



## 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

January 26, 1995

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

Re: Revised historic structures survey report for US  
13-Ahoskie Bypass, Bertie/Hertford Counties, R-  
2205, F-113-1(5), 8.T070701, ER 95-7676

Dear Mr. Graf:

Thank you for your letter of October 12, 1994, concerning the above project. We apologize for the delay in commenting on this report.

Please refer to our letter of February 14, 1994, and our comments therein. This letter specifically addresses only those properties for which additional information was provided.

**Albert Hall Farm.** We concur that this property is eligible under Criterion A for Agriculture. A remarkably complete picture of a farmstead between the two World Wars is preserved in the farmhouse, outbuildings, family cemetery, field patterns, cultivated crops, and woodland. Please note that we previously concurred that this property was eligible under Criterion C for Architecture and Criterion A for Ethnic/African American Heritage.

**William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings.** We concur that this property is not eligible under Criterion A for Agriculture because small-scale, multicrop agriculture is no longer being practiced on this farm. Please note that we previously concurred that this property is eligible under Criterion C for Architecture.

**William B. Weaver Farm.** We concur that this property is not eligible under Criterion A for Agriculture because its setting has undergone significant changes. Please note that we previously concurred that this property is eligible under Criterion C for Architecture.

**James L. Earley House.** We concur that this property is not eligible under Criterion A for Agriculture because small-scale multicrop agriculture is no longer being practiced on this farm. We also concur that this property is no longer eligible under Criterion C for Architecture because it has undergone substantial alterations.



**Anthony Godwin House.** We concur that this property is not eligible because there are more intact and exemplary examples of the coastal cottage house type in the county.

We would like to comment about the boundaries along roads for all of the properties evaluated in this report. In cases where there is a North Carolina Department of Transportation-maintained ditch, the back of the ditch is an appropriate boundary. Where there is no ditch, we believe the edge of the pavement is the appropriate boundary.

In general the report meets our guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior. However, we have still not received the background materials prepared for this report. Please provide the photographs of structures over fifty years of age, the USGS quadrangle maps locating these structures, and the new and/or revised survey site forms prepared by the consultant.

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

cc: H. F. Vick  
B. Church

bc: File  
Brown/Bevin  
Stancil  
County  
RF



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
REGION FOUR  
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601  
October 12, 1994

OCT 14 1994

In Reply Refer To:

NC-HO

Mr. David Brook  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Cultural Resources  
109 East Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

ER95-7676  
due 11/4  
125

Dear Mr. Brook:

Subject: Federal-aid Project F-113-1(5), State No. 8.T070701,  
R-2205, Bertie-Hertford Counties - Section 106  
Consultation

Enclosed is one copy of a revised Historical Architectural Resources Report for the subject project. The revised report addresses your review comments transmitted by your letter of February 14, 1994. Please note that the James Lawrence Earley House and Outbuildings, previously determined to be eligible under Criterion C, is no longer considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C or A based upon additional survey work.

Your concurrence in the findings of the revised report is requested.

Sincerely yours,

*John C. Wadsworth*

For Nicholas L. Graf, P.E.  
Division Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Mr. H. F. Vick, P.E., NCDOT

**D R A F T   R E P O R T**  
**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES**

**US 13 - AHOSKIE BYPASS**  
**Bertie and Hertford Counties, North Carolina**  
**TIP No. R-2205**

**Laura A. W. Phillips**  
**Architectural Historian**

**September 15, 1992**  
**Revised July 25, 1994**



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## II. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

### **Project Name and Summary:**

US 13-Ahoskie Bypass; TIP No. R-2205

The project is designed to determine the most feasible corridor for improving US 13 from NC 42 at Powellsville to the Winton Bypass. The project involves 11.2 miles of US 13 through Bertie and Hertford counties. Multi-lane improvements to US 13 with a bypass of Ahoskie on new location are projected. The project is scheduled for right of way acquisition and construction to begin in fiscal years 1996 and 1997, respectively. The preliminary cost estimate (December 1991) is \$34,025,000.

### **State Clearinghouse Number:**

92-E-4220-0440

### **Project Purpose:**

The General Assembly of North Carolina in 1989 ratified House Bill 399 providing for the establishment of the North Carolina Highway Trust Fund. A portion of the Highway Trust Fund was allocated to the construction of the Intrastate System. This system was established to provide free-flowing, safe travel service throughout the state, connect major population centers both inside and outside the state, and to allow for safe, convenient through-travel for motorists. The Intrastate System was designed to support statewide growth and development objectives.

US 13 through Bertie, Hertford, and Gates counties, connecting Virginia with US 17 at Windsor, was included as part of this Intrastate System. The four-laning of this section of US 13--of which TIP No. R-2205 is a part--will encourage economic development in these counties and provide for improved traffic service in northeastern North Carolina.

### **Summary of Survey Methodology:**

Survey methodology for the project consisted of background research, field activities, analysis, and report preparation. Background research included a review of the survey and National Register files for eastern Hertford County and northern Bertie County at the State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh; a review of documentary resources pertaining to the area's history and architecture at repositories in Raleigh, Ahoskie, and Winton; and interviews with local resource people. Field activities included a preliminary reconnaissance survey of the overall project study area, a determination of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the project, preparation of a photographic inventory of the project setting and of all properties within the APE which appeared to be at least fifty years old, and intensive recording--with photography, mapping, and the completion of North Carolina Historic Structures Data Sheets--of all properties which

appeared to be potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Following the background research and field survey, the recorded properties were evaluated in terms of the criteria for listing in the National Register. Subsequent field work and documentary research was conducted on four farms to further clarify their eligibility.

**Description of the Area of Potential Effect (APE):**

The APE consists of an area surrounding the project study area, with the exception of the area along US 13 within the town limits of Ahoskie (see **Methodology**, pp. 32-36 and **Appendix**, p. 155). The APE encompasses an area sufficient to include all properties which may be affected by any of the preliminary study corridors within the project study area. (See maps on pp. 10-14 for a graphic depiction of the APE and for preliminary study corridors.)

**Percentage of Project Area Covered by Survey and Level of Survey Coverage:**

A preliminary reconnaissance survey was conducted of one hundred percent of the project study area. Subsequently, an intensive survey was conducted of one hundred percent of the project APE. All properties which appeared to be at least fifty years old were photographed and keyed to the USGS and project field maps. The twenty-eight properties which appeared to be potentially eligible for the National Register were recorded with additional photography, mapping, and the completion of North Carolina Historic Structures Data Sheets. Site plans were drawn for all twenty-eight, and interiors were recorded whenever possible. The number of photos per property ranged from eight to forty-six, based on the significance or complexity of the property.

**Summary of Survey Results:**

A total of twenty-eight individual properties and districts were recorded during the survey. These include: one district composed of a fairground and a school associated with local black history, one church built in 1926, two early twentieth-century schools, one ca. 1920 bungalow, thirteen farmhouses from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and ten farms from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Eight of the recorded properties are considered eligible for the National Register, while twenty of the properties are considered not eligible. The following list organizes the twenty-eight surveyed properties by National Register eligibility and gives the page numbers where each is described:

Eligible for the National Register

1. Thomas Eley House, pp. 38-42
2. Albert Hall Farm, pp. 43-48
3. Holloman Avenue Historic District, pp. 49-55
4. Graham Holloman House, pp. 56-60

5. William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings, pp. 61-66
6. Newsome-Hall House, pp. 67-72
7. Pleasant Plains School, pp. 73-77
8. William B. Weaver Farm, pp. 78-83

Not Eligible for the National Register

9. Edgar Askew Farm, pp. 84-87
10. Lawrence Askew House, pp. 88-91
11. Brantley's Grove Baptist Church, pp. 92-94
12. Brantley's Grove School, pp. 95-97
13. Dawson Doughtie Farm, pp. 98-100
14. Doughtie-Godwin Farm, pp. 101-104
15. James Lawrence Early House and Outbldgs., pp. 105-109
16. Anthony Godwin House, pp. 110-112
17. House, pp. 113-115
18. House, pp. 116-118
19. House, pp. 119-121
20. House, pp. 122-124
21. House, pp. 125-127
22. House, pp. 128-131
23. Newsome Family Farm, pp. 132-135
24. John Whidby Newsome House, pp. 136-138
25. William Elisha Sessoms Farm, pp. 139-141
26. Simmons Farm, pp. 142-144
27. Blount Willoughby House, pp. 145-147
28. Jason E. Willoughby House, pp. 148-150

The maps on pp. 12-14 illustrate the boundaries for all properties within the project APE which are eligible for the National Register.

**Summary of Potential Effects:**

Project data is not sufficient at present to determine potential effects to eligible properties. Potential effects will be addressed in a future separate report when the highway alignments under consideration have been reviewed with reference to information contained in this report.

### III. INTRODUCTION

**Name of Project:**

US 13-Ahoskie Bypass; TIP No. R-2205

**State Clearinghouse Number:**

92-E-4220-0440

**Location of Project:**

The project is located along and in the vicinity of US 13 from NC 42 at Powellsville to the Winton Bypass in Bertie and Hertford counties, North Carolina.

**Map of General Project Location:**

See p. 9.

**Map of Project Study Area and Preliminary Corridors:**

See pp. 10-11.

**Map of Area of Potential Effect with Locations of Recorded Historic Properties and Boundaries of Properties Eligible for National Register:**

See pp. 12-14 and key to properties on p. 15.

**Determination of Area of Potential Effect (APE):**

The APE was formulated subsequent to the preliminary reconnaissance survey and background research of the project study area. It was designed to encompass an area surrounding the preliminary study corridors sufficient to include all properties which potentially could be affected by project activities. Included within the APE is the project study area (as of April 1992), with the exception of the area along US 13 within the town limits of Ahoskie (see **Methodology**, pp. 32-36 and **Appendix**, p. 155). The boundary of the APE was influenced, additionally, by the consideration of geographic features (topography, waterways, woodlands, and fields), man-made features (intervening roads and density of development), and the location of historically and/or architecturally significant properties.

**Sponsoring Agency:**

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

**Principal Investigator/Survey Team:**

The architectural and historic structures survey was conducted solely by architectural historian Laura A. W. Phillips.

**Date of Survey:**

December 1991-February 1992; July 1994

**Summary of Scope of Work**

According to the contractual scope of services, the



historical/architectural consultant agreed to:

Conduct a preliminary assessment of the Town of Ahoskie;

Define the Area of Potential Effect for the project;

Conduct an intensive survey of the APE to identify and record all historic architectural resources of significance, in accordance with the requirements of "Description of Services Required for Consideration of Cultural Resources in the Preparation of Environmental Documents," Section VII - Historic Architectural Resources, August 22, 1989;

Evaluate those resources according to National Register Criteria;

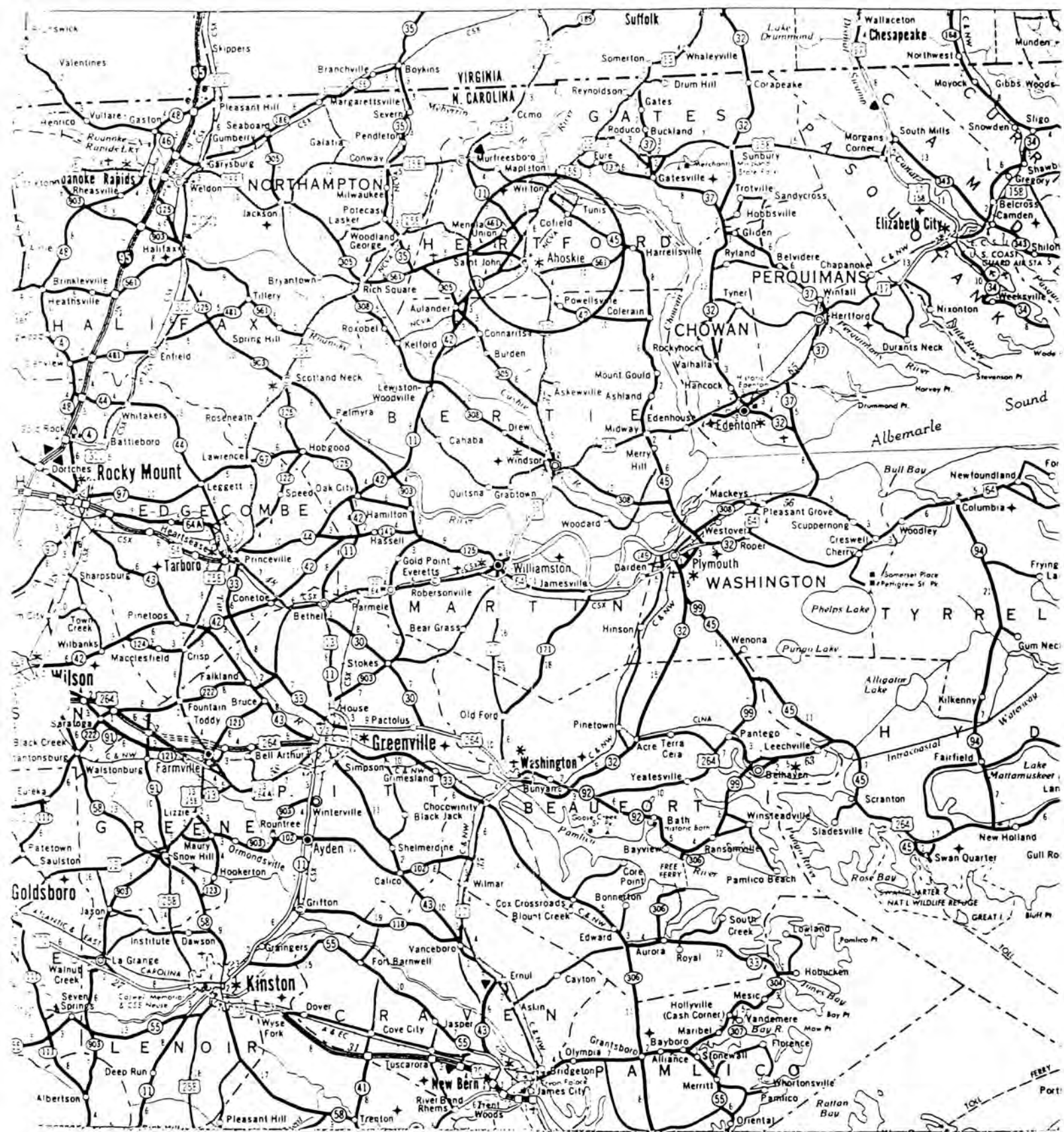
Assess potential impacts of all alternative routes under study on any properties evaluated as eligible for the National Register; and

Prepare a written report on the findings of the survey and evaluation to conform with "Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports of Historic Structures Surveys and Evaluations Submitted to the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office."

See **Appendix**, pp. 153-154 for copy of scope of work from contract between the historical/architectural consultant and the engineer.

**Purpose of Report:**

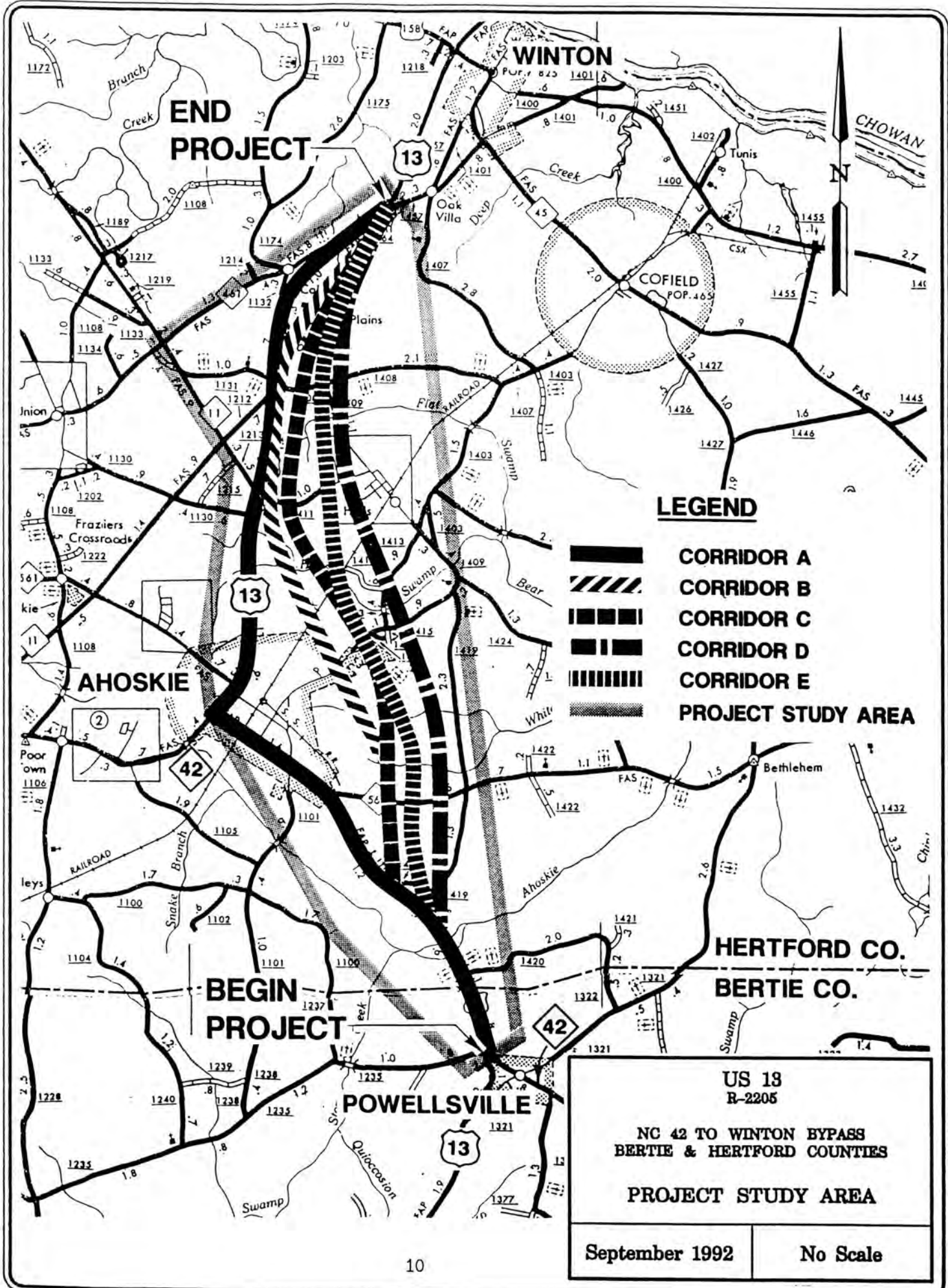
This report has been prepared to assist the planners in their compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (regulations codified at 36 CFR Part 800) and with Section 4 (f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 regarding the potential use or effects of any federally funded, licensed, or assisted project on properties listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

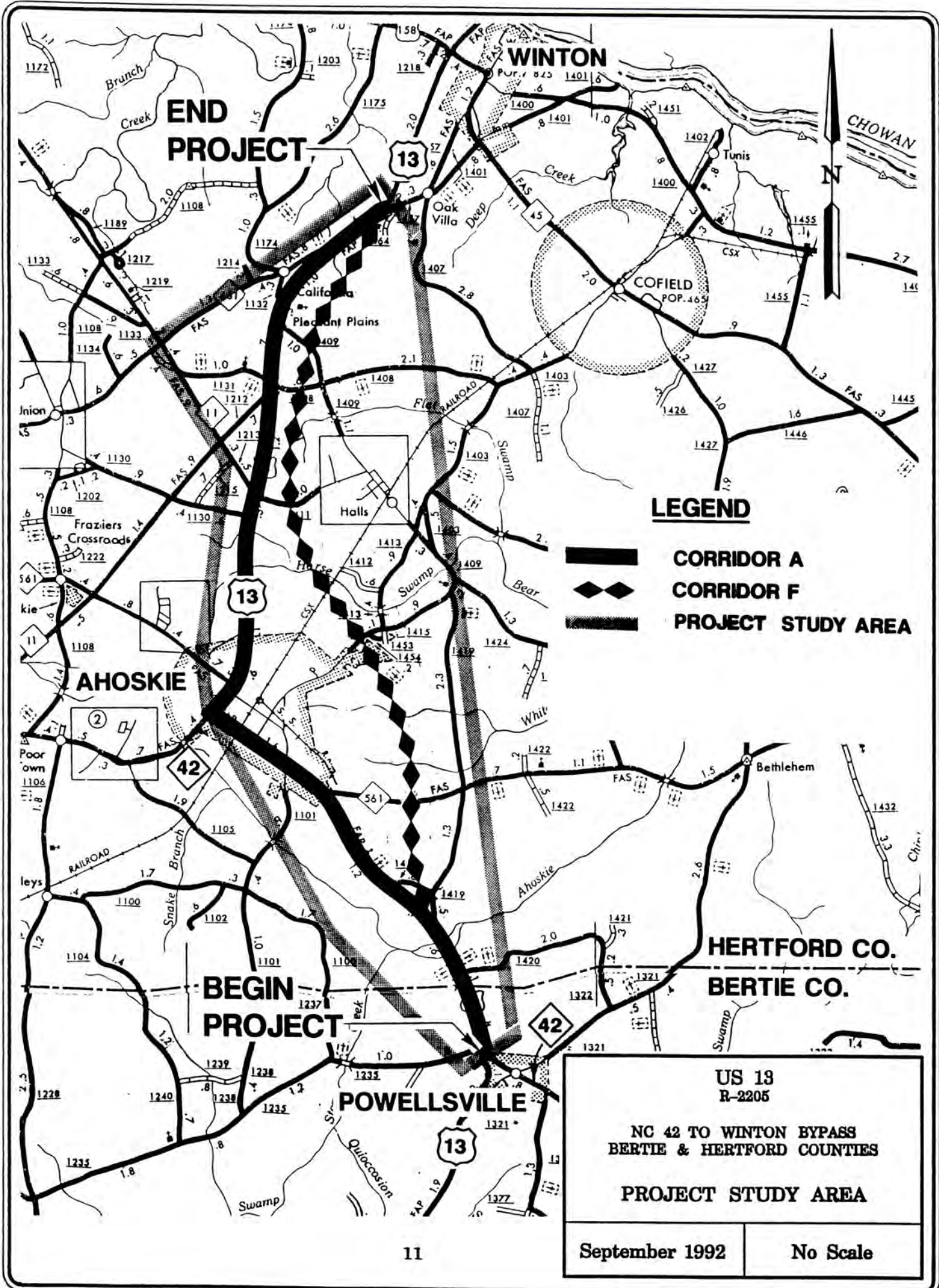


General Project Location

Scale: 1 inch = approx. 13 miles  
 (from 1990-1991 North Carolina  
 Transportation Map)









**END PROJECT**

**WINTON**

CHOWAN

13

**LEGEND**

-  **CORRIDOR A**
-  **CORRIDOR F**
-  **PROJECT STUDY AREA**

**AHOSKIE**

13

**HERTFORD CO.  
BERTIE CO.**

**BEGIN PROJECT**

**POWELLVILLE**

13

**US 19  
R-2205**

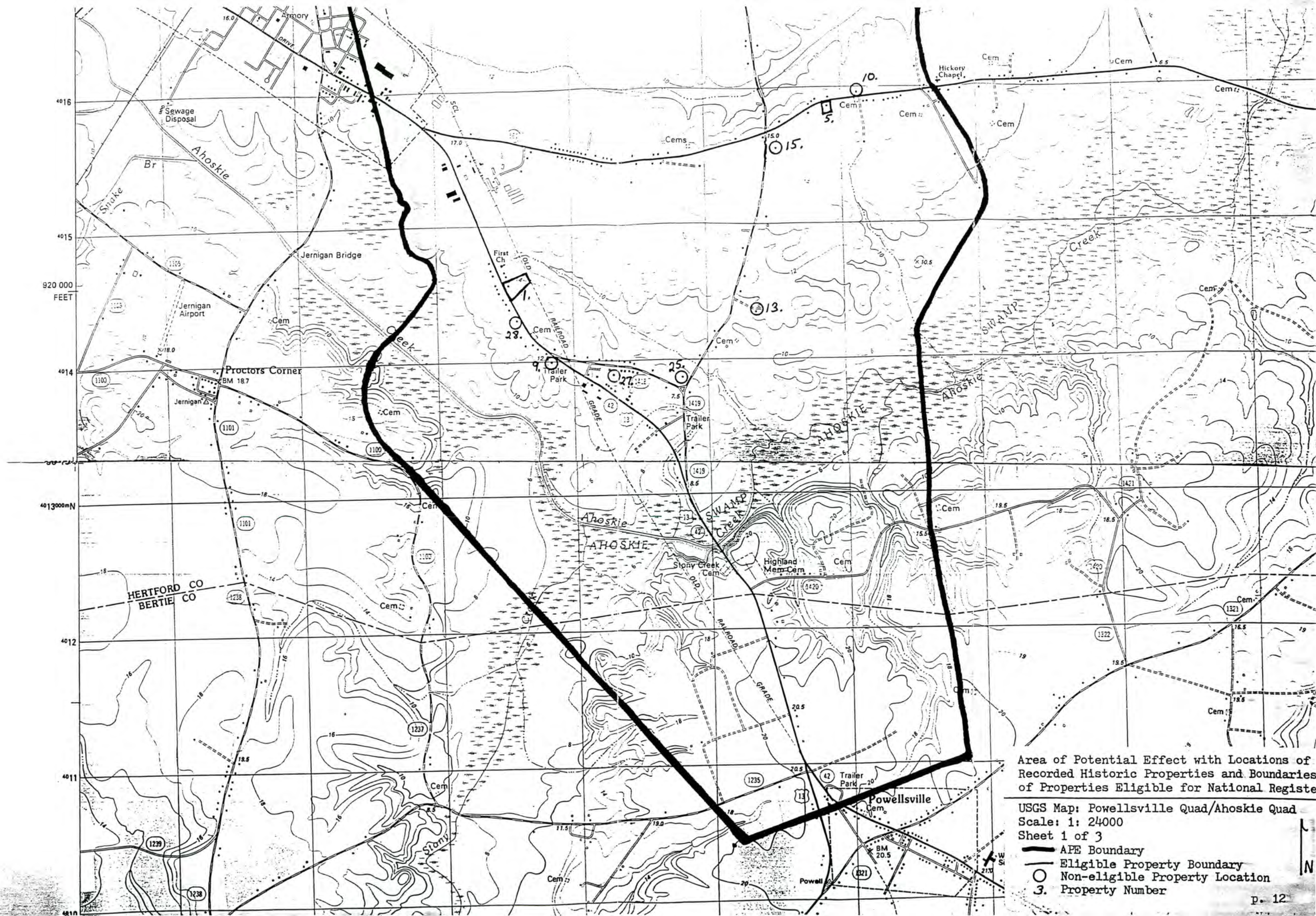
**NC 42 TO WINTON BYPASS  
BERTIE & HERTFORD COUNTIES**

**PROJECT STUDY AREA**

September 1992

No Scale



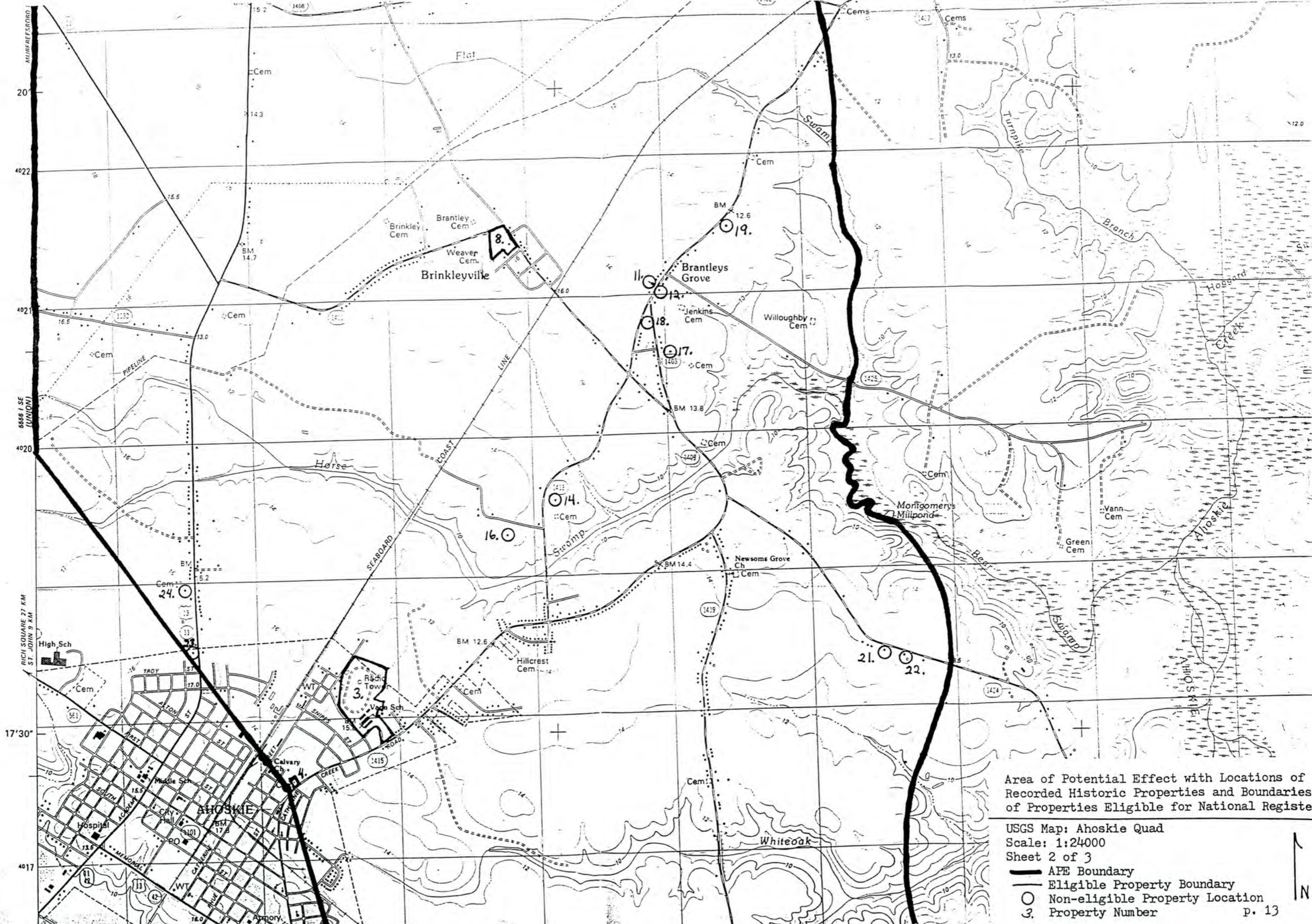


Area of Potential Effect with Locations of Recorded Historic Properties and Boundaries of Properties Eligible for National Register

USGS Map: Powellville Quad/Ahoskie Quad  
 Scale: 1: 24000  
 Sheet 1 of 3

- APE Boundary
- Eligible Property Boundary
- Non-eligible Property Location
- 3. Property Number





Area of Potential Effect with Locations of Recorded Historic Properties and Boundaries of Properties Eligible for National Register

USGS Map: Ahoskie Quad  
 Scale: 1:24000  
 Sheet 2 of 3

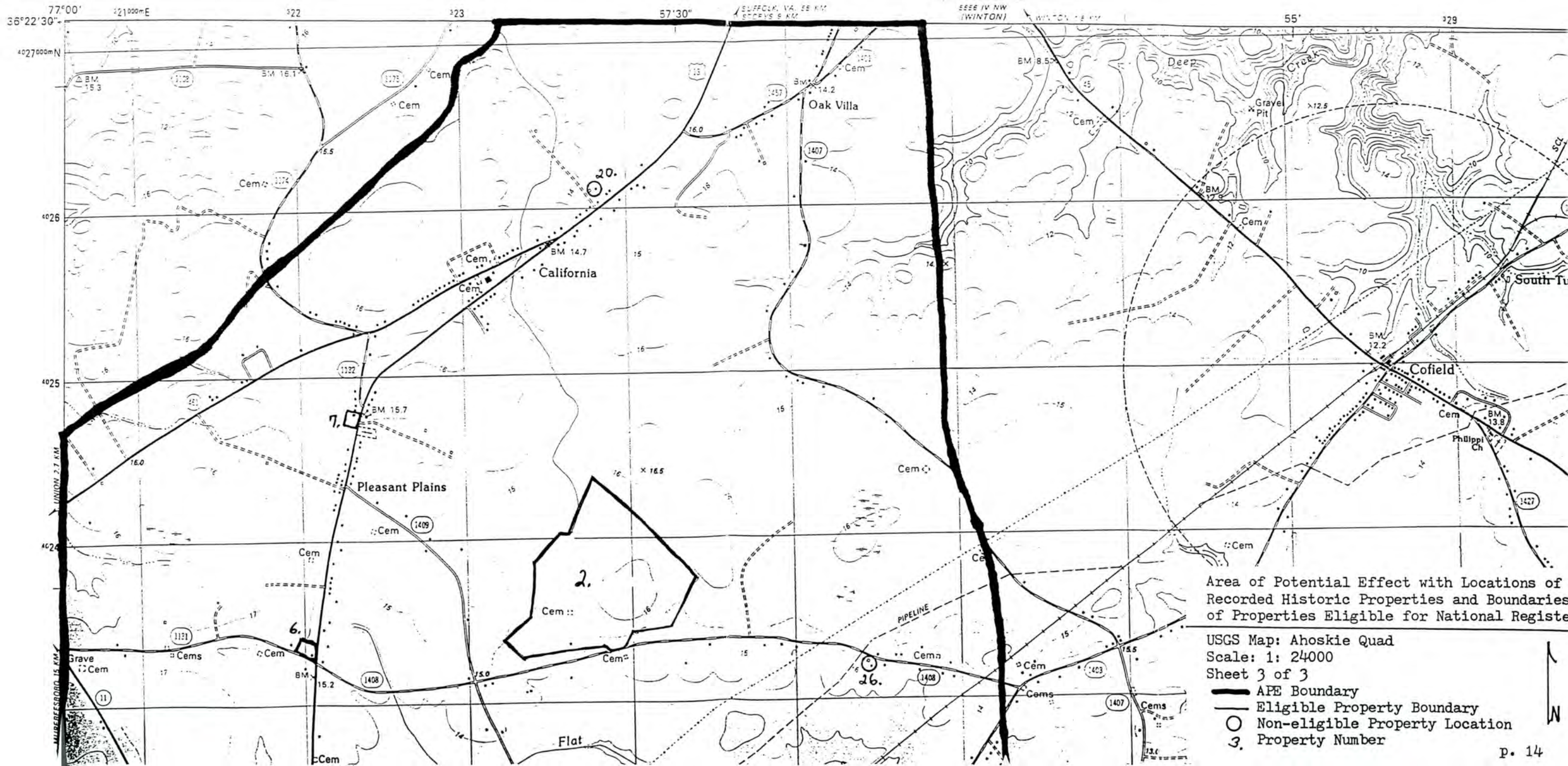
- APE Boundary
- Eligible Property Boundary
- Non-eligible Property Location
- 3. Property Number

N  
p. 13



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



Area of Potential Effect with Locations of  
Recorded Historic Properties and Boundaries  
of Properties Eligible for National Register

USGS Map: Ahoskie Quad  
Scale: 1: 24000  
Sheet 3 of 3

- APE Boundary
- Eligible Property Boundary
- Non-eligible Property Location
- 3.** Property Number

## KEY TO RECORDED PROPERTIES

### Eligible for National Register

1. Thomas Eley House
2. Albert Hall Farm
3. Holloman Avenue Historic District
4. Graham Holloman House
5. William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings
6. Newsome-Hall House
7. Pleasant Plains School
8. William B. Weaver Farm

### Not Eligible for National Register

9. Edgar Askew Farm
10. Lawrence Askew House
11. Brantley's Grove Baptist Church
12. Brantley's Grove School
13. Dawson Doughtie Farm
14. Doughtie-Godwin Farm
15. James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings
16. Anthony Godwin House
17. House
18. House
19. House
20. House
21. House
22. House
23. Newsome Family Farm
24. John Whidby Newsome House
25. William Elisha Sessoms Farm
26. Simmons Farm
27. Blount Willoughby House
28. Jason E. Willoughby House



#### IV. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

**Total Square Miles of Project Study Area and of APE:**

The project study area includes approximately twenty-four square miles. Approximately twenty-nine square miles were surveyed in the APE.

