



**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
State Historic Preservation Office**

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

November 1, 2001

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Pope Furr  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch  
NCDOT, Division of Highways

FROM: David Brook *for David Brook*

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Report amendment, Bridge 24 over Tar River,  
B-2965, Edgecombe County, ER 02-7682

Thank you for your letter of September 14, 2001, transmitting the survey report by Mattson, Alexander and Associates for the above project. For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we concur that the following properties are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

- Tarboro Historic District extension
- Princeville Baptismal Site
- Abraham Wooten House

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

- Princeville Historic District

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

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above-referenced tracking number.

cc: William Gilmore, NCDOT  
Rick Mattson

bc: Brown/Montgomery ✓  
106  
County  
RF

	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
Administration	507 N. Blount St, Raleigh, NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4617	(919) 733-4763 • 733-8653
Operations	515 N. Blount St, Raleigh, NC	4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4613	(919) 733-6547 • 715-4801
Policy & Planning	515 N. Blount St, Raleigh, NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh 27699-4618	(919) 733-4763 • 715-4801

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**SUPPLEMENT**

**REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 24 ON U.S. BUSINESS OVER THE TAR RIVER**

**EDGECOMBE COUNTY**

**T.I.P. NO. B-2965**

**STATE PROJECT NO. 8.1290601**

**FEDERAL AID NO. BRSTP-064B(1)**

**Prepared By**

**Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.  
2228 Winter Street  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28205**

**Prepared For**

**Barbara H. Mulkey Engineering, Inc.  
559 Jones Franklin Road  
Suite 164-A  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606-1580**

**20 August 2001**

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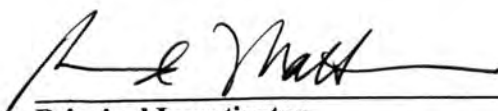
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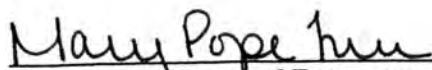
**20 August 2001**



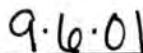
Principal Investigator  
Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.



Date



Historic Architectural Resources  
North Carolina Department of Transportation



Date

## Project Description

This project is entitled *Replace Bridge No. 24 on U.S. 64 Business over the Tar River, Edgecombe County*. The TIP Number is B-2965. The present report is a supplement to the 1998 historic architectural resources study that was undertaken for the B-2965 project (Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc. 1999). The North Carolina Department of Transportation (N.C.D.O.T.) proposes to replace Bridge No. 24, which carries U.S. 64 Business over the Tar River in Edgecombe County. The extant bridge was built in 1931 and is now classified as structurally deficient. The proposed project is depicted in Figure 1.

## Purpose of Survey and Report

This supplemental historic resources survey was conducted, and the report prepared, to identify all historic architectural resources located within the area of potential effects (A.P.E.) (Figures 2a-2b). The survey and report are part of the environmental studies conducted by N.C.D.O.T. and documented by a categorical exclusion (C.E.). This report was prepared as a technical appendix to the C.E. and is part of the compliance documentation required under the National Environmental Policy Act (N.E.P.A.) and the National Historic Preservation Act (N.H.P.A.) of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the N.H.P.A. requires that if a federally funded, licensed, or permitted project has an effect on a property listed in or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be given a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings.

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

## Methodology

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

The methodology for this supplemental study included a field survey of the A.P.E. and an examination of the *Princeville Recovery Plan* (May 2000). Prepared for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (F.E.M.A.) in support of flood recovery efforts for the Town of Princeville, the *Princeville Recovery Plan* identified three potentially historic properties within the A.P.E.: the Princeville Historic District, the Abraham Wooten House (located within the historic district), and Princeville Baptismal Site. Each was determined eligible for the National Register in August 2000 and is reevaluated in the present report.

The field survey was conducted in June 2001 to delineate the A.P.E. and identify all properties within the A.P.E. that appear to have been built before 1952. The A.P.E. is defined by modern construction, topographical features, and sight lines. One hundred per cent of the A.P.E. was surveyed. Those properties previously evaluated in N.C.D.O.T.'s 1999 report and not

significantly changed since that date were denoted on the field survey map. Additional properties fifty years of age or older within the A.P.E. which had not been previously recorded were photographed, mapped, and evaluated.

