



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

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper

Secretary D. Reid Wilson

June 18, 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 Intersection Improvements at SR 2233 and
SR 1007, PA 21-01-0001, Wake County, ER 21-1371

Thank you for your May 24, 2021, memorandum transmitting the above-referenced report. We have reviewed the report and concur that the Captain Bailey Williamson House (WA0264) and Martin's Store (WA0266) are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for the reasons outline.

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



due 06/24/21

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: May 24, 2021

Subject: *Historic Structures Survey Report for T.I.P No. SM-5705AJ, Intersection Improvements at SR 2233 (South Smithfield Road) and SR 1007 (Poole Road), Wake County, North Carolina. WBS No. 48996.1.1. PA Tracking No. 21-01-0001.*

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is conducting planning studies for the above-referenced project. Enclosed for your review is a report presenting the evaluation of historic architectural resources in the SM-5705AJ, Wake County project area (one hard copy and one CD-ROM). Survey photographs, GIS data, and site forms are also included on the CD-ROM, and hard copies of the site forms are also provided.

The report considers two resources – the Captain Bailey Williamson House (WA0264) and Martin’s Store (WA0266) -- and recommends both as not 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.

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

V.E.P.

**Historic Structures Survey Report
Intersection Improvements at SR 2233 (South Smithfield Road) and
SR 1007 (Poole Road)
Wake County, North Carolina**

T.I.P No. SM-5705AJ
WBS# 48996.1.1
PA No. 21-01-0001

Prepared for
North Carolina Department of Transportation
Human Environment Section
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1598

Prepared by
Cardno, Inc.
104 South White Street, Suite 205
Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587

May 12, 2021 – Final Report

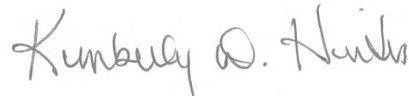
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Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT Historic Architecture Supervisor



Kimberly D. Hinder, Cardno Principal Investigator

May 12, 2021 – Final Report

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes intersection improvements at SR 2233 (South Smithfield Road) and SR 1007 (Poole Road) in Wake County (T.I.P. No. SM-5705AJ, WBS No. 48996.1.1, PA No. 21-01-0001). In February 2021, NCDOT requested that Cardno, Inc. complete an assessment of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility of certain resources within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and provide this report.

The Captain Bailey Williamson House (WA0264) does not retain sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for the NRHP. While the building appears to be in its original location and retains the feeling of a Greek Revival plantation house, its materials, workmanship, design, and association have been diminished through numerous additions and alterations, the loss of outbuildings, and nearby development.

Similarly, Martin's Store (WA0266) does not appear NRHP eligible as it is not associated with significant persons or events. With the loss of integrity of design, workmanship, and materials due to alterations and additions, the property does not retain sufficient integrity for listing.

Property Name	NCHPO Survey Site Number	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation	NRHP Criteria
Captain Bailey Williamson House	WA0264	Not Eligible	Not applicable
Martin's Store	WA0266	Not eligible	Not applicable

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY.....	1
II. PROPERTY EVALUATION	4
Captain Bailey Williamson House	4
SETTING.....	4
DESCRIPTION	10
HISTORY	23
ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT	32
SIGNIFICANCE	36
Martin’s Store.....	38
SETTING.....	38
DESCRIPTION	41
HISTORY	46
ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT	48
SIGNIFICANCE	53
III. REFERENCES CITED	55

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes intersection improvements at SR 2233 (South Smithfield Road) and SR 1007 (Poole Road) in Wake County (T.I.P. No. SM-5705AJ, WBS No. 48996.1.1, PA No. 21-01-0001). This project is subject to review under the *Section 106 Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects* (NCDOT/NCHPO/FHWA/USFS 2015). NCDOT architectural historians established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project and conducted a preliminary investigation to identify and assess all resources of approximately fifty years of age or more within the APE. Only two resources warranted an intensive National Register eligibility evaluation, and they are the subject of this report (Figure 1). NCDOT architectural historians determined that all other properties and districts are not worthy of further study and evaluation due to a lack of historical significance and/or integrity.

In February 2021, NCDOT requested that Cardno, Inc. complete an intensive-level survey and assess the NRHP eligibility of two individual properties in the project APE (Figure 2).

- Captain Bailey Williamson House, 4040 South Smithfield Road (PIN: 1762377713)
- Martin's Store, 4105 South Smithfield Road (PIN: 1762471164)

On February 22 and 23, 2021, Cardno senior architectural historian Kimberly Hinder visited the properties listed above assisted by Valerie Nobles (archaeologist). Each building was visually inspected, and the exterior, interior (when accessible), and setting were documented through written notes and digital photographs. Site visits to other historic structures within Wake County provided an architectural context for the resources under evaluation.

Basic research was conducted prior to the site visit including Wake County GIS and tax records and a search of the historic structure records. Copies of prior survey forms for relevant resources were obtained from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and the North Carolina State Archives. Additional information came from Capital Area Preservation (the designated preservation office for Wake County), the Olivia Raney Local History Library in Raleigh, the East Regional Library in Knightdale, the Wake County Historical Society, and the Knightdale Historical Society's online website. Neither attempts by mail nor in person to contact the occupant or the property owner of the Captain Bailey Williamson House (Poole Road Holdings, LLC) proved successful. Informants contacted and/or interviewed included:

- > Jeremy Bradham, Wake County Preservation Planner, Capital Area Preservation
- > Yvonne Allen and Toni Osegueda, Olivia Raney Local History Library, Raleigh
- > Becky Woodhouse and Janet Marley, East Regional Library, Knightdale
- > Philip Kirk, local resident and property owner of Martin's Store
- > Belle Long, Wake County Historical Society

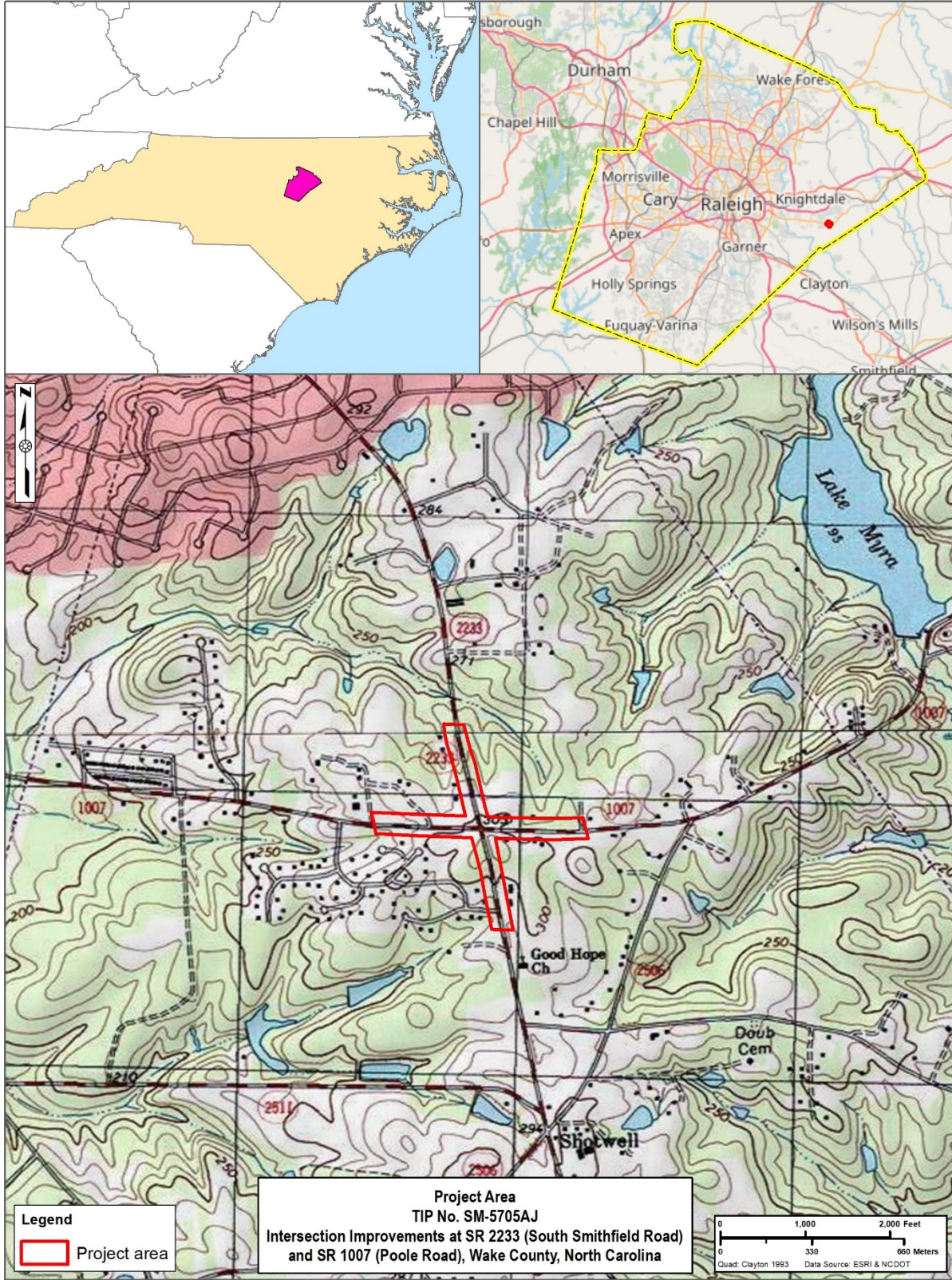


Figure 1. Project location map, Wake County, North Carolina.



Figure 2. Aerial photograph showing APE and historic resources.

II. PROPERTY EVALUATION

Captain Bailey Williamson House

Resource Name	Captain Bailey Williamson House (Figure 3)
HPO Survey Site Number	WA0264
Location	4040 South Smithfield Road, Shotwell and Knightdale vicinity
PIN	1762377713
Date of Construction	ca. 1871
Recommendation	Not eligible for the NRHP



Figure 3. Captain Bailey Williamson House, front (east) elevation, looking west

SETTING

Situated on the northwest corner of Poole Road (SR 1007) and South Smithfield Road (SR 2233), the parcel in which the Captain Bailey Williamson House is located incorporates 7.16 acres in the Marks Creek Township of Wake County (Figure 2 and Figure 3). According to the Wake County online property records, the house was constructed in 1950, but historical research indicates the residence was built ca. 1871. Located south of the community of Knightdale, the residence is situated along the northern edge of the unincorporated settlement of Shotwell. The tract on which the house sits is a wooded lot, but open crop lands are situated across South Smithfield Road to the east (Figure 4). A small, vacant country store, Martin's Store, is on the southeast corner of the intersection; it is evaluated later in this report (see page 38). G.B. Hopkins Grading and Hauling is immediately west of the subject parcel with modern residential subdivisions further west and

southwest of the tract. Scattered residences, wooded parcels, and a few open fields populate the areas north, east, and south of the Captain Bailey Williamson House.

