



## North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor  
Betty Ray McCain, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
William S. Price, Jr., Director

November 28, 1994

Nicholas L. Graf  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration  
Department of Transportation  
310 New Bern Avenue  
Raleigh, N.C. 27601-1442

Re: Historic Architectural Survey of US 221 from NC  
226 near Woodlawn to north of SR 1569,  
McDowell, Burke, and Avery Counties, Federal Aid  
No. NHF-221(3), State Project No. 8.T871101, TIP  
No. R-2596A, ER 95-7486

Dear Mr. Graf:

Thank you for your letter of September 12, 1994, transmitting the architectural survey report by Marvin A. Brown and James R. Snodgrass of Greiner, Inc., concerning the above project. We regret the delay in our response, but we have been minus the reviewer for transportation projects.

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that the following properties are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under the criterion cited:

William McCall Farmstead (#7), Criteria A and C

Samuel and Joseph Gilkey Brown Farmstead (#9), Criteria A and C

Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead (#13), Criteria A and C

Caldwell-Brown House (#14), Criterion C

McCall-Hefner House (#18), Criterion C

Concord United Methodist Church (#24), Criterion C

Connelly-Phillips House (#25), Criterion C

William Jehu English Farmstead (#28), Criteria A and C

Linville Falls Jail (#32), Criteria A and C

The following properties were determined to be not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:



Wiseman Family Corn Mill (#19)

North Cove Fork Bridge (#20)

Clarence W. Wiseman Store (#21)

Albert J. Franklin House (#35)

Until additional information on the properties listed below is available, we are unable to determine their eligibility:

Linville Falls Post office (#31)

David Franklin Cabin (#36)

Our concerns about these properties are outlined in Attachment A to this letter.

Additional information about the Rock House Restaurant (#33) has been provided to us since the January 4, 1994 meeting at which photographs of all properties more than fifty years old were reviewed and it was agreed that the property did not need to be addressed in the subject report. Based on this information which is also outlined in Attachment A, we now believe the Rock House Restaurant is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C.

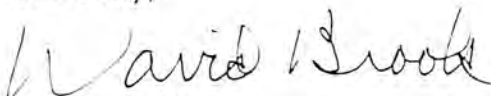
While we understand the rationale used to define the boundaries of the properties that are eligible for the National Register, we are unable to agree with them since there is no clear relationship between the parcel boundaries and the proposed National Register boundaries. Are there aerial photographs that can be used or is it possible to overlay the sketch maps on the parcel boundaries so we can better understand the relationship of the National Register proposed properties to their surroundings?

In general the report meets our office's guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior. The concerns mentioned above are more fully outlined in Attachment A which is enclosed for your use and the authors'.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 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, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763.

Sincerely,



David Brook  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DB:slw

Nicholas L. Graf  
November 28, 1994, Page 3

Attachment

cc: H. F. Vick  
B. Church  
Greiner, Inc.

bc: File  
~~Survey file~~  
Stevens  
County  
RF

## ATTACHMENT A

US 221 from NC 226 near Woodlawn to north of SR 1569,  
McDowell County, Federal Aid No. NHF-221(3),  
State Project No. 8.T871101, TIP No. R-2596A, ER 95-7486

**Linville Falls Post Office (#31):** Additional information on the interior and history of this building is needed to help determine its eligibility. Given the importance of the local post office to a small town's social life and development, the fact that this is one of only two surviving historic buildings constructed as a post office in the county, and that it was a site into which federal funds were pumped during the depression, we believe it may be eligible under Criterion A and the effects of the later alterations and additions somewhat mitigated. Almost all historic post offices have had their original boxes removed and lobbies altered to meet new postal regulations.

**David Franklin Cabin (#36):** This property is puzzling. Although it has been moved and altered, these changes date to the 1910s and may have, in the nearly eighty years since, attained significance related to the Franklin brothers. Is there information available to suggest the property is significant under Criterion B?

### **Rock House Restaurant (#33):**

This property was considered for the North Carolina study list in April and October 1994, and deferred for lack of information. Since then our staff has visited the site and the owner has provided the following information which leads us to believe the property is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C. The property will be presented for the study list on January 12, 1995.

#### Architectural Integrity

The dormer was determined to be part of the original construction by a 1940 *Tri-County Newspaper* article advertising the dance hall. The advertisement featured a photograph of the dormer two years after its construction. In addition to newspaper advertisements, verbal history from waitresses of the restaurant further confirms the owner's claim that the dormer is a part of the original construction. The structure has retained all of its exterior features including windows and doors. The interior has been altered to adapt to health codes and other needs of a functional restaurant. A small side bay was originally a meat market and grocery store which was entered through a separate door on the front facade. After World War II the restaurant expanded into the grocery area. Only the wall was removed and the door to the exterior remained. The interior alterations were essential if the function was to remain an eating establishment. Despite the alterations to the interior the structure has retained a high level of architectural integrity through its exterior appearance.

#### Social History

The restaurant was also found to have a deep social history in the community of Linville Falls. The property was constructed in 1938 to provide a boarding house and restaurant for tourist and stone masons working on the nearby Blue Ridge Parkway bridges. In the first years the upstairs portion of the restaurant was the



home of the Italian stone masons that worked on the Blue Ridge Parkway bridges. In the 1940s the upper portion of the restaurant was converted into a dance hall and the Rock House became the center of entertainment for Linville Falls and the surrounding area. At this time the community liquor laws were referred to as "wide open" and with this came criminal activity. The social and geographical aspects of the Rock House gave law enforcement agencies in the surrounding area a strange predicament. The restaurant is placed on Avery, Burke, and McDowell County lines giving an unclear understanding of the sheriffs's jurisdiction. The placement of the restaurant was described by the locals as "no-man's land." Many local residents and newspaper articles describe the events that have occurred in Linville Falls and the Rock House Restaurant. Much of the history of Linville Falls took place at the Rock House Restaurant. The restaurant remains a key social aspect of the community.

The Rock House continues to serve tourists that pass through Linville Falls. The restaurant is the social center of the small mountain community. Magazines such as *National Geographic Traveler* and the German publication *National Geographic Global* have recognized this site as a "must see" in American small town mountain culture.

**AN HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY  
OF  
US 221 FROM NC 226 NEAR WOODLAWN  
TO  
THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
MCDOWELL, BURKE, AND AVERY COUNTIES, NORTH CAROLINA  
TIP NO. R-2596 AND R-2596A  
STATE PROJECT NO. 8.T871101**

**PHASE II**

**Prepared By:  
Marvin A. Brown  
James R. Snodgrass**

**GREINER, INC.  
4630 Paragon Park Road  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-3174  
(919) 876-2760**

**Prepared For:  
  
THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
AND  
THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**AUGUST 1994**

**AN HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY  
OF  
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James R. Snodgrass  
August 1994**

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**Prepared For:  
The Federal Highway Administration  
and  
The North Carolina Department of Transportation**

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AN HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF  
US 221 FROM NC 226 NEAR WOODLAWN TO NORTH OF SR 1569  
MCDOWELL COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
TIP NO. R-2596A  
STATE PROJECT NO. 8.T871101

PHASE II

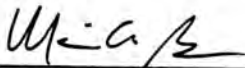
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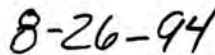
Prepared For:  
The Federal Highway Administration  
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**Note:** Subsequent to the preparation of this report, the limits of the project to improve US 221 were reduced to begin at NC 226 and end north of SR 1569 in McDowell County. Six resources (Greiner survey #1-#6) within this reduced area (TIP No. R-2596A) were evaluated and considered not to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, a finding concurred in by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office at a meeting on January 4, 1994. They are accordingly not further evaluated in this volume, but are pictured in the accompanying photographic inventory. A seventh resource (#7), which is recommended as potentially eligible for Register listing, is evaluated in this volume.

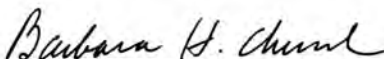
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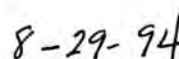


Marvin A. Brown  
Principal Investigator



Date





## II. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to improve US 221, in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties, from NC 226 near Woodlawn in McDowell County to the Blue Ridge Parkway in Avery County (TIP No. R-2596/State Project No. 8.T871101). The 14.5-mile-long project calls for upgrading the existing two-lane roadway to a multi-lane facility (Figures V.1 and V.2).\*

Greiner, Inc. conducted a multi-phase survey of the project area under an open-end contract with NCDOT. During its Phase I reconnaissance survey on June 9-11, 1993, Greiner established an Area of Potential Effect (APE), located architecturally and historically notable resources, and made preliminary assessments of the eligibility of these resources for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The fieldwork during this phase consisted of driving or walking every paved road, farm lane, driveway, and path within the APE to identify and photograph all notable resources. The findings of the Phase I survey were presented to the staff of NCDOT in a visual presentation and in a Phase I report in late June, 1993. In accordance with NCDOT guidelines that were newly revised after this work was completed, Greiner revisited the project area on November 1-2, 1993, and located and photographed every resource 50 years old or older within the APE. These photographs were reviewed at a meeting on January 4, 1994, between the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), NCDOT, and Greiner. At this meeting, SHPO concurred with NCDOT's findings concerning resources not considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register and which did not merit further evaluation. Photographs of these non-eligible resources are included in the photographic inventory which accompanies this volume under separate cover.

Greiner conducted the comprehensive Phase II field survey on March 1-2, 1994, with the goals of refining the APE established during the first phase of the project; recording potentially eligible resources; and evaluating and making recommendations of eligibility of these resources for listing in the National Register. The survey methodology consisted of historical background research into primary and secondary sources, site-specific research, and an intensive-level field survey of the APE, during which more than 95 percent of the APE was surveyed. The fieldwork included extensively photographing the designated resources, recording them on USGS topographical quadrangle maps and sketch maps, and completing North Carolina historic structure long (blue) and short (yellow) data sheets on those resources not previously recorded on such forms. Greiner determined, during the Phase II fieldwork, that three additional resources not presented at the January 4 meeting fell within the final revised boundaries of the APE. Two of these--the Caldwell-Brown House (#14) and the Concord United Methodist Church (#24)--are included in this report and recommended as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. A third, a stone cottage (#34) built around 1937, is not believed--like the contemporary, non-eligible, previously reviewed, stone restaurant (#33) standing to its fore--to meet any of the Criteria for Register listing because it has no known historical significance and is not architecturally typical, distinctive, or otherwise notable. It is therefore only included in the accompanying photographic inventory. Following the fieldwork, Greiner completed sketch maps for all of the notable properties within the APE and drew boundaries, on tax maps, for all potentially Register-eligible resources within the APE. This report records the results of the Phase II survey.

The final boundaries of the APE were determined in consultation with NCDOT. They are delineated in this report on the Little Switzerland, Ashford, and Linville Falls USGS topographic quadrangle maps (Figures V.3a, V.3b, and V.3c). The APE was largely determined by the lay of the land, its boundary running along topographic contours and field and tree lines. In general, within North Cove the APE includes much of the cleared land within 500 feet of either side of US 221. Within the narrow, steeply walled gorge leading north from the cove to Linville Falls, and within the community of Linville Falls, its bounds are quite close to the roadway.

Greiner, Inc. carefully examined and recorded 16 architecturally and historically notable resources located within the APE. The Blue Ridge Parkway (#39) has been officially declared eligible for listing in the National Register by a Declaration of Eligibility or DOE (Stancil 1994). Nine other resources are believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register: the William McCall Farmstead (#7); the Samuel and Joseph Gilkey Brown Farmstead (#9); the Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead (#13); the Caldwell-Brown House (#14); the McCall-Hefner House (#18); Concord United Methodist Church (#24); the Connelly-Phillips House (#25); the William Jehu English Farmstead (#28); and the Linville Falls Jail (#32). Six other resources are architecturally and historically notable, but do not appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register: the Wiseman Family Corn Mill (#19); the North Cove Fork Bridge (#20); the Clarence W. Wiseman Store (#21); the Linville Falls Post Office (#31); the Albert J. Franklin House (#35); and the David Franklin Cabin (#36).

*\* – Subsequent to the preparation of this report, the limits of the project to improve US 221 were reduced to begin at NC 226 and end north of SR 1569 in McDowell County. Six resources (Greiner survey #1-#6) within this reduced area (TIP No. R-2596A) were evaluated and considered not to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register, a finding concurred in by the SHPO at a meeting on January 4, 1994. They are accordingly not further evaluated in this volume, but are pictured in the accompanying photographic inventory. A seventh resource (#7), which is recommended as potentially eligible for Register listing, is evaluated in this volume.*



**PROPERTIES EVALUATED WITHIN THE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT**

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**A. PROPERTIES LISTED IN, DECLARED ELIGIBLE, OR CONSIDERED POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

*Properties Listed In the National Register:*

None

*Properties Declared Eligible for the National Register by a Determination of Eligibility (DOE):*

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*Properties on the North Carolina National Register Study List:*

None

*Properties Considered Potentially Eligible For the National Register:*

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8	Connelly-Phillips House (#25) - East side of US 221, 0.4 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-54
9	William Jehu English Farmstead (#28) - West side of US 221, 1.7 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-61
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## V. INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to improve US 221, in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties, from NC 226 near Woodlawn in McDowell County to the Blue Ridge Parkway in Avery County (TIP No. R-2596/State Project No. 8.T871101). The 14.5-mile-long project calls for upgrading the existing two-lane roadway to a multi-lane facility (Figures V.1 and V.2).\*

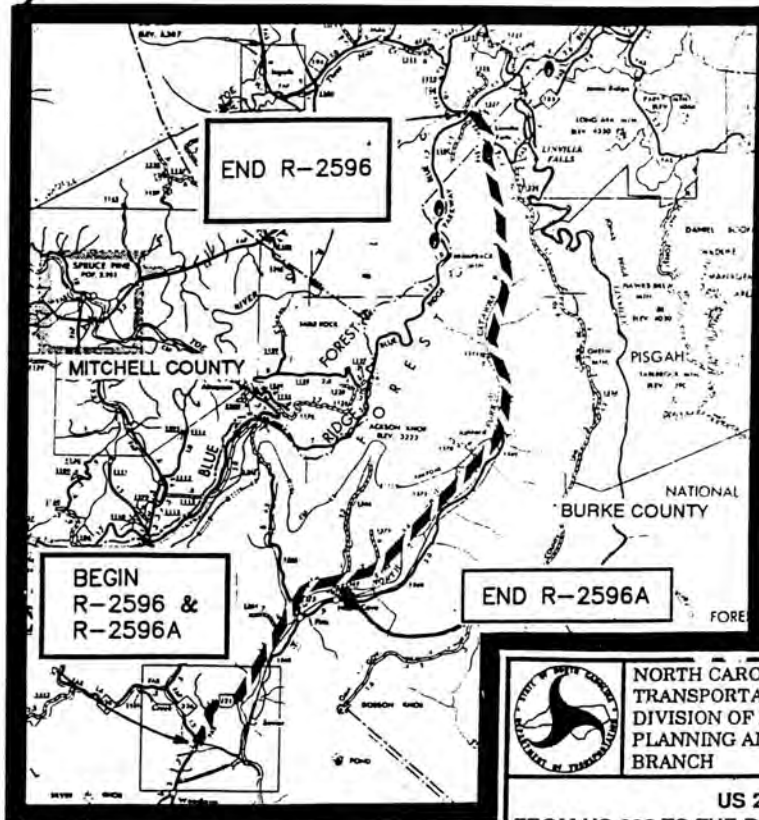
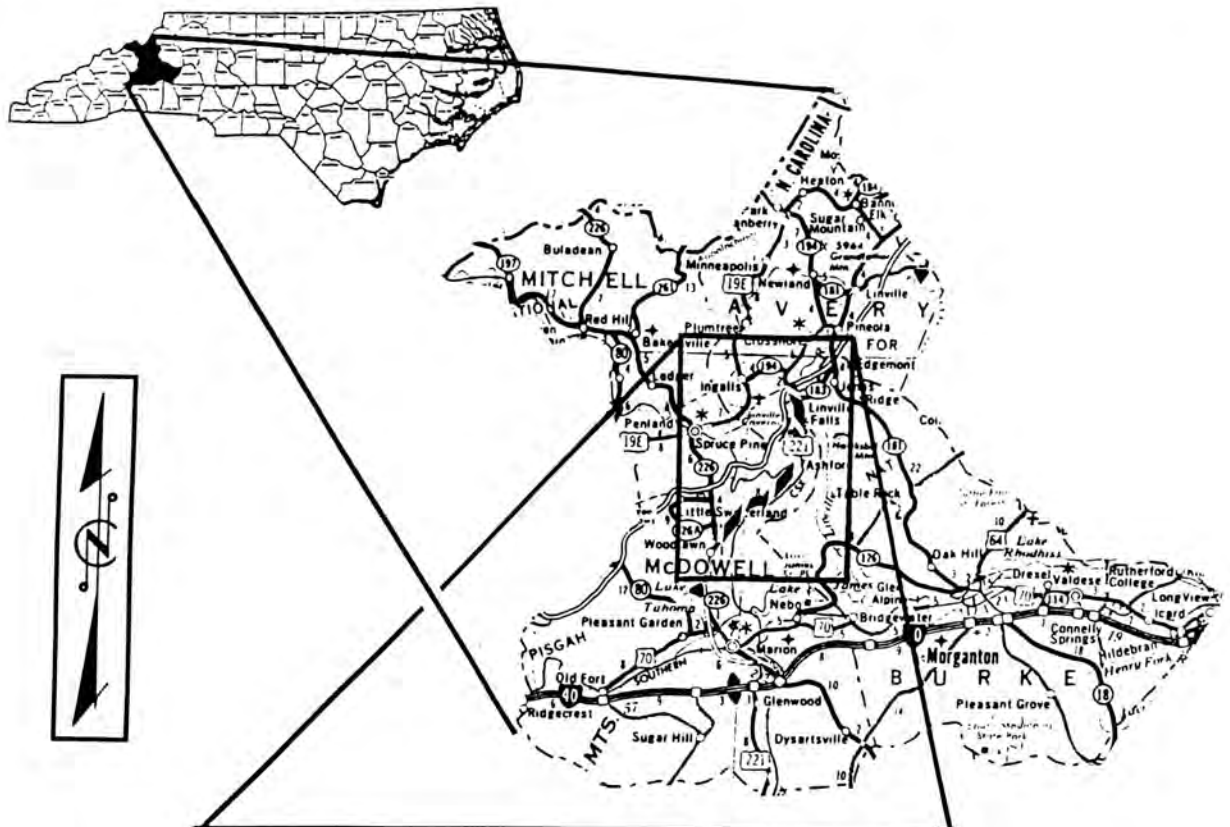
This report presents the results of Phase II of a multi-phase historic architectural survey of the project area. The survey was conducted by Greiner, Inc. for the Federal Highway Administration and the Division of Highways, Planning and Environmental Branch of NCDOT. The survey report was prepared according to revised NCDOT guidelines.

Reconnaissance-level fieldwork for the Phase I survey was conducted by architectural historian Marvin A. Brown on June 9-11, 1993. Mr. Brown presented the findings of the Phase I survey to the staff of NCDOT in a visual presentation and in a Phase I report. In accordance with NCDOT guidelines that were newly revised after Greiner completed this work, Mr. Brown revisited the project area on November 1-2, 1993, and, with the assistance of North Cove-native Dr. Henry S. Brown, located and photographed every resource 50 years old or older within the APE. These photographs were reviewed at a meeting on January 4, 1994, between the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), NCDOT, and Greiner. At this meeting, SHPO concurred with NCDOT's findings concerning resources not considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register and which did not merit further evaluation. Photographs of these non-eligible resources are included in the photographic inventory accompanying this volume.

Intensive-level fieldwork for the Phase II survey was conducted by Mr. Brown on March 1-2, 1994. Mr. Brown subsequently prepared this survey report, with the assistance of graphics coordinator James R. Snodgrass and administrative assistant Brenda Laney.

Briefly, an architectural survey within the APE associated with the proposed improvements to US 221 was necessary for compliance with the basic requirements of: Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations on the "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800); and revised NCDOT guidelines. The resources included within this report are those determined at the meeting of January 4, 1994, and two additional resources not noted at that meeting--the Caldwell-Brown House (#14) and the Concord United Methodist Church (#24)--which Greiner determined during the Phase II fieldwork were within the final revised boundaries of the APE. The resources included within the accompanying photographic inventory are those determined at the meeting of January 4, 1994; the Caldwell-Brown House and Concord United Methodist Church; and one further resource not presented at that meeting, a stone cottage (#34) built around 1937. This cottage is not believed--like the contemporary, non-eligible, previously reviewed, stone restaurant (#33) standing to its to fore--to meet any of the Criteria for Register listing because it has no known historical significance and is not architecturally typical, distinctive, or otherwise notable.





	NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL BRANCH
	US 221 FROM NC 226 TO THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY McDOWELL AND AVERY COUNTIES R-2596 & R-2596A

Figure V.1 PROJECT LOCATION MAP



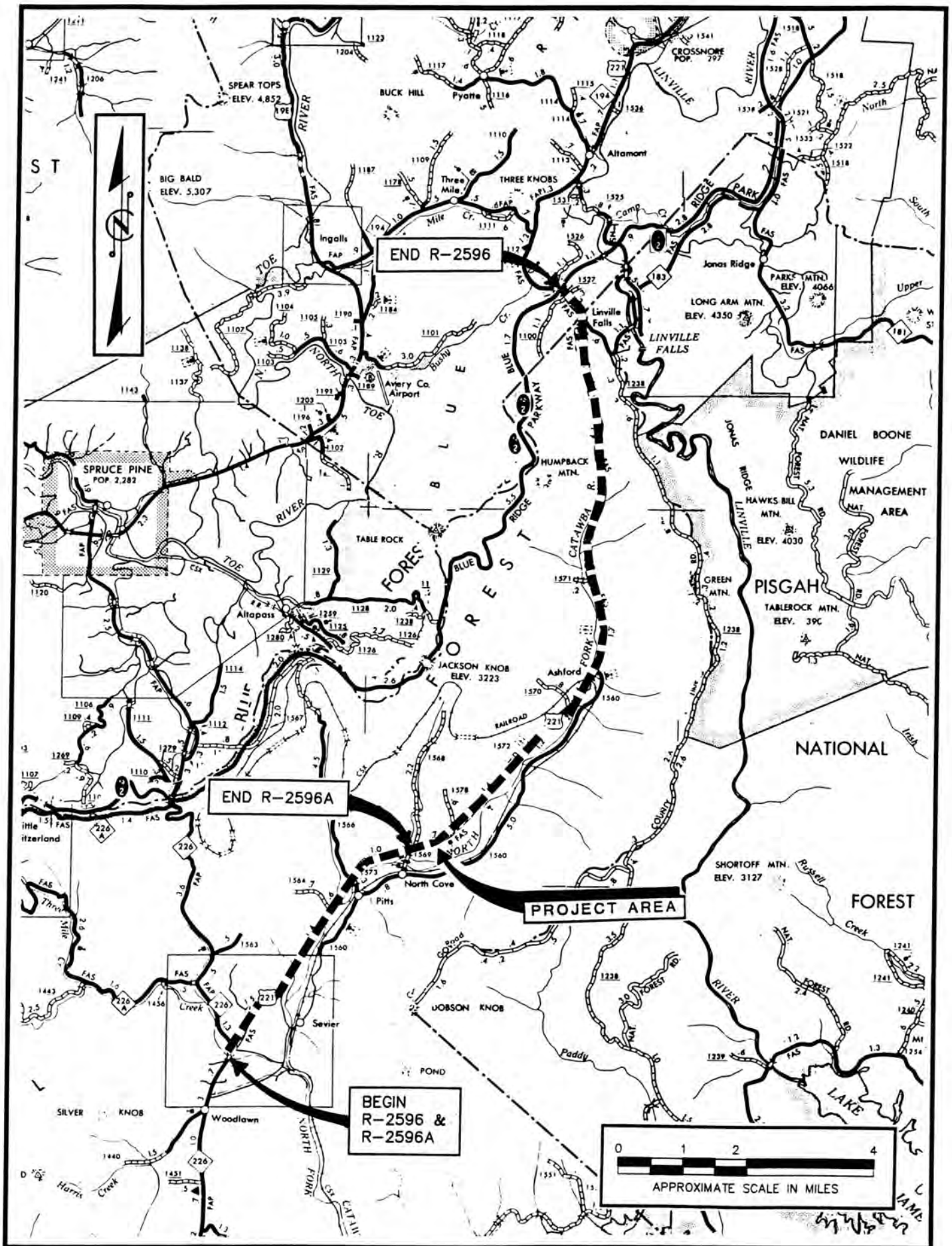


Figure V.2 PROJECT CORRIDOR MAP

In order to meet the requirements of these laws and regulations, the work plan for the Phase II survey included the following items: (1) conducting general historical and architectural background research in order to develop contexts within which to evaluate resources potentially eligible for the National Register; (2) refining the Area of Potential Effect established during the initial phase of the project; (3) specific historical and architectural research on those resources within the APE identified as potentially eligible for the National Register or architecturally or historically noteworthy; (4) describing, evaluating, and proposing boundaries for those resources believed to be potentially eligible for the National Register; and (5) preparation of a report developed pursuant to the above-referenced laws, regulations, and guidelines. As part of this work effort, Greiner additionally completing North Carolina historic structure long (blue) and short (yellow) data sheets on those resources not previously recorded on such forms.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is the area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. Its boundaries were preliminarily determined during Phase I of this project, and refined and finalized, following consultation with NCDOT, during Phase II. These boundaries were delineated on the Little Switzerland, Ashford, and Linville Falls USGS topographic quadrangle maps (Figures V.3a, V.3b, and V.3c). The APE was largely determined by the lay of the land, its boundary running along topographic contours and field and tree lines. The APE's distance from the project corridor ranges from approximately 100 to 2,000 feet and encompasses approximately 1,770 acres of land. In general, within North Cove the APE includes much of the cleared land within 500 feet of either side of US 221. Within the narrow, steeply walled gorge leading north from the cove to Linville Falls, and within the community of Linville Falls, its bounds are quite close to the roadway.

*\* – Subsequent to the preparation of this report, the limits of the project to improve US 221 were reduced to begin at NC 226 and end north of SR 1569 in McDowell County. Six resources (Greiner survey #1-#6) within this reduced area (TIP No. R-2596A) were evaluated and considered not to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register, a finding concurred in by the SHPO at a meeting on January 4, 1994. They are accordingly not further evaluated in this volume, but are pictured in the accompanying photographic inventory. A seventh resource (#7), which is recommended as potentially eligible for Register listing, is evaluated in this volume.*



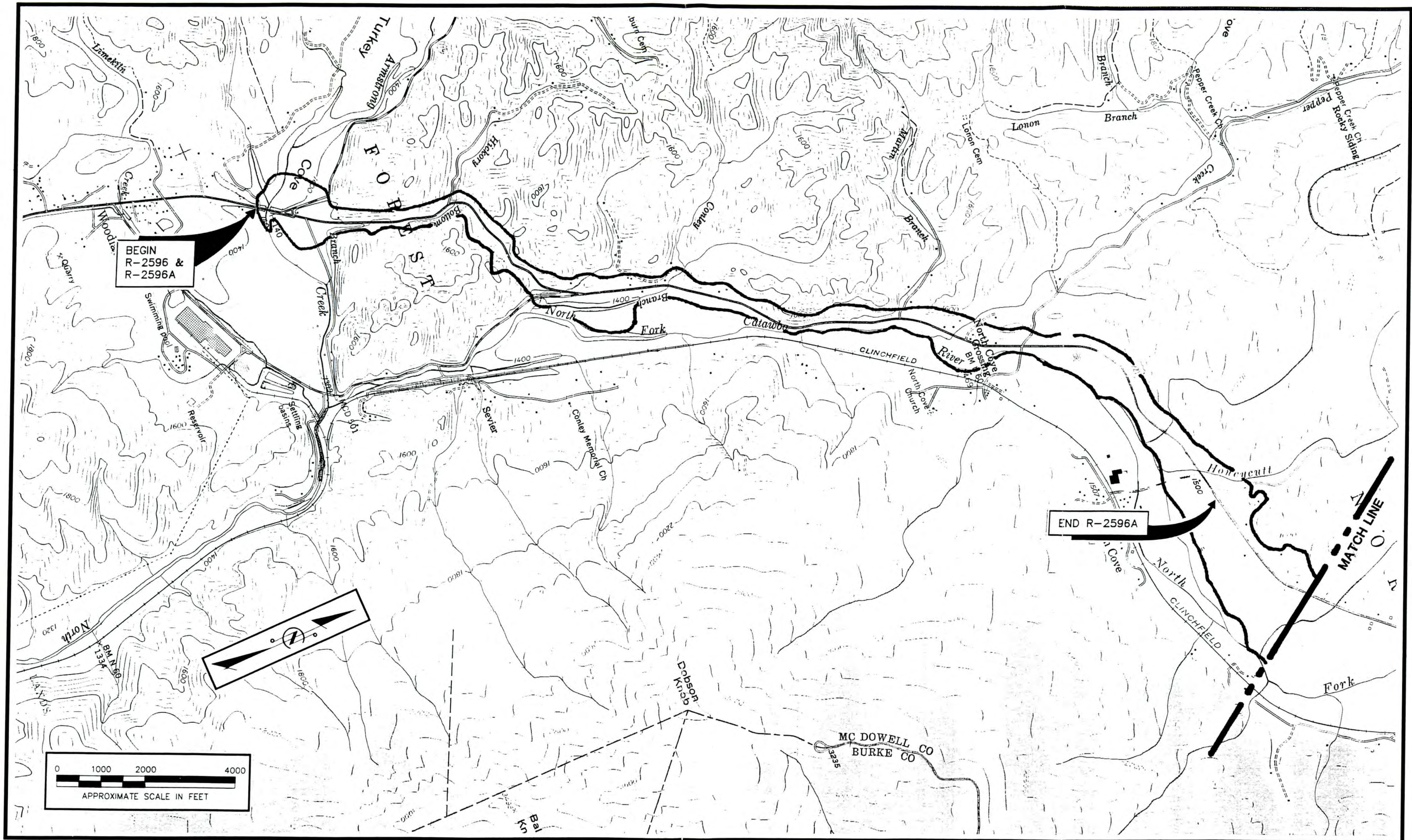


FIGURE V.3a AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

(ASHFORD, LINVILLE FALLS AND LITTLE SWITZERLAND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAPS)



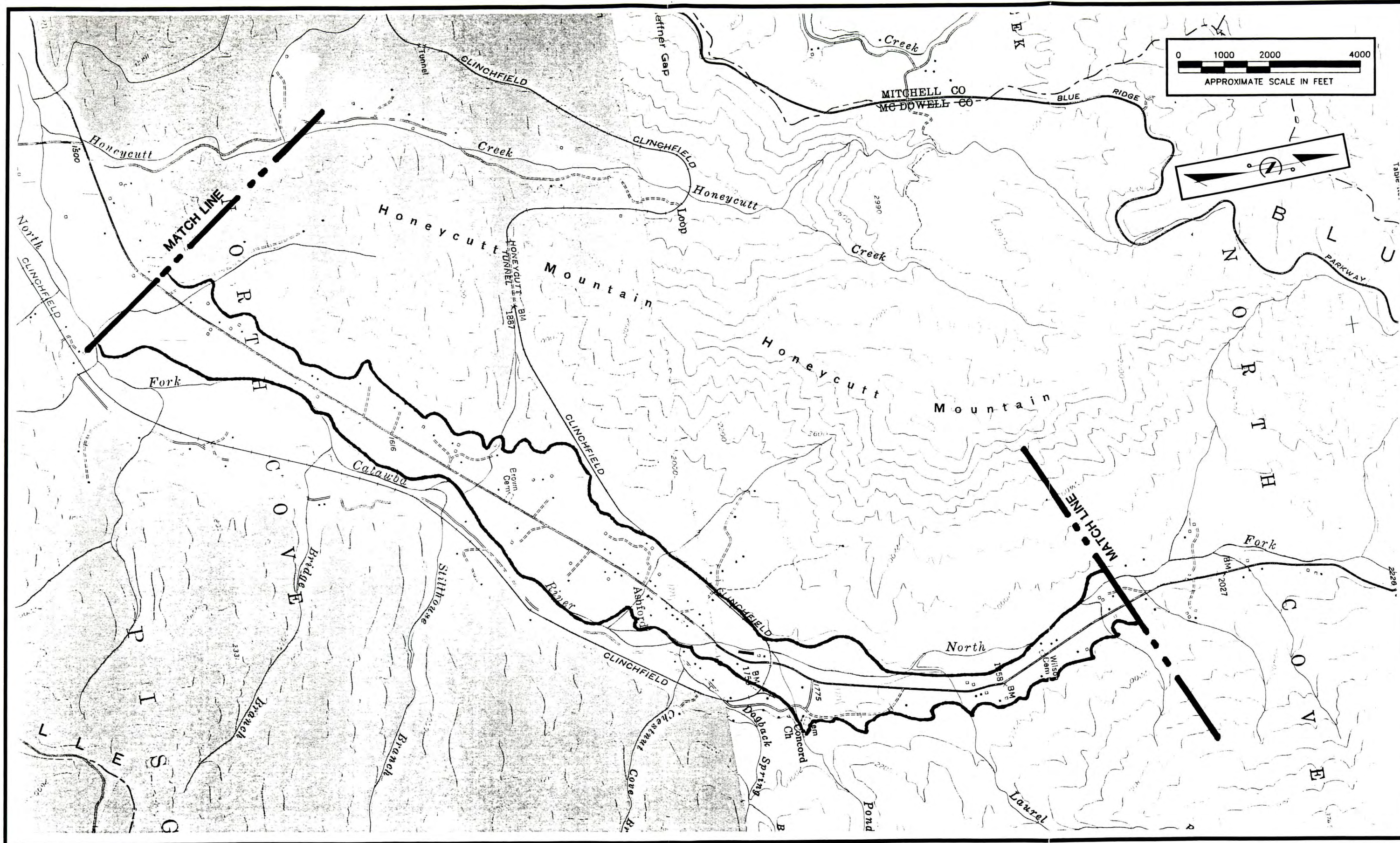


FIGURE V.3b AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

(ASHFORD, LINVILLE FALLS AND LITTLE SWITZERLAND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAPS)



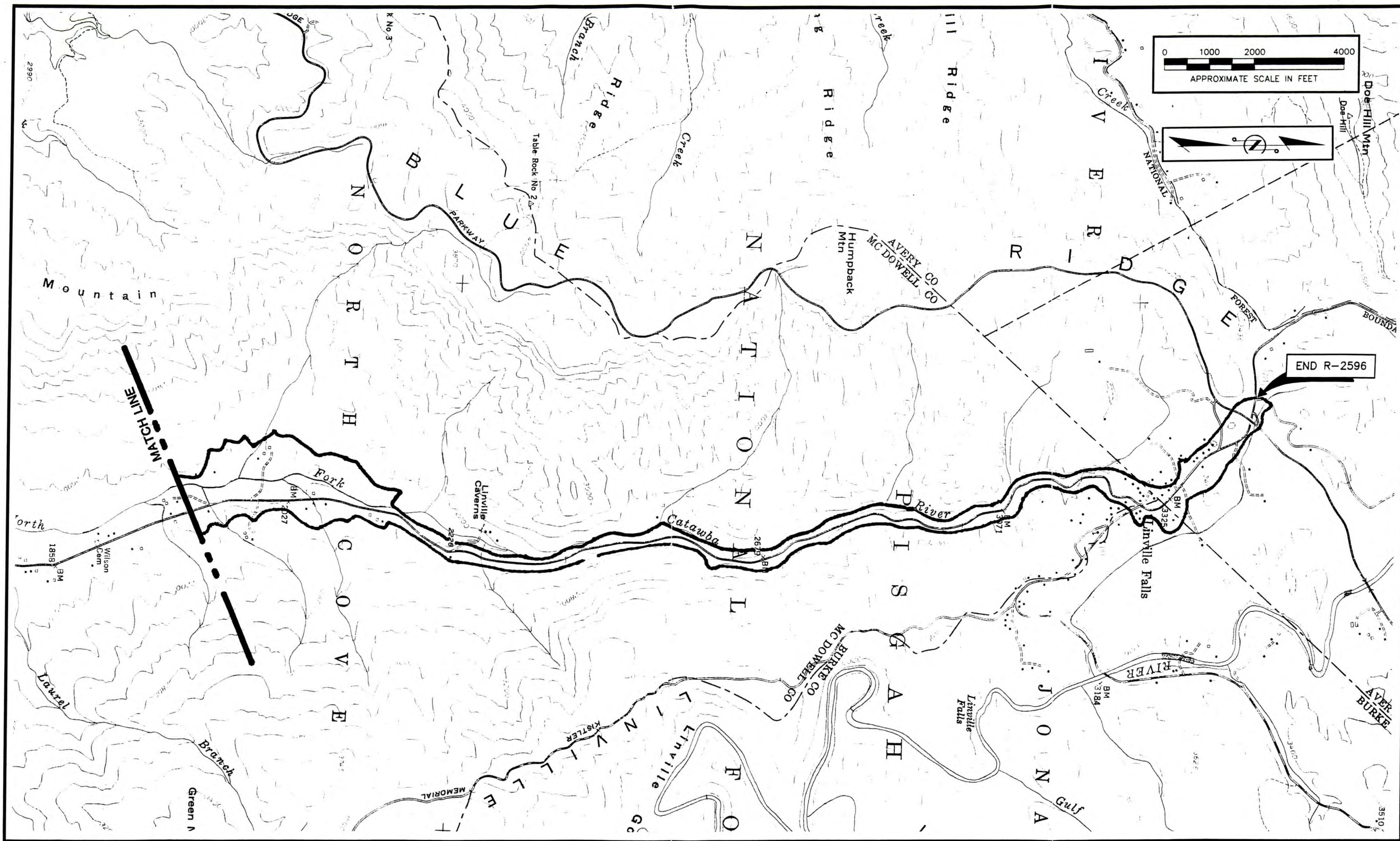


FIGURE V.3c AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

(ASHFORD, LINVILLE FALLS AND LITTLE SWITZERLAND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAPS)



## VI. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The project's Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the improvements to US 221 extends north from near Woodlawn in McDowell County, through North Cove, up a narrow steeply walled gorge to Linville Falls, and then a short distance through the community of Linville Falls and Burke and Avery counties to its northern terminus at the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The southern terminus of the project is near the rural community of Woodlawn in Turkey Cove in McDowell County (Plate VI.1). Turkey Cove is a small valley which is quickly pinched off as US 221 winds north for two-and-a-half miles along Hickory Bottom Branch and through hills, woods, and some open fields (Plate VI.2). There is little open space in this largely wooded stretch until, near the intersection of Conley Branch and the North Fork of the Catawba River, North Cove opens fully before the road.

About eight miles long and less than a mile across at its greatest extent, North Cove is grandly framed by mountains. Shadowing the valley's floor, which climbs from about 1,500 to 2,000 feet as one passes north, are the Linville Mountains to the east, which rise to over 3,700 feet, and to the west the Blue Ridge and Honeycutt mountains, which exceed 4,000 feet at their heights opposite the cove. Untilled fields, pastures, grasses for fodder, and tree and shrub farms cover much of the valley's floor on either side of US 221, which passes through its center (Plates VI.3 and VI.4). These open lands and the highway are joined within the cove, beyond the borders of the APE, by tracts of woods at the mountains' edges, the Old Linville Road (SR 1560), the North Fork of the Catawba River, and the Clinchfield Railroad. Eleven of the APE's architecturally and historically notable resources are located within North Cove.

Wide and arable, the valley was one of the first settled areas of mountainous northern and western McDowell County. Following the Revolutionary War, pioneers were attracted to the relatively rich bottomland extending east and west of the North Fork of the Catawba River. The valley's many farmhouses and outbuildings, dating from the antebellum period through the Depression, reflect the past dominant agrarian nature of the cove. Scattered modern houses, disconnected from the lands around them, reflect the present diminished agrarian nature of the valley and the ability of North Cove residents to travel the smooth paved surface of US 221 to jobs in nearby industrial facilities, in Marion, and beyond.

North Cove narrows beyond the Clinchfield Railroad which, freed of its tortuous passage over and through the Blue Ridge, loops over US 221 and heads south down the valley with the river (Plate VI.5). Erected between 1905 and 1908, the railroad had a dramatic impact on the cove, providing a ready outlet for its crops, timber, and stone, and decreasing its isolation from the outside world. The valley's large, boxy, early twentieth-century dwellings, such as the Connelly-Phillips House (c.1906) (#25), Joseph Gilkey Brown House (1910) (#9), and the Henry Seawell Brown House (1916) (#13), are a testament to the influence of the Clinchfield on North Cove's economic fortunes. Two-and-a-half miles north of the railroad overpass, just past the William Jehu English Farmstead (#28), the Linville Mountains and the Blue Ridge and Honeycutt mountains almost meet, dramatically closing off the cove (Plate VI.6).