### **Summary of Survey Findings**

A total of twelve properties were evaluated within the A.P.E. Eight of these were previously evaluated in N.C.D.O.T.'s 1999 historic architectural resources survey and report. The 1999 report recommended an expansion of the Tarboro National Register Historic District's southern boundary to encompass Bridge No. 24 (D.O.E. 1998). The present supplemental report concurs with the recommended boundary expansion. The Princeville Baptismal Site (D.O.E. 2000) and the Abraham Wooten House (D.O.E. 2000), both which were identified in F.E.M.A.'s 2000 report, also remain eligible for the National Register. However, the Princeville Historic District (D.O.E. 2000), also identified in F.E.M.A.'s 2000 report, no longer retains sufficient architectural integrity for National Register eligibility. No other properties within the A.P.E. are recommended as eligible.

#### Properties Listed in the National Register:

Tarboro Historic District (N.R.)

#### Properties Previously Determined Eligible for the National Register

Proposed Tarboro Historic District Expansion (D.O.E. 1998; see 1999 report for B-2965)

Princeville Baptismal Site (D.O.E. 2000)

Princeville Historic District (D.O.E. 2000)

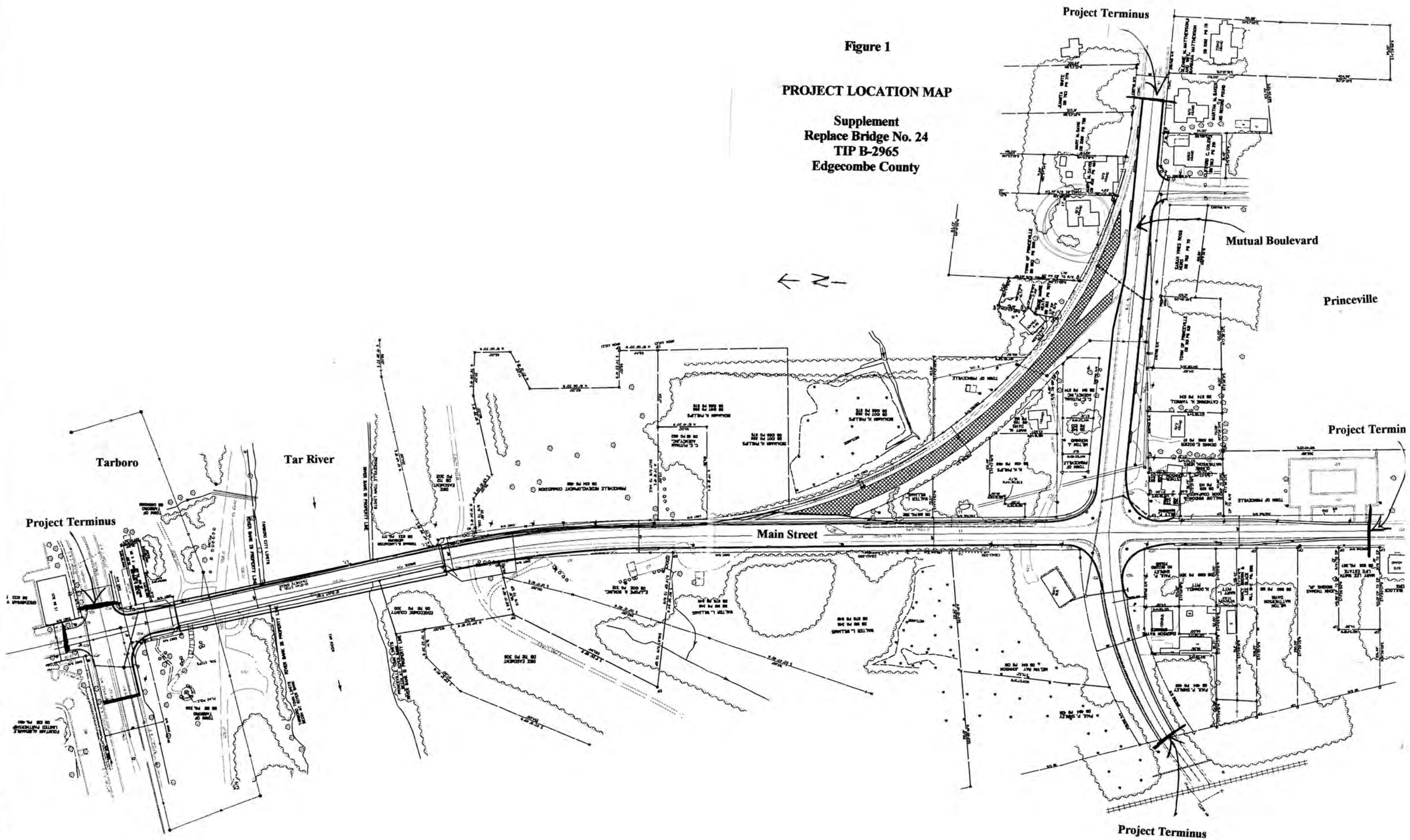
Abraham Wooten House (D.O.E. 2000)