Mature trees and bushes surround the house with a partially paved and gravel driveway north of the house providing access from South Smithfield Road. A ditch denotes the property line along South Smithfield Road south of the driveway. A wood rail fence borders the property north of the driveway (Figure 5), which is blocked by a metal cattle gate. The driveway is bordered by a low, dry stack stone wall and a paved walkway (Figure 6). The remaining outbuildings are generally aligned along this driveway to the north of the house. A brick paved path extends from the driveway to the front entry porch. Dense vegetation blocks the view of the house from the intersection of South Smithfield Road and Poole Road (Figure 7). No official entrée to the property exists from Poole Road, but a dirt track extends from the road along the western edge of the property.



Figure 4. South Smithfield Road, looking southeast from the driveway of the Captain Bailey Williamson House. Martin’s Store at the intersection of South Smithfield Road and Poole Road is in the background.



Figure 5. South Smithfield Road, looking north from the driveway of the Captain Bailey Williamson House.



Figure 6. The driveway of the Captain Bailey Williamson House, looking west.



Figure 7. Intersection of Poole Road and South Smithfield Road, looking northwest toward the Captain Bailey Williamson House.

The overall area has transformed from largely rural, agricultural uses with small farms to suburbanized residential construction over the past 30 years (Figure 8, Figure 9, and Figure 10). Historically, this house was part of a functioning farm located on the main roads between Knightdale, Shotwell, Raleigh, and Wendell. Numerous outbuildings would have supported the operation of the house and farm, but most have been lost as the land associated with this parcel was sold and various functions once necessary, became obsolete. Although the overall rural agricultural setting feels intact when on the property, the immediate surroundings of this residence have been altered by the loss of most of the associated outbuildings and fields.



Figure 8. Aerial photograph dated February 18, 1969, showing Captain Bailey Williamson House in rural setting (NCDOT Photogrammetry Unit 1969).



Figure 9. Aerial photograph dated March 9, 1991, showing Captain Bailey Williamson House in rural setting (NCDOT Photogrammetry Unit 1991).

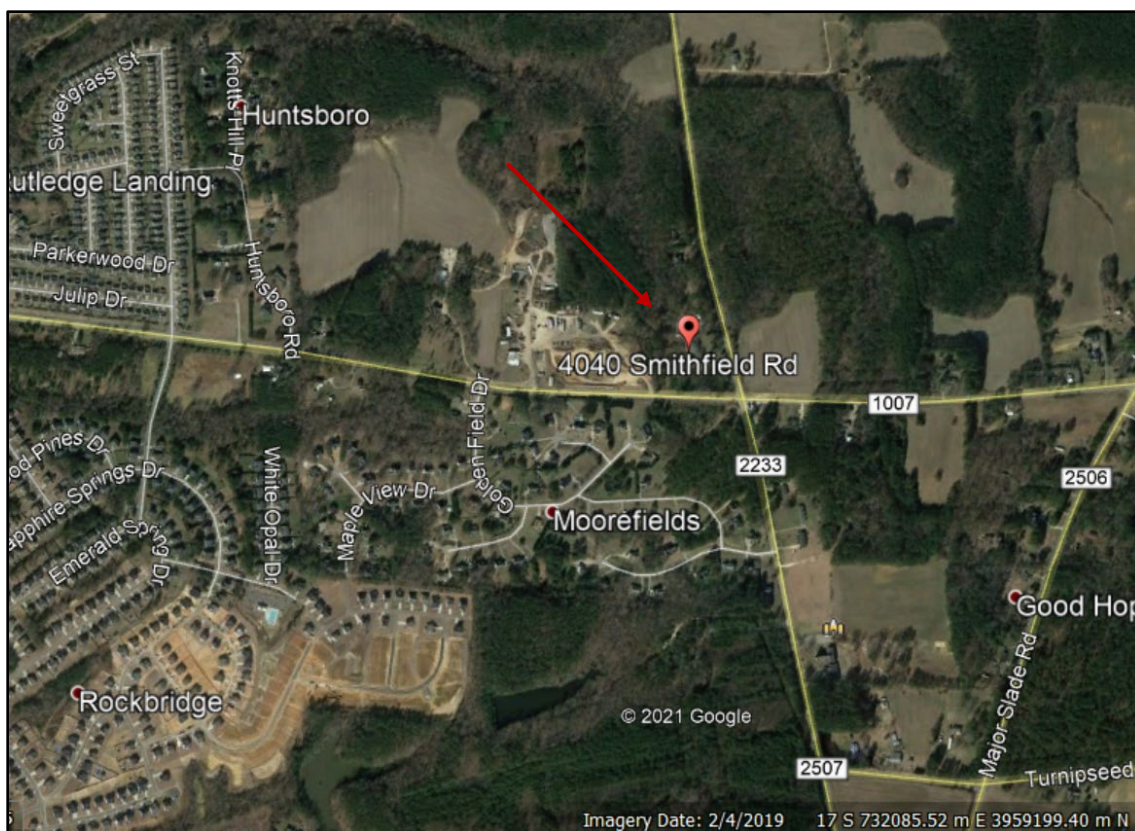


Figure 10. Aerial photograph dated February 4, 2019, showing Captain Bailey Williamson House in increasingly suburban setting (Google Earth 2019).

DESCRIPTION

The Captain Bailey Williamson House is a two-story residence which originally had a rectangular, I-house form three bays wide by one bay deep with a one-story centrally-located front portico and a detached kitchen to the rear. Facing east, the main block had interior brick chimneys on the north and south walls. The interior plan featured a central hall with a dogleg staircase providing access to the upper floor. An early rear ell addition incorporated the kitchen with an interior chimney on the west wall creating a T-shaped plan with a one-story open porch along the south side of the rear wing. Large stone steps remain at the original rear (west) entrance which is now enclosed and obscured by siding. A ca. 1890 one-story, gable-roofed addition on the south elevation provided a formal dining room (Figure 11). Around 1950, the porch on the rear wing was enclosed and new porches were added between this porch and the dining room and on the north side of the kitchen wing (Figure 12). These porches were enclosed ca. 1967. Other changes from this period include the partial replacement of the front porch, the application of aluminum siding on the exterior, and the replacement of original windows. The 1988 survey noted that the front porch had been altered with changes to the foundation and the replacement of porch columns with square wood posts. These have since been exchanged for aluminum railings and aluminum fluted columns, while the exterior is now clad with vinyl siding. In 1997, a one-story room addition was attached to the north elevation, and a second story was built above the enclosed porch at the

northwest corner of the house (Wake County Department of Tax Administration; Kittrell 2011; Lally, 1988, WA0264; Lally 1994:229).



Figure 11. Captain Bailey Williamson House, east (front) elevation, photograph from 1973 survey (WA0264) showing the original two-story mass of the house with the one-story dining room addition to the left (south; Lally, 1988, WA0264).



Figure 12. Captain Bailey Williamson House, west (rear) elevation, 1988 photograph showing the original two-story house with the enclosed rear porches flanking the kitchen ell and the one-story dining room and porch addition (now enclosed) to the right (Lally 1988, WA0264).

The original house, the front portion of the two-story section, was a three-bay wide by one-bay deep I-House with a one-story entrance portico centered on the east façade. Presently, this house exhibits an irregular, asymmetrical form with a central two-story mass flanked by one-story additions on the north and south and a second story addition to the rear (west) (Figure 13 and Figure 14). The two-story portion has a low hipped roof with widely overhanging boxed eaves; the hipped roof was undergoing resurfacing at the time of the site visit. The south addition has a composition shingle clad gable roof with a shed roof extending over the enclosed porch to the rear. The north addition has a composition shingle surfaced hipped roof with an inset porch at the northwest corner (Figure 15). Of the five chimneys evident in prior photographs, only an interior brick chimney on the west slope of the rear, two-story wing appears to be extant (Figure 16). The remnants of the exterior brick chimney on the south wall of the dining room (south) addition show that it has been capped just below the roofline (Figure 17).



Figure 13. Captain Bailey Williamson House, east façade, looking west.



Figure 14. Captain Bailey Williamson House, east and north elevations, looking southwest.



Figure 15. Captain Bailey Williamson House, north and west elevations, looking southeast.



Figure 16. Captain Bailey Williamson House, west and south elevations, looking northeast.



Figure 17. Captain Bailey Williamson House, south elevation, looking north.

Clad with vinyl siding, the original wood frame building rests on a stone foundation with brick infill, while the additions are set on a brick pier foundation with stuccoed masonry and concrete block infill. Windows are replacement single-hung sash units of vinyl with 6/6 false muntins

placed independently with fixed louvered shutters flanking those on the façade. Newer additions have paired and independently placed 1/1 single-hung sash vinyl windows. Centered on the façade of the original building, the one-story entrance portico features fluted aluminum columns and aluminum handrails added at the stairs and around the edge of the flat roof creating a walk-out balcony. The primary entrance, set within the portico, appears to be original with a two-paneled wood door with original hardware flanked by six-light sidelights set within a shouldered arch entrance surround (Figure 18). Directly above, the second floor balcony entrance has a six-panel door flanked by one-light sidelights and fixed louvered shutters. Secondary entrances are located within the inset porch at the northwest corner of the building and on the west elevation of the enclosed porch at the southwest corner of the house.



Figure 18. Captain Bailey Williamson House, detail of primary entrance, east façade.

The 1988 survey form identified notable interior features including original Greek Revival inspired mantels, wide plank floors, a dogleg staircase, wide baseboards, and original doors. Photographs advertising the sale of the property in 2011 were found online and indicate that many of the interior finishes remained intact at that point (Figure 19 and Figure 20). However, neither the current owner nor the occupant responded to letters or site visits requesting historic information and access during this survey effort.



Figure 19. Interior photograph of fireplace and doors from 2011, when the property was listed for sale by Gilliam Kittrell with Hodge & Kittrell Sotheby’s International Realty (Kittrell 2011).



Figure 20. Interior photograph of entry and staircase from 2011, when the property was listed for sale by Gilliam Kittrell with Hodge & Kittrell Sotheby’s International Realty (Kittrell 2011).

