

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

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

August 29, 1996

Division of Archives and History Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO:

H. Franklin Vick, P.E., Manager

Planning and Environmental Branch

Division of Highways

Department of Transportation

FROM:

David Brook

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SUBJECT:

US 64 from NC 45 east of Plymouth to US 64

Business at Columbia, Washington and Tyrrell Counties, R-2548, State Project 6.149001T, GS

97-0011

Thank you for your letter of July 31, 1996, transmitting the historic structures survey report by Ed Davis concerning the above project.

The following property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places:

Rehoboth Methodist Church. Although the National Register-listed boundaries encompass two acres, we concur that the church's 1.55-acre parcel is an appropriate boundary for the property. We believe the northern boundary extends to the back slope of the drainage ditch.

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:

Tarkenten House. This house is a distinctive and rare example of the Colonial-Revival style in Washington County, and is eligible under Criterion C for architecture. There is a discrepancy between the boundaries described in the report and those drawn on the accompanying map. Please clarify whether the boundaries encompass one hundred acres as described in the report or 21.23 as shown on the map.

The report in general meets our office's guidelines and those of the Secretary of the Interior.

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.



H. F. Vick August 29, 1996, 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.

DB:slw

Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, NC C. Bruton, NCDOT cc:

bc: File

Brown/Bevin Eastern Office

County RF

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT PHASE II (ABRIDGED)

Improvements to US 64 from NC 45 east of Plymouth to US 64 Business at Columbia
Washington and Tyrell Counties
TIP # R-2548
W.O.# 6.149001T

North Carolina Department of Transportation June 1, 1996

Jue 20, 1996

Principal Investigator

Historic Architectural Resources Section

Supervisør

Historic Architectural Resources Section

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen US 64 from NC 45 east of Plymouth in Washington County to US 64 Business just west of Columbia in Tyrell County. The proposed improvements will be funded with state monies. Federal permits are required.

A survey was conducted to determine the architectural study area, the area of potential effects (APE) and to identify all properties within the APE listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A scoping meeting, attended by appropriate NCDOT and other state personnel and local officials was conducted in order to discuss the proposed improvements.

A NCDOT staff architectural historian conducted a search of the Washington and Tyrell County survey files at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as well as the National Register of Historic Places and the State Study List. This research revealed one property, the Rehoboth Methodist Church, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Background research on the architecture and history of the project area determined the boundary of the APE in the ficinity of the permit areas. On March 29,1996, staff members of NCDOT's Historic Architectural Resources Section conducted a survey by car and on foot of all of the permit areas anticipated for this project. One hundred percent of the permit areas were surveyed.

Twelve properties over fifty years of age were identified in the permit areas, including the Rehoboth Methodist Church. On April 11, 1996, SHPO concurred with NCDOT that properties numbered one through five, seven through ten, and number twelve were not eligible for the National Register. The property marked as number six was further researched April 29 and 30, 1996, and is evaluated herein.

PURPOSE OF SURVEY AND REPORT

This survey was conducted and report prepared in order to identify historic architectural resources located within the APE. This report was prepared in order to document compliance with North Carolina General Statue 121-12(a).

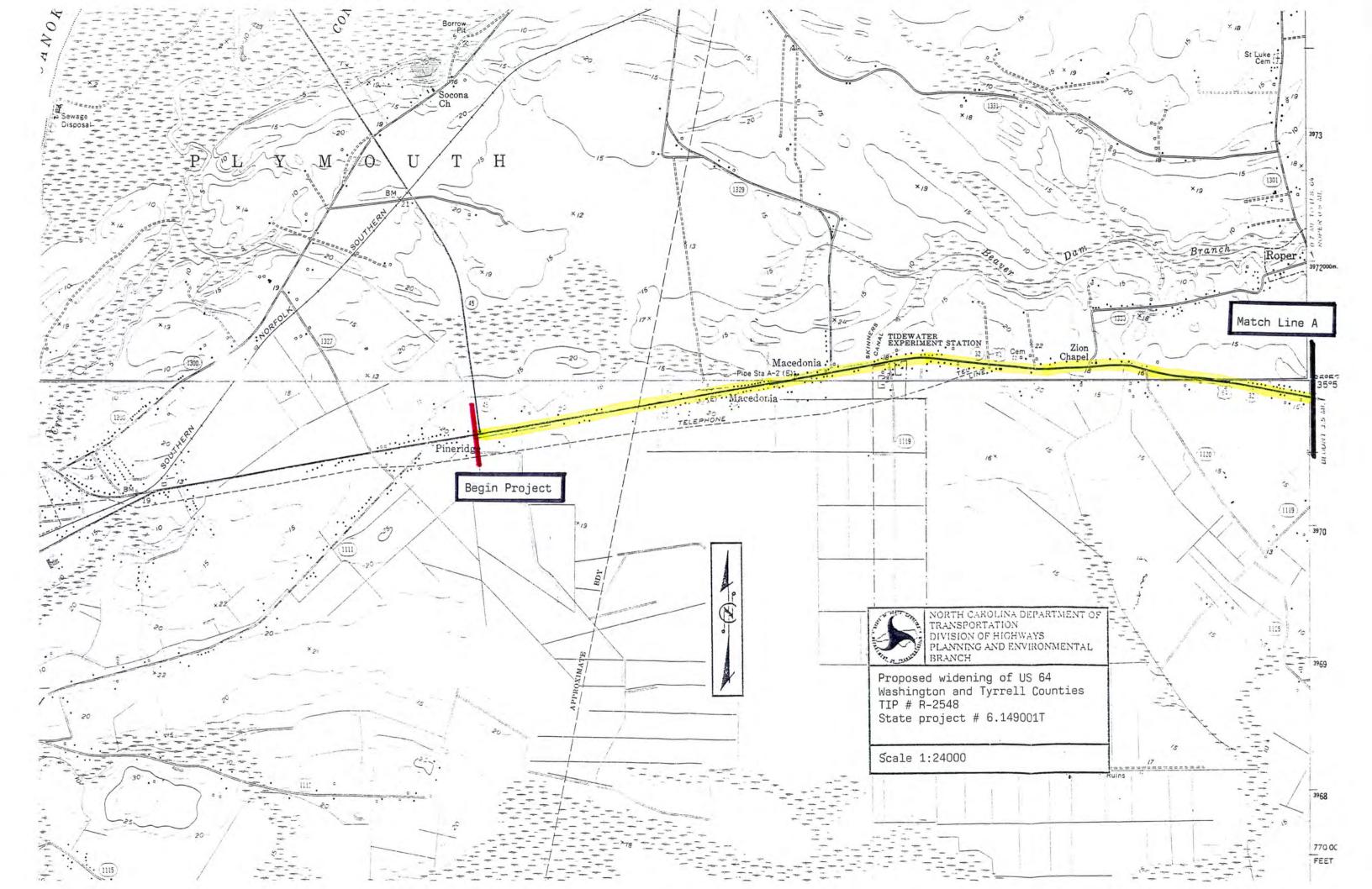
METHODOLOGY

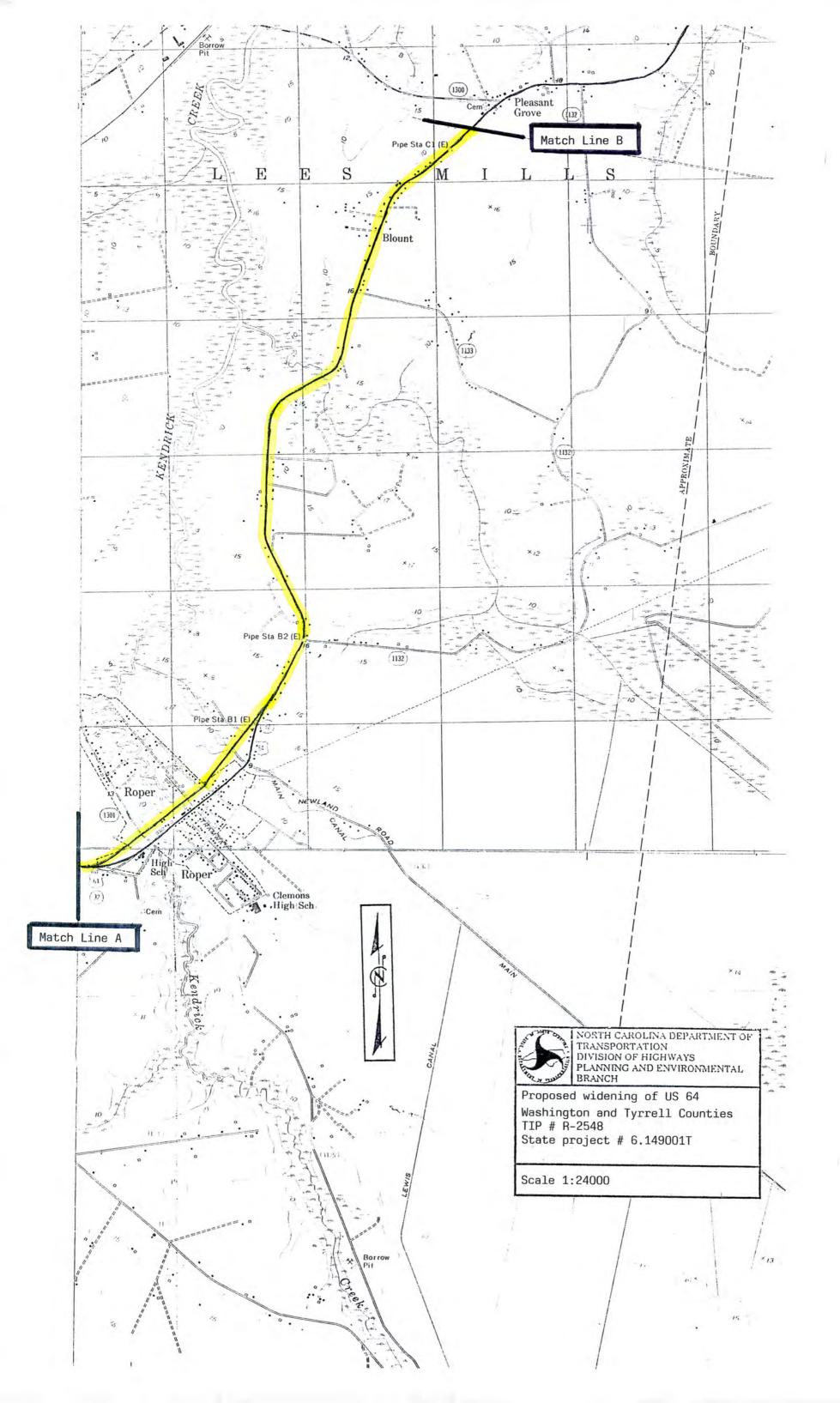
NCDOT conducted a Phase II (Abridged) survey with the following goals:

