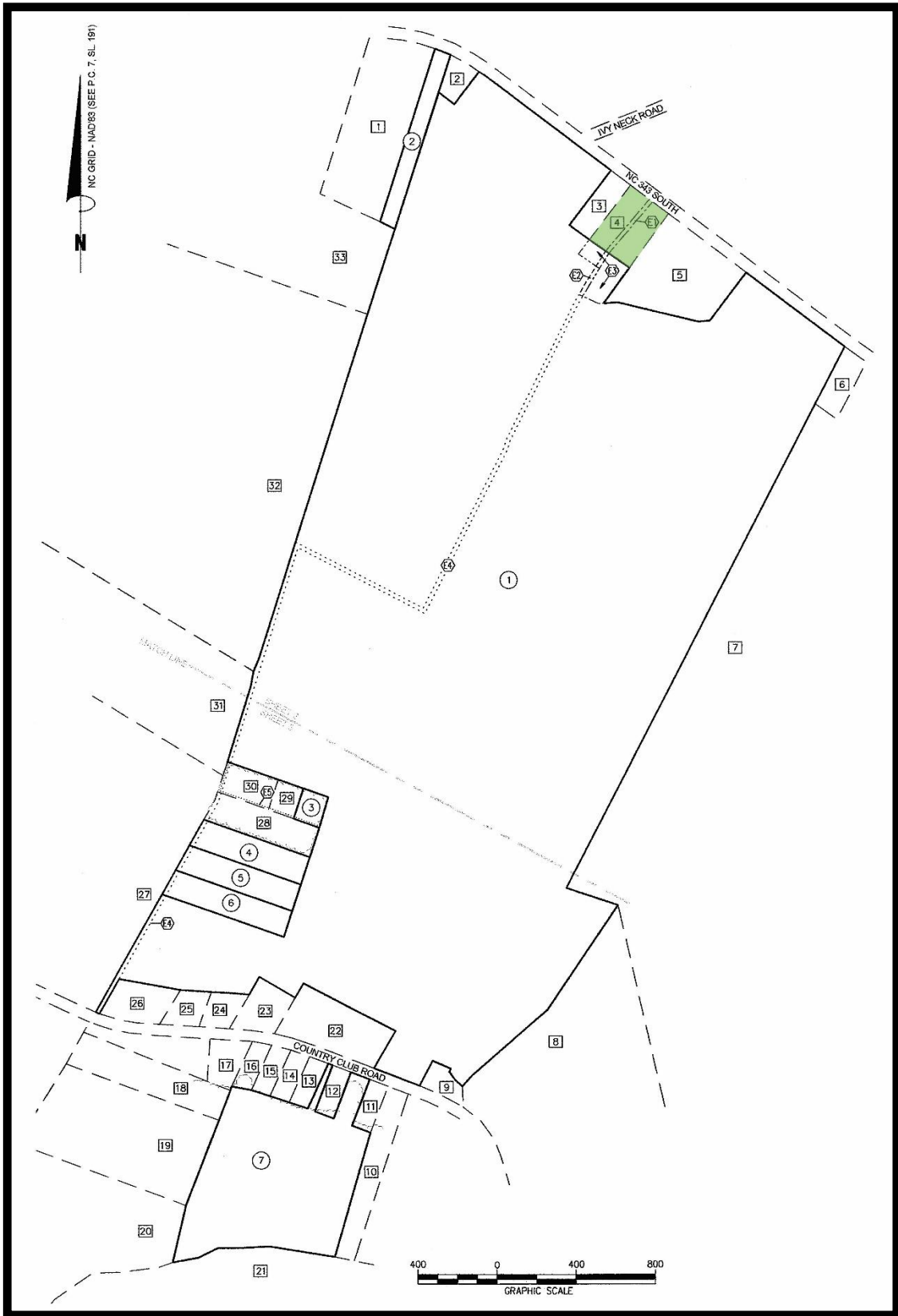


Figure 119: Studied Parcel (Shaded) in Relation to Original Tract. Note the Numerous Small Tracts Divided from the Original Tract (Camden County Plat Book 8, Page 16).

NRHP Criteria Evaluation

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Hughes-Williams House is not recommended eligible for the NRHP.