The earliest available aerial, from 1964 (Figure 21), shows two larger barns and several smaller outbuildings to the west and north of the house which were removed by 1993. When surveyed in 1973, the recorder noted that outbuildings included slave quarters and a barn or shed to the right of the house (WA0264). The 1988 historic survey recorded a wood frame barn built between 1886 and 1915, a wood frame shed, and a bell on the property. The 1996 survey prepared for owner Robert Pleasant and the 2005 aerial show the outbuildings which remained on the site into the modern period (Figure 22 and Figure 23). The garage and well house evident on the 1964 and 2005 aerials and 1996 survey were demolished by 2013. This site visit in 2021 identified a Front-Drive Crib Barn, a Granary, a Garage/Carriage House, a Pump House and the remnants of a well. Also historically associated with the family, the Williamson House (WA0265), a ca. 1900 one-story, central hall Triple-A house situated across Poole Road to the south, was demolished between 1999 and 2006 (NETR 1964, 1983, 1993; NCDOT Photogrammetry Unit 1969, 1991; Google Earth 2005, 2013, 2019; Lally, 1988, WA0264 and WA0265; Lally 1994:229).



Figure 21. Aerial photograph dated 1964, showing Captain Bailey Williamson House and outbuildings (NETR 1964).

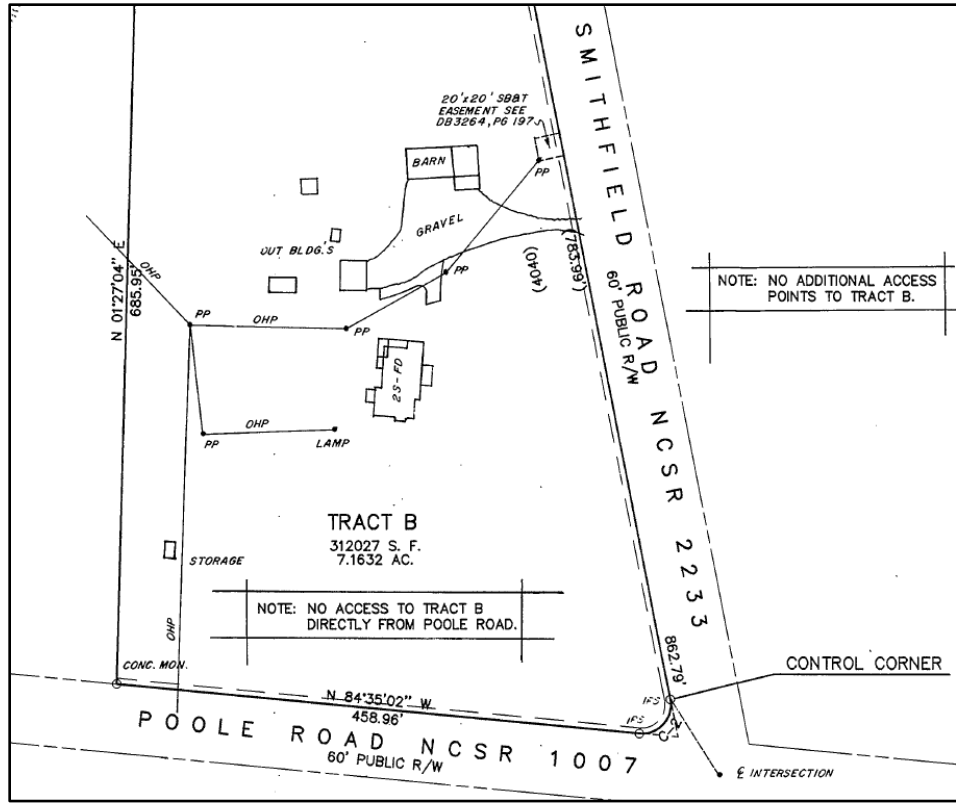


Figure 22. Plat of Captain Bailey Williamson House, surveyed by B.L. Scott & Co. for owner Robert Pleasant in 1996 (Wake County Book of Maps 1996, Page 1169).

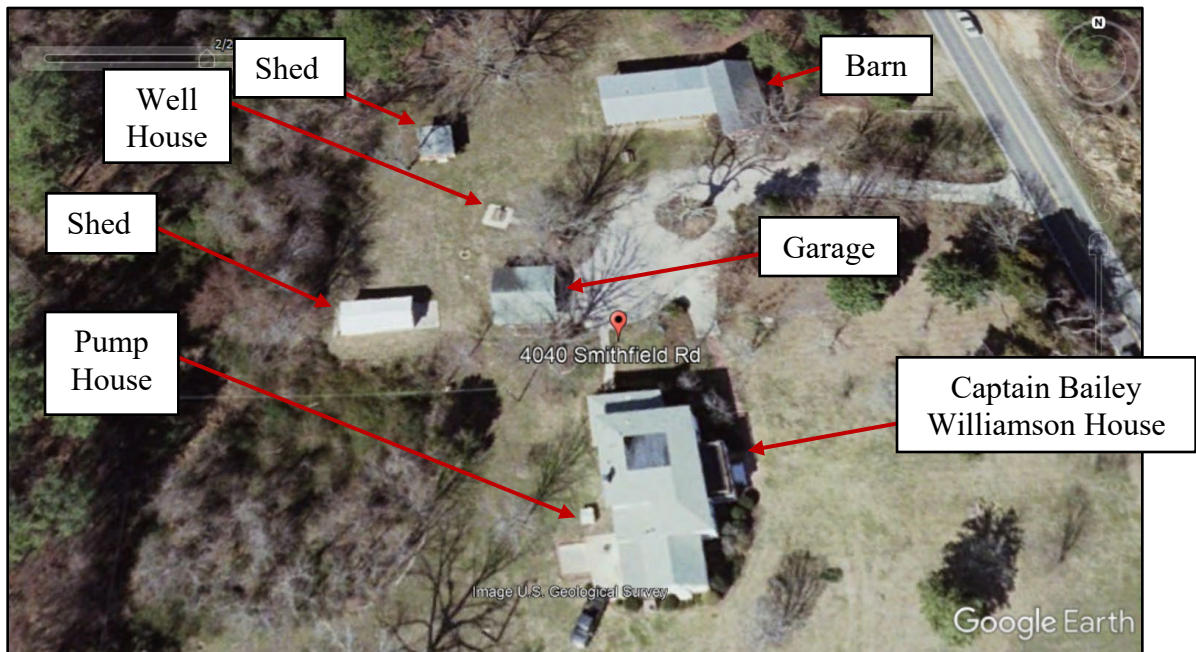


Figure 23. Aerial photograph dated February 2005, showing Captain Bailey Williamson House and outbuildings (Google Earth 2005).

Built ca. 1910, a Front-Drive Crib Barn is situated northeast of the house. The original building has a rectangular footprint, but an open equipment wing was added on the west elevation ca. 1990 (Figure 24 and Figure 25; Lally, 1988, WA0264; Google Earth 1993). The gable roof of the original structure is surfaced with composition shingles, while the gable roof on the addition is clad with 5V crimp sheet metal. At the same time as the addition, the front support posts were replaced, eliminating the almost arcaded appearance of the front-drive. The building also appears to have originally been surfaced with clapboard siding with a narrower profile in the 1988 photograph (Lally, 1988, WA0264), as compared to the drop siding evident on the building now. The barn has a stone pier foundation reinforced with bricks. A poured concrete pad and concrete piers are evident in the front-drive area. Notable elements include corner boards and rectangular loft openings with wooden shutters in the gable ends above pedestrian entrances with doors built of the same siding as the barn at the level of the first floor.



Figure 24. Captain Bailey Williamson House, Front-Drive Crib Barn, photograph from 1988 survey (Lally, 1988, WA0264).



Figure 25. Captain Bailey Williamson House, Front-Drive Crib Barn, south and east elevations, looking northwest.

A small, wood frame Granary is situated directly west of the barn (Figure 26). The construction date remains unknown, but the building was not depicted on the 1933 survey, and the design is indicative of outbuildings erected between 1935 and 1945 (Wake County Deed Book 678, Page 580). Aerials indicate that the structure was there prior to 1964 (NETR 1964). Set on a stone pier foundation, the wood frame building is topped by a composition shingle clad gable roof. Facing south, the primary entrance features a door with the same drop siding as the rest of the building. A one-over-one, double-hung sash wood window is present on the north (rear) elevation. A capped well appears to be located between the Granary and the Garage/Shed (Figure 27).



Figure 26. Captain Bailey Williamson House, Granary, west and south elevations, looking northeast.



Figure 27. Remnants of capped well located between Granary and Garage/Shed, looking northwest.

Located northwest of the house, the small wood frame Garage or Carriage House appears to date from ca. 1910 (Figure 28). Evident on the 1964 aerials, the building features wide horizontal plank siding, laid flush, and set under a gable roof clad with 3V crimp accented with some exposed rafter ends. The easternmost portion of the structure appears older and is set on a largely continuous fieldstone foundation, while the rear addition rests on a continuous concrete block foundation. Some openings have been cut into the side elevations, but these are covered with wire mesh or plywood. A concrete pad has been poured in front of the east entrance which is accessed by paired plywood swing doors. Situated behind the house, the rectangular brick pump house has a gable roof surfaced with composition roll (Figure 29).



Figure 28. Captain Bailey Williamson House, Garage/Carriage House, east and south elevations, looking northwest.



Figure 29. Captain Bailey Williamson House, Pump house, north and west elevations, looking southeast.

HISTORY

When originally surveyed in 1973, the owner, A.L. Robinson, indicated to the unknown recorder that the house was built ca. 1850 by Bailey Williamson (WA0264). In 1988, Kelly Lally prepared an updated survey form and interviewed family historian Sarah Williamson, who was married to the grandson of Captain Bailey Williamson. She died in 2013, but reported that, according to family history, the Captain Bailey Williamson House was built soon after the Civil War by Captain Bailey Williamson (Lally 1994:229; Lally, 1988, WA0264).

Belle Williamson, the wife of Bailey P. Williamson, of Baltimore, Maryland purchased 1,418 acres, which included the land on which this house was built, from Addison Green Lee and his wife, Mary Ann “Polly” Hinton Lee in February 1871. Sold for \$14,180, the description indicated that the land was on the north side of the Neuse River in Wake and Johnston Counties “adjoining the lands of Montague, Joseph Blake, A.T. Mial, and others....excepting reserving therefrom the family graveyard of said A.G. Lee, now surrounded by a stone wall” (Wake County Deed Book 31, Page 604). This was the earliest deed directly related to this house as earlier deeds found in the research were for larger tracts which did not correspond to this description. The research available did not reveal the exact location of A.G. Lee’s residence or the referenced graveyard, but he lived in Sandy Level between Marks Creek and Buffalo Creek in Johnston County according to the 1860 census. At that time, he owned \$8,727 worth of real estate and had a personal estate valued at \$22,821. An 1865 map shows Sandy Level and a residence marked “Lee” to the southwest, but no building in the vicinity of the Captain Bailey Williamson House (Figure 30).

