NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Flyway Club
Knotts Island, Currituck County, CK0300, Listed 5/12/2015
Nomination by Cynthia de Miranda and Jennifer Martin
Photographs by Jennifer Martin, June 2014

Farm Building

Lodge
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking “x” in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter “N/A” for “not applicable.” For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name   Flyway Club
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number   221 Marsh Causeway Road
N/A    ☐ not for publication
city or town   Knotts Island
N/A    ☐ vicinity
state   North Carolina   code   NC   county   Currituck   code   053   zip code   27950

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

☐ As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

☐ In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet
☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, explain:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
## 5. Classification

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<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)</td>
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Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

## 6. Function or Use

<table>
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## 7. Description

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<td></td>
<td>roof Asphalt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>other Asbestos shingle (roof)</td>
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Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria**
(Mark “x” in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</th>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Criteria Considerations n/a**
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- Property is:
  - A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
  - B removed from its original location.
  - C a birthplace or grave.
  - D a cemetery.
  - E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
  - F a commemorative property
  - G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance**
1928-1965

**Significant Dates**
Ca. 1928
ca. 1960

**Significant Person**
(Complete if Criterion B is marked)
n/a

**Cultural Affiliation**
n/a

**Architect/Builder**
Ogden, Peter Kinnear (architect for lodge)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography**
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**
- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:
Flyway Club  
Name of Property  

Currituck County, North Carolina  
County and State  

10. Geographical Data  

**Acreage of Property**  
Approximately 25 acres  

**UTM References**  
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)  

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</table>

- See continuation sheet  

**Verbal Boundary Description**  
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)  

**Boundary Justification**  
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)  

11. Form Prepared By  

- **name/title**  
  Cynthia de Miranda and Jennifer Martin  
- **organization**  
  MdM Historical Consultants Inc.  
- **date**  
  January 3, 2015  
- **street & number**  
  Post Office Box 1399  
- **telephone**  
  919/368-1602  
- **city or town**  
  Durham  
- **state**  
  NC  
- **zip code**  
  27702  

**Additional Documentation**  
Submit the following items with the completed form:  

**Continuation Sheets**  

**Maps**  
- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location  
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.  

**Photographs**  
Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.  

**Additional items**  
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)  

**Property Owner**  
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)  

- **name**  
  The Conservation Fund  
- **street & number**  
  1655 N Fort Myer Drive, Suite 300  
- **telephone**  
  ________________________________  
- **city or town**  
  Arlington  
- **state**  
  VA  
- **zip code**  
  22209  

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:**  
This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)  

**Estimated Burden Statement:**  
Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.
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National Park Service  

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Flyway Club  
Currituck County, North Carolina  

Description  

Flyway Club, composed of a large late 1920s farm building and a large two-story, multi-gabled hunting lodge from 1960 and, stands on the east shore of the Currituck Sound in Currituck County. Established on isolated Knotts Island in 1920, the lodge burned on Christmas Eve 1958, but was rebuilt in 1960 with exterior massing similar to the original, although without the original shingle sheathing. The interior is nearly the same as the 1920 building, but with some minor modifications. The farm building, constructed from 1928 to 1930, remains on the property and is a rare surviving local example of a substantial outbuilding designed to serve two purposes: to contribute to the operation of the estate and to house workers who labored at Flyway Club.  

Knotts Island, a peninsula accessible only by boat from North Carolina, remains a rural, maritime and agricultural community. It is one of many islands that make up the county, which was established in 1681 and forms the state’s northeast corner. The Intercoastal Waterway and Currituck Sound divide the county in half from north to south. Other watercourses in the county include the North River and the Northwest River. The Great Dismal Swamp, the Great Swamp, and Maple Swamp cover vast areas in the western half of Currituck County.  

Flyway Club occupies approximately twenty-six acres on the west side of Marsh Causeway Road, also designated NC 615. The approach to the lodge is along a straight, quarter-mile-long gravel lane on the west side of Marsh Causeway Road. A pair of crepe myrtles flanks the entrance to the driveway, which proceeds in a west-southwest direction through open fields on both sides. A little over 200 yards after the driveway begins, the open fields give over to large flanking oak and evergreen trees that provide shade for the approach to the lodge. The yard immediately around the lodge is dotted with a variety of trees on a grassy lawn. To the north around the farm building, the lawn is mostly clear of trees. The shed, which is just behind, or north of, the farm building, is set in a thick patch of trees. Pine and other trees, and sea grass grow along the shoreline of the Currituck Sound to the west of the lodge and farm building. Remnants of a wooden dock jut out from the shoreline of Currituck Sound to the northwest of the lodge. The shoreline’s concrete and stone bulkhead is mostly intact, but overgrown with vegetation.  

The original lodge included a kitchen, gunroom with a pool table, dining room, and a large clubroom with an oversize fireplace on the first floor. Bedrooms were on the upper story. Caretaker’s quarters were located in the rear of the house. After the lodge was destroyed by fire in 1958, at least twenty-six tradesman and carpenters constructed the new building that nearly duplicated the original lodge.
Farm Building
1928-1930
Contributing Building

The two-story, U-shaped farm building—a large Colonial Revival-style outbuilding with servants’ quarters above car storage and animal housing areas—dates to the late 1920s and retains most of its original finishes except where deterioration has called for repair with modern material. The design is based on country estate outbuildings and is similar in appearance and form to the circa 1924 Hunt Stable at Overhills, the former hunt club and winter vacation estate established by Percy Rockefeller in Harnett County during the early twentieth century.

The farm building faces southeast, but for the purposes of this description it will be described as facing south. The center four-bay-wide, side-gabled section, which is brick sheathed in weatherboard, is flanked by a pair of L-shaped frame gambrel-roofed wings that project forward creating an overall upside-down U-shape. Windows throughout are six-over-six, double-hung sash and dormers are front-gabled and covered in wood shingles, except on the center section where they are sheathed in weatherboard. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Each side wing contains an interior brick chimney on its short side.

The façade of the center brick section displays four bays with double doors that have cross-bracing on the bottom half and eight-light windows on their upper halves. A wooden elliptical sunburst tops each bay. Four wall dormers sheathed in weatherboard extend along the upper façade and an octagonal cupola rests on the center of the roof ridge. On the cupola, louvered wood vent panels that are crowned by a standing seam metal roof with flared eaves top its wood-shingled base. A ball finial crowned by a weathervane sits atop the cupola. The rear elevation of the center section displays four front-gabled wall dormers like those on the façade above four windows on the lower level.

The L-shaped wings, both crowned with gambrel roofs and flanking the center section, are similar in appearance and mostly identical in their exterior finishes. In the shorter portion closest to the center, side-gabled brick block, both have lower-level double doors on their facades like those on the center section, but lacking the sunburst. A shed-roofed porch extends along the façade of each L-shaped wing and on this shorter portion, the roof of the porch is curved over the double doors. These side wings are topped by a pair of wood-shingled gabled dormers. The rear elevations of these shorter wings differ in their fenestration, but both have a pair of front-gabled, wood-shingled dormers. The western wing features a double-leaf door like the one on the façade, a single-leaf door, and a window. The eastern wing displays a single-leaf door and three windows.

The larger section of the side wings that extend to the south, creating the building’s overall U-shaped configuration, nearly mirror each other except in their fenestration. Both have three wood-shingled, front-gabled dormers on the
The west wing façade is composed of a wide wood paneled Dutch door, two single-leaf wood paneled doors (one is a Dutch door), and four windows. Its south end includes a hayloft bay on the upper story and a pair of windows on the lower level. Temporary synthetic siding covers its rear elevation, which is pierced by a single door opening. The north end of this west wing features a pair of windows on the upper level. A one-story, shed-roofed weatherboard addition with a brick foundation, possibly a chicken shelter, covers most of the lower level of the north end of the wing and extends as a frame structure beyond the wing’s west wall.

The east wing’s façade is composed of a single-leaf door and five windows. Its south end contains a single-leaf door flanked by a pair of windows and sheltered by shed-roofed hood supported by brackets with pendant wood urns on the upper level. Originally, a wooden stair provided access from the door to the ground. A single centered window pierces the lower level. A small portion of the rear (west) elevation is sheathed in temporary synthetic siding. Two door openings, both covered with siding or plywood, and four windows are located on the east elevation. Two of these windows are partially boarded up. The north end displays two windows on the upper level and three on the lower level.

**Interior**

The interior of the farm building housed workers, equipment, and farm animals for the hunt club. The building retains most of its original finishes except where water damage has occurred and new wood framing has been installed. The most prominent example of this is along the west wall of the west wing. There have been no major alterations to the floor plan or arrangement of interior spaces.

The first level of the center brick section of the farm building contains bays for automobiles and areas for tool storage. Its walls are brick, floors are concrete, and ceilings are plaster. Doors are paneled wood with flat surrounds that rest on wood plinths. The tall baseboards have molded caps. A wooden stair with an intact balustrade and boxed newel posts with cap molding and molded necking occupies the northwest corner of the center section.

The west wing’s walls are plaster and its floors are concrete on the first level. Animal stalls with high wainscot and original metal bars occupy the first level. Marble feeding troughs and the original watering system remain. The first level of the east wing was not accessible, but appears to contain one or two rooms and is currently used to house chickens. On the upper level, the west wing holds hay and equipment, including a large boiler for the lodge. The upper levels of the center section and the east wing contain sixteen bedrooms and several bathrooms with original
fixtures for those who worked on the property. All the finishes on this level, including the plaster and tongue-and-groove walls and ceilings and wood floors, are intact.

**Lodge**

**1960**

**Contributing Building**

**Peter Kinnear Ogden, Architect**

The two-story, weatherboard, Colonial Revival-style lodge replaced the original 1920 lodge that burned in 1958. Peter Kinnear Ogden (1918-2010), a 1941 graduate of Yale University School of Architecture, designed the second lodge. Early in his career, he worked in New York City, but by the time he was commissioned to design the lodge at Flyway Club, he had established a practice in Greenwich, Connecticut.¹

The lodge faces northeast, but for the purposes of this description it will be identified as facing east. The exterior is layered with projecting features, including shed and gable roofed extensions, dormer windows, overhanging eaves, a cantilevered oriel bay supported on brackets, and asymmetrical massing, all contained in a large silhouette on a basic rectangular footprint. A gambrel roof with flush ends and oriented in a north-south direction is intersected at the house’s center by a taller front-gabled wing with flush ends that crowns this substantial dwelling. This wing projects slightly forward on the façade, but forms a short wing on the rear elevation facing the Currituck Sound. Asbestos shingles cover the roof. Two large corbelled brick chimneys rise from the dwelling’s interior: one through a shed roofed extension on the façade that is south of the main entrance and the other from the roof ridge near the north end of the house. An original long gable-roofed wing extends eastward from the north end of the façade. Except for the southernmost windows on the first floor and those flanking the front door, the windows have been replaced because of the extreme weather conditions along the Currituck Sound. Unless otherwise noted, windows described are replacements. Much of the weatherboard has also been replaced due to the corrosive elements of wind and water along the shore of the sound.

The façade features the projecting front gable with grouped replacement casement windows on each level. The lower level of the front gable extends beyond the main façade, while the upper gable displays a slight overhang. A louvered wood vent crowns the front-gable wing. To the south is the main entrance with a concrete stoop flanked by original twenty-eight-light windows with lead muntins. The main entrance contains a large wood plank door embellished with evenly-spaced exposed steel pins. A batten door with a brick stoop pierces the south end of the façade’s shed extension located to the south of the main entrance. A shed dormer rests on the front slope of the main gambrel roof and abuts the south side of the shed extension. To the north of the façade’s projecting gable are casement windows in

groups of four or two on both levels and the gable end of the long front-gabled wing at the north end of the facade. The wing is composed of two sections: the western two-thirds comprise a group of three casement windows plus two individual casement windows and its roof is slightly higher than the smaller eastern third. An off-center door pierces the east gable end of the wing. The north elevation of the one-story, gable-roofed front wing displays four sets of double and triple casement windows.

The gambrel roof overhangs the lodge’s south end and is graced by decorative wood hanging urns at the corners beneath the cantilevered second level. A three-sided cantilevered oriel window with six original twenty-light windows with lead muntins and supported by wood brackets is centered below the overhanging roof. A three-part replacement casement window below a wooden louvered vent lights the second floor above the bay window.

The rear elevation features the prominent front-gabled wing with replacement triple casement windows on each level on the gable end. The upper level projects slightly over the first level and features the hanging wood urns found on the south end of the house. The attic level overhangs the second level just slightly. The south side of the rear wing features one double casement window and a small light on the upper level. The north side of the rear wing includes a double casement window below a wooden louvered vent lights the second floor above the bay window.

The north elevation contains a one-story, gable-roofed screen porch and the upper level of the north end of the main gambrel roof pierced by a louvered wood vent and a small window at the second level.

**Interior**

The interior follows an irregular plan. A spacious living room with exposed hand-hewn pine beams on a spruce tongue-and-groove ceiling that has been painted white and vertical wood paneling occupies the south end of the first level. Floors in this portion of the first floor are wood except in front of the fireplace where they are brick. A massive brick fireplace with a substantial bracketed mantelshelf spans the east wall of the living room. Behind, or east of the fireplace, is a wood storage room with a concrete floor; this is the shed-roofed extension on the lodge’s facade. Access to this room from the interior is through a wood door just behind, or south of, the main façade door. A metal
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compass is mounted on one of the ceiling beams at the center of the living room and is tied to a weathervane on the roof’s ridge.

The dining area northeast of the living room features vertical wood wall sheathing, a tongue-and-groove spruce ceiling, a brick floor laid in a diagonal herringbone pattern, and a floating wooden stair with a minimalist balustrade and newel posts. In the original house, the stair was along the west wall of the living room. The brick floor and vertical wood sheathing continue through the gunroom that is to the west of the dining room. Three storage rooms consisting of two closets and a wine room are between the dining room and gunroom. A small bathroom is just off the gunroom to the north. A kitchen is north of the dining room and gunroom. Its walls and ceiling are plaster. The architect’s plans indicate that its south wall is soundproof to spare the family and guests noise from the kitchen. A stair in the northeast corner leads upstairs to the bunkroom. Northwest of the kitchen is the heater room with concrete floor and walls. The servant’s wing contained in the front ell is east of the heater room. This one-story wing contains three bedrooms, a living room, a closet, and two bathrooms with their original finishes and fixtures. Walls and ceiling are drywall and the floor is carpeted.

The upper level contains a den, three bedrooms, a large bunkroom over the kitchen, and four bathrooms. The bedroom west of the stair is commonly known as the Eisenhower room because Dwight Eisenhower stayed there on a visit to Flyway Club. The walls of the common spaces and bedrooms are finished in vertical wood siding and plaster, while floors are wood, and ceilings are plaster. Bathrooms contain original tile and fixtures.

A closet is located at the top of the stair, just off the small den that separates the bunkroom to the north from the bedrooms to the south. Closets line the hallway leading from the den to the bedrooms.

The bunkroom on the north end is the largest room on the second floor and holds four built-in wood bunk beds. A brick fireplace with tiles that picture ducks is on the north end of the room and a closed stair leading to the kitchen is on the east wall. A closet occupies the northwest corner. The south wall is soundproof in order to contain the noise generated by children staying in the bunkroom.

**Shed**  
**Ca. 1930**  
**Contributing Building**

To the north of the farm building is a side-gabled, two-room outbuilding with vertical wood siding resting on a brick foundation. A standing-seam metal-covered roof with exposed rafter tails tops the building, which appears to have
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been used to house farm animals. Large triangular brackets are located below the eaves. The shed contains two rooms fronted by vertical-wood doors and separated on the interior by a half wall. The interior is sheathed in vertical wood.

Tennis Courts
Ca. 1930
Contributing Structure

A single tennis court with an asphalt surface and partially surrounded by a high chain link fence is approximately 85 yards east of the house.

Dock
Ca. 1960
Noncontributing Structure

Remnants of the floating wooden dock extend from the shoreline of the Currituck Sound northwest of the lodge. A short, straight section is to the south and a longer, L-shaped portion is to the north. Most of the dock’s pylons remain, but at least half of the decking has been lost.

Seawall/Bulkhead
Ca. 1920
Contributing Structure

The concrete and stone bulkhead extends along approximately 180 yards of sound frontage west of the lodge. Portions are overgrown with vegetation. A concrete seawall extends westward near the remnants of the dock.

Integrity Statement

Flyway Club retains sufficient integrity to convey its significance as a rare surviving fowl hunting lodge established in the early twentieth century in Currituck County. Some of its historic resources have undergone alteration or have deteriorated due to the location of the club on the shores of the Currituck Sound, a site subject to heavy winds and the detrimental effects of salt water and salt-infused air. The farm building has undergone very little alteration except on the rear elevations of its flanking wings. Synthetic siding has replaced some sections of the original weatherboard that deteriorated because of seeping water. On the corresponding interior walls, some new framing has been installed to replace rotten wood framing.
Large sections of the exterior of the lodge, a 1960 replica of the original 1920 house, have been resided with weatherboard that mimics the original weatherboard in width and profile. Most of the leaded-glass casement windows have been replaced because of deterioration. The original windows are in storage and could be restored and put back in place. Otherwise, the lodge retains its overall form and the interior arrangement of space.

Because of harsh weather conditions along the Currituck Sound, the boathouse has been lost and only a portion of the boat dock remains. The original ca. 1920 sea wall/bulkhead remains intact along the banks of the Currituck Sound.

Flyway Club’s qualities of setting, feeling, location, design, and association remain. Flyway Club, located on the shore of Currituck Sound on isolated Knott’s Island, strongly conveys its significance as an early to mid-twentieth century fowl hunting lodge. The spatial relationships between the historic resources and the close association between those resources and the setting chronicle the history of the Reid family’s establishment and long-time stewardship of Flyway Club. The two principal buildings—the farm building and the lodge—retain their overall designs and are unmistakably identified as tied to the original purpose and intent of this property. Some loss of integrity of material and workmanship due to replacement elements has occurred, but in the context of the buildings’ massing and historical associations, this loss is minimized.

A General Statement of Archaeological Potential

The structures are closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains such as trash pits, privies, wells, and other structural remains that may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the contributing structures. Information concerning land-use patterns, agricultural practices, social standing and social mobility, as well as structural details, is often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the structures. At this time, no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is likely that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.
Summary

Flyway Club, located on Knotts Island in Currituck County, is one of a small number of remaining waterfowl hunting lodges established in the early twentieth century in the northeast corner of North Carolina. Ogden Mills Reid (1882-1947), editor of the New York Herald Tribune, and his wife, Helen Rogers Reid (1882-1970), president and chairman of the Herald Tribune, had the lodge at Flyway Club built in 1920 in order to host hunting excursions for friends and business and political associates as well as to provide a family retreat. From 1928 to 1930, they built the large outbuilding, known as the farm building, to house farm animals, servants, and equipment for the rural estate. When a Christmas Eve fire destroyed the lodge in 1958, Ogden Rogers Reid, the original owner’s son who received the property as a wedding present from his mother, had it rebuilt in 1960. Currituck County gained prominence as a duck hunting locale beginning in the mid-nineteenth century, especially among wealthy and prominent northeasterners who built lodges along the sound. Along with the Reids, George Eastman of Eastman-Kodak, the DuPonts, and magazine publisher Joseph P. Knapp, built lodges in northeastern North Carolina. Flyway Club remained in the Reid family until late 2013 when the Conservation Fund purchased it in order to ensure the preservation of the buildings and conservation of the Reid land. Flyway Club meets National Register Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation as a rare surviving complex associated with the history of waterfowl hunting in Currituck County, a tradition that began in the mid-nineteenth century. The property meets Criterion C for the architectural significance of the Colonial Revival-style lodge and farm building. Inspired by early colonial architecture and post-medieval English prototypes, 1960 Flyway Club is one of the few remaining grand hunting lodges in northeast North Carolina. The farm building holds significance in the area of architecture as a rare local example of a large, Colonial Revival-style agricultural building constructed to reflect the aesthetic of the American Country House Movement. The period of significance for Flyway Club is 1928, the date of construction of the farm building, to 1965, in accordance with the fifty-year National Register standard. Although the family owned and continued to use the Flyway Club for fowl hunting after 1965, the period after that date does not possess exceptional significance.

Recreation Context: Fowl Hunting in Currituck County

Waterfowl have followed a migration path along the east coast of the United States for hundreds of years. In 1828, a storm closed the salt water Currituck Inlet. It gradually became a freshwater body transforming the vegetation that grew there. As a result, many more birds, including geese, ducks, and swan, flocked to the Currituck Sound to make their winter homes. Locals began hunting fowl in the area and taking them to market in nearby Norfolk, Virginia. With the construction of a canal connecting the Sound to Norfolk and later, the building of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad through the area, Currituck County fowl reached new and distant markets up the east coast. With this far-
reaching exposure, the Currituck Sound became known for its flavorful duck, notably canvasbacks, which fetched more money than those from the Albemarle or Pamlico sounds.²

Commercial hunting transformed Currituck Sound and its economy by allowing locals to supplement their incomes by acting as commercial hunting guides or leasing land to hunters. In 1848, Jasper White of Poplar Branch, North Carolina, leased property along the Currituck Banks to use as hunting ground. By 1850, a large number of men hunted waterfowl commercially in Currituck County.³

Following the Civil War, northern hunters in particular traveled to Back Bay, Virginia and the Currituck Sound in North Carolina to hunt waterfowl. Guides living in Virginia and North Carolina continued to serve as guides and hosts to hunters arriving from the north by train and steamer. In December 1890, the New York Times reported on a group of ten men, including a congressman, railroad owner, and car company president, who traveled to Norfolk where they took a train to the Princess Anne Hotel, “whence they will take private conveyance for Currituck Sound…to shoot redhead and canvasback duck, now swarming in that body of water.”⁴

By the late 1800s, coastal southeast Virginia and northeast North Carolina came to be known as the waterfowl capital of the world. From the 1870s to the 1920s, over one hundred gun clubs and hunt lodges were established in a one-hundred-mile-long area encompassing the Back Bay and Currituck Sound and surrounding marshlands.⁵ Among those establishing lodges were prominent and wealthy northeasterners such as George Gould, son of Jay Gould; William E. Corey, president of U. S. Steel; George Eastman of Eastman-Kodak; the Proctors of Proctor and Gamble; the DuPonts; and Joseph P. Knapp, publisher of Ladies Home Journal.⁶

In November 1870, a group of hunters traveling from Long Island, New York, to Florida anchored next to Crow Island, later called Swan Island, in the Currituck Inlet during a storm. The boat, named Anonyona, remained stranded in the sound and was converted to use as a hunting club for what eventually become Swan Island Club. The earliest members came from wealthy, educated northern families, and included H. B. Endicott and H. Wendel Endicott, whose family manufactured shoes in Rhode Island; W. Cameron Forbes, nephew of Ralph Waldo Emerson; and a

⁵ Archie Johnson and Bud Coppedge, Gun Clubs and Decoys of Back Bay and Currituck Sound (Virginia Beach, Virginia: Cur Bac Press, 1991), 8.
railroad president from Boston. In 1877, the Anonyona burned and the Swan Island Club’s members purchased Crow Island and converted a farmhouse there into a clubhouse. The farmhouse burned in 1900 and was replaced by a new clubhouse that burned in 1910. The clubhouse built in 1913-1914 remains in use today. The two-story, wood-shingled, almost-square building features a hipped roof and a hipped-roof, glass-enclosed widow’s walk.

Businessmen from New York City organized the Currituck Shooting Club on June 8, 1857. They purchased 3,100 acres of marshland and beach from Abraham Baum and built a clubhouse. In 1879, the group built a two-story, heart-pine building containing twenty-one rooms, but leaving the original club standing. A caretaker’s house and long house for guides was built in the early 1880s. In 1906, the original clubhouse was torn down. Members sold their ocean front property around 1969, but kept about 3,000 acres of land on Currituck Sound. In 2003, the Currituck Shooting Club burned. It was the oldest private hunting lodge on the east coast. A housing development occupies the site of the club.

In April 1890, hunters from Norfolk and Norfolk County chartered the Martin’s Point Gun Club, Inc. and constructed a clubhouse in the dunes on the Outer Banks. In 1895, the club sold and the name changed to the Currituck Sound Shooting Club. By this time, the club had amassed 2,000 acres of beach and marsh on Knotts Island. A storm destroyed the clubhouse in 1898, but was replaced with a larger building by new owners from New York and Philadelphia in 1905. Sometime after 1909, the name changed to Currituck Gunning and Fishing Club. The property changed hands several times in the twentieth century, but always remained a private club. In 1988, three men from Warrenton, Virginia, acquired the property and offered hunting excursions and accommodations to the public. Located at 165 Currituck Club Lane, the 1905 two-story, wood-shingled building remains mostly in its original form except for the addition of a three-part picture window in place of two single, double-hung sash on the facade, the addition of an enclosed one-story porch on the façade, and the enclosure of the front entry porch.

A group of sportsmen from Boston formed the Pine Island Club in 1910 on land south of Corolla on the Outer Banks purchased from Josephus Baum and his sons. The members remodeled the 1874 building that had belonged to the former Palmer Island Club. In 1911, Dr. Julian Baum became superintendent of the club and new living quarters were built for him and his family. On January 3, 1913, a fire destroyed the clubhouse. A new club was finished by June of that year. In 1935, Austin D. Barney of Connecticut bought the Pine Island Club. In 1972, following Barney’s death, Earl F. Slick of Winston-Salem bought the club. The 1913 clubhouse remains, but has been covered in synthetic siding and its windows have been replaced. Other resources at the site include the club manager’s

7 Johnson and Coppedge, 87-88.
9 Johnson and Coppedge, 85-86.
10 Johnson and Coppedge, 99-100.
cottage, a cottage for the caretakers and hunting guides, four guest cottages, a garage, and animal pens. A boat dock and two associated outbuildings remain along the shoreline.

Edward C. Knight and his wife, Amanda Marie Louise LaBel, built the Whalehead Club, beginning in 1922, as a private hunting retreat on the Outer Banks near Corolla. Completed in 1925, the grand lodge displays a combination of the Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau styles mostly notable in its sweeping side-gable roof. A bridge and historic boathouse built by the Knights also remain on the property. The caretaker’s cottage burned in 1948.11

By 1927, at least forty-three hunting clubs stood on the shores of Back Bay and the Currituck Sound.12

Local guides remained an essential component of the hunting culture in Currituck County into the twentieth century. The 1920 census identified six sporting or hunting club guides in Fruitville Township where Knotts Island is located. The group included one woman, twenty-nine-year-old Mamie Bowden.13

The success of the fowl hunting clubs had its downside as ducks in Currituck County became scarcer. In the early twentieth century, Henry Ansell, a local citizen, wrote: “There are millions of wealthy people of speculative habits roaming this country, some for pleasure, some for both pleasure and lucre…. These hunters hail from everywhere and go where-ever wild birds and beasts are found…. In his youth the writer could see in two miles square more ducks then can now be seen in going from Vanslyck’s to the Virginia Line. If these brooding places are not protected soon there will be neither ducks nor other like birds to visit.”14

Beginning in the 1930s, as the population of waterfowl continued to decrease, measures were put in place to preserve the birds. Hunting limits were instituted and the shooting season was shortened. In the 1930s, rising land values and the lure of jobs in Norfolk for locals also led to the decline in the number of hunting clubs.15

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12 Tursi, “Duck Dynasty.”
14 Henry B. Ansell Papers, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Vol. 1, 45, quoted in Brown and Sumner.
15 Brown and Sumner, 8-2.
Historical Background

In June 1919, Ogden Mills Reid (1882-1947), editor of the New York Herald Tribune, and his wife, Helen Rogers Reid (1882-1970), president and chairman of the Herald Tribune, purchased over 357 acres in Currituck County. They had the lodge at Flyway Club built in 1920 in order to host hunting excursions for friends and business associates. From 1928 to 1930, they built the large outbuilding, known as the farm building. The two-story brick and weatherboard-covered frame barn contained rooms for servants on the second floor and stables and garage space on the lower level. The property included seven acres surrounding the house and support buildings, including a boathouse and small shed, plus 350 acres in marshland. The Reids leased additional marshland from a neighbor for hunting waterfowl. The boathouse (not extant) stood near the dock, a portion of which remains, and contained a decoy and equipment room. A tennis court provided further recreation to the family and guests.

The Reids employed around twenty-two people at Flyway Club beginning in the 1920s. Flyway not only hosted hunting expeditions, but was also a working farm. Domestics cooked the meals and served them, while other workers tended to the grounds and the extensive peach orchard, and raised the farm’s turkeys and milk cows. The Reids also employed hunting guides for their guests. The club’s workers lived mostly on the upper level of the farm building, while horses, cows, and other livestock occupied the lower level. The farm building also housed the family’s automobiles.

Ogden Mills Reid, a 1907 graduate of Yale Law School, was working at his father’s newspaper, the New York Tribune, when his father, Whitelaw Reid, died in 1912. Ogden Reid took over as editor-in-chief of the paper at the age of thirty, but much credit for the day-to-day operation of the Tribune goes to his wife, Helen Rogers Reid, a suffragist and Barnard University graduate, who Reid married in March 1911. In 1919, the Reids bought hundreds of acres in Currituck County. In 1924, the Reids purchased the New York Herald and the paper became the New York Herald Tribune. Helen Reid became involved in the editorial side of the paper and was on the cover of Time magazine in October 1934. She was a strong advocate for women and in the mid-1940s the Herald Tribune had more women on staff than any other newspaper in the United States.

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16 Currituck County Deed Book 57, page 481, Currituck County Register of Deeds, June 2, 1919.
17 Johnson and Coppedge, 123.
18 Tursi, “Duck Dynasty.”
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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When Ogden Mills Reid died in 1947, the *New York Times* called him “an athlete, an outdoors man by instinct.”21 In 1949, Helen Rogers Reid sold Flyway Club to her son, Ogden Rogers Reid, and his wife, Mary Louise Stewart Reid, for one hundred dollars as a wedding gift.22 In 1958, the Reid family sold control of the *New York Herald Tribune* to John Hay Whitney, the United States Ambassador to Britain.23 That same year, fire destroyed the lodge at Flyway Club. Ogden Rogers Reid had it rebuilt in 1960.

Ogden Rogers Reid was born in 1925 in New York City. He graduated from Yale University in 1949, the same year he married Mary Louis Stewart. He worked for the *New York Herald Tribune* as a reporter and columnist from 1950 to 1953. He headed up the paper’s European edition from 1953 to 1959 and was vice-president and president/editor of the New York Herald Inc. from 1955 to 1959. Ogden Rogers Reid was the American ambassador to Israel from 1959 to 1961. When Reid returned to the United States in 1961, Governor Nelson Rockefeller appointed him to the New York State Commission for Human Rights. Reid was member of the New York House of Representatives from 1962 to 1974. He ran for governor of New York in 1974, but was defeated.24

The Reids visited Flyway Club over the years, but kept their full-time residence in New York. They employed caretakers to maintain the buildings and the property. In a 1998 interview, Ogden Rogers Reid referred to the lodge: “We have a little spot down in North Carolina for hunting and fishing, on the Atlantic Flyway, on Currituck Sound, which means “Call of the Wild Goose” in Native American language of the area.”25

Both generations of Reids often entertained high profile political figures and business associates at Flyway Club. In 1941, Winston Churchill visited Flyway Club to convince Ogden Mills Reid to support American participation in the European war. Dwight Eisenhower visited the Reids during his presidency in the 1950s. Herbert Hoover, who was a friend of the Reids, came often and liked to fish in the waters around the property.26

The Reids owned Flyway Club until late 2013 when the Conservation Fund purchased the buildings and 425 acres with the intent of preserving and conserving the historic buildings and the land associated with them.

24 “Biographical Sketch,” in the Guide to the Ogden Rogers Reid Papers, Yale University Library, [www.drs.library.yale.edu](http://www.drs.library.yale.edu), accessed September 15, 2014; “Reid is Sworn in as Envoy to Israel,” *New York Times*, June 6, 1959.
26 Tursi, “Duck Dynasty.”
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Architecture Context

The farm building at Flyway Club presents a rare building type and form in North Carolina. Built as both functional multi-purpose buildings and showpieces to display the wealth of their builders, this and similar buildings were built in the Country Estate-era aesthetic much more common on northern estates than in North Carolina. According to family tradition, the Reids hired an unknown architect to design the multi-purpose building used to house livestock, provide space for automobiles and equipment, and to lodge the many workers who operated this rural, isolated estate on the east banks of the Currituck Sound.

The building in North Carolina most similar to the farm building is the Hunt Stable at Overhills, the Rockefeller family estate in Harnett County. Built around 1924, the stable is a U-shaped building constructed of terra cotta brick. The two-story main block, which has an east-west orientation, has a gambrel roof and is flanked by one-story gable-roofed north-south oriented wings containing stall blocks. The main block has front and rear shed-roof dormers. The Hunt Stable housed a stable manager in a total of five rooms on the first and second levels of its main block. The main block has plaster walls, two-panel doors, and a concrete slab floor on the first level. Floors on the upper level are wood. The stalls in the wings feature tongue-and-groove board interior partition walls capped by iron grills. Floors in the stall wings are dirt. Three terra cotta and brick chimneys rise from the building: two at each end of the main block and one at the center of the main block. The Hunt Stable is in poor condition. Its roof has failed and missing windows and doors have allowed for the deterioration of the building.27

The 1948-1949 Brewster Barn, part of the Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms in Moore County (NR 2013) that was home to the Moore County Hunt, is a finely detailed Colonial Revival-style frame barn built on a grand scale at the heart of the hunt lands. The ground floor houses horse stalls, tack rooms, grooms’ bathrooms, and laundries, with storage, hay lofts, and a groom’s apartment above. The barn is also unusual for its central paneled sitting area with a large fireplace, parquet floors, and decorative beadboard paneled ceilings. A covered veranda off this area is accessed by double-doors on the west elevation. This room is flanked by restrooms for the riders and cedar-lined changing closets with shelves and cabinets for riding costumes. The barn is in in good condition. 28

Reynolda Village, on the Winston-Salem property of R. J. Reynolds and his wife, was built with the intention of making Reynolda a self-sufficient country estate (the house, gardens, church, and village were listed in 1980 as the Reynolda Historic District). Resident cottages, animal shelters, greenhouses, offices, a school and utility buildings

were built between 1912 and 1916. The village was designed in the style of an English village, and the buildings were of the same bungalow-influenced architecture as the main house. The structures were designed by Charles B. Keen and Willard Northup. The large main barn is situated in back of the cow barn and was used to house the Percherons. Part of the building was used as garage space. Fieldstone on reinforced concrete is exposed at both ends of the building to form the exterior of the ice house at the south end and a garage at the north end. The ice house is presently occupied by three shops, the garage a carpentry shop but the overall form and details are still present.29

The design of the 1960 lodge at Flyway Club was intended to look much like the original lodge built on the site in 1920 and is influenced by early colonial architecture. The lodge embodies the early Colonial Revival style in its conscious effort to copy examples of early colonial architecture. The house is similar to the 1683 Capen House in Topsfield, Massachusetts, with its large decorative chimney tops, second-story overhangs graced by decorative hanging wood pendants, and the large wooden plank doors with exposed steel pins based on post-medieval English prototypes.

Peter Kinnear Ogden (1918-2010) designed the 1960 lodge at Flyway Lodge. Ogden, a 1941 graduate of Yale University School of Architecture, worked in New York City for the architectural firms of Kahn and Jacobs, Edward Stone, and IBEC Housing. In the 1950s, he started his own practice in Greenwich, Connecticut, with a focus on residential architecture. In 1976, he advised Happy Rockefeller, wife of vice-president Nelson Rockefeller, on the renovations to the Admiral’s House, which became the official vice-presidential residence in Washington D. C. in 1974. A 1976 *Ebony* magazine article about the renovations at the Admiral’s House identified Ogden as “the Rockefeller’s architect.” Ogden also designed Nelson Rockefeller’s house, known as “Monte Sacro,” in Venezuela.30

The lodge at Flyway Club, a conscious reconstruction of the 1920 hunting club, represents the architectural trends found at hunting lodges and rural estates established by well-to-do northern businessmen in North Carolina in the early twentieth century. These grand dwellings typically stood apart from the types, styles, and forms of buildings constructed by North Carolinians, even the affluent who built houses in vacation retreats such as Pinehurst. When they established their southern oases, families like the Reids brought with them their own ideas about architecture and planning. On the advice of friend and political associate Nelson Rockefeller, the Reids hired Peter Kinnear Ogden, an architect trained in the northeast and who worked with the Rockefellers and clients in Greenwich, Connecticut, one of the wealthiest communities in the United States. The sensibilities and aesthetic that Ogden

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brought to his work at Flway Club derived from the types of manor houses and imposing dwellings he was commissioned to design for elite clients in the northeast.31

Estates like Flyway Club with their spacious lodges typically occupied large parcels that assured privacy and included support buildings, structures, and features that enhanced the sense of retreat from northern urban life and created a complex that functioned independently. These grand lodges and their attendant buildings set in a dramatic landscape also conveyed the wealth and standing of their residents and guests. At Flyway Club, the lodge, together with the farm building, occupying hundreds of acres and positioned along the shore of the Currituck Sound, one of the premier duck hunting locales of the early twentieth century, created the type of sanctuary suitable for a family with the social, political, and economic standing enjoyed by the Reids.

Although several hunting lodges were built in Currituck County, only a few remain. The best known is Whalehead Club, which stands on the Currituck Banks. Constructed during the same time period as the original lodge at Flyway Club, the Whalehead Club features a high side-gabled roof, multiple dormers, and massive brick chimneys. Philadelphians Amanda and Edward C. Knight constructed the Whalehead Club in the Arts and Crafts and Art Nouveau styles on two thousand acres to provide themselves with a private hunting lodge.

31 Tursi, “When Waterfowl Ruled the Roost.” A July 11, 1960 issue of Life magazine depicts Mary Louis Reid and her husband, Ogden Reid, picnicking with Happy and Nelson Rockefeller at Pocantico Hills, the Rockefeller estate in upstate New York suggesting that the families were on friendly terms, Life, July 11, 1960, 83.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Geographical Data
UTM References (continued)
5 18 410000 4044220
6 18 409880 4044280

Verbal Boundary Description
The boundary for Flyway Club is drawn on the accompanying map and is twenty-six acres of the overall 409-acre parcel. The PIN # is 8082-09-7139 and the parcel number is 005500000040000.

Boundary Justification
The nominated property includes twenty-six of the approximately 357 acres Ogden Mills Reid and Helen Rogers Reid purchased in 1919 and provides an appropriate setting. The remaining acreage does not contain any standing historic resources.