



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary D. Reid Wilson

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary, Darin J. Waters, Ph.D.

October 19, 2022

Camden Brunick
Soil & Environmental Consultants
8412 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 104
Raleigh, NC 27615

cbrunick@sandec.com

RE: Construct Clifton Grove residential subdivision, 9102 Pippin Road, Zebulon, Wake County,
ER 22-0883

Dear Ms. Brunick:

We are in receipt of the Historic Structures Survey Report prepared by Richard Grubb and Associates for the above-referenced undertaking. Having reviewed the report, we offer the following comments.

We concur with the report's findings that neither the Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House (WA2121) nor the unnamed House (WA8801) is eligible for listing in the National Register for the reasons presented in the report.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renee Gledhill-Earley".

for Ramona Bartos, Deputy
State Historic Preservation Officer

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT



CLARENCE H. AND NANNIE S. CHAMBLEE HOUSE (WA2121) AND HOUSE AT 921 PEARCES ROAD (WA8801)

Zebulon, Wake County, North Carolina

SUBMITTED TO:

D.R. Horton Central Carolina
2000 Aerial Center Parkway, Suite 110
Morrisville, North Carolina 27560

August 2022



RICHARD
GRUBB &
ASSOCIATES

HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY REPORT

CLARENCE H. AND NANNIE S. CHAMBLEE HOUSE (WA2121) AND HOUSE AT 921 PEARCES ROAD (WA8801) Zebulon, Wake County, North Carolina

Principal Investigator:

Ellen Turco, Principal Senior Historian

Author:

Debbie Bevin, Senior Architectural Historian

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Morrisville, North Carolina 27560

Date:

August 29, 2022

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1.0 MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

On behalf of D.R. Horton Central Carolina, Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. (RGA) has completed a Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House (WA2121, Study List 1991) and the house located at 921 Pearces Road (WA8801) in Zebulon, Wake County, North Carolina. The Chamblee House is adjacent to a proposed residential subdivision and was identified during a due-diligence environmental review conducted by Soil & Environmental Consultants, PA. The State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) requested a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the Chamblee House and WA8801. The purpose of this HSSR is to evaluate the Chamblee House and WA8801 for the NRHP in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended.

In July 2022, RGA architectural historians recorded the two properties. They were evaluated using the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation (Table 1.1). As a result of the evaluation, for the purposes of compliance with the NHPA, as amended, RGA recommends that neither the Chamblee House nor WA8801 is eligible for the NRHP.

Table 1.1: Resources studied and summary of their NRHP eligibility.

Survey Site No.	Resource Name	NRHP Eligibility Recommendation
WA2121	Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House	Not Eligible
WA8801	House	Not Eligible

NRHP – National Register of Historic Places

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND METHODOLOGY

In July 2022, under contract to D. R. Horton Central Carolina, Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc. (RGA) completed an HSSR and NRHP evaluation for the Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House (WA2121) and the house located at 921 Pearces Road (WA8801) in order to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended.

2.1 Project Location and Setting

The Chamblee House and WA8801 are located in northeastern Wake County's Wakefield community, approximately two miles north of downtown Zebulon (Figures 2.1-2.2). The two houses are located on small parcels (PINs 2706156712 and 2706154262) separated by a fallow field on the west side of Pearces Road, which serves as the north-south spine of Wakefield. Behind the houses, to the west, are agricultural parcels proposed for development. Across Pearces Road from the houses is the circa-1996 Wakefield's Oak Grove residential subdivision, with curving streets, cul-de-sacs, and single-family residences on large lots.

2.2 Project Description

Final plans for the proposed 118-acre residential subdivision are still under development but are expected to include 227 single-family lots with 61.57 acres in conservation. The Chamblee House parcel is adjacent to, but not part of, the development. WA8801 is slated for demolition (Figure 2.3).

2.3 Background Research and Previous Surveys

The Chamblee House was first recorded in 1991 by Kelly A. Lally as part of her comprehensive survey of historic architectural resources in Wake County. Lally's survey file for the property she called "House" and assigned Survey Site Number WA2121 included photographs, a site sketch, and an architectural description. The file noted the presence of two tobacco barns and a one-story, triple-A-roofed dwelling nearby, but included no historical background on the property. Following Lally's survey, the Chamblee House was placed on the State Study List as a first step toward listing in the NRHP. At the outset of this project, the HPO assigned Survey Site Number WA8801 to the one-story, triple-A-roofed dwelling at 921 Pearces Road. Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., undertook a countywide survey update in 2005-2006, and New South Associates, Inc., conducted a survey update of the Zebulon corporate limits and extraterritorial jurisdiction in 2018. Both projects updated information about previously recorded resources, including the Chamblee House, but neither recorded WA8801 individually.

The report Lally produced at the conclusion of her survey, which was later edited for publication as *The Historic Architecture of Wake County, North Carolina* (Lally and Johnson 1993, Lally 1994), provided valuable background information on the history and architecture of Wake County. Edythe Medlin Tippet's *History of Zebulon and Vicinity* included a useful history of the Wakefield community. Additional research was conducted at the Olivia Raney Local History Library. Primary sources consulted include newspapers, census records, land deeds, historic maps and plats, and wills.

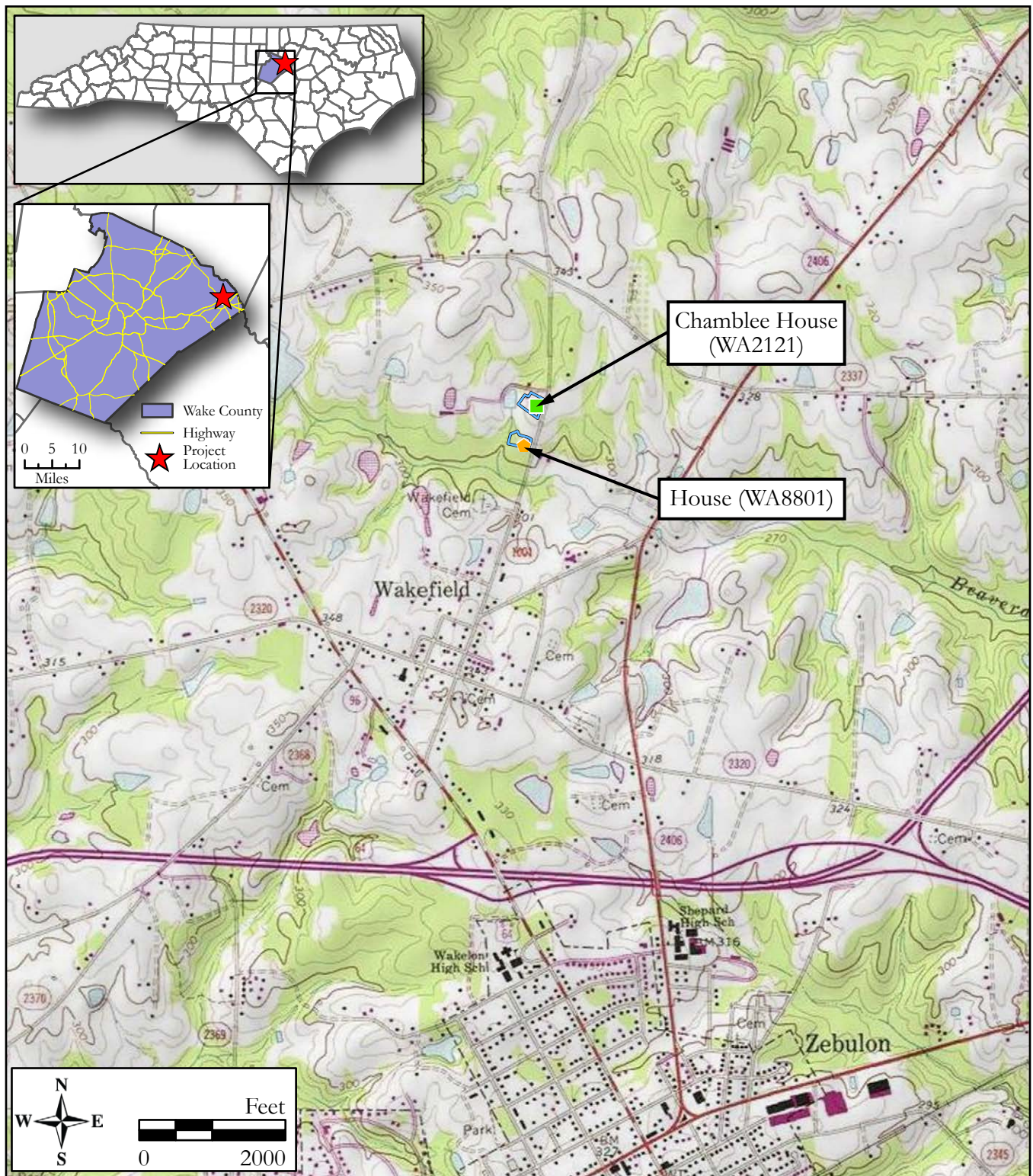
Comparable properties were identified through a preliminary search of HPOWeb, the HPO's web-based mapping platform, and a windshield survey of the Wakefield community and greater Zebulon area. In Wakefield there are numerous turn-of-the-twentieth-century houses which are stylistically similar to the Chamblee House, and one-story, triple-A houses such as WA8801 are common throughout the county in both rural and urban settings, which allowed for comparisons of integrity and significance among similar resources.

2.4 Field Methods

On July 6, 2022, RGA Senior Architectural Historian Debbie Bevin and Architectural Historian Olivia Heckendorf visited the properties. The Chamblee House and WA8801, their landscapes, and associated structures were visually inspected, and the exteriors and settings of the buildings were documented with written notes and digital photographs. The interior of the Chamblee House was not accessible because it is neither located on the parcels being proposed for development nor owned by the developer.

