



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
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Division of Archives and History
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December 15, 1999

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

Re: Improvements to US 64, TIP No. R-2536, Randolph County, ER 98-9322

Dear Mr. Graf:

Thank you for your letter of October 28, 1999 transmitting the survey report by Mattson, Alexander & Associates, Inc. concerning the above project.

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

Cox-Brown Farm is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for agriculture as a well-preserved farmstead representative of a middling Randolph County farm during the early and middle decades of the twentieth century. We concur with the boundaries noted on pages 25-26 of the report.

The following determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

John Hurley Wrape Farm
Varner Place
Spoon House

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

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SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4618	(919) 733-6545 • 715-4801

page 2

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,

Renee Gledhill-Earley

tv David Brook
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DB:scb

cc: W. Gilmore
B. Church

bc: County
Brown/Alperin ✓
RF

PHASE II
INTENSIVE ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY AND EVALUATIONS
US 64 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
RANDOLPH COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TIP NUMBER R-2536
STATE PROJECT NUMBER 8.1571401

Prepared for

Earth Tech
(Formerly Rust Environment & Infrastructure)
Raleigh, North Carolina

Prepared by

Mattson, Alexander & Associates, Inc.
Charlotte, North Carolina

July 15, 1999

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July 15, 1999

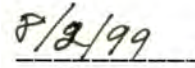

Richard L. Mattson, Ph.D.

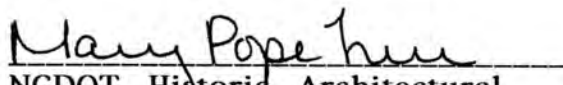

Date

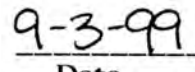

Frances P. Alexander, M.A.


Date


Project Manager


Date


NCDOT Historic Architectural
Resources Section


Date

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

This North Carolina Department of Transportation project is entitled *US 64 Improvement Project, Randolph County*. The TIP Number is R-2536 and the State Project Number is 8.1571401. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to improve the existing US 64 corridor in the area of the City of Asheboro in Randolph County. As part of this action, NCDOT also proposes to improve access to the North Carolina Zoological Park (NC Zoo). Alternative improvements that will be considered include constructing a bypass on the south of Asheboro with a new road connecting to the North Carolina Zoological Park. If a bypass alternative is selected, it will be a four-lane, median-divided, controlled access highway on approximately thirteen miles of new location from US 64 east of Asheboro to US 64 west of Asheboro.

The area of potential effects (APE) incorporates all view sheds and all areas which may be affected by the proposed construction. The northern portions of the APE are primarily defined by significant modern residential and commercial development oriented to US 64 and the City of Asheboro. But the APE is also limited by sections of woodland and pockets of new suburban residential growth that characterize much of the area around the outskirts of Asheboro. Although there are portions of the study area that remain agrarian, notably the west side around SR 1193 and sections of the south and southeast sides (near the zoological park), a great deal of this area has given way to residential development.

This survey of architectural resources was conducted and the report prepared in order to identify historical architectural resources located within the area of potential effects. The report and addendum will be included in a technical addendum to the environmental document, which will be kept on file at the Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina. The technical addendum is part of the documentation undertaken to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Federal regulations require federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on properties included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings.

The report meets the guidelines for architectural surveys established by NCDOT (15 June 1994). These guidelines set forth the following goals for architectural surveys: (1) to determine the APE for the project; (2) to locate and identify all resources fifty years of age or older within the APE; and (3) to determine the potential eligibility of these resources for listing in the National Register. In addition, this report conforms to the expanded requirements for architectural survey reports developed by NCDOT and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (February 1996).

The methodology consisted of background research into the historical and architectural development of the area and a field survey of the APE. The field survey was conducted by automobile as well as on foot to delineate the APE and to identify all properties within this area which were built prior to 1948. Every property at least fifty years of age was photographed, mapped, and evaluated, and those considered worthy of further analysis were intensively surveyed and evaluated for National Register eligibility. For those resources considered to be eligible, National Register boundaries were determined.

The boundaries of the APE are shown on US Geological Survey (USGS) topographical maps (see Figure 9 in Appendix I). The APE includes areas which may face increased development pressures because of the highway construction as well as those areas which may be directly affected. The APE is defined by modern construction, topographical features, and sight lines. One hundred percent of the APE was surveyed.

A total of forty-five resources, which appeared to have been built prior to 1948, were identified and evaluated. None of these properties is currently listed on the National Register. However, four properties were identified during the field survey as warranting intensive evaluation for National Register eligibility. These resources include one antebellum farmhouse (abandoned), one late-nineteenth-century farmhouse, and two early-twentieth-century farms. One of the evaluated properties, the Cox-Brown Farm, was considered to be eligible for the National Register.

<u>Properties Listed in the National Register</u>	<u>Pages</u>
None	
<u>Properties listed in the National Register Study List</u>	
None	
<u>Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Eligible for the National Register</u>	
No. 24 Cox-Brown Farm	23-39
<u>Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register</u>	
No. 45 John Hurley Wrape Farm	40-46
No. 11 Varner Place	47-54
No. 35 Spoon House	55-60

Other Properties Evaluated and Determined Not Eligible
for the National Register (see Appendix B)

No. 1	House
No. 2	Kemp Alexander House
No. 3	Hoover House
No. 4	House
No. 5	House
No. 6	House
No. 7	Allred Farm
No. 8	House
No. 9	Thornburg House
No. 10	McBride House/Store
No. 12	Walker House
No. 13	Calicutt House
No. 14	House
No. 15	House
No. 16	Cagle House
No. 17	House
No. 18	House
No. 19	House
No. 20	House
No. 21	House
No. 22	House
No. 23	House
No. 25	House
No. 26	Staley Farm Complex
No. 27	House
No. 28	House
No. 29	House
No. 30	House
No. 31	House
No. 32	House
No. 33	Clarence Cox Farm
No. 34	House
No. 36	Farm Complex
No. 37	House
No. 38	House
No. 39	House
No. 40	House
No. 41	House
No. 42	Log House
No. 43	House
No. 44	House

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II. INTRODUCTION

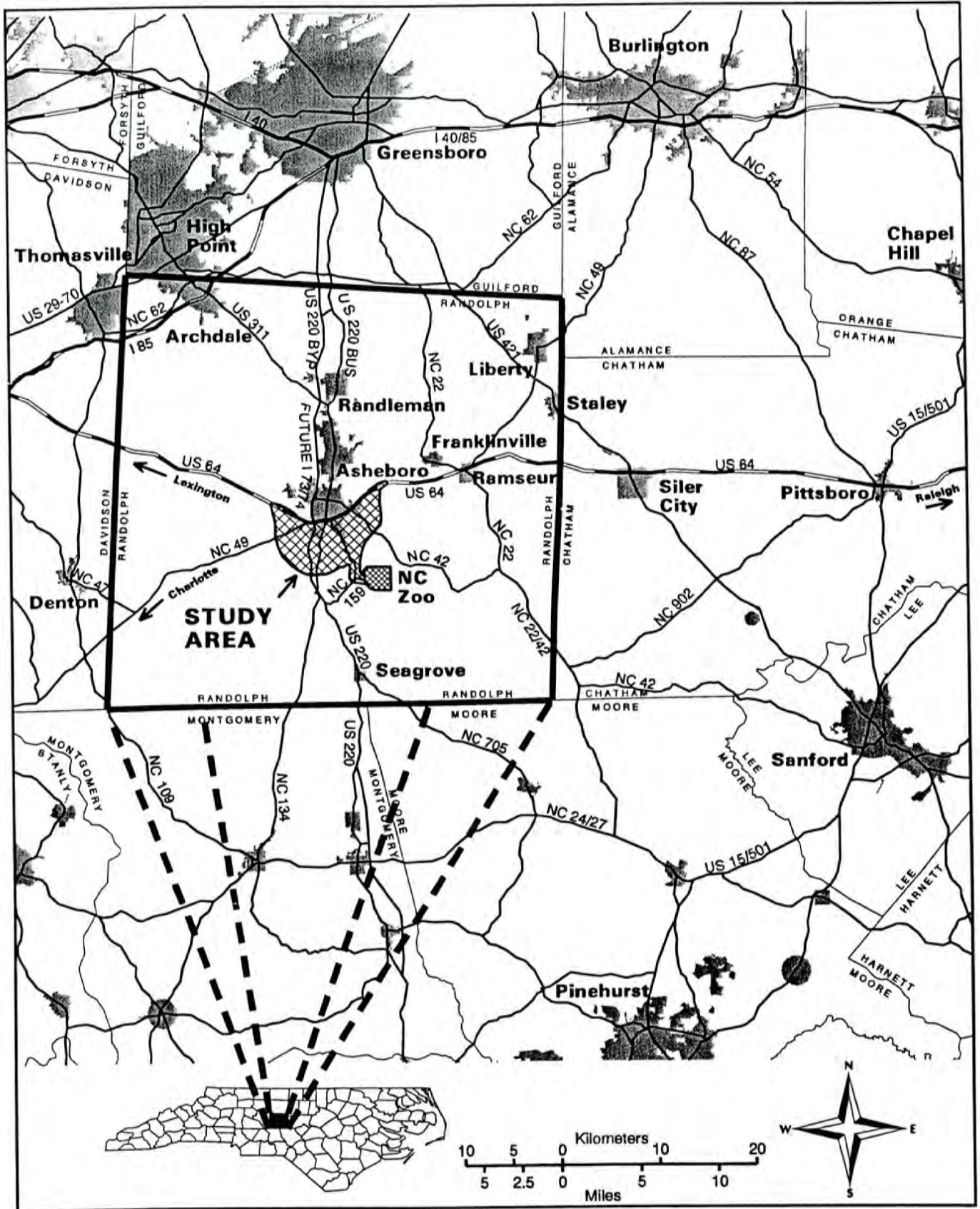
This Phase II intensive level architectural survey was undertaken in conjunction with the proposed US 64 Improvement Project in Randolph County, North Carolina. The T.I.P. Number for this project is R-2536 and the State Project Number is 8.1571401. The project was conducted for Earth Tech (Formerly Rust Environment and Infrastructure, Inc.) of Raleigh, North Carolina, by Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc. of Charlotte, North Carolina. Richard L. Mattson and Frances P. Alexander served as the principal investigators, and the project was undertaken between September and December 1998.

The proposed federal undertaking is the construction of a four-lane, divided highway around the southern outskirts of the City of Asheboro in Randolph County (Figure 1). As part of this action, NCDOT also proposes to improve access to the North Carolina Zoological Park (NC Zoo). Alternative improvements that will be considered include constructing a bypass on the south side of the city with a new road connecting to the NC Zoo. If a bypass alternative is selected, it will be a four-lane, median-divided, controlled access highway on approximately thirteen miles of new location from US 64 east of Asheboro to US 64 west of Asheboro. The project study area is depicted in Figure 2.

This architectural survey was undertaken in accordance with the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 C.F.R. 800), and the F.H.W.A. Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents). Section 106 requires the identification of all properties eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places according to criteria defined in 36 C.F.R. 60. In order to comply with these federal regulations, this survey followed guidelines set forth in Phase II Survey Procedures for Historic Architectural Resources (NCDOT, 15 June 1994) and expanded requirements for architectural survey reports developed by NCDOT and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (February 1996).