**Effective Environment:**

Located in south central Hertford County and dipping southward into Bertie County just north of Powellsville, the project area consists of predominantly flat, low terrain, most of which is less than sixty feet above sea level. The area is part of North Carolina's coastal plain. The majority of the land is forested, and most of what is not is under cultivation. Numerous creeks feed several swamps in the project area, including Ahoskie Swamp, Horse Swamp, and Flat Swamp. Just east of the project area are Bear Swamp and Whiteoak Swamp.

Since the late nineteenth century, the town of Ahoskie has figured largely in the area landscape. With a population of nearly 5,000, it is the largest town in Hertford County and serves as the retail center for four counties. Ahoskie grew primarily because of the arrival of the railroad in 1894. The North Carolina and Virginia Railroad runs diagonally (NE/SW) across the project area. Primary roads, including US 13, NC 42, NC 561, and NC 11, serve not only Ahoskie but also the rest of the project area, while multiple secondary roads crisscross the landscape.

**Present Land Use:**

Current land use in the project area includes agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional uses. South, east, and north of Ahoskie the land use is heavily agricultural. Residential use is also found in these areas and increases along the roads leading into Ahoskie as well as at crossroads communities and in Ahoskie itself. Commercial use is centered in Ahoskie but is also scattered along US 13 north and south of Ahoskie. Industrial land use is confined to Ahoskie and to several sites along US 13 south of Ahoskie. Institutional uses such as schools are found in Ahoskie.

Photographs providing an overview of the physical environment of the project area are on pp. 17-20.



1. US 13, just S of jct w/NC 42, view to N



2. US 13/NC 42, just N of bridge over Ahoskie Creek  
in Ahoskie Swamp, view to SE





3. NC 561, 0.8 mi W of jct w/SR 1419, view to W



4. SR 1419, 1.5 mi N of jct w/NC 561, view to N



5. US 13, 0.6 mi N of Ahoskie town limit, view to N



6. SR 1408, 0.9 mi W of jct w/SR 1403, view to W





7. US 13, just N of jct w/SR 1132, view to NE



8. SR 1407, 0.9 mi S of jct w/SR 1457, view to NE



## V. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL BACKGROUND

**NOTE:** The majority of the project area is located in the south central section of Hertford County. Only the southern tip extends approximately one mile into Bertie County to the outskirts of the Powellsville community. Therefore, the historical background discussed herein will reference primarily Hertford County history, recognizing that the portion of the project area within Bertie County is not of dissimilar background. The availability of documentary resources for the study of the project area was hindered by the fact that the Hertford County Courthouse burned on two occasions in the nineteenth century. In 1830 all county records were destroyed by a fire started by an arsonist. In 1862 Union soldiers destroyed the courthouse and all its records. Only the will books subsequent to 1830 and a few other record books, which happened to be at the Clerk's house in Murfreesboro, survived.<sup>1</sup>

### **Historical Development of Project Area:**

Hertford County was established in 1760 by an act passed in 1759. It was created out of parts of Chowan, Bertie, and Northampton counties and is bounded on the north by the Virginia state line, on the east by the Chowan River, on the south by Bertie County, and on the west by Northampton County. A part of North Carolina's upper coastal plain, the county is drained by the Chowan, Meherrin, Nottoway, and Wiccacon rivers.<sup>2</sup> Early development was along the rivers, where the prominent towns of Winton (the county seat) and Murfreesboro were established in the eighteenth century. While wealthy towns and plantations developed in the county along the higher elevations and river banks, this does not appear to have been the case in the project area. Located inland from the primary waterways, much of the project area is swampy, fed by smaller creeks. Confederate maps from the 1860s show that at that time settlement in the area was still relatively sparse.<sup>3</sup> In the late nineteenth century this changed with the development of the town of Ahoskie along the newly arrived railroad. While Ahoskie, located along the western edge of the project area, soon became the center of commerce in Hertford County, the area around it has remained primarily farm and forest land.

---

<sup>1</sup>Benjamin B. Winborne, The Colonial and State History of Hertford County, North Carolina (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1976 [originally published in 1906]), p. 5.

<sup>2</sup>The Ahoskie Era of Hertford County (Ahoskie, N.C.: Parker Brothers, Inc., 1939), pp. 19-20.

<sup>3</sup>Maps of Hertford and Parts of Surrounding Counties, April 1863, Confederate Engineer Bureau, Richmond.

The development of the project area revolves around three primary themes of historic significance: agriculture, the development of Ahoskie, and the prominent role played by blacks.

### Agriculture

Agriculture has always been the center of the Hertford County economy. Early settlers who occupied the better-drained lands along the river banks cultivated corn, wheat, flaxseed, rice, and indigo and raised hogs and cattle. These products provided both a cash income and practically everything needed on the farm. With the assistance of slave labor, plantations developed.<sup>4</sup>

With the close of the Civil War came an abrupt change to this labor situation. At that time the tenant system and cash crop farming became prevalent. The production of corn dropped drastically, and cotton became the principal crop until around 1900. By that time, peanuts, which had been introduced around 1880, consumed more acres than did cotton. Tobacco also became a major crop, but prior to 1907 it was shipped by rail to Rocky Mount and Wilson for lack of a local market. This changed in 1907, when the first tobacco warehouse was built at Ahoskie. Ahoskie later became the tobacco center of the Roanoke-Chowan area.<sup>5</sup>

Around the turn of the twentieth century, scientific farming methods began to be applied to agriculture in Hertford County. When the Farm Demonstration system was developed and the Extension Service was established in 1907, Hertford County was among the first counties in North Carolina to employ a part-time county agent (who also happened to serve part time as superintendent of schools).<sup>6</sup>

During the first third of the twentieth century, certain changes took place in the practice of agriculture in Hertford County, including the project area, and some of these changes can be attributed to the application of scientific farming methods. While there was an overall reduction in the number of farms and in the acreage cultivated, there was a marked increase in the efficiency in crop production. The three cash crops remained the same, although there was a shift in acreage between cotton and tobacco and a slight increase in peanuts. Cotton production increased by 7.9 percent on 38.3 percent less land. Tobacco and peanut acreage increased, but there was also a 55.1 percent increase in the tobacco yield and a 69.7 percent increase for peanuts. Corn, as well, was reduced in acreage, while production increased 66.8 percent. In 1909 corn and the three cash crops

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<sup>4</sup>Ahoskie Era, p. 81.

<sup>5</sup>Ahoskie Era, p. 81.

<sup>6</sup>Ahoskie Era, pp. 81-82.

occupied 72 percent of the crop land. In 1935 they occupied 84 percent of land in cultivation. During this period, both cattle and hogs decreased in number, while their value increased. Poultry, horses, and mules increased in number.<sup>7</sup>

The first third of the twentieth century demonstrated other changes in farming in the county. Farms decreased both in number and in acreage. The average farm was reduced from 81.5 acres to 58 acres. In 1909, 49.1 percent of farms were operated by whites. Twenty-five years later this number had decreased to 47.6 percent. During the same period, farms operated by blacks or other people of color increased from 50.1 percent to 52.4 percent. However, farms operated by whites were larger than those operated by blacks. There was only a small increase in the number of farms operated by tenants. Another trend of the period was the disposition of thousands of acres to timber companies, reflecting the increasing importance of the lumber industry as the town of Ahoskie developed.<sup>8</sup>

The great majority of the properties recorded in the project area are associated with the agricultural heritage of the county from the second quarter of the nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. In particular, the Albert Hall Farm is strongly representative of the area's early twentieth-century farms.

Since the 1930s, farming has continued to play an important role in Hertford County and in the project area in particular. Today, undeveloped forest and farmland account for over 93 percent of all land in the county.<sup>9</sup>

#### Development of Ahoskie

A major force in the project area since the late nineteenth century has been the development of the town of Ahoskie. From a small crossroads community centered on an early nineteenth-century church (Ahoskie Baptist), the town grew to be the largest community in Hertford County and a regional commercial and employment center. Ahoskie's history contrasts significantly with that of neighboring Murfreesboro and Winton. They were both incorporated in the eighteenth century and developed as port communities along navigable waterways. With the late nineteenth century, however, came a period of extensive railroad construction, and in North Carolina's coastal plain, a period of reorientation from water transportation to rail transportation. Ahoskie was not incorporated until 1893--more than a century after Murfreesboro and Winton--and it developed around the

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<sup>7</sup>Ahoskie Era, pp. 86, 90-92.

<sup>8</sup>Ahoskie Era, pp. 84, 86.

<sup>9</sup>"Town of Ahoskie Land Use Plan," 1987, p. 2.

railroad which still passes through the center of town.<sup>10</sup>

The lumber industry was important both in Ahoskie's early years and later development. Logging and milling and the naval stores industry had been important since the Colonial period in this area of North Carolina, but with the late nineteenth century came steam-powered mills and a market for sawn lumber which spurred the development of larger mills. Rail lines were laid through the forests of southeastern Hertford County and in Bertie County to carry logs to mills located on navigable waterways. In 1885 a logging rail line was completed from Hertford County through what was to become Ahoskie and on to Bertie County. In 1887 this logging line became the Chowan and Southern Railroad. Two years later it was purchased by the Norfolk and Carolina Railroad, and in 1900 the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad absorbed it.<sup>11</sup>

In 1888 the first large-scale sawmill in Ahoskie was built. The following year a post office was established, and soon thereafter the first migration of outsiders--mostly from the nearby farms--arrived. By 1893 the community had grown to the point that a bill to incorporate Ahoskie was enacted, and the first major development of the town followed. By 1900 Ahoskie recorded a population of 302, but by 1910 the town had tripled in size to 924. In these early years, the town boasted sawmills, cotton gins, an ice plant, a laundry, horse and mule stables, and an increasing number of retail stores. In 1907 the first tobacco warehouse in Ahoskie was established. By the end of the first decade of the twentieth century Ahoskie had become the largest town in Hertford County and the marketing and railroad center of a large surrounding territory.<sup>12</sup>

The 1920s were the period of greatest construction in the town's history. A growing population, public improvements, maturing institutions and social organizations, and commercial expansion combined with the period's general prosperity and optimism, resulting in the construction of much of the physical environment of present-day Ahoskie.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>"Town of Ahoskie Land Use Plan," p. 1; Philip Letsinger and Stanley L. Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," National Register nomination, Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, 1985, p. 8.2.

<sup>11</sup>Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," p. 8.2.

<sup>12</sup>Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," pp. 8.2-4.

<sup>13</sup>Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," p. 8.5.



The Depression stopped the growth of Ahoskie for several years, but by the mid-1930s economic conditions showed signs of improving. The late 1930s, in fact, became the greatest period of home-building in the town's history. Along with the home-building came a marked expansion of retail, wholesale, and service establishments.<sup>14</sup>

The years during World War II were prosperous ones for Ahoskie because of the expanded markets for agricultural and other products. The end of the war resulted in another building boom in the late 1940s and early 1950s. In the 1970s and 1980s, as Ahoskie adjusted to ever-increasing automobile traffic, many retail and service businesses shifted from their locations downtown to East Memorial Drive (US 13).<sup>15</sup>

The growth of Ahoskie has had a significant effect on the surrounding rural areas, including the project study area, since the late nineteenth century. It became a center for manufacturing, marketing, transportation, education, and a variety of services, and as such became a magnet for people in the surrounding countryside. If they did not actually move to Ahoskie (and many of them did), the town became the focal point of many of their activities. Properties and districts of significance in the project area associated with the development of Ahoskie include the former Ahoskie School, the West Side Historic District, the Holloman Avenue Historic District, the Graham Holloman House, and the Thomas Eley House.

#### Role of Blacks in History of Area

Blacks have always played a significant role in Hertford County's history, and this holds true for the project area. From the turn of the nineteenth century until the Civil War, Hertford County had one of the largest populations of free persons of color--blacks and racial mixes of blacks, whites, and Indians--in North Carolina. In 1790 there were 216 free blacks in Hertford County. By 1830 the number had increased to over 900, more than any other county in the state except for Craven and Pasquotank counties. During the next thirty years Hertford County's free black population remained relatively constant. In 1840 and 1850 free blacks amounted to approximately 11 percent of the county's total population. (In 1840 there were 3,384 whites, 802 free blacks, and 3,298 slaves in Hertford, and in 1850 there were 3,553 whites, 873 free blacks, and 3,716 slaves.) That 11 percent was nearly four times the percentage of free blacks statewide. In 1860 there were 1,112 free blacks in Hertford County--one of only four counties in the state containing as many as 1,000 free

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<sup>14</sup>Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," pp. 8.6-7.

<sup>15</sup>Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," p. 8.7.

blacks.<sup>16</sup>

During the pre-Civil War years, many of Hertford's free blacks settled in sections of the county which remain today heavily populated by their descendants. One section of particular interest is the nine miles between Ahoskie and Winton, most of which lies in the project area. The focal point of this section is Pleasant Plains. There, in 1851 the Pleasant Plains Baptist Church, also known as the "Free Colored Baptist Church," was organized. It still thrives in a brick building erected in 1951. It was also at Pleasant Plains that one of the first schools for blacks in Hertford County was built immediately after the Civil War. Around 1920 a handsome Rosenwald-funded school for black children was erected at Pleasant Plains, and that building survives.<sup>17</sup>

The free blacks in the south central area of Hertford County prior to the Civil War and blacks who were freed by the Civil War were active in a variety of occupations. Most, like their white neighbors, were farm and forest workers. Over time, many owned their own farms. Blacks played a significant role in other occupations, as well--particularly in the buildings trades. In 1860 there were six carpenters, one plasterer, nine painters, and five brick masons listed among Hertford County's free black population. There were also blacksmiths, shoemakers, seamstresses, and other occupations represented. After the Civil War, Hertford also had black elected officials. One such man was William David Newsome, who served on the Hertford County Commission from 1868 to 1870 and in the state House of Representatives from 1870 to 1872. His last house survives in the project area.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>16</sup>"Free Negroes Important Element in Ante Bellum Hertford Life," The Herald (Ahoskie), 1959, Milestone Year Edition; Sixth Census, or Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United States as Corrected at the Department of State, in 1840 (Washington: Blair and Rives, 1841), pp. 220, 224; Statistical View of the United States: A Compendium of the Seventh Census (Washington: Beverly Tucker, Senate Printer, 1854), pp. 86, 284; Bill Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina, Vol. 2 (Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Co., 1958), p. 866.

<sup>17</sup>"Pleasant Plains Pioneer Church for Free Negroes; Begun in 1851," The Herald (Ahoskie), 1959, Milestone Year Edition; "Historical Sketch of Pleasant Plains Baptist Church," Souvenir Program: Pleasant Plains Baptist Church, 1951; Ahoskie Era, p. 253; Thomas B. Hanchett, "The Rosenwald Schools and Black Education in North Carolina," The North Carolina Historical Review, 65 (October 1988), p. 435.

<sup>18</sup>"Free Negroes;" Ahoskie Era, p. 243; Winborne, Colonial and State History, pp. 323, 332.

When Ahoskie began to grow from a railroad siding to a large community in the late nineteenth century, many black families lived in the area near the log-loading stop. They were in the community from the beginning, and many made substantial contributions to its development. William Hawley Jenkins, Billy Greene, Duncan Thomas, and Graham Holloman were all carpenters who helped build many of the early buildings in Ahoskie. Graham Holloman, in particular, was a well known local builder. In 1883 he purchased a plot of land described as the first plot bought in Ahoskie. It included the entire block between Church and Main, Maple and Catherine streets. Here he built his own house, a pretentious Queen Anne style dwelling with multiple gables and a corner turret. When the area in which it was located became the town's main white residential section, Holloman moved to an unusual bungalow which he built ca. 1920. It remains on Catherine Creek Road in the area which became the primary black section of town where he also constructed many of the early residences. Other blacks, such as politician and entrepreneur W. D. Newsome, owned stores and other businesses in downtown Ahoskie.<sup>19</sup>

Blacks were also very much a part of the development of education in Ahoskie. Shortly after the Civil War, the county gave one acre of land in the crossroads community for the erection of a one-room school for black children. This building was used for around thirty-five years, until the county assumed full responsibility for the operation of the Ahoskie Colored School and built a new structure. By the end of the century a two-story structure was built. In 1920 the building was moved to the present site of the Robert L. Vann School, and for several years it served as the County Training School. In 1933 the state assumed responsibility for the operation of schools, and the following year a brick structure with twelve classrooms, an auditorium, and a principal's office was erected. In 1937-38 it was joined by a second brick building which was used as the high school. Yet another brick building was added in 1953. The school continued as a black school until the advent of integration, and is still in use as the Robert L. Vann School.<sup>20</sup>

Adjacent to the school in Ahoskie, another black institution of significance was developed. In 1919 the Atlantic District Fair Association was organized, and the following year a twenty-four-acre tract was purchased. The annual fair was created "to

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<sup>19</sup>"W. H. Jenkins Was Pioneer Ahoskian" and "Ahoskie, Hertford's Brash Infant, Started With a Church," The Herald, (Ahoskie), 1959, Milestone Year Edition; Ahoskie Era, pp. 520-521; Letsinger and Little, "Ahoskie Downtown Historic District," p. 7.11.

<sup>20</sup>Ahoskie Era, pp. 279, 287-291.



promote the Agricultural, Industrial, Educational, and Moral development of the people," and it continues to be an important event in the life of the black community.<sup>21</sup>

More than half of the properties recorded in the project area which are considered eligible for the National Register are associated with local black history. These sites include the Albert Hall Farm, the Holloman Avenue Historic District, the Graham Holloman House, the Newsome-Hall House, and the Pleasant Plains School.

**Architectural Development of Project Area:**

Northeastern North Carolina was the earliest area of the state to be settled, and through at least the first half of the nineteenth century it was the home of much wealth. This was true of the older settled areas in Hertford and Bertie counties. In towns such as Murfreesboro and on individual plantations, wealth was frequently expressed through high style architecture. Houses, churches, and other buildings were finely designed and constructed in the latest architectural styles--Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, and other romantic revival styles.

The project area, however, does not appear to have followed this pattern. It was not among the oldest settled areas in Hertford and Bertie counties, and its later development was generally coupled with a more modest standard of living. This, too, was reflected in the architecture of the area, where vernacular expressions were the rule. When style was in evidence in these vernacular buildings, its character was diluted from the high style and tended to be found on interior detailing rather than on exterior form.

Among the earliest known buildings in the project area were small frame houses from the early nineteenth century exhibiting the traditional hall-and-parlor plan and simple Federal-style detailing in the molding of woodwork. Houses either had a plain side-gable roof with gable-end chimneys or were of the ubiquitous coastal cottage form of eastern North Carolina with its gable roof of double pitch and front engaged porch balanced by rear shed rooms. Typical of traditional house types, these forms lasted for years, at least into the early twentieth century. Surviving houses in the project area which demonstrate these types are the older house on the Newsome Family Farm and the Anthony Godwin House.

Elsewhere in the county there were well-articulated Greek Revival houses during the mid-nineteenth century, but those in the project area appear to have been more conservative--a typical characteristic of the vernacular. The Lawrence Askew House is an

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<sup>21</sup>Clarence Shaw Newsome, "History of the Atlantic District Fair Association," Fair program, 1991.



example. While it possesses handsome Greek Revival mantels, cornerblock molded door and window surrounds, two-panel doors, simple wainscoting, and other details reflective of the style, its overall form remains a typical I-house (two-story, center hall, single room deep, front porch, rear shed rooms) which could easily have been found during other periods of the nineteenth century. The house was, during its better days, stately and well-built and detailed, but not at all adventurous or extravagant in expression.

Later in the nineteenth century other current architectural styles were referenced in the project area, but again with vernacular reserve. The Thomas Eley House is a good example of the vernacular Italianate houses built in North Carolina during the 1880s, though it is the only one surviving in the project area. Its I-house form with one-story rear ell remains traditional, but stylistic flashes are seen in the bracketed gable eaves, the paneled corner pilasters, the molded window surrounds, and the late Classical interior mantels with heavy molding and sawnwork trim.

The late nineteenth-early twentieth century Queen Anne style with its irregular plan and massing and rich variety in surface texture and detail was generally a more urban than rural form, and some simple examples appeared in Ahoskie's newly-built houses of prosperity. Elsewhere in the project area, the Newsome-Hall House provides a surprising rural example. Its center front projecting bay with bay window and wrap-around porch with corner gazebo-like pavilions depart from the more traditional farmhouse form still reflected in the rear half of the house. Such rural exuberance suggests that the owner was someone not only of means but also of a desire to keep up with the times. And so W. D. Newsome appears to have been, for he was not only a farmer, but also a store owner both in Ahoskie and in the country, a former teacher, and a Reconstruction politician. The William B. Weaver House also reflects a simple Queen Anne-style influence with its right front projecting bay which breaks away from the traditional rectangle, its decorative wood-shingled gable, and its wrap-around porch with turned posts.

Nevertheless, during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the prevalent vernacular farmhouse form in the project area was simple and traditional and of frame construction. Houses were both one and two stories, and the I-house form was typical. Side gable or "triple-A" gable roofs were the rule, as were gable-end brick chimneys and one-story front porches. One-story rear ells were typical as well, and these were either attached or detached and joined by a breezeway to the front of the house. Among the many examples in the project area of this traditional form are the James Lawrence Earley House, the Albert Hall House, the William G. Livermon House, the Edgar Askew House, the Dawson Doughtie House, the newer Newsome Family House, the William Elisha Sessoms House, the Simmons House, the Blount

Willoughby House, and the Jason E. Willoughby House.

As the twentieth century progressed, other house forms and styles took hold in the project area as elsewhere. Although the early years of the new century saw a continuance of the transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival houses in Ahoskie, the Craftsman style and bungalow form soon took their place. The 1910s and 1920s were prosperous years in Ahoskie, and with the resulting building boom came hundreds of bungalows and larger houses in the Craftsman style. They ranged from the very simple to the sophisticated and worldly, but asymmetry of form, informality, large porches with tapered posts, and an emphasis on "natural" materials were typical. These houses were not confined to Ahoskie, however, for their presence spread across the countryside and particularly along major roads like US 13. Two recorded examples in the project area are the Graham Holloman House and the John Whidby Newsome House.

After World War II, new surges in building brought the ubiquitous brick ranch house. Wherever new houses were being built, one-story, spread-out, generally brick-veneer ranches could be found. Hundreds were built (and are still being built) in the project area, both in and out of town.

Of course, many buildings were erected in the project area which were not houses, although houses formed the bulk of the building stock. Among other building types are commercial buildings, schools, churches, and farm outbuildings. These were not unlike others built in eastern North Carolina during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Early stores in Ahoskie were frame, but after several fires, brick became the rule. They tended to be standard commercial structures of one or two stories with relatively simple brickwork detailing around doors and windows and at the cornice. In the rural area surrounding Ahoskie, stores were generally one-story frame structures, often with a gabled or false front with porch and side and/or rear sheds.

The earliest schools were small log structures, but these were replaced with frame buildings when possible. In turn, the frame buildings of the larger schools, at least in Ahoskie, were replaced with brick structures. Both the early schools in Ahoskie and those in the surrounding countryside were one, two, or three-room frame buildings. Depending on the size, some had both front and side gables, or a combination of gabled and hipped roofs, and all had multiple large windows along several of the walls. One typical example is Brantley's Grove School which was later converted to a dwelling, while Pleasant Plains School is a particularly handsome and well-preserved example. In Ahoskie, the Robert L. Vann School, originally a school for blacks, is representative of substantial, though relatively plain one-story brick school construction of the 1930s and 1950s. Across town,



the former Ahoskie School, originally for white children, remains a monument both to some of the finer, architect-designed school complexes built in the 1920s in North Carolina and to the prosperous 1920s period in Ahoskie. Composed of several interconnected two-story buildings, it features a classical symmetry of design and brickwork with contrasting stone trim.

Churches followed much the same pattern as schools. That is, the earliest churches were simple log or frame structures. These were later replaced by larger frame churches, which were, themselves, often later brick-veneered or replaced with a brick building. The early churches in the area exhibited few stylistic enhancements, while those built subsequent to the mid-nineteenth century tended to reflect either Classic or Gothic influences. Two good examples are Brantley's Grove Baptist and Pleasant Plains Baptist. In 1877 Brantley's Grove Church was organized and a frame church was erected. In 1926 it was replaced with a handsome brick church with wood-shingled gables. That building remains in use, but in recent years it has been remodeled with new windows, the addition of a steeple, and the addition of a brick veneered wing across the rear. Pleasant Plains Church was organized in 1851, and a frame church was built. In 1905 it was remodeled, presumably with the addition of a vestibule and belfry. In 1950 a new and much larger brick church with Gothic-influenced towers, pointed-arched windows, stained glass rose window, and buttresses was erected across the road from the old church. Many congregations followed this pattern of building a series of larger and more up-to-date churches, so that few remain in the project area which are over fifty years old.

Veracular outbuildings in the rural portion of the project area are traditional in form, plain in design, used for as long as possible, and then rebuilt for continued use or allowed to deteriorate. Generally these buildings are not significant individually, but they are important when viewed as part of a group of support buildings associated with a farm. These simple utilitarian structures are mostly of frame construction but occasionally of log or brick construction. They range from very small to large, exhibit either gabled or shed roofs, and frequently have one or more sheds attached to the core of the building. Outbuildings on area farms--and most farms retain only some of these buildings--include barns (feed barns, stables, tobacco barns), a smokehouse, a wash house or laundry, a well house or shed, equipment sheds, a corn crib, a granary, a tobacco pack house, a cotton house, a potato house, a dairy, a workshop, multiple sheds, occasionally an office, and the ubiquitous privy. The outbuildings on a particular farm reflect in a tangible way the agricultural activities which are/were pursued on that farm.

## VI. METHODOLOGY

### **Primary and Secondary Sources Reviewed:**

Documentary research was conducted at the Survey and Planning Branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, at the State Library, and at the State Archives in Raleigh, at the Hertford County Courthouse in Winton, at the Hertford County Library branches in Winton and Ahoskie, and at the Forsyth County Library. Documentary resources can be categorized into four groups: 1) survey and National Register files; 2) histories of Hertford and Bertie counties and of Ahoskie; 3) deeds, wills, and census records, and 4) miscellaneous booklets, articles, maps, and other documentary sources on the area in general and on specific properties. Particularly useful in the study of this project area were The Ahoskie Era of Hertford County and the National Register nomination for the Ahoskie Downtown Historic District. For a list of the sources used in the **Historical and Architectural Background** section of the report, refer to the **Bibliography** on p. 152.

### **Previous Architectural and Historic Structures Surveyed:**

No comprehensive historic and architectural survey has been conducted for either Hertford County or Bertie County. In both counties, however, there has been some survey effort. Nearly two hundred properties have been recorded in some fashion in Hertford County outside Ahoskie. Twenty-three of these were in the project area. No properties had been recorded previously in the Bertie County section of the project area. A survey was conducted of the Town of Ahoskie and its immediate vicinity in 1984, during which 254 sites were recorded. That survey culminated in the nomination and listing of the only National Register property in the project area--the Ahoskie Downtown Historic District. No properties in the project study area have been placed on North Carolina's National Register Study List, nor have any properties been recorded by the Historic American Building Survey, the Historic American Engineering Record, or other surveys of this nature. No properties in the project area have received local historic property designation.

With the absence of published architectural surveys that encompass the project area, other publications dealing with regional architecture helped to provide a better understanding of the historic architecture one could expect to find in the project area. Of particular value were Thomas R. Butchko's Forgotten Gates: The Historical Architecture of a Rural North Carolina County, and Carolina Dwelling, a collection of essays on the North Carolina vernacular landscape edited by Doug Swaim.

### **Local Authorities and Historical Groups Contacted:**

The following local resource people were consulted--some more than once--during the course of the survey. They provided information concerning both local history in general and



individual property history in particular.