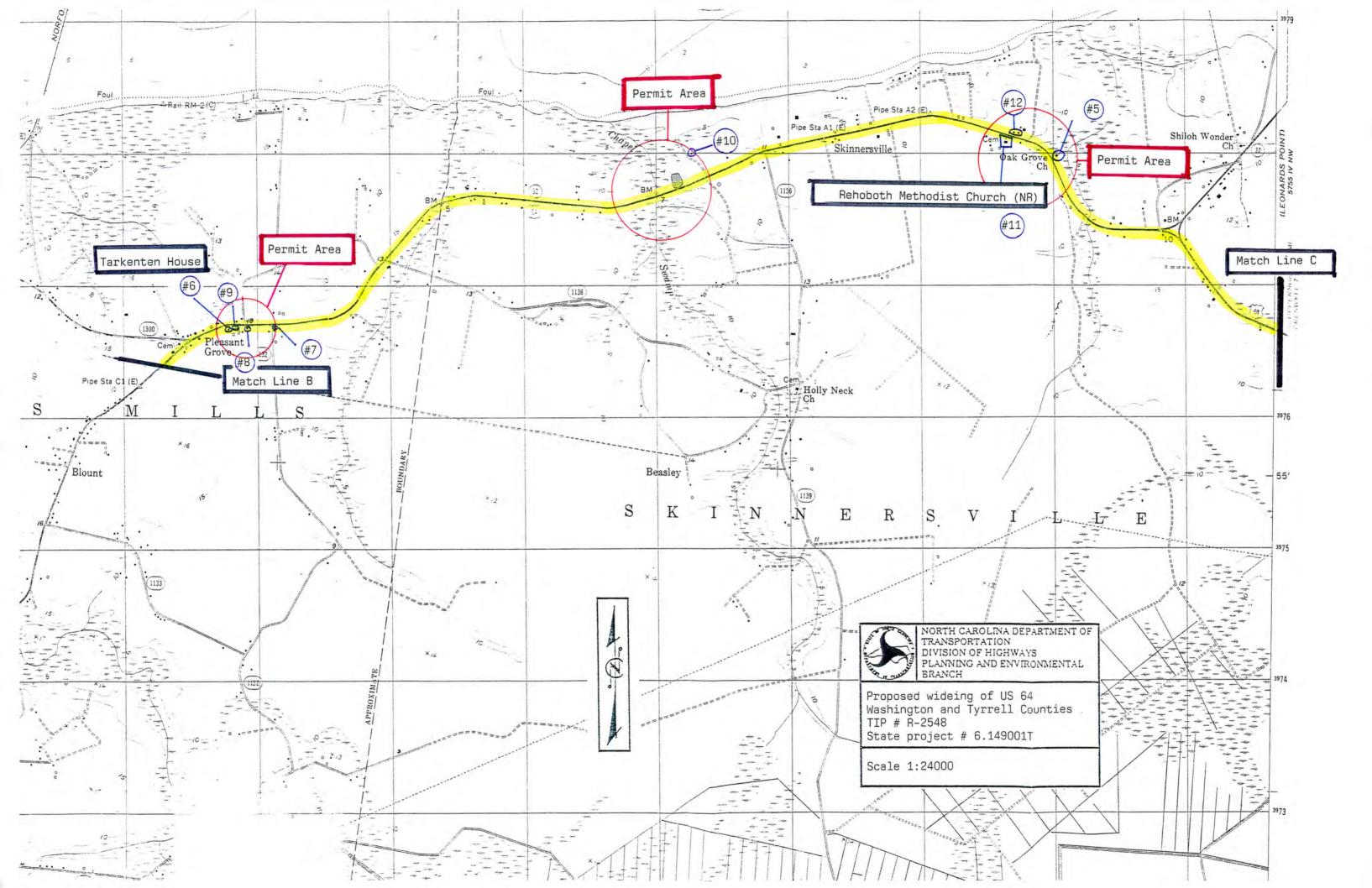
1) to determine the APE within individual permit areas, defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist; and 2) to identify all properties within the APE listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It should be noted that for compliance with GS 121-12(a), NCDOT is not required to identify and evaluate every building over fifty years old within the APE. NCDOT has, however, identified and evaluated every building within individual permit areas.

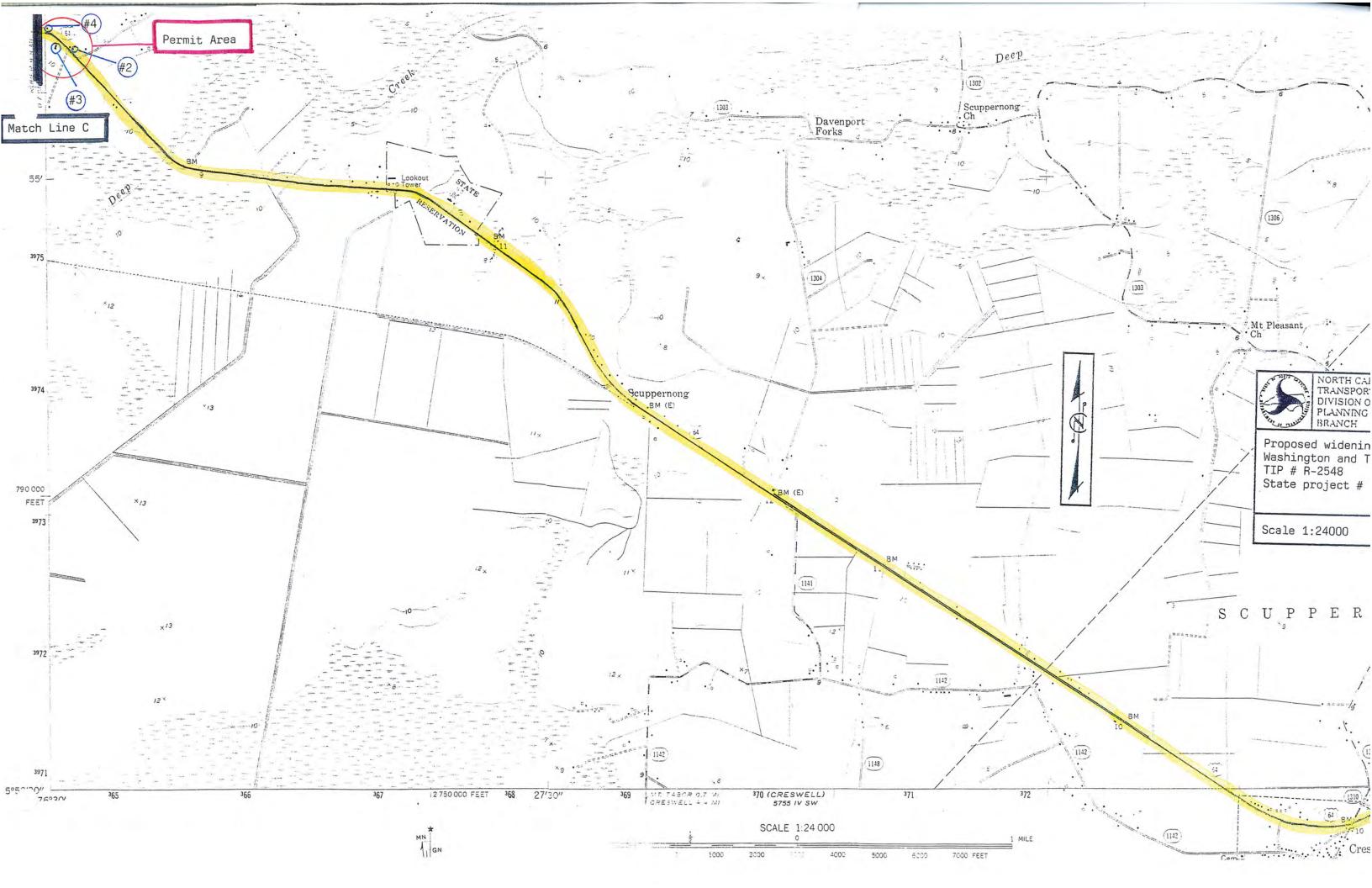
The survey methodology consisted of a field survey and historical background research of the project area. The field survey was conducted by car and on foot.