Integrity

The Hughes-Williams House remains in its original location within an agricultural setting that has been minimally changed by the construction of twentieth-century dwellings, many of which belong to members of the Williams family. The dwelling displays a moderate level of integrity regarding design, materials and workmanship through the retention of its chamfered porch posts, wooden sash windows, and brick end chimneys. This integrity, however, is compromised by the application of vinyl siding and modern roofing materials. The retention of the barns and presence of cultivated fields on adjoining parcels contributes to the property's feeling as a rural homestead as well as its association with nineteenth-century agricultural practices in Camden County.

Criterion A

The Hughes-Williams House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A (Event). To be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history or pattern of events or historic trends that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.

The Hughes-Williams House is historically associated with general farming resulting in an expectation of agricultural buildings and agricultural fields. To a large extent, this association has been maintained through the property's close association with its parent property, which retains a large barn and nearly 200 acres of cultivated land, and its own barn. The barns, however, appear to have been constructed in the twentieth century or have been greatly altered, resulting in a disconnect from the farm's nineteenth-century beginnings. The effect is a loss of historic integrity relating to the design of a nineteenth-century farm complex. Therefore, this resource is not a good embodiment of historical agricultural activity in Camden County. No other pattern of events was identified for the property and therefore it is recommended not eligible under Criterion A.

Criterion B

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

The property is historically associated with the Hughes, Wynn, and Williams families. Research suggests that the earliest known owners, the Hughes family, did not live on the farm and while they likely planted it, it is difficult to tie their involvement with historically significant events. Similarly, the Wynn family only owned the property for a short time, suggesting no significant actions. Lastly, while the Williams family owned the property for much of the twentieth century and likely has had the most impact on the property, it appears that their productive lives were spent maintaining the family farm and research did not reveal their activities to be historically significant within the local, state, or national historic context. Therefore, the property is recommended not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C

The Hughes-Williams House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C (design/construction). For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

The Hughes-Williams House is representative of a nineteenth-century, vernacular dwelling with an I-house form, which was popular for much of the mid- to late nineteenth century and can be observed throughout Eastern North Carolina in both rural and urbanized areas. The popularity of the form is contributed to its simple, well-organized façade, and straightforward, side-gabled roof, as well as its ability to be finished with ornate styles or left unadorned and still present a pleasant appearance.

Though it has been clad with vinyl siding, the dwelling appears to have been constructed with traditional details including its simple porch with chamfered posts, exterior end chimneys, and wooden sash windows. Whether additional detail was present at the dwelling's cornice or window and door surrounds is unknown due to having been concealed or removed by the alterations to the roof and exterior cladding. These alterations have also detracted from the dwelling's ability to represent its era of construction. Other examples of nineteenth-century I-houses in Camden County include the ca. 1830 Alfred Moore Gatlin House (CM0072, Figure 120) and the ca. 1850 Joseph Sanderlin Sr. House (CM0059, Figure 121).⁹⁸

The Alfred Moore Gatlin House differs from the Hughes-Williams House in that its entry door is not located in the center bay, suggesting a different interior layout. Nonetheless, the house is a good example of the exterior aesthetic that the Hughes-Williams House likely displayed when it was first constructed. This aesthetic is primarily displayed through the house's wooden lap siding as well as through its porch which retains a metal roof. The house is also a good example of how a dwelling can be altered with modern materials, such as its asphalt shingle roof and possibly replacement porch columns, and still retain the feeling of a historic homesite, contributing to it being a better example of the type than the Hughes-Williams House.

The Joseph Sanderlin Sr. House, which was observed by the surveyor but could not be adequately photographed due to a substantial hedge along the forward edge of the property line,

⁹⁸ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028934025565200000 and 028945003498260799.



Figure 120: Alfred Moore Gatlin House (CM0072), Looking Southwest.



Figure 121: Joseph Sanderlin Sr. House (CM0059), Looking East (Camden County Property Record, PIN 028945003498260799).

presents an example of a well-preserved I-house with a centrally placed entrance. Larger than the Hughes-Williams House, it retains its wooden lap siding and appears to retain its original windows and porch. The house has also been expanded over time, appearing to incorporate a small kitchen house, and according to its property record retains an original frame outbuilding.⁹⁹ The house is somewhat detached from its agricultural environs due to landscaping and vegetative barriers, but remains in an area of Camden County that is dominated by agricultural land and through the retention of original architectural details better conveys the feeling of an nineteenth-century rural homestead.

For these reasons, the Hughes-Williams House is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for architecture.

Criterion D

The Hughes-Williams House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D (potential to yield information). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history and prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important.

The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to the history of building design and technology and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion D.

⁹⁹ Camden County Property Records, PIN 028945003498260799.

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