Scott Power - staff, Eastern Office, Division of Archives and History

Rachel N. Pittman - member, Hertford County Historic Properties Commission

Arthur Lee Wiggins - head, Ahoskie Chamber of Commerce

Clarence Shaw Newsome - retired principal of Robert L. Vann School; officer, Atlantic District Fair Association; genealogist and historian of local black history

McCoy Sumner - retired; informant on several properties (Askew, Earley, Livermon, Doughtie) near the junction of NC 561 and SR 1419

Mary G. Lossen - owner of Doughtie-Godwin Farm and other property

In addition, numerous property owners shared information not only about their own properties but about others in the project area.

#### **Description of Survey Techniques and Intensity:**

The survey of historic and architectural resources in the project area included background research, field activities, analysis, and report preparation.

#### Background Research

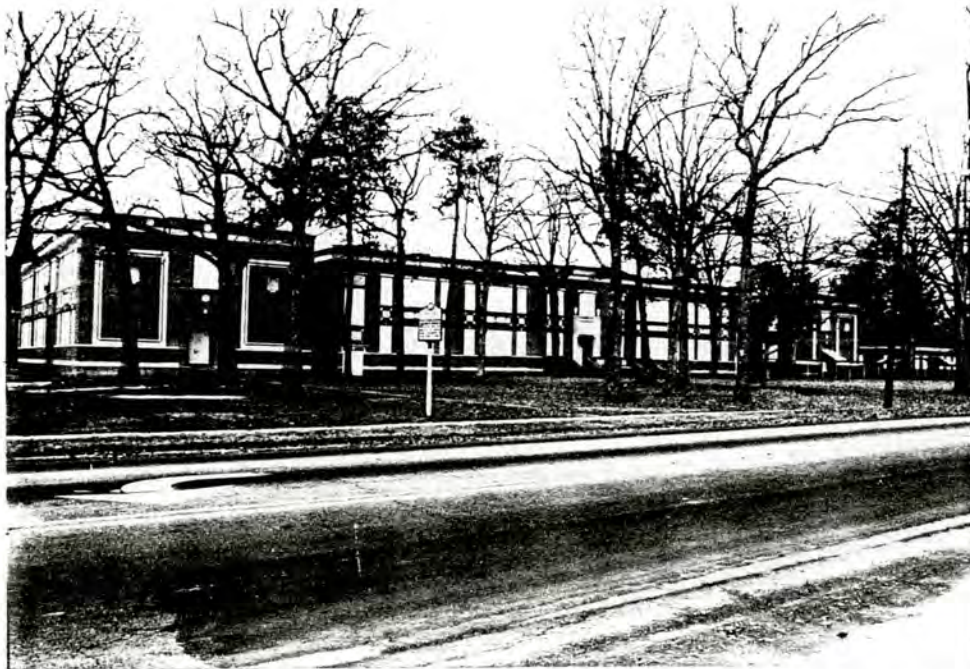
Background research began with a review of The Ahoskie Era of Hertford County, published architectural surveys for counties in northeastern North Carolina, and the National Register nomination for the Ahoskie Downtown Historic District. Research continued with the files at the Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, in order to identify and review materials on all properties previously recorded in the project area. The review of a variety of documentary resources and the establishment of contact with people knowledgeable in the history and architecture of the project area continued after the completion of field activities.

#### Field Activities

First, a reconnaissance-level survey was conducted of the project area to gain an understanding of its physical environment and of the nature of the historic and architectural resources found therein. All previously recorded properties were rechecked to determine their current character and condition.

As a part of developing the area of potential effect (APE), a preliminary assessment was made of historic resources in the Town of Ahoskie and particularly along the present US 13 corridor. One property and one district along the corridor were identified as being eligible for the National Register. The former Ahoskie School at the northwest corner of Academy and Main streets exemplifies the prosperity and pride of Ahoskie during the boom years of the 1920s and the town's desire to provide the best educational facilities for its youth. It is a well-preserved complex of handsome brick buildings designed by Wilmington

architect Leslie Boney and built in 1928. Also along the corridor of US 13 is an area herein called the West Side Historic District. Bounded roughly by Academy, Church, Mitchell, and Richard streets, it is composed of a well-preserved collection of houses and a few churches built from ca. 1900 to 1930 during Ahoskie's heyday. The district constitutes the upper-end residential development of Ahoskie during this period which occurred on the west side of the railroad tracks and commercial center of town.



9. (former) Ahoskie School, NW cor Academy & Main





10. West Side Historic District, W side McGlohon St.  
at jct w/First St.



11. West Side Historic District, S side Main St. bet  
West St. & Carolina Ave.



12. West Side Historic District, N side First St.  
bet Carolina Ave. & Academy St.

During the course of the project area survey, the APE was refined. One hundred percent of the APE was surveyed, and 231 properties identified as being at least fifty years old were photographed, mapped, and keyed to an inventory list with property locations.

Of the 231 properties included in the photo inventory, twenty-nine appeared to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. (Later, two of these were combined to form the Holloman Avenue Historic District.) These properties were intensively recorded with North Carolina Historic Structures Data Sheets, additional photography, site plans, and the determination of boundaries for those considered eligible for the National Register. Interiors were inspected whenever possible. Deeds, wills, census records and other primary documents were researched as necessary.

#### Analysis

Following the background research and field activities, the significance of each of the twenty-eight recorded properties was evaluated using the National Register criteria and the historic contexts for the project area. Eight were identified as eligible for the National Register, while twenty were identified as not eligible.



## VII. PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

### Total Properties Recorded:

#### Eligible for National Register

1. Thomas Eley House, pp. 38-42 HF 52
2. Albert Hall Farm, pp. 43-48
3. Holloman Avenue Historic District, pp. 49-55
4. Graham Holloman House, pp. 56-60
5. William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings, pp. 61-66
6. Newsome-Hall House, pp. 67-72
7. Pleasant Plains School, pp. 73-77 - out to CWB 1/75
8. William B. Weaver Farm, pp. 78-83

#### Not Eligible for National Register

9. Edgar Askew Farm, pp. 84-87
10. Lawrence Askew House, pp. 88-91
11. Brantley's Grove Baptist Church, pp. 92-94
12. Brantley's Grove School, pp. 95-97
13. Dawson Doughtie Farm, pp. 98-100
14. Doughtie-Godwin Farm, pp. 101-104
15. James Lawrence Early House and Outbldgs., pp. 105-107
16. Anthony Godwin House, pp. 110-112
17. House, pp. 113-115
18. House, pp. 116-118
19. House, pp. 119-121
20. House, pp. 122-124
21. House, pp. 125-127
22. House, pp. 128-131
23. Newsome Family Farm, pp. 132-135
24. John Whidby Newsome House, pp. 136-138 HF48
25. William Elisha Sessoms Farm, pp. 139-141
26. Simmons Farm, pp. 142-144
27. Blount Willoughby House, pp. 145-147
28. Jason E. Willoughby House, pp. 148-150

## Property Descriptions and Evaluations: Eligible Properties

### 1. Thomas Eley House

E side US 13, 0.4 mi N of jct w/SR 1418

The Thomas Eley House is a two-story frame Italianate-style I-house built ca. 1885. Typically, it has weatherboard siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof, gable-end brick chimneys, a three-bay facade, a center-hall plan, and a one-story rear ell with an interior chimney. The house is of particular interest because of its handsome Italianate-style detailing on both exterior and interior. Exterior decorative features of note include a bracketed cornice across the facade, paneled and bracketed corner pilasters, six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows with molded cornerblock surrounds and lintels, and a central entrance with sidelights and transom. Alterations include the front porch with its bungalow posts and south side porte-cochere, the enclosure of the ell porch, and the one-story addition built to the south half of the rear of the house. Significant interior features include an open-string stair of late Victorian design with sawnwork stair brackets and heavy turned newel post which rises from the rear of the hall, four-panel doors with molded surrounds, wainscots with vertical beaded boards and panels beneath the windows, and Italianate mantels--elaborate in the front parlors with heavy layered moldings and sawnwork detailing, and more simple elsewhere. The Eley House is bordered on the front and north side by shrubbery, and large trees are scattered throughout the yard. In a field south of the house stands a two-story frame stable with horse stalls and loft. North and east of the house are fields and east of the fields are woods. The house is currently part of a twenty-four-acre tract, half of which is composed of woods on the east side of the railroad tracks.

The house was constructed ca. 1885 for Thomas Eley (ca. 1848-ca. 1918) and his wife, Betty (Sessoms) Eley. The Eleys moved to this house from an older house across the road which no longer stands. Thomas Eley was a farmer and horse trader who took advantage of his position on the Powellville-Ahoskie Road. After Betty Eley's death ca. 1900, Thomas built a one-room house beside the big house where he then chose to live. (This house no longer survives.) For about ten years to fifteen years Thomas Eley rented his big house. Then his daughter, Isma, and her husband, James A. Hill, occupied the house. Hill continued the family interest in horses, maintaining a large stable and driving jitneys and buggies for salesmen who came to Ahoskie by train and sold their wares in the surrounding vicinity. The house is currently owned and occupied by Thomas Eley's grandson, J. Edmund Hill.

Despite its replacement porch and other minor exterior and interior changes, the Thomas Eley House retains a collection of strong exterior and interior details. It remains a good example

of the late nineteenth century Italianate style, typical of its period but rare for this area. As such it is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, along with that part of the overall property which forms the immediate surrounding environment for the house and stable, constituting approximately 4.4 acres, as indicated on the accompanying tax map.



13. (A) Thomas Eley House, overall view to SE





14. (B) Thomas Eley House, cornice, view to E



15. (C) Thomas Eley House, parlor mantel, view to N






1" = 200' Scale  
See Map 6902.03

22

1" = 100'  
See Map  
5992.04

B-1. Thomas Eley House

Scale: 1" = 400'

Eligible Boundary: 

From: Hertford County Property  
Map No. 6902.00

N  
IN



## 2. Albert Hall Farm

N side SR 1408, 0.35 mi E of jct w/SR 1409

The Albert Hall Farm consists of an early-twentieth-century farmhouse, a group of farm outbuildings, a family cemetery, and 132 acres of cultivated fields and woodlands. The house is a well-preserved, two-story frame, vernacular I-house with a brick-pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a metal-shingled triple-A gable roof, a gable-end brick chimney on the west side, an interior-end chimney on the east side, and two-over-two sash windows. At the center of the three-bay facade, the front entrance boasts an oval-glass door and sidelights. The interior follows a center-hall plan and features a late Victorian closed-string stair and a beaded-board wainscot and ceiling. At the rear of the house, a one-story kitchen/dining ell is attached to the center of the house by a breezeway. A wrap-around porch with turned posts and sawnwork brackets carries across the facade, east side, and rear of the house and continues along the east side of the ell. A matching porch picks up on the west side of the ell and continues along the west rear of the house. The porches create a strong unity of design between the house and ell. North of the house stands a two-story, weatherboarded frame barn with side sheds which appears to date from the period of the house. Just west of the barn is a gable-roofed metal shed. Behind the barn and across the lane east of the house and barn are three open-fronted, metal-sheathed sheds used primarily for the storage of farm equipment. Across the field northwest of the house is another shed of this type as well as a frame barn. The house and outbuildings are separated from SR 1408 by a band of woods, most of which are not part of this property. Cultivated fields surround the two sides and rear of the buildings and continue northward to the north end of the farm. In the center of a field northwest of the house is the family cemetery, with eight marked graves. Woods line the edge of the cultivated fields on the south and west sides, while a great expanse of woods completes the property on the east side.

Albert Hall (1872-1957) was a prosperous black farmer in the Pleasant Plains area whose assets, at the time of his death, included nearly 150 acres on four tracts in addition to his homeplace of 132 acres, along with thousands of dollars in cash. He and his wife, Missouri B., had at least nine children, according to the 1910 census. In 1917 Albert Hall purchased this tract of 132 acres, known as the old Asa Askew tract, from Annie W. Jones. The house may have been built prior to that time, but it, along with the 132 acres, became the Hall homeplace and has remained for more than seventy-five years in Hall family ownership. During the 1920s and 1930s, according to the Farm Census of North Carolina, less than half of Hall's acreage was cultivated, while the rest was in woods. Typical of area farmers during this period, Hall grew primarily peanuts, corn, and cotton, along with some soybeans, potatoes and garden vegetables.



When Albert Hall died in 1957, his will designated that the house, outbuildings, and eighty-two acres of the homeplace were to become the property of his son, Roosevelt, while the other fifty acres of the homestead were to become the property of another son, Albert J. The entire 132 acre-homestead remains in Hall family ownership and is farmed by Roosevelt Hall, Jr. in a variety of crops--cotton, peanuts, tobacco, and soybeans--which are mostly the same as those grown initially by Albert Hall. As in earlier years, nearly half of all the acreage remains woodlands. Although the house is no longer occupied, it remains well maintained.

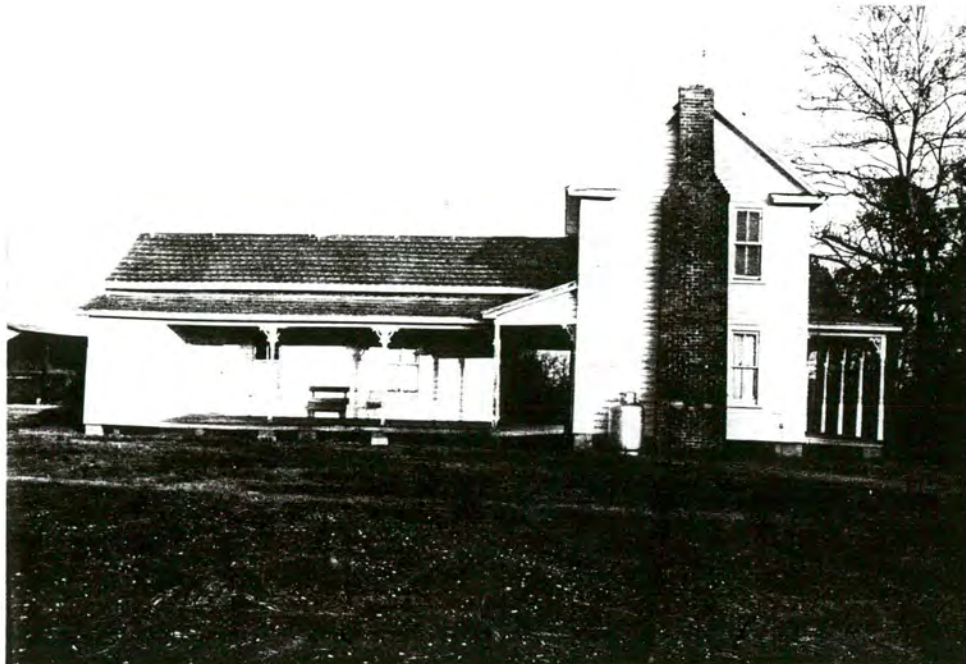
*Significance*  
7

The Albert Hall Farm is associated with the prominent role of blacks in the agricultural history of this area of Hertford County, and as such, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the area of African American ethnic heritage. It also meets Criterion A because it survives as an excellent representative of early twentieth-century farms from this area of Hertford County where agriculture played a significant role in the economic history. A remarkably complete picture of a farmstead of the period between the two world wars is preserved in the farmhouse, outbuildings, family cemetery, field patterns, and cultivated crops and woodlands. The Albert Hall Farm is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. It is architecturally significant for its well-preserved early twentieth-century vernacular farmhouse with semi-detached kitchen/dining wing and well-articulated wrap-around porch which unifies the whole. The frame barn is another typical agricultural building of the period. The arrangement of house and outbuildings in relationship with the landscape physically represents a typical area farmstead of the period.





16. (A) Albert Hall Farm, overall view to N



17. (B) Albert Hall Farm, W elevation, view to E



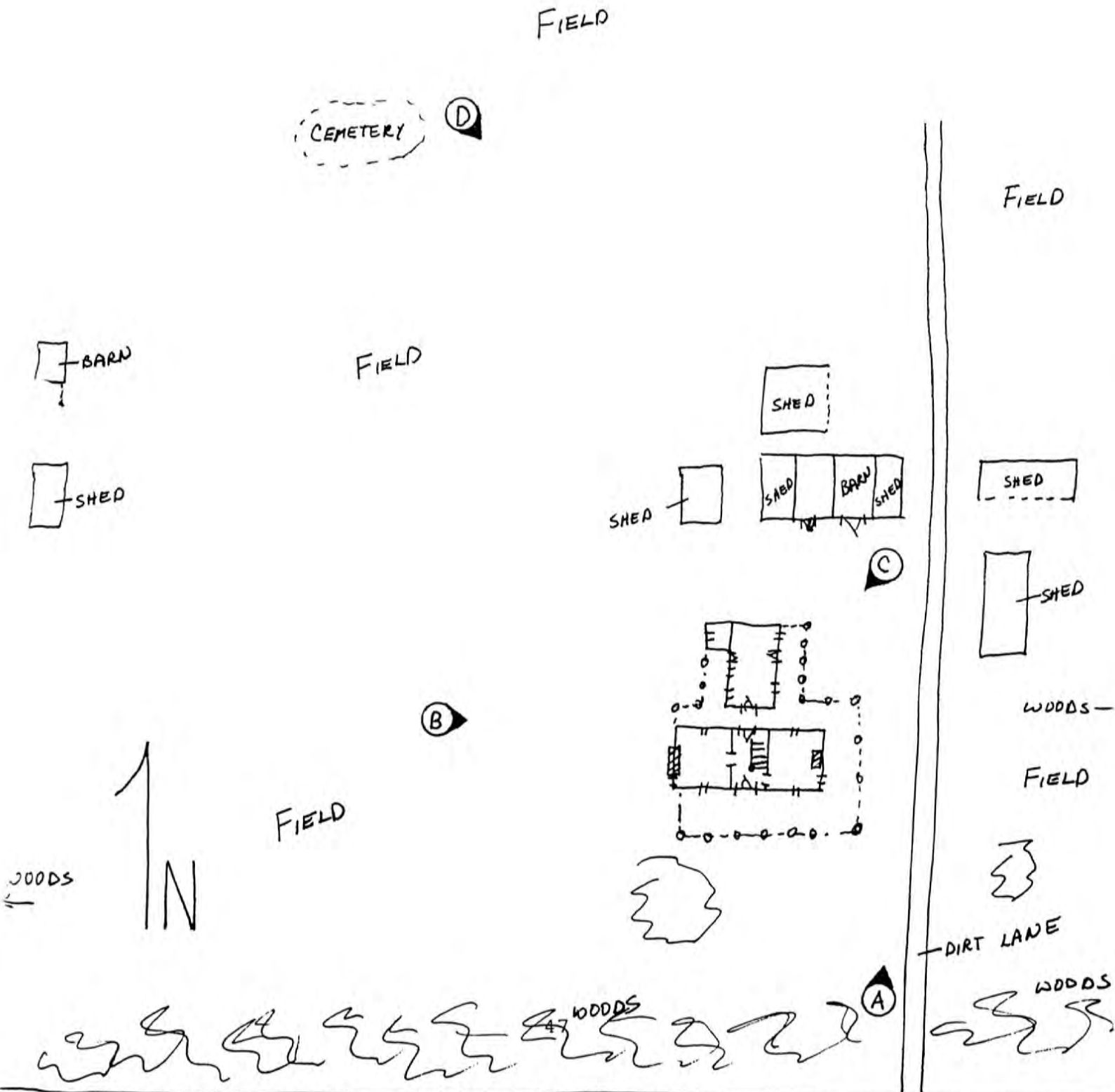
18. (C) Albert Hall Farm, rear ell, view to SW



19. (D) Albert Hall Farm, context view with fields,  
to SE



S-2. Albert Hall Farm



47.00A.  
9804

25.00A.  
(27.34A.)  
4638


50.00A.  
4647

PB 3 PG 226

32.90A.  
5422

B-2. Albert Hall Farm

Scale: 1" = 400'

Eligible Boundary: 

From: Hertford County Property

Maps No. 5994.00

5995.00

6904.00

6905.00

N



### 3. Holloman Avenue Historic District

NE side Holloman Ave. bet Porter and Maple sts.

The Holloman Avenue Historic District is located in the largely black northeast section of Ahoskie and consists of approximately thirty-three acres along the northeast side of Holloman Avenue just northwest of Catherine Creek Road. It is bordered on the west, south, and east primarily by residential structures, while a combination of agricultural fields and woodlands border the district on the north. The district includes two tracts of land--one being the site of the Robert L. Vann School, and the other being the site of the Atlantic District Fairground. The histories of the two properties are informally associated, and both are significant in local black history.

The Robert L. Vann School consists of three primary one-story brick buildings in a row, built in 1934-1935, 1938, and 1953. A circular drive fronts the school, and a large playground stretches northeast from the rear of the buildings. Large trees are scattered around the front campus, and more are located at the far rear of the property. Although the oldest building on campus dates from 1934-1935, the history of the school and this campus goes back much further in time. Three years after the Civil War, the county gave one acre of land for a school house for black children in this area of Hertford County. Located at present-day Catherine Creek Road and Hayes Avenue, this one-room school remained for about thirty-five years on the same site. Around the turn of the century, the school was discarded and a larger frame structure was built. In 1920 the two-story frame school with classrooms on the lower level and classrooms and an auditorium on the upper level was moved to the present campus location. The old site was sold to the New Ahoskie Baptist Church. After being moved, the school was designated as the Hertford County Training School, and C. S. Yeates was principal. In 1926 state support for the training school was given to Waters Institute in Winton, and the school in Ahoskie became known as the Ahoskie Graded School. Although others worked to prepare the way, all three of the present main buildings were erected while H. D. Cooper was principal between 1934 and 1972. In 1934 construction on the one-story, H-shaped, brick building with gables on the front and sides and with a multitude of nine-over-nine sash windows was begun. This building, which consisted of a central auditorium flanked by classroom wings, was occupied in 1935. It was several years, however, before a central heating system and indoor toilets were installed. Soon after the new brick building was occupied, the old two-story frame school was demolished. In 1938 a second one-story brick classroom building--this one with a stepped gable front and triple windows--was erected adjacent to the 1934-1935 building. This building served as the high school, and the school was then referred to as the Ahoskie Elementary and High School for the Colored Race. In 1941 the name was again changed to Robert L. Vann Elementary and High



School, and after 1970 it became the Robert L. Vann Elementary School. Robert Lee Vann was a Hertford County native who was a lawyer and publisher of the Pittsburgh Courier, the largest black newspaper in the United States in the late 1930s. In 1946-1947, a frame gym was built, but it was demolished in 1978. In 1947-1948 a brick agricultural building was constructed. In 1953 a six-classroom brick building was built adjacent to the 1938 building. In 1959 additional rooms and a cafeteria were added to this building. During this time, all of the rural black elementary schools in the Ahoskie School District were consolidated at Robert L. Vann School. With total integration in 1970, the school became an elementary school, which it remains.

By the early twentieth century, agricultural fairs had become important annual events in rural life. Not only did they provide exposure to the latest knowledge and successes in agricultural production, homemaking, and industry, but they also offered opportunities for socializing. Winton had such a fair, and it was organized by area whites. Blacks could attend this fair as spectators, but they were not allowed to participate in the exhibits. In response to this discrimination, a number of black residents from both Hertford and the adjacent counties met in October, 1919, to consider the organization of a fair for blacks. Thus the Atlantic District Fair Association was organized, with headquarters at Ahoskie. When the association was incorporated in 1920, the by-laws stipulated that "The object of the Association shall be to promote the Agricultural, Industrial, Educational, and Moral development of the people." William Hawley Jenkins negotiated the purchase of twenty-four acres adjacent to the new site of the Ahoskie Colored School from Dr. Jesse Mitchell. Jenkins was chairman of the black school board at the time when the school was moved to its present site, and he owned a farm just west of the fairground site. Other educators, including W. D. Brown and C. S. Yeates were associated with the development of the fair. The first fair was held in 1920. A half-mile oval track was established for horse racing, and stands and booths were around the perimeter. In the early years, many stockholder families owned wooden concession stands which they operated at a minimal fee payable to the association. The stands were located in a line on the southwest side of the midway, close to the fence. There was also a combination frame grandstand and two-story exhibit building, a judges' stand across the race track in front of the grandstand, stalls for livestock and a large number of stables for race horses located in the far northwest corner of the fairgrounds. In 1947 a 500-seat masonry grandstand and two-story exhibit building was constructed to replace the frame structure which had been destroyed by fire. Later, cement blocks were used to construct a judges' stand, a multi-unit concession stand and thirty race horse stables which replaced the respective frame structures which had preceded them. Through the years the fairgrounds have been made available as a race horse training facility and for a variety of other activities. The Atlantic District Fair has remained an important annual event for



blacks in Hertford and the surrounding counties. The educational exhibits, midway attractions, and horse racing programs have drawn thousands to the annual programs. The Atlantic District Fairground is still owned and operated by black citizens of the area. The frame ticket office at the entrance to the fairground and the livestock stalls near the northern end of the fairground appear to predate 1940. The other structures are later, including the concrete block concession stand, the grandstand and exhibit building, the judges' stand, the stage, the poultry pen, the rest rooms, the current stables, and the utility building. Although these buildings are less than fifty years old, the fairground itself, the race track, and the placement of the structures remain intact, still conveying the layout of the fairground from its earliest days.

The Holloman Avenue Historic District is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A because it possesses both local historical significance and a high degree of integrity in its associations with the black ethnic heritage of this section of Hertford County, particularly in the areas of education, recreation, and social history. The buildings of the Robert L. Vann School represent the culmination of long-time efforts by the black community--dating to the post Civil War years--to improve the educational opportunities for its children. The H-shaped 1934-1935 brick building reflects the improved physical plant enabled by the state's assumption of responsibility for the operation of schools in 1933. The 1938 and 1953 school buildings reflect the continuation of state support and the persistent local effort to improve the school facilities for blacks. The Atlantic District Fairground exemplifies another effort by local blacks--beginning in 1919--to improve their education in the areas of agriculture and industry. The fair also provided opportunities for recreation and social interaction. Indeed, the purpose of the annual fair, as stipulated by the association's by-laws, was "to promote the Agricultural, Industrial, Educational, and Moral development of the people." Together the fairground and the school have played an important role in the education and social development of the local black community.



20. (A) Holloman Avenue Historic District, Robert L. Vann School, overall view to N





21. (B) Holloman Avenue Historic District, Robert L. Vann School, 1934-1935 building, view to NE



22. (C) Holloman Avenue Historic District, Robert L. Vann School, auditorium, view to NW



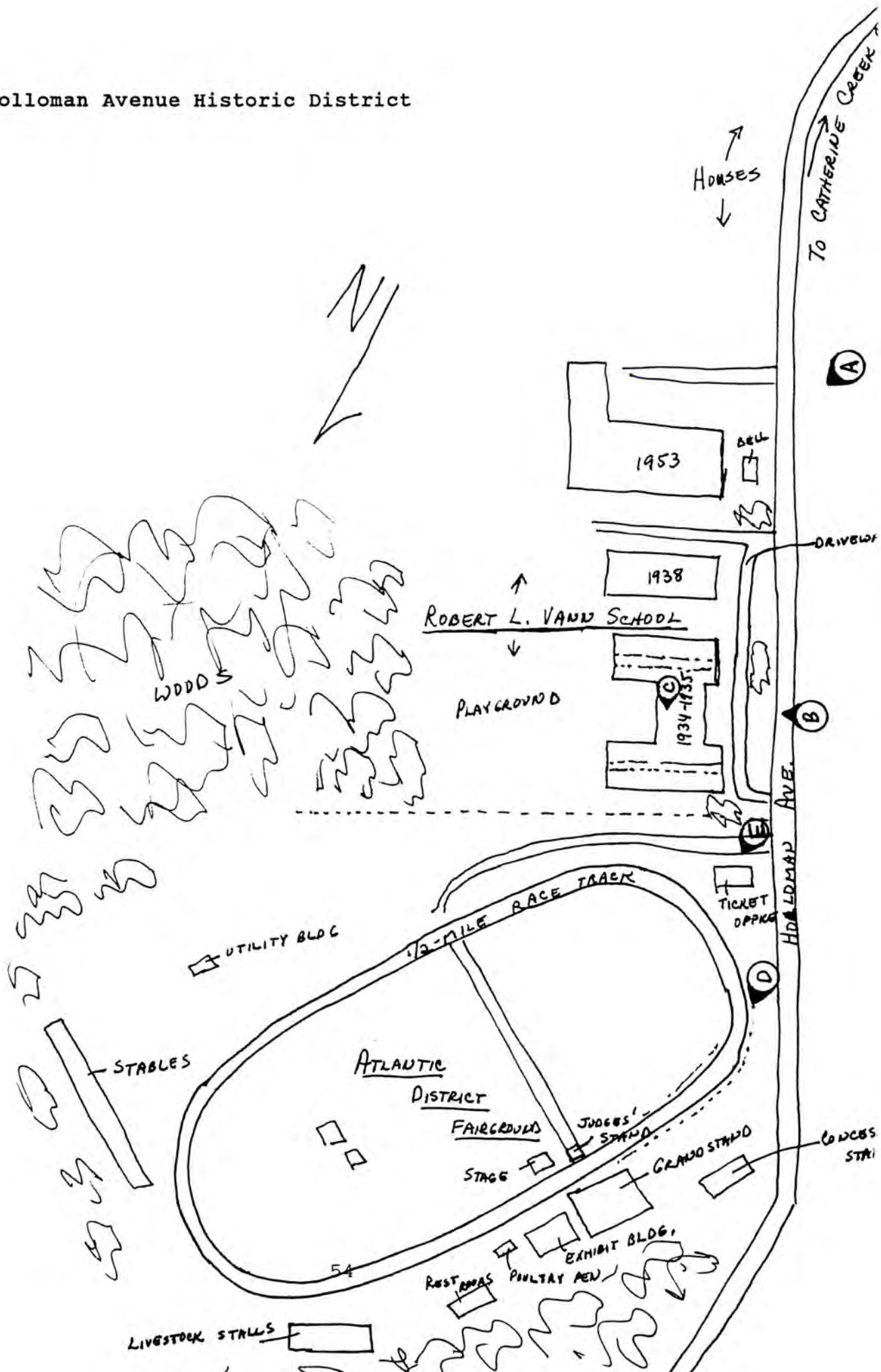
23. (D) Holloman Avenue Historic District, Atlantic District Fairground, overall view to N



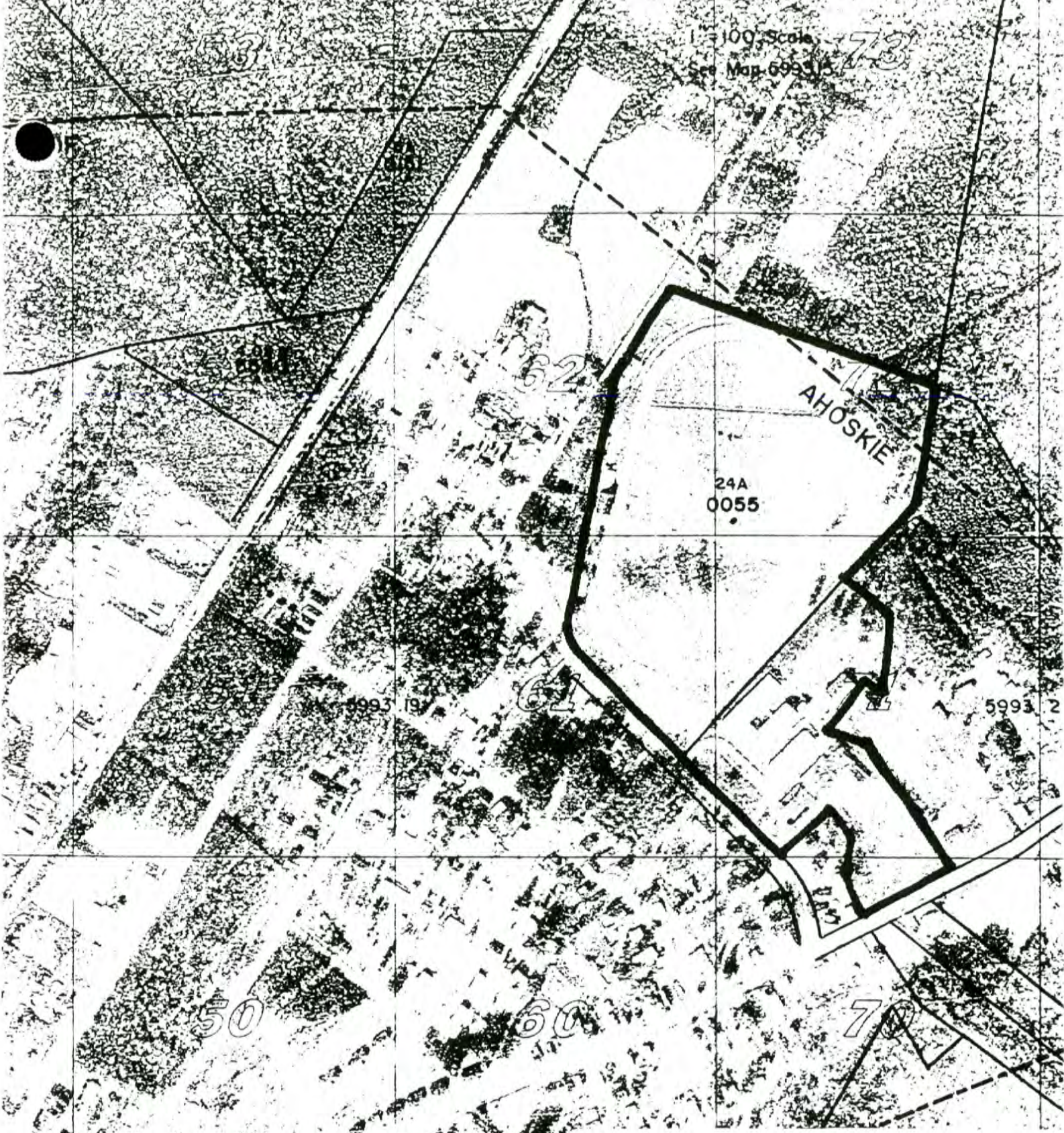
24. (E) Holloman Avenue Historic District, Atlantic District Fairground, ticket office, view to NW



S-3. Holloman Avenue Historic District







B-3. Holloman Avenue Historic District

Scale: 1" = 400'

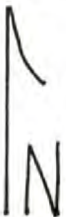
Eligible Boundary:

From: Hertford County Property

Maps No. 5993.00

5993.19

5993.20





#### 4. Graham Holloman House

611 N. Catherine Creek Road

The Graham Holloman House is a ca. 1919 one-story bungalow. The house has a brick pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a low hipped roof with exposed rafter ends, and dormers--a major hipped dormer with recessed porch on the front, a smaller hipped dormer on each side, and a shed dormer on the rear. An unusual design feature is that the two interior chimneys project upward through the side dormers, thereby greatly reducing the usability of the dormers. Another unusual feature is the frieze band of wood shingles with a dentiled design encircling all but the rear of the house beneath the eaves. The three-bay facade features an engaged porch with paired posts set on stuccoed plinths. The porch shelters the central entrance with its sidelights and transom and the flanking three-part windows. The upper level porch reflects this design in a simpler way with a central door and flanking windows. A shallow bay window projects from the northeast side of the house, and a shed room is attached to the rear. A documentary photograph taken soon after the house was built shows that the house has experienced few alterations. Missing from the present property are the porch balustrade, several fences, and the garage. Several trees surround the Holloman House, which occupies a town lot of less than one acre.

