



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

April 10, 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: Widening of SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) from SR 1938 (Ray Road) to Bridge No 88,
TIP U-2803, Orange County, ER 00-9161

Thank you for your letter of March 13, 2000, transmitting the survey report by Kenneth McFarland, NCDOT concerning 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 under the criterion cited:

Smith-Cole Farm (OR 365) is considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for Architecture as a largely unchanged dwelling possessing significance in form, plan and a broad array of Federal and Greek Revival stylistic elements.

We concur with the boundaries as noted on page 20 of the report.

Sidney W. Crabtree Farm (OR 366) is considered eligible for listing in the national Register under Criterion A for Agriculture as the house, outbuildings and adjacent cemetery depict early twentieth-century agricultural life in Orange County. The farm is also eligible under Criterion C for Architecture as it encompasses an intact example of an early twentieth-century dwelling house and outbuilding complex that is rare in this section of Orange County.

We concur with the boundaries as noted on pages 39 and 40 of the report.

William F. Cole Farm (OR 373) is considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for Architecture as its distinctive exterior finish of decorative motifs from late Victorian era eclecticism is rare for one-story dwellings in the region.

We concur with the boundaries as noted on page 67 of the report.

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Table with 4 columns: ADMINISTRATION, ARCHAEOLOGY, RESTORATION, SURVEY & PLANNING; Location; Mailing Address; Telephone/Fax.

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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.

DB:scb

cc: B. Church



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

July 11, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: William D. Gilmore, P.E., Manager
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
North Carolina Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

FROM: David Brook *DLSB for David Brook*
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RE: Widening of SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) from SR 1938 (Ray Road)
to Bridge No. 88, TIP No. U-2803, Orange County, ER 00-9161

Thank you for your memorandum of April 20, 2000, concerning the above project.

In our April 10, 2000, letter we concurred that the Smith-Cole Farm (OR 365), Sidney W. Crabtree Farm (OR 366) and William F. Cole Farm (OR 373) were eligible for listing in the National Register. However, we neglected to address the Cole Farm (OR 371) and confused the eligibility description and boundaries of the William F. Cole Farm with the Cole Farm.

In order to clarify the issues addressed above we offer the following comments:

William F. Cole Farm (OR 373) is considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for Architecture as this plank building represents a method of construction that is relatively uncommon for the region and represent a high level of skill on the part of the builders. We concur with boundaries as noted on page 56 of the report.

Smith Cole Farm (OR 371) is considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for Architecture as its distinctive exterior finish of decorative motifs from late Victorian era eclecticism is rare for one-story dwellings in this region.

We apologize for any confusion and inconvenience this may have caused and look forward to further consultation on this project.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 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: N. Graf
B. Church

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	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

HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT

**PHASE II:
FINAL IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION**

**WIDENING SR 1919 (SMITH LEVEL ROAD) FROM SR 1938 (RAY ROAD) TO
BRIDGE NO. 88, ORANGE COUNTY**

**ORANGE COUNTY
TIP # U-2803
STATE PROJECT # 9.8070219**



KENNETH MCFARLAND

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

FEBRUARY 2000

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT
PHASE II:
FINAL IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION**

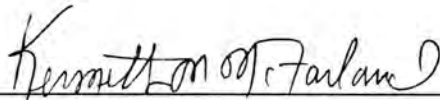
For

**WIDENING SR 1919 (SMITH LEVEL ROAD) FROM SR 1938 (RAY ROAD) TO
BRIDGE NO. 88, ORANGE COUNTY**

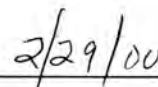
Orange County
TIP # U-2803
State Project # **9.8070219**

Kenneth M. McFarland
Architectural Historian
North Carolina Department of Transportation

February 2000



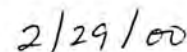
Kenneth M. McFarland
Principal Investigator
North Carolina Department of Transportation



February 2000



Barbara Church
Supervisor, Architecture Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation



February 2000

III. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

- 1. Project Name and Location:** Improvement of SR 1919, Smith Level Road..
Orange County

- 2. Project Number:** TIP #U-2803, State Project #9.8070219

- 3. Project Description:** The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to widen SR 1919, Smith Level Road, to a multi-lane facility. Two cross sections are currently being studied. (1) A five-lane or four-lane median divided facility from Bridge No. 88 to Rock Haven Road, and (2) a three-lane facility tapered to two-lanes from Rock Haven Road to Ray Road (SR 1938). A 300-foot (91 meters) corridor symmetrical about the existing centerline will be used to study both alternatives. The overall length of the project is approximately 0.6 miles (.966 kilometers).

- 4. Survey Methodology:** A Final Identification and Evaluation Survey (Phase II) was conducted to determine the Area of Potential Effects (APE), and to identify and evaluate all structures over fifty years of age within the APE according to the Criteria of Evaluation for the National Register of Historic Places (Figure 1). Orange County survey files were consulted at the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in Raleigh, as were the National Register of Historic Places and the North Carolina State Study List. The field survey was conducted on July 1, 1999 to identify those properties over fifty years of age that appeared to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

- 5. Description of the APE:** The APE, as outlined on the enclosed project map, was drawn to encompass all of the reasonable and feasible build alternatives for this project and allows for some flexibility in the design of avoidance alternatives.

- 6. Amount of Project Covered by the Survey: 100% of APE.** The APE was drawn to cover not only the boundaries of the current project but also to incorporate the remainder of Smith Level Road (SR 1919). This second component of the APE runs south from SR 1938 to US 15-501 and was included in anticipation of the future widening of Smith Level Road (SR 1919) to its southern terminus at US 15-501. The early identification of historic resources here will allow for more prudent planning of future highway projects.

7. Summary of the Results of the Survey:

a. Summary of properties evaluated:

The APE contains NO properties listed on National Register and ONE (1) property on the State Study List. The State Study List property is described below and keyed to the enclosed project map. There are FOUR (4) properties over fifty years of age within the APE that are evaluated in this report and determined eligible for the National Register. There are ELEVEN (11) additional properties within the APE that are over fifty years of age but were determined to be not eligible for the National Register. All surveyed properties are keyed to the enclosed project map.

b. Properties on National Register, Study List for National Register, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register:

Properties Listed on the National Register

There are no properties listed on the National Register in the APE (Area of Potential Effects) as of February 2000.

Properties Listed on the State Study List

7. Smith-Cole Farm (OR 365)

Properties considered eligible for the National Register

8. Sidney W. Crabtree Farm (OR 366)

15. William F. Cole Farm (OR 373)

16. Cole Farm (OR 371)

c. A list of properties evaluated and determined not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and not worthy of further consideration in a meeting with representatives of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office on November 18, 1999:

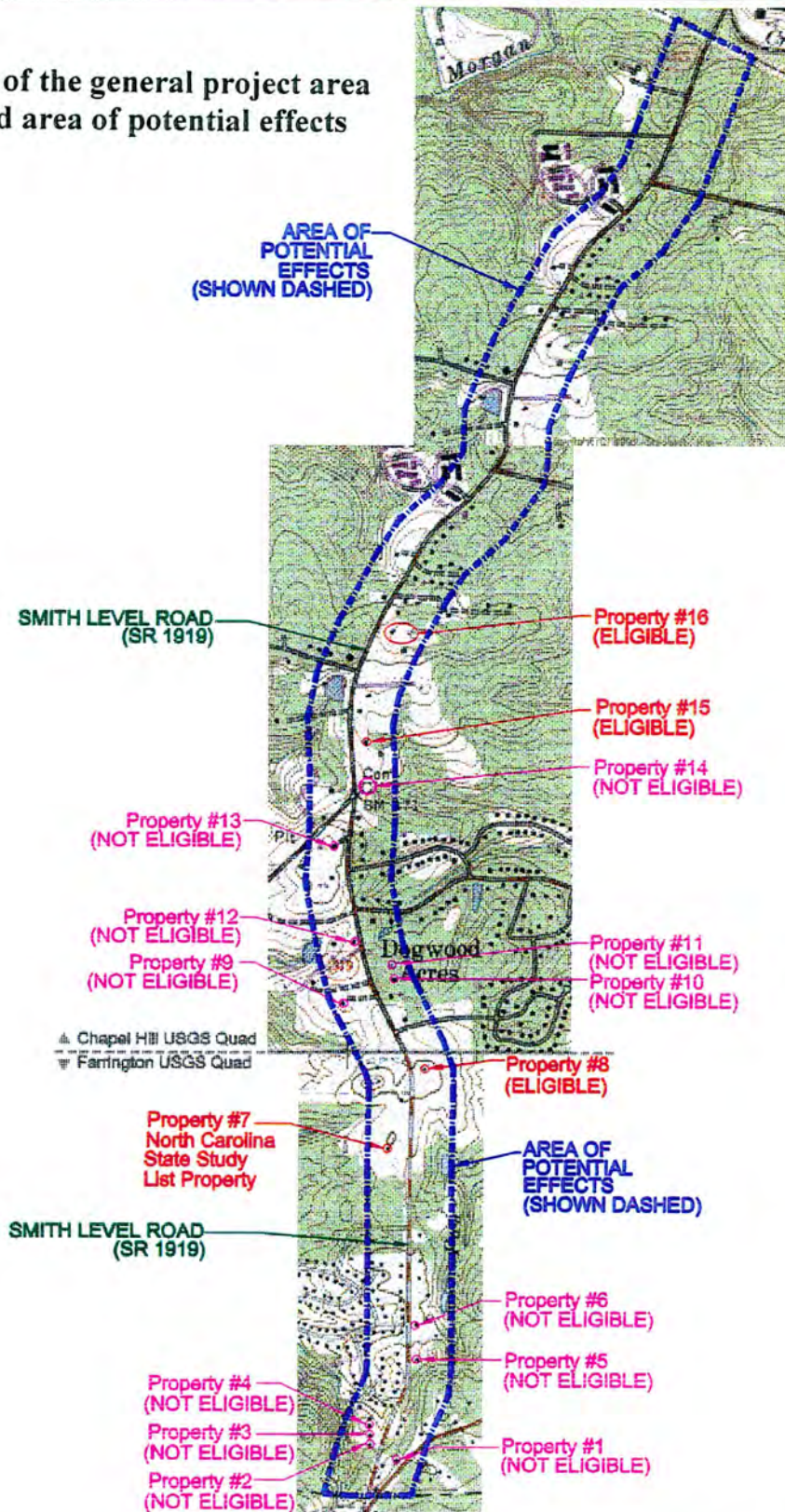
1. House.

2. House.

- 3. House.**
- 4. House.**
- 5. House**
- 6. House.**
- 9. William Clarence Cole Farm (OR 367)**
- 10. House.**
- 11. House.**
- 12. Smith Level School/Womble's Farm (OR 368)**
- 13. House.**
- 14. Womble-Cole Cemetery.**

d. Map illustrating the boundaries of the APE (Figure 1)

Figure 1: Map of the general project area and area of potential effects





 <p>HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE NCDOT 1 South Wilmington Street P.O. Box 25201 Raleigh, NC 27611-5201 T 919-733-7844 F 919-733-9794 www.dot.state.nc.us</p> 	<p>Project SMITH LEVEL ROAD (SR 1919) ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA</p>	<p>Supervisor B. CHURCH</p> <p>Principal Investigator K. McFarland</p> <p>Drawn By R. Silverman</p>	<p>File Name a1.1.dwg</p> <p>Issue Date: 11-15-1989</p> <p>Revision Date:</p>	<p>TIP No U-2803</p> <p>Work Order No 9.8070219</p> <p>Scale: NTS Sheet No A1.1</p>
	<p>Sheet Title HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY MAP</p>			

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VI. PURPOSE OF SURVEY AND REPORT

This survey was conducted and the Phase II report prepared in order to identify historic architectural resources located within the Area of Potential Effects as part of the environmental studies conducted by NCDOT and documented by an Environmental Assessment (EA). This report is prepared as a technical addendum to the EA and as part of the documentation of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the general public. Section 106 of the NHPA of 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. Section 470f, requires 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.

VII. METHODOLOGY

NCDOT conducted the survey and prepared this Phase II report in accordance with the provisions of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60; and Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service. In addition, this report conforms to the expanded requirements for architectural survey reports developed by NCDOT and the North Carolina SHPO dated February 2, 1996.

NCDOT conducted a Final Identification and Evaluation survey with the following goals:

- (1) To determine the APE, defined as the geographic area or areas within which a project may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.
- (2) To identify all significant resources within the APE.
- (3) To evaluate these resources according to the National Register of Historic Places Criteria.

VIII. SUMMARY RESULTS OF FINDINGS

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Despite its closeness to Chapel Hill, the landscape bordering Smith Level Road retains a strongly rural character. Its rolling farmland and pastures recall the importance of agriculture to the region and thus reflect a centrally important element of Orange County's history. Census data for the second half of the nineteenth century records that approximately 75% of white males and their families lived predominantly by farming. (Even artisans such as blacksmiths, coopers, and wheelwrights often supplemented their incomes by farming.)¹ Not surprisingly, most of Orange County's enslaved population worked the soil as well. And following the Civil War, African American citizens farmed at the same high levels as did white residents.²

Extensive European American settlement in Orange County began in the 1750s. For these first settlers--and their descendents--farming on a limited scale was the principal form of economic activity. Early yeoman farmers typically owned one hundred to five hundred acres, producing both subsistence crops and limited amounts of such cash crops as corn, wheat, and tobacco.³ Other farmers owned no land but instead rented small pieces of ground on which they might squeeze out a livelihood. Several late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings neighboring Smith Level Road remind travelers of the small-scale farmsteads where county residents have lived and worked throughout much of Orange County's history.

Prior to the Civil War, Orange County's borders also encompassed several significant plantation operations. These were mostly located in the area of eastern Orange that became Durham County in 1881. Large numbers of enslaved African Americans produced crops of wheat, corn, tobacco, and cotton and raised livestock on the extensive holdings of the Bennehan, Cameron, and Cain families.⁴ (In 1860 slaves comprised about one-third of the county's population: whites numbered 11,311, slaves, 5,108. In addition, 528 free blacks were enumerated.)⁵ In southern Orange County, the Patterson, Barbee, and Smith names predominated among plantation owners.⁶ Smith Level Road takes its

¹ Robert T. Kenzer, *Kinship and Neighborhood in a Southern Community: Orange County, North Carolina, 1849-1881* (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 1987), 166; Ruth Blackwelder, *The Age of Orange: Political and Intellectual Leadership in North Carolina, 1752-1861* (Charlotte: William Loftin, 1961).

² Kenzer, *Kinship and Neighborhood*, 166.

³ Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager, eds. *Orange County—1752-1952* (Chapel Hill: The Orange Printshop, 1952), 16; Jean Bradley Anderson, *Durham County: A History of Durham County, North Carolina* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1990), 19-20.

⁴ Jean Bradley Anderson, *Piedmont Plantation: The Bennehan-Cameron Family and Lands in North Carolina* (Durham: Historic Preservation Society of Durham, 1985), 65-76; Anderson, *Durham County*, 45, 61-62.

⁵ Lefler and Wager, *Orange County*, 96.

⁶ Kenzer, *Kinship and Neighborhood*, 42.

name from the latter family, their large dwelling still evoking the plantation era and providing an instructive contrast to the smaller farm houses in the region.

Additionally, the Smith plantation's presence here brings special focus to the neighborhood's African American history. A small burying ground northeast of the Smith house is said to contain graves of persons once enslaved on the Smith plantation. In addition, poignant written memories of this period survive in Pauli Murray's *Proud Shoes*.⁷ Here the well-known lawyer and Episcopal priest recounts the life of her grandmother, who was both a slave on the Smith plantation *and* the daughter of one of the plantation owners.

As noted, families freed from bondage usually continued to farm, many ex-slaves remaining tied to plantation lands via the sharecropping system. As the nineteenth century neared its end, however, increasing numbers of Orange County residents--black and white--began to find industrial employment in the burgeoning town of Durham, a few miles to the east, as well as in newly built textile mills in Carrboro and Hillsborough. A growing university establishment provided work in Chapel Hill for some individuals as well. The dawning of the automobile era meant that residents living along Smith Level Road and in similar areas in Orange County could work in the nearby towns and still continue to live and farm on family lands.

Names of properties surveyed, and the road on which they are located, speak directly to the economic presence and social prominence of the Smith and Cole families here. The former--a sister and two brothers--came from Hillsborough to southern Orange to build their home and manage their plantation and professional affairs. Later, their farm manager, William Cole, bought the "big house" and a portion of the plantation. His relations, in turn, acquired land nearby, thus attaching the name "Cole" to houses, farms, and gravemarkers in a fashion that provides the family a lasting presence in the neighborhood.