#### Properties Evaluated Intensively and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register

Princeville Historic District (D.O.E. 2000)

Figure 1  
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

Supplement  
Replace Bridge No. 24  
TIP B-2965  
Edgecombe County



Tarboro

Tar River

Project Terminus

Main Street

Project Terminus

Mutual Boulevard

Princeville

Project Terminus

Project Terminus

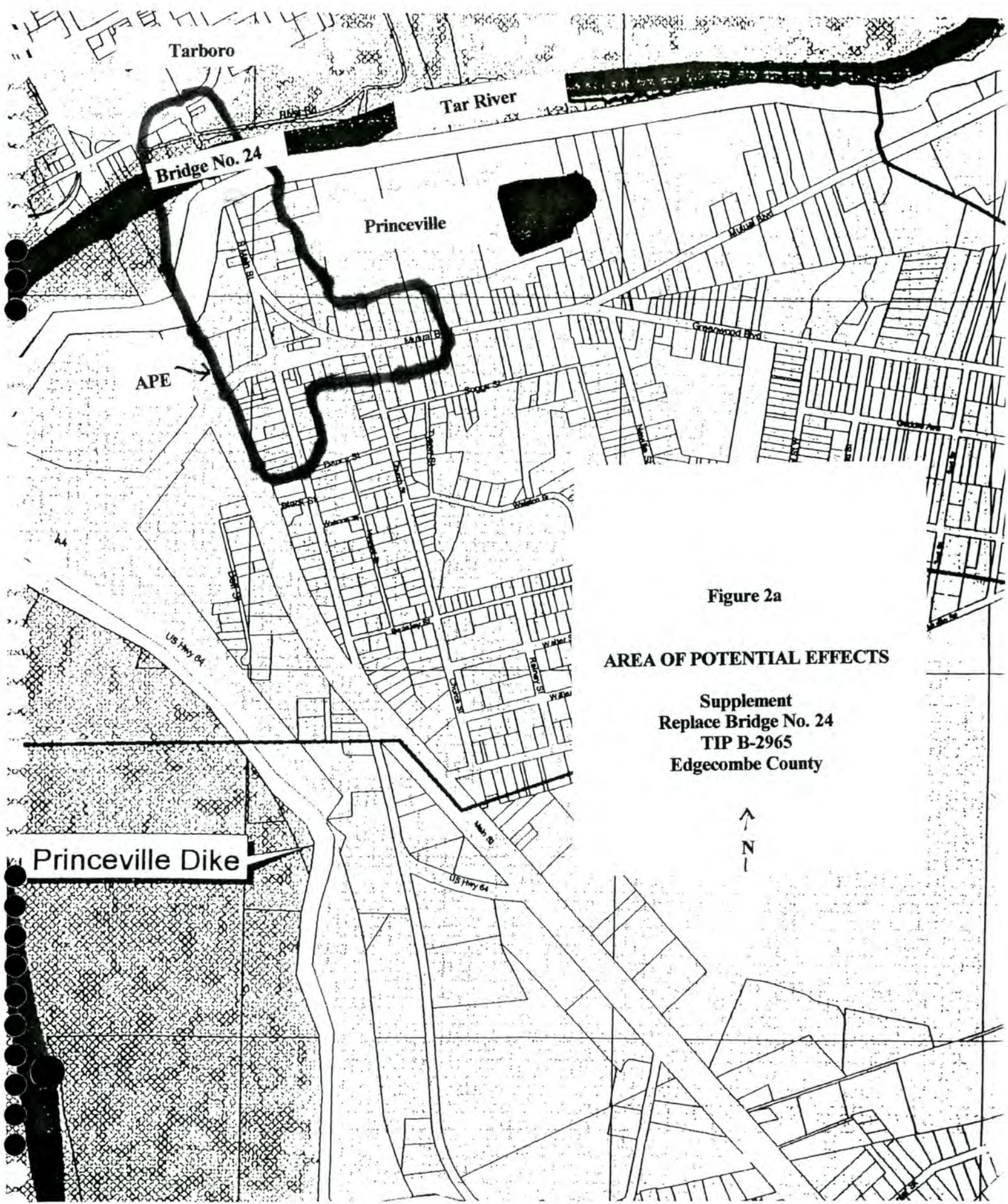
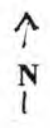


