

# **Historic Architecture Eligibility Evaluation Report**

**Construct Kinston US 70 Bypass, Lenoir County**

**TIP # R-2553  
WBS# 34460**

**Prepared For:**

**Environmental Analysis Unit  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Prepared By:**

**AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc.  
701 Corporate Center Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27607**

**Marvin A. Brown, Principal Investigator  
Sarah Potere  
September 2017**



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AECOM Corporation – North Carolina**

**Date**

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**Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor  
Historic Architecture Group  
North Carolina Department of Transportation**

**Date**



## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

In support of the North Carolina Department of Transportation’s (NCDOT) Kinston Bypass project (TIP #R-2553; WBS #34460) in Lenoir, Craven, and Jones counties, AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc. (AECOM) addressed the historic architectural components of the project in two phases. AECOM completed the first phase in May 2017. Following review, NCDOT requested that AECOM conduct a second phase that would include evaluating 26 properties located within the project’s Area of Potential Effects (APE) and providing a written report that included photographs of the buildings; landscape, historic, and architectural contexts, as needed; evaluation of NRHP eligibility; comparisons to similar type properties in the region; and recommendations of carefully delineated and justified NRHP boundaries, if appropriate. Additionally, seven previously NRHP-listed and previously NRHP-determined-eligible properties were to be briefly re-evaluated for their retention of integrity. The addition of the Wyse Fork Battlefield—NRHP listed in July 2017 through the efforts of the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology—was subsequently made at the request of the NCDOT. This brought the total number of resources addressed in this report up to 34.

In response to the second phase of work, AECOM prepared this report in June through September 2017. AECOM recommends: that the properties previously listed in the NRHP—Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home), the Dempsey Wood House (James Wood House), the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District, the Jesse Jackson House, and the Wyse Fork Battlefield—remain NRHP listed, as they retain their NRHP integrity; and that the properties previously determined eligible for NRHP listing—the Dr. James M. Parrott House, the Henry Loftin Herring Farm, and the James A. & Laura McDaniel House (Maxwood)—remain NRHP eligible, as they too retain their NRHP integrity. AECOM further recommends that Kelly’s Pond Lookout Tower, the Cobb-King-Humphrey House, the Elijah Loftin Farm, the Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church (Croom Meeting House), and the Sandy Bottom Historic District are eligible for NRHP listing. AECOM also notes that the Kelly’s Millpond Site, the Cobb-King-Humphrey House, and the Wooten-Whaley House (John C. Wooten House) were previously determined to be contributing resources within the Wyse Fork Battlefield. The following tables identify the eight resources requiring brief evaluation and summarizes their integrity status, and identify the 26 resources requiring further evaluation and summarizes the recommendations regarding their eligibility.

**Table 1: Resources requiring brief evaluation and recommended integrity**

Resource Name	HPO Site # (AECOM Site #)	NRHP Status and Criteria (Integrity Recommendation)
James A. & Laura McDaniel House (Maxwood)	LR-0927 (AECOM #8)	Determined eligible for NHRP listing under Criterion C in 1998 (retains integrity)
Dr. James M. Parrott House	LR-0703 (AECOM #15)	Determined eligible for NHRP listing under Criteria A and C in 1998 (retains integrity)
Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District	LR-1189 (AECOM #10)	NRHP listed under Criterion A in 2009 (retains integrity)
Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home)	LR-0001 (AECOM #9)	NRHP listed under Criterion C in 1971 (retains integrity)

Resource Name	HPO Site # (AECOM Site #)	NRHP Status and Criteria (Integrity Recommendation)
Henry Loftin Herring Farm	LR-0700 (AECOM #17)	Determined eligible for NHRP listing under Criteria A and C in 1998 (retains integrity)
Dempsey Wood House (James Wood House)	LR-0008 (AECOM #26)	NRHP listed under Criterion C in 1971 (retains integrity)
Wyse Fork Battlefield	JN-0306 (AECOM #73)	NRHP listed under Criteria A and C in 2017 (retains integrity)
Jesse Jackson House	LR-0005 (AECOM #35)	NRHP listed under Criterion C in 1971 (retains integrity)

**Table 2: Resources requiring further evaluation and recommended NRHP-eligibility**

Resource Name	HPO Site # (AECOM Site #)	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation and Criteria
Nathan George Sutton House	LR-0956 (AECOM #2)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Banks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church	LR-0914 (AECOM #12)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Warters-Parrott-Coleman Farm	LR-0967 (AECOM #13)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Trinity United Methodist Church	LR-0702 (AECOM #11)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Moss Hill School (former)	LR-1146 (AECOM #28)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Danny Shepherd House	LR-1035 (AECOM #27)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Sandy Bottom Historic District	LR-1039 (AECOM #33)	Recommended eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C.
Sandy Bottom Baptist Church	LR-1037 (AECOM #30)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Webb Chapel United Methodist Church	LR-1038 (AECOM #31)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church (Croom Meeting House)	LR-1040 (AECOM #32)	Placed on Study List in 1994. Recommended eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C.
Woodington Middle School	LR-1544 (AECOM #38)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Harper House	LR-1545 (AECOM #39)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Simpson Waller House	LR-1213 (AECOM #40)	Placed on Study List in 1994. Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

Resource Name	HPO Site # (AECOM Site #)	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation and Criteria
Rouse-Capps House	LR-0923 (AECOM #24)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
C.S.S. Neuse/Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center	LR-0076 (AECOM #23)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House	LR-1548 (AECOM #41)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Moseley-Stroud House	LR-0857 (AECOM #48)	Placed on Study List in 1994. Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Kelly's Millpond Site	LR-1203 (AECOM #45)	Site determined eligible for the NRHP in 1990 and NRHP listed as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Former mill recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural (standing) resource.
Cobb-King-Humphrey House	LR-1197 (AECOM #44)	NRHP listed as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended individually NRHP eligible under Criterion C.
Robert Bond Vause House	LR-1186 (AECOM #50)	NRHP listed as a contributing architectural resource to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing.
Wooten-Whaley House (John C. Wooten House)	LR-1185 (AECOM #53)	Placed on Study List in 1994. NRHP listed as a contributing architectural resource to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural resource.
Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower	LR-1550 (AECOM #51)	Recommended eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C.
Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church	JN-0102 (AECOM #64)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
King's Chapel Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ)	LR-1194 (AECOM #54)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.
Elijah Loftin Farm	LR-1195 (AECOM #55)	Placed on Study List in 1994. Recommended individually NRHP eligible under Criterion C.
Dover Teacherage	CV-1410 (AECOM #57)	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.



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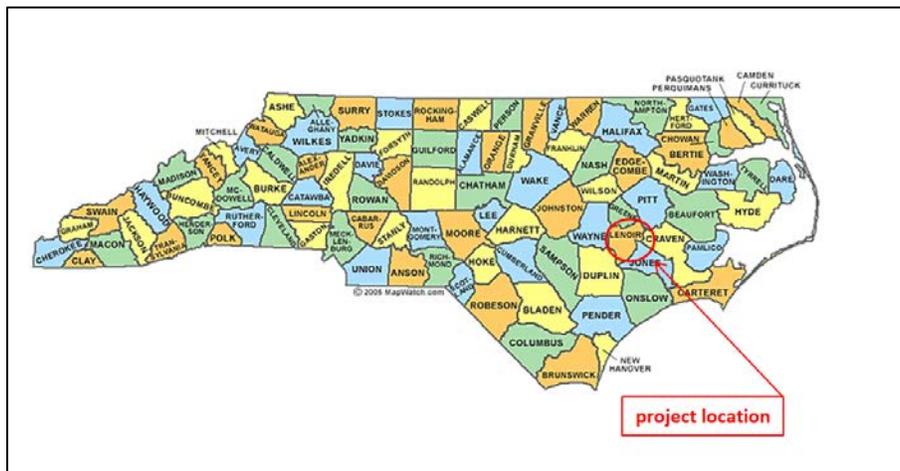
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## I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

At the request of the Historic Architecture Staff of the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) in-house Environmental Analysis Unit, AECOM Technical Services of North Carolina, Inc. (AECOM) prepared this report in June and July 2017 in support of the Kinston Bypass project (TIP #R-2553; WBS #34460) in Lenoir, Craven, and Jones counties (Figure 1). The historic architectural component of this project was conducted in two phases. In the first phase, during April and May 2017, AECOM conducted an intensive-level architectural field survey, which included (1) identifying, analyzing, and evaluating all resources greater than approximately 50 years of age in the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), (2) developing historic and architectural contexts and eligibility requirements, as necessary, (3) completing preliminary evaluations of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility, and (4) presenting a Building Inventory to NCDOT and North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff.



**Figure 1: Project location within North Carolina**

Following the presentation of the building inventory (included in the Appendix), which encompassed 72 individual resources and groups of resources, the NCDOT requested that AECOM conduct a second phase of the project that further analyzed 34 historic architectural resources. In particular, NCDOT requested that AECOM do an in-depth evaluation of 26 properties located within the APE and provide a written report that included photographs of the buildings; landscape, historic, and architectural contexts, as needed; evaluation of NRHP eligibility; comparisons to similar type properties in the region; and recommendations of carefully delineated and justified NRHP boundaries, if appropriate. Eight previously NRHP-listed and previously NRHP-determined-eligible properties were also to be briefly re-evaluated to determine if they retain integrity.

Two tables recording the 34 resources analyzed in this report are included above as part of the Management Summary. One identifies the eight resources requiring brief evaluation and summarizes their integrity status. The other identifies the 26 resources requiring further evaluation and summarizes the recommendations regarding their eligibility.

From June through September 2017 AECOM inventoried and evaluated the 34 resources in compliance with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, other state and federal regulations, and NCDOT's *current Historic Architecture Group Procedures and Work Products* and the North Carolina HPO's *Report Standards for Historic Structure Survey Reports/Determinations of Eligibility/Section 106/110 Compliance Reports in North Carolina*.

AECOM senior architectural historian Marvin A. Brown and AECOM architectural historian Sarah Potere, both of whom meet the Secretary of the Interior's qualifications for architectural history (CFR 36 CFR Part 61), conducted the fieldwork, researched and analyzed the resources, and drafted this report. As part of this effort, they visited, documented, and photographed the resources and conducted supplementary research. This effort included reviewing Lenoir, Craven, and Jones County deed, GIS, plat map, property, and tax records; conducting research at the Kinston-Lenoir County Public Library in Kinston; speaking with knowledgeable local residents; studying the Lenoir, Craven, and Jones County files of the North Carolina HPO; and conducting online historical and genealogical research. Of particular assistance were the historic architectural essay written by M. Ruth Little for *Coastal Plain and Fancy: The Historic Architecture of Lenoir County and Kinston, North Carolina* (1998) and that volume's catalogue of historic resources, which was written by Robbie D. Jones, Penne Smith, Scott Power, and Ms. Little.

The project's APE, which mirrors its study area, is located within Lenoir, Craven, and Jones counties. It is depicted at Figure 2, along with the locations of the 34 resources inventoried in this report.

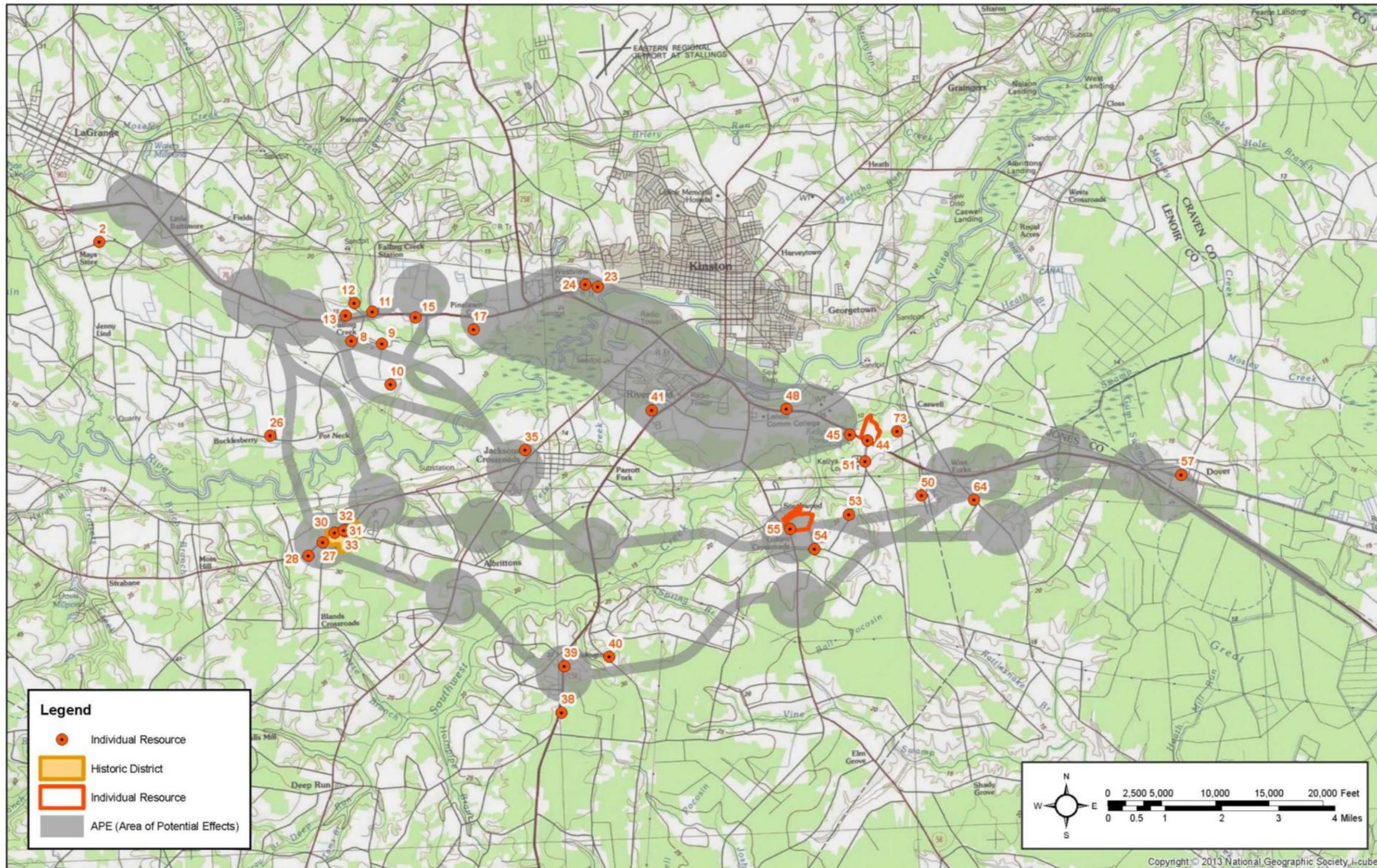


Figure 2: APE and resource locator map

## 2. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

*Coastal Plain and Fancy: The Historic Architecture of Lenoir County and Kinston, North Carolina* (Little et al. 1998) includes a broad-ranging historical essay on Lenoir County’s architecture and hundreds of histories of individual residential and non-residential buildings and communities. The histories, descriptions, and analyses of the resources assessed in this report make generous use of the materials in the book, as well as the survey files at the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office (HPO), which were largely prepared by Robbie T. Jones in 1993-1994. Rather than providing an overall summary of the book, its historic contextual material—supplemented with additional site, type, and community-specific research—is included at the individual resource histories.

## 3. ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Twenty-five of the 34 resources assessed in this report fall within three distinct architectural types—“high-style” antebellum residential architecture, late nineteenth/early twentieth-century residential architecture, and late nineteenth/early twentieth-century residential architecture. The architectural contexts for these resources are included in this section, rather than at their individual entries, to allow for more comprehensive study and to avoid repetition.

Eight resources are distinct: the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District (LR-1189); Kelly’s Mill Pond Site (LR-1203); the Governor Caswell Visitors Center (LR-0076); Kelly’s Pond Lookout Tower (LR-1550); the antebellum Croom Meeting House (LR-1040); the former Moss Hill School (LR-1046); the potential Sandy Bottom Historic District (LR-1039), the only grouping of community resources assessed; and the mid-twentieth-century Woodington Middle School (LR-1544). Architectural contexts for these resources are addressed at their individual entries as part of their NRHP-eligibility assessments.

### HIGH-STYLE ANTEBELLUM RESIDENCES

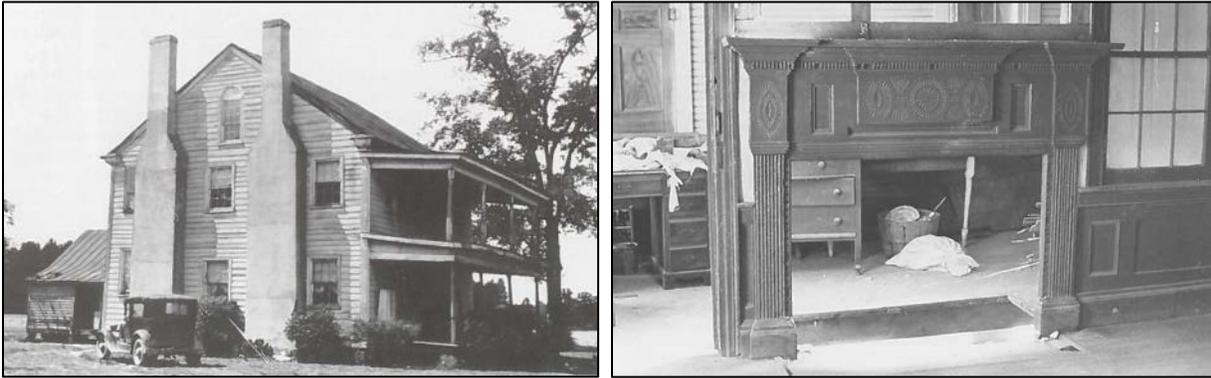
Eleven houses individually assessed in this report were erected during the antebellum period, roughly between 1810 and 1860. Nine of these are two stories tall; the other two are one-and-a-half-story (or one-story-and-loft) residences. The style of these houses is largely Greek Revival or, to a lesser extent, Federal or transitional Federal/Greek Revival. All were likely the homes of well-to-do planters. In comparison to the variety of houses that stood in rural Lenoir County in the early and mid-nineteenth century, they are “high-style” residences. The 11 houses of this type and time period are as follows:

**Table 3: High-style antebellum residences**

Name	Approx. date(s)	Style(s)	Height/depth	Plan	Current status
Moseley-Stroud House	1800-20	Federal	One-story-and-loft, single & double pile	Penn	SL
Cedar Dell	1810-20, 1880-90	Federal, Victorian	Two-story/double pile	Side-hall, then center-hall	NHRP
Henry Loftin Herring House	1812, 1928	Federal, Colonial Revival	One-and-a-half-story/single pile	Hall-parlor, then center-hall	DOE
Cobb-King-Humphrey House	1800-25	Federal	Two-story/double pile	Center-hall	SL
Rouse-Capps House	1840-50	Federal/Greek Revival	Two-story/double pile	Center-hall	SO
Jesse Jackson House	1840-60	Greek Revival	Two-story/single pile	Center-hall	NRHP
Dempsey Wood House	1850-60	Greek Revival/Italianate	Two-story/double pile	Center-hall	NRHP
Robert Bond Vause House	1850-60	Greek Revival	Two-story/double pile	Center-hall	SO
Wooten-Whaley House	1859	Greek Revival	Two-story/double pile	Side-hall	SL
Nathan George Sutton House	1850-75	Greek Revival	Two-story/single pile	Center-hall	SO
Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House	1850-75	Indeterminate	Two-story/single pile	Center-hall	SO

Note: SL=on North Carolina Study List; NRHP=National Register of Historic Places listed; DOE=Determination of Eligibility (NRHP eligible); SO=surveyed only

The wealth of Lenoir County's planters and slaveholders from the turn of the eighteenth century through the Civil War is reflected in its architecture. In spite of many losses (Figure 3 through Figure 4 and Figure 27), the county retains a large number of houses from the period.



**Figure 3:** At left, early 1800s side-hall-plan Charles Wilson Tilghman House, demolished; at right, ca. 1820s Federal-style interior of Betty Wooten (Wooten-Davis) House, demolished (source: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (NCDRC) and Little et al., *Coastal Plain and Fancy*).



**Figure 4:** At left, ca. 1845 Greek Revival-style Moore-Heath House in 1969, demolished (photographer: Jim Shell); at right, ca. 1860 Greek Revival-style Jerry Sutton House in 1898 (NCDRC) (source of both: Little et al., *Coastal Plain and Fancy*).

The higher-end Lenoir County residences that pre-date the Civil War utilize hall-parlor, side-hall, and center-hall-plans. They are generally two stories tall and divided roughly evenly between single-pile and double-pile footprints. A few remain or at least started out as one-and-a-half story dwellings. The earliest residences include some Georgian-style woodwork. Most, though, display Federal, transitional Federal/Greek Revival, or full-blown Greek Revival-style features. Following are photographs and brief descriptions of many of the county's relatively intact examples of these forms and styles.

The Peebles House (LR-0002), also known as Harmony Hall, was built about 1790 in Kinston with a two-story hall-parlor plan (Department of Archives and History 1971e) (Figure 5 and Figure 6). It was expanded in the late 1840s or 1850s into a center-hall-plan dwelling. Its Georgian and Federal-style features include original and early mantels, moldings, doors, and sash. Its original Flemish-bond chimneys also survive. Notable Greek Revival-style features from its expansion include post-and-lintel mantels, two-panel doors, cornerblocks, a trabeated entry, and a two-tier entrance porch retaining squared columns and X-shaped lattice railings. The

house's one-story wings and rear ell, and its unusual transverse front hall, likely date from this period as well. The Peebles House was listed in the NRHP in 1971.



**Figure 5: Peebles House: east side and north front elevations, at left, and Federal-style finish at first floor, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 6: Peebles House: Federal-style mantel, at left, and Greek Revival-style entry and hall, at right, in 2003 (source: NCDCCR).**

The Whitfield-Carraway-Scarborough Farm or Monticello (LR-0830) near Wootens Crossroads is another house built in two periods with both Georgian and Federal-style adornment. It was determined eligible for NRHP listing in 1993. A two-story, center-hall-plan, double-pile residence, Monticello is thought to have been built in the late eighteenth century and added to and expanded around 1812. Its east dining room retains Georgian woodwork, which includes a mantel with flat-paneled frieze, a wide surround, and a built-in cupboard and closet door, both of which retain raised panels. Federal elements dating from the expansion are found throughout the house. They include the dining room's wainscoting, two tripartite mantels with molded shelves and dentil cornices, and doors with six flat panels. The house also retains plaster walls (but for the horizontal-sheathed walls in the hall), an open-string stair, nine-over-nine sash, flush-gable eaves, one Flemish bond chimney, and flush siding at the porch and beaded and non-beaded weatherboards elsewhere at the exterior. The porch is not original. The house has been sealed and untouched for decades (Scarborough 2017). It remains in family hands. A fine residence, it

measures up well in form, finish, and integrity to the small number of other intact houses in Lenoir that date from, or have additions dating from, its period of construction.



**Figure 7: Monticello: front and side elevations, 2017.**



**Figure 8: Monticello: Georgian-style mantel in dining room, at left (photographer: Robbie Jones, 1994), and Federal-style mantel and wainscoting in downstairs front room, at right, 2017.**

*Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:45-46) described the Herring (or Needham Herring) House (LR-0004) near LaGrange in 1998 (Figure 9 and Figure 10):

The two-and-one-half-story Needham Herring House . . . probably exhibits the best-preserved elegant Federal finish in Lenoir County. The single-pile house has a later Victorian-style porch and rear additions. Its main block displays the craftsmanship of the early-nineteenth-century house carpenter and joiner in Lenoir County through the carefully executed decorative moldings, pegged doors, sash windows, paneling, and other features. The big frame house sits on a full Flemish bond foundation and has Flemish bond chimneys. One of the chimney bricks bears the date 1801. . . . But the mature Federal design and finish of the house suggest a construction date in the 1820s. . . . The Herring Family took advantage of the most up-to-date room arrangements, featuring a spacious center hallway displaying paneling more ornate than that of the rooms themselves. The hall contains the stairs to the second floor and affords privacy to the two downstairs parlors. Original woodwork, including dentiled cornices, tripartite

mantels delicate gougework, windows and door moldings, and a second-floor built-in hall press, is still in place.

Listed in the NRHP in 1973 (Division of Archives and History 1973), the house appears to remain intact, although water has damaged its front porch.



**Figure 9: Herring House: south front and east side elevations, 2017.**



**Figure 10: Herring House: west parlor with reeded mantel, flush-paneled wainscoting, and three-part surrounds, 2017; detail of mantel in 1994 (photographer: Robbie Jones).**

The ca. 1820 Hill-Sutton House (LR-0955) in the vicinity of LaGrange is also two stories tall with a Federal finish, although it utilizes a less fashionable hall-parlor plan and an asymmetrical placement of bays that reflect that plan. It retains original nine-over-six, six-over-six, and four-over-four sash, two-part surrounds, single-shoulder exterior-end chimneys, and a Federal-style cornice and beaded rakeboards. Its porch and large rear ell likely date from the early twentieth century. Vinyl covers its original cladding. The house's interior could not be viewed (Figure 11).



**Figure 11: Hill-Sutton House: south front and east side elevations, 2017.**

A contemporary and similarly fashioned dwelling is the Tull-Worth-Holland House (LR-0571) near Kinston, which was listed in the NRHP with a wealth of outbuildings in 1992 (York 1992) (Figure 12). *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:378) described it as follows:

The homeplace is a two-story frame, side-gable building, one-room-deep, with a hall-parlor plan. The house has some original beaded siding, original 9/9 and 9/6 sash windows, and front and rear transoms. The interior retains a substantial amount of Federal woodwork, including mantels, six-flat-panel doors, wainscots, molded surrounds and an enclosed stair.

The house received a two-room shed addition to its rear in 1875 and a Colonial Revival-style porch, now partially screened-in, around the turn of the century. Most of its bays have been boarded over since 2010, possibly due to storm damage to the property, but a number of open ones retain their original sash. The beaded siding, cornices, and surrounds also remain in place. The house is currently inaccessible.



**Figure 12: Tull-Worth-Holland House: south front elevation and east side elevation detail depicting intact boxed cornice, beaded weatherboards, and surround, 2017.**

The Walter Dunn, Jr. House or Jericho (LR-0816) near Kinston, the Dunn-Canady House or LaFayette (LR-0787) near Graingers, and the Grady-Harper House (LR-0003) near Woodington—all included on the state SL—also date from the 1820s or 1830s and retain Federal-style features. Jericho is a two-story single-pile residence, which likely began with a hall-parlor plan that evolved into a center-hall-plan L-shaped configuration (Figure 13 and

Figure 14). *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:381-382) referred to the house as “one of the county’s best examples of the vernacular Federal style,” in spite of a Victorian renovation that altered the plan and added a rear kitchen ell, a wraparound porch, two-over-two windows, and a façade gable, stating in part that:

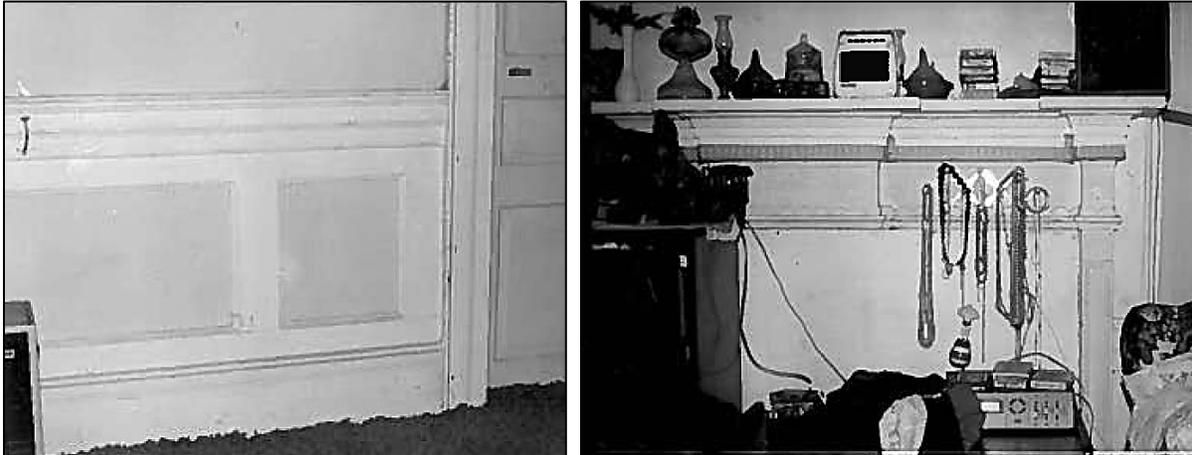
[M]any of the Federal motifs are apparent, including two well-crafted, double-shoulder, Flemish-bond, exterior end chimneys, molded corner pilasters, molded cornice trim, window surrounds, and flush-sheathed walls on the front façade beneath the porch (now covered by substitute siding).

The original interior woodwork and other elements remain to illustrate the Federal influence that planters embraced during the prosperous era of the early nineteenth century. Mantels on the first floor are fashioned in three-part designs articulated with Federal motifs such as dentil courses and paneled pilasters. A chair rail and flat-paneled wainscoting survive in all rooms on both floors—a testament to the stylish intent of the design, as these generally do not carry to the secondary living spaces in similar period houses. Six-panel doors and plastered walls add to the integrity of the original character.

The house’s original sheathing is covered with modern siding and much of its later two-over-two sash has been supplanted by modern one-over-one windows.



**Figure 13: Jericho: west side and south front elevations, at left, and east side and north rear elevations with original shed-roofed ell and turn-of-the-century hip-roofed addition, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 14: Jericho: details of Federal-style flat-paneled wainscoting and pilastered three-part mantel (photographer: Robbie Jones, 1994).**

The coastal-cottage form of the five-bay-wide LaFayette is striking and unusual (Figure 15 and Figure 16). Its broad gable-end roof covers enclosed rooms at both sides of the front elevation—leaving what is effectively a recessed three-bay porch—and the original rear shed rooms as well. The house is covered with artificial siding, but outside retains many original nine-over-nine windows at its first story and the half-story above, and a trabeated entry. Inside, only one Federal-style mantel, adorned with dentil molding and reeded pilasters, survived in 1998. Other intact Federal details, however, included molded surrounds, horizontal-board-sheathed and flat-paneled wainscoting, and flat-paneled and battened doors. The house was renovated in 1979 after years as a tenant house and vandalism. Its carefully maintained appearance and the lack of exterior alteration since 1998 suggest that its interior, which could not be viewed, remains intact.



**Figure 15: LaFayette: south front and east side elevations, 2017.**



**Figure 16: LaFayette: Federal-style finish of downstairs parlors (photographer: Robbie Jones, 1994).**

Of the Grady Harper House—built between 1820 and 1839, perhaps by Whitfield Grady around 1836 when he moved to Lenoir County— *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:422) states the following (Figure 17):

Typical of many eastern North Carolina farmhouses of the early nineteenth century, the Grady-Harper House is not pretentious but is substantial and comfortable, the sort of practical building indigenous to the agricultural lifestyle of the area's population. The three-bay house with beaded weatherboard siding, arranged in a hall-and-parlor plan, is simply augmented with double-shouldered Flemish-bond chimneys, six-over-six sash windows, and an enclosed end bay on the full-width shed porch. An enclosed stair on the interior rises from the right side of the south room. Complementing the overall Federal design of the dwelling are first-floor mantelpieces composed of pilasters with guilloche bands, a motif repeated and accompanied by incised geometric patterns in the mantel cornices. Walls are covered with plaster above a horizontal flat-paneled wainscot. The second floor is partially finished with unpainted flush sheathing and has a simple unadorned mantel in the south room. A striking feature on the second floor is a floor-to-ceiling stair newel, an element associated with early-nineteenth-century construction.

Since 1998, the house's porch, which was not original, has been altered through the replacement of its posts and the addition of a modern balustrade. Artificial siding hides its beaded weatherboards. The exterior looks little different than it did in the 1990s: it retains its original or early six-over-six sash, along with paved single and double-shouldered chimneys. The interior was not available for viewing, but is believed to be intact.



**Figure 17: Grady-Harper House: front elevation and double-shouldered chimney, 2017.**

The approximately 60-year span of the three building periods of the Rountree-Askew-Moseley House (LR-0797) in the Mewborn's Crossroads community reflect the three popular styles of the first half of the nineteenth century, the Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival (Figure 18 and Figure 19). The house likely began with two rooms and a shed around the turn of the eighteenth century. This section retains wide vertical-sheathed walls and one raised-six-panel door. Between about 1820 and 1840 the owners added a two-story block to the west, which retains such Federal-style features as flat-paneled wainscoting and six-panel doors, molded chair rails and surrounds, and a tripartite mantel. A two-story wing affixed to the north rear by 1860 retains Greek Revival-style post-and-lintel mantels. The residence was in good condition in 1998, but when recorded in 2010 was sorely in need of paint and maintenance. By 2016, however, it had been restored. Its exterior retains original or early nine-over-nine and nine-over-six sash, molded surrounds, Flemish bond chimney on the west, mid-nineteenth-century, open-work porch posts, and weatherboards. The interior was not available for viewing. The residence was determined NRHP-eligible in 1993.



**Figure 18: Rountree-Askew-Moseley House: south front and west side elevations in 2010, at left, and 2017, at right.**



**Figure 19: Rountree-Askew-Moseley House: Trabeated entry at principal front block, at left; at right, rear elevation with ca. 1860 block to right, original block to left, and later added/enclosed shed rooms, 2017.**

The Greek Revival finish of the Study-Listed Wiley Joel Rouse House (LR-1008) suggests it was built toward the end of its assigned 1825-1850 period of construction, perhaps in 1843 (Figure 20 and Figure 21). *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:54) described it as follows:

The five-bay-wide, side-gable house with inset piazza and rear shed rooms features the up-to-date Greek Revival style. Around the front door, letting sunlight into the central hall, are the trademark transom and sidelights. Molded corner blocks accent the corner of the windows and doors, and square Doric posts, pilasters, and a dentiled cornice turn the piazza into a facsimile of a Greek temple. Throughout the interior the house carpenter continued the Greek Revival theme with post-and-lintel mantels, corner block moldings, and paneled aprons beneath the window sills. When the house was restored, the original orange and turquoise feather paintings were repainted on the doors and window aprons. The details are Greek Revival, but the overall form is local, with the piazza leading to a semidetached side kitchen with an exposed-face chimney recalling chimney-construction in antebellum New Bern.

Reflecting its period of construction, when the Federal style was being supplanted, the house features six-panel doors and the more fashionable two-panel doors of the Greek Revival style.



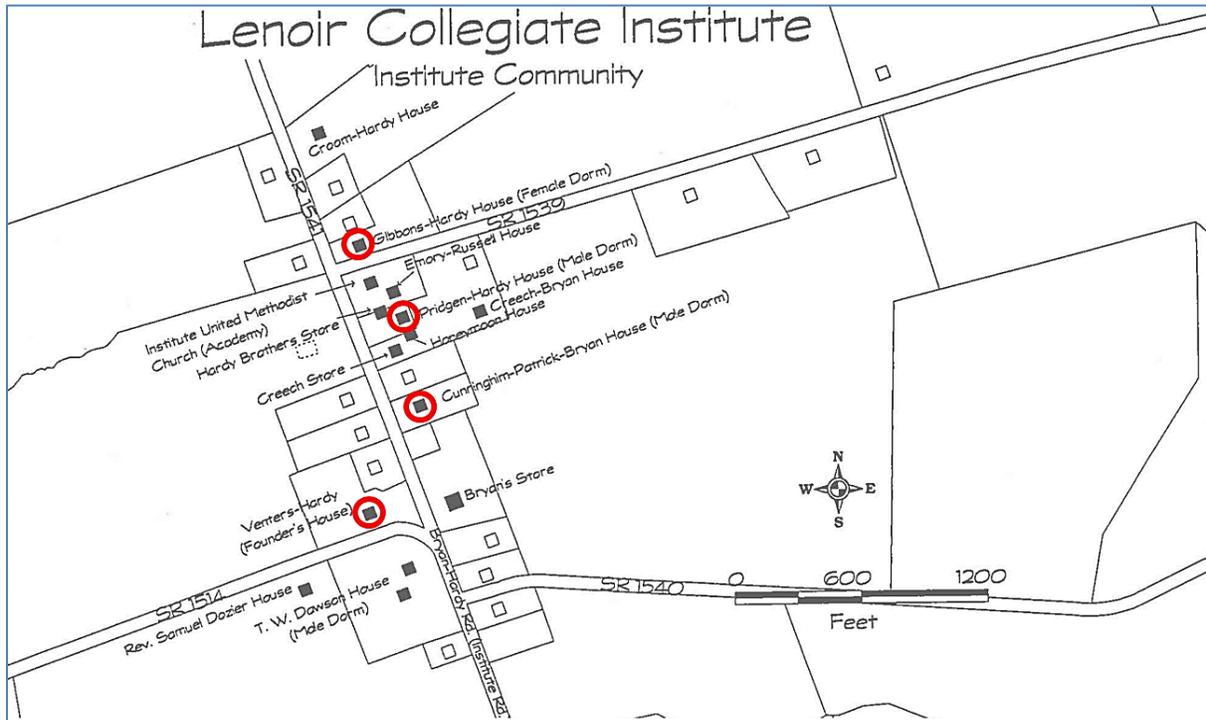
**Figure 20: Wiley Joel Rouse House: west side and south front elevations, at left; south front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 21: Wiley Joel Rouse House: Federal six-panel door within Greek Revival trabeated surround at front entry, at left, 2017; and Greek Revival two-panel door, at right (photographer: Robbie Jones, 1994).**

By 1998 the Wiley Joel Rouse House had received synthetic siding. It retains this siding, but also its original nine-over-nine and nine-over-six sash, square-columned porch posts and corner pilasters, flush gable ends, and trabeated entrance. The only notable alteration since then is the covering over of the exposed chimney face at the east gable end of the one-story kitchen wing. In addition to its fine house, the property includes a large number of outbuildings. The house is included on the North Carolina SL.

Numerous buildings erected between 1853 and 1858 for the Lenoir Collegiate Institute (LR-0940) survive in the eponymous Institute community in northwest Lenoir County (Figure 22 through Figure 24). They include four double-pile, center-hall-plan, hipped and gable-roofed residences built in 1853 as dormitories, a ca. 1855 church, and other single-pile two-story houses. During the middle two quarters of the twentieth century new owners renovated and altered the houses, but they are an important group of buildings and individually represent the Greek Revival-style form and many of its common features.



**Figure 22: Map of Lenoir Collegiate Institute with pictured houses circled in red (source: Kinston Planning Department and Little et al., *Coastal Plain and Fancy*).**

The Pridgen-Hardy and Cunningghim-Patrick-Bryan houses—both built for young men ca. 1853 and remodeled in the 1930s—are representative (Figure 23). The Pridgen-Hardy House retains its form and plan, gable-end roof, interior chimney stacks, flush-gable ends, nine-over-nine and some six-over-six sash, trabeated entry, and chamfered porch posts. Its second-story nine-over-six sash and one of its chimney stacks have been replaced. The larger five-bay-wide Cunningghim-Patrick-Bryan House retains its form, plan, interior chimneys, and trabeated entry, too, along with a low-hipped roof, six-over-six sash, straightforward post-and-lintel mantels, and two-panel doors. Both are also artificially sided, as they were in 1998. The houses have not been individually recorded or assessed, but the Lenoir Collegiate Institute Rural Community is on the North Carolina SL.



**Figure 23: Pridgen-Hardy House, at left, Cunningghim-Patrick-Bryan House, at right, front elevations, 2017.**



**Figure 24: Other less-intact Lenoir Collegiate Institute Rural Community dwellings: T.W. Dawson House (former dormitory), ca.1855, at left; Gibbons-Hardy House (former dormitory), ca. 1853, at right, 2017.**

Kinston's (former) Baptist Parsonage or the Archbell House (LR-0214) was listed in the NRHP in 1989 and remains an intact representative of a straightforward Lenoir County Greek Revival-style dwelling (Figure 25). Built for the parson of the town's First Baptist Church, it is a substantial but relatively plainly finished dwelling. It retains its two-story, double-pile, center-hall-plan form, which is topped by a hipped roof and interior chimney stacks. It further retains six-over-six sash set in simple surrounds, cornerboards topped by minimal capitals, and a wide plain friezeboard topped by a boxed cornice. The NRHP nomination describes the interior in part as follows (Black 1989a):

The interior of the house is as simply finished as is the exterior. Walls are plastered, although some plaster has been taken down and replaced with sheetrock. The original Greek Revival post-and-lintel mantels survive throughout the house; that in the southeast room has an arched opening and a narrow molding around an arched panel on the frieze. All original and restored openings have simple post-and-lintel surrounds except for one. . . . There are modern replacement four-panel doors throughout the house.

Owned by the Lenoir County Historical Association, the house remains intact.



**Figure 25: Archbell House/(former) Baptist Parsonage; front elevation and post-and-lintel mantel with arched panel (source: Lenoir County Historical Association, 2003).**

As the 1850s advanced, some elements of the Italianate style made limited appearances, in association with the Greek Revival, at the county's finer plantation seats. After discussing the

NRHP-listed Dempsey Wood or James Wood House (LR-0008)—briefly addressed in the next section of this report—*Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:58) discusses “[a]nother blend of Greek Revival and Italianate architecture,” the Rouse-Edmondson-Wilson House (LR-0968):

The two-story, double-pile form and double piazza that extends almost completely across the front elevation represent the Greek Revival style, but the unconventional jigsawn decoration of the piazza (a local version of the sheaf-of-wheat balustrade pattern), large square posts, and curvilinear drip course beneath the eaves are Italianate in style. Planter Noah Rouse, born in 1830 and owner of a large plantation with eighteen slaves and three slave houses in 1860, is believed to have built this large plantation house.

The house is remarkably unaltered, in part because of its long vacancy and lack repair or modernization (Figure 26 and Figure 27). It is also much deteriorated. In addition to its piazza its exterior retains weatherboards, wide corner posts with prominent capitals, a wraparound rear porch with original square posts topped by capitals, and six-over-six sash. Some of this sash and the sidelights and transom of the front entry are boarded over, but visible from the interior. Inside the house retains almost all of its original finish, including two-panel doors, chair rails, and a stair with stick railings, rounded handrails, and square posts terminating in capitals. Since 2010 its eight post-and-lintel mantels with tall plain lintels have been removed, its only notable loss. In spite of its condition, it remains a grand example of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles in the county.



**Figure 26: Rouse-Edmondson-Wilson House: front elevation with two-tier porch and porch detail, 2017.**



**Figure 27: Rouse-Edmondson-Wilson House: upstairs front bedroom, upstairs hall looking out to upper porch, and rear porch detail, 2017.**

## LATE 19<sup>TH</sup>/EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE

### Two-story L- and T-plan

As the county recovered after the Civil War and found solid footing on tobacco, its agricultural staple, wealthier individuals continued to erect two-story residences. Many of these were two stories tall, one-pile deep, gabled or hip-roofed, and pierced by a central hall. This I-house form was popular throughout much of the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century and into the first quarter of the twentieth, those with the means often included two-story wings that gave their dwellings an L-, T-, or cross-shaped footprint. This form, sometimes referred to as gable-and-wing, generally falls within the Queen Anne style in Lenoir County, as such features as projecting bays and picturesque rooflines with multiple gables are common. Italianate-style elements that effectively did not come to the county until after the war also adorn these dwellings.

Merchant, tobacco warehouse-owner, county commissioner, and Kinston mayor B.W. Canady erected a two-story, L-plan house (LR-0052) on North Queen Street in Kinston about 1883 (Figure 28 and Figure 29). Its stylish Italianate features include a paneled frieze, denticulated cornice, brackets with pendants, long narrow two-over-two sash, and tall heavily corbeled chimney stacks. Its interior retains Italianate-style mantels on its second floor and Colonial Revival-style mantels added by the family in the early twentieth century. The Doric columns of its wraparound porch also date from its Colonial Revival update. The house was listed in the NRHP in 1989 (Black 1989b; Little et al. 1998:93-94, 205).



**Figure 28: B.W. Canady House: front elevation in 1984 prior to restoration (source: Preservation North Carolina and North Carolina State University), at left, and in 2017.**



**Figure 29: B.W. Canady House: first floor Italianate-style moldings and bay in 1995 after restoration (source: Preservation North Carolina and North Carolina State University), at left, and rear parlor in 2017.**

African-American Ezekiel K. Best erected a two-story T-plan house (LR-1334) on Hicks Avenue in Kinston about 1911 (Little et al. 1998:11, 153, 215-216). Less ornate than many other contemporary houses in Kinston, it nonetheless features Queen Anne and Colonial Revival-style elements, including a full-height side bay, a wraparound porch supported by Tuscan columns, and triangular pediments at its multiple gables (Figure 30). Although its sash has been altered and some bays changed, it retains its weatherboard siding.



**Figure 30: Ezekiel K. Best House: east side elevation, at left, north front and west side elevations, at center, and stair, at right, 2017.**

In LaGrange, Lenoir County's second town, George B.W. Hadley (LR-1100) built a two-story, multi-gabled, L-plan house on West Railroad Street about 1890 (Little et al. 1998:286, 295). Large and neatly finished, it features such Queen Anne-style elements as projecting bay windows, segmentally arched paired windows, and a wraparound porch with turned posts and an upper apron of spindles and jigsawn pendants (Figure 31 and Figure 32). The intact house retains these features along with its original German siding. Recently purchased, the residence is being restored.



**Figure 31: George B.W. Hadley House: west side and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 32: George B.W. Hadley House: front parlor mantel, at left, and view through parlor of ornate stair, 2017.**

Large two-story dwellings, whether ornate or more modestly finished, were more commonly built in Kinston and LaGrange than in rural Lenoir County. Those built in the countryside were almost always more simply finished. The turn-of-the-century Tom Worthington House (LR-0721) near Grifton in northeastern Lenoir is two stories tall with a two-story ell that gives it a T-plan footprint (Little et al. 1998:351). Compared to its town contemporaries, it is modestly finished with cornice returns at its end gables, sidelights and transom at its centered entry, and three heavily corbeled interior chimney stacks (Figure 33). Six large square columns support its hipped-roof front porch. The house also retains six-over-six sash and at least one plain post-and-lintel mantel, viewed through a window, but is covered with artificial siding. Also porches to either side of its two-story ell have been enclosed and the kitchen ell to its rear is likely a later addition.



**Figure 33: Tom Worthington House: south front elevation, at left, and east side and north rear elevations, at right, 2017.**

William Parker Gilbert erected a farmhouse (LR-0725) in the Hugo community around 1910 that matches the contemporary Kinston and LaGrange houses in size, but not in finish (Little et al. 1998:350). Two stories tall with a T-shaped footprint and one-story rear ell, it features a two-story front bay, pedimented gables, and a long porch supported by delicate columns (Figure 34). Its four-over-four windows are intact, but it is now faced with vinyl siding and its interior chimney stacks have been rebuilt without corbels. It may retain its original mantels, but that could not be confirmed. A number of outbuildings continue to stand to its rear. A wealthy man, Gilbert farmed and owned a large sawmill.



**Figure 34: William P. Gilbert House: north front elevation, at left, and west side elevation, at right, 2017.**

Prosperous farmer Joseph Williams erected his two-story, T-plan house (LR-1204) on his 1,150-acre farm in the mid-1910s in the Southwood community (Little et al. 1998:418). The large house is expanded further by one-story ells (Figure 35). Considering the extent of Williams' property holdings, his home is modestly finished. It retains a Victorian porch with turned posts and jigsaw brackets, along with heavily corbeled interior chimney stacks. It otherwise has little exterior detail work, although the addition of artificial siding and a large two-story wing (since 2010) may have removed its original finish.



**Figure 35: Joseph Williams House: north front elevation with tall post-2010 wing, and south rear elevation with later one-story ell and enclosed porches, 2017.**

A largely intact, two-story, T-footprint house in rural Lenoir County is the former home of Herbert William Davis (1860-1926) (LR-1018), which dates from the late nineteenth century (Figure 36 and Figure 37). In the 1870s his father, John P. Davis, ran the Davis Mill, the predecessor of which stands a short distance west in the Strabane community (*Kinston Journal*, November 20, 1879). Local newspapers described Herbert William (or H. William) as a “well known farmer” (*Kinston Daily Free Press*, August 21, 1916). The original exterior features the house retains include a tripartite entry and door with round-headed panels, weatherboard siding, cornice returns, diamond-shaped ventilators, and corbeled brick chimney stacks. A second-story sunroom, placed atop the front porch, is original or an early addition. The house is vacant and its interior is obscured. Its windows are new snap-in sash, though, and its porch and porte cochere are supported by inventive, if non-historic, metal posts. Later-added ells and enclosed porches mark the rear elevation.



**Figure 36: H. William Davis House: north front and south rear elevations, 2017.**



**Figure 37: H. William Davis House: east side and north front elevations, and front entry with sidelights, transom, and Italianate-style paneled door, 2017.**

## Foursquare

The foursquare form became popular nationally in the 1890s and remained so into the 1920s. The boxy foursquare is two stories tall and two rooms deep with a hipped or pyramidal roof, and often a dormer or dormers and a full-façade or wraparound porch. In Lenoir County it was a logical extension of the cubic, hip-roofed Greek Revival-style houses erected in the 1840s and 1850s and Queen Anne and Colonial Revival-style dwellings erected in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries with boxes at their core.

The Study-Listed Seth or Willie West House (LR-0740) at West Crossroads, built ca. 1876, is a nascent foursquare with two-story wing that in form connects it with the T- and L-footprint houses (Little et al. 1998:387). It retains its high-hipped seam-metal roof with interior chimney stack, trabeated entry, and wraparound porch supported by later-added slender columns (Figure 38). Its six-over-six sash has largely been replaced with snap-in sash, vinyl covers its weatherboards, and its porch columns are not original. Whether it retains its basic Victorian woodwork inside was not determined.



**Figure 38: Seth or Willie West House: west side and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Prosperous farmer John Fields erected the Fields-Sugg House (LR-0945) just outside of LaGrange around 1906 (Figure 39). The dwelling combines elements of the Queen Anne style with the foursquare form. Its wraparound porch with turned columns, façade gable, and projecting two-story bays at both side elevations are picturesque Victorian elements applied to the boxy, two-story, double-pile, hipped-roof form of the foursquare. Its exterior retains its original porch, one-over-one-sash, and trabeated entry with a tripartite window arrangement above at the second story. Its siding is modern. Its interior was noted for holding “some of the best preserved and most sophisticated Victorian detailing in the county, featuring such elements as an open-string stairway with molded newel posts, pocket doors, columned overmantels with mirrors, molded window and door surrounds with decorative corner blocks, and an intricate hall screen” (Little et al. 1998:276). In 2001 the Fields-Sugg Farm was determined eligible for NRHP listing. The house currently stands vacant and it could be determined whether its interior remains intact.



**Figure 39: Field-Suggs House: east side and north front elevations, at left, and north front and west side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Charles A. Broadway, Sr., a prominent figure in the Graingers community, erected the eponymous Broadway House (LR-0802) about 1915 or 1916 (Brown 2016:22-36; Little et al. 1998:121; 362). An excellent and little-altered example of a foursquare in the Lenoir County—whether rural or city—it is a square, two-story, double-pile, frame building that is sided by weatherboards and topped by a low-hipped seam-metal roof with wide overhanging eaves (Figure 40). A hip-roofed dormer centered at the northwest front elevation, and two interior brick chimneys topped by corbelled stacks, rise from the roof. The front elevation is three bays wide with a centered front door flanked by a transom and sidelights filled with beveled glass. The large sash windows are eight-over-one. A wraparound hip-roofed porch supported by square columns extends across the front and southwest side elevations. The porch and body of the house stand on brick piers with brick infill. At the rear of the southwest side elevation are paired eight-over-one windows. Six of these windows wrap around the southwest side and southeast rear elevations at the second story, providing generous light and air for the upstairs corner room, as was popular early in the century. A hip-roofed three-quarters-width porch, which includes what appears to be an original enclosed room, crosses the rear elevation.

The house’s interior has two large rooms across its front and two rooms divided by a center hall behind (Figure 41). Its ceilings are 11-feet tall and its walls are plastered. The front rooms, which were available for viewing, include two brick mantels, large pocket doors, a five panel door,

original push-button light switches, and molded baseboards, cornices, and surrounds. Overall, both the interior and exterior of the house are remarkably intact. The Broadway House was determined eligible for NRHP listing in 2010/2016.



**Figure 40: Charles A. Broadway House: west front elevation, at left, and west and south side elevations, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 41: Charles A. Broadway House: front parlors, 2016.**

In 1915 James and Sudie Wooten built a large foursquare in LaGrange (LR-1085). Amplified by a two-story bay to one side, a smaller oriel to the other, and a long footprint, it shows the tenacity of Queen Anne-style elements in Lenoir, even in the face of the foursquare form and Craftsman-style decorative elements (Figure 42). The house's Craftsman features include prominently exposed rafter tails and a spacious wraparound porch with tapered columns raised high on brick piers. Its hip-roofed front dormer, sided by shingles, mirrors its principal hip roof. Other original features include most of its one-over-one sash, an entry with sidelights and transom, and a tall corbelled chimney stack. Since 1998, it has been sided with vinyl and some of its original two-over-two sash has been removed. Its interior was not viewed.