ARCHITECTURAL AND LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

Early houses on Smith Level Road reflect state and national architectural trends and fashions. Dwellings noted in this survey range across a stylistic spectrum and include the Federal-to-Greek Revival transitional Smith-Cole House, the remarkably stylish "Folk Victorian" dwelling at the Cole Farm, the much more simple tri-gable, one-story Sydney Crabtree House, and the Craftsman-style dwelling at the William F. Cole Farm. These houses are set, moreover, into a landscape encompassing various types of outbuildings, cemeteries, old trees and other plant types, as well as pastureland and cultivated fields. This overall context binds various Smith Level Road properties visually and

⁷ Pauli Murray, *Proud Shoes: The Story of an American Family* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1956), 33-44; for biographical information on Murray, see "Pauli Murray (1910-1985): Writer, Poet, Lawyer & Priest, Durham," a brochure prepared for Murray's 1998 induction into The North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame, on file in the Research Branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in Raleigh.

topographically, creating a sense of historic community. Furthermore, as discussed above, this sense of connection is enhanced by an awareness of the family ties that link the various properties.⁸

No early houses typical for small farmers or slaves survive in this area. Apparently pre-dating the Civil War, several plank (sawn log) buildings at the William F. Cole House, however, represent a method of construction used for some Orange County dwellings of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.⁹ The ca. 1780 Charles Horton House in Durham County (in an area that was formerly part of Orange) represents the best of such buildings.¹⁰ The original one-room component of the Horton House is built of carefully fitted pit-sawn logs with full dovetail joints.

Plank houses were often pit-sawn, and they were crafted to allow for a flush fit between the individual planks. They required building skills of a higher sort than was needed to erect most hewn log buildings. The latter form of structure was therefore more common than plank buildings in Orange County, and elsewhere in the region. From the mid-eighteenth century into the twentieth century hewn log buildings provided both housing and service structures for small-scale landowners, slaves, tenants, and sharecroppers. Several late nineteenth- early twentieth-century examples of hewn log outbuildings can be seen at the Cole Farm and the William F. Cole House.

The large and stylish Smith-Cole House provides a striking contrast with these plank and log buildings. It, in fact, joins company with Fairintosh and Hardscrabble in the first tier of plantation "big houses" constructed in pre-Civil War Orange County. This two-story, double-pile, five-bay dwelling has changed little since its construction by the Smith family in the 1840s. It retains such features as its full-width shed-roofed front porch, together with original fenestration elements, flush-board and lapped sheathing, and chimneys paired at each gable end. In addition, a kitchen from the same period survives to the rear of the house.

Few residents were as wealthy as the builders of the Smith-Cole House. Post Civil War prosperity fueled in part by bright leaf tobacco production, however, enabled some Orange County farmers to enjoy houses of a quality level unavailable to most of their parents and grandparents. Recently introduced means of mass produced building materials joined to new, low cost construction methods allowed them to build dwellings such as the one-story home of Sidney Crabtree. Similar balloon frame, cross-gable structures were appearing at farm sites--and in mill villages--all across the state during

⁸ Various modern intrusions and land use practices along Smith Level Road militate against designation of a portion of the APE as a rural historic district. These intrusions and practices include the presence of recent residential development and a power substation, along with individual non-contributing properties, that separate the eligible properties discussed individually within this report. In addition, most of the non-developed land within the APE is no longer used for farming purposes. Thus, historical continuity has been lost between that land and the Smith Level Road agricultural landscape as it existed in the early twentieth century and before.

⁹ Catherine Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1990), 145-146.

¹⁰ Anderson, *Durham County*, 47.

the late nineteenth-and early twentieth-century years.¹¹ Most frequently their exterior trim was plain, as is seen at the Crabtree property. In other cases the basic dwelling type could be augmented with wings, and adorned with ornamental details popular during the period. The dwelling house at the Cole Farm demonstrates the way prosperous turn-of-the-century farmers could use such structural forms and trim elements to trumpet their success to the outside world.¹²

The continuation of prosperous times for many North Carolinians, including residents of Smith Level Road, is evident in bungalow-type houses built chiefly during the 1920s. Several such dwellings stand along Smith Level Road, including the homeplace of William F. Cole. While bungalows could be both grand in scale and expensively detailed, the William F. Cole House is a more typical example. An eave-front variant of the bungalow form, the dwelling has porch piers, eaves, and a wide shed dormer common to bungalows across Orange County--and the nation as a whole.

While the William F. Cole House, the Sydney Crabtree House, and the house at the Cole Farm possess varying levels of stylistic and structural interest, they are all elevated in their significance by their complements of outbuildings. Most of these service structures are in good to excellent condition and feature either plank/log construction methods or are frame built. Typically, they vary in size and shape according to their original purpose. Increasingly rare, such buildings evoke a time when they connected life in the main house to the land and its produce. They provided spaces to house livestock, to store meat, to cure tobacco and to protect farm equipment from the elements—to name but some uses. Once outbuildings such as these were of life and death importance to most residents of Orange County. Today, in one of North Carolina's richest counties, few residents require farm dependencies. Because of such socio-economic circumstances the survival of impressive collections of outbuildings helps to lend Smith Level Road a quality unique in the Chapel Hill vicinity.

¹¹ Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture*, 292-295.

¹² *Ibid.*, 288-289. Bishir notes Buncombe County's Payne House as an exemplar for such use of form and decorative finish during the period of the Cole Farm House.

A. Map of APE (see Figure 1)

B. Evaluation of Properties Considered Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Properties Listed on the State Study List:

Property #7: Smith-Cole Farm (OR 365) (Figures 2-15)

The Smith-Cole House was placed on the State Study List July 8, 1992.¹³ Along with the house, this discussion and evaluation encompass the kitchen, a shed, and the immediate landscape environs of this collection of structures.

Location: The Smith-Cole Farm is located on the west side of SR 1919 (Smith Level Road), 0.33 miles north of the junction with US 15-501.

Description: In their assessment of this property in 1991, architectural historians Ruth Little and Kelly Lally note that the ‘Smith-Cole House is the largest antebellum house surveyed in Chapel Hill Township, and the only house which deserves to be called a “plantation house.”’ They report that its construction was completed in 1845, a date corroborated by Smith family deeds.¹⁴

The Smith-Cole House is unique for the survival of most of its retarditaire Federal fabric. It is two rooms deep and five bays wide. Two stories tall, it is predominantly sheathed in plain-edged weatherboards. Flush-board sheathing, however, covers the section of the façade sheltered by a full width shed-roofed porch. The porch, apparently dating to the initial construction phase of the house, features flush-board spandrels; tapered and beaded rakeboards; a boxed cornice terminating in pattern boards; and slender, turned Tuscan columns. A similar rear

¹³ *National Register and Study List Roster, Nash County through Polk County*, “Orange County,” (Raleigh: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office), 18.

¹⁴ Ruth Little and Kelly Lally, “Survey File for the Smith-Cole Farm,” on file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office; *Orange County Deed Book 31* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 398.

porch was enclosed in the early twentieth century. Façade and side elevation windows have a diminution in scale typical for multi-story dwellings. At the second-floor level of the facade the single-hung windows have nine-over-six sash, while on the ground level the sash is of a nine-over-nine pattern. Sidelights adjacent to the twin-leaf main entry doors provide additional interior lighting. They consist of two-over-two moveable sash, a configuration unusual for houses of this period. The south gable end features narrow six-over-four sash at the second-floor level and six-over-six sash below. The north gable end incorporates six-over-four sash for the second floor, but the first floor features two nine-over-nine sash windows, as well as a narrower window with six-over-six sash. Four single-shoulder chimneys heat the Smith-Cole House, two at each gable end. Laid in American bond, the south end chimneys follow a 1:3 bond pattern. The two on the north side, however, were constructed in a 1:5 fashion, the difference in bond patterns possibly indicating that all chimney work did not occur at the same time.

The interior of the Smith-Cole House was not accessible at the time of this survey. Little and Lally record that it features a center passage and a stair that rises to the second level from the rear of the passage. The stair consists of two runs and an intermediate landing. The interior finish mixes Federal and Greek Revival elements. Reflecting the latter taste, the stair features simple square newels, a robust round rail, and plain rectangular-in-section balusters. The builder trimmed this open string stair, however, with bracket work more attuned to Federal period design motifs. Similarly, six-panel doors found throughout the dwelling feature overall designs and molding details commonly associated with the Federal period.

In addition to the house, the Smith-Cole Farm site includes a separate kitchen with window and door details that match elements of the main structure. A shed borders the kitchen on its south side. Its construction details, however, date to a period later than the kitchen or the main dwelling. A barn and slave dwellings are said to have stood to the north of the house and kitchen complex.¹⁵ The house, kitchen, and shed stand in a grove of ancient oak trees. Driveway elements and the walkway to the front entry of the house are apparently early features, perhaps contemporary with the construction period of the dwelling.

In complement to these structural and landscape elements, the Smith-Cole property has a well-documented history relating to the early property owners. Three members of the Smith family of Hillsborough initially resided here. Mary Ruffin Smith (b. ca. 1814-November 12, 1885), the elder of the three siblings, managed the household, while her brothers Francis Jones (August 16, 1816-August 16, 1877) and James Sidney (March 19, 1819-April 24, 1867) practiced

¹⁵ Little and Lally, "Survey File for the Smith-Cole Farm."

medicine and law respectively.¹⁶ The Smith Papers, located at the Southern Historical Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill, record many family details, as well as plantation and slave-related activities. In addition, the site has ancestral connections to Pauli Murray (1910-1985), who is famed for her work as an attorney, as a member of the Episcopal clergy, and as a writer. Her book *Proud Shoes* details incidents relating to the plantation's African American community. Once enslaved on the Smith plantation, Murray's grandmother Cornelia was the daughter of Sidney (as James Sidney Smith was known) Smith. In the early twentieth century Mary Ruffin Smith's farm manager, William Compton Cole (1844-1924), acquired part of the plantation lands and the mansion house. His son, George T. Cole, resided here until recent years.

Orange County deeds record that on December 11, 1841 Dr. James Strudwick Smith (September 6, 1787-December 6, 1852) conveyed his 2045 acre "Price's Creek tract" to his daughter Mary R. Smith. The property was situated largely in Orange County, but 170 acres lay within Chatham County to the south. The deed notes that this land had earlier belonged to James S. Smith's father-in-law Francis Jones (b. ca. 1760-February 21, 1844) "of Chatham County."¹⁷ In a deed of November 21, 1845, James S. Smith and his wife Delia Jones Smith (May 1, 1787-November 7, 1854) confirmed the gift of 2045 acres. They also transferred ownership of various plantation equipment and tools, including stills, hogsheads, a threshing machine, and blacksmith tools. In addition, the document refers to paints, oils, and lime and bricks intended for the "completion of the house on the Price's Creek tract of land."¹⁸

In subsequent years Mary Ruffin, Francis, and Sidney Smith oversaw a flourishing agricultural operation. In 1860, the United States census noted that this involved the production of wheat, "Indian corn," oats, and tobacco on land recorded as four hundred improved, and sixteen hundred unimproved, acres.¹⁹ This land, the property of "Miss Mary," was valued at \$20,000.²⁰ The Smiths also used their plantation for raising livestock. On the eve of the Civil War this included not only draft animals and milk cows but also 130 swine and 50 sheep.²¹ As was typical for the era, enslaved African Americans worked the land. The

¹⁶ Murray, *Proud Shoes*, 36-37. For dates of birth and death relating to the Smith family, as well as gravemarker inscriptions, see *Orange County Cemetery Records, Oak Grove thru Yancey Cemetery*, "Dr. James Strudwick Smith Cemetery (Chatham County)" (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 6.

¹⁷ *Orange County Deed Book 31* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 396. Francis and his wife Mary Jones are buried along with their children and grandchildren in the Smith family cemetery in Chatham County. Mary Jones died March 19, 1811 at "age 50." See note 13 for full citation.

¹⁸ *Orange County Deed Book 31* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 398.

¹⁹ *United States Census*, "Orange County Agriculture Schedule for 1860," (Raleigh: North Carolina State Archives), Chapel Hill P.O., 1, line 30

²⁰ *United States Census*, "Orange County Population Schedule for 1860," (Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library), household 203, 25.

²¹ *United States Census*, "Orange County Agriculture Schedule for 1860," (Raleigh: North Carolina State Archives), Chapel Hill P.O., 1, line 30

1860 census records showed that Francis, Sidney, and Mary Ruffin Smith then owned twelve, six, and eleven slaves respectively.²²

The death of Mary Ruffin Smith on November 12, 1885 saw the passing of the “Price’s Creek Plantation” out of Smith family hands. Her will of April 27, 1877, along with codicils of 1881, conveyed the majority of the property to the board of trustees of the North Carolina Diocese of the Episcopal Church.²³ A survey dated May 24, 1891 divided the Smith land into lots of various sizes.²⁴ **(Figure 2)** This included Lot No. 5, the “House Tract,” which consisted of 386 ¼ acres, which encompassed the main house and its various outbuildings. Lot No. 2 was assigned to Cornelia Fitzgerald and Robert Fitzgerald “colored.”²⁵ As noted previously, Cornelia was the daughter of Sidney Smith and, in turn, the grandmother of Pauli Murray.

The sale of lots carved from the Price’s Creek Plantation continued into the early years of the twentieth century. On March 7, 1904 O. B. Barnes, J. F. Pickett, and A. E. Lewis paid commissioners of the Episcopal Church \$3,600 for Lots No. 5 and No.8. Lot No. 5 was described as “being the lot on which is situate (sp.) the dwelling house formerly occupied by the said Mary R. Smith...”²⁶ Mary Smith’s farm manager, William Compton Cole, soon acquired the core of this tract. On October 16, 1904, the new owners conveyed 130.5 acres of the “House Tract” to him for \$1,744.²⁷

As noted, this property has remained in the possession of the Cole family since that point, now being owned by George T. Cole and Barbara Guthrie, “Trustee.”²⁸ On July 10, 1933, William Compton Cole’s heirs deeded the 130.5-acre property to George T. Cole.²⁹ Perhaps this was in anticipation of George T. Cole starting a family: in the following year Cole, then age 31, married Alice Womble Scott, age 29.³⁰ A deed of March 2, 1983 subsequently gave George and Alice Cole a one-half undivided interest each in the property. The document

²² *United States Census*, “Orange County Slave Schedule for 1860,” (Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library), 7.

²³ *Orange County Will Book H* (Hillsborough: Orange County Clerk of Court Office), 394. Mary Ruffin Smith’s will provided a life estate for her long-time friend Maria L. Spear, a highly respected Hillsborough educator. Spear predeceased Mary Ruffin Smith, however, so the Smith property passed directly to the Episcopal Church.

²⁴ *Orange County Deed Book 55* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 259.

²⁵ *Orange County Deed Book 51* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 147-151. Author’s quotation marks.

²⁶ *Orange County Deed Book 58* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 53.

²⁷ *Orange County Deed Book 58* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 65.

²⁸ “Orange County map ID 7.120..12 (Hillsborough: Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office), PIN 9777-42-6252.

²⁹ *Orange County Deed Book 199* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 17

³⁰ George and Alice Cole were married on June 9, 1934. *Orange County Marriages*, Book 9 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 127. Alice was born May 6, 1905 and died September 9, 1986. *Orange County Vital Statistics, Deaths 1986*, Vol. 62 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 1305.

refers to the 130.5 acres listed in 1904 and 1933, but subsequent conveyances from that tract have reduced the Cole property to 103 acres.³¹

Evaluation:

The Smith-Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.³² There are no significant events or historical trends directly associated with the Smith-Cole Farm.

The Smith-Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. For a property to be eligible under Criterion B it must retain integrity and (1) be associated persons individually significant within the historic context; (2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and (3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group.³³ There are not persons of national, state, or local significance associated with the Smith-Cole Farm.

The Smith-Cole Farm is **eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (design/construction) for its significance in architecture. For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either (1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; (2) represent the work of a master; (3) possess high artistic value; or (4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.³⁴ The Smith-Cole House, the centerpiece of the property, is an outstanding example of a center-passage, two-story, double-pile, five-bay plantation "big house." The significance it has from the perspective of form and plan joins a broad array of Federal and Greek Revival stylistic elements to elevate the largely unchanged dwelling to the first tier of such properties in Piedmont

³¹ *Orange County Deed Book* 411 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 337. Tax records show the property to be 105.13 acres. "Orange County map ID 7.120.12" (Hillsborough: Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office), PIN 9777-42-6252.

³² National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12.

³³ *Ibid.*, 15.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 17-18.

North Carolina. The survival of a kitchen that is contemporaneous with the house further enhances the importance of the site. All of the notable characteristics of these structures are amplified by a setting amidst mature oaks and yet-undeveloped fields. The Smith-Cole landscape thus continues to recall the centrality of the Smith family dwelling complex in the operation of a plantation exceeding two thousand acres.