Figure 2a

**AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS**

**Supplement  
Replace Bridge No. 24  
TIP B-2965  
Edgecombe County**

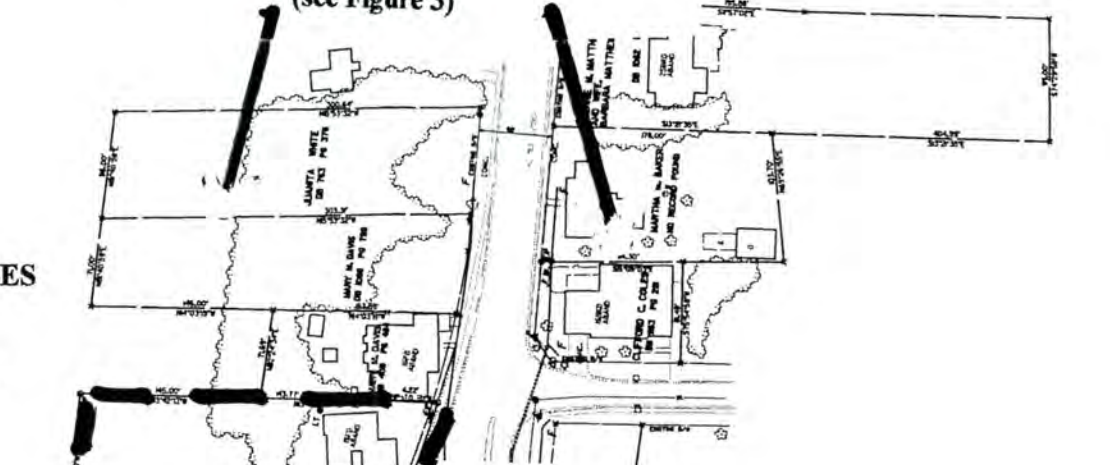


No. 10 Princeville Historic District (DOE 2000)  
Reevaluated Ineligible  
(see Figure 3)

Figure 2b

EVALUATED PROPERTIES

Supplement  
Replace Bridge No. 24  
TIP B-2965  
Edgecombe County



No. 12 Abraham Wooten House (DOE 2000)