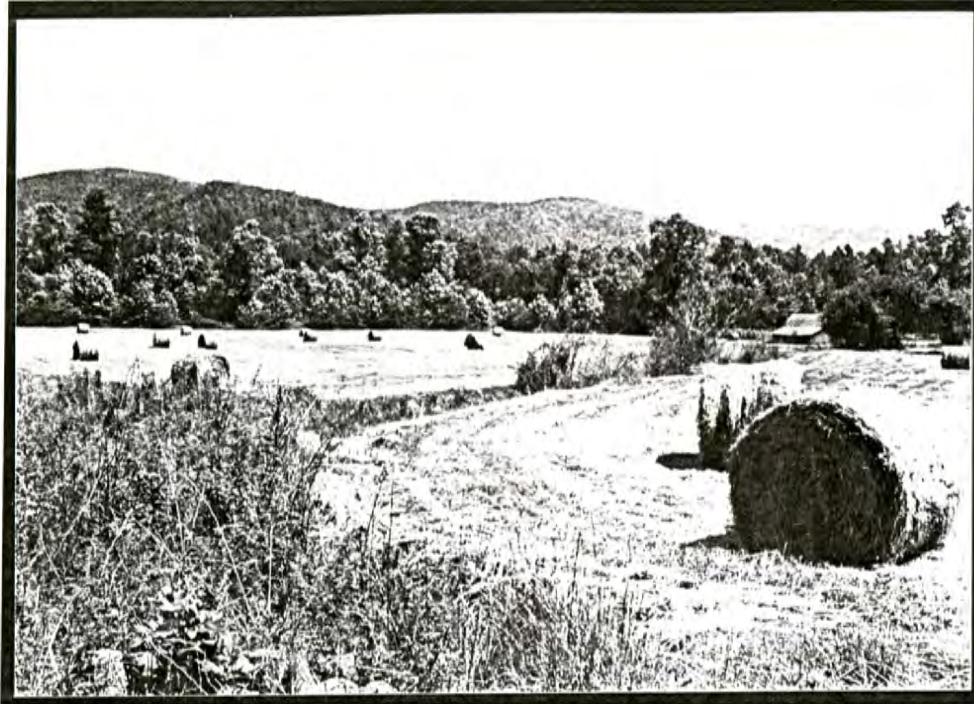


**Plate VI.1**  
TURKEY COVE FROM  
US 221 NEAR THE  
SOUTHERN TERMINUS  
OF THE PROJECT,  
FACING NORTHEAST



**Plate VI.2**  
US 221 ALONG HICKORY  
BOTTOM BRANCH NORTH  
OF TURKEY COVE,  
FACING NORTH





**Plate VI.3**

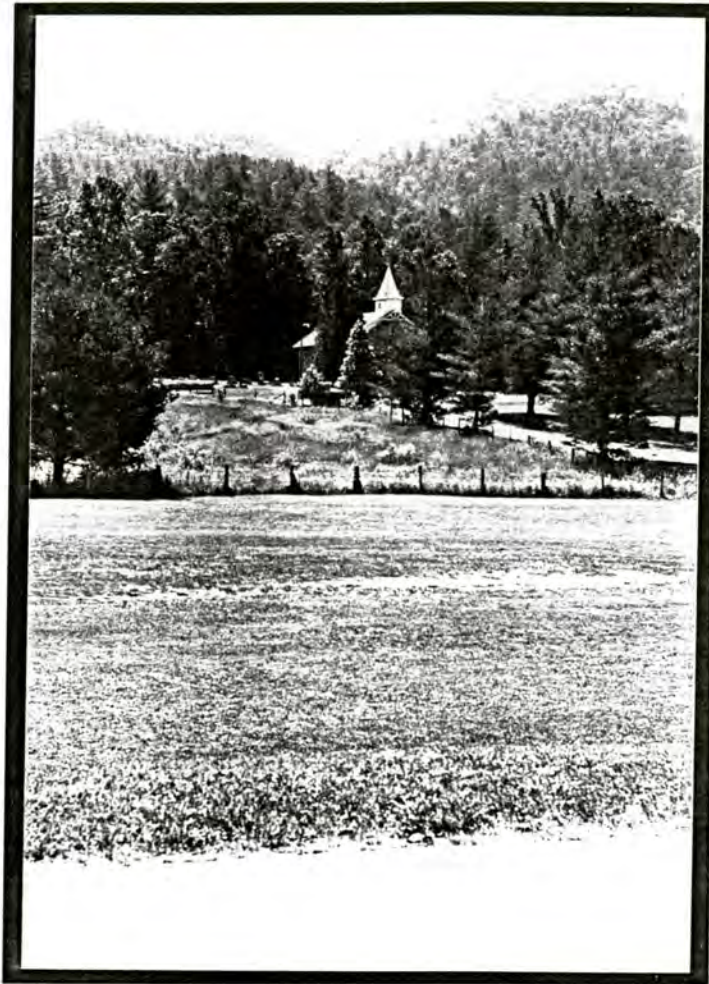
**NORTH COVE FROM  
US 221 NORTH OF  
SR 1578,  
FACING EAST**



**Plate VI.4**

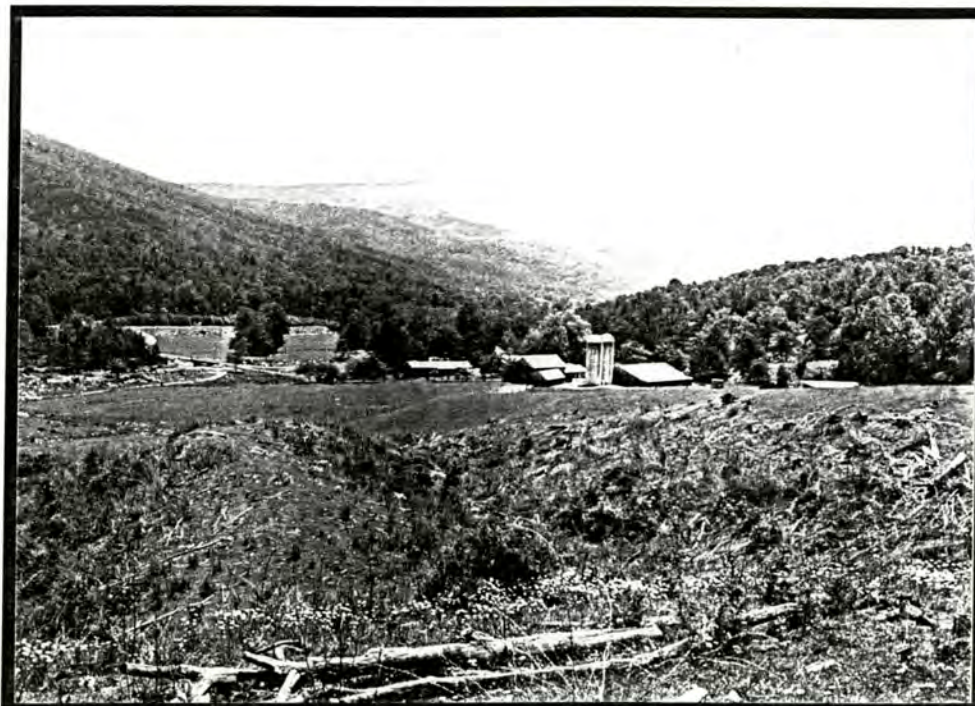
**NORTH COVE AND THE  
HENRY SEAWELL BROWN  
HOUSE (#13) FROM THE  
EAST SIDE OF US 221,  
FACING NORTHEAST**





**Plate VI.5**

CONCORD UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH (#24),  
THE LINVILLE MOUNTAINS,  
AND NORTH COVE FROM  
THE EAST SIDE OF  
US 221,  
FACING SOUTHEAST



**Plate VI.6**

THE WILLIAM JEHU  
ENGLISH FARMSTEAD  
(#28) AND NORTH COVE  
FROM THE VALLEY'S  
NORTHERN HEAD,  
FACING SOUTHEAST

The approximately three-mile-long gorge winding north from North Cove to the community of Linville Falls is narrow and steep. US 221 in many places in the gorge is carved from the Linville Mountains, which rise at its eastern shoulder. The North Fork of the Catawba River, which cut the gorge, is hidden in a steep ravine just west of the road. While in the shadows of the gorge, the APE is reduced to a breadth little wider than the margins of the road (Plate VI.7).

The gorge opens up at the community of Linville Falls, which extends within the APE along both sides of US 221, from the road's junction with NC 183 to its passage beneath the Blue Ridge Parkway less than a mile to the north. Linville Falls--an extended crossroads community supported by tourists on their way to the Parkway, the Caverns, and the cataract which gives it its name--straddles the crest of the Blue Ridge scarp and the headwaters of the North Fork of the Catawba River. Five architecturally and historically notable resources stand in Linville Falls within the APE: the Linville Falls Post Office (#31); the Linville Falls Jail (#32); the Albert J. Franklin House (#35); the David Franklin Cabin (#36); and the Blue Ridge Parkway (#39). Reflecting its tourist trade, buildings within and near the APE in the community also include gas stations, motels, restaurants, and summer homes. The project terminates at the northernmost edge of the community, where the Blue Ridge Parkway spans US 221 (Plate VI.8).





**Plate VI.7**

**GORGE OF THE NORTH  
FORK OF THE CATAWBA  
RIVER AND US 221,  
BETWEEN LINVILLE  
CAVERNS AND  
LINVILLE FALLS,  
LOOKING SOUTH**



**Plate VI.8**

**SOUTHWEST ELEVATION  
OF BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
(#39) BRIDGE OVER  
US 221, FACING NORTH  
TOWARDS NORTHERN  
TERMINUS OF PROJECT**

## VII. ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### A. *History*

The history of the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE) is primarily that of North Cove in McDowell County and the town of Linville Falls in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties. Eleven of the area's architecturally and historically noteworthy resources are nestled in the cove between the Linville Mountains and the Blue Ridge and Honeycutt mountains. The other five are clustered on the crest of the Blue Ridge scarp in Linville Falls.

#### 1. *Settlement and Agricultural Development, 1770-1904*

##### a. *North Cove*

McDowell County was formed in 1842-1843 from Burke and Rutherford counties. Its history and that of North Cove, however, extend back to the previous century (Fossett 1976:7). The first white pioneer reportedly entered the county about 1730 and within the decade settlement had begun in the upper basin of the Catawba River. At the time of the Revolutionary War, Davidson's Fort (now Old Fort) was among the region's westernmost outposts, serving as a base for exploration and settlement of the Blue Ridge to the north and west (Fossett 1976:14). Treaties with the Cherokees, coupled with a return to stability following the end of the war, "threw open the whole mountain region to the whites, and while there had been a few isolated families in the area before 1783, settlers rushed into the region after that date" (Lefler and Newsome 1954:255).

Even prior to the Revolution, settlers began to claim North Cove. Its early settlement was not surprising, for the eight-mile-long valley was an oasis midst the mountains of northern McDowell County. Although less than a mile broad, the cove is flat and arable, its lands watered by the North Fork of the Catawba River, which rolls through its center. In the 1770s, Scotch-Irish settlers arrived in North Cove and in Turkey Cove, the valley to its south (Johnston 1992:5). William Cathey received a one-square-mile grant in 1772 in the Woodlawn vicinity in Turkey Cove, near the southern terminus of the project area. In the following year Henry Gillespie, the area's second recorded settler, erected a log cabin near the junction of NC 226 and NC 226A, less than a mile northwest of the project area (Johnston 1992:50-51). Still standing, the cabin is perhaps the only eighteenth-century log dwelling surviving in the county (Alexander n.d.).

Settlement in North Cove was apparently thin and scattered during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Only one early nineteenth-century building is known to survive in the valley, the Federal style A. Billy (or William Aiken) McCall House on North Cove School Road (SR 1569) just east of the APE (Alexander 1985a).

During the nineteenth century, the families of a few of North Cove's early settlers, whose numbers included Robert McCall I, Daniel Brown II, and Henry English, acquired a significant percentage of the valley's land. Their descendants still own and farm much of the valley and occupy many of its early residences.

Robert McCall I (1752-1820) arrived in Turkey Cove from Virginia in the last decade of the eighteenth century with his family. His son, Robert II (b.1778), and daughter-in-law, Lydia Gillespie, the granddaughter of Henry Gillespie, subsequently acquired substantial tracts of land in Turkey



Cove and North Cove. These holdings included the property upon which their son, William Aiken (also known as A. Billy) McCall built his house, and the property within the APE upon which their grandson raised the William McCall House (#7) about 1886 (Johnston 1992:13-14; North Carolina Department of Agriculture:McDowell County Section; Clara McCall 1994; Childers 1994).

Daniel Brown II (1756-1852) had arrived in North Cove by the early 1800s (Johnston 1992:7-8; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). In 1806 he purchased 300 acres on both sides of the North Fork of the Catawba River. This property included part of the land of the Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead (#13). His son, Samuel I (1789-1861), added to the property and, prior to 1820, erected a house to the east of the present Henry Seawell Brown house. His son, John Seawell Brown (1814-1893), added significantly to the property as well; in 1853, 1854, and 1863, John received land grants from the state totaling 2,660 acres (Johnston 1992:7-8).

Samuel I, John, and John's son, Romulus Walter Brown (1843-1905), were among the cove's most substantial citizens. In 1860 Samuel's personal property, including slaves, was valued at \$22,000. The 1850 and 1860 censuses reported that John, also a slaveholder, and his father farmed over 350 improved acres and owned a large amount of livestock (Johnston 1992:7-8; Bureau of the Census 1850-1860). Following the Civil War, John served terms in the North Carolina House and Senate (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). In the 1860s and 1870s he also worked for the Western North Carolina Railroad and served as chairman of the county court (Johnston 1992:135). Romulus, who lived in his grandfather's house, was a farmer and raised cattle and swine. He also ran a water-powered corn and wheat mill, distilled whiskey, and served as a North Cove magistrate in the 1880s and 1890s (Johnston 1992:135).

Henry English (1773-1858) and his family migrated to North Cove in the early nineteenth century. During the mid-nineteenth century, his sons Gabriel (1809-1890) and William (1799-1979) purchased more than 1,000 acres in the northern end of the valley. On part of this property, in the mid-1880s, Gabriel's son, William Jehu English (1849-1923), built the house at the center of the English farmstead (#28) (Johnston 1992:9; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1981:47-53; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). A two-story frame residence, rather than a modest log dwelling as most of its predecessors in the cove had been, the William Jehu English house reflected the increased agricultural wealth in the valley in the late nineteenth century and the consolidation of that wealth in the hands of a few families.

During the nineteenth and into the twentieth century, North Cove was almost exclusively an agricultural community. Federal agricultural census figures from 1850 through 1880 indicate that its farmers raised a variety of crops and livestock, none of which predominated (Bureau of the Census 1850-1880).

Raising livestock was an important aspect of farming in mid-nineteenth-century North Cove. According to the 1850 agricultural schedules, most of North Cove's farms at mid-century included a few milk cows and a small number of other cattle, and it was not uncommon for farmers to have flocks of up to 20 sheep and drifts of between 20 and 30 hogs. The valley's major farmers maintained substantial herds of livestock. Samuel Brown I, for example, owned 20 milk cows, 80 other cattle, 60 sheep, and 70 hogs. His son, John Seawell Brown, had 53 cattle, 32 sheep, and 105 hogs. Lydia McCall's livestock included nine milk cows, 34 other cattle, 12 sheep, and 40 hogs (Bureau of the Census 1850).

Less than half of the farms in 1850 produced wheat, slightly more than half rye, and most oats, generally in bushels numbering only in the dozens. Indian corn, however, the cove's most prolific grain crop, was measured by the hundreds of bushels at most farms. Samuel Brown's farm alone accounted for 2,000 bushels of corn, and Lydia McCall's just a hundred less. Other crops produced in small amounts on most of the valley's farms in 1850 were wool, peas and beans, Irish and sweet potatoes, butter, and beeswax (Bureau of the Census 1850).

In 1860 agricultural patterns in North Cove remained largely the same, although more farmers were raising wheat and less rye and oats. Indian corn and livestock were still important to almost every farm, and most farmers continued to raise small amounts of peas, beans, potatoes, butter, beeswax, and honey (Bureau of the Census 1860).

Following the Civil War, agriculture in the cove remained mixed, but was less diversified. In 1870 the sizes of herds were down, although John Seawell Brown still owned 46 milk cows and other cattle and 45 head each of sheep and swine. Small amounts of wheat and rye continue to be raised and Indian corn was still the major crop. Little wool, butter, potatoes, or other subsidiary crops are recorded in the census of that year (Bureau of the Census 1870). By 1880 few farmers were raising many sheep or cattle, although most now produced chickens and eggs, and utilized their milk cows to produce small amounts of cheese and butter. Corn remained important, and most farmers raised wheat as well (Bureau of the Census 1880). This pattern of mixed agriculture between 1850 and 1880 appears to have remained the rule in North Cove into the early twentieth century.

Only one enterprise is listed in North Cove or Linville Falls in the federal manufacturing censuses of 1850 to 1880, Alexander McCall's gristmill on Honeycutt Creek in the cove. Alexander, the brother of William McCall, was blind but ran the gristmill and a sawmill as well (Clara McCall 1994; Childers 1994; Johnston 1992:13-14). In 1870 the mill ran eight months a year with a capacity of 15 bushels a day and a yearly output of a thousand pounds of meal and flour. By 1880 it employed two hands for ten hours a day the year round and its capacity had risen to 25 bushels a day. The mill's commercial use was limited, however, for two-thirds of its grist was custom ground (Bureau of the Census 1850-1880). Other mills run by men like Romulus Walter Brown in North Cove and Albert Franklin in Linville Falls were apparently not large enough operations to register in the census.

#### *b. Linville Falls*

The town of Linville Falls is centered at the junction of US 221 and NC 183, at the headwaters of the North Fork of the Catawba River and the 3,300-foot crest of the Blue Ridge scarp (Brown n.d.). A community largely supported and defined by tourism throughout the twentieth century, its history extends back to the early nineteenth century.

Samuel Franklin, one of the community's pioneer settlers, and his family were to Linville Falls what the Brown, McCall, and English families were to North Cove, three winding miles south down the gorge of the North Fork of the Catawba. His descendants were prominent figures in the community and a number of early Franklin family houses in the area remain in the family. Two of these residences stand within the APE (Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192).

Samuel Franklin migrated to Linville Falls from Georgia in 1836. At the head of the North Fork of the Catawba River, he erected a large log house with several log outbuildings and a grist mill

(Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:85; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192). Samuel's son, David, inherited the majority of his estate and continued to operate the grist mill. He also built several substantial, hand-hewn, log dwellings on Pine Branch in the middle of the century. One of these, the David Franklin Cabin (#36), still stands, though at a different location (Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1976:86; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:85; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Stevens and Thompson 1985b).

David bequeathed the majority of his lands to his son, Albert (1843-1917). A farmer, Albert also raised cattle, operated a sawmill, and made bricks in his own brickyard (Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192). His two-story house, erected about 1877, stands in Linville Falls in Burke County, east of US 221, up a hill from its original Avery County location (Stevens and Thompson 1985a). Like the similarly fashioned William Jehu English and William McCall houses in North Cove, Albert Franklin's house represents increased prosperity and family wealth in Linville Falls in the late nineteenth century.

In the mid- and late nineteenth century, Linville Falls farmers relied upon a variety of crops, as did their counterparts in North Cove. In 1860, for example, on the 40 improved acres of his 450-acre property, David Franklin had five milk cows, two working oxen (as did all his neighbors), eight other cattle, 15 sheep, and 20 swine. He also produced 300 bushels of corn, 38 bushels of Irish and sweet potatoes, 100 pounds of butter, one ton of hay, and 90 pounds of honey (Bureau of the Census 1860). In 1880, on 26 improved acres of farmland and meadow, he grazed 25 sheep, 11 swine, and ten cows, which produced 150 pounds of butter. Ten acres of his land produced 125 bushels of corn. Two acres produced 15 bushels of oats and two others 14 bushels of rye. From another four acres he harvested four bushels of wheat. On his final two improved acres he had a 100-tree orchard from which he picked 250 bushels of apples (Bureau of the Census 1880).

By the turn of the century, Linville Falls was a tiny hamlet, its economy apparently largely based upon timber and limited agricultural activities necessary to support the community (United States Department of the Interior:1945). An effort by Morganton businessmen to promote tourism there in the 1890s had not been successful, but by 1899 the town was large enough to merit a post office (Anonymous 1989). In the twentieth century, tourism would thrive, changing Linville Falls' economic base and promoting its growth into a small, but active community.

## 2. *Transportation Improvements, Agricultural Prosperity, and Community Development, 1905-1945*

### a. *North Cove*

The population of North Cove was small in the early twentieth century. While a few families like the Browns, Englishes, and McCalls thrived in the valley in the nineteenth century, most had a more difficult time establishing a foothold there. This was in large part due to the valley's isolation and limited transportation facilities, to its relatively narrow size and restricted amount of quality arable land, and to the concentration of large tracts of land in the hands of a few families.

Early twentieth-century maps picture only a small number of houses along the section of the APE south of the Clinchfield Railroad loop (Figure VII.1). This is not surprising, for US 221 had yet to be constructed through the southern section of the APE and the old path of Old Linville Road ran







east of the APE on the east side of the North Fork of the Catawba River. From the railroad tracks to the head of the valley, houses were more regularly spaced along Old Linville Road, which generally followed the present route of US 221.

The construction of the Clinchfield Railroad between 1905 and 1908 was the most significant event in the early twentieth-century history of North Cove. Trains had served McDowell County since the 1870s, when the Western North Carolina Railroad was extended west to Marion and Old Fort and then on to Asheville, but this line had little direct impact on North Cove (Fossett 1976:95-101). The Clinchfield Railroad, however, was run straight down the center of the southern half of the cove, providing an immediate and long-term outlet for its produce and timber.

The railroad also promoted quarrying. In the early twentieth century, rock was taken by the Clinchfield Lime Company from a quarry west of the APE, just north of the railroad loop. The quarry is no longer active, but a few small, altered workers' houses survive near it on the property of the Connelly-Phillips House (#25) (Brown 1993).

The Clinchfield Railroad originated in the Charleston, Cincinnati & Chicago Railroad Company, which was organized in 1886 with the goal of connecting the coal fields of eastern Kentucky and western Virginia with the markets of the Midwest and the Southeast (Way 1931:55). Early progress was made on the northern and southern sections of the road, but the peaks and valleys of the Blue Ridge presented an impassable barrier for almost two decades. Between 1905 and 1908, the railroad was finally driven over and through the Blue Ridge where it rises west of the project area. In 1909 *Manufacturer's Record* reported that the part of the line east of the crest of the Blue Ridge, which overlooked and descended into the project area through eighteen tunnels totaling more than three miles in length, was "more magnificent in engineering detail than any east of the Rocky Mountains" (Way 1931:156-157).

Clinchfield Railroad Construction Camp No. 6 was located on the farm of Mary Jane and Henry Seawell Brown between 1905 and 1908, while its mountain sections were under construction. Henry Seawell (1875-1949) was the son of Romulus Walter Brown and occupied and ran the farm established by the family at the opening of the nineteenth century. Mary Jane (1878-1949) was the daughter of William Jehu English. The camp housed hundreds of workers and included functional dwellings, a clinic, an engineer's office, a commissary, stables, a blacksmith shop, a sawmill, a water pump, and a steam generator. The commissary stood on the present site of the Ashford-North Cove firehouse, south of the Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead (#13). While the camp was in existence, it utilized most of the produce of the Brown farm (Johnston 1992:136). None of the camp's above-ground buildings have survived to the present.

Once the line was completed and the camp dismantled, the railroad--consolidated as the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio in 1908--provided an outlet for the cove's goods. For example, it carried grain from Henry Seawell Brown's water-powered roller mill, which he built on the North Fork of the Catawba River in 1908 to replace his father's burned mill, and lumber from his new steam-powered saw and planing mills, which he operated until their destruction by the great flood of 1916 (Johnston 1992:136; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). It also must have served the timbering operations of the Caldwell family through its Ashford station, which stood less than a mile north of the Caldwell-Brown House (#14).

The deluge of July, 1916, devastated western North Carolina and North Cove. Flood waters in the valley swept buildings, people, livestock, and crops down the North Fork of the Catawba River. At Henry Seawell Brown's farm, his mills and blacksmith shop, with more than forty acres of rich river bottomland, were washed away (Johnston 1992:50-51, 136; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). J.C. Connelly, who had erected the Connelly-Phillips House (#25) a few years earlier, reportedly sold his severely damaged farm in the wake of the flood (Alexander 1985c).

As the valley recovered from the flood, mixed farming recommenced and many farmers continued to prosper. Henry Seawell Brown, for example, purchased additional land on both sides of present US 221 and expanded his farming operations (Johnston 192:136).

The production of the farms of Henry Seawell Brown and the Englishes, McCalls, and others in North Cove found expanded means of reaching markets in 1937, when US 221 was paved through the cove. Prior to that time, transportation in and out of the cove, other than on the railroad, was primarily provided by the Old Linville Road, which winds along the east side of the North Fork of the Catawba River east of the APE (Johnston 1992:50-51). It is not known when US 221, south of its northern junction with Old Linville Road, was first established. It was not in existence early in the twentieth century when the Clinchfield Railroad was under construction, but existed in some form in 1928, when the railroad erected an extant concrete bridge over its present path.

The paving of the road may have contributed to the decision of some of the valley's farmers to alter their methods of, and increase, their production. In the 1930s and 1940s, Henry Seawell Brown mechanized his farm. Under his supervision, its land produced corn, wheat, rye, oats, and hay, sorghum cane for molasses, and apples for eating and for vinegar. Poultry, swine, and cattle were also raised on the property (Johnston 1992:136). Similar agricultural patterns were followed at the farm of William Garvel English (1899-1993), the grandson of William Jehu English. On the 48 hilly but usable acres of his more than 400-acre farm, Garvel English raised cattle and chickens, and produced milk and eggs for market and sufficient grain and produce to feed his livestock and his family (Alexander 1985f).

North Cove remained sparsely populated even after the paving of US 221, however. There are no population figures for the cove, but in 1939 the population of Woodlawn, at the southern end of the project area, stood at only about 50 (Federal Writers' Project 1939:416). The community of Ashford, near the center of the APE around the Clinchfield Railroad loop, may have had about as many residents. Due to the presence of the Ashford railroad depot, it had two stores, two corn mills, and a post office. Two of these buildings--the Clarence W. Wiseman Store, erected about 1927 to house a store and the post office, and the late-1930s Wiseman Family Corn Mill (#19)--still stand in the community. Their commercial functions have been usurped, however, by more modern convenience store/gas stations in Linville Falls, North Cove, Turkey Cove, and elsewhere along US 221.

The combination of rails and a paved road led to limited industrialization just south and east of the project area, beginning in the 1950s. Two large industrial facilities presently stand along the tracks of the Clinchfield, the Coats-American Thread Mill, established in 1953, and the Baxter Laboratories plant (Johnston 1992:39). New industrial jobs and other employment opportunities apparently just barely kept pace with the loss of agricultural jobs, as the numbers of farms and cultivated acreage



in the cove decreased. North Cove still remains sparsely populated today, its population probably not much greater than it was early in the century.

*b. Linville Falls*

Improvements to US 221 and the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway beginning in 1933 had a greater impact on the town of Linville Falls in the early twentieth century than the Clinchfield Railroad, which did not extend into it and could only be reached via the road. US 221 facilitated the movement of lumber and agricultural products out of the town and of tourists into it. The parkway soon began to pull large numbers of visitors into the community as well. These two routes, bolstered by ever more widespread automobile ownership, established Linville Falls as a popular travel destination and placed tourism at the center of its economy (Fiegel 1991).

Linville Falls residents such as Romulus C. Franklin, Albert Franklin's son, profited from an improved US 221 and the parkway in a number of ways. Franklin farmed, raised cattle, and ran a sawmill and a store. He also served as a gatekeeper and guide to Linville Falls when it was a private tourist attraction. All of these activities were aided by the roads (Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:87).

In the late 1930s, Romulus C. Franklin was appointed justice of the peace with a two-mile jurisdiction extending out from Linville Falls into each of the three counties of which it was a part (Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:87). The creation of a justice of the peace position with such a limited jurisdiction was necessitated by the easy access to Linville Falls, its peculiar location, and the activities this location promoted. The community stands at the confluence of three counties--Burke County, formed in 1777, McDowell County, and Avery County, the last of North Carolina's hundred counties, formed in 1911. Disorderly individuals availing themselves of the town's three boardinghouses, three beer joints, and two dance halls could easily slip from one county to the next, thwarting local law enforcement officials. To counter this problem, a bunker-like concrete jail (#32) was erected in the Burke County section of the town in the late 1930s and Romulus Franklin was appointed to keep it occupied (Johnston 1992:49; Burke County Historical Society 1981:77). This building still stands near the junction of US 221 and NC 183 (Cotton 1983a; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:77).

The jail, no longer operational, and the still functioning post office, are the major early government buildings standing in Linville Falls. The community is otherwise dominated by private residences and by facilities serving the tourists coming to visit Linville Falls and Linville Caverns and passing through on the Blue Ridge Parkway (#39). The post office (#31) is one of only a few historic post offices surviving in Burke County and one of only two still in operation (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:60, 109, 124, 189).

*B. Architectural History*

*1. Nineteenth-Century Farmsteads and Residences*

Virtually all eighteenth-century buildings in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties are believed to have been built of log. In the mountainous areas and coves of these counties, such as Linville Falls and North Cove, log construction remained popular well into the nineteenth century. The counties'

log houses were generally small and modest, utilizing a single- or two-room plan supplemented by a loft. The houses were often expanded by an ell, and some had a second pen or even a second story added (Ted Alexander n.d.; Elizabeth Stevens n.d.; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:16-18). Only one eighteenth-century log building is known to survive near the APE, the one-room Henry Gillespie House in Turkey Cove, erected about 1773 (Johnston 1992:50-51; Ted Alexander n.d.). Within the APE, three mid-nineteenth-century log houses still stand, as well as a few contemporary log outbuildings.

The David Franklin Cabin (#36) in Linville Falls in Avery County, erected about 1850, represents the most basic log dwelling form (Plate VII.1). Although its original appearance is not known for certain--it was dismantled, moved, reassembled, and altered early in the twentieth century--it was apparently constructed with a single room topped by a loft. Its logs, joined by half-dovetail notches at the corners, may always have been exposed rather than weatherboarded (Stevens and Thompson 1985b). The hall-parlor-plan, two-story, dovetailed Samuel Brown House (#9), erected around 1851 in North Cove in McDowell County, is part of the same building tradition (Alexander 1985e). Larger than the Franklin Cabin, it also has a finer finish, which includes raised-panel doors and a post and lintel mantel (Plate VII.2). Its larger dimensions, two-room plan, weatherboard cladding, and stylish finish indicate that log did not just provide inexpensive housing alternatives for the disadvantaged, but was an acceptable building material for the residences of yeoman farmers and middle-class citizens. The even larger hall-parlor-plan, two-story McCall-Hefner House (#18), also erected in the 1850s, is further proof of the use of log as more than a primitive construction material.

In the coves and mountainous regions of the three counties, outbuildings were also generally constructed of log well into the nineteenth century. Surviving nineteenth-century outbuildings of log or frame, which would have been numerous in agricultural North Cove, are few, however. The half-dovetailed log smokehouse (Plate VII.3) and barn at the Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead are believed to be antebellum buildings erected by slaves (Brown 1993). The half-dovetailed log smokehouse and barn at the William Jehu English Farmstead likely date from the nineteenth century as well.

Frame construction began to appear at yeoman farms in North Cove and other interior sections of McDowell and Burke counties in the early nineteenth century (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:23-24; Alexander n.d.). The frame, single-pile, two-story A. Billy (or William Aiken) McCall House in North Cove, near the North Fork of the Catawba River east of the APE, appears to have been built in the 1830s (Alexander 1985a). The earliest surviving frame dwelling in the cove, it couples a traditional hall-parlor plan with a relatively refined, Federal-style finish. By the mid-nineteenth century in all three counties, two-story, one-room-deep, frame houses, sometimes referred to as "I-houses," had generally expanded in size to a center-hall plan (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:23-24; Alexander n.d.).

Three notable, center-hall-plan, frame I-houses dating from the final quarter of the nineteenth century survive within the APE. The much-altered Albert J. Franklin House (#35) was erected about 1877 (Stevens and Thompson 1985a; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:75; Burke County Historical Society 1979:85-87). It is one of three surviving I-houses erected in Linville Falls by the Franklin brothers, all of whom had been raised in the log cabin of their father, David Franklin. The William Jehu English House (#28), constructed in North Cove in the mid-1880s, retains its original center-hall, single-pile, two-story form, as does the William McCall House (#7), erected about 1886 (Plate VII.4).



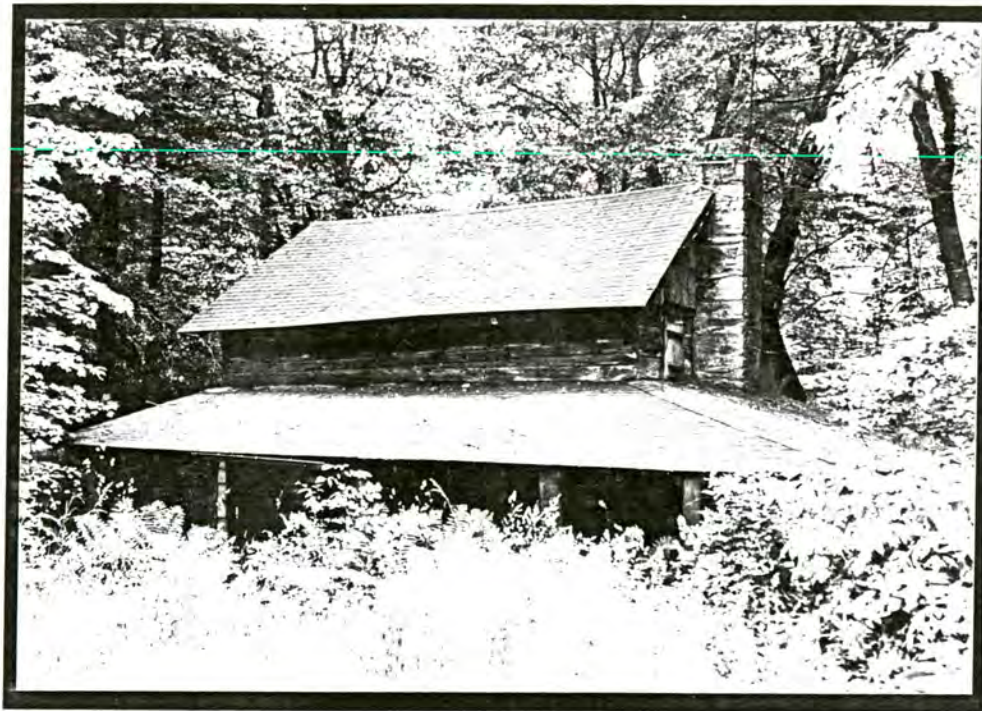


Plate VII.1

DAVID FRANKLIN CABIN  
(#36), SOUTH FRONT  
AND EAST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS



Plate VII.2

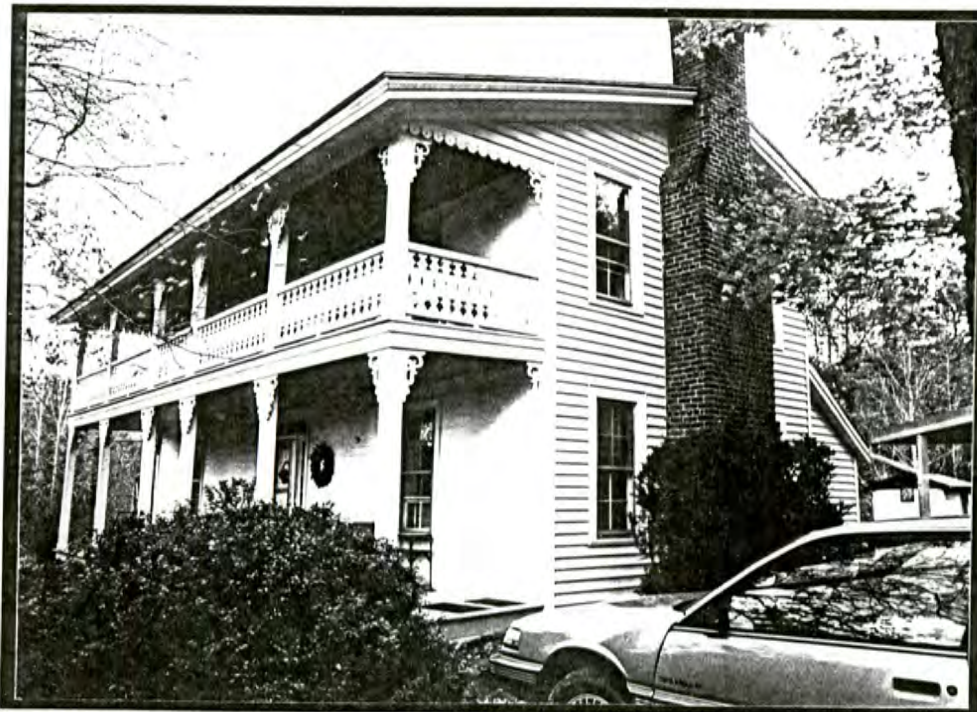
SAMUEL BROWN HOUSE  
(#9), SOUTHEAST FRONT  
ELEVATION DETAIL





**Plate VII.3**

**SMOKEHOUSE TO REAR  
OF HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
EAST FRONT AND SOUTH  
SIDE ELEVATIONS**



**Plate VII.4**

**WILLIAM McCALL HOUSE  
(#7), SOUTH FRONT AND  
EAST SIDE ELEVATIONS**

A few one-story, single-pile, gable-end dwellings were also erected in North Cove within the APE in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These shortened I-houses, such as the house occupied by John Ollis (#29) in the early twentieth century, are generally plainly finished, altered, and deteriorated (Brown 1993) (Plate VII.5). Neither typical nor distinctive, they do not meet the Criteria for listing in the National Register.

With frame construction in the early and mid-nineteenth century came a passion for spacious porches in the mountain counties. This is quite evident in North Cove and Linville Falls. Many of the two-story, nineteenth- and early twentieth-century dwellings in these two communities, within and outside of the APE, are adorned with full-facade porches which are often topped by a balcony or a full upper tier.

In the late nineteenth century, airy, two-tier porches with an ornate, Queen Anne style finish became popular throughout the otherwise architecturally conservative region. The fanciest surviving Queen Anne porches in the APE are those of the William Jehu English (Plate VII.6) and William McCall houses. Double-tiered, they are richly adorned with machine-made, cutout balustrades. The porch of the Albert Franklin House was originally two-tiered as well and finished with cutout balustrades and ornate brackets, spandrels, and aprons. A number of houses outside of the APE retain their ornate, double-tier porches intact, including the Robert Jackson Lonon and R.A. Lonon/Samuel McCall houses on Old Linville Road in North Cove, and the Brinkley House near the junction of NC 226 and 226A in Turkey Cove. The presence of all this ornate woodwork was due in part to the decreasing isolation of Turkey Cove, North Cove, and Linville Falls in the late nineteenth century; the increased availability of mass-produced material via railroads and improved roads; and increasing prosperity, particularly within the two agricultural coves (Hood 1978:209).

Fancy woodwork was only a veneer, however. While the Queen Anne style became popular in the few built-up areas of the three counties, particularly Marion in McDowell County and Morganton in Burke County, its forms did not. The late nineteenth-century houses in the APE in North Cove and Linville Falls may have displayed some Queen Anne trim, but their forms remained rectilinear, constrained, and symmetrical.

## 2. *Twentieth-Century Farmsteads and Residences*

Popular styles and forms, including the Colonial Revival, Craftsman, bungalow, and foursquare, came to the mountains and coves of the three counties in the early twentieth century, as they did elsewhere throughout the country, though again often in a more restrained fashion. The prosperous bottomland farmers of North Cove seized upon the foursquare form for their new farmhouses. The Connelly-Phillips House (c.1906) (#25), Joseph Gilkey Brown House (1910) (#9) (Plate VII.7), and Caldwell-Brown House (c.1912) (#14) are cubical, two-story, two-room-deep, hip-roofed buildings. The Henry Seawell Brown House (1916) (#13) is also essentially a foursquare, though it stands only a story-and-a-half tall (Plate VII.8).

The basic boxy forms of these farmhouses are enlivened by some Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style features and by the ubiquitous, spacious, mountain porch. The Queen Anne disdain of the unbroken box finally penetrated North Cove in the early twentieth century, driving one- and two-story bays through the walls of the Connelly-Phillips, Caldwell-Brown, and Henry Seawell Brown and



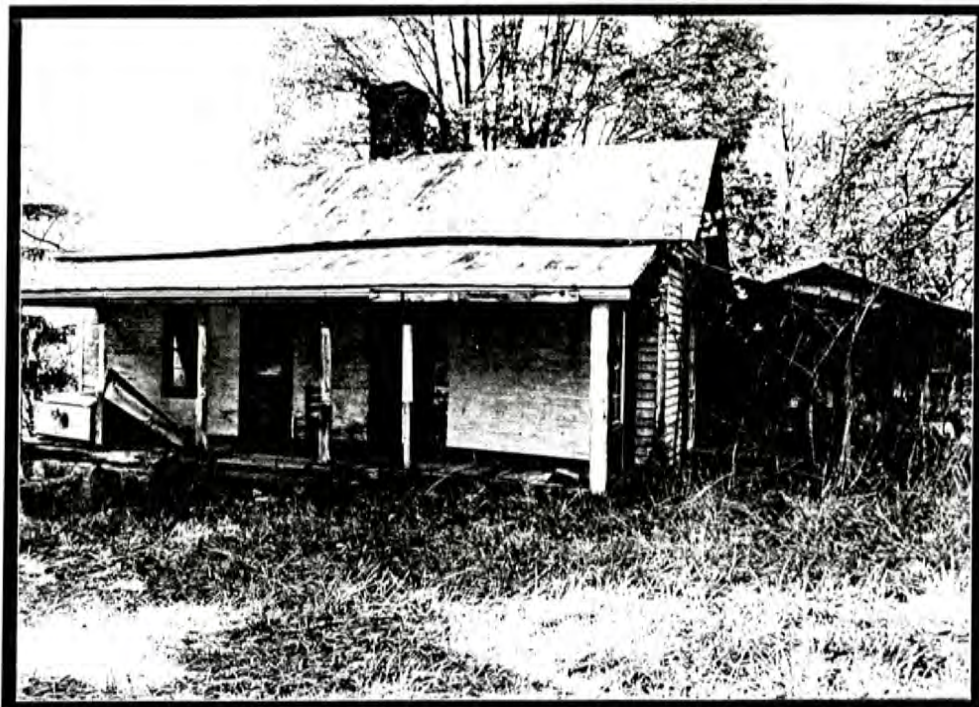


Plate VII.5

JOHN OLLIS HOUSE  
(#29), EAST FRONT  
ELEVATION



Plate VII.6

WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28), EAST  
FRONT ELEVATION





**Plate VII.7**

**JOSEPH GILKEY BROWN  
HOUSE (#9), SOUTHWEST  
SIDE AND SOUTHEAST  
FRONT ELEVATION**



**Plate VII.8**

**HENRY SEAWELL BROWN  
HOUSE (#13), EAST  
FRONT ELEVATION**

houses, among others. The Colonial Revival style added two-story, columned porticos to the Connelly-Phillips (Plate VII.9) and Henry Seawell Brown houses and a two-tier, pedimented porch to the otherwise severely finished Joseph Gilkey Brown House.

North Cove's large, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farmhouses generally retain at least a few frame outbuildings erected from the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century. Functional frame buildings ranging from smokehouses and privies to stables and barns, they are plainly finished and clad in weatherboards or by vertical boards. Collections of frame outbuildings survive at the Joseph Gilkey Brown Farmstead, the William Jehu English Farmstead, and the William McCall Farmstead (Plate VII.10).

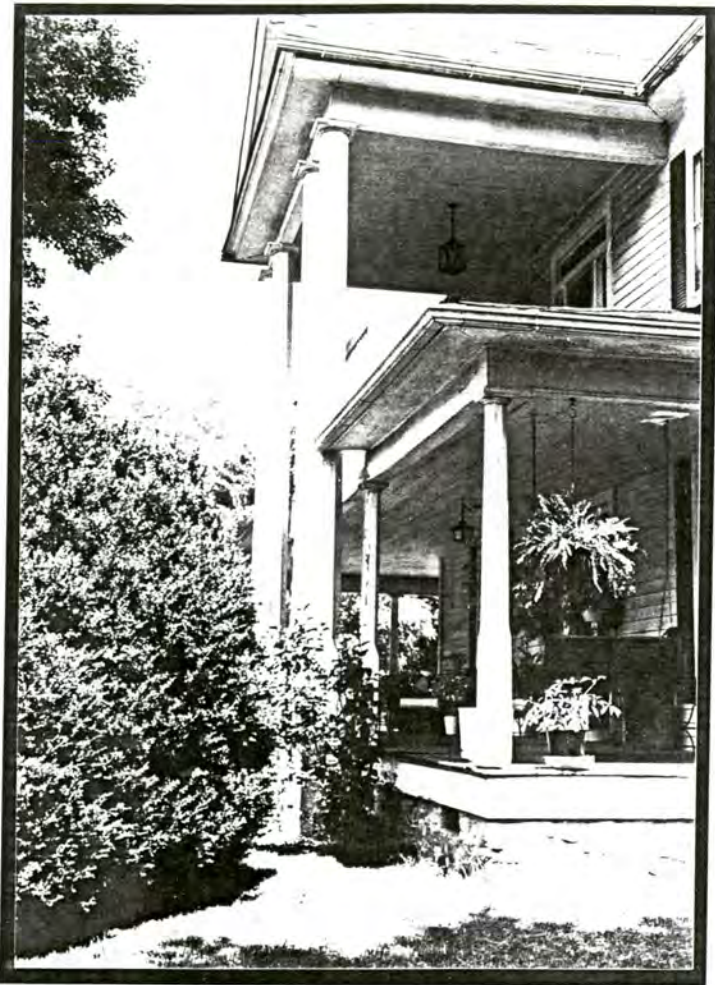
Numerous bungalows were erected throughout the three counties from the teens through the Depression. Those within the APE are generally small, rectangular, gable-end or gable-front dwellings displaying one or two simple Craftsman style features, such as wide overhanging eaves or a porch of tapered posts raised on stone or brick piers. Examples in North Cove include the aluminum-sided, gable-front, story-and-a-half Lonon House (#15), probably erected in the 1920s, and the Annie Daniels House (#26) (Plate VII.11), built in the 1930s (Brown 1993). The latter house is essentially a single-pile, gable-end dwelling, like those erected in the cove late in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with the addition of a Craftsman style porch and wide overhanging eaves. Neither the Lonon nor Daniels bungalows, or any other small late nineteenth- or early twentieth-century houses in the APE, are sufficiently typical or distinctive to meet the Criteria for listing in the National Register.