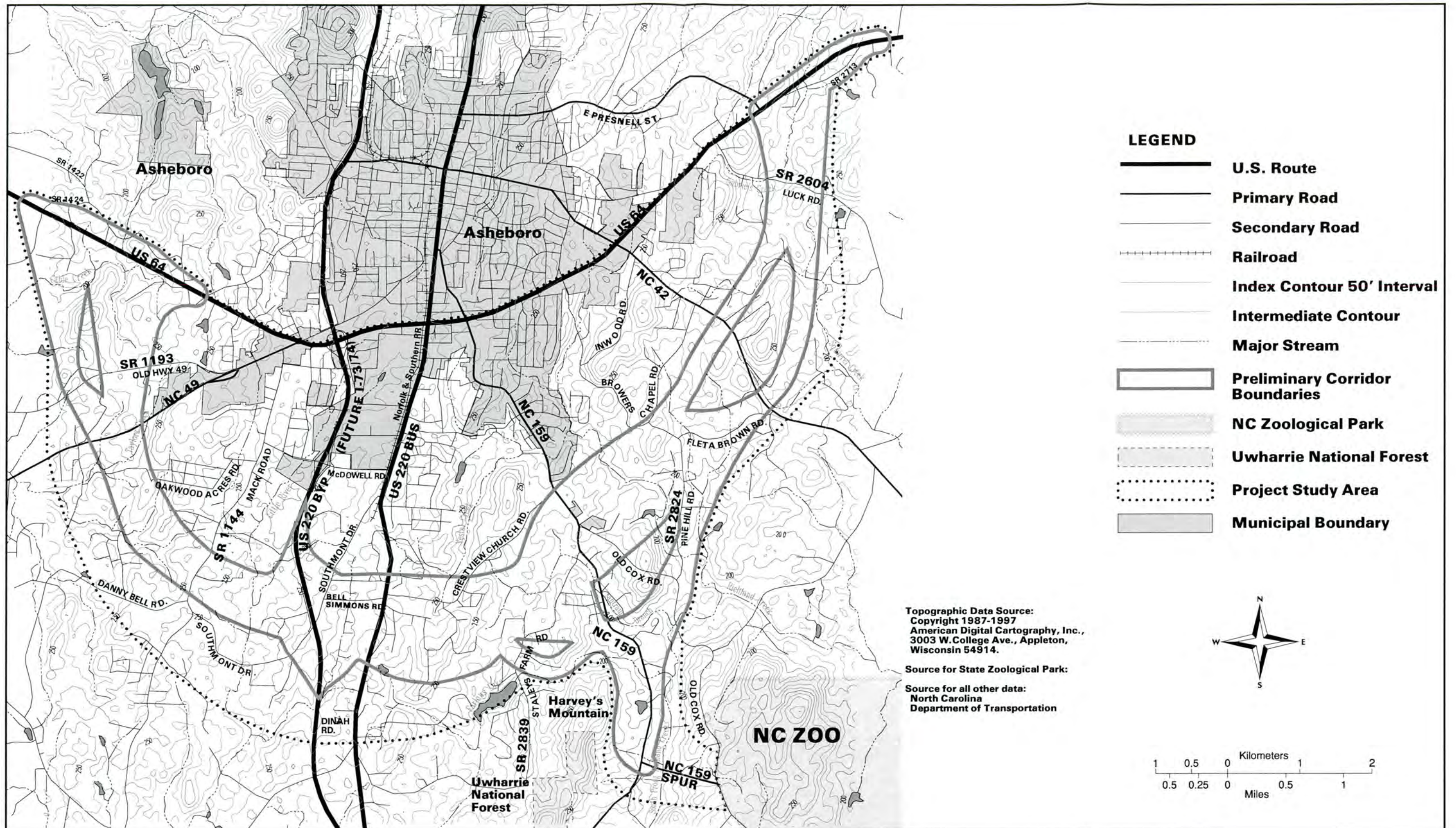
Federal regulations require that the area of potential effects (APE) for the undertaking must be determined. The APE is defined as the geographical area, or areas, within which an undertaking may cause changes to the character or use of historic properties, if such potentially eligible properties exist. The APE is depicted on US Geological Survey topographical maps found in Appendix A.

The APE was based upon the location of the proposed project in relationship to natural and physical boundaries, incorporating all view sheds from the project area. The APE also includes areas which may face increased development pressures because of the bypass construction. The boundaries of the APE are defined by modern construction, waterways, road terminations, dense woodlands, and secondary roadways in this rapidly developing area. The APE lies primarily within the rural southern outskirts of Asheboro, but does include string residential and commercial development along east-west US 64 and north-south US Business 220.



**NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT
OF
TRANSPORTATION**

**PROJECT LOCATION
R-2536 US 64 IMPROVEMENTS
RANDOLPH COUNTY
FIGURE 1**



III. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The project will occur around the City of Asheboro in Randolph County, located in the east-central Piedmont of North Carolina. Asheboro is the seat of Randolph County and is situated at the center of the county. Randolph County, in turn, is located near the geographical heart of the state. The county is almost perfectly square, with 512,640 acres of land divided into twenty townships. It is part of the state's piedmont plateau, characterized by undulating hills swelling into mountain knobs, and valleys sloping to the southeast. Within the APE, elevations vary from 600 to 700 feet along the bottomlands near the Little River and Richland Creek, to over 800 feet at Cox Mountain and Harvey's Mountain, which are part of the Uwharrie Mountains. The Uwharries, named for the Uwharrie River (west of the APE), are a type of erosion-shaped mountains known as "monadnocks." The rolling, wooded Uwharries are visible along the northwest, west, south, and southeast sections of the APE. Forests still cover more than half the county, consisting mostly of second-growth oak and pine timber. One quarter of the Uwharrie National Forest lies in Randolph, extending northward from Montgomery County into southern Randolph County (southwest of the APE).

The Uwharrie and Little rivers are part of the Yadkin River watershed, which becomes the Great Pee Dee River and flows into the Atlantic Ocean near Georgetown, South Carolina. The Deep River, the county's third main river, is located east of the APE. It enters Randolph from the north at Coletrane's Mill and flows southeasterly, joining the Rocky and Haw rivers in southern Chatham County to form the Cape Fear River. Although none of these three waterways is navigable, the Deep River attracted a string of cotton mills during the nineteenth century and was instrumental in the county's early industrial development.

The study area's well-watered and rolling landscape attracted farmers and rural farming settlements at an early date. The sandy loam and clay loam soils mixed with slate soils are particularly well suited for pasture and for raising corn, small grains, and hay crops. Thus farmsteads in the study area were historically devoted to the production of foodstuffs, including dairy products and livestock.

This agrarian landscape has been significantly altered in recent decades. Commercial strip development marks US 64 through Asheboro, while growing numbers of non-farm residences line US Business 220, NC 159, and other roadways that crisscross the APE. In common with much of North Carolina, Randolph County's rural work force is highly mobile, commuting by automobile to jobs in and around Asheboro, as well as outside the county. Consequently, modern residential subdivisions are evident throughout the APE, and especially where the APE meets the southeastern outskirts of the city.

However, farmland and agricultural pursuits also persist. In particular, substantial pasture lands continue to characterize the southeast section of the APE near Richland Creek, and the northwestern section between the Little and Uwharrie rivers. Numerous former farmhouses remain in the APE, though some are now abandoned and in disrepair. Many others have been modernized in recent years and are no longer associated with active farms. Thus vestiges

of the historically agrarian (farmland and forest) landscape survive amidst commercial strip activities and modern residential suburban development.

IV. METHODOLOGY

This Phase II architectural survey was conducted as part of the planning for the proposed US 64 improvement project around the City of Asheboro in Randolph County, North Carolina. The architectural survey for this federally funded project was undertaken in accordance with the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 C.F.R. 800), and the F.H.W.A. Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents). The survey followed guidelines set forth in *Phase II Survey Procedures for Historic Architectural Resources* (NCDOT, 15 June 1994).

The Phase II architectural survey had three objectives: 1) to determine the area of potential effects; 2) to identify all resources within the APE which may be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and 3) to evaluate these potential resources according to National Register criteria. The NCDOT Phase II survey guidelines set forth the following procedures: 1) identify and map the area of potential effects; 2) photograph and indicate on USGS maps all properties fifty years of age or older; 3) conduct historical research; 4) prepare a summary of findings; 5) conduct an intensive field survey; 6) prepare a final presentation of findings; and 7) prepare North Carolina survey forms for each property evaluated intensively in the property inventory and evaluations section of the survey report.

The survey consisted of field investigations and historical research. The fieldwork was conducted between 1 September and 1 December 1998. One hundred percent of the APE was examined. The fieldwork began with a windshield survey of the general project area in order to determine the APE. All properties fifty years of age or older were photographed and indicated on a USGS quadrangle map. Properties were evaluated as either individually eligible for the National Register or as contributing resources to National Register historic districts. Once these potentially eligible properties were identified, the boundary of the APE was finalized (see Appendix A).

Research was conducted to trace the historical and architectural development of the project area. During the Phase I study, the survey files of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Raleigh were examined to identify those properties listed in the National Register and the National Register Study List. This review identified no properties within the APE that were listed in either the National Register or the National Register Study List.

Historical research, using both primary and secondary sources, was conducted at local and state repositories. This research included a review of the architectural inventory of Randolph County conducted by Lowell McKay Whatley, Jr. between 1978 and the early 1980s. Whatley's survey concentrated on buildings that were at least 100 years of age and culminated in the publication of the *Architectural History of Randolph County, N.C.* (Whatley 1981). The architectural inventory recorded one property within the APE, the Varner Place (RN 147), which survives today as an abandoned and altered antebellum farmhouse.

In addition to inspecting the Randolph County architectural survey files, a number of other primary sources were examined, including U.S. Census data, Levi Branson's business directories (1869-1897), and the *North Carolina Year*

Books (1902-1916), all of which were useful for understanding the changing economic and social compositions of the study area. Interviews with local landowners, Pauline Brown, Ruby Brown, and Carol Wrape were of great assistance in understanding the histories of specific properties as well as the historical and economic development of the area.

Following the background research and the preliminary field survey, a preliminary presentation of findings was prepared. In this report the properties identified during the initial field survey were grouped into two sections: 1) those resources considered not eligible for the National Register; and 2) those properties which warranted further evaluation.

After consultation with NCDOT, an intensive level field survey was undertaken for those resources considered worthy of further evaluation. The exterior and interior (where permitted) of the resources were examined and photographed, and physical descriptions, historical background essays, and site plans were completed. For those properties recommended for the National Register, proposed National Register boundaries were also delineated on tax maps. Computerized North Carolina survey forms were prepared, or updated, for each of the properties evaluated in the property inventory and evaluations section of the survey report.

V. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ESSAY

Early Settlement to the Civil War

In common with the North Carolina Piedmont as a whole, white settlers began inhabiting present-day Randolph County during the middle and late eighteenth century. Thousands of settlers migrated from the Mid-Atlantic region down the Great Wagon Road that led from Philadelphia through the Valley of Virginia and into the North Carolina backcountry. Although the lack of navigable rivers and the rough overland routes restricted transportation and trade, the Piedmont region offered newcomers an abundance of fresh, cheap agricultural lands, thick stands of timber, and many quick rivers ideal for water-powered gristmills and sawmills. In the Randolph County area, land agents advertised "the Rich lands of the Uwharrie," drained by the Uwharrie River and its many tributaries (Whatley 1985: 8-9).

This region drew people of great cultural diversity. Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, German Lutherans, Quakers, Moravians, and Baptists all established communities in the central Piedmont. Randolph County received English Quakers as well as a variety of German settlers, including some Mennonites and German Baptist Brethren, or Dunkers, who inhabited the Uwharrie area. By the late eighteenth century, Quakers were holding meetings in the Marlboro, Sandy Creek, Holly Spring, and Back Creek communities. Holly Spring and Marlboro were officially designated Monthly Meetings in the early nineteenth century. Despite the emigration of many Quakers during the antebellum period, Randolph County continues to hold more Quaker meetings than any other county in North Carolina (Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 27; Whatley 1985: 9).

Situated near the geographical heart of the state, Randolph County was formed in 1779. Asheboro was created to become the county seat in 1796. The state legislature ordered that the new seat of government be located in the most central part of Randolph to afford the most convenient access for all county inhabitants. Despite the central geographical locations of both Asheboro and Randolph County, this area grew slowly, constrained by its backcountry isolation. The 1850 census recorded just 154 residents in Asheboro, including thirty-two households and eleven free blacks (Hammer and Lambert 1968: 11, 13; Whatley 1985: 174-178).

Because of the influence of Quakers, who were ardently opposed to slavery, Randolph County had a low proportion of slaves and few planters in comparison with the state as a whole. The proportion of slaves to the total county population stood at roughly ten percent throughout the antebellum period, and only seven families held title to twenty or more slaves. By contrast, the county included a relatively high number of free blacks, surpassing 300 by 1830. However, like the rest of the state, few free blacks owned property. While men such as "Elder" Ralph Freeman, Frank Lytle, and families such as the Waldens became successful landowners in the county, the vast majority of free blacks possessed little wealth and few rights (Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 72; Whatley 1985: 9).

Small subsistence farmers dominated the agrarian landscape. The antebellum agricultural economy of Randolph County and its neighbors in the "Quaker Belt" (Guilford and Alamance counties) was characterized by the production of traditional foodstuffs produced primarily for household consumption. In 1839, the local newspaper editor remarked that "our provisions are mostly of the domestic kind--plenty of cheese, butter and milk, from the cool recesses of the dairy" (Whatley 1985: 11).

However, the county's yeoman farmers also shipped surpluses of corn, wheat, and other produce to urban markets. This commercial activity was stimulated by the completion of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road in 1854. Stretching 129 miles from Fayetteville on the Cape Fear River to Salem (now Winston-Salem), the plank road cut diagonally across Randolph County. It roughly followed present-day NC 705 to its intersection with US 220, where the route turned northward to the county seat. Asheboro lawyer Jonathan Worth was a director of the plank road company and with his brother, John Milton Worth, erected one of the region's first steam-powered sawmills to cut and sell lumber used on the road through Randolph County (Zuber 1965: 42, 105; Whatley 1985: 11). The road's high maintenance costs plus competition from the new North Carolina Railroad, which passed through Salisbury west of Randolph County, contributed to the abandonment of the plank road in 1862. Nevertheless, asserts Randolph County architectural historian Lowell McKay Whatley, Jr., "As a convenient, direct route to major urban markets to the north and south, the plank road opened up rural Randolph like nothing else prior to the railroads of the 1880s" (Whatley 1985: 11).

While the plank road spurred agricultural production, the county's quick rivers and streams attracted new industry. In addition to scores of gristmills and sawmills that served farming communities, the major waterways drew a host of textile factories. In 1836, Cedar Falls Cotton Mills was completed on Deep River, and by 1850, there were five cotton mills in operation along its banks. These water-powered factories employed nearly 300 persons and formed one of the major centers of the state's antebellum textile industry (Griffin and Standard 1957: 137-160; Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 76-79; Whatley 1985: 12-20).

