

RGE file copy

Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report
Phase II

Replace Bridge No. 14 on SR 1352 over Eno Creek
Orange County, North Carolina
TIP No. B-3010
State Project No. 8.2500901
Federal Aid No. BRZ-1352(3)

North Carolina Department of Transportation
Report Prepared by Clay Griffith

December 21, 1995

Clay Griffith
Principal Investigator, Historic Architectural Resources Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Dec. 21, 1995
Date

Barbara Church
Barbara Church, Supervisor
Historic Architectural Resources Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Dec. 24, 1995
Date

Replace Bridge No. 14 on SR 1352 over Eno Creek,
Orange County, North Carolina
TIP No. B-3010

Project Description

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge No. 14 on SR 1352 (Carr Store Road) over Eno Creek. Two alternatives are being considered for the subject project: (1) replace the bridge in existing location with road closure and an off-site detour, or (2) replace the bridge on new location to the north of the existing bridge. Bridge No. 14, built in 1953, has a sufficiency rating of 18.1 out of 100.

The area of potential effect (APE) for historic architectural resources was delineated by a NCDOT staff architectural historian and reviewed in the field. The APE boundary is shown on the attached map (Figure 2).

Purpose of Survey and Report

NCDOT conducted a survey and compiled this report in order to identify historic architectural resources located within the APE as part of the environmental studies performed by NCDOT and documented by a Categorical Exclusion (CE). This report is prepared as a technical addendum to the CE and as part of the documentation of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the NHPA requires that if a federally funded, licensed, or permitted project has an effect on a property listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be given an opportunity to comment. This report is on file at NCDOT and available for review by the public.

Methodology

NCDOT conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of FHWA Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60; and Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources by NCDOT. This survey and report meet the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

NCDOT conducted a Phase II survey with the following goals: (1) to determine the APE, defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist; (2) to identify all significant resources within the APE; and (3) to evaluate these resources according to the National Register of Historic Places criteria.

The survey methodology consisted of a field survey and background research on the project area. A NCDOT staff architectural historian conducted a field survey in June 1995, by car and on foot. All structures over fifty years of age in the APE were photographed and keyed to a USGS topographic map or aerial mosaic. No interiors were examined. Background research was conducted at the Orange County Register of Deeds Office, the Survey and Planning Branch of the Division of Archives and History, and the North Carolina State Library in Raleigh.

Summary Findings of the Survey

Two properties over fifty years of age were identified in the APE. The John Pymn Dark House (OR 839) and an unnamed House (OR 826), hereinafter referred to as the Liner House, were recorded by Todd Peck and Jody Carter in their survey of Orange County in 1993. A number of small modern houses and mobile homes are located in the project area particularly along SR 1383.

Orange County was formed in 1752 from Johnston, Bladen, and Granville Counties, and the county seat of Hillsborough was laid out in 1754. Hillsborough served as an important center of activity in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and was the capital of the state for a brief time. In addition to being a central meeting place for businessmen from the east and west sections of the state, the waterways provided many excellent sites for mills. Following the Revolution, Orange County developed into one of the leading counties of the state in many respects with the peak of its influence occurring in the 1840s. The county lost two important industrial areas when sections were partitioned off to form Alamance County in 1849 and Durham County in 1881 (Sharpe, pp. 331-38).

Until the early twentieth century, Orange County consisted largely of small subsistence farms. By the time of the Civil War, the county was extensively settled, and over three-fourths of the area's farms measured less than 100 acres (Lefler and Wager, p. 16). The architectural development of the county consisted, to a large degree, of log construction, representing the influence of German and Scots-Irish settlers. Log houses frequently served as the principal dwelling on many of the county's farms although one and two story, frame, side-gable houses were also common. Like the log buildings, many frame houses in the county were plain, vernacular dwellings with little or no stylish ornament (Lally and Little, n. p.). In the early twentieth century, some local trends continued to persist, but increasingly, nationally popular architectural styles and standardized forms became prevalent throughout the county.