### 3. *Twentieth-Century Non-residential Architecture*

Non-residential architecture surviving within the APE from the first four decades of the twentieth century is largely limited to frame outbuildings associated with farmsteads, discussed above, and buildings and structures which reflect the increased presence of commerce and the government in North Cove and Linville Falls. Two much-altered, commercial buildings dating from the 1920s and 1930s survive in North Cove's Ashford community, near the Clinchfield Railroad loop which helped bring them into existence. The Clarence W. Wiseman Store (#21) is a large, frame, gable-front building. Its entries, windows, and interior have been altered, but it retains its parapet-front facade and original, rusticated, pressed-tin sheathing (Plate VII.12). The tiny, one-room Wiseman Family Corn Mill (#19) across the road retains a flat-roofed, front-parapet wall, although its windows and entry have been altered as well. Prosperity brought about in part by the railroad in the 1920s is reflected at Concord United Methodist Church (#24) as well (Plate VII.13). Its size and stone construction speak of comfortable times in the APE that were to temporarily end during the 1930s.

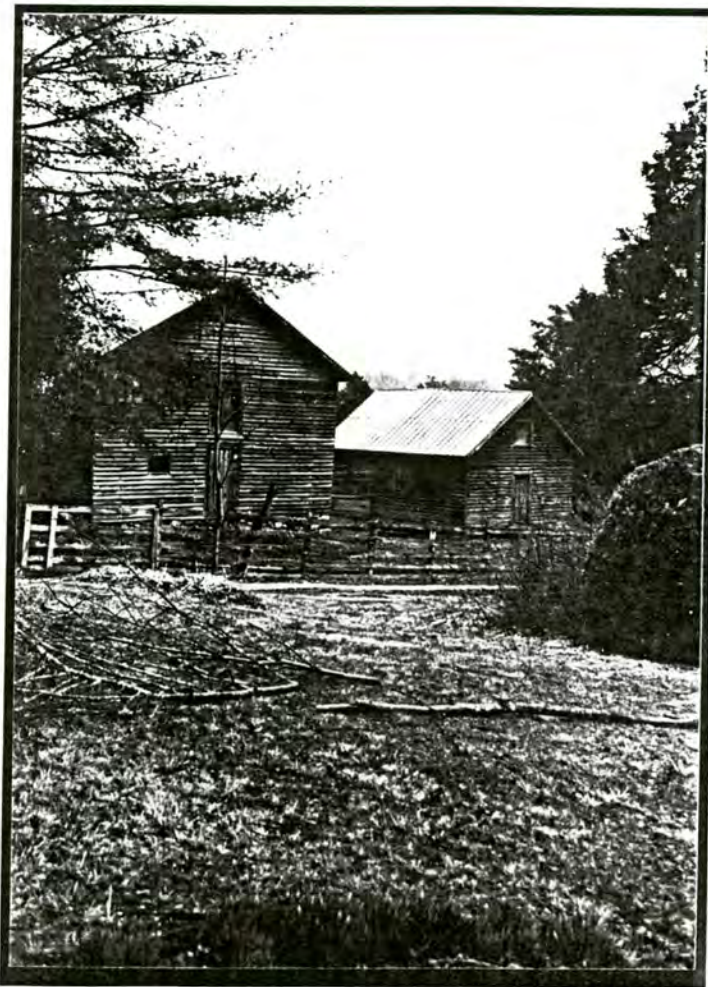
Much of the notable construction activity in North Cove and Linville Falls in the 1930s was generated by the state and federal governments. The North Cove Fork Bridge (#20) over the North Fork of the Catawba River was constructed in 1936 by the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission with federal aid. Largely intact, it is one of approximately 505 pre-1943, state-maintained, concrete tee-beam bridges in North Carolina (Houston 1993). In the late 1930s, state monies also erected the stark, little-altered, bunker-like Linville Falls Jail (#32) (Plate VII.14). Both of these structures were built of reinforced concrete, a material not seen elsewhere at the APE's historic resources. Government monies also paid for the stone Linville Falls Post Office (#31), which along with Concord United Methodist Church was part of stone building trend popular in





**Plate VII.9**

**CONNELLY-PHILLIPS HOUSE  
(#25), SOUTH FRONT  
ELEVATION DETAIL**



**Plate VII.10**

**WEST FRONT AND NORTH  
SIDE ELEVATIONS OF  
HORSE BARN AND CORN CRIB  
TO SOUTHEAST OF  
WILLIAM McCALL HOUSE (#7)**





Plate VII.11  
ANNIE DANIELS HOUSE  
(#26), EAST FRONT  
ELEVATION



Plate VII.12  
CLARENCE W. WISEMAN  
STORE (#21),  
SOUTHEAST FRONT  
AND NORTHEAST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS





Plate VII.13  
CONCORD UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
(#24), WEST  
FRONT ELEVATION



Plate VII.14  
LINVILLE FALLS JAIL  
(#32), NORTHWEST  
FRONT AND SOUTHWEST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS



McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties in the 1920s and 1930s (Alexander 1985b; Alexander n.d.; Cotton 1983b). Two major, Depression-era construction activities of the government not connected with buildings were the start of the Blue Ridge Parkway (#39) in 1933 and the paving of US 221 through the APE in 1937. As discussed above, these resources have continued to have a major impact on the APE and surrounding area.

## VIII. METHODOLOGY

The survey methodology for this project consisted of historical background research, site-specific research, and a reconnaissance-level, intermediate, and intensive-level field survey of the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The main primary sources of historical information were deeds, census records, historic photographs and maps, and personal interviews. The main secondary sources were county and state histories, architectural histories and inventories of counties within and around the project area, genealogies, and state survey files.

The survey forms and accompanying materials on file with the State Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO) were particularly helpful. These files were prepared in 1983 during a SHPO-administered comprehensive survey of Burke County and in 1985 during a SHPO-administered reconnaissance-level survey of McDowell and Avery counties. Interviews with residents of houses within the APE and others descended from the builders of these houses were invaluable. Those who consented to be interviewed included Peggy Blankenship, Dr. Henry S. Brown, S.G. Chapman, Jr., Otis Lonon, Clara McCall, Mrs. Robert S. McCall, Clare Pendergrass, Julia English Spicer, and Omar Wiseman. Many of these individuals also went out of their way to gather information from other individuals not named here. Special thanks is owed to Dr. Henry S. Brown, who spent a day in the field with the principal investigator identifying every resource in North Cove that was 50 years old or older (and many of its heirloom apple trees). Dr. Brown also provided additional information on the history of North Cove and a number of its resources, and personally contacted many of the individuals named above. His assistance to this project was invaluable.

The purpose of the research and the field survey was to understand the historical and architectural contexts of the APE and to develop specific genealogical, developmental, and architectural histories of individual resources. Such knowledge was crucial in determining which resources within the APE were potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

During the fieldwork, every paved road, farm lane, driveway, and path within the APE was driven or walked so that each resource along them could be viewed, assessed and, if potentially eligible for Register listing or architecturally or historically notable, recorded. Notable resources were identified and preliminarily recorded during the first phase of the project on June 9-11, 1993. All resources 50 years old or older were subsequently photographed when Greiner revisited the APE, as required by newly revised NCDOT guidelines, on November 1-2, 1993. These photographs were reviewed by SHPO and NCDOT at a meeting on January 4, 1994. At this meeting, SHPO concurred with NCDOT's findings concerning resources not considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register and which did not merit further evaluation. The fieldwork for this intensive-level survey was conducted on March 1-2, 1994.

Resources designated at the January 4 meeting were extensively photographed and carefully mapped. Multiple photographs were taken of principal resources, secondary resources, landscape features, settings, and of the general physical environment within and around the APE. North Carolina historic structure long (blue) and short (yellow) data sheets were completed for those resources not previously recorded on such forms. The resources were keyed to the Little Switzerland, Ashford, and Linville Falls USGS topographical quadrangle maps, which cover the APE. Preliminary sketch maps, which were later put into final form, were then drawn for each resource. Once out of the field, tax maps were obtained to assist in determining the potential boundaries for resources considered

potentially eligible for the National Register. The boundaries of potentially eligible resources were then drawn on these maps.

The final stage of Phase II of this project consisted of reviewing all of the materials gathered during research and fieldwork, making final assessments of the potential National Register-eligibility of the resources within the APE on the basis of this information, and summarizing all of this work, along with accompanying maps and photographs, in the present report.



**IX. PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS**

Architecturally and historically notable resources located within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) were examined by Greiner, Inc. (Figures IX.1a, IX.1b, and IX.1c). None of these resources is listed in the National Register of Historic Places or on North Carolina's National Register Study List. One--the Blue Ridge Parkway (#39)--has been declared eligible for the National Register by a Determination of Eligibility or DOE dated November 29, 1989 (Stancil 1994). Nine individual resources within the APE are believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. Six additional individual resources within the APE were evaluated at the Phase II level and are believed not to be eligible for listing in the National Register. Twenty-two further resources were evaluated at a January 4, 1994, meeting between the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Greiner, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), at which SHPO concurred with NCDOT's findings that these resources were not considered potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. These 22 resources, the 16 resources evaluated in this report, and an additional resource determined after the meeting to be located within the APE, comprise the 39 resources included in the attached photographic inventory of resources 50 years old or older located within the APE. The additional resource included solely in the photographic inventory but not discussed at the January 4 meeting--property #34--is not believed to meet any of the Criteria for Register listing because it has no known historical significance and is not architecturally typical, distinctive, or otherwise notable.\*

*A. PROPERTIES LISTED IN, DECLARED ELIGIBLE, OR CONSIDERED POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER*

*Properties Listed In the National Register:*

None

*Properties Declared Eligible for the National Register by a Determination of Eligibility (DOE):*

Blue Ridge Parkway (#39) - Junction of US 221 and the Blue Ridge Parkway,  
Avery County ..... IX-6

*Properties on the North Carolina National Register Study List:*

None

*Properties Considered Potentially Eligible For the National Register:*

William McCall Farmstead (#7) - West side of US 221, 0.2 miles north of junction  
with SR 1568, McDowell County ..... IX-9  
Samuel and Joseph Gilkey Brown Farmstead (#9) - West side of US 221, 1.0 mile north  
of junction with SR 1568, McDowell County ..... IX-17  
Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead (#13) - East side of US 221, 1.4 miles south of  
junction with SR 1560, McDowell County ..... IX-26  
Caldwell-Brown House (#14) - East side of US 221, 1.1 miles south of junction  
with SR 1560, McDowell County ..... IX-35

McCall-Hefner House (#18) - West side of US 221, 0.8 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-42
Concord United Methodist Church (#24) - East side of SR 1560, 0.2 miles east of junction with US 221, McDowell County .....	IX-49
Connelly-Phillips House (#25) - East side of US 221, 0.4 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-54
William Jehu English Farmstead (#28) - West side of US 221, 1.7 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-61
Linville Falls Jail (#32) - Northeast corner of junction of US 221 and NC 183, Linville Falls, Burke County .....	IX-72

**B. PROPERTIES NOT CONSIDERED POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

Wiseman Family Corn Mill (#19) - West side of US 221, 0.6 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-78
North Cove Fork Bridge (#20) - On US 221 at crossing of North Fork of the Catawba River, 0.4 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-81
Clarence W. Wiseman Store (#21) - West side of US 221, 0.3 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County .....	IX-84
Linville Falls Post Office (#31) - North side of NC 183, 0.05 miles east of junction with US 221, Linville Falls, Burke County .....	IX-87
Albert J. Franklin House (#35) - East side of US 221, 0.1 mile north of junction with NC 183, Linville Falls, Burke County .....	IX-90
David Franklin Cabin (#36) - North side of Laurel Lane, 0.05 miles west of junction with US 221, Linville Falls, Avery County .....	IX-95

*\* – Subsequent to the preparation of this report, the limits of the project to improve US 221 were reduced to begin at NC 226 and end north of SR 1569 in McDowell County. Six resources (Greiner survey #1-#6) within this reduced area (TIP No. R-2596A) were evaluated and considered not to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register, a finding concurred in by the SHPO at a meeting on January 4, 1994. They are accordingly not further evaluated in this volume, but are pictured in the accompanying photographic inventory. A seventh resource (#7), which is recommended as potentially eligible for Register listing, is evaluated in this volume.*



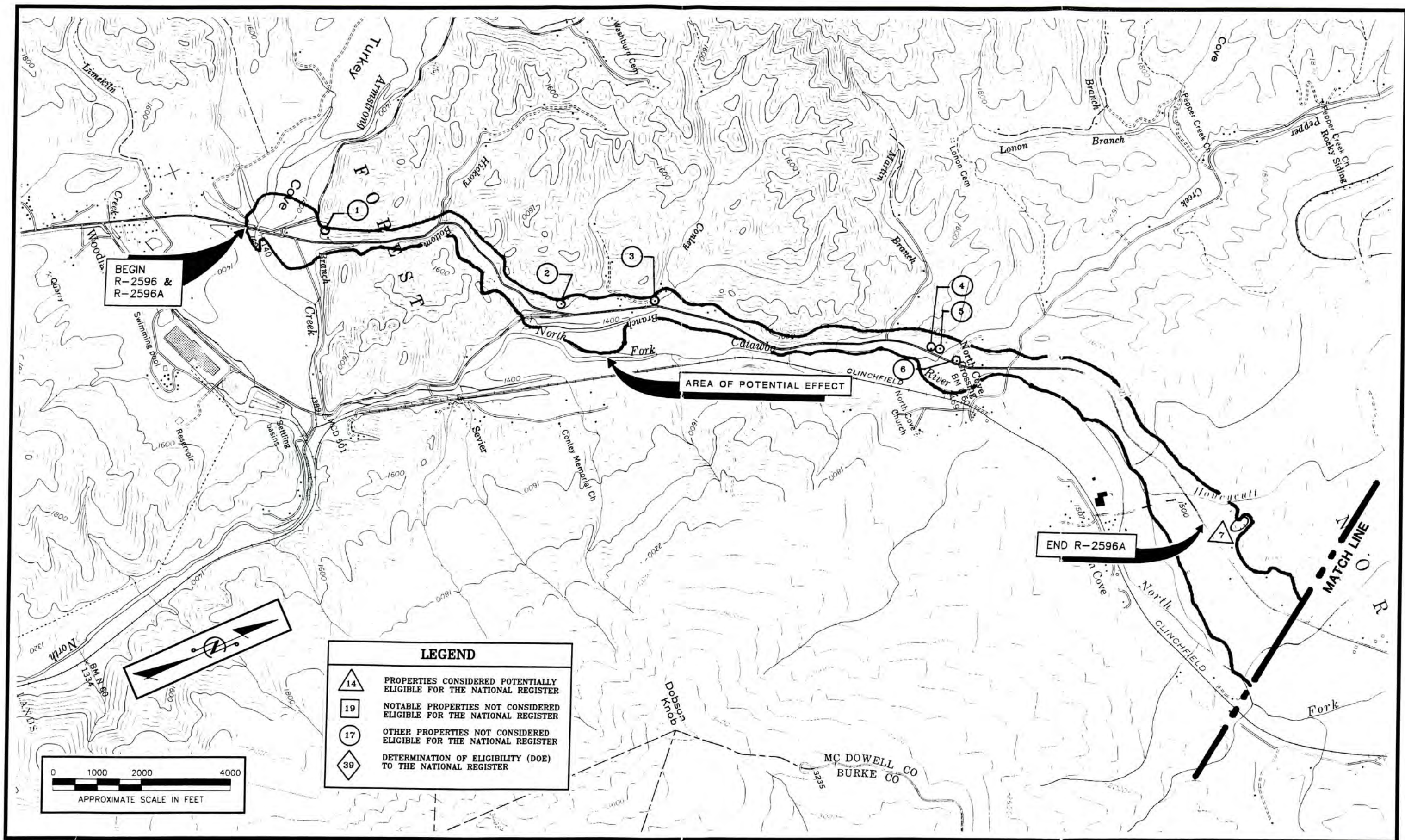


FIGURE IX.1a AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT AND PROPERTY INVENTORY

(ASHFORD, LINVILLE FALLS AND LITTLE SWITZERLAND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAPS)



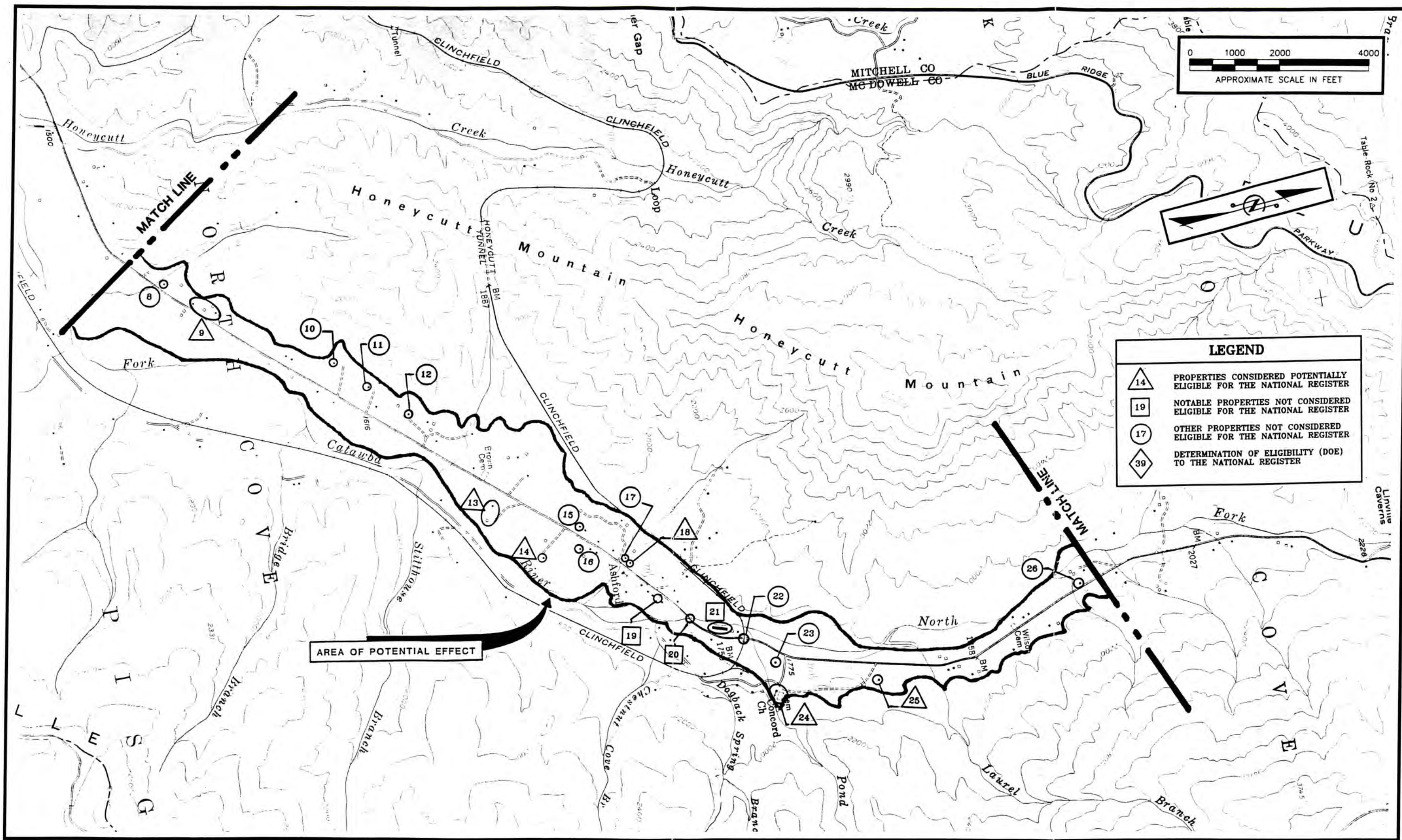


FIGURE IX.1b AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT AND PROPERTY INVENTORY

(ASHFORD, LINVILLE FALLS AND LITTLE SWITZERLAND USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE MAPS)







*A. PROPERTIES LISTED IN OR CONSIDERED POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER*

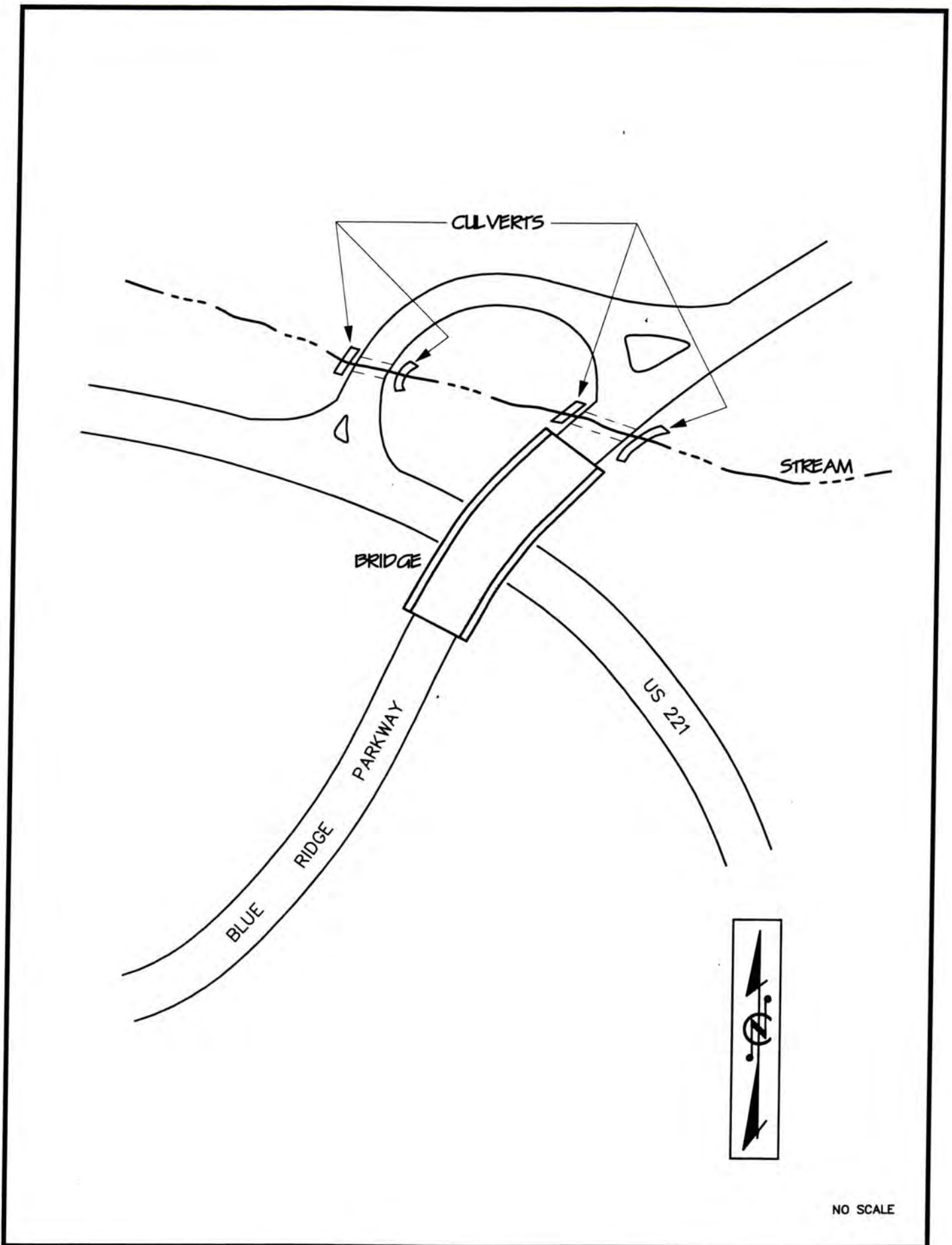
*1. Properties Declared Eligible for the National Register by a Determination of Eligibility (DOE)*

**BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY (#39)  
Junction of US 221 and the Blue Ridge Parkway, Avery County**

The 477-mile-long Blue Ridge Parkway passes over US 221 at the northern terminus of the project area in the community of Linville Falls (Figure IX.2). One of the first scenic parkways in the country, it was conceived in 1909 and begun in 1933. Largely completed by the 1960s, the parkway has had a major impact on tourism in communities such as Linville Falls throughout North Carolina and Virginia (Fiegel 1991). An official determination of National Register-eligibility, or DOE, was issued for the parkway on November 29, 1989 (Stancil 1994).

The section of the parkway within the project area consists of an entrance/exit ramp, a bridge, and four culverts. The bridge and culverts are constructed of concrete faced with large, irregularly coursed, rusticated stone blocks (Plate IX.1). Their segmental-arched openings are almost flat. The concrete heart of the bridge is visible on the underside of the arch (Plate IX.2).





**Figure IX.2** SKETCH MAP, BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY WITHIN THE AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT, PROPERTY #39  
IX-7

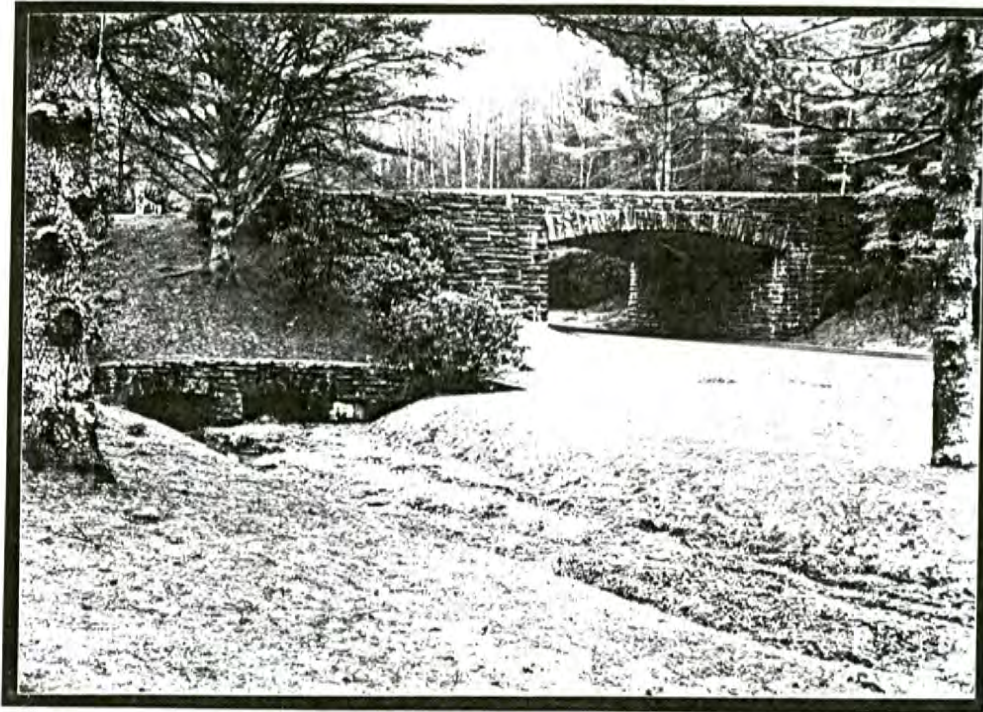
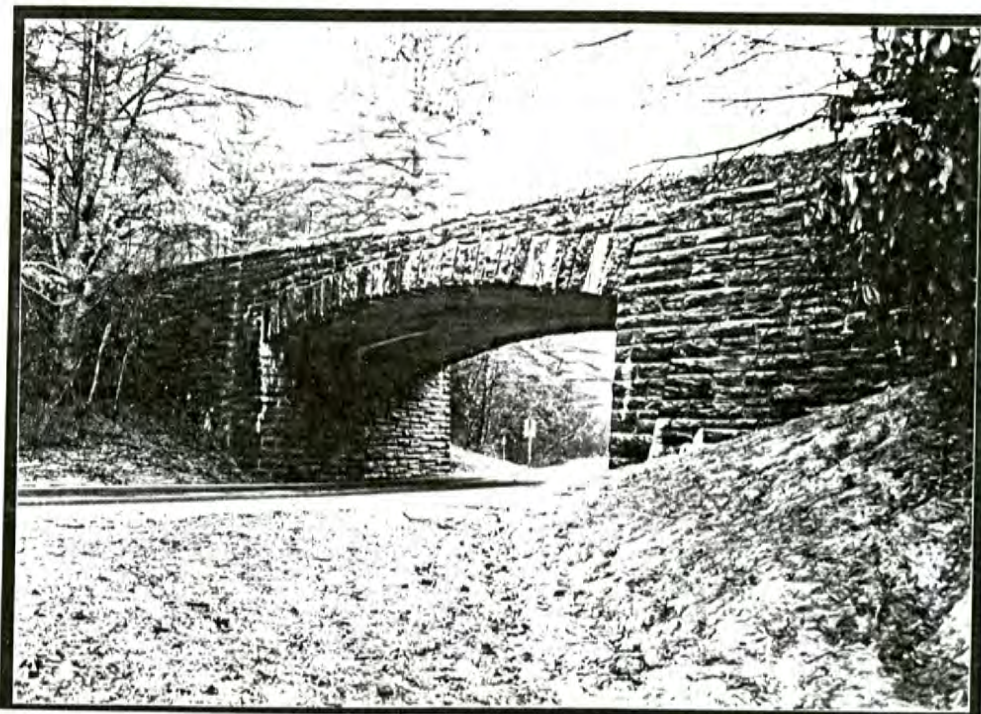


Plate IX.1  
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
(#39), NORTHWEST  
ELEVATIONS OF  
BRIDGE OVER  
US 221 AND CULVERT



IX.2  
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
(#39), SOUTHEAST  
ELEVATION OF  
BRIDGE OVER US 221



*2. Properties Considered Potentially Eligible For the National Register:*

**WILLIAM MCCALL FARMSTEAD (#7)**

**West side of US 221, 0.2 miles north of junction with SR 1568, McDowell County**

William McCall, who built the William McCall farmhouse about 1886, was part of the fourth generation of McCalls to live in North Cove and Turkey Cove. His great-grandfather, Robert McCall I (1752-1820), emigrated from Northern Ireland with his wife, Elizabeth Aiken, about 1775. They moved first to Pennsylvania, then Virginia and, between about 1789 and 1800, finally settled in Turkey Cove, where they bought a farm and operated a grist mill. Their son, Robert II (b. 1778), and his wife, Lydia Gillespie, acquired large holdings in Turkey Cove and North Cove, as did their son, William Aiken McCall (1818-1907). William Aiken, also known as "A. Billy" McCall, and his wife, Katherine McCall, his first cousin, inherited and acquired extensive acreage in North Cove following their marriage in 1839. Part of this land--upon which the present farmstead is located--was acquired by their son, William, and his wife, Catherine Conley McCall, in 1871 (Johnston 1992:13-14; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section; Clara McCall 1994; Childers 1994).

On their property, William and Catherine erected a dwelling, which burned in 1886. They built the present farmhouse shortly thereafter on the same site. They raised mostly corn and wheat on the farm, and some dairy cattle. Catherine McCall also ran a store on the property. Their son, Charles A. McCall, and his wife, Lela Marlowe, next acquired title to the property. The 57-acre tract upon which the farmhouse and outbuildings stand is now owned by Charles and Lela's daughter, Clara R. McCall (Clara McCall 1994; Childers 1994; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

The main block of the c.1886 William McCall farmhouse [A] is two stories tall, one-room deep, and three bays wide (Plate IX.3). The central entry, flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom, leads into the dwelling's center hallway. A four-over-four sash window stands to either side of the entry. The second floor of the south-facing front elevation is finished in almost exactly the same fashion, although its central entryway lacks a transom. Exterior end, brick chimneys bracket the block's gable end roof. The one-story rear ell, which originally held the dining room and kitchen, is pierced by a central chimney stack (Plate IX.4). The porch which once extended across the back of the main block and the side of the ell was enclosed by Charles A. McCall.

The house's most prominent and notable decorative feature is its engaged front porch. Backed by flush weatherboards and extending fully across the front facade, it is adorned with square posts edged by cutout spandrels and a lavishly jigsawed, second-story balustrade.

The farmstead consists of 11 buildings (Figure IX.3). To the rear of the farmhouse stand four outbuildings. The smokehouse [B], faced with horizontal boards, may be as old as the house (Plate IX.5). The shop/chicken pen [D] is also an early building (Plate IX.6). The frame tractor shed/garage [C] dates from the early or mid-twentieth century, and the small, cinder-block, pumphouse building [E] immediately behind the ell dates from the 1950s, when electricity came to North Cove. A modern, open carport [F] stands just off the east side of the house. Four additional frame outbuildings are located south of the house along the entry drive. On the east side of the

drive are a horse barn [G], a cattle barn [H], and a corn crib [I] (Plate IX.7). These were probably built early in the twentieth century by Charles A. McCall. The cattle barn is weatherboarded at front and rear and faced on the sides by boards laid in a chevron pattern popular on barns throughout the region. On the west side of the drive is a small, gable-front, former store [J], which may be the oldest building on the property (Plate IX.8). Operated by Catherine Conley McCall, it was built in the 1870s or 1880s. Largely intact, it features a four-panel front door flanked by two shuttered windows and topped by a four-over-four, gable-peak window. The store was once located immediately on a road; before the construction of US 221 at the farmstead's south, Yellow Mountain Road ran past the building and up Honeycutt Mountain behind the farm. The modern dwelling of Alma McCall Childers [K], the sister of Clara McCall, stands on the east side of the drive, just north of US 221. A notable landscape feature--a row of boxwoods dating from the late nineteenth century--extends from the front of the farmhouse south to the store and Childers house (Plate IX.9).

The William McCall Farmstead is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its reflection of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century agricultural traditions which characterized rural life in McDowell County's North Cove and its other mountainous regions. The large, intact farmhouse and the many intact outbuildings reflect the agricultural prosperity of late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century North Cove. The house and outbuildings are further believed, for a number of reasons, to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The house's I-house form--one of the earliest local examples of this traditional, two-story, one-room-deep configuration--embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction. The porch is an excellent, largely intact example of regionally popular, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century, two-tier Victorian porches and possesses high artistic values. The house, outbuildings, store, boxwoods, and setting also represent a significant and distinguishable entity. The outbuildings in particular are a notable, varied, intact collection of building forms and types popular in North Cove and elsewhere locally in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The suggested boundaries include approximately 14 acres on the northwest side of US 221 historically associated with the farmstead. This acreage is bordered on the southwest by SR 1568, on the southeast by US 221, on the northeast by the farmstead's property line, and on the northwest by a creek. These 14 acres are included even though the house and outbuildings no longer anchor an active farm, and the land is not utilized as it was historically, but rather, in small part, only for raising grasses for fodder. They are included to place the farmstead in context and to allow it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The proposed boundaries are located within part of the lot (Tax Map 1717, Block 56, Parcel 6133) which the farmstead presently occupies (Figure IX.4).



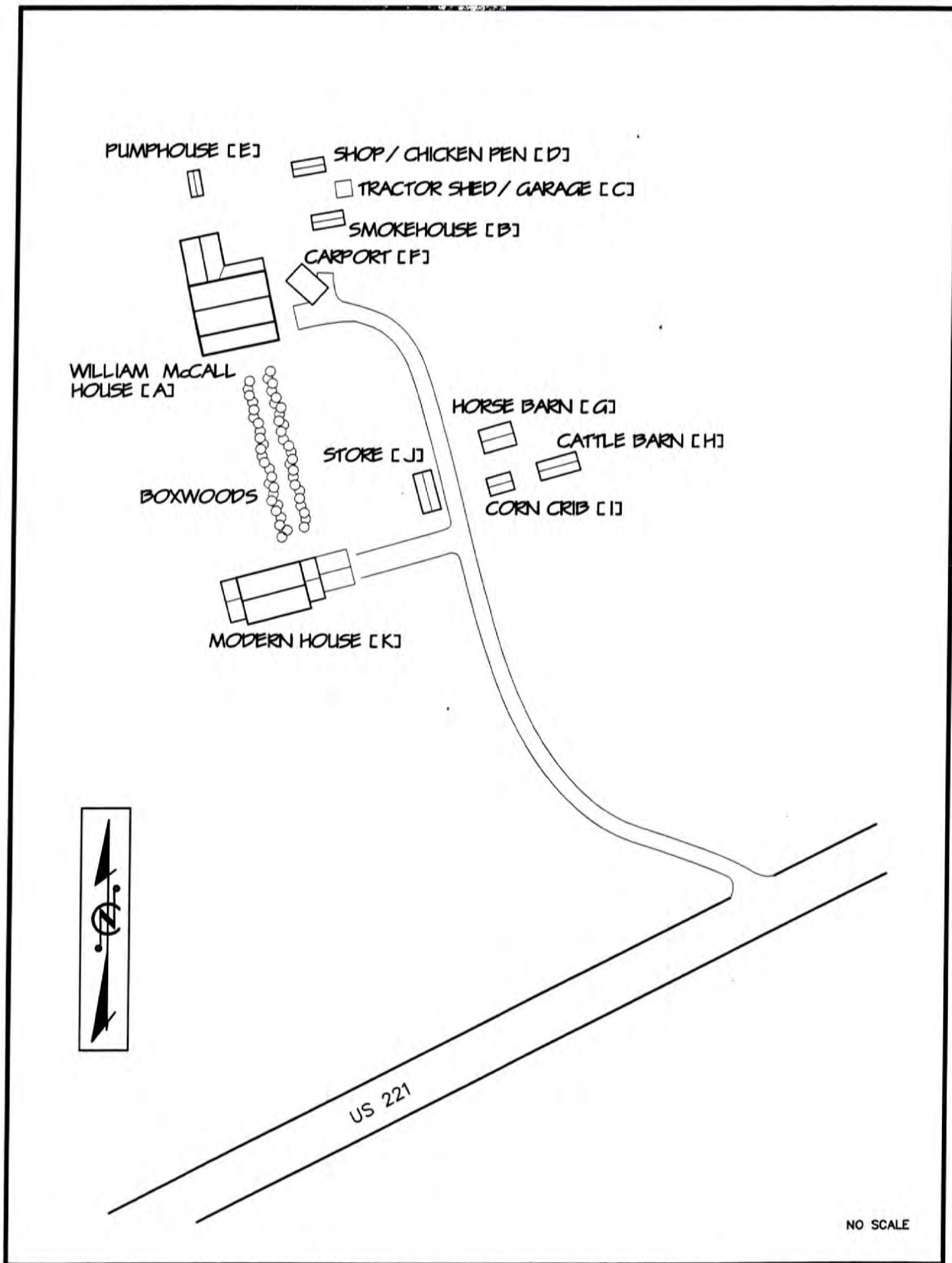


Figure IX.3 SKETCH MAP, WILLIAM McCALL FARMSTEAD, PROPERTY #7



Plate IX.3  
WILLIAM McCALL HOUSE  
(#7), SOUTH FRONT  
AND EAST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.4  
WILLIAM McCALL HOUSE  
(#7), NORTH REAR  
ELEVATION AND ELL



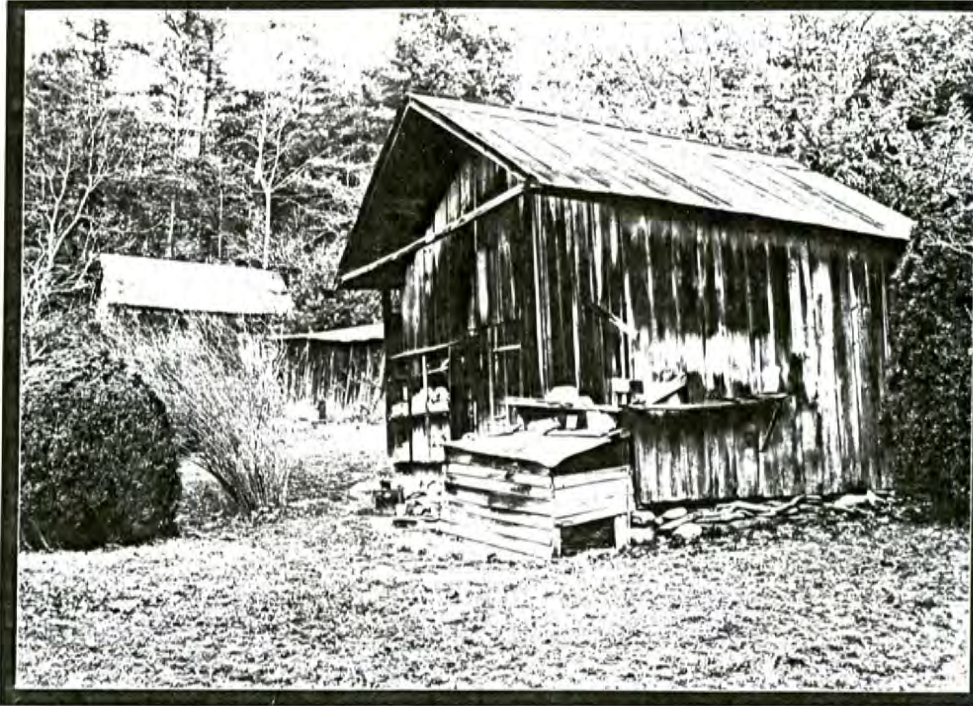


Plate IX.5

SOUTH AND WEST  
ELEVATIONS OF  
SMOKEHOUSE, TRACTOR  
SHED/GARAGE, AND  
SHOP/CHICKEN PEN  
TO REAR OF WILLIAM  
McCALL HOUSE (#7)

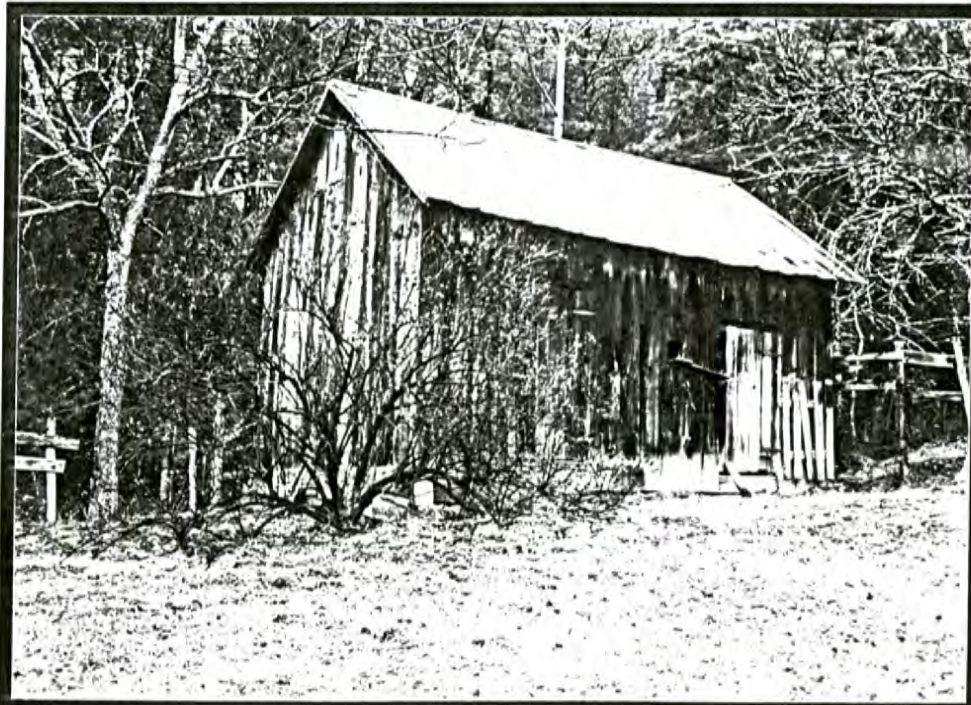


Plate IX.6

SOUTH AND WEST  
ELEVATIONS OF  
SHOP/CHICKEN PEN  
TO REAR OF WILLIAM  
McCALL HOUSE (#7)





**Plate IX.7**

WEST FRONT AND  
NORTH SIDE  
ELEVATIONS OF  
HORSE BARN, CATTLE  
BARN, AND CORN CRIB  
TO SOUTHEAST OF  
WILLIAM McCALL  
HOUSE (#7)



**Plate IX.8**

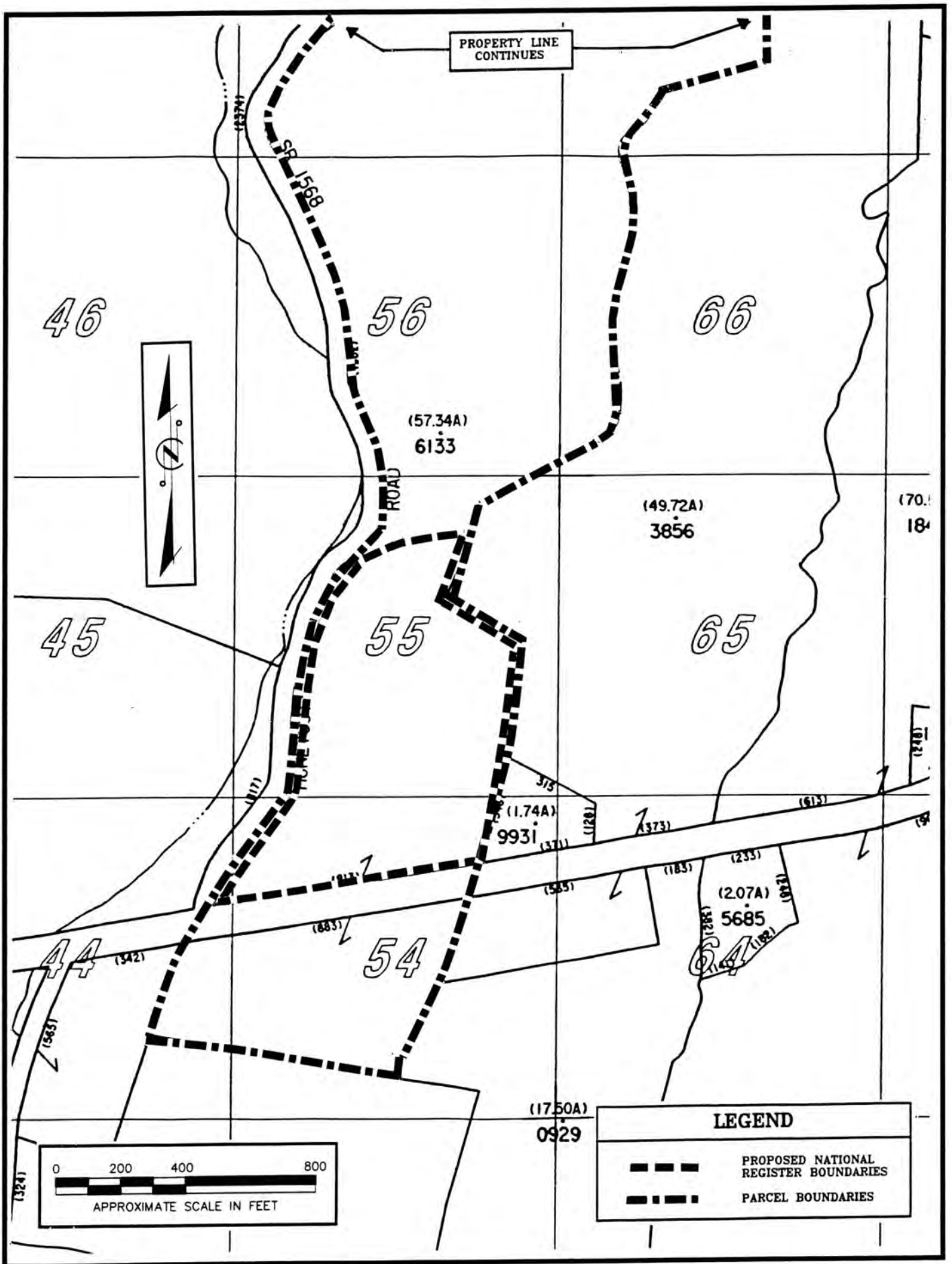
SOUTH FRONT AND  
EAST SIDE ELEVATIONS  
OF STORE TO SOUTH  
OF WILLIAM  
McCALL HOUSE (#7)





**Plate IX.9**

**WILLIAM McCALL  
HOUSE (#7), SOUTH  
FRONT ELEVATION  
AND BOXWOODS**



**Figure IX.4** PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF  
WILLIAM McCALL FARMSTEAD (#7)  
IX-16



**SAMUEL AND JOSEPH GILKEY BROWN FARMSTEAD (#9)**  
**West side of US 221, 1.0 mile north of junction with SR 1568, McDowell County**

This farmstead includes two principal dwellings, a small number of outbuildings, and part of the property historically associated with it. The former abode at the southern end of the farmstead, built by Samuel Brown II about 1851, is one of the oldest surviving dwellings in North Cove and one of the county's earliest extant log houses. The only earlier recorded log house in northeastern McDowell County is the Revolutionary War-era Henry Gillespie House in Turkey Cove, southwest of the southern terminus of the project (Alexander n.d.). The larger, frame foursquare on the farmstead was erected by Brown's grandson, Joseph Gilkey Brown, in 1910 (Alexander 1985d).