2.5 Reporting

The historical development, architecture, and cultural significance of the Chamblee House and WA8801 were assessed, and the properties were evaluated within their historic contexts according to the established NRHP Criteria. The results of this intensive-level survey and NRHP evaluation are presented in this report. The report meets the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended and the HPO's current Historic Structure Survey Report Standards. Ellen Turco, Principal Senior Historian, served as the Principal Investigator and reviewed and edited the report. Debbie Bevin, Senior Architectural Historian, conducted fieldwork, documented the buildings, and served as co-author. Olivia Heckendorf, Architectural Historian, conducted background research and fieldwork and served as co-author. Ms. Turco, Ms. Bevin, and Ms. Heckendorf meet the professional qualifications standards of 36 CFR 61 set forth by the National Park Service. Emily Dale produced the report graphics, and Natalie Maher served as technical editor and formatted the report.



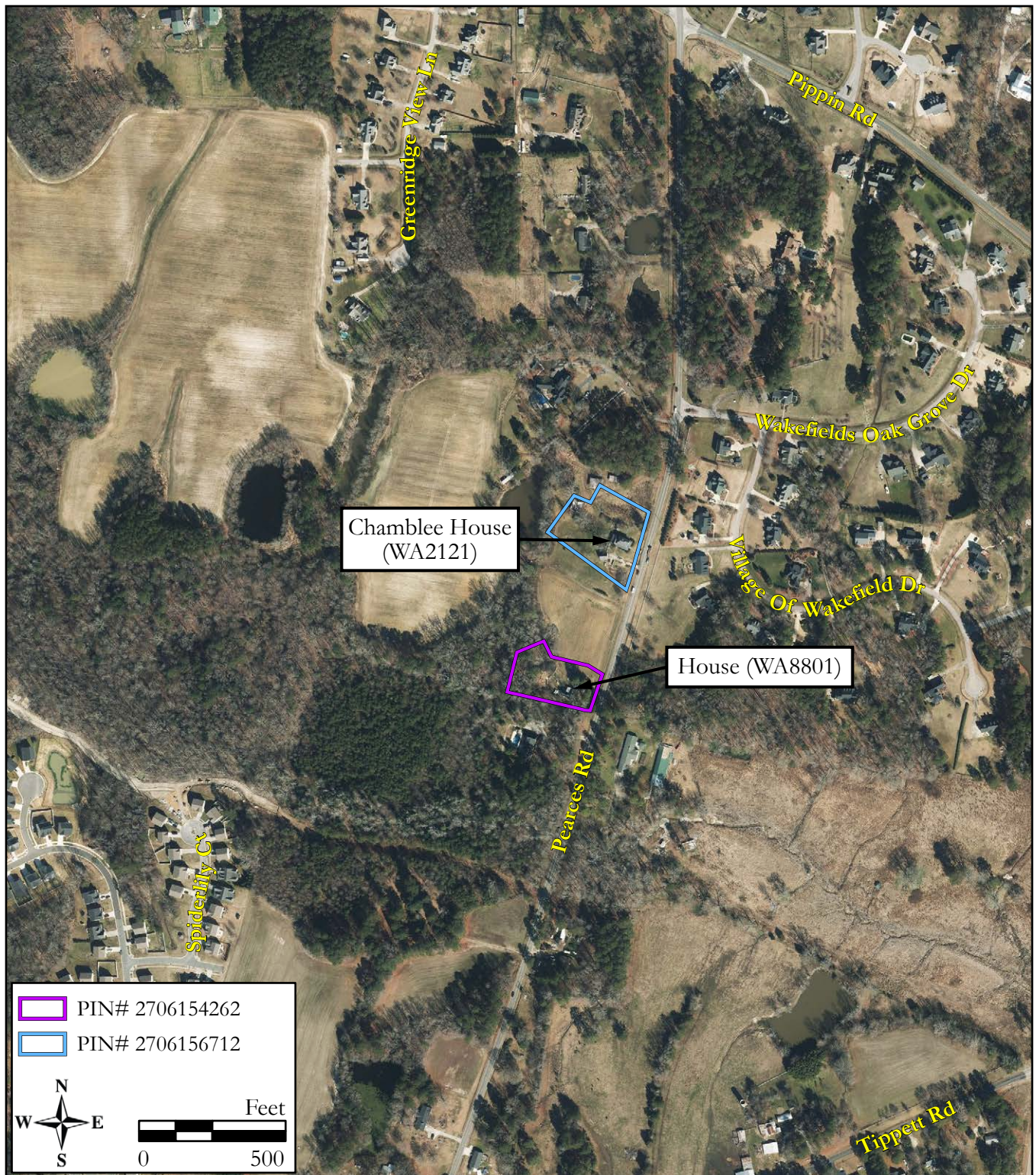


Figure 2.2: Location map
(NC OneMap 2021).

3.0 HISTORIC CONTEXT

Little River Township, Wake County's easternmost township, was established in 1868 and named for the body of water that bisects it (Lally 1994: 193). In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Little River Township was sparsely populated and inhabited by farmers who produced primarily corn and wheat and raised livestock (Lally 1994: 193). Wakefield was one of the earliest communities established in Little River Township. The community served as the halfway point along the stagecoach road along the old Tarboro Road (now Proctor Street), which ran between Raleigh and Tarboro (Lally 1994: 78, 206).

Wakefield was centered around the 1,000-acre plantation of Augustus John (A. J.) Foster (1815-1873). The plantation included a store, gristmill, and private school during the antebellum period (Lally 1994: 78). The post office at Wakefield was established on May 15, 1826 (Tippett 1971: 24). In addition to their significant landholdings, the Fosters also operated an inn out of their home for those traveling along the stage road (Tippett 1971: 26).

In the 1860s, Foster sold his property in Wakefield and moved to Louisburg (Lally 1994: 206). The property was eventually purchased by Ivan Proctor, who continued to operate the inn, then known as Proctor's Hotel, along the stagecoach route (Tippett 1971: 27). Proctor divided the former plantation lands into smaller parcels and laid out streets (Figure 3.1-3.2; Lally 1994: 206). Some of the earliest and most prominent families of the Wakefield community included the Hortons, Griffins, Burnses, Chamblees, and Kemps (Tippett 1971: 25-26).

The 1880s and 1890s were a particularly prosperous period for Wakefield. Several institutions relocated to Wakefield, including the former White Stone Baptist Church of Rosinburg, which was renamed Wakefield Baptist Church (Tippett 1971: 4). The Freemasons also moved their lodge from Rosinburg to Wakefield (Tippett 1971: 4). White Stone Lodge is still active today and the concrete block building that supports the organization is located at 302 Foster Street.

Perhaps the biggest impact on the Wakefield community was the establishment of the Wakefield Classical and Mathematical School in 1882 (Figure 3.3). The school was founded by Oliver Larkin Stringfield, a graduate of Wake Forest College (Tippett 1971: 32). In the summer of 1882, Stringfield founded the Wakefield School, a small, two-room building (Tippett 1971: 33). The school drew children from the local community as well as distant towns. While some students boarded with local families, entire families moved to Wakefield so that their children could attend (Lally 1994: 206). The school operated until 1910.

Though Wakefield was a fairly small community, it had a wide variety of services to offer residents and those in the surrounding area. John A. Kemp operated a mercantile business in addition to serving as an undertaker (Tippett 1971: 27). A number of stores popped up, including a store operated by T. L. Honeycutt, beginning in 1890 (Tippett 1971: 28). Dr. G. M. Bell opened a drugstore, and the C. E. Pippin Store operated in conjunction with the Pippin Hotel (Tippett 1971: 28). R. J. Whitley ran a sawmill and timber business. Other smaller enterprises included a blacksmith, woodwork shop, livery stable, and dairy (Tippett 1971: 28).

Dr. Miley C. Chamblee opened Wakefield's largest store, M. C. Chamblee and Sons, in the 1890s (Tippett 1971: 28). The store included a variety of goods that ranged from furniture to hardware to plows to shoes to buggies (Tippett 1971: 28). The family-run business included Chamblee's two sons, Clarence and Millard, who took over the business for their father by 1900.

In 1899, Wakefield was incorporated. The town's charter was repealed on March 5, 1913 (Tippett 1971: 30) due to the community's unwillingness to have the railroad come through Wakefield. In 1903, Little River Township voted to issue a \$10,000 bond to the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound Railroad, which was planning a line that ran from Raleigh to Washington, North Carolina (Tippett 1971: 30). In October 1904, leading Wakefield citizens agreed to donate a large sum of money to the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound Railroad if the railroad ran "to the town of Wakefield or within one half mile thereof" (Tippett

1971: 31). However, some residents opposed the railroad due to the noise and pollution that came with frequent railroad traffic (Firefly Preservation Consulting 2019: 8-122). The bonds were never issued, and the contract was never fulfilled. Officials at the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound Railroad altered the route one mile south of Wakefield and built a depot at what was known at the time as “Piney Forest” and later became Zebulon.

Once a thriving trade center, Wakefield suffered after missing the railroad connection. Many of the businesses and people moved to Zebulon, the up-and-coming community. Throughout the twentieth century and into the present day, Wakefield remains a rural community with a heavy focus on agriculture. In 1997, Wakefield was annexed by Zebulon. Today, the community is centered along Pearces Road between Pippin Road and Arendell Avenue.