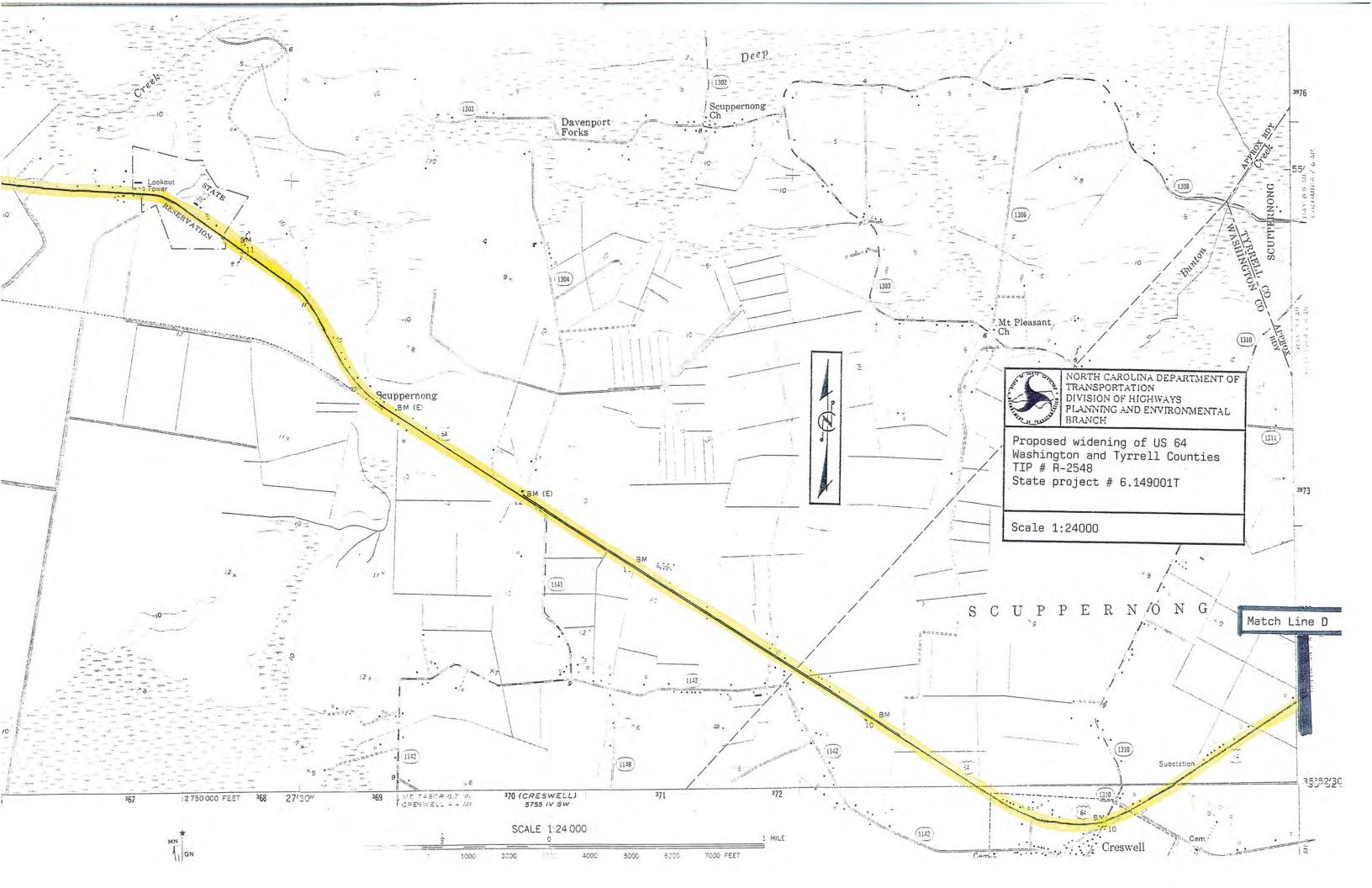
A search of the SHPO survey files in Raleigh produced information on the Rehoboth Methodist Church, a property listed on the National Register. The major sources for background material of the area were the SHPO's site survey files and the Rehoboth Methodist Church nomination form located in the SHPO survey files.