Samuel Brown II, born in 1818, was the son of Samuel Brown I and grandson of North Cove pioneer Daniel Brown II (Johnston 1992:8). He is believed to have built his two-story, hall-parlor-plan dwelling [A] following his 1851 marriage to Nancy Tennessee Pitner (Alexander 1985e) (Plate IX.10). The house's dovetailed log construction, sheathed in weatherboards, was typical of the dwellings erected in McDowell County in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, particularly in North Cove and the county's other northern and western valleys. Four bays--two doors and two windows--cross the house's first-story front (southeast) elevation (Plate IX.11). Two doors open at the rear. The front doors and the northernmost rear door are marked by twelve raised panels set in three irregularly sized rows (Plate IX.12). The rear door is intact, while the front doors have lost some of their panels and stiles. The interior also retains a number of original features, including the boxed stair in the hall, wide board sheathing, and a plainly finished, post and lintel, Greek Revival style mantel (Plate IX.13). Now used for storage, the house has an enclosed, one-story, frame shed affixed to its southwest gable end and an open shed stretched across its rear elevation. Time, lack of occupancy, and neglect have left the building in deteriorated condition. The chimney at its northeastern gable end has fallen or been removed and its opening has been patched with weatherboards. The windows have been removed and their openings have been wholly or partly sealed. The seam metal roof at the northeastern gable has in part pulled away and some of its rafters have fallen. Honeysuckle and vines covering much of the building are further contributing to its deterioration.

Samuel II and Nancy's son, Joseph Gilkey Brown (1869-1945), grew up in the log dwelling. In 1896 he acquired a 35-acre tract from his parents which contained their house. Around 1910 he erected a much larger, more fashionable, frame dwelling on the property, to the northeast of the older structure, for himself and his wife, Sorrelida McCall (Alexander 1985d; McDowell County Deed Book 24, Page 452; McDowell County Death Book 33, Page 129).

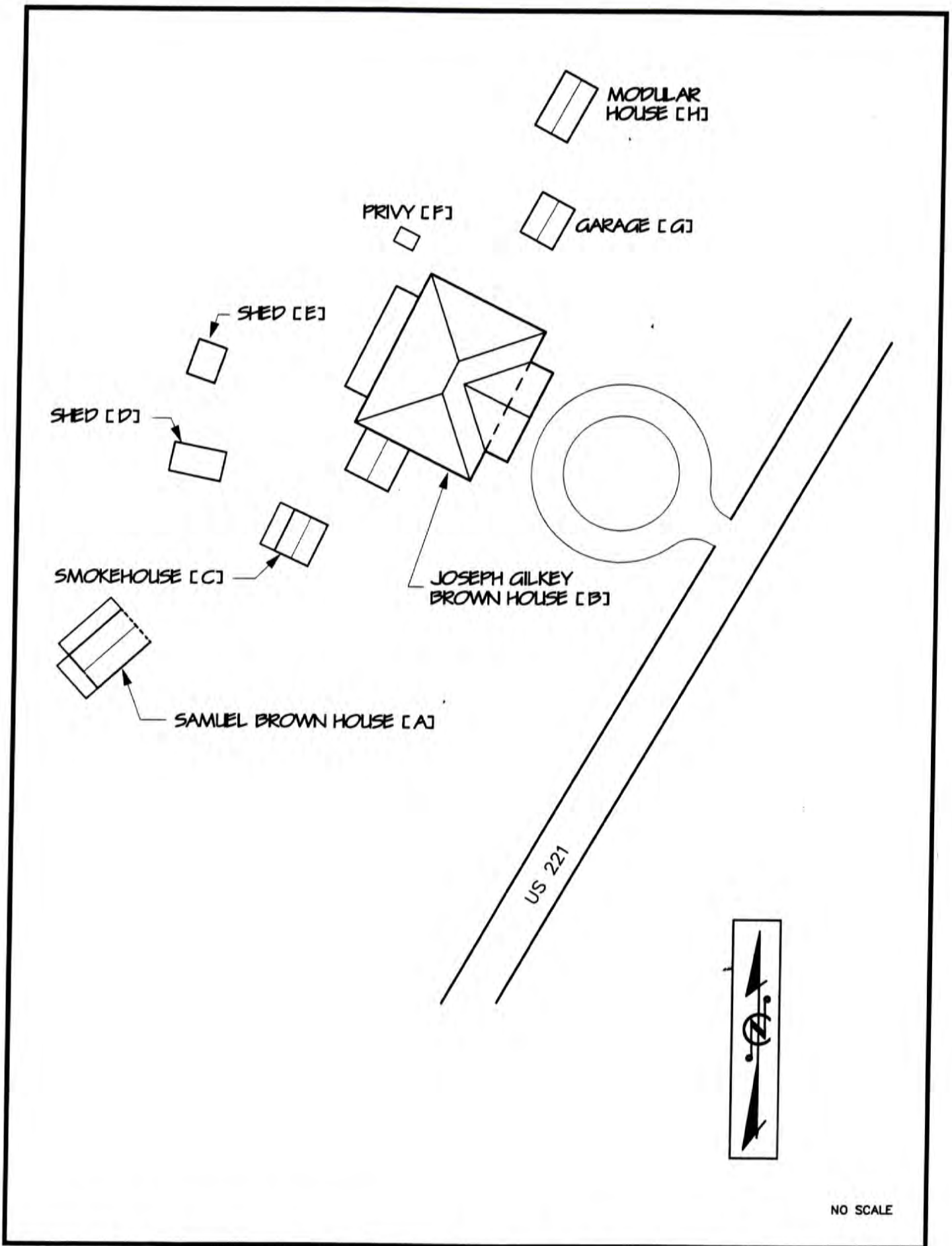
Like a number of farmhouses erected in the rich bottomlands of North Cove in the early twentieth century, Joseph Gilkey Brown's house is a two-story, two-room-deep, hip-roofed, boxy foursquare [B] (Plate IX.14). Its exterior ornamentation is minimal. A plain friezeboard runs beneath its eaves, narrow pilasters climb its corners, and its windows are set in simple surrounds. Two corbeled brick chimney stacks rise from its roof. Its ornamentation is concentrated at its central front (southeast) bay, which is shaded by a two-tier porch supported by chamfered posts. The first-story entry and the doorway above leading onto the balcony are enframed by paneled sidelights and transoms. A later concrete-block and asbestos-sided shed is affixed to the rear (Plate IX.15). A small, one-story, gable-end ell, constructed within the past ten years, extends from the rear of the southwest side elevation. The house's few exterior changes include the addition of the shed, the ell, and asphalt

roof shingles, and the replacement of two-over-two windows with one-over-one sash. The interior, which could not be viewed, is believed to retain its original central hall staircase finished with turned balusters and a heavy, turned, starting newel post; classical mantels with attenuated columns and mirrored overmantels; and narrow board sheathing (Alexander 1985d).

A small number of secondary buildings stand near the foursquare (Figure IX.5). To its west are a weatherboarded smokehouse [C] (Plate IX.16) and two frame sheds [D and E] sided with horizontal boards (Plate IX.17). To its north is a shed-roofed, frame privy [F] (Plate IX.18). These four buildings all appear to be more than fifty years old. Beyond the privy are two modern buildings, a frame garage [G] and a one-story modular house [H] (Plate IX.19).

The Samuel and Joseph Gilkey Brown Farmstead is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its reflection of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century agricultural traditions which characterized rural life in McDowell County's North Cove and its other mountainous regions. The farmstead is also historically significant for its association with the earliest settlement history of North Cove and the mountainous regions of the county, and with the history of agricultural prosperity in North Cove in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The early log farmhouse and the succeeding large, frame foursquare represent the continuum of development in North Cove from a pioneer community to a relatively rich agricultural valley. The two dwellings and their outbuildings are further believed, for a number of reasons, to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Erected of log with a traditional hall-parlor plan in the mid-nineteenth century, Samuel Brown's house embodies the characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. The Joseph Gilkey Brown House's foursquare form is typical of that of a number of other contemporaries erected in the cove in the early twentieth century. It is a largely intact, if plain, example of the foursquare form, which was popular nationwide at the time. The farmstead's buildings, particularly the two principal dwellings, and part of its property, represent a significant and distinguishable entity, even though the log dwelling is deteriorated and the frame house is a plain example of a form repeated throughout the valley and elsewhere in McDowell County. The suggested boundaries include more than 21 acres on the west side of US 221 historically associated with the farmstead. This acreage is included even though the houses and outbuildings no longer anchor an active farm, and the land is not utilized as it was historically. It is included to place the farmstead in context and to allow it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The proposed boundaries are located within part of the lot (Tax Map 1717, Block 97, Parcel 7707) which the farmstead presently occupies (Figure IX.6).





**Figure IX.5** SKETCH MAP, SAMUEL AND JOSEPH GILKEY BROWN FARMSTEAD, PROPERTY #9 IX-19



Plate IX.10

SAMUEL BROWN HOUSE  
(#9), SOUTHEAST FRONT  
AND SOUTHWEST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.11

SAMUEL BROWN HOUSE  
(#9), SOUTHEAST FRONT  
AND NORTHEAST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS



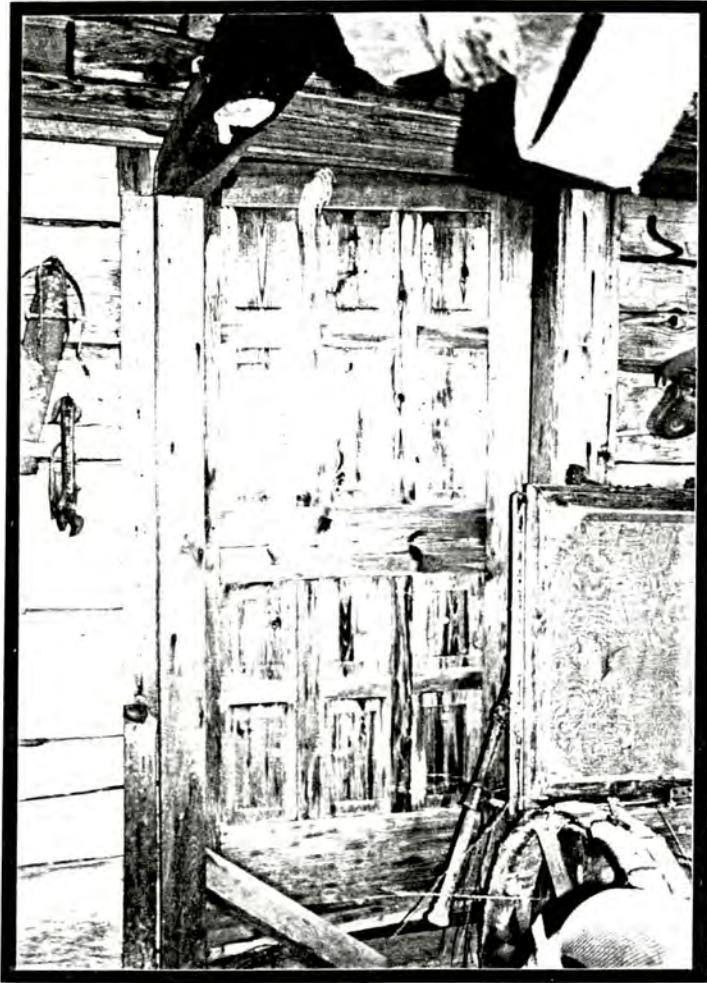


Plate IX.12

SAMUEL BROWN HOUSE  
(#9), NORTHWEST REAR  
ELEVATION DETAIL

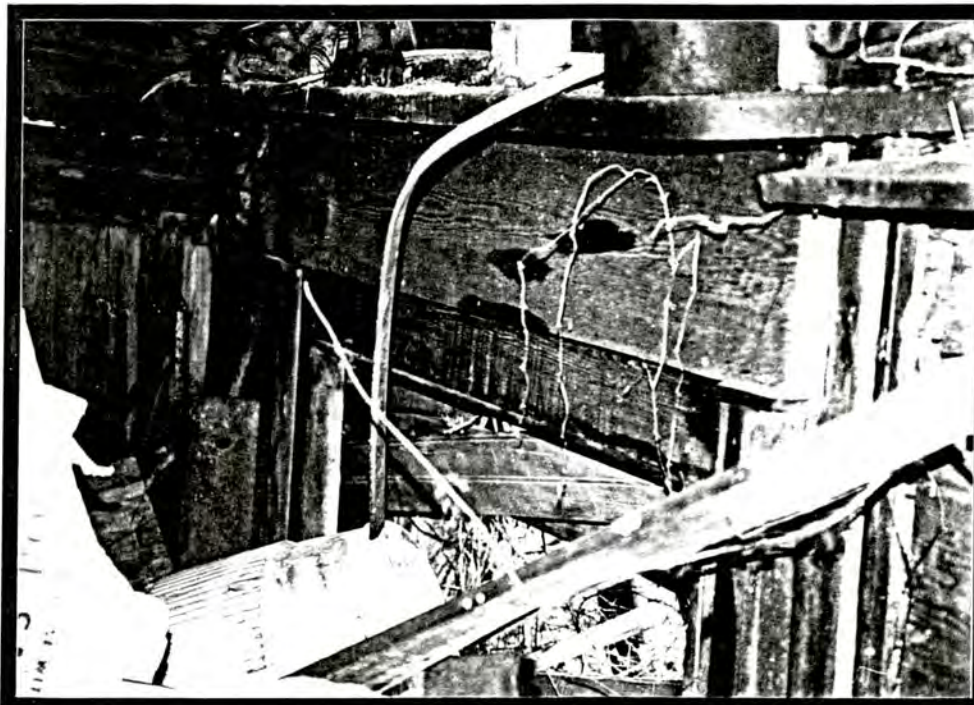


Plate IX.13

SAMUEL BROWN HOUSE  
(#9), POST AND  
LINTEL MANTEL





Plate IX.14

JOSEPH GILKEY BROWN  
HOUSE (#9), SOUTHEAST  
FRONT ELEVATION



Plate IX.15

JOSEPH GILKEY BROWN  
HOUSE (#9), NORTHEAST  
SIDE AND NORTHWEST  
REAR ELEVATIONS





Plate IX.16  
SMOKEHOUSE TO  
SOUTHWEST OF  
JOSEPH GILKEY  
BROWN HOUSE (#9)



Plate IX.17  
SHEDS TO WEST OF  
JOSEPH GILKEY  
BROWN HOUSE (#9)

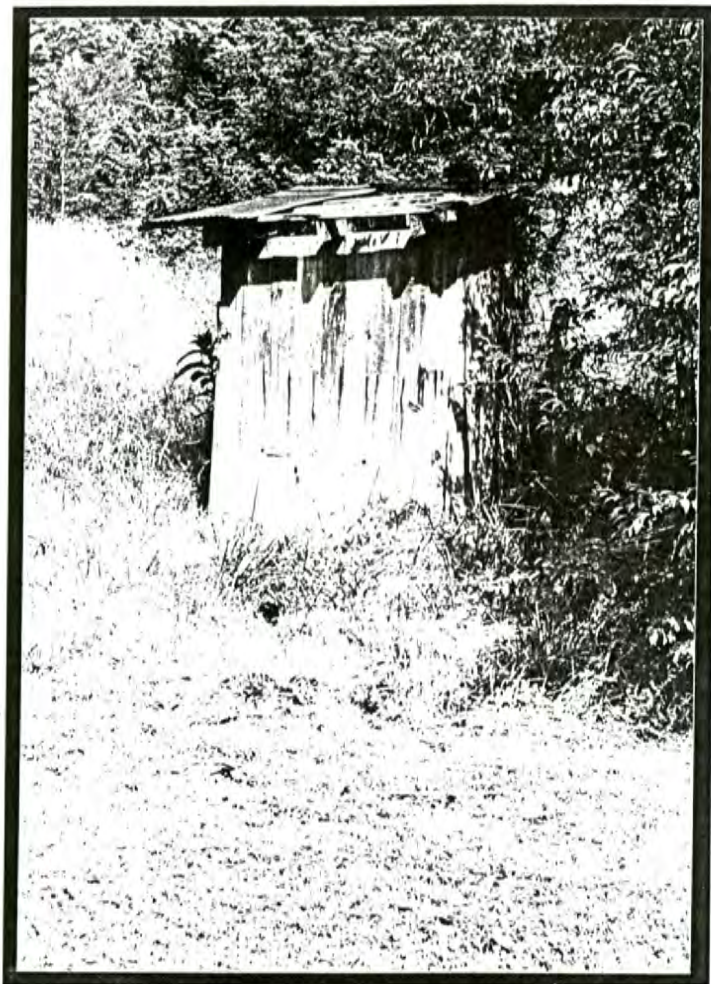


Plate IX.18

PRIVY TO NORTH OF  
JOSEPH GILKEY  
BROWN HOUSE (#9)

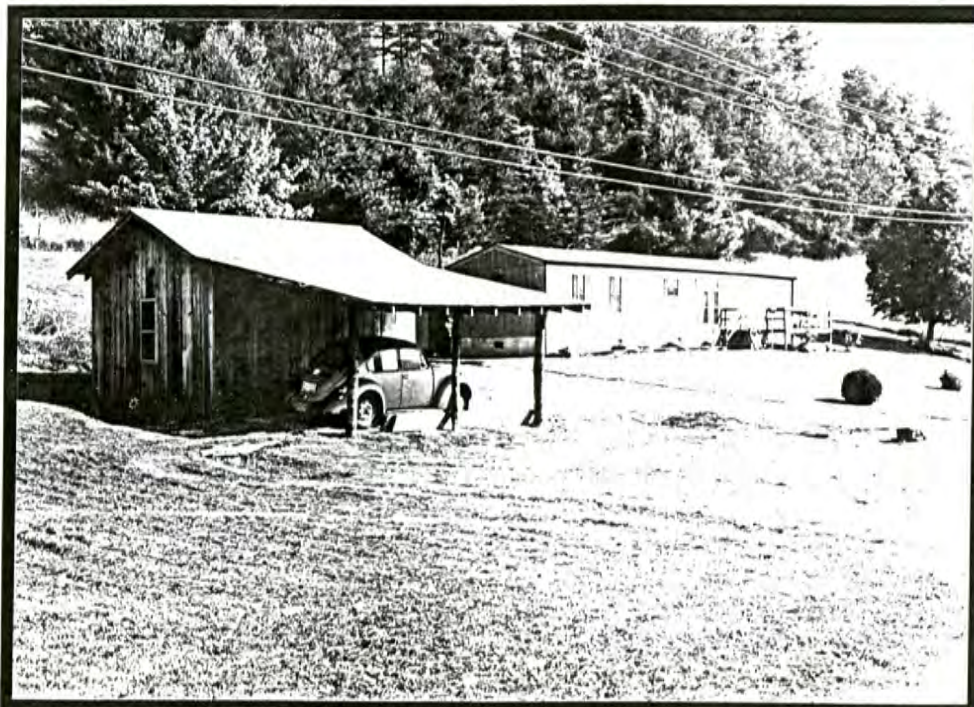


Plate IX.19

GARAGE AND MODULAR  
HOUSE TO NORTH OF  
JOSEPH GILKEY  
BROWN HOUSE (#9)





**HENRY SEAWELL BROWN FARMSTEAD (#13)**  
**East side of US 221, 1.4 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

The Henry Seawell Brown farmstead occupies part of the 300 acres of land that Daniel Brown II (1756-1852) purchased on both sides of the North Fork of the Catawba River in 1806. One of North Cove's pioneer settlers, Daniel had arrived in the valley a few years earlier (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). His son, Samuel I (1789-1861), added property to the farm and, prior to 1820, erected a dwelling east of the present farmhouse. Samuel's son, John Seawell Brown (1814-1893), extended the farmstead considerably. In 1853, 1854, and 1863, he received land grants from the state totaling 2,660 acres (Johnston 1992:7-8). Prior to the close of the Civil War, family members and slaves farmed his extensive holdings (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

Samuel, John, and John's son, Romulus Walter Brown (1843-1905), were among the cove's most prominent and wealthy citizens. Samuel and John, both slaveholders, were successful farmers and raised livestock as well. Following the Civil War, John served terms in both the North Carolina House and Senate (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). In the 1860s and 1880 he was also chairman of the county court and worked for the Western North Carolina Railroad. Romulus, who lived on the farm in the house Samuel built, was a farmer, raised cattle and hogs, ran a water-powered corn and wheat mill, distilled whiskey and, in the 1880s and 1890s, was a North Cove magistrate (Johnston 1992:7-8, 135). During the 1870s and 1880s he kept about 200 acres of the farm under cultivation (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

Henry Seawell Brown (1875-1949)--Romulus' son--and his wife, Mary Jane English (1878-1949), the daughter of William Jehu English, acquired the homeplace in 1889. They lived there and farmed the land well into the twentieth century. Henry Seawell invested in modern machinery, such as a reaper and thrashing machine, and in 1908 rebuilt the farm's water-powered roller mill, which had burned. He also erected steam-powered saw and planing mills and a well-equipped blacksmith shop (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

Part of the farm was occupied by Clinchfield Construction Camp No. 6 between 1905 and 1908, the years the Clinchfield Railroad completed the monumental task of driving a rail line over and through the Blue Ridge and Honeycutt mountains. The camp and railroad added to the farm's success, purchasing most of its produce. The camp's facilities, located on both sides of the present route of US 221, included housing for hundreds of workers, a clinic, an engineer's office, a commissary, stables, a blacksmith shop, a sawmill, a water pump, and a steam generator. The commissary stood on the present site of the Ashford-North Cove firehouse, on the east side of US 221 southwest of the Henry Seawell Brown House (Johnston 1992:136; Brown 1993).

The great flood of 1916 destroyed Henry Seawell Brown's saw and planing mills and the blacksmith shop, and washed away more than 40 acres of rich bottomland. After the deluge, Brown continued to mechanize the farm and raise a variety of crops--including corn, wheat, rye, oats, and hay, sorghum cane for molasses, and apples for eating and for vinegar--as well as poultry, swine, and cattle (Johnston 1992:50-51, 136 (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). This followed in the nineteenth-century tradition of mixed agriculture practiced on the farm by his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather (Bureau of the Census 1850-1880; Brown



1993). In 1949 the farm passed to Henry Seawell Brown's heirs, including his son, Romulus Jahue Brown. Romulus' son, Dr. Henry S. Brown, now owns the house, outbuildings and a portion of the land historically associated with it (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

In 1916 Henry Seawell and Mary Jane Brown constructed the present house [A], of timber and shingles sawn at their mill, and tore down Samuel Brown's dwelling. Their new abode was initially to be located near the old dwelling, but before it was completed, flood waters damaged it. It was torn down and constructed anew at its present location (Brown 1993). Boxy and high-hip-roofed, the Henry Seawell Brown house is similar in form to other houses built by the valley's successful farmers in the early twentieth century, although it is one-and-a-half rather than two stories tall (Plate IX.20). A pair of hip-roofed dormers pierce its roof at both of its side elevations. The rearmost dormers were added by Henry Seawell Brown's grandson and namesake, Dr. Henry S. Brown.

In common with many other houses built in McDowell and neighboring mountain counties in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the house's primary adornment is focused at its porch. A full-height portico supported by two square columns shades its front, north-facing entry bay. The columns stand in place of the original chamfered columns, which had deteriorated and were replaced by Dr. Brown. A balcony spans the portico. Running behind the portico and wrapping around both sides of the house is a spacious porch supported by chamfered posts. Additional decorative flair is provided to the dwelling by: the principal entry, which is framed by paneled sidelights and a transom; bays to either side of the entry; and two corbeled interior chimney stacks. A two-story ell projects from the rear of the house (Plate IX.21). Dr. Brown has added a bay to its second story and a shed room, and has enclosed the side porch.

The modestly finished interior of the house is largely intact. The wide, central hallway retains beaded-board walls, a board ceiling, a pine floor, four-panel doors, wainscoting, and an open-string stair terminating at a heavy, turned, starting newel post (Plate IX.22). Pine floors, beaded boards, four-panel doors, and varied post and lintel mantels continue to adorn many of the rooms (Plate IX.23). The only significant alterations to the interior are found at the rear kitchen ell, which has been modernized and extended.

Four outbuildings survive near the house (Figure IX.7). A half-dovetailed, log smokehouse [B] to its rear (Plate IX.24), and a small, half-dovetailed, log barn [C] to its southeast (Plate IX.25), near where Samuel Brown's house once stood, are believed to have been built in the early or mid-nineteenth centuries. A long, mortised-and-tenoned, frame barn (Plate IX.26) with later-added side sheds [D] also dates from the nineteenth century (Brown 1993). A twentieth-century frame shed [E] additionally stands on the property.

Hay is harvested from fields north and west of the house which once produced wheat, corn, and other grain crops. East of the dwelling and its proposed National Register boundaries, on land split off from the farmstead's original acreage, shrubbery is commercially grown.

The Henry Seawell Brown Farmstead is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for its reflection of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century agricultural traditions which characterized rural life in McDowell County's North Cove and its other mountainous regions. The large, intact farmhouse reflects the agriculture prosperity in North Cove in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The house and its outbuildings are further

believed, for a number of reasons, to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The house's square form and high hipped roof are typical of a number of other dwellings erected in the cove and elsewhere in the county in the early twentieth century. Its porch and portico are notable features, connecting with a tradition of airy porches in North Cove and McDowell and surrounding mountain counties. It is further architecturally notable for retaining a largely intact interior. The two log outbuildings are among the earliest buildings surviving in the cove and represent a once popular method of construction. The frame barn is a rare, surviving, local example of mortise-and-tenon construction. The suggested boundaries include more than seven acres on the east side of US 221 historically associated with the farmstead. This acreage is included even though the house and outbuildings no longer anchor an active farm, and the land is not utilized as it was historically, but rather in small part for raising hay. It is included to place the farmstead in context and to allow it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The proposed boundaries are located within parts of the lots (Tax Map 1728, Block 52, Parcel 5297 and Block 42, Parcels 8678, 6445, and 4394) which the farmstead presently occupies (Figure IX.8).



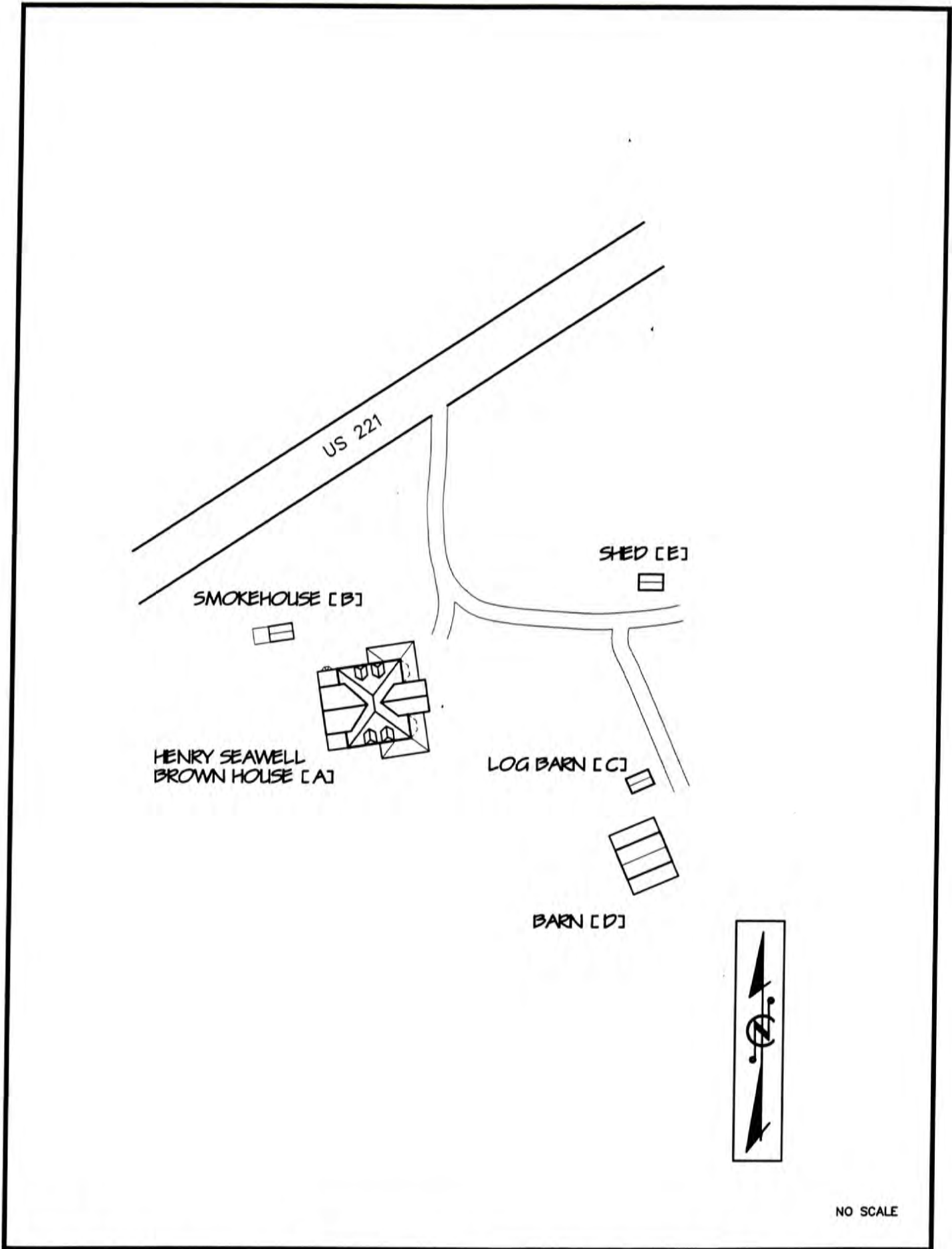


Figure IX.7 SKETCH MAP, HENRY SEAWELL BROWN FARMSTEAD, PROPERTY #13



Plate IX.20  
HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
EAST FRONT ELEVATION



Plate IX.21  
HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
SOUTH SIDE AND  
WEST REAR  
ELEVATIONS



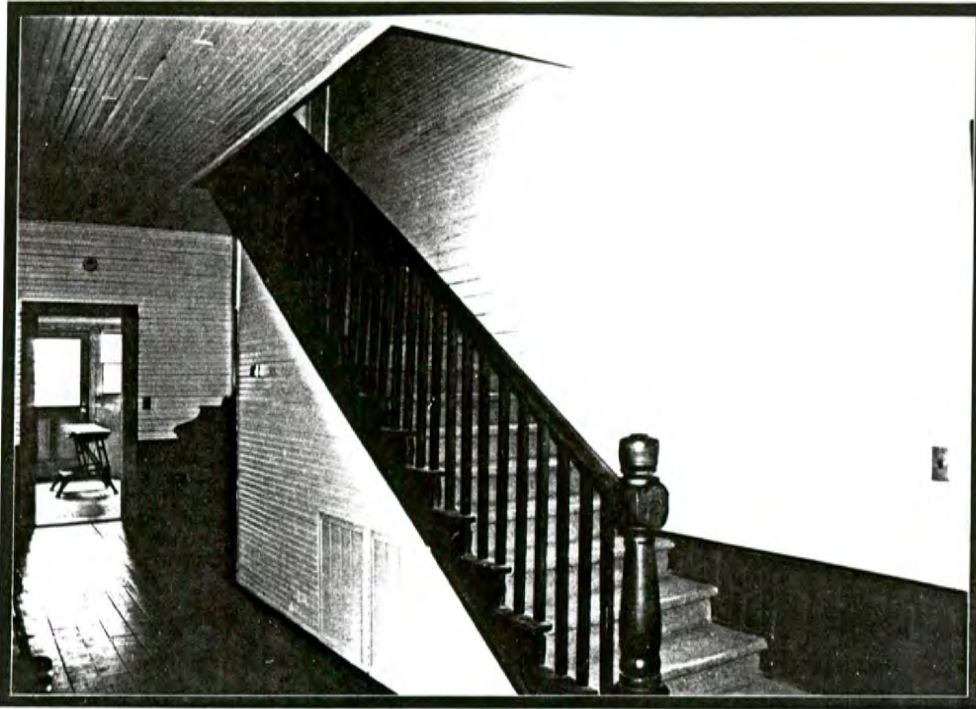


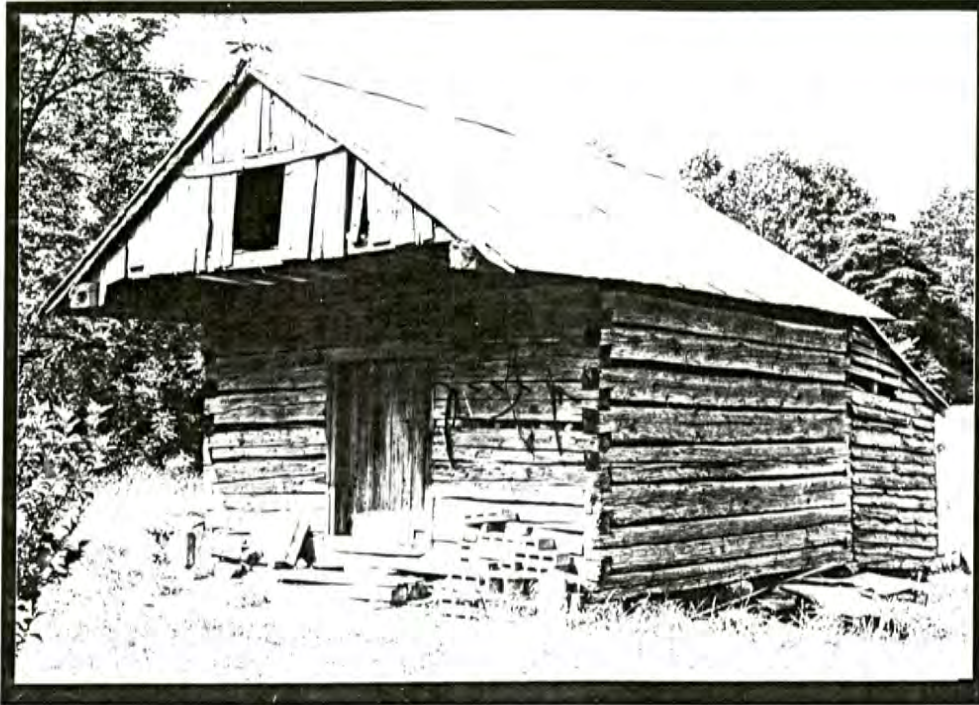
Plate IX.22

HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
HALL AND STAIR

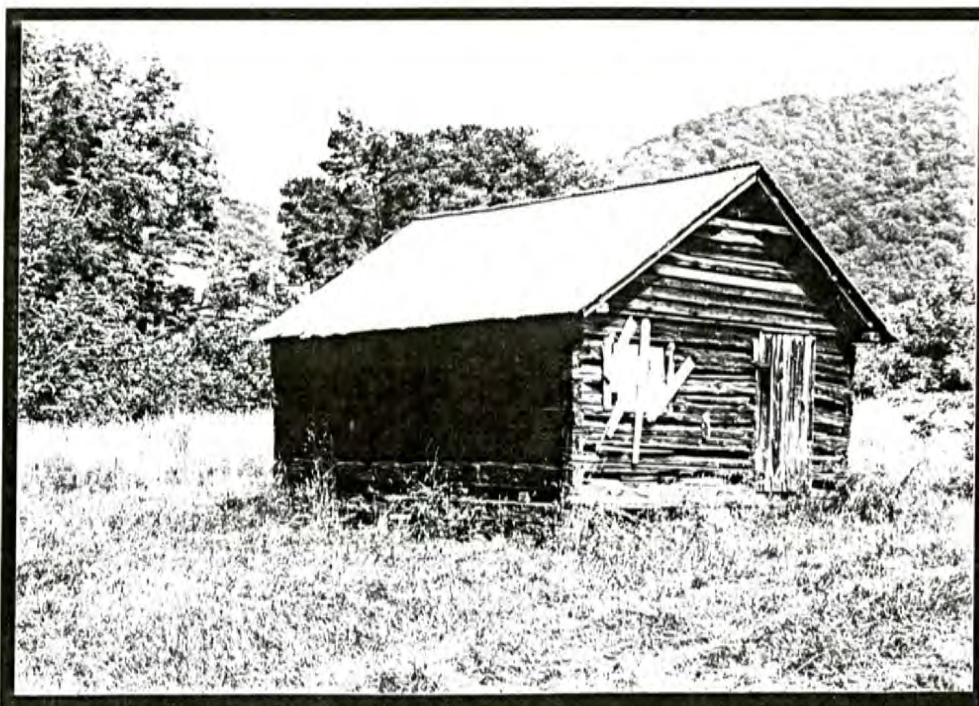


Plate IX.23

HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
DINING ROOM MANTEL

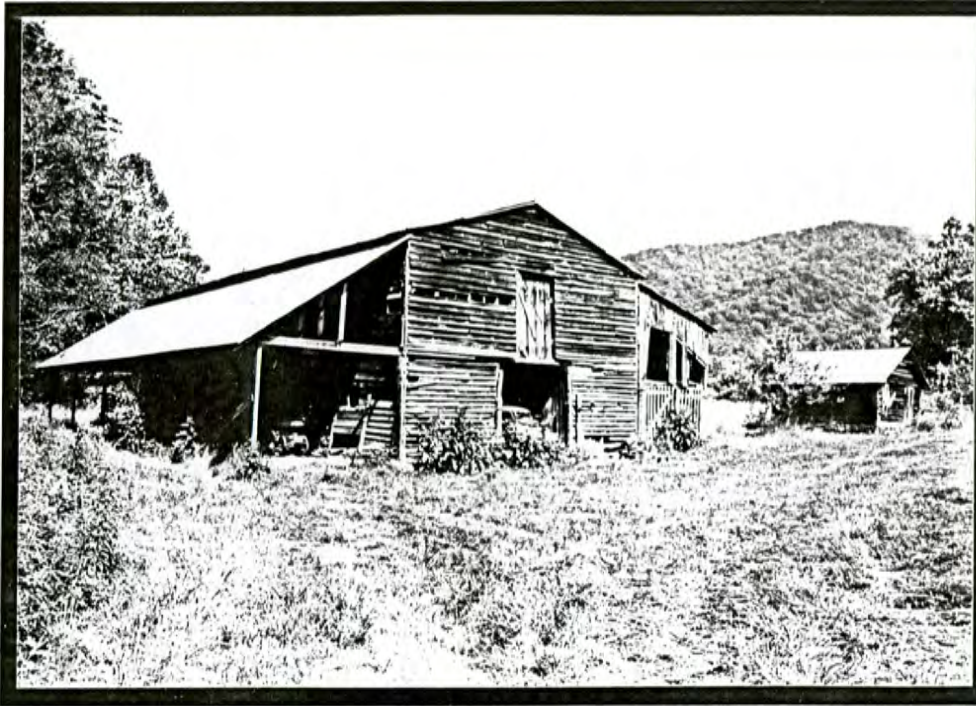


**Plate IX.24**  
SMOKEHOUSE TO REAR  
OF HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE (#13),  
EAST FRONT AND  
NORTH SIDE ELEVATIONS



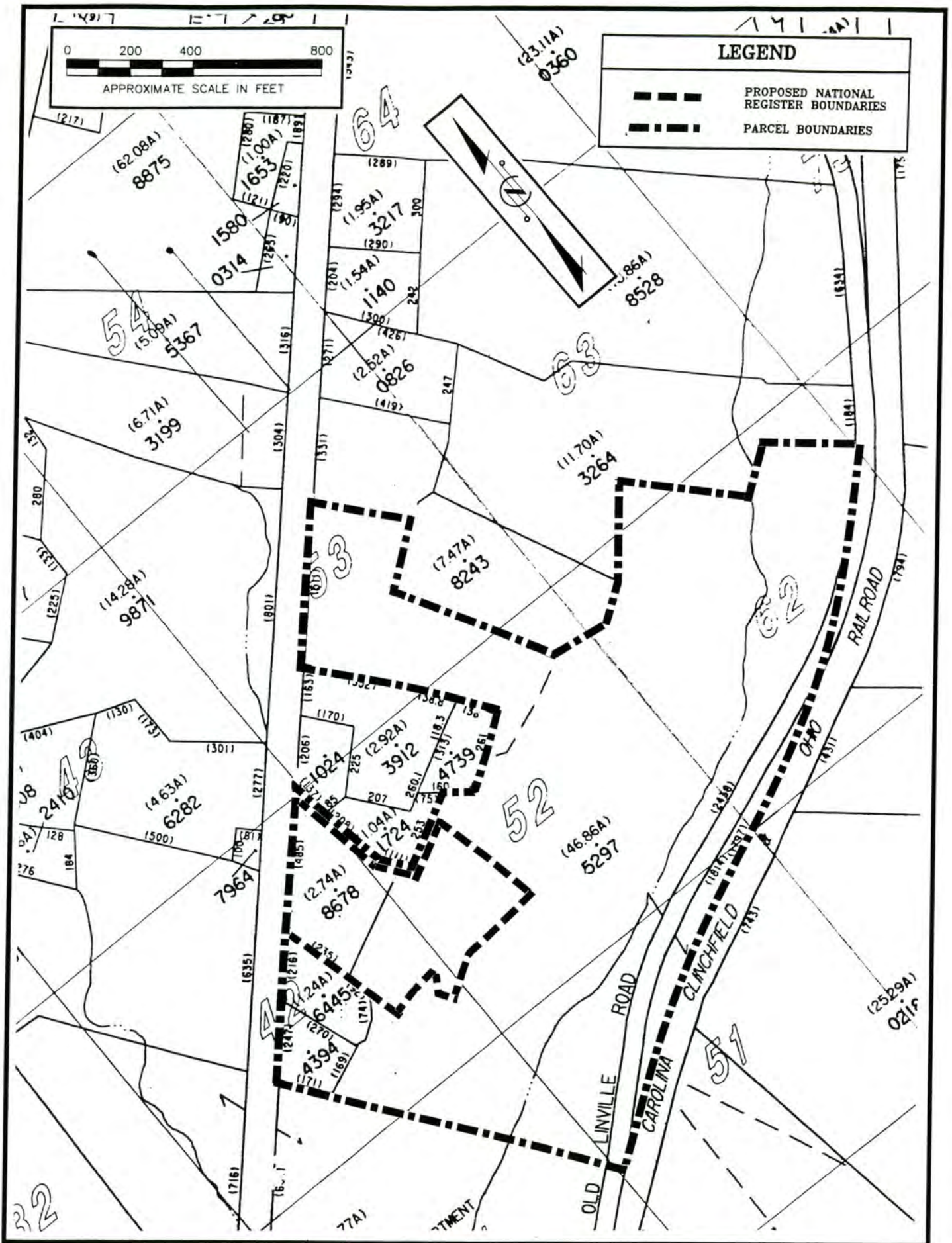
**Plate IX.25**  
LOG BARN TO  
SOUTHEAST OF  
HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE  
(#13), EAST AND  
SOUTH ELEVATIONS





**Plate IX.26**

**FRAME BARN TO  
SOUTHEAST OF  
HENRY SEAWELL  
BROWN HOUSE  
(#13), EAST AND  
SOUTH ELEVATIONS**



**Figure IX.8** PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF HENRY SEAWELL BROWN FARMSTEAD (#13)  
IX-34



**CALDWELL-BROWN HOUSE (#14)**  
**East side of US 221, 1.1 miles south of SR 1560, McDowell County**

The Caldwell-Brown House is believed to have been built about 1912 by the Caldwell family, which made its living primarily through cutting timber. They almost certainly benefited from the 1908 advent of the Clinchfield Railroad, which enabled them to easily bring their product to market. In the late 1920s, the Caldwells, who may not have lived in the house year round, sold the property to Henry Seawell Brown, whose farm adjoined it, and his brother, William English Brown, who lived in the house and farmed its land (Brown 1993; Blankenship 1994). William passed the property on to his son, Fate Romulus Lafayette Brown, and his wife, Bonnie Belle English, who continued to farm it. They had met at a dance in the house, which originally contained ground-floor space set aside as a dance hall. The house is owned by their daughter, Peggy Brown Blankenship, who now leases it out. Shrubs are grown on some of the former farmland, but most it is uncultivated (Blankenship 1994).