No. 7 House

No. 3 Demolished House Site

No. 6 Demolished House Site

No. 5 Demolished House Site

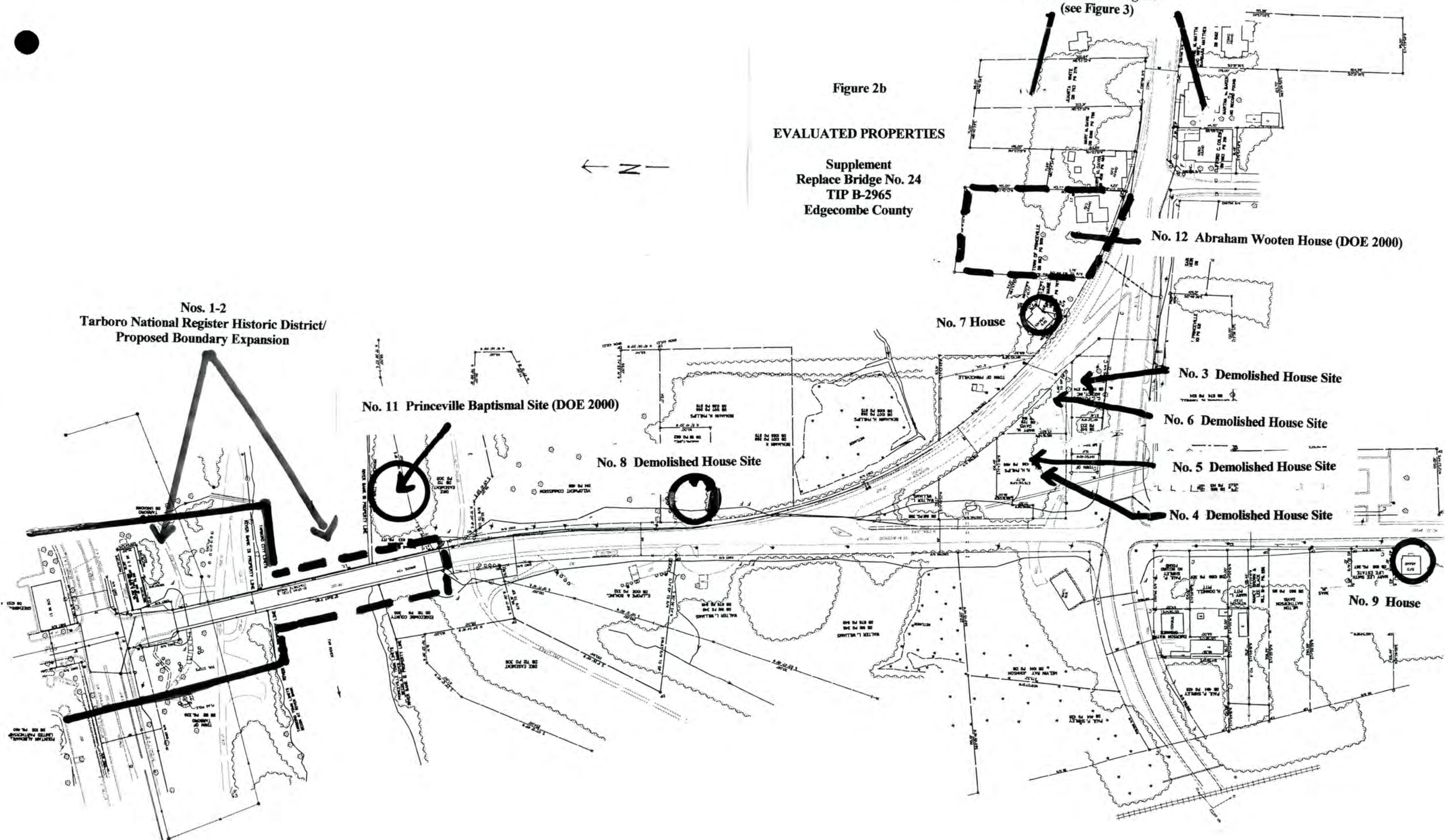
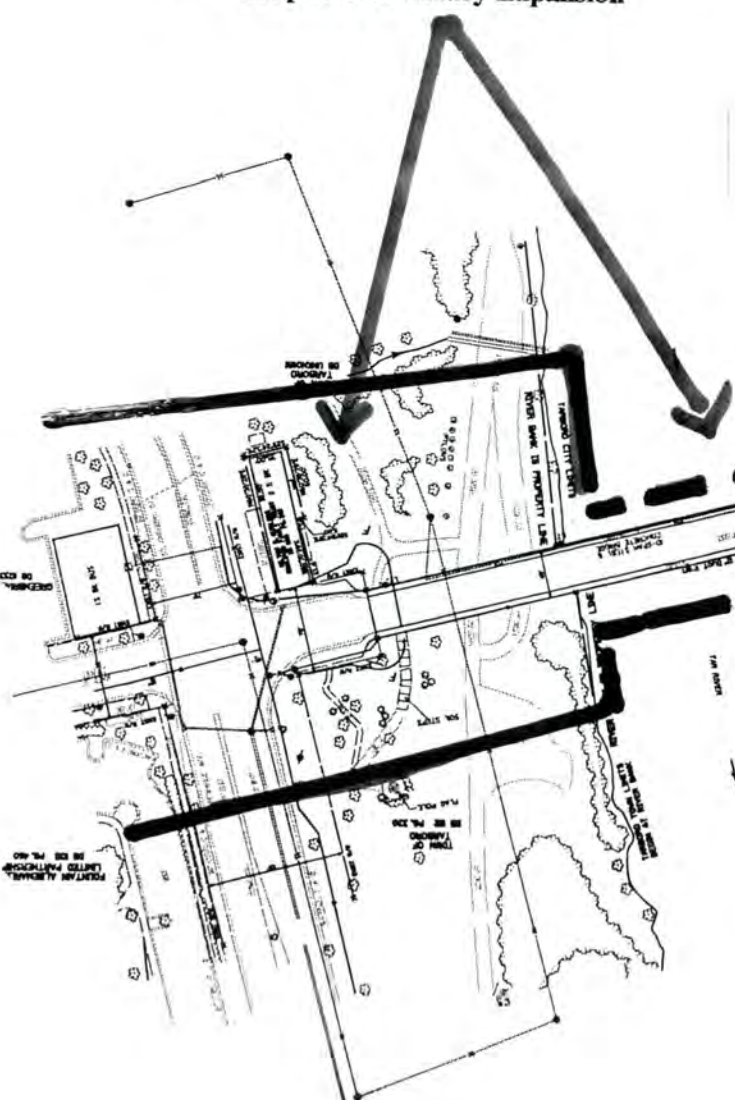
No. 4 Demolished House Site