Graham Holloman was a black carpenter and builder in Ahoskie who was one of the early occupants of the town in the years prior to its incorporation and continuing on through its boom years. Holloman was born ca. 1850 and lived more than ninety years. He was educated at Hampton Institute, and in 1883 he married Rachel Jenkins of another prominent black family in the area. Holloman built many of the early structures in Ahoskie. Little is known of his own first residence, which was later replaced with another dwelling. Holloman's second house was located on the corner of Church and Maple streets, in what became the town's main white residential section. For a time the Hollomans were the only black family living on Church Street. The house was a two-story frame dwelling in the Queen Anne style, complete with multiple gables, a corner tower, and numerous ornamental devices. Although the house was never fully completed and was later demolished, it was considered the town's most pretentious home project during the early years of Ahoskie. Around 1919 the Hollomans purchased land on Catherine Creek Road in the black section of town, and Holloman built his more modest, yet still handsomely designed bungalow which exhibits the attention to detail for which he was known. After the Hollomans' deaths, the house was rented for some years, but is now vacant.

The Graham Holloman House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the African American ethnic heritage of the Ahoskie area of Hertford County. It is also eligible under Criterion B because of its specific

association with Graham Holloman, an early and long-time resident of Ahuskie who was a prominent local carpenter and builder. According to local history, he was responsible for the erection of many of the town's early structures. Holloman built several houses for himself, including an elaborate Queen Anne-style dwelling in what became Ahuskie's main residential section for whites. The house on Catherine Creek Road is the only one of Holloman's own homes known to survive, and was built ca. 1919 when the Hollomans moved from the white to the black section of town, where they remained until their deaths. Although it is more modest than some of the houses he built, it nevertheless represents well the quality and attention to detail for which he was known.



25. (A) Graham Holloman House, overall view to N

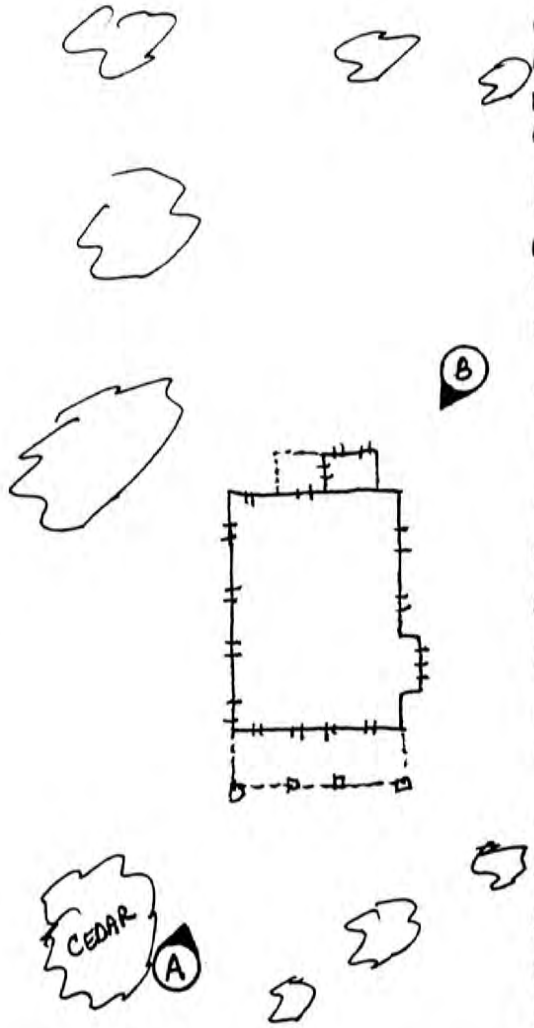




26. (B) Graham Holloman House, overall rear view to S

S-4. Graham Holloman House

VACANT LOT



CATHERINE CREEK RD.

ALTON ST.









## 5. William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings

S side NC 561, 0.3 mi E of jct w/SR 1419

The Livermon property consists of an early twentieth-century vernacular farmhouse, a collection of farm outbuildings, and the tract of approximately one acre on which they stand. The house is a well-preserved example of a typical farmhouse form common in North Carolina during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is a two-story frame I-house with a brick foundation, weatherboard siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof with boxed and molded eaves, gable-end stretcher-bond brick chimneys, and two-over-two sash windows. A shed-roofed porch with bungalow-style posts stretches across the three-bay facade, and a one-story ell with a gable-end chimney and west-side porch projects from the rear of the house. A shed-roofed bathroom is also attached to the rear of the house just west of the porch, and immediately behind the house is a small cinderblock pump house. An oval-glass front door leads to the center-hall-plan interior. Although the interior is characteristically simple, it is remarkably intact and features plastered or sheetrocked walls, beaded board ceilings, Colonial Revival mantels, a beaded board wainscot in the hall, and a Colonial Revival open-string stair with turned balusters and a square newel. The house is unoccupied at present but well-maintained. Behind the house six outbuildings line the perimeter of the house tract. All are of frame construction, and most appear to date from the construction of the house. Southeast of the house stand two of the outbuildings, the northernmost of which was probably the smoke or meat house. These two are arranged side-by-side and face west. Each has a gable roof facing the front. South of the house are two outbuildings of undetermined use. Each faces north, but the easternmost of the two has a side gable roof, while the westernmost building has a gable-front roof. It also has side sheds. At the southwest corner of the tract is a two-story gable-fronted barn. It faces east and has sheds around three sides. North of the barn is a long, six-bay equipment shed, probably built during the third quarter of the twentieth century. It opens to the east. The house faces NC 561. A dirt lane leads from the road along the west side of the house to the rear outbuildings. Several large trees are scattered around the property. Cultivated fields which surround the property on three sides used to be associated with it, but were sold off in recent years. Livermon family members are buried in a small cemetery located not far east of the property.

This was the home farm of William G. (1862-1937) and Laura J. (1864-1936) Livermon, having descended through family from the lands of Lawrence Askew. In 1925 the farm consisted of 64.5 acres, about half of which was cultivated by Livermon and a tenant in corn, peanuts, cotton, soybeans, tobacco, sweet potatoes, and berries. In 1937 Livermon willed the 64.5 farm on the south side of present NC 561 to his son, William G. Livermon,



Jr. The house tract is still owned by the Livermons' grandson, but contains only the house, six outbuildings, and the surrounding acre on which they stand. The surrounding fields to south, east, and west are still farmed, but by an owner outside the family. Tobacco is the sole crop now cultivated on these fields as part of a much larger-scaled agri-business.

→ field patterns very diff.

*Sign. Crit. C.* { The William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings constitute an intact and well-preserved collection of structures which provides an excellent picture of the architectural make-up of a typical early twentieth-century farmstead of this area of Hertford County. As such, they are eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. The house itself represents well one on the most popular forms of early twentieth-century vernacular farmhouses in North Carolina. With its two-story, single-pile form, gable roof, gable-end chimneys, shed-roofed front porch, one-story rear ell, center-hall plan, and simple but well-preserved interior, it is a classic example of the type. The six gable-roofed frame outbuildings, including smokehouse, barns, storage buildings, and sheds, reflect one of the two most typical arrangements for late nineteenth and early twentieth-century farm outbuildings in the area--i.e. buildings tightly arranged behind and enclosing the rear yard of the house.

*Agricultural evaluation* { The Livermon House and Outbuildings do not appear to be associated with people or events of historic significance and therefore do not meet Criterion B or A for the National Register. More specifically, although the acreage surrounding the house and outbuildings is still being cultivated, the property is not of historic agricultural significance because the large-scale, one-crop type of agri-business now being practiced does not convey the smaller-scale, multi-crop agricultural practices associated with the property during its early twentieth-century period of significance.

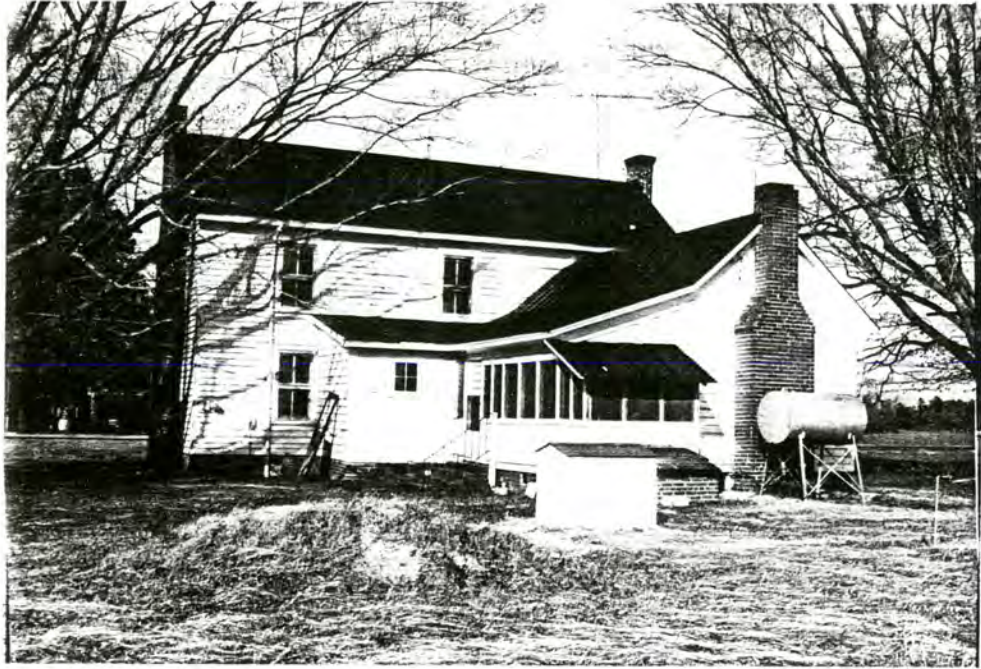


27. (A) William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings,  
overall view to SW



28. (B) William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings,  
overall view of house to SW





29. (C) William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings,  
rear view to N



30. (D) William G. Livermon House, outbuildings,  
view to W








1" = 400'

B-5. William G. Livermon House and Outbuildings

Scale: 1" = 200'

Eligible Boundary: 

From: Hertford County Property Map No. 6902.04

N  
IN



## 6. Newsome-Hall House

NW cor, jct of US 13 & SR 1131

The Newsome-Hall House is an unusual two-story frame house of Queen Anne-style influence. Although the rear of the house reflects a typical farmhouse form of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries--three bays wide with side gables, a gable-end brick chimney, and a one-story rear ell--the overall appearance of the house is transformed by the center front projecting wing with its wrap-around porch. This feature ties the house to the often flamboyant architectural expressions of the turn of the twentieth century. The front wing continues the boxed eaves with cornice returns and the two-over-two sash windows of the rest of the house. A two-story bay window with a polygonal roof projects from the front gable end. The most unusual feature of the house is the symmetrical one-story porch. Supported by Tuscan columns, it wraps around the entire front wing, with a central pedimented entrance bay and a gazebo-like pavilion at each corner, each with a polygonal roof topped by a finial. The interior, although not available for inspection, is said to be little changed, with original mantels and stair. Alterations to the house include aluminum siding, the addition of a one-story wing on the north side, and the enclosure of the rear ell porch. Several outbuildings accompany the Newsome-Hall House on its corner tract of approximately 2.8 acres. North of the rear ell stands the frame smokehouse with its batten doors and flanking sheds. Directly west of the smokehouse is a brick structure, plastered on the inside, where sweet potatoes and other foods which needed to be stored in a cool place were kept. West of the house stand two frame structures--a deteriorated storage shed and an equipment shed with a large opening on the east side. Directly southwest of the rear ell is the two-bay frame garage. West of the garage and facing SR 1131 is the one-story frame store building. It has a central weatherboarded section with gable end facing the road and with a double-leaf door flanked by windows. Attached to either side is a board-and-batten shed. The store originally stood on the corner next to the house but was later moved to its present site. Landscape features include a fish pond northeast of the house, a circular driveway on the south side of the house, woods north of the house beyond the yard, and woods and a field behind (west of) the house and outbuildings. Farther west along the south side of SR 1131, but not on the house tract, is the Newsome family cemetery.

Although the house is commonly associated with Saluda Hall, who lived there for most of her life (she died in 1972), it was originally the home of Saluda's father and mother, William David and Alice Newsome. The house derives its primary significance from its association with W. D. Newsome (1822-1916). He was a free black with multiple talents exercised during the entire second half of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. Immediately after the Civil War, Newsome was an



educator. In 1865 he taught private school and Sunday school in Murfreesboro. When a school was built in 1866 at Pleasant Plains, Newsome was the first teacher. In 1868 he taught in the Winton district as a county-paid teacher. W. D. Newsome's most striking roll was as a public office holder during Reconstruction years. From 1868 to 1870 he served as a county commissioner in Hertford County. Then, from 1870 to 1872, he was a state legislator in the House of Representatives. Subsequent to this, Newsome continued his other roles as farmer and businessman. He operated a country store next to his house and owned commercial property in Ahoskie, including the brick building at 119 N. Railroad Street (in the National Register historic district) which was built in 1905.

The Newsome-Hall House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion B because of its specific association with William David Newsome. As a free black who participated in Reconstruction politics in North Carolina and as a prominent farmer, businessman, and educator in the black community, Newsome occupied a significant place in the black ethnic heritage of Hertford County. His last home, the only one known to survive, reflects through its location, size, and flamboyant styling Newsome's prominent position in the community. The property also fulfills Criterion A for the National Register because its strong association with the African American ethnic heritage of Hertford County.



31. (A) Newsome-Hall House, overall view to NW



32. (B) Newsome-Hall House, overall view to SW



33. (C) Newsome-Hall House, smokehouse, view to NE

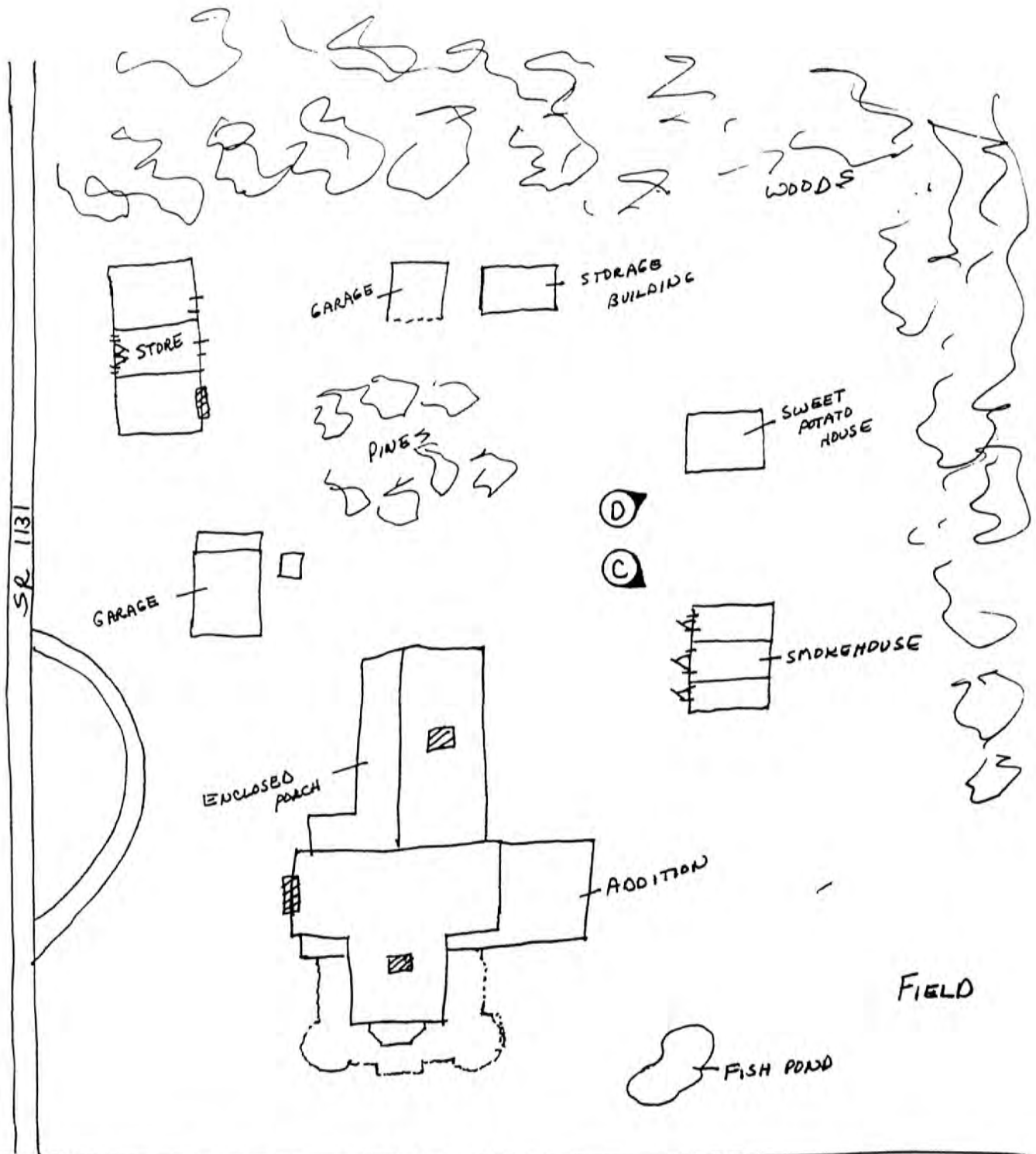




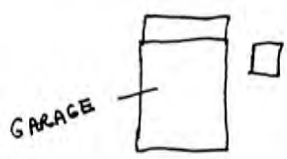
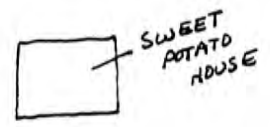
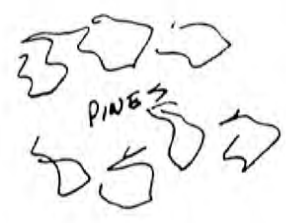
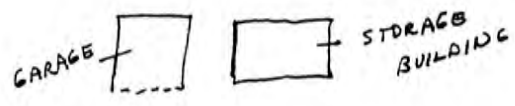
34. (D) Newsome-Hall House, sweet potato house,  
view to NW

S-6. Newsome-Hall House

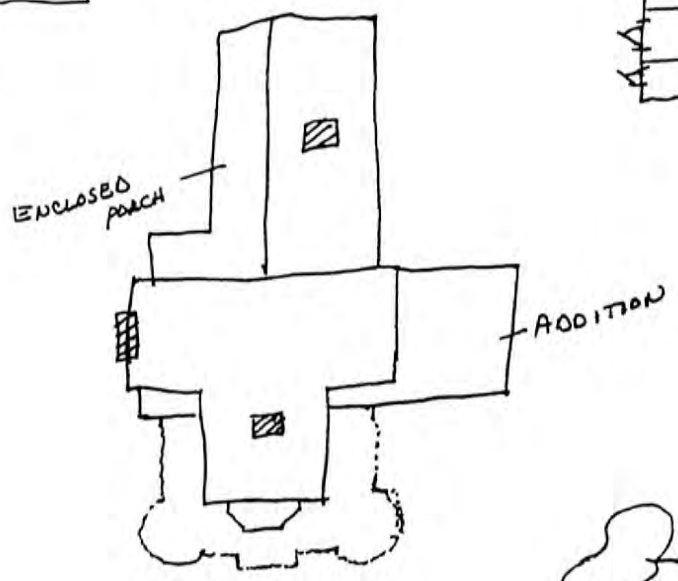
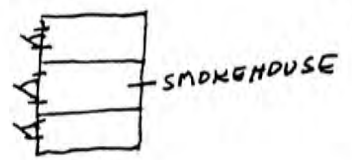
FIELD



WOODS



D  
C



FIELD



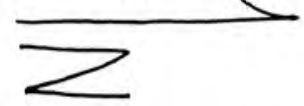
SR 1131

US 13

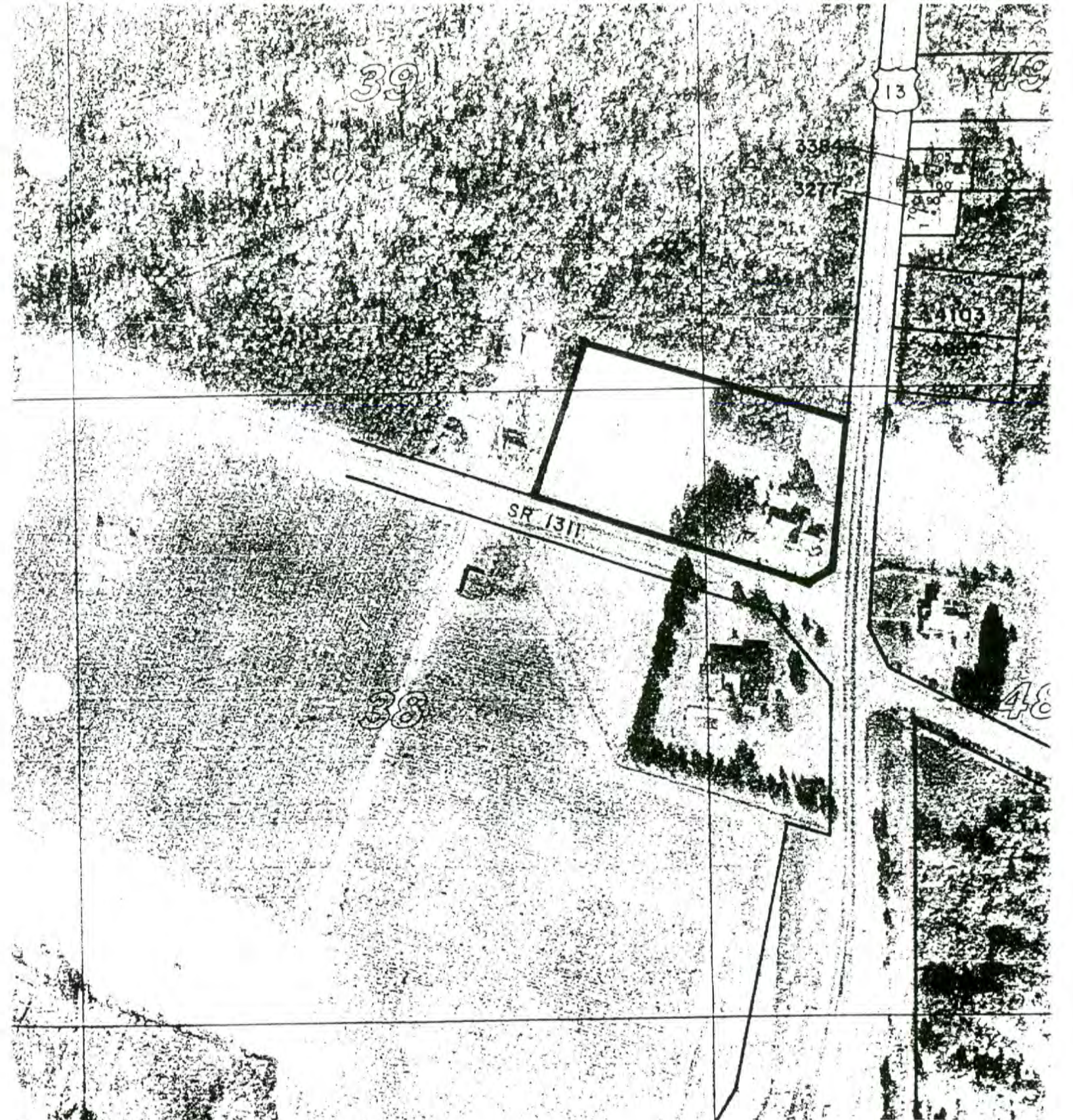
A

71

B








B-6. Newsome-Hall House

Scale: 1" = 200'

Eligible Boundary: 

From: Hertford County Property

Maps No. 5994.01

5994.00



37



## 7. Pleasant Plains School

W side US 13, just S of jct w/SR 1132

The ca. 1920 Pleasant Plains School is a well-preserved one-story frame building of symmetrical design. The T-shaped structure features a brick foundation, weatherboard siding, groups of four-over-four sash windows, and small single-light windows placed high on the rear elevation and part of the north elevation. The combination roof of front-facing gable and rear hip is sheathed with standing-seam metal and has boxed and molded eaves. Three interior brick stove stacks project through the roof. A pyramidal-roofed belfry straddles the gable ridge immediately behind the facade. (The interior was not accessible for inspection.) The former school building is surrounded by a yard with scattered tall trees and playground equipment, and the sides and rear of the 1.7-acre property are bordered by rows of trees.

Soon after the Civil War, a school was built for black children in the Pleasant Plains community. It was closely associated with the Pleasant Plains Baptist Church, which was organized in 1851 and located next to the school site until the present church building was constructed on the opposite side of US 13 in 1950. The date of construction of the present school building is not clear. Church records claim it was built in 1917, while state records say that money for the building was allocated in the budget year 1920-1921. The school building was built with assistance from the Rosenwald Fund, named for Chicago philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company. The Rosenwald Fund offered matching grants to rural communities interested in building black schools. Rosenwald schools became the centers of small rural black settlements which were characteristic of the rural landscape in North Carolina during the first half of the twentieth century. The Rosenwald Fund operated its construction effort from 1917 to 1932. During that time North Carolina constructed 813 Rosenwald buildings, far more than any other state. Of these buildings, 787 were schoolhouses, eighteen were teachers' residences, and eight were industrial education shops. Rosenwald schools were characteristically straightforward buildings. Most were one-story tall and of weatherboarded frame construction. Pleasant Plains School, a three-teacher facility, was one of the first of ten Rosenwald schools built in Hertford County, and remains an unusually handsome and well-preserved example. Since the 1960s, after it had ceased functioning as a school, the building has been used by its owner, Pleasant Plains Baptist Church, as a recreation building and community center.

The former Pleasant Plains School meets Criterion A for listing in the National Register because of its association with African American ethnic heritage and education in this section of Hertford County. Specifically, it played a significant role in



the development of education for blacks in Hertford County during the twentieth century and was one of the county's earliest Rosenwald schools. It continued the educational tradition for blacks in Pleasant Plains which began immediately after the Civil War. The school building is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C because it is a fine example of the Rosenwald schools built in the county as elsewhere in North Carolina and the South between 1917 and 1932.