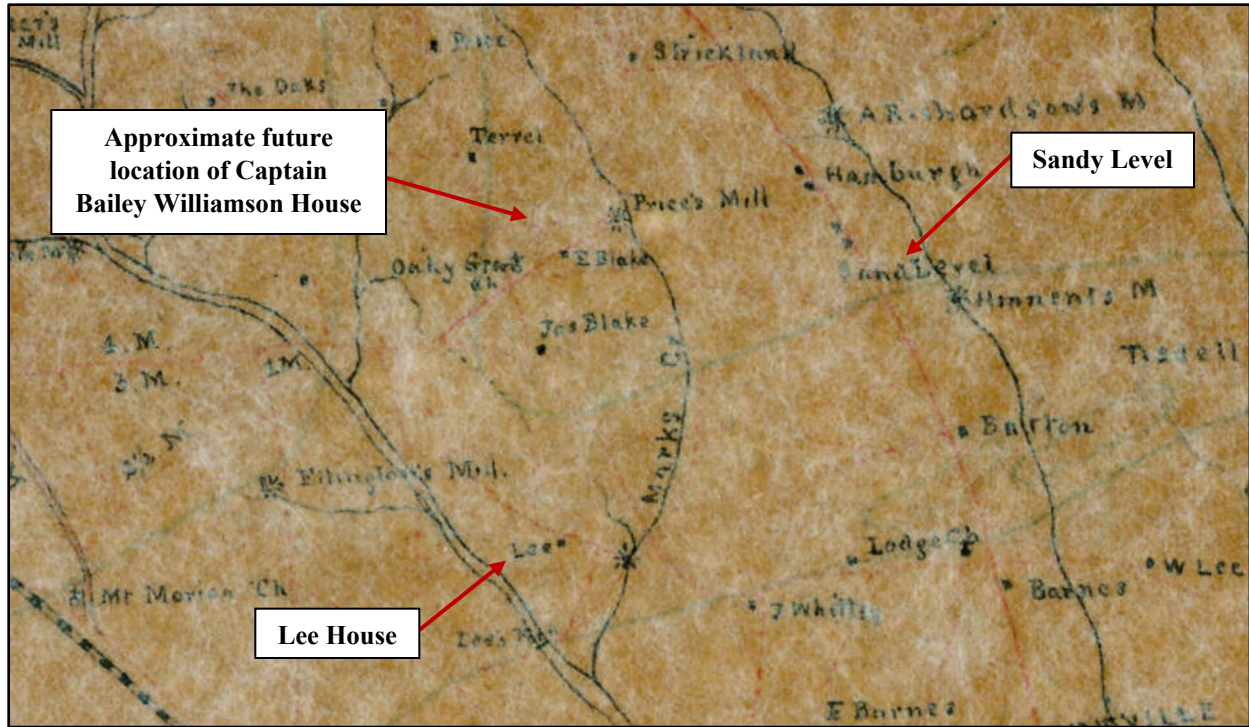


Figure 30. Portion of *Raleigh, Goldsboro, Rocky Mount Area* map, University of North Carolina (Gilmer 1865).

The property where the Williamson House would be built was likely inherited by A.G. Lee or his wife, Mary Ann “Polly” Hinton Lee. A.G. Lee had received land along Marks Creek from his father, Hugh Lee, in 1848. His wife, Mary Ann Hinton Lee, also inherited land which straddled Wake and Johnston Counties after her father, Ransom Hinton, died in 1842 followed by her mother, Elizabeth Wilder Hinton, in 1856. Ransom Hinton was the grandson of Malachi Hinton, who received land grants from the King of England in 1761 and 1782. He was the great-nephew of John Hinton; both men were early settlers and some of the biggest early landowners of Johnston and Wake Counties. By 1870, A.G. and Mary Ann Lee moved to Raleigh, where he was listed as a grocer in the 1870 census. The 1871 Map of Wake County by Fendol Bevers did not show the Lee residence or any house at the future location of the Williamson House (Figure 31; Bevers 1871; Ancestry.com 2009a, 2009b, 2015a, 2015b; Find-a-Grave.com, Wilder’s Grove Cemetery, Clayton City Cemetery, and Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church Cemetery; *The Weekly Standard*, 11 May 1842, 20 Aug 1856; Johnston County Land Division Book LDA, Pg 392; Schulz 2008).

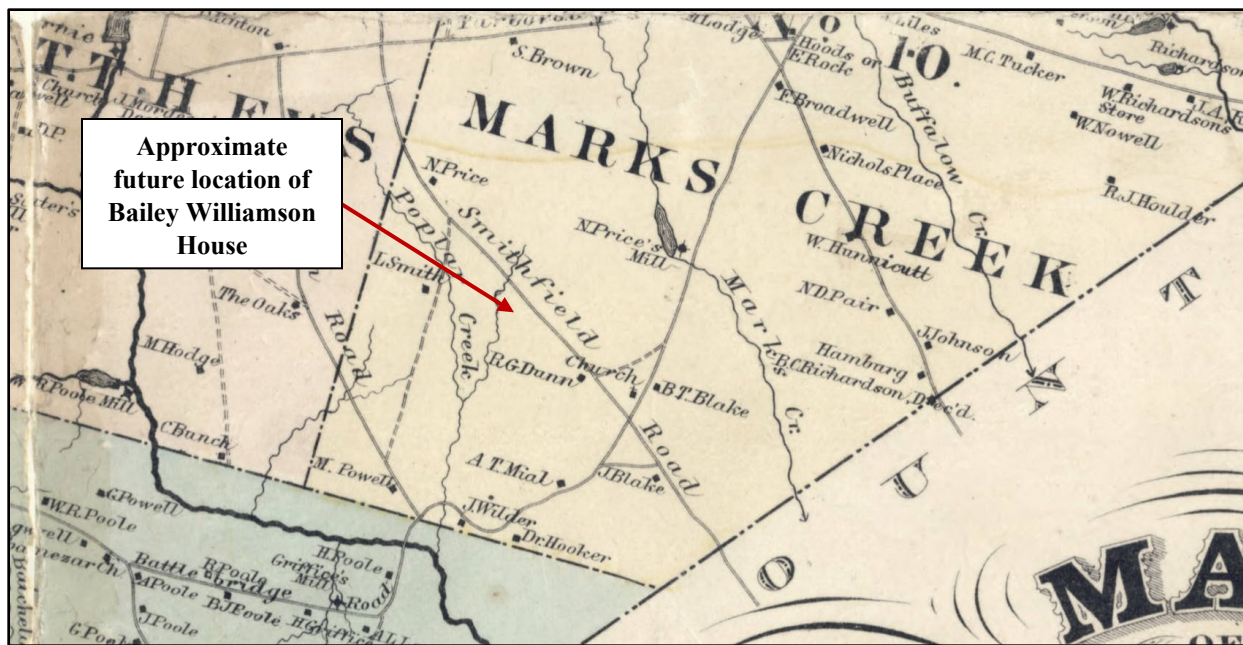


Figure 31. Portion of *Map of Wake County* by Fendol Bevers, State Archives of North Carolina (Bevers 1871).

At the time of Belle Williamson’s purchase of this property, she and her husband, Bailey Peyton “B.P.” Williamson, were listed as residents of Baltimore, Maryland. Bailey Williamson was born in Mecklenburg County, Virginia to James Williamson and his wife, Sally Poole Williamson. (Ancestry.com 2007). In 1860, Bailey Williamson worked as a clerk and lived in a boarding house in Baltimore, Maryland (Ancestry.com 2009a). He enlisted in the Confederate Army in Richmond, Virginia in July 1861, but was captured at Roanoke Island, paroled, and mustered out in 1862. Entering the service as a First Lieutenant in the infantry, he left as a Captain, which would be used as his title for the rest of his life (Historical Data Systems 2009; National Park Service 2007).

In August 1862, Bailey Williamson married his cousin, Isabella “Bella” Williamson, the daughter of George and H. Williamson in Virginia (Ancestry.com 2014). The following year, 1863, he purchased an interest in the Novelty Iron Works (also referred to as the North State Iron Works/, formerly the Silas Burn’s Foundry and later the Allen & Cram Foundry/Raleigh Iron Works) along the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad on Hargett Street in Raleigh from Jonathan Heck. According to *Branson’s North Carolina, Business Directory for 1867-8*, the company manufactured ploughs and other farming implements (Wake County Deed Book 23, Page 787, Deed Book 24, Page 382, and Deed Book 28, Page 476; Murray 1983:563; Branson and Jones 1867:107; Jones 1869:107; Branson 1877:294). Williamson also purchased 130 acres along Crabtree Creek in conjunction with Jonathan Heck from William R. Miller in 1863 (Wake County Deed Book 31 Page 604). In 1868, Williamson on his own, and as a member of the firm Hawkins, Williamson, & Co. of Baltimore and later of Williamson, Upchurch & Thomas of Raleigh, started making agricultural loans to farmers under the state’s 1867 crop lien law, selling farming supplies, and acting as auction and commission merchants in wholesale groceries and cotton brokers in the Raleigh area. As part of this endeavor, Williamson started acquiring land and financing new construction of houses and commercial buildings in the city (Wake County Deed Book 26, Page 158-169; *The Farmer and*

Mechanic, 18 February 1885; Murray 1983:567, 572-73; Branson and Farrar 1867:53, 58-60; Branson 1877:298; Branson 1884:649; Branson 1889:662; Branson 1896; Lally 1994:61).

However, Belle Williamson purchased the properties on which their homes would be built. In 1869, she purchased a lot on Hargett Street in Raleigh for \$1,800 on which they would later build their city home (Wake County Deed Book 28, Page 34 and Deed Book 30, Page 442). Presumably while their Raleigh house was still under construction, the 1870 census still listed the couple along with their first two children, Benjamin Robert (b. 1865) and Nellie (b.1867), as residents in Mrs. Pullen's Boarding House in Raleigh. Recorded as a Commission Merchant, Bailey Williamson owned \$18,000 worth of real estate according to the census and had a personal estate valued at \$10,000 (Ancestry.com 2009b). The following year, Belle purchased the 1,418 acres along Smithfield Road, which would become their country home from A.G. and Mary Ann "Polly" Lee. According to family history, the house was built soon after their purchase. The couple added sons Frank (b.1871) and Bailey Finley (b. 1873) to their family before Belle Williamson died in 1875 (Ancestry.com 2010; Find-a-grave.com, Oakwood Cemetery). In September 1879, Bailey P. Williamson married Ella Mial, the daughter of neighboring landowner Alonzo T. and Victoria Mial, who owned the Walnut Hill Plantation (Ancestry.com 2015a; *The Observer*, 4 September 1879 and 1 October 1879). In 1880, the census listed the newlyweds as residents of southwest Raleigh where Williamson was listed as a merchant (Ancestry.com 2010).