No. 11 Princeville Baptismal Site (DOE 2000)

No. 8 Demolished House Site

No. 9 House

Nos. 1-2  
Tarboro National Register Historic District/  
Proposed Boundary Expansion





**PROPERTIES PREVIOUSLY EVALUATED  
IN HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT  
DATED MAY 1999  
(Keyed to Survey Map)**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description/Reason</b>
1.	Tarboro Historic District.	Listed in the National Register in 1979 and unchanged since NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report. Remains eligible for the National Register.
2.	Proposed Tarboro Historic District Expansion	Unchanged since NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report. Remains eligible for the National Register.
3.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report; subsequently demolished.
4.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report; subsequently demolished.
5.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report; subsequently demolished.
6.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report; subsequently demolished.
7.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report, but was subsequently evaluated in FEMA's 2000 report as a contributing resource to the Princeville Historic District (DOE 2000). Because the historic district has lost its integrity and is no longer eligible for the National Register, this house is not considered individually eligible for the National Register.
8.	House	Recommended as ineligible in NCDOT's 1999 historic architectural survey report; subsequently demolished.

**ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES EVALUATED FOR  
SUPPLEMENTAL  
HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY REPORT  
DATED JUNE 2001  
(Keyed to Survey Map)**

**Property Recommended Not Eligible for the National Register and  
Not Worthy of Further Investigation (Plate 1)**

9. House Located on South Main Street, this one story, frame dwelling appears to have been originally built in the mid-nineteenth century. The house has exterior end chimneys, a side gable roof, but the shed-roofed porch has collapsed. Since its construction, the house has undergone several remodelings. Now in highly deteriorated condition, the house does not have sufficient integrity to meet National Register criteria.



Plate 1. House (No. 9) on South Main Street, Looking West.

### Properties Previously Determined Eligible for the National Register

#### **10. Princeville Historic District (D.O.E. 2000)**

North and south sides of Mutual Boulevard, east and west of the intersection with Church Street  
Princeville, Edgecombe County

#### Physical Description and Summary Statement of Significance (Plates 2-7)

The Princeville Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register following an historic architectural survey conducted for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (F.E.M.A.) in 2000. The historic district encompasses thirteen contributing resources and three non-contributing properties. Two resources within the district, the Abraham Wooten House at 259 Mutual Boulevard and the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church on Church Street, have been determined to be individually eligible for the National Register. A third property, the Princeville Town Hall/Formal School, is listed individually in the National Register.

The sixteen properties within the historic district lie along the north and south sides of Mutual Boulevard and along Church Street. According to the historic architectural resources survey report prepared for F.E.M.A.,

The Princeville Historic District contains relatively intact representative examples of building types constructed in the community from the late nineteenth century through the 1950s. . . . These buildings represent the development of the oldest town in the United States incorporated by former slaves. The buildings within the district include examples of the shotgun house and the saddlebag house; important public and community buildings, including Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church and the Princeville Town Hall/School, and a portion of the community's original plan. The district also contains what may be the state's oldest monument erected in the memory of an African American, Abraham Wooten. Quite remarkably the town site has been continually occupied since 1865 despite numerous floods that have plagued its residents and despite the many difficulties its residents have faced. For these reasons, the Princeville Historic District is recommended as being eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C at the statewide level of significance (URS Group, Inc. 2001: 5.27).