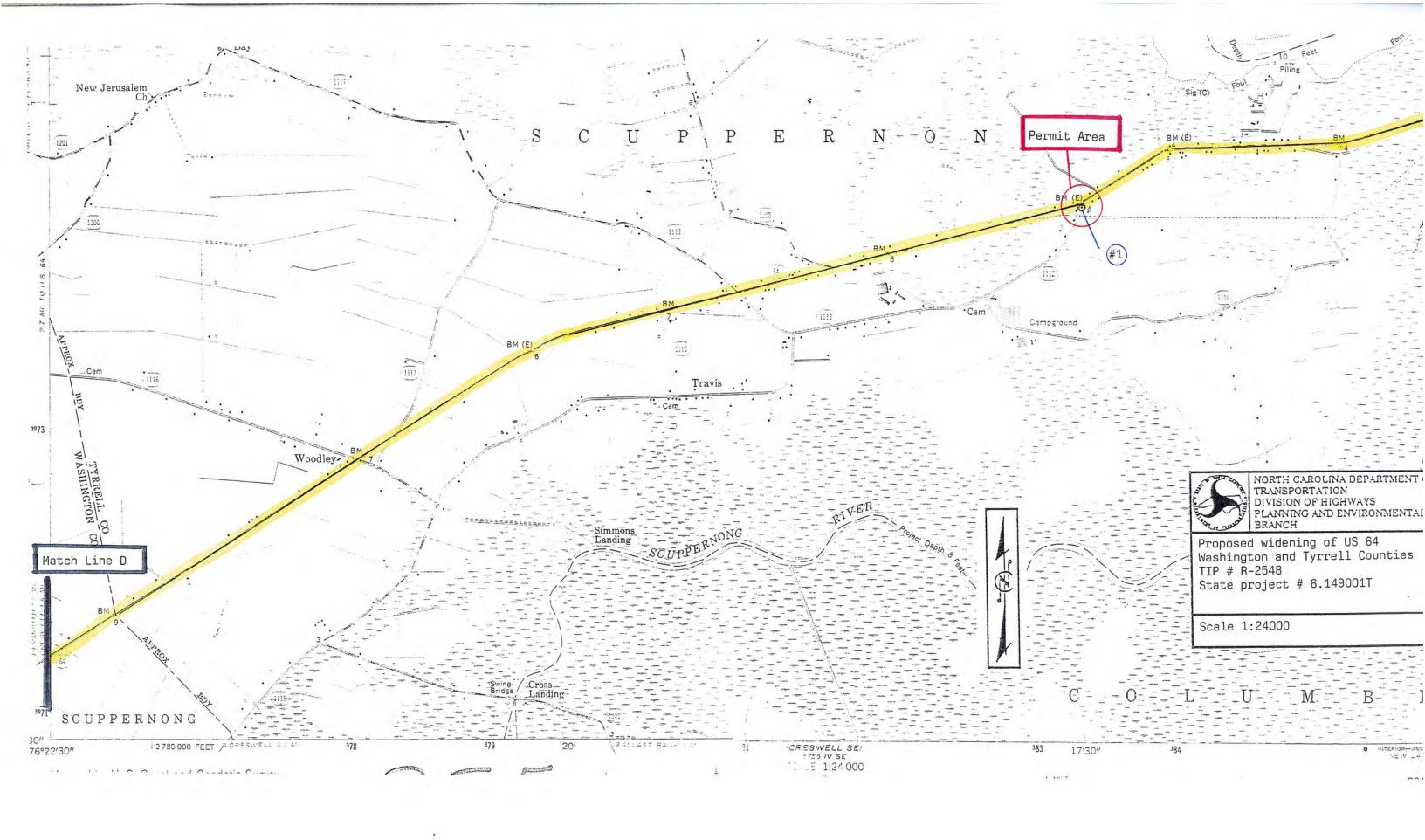


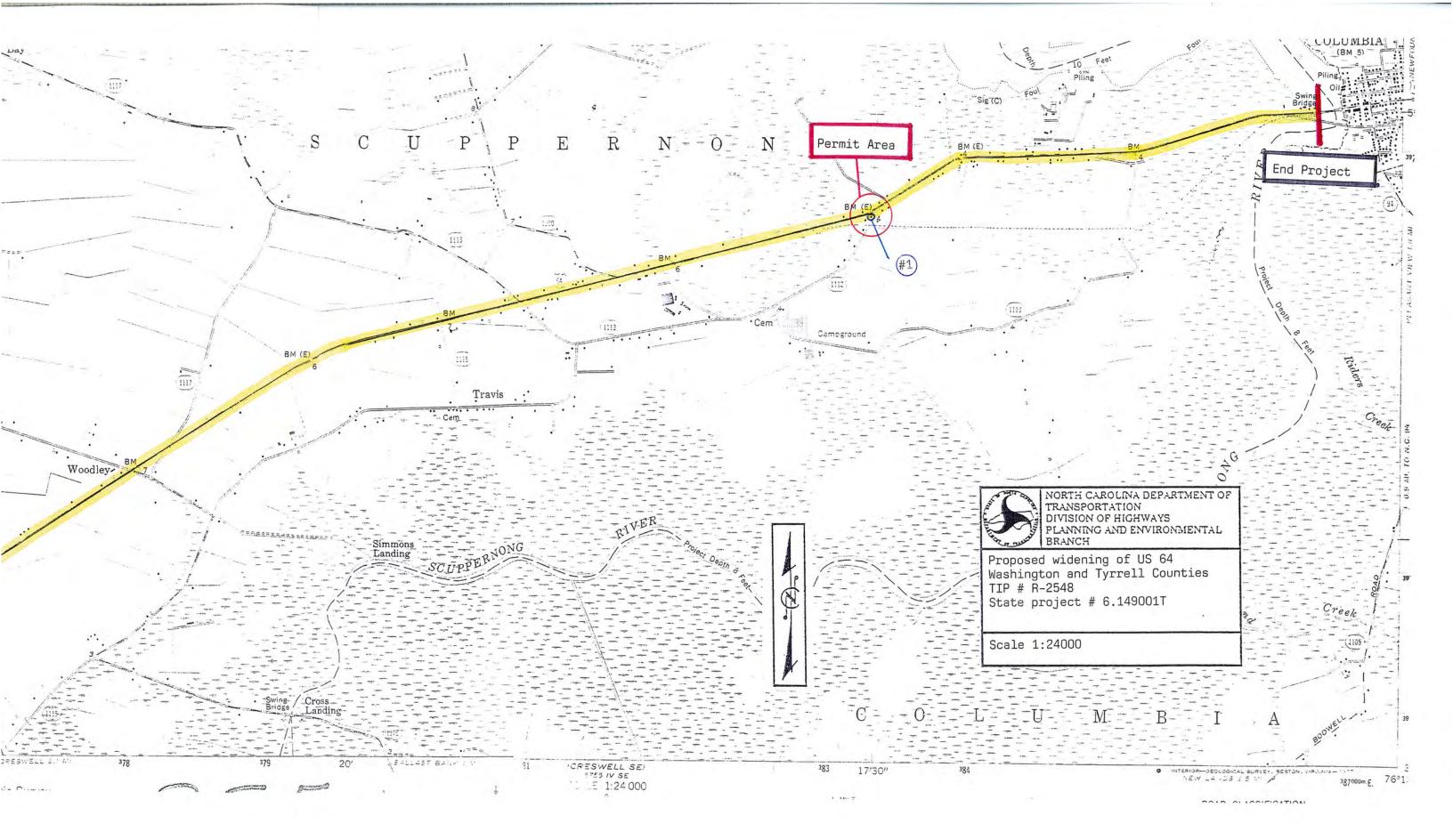


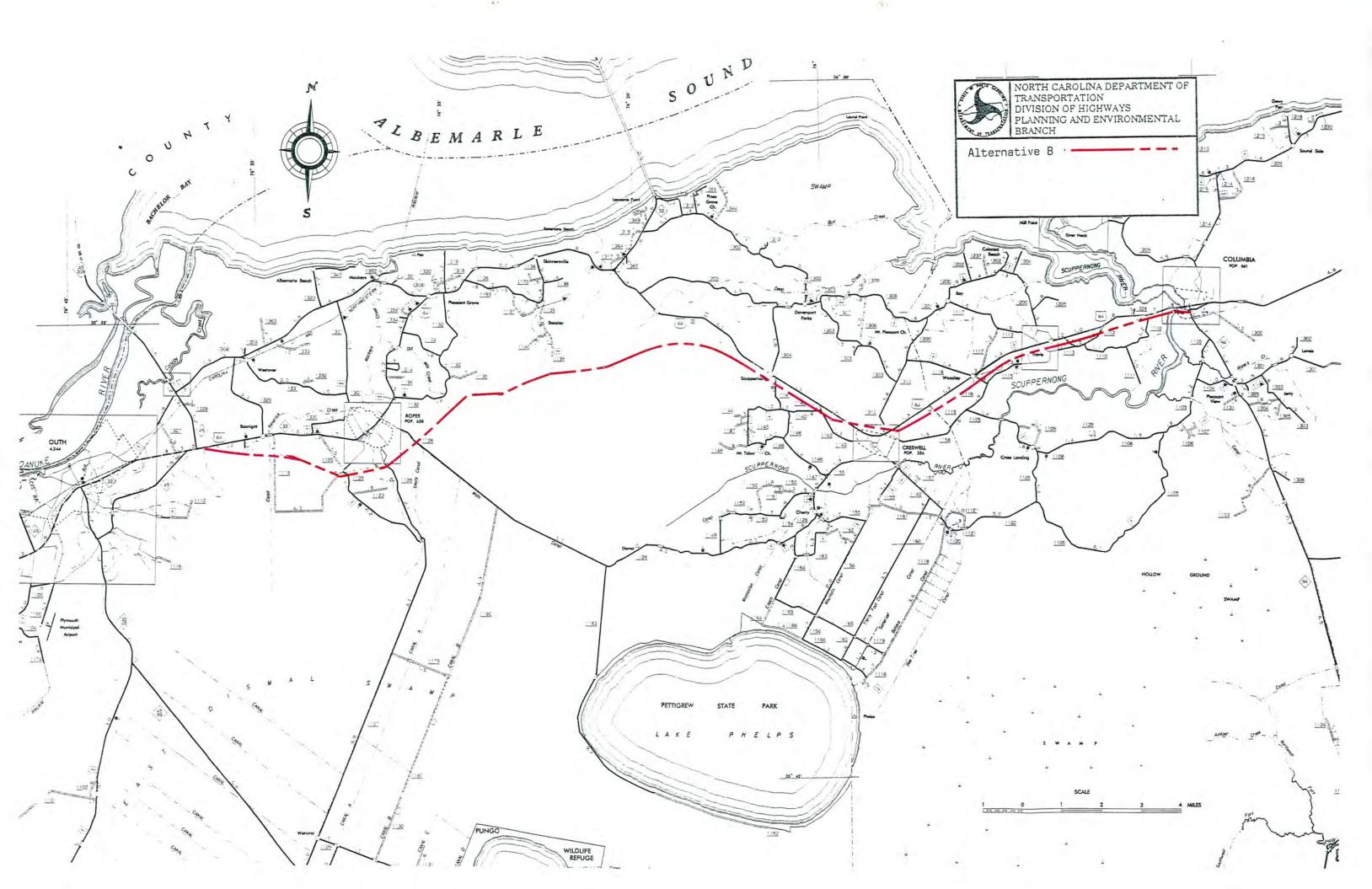


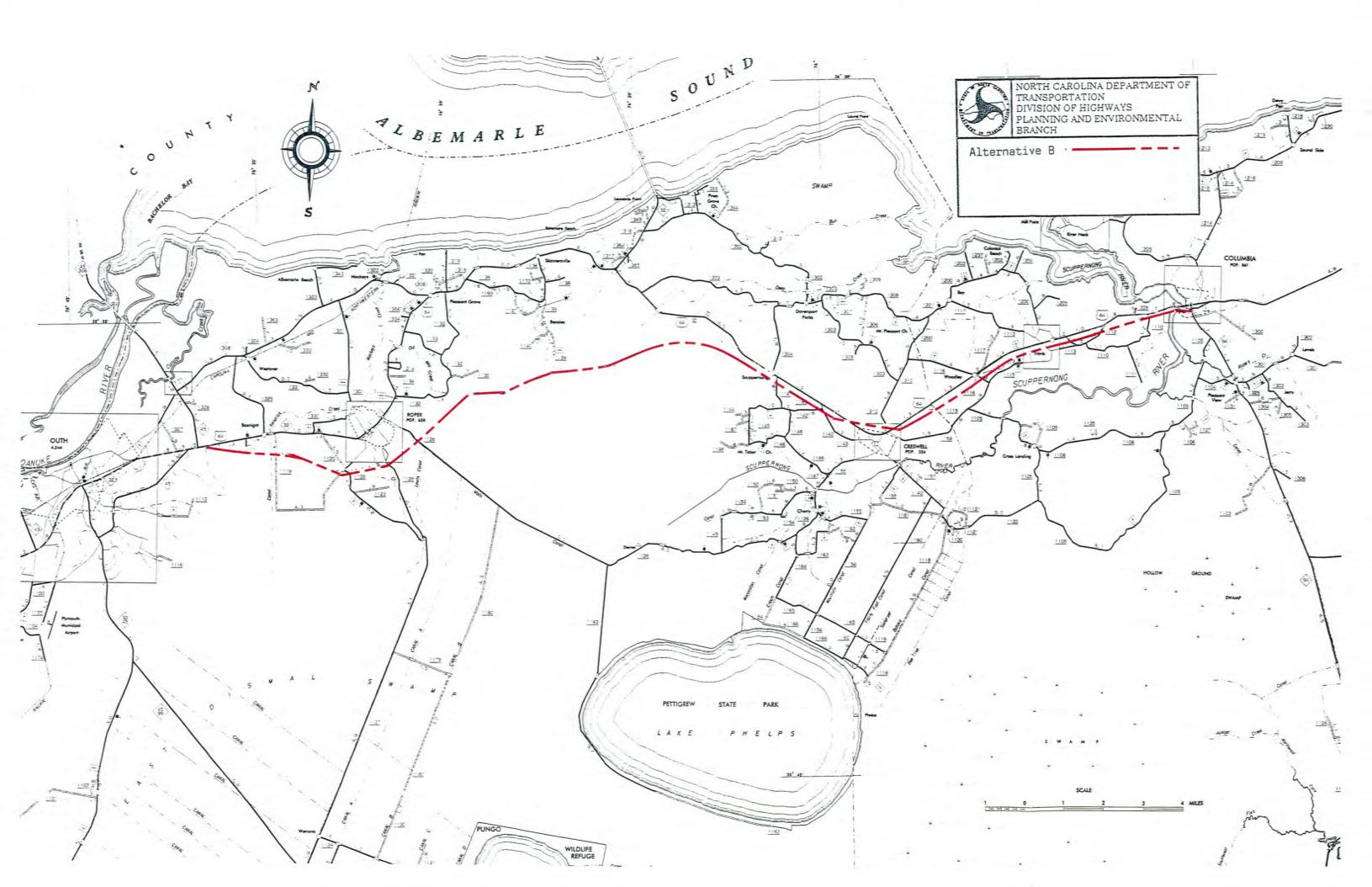












SUMMARY RESULTS OF FINDINGS

National Register Properties

1. Rehoboth Methodist Church

Physical Appearance

The Rehoboth Methodist Church was completed in 1853. It is a gable-front frame rectilinear structure cased with beaded weatherboards. A delicate dentil course outlines the pediment and the cornice of the building. Two bays wide and three bays deep, the church is bounded by corner pilasters in the Greek Revival style. The structure rests on brick piers.