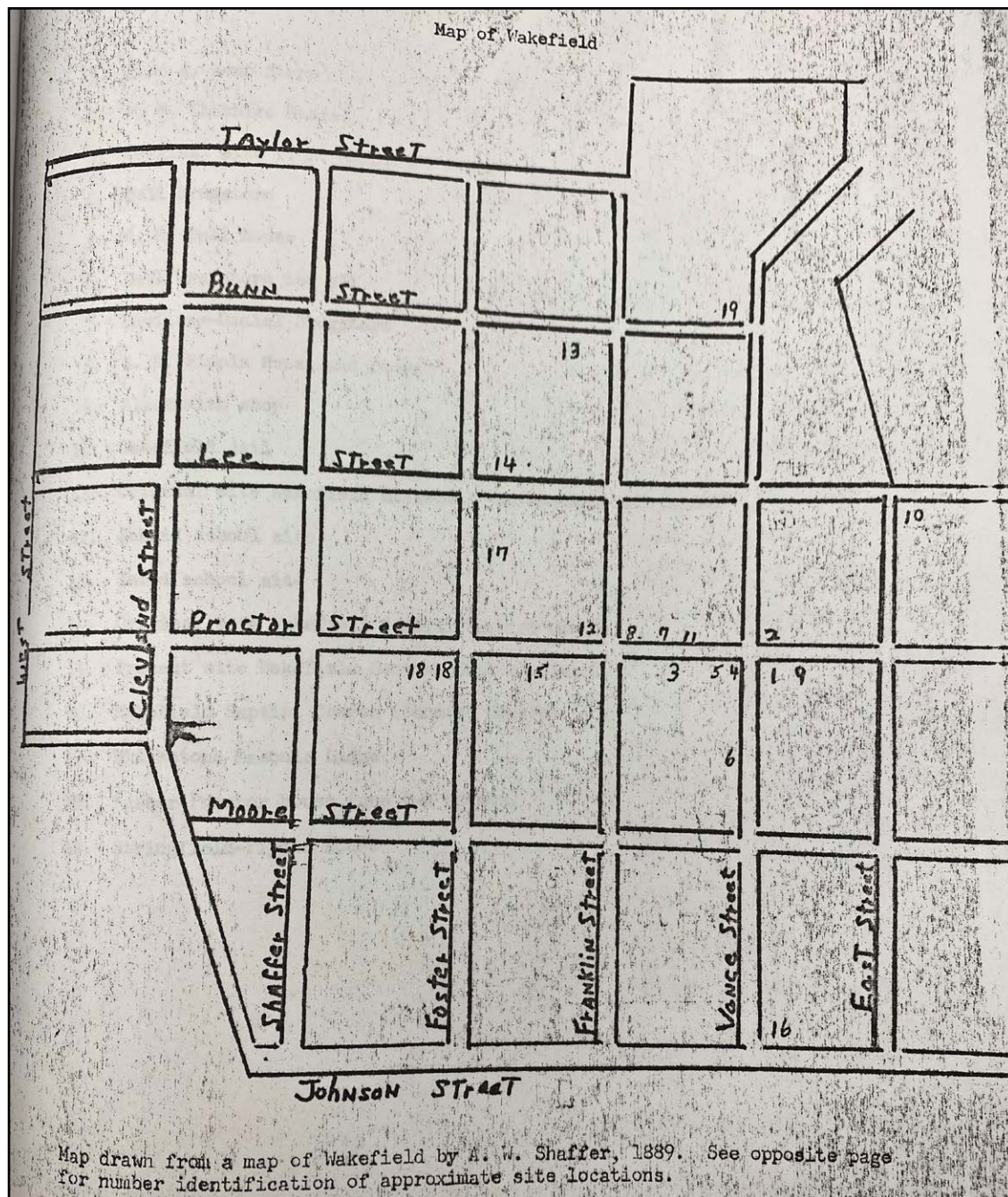


Figure 3.1: This map of Wakefield from 1889 was produced by A.W. Shaffer and shows the original layout of Wakefield after the plantation lands of A.J. Foster were divided up and streets were laid out (Courtesy of Olivia Raney Local History Library).

1. John A. Kemp Store
2. M. C. Chamblee Store
3. Original site T. L. Honeycutt Store
4. Bell Drugstore
5. G. M. Bell house
6. Bell Drugstore ice pit
7. Caviness-Daniel Drugstore
8. C. E. Pippin Hotel and Store
9. Blacksmith shop
10. Wakefield jail
11. Original site Wakefield Classical and Mathematical School
12. Second school site
13. Third school site
14. Original site Wakefield Central Baptist Church
15. Present site Wakefield Central Baptist Church
16. Wakefield Baptist Church ("Woods" Church)
17. Whitestone Masonic Lodge
18. Foster-Proctor house (now two houses)
19. Stringfield-Pippin house

Figure 3.2: This numerical list corresponds with the 1889 map of Wakefield and notes the important buildings within the Wakefield community (Courtesy of Olivia Raney Local History Library).

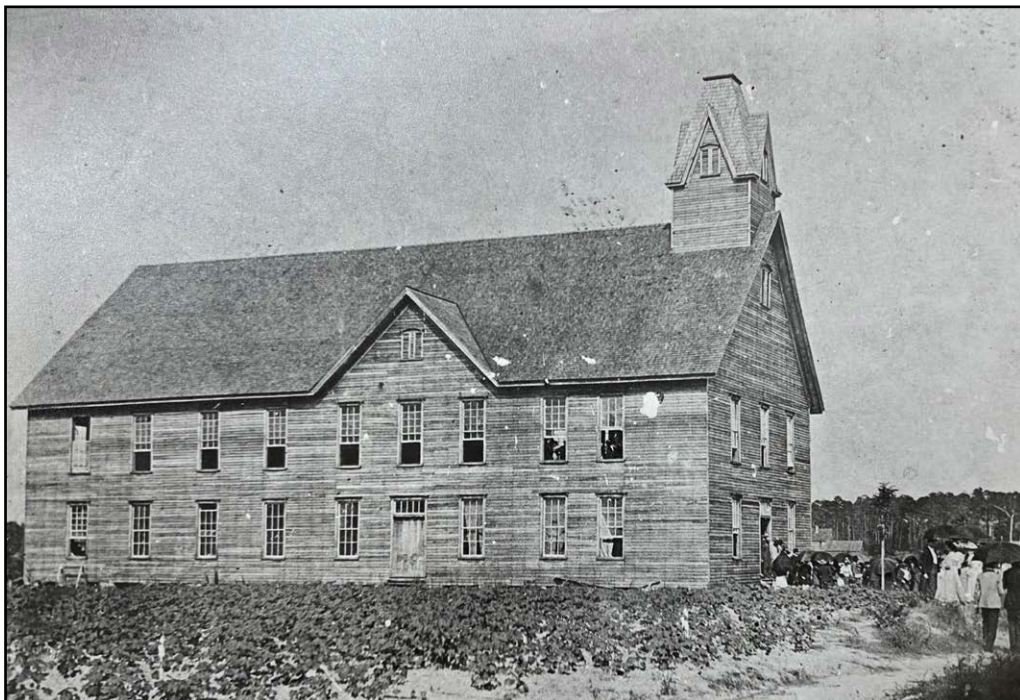


Figure 3.3: A photograph of the Wakefield Classical and Mathematical School (Courtesy of Olivia Raney Local History Library).

4.0 NRHP EVALUATION OF THE CLARENCE H. AND NANNIE S. CHAMBLEE HOUSE (WA2121)

This section contains a description of the Chamblee House (WA2121) and its setting, as well as a history of the property, an architectural context, comparison to similar properties, and an evaluation of the property by applying the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation.

Table 4.1: Chamblee House Information Table.

Resource Name	Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House
HPO Survey Site #	WA2121
Location	1009 Pearces Road, Zebulon
PIN #s	2706156712
Date of Construction	1911
Recommendation	Not Eligible



4.1 Setting

The Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House (Figure 4.1) is situated on the west side of Pearces Road, 0.7 miles north of the Pearces Road/Old Bunn Road intersection at the center of the former Village of Wakefield. It occupies a 1.54-acre parcel which was once part of a larger, 29-acre farm. Pearces Road is characterized by scattered single-family residences, many dating to the early twentieth century, particularly closer to the center of Wakefield. North of the house and to the east across Pearces Road is more recent, low-density, residential development.

The house sits on a level lot and is accessed by a straight concrete driveway which leads from Pearces Road to a circa-2001 garage located southwest of the house. Two sections of wood picket fencing frame an opening to a stone walk which leads from the back of the ditch along the road to the front porch of the house. Large foundation shrubs obscure much of the first floor of the east-facing façade. The property has a partially fenced backyard with a grape arbor and large shade trees. There are two outbuildings located on the same parcel as the house and two which were formerly associated with it but are now on an adjacent parcel.

4.2 Description

Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House, 1911, 2001, circa 2021 (Figures 4.2-4.6)

The Chamblee House is a two-story, frame dwelling which displays characteristics of both the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. It has restrained Queen Anne massing, consisting of a steep, hipped roof block with a projecting, cross-gable front wing with cutaway bay windows and turned and sawn trim. The house has an asphalt-shingled roof that is pierced on its north slope by an interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap. A one-story porch is supported by slender Tuscan columns which are spanned by a balustrade added in 2001. The porch wraps around from the front (southeast) to the southwest side elevation. There is an original, one-story, perpendicular wing attached to the rear (northwest) elevation of the house. The entire house was originally clad with wood weatherboard siding, but the siding on the second story of the projecting bay was replaced with scalloped wood



Figure 4.1: Setting, Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House (World Imagery, ESRI 2021).



Figure 4.2: Chamblee House, view of southeast elevation (façade), facing northwest.



Figure 4.3: Chamblee House, oblique view of southwest and southeast elevations, facing northwest.



Figure 4.4: Chamblee House, view of northwest (rear) elevation, facing southeast.



Figure 4.5: Chamblee House, oblique view of northeast and southeast elevations, facing southwest.



Figure 4.6: Chamblee House, interior view (Redfin.com).

shingles in 2001. At the same time, the original one-over-one and two-over-two, double-hung, wood windows were replaced with vinyl, one-over-one sashes. In 2021, the wood shingles were replaced with synthetic shingles and the remainder of the house re-sheathed with wood composite siding.

The asymmetrical, four-bay façade has an entry in its southwestern bay. The wood replacement entry door has a decorative, oval, frosted pane over two square panels and is protected by a glass storm door. There is a single one-over-one replacement window above the entry on the second story. To the northeast of the entry bay is the two-story, three-sided projecting bay with windows on each face at each level. The bay terminates in a decorative front-gable with cornice returns and a diamond-shaped, louvered attic vent. Original sawn and turned woodwork survives beneath the gable.

The southwest side elevation has a one one-over-one replacement window on the first floor at its southeastern end. At the northwest end of the elevation is a secondary entry with a replacement multi-light door. There are two widely spaced windows on the second level corresponding to the openings below.

The rear wing projects slightly from the southwest side elevation. It is gabled with cornice returns and contains a single replacement window. A hipped roof addition has been added to the northeastern end of the wing. A hip-roofed porch with one enclosed bay spans the rear (northwest) elevation of the rear wing. The porch was likely added in 2001. Under the porch, a set of double glass doors provides entry into the back of the house.