#### Evaluation of Eligibility (Figure 3)

The Princeville Historic District is not recommended as eligible for the National Register because of a loss of architectural integrity. The small historic district of sixteen properties has lost eight (seven contributing and one non-contributing) resources since the fieldwork for the determination of eligibility was conducted. Only eight resources within the historic district are now extant, and two of these eight are non-contributing properties. However, the individually eligible or listed resources (the Abraham Wooten House, the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church, and the Princeville Town Hall/Formal School) all survive intact and remain eligible for the National Register. Of these resources, only the Wooten House is located within the A.P.E. The boundaries for these three eligible or listed resources are shown in Figure 3.



Plate 2. Princeville Historic District, Princeville Town Hall/School, Looking Southwest.



Plate 3. Princeville Historic District, Vacant Lots and Temporary Building Along North Side of Mutual Boulevard, Looking Northwest.



Plate 4. Princeville Historic District, Looking West From Town Hall towards Modern House (308 Mutual Boulevard) and Glennie's Store (306 Mutual Boulevard).



Plate 5. Princeville Historic District, Looking South Along Church Street towards Modern House (104 Church Street) and Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church.



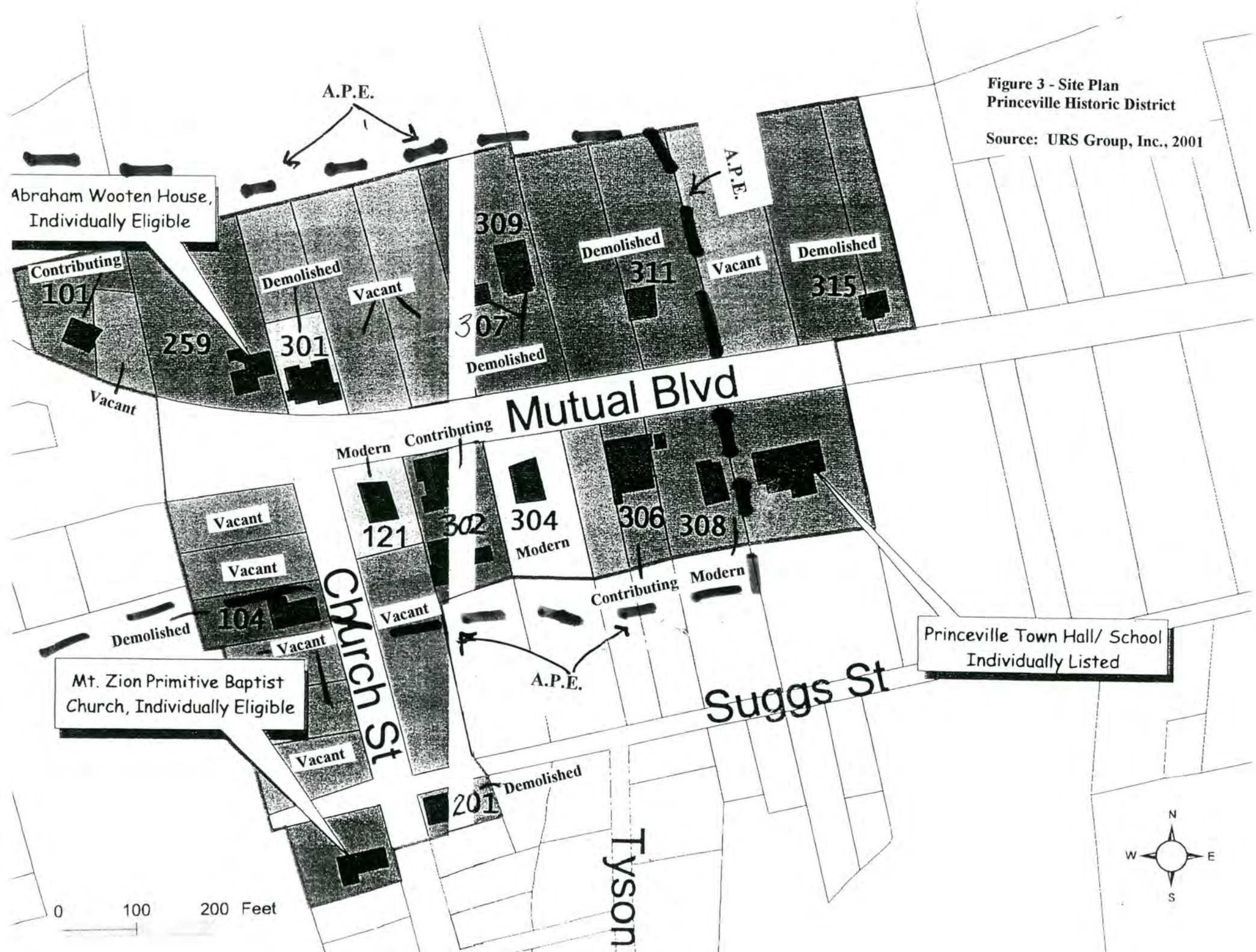
Plate 6. Princeville Historic District, Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church, Looking West.