The form of the house is typical of many of its contemporaries (Plate IX.27). Two stories tall and two rooms deep, it is a boxy, hip-roofed foursquare [A]. (Although the Caldwells are said to have boasted the 1910 Joseph Gilkey Brown would fit inside their dwelling, the sizes of North Cove's early twentieth-century foursquare's are comparable (Brown 1993)). The house's most notable feature is its porch which, supported by chamfered posts, wraps around all four elevations. The north-facing, front elevation is marked a gabled porch roof at its entry bay, which is enframed by paneled sidelights and a transom. The side elevations each have projecting one-story bays. The south-facing, rear elevation features a projecting one-story bay at either side of its entry and a central gabled dormer (Plate IX.28). This elevation was originally the house's front, for when the dwelling was constructed, US 221 did not exist. The front facade was therefore oriented towards the North Fork of the Catawba River and Old Linville Road, the valley's principal thoroughfare, on the river's eastern bank. In the early 1930s, William Brown removed an ell containing the kitchen and dining room from the north-facing, present front of the house, and moved those functions into the dance hall. He likely changed the principal orientation of the house around that time as well. Further cementing the house's orientation to US 221, Brown also acquired a right-of-way upon which he built the drive which connects the house with the highway (Blankenship 1994; Brown 1993).

Five outbuildings stand on the property with the house (Figure IX.9). A small, gable-front, frame building raised on a stone foundation--located just off the southeastern corner of the porch--was a smokehouse [B] (Plate IX.29). A deteriorated frame shed stands to the south of the dwelling [C]. To the southwest is a small, gable-end, board-and-batten outbuilding [D] (Plate IX.30). It is said to have been used as a one-room schoolhouse or as a shop; its diminutive size suggests the latter. A small frame building to the northwest of the house was erected by Fate Brown in the 1950s as a tractor shed [E]. The handsome, stone-walled, open structure in front of the house enframes the well [F] (Plate IX.31).

The Caldwell-Brown House is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Its intact foursquare form embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction. Its porch, supported by chamfered posts and wrapping around all four facades, is particularly notable. Although only one-story tall, it is part of a rich local tradition of airy porches. The house is no longer the center of an active lumbering enterprise or farm and retains only one non-domestic outbuilding. The property is therefore not believed to be eligible for listing

in the National Register under Criteria A for any association with the agricultural or lumbering traditions of North Cove and rural McDowell County. The suggested boundaries include more than seven acres on the east side of US 221 historically associated with the house. This acreage is included even though the house no longer anchors an active farm, and the land is not utilized as it was historically. It is included to place the house in context and to allow it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The proposed boundaries are located within part of the lot (Tax Map 1728, Block 63, Parcel 3264) upon which the farmhouse and outbuildings are located. They include the right-of-way connecting the house with US 221 (Figure IX.10).



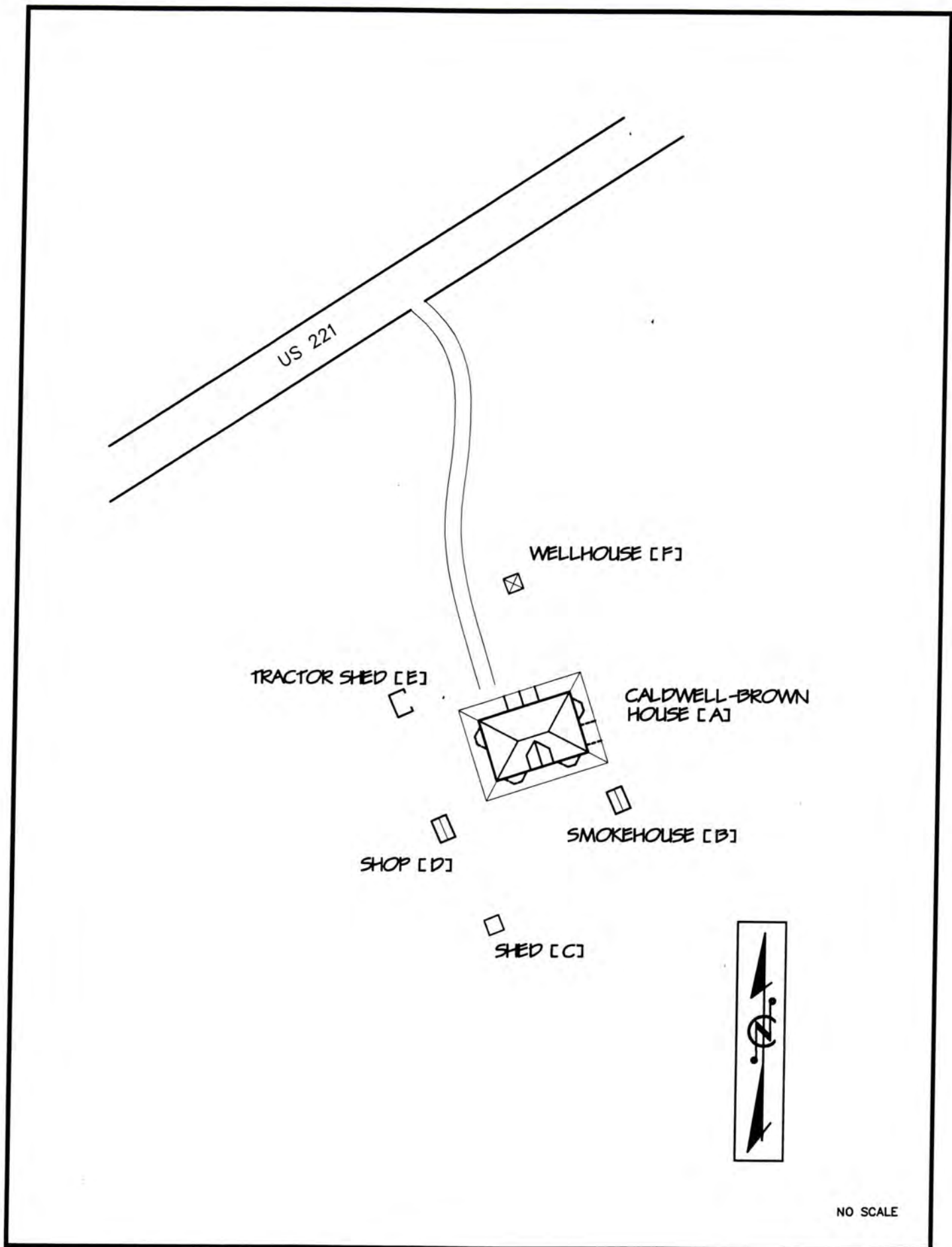


Figure IX.9 SKETCH MAP, CALDWELL-BROWN HOUSE, PROPERTY #14



Plate IX.27

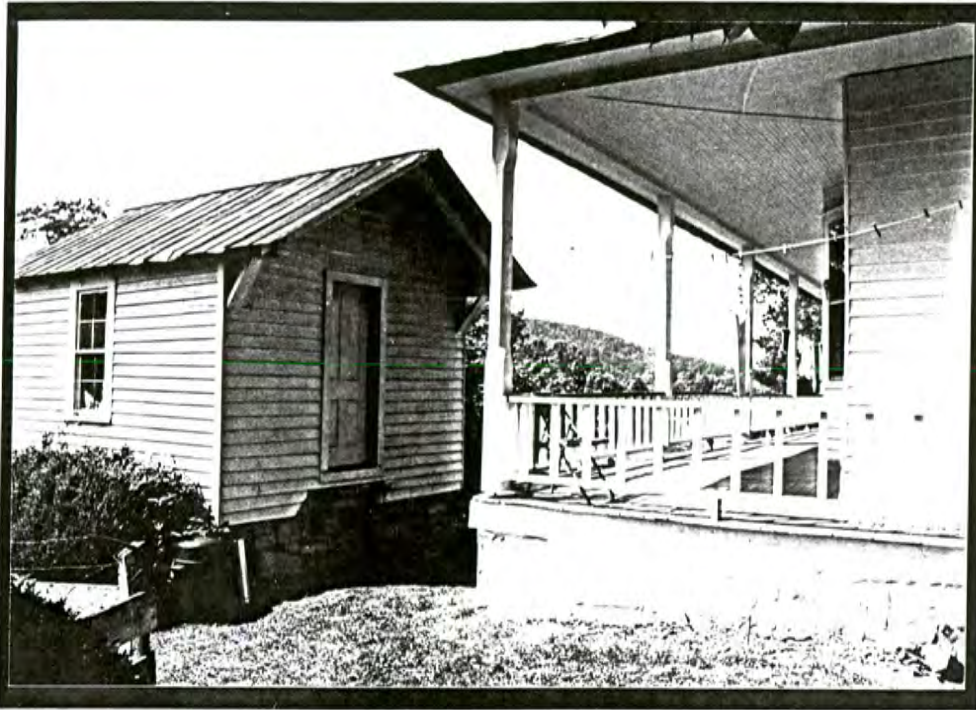
CALDWELL-BROWN  
HOUSE (#14),  
NORTH FRONT AND  
WEST SIDE ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.28

CALDWELL-BROWN  
HOUSE (#14),  
SOUTH REAR ELEVATION





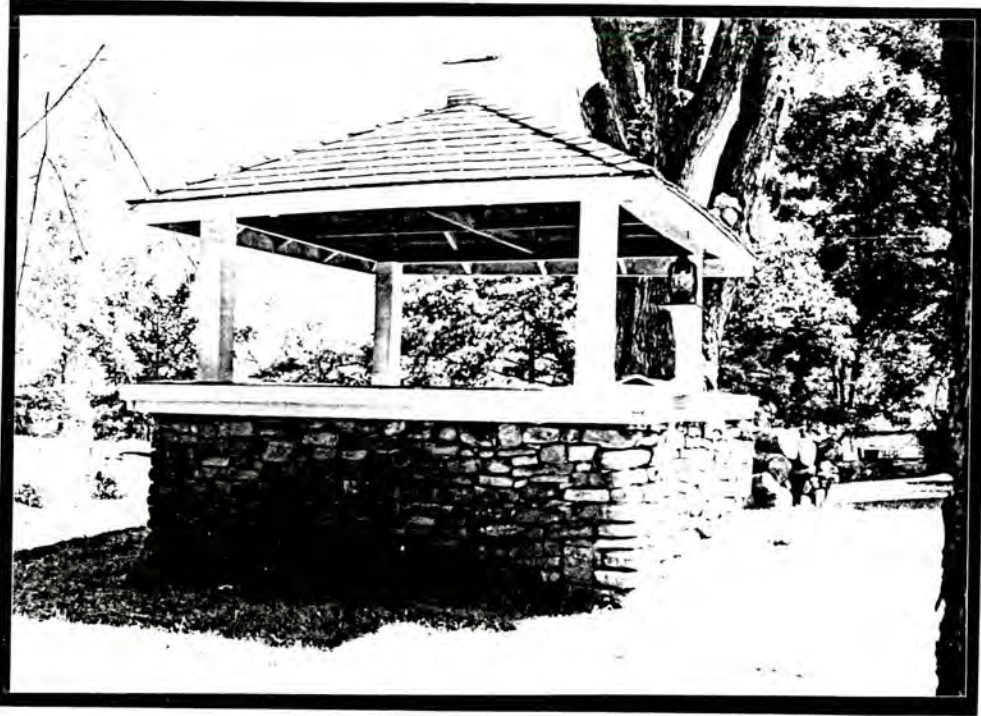
**Plate IX.29**

**NORTH FRONT AND  
EAST SIDE ELEVATIONS  
OF SMOKEHOUSE TO  
REAR OF CALDWELL-  
BROWN HOUSE (#14)**



**Plate IX.30**

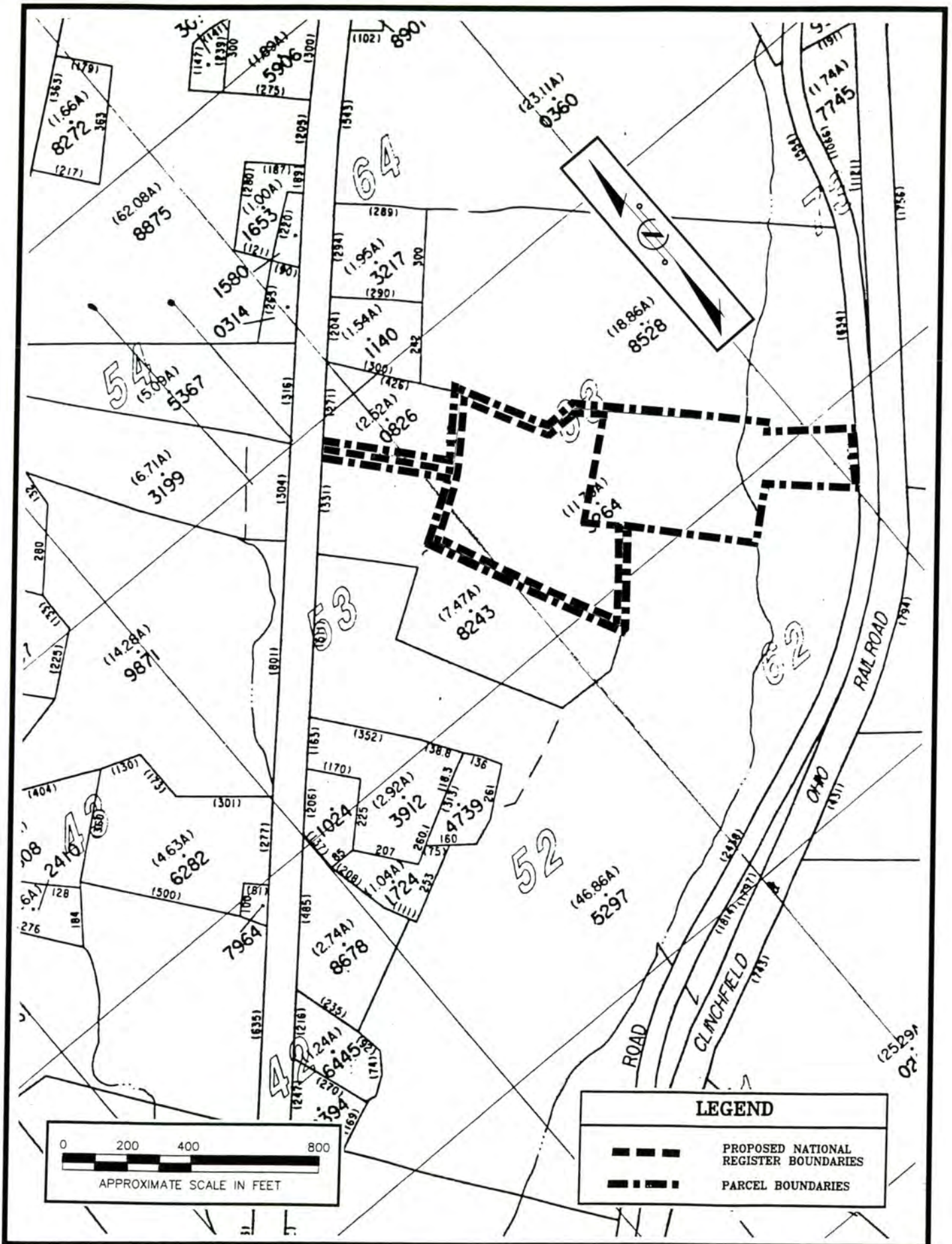
**EAST FRONT AND  
NORTH SIDE ELEVATIONS  
OF SHOP TO SOUTHWEST  
OF CALDWELL-BROWN  
HOUSE (#14)**



**Plate IX.31**

**WEST AND SOUTH  
ELEVATIONS OF  
WELLHOUSE TO  
NORTH OF CALDWELL-  
BROWN HOUSE (#14)**





**Figure IX.10** PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF CALDWELL-BROWN HOUSE (#14)

### MCCALL-HEFNER HOUSE (#18)

West side of US 221, 0.8 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County

The first identified occupants of the McCall-Hefner House are James W. McCall and his wife, Louisa Brown. James was the brother of Katherine McCall McCall and the uncle of the builder of the William McCall house (#7). Little is known of James' wife, Louisa, a member of North Cove's extensive Brown family. Some of the couple's descendants believe that James and Louisa built the house. Others believe that it was constructed by the Brown family. The descendants generally agree, however, that the house was erected in the 1850s (Mrs. Robert S. McCall 1994; Johnston 1992:13). Clara Pendergrass, the present owner of the house, and her brother, S.G. Chapman, Jr., also understand that it was built in the 1850s. Their grandfather, Thomas E. Hefner, bought the house with about 360 acres from a member or an agent of the McCall family around 1909 (Pendergrass 1994; Chapman 1994). Architectural evidence supports a mid-nineteenth-century construction date.

The two-story, main block of the McCall-Hefner House [A] is constructed of logs, poplar according to S.G. Chapman, Jr. Three bays wide and a single room deep, it is topped by a gable-end roof terminating at two exterior-end, brick chimneys (Plate IX.32). A door of four flush panels opens near the center of the block's southeast-facing front facade. To either side of it are long, paired, four-over-four sash windows; the exterior windows of each pair were added about 1940. The central doorway and flanking single windows of the second-story, front facade are intact. The wraparound porch and central front balcony are in their original locations, but their posts and other woodwork have been replaced. A railing of tobacco-stick-sized balusters at the north side of the main block, which guards the stairs to the cellar, is an early or original feature.

Flush sheathing follows the front porch around the north side of the house and onto the one-story rear ell (Plate IX.33). The second-story, front balcony is also set off by flush sheathing. The remainder of the main block is sided with weatherboards, except for a small section of the south side, which is faced with wide, modern weatherboards. This modern weatherboard treatment faces much of the ell attached to the front block as well. Extending to the side of the main ell, at the house's rear, are a kitchen and enclosed porch ell also faced with wide weatherboards (Plate IX.34). The main ell, kitchen, and porch are all built of frame and were part of the house when Thomas E. Hefner purchased it.

The interior of the main block of the house is organized with a traditional hall-parlor plan. The front entry leads directly into the parlor. Little altered, the parlor retains a plank ceiling supported by exposed joists, vertical plank walls, the four-panel entry door, a plain post and lintel mantel, a wide baseboard, and a boxed stair leading up to the second story (Plate IX.35). The bedroom or hall adjacent to the parlor retains its post and lintel mantel, plank walls, and baseboards as well, although its ceiling is covered with late nineteenth- or early twentieth-century beaded board (Plate IX.36). The rooms in the ell have largely been modernized, as have the upstairs rooms of the main block. The cellar beneath the parlor retains a hearth which was apparently once used by the McCall family as a kitchen. The simple, mid-nineteenth-century, Greek Revival style finish of the hall and parlor conforms with the 1850s construction date suggested by descendants of James W. McCall and Thomas E. Hefner.



The house now stands on a one-acre lot and retains none of its early outbuildings (Figure IX.11 map). A free-standing kitchen, which was located just to the rear of the house when Thomas E. Hefner purchased the property, is no longer extant. The open carport [B] to the rear is modern, as is a frame shed [C] (Plate IX.37).

The Caldwell-Hefner House is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Erected of log with a traditional hall-parlor plan in the mid-nineteenth century, it embodies the characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. It is one of the earliest surviving examples of residential log construction in North Cove and McDowell County. It is also the largest such structure in the cove. Its hall and parlor retain an unusual amount of integrity, their original surviving features including post and lintels mantels, baseboards, doors, and even plank sheathing. Although the house has been altered in a number of ways over the years--most notably by the doubling of its front windows and the rebuilding of its porch--these changes are more than counterbalanced by its early date of construction, traditional form and plan, method and material of construction, and intact interior features. The proposed National Register boundaries of the house are concurrent with those of the approximately one-acre lot (Tax Map 1728, Block 65, Parcel 7272) which it occupies (Figure IX.12).

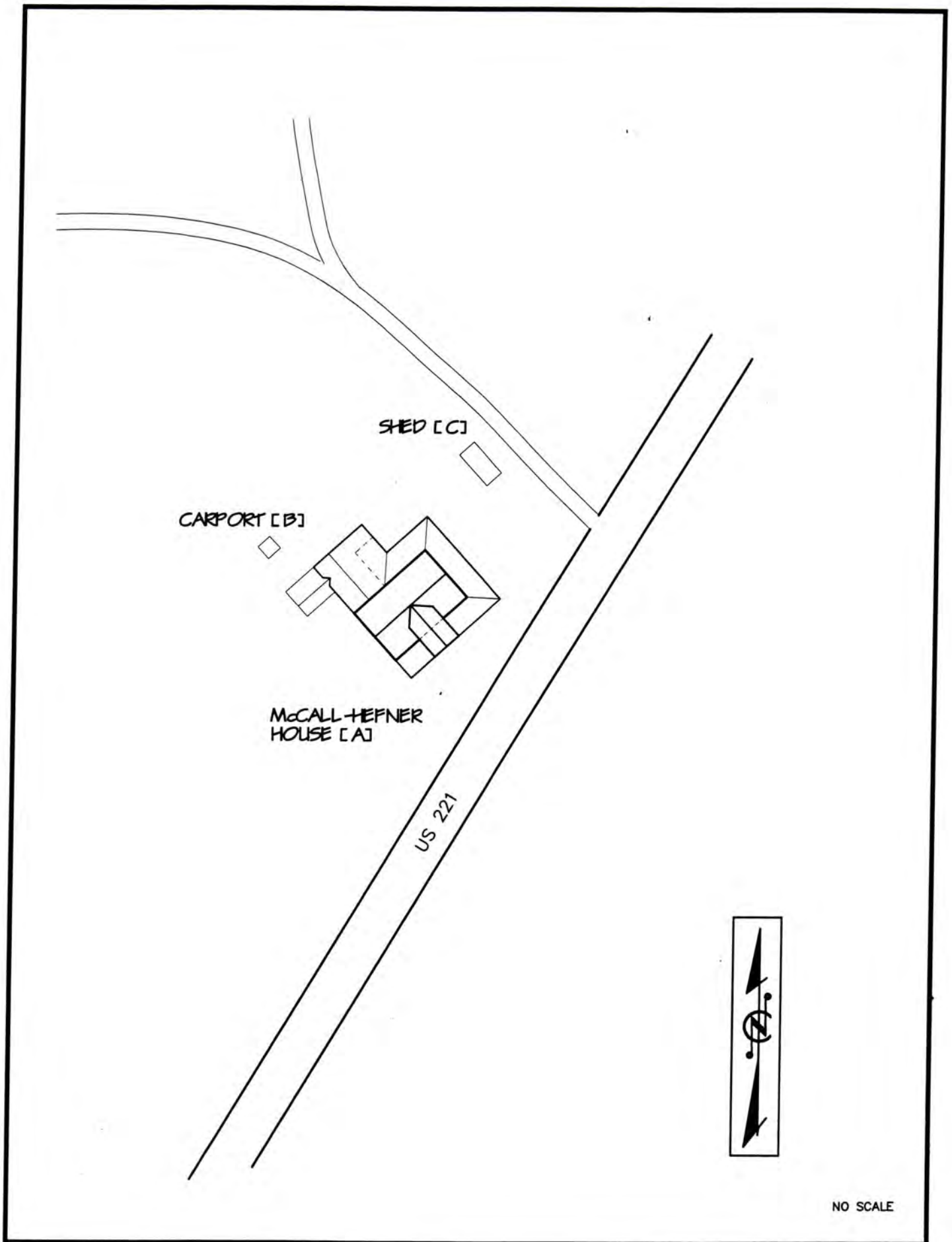


Figure IX.11 SKETCH MAP, McCALL-HEFNER HOUSE, PROPERTY #18





Plate IX.32

McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
SOUTHEAST FRONT AND  
SOUTHWEST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.33

McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
SOUTHEAST FRONT AND  
NORTHEAST SIDE  
ELEVATIONS





Plate IX.34  
McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
NORTHEAST SIDE AND  
NORTHWEST REAR  
ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.35  
McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
DOWNSTAIRS  
FRONT PARLOR

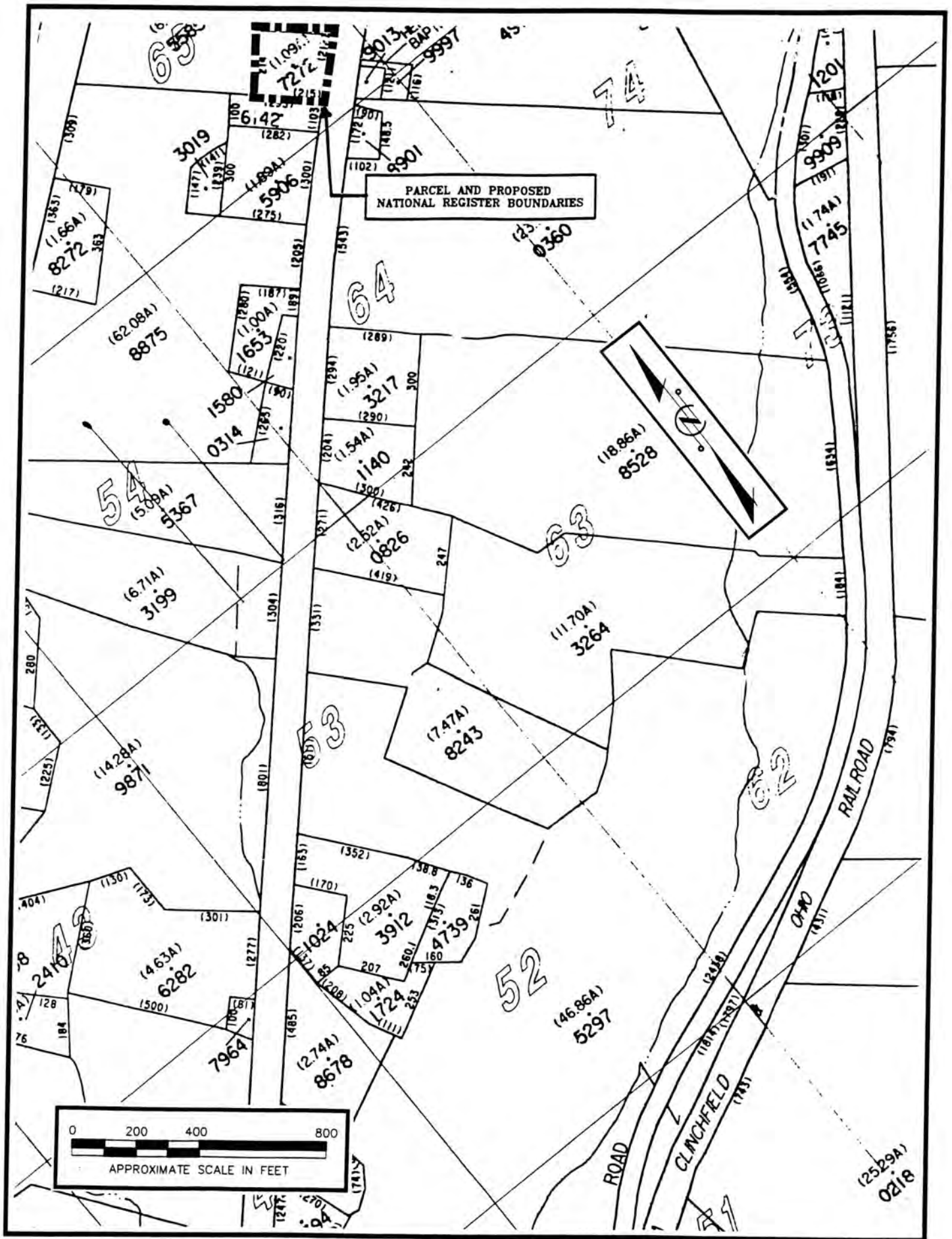




Plate IX.36  
McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
DOWNSTAIRS  
FRONT BEDROOM



Plate IX.37  
McCALL-HEFNER  
HOUSE (#18),  
SHED AND CARPORT



**Figure IX.12** PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF  
McCALL-HEFNER HOUSE (#18)  
IX-48



**CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (#24)**  
**East side of SR 1560, 0.2 miles east of junction with US 221, McDowell County**

The congregation of the Concord United Methodist Church was founded in the Ashford community in the early 1830s. Throughout the nineteenth century they held their services in a log building known as "The Meeting House." About 1898 the congregation relocated to the present site. They built two frame churches there, the second upon the ashes of its predecessor. In the late 1920s, they erected the present stone building [A] (Johnston 1992:60; Alexander 1985f).

The church's stonemason was Lenoir Franklin of Linville Falls. Franklin's work is found throughout Avery, Mitchell, McDowell, and Yancey counties. Within the project area, he is known to have done the stonework on the ell of the William Jehu English farmhouse (#28) (Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1976:86-87). The church is one of only a few intact stone churches erected in the county in the 1920s and 1930s, although during this period stone construction became popular countywide for many different types of buildings.

The church building is one-story tall over a raised basement (Plate IX.38). Its front gable is marked by two nine-over-nine windows and a gabled, entry bay portico supported by projecting stone pilasters. The front doors, which are reached up a flight of stone steps, were replaced in 1990. An oval window framed by small stones and a keystone is centered above the portico. Supporting the overhanging gable are four wooden knee-braces and a wooden cross-brace. The steeple centered atop the front facade was added in the 1950s. The side elevations are marked by square basement windows and round- and flat-arched windows at the principal story. The stonework of the rear elevation is broken only by two square basement windows (Plate IX.39).

To the south of the church is a trailer which is used as a classroom annex [B] (Figure IX.13). To the north is the church cemetery [C] (Plate IX.40). The cemetery's early marble and granite markers are primarily rectangular tablets with slanted or segmental-arched tops. It also features a few small obelisks and urn-topped markers. The earliest interments date from the turn of the century.

Concord United Methodist Church is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria C and Criteria Consideration A, for it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction. It is a well-preserved and rare example of early twentieth-century, ecclesiastical architecture in McDowell County. Its walls are deftly laid and are part of a popular local tradition of stone architecture in the county begun in the 1920s and 1930s. The church falls within the exception of Criteria Consideration A, for it derives its primary significance from its architectural importance. The cemetery is subsidiary to the church, which is the main potentially eligible resource, and therefore does not have to meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D. The boundaries of the church are those of the approximately one-acre lot (Tax Map 1738, Block 07, Parcel 3904) which it has occupied since its construction (Figure IX.14).

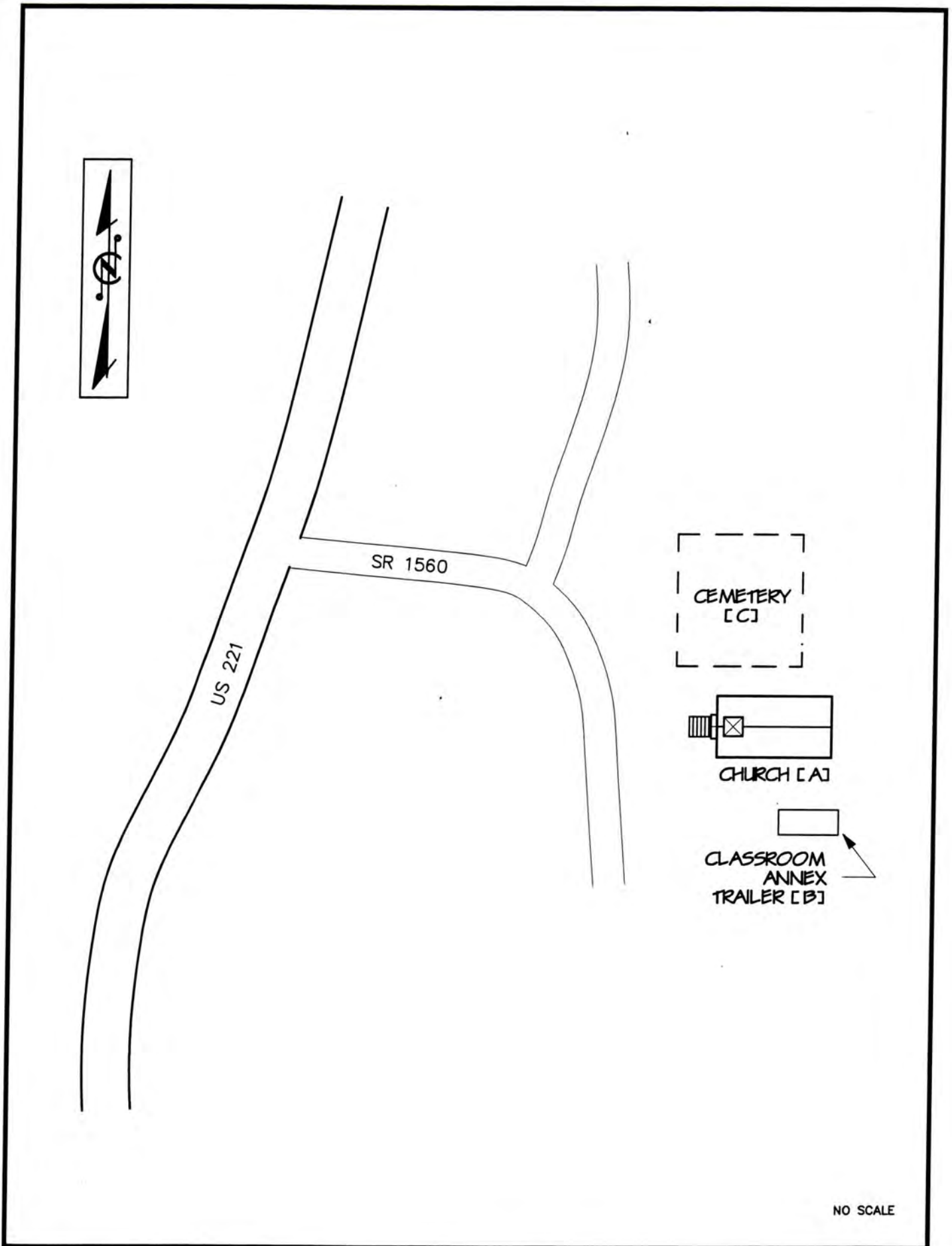
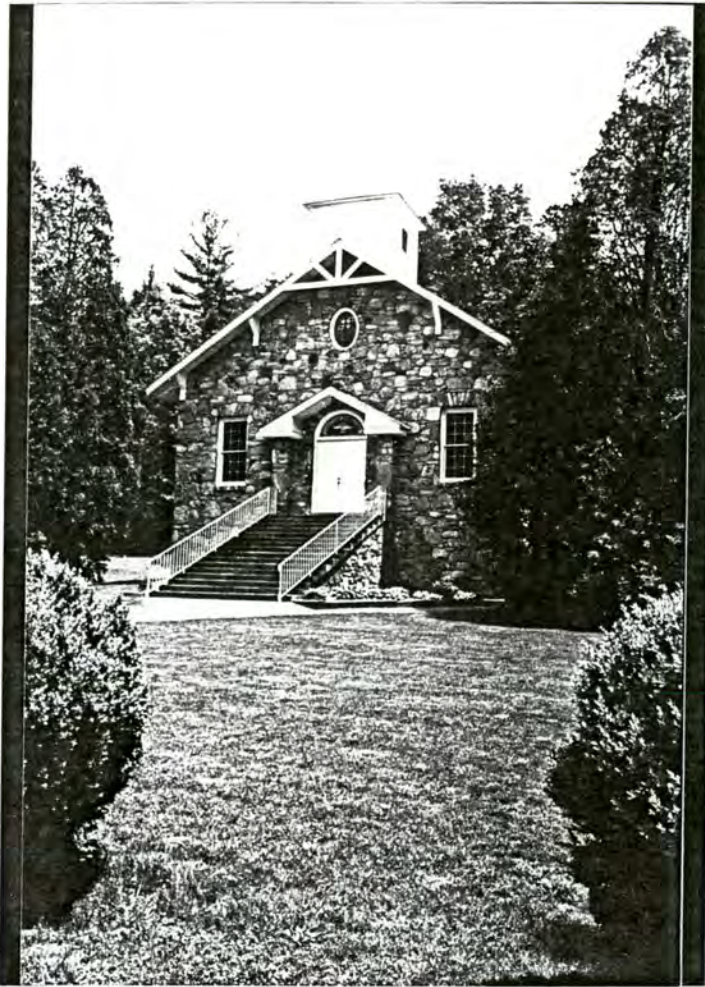


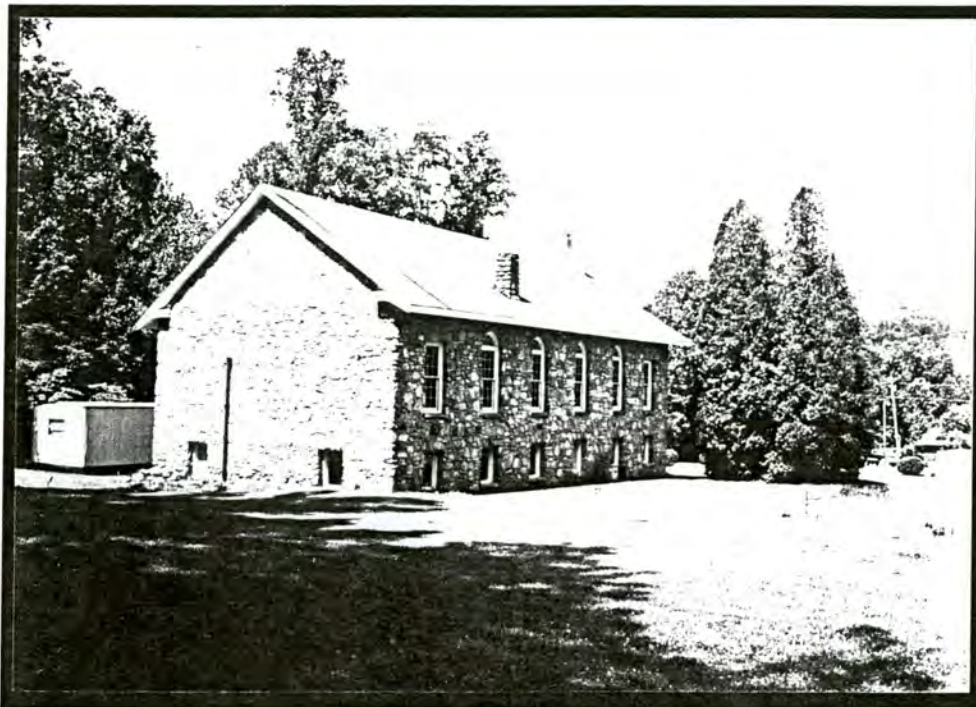
Figure IX.13 SKETCH MAP, CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PROPERTY #24





**Plate IX.38**

**CONCORD UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH (#24),  
WEST FRONT ELEVATION**



**Plate IX.39**

**CONCORD UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
(#24), EAST REAR  
AND NORTH SIDE  
ELEVATIONS**



**Plate IX.40**

**CONCORD UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
(#24), NORTH SIDE  
ELEVATION AND  
CEMETERY**



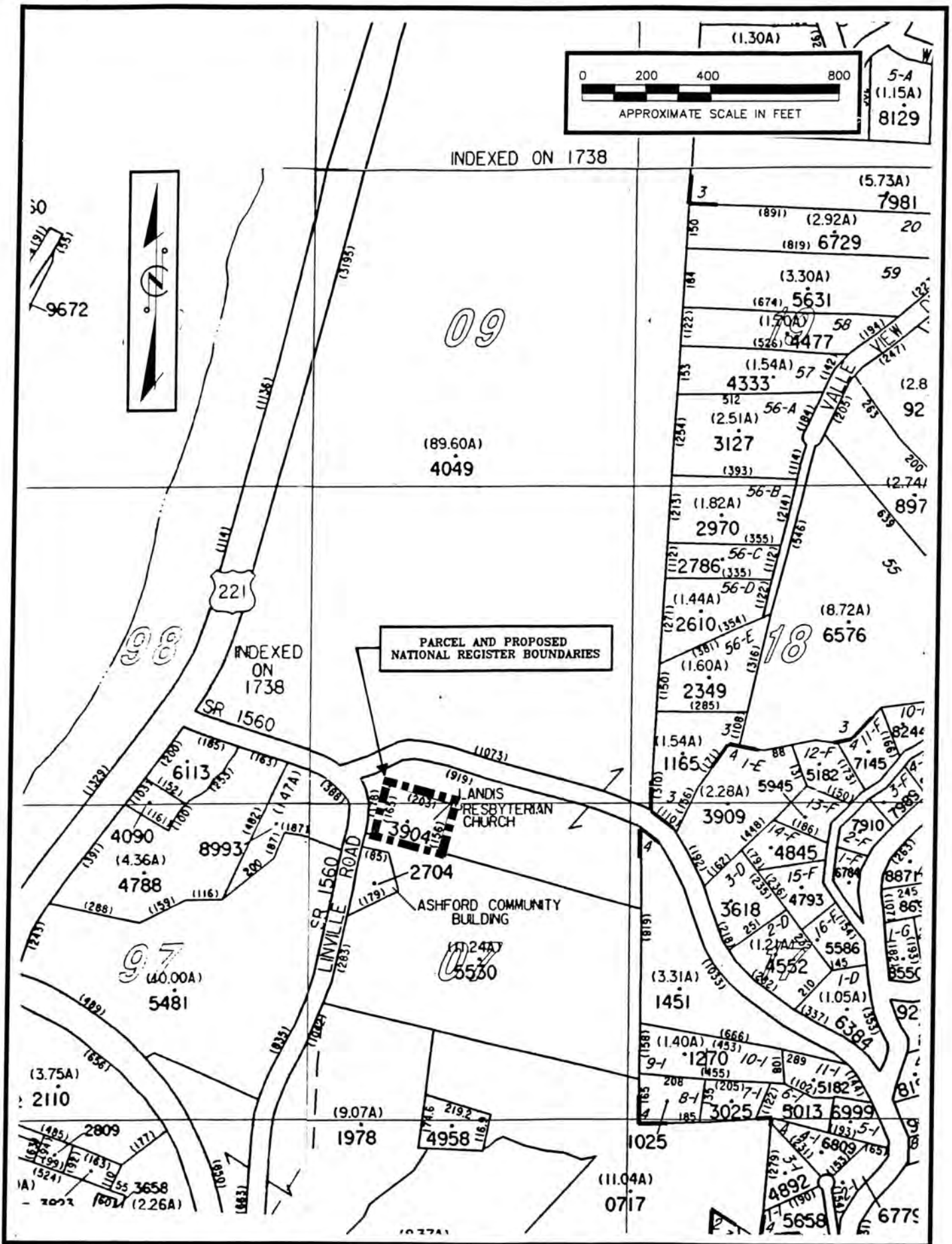


Figure IX.14 PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF CONCORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (#24)  
IX-53

**CONNELLY-PHILLIPS HOUSE (#25)**  
**East side of US 221, 0.4 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

This monumental, Colonial Revival style house is believed to have been built for J.C. Connelly and his wife, Elizabeth, about 1906 (Alexander 1985c). Along with a handful of contemporaries in North Cove, it is at heart a substantial foursquare. Its boxy, two-story, hip-roofed frame, however, is adorned with a number of striking, turn-of-the-century features which set it off from other rural North Cove and McDowell County residences of its period.