35. (A) Pleasant Plains School, overall view to NW



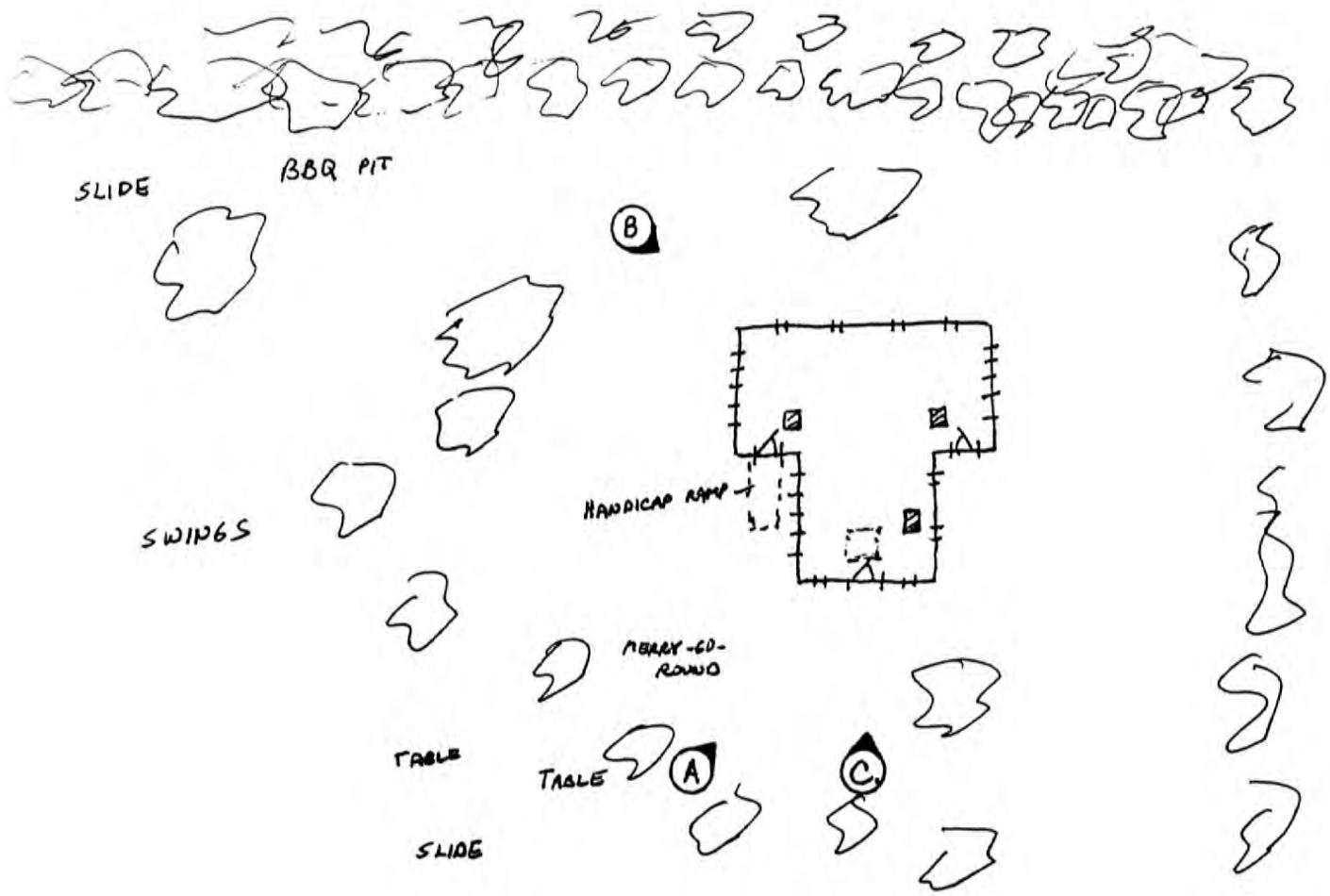
36. (B) Pleasant Plains School, rear view to NE



37. (C) Pleasant Plains School, facade, view to W



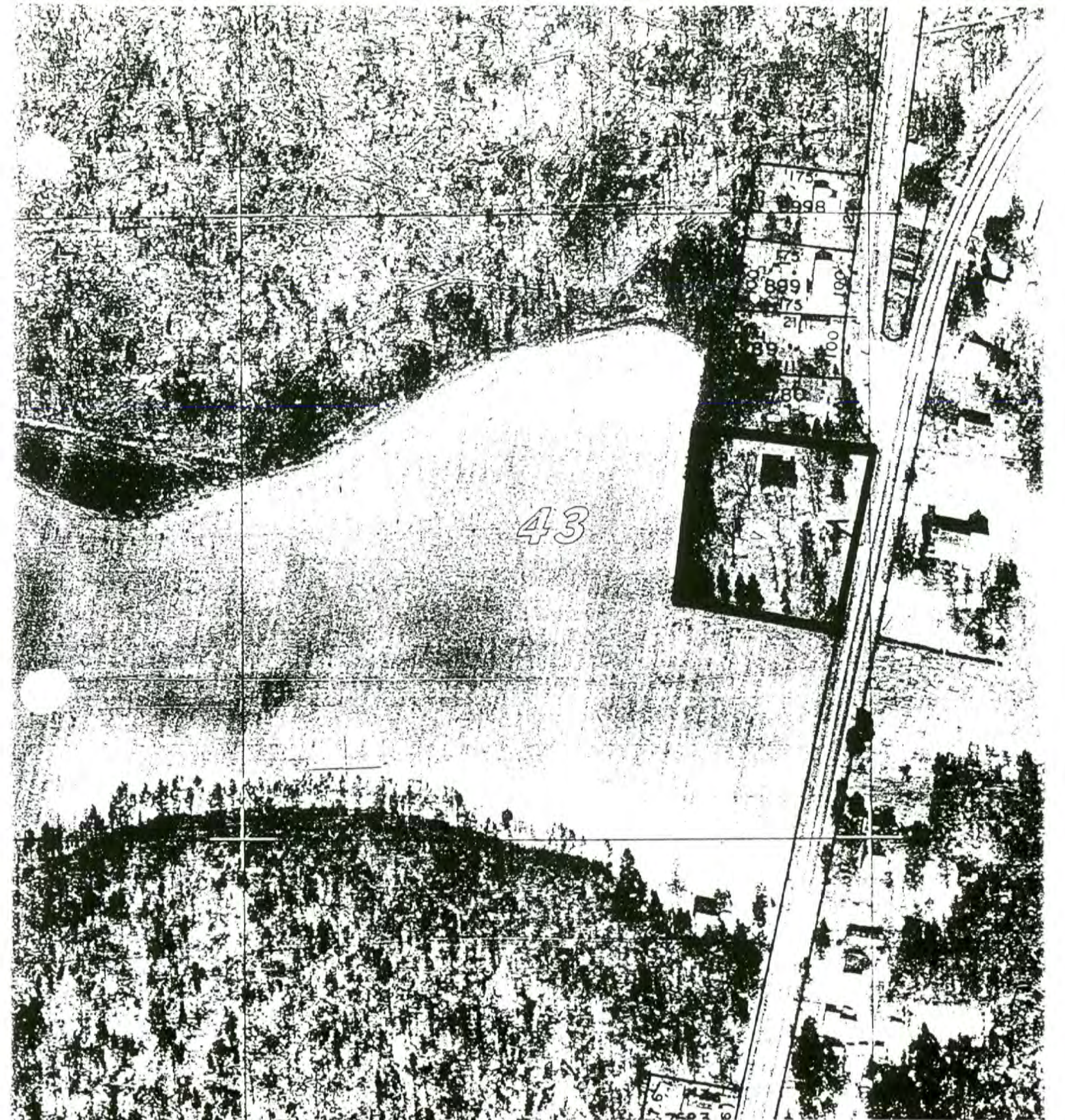
S-7. Pleasant Plains School



US 13








43

B-7 . Pleasant Plains School

Scale: 1" = 200'

Eligible Boundary: 

From: Hertford County Property  
Map No. 5995.03





## 8. William B. Weaver Farm

W side SR 1409, 0.1 mi S of jct w/SR 1411

The ca. 1900 William B. Weaver Farm consists of a turn-of-the-century farmhouse of simple late Victorian stylistic influence, a group of six outbuildings, and a field of approximately six acres which continues to provide an agricultural setting for the property. The Weaver house is a two-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling of irregular configuration. The three-bay facade projects forward in a polygonal bay to the right of the central entrance with its sidelights and transom. The projecting gable is decorated with diamond-cut wood shingles, and the wrap-around porch with turned posts further expresses the late Victorian character of the house. A two-story ell projects from the rear of the house, and a one-story continuation projects from it. A porch with turned posts carries across the rear of the house and east side of the ell. Other characteristics of the house include two-over-two sash windows, a metal-sheathed gable roof, and both an exterior and an interior brick chimney. The interior of the house was not available for inspection, but the present owner asserts that the original stair and mantels remain intact and that there have been few changes. Immediately behind the house is the wash house, a one-story weatherboarded frame building with a metal-sheathed gable roof and a gable-end stuccoed-brick chimney. The remaining outbuildings line up in a southeast-northwest row behind the house and wash house. Closest to the wash house is the smokehouse, a weatherboarded frame structure with a wood-shingled gable roof which overhangs the gable-end entrance. Next is the most significant of the outbuildings, a rare stilted dairy. It is a small weatherboarded frame structure with a wood-shingled roof, overhanging eaves on the northeast side which shelter the dairy door, and wood stilts at each corner which elevate the building approximately two feet off the ground. Southeast of the dairy are a frame garage open on the northeast side and a small frame shed. At the southeast end of the row of outbuildings is the barn, a two-story weatherboarded frame structure with a metal-sheathed gable roof and large one-story sheds flanking either side. The area between the outbuildings and the road and southeast of the house forms a large yard. An agricultural field of approximately six acres stretches north and west of the house and outbuildings and is bounded on the east by SR 1409, on the north by SR 1411, on the west by a ditch, and on the south by a row of post-1950 houses and the Weaver house and outbuildings. The family cemetery remains in a nearby field to the southwest but is not a part of this tract.

This turn-of-the-century farmstead was originally part of a farm of approximately 150 acres owned by William B. Weaver (1860-1937) and his wife Rosa. Typical of area farmers during the early twentieth century, Weaver cultivated primarily corn, cotton, and peanuts, although more than half of his land remained



in uncultivated pastures or woods. Weaver also maintained a small number of farm animals. After William B. Weaver's death, the farm was divided equally between his sons Starkey L. and P. C. Weaver. The house, outbuildings, and adjacent field of approximately seven acres were a part of the overall portion of the farm inherited by Starkey Weaver (1901-1957). Starkey Weaver continued to farm the land and occupy the house with his family. Since Starkey's death, the property has remained in the ownership, and until recently, the occupancy of his widow.

*Crit. sign.* { The William B. Weaver Farm is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its well-preserved collection of farmhouse and six outbuildings which architecturally reflects traditional vernacular structures, an awareness of changing stylistic tastes, and a typical spatial relationship between the farmhouse and its associated domestic and agricultural outbuildings. The house exemplifies well the typical turn-of-the-century transition from plain rectangular farmhouses of the second half of the nineteenth century to the irregular configurations reflective of the Queen Anne-style influence which began to appear in the area around the turn of the century. The collection of outbuildings includes several--the barn, the smokehouse, and the wash house--which are good representatives of those building types for the period, while the small stilted dairy is particularly significant as a rare surviving example of this building type. Together, the buildings provide an excellent picture of the structural nature of an early twentieth-century farmstead in rural eastern North Carolina.

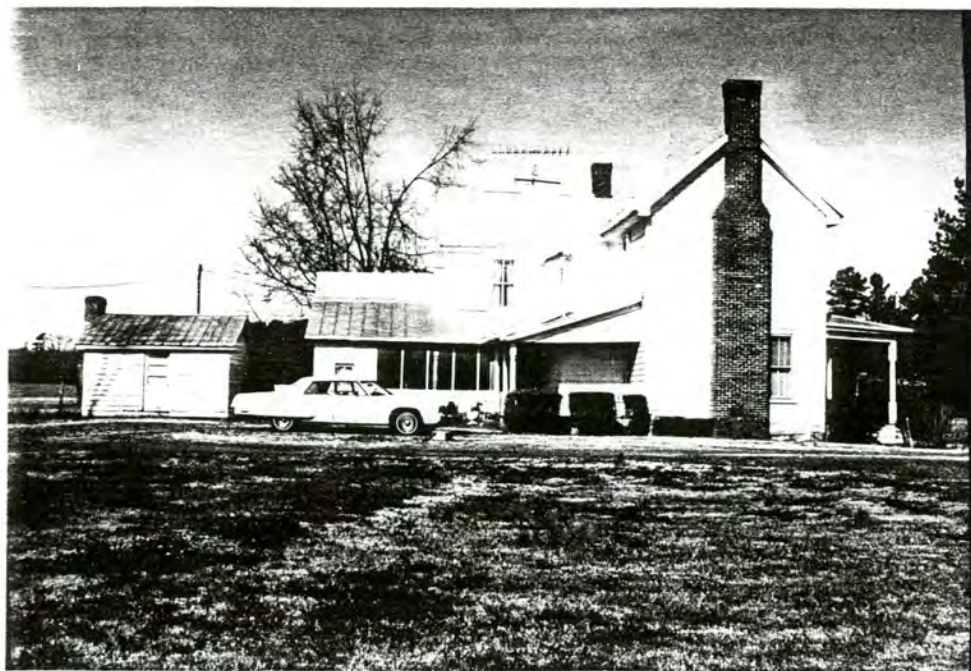
Criterion A and B for listing in the National Register do not apply to the William B. Weaver Farm, as it does not appear to be associated with people or events of historic significance. In particular, although the farm once was representative of many of the early-twentieth-century agricultural endeavors in this area of Hertford County, the present status of the property no longer conveys that image. While the house and outbuildings remain intact and the adjacent field northwest of the house preserves some sense of an agricultural setting--although it is presently not under cultivation--the modern houses southeast and northeast of the property disrupt the bucolic scene present earlier in the century when these areas were the wooded portions of the farm. The land west of the bordering ditch is still cultivated but is no longer connected with the Weaver Farmer.

*Field patterns have changed.*





38. (A) William B. Weaver Farm, facade, view to SW



39. (B) William B. Weaver Farm, SE elevation, view to NW



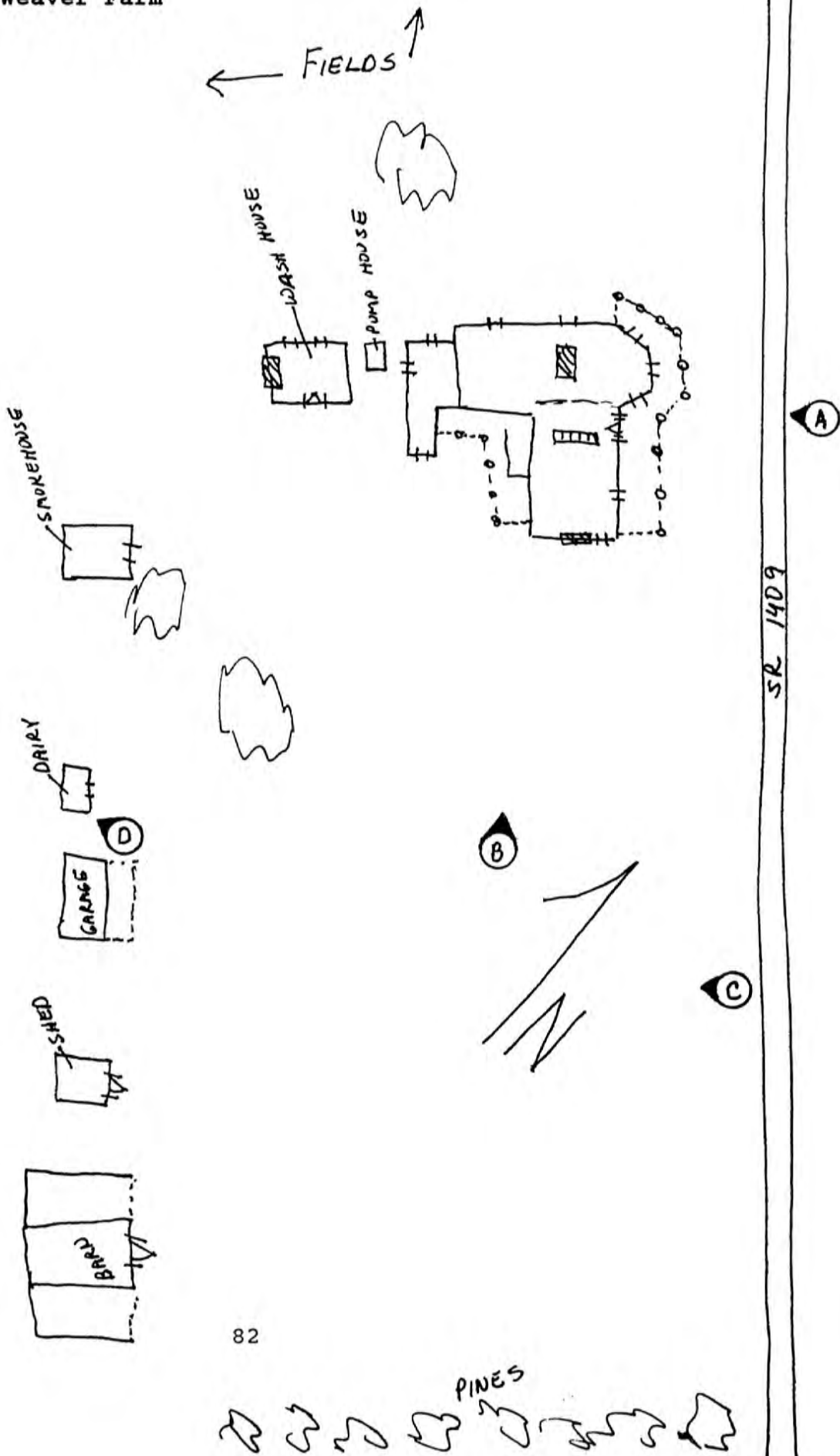
40. (C) William B. Weaver Farm, outbuildings, view  
to SW



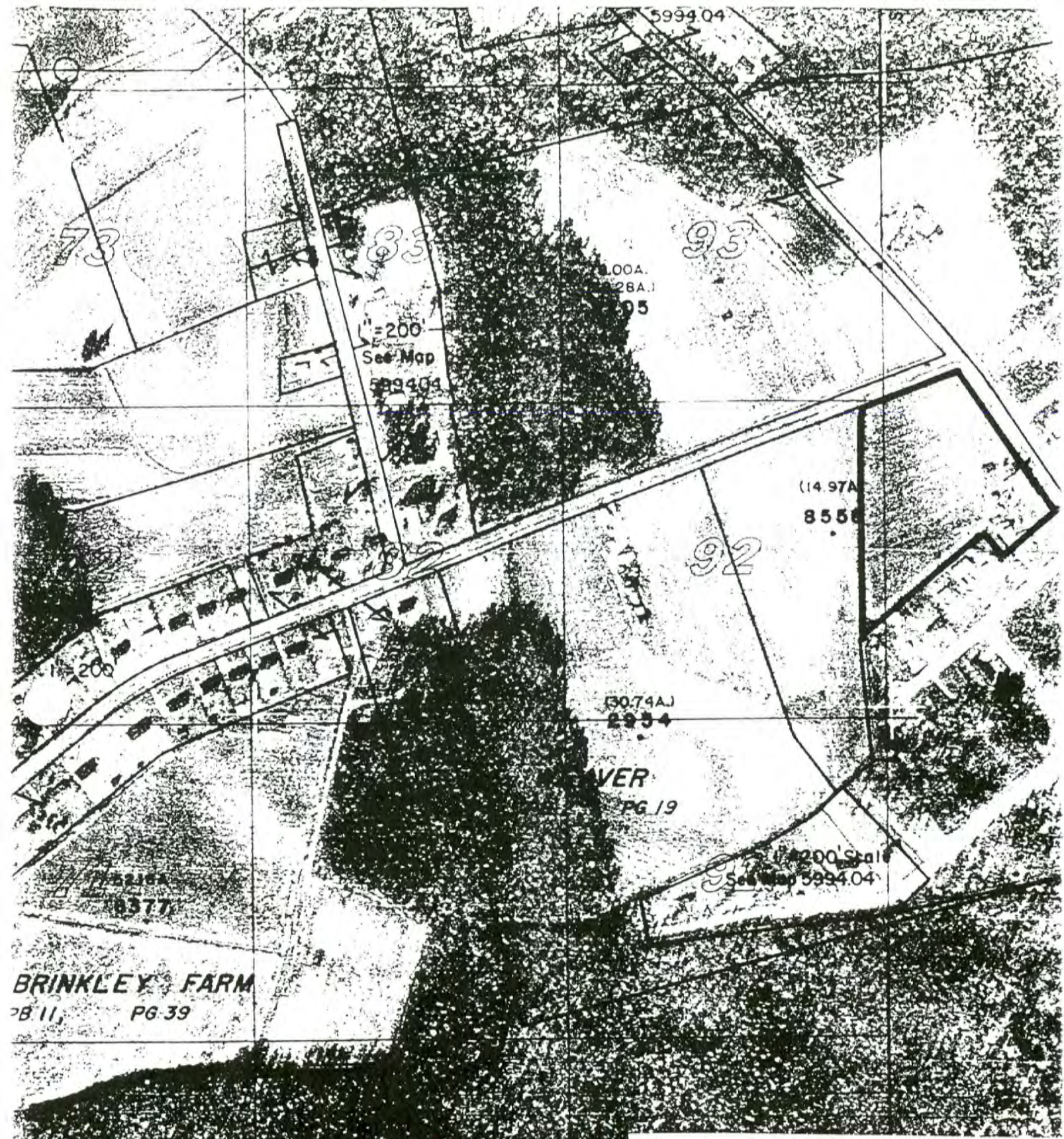
41. (D) William B. Weaver Farm, stilted dairy, view  
to W



S-8. William B. Weaver Farm







BRINKLEY FARM  
 PG. 11, PG. 39

B-8. William B. Weaver Farm

Scale: 1" = 400'  
 Eligible Boundary: \_\_\_\_\_  
 From: Hertford County Property  
 Map. No. 5994.00



## Property Descriptions and Evaluations: Non-eligible Properties

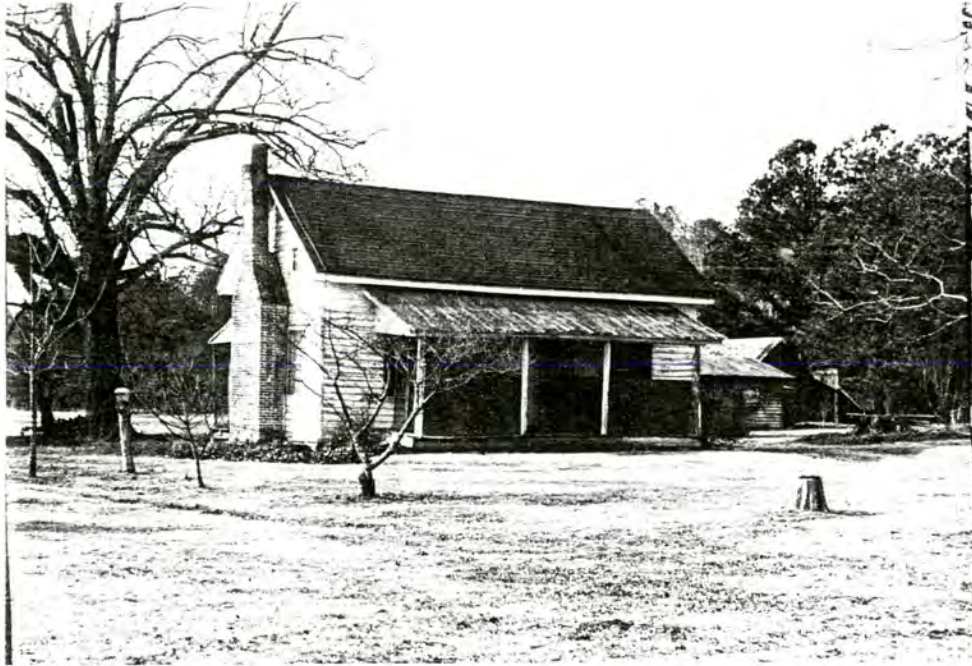
### 9. Edgar Askew Farm

SW side US 13, just N of jct w/SR 1418

The Edward Askew House is a one-story frame vernacular dwelling typical of many small farmhouses built in the region during the late nineteenth century. The single-pile structure features weatherboard siding, a gable roof, and a gable-end brick chimney. The three-bay facade is characterized by a central four-panel door with sidelights, flanking four-over-four sash windows, and a shed-roofed porch with plain posts. Projecting from the rear of the house is a dining room/kitchen ell originally separate from the house but at some point joined to it by an enclosed hyphen. Like the main body of the house, the ell features weatherboard siding, a gable roof with boxed eaves, four-over-four sash windows, and a shed-roofed porch, the south end of which is enclosed. The ell has windows on each side which have been converted from doors. The interior of the Askew House features a center-hall plan, an enclosed stair to the loft, and one original mantel. Originally the walls were sheathed with narrow beaded boards, but now they are sheetrocked and paneled. Several outbuildings are arranged to either side of the rear of the house. These include a combination pack house/smoke house, a mid-twentieth century flower house, a two-hole privy, a recent well, a small frame chicken house, a cinderblock pump house, a frame shed converted from a mule shed, a saddle-notched log barn with surrounding sheds, and a frame pack house. Surrounding the house are several trees, northeast of the house is a vegetable garden, and behind the house is an open field.

Edgar Askew (1871-1956) was the original owner of the house, which was probably built in the 1890s. He was married to Celie Willoughby (1863-1947), and family tradition claims the house was built on what had been Willoughby land. Edgar Askew lived in the house until his death. The house was rented for awhile thereafter, but is now vacant. It remains in Askew family ownership.

The Askew House represents one typical form of the small traditional farmhouses built in the region during the late nineteenth century, and its outbuildings are typical of those often constructed during the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Nevertheless, it possesses no particular architectural significance, and its value as an example is diminished by its current condition and by the alterations to the fenestration and interior treatments. Consequently it does not meet Criterion C for the National Register. In addition, it does not meet Criteria A or B, because no known people or events of historic significance are associated with the house.



42. (A) Edgar Askew Farm, overall view to W



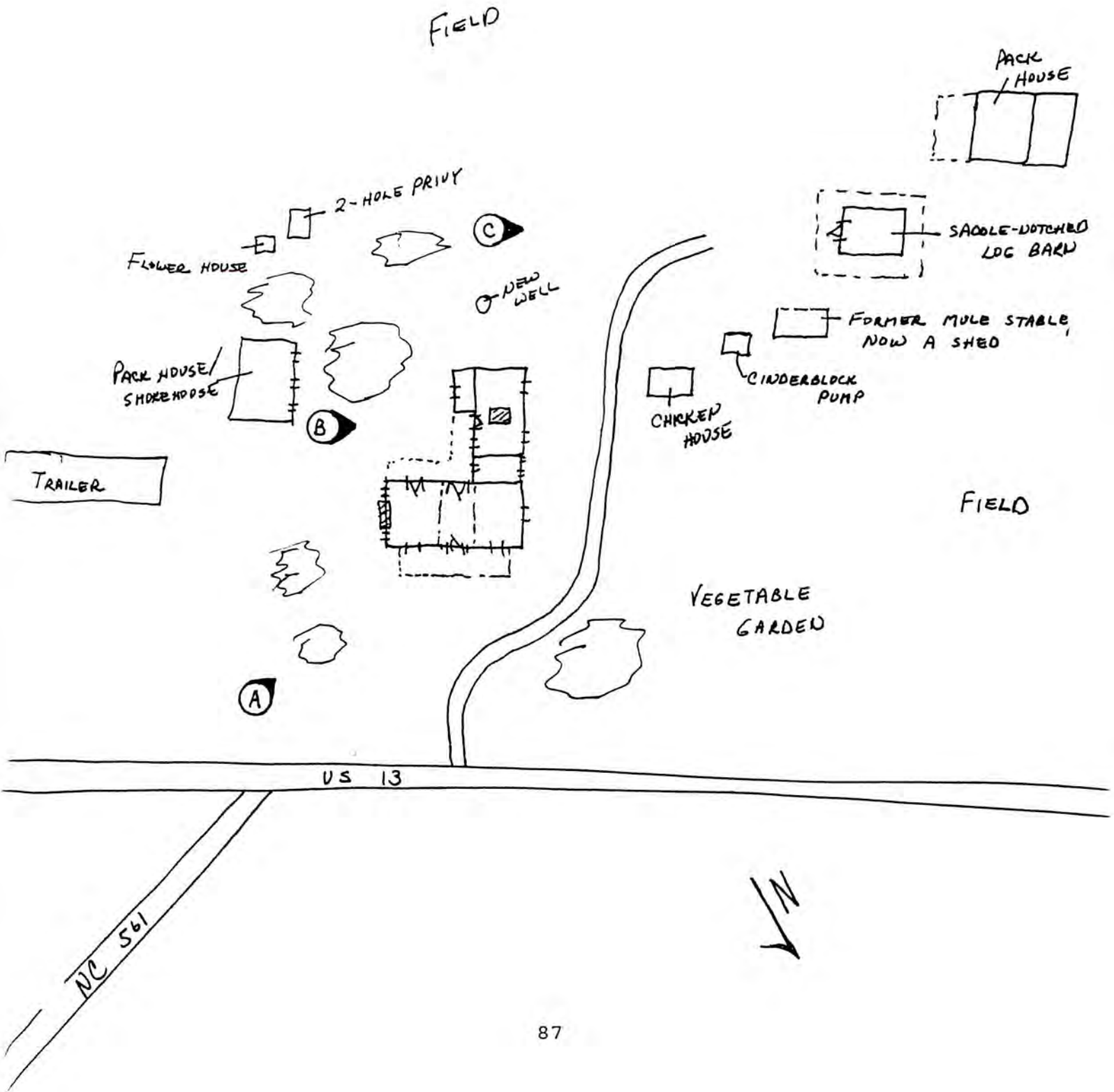
43. (B) Edgar Askew Farm, rear ell, view to NW





44. (C) Edgar Askew House, outbuildings, view to W

S-9. Edgar Askew Farm





## 10. Lawrence Askew House

N side NC 561, 0.4 mi E of jct w/SR 1419

In earlier years, the ca. 1850 Lawrence Askew House was an excellent example of the vernacular house type known as the Carolina I-house with subdued but consistent and handsome Greek Revival interior details. The two-story weatherboarded frame house features a gable roof, gable-end brick chimneys--at least one which is double-shouldered (the other is too overgrown to tell)--a three-bay facade, and replacement two-over-two sash windows. A partially-collapsed shed-roofed porch stretches across the facade, while shed rooms with a roof pitch which repeats that of the porch run across the rear. A two-room ell which appears to date from the early twentieth century projects from the rear of the house. It has weatherboard siding, a gable roof, and collapsing porches. The interior is arranged with a center hall plan and features two-panel doors, corner-block molded surrounds, and a molded chair rail throughout. An enclosed stair leads from the rear of the hall to the second floor. The first floor retains Greek Revival mantels which display more of a delicacy of form associated with the earlier Federal period than the heavier and more robust character usually found with the Greek Revival. The second floor mantels have been removed. Wide flush boards with beaded edges sheathe the first and second floors halls, while the rooms are plastered. An eleven-foot ceiling remains in the first floor hall, but the height of the first floor rooms has been lowered with dropped ceilings to around eight feet. No original outbuildings remain. Instead, a single-wide mobile home stands in front of the house, a large twentieth-century open equipment shed is behind the house, and on the west side are a large collapsed shed, a three-stall garage, a large frame barn with side sheds, and a round metal storage structure. Beyond the outbuildings to the west and north as well as east of the house are cultivated fields. Family tradition claims that slave cabins once ran perpendicular back from the house, but these have been destroyed. Across the road in front of the house is the family cemetery.

According to family tradition, Lawrence Askew built the house when his daughter, Nancy (1846-1912), was a young child. Prior to that the family lived in an older house (no longer standing) behind the present structure. Askew was a farmer who grew cotton and corn with the help of slave labor. After Nancy Askew's marriage to William Calvin Raby (1841-1928), they resided in the house. It has remained in family ownership, although it is no longer occupied.

There is little to suggest that the Lawrence Askew House possesses a quality of historic significance that would meet Criteria A or B of the National Register. The house was once a handsome vernacular I-house with comprehensive interior details of Greek Revival influence. However, a significant lack of

integrity created by the deterioration of the house, the loss of all original outbuildings and their replacement with twentieth century structures, and the compromised character of the site, render the property ineligible for the National Register under Criterion C.



45. (A) Lawrence Askew House, overall view to NE





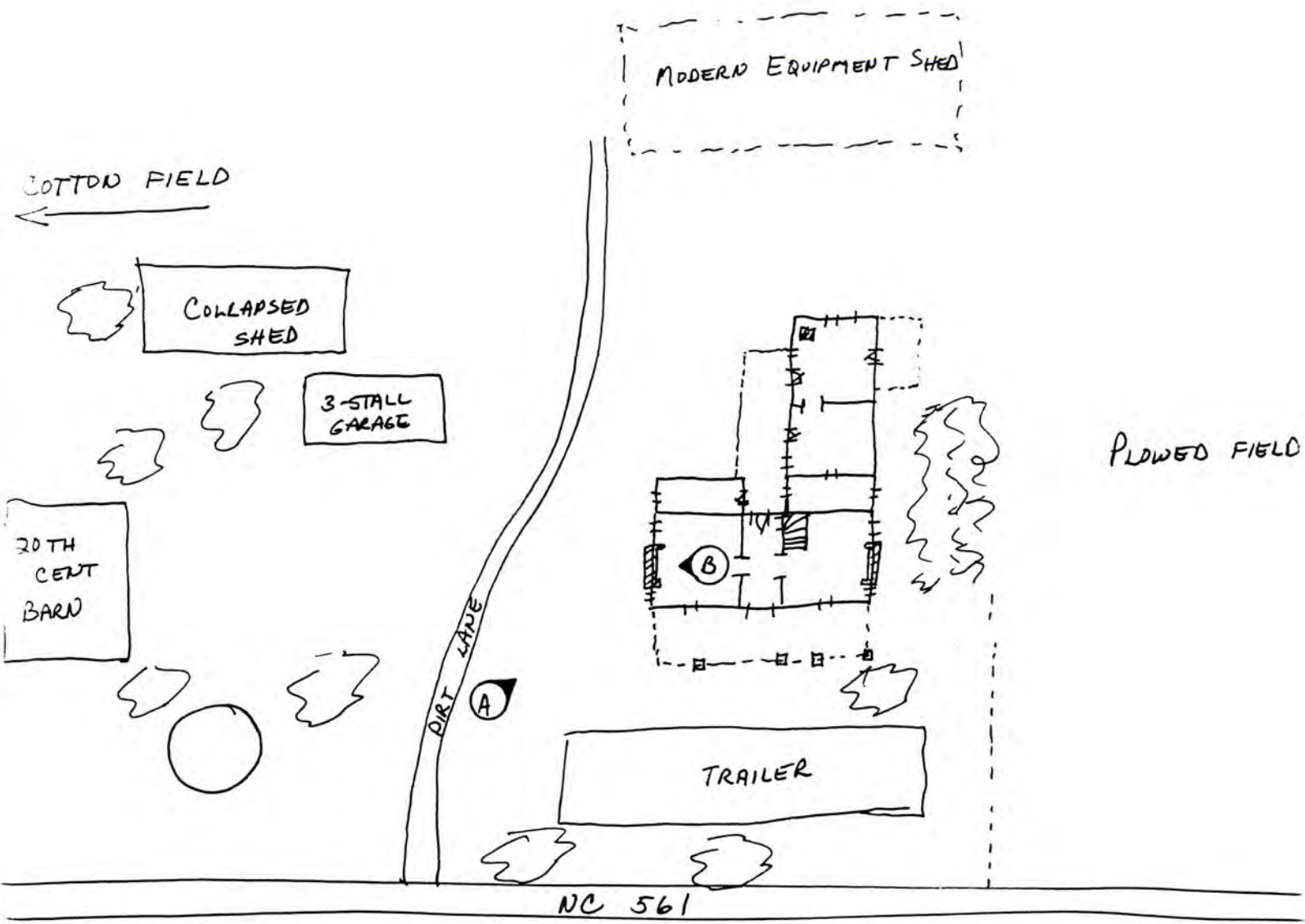
46. (B) Lawrence Askew House, parlor mantel, view  
to W



47. (C) Lawrence Askew House, context view to NE

S-10. Lawrence Askew House

COTTON FIELD



COTTON FIELD  
←

MODERN EQUIPMENT SHED

COLLAPSED SHED

3-STALL GARAGE

20TH CENT BARN

PLOWED FIELD

(B)

DIRT LANE

(A)

TRAILER

NC 561

(C)

CEMETERY

↑  
N



11. Brantley's Grove Baptist Church

NW side SR 1403, 0.1 mi N of jct w/SR 1409

Brantley's Grove Baptist Church was built in 1926 with alterations and a rear addition made subsequent to 1960. The cross-shaped structure is brick-veneered and has four broad pedimented gables sheathed in fish-scale wood shingles. The double-leaf front entrance is sheltered by a pedimented portico with Tuscan columns. Originally the numerous windows consisted of six-over-six sash with three-light transoms. These have been replaced with stained glass windows. A non-compatible steeple with mock openings has been added above the front end of the church. A long, flat-roofed, brick-veneered classroom addition has been built across the rear of the church, projecting equally on either side. The interior of the church was not accessible for inspection. Some of the tall trees which gave Brantley's Grove its name remain on the church property. North of the church is a gravel parking lot, a metal garage, and the foundations of another building apparently under construction.

The Brantley's Grove congregation was created in 1873 to alleviate the situation of those Baptists who attended the Ahoskie Church but lived as far east as Sally Archer Crossroads (now Cofield) which was nine miles away. On March 4, 1873, James and Elizabeth Brantly deeded approximately one acre to the trustees of the new congregation for the location of a Baptist church. The site was on the road running from Ahoskie to Sally Archer Crossroads and was opposite school house No. 10. For four years the congregation met in the school house while building the church across the road. The original frame church was completed in the latter part of 1877. Among the earliest congregants were members of the Willoughby, Parker, Dildie, Holloman, Doughtie, Overton, and Godwin families. In 1925 the congregation decided that the original building was outdated, and began to plan for a new church. While work proceeded on the new building, services were once again held in the school house across the road. The original church had been sold, dismantled, and moved so that the new building could be erected on the same spot. T. S. Overton of Ahoskie served as contractor for the 1926 church which cost \$5,000. Within five years the building loan had been paid. Men in the church donated the proceeds from what was raised on an acre of their farm land, and women donated money from the sale of eggs. The alterations and additions of recent years attest to the continued vitality of the church.

Ordinarily, churches are not considered eligible for the National Register, unless they derive their primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance. Evidence does not suggest that Brantley's Grove Baptist Church possesses transcendent historical significance, and its alterations and addition of recent years compromise the architectural integrity of the 1926 building, making it ineligible for the National Register under Criterion C.



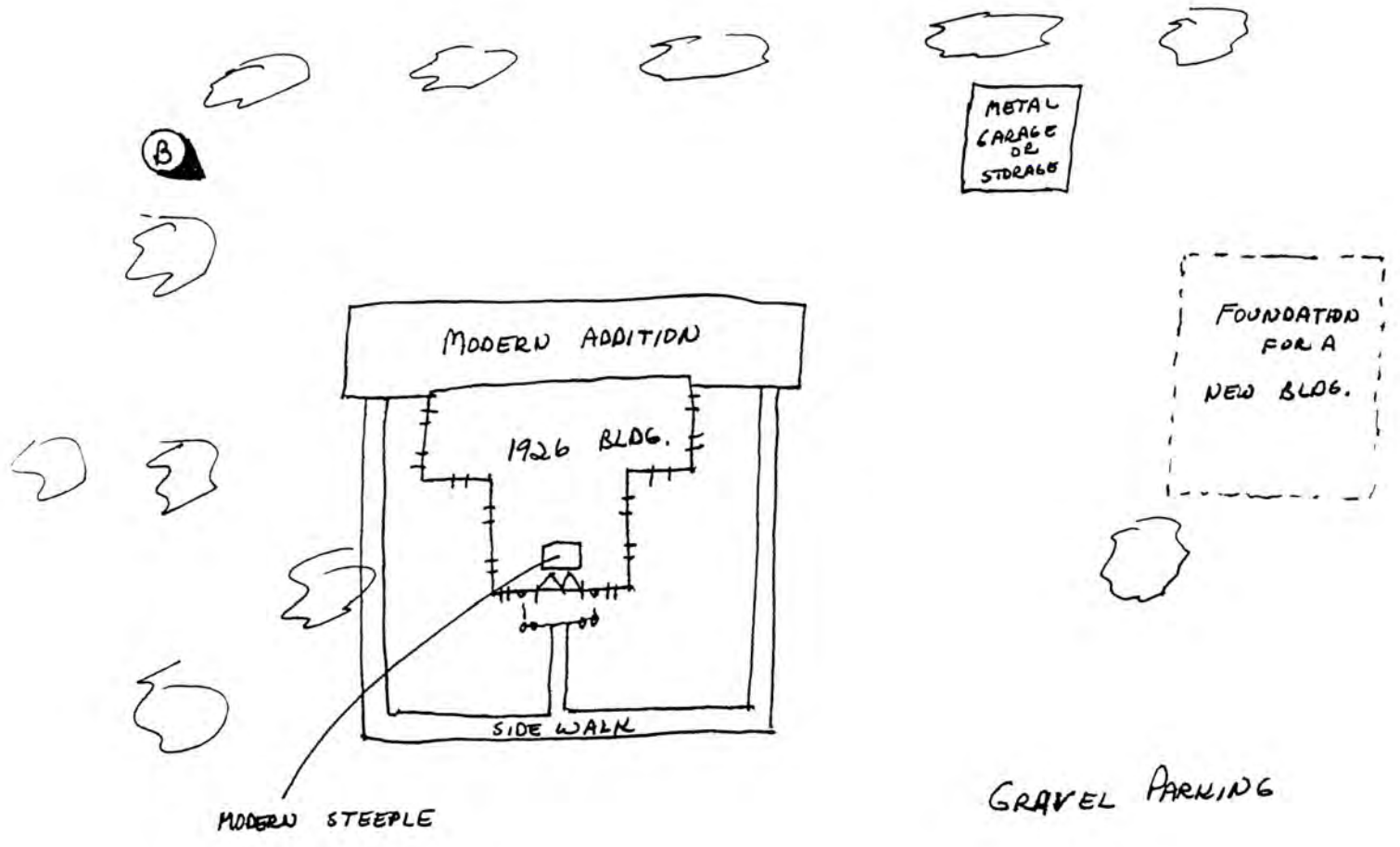
48. (A) Brantley's Grove Baptist Church, overall view to W



49. (B) Brantley's Grove Baptist Church, rear view to E



S-11. Brantley's Grove Baptist Church



SR 1403



## 12. Brantley's Grove School

SE side SR 1403, 0.1 mi N of jct w/SR 1409

The former Brantley's Grove School is typical of many two-room country schools built in rural North Carolina in the early years of the twentieth century. It is a one-story, L-shaped, weatherboarded frame structure set on a brick pier foundation. The gabled roof has a boxed cornice and three gables--on the front, rear, and southwest sides of the building--all with cornice returns. Windows on both sides and rear of the building are nine-over-nine sash to allow optimum lighting for classroom use. On the facade the windows are two sets of paired six-over-six sash under a shed-roofed porch which runs part-way across the front of the building. The porch has replacement posts and balustrade. The entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a glass and wood-paneled front door. An altered shed-roofed porch with enclosed corner room spans the south half of the rear, where there is also a single brick stove stack. The former school has not been well maintained. Behind the building is a privy. A variety of trees surround the school, and overgrown bushes border the unkempt lot.

A school for white children stood on this site from at least as early as 1873, when it was mentioned as a location reference point in the deed for the Brantley's Grove Baptist Church property across the road. At that time it was called "school house No. 10." The congregation met in the school for four years until they could erect their own building. Again in 1926, when a new church was being built across the road to replace the 1877 structure, the congregation held worship services in the school. The present school building appears to date from the early twentieth century. At some point after it ceased being used as a school--probably around 1930--the building was converted to use as a rental house, which it remains today.

The former Brantley's Grove School is a surviving example of the rural schools which dotted the landscape of Hertford County during the late nineteenth and first quarter of the twentieth centuries. Its two-room plan is typical of many of the schools during the early twentieth century. However, the present condition of the building and its grounds diminish the integrity of the building to the extent that it does not fulfill the criteria for listing in the National Register.



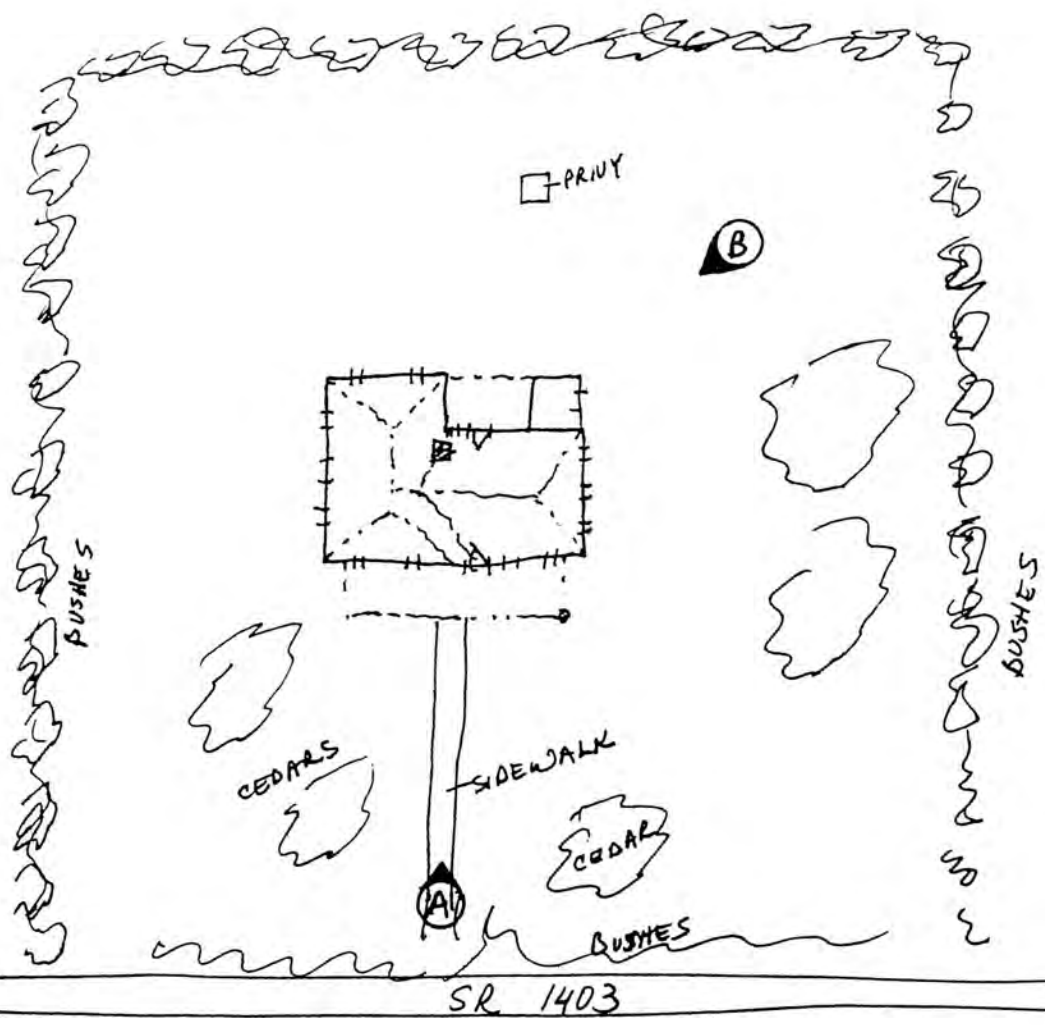


50. (A) Brantley's Grove School, facade, view to SE



51. (B) Brantley's Grove School, rear, view to N

S-12. Brantley's Grove School





### 13. Dawson Doughtie Farm

E side SR 1419, 0.45 mi N of jct w/SR 1418

The Dawson Doughtie Farm consists of what appears to be an early twentieth century farmhouse, a group of outbuildings, and cultivated fields. Set far back from the road, the house is a two-story frame vernacular dwelling of a type common to the period. It features a brick pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a gable roof sheathed with standing seam metal and with a boxed cornice and cornice returns on the gable ends, gable-end brick chimneys, and six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows. The three-bay facade is centered on a double-leaf entrance with sidelights. A shed-roofed porch with replacement posts carries across the first story of the facade. The single-pile house has a center-hall plan. Interior features include an open-string stair with turned balusters, a vernacular mantel, sheetrocked walls and beaded board ceilings, and another mantel which has been partially removed. Projecting from the rear of the house is a long, one-story, twentieth-century ell addition with a gable-end chimney, several stove stacks, and a porch outlining the east side. The house is unoccupied, and the interior, in particular, is deteriorated. West of the ell are the smokehouse and privy, both frame structures. Stretching south along a lane east of the house are a series of three frame barns (one of which appears to have been originally a two-story house of the late nineteenth century) and a smaller tobacco barn. Further south near the woods is another barn. On all sides of the house and outbuildings are cultivated fields.

Little is known about the history of this farm. It is most commonly associated with the early twentieth century occupancy of Dawson Doughtie. Subsequent occupants included Clyde Willoughby and his wife, who was the daughter of Dawson Doughtie, and the Peacock family. Now owned by Stuart Pierce, the property is part of his large-scale farming operation, which combines the lands of several older farms in the area.

The Dawson Doughtie Farm does not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register. Architecturally (Criterion C), it represents a very common house type of the early twentieth century, but because of its condition and alterations it does not serve as a prime example. The house does not appear to be associated with anyone of particular historic significance (Criterion B), and because of its loss of integrity as an individual farm, it does not remain a good representative of early twentieth century farming in the area (Criterion A).

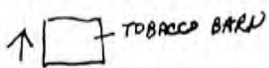


52. (A) Dawson Doughtie Farm, overall view to SE



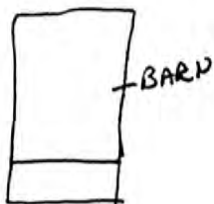
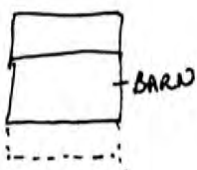
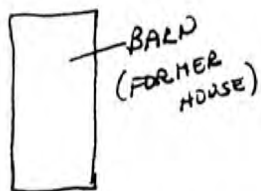
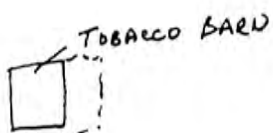
53. (B) Dawson Doughtie Farm, house, view to SW





S-13. Dawson Doughtie Farm

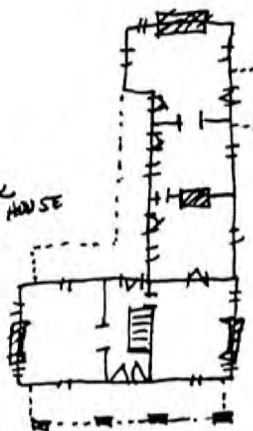
FIELD



FIELD

DIRT LAKE

CADDERBLOK PUMP HOUSE



FIELD →

(B)

(A)

PINES

FIELD

SR 1419

100

✓N

LINE OF WOODS

#### 14. Doughtie-Godwin Farm

E side SR 1413, 0.15 mi N of jct w/SR 1412

The Doughtie-Godwin House is a one-story frame farmhouse of the vernacular double-pen type. Probably built between 1870 and 1890, the house is characterized by a brick pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof, gable-end brick chimneys, and six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows. A wrap-around porch with square posts and a board-and-batten ceiling has been enclosed on the west side to create a sun room. The four-bay facade has two central front doors--one enclosed by sheetrock on the interior and the other a replacement. Projecting from the rear of the house on the east side is a long ell with a gable-end chimney and enclosed porches on both sides. A shed room carries across the remainder of the rear elevation. The interior features simple Greek Revival mantels, both four-panel and batten doors, a board-and-batten ceiling, and an enclosed stair along the center partition wall. Sheetrock covers the original plastered walls. A long dirt lane leads to the house, which is surrounded by fields on three sides and a wooded area in front. The shrub-bordered front yard has a central walk. Several outbuildings remain with the house. In front of the house on the opposite side of the lane is a frame shed, behind the house is another frame shed, and east of the house are a shed, a barn with attached sheds, and an arbor adjacent to the barn. Across the field north of the house and facing the road is a frame tenant house with a gable roof, a gable-end brick chimney, a three-bay facade, and rear shed rooms.

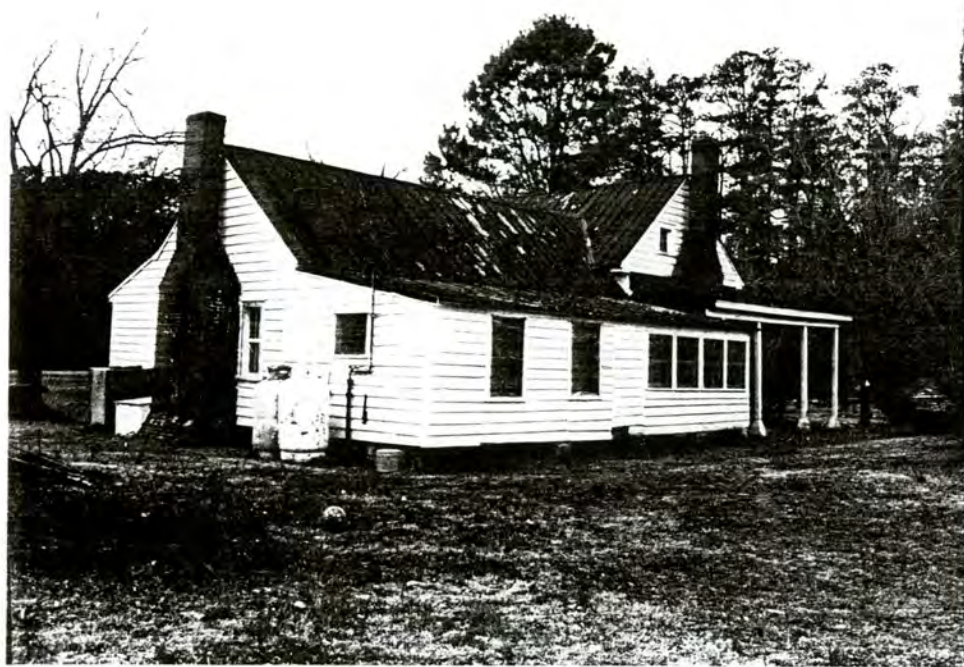
Dawson Doughtie was the earliest-known owner of the Doughtie-Godwin House. (For his later residence, see #14 - Dawson Doughtie Farm.) Around 1905 Doughtie sold the property to Raleigh Godwin (b. ca. 1884), a farmer who grew primarily peanuts and cotton. The tenant house near the road was a part of his farm. Godwin was born in the vicinity in a small frame house which he subsequently moved to land across the road from his farm where it served as another tenant house. The Doughtie-Godwin House is presently owned and occupied by the daughter of Raleigh Godwin.

Although the Doughtie-Godwin House is a late nineteenth-century farm dwelling of some interest, its multiple additions and alterations diminish its integrity. At the same time, neither outstanding architectural features nor historical significance associated with events or people are present to supercede the integrity problem and qualify the property for the National Register under Criteria A, B, or C. It is not eligible.





54. (A) Doughtie-Godwin Farm, facade, view to SE



55. (B) Doughtie-Godwin Farm, rear, view to W





56. (C) Doughtie-Godwin Farm, SW elevation, view to NE



57. (D) Doughtie-Godwin Farm, outbuildings, view to E





## 15. James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings

E side SR 1419, 0.1 mi S of jct w/NC 561

The Early property consists of a frame farmhouse, a small collection of farm outbuildings, a bungalow with several outbuildings, and the tract of 2.19 acres on which they stand. A lane lined with cedars and other trees leads from the road to the front of the house. A white fence borders the front yard. The main body of the house was built ca. 1914 and is a two-story, weatherboarded frame, single-pile house with a triple-A gable roof, gable-end chimneys, replacement one-over-one sash windows, and a three-bay facade. A hipped roof front porch shelters the central entrance with its sidelights and transom. A short two-story ell projects from the rear of the house. Except for the windows, the exterior of this main block remains intact, but the remainder of the house has been almost completely replaced during the present remodeling. The north entrance to the ca. 1880 rear portion of the house--to which the 1914 house was added--remains, but its classical porch has been removed. Otherwise it has been almost completely rebuilt and enlarged, doubling the overall size of the house. On the interior, some original timbers appear to remain, as do the Victorian stair and Colonial Revival/Bungalow mantel of the 1914 section. Otherwise, the interior has been gutted and rebuilt. Likewise, there have been significant changes to the outbuildings during the last two years with half of the eight which stood in 1992 torn down or moved. Surviving are the two-story frame tobacco pack house located east of the house with its gable-roofed entrance and west-side shed; the one-story weatherboarded frame cotton house with its east and west sheds located southeast of the house; the dilapidated two-story, weatherboarded frame, center-passage barn with side sheds located south of the house; and the two-bay, weatherboarded frame, garage and equipment shed south of the house and west of the center-passage barn. The old smokehouse and corn and seed barn have been demolished, and the garage which stood northwest of the house along with the small metal shed which stood next to the smokehouse behind the house have been moved to serve as outbuildings to the 1939 bungalow next to the road southwest of the main house and outbuilding complex. The one-story frame bungalow itself has been remodeled with an enclosed front porch. South of the bungalow is an additional garage/shed.

In 1882 Lawrence Askew, a prosperous area landowner and farmer, conveyed a forty-acre tract to his daughter, Caroline V. (sometimes listed as Virginia C.) Early, the wife of Benjamin F. Early. They built the original part of this house. In 1907 Virginia C. Early sold the farm, known then as the B. F. Early Homeplace, to her nephew, J. L. Early. Family tradition claims that James Lawrence "Lonnie" Early (1869-1961) added the two-story front portion of the house in 1914. Here Lonnie Early and his wife, Nancy Dilday, raised their children. Like his predecessors, Lonnie Early was a farmer, growing primarily



peanuts, tobacco, corn, and cotton during the first half of the twentieth century. He also had an orchard with numerous apple, peach, and pear trees. In 1960 Lonnie Early sold the forty-acre farm to his son, John Lawrence Earley, and his wife, Lola, who in 1939 had built the bungalow next to the road as their first home. (Lonnie Early's children all changed the spelling of their family name to Earley.) In 1993 John and Lola Earley sold the tract with the James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings (except for the bungalow and its outbuildings to which they returned) to Shirley Stuart Pierce, Jr. They had previously sold the surrounding fields to him. Pierce, who owns multiple farms, grows a single crop (presently tobacco) on the former Early and adjacent William J. Livermon farm lands. He is currently remodeling the Early house as his residence.

*change in  
elis.  
justified*

In 1992, in an earlier draft of this report, the James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings were considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C because they comprised an excellent collection of typical vernacular farm dwellings and support structures representative of those once common to the agricultural landscape around Ahoskie during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In July, 1994 additional on-site field work and documentary research were conducted to verify the property's potential eligibility for the National Register under Criterion A for agricultural significance. At this time it was determined that the property does not meet Criterion A, because although the acreage surrounding the house and outbuildings is still being farmed, the present one-crop, agri-business form of cultivation does not convey the smaller-scale, multi-crop type of family farming practiced by various members of the Early family during the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries. More importantly, however, the 1994 site visit revealed such substantial changes to the main house and outbuildings that the complex of buildings no longer fulfills Criterion C. (OK)



58. (A) James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings,  
overall view to E



59. (B) James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings,  
rear of house, view to southwest





60. (C) James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings,  
cotton house and site of corn and seed barn, view  
to E

S-15. James Lawrence Early House and Outbuildings

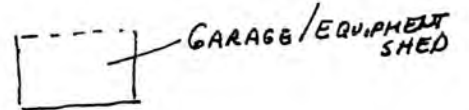
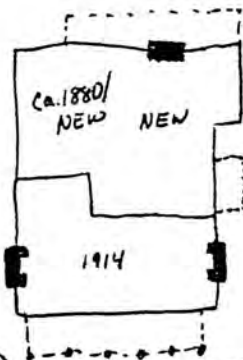
FIELD

FIELD



(B)

(C)

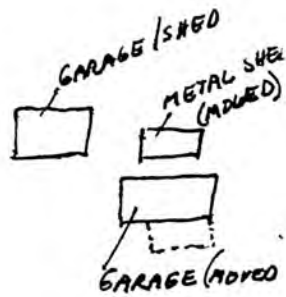


FIELD

WOOD FENCE

(A)

1939 BUNGALOW



CEDARS

DIRT LADE

SR 1419





16. Anthony Godwin House

S side SR 1412, 0.1 mi W of jct w/SR 1413

The Anthony Godwin House is a vernacular coastal cottage with a detached kitchen wing in front. It appears to date from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The main body of the house is a single-story frame structure with weatherboard siding, a steep gable roof of double pitch, a gable-end brick chimney of irregular common bond, six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows, and an engaged front porch with replacement posts and an enclosed room on the south end. A replacement front door leads to the hall-and-parlor plan interior which features a plain mantel with brick-infilled firebox, beaded board-and-batten doors with H-and-L hinges, plain door and window surrounds, and altered shed rooms across the rear. Attached by its porch to the front of the house is a separate single-story structure, presumably a kitchen, but with only a stove stack rather than a chimney, suggesting that it may be of a later date. It has weatherboard siding partially covered by ersatz brick, a gable roof, batten doors on north and south sides, and four-over-four sash windows. The house is in deteriorated condition. Set far back from the road, it is surrounded by cultivated fields, with the exception of several tall trees immediately north and south of the house and a line of trees and overgrown brush west of the house. There are no outbuildings.

According to present owner Mary Lossen, this was the home of her great grandfather, Anthony Godwin. (Her father, Raleigh Godwin, was born ca. 1884.) Godwin and his wife are said to be buried near the house, but there are no grave stones to mark the site. For some years the house has been used as rental property.

The Anthony Godwin House is not associated with people or events of known historic significance and is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion B or A. While the house represents the coastal cottage form--one of the most traditional and common of eastern North Carolina's vernacular house types--it is not exemplary of its type. Other coastal cottages in the area (though not within the project study area) are better representatives. Therefore, the house does not meet Criterion C for listing in the National Register.



61. (A) Anthony Godwin House, overall view to SW



62. (B) Anthony Godwin House, S side, view to N

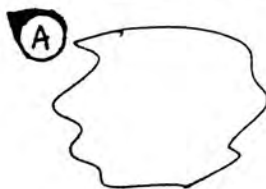
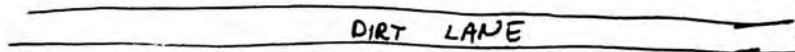
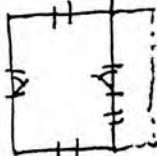
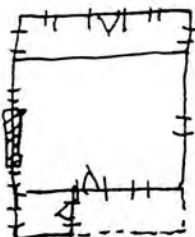


S-16. Anthony Godwin House

FIELD



FIELD (B)



SR 1412

FIELD

FIELD



## 17. House

E side SR 1403, 0.3 mi N of jct w/SR 1409

Set back from the road at the end of a long lane, this vernacular dwelling of the coastal cottage variety appears to date from the mid nineteenth century. The one-story structure with attic has weatherboard siding, a gable roof of double pitch, a gable-end brick chimney on the south side (the north side chimney has been removed), and six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows. The engaged front porch has been enclosed with window-like screens and a central French door. The porch is balanced by shed rooms across the rear. A large ell has been added to the rear, and its south side porch has been enclosed. The interior features a center-hall plan, both two-panel and four-panel doors, and a simple vernacular Greek Revival mantel. In the yard behind the house are a fruit house, a smoke house, a wood shed, and another small shed--all frame structures and all dilapidated. The house and outbuildings are surrounded by firewood, lumber, old appliances and plumbing fixtures, and miscellaneous other junk. The yard backs up to woods.

There are no known people or events of historic significance associated with this house. While it represents a typical regional house form of the early to mid nineteenth century, the integrity of the house and site have been compromised through both alteration and deterioration to the extent that the house does not meet any of the criteria for the National Register.



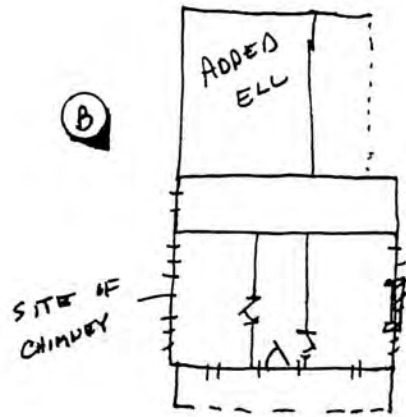
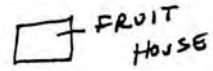
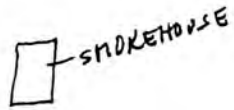
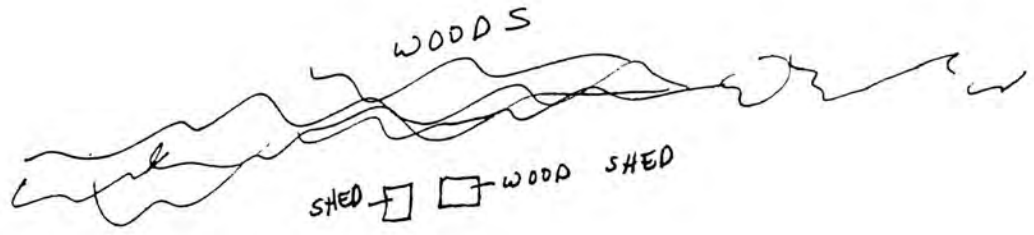


63. (A) House, S elevation, view to NE

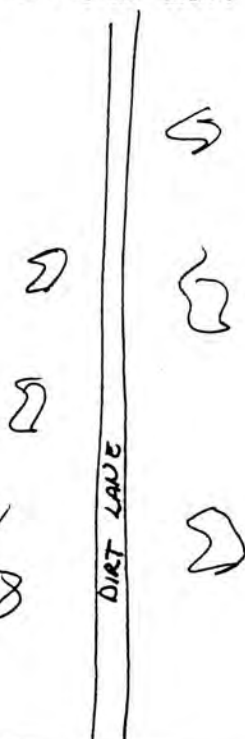


64. (B) House, N elevation, view to SW

S-17. House



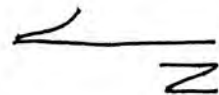
SITE OF CHIMNEY



FIELD

HOUSES

SR 1403





18. House

W side SR 1403, 0.1 mi S of jct w/SR 1413

This one-story vernacular farmhouse appears to date from the early twentieth century. It is a typical small house form of the period in this region. The frame house is characterized by weatherboard siding, a triple-A gable roof, north and south side gable-end brick chimneys (one of which is a replacement), a rear ell with a side porch, and six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows. The three-bay facade has a hip-roofed porch supported by turned posts and a central entrance with a five-panel door and sidelights. The interior features a center-hall plan, plastered and sheetrocked walls, beaded board ceilings, and a simple late Victorian mantel in the south front room. The house is unoccupied and has not been well maintained. Behind the house are a well, two barns with sheds, and a privy of typical early twentieth century form. A single cedar stands in front of the house, and a line of shrubs stands south of the house. The property is located within a V-shaped wedge formed by the junction of SR 1409 and SR 1413, and the house and outbuildings are sandwiched between fields on both north and south.

No events or people of significance are known to be associated with this house, and consequently it does not fulfill Criterion A or B for listing in the National Register. Architecturally, the house is representative of one type of small early twentieth-century farmhouse found in the region. However, because it has not been well maintained and has been somewhat altered, it is not a prime example of a common form, and at the same time is not of any particular individual architectural significance. It therefore fails to meet Criterion C for National Register eligibility.



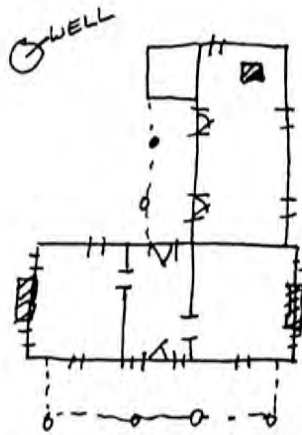
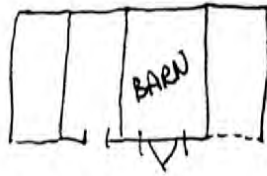
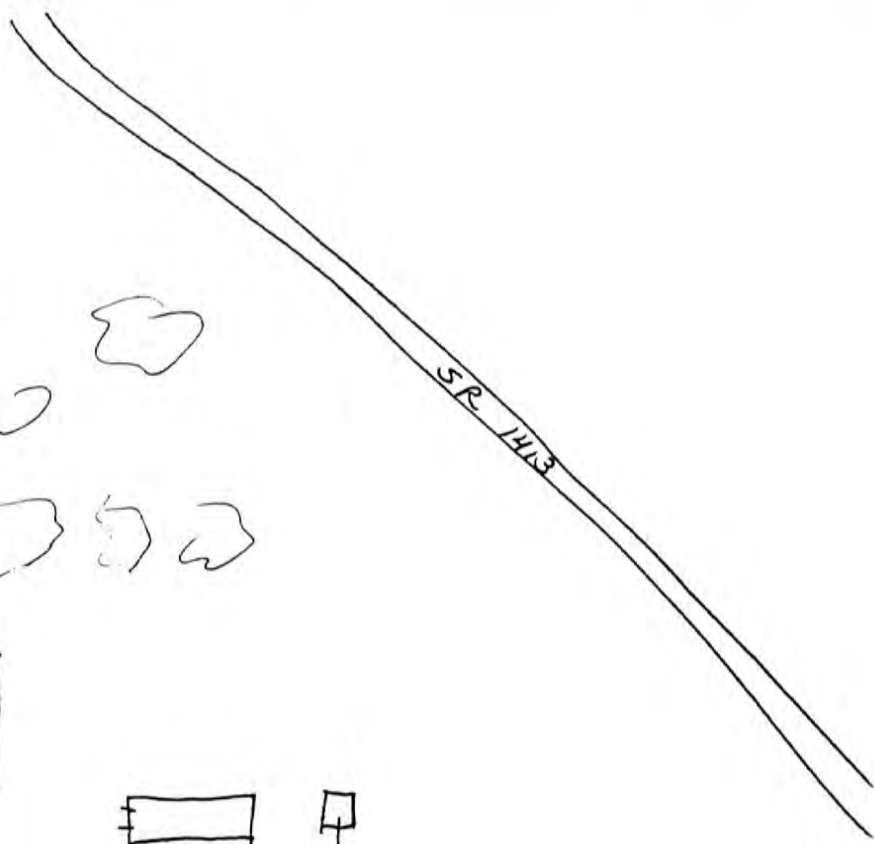
65. (A) House, overall view to NW



66. (B) House, N elevation, view to SW

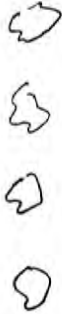


S-18. House



FIELD

FIELD



(B)

(A)

SR 1403



## 19. House

E side SR 1413, 0.4 mi N of jct w/SR 1425

This typical early twentieth-century vernacular farmhouse is a two-story, single-pile, weatherboarded frame structure. It has a gable roof, gable-end brick chimneys, two-over-two sash windows, a three-bay facade, a facade porch with Tuscan columns and a plain balustrade, and a central entrance with sidelights. Although the house appears to be well-maintained, there are numerous alterations, including an added covered patio on the west side, two large additions--one with a hipped roof and the other with a shed roof--on the rear, and interior changes which include the removal of one wall of the center hall to create a larger living room. Several outbuildings and landscape features accompany the house. West of the house is a large arbor. Behind the house is a cinderblock storage building and garage. East of the house is its largest outbuilding, a frame barn composed of the shell of a two-story Federal style house with large attached sheds. Abutting the barn at its southeast corner is another, smaller frame barn with sheds on either side. South of the barns are a frame corncrib and a frame equipment shed. Behind the house and outbuildings is a large field. Two dirt lanes lead into the property from SR 1413--one south of the house and the other between the house and barns. Shrubbery borders the house on north and east, but there are few trees on the property.

This property is not eligible for the National Register. The house has lost its historic architectural integrity because of its numerous alterations, and the outbuildings do not possess enough significance of their own to carry the property. It therefore does not meet Criterion C. The property also does not meet Criterion A or B, because no known events or people of historic significance are associated with it.





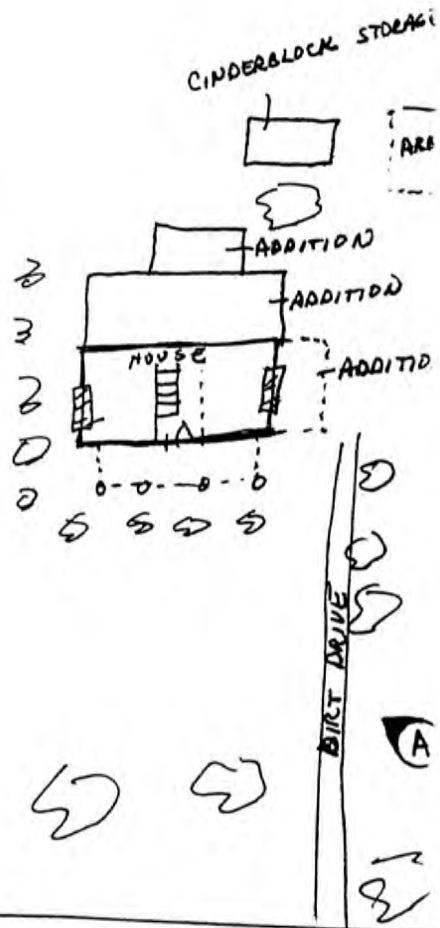
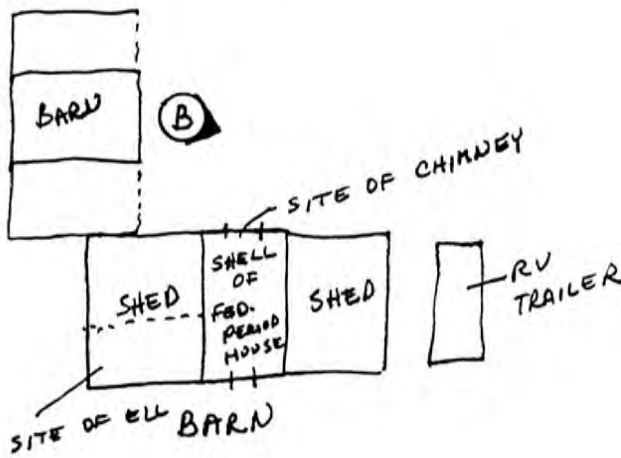
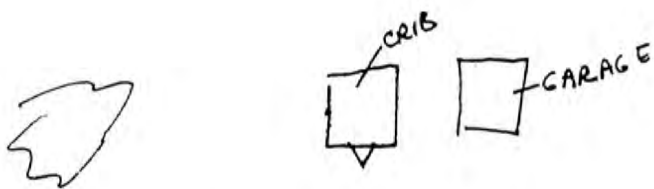
67. (A) House, overall view to E



68. (B) House, barn and house, view to W

S-19. House

↑  
← FIELD →



SR 1413  
121

VN

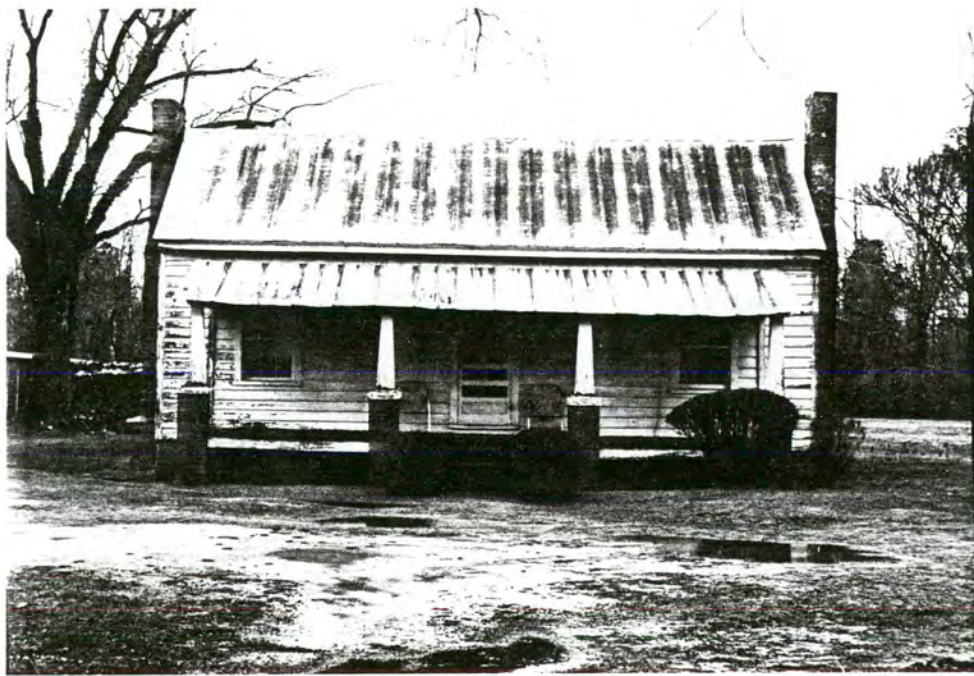


## 20. House

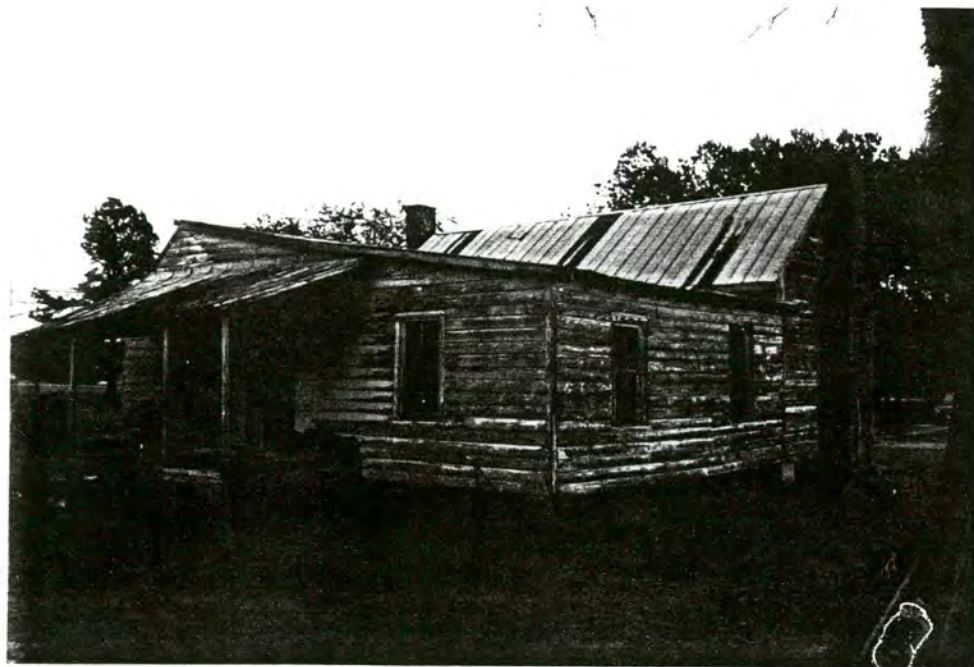
NW side US 13, 0.4 mi SW of jct w/SR 1457

The original portion of this one-story frame house appears to have been built between ca. 1870 and ca. 1890. The single-pile vernacular dwelling possesses such typical features as weatherboard siding, a gable roof with a boxed and molded cornice across front and rear, gable-end brick chimneys, a three-bay facade, and a center-hall plan. Windows range from nine-over-six to six-over-four to two-over-two sash, all with plain surrounds. The facade has a replacement porch with a shed roof and bungalow style posts. The front door is a replacement. The interior features a low wainscot, sheetrocked walls, and vernacular mantels with a paneled frieze. Projecting from the rear of the house are several additions. On the northwest side is what appears to have been the first ell, probably added during the early twentieth century. Expanding southward from it and filling in the remaining space at the rear of the house is another, larger, shed-roofed addition. A shed-roofed porch shelters the rear entrance--an open hall that once was the side porch for the ell. West of the house are a wood shed and beyond it a dilapidated open shed. Two tall trees stand in front of the house, and another between the house and wood shed. The house is set back from US 13 with a dirt lane leading to it through a pine grove.

The alterations and additions to this house seriously compromise its architectural integrity and prevent it from meeting Criterion C for the National Register. The house also does not fulfill Criteria A and B because it bears no known association with either an event or a person of historic significance. It is therefore not eligible for the National Register.



69. (A) House, facade, view to SE



70. (B) House, rear, view to E

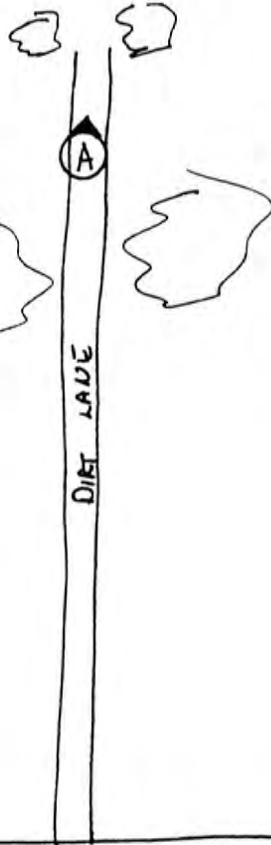
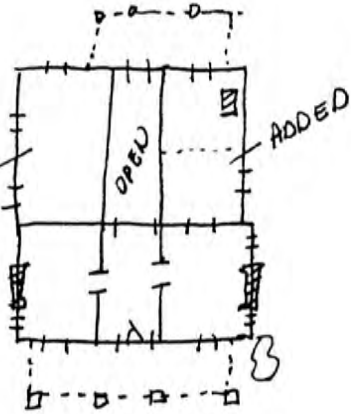


S-20. House

OPEN SHED

WOOD SHED

(B)



SCATTERED PILES

SCATTERED PILES

124

US 13



## 21. House

S side SR 1424, 0.95 mi SE of jct w/SR 1409

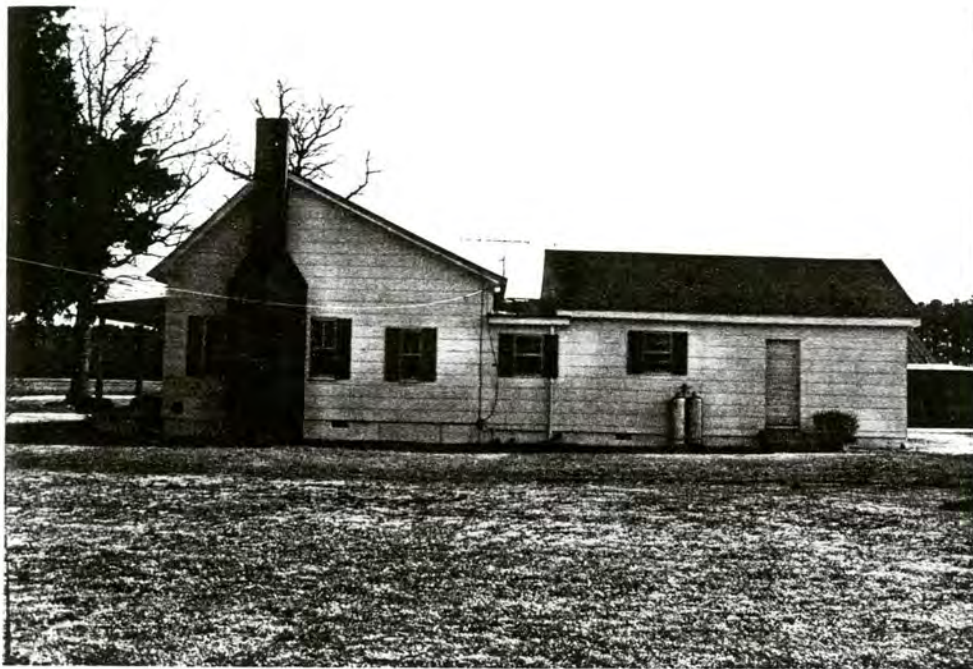
This one-story vernacular dwelling may have been built prior to the late nineteenth century, but if so, it was remodeled during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century and then again around the mid twentieth century. At present the house has a cinderblock foundation, asbestos shingle siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof, gable-end stuccoed brick chimneys--the east one double-shouldered and the west one single-shouldered--and both six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows with replacement batten shutters. The three-bay facade is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts and has a central entrance with a four-panel door and sidelights. The interior features a center-hall plan with beaded boarding for wainscot, walls, and ceiling in the hall and two simple vernacular mantels in the front rooms. The shed rooms across the rear have been remodeled. The kitchen ell--attached to the main body of the house by a hyphen--appears to have been a separate structure originally. It has an enclosed porch and a stove stack. The ell rooms have been remodeled. A single cedar stands in front of the house, while other trees border the circular drive east of the house. Behind the house is a field, and southeast of the house are metal-sheathed frame barns and large metal equipment sheds.

The house has no known associations with events or people of historic significance, and its architectural integrity has been lost due to substantial remodeling. Therefore, it does not meet Criterion A, B, or C for listing in the National Register and is not eligible.





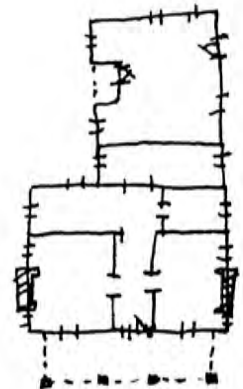
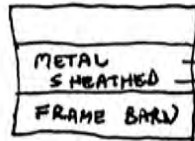
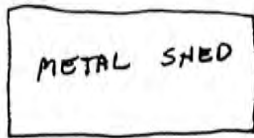
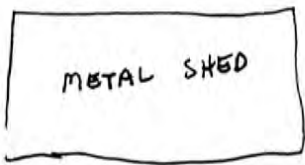
71. (A) House, overall view to W



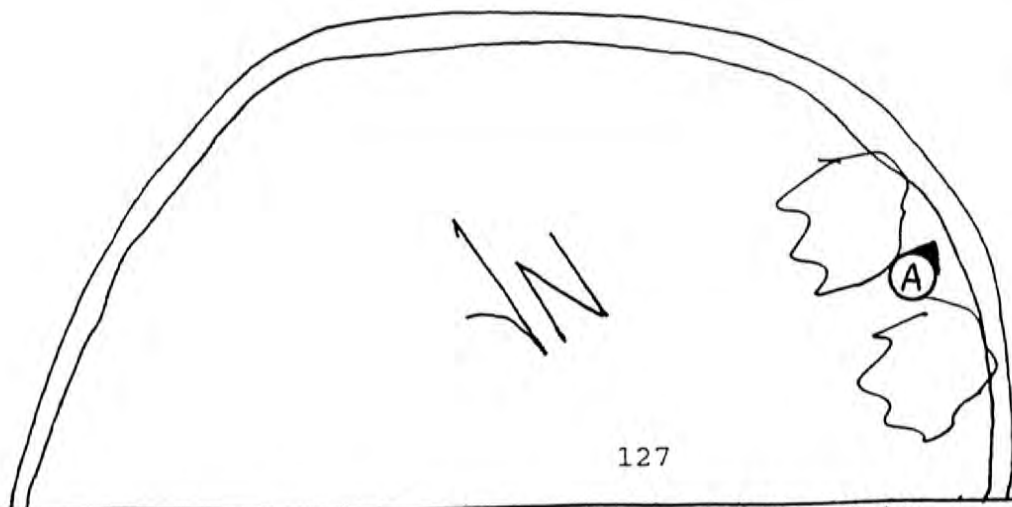
72. (B) House, NW elevation, view to SE

S-21. House

FIELD



(B)



CEDAR

127

SR 1424



## 22. House

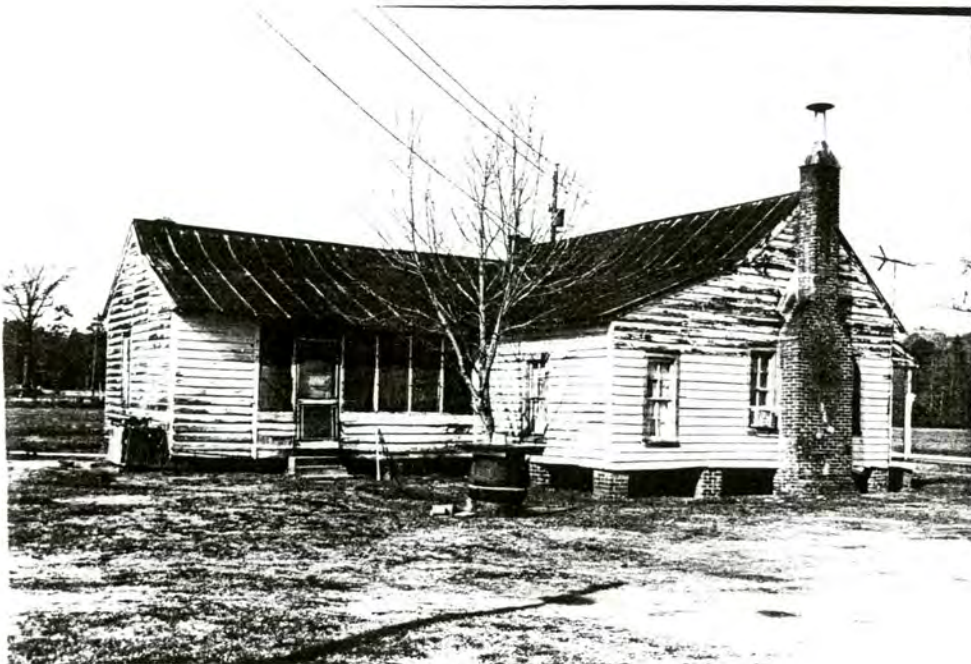
SW side SR 1424, 0.4 mi SE of jct w/SR 1409

This house is typical of many small farmhouses built in the region during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is a one-story frame structure with a brick pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof, gable-end brick chimneys, and four-over-four sash windows. A shed-roofed porch with square posts spans the three-bay facade, which has a replacement central front door. A shed room carries across the east half of the rear of the house, while a long ell with a screened porch and enclosed end room projects from the other (west) half. The interior was not accessible for recording. The house is located close to the road, and a single tree stands in front. Fields are located east and west of the house, and behind the house are a large two-story frame barn with expansive side sheds and a smaller frame storage building with side sheds.

The house does not meet the criteria for National Register eligibility. Although it is representative of one of the common forms of small farmhouses found in the region during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, its present condition detracts from its value as a noteworthy example of the form. At the same time, the house does not possess architectural features which distinguish it individually. In addition, no events or people of known historic significance are associated with the house.



73. (A) House, facade, view to SW



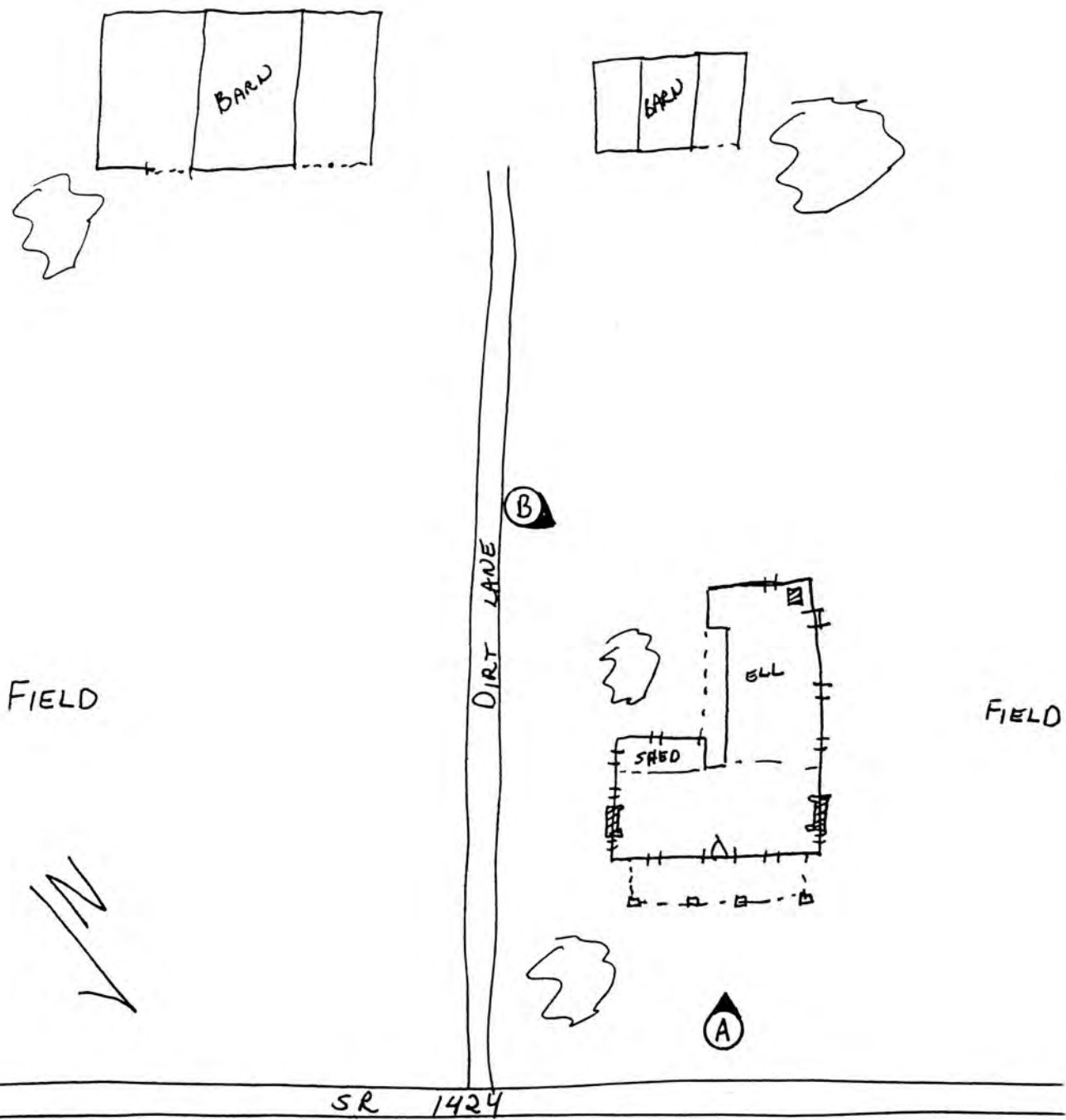
74. (B) House, rear, view to N





75. (C) House, outbuildings, view to W

S-22. House





### 23. Newsome Family Farm

W side US 13 at Ahoskie Town Limit

The Newsome Family Farm consists of a ca. 1900 farmhouse, an early nineteenth century house converted to a farm storage building, a collection of farm outbuildings, and the surrounding fields associated with them. The head of the complex is a vernacular dwelling typical of countless farmhouses built in North Carolina during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is a two-story weatherboarded frame I-house with a metal-sheathed gable roof (much of which has been pulled off), gable-end brick chimneys, and one-over-one sash windows. The three-bay facade features a hip-roofed porch (currently screened-in) with bungalow-style posts and a center-bay entrance with an oval-glass door and single-pane sidelights. Projecting from the rear of the house is a one-story ell with a central stove stack and a collapsing porch. The house is unoccupied and is in deteriorated condition. Behind the house the various outbuildings are arranged along either side of a farm lane. On the south side of the lane are frame structures which appear to have been a smokehouse, a shed, and a chicken house or livestock shed. On the north side of the lane is a large frame barn with a center passage and side sheds. At the end of the lane is a storage building converted from the early nineteenth century family home which appears to have been moved from its original site on the property. This older house is a vernacular hall-and-parlor plan structure, one-story with a loft under the gable roof. Beaded weatherboards remain on the front and rear of the structure, but the north and south end walls were replaced when the chimneys were removed. One nine-over-six sash window remains. The interior retains batten doors with H-and-L hinges and simple Federal-style door casings, box locks, an enclosed stair to the loft which ascends from the hall room, and a simple wainscot. The walls and ceiling were plastered, but the plaster has almost completely collapsed. A large shed has been added to the east side of the house. Just north of the old house is a small frame structure which appears to date from the same period as the house and may have been used as a dairy. It has mortise-and-tenon construction, beaded weatherboard siding, a gable roof, and a batten door headed by a louvered ventilator. Two frame structures which appear to be tobacco barns are located in a field west of the main complex of outbuildings. Fields also flank the buildings on the north and south, and a single tree stands in front of the ca. 1900 house.

Local tradition claims that several generations of Newsomes lived and farmed on this property. Richard Sumner Newsome (1851-1910) is said to have built the ca. 1900 farmhouse to replace the earlier house which was converted to a storage building. R. S. Newsome was active at the Ahoskie Baptist Church, and during the 1870s and 1880s he served as Sunday School superintendent.

The Newsome Family Farm does not appear to be associated with any events or people of historic significance. As a family farm complex which evolved over a number of years, the property is of some interest. However, the early nineteenth-century dwelling has been heavily altered and is deteriorated as well, and the ca. 1900 dwelling has suffered significant deterioration. The architectural integrity has thus been substantially compromised, and, as a result, the property does not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register.