**Figure 42: James and Sudie Wooten House: east side and north front elevations, at left, and north front and west side elevations, at right, 2017.**

## Craftsman

The Craftsman style appears at houses throughout the county from roughly 1910 into the 1930s as a decorative addition and at the full-blown Craftsman bungalow. Exposed rafter ends, triangular kneebraces, multi-pane-over-one sash and, particularly, porches with tapered posts on brick piers, were the most common Craftsman features added to earlier dwellings. The ca. 1850 Greek Revival-style Emory-Russell House in Institute (LR-0940), for example, received a Craftsman-style porch extended out into a porte cochere in the early twentieth century (Figure 43).



**Figure 43: Emory-Russell House: west front elevation with later-added porch and porte cochere, 2017.**

The Dr. Brantson Beeson and Naomi Holder House (LR-0924) also applies Craftsman elements—deep wraparound porch and porte cochere with tapered posts on brick piers, triangular kneebraces, four-over-one sash—to a one-and-a-half-story house with a complicated arrangement of roofs that recalls the Queen Anne (Figure 44). Their house was not only a late nod to the Victorian, but even a bit behind the times by Craftsman standards: they built it as a retirement home, near Institute, in 1936 (Little et al. 1998:319). Vinyl siding and a red metal roof are later alterations.



**Figure 44: Dr. Brantson Beeson and Naomi Holder House: north side and west front elevations, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Although the use of Craftsman elements does not make a house a bungalow or even indicate that it was built in the early twentieth century, there are numerous houses in Lenoir that are clear representatives of the Craftsman-style bungalow. James William Brothers chose the Craftsman style full-blown for the dwelling he erected in 1928 just outside of Institute (LR-0921) (Figure 45). Built of brick it has long sweeping gabled roofs underpinned by triangular kneebraces, a gabled-dormer with exposed rafter ends and kneebraces, and a wraparound porch and porte cochere with exposed rafter ends and kneebraces, as well as tapered wooden posts on brick piers. (Since the below photographs were taken in 2010, the house's four-over-one sash has been replaced by one-over-one windows; otherwise it remains as pictured.)



**Figure 45: James William Brothers House: northeast side and northwest front elevations, at left, and northwest front elevation, at right, in 2010.**

Felix Hardison (LR-0770) erected his bungalow in the Savannah community in the late 1910s (Little et al. 1998:330) (Figure 46 and Figure 47). More modestly scaled than the Brothers House and of wood rather than brick, it nonetheless utilizes the same Craftsman palette and even retains its four-over-one sash intact. According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:330), the Hardison House was “one of the more ambitious of those built in rural areas of the county.” It continues:

Conforming to a traditional central-hall double-pile plan, the one-and-a-half-story dwelling includes the archetypal engaged front porch and accent wood shingles in

the side gables and front gabled dormer. Setting this example apart from other rural bungalows are the elaborate window and door treatments, composed of full entablatures supported by pilasters, and the shaped exposed rafter ends beneath the porch. A second-story Palladian window in the gable end, eight-over-one sash windows, and nicely detailed bungalow porch columns also add to this house a sophistication rarely seen in rural areas.

Other than deterioration caused by neglect and vacancy, the house looks like it did when built.



**Figure 46: Felix Hardison House: west side and south front elevation, at left, in 2017, and front elevation, at right, in 2010.**



**Figure 47: Felix Hardison House: front entry and window details, 2017.**

The decorative nature of the Craftsman, which could adapt to any residential form, is apparent at this house, which may have been erected by African-American farmer Owen Williams. According to the federal census, Williams lived in the same house in 1935 and 1940 in Moseley Township in which this gable-front house is located. (The house and associated farmland are currently owned by Williams' heirs.) A 1930s construction date conforms with its appearance (Figure 48). The one-story form of the frame house connects it with innumerable small dwellings built in Lenoir County and elsewhere in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, although these were more commonly gable-end than front gabled. The front gable with triangular kneebraces connects it to the Craftsman, as do paired four-over-one sash, a full-façade porch, and tall brick piers supporting plain posts that may be a later replacement. In addition to its Craftsman elements, the house retains its original weatherboards and brick foundation piers.



**Figure 48: Owen Williams House: south front elevation, at left, and east side elevation, at right, 2017.**

## LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY/MID-20<sup>TH</sup>-CENTURY CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

Six antebellum churches survive, at least in part, in Lenoir County. These are addressed in the following section at the individual assessment of the antebellum Croom Meeting House (LR-1040). Scores of additional churches erected from 1870 to 1970 (and beyond) are scattered throughout the county. More than 50 churches erected during this 100-year span have been recorded in the county, the large majority of which still stand. As with the antebellum churches, few of these survive unaltered. Indeed, only the larger and grander masonry churches in Kinston and LaGrange are intact. These include the 1911 Queen Street United Methodist Church (LR-0061), 1913 Gordon Street Christian Church (LR-0108), 1914 former First Church of Christ Scientist or Gateway to Heaven Pentecostal Church (LR-0107), and 1914 Saint John's United African Free Will Baptist Church (LR-0401), all in Kinston, and Ebenezer Missionary Baptist (LR-1151), built by an African-American congregation in LaGrange in 1920 (Figure 49). As these are of limited comparative value to the five rural resources assessed in this report, they are not further addressed.



**Figure 49: Early twentieth-century postcard views of Gordon Street Christian Church and Queen United Methodist Church (sources: North Carolina Postcards, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) and Queen Street Church).**

Five of the resources assessed in this report are relatively modest churches erected and modified from the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century: Banks Chapel (LR-0914), King's Chapel (LR-1194), Sandy Bottom Baptist (LR-1039), Trinity Methodist (LR-0702), and Webb

Chapel (LR-1038). The following provides a context for the evaluation of these churches. (A separate Jones County context is developed at the individual assessment of Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church (JN-0102).)

According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:79), churches built in the county starting in the late 1800s were commonly frame, front gabled, and lacking steeples. Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church (LR-0998) in 1998 retained its original late nineteenth-century form, weatherboards, and four-over-four sash, which were embellished with corner pilasters and pedimented surrounds at the entry and windows (Figure 50). This church was demolished and replaced by 2010.



**Figure 50: Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church: in 1994, at left (photographer: Robbie Jones), and replacement church, at right, in 2017.**

Two Gothic Revival-style town churches are at the upper end of the type of gable-front church found out in the county, the NRHP-listed former LaGrange Presbyterian Church (Rotary Club Building) (LR-0006), built in 1892 (Little and Sumner 1986), and the 1895 former LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church (LR-1134) (Figure 51 and Figure 52). Built of frame within two blocks of each other only three years apart, they are, according to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:301) "undoubtedly designed and built by the same carpenter." Both are three bays wide and six bays deep, with pairs of dormers at either side elevation, narrow lancet windows, and prominent steeples. The refinement of their stained glass, molded surrounds, and original steeples and soaring spires separate them from their country contemporaries, though their basic forms are largely the same. They are little altered, although both have been vinyl sided.



**Figure 51: LaGrange Presbyterian Church: north side and west front elevations, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right, 2017.**



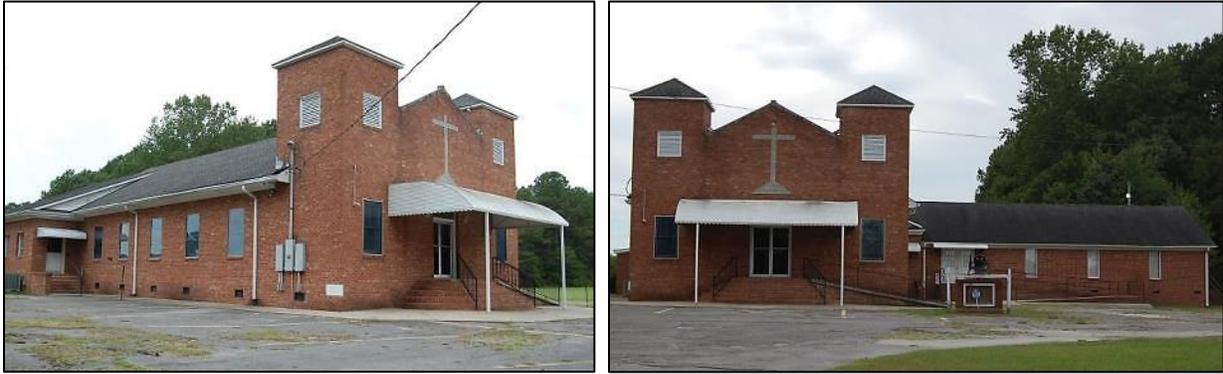
**Figure 52: LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church: north side and west front elevations, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right, 2017.**

All of Lenoir County's rural churches that survive from the period are altered to a greater or lesser extent. The following seven are representative. An African-American congregation erected Rockford Chapel Free Will Baptist Church (LR-0993) near LaGrange about 1915 (Figure 53). The church is frame with a T-shaped footprint. Its windows have been replaced and its vestibule and stepped tower-like steeple may be later additions. It is covered with vinyl which, though not original, partly reflects its original weatherboarded appearance. (All of the surviving rural churches are believed to have been built with weatherboard cladding, but all are re-sided. Most of the later siding is brick veneer, which is often out of character.)



**Figure 53: Rockford Chapel: west side and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Another African-American congregation erected the Vine Swamp Church of Christ (LR-1205) in the vicinity of Elm Grove early in the twentieth century (Little et al. 1998:425) (Figure 54). Its church retains opalescent stained-glass windows and paired corner towers. In the 1950s the congregation added a cinderblock cross-wing at the rear and brick-veneered the building. A large wing extending to the building's northwest postdates 1988. Although the church was originally weatherboarded, its brick veneer conforms to some extent with its towered design. It recalls the appearance of such refined black churches, erected of brick with towers, as Kinston's Saint John's United African Free Will Baptist Church (ca. 1914) and LaGrange's Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church (1920).



**Figure 54: Vine Swamp Church: southeast side and northeast front elevations, at left, and northeast front elevation and later wing, at right, 2017.**

Airy Grove Christian Church (LR-0793) rose near Kinston around 1895. Its sanctuary is “typical of churches in the county—frame, front gable, one bay wide, and three bays deep” (Little et al. 1998:328). Its steeple is a later addition, as are its windows, and a large education wing was added across the rear prior to 1998. Although re-sided, it is clad with vinyl in imitation of its original weatherboards (Figure 55).



**Figure 55: Airy Grove Christian Church: southeast side and northeast front elevations, at left, and northeast front and northwest side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Bethel Christian Church (LR-0719) near Grifton dates from 1925. It is more intact than many contemporaries in the county. Although remodeled in 1956, it retains its gable-front T-plan design and pointed-arch windows. Further, a steeple was not added to it and its weatherboards are covered with vinyl rather than brick veneer (Little et al. 1998:354) (Figure 56).



**Figure 56: Bethel Christian Church: south side and east front elevations, at left, and east front and north side elevations, at right, 2017.**

The grandest of the county's rural churches is the Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church (LR-0730) near West Crossroads. It was built around 1888 with three front towers, reflecting the popularity of the towered form among Lenoir's African-American congregations (Figure 57). Its triangular-arched bays appear to be original, but its steeples do not. In 1972 the congregation brick-veneered the building and added a side wing (Little et al. 1998:83, 386).



**Figure 57: Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church: north side and west front elevations, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Bethany United Methodist Church (LR-0736) at West Crossroads dates from ca.1891. According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:388):

The original frame building was a good example of a plain country church and features such typical architectural elements as gable returns, a rear apse, and lancet-arched stained-glass windows. Between 1971 and 1977 a complete renovation of the building was undertaken by the congregation. This remodeling—like renovation at other churches in the county—included a side classroom wing, an entrance vestibule, brick veneer, and a steeple with chimes.

The church looks much like it did in the late 1970s (Figure 58).



**Figure 58: Bethany United Methodist Church: west front elevation with added classroom wing, at left, and south side elevation and cemetery, at right, 2017.**

Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church (LR-0758), built in the Fountain Hill community in 1912, retains its original steeple-less gable-front form, cornice returns, and triangular-arched stained-glass windows, (Little et al. 1998:346). Its relatively minor changes include the addition of a small front vestibule and rear addition in the mid-twentieth century and the covering of its weatherboards with vinyl siding (Figure 59).



**Figure 59: Edwards Chapel United Methodist Church: east side elevation, at left, and north front and west side elevations, at right, 2017.**

## 4. INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

### 4.1 NATHAN GEORGE SUTTON HOUSE



Nathan George Sutton House
LR-0956 [AECOM Survey #2]
5030 Mays Store Road, LaGrange vicinity
Parcel Record #15829
PIN #356500692049
Ca. 1870-1880
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

#### Description

The Nathan George Sutton House sits at the northwest corner of a 137-acre rural parcel south of the US 70 corridor and LaGrange. Surrounded by farmland, the parcel contained multiple outbuildings when it was last surveyed in 2010. With the exception of a garage to its north, all of these resources have disappeared from the landscape (Figure 60).



**Figure 60: Site plan of Nathan George Sutton House with Mays Store Road at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

#### Nathan George Sutton House

Likely built between 1870 and 1880, the frame Sutton House is one room deep, two stories tall, and three-bays wide. It originally stood on a brick-piered foundation that has since been filled in with concrete masonry blocks. The side-gabled house retains its original weatherboards,

cornerboards, cornice returns, and boxed eaves, but features a replacement standing-seam-metal roof. Typical of the I-house form in the state, two exterior-end brick chimneys are found on the building's east and west gable ends (Figure 61 through Figure 64).

A two-story pedimented portico frames the central bay of the house's south front elevation. Two modern metal columns support the original pediment, which features a molded cornice, a deep set tympanum, and an unadorned frieze. The original two-story four-column porch survived at least into the mid-1990s, though it had been replaced by its 2010 re-recording. The house in the 1990s also retained its original trabeated front entry. The sidelights and door are currently boarded over, but match those still exposed at the bay centered. The current narrow, modern, second-story balcony is only a shadow of the one it supplanted, which had an ornate sawnwork balustrade. The same balustrade treatment framed the first-story porch as well. The house retains its original four-over-four double-hung windows, which are set in plain surrounds.

A long, one-story, shed-roofed room crosses two-thirds of the north rear elevation. A bay on its east side is weatherboarded over; another facing north is covered with plywood. The entry in the shed, which is centered at the rear elevation, is now boarded over. When viewed in 2010, its sidelight treatment matched that of the front elevation, indicating the shed is original. Further, it is supported by brick piers like those of the main block. A chunky tapered column that still edges its one-bay porch looks like it too may be an early or original feature. Next to the shed, also affixed to the house's rear, is a one-story gabled ell and that was likely the house's kitchen.

The substantial addition that extends from the house's northwest rear corner is decidedly later, apparently dating from around the turn of the twentieth century. It contains a long wing to the rear of the ell that is served by a tall massive brick chimney. Projecting from the west side of this wing is two-vehicle carport supported by brick columns. The footprint of the addition is almost equal in size to that of the house, although it only stands a single story tall.



**Figure 61: Nathan George Sutton House: at left, west side and south front elevations in 2017 and, at right, in the 1990s (source: *Coastal Plain and Fancy*).**



Figure 62: Nathan George Sutton House: at left, south front elevation; at right, south front and east side elevations.



Figure 63: Nathan George Sutton House: at left, east side and north rear elevations; at right, north rear elevation.



Figure 64: Nathan George Sutton House: west side and south front elevations.

Although the interior of the house was inaccessible—its owners live in Chapel Hill, it is not rented out, and repeated visits found no one home—some rooms could be partially viewed (Figure 65). At least the west first-floor parlor has been modernized, but the early stairway appears to remain in place. *Coastal Plain and Fancy*: (Little et al. 1998:275) described the interior as follows:

On the interior, mantels on the first floor are replacements from a house on Queen Street in Kinston, while simply rendered mantels on the second floor are original

to the house. The elegant curved staircase, from its curvilinear wall to its walnut handrail and turned balusters, is a feature found more often in urban houses than even comfortably affluent country farmhouses.



**Figure 65: Nathan George Sutton House: at left, composite view of stair hall, 2010; at right, west parlor, 2017.**

### Garage/Shed

A side-gabled frame garage to the house's rear may date from the early or mid-twentieth century. Its vinyl siding and modern garage door, though, give it the appearance of a late twentieth century building (Figure 66).



**Figure 66: Nathan George Sutton House: view of garage/shed looking north.**

### History

Nathan George Sutton (1847-1919) was the fourth son of William Isler Sutton and his wife, Sallie Rouse. The 1850 slave schedule records William as owning 21 slaves, placing him in the top 20 percent of property owners in Lenoir County (1850 Slave Schedule). Following the death of his father in 1854, Nathan continued to live with his mother until his marriage to Sarah Dawson, which occurred during the early 1870s. By 1880 Nathan was listed as married, head of his own house, and the father of three children (1880 Federal Census). It is likely around this time (1870-1880) that the Nathan George Sutton House was built, presumably on lands given to

him by his then aging mother. Due to a gap in the Lenoir County records, the land could not be traced back to this assumed transaction.

In 1916, three years prior to his death, Nathan gifted the property to two of his children as tenants in common (Lenoir County Deed Book, 63/132). In 1924 Nathan's son, Dr. C.W. Sutton, took full ownership of the property from his siblings (Lenoir County Deed Book, 78/217). Shortly thereafter he sold it to J.W. and Mamie Gray (Lenoir County Deed Book, 78/213). The Grays sold the property in 1940 to Walter and Vera Baker (Lenoir County Deed Book, 186/218) who kept it for only a year before transferring it to Leaman and Frances Harrison (Book Lenoir County Deed). Following the Harrisons' deaths, the property passed into the hands of their children who still own it today (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1743/750). The house currently sits vacant and suffers greatly from neglect.

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Nathan George Sutton House retains its two-story, single-pile, center-hall-plan form, along with weatherboards, cornerboards, cornice returns, and boxed eaves. Its two-tier front porch, however, has been jarringly replaced by two modern full-height columns. A second major addition is the large modern ell and carport affixed to its northwest corner. The house's curving staircase is early and refined, but the first floor otherwise appears to be largely altered. Due to these alterations and additions, the house no longer retains its integrity and is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. When compared with the two-story houses discussed above at Section 3—both those from the antebellum period and the later nineteenth century—its loss of physical integrity is apparent and it is accordingly not recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. The house additionally lacks association with any notable historic event or figure. It therefore is recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction. Accordingly it is not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 4: Nathan George Sutton House**

NATHAN GEORGE SUTTON HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on site where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Form, weatherboards, cornerboards, and eaves intact, but jarring modern full-height portico and additions.
Setting	Medium	Remains in rural setting, but has lost all but one outbuilding.
Materials	Low to Medium	Form, weatherboards, cornerboards, and eaves intact, but jarring modern full-height portico and additions.
Workmanship	Low to Medium	Form, weatherboards, cornerboards, and eaves intact, but jarring modern full-height portico and additions.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Low-to-medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship limit integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Low-to-medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship limit integrity of association.

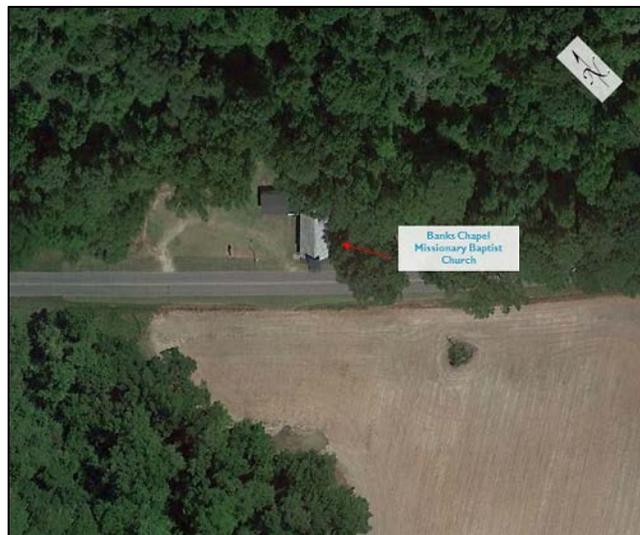
## 4.2 BANKS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Banks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
LR-0914 [AECOM Survey #12]
2764 Eason Road, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #26121 PIN #358500839603
Ca. 1900
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

### Description

Located just over seven miles west of Kinston, north of the US 70 corridor, Banks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is situated on a one-half-acre lot, close by the east side of Eason Road. The church stands in a small clearing and is surrounded on its north, east, and west sides by dense woods. It is the only resource on the parcel, which does not even include a parking lot (Figure 67).



**Figure 67: Site plan of Banks Chapel Missionary Chapel with Eason Road at center (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

Dating from around the turn-of-the-twentieth-century, the frame church, clad in later-added vinyl siding, rests on a continuous concrete masonry block foundation and features a rambling T-shaped plan (Figure 68 and Figure 69). Its original front-gabled central block, constituting the building’s sanctuary, stands one bay wide and four deep. Topping the south front ridge of the church’s gabled roof is a simple wood frame steeple clad in vinyl siding that is a later addition. The church’s south-facing entrance is accessed through a vestibule that is also a later addition. Like the rest of the building, it is clad in later vinyl siding. Its centered double glass doors are modern. A brick stair framed with cast iron railings leads to the door.

Four original arched windows filled with multi-colored lights adorn both the east and west side elevations of the sanctuary. At sanctuary’s rear a small squat apse extended to the north includes

similar arched windows, which suggest that it is original to the church. Two later wings of unequal length project to either side of the apse. Separate from the worship space, they are likely utilized for church programming and other events. Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the building was unavailable.



**Figure 68: Banks Chapel: at left, south front and east side elevations; at right, east side and north rear elevations with original apse at center.**



**Figure 69: Banks Chapel: at left, north rear and west side elevations; at right, west side elevation.**

## History

According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:367):

The church congregation was established in 1870 by a group of citizens including Jonas Evans, E.N. Patterson, and Robert Harper. Church services were held in a small house until the current building was built. Pastors of the church have included Squire Jones, E.N. Patterson, W.H. Bryant, and Isaac Jordan.

Contradicting this information slightly, a sign posted outside the church states that the congregation was established in 1872. Research uncovered no other information about the church or its African-American congregation. The North Carolina HPO GIS map notes that a Banks Chapel School (no SSN #) once stood just north of the church. It has left no visible mark on the land. HPO files also note that the school was built with assistance from the Rosenwald

Fund, confirming that the church has always, or for many years, had a black congregation ([http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/rosenwald/Rosenwald\\_Schools\\_in\\_NCHPO\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/rosenwald/Rosenwald_Schools_in_NCHPO_Survey.pdf))

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Due to its alterations and additions, Banks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church no longer retains its integrity and is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. Its weatherboards are covered with vinyl and its front vestibule and the steeple atop it are additions. Also later added are the one-story wings that extend in three directions from its rear. Its integrity, as well as its design, is not equal to that of other similarly fashioned churches in Lenoir County, including LaGrange Presbyterian Church, LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, and Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church, discussed at Section 3, above. Therefore it is not recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. The church further lacks association with any notable historic event or figure and is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its construction or appearance. It is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 5: Banks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church**

BANKS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Retains original core form and original or early windows, but sided with vinyl and extended at front by a vestibule and steeple and at the rear by multiple additions.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	Low	Retains original core form and original or early windows, but sided with vinyl and extended at front by a vestibule and steeple and at the rear by multiple additions.
Workmanship	Low	Retains original core form and original or early windows, but sided with vinyl and extended at front by a vestibule and steeple and at the rear by multiple additions.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.

### 4.3 WARTERS-PARROTT-COLEMAN FARM

	Warters-Parrott-Coleman Farm
	LR-0967 [AECOM Survey #13]
	5886 Highway 70 West, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record #1691
	PIN #358500744244
	Ca. 1875-1890
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing	

#### Description

The Warters-Parrott-Coleman House is situated on a 308-acre parcel of agricultural land on the north side of US 70 between LaGrange and Kinston. The house and numerous accompanying secondary buildings—remnants of a twentieth-century tobacco farm—sit on an open green space at the southern side of the large parcel. The farm complex is surrounded on its northern, eastern, and western sides by actively farmed fields (Figure 70 and Figure 71).

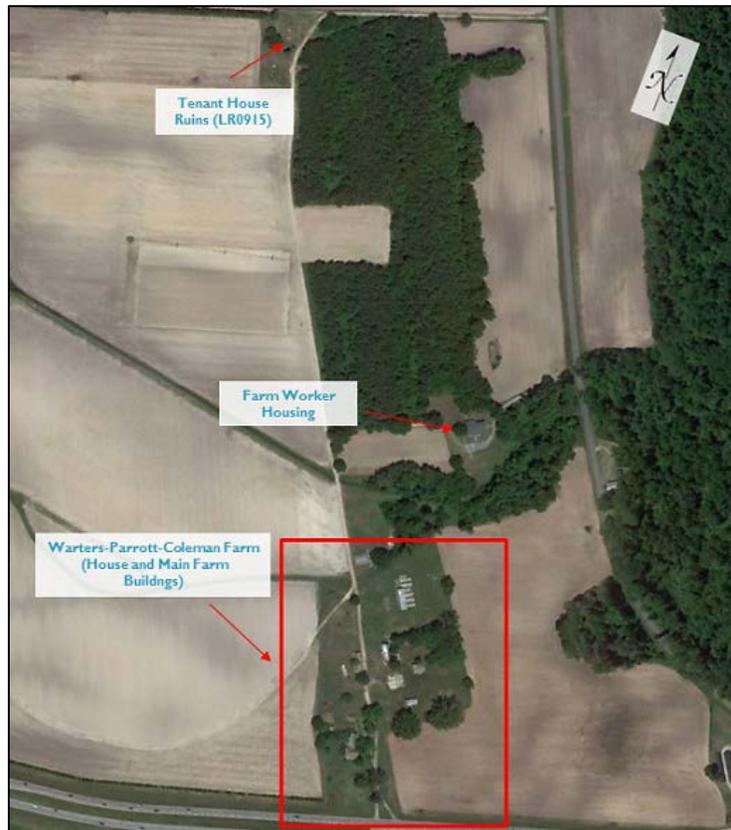


Figure 70: Site plan of Warters-Parrott-Coleman Farm (base image courtesy of Google Earth).



**Figure 71: Zoom view site plan of Warters-Parrott-Coleman Main Farm Buildings (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

### Warters-Parrott-Coleman House

The frame Warters-Parrott-Coleman had two principal building phases. Its front block, which faces the road, appears to date from the late nineteenth century. The rear ell was likely built a decade or two earlier. The one-and-a-half-story, two-pile, front block sits atop a continuous concrete-block foundation and is topped with a steeply pitched side-gabled roof. The roof is clad in standing-seam metal and features two centrally located interior ridgeline chimneys. An 11-bay shed roof dormer that featured four-over-four double-hung windows—now hidden behind plywood—sits atop the block's south-facing front elevation. A prominent feature of the house, it is likely an early/mid-twentieth-century addition. Curiously, dormer never appears to have opened into the house; photographs taken before it was boarded over appear to picture the roof to

its rear. The house's original weatherboards are covered by vinyl siding. An early shed-roofed porch supported by four square wooden columns extends across the front elevation. In its shade is a central entry flanked on either side by original four-over-four double-hung windows. Two identical windows are found on both the east and west gable ends. In addition, two paired, fixed, four-light windows pierce the gable peaks at the side elevations (Figure 72 through Figure 75).

A single-story, one-bay, gable-end ell that is likely the house's earliest section extends from the main block's north rear elevation. Like the front block, it is clad in later-added vinyl siding. An early/mid-twentieth-century sun porch extends along the ell's east side elevation where a porch was once located. A few of the windows in on the former porch retain original six-over-six sash. At the west elevation, a recess suggests that the ell and front block were once separated by an open breezeway. An interior ridgeline brick chimney stack rises from the ell's standing-seam-metal roof.



**Figure 72: Warters-Parrott-Coleman House: south front elevation with boarded-over shed dormer in 2017; and shed in 1994 with at least part of roof to its rear visible through windows (Robbie Jones).**



**Figure 73: Warters-Parrott-Coleman House: south front and east side elevations, at left; east side elevation, at right.**



**Figure 74: Warters-Parrott-Coleman House: at left, east side elevation of ell at sunporch; at right, east side and north rear elevations of ell.**



**Figure 75: Warters-Parrott-Coleman House: at left, west side elevation with recess that may once have been an open breezeway; at right, west side and south front elevations.**

While interior access was not available, views through windows revealed that the house's interior has been altered. At the front block, the hallway holds late twentieth-century wallboard partitions and doors. At least one Victorian mantel with turned pilasters remains in a front parlor, though. The ell's interior appears to have fallen victim to a modernized kitchen (Figure 76).



**Figure 76: Warters-Parrott-Coleman House: at left, main block center hallway; at right, main block parlor mantel.**

### Cold Storage Shed

This early twentieth-century, front-gabled, frame shed is located immediately to the house's rear. It is clad in weatherboards, topped by seam-metal roof, and accessed by a wood-batten door at its north gable. The interior of the building is clad with vertical wood boards that extend over its ceiling. The space between the interior and exterior walls would have insulated items kept in the building, particularly if it was once filled straw or another material (Figure 77).



**Figure 77:** Left, view of northern elevation of shed, looking to south; right, view of interior of shed, looking south.

### Garage

The clipped-gable frame building, which likely dates from the early twentieth century, is located near the rear of the house. This is not surprising, as it was erected as a garage. A shed-roofed shelter supported by three wooden brackets extends over the original two-bay garage openings, which have been covered. The building is clad in weatherboards (Figure 78).



**Figure 78:** South side and east front elevations of garage, at left, and interior view showing alterations, at right.

### Smokehouse

The turn-of-the-century smokehouse is also located close to the house's rear. Its frame body is covered with board-and-batten siding and topped by a pyramidal standing-seam metal roof. A centrally placed replacement wood door is located on the east elevation. The building's interior reveals smoke-stained wooden members (Figure 79).



**Figure 79:** View looking northeast at smokehouse, at left, and smoke-stained interior, at right.

### Open Shed and Chimney Ruins

The remains of an open shed and chimney are located to the northwest of the house. Their original functions could not be determined (Figure 80).



**Figure 80:** Left, view of chimney and shed ruins, looking west; right, view of chimney ruin looking south.

### Packhouse

A frame early/mid-twentieth packhouse is one of a small number of tobacco-related outbuildings that still stand on the parcel. It is raised off the ground on brick piers and topped by a standing-seam, gabled roof. Its entire body, including its openings, is covered by a later addition of sheet metal. Unlike many other packhouses, it is long rather than tall (Figure 81).



**Figure 81:** At left, west elevation of packhouse, at right, south and east elevations.

### Shed

The original function of this early/mid-twentieth-century gabled outbuilding is unclear. It may have been a packhouse or a shed, but its interior is surprisingly finished with beaded wallboards. It is divided into two large rooms and does not appear to have been used as residence. It once had multiple windows and doors, all of which have been covered in sheet metal (Figure 82).



**Figure 82:** Left, view of northeast corner of Shed, looking southwest; right, view of interior of shed, looking south.

### Equipment Shed

This late-twentieth-century pole building is enclosed on three sides by vertical wood siding, but open on one long elevation to facility the storage of large farm equipment. It is divided into four open bays by large wooden posts, which are covered by a metal gabled roof and overhang. Old gas pumps stand a short distance to its east (Figure 83).



**Figure 83:** At left, view looking southwest at equipment shed; at right, old gas pumps a short distance to its front.

### Machine Shop

The mid-twentieth-century frame building likely served as a machine shop. Its gabled roof is topped by standing-seam metal with exposed rafter ends and its walls and former openings have been covered with vertical metal sheathing. Its varied openings suggest changing use over time (Figure 84).



**Figure 84:** At left, view looking northeast at machine shop; at right, view looking west.

### Bulk Barn Shed

This partially intact shed once served a number of bulk barns. They have been removed but their concrete pads remain. It likely dates to the late twentieth century (Figure 85).



**Figure 85:** View of former bulk barn shed looking west.

### Tobacco Barn

This early/mid-twentieth-century building is the only surviving tobacco barn on the parcel. Its frame was later covered with vertical metal sheathing. A gabled metal roof tops it (Figure 86).



**Figure 86:** At left, view looking northwest at tobacco barn; at right, view looking northeast.

### Greenhouse

Opposite the barn stands this late twentieth-century, plastic-covered, cold-frame greenhouse (Figure 87).



**Figure 87:** View west at greenhouse.

### Farm Worker Housing

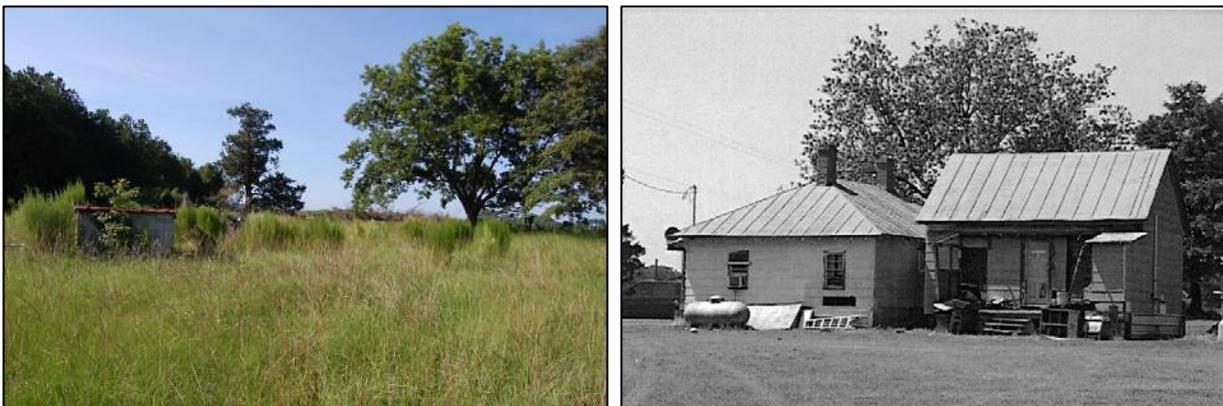
This one-story concrete-block building is located to the far northeast of the Warters-Parrott-Coleman House. This is not surprising, as it was built in late-twentieth or early-twenty-first-century to house farm workers. It appears to be organized much like a tiny motel unit, but with some common space at its taller section (Figure 88).



**Figure 88: Left, view of southern elevation of Worker Housing Building; right, view of eastern elevation of building, looking west.**

### Tenant House Ruins (LR-0915)

Only ruins stand at the site of the former Warters-Parrott-Coleman tenant house. Likely built in the early twentieth century, it was located to the far northwest of the house (Figure 89).



**Figure 89: At left, view of ruins of former tenant house, looking east; at right, 1994 photograph of house (Robbie Jones).**

## History

*Coastal Plain and Fancy* includes the following property history (Little et al. 1998:367-368):

This picturesque farmstead complete with a retinue of domestic and agricultural buildings was established prior to the Civil War, probably by the Warters family. Set in a grove of mature oak trees, the one-and-a-half story frame dwelling in its present configuration reflects a housing form frequently built in the era following the Civil War and into the first decade of the twentieth century. The earliest section of the house is said to be in the elongated rear ell, thought to have been built in the antebellum period, most likely by a member of the locally prominent Warters family. James Marion Parrott (1824-1877) married Elizabeth Warters (1832-1903) and probably lived in a dwelling on this farm, which is believed to have been owned by Elizabeth's father prior to the Civil War. According to family tradition the property passed to Dr. James Marion Parrott III and

subsequently to his daughter Elizabeth Parrott Coleman. Who constructed which portions of the house is hard to determine. Judging from birth and death dates and architectural evidence, however, the main one-and-a-half-story house appears to have been built either by James Marion Parrott shortly before his death in 1877 or by his widow, Elizabeth, within a decade following her husband's death. By the early 1930s, the property had been converted to a farm manager's residence, and members of the Parrott family had moved into Kinston (Little et. al 1998, 367).

Following the death of Elizabeth Parrott Coleman (1909-1973) and her husband, William August Coleman (d.1974), the house passed into the hands of their three children: William, Charles (Craig), and Elizabeth (Coleman) Jimison (Figure 90). In 1979 Craig Coleman, the only child living in Lenoir County, purchased his siblings' interest in the property (Lenoir County Deed Book, 739/394 1979). Craig then sold the property in July of the same year to C. Felix Harvey and J.W. Roberts, prominent famers in the Kinston area (Lenoir County Deed Book, 745/308). The property remains in the hands of Harvey Enterprises Inc. today and is actively farmed. The homestead and the majority of the outbuildings have been abandoned and a number of outbuildings have been torn down within the past few years.



**Figure 90: Elizabeth Parrott Coleman and her husband, William Augustus Coleman (The Lenoir County Historical Association 1981).**

### **National Register of Historic Places Evaluation**

Due to its alterations, the Warters-Parrott-Coleman House no longer retains its integrity and is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. It lacks association with any notable historic event or figure. It therefore is recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B.

While the house's principal front block retains its one-and-a-half-story, gable-end, double-pile form and long shed-roofed dormer, many alterations have been made to it. It is sided in vinyl, its porch posts are replacements, and some of its windows, including those of its dormer, have been enclosed. The rear ell, likely the house's original block, retains some original sash, but its east-facing porch has been enclosed and a later shed room extends from its west-facing elevation. It too is vinyl sided. Inside, the front block retains at least one original post-and-lintel mantel, but it has been sheetrocked and many of its doors have been replaced. The interior of the ell has also been modernized. When compared with the houses that most closely match its period of

construction and its one-and-a-half-story dormered form, it appears to have lost much of its integrity. These houses include those discussed at Section 3, above, such as the Dr. Brantson Beeson and Naomi Holder House (Figure 44), the James Williams Brothers House (Figure 45), and the Felix Hardison House (Figure 46). The house is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criterion C for its architecture. The house and its outbuildings are also not recommended as eligible under Criterion C as a significant and distinguishable, multiple-component entity. Many of the former farms' outbuildings survive to the rear (north) of the house, though they have largely been sided with sheet metal. Within the past few years, however, many have been demolished—including an associated tenant house and outbuildings that stood on a farm lane to the north beyond the main outbuilding collection—and the house now stands vacant. Due to the house's alterations, and the loss of fabric or complete loss of many outbuildings, the resource does not retain the integrity necessary to be eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C as a historic district.

Finally, the house and its outbuildings are recommended as not eligible under Criterion D. They are not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of their appearance or construction.

**Table 6: Warters-Parrott-Coleman Farm**

WARTERS-PARROTT-COLEMAN FARM		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Remains on site where built.
Design	Medium	Form of front block and ell and some original finish remain intact, but both also altered by vinyl siding, additions, and interior changes.
Setting	High	Although on busy US 70, retains rural setting abetted by surviving outbuildings.
Materials	Medium	Form of front block and ell and some original finish remain intact, but both also altered through vinyl siding, additions, and interior changes.
Workmanship	Medium	Form of front block and ell and some original finish remain intact, but both also altered through vinyl siding, additions, and interior changes.
Feeling	Medium	Has medium integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, and thereby medium integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium	Has medium integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship, and thereby medium integrity of association.

#### 4.4 JAMES A. & LAURA MCDANIEL HOUSE (MAXWOOD)



James A. & Laura McDaniel House (Maxwood)

LR-0927 [AECOM Survey #8]

1766 Kennedy Home Road, Kinston vicinity

Parcel Record # 2887 (partial)

PIN # 358400870552 (partial)

Ca. 1914-1916

Determined eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C in 1998.

#### Description, History, and Significance

The James A. & Laura McDaniel House or Maxwood was determined eligible for NRHP listing following completion of a historic architecture eligibility evaluation report (Brown 1997). A portion of the report's description states the following (Figure 91):

The James A. & Laura McDaniel House . . . is located west of Kennedy Home Road down a long pecan-lined lane that turns into a circle at the east front façade and continues around the house's south side to three surviving domestic outbuildings at the rear. Rows of trees extend from Kennedy Home Road to the north and south of the lane, taking in, along the road, small fields, and closer to the house, a front lawn. Behind the house is a woodlot. . . . The McDaniel House is a large frame, weatherboarded dwelling two stories tall and two rooms deep, with a two-story rear ell that gives it a T-shaped plan. The front portico, which shades the central bay of the three-bay primary elevation, features Tuscan columns, modillion blocks, and a balustrade that fronts paired windows above the entry. The entry is adorned with an elliptical fanlight, dentil molding, and leaded-glass sidelights. . . . The interior of the house features an ornate classical finish.



**Figure 91: James A. & Laura McDaniel House: east front elevation**

The report’s history includes the following

The James A. and Laura McDaniel House . . . was erected between 1914 and 1916. James Alexander McDaniel (1867-1928) was a prominent Kinston resident and an active participant in local business, civic, and political affairs. In 1892, he married Laura Evans Warters (d. 1940) of the Falling Creek Community. . . . Laura McDaniel is thought by the family to have planned and designed the grand Colonial Revival-style dwelling, which was completed in 1916. No record of any architect has survived. . . . McDaniel kept the land in cultivation, but was not himself a farmer. Rather, he was a Kinston businessman who had relocated to the country and worked his lands via tenants upon it.

Maxwood was determined to be NRHP-eligible under Criterion C as one of Lenoir County’s finest early-twentieth-century rural dwellings and perhaps its best preserved rural example of the Colonial Revival style.

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Maxwood has not been altered since it was determined eligible for NRHP in 1998. It retains its integrity, is in excellent condition, and continues to merit NRHP listing.

**Table 7: James A. & Laura McDaniel House (Maxwood) Elements of Integrity**

JAMES A. & LAURA MCDANIEL HOUSE (MAXWOOD)		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	High	Retains original form, materials, and workmanship resulting in high degree of integrity of design.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	High	Retains original design, form, and workmanship without the addition of modern materials resulting in high degree of integrity of materials.
Workmanship	High	Retains original design, form, and materials resulting in high degree of integrity of workmanship
Feeling	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

Maxwood’s NRHP boundary, as recommended in the report, followed, at its east, the edge of right-of-way of Kennedy Home Road; at its north, a row of trees extending west from Kennedy

Home Road; at its west the edge of a partially cut woodlot; at its south a row of trees extending west from Kennedy Home Road; and at its southwest the edge of a side yard short of where this yard tails into a rectangular array of largely modern outbuildings (Figure 92). This boundary takes in: the front (east) grounds of the house, which include a pecan tree-lined entry drive, two small flanking fields, and grassy lawns; the side lawns, which at the north include boxwoods and shrubs and at the southeast include a grassy lawn, a few trees, and a small grape arbor; and, at the rear (west), it takes in three outbuildings immediately behind the house and a small area of open grounds behind the house and outbuildings at the edge of a woodlot. It encompasses an approximately eight-acre portion of the 325-acre property upon which the house stands and follows the existing NCDOT right-of-way.



**Figure 92: NRHP-eligible boundary of James A. & Laura McDaniel House (source: <http://gis.ncdr.gov/hptoweb/>)**

4.5 TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

	Trinity Methodist Church
	LR-0702 [AECOM Survey #11]
	3768 Banks School Road, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record #26118 PIN #359503025862
	Ca. 1887 and 1890; ca. 1948-1949 addition
	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

Description

Trinity United Methodist Church is situated on a 1.33-acre parcel at the northwest corner of US 70 and Banks School Road between LaGrange and Kinston. A large parking lot is located to the north of the church and occupies about a third of the parcel. An open green space to the west rear of the church occupies another third of the parcel. The church occupies the remaining space. A brick sidewalk wraps around the perimeter of the building and connects the church to its various additions (Figure 93).



Figure 93: Site plan of Trinity United Methodist Church with US 70 at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).

According to its file at the North Carolina HPO, the church's original one-room front-gabled block—the sanctuary—was constructed around 1887, with a steeple added to its top in the mid-twentieth century. The sanctuary block features three rectangular stained-glass windows on both its north and south side elevations. These windows replaced original four-over-four double-hung sash. A vestibule was later added to the front, likely around 1900, when the building's rear wing was added, transforming the plan of the building into a T-shape. Two smaller stained-glass windows of the same style are found on the north and south elevations. The building is accessed through a centrally located set of replacement double doors on the western elevation of the vestibule. The doors are framed by a mid-/late twentieth-century pedimented portico supported by composite columns. A secondary door found on the western side of the ca. 1900 T-addition is also framed by a modern portico. One-over-one light replacement windows are found on the addition's eastern, northern, and southern elevations.

Around 1940 a large, single-story, four-bay, side-gabled block was added to the north elevation of the sanctuary. The addition features paired one-over-one windows on all elevations and a centrally placed door on its north gable end. This replacement door is connected to an L-shaped, covered, paved walkway that leads to an L-shaped single-story fellowship hall that was built in 1979. All portions of the building, both original and additions are clad in brick veneer. In all likelihood, the sanctuary was originally weatherboarded (Figure 94 through Figure 96). Despite multiple site visits, interior building access was not available.



**Figure 94: Trinity United Methodist Church: at left, east front elevation; at right, south side and east front elevations.**



**Figure 95: Trinity United Methodist Church: at left, north side elevations of church and addition; at right, east side and north rear elevations of fellowship hall.**



**Figure 96: Trinity United Methodist Church: rear elevation of addition and sanctuary**

## History

The following history of the Trinity Methodist Church is taken from its file, which was prepared in 1994 by Robbie Jones:

The Trinity Methodist Church was deeded land for a building on May 7, 1887 by Mr. and Mrs. A.D. Parrott and Mr. E.E. Parrott who were “kind enough to donate a portion of their farmlands to be used as a place to...erect a church house.”

The c. 1887 church originally featured four-over-four sash windows and no steeple. The original one room sanctuary was enlarged with a rear addition c. 1900. A c. 1948-49 renovation included the addition of a large five-room side wing that housed the Sunday school rooms and new stained glass windows. The church was renovated again in 1972 with brick veneer and the construction of a steeple. A Fellowship Hall was built to the rear of the church in 1979.

No post-1979 additions or major alterations were identified.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Trinity Methodist Church, due to its alterations and additions, no longer retains its integrity and is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. A small, one-room, gable-front block survives at its core. However, its numerous additions include the replacement of the windows and the early construction of a front vestibule and small rear wing and the later addition of a pedimented portico and steeple, which expanded and altered the appearance of the original building. The congregation added a large side wing in the late 1940s, brick veneer in 1972, and an even larger fellowship hall, connected to the rear by a covered walkway, in 1979. The church's integrity is not equal to that of other similarly fashioned churches in Lenoir County, including LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church, and LaGrange Presbyterian Church, discussed at Section 3, above. Due to this loss of integrity, the church is recommended not NRHP eligible under Criterion C. Trinity Methodist Church additionally lacks association with any notable historic event or figure. It is therefore recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. The church is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction. Accordingly it is not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 8: Trinity Methodist Church**

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low	Core form and some sash remains, but much extended by the additions of a portico and steeple, rear wing, large side wing, and large fellowship hall.
Setting	Medium	Area in which church stands remains largely rural, but NC 70 immediately to its south is a wide busy highway.
Materials	Low	Core form and some sash remains, but much extended by the additions of a portico and steeple, rear wing, large side wing, and large fellowship hall.
Workmanship	Low	Core form and some sash remains, but much extended by the additions of a portico and steeple, rear wing, large side wing, and large fellowship hall.
Feeling	Low	Retains intact location and, in part, setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.

#### 4.6 DR. JAMES M. PARROTT HOUSE

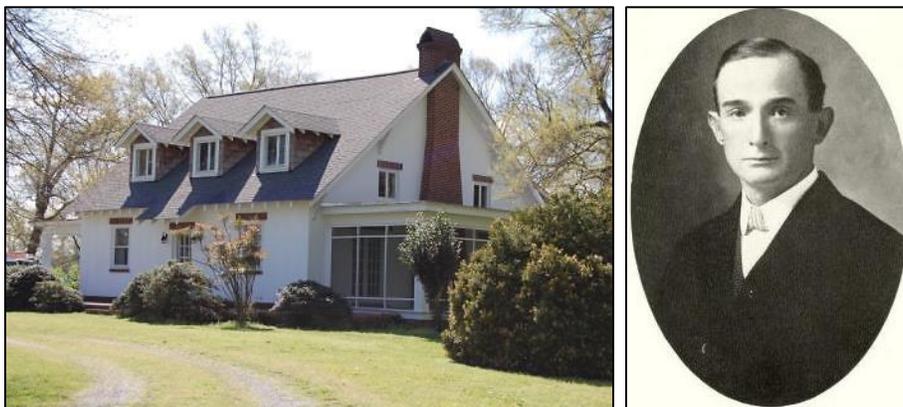
	Dr. James M. Parrott House
	LR-0703 [AECOM Survey #15]
	2377 Sanderson Way, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record # 28149
	PIN # 359503318495
	1920s
Determined eligible for NHRP listing under Criteria A and C in 1998	

#### Description, History, and Significance

The Dr. James M. Parrott House is a one-and-a-half-story dwelling that retains its original dormers, exposed rafter ends, and other modest Craftsman-style elements (Figure 97). It was built during the 1920s as a summer cottage for Dr. Parrott on his family's farm in Falling Creek. According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:369):

Dr. James Marion Parrott was a prominent individual in the early-twentieth-century history of Lenoir County. . . . Parrott was a specialist in diseases peculiar to the South and in 1899 was selected by the United States Army to take charge of its First Division Hospital in Havana, Cuba, as a specialist in smallpox and yellow fever, during the Spanish-American War. In 1900 Parrott and his brother . . . opened their offices . . . in Kinston—where the first typhoid serum was administered in North Carolina. Some of Dr. J. M. Parrott's important positions were president of the North Carolina State Medical Society, member and president of the State Board of Medical Examiners, trustee and president of the State Hospital for the Insane, state health officer (1931-1934), and trustee and chairman of the Board of Trustees of Wake Forest College, where he served for fifteen years.

The house was determined eligible for NRHP listing on the basis of a historic architecture eligibility evaluation report prepared in 1998.



**Figure 97: Dr. James M. Parrott House: north front and west side elevations, at left, 2017; and Parrott, ca. 1914.**

## Integrity

The Parrott House has changed little since it was determined eligible in 1998. It retains its integrity, is in excellent condition, and continues to remain NRHP-eligible.

**Table 9: Dr. James M. Parrot House Elements of Integrity**

DR. JAMES M. PARROTT HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	High	Retains original form, materials, and workmanship resulting in high degree of integrity of design.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	High	Retains original design, form, and workmanship without the addition of modern materials resulting in high degree of integrity of materials.
Workmanship	High	Retains original design, form, and materials resulting in high degree of integrity of workmanship.
Feeling	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

## National Register of Historic Places-Eligible Boundary

The 1998 Crescent Road Connector report (TIP #R-2719) describes the proposed boundary of the property as follows:

The western boundary follows the line of large pecan trees beginning at the highway right of way (which is the back of the DOT-maintained ditch) and continues south to the natural boundary formed by the Falling Creek. Then the boundary follows the treeline east and south to approximately 150 feet south of the cemetery and then the line heads east along the treeline for about 200 feet. The eastern boundary heads north following the line of large pecan trees to the property line, which is the highway right of way. The boundary then follows the highway right of way west to the beginning. The boundary is drawn to include the Parrott House, outbuildings, tenant house, and cemetery as well as the historic landscape features.

The site and boundary map from that report are included below (Figure 98)

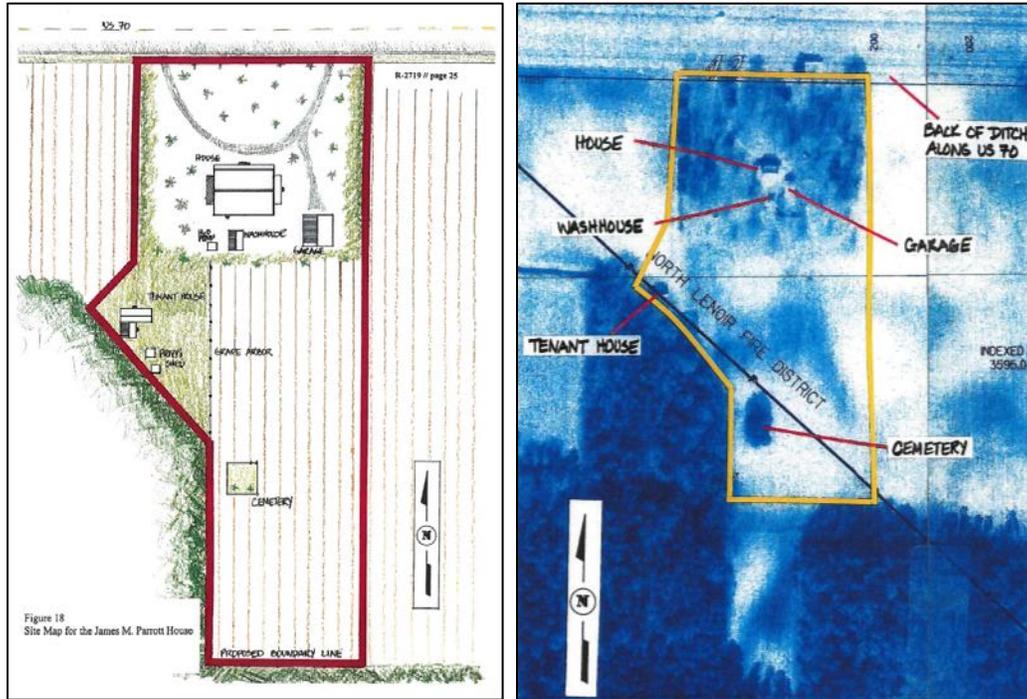


Figure 98: NRHP boundary of the Dr. James M. Parrott House, outlined in red at site map, at left, and in yellow at boundary map, at right (source: NCDOT report R-2719, 1998).

#### 4.7 KENNEDY MEMORIAL HOME HISTORIC DISTRICT

	Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District
	LR-1189 [AECOM Survey #10]
	Kennedy Home Road, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record # 26079 PIN # 359400341554
	1914-1959
	NRHP listed under Criterion A in 2009.