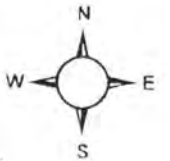
Plate 7. Princeville Historic District, House at 101 Mutual Boulevard, Looking Northwest.

Figure 3 - Site Plan  
Princeville Historic District

Source: URS Group, Inc., 2001



0 100 200 Feet





**11. Princeville Baptismal Site (D.O.E. 2000)**  
**South side Tar River, just east of Bridge No. 24**  
**Princeville**

Located on the Princeville side of the Tar River, near the base of Bridge No. 24, the Princeville Baptismal Site was used by local African American churches, including those in Tarboro, between the 1890s and the 1950s. Subsequently, public health laws restricted the use of rivers and creeks for baptismal purposes. No structures stood on the baptismal site, and improvements were limited to keeping the riverbank clear. Later vegetation now covers a portion of the hillside at the site, but the property's significant natural features remain.

The historic architectural resources survey report prepared for F.E.M.A. states,

Because of the baptismal site's long period of use and its associations with the African American Baptist congregations in the area around Tarboro and Princeville, this site is considered National Register-eligible as a historic site. the site is recommended eligible under Criterion A at the local level of significance and also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration A (URS Group, Inc. 2001: 5.29).

The present supplemental report concurs with the eligibility of the Princeville Baptismal Site. The site has not changed significantly since the August 2000 determination of eligibility (see Figure 2b)(Plates 8-9).



Plate 8. Princeville Baptismal Site, Looking Northwest Towards Bridge No. 24.



Plate 9. Princeville Baptismal Site, Looking South Across Tar River From Tarboro.

**12. Abraham Wooten House (D.O.E. 2000)**  
**259 Mutual Boulevard**  
**Princeville**

Built ca. 1890 as a shotgun house, the Wooten residence now includes additions to the side and rear elevations. The main block and additions have weatherboard siding and a standing-seam metal roof. The house is said to have belonged to Abraham Wooten, a founder of the Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church on Church Street. Wooten was a political and religious leader, who served as a minister, Town Treasurer, and Republican Party leader. The Abraham Wooten House is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion B for its association with Wooten, and Criterion C for architecture (URS Group, Inc. 2001: 5.6).

The present report concurs with the eligibility of the Abraham Wooten House. The architectural integrity of the dwelling has not changed significantly since the 2000 D.O.E (Plates 10-11). The current tax parcel defines the proposed National Register boundaries (see Figure 2b and Figure 3).



Plate 10. Abraham Wooten House, West Elevations, Looking East.



Plate 11. Abraham Wooten House, Looking West.

## REFERENCES

- Emergency Response Program Management Consultants, TAC III. *Princeville Recovery Plan*. Prepared for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IV—Atlanta, Georgia. May 2000.
- Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc. *Historic Architectural Resources Survey and Evaluations, Replace Bridge No. 24 on U.S. 64 Business over the Tar River, Edgecombe County, TIP B-2965*. Prepared for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, North Carolina. 1999.
- URS Group, Inc. *Final Report: Historic Architectural Resources Survey of Princeville, North Carolina*. Vol. 1. Prepared for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IV—Atlanta, Georgia. April 2001.