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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name  bandy Farms Historic District
   other names/site number  Bandy, Theodore L. Farm; Bandy, Joseph S. Farm

2. Location
   street & number  E. side of SR 1003, 0.5-0.85 Mi. S. of jct. w/SR 1813
   city, town  Bandy's Crossroads
   state  North Carolina  code NC
   county  Catawba  code 035  zip code 28609

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   [x] private  [ ] public-local  [ ] public-State  [ ] public-Federal
   Category of Property
   [x] building(s)  [ ] district  [ ] site  [ ] structure  [ ] object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing  Noncontributing
   buildings  sites  structures  objects
   3  6  1  3  7
   Total
   Name of related multiple property listing:
   Historic & Architectural Resources of Catawba County, N.C.
   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [x] 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property [x] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official
   March 8, 1990
   Date

   State or Federal agency and bureau

   In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [x] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.
   Signature of commenting or other official
   Date

   State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification
   I, hereby, certify that this property is:
   [x] 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
The Bandy Farms Historic District consists of two nearly identical two-story brick farmhouses -- along with their outbuildings and surrounding lands -- built during the mid-1880s by brothers Theodore Lafayette and Joseph Scofield Bandy on adjacent properties. Located across the road from Ball's Creek Campground in east central Catawba County, the farms are situated in picturesque rolling hills of woodlands, pasture and cultivated fields above the North Fork of Mountain Creek. The Bandy houses form an interesting pair of dwellings related by design and ownership. They are representative of the small group of surviving rural brick houses which were built in the county during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. (Other examples also included in this Multiple Property Submission are the David F. Propst House, the Keever-Cansler House and the Abraham Anthony House.)

The Theodore Lafayette (T.L.) Bandy House ("A" on the attached Sketch Map) is the northernmost of the two houses and the first to have been built. A marble plaque at the north end second story level of the west facade relates that the house was built in November 1884 for T.L. Bandy by E. P. Moser and W. J. Hunsucker.

The exterior of the T. L. Bandy house is quite simple, but impressive because of its brick construction at a time when apparently few houses in the county were built of this material. The house is three bays wide and one-room deep, with a one-story brick ell of two rooms projecting from the north end of the east (rear) elevation. Walls laid in common bond brick with pencilled joints rise to a metal-covered gable roof with overhanging boxed eaves and cornice. Single-shoulder brick chimneys are on north and south ends of the two-story section and at the east end of the one-story ell. Symmetrically arranged windows have four-over-four sash with segmental-arched brick lintels. The single-story, hip-roofed front porch is at least partially a replacement of the original, with its square posts and cement floor. It shelters the central entrance and flanking windows, but does not continue across the full width of the west facade. On the rear (east elevation) of the house is a similar porch.
which continues along the south side of the ell.

The primary entrance to the T. L. Bandy house is located on the center bay of the west facade. It has a four-panel door (with raised panels on interior side) and narrow sidelights and transom once filled with patterned glass. Unusual wood panels beneath the sidelights are composed of boards of a single thickness pierced by a four-lobed flower (or star) design. Presumably these were fitted with wood panels to keep out the draft in the winter. A more simple, secondary entrance without sidelights and transom leads from the rear porch to the rear of the center hall.

The interior of the house has a central hall flanked by two rooms per floor, with an additional two rooms in the ell. Exterior walls are plastered, while ceilings and interior partitions are sheathed with flush boarding. Baseboards with molded upper edges and simple cornice moldings encircle the rooms. Peeling portions of the current solid-color coat of paint reveal that the four-panel doors were grained originally. Doors and windows have casings with single face and molded backband. Each of the four rooms in the two-story portion of the house has a mantel of classical influence with side pilasters, base blocks, slightly arched or pedimented frieze and heavy molding under a plain shelf. The mantels vary slightly in size and detail. One of the most decorative features of the interior is the stairway, which rises from west to east along the south wall of the center hall. It is characterized by curvilinear sawnwork stair brackets, a chamfered newel with molded cap, and a simple balustrade with slender square-cut balusters and molded hand rail.

The two rooms of the rear ell are treated in similar fashion to the two-story portion of the house. Doors are found on both north and south sides of the rear kitchen. The east wall of the rear kitchen has a mantel similar to those in the rest of the house, but larger.