The northeast side elevation of the house is lit by one single and one pair of one-over-one replacement windows at each level. The northeast elevation of the rear wing has a pair of small one-over-one windows.

The interior of the house was not accessible, but photos taken in 2011 when the house was for sale reveal that it retained oak flooring, Colonial Revival-style mantels with mirrored overmantels, beadboard ceilings, multi-light French doors, and other original woodwork. Whether those interior finishes survive is unknown.

Garage, 2001 (Figure 4.7)

A detached, 1.5-story garage built in 2001 is located southwest of the house at the end of the driveway. It is oriented at an angle to the house, facing directly east. It has a steep, front-gable roof clad with asphalt shingles and rests on a concrete slab foundation. It is clad with wood composite siding and has two garage bays with roll-up doors. The north side elevation contains a pedestrian entry with a half-glazed door and a single one-over-one window. The west (rear) and south side elevations have no fenestration.

Grape Arbor, mid-twentieth century (see Figure 4.4)

Northwest of the house in the rear yard is a grape arbor supported by wood posts.

Outbuilding, circa 1950 (Figure 4.8)

Northeast of the house is a small, concrete block outbuilding with a gabled roof clad with metal. There is a wooden entry door on its southwest-facing façade. The building's original use is unknown.

Barn, circa 1920s (Figure 4.9)

A ruinous and overgrown frame barn is located behind the Chamblee House to the west. It is visible on the earliest aerial imagery of the property from 1938. The side-gabled building has enclosed sheds on its rear (northwest) and southwest side elevations, and at least two openings in its southeast front elevation. The barn is covered with corrugated metal siding on all elevations and its roof has collapsed.

Tobacco Barn, circa 1940s (Figure 4.10)

This frame tobacco barn is typical of designs promoted by the Agricultural Extension Service in the 1940s and 1950s. Its tall profile, high concrete block foundation with ventilation holes, board and batten exterior cladding, and flat-capped ridge flue were hallmarks of mid-twentieth century tobacco barns. It has attached sheds on its west and north elevations and is in deteriorated condition. It was once associated with the Chamblee House but now sits on an adjacent parcel.

Bulk Tobacco Barn Shed, circa 1970s (Figure 4.11)

This open, gabled shed on wooden poles is located adjacent to the tobacco barn described above. Its metal roof has an off-center peak with a longer slope on the east side. The shed was designed to accommodate multiple portable bulk curing barns that were connected to propane-fired heaters and allowed for more precise curing than traditional tobacco barns. One bulk barn is extant.

4.3 History

Chamblee Family, 1911-1934

The subject dwelling was likely constructed around 1911 by Clarence Heflin (C. H.) and Nannie Sentelle Chamblee, prominent members of the Wakefield community. C. H. Chamblee was born in 1877 to Dr. Miles Christopher Chamblee, a doctor and farmer, and Henrietta Brown (Figure 4.12). The 1900 United States Federal Census records indicate the Chamblee family lived in Little River Township, and that C. H. Chamblee was a merchant, along with his father and brother (United States Bureau of the Census [U.S. Census] 1880, 1900a). Chamblee was educated at Stringfield and Ferrell



Figure 4.7: Garage, view of east elevation, facing northwest.



Figure 4.8: Outbuilding, view of southeast side elevation, facing northwest.



Figure 4.9: Barn, view of northeast and southeast elevations, facing southwest.



Figure 4.10: Tobacco barn, view of north and east elevations, facing southwest.



Figure 4.11: Bulk tobacco barn shed, view facing northwest.



Figure 4.12: A photograph of C.H. Chamblee
(*The News & Observer* 1934a: 12).

School in Wakefield, also known as the Wakefield Classical and Mathematical School (*The News & Observer* 1934a: 12). In 1905, C. H. Chamblee married Nannie B. Sentelle (North Carolina State Archives [NCSA] 1905). Nannie Chamblee was born in Haywood County, North Carolina in 1881 (U.S. Census 1900b).

In 1909, a small excerpt in *The Raleigh Times* noted that the Chamblees moved into James B. Rice's house (*The Raleigh Times* 1909: 2). The Rice house's exact location was not specified. In the 1910 U.S. Census, the Chamblees, along with Clarence's aunt, Eliza Brown, lived in a home on Vance Street in Wakefield (U.S. Census 1910). It is likely the house on Vance Street was formerly owned by James B. Rice. C. H. Chamblee's occupation was recorded as a salesperson at a department store.

In September 1911, the Chamblees purchased a 29-acre parcel, located a quarter mile north of Wakefield, from James R. Cullom (Wake County Register of Deeds [WCRD] 1911 260: 73). From 1911 onward, any deed that refers to the 28-acre parcel identifies it as the "Clarence Heflin Chamblee old home place" (WCRD 1922 402: 32; 1934 670: 352; 1962 1496: 183).

It appears that the Chamblees occupied the subject dwelling for a short period of time from 1911 to 1919. In October 1919, the Chamblees mortgaged the property to John A. and Clara Clark (WCRD 1919 348: 365). The deeded land included the 29-acre parcel of land "with the exception of" 0.75-acres "in the south and east corner on which is a four room dwelling, and adjoins the lands of E. H. Green and the road leading to Wakefield" (WCRD 1919 348: 365). It is not clear why the "four room dwelling" was not included in the sale but it could possibly be the dwelling located south of the Chamblee House at 921 Pearces Road, which is discussed in Chapter 4.0.

In 1922, the subject property was transferred back to the Chamblees after the Clarks could no longer make their mortgage payments (WCRD 1922 402: 32). During the Clark's brief ownership of the property, the Chamblees lived with Henrietta Chamblee, C. H. Chamblee's mother, in a dwelling along the Bankhead Highway in Little River Township (U.S. Census 1920).

By the time of the 1930 U.S. Census, the Chamblees resided in a dwelling near Wakelon High School, located in the Town of Zebulon (U.S. Census 1930). C. H. Chamblee's occupation was listed as farmer for the first and only time in the census (U.S. Census 1930). Despite the fact that the census recorded the Chamblees living in Zebulon, city directories suggest the Chamblees still lived in Wakefield (Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Co. [Southern Bell] 1930). The Chamblees owned a number of properties throughout the Wakefield and Zebulon area, including the dwelling at 201 West Gannon Avenue in Zebulon, where it is possible they were residing at the time of the census (Firefly Preservation Consulting 2019: 7-44). It is also possible the subject dwelling at 1009 Pearces Avenue was used by the Chamblees as a second home or a rental property. The Chamblees' involvement with the subject property following its construction in 1911 could not be determined.

C. H. Chamblee played a number of different roles in his life. He served as a representative from Wake County in the General Assembly in 1923 and 1925 (Figure 4.13; *The News & Observer* 1924: 3, 1934b: 11). In addition to being a public servant, he helped to operate his father's store, M. C. Chamblee and Sons, the largest store in Wakefield. Chamblee was also an incorporator of the Wakefield Mercantile and Manufacturing Company in 1901 (*The Morning Post* 1901: 5). The company provided a number of services for its customers, including a general merchandise store, a sawmill and cotton gin, and raised cattle (*The Morning Post* 1901: 5). Chamblee was a Mason and served as superintendent of the Baptist Sunday School at Zebulon (*The News & Observer* 1934a: 12).

In the 1930s, the Chamblees operated a small dairy farm "located about two miles east of the town of Zebulon" that fronted NC Highway 90 (NCSA 1934). In 1934, C. H. Chamblee was tragically struck by a vehicle and died of injuries sustained in the accident (*The News & Observer* 1934a: 12). Nannie outlived her husband and died in 1951.

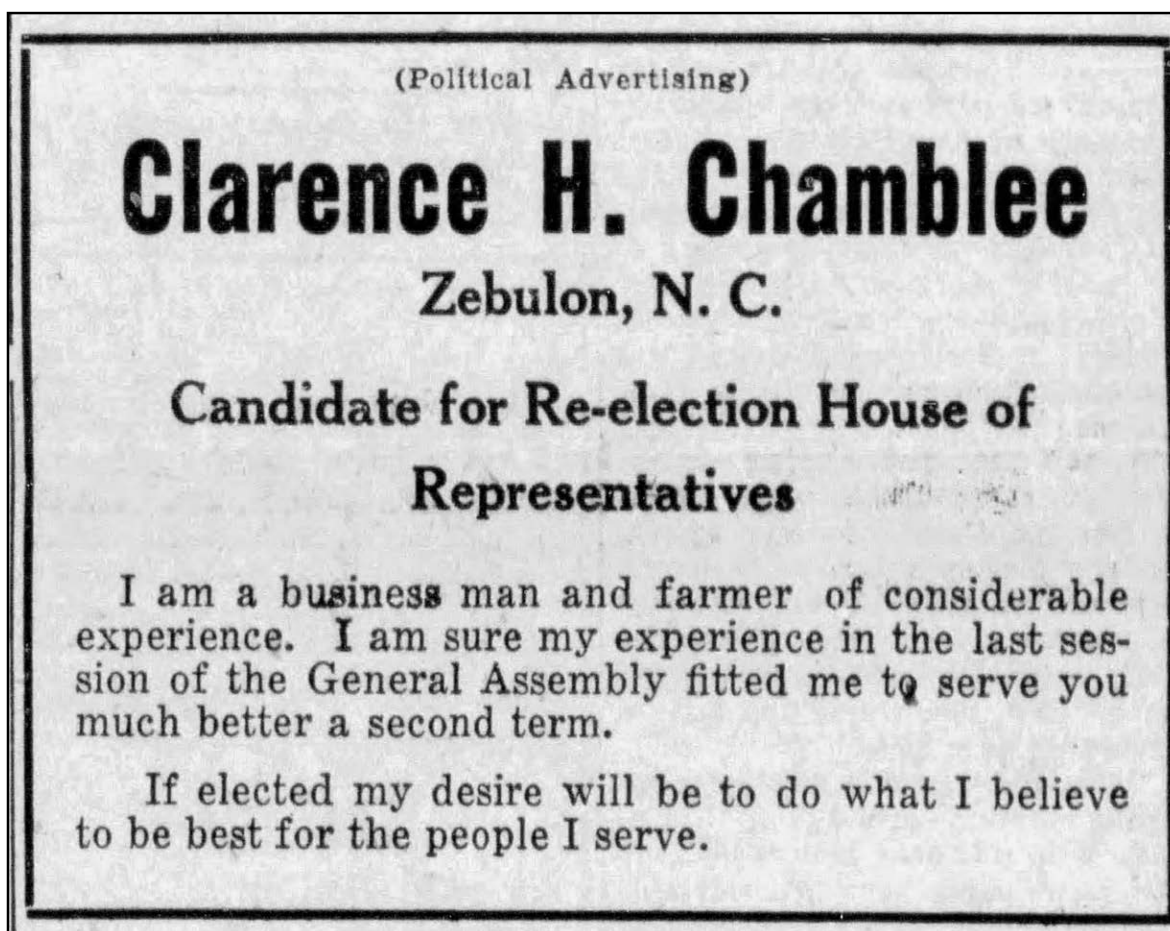


Figure 4.13: A political advertisement in *The News & Observer* encouraging the election of C.H. Chamblee for the North Carolina House of Representatives
(*The News & Observer* 1924: 3).