Post-Civil War Era to the Mid-Twentieth Century

This burgeoning textile industry helped foster economic recovery after the Civil War. By 1883, eleven cotton mills employing 5,000 workers lined the banks of the Deep River, reaching from Jamestown in Guilford County to Enterprise in Randolph. In Randolph County, the Deep River settlements of Randleman, Coleridge, Central Falls, Ramseur, Franklinsville, Cedar Falls, and Worthville all owed their existence to the cotton mills and the mill villages that formed around them (Griffin 1964: 48; Whatley 1985: 18).

Other industries also played a role in sparking postwar economic growth. The mass production of wooden spools and shuttle blocks for the textile factories, and particularly the large-scale manufacture of furniture all arose with the textile boom. The influx of workers and emergence of mill towns created a ready market for low-cost furniture. The Alberta Chair Works was incorporated in Ramseur in 1889, the Asheboro Chair Factory opened its doors soon thereafter, and by the early 1900s almost every town in the county contained a chair factory (Whatley 1985: 19-20).

The coming of the railroads to Randolph County at the end of the century boosted urban growth as well as industrial and agricultural development. In 1889, the High Point, Randleman, Asheboro, and Southern Railroad was built to link Asheboro to the North Carolina Railroad (later the Southern Railway) and ultimately to a great network of rail lines linking the nation's major cities and ports. In 1896, the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad was opened from Asheboro to the pine forests of Montgomery County. This line merged in 1897 with the Aberdeen and West End Railroad (later acquired by the Norfolk and Southern system). Rapidly, businessmen opened steam-powered cotton and lumber mills alongside the tracks in Asheboro and Randleman, invested in brick commercial blocks around the courthouse square in Asheboro, and commissioned new houses in the latest Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles along the adjacent residential streets. After the arrival of the railroads, the population of Asheboro nearly doubled every ten years: 1890 (510); 1900 (992); 1910 (1,865); 1920 (2,559); and 1930 (5,021) (Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 111; Whatley 1985: 188-191).

In 1912, an observer of Asheboro remarked:

At present there are two roller mills, the third one almost completed; two chair factories, a lumber plant, wheelbarrow factory; Home Building and Material Company; a foundry; and a hosiery mill. The community affords two prosperous banks, and there is also a building and loan association. There are already about thirty stores and several more being built (Whatley 1985: 191).

Asheboro also now functioned as a bustling entrepot for local agricultural products, which farmers increasingly raised for sale. Corn and wheat were principal staples during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but farmers were also cultivating some cotton and bright-leaf tobacco for the market. Despite the appearance of cotton and tobacco, into the 1920s farmers remained conservative in their choices of crops, devoting most of their land and energy to producing traditional foodstuffs and forage. A 1924 study of the county's agriculture reported:

Of her agricultural wealth only ten percent was produced by non-food crops. This is a very good record, when we realize that in Scotland County eighty-four percent of the agricultural wealth was produced by cotton and tobacco. In all of North Carolina sixty percent of all agricultural wealth is produced by cotton and tobacco. In Randolph County ninety percent of her agricultural wealth is produced by food crops (Burgess 1924: 55).

By the early twentieth century, livestock and dairy products were performing increasingly important roles in the local agricultural economy. The 1910 agricultural census recorded that Randolph County ranked among the state's leading counties in the number of sheep, swine, and dairy and beef cattle, and in the overall value of its livestock (U.S. Department of Commerce 1916). Not surprisingly, the county also ranked among the top ten counties in North Carolina in the production of hay and forage (Burgess 1924: 60). These figures reflected the expansion of commercial dairying, as the growth of local towns

and the proliferation of mill villages increased demand for milk, cream, butter, and other foodstuffs. The widespread adoption of motor vehicles and the gradual improvement of roads between the world wars facilitated the shipment of dairy products and other perishable goods to market. By the end of the 1920s, paved US and state highways transected Randolph County and the region, drawing scores of outlying urban places into the county's market area for dairy products and fruits and vegetables (*Transportation Map of North Carolina, 1930*).

Conclusion

Today Randolph County, like much of North Carolina, is facing dramatic shifts in both demographics and patterns of land use. The population remains overwhelmingly rural (less than one-third of the inhabitants live in urban areas), but over one-half are now classified "rural non-farm." They live in the country but commute to non-farm jobs around such cities as Asheboro, Greensboro, and High Point (Whatley 1985: 6; Shadrui 1981; *Sourcebook of County Demographics* 1992: 46-A). Some of these residents have also found employment with the North Carolina Zoological Park, which opened south of Asheboro in 1974, and employs about 400 people. Modern residential subdivisions characterize the southeastern outskirts of the county seat near the APE, while east-west US 64 is lined with commercial-strip activities and a major shopping center. Agriculture remains an important economic pursuit, but traditional row crops and milk cows have given way to beef cattle, chickens, and hogs (Whatley 1985: 6, 20).

Reflecting such changes, the APE contains a mix of modern commercial and residential land uses, abandoned farmhouses and fields, as well as a collection of active farms. In particular, agricultural zoning in the vicinity of the zoological park has contributed to the conservation of rural open space and pastures watered by the tributaries of Richland Creek.

Historical Context:

Randolph County Agriculture, Early and Middle Twentieth Century

Spurred on by the arrival of railroad transportation in the 1880s and 1890s, followed by the widespread use of trucks and improved roads after World War I, farmers throughout Randolph County turned to commercial agriculture. While farmers produced some bright-leaf tobacco for the market, the heavy, textured clay soils, moderate climate, and rolling terrain--including semi-mountainous areas around the Uwharries--were especially well-suited for livestock, small-grain, and dairy production (Burgess 1924: 55, 81; Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 186). Although the county did not boast a major city, the region's expanding textile mill communities created a growing market for fresh dairy goods, beef, poultry, and food crops. The 1910 census recorded Randolph County among the state's leading counties in the total number of dairy cows (5,749), value of dairy products (\$127,241), value of livestock (\$133,706), and value of poultry and eggs (\$174,360) (U.S. Department of Commerce 1916).

Randolph remained one of the state's top counties in such agricultural categories after World War I. A 1924 study reported that ninety percent of Randolph County's agricultural worth was derived from food crops, livestock, and dairy products (Burgess 1924: 82). In that year the county ranked among North Carolina's leading counties in the number of dairy cattle (8,925), as well as in the production of hay, oats, and wheat (Burgess 1924: 83-84; N.C. Department of Labor and Printing 1923-1924).

While tobacco production rose in the ensuing decades, dairy farming also played an increasingly important role in the agricultural economy. In Randolph County and across the state, good rural roads, population growth, and advances in refrigeration, disease control, promotion, hygiene regulations, and herd management all shaped the modern dairy industry (North Carolina Department of Agriculture 1923: 48-49; 1952: 55). In 1921, the state passed a law giving the Department of Agriculture the authority to inspect dairy products and plants. By 1932, the incidence of tuberculosis in dairy cattle, once a common affliction, had been virtually eradicated in North Carolina. Dairy farming was also given a boost by the state Dairy Extension Service, which helped sponsor educational campaigns to promote the healthful benefits of milk. At the same time, the Agricultural Extension Service and North Carolina State College's agricultural experiment stations published bulletins and magazines concerning the latest dairy farming practices, including the use of alfalfa and clover as winter cover crops for dairy cattle. These state offices also published standardized plans for modern milking houses and dairy barns. The designs reflected the new state hygiene laws requiring that milking houses be separate units detached from the barns, and that they have concrete flooring which could be easily cleaned (Lally 1994: 151).

By the mid-1940s, dairy products in Randolph County accounted for 12.3 percent of all farm income, well above the 3.6 percent average for the state (N.C. State Planning Board 1946). In the early 1950s, the county ranked fourth in the state in the number of milk cows, and was described in the *North Carolina Almanac* for 1954-1955 as "a good dairying and livestock county. The

county derives a large part of its farm income from dairy products" (*N.C. Almanac* 1954-1955: 173). The *North Carolina Almanac* recorded that the value of the county's dairy products (\$2,775,000) led all other agricultural pursuits, followed by bright leaf tobacco (\$2,564,000), and poultry and eggs (\$1,794,000) (*N.C. Almanac* 1954-1955: 173).

Located within the APE, the Cox-Brown Farm (No. 24) clearly represents the agricultural activities that prevailed in Randolph County during the early and middle decades of the twentieth century. The farm contains a ca. 1938 farmhouse, a fine complex of outbuildings, and adjoining pastures and woodland. The large livestock barn and the adjacent milking house illustrate the farm's dairying operation, while the log tobacco barns and the assortment of other outbuildings reflect the diversity that marked such middling farms countywide. The Cox-Brown Farm is recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for agriculture.

Specific Guidelines for Evaluating the Eligibility of Randolph County Farms that Developed During the Early and Middle Decades of the Twentieth Century

To be recommended as eligible for the National Register, an early-to-mid twentieth century farm in Randolph County must retain both architectural and landscape elements that represent the county's important agricultural trends of this period. The farmhouse should be substantially intact, and the farmstead itself must retain a sufficient collection of well-preserved outbuildings and associated fields to illustrate the major patterns of agriculture, such as commercial dairying, tobacco farming, and the cultivation of small grains and forage crops.

VI. PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Summary

Of the forty-five resources surveyed within the APE, four were considered worthy of intensive evaluation for National Register eligibility. These properties are: the Varner Place (No. 11); the Cox-Brown Farm (No. 24), the Spoon House (No. 35), and the John Hurley Wrape Farm (No. 45). There are no properties within the APE which are currently listed in the National Register or on the National Register Study List.

<u>Properties Listed in the National Register</u>	<u>Pages</u>
None	
 <u>Properties listed in the National Register Study List</u>	
None	
 <u>Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Eligible for the National Register</u>	
No. 24 Cox-Brown Farm	23-39
 <u>Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register</u>	
No. 45 John Hurley Wrape Farm	40-46
No. 11 Varner Place	47-54
No. 35 Spoon House	55-60

A. Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Eligible for the National Register

Cox-Brown Farm (No. 24)

West side NC 159 at junction with SR 2820, Asheboro vicinity, **Randolph County**

Date of Construction

ca. 1938

Associated Outbuildings

Barn (ca. 1938), Milking House(ca. 1938), Woodshed (ca. 1938), Well House (ca. 1938), Chicken House (ca. 1938), Garage (ca. 1938), Log Tobacco Barns (ca. 1938), Sheep Shed (ca. 1938), Equipment Shed, Modern Other House, Modern Mobile Home

Setting and Landscape Design (Figure 3)

The Cox-Brown Farm occupies a rural setting near the junction of NC 159 and SR 2820 south of Asheboro. The great majority of the approximately 165-acre tract is woodland, though sections of rolling pasture and fields predominate on the north side near the farm complex. The complex features a two-story, brick-veneered farmhouse on a tree-shaded lawn oriented to NC 159. A frame garage stands beside the residence to the south, and a chicken house, a grape arbor, and a woodshed are sited along a farm lane that winds westward through a board fence separating the farmyard from the larger agricultural buildings. A sizable frame barn, a milking house, a well house (pump house), two equipment sheds, and a sheep shed are located here. Two log tobacco barns are located behind these buildings, sited along the farm lane as it continues southward into fields and woodlands.

Physical Description and Evaluation of Integrity (Plates 1-19)

The Cox-Brown Farm comprises a substantially intact farm complex with adjacent fields and woodlands. The complex of farm buildings is concentrated at the northern end of the approximately 165-acre tract. Here, the Cox-Brown farmhouse faces NC 159, buffered from the roadway by a broad, tree-shaded lawn. Erected ca. 1938, the house is a two-story, red-brick, asymmetrical dwelling with simple Craftsman-style and Tudor Revival elements of design. The front porch on the side wing has been enclosed, but other original features survive intact. The exterior has paired and single six-over-six sash windows with original wood shutters, two double-shoulder brick chimneys, pointed-arched vents in the gables, and a round-arched main entrance capped by a bracketed gable-roofed hood. The other exterior wooden doors have two-panel lower sections with multiple-paned windows above. The rear elevation has a one-story kitchen ell and a German-sided, shed-roofed porch.

The simple interior of the house is also well-preserved. Oriented around a small center hallway, the living room and parlor have brick mantels. The hall contains a curved stairway that ascends to three upstairs bedrooms, and has French doors at the rear that lead to the kitchen and the dining room. Original two-panel doors survive throughout the interior.

The original outbuildings located near the house include a gable-front, German-sided garage, a shed-roofed, German-sided chicken house, and a smaller shed-roofed, German-sided woodshed. A shed-roofed, brick-veneered

well house (pump house) stands just behind a board fence that separates the backyard from the farm's major agricultural buildings to the southwest. Constructed ca. 1939, these buildings include a livestock barn, a milking shed, a sheep shed, two equipment sheds, and two log tobacco barns. The handsome two-story livestock barn is a sizable German-sided building with a standing-seam metal side-gable roof, a hay mow, widely spaced slats below the roof line for ventilation, and a passageway that runs perpendicular to the roof's ridge line. The interior of the barn has stalls on the ground floor and open storage space for hay on the upper level. Located adjacent to the barn, the milking house is a substantial one-story, German-sided building capped by a broad standing-seam metal gable-front roof. Rows of windows along the side elevations help light the interior. In standard fashion, the interior of the milking shed is divided into several rooms for milking and milk storage, and has concrete flooring for sanitation purposes.