South of the T. L. Bandy house is one of the most outstanding nineteenth century outbuildings remaining in the county. It is a one-story brick building (B, contributing), presumably contemporary with the house, with two rooms, said by local tradition to have been used as a combination smoke-house and granary. (The present owner claims he heard one of the rooms was used by T.L. Bandy for his office.) Battened doors on north and south ends lead to the two rooms, which do not interconnect. Two four-over-four sash windows (some with missing sash) are on both
east and west sides of the structure. Interestingly, the exterior of this outbuilding is considerably more decorative than the house itself. Here the brickwork is played to full advantage. As on the main house, the walls are laid in common bond with pencilled joints. Heavy brick pilasters at each corner and at the mid point of east and west elevations visually define the spaces within. Doors and windows have segmental-arched lintels, as do those on the house, but here the lintels are emphasized by raised brickwork. The north and south gables are outlined by brick corbelling -- including a sawtooth band -- forming a pediment at either end of the building. The tympanum formed by each pediment is faced with flush-laid bricks, with upper four rows following the angles of the gable. The decorative corbelled cornice continues along the east and west sides of the building, under the boxed eaves. On the interior, the brickwork of the walls for the most part remains exposed, while the ceilings are plastered over wood lath. The south room has grain bins along the west wall and flush board sheathing on the lower third of the other walls.

The T. L. Bandy house and its brick outbuilding have been unoccupied for some years and both buildings have become somewhat deteriorated, and are now used for storage by tenants on the property. Large oaks surround the buildings, suggesting a once handsome site.

A collection of twentieth century outbuildings surrounds the T. L. Bandy house and brick outbuilding. Across the driveway directly west of the house is a circa 1960 large creosote pole equipment shed (C, noncontributing) with metal shed roof and open sides, except for the west side, which is sheathed in corrugated metal. Off the southwest corner of the house stands a modern mobile home (D, noncontributing) which is currently the residence of the property owner's hired help. It is situated in such a way that it can be easily removed. South of the brick outbuilding is a mid-twentieth century small corrugated metal shed (E, noncontributing). Farther south are the circa 1970 silos and feeding pens (F, noncontributing). Five metal silos (of varying heights, one much shorter than the others) painted blue stand in a group with a metal covered feed room on the east side. Radiating eastward from the silos are the large open feeding pens with wood pole framing and sheet metal-covered gable roofs. The components of this silo/feeding pen complex are all interconnected to form a single resource which is the Bandy Farms' only major visually intrusive element. Fortunately, tall trees
screen the house and brick outbuilding from this intrusion and trees west of the silos mitigate negative impact upon the view of the property from SR 1003. The view between the two Bandy Farms is also preserved by a line of trees in the ravine approximately half-way between the farms, so that it is difficult to see the silo complex on the Theodore L. Bandy Farm from the Joseph S. Bandy Farm.

Despite the fact that the T. L. Bandy house is surrounded by modern outbuildings, the overall site of the farm remains beautiful, with open rolling hills beyond the house to the south, broken only by the tree-lined ravine, toward the Joseph S. Bandy Farm.

The Joseph Schofield (J.S.) Bandy Farm is located on the adjacent property, south of the T. L. Bandy Farm. While some local tradition claims that the J. S. Bandy house was built in the same year as the T. L. Bandy house -- 1884 -- the date 1887 is painted on its north chimney. Although the J. S. Bandy house is very similar in design to the T. L. Bandy house, subtle differences distinguish the two.

Like the T. L. Bandy house, the Joseph S. Bandy House ("G" on the attached Sketch Map) is a two-story brick structure with bricks laid in common bond with pencilled joints. Single shoulder brick chimneys with corbelled caps are on north and south ends, and the metal covered gable roof has overhanging boxed eaves. Like the T. L. Bandy House, this house is three bays wide and one room deep. The four-over-four sash windows have plain surrounds and segmental-arched brick lintels, and the four-panel front door on the center bay of the west facade has narrow sidelights and transom with solid panels beneath the sidelights (without the pierced flower/star design). Sidelights and transom originally had patterned glass. The present hip-roofed porch on the west facade appears to be a replacement of the original, and there is no rear porch. Unlike the T. L. Bandy house, the J. S. Bandy house has a slightly projecting brick water table and brick pilasters at each corner and defining the bays on front and rear. In this respect the house bears a strong resemblance to the O. F. Propst House outside Maiacan, believed to have been built at about the same time. (The pilasters also suggest the treatment of the T. L. Bandy brick outbuilding.)

Another exterior feature of the J. S. Bandy house that differs from the T. L. Bandy house is the one-story frame ell,
rather than the brick ell. Projecting from the north end of the east (rear) elevation, the two-room ell was probably added be­tween 1890 and 1915. It has weatherboard siding, a brick pier foundation, a metal covered gable roof, and a central brick chimney. Shed-roofed porches on north and south sides of the ell are partially enclosed with German siding.

Like the T. L. Bandy house, the interior of the J. S. Bandy house has a center hall flanked by two rooms per floor, with an additional two rooms in the ell. Walls throughout the two-story brick portion of the house were originally plastered with flush boarded ceilings. The plaster remains exposed on the second story, but most of the first story walls have been covered with plywood paneling, and this floor has been generally remodelled. The stair along the south wall of the center hall has been en­closed in recent years. There were originally three mantels in the two-story portion of the house, but now only two remain -- in the first and second story south rooms. These simple Classical mantels each have side pilasters set on base blocks, a slightly pedimented frieze (recalling the mantel in the first story south room of the T. L. Bandy house), and a heavy shelf. The upstairs mantel is typically smaller than the one downstairs. Baseboards with beaded upper edges encircle the rooms. Four-panel doors are found on the first story and three-panel doors on the second story. As a whole, this house appears to have had a more simple interior than the T. L. Bandy house.

The frame ell has also been remodelled, but retains five­panel doors (the exterior doors having a large glass upper panel in place of two upper wood panels) and an interesting Victorian mantel with side colonettes and bolection-molded frieze and molded shelf. The present occupant had vinyl siding applied to the ell in 1988, however, the ell still retains its general original appearance.

Northwest of the house is a well/pump house (H, noncontri­buting). The frame well house with flush board siding, gable roof and open well shed on the south end may be contemporary with the house, however, is under a slightly larger cinderblock struc­ture built to encase it.

Southwest of the house on the south side of the lane is a modern shed (I, noncontributing) with wood frame, corrugated metal siding and shed roof. Built in two parts, both within the last ten years, half is used for the storage of equipment and the
other half for wood.

Behind the house, to the east, is a modern woodshed (J, noncontributing), a frame structure, sheathed in corrugated metal and with an opening to the west.

The J. S. Bandy house and outbuildings are located on a beautiful pastoral site, set far back from the main road and removed from it by a thickly wooded area on the west. A curving lane leads from the road, through the woods, to the clearing on the hill where the house and outbuildings stand. A number of large oak trees are randomly located throughout the front yard. Walnuts and other trees are behind the house. Apple and crepe myrtle trees are planted north of the house and southeast and southwest of the house are vegetable gardens.

The Theodore L. and Joseph S. Bandy farms are united into a district by the combined farm fields of the two farmsteads. The landscape is on high, rolling hills, commanding distant views in any direction. At one time, much of the property was tilled, however, now most of the fields are pastures. The hills roll down into shallow ravines and valleys, one of which creates a natural boundary between the two farms. These ravines are accentuated by trees.
8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally  ☐ statewide  ☑ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

Significant Dates

1884-1887

1884  1887

Moser, E.P.; Hunsucker, W.J.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Bandy Farms Historic District is comprised of the nearly identical 1880s brick houses of the Bandy brothers, Theodore Lafayette Bandy and Joseph Schofield Bandy, a distinctive brick outbuilding associated with the T. L. Bandy house, and related farm buildings and surrounding farmland linking the two farmsteads, in east central Catawba County, near Bandys Crossroads. The houses survive intact in a relatively undisturbed, isolated setting. The economy of nineteenth century Catawba County was almost entirely agricultural, with most farmers operating modest farms and living in simple frame dwellings. Less than a dozen brick farmhouses dating from the nineteenth century survive in the county, with the Bandy houses being significant members of this group. T. L. Bandy built his distinctive vernacular style brick house in 1884, employing features such as a transomed front door with side lights, simply molded baseboards and cornices, and decorative center stair characterized by curvilinear sawnwork stair brackets. The brick outbuilding next to the T. L. Bandy House employs more decorative brick work, such as segmental arched lintels, pilastered corners, and brick corbelling. The J. S. Bandy House, thought to have been built in 1887, is nearly identical to the earlier T. L. Bandy house, with the exception of a slightly projecting brick water table and brick pilasters. The Bandy brothers were typical nineteenth century Catawba County small farmers due to the fact that they held supplementary occupations in addition to their farming efforts. T. L. and J. S. Bandy were both area school teachers and both served as county surveyors in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Bandy Houses and the T. L. Bandy brick outbuilding, due to their distinctive brick construction, are important under Criterion C in association with the Property Types "Houses of Catawba County: Postbellum," and "Rural Outbuildings of Catawba County."

☑ See continuation sheet
Historical Background

Theodore Lafayette Bandy (1853-1924) and his brother Joseph Schofield Bandy (1865-1915) were two of seven children born to Emeline and William Bandy, Jr. William Bandy's grandfather, George Bandy (d. 1822), moved from Virginia to northern Lincoln County (now Catawba County) about 1790. The Bandy family lived in the Mountain Creek area of present-day Catawba County and were non-slaveholding small farmers who belonged to the Lutheran Church. Bandy's Township, in the southwest corner of the county, was named for Weston Bandy (1815-1875), a member of this family. Sometime after the Civil War William Bandy established a general store at the crossing of Cansler Road and Island Ford Road; an 1886 map of the county shows the crossroads designated as Bandy's. The Bandy family lived on farms around the crossroad and southwardly along the Cansler Road.

It is thought that Theodore Bandy was educated at nearby Catawba College in Newton. He and his brother Joseph evidently received some education as both men long taught school in the Bandy district, with Theodore specializing in penmanship. Interestingly enough, both brothers married women named Sarah Drum. In the 1870s the brothers entered the surveying profession. In 1876 Theodore was elected county surveyor, holding office until 1884; he served a second time from 1914 to 1922. Joseph served as a county surveyor from 1886 until 1888.

In 1884 and 1887 the two brothers built nearly identical brick houses within sight of each other on the east side of the Cansler Road south of Bandy's Crossroads and opposite the Ball's Creek Methodist Camp Ground. Theodore had purchased his 175 acre house tract from his father in 1882 while Joseph had purchased an adjoining twenty-five acres from the Lackey family in 1879. Joseph supposedly manufactured the brick for the house on the site, while a marble plaque on Theodore's house identified the builders as W. J. Hunsucker and E. P. Moser. (The plaque is difficult to read, and may read "W.I. Hunsucker" and "E.T. Moser"). The interiors of the houses featured wood-grained woodwork. When completed, the houses were among the very small number of brick houses in all of Catawba County, and no doubt the houses became well-known community landmarks.

After completing their houses, both brothers continued to farm, teach school, help in the operation of their father's
store, and participate in community affairs. From 1897 to 1898 Joseph served as postmaster at Bandy's Crossroads while Theodore served as magistrate of Caldwell Township in 1890 and as sheriff of Catawba County from 1894 to 1898.12

Joseph Bandy died in 1915, survived by his widow, a son William, and a daughter Hettie. The house and farm were acquired by Hettie and her husband Walter Stewart in 1935, and they have maintained the house as a residence for farm tenants.13 Theodore Bandy was killed in November of 1924 when his car was struck by a train; over 2,000 mourners attended his funeral at Mt. Ruhama Baptist Church.14 He was survived by one son, an adopted daughter, and his widow. Mrs. Bandy sold the house and farm in 1943; the property has been farmed by subsequent owners, but the house, now in ill-repair, is used only for farm storage.15

The Bandy Farms Historic District preserves a segment of the isolated, agricultural countryside of Catawba County that was characteristic of the region in the nineteenth century. The district centers on the homes of locally prominent members of the Bandy family; the two brick houses are architecturally significant in an area where frame construction dominated building until well into the twentieth century.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8  Page 3  Bandy Farms Historic District
Catawba County, N.C.

FOOTNOTES


2Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Catawba County, North Carolina, Caldwell district, population and slave schedules, manuscript copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Archives; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Catawba County, North Carolina, Caldwell Township, population schedule, manuscript copy, Archives; an examination of these census records shows less than ten Bandy families in the township, none of whom owned slaves or property, real or personal, in excess of $1,000.

3Tombstone inscription of Weston-Bandy, Ebenezer Methodist Church cemetery, Cookeville, Catawba County.


6Bandy, Bandy Clan, 60.


8Preslar, Catawba County, 25b.

9Ball's Creek Methodist Camp Ground is also being nominated to the National Register at this time.
10William Bandy to T. L. Bandy, 26 May 1882, Catawba County Deeds, Book 25, p. 182, microfilm copy, Archives, hereinafter cited as Catawba County Deeds; State of North Carolina to T. L. Bandy, 25 January 1875, Catawba County Deeds, Book 11, p. 30. Joseph inherited his father's real estate in 1897, Catawba County Wills, Book 3, p. 188, microfilm copy, Archives, hereinafter cited as Catawba County Wills. In 1884 Theodore's 175 acres were valued for tax purposes at $500; in 1896 the value for the same land was $1,050, Catawba County tax lists, 1884, 1896, Caldwell Township, microfilm copy, Archives.

11Newton Observer, 2 June 1952; the plaque is situated in the wall near the far left window on the second floor; the date 1887 is painted on the north chimney of the Joseph Bandy House.


14Catawba News-Enterprise (Newton), 2 December 1924; Bandy had been a member of St. James Luthern Church for forty-eight years.

Bandy Farms Historic District, Catawba County, N.C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

Preceding 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 #:

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property  58.82 acres

UTM References
A  [17] 40 52 0 3 9 4 3 2 0
Zone Easting Northing
C  [17] 49 52 0 3 9 4 2 3 8 0
Zone Easting Northing
B  [17] 49 18 0 3 9 4 3 0 4 0
Zone Easting Northing
D  [17] 49 14 0 3 9 4 2 4 8 0
Zone Easting Northing

☐ See Continuation Sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
Starting at the NE corner of Block 2, Lot 17A (Catawba County Tax Map K), follow the fence-line/lane of the Theodore Bandy Farm S/SE to a point 125 feet from the NE corner of the Theodore Bandy House. Then, turning S/SW, follow a straight line 2500 feet to the south border line of the Joseph Bandy Farm, Block 2, Lot 19 (map K-3). Follow the established boundaries of the Joseph Bandy and Theodore Bandy farms south, west, then north to the beginning point.

☐ See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification
The boundaries are drawn to include all of the historic resources of the two Bandy farms as well as sufficient acreage, all of it associated with the resources during the period of significance, to convey their traditional rural setting. The majority of the two farms' acreage excluded from the district was acquired after the end of the period of significance and/or contains modern, non-contributing resources.

☐ See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Kooiman, compiler; Laura A. W. Phillips, description; Marshall Bullock, history
organization Catawba County Historical Assn., Inc.
date 7/31/89
street & number Rt. 1, Box 76 AB
city or town Conover
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zip code 28613
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Catawba County Records (subgroups: deeds, wills, estates papers, tax lists), Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

*Catawba News-Enterprise* (Newton), 2 December 1924.

Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Catawba County, North Carolina, manuscript copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

*Newton Observer,* 2 June 1952.

Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Catawba County, North Carolina, manuscript copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.


The following information pertains to all photographs:

1) Bandy Farms Historic District
2) Bandy's Crossroads vicinity, North Carolina
5) North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC

A. 3) Barbara Kooiman
   4) May 1989
   6) Joseph S. Bandy House (G), northeast

B. 3) David Brown
   4) Spring 1982
   6) Joseph S. Bandy House, north

C. 3) Laura Phillips
   4) May 1983
   6) Joseph S. Bandy House, interior, mantel

D. 3) Laura Phillips
   4) May 1983
   6) View from Joseph S. Bandy House to Theodore L. Bandy Farm in background, north

E. 3) Barbara Kooiman
   4) May 1989
   6) Theodore L. Bandy House (A), west

F. 3) Laura Phillips
   4) May 1983
   6) Theodore L. Bandy House, interior, stairs

G. 3) F. Bogue Wallin
   4) June 1979
   6) Theodore L. Bandy House, interior, mantel

H. 3) David Brown
   4) Spring 1982
   6) brick outbuilding (B), southeast

I. 3) Laura Phillips
   4) May 1983
   6) brick outbuilding (B), north

J. 3) Laura Phillips
   4) May 1983
   6) View of silos (F) and shed (E), southeast

NOTE: Some of the photos were taken as early as June 1979. All resources have been thoroughly field checked by B. Kooiman in 1989 and have been determined to be unchanged from their condition and appearance portrayed in photos taken prior to 1989.
BANDY FARMS HISTORIC DISTRICT

CATAWBA COUNTY, N.C.
BANDY'S CROSSROADS VICINITY
SECTION K-3, BLOCK 2, LOTS 17A, 19 (in part)
58.62 acres

BUILDINGS
A - T.L. BANDY HOUSE (C)
B - Brick outbuilding (C)
C - Equipment Shed (NC)
D - Mobile home (NC)
E - Shed (NC)
G - J.S. BANDY HOUSE (C)
H - Well/pumphouse (NC)
I - Shed (NC)
J - Woodshed (NC)

STRUCTURE
F - Silos/feeding pens (NC)

C=contributing
NC=noncontributing

SCALE
1" = 400'

Map Drawn by B. Keiman, 7/89