#### Description, History, and Significance

The opening paragraph of the description section of the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District NRHP nomination summarized its appearance as follows (Little et al. 2009) (Figure 99):

Kennedy Memorial Home, an orphanage owned by the Baptist Children’s Homes of North Carolina, is a 1,240 acre tract of land in rural Lenoir County, North Carolina, on the south side of US Highway 70 five miles west of Kinston. . . . The orphanage buildings flank Cedar Dell Lane, a wide, straight avenue that extends east from Kennedy Home Road to its terminus at Cedar Dell, an antebellum plantation house that pre-dates the orphanage. Nineteen residential buildings, a church, and an educational building constructed from the 1920s to the early 2000s face the avenue or are arranged in a secondary row to the rear of the flanking buildings. To the rear of Cedar Dell stands a row of six agricultural buildings dating primarily from the mid-1900s. To the north of Cedar Dell Lane, behind the residential buildings, are a group of five food storage, processing, and maintenance buildings for the orphanage. Interspersed throughout the main campus are garages and sheds and recreational facilities—swimming pool, tennis courts, softball field, and picnic shelter.



**Figure 99: Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District: entry and church from Kennedy Home Road, 2017.**

The listed property included 41 contributing and 25 noncontributing resources. The nomination noted that the contributing resources “have been maintained carefully over the years and retain excellent integrity.” It further noted that “Landscape integrity is equally high. The lower half of the farm has always been covered with forest and swamps, just like the other large farms along the Neuse River in Lenoir County. The current pattern of fields and woodland is nearly identical to that shown in the earliest known aerial photograph of 1940.”

The nomination’s summary statement of significance and history is the following:

The Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District is a 1,240-acre Baptist orphanage that began operation in 1914 on Cedar Dell, the antebellum Lenoir County plantation of the Croom and Herring families that became the prosperous late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm of William L. Kennedy and his wife Emily Hardee Kennedy. The orphanage . . . is one of a small group of historic orphanages that survive in the state. From 1914 through its peak enrollment of 160 children in the mid-twentieth century, the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District holds local significance under Criterion A in the areas of social history and agriculture. . . . Flanking the broad avenue leading to Cedar Dell are the historic brick Craftsman, Colonial Revival, and Ranch-style cottages and Baptist Church built for the children from the 1930s to 1959. The second row of buildings to the rear includes dairy barns and food storage and processing buildings built from the 1920s to the 1950s for the agricultural production of the farm, which not only fed the children but provided money for the institution. Together, the plantation with its important dwelling and outbuildings, fields and woodland, and the orphanage with its group cottages, staff houses, and full complement of farm buildings and food processing operations form a layered ensemble of local significance. . . . The Kennedy Home’s acreage, consisting of cultivated fields in the upper half and forest and swamp in the lower half extending to the southern border, the Neuse River. The patterns of field and woodland are largely intact since at least the mid-twentieth century, when the orphanage reached its largest enrollment. Although the Kennedy Memorial Home is owned by an agency of the Baptist Church, it meets Criteria Consideration A because it derives its primary significance from its importance as a historic orphanage.

## Integrity

The Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District has not changed in any appreciable fashion since it was NRHP-listed less than ten years ago. It retains its integrity, is in excellent condition, and continues to merit NRHP listing.

**Table 10: Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District Elements of Integrity**

KENNEDY MEMORIAL HOME HISTORIC DISTRICT		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	High	Largely retains its original additive plan and appearance; district naturally evolved as function necessitated.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	High	Buildings and structures retain a large amount of original material.
Workmanship	High	Very little of design, form, and materials has been altered.
Feeling	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP nomination identified the boundary of the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District in detail. This boundary, which encompasses 1,240 acres and follows the existing NCDOT right-of-way, is depicted at the North Carolina HPO GIS website outlined in blue (Figure 100).

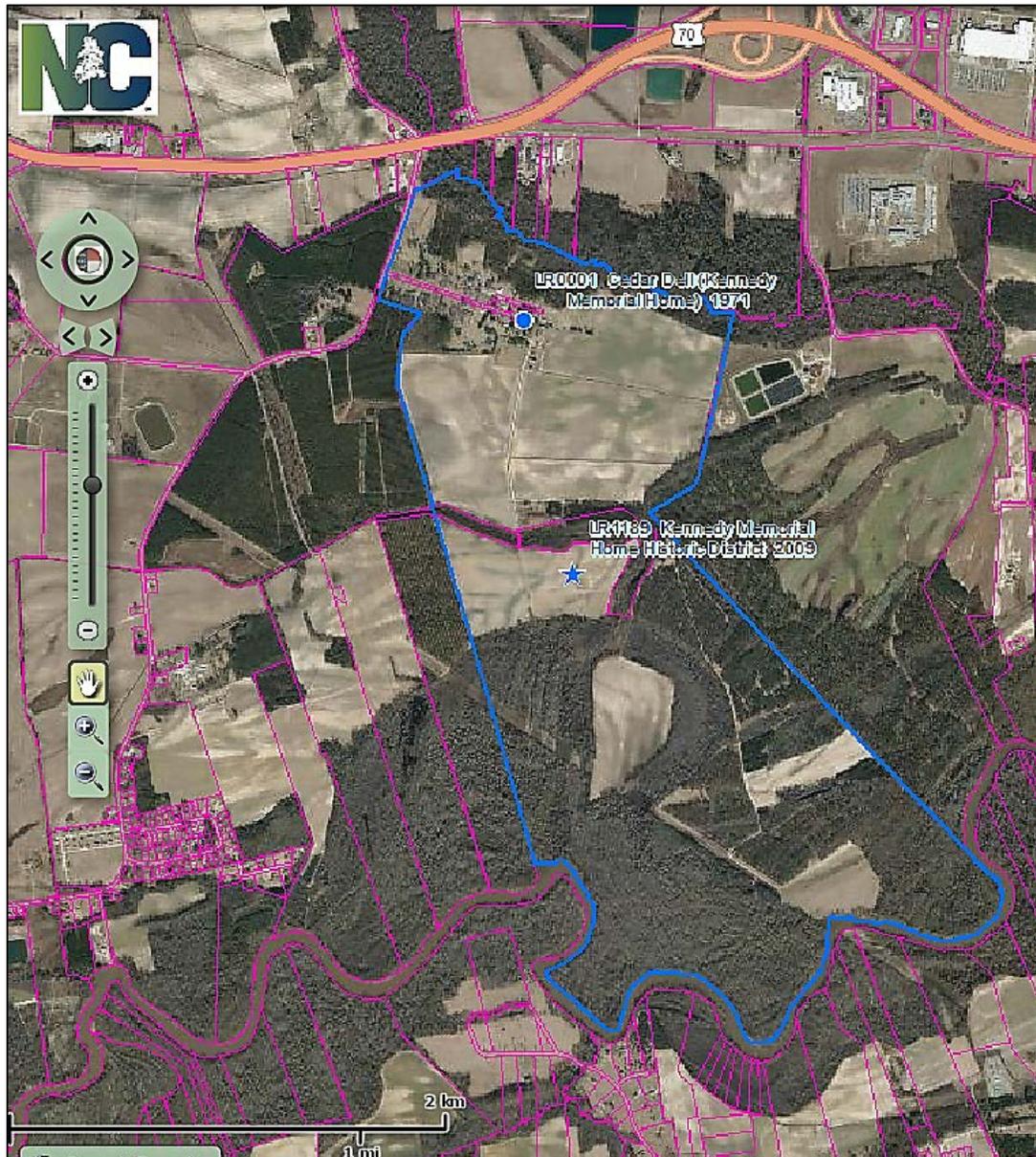


Figure 100: NRHP boundary of the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District outlined in blue, and location of Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home) (source: <http://gis.ncdr.gov/hptoweb/>).

## 4.8 CEDAR DELL (KENNEDY MEMORIAL HOME)



Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home)

LR-0001 [AECOM Survey #9]

Kennedy Home Road, Kinston vicinity

Parcel Record # 26079

PIN # 359400341554

Ca. 1810-1820, late 19<sup>th</sup>-century

NRHP listed under Criterion C in 1971

### Description, History, and Significance

The NRHP nomination for Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home) summarized its appearance (Department of Archives and History 1971d) (Figure 101):

Cedar Dell was originally constructed around 1820 as a two-story brick dwelling with a side-hall plan. Late in the nineteenth century, the dwelling was enlarged and converted to a Victorian mansion. . . . The interior of Cedar Dell presents a center-hall plan two rooms deep. The southern rooms have some surviving Federal features, while those rooms on the north contain excellent Victorian interiors.



**Figure 101: Cedar Dell: west front and south side elevations, 2017.**

The nomination's statement of significance included the following summary of its history and importance:

The earliest known resident of Cedar Dell was Henry Herring, who deeded the house to his son, George W. Herring, in 1845. It is not certain how long before 1845 Henry Herring had owned the house, but the Herring family had lived in Lenoir County since the late eighteenth century. Since Cedar Dell appears to have been built about 1820, it is likely that Henry Herring either built the house, or was among the first owners. . . . Architecturally, Cedar Dell is an interesting example of Federal and Victorian motifs harmoniously combined. The late nineteenth

century portion of the house contains some of the finest Victorian interiors in eastern North Carolina.

The nomination identified Cedar Dell's period of significance as the nineteenth century and its area of significance as architecture.

## Integrity

Cedar Dell looks like it did when nominated in 1971. It retains its integrity, is in excellent condition, and continues to merit NRHP listing.

**Table 11: Cedar Dell (Kennedy Memorial Home) Elements of Integrity**

CEDAR DELL (KENNEDY MEMORIAL HOME)		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Victorian form, materials, and workmanship.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Victorian design, form, and workmanship without the addition of modern materials.
Workmanship	High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Victorian design, form, and materials.
Feeling	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	High degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP nomination identified Cedar Dell's boundary as encompassing seven acres. The nomination does not describe the boundary and the North Carolina HPO geographic information system map does not depict it. Cedar Dell's boundary is subsumed within the 1,240-acre boundary of the Kennedy Memorial Home Historic District, which was NRHP-listed in 2009. The location of Cedar Dell is identified by a blue dot at Figure 100, above, which also includes the NRHP boundary of the historic district.

## 4.9 HENRY LOFTIN HERRING FARM



Henry Loftin Herring Farm
LR-0700 [AECOM Survey #17]
4765 Highway 70 West, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record # 2438 PIN # 450503015193
Ca. 1812, renovations ca. 1928
Determined eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C in 1998.

### Description, History, and Significance

The Henry Loftin Herring Farm was determined eligible for NRHP listing on the basis of a historic architecture eligibility evaluation report, which described it in part as follows (Brown 1997) (Figure 102):

The Henry Loftin Herring House is one-and-a-half stories tall, three bays wide, and two rooms deep. Built of frame, it is clad in vinyl siding and topped by slate shingles. The original portion of the house may have been a story-and-loft coastal cottage with an engaged front (north) porch, gable-end roof, exterior-end double-shouldered chimneys, hall/parlor-plan principal rooms, and rear (south) shed room. In addition to its form, the house's original or early surviving decorative features include the chimneys, the east of which bears an inscription of 1822; the front entryway, which includes an elliptical fanlight and sidelights set in wood panels; a solid brick common-bond foundation, a rare feature among the county's early buildings; and two Federal-style mantels. Much of the remaining exterior finish of the house dates from the 1928 Colonial Revival-style renovations, which included side and rear additions. . . . Inside, the house retains one grand Federal feature, an ornately carved three-part mantel, in the living room, which is served by the dated east chimney. A second more simply finished Federal-style mantel is located in the west upstairs bedroom.



**Figure 102: Henry Loftin Herring Farm: east side and north front elevations of house, 2017.**

The report included the following summary of the property’s history:

Various bits of historical and architectural evidence suggest that the central section of the Henry L. Herring House dates from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. A newspaper article states that the house was created from a storage granary in 1812. A genealogical account of the Herring family also puts the dwelling’s date of construction at 1812. A decade-later date—1822—is scratched into the stucco of the east chimney. . . . Architectural evidence, including the house’s hall-parlor plan/coastal cottage form and, particularly, its two surviving Federal-style mantels and Federal entryway, appears to confirm that part of the house dates from the early nineteenth century and perhaps indeed 1822. . . . [T]he house was heavily renovated in 1928, giving it its current Colonial Revival-style appearance.

The property, including its outbuildings, was determined NRHP-eligible under Criterion A for its association with local agricultural history. Additionally, the house was determined to be eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C as a rare surviving example in Lenoir County of an early nineteenth-century coastal-cottage form dwelling retaining Federal-style mantels and notable Colonial Revival-style alterations and additions.

## Integrity

The Henry L. Herring Farm has not notably changed since it was determined NRHP-eligible in 1998. It retains its integrity, is in good condition, and continues to merit NRHP listing.

**Table 12: Henry Loftin Herring Farm Elements of Integrity**

HENRY LOFTIN HERRING FARM		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Medium to High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Colonial Revival-style form, materials, and workmanship; some design alterations, particularly modern carport added at rear.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	Medium to High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Colonial Revival-style design, form, and workmanship; some material alterations, particularly addition of vinyl siding.
Workmanship	Medium to High	Retains some original Federal-period features overlaid with notable intact Colonial Revival-style design, form, and workmanship; some alterations to workmanship, particularly addition of vinyl siding.
Feeling	Medium to High	Medium to high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in medium to high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium to High	Medium to high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in medium to high degree of integrity of association.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP-eligible boundary of the Henry L. Herring Farm encompasses two parcels historically associated with it that contain approximately 186 acres (Figure 103). This boundary is depicted at the North Carolina HPO GIS website as the exterior blue line, which includes the small square parcel near its center. The boundary follows the existing NCDOT right-of-way.



**Figure 103: NRHP-eligible boundary of Henry Loftin Herring Farm, outlined in blue (source: <http://gis.ncdr.gov/hptoweb/>)**

#### 4.10 DEMPSEY WOOD HOUSE (JAMES WOOD HOUSE)



Dempsey Wood House (James Wood House)
LR-0008 [AECOM Survey #26]
3066 Kennedy Home Road, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record # 37218 PIN # 358400110236
Mid-19th century
NRHP listed under Criterion C in 1971

#### Description, History, and Significance

The Dempsey Wood House was listed in the NRHP in 1971 (Department of Archives and History 1971a). The nomination's description section stated in part:

The Dempsey Wood House is a two-story frame dwelling with a low hipped roof. It rests on brick piers. Protecting the central part of the three-bay front (south) façade is a two-tiered porch. It features two square pillars with molded caps and corresponding paneled pilasters. The upper level is enclosed by a well-turned balustrade. The central entrance is framed by two pairs of attenuated paneled pilasters which support a diminutive entablature adorned with small ornamental brackets. The door is flanked by multi-paned sidelights and surmounted by a nine-light transom. . . . On the interior, the Dempsey Wood House has a center-hall plan two rooms in depth. The stair, rising from the right side of the hall, has an exceptionally heavy newel post and a handrail octagonal in section. Each room contains an unusual mantel featuring flat panels and wide applied moldings below a massive cornice shelf. The walls are finished with plaster above a vertically sheathed wainscot, and all doors and windows are framed with molded architraves with paneled corner blocks.

Its statement of significance included the following summary of the house's history and significance:

In 1836 James Wood acquired from his father a plantation in the Falling Creek area of Lenoir County. Before 1850, he had begun building a house on the property. Construction of the house proceeded slowly until it was halted by the coming of the Civil War. By that time the house must have been virtually complete, since the Wood family had been living there for some time. Dempsey and Jesse Wood, sons of James Wood, remained in the house until the property they owned was divided in 1892. . . . The Dempsey Wood House is an important example of the transition from the pure Greek Revival to the more elaborate Victorian eclecticism which was becoming popular just before the Civil War. This curious structure is one of the few houses left which clearly exhibits this change in mid-nineteenth century taste.

(Research after 1971 led to the use of the name “James Wood House” in *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:375-376), which concluded that James rather than his son, Dempsey, built the plantation seat.)

The nomination identified the house’s period of significance as the nineteenth century and its area of significance as architecture.

### Integrity

The owners of the Wood House added vinyl siding to it within the past eight years (Figure 104 and Figure 105). This resulted in removing or covering the weatherboards, full-height corner plasters and capitals, and panels that underpinned the window bays. Further, the brackets at the eaves were replaced in-kind and the porch, altered by 2009, was altered again. However, the house retains its tripartite surrounds, weatherboards, pilasters, and brackets at the first and second stories of its front elevation; paired chimneys at its side elevations; and proportions and form. In addition, its interior is at least partially intact (Figure 104 and Figure 105). The house is therefore believed to retain sufficient integrity to merit continued NRHP listing.



**Figure 104: Dempsey Wood House: south front and east side elevations in 1969, at left (photographer: Jim Shell) and 2009, at right.**



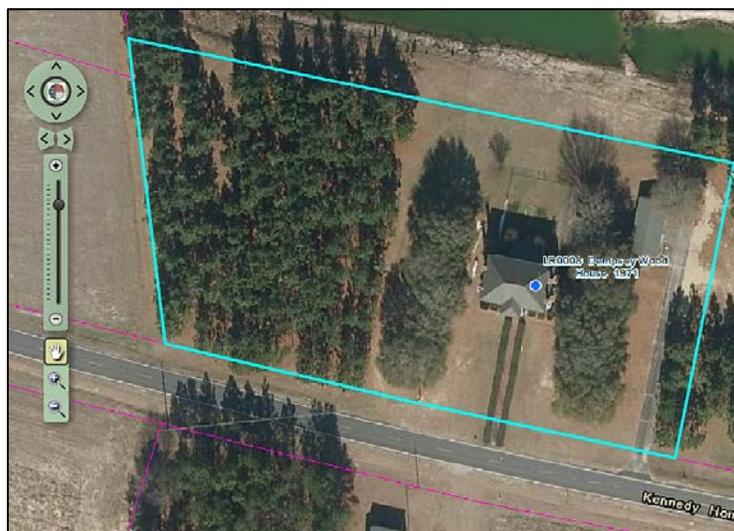
**Figure 105: Dempsey Wood House: south front and east side elevation, at left, and hall and stair from front entry, at right, 2017.**

**Table 13: Dempsey Wood House (James Wood House)**

DEMPSEY WOOD HOUSE (JAMES WOOD HOUSE)		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Medium	Retains original form, plan, entry, chimneys, and at least part of interior finish, but exterior altered by addition of vinyl.
Setting	Medium to High	Retains intact rural setting, but pond from sand mining pit added to rear.
Materials	Medium	Retains original form, plan, entry, chimneys, and at least part of interior finish, but exterior altered by addition of vinyl.
Workmanship	Medium	Retains original form, plan, entry, chimneys, and at least part of interior finish, but exterior altered by addition of vinyl.
Feeling	Medium	Overall medium integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in medium integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium	Overall medium integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in medium integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

Neither a written boundary description nor parcel size is included in the 1971 NRHP nomination. However, the current 2.27-acre parcel associated with the house is depicted as the NRHP boundary at the North Carolina HPO GIS website (Figure 106). The parcel and boundary only extend south to the NCDOT right-of-way on the north side of Kennedy Home Road. (Note: The right-of-way cuts through the boxwood hedges that extend from the front entry to the road).



**Figure 106: Dempsey Wood House: NRHP boundary, outlined in blue (source: <http://gis.ncdr.gov/hptoweb/>).**

### 4.11 MOSS HILL SCHOOL (FORMER)

	Moss Hill School (former)
	LR-1046 [AECOM Survey #28]
	4853 Highway 55 West, Sandy Bottom vicinity
	Parcel Record #17593
	PIN #358300406132
	Ca. 1890
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing	

#### Description

##### Moss Hill School (former)

Situated along the south side of NC-55, approximately two miles east of its original location, the former Moss Hill School—long used as a residence—sits on a one-acre parcel near the crossroads community of Sandy Bottom. A U-shaped drive connects on both sides to NC-55 and circles around the back (southern) side of the house. A small late twentieth-century shed is located a short distance southwest of the house (Figure 107).



**Figure 107: Site plan of former Moss Hill School with NC 55 at top (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

Despite undergoing two moves during the course of its life, the former Moss Hill School retains its original one-story gable-and-wing form. During the mid-/late twentieth century, a six-bay wraparound porch was added to the former school’s north front elevation. The porch sits on a continuous brick foundation and is supported by simple square columns connected with a rail

and square pickets. A four-bay shed-roofed carport/sunporch was added to the building's south rear after its second move in the 1980s. The roofs of both porches, in addition to the building's original cross gables, are clad in later-added asphalt shingles (Figure 108 and Figure 109).

The converted schoolhouse's primary access is through the entry centered in its northern front gable projection. Its replacement door is flanked on either side by later windows featuring snap-in muntins in a nine-over-nine pattern. The same types of windows mark the recessed portion of the front elevation. The fenestration patterns of the southern, western, and eastern elevations of the building have also been significantly altered. A large, fixed, multi-light window with snap-in muntins is located on the western side of the building, in the location of the original chimney (Jones, 1994). The entire building is covered in later vinyl siding.

The interior of the former school has been reconfigured over the years so it can function as a house. Built with four rooms (Little et al. 1998:409), it now includes such residential features as a kitchen and bathrooms. Interior access to the former school was not available during the site visits.



**Figure 108: Former Moss Hill School: at left, north front elevation; at right, east side elevation.**



**Figure 109: Former Moss Hill School: at left, south rear elevation; at right, east side and south rear elevations.**

## Shed

The frame side-gabled shed behind the former school is clad in horizontal composite siding and topped with asphalt shingles. It dates from the late twentieth century (Figure 110).



Figure 110: View of eastern elevation of shed, looking southwest.

## History

The first Moss Hill School is said to have been incorporated in 1868, but closed just a few years later. Under the tutelage of “Miss Kate” Davis the school was resurrected in 1878 under the name of the Davis School. Classes were held in a log building on the property of A.W. Whitefield. The school’s name was changed to Moss Hill Academy in 1880. On January 2, 1889 the school building burned when the roof caught fire. Fortunately school was not in session and no injuries were sustained (The Daily Free Press 1889). The present building was constructed as a replacement shortly thereafter by J.C. Davis (The Lenoir County Historical Association 1981, 289) (Figure 111).

In 1924 the school closed for good when students from Moss Hill, Sandy Bottom, Blands, and Byrds schools were combined to form the larger Moss Hill School. A new brick school building had been constructed earlier to house the students (The Lenoir County Historical Association 1981). (This brick school (LR-1012) continues to stand at the original site of its frame predecessor.) A 1924 survey of public schools found that at the time of its closing, the four-classroom school had 130 students enrolled (Little et al. 1998:409). Following the closure of the school, the building was purchased, converted into a residential building by an unknown individual, and moved across the street from the “new” Moss Hill School. In 1986 James and Evelyn Barwick purchased the school/house and moved it a little over two miles east down Highway 55 to its current location. The Barwicks remain the owners and occupants of the house.



**Figure 111: Photographs from the July 18, 1916 *Kinston Free Press* depicting the Moss Hill School and its students and faculty during commencement and on the playground.**

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Lenoir County retains a surprising number of relatively intact early schools. Holy Innocents Episcopal Church erected its Parish School (LR-1016) near the rural community of Strabane in 1903-1904 (Little et al. 1998:111, 392). A one-story, gabled, frame building, it retains its weatherboards, cornice returns, surrounds, and at least one door. Its original entry was in a gable, not along one of its long elevations. Additions have been affixed to it—a portico to the south, an open shed to the west, a small enclosed shed room and open shed to the east, and a shed room across the current north rear. Overall, though, the building is surprisingly intact (Figure 112).



**Figure 112: Holy Innocents Parish School: west gabled and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east gabled elevations, at right, 2017.**

The former Tyndall School (LR-1181) was erected east of Deep Run between about 1890 and 1915 and closed in 1925 as part of the school consolidation movement (Little et al. 1998:404). The frame building retains its original gable-front block and four-bay-wide, gable-end, rear cross

wing. It also continues to be sided in weatherboards and lit at least in part by four-over-four sash windows. Restored in 1996, it too remains unusually intact (Figure 113).



**Figure 113: Tyndall School: at left, looking northeast with front block at right; at right, looking northwest with rear block at right.**

The (former) Lynwood School (LR-1207) near Elm Crossroads dates from ca. 1914, prior to the consolidation movement of the 1920s that led to its closing. It served as a residence until it was moved to its present location and restored in 1979 (Little et al. 1998: 425). It likely originally stood about three or four miles to the north. Not only does the school retain weatherboards and four-over-sash, but inside beaded boards still side its walls and central partition (Figure 114).



**Figure 114: Lynwood School: view looking south with entry obscured by fig tree at center of image; view through front door at interior.**

The African-American children of the southern corner of Lenoir County began attending the Vine Swamp School (LR-1210) about 1917. Unlike its white counterparts from the early twentieth century, the school remained active into the 1950s, when the county's black schools were finally consolidated (Little et al. 1998:424). It retains its one-story gabled form, German siding, and six-over-six sash (Figure 115).



**Figure 115: Vine Swamp School: view looking southeast, at left, and southwest, at right, 2017.**

The former Taylor School (LR-1227), built in the Pleasant Hill community between 1900 and 1910, is largely intact as well (Little et al. 1998:434). A wing that was added to its side after it was converted into a residence was removed between its 1994 and 2000 recordation. It remains a small, gabled, frame building sided with weatherboards (Figure 116).



**Figure 116: Taylor School: gable-end east and south elevations, at left; gabled west and north elevations, at right, 2017.**

A comparison of the former Moss Hill School with the Holy Innocents, Lynwood, Tyndall, Vine Swamp, and Taylor school buildings indicates that Moss Hill School has lost its integrity. This loss results in the building's lack of eligibility for NRHP listing under Criterion C. The school's one-story gable-and-wing plan remains, but it is otherwise much altered. Its sash is not original and some bays have been changed, its porch is a later addition, vinyl siding covers its weatherboards, and it has been converted into a house. A four-bay shed roof carport/sunporch extends to its rear. Further, it has been moved twice, once across the street from its original site and in the 1980s to its current site, about two miles east of its original location. Additionally, the building lacks association with any notable historic event: it is a school, but did not play any significant role in the history of education in Lenoir County. It is therefore recommended as not eligible under Criterion A. It further lacks association with any notable historic figure is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criterion B. As the former school is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is not recommended as eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

The move from its original site makes the building not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion D as it has lost the potential to yield any additional information. The school additionally does not merit listing under Criterion A, despite its association with early-schooling in the United States, due to its significant loss of integrity. Additionally, the building is not eligible under Criterion B as it is not associated with any significant historical figure.

**Table 14: Moss Hill School (former)**

MOSS HILL SCHOOL (FORMER)		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	Low	Originally stood two miles to the west.
Design	Low	Much altered and converted into a dwelling; only original form survives.
Setting	Low	Originally stood two miles to the west.
Materials	Low	Much altered and converted into a dwelling; only original form survives.
Workmanship	Low	Much altered and converted into a dwelling; only original form survives.
Feeling	Low	Low integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship result in low integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Low integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship result in low integrity of association.

### 4.12 DANNY SHEPHERD HOUSE

	Danny Shepherd House
	LR-1035 [AECOM Survey #27]
	4697 Highway 55 West, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record #34278
	PIN #358300610326
	Early 20th century
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing	

#### Description

The Danny Shepherd House sits on the south side of NC 55 just west of the community of Sandy Bottom (Figure 117). It is situated on an open 2.35 acre parcel, surrounded by fields on all sides, and includes five resources: the Danny Shepherd House, a workshop and shed to the south of the house; a garage to the west; and a second workshop to the east of the house. All of the buildings appear to date to the early/mid-twentieth-century.



**Figure 117: Site plan of Danny Shepherd House with NC 55 just off of bottom of image (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

#### Danny Shepherd House

Originally constructed as a frame, two-story foursquare with a rear kitchen ell, the Danny Shepherd House acquired two major additions during the mid-twentieth-century: a second two-story foursquare block located to its east, and a one story two-bay garage that connects the two foursquares. All sections of the house are clad in vinyl siding (Figure 118 through Figure 120).

An original, one-story, two-bay porch supported by plain chamfered columns and featuring an unadorned rail with square pickets frames the front (northern) elevation of the original foursquare. Both the porch and block are topped with standing-seam-metal hipped-roofs and display exposed rafter tails in the Craftsman style. A brick chimney protrudes from the eastern roof slope. Snap-in six-over-six muntins fill the block's replacement one-over-one windows and other alterations have been made to its fenestration. The building's primary entrance is located on its northern elevation and appears to retain its original fixed-light two-panel door. The one-story kitchen ell attached to southwest corner of the block originally featured a porch on its western side, which was later closed in (Robbie Jones, 1994).

Like the original block, the eastern two-story foursquare addition is capped by a hipped standing-seam metal roof and displays exposed rafter tails. It also has replacement snap-in windows and an altered fenestration pattern on its western, southern, and eastern sides. A rear shed-roofed porch extends from the building's southern elevation and covers two modern single-light fiberglass doors. The hyphen garage features two modern windows on its front (northern) elevation, and one on its southern elevation, in addition to a large modern garage door. Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the building was not available.



**Figure 118:** At left, north front elevation of house with taller original block at right; at right, west side elevation of original block.



**Figure 119:** At left, west side and south rear elevations of main block and kitchen ell; at right, south rear elevation of main block and garage hyphen



**Figure 120:** At left, south rear and east side elevations of later block; at right, north front elevations of foursquare blocks.

### Garage

Located south of the house, the single-pile, mid-twentieth-century, front-gabled garage is clad in vinyl siding and capped with a seam-metal roof. It features a deep overhang on its north elevation supported in part by an off-center wooden post (Figure 121, at left).

### Workshop (south of house)

This mid-twentieth-century side-gabled workshop is clad in vinyl. It has a shed-roofed addition clad in metal sheathing on one side and a lean-to supported by wooden posts and topped with a standing-seam metal roof on the other (Figure 121, at right). Modern doors and windows pierce its elevations.



**Figure 121:** At left, view of garage looking south; at right, view of workshop looking west.

### Shed

The early/mid-20th century frame gable-end shed is clad in vinyl siding and topped by a standing-seam-metal roof underpinned by exposed rafter tails. An off-centered door is located on the building's southern elevation (Figure 122, at left).

### Workshop (southeast of house)

Constructed during the early/mid-twentieth-century, this side-gabled frame workshop is clad in metal sheathing. Its roof is topped with standing-seam metal and underpinned by exposed rafter tails (Figure 122, at right). Centrally placed modern sliding doors are located on the building's eastern gable end. A lean-to supported by plain wooden posts extends from the building's western side.



**Figure 122: View looking east at shed with house to rear, at left; view looking south at workshop, at right**

### History

The Danny Shepherd House was built during the early part of the twentieth century, and originally comprised of a single, two-story, two-bay-wide, foursquare block. Between 1951 and 1969 the building served as a house for the farm manager of the neighboring Coleman Farm (North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office). Property research suggests that the parcel on which the Danny Shepherd House sits was once part of the larger holdings of W.A. Coleman and Elizabeth Parrott Coleman (Lenoir County Deed Book, 784/641). By 1984 the house was owned by Hubert and Elizabeth Whitfield. They sold the property on February 2, 1984 to the Jacob and Lora Shepherd. The house remains in the Shepherd family today (Lenoir County Deed Book, 802/543). Whether they moved the second foursquare block to the site from another location or built it could not be determined.

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Danny Shepherd House lacks association with any significant historic event or person and therefore does not merit NRHP eligibility under Criteria A or B. The house has lost its material integrity through major alterations and additions and is therefore not recommended eligible under Criterion C. It retains its foursquare form, exposed rafter tails, and full-façade porch, but its siding is now vinyl, all of its windows are modern, its ell porch is enclosed, and a second foursquare wing and connecting garage/hyphen on its east date from the mid-twentieth century. Such Lenoir County foursquares as the Field-Suggs House, Charles A. Broadway House, and the James and Sudie Wooten House—addressed at the Section 3 architectural context, above—retain far higher degrees of integrity and better represent the form and its common finishes. The house lacks the potential to yield any significant information in the future and therefore does not merit eligibility under Criterion D as an architectural resource.

**Table 15: Danny Shepherd House**

DANNY SHEPHERD HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low	Retains foursquare form, but much altered through changes to siding and windows and by large mid-twentieth-century additions.
Setting	Medium	Retains largely rural environs and some early/mid-twentieth-century outbuildings.
Materials	Low	Retains foursquare form, but much altered through changes to siding and windows and by large mid-twentieth-century additions.
Workmanship	Low	Retains foursquare form, but much altered through changes to siding and windows and by large mid-twentieth-century additions.
Feeling	Low	Due to its loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Due to its loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of association.

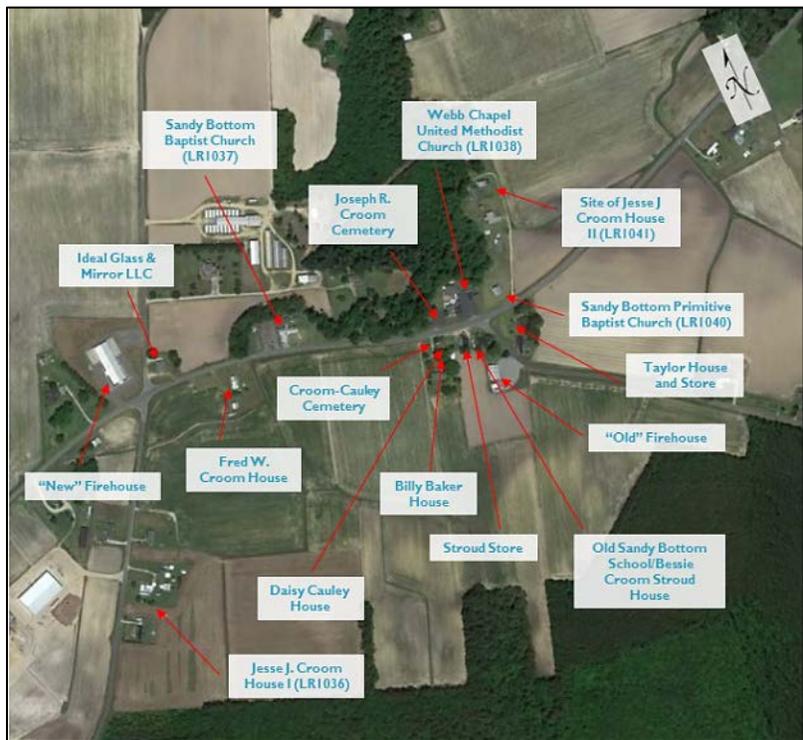
### 4.13 SANDY BOTTOM HISTORIC DISTRICT



Sandy Bottom Historic District
LR-1039 [AECOM Survey #33]
Roughly located along and south of NC 55 between Rouse Adams Lane and North/South Croom Bland Road
Parcel Record # Multiple
PIN # Multiple
Ca. 1890s-1950s
Recommended NRHP-eligible under Criterion C

#### Description

The Sandy Bottom Historic District encompasses the historic community of Sandy Bottom. Characterized by large open fields and small residential and church lots scattered with mature trees, the historic district extends along both side US 70 within the community. Its earliest buildings are located at the crossroads of US 70, Rouse Adams Lane, and Green Haynes Road. New residential development and an agricultural processing and distribution facility edge its eastern, southern, and western edges. Woods stand south of the district. Figure 123 immediately below locates the major resources within and just outside of the proposed district boundary. Figure 124 and Figure 125 include the locations—by single-letter notation—of every resource included within the district, whether that resource contributes or not, and the proposed district boundary. The resources are identified by name and single-letter notation in the text that follows.



**Figure 123: Overall site plan of Sandy Bottom Historic District with major resources within and outside of proposed NRHP boundaries labeled (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**



Figure 124: Sandy Bottom Historic District locator map with resources labeled with letters; purple letters indicate contributing resources and blue ones those that are non-contributing (base image courtesy of Google Earth).

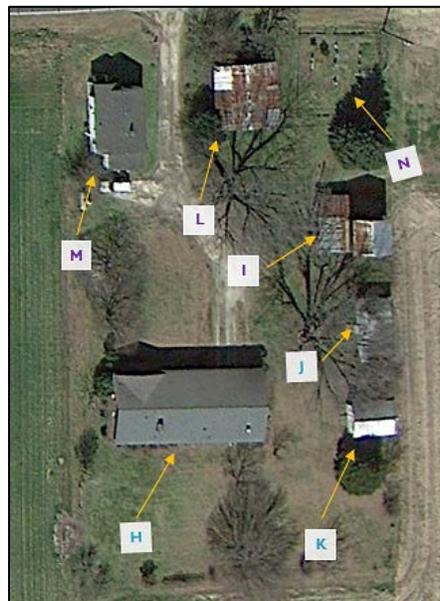


Figure 125: Exploded view of above figure (base image courtesy of Google Earth).

The community is comprised of 20 resources: four houses, four outbuildings, three stores, three churches, and three cemeteries, along with a former machine shop, firehouse, and school. As discussed below, 16 of them are recommended as contributing resources and four as non-contributing resources.

### **Taylor House (*contributing building*) [A on resource locator map]**

The Taylor House sits on an open lot at the eastern edge of the Sandy Bottom Historic District. The house is bounded on its northern side by NC 55, by Green Haynes Road to its west, and by fields to its east and south. The house shares the lot with the old Taylor Store, which is located to the southwest. It is a single-story, three-bay, double-pile dwelling erected in the late nineteenth/early twentieth-century that is topped by a side-gabled roof. A later double-pile shed-roofed addition extends to the house's south rear. Vinyl siding covers the entire house. A shed-roofed porch supported by simple wooden posts frames the north front elevation, which is marked by windows with snap-in muntins that suggest they hold early nine-over-nine sash. (None of the house's "nine-over-nine" windows are what they appear to be.) The porch rests on a continuous brick foundation as does the rest of the house. Two exterior-end, half-shouldered, brick chimney stacks are off-set on either gable end of the house. The house retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 126).



**Figure 126: Taylor House: at left, east side and south front elevations; at right, south front and west side elevations.**

### **Former Taylor Store (*non-contributing building*) [B on resource locator map]**

The former Taylor Store is situated to the southwest of the Taylor House and is oriented toward the north, sitting further from the road than the house. It dates from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. Although converted into a packhouse and then a garage during the latter part of the twentieth century, the building's original basic store form remains. The single-story, front-gabled building is linear in plan with two shed-roof additions on its eastern and western sides. The original mass of the building was additionally extended to the south, doubling its size. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation and is entirely clad in replacement vinyl siding, and the store's original openings have been covered. The store is so altered that it does not retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 127).



**Figure 127: Former Taylor Store: at left, view looking south; at right, view looking northeast with Taylor House in distance.**

**Former Sandy Bottom Firehouse (non-contributing building) [C on resource locator map]**

This single-story, four-bay, side-gabled firehouse was built in the late 1970s for the Sandy Bottom Volunteer Fire Company. It is clad in vertical metal sheathing and fronted by a large parking lot. Its east front elevation is dominated by two wide garage doors. A new firehouse was built on the west side of Sandy Bottom in 2009, displacing this building. The former firehouse is outside of the district's period of significance and therefore does not contribute to it (Figure 128).



**Figure 128: Former Sandy Bottom Firehouse: east elevation.**

**Former Sandy Bottom School/Bessie Croom Stroud House (contributing building) [D on building resource map]**

The former Sandy Bottom School/Bessie Croom Stroud House sits directly west of the Sandy Bottom crossroads. Originally constructed as a school at the turn of the twentieth century, the building was converted into a house around 1917. Despite this conversion, it retains its original one-story gable-and-wing plan, a traditional plan for country schools of the time. The gables retain their cornice returns and diamond-slat ventilators. The building sits atop a continuous concrete-block foundation and is clad in weatherboards. A three-bay porch, likely added during the building's conversion to a residence, frames its north front elevation. It is supported by three plain wood columns. Two interior brick chimney stacks penetrate the standing-seam-metal roof. Primary entry to the house is through the centrally located door on its northern façade. It is flanked on either side by four-over-four double-hung windows that appear to be original. Three additional original windows light the western elevation. A rear, single-story, mid-/late-twentieth-century addition sided with vinyl extends south from the house's southeast corner. The former school/house retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 129).



**Figure 129: Former Sandy Bottom School: at left, north front elevation; at right, west side and south rear elevations.**

**Bessie Croom Stroud Store (contributing building) [E on resource locator map]**

The early twentieth-century Bessie Croom Stroud Store is located to the west of the former Sandy Bottom School/Bessie Croom Stroud House near the Sandy Bottom Crossroads. Front gable of the single-story building faces the street. It is clad in weatherboards and rests on a continuous concrete-block foundation. The roof is clad in standing-seam-metal and displays exposed rafter tails. Projecting from the building's front is a canopy underpinned by exposed rafter ends that once shielded gas pumps. It is supported by wooden posts on brick piers. In its shade is the store's entry, which is flanked by a window to either side. A vinyl- and vertical-wood-sided, shed-roofed extends to the store's east. It appears to be a later addition. The store retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 130).



**Figure 130: Bessie Croom Stroud Store: top left, west side and north front elevations; top right, north front and east side elevations with former school/Stroud House visible behind canopy and Taylor House in distance; bottom, store front with canopy.**

**Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church/Croom Meeting House (see LRI040) (contributing building) [F on resource locator map] and Williams Family Cemetery (contributing site) [G on resource locator map]**

The Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church is an intact meeting house erected in the 1850s. It is described as a separate entry, above, as is the adjacent Williams Family Cemetery. Both resources retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 131).



**Figure 131: Croom Meeting House and Williams Family Cemetery: at left, gabled north and east elevations of meeting house with cemetery in foreground; at right, from left to right, edge of shop building, Webb Chapel, Croom-Cauley Cemetery, and Meeting House.**

**Billy Baker House (non-contributing building) [H on resource locator map]**

Built in the 1970s, the Billy Baker House sits on a long rectangular parcel to the west of the Sandy Bottom Crossroads. The cross-gabled brick ranch house is five bays wide with an attached double-bay carport. Paired windows are found along the building's northern front elevation, which is shaded by a recessed porch supported by cast-iron columns. Multiple outbuildings-most predating the house- are located to the north of the house including: a packhouse, chicken coop, frame shed and metal workshop. The Daisy Croom Cauley and the Cauley-Croom Cemetery also sits at the front (north) end of the two acre parcel along NC-55. The house is outside of the historic district's period of significance and therefore does not contribute to it (Figure 132).



**Figure 132: Billy Baker House: at left, east side and north front elevations; at right, south rear and east side elevations.**

**Packhouse (*contributing building*) [I on resource locator map]**

This frame packhouse has a gabled roof and is clad with later-added asphalt sheathing and a standing-seam metal roof. Its original weatherboard cladding is still visible at its gables. A lean-to addition topped in standing-seam-metal and supported by wooden posts extends from the building's northern and eastern elevations. The packhouse, which dates to the early/mid-twentieth century, predates the Billy Baker House, which stands just to its east. The packhouse retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 133, at left).



**Figure 133: Views looking southeast at packhouse, at left, and chicken coop (with former firehouse in distance), at right.**

**Chicken Coop (*non-contributing building*) [J on resource locator map]**

This late twentieth-century building was erected by Billy Baker as a chicken coop. It is constructed of concrete-block. A centrally placed door flanked by a window to either side is located on its west-facing front elevation. Its flat roof is formed of standing-seam metal. The chicken coop is outside of the historic district's period of significance and therefore does not contribute to it (Figure 133, at right).

**Shed (*non-contributing building*) [K on resource locator map]**

This is located to the northeast of the Billy Baker House and rests on concrete masonry piers. The building is clad in replacement vinyl siding and features a centrally located door on its west gable end. It appears to date from the late twentieth century is therefore outside of the historic district's period of significance and does not contribute to it (Figure 134).



**Figure 134: View looking northeast at shed with packhouse at far left and chicken coop at center.**

**Shop Building (contributing building) [L on resource locator map]**

According to Billy Baker, this frame building was erected in the mid-twentieth century as a machine shop, which added to the commercial activity in what was then a bustling crossroads community of houses, churches, and stores. The shop stands in front of Baker's house along NC 55. To its east are the Croom-Cauley cemetery and Bessie Croom Stroud Store. The shop has a straightforward design. It is a gable-front rectangular building fully clad in sheet metal (Figure 135).



**Figure 135: Shop: to left, south rear elevation with cemetery and Stroud Store beyond; to right, east side and north front (in trees) elevations, with Billy Baker House to rear.**

**Daisy Croom Cauley House (contributing building) [M on resource locator map]**

The single-story front-gabled Daisy Croom Cauley House is located at the northwest corner of the Billy Baker parcel, on land originally owned by Cauley. It appears to date from the mid-twentieth century. The house stands on a continuous concrete-block block foundation and is clad in asbestos siding. A pedimented recessed front porch comprises the eastern bay of the north elevation and is supported by two simple wood posts. A small, later-added, gabled ell extends from the house's south rear elevation. The house retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 136).



**Figure 136: Daisy Croom Cauley House: at left, east side and north front elevations; at right, west side elevation with tobacco field in foreground and Billy Baker House to right rear.**

**Croom-Cauley Cemetery (contributing site) [N on resource locator map]**

The Croom-Cauley Cemetery is situated on the south side of NC 55 at the northeastern corner of the Billy Baker House parcel, between the machine shop and the Stroud Store. The grave markers date from 1902 to 1997. The first interment was that of the infant son of Joseph R. and Eliza Cauley Croom. The cemetery has 15 internments, all extended members of the Croom family. Among these is the grave of Bessie Croom Stroud (1903-1990), one of the last to be buried there. She operated the store and lived in the house just to the east, and was the sister of the infant Croom child first buried at the cemetery. The graveyard is marked by standard twentieth-century markers and has a high degree of integrity. It contributes to the historic district (Figure 137 and Figure 138).



**Figure 137: Croom-Cauley Cemetery: at left, view looking east across cemetery toward Stroud Store; at right, view looking northwest at cemetery, Croom Meeting House, and Stroud Store, with headstone of Bessie Croom Stroud at center.**



**Figure 138: Bessie Croom Stroud prior to her marriage to Abel Stroud (<https://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=85155552>).**

**Sandy Bottom Baptist Church (see LRI037) (contributing building) [O on resource locator map]**

The Sandy Bottom Baptist Church, which was built in stages during the twentieth century, is described as a separate entry, above. It retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 139).



**Figure 139: Sandy Bottom Baptist Church: at left, south front elevation; at right, east side elevation of church with and Fred Croom House on opposite side of NC 55 in distance.**

**Webb Chapel United Methodist Church (see LRI038) (contributing building) [P on resource locator map] and Joseph R. Croom Cemetery (contributing site) [Q on resource locator map]**

Webb Chapel is an intact church erected additively during the twentieth century. It is described as a separate entry, below, as is the adjacent Joseph R. Croom Cemetery. Both resources retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 140).



**Figure 140: Webb Chapel: at left, view of south front elevation from across NC 55, with packhouse on Baker property at left and Stroud Store at right; cemetery markers and west side elevation of church, at right.**

**Fred W. Croom House (contributing building) [R on resource locator map]**

The frame, early twentieth-century, single-story, cross-gabled Fred W. Croom House is located near the western edge of the Sandy Bottom Historic district and bounded on its east, west, and south sides by actively farmed fields. The original house was L-shaped in plan, with a central rectangular mass and a front (north) projecting wing. A single-story gabled ell affixed to its south

rear may be original to the house or is an early addition. The entire house is clad in vinyl siding; it was likely originally weatherboarded. An exterior-end brick chimney stack climbs the house's east gable end and an interior brick stack projects from the ridgeline of the ell. The multi-gabled roof is clad in standing-seam metal. Two doorways are located in the angle of the front corner porch, which is finished with modern metal supports. The house's three-over-one double-hung windows appear to be original. A rear lean-to carport addition extends from the southern elevation of the ell is a later addition. The house retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 141).



**Figure 141: Fred Croom House: at left, east side and north front elevation; at right, north front and south side elevations with packhouse at right distance.**

**Packhouse (*contributing building*) [S on resource locator map]**

This early/mid-twentieth century packhouse, located behind (south of) the Fred Croom House, is built of frame construction and sided with sheet metal. In typical fashion, its front gable holds two doors, one above the other. A lean-to extends to its east side. The packhouse retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 142).



**Figure 142: Packhouse: at left, north front and west side elevations; at right, looking east across tobacco fields within the historic district at house to left and packhouse to right.**

**Ideal Glass & Mirror (*contributing building*) [T on resource locator map]**

Located on the north side of NC 55, at the northwest edge of the historic district's boundary, is the Ideal Glass & Mirror building, which built as a store—the district's third—in the 1950s. The hipped-roofed concrete-block building is square in form and topped by a hipped roof. Its north

rear and side elevations retain their unadorned concrete-block walls. The original store front at the south front elevation has been altered by the addition of brick-veneer, modern glass doors, and a vinyl-sided insert with modern windows. The building is no longer a store, but continues to operate as a business. This building, three sides of which remain intact, is believed to retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic district (Figure 143).



**Figure 143: Ideal Glass: at left, west side and south front elevations; at right, south front and east side elevations with modern fire house outside of historic district at left distance.**

## History

The rural crossroads community of Sandy Bottom was primarily built and farmed by the extended Croom family. Due to the late nineteenth-century Lenoir County courthouse fire, few early land records. Oral tradition, architectural evidence, census data, and newspaper archives serve as the primary informants of Sandy Bottom's early history. According to census data, the Croom family has been in Lenoir County since at least the late eighteenth century. Oral tradition states that Daniel Croom immigrated to Virginia from Limerick, Ireland in the eighteenth century (Baker 2017) and that his son, Major Croom, brought the family to North Carolina. Lott Croom (1761-1830), Major's son, married Elizabeth Rasberry and the two settled in the community that was to become known as Sandy Bottom (Ancestry.com 2017).

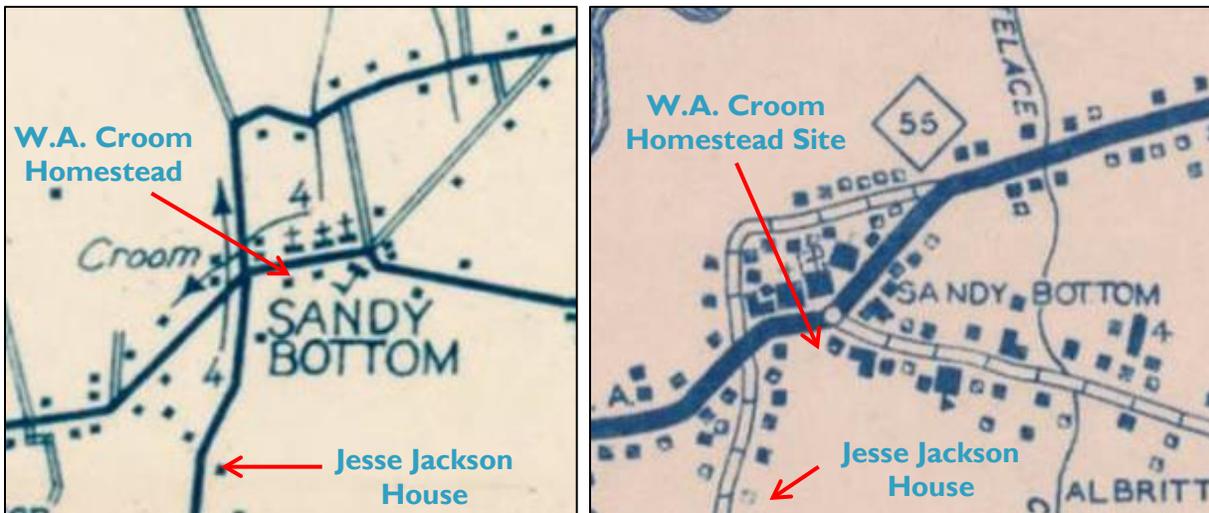
### Nineteenth Century

A July 18, 1916 article of Kinston's *Daily Free Press* suggests that the community's name "originated from a church of the Primitive Baptist faith, located in that same community... on the bank of [the] Neuse River." The namesake to which this article refers is the 1850s Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church or Croom Meeting House, the oldest resource standing in the community.

The community was based early on agriculture. Census data shows that by 1850 Joseph R Croom (1807-1860), the son of Lott and Elizabeth Croom, was living in Lenoir with significant real property, as well as 22 slaves (1850 Slave Schedule). By the mid-nineteenth century, Sandy Bottom was populated by various descendants of Joseph and his wife. Nancy Hardee (1804-1889). Property records suggest that following Joseph's death, much of their Sandy Bottom property was given to their second son, William A. Croom (1837-1899).

Like his father before him, William lived and farmed in Sandy Bottom and built the “Old Croom Homestead” on NC 55, just east of the Croom Meeting House. The location of the house is visible in the earliest identified map of Sandy Bottom, a 1910-1919 Rural Delivery Route Map of Lenoir County. The house appears to have disappeared, however, by the late 1930s according to a 1938 Lenoir County State Highway and Public Works map (United States Post Office Department 1910-1919) (North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission 1938) (Figure 144).

Whether before or after his death—the timing is unknown—William deeded a significant amount of land in Sandy Bottom to his oldest sons, Joseph R. (1854-1929) and Jesse J. (1862-1954) Croom. Joseph and his wife, Eliza Cauley (1861-1926), inherited the old Homestead, and Jesse built his first home around 1890 to the southwest on what is now South Croom Bland Road (North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, LR-1036 Jesse Jackson Croom House I).



