

Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report

**Pave and Improve SR 1728, North Fork Road
Rutherford County, North Carolina
State Project No. 6.892511**



North Carolina Department of Transportation
Report Prepared by Nancy Van Dolsen

December 1999

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**Pave and Improve SR 1728
State Project No. 6.892511**



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Nancy I. Van Dolsen

Nancy I. Van Dolsen, Principal Investigator
Historic Architectural Resources Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

12.21.99

Date

Barbara H. Church

Barbara Church, Supervisor
Historic Architectural Resources Section
North Carolina Department of Transportation

12/21/99

Date

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**Pave SR 1728, North Fork Road
Rutherford County, North Carolina
State Project No. 6.8592511**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has plans to pave SR 1728, North Fork Road, Rutherford County (Figure 1). In addition, the NCDOT plans to minimize curves in the roadway. A new bridge will be constructed to cross the North Fork Creek. A nationwide permit will be needed for the project.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for historic architecture was delineated by a NCDOT staff architectural historian and reviewed in the field. The APE boundary is shown in Figure 2.

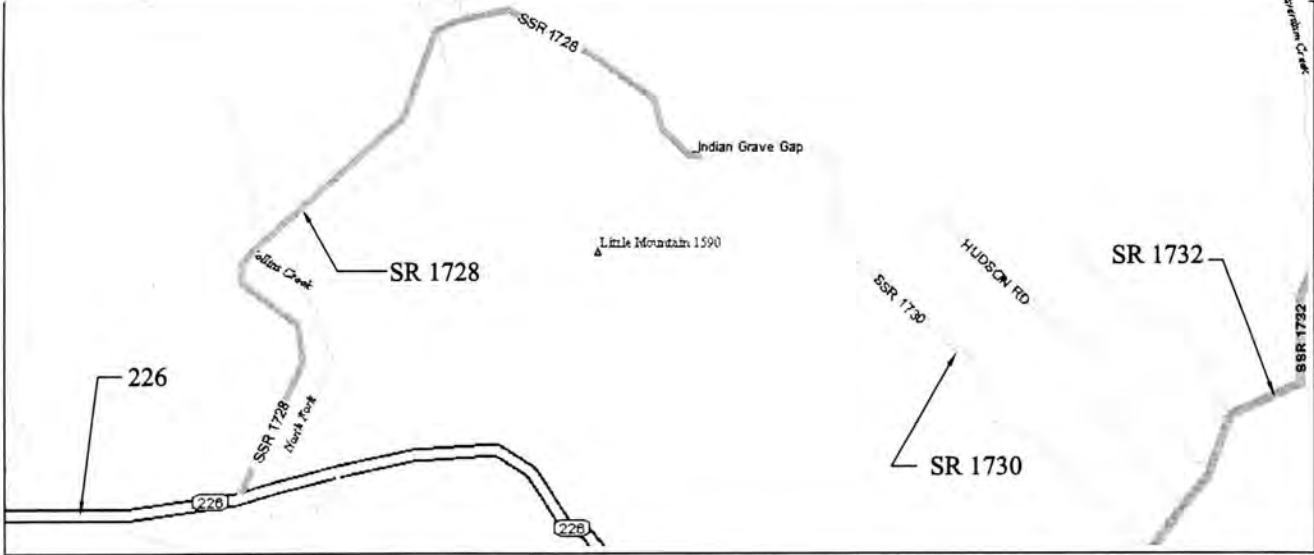
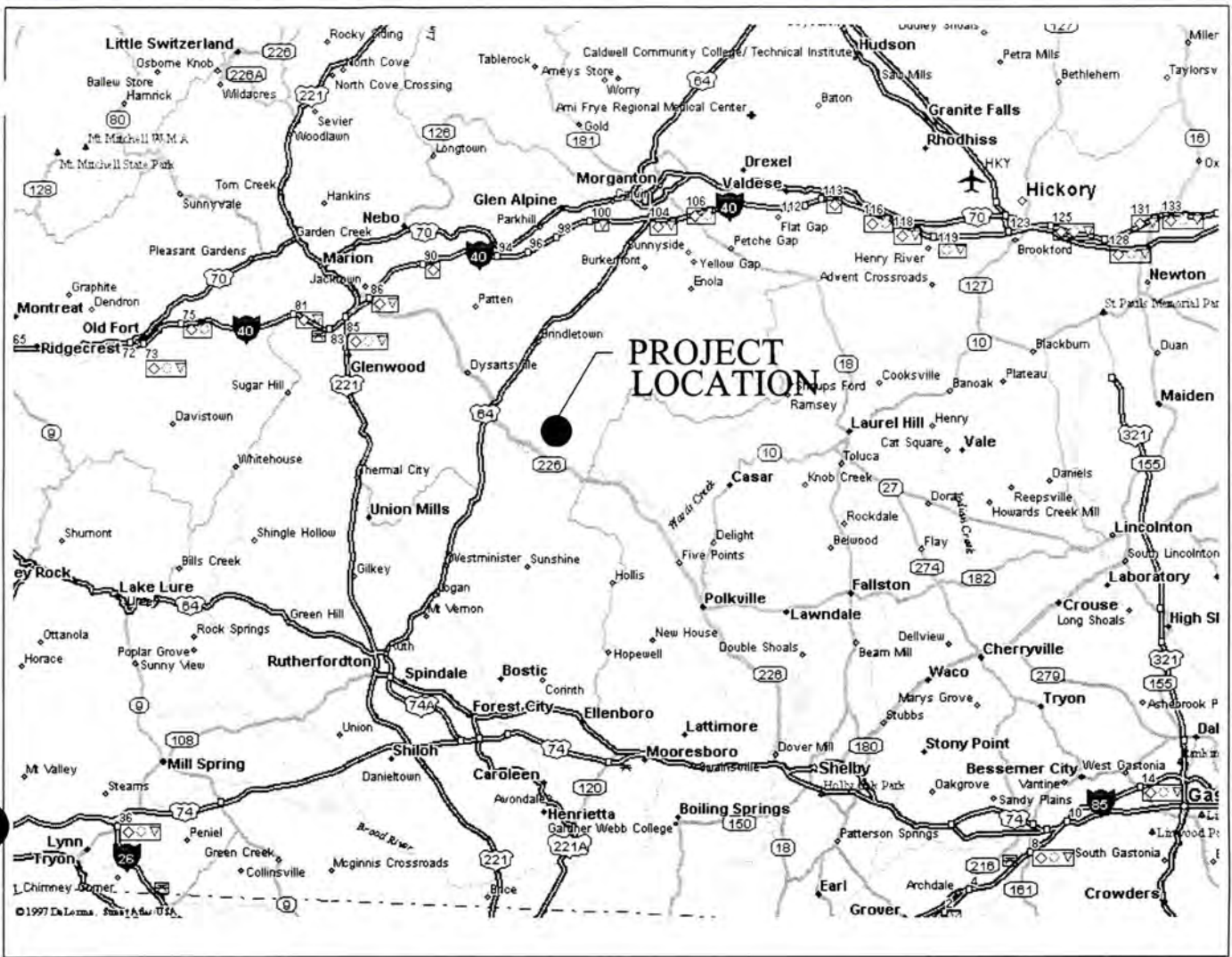
PURPOSE OF SURVEY AND REPORT

This Final Identification and Evaluation survey was conducted and the report prepared in order to identify historic architecture located within the APE as part of the environmental studies conducted by NCDOT and documented by a Categorical Exclusion (CE). This report is prepared as a technical addendum to the CE and to document compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). It adheres to the guidelines for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the general public.

METHODOLOGY

NCDOT conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8A (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 for Historic Architectural Resources by NCDOT. This survey and report meet the guidelines of NCDOT and the National Park Service.