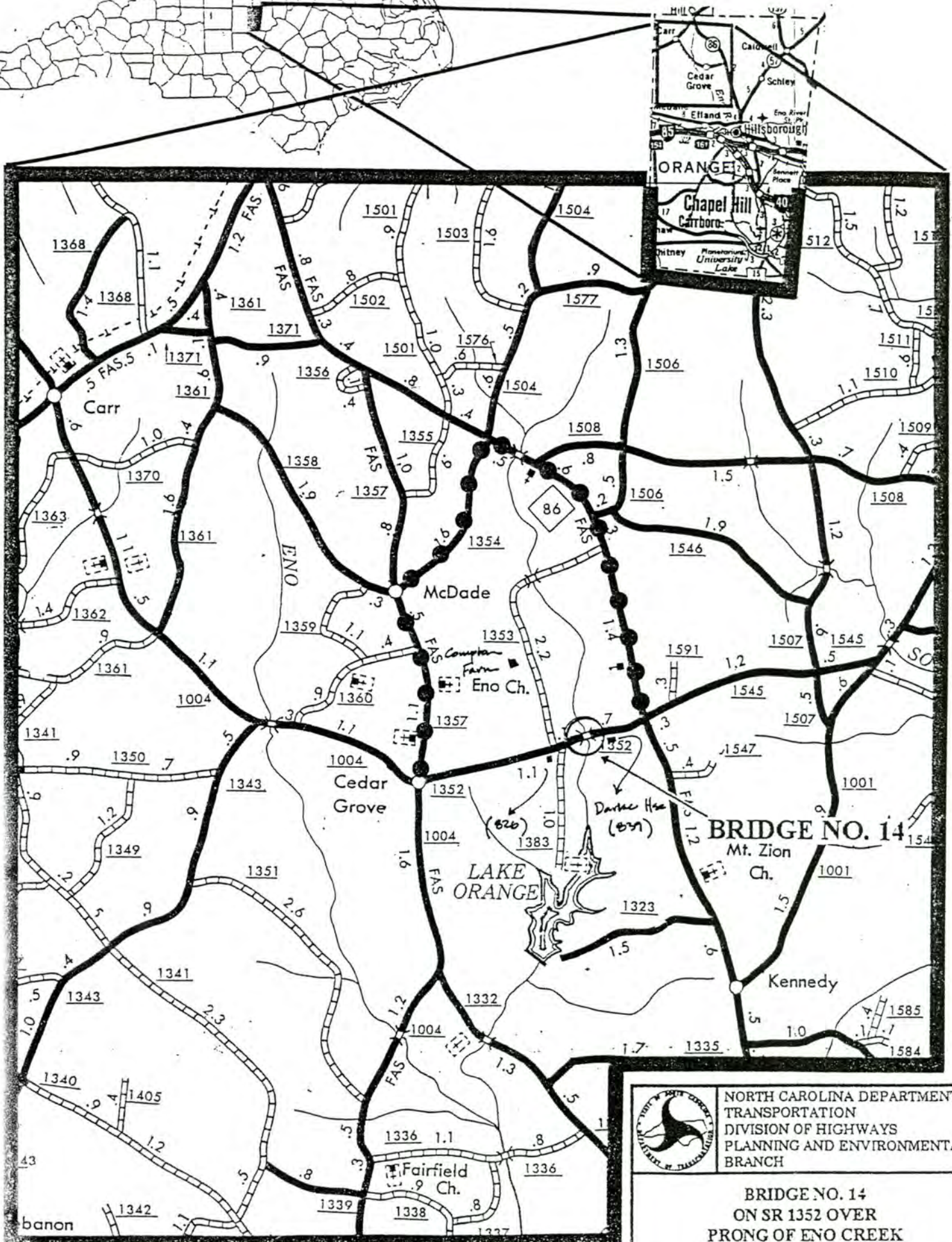
Cedar Grove, located approximately 1.2 miles west of Bridge No. 14, was one of ten primary crossroads communities in Orange County during the nineteenth century. A post office was established in 1828, and by the mid-nineteenth century Cedar Grove included a school, tanner, coach maker, doctor, and general store. Cedar Grove continued to serve as the commercial and social center for the surrounding agricultural areas in the late nineteenth century.