Williamson's country house was built during a transformative period in Marks Creek Township and Wake County. Founded in 1868, the township featured primarily small farms in the northern half, while larger, commercial farmers and planters such as the Mials, Prices, Blakes, and Hintons, owned most of the land in the southern portion. In the years following the Civil War, small farming communities developed and later flourished with the growth of the railroad network and the expansion of bright leaf tobacco replacing cotton. In 1883, farmer Henry Blake established a small post office in the emerging community south of the Williamson House and in the vicinity of the Mial, Blake, Montague, and Doub farms. After initially trying to select the name of Boshier for the post office, Blake instead chose Shotwell, named for newspaper editor and publisher of the *Raleigh Farmer and Mechanic*, Randolph A. Shotwell. A prominent member of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), Shotwell had been convicted on federal charges in connection with his KKK activities in 1871, but was pardoned by President Ulysses S. Grant the following year. By the last decade of the nineteenth century, several general stores operated in the Shotwell area as well as a cotton gin, sawmill, and lumber mill. The Oaky Grove Methodist Church and Good Hope Baptist Church served the white and African American populations, while small schools educated the children of both races. By 1890, the community boasted a population of 75 individuals (Shapard 2020; Johnson and Murray 2008:228; Branson 1884:652; Branson 1889:647). The 1887 Map of Wake County depicted the new community of Shotwell (Figure 32). Although individual houses were not indicated on the map, Smithfield Road and the recently built New Poole Road were labeled. Now known as Poole Road, the thoroughfare was also known as the Raleigh-Wendell Road in 1928 and the Wilson-Raleigh Road in 1933 (Wake County Deed Book 565, Page 36 and Deed Book 678, Page 579).

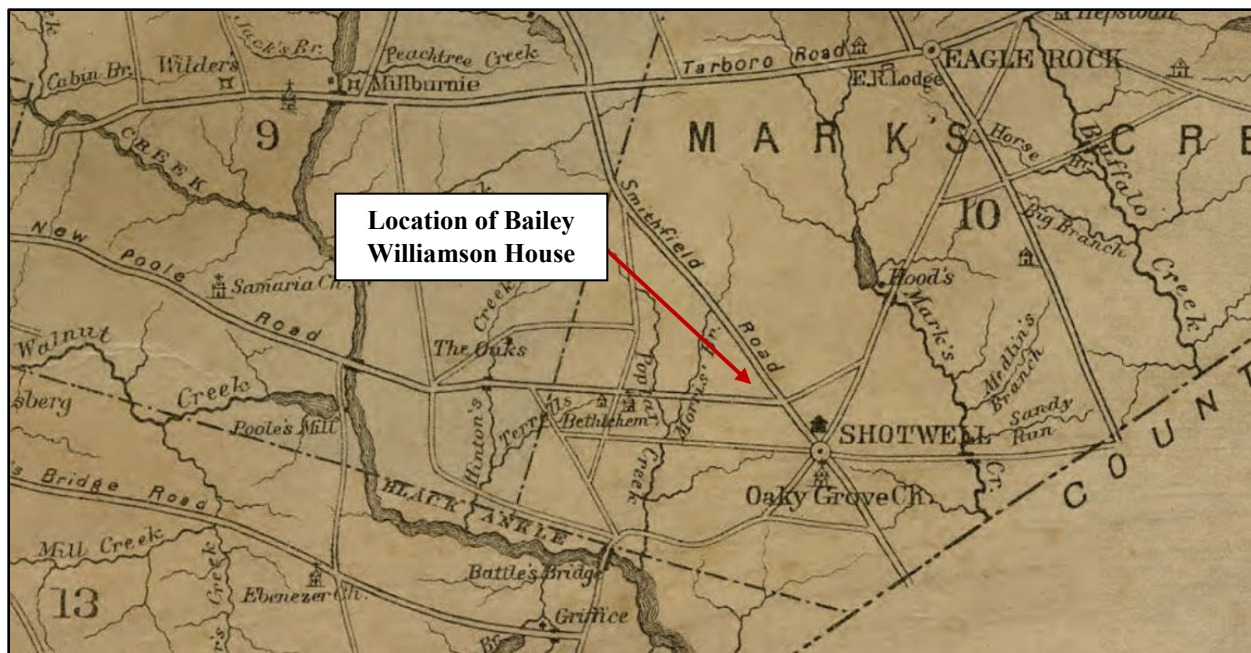


Figure 32. Portion of Shaffer’s Map of Wake County, University of North Carolina (Shaffer 1887).

When Belle Williamson died without a will in 1875, her property passed to her children subject to a life estate for her husband, Bailey. In 1897, Belle’s children, who were now adults that had moved away from Raleigh, conveyed a \$4,100 interest in the house and property on Smithfield Road to their stepmother, Ella (Wake County Deed Book 145, Page 89). Ella also inherited part of her parent’s adjacent Walnut Hill Plantation following the death of her father in 1897 and mother in 1901 (Shapard 2020; Johnston County Land Division Book C, Page 560).

In 1900, Bailey and Ella Williamson lived at 122 W. Hargett Street in Raleigh. He retired from business, but opted to run for office and served as a County Commissioner and the County Treasurer in the 1890s and early 1900s (Figure 33). He also continued to operate his farm lands experimenting with a variety of agricultural enterprises such as installing a vineyard planted with cotton between the vines, developing fruit orchards, including apples, pears, peaches, and plums, and establishing a horse farm in the Barton’s Creek township. By 1890, he was well-known for his excellent horse breeding on his farm known as Fair View and built Raleigh’s first horse racing track. The couple had four children following their 1879 marriage: Herbert L. (b.1886), Rosalind (b.1888), Carl L. (b.1893), and Gladys (b.1899) (Ancestry.com 2004, 2006, 2007, 2011; *The Weekly Citizen* 15 August 1889; *The Charlotte Democrat* 6 June 1890; *The News and Observer*, C.D. Smith, 6 November 1907; *Asheville Citizen-Times* 23 April 1919; Johnson and Murray 2008:153-57; Branson 1889:662, 647).¹

¹ Bailey Williamson died in 1919, while his widow, Ella, lived until 1941. Their son, Carl, inherited his mother and uncle, Millard Mial’s, portion of the Mial lands, farming the Walnut Hill plantation into the twentieth century. Carl’s son and daughter-in-law, Bailey and Sarah Williamson, pursued designation of the plantation as a district (WA4084), which was listed in the NRHP in 2000, and donated a large portion of their land to create the Bailey and Sarah Williamson Preserve, in the Shotwell community just south of the Captain Bailey Williamson House (Find-a-grave.com, Oakwood Cemetery; *The News and Observer* 12 February 1941; Shapard 2020; Molloy and Little 2000).

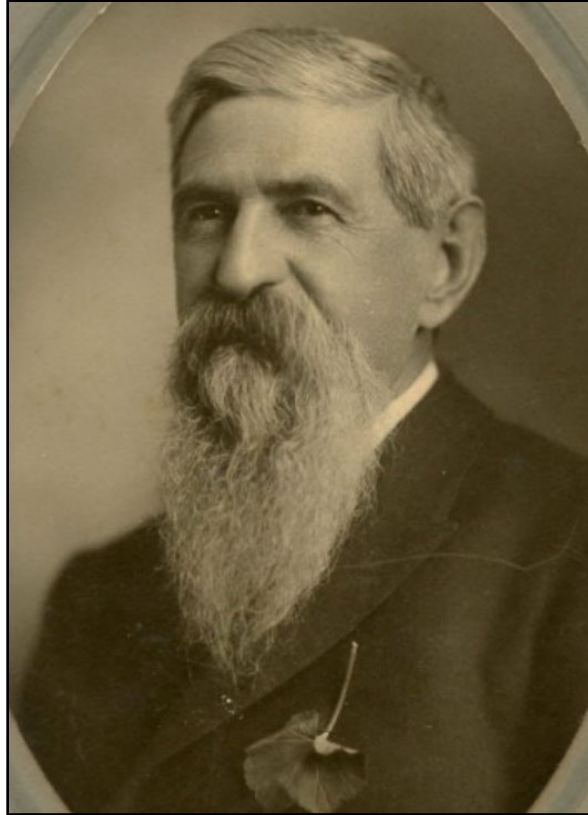


Figure 33. Bailey Peyton Williamson (Find-a-grave.com, Oakwood Cemetery, posted by Linda Ellington, 15 May 2016).

In 1909, Bailey and Ella Williamson conveyed 475 acres including the house on Smithfield Road to their nephews for \$7,500. Their nephews, Charles Beverly Williamson and Bailey Peyton Williamson Jr. (who was born in 1864 before any of Bailey Senior's children) were the sons of Bailey Senior's older brother, Beverly, who had moved to Wake County in the 1870s. Soon after their purchase, the nephews sold the timber rights on the property to Lattimore Lumber Company (Wake County Deed Book 232, Page 348 and Deed Book 236, Page 154; Ancestry.com 2009a, 2009b, 2009c, 2010a; *The News and Observer*, 6 January 1917).

Brothers Charles B. and Bailey Williamson then lived on and farmed the property full time. The 1911 Map of Wake County noted the Williamson farm on the map (Figure 34). In 1907, Charles had married Eliza Le May, an event which was soon followed by the birth of their daughter, Virginia (Find-a-grave, Oakwood Cemetery; Ancestry.com 2006, 2015a; *The News and Observer*, 6 November 1907). Charles died in 1916. His widow, Eliza, and their daughter moved in with her sister in Smithfield following his death. Charles' brother, Bailey, married Nancy "Nannie" Cole in 1920 and lived on the property. The pair had three children, Laura K., Frances P., and Bailey Peyton, prior to his death in 1924. After his death, she returned to live in her native Jonesboro with her children, mother, and sister (Find-a-grave, Oakwood Cemetery; *The News and Observer*, 5 April 1920, and 15 March 1924, 10 May 1935; Ancestry.com 2002, 2012).