NCDOT completed an intensive 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



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE

NC DOT
 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



Project

**SR 1728
 RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC**

Sheet
 Title

LOCATION MAP

Div No

13

Work Order No

8.1391101

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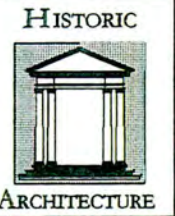
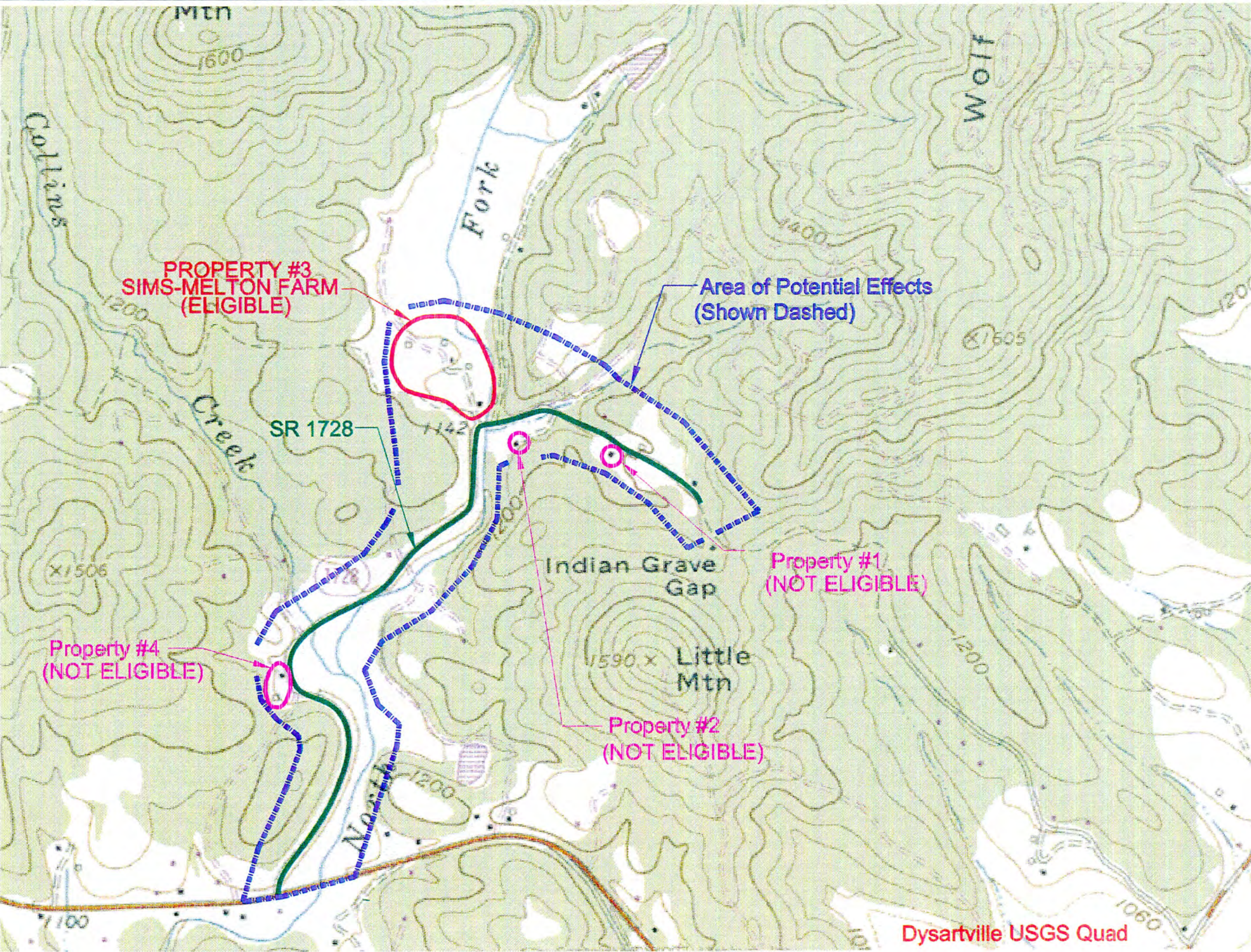
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Sheet No

A1.1

Supervisor
B. CHURCH
 Principal Investigator
N. VanDolsen

File Name
a1.1.dwg
 Issue Date:
17-DEC-1999



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



Project **6.892511**
 SR 1728 - NORTH FORK ROAD
 RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
 Sheet Title **HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY MAP**

Supervisor
B. CHURCH
 Principal Investigator
N. Van Dolsen
 Drawn By
R. SILVERMAN
 File Name
a1.1.dwg
 Issue Date: 12-01-1999

Work Order No
6.892511
 Division 13 Sheet No
A1.1

all significant resources within the APE; and (3) to evaluate these resources according to the National Register of Historic Places criteria.

The survey methodology consisted of a field survey and background research on the project area. A NCDOT staff architectural historian conducted a field survey in October and November 1999, by car and on foot, and covered 100% of the APE. All structures over 50 years of age in the APE were identified, evaluated, and recorded on the appropriate map.

Background research was conducted at the Western office of the State Historic Preservation Office, Asheville; the North Carolina State Library, Raleigh; and the Rutherford County Court House in Rutherfordton.

SUMMARY FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

The project proposes to pave and improve SR 1728, North Fork Road, Rutherford County. In a letter dated September 8, 1999, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) did not identify any buildings or structures of historical or architectural importance within the general project area, but requested that an architectural historian identify and evaluate any structures over fifty years of age within the project area and report the findings to the SHPO (See Appendix A). No properties listed on the National Register or the State Study List were located within the APE for the project. Four properties were identified that were greater than fifty years of age: the Sims-Melton Farm; two frame houses; and a log house reconstructed in 1970 from two late-nineteenth century log buildings. Of the four historic properties located within the APE, three--the two frame houses and the reconstructed log building--were determined not eligible for the National Register. The Sims-Melton Farm was determined to be eligible for the National Register. 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.

Properties Listed on the National Register:

None

Properties Listed on the North Carolina State Study List:

None

Properties Evaluated and Considered Eligible for the National Register:

Sims-Melton Farm, page 8

Properties Evaluated and Considered Not Eligible for the National Register:

Property No. 1 (Frame house), page 25

Property No. 2 (Reconstructed log house), page 30

Property No. 3 (Frame house), page 32

HISTORIC CONTEXTS AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Rutherford County was created in 1779 from Tryon County, and named in honor of Revolutionary War general Griffith Rutherford. Rutherford, one of the western piedmont counties, lies on the southeastern slope of the Blue Ridge and encompasses 544 square miles. Its extreme western border extends from Sugar Loaf Mountain to Old Rumbling Bald, peaks of the Blue Ridge and both over 3,800 feet in elevation. A large part of the South Mountains is included in the northeastern corner of the county. The remainder of the county is hilly and rolling, the slopes becoming gentler toward the southwest. Rutherford County is drained by the Broad River and its tributaries. The soil is red clay, with some black loam along the larger streams. At the beginning of the twentieth century approximately three-quarters of the county was wooded and today it remains predominantly forest land.

The first court was held in 1779 at the home of Colonel John Walker, which was located near the mouth of Cane Creek in the northeastern section of the county. The court moved to the home of William Gilbert (in what was known as Gilberttown), and in 1781 to the forks of Shepards Creek on the property of James Holland. In 1785 the court was moved to the newly created town of Rutherfordton. Two battles of the American Revolution were fought in the Cane Creek area and on Kings Mountain on September 7, 1780 and October 7, 1780. The American forces won the second battle, which some historians claim “turned the tide of the war.”¹

The earliest settlers of European descent moved into present-day Rutherford County around 1730. Many of the settlers were of Scots-Irish descent, and they established a Presbyterian congregation at Brittain Church. By 1918, the population, both white and black, were almost exclusively native-born, with only twelve non-native residents in the county in 1910.²

After gold was discovered in the South Mountain belt in the northeast corner of the county, Rutherford County prospered as part of a national gold production center from 1814 into the 1840s. Gold mining in the county declined after the California gold strikes of 1849.

The first railroad in the county arrived in 1876. By 1918, there were four railroads in the county: the Carolina, Clinchfield, and Ohio which runs through the county for 27 miles; the Southern for 25 miles; the Seaboard for 20 miles; and the Cliffside for 7.5 miles.³

In the early twentieth century, textile manufacturing was the major industry in Rutherford. The success of the textile industry was partially due to the nearby supply

¹Homer Arnold, “Rutherford County, NC and American Independence,”

Website:<http://www.blueridge.net/revolution>, 1999: 5.

²R.E. Price, *Rutherford County: Economic and Social* (Durham, NC: The Seeman Printery, 1918)10.

³Price, 11.

of raw cotton and ample water power. There were six textile mills in the county in 1918, and two more were being constructed in 1918. Fourteen lumber and shingle mill firms also operated within the county in 1918.⁴

Rutherford County remained primarily agricultural into the middle of the twentieth century. The average size farm in 1910 was only 29 acres. Cotton and non-food crops (such as tobacco) accounted for half of the total crop wealth in 1910. Tenancy rates were high in the county during the early twentieth century; two-thirds of the African-American farmers and one-third of the white farmers rented their lands. Three-fourths of the tenant farmers were sharecroppers.⁵

The historic landscapes and architecture of Rutherford County reflect its agricultural past. The pre-1950 houses are primarily frame residences dating from the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century. A number of log dwellings also survive, a few from the antebellum period, but most date from ca. 1880 through 1920. Similar to the rural residences, the majority of agricultural outbuildings are frame, but some log buildings also survive.

⁴Price, 13-14.

⁵Price, 27-32.

PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATIONS

Sims-Melton Farm

Location: West side of SR 1728, approximately 0.9 miles north of the intersection with ~~SR~~ 226, at the crossing of the road with the North Fork River.

Setting: The Sims-Melton Farm comprises 134 acres, of which forty acres are fenced pasture land, and the rest are woodland. The farm is bounded on the east by the North Fork River. SR 1728 bisects the farm at the southeast tip of the property. The land rises from the North Fork River and is gently rolling, with two residences located on the highest point of the property, facing south. The property remains actively farmed, with beef cattle and hay being the primary livestock and crops on the property.

Significant landscape features that remain include a fenced kitchen garden located northeast of the house and a few fruit trees (primarily apple) surviving from a family orchard that stood east of the house, as well as fencelines and hedgerows dividing fields and pastures.

Description:

Frame Dwelling: Constructed in 1905, the primary residence is a one-and-a-half story three-bay residence with two side-gable sections, one placed behind the other, linked by a one-bay ell. The building stands on a stone foundation and retains its original wood siding. The rear side-gable section is longer than the front side-gable portion but the height of the two sections is identical. The gable ends of the two side-gable sections that face the drive feature elaborate sawtooth shingles. The back side-gable section also retains a louvred window (with sawn louvres) at the peak of the gable. A one-story porch supported by columns wraps around the front side-gable section; the columns had sawn spandrels that remain on the west elevation of the porch. Windows in the building are six-over-six sash, two-over-two sash, one-over-one sash, three-over-one sash, and four-light casement in rear shed addition.

The house retains much of its interior woodwork and finishes. The doors are five-panel. Inside a closet on the first floor are penciled notations pertaining to the construction of the house, the barn, and activities on the farm. A date of 1905 is given for the house and 1916 for the barn; construction and stylistic details concur with the dates written within the closet.

A shed-roof addition was constructed onto the rear of the house in 1940 to serve as an enclosed entry and as an expansion to the kitchen. A shed

roof supported by large poles was built onto the rear addition, and functions as a shelter for cars.

Log Dwelling: The earliest extant building on the property is a log house comprising two single-pen log cribs, each with an exterior stone chimney and linked by a central passageway. The building now shelters hay. The original section of the house is the eastern section, which has half dovetailed cornernotching, mortised, tenoned, and pinned rafters, and collar ties that are pinned to every third rafter. The logs are hewn on all four sides, and all framing members are also hewn. The second section of the dwelling features collar ties on all rafters. The floor for the passage between the two sections has been removed. The north wall of the original portion of the house partially collapsed and was rebuilt ca. 1990. A one-story porch runs the length of the façade, and a shed roof runs the length of the rear portion of the house. The rear shed roof was built to shelter hay, and replaced a kitchen and dining room addition that was built during the early twentieth century.

Interior finishes that remain intact include horizontal boards covering the wall of the western section, and a simple fireplace mantel in that same room. An enclosed staircase remains in the eastern room of the dwelling.

The house was last used as a residence in 1929.⁶

Tenant House: Built in 1957, the tenant house stands at the end of the farm lane, close to SR 1728. The one-story frame tenant house has an interior brick chimney, and is covered with horizontal board siding. The building is now used for hay storage.

Barn: Dating to 1916, the frame barn stands southeast of the house. A three-bay, gable-front barn with a central drive-through flanked by two side-shed cribs, the barn features a steeply pitched roof. The barn has a loft above the central drive-through. The roof and walls of the barn are covered with sheet metal.

Field Barn: Located in the pasture north of the house, the field barn is a light timber frame building constructed ca. 1940 to store hay in the field. The gable-roof barn has vertical board siding and a metal roof. Two open sheds are located on the eave elevations.

Pole Barn 1: A three-bay, shed-roof pole barn is open on all four sides and stands at the south side of the gate leading to the back pasture. The building is used to store farm machinery.

⁶ Dates regarding the additions and construction of the outbuildings was provided by the present owners, Frank and Ruby K. Melton, in an interview on November 16, 1999.

Pole Barn 2: A three-bay, shed-roof pole barn, open on all four sides stands at the north side of the gate leading to the back pasture. The building is used to store hay.

Kitchen: The one-story, gable-front, frame kitchen dating to the early twentieth century was moved to this farm ca. 1950. The building has a shallow gable roof and is sheathed in asphalt shingles and wood siding. The building is used for storage. Two large side sheds are located on the eave elevations and serve as protection for small tractors.

Smokehouse: The smokehouse (or meathouse, as the present owner refers to the building) stands east of the house. The shallow gable-roofed building features a board door on the west elevation. The building is sheathed in narrow board siding. The roof extends on the south elevation to form a small shed open on the west elevation.

Dairy: The pyramidal- roof dairy stands southeast of the house. The building has a board door on the west elevation. The dairy was moved from south of the house, and its sills rest directly on the ground.

Privy: The shed-roof privy stands in the traditional location, next to the kitchen garden. The frame building retains its board siding.

Wood Shed: An open shed constructed of groundset saplings and scavenged lumber, the wood shed stands behind the house. A metal shed roof covers the building.

Background Information: The first recorded transfer of the land associated with the Sims-Melton Farm occurred in April 1760 when Jacob Money received a patent for the land.⁷ The land changed hands three times between 1760 and 1817 when James Sims purchased the 494 acres from David Stockton for \$600.00.⁸ James Sims held onto the property until 1838, when he sold it to John A Long who five years later transferred the property to Littleton Sims.⁹

The will of Littleton Sims was probated in February 1845, and in his will he divided his “tract of land on the Broad River which I bought of John A. Long” between two grandchildren, Rachel and James, children of his son, Andrew H. Sims.¹⁰ James was “to have the lower part on which the House stands,” the property now known as the Sims-Melton Farm. The “House” mentioned in the will is most likely the log house that still stands on the property. Littleton Sims

⁷ Rutherford County Deed Book AD: 33. Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC.

⁸ Rutherford County Deed Books E-1: 382; 44: 417. Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC.

⁹ Rutherford County Deed Books 44: 415; 44:414. Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC. These transactions were recorded all the same day, suggesting that this was purely a legal maneuvering, and that the Sims family most likely had actually retained the property from 1838 to 1843.

¹⁰ Rutherford County Will Book E:145; Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC.

did not live on the Sims-Melton Farm, but on an 150 acre tract that he deeded to his son, Andrew.

The will of Littleton Sims also provides information about the farm and life in Rutherford County during the mid-nineteenth century. In his will, Sims indicates that he owned three male slaves, named Wot, Willis, and Manuel. He also reveals that poultry, cattle, and milk cows were kept on his farm. He provided his granddaughter Hannah with “all my beds and household and kitchen furniture,” and his son A.H. Sims with “all my farming tools, grindstone, Truck wheels.” He bequeathed horses to Doctor Littleton Sims, to Leander wife of Bethune W. Barner, and to Mary Eleanor Getty.

The farm remained in the Sims family until the property was repossessed in 1937 by the First National Bank of Shelby. Eli Melton purchased the property for \$2500 from the bank in 1937.¹¹ He bequeathed the property to the present owners, his son Frank Melton and Frank’s wife Ruby K., in 1954.¹²

The property is still farmed, and supports 25 head of beef cattle (Black Angus and Charolais). Approximately 40 acres of the land are kept in improved pasture.¹³ During the mid-twentieth century, molasses cane was grown on the farm.

Evaluation: The Sims-Melton Farm is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, agriculture. As a nineteenth-century and twentieth-century farmstead that retains historic buildings dating from the mid-nineteenth-century, and field patterns that date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, it illustrates rural, agricultural life of that era. The farm retains its integrity of setting, design, location, workmanship, feeling, materials, and association. The two major dwellings on the farm—the pre-1843 log house and the 1905 frame house—illustrate changes in the domestic lives of farm families: from a one-room dwelling in which all activities occurred to a multi-room residence with rooms that each served a specific function. The domestic outbuildings and house lot exemplify the self-sufficiency of life on the farm in the nineteenth and early twentieth-century—a dairy, a kitchen, and a smokehouse to preserve and store food, and an orchard and kitchen garden to produce food. The four barns on the property depict agricultural patterns, especially those of hay and beef cattle production during the second quarter of the twentieth century. The retention of field patterns, hedgerows, and timber lots illustrate the varied nature of agriculture prior to the 1950s.

¹¹ Rutherford County Deed Books 60:340; 161:403. Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC.

¹² Rutherford County Deed Book 322:47. Rutherford County Court House, Rutherfordton, NC.

¹³ Interview with Frank Melton, November 16, 1999.

The Melton-Sims Farm is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B because it is not associated with any individuals of specific historical significance.

The Melton-Sims Farm is considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, architecture, as an outstanding collection of agricultural buildings dating from the mid-nineteenth century through the twentieth century. The log house is a well-preserved example of an early house form in the county; the addition of another single-pen house with an open central passage is a particular pattern of building that is found in western North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. The other buildings are good representatives of the types of outbuildings found on nineteenth and twentieth-century farms, including barns, dairy, privy, woodshed, and smokehouse.

The farm and its buildings are not likely to yield information important to the history of building technology; therefore it is not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.

Boundaries: The proposed National Register boundaries comprise the present tax parcel of 134.33 acres, and include the land on both sides of the road, since the North Fork River serves as the eastern boundary of the farm.

Boundary Justification: The proposed boundaries include all of the houses, agricultural outbuildings, and fields historically associated with the farm. The farm has been approximately 134 acres since 1886 when the land was divided between the children of James and Hannah Sims.

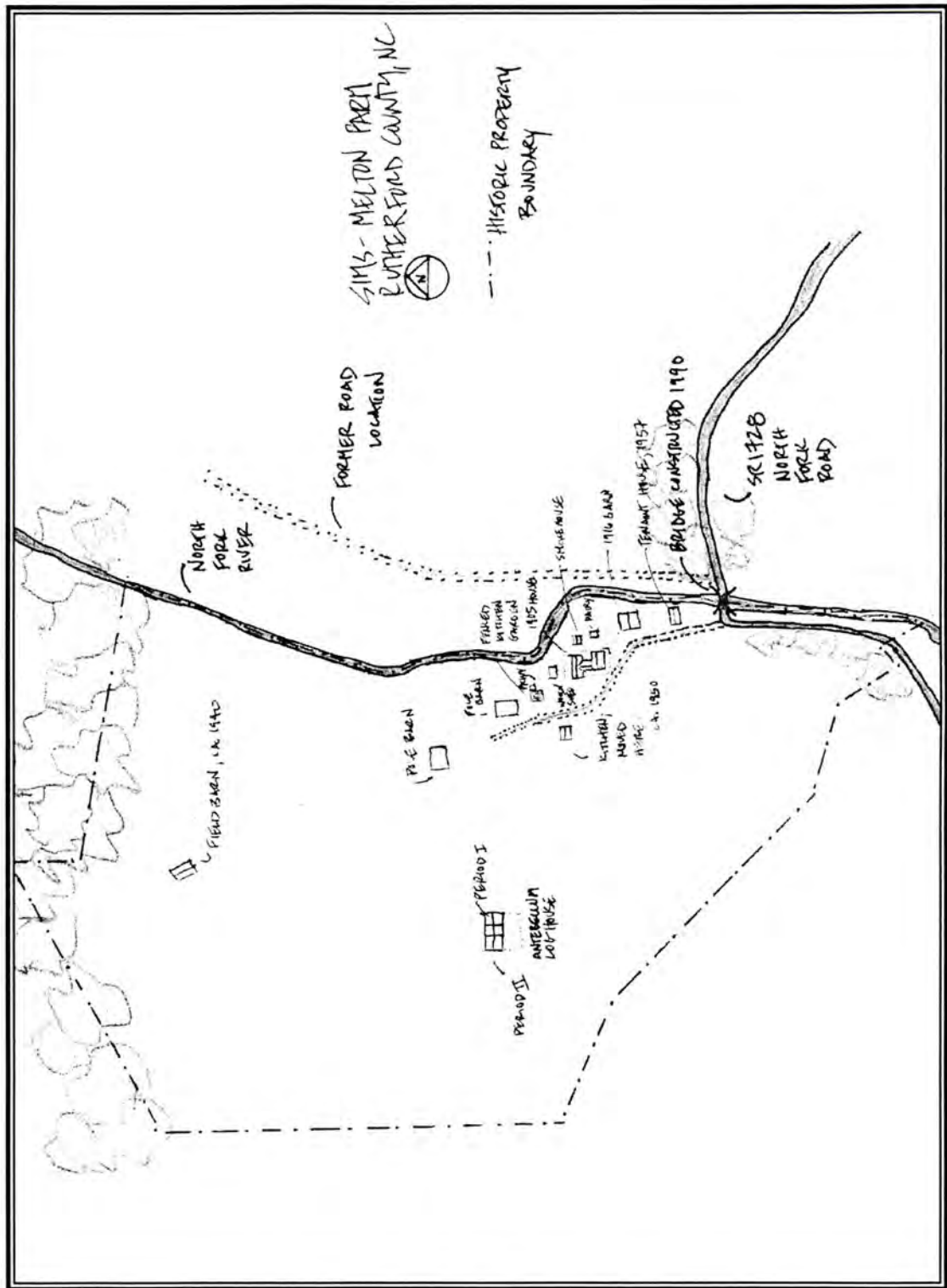


Figure 3: Site Plan, Sims-Melton Farm

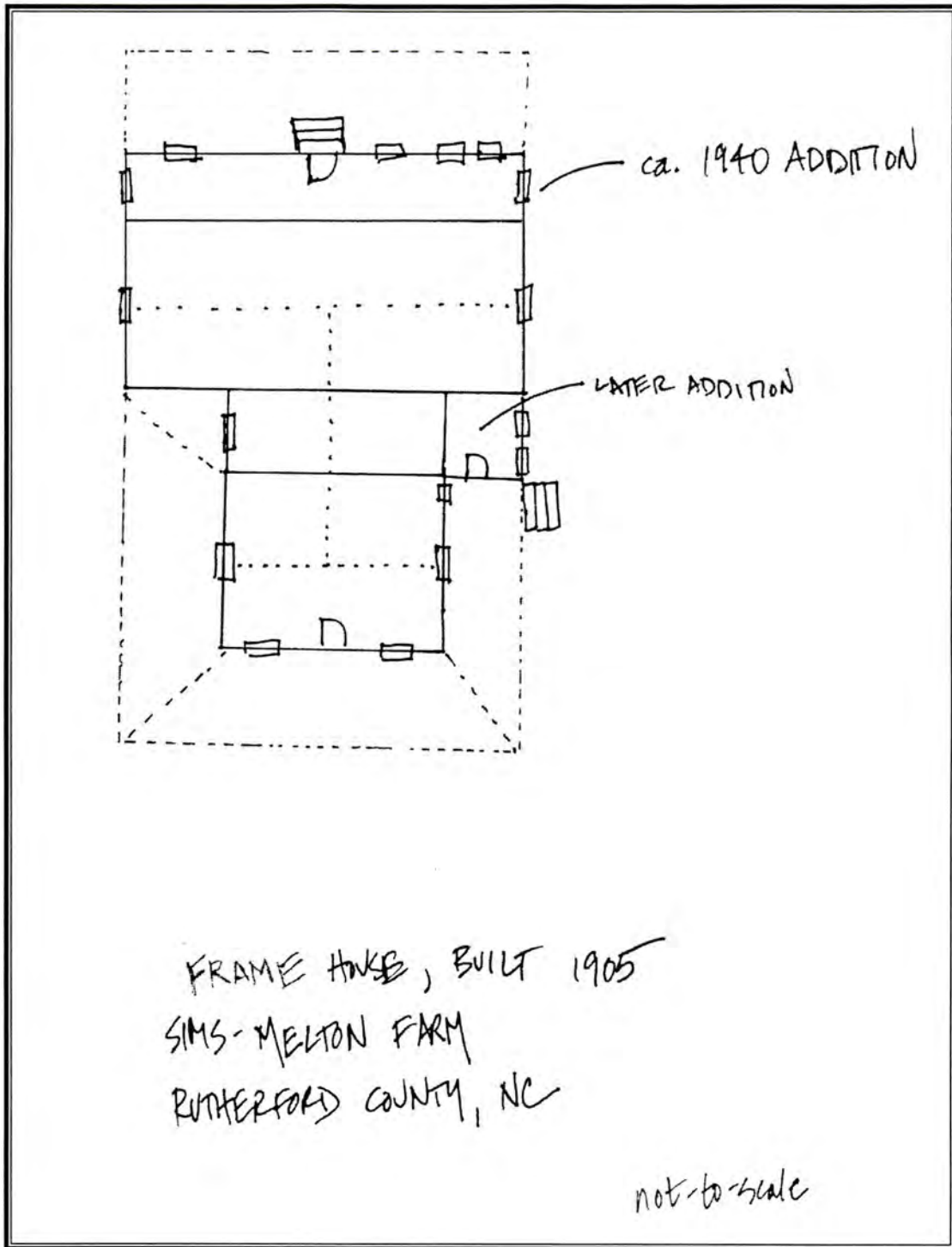


Figure 4: Roof Plan, Frame House, Sims-Melton Farm

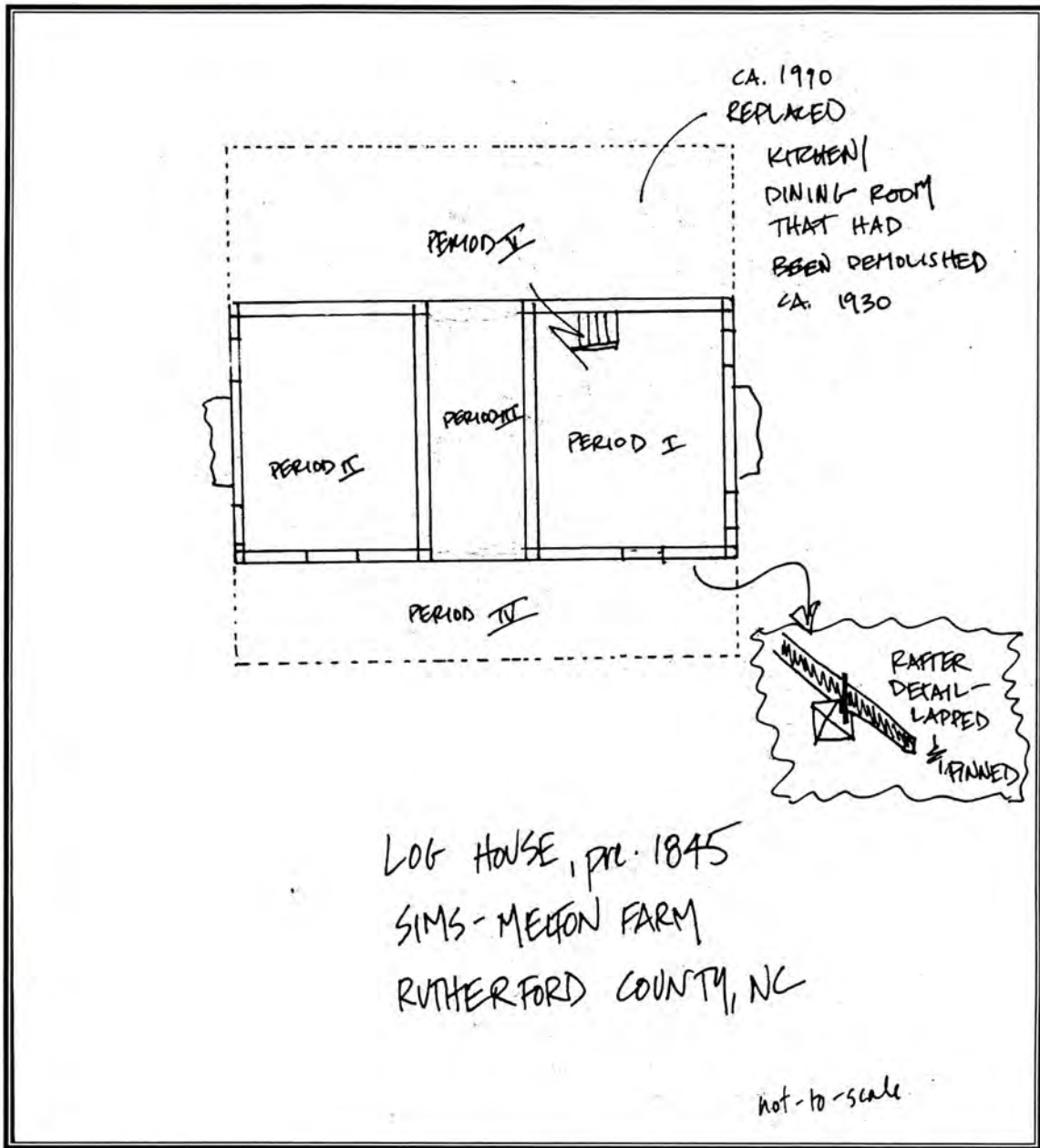
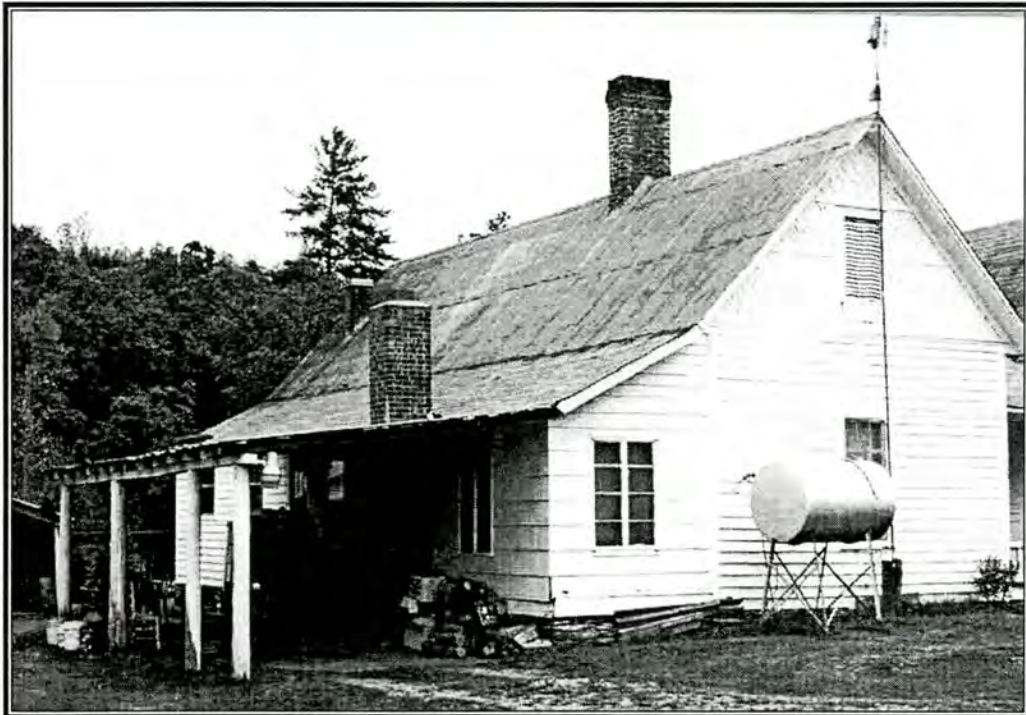