Properties Listed on the National Register or North Carolina State Study List: *None*

Properties Evaluated and Considered Eligible for the National Register: *None*

Properties Evaluated and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register:

John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)
Liner House (OR 826)




STUDIED DETOUR ROUTE



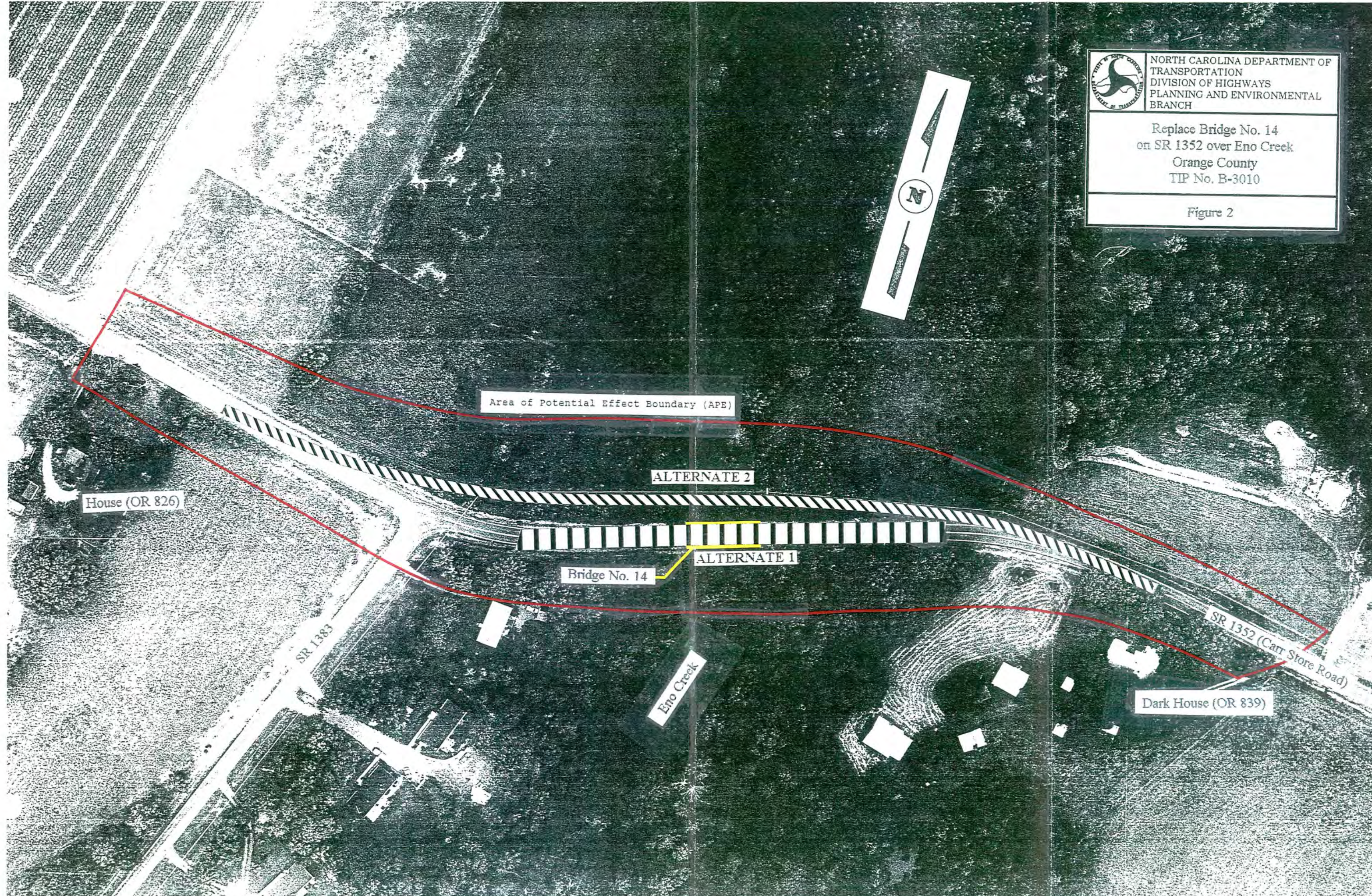
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
BRANCH

