

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

David L. S. Brook, Administrator

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor Betty Ray McCain, Secretary Division of Archives and History Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

May 9, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO:

William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager

Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch

Division of Highways

Department of Transportation

FROM: David Brook

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SUBJECT: US 17 Widening, TIP No R-2514, Onslow and Jones Counties, ER 00-7445

Thank you for your letter of March 30, 2000, transmitting the survey report by NCDOT concerning the above project.

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

Nelson-Deppe House (ON 115) is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for architecture as a well-preserved example of a two-story, one-room-deep farmhouse erected throughout Onslow and Jones Counties during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. We concur with the boundaries as noted in the original report.

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.

cc: B. Church

Bc: Brown/Montgomery

County RF

	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
ADMINISTRATION	507 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919) 733-4763 • 733-8653
ARCHAEOLOGY	421 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4619	(919) 733-7342 • 715-2671
RESTORATION	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4613	(919) 733-6547 • 715-4801
SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC	4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4618	(919) 733-6545 • 715-4801



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



DAVID McCoy SECRETARY

JAMES B. HUNT JR. GOVERNOR

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, NC 27699-1501

March 30, 2000

Mr. David Brook Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 4617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4617

Dear Mr. Brook:

R-2514, US 17 in Onslow and Jones Counties

Ref ER20-7445

We concur without and house on Constitution of completion of the comp

Enclosed please find the architectural context for the subject project requested by your office. We hope this information will be satisfactory. If not, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you very much.

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Sincerely,

Barbara H. Church

Enclosure

Architectural Context: Domestic Architecture of Jones and Onslow Counties in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

In Jones and Onslow Counties, as throughout rural North Carolina, the domestic architecture of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries reflected both the persistence of traditional, regional forms and the influence of nationally popular styles. Even though the arrival of the railroads and lumber money brought new, Victorian-era styles to such towns as Jacksonville, Swansboro, and Richlands, geographical isolation and rural, agrarian customs fostered conservative building patterns throughout both counties (Black and Black 1989; Pezzoni 1989; Little 1993).

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the traditional rectangular, symmetrical dwelling, one room deep, with a front porch, rear ell, and exterior end chimneys remained the favorite choice in rural Jones and Onslow counties. In common with the region, the two-story version--the I-house--persisted in this period as a symbol of economic attainment (Southern 1978: 78-81). These houses were conservatively decorated. The most fashionable models were treated with bracketed cornices and turned or chamfered porch posts trimmed with sawnwork (Bishir 1990: 290-294; Harriett 1987: 74, 76, 133).

There has been no comprehensive architectural inventory of Jones County, but a drive-through windshield survey conducted for this report and a review of existing survey data reveal a small number of intact, two-story, one-room-deep houses from this period. Outside the A.P.E., the ca. 1880 Edgar Macon Foscue House in the Pollocksville vicinity epitomizes the finer post-Civil War farmhouses in its bracketed eaves and two-tier gable-front porch with chamfered posts and sawnwork brackets (Harriett 1987: 133). Also built ca. 1880, the McDaniel-Dixon House in Trenton is capped by a stylish, bracketed hip roof, and has a bracketed front porch with sturdy chamfered posts and jigsawed porch trim (Harriett 1987: 74). Also located in Trenton, the Dr. Harvey Monk House is a handsome, turn-of-the-century version of the I-house type. This substantial residence features a broad wraparound porch with turned posts and sawnwork trim, and a second story, gable front porch bay centered over the main facade (Harriett 1987: 76).

Within the A.P.E., intact examples survive in both the Maysville and the Pollocksville historic districts (D.O.E. 1995). The finest rural example in the A.P.E. is the ca. 1909 Nelson Deppe House (No. 103) (ON 115), sited along U.S. 17 in Onslow County. This well-preserved farmhouse clearly represents the two-story, one-room-deep farmhouses erected throughout both counties during this period. It displays a simple, turned-post front porch, gable returns, brick end chimneys, and a rear ell. The interior retains much of its original finish and its center hall plan. The Deppe House is recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for architecture.

While builders conservatively adapted the traditional, rectangular house type to suit changing tastes, shifting architectural trends also introduced new house forms. The double-pile, hip-roofed cottage, which was inspired by the Greek Revival style, persisted during the picturesque movement after the Civil War. Within the A.P.E. in Jones County, the ca. 1880 Amos L. Simmons, Jr. House (No. 21) north of Pollocksville clearly illustrates this basic type embellished with a blend of Italianate and lingering Greek Revival traits. It is

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considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for architecture.

South of Pollocksville in the A.P.E., the ca. 1880 J. Nathan Foscue House (No. 74) is a handsome, two-story version of the double-pile, hip-roofed form. Set well back from U.S. 17, this frame farmhouse is simply embellished with picturesque latticework and chamfered porch posts. Its distinctive side-hall plan echoes the ca. 1801 Foscue Plantation House (N.R. 1971) located within the A.P.E. several miles north, and may have been inspired by this prominent plantation seat. In the nearby port city of New Bern (in Craven County), the side-hall-plan house, usually double-pile, emerged as a popular domestic form in the late eighteenth century and persisted in finer dwellings until the midnineteenth century. The two Foscue houses, erected some eighty years apart, are unusual rural examples in this region. The J. Nathan Foscue House also includes associated farm outbuildings, fields, and woodlands, is recommended as eligible for the National Register under both Criterion A for agriculture and Criterion C for architecture (see Agriculture Context).

Around the turn of the century, fashionably asymmetrical house designs began to appear that differed noticeably from traditional symmetrical forms. These dwellings reflected the appeal of the Queen Anne style in their irregular shapes and wraparound porches trimmed with turned and jigsawed millwork. Local builders erected such houses using standardized lumber and millwork from local mills, and light, balloon framing, which facilitated the construction of complex forms. Outside the A.P.E. in Jones County, fine examples include the ca. 1900 Hargett House at Hargett's Store, the ca. 1900 Macon Wayne Foscue House in Trenton, and the ca. 1905 Leroy Otis Pollock House, also located in Trenton (Harriett 1987: 76). In Onslow County, blocks of two-story, frame Queen Anne residences were constructed in Jacksonville in the early 1900s. Meanwhile, the flourishing lumber trade in Swansboro generated the "Swansboro Style", distinguished by exuberant, locally-produced scrollwork and wood shingling, and delicate moldings (Pezzoni 1989).

Although the A.P.E. contains no such flamboyant Queen Anne architecture, it includes well-preserved, conservative expressions of the style. In the small railroad settlement of Belgrade, both the Zinnie Eubanks House (No. 90) (ON 591) and the Henderson-Provost House (No. 91) are fashionably asymmetrical, L-plan houses embellished with modest decoration. In each case, the L-shaped plan also served a commercial function, accommodating a store in the forward facing wing (Pezzoni 1989). Both properties survive substantially intact and are recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. Finally, both Maysville and Pollocksville have examples of stylish, L-plan and T-plan houses in their historic districts, including the ca. 1900 Pollock-Parker House in Pollocksville.

With the growing national popularity of historical revival styles in the early twentieth century, some of the most prominent residents in the two counties chose fashionable Colonial Revival and Neo-Classical Revival designs. For example, just west of the A.P.E. on the Bryan-Bell Farm (N.R. 1989), the Bell family in 1920 updated their large antebellum residence with a monumental Neo-Classical Revival portico (Black and Black 1989: 8.1). Within the A.P.E. Dr. Rufus Hughes of Pollocksville commissioned an imposing, two-and-a-half-story, hip-roofed, Colonial Revival residence with porch classical columns and a porte-cochere. This residence stands in the Pollocksville Historic District.

1920s and 1930s, a number of homeowners in Maysville and Pollocksville opted for up-to-date bungalows as well as one story and two story Colonial Revival dwellings. Pollocksville, in particular, boasts a collection of handsome bungalows with low-slung roofs, exposed knee braces under deep eaves, and engaged front porches. However, most examples in Jones and Onslow counties are small, plain versions that simply suggest the bungalow style in their tapered porch posts, exposed rafters, or shallow roof pitch. Scores of such bungalows--many of them simple, gable front tenant houses--were constructed along newly paved U.S. 17 in the A.P.E. during the 1920s and 1930s.

Specific Guidelines for Evaluating the Eligibility of the Domestic Architecture of Jones and Onslow Counties in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries

To be recommended as eligible for the National Register, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century houses in Jones and Onslow counties must either be well-preserved examples of traditional domestic types common to the region or exemplify nationally popular styles. If alterations have occurred, they should be primarily greater than fifty years of age and represent significant architectural or historical themes. Eligible houses must have sufficient integrity to illustrate clearly their forms, key decorative elements, materials, and interior plans, as such elements appeared before World War II. Front porches, windows, siding materials, and interior woodwork--including principal doors, staircases, and mantels--should also be either largely original or represent historic alterations.



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March 9, 2000

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TO:

William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager

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FROM:

David Brook Egelor Cara Brook

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

515 N. Blount St., Raleigh NC

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SUBJECT:

US 17 Widening, TIP No. R-2514, Onslow and Jones Counties, ER 00-7445

In our letter of October 5, 1999, concerning the above project we noted that we would be unable to determine the eligibility of the Nelson-Deppe House (ON 115) until further information was provided. However, we neglected to state what further information was necessary. We do not feel that the architectural context provided supports the evaluation of the Nelson-Deppe 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.

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.

Bc:

Brown/Alperin

County RF

4613 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4613

4618 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4618

ARCHAEOLOGY RESTORATION SURVEY & PLANNING