Figure 5: Floor Plan, Log House, Sims-Melton Farm



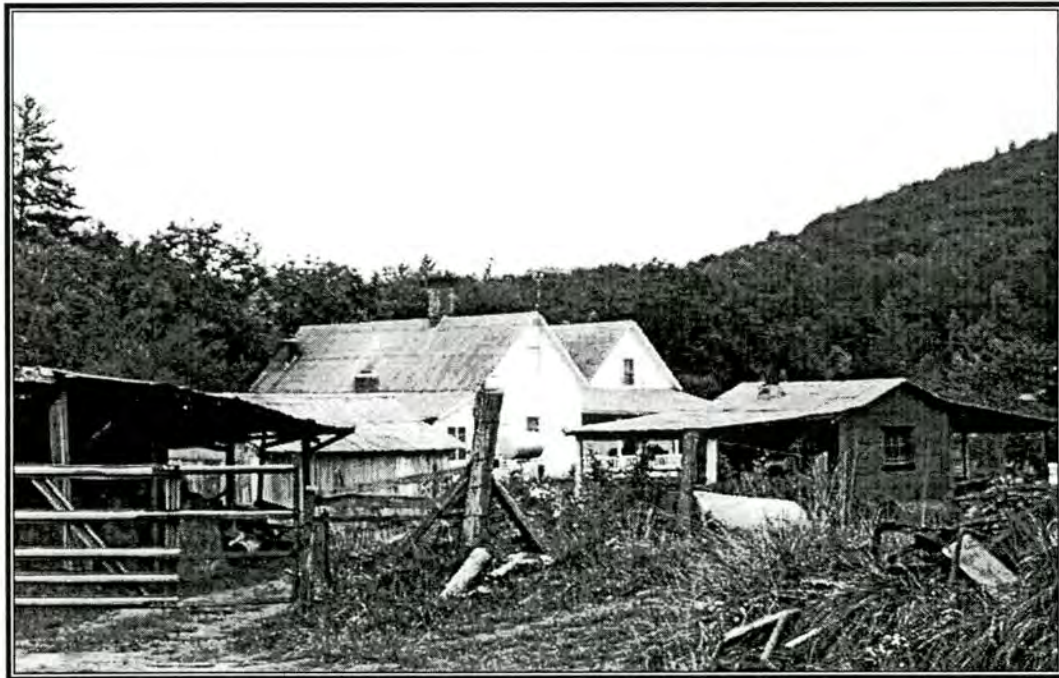
Photograph 1: Façade, Frame House, Sims-Melton Farm



**Photograph 2: Rear and West Elevation of Frame House,
Sims-Melton Farm**



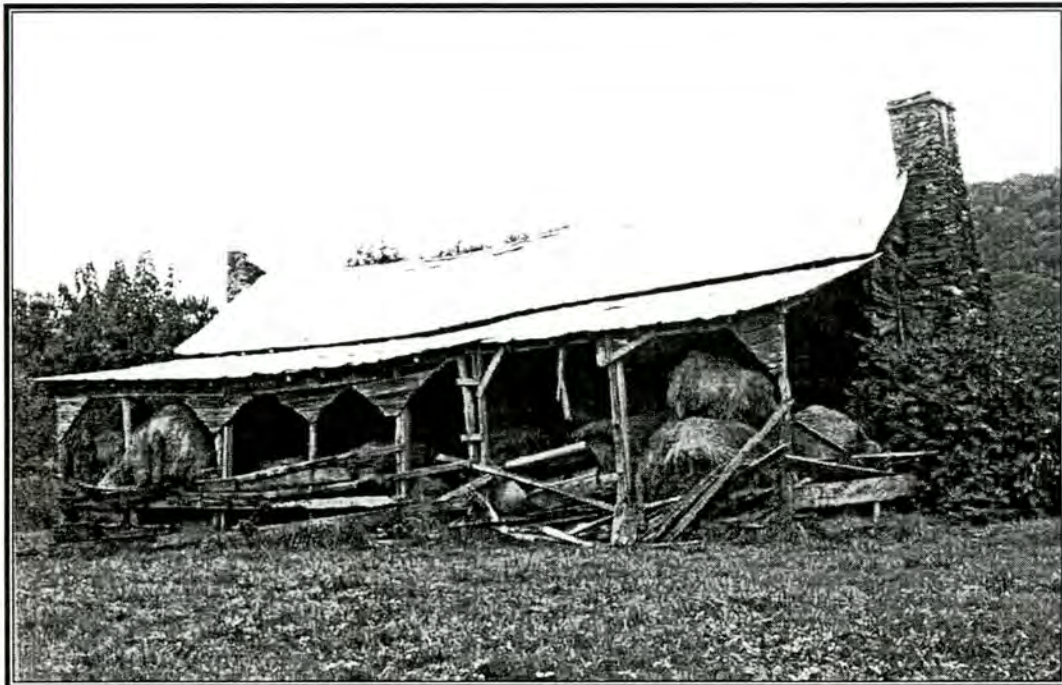
**Photograph 3: Frame House, Barn to the right, Kitchen to the left,
Sims-Melton Farm**



Photograph 4: Frame House, looking southeast, Sims-Melton Farm



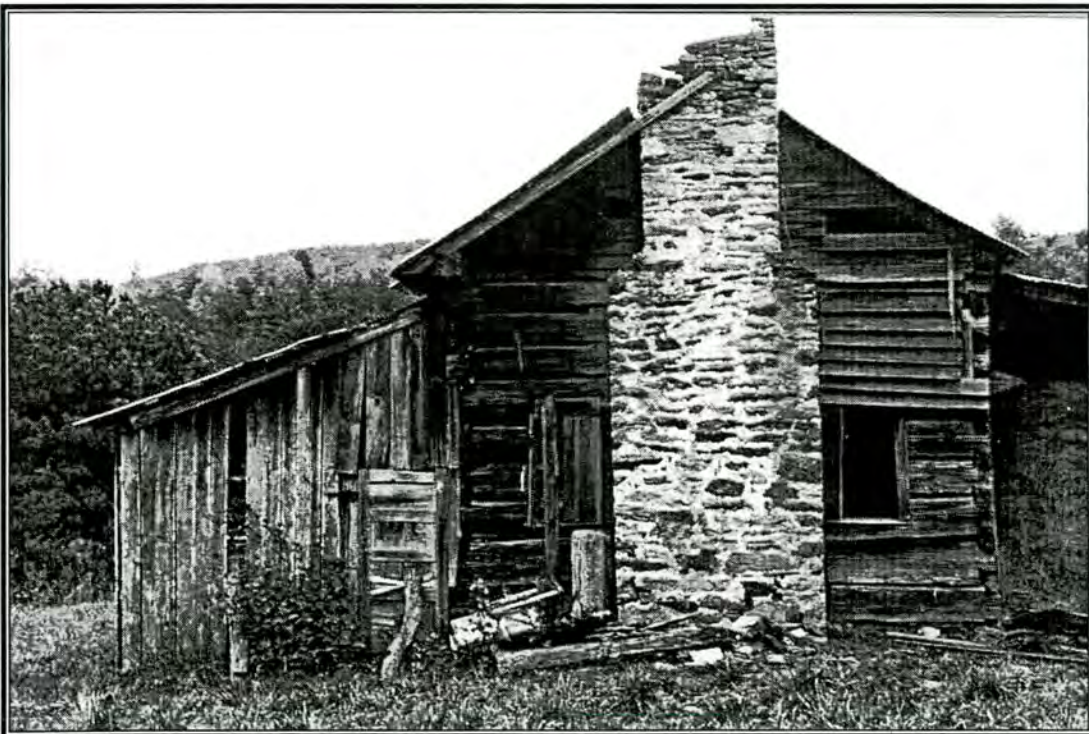
Photograph 5: Log House, Looking Northwest, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 6: Log House, Looking Northwest, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 7: Log House, Looking East, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 8: Log House, Looking East, Sims-Melton Farm



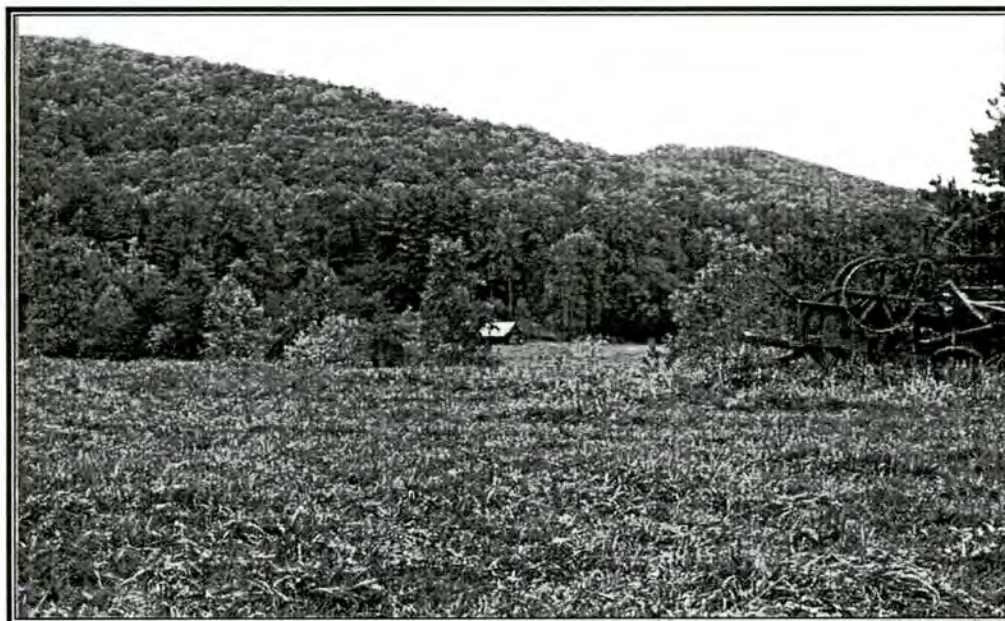
Photograph 9: Detail of Corner Notching, Log House, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 10: Tenant House to the Right, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 11: Barn, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 12: Field Barn, Sims-Melton Farm



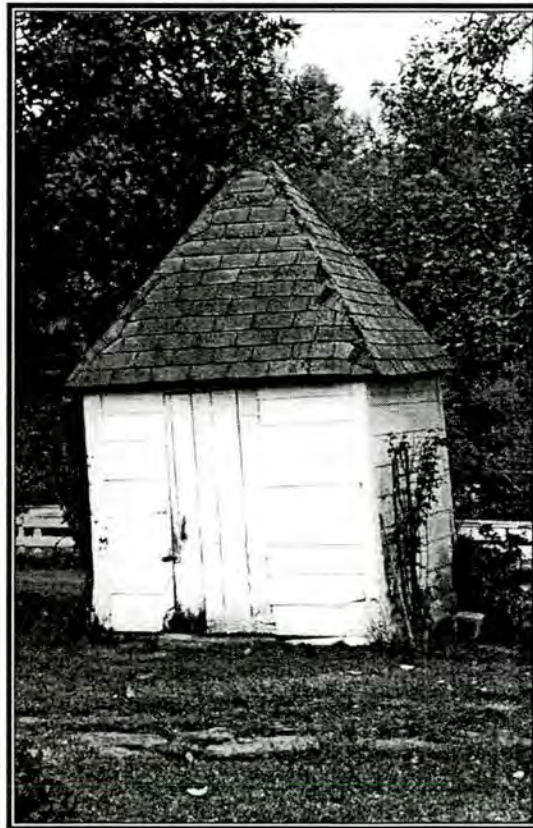
Photograph 13: Pole Barn 2, Sims-Melton Farm



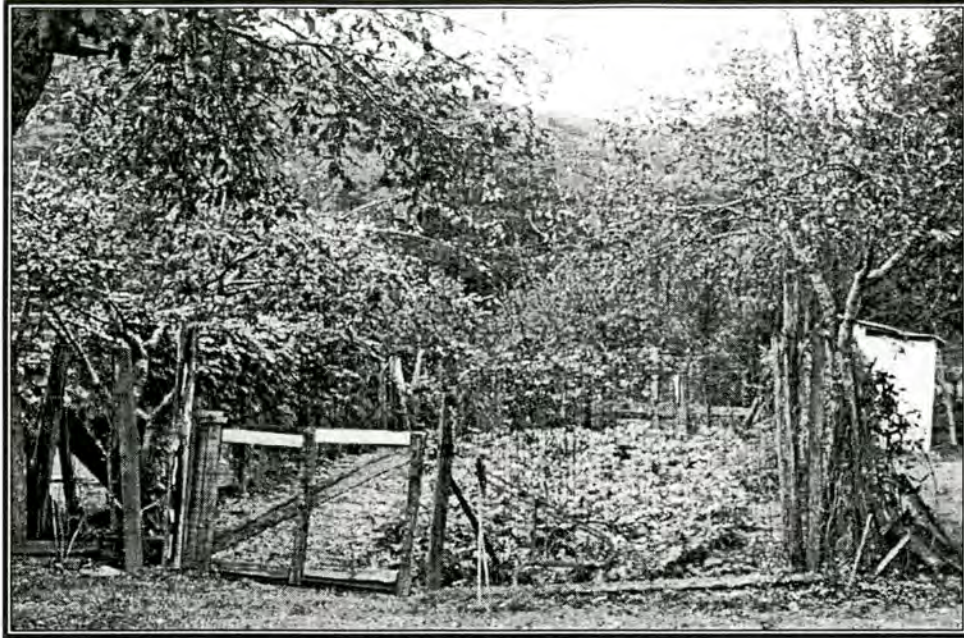
Photograph 14: Kitchen, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 15: Smokehouse, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 16: Dairy, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 17: Kitchen Garden and Privy, Sims-Melton Farm



Photograph 18: Woodshed, Sims-Melton Farm

Property No. 1, Frame House

Location: Property No. 1 is located near the end of SR 1728, on the south side of the road.

Setting: The property sits on the south side of SR 1728, with the buildings located near the road. The buildings sit in a clearing, with woods to the south, east, and west. The land slopes up hill to the east of the house.

Description:

Dwelling: The one-story, single-pile, side-gable frame house, dating to the late nineteenth century, is composed of at least four sections. The original two-bay section of the building comprises the west end of the house, and it stands on stone piers, later supplemented with poured concrete piers. A one-bay addition was added to the original section. A one-bay ell was built onto the rear of the house. A shed-roof addition was then constructed in the space between the ell and the front portion of the house. A one-story shed roof porch runs the length of the house; the porch posts and floor are replacements. A one-story shed roof porch was also built onto the rear of the ell. The house is sided with composite wood panels. Windows in the house contain primarily six-over-six sash.

Outbuildings: Eight small frame, mid-twentieth century outbuildings stand on the property. Four small frame, shed-roof, mid-twentieth century outbuildings, sided with horizontal boards, are located near the house, and most likely were poultry houses. Two small frame shed-roof buildings have been moved to stand southeast of the house, and have slat siding approximately two-thirds of the height of the walls. These buildings have half-height doors and most likely served as hog pens. A shed-roof privy stands at the end of a grape arbor, to the south of the house. A gable front-shed with open side wings is located east of the house. A small late twentieth-century metal storage building occupies a location next to one of the poultry houses.

Evaluation: Property No. 1 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, B, C, or D since it has lost the requisite integrity of design, association, setting, and feeling. The property is not representative of a significant trend in the history of the area. The property was once a small farmstead, but it has lost its agricultural context. The poultry houses have been altered by the insertion of sash and no longer resemble their original appearance. The hog pens have been moved to their present location and are no longer enclosed with a fence. The house has undergone some alterations, including the remodelling of the front porch and the residing of the

building. The land surrounding the house is now wooded, and does not convey an agricultural use.

Property No. 1 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B because it is not associated with any individuals of specific historical significance.

Property No. 1 is not considered eligible for the National Register under Criterion C since the buildings no longer exhibit architectural integrity, and better examples of agricultural buildings exist within the county, such as the Sims-Melton Farm to the northeast of the subject property.

Property No. 1 is not likely to yield information important to the history of building technology; therefore it is considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



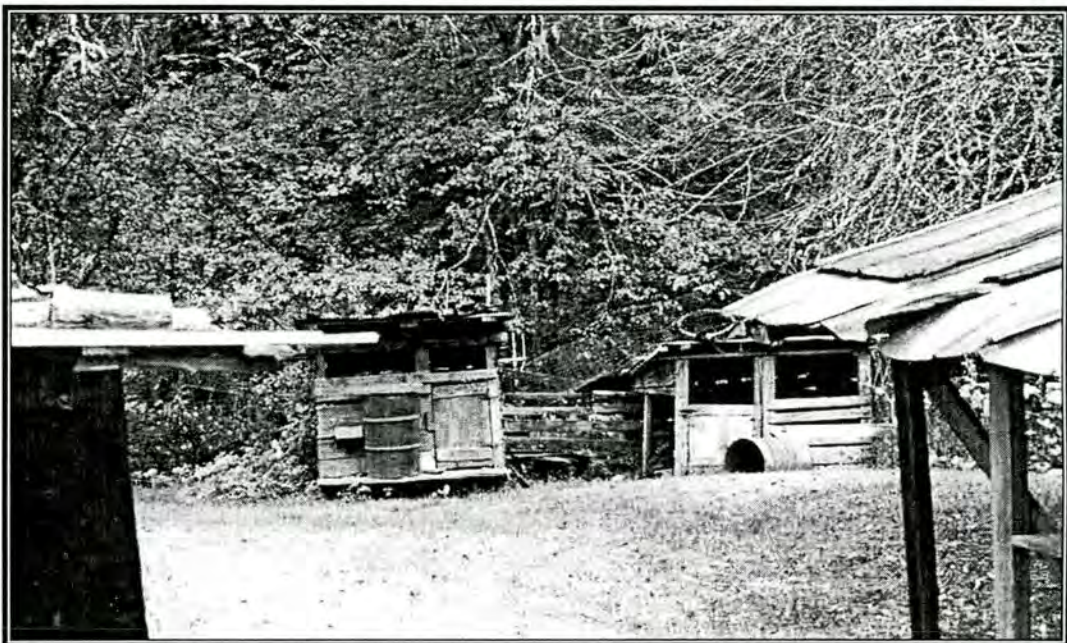
**Photograph 1: Façade and Northeast Elevation, Frame House,
Property No. 1**



**Photograph 2: Rear and Northeast Elevation, Frame House,
Property No. 1**



Photograph 3: Poultry Houses, Property No. 1



Photograph 4: Hog Pens, Property No. 1



Photograph 5: Privy, Property No. 1



Photograph 6: Shed, Property No. 1

Property No. 2, Reconstructed Log House

Location: Property No. 2, a reconstructed log house, stands on the south side of SR 1728, on the south side of the North Fork River.

Setting: The reconstructed log house stands on a slight rise overlooking SR 1728 in a small clearing. A single-crib barn stands southwest of the house.

Description:

Dwelling: The reconstructed house was constructed from logs salvaged from two outbuildings that stood on the north side of SR 1728. The house was built ca. 1970.

Barn: This log barn is a single crib building with corner saddle notching. The building has a side shed addition. Now used for hay storage, the barn was most likely constructed as a field barn during the late nineteenth or early twentieth century.

Evaluation: Property No. 2 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, since it is not representative of a significant trend in the history of the area. The house was constructed ca. 1970 from two log outbuildings and the barn is not significant as the sole historic building on the property.

Property No. 2 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B because it is not associated with any individuals of specific historical significance.

Property No. 2 is considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion C since the house was reconstructed from two log outbuildings in ca. 1970. The barn is a common type, and is not significant as the sole historic building on the property.

Property No. 2 is not likely to yield information important to the history of building technology; therefore it is considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



Photograph 1: Reconstructed Log House, Property No. 2



Photograph 2: Barn, Property No. 2

Property No. 3, Frame House

Location: This frame house and accompanying outbuildings stand on the west side of SR 1728 on a bend in the roadway.

Setting: These frame buildings sit in a wooded area that was once farmed. The outbuildings stand east and north of the house and are used as storage. The house sits on a rise above the road, with a dry-laid stone retaining wall.

Description:

Dwelling: The frame house, dating to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century is a one-story, three-bay, single-pile dwelling with a one-story frame kitchen ell. The building stands on a stone foundation. The shed-roof porch across the façade of the building has been remodeled, and stands on a stone, concrete block, and brick foundation. The building has been sided with asphalt shingles. The size of the window openings have been changed (shortened and widened on the north elevation, and lengthened on the façade) and one-over-one sash windows inserted. The chimneys have been rebuilt in concrete block and brick.

Outbuildings: Three frame outbuildings stand north and east of the house: a shallow gable-roofed barn with a side shed, a small shed-roof outbuilding, and a gable-front frame building with a porch extending over the door on the south elevation. The buildings are no longer used for agricultural purposes.

Evaluation: Property No. 3 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, B, C, or D since it does not retain the requisite integrity of setting, design, feeling, or association. The property was once a small farmstead, but it has lost its agricultural context. The land surrounding the house is now wooded, and does not convey an agricultural appearance. The house has undergone alterations, including the remodeling of the front porch, the residing of the building, the rebuilding of the chimneys, and the alteration of the fenestration and window sash.

Property No. 3 is considered not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B because it is not associated with any individuals of specific historical significance.

Property No. 3 is considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion C since the buildings do not embody distinctive characteristics of a significant building types. The house has lost its architectural integrity, and all buildings have suffered a loss in the integrity of their setting, feeling, and association. Better examples of intact farmsteads remain in the county, including the Sims-Melton Farm to the north of the property.

The buildings on Property No. 3 are not likely to yield information important to the history of building technology; therefore they are considered not eligible for the National Register under Criterion D.



Photograph 1: Façade, Frame House, Property No. 3



Photograph 2: North Elevation, Frame House, Property No. 3



Photograph 3: Barn, Property No. 3



Photograph 4: Outbuilding, Property No. 3



Photograph 5: Shed, Property No. 3

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APPENDIX A



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

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

Division of Archives and History
Jeffrey J. Crow, Director

September 8, 1999

Roger D. Bryan
Environmental Officer
North Carolina Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 3275
Asheville, NC 28802

**RE: Improve and pave SR 1728 (North Fork Rd.) Rutherford County.
ER 00-7353**

Dear Mr. Bryan:

We have received notification of a nationwide permit for the above project and would like to comment.

We have conducted a search of our maps and files and are aware of no structures of historical or architectural importance located within the project area. However, since a comprehensive historical architectural survey has not been conducted in Rutherford County in two decades, there may be structures of which we are unaware located within the project area.

We recommend that an architectural historian with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) identify and evaluate any structures over fifty years of age within the project area and report the findings to us.

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 CFT 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Brook".

David Brook
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer



Bryan, ER 00-7353
Page 2

DB:amg

cc: W. Gilmore
✓ B. Church
ACOE - Western Office

bc: File
Brown/Alperin
RF