The sheep shed and equipment sheds are simple shed-roofed outbuildings with exposed rafters and vertical-board siding. Although no longer in use, the two log tobacco barns survive in remarkably good condition. These barns have V-notched logs, concrete daubing, and standing-seam metal roofs.

The remainder of the roughly 165-acre Cox-Brown Farm consists of pastures and woodlands. Approximately twenty-five acres of fields, divided by wire fencing and narrow stands of trees, are concentrated towards the north end of the tract near the house and the outbuildings (Soil Conservation Survey Map, Randolph County, 1965, 1991). A ten-acre field along the northwest side (near the junction of NC 159 and SR 2820), existed before the 1930s acquisition of the property by Elroy Cox, but the other fields were subsequently cleared of woodlands during the late 1930s and 1940s (Soil Conservation Survey Map, Randolph County, 1937).

The principal physical changes to the Cox-Brown Farm have occurred in recent years, when the tract was subdivided and small portions along NC 159 were developed. A 1980s brick ranch-style house owned by a Brown family relative occupies a half-acre parcel directly west of the Cox-Brown residence. In addition, a modern mobile home stands in a field southwest of the farmyard. To the southeast of the farmyard along NC 159, the Brown family has sold several small parcels, and one modern dwelling now occupies a house lot facing the roadway southeast of the Cox-Brown residence. The great majority of the original farm (comprising the existing pastures and woodlands) remains in the Brown family, though it has been subdivided among relatives into parcels that vary in size from approximately sixty acres to less than ten acres.

Historical Background

In the late 1930s, Randolph County farmer Elroy Cox acquired approximately 170 acres of rolling, wooded land between Stack Mountain and Cox Mountain in Grant Township (south of Asheboro). The Coxes had been some of the county's earliest settlers (Joshua Cox held title to land around what became Cox Mountain in 1810) and possessed substantial holdings around the southeast side of the APE. Elroy Cox probably inherited this tract from his father, Abel Clarkston Cox (Randolph County Historical Society 1980: 20). At that time, the property consisted of only small pockets of cleared land, including a narrow, ten-acre strip along present-day SR 2820.

As with most of Grant Township, the farm's rolling terrain dominated by clay soils was especially well-suited for pasturage, forage crops, and dairy farming. Improvements to the farm appear to have occurred quite rapidly. By the end of the 1930s, the farm boasted the two-story, red-brick farmhouse, the fine collection of German-sided outbuildings--including the barn and milking house--the log tobacco barns, and the sheep shed and equipment sheds. Approximately thirty acres of land were cleared for pastures and for hay and tobacco cultivation. The rest of the property, however, remained woodland and was not an integral part of the farming operations. Cox may have had some of this wooded acreage timbered for sale, but this has not been confirmed. The property never included a sawmill.

Little is specifically known about Elroy Cox's dairy operation or of the other agricultural activities on the farm. In common with his neighbors who ran dairy farms, he probably sold dairy products to the Walnut Grove Dairy in Asheboro, the county's largest creamery of the mid-twentieth century. Like many other farmers in the area, Cox also cultivated some bright-leaf tobacco, raised sheep, chickens, and cattle for sale, and grew hay for feed (Donald Brown Interview 1998; Pauline Brown Interview 1998).

In 1954, the farm was sold to Clifford Brown. An employee at a textile mill in Asheboro, Brown operated the farm on a part-time basis. According to Brown's Wife, Pauline, the family only briefly continued the dairy operation, but cultivated bright-leaf tobacco and raised sheep, chickens, and some cattle for the market. The Browns did not erect any new outbuildings or clear any additional land (Pauline Brown Interview 1998). Clifford Brown passed away in 1982, and the farm's agricultural activities gradually ceased. The property remains in the Brown family, with subdivided parcels of pasture and woodland owned by heirs. Pauline Brown continues to own and occupy the residence, which stands on a roughly one-acre lot (Pauline Brown Interview 1998).

Evaluation of Eligibility (Figures 4-5)

The Cox-Brown Farm is recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for agriculture. This well-preserved farmstead, which includes the original farmhouse, a fine collection of original outbuildings, and adjoining fields, clearly represents a middling Randolph County farm during the early and middle decades of the twentieth century. The variety of outbuildings illustrates the diversified nature of such operations, and the large barn and milking house clearly represent the importance of dairying operations in the county.

The property is not considered eligible under Criterion B because it is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. The farm complex also does not possess special architectural significance for eligibility under Criterion C. Finally, the property is not eligible under Criterion D because the architectural component is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology.

The proposed National Register boundaries encompass approximately thirty acres of the Cox-Brown tract (which today includes roughly 165 acres). This area contains the ca. 1938 farmhouse and outbuildings, and the preponderance

of historically cleared farmland. The recommended boundaries omit the expanse of woodlands that dominate the southern portion of the tract. While several small pockets of this area were cleared for fields, this area does not appear to have played an important role in the activities of the farm.

The recommended boundaries conform to sections of the existing property lines and trace field patterns to encompass the farm complex and the adjoining pastures and fields. The boundaries are drawn to exclude several subdivided lots southeast of the house lot facing NC 159 which have been sold and developed in recent decades. The boundaries are also drawn to exclude approximately 135 acres of woodlands to the south of the farm complex and the adjacent cleared land. This wooded area has been subdivided into primarily three large tracts which are currently owned by Brown family heirs.

The farmhouse, the farm outbuildings, and the surrounding pastures and fields encompassed by the proposed boundaries are all contributing resources. The modern house and the mobile home are non-contributing.



Plate 1. Cox-Brown Farm, House and Setting, Looking Southwest.



Plate 2. Cox-Brown Farm--House, Looking South.



Plate 3. Cox-Brown Farm--House, Entry Doors on Porch, Looking North.

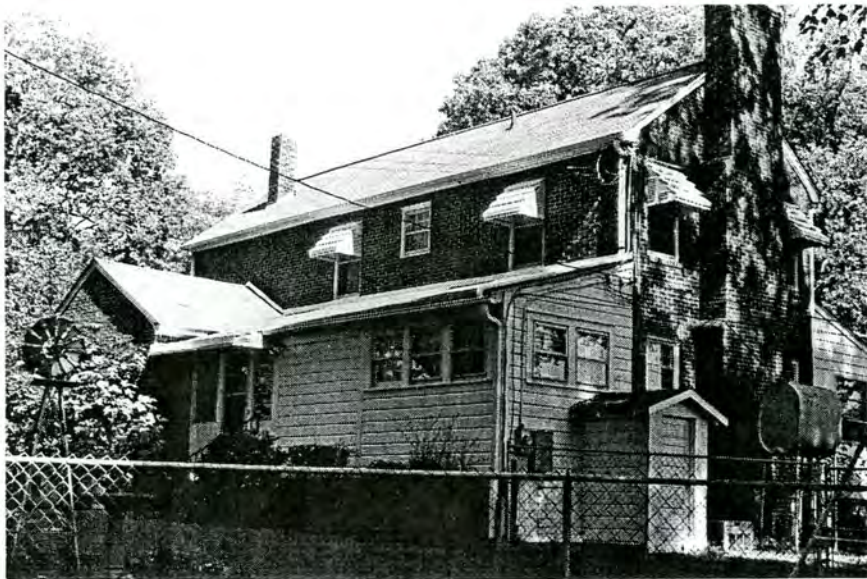


Plate 4. Cox-Brown Farm--House, Rear Elevation, Looking North.



Plate 5. Cox-Brown Farm--House, Living Room Mantel.



Plate 6. Cox-Brown Farm--House, Hall.

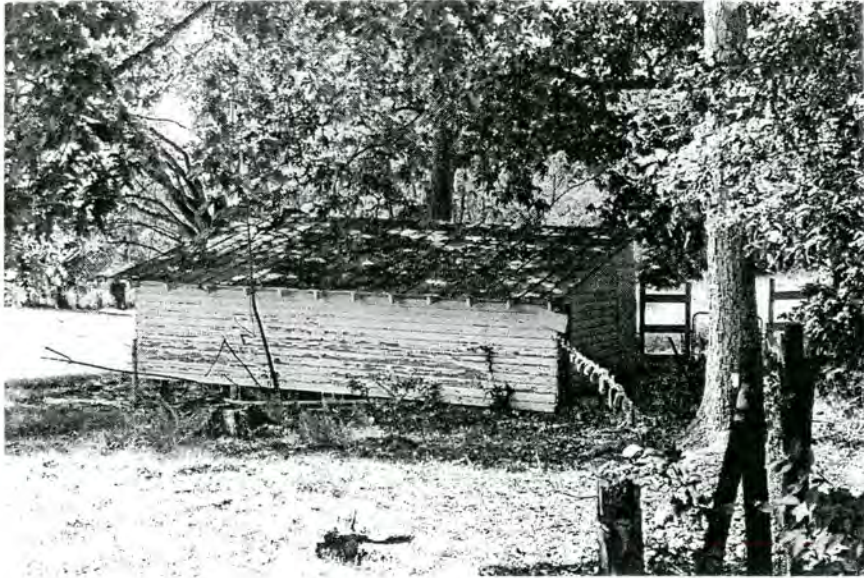


Plate 7. Cox-Brown Farm--Chicken House, Looking Southwest.



Plate 8. Cox-Brown Farm--Woodshed, Looking Southwest.



Plate 9. Cox-Brown Farm--Well House, Looking Northeast.



Plate 10. Cox-Brown Farm--Barn, Looking West.



Plate 11. Cox-Brown Farm--Milking House, Looking Northeast.



Plate 12. Cox-Brown Farm--Barn (Right) and Milking House, Looking East.

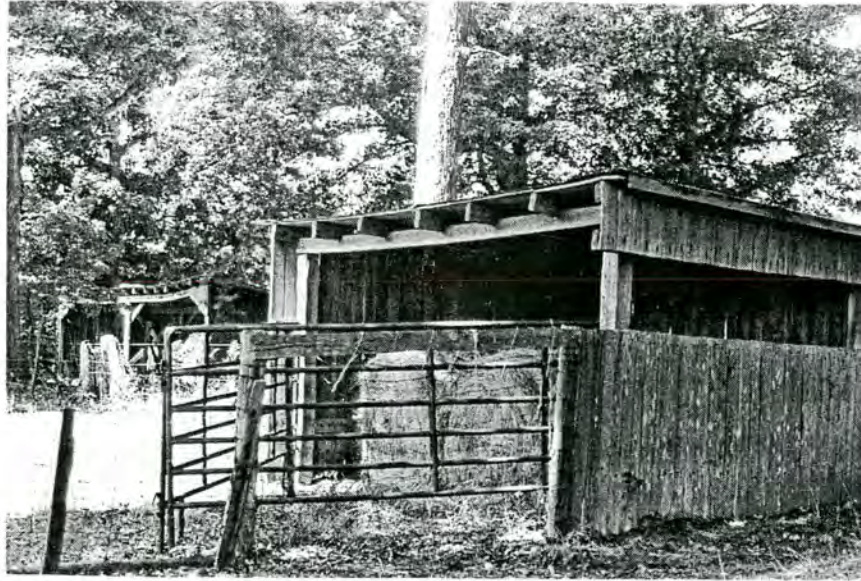


Plate 13. Cox-Brown Farm--Sheep Shed (Foreground) and Equipment Shed, Looking West.

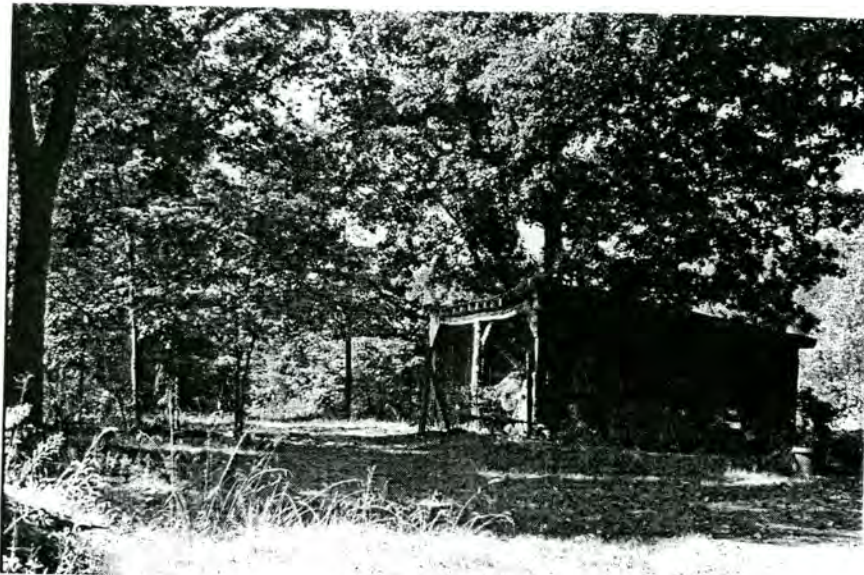


Plate 14. Cox-Brown Farm--Equipment Shed, Looking West.