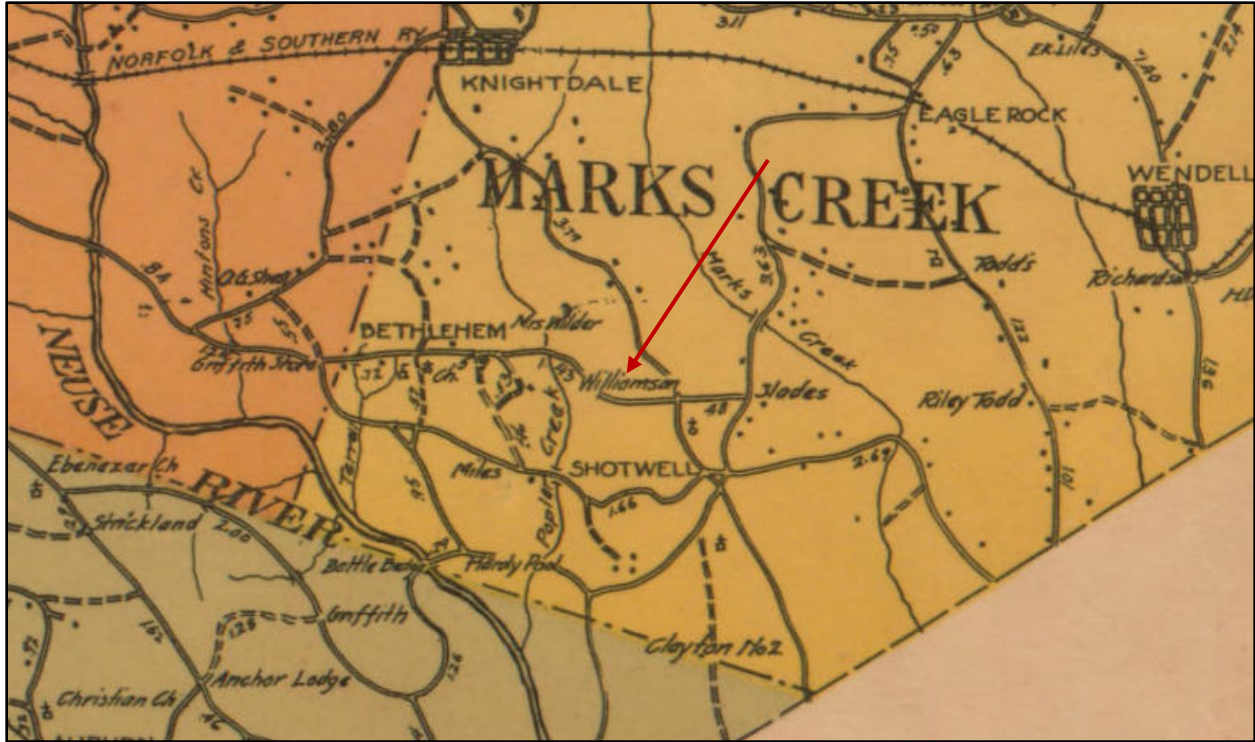


Figure 34. Portion of Spoon’s 1911 Map of Wake County, State Archives of North Carolina (Spoon 1911).

In 1933, a commission was tasked with partitioning the C.B. & B.P. Williamson Farm amongst their heirs as both men were deceased (Figure 35). The farm, now comprised of 232 acres, was subdivided into six parcels. Virginia Williamson, the daughter of Charles Beverly and Eliza Williamson, received lots 1, 5, and 4 totaling 135.4 acres including the “home place” and other buildings. The children of Bailey and Nancy Williamson, which included Laura, Frances, and Bailey, received lots 2A, 2B, and 3 totaling 97.8 acres. (Wake County Deed Book 678, Page 579-80).



Figure 36. Virginia LeMay Williamson, photograph from Smithfield High School Yearbook, 1926 (Ancestry.com 2010c).

When she died in a car accident in 1950, her will provided the following guidance regarding her property:

I give and devise to my friends, Letty Lassiter Wilder and her husband, Lynn Wilder, my farm in Wake County known as the Williamson Place with the exception of the little house occupied at present by my colored friends, Martha and Lester Mial, and land to the road on the East, to the tobacco barns north and the woods west around their house and all land in front of the house between that and the highway. During their life-time this home and land mentioned is to belong to Martha and Lester for their kindness, friendship and loyalty shown to me over a long period of years. At the death of the last survivor of this couple, this house and lot is to be back to Mr. and Mrs. Wilder (Ancestry.com 2015, Wake County Will Book U, Page 123).

In 1958, the Wilders conveyed most of the property that they received from Virginia Williamson to R.B. and Elaine Hopkins. Excepted from the transfer was the 3.4 acre life estate to Lester and Martha Mial in Lot 5 of the survey from Virginia Williamson's will, which went to the Hopkins after the deaths of the Mials in 1966. The Wilders also retained ownership of the eastern 14 acres of Lot 1 which was the property on which the Captain B.P. Williamson House was located (Wake County Deed Book 1310, Page 232; Ancestry.com 2007). The following year, the Wilders sold the Williamson House property to Guy and Carolyn Hughes, Jr. (Wake County Deed Book 1382, Page 365). When the Hughes divorced in 1964, Guy Hughes retained ownership of the house and conveyed it to Guy Hughes & Son, Inc. in the same year (Wake County Deed Book 1620, Page 458). Hughes sold the house to Alvie and Alma Lillian Robinson six months later in May 1965 (Wake County Deed Book 1647, Page 575). Following the death of Alvie Robinson in 1986, his widow, Alma Lillian, sold the house to Robert and Louise Pleasant in 1988. The property now

incorporated 12.68 acres (Ancestry.com 2007; Wake County Deed Book 4375, Page 631). Robert Pleasant kept the house when the couple divorced in 1991. He further subdivided the parcel in 1996 selling off the northern 5.51 acres (Wake County Deed Book 5036, Page 384 and Map Book 1996, Page 1169). Nancy Anderson acquired the house and its associated 7.16 acres from the estate of Robert Pleasant after his death in 1999 (Wake County Deed Book 8580, Page 651 and Deed Book 9056, Page 2750; Ancestry.com 2007). The current owner, Poole Road Holdings, LLC purchased the property in 2016 (Wake County Deed Book 16455, Page 2272).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Built as a symmetrical I-House exhibiting late Greek Revival style detailing, this house was typical of early post-Civil War construction in Wake County. This house exhibits the traditional, two-story I-House central hall plan with the early addition of a rear ell creating a T-shape. The I-House form, a two-story dwelling that is one-room deep and two rooms wide, became prevalent during the mid-nineteenth century and remained commonly used until the early twentieth century. Presenting the largest possible front for a four-room house, the design proved popular for ambitious farmers as a symbol of prosperity. However, decoration remained restrained following the war as the use of ornate trim and decorative woodwork popular during the Victorian era did not become widely available until the 1880s through the growth of the railroad network and an increasing number of lumber mills. Most residents of small communities distant from the railroad, such as Shotwell, could not obtain or afford such decorative features (Lally 1994:31, 98-103; Jewett Center for Historic Preservation n.d.:13; Holl 1982:16-17).

The Greek Revival style gained acceptance in Wake County following the publishing of pattern books such as Asher Benjamin's *Practical House Carpenter* in 1830 and the completion of several well-known local examples such as the Mordecai House addition near Raleigh in 1826 and the 1831 Wakefields near Wake Forest. Although typically associated with the antebellum period, the popularity of the style did not cease with the advent of the Civil War. According to historian Kelly Lally in the book *The Historic Architecture of Wake County, North Carolina*, "simple Greek-Revival style proportions and woodwork remained popular for two decades after the war" especially as the local population worked to recover from the turmoil of war (Lally 1994:98). The Greek Revival style in Wake County typically featured a symmetrical, central hall plan, a low-pitched side gable or hipped roof, wide cornices, wood frame construction clad with wood siding, and classically inspired cornerboards and porches. Most notable examples were two-stories in height and one room deep with exterior end or interior rear brick chimneys. Entry porticos of one or two stories supported by classical columns were common. Windows were frequently 6/6 double-hung sash and doors were characterized by long vertical panels. According to Lally, "a significant collection of Greek Revival dwellings built during the 1840s and 1850s throughout Wake County – but primarily in the eastern half – still stands, representing the style's popularity among plantation owners and prosperous farmers" (Lally 1994:39). Some of the best examples cited included Oak View Plantation (WA1502) and Midway Plantation (WA4818), which are both included below for comparison.

In addition to the main house, a farm would have historically incorporated a number of outbuildings including a detached kitchen, smokehouse, a dairy, wellhouse, barns and/or sheds, and a privy. Depending on the agricultural production of the property, additional outbuildings

may have included tobacco barns, corn cribs, granaries, and animal pens and barns. The following examples demonstrate a variety of farm related outbuildings.

The recorded examples shown below were all located in eastern Wake County and have good integrity. Oak View Plantation (Figure 37; WA1502), now part of Oak View County Park at 4028 Carya Drive, was listed in the NRHP in 1991 and is a designated local landmark. Built ca. 1855 by Benton S.D. Williams, this I-House with Greek Revival detailing has a 1940 Colonial Revival addition on the east (side) elevation. Wake County purchased the remaining 72-acre farm in 1983. The complex maintains its separate kitchen, water tower, cotton gin, carriage house, barns, a cemetery, and a portion of the historic pecan grove. The original portion of the house retains its two-story portico, entrances with transoms and sidelights, interior woodwork, and some historic windows with the remainder rebuilt to match. The addition, now historic, was sympathetic to the original design, yet still clearly of its own period of construction (WA1502; Lally and Johnson 1990; Raleigh Historic Development Commission 2021; Bishir and Southern 2003:136).



Figure 37. Oak View Plantation (WA1502), looking northeast.

Midway Plantation (Figure 38; WA4818) was built along Tarboro Road (present-day US Highway 64) in 1848 as a wedding gift for David and Mary Hinton, but was relocated to 1900 Amethyst Ridge Road in 2005 when threatened with demolition due to development. Situated approximately two miles northeast of its original location, it was placed on land which was formerly part of the

plantation property. First listed in the NRHP in 1970, this building was listed again in the NRHP in 2007 following its relocation and is a designated local landmark. Most comparable to the original design of the Captain Bailey Williamson House, this house features a symmetrical, two-story façade clad with weatherboard dominated by a one-story front portico supported by Doric columns. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash, while the entrance has a double-leaf paneled door surrounded by sidelights and a transom. Although some elements were reconstructed following the move based on physical and photographic evidence, the house retains its original design with a three-bay wide by one-bay deep mass topped by a low-pitched hip roof with a boxed cornice accented with interior brick end chimneys. The house also incorporated an original one-story rear extension and a ca. 1860 side wing, which remain. Several historic outbuildings including the kitchen, a smokehouse, a schoolhouse, and a dollhouse, were relocated along with the residence (De Miranda 2006; Lally 1994:40-42; Capital Area Preservation, Inc. 2021; Bishir and Southern 2003:136).



Figure 38. Midway Plantation (WA4818), looking north.

A third example, Harmony Plantation (Figure 39; WA1926), also known as the Montague-Jones Farm, at 5104 Riley Hill Road, retains the most intact form. It was built ca. 1833 by Dr. Henry W. Montague. Clad with weatherboard, this two-story, single-pile Greek Revival style house is

three bays wide and has two stone chimneys at each end of the rear elevation. Symmetrical in design, a central, two-story portico with Doric columns anchors the north façade. Windows are a combination of 9/9 and 6/9, and the hip roof features a boxed cornice. This property was listed in the NRHP in 2008 and is a designated local landmark. Outbuildings include an office, smokehouse, wellhouse, chicken house, barn, a packhouse, and a garage (Martin 2007; Capital Area Preservation Inc. 2021).