BRIDGE NO. 14
ON SR 1352 OVER
PRONG OF ENO CREEK
T.I.P. NO. B-3010

 NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL
BRANCH

Replace Bridge No. 14
on SR 1352 over Eno Creek
Orange County
TIP No. B-3010

Figure 2



Property Inventory and Evaluations

Properties considered not eligible for the National Register:

JOHN PYMN DARK HOUSE (OR 839)

Location. South side of SR 1352 (Carr Store Road), 0.5 mile west of NC 86, Cedar Grove vicinity.

Description. The Dark House is a typical two-story, three-bay, side-gable, frame dwelling with a prominent central cross gable. The plainly finished exterior retains its original weatherboard siding, two-over-two double-hung windows, and hip-roof porch supported by turned and bracketed posts. A one-story, rear ell and shed-roof addition extend from the main block of the house with other additions connecting to the ell. An interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap rises from the main block of the house while a similar exterior chimney is set against the rear wall. A squat, exterior, stone chimney is located at the gable-end of the rear ell. The interior of the house was not accessed.

Several outbuildings remain standing on the property between the house and the creek including a stucco-over-log smokehouse, a stucco-over-log chicken starter house, a frame barn, corncrib, and shed. A detached kitchen reportedly stood on the property but has been demolished. The house lot is deeply shaded by numerous mature hardwoods, and a clearly defined row of these trees follows the curve in Carr Store Road (SR 1836) at the edge of the property. The house faces east and overlooks a cultivated field.

Background Information. The history of the John Pymn Dark House remains somewhat unclear. The house was reportedly built in 1898 by John Pymn Dark (d. 1927) of Chatham County. Based on county records, however, it appears that Dark bought the property in the early twentieth century and moved his family from Chatham to Orange County, although there is no evidence to show whether or not the house was standing on the property at the time Dark assumed ownership of the land. According to a deed recorded in July 1913, J. P. Dark of Chatham County and his wife, Mary, acquired an 150-acre tract from J. M. Pittard, et al, adjacent to A. A. Compton's tract and mill on Eno Creek (Orange County Deed Book 66, p. 417). The Artemis Aquila Compton House (OR 827) still stands and is located northwest of the Dark House on SR 1353. George Tate's 1891 map of Orange County shows "Compton's Mill" on the banks of Eno Creek to the north of the modern Carr Store Road (SR 1352).

The death record for John Pymn Dark's wife, Mamie Headen Dark (1857-1923), notes that she had resided for nine years at her current residence at the time of her death, which closely corresponds with the 1913 purchase date. (John Pymn Dark's wife is alternately referred to as Mamie or Mary in the county records.) The younger children of John and Mamie apparently maintained the house through the middle of the century.

The John Pymn Dark House was reportedly the center of a 136-acre farm until the 1960s. Since that time most of the land has been sold except for a residual six acre tract. The house is presently owned by Sam Hobgood of Cedar Grove, a descendent of John Pymn Dark, and is used as rental property.

Evaluation. NCDOT does not consider the John Pymn Dark House to be eligible for the National Register. The property is an undistinguished example of a house type found throughout Orange County and therefore is not eligible under Criterion C. An overview of the Orange County survey site files reveals a large number of similar examples of this turn of the century house type. In addition other comparable examples are located in the vicinity of Cedar Grove and McDade along SR 1357 and on NC 86 north to the Caswell County line. The John Pymn Dark House is not eligible under Criteria A or B since it is not associated with significant events or broad patterns of history, or with the lives of significant individuals. The architectural component of the property is not likely to yield information in the history of building technology and therefore is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)



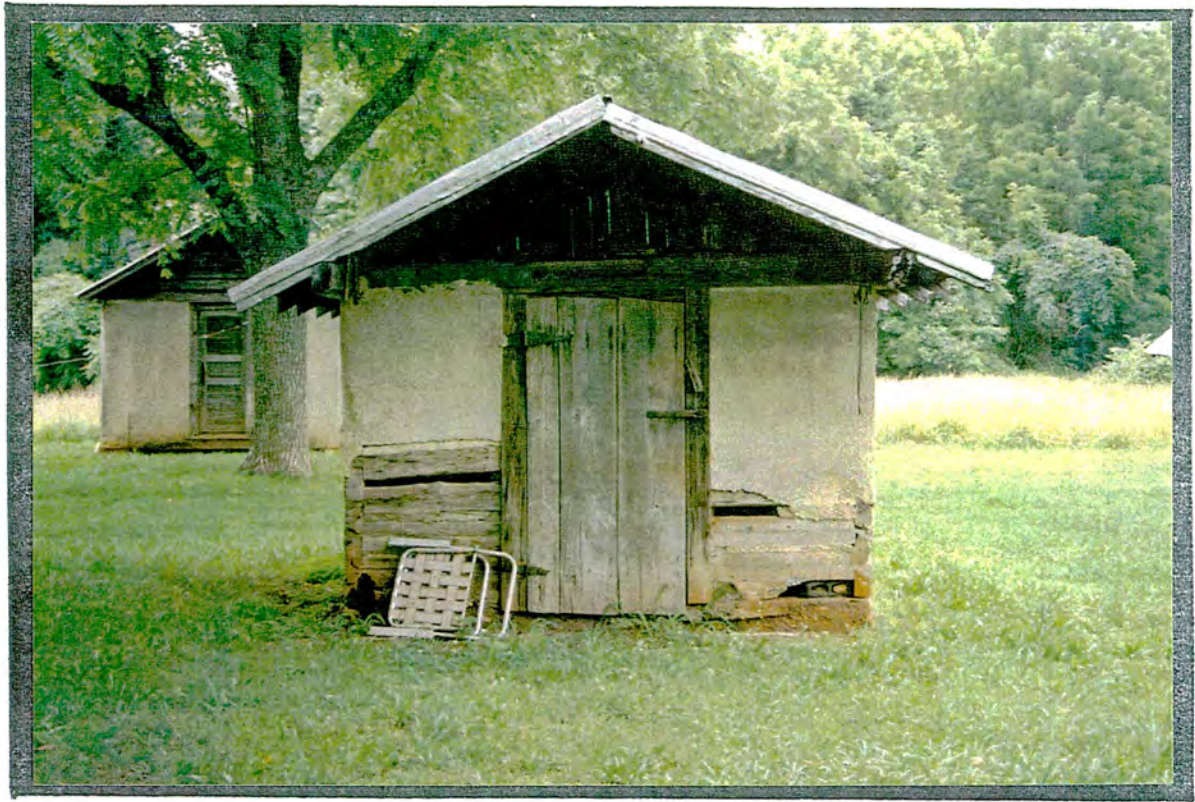
John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)



John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)



Outbuildings, John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)



Smokehouse, John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)



Barn and sheds, John Pymn Dark House (OR 839)

LINER HOUSE (OR 826)

Location. South side of SR 1352 (Carr Store Road) at the southeast corner of the junction with SR 1353, Cedar Grove vicinity.

Description. This one-and-a-half story, frame bungalow features a side-gable roof with two shed dormers flanking a central gabled dormer. Slightly adorned square posts support the engaged, full-width porch. The central dormer, sheathed with wood shingles, surmounts a hip-roof projection that further emphasizes the recessed entrance. The house retains most of its original exterior materials including weatherboard siding, porch elements, one-over-one window sash, and tin roof shingles. The interior of the house was not accessed.

The house is situated back from the road on a clearly defined lot surrounded by a number of mature trees. Two small, plain, frame sheds and a garage also stand on the lot around the house. The remainder of the twenty-five acre property is a field extending south and west from the house lot.

Background Information. Although the property owner was contacted, little information regarding the Liner House could be obtained during the survey. The house is owned by Robert Liner, a descendent of the original owner, and is part of a twenty-five acre tract. The house was built c. 1920 by James Henry Liner (1888-1959), a construction contractor, for his family. Mr. Liner, the current owner, stated that Henry Liner built houses throughout Orange County including many in Cedar Grove, Mebane, and Chapel Hill. The Katherine McDade House and the Annie L. Hughes House in Cedar Grove are two structures attributed to Henry Liner, who also served as the chairman of the Cedar Grove United Methodist Church building program in 1935 responsible for erecting the stone church building, which still stands. No other information regarding Henry Liner's business activities or other structures attributed to him was identified.

Henry Liner apparently acquired the eighty-one acre tract or his home in 1916 from Mrs. Mary M. McDade adjoining the lands of the W. W. Allison heirs, John Dark, and A. A. Compton (Orange County Deed Book 78, page 27). The original tract was divided, and portions sold, among family members following the death of Maude Rogers Liner (1891-1971), Henry's widow. A portion of the property was cultivated, according to Robert Liner, primarily to provide for the family.

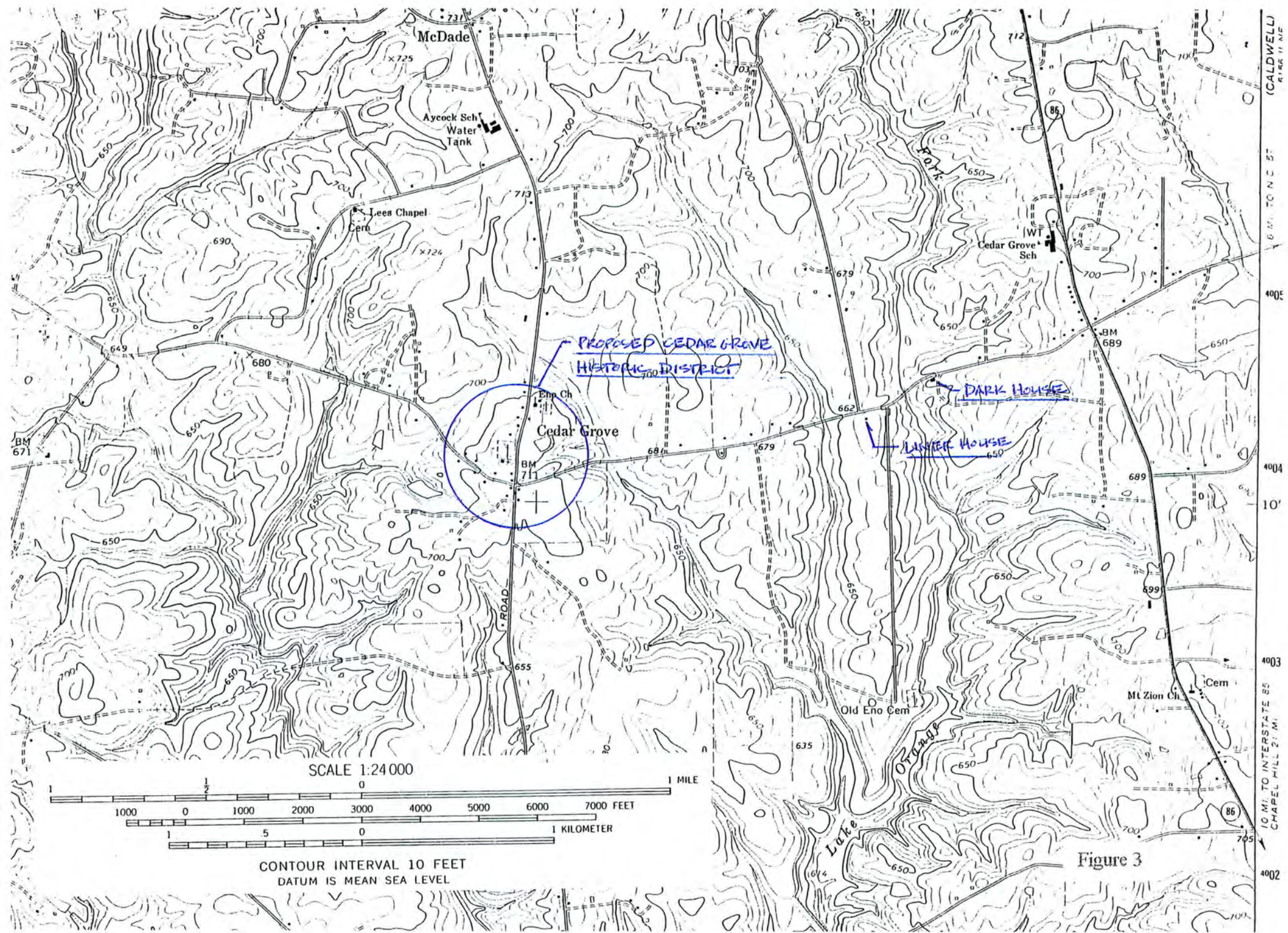
Evaluation. NCDOT does not consider the Liner House to be eligible for the National Register. The property is an undistinguished example of a house type found throughout Orange County and therefore is not eligible under Criterion C. An overview of the Orange County survey site files reveals a large number of similar examples of early twentieth century bungalows. In addition other comparable examples are located in the Cedar Grove vicinity along SR 1357 and on NC 86 north to the county line. In addition, the Liner House does not appear to be located within the eligible boundaries for the proposed Cedar Grove Rural Crossroads Historic District. The Liner House is geographically removed from the concentration of resources contributing to the district by nearly one mile (see Figure 3). Two stream crossings, wooded areas, and several houses not associated with the proposed district isolate the Liner House from the proposed district and create a visual discontinuity between the property and the rural crossroads community.

The Liner House is not eligible under Criteria A or B since it is not associated with significant events or broad patterns of history, or with the lives of significant

individuals. The architectural component of the property is not likely to yield information in the history of building technology and therefore is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



House (OR 826)



Bibliography

- Corbitt, David Leroy. *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties, 1633-1943*. Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1950.
- Lally, Kelly A. and M. Ruth Little. "Chapel Hill Township Survey: Final Report." North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, Survey and Planning Branch. June 1992.
- Lefler, Hugh and Paul Wager, eds. *Orange County--1752-1952*. Chapel Hill: published by authors, 1953.
- Liner, Robert. Personal communication, November 1995.
- Osborn, Rachel and Ruth Selden-Sturgill. *The Architectural Heritage of Chatham County, North Carolina*. Eds. Marjorie Ruth Hudson and Rachel Osborn. Pittsboro, NC: Chatham County Historical Architecture Survey Committee, 1991.
- Owen, Scott. "Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Phase II (Abridged), US 15-501 from the Proposed Pittsboro Bypass to the Chapel Hill Bypass, Chatham and Orange Counties, North Carolina, TIP No. R-942...." North Carolina Department of Transportation. September 22, 1994.
- Sharpe, Bill. *A New Geography of North Carolina*. Vol. 1. Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Company, 1954.
- Tate, George M. "Map of Orange County, N.C." 1891.