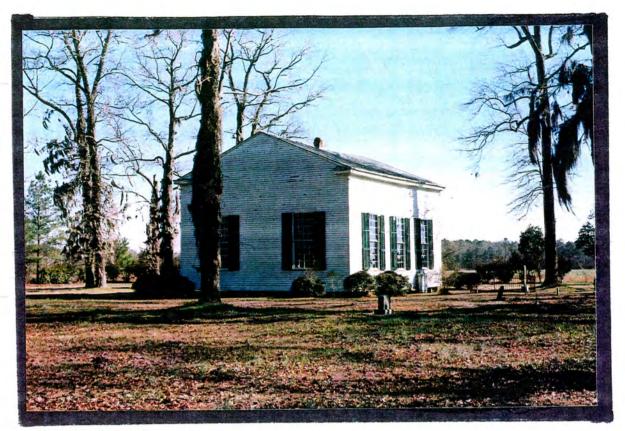
The front facade has a pair of entrances, each containing a double door framed by a symmetrical architrave with paneled corner blocks. Each leaf of the double doors is composed of six horizontal raised panels vertically aligned; the panels are outlined by flat Greek Revival-style molding. Six-over-six sash windows are located above the entrances located on this elevation. Sixteen-over-sixteen windows are located along the sides and rear elevations. A single door is located on the southeast corner of the building which leads directly to the gallery. This door was originally intended to access slaves to the gallery.

The interior of the church retains its original finishes and furniture. Walls plastered above a simple chair rail and a flush sheathed dado are interrupted by the large windows framed by molded architraves and paneled corner blocks. Functional wooden pews with simple curvilinear sides are arranged along the sides and down the middle of the auditorium. The dais is defined by a simple communion rail composed of chamfered posts capped by applied necking and balusters which support a wide molded rail. (Nomination Report)

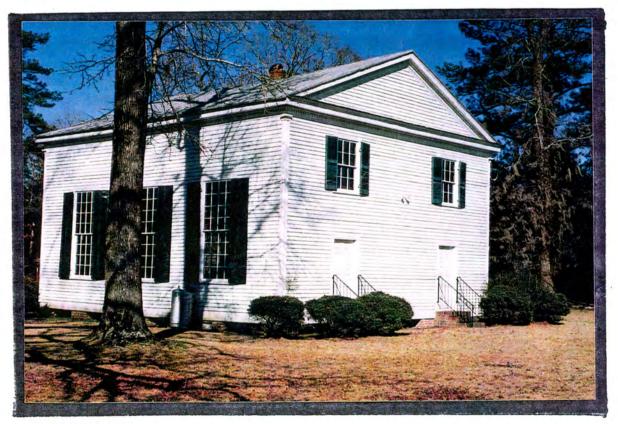
Statement of Significance

Rehoboth Methodist Church was built between 1850 and 1853. The consistent, careful finish of the Greek Revival-style temple-form building is unusually academic by comparison with other buildings in the county, probably reflecting the desire for architectural excellence in a public building. The simple frame church in a picturesque setting in a grove of trees draped with Spanish moss has been preserved through local efforts as a landmark of the county.

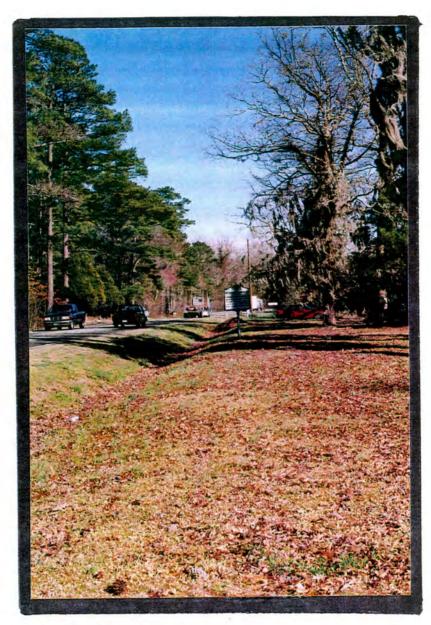
Rehoboth church has been called the "mother church" of the Methodist Protestant denomination in Washington County. It appears to have been the Albemarle Circuit's leading church in terms of membership, at least during the 1860s. Rehoboth remained a Methodist Protestant church until 1939, when the sect was merged into the United Methodist Church. The building survives today in its original condition. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for Religious significance and Criterion C for architecture. (Nomination Report)



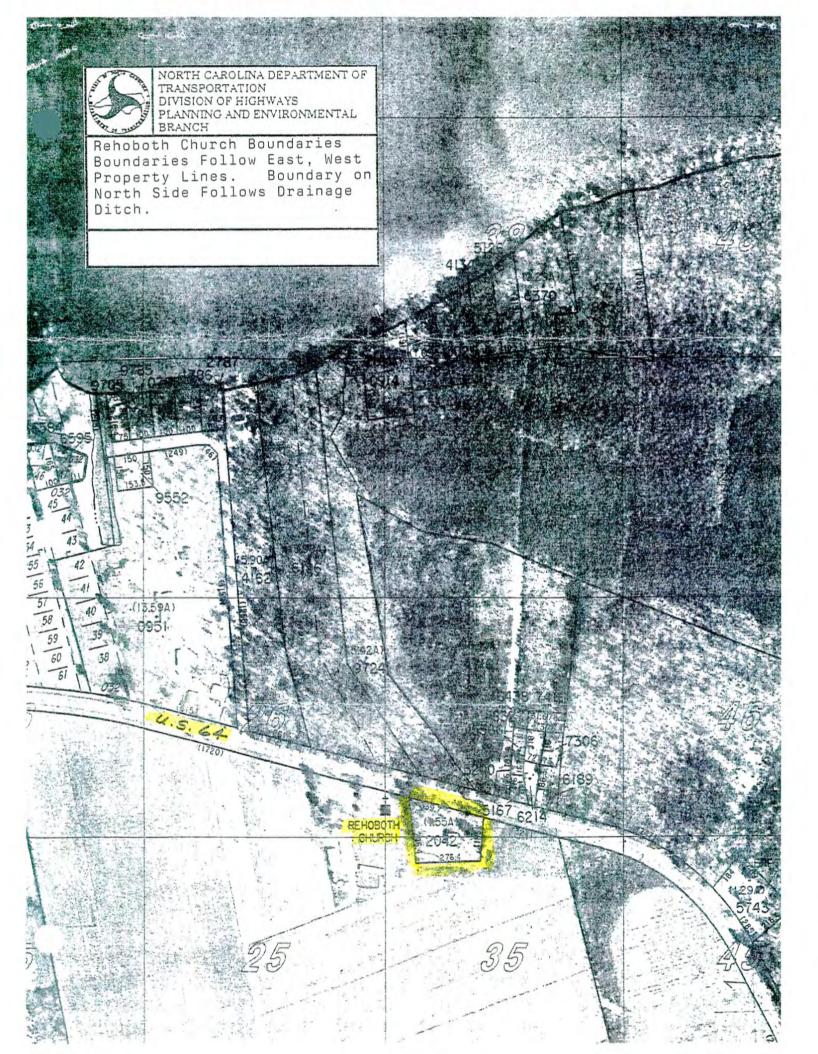
Property #11
Rehoboth Methodist Church (NR)
Northwest elevation



Property #11 Rehoboth Methodist Church (NR) Southwest elevation



Property #11 Rehoboth Methodist Church (NR) Property boundary along US 64



<u>Properties Located in the Permit Area Which Appear to be Eligible for the National Register</u>

1. Tarkenten House.

The Tarkenten House was constructed circa 1900 by Mr. Frank Tarkenten. Mr. Tarkenten was an entrepreneur and land-holder. He owned a railway spur and ran the depot in Mackeys (demolished). From the depot in Mackeys he dispersed both his own and local produce. Local folklore maintains that he also transported untaxed alcoholic beverages. He constructed a store beside his property in 1922 which his wife and son ran. The store (much altered from its original appearance) served as the general store for the communities of Pleasant Grove and Roper in Washington County.

At the time the house was constructed, Tarkenten owned several hundred acres associated with the existing house, and another farm several miles away known as Rea's Beach. Both farms were operated by tenants. The current owners of the house, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Marrow, have sold Rea's Beach and 100 acres formerly associated with the original farm at the Tarkenten house. The current house has 100 remaining acres. This acreage is farmed by tenants. The buildings (12) formerly associated with tobacco and cotton cultivation have all been demolished. One general purpose barn is extant and it serves as a storage facility for the house.