A two-story portico, centered at the south-facing front elevation, dominates the dwelling [A] (Plate IX.41). Its four chamfered columns are said to be formed of solid, individual, yellow pine logs. They support a triangular pediment and shade a second-story balcony. Similarly fashioned, one-story columns wrap around the front and west side elevations of the house's first story (Plate IX.42). At the back of the west elevation, at the termination of the porch, a two-story bay projects forward. Other notable exterior features of the main block include wide friezeboards at the porch and roof; full-height cornerboards; sidelights and transoms at the front entry and the balcony above; and two interior chimney stacks, one of which retains its original cap intact. At the rear of the house is a one-story, weatherboarded, gable-roofed ell. A one-story portico supported by two chamfered columns projects to its west. At its east, and along the north-facing rear elevation of the main block, are shed-roofed rooms which may once have been an open, L-shaped porch (Plate IX.43). The interior was not available for viewing.

The main road originally ran in front of the house, rather than to its west. According to the present owners, J.C. Connelly lived in log house across that roadway prior to purchasing the farm from Henry Seawell Brown and erecting the house (Alexander 1985c). Connelly's tenure on the land was limited. In 1918 he sold the house, with approximately 361 acres of land, to the Clinchfield Lime Company (McDowell County Deed Book 57, Page 134). He is believed to have sold out because of the destruction the flood of 1916 worked on the farm's fields (Alexander 1985c). The company established a rock quarry to the west of US 221, at the present site of a golf course. Two workers' houses [B and C] erected by the company survive just east of the house (Brown 1993). One-story, single-pile, gable-end structures, they are topped by metal seamed roofs and clad in board-and-batten siding (Plate IX.44).

The property includes a total of six resources: the main house and two workers' houses; a modern house trailer [D] to the northeast of the workers' dwellings; and a frame shed [E] and garage [F] to the main house's rear (Plate IX.45) (Figure IX.15). A pole barn to the south of the entry drive is not included within the proposed National Register boundaries.

In 1944, Sarah and Ely Hamilton Phillips purchased the house and 361-acre property from the American Limestone Company, the successor to the Clinchfield Lime Company. Since 1964, the property, which has been reduced in acreage over the years, has been owned by Boyd Phillips (McDowell County Deed Book 89, Page 656; Alexander 1985c).

The Connelly-Phillips House is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. Its intact foursquare form embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction. Its portico and wraparound porch make it an unusually fine rural example of Colonial Revival style architecture in North Cove and McDowell County and it possesses high



artistic values. The house is no longer the center of an active farm and it has lost almost all of its early outbuildings. It is therefore not believed to be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria A for any association with the agricultural traditions of North Cove and rural McDowell County. The proposed boundaries are accordingly limited to a relatively small area which allows the house to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association. They are located within an approximately eight-acre part of the lot (Tax Map 1738, Block 09, Parcel 4049) upon which the farmhouse and subsidiary buildings are located (Figure IX.16).

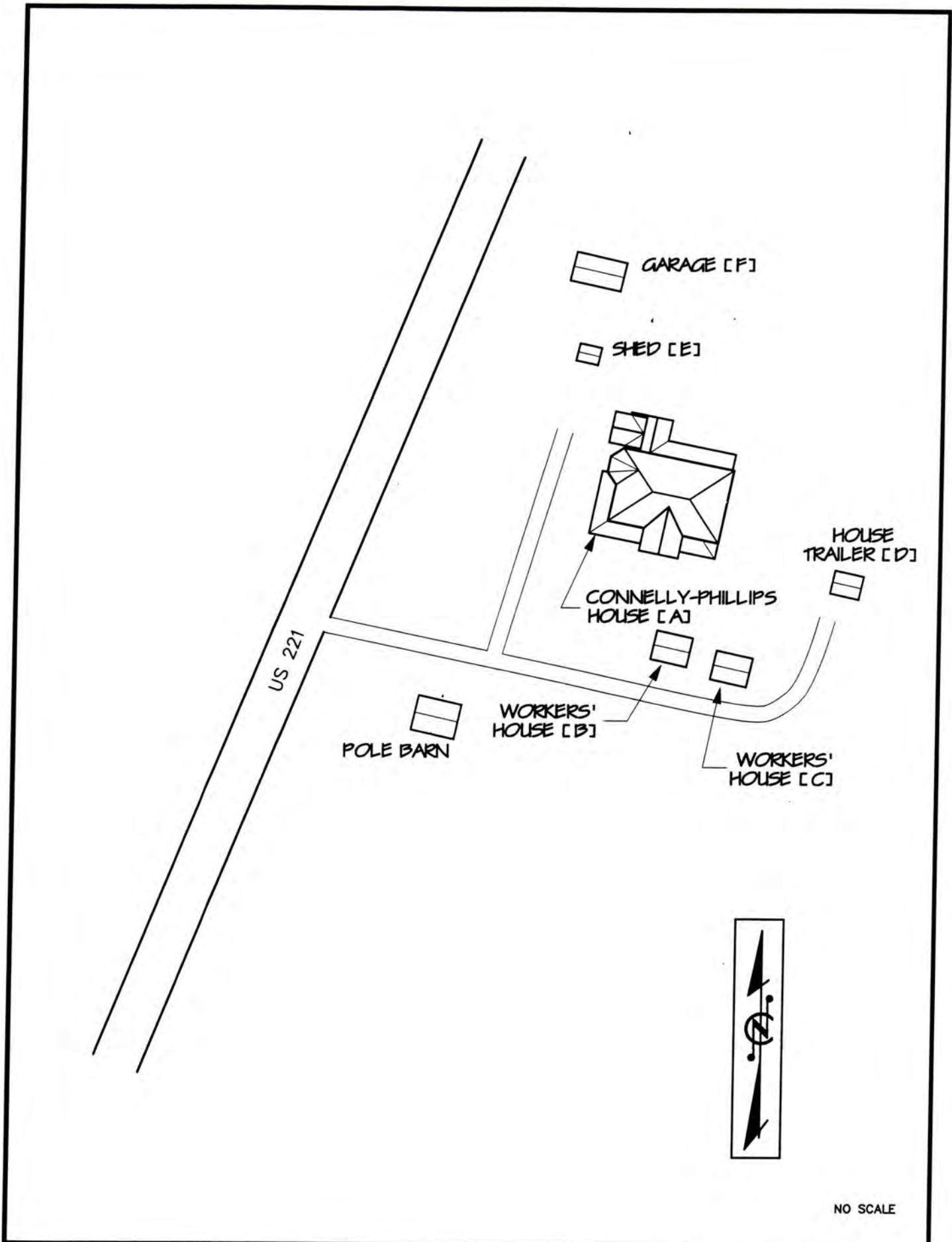


Figure IX.15 SKETCH MAP, CONNELLY-PHILLIPS HOUSE, PROPERTY #25





Plate IX.41

CONNELLY-PHILLIPS  
HOUSE (#25),  
SOUTH FRONT  
ELEVATION



Plate IX.42

CONNELLY-PHILLIPS  
HOUSE (#25),  
SOUTH FRONT AND  
WEST SIDE ELEVATIONS





**Plate IX.43**

**CONNELLY-PHILLIPS  
HOUSE (#25),  
NORTH REAR AND  
EAST SIDE ELEVATIONS**



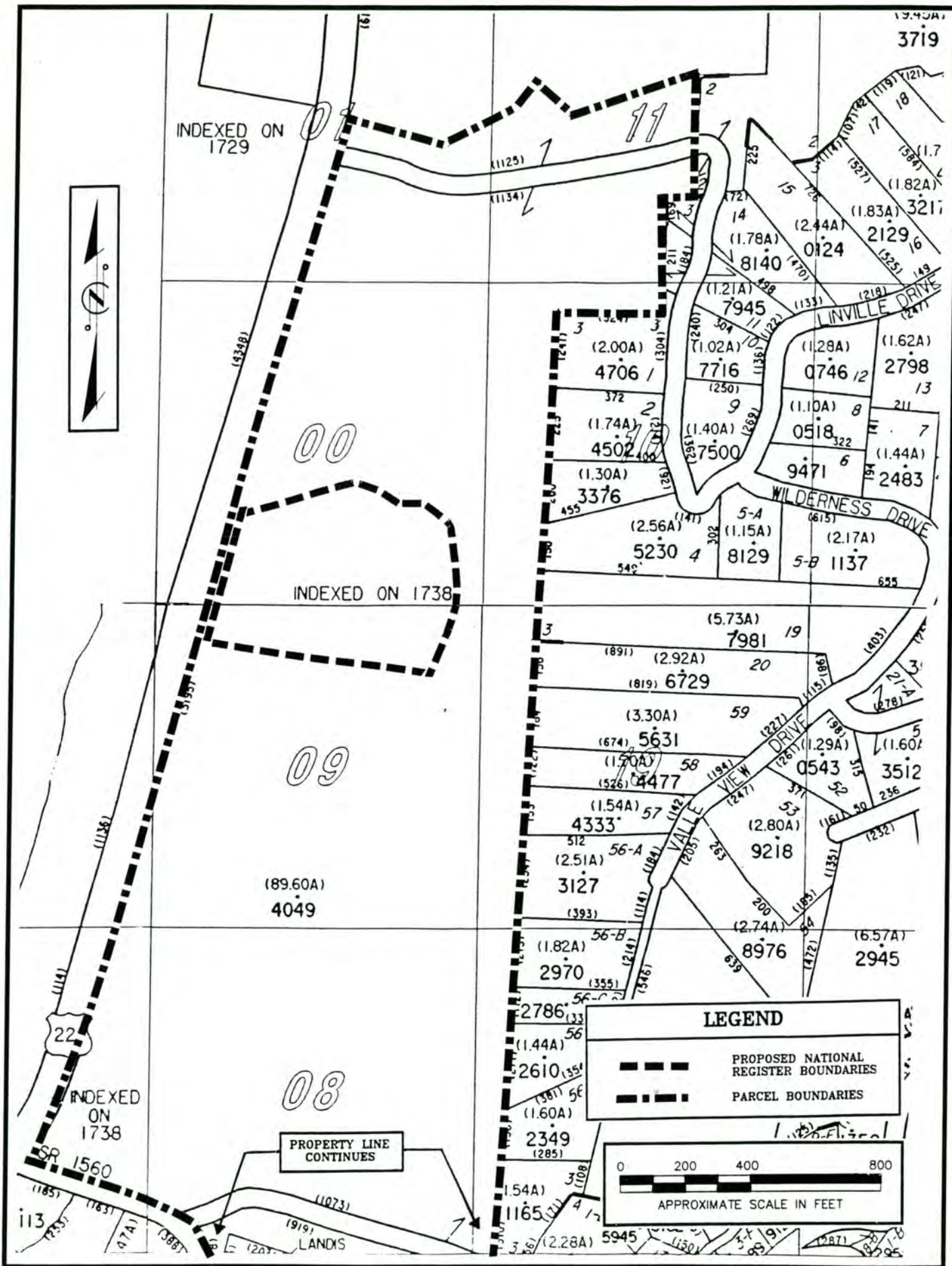
**Plate IX.44**

**NORTH AND WEST  
ELEVATIONS OF  
WORKERS' HOUSES TO  
SOUTHEAST OF  
CONNELLY-PHILLIPS  
HOUSE (#25)**





**Plate IX.45**  
**SOUTH AND WEST**  
**ELEVATIONS OF**  
**SHED AND GARAGE**  
**TO REAR OF**  
**CONNELLY-PHILLIPS**  
**HOUSE (#25)**



**Figure IX.16 PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF CONNELLY-PHILLIPS HOUSE (#25)**  
IX-60



**WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH FARMSTEAD (#28)**  
**West side of US 221, 1.7 miles north of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

Henry English (1773-1858), who was born in Pennsylvania to Irish parents, and his family migrated to North Cove in the early nineteenth century. His sons Gabriel (1809-1890) and William (1799-1879), during the middle of the century, purchased more than 1,000 acres at the northern end of the valley. Between 1884 and 1886, on part of this acreage, Gabriel's son, William Jehu English (1849-1923), and his wife, Laura Jane Conley (1851-1929), had the present main house of the English farmstead constructed (Johnston 1992:9; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1981:47-53; Alexander 1985f; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section).

The farmstead's setting is exceptional. Located near the northern head of North Cove, it appears to be ringed by mountains. Looming to the east and south are the Linville Mountains. To the west Pisgah National Forest and sweeps of the Blue Ridge Parkway are visible on the flanks of the Blue Ridge and Honeycutt and Humpback mountains. The mountains draw together to the north over the gorge of the North Fork of the Catawba River. To reach the farmstead's farmhouse and outbuildings from US 221, one must cross the North Fork of the Catawba River and its boulder-strewn floodplain on a narrow modern bridge [O] (Plate IX.46). Rolling Gap Branch also rolls across the land (Figure IX.17).

According to William Garvel English (1899-1993), William Jehu's grandson, the house was one of the first frame residences erected in North Cove<sup>1</sup>. On its site stood log buildings dating from the 1830s, which may have been home to members of the Onstodt or Askew families, earlier settlers of the property. Carpenter Wesley McLemore and assistant Columbus Biggerstaff erected the house's principal block, utilizing the popular, traditional, I-house form (Alexander 1985f; Johnston 1992: 111-112; North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section; Spicer 1993).

The house [A] is three bays wide, two stories tall and one-room deep, with six-over-six sash, a two-tier porch, a gable-end roof, two exterior-end chimneys, and a one-story rear ell (Plate IX.47). Its most striking feature is the front porch, which has two decks adorned with chamfered posts and intricately sawn balustrades. This form and finish is found at a number of other contemporary residences in North Cove, Turkey Cove, Linville Falls, and throughout McDowell and its fellow mountain counties. The stone chimney at the house's north gable end is original; its companion at the south gable is a later brick replacement. Other alterations to the house include the addition of asphalt roof shingles and aluminum siding. The stone walls of the north side of the ell are also not original (Plate IX.48). They were erected, in place of an open porch, by Lenoir Franklin of Linville Falls in the late 1920s or early 1930s. Franklin's stonemasonry is found throughout Avery, Mitchell, McDowell, and Yancey counties. His work in the project area includes Concord United Methodist Church (Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1976:86-87).

Two of the farmstead's outbuildings predate the house or were built with it, a half-dovetailed, log smokehouse [B] (Plate IX.49) to its rear and a half-dovetailed, log barn [M] (Plate IX.50) to its

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<sup>1</sup> William Garvel English, who was born at the farm at the turn of the century, recounted its history to principal investigator Ted Alexander in 1985. English died in May, 1993. The farmstead remains in the English family.

northwest. Frame outbuildings apparently dating from the early to mid-twentieth century include a brooder house [C], a crib [D] (Plate IX.51), a chicken house [G] (Plate IX.52), a barn [I] (Plate IX.53), and a barn/stable [K] (Plate IX.54). Buildings built within the past fifty years include a house trailer [E] (Plate IX.55), the small brick ranch house of William Garvel English's daughter, Julia Spicer [F], a cement-block milkhouse [H], an open metal-sided shed [J], and two tall metal silos [L]. The oldest resource on the property is the cemetery [N], located northwest of the cluster of farm buildings across a rising, rolling pasture (Plate IX.56). Among its dozens of graves are those of Henry English, William Jehu's grandfather; William English, William Jehu's uncle; and numerous plots marked only by small, rough fieldstones (Plate IX.57) (Alexander 1985f; Spicer 1993). Many of these latter graves are thought to be those of slaves. From the cemetery, one can view the farmstead and much of North Cove.

Prior to World War II, William Garvel English added a herd of Jersey cattle to the farm and sold cream. During the war he switched to Holstein cattle and ran a Grade A dairy (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1989:McDowell County section). In 1954 the William Garvel English family was named McDowell County's Master Farm Family of the year. The farm, reportedly unusually productive for the largely mountainous county, was producing chickens and eggs, cattle and milk, and sufficient corn, wheat, oats, hay, and vegetables to feed the livestock and the family (Alexander 1985f).

The William Jehu English Farmstead is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for, with outbuildings and sometimes active fields and pastures included within its boundaries, it reflects the nineteenth- and twentieth-century agricultural traditions which characterized rural life in McDowell County's North Cove. The farmstead is also historically significant for its association with the earliest settlement history of North Cove and the mountainous regions of the county. The farmhouse and outbuildings are further believed, for a number of reasons, to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C. The house's traditional I-house form, which is one of the earliest local examples of this two-story, one-room-deep configuration, embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and period of construction. Its porch is an excellent, intact example of regionally popular, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century, two-tier Victorian porches and possesses high artistic values. The house, outbuildings, and grand setting also represent a significant and distinguishable entity.

The suggested boundaries of the property include approximately 87 acres on the east side of US 221 historically associated with the farmstead (Figure IX.18). They do not include all of the land historically associated with the farm, because the modern use of the land has changed. Only a small part of the land is now farmed. Most of the agricultural activity is associated with pasturing cattle and raising grasses for fodder; little if any of the land is used for raising the varied crops historically associated with the farm. Most of the land has grown up or remains in woodland. Additionally, a number of smaller lots, upon which modern houses stand, have been cut from it. The boundaries have been drawn to exclude the lots--most of which are located to the south of the farmhouse and to the east, across US 221--upon which these modern houses have been built. The property within the suggested boundaries, all of which remains in the English family, consists of part of one large, main tract (Map 1729, Block 67, Parcel 0844) owned by William Garvel English at his death, upon which the farmhouse and most of the outbuildings stand; the approximately one-acre parcel (Map 1729, Block 87, Parcel 0136) occupied by the house of his daughter, Julia Spicer; that part of the approximately 26-acre parcel owned by John English, located on the west side of US 221; and that part of the approximately 36-acre parcel (Map 1729, Block 76, Parcel 8693) owned by Romulus J.



English, William Garvel's son, located on the west side of US 221. The eastern, southern, and part of the northern boundary of this block of land are set by US 221 and property lines. The western and remaining part of the northern boundary follow pasture lines. The boundaries encompass pastures, fields, and some woodland in the flat of the valley and where the valley begins to sweep up into the mountains. They capture the historic place of the farmstead and allow it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association.

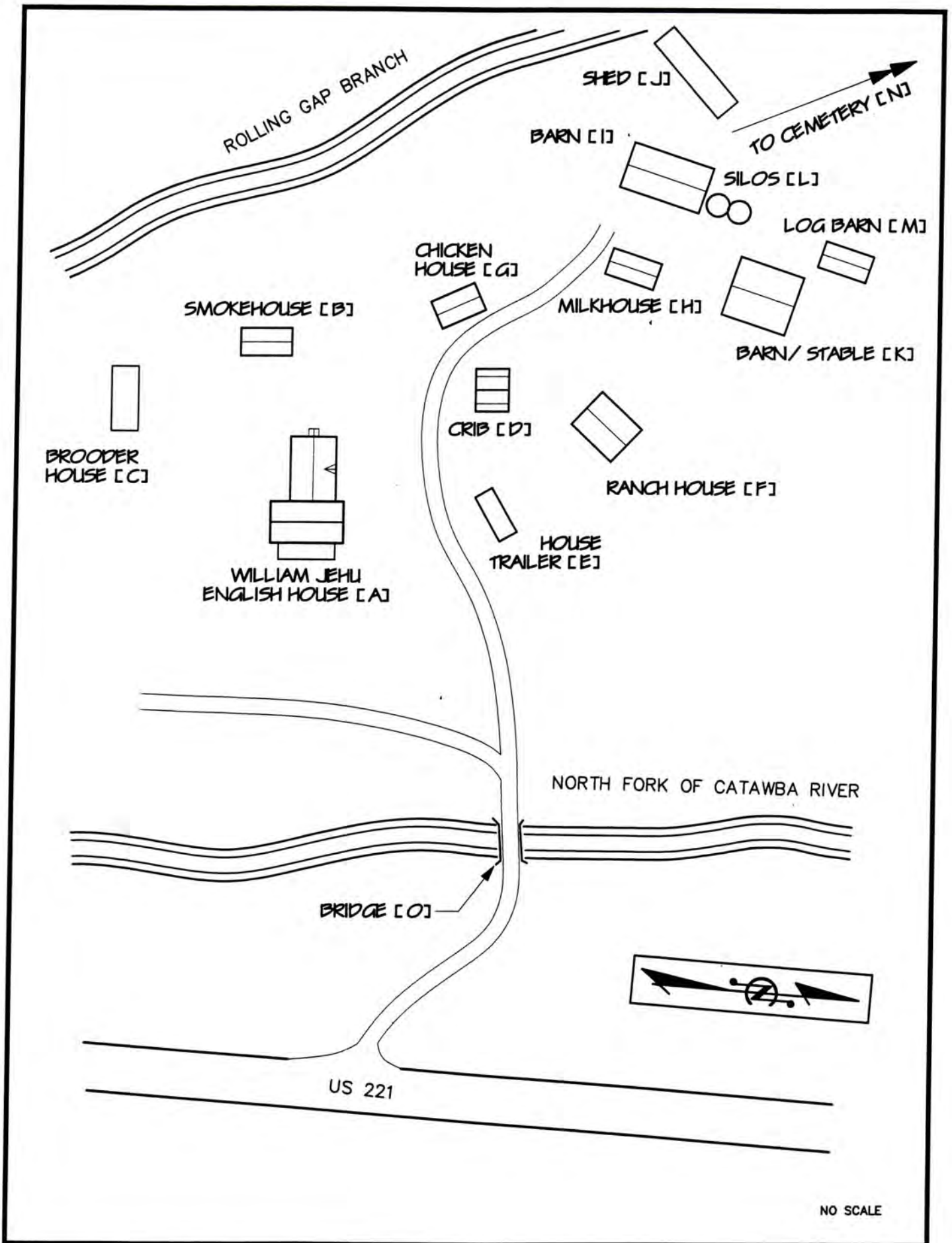


Figure IX.17 SKETCH MAP, WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH FARMSTEAD, PROPERTY #28



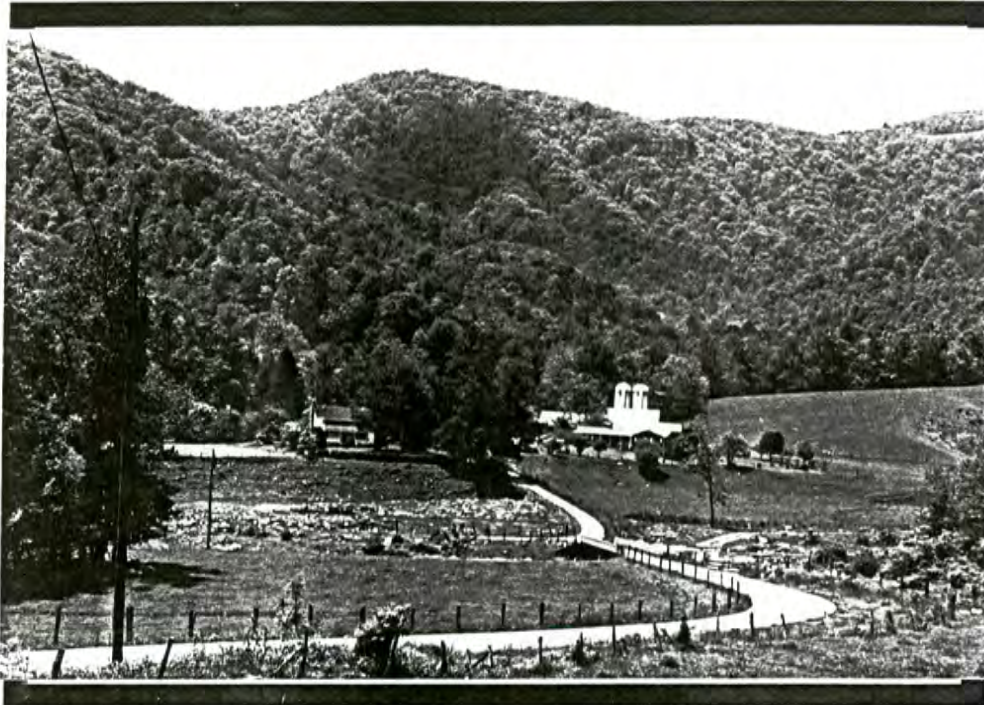


Plate IX.46

WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
FARMSTEAD (#28),  
FACING WEST  
FROM US 221



Plate IX.47

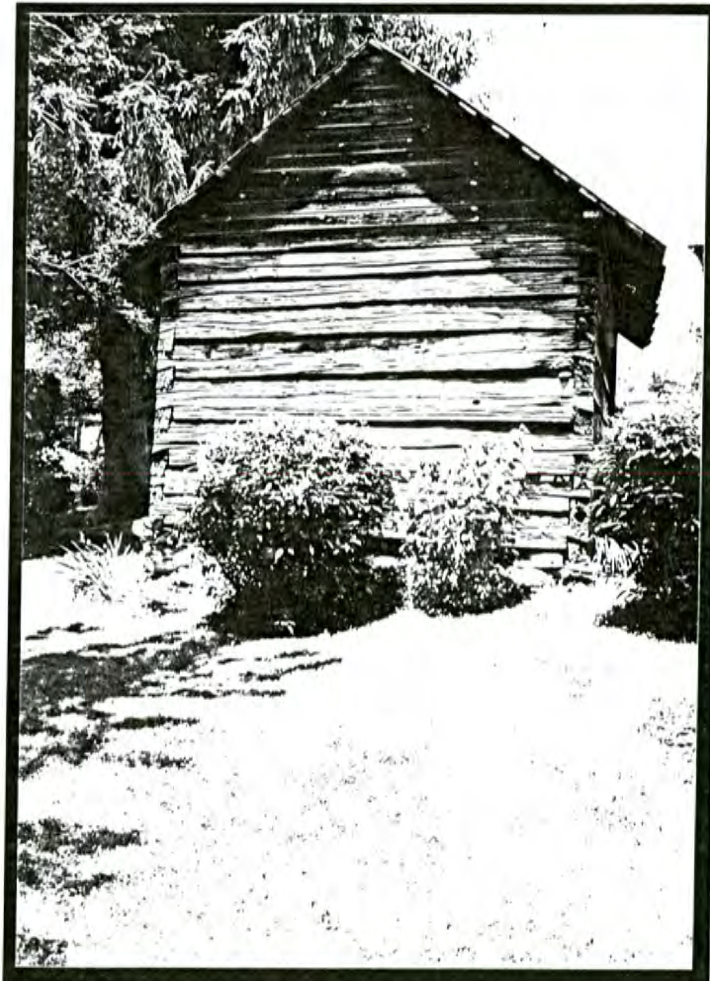
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
EAST FRONT AND  
NORTH SIDE ELEVATIONS





**Plate IX.48**

**WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
SOUTH REAR AND  
NORTH SIDE ELEVATIONS  
AND ELL**



**Plate IX.49**

**SMOKEHOUSE TO REAR OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28), SOUTH REAR  
ELEVATION**



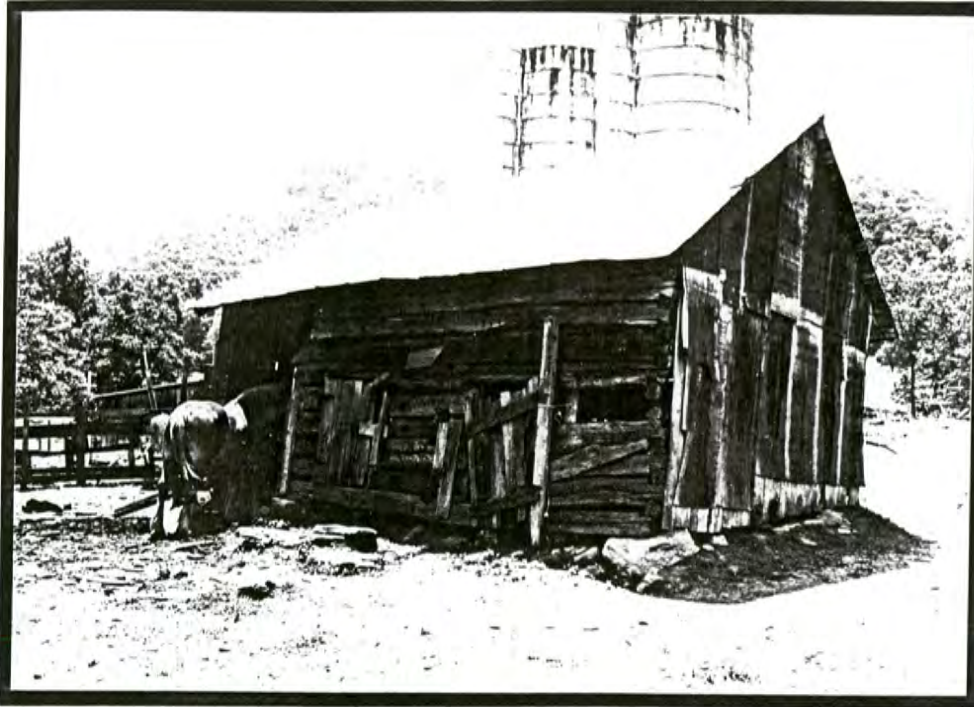


Plate IX.50

LOG BARN TO  
NORTHWEST OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
FARMSTEAD (#28),  
WEST AND NORTH  
ELEVATIONS

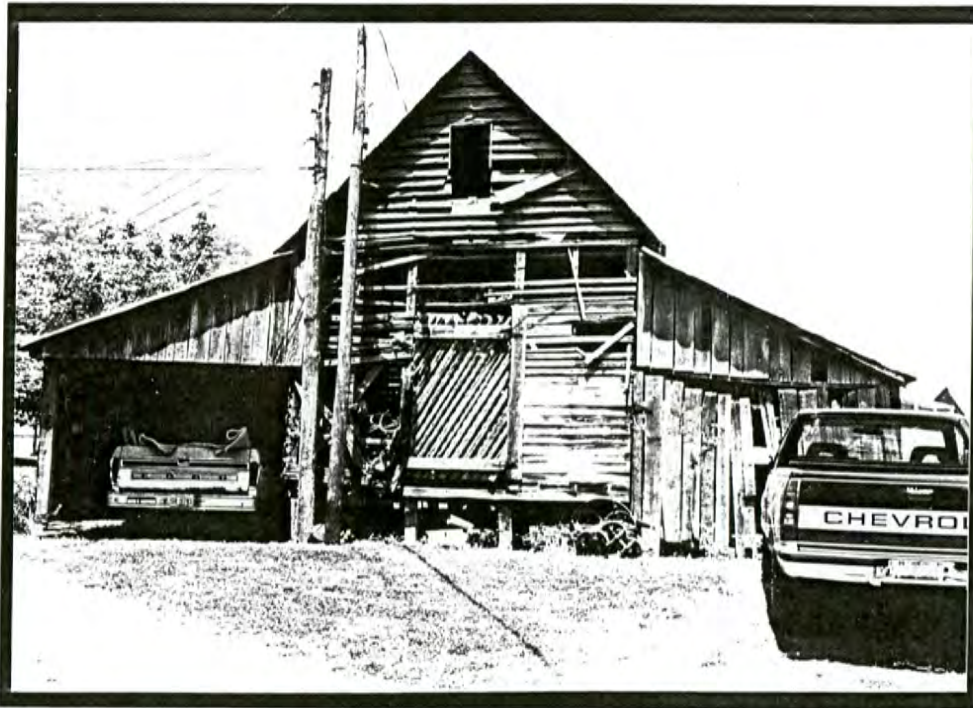


Plate IX.51

CRIB TO NORTH OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
SOUTH ELEVATION





**Plate IX.52**

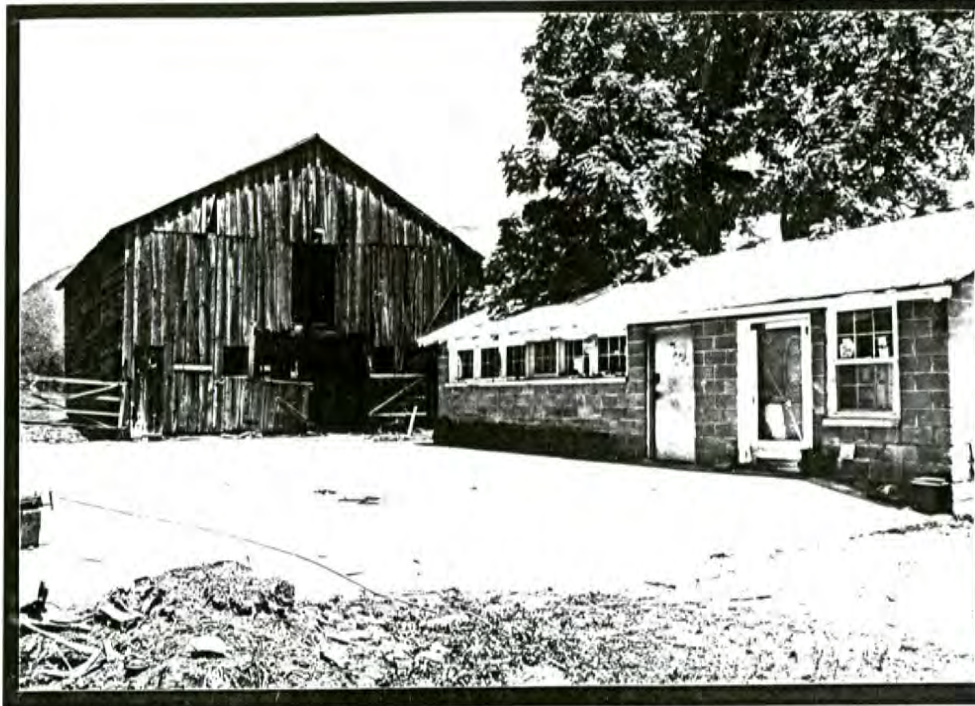
CHICKEN HOUSE TO  
NORTHWEST OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
NORTHEAST AND  
SOUTHEAST ELEVATIONS



**Plate IX.53**

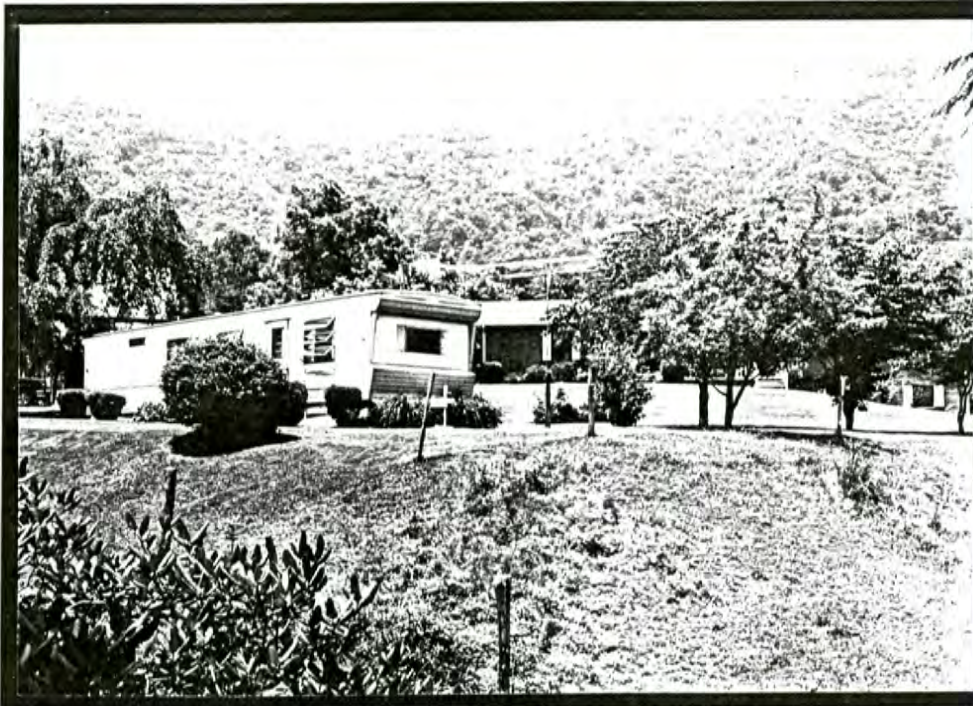
SILOS AND BARN  
TO NORTHWEST OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
SOUTH AND EAST  
ELEVATIONS





**Plate IX.54**

**BARN AND MILKHOUSE  
TO NORTHWEST OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28), SOUTH  
AND WEST ELEVATIONS**



**Plate IX.55**

**TRAILER AND  
JULIA SPICER RANCH  
HOUSE TO NORTH OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28),  
SOUTHEAST ELEVATION**



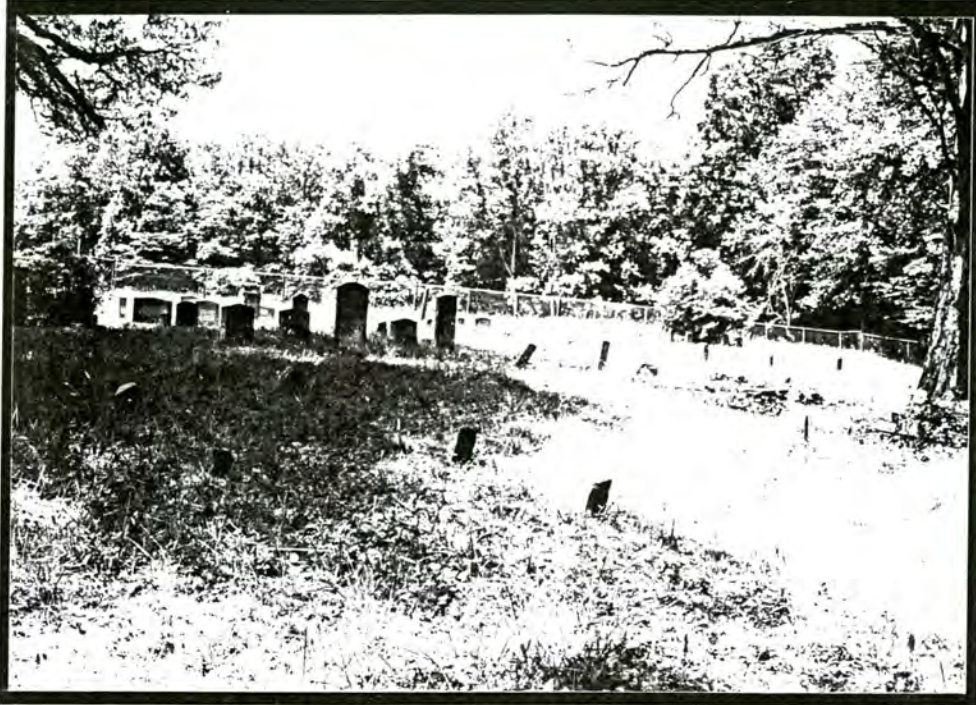


Plate IX.56  
CEMETERY TO  
NORTHWEST OF  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
HOUSE (#28)

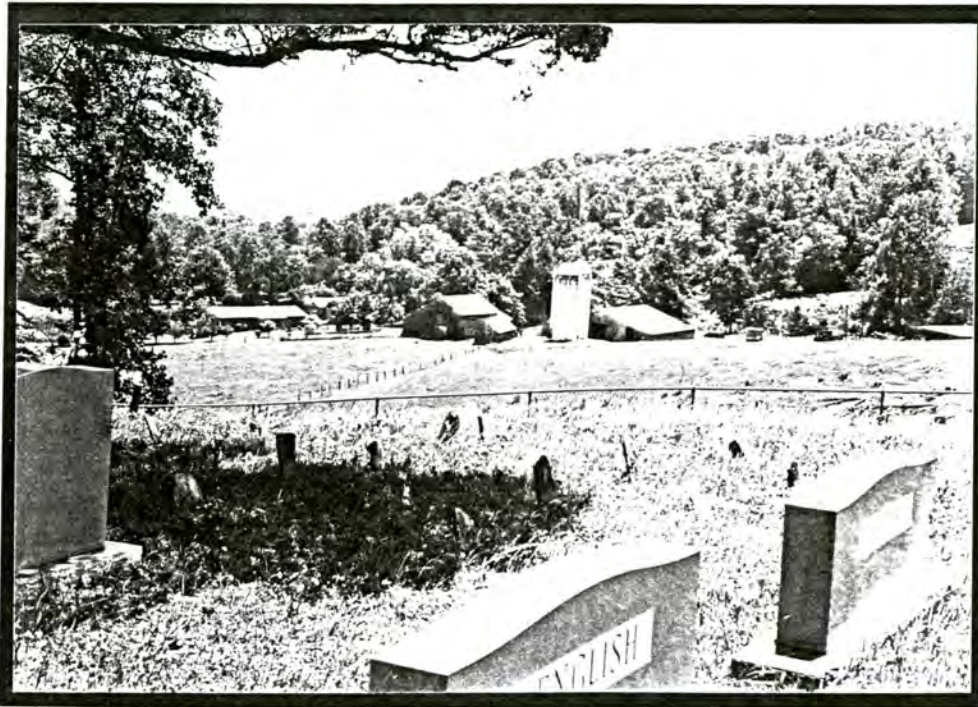


Plate IX.57  
WILLIAM JEHU ENGLISH  
FARMSTEAD (#28),  
FACING SOUTHEAST  
FROM CEMETERY





### LINVILLE FALLS JAIL (#32)

Northeast corner of junction of NC 221 and NC 183, Linville Falls, Burke County

The former Linville Falls Jail was built in the late 1930s. Its erection was necessitated by the unusual location of the town within three counties, McDowell, Burke, and Avery. Prior to the jail's construction, individuals who frequented the town's three boardinghouses, three beer joints, and two dance halls could avoid the consequences of any unruly actions by removing themselves to the next county (Cotton 1983a; Johnston 1992:49; Burke County Historical Society 1981:77; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:77).

To remedy the problem of enforcing the law, the state created a justice of the peace position with a two-mile jurisdiction extending out from Linville Falls into the three counties. Gov. Clyde Hoey appointed Linville Falls' resident Romulus C. Franklin to the position. Franklin was likely a good choice, for through his family connections--his great-grandfather, Samuel Franklin, was one of Linville Falls' pioneer settlers--and his duties as farmer, sawyer, and gatekeeper and guide to Linville Falls, he would have been very familiar with the community and its residents. The jail provided Franklin with a place to confine a variety lawbreakers, particularly over-imbibers (Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:87; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:77).

Drying out in the Linville Falls Jail was probably particularly unpleasant (Figure IX.19). The building is a severe, utilitarian bunker built into an embankment in a damp hollow beside the road (Plate IX.58). Its shed roof and walls are six inches thick and impressed on the inside with the outlines of the horizontal board frame into which the concrete was poured (Plate IX.59). Its floor is a poured concrete slab. The heavy steel door at the front enters into a narrow corridor lit by a single, small, steel grate at its ceiling. A heavy wooden door in turn leads from the corridor into the jail's single, concrete cell. Limited light and air are provided to the cell by two small steel grates, one at the floor and one at the ceiling (Plate IX.60). The two rooms, now barren, were probably always outfitted in spartan fashion. There is no evidence of the building ever having had running water or electricity. Either its inmates used buckets or its privy has been removed.

The former Linville Falls Jail is believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for association with the penal history of Burke County and the early twentieth-century life of the town of Linville Falls. It is one of only two surviving historic jails in the county and the only one to retain its integrity. (The former Burke County Jail, erected in 1913 in Morganton, had its upper floor removed in 1940 (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:123).) The jail and the neighboring Linville Falls Post Office (#31) are also the only major early governmental buildings standing in a small town otherwise characterized by private dwellings and tourist facilities. The jail further recalls, in a tangible way, a period in the early twentieth century when Linville Falls was a wide-open town of beer joints, dance halls, and boardinghouses, in contrast to the town's present position as a quiet stopover for tourists on the Blue Ridge Parkway. The building is also believed to be eligible for listing in the Register under Criterion C as a rare architectural type in Burke County, the small town jail. Spartan though it is, the jail appears to be unaltered since its construction. Further, its poured concrete method of construction is unusual in Burke County. Unaltered and unmoved from the center of the small town it was built to serve, the jail retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The jail is now located on a parcel at the corner of US 221 and NC 183 upon which a gas station is located. The



proposed boundaries are accordingly limited to a relatively small area of approximately four-tenths of an acre, which allows it to retain its integrity of setting, feeling, and association (Figure IX.20).

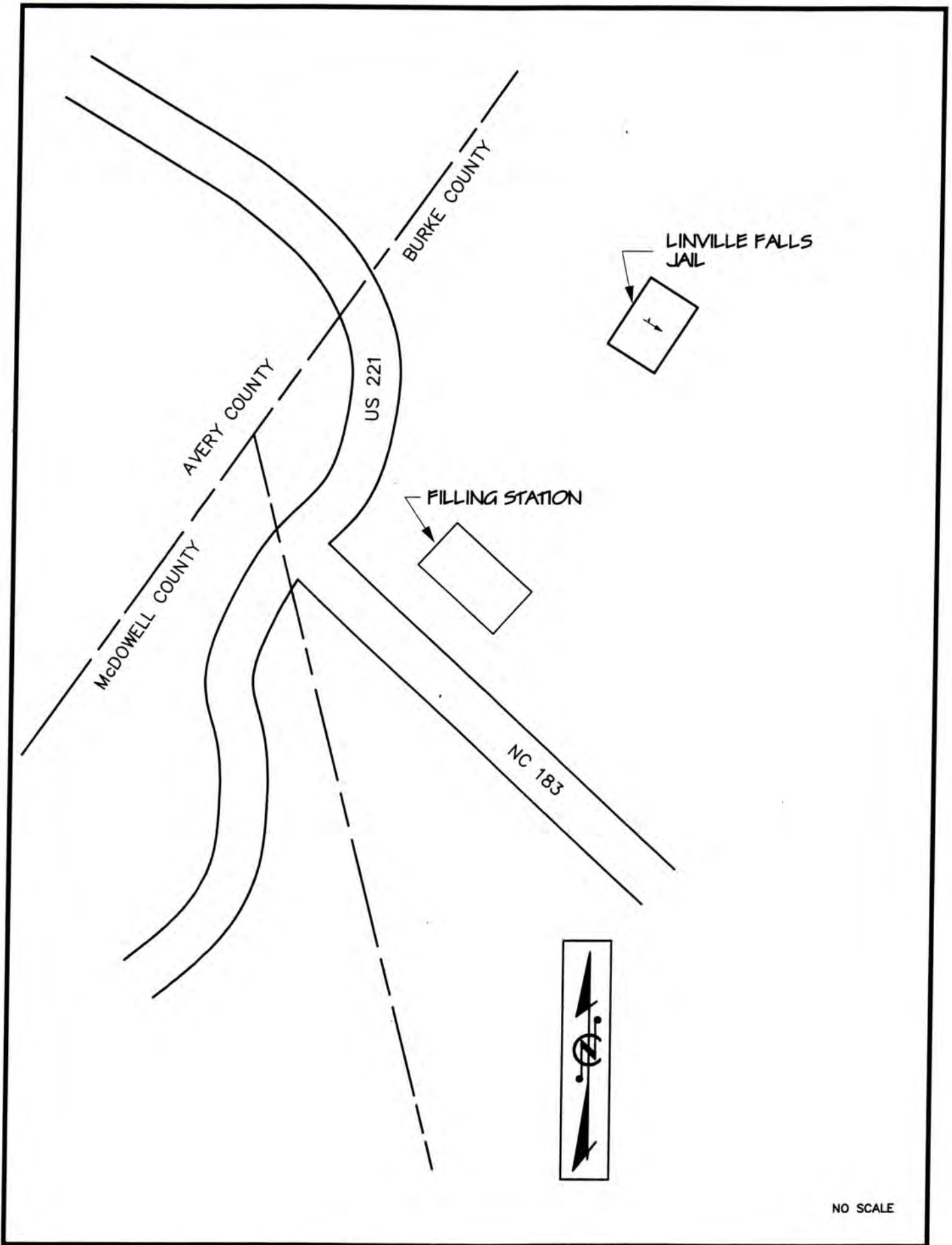
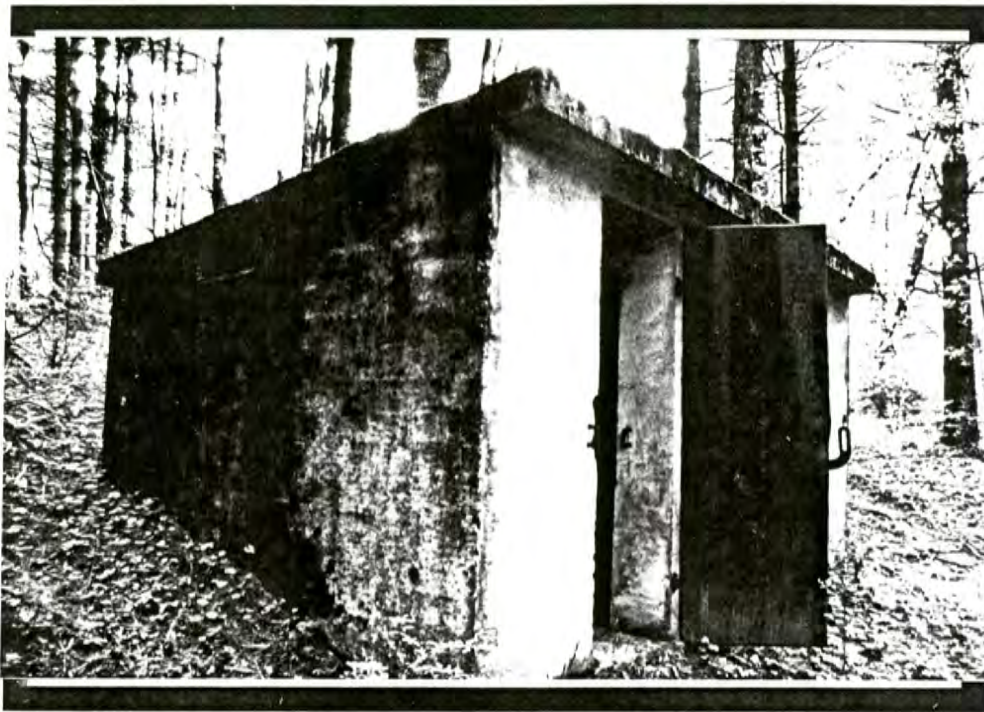


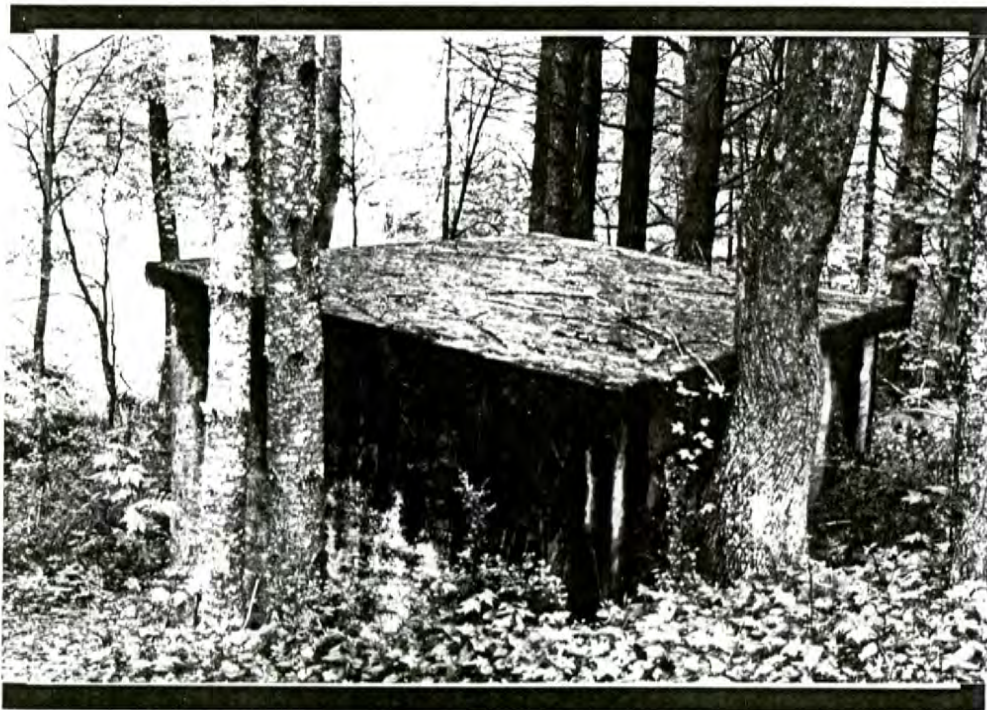
Figure IX.19 SKETCH MAP, LINVILLE FALLS JAIL, PROPERTY #32





**Plate IX.58**

LINVILLE FALLS JAIL  
(#32), NORTHWEST  
FRONT AND NORTHEAST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS



**Plate IX.59**

LINVILLE FALLS JAIL  
(#32), SOUTHWEST SIDE  
AND SOUTHEAST REAR  
ELEVATIONS

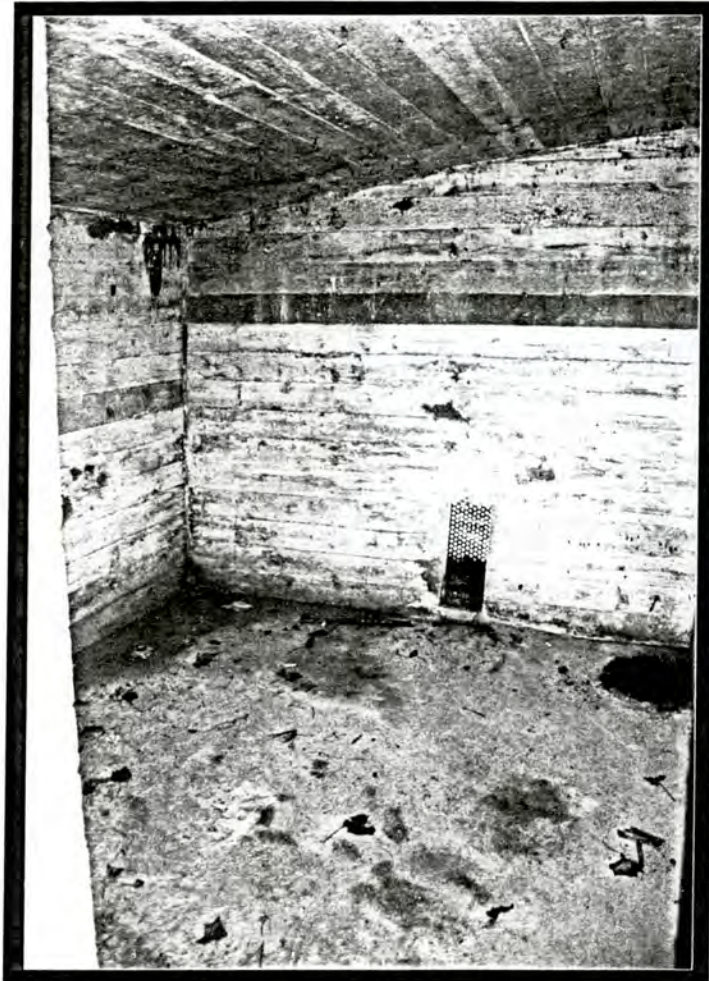


Plate IX.60  
LINVILLE FALLS JAIL  
(#32), CELL



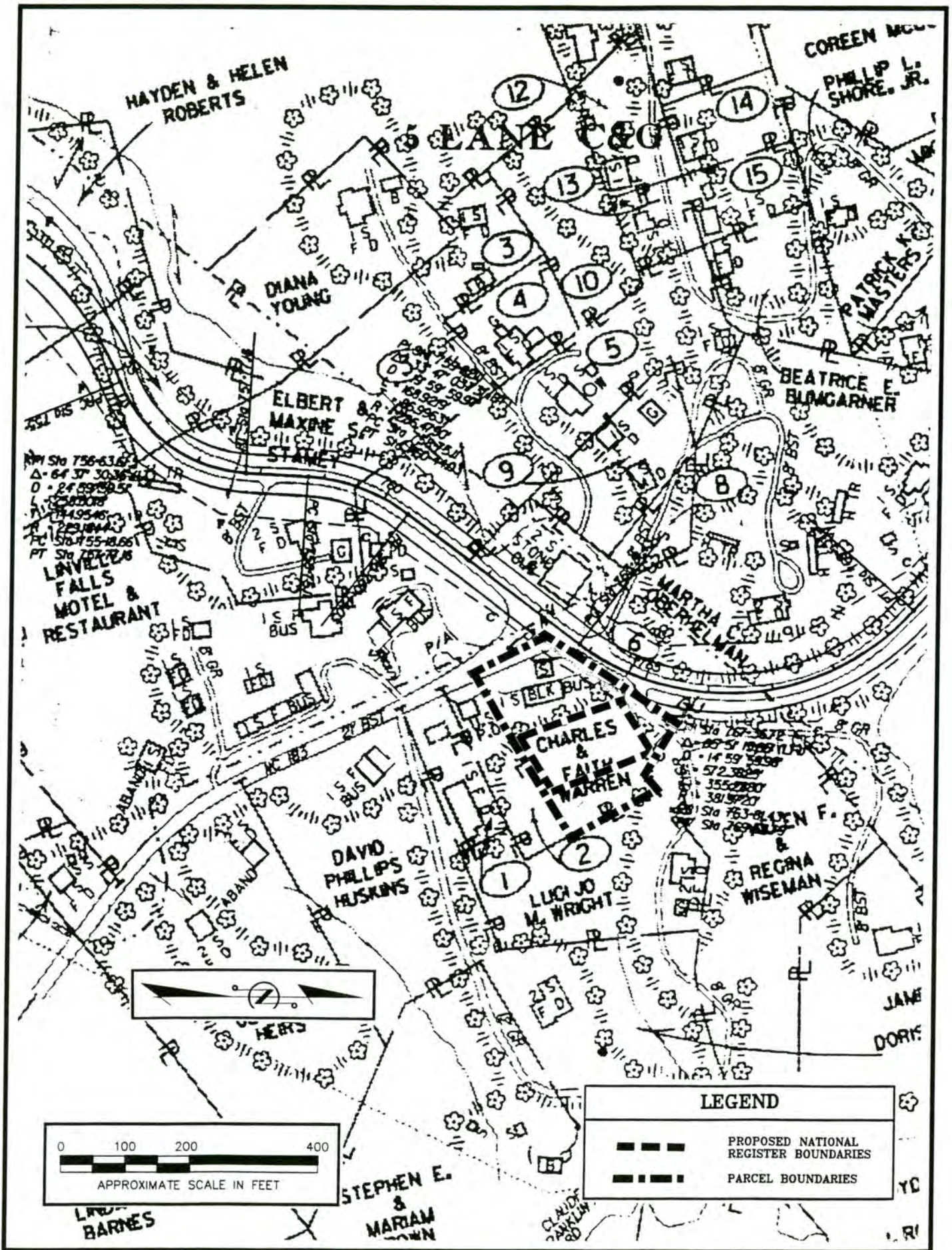


Figure IX.20 PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARIES OF LINVILLE FALLS JAIL (#32)



**B. PROPERTIES NOT CONSIDERED POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

**WISEMAN FAMILY CORN MILL (#19)**

**West side of US 221, 0.6 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

The Wiseman family erected this corn mill building on the east side of US 221, south of the crossing of the Clinchfield Railroad, in 1938 or 1939 (Figure IX.21). The building was part of a small, rural, commercial complex; to its south, a year or two earlier, the family had erected a small frame store. Residents of the Ashford community and North Cove could meet many of their domestic and agricultural needs at the complex, purchasing a variety of goods and gasoline from the store and its gas pump, and grinding their corn into meal for personal consumption, or into fodder for their livestock, at the mill. The corn mill and store were operated by A.D. or Adie Wiseman, his son, Omar, and other family members until 1968. Following their closure, the fly-wheel-engine-driven corn mill was sold and, in 1982, the store was torn down.

The small, deteriorating, one-room, frame mill building is clad in German siding and cantilevered over a steep slope. Exposed rafters and sheet metal top its gable-front roof and a flat-roofed parapet wall marks its front (northwest) facade (Plate IX.61). Three bays pierce the parapet wall, a central double-door and altered, flanking, sash windows. A porch floor or ramp which once bridged the small gap between the down-slope and the entry is no longer in place. The wooden pilings supporting the structure are partially hidden by board walls laid in a chevron pattern popular at mountain barns and outbuildings (Plate IX.62). These boards are no longer entirely intact and the pilings are in part exposed to view.

The Wiseman Family Corn Mill is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. It does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and does not possess high artistic values. With the destruction of its companion store, it ceased to be part of any significant and distinguishable entity or assemblage of resources. Alterations and deterioration have adversely affected its architectural integrity and the loss of its corn mill equipment, around which it was literally and figuratively centered, has adversely affected its integrity of feeling and association. It further has no known historic significance or association with significant individuals and is unlikely to yield any important archaeological information.



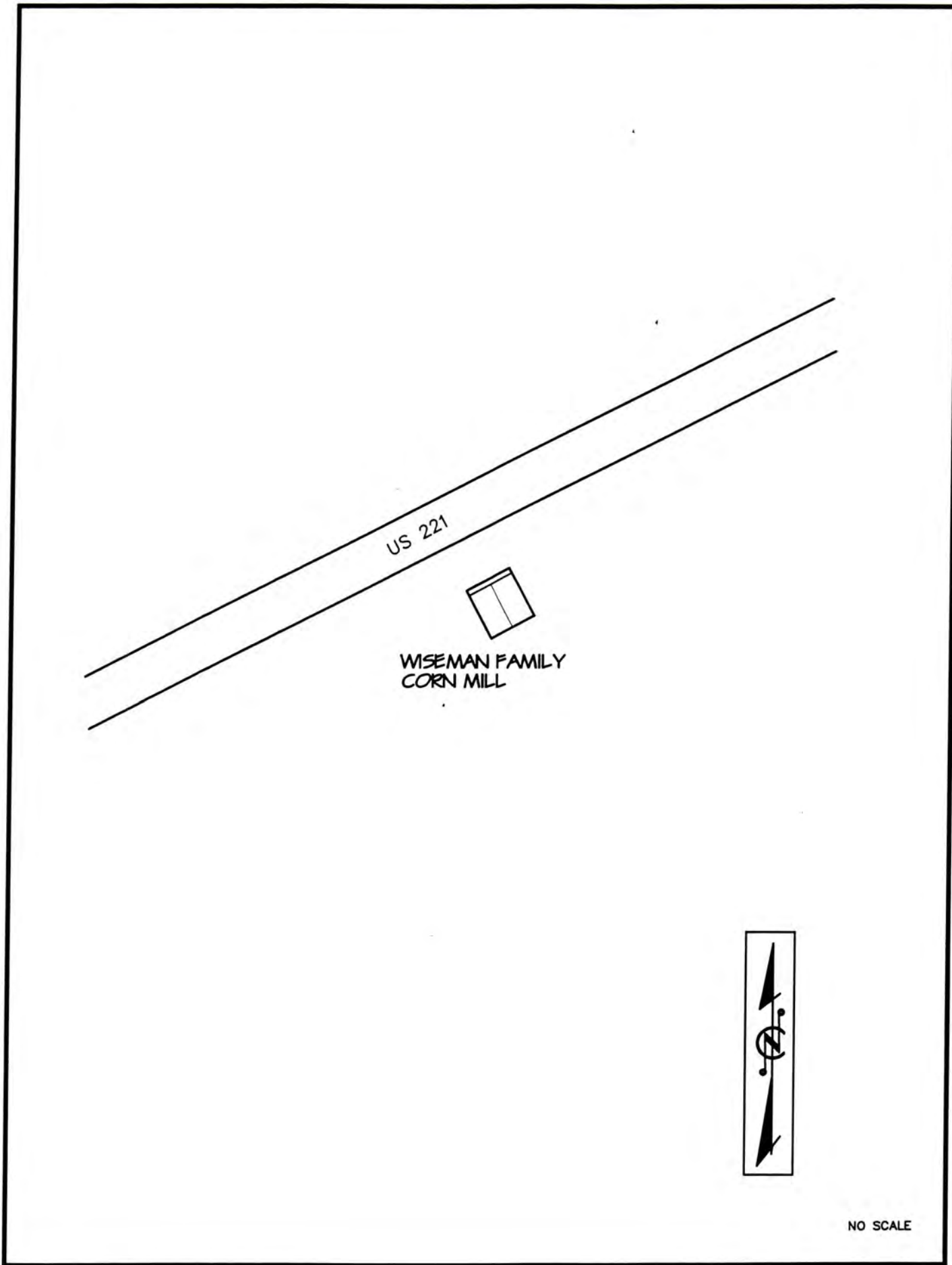


Figure IX.21 SKETCH MAP, WISEMAN FAMILY CORN MILL, PROPERTY #19



Plate IX.61

WISEMAN FAMILY  
CORN MILL (#19),  
NORTHWEST FRONT  
AND NORTHEAST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS

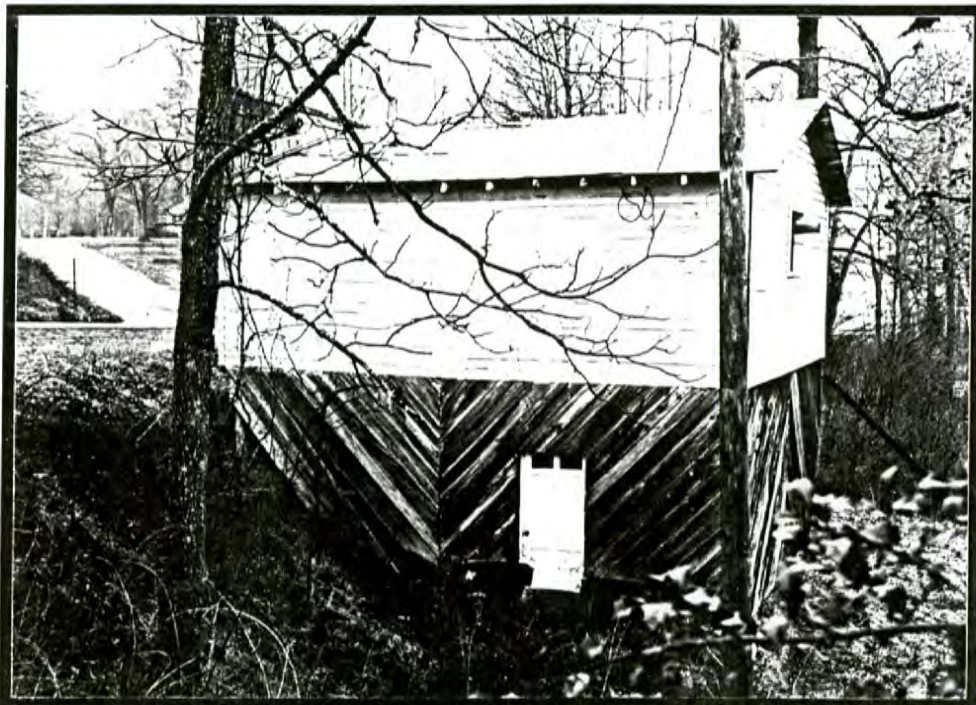


Plate IX.62

WISEMAN FAMILY  
CORN MILL (#19),  
SOUTHWEST SIDE  
AND SOUTHEAST  
REAR ELEVATIONS



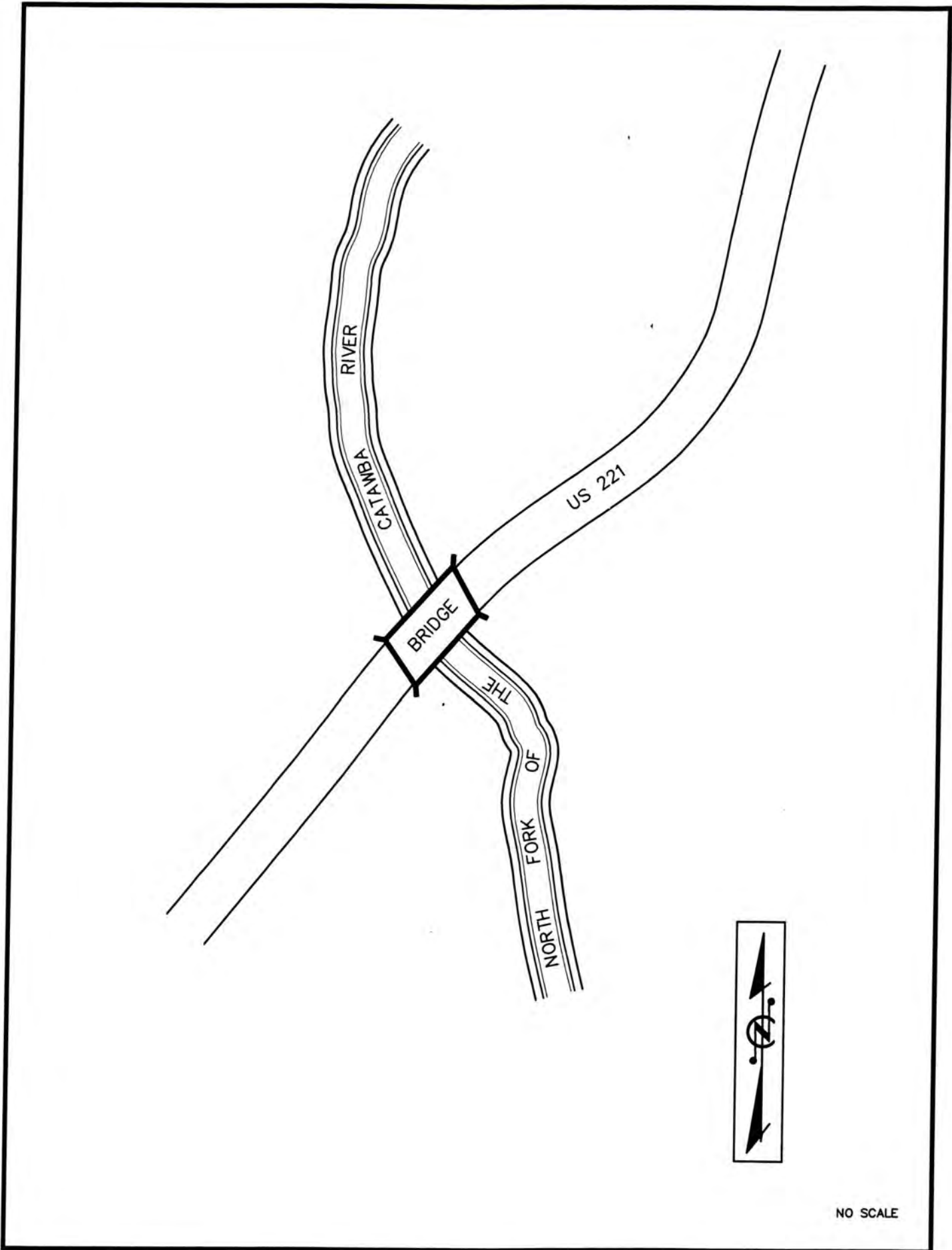
### **NORTH COVE FORK BRIDGE (#20)**

**On US 221 at crossing of North Fork of the Catawba River, 0.4 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

The North Cove Fork Bridge (#20) over the North Fork of the Catawba River was constructed in 1936 by the state highway and public works commission with federal assistance (Figure IX.22). Much of the notable construction activity in North Cove and Linville Falls in the 1930s was generated by such federal and/or state projects.

The two-span, tee-beam bridge is constructed of concrete (Plate IX.63). Its asphalt-covered deck rests upon a central pier, two abutments, and concrete tees. Its parapet walls are pierced by round-arched balustrades organized in groups of eight separated by plain piers (Plate IX.64). Bridge plates on each of the parapet walls carry the following text: "NORTH COVE FORK BRIDGE/MCDOWELL COUNTY/STATE PROJECT NO. 8472/BUILT BY/NORTH CAROLINA/STATE HIGHWAY AND/PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION/WITH FEDERAL AID/1936." Largely intact, and still utilized to carry US 221 over the North Fork of the Catawba, the structure is one of approximately 505 pre-1943, state-maintained, concrete tee-beam bridges in North Carolina (Houston 1993).

The North Cove Fork Bridge is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. It does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and does not possess high artistic values. It is one of many pre-1943, concrete tee-beam bridges in North Carolina; approximately 505 of the type alone are maintained by the state. The bridge further has no known historic significance or association with significant individuals and is unlikely to yield any important archaeological information.



NO SCALE

Figure IX.22 SKETCH MAP, NORTH COVE FORK BRIDGE, PROPERTY #20





**Plate IX.63**

**NORTH FORK COVE  
BRIDGE (#20), FACING  
SOUTHWEST FROM  
NORTH SIDE OF US 211**



**Plate IX.64**

**NORTH FORK COVE  
BRIDGE (#20), FACING  
NORTH UP THE NORTH  
FORK OF THE CATAWBA  
RIVER**

**CLARENCE W. WISEMAN STORE (#21)**  
**West side of US 221, 0.3 miles south of junction with SR 1560, McDowell County**

Clarence W. Wiseman built this store building, across from a no-longer-extant depot of the Clinchfield Railroad, in the Ashford community of North Cove in 1927 (Figure IX.23). The main, central part of the building held Wiseman's general store, which carried a wide array of items and served as a local polling place during elections. The northern end of the building originally held the Ashford post office. A separate corn mill building, no longer extant, stood to the store's rear. During World II, the store was run by Mac Lonon. After the war, Otis Lonon took over its operation. He ran the store until shuttering it in 1971. The building now again holds a commercial enterprise, "Fast Eddy's," an antiques and collectibles store open part of the year (Lonon 1984; Brown 1984).

The former Wiseman store is basically a square, barn-like, gable-front structure of frame topped by a metal roof (Plate IX.65). Its only adornment is provided by rusticated tin sheathing and a stepped, parapeted, front facade. The multiple windows and three doorways which cross its east-facing front elevation have been altered, as has the inset central entry, now hidden behind modern glass doors set flush with the facade. The rusticated tin at the center of its front facade has been replaced by vertical board siding, and its rear and many of its side windows have been boarded over (Plate IX.66). Modern materials have replace the original rusticated tin cladding of its principal central room.

The store is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. It does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and does not possess high artistic values. With the destruction of the corn mill building to its rear, it ceased to be part of any significant and distinguishable entity or assemblage of resources. Alterations to its exterior windows and entries, and to its interior, have adversely affected its architectural integrity. It is one of a number of rural commercial buildings from the early and mid-twentieth century surviving in McDowell County; it has no known historic significance or association with significant individuals; and is unlikely to yield any important archaeological information.



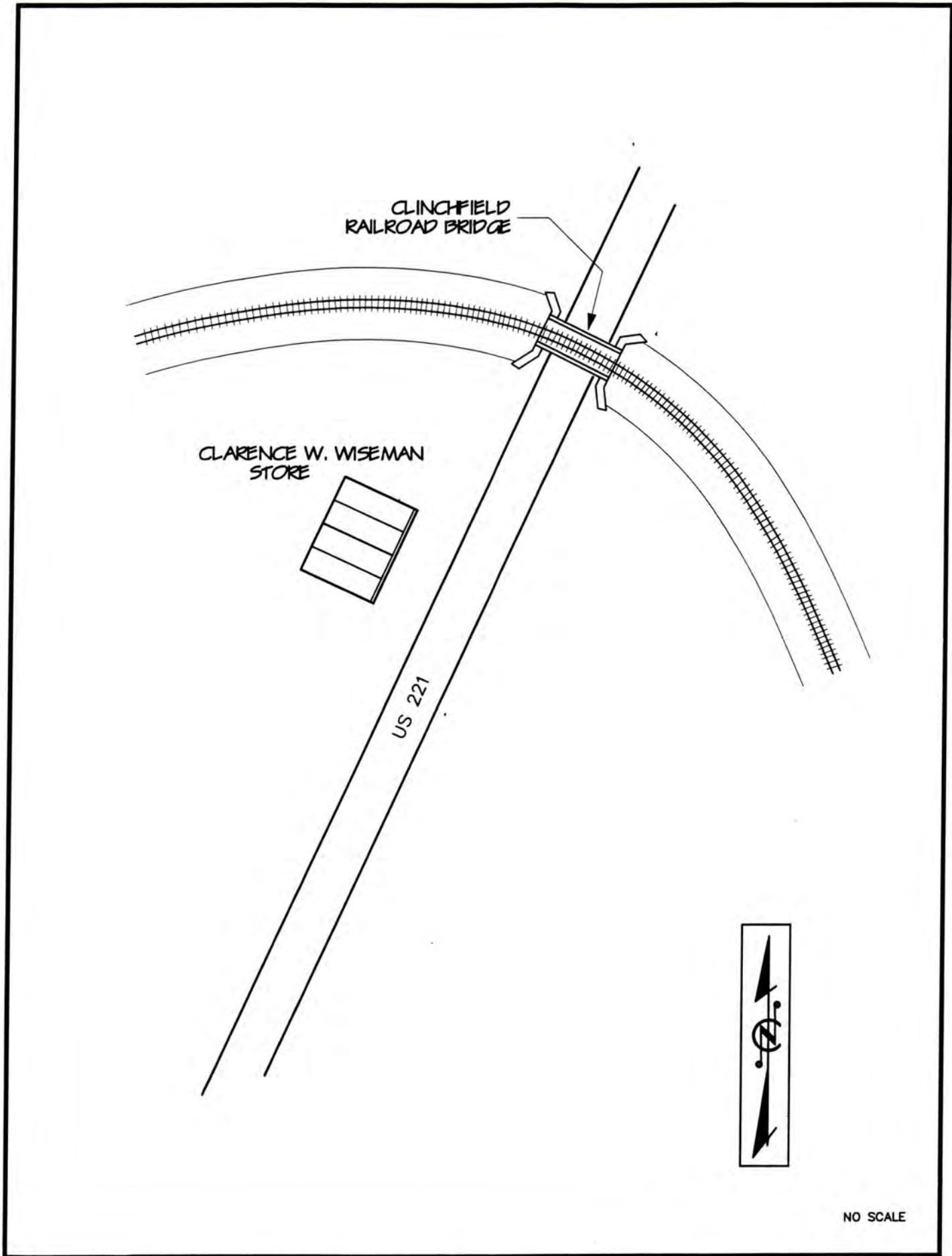


Figure IX.23 SKETCH MAP, CLARENCE W. WISEMAN STORE, PROPERTY #21



Plate IX.65

CLARENCE W. WISEMAN  
STORE (#21),  
SOUTHEAST FRONT  
ELEVATION



Plate IX.66

CLARENCE W. WISEMAN  
STORE (#21),  
SOUTHWEST SIDE  
AND NORTHWEST  
REAR ELEVATIONS



### **LINVILLE FALLS POST OFFICE (#31)**

**North side of NC 183, 0.05 miles east of junction with US 221, Linville Falls, Burke County**

The Linville Falls Post Office was constructed in 1940 (Figure IX.24). Still in operation, it is the third postal building erected in the town. The first opened in 1899, marking an early, notable stage of development of the community (Cotton 1983b; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:78; Anonymous 1989). The building is one of only a few historic post offices surviving in Burke County and one of only two still in operation. The other identified former post office buildings in the county are: one which was part of an early twentieth century commercial block in Drexel Hill; a small, frame, store building adjacent to the Joseph Mull House in Camp Creek, in which a post office was operated between 1876 and 1907; and an early twentieth-century commercial block in Glen Alpine, two different buildings of which held the town's post office. None of these buildings appears to have been built as a post office (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:60, 109, 189). The Linville Falls Post Office and the much larger Morganton Post Office (1935) are the only historic buildings surviving in the county which were erected as post offices (Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:124). Both of them brought construction activity and federal dollars to a depressed county economy.

The post office was constructed of randomly coursed stone by local stonemasons Romulus Franklin and his son Claude (Anonymous 1989). This method of construction became popular in McDowell, Burke, and neighboring counties in the 1920s. A gable-end roof with a full-width front gable tops the stone walls (Plate IX.67). Two eight-over-eight, iron-barred, sash windows flank the central front (southwest) entry, which opens into a small service lobby. The original small office and workroom to the rear (northeast) and east side of the lobby were extended by a large, gabled, frame and stuccoed ell in the early 1990s (Plate IX.68). The original post office boxes were removed, the remainder of the interior was modernized, and the original seam-metal clad roof was replaced or covered with asphalt shingles at that time as well.

The Linville Falls Post Office is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. As one of the earliest surviving post offices in Burke County, it is closely associated with the postal history of the county. It and the neighboring former Linville Falls Jail are also the only major early governmental buildings standing in a small town otherwise characterized by private dwellings and tourist facilities. The building, however, has lost its integrity through major alterations and additions. Essentially the only original elements of it which remain are its stone walls. It has therefore lost its architectural integrity and much of its integrity of feeling as well.