Baker Family, 1934-1962

C. H. Chamblee filed for bankruptcy in July 1932 (*The News & Observer* 1932: 16). He died intestate, and as a result, the subject property was deeded to Annie P. Baker for the sum of \$1,500 (WCRD 1934 670: 352). Annie P. Baker was born into a farming family in Nash County in 1898. She married Levin A. (L. A.) Baker in 1925 (Figures 4.14-4.15; NCSA 1925). He spent all of his life in Little River Township, according to census records.

In 1930, the Baker family lived in a rented house on Gill Street in Zebulon (U.S. Census 1930). At this time, L. A. Baker was the Chief of Police for Zebulon, a position which he held from 1929 to 1934 (*The News & Observer* 1930: 2). After Annie Baker purchased the former Chamblee residence in 1934, the family, including their four daughters, subsequently moved to their new home. The 1940 U.S. Census recorded L. A. Baker's occupation as farmer (U.S. Census 1940). However, he also served as the Constable for Little River Township and worked as a part-time police officer for Zebulon from 1939 to 1942 (*The News & Observer* 1938: 14; Tippet n.d.).

The first aerial imagery of the property was taken in 1938 by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Though the aerial photograph is low quality, the Chamblee House is set amongst trees and a driveway leads from Pearces Road along the south side of the house (Figure 4.16; USDA 1938).



Figure 4.14: Photograph of Annie P. Baker in front of the Chamblee House
(Courtesy of Ancestry.com).



Figure 4.15: Photograph of Annie P. and L.A. Baker in front of the Chamblee House
(Courtesy of Ancestry.com).



Figure 4.16: USDA aerial imagery from 1938 showing the location of the Chamblee House (USDA 1938).

The USDA completed additional aerial photography of Wake County in 1959. This time, the aerial shows the newly re-aligned Pearces Road that runs from Wakefield to the north of the property (Figure 4.17; USDA 1959). The imagery is much clearer and shows the Chamblee House along with at least five outbuildings, one of which appears to be a tobacco barn set back into the woods north of the house.

Tippett Family, 1962-1999

In 1962, the Bakers sold the subject property to the Tippett family (WCRD 1962 1496: 183). Rex B. and Louise B. Tippett were both lifelong residents of Wake County. Rex B. Tippett was born into a farming family and grew to become a very accomplished farmer in his own right (Figure 4.18). Tippett operated a dairy farm and had an established head of cattle prior to purchasing the 29-acre Chamblee House parcel.

It is likely the Tippetts never lived in the Chamblee House, but instead rented it out and used the surrounding farmland for crop cultivation. In an article from *The News & Observer* in February 1958, it states the Tippetts had “built an attractive red-brick, ranch type home containing 1,400 square feet of heating space” (*The News & Observer* 1958: 18). This is likely the Ranch dwelling located at 501 Tippett Road.

Aerial imagery from 1971 shows the growth of the farming operation at the Chamblee property under the Tippett ownership. The aerial shows an additional farm lane to the north of the house, which is still intact today (Figure 4.19; USDA 1971). Two outbuildings, one to the west of the house and the other to the northwest of the house, were demolished, and at least three additional outbuildings of unspecified use were constructed to the northwest of the house. The outbuildings were all sited -along the farm roads, making them easily accessible.

Between 1971 and 1981, tobacco bulk curing barns were added to the property to cure the tobacco that was grown (iMaps 1981). An additional outbuilding was constructed to the north of the house.

In 1999, the Tippetts sold the Chamblee House, which was separated from the larger parcel to form a the present-day 1.46-acre parcel (WCRD 1999 8343: 1489).

Subsequent Owners

Following the Tippetts’ ownership, the property changed hands a number of times. Michael J. and Wanda I. Heagerty purchased the property from the Tippetts in 1999 and owned the property until 2003. During their tenure, the property changed very little, according to aerial imagery.

In 2003, Jesse A. and Crystal H. Duty purchased the property (WCRD 2003 10238: 589). Between 2006 and 2009, the tobacco barn to the north was demolished, though it was no longer on the same parcel as the Chamblee House (Google Earth, Inc. 2006, 2009).

The current owners, Clint Harlan Reddick and Richard Bruce Reddick, purchased the property from the Dutys in 2011 (WCRD 2011 14598: 701).

4.4 Architectural Context and Comparable Properties

Following national trends favoring picturesque architectural styles, Queen Anne dwellings began appearing in Wake County in the late nineteenth century. These houses were characterized by steep roofs and asymmetrical massing and were embellished with machine-sawn trim newly available to homebuilders with the expansion of the railroads. While there were some elaborate expressions of the style, particularly in some of the county’s more prosperous towns, more typical from this period was the application of popular trim to traditional house forms. In the early twentieth century, the style was often blended with elements of the Colonial Revival style, such as classical porch columns or tripartite windows (Lally 2004:103-4).

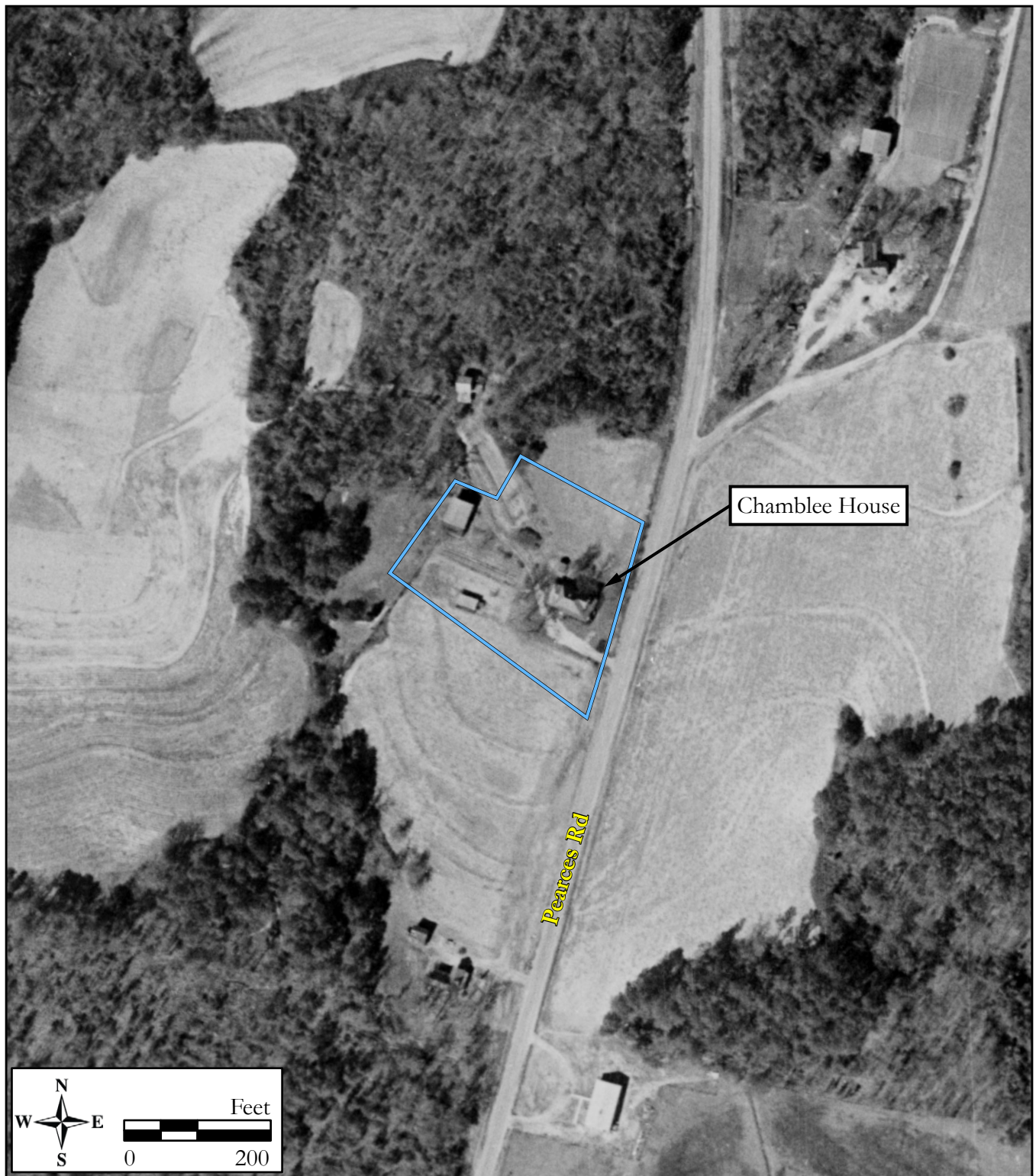


Figure 4.17: USDA aerial imagery from 1959 showing the location of the Chamblee House (USDA 1959).



Figure 4.18: Photograph of Rex B. Tippet from an article in *The News & Observer* in 1958
(*The News & Observer* 1958: 18).

The Village of Wakefield has a concentration of houses from the 1880s to 1910 which display characteristics typical of the Queen Anne style. In addition to the Chamblee House, six more of these houses were added to the Study List at the conclusion of Lally's survey. The circa-1895 Stringfield-Massey House (WA2122; SL1991; Figure 4.20) is a large, multi-gabled Queen Anne-Colonial Revival-style house with a projecting gabled cutaway bay that is similar to the one on the Chamblee House. This house is currently inaccessible, but it appears to retain its original form. The Starkey Hoyle House (WA2117; SL 1991; Figure 4.21) is a late-nineteenth-century house with a full-height bay window at one end of its facade. It retains original weatherboard siding, decorative wood shingles in the gables, and wrap-around porch with turned posts. The Stringfield-Pippin House (WA2116; SL 1991; Figure 4.22) dates to 1882, but its elaborate Queen Anne porch with jigsaw balustrade was added in the early twentieth century. Although the house is clad with aluminum replacement siding, it retains original six-over-six windows and a double-leaf entry with original screen doors.

4.5 NRHP Evaluation

Integrity

In order to be individually eligible for the NRHP, a property must possess several, and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In addition, the property must possess significance under at least one of the four NRHP evaluation criteria. The Chamblee House remains in its original location near the former Village of

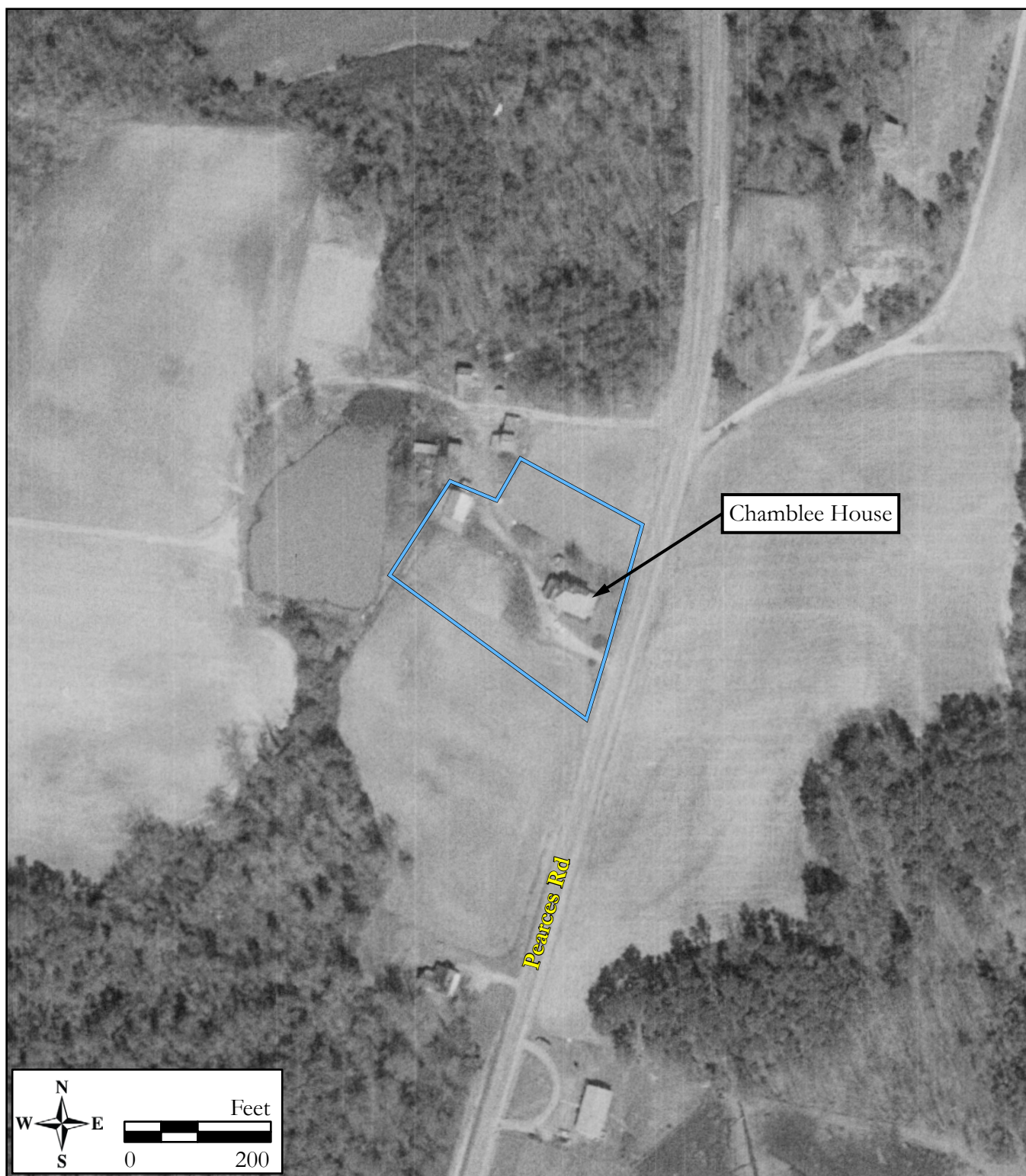


Figure 4.19: USDA aerial imagery from 1971 showing the location of the Chamblee House (USDA 1971).



Figure 4.20: Stringfield-Massey House in 1991
(WA2122; Courtesy of State Historic Preservation Office)



Figure 4.21: Starkey Hoyle House (WA2117)



Figure 4.22: Stringfield-Pippin House (WA2116)

Wakefield, giving the property integrity of location. It is surrounded by farmland once associated with it and a few early outbuildings survive in deteriorated condition on an adjacent parcel, giving the house a moderate degree of integrity of setting, feeling, and association. The house retains its Queen Anne form and some original sawn ornament and may retain intact interior woodwork. However, the exterior of the house has undergone significant alteration since 2001, including the replacement of all original siding, windows, and doors, substantially diminishing its integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

Criteria Evaluation

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. The Chamblee House was located on a small farm on the outskirts of the former Village of Wakefield but is not known to be associated with significant events or patterns of events that played an important role in the development of that community. The loss and deterioration of outbuildings and the separation of the house parcel from surrounding acreage diminishes its ability to convey any agricultural associations. *Therefore, the Chamblee House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they are associated with persons of significance within the community, state, or national historic contexts. C. H. Chamblee was a member of a mercantile family associated with the development of the Village of Wakefield. However, neither Clarence or Nannie Chamblee nor subsequent owners of the house were known to be of transcendent importance to local, state, or national historic contexts. *Therefore, the Chamblee House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; or possess high artistic value. The Chamblee House is one of a group of houses built in Wakefield during a period of late nineteenth- to early twentieth-century prosperity. Like others in the community, the Chamblee House is characterized by massing and decorative trim typical of the Queen Anne style. However, due to the replacement of its original windows, doors, and exterior cladding, it lacks sufficient integrity for architectural significance. Other houses in Wakefield, including the Starkey Hoyle House and the Stringfield-Pippin House, retain more original materials and are better representatives of the types of houses that characterized Wakefield during this period. *Therefore, the Chamblee House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if they have the potential to yield information significant to human history or prehistory. It is the unlikely Chamblee House would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. *Therefore, the Chamblee House is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.*

5.0 NRHP EVALUATION OF HOUSE (WA8801), 921 PEARCES ROAD

This section contains a description of WA8801 and its setting, as well as a history of the property, an architectural context, a comparison to similar properties, and an evaluation of the property by applying the NRHP Criteria for Evaluation.

Table 5.1: 921 Pearces Road Information Table.

Resource Name	House
HPO Survey Site #	WA8801
Location	921 Pearces Road, Zebulon
PIN #s	2706154262
Date of Construction	Circa 1910
Recommendation	Not Eligible



5.1 Setting

This house (Figure 5.1) occupies a 1.06-acre parcel on the west side of Pearces Road, 0.6 miles north of the former Village of Wakefield. It is located across a fallow field to the south of the Chamblee House. The immediate area is characterized by scattered, single-family residences dating from the early to late twentieth century. Across Pearces Road to the northeast is a circa-1996, low-density, residential subdivision.

The house sits facing southeast on a level lot and is accessed by a gravel driveway from Pearces Road which terminates on the northeast side of the house. A row of mature cedars lines the road frontage of the lot, and additional tall trees and shrubs surround the house. There is a small, cleared yard behind the house with a deteriorated board fence separating it from the wooded northwest half of the parcel. There is one small shed behind the house.

5.2 Description

921 Pearces Road, circa 1910 (Figures 5.2-5.11)

The house located at 921 Pearces Road is a circa-1910, one-story, side-gabled house with a decorative front gable, an original rear ell, and two later shed-roofed additions. The house has an asphalt shingle roof with an interior masonry chimney that has been stuccoed. It sits low to the ground, and its foundation is not visible. The house is clad with original weatherboard siding with corner boards. A full-width, shed-roofed porch shelters the asymmetrical, three-bay façade. The porch is supported by square wood posts with molded caps which are spanned by simple balustrades composed of horizontal rails, a center post, and two diagonal members. The porch has a painted plywood ceiling. The house has an off-center entry with a wood screen door and a replacement wood door with four lights over four panels. Original four-over-four, wood, double-hung windows flanked by fixed shutters light the two-room interior of the front block. The southwest side elevation of the front block has a single four-over-four, double-hung window, and the northeast side elevation has a one-over-one vinyl replacement window.

The rear ell extends from the southwest side of the rear (northwest) elevation. It has two original four-over-four windows on its southwest side elevation and paired six-over-six windows on its rear elevation. There are two early shed-roofed additions in the junction between the front block and



Figure 5.1: Setting, WA8801
(World Imagery, ESRI 2021).

the rear ell. One is an enclosed porch which runs along the northeast side of the ell and contains a secondary, half-glazed entry and a small four-light window. The other addition is parallel to the front block and is lit on its northwest and northeast elevations with six-over-six wood double-hung windows.

The interior of the house retains oak flooring, at least one 5-panel door, wide baseboards, plain window and door surrounds, and one original mantel shelf with curved brackets. The masonry of the firebox has been stuccoed over.

Shed, circa 1980 (Figure 5.12)

Immediately behind the house to the northwest is a shed which appears to have been constructed with miscellaneous salvaged materials, including wood posts, sheets of plywood and vinyl siding.



Figure 5.2: WA8801, view of southeast elevation (façade), facing northwest.



Figure 5.3: WA8801, oblique view of northeast and southeast elevations, facing southwest.



Figure 5.4: WA8801, oblique view of southwest side elevation, facing north.



Figure 5.5: WA8801, view of principal entry, facing northwest.



Figure 5.6: WA8801, view of typical original window.



Figure 5.7: WA8801, view of northeast side elevation, facing southeast.



Figure 5.8: WA8801, view of rear additions, facing southwest.



Figure 5.9: WA8801, view of northwest (rear) elevation, facing southeast.



Figure 5.10: WA8801, interior view.

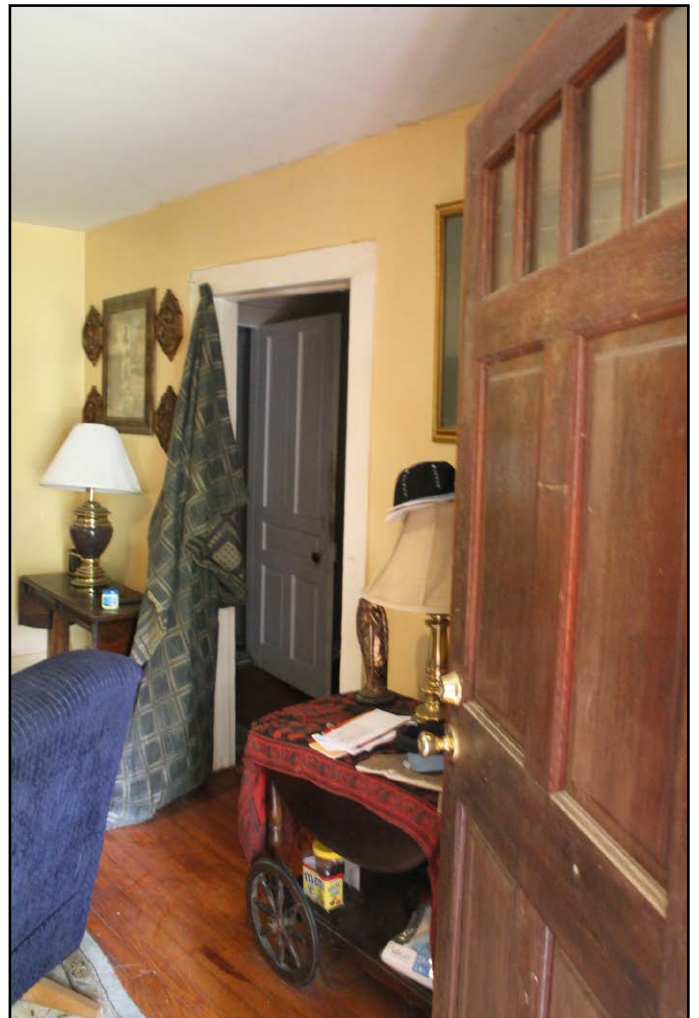


Figure 5.11: WA8801, interior view.



Figure 5.12: Shed, view facing south.

5.3 History

Little information is known regarding the ownership and occupancy of WA8801. Deed records suggest it was attached to a larger parcel at the time of its construction. Though it could not be determined for certain, it is possible the subject dwelling was historically associated with the Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House to the north.

In a deed from October 1919, John A. and Clara Clark entered into a mortgage contract with Clarence H. (C. H.) and Nannie S. Chamblee for the purchase of a 29-acre property (Wake County Register of Deeds [WCRD] 1919 348: 365). The deed states that it is “intended to include the above tract or parcel of land [29 acres] with the exception of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre in the south and east corner on which is a four room dwelling” (WCRD 1919 348: 365). Though the deed is likely referencing WA8801, this could not be determined for certain.¹

The earliest aerial imagery of the dwelling was taken by the USDA in 1938. The image is poor quality, but it shows a small clearing where the house is presumed to be located and trees surrounding the house (Figure 5.13; USDA 1938). WA8801 appears to be separated visually from the larger, 29-acre Chamblee parcel to the north.

By 1959, the image quality of the aerials improved and WA8801 is visible, along with an outbuilding of undetermined function to the northwest (Figure 5.14; USDA 1959). In comparison with the 1938 aerial, the 1959 aerial shows an open agricultural field north of the subject dwelling and more of a visual connection between the Chamblee House and WA8801. Between 1959 and 1971, the outbuilding northwest of the subject dwelling was demolished, and no trees separated WA8801 from the agricultural field and Chamblee residence to the north (Figure 5.15; USDA 1971).

¹ For more details regarding the Clarence H. and Nannie S. Chamblee House, see Section 4.0.

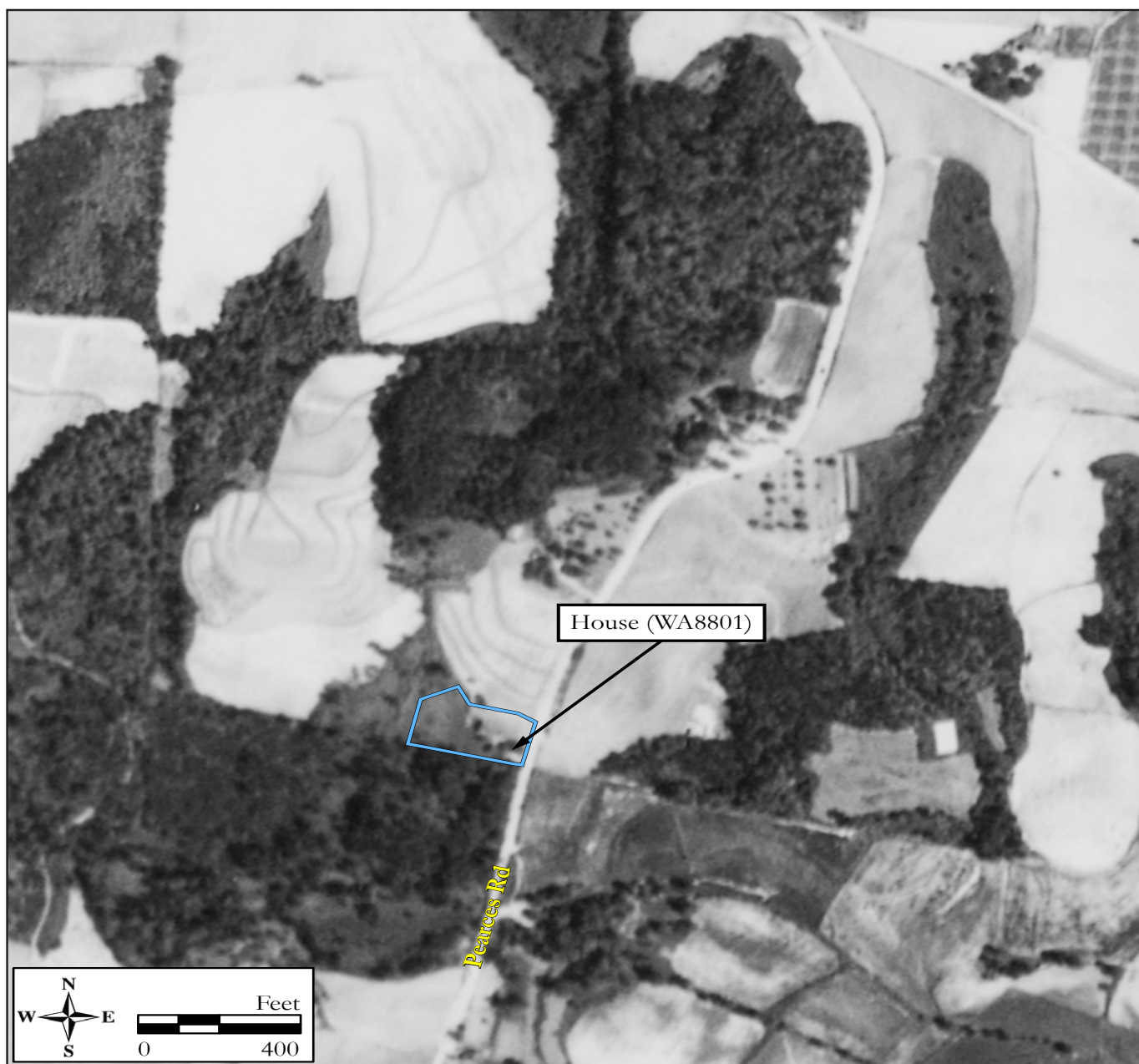


Figure 5.13: USDA aerial imagery from 1938 showing the location of WA8801 (USDA 1938).

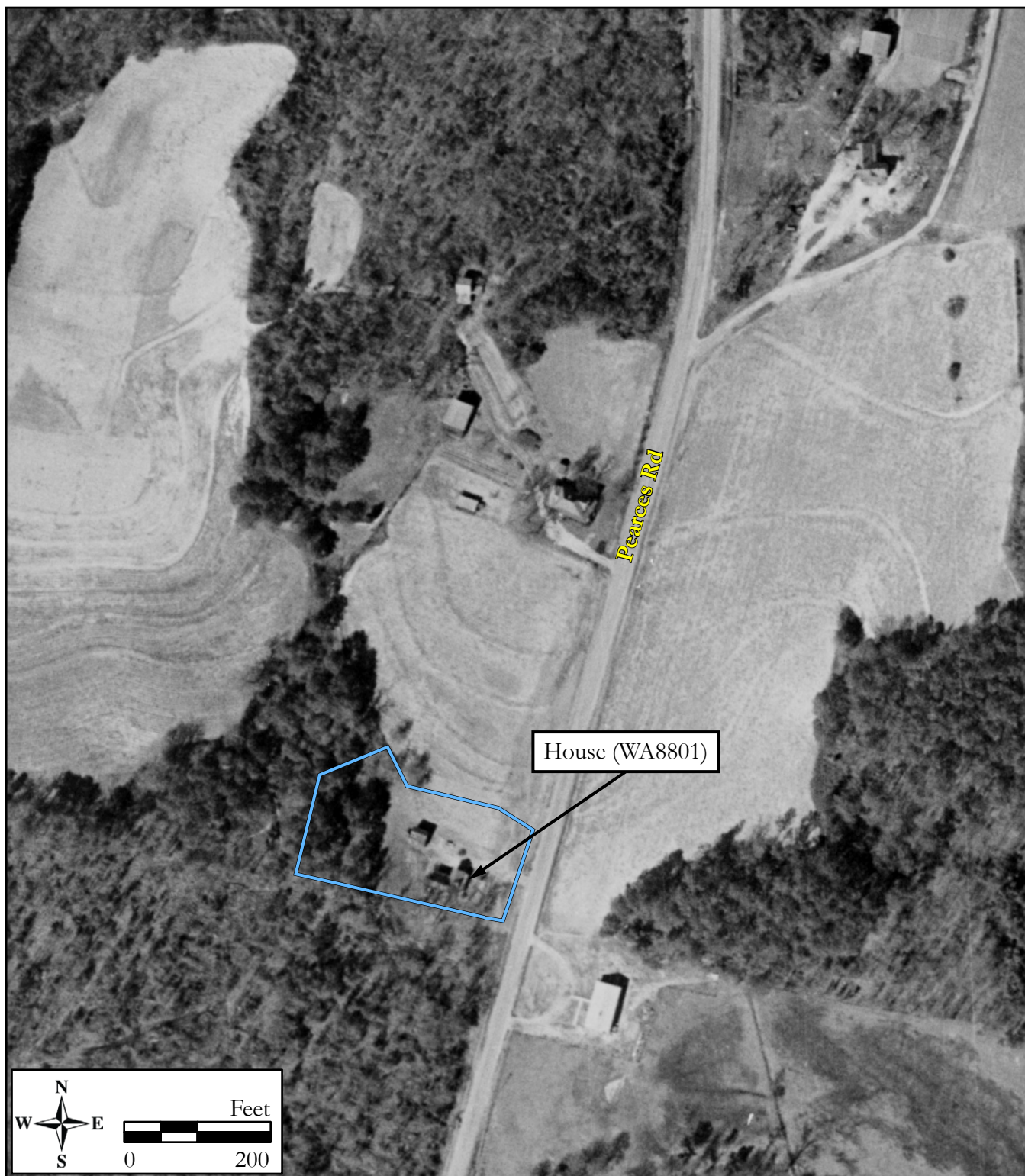


Figure 5.14: USDA aerial imagery from 1959 showing the location of WA8801 (USDA 1959).

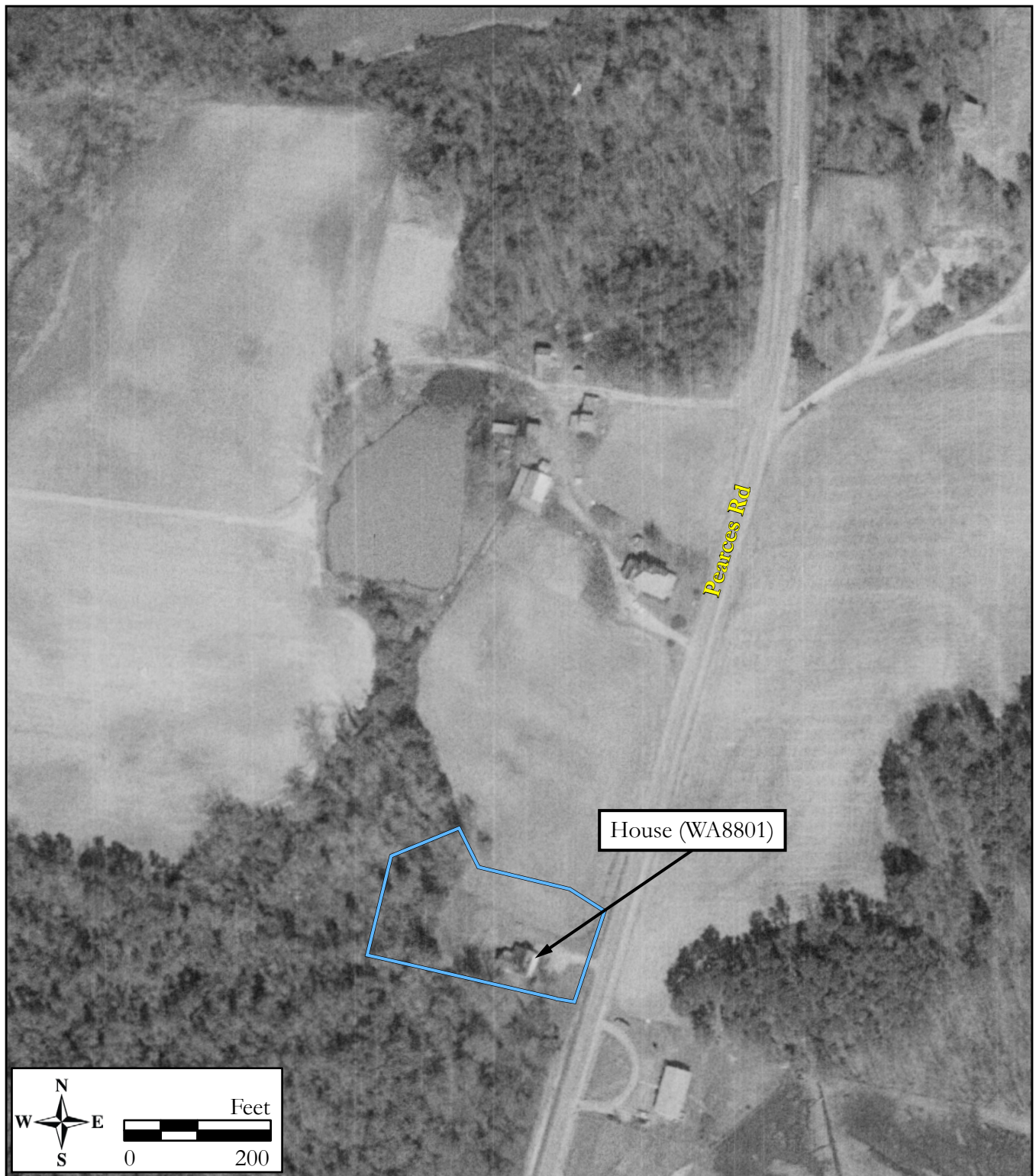


Figure 5.15: USDA aerial imagery from 1971 showing the location of WA8801 (USDA 1971).

If WA8801 was rented out, census records from 1940 suggest there were several families who rented dwellings near the Bakers who owned the Chamblee House around the same time. Those families included the Raymond Tant family, the Roosevelt Perry family, the Barry Parks family, the Birter Gay family, the Ernest Anderson family, the George C. Pace family, the Walter Walker family, and the Revey William family (U.S. Census 1940). The 1950 U.S. Census does not indicate whether individuals owned or rented their residences.

5.4 Architectural Context and Comparable Properties

The one-story, single-pile, side-gabled house with a decorative gable over the center bay of its façade creating a distinctive, “triple-A” roofline was common throughout Wake County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. According to architectural historian Kelly Lally, “judging from the large number of them on the landscape, one- and two-story triple-A-roofed dwellings were the most popular houses among Wake County’s residents around the turn of the century,” and they were found in both rural and urban settings (Lally and Johnson 1993: F134). While the simplest and most common versions were finished with modest trim, some front gables featured decorative sawn or turned woodwork, often echoing that found on the façade porch.

Because of the ubiquity of this house type in Wake County at the time of her survey, Lally singled out only a few archetypal examples for placement on the Study List. She cited the circa-1910 John H. Seagroves House (WA0676; SL 1991; LL 2011; Figure 5.16) near Apex, with Victorian-era porch and gable trim, as a particularly good representative. The circa-1910 Walter Perry House (WA1835, SL 1991; Figure 5.17) located between Zebulon and Rolesville is a simpler example but was included on the Study List as part of a larger, early twentieth-century farm complex. In Wakefield alone, Lally recorded five one-story, triple-A-roofed houses. None has been placed on the Study List or listed in the NRHP, and two of the five are no longer extant. In addition to WA8801, surviving examples of the house type include the significantly altered house at 505 Pearces Road in Wakefield (WA2115; Figure 5.18) and the house at the center of the Pace Farm (WA2080; Figure 5.19), which is located on the southwestern outskirts of the community.

5.5 NRHP Evaluation

Integrity

In order to be individually eligible for the NRHP, a property must possess several, and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. In addition, the property must possess significance under at least one of the four NRHP evaluation criteria. WA8801 remains in its original location near the former Village of Wakefield giving the property integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. It retains its original form and most of its original materials, including wood weatherboard siding, wood double-hung windows, and interior woodwork. Alterations to the house have been minimal, and it retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

Criteria Evaluation

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A if they are associated with a significant event or pattern of events that have made contributions to history at the local, state, or national level. WA8801 has no known associations with significant events or patterns of events that played an important role in history. *Therefore, WA8801 is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B if they are associated with persons of significance within the community, state, or national historic contexts. No owners of the house were known to be of transcendent importance to local, state, or national historic contexts. *Therefore, WA8801 is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion B.*



Figure 5.16: John H. Seagroves House (WA0676)



Figure 5.17: Walter Perry House (WA1835)



Figure 5.18: House at 505 Pearces Road (WA2115)



Figure 5.19: Pace Farm house (WA2080)

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represent the work of a master; or possess high artistic value. The circa-1910 house at 921 Pearces Road is an example of the one-story, triple-A-roofed houses which were commonplace in rural Wake County in the early twentieth century. Examples of this house type which have been placed on the Study List or listed in or determined to be eligible for the NRHP tend to either have more elaborate architectural detailing or are considered significant as components of larger farm complexes, such as the Seagroves House (WA0676) and the Water Perry House (WA1835). Despite its physical integrity, as a stand-alone resource, WA8801 lacks the requisite distinction and significance to justify eligibility under Criterion C. *Therefore, WA8801 is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion C.*

Properties can be eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D if they have the potential to yield information significant to human history or prehistory. It is unlikely WA8801 would yield any unretrieved data not discoverable through informant interviews and documentary sources. *Therefore, WA8801 is recommended not eligible for the NRHP under Criterion D.*

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