The frame structure is four bays wide on the ground level and three bays wide on the upper level. All sash are one-over-one. A sixteen pane glass door is symmetrically located at the first level and above on the balcony. A modified one-story hip roof covers the porch which is located across the full length of the front of the structure, terminating in a porte-cochere on the eastern elevation. The house is surmounted by both hip and gable roofs, all sheathed in the original metal. A pedimented two-story portico supported by battered square columns is located over the front door and the second story balcony.

At the turn of the twentieth century, North Carolina was experiencing a period of unprecedented growth. Colonial Revival houses similar to the Tarkenten house are common in many communities across the state. Because of this,

representatives of NCDOT returned to Washington County on April 29 and 30, 1996, to survey the county specifically to determine the inventory of like structures. All roads over fifty years old were surveyed by car and the county seat of Plymouth was surveyed by car and on foot.

This research revealed no other high-style Colonial Revival houses in Washington County. Houses constructed contemporary to the Tarkenten house are primarily of the Queen Anne style.

Eligibility for Listing on the National Register

In order to be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C: Design/ Construction, an individual house must meet at least one of the following requirements:

- * Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.
- * Represent the work of a master.
- * Possess high artistic value.

The Tarkenten house meets the first requirement as a distinctive and rare Colonial Revival house in Washington County. The house was constructed by a local contractor and as such does not represent the work of a master. The interior of the house, while intact, is relatively plain. Specifically, mantels and other interior architectural treatments and details are far less elaborate than the exterior of the house would imply. The house, therefore, does not possess high artistic value.

Integrity of the Property

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. According to National Register Bulletin 15 (pg. 44) a property must not only be shown to to be significant under the National Register criteria, but it also must possess integrity. Within the concept of integrity, the National Register recognizes seven aspects that, in various combinations, define integrity. In order to retain historic integrity, a property will possess several of these aspects:

1. Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed. The relationship between a property and its location is often important in understanding why the property was created. The relationship between a property and its historic associations is generally destroyed if a property is moved.

2. Design

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. A property's design reflects historic functions and technologies as well as aesthetics.

3. Setting

Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Whereas location refers to the specific place where a property was built or an event occurred, setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historic role. Setting involves the relationship of the building to surrounding features and open space.

4. Materials

Materials are the physical elements that combine during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. A property must retain the key exterior materials dating from the period of its historic significance in order to be eligible for the Register.

5. Workmanship

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. It can be expressed in vernacular methods of construction and plain finishes or in highly sophisticated configurations and ornamental detailing.

6. Feeling

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character.

7. Association

Association is the direct link between an importan historic event or person and a historic property.

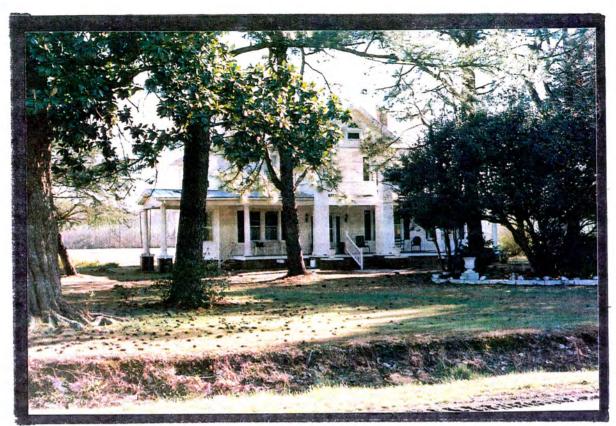
Assessment of Integrity

- Location. The Tarkenten house survives on its original location. It is complimented by its setting of large oak and magnolia trees, planted when the house was constructed, in order to provide shade during the hot summer months.
- 2. <u>Design.</u> The Tarkenten house was constructed utilizing balloon-framing with mass-produced wooden materials. This method of construction, together with the availability of building materials made possible by the state's vast railroad system following the Civil War, virtually transformed residential construction throughout the state. In one of the three bathrooms, the original fixtures are extant. The method of construction, materials and the design of the building directly reflect the aesthetics and the technology of the period of significance.
- Setting. The house and adjacent (though much altered) store stand in their original settings. In addition, the surrounding field patterns and treelines remain. The setting mainstains a high degree of integrity.
- 4. <u>Materials</u>. All original materials on the exterior of the building are extant. As with most residential structures built near the turn of the century, this house is constructed primarily of pine. The interior of the house also remains unaltered. The only alterations to the house appear to be kitchen and bathroom renovations, which were completed in 1972.
- Workmanship. The workmanship of the house expresses the common artisan traditions of the early twentieth century. Specifically, simple frame construction embellished with stock wooden ornamentation.
- 6. <u>Feeling</u>. The Tarkenten house, together with the adjacent store and extant tobacco and cotton fields, convey the property's historic character. The property physically demonstrates several of the means in which the original owner secured a living as well as the stylish Colonial Revival house which Mr. Tarkenten's many enterprises afforded him.
- 7. <u>Association.</u> The Tarkenten house is not associated with an important historical event or person.

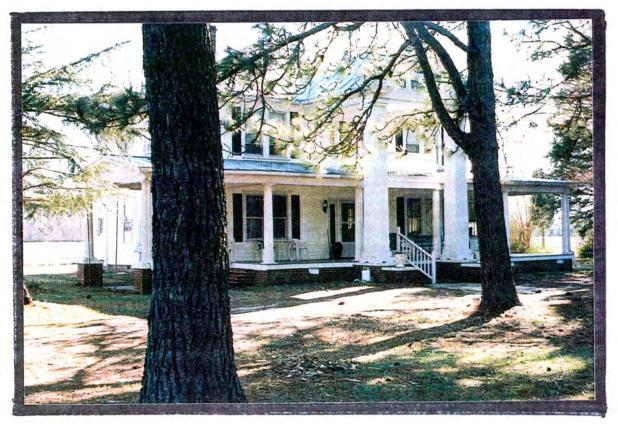
The Tarkenten house, maintaining a high degree of integrity in six out of seven aspects recognized by <u>National Register Bulletin #15</u>, retains the identity for which it is significant.

Boundary Justification

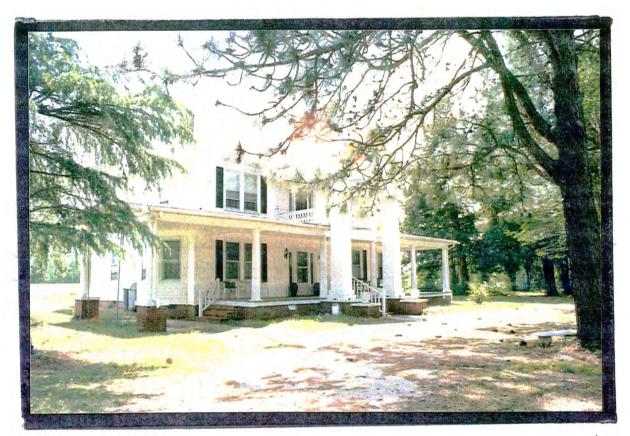
The proposed boundary for the Tarkenten property includes the approximately one hundred acres currently associated with the house. The boundary follows the property line on the south, east and west sides and the back side of the drainage ditch (photograph of ditch included) on the north side.



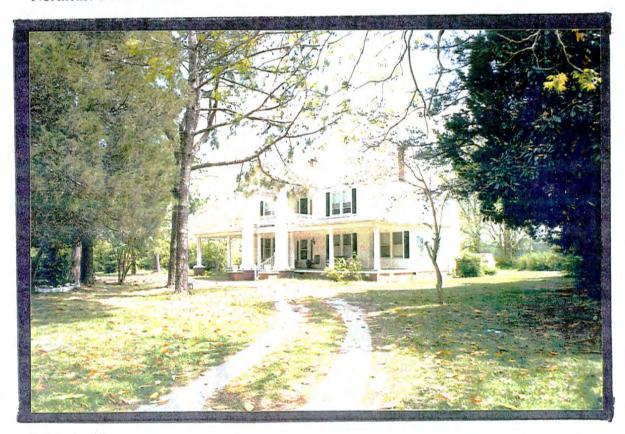
Property #6
Tarkenten House
North elevation



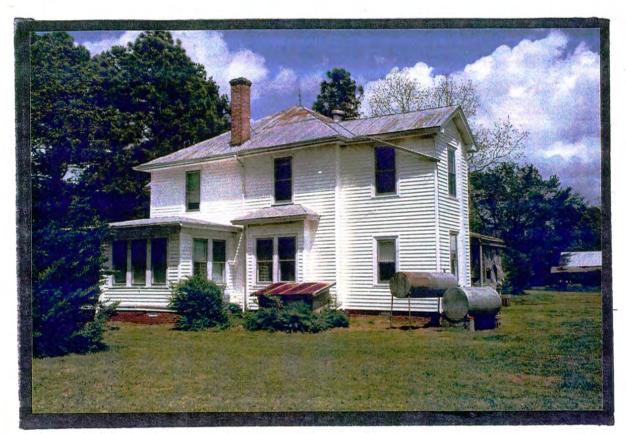
Property #6 Tarkenten House North elevation (close-up)



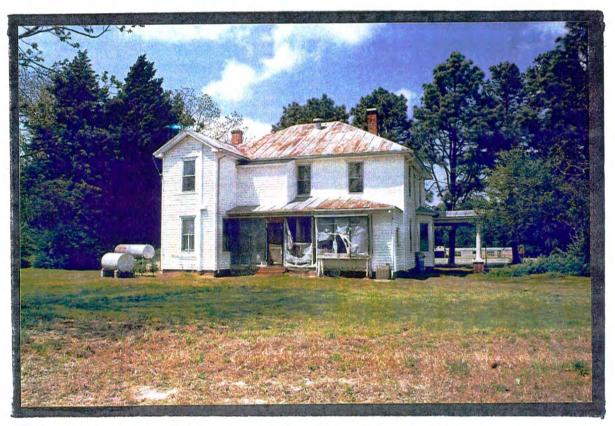
Property #6 Tarkenten House Northeast elevation



Property #6 Tarkenten House Northwest elevation



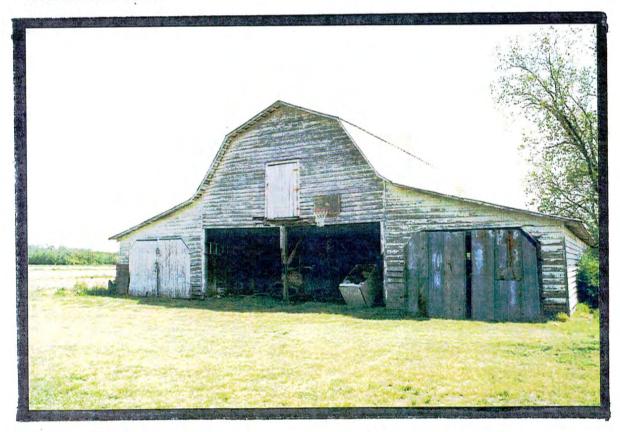
Property #6 Tarkenten House West elevation



Property #6
Tarkenten House
South elevation



Property #6
Tarkenten House
West elevation of barn



Property #6
Tarkenten House
North elevation of barn



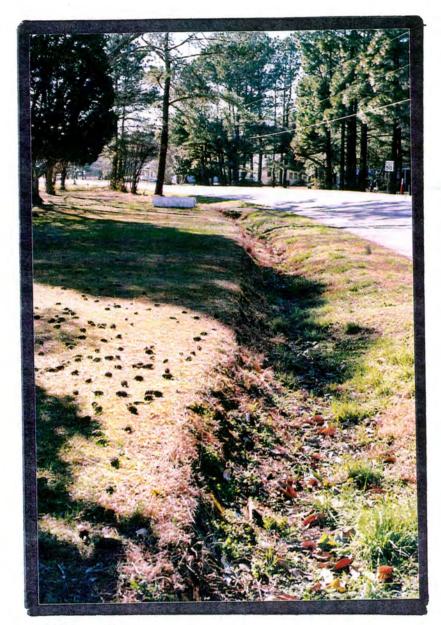
Property #6
Tarkenten House
Landscape south of house



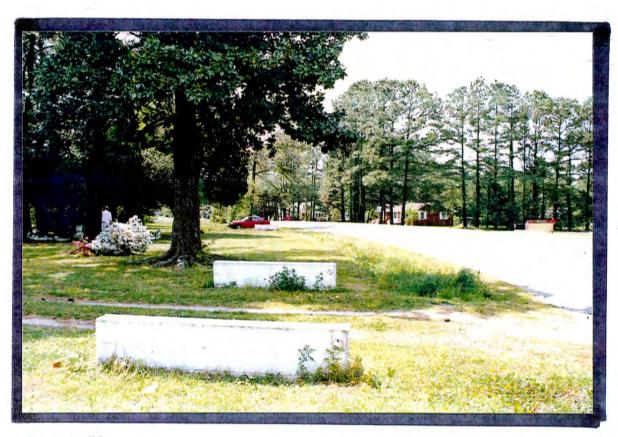
Property #6

Tarkenten House

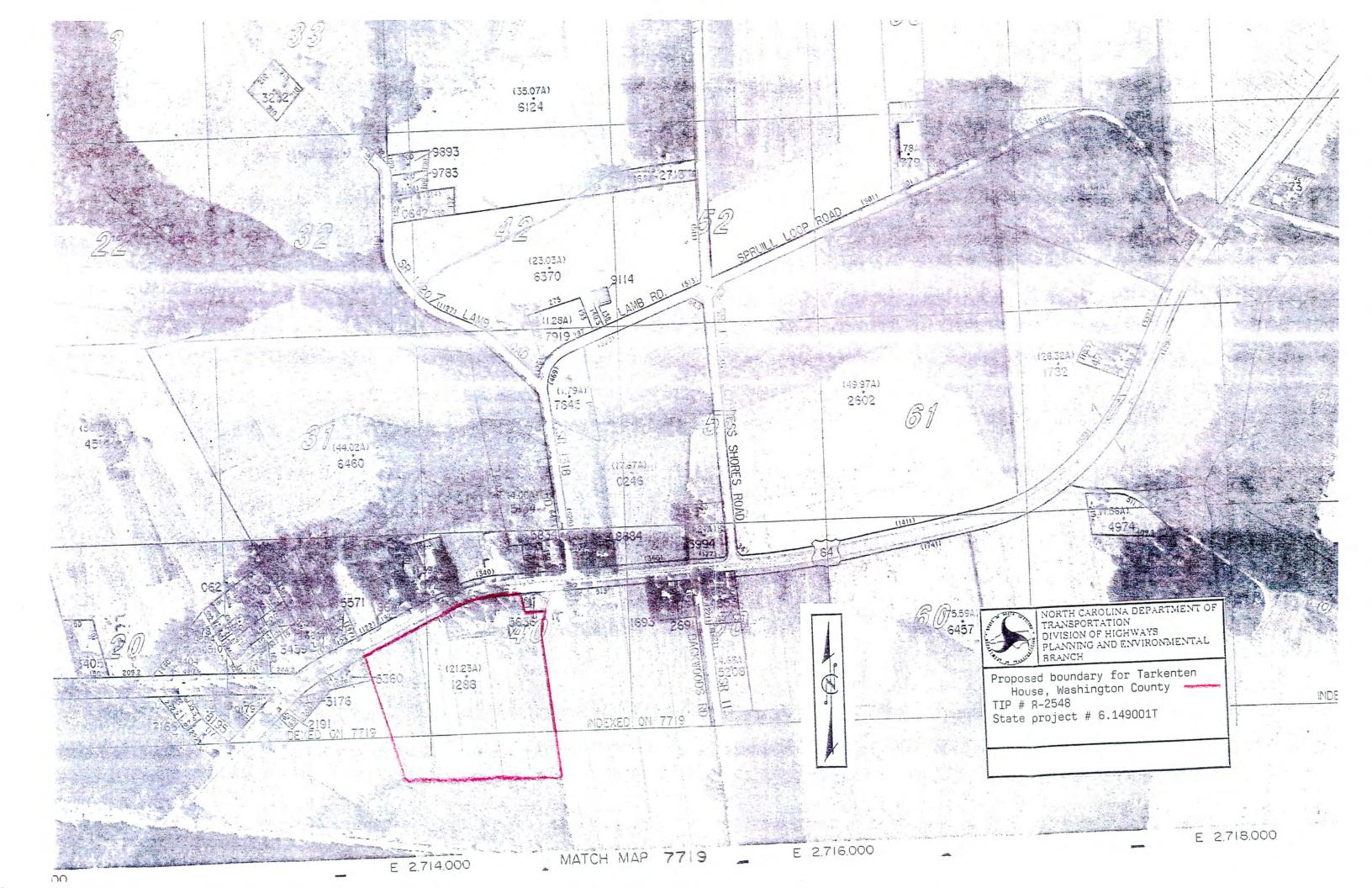
Circular driveway north of house



Property #6 Tarkenten House Property boundary along US 64



Property #6 Tarkenten House Property boundary along US 64

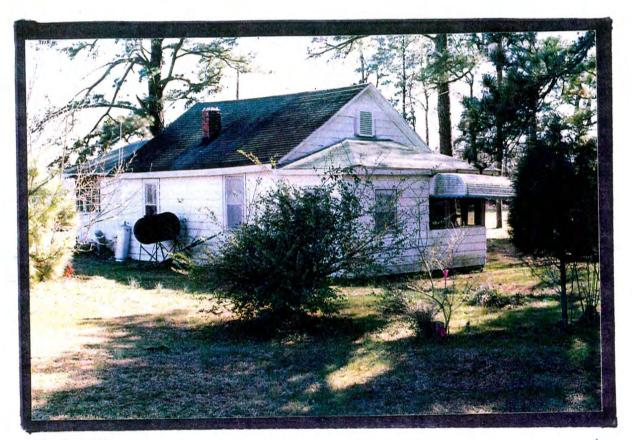


<u>Properties Located in or near Permit areas which have been determined not eligible for listing in the National Register</u>

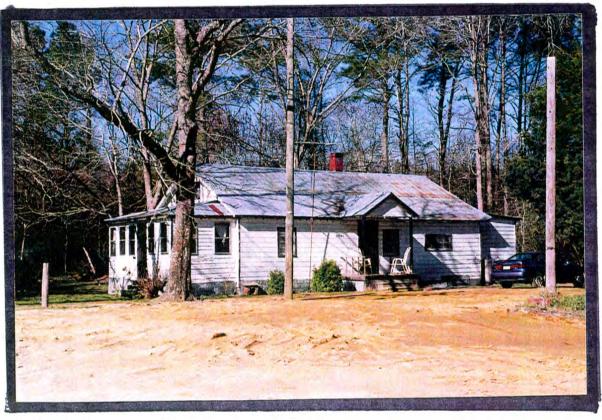
On May 23, 1996, representatives of the SHPO and NCDOT consulted for the purpose of reviewing the other buildings which lie in the permit areas. These buildings, listed as numbers one through five, seven through ten and property number twelve, have been determined not eligible for the National Register. Photographs, and the Concurrence Form documenting the finds of "not eligible" are attached.

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

Bricf Project Description Widening US 64 from NC45 E US 64 Business West & Columbia - State funded	ast of Plymouth to w/ Federal Permits
On 11 April 1996, 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/consul Other	Itation
All parties present agreed	
there are no properties over fifty years old within the project's are	ea of potential effects.
there are no properties less than fifty years old which are consideration G within the project's area of potential effects.	COMIT ARFAS
there are properties over fifty years old (list attached) within the but based on the historical information available and the photogratidentified as 1-5, 7-10, 12 for National Register and no further evaluation of them is necessitive.	project's areasof potential effect aphs of each property, propertie
there are no National Register-listed properties within the project	
Signed:	
Representative, NCDOT	11 April 1996
Representative, NCDOT	Date
NA	
FHwA, for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency	Date
Delua KBerrin Representative, SHPO	4/11/96 Date
Pavid Brookpage	4115/96
State Historic Preservation Officer	Date



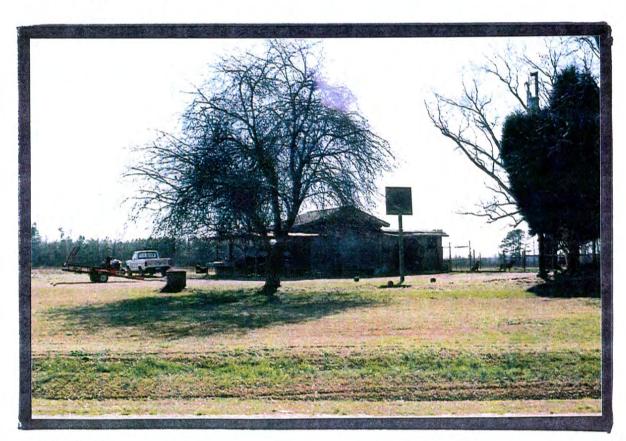
Property #1 Northeast elevation



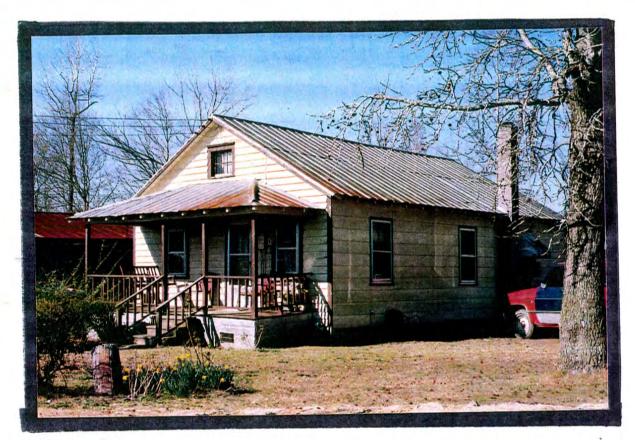
Property #2 South elevation



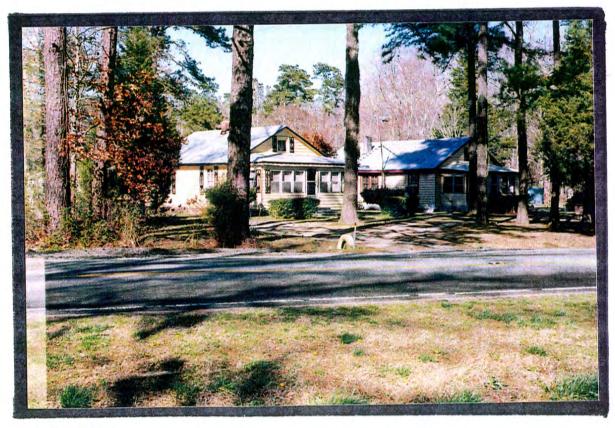
Property #3
East elevation of house



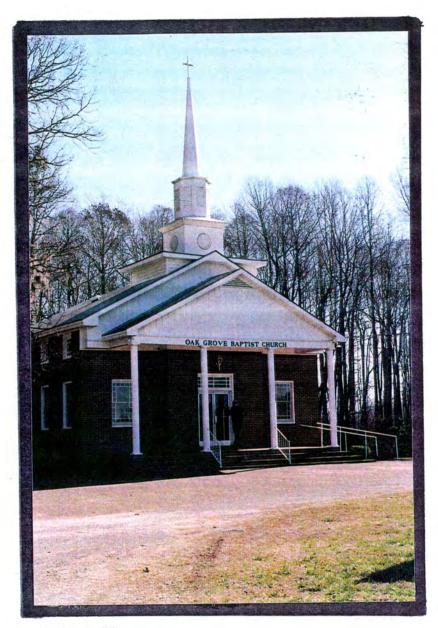
Property #3
East elevation of outbuilding



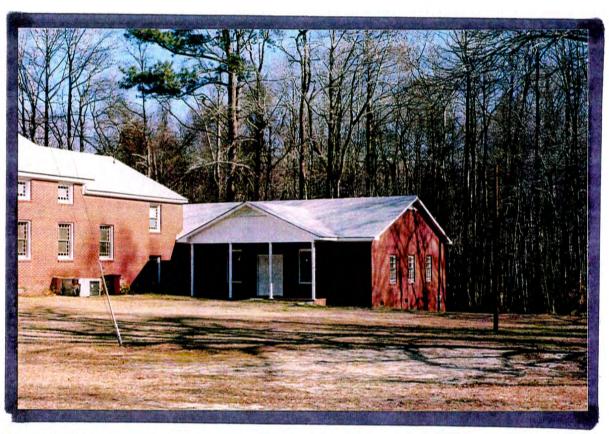
Property #4 Southeast elevation



Property #12 Southwest elevation



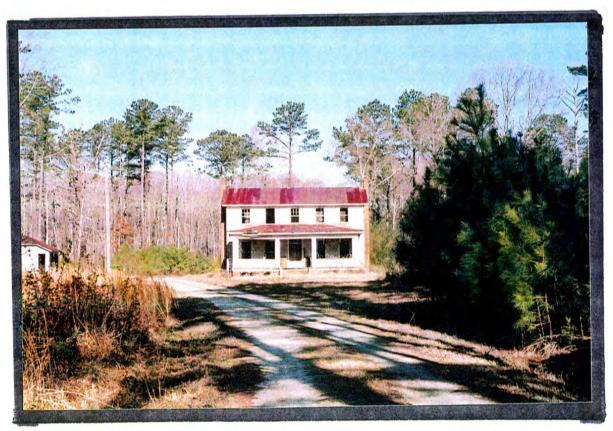
Property #5 Oak Grove Baptist Church West elevation



Property #5
Oak Grove Baptist Church
Southwest elevation showing addition



Property #10 Southeast elevation



Property #10 Southeast elevation (close-up)



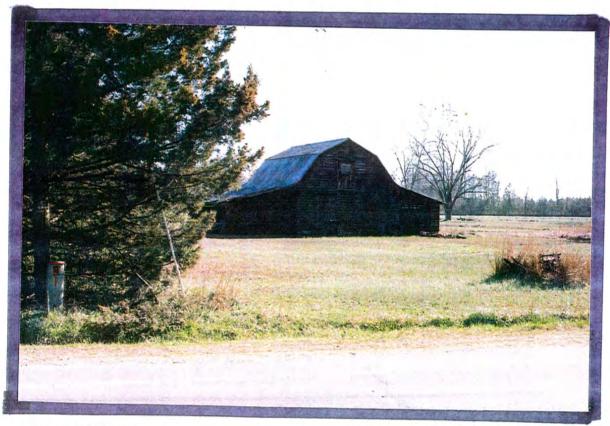
Property #7 North elevation



Property #9 North elevation



Property #8 North elevation of house



Property #8 North elevation of barn

CONCLUSION

The Rehoboth Methodist Church is listed on the National Register. One additional property, the Tarkenten house, has been determined eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. Properties listed as numbers one through five, seven through ten and property number twelve have been determined not eligible for the National Register.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bishir, Catherine. North Carolina Architecture. Chapel Hill, UNC Press, 1990.
- Clayton, Thomas. <u>Close to the Land: The Way We Lived in North Carolina.</u> Chapel Hill, UNC Press, 1983.
- Gowans, Alan. <u>The Comfortable House: North American Suburban</u> Architecture, 1890-1930. Cambridge, Mass. MIT Press, 1986.
- National Register Nomination Report for Rehoboth Methodist Church. Robert Tompkins, May 13, 1975.
- Personal interviews with members of Washington County Planning Department, March 29, 1996, (Author).
- Telephone conversation with Ms. Mac Marrow, current owner of Tarkenten House, June 3, 1996, (Author).
- Telephone conversation with Ms. Louise Lamb of Plymouth, Washington County, June 3, 1996, (Author). Ms. Lamb was raised by the Tarkenten family following the death of her parents. She provided invaluable information on the history of the family and their enterprises.