The Smith-Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D. (information potential). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: (1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and (2) the information must be considered important.³⁵ The architectural component of the Smith-Cole Farm is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology. Its building construction methods and material were relatively commonplace; therefore it is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

National Register Boundary Description:

The National Register boundary for the Smith Cole Farm has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary follows the right-of-way along SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) beginning at the northeast corner of Tax Parcel 7.120..12 and continues south for approximately 815 feet (248.4 meters). Then the boundary follows a line west to a point approximately 375 feet (114.3 meters) from SR 1919. The boundary cuts across Tax Parcel 7.120..12 in a northern direction for approximately 815 feet (248.4 meters) until it intersects with the northern property line of Tax Parcel 7.120..12. The National Register boundary then follows the current property lines for Tax Parcel 7.120..12 east for approximately 375 feet (114.3 meters) to the place of beginning. The boundary contains approximately 7 acres (2.8 hectares) and includes the grounds immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings.

The boundary is outlined on the attached tax parcel map of the acres, designated OLD MAP ID 7.120..12, PIN 977-42-6252, TRACT 718144 from the Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office in Hillsborough.

National Register Boundary Justification:

The National Register boundary for the Smith Cole Farm encompasses all of the historic features of the property that directly contribute to the significance of the

³⁵ Ibid., 21.

property, including the house and outbuildings. The use of only a limited portion of the current legal boundaries is appropriate because the National Register boundaries should only encompass the resources that retain historical significance and integrity. The remainder of the tract, consisting chiefly of forested land located west of the property, has not been included because it does not contribute to the property's historic significance and integrity. The right-of-way on the west side of SR 1919 has been chosen as the eastern border of the National Register boundary because it is (1) owned and maintained by NCDOT and is not legally part of the property, (2) does not contribute to the historic landscape characteristics of the property, and (3) has been altered and will continue to be altered in the course of routine maintenance by NCDOT.

Witness my hand and private seal this 23rd day of January 1877

Algeron S Barber J^d

N Carolina Orange County Superior Court

The foregoing Certificate of J. H. Stone C. & C. of Johnston County
& A. S. Barber J^d of Orange County are adjudged to be correct
And the deed into the Certificate & the plat be registered

Witness my hand this Jan'y 26th 1877

J. H. Stone C. & C.

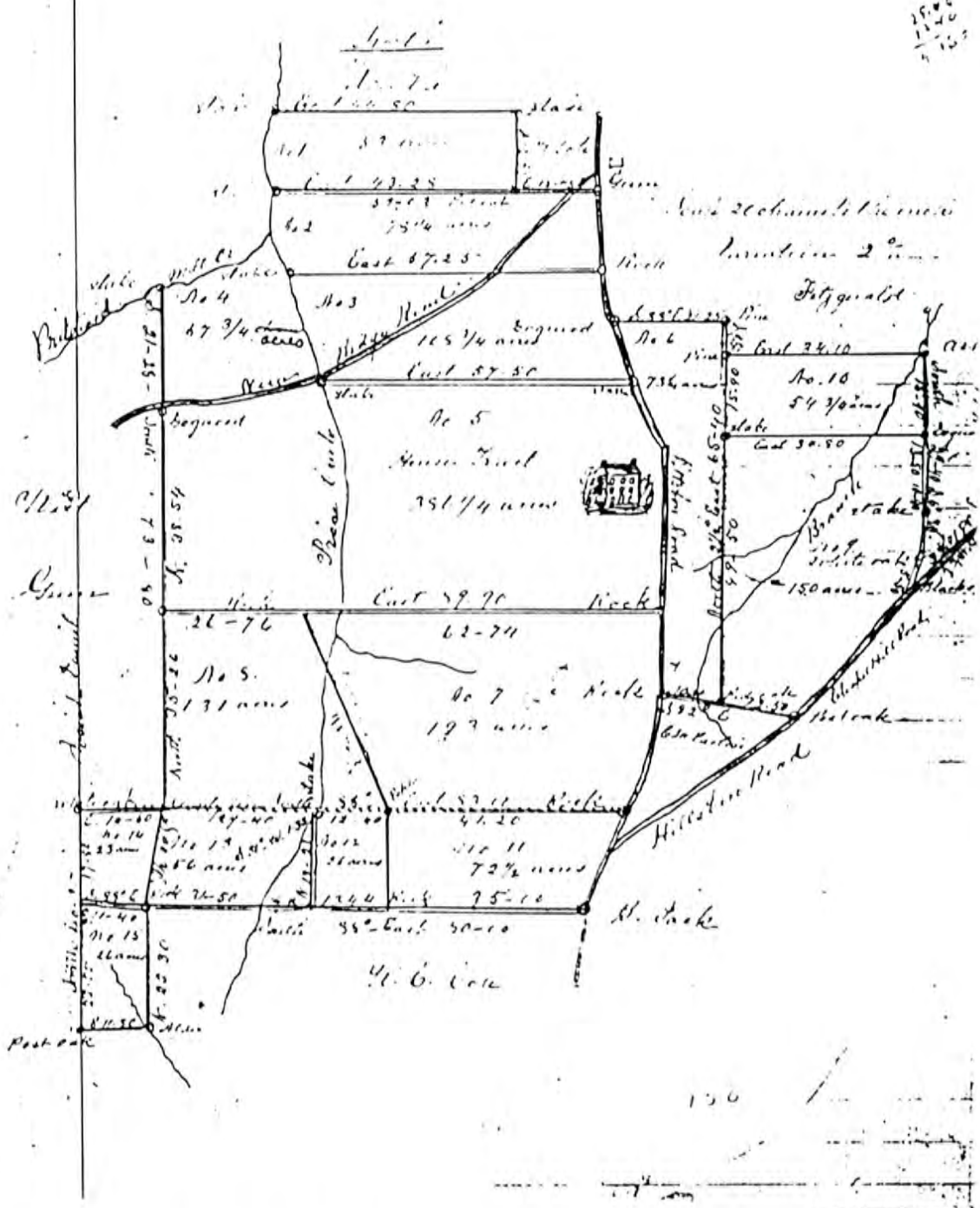


Figure 2: Property #7, Plat showing division of Smith family land as surveyed May 24, 1891

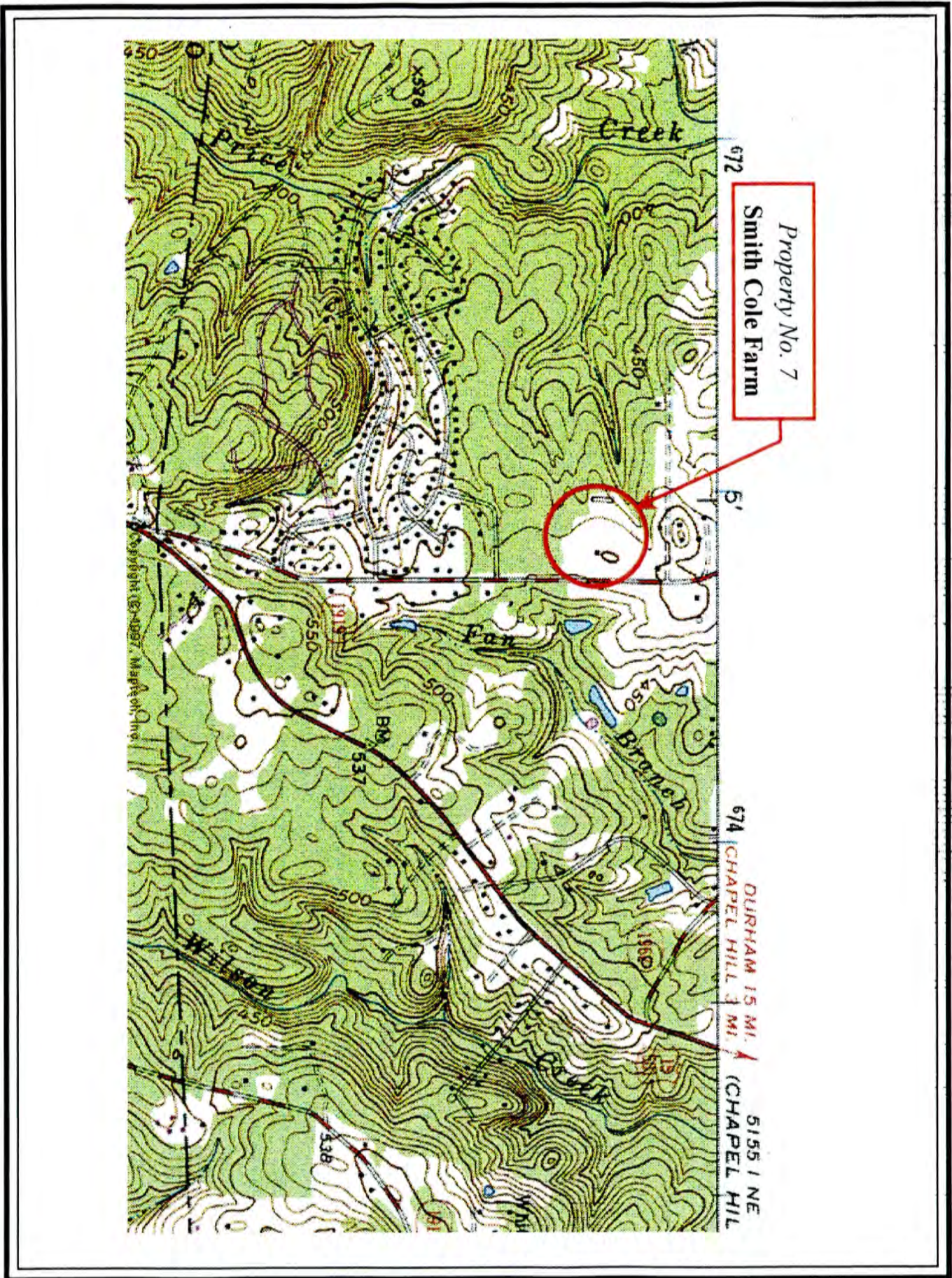


Figure 3: Property #7, USGS map detail for the Smith-Cole Farm

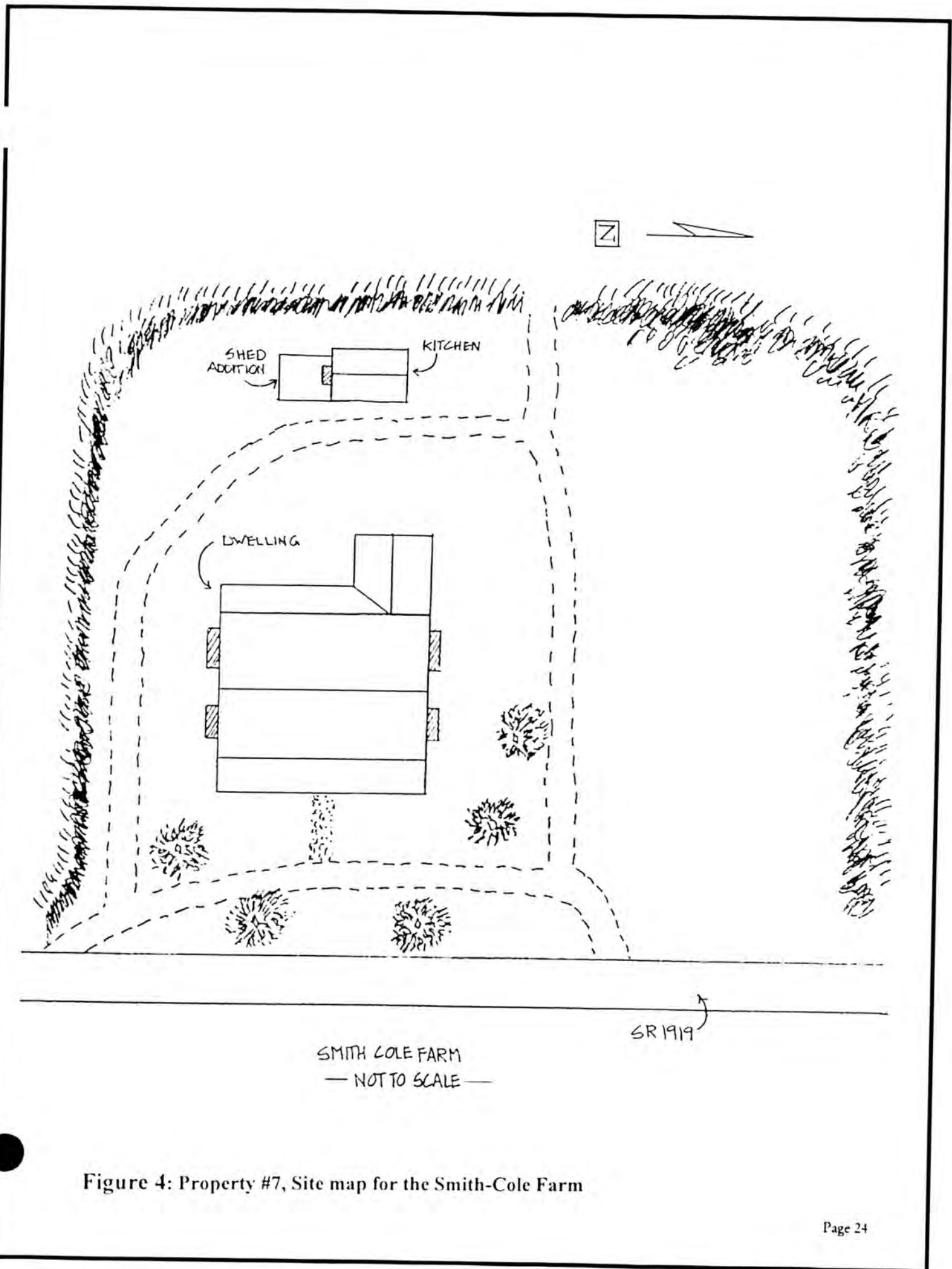
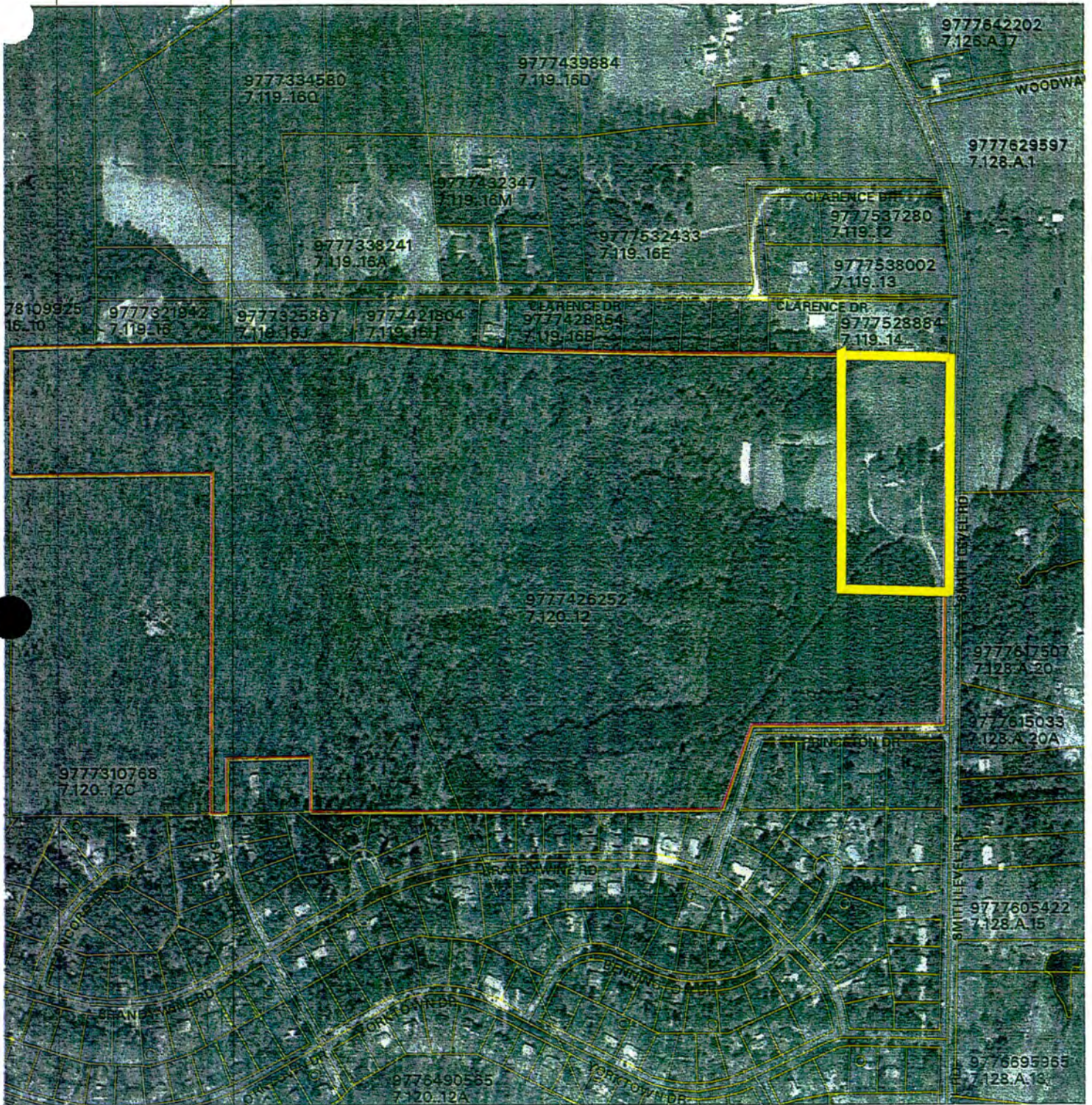




Figure 4: Property #7, Site map for the Smith-Cole Farm

Figure 5: Property #7, Tax map for the Smith-Cole Farm



PROPERTY MAP

This map contains parcels prepared for the inventory of real property within Orange County, and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public records and data. Users of this map are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained on this map. The County and its mapping companies assume no legal responsibility for the information contained on this map.

-  Selected Parcels
-  Background Info

OWNER: COLE GEORGE T



Map Scale : 1" = 500'

DATE: 22 Dec 99 11:03:58 Wednesday

Prepared By Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office



Figure 6: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House



Figure 7: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House



Figure 8: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, south elevation, detail



Figure 9: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, rear, porch and wing



Figure 10: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, north elevation



Figure 11: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, north elevation, window



Figure 12: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, front porch, column



Figure 13: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, Smith-Cole House, sidelight



Figure 14: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, kitchen and shed



Figure 15: Property #7, Smith-Cole Farm, kitchen, window detail

Additional Properties Considered Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places:

Property #8: Sidney W. Crabtree Farm (OR 366) (Figures 16-30)

Location: East side of SR 1919, .1 mile (.161 kilometers) south of junction with Woodward Way (SR 1920).

Description: This was the farmstead of Sidney W. Crabtree (b. ca. 1870). Its core consisted of former Smith plantation property purchased by Crabtree in the early years of the twentieth century.³⁶ In 1903 Crabtree reportedly built the one-story house standing here, which is located approximately .25 miles (.40 kilometers) north of the Smith-Cole House.³⁷ It follows an “L” plan, with a wing projecting back from the north end of the front block. Typical of many houses of the period, it features a central gable affixed to the façade of the main block. It faces Smith Level Road. Shed-roofed sections of a date later than the main part of the house are attached to rear of the front block and the south side of wing. Now covered by artificial siding, the structure has exterior details typical for its type and period. These include a wide shed-roofed porch with slender, turned posts, six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows, and a diamond-shaped ventilator in the front gable. The end gables of the front block, the central gable, and the gable of the wing all feature cornice returns. The front block’s single-shoulder chimneys consist of stuccoed fieldstone to the top of the shoulder and stretcher bond brick stacks. The wing chambers are heated by an interior brick chimney.

The house is accompanied by an impressive array of well-maintained outbuildings, most of which appear to date to the same construction period as Crabtree’s early twentieth-century house. They include structures said originally to have been a barn, a “cotton house,” a smokehouse, and a crib. The barn is sited the greatest distance (to the east) from the dwelling house. The largest of the outbuildings, it is constructed of logs with shed-roofed sections attached on the north and south sides. Vertically positioned boards side the entire structure, which is roofed in galvanized metal. An equipment shed stands to the west and north of the barn, the structure being supported by earthfast posts and clad with vertical boards and galvanized metal roofing. Two further service structures stand to the south and west of the barn, their gable fronts facing the main axis of the barn in a perpendicular manner. Of equal size, these buildings are frame built, have vertical board siding, and are roofed with “5V” galvanized metal material. Each building features, moreover, distinctive projecting front gable eaves, these being supported by angle brackets. The easternmost of these structures has been said to

³⁶ Ruth Little and Kelly Lally, “Survey File for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm,” on file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh.

³⁷ Little and Lally, “Survey File for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm.”

have served as the cotton house, while its neighbor to the west was reportedly a smokehouse.³⁸ Today, both serve for general storage purposes. Closer to the dwelling and facing east, a frame crib joins the barn in providing a reminder of a time when draft animals were responsible for tasks today accomplished by tractors and trucks. The crib is frame built, the basic structure resembling that of other Crabtree Farm outbuildings. It is clad not vertically, however, but with horizontal boards attached in typical crib fashion to allow for air movement through the structure. The central element of the building is set on stone piers. Shed-roofed attachments, apparently of a later date, are supported by earthfast vertical posts. Each of these is open on the east side for vehicular access, providing additional space for equipment storage. One additional structure stands between the main outbuilding complex and the dwelling house. Apparently dating to recent times, it is clad in artificial siding.

Topping the knoll just south of the dwelling house is a small cemetery enclosed by a fieldstone wall and positioned within view of the neighboring Smith Cole Farm. Investigation by Lally and Little indicates that Smith family slaves might have been buried here. However, no visible feature within the enclosed area supports this theory. On the opposite side (north) of the dwelling house-outbuilding complex, a highly manicured garden site recalls the vital importance of vegetable gardens within the overall farm landscape. Surrounding these structural and landscape features, moreover, are fields still subject to limited agricultural and pastoral use. This ground thus continues to reflect the purpose it served throughout the period of Crabtree family ownership and back into the years when it was a component of the Smith family plantation.

Sidney W. Crabtree lived out his life in this area of Orange County. The census of 1870 shows him then to have been the recently born son of Wilson Crabtree, age 25 and Elizabeth Crabtree, age 23.³⁹ The Crabtree household is listed as #371 in this section of the population schedule, while that of John Wesley Cole was #367 and Mary Ruffin Smith's was #384.⁴⁰ Thus, the Crabtrees lived a short distance south of the Cole family and a short distance north of the Smith holdings. Remaining near his place of birth, Sidney Crabtree took advantage of the sale of lots from the Smith plantation. On December 15, 1900 he purchased Lot 10, which encompassed 53 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, while on February 9, 1904 he acquired the 73 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres designated as Lot 6.⁴¹ (See Mary Ruffin Smith sale plat, **Figure 2**) These acquisitions would seem to have occurred in anticipation of expanding personal responsibilities: on February 22, 1904, Sidney (age 34) married Lorena Tilley (age 24). The property remained in the hands of Crabtree, and then his widow, until April 11, 1960. At that time Lorena T. Crabtree transferred what was designated "the Sidney W. and Lorena T. Crabtree

³⁸ Little and Lally, "Survey File for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm."

³⁹ United States Census, "Orange County Population Schedule for 1870," (Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library), 51.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, 48-49.

⁴¹ *Orange County Deed Book 56* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 226; *Orange County Deed Book 57* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 416.

homeplace” (no acreage was noted) to her daughter Louise C. Long and her son-in-law Paul N. Long.”⁴² Their son, Bruce N. Long, acquired the 54-acre core tract upon the death of his mother on May 9, 1994, northerly portions of the Crabtree land having been sold for the creation of the Dogwood Acres subdivision.⁴³

Evaluation:

The Sidney W. Crabtree Farm is **eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (agriculture). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property’s specific association must be important as well.⁴⁴ The Sidney W. Crabtree House, its various outbuildings, and the adjacent cemetery combine to make this farmstead a distinctive reminder of early twentieth-century agricultural life in Orange County. The dwelling-outbuilding complex survives in a state apparently little altered since construction. It offers a reminder of the built agricultural environment here before rapid development began to alter large portions of the landscape. Still open, the surrounding fields, in turn, recall the total interconnectedness between the farm buildings and the productive ground that was their reason for existence. Its knoll-top location, set amidst those fields still owned by Crabtree’s grandson, makes the Sidney Crabtree Farm one of the most visually prominent properties on Smith Level Road. Moreover, its close proximity with the Smith-Cole House offers an instructive juxtaposition. This bespeaks the transformation and “democratization” of the landscape from its pre-Civil War use as part of the Smith family plantation to postbellum, smaller-scale, yeoman farmer applications.

The Sidney W. Crabtree Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. For a property to be eligible under Criterion B it must retain integrity and (1) be associated with persons individually significant within the historic context; (2) be normally associated with a person’s productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and (3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person’s historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a

⁴² *Orange County Deed Book* 175 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 328.

⁴³ *Orange County Plat Book* 16 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 92. *Orange County Deed Book* 1300 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 555; *Orange County Estate Records, Estate of Louise C. Long* (Hillsborough: Orange County Clerk of Court’s Office), file 94E219.

⁴⁴ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12

person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group.⁴⁵ There are not persons of national, state, or local significance associated with the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm.

The Sidney W. Crabtree Farm is **eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (design/construction) for its significance in architecture. For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either (1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; (2) represent the work of a master; (3) possess high artistic value; or (4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.⁴⁶ The Sidney W. Crabtree Farm encompasses an intact example of an early twentieth-century dwelling house and outbuilding complex. The house exemplifies a structural form and plan embraced by small-scale farmers throughout the region. Importantly, it retains its position of dominance as it relates both to the surrounding open countryside and to its complement of outbuildings. Among these, the gable-fronted cotton house and smokehouse stand out through their design as structural forms uncommonly found in the area and rare in this section of Orange County. The remaining early twentieth-century outbuildings complete this intact grouping of utilitarian farm structures.

The Sidney W. Crabtree Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D. (information potential). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: (1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and (2) the information must be considered important.⁴⁷ The architectural component of the William F. Cole Farm is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology. Its building construction methods and material were relatively commonplace; therefore it is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

National Register Boundary Description:

The National Register boundary for the Sidney Crabtree Farm has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary follows the right-of-way along SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) beginning at the northwest corner of Tax Parcel 7.128.A.1 and continues south for approximately 1416 feet (431.6 meters). Then the boundary follows a line east to a point approximately 1132 feet (345.03 meters) from SR 1919. The boundary cuts across Tax Parcel 7.128.A.1 in a northern direction for approximately 1019 feet (310.6 meters) until it intersects with the northern property line of Tax Parcel 7.128.A.1. The National Register

⁴⁵ Ibid. 15.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 17-18.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 21.

boundary then follows the current property lines for Tax Parcel 7.128.A.1 west for approximately 340 feet (103.63 meters), then north for approximately 510 feet (155.45 meters), then west for approximately 906 feet (276.15 meters) until the beginning. The boundary contains approximately 37 acres (14.8 hectares) and includes the grounds immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings, along with fields positioned to the north and south of the dwelling house-outbuilding complex.

The boundary is outlined on the attached tax parcel map of the area, designated OLD MAP ID 7.128.A.1, PIN 9777-62-9597, TRACT 703490 from the Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office in Hillsborough.

National Register Boundary Justification:

The National Register boundary for the Sidney Crabtree Farm encompasses all of the historic features of the property that directly contribute to the significance of the property, including the house and outbuildings, along with fields located north and south of the house-outbuilding complex. The use of only a portion of the current legal boundaries is appropriate because the National Register boundaries should only encompass the resources that retain historical significance and integrity. The remainder of the tract, consisting chiefly of recent growth forest land located east of the property, has not been included because it does not contribute to the property's historic significance and integrity, and it does not convey the property's agricultural history. The right-of-way on the east side of SR 1919 has been chosen as the western border of the National Register boundary because it is (1) owned and maintained by NCDOT and is not legally part of the property, (2) does not contribute to the historic landscape characteristics of the property, and (3) has been altered and will continue to be altered in the course of routine maintenance by NCDOT.

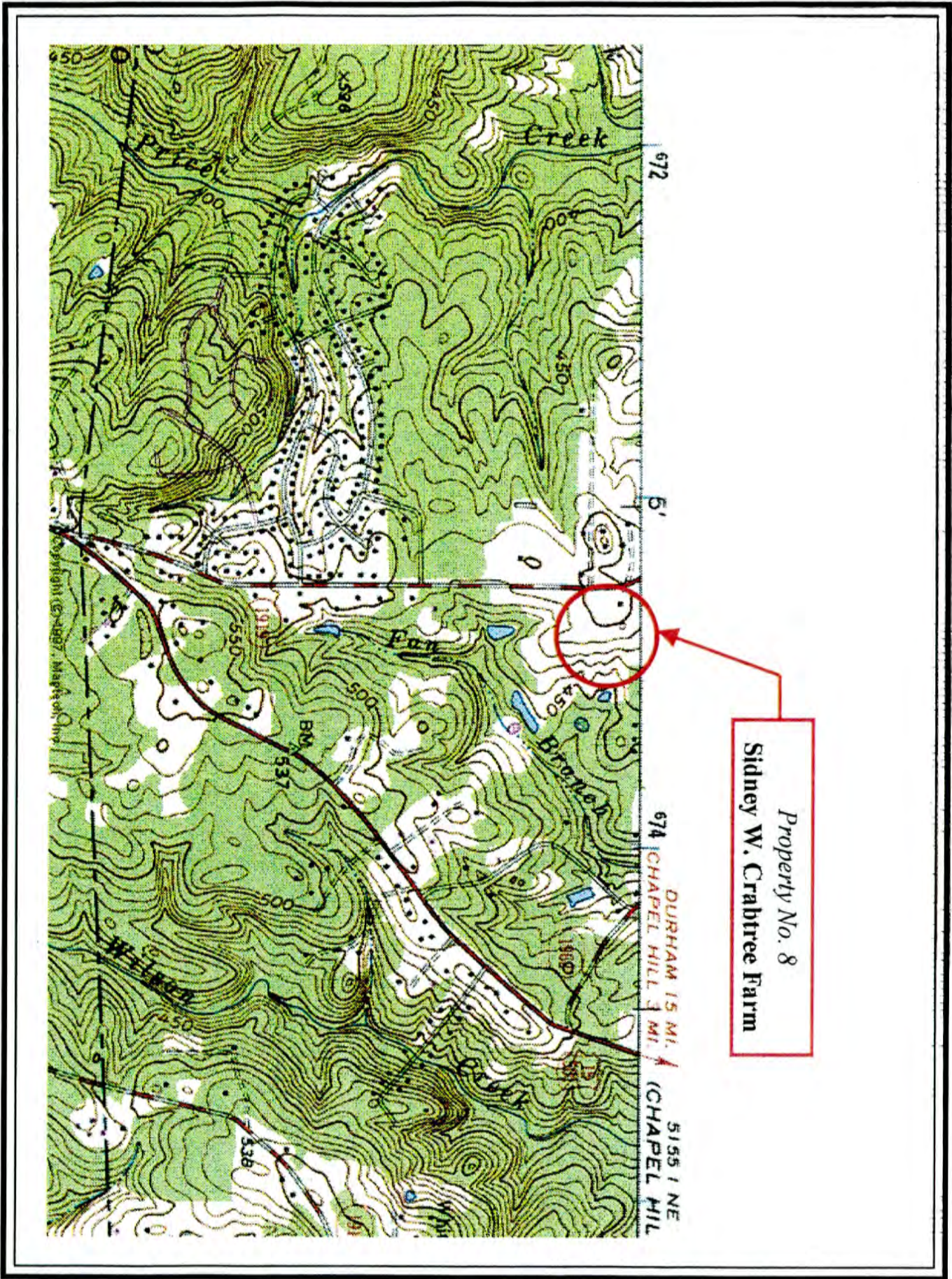


Figure 16: Property #8, USGS map detail for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm

Figure 17: Property #8, Site map for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm

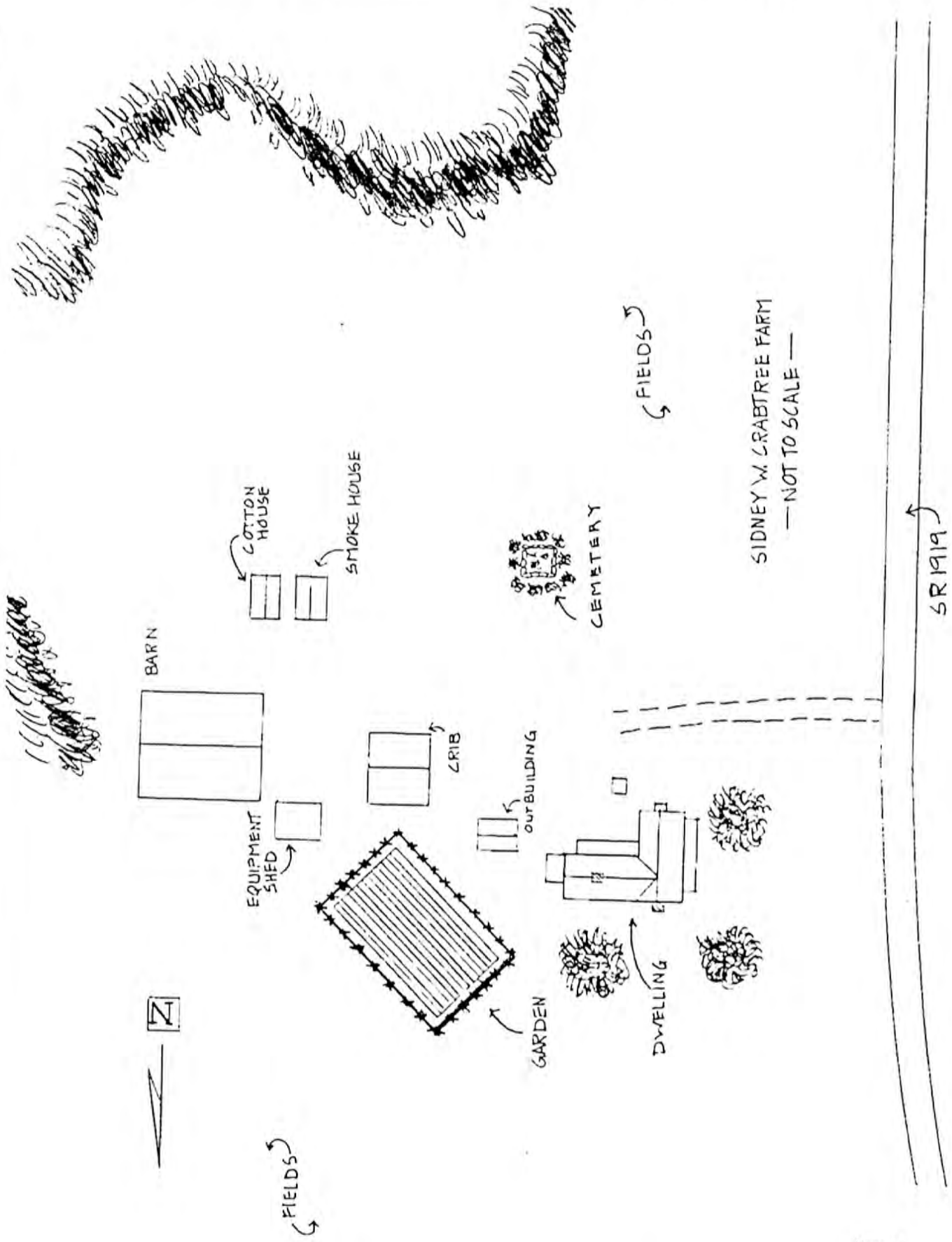




Figure 18: Property #8, Tax map for the Sidney W. Crabtree Farm



PROPERTY MAP

This map contains parcels prepared for the inventory of real property within Orange County, and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public records and data. Users of this map are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained on this map. The County and its mapping companies assume no legal responsibility for the information contained on this map.

-  Selected Parcels
-  Background Info



Map Scale : 1" = 453'

DATE: 22 Dec 99 11:01:27 Wednesday

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Figure 19: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, Sidney W. Crabtree House



Figure 20: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, Sidney W. Crabtree House, south



Figure 21: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, Sidney W. Crabtree House, north gable end



Figure 22: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, Sidney W. Crabtree House, north gable end, detail of chimney



Figure 23: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, Sidney W. Crabtree House, ell and portion of shed-roofed porch



Figure 24: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, stone enclosure, (reported) cemetery



Figure 25: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, stone enclosure, (reported) cemetery



Figure 26: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, barn and smokehouse



Figure 27: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, cotton house and smokehouse



Figure 28: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, crib

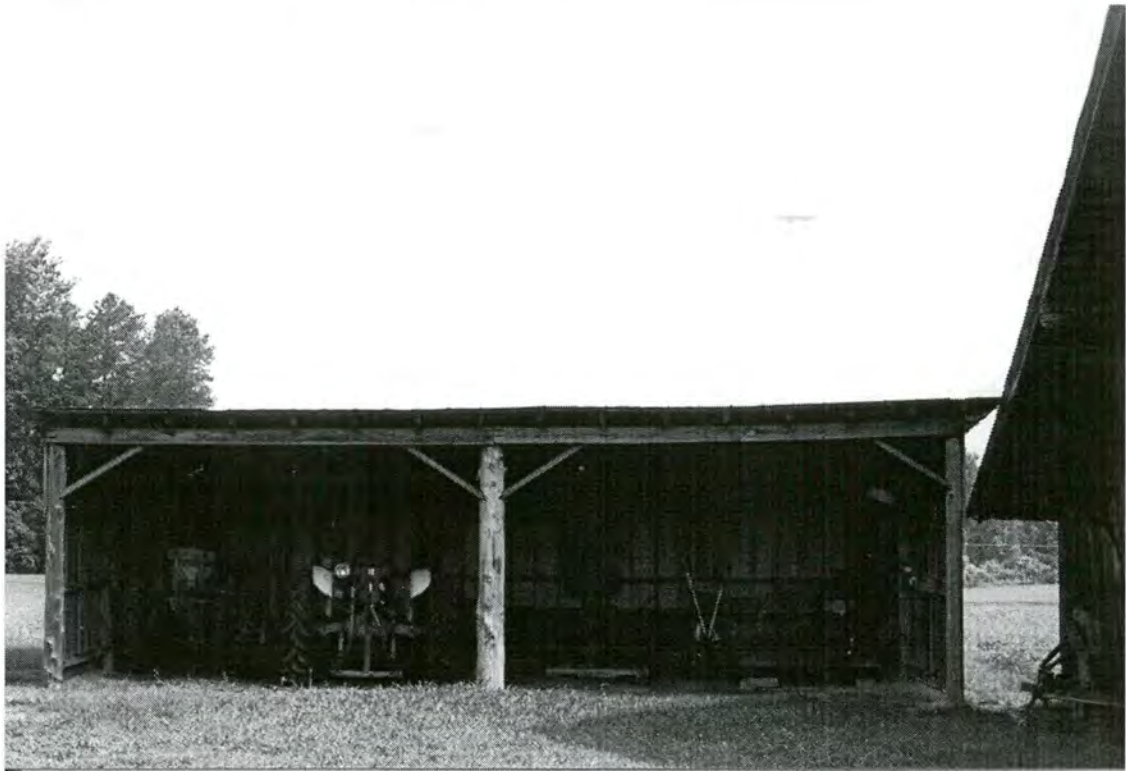


Figure 29: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, equipment shed



Figure 30: Property #8, Sidney W. Crabtree Farm, garden and outbuilding complex

Property #15: William F. Cole Farm (OR 373) (Figures 31-40)

Location: 827 Smith Level Road, East side of SR 1919 at junction of SR 1939.

Description: The current owner of this 67.2-acre property is Eva Lee Snipes.⁴⁸ Previously it was the farmstead of William F. (Fletcher) Cole (1854-1939).⁴⁹ Reportedly constructed in the 1920s, a frame bungalow is the dominant structural component of the site. The house has features typical for its type, including a three-bay façade, a shed dormer, and a shed porch with brick piers and battered pillars. Brackets once supported widely flaring eaves, but these apparently were removed when the structure was clad in artificial siding. Two half-dovetailed plank structures stand to the rear (east) of the dwelling. Possibly unique to this section of Orange County, they indicate that the property has probably been used for agricultural purposes since at least the mid-nineteenth century. In her discussion of the William F. Cole Farm dated December 30, 1991, architectural historian Kelley Lalley terms one of these a smokehouse and the other, tentatively, a crib. (Plank structures were built to offer more protection to their contents than normally provided by a standard log building. They involved the use of dressed logs--often pit sawn or hewn-- fitted snugly together.) Plank structures seem rarely to have been constructed in North Carolina after the first half of the nineteenth century. The smokehouse stands near the house (east) and remains in excellent condition. It features a gable roof now covered by corrugated, galvanized metal. (Wood shingles would have almost surely been the original roofing material.) Additional storage space was provided at a date later than the main structure through a shed addition. This is covered with horizontally attached siding. The second plank structure is of a design and size similar to the smokehouse. It stands to the south and east of the latter building. Its north-south axial orientation, however, appears to have allowed for greater weathering, especially sun exposure, and thus greater deterioration, than building number one. Thus weatherworn gaps appear between the planks. It too has a shed addition, in this instance position on the west side of the building. Typical log buildings, in contrast to the structures just discussed, required chinking and daubing between the logs. The site encompasses one such log building, a barn of a later date that was originally chinked and daubed. It is constructed of logs hewn with a felling axe which were joined with V and saddle notches. This structure, set to the east and south of the house and the other buildings in the complex, has been enlarged through the use of shed additions on three sides.

⁴⁸ "Orange County map ID 7.126.A.1" (Hillsborough: Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office), PIN 977-66-5793, Tract 705219.

⁴⁹ Ruth Little and Kelly Lally, "Survey File for the William F. Cole Farm," on file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh. *Orange County Vital Statistics, Deaths 1939*, Vol. 22 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 59. William Fletcher Cole was born March 13, 1856 and died December 16, 1939. His father was listed as Wesley Cole and his mother was Margaret Craig Cole.

A twentieth-century cemetery (also referenced as property #14. Womble-Cole cemetery, listed below) is located adjacent to the Cole property on the south. It incorporates graves of members of locally prominent families, including that of property owner William Fletcher Cole. William Fletcher Cole was the son of John Wesley Cole (b. 1812-October 21, 1899) and Margaret Cole (b. 1816-January 22, 1896). John Wesley Cole had acquired two hundred acres believed to include this tract on January 1, 1861, purchasing the property from James M. Cheek.⁵⁰ It cost Cole \$2,000 and was described as in part “bounded by Mary R. Smith land.” John Wesley Cole’s property was recorded in the census of 1870 as being worth only \$800, however, that loss in value perhaps being attributable to a post-war decline in land prices or to the disposition of a portion of his land.⁵¹ The latter possibility seems to be supported by the agriculture schedule of the census of 1880. This shows that John Wesley Cole’s property was still valued at the 1870 listed figure of \$800.⁵² (1870 agriculture schedule was unavailable at State Library in 12/99.) His farm then consisted of 105 acres. However, his neighbor immediately to the north was his son William Fletcher Cole, who then possessed fifty acres valued at \$350.⁵³

The survival of plank outbuildings at the William F. Cole Farm would seem to indicate that this site previously was the home place of John Wesley Cole, and possibly the home of James M. Cheek prior to 1861. William Fletcher Cole may thus have built the current dwelling to replace an earlier house. In 1940, the year following William Fletcher Cole’s death, Cole heirs sold 91.30 acres described as the “W. F. Cole Home-Place” to Glen and Eva Snipes.⁵⁴ A 1933 survey showed that their purchase consisted of four lots, viz. #1. 20 acres, #2. 21.10 acres, #3. 20.60 acres, and #4. 29.60 acres.⁵⁵ Subdivision of this property, however, has reduced the overall Snipes land to the 67.2 acres mentioned above.

Evaluation:

The William F. Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property’s specific association must be important as

⁵⁰ *Orange County Deed Book* 47 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 236.

⁵¹ *United States Census*, “Orange County Population Schedule for 1870,” (Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library), Chapel Hill Township, household 367, 48.

⁵² *United States Census*, “Orange County Agriculture Schedule for 1880.” (Raleigh: North Carolina State Archives), Chapel Hill Township, line 1, 21.

⁵³ *United States Census*, “Orange County Agriculture Schedule for 1880,” (Raleigh: North Carolina State Archives), Chapel Hill Township, line 10, 20.

⁵⁴ *Orange County Deed Book* 112 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 213.

⁵⁵ *Orange County Plat Book* 3 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 27.

well.⁵⁶ While the house-outbuilding complex at the William F. Cole Farm remain largely intact, the remainder of the tract is now wooded. The landscape connection between the structural complex and its original arable context has been lost, and thus there are no specific events or historic trends directly associated with the William F. Cole Farm.

The William F. Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. For a property to be eligible under Criterion B it must retain integrity and (1) be associated persons individually significant within the historic context; (2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and (3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group.⁵⁷ There are not persons of national, state, or local significance associated with the William F. Cole Farm.

The William F. Cole Farm is **eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (design/construction) for its significance in architecture. For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either (1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; (2) represent the work of a master; (3) possess high artistic value; or (4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.⁵⁸ The plank buildings at the William F. Cole Farm represent a method of construction relatively uncommon in the region. These structures, as is typical for their type, display studied attention to detail and fit, and thus they represent a high level of skill on the part of the builders. They continue to survive in a section of North Carolina marked by the steady disappearance of farm dependencies.

The William F. Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (information potential). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: (1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and (2) the information must be considered important.⁵⁹ The architectural component of the William F. Cole Farm is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology. Its building construction methods and material

⁵⁶ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, 15.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, 17-18.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.* 21.

were relatively commonplace; therefore it is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

National Register Boundary Description:

The National Register boundary for the William F. Cole Farm has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary follows the right-of-way along SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) beginning at the northwest corner of Tax Parcel 7.126.A.3 and continuing south-southeast for approximately 300 feet (91.44 meters). Then the boundary follows a line east to a point approximately 350 feet (106.68 meters) from SR 1919. The boundary cuts across Tax Parcel 7.126.A.3 in a northern direction for approximately 350 feet (106.68 meters). The National Register boundary then cuts across Tax Parcel 7.126.A.3 west approximately 400 feet (121.92 meters) to the place of beginning. The boundary contains approximately 2.6 acres (1.04 hectares) and includes the grounds immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings.

The boundary is outlined on the attached tax parcel map of the area, designated OLD MAP ID 7.126.A.3, PIN 977-66-5793, TRACT 7005219 from the Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office in Hillsborough.

National Register Boundary Justification:

The National Register boundary for the William F. Cole Farm encompasses all of the historic features of the property that directly contribute to the significance of the property, including the house and outbuildings. The use of only a limited portion of the current legal boundaries is appropriate because the National Register boundaries should only encompass the resources that retain historical significance and integrity. The remainder of the tract, consisting chiefly of recent growth forest land located east of the property, has not been included because it does not contribute to the property's historic significance and integrity, and it does not convey the property's agricultural history. The right-of-way on the east side of SR 1919 has been chosen as the western border of the National Register boundary because it is (1) owned and maintained by NCDOT and is not legally part of the property, (2) does not contribute to the historic landscape characteristics of the property, and (3) has been altered and will continue to be altered in the course of routine maintenance by NCDOT.

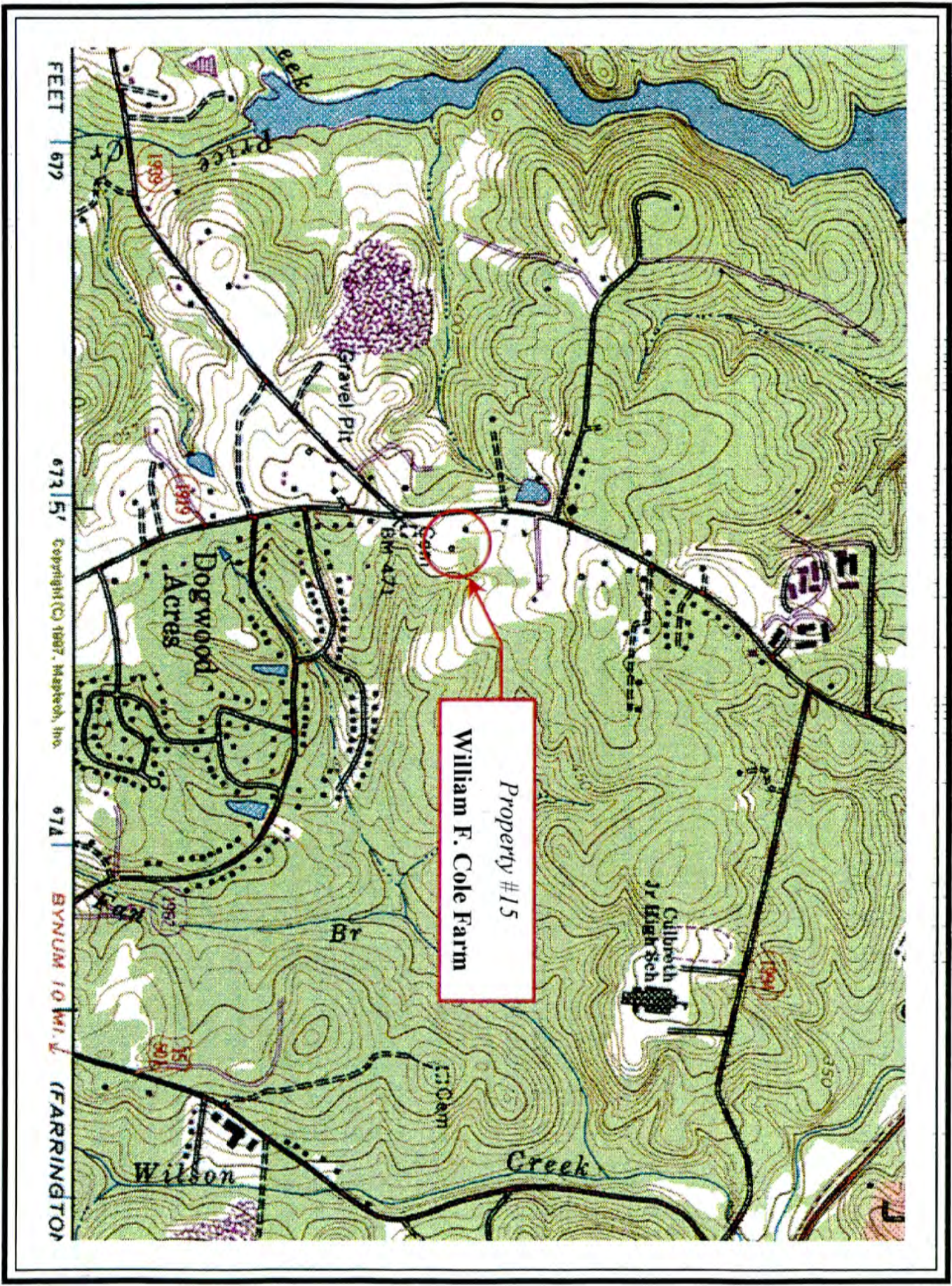


Figure 31: Property #15, USGS map detail for the William F. Cole Farm

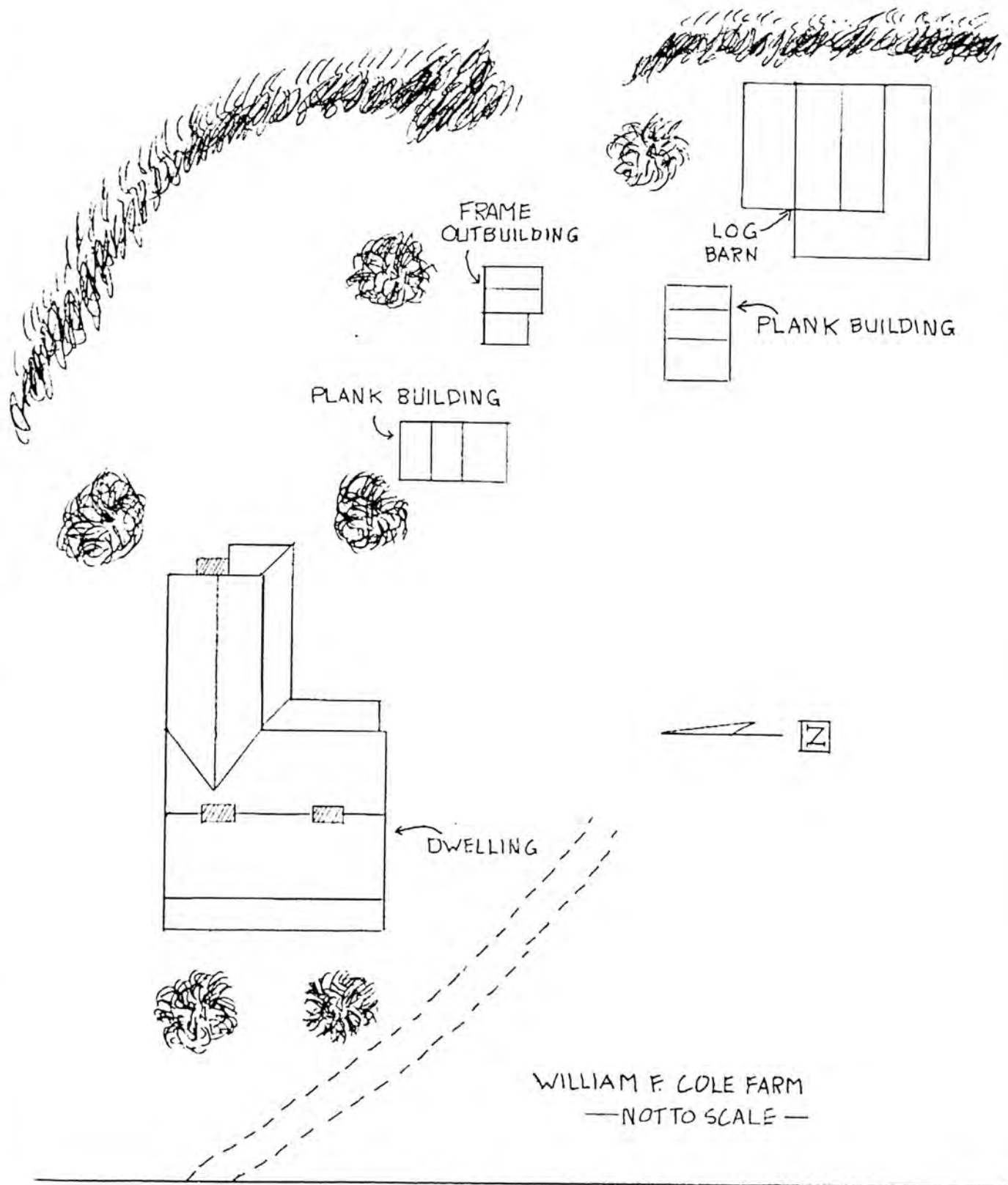




Figure 32: Property #15, Site map for William F. Cole Farm

Figure 33: Property #15, Tax map for William F. Cole Farm



PROPERTY MAP

This map contains parcels prepared for the inventory of real property within Orange County, and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public records and data. Users of this map are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained on this map. The County and its mapping companies assume no legal responsibility for the information contained on this map.

-  Selected Parcels
-  Background Info



Map Scale : 1" = 400'

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Figure 34: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, dwelling



Figure 35: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, dwelling



Figure 36: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, plank outbuilding with shed addition



Figure 37: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, plank outbuilding with shed addition



Figure 38: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, plank outbuilding with shed addition



Figure 39: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, log barn with shed additions

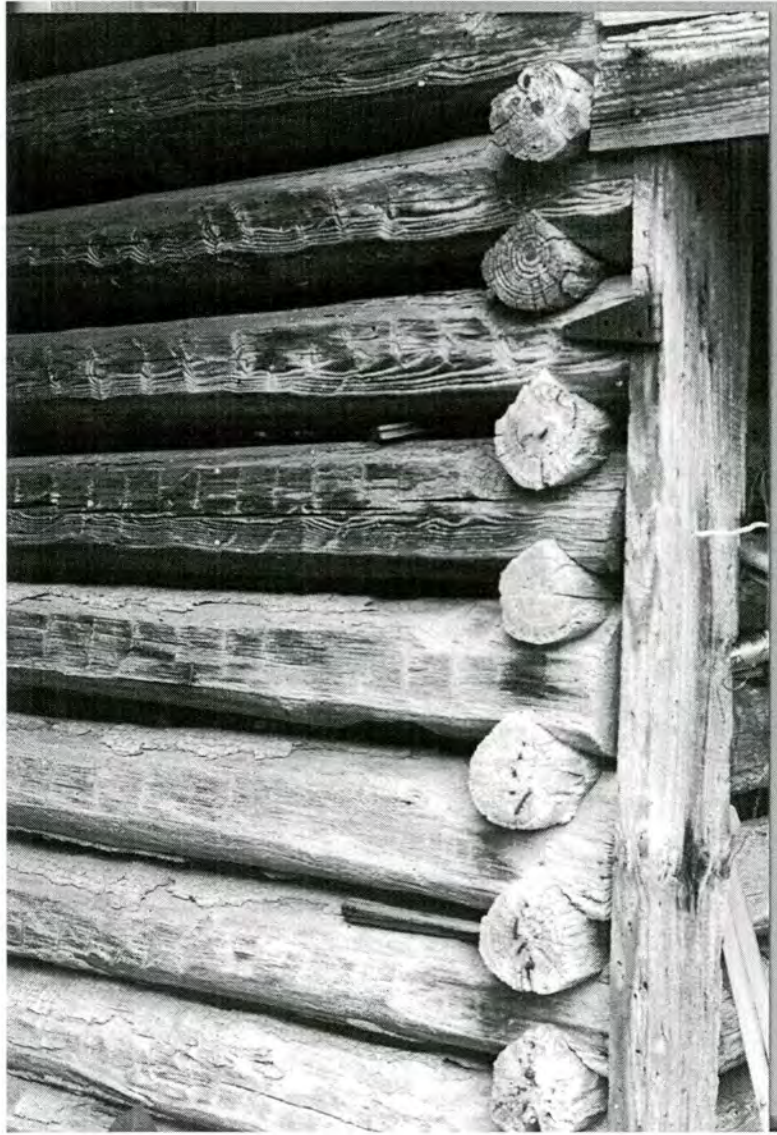


Figure 40: Property #15, William F. Cole Farm, log barn, hewing and notching detail

Property #16: Cole Farm (OR 371) (Figures 41-52)

Location: 753 Smith Level Road, east side SR 1919, .5 miles north of junction with SR 1939.

Description: This Cole Farm site encompasses a one-story Queen Anne house and its related outbuildings. Set in a wooded hilltop location, it forms the northern component of a series of Cole family-related sites stretching nearly the full length of the APE. A neighbor, Mrs. Glen Snipes, has recalled the house was constructed ca. 1900 for a daughter of William Cole.⁶⁰ The front component of the dwelling takes the form of an “L.” The axis of its main block has a north-south orientation, with a wing that projects from the south end west towards Smith Level Road. Having escaped the application of artificial siding, the façade has shingle cladding and other trim details that are rare by regional standards. The projecting (southwest) section terminates in a bay that spans the full width of the wing. From the top of the gable to the foundation this bay is covered by shingles of a lozenge, diamond, round butt, and square butt form. Three double-hung windows with two-over-two sash light the interior. The soffits of the cornice returns offer further ornamentation through the use of pendants and stylized dentil rows. The gable-front entry component of the façade has a shingle treatment matching the projecting wing. A hipped-roof porch features turned posts capped with delicately-sawn brackets. Pendanted, stylized dentil rows join the brackets, as they also echo the treatment of the projecting wing’s cornice return soffits. Plain-edge weatherboards cover the remainder of the house, including a rear ell. That ell projects towards the east from the north end of the center block. (The structure in effect thus has a double “L” overall form as shown on the accompanying site plan.) Shed additions encompassing rooms and a porch, in turn, wrap around three sides of the rear of the dwelling. Slender single-shoulder chimneys laid in 1:7 American bond heat the front section of the house, while an interior brick chimney heats the two main rooms of the back ell. The foundation consists of brick piers, the spaces between the piers having in later years been filled in with concrete blocks.

Various weatherboard-clad outbuildings complement the Cole Farm dwelling. Dates of construction appear to range from the building period of the main house to the mid-twentieth century. The grouping includes a two-story, gable-front barn, chicken houses, and a corncrib. A log tobacco barn survives as well. While these buildings are no longer agricultural use, several continue to serve storage needs. A drive enters the site from a position on Smith Level Road south of the house, running east past several of the property’s outbuildings and then north to provide access to the dwelling. Mature trees, mixed with both undergrowth and open areas provide the setting for the house-outbuilding complex. Positioned to the east of the complex, much of the remainder of the Cole Farm tract is now woodland.

⁶⁰ Ruth Little and Kelly Lally, “Survey File for the Cole Farm,” on file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh.

Orange County property records support a recollection that the house described above was built for a daughter of William F. Cole. On October 22, 1902, J. H. (James Hill) Hackney married Berneta Cole, marriage records listing her as the daughter of William F. Cole and Effie Cole.⁶¹ On December 29, 1904 William F. Cole and his wife Effie conveyed 66 ½ acres to “Jas. H.” and Berneta Hackney.⁶² The land they acquired had earlier belonged to Berneta’s grandfather, John Wesley Cole.⁶³ A deed relating to a subsequent transfer of the property describes this as tracts 3 and 7 of the Wesley Cole land as surveyed February 6, 1890 by J. W. Stroud.⁶⁴ Sadly, Berneta did not long enjoy ownership of the property. She died on February 13, 1908, apparently as a result of childbirth, and is buried in the nearby Womble-Cole Cemetery (Property Number 14 of this survey).⁶⁵ Nor did the property remain long in the hands of James Hackney. On November 17, 1917, he and his new wife Nonie G. Hackney sold the 66 ½ acre tract to O.O. Barnes “of Lunenburg (sic) Co., Va.”⁶⁶ (It will be recalled from the discussion of the Smith-Cole Farm above that O. O. Barnes also bought several of the Mary Ruffin Smith lots.) Barnes retained ownership very briefly. On September 14, 1918 he conveyed it to C. S. Pendergraft and his wife; their trustee, C. B. Griffin, then conveyed it to Blanche Carrie Womble on September 15, 1925.⁶⁷ Most of the property remains in the hands of the Womble family. On April 28, 1971, Emily E. Mann Womble Lanier transferred ownership of 56.07 acres to Shelby Jean Womble Maddry.⁶⁸ Then, on April 21, 1992, “Shelby J. Maddry” conveyed 46.06 acres to the current owner Frances Jean Womble, a resident of Laurel Fork, Virginia.⁶⁹ The dwelling is currently being used for rental purposes.

⁶¹ *Orange County Marriage Book 8, 1898-1902* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 506. James Hill Hackney was born May 24, 1880 and died February 10, 1966. *Orange County Vital Statistics, Deaths 1966*, Vol. 49, (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 245. Hackney’s death certificate records his wife as having been Nonie Garner Hackney. His father was Madison Hackney and his mother Anna Foushee Hackney.

⁶² *Orange County Deed Book 64* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 245.

⁶³ For further information on William F. Cole, Effie Cole, and John Wesley Cole, see the historical discussion of the William F. Cole Farm provided above.

⁶⁴ *Orange County Deed Book 75* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 143.

⁶⁵ Her marker in the Womble-Cole Cemetery records that “Berneta, wife of J.H. Hackney,” was born November 18, 1884. She died on February 13, 1908. Born February 13, 1908 was James Cole Hackney, whose nearby stone records that he lived until January 27, 1973. Several variants of the spelling of “Berneta” have been encountered while conducting research relating to this project. The spelling as found on her gravemarker has been chosen for use in this report.

⁶⁶ Nonie Garner Hackney was born December 9, 1879 and died June 19, 1955. Her father was recorded as James Garner and her mother Mary Temple. *Orange County Vital Statistics, Deaths 1955*, Vol. 38 (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 163.

⁶⁷ *Orange County Deed Book 84* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 204. Blanche C. Womble was born October 16, 1883 and died April 20, 1960 and is buried in the Womble-Cole cemetery.

⁶⁸ *Orange County Deed Book 229* (Hillsborough: Orange County Register of Deeds Office), 201

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*

Evaluation:

The Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion A (event). To be eligible for significance under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well.⁷⁰ While the house-outbuilding complex at the Cole Farm remain largely intact, the remainder of the tract is now wooded. The landscape connection between the structural complex and its original arable context has been lost, and thus there are no specific events or historic trends directly associated with the Cole Farm.

The Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion B (person) for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e. individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. For a property to be eligible under Criterion B it must retain integrity and (1) be associated persons individually significant within the historic context; (2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and (3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class, or social or ethnic group.⁷¹ There are not persons of national, state, or local significance associated with the Cole Farm.

The Cole Farm **is eligible** for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (design/construction) for its significance in architecture. For a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either (1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; (2) represent the work of a master; (3) possess high artistic value; or (4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.⁷² Principally it is the distinctive exterior finish of the Cole House that separates it from many one-story dwellings of its size and period. Surviving in excellent, largely unmodified, condition, the house exhibits a myriad of decorative motifs that bespeak late Victorian era eclecticism. These qualities are enhanced, moreover, by a knoll top location where the house is set amidst mature trees and farm service buildings.

⁷⁰ National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin* 15 (Washington, D.C.: Department of the Interior, 1991), 12.

⁷¹ Ibid. 15.

⁷² Ibid., 17-18.

The Cole Farm is **not eligible** for the National Register under Criterion D (information potential). For a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: (1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and (2) the information must be considered important.⁷³ The architectural component of the William F. Cole Farm is not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology. Its building construction methods and material were relatively commonplace; therefore it is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

National Register Boundary Description:

The National Register boundary for the Cole Farm has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, "Defining boundaries for National Register Properties." The boundary follows the right-of-way along SR 1919 (Smith Level Road) beginning at the northwest corner of Tax Parcel 7.122.B.8A and continues south-southwest for approximately 500 feet (152.4 meters). Then the boundary follows a line east to a point approximately 550 feet (167.6 meters) from SR 1919. The boundary cuts across Tax Parcel 7.122.B.8A approximately 400 feet (121.9 meters) in a northern direction until it intersects with the northern property line of Tax Parcel 7.122.B.8A. The National Register boundary then follows the current property lines for Tax Parcel 7.122.B.8A approximately 300 feet (91 meters) until the beginning. The boundary contains approximately 3.5 acres (1.4 hectares) and includes the grounds immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings.

The boundary is outlined on the attached tax parcel map of the area, designated Old Map ID 7.122.B.8A, PIN 9777-68-9015, TRACT 706110, from the Orange County Central Land Records/GIS Office in Hillsborough.

National Register Boundary Justification:

The National Register boundary for the Cole Farm encompasses all of the historic features of the property that directly contribute to the significance of the property, including the house and outbuildings. The use of only a limited portion of the current legal boundaries is appropriate because the National Register boundaries should only encompass the resources that retain historical significance and integrity. The remainder of the tract, consisting chiefly of forested land located east of the property, has not been included because it does not contribute to the property's historic significance and integrity. The right-of-way on the east side of SR 1919 has been chosen as the western border of the National Register boundary because it is (1) owned and maintained by NCDOT and is not legally part of the property, (2) does not contribute to the historic landscape characteristics of the

⁷³ Ibid., 21.

property, and (3) has been altered and will continue to be altered in the course of routine maintenance by NCDOT.

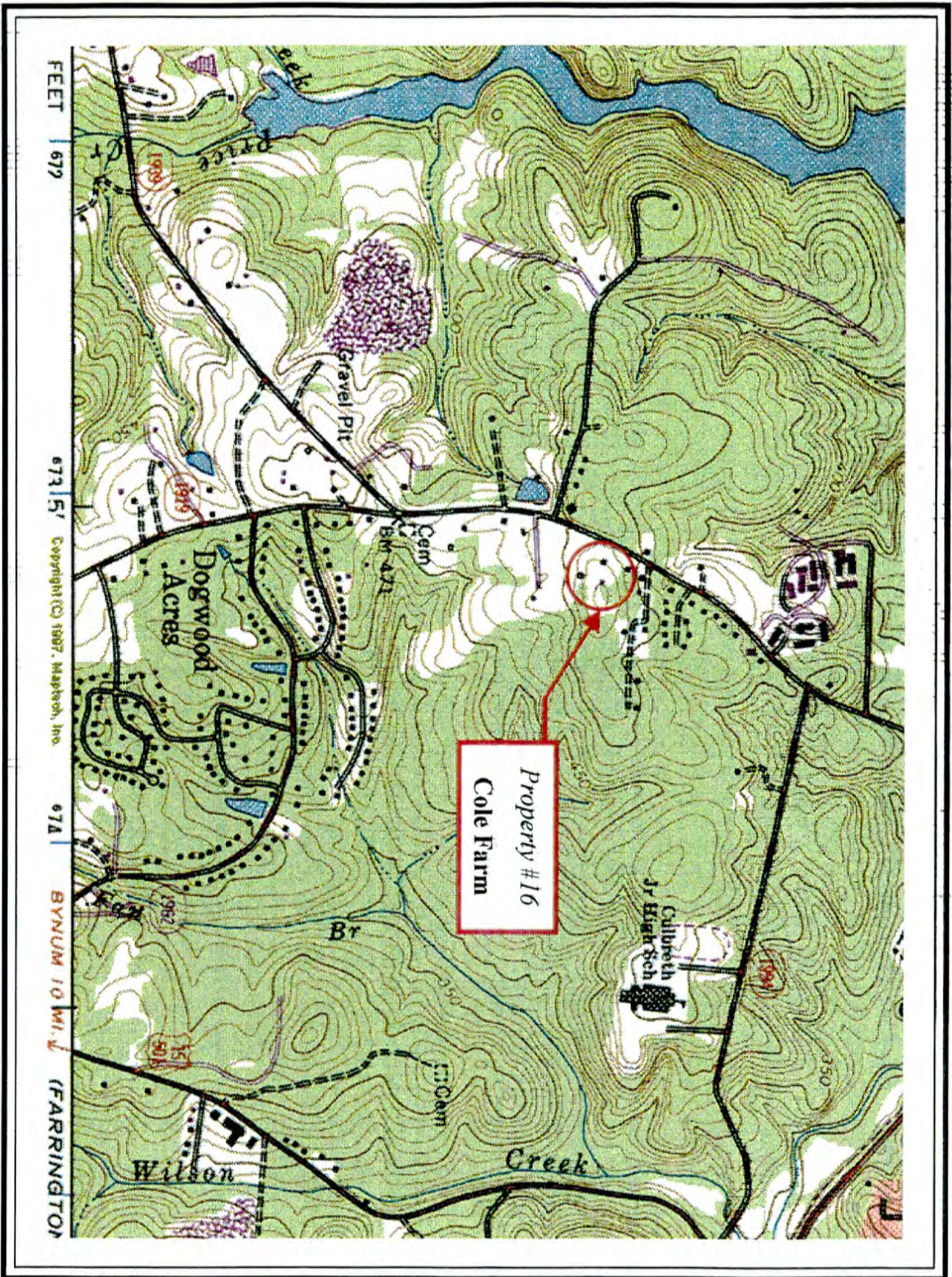


Figure 41: Property #16, USGS map detail for the Cole Farm

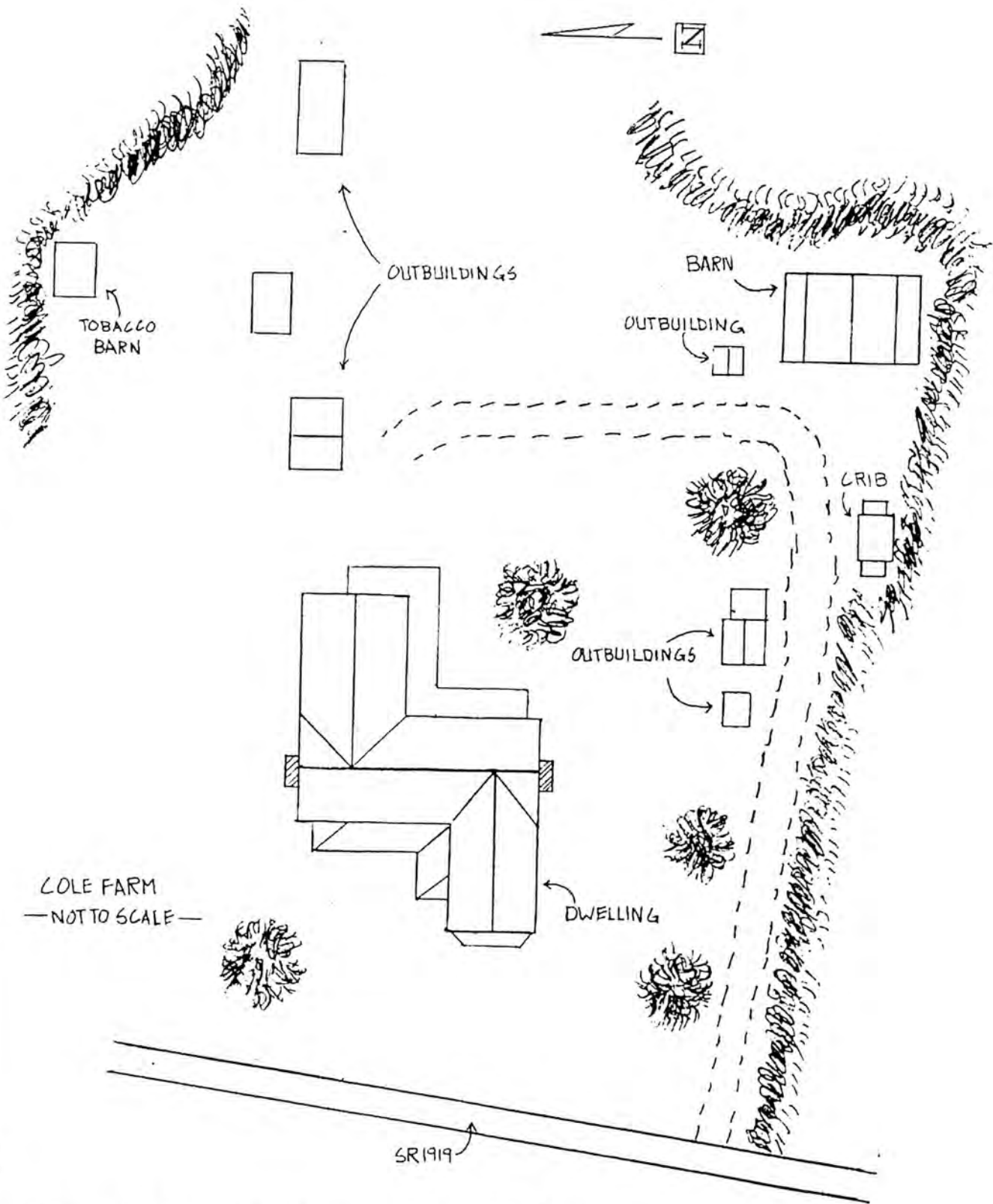




Figure 42: Property #16, Site map for the Cole Farm

Figure 43: Property #16, Tax map for the Cole Farm



-  Selected Parcels
-  Background Info

PROPERTY MAP

This map contains parcels prepared for the inventory of real property within Orange County, and is compiled from recorded deeds, plats, and other public records and data. Users of this map are hereby notified that the aforementioned public primary information sources should be consulted for verification of the information contained on this map. The County and its mapping companies assume no legal responsibility for the information contained on this map.



Map Scale : 1" = 400'

DATE: 22 Dec 99 11:05:29 Wednesday
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Figure 44: Property #16, Cole Farm, dwelling



Figure 45: Property #16, Cole Farm, dwelling, front elevation, detail



Figure 46: Property #16, Cole Farm, dwelling

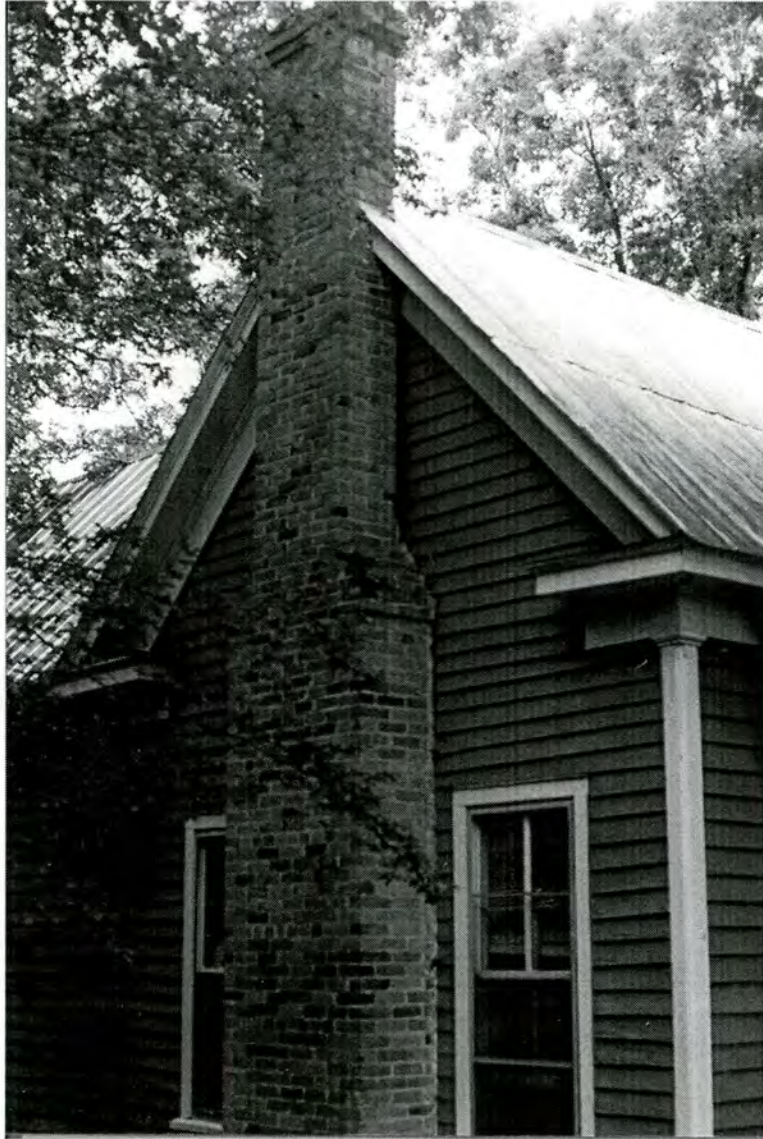


Figure 47: Property #16, Cole Farm, dwelling, north gable end, detail



Figure 48: Property #16, Cole Farm, dwelling, rear



Figure 49: Property #16, Cole Farm, outbuilding



Figure 50: Property #16, Cole Farm, barn



Figure 51: Property #16, Cole Farm, outbuildings, overgrown area



Figure 52: Property #16, Cole Farm, outbuilding with shed addition

C. List of properties determined NOT ELIGIBLE for the National Register and not worthy of further evaluation in a meeting with Representatives of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office on November 18, 1999:

Property #1: House. North side of Hwy. 15-501, approximately .1 mile north of intersection with Smith Level Road, SR 1919. Three-bay, approximately fifty-years old. Adjacent to commercial building complex to southwest.

Property #2: House. West side of Smith Level Road, SR 1919. One-story cottage with artificial siding, approximately fifty-years old.

Property #3: House. West side of Smith Level Road, SR 1919. One-story cottage with artificial siding, approximately fifty-years old.

Property #4: House. West side of Smith Level Road, SR 1919. One-story cottage with artificial siding, approximately fifty-years old.

Property #5: House. East side of Smith Level Road, SR 1919. One-story cottage with carport. Artificial siding and metal awnings. Approximately fifty years old.

Property #6: House. East side of Smith Level Road, SR 1919. One-story gable-end cottage. Artificial siding, but lozenge-shaped louver survives in gable. Outbuilding with weathered siding visible to rear. Ca. 1925-30.

Property #9: William Clarence Cole Farm (OR 367)

1144 Smith Level Road. West side of SR 1919, .5 miles south of SR 1962. The main dwelling is a ca. 1920s bungalow, apparently being a remodeling of a smaller and obviously earlier house. Farm buildings survive. Farm said to be once owned by Fitzgerald family.

Property #10: House. East side of SR. 1919, Smith Level Road. One-story cottage, artificial siding. Approximately fifty years old.

Property #11: House. East side of SR. 1919, Smith Level Road. One-story cottage, with artificial siding. Approximately fifty years old.

Property #12: Smith Level School/Womble's Farm (OR 368) West side of SR 1919, .1 mile south of junction with SR 1939. Converted into a residence, the principal structure is "one of two known early school buildings surviving in Chapel Hill Township." A number of 1940s dairy buildings stand nearby.

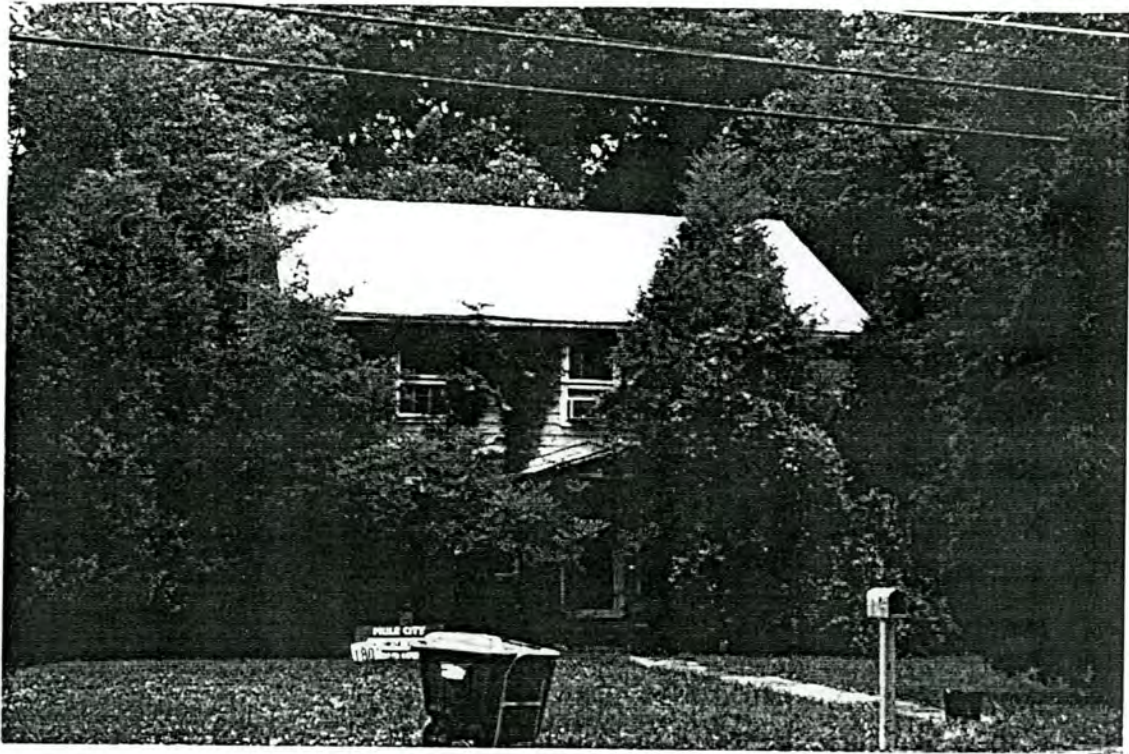
Property #13: House. West side of SR 1919. One-and-one-half story Cape Cod with bungalow dormer. Artificial siding and replacement shutters and architraves. Several outbuildings.

Property #14: Womble-Cole Cemetery. A twentieth-century cemetery located immediately south of the William F. Cole property. It incorporates graves of the locally prominent Womble and Cole families, including the grave of property owner William F. Cole.

D. Properties Under Fifty Years of Age.

Criterion Consideration G, for properties that have achieved significance within the last fifty years, states that properties less than fifty years of age may be listed on the National Register only if they are of exceptional importance or if they are integral parts of districts eligible for the National Register. There are no properties in the APE that qualify for the National Register under Criterion Consideration G.

F. Photographic Record of Properties Determined Not Eligible for the National Register and Not Worthy of Further Evaluation in a Meeting with Representatives of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office on November 18, 1999 (Figures 53-65).



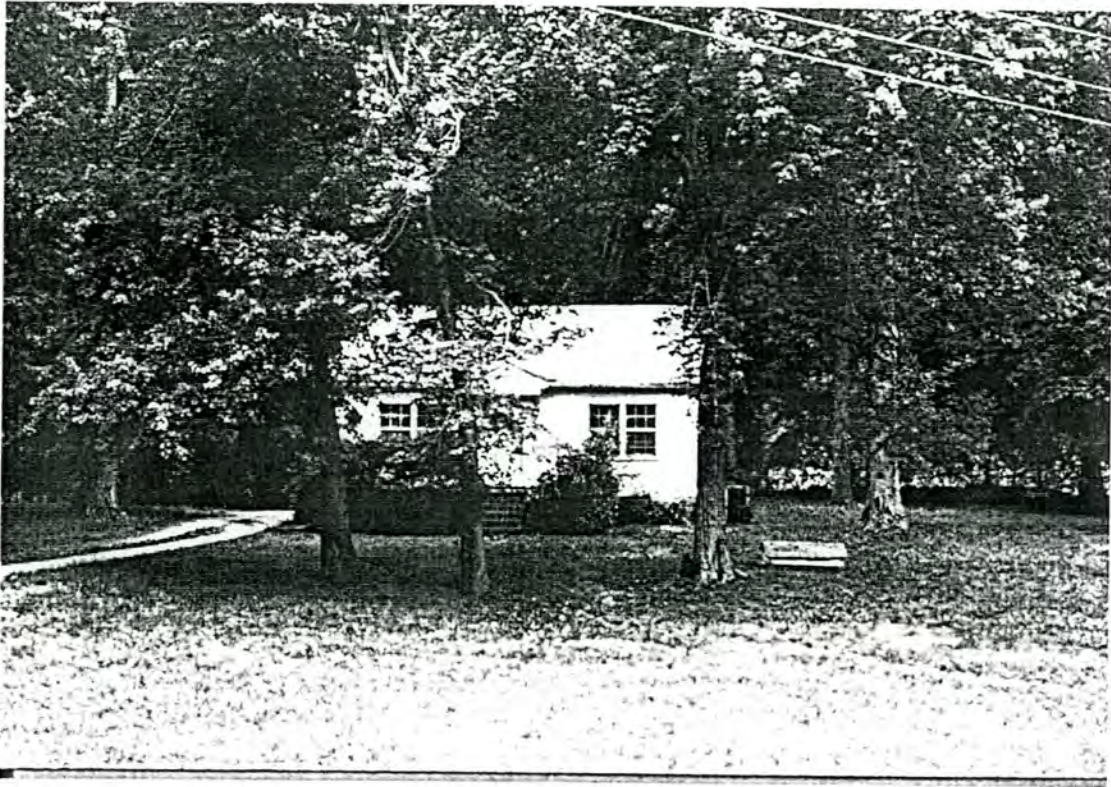
Property #1—House (Figure 53)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #2—House (Figure 54)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



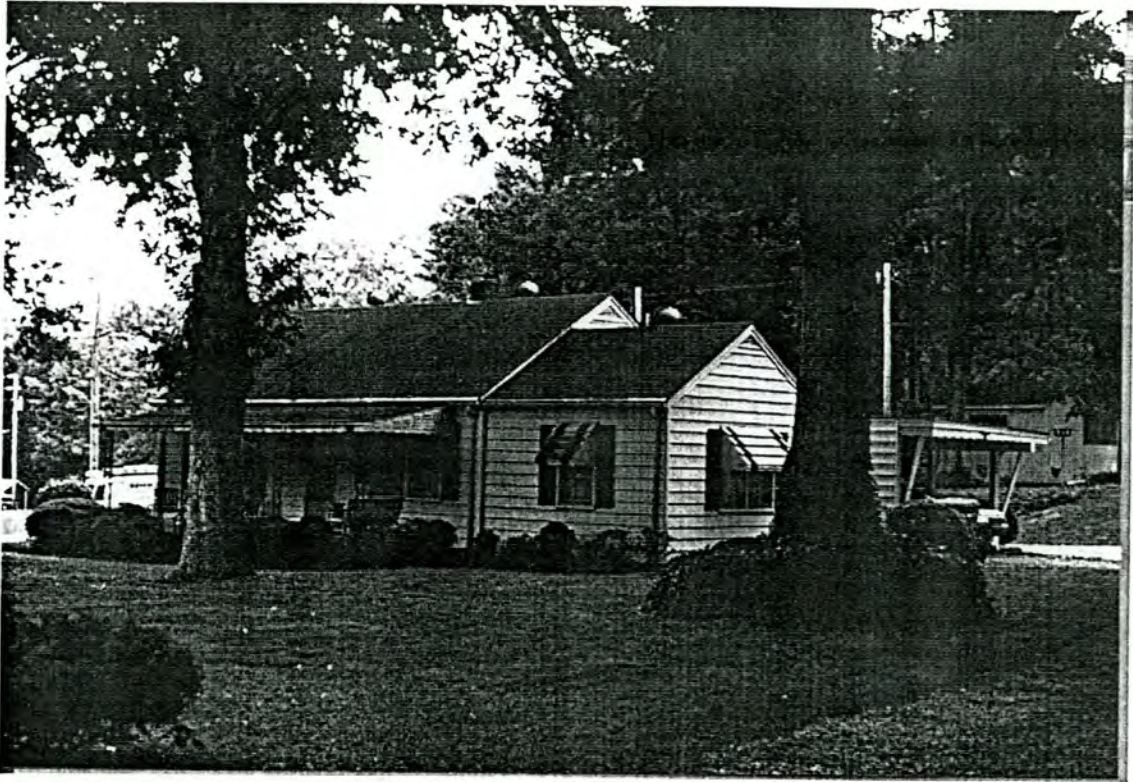
Property #3—House (Figure 55)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #4—House (Figure 56)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #5—House (Figure 57)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



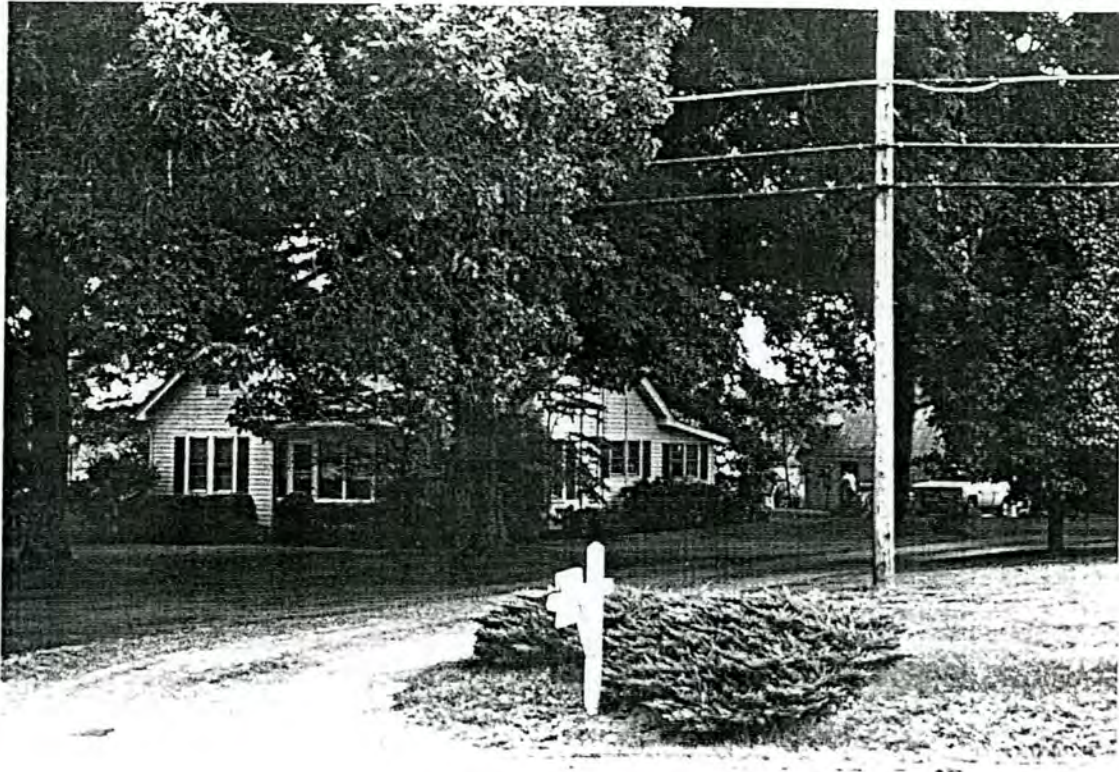
Property #6—House (Figure 58)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #9—House (Figure 59)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



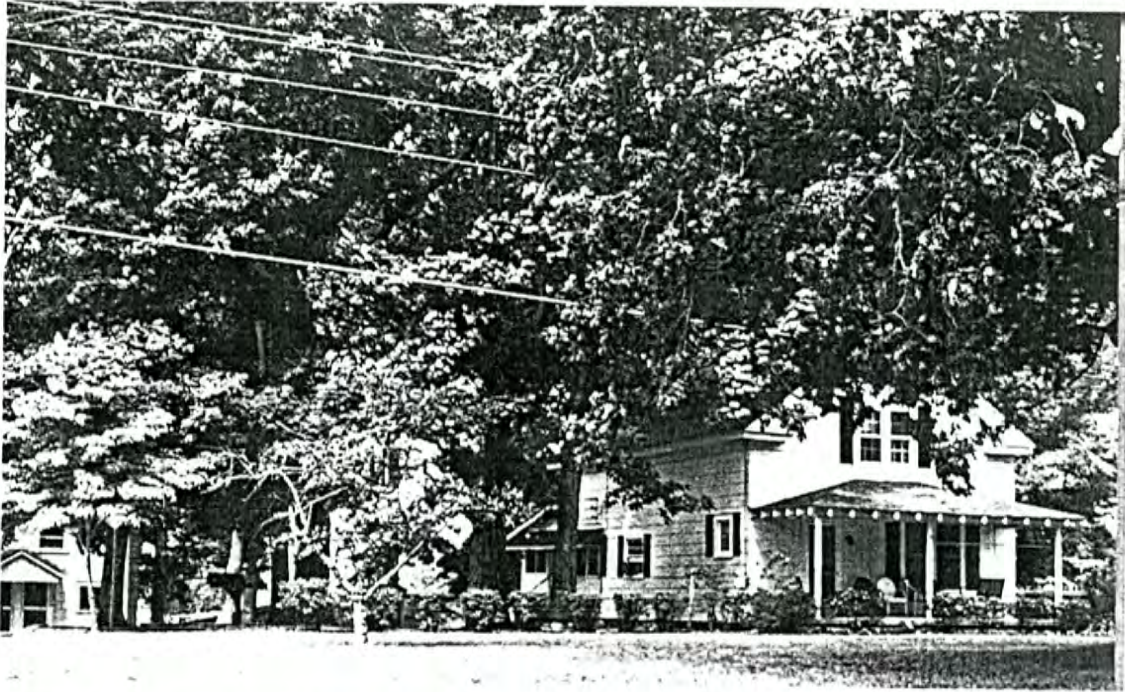
Property #10—House (Figure 60)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



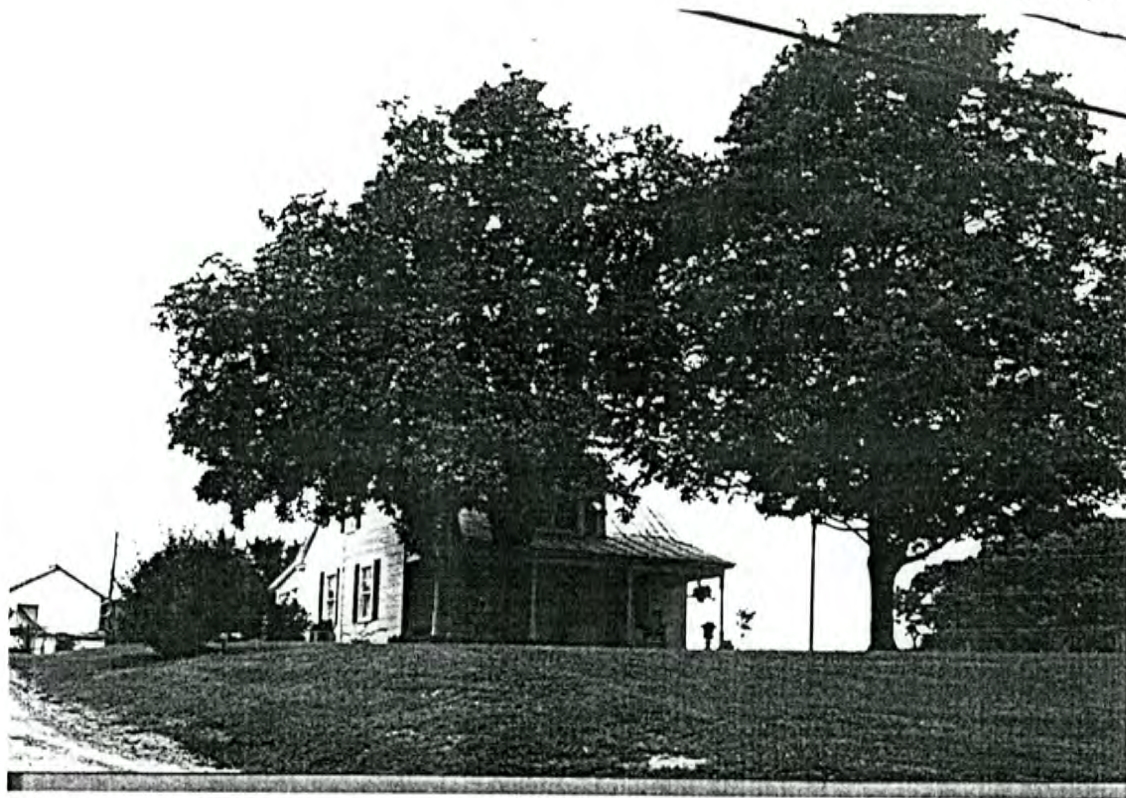
Property #11—House (Figure 61)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #12—Smith Level School/Womble's Farm (Figures 62 & 63)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #13—House (Figure 64)

This house has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.



Property #14—Womble-Cole Cemetery (Figure 65).

This cemetery has been determined not eligible for the National Register because it is neither historically nor architecturally significant.

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• (microfilm) Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library.

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Hillsborough: Orange County Public Library.

X. APPENDIX

Concurrence form for Properties Not Eligible for the National Register of
Historic Places

TIP # U-2803

State Proj #

Federal Aid # 9.8070219

County ORANGE

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

Brief Project Description WIDENING SR 1919 - SMITH LEVEL RD

On 11/18/99, 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

- HKmm there are no properties over fifty years old within the project's area of potential effect.
- there are no properties less than fifty years old which are considered to meet Criterion Consideration G within the project's area of potential effect.
- there are properties over fifty years old (list attached) within the project's area of potential effect, but based on the historical information available and the photographs of each property, properties identified as 1-6, 9-14 are considered not eligible for the National Register and no further evaluation of them is necessary.
- there are no National Register-listed properties within the project's area of potential effect.

Signed:

Kenneth W. Zaleski 11/18/99
Representative, NCDOT Date

FHWA, for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency Date

April Alpen 11/18/99
Representative, SHPO Date

State Historic Preservation Officer Date

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