Plate 15. Cox-Brown Farm--Tobacco Barn, Looking West.



Plate 16. Cox-Brown Farm--Tobacco Barn, Looking West.



Plate 17. Cox-Brown Farm--Fields, Looking South.



Plate 18. Cox-Brown Farm--Mobile Home, Looking West.



Plate 19. Cox-Brown Farm--Modern Dwelling, Looking West.

Figure 3

Cox-Brown Farm
Site Plan

(not to scale)

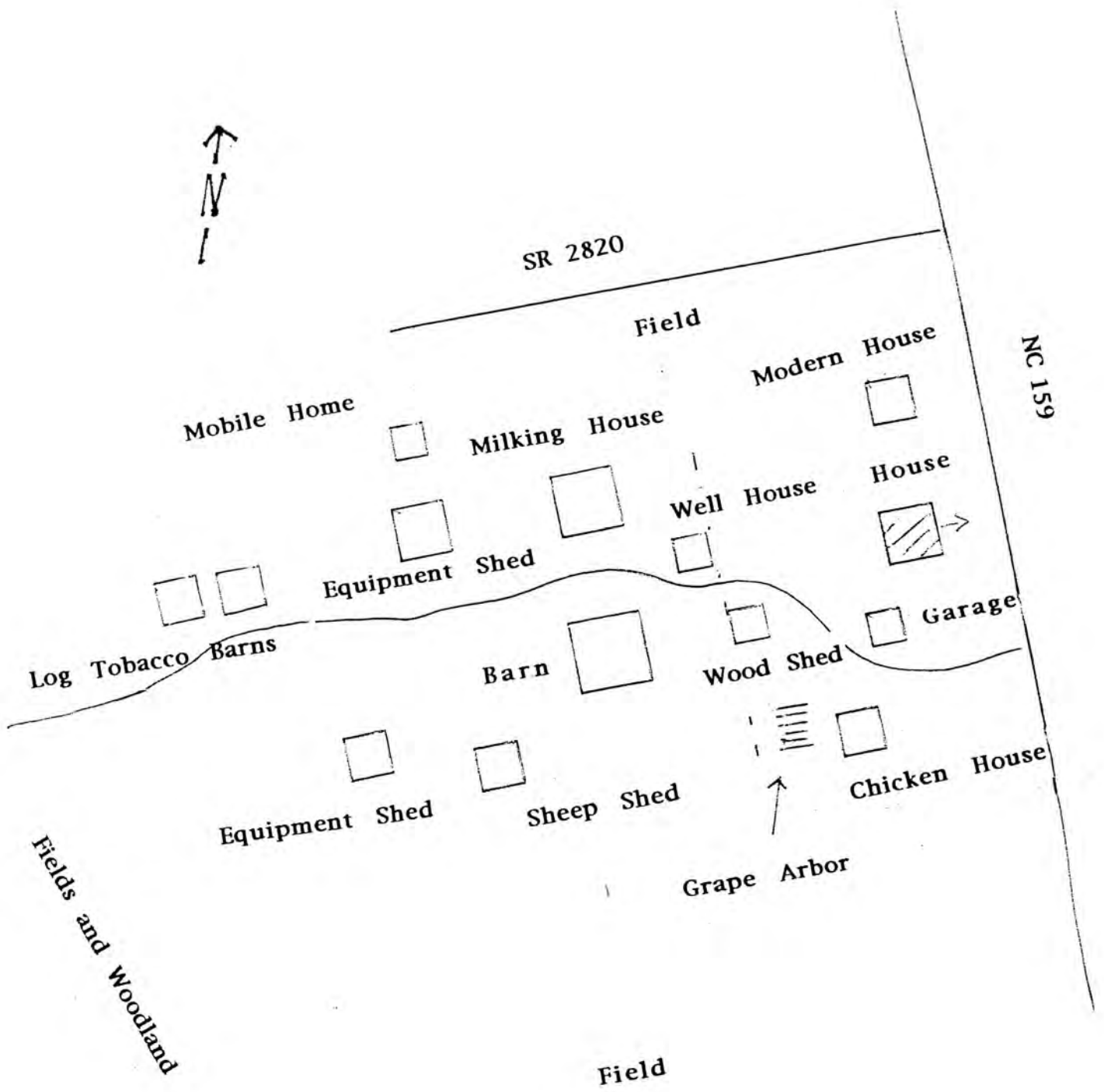


Figure 4
Cox-Brown Farm
Proposed National Register Boundaries
(Soil Conservation Survey Map 1991)
Scale - 1" = 600'

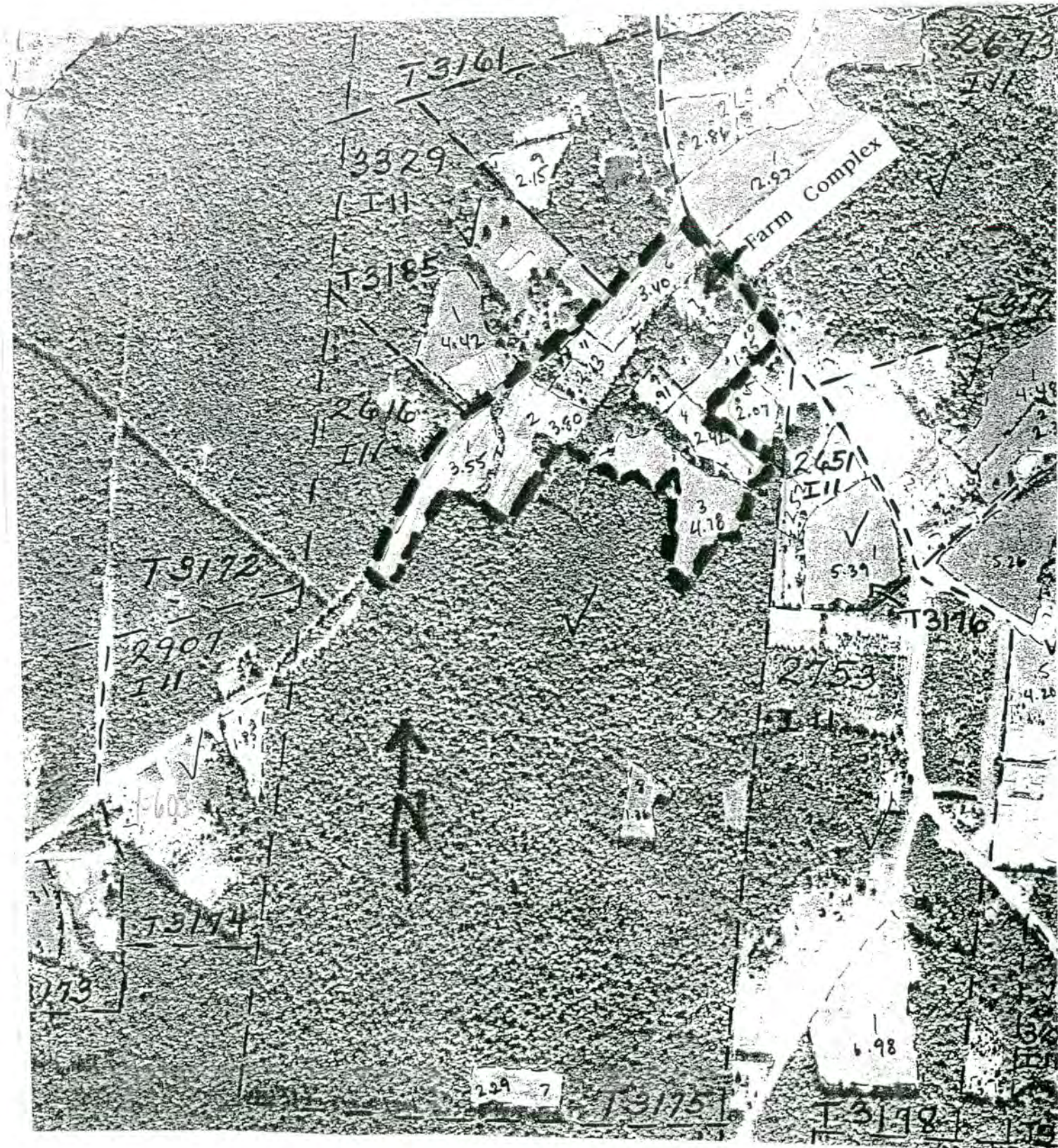


Figure 5

COX-BROWN FARM
(Randolph County Tax Map)
Scale - 1" = 400'

Proposed National Register
Boundaries - - - - -
Existing Property Lines - - - - -



B. Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register

John Hurley Wrape Farm (No. 45)

North side, SR 1193, 0.4 mile west of NC 49, Cedar Grove vicinity, Randolph County

Date of Construction

1939-1940, 1950s, ca. 1980

Associated Outbuildings

Frame Barn (1950s), Frame Barn (ca. 1980), Equipment Shed (ca. 1980), Equipment Shed (1950s), Garage (ca. 1940), Smokehouse (ca. 1940)

Setting and Landscape Design (Figure 6)

The Wrape Farm occupies a beautiful setting of rolling farmland and woodland on the east side of the Uwharrie Mountains, north of existing NC 49. The house is set back from the road on a hill which slopes down on the east side to a pond and pastures. Behind the house is a collection of outbuildings, beyond which stretch pastures and woodland. Rolling fields and pastures on the west side of the house complete the 156.70-acre farm. The surrounding area is still agrarian with few modern intrusions.

Physical Description and Evaluation of Integrity (Plates 20-27)

The Wrape Farm includes an imposing two-story, brick, Colonial Revival dwelling, built in 1939 and 1940. The house has a side-gable roof, one brick exterior end chimney, one rear exterior chimney, front-gable dormers, a front-gable entry porch, sun room side wing, and a projecting entry porch on the rear elevation. The house has six-over-six windows, and the side wing has metal sash, louvered windows and a flat roof capped by a wrought iron balustrade. The cornice, spandrels, side lights, and transom have all been covered in vinyl siding, and the dormers have replacement four-over-four windows. The wood and glass door is original. Access to the interior was denied, but the owner reports that there have been no substantial alterations.

There are six outbuildings associated with the Wrape Farm, five of which form a U-shaped configuration behind the house. Built ca. 1950, a large, gambrel-roofed barn with German siding, sliding doors, and side sheds forms the centerpiece of farm complex. Next to the barn is an equipment shed (also built ca. 1950) with a bracketed, front-gable roof and German siding. The shed is open on the south elevation. A one and one-half story, concrete-block garage sits next to the equipment shed. The ca. 1940 garage has a front-gable roof, a replacement one-over-one window, and a bracketed shed roof over the garage opening. A pyramidal-roofed smokehouse (ca. 1950), covered in asphalt shingle siding, stands next to the garage. On the opposite side of the barn is a modern equipment shed with a long side-gable roof, concrete-block storage bays, and open sheds. A modern barn with a side gable roof and open sides stands in the pasture behind the older barn.

Historical Background

The house was built in 1939 and 1940 by John Hurley Wrape as the centerpiece of his farm. In 1949, he fenced in the property and converted the farm from

crop cultivation to beef cattle production. His wife, Carol, and son continue the cattle operation. The Wraipes also cultivated some wheat and corn, but most of the property, with its well-watered, rolling grasslands, was turned over to pasturage during the 1950s. The principal barn and equipment shed were built in the early 1950s, and the other barn and shed were added in recent years (Wrape Interview 1998).

Evaluation of Eligibility

The Wrape Farm is not recommended as eligible for the National Register. The property does not possess the significance to merit National Register eligibility under any Criterion. The World War II era house is typical of early to mid-twentieth century, Colonial Revival residential designs, and numerous, better preserved examples survive in the county (especially Asheboro) and throughout the state. Therefore, the house is not considered to be individually eligible under Criterion C for architecture.

The farm property also lacks significance under Criterion A for agriculture. The field and pasture patterns and many of the farm outbuildings date to the 1950s conversion to cattle raising, and thus do not meet the fifty-year age guideline for National Register eligibility. Of the six support structures, only two outbuildings, the garage and smokehouse, predate 1949, and these resources are not sufficient to illustrate historical agricultural practices in Randolph County. For a better representation of the agricultural trends that characterized Randolph County during the early and middle decades of the twentieth century, see the Cox-Brown Farm (No. 24) in the APE (pp. 23-39).

The property does not possess significance under Criterion B because the property is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. Finally, the property is not considered eligible under Criterion D because the architectural component is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology.



Plate 20. Wrape Farm--House and Setting, Looking North.

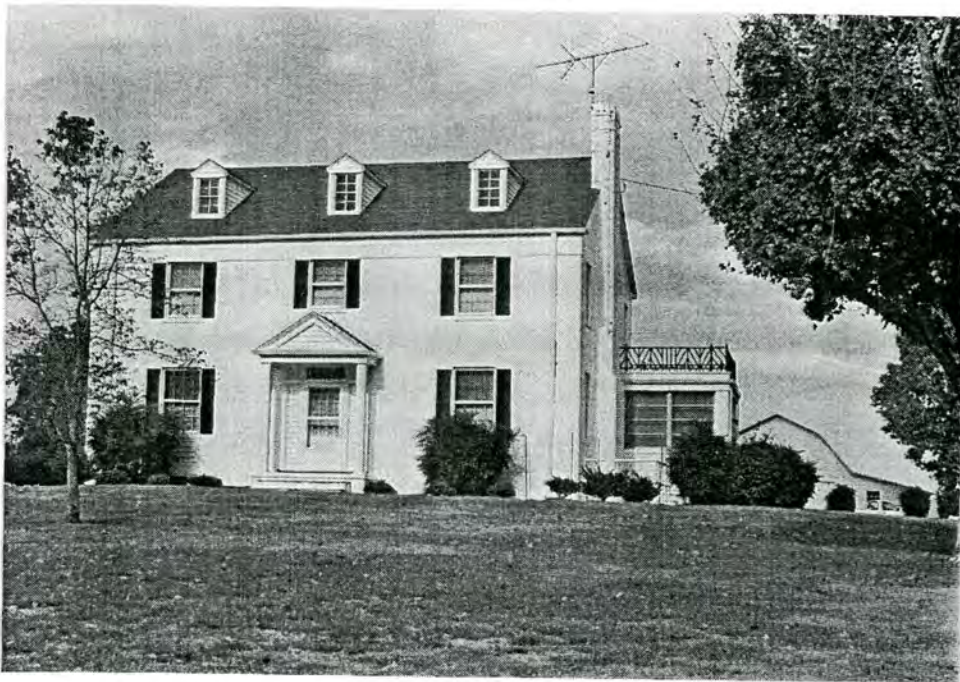


Plate 21. Wrape Farm--House Facade, Looking North.



Plate 22. Wrape Farm--Rear Elevation of House, Looking South.



Plate 23. Wrape Farm--Barn, Equipment Shed, and Garage, Looking Northwest.



Plate 24. Wrape Farm, Garage and Smokehouse, Looking Northwest.



Plate 25. Wrape Farm--Modern Equipment Shed, Looking Northeast.

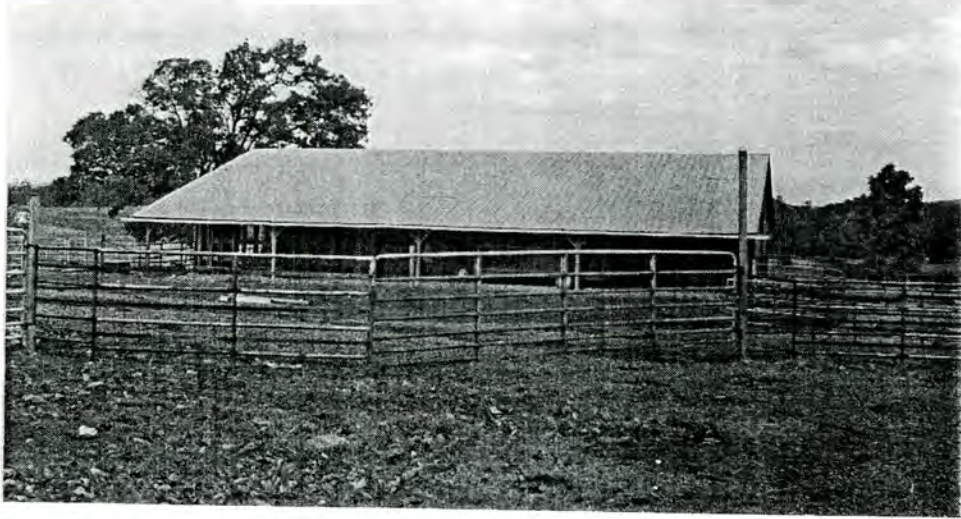


Plate 26. Wrape Farm--Modern Barn and Pasture, Looking North.

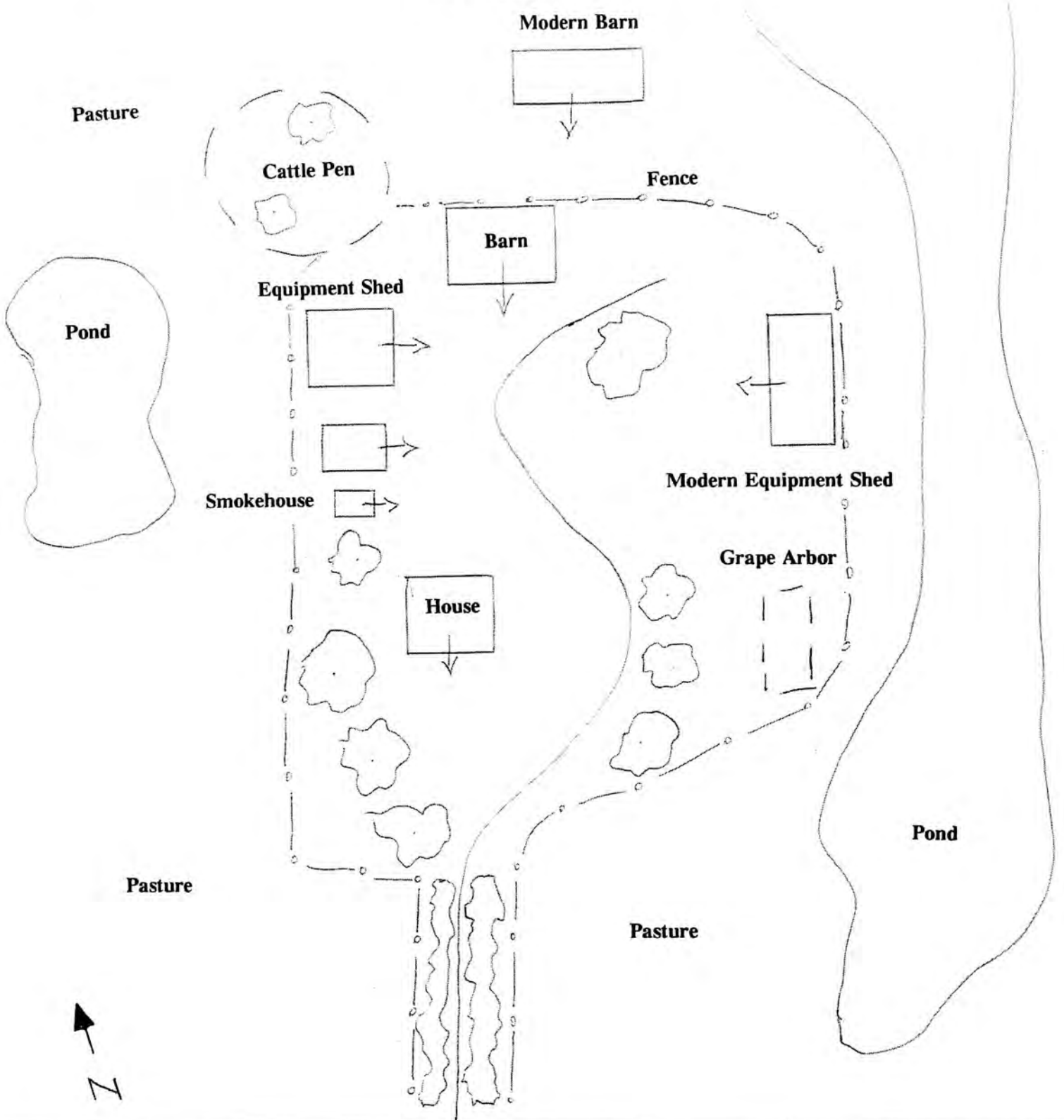


Plate 27. Wrape Farm--Pasture and Pond, Looking Northeast.

Figure 6

John Hurley Wrape Farm
Site Plan

(not to scale)



Varner Place (RD-147; No. 11)

South side, SR 1193, 0.3 mile east of SR 1160, Cedar Grove vicinity, Randolph County

Date of Construction

ca. 1840

Associated Outbuildings

Frame Shed (ca. 1940), Frame Shed (ca. 1940), Frame Well House (ca. 1900), Log Smokehouse (ruinous), (2) Mobile Homes.

Setting and Landscape Design (Figure 7)

Sited at the end of an unpaved farm lane, the Varner house is located on the south side of SR 1193 (Old Highway 49), north of existing NC 49. The house is separated from the road by cultivated fields and pastures, and rolling pastures and woodland are found behind the house. To the rear of the tree-shaded house are several frame, twentieth century outbuildings, a ruinous log smokehouse, and two trailers. The surrounding area is still agrarian with few modern intrusions.

Physical Description and Evaluation of Integrity (Plates 28-37)

Varner Place is an antebellum farm dwelling (ca. 1840), which is now used as a workshop, but the building is in deteriorated condition. The two-story, frame house has a side-gable roof, hall-parlor plan, an enclosed shed-roofed porch, and a rear ell with an L-shaped porch supported by wooden piers. The rear ell has been enlarged to accommodate a workshop, and a concrete-block flue has been added to the west elevation of the rear ell. The house now has asphalt shingle siding, a replacement roof with broad eaves and exposed rafters, and the fieldstone exterior end chimneys have replacement brick stacks. The house has nine-over-six windows on the first floor and six-over-six windows on the second, but many of the windows are now boarded. The entrance features a two-panel door with no transom or sidelights.

The interior of the Varner house was inaccessible, but partly visible through a window. An earlier survey recorded mortise and tenon construction, a hall-parlor plan, and an enclosed staircase, but none of these features were visible (Whatley 1985: 142). One two-panel door was evident, but the interior appears to have a variety of modern wall treatments. No mantels were visible. Varner Place no longer retains its architectural integrity.

There are several outbuildings associated with Varner residence, including two frame sheds, both of which date to the early twentieth century, a turn-of-the-century well house, and a V-notched, log smokehouse which is now in ruinous condition. There are also two mobile homes standing behind the house.

Historical Background

Little is known about the history of Varner Place, which appears to have been built ca. 1840. The Varner family had come to Randolph County as part of a settlement of German Dunker Baptists who had relocated from Pennsylvania and Maryland to this central North Carolina county in the mid-eighteenth century. The Dunkers had originally settled in Tabernacle and Trinity townships, in northwest Randolph County, on the east side of the Uwharrie

Mountains between the Uwharrie River and Richland Fork. One of a number of German Protestants sects to settle in the northwest part of the county, the Dunkers opposed public education, political participation, and embraced pacifism. Because of their refusal to take up arms during the American Revolution, the Dunkers were persecuted by others, and by the early nineteenth century, most of the Uwharrie Germans, as they were also known, had left Randolph County and moved west. The remaining German families, including the Varners, were assimilated into the surrounding culture (Whatley 1985: 4, 8).

Evaluation of Eligibility

Varnier Place is not recommended as eligible for the National Register. This property no longer retains sufficient integrity to merit National Register eligibility under any Criterion. Now in highly deteriorated condition, the house was also remodeled earlier in the twentieth century and no longer has significance under Criterion C for architecture.

The farm property also lacks significance under Criterion A for agriculture. The property has four outbuildings, two of which are twentieth-century sheds. The other two outbuildings have lost their integrity because of deterioration. The well house is now heavily deteriorated, and the log smokehouse is in ruinous condition. The property does not possess significance under Criterion B because the property is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. Finally, the property is not considered eligible under Criterion D because the architectural component is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology.



Plate 28. Varner Place, House and Setting, Looking Southwest.



Plate 29. Varner Place, Facade (North) and West Elevation, Looking Southeast.



Plate 30. Varner Place, East Elevation and Rear Ell, Looking West.



Plate 31. Varner Place, Rear (South) Elevation and Rear Ell, Looking Northwest.

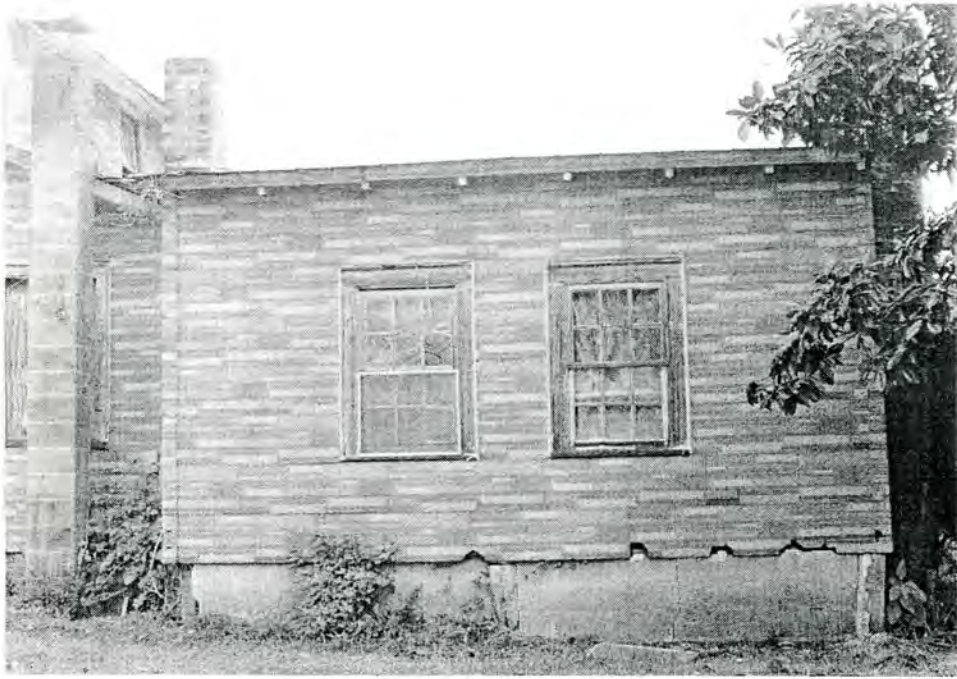


Plate 32. Varner Place, Rear Ell Addition, Looking East.

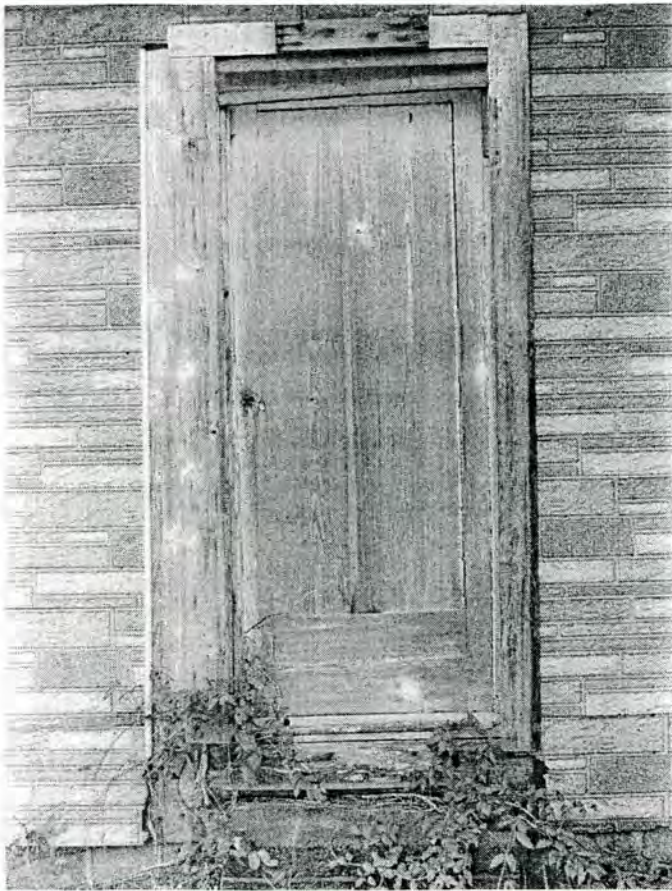


Plate 33. Varner Place, Entrance.



Plate 34. Varner Place, Sheds and Trailer, Looking Southwest.



Plate 35. Varner Place, Well House, Looking South.



Plate 36. Varner Place, Ruinous Smokehouse, Looking West.

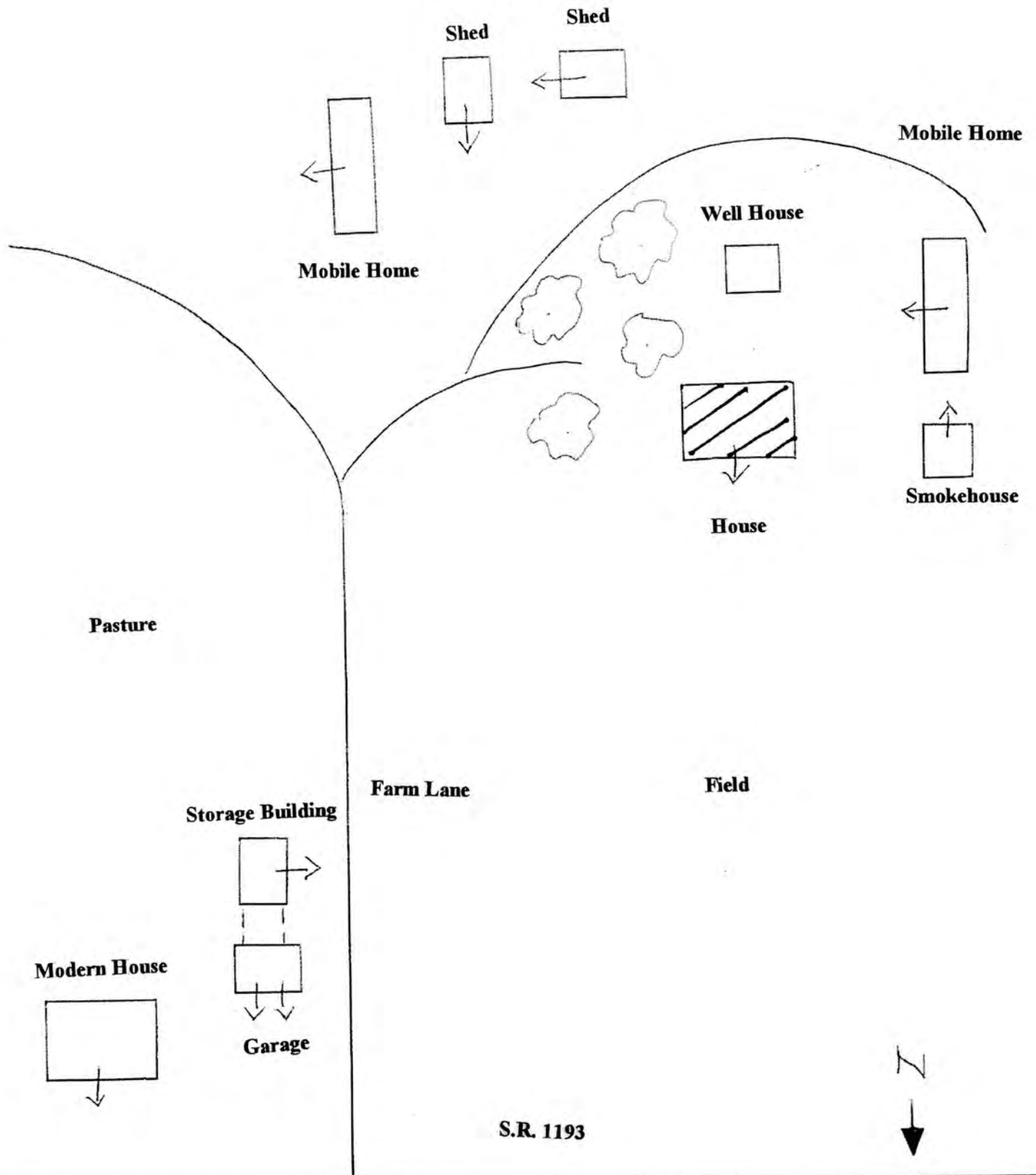


Plate 37. Varner Place, Setting, Looking West.

Figure 7

Varner Place
Site Plan

(not to scale)



Spoon House (No. 35)

East side SR 2824, 0.5 mile south of SR 2827, Asheboro vicinity,
Randolph County

Date of Construction

ca. 1890

Associated Outbuildings

Well House (ca. 1890, deteriorated); Barn (ca. 1955, deteriorated)

Setting and Landscape Design (Figure 8)

The Spoon House occupies a two-acre parcel in a rural setting southeast of Asheboro. Facing west, the house is located close to the roadway (SR 2824). Mature trees and shrubs surround the dwelling, and the rear of the tract is now overgrown. A post-World War II frame barn is sited just southeast of the house, while a severely deteriorated frame well house is located directly behind the house.

Physical Description and Evaluation of Integrity (Plates 38-43)

The ca. 1890 Spoon House is a partially altered, traditional two-story, one-room-deep, three-bay farmhouse. The frame, weatherboard dwelling has a side-gable roof with a decorative center gable embellished with a diamond-shaped vent. Most of the windows have replacement one-over-one sash, though some of the original two-over-two windows survive on the first story. Modern square supports have replaced the original chamfered porch posts, and the original decorative sawnwork no longer remains (Brown 1998). Original brick chimneys are located in the two gable ends, and the chimney on the south elevation features tumbled brickwork in the shoulders. The chimney on the north gable end has been partially stuccoed. A one-story kitchen ell with replacement square posts and a concrete floor extends to the rear.

The owners permitted the principal investigators to examine the inside, but did not allow interior photos. The interior of the main block of the house follows a center-hall plan, though a modern partition wall now encloses the stair. The original post-and-lintel mantel survives in the north front room, but the mantel in the south front room is no longer extant. Some five-panel doors survive, but there are also modern wooden replacement doors. Original board-and-batten walls remain in the narrow hallway and the principal rooms, but some of the hardwood flooring has been covered with tile. The main body of the house is used for general storage and is no longer inhabited. The rear ell has been extensively modernized. The 1920s mantel on the ell's gable end was taken from another dwelling and installed during the 1950s (Brown 1998).

The two-acre parcel includes an 1890s frame well house with a projecting front canopy (deteriorated), and a 1950s frame, gable-front barn (deteriorated). The owners plan to demolish the well house. No other outbuildings or farmland associated with this house survive.

Historical Background

Little is currently known about the early history of the Spoon House. According to the current owners, a family named Spoon owned the dwelling and approximately 200 acres of adjoining farmland during the years before and after 1900 (Brown 1998). The house and farm were later acquired by the

Henley family, and Henley heirs continue to own and occupy subdivided portions of the original 200-acre tract. Ruby Henley Brown and her husband, Donald Brown, now live in the house, taking occupancy after a 1980s fire destroyed their nearby residence. The Browns reside primarily in the rear ell, and use the main two-story block mostly for storing furniture and other belongings (Brown 1998).

Evaluation of Eligibility

The Spoon House is not recommended as eligible for the National Register under any Criterion. The house lacks sufficient architectural integrity for eligibility under Criterion C. While this traditional two-story farmhouse retains its gable-roofed form, weatherboard siding, and some other original design elements, it has also undergone significant alterations. On the exterior, window sash and porch posts have been replaced. Inside, the mantel in the south front room is no longer extant and a modern partition wall now encloses the stair. Other remodeling has also occurred, including the addition of modern doors and flooring. Randolph County retains a host of better-preserved dwellings that share the basic form and style of the Spoon House. Examples include the Mendenhall House in the northwest section of the county, the C. H. Hardin House and the Allred Place in northern Randolph, the John Turner House in eastern Randolph County, and the John W. Staley House, which is also located in eastern Randolph. Mill communities such as Ramseur and Franklinville also contain fine examples of this basic house type (Whatley 1985: 55, 70-71, 79, 88-90, 98).

The Spoon House is not eligible under Criterion A because the property no longer retains farmland or outbuildings that relate to significant agricultural patterns in Randolph County. The property is also not eligible under Criterion B because it is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. Finally, the property is not considered eligible under Criterion D because the architectural component is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology.



Plate 38. Spoon House, Front Facade, Looking East.



Plate 39. Spoon House, North Elevation, Looking South.



Plate 40. Spoon House, South Elevation, Looking North.



Plate 41. Spoon House, Rear Ell, Looking North.

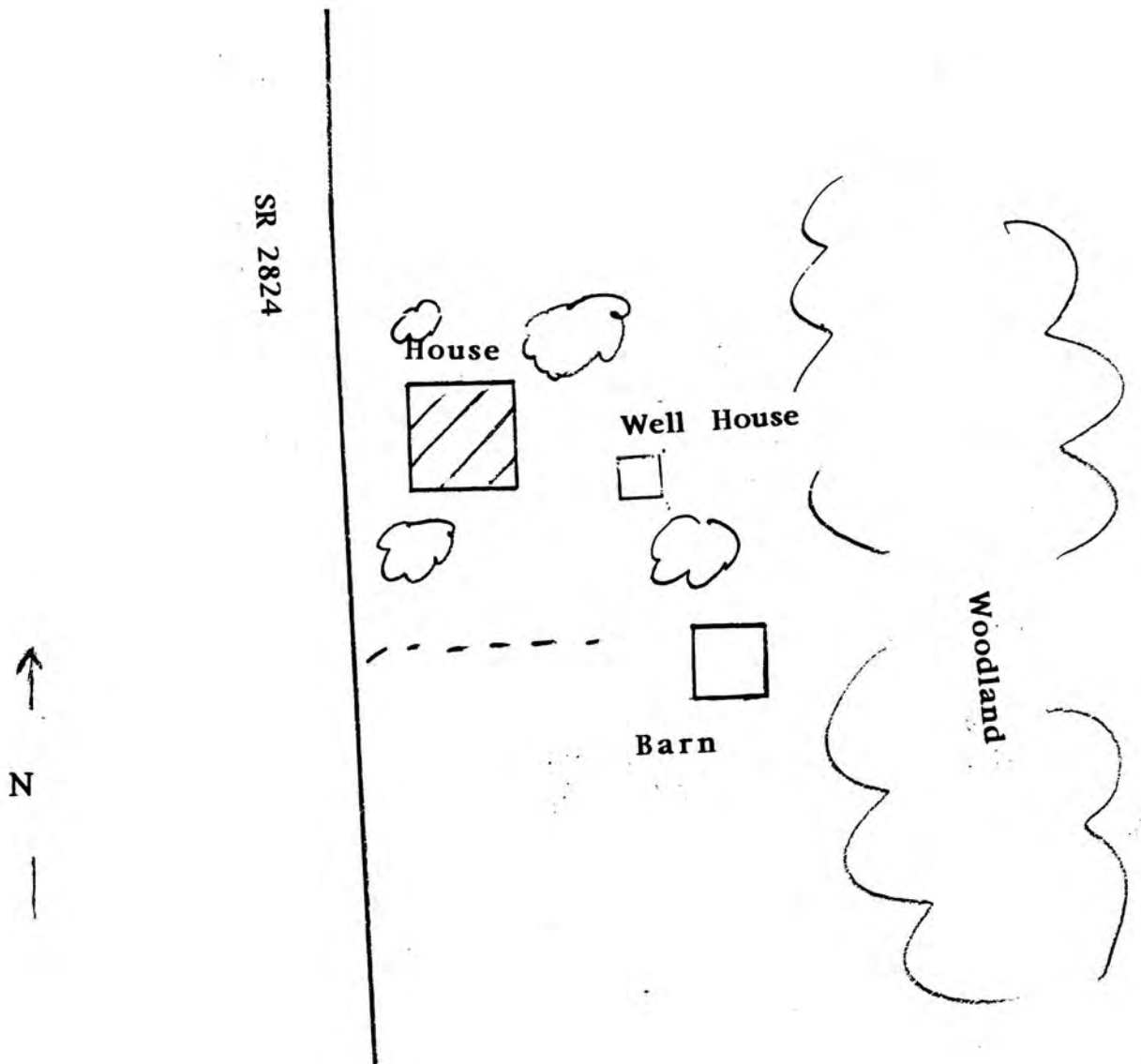


Plate 42. Spoon House, Rear Ell and Well House, Looking East.