Figure 39. Harmony Plantation (WA1926), looking south.

The Hood Anderson Farm (Figure 40; WA2021) at 2365 Old Battle Bridge Road is a modest example of a Greek Revival farmhouse with an exceptionally complete associated agricultural complex. Still incorporating 145 acres, the farm has a combined general store and post office, a tenant/slave house, tobacco barns, a smokehouse, a cemetery, a chicken house, a well house and the remains of a cotton gin, blacksmith shop, a privy, a dam, and agricultural fields. The main house was originally a two-story I-house with a low-pitched hip roof with a rear ell connected by a breezeway to a one-story kitchen. The one-story porch which extends the width of the façade dates from 1917, but the original entrance portico was a one-story structure which, based on photographic and structural evidence, was similar to the one at Midway Plantation. Clad with weatherboard, the house has exterior end chimneys, cornerboards, a transom above paired front

doors, and 9/9 and 9/6 double-hung sash windows. The farm was established in 1837 by William Henry Hood and was listed in the NRHP in 1999 (Anderson 1998)



Figure 40. Hood-Anderson Farm (WA2021), looking west.

SIGNIFICANCE

Integrity

The Captain Bailey Williamson House does not retain sufficient integrity to be considered eligible for the NRHP. The structure appears to be in its original location and retains most of its feeling as mid-nineteenth century residence. However, the design, workmanship, and materials indicative of a traditional mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival house exhibiting an I-house form have been lost due to extensive additions and alterations. Although the dining room addition on the south is historic, numerous non-historic additions on the west and north on both the first and second stories have altered the original layout and design of the building. The application of aluminum and then vinyl siding, as well as the replacement of original windows, the removal of chimneys, and the redesign of the front portico have further destroyed its architectural integrity. Even though some interior finishes may remain intact based on 2011 photographs, the extensive exterior alterations

diminish their impact. Additionally, their continued existence was not able to be verified due to lack of response from the current owner or occupant. Furthermore, the house's immediate setting and association have been diminished through the loss of outbuildings and associated agricultural fields. The landscape has been altered by the removal of original outbuildings and surrounding plantings of the farmyard. While recognizable as a mid-nineteenth century home of the planter class, other, more intact examples remain in the vicinity of this house. This building does not have sufficient integrity to convey the sense of a farmhouse or the resource's likely historic appearance during the mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth century.

Evaluation Criteria

The Captain Bailey Williamson House is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with broad patterns of Wake County's rural history. While it is associated with mid-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century agriculture, the house and the farm once surrounding it did not play a significant role within that context. Additionally, most of the farm buildings and all of the agricultural fields surrounding it have been lost.

Likely built soon after his wife's purchase of the property in 1871, Captain Bailey Williamson probably had this structure built as their country farm. At the time of construction, the family lived in Raleigh, and Williamson was an important businessman in the community. It does not appear that he ever lived full-time on this estate. The property does not appear to have been owner occupied year-round until Bailey and Ella Williamson sold it to their nephews, C.B. & B.P. Williamson, in 1909. While Captain Bailey Williamson may have been significant to commerce in Raleigh, there is no evidence that this farm played a role in his contributions and no indication that the subsequent owners played an important part in local history. Therefore, the Captain Bailey Williamson House is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B for its association with individuals significant in history.

Although the Captain Bailey Williamson House remains identifiable as a mid-nineteenth century design, extensive additions and alterations have adversely impacted its overall design, workmanship, and integrity of materials. It does not possess high artistic merit. The house was once part of a farm, but only a barn, granary, pump house, and carriage house remain out of the extensive array of outbuildings that likely once supported this plantation. Incorporating only 7.16 acres now, the loss of the agricultural fields has altered the agricultural landscape. Other, more intact, examples of this form and Greek Revival architecture exist in the county. Therefore, it is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for its physical design and construction.

As an altered example of a common form and type of construction, the Captain Bailey Williamson House is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield new information about design or construction.

Martin's Store

Resource Name	Martin's Store (Figure 41)
HPO Survey Site Number	WA0266
Location	4105 South Smithfield Road, Shotwell and Knightdale vicinity
PIN	1762471164
Date of Construction	ca. 1935
Recommendation	Not Eligible for the NRHP



Figure 41. Martin's Store, front (north) and west elevations, looking southeast.

SETTING

Currently vacant, Martin's Store appears to have been constructed around 1935. Located on the southeast corner of the intersection of South Smithfield Road (SR 2233) and Poole Road (SR 1007), this tax parcel incorporates 0.25 acre in the Marks Creek Township in Wake County (Figure 2 and Figure 41). Located south of Knightdale, the store is situated along the northern edge of the unincorporated community of Shotwell. A mobile home is immediately south, and a manufactured house is east of the commercial building, but wooded fields are largely visible from the store (Figure 42). Open crop lands are situated to the north across Poole Road (Figure 43). A wooded

area is west across South Smithfield Road with modern residential subdivisions further west (Figure 44). Although not visible from the store, the Captain Bailey Williamson House is situated on the parcel at the northwest corner of the same intersection. Scattered residences, wooded parcels, and a few open fields populate the areas further to the north, east and south (Figure 45). Three large pines are immediately adjacent to the store while others border the property to the south and east, but the remainder of the small lot is open for parking.



Figure 42. Poole Road (SR 1007), looking east from Martin's Store.



Figure 43. Field north of Martin's Store, looking north.



Figure 44. Intersection of South Smithfield Road (SR 2233) and Poole Road (SR 1007), looking southwest, Martin's Store on left.



Figure 45. Intersection of South Smithfield Road (SR 2233) and Poole Road (SR 1007), looking north, Martin's Store on the right.

DESCRIPTION

Built as a modest country mercantile ca. 1935, Martin's Store offered groceries and general merchandise inside, while a front canopy sheltered gas pumps providing fuel for automobiles (Figure 41). Set on a continuous brick foundation, the original wood frame building appears to have been originally surfaced with drop siding, which remains under the canopy and on the south (rear) elevation; the rest of the building has been clad with vinyl siding. The original rectangular structure has a clipped gable roof surfaced with 5V crimp sheet metal accented with exposed rafter ends in the eaves. The building may have been enlarged with a small addition to the rear during the historic period. The structure now has an irregular shape after two shed roof additions were attached to the east elevation between 1983 and 1993 (Figure 46; NETR 1964, 1983, 1993, 1999).

The front canopy is supported by two replacement rough hewn log supports (Figure 47). The gas pumps have been removed, and vehicular access within the canopy is blocked by metal posts. The ceiling of the canopy is surfaced with novelty board siding. The three-bay wide façade set within the canopy features a central entrance flanked by individual windows. The main door, blocked by a metal security grate, is a replacement metal and glass door in which the glass has been broken. Only one historic window is extant; set within the canopy to the left of the door, it is a 6/6 wood, double-hung sash unit, now partially boarded and set behind metal security bars (Figure 48). The other window has been replaced with 6/6 vinyl, single-hung sash which is also set behind metal security bars.

No windows or doors exist on the west elevation, which is now covered with vinyl siding (Figure 49). A square window opening on the south (rear) elevation is covered by a metal grate, but the window appears to be broken (Figure 50). Of the two additions on the east elevation, the front or northernmost one appears to be earlier. Clad with vinyl siding, it has a shed roof surfaced with 5V crimp sheet metal, but no windows or doors. The rear or southernmost addition is constructed of plywood and has a shed roof of corrugated metal. It has no apparent openings either.

The interior of the store is an open room with entryways into the additions (Figure 51). The front counter appears to be a replacement ca. 1980 version. The novelty board siding on the interior remains, but all of the shelving has been removed.

A wood frame shed with a gable roof and T1-11 siding is situated along the eastern border of the property (Figure 52).



Figure 46. Martin's Store, north and east elevations, looking southwest.



Figure 47. Martin's Store, façade, looking south.



Figure 48. Martin's Store, detail of historic window under canopy, looking south.



Figure 49. Martin's Store, west elevation, looking east.



Figure 50. Martin's Store, south and east elevations, looking northwest.



Figure 51. Martin's Store, interior.



Figure 52. Martin's Store, storage shed, looking east.

HISTORY

According to the Wake County Department of Tax Administration, the store was built in 1933. In the 1988 survey, Kelly Lally recorded that the building was constructed ca. 1933 by a man named Martin. However, deed research combined with the style and the history of the property indicates it was likely erected ca. 1935.

Evident on the 1871 *Map of Wake County* by Fendol Bevers, Smithfield Road extending along the western edge of the subject parcel was one of the oldest thoroughfares in the area (Bevers 1871). Evident on Shaffer's 1887 Map of Wake County, the construction of Poole Road made the intersection a cross roads for the Marks Creek Township (Shaffer 1887). The property on which the existing store is located was part of a larger parcel owned by Landon and Pattie Doub until 1928. In that year, they sold the 0.25 acre property to Latta Strickland for \$50 in November (Wake County Deed Book 565, Page 36). The following year, he conveyed the property to Shelton Pou Earp for \$60, who transferred it to Coy Martin in 1935 for \$75.

According to the prior survey and Kirk family memories, Martin built the store. Both the change in value of the property thereafter and his easy access to building materials support this theory. Listed as a resident of Marks Creek Township in the 1930 and 1940 censuses, Coy Martin was listed as a laborer at the lumber mill owned by his father, William M. Martin, and later his brother, Charles in 1930. By 1940, he was as a salesman for a fertilizer company making \$2,000.² In 1941, Coy sold the store to his brother and sister-in-law, Dewey and Pearl Martin, for \$1,200. His brother also worked at the family sawmill in 1930 and 1940. The store, as well as the growth in the Shotwell area, was evident on the 1938 Highway Map of Wake County (Figure 53; Wake County Deed Book 843, Page 642; Ancestry.com 2002, 2012; *The News and Observer* 23 July 1932; Find-a-Grave.com, Hephzibah Baptist Church Cemetery; Lally 1988:WA0266).

² Coy Martin remained in the general store business, however, later operating a store referred to as Martin's Corner along U.S. Highway 64 and State Road 1003 at the time of his death in 1969 (*The News and Observer*, 25 February 1969 and 10 May 1969).



Figure 53. Portion of 1938 Highway Map of Wake County, State Archives of North Carolina (State Highway and Public Works Commission 1938).