**Figure 144: Locations of W. A. Croom Homestead and Jesse Jackson Croom House on 1910-1919 Rural Delivery Map, at left, and 1938 State Highway and Public Works map, at right.**

### Early Twentieth Century

The beginning of the twentieth century saw the transition of Sandy Bottom from a few Croom family farms to a prosperous crossroads community. Following the division of land after William’s death, during the early 1900s, two new churches were built near the crossroads. Around 1901 Webb Chapel United Methodist Church was erected just west of Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church/Croom Meeting House, next to the already well-established Joseph R. Croom cemetery. The congregation of Sandy Bottom Baptist Church was founded in 1902, although its new building was not constructed until 1907, on land donated by Joseph R. Croom.

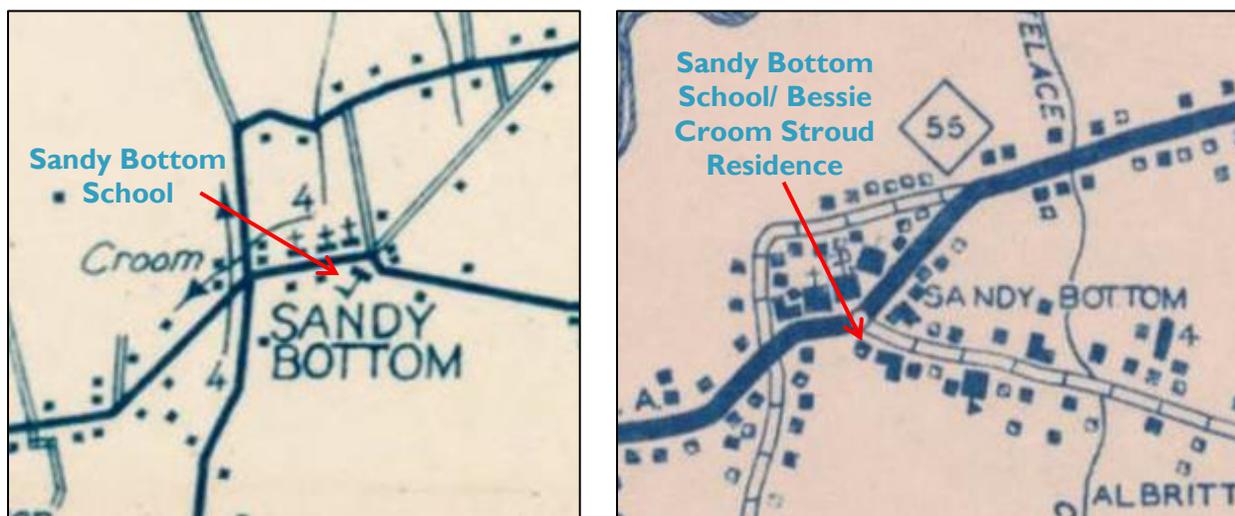
In 1901 the Sandy Bottom School was built at the Sandy Bottom Crossroads, across the street from Webb Chapel. This is clearly noted on the 1910 Rural Delivery Map. On July 18, 1916, the *Kinston Daily Free Press* published a special educational edition that included the following short history of the school:

The first building on the site was small and very uncomfortable. It had a fire place in one end and stove in the center. The windows had wooden shutters. The school-room equipment consisted of roughly made desks and benches.

In 1900 this building was replaced by a larger and more comfortable one, which was ceiled, painted, well seated, and lighted. In 1905 a primary department was added and furnished with patent desks. Two teachers were employed. A pump was driven, which gave a more healthful water supply. The furnishings were supplemented by new black-boards, a globe, teachers' chairs and tables and pictures...The census for the year [1916] was 67, 63 of whom were enrolled. The attendance was especially good.

In 1917, just a year after the publication of this article, the Sandy Bottom school was consolidated with the old Moss Hill, Blands, and Byrds school to create one larger brick school known as "new" Moss Hill (Little et. al 1998, 111). This newer educational building was constructed just a few miles west of Sandy Bottom and still stands today.

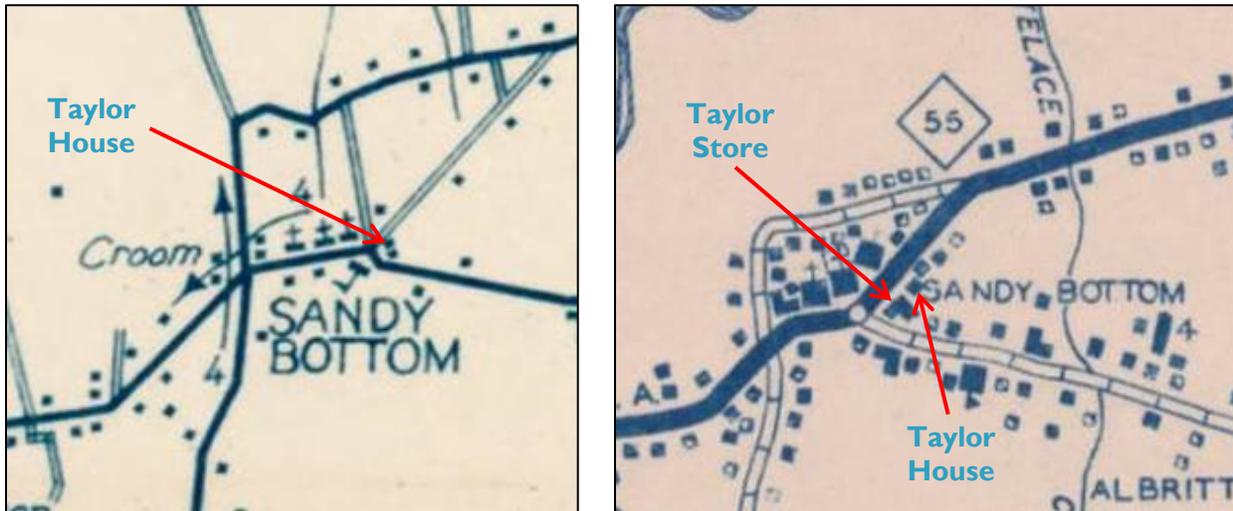
Sometime following the closure of the school, the property was acquired by Bessie Croom Stroud (1903-1990) and her husband, Abel Stroud (1900-1975). Bessie was the youngest daughter of Joseph R. and Eliza Croom. The Strouds purchased the school sometime between 1917 and 1922, when their first and only child was born. The couple converted the building into a house, where they lived until their deaths. The school/house is currently owned by Vance Davis, a nephew of Bessie, and is utilized as a rental unit. Croom family history states that Bessie and her husband operated a small store—the Bessie Croom Stroud Store—located on the same lot just to the west of their house. No information was found concerning the operation of the store; it does not appear in any local newspapers from the time. The building's date of construction is equally allusive and the store is not called out on the 1938 map of Sandy Bottom. The building stands today and operates as a small antique shop. Like the house, it is owned by Vance Davis (Figure 145).



**Figure 145: Location of Sandy Bottom School, later the Stroud residence, on 1910-1919 Rural Delivery Map, at left, and 1938 State Highway and Public Works map, at right.**

Located just east of the Bessie Croom Stroud House and Store is Nannie Taylor Hill House and the Old Taylor Store. Sharing borders with the Crooms throughout much of the nineteenth century, Council B. Taylor Sr. (ca.1855-194?) and Nannie E. Holland Taylor owned and operated a small store that predated the Stroud Store. While the exact years of operation are unknown, an October 1918 article in the *Daily Free Press* advertising the sale of the R.E. Bland Farm describes the farm as located “just a little way from Sandy Bottom (Counce Taylor’s Store).” This advertisement suggests that the store had been in operation for some time, as the establishment was well enough known to be utilized as a landmark for the Bland Farm sale. The 1940 Census records Taylor as an active merchant in Sandy Bottom, suggesting he still operated the store in the mid-twentieth century.

Taylor and his wife lived in a small house adjacent to the store. According to tax records, the house was built sometime during the early 1900s, although an exact date was unable to be determined. Following the death of Taylor during the mid-1900s, the property passed into the hands of his daughter, Nannie Taylor Hill (1900-1988) or Miss Nannie Hill as she was known to living Croom descendants (Baker 2017). Miss Nannie additionally acquired the store, which was converted into a packhouse. The store has since been converted into a garage to accompany the house and is currently owned by a Lesli Jordan of Kinston. A recent deed documenting Jordan’s acquisition of the property references an earlier property transaction. This earlier transaction states that the land on which the Taylor House and Store sit are “a portion of the lands deeded to Mrs. Nannie E. Taylor by J.B. Temple and wife L.P. Smith and wife” (Lenoir County Deed Book, 899/90). This note suggests that the Nannie E. Taylor acquired the land (probably through a family connection) and brought it with her to her marriage (Figure 146).

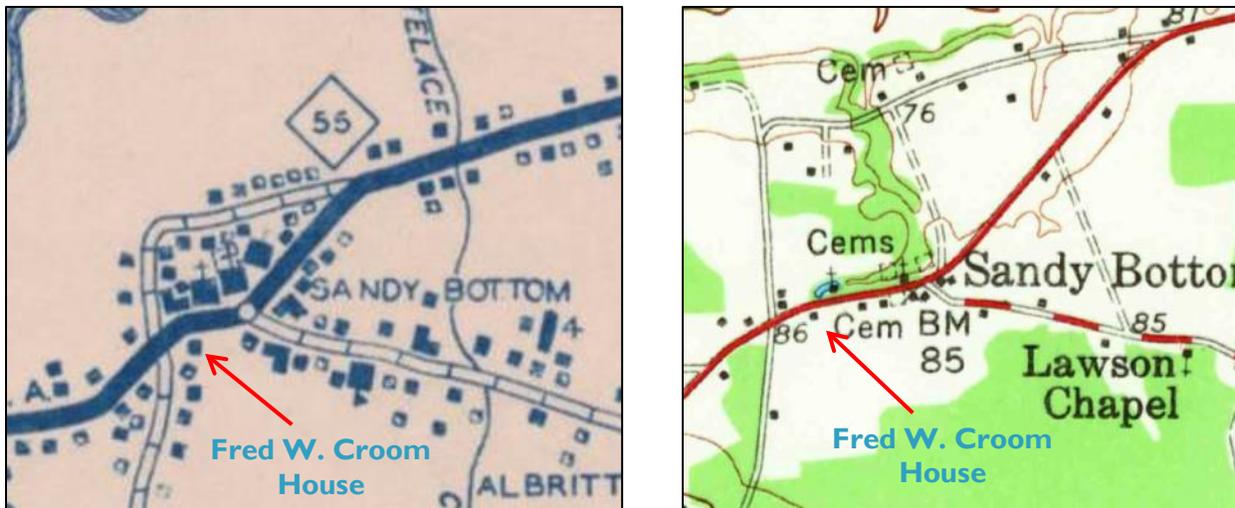


**Figure 146: Location of Taylor House and Store on 1910-1919 Rural Delivery Map, at left, and 1938 State Highway and Public Works map, at right.**

Changes to the residential footprint of the Sandy Bottom community were significant during the first half of the twentieth century. Around the same time as the Stroud schoolhouse conversion, Jesse Jackson Croom constructed a newer and larger house on the north side of the crossroads, just north of the Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church (North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, LR-1041 Jesse Jackson Croom House II). The house, constructed

somewhere between 1916 and 1920, was a two-story frame dwelling that has since been removed and replaced by a few modern houses.

A comparison of the 1910-1919 Rural Delivery map and the 1938 State Highway map reveals the addition of numerous residences to the community. With the exception of the original Jesse Jackson Croom House—which has been much altered, is framed by three modern houses, and is not included in the historic district boundary—the only one of these houses to remain standing is the Fred W. Croom House. The youngest son of Jesse Jackson Croom by his second wife, Fred W. Croom (1918-1988) married Eleanor Hardy Croom (1921-2015) in 1946. Following their marriage, the newlyweds set up their household in a small, one-story, frame residence located on the south side of NC 55. Tax records state, however, that the house was built in 1926. It is unknown who lived there prior to the Crooms. The house did receive a later rear wing addition that was perhaps added by them. It is currently owned by their daughter, Louise Croom Ratley (Figure 147).



**Figure 147:** At the left is the 1938 State Highway and Public Works map showing the location of the Fred W. Croom House, which is also depicted on the 1958 USGS Map at the right.

### Mid/Late Twentieth Century

The history of much of the agricultural land included within and around the historic district can be teased out in plat maps. Joseph R. Croom died in 1929, three years after his wife. Upon their deaths their extensive land holdings in Sandy Bottom were surveyed and split amongst their children. As of the 1934 survey of the land, the W.A. Croom homestead still stood. By the 1938 survey of the Joseph R. Croom land, however, it was gone. In 1954 Jesse J. Croom died at the age of 92. Like that of his brother, his lands in Sandy Bottom were divided amongst his children (Figure 148 and Figure 149).

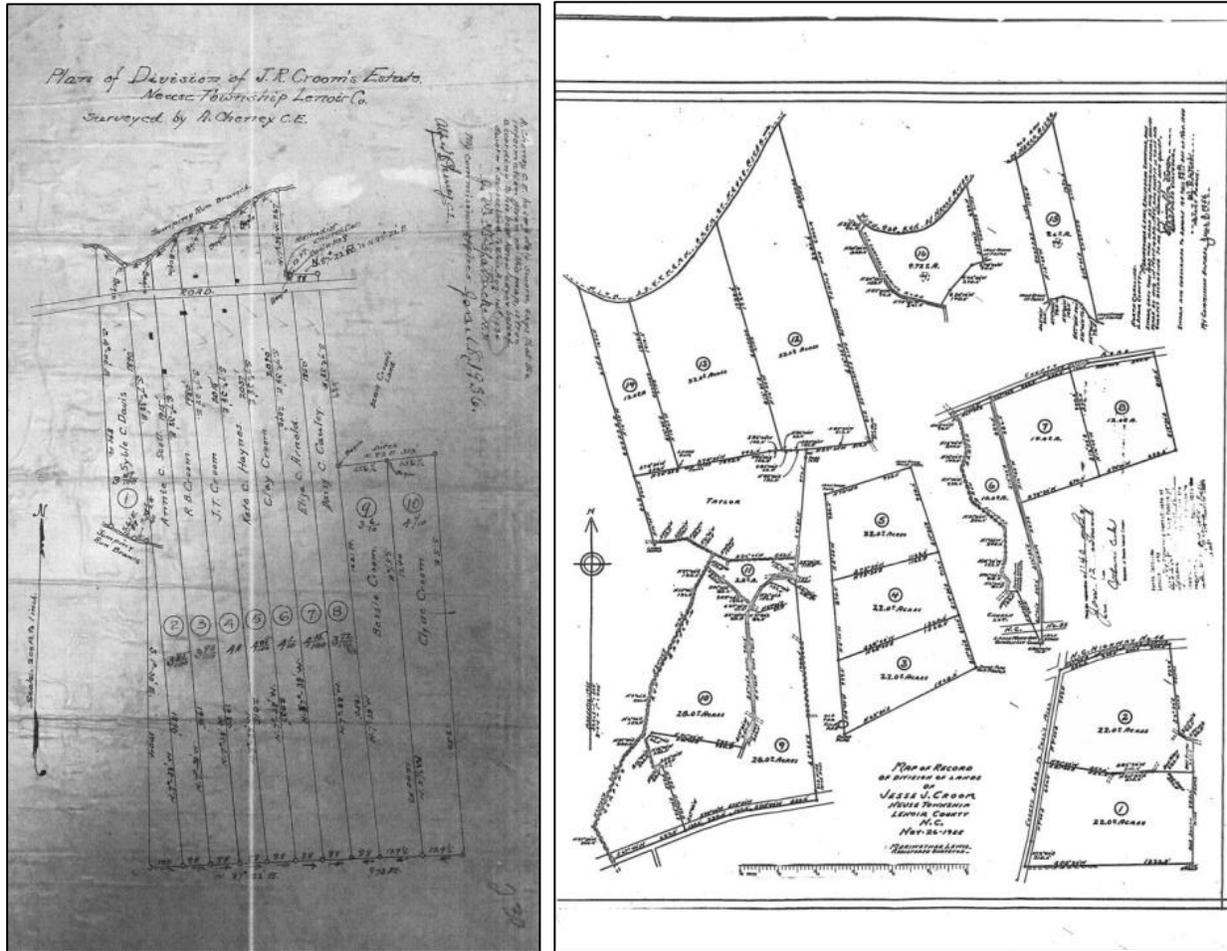


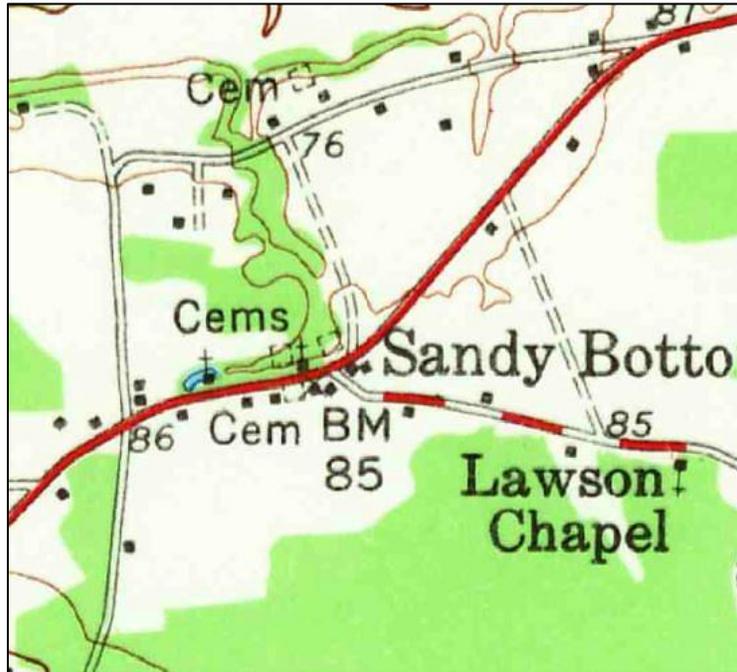
Figure 148. At left, “Plan of Division of J.R. Croom’s Estate, Neuse Township, Lenoir County” surveyed by A. Cherry, dated 1934 (Cherry 1934) and, at right, the “Map of Record of the Lands of Jesse J. Croom, Neuse Township, Lenoir County, N.C.” recorded by Meriwether Lewis, dated November 26, 1955 (Lewis 1955).



**Figure 149. Map showing the landholdings of Jesse J. Croom and Joseph R. Croom (and others) in the Sandy Bottom vicinity at the time of their respective deaths (base image courtesy of North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office).**

Following the division of Joseph R. and Jesse J. Croom's lands among their respective heirs, development in Sandy Bottom slowed exponentially. The 1958 USGS topographic map of the community shows only a scattering of additional houses along NC-55W- none of which remain

today, besides the Fred Croom House, Bessie Stroud House, and the Daisy Cauley House. The 1958 map reveals the presence of the current Ideal Glass & Mirror Building, which was built as a store earlier in the 1950s (Baker 2017). Property research indicates the land was deeded to Eleanor Hardy Croom following the death of her mother in 1968 (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1232/890). It is now owned by Kim and Deborah Faucette and continues to function as a business (Figure 150).



**Figure 150: The 1958 USGS topographic map of Sandy Bottom reveals a decline in development in the community. Still present are the three churches, in addition to the Croom Stroud House and Store and the Taylor House and Store.**

In 1972 William Baker, grandson of Daisy Croom Cauley (daughter of Joseph R.) constructed a brick ranch-style residence on land he inherited from his grandmother, which shared an eastern boundary with Bessie Croom Stroud's property. Baker's new house was constructed slightly off the road, allowing for the retention of existing buildings dating from the early/mid-twentieth century, including the Daisy Cauley House, the metal-sided shop building, and a packhouse. The property holds the Croom-Cauley Cemetery. In 1977, Bessie Croom Stroud donated a portion of her land abutting to the Sandy Bottom Volunteer Fire Department for the construction of a new fire house. The building was utilized until a newer fire station was constructed on the west side of Sandy Bottom, outside of the proposed historic district boundary, around 2009.

Over the second half of the twentieth and the first part of the twenty-first centuries, much of the land in Sandy Bottom has been acquired by Philip Harper (grandson of Jesse James Harper), owner of Harper Farms. The economy of Sandy Bottom has significantly returned to its agricultural roots. However, instead of a small family farm it functions as part of a larger agricultural operation. With the exception of Bessie Croom Stroud's store, now a small antique shop, and the Ideal Glass Store, commercial enterprise has vacated the community tenants.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Few examples of intact rural crossroads communities remain within Lenoir and surrounding counties. No comparable communities with such a wide variety of resource types and so few modern intrusions were identified within Lenoir County. The NRHP-listed Falkland Historic District (PT-1994) in neighboring Pitt County sits at a crossroads, like Sandy Bottom, and has an almost identical period of development and significance, ca. 1859-1960 (Figure 151). The Falkland Historic District is similar in composition to Sandy Bottom: it holds 37 contributing resources that include commercial and residential buildings and a church. The forms of Falkland's buildings are similar to those of Sandy Bottom. Most are modest, one-story, frame residences, and the 1923 church is brick veneered and features a plan similar to both of the twentieth-century churches in Sandy Bottom. Like Sandy Bottom, most of Falkland's growth occurred during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.



**Figure 151: View of Falkland Historic District, Pitt County, 2013 (images courtesy of GoogleEarth).**

Found also in neighboring Pitt County and NRHP-listed is the Renston Rural Historic District (PT-1792). With a period of significance ca. 1890-1953, Renston developed during the same time period as Sandy Bottom. Unlike its Lenoir County counterpart, Renston developed largely as a rural agricultural community as opposed to one centered on a rural crossroads. Despite its sprawling nature, however, the district includes one store, a sawmill, two churches, and a school exemplifying a well-developed community structure like Sandy Bottom. The Renston district also includes a contributing landscape of fields once devoted to tobacco cultivation. This reflects, if at a larger scale, the landscape of fields including within the proposed Sandy Bottom Historic District NRHP-eligible boundary.



**Figure 152: Images of Renston Historic District, Pitt County, 2013 (images courtesy of GoogleEarth).**

The Sandy Bottom Historic District is an unusually varied and intact crossroads community in Lenoir County. It retains two active churches and an inactive meetinghouse, three former stores, a former shop, three cemeteries, a former firehouse, and four buildings erected as dwellings along with four attendant outbuildings, and a former schoolhouse. It also retains its landscape of fields that are still cultivated largely in tobacco. All of these resources were built or created during the twentieth century, or perhaps a few years before, but for the antebellum Croom Meetinghouse (which is recommended as individually NRHP-eligible). Sixteen of them are contributing resources; four do not contribute to the historic district. Three of the non-contributing resources fall outside of the district's period of significance; the fourth is almost unrecognizably altered. Additionally, the community is surrounded by numerous actively cultivated agricultural fields which serves also prove contributing. No other crossroads community or small town in the county retains such a large, varied, and compact grouping of the types of resources that make up a community—religious, residential, funerary, educational, commercial—within an intact setting not overwhelmed by modern intrusions. Further, Sandy Bottom's resources continue to be framed by the cultivated fields that supported the farmers who built its buildings and, more broadly, attended its churches, shopped at its stores, and ultimately found rest in its cemeteries. The Sandy Bottom Historic District is recommended as eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C for its architecture, as a significant and distinguishable entity. Its level of significance is local. Its period of significance extends from ca. 1900 to ca. 1960, when it was largely built out and when it still remained a thriving crossroads community.

Sandy Bottom is not recommended as NRHP-eligible under Criterion A. It is not notably associated with the history of agriculture, as almost all of its farm buildings have been lost, or

with community planning, as it grew piecemeal over time. It has no known association with notable persons, and is therefore also not recommended as NRHP-eligible under Criterion B. The district additionally is unlikely to yield any new information to the field of architectural history and is therefore not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion D.

**Table 16: Sandy Bottom Historic District**

SANDY BOTTOM HISTORIC DISTRICT		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Remains on site where it was established.
Design	Medium to High	Individual resources have been altered, but they retain their original forms and 80% contribute to the historic district.
Setting	High	Retains large number of varied resource types and associated cultivated fields.
Materials	Medium to High	Individual resources have been altered, but they retain their original forms and 80 % contribute to the historic district.
Workmanship	Medium to High	Individual resources have been altered, but they retain their original forms and 80 % contribute to the historic district.
Feeling	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high integrity of feeling.
Association	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The proposed NRHP boundary (Figure 157) is drawn to include a large number of contributing resources and exclude resources on the periphery of the district that would be noncontributing (Figure 153 through Figure 156), while also including an appropriate and historic setting for the district. The proposed boundary follows the existing NCDOT right-of-way.



**Figure 153: Views looking north, at left, and west, at right, of three modern houses and early packhouse/barn on Rouse Adams Lane excluded from NRHP boundaries beyond northeast edge of historic district**



**Figure 154:** At left, view looking north of NC 55 across cornfield included within proposed boundary toward excluded modern outbuilding and house in distance; at right, view looking east from modern fire station on west side of North Croom Brand Road excluded from proposed boundary



**Figure 155:** At left, view looking southwest from NC 55 within proposed boundary at modern houses, outbuildings, and agricultural processing complex excluded on either side of South Croom Bland Road; at right; view looking southeast across South Croom Bland Road at same houses and outbuildings (note Jesse Jackson Croom House I at right center that is also excluded from boundary)



**Figure 156:** At left, view looking northwest across South Croom Bland Road at modern agricultural processing complex excluded from proposed boundary (modern fire station at far right); at right, view looking northwest from South Croom Bland Road at outbuilding and modern house on either side of NC 55 excluded from proposed boundary



Figure 157: Map of proposed Sandy Bottom Historic District NRHP boundary, outlined in red.

#### 4.14 SANDY BOTTOM BAPTIST CHURCH

	Sandy Bottom Baptist Church
	LR-1037 [AECOM Survey #30]
	4568 Highway 55 West, Sandy Bottom
	Parcel Record #27168
	PIN #358300720362
	Late 20th century
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing	

#### Description

The Sandy Bottom Baptist Church sits near the western edge of the Sandy Bottom community on a 1.25-acre parcel. The church is situated toward the front of an open lot, which is bounded on its southern side by NC 55 and trees on its northern, eastern, and western sides. A large concrete parking lot located on the west side of the church occupies almost half of the parcel (Figure 158).



**Figure 158: Site Plan of Sandy Bottom Baptist Church with NC 55 at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

Local history states that the original mass of the church—the single-bay front-gabled sanctuary—was constructed around 1907. Both east and west side elevations are marked by three lancet windows. While the fenestration pattern is likely original, new stained-glass windows were installed in 1998. During the early/mid-twentieth century, a front-gabled narthex was added to the church's south front elevation. The building is primarily accessed through the centrally located replacement door in this narthex. The narthex additionally features lancet windows in the same style of the sanctuary on its side elevations. A pedimented front portico supported by composite Tuscan columns and a brick stairway were added sometime during the mid-twentieth century. The steeple likely dates from this time as well (Figure 159 and Figure 160).

During the 1950s a one-story two-pile addition was added to the north rear of the church—and subsequently extended during the decade—giving the building an overall L-shape. The side-

gabled addition is clad in vinyl siding and, like the church, rests on a continuous brick foundation. A rear single-story fellowship hall was built in 1976. Resting on a concrete-block foundation and clad in vinyl, the hall is accessed from the church by a covered walkway. A round barbecue pavilion connected to the fellowship hall by a covered walkway was also built during in the late 1970s. Despite multiple site visits, access to the building was unavailable.



**Figure 159: Sandy Bottom Baptist Church: at left, west side and south front elevation; at right, south front elevation.**



**Figure 160: Sandy Bottom Baptist Church: at left, south front and east side elevations with 1950s addition extending to side; at right, west side elevation with fellowship hall and round barbecue pavilion at far left.**

## History

Sandy Bottom Baptist Church's congregational history states (Sandy Bottom Baptist Church):

Sandy Bottom Baptist Church was organized on June 29, 1902. . . . Reverend W.L. Bilbro [was] the first pastor. The church was started for people in the community, most or all who belong to New Hope Baptist Church. The road conditions at that time made travel to and from that church difficult and time-consuming.

Fannie Croom Bunn and Joseph R. [sic] Croom donated the land for the church, and a one room building was completed and dedicated on March 31, 1907. The building was heated with a wood heater and illuminated by kerosene lamps. In about 1910, an organ was purchased and the church was first painted. A Sunday School was organized by 1920.

For many years the church shared a pastor with five other Baptist churches. In the 1940s, electrical wiring and lighting were installed. By the early 1950s, the church was sharing pastors with only one other church. The first addition to the church added six Sunday School rooms and moved the pulpit back to where it is now. By 1955 the Sunday School had grown, and eight more Sunday School rooms were added. In 1963 the church built the parsonage and called its own fulltime pastor in 1964. The church built and paid for the Fellowship Hall in 1976. The church built a gazebo with a barbecue shortly thereafter. In 1998, the church had...stained-glass windows installed and dedicated

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Sandy Bottom Baptist Church does not boast association with any significant historical events or persons and is therefore not recommended as eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A or B. The church continues to have pointed-arched bays and a gable-front form, but is otherwise much altered and has lost its physical integrity. Vinyl covers its original weatherboards. Its windows date from 1998. Its front narthex, portico, and steeple are later additions. A large side addition in the 1950s gave it an L-shaped footprint. In the 1970s a large fellowship hall rose behind it, connected by a covered walkway. Its integrity is not equal to that of other similarly fashioned churches in Lenoir County, including LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church, and LaGrange Presbyterian Church, discussed at Section 3, above. It is accordingly recommended as not eligible under Criterion C. The church is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction and is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 17: Sandy Bottom Baptist Church**

SANDY BOTTOM BAPTIST CHURCH		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low	Core form and pointed-arch openings remain, but sided with vinyl, sash replaced, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by large additions.
Setting	High	Part of the largely intact Sandy Bottom crossroads community.
Materials	Low	Core form and pointed-arch openings remain, but sided with vinyl, sash replaced, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by large additions.
Workmanship	Low	Core form and pointed-arch openings remain, but sided with vinyl, sash replaced, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by large additions.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of association.

### 4.15 WEBB CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Webb Chapel United Methodist Church
LR-1038 [AECOM Survey #31]
4478 Highway 55 West, Sandy Bottom
Parcel Record #27169 PIN #358300729545
Early 20th century and later
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

#### Description

Webb Chapel United Methodist Church is located on a two-acre parcel at the crossroads of the Sandy Bottom Community, on the north side of US 55 (Figure 161). It is recommended as a contributing resource to the proposed Sandy Bottom Historic District, addressed separately above.



**Figure 161: Site plan of Webb Chapel United Methodist Church (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

Church history suggests that the original one-room sanctuary was built in the early 1900s. Now clad in brick veneer, the original single-bay, four-pile-deep, front-gabled building would have been clad in weatherboards. It also initially lacked a steeple. The sanctuary retains its original lancet stained-glass windows. However, the window openings have been enlarged and the glass modified to fit into them. During the early twentieth century, east and west transepts were added

to the building creating a T-shaped plan. Instead of covering the original windows in these locations, they were shifted to the gable ends of both transepts. Two original secondary horizontal wood-paneled doors are found at each transept. A second addition of a front vestibule and pedimented portico extended the building to south front in the early/mid-twentieth century. The portico houses the church's centrally placed front doors, which are not original. A single-story, four-bay, shed-roofed was added to the church's rear in the mid-twentieth century (Figure 162 through Figure 164). Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the building was not available.

A large, late-twentieth century, side-gabled, masonry fellowship hall sits to the rear (north) of the main block. It is connected by an exterior paved walkway. The church parcel also contains the Joseph. R. Croom Cemetery and a large parking lot to its west. The cemetery contains about 75 interments underneath plainly finished markers.



**Figure 162: Webb Chapel United Methodist Church: at left, west side and south front elevations; at right, south front and east side elevations**



**Figure 163: Webb Chapel United Methodist Church: at left, north rear and west side elevations of church with cemetery in foreground, at right, view of western elevation of church Fellowship Hall, looking east.**



**Figure 164: Webb Chapel United Methodist Church: west side elevations of church at left and fellowship hall, at right.**

## History

In 1902 Joseph R. Croom donated the land for the Webb United Methodist Church, which was likely built shortly thereafter. During the early 1900s, Reverend Leo Hall served as pastor of Webb Chapel in addition to nearby Woodington and Caswell Street Church (*Kinston Daily Free Press*, 1919). Multiple articles appear in *Daily Free Press* advertising various events and services hosted at Webb Chapel in the early twentieth century. A more detailed history of the church was published by the church in 2001. It is titled: “Webb Chapel United Methodist Church, Sandy Bottom, North Carolina, 1901-2001: the First Hundred Years,” which supports a construction date at the opening of the twentieth century.

The church property serves as home to the Joseph R. Croom Cemetery which includes internments from the mid-1800s to the late 1980s. As the church property was donated by Joseph R. Croom (1807-1860), it is an appropriate location for the cemetery. A full inventory of the cemetery’s 75 internments can be found at Findagrave.com. They include Croom’s basic marker.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Webb Chapel United Methodist Church is not associated with any significant historical events or persons and therefore is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A or B. The church retains its initial small, front-gabled block. The block’s lancet stained-glass windows are original, but they have been set in larger rectangular openings. Brick veneer now covers the original block. The front vestibule and portico, and the steeple above, are later additions. An addition that greatly expands the church extends to its rear. A large, modern, masonry fellowship hall stands just behind the building. The church’s integrity is not equal to that of other similarly fashioned churches in Lenoir County, including LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, Sand Hill Free Will Baptist Church, and LaGrange Presbyterian Church, discussed at Section 3, above. Due to this loss of physical integrity, the church is recommended as not eligible under Criterion C. Additionally, as the building is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion D.

Table 18: Webb Chapel United Methodist Church

WEBB CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low	Core form and some original windows remain, but sided with brick veneer, sash set in later surrounds, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by additions.
Setting	High	Part of the largely intact Sandy Bottom crossroads community.
Materials	Low	Core form and some original windows remain, but sided with brick veneer, sash set in later surrounds, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by additions.
Workmanship	Low	Core form and some original windows remain, but sided with brick veneer, sash set in later surrounds, extended at front by a vestibule/portico/ steeple, and expanded at rear by additions.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.

#### 4.16 SANDY BOTTOM PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH (CROOM MEETING HOUSE)



Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church (Croom Meeting House)
LR-1040 [AECOM Survey #32]
4448 Highway 55 West, Sandy Bottom
Parcel Record #27167; PIN #358300821576 (all) Parcel Record #27845; PIN #358300723758 (part)
1850s
Placed on North Carolina NRHP SL in 1994. Recommended as eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C.

#### Description

The Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church or Croom Meeting House sits at the Sandy Bottom Crossroads on the north side of NC 55 (Figure 165). The building occupies an open one-and-a-half-acre parcel. A tiny cemetery stands off its northwest corner.



**Figure 165: Site plan of Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

#### Meeting House

In his 1999 National Register nomination of the similarly constructed Yopps Meeting House in Sneads Ferry in Onslow County, Ed Turberg writes: “The rugged simplicity of the architecture reflects the rigid restraint of the conservative, predestination congregation who repudiated superficial ornamentation.” The Croom Meeting House adheres to this tradition of modest design

and is simple in its form and ornament. Its alterations are few. Its gabled roof is clad in standing-seam metal, which replaced original wood shingles. At its rear gable, a former door bay has been weatherboarded over. The building rests on concrete-block piers as a result of being shifted a very short distance on its site to the north in the 1970s as part of the NC 55 widening project. Other than these changes, the church looks much like it did when it opened in the 1850s.

The meetinghouse is a frame rectangular building with no portico, additions, or steeple (Figure 166 through Figure 168). It holds only a single room. It is covered with weatherboards and flanked by cornerboards. Boxed eaves mark its east and west side elevations. The church is oriented with its gables facing north and south. On the south is a centered wood batten door flanked by two windows hidden by shutters. The surrounds here and on the other elevations are plain. The long east elevation is similarly finished with a center wooden door flanked by shuttered window. Three shuttered windows extend along the west side elevation. The north gabled elevation originally looked like the south one. Its door has been closed off by weatherboards and a window above is either original or dates from the sealing of the door. According to tradition, the rear door was the slave entrance, which was closed off following the Civil War, not after the church's construction.



**Figure 166: Croom Meeting House: at left, east side and south gabled elevations; at right, south gabled elevation.**



**Figure 167: Croom Meeting House: at left, west side and south gabled elevations; at right, north gabled and west side elevations.**



**Figure 168: Croom Meeting House: at left, south gabled elevation; at right, east side and south gabled elevations.**

The church's interior is as simple in its design as its exterior (Figure 169 through Figure 171). Its single room is sheathed on all sides and at its ceiling with beaded tongue-and-groove boarding that likely dates from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. From inside the original nine-over-nine double-hung windows can be seen to remain in place. A large, square, hand-planed pulpit that appears to be contemporary with the building is centered on the north gable end wall. Ghost-marks in the room's center mark its original location; it was likely moved following the closure of the north gable door. Original wide-plank pine floors span the building from north to south. Original pine pews, plainly articulated, are placed in a cruciform pattern, two lines running north to south with a central aisle in between, and a line on the eastern and western sides of the pulpit. The roof framing is visible through a hatch. John Wood of the North Carolina HPO, who visited the site when it was surveyed, indicated that a tie-beam appeared to be pit-sawn, but that the rafters were replaced. (According to former congregants, the building has withstood a number of severe storms, one of which may have necessitated the rebuilding of the roof.)



**Figure 169: Croom Meeting House: at left, view toward north and pulpit; at right, pulpit in front of early sealed door.**



**Figure 170: Croom Meeting House: at left, view of interior of church looking southwest; at right, view of interior of church looking southeast.**



**Figure 171: Croom Meeting House: at left, view of replacement roof trusses; at right, original roof tie beam that appears to be pit-sawn.**

### Cemetery

Curiously, the tiny Williams Family Cemetery just off of the church's northwest corner is not directly associated with it (Figure 172). Not marked by a wall or fence, it contains seven markers identifying the graves of Joseph Williams (1852-1929) and his wife, Julia Williams (1855-1924); their children, Roy Williams (1896-1916) and Julia Williams (1890-1892); and David S. Williams (1885-1953), Jessie David Williams (1924-1924), and Henry G. Williams (1881-1935) (<http://lenoir.lostsoulsgenealogy.com/cems/williamscem.htm>). The markers are straightforward stone headstones



Figure 172: Williams Family Cemetery standing just northwest of Croom Meeting House

## History

*Coastal Plain and Fancy* notes (Little et al. 1998:408):

The Croom Meeting House, which served as the home of the Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Meeting, has several associated stories about its early history. These concern its being moved at least twice and accepting slaves into the fold. Perplexity about its date of construction remains. Congregational records confirm that the meeting house was established in 1803 by Lot Croom (1761-1830) as a division of a local congregation.

The early history of the physical Croom Meeting House is indeed hazy in its details, as early records are vague and brief in their address of the building. The congregation was founded in 1803. Although where they met is not known, by 1832 a Sandy Bottom Meeting House was in existence and aligned with the Contentnea Primitive Baptist Association. The minutes from the Association's 1832 annual gathering reported Sandy Bottom as a healthy congregation of 36 members, with five newly baptized, under the leadership of Elder George W. Wallace. Four delegates, including William Croom, attended the meeting as representatives of Sandy Bottom.

By the 1839 meeting, the Association's minutes reveal, the Sandy Bottom congregation had lost over half of its members. The 1844 minutes report a congregation of 15 (Contentnea Baptist Association 1838). In 1854, Joseph R. Croom, a member of the local Croom family, became pastor of the congregation and served until his death in 1860. A commemorative marble plaque was inlaid into the church's pulpit sometime after his death and remains in place today. (According to local congregational tradition, Croom died while preaching in the church.)

Oral tradition states that the "Croom Meeting House" dates from the early nineteenth century and housed the earliest congregations. The building is additionally said to have been relocated from its original site around 1850, and then moved a second time to its current location in the 1970s.

Although the original document does not survive, as it was destroyed in the Lenoir County Courthouse fire in the 1880s, reference to an early deed was made in a mid-twentieth century transaction. This deed detailed the transfer of the Meeting House from the Trustees of the Contentnea Association of the Primitive Baptist Church to members of the Croom family. The deed reference reads:

“A certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County and State aforesaid, being a part of a tract of land granted to Charles Gavin on the south side of Neuse river and on the east side of Jumping Run where our new meeting house now stands . . . as described in that certain deed from Joseph R. Croom to Allen W. Wooten and Redding Croom, trustees of the old School Baptist Church at Sandy Bottom, dated May 13, 1856” (Lenoir County Deed Book, 525/324).

This deed in conjunction with the architectural evidence strongly suggests that building was constructed in the 1850s. Perhaps it went up around 1850, when the building is said to have been moved, or in 1856, when a “new” meeting stood upon newly acquired land.

By the early twentieth century, church membership was in decline:

Through the church’s history, meetings were held either quarterly, or yearly, depending up on the size of the congregation and other circumstances. By 1930 the dwindling membership changed the meetings to yearly events. Mary Moore Croom, the last surviving local member of the Sandy Bottom Primitive Baptist Church, died in 1950, bringing an end to the congregation as it had existed for nearly 150 years. Services took place occasionally between 1950 and 1954, when the last service was held in the meeting house (Little et al.:409).

Contentnea Association minutes from 1954 report that “a committee [has been created] to look after the Primitive Baptist Church property at Sandy Bottom in Lenoir County, North Carolina, and to make recommendations to the Association as they deem best.”

In 1964 the Trustees of the Contentnea Association of the Primitive Baptist Church, successors to the Old School Baptist Church of Sandy Bottom, sold the church and its small parcel to the Croom Family Reunion Association for the sum of \$500 (Lenoir County Deed Book, 525/324, 525/324). The first annual Croom Family Reunion had been held 30 years prior in Sandy Bottom. Today the Meeting House serves as a venue for this annual event, in addition to occasional family weddings and special events.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Six antebellum churches are known to survive in Lenoir County. Two of the more intact ones are in Kinston. The congregants of the Caswell Street Methodist Church (LR-0323) began construction of their church in 1860, but completion awaited the end of the war (Little et al. 1998:64, 203). Its basic Greek Revival-style, gable-front, triangular-pedimented form is intact, but it has otherwise been altered over the years (Figure 173, at left). Its entrance portico is an addition, as are its Gothic Revival-style windows, which replaced its original sash. Its bell tower and octagonal spire are gone. Only a belfry with altered, outsized, corner pilasters survives. Once weatherboarded, the church is now covered with vinyl siding. More intact is the NRHP-listed First Baptist Church of Kinston or White Rock Presbyterian Church (LR-0462), erected ca. 1858 (Little et al. 1998:64, 217; Black 1989c). Its textbook, Greek Revival-style, *distyle in antis* portico retains its two central fluted columns and flanking smooth pilasters (Figure 173, at right). The original louvered belfry is still in place, although its steeple is gone. Weatherboards yet cover the building and a wide plain friezeboard continues to ring it.



**Figure 173: Caswell Street Methodist Church, north side and west front elevations, at left; White Rock Presbyterian Church, south front and east side elevation, at right, 2017**

Three other antebellum churches with far less integrity survive in Lenoir. The ca. 1857 former Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Church (LR-1160) in LaGrange, now the home of the LaGrange Garden Club, has been moved several times (Little et al. 1998:304). Its modest form is intact and its original entry is apparent at its west gable end (Figure 174, at left). Otherwise, it is sided with vinyl, its windows have been replaced, a porch has been added, and most of its original fabric is gone. The original small antebellum sanctuary of the Wheat Swamp Christian Church (LR-0902) reportedly still stands (Little et al. 1998:42, 319). Subsumed within the sprawling complex of the church, it is no longer discernable (Figure 174, at right).



**Figure 174: Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Church, east gable and long north elevations, at left; view looking west at Wheat Swamp Christian Church, at right, 2017**

The main building of the Methodist Academy of the Lenoir Collegiate Institute rose about 1855 and was converted into the Institute United Methodist Church (LR-0940) in the late 1880s. The congregation truncated and otherwise greatly altered the building (Little et al. 1998:39, 42, 312) (Figure 175).



**Figure 175: Lenoir Collegiate Institute original appearance, at left, and as home to the Institute United Methodist Church in 2017, at right**

The Croom Meeting House is the least altered antebellum church in Lenoir County and retains a high degree of integrity. Its original features include its gable-front form and weatherboard cladding, patterns of bays and nine-over-nine sash, wooden doors, floorboards, and even its pulpit and pews. A remarkable survival, it is recommended as NRHP eligible for its architecture under Criterion C as an excellent example of an antebellum meetinghouse and also under Criterion A, as an early intact meetinghouse/church in the areas of social history and religion. Although the family cemetery on its property is not clearly associated with it, it is believed to contribute to its integrity. The period of significance is believed to extend from the 1850s, when the building was erected, to 1964, when it was sold and finally ceased functioning as a church. The building is recommended not eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria B or D as it is not associated with any significant historic figure, nor does it boast the potential to yield any substantive information in the field of architectural history.

**Table 19: Croom Meeting House**

CROOM MEETING HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on, or within a short distance of, the site upon which it was built.
Design	High	Form and interior and exterior finish are intact.
Setting	High	Remains a central part of the intact Sandy Bottom crossroads community.
Materials	High	Form and interior and exterior finish are intact.
Workmanship	High	Form and interior and exterior finish are intact.
Feeling	High	The high level of integrity of the meetinghouse’s location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship give it high level of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	The high level of integrity of the meetinghouse’s location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship give it high level of integrity of association.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The one-and-a-half-acre parcel that the Croom Meeting House occupies is inappropriate in its entirety as an NRHP-eligible boundary, as it includes a modern house and outbuildings on its northern half. The recommended boundary occupies about 0.4 acres on the parcel's south. This boundary extends on the east to the west side of Rouse Adams Lane, not across it; on the north to just below the entry drive to the modern house on the parcel; on the west to the property line; and on the south to the edge of NCDOT right-of-way on the north side of NC 55. This provides an appropriate setting for the church, includes the cemetery, and excludes the modern house and roadways. It includes the entire fractional parcel (#27167) upon which the church stands and the south portion of the larger lot that surrounds it (#27845). It should be noted that the parcel lines shown on the tax map are apparently shifted slightly to the east of the actual lines. The description of the proposed boundary is intended to clarify its precise location (Figure 176). The boundary is intended to follow the existing NCDOT right-of-way.



**Figure 176: Image of tax map, at left, with parcels outlined in blue (note irregularity of line placement); proposed Croom Meeting House boundaries at right, outlined in red.**

### 4.17 WOODINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

	Woodington Middle School
	LR-1544 [AECOM Survey #38]
	4939 Highway 258 South, Woodington
	Parcel Record #27696 PIN #450100843976
	Ca. 1950s; ca. 21st century addition
	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

#### Description

Situated on the south side of NC 258 in the Woodington crossroads community, the Woodington Middle School evolved over the course of the mid- and late twentieth century (Figure 177).



**Figure 177: Site plan of Woodington Middle School (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

The oldest wing of the masonry school is found at its east ( Figure 178 through Figure 180). Featuring a flat roof and clad in brick veneer, the 20-bay, linear, two-story, original block was constructed in 1952. Openings for 18 sets of paired plate-glass windows adorn the north front elevation of the building. The original windows have been replaced with newer, smaller, more energy efficient windows; the gaps left by these small insertions have been filled with modern materials. Attached to the east side elevation of the block is an original, single-story, flat-roofed wing. The projecting flat roof shielding its walkway hints at the International style. The windows have been filled or replaced, however, obscuring its original appearance.

The second phase of the school’s evolution is comprised of a mid-twentieth-century gymnasium attached to the western side of the original block. The addition is dominated at its north front by four tall bays that each hold 36 fixed windows. These provided copious amounts of natural light to the gymnasium within. A shorter section of the gymnasium at the west holds the stage and its back rooms. Attached to this is long, deep, one-story block built in 1998. This modern addition

has a low-sloped side-gabled roof and a wide overhanging front portico. A large pedimented entry with a concrete sign extended above is placed centrally on the block's primary north elevation. A brick blue metal roof covers the block. All sections of the school are marked inside by plain concrete-block corridors.

The south rear elevation of the school is finished, and altered, much like the front. Multiple single-story extensions, however, suggest later additions; their placement does not reveal a plain pattern of development. Overflow classroom trailers are set further to the school's rear. Athletic fields occupy the west end of its long parcel. Interior access to the building was not available.



**Figure 178: Woodington Middle School: at left, north front elevation of original block; at right, south rear elevation of block.**



**Figure 179: Woodington Middle School: at left, easternmost portion of original block; at right, north front elevations of gymnasium and original block.**



**Figure 180: Woodington Middle School: at left, north front elevation of modern 1998 addition; at right, north front and west side elevations of modern block with playing fields to right.**



**Figure 181: Woodington Middle School: at left, detail view of school name sign found on original section of building; at right, interior view of hallway.**

## History

The Woodington School was constructed in 1952 as part of the consolidation of Lenoir County's African-American schools. The school became a junior high in 1967 (Little et al.: 111, 394). The building rose in three principal phases: the original school building in 1952, the slightly later gymnasium addition, and the 1998 wing.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Two large, post-consolidation, brick schools with a high degree of integrity survive in rural Lenoir County. The Study-Listed Moss Hill Elementary School (LR-1012) remains largely intact in the Strabane community. It retains its original 1917 block, designed in a restrained Colonial Revival-style, by prominent Wilmington architect Leslie Boney (Figure 182). Attached to the west side of this block is a 2010 addition that supplanted a 1950 classroom wing. A modernist 1955 gymnasium still stands west of the school (Little et al. 1998:112, 394).



**Figure 182: Moss Hill Elementary School: at left, original 1917 block with 2010 addition to its left; at right, 1955 gymnasium, 2017.**

The Neoclassical Revival-style Contentnea School (LR-0800), also designed by Leslie Boney, was erected in Graingers in 1923-1924 (Little et al. 1998:363). A wing was added to the south of the original block in 1929 and a second matching wing added to the north in 1950 (Figure 183). Additional classrooms and a gymnasium rose to the rear in 1956-1957. The school was designated NRHP-eligible in 2010 and its boundaries revised to include its teacherage on the south in 2016 (Brown 2016).



**Figure 183: At left, Contentnea School: west front elevation of original block; at right, front elevation with 1929 south wing to right, 2017.**

Woodington Middle School retains its original 1952 block, but that block's appearance has been much altered by the replacement and partial closure of all of its classroom windows. The slightly later gymnasium to the southwest remains largely intact, but is flanked by an expansive modern wing added in 1998. Woodington is not equal in integrity or design to the Moss Hill or Contentnea schools and is recommended as not NRHP-eligible under Criteria C. Further, Woodington lacks association with any notable historic event. Although it is a school, it did not play any significant role in the history of education in Lenoir County. It is therefore recommended as not eligible under Criterion A. It further lacks association with any notable historic figure and is recommended as not significant under Criterion B. As the former school is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is not recommended as eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 20: Woodington Middle School**

WOODINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Windows of 1952 classroom block much altered, gymnasium intact, and large modern wing added in 1998.
Setting	Medium to High	Rural setting largely intact, but freestanding classroom trailers to rear and post-1952 houses on opposite side of US 258 detract from immediate setting.
Materials	Low to Medium	Windows of 1952 classroom block much altered, gymnasium intact, and large modern wing added in 1998.
Workmanship	Low to Medium	Windows of 1952 classroom block much altered, gymnasium intact, and large modern wing added in 1998.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Low-to-medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship combine to create low-to-medium integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Low-to-medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship combine to create low-to-medium integrity of association.

## 4.18 HARPER HOUSE



Harper House
LR-1545 [AECOM Survey #39]
Highway 258 South, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #25390
PIN #450100992584
Ca. 1902 and 1928
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

### Description

Located a little over seven miles south of Kinston, the Harper House is bounded on its western side by US 258 and agricultural land to its northern, southern, and eastern sides. Although surrounded by fields, the house's close proximity to the divided-highway has detracted from its once rural setting (Figure 184). The house lacks maintenance and is rapidly deteriorating.



**Figure 184: Site plan of Harper House with NC 258 at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

The original ca. 1902 block of the Harper House is L-shaped and stands at its east rear. It was originally a single-story, single-pile, frame building that stood alone on brick piers. It retains its original weatherboard siding, standing-seam gabled roof, and some six-over-six windows. To the house's north side, within the legs of its L-shaped body, is a one-story, single-pile, gable-end, frame block that was likely originally a freestanding kitchen. At its east-facing elevation, the kitchen retains a six-over-six window and an early doorway. A porch across its east elevation was likely added or altered to connect the early house and kitchen. Likely in the teens or twenties, a block was added to the west of the original house and kitchen. Fronting on the road, it became the principal face of the house. Likely at this time, the three separate portions of the house were connected as one (Figure 185 through Figure 188).



**Figure 185:** Left, potential original layout of ca. 1902 Harper House as an L-shaped block with a detached kitchen; right, 1928 addition of gable-front block along road (not shown at bottom) and interconnection of separate blocks.

The 1928 block is built of frame and weatherboarded. Its three-bay-wide, south-facing, front elevation is extended by a deep, engaged, full-façade porch. In typical Craftsman-style fashion, the porch is supported by tapered posts on brick piers, which are connected by a wooden rail and square pickets. The pediment displays a large molded cornice, an unadorned entablature, and a set of paired windows in the center of its tympanum. Plain cornerboards adorn the eastern and western corners of the house. The symmetrically placed front bays are set in plain surrounds. Paired six-over-one double-hung windows—another Craftsman feature—flank the central entry. An interior brick chimney rises from the block's roof. A second exterior-end chimney stands on the south gable-end of the original house.

The interior of the house was not viewed. The house has long been vacant, its windows are covered on the inside, and its deterioration indicates it would be dangerous to attempt access.



**Figure 186:** Harper House: south-facing elevation of original block, at left; at right, east-facing elevation of kitchen block, at right.



**Figure 187: Harper House: to left, east-facing elevations of original block at left and kitchen at right; to right, north side elevations of kitchen at left and Craftsman block at right.**



**Figure 188: Harper House: west front elevation of Craftsman block, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right**

## History

The Harper family has lived in Woodington Township for a number of generations. It is believed that Jesse Harper (1860-1935) built the original portion of the Harper House around 1902 (Little et al. 1998:422). The son of Simpson Harper (1834-1922) and Letty Hill Harper (1836-1907), Jesse lived with his parents until his marriage to Onie Rouse Harper (1882-1971) in 1903. Following their marriage, the couple moved into the house Jesse had built. It is likely that Jesse inherited the land on which he built the house from his father, as he was the eldest child and only son.

Over the course of a 19-year marriage, Onie bore 11 children. Due to a need for more space, Jesse reportedly enlarged the house in 1928 by adding on the Craftsman block that currently comprises the primary façade of the house (Little et al. 1998:422). It is also likely that the walkway to the detached kitchen was enclosed around this time, incorporating the kitchen into the main house.

In 1946, Edson “Earl” Harper (1922-2013) returned to the Harper homestead from WWII where he served with the Army Air Corps. Earl married Louise Davis in 1948 and the two continued to live on the property. According to tax records, around 1961 the couple built the ranch style home

located to the east of the Harper family house. Since Earl's death in 2013, ownership of the property remains with his wife Louise.

### National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The narrow, rectangular, one-story, frame house—built throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries—is ubiquitous in Lenoir County. These houses are generally end-gabled, although in the twentieth century many were built with front gables. The gable-end, single-pile, one-story house can be found with two-room, hall-parlor, and center-hall plans. Small gable-front dwellings, outside of some African-American neighborhoods in Kinston with shotgun houses, are generally two rooms wide and multiple rooms deep. The styles discussed above in the architectural context section—Georgian, Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Craftsman—can be found at these one-story houses, although most are plainly finished. The additive Harper House brings together the gable-end and gable-front forms, in a plainly finished fashion with some Craftsman-style details.

West Crossroads Tenant House (LR-0744), erected at the crossroads community around the turn-of-the-century (Little et al. 1998:387), is exceptionally intact (Figure 189 and Figure 190). A small, frame, one-story, gable-end dwelling, it retains weatherboarding, cornice returns, wide friezeboards, and an early one-room wing. Not only is its weatherboarded frame kitchen intact, but it continues to stand to rear of the house, connected only by a covered breezeway.

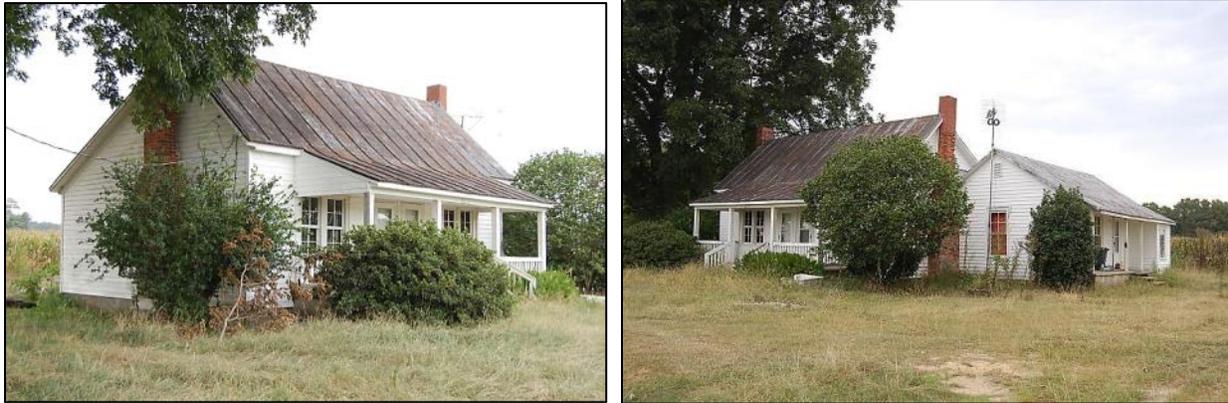


**Figure 189: West Crossroads Tenant House: at left, east front and south side elevations of house with kitchen to rear; at right, south side elevation with breezeway still open between house and kitchen, 2017.**



**Figure 190: West Crossroads Tenant House: south rear and north side elevations, at left; interior of north (left) room of main block, at right, 2017.**

The late nineteenth-century Horace Barwick House (LR-1054) in the Deep Run community is also a modest house that retains its one-story gable-end form (Figure 191). Its kitchen/dining room ell remains in place, attached to its northeast rear corner (Little et al. 1998:399).



**Figure 191: Horace Barwick House: west side and south front elevations, at left, and east side elevation with kitchen wing in foreground, at right, 2017**

The Clyde Daughety House (LR-0829) near Wootens Crossroads is yet another typical and intact small holder or tenant house dating from around the turn of the century. Weatherboards, two-over-two windows, and a gable-end roof with façade gable continue to mark it (Figure 192). Its kitchen ell has been fully integrated into its rear elevation, likely through the enclosure of its original breezeway.



**Figure 192: Clyde Daughety House: west side and front elevations, at left; front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Another modest intact farm dwelling is the Hines-Warters-Adkinson House (LR-0992) near Jenny Lind, built in the third quarter of the nineteenth century and ca. 1900 (Figure 193 and Figure 194). According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:278):

At the center of a modest farm complex constructed by Daniel Hines in the mid-nineteenth century is a one-and-a-half-story dwelling that is a variation of the coastal cottage house form. This form features a roof that encompasses the main rooms along with the front and rear shed rooms. Between the house's front porch rooms are a small recessed front porch featuring board-and-batten detailing and two front entrances. About 1900 an attached front porch was added in front of the

recessed porch. . . . Though the interior has been modernized on the first floor, the second floor retains an original chamfered newel post and board-and-batten ceilings with plastered walls. Original board-and-batten and four-panel doors are retained through the house, along with the original rear kitchen/dining ell.

The house's exterior retains the recessed entry and front porch, weatherboards, brick foundation piers, six-over-six sash, and board-and-batten doors. The location of the breezeway that once separated the front block from the rear kitchen is evident, although it appears to have been enclosed early on. The interior was not available for inspection.



**Figure 193: Hines-Warters-Adkinson House: south front elevation with intact recessed entry and ca. 1900 turned columns and porch.**



**Figure 194: Hines-Warters-Adkinson House: at left, north rear and west side elevations with location of former breezeway to kitchen visible at central window bay; at right, south front and east side elevations, 2017.**

Thomas Jason “T.J.” Herring (1878-1949), who lived on the William Isler Herring Farm (LR-0860), may have built the one-story, gable-end, frame tenant house that continues to stand on his former holding (Figure 195). Located at 1531 NC 55 northeast of Kinston, it stands about a mile west of his home. Its original surviving features include weatherboard cladding, six-over-six windows, a transom, a wide plain friezeboard, and an attached one-story ell.



**Figure 195: T.J. Herring Tenant House: east side and north front elevations, at left; north front and west side elevations, at right, 2017.**

The later-added front block of the Harper House relates decoratively to such Craftsman-style dwellings as the one-and-a-half-story Felix Hardison House (LR-0770) and James William Brothers House (LR-0921) (Figure 196). This is most notable at its Craftsman-style porch. Both stylistically and formally, the Harper House is particularly closely related to the gable-front Owen Williams House at 5270 Bear Creek Road southwest of Jenny Lind. The Williams House has a gable-front façade with a full façade porch of posts on brick piers, triangular kneebraces, and four-over-one sash. Little altered, it retains its weatherboard cladding as well (Figure 197).



**Figure 196: Felix Hardison House, at left, south front elevation, and James William Brothers House, northwest front elevation, at right.**



**Figure 197: Owen Williams House: south front elevation, at left, and front and east side elevations, at right, 2017.**

The Harper House is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. It has no known connection with historic events or notable persons and is therefore not eligible under Criteria A or B. Its much-altered and additive plan is also not notable and is not NRHP-eligible under Criterion C. The house started out as a one-story, gabled, L-shaped dwelling with a detached kitchen. At some point the kitchen was shifted up between the legs of the L and attached to the house. This was contemporaneous with the addition of the Craftsman-style front-gabled block facing the road. These changes resulted in alterations to the house's form and finish. It is not nearly as intact as other small gabled houses in the county, such as the West Crossroads Tenant, Clyde Daughety, Hine-Warters-Adkinson, and T.J. Herring Tenant houses. Further, its later gable-front block is not as notable an example of the Craftsman style as such dwellings as the Felix Hardison, James William Brothers, and Owen Williams houses. Due to its loss of integrity, the house lacks the potential to yield any significant architectural information in the future and therefore does not merit eligibility, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 21: Harper House**

HARPER HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Later Craftsman-style front block remains largely unaltered, but original rear block altered and detached kitchen moved, altered, and attached to body of house.
Setting	Low to Medium	Retains largely rural environs, but no outbuildings.
Materials	Low to Medium	Later Craftsman-style front block remains largely unaltered, but original rear block altered and detached kitchen moved, altered, and attached to body of house.
Workmanship	Low to Medium	Later Craftsman-style front block remains largely unaltered, but original rear block altered and detached kitchen moved, altered, and attached to body of house.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Due to loss of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, has lost integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Due to loss of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, has lost integrity of association.

### 4.19 SIMPSON WALLER HOUSE



Simpson Waller House
LR-1213 [AECOM Survey #40]
2045 Strouds Corner Road, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #25916 PIN #451200219309
Early 20th century
Placed on North Carolina NRHP SL in 1994. Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

#### Description

The Simpson Waller House sits on a 65-acre parcel on the north side of US 258, about eight miles south of Kinston. Running to the east of the house is a gravel lane that wraps around the house and its accompanying farm complex, leading to a field on the north side of the house. Excepting this field, and the clearing in which the house sits, the parcel is heavily wooded. A large garden sits on the east side of the road, close to the house.

Four outbuildings, remnants of a larger twentieth-century farm complex, remain standing. A frame smokehouse is located north of the house and a metal-clad packhouse and an equipment shed stand farther north. To the northeast beyond the garden is a metal-clad tobacco barn. At the time of the July 2017 site visit, the foundation was being set for a new building to the north of the house, replacing two recently demolished twentieth-century agricultural buildings that are pictured on site map (Figure 198 and Figure 199).



**Figure 198: Site plan of Simpson Waller House with Strouds Corner Road at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**



**Figure 199: View looking northeast with house at left, tobacco barn at center, and packhouse at right.**

### Simpson Waller House

A pre-fabricated Charleston Style Aladdin Home, the two-story frame Simpson Waller house was described by its manufacturer, the Aladdin Company, as a “modern square-type.” The central mass of the house is three bays wide and features a side-hall entry plan. The building sits on a continuous concrete-block foundation and is topped by a hipped roof. A three-bay porch spans the front (southern) elevation of the house. A small one-story addition dating from the 1930s extends from the house’s western side. Originally constructed with a front porch connecting to the porch of the main house, the addition was enclosed between 2010 and 2017 (Figure 200 through Figure 202).

With the exception of the addition, the house has retained its overall footprint since its construction in 1918. However, it has undergone significant exterior alterations, most of which have taken place since the building’s last survey in 2010. During the 1970s, the house’s original weatherboard siding was replaced with vinyl. Between 2010 and 2017 the roof was replaced with rolled tin and the two interior brick chimneys were removed.



**Figure 200: Simpson Waller House: at left, south front elevation in 2017 and, at right, in 2010 with chimneys, porches, and weatherboards in place.**

The three-bay porch spanning the front elevation has been completely replaced since 2010. The original porch had wooden Tuscan columns with a low rail and square pickets; the replacement porch has turned columns and balusters and a new rail. The porch on the north rear elevation has

been similarly altered. In addition, the foundations of both porches have been changed from raised piers to continuous concrete block.

Both the front and back doors to the house have been replaced and a new pre-fabricated door surrounds with a keystone detail have been added. The original Aladdin doorbell has apparently been removed. The window to the right west of the front door has been enlarged, as has the window to the west of the rear door. All of the windows have been replaced since 2010, including the two dormer windows located on the façade. The windows have been given new surrounds, though they retain their earlier fixed replacement shutters. While the building's interior was inaccessible, an interview with the current homeowner revealed that he has entirely rebuilt the interior, replacing plaster walls with wallboard, installing new doors, and removing the original mantels. Interior access to the house was not available.



**Figure 201: Simpson Waller House: west side and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east side elevations, at right.**



**Figure 202: Simpson Waller House: east side and north rear elevations, at left, and north rear and west side elevations, at right.**

### Smokehouse

The frame smokehouse dates to the early twentieth century (Figure 203, at left). Originally clad in weatherboards, it is now vinyl sided and topped by a modern, standing-seam, gabled roof. Two triangular kneebraces support an extension of the roof on the east elevation that shades a wooden board-and-batten door. The smokehouse rests on a continuous concrete-block foundation.



**Figure 203: Looking southwest at smokehouse, at left, and northeast at machine shed/open equipment shed.**

### **Shed**

The shed is comprised of two parts: an early/mid-twentieth-century machine shed clad in metal siding and an abutting open equipment shed that was not standing when the recent aerial of the site map was shot (Figure 203, at right).

### **Packhouse**

The early twentieth-century packhouse behind the Simpson Waller House is built of frame and clad in metal sheathing (Figure 204, at left). A side-gabled building, featuring shed roof additions to both its eastern and western sides, the building is oriented toward the south. The building's south-facing front gable, in packhouse fashion, has two centrally placed doors, one above the other. A metal awning shades the ground-level doorway. A shed attached to packhouse's west side elevation features a large opening for equipment storage with a smaller hinged opening above. The building stands on a masonry-block pier foundation.

### **Tobacco Barn**

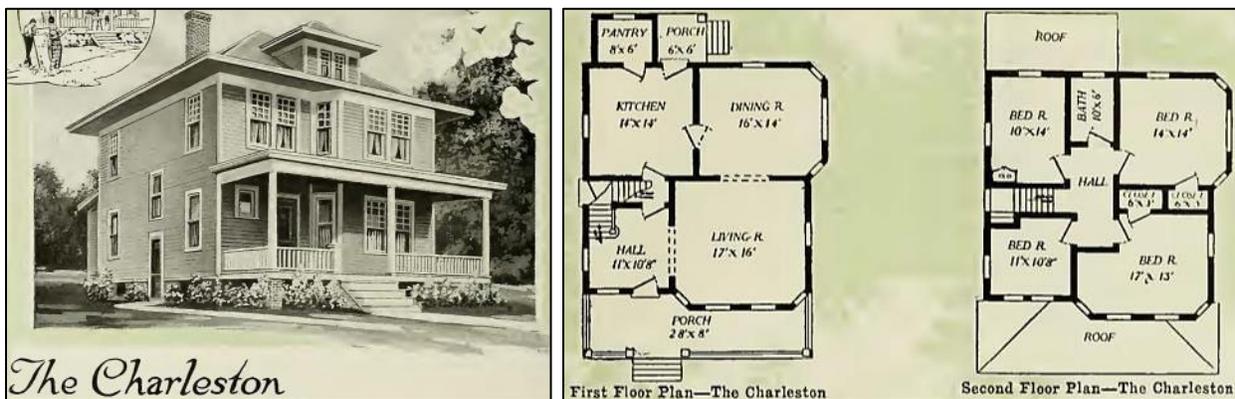
The side-gabled tobacco barn is located a few hundred yards to the east of the Simpson Waller House at the southwest corner of a field, close to the road (Figure 204, at right). The building retains its original form with no additions, and rests on a concrete masonry block foundation. Metal sheathing covers both the roof and sides of the early/mid-20th century building.



**Figure 204: Looking north at packhouse, at left, and southeast at tobacco barn, at right**

## History

According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy*, the Simpson Waller House is “the only documented example of an Aladdin house in Lenoir County. Like the better-known Sears, Roebuck, and Company, the Michigan-based Aladdin Homes supplied homeowners with prefabricated houses ready to be assembled” (Little et al. 1998:421-422). The house was ordered and built in 1918 by Simpson Waller (1890-1963) and closely resembled the Charleston house plan published in the Aladdin Company’s 1918 catalogue (Figure 205). The company advertised the house as a “modern square-type design” with an “interior arrangement [that] is one for convenience.” Although the Charleston plan featured a standardized floorplan with four main rooms on the first floor, and four bedrooms and a bath on the second, the Aladdin Company advertised “a number of attractive arrangements for the Charleston interior” (The Aladdin Company 1919). Which was chosen was not determined.



**Figure 205: Charleston house and plan pictured in 1918 Aladdin catalogue (source: <http://ia601408.us.archive.org/3/items/aladdinhomesbui00alad/aladdinhomesbui00alad.pdf>).**

The house retains its overall original footprint, with the exception of the small addition to the west. Family history states that this was added in the early 1930s for Simpson’s ailing father, Egbert Waller (1863-1935). The house remains in the Waller family to the present.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Simpson Waller House does not boast association with any significant historical events or persons and is recommended as not NRHP-eligibility under Criteria A or B. The house has lost its physical integrity effectively, retaining only its original foursquare form and framing members. Its weatherboards have been covered with vinyl, its roof by rolled tin, and its interior chimney stacks removed. Its front porch has been altered and partially enclosed and its sash and exterior doors replaced. The current homeowner stated that he has completely rebuilt the interior. This effort included removing the mantels, replacing the doors, adding sheetrock walls, and shifting partitions. Such Lenoir County foursquares as the Charles A. Broadway House, Field-Suggs House, and the James and Sudie Wooten House, which are pictured and discussed at the Section 3 architectural context, above, retain far higher degrees of integrity and better represent the form and its common finishes. The Simpson Waller House is therefore recommended not NRHP-eligible under Criterion C. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its construction or appearance, particularly due to its substantial alteration. It is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 22: The Simpson Waller House**

SIMPSON WALLER HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low	Retains little more than foursquare form and original framing members.
Setting	Medium	Retains largely rural environs and a few early outbuildings.
Materials	Low	Retains little more than foursquare form and original framing members.
Workmanship	Low	Retains little more than foursquare form and original framing members.
Feeling	Low	Due to its loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Due to its loss of integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost integrity of association

## 4.20 ROUSE-CAPPS HOUSE



Rouse-Capps House
LR-0923 [AECOM Survey #24]
2901 West Vernon Avenue, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #1772
PIN #451509053586
Ca. 1850; ca.1970 restoration
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

### Description

The Rouse-Capps House sits on a 6.4-acre parcel just one mile west of downtown Kinston. Despite fronting West Vernon Avenue on its southern side, the house retains a partially secluded setting as its parcel is edged by perimeter of mature oak trees on three sides. The house is accessed by a side drive, which approaches from the southwest. Five resources, in addition to the Rouse-Capps House, are found on the parcel. One of these, a large modern barn, stands well to the north. The other four are lined up in a row just behind the house’s north rear: a smokehouse that likely dates to the mid-nineteenth century; an early twentieth-century packhouse; a tiny early twentieth-century shed or chicken house; and a small early/mid-twentieth-century barn/stable (Figure 206).



**Figure 206: Site plan of Rouse-Capps House with West Vernon Road just off of bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

### Rouse-Capps House

This two-story, single-pile, gable-end, antebellum house is believed to be built with a center-hall plan, despite its asymmetrical four-bay fenestration (Little et al. 1998:367). Constructed of heavy timber frame, the house remains clad in early weatherboards and retains both of its Flemish bond, exterior-end, shouldered chimneys. The narrow secondary stack set back along the side of each chimney is an unusual feature that likely holds a flue. The plain surrounds framing the house's bays are original, as are its front and rear boxed cornices. The original nine-over-nine sash, however, has been replaced by modern windows with snap-in muntins that attempt to duplicate the initial fenestration. These modern windows, and many other elements of the house, were added following a significant fire in 1969 (Figure 207 through Figure 210).

The fire destroyed the back portions of the house. In the 1970s the current modern two-story ell at the north rear was added. A large addition, its footprint nearly equals the size of the house. The addition is served by multiple and varied fenestration and doors. A large brick chimney rises from its ridge. Both the house and ell are covered by a modern metal roof, painted bright red, that widely overhangs the addition's eaves. Roof lines visible in aerial images suggest that the addition was added in phases, but replacement vinyl siding masks this.



**Figure 207: Rouse-Capps House: at left, west side and south front elevations in 2017 and, at right, in the mid-1990s (*Coastal Plain and Fancy*).**



**Figure 208: Rouse-Capps House: at left, south front elevation; at right, south front and east side elevations.**



**Figure 209: Rouse-Capps House: at left, east side and north rear elevations; at right, north rear and west side elevations.**



**Figure 210: Rouse-Capps House: at left, west side elevation detail depicting surrounds with modern sash and secondary flue at chimney; front elevation, at right.**

According to *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al.:367):

The house was partially destroyed by fire in 1969 but was restored and enlarged in the early 1970s. The entire front portion of the house was restored, with the exception of the first-floor fun of the three-story open stairway (now accessed from the rear ell). . . . Interior details include window surrounds with crossettes, a transom over the front entrance, six-panel-doors, one board-and-batten door, and a door with rising butt hinges. Perhaps the most impressive features of the dwelling are the hand-carved vernacular Greek Revival style mantels and the open three-story stair with simple Federal-style detailing. The mantels feature local interpretations of Corinthian-style capitals and flared columns, the only known examples of this style in Lenoir County.

Interior access to the house was unavailable during repeated visits. (The owner of record, James Hood Capps, died in 2016, and his son, James Hood Capps, Jr., lives in Atlantic Beach.) However, views through windows revealed that the restored mantels still survive in the downstairs' parlors, along with other features that were restored in the 1970s (Figure 211).



**Figure 21 I: Rouse-Capps House: west parlor.**

### Smokehouse

The frame building located directly behind (north) of the Rouse-Capps House is likely an antebellum smokehouse erected along with the house. It has flush-gable ends, boxed rafters, and weatherboard cladding edged with cornerboards. A centrally placed door with a simple wooden surround is located on the building's southern elevation, with a small window topped with a metal awning to its west. Its western elevation features a centrally located window that has been boarded up. A shed roof lean-to supported by square wooden posts extends from the building's eastern side. Both gable and shed roofs are clad in standing-seam metal (Figure 212).



**Figure 212: At left, view of south front elevation of smokehouse with modern barn in distance; at right, view of east side elevation of smokehouse with house ell at left.**

### Packhouse

The early twentieth-century frame packhouse is clad in weatherboard siding and sits to the northwest of the house. Its primary south-facing elevation retains two central doors, one set above the other. A small window has been added to their side. Frame shed roof addition extend along the east and west side elevations and wrap around the north rear gable. An additional open shed extends from the northwest corner (Figure 213, at left).



**Figure 213.** At left, view looking northeast at packhouse; at right, view looking northwest at adjacent shed

### Shed/Chicken house

Located between the packhouse and barn/stable is this early twentieth-century shed that Robbie Jones identified as a chicken house in 1994. A small frame building, it has horizontal wooden siding on its south front elevation, which is also served by a door and the extended overhang of the gabled roof. Metal sheathing covers the rest of the building. Rafter tails are exposed at its eaves (Figure 213, at right).

### Barn/Stable

The early/mid-twentieth century, front-gabled, frame barn/stable is located to the northeast of the Rouse-Capps House at the end of the line of nearby outbuildings. The building features a central aisle with cribs on either side, suggesting an original use of crop storage as well as providing stabling space. A board-and-batten door sits above the central door, providing access to the second-story loft. The building is clad on its northern and southern elevations by horizontal metal sheathing, and by weatherboard siding on its eastern and western elevations (Figure 214).



**Figure 214:** At left, gabled south and long east side elevations of barn/stable; at right, interior.

### Barn

The large central bay barn is located to the north of the Rouse-Capps House is a modern metal-sheathed building erected in the early twenty-first century (Figure 215).



**Figure 215: View of long west and gabled south elevations of modern barn.**

## History

The Rouse-Capps House is historically associated with Noah James Rouse (1861-1935). Son of a wealthy farmer from LaGrange, he spent his youth, according to census records, in Moseley Hall Township and moving to Kinston upon reaching adulthood. By 1900 Rouse was a successful lawyer who lived on Caswell Street in Kinston. He died in 1935 (Little et al. 1998:367). No written documentation has been uncovered linking Rouse to the property, although deed records are limited due to late nineteenth-century courthouse fires.

Sometime prior to 1902 the house and property came into the hands of James (1869-1928) and Laura McDaniel (1869-1940), prominent landowners in the Kinston region (Lenoir County Deed Book, 27/496). The McDaniels sold the property in May 1902 to Waitman T. (1862-1931) and Leone Hardy Hines (1869-1958). Federal censuses list the Hines as residing in downtown Kinston after their marriage in 1887, suggesting the Rouse-Capps House was not their primary residence. In 1923 the Hineses gifted the property to their son, Waitman R. Hines (1902-1967) and his wife, Ida Emerson Hines (1902-2001) (Lenoir County Deed Book, 77/236).

Shortly after the death of her husband in 1967, Ida Hines sold the house to John Talbot Capps II (1912-?). Capps had come from Richmond to Kinston in 1947 to work with his father-in-law at Hood's Drug Store (Little et al. 1998:367 (Lenoir County Deed Book, 579/119). In 1969, just two years after he purchased the property, the house caught fire, taking the life of his wife, Anne, and destroying the rear ell of the house. The building was later enlarged and the damaged materials replaced, resulting in the house's present footprint and appearance. The property passed from Capps to his son, James Hood Capps, in 1986 (Lenoir County Deed Book, 834/400). He remains the owner of record, although he died in 2016.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Rouse-Capps House is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. It has no known connection with historic events or notable persons and is therefore not eligible under Criteria A or B. The Rouse-Capps House is additionally believed to retain insufficient integrity to support NRHP listing under Criterion C. Its single-pile, two-story, gable-end form is intact, as are some original features that include weatherboards, surrounds, cornerboards, boxed cornices, and exterior end chimneys. However, the windows have been replaced with one-over-one sash with vinyl snap-muntins, the full-façade front porch dates from the late twentieth century, and a two-

story ell with a footprint about equal to that of the original house was added after a 1969 fire. Following the fire the original stair and the mantels and crosssetted surrounds of the parlors were restored. Other contemporary houses and houses with more intact finishes and fewer prominent additions and changes survive in Lenoir County. These include the Peebles, Whitfield-Carraway-Scarborough, Herring, Walter Dunn, Jr., and Rountree-Askew-Moseley houses, discussed above at the architectural context in Section 3. As the house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is not recommended as eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 23: Rouse-Capps House**

ROUSE-CAPPS HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on site where it was built.
Design	Medium	Retains original form and much exterior finish, but during late twentieth century windows replaced, full-façade porch added, and very large ell added to rear. Interior partially restored after 1969 fire.
Setting	Medium	Framed by mid-/late twentieth-century buildings and busy US 70, but retains some outbuildings and a large field extending to rear of house.
Materials	Medium	Retains original form and much exterior finish, but during late twentieth century windows replaced, full-façade porch added, and very large ell added to rear. Interior partially restored after 1969 fire.
Workmanship	Medium	Retains original form and much exterior finish, but during late twentieth century windows replaced, full-façade porch added, and very large ell added to rear. Interior partially restored after 1969 fire.
Feeling	Medium	Medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship; therefore medium integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium	Medium integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship; therefore medium integrity of association.

#### 4.21 C.S.S. NEUSE / GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL MEMORIAL VISITORS CENTER



C.S.S. Neuse / Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center

LR-0076 [AECOM Survey #23]

West Vernon Avenue/US 258, Kinston vicinity

Parcel Record #26209

PIN #451503144674

1964

Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

#### Description

The C.S.S. Neuse/Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center (Caswell Memorial Site) is located just to the west of downtown Kinston on West Vernon Avenue/US 258. With the exception of its southern side, the 25 acre parcel is surrounded by twentieth-century commercial and residential development. A perimeter of mature trees separates the site from this development. The Caswell Memorial Site is within on an open green lot scattered with mature trees that is accessible by a long concrete drive. The site contains three resources: the C.S.S. Neuse Shed, located at the northern end of the property; the Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center, located to the south of the Neuse Shed; and the Caswell Cemetery, located to the south of the Visitors Center (Figure 216).



Figure 216: At left, site plan of C.S.S. Neuse/Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center with US 258 at top (base image courtesy of Google Earth); at right, view of visitors center with former Neuse shed at left distance.

### Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center

The single-story, four-pile, front-gabled Visitors Center was built in 1964 and rests on a continuous brick foundation. Rectangular in plan, it is comprised of two blocks: an original, double-pile, brick-clad block, and a rear, double-pile, vinyl-sided, frame late twentieth-century addition (Figure 217 through Figure 219).

The original Colonial Revival-style block is symmetrical in overall design and features large gable-end pediments trimmed with a molded cornice and dentils. A decorative circular vent is located in the center of tympanum of both the eastern and western ends. The cornice wraps all four corners of the building and continues along the northern and southern side elevations before terminating. It rests on massive pilasters edged with pairs of brick quoins. A concrete watercourse runs along the bottom of the block. A centrally placed pedimented front entry is found on the building's primary (western) elevation. The original six-paneled wooden door is topped with a heavy pediment with a large molded cornice and dentils. A traditional entablature sits beneath the pediment and features a large molded cornice with dentils underneath, a frieze with large brackets, and an unadorned fascia. The entablature is supported on either side by fluted columns sitting on square plinths. Brick stairs framed by metal handrails lead to the door. Two symmetrically spaced, eight-over-eight, replacement windows with brick sills and brick lintels with keystones are found on the building's northern and southern sides. With the exception of its windows, the building appears to retain its original materials.

The late twentieth-century frame addition extends to the rear (west) of the original mass and features a front-gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The addition is connected to the original mass by a frame hyphen which features a modern fiber-glass door framed by plate-glass sidelights. A wooden porch/wheelchair ramp extends from the southern side and links to the door. A flat-roof extends over the doorway, creating a small covered porch.



**Figure 217: Visitor's Center: north side and west front elevations, at left; west front elevation, at right**



**Figure 218: Visitor's Center: west front and south side elevations, at left; east rear and north side elevations, at right.**



**Figure 219: Visitor's Center: north side elevation.**

Interior access to the building was unavailable during the multiple visits made to the site. The site was closed during the fall of 2016 following extensive interior water damage from Hurricane Matthew and has remained sealed up. Interior photos taken in 2003 by the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (NCDCCR) reveal a modestly and inexpensively finished interior: plain white drywall with wooden floors (Figure 220).



**Figure 220: Interior view of the Visitor's Center, 2003 (source: NCDCCR).**

### C.S.S. Neuse Shed

Built in the 1960s, the C.S.S. Neuse shed stands empty, just a short distance north of the Caswell Visitors Center. Of post-in-ground construction, the open-air shed is eleven piles deep and four bays wide. The side-gabled building is topped with asphalt shingles and clad with metal sheathing halfway down all four of its elevations. A sidewalk frames the interior perimeter of the shed and surrounds a scattering of concrete piers on which the C.S.S. Neuse once sat. Prefabricated wooden trusses are visible on the building's interior and numerous lights hang overhead (Figure 220 and Figure 222 ).



Figure 221: View looking southeast at C.S.S. Neuse shed, at left, and south, at right.



Figure 222: View looking north at interior of C.S.S. Neuse shed, at left; 2003 photograph of C.S.S. Neuse in shed, at right (courtesy of C.S.S. Neuse State Historic Site).

### Caswell Cemetery

Located to the south of the Visitors Center, the Caswell Family Cemetery contains 21 documented sets of remains including, perhaps, the remains of North Carolina Governor Richard Caswell. Caswell's alleged grave is marked with the square base of an earlier monument to the governor. The cemetery is rectangular in shape and surrounded by a cast-iron fence which is in disrepair. Granite and limestone headstones of moderate design are situated in neat rows running east to west. Most headstones are above ground and simple in their design, featuring plain rounded or square tops. A few stones feature curved Baroque tops (Figure 223 and Figure 224).



**Figure 223: Caswell Cemetery: view looking southeast, at left, and northwest with shed in background, at right**



**Figure 224: Caswell Cemetery: Governor Caswell marker, at left, and relatively ornate 1838 headstone of Sarah C. Reavis, at right.**

### History

A Maryland native, North Carolina Governor Richard Caswell (1729-1789) moved to Lenoir County in his early years and was elected to the Colonial Assembly in 1754. In 1762, during his 17-year tenure in the Colonial assembly, Caswell introduced the bill responsible for establishing the town of Kinston, where he owned extensive property. Caswell was a member of North Carolina's colonial militia during the Revolutionary War and went on to become the first elected governor of the state, serving two terms. He died in 1789 and is allegedly buried in Kinston in the Caswell family cemetery, located on the current site of the C.S.S. Neuse/Governor Richard

Caswell Memorial Visitors Center site (North Carolina Historic Sites). (Historical records suggest Caswell is not buried at the cemetery. Archaeological investigations have not confirmed that he rests there.)

In 1929 Caswell descendant Rachel Watford gifted the Caswell family cemetery to the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the condition they erect a fence around the cemetery and commit to its perpetual care (North Carolina Historic Sites). In 1955 a bill was proposed requesting the appropriation of \$43,000 and the creation of a Gov. Richard Caswell Memorial (Statesville Daily Record 1955). The bill resulted in the state's 1956 acquisition of 22 acres of land in Lenoir County that comprises the present day site. A second bill approving the appropriation of additional funds for "additions and betterment" of the site was passed in June of 1957 (Asheville Citizen Times 1957).

A 1963 article published in the *High Point Enterprise* discusses the efforts of Senate leader Thomas J. White, Jr. of Kinston to acquire additional funds for the site, bringing the total amount of funds allocated to the memorial to more than \$100,000 since 1955. Opposing forces to this acquisition described the site at the time as "nothing more than a 'wagon rut through a plowed field to eight graves with a fence around them" (High Point Enterprise 1963). In 1964 the site opened as the Governor Richard Caswell Memorial with a new Visitor Center and Memorial Museum, designed by architects Ingram & Johnson (Young 2017).

During the early 1960s, work began to resurrect the C.S.S. Neuse, an ironclad Confederate Ram sunk in the Neuse River during the last year of the Civil War. In January of 1963 it was decided that if the vessel was successfully raised, it would rest permanently at the Gov. Caswell site (Shires 1963). Following the successfully recovering of the ship later that year, its remains were placed on the Caswell site.

During the 1970s an open-air covered shelter that still stands today was built to house the C.S.S. Neuse just 60 yards to the north of the Caswell museum. In 1999 Hurricane Floyd devastated the site, destroying a late twentieth-century visitor's center that had been erected near the C.S.S. Neuse pavilion to assist in interpretation. This prompted a discussion of relocating the vessel to a safer location indoors in downtown Kinston. In 2012, the Neuse was moved to a new specially built climate-controlled building at 100 North Queen Street (Young 2017). Despite the Neuse's relocation, its shelter remains at the Caswell Memorial site where it stands empty. In October 2016 Hurricane Matthew caused severe flooding at the Caswell site, resulting in the closure of the Caswell museum. The building still remains closed today (Young 2017).

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Lenoir County is graced by two large collections of institutional resources erected by the state in the early and mid-twentieth century—the Dobbs Farm School or North Carolina Industrial Colony for Women (LR-0884) (determined NRHP-eligible in 2008) and the Caswell Center (LR-0066)—both of which are located near Kinston. They are dominated by red-brick Colonial Revival-style buildings. These buildings were erected throughout their long histories, but most date from the 1950s and 1960s (Little et al. 1998:114, 265, 342-343) (Figure 225 and Figure 226).



**Figure 225: 1930s and post-WWII Colonial Revival-style buildings at Dobbs Farm School, 2017.**



**Figure 226: Post-WWII Colonial Revival-style buildings at Caswell Center, 2017.**

The Governor Caswell Visitor Center fits within this institutional bias toward the Colonial Revival modeled traditionally and functionally in red brick. It retains its integrity, but is not recommended as eligible under any of the NRHP Criteria. Built in 1964, the building has no known connection with notable historical events or any person important in our history and is therefore not significant under Criterion A or B. Governor Caswell had been dead for close to two centuries when it opened and it was erected as a museum and visitor center, not a monument. It is therefore not primarily commemorative and not eligible under Criteria Consideration F.

The Caswell Visitors Center is also not believed to be architecturally significant when compared to many of the buildings at Dobbs and Caswell. It is therefore not recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. (The cemetery is also not artistically distinguished.)

The building is further not recommended as eligible under Criterion C for its association with its architects, Ingram and Johnson. Alan Ingram and George W. Johnson, Jr. of the eponymous Charlotte firm designed the building. Extensive research, largely online, identified only three commissions associated with the pair: the Town Creek Indian Mounds Museum (1961), Bentonville Battleground Museum (1963), and the Caswell Museum (1964) ([http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/specialcollections/digital/text/architects/Public\\_Raleigh.html](http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/specialcollections/digital/text/architects/Public_Raleigh.html)); see also Coe 1995:36). Virtually no information was turned up on George W. Johnson, Jr. He was not listed in the American Institute of Architects (AIA) historical directories of 1956, 1962, and 1970 and is not identified by full name in association with any buildings. He does appear, however, in the 1962 Charlotte City Directory as half of “Ingram & Johnson Architects.”

Alan Ingram was likely the firm’s primary figure. He too was not an AIA member (or never responded to their questionnaires), but the North Carolina Modernist Houses website includes a brief biography and pictures some of his commissions. (It identifies the houses as the work of Ingram, not Ingram and Johnson.) The website includes Ingram’s birth and death dates as 1929-2012 and the following text:

Ingram was born in London. He graduated from the Royal Institute of British Architects and emigrated to North Carolina in 1956. Here he met the woman, Phyl, with whom he would spend the next 56 years.

Opening an office in Charlotte in 1960, he practiced architecture internationally for nearly fifty years, designing houses and later industrial and retirement facilities.

Alan’s love for learning was boundless. He learned numerous foreign languages, wrote poetry, sculpted wonderful sculptures, became an accomplished horseman, a skilled archer, and a pilot. Said Ingram in 2009, “I am not from around these parts. I am American by act of Congress and southern by the grace of God.”

The site pictures three one-story modernist houses in Charlotte it attributes to Alan Ingram built in 1960 and 1961. It includes renderings of two houses that were planned for, but likely never built at, Hilton Head Island in South Carolina. The project architect of these two was Crutcher Ross, with whom he was briefly associated. The site also includes one commission—the Peden House built in Hickory in 1962—that is less adventurous than Ingram’s modernist designs

(Figure 227). Historic Charlotte dedicated its 2013 modern home tour to Ingram (<http://moderncharlotte.com/mad-modern-2013-mid-century-modern-home-tour/>).



1962 - The James Peden House, 932 4th Avenue Drive NW, Hickory NC. Traditional design. Built by MG Crouch Lumber Company. Deeded to Ann W. Peden.



**Figure 227: At left, Alan Ingram-designed Peden House (source: North Carolina Modernist Houses); at right, Ingram at 2011 Historic Charlotte modern home tour (source: Historic Charlotte).**

Ingram and Johnson, as a firm and individually, are not notable architects. Ingram's strengths appear to have been with modern rather than traditional design. The Caswell Visitors Center is recommended as not eligible under Criteria B or C for its connection with the men and their work. As the building is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is not recommended as eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 24: C.S.S Neuse/ Governor Richard Caswell Memorial Visitors Center**

C.S.S. NEUSE/ GOVERNOR RICHARD CASWELL MEMORIAL VISITORS CENTER		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	The building is located on the spot where it was erected.
Design	Medium	The building's exterior is intact, but its interior was damaged by flooding in late 2016 and is inaccessible.
Setting	Medium	The building remains in proximity to US 70 and the Caswell cemetery, but its setting has been altered by the removal of the CSS Neuse from the shelter that still stands near it.
Materials	Medium	The building's exterior is intact, but its interior was damaged by flooding in late 2016 and is inaccessible.
Workmanship	Medium	The building's exterior is intact, but its interior was damaged by flooding in late 2016 and is inaccessible.
Feeling	Medium	Retains medium integrity of setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby has medium integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium	Retains medium integrity of setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby has medium integrity of feeling.

## 4.22 WILMOUTH TAYLOR SUTTON HOUSE



Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House
LR-1548 [AECOM Survey #41]
1910 Highway 258 South, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #19875 PIN #451404630380
Mid-19 <sup>th</sup> century/Late-20 <sup>th</sup> century
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

### Description

The Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House sits on a 65-acre parcel of land on the north side of US 258, approximately two miles southwest of Kinston. Situated on the northeastern edge of the parcel, the house is accompanied by a number of additional resources—the remnants of an early/mid-twentieth-century farm complex. The house is believed to have lost all integrity and the outbuildings are not believed to constitute a historic collection of resources without an associated intact dwelling.



**Figure 228: Site plan of Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

### Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House

The Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House is believed to have been constructed in part in the late nineteenth century as a traditional I-house (Figure 229 and Figure 230). Significant changes during the twentieth century, however, have made its original core almost recognizable. The

original two-story, three-bay, single-pile building has been covered in vinyl siding and doubled in size by two mid-/late twentieth-century additions: a rear (northwestern), single-story, three-bay ell, and a two bay, double-pile, eastern wing that includes a basement-level garage. The house's flat-roofed, two-story, three-bay portico, supported by imitation columns, was added to the front elevation during the late twentieth century. The portico frames an ornate added Neoclassical Revival-style entryway complete with a broken pediment and engaged pilasters. The only recognizable early features of the dwelling are two exterior-end, shouldered, brick chimneys at either gable end. The northeastern chimney, though, has been almost entirely engulfed by the twentieth-century wing.

While the house may retain its original front-elevation fenestration pattern, the window openings have been noticeably enlarged and filled with replacement vinyl sash. Both the ell and the wing feature various styles of vinyl windows haphazardly located. These include an oriel window on the southeast front elevation of the wing. Ultimately, the house appears to be, and effectively is, a late twentieth-century creation. Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the house was unavailable.



**Figure 229: Wilmoth Taylor Sutton House: at left, southeast front elevation; at right, northeast side elevation.**



**Figure 230: Wilmoth Taylor Sutton House: at left, northwest rear elevation; at right, southwest side elevation with early chimney visible.**

### Playhouse

This early/mid-twentieth-century front-gabled building is located to the southeast of the Sutton House. The building is of frame construction, stands on concrete masonry block piers, and is clad in weatherboard siding and finished with cornerboards. It has exposed rafter tails, two four-over-four windows at its side elevations, and a single entry in its front gable. The interior has wood floors and wood siding that appear to have been refinished. Its original function is unknown; it is currently used as a playhouse (Figure 231).



**Figure 231: West front elevation of playhouse, at left; interior, at right.**

### Log Chicken Coop

This early/mid-twentieth-century building is built of saddle-notched logs. It has a centrally placed wood batten door in one of its gables. It was most recently utilized as a chicken coop (Figure 232, at left).



**Figure 232: West front elevation of Log Chicken House, looking east, at left; south front elevation of shed, at right.**

### Shed

This early/mid-twentieth century building is built of frame on a continuous brick foundation. A metal door is centrally placed in its southeastern gable end. It is clad in vinyl siding and topped with a standing-seam metal roof (Figure 232, at right).

### Building Ruins

The remnants of an early/mid-twentieth century shed are located north of the white vinyl shed (Figure 233, at left).



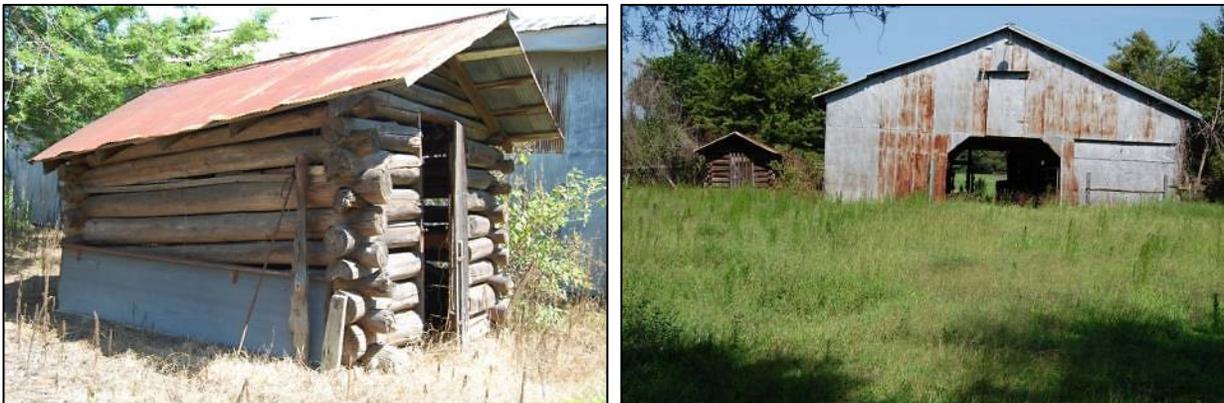
**Figure 233: View of building ruins, looking north; at left; gas pump, at right.**

### Gas Pump

This former gas pump is located near the middle of the farm complex (Figure 233, at right).

### Log Crib

The roof of this early/mid-twentieth-century saddle-notched log building is clad in metal sheathing. A centrally located door opens at its east gable (Figure 234, at left).



**Figure 234: At left, south side and east front elevations of log crib; at right, east-facing gabled elevation of barn.**

### Barn

This early/mid-twentieth-century front-gabled frame features a center aisle with cribs on either side. A large door next to the aisle suggests it was converted for tractor or other equipment storage at some point. The building could not be closely approached (Figure 234, at right).

### Tenant House

This early/mid-twentieth-century, side-gabled, frame building appears to have once been used as a dwelling. Resting on brick piers, it is clad in vertical wood and metal siding. A three-bay porch

supported by chamfered wood posts frames the southern side of the building. A door is centrally placed in the western gable end and an enclosed shed roof addition extends from the building's western side. Due to its small size, it was likely converted from its original unknown use (Figure 235, at left).



**Figure 235: At left, south front and east side elevations of tenant house; at right, south front and east side elevations of shed.**

### Shed

Built in the early/mid-twentieth-century along with the other outbuildings, this front-gabled frame shed is clad in weatherboards and topped with a standing-seam metal roof. A wood-batten opens from its west gable (Figure 235, at right).

### Machine Shop/Shed

The machine shop/shed is a side-gabled frame building clad in metal sheathing, with a large central door on its southeastern side. The three easternmost bays of the building are open, divided by two plain wooden posts. The westernmost bays are comprised of six-over-six-over-three hinged windows. The building was built in the early/mid-twentieth-century (Figure 236).



**Figure 236: Views of southwestern elevations of machine shop/shed.**

### Packhouse

The packhouse house utilizes a typical. It is built of frame set on brick piers and clad in weatherboards, with two centrally placed doors on its south gabled elevation, one on the first floor, and one on the second. A wooden appendage, resembling a hay hood, extends out over the

doors on the building's southern elevation. Two shed roof additions extend from the building's east and west side elevations. The packhouse was built in the early/mid-twentieth-century (Figure 237, at left).



**Figure 237:** At left, south front and east side elevation of packhouse;; at right, view looking south of tobacco barn.

### Tobacco Barn

This frame tobacco barn dates from the early/mid-twentieth-century. It is clad in metal sheathing and topped by a gabled standing-seam metal roof. A wraparound lean-to supported by wooden posts extends from two of its elevations (Figure 237, at right).

### Tobacco Barn

This frame tobacco barn looks like its companion. It is clad in metal sheathing and topped by a gabled standing-seam metal roof. A wraparound lean-to supported by wooden posts extends from two of its elevations. It dates from the early/mid-twentieth-century (Figure 238).



**Figure 238:** View of tobacco barn looking to south.

## History

John E. Taylor (1836-1865?) was born in Lenoir County to wealthy landowners Green (1791-1860) and Penelope (1800-1867) Taylor. He married Mary Sutton Taylor around 1860, before enlisting to fight for the Confederacy as a sergeant with the 66th Regiment of the North Carolina Infantry. The couple's only child, Wilmouth "Willie" Susan Taylor was born in 1861. By the

1870 Federal census, Wilmouth was orphaned and living with a Benjamin and Sallie Parks in New Hope, North Carolina.

In 1878 Taylor married Robert Ivey Sutton of New Hope. The first of the couple's 11 children was born in New Hope in 1880. Sometime between the 1880 and 1899 Federal Census, the Taylors returned to Willie's birthplace of Lenoir County and settled on land left to her by her father at his death. It is likely that they constructed the Sutton House at this time. The following photograph depicts the family of Willie and Robert circa 1899. It does not, however, appear to be taken in front of the current house, although due to the house's numerous changes, perhaps it was (Figure 239).



**Figure 239: Wilmouth and Robert Ivey Sutton Family, ca. 1899 (image provided by Williams family in 2010).**

In 1937 Joseph Williams (1861-1970) and Meta Stroud Williams (1895-1959) purchased the Sutton property from C. R. Brafford (1899-1958). It was not possible to determine when Brafford purchased the property (Lenoir County Deed Book, 153/200) or from whom he purchased it. In 1946 the property passed to the Williams' son, Joseph K. Williams (1912-1978) and his wife, Louise (1914-2012). The house remains in the Williams family and is currently owned by Carolyn West, daughter of Joseph K. and Louise Williams.

### **National Register of Historic Places Evaluation**

The Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House is recommended as lacking integrity and not eligible for NRHP listing. It has no known connection with historic events or notable persons and is therefore recommended not eligible under Criteria A or B. Unrecognizable beneath numerous alterations and additions is the core of the two-story, single-pile, gable-end Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House, the only surviving original features of which appear to be its two exterior-end brick chimneys. The house's mid/late twentieth-century alterations and additions include vinyl siding, replaced doors and windows, a full-façade and full-height front portico, a large side wing underpinned by a two-car garage, and a single-story rear ell. In spite of the many, if unremarkable, outbuildings standing to the north and east, the resource does not retain the physical integrity necessary to be eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion C. As the house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction, it is not recommended as eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 25: Wilmouth Taylor Sutton House**

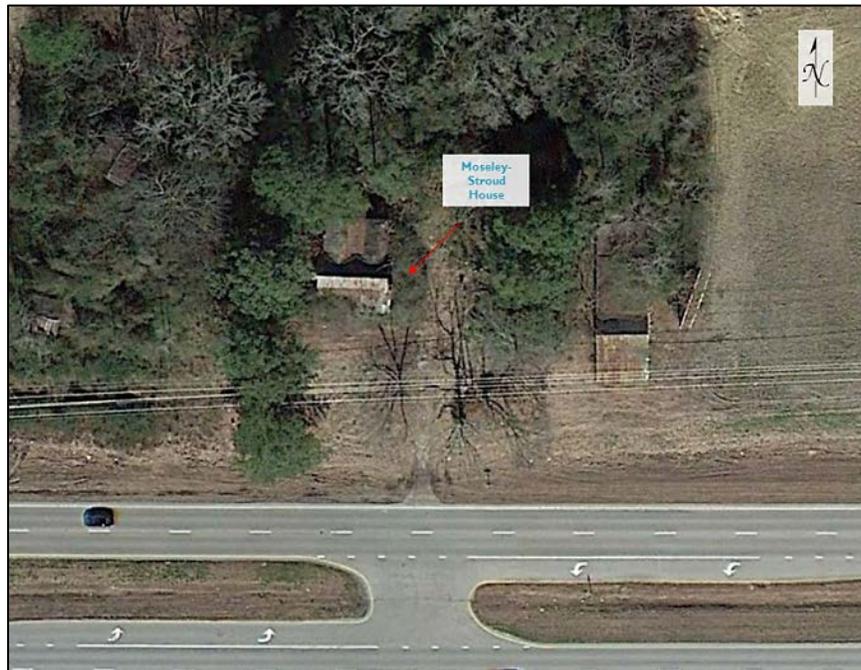
SUTTON HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on location where it was built.
Design	Low	Only form and chimneys remain at otherwise unrecognizably altered house.
Setting	High	Remains in largely rural setting with a number of outbuildings to north and east.
Materials	Low	Only form and chimneys remain at otherwise unrecognizably altered house.
Workmanship	Low	Only form and chimneys remain at otherwise unrecognizably altered house.
Feeling	Low	Low integrity of feeling results from low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.
Association	Low	Low integrity of association results from low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

### 4.23 MOSELEY-STROUD HOUSE

	Moseley-Stroud House
	LR-0857 [AECOM Survey #48]
	Highway 70 East, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record #28665
	PIN #452404934817
	Late 18th/early 19th century
	Placed on North Carolina NRHP SL in 1994. Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

#### Description

The narrow, rectangular, one-story frame house—built throughout the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries—is ubiquitous in Lenoir County (Figure 240). These houses are generally end-gabled, although in the twentieth century many were built with gables turned toward the front. The Moseley-Stroud House is an early example of the form that is thought to have once had an unusual three-room plan.



**Figure 240: Site plan of Moseley-Stroud House on north side of US 70 (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

As access to the heavily overgrown and dangerously deteriorated house's interior, as well as most of its exterior, was not possible, the following description is taken from *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:412):

Unique in Lenoir County for having such features as an engaged Flemish-bond chimney on one end elevation and a pent room on the other, this one-and-a-half-story [or one-story-and-loft] dwelling also presents the county's only known

example of a three-room plan or Quaker plan, so-called because of its association with Pennsylvania settlers in a document attributed to William Penn. The pent room—a feature frequently associated with eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century domestic architecture—is a small shed-roof closet located on the west gable-end elevation adjacent to the large double-shouldered chimney. The engaged chimney on [this] end protrudes only one brick width from the body of the house and features two interior corner fireplaces, which service the original enclosed end bay on the front porch and the adjacent parlor.

At some point the dwelling's three-room plan was converted to a center-hall arrangement with the addition of a partition wall, while the open portion of the engaged front porch was enclosed. A remnant of Federal-style wainscoting remains in the stair hall as the only significant surviving early woodwork. Other early treatments include nine-over-six sash windows and some beaded trim in the stairwell.

Two flanking rear ells were added to the house around 1900. In the 1950s when the dwelling was used as farm tenant housing, a number of renovations were performed, including covering the exterior with roll asphalt siding in the pattern of coursed brick, and some interior alterations. Although the dwelling no longer gives the appearance of an unaltered early frame farmhouse, its surviving chimneys, pent room, windows, remnant moldings, and overall form place it in a genre of house associated with the early occupation of inland coastal North Carolina.

Since 1993, when Robbie Jones recorded the house, it has deteriorated significantly. It has become inaccessible due to extensive overgrowth and the danger of collapse. The western gable-end chimney has begun to fall and the building's exterior cladding is coming detached. All of the windows and doors are replacement. Views through the open windows revealed the retention of no original interior details. All of the doors and trim in the front (southern) two rooms of the building date to the mid-twentieth century. A modern kitchen and wall covering were also visible through windows on the opposite end of the house. However, due to the impossibility of safely entering the former dwelling, the loss or survival of its interior features could not be confirmed.

The following drawings and photographs from 1968, 1993, and 2017 provide a sense of what the house looked like in the late twentieth century and what its current appearance is (Figure 241 through Figure 248).

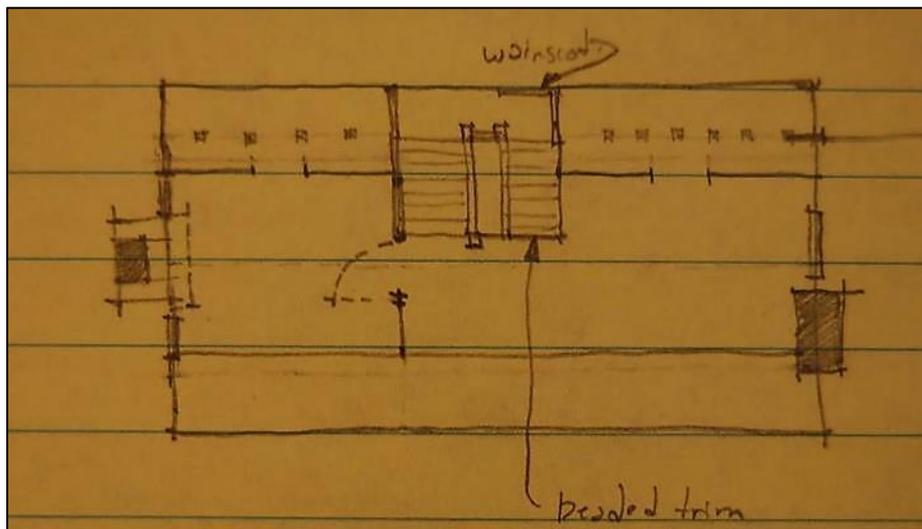
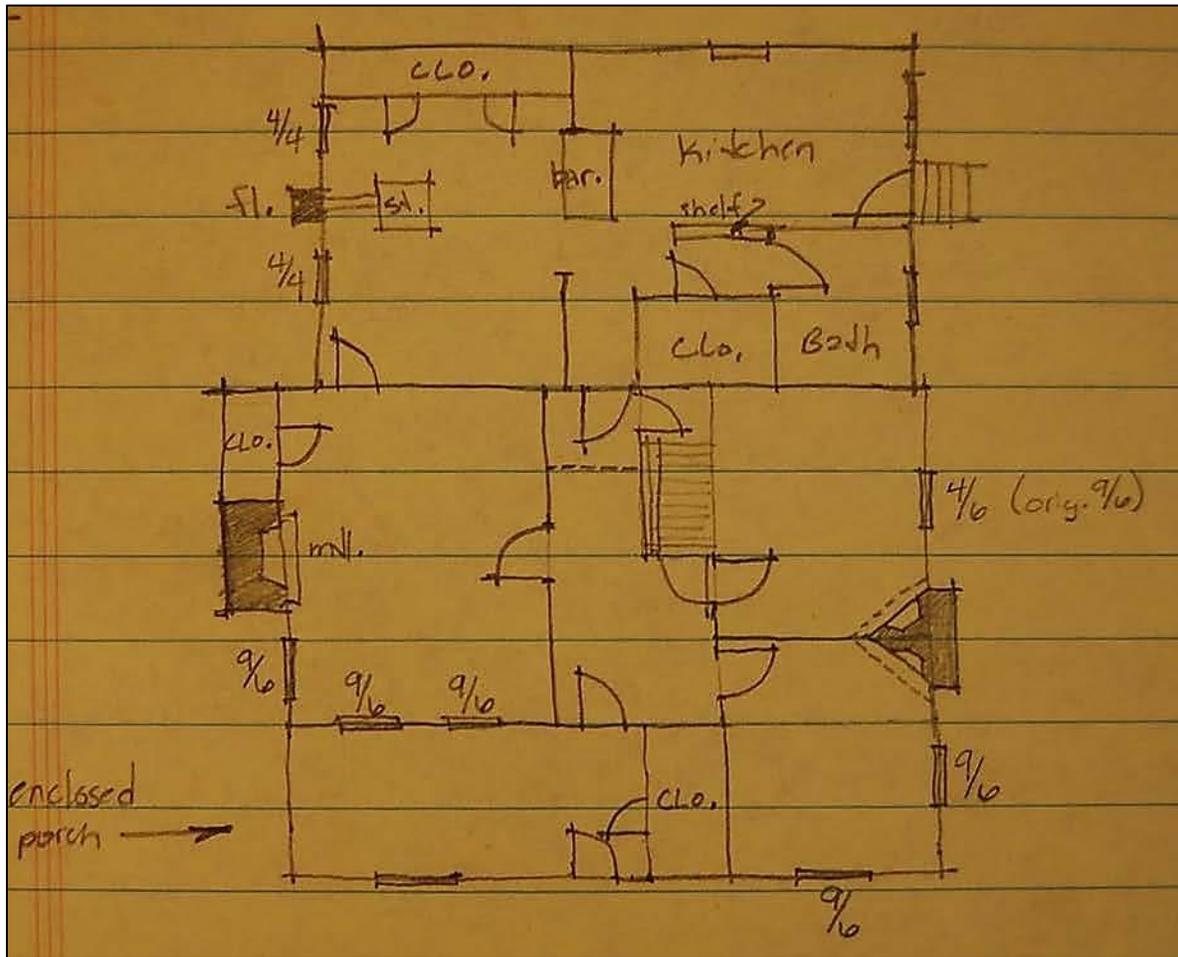


Figure 24I: Moseley-Stroud House: floorplan of first story, at top, and left, at bottom, 1993 (Robbie Jones).



Figure 242: Moseley-Stroud House: west side elevation at left, 1968 (source: North Carolina Division of Cultural Resources), and at right, 1993 (Robbie Jones).



Figure 243: Moseley-Stroud House: west side elevation and chimney detail, 2017.



Figure 244: Moseley-Stroud House: south front elevation at left, 1993 (Robbie Jones), and at right, 2017; note that garage is no longer extant.



**Figure 245: Moseley-Stroud House: south front and east side elevations at left, ca. 1968 (source: North Carolina Division of Cultural Resources), and, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 246: Moseley-Stroud House: late eighteenth/early nineteenth-century mantel in west room, at left, and wainscoting in stair hall, at right, 1993 (Robbie Jones).**



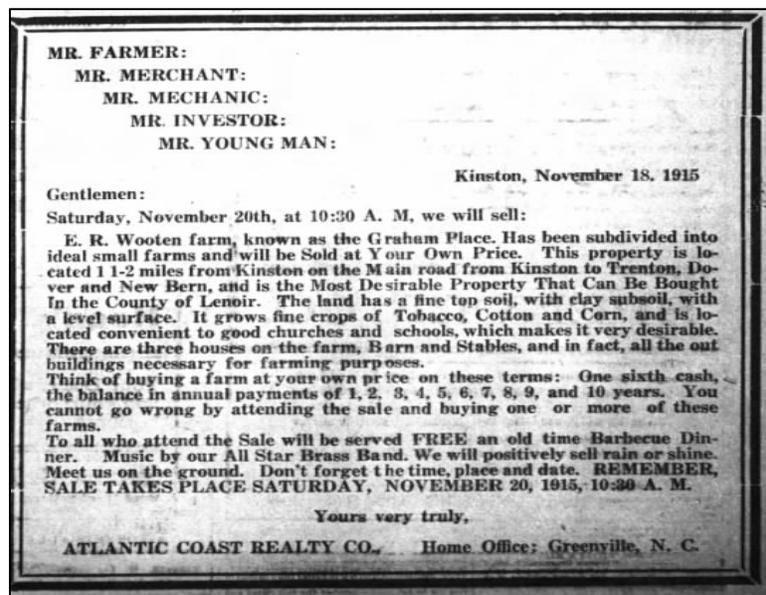
**Figure 247: Moseley-Stroud House: mid-twentieth-century finish photographed through windows of east front pent room, at left, and ell, at right, 2017.**



**Figure 248: Moseley-Stroud House: mid-twentieth-century doors and finish of front entry at left, and center hallway photographed through entry, at right, 2017.**

## History

The early history of the Moseley-Stroud House, once known as the Graham Place, is not known (Little et al. 1998:412). Due to the loss of the county's deeds in late nineteenth century fires, records do not survive that identify who the Grahams might be or who else might have built the dwelling. The earliest identification of the property comes from a November 18, 1915 advertisement in Kinston's *Daily Free Press*, which identifies it as the "E.R. Wooten farm, known as the Graham Place" (Figure 249).



**Figure 249: November 18, 1915 advertisement in for the auction of the "Graham Place" (The Daily Free Press 1915).**

The advertisement identifies the property, not surprisingly, as growing “fine crops of Tobacco, Cotton and Corn.” It also notes that “There are three houses on the farm, Barn and Stables, and in fact, all the out buildings necessary for farming purposes.” From that fruitful status, the current parcel has essentially devolved to only the dilapidated house.

In 1933 Penelope Williams Stroud (1880-1966) and her husband, Thomas Walter Stroud (1880-1965), purchased “Lots 2, 3, and 4 of the sub-division of the R.L. Blalock land” (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1023/571). Robert L. Blalock (1870-1929) appears to have been born in Johnston County, North Carolina, but lived much of his adult life in Kinston. (Certificate of Death: R. L. Blalock 1929). It is likely that Blalock purchased the property from the aforementioned 1915 Wooten farm sale. From Thomas and Penelope Stroud, the house then passed to their son Albert M. Stroud (1913-1993). Following his death, the property was gifted to his brother, T. Walter Stroud Jr. (1919-1995). Despite Walter’s death in 1995, tax records still list the property under his name (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1023/571).

While research connected the house to the Grahams, Wootens, and Strouds, no link was found connecting the property to the Moseley name assigned to it during the 1994 survey.

### **National Register of Historic Places Evaluation**

The Moseley-Stroud is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. It has no known connection with historic events or notable persons and is therefore not eligible under Criteria A or B. The house is additionally recommended not NRHP eligible under Criterion C due to its heavy loss of physical integrity. Photographs taken over the past 50 years chart the alterations and decline of the house. By ca. 1968 the house was well maintained, but it was covered with asphalt siding, its west porch bays were enclosed, and two twentieth-century ells extended to its rear. It had also lost its original three-room plan—supplanted by a center-hall plan coupled with the enclosed porch—and had an interior that almost entirely dated from the mid-twentieth century. By 2010 it was abandoned, deteriorated, and could not be safely entered. At present it is difficult to even approach due to heavy surrounding growth around it and was deemed too dangerous to enter. All of the early nineteenth-century houses discussed and pictured above at Section 3 (Peebles, Monticello, Herring, Hill-Sutton, Tull-Worth-Holland, Jericho, Lafayette, Grady-Harper, Rountree-Askew-Moseley) are more intact in terms of form and design, original finish and materials, and workmanship. The house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction. Accordingly it is not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 26: Moseley Stroud House**

MOSELEY-STROUD HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	The house remains on the site where it was built.
Design	Low	The house does not retain its original plan, little of its early finish survives, and it has had multiple additions and modernizations.
Setting	Low to Medium	US 70 in front of the house is a busy highway; the campus of Lenoir Community College stands to the southwest and the Spice Bouquet warehouse to the northeast. Fields continue to extend north behind the house to the Neuse River and south across 70. Outbuildings gone.
Materials	Low	The house does not retain its original plan, little of its early finish survives, and it has had multiple additions and modernizations.
Workmanship	Low	The house does not retain its original plan, little of its early finish survives, and it has had multiple additions and modernizations.
Feeling	Low	Due to the low integrity of the house’s design, setting, materials, and workmanship, it has lost its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Due to the low integrity of the house’s design, setting, materials, and workmanship, it has lost its integrity of feeling.

## 4.24 WYSE FORK BATTLEFIELD

	Wyse Fork Battlefield
	JN-0306 [AECOM Survey #73]
	Southeast Lenoir County, and Northwest Jones County
	Parcel Record # various
	1861-1865
	NRHP listed under Criteria A and D in 2017.

### Description, History, and Significance

The NRHP nomination for Wyse Fork Battlefield summarized its appearance (Department of Archives and History 2017d):

Presently, the landscape encompassing the battlefield contains a mix of rural, urban, and commercially developed areas. The developed areas are concentrated mainly along the present alignment of U. S. Highway 70. This includes commercial, retail, light industrial, public utilities, and residential development. In addition, three solar farms, one in place and two proposed, are located adjacent to the battlefield and US 70. One farm is located on the east side of the battlefield and two are located along the western edge of the district. Residential development is also present at varying degrees of concentration along the minor roads within the district.

Much of the area encompassing the battlefield is still rural and contains a mixture of cultivated farmland, wooded areas, and low swampy areas. While the exact composition of the 1865 landscape within the boundaries of the district is not known, it is noted as woods, swamps, with some fields in diaries, reports, and on sketch maps of the battlefield. As a result, the core of the battlefield still retains much of its rural character, augmented with agricultural fields.

The nomination’s statement of significance included the following summary of its history and importance:

The Union forces marched westward from New Bern to engage the Confederates and ultimately link forces with General William T. Sherman near Goldsboro. On March 7, 1865 Union troops under the command of General Jacob D. Cox began to converge on a crossroad known as Wyse Fork and engage the Confederate defenses around Kinston. The battle that continued over the next four days until March 10, 1865 was on that the Union had to win and the Confederacy could not afford to lose. In the end the battle at Wyse Fork constituted a major juncture in the Campaign of the Carolinas and the second largest engagement of this campaign in North Carolina during the Civil War.

The Battlefield’s period of significance is 1861-1865. It was NRHP-listed under Criteria A and D in the areas of significance of American Civil War History, US Military History, US History, Historical Archaeology, and Battlefield Archaeology. Its level of significance is national.

## Integrity

The Wyse Fork Battlefield has not changed in any appreciable fashion since it was NRHP-listed in July 2017 and it continues to merit NRHP listing. (As the Battlefield was just NRHP listed, an integrity table is not included for it.)

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP nomination describes the district's boundaries as follows:

The Wyse Fork Battlefield district encompasses 4,069 acres within parts of Lenoir and Jones Counties. The majority of the district is located in Lenoir County with approximately the eastern one third of the district in Jones County. Point A is located in Lenoir County 113 feet west of SR1818 at a point 1,320 feet north of the intersection of SR1804 and SR1818. Point B is located in Lenoir County 2,255 feet east of Point A at a point 715 feet north of SR1804. Point C is located 6,820 feet southeast of Point B in Jones County along SR1310 at a point 1,925 feet northeast of the intersection of SR1310 and the Atlantic and East Carolina Railroad. Point D is located in Jones County 6,930 feet south southeast of Point C at a point on US Highway 70 2,970 feet east of its intersection with SR1309. Point E is located in Jones County 3,465 feet south of Point D and adjacent to SR1002 4,510 feet southeast of its intersection with US Highway 70. Point F is located in Lenoir County 5,610 feet west of Point E 198 feet west of the end of SR 1902. Point G is located in Lenoir County 7,315 feet west of Point F at SR1904 3,850 feet northeast of its intersection with SR1913. Point H is located in Lenoir County on the north bank of a small tributary of Strawberry Creek 4,675 feet northwest of Point G and 165 feet south southeast of SR1905 at a point 4,428 feet east of its intersection with Highway 58. Point I is located 3,795 feet northwest of Point H on the north bank of Southwest Creek. This point is located 3,795 feet due south of a point on US Highway 70 1,760 feet west of its intersection with SR1804. Point J is located 4,125 feet northeast of Point I at a point 385 feet northeast of the intersection of US Highway 70 and SR1804. Point K is located 6,710 feet northeast of Point J at a point 165 feet along a private drive south of SR1804. The point on SR 1804 is located 220 feet southwest along SR1804 from its intersection with SR1818. Point A is located 1,540 feet north northeast of Point K.

The boundary does not follow the NCDOT right-of-way.

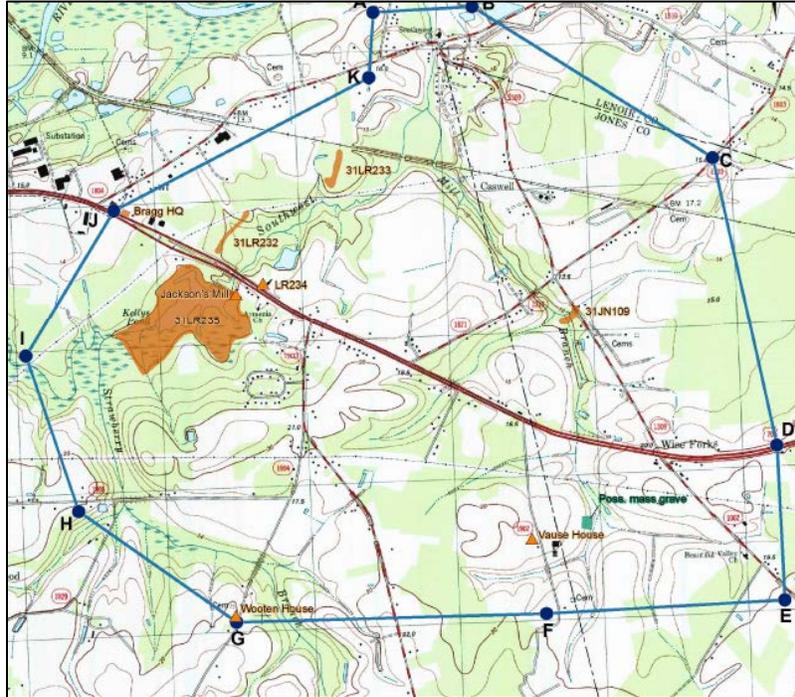


Figure 250: Map of Wyse Fork Battlefield boundary (image courtesy North Carolina Department of Archives and History).

### 4.25 KELLY’S MILLPOND SITE [MILL BUILDING]

	Kelly’s Millpond Site [Mill Building]
	LR-1203 [AECOM Survey #45]
	Highway 70 East, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record # 22106
	PIN # 453403411057
	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> -century site
<p>Site determined eligible for the NRHP in 1990 and NRHP listed as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Former mill recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural (standing) resource.</p>	

#### Description

Significant deterioration has occurred at the Kelly’s Millpond Site since the last survey of the property in 2010. As can be observed from the images below, the mill has fallen into complete ruin. A few associated resources including two frame sheds and a small concrete-block building still stand in part on the site (Figure 252 through Figure 254).

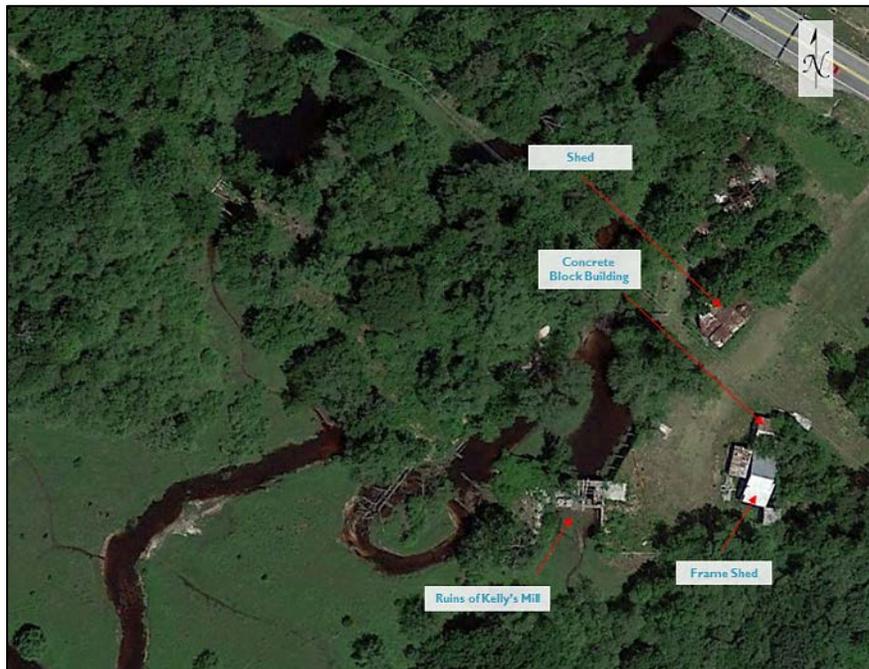


Figure 251: Site plan of Kelly’s Millpond ruins with US 70 at top right (base image courtesy of Google Earth).



Figure 252: At left, view of north elevation of Kelly's Mill, 2010; at right, same view, 2017.



Figure 253: At left, mill ruins ca. 2017 (looking south); at right, ruins of mill substructure (looking north up former mill race).



Figure 254: Frame shed adjacent to concrete block building (looking east), 2017.

## History

The exact construction date of Kelly's Millpond is not known. However, some history is included in *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:413-414):

It is said that as early as 1736 a grist mill operated on Strawberry Branch, a tributary of Southwest Creek a few miles from the county seat of Kinston. It is believed that by the time of the American Revolution the millpond and

surrounding land were owned by Richard Caswell, North Carolina's first governor and a prominent landowner in Lenoir County.

Research suggests a flour mill was constructed in the late eighteenth century and later burned during the latter part of the nineteenth century (Little et al. 1998:414; Abbott, Novick, and Franklin 2015). The present mill building was constructed upon the ruins.

During the last year of the Civil War, the mill served as a focal point for both Union and Confederate troops stationed in the region. Army reports from both sides recount Confederate forces marching around the mill pond during the Battle of Wyse Fork on March 8 and March 10, 1865, in an attempt to cut off Union forces from their supplies. The skirmish ended with a Confederate retreat after realizing their troops were greatly outnumbered (Little et al. 1998:414; Abbott, Novick, and Franklin 2015).

In October of 1896 the *Wilmington Messenger* reported a gin fire that allegedly destroyed the mill. No follow-up articles were found (Wilmington Messenger 1896). By 1898 Kelly's Millpond appears frequently in the local Kinston newspaper, *The Daily Free Press*. These articles suggest that the pond was a focal point of the Kinston community around the turn of the nineteenth century—numerous school picnics, field trips, socials, and other community gatherings were regularly reported on.

An article dated January 5, 1903 features a real estate advertisement listing for sale “The Kelly Mill property, about 5 miles from Kinston” (The Daily Free Press 1903). A report of the sale was never printed, but an article dated September 10, 1903 briefly mentions repairs taking place at the mill, suggesting a change of ownership had taken place (The Daily Free Press 1903).

A 1919 article printed in *The Daily Free Press* reveals that the mill was owned at this time by Mr. H.W. Russell (1869-1954) and that it was previously owned by Captain W.L. Kennedy of Cedar Dell. The *Press* reports that Mr. Russell had “provided additional features for recreation, such as a pavilion and well-equipped bath house.” The article additionally reveals that the mill was still in working order as of 1919 (The Daily Free Press 1919).

A *Daily Free Press* story of March 26, 1920 discusses the undertaking of a significant beautification project that would convert the area around the mill to a park:

The parking of Kelly's Mill, local amusement place which retains a name it had for many years before coming into its present usefulness, has been started. It is to have lawns, flower beds and tennis courts, together with a summer house and additional bathing facilities. Painters will add to the place's attractiveness. The natural beauty of a fast-running stream and the rustic water mill will be left undisturbed” (The Daily Free Press 1920)

Following the publication of the aforementioned article, little additional information was printed about the millpond.

In 1929, the property passed into the hands of the prominent local King family who continue to own it today through their corporation Lakeside Mills, Inc. The Wyse Fork NR nomination states the mill ceased operation around 1970, just two years following the incorporation of Lakeside Mills (Lakeside Mills 2009).

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

Kelly's Millpond Site is included under the name Jackson/Cobb/Kennedy/King Mill-Dam-Kellys Pond (North Carolina archaeological site number 31LR235) as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield. The battlefield was listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the March 1865 Civil War battle and Criterion D for its archaeological significance. The nomination identifies the site under the heading "recorded archaeological sites with architectural elements" and states (Abbott, Novick, and Franklin 2015):

This flour mill was constructed in the late eighteenth century. The mill burned at some point in time, but was rebuilt on the same pilings. The mill operated for nearly 200 years before closing in the 1970's. The dam and mill pond are in the same footprint as in 1865. Much of the mill pond has silted in during the interim, but the outline remains clearly visible in aerial photographs. Like the Cobb House (31LR234 [LR-1197, assessed in the next entry]), the mill, dam, and associated pond are some of the few Civil War era features that were referenced in the official war records. These features retain some of the character and feeling from the time of the battle. From the south side of US 70 and along Southwest Creek, remains of the mill and pond are visible among the trees. Presently, major portions of the mill have collapsed and been removed, but the remains are in the same location as during the battle in 1865.

The Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP nomination was completed in 2015 and the battlefield was listed in 2017. The archaeological integrity of the millpond site has not changed since then.

Some sub-ground-level features of the former mill at the millpond site remain, but the building is effectively gone. Two grist mills, neither still in operation, survive relatively intact in the county. The Alfonzo Walters Mill (LR-0964) was built on an earlier millpond in the LaGrange vicinity in 1917-1919 (Little et al. 1998:116-117, 274). It is comparable in size to the former Kelly's Millpond Mill (Figure 255). The much larger Davis Mill (LR-1017) in the Strabane community dates from 1947 (Figure 256). Issler Davis erected the first mill on its site, as well as the millpond, around 1850 (Little et al. 1998:392). On the basis of the loss of virtually all integrity, and the presence of two much more intact mills in the county, the mill that stood at Kelly's Millpond Site is recommended as not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural resource under NRHP Criterion C. It has insufficient integrity to support individual significance under Criterion A for connection with any historic events, and is not known to be associated with any notable person. It is therefore recommended not eligible under Criteria A or B as an individual architectural resource. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction and is therefore not recommended as individually NRHP-eligible, *as an architectural resource*, under Criterion D.



Figure 255: Alfonzo Walters Mill: north elevation in 2017, at left, and east elevation in 2010, at right.



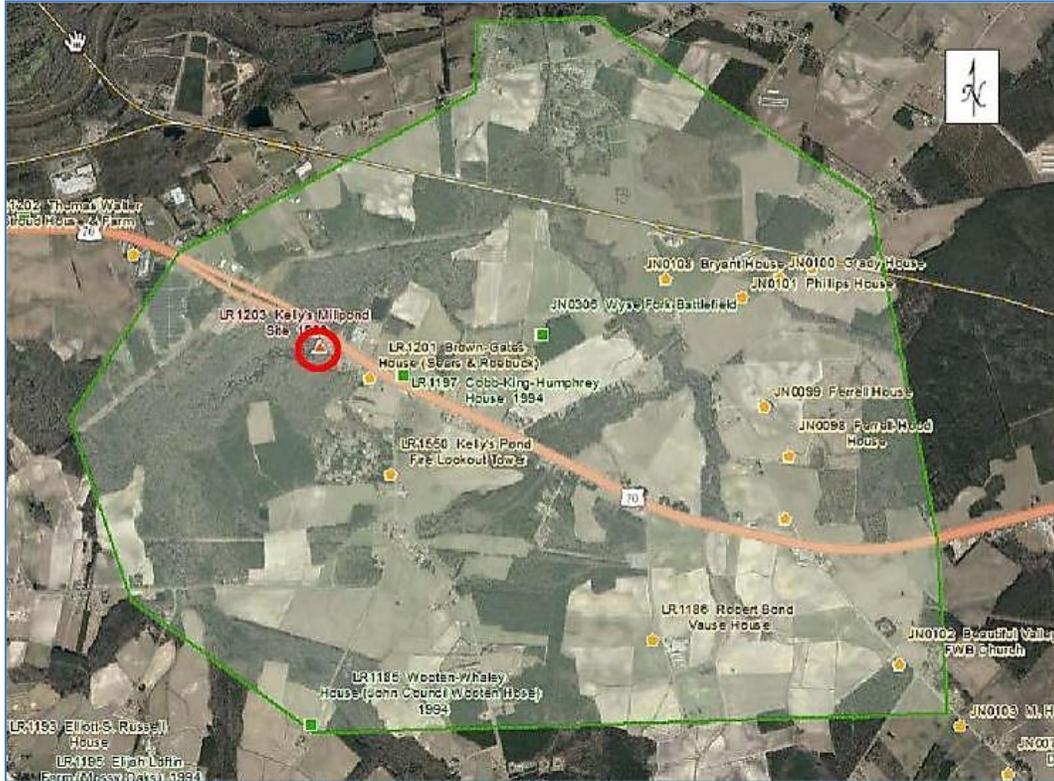
Figure 256: Davis Mill: looking southwest at mill complex, at left, and south and west elevations of mill, at right, 2017.

Table 27: Kelly’s Millpond site (Mill Building)

KELLY’S MILLPOND SITE [Mill Building]		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	Medium	The remains of the former mill remain in place.
Design	None	The mill building is no longer extant; only some sub-ground features remain.
Setting	Medium	The mill’s sub-ground features remain at Southwest Creek with a largely wooded area.
Materials	None	The mill building is no longer extant; only some sub-ground features remain.
Workmanship	None	The mill building is no longer extant; only some sub-ground features remain.
Feeling	None	The mill building is no longer extant; only some sub-ground features remain.
Association	None	The mill building is no longer extant; only some sub-ground features remain.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

Although the Kelly's Millpond Site is recommended as not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural (standing) resource, it is included within the Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP listing as a recorded archaeological site with architectural elements. The NRHP boundary of the battlefield is depicted below by a green line and shading. The location of the Kelly's Millpond Site is circled in red at the left center of the battlefield's boundary.



**Figure 257: Wyse Fork Battlefield NHRP boundary map, outlined and shaded in green, with location of contributing Kelly's Millpond Site circled in red.**

## 4.26 COBB-KING-HUMPHREY HOUSE



Cobb-King-Humphrey House
LR-1197 [AECOM Survey #44]
1934 Highway 70 East, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #22043
PIN #453404710793
Early 19th century; additions early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
NRHP listed as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended individually NRHP eligible under Criteria A and C.

### Description

#### Site

The Cobb-King-Humphrey House sits at the southern tip of a 60 acre parcel of agricultural land approximately five miles east of Kinston. Bounded on its southern edge by US 70, the house and its accompanying secondary structures stand a few hundred feet from the road on a lightly wooded clearing surrounded by fields on their northern, eastern, and southern sides (Figure 258 and Figure 259). A gravel drive leads to the east of the Humphrey house from US 70. A secondary gravel drive is located a few hundred feet to the west and services a former store building and a twentieth-century house also located on the property. Although a small number of new houses and commercial establishments have popped up within the general vicinity of the Humphrey House, the immediate area surrounding it and its outbuildings remains rural in its feeling and appearance.

Numerous outbuildings, remnants of a thriving nineteenth and twentieth-century tobacco operation, are scattered about the Cobb-King-Humphrey parcel To the east of the house are a twentieth-century garage and shed; to the northeast, a striphouse, and remnants of both a shed and the original King Store (King-Humphrey 1994); to the north, a storage house, tobacco barn, three tobacco barns and a shed, all dating from the early/mid-1900s; and to the west, the ca. 1920 King Store and an accompanying early/mid-twentieth century one-story house. A detached kitchen, which has long since disappeared from the landscape, was originally built with the house and stood to the east of the storage house and north of the garage.

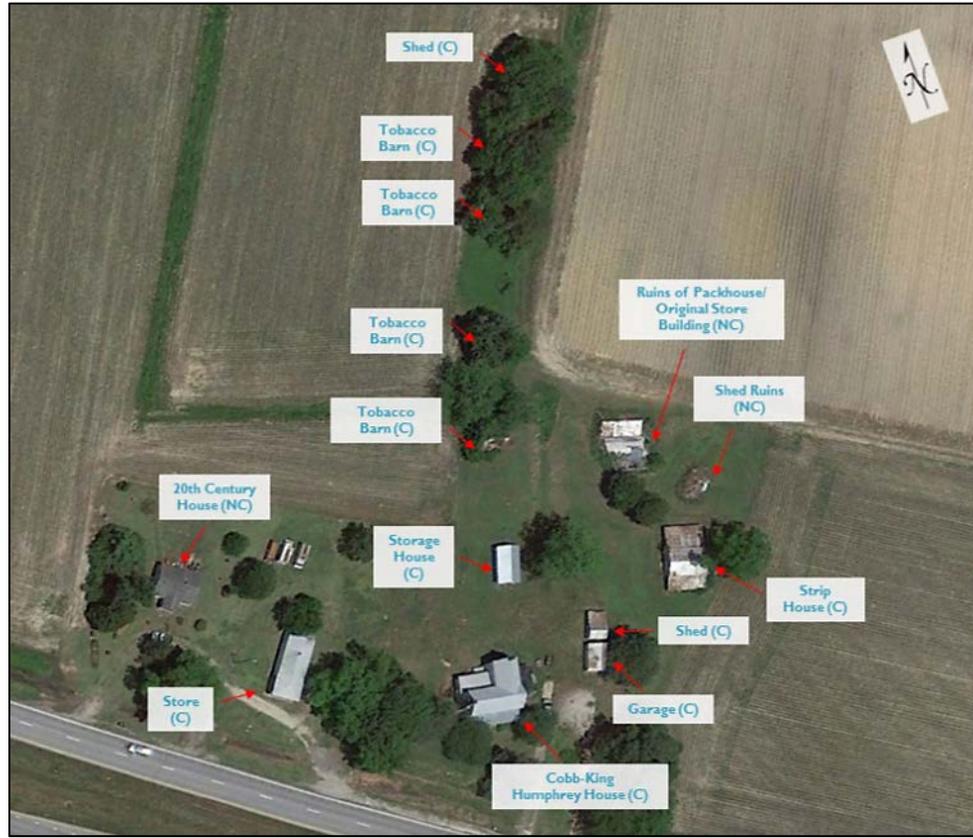


Figure 258: Site plan of Cobb-King-Humphrey House with US 70 at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).



Figure 259: Left, view of the Cobb-King-Humphrey farm complex, looking south; right, view looking north of Cobb-King-Humphrey House to right and King Store to left, from across US 70.

### Cobb-King-Humphrey House

The heavy timber-frame, two-story, antebellum Cobb-King-Humphrey House is L-shaped in plan featuring a five-bay-wide, two-pile-deep front block with an original rear ell extending off its northeast corner (Figure 260). This original portion of the house is clad in weatherboards and edged by wooden cornerboards. The house sits atop a continuous concrete-block foundation that

likely replaced an early stone or brick foundation. The gables have flush cornices with returns and unadorned entablatures partially hidden by modern gutters. The roof's original wood shingles have been replaced with decorative tin shingles (King-Humphrey 1994).



**Figure 260:** Left, south front elevation of Cobb-King-Humphrey House; right, east side elevation of house.

Brick shouldered exterior-end chimneys are found on both the eastern and western gable ends of the front block of the house. The eastern chimney is a replacement, but the western one, which is stuccoed and stands free of the building, is original. A third brick chimney is found on the at the gable end of the ell. It is an interior exposed-face chimney, an uncommon design feature in Lenoir County (Figure 261).



**Figure 261:** Left, north rear elevation of Cobb-King-Humphrey House; right, west side and south front elevations of house.

The house's full-width five-bay is not original. It sits on a continuous brick foundation and is supported by six Tuscan columns. The house's original design included a central bay porch with second story deck, in addition to a secondary porch on the north side of the building. Both have been removed (King-Humphrey 1994). Surprisingly, though, the porch roof is supported by neatly beaded joists.

The front block's bays are symmetrically placed and retain their original windows (Figure 262). Four nine-over-nine double-hung windows are found on the primary elevation at the first story and two on each of the gable ends. The ell retains the same first-story sash, although one of its windows was replaced by a door. Six-over-six double-hung windows serve the house's second

floor. The windows are framed with simple thick wooden surrounds and still retain their original shutter hooks.

The building's primary entrance is located on the southern façade and features a central door flanked on either side with three-light sidelights sitting atop a wooden panel. A four-light transom tops the door, which has been replaced. The primary façade originally featured an additional door on the second floor, which has since been converted to a sliding one-over-one light window. The window is framed by replacement sidelights and the original transom.



**Figure 262: Left: detail of front door sidelights and transom; center: detail of original nine-over-nine light windows; right: detail of boxed cornice.**

Two additions have been made to the house—one on the east side and one on the northwest corner. Both appear to date to the mid-twentieth century. The one-story eastern addition sits atop a brick foundation, is clad in vinyl siding, and capped with a flat roof featuring large overhanging eaves and topped with standing seam metal. Two six-over-six windows populate the southern and eastern elevations, with a band of four slightly smaller six-over-six windows found on the addition's north side. Four brick stairs lead to a paneled door topped with nine lights on northern corner of the eastern elevation. The second addition, located on the northeast corner of the house, is a single-story one-room block clad in asbestos siding that sits atop a concrete block foundation. Three six-over-six double-hung windows are found on the northern elevation, and two are found on the western. The addition's hipped roof is clad in standing seam metal.

Interior access to the house was unavailable at the time of survey. However, views through the windows of the house revealed paneled wainscoting, four-paneled doors, and an original stair (Figure 263). Photographs taken in 1994 by Robbie Jones reveal handsome Federal features, including mantels with reeded pilasters that are likely still in place.



**Figure 263:** Left, interior image of front hall looking through sidelight window on front elevation; right, interior image of front hall in 1994 (photo credit: Robbie Jones).

#### **Garage (contributing building)**

Located to the east of the Cobb-King-Humphrey House, and facing south, the front-gabled frame garage dates to the early twentieth century (Figure 264, at left). It was likely built by Richard King shortly after he purchased the house in 1914. The building is clad in weatherboard siding and capped with a standing seam metal roof. The large opening on the building's southern side suggests the building was constructed to hold two cars; however, the door(s) no longer remain.



**Figure 264:** View looking north at garage, at left; looking south at shed (with garage to rear), at right.

#### **Shed (contributing building)**

Situated directly behind (to the north) of the garage, this small side-gabled frame shed is rectangular in plan and features a wooden batten door framed by a simple wooden surround on its western side (Figure 264, at right). It is clad with large weatherboards and features a standing-seam metal roof. A lean-to attached to the building's northern side is supported by four square wooden posts. The shed likely dates to the King period of ownership.

### Storage House (*contributing building*)

This three-bay, single-pile, frame building sits atop concrete block piers and is located a short distance to the north rear of the Cobb-King-Humphrey House. It was utilized as storage house during the latter part of the twentieth century according to Mary King-Humphrey (Figure 265). A centrally placed door is located on the eastern elevation and is flanked on either side by nine-over-nine double-hung windows, which were likely salvaged from another building. Windows identical in style and placement are found on the opposite (western) elevation. The door is simply composed of wooden battens. Two additional doors of the same style are located on the northern and southern gable ends. The side-gabled roof is clad in standing-seam metal and displays exposed rafter tails, suggesting a 1920s/1930s date of construction. The building is clad in the same asbestos panel siding as the northwestern addition to the Humphrey House, with which it may be contemporary.



**Figure 265:** Left, view looking north of the storage house; right, contextual view looking south of Storage House in relation to main house.

### Striphouse (*contributing building*)

This side-gabled frame structure clad in standing seam metal and sitting on concrete block piers features a band of three windows on its eastern elevation, suggesting its use as a striphouse during the farm's tobacco production years (Figure 266). It appears to date from the early twentieth century. Located to the northeast of the main house, its eastern orientation provided maximum sunlight during the work day, a necessary element for stripping tobacco. The windows are six-over-six double-hung sash. A metal door is found on the building's western gable end and a wooden screened door on the eastern gable end. Shed roof lean-tos were added to the north, west, and eastern sides of the building sometime during the mid-20th century. The metal siding is also a later addition.



**Figure 266:** Left, view of western elevation of striphouse; (looking east); right, interior view of striphouse windows.

### **Tobacco Barns (four contributing buildings)**

Situated in a row running north of the storage between two fields are four early twentieth-century tobacco barns standing in various states of decline (Figure 267 and Figure 268). The buildings are similar in design: side gabled in orientation and of frame construction. All four are clad in metal and asphalt sheathing and feature standing-seam metal roofs. A brick foundation was evident at the less-overgrown northernmost barn. In addition, a small wooden batten door was accessible on the building's eastern side. A view of the building's interior revealed the wooden poles and framework used to hang tobacco in the drying process.



**Figure 267:** Left, view of the first/southernmost tobacco barn (looking northeast); right, view of the second tobacco barn (looking northeast).



**Figure 268:** Left, view of the third tobacco barn (looking northeast); right, poles in fourth/northernmost packhouse.

#### **Shed (contributing building)**

Located north of the four tobacco barns, this small frame shed is clad in weatherboard siding and features a standing seam metal roof (Figure 269). It appears to be contemporary with the barns.



**Figure 269:** View of shed's southern elevation.

#### **King Store (contributing building)**

The ca. 1920s King Store is located directly west of the Cobb-King-Humphrey House, just off of and fronting on US 70 (Figure 270 and Figure 271). A typical early twentieth-century store, it is three bays wide and two piles deep with a rear shed-roof addition. Of frame construction, it rests upon a concrete-block foundation and is clad in weatherboards. Standing-seam metal covers its low-sloped gabled roof. Two double-hung two-over-two windows frame either side of the centrally placed door on southern façade facing the road. The original front doors have been replaced with more modern unadorned wooden doors. A secondary wood-batten door is located on the eastern elevation at the building's northeast corner. A single interior brick chimney stack sits on the building's ridgeline.

A large overhang that would have shielded no-longer-extant gas pumps project's from the store's front. Two Craftsman-style columns of tapered posts on brick piers support it and rafter tails are exposed at its gabled roof. The building's rear shed addition sits on concrete masonry piers, is clad in weatherboard, and features simple wood-batten doors on its eastern and western sides.

The building's interior was inaccessible. It is now used for storage. Views through the windows, though, revealed the retention of the store's original shelving.



**Figure 270:** Left, view of the front (southern) elevation of the King Store, looking to north; right, view of the southeast corner of the King Store, looking to the northwest.



**Figure 271:** View of interior of the King Store, looking through eastern window on the building's front (southern) side.

### **20th Century House (*non-contributing building*)**

Built in the early/mid-twentieth century, this small house stands just northwest of the King Store, a bit more distant from the road (Figure 272). The one-story frame building rests atop a continuous brick foundation, is clad in asbestos tile siding, and features a side-gabled roof clad in asphalt shingles. An interior brick chimney rises from the building's ridgeline. A centrally located horizontal-panel wooden door is found on the building's primary (southern) elevation flanked by casement windows framed by unadorned wooden trim. The primary elevation is framed by a centrally located pedimented front porch supported by two plain, square, wooden columns. The porch sits on a raised brick foundation with three concrete stairs on its southern side.



**Figure 272: Left, view of south front elevation of house; contextual view of store in relation to the house, looking to the northwest.**

## History

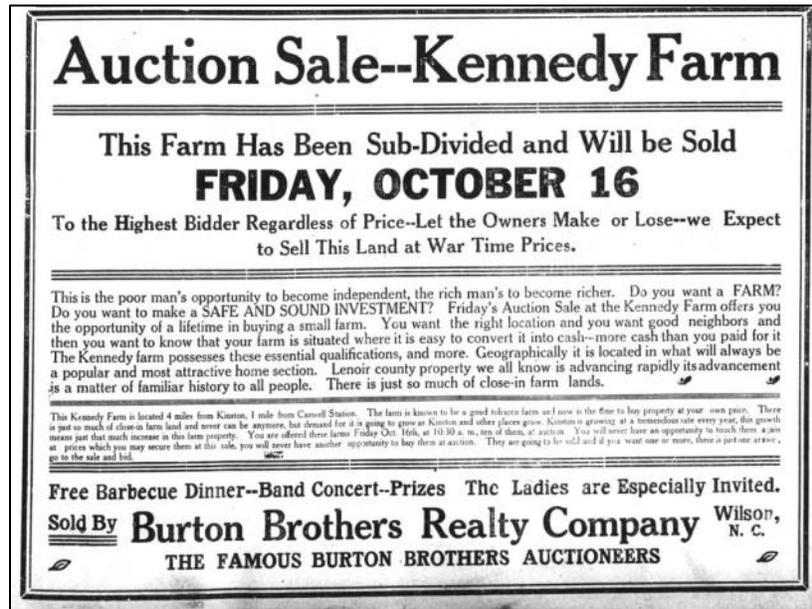
The Cobb-King-Humphrey House is thought to have built by a member of the Cobb family, likely during the first quarter of the nineteenth century by wealthy Lenoir County plantation owner John Cobb. His son, Dr. Richard G. Cobb (1825-1908), likely inherited the land. The house is known for its association with the Civil War. *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little 1998:414-415) discusses its role as a field hospital during the Battle of Wyse Fork:

Stories of houses being used as hospitals during the Civil War abound in eastern North Carolina, but only a few can be documented. The Cobb-King-Humphrey House boasts the distinction not only of serving as a Federal field hospital during the war, but also of being right in the middle of the second-largest land battle fought in North Carolina during the conflict. The Battle of Wyse Fork was between the Confederate forces of Generals Robert F. Hoke and D.H. Hill, under the command of General Braxton Bragg, and the Federal divisions of Generals Palmer and Cater, under the command of General Jacob D. Cox. The battle, which took place March 8-10, 1865, resulted when the Confederates attempted to stop the Union forces from marching west from their supply base at New Bern to join General William T. Sherman's forces, converging on Goldsboro. After two days of skirmishing with Union forces the Confederates, realizing they were outnumbered, retreated toward Smithfield. . . . As evidence of their occupation of the Cobb House, many of the union soldiers wrote their names on the unpainted plaster in the dwelling's third-story garret. Many of these names remain today, a testament to the role the house played during the significant military engagement at Wyse Fork.

(See also the Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP nomination.)

In 1907 widower Richard King (1867-1937) married widow Etta Hill Kennedy King (1877-1937), each bringing multiple children to the marriage. Seven years later, in October 1914, the couple took title to the Cobb-King-Humphrey house. The transaction describes the property as containing lots "4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 12...formerly owned by Mrs. Helen Kennedy and known as the A.T. Kennedy Farm" (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1154/899). Alpheus Thomas

Kennedy was a distant cousin of Etta's first husband James Edward Kennedy (US Census). The house and 400 acres of the 520-acre Kennedy Farm was purchased by King for \$17,000. At the time of the auction, the property was under the ownership of G.G. Matthews and J.D. Bizzell. According to advertisements for the auction in Kinston's *Daily Free Press* in 1914, the property was still a working farm and boasted numerous farm buildings, although the buildings were not specifically identified (Figure 273).



**Figure 273: Advertisement published in the October 10, 1914 edition of The Daily Free Press advertising the sale of the Kennedy Farm (The Daily Free Press, 400 Acres Sold at Auction 1914).**

In 1921 the property was deeded to the youngest daughter from Richard and Etta's union, Mary W. King Humphrey (1914-1999), who was at that time seven years old (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1154/899). It is unclear why this transaction occurred as the family continued living there for many years (Robbie Jones, 1994). According to Mrs. Humphrey, sometime during the early 1920s, her father built a small concrete block store on the property that was subsequently relocated and later demolished. Mary King Humphrey retained ownership of the house until her death in 1999 at which point the property was willed to her children Etta Humphrey Marett and Richard Lewis Humphrey. At the time of this transaction, the property consisted of only 65 acres, or Lot 4 of the original Kennedy Farm tract. Richard conveyed his interest in the property to his sister, making Etta Humphrey Marett owner in full (Lenoir County Deed Book, 1154/899).

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Cobb-King-Humphrey House is included (under a different name with the North Carolina archaeological site number 31LR234) as a contributing building to the Wyse Fork Battlefield. The battlefield was listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for its association with the March 1865 Civil War battle and Criterion D for its archaeological significance. The nomination identifies the house under the heading "recorded archaeological sites with architectural elements" (Abbott, Novick, and Franklin 2015). It states the following:

In 1865 the Jackson/Cobb/Tolles House served as a hospital for some of the Union troops during the battle. It is also highly likely that tent hospitals and wards were located on the grounds surrounding the house. The house is one of the few Civil War era structures still standing that is referenced in the official war records. [Sheldon] Thorpe of the 15<sup>th</sup> Connecticut illustrated both the house and the [Jackson/Cobb/Kennedy/King] mill on his [1893] map.

The Cobb-King-Humphrey House is recommended as individually NRHP eligible under Criterion A, due to its documented association with the Wyse Fork Battlefield. According to after-action recollections recounted in the Wyse Fork NRHP nomination, during the battle it was used as a hospital

The Cobb-King-Humphrey House is recommended as individually NRHP eligible under Criterion C as a notable representative of Federal-style architecture in Lenoir County that retains an unusually high degree of integrity. It is also a notable early representative of a traditional center-hall-plan, two-story, single-pile dwelling. It is recommended as eligible at the local level of significance. The period of significance of the house, along with its numerous outbuildings and store, is recommended as extending from the first quarter of the nineteenth century to ca. 1960, when the outbuildings associated with the cultivation of tobacco began in earnest to be supplanted by bulk barns.

The house's significance in Lenoir County and its appearance have not notably changed since *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:414-415) summarized them:

In addition to its Civil War notoriety, the house survives as one of Lenoir County's most significant intact Federal-style plantation houses. The five-bay dwelling has an original rear two-and-a-half-story ell marked by an interior end exposed-face chimney—a treatment closely associated with residential architecture in New Bern from the same period. Commodious for its era, the house has two gable-end brick chimneys with freestanding stacks (one chimney rebuilt in the twentieth century), and an early-twentieth-century replacement one-story full-width front porch. The well-appointed interior displays elements slightly more sophisticated than seen in similar period plantations. The center-hall stair, in typical fashion, has a simple square newel and balusters and ascends in a two-run layout with an intermediate landing.

The description continues:

Mantelpieces rendered in standard Federal three-part designs with molded shelves grace each fireplace on the first and second story floors, while a retarditaire Georgian-inspired mantelpiece is located on the rear ell's second floor.

These mantelpieces could not be viewed, as the house is unoccupied and attempts to enter or otherwise see into its interior—other than the intact hall visible through the unobscured front sidelights—were not successful. The condition of the exterior and the hall suggest that these feature remain in place. Even without them, though, the house is an excellent example in the county of Federal-style architecture.

The Cobb-King-Humphrey House measures up to or exceeds the form, finish, and integrity of the small number of other intact refined houses in Lenoir that date, or have additions dating,

from its period of construction. These include the following dwellings identified and discussed at the architectural context in Section 3, above: the Peebles House and Monticello (second-period Federal woodwork); the Herring House and Hill-Sutton House (form and Federal finish); Jericho and the Grady Harper House (form and likely finish); and Lafayette (Federal finish). Supporting the former farmhouse, is an unusually large and varied collection of outbuildings that include the 1920 store, a garage, sheds, a striphouse, and four tobacco barns. These buildings, which appear to date from the early to mid-twentieth century, extend the period of significance to ca. 1960.

The house has no known association with persons notable in our history and is therefore not recommended as individually eligible under Criterion B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction and is therefore also not recommended as individually NRHP-eligible, *as an architectural resource*, under Criterion D.

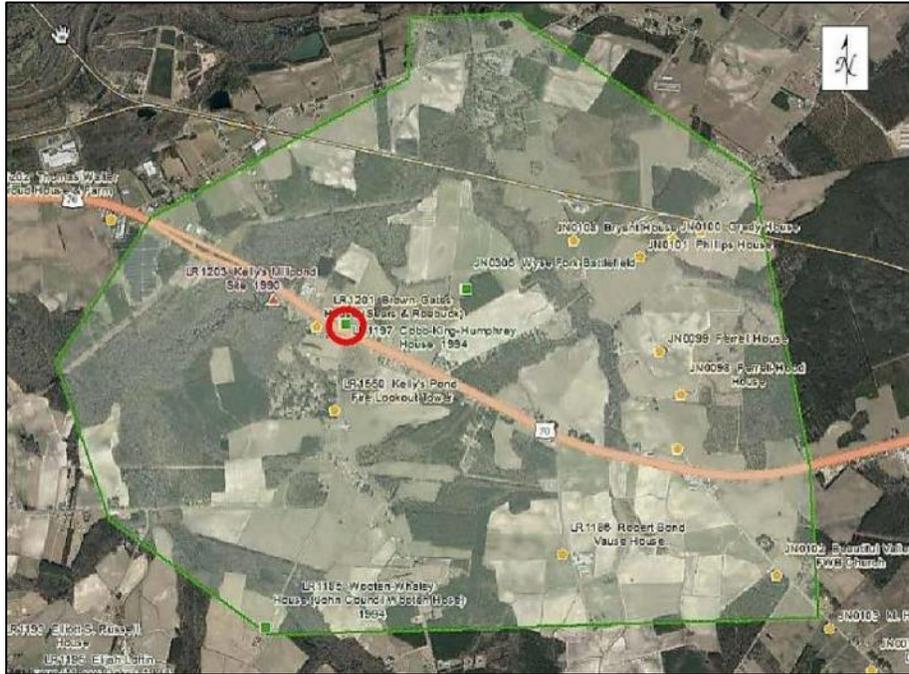
**Table 28: Cobb King Humphrey House**

COBB-KING-HUMPHREY HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Remains on its original site.
Design	Medium to High	Retains many original features, including center-hall-plan form, weatherboard cladding, corner posts, boxed cornices, exposed-face interior-end chimney, trabeated entry, and interior Federal-style finish. A chimney has been replaced and small ells added.
Setting	Medium to High	Retains numerous outbuildings and cultivated fields frame it in all directions, although US 70, which it fronts on, is wider and busier than it was historically.
Materials	Medium to High	Retains many original features, including center-hall-plan form, weatherboard cladding, corner posts, boxed cornices, exposed-face interior-end chimney, trabeated entry, and interior Federal-style finish. A chimney has been replaced and small ells added.
Workmanship	Medium to High	Retains many original features, including center-hall-plan form, weatherboard cladding, corner posts, boxed cornices, exposed-face interior-end chimney, trabeated entry, and interior Federal-style finish. A chimney has been replaced and small ells added.
Feeling	Medium to High	Retains medium-to-high integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby retains its integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium to High	Retains medium-to-high integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby retains its integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP boundary of the Wyse Fork Battlefield is depicted below by a green line and shading. The location of the Cobb-King-Humphrey House is circled in red near center of the battlefield's boundary (Figure 274). The recommended boundary of the property, as individually eligible exclusive of the battle, is also depicted below, outlined in blue (Figure 275). It encompasses the

approximately 63-acre parcel associated with the house. Note that on the south the boundary extends only as far as the NCDOT right-of-way on the north side of US 70.



**Figure 274: Wyse Fork Battlefield NHRP boundary map, outlined and shaded in green, with location of contributing Cobb-King-Humphrey House circled in red.**



**Figure 275: Proposed NRHP boundary for Cobb-King-Humphrey House, outlined in blue (note that at south [bottom of map] boundary only extends as far as the NCDOT right-of-way on the north side of US 70).**

### 4.27 ROBERT BOND VAUSE HOUSE



Robert Bond Vause House
LR-1186 [AECOM Survey #50]
359 Bill Smith Road, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #22013
PIN #454300142814
Ca. 1850s
NRHP listed as a contributing architectural resource to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural resource.

#### Description

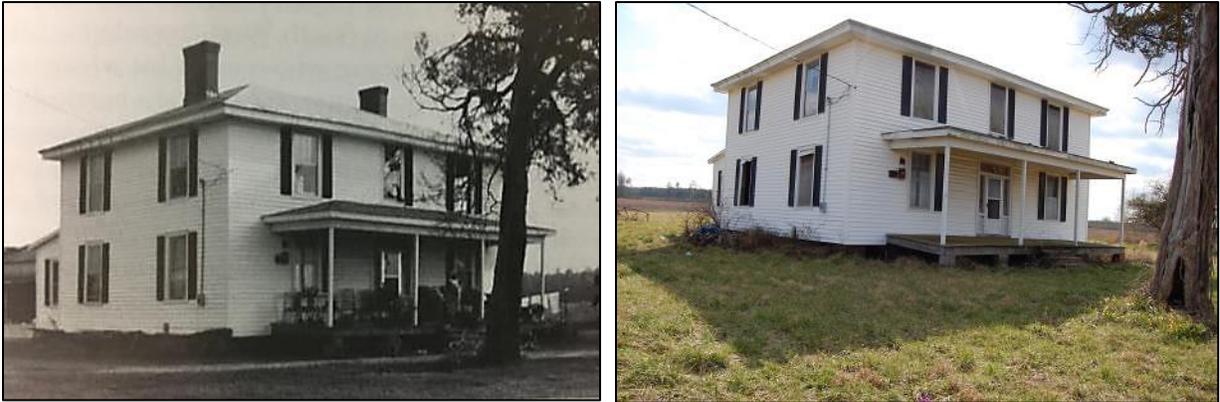
The Robert Bond Vause House is situated on the eastern edge of a 309-acre parcel of farmland along Bill Smith Road, about six miles southeast of Kinston. Formerly its own farm seat, the Vause House now sits adjacent to a large working farm and modern storage/packing complex owned by Harvey Farms. The house has been abandoned and left to the elements for many years, which has significantly damaged it inside and out. No associated outbuildings remain, though a modern housing facility for farm workers has been erected immediately to its east.



**Figure 276: Site plan of Robert Bond Vause House with Bill Smith Road at top (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

The two-story, double-pile, three-bay Robert Bond Vause House was built on brick piers utilizing a center-hall-plan and hipped roof arrangement relatively common at antebellum houses in the county. Its weatherboards now covered by vinyl siding, the house features an east-facing,

three-bay, hipped-roof, front porch supported by later-added square posts. Its west rear elevation is shaded by a shed-roofed porch with enclosed rooms at either end that are original features. The house is in extremely poor condition and altered by the removal of its two interior chimney stacks and the boarding over of its front entry and all of its sash. Some of its original six-over-six double-hung windows, however, remain in place behind their sheets of plywood. A mid-1990s photograph in *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:415) depicts the house occupied and apparently in good condition. By 2010 it has long been vacant and was quite deteriorated. It is now much more deteriorated (Figure 278 and Figure 279).



**Figure 277: Robert Bond Vause House: north side and west front elevations in the mid-1990s, at left, and in 2010, at right**



**Figure 278: Robert Bond Vause House: west front elevation, at left, and west front and south side elevations, at right.**



**Figure 279: Robert Bond Vause House: south side and east rear elevations, at left; east rear and north side elevations, at right.**

The building's first-story interior retains many straightforward, original, Greek Revival-style elements, including window surrounds with panels beneath, simple baseboards, post-and-lintel mantels, plaster walls, and a stair with a boxy newel post and stick balusters (Figure 280). The second story could not be viewed due to the questionable condition of the stair. A comparison of the current state of the interior with an image taken in 2010 illustrates the continued and accelerated decline of the house (Figure 281).



**Figure 280: Robert Bond Vause House: first-floor rooms.**



**Figure 281: Robert Bond Vause House: first-floor stair hall at present, at left, and in 2010, at right,**

## Farm Worker Housing

Located to the east rear of the house is a new, one-story, metal-clad building utilized for farm worker housing (Figure 282, at left). Other outbuildings that previously stood near the house, which included a gable-roofed brick smokehouse and a large packhouse, no longer stand (Figure 282, at right).



**Figure 282: Robert Bond Vause House: at left, view looking southeast of house and modern farm worker housing; at right, 2010 image of large packhouse that no longer stands.**

## History

*Coastal Plain and Fancy* summarizes the house's history (Little et al.:415):

According to descendants, Robert Bond Vause (1830-1865) married Susan Adaline Jackson (1834-1909). He had the house constructed for his family in the early 1850s on property his wife likely inherited. Robert Vause enlisted in Confederate service in Company A, Fortieth Regiment North Carolina Troops, rising to the rank of second lieutenant. He was killed on February 18, 1865 at Fort Anderson in Brunswick County, North Carolina. Adaline then married Levi Russell (1834-1907).

In 1860 Robert Vause was of moderate wealth, owning \$4,000 in real estate and \$6,500 in personal property, including six slaves. Unlike many Southern families, the newly combined Vause/Russell household was not left destitute following the conclusion of the war. The 1870 census reports the worth of Adeline and Levi Russell at \$1,500 in personal property and \$2,500 in real estate (1870 Federal Census). The house eventually passed into the hands of Adeline and Levi's son, Henry Russell (1869-1954). He went on to become a prominent member of the Kinston community and eventually purchased Kelly's Mill Pond, converting it into a recreational area for Kinstonians (Little et. al 1998, 415).

The property is currently owned and actively farmed by Lenoir Jones Farms LLC, although the house suffers from extensive neglect.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

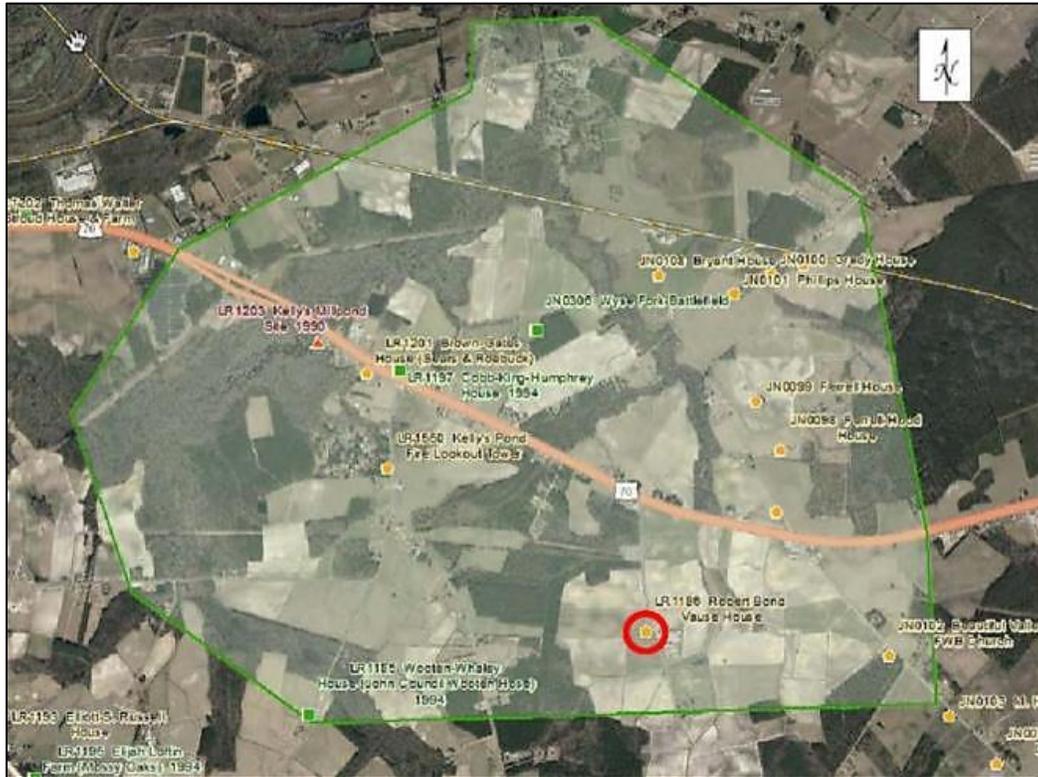
While the Robert Bond Vause House was listed as a contributing resource to the Wyse Fork Battlefield, due to its existence at the time of the battle, the house does not merit individual listing on the NRHP. Although situated on the battlefield, no record exists of the building's direct involvement with the battle or its association with any significant historical figure involved with the Civil War or otherwise. The house is therefore recommended as not individually eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and B. The house is additionally recommended as not eligible for listing under Criterion C as it does not retain sufficient material integrity to support such significance. While its double-pile center-hall-plan is in place, as are parts of its original Greek Revival-style interior finish, most of its original finish has been lost. The house is covered in aluminum siding, its metal roof has peeled off in spots, its interior chimney stacks have been removed, its windows are gone and/or boarded over, and its interior is in ruinous condition. It has not been occupied for many years and water damage and theft have contributed to its losses. The houses with Greek Revival-style additions and those built in the style in the 1840s and 1850s, discussed above at Section 3, are more intact than the Vause House. The house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction. Accordingly it is not recommended as NRHP-eligible, *as an architectural resource*, under Criterion D.

**Table 29: Robert Bond Vause House**

ROBERT BOND VAUSE HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on site where it was built.
Design	Low	Form and pieces of interior finish are all that remain intact.
Setting	Low to Medium	Remains in rural setting, but has lost all outbuildings and a modern house for farm workers and large modern agricultural facility stand nearby.
Materials	Low	Form and pieces of interior finish are all that remain intact.
Workmanship	Low	Form and pieces of interior finish are all that remain intact.
Feeling	Low	Low integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in low integrity of feeling.
Association	Low	Low integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in low integrity of feeling.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

Although the Robert Bond Vause House is recommended as not individually eligible for NRHP listing, it is included within the Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP listing as a contributing architectural resource. The NRHP boundary of the battlefield is depicted below by a green line and shading. The location of the Robert Bond Vause House is circled in red near the south center edge of the battlefield's boundary (Figure 283).



**Figure 283: Wyse Fork Battlefield NHRP boundary map, outlined and shaded in green, with location of contributing Robert Bond Vause House circled in red**

4.28 WOOTEN-WHALEY HOUSE (JOHN COUNCIL WOOTEN HOUSE)



Wooten-Whaley House (John Council Wooten House)
LR-1185 [AECOM Survey #53]
766 Whaley Road, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #21999 PIN #453300443214
1850s
Placed on North Carolina NRHP SL in 1994. NRHP listed as a contributing architectural resource to the Wyse Fork Battlefield in 2017. Recommended not individually eligible for NRHP listing as a historic architectural resource.

Description

The Greek Revival-style temple-form Wooten-Whaley House sits atop a small rise, on a 130-acre parcel of land, approximately six miles southeast of Kinston. Surrounded by fields on all sides, the antebellum house retains its original rural setting. However, none of the house’s outbuildings survive. The only resource associated with it is the Wooten family cemetery.



Figure 284: Site plan of Wooten-Whaley House with Whaley Road at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).

### Wooten-Whaley House

The principal block of the antebellum Wooten-Whaley House is two stories tall, two rooms deep, and topped by a gable-front rather than gable-side roof. Its entry is located on the right-hand (northeast) side of its three-bay-wide, east-facing, front elevation, reflecting its side-hall plan. The house is built of frame, but its original weatherboards are covered with aluminum siding. Its most notable feature—a grand two-story portico supported by four full-height columns and crowned by a triangular pediment—is also aluminum covered. (Whether the original columns remain in place could not be determined.) The portico sits on a concrete slab that rests on a continuous brick foundation (Figure 285 through Figure 288).

The roof is clad with standing-seam-metal. Any entablature, friezeboards, or other decorative features that may have enlivened its portico and eaves have been removed or covered by the modern siding. Two corbelled brick chimney stacks that were in place at the house's ridgeline in 2000 have been removed.

All of the house's original windows have been replaced by one-over-one sash with snap-in vinyl inserts that give them the appearance of being nine-over-nine and six-and-six windows. This may reflect the treatment of the original sash. The door of the principal front entry is also a later addition. However, it is set within an original, Greek Revival-style, trabeated surround with an unusually tall multi-light transom. Otherwise, the original surrounds of the house's bays are hidden by the aluminum siding.

A second-story balcony set within the shadow of the portico may retain a few original features—four heavy curved brackets that support it and a balustrade of X-shape members that may be intended to suggest a sheaf-of-wheat design. Photographs of the interior from 1994 depict a similar pattern at the stair that is more three dimensionally worked. Three replacement doors open onto the balcony.

A first-floor porch supported by turned columns that post-date the body of the house wraps around the south side and west rear elevations. A one-story kitchen ell extending off of the northwest corner of the house's rear elevation was added in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. It was later extended along the north side to provide for a bathroom. The treatment of the porch at the north elevation, forward of the added bathroom, matches that of the wraparound porch. Whether the house once had a continuous porch along its rear and side elevations is not known. *Coastal Plain and Fancy* suggests this was the case (Little et al. 1998:53).



**Figure 285: Wooten-Whaley House: north front and east side elevations, at left, and north front elevation, at right.**



Figure 286: Wooten-Whaley House: west rear and south side elevations.



Figure 287: Wooten-Whaley House: west rear and north side elevations, at left; second story of north side elevation, at right.

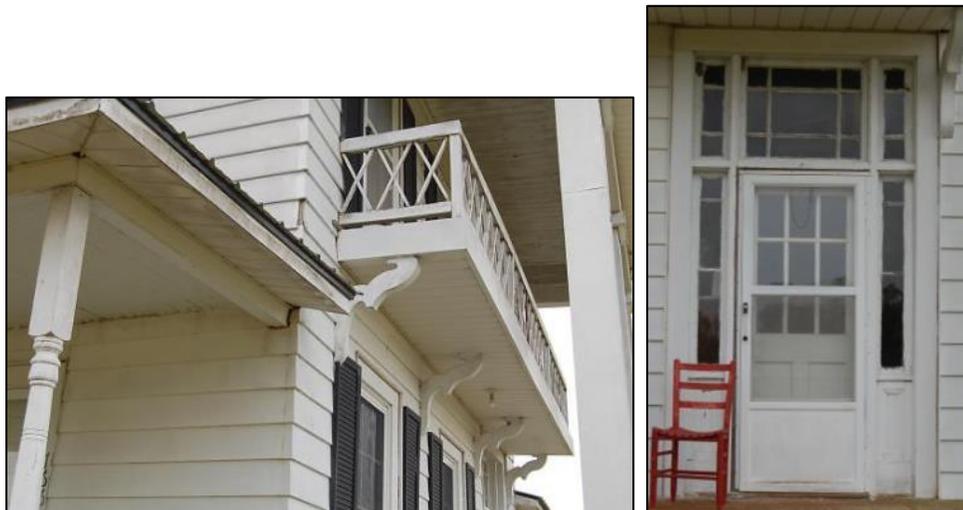


Figure 288: Wooten-Whaley House: details of columns, second-story porch, and entry.

Access to the interior was denied by the owner-occupant, but *Coastal Plain and Fancy* (Little et al. 1998:417) includes the following description based upon Robbie Jones' fieldwork:

An abstracted sheaf-of-wheat balustrade encloses the balcony and is repeated on the interior side-hall stair. Other important interior elements include a square newel post with exaggerated chamfering on the corners, four-panel doors, and simple Greek Revival mantels with bold proportions in the standard post-and-lintel design.

In 1994 Jones captured some of the interior in photographs (Figure 289).



**Figure 289: One of four identical post-and-lintel mantels and vigorously modeled stair in 1994 (Robbie Jones)**

### Wooten Family Cemetery

The Wooten family cemetery sits on a separate parcel from the house, about a hundred yards to its northeast. Among the buried are numerous Wootens and their descendants, including the house's attributed builder, John C. Wooten, who rests under a military-issue marker. The markers are generally straightforward granite headstones with segmental tops (Figure 290).



**Figure 290: Wooten Family Cemetery with marker of John C. Wooten pictured at center.**

## History

John Council Wooten (1825-1893) was born in Columbus County, North Carolina in 1825. John was the grandson of Shadrach Wooten, a Lenoir county native who served in the North Carolina legislature from 1796-1801. Around 1805, Shadrach purchased 10,000 acres in Columbus County where he moved and chose to raise his family (Cox 1938, 103). Sometime between 1850 and 1860 John returned to the family seat of Lenoir County with his wife Emeline Wooten (1824-?). At the time of the 1860 federal census, John is recorded as a resident of Woodington Township with \$15,000 of real estate and \$17,000 of personal property, including 22 slaves (1860 Slave Schedule). It is believed that John built this temple-front style home sometime between 1850 and 1860, as he went on to serve the Confederacy as a First Lieutenant in North Carolina's 27th Regiment, Company C.

The house remained in the Wooten family until it was purchased by Lewis James Whaley (1864-1918) in 1911 (Little et al. 1998:417). Following his death, the house passed into the hands of his daughter, Estelle Whaley Hardison (1919-2012), and her husband, Marcellus (1906-1983). The house remains in the Whaley family today and is jointly owned by Estelle's children, Ann Whaley Clayborn, Jesse P. Hardison, and Marjorie H. Whaley Canady under the umbrella of K.L. Whaley Farm LLC.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

The Wooten-Whaley House (under the name John Council Wooten House) is identified in the Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP nomination as a contributing architectural resource. The evidence of its involvement in the battle, as recounted in the nomination, is limited: Union and Confederate forces were stationed or patrolled nearby and some Confederate officers are said to have "warmed their feet" at its fireplace. This is not believed to be sufficient to support its individual eligibility, as an architectural resource, for having a notable association with the battle or other historic events or with significant persons. The house is therefore recommended as not individually NRHP eligible under Criteria A and B.

Due to significant physical loss, the house is additionally recommended as not individually NRHP eligible under Criterion C. The front elevation of the house is in part intact. The sidelights and tall transom of the entry are original and the oversized brackets that support the second-story balcony and the X-shaped balcony balusters are early or original as well. The elevation's most notable features—its four full-height columns and broad triangular pediment—are marred by aluminum siding, as is the entire elevation. In addition, the windows have been replaced with one-over-one sash with snap-in muntins and evidence of ornamentation at the pediment and eaves has been hidden or removed. The house's other three elevations appear, as altered, to date from the mid-/late twentieth-century rather than the middle of the nineteenth. When approaching the house along the road from its rear, one cannot discern its period of construction or style. Only head-on from a distance does it retain its once imposing appearance. The side and rear elevations, like the façade, are aluminum sided and their sash is not original. Their wraparound porch has turned columns that are not early and part of it has been enclosed and extended by a mid-/late twentieth-century ell. The interior may retain what Jones described as modest Greek Revival-style mantels and a vernacular stairway. This could not be confirmed, as access was vigorously denied by the homeowner. The house's temple-front form is unique in Lenoir County and striking. However, many other county dwellings are more intact representatives of the Greek

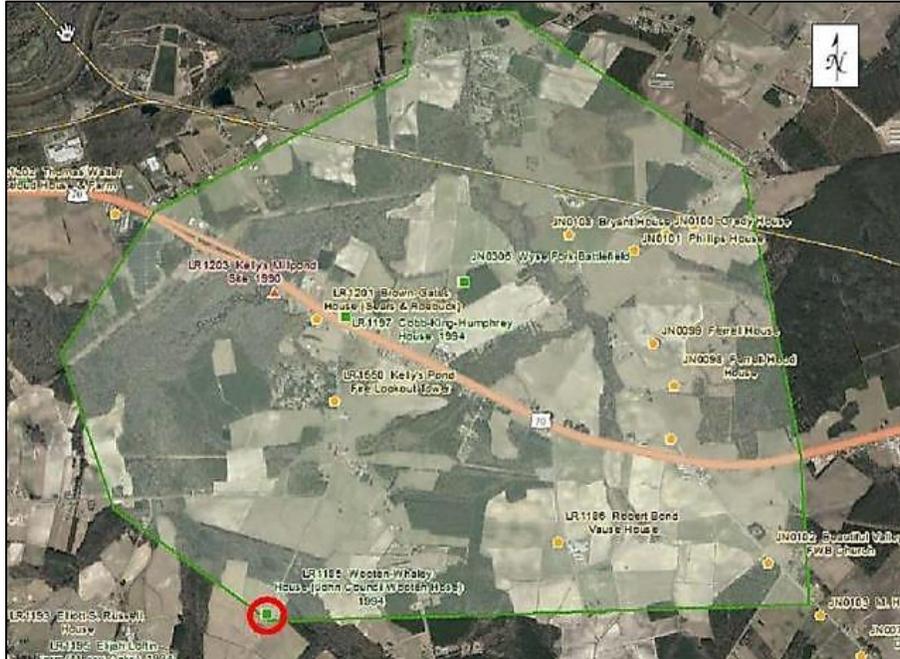
Revival-style. Those residences, pictured and discussed at Section 3, above, include the expanded sections and interiors of the Peebles and Rountree-Askew-Moseley houses, and the exteriors and interiors of the mid-nineteenth-century Wiley Joel Rouse, Archbell, and Rouse-Edmundson-Wilson houses. Further, but for a cemetery, the house stands alone. Not one of its early or later outbuildings survives. The house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction and is accordingly not recommended as NRHP-eligible, *as an architectural resource*, under Criterion D.

**Table 30: Wooten-Whaley House**

WOOTEN-WHALEY HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Retains sidelights and transom at entry and altered temple-front form and balcony. Other exterior elements are heavily altered.
Setting	Low to Medium	Retains largely rural environs and cemetery, but no outbuildings.
Materials	Low to Medium	Retains sidelights and transom at entry and altered temple-front form and balcony. Other exterior elements are heavily altered.
Workmanship	Low to Medium	Retains sidelights and transom at entry and altered temple-front form and balcony. Other exterior elements are heavily altered.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Due to loss of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, has lost integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Due to loss of integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, has lost integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

Although the Wooten-Whaley House is recommended as not individually eligible for NRHP listing, it is included within the Wyse Fork Battlefield NRHP listing as a contributing architectural resource (Figure 291). The NRHP boundary of the battlefield is depicted below by a green line and shading. The location of the Wooten-Whaley House is circled in red at the southwest corner of the battlefield's boundary.



**Figure 291: Wyse Fork Battlefield NHP boundary map, outlined and shaded in green, with location of contributing Wooten-Whaley House circled in red**

### 4.29 KELLY'S POND LOOKOUT TOWER

	Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower
	LR-1550 [AECOM Survey #51]
	West side Cobb Road, one third of a mile south of the junction with US 70, Kinston
	Parcel Record # N/A PIN #453302684920
	1937
	Recommended eligible for NRHP listing under Criteria A and C.

#### Description

Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower is comprised of three resources: the lookout tower, the former towerman or lookoutman house, and the workshop. They stand on an approximately one-acre site on the west side of Cobb Road, a third-of-a-mile south of US 70 to Kinston's southeast (Figure 292).



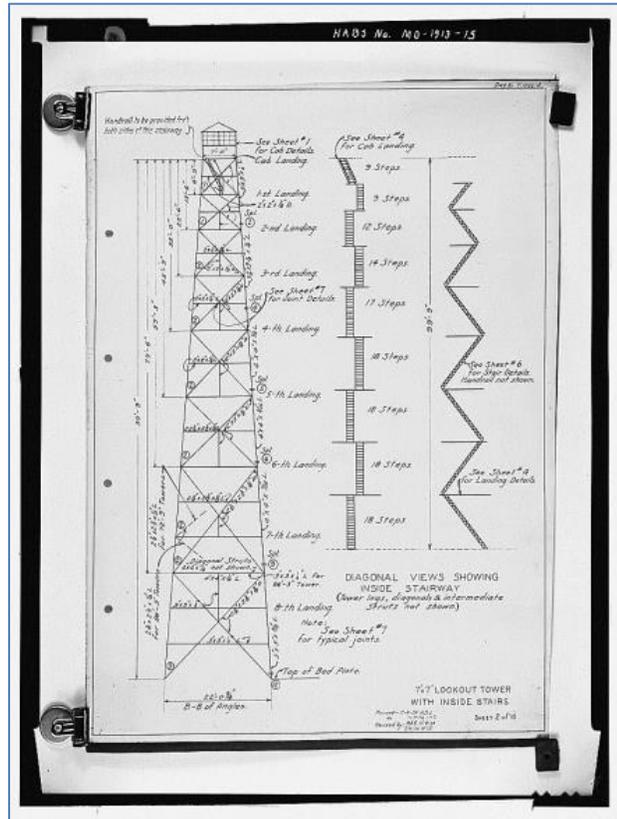
**Figure 292: Site plan of Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower with Cobb Road at left (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

## Lookout Tower

The following description is informed by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) 1992 recordation of the Wilderness Lookout Tower site in Stone County, Missouri (HABS No. M0-1913) (Price 1992). That tower was built between 1937 and 1939 utilizing a plan identical or virtually identical to that of the 1937 Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower.

Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower is a 99'-9"-tall observation-only lookout tower built on an Aermotor Company model MC-39 tower plan (Figure 293 through Figure 296). Its open battered design employs an "X"-brace support system constructed of riveted, galvanized-steel, angle members produced by the Carnegie Steel company.

An interior stairway constructed of galvanized steel rails with wooden stair treads and plank landings climbs in a switchback of eight runs to its cab. The cab's exterior matches the specifications of the 7' x 7' enclosed cab of the Wilderness tower (the North Carolina Forest Service did not grant permission to climb the tower). The stairs lead through a trapdoor into the cab. The cab's lower portion is walled with galvanized steel. Above are three horizontal bands of wall-to-wall windows, each of which holds six lights. The top band on each side is painted over. A pyramidal metal roof tops the cab.



**Figure 293:** At left, looking northeast at Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower; at right, USDA Forest Service, Region 9, standard plan for 99'9" steel lookout tower with 7' x 7' cab, revised October 8, 1934 (HABS No. M0-1913).



**Figure 294: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: concrete footing, riveted members, and Carnegie Steel marking, at left; steel and wooden stair, risers, and landings climbing to cab, at right.**



**Figure 295: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: looking southeast, at left, and south, at right.**



**Figure 296: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: looking southeast at cab, at left, and southwest, at right.**

### Towerman's House

The house in which a tower lookout lived, at least during fire season, was referred to as the towerman's or lookoutman's house, even though the lookout might be a woman (Figure 297 and Figure 298) (Van Dolsen 1999). This house was erected by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1937 along with the tower. The gable-end frame house is one-story tall. Its three-bay front elevation includes an engaged shed room and two-bay, engaged, recessed porch. Engaged shed rooms cross its rear elevation. The side elevations hold windows, but no chimneys, and no stack rises from the asphalt-shingled roof. The exterior has been altered through the addition of vinyl siding, one-over-one sash windows with six-over-six snap-in muntins, and replaced porch posts. The interior, however, remains intact. A 1940 list of state lookout towers generously describes it as a "5-room" towerman's house: it is only about 33' wide x 39' deep, including its engaged front porch and rear shed rooms (Board of Conservation and Development 1940:48). The rooms are small, including a tiny one within the shed, and they are interconnected, as the house lacks a hall. They retain beaded-board walls and ceilings, plain surrounds, and some original five-panel doors. The tower's original Osborne Fire Finder device is also located in the house. The building is now used as offices by the North Carolina Forest Service.



**Figure 297: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: at left, east front and north side elevations of house with tower and workshop to either side; at right, west rear and south side elevations of house.**



**Figure 298: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: modern floorplan, intact interior of house, and original Osborne Fire-Finder.**

### Workshop

The building that is currently used by the North Carolina Forest Service as a workshop was likely erected in 1937, along with the tower and house, for the same purpose (Figure 299 and Figure 300). One-story-tall and of frame, it retains its original weatherboards, gable-front roof underpinned by exposed rafter ends, and full-façade porch roof supported by oversized triangular kneebraces. Two of the workshop's windows have been changed, although two four-light windows appear to be original. Its interior has been reworked over the years.



**Figure 299: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: west side and south front elevations of workshop, at left, and east side and north rear elevations, at right.**



Figure 300: Kelly's Pond Lookout Tower: workshop interior.

## History

Fire lookout towers provided important support to North Carolina's economy during the last three quarters of the twentieth century. The opening paragraphs of the North Carolina Division of Forestry's *Manual of Instruction for Fire Wardens* of 1936 makes this apparent:

It is estimated that over twenty-two million of the total area of thirty-one million acres in North Carolina is either producing timber or best adapted for timber production. It is an undisputed fact that the timber resources of North Carolina represent one of her greatest assets. It is now generally recognized that forest fires are the greatest enemy to this natural resource, and people generally throughout the State are strongly in favor of forest fire control through organized efforts in forest fire prevention and suppression (McCormack 1936:7).

The manual stated that North Carolina's forest service supervised 71 towers and that additional towers and lookout houses had been built and were operated by the National Park Service and the US Forest Service. It also noted that to "properly conduct the work of fire protection the State needs many more towers and, as funds become available annually, such towers will be built and towermen placed on duty during the fire seasons" (McCormack 1936:52). Kelly's Millpond Fire Tower was among the first group of towers the state erected after the report. The CCC built it in 1937 at an initial cost of \$1,938. Along with the tower, the CCC built the towerman's house and in all likelihood the workshop as well (Board of Conservation and Development 1940:48-49).

The Forest Fire Lookout Association identifies the 99'-9" fire tower as one of the standard types of Aermotor MC-39 towers (<http://www.firelookout.org/fire-lookout-types.html>). According to the site, the Aermotor Company of Chicago was the "primary supplier" of metal fire towers in the country and also the manufacturer of most of the country's agricultural windmills. Aermotor "offered its fire tower in a dozen different designs, since the early 1920s." Its MC-39 towers came in seven heights—33'-0", 45'-9", 59'-3", 79'-6", 99'-9", 120'-0", and 170'-0"—each topped by a 7' x 7' cab. In 1940 53 of the state's 86 lookout towers were one of these heights, indicating they were MC-39s. Thirty of these towers, including Kelly's Millpond, were 99'-9" tall (Board of Conservation and Development 1940:48-49).

In the 1990s North Carolina phased out the use of fire lookout towers. Kelly's Millpond Tower likely ceased operating then (Van Dolsen 1999). It continues to be owned by the North Carolina Forest Service, which uses the house for regional office space and the workshop as a workshop. The cab is no longer entered and the Service forbids climbing the tower stairs.

### **National Register of Historic Places Evaluation**

North Carolina's intact fire lookout towers are significant resources. The North Carolina HPO GIS database includes 180 of them, about 25 of which no longer stand. (Firelookout.org identifies 232 fire towers in the state, but not a recent account of how many of these still stand (<http://www.firelookout.org/lookouts/lo-northcarolina.html>). Another fire lookout tower site—[http://www.carolina-north.com/fire\\_lookout\\_tower.html](http://www.carolina-north.com/fire_lookout_tower.html)—puts the number at 210.) The 180 HPO-recorded towers range in age from the late 1920s (seven recorded) to the early 1970s (four recorded). The majority of the towers carry North Carolina Forest Service identification numbers. One of these towers is NRHP-listed, the Warren County Fire Tower (WR-0310), which was erected in 1932 (Van Dolsen 1999). Eighteen others have been determined eligible for listing, one of which no longer stands. An additional five are included on the North Carolina SL. All of the determined-eligible towers were found to be significant under Criterion A for their history. Some of these were determined eligible under Criterion C for their architecture as well. The Warren County Fire Tower was listed under Criterion C.

Kelly's Millpond Fire Tower, which consists of the original tower, towerman's house, and workshop, is recommended as eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion A for the role it played in Conservation efforts and its association with the CCC. It is also recommended as eligible under Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of a mid-twentieth-century fire tower, towerman's house, and workshop. The tower is extremely intact and is the central contributing element of the resource. The house and workshop have been altered—the house on the outside and the workshop inside—but retain sufficient integrity to contribute to the historic property. The complex's period of significance is recommended as extending from 1937 to the ca. 1990, when the state began to close its towers. The tower lacks affiliation with any significant historic figure and is recommended not NRHP eligible under Criterion B. Additionally, the tower is unlikely to yield any new information to the field of architectural history and is therefore recommended not eligible for NRHP listing under Criterion D.

**Table 3 I: Kelly’s Pond Lookout Tower**

KELLY’S POND LOOKOUT TOWER		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	The tower, house, and workshop stand on their original sites
Design	High	The tower is effectively unaltered. Its associated house and workmanship also retain relatively high degrees of integrity.
Setting	Medium	The tower occupies the corner of a 1960s/1970s development of small houses, but beyond them it largely continues to be ringed by fields and woodland.
Materials	High	The tower is effectively unaltered. Its associated house and workmanship also retain relatively high degrees of integrity.
Workmanship	High	The tower is effectively unaltered. Its associated house and workmanship also retain relatively high degrees of integrity.
Feeling	High	The overall high degree of the tower’s integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship allow it to retain a high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	The overall high degree of the tower’s integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship allow it to retain a high degree of integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP-eligible boundary of the Kelly’s Millpond Fire Tower is recommended as the 0.96-acre tract (PIN #453302684920) that it has historically occupied (Figure 301). On the east the tract extends only to the edge of NCDOT’s right-of-way, short of the pavement of Cobb Road.



**Figure 301: Kelly’s Millpond Fire Tower: recommended NRHP-eligible boundary marked in blue (source: Lenoir County tax maps)**

### 4.30 BEAUTIFUL VALLEY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

	Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church
	JN-0102 [AECOM Survey #64]
	6713 Wyse Fork Road, Dover vicinity, <i>Jones County</i>
	PIN #454365523500
	Ca. 1949
	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

#### Description

Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church sits on a one-and-a-half acre cleared parcel, on Wyse Fork Road, south of the US 70 corridor in Jones County (Figure 302). Located 6.5 miles southeast of Kinston, the church maintains a rural setting and is bounded on its direct east and west sides by wooded land. Open fields extend beyond the church's western tree line and across the street.



**Figure 302: Site plan of Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church with Wyse Fork Road at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

The main block of the current frame church—composed of the vestibule, sanctuary, and apse laid out in a T-plan—was erected in 1949 to replace a building that burned in 1937 (Figure 303 through Figure 305). In 1979 it was extended to the west by a side-gabled, seven-bay, brick-veneered wing. At that time the main block was also brick veneered. The entire building rests on a continuous brick foundation. The roof of the main block is standing-seam metal and features gable-vents and flared cornice ends. Asphalt shingles cover the west wing's roof.

Fixed, single-light, arched windows serve the vestibule and side elevations of the sanctuary and rear apse. Their tinted glass postdates 1987. Three such windows once lit the rear of the building, but were bricked in as part of the church's re-cladding. Their ghosts are still clearly visible.

The congregation now enters the church through modern double glass doors shielded by a flat metal-roofed metal porch supported by two thin metal posts. The entry and porch date from 1987 or later. The vestibule is finished with wooden doors and paneling. This appears to date from 1987 or later as well. Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the building was not available.



**Figure 303: Beautiful Valley Church: East side and north front elevations, at left; north front and west side elevations, at right.**



**Figure 304: Beautiful Valley Church: West side and south rear elevations, at left; east side elevation, at right.**



**Figure 305: Beautiful Valley Church: interior of vestibule.**

## History

The following history of the Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church is from the file on the church (JN-0102) held by the North Carolina HPO. It was based upon a 1996 interview with congregant Melvin Miller and Julia Pollock Harriett's 1987 *The History and Genealogy of Jones County* (Figure 306):

The Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church was organized in 1887. A 1937 fire destroyed the original church, but a new building was constructed [in 1949 according to the building's cornerstone]. It was remodeled in 1979 and again sometime after 1987. Bishop W.C. Dortch served as pastor for both the Beautiful Valley and Saint Matilda F.W.B. near Comfort during the 1980s. The two African American Free Will Baptist churches in the Wyse Fork community, Beautiful Valley and Holly Branch own and maintain the Beasley Cemetery located along SR1002.

The south wing was probably constructed during the 1979 remodeling period. It is also likely that the brick veneer was applied during this project. The interior of the church has also been updated as is visible from the entry area. . . . The sanctuary windows were replaced with tinted glass shortly after 1987.

Supplementary research yielded little additional information. Only two mentions of the building were found in the local newspaper, Kinston's *Daily Free Press*. Both were articles discussing Red Cross blood drives in August of 1918.



Figure 306: Cornerstones at Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

In order to place Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church in an appropriate context, much of the western half of Jones County was driven, from Lenoir County east to Trenton, then Trenton southwest to Comfort, and then back to Pink Hill in Lenoir. Through a search of the word “church” and “chapel” for Jones County resources on the North Carolina HPO GIS website, approximately 40 previously recorded churches were identified within this area. Almost all of these still stand and representative photographs were taken of many.

The Study-Listed Cypress Creek Methodist Church (JN-0192) near Comfort, built after the congregation acquired its lot in 1853, was the only antebellum church viewed. A pedimented

gable tops the church's gable-front façade and tall windows rise at its side elevations that serve the main floor of the sanctuary and the gallery above. The building has modern windows with snap-in muntins and is sided with vinyl that more closely references its original weatherboard siding than would brick veneer. Its vestibule retains an original two-panel door, an early winder stair, and beaded-board siding. A large addition extends across the rear (Figure 307).



**Figure 307: Cypress Creek Methodist Church: northeast side and northwest front elevations, at left, and early door and stair in vestibule, at center and right, 2017.**

Grace Episcopal Church (JN-0003) is listed in the NRHP individually and as part of the Trenton Historic District (JN-0005) (Department of Archives and History 1971b; Division of Archives and History 1974). Its cornerstone was laid in 1885 and it was dedicated in 1892. Although modestly sized and of frame, the building has an ornately finished Gothic Revival-style exterior that includes board-and-batten sidings terminating in an arcade at the eaves, triangular-headed openings accented by molded hoods, scalloped bargeboards, and an attenuated steeple. The building is remarkably intact (Figure 308).



**Figure 308: Grace Episcopal Church: south front elevation, at left, and north rear and west side elevations, at right, 2017.**

Another notable and contemporary Gothic Revival-style church in the town is the Trenton Pentecostal Holiness Church (Ministries of Christ Baptist Church) (, at left). It is little changed, but for deterioration, since it was included within the Trenton Historic District (Division of Archives and History 1974). The nomination described it as “a gable roof building with acutely-

pointed triangular-arched openings with heavy hoodmolds. These recur, filled with louvers, on the three-stage corner tower, which is capped by a slim spire and weathervane.”

In 1887 the congregation of the Trenton Methodist Church (JN-0037) purchased the lot upon which its Gothic Revival-style church was soon raised. The tall, frame, gable-front building is Gothic Revival with large pointed-arch windows filled with leaded glass and a tower described as “eccentric” in the Trenton Historic District NRHP nomination (, at right). It rises in two stages crowned by a polygonal spire supplemented with four smaller, overhanging, corner towers or bartizans with similar spires (Division of Archives and History 1974; [www.trentonunitedmethodistchurch.org/history.html](http://www.trentonunitedmethodistchurch.org/history.html)).



**Figure 309: East front and north side elevations of Trenton Pentecostal Holiness Church, at left, and south side and west front elevations of Trenton Methodist Church, at right, 2017.**

The churches viewed in the Jones County countryside utilized the same gable-front form, with or without steeples and corner towers, though generally at a smaller scale. Almost all appear to have started out with weatherboards that have been re-sided, in some instances by vinyl, in others by brick veneer. The vinyl siding is a more sympathetic material than the brick.

The large Pleasant Hill Christian Church (JN-0155) at the Pleasant Hill crossroads, built ca. 1905, retains its gable-front form and stained-glass windows (, at left). Its vinyl siding reflects its original weatherboard cladding. Additions appear to include the columned portico, classically enflamed entrance, and steeple. A large later-added wing extends to the west of the rear elevation. The similarly fashioned Friendship Original Free Will Baptist Church (JN-0251) was built north of Trenton ca. 1930 (Figure 310, at right). Vinyl covers its weatherboards and outlines its triangular-arched stained-glass windows. A rear cross-wing may be a later addition, along with the front portico and steeple.



**Figure 310: At left, west side and south front elevations of Pleasant Hill Christian Church; at right, south front and east side elevation of Friendship Original Free Will Baptist Church.**

The congregation of Holly Branch Free Will Baptist Church (JN-0085) on Wyse Fork Road, two miles south of Beautiful Valley was formed in 1855, but laid the cornerstone for its current church in 1955 (Figure 311, at left). The African-American church looks similar to Beautiful Valley. Its brick veneer is likely a later addition, as suggested by changes to the bays of the front elevation. Its windows have also been altered. Its corner tower, however—a common feature at African-American churches in nearby Lenoir County—is original. Hill’s Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (JN-0470) just outside of the Trenton Historic District dates from 1920 (Figure 311, at right). Its Gothic Revival-style arched windows appear to be original or early, but its brick veneer dates from 1963, when the church was “rebuilt” according to a plaque. It was further “remodeled” after a flood in 1999 according to the same plaque. The African-American congregation never added a steeple or tower to their home.



**Figure 311: At left, south side and east front elevations of Holly Branch Free Will Baptist Church; at right, west side and south front elevations of Hill’s Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.**

Due to its alterations and additions, Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church no longer retains its integrity and is recommended as not eligible for NRHP listing. Its original gable-front block survives, as do triangular-arched window bays. However, this block has been heavily altered. In 1979 a large wing was extended to its west and it was covered with brick veneer. Further, three of the four bays at its rear elevation were bricked in at this time and a new glass entry was added. Its windows also do not appear to be original. The church’s integrity is not equal to that of other

similarly designed churches viewed in Jones County, such as Grace Episcopal Church, Trenton Pentecostal Holiness Church, Trenton Methodist Church, Pleasant Hill Christian Church, and Friendship Original Free Will Baptist Church. While the latter three churches have been re-sided, their vinyl cladding is less out of character than Beautiful Valley's brick veneer. Therefore the church is not recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. The church further lacks association with any notable historic event or figure and is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its construction or appearance. It is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible under Criterion D.

**Table 32: Beautiful Valley Free Will Baptist Church**

BEAUTIFUL VALLEY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on location where it was built.
Design	Low	Retains original core form, but sided with brick veneer, windows bricked-in at rear, sash of other windows replaced, entry replaced with modern glass door, and large wing added in 1979.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	Low	Retains original core form, but sided with brick veneer, windows bricked-in at rear, sash of other windows replaced, entry replaced with modern glass door, and large wing added in 1979.
Workmanship	Low	Retains original core form, but sided with brick veneer, windows bricked-in at rear, sash of other windows replaced, entry replaced with modern glass door, and large wing added in 1979.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.

### 4.31 JESSE JACKSON HOUSE



Jesse Jackson House
LR-0005 [AECOM Survey #35]
2624 Highway 11/55, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record # 27217 PIN # 450400407178
Mid-19th century
NHRP listed under Criterion C in 1971

#### Description, History, and Significance

The Jesse Jackson House NRHP nomination (Department of Archives and History 1971c) described it in part as follows (Figure 312):

The house is a two-story frame structure with a common bond brick foundation and a gable roof. The west (front) façade is five bays wide with a central entrance in each story. The entrance on the first floor contains a Greek Revival door with two long vertical flat panels surmounted by an eight-light transom which carries over the sidelights. . . . Protecting the main entrance is a one-story porch featuring a diminutive entablature supported by wooden pillars. The flat roof is enclosed by a plain square balustrade. . . . The interior is center passage in plan. A stair with plain balusters square in section and molded handrail rises on the left side of the hall in two flights to the second floor and then in two flights to the attic. The walls in all rooms are of plaster above a high baseboard. There is a wide flat panel beneath each window, which is enclosed by an extension of the heavy window casing. The mantles are all of the same basic design. A pair of square pilasters supports an entablature with two paneled end blocks and a horizontal fret below a simple molded cornice shelf.



**Figure 312: Jesse Jackson House: west side and south road-facing elevation, at left, and west side and north river-facing elevation, at right, 2017.**

The nomination’s history and significance statement noted the following:

About 1850 Jesse Jackson, a planter who lived near the Neuse River west of Kinston, bought from his neighbor, Henry Jones, property which included the building now known as the Jesse Jackson House. It is unknown how long Jones had owned the property nor when the house was built, but the building appears to have been constructed about 1840. . . . The Jesse Jackson House, architecturally one of the finest plantation homes in Lenoir County, has been home to one of the most prominent families in the area for over one hundred years.

It identified the house’s area of significance as architecture and its period of significance as the nineteenth century.

## Integrity

The Jesse Jackson House has changed little since it was listed in the NRHP in 1971. It retains its integrity, is in very good condition, and continues to merit NRHP listing.

**Table 33: Jesse Jackson House Elements of Integrity**

JESSE JACKSON HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	High	Retains original core form and original or early windows, siding, decorative porch details, and chimneys.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	High	Retains original core form and original or early windows, siding, decorative porch details, and chimneys.
Workmanship	High	Retains original core form and original or early windows, siding, decorative porch details, and chimneys.
Feeling	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of feeling.
Association	High	Overall high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship result in high degree of integrity of association.

## National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The NRHP boundary depicted at the North Carolina HPO GIS website—outlined in blue—extends from the Neuse River on the north to the edge of the maintained property associated with the Jesse Jackson House, immediately north of Old Pink Hill Road/NC 11, on the south (Figure 313). The boundary follows the existing NCDOT right-of-way and encompasses approximately 109 acres.



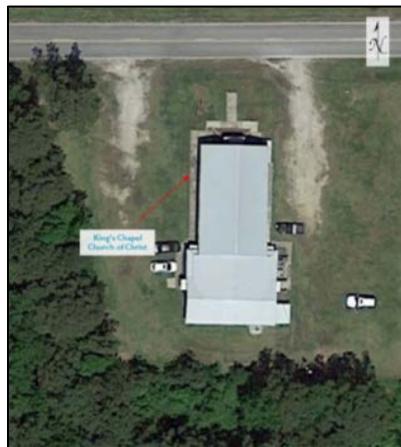
Figure 313: NRHP boundary of the Jesse Jackson House, outlined in blue (source: <http://gis.ncdr.gov/fhptoweb/>).

### 4.32 KING’S CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

	King’s Chapel Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ)
	LR-1194
	2106 Elijah Loftin Road, Kinston vicinity
	Parcel Record #28211 PIN #453300107772
	Ca. 1912
	Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing.

#### Description

King’s Chapel Church of Christ is situated on a one-acre rural parcel about five-and-a-half miles southeast of Kinston. Surrounded by farmland and woods, the parcel fronts Elijah Loftin Road and contains no additional features or resources (Figure 314).



**Figure 314: Site plan of King’s Chapel Church of Christ with Elijah Loftin Road at bottom (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

The church is one story tall and faces north to the road. A modest building, it has a gable-front form and lacks a steeple, perhaps reflecting (as Robbie Jones noted when he surveyed it in 1994) an early meetinghouse form. Basic form aside, the mid-twentieth-century building retains few original features other than its pointed-arch bays that are filled with colored-glass windows. Its double-door front entry is modern, as are the decorative metal columns and metal awning that protect it. Aluminum has replaced or covered its original surrounds and the entire church is covered with an added veneer of brick (Figure 315 through Figure 317).

A one-story, concrete-block and brick-veneer addition extends from the building’s north rear elevation. It likely dates from the 1960s when the original body of the building was veneered. The vestibule, viewed through the window, also appears to date from the same time. Despite multiple site visits, interior access to the building was unavailable.



Figure 315: King's Chapel Church: at left, north front elevation; at right, west side elevation.



Figure 316: King's Chapel Church: at left, south rear and east side elevations; at right, east side and north front elevations

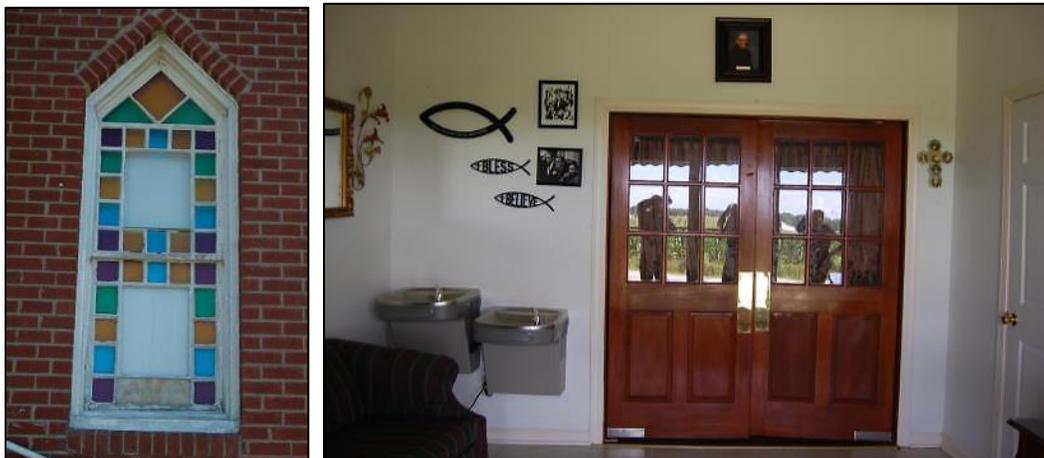


Figure 317: King's Chapel Church: stained-glass window on east side elevation, at left; view through front entry into vestibule, at right.

## History

An original construction date for the King’s Chapel Church of Christ was not determined. A marble cornerstone on the front façade of the building states that the congregation was founded in 1912. Property records imply that the land on which the church sits was given in 1924 by George Felix Loftin (1881-1955). This suggests that the congregation may initially have occupied a different building or did build the church immediately (Lenoir County Deed Book, 925/359). The church was added to and brick-veneered in 1966 under the leadership of Reverend J.O. Williams. Sr. (Little et al. 1998:417).

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

King’s Chapel Church of Christ does not have sufficient integrity to be eligible for NRHP listing. It retains its gable-front form and stained-glass pointed-arch windows, but has been much altered. Its weatherboards have been supplanted by brick veneer, twin glass doors have replaced its front entry, and a brick-veneered concrete-block addition projects from its rear elevation. Its integrity is not equal to that of other similarly fashioned churches in Lenoir County, including Sand Hill Free Will Baptist, Church LaGrange Presbyterian Church, and LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, discussed at Section 3, above. Therefore the church is not recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. The church further lacks association with any notable historic event or figure and is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its construction or appearance and is recommended as not NRHP-eligible under Criterion D.

**Table 34: King’s Chapel Church of Christ (Disciples of Christ)**

KING’S CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on the location where it was built.
Design	Low to Medium	Retains original gable-front form and early windows, but later altered by brick-veneering, addition of double glass-doored entry added, and tacking on of rear addition.
Setting	High	Retains intact rural setting.
Materials	Low to Medium	Retains original gable-front form and early windows, but later altered by brick-veneering, addition of double glass-doored entry added, and tacking on of rear addition.
Workmanship	Low to Medium	Retains original gable-front form and early windows, but later altered by brick-veneering, addition of double glass-doored entry added, and tacking on of rear addition.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low-to-medium integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and setting, but due to low-to-medium integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.

### 4.33 ELIJAH LOFTIN FARM



Elijah Loftin House
LR-1195 [AECOM Survey #55]
1371 Highway 58 South, Kinston vicinity
Parcel Record #32734
PIN #453300036362
Ca. 1870s
Placed on North Carolina NRHP SL in 1994. Recommended individually NRHP eligible under Criterion C.

#### Description

The Elijah Loftin House sits at the end of a dirt lane off of Highway 58, about five miles southeast of Kinston. Once part of a large farm of 1,500 acres, the house now occupies 81 acres, most of which remain as fields. Beyond the parcel is additional agricultural land. A small number of acres located toward the front (western) edge of the property are populated with a scattering of mature trees. Amidst this wooded area is a small clearing in which sits the Loftin House and the remainder of its associated farm complex. The eastern side of the property remains as fields, which are actively farmed (Figure 318 and Figure 319).

Multiple early/mid-twentieth-century outbuildings survive, suggesting a once thriving farm operation. To the north of the Loftin house is a row of small outbuildings including a brooder house, chicken house, brick smokehouse, tractor shed, and equipment shed. To the east is a horse run-in shed, a dairy barn, and a grain storage building. Northeast, now located on a separate parcel, is a packhouse that once belonged to the farmstead.



Figure 318: Site plan of the Elijah Loftin House (base image courtesy of Google Earth).



**Figure 319:** Left, contextual view of Elijah Loftin House, in distance, looking north from drive near road; right, view of outbuildings set parallel to the north of the house.

### Elijah Loftin House

The frame two-story Elijah Loftin House is laid out in T-shaped plan, with a central block two piles deep and two bays wide running east to west, and a rear two-story ell projecting to the front (south) standing one pile deep and one bay wide. Family tradition suggests that this Victorian house was built around portions of an early antebellum house; however, evidence of this is not visible from exterior architectural details. The ca. 1870s T-shape portion of the house is clad in replacement aluminum siding (the 1994 survey by Robbie Jones reported weatherboards), rests on a continuous brick foundation, and is oriented toward the east. The cross-gabled roof is topped with asphalt shingles and features an unadorned entablature and cornice surrounds. The roof is topped with two corbelled, interior, central-ridgeline chimneys (Figure 320 and Figure 321).

Two porches mark the front (western) elevation of the house. At the second-story, plain wooden columns and a balustrade of square wooden pickets support a recessed porch featuring a standing-seam metal roof. Below it extends a larger later porch that continues past the house's southwestern corner to form a porte cochere. Replacement Craftsman style columns (Jones, 1994) of tapered wooden posts on high brick piers support the porch's flat roof and widely overhanging eaves.



**Figure 320:** Elijah Loftin House: west front and south side elevations, at left; south side and east rear elevations, at right.

A few one-story ells extend from the body of the house. The earliest of these appears to be an east rear, gable-end, single-pile kitchen extending off of the building's northeast corner. It is served by the house's third brick ridgeline chimney and was likely built during the late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century. During the early/mid-twentieth century, a one-story, double-pile, hipped-roof block supported by a concrete masonry pier foundation was added to the north side of the kitchen ell, effectively doubling its size. The southeastern portion of this addition was built as a screened-in-porch. A second small addition was also made to the northern side of the building's main mass during this period—a narrow rectangular bump-out likely built as a bathroom. During the mid-twentieth century, a sun porch and carport were added to the east end of the kitchen ell. Like the main body of the house, the additions are aluminum sided.



**Figure 321: Elijah Loftin House: top left, east rear elevation of house; top right, east rear and north side elevations; bottom center, north side and west front elevations.**

The building's primary entrance is a centrally located, multi-light door on its west elevation shaded by the Craftsman porch. It is topped with a three-light transom (Figure 322). A wooden split two-panel also set an identical transom opens onto the second-story porch above. Additional doors open from other elevations, including one on the south with a wheelchair lift. The house also features a number of different windows, including many with nine-over-nine sash. This sash, and perhaps the two-panel door, were likely salvaged from the earlier house on the site, which burned.



**Figure 322:** Left, view of interior of second story door in 1994 (photographer: Robbie Jones); right, view of exterior of first floor door, 2017.

Access to the house was denied, though Robbie Jones briefly described its interior in his 1994 survey of the property:

On the interior, period up-to-date mantels fashioned in simple, but popular Victorian motifs grace each fireplace. The most striking interior features is the hall staircase which has heavily chamfered newell posts at the base and second floor landing” (Jones, 1994).

The interior has likely changed little since 1994, as the house has remained in the original family’s hands and its elderly owner recently vacated the house.

#### **Brooder House (*contributing building*)**

Located just north of the Loftin House, this small, frame, weatherboard building sits atop stone piers (Figure 323). The early twentieth-century building features a gable roof clad with asphalt shingles and exposed rafter tails. A two-over-two double-hung window is found on its south side and a plain wood-batten door at its east gable end.



**Figure 323:** View of southern elevation of brooder house, looking northwest.

**Chicken House (*contributing building*)**

This frame weatherboard-sided building is rectangular in plan and located directly north of the Loftin House (Figure 324). It is connected on its southwest corner to the brooder house. The outbuilding features remnants of two four-over-four double-hung windows and a simple wood-batten door on its southern elevation. A flat roof clad in standing seam metal and displaying exposed rafter tails caps the early twentieth-century building.



**Figure 324: South elevation of chicken house with brooder house at left.**

**Brick Smokehouse (*contributing building*)**

Situated in the line of outbuildings to the north of the Loftin House, between the chicken house and the tractor shed, the side-gabled brick smokehouse is topped with slate shingles and displays exposed rafter tails (Figure 325). Dating to the early twentieth century, it features a wood-batten door on its southern side that is trimmed with a simple wooden surround. Much of the mortar between the building's brick courses on its northern side has fallen away.



**Figure 325: View of the southern elevation of the brick smokehouse.**

### Tractor Shed (*contributing building*)

Like its neighboring outbuildings, the frame tractor shed dates to the early/mid-twentieth century (Figure 326). Side-gabled and horizontal-board-sided, the shed features a lean-to on its primary (northern) elevation supported by four roughly cut wood posts. Three four-paneled doors and a six-paneled garage door mark the building's southern elevation. All doors are trimmed with plain wooden surrounds. Standing-seam metal tops the gable roof, with corrugated metal siding the lean-to. Small, double-hung, six-over-six windows are visible at the peaks of the building's gable ends. A rear lean-to addition supported by plain wood posts and clad in corrugated metal edges the building's southern side.



**Figure 326: Southern elevation of tractor shed.**

### Equipment Shed (*contributing building*)

The last in the line of outbuildings running parallel to the north side of the Loftin House, the frame equipment shed is three bays wide and two piles deep (Figure 327). With the exception of the building's northwest corner, which is encased on the exterior by weatherboards, the shed is open allowing for large equipment storage. The building features a steep side-gabled roof topped with corrugated metal and includes a second-floor loft space enclosed with weatherboards. A rough-cut doorway is located in the western gable end of the loft.



**Figure 327: Southern elevation of equipment shed.**

**Run-In Shed (*contributing building*)**

Originally constructed as a brooding house, the frame building located directly to the east of the Loftin house was converted into a horse run-in sometime during the mid/late-twentieth century (Figure 328). Covered by weatherboards on its north and west sides, the building is open on its east and south sides revealing two bays. Its low-pitched side-gabled roof is topped with a standing seam metal and features rafter tails. A rough-cut wood-batten door is located on its western elevation.



**Figure 328: View of southern elevation of Run-In Shed, looking north.**

**Dairy Barn (*contributing building*)**

Located at the eastern edge of the Loftin farm complex, this gambrel roof dairy barn was constructed around 1946 according to Robbie Jones' recordation (Figure 329). The frame barn sits on a concrete foundation and boasts the typical dairy barn's features: a gambrel roof, hay hood, and center aisle with a row of stalls on either side. It is weatherboarded and topped by a standing-seam metal roof. A recent interview with a Loftin family descendant revealed that the second floor of the barn was utilized as a tobacco packhouse, and the third floor was used to house chickens during the mid/late-20th century. Evidence of the barn's use as a packhouse is evident through the door that was cut into the second floor of the building, above the central entrance. Chicken wire is still visible spanning the width of the third-floor gable-end door on the barn's western side. Four fixed six-light windows can additionally be found on the western side, two on the second floor, and two on the first. A mid/late-twentieth century lean-to is found on the building's southern side. Spanning the length of the barn, the lean-to is supported by rough-cut wooden posts and topped with a metal roof.



**Figure 329: West front elevation of dairy barn and interior stalls retaining feed bins.**

**Grain Storage (contributing structure)**

The circular metal grain storage structure is situated a few yards to the north of the barn's northeast corner (Figure 330). Dating to the mid-twentieth century, the circular structure stands on a concrete slab and is made entirely of metal.



**Figure 330: View of grain storage structure, looking southwest.**

**Packhouse (non-contributing building – outside of property boundary)**

This frame weatherboarded packhouse sits on a parcel adjacent to the Elijah Loftin House parcel and was once part of the larger Loftin farm (Figure 331). No longer associated with the house, which includes no other buildings built for tobacco cultivation, it is excluded from the proposed NRHP boundary.



**Figure 331: View looking northeast at packhouse.**

## History

Family history maintains that the Elijah Loftin House property or “Mossy Oaks” has been in the Loftin family for over ten generations. Historical research places the family in Lenoir County as early as the mid-1700s. The first Loftin recorded in Lenoir County was Elkanah Loftin (1744-1776), though no records were discovered tying him directly to the land associated with the Elijah Loftin House. Tradition states that the property passed into the hands of Elkanah’s son William B. Loftin (1762-1846).

In 1812 Shadrack Elkanah (S.E.) Loftin (1812-1888) was born to Shadrack (1783-1863) and Susan Cox Loftin (1785-1853). *The Heritage of Lenoir County* states that S.E. and his wife, Sarah Perry Loftin (1816-1865), raised their family in Kinston where he served as postmaster sometime between 1860 and 1870. The 1860 Federal Census records, however, identifies S.E. as having considerable property holdings: \$19,000 in real estate and \$26,000 in personal property, including 31 slaves (Federal Census 1860, 1870; 1860 Slave Schedule). Such substantial holdings indicate the presence of a farm seat.

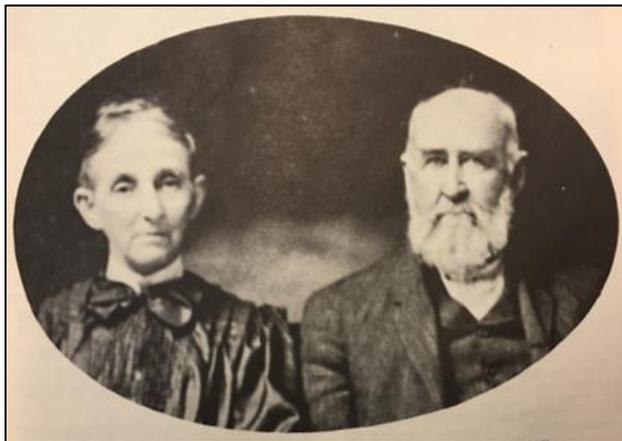
Loftin family tradition maintains that the house on the farm, likely built by S.E., caught fire in 1878 and either burned down or incurred a significant amount of damage. Descendant Evelyn Attayck believes it was the latter. The survival of a portion of the house is suggested by the presence of nine-over-windows, which were salvaged or, perhaps, remain in place.

By 1878 S.E. Loftin was living in Bear Creek and his son, Elijah Perry Loftin (1834-1915), and Elijah’s wife, Sarah Hodges Loftin (1844-1918), had taken over the farm. At the time of Elijah’s ownership, the farm was quite substantial:

According to an entry in the 1906 Industrial Issue of the *Kinston Free Press*, Elijah P. Loftin was “One of the staunch old farmers of South West township... He is a man who loves his home, who centers his whole thought on his family and their interests, who is a horticulturalist of some note, doting on his grove of pecan, his yaupon tea orchard, his Japanese persimmons and chestnuts, and taking a pride in his pigeon cotes, chickens, cattle and swine.” It is apparent from this description that Loftin’s agricultural pursuits were varied and quite unusual for the time. His farm production in 1906 derived from a 1,500-acre property, of which 500 acres were cleared. His crops included corn, cotton, and tobacco—typical for an early-twentieth-century farmstead in Lenoir County. Loftin held the post of county surveyor for about twenty-five years in addition to operating his farm (Little et al. 1998:416).

Elijah and Sarah are credited with constructing or transforming the house that stands today (Figure 332). Records detailing the costs incurred show that no expense was spared:

“40,000 feet of lumber \$400; 6000 slate shingles, \$56; 20,000 brick, \$125; 48 barrels of lime, \$62.40; nails and locks, \$55; 250 pounds of lead, \$25; 10 gallons oi, \$8.50; doors, \$50; windows, \$70; horse hair, \$5; carpenters, \$600; carpenters’ board \$120; masons \$60; plasterers, \$150; masons’ board, \$18; painters, \$8; hauling \$50; and lathers, \$40, for a grand total of \$1902.90” (The Lenoir County Historical Association 1981).



**Figure 332: Elijah P. Loftin and his wife Sarah (“Sallie”) Catherine Hodges (The Lenoir County Historical Association 1981).**

Following Elijah’s death, the house passed into the hands of his youngest son, George Felix (1880-1955). George is credited with the construction of many of the twentieth-century outbuildings extant on the property, as well as the small early/mid-twentieth-century additions to the house (Little et. al 1998, 416). Under his ownership it would have received its Craftsman porch. Following George’s death, the house eventually came into the hands of his, grandson Joel Felix Loftin. During the twentieth century the land associated with the house was whittled down to its current extent.

### **National Register of Historic Places Evaluation**

The Elijah Loftin House has no known connection with significant historic events or notable persons and is therefore recommended not eligible under Criteria A or B. It is, however, recommended as NRHP eligible under Criterion C as a notable representative of a large, late nineteenth/early twentieth-century, T/L-plan farmhouse that represents a continued evolution of design. From its late nineteenth-century construction, it retains its T-shaped form, corbeled chimney stacks, cornice returns, and sash salvaged from its predecessor. (Alternatively, part of the house may date from the mid-nineteenth century). From its early twentieth-century update, it retains a number of windows and doors and a Craftsman-style porch and porch cochere. In form it is similar to the residences discussed above at Section 3—the B.W. Canady, Ezekiel K. Best, George B.W. Hadley, Tom Worthington, Joseph Williams, and H. William Davis houses. The later addition of its Craftsman-style porch reflects early twentieth-century updates to residences, such as the Emory-Russell House (also discussed at Section 3) and the Harper House, assessed in a separate entry, below. In addition to its surviving physical features, the house retains an unusually large number of contemporary outbuildings related to domestic activities and the production of food. This gives it strong integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Overall, the house, its outbuildings, and site retain a high degree of integrity. It is recommended as eligible at the local level of significance. The period of significance of the house, along with its numerous outbuildings, is recommended as extending from ca. 1878 to 1955, when George Loftin died. The house is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its appearance or construction. Accordingly it is not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

Table 35: Elijah Loftin House

ELIJAH LOFTIN HOUSE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Remains on site where it was built.
Design	Medium	Retains many original and early features, including T-plan form, corbeled chimneys, cornice returns, and Craftsman porch and porte cochere. It is artificially sided and some sash and doors have been replaced and additions added.
Setting	High	Retains numerous outbuildings and, more broadly, cultivated fields and tree plantations frame it in all directions.
Materials	Medium	Retains many original and early features, including T-plan form, corbeled chimneys, cornice returns, and Craftsman porch and porte cochere. It is artificially sided and some sash and doors have been replaced and additions added.
Workmanship	Medium	Retains many original and early features, including T-plan form, corbeled chimneys, cornice returns, and Craftsman porch and porte cochere. It is artificially sided and some sash and doors have been replaced and additions added.
Feeling	Medium to High	Retains medium-to-high integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby its integrity of feeling.
Association	Medium to High	Retains medium-to-high integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship and thereby its integrity of association.

### National Register of Historic Places Boundary

The parcel currently associated with the Elijah Loftin House encompasses about 243 acres extending to the east of NC 58 on both sides of Elijah Loftin Road (Figure 333). Almost all of the property to NC 58's north, with the exception of the land around the house and its outbuildings, is cleared and under cultivation. The land to the south is planted in pine. As the house is no longer a farmhouse, and its surviving outbuildings were related to domestic activities and the production of food (rather than tobacco or cotton), these boundaries are believed to extend far beyond those necessary to provide the resource with an appropriate setting and boundary. The boundary is therefore recommended as the land that immediately frames the house and outbuildings, which is composed of tended grounds shaded by trees. This approximately 7.5-acre tract is bounded on the north by the parcel line, on the east by a row of trees beyond which are fields, to the south by the northern edge of a drainage ditch that edges a field, and to the west by the parcel line (Figure 334). The parcel line at the west terminates at the eastern edge of the NCDOT right-of-way along NC 58.

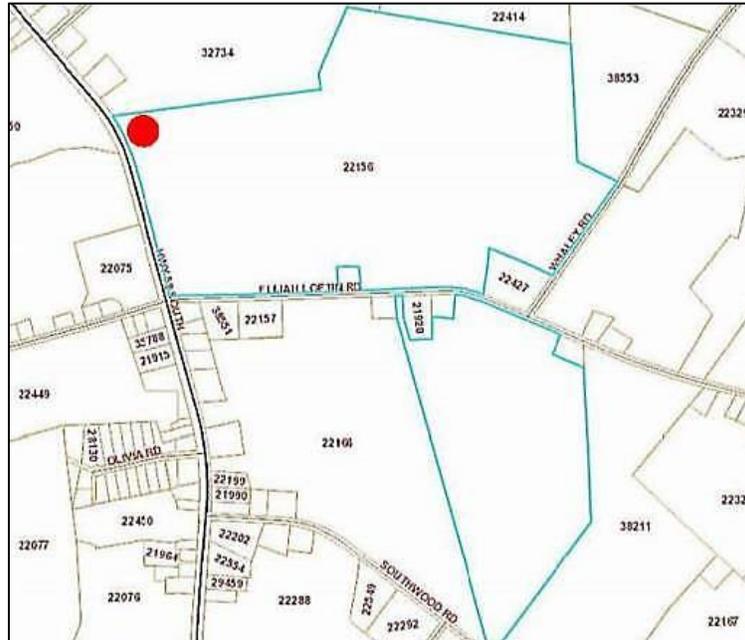


Figure 333: Image of entire parcel associated with resource outlined in blue, with location of Elijah Loftin House and outbuildings at upper northwest marked by red dot.



Figure 334: Proposed NRHP boundary of Elijah Loftin House, outlined in red, occupying northwest corner of overall parcel

### 4.34 DOVER TEACHERAGE



Dover Teacherage
CV-1410 [AECOM Survey #57]
218 Wilson Street, Dover, <i>Craven County</i>
Parcel ID #3-D-01-051 Parcel Reference #8431
Mid-20th century
Recommended not eligible for NRHP listing

#### Description

The former Dover Teacherage fronts Wilson Street within the small Craven County town of Dover. It sits on an open one-and-a-half-acre parcel scattered with mature trees. To the west of the parcel once stood the former Dover School, which was supplanted by a now moribund factory. A concrete drive runs from the road along the western side of the house and terminates at the parcel's second resource: a brick former vocational agricultural building that was originally associated with the school (Figure 335).



**Figure 335: Site plan of Dover Teacherage with Wilson Road just off of bottom of image (base image courtesy of Google Earth).**

#### Dover Teacherage

The three-bay, double-pile, hip-roofed, frame teacherage is clad in modern vinyl siding, rests on a continuous brick foundation, and stands two-stories tall with an attic (Figure 336 through

Figure 338). A one-story single-pile ell featuring a low-pitched roof extending from the north rear of the building is also vinyl clad. Four evenly spaced interior brick chimney stacks protrude from the house's hipped-roof. An original three-bay hipped-roof front porch with replacement columns frames the first floor of the south elevation. It is accessed by an original brick stair. The porch's central bay frames the building's primary entrance. The entry door is a modern replacement and all of the house's windows have been replaced with modern, one-over-one, double-hung sash in recent years. A small, original, hipped-roof bay that holds a secondary entry at its rear extends from the building's eastern side.



**Figure 336: Dover Teacherage: west side and south front elevations, at left; south front elevation, at right**



**Figure 337: Dover Teacherage: south front and east side elevations in 2017, at left, and in early view, at right (photo courtesy of North Carolina HPO).**



**Figure 338: Dover Teacherage: east side and north rear elevations, at left; north rear and west side elevations, at right.**

Limited access to the interior revealed a reconfiguration of the building's first floor. A center partition wall, running north to south, has been removed to open up the entire eastern side of the house to create a large eat-in kitchen. The original kitchen, which once occupied the northwestern corner of the teacherage, has been converted into a dining room, and the original western front parlor, once the dining room, is now a living room. The original staircase and newel post remain in place (Figure 339).



**Figure 339: View of original staircase from entry looking toward rear of teacherage; note partition wall removed at right as part of modern kitchen expansion.**

### Old Dover School Vocational Agricultural Building

This single-story, three-bay building was used in the mid-twentieth century as a vocational agricultural building for students of the Dover School, which stood apart from the building to the west. It is of masonry construction and features a flat roof clad in metal sheathing (Figure 340). An interior brick chimney extends from the northern side of the building, abutting a small one-room brick addition. Two large industrial windows, each featuring 24 fixed lights in metal panes, are found on the primary (eastern) elevation. A single-bay replacement garage door also marks this elevation. The building's southern elevation features two additional four-paneled wood

doors covered by awnings and five sets of six-light awning windows. According to Mr. Barrows, the current owner of the parcel, part of the building was originally used as a gym before being converted into the vocational building.



**Figure 340: north and east elevations of Vocational Agricultural Building, at left; east and south elevations, at right.**

## History

The Dover Teacherage file at the North Carolina HPO (CV-1410) provides the following history:

The Dover Teacherage was built in 1933 by the WPA as an apartment house containing four living units for teachers at Dover School. The structure is nearly identical to the ca. 1935 Jasper Teacherage. The adjacent Dover School, begun about 1905 as an all grad school was later consolidated as a regional high school, serving Cove City, Daugherty's Chapel, and parts of Jones County. Most of the school buildings were demolished in the 1960s. The Dover Teacherage is currently used as a single-family residence.

According to Charles Barrows, a lifetime resident of Dover and the current owner and occupant of the teacherage, the building additionally housed the Dover school principal and his family during the late 1930s and 1940s. In 1964 the Dover School closed and the building was temporarily rented out by the town to a garment factory. In 1969 Barrows and his wife purchased the property from the factory owners, who had acquired it from the town. The purchase included the 1940s agricultural shop building located to the teacherage's rear. (The main body of the school was subsequently torn down and only portions of the former factory remain on its site.) During his ownership, Mr. Barrows has made numerous alterations to the house, including replacing the siding and windows, changing the porch posts, building a rear addition, and reconfiguring the first floor to accommodate a larger kitchen/dining area.

## National Register of Historic Places Evaluation

William S. Powell defined the word teacherage, which is absent from many dictionaries, in the *Encyclopedia of North Carolina* in 2006 (<http://www.ncpedia.org/teacherage>):

Teacherage was a building, often in a rural setting but on school grounds and resembling a private home, that provided living accommodations for schoolteachers. The term came into general use largely in the first quarter of the

twentieth century when public schools began to be opened in rural areas of North Carolina. The teacherage was sometimes managed by a matron or local residents or was operated cooperatively by the residents themselves. The building provided private or shared bedrooms, dining facilities, parlors or reception rooms, and bathrooms. The availability of a comfortable teacherage attracted teachers to schools that otherwise would have had difficulty filling staff vacancies.

The North Carolina HPO database includes at least 44 teacherages recorded in the state, all but four of five of which remain extant. Other unrecorded teacherages likely stand in the state as well (see, for example, <http://kiscrapbook.knottsislandonline.com/schoolsteacherage.html>). Of those recorded, the Fuquay Springs Teacherage (WA-4422) in Wake County is individually NRHP-listed and the ca. 1923 Craftsman-style Murphey School teacherage is included as a contributing resource to the NRHP-listed School (OR-0467) located southeast of Hillsborough in Orange County (Privett 2008). Leesville School Teacherage (WA-1345), also in Wake, and J.P. Knapp Teacherage and School (CK-0095) in Currituck County are NRHP-eligible. An additional seven teacherages in six other counties are on the North Carolina SL. These include the Contentnea School Teacherage in Lenoir County, which is part of the SL with the Contentnea School (LR-0800). The two recorded teacherages that are closest to Dover are Contentnea in Lenoir and the Comfort Teacherage in Jones County.

The Fuquay Springs Teacherage was erected around 1925 and expanded by a large addition in 1947 (Young 2005). It is a long, two-story, brick, Craftsman-style building that was NRHP-listed under Criterion A for its association with the history of local public education (Figure 341).



**Figure 341: Fuquay Springs Teacherage: north front elevation in 2005 when NRHP-listed (photographer: Diane Young) and in 2016 Google image**

The ca. 1906 Leesville School Teacherage retains its gable-end form, wide front gable, cornice returns, interior chimney stacks, full-façade front porch, and at least some of its original six-over-six windows and turn-of-the-century interior finish (<https://www.presnc.org/properties/leesville-school-teacherage/>) (Figure 342). It continues to stand amidst heavy modern development in Raleigh's northwest corner.



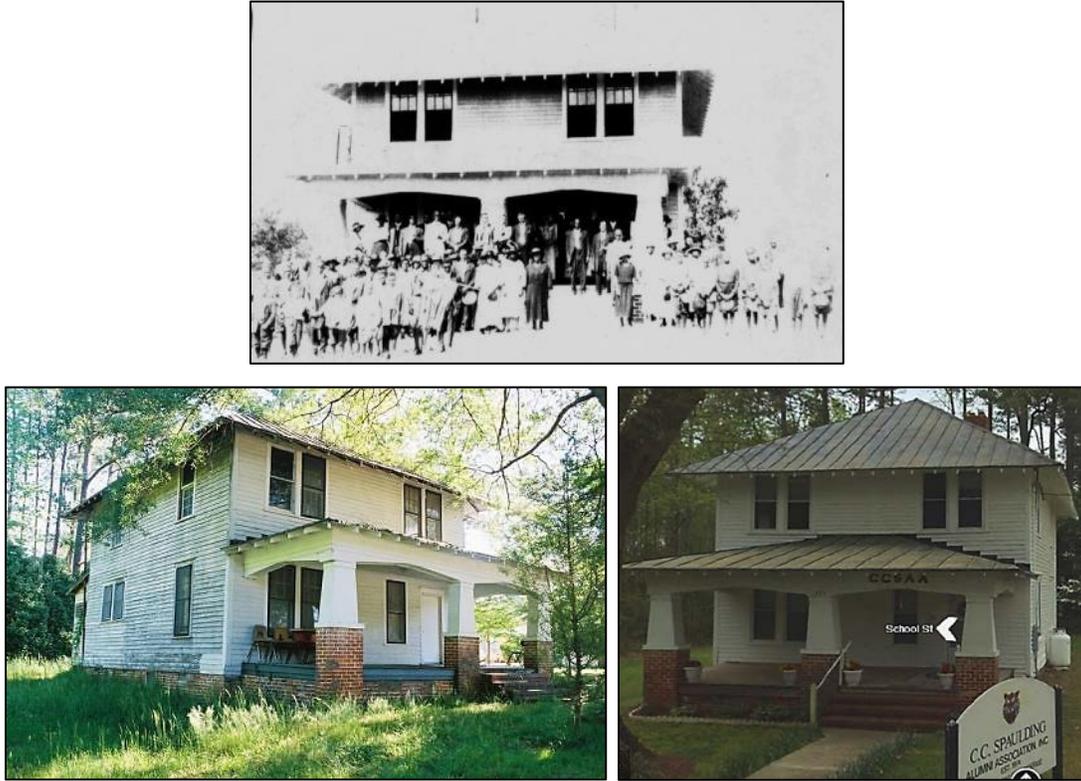
**Figure 342: Leesville School Teacherage: east front elevation, at left, and interior, at right, in 2016 (source: Preservation North Carolina)**

The early twentieth-century Red Oak Farm Life High School Dormitory-Teacherage (NS-0424) in Nash County is a sprawling, two-story, frame building the surviving original features of which include weatherboarding, interior chimney stacks, exposed rafter ends, and Craftsman-style porches (Figure 343). It was placed on the North Carolina SLSL in 2016 and in 2017 acquired by the newly-formed Red Oak Area Historic Preservation Society.



**Figure 343: Red Oak Farm Life Dormitory-Teacherage: southeast front elevation (left image: Rocky Mount Telegram, April 10, 2017; right image: Nashville Graphic, April 6, 2017).**

With the assistance of the Rosenwald Fund, the Spring Hope Colored High School Teacherage was built in 1926 just outside of the town of Spring Hope, also in Nash County (Figure 344). It went up contemporaneously with the high school across the street. Maintained by the C.C. Spaulding Alumni Association since 1974, the school is an extremely intact foursquare with an impressive Craftsman-style porch, weatherboarding, exposed rafter ends, and a little-altered interior (<http://ccspauldingalumniassocinc.com/>). Its Rosenwald Fund association amplifies its architectural and educational significance. The survival of the school it was built to serve (at least as of August 2017) further bolsters its integrity of setting, feeling, and association.



**Figure 344: Spring Hope Colored High School Teacherage: at top, south front elevation in 1920s (source: Julius Rosenwald Fund Archives, Fisk University); at bottom left, west side and south front elevations in 2007; and at bottom right, south front and east side elevations in 2016 (Bing image).**

Closer to the Dover Teacherage—only about eight miles to the northwest—the Contentnea School Teacherage and its adjacent school continue to stand in Graingers in Lenoir County (Figure 345). The intact ca. 1925 frame bungalow retains its weatherboard and shingled siding and its Craftsman-style finish, including exposed rafter ends and a porch of tapered posts on brick piers that extends out to form a porte cochere. The teacherage’s integrity of setting, feeling, and association is boosted by the presence of the school



**Figure 345: Contentnea School Teacherage: west front elevations of teacherage and Contentnea School, at left, and north side and west elevations of teacherage, at right, 2017**

About 15 miles south of Dover stands the Comfort School Teacherage in Jones County. Its residents taught at the Study-Listed 1930s Comfort School (JN-0184) that continues to stand to the southwest across NC 41. The teacherage's form, cornice returns, and two-over-two sash windows suggest that it was a turn-of-the-century house converted into a teacherage. Changes to the building include sections of vinyl siding, some altered sash, and the affixing of a garage wing to the rear (Figure 346).



**Figure 346: Comfort School Teacherage: west side and south front elevations, at left, and south front and east side elevations, at right**

Following the completion of fieldwork, it was determined that another teacherage stands in Craven County, the Jasper Teacherage (CV-1019) in the small community northwest of New Bern that lent it its name. It is located about 15 miles due east of Dover. According to NC HPO files, the former teacherage was built about 1935 with WPA funding. Online photographs suggest that it has lost its porch and has been re-sided, and that it looks very much like the contemporary Dover Teacherage.



**Figure 347: Jasper Teacherage: south side and east front elevations, at left; east front and north side elevations, at right (Google images)**

Considering its many changes and the number of intact teacherages in the eastern portion of the state, it is believed that the Dover Teacherage does have sufficient integrity to support NRHP listing. While the building retains its foursquare form, its porch columns and all of its windows have been replaced and its original weatherboards covered with vinyl siding. Its interior retains its stairway and some finish, but it has been much altered by its current owner, who modernized it and removed and shifted at least one partition wall. Therefore it is not recommended as NRHP

eligible under Criterion C for its architecture. The former teacherage further lacks association with any notable historic event or figure and is accordingly recommended as not significant under Criteria A and B. It is not likely to yield important historical information on the basis of its construction or appearance. It is therefore not recommended as NRHP-eligible, as an architectural resource, under Criterion D.

**Table 36: Dover Teacherage**

DOVER TEACHERAGE		
Element of Integrity	Level of Integrity	Assessment
Location	High	Stands on location where it was built.
Design	Low	Retains foursquare form, but windows and porch posts replaced, vinyl placed over weatherboards, and interior largely modernized and many partition walls removed/shifted.
Setting	Low to Medium	Retains small town setting facing railroad tracks, but only a small later portion of the school it served remains.
Materials	Low	Retains foursquare form, but windows and porch posts replaced, vinyl placed over weatherboards, and interior largely modernized and many partition walls removed/shifted.
Workmanship	Low	Retains foursquare form, but windows and porch posts replaced, vinyl placed over weatherboards, and interior largely modernized and many partition walls removed/shifted.
Feeling	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and partially intact setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of feeling.
Association	Low to Medium	Retains intact location and partially intact setting, but due to low integrity of design, materials, and workmanship, has lost much of its integrity of association.



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## 6. APPENDIX

**KINSTON BYPASS (TIP R-2553)  
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES  
HISTORIC BUILDING INVENTORY**

**#1 - RAY HARDEE FARM (LR-0977) – turn-of-the-century farmhouse; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#2 - NATHAN GEORGE SUTTON HOUSE (LR-0956) – ca.1850-75,  
Greek Revival-style house; believed to lack integrity**



**#2 - NATHAN GEORGE SUTTON HOUSE (LR-0956)**



**2010**

**#3 - HOUSE (LR-0947) – turn-of-the-century farmhouse; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**2010**

**#4 - (FORMER) BEAMAN GROCERY/SERVICE STATION (LR-0948)**  
– 1948 commercial building; believed to lack significance



**#5 - SUTTON-TURNAGE HOUSE (LR-0962) – ca.1860 Greek Revival-style house; believed to lack integrity**



**Pre-1984 black-and-white photos**



**#6 - HOUSE (LR-0958) – turn-of-the-century farmhouse; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#7 - BRIGHT KENNEDY HOUSE (LR-0957) – ca.1850, Greek Revival/Italianate-style house; believed to lack integrity**



**#8 - JAMES ALEXANDER & LAURA McDANIEL HOUSE “MAXWOOD”  
(LR-0927) – refined Colonial Revival-style house built 1914-16;  
1998 DOE; believed to remain NR-eligible**



**1994**



**2017**

**#9 - CEDAR DELL (LR-0001) – ca.1810-20, Federal-style plantation seat remodeled with Victorian finish in 1880; NR-listed in 1971; believed to merit continued NR listing**



**#10 - KENNEDY MEMORIAL HOME HISTORIC DISTRICT (LR-1189) – Baptist orphanage begun in 1914 (includes earlier Cedar Dell); 1,240 acre property NR-listed in 2009; believed to merit continued NR listing**



**2008**



**2017**

**#11 - TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH (LR-0702) – Ca.1887, 1900, 1948-49, 1972, 1979 church; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#12 - BANKS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH (LR-0914) –  
Ca.1900 rural church; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#13 - WARTERS-PARROTT-COLEMAN FARM (LR-0967) – late 19<sup>th</sup>-c house w/ earlier ell and numerous outbuildings; believed to lack integrity**



# #13 - WARTERS-PARROTT-COLEMAN FARM (LR-0967)



**#14 - JAMES WARTERS HOUSE (LR-0926) – ca.1840s hall-parlor-plan I-house; believed to lack integrity [2010 photographs; ca.2017 aerial]**



**#15 - DR. JAMES M. PARROTT HOUSE (LR-0703) – 1920s**  
**Craftsman-style house of prominent physician Parrott; 1998 DOE;**  
**believed to remain NR-eligible**



**#16 - PRUITT HOUSE (LR-0896) – late 19<sup>th</sup>-c house demolished for sewer treatment plant after 2010 [2010 photographs; ca.2017 aerial]**



**#17 - HENRY LOFTIN HERRING FARM (LR-0700) – ca.1812  
Federal-style coastal cottage remodeled in Colonial Revival-style  
ca.1928; 1998 DOE; believed to remain NR-eligible**



**#18 - HOUSE (LR-1530) –1950s ranch house; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#19 - HOUSE (LR-1528) – 1950s frame house; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#20 - HOUSE (LR-1527) –1950s frame house; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#21 - HOUSE (LR-1526) – 1950s frame house; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#22 - HOUSE (LR-1529) – 1950s frame house; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#23 - GOV. RICHARD CASWELL MEMORIAL VISITORS CENTER (LR-0076)**  
1966 Colonial Revival-style visitors center; late 18<sup>th</sup>-c to 1950 cemetery —  
may include Caswell's grave, marked by part of memorial moved from  
Kinston in 1908; believed to lack significance under NR Exceptions D & F



**#24 - ROUSE-CAPPS HOUSE (LR-0923) – ca.1850 Federal/Greek Revival-style house; believed to lack integrity**



**#24 - ROUSE-CAPPS HOUSE (LR-0923)**



**Interiors - 1994**

**#25 - BARN (LR-1507) – Early/mid-20<sup>th</sup>-c frame barn with packhouse at center and shed wings; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2008**



**#26 - DEMPSEY WOOD HOUSE (JAMES WOOD HOUSE) (LR-0008) – 1850s Italianate/Greek Revival-style house; NR-listed in 1971; believed to retain sufficient integrity to merit continued NR listing**



**#27 - DANNY SHEPHERD HOUSE (LR-1035) – early 20<sup>th</sup>-c  
foursquare with later added hyphen and foursquare wing;  
believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#28 - (FORMER) MOSS HILL SCHOOL (LR-1046) – ca.1890 former school; believed to lack integrity**



**#29 - JESSE JACKSON CROOM HOUSE (LR-1036) – 1890s frame house; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#30 - SANDY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH (LR-1037) – turn-of-the-century church w/ mid-20<sup>th</sup>-c additions; believed to lack integrity**



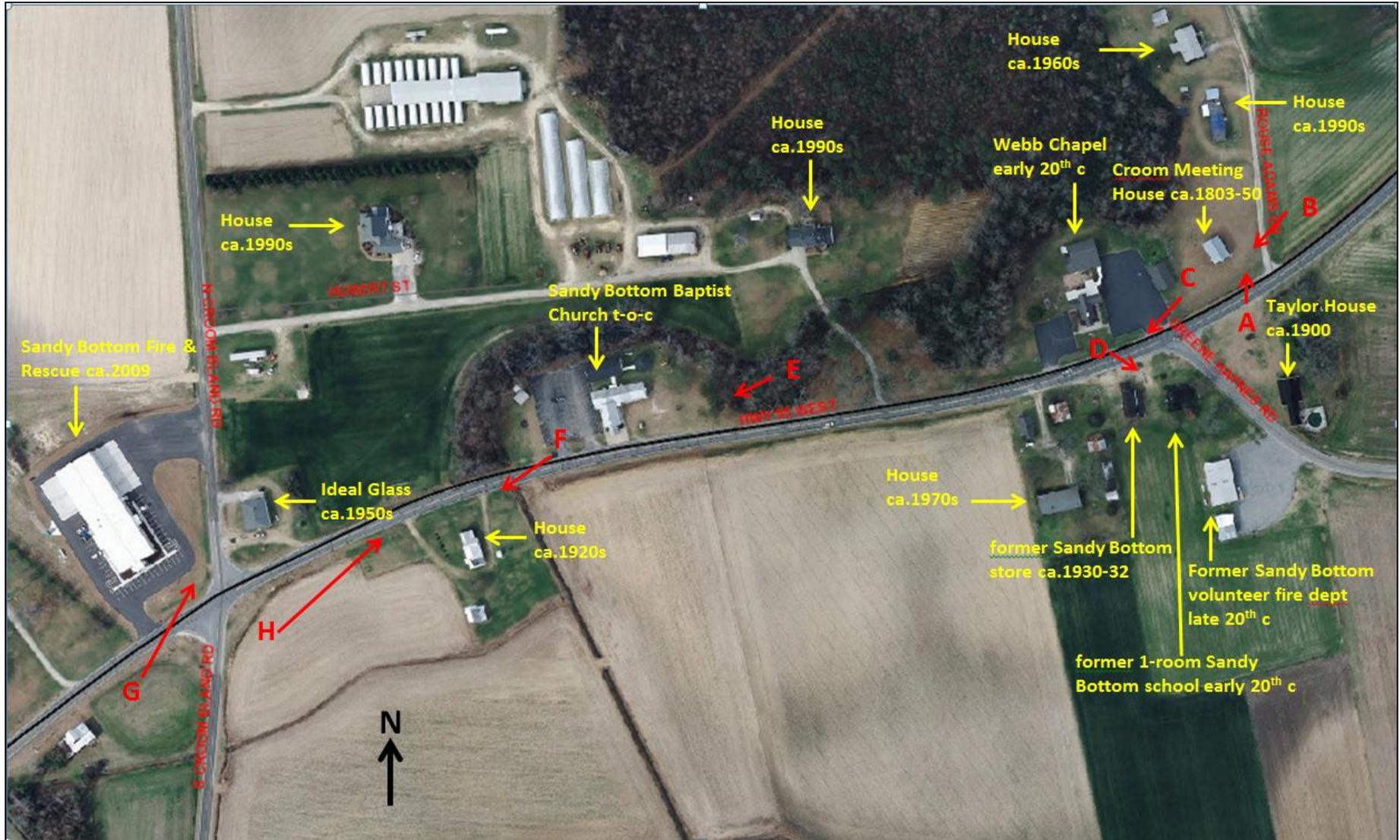
**#31 - WEBB CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (LR-1037) – early 20<sup>th</sup>-c church w/ later additions and brick-veneer; believed to lack integrity**



**#32 - CROOM MEETING HOUSE (LR-1040) – Primitive Baptist meeting house erected in 1st half of 19th c; placed on NR Study List in 1994, requires further assessment**



# #33 - SANDY BOTTOM COMMUNITY (LR-1039) – 1890s to 1940s and later rural community; believed to lack integrity



# #33 - SANDY BOTTOM COMMUNITY (LR-1039)



# #33 - SANDY BOTTOM COMMUNITY (LR-1039)



**#34 - (FORMER) PINEY GROVE SCHOOL (LR-1049) – early 20<sup>th</sup>-c frame building moved ½ mile to current site ca.1965; believed to lack integrity**



**#35 - JESSE JACKSON HOUSE (LR-0005) – Greek Revival-style plantation seat built 1840s; NR-listed in 1971; believed to merit continued NR listing**



**#36 - MILLAR WALLER HOUSE II AND STORE/SAWMILL (LR-0593) –  
1920s brick bungalow and former store/sawmill, believed to lack  
significance and integrity**



**#37 - MILLAR WALLER HOUSE I (LR-0588) – ca.1890 house and 1940s store; believed to lack significance and integrity**



2009



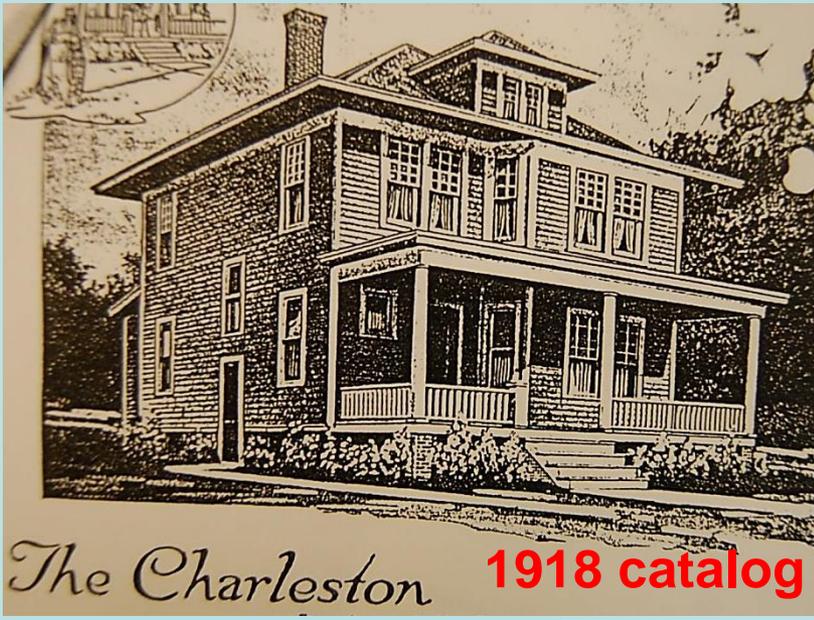
**#38 - WOODINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL (LR-1544) – 2-story brick built late 1940s/early 1950s; central gymnasium likely added later in 1950s; 1-story block ca.1999-2009; believed to lack integrity**



**#39 - HOUSE (LR-1545) – rear gable-and-wing block late 19<sup>th</sup>-c; front block w/ Craftsman porch added 1920s; believed to lack integrity**



**#40 - SIMPSON WALLER HOUSE (LR-1213) – 1918 Aladdin Homes prefabricated house; placed on NR Study List in 1994, requires further assessment**



**#41 - SUTTON HOUSE (LR-1548) – 1960s house that according to owner encompasses part of a mid-19<sup>th</sup>-c Sutton-family house; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#42 - HUNTER-HARPER LOG HOUSE (LR-1218) – mid-19<sup>th</sup> c log house with frame shed addition at rear; believed to lack integrity**



**#43 - ELLIOT S. RUSSELL HOUSE (LR-1193) – ca.1927 frame house;  
unique-to-county, ca.1906 apiary moved to site no longer extant ;  
believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#44 - COBB-KING-HUMPHREY HOUSE (LR-1197) – contributes to Wyse Fork Battlefield (JN-0306) as part of archaeological site 31LR234; NR Study List in 1994, requires further assessment independent of Wyse Fork**



**#45 - KELLY'S MILLPOND SITE (LR-1203) – mill active on site late 18<sup>th</sup> c to 1970s; major portions since collapsed/removed; contributes to Wyse Fork Battlefield (JN-0306) as part of archaeological site 31LR235; 1998 DOE**



mill in 2010



shed, metal silos, scale 2010

**#46 - THOMAS WALTER STROUD HOUSE AND FARM (MILLER STROUD HOUSE) (LR-1202) – ca.1921, 1929-30 house demolished post-2010; only two outbuildings remain; believed to lack significance and integrity**



2010



2017

**#47 - HOWARD-WILLIAMS HOUSE (LR-1067) – ca.1890 frame I-house;  
believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#48 - MOSELEY-STROUD HOUSE (GRAHAM PLACE) (LR-0857) – late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup>-c, 1-story-and-loft, 3-room Quaker-plan house; placed on NR Study List in 1994, requires further assessment**



Ca.1968



**#49 - BROWN-GATES HOUSE (JASPER GATES HOUSE) (LR-1201) – ca.1918 house ordered from Sears; believed to lack integrity**



*The CHELSEA* **HOMER PLAN** \$2,202<sup>00</sup>  
No. 3027 "Already Cut" and Fitted.



*The HAMILTON* **HOMER PLAN** \$2,198<sup>00</sup>  
No. 412 "Superior Clear Yellow Pine" (Not Cut or Fitted), \$2,298.00.  
No. 110 "Oak Finish" (Not Cut or Fitted), First Floor, \$2,385.00.

**1918 catalog images**

**#50 - ROBERT BOND VAUSE HOUSE (LR-1186) – 1850s Greek Revival-style house; included as a contributing resource to Wyse Fork Battlefield (JN-0306); believed to have lost historic architectural integrity**



**#51 - KELLY'S POND FIRE LOOKOUT TOWER (LR-1550) – 99'9" steel tower erected 1937; believed to retain significance and integrity**



**detail images 2010**



**#52 - HOUSE (LR-1188) – mid-19<sup>th</sup>-c house with interior stripped down to studs; believed to have lost integrity**



**#53 - WOOTEN-WHALEY HOUSE (JOHN COUNCIL WOOTEN) HOUSE (LR-1185) – ca.1859, Greek Revival-style, temple-front house; included as a contributing resource to Wyse Fork Battlefield (JN-0306); NR Study Listed 1994, requires further assessment independent of Wyse Fork**



**#54 - KING'S CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)  
(LR-1094) – African-American gable-front church remodeled to current  
appearance in 1962; believed to lack integrity**



**#55 - ELIJAH LOFTIN HOUSE (LR-1195) – ca.1880 house with large collection of early to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-c outbuildings; placed on NR Study List in 1994, requires further assessment**



**#56 - DOVER (CV-2263) – turn-of-the-century community; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



**#57 - DOVER TEACHERAGE (CV-1410) – Built by WPA in 1937 with four apartments for Dover School teachers; believed to lack integrity**



**#58 - WEST HOUSE (JN-0083) – Turn-of-the-century house with a few outbuildings; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



**#59 - ROY E. WEST HOUSE (JN-0055) – Turn-of-the-century house with packhouse/barn and smokehouse to rear; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



**#60 - LUTHER SIMMONS HOUSE (JN-0084) – ca.1865-1880 frame house;  
believed to lack integrity**



**#61 - BEASLEY CEMETERY (JN-0087) – three-section, 20<sup>th</sup>-c cemetery;  
reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



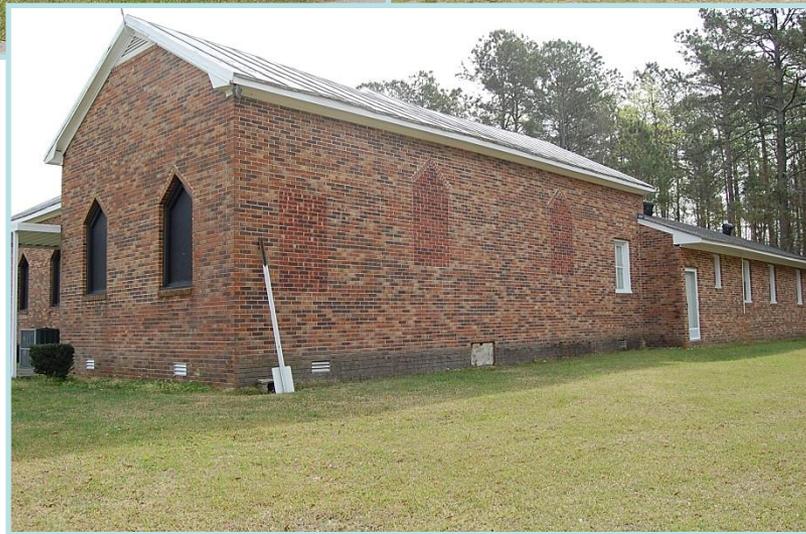
**#62 - JOEL ALEXANDER DeBRUHL HOUSE (JN-0071) – former early 20<sup>th</sup>-c house, demolished pre-2013; packhouse/barn and 20<sup>th</sup>-c cemetery remain; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



**#63 - M. HILL HOUSE (JN-0103) – 1949 and 1956 frame house; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#64 - BEAUTIFUL VALLEY FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH (JN-0102) – ca.1937, 1979, 1987 African-American church; believed to lack integrity**



**#65 - CLAY HILL HOUSE (JN-0097) – frame house collapsed prior to 2013; reviewed and considered not eligible for NR in 2013**



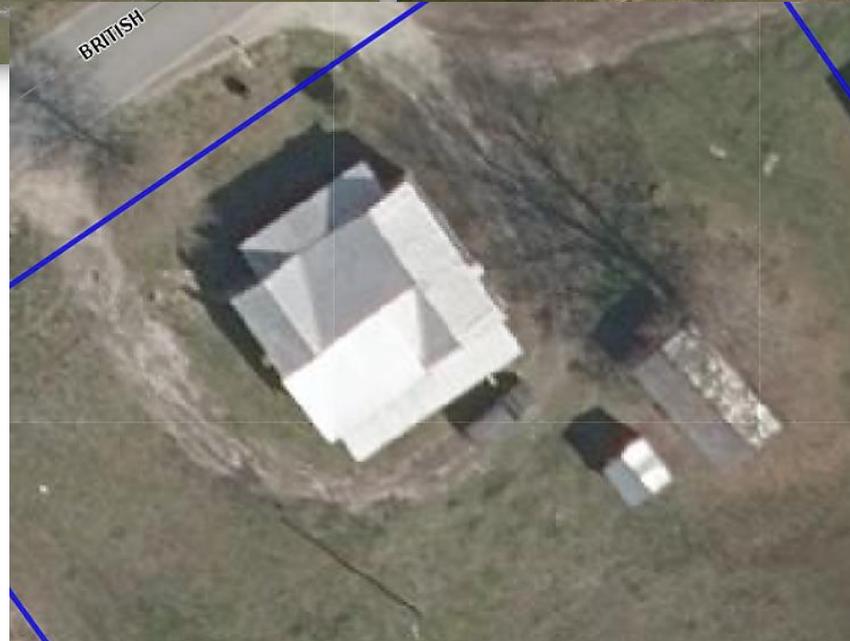
**#66 - FERRELL-HOOD HOUSE (LR-0098) – turn-of-the-century tenant house; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#67 - FERRELL HOUSE (JN-0099) – turn-of-the-century house with small family cemeteries to rear and to front along Caswell Station Road; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#68 - PHILLIPS HOUSE (JN-0101) – early 20<sup>th</sup>-c house; believed to lack significance and integrity [modern Google and Jones County orthogonal tax map images]**



**#69 - LEE-JOHNSON HOUSE (JN-0104) – turn-of-the-century house;  
believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#70 - GRADY HOUSE (LR-0100) – built between 1905 and 1925 in Kinston and moved to site; believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#71 - BRYANT HOUSE (JN-0108) – turn-of-the-century frame house;  
believed to lack significance and integrity**



**#72 – ALONZO DAUGHETY HOUSE (LR-1220) – built by African-American farmer late 19<sup>th</sup>/ early 20<sup>th</sup> c; could not be seen—collapsed beneath trees and overgrowth or gone; believed to lack integrity [2010 photographs]**