76. (A) Newsome Family Farm, overall view to NW



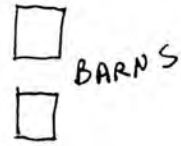


77. (B) Newsome Family Farm, rear, view to NE



78. (C) Newsome Family Farm, old house, view to NE

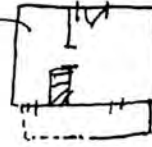
S-23. Newsome Family Farm



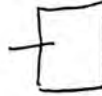
FIELD



EARLY 19TH CENT  
HOUSE CONVERTED TO  
STORAGE BUILDING



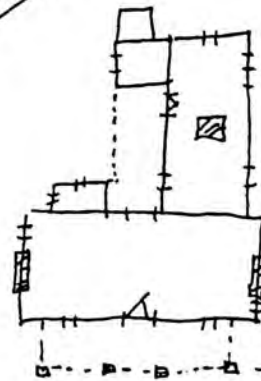
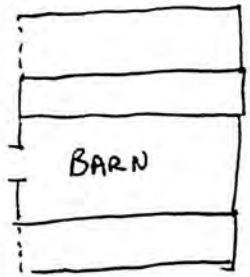
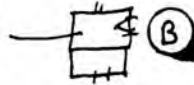
CHICKEN  
HOUSE



SHED



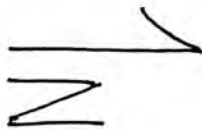
SMOKEHOUSE  
& SHED



FIELD

FIELD

DIRT LAKE



US 13

35



#### 24. John Whidby Newsome House

W side US 13, 0.25 mi N of Ahoskie City Limit

The Newsome House is a large, two-story frame, double-pile structure built in the 1920s. Family tradition claims that the house incorporates an earlier, single-pile dwelling. The house has weatherboard siding, a steep hipped roof with large hipped dormers on the front and two sides, interior chimneys, and a one-story rear ell with enclosed porches and a gable-end brick chimney. The most unusual part of the house is its hipped-roof front porch with its four massive bungalow-influenced tapered piers. Windows are eight-over-one sash across the facade and on the dormers, while those on the sides and rear are two-over-two sash. Ell windows are four-over-four sash. Most of the windows have been boarded up. A glass and wood front door leads to the center-hall plan interior which features five-panel doors, plastered walls, and a closed-string stair. In its unoccupied state, the house exhibits advancing deterioration. A long walk leads from the road to the front entrance, and a dirt lane enters the property north of the house. The house is surrounded by corn fields, although a large magnolia in front of the house and several other large trees on either side have been left standing. Along the lane northwest of the house is the Newsome-Mitchell family cemetery with approximately eleven markers.

This was the residence of John Whidby "Whid" Newsome (1880-1955), his wife, Maria (1882-1976), and their twelve children. Whid was an ice man in Ahoskie, and Maria taught school for many years in Hertford County.

Although the Newsome House is eye-catching because of size, setback from the road, and unusually clunky front porch, it does not possess any real architectural significance--either individually or as a good example of a common type--and its integrity has been diminished by neglect and deterioration. At the same time, the house is not associated with events or people of historical significance. It is therefore not eligible for the National Register.



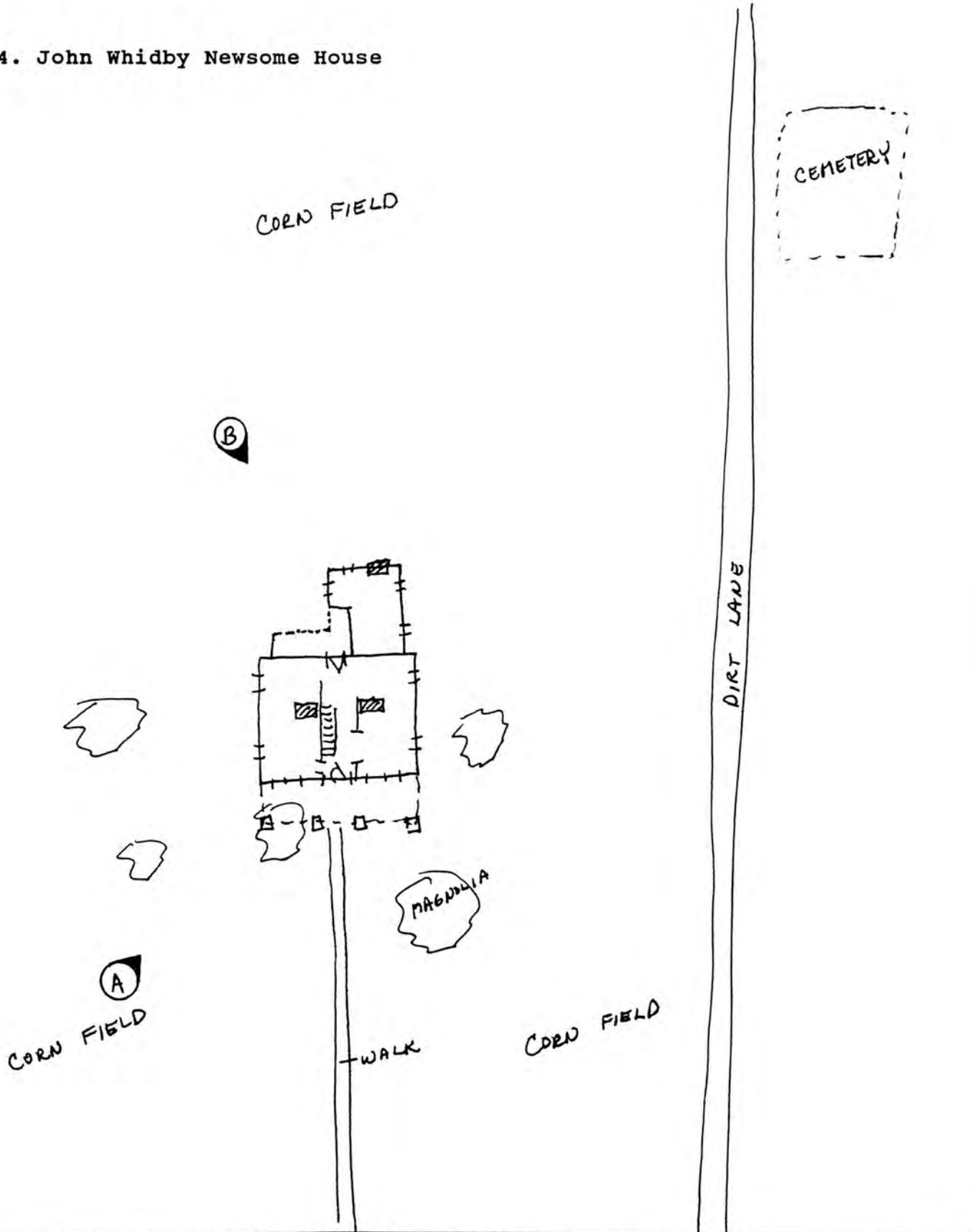
79. (A) John Whidby Newsome House, overall view to NW



80. (B) John Whidby Newsome House, rear, view to NE



S-24. John Whidby Newsome House



25. William Elisha Sessoms Farm

NW cor, jct of SR 1418 & SR 1419

The Sessoms Farm consists of a house, six outbuildings, and accompanying fields. The front part of the house is a ca. 1911 two-story frame dwelling with a brick pier foundation, weatherboard siding, a triple-A gable roof, both a gable-end brick chimney and an interior chimney, and two-over-two sash windows. A one-story, hipped-roof porch with Tuscan columns carries across the three-bay facade. The central five-panel door with sidelights leads to the center-hall plan interior. Attached to the rear of the house is a long one-story ell which was built in the 1940s. It replaced the original late nineteenth-century house which faced SR 1419 (the present house faces SR 1418). Northeast of the house near SR 1419 is a single log tobacco barn. The other outbuildings stand northwest of the house. Closest to the house are a pair of single-story frame buildings. The northernmost of these is a two-room structure which originally served as the kitchen/dining room of the original house. When that house was demolished for the 1940s ell, this section was moved to its present location for continued use. In front of the former kitchen/dining room stands the other single-story frame structure. Although Elisha Sessoms called it his "office," it actually was used as a dwelling for the black man who took care of Sessoms' horses. North of these structures stands a low frame building with a smokehouse in the center and a garage bay on either side. North of the smokehouse is a two-story frame barn with a large shed projecting on either side. It housed horses, a hay loft, and farm equipment. A larger barn once stood behind this location until it burned. Southwest of this barn and the smokehouse is another barn, this one with its side sheds removed. Originally it housed horses and hogs. North and west of the complex of buildings are woods, while south of the outbuildings and east of the house are fields. Several large trees stand immediately around the house and outbuildings, and a row of pines borders the house on the east.

William Elisha Sessoms (1849-1923) was a farmer who cultivated primarily peanuts and cotton. He was also a horse trader. In 1890 he married Beulah Elizabeth Rayner (1871-1937). Their farm remains in family ownership.

The Sessoms Farm is not eligible for the National Register. It is not associated with events or people of historic significance, and while its house and outbuildings are representative of the early twentieth century, the present architectural integrity of the complex has been diminished through demolition and alteration so as not to be sufficient to fulfill the National Register criteria. Also, there are better examples of late nineteenth and early twentieth century farmsteads in the area.





81. (A) William Elisha Sessoms Farm, house, view to E

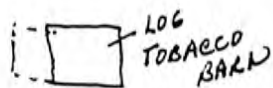


82. (B) William Elisha Sessoms Farm, overall view to E

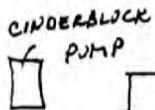
S-25. William Elisha Sessoms Farm



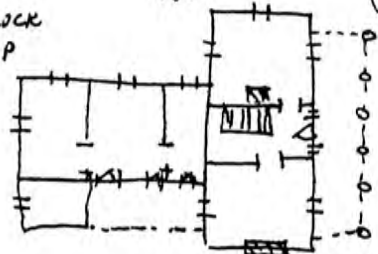
SR 1419



FIELD



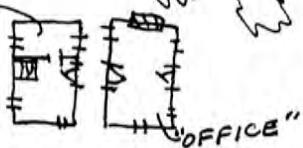
WOODS



FIELD

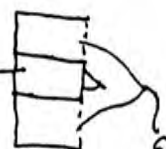
DIRT LANE

ELL DP ORIGINAL HOUSE



SR 1418

SMOKEHOUSE

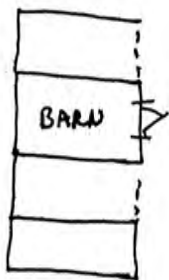


CARAGE



WOODS

FIELD



141

HOUSE

WOODS

(B)



26. Simmons Farm

S side SR 1408, 0.5 mi W of jct w/SR 1413

The Simmons Farm consists of an early twentieth-century two-story frame farmhouse and several outbuildings. The house has weatherboard siding, a triple-A gable roof with sawnwork detailing on the facade gable, a gable-end brick chimney on the north side and a replacement stove stack on the south side, two-over-two sash windows, a one-story, hip-roofed porch with replacement bungalow posts across the three-bay facade, and a central entrance with sidelights. A shed room projects from the rear of the house, as well as a kitchen ell which is attached to the front of the house by a partially enclosed breezeway. The south side of the ell has an enclosed porch. The interior of the house is heavily remodeled--in part with bungalow style features--and is currently undergoing additional remodeling. Behind the house is a row of outbuildings. Southwest of the house is a smokehouse with attached sheds. Northwest of the house are a garage, a two-story barn with expansive sheds, and a one-story shop building with an attached shed. All outbuildings are of frame construction. Several trees surround the house and outbuildings, and south of the complex is a cotton field. The farm is associated with the Simmons family.

The Simmons Farm is not eligible for the National Register. The extensive remodeling and deterioration of the house and outbuildings have substantially compromised its architectural integrity, and the property is not associated with events or people of historic significance. It is therefore unable to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register.



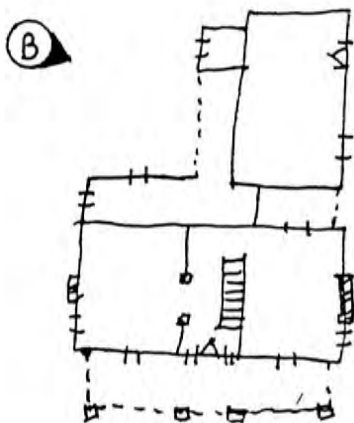
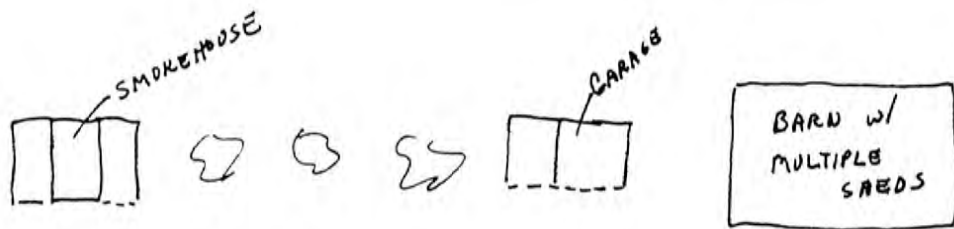
83. (A) Simmons Farm, overall view to SW



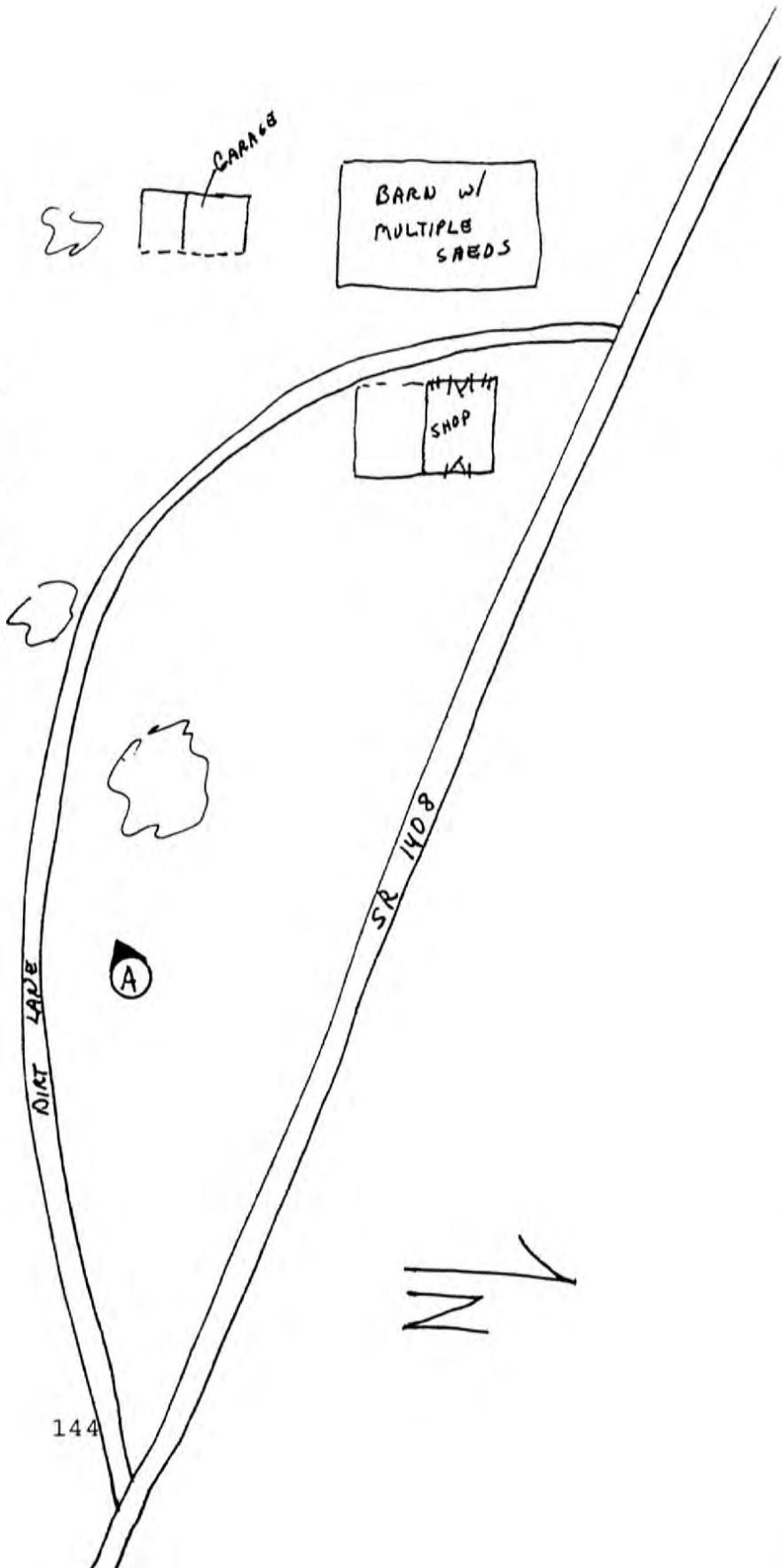
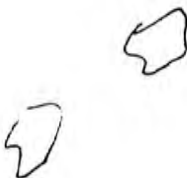
84. (B) Simmons Farm, S elevation, view to N



S-26. Simmons Farm



COTTON FIELD



N

27. Blount Willoughby House

S side SR 1418, 0.2 mi E of jct w/US 13/NC 42

The Blount Willoughby House is a two-story frame vernacular I-house which appears to have been built ca. 1875-1885. The house has vinyl siding, pedimented gable ends and a boxed cornice, gable-end brick chimneys of irregular common bond, six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows with replacement louvered shutters across the three-bay facade, a shed-roofed front porch with square posts and board-and-batten ceiling, and shed rooms across the rear. A one-story ell with enclosed porch and added roof extension has been added to the rear of the house and has been attached to it by an enclosed passage. A two-panel front door with sidelights and transom leads to the center-hall plan interior with its transitional Greek Revival-later Victorian period detailing. The decorative treatment of the hall and two front rooms (all that was accessible for inspection) is well preserved and includes an open-string stair with bracketed stair ends, board-and-batten ceilings, four-panel doors, molded door and window surrounds, low wainscots, and late Greek Revival vernacular mantels. In the parlor, the door and wainscot are wood-grained, and the baseboard and mantel are marbled. The decorative painting is well-executed and in good condition. The Willoughby House is set back from the road behind the facade line of the other, later, houses around it. A driveway leads to the front of the house, and several large trees are scattered around the front yard. Much of the back yard is enclosed in chain-link-fenced dog pens. Southeast of the house is a single frame outbuilding--an enclosed meat house or shed with flanking open-fronted sheds. Abutting the property on the west side of the house is an industrial site filled with petro-chemical tanks.

Family tradition relates that this was the home of Blount Willoughby (1841-1906), grandfather of the present occupant. He earlier lived in the house known as the Jason E. Willoughby House (see #28) and had this house constructed after the births of his sons Jason (1860) and Thomas E. Willoughby (1873).

The Blount Willoughby House is not eligible for the National Register. No events or people of historic significance are associated with it, and the house is not a significant representative of a common house form of the 1870s-1880s period. Although the house possesses a well-preserved interior, the overall integrity of the house and site have been substantially compromised by the addition of vinyl siding and replacement shutters, by the addition and subsequent remodeling of the rear ell, and by the intrusive character of the adjacent industrial site. It is therefore unable to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register.



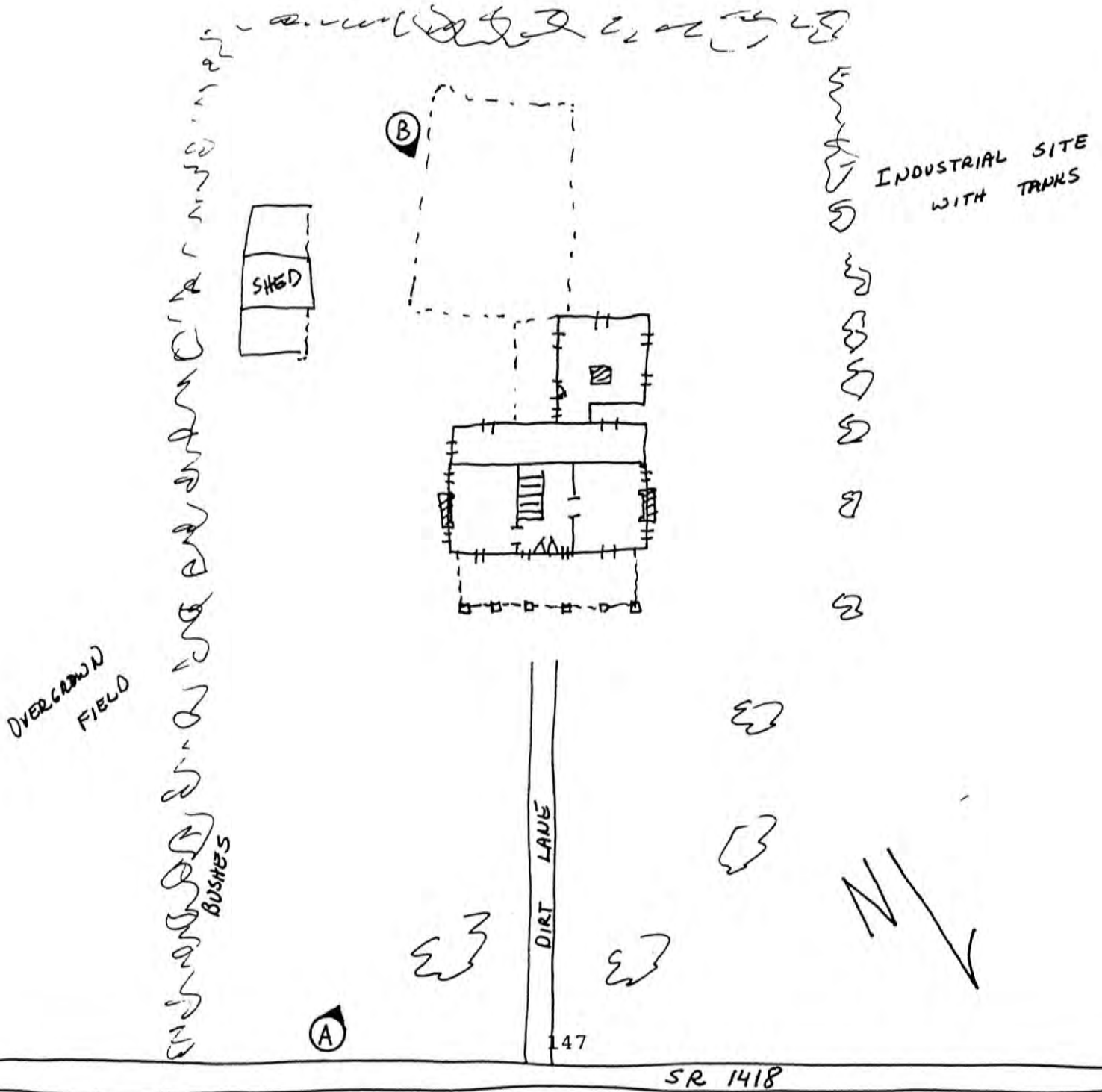


85. (A) Blount Willoughby House, overall view to W



86. (B) Blount Willoughby House, rear, view to N

S-27. Blount Willoughby House





28. Jason E. Willoughby House

W side US 13, 0.25 mi N of jct w/SR 1418

The Jason E. Willoughby House is a one-story-with-loft vernacular dwelling believed to date from the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The weatherboarded frame structure has a gable roof with double rear pitch, a gable-end brick chimney of irregular common bond, four-over-four sash windows, and a three-bay facade with a shed-roofed porch. The front and rear doors are replacements, as are some of the windows. Attached by a screened breezeway to the rear of the house is a kitchen/dining building. It has a rear gable-end chimney, a screened side porch with an enclosed end room, and batten doors. The interior of the house follows a traditional hall-and-parlor plan with rear shed rooms. Features include modern wall sheathing, a simple vernacular mantel, an enclosed stair, and remodeled shed rooms. The interior of the kitchen/dining room structure has unsheathed frame walls and beaded board ceilings. The house is positioned relatively close to the highway, and fields surround it on the three other sides. Scattered bushes and crepe myrtle trees are found in the yard. Behind the house is a small metal storage building, and beyond that, in the rear field, is a frame tobacco barn.

Family tradition claims that this house was first owned by Blount Willoughby (1841-1906), who is believed to have lived here until after the birth of his son, Thomas, in 1873. After that he is believed to have moved to a larger, more fashionable, house (see #27). This house later became the home of Blount Willoughby's first son, Jason E. (1860-1924), and is more commonly associated with him.

The Jason E. Willoughby House is a common vernacular house type of the second half of the nineteenth century which has been too altered to retain sufficient architectural integrity as a good representative of the type. In addition, it is not associated with events or people of historic significance. It does not meet the criteria for listing in the National Register.



87. (A) Jason E. Willoughby House, overall view to W

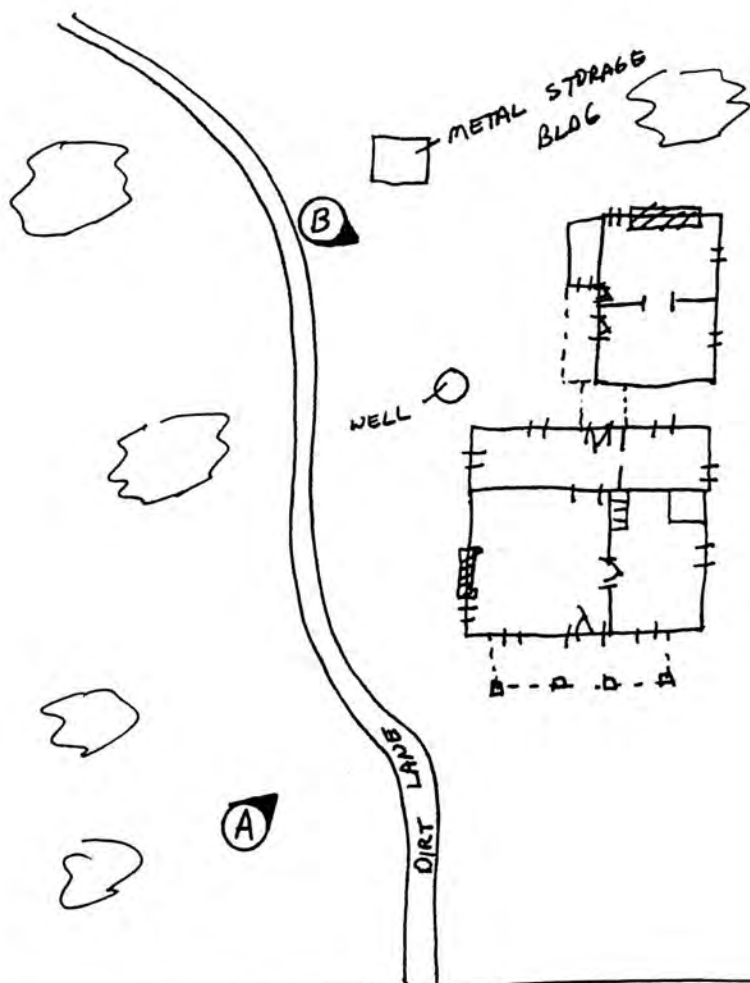
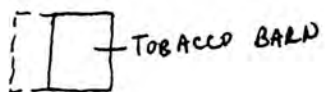


88. (B) Jason E. Willoughby House, rear, view to N



S-28. Jason E. Willoughby House

FIELD



FIELD

FIELD



US 13

## VIII. POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON PROPERTIES

Project data is not sufficient at present to determine potential effects to eligible properties. Potential effects will be addressed in a future separate report when the highway alignments under consideration have been reviewed with reference to information contained in this report.



## IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## X. APPENDIX

### AHOSKIE BYPASS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY HERTFORD AND BERTIE COUNTIES, N.C. TIP NO. R-2205

THIS AGREEMENT made this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1992 between BURTON, ADAMS, KEMP & KING, INC., 224 Fayetteville Street Mall, Post Office Box 311, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0311, hereinafter called the Engineer, and LAURA A. W. PHILLIPS, Architectural Historian, hereinafter called the Historical/Architectural Consultant.

The Engineer has made an agreement, hereinafter referred to as the Engineering Agreement, dated October 4, 1991 with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, hereinafter referred to as the State. The Engineering Agreement provides for the furnishing of professional services in connection with preparation of an Environmental Assessment related to the proposed improvement of US 13 in Hertford and Bertie Counties, North Carolina from existing NC 42 to the Winton Bypass, with a bypass of Ahoskie, hereinafter referred to as the Project. The Engineer and Historical/Architectural Consultant agree as set forth below:

#### 1.0 HISTORICAL/ARCHITECTURAL CONSULTANT'S SERVICES

##### 1.1 The Historical/Architectural Consultant agrees to:

- a) Conduct and prepare a preliminary assessment of the Town of Ahoskie;
- b) Define and conduct an intensive survey of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) to identify, record and evaluate all historic architectural resources of significance according to National Register Criteria;
- c) Assess potential impacts of all alternative routes under study on any properties evaluated as eligible for or listed on the National Register;
- d) Prepare a written report on the findings of the survey and evaluation.

The work to be conducted by the Historical/Architectural Consultant will include background research, field activities, analysis, and report preparation as fully described in the attached proposal (February 6, 1991). The work will be prepared according to the requirements of Attachment B, "Description of Services Required for Consideration of Cultural Resources in the Preparation of Environmental Documents", Section VII - Historic Architectural Resources dated August 22, 1989, with the following exception: any abstract or summary of the survey report for use with environmental reports will be prepared by the Engineer, provided that the Historical/Architectural Consultant be given the opportunity to review and comment on any such abstract summary. Results of the work performed by the Historical/Architectural Consultant will be presented in a formal survey report which will conform to Attachment C, "Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports of Historic



Structures Surveys and Evaluations Submitted to the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office". Attachment B and Attachment C are appended to this Agreement. The part of the Project for which the Historical/Architectural Consultant is to provide for these services is hereafter called This Part of the Project.

The Agreement does not include the preparation of formal "Requests for Determination of Eligibility" submitted to the Secretary of the Interior, any Section 4(f) Statements and any Section 106 Memoranda of Agreement. Preparation of these documents would require separate negotiations.

1.2 The Historical/Architectural Consultant shall prepare and provide a formal survey report as described in Attachment B.

1.2.1 The Historical/Architectural Consultant shall prepare the draft survey report and submit <sup>three (3)</sup>~~four (4)~~ copies of the draft report to the Engineer for <sup>our use and</sup>submittal to the State. LWP

1.2.2 The Historical/Architectural Consultant shall prepare the ~~final~~ <sup>final</sup> survey report and submit <sup>six (6)</sup>~~seven (7)~~ copies of the final report to the Engineer <sup>for our use and</sup>for submittal to the State. LWP

1.3 The Historical/Architectural Consultant shall collaborate with the Engineer for This Part of the Project and shall be bound to perform the services undertaken for this Part of the Project in a professional manner and to the extent that the Engineer is bound by the Engineering Agreement to perform such services for this Part of the Project for the State. Except as set forth herein, the Historical/Architectural Consultant shall not have any duties or responsibilities for any other Part of the Project. This Historical/Architectural Consultant shall perform this Part of the Project in character, sequence, and timing so that it will be coordinated with that of the Engineer and any other consultants for the Project.

1.4 The Historical/Architectural Consultant agrees to maintain all books, documents, papers, accounting records, and other information pertaining to cost incurred on this Project. The Historical/Architectural Consultant is further required to make these materials available to the Engineers, State, and/or Federal Highway Administration at all reasonable times during the contract period and for three (3) years from the date of final payment, and furnish copies of such documents to the Engineer, State and/or Federal Highway Administration if requested. The Historical/Architectural Consultant shall use cost principles as described in Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 1-31), Subpart 1-31.2.



Burton, Adams, Kemp & King, Inc.

224 Fayetteville Street Mall  
Post Office Box 311  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0311  
919/856-1777  
FAX 919/856-9263

August 3, 1992

Ms. Laura Phillips  
637 N. Spring Street  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

Dear Ms. Phillips:

I have received your submittal and maps concerning the historic-architectural resources found within the study area of project R-2205 (Ahoskie Bypass). Your preliminary findings, based upon a reconnaissance level survey and background research, indicated two properties (former Ahoskie School and Thomas Eley House) obviously eligible for the National Register and a multi-block area (tentatively identified as West Side Historic District) generally surrounding the First Street and Church Street areas in the center of Ahoskie which appears eligible for the National Register. These properties lie along the existing US 13 highway and would potentially be impacted by improvements to existing US 13 (referred to as Corridor A). Consequently, based upon your information and other impacts caused by improving the existing US 13, such as relocations, community disruption, safety considerations, traffic levels of service, traffic congestion and right of way considerations, I will recommend to NCDOT that Corridor A be eliminated as a feasible alternative for this project. The elimination of Corridor A from further detailed study should remove this portion of Ahoskie from the area of potential effect.

A more detailed explanation of the reasons for Corridor A's elimination from further consideration as a feasible alternative will be included in the Environmental Assessment document.

Sincerely,

BURTON, ADAMS, KEMP & KING, INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald G. Hairr".

Ronald G. Hairr  
Project Manager

RGH:jfa

cc: Mr. L. Jack Ward, P.E. (ATTN: Ms. Stacy Baldwin)  
Mr. Roger Lewis, P.E.