In 1945, D.L. and Pearl Alford Martin sold the store to Alonza H. and Lula Kirk for \$1,000 (Deed Book 929, Page 371). When thieves stole \$200 in property in 1949, the store was called the A.H. Kirk Service Station. When another robbery was reported in 1956, the enterprise was called Kirk's Store. At the death of Alonza H. Kirk in 1957, his obituary listed him as a farmer and grocery store owner. The property is still owned by his heirs, with the majority interest by grandsons Clarence M. Kirk Jr. and Philip Kirk (*The News and Observer* 24 November 1949, 17 December 1956, and 27 August 1957; Find-a-grave.com, Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery; Wake County Deed Book 2228, Page 98, Deed Book 17129, Page 53, and Deed Book 17233, Page 2128; Kirk 2021).

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Country Stores as Historic Properties

The heyday of rural general store operation lasted from the late nineteenth century through the 1920s. With the rural population from the Reconstruction through the mid-twentieth century consisting largely of small farm owners and workers, stores carried diverse inventories and were often situated at crossroads. Owners usually resided in the commercial building or nearby in order to protect their merchandise. Stores served as social centers of their communities, hosting a variety of events from elections to health visits to pet inoculations. The post offices were frequently operated from the general store. Although demand for farm products increased during World War I, an increasing number of rural residents moved to urban areas seeking better opportunities. In Wake County, historic accounts indicate that several general and grocery stores operated in the Shotwell community by 1890 including those owned by L.L. Doub, W.A. Strickland, A.T. Mial, Jr. and the most well-known enterprise, J.A. Montague's Store (demolished). Several additional general stores and groceries, including those owned by W.H. Faison, Bowie Faison, James McFarland, B.W. Rhodes, W.A. Hocutt, and C.H. Anderson and Company, operated in the first decades of the twentieth century. In Wake County, most of these rural structures would have featured frame construction with a gable-front, rectangular form. By the period from 1910 to 1940, new stores were frequently built with front canopies to accommodate gas pumps (Branson's N.C. Business Directory 1890-1907 in Johnson and Murray 2008:228; Lally 1994:126, 170; Fearnbach 2012:6-10).

During the early twentieth century, improved roads prompted residents to shop in larger stores in urban areas. With the spread of electricity and refrigeration to rural areas, frequent trips to the general store were no longer necessary. As automobiles replaced wagons, stores diversified by adding gas pumps and adjusting their goods and services. The Great Depression further challenged rural store owners as farming families expanded their own crops and livestock to sustain their families, buying only the necessities. The onset of World War II drew an increasing number of workers to the cities for manufacturing positions in support of the war and where they remained after the war. Interstates in the post-war era drew travelers off of the rural roads and prompted the proliferation of modern convenience stores and gas stations at their exits. Few rural stores continue to function in their original capacity with most now serving other functions or vacant (Fearnbach 2012:6-10).

In 2012, Fearnbach History Services, Inc. prepared the *Historic Store Context for Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford Counties* (Fearnbach 2012). As part of this study, 51 rural general stores were surveyed and used to create an architectural context. Although the study did not include Wake County, the survey identified trends in the design of these facilities. After analyzing stores constructed from the late nineteenth century through the 1940s, the stores were found to be mostly executed in frame or brick and of modest size. Most wood frame stores are surfaced with weatherboard and feature a rectangular footprint with a full-width front canopy. Other character defining features include large window openings, paneled doors, and facades with flat or stepped parapets. Two-story examples housed residential units or meeting space on the second floor. According to the study, "one-story frame commercial buildings were much more common in rural areas historically, but few remain" (Fearnbach 2012:72).

Gas Stations as Historic Properties

In evaluating gas stations as a property type, *The Preservation and Reuse of Historic Gas Stations* by Chad Randl, *The Gas Station in America* by Jon A. Jakle and Keith A. Sculle, and *A Field Guide to Gas Stations in Texas* were helpful in categorizing the various styles and forms of gas stations (Randl 2008; Jakle and Sculle 1994; Jones 2003). Although first developed in the late nineteenth century, most families did not own automobiles until the decades after Henry Ford introduced the Model T in 1908. Early roads were rough dirt or, if improved, covered with gravel or rock. Opportunities to fill the car with gasoline remained limited to larger towns where local wholesale distributors generally associated with the dry goods store or livery stable provided gasoline in crude containers. By the 1910s, stationary gasoline pumps set along urban and rural roads generally adjacent to grocery, hardware or other businesses provided curbside self-service. Evolving fire safety codes forced most of the urban curbside stations to close after 1920. Around 1913, Gulf Refining Company opened their first full-service filling station in Pittsburgh with a canopy covering several pumps. With few covered automobiles available prior to 1915, little travel occurred during inclement weather eliminating the need for canopies. The earliest forms of filling stations built specifically to dispense gasoline adopted the appearance of a rectangular or square shaped house with an attached canopy. By the late 1910s, oil and refining companies such as Texaco, Humble, Magnolia, and Gulf, started expanding nationwide with corporate designed stations exhibiting popular architectural styles (Jakle and Sculle 1994:133-144; Jones 2003:23-29).

Hundreds of stations were built throughout the nation during the 1920s. Station owners increasingly selected large corner lots to construct their buildings, thus providing access from two primary arterial streets. Services also expanded to include repairs, oil changes, and car washes prompting the construction of attached service bays. The decade witnessed a rise in sole proprietorships and woman-owned businesses, built independently, but affiliated with a corporation and displaying their signage and logos. Gasoline pumps advertised companies and were lit at night. Lighting the entire station grew important to allow fueling at night (Jakle and Sculle 1994:133-144; Jones 2003:33-43). From the 1930s through the 1950s, gas station owners adopted more streamlined Moderne and International style designs which evolved into futuristic and boxy standardized forms in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1947, the first self-service station opened in Los Angeles starting a trend away from the “service” of the traditional business. Independent owners became increasingly rare by the 1960s and 1970s as corporations grew and the interstate system spread bypassing towns (Jakle and Sculle 1994:144-157; Jones 2003:44-95).

Martin’s Store and Wake County

Martin’s Store is typical of historic country stores as well as historic gas stations with its one-story, rectangular form incorporating a front canopy. Martin’s Store is characteristic of country stores in that it is a wood frame structure of modest size, but it lacks the typically large window openings on the façade. Like many gas stations constructed between 1910 and 1930, Martin’s Store is a late example of the “House with Canopy” gas station form which generally utilized Colonial Revival or Bungalow/Craftsman style detailing. Martin’s Store demonstrates the Bungalow/Craftsman style in the use of its wood frame construction, modest, residential sizing and appearance, clipped

gable roof, and exposed rafter ends. Martin's Store does not demonstrate the standardized forms or corporate colors and logos adopted by many oil and gasoline companies by the mid-1920s. It also does not incorporate service or maintenance bays which grew increasingly common during the 1920s (Jakle and Sculle 1994:134; Jones 2003:12-33).

The North Carolina state survey inventory maintained by the HPO includes nine gas stations, primarily from the 1950s and 1960s, and at least 50 recorded rural stores in Wake County. Of these, the Davis Adcock Store (WA0548) in Wilbon, the Lake Myra Complex Store (WA1997), and the Store at 908 Eagle Rock Road (WA7707) in Eagle Rock were analyzed for comparison.

The Davis Adcock Store (WA0548) is a one-story, wood frame store built at 2013 Piney Grove-Wilbon Road in Wilbon in 1906 (Figure 54). As the primary commercial establishment in the community for over 50 years, the independently operated store stocked a wide variety of general merchandise. Originally owned by William Davis, the store served as the local post office and as the center of community social life. Typical of small general stores, it has a rectangular footprint with a gable-front roof set behind a false front with a stepped parapet, German siding, and a brick pier foundation. The large 20-light display windows remain along with the historic entrance featuring five-panel, paired wood doors set beneath a nine-light transom. The two gas pumps originally located in front of the store are gone, although an associated historic house remains adjacent. A number of interior elements and finishes such as the wooden counter and wall of shelves, remain intact. The structure retains excellent integrity and was listed in the NRHP in 2006, but it is vacant (WA0548; Keane 2006; Lally 1994:356-57).



Figure 54. Davis Adcock Store (WA548), looking southeast.

Located just over a mile to the east of Martin's Store on Poole Road, the Lake Myra Complex (WA1997) includes a ca. 1935 country store situated on the south shore of Lake Myra. The property originally featured a mill (now in ruins) and dam, but evolved into a recreational facility with a dock, boat shed, and a two-story clubhouse in the 1930s. Clarence Martin acquired the property in 1939 and built the store; his son-in-law operated it until after 1991 (Figure 55). The mercantile is a one-story, rectangular building with a front-facing gable which extends into a

canopy that initially incorporated gas pumps. Shed roofed additions were subsequently built on the west elevation. The building retains portions of its original wood siding, brick support posts, and wood frame, 4/4 double-hung sash windows (WA1997; Lally 1994:225-26).



Figure 55. Lake Myra Store (WA1997), looking northeast.

Located at 908 Eagle Rock Road, this Store (Figure 56; WA7707) is a ca. 1920 wood frame country store with a gable front. The building retains its large storefront windows, rectangular form, and large, hip roof incorporating a front canopy. Although clad with aluminum siding, the original wood siding is evident underneath. Situated at a crossroads in the Eagle Rock community, this building retains good integrity in form and design, although it is presently vacant (WA7707).



Figure 56. Eagle Rock Store (WA7707), looking southwest.

SIGNIFICANCE

Integrity

Martin's Store does not retain sufficient historical integrity to be considered eligible for listing in the NRHP. The building retains integrity of location as the commercial building stands on its original site. Although the integrity of feeling is apparent as the commercial structure still reads as a country store, the setting has changed with increasing residential construction in the area and immediately south and east of the store. The design, workmanship, and materials have been adversely impacted with changes in massing from several additions and replacement materials including siding, windows, and canopy supports. Original ornamentation and fittings were likely lost on the exterior and interior with the application of vinyl siding and the removal of shelving and the counter when the store was closed. In addition, the gas pumps have been removed, and the vehicular access under the canopy has been eliminated. Although vacant, the building continues to be associated with the agricultural settlement in the Shotwell area and is still owned by the Kirk family.

Evaluation Criteria

Martin's Store is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with broad patterns of Wake County's rural history. While it is associated with early to mid-twentieth-century commerce, the store did not play a significant role within that context in

either the county or in the community of Shotwell. Other, earlier stores situated south within the community of Shotwell appear to have had a more important role in the agricultural community. The property is not recommended as eligible for listing under Criterion B as it is not directly associated with any particular person who played a significant role in local, state, or national history.

Although Martin's Store remains identifiable as an early to mid-twentieth century country store, additions and alterations have adversely effected its overall design, workmanship, and integrity of materials. It does not possess high artistic merit. Other, more intact, examples of this country store form and vernacular Craftsman-inspired design exist in the county. Therefore, it is not recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion C for its physical design and construction.

As an altered example of a common form and type of construction, Martin's Store is not recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D for its potential to yield new information about design or construction.

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