Plate 43. Spoon House, Barn, Looking East.

Figure 8
Spoon House
Site Plan
(not to scale)



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APPENDIX I:
AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS MAP

APPENDIX II:
PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Federal Aid # NHF-104(19) TIP # R-2536 County Randolph

CONCURRENCE FORM FOR PROPERTIES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Brief Project Description US 64 Improvements from West of Asheboro to east of Asheboro

On Nov. 12, 1998, representatives of the

- North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- Other _____

reviewed the subject project at

- A scoping meeting
- Historic architectural resources photograph review session/consultation
- Other _____

All parties present agreed

- there are no properties over fifty years old within the project's area of potential effects.
- there are no properties less than fifty years old which are considered to meet Criterion Consideration G within the project's area of potential effects.
- there are properties over fifty years old (list attached) within the project's area of potential effects, but based on the historical information available and the photographs of each property, properties identified as Properties 1-10, 12-23, 25-34, 36-44 are considered not eligible for National Register and no further evaluation of them is necessary. list attached
- there are no National Register-listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.

Signed:

Mary Pope 11-12-98
Representative, NCDOT Date

Wendy S. Steele 11/25/98
FHWA for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency Date

Debra B. Bessie 11-12-98
Representative, SHPO Date

Wanda L. Lead 12/30/98
State Historic Preservation Officer, Deputy Date

If a survey report is prepared, a final copy of this form and the attached list will be included.

PROPERTIES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE
NATIONAL REGISTER AND THEREFORE NOT WORTHY
OF FURTHER EVALUATION
(Keyed to Map)

Number	Name	Reason Not Eligible
1.	House	Asphalt-shingled, side-gable bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance.
2.	Kemp Alexander Hse	Relocated 1919 Colonial Revival dwelling which originally stood at 415 Sunset Ave. in Asheboro. Moved in the 1980s to its present rural setting; replacement sash, chimneys; vinyl siding; no special architectural or historical significance.
3.	Hoover House	Vinyl-sided early-20th-century, two-story rectangular farmhouse with decorative center gable; replacement porch posts and chimney on east gable; modern chimney on rear ell; ruinous barn (portions of roof missing) stands to the rear; no special architectural or historical significance.
4.	House	Extensively altered 1920s-1940s gable-front cottage with replacement asphalt siding and chimney; concrete block foundation; appears to have been moved to this site.
5.	House	Ca. 1945 aluminum-sided, hip-roofed cottage; no special architectural or historical significance.
6.	House	Extensively altered early-20th-century two-room frame cottage; does not have any special architectural or historical significance.
7.	Allred Farm	Extensively altered, ca. 1910, rectangular, two-story farmhouse with decorative center roof gable; replacement porch and chimneys; replacement eight-over-eight windows on the first floor of front facade; farm complex includes gambrel-roofed dairy barn; rolling farmland extends to the rear of the complex; no special architectural or historical significance.
8.	House	Ca. 1945 brick-veneered cottage; no special architectural or historical significance.
9.	Thornburg House	Vinyl-sided, ca. 1930 Colonial Revival cottage; ca. 1930 gambrel-roofed barn stands to the rear; no special architectural or historical significance.

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| 10. | McBride House/Store | Vinyl-sided side-gable bungalow; gable-front frame former store located on the lawn beside the house appears to have been moved to the site and renovated for non-commercial use; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 12. | Walker House | Altered, deteriorated, and abandoned turn-of-the-century two-story, rectangular farmhouse; replacement porch posts; no special architectural or historical significance. Owner permitted only one photo. |
| 13. | Calicutt House | Aluminum-sided, cross-gable bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 14. | House | Altered story-and-a-half frame dwelling; replacement porch, windows, and vinyl siding; numerous additions; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 15. | House | Early-20th-century, side-gable, double-pen frame dwelling; replacement tapered porch posts; possibly moved to this site, given modern foundation and modern chimney stack; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 16. | Cagle House | Altered, early-20th-century, story-and-a-half, rectangular farmhouse with center gable; aluminum-sided; porch gone; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 17. | House | Mid-20th-century, brick-veneered cottage, no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 18. | House | Aluminum-sided, story-and-a-half Colonial Revival cottage; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 19. | House | Long-vacant weatherboard and cobblestone bungalow with cobblestone chimney, porch supports, and foundation; cobblestone veneer on portions of front facade; dwelling used for all-purpose storage on overgrown site; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 20. | House | Mid-20th-century, brick-veneered, Tudor-Revival cottage; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 21. | House | Aluminum-sided gable-front frame bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 22. | House | Asbestos-sided gable-front frame bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |

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| 23. | House | Asbestos-shingled gable-front frame bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 25. | House | Asphalt-shingled early-20th-century frame cottage; replacement one-over-one windows and square porch posts and balusters; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 26. | Staley Farm Complex | Small cluster of vacant/abandoned late-19th- and early-20th-century farm buildings, including altered farmhouse, single-crib log barn and corncrib, and several frame outbuildings; no associated farmland survives; no original landscaping or vegetation survives; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 27. | House | Abandoned early-20th-century asbestos-shingled cottage; overgrown setting; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 28. | House | Asphalt-veneered, gable-front bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 29. | House | Vinyl-sided, gable-front frame bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 30. | House | Aluminum-sided early-20th-century, gable-front frame cottage; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 31. | House | Asphalt-veneered frame bungalow with rock-faced chimney and porch; replacement window sash in front-facing gable; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 32. | House | Aluminum-sided, gable-front frame bungalow; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 33. | Clarence Cox Farm | The existing 1950 brick-veneered house replaced original antebellum Cox residence (razed); mix of modern and early farm buildings remain, including early-20th-century frame barn; farmland appears to survive substantially intact, though the present house and several other nearby modern residences now stand on subdivided tracts; no longer in Cox family; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 34. | House | Ruinous turn-of-the-century farmhouse; traditional two-story, rectangular form with decorative center gable; no special architectural or historical significance. |

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| 36. | Farm Complex | Aluminum-sided frame bungalow farmhouse and an adjacent modern dwelling are the centerpieces of this small complex, which also includes frame well house and gable-front frame barn; adjacent fields appear to be substantially intact; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 37. | House | Ruinous, abandoned two-story frame farmhouse in overgrown setting; no associated outbuildings or fields remain; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 38. | House | Extensively altered, vinyl-sided turn-of-the-century, hip-roofed, double-pile farmhouse with Queen Anne/Colonial Revival traits; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 39. | House | Mid-20th-century brick-veneered cottage; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 40. | House | Extensively altered and modernized dwelling with a heavily remodeled story-and-a-half section and large modern additions; several early-20th-century, frame outbuildings remain on the parcel though no associated farmland remains; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 41. | House | Frame, gable-front bungalow with boxy form, bracketed eaves, and patterned wood shingles in the front gable; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 42. | Log House | Modernized single-pen log dwelling; modern chimney, foundation, and windows; moved and reconstructed on this site; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 43. | House | Gable-front asbestos-shingled bungalow with porte-cochere; no special architectural or historical significance. |
| 44. | House | Aluminum-sided, cross-gable cottage with simple Colonial Revival elements; no special architectural or historical significance. |



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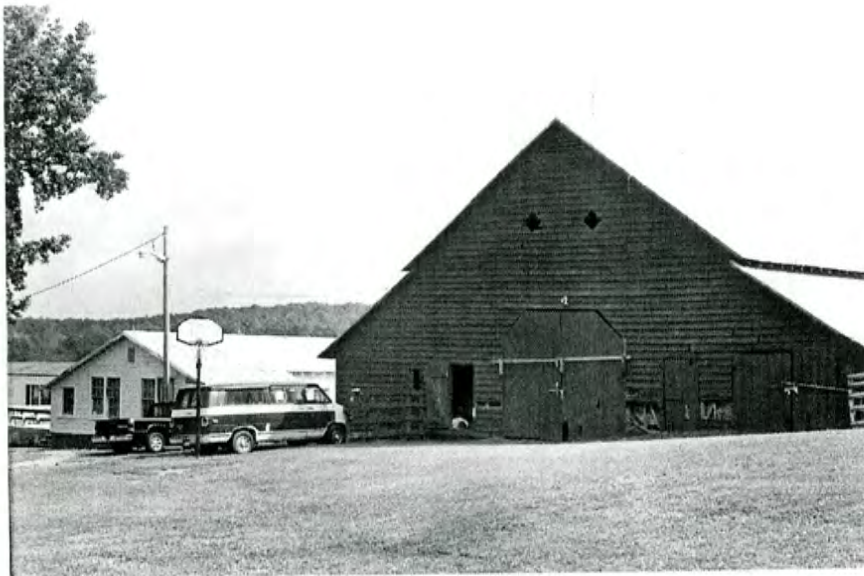
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**APPENDIX III:
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

Richard L. Mattson, Ph.D.
Historical Geographer

Education

- 1988 Ph.D. Geography
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- 1980 M.A. Geography
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- 1976 B.A. History, Phi Beta Kappa
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois

Relevant Work Experience

- 1991-date Historical Geographer, Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.
Charlotte, North Carolina
- 1991 Visiting Professor, History Department, Queens College, Charlotte,
North Carolina
- Developed and taught course on the architectural history of the North
Carolina Piedmont, focusing on African-American architecture, textile-
mill housing, and other types of vernacular landscapes.
- 1989-1991 Mattson and Associates, Historic Preservation Consulting
Charlotte, North Carolina
- 1988 Visiting Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning,
University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- Taught historic preservation planning workshop, developed and taught
course on the history of African-American neighborhoods. The latter
course was cross-listed in African-American Studies.
- 1984-1989 Private Historic Preservation Consultant,
Raleigh, North Carolina
- 1981-1984 Academic Advisor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of
Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
- 1981 Instructor, Department of Geography, University of Illinois, Urbana,
Illinois
- 1978-1980 Private Historic Preservation Consultant, Champaign, Illinois

Frances P. Alexander
Architectural Historian

Education

- 1991 M.A. American Civilization-Architectural History
George Washington University
Washington, D.C.
- 1981 B.A. History with High Honors
Guilford College
Greensboro, North Carolina

Relevant Work Experience

- 1991-date Architectural Historian, Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.
Charlotte, North Carolina
- 1988-1991 Department Head, Architectural History Department
Engineering-Science, Inc., Washington, D.C.

Directed all architectural history projects for the Cultural Resource Division. Supervised a staff of three architectural historians, one photographer, and graphics staff. Responsibilities included project management, technical direction, research design and implementation, scheduling, budget management, client and subcontractor liaison, and regulatory compliance with both state and federal agencies. Responsibilities also included marketing, proposal writing, and public presentations.

Types of projects included: Section 106 compliance, surveys, evaluations of eligibility, evaluations of effect, design review, and mitigation; environmental impact statements; Section 4(f) compliance; H.A.B.S./H.A.E.R. documentation; state survey grants; National Register nominations; oral history; and environmental, historical, and land use research for Superfund sites.

- 1987-1988 Architectural Historian, Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record, National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

Planned and conducted architectural, engineering, and landscape documentation projects. Responsibilities included research designs and methodologies; development of computerized data bases for recording survey data; preparation of overview histories; editing project data; preparation of documentation for publication; and assisting in hiring and supervising personnel.

1986-1987 Historian, National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service,
Washington, D.C.

Acted as liaison with public and federal agencies to provide preservation
information, publications, and National Register nominations.

1986 Historian, Historic American Engineering Record, National Park
Service, Chicago, Illinois

Conducted inventory of historic industrial and engineering resources
along the Illinois and Michigan Canal in Chicago, Illinois.
Responsibilities included identifying potential historic sites; preparing
architectural, engineering, and technological descriptions; conducting
historical research; and preparing an overview history tracing industrial
and transportation development patterns.