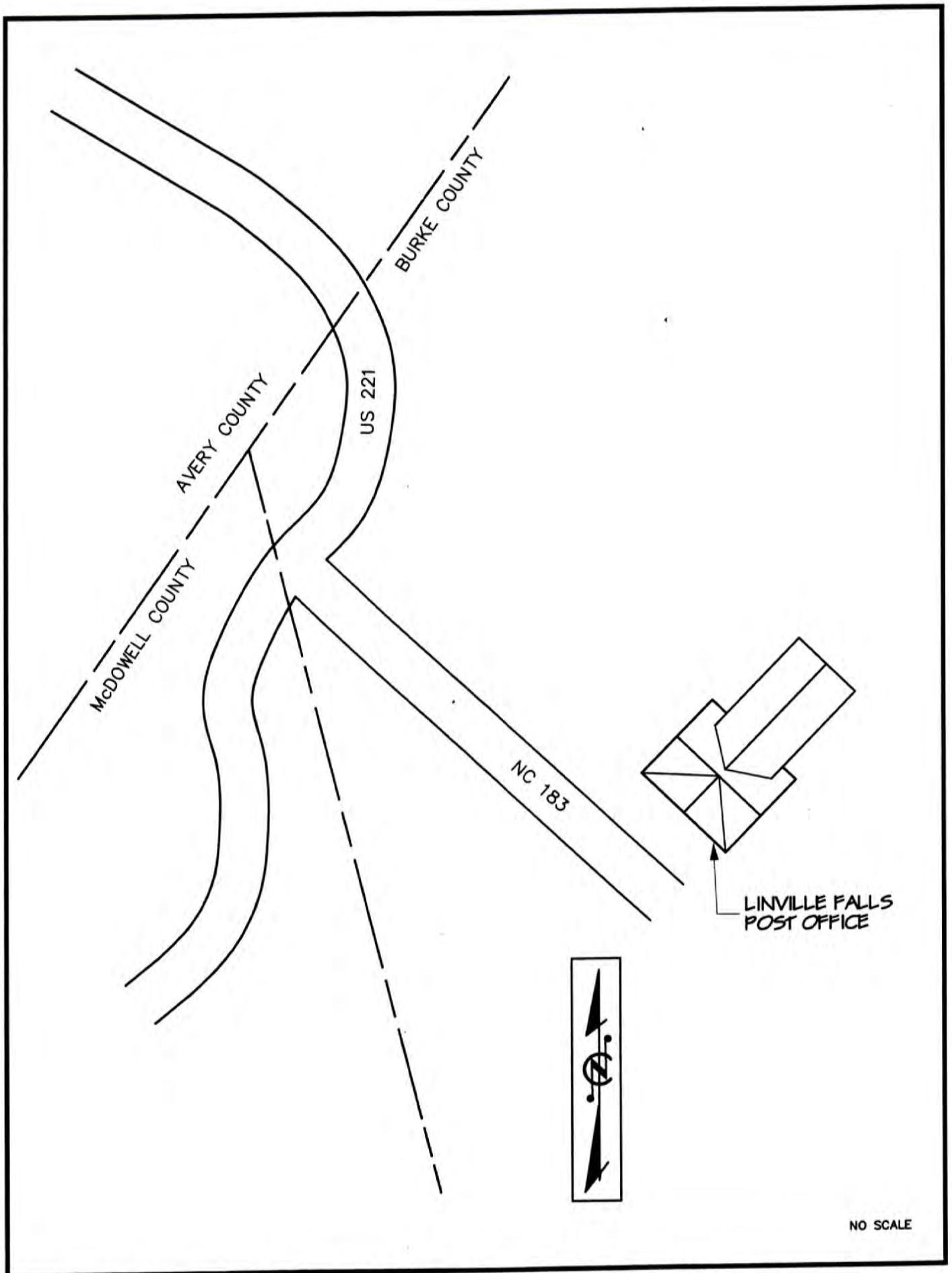
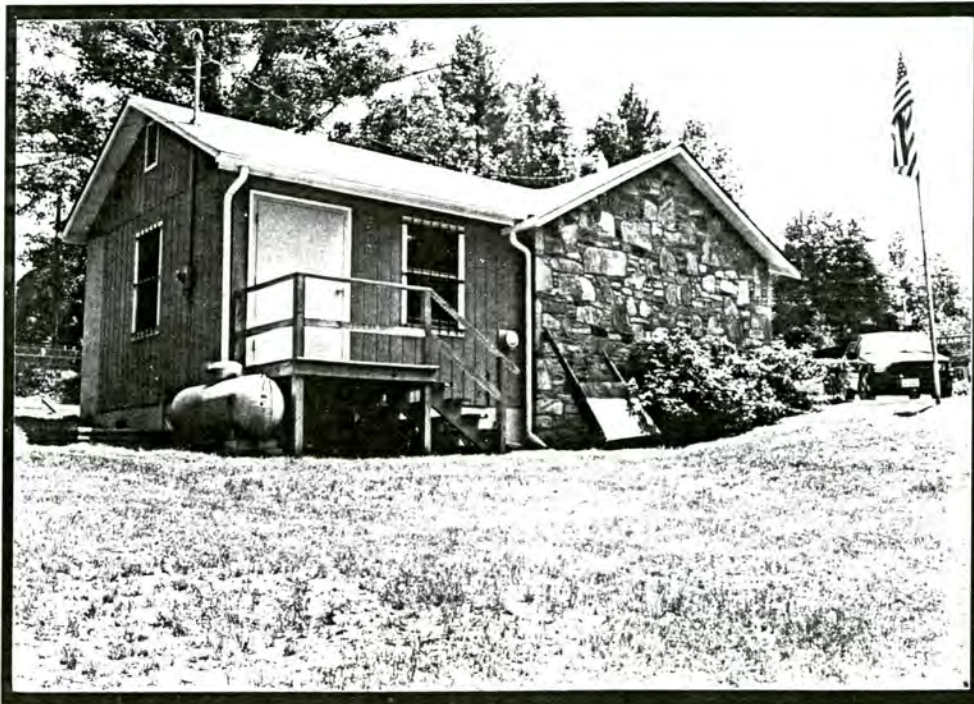


Figure IX.24 SKETCH MAP, LINVILLE FALLS POST OFFICE, PROPERTY #31





**Plate IX.67**  
LINVILLE FALLS  
POST OFFICE (#31),  
SOUTHWEST FRONT  
AND SOUTHEAST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS



**Plate IX.68**  
LINVILLE FALLS  
POST OFFICE (#31),  
NORTHEAST REAR  
AND NORTHWEST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS

### **ALBERT J. FRANKLIN HOUSE (#35)**

**East side of US 221, 0.1 mile north of junction with NC 183, Linville Falls, Burke County**

Albert J. Franklin (1843-1917) was the son of David Franklin and grandson of Samuel Franklin, one of the pioneer settlers of the Linville Falls area. Like his father and grandfather, Franklin operated a sawmill. He also farmed, raised cattle, and produced bricks in his own brickyard. Raised in his parent's log house (#36), which he moved to its present location around the bend of US 221 to the north, Albert erected a larger and finer dwelling for himself about 1877 (Plate IX.69). The carpenter was Wesley McLemore, who also constructed the William Jehu English house (#28) in North Cove (Stevens and Thompson 1985a; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:75; Burke County Historical Society 1979:85-87).

The original form and finish of the house [A] resembled that of a number of other contemporary residences in Linville Falls, North Cove and Turkey Cove to the south, and throughout Burke and McDowell and their fellow mountain counties (Figure IX.25). Two stories tall, it was one-room-deep and three bays wide, with a gable-end roof and a central hallway. A one-story ell projected to its rear and, most notably, a two-tier porch adorned with ornately sawn balustrades, brackets, and aprons extended across its front elevation.

About 1935 Albert's granddaughter, Mrs. J.V. Horne, moved the house from Avery County a short distance to the Burke County hill upon which it presently stands. Mrs. Horne had it moved to improve its view and to cut her tax bills (Stevens and Thompson 1985a; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:75; Burke County Historical Society 1979:85-87). A number of significant alterations accompanied the dwelling's move. A different ell, two stories tall, was added to the rear (Plate IX.70). One of the partition walls was removed from the front hallway. New stone chimneys were erected at the gable ends of the main block and side windows were shifted to the front facade, doubling its windows. The most noticeable change was the replacement of the two-tier, full-facade porch with a portico supported by two full-height, square, paneled columns (Plate IX.71). A small part of the gingerbread of the original porch was saved and applied to a one-bay balcony at the central bay. The main block's primary surviving original features include this piece of millwork, the paneled sidelights and transoms of the principal entry and the doorway above, and scalloped bargeboards at the gable eaves. In 1964 a fire gutted the rear ell and damaged some of front block. However, the interior, which was not available for viewing, is believed to retain some original features which survived both the move and the fire. These include some cornerblock surrounds, four-panel doors, and mantels (Stevens and Thompson 1985a; Cotton, Wylie, and Barbee 1987:75).

The Albert J. Franklin House is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. It is one of the earlier surviving houses in the Linville Falls area and is associated with the community's early history, but it has lost its integrity through being moved and altered, and through the loss of its outbuildings and farmland. Following its move, the house's ell, windows, chimneys and, most notably, striking two-tier front porch were removed and replaced. Its principal facade is now dominated by a full-height portico. A fire and other modernization also led to alterations of the interior plan. Only two outbuildings still stand on the property, a modern garage [B] and a small, gable-front, frame building raised on a stone foundation [C] (Plate IX.72). The land is no longer used for mixed agricultural production, as it historically was, but is rather



planted in Christmas trees. In sum, the house no longer possesses its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling, and association.

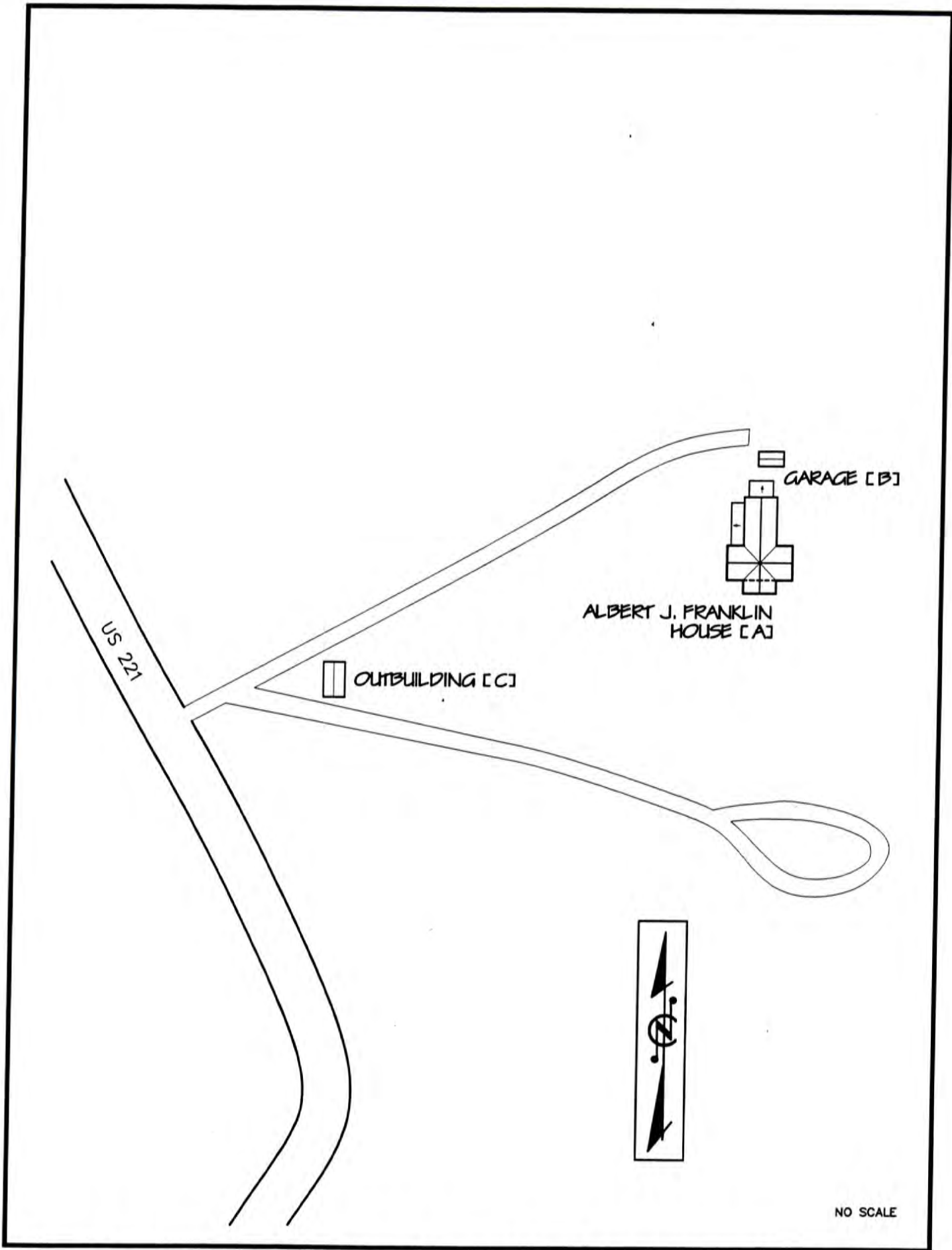


Figure IX.25 SKETCH MAP, ALBERT J. FRANKLIN HOUSE, PROPERTY #35





Plate IX.69

ALBERT J. FRANKLIN  
HOUSE (#35), SOUTH  
FRONT ELEVATION



Plate IX.70

ALBERT J. FRANKLIN  
HOUSE (#35), WEST  
SIDE AND NORTH  
REAR ELEVATIONS





Plate IX.71

ALBERT J. FRANKLIN  
HOUSE (#35), SOUTH  
FRONT AND WEST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS



Plate IX.72

OUTBUILDING TO  
SOUTHWEST OF  
ALBERT J. FRANKLIN  
HOUSE (#35), SOUTH  
AND WEST ELEVATIONS



### DAVID FRANKLIN CABIN (#36)

North side of Laurel Lane, 0.05 miles west of junction with US 221, Linville Falls, Avery County

David Franklin, the son of Samuel Franklin, one of the pioneer settlers of the Linville Falls area, built this cabin and several other log structures on Pine Branch about 1850. David operated the sawmill on the North Fork of the Catawba River which he inherited from his father and he also farmed. With his wife, Eliza Gragg, he lived out his life at the Pine Branch farmstead (Stevens and Thompson 1985b; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1976:86; Avery County Bicentennial Commission 1979:85; Burke County Historical Society 1981:191-192; Stevens and Thompson 1985b).

To free up more farmland, Albert J. Franklin, one of David and Eliza's five children, had the cabin removed from the farmstead. James Dodge dismantled the structure, numbering and storing its logs. Between 1914 and 1918, Romulus C. Franklin, Albert's son, and Clingman Franklin, Albert's first cousin, rebuilt the house at its present location (Figure IX.26). Lenoir Franklin, Clingman's brother, added the exterior end rock chimney and fireplace. A skilled stonemason, Lenoir also constructed the walls of Concord United Methodist Church (#24). Since the 1930s, the house has been used as a summer home.

Romulus, Clingman, and Lenoir Franklin apparently made a number of changes to the house (Plate IX.73). They reportedly raised the ceiling, chinking in the holes where the beams which had supported the original loft floor had been located. This is believed to have been done because the original sills had rotted (Stevens and Thompson 1985b). They also added a staircase to the loft and a shed-roofed kitchen to the rear. They may have affixed sheets of chestnut bark to the gable ends of the roof as well. Subsequently a gable-end bathroom was added to the west side elevation and a porch, supported by upright peeled logs and a cinder block foundation, was wrapped around the south-facing front and east side elevations (Plate IX.74). Aside from where they are covered by the additions, the half-dovetailed logs remain exposed, as they apparently always have. The gaps between these logs are now chinked with concrete.

The David Franklin Cabin is not believed to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under any of its Criteria. It is the earliest log house in the Linville Falls area and is associated with the community's early history, but it has lost its integrity through being moved and altered. It no longer stands at its original location and is no longer associated with its original farmstead or outbuildings. Following its move, it had the height of its ceiling raised, its chimney replaced, and a shed-roofed kitchen added across its rear. It has also had a wraparound porch and a side ell added. Its exposed, half-dovetailed, log body appears to be its only major surviving original feature. In sum, the house no longer possesses its integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association.

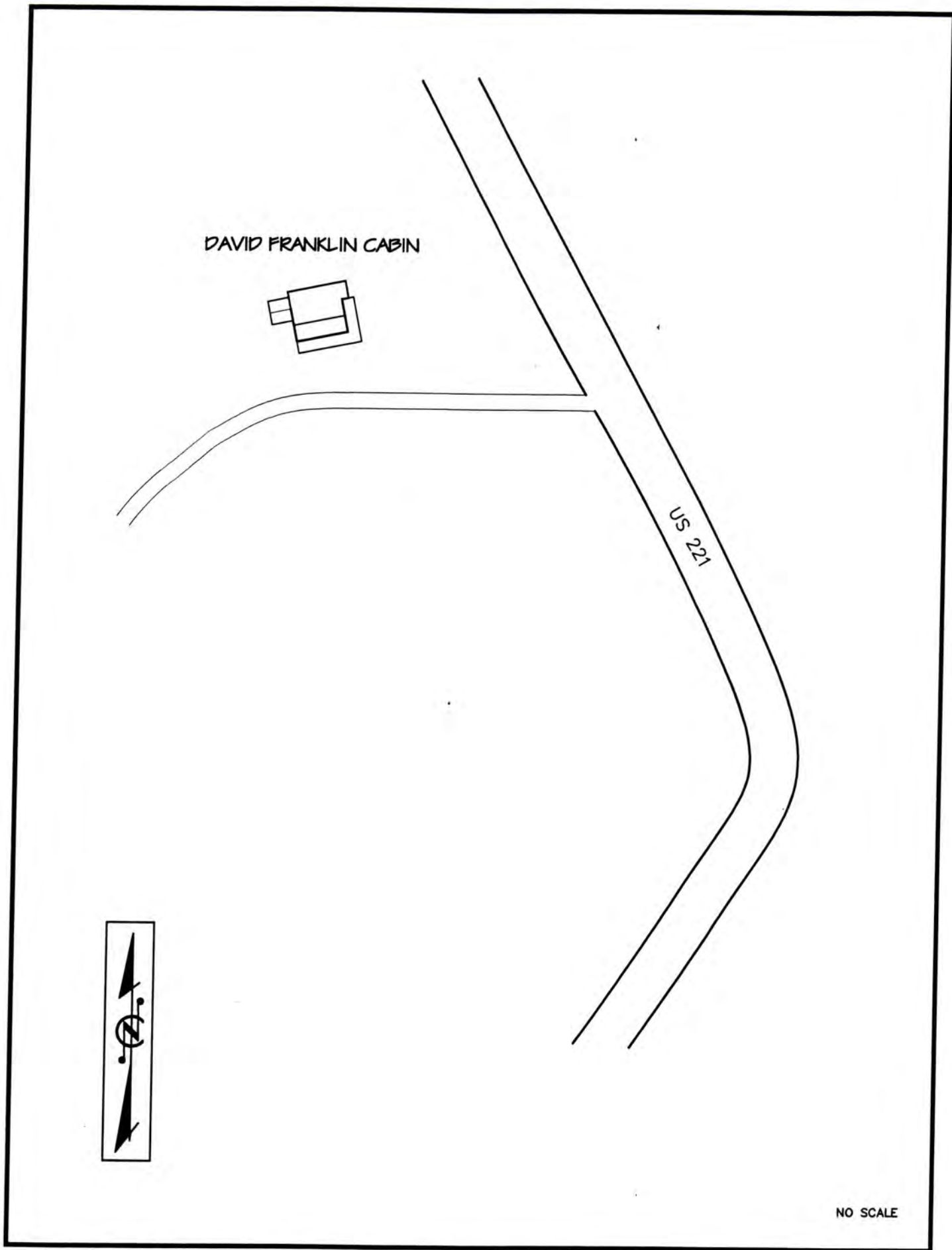


Figure IX.26 SKETCH MAP, DAVID FRANKLIN CABIN, PROPERTY #36





Plate IX.73

DAVID FRANKLIN  
CABIN (#36), SOUTH  
FRONT AND EAST  
SIDE ELEVATIONS

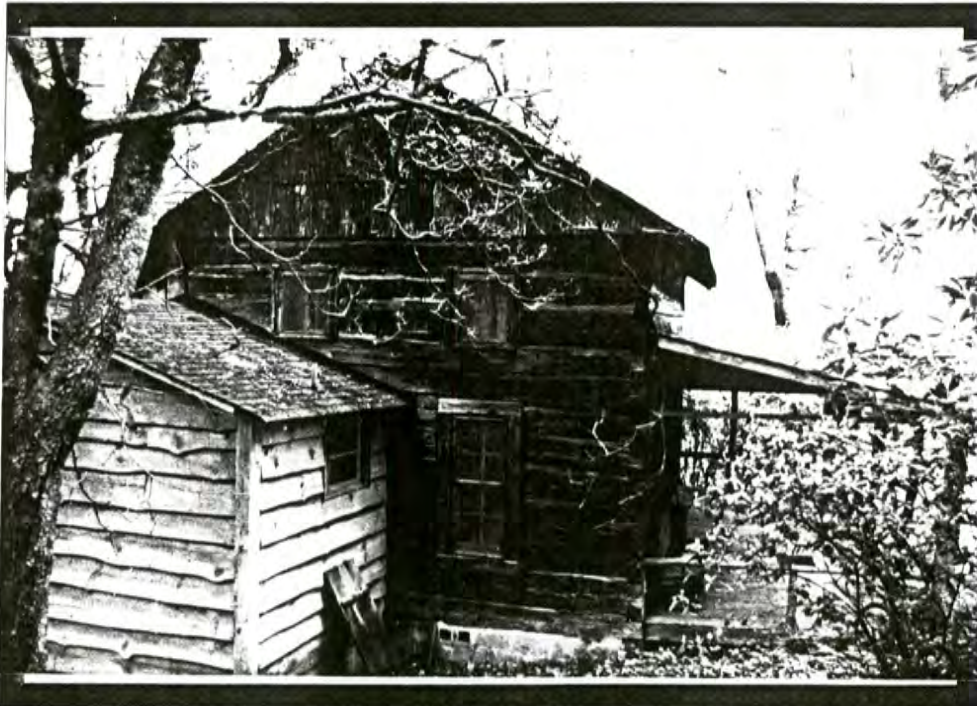


Plate IX.74

DAVID FRANKLIN  
CABIN (#36), WEST  
SIDE ELEVATION

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## APPENDICES



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# Professional Profile

MARVIN A. BROWN

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## Education:

J. D./1980/Stanford Law School

M.A./1977/University of Pennsylvania/American Civilization, *magna cum laude*

B.A./1977/University of Pennsylvania/American Civilization, *magna cum laude*

## Professional:

National Trust for Historic Preservation  
Preservation Foundation of North Carolina  
Vernacular Architecture Forum

## Experience:

Mr. Brown has over eleven years of experience in historic architectural and historic investigations. This experience includes: performing historic architectural surveys in support of federal, state, local, and private projects; writing National Register nominations for individual properties and historic districts; directing and conducting three countywide historic architectural inventories; and engaging in extensive historic research.

1992 to  
Present

\*Architectural Historian, Archaeology and Historic Architectural Group, Greiner, Inc.  
Key projects include:

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase II historic architectural survey of Guess Road, Durham County, North Carolina, for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Project involved identification and evaluation of historic properties to be affected by roadway widening.

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase II historic architectural survey of North Carolina Highway 11, Duplin and Lenoir Counties, North Carolina, for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Project involved identification and evaluation of historic properties to be affected by roadway widening.

Architectural Historian and Historian for historic architectural survey of site of proposed new Tallahassee, Florida, federal courthouse. Project for the General Services Administration.

Architectural Historian and Historian for historic architectural survey of twelve-square-block study area for the Ellis Street Bridge Replacement project in Salisbury, North Carolina. Project for the City of Salisbury.

Historian for Phase II archaeological investigation of proposed runway improvement sites at the Baltimore/Washington International Airport. Project for the Maryland Aviation Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Historian for Phase I archaeological survey for a bridge replacement at Larrys Creek, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. Project for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Historian for historic architectural survey of Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Project involved identification and evaluation of historic properties to be affected by roadway widening.

Historian for historic architectural survey for replacement of Old Betzwood Bridge, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Project for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase II historic architectural survey of United States Highway 221, McDowell, Burke, and Avery Counties, North Carolina, for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Project involved identification and evaluation of historic properties to be affected by roadway widening.

Historian for Historic Preservation Plan for the Baltimore/Washington International Airport. Project for the Maryland Aviation Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration.

Historian for archaeological investigations at Biles Island Wetland Mitigation Site, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Project for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Architectural Historian and Historian for Level of Action Assessment surveys of five intersection projects in Burlington, Cape May, Middlesex, and Monmouth Counties, New Jersey. Project for the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

1990-1992 \*Architectural Historical Consultant, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Greensboro Preservation Society, and City of Greensboro.

Directed National Register project, including the drafting of: a Multiple Property Documentation Form covering the history and architecture of the city of Greensboro; National Register historic district nominations for a 670-property suburb, a 384-property neighborhood, a 376-property neighborhood, a 269-property neighborhood, a college campus, and a mill village; and National Register nominations for three schools, a hospital, a row of townhouses, and two residences.

Wrote and photographed an architectural history and inventory of Greensboro for the Greensboro Preservation Society, awaiting publication.

1988-1990 \*Director of Architectural History and Historic Preservation, The Cultural Resource Consulting Group, Highland Park, New Jersey. Key projects included:

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase I Cultural Resource Management Plan and Survey of the Hackensack Meadowlands. Identified sites of historical and architectural significance in fourteen municipalities in Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey, to help guide the planning of land use and preservation policies. For the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission.



Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase 1A and Phase IB of Monmouth-Ocean Transmission Line cultural resource survey. Thirty-five-mile-long pipeline project, which extended through six municipalities in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, New Jersey, conducted for the New Jersey Natural Gas Company.

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase 1A of South Toms River-Lacey Township Gas Main cultural resource survey. Ten-mile-long pipeline project, which extended along a historic railroad alignment through seven municipalities in Ocean County, New Jersey, conducted for the New Jersey Natural Gas Company.

Architectural Historian and Historian for Phase 1A of CD-1 Adjustment Program cultural resource survey. Project in association with pipeline construction and improvements in five municipalities in Morris County, New Jersey, conducted for the Texas Eastern Gas Pipeline Company.

Architectural Historian and Historian for historic architectural survey of the Route 27 highway improvement project in Middlesex and Somerset Counties, New Jersey. Project, which followed a section of the route of the historic King's Highway between New Brunswick and Princeton, conducted for the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Directed the two-year Somerset County Historic Sites Inventory, which included recording and photographing all of the county's historic structures, and writing histories and architectural histories of the county and each of its 21 municipalities. Project for the Freeholders of Somerset County, New Jersey, and the State Office of Historic Preservation.

Architectural Historian and Historian for archaeological and architectural assessment of a portion of the GSA Raritan Depot, Edison, New Jersey. Project for the United States Environment Protection Agency and Enviresponse, Inc.

Architectural Historian and Historian for the historical architectural review and impact assessment of the East Jersey State Prison TDWR tower site in Woodbridge, New Jersey. Project for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Wrote individual, district, and multiple property National Register nominations and listings, for private and public entities, for residential properties, bridges, synagogues, and churches throughout New Jersey.

1986-1987

\*Architectural Historical Consultant, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, and Granville County, North Carolina.

Directed Granville County Historic Sites Inventory, which included the following: Surveyed, photographed and researched more than 500 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century buildings and farm complexes. Wrote historical and architectural descriptions of each inventoried property. Drafted countywide Multiple Property Documentation Form and 37 National Register nominations for individual properties and districts.

Wrote and photographed book on architecture and history of county.

- 1985 \*Architectural Historical Consultant, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, and Lincoln County, North Carolina.
- Directed Lincoln County Historic Sites Inventory, which included the following: Surveyed, photographed and researched more than 500 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century buildings and farm complexes. Drafted historical and architectural descriptions of each inventoried property.
- Wrote and photographed book on architecture and history of county.
- 1983-1984 \*Architectural and Historical Consultant, Santa Monica, California.
- Wrote National Register and state historic district nominations, and Historic Preservation Certification applications, for properties in southern California, for private and public entities.
- Wrote Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument nominations for the Los Angeles Conservancy.
- Wrote walking tour brochures and prepared docent training materials, for tours of historic districts in downtown Los Angeles and in Monrovia, California, for the Los Angeles Conservancy.
- 1980-1982 \*Attorney, Parker, Milliken, Clark & O'Hara, Los Angeles, California, and Rosenberg, Nagler & Weisman, Beverly Hills, California.

Publications:

- 1993 *Greensboro: An Architectural Record*. Author. Awaiting publication.
- 1988 *Heritage and Homesteads: The History and Architecture of Granville County, North Carolina*. Author. Delmar: Charlotte, NC.
- 1986 *Our Enduring Past: A Survey of 235 Years of Life and Architecture in Lincoln County, North Carolina*. Author. Delmar: Charlotte, NC.

Awards and Honors:

- 1991 *Historic and Architectural Resources of Granville County, North Carolina* Multiple Property Documentation Form included in part in *National Register Bulletin 16B, How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form*.
- 1990 *Historic and Architectural Resources of Granville County, North Carolina* Multiple Property Documentation Form reproduced in *National Register Bulletin 35, National Register Casebook: Examples of Documentation* as example of how to research, draft, and complete MPD forms.
- 1989 North Carolina Society of Historians, 1989 Architectural History Book Award for *Heritage and Homesteads*.



**A WORK PLAN FOR  
THE FIRST PHASE OF AN  
HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF  
US 221 FROM NC 226 NEAR WOODLAWN TO  
THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
MCDOWELL, BURKE, AND AVERY COUNTIES  
TIP NO. R-2596, STATE PROJECT NO. 8.T871101**

**Prepared For:**

**Planning and Environmental Branch  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Prepared By:**

**Greiner, Inc.  
Raleigh, North Carolina**

**May 20, 1993  
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## I. INTRODUCTION

The following is a work plan for conducting the first phase of an historic architectural survey in support of the improvements to US 221 from NC 226 near Woodlawn to the Blue Ridge Parkway in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties (TIP No. R-2596). This phase is designed to identify those properties which are listed in or appear to be obviously or potentially eligible for the National Register based on preliminary background research and a thorough field reconnaissance survey of the project area. This work plan is submitted to the Planning and Environmental Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) by Greiner, Inc.

The scope of work presented in this work plan was devised after consultation with Ms. Barbara Church, Architectural Historian, NCDOT Planning and Environmental Branch. This phase of the survey will result in the development of a brief document describing those properties that are listed in the National Register or on the state Study List or that appear to be obviously or potentially eligible for the National Register. The work will follow the basic requirements of: the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations on the "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800); NCDOT Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports for Phase I (Reconnaissance) Surveys of Historic Architectural Resources By/For the North Carolina Department of Transportation; and NCDOT Phase I (Reconnaissance) Survey Procedures. Historic Architectural Resources.

Deliverables under this first phase of study will include: (a) USGS Topographic Quadrangle maps, or other appropriate maps, locating the study area, National Register and Study List properties, and properties which appear to be obviously or potentially eligible for the National Register; (b) high quality reproductions of photographs of these properties keyed to the maps; (c) a summary of findings to accompany a verbal presentation; and (d) a Phase I report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines describing the identified properties and summarizing the findings of the study. The deliverables shall be understood to be preliminary evaluations only and will include properties about which Greiner, Inc. has any legitimate questions concerning eligibility.

The work hour estimate appended to this work plan is based on information received from NCDOT and on Greiner's scoping of the general project area.



## II. METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this first phase will be to identify all properties that are listed in or appear to be eligible for the National Register. This information will be used by NCDOT to determine the potential affect of the improvements upon significant buildings, structures, and cultural landscapes. This first phase will be accomplished by the completion of the following tasks.

1. General historical research will be conducted to determine the significance of certain specific families, agricultural practices, ethnic groups, architectural types, and the overall development of the project area. This research will require consulting the files at the western office of the State Historic Preservation Office in Asheville.
2. A thorough reconnaissance survey will be conducted of all portions of the general project area which are accessible by car or by foot.
3. Any property which is listed in the National Register or the Study List or which appears to be obviously or potentially eligible for the National Register will be photographed, keyed to appropriate maps, and preliminary historical information will be collected. General property boundaries will be also be delineated. In-depth research will not be conducted during this phase.
4. The results of this work effort will be delivered at a verbal presentation. The presentation will include maps showing the findings of the survey, photographs, and a brief written summary of the findings.
5. Following the oral presentation and consultation with NCDOT, a Phase I report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines will be submitted. Subsequent work efforts will be determined following evaluation of this information.

### III. DELIVERABLES

The following is a list of the deliverables for this first phase of the survey:

1. High quality reproductions of the USGS Topographic Quadrangle Maps, or other appropriate maps, locating the project and study areas, National Register and Study List properties, properties believed to be obviously or potentially eligible for the National Register, and general boundaries for each property;
2. High quality reproductions of 3x5 black and white photographs in sufficient quantity to convey the potential significance of the properties;
3. A brief summary of findings to accompany the verbal presentation; and
4. A Phase I report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines.

Original maps and photographs will be used for the verbal presentation. Reproductions will be prepared for NCDOT's use.



#### IV. PROJECT SCHEDULING, COORDINATION AND PERSONNEL

The following is a summary of the proposed schedule for this first phase of the historic architectural survey. General research on the history and architecture of the region will begin upon receipt of (1) written Notice to Proceed by the Planning and Environmental Department and (2) documents and information on the project routinely requested by Greiner from the project engineer. Work on the project cannot begin until this crucial information from the engineer is provided. Fieldwork and more specific research in libraries in Marion and Morganton and at the western office of the State Historic Preservation Office in Asheville will be conducted simultaneously. Subsequently, the field information will be organized into the required format for presentation to NCDOT. Once NCDOT and Greiner, Inc. have informed the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) of their opinions on which properties, if any, appear to meet the National Register criteria, NCDOT and FHWA will determine the need for conducting a Phase II survey. Upon notification, a work plan will be developed for Phase II of the historic architectural survey.

Staffing under this work plan will include Mr. Terry Klein, Project Manager; Mr. Marvin Brown, Architectural Historian; Ms. Suzanne Pickens, Senior Architectural Historian; Mr. James Snodgrass, Historic Architectural Survey Assistant; and Ms. Brenda Laney, Clerical and Report Production.

**WORK PLAN FOR ADDITIONAL SURVEY AND  
PREPARING A PHASE II HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT  
FOR US 221 FROM NC 226 NEAR WOODLAWN TO  
THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY  
MCDOWELL, BURKE, AND AVERY COUNTIES  
TIP NO. R-2596, STATE PROJECT NO. 8.T871101**

**Prepared For:**

**Federal Highway Administration  
and  
Planning and Environmental Branch  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Prepared By:**

**Greiner, Inc.  
Raleigh, North Carolina**

**October 8, 1993**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The following is a work plan for conducting two separate components of an historic architectural survey in support of the improvements to US 221 from NC 226 near Woodlawn to the Blue Ridge Parkway in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties (TIP No. R-2596). This work plan is submitted to the Planning and Environmental Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) by Greiner, Inc. Its scope of work and appended work hour estimate were devised after consultation with Ms. Barbara Church, Architectural Historian, NCDOT.

The first component of this work plan consists of an additional survey to supplement a Phase I historic architectural survey report, which Greiner has already completed and presented to the staff of NCDOT. This additional survey will provide photographs and map locations of every property within the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE) which appears to be over 50 years old. This additional work is required because the level of documentation requested for Phase I historic architectural surveys has changed since Greiner completed the Phase I report.

The second component of this work plan consists of conducting an intensive-level Phase II survey and preparing an historic architectural survey report. This report will describe and evaluate those properties within the project's APE that appear to be potentially eligible for the National Register or are architecturally or historically noteworthy. These properties will be determined by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at a meeting to be held between representatives of NCDOT, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the SHPO, and the consultant if deemed appropriate.

It is not possible to determine in advance which properties the SHPO will want evaluated in the Phase II report. The cost estimate for preparing the Phase II report has been based upon surveying and evaluating a maximum of 10 properties and one historic district, a figure arrived at after completion of the Phase I report and consultation with Barbara Church. If the SHPO requires the survey and evaluation of any additional properties or historic districts in the Phase II report, Greiner will require a supplement to cover the cost of that additional work.

The work for this project will follow the basic requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, as amended; the Department of Transportation regulations and procedures (23 CFR 771 and Technical Advisory T 6640.8A); the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations on the "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800); and NCDOT Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports on Historic and Architectural Resources submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Deliverables under this work plan will consist of (1) photographs of every property within the APE which appears to be over 50 years old and USGS quadrangle maps with the location of each property marked; (2) a draft Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report; (3) a revised Phase II report incorporating comments from NCDOT's and FHWA's review of the draft report; and (4) a final Phase II report incorporating comments from the SHPO. These deliverables will be developed pursuant to the above-referenced laws, regulations, and guidelines.

## II. METHODOLOGY

### *Additional Survey*

The purpose of this component of the work plan is to provide additional information now required for all historic architectural survey reports. It will be necessary to travel to the project area and conduct additional fieldwork in order to provide this additional information. This component will be accomplished through the following tasks.

1. All properties within the APE which appear to over 50 years old will be photographed and mapped on USGS quadrangle maps.
2. If deemed appropriate, Greiner will attend a meeting with representatives of NCDOT, FHWA, and the SHPO, at which the SHPO will determine which properties will be evaluated in the Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report.

### *Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report*

The purpose of this component of the work plan is to more closely examine those properties identified, during the additional survey component of the project, as potentially eligible for the National Register or architecturally or historically noteworthy. This information will be used by FHWA to determine the potential effect of the improvements upon National Register-eligible buildings, structures, and cultural landscapes. This component will be accomplished through the following tasks.

1. General historical research will be conducted to determine the overall development of the project area and the significance of certain specific families, agricultural practices, ethnic groups, and architectural types. From this research, historic and architectural contexts that illumine the project area will be developed. Specific historical research will be conducted on those properties identified as potentially eligible for the National Register or architecturally or historically noteworthy.
2. A thorough intensive-level field survey will be conducted of all portions of the APE which are accessible by car or by foot. The APE previously established during the Phase I survey will be refined while conducting this survey if necessary.
3. Properties within the APE that were identified as potentially eligible for the National Register or architecturally or historically noteworthy will be described and evaluated. These properties will be photographed, delineated on sketch maps, and keyed to USGS and other appropriate maps. For those properties which appear to have potential for listing in the National Register, proposed Register boundaries will also be delineated.
4. The results of this work effort will be submitted to FHWA and NCDOT in a draft and final Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines.



It is anticipated that the APE associated with this project will contain no more than 10 properties and one historic district which appear to be potentially eligible for the National Register or which are historically or architecturally noteworthy. Among these properties are a number of large farmsteads which include numerous outbuildings, dramatic and evocative settings, and scores of acres within their boundaries. If the SHPO requires the survey and evaluation of any additional properties or historic districts in the Phase II report, Greiner will require a supplement to cover the cost of that additional work.

Upon agreement between the SHPO and FHWA on the eligibility of properties, Greiner will submit a separate work plan and budget for producing a document that will evaluate the effects the project will have on Register-eligible properties. This evaluation of effects will be developed in consultation with NCDOT and FHWA.

### III. DELIVERABLES

#### *Additional Survey*

The following is a list of the deliverables for this first component of the work plan.

1. The use of a set of photographs of all properties within the APE which appear to be over 50 years old.
2. USGS quadrangle maps of the APE with each of the above properties located.
3. The above information will be presented at a meeting between NCDOT, FHWA, the SHPO, and the consultant if deemed appropriate, to be held following completion of the supplementary work.

#### *Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report*

The following is a list of the deliverables for this second component of the work plan.

1. High quality reproductions of USGS topographic quadrangle maps, or other appropriate maps, locating the project and study areas, the APE, and the resources--not to exceed 10 individual properties and one historic district--evaluated in the report; sketch maps for each property; and maps delineating proposed National Register boundaries for those properties which are potentially eligible for Register listing.
2. High quality reproductions of 3x5 black and white photographs in sufficient quantity to convey the appearance, potential significance, and eligibility of the properties.
3. A draft Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report, in final form, prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines.
4. A revised Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report, also prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines, and incorporating NCDOT's and FHWA's comments.
5. A final Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report incorporating the SHPO's comments.

It should be noted that the work plan does not include the preparation of Requests for Determination of Eligibility; 4(f) statements on historic properties; or Memoranda of Agreement. The plan also does not include completing North Carolina historic structure data sheets or providing National Register-level documentation for any resources.



#### IV. PROJECT SCHEDULING, COORDINATION, AND PERSONNEL

Research and fieldwork will begin on the additional survey component of this work plan upon receipt of written Notice to Proceed from NCDOT. The meeting between NCDOT, FHWA, SHPO, and the consultant if deemed appropriate, to determine which properties will be surveyed and evaluated in the Phase II Historic Architectural Survey Report will be held following the completion of this additional survey. If it is determined at this meeting that Greiner is to survey and evaluate no more than 10 properties and one historic district, Greiner will complete and submit to NCDOT a draft Phase II report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines, along with all required maps and photographs. If it is determined at the meeting that Greiner must survey and evaluate additional resources, Greiner will submit a supplement to cover the cost of that additional work. Following acceptance of this supplement and written Notice to Proceed under it from NCDOT, Greiner will complete and submit to NCDOT a draft Phase II report prepared in accordance with the NCDOT Guidelines, along with all required maps and photographs. After Greiner receives written comments on the draft report from NCDOT, the revised report will be submitted to NCDOT and FHWA.

Once the eligibility of properties is agreed upon by the SHPO and FHWA, Greiner will submit a work plan for the effects documentation. Greiner will begin preparation of the draft effects document whether or not the revised Phase II report has been approved by SHPO.

Greiner will not be responsible for coordinating any consultation efforts with FHWA or the SHPO. Such consultation will be handled by NCDOT. However, Greiner staff will attend the meeting to be held in Raleigh with these agencies following the completion of the supplementary Phase I component of this work plan, if requested.

Staffing under this work plan will include Mr. Terry Klein, Project Manager; Mr. Marvin Brown, Architectural Historian and Principal Investigator; Ms. Suzanne Pickens, Senior Architectural Historian; Mr. James Snodgrass, Historic Architectural Survey Assistant and Graphics Coordinator; and Ms. Brenda Laney, Clerical and Report Production.

## WORK PLAN

This work plan is for supplementing the Phase II historic architectural survey in support of the improvements to US 221 from NC 226 near Woodlawn to the Blue Ridge Parkway in McDowell, Burke, and Avery counties (TIP No. R-2596). It is submitted to the Planning and Environmental Branch, North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) by Greiner, Inc. Its scope of work and appended work hour estimate were devised after consultation with Ms. Barbara Church, Architectural Historian, NCDOT.

On October 8, 1993, Greiner submitted to NCDOT a work plan and work hour estimate for (1) conducting an additional survey of properties more than 50 years old, and (2) conducting an intensive-level Phase II survey and preparing a Phase II historic architectural survey report. The work plan stated that if Greiner was required by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to survey and evaluate in the Phase II report more than 11 resources, Greiner would require a supplement to cover the cost of that additional work. Authorization was given on October 13, 1993, by NCDOT to begin work on the plan.

The first step of the October 8 work plan--the additional survey of properties more than 50 years old--was conducted by Greiner in November, 1993. At a meeting on January 4, 1994, attended by representatives of Greiner, NCDOT, and the SHPO, Greiner presented the results of that survey. Following the presentation, the SHPO requested that Greiner evaluate and include 14 properties in the Phase II survey report. Greiner is submitting this work plan to cover the cost of recording, researching, evaluating, and including three additional properties in the Phase II historic architectural survey report.

The deliverables for this supplemental work plan will be the same as those described for the Phase II historic architectural survey report in the October 8 work plan, with the addition of three properties. The same laws, regulations, and guidelines referenced in that plan will be adhered to and the same methodology will be followed. Project scheduling, coordination, and personnel will also be the same.