

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
Office of Archives and History  
Department of Cultural Resources

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**George E. Barnhardt House**

Mocksville vicinity, Davie County, DE0029, Listed May 4, 2009

Nomination by Beth Keane

Photographs by Beth Keane, May 2008



Façade view



Side and rear view

**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 any 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 Barnhardt, George E., House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 291 Hartley Road not for publication N/A

city or town Mocksville vicinity x

state North Carolina code NC county Davie code 059 zip code 27028

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant     nationally     statewide X locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official                      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 commenting or other official                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<u>   </u> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<u>   </u> See continuation sheet.		
<u>   </u> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u>   </u> See continuation sheet.		
<u>   </u> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<u>   </u> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<u>   </u> other (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____		
_____		

Barnhardt, George E., House  
Name of Property

Davie County, NC  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	Total

**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**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: WORK IN PROGRESS Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: I-house  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stucco  
roof Asphalt  
walls Brick  
  
other Weatherboard  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Barnhardt, George E., House  
Name of Property

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**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)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C 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.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1880  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

ca. 1880  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

Barnhardt, George E., House  
Name of Property

Davie County, NC  
County and State

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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreeage of Property** approximately twenty-one acres

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

Zone Easting Northing  
1 17 546540 3964460  
2 17 546700 3964500

Zone Easting Northing  
3 17 546780 3964100  
4 17 546540 3964100  
\_ 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.)

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### 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Beth Keane

organization Retrospective date December, 2008

street & number 6073 Gold Creek Estates Drive telephone 828-328-8147

city or town Hickory state NC zip code 28601

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### 12. Additional Documentation

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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)

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### Property Owner

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

name Robert R. Jeter, trustee and Andrew S. Jeter

street & number 2411 Ramble Wood Lane telephone 704-554-6255

city or town Charlotte state NC zip code 28210

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**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 listings. 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**Continuation Sheet  
Section 7 Page 1**

**Barnhardt, George E., House  
Davie County, NC**

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**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION**

The ca. 1880 George E. Barnhardt House is located approximately twelve miles southeast of Mocksville, the county seat of Davie County, North Carolina, and its largest town. The house is situated in Jerusalem Township on the north side of Hartley Road (SR 1820) in a largely rural section of the eastern part of the county, and sits well back from the road on approximately twenty-one acres carved out of an approximate 126-acre tract. The boundary encompasses the Barnhardt House and several non-contributing early-twentieth-century frame outbuildings including a smokehouse, a potato house, a wood shed, and a well house, in addition to a 1950 tool shed and a 2005 metal garage and pole barn. The outbuildings surrounding the Barnhardt House are considered noncontributing because they post-date the period of significance, but are unobtrusive and compatible with the farm setting of the property. Four of these outbuildings are also located to the rear of the house. A former detached kitchen, a large center passage barn, a granary, and a corncrib are no longer standing.

Located in the western piedmont plateau section of the state in the fork of the Yadkin and South Yadkin Rivers, Davie County is dominated by gently rolling terrain, small farms, and extensive woods. The Barnhardt House property backs up to the Yadkin River, the longest river in North Carolina. The Yadkin flows in a general north-south direction through the county and is fed by numerous streams and creeks.

The two-story brick I-house with two-story rear ell faces south and is approached by a long straight gravel drive that cuts a swath through open fields, which are bordered by woodlands, and terminates on the east side of the house. Most of the property's acreage fans out behind the house with a combination of woods and fields and is bordered on the north by the Yadkin River. In addition, the South Fork Creek meanders through a stand of woods along the west side of the property, draining into the Yadkin River. The stately George E. Barnhardt House, situated on a slight knoll, is shaded by a number of mature hardwood trees, along with several pine trees.

1. Barnhardt, George E., House                      ca. 1880                      Contributing Building

The George E. Barnhardt House is a rare surviving example of a post-bellum brick farmhouse in Davie County. The two-story, three-bay, I-house with two-story rear ell has a parged brick foundation, common bond walls, early twentieth-century replacement six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows, an asphalt shingle roof with boxed, overhanging eaves, cornice molding, and gable returns. A shingle roof replaced the original metal roof in the 1950s, and a new shingle roof was added in 1998. The rear ell and attached shed porch retain a 5-V metal roof.

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**Barnhardt, George E., House  
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A center-bay, two-tier, pedimented, front-gable porch supported by thin square posts with caps, grouped in threes, dominates the symmetrical three-bay facade. Several of the posts have recently been removed for repair and will be put back in place. The prominent porch gable is sheathed in horizontal flush boards, while the porch roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The porch ceiling at both levels consists of one- by six-inch tongue-and-groove boards. An original balustrade with slender, square balusters, along with crossed slats between the front posts that form an "X", survives on the second tier. The first-level wood porch floor was replaced in the 1950s with a cement floor. At approximately the same time, a large flat stone used as a front porch step was replaced with brick steps. Multi-light sidelights at both levels frame the central four-panel doors.

Tall single-shoulder chimneys with corbelled stacks that pierce the eaves stand centered on the east- and west-side elevations and the north elevation of the two-story rear ell. Windows flank the chimneys at both levels on each side elevation. Corbelled hood molding frames the top portion of the windows on the façade and the east elevation at both levels, but only on the first level of the west elevation. The only original window in the house is positioned on the north wall of the first level, east-side room, but early-twentieth-century replacement windows fill the remaining original symmetrically-placed window openings.

A small, frame one-story, gabled addition with weatherboard siding has recently been added to the west side of the rear ell. The new addition contains a bathroom and laundry room separated by a short, narrow hall. A door, flanked on its south by a small window, is located on the west gable end of the addition. The door opens into the short hall and another door located on the opposite end of the hall opens into the kitchen. A window positioned south of the addition illuminates the dining room. A small frame structure with a gable roof, located south of the window protects steps that descend to a small dug-out basement.

A one-story, previously-enclosed, shed-roof porch, located on the east side of the rear ell and the north (rear) side of the main block of the house, has recently been opened to its original design. A 1950s-era bathroom located on the north end of the porch and a small electrical closet located at the east end of the main block were removed at the same time. The porch retains its original tongue-and-groove ceiling, although the original wood floor was replaced in the 1950s with a cement floor. A 1950s-era door with six-lights-over-one-panel, accesses the dining room and a window located north of the door lights the kitchen. There is a single five-panel replacement door that opens into the central hall on the west end of the rear main block. A window is located to the east of this door. There are no windows on the north elevation of the rear ell.

The interior space has a typical I-house arrangement: a central hall with a staircase flanked on either side by two equal-sized rooms on both levels. The rear ell features two rooms

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on each level. The open-string staircase rises along the west wall of the central hall almost to the second level where it makes a right turn at a landing and rises several more steps to the east. The west-side wall adjacent to the stair is sheathed with eight-inch flush horizontal boards, while the wall supporting the stair case features flush vertical boards. A small closet is positioned near the rear of the central hall, under the staircase, while the door opening to the rear porch is located at the back of the hall. The balustrade consists of slender square pickets with a square handrail anchored at the bottom and at the landing by square newel posts. A beveled geometric newel cap surmounts the post at the base of the stairs.

The outer walls throughout the house are plaster over brick, while the floors are mostly original random-width heart pine boards. The interior partition walls are plaster over lath. The original wide baseboard with a simple, top-edge, bead is found throughout the house. Windows throughout the first level reach almost to the baseboards, are slightly recessed, and are surrounded by two-part flat moldings. In the current restoration, the original two- by eight-inch floor joists in the east room have been replaced with two- by ten-inch treated joists, while the floor has been replaced with reclaimed heart pine boards. The original mantel in the east room consists of a thick flat mantel shelf and a wide frieze supported by fluted legs. The plaster ceiling in the east room was replaced in the 1960s with sheetrock.

The west-side room retains its original pine floor. Although the mantel is missing, the original hearthstone is still in place. An oil space heater, added in the 1950s, has recently been removed. The original plaster ceiling was replaced in the 1950s with a v-joint ceiling and covered with celotex acoustical tile. The dining room and the kitchen in the rear ell are of about equal size and retain their original pine floors and plaster walls. The original plaster ceilings were covered in the early twentieth century with tongue-and-groove boards. In the current rehabilitation, they have been covered with sheetrock. The original kitchen fireplace on the north wall was covered up soon after the house was built and a wood stove with a flue attached to an opening in the chimney was used for cooking.

At the second level, the south (front) wall of the central hall features an original four-panel door with sidelights that opens onto the upper level of the front porch. A window in the north wall illuminates the central passage and staircase. The preserved mantel in the second-level, east-side, room is composed of a thick, flat, mantelshelf, a wide frieze with a carved arch, and fluted legs resting on plinth blocks. The second-level windows are not recessed. The windows and doors retain their original two-part flat board moldings and original hardware. The second-level rooms also retain the original four-panel doors. The ceilings in the main block were replaced in the 1950s with sheetrock. The tongue-and-groove boards in the middle room ceiling have recently been covered with sheetrock. Only the rear bedroom in the ell retains the original plaster ceiling.





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**Barnhardt, George E., House  
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The ca. 1880 George E. Barnhart House is locally significant and meets National Register Criterion C for architecture. The house is one of only a handful of late-nineteenth-century brick I-houses in Davie County and is a highly intact example of this house type with its distinctive two-tier, central, pedimented front porch. The house is unusual in the county in that it incorporates several stylistic elements of both the Greek Revival and the Gothic Revival styles including the porch and brick hood drip molding over the windows. The period of significance is ca. 1880, the approximate construction date of the house.

**Historical Background**

Settlers began moving west of North Carolina's Yadkin River in the late 1740s. At that time, the entire western portion of state was part of Anson County. Rowan County, a large undefined section of the northwestern part of North Carolina, was formed from Anson County in 1753. The part of Rowan lying between the Yadkin and South Yadkin rivers, as far west as the present Wilkes County, was known as the Forks of the Yadkin. Davie County was formed from this portion of land in 1836. The county was named in honor of William R. Davie, a Revolutionary War leader, a governor of North Carolina, a minister to France, and one of the founders of the University of North Carolina (Wall, p. 21, 109).

The Yadkin River valley was settled rapidly, with many pioneers looking for relatively inexpensive, fertile land. Some migrated down the Pee Dee and Yadkin rivers. Others, particularly those from Pennsylvania, came down the "Great Wagon Road," which was sometimes referred to as "The Carolina Road," or "The Road to the Yadkin River." This well-traveled road extended for a distance of approximately 435 miles from near Philadelphia to the Yadkin at the Shallow Ford. It came through Wachovia in North Carolina, and after 1756, extended beyond the Shallow Ford to Salisbury, passing through Davie County. Settlement of the Yadkin River area was accelerated by the Moravian purchase of Wachovia, approximately 99,000 acres in present-day Forsyth County, and by the establishment of the three thriving settlements of Bethabara, Bethania, and Salem. Many of the migrants were of English descent but there were also a good number of Germans and Scotch-Irish (Wall, pp. 21-22).

The Barnhardt family was among the early settlers to the region. Records indicate that Charles Barnhardt and his wife, Anna, grandparents of George Ephriam Barnhardt who built the Barnhardt House, lived in an area of Mecklenburg County that is now Cabarrus County, during the second half of the eighteenth century. Married in ca. 1768, the couple became the parents of eleven children. One of their children, George Barnhardt (b. June 10, 1877, d. October 19, 1844) married Sophia Litiker (b. October 25, 1807, d. November 14, 1855) on September 26, 1826.

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The couple, who also lived in Cabarrus County, had five children, the youngest being George Ephriam Barnhardt (b. February 11, 1839) (Davie County Library, genealogical files).

George E. Barnhardt married Elizabeth Sarah Kindley (b. September 16, 1839) of Jerusalem Township in Davie County on September 10, 1857 (Davie County Library, genealogical files). The 1860 census for Jerusalem Township lists George E. Barnhardt, age 21, as a farmer. Members of his household included his wife, Elizabeth Barnhardt, age 20, and his children Mary J., age 2, and William L., age 4 months. The family is not listed in the population census for 1870. It is known that George E. Barnhardt enlisted in the army on July 15, 1862 at the age of twenty-three and served as a Private in the 63rd Cavalry Regiment. He was paroled at Salisbury, North Carolina, in 1865 (Manarin, *North Carolina Troops, a Roster*).

By the middle of the nineteenth century, a small town developed around the 1815 New Jerusalem Church in Jerusalem Township. By 1867, the village had grown to include a tobacco factory, a store, a shoe shop, a blacksmith shop, and a sawmill. Several general stores and at least five feed and flour mills were in operation in the vicinity in the late 1800s and early 1900s (*Davie County Heritage*, p. 14).

By 1880, George and Elizabeth had increased their family to nine children. The 1880 population census lists George E. Barnhardt, farmer, (42), and his wife Elizabeth, housekeeping, (41), and the following children: William L. (19), Charles E. (17), Sarah Elizabeth (14), Amelia Louise (11), Anne B. (9), John T. (7), Columbus Franklin (5), and James Francis (3).

Between 1880 and 1884, four siblings of Elizabeth Kindley Barnhardt sold their share of 372 ½ acres they had inherited from their father, John Kindley, to George and Elizabeth Barnhardt. The property was located on the western banks of the Yadkin River on a part of the river known as “Little Horseshoe Bend” in southeastern Davie County. The sale was contingent on the life estate of John’s widow, Milly Kindley (Amelia N. Wagoner), giving her the right to live on the property throughout the remainder of her life (Deed Book 5, p. 492; Book 7, p. 584, Book 9, p. 147; and Book 9, p. 150).

George and Elizabeth Barnhardt built a two-story brick house with two-story rear ell on this property ca. 1880 for their large family to live in. Hand-made bricks were formed from clay excavated from a pit located near the Yadkin River on the northern edge of their property. It is surmised that the brick mason was a man by the name of Mathias Bosch, who was known for his masonry skills in the area during the latter part of the nineteenth century (Wilson interview, May 15, 2008). Typical crops grown on their land would have included wheat, corn, oats, peas, beans, potatoes, and sweet potatoes. It is likely they also owned farm animals, including horses, cows, sheep, pigs, and chickens.

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On November 15, 1893, Barnhardt put the property in his wife's name (Deed Book 14, p. 88). The 1900 population census reveals that George, now age sixty-one, and Elizabeth, age sixty, were still farming in Jerusalem Township with four of their adult children living at home along with a grandson and a male servant. For the remainder of their lives, George and Elizabeth farmed their property on the western bank of the Yadkin River. Descendents of the couple recall that the couple also owned a government-issued still and were able to supplement their income by selling home-produced whiskey to their neighbors (Barnhardt interview, May 15, 2008). Before their deaths, George and Elizabeth Barnhardt sold off approximately 130 acres of the original tract.

On January 17, 1910, George E. and Elizabeth S. Barnhardt deeded the remainder of their property, containing 241 acres, to their son, John T. Barnhardt (Deed Book 21, p. 38). Six months later, Elizabeth died on June 10, 1910 at the age of seventy and George died one year later, on June 11, 1911 at the age of seventy-two (Davie County Library, genealogical files). A dispute among the Barnhardt children concerning the ownership of the property may have resulted in the 240-acre tract, referred to as the G. E. and S. E. Barnhardt "Home Place," being auctioned off at the Mocksville Courthouse on November 3, 1913. Wiley J. Click, married to Amelia L. Barnhardt, was the highest bidder for the land at \$4,985. Click immediately assigned his bid to his brother-in-law, John T. Barnhardt, who became the official owner of the property (Deed Book 23, p. 43).

Born on July 10, 1872, John T. was the seventh child of George E. and Elizabeth Barnhardt. He married Elizabeth (Lizzie) Cope (b. 1871) on December 8, 1895 (Davie County Marriages, p. 10). In 1914, soon after acquiring the homestead, John and Lizzie sold 59 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> acres of the property to A. E. Wilson (Deed Book 22, p. 140) and 59 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>10</sub> acres to his brother, Charles E. Barnhardt (Deed Book 22, p. 158). John T. Barnhardt was killed in an automobile accident on December 3, 1923 at the age of fifty-one. His wife continued to live on the property until her death in 1932. On October 13, 1942, the heirs of John and Elizabeth sold the remaining property, referred to as the "G. E. and S. E. Barnhardt Home Place" to James Foy Cope for \$2,500 (Deed Book 41, p. 429).

James Foy Cope was a sixth-generation descendent of Nicholas Cope (b. ca. 1718, d. 1785), who settled in the region in 1773 after receiving a land grant of 300 acres bordering the west side of the Yadkin River. Cope, born on November 4, 1910 in Davie County, was the child of Nathaniel and Mary Eliza Jarvis Cope (Davie County Library, genealogical files). Cope was a farmer and also worked for Erwin Textile Mills in Cooleemee. Later in life, he worked at Caudell Lumber Company. His wife, the former Margaret Estelle Carter, was a homemaker and a substitute teacher in the local school system for many years. The couple had four children: three boys and a girl. The Foy's daughter, Joan Marie, remembers the family grew corn, watermelons, and cantaloupes on the land near the river and wheat, oats, corn, soybeans, and

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**Barnhardt, George E., House  
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cotton on the fields in front of the house. They also raised beef cattle and owned several cows, chickens and pigs (Cope interview, June 19, 2008). The Copes remained in the Barnhardt House until their deaths. James Foy Cope died on April 16, 1996 at home, while Margaret died five years later on July 27, 2001 (*Davie County Enterprise*, April 18, 1996 and August 2, 2001).

On August 29, 2005, the heirs of James and Margaret Cope sold their interest in the Barnhardt property, to include 124.445 acres, to Robert Russell Jeter and his son, Andrew S. Jeter (Deed Book 623, p. 420). The Jeters are in the process of restoring the house and plan to make it a second home for their family when restoration is complete.

**Architectural Context**

As North Carolina began to recover from the Civil War, a slowly improving economy and a growing population during the 1870s resulted in new construction of substantial houses throughout Davie County and many of the large plantations that existed before the war were divided into smaller farms following the demise of slave labor (Mohney, p. 14). The most popular house form between the Civil War and World War I in Davie County, as elsewhere in North Carolina, was the I-house, a traditional two-story dwelling that is one room deep and two rooms wide with a central passage. The two-story I-house became a symbol of economic achievement and social respectability. Restricted to prosperous planters before the Civil War, by the late nineteenth century, this form had become synonymous with middle-class status, and uniformly exhibited front symmetry and a central passage dividing the two main rooms on each level. It was typical to expand the house with a rear two- or three-room ell. The center hall often had a door on each end, creating a good ventilation system, making the plan especially suitable for the hot, humid summers of the south (Southern, p. 71).

The ca. 1880 Barnhardt House is an excellent example of a two-story brick house built for a prosperous farmer in the post-bellum era in Davie County. The house retains a traditional I-house form with gable-end chimneys, a symmetrical front elevation, and a rear two-story ell. The common bond brick walls rise above a parged brick water table to a side-gable roof with broad eaves and gable end returns. A two-tier, center-bay, porch with a pedimented front gable, sheathed in flush boards, and cornice molding dominates the façade.

The Barnhardt House incorporates several distinct stylistic details, combining elements of two distinct architectural styles. The front porch resembles a Greek temple; the central front doors at both levels are framed by multi-light sidelights, a common element of Greek Revival-style dwellings; and the wide-boxed eaves, gable cornice returns, and six-over-six double-hung sash windows are also holdovers from the earlier Greek Revival style. The Greek Revival style became widely popular across the United States and its territories during the 1830s. As its name suggests, ancient Greek architecture, principally temples, inspired the style. It quickly became,

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in the minds of the leaders and citizens of the United States, a symbol of democracy and hard won freedom. Davie County builders tended to incorporate elements of the Greek Revival style in traditional house forms, rather than constructing formal interpretations of the style (Mohney, p. 11). Surviving houses in the county featuring vernacular Greek Revival style forms date primarily to the 1850s, although, as in the case of the George E. Barnhardt House, elements of the style continued to be incorporated into residential houses as late as the 1880s.

Corbelled brick window hood drip molding on the façade and side elevations of the Barnhardt House are an elaborate stylistic element for an otherwise very traditional house and demonstrate the influence of the Gothic Revival style. The Gothic Revival style, which began in England in 1749 when Sir Horace Walpole remodeled his country house, Strawberry Hill, in the Medieval style, was introduced to America by Alexander Jackson Davis in 1832. His 1837 book, *Rural Residences*, was the first house plan book published in the United States and was dominated by Gothic Revival examples. Ideas from the book were picked up by Andrew Jackson Downing, who expanded them in *Cottage Residences*, published in 1842, and *The Architecture of Country Houses*, published in 1850. Identifying features of the style include a steeply-pitched roof, sometimes with steep cross gables, pointed arch windows, decorated vergeboards in the gables, and bands of contrasting color or texture in the brick or stonework, occurring principally around windows (McAlester, p. 200).

The interior space of the Barnhardt House retains the traditional central stair passage flanked by equal-sized rooms. The first level of the two-story rear ell incorporates the dining room and kitchen. The second level consists of four bedrooms: one on either side of the central hall and two in the rear ell. In addition to four-panel doors throughout the house, the modest interior woodwork features tall beaded baseboards, flat two-part window and door surrounds, and mantels with wide friezes and flat shelves. The stairs are flanked by a plain picket balustrade and wide, flush, horizontal boards can be found on the interior staircase wall.

Davie County retains several comparable houses built for well-to-do citizens during the 1870s and 1880s. Located in Mocksville, the Austin-Dwiggins House, located at 263 Wilkesboro Street, and built at approximately the same time as the Barnhardt House, is also a two-story, three-bay, brick I-house with a dominant front porch and central front doors at both levels. However, the first-level of the porch shields the center entrance and the flanking windows, while the second level is a single bay porch. Similar to the Barnhardt House, the porch features a prominent gable, originally sheathed with flush boards and cornice returns, although wood shingles are now evident in the gables. The windows are framed by Gothic Revival-style drip-moldings, more typical of the style than the corbelled brick found over the windows of the Barnhardt House. The central doors of the Austin-Dwiggins House are framed by sidelights and a transom, while the Barnhardt House features only sidelights. Further similarities include a two-story rear ell and chimneys on the gable ends. Inappropriate round-arched replacement

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windows and vinyl siding have recently been installed on the rear ell of the house. When surveyed by Kirk Mohney in 1986, it was reported that the interior finishes featured four-panel doors, an open-string stair in the center hall, and a bracketed mantel (Mohney, p. 191).

The 1879 Charles F. Anderson House located on the south side of SR 1612 in Calahaln, Fulton Township, is also a two-story, three-bay brick dwelling with a two-story brick ell. Its double-leaf, two-panel door is flanked by sidelights, similar to those of the Barnhardt House. The house also features a relatively flat, broad roof and broad gable end returns formed by a thin cornice (Mohney, p. 16).

An additional surviving I-house built by Philip Eaton in 1876 is located on the north side of SR 1434 in Farmington Township. Although of frame construction, its form and detailing are similar to the Barnhardt House. It features an L-shaped plan with the rear ell raised to two stories in the twentieth century. The house retains a single-pile form with gable-end chimneys, cornice returns, a symmetrical front elevation with a central entrance and flanking sidelights. The one-story wraparound porch has a central gable with cornice returns. Four-panel doors and mantels with sawn curvilinear decorative work on the frieze and pilasters are found on the interior of the Eaton House (Mohney, p. 16).

The Abraham M. Nail House, built in the 1880s and located at 768 North Main Street in Mocksville, is the only fully-realized Gothic Revival-style domestic building in Davie County. It is a tall two-story brick structure with a two-tier center bay porch capped by a steep gable, bay windows on the first story, and pointed-arched Gothic Revival windows. Similarities to the Barnhardt House include the I-house form, brick construction, a two-tier center bay porch, overhanging eaves with cornice returns, and exterior, gable-end chimneys. In addition, the windows of the Nail House also exhibit unusual corbelled drip moldings (Mohney, p. 215).

The ca. 1880 Barnhardt House stands as a rare and well-preserved example of a late nineteenth century brick farmhouse in Davie County. Although similar in form and detailing to several of Davie County's extant houses dating to the late nineteenth century, the Barnhardt House is unique in its combination of elements from both the Greek Revival and Gothic Revival styles. The house retains a significant amount of architectural integrity and sits in a magnificent rural setting surrounded by acres of farmland and woods on the western banks of the Yadkin River.

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**Geographical Data**

The George E. Barnhardt House nomination includes approximately twenty-one acres of the southern portion of Davie County parcel number M600000049. The eastern, southern, and western boundaries follow the current legal property lines: extending 1467 feet north from Hartley Road; 836 feet of street front along Hartley Road; and 1325 feet north from Hartley Road, respectively. The northern boundary runs approximately 200 feet north of the potato house from the northern end points of the eastern and western boundaries. For reference the boundaries are shown by a black line on the accompanying reduced Davie County tax map originally created at a 1"=200' scale.

**Boundary Justification:**

The property boundary for the George E. Barnhardt House entails an approximate twenty-one-acre tract of land containing the ca. 1880 Barnhardt House and six non-contributing outbuildings. The twenty-one acre parcel provides an appropriate setting and includes the open fields in front of the house edged by woods and a stream, while excluding the adjoining agricultural fields located north of the house.

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The following information applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: George E. Barnhardt House  
County and State where property is located: Davie County, North Carolina  
Address: 291 Hartley Road, Mocksville, NC 27028  
Name of Photographer: Beth Keane  
Date of Photographs: May, 2008  
Location of Original Negatives: North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh

Photographs:

Photograph 1: South elevation (façade); camera looking north

Photograph 2: West elevation; camera looking northeast

Photograph 3: North elevation; camera looking south

Photograph 4: East elevation; camera looking west

Photograph 5: Interior east front room, first level

Photograph 6: Interior east room, second level

Photograph 7: Interior, central staircase

Photograph 8: Smokehouse, camera looking northwest

Photograph 9: Woodshed, camera looking northeast

Photograph 10: Potato House, camera looking northeast

Photograph 11: Tool Shed, camera looking south

Photograph 12: Well House, camera looking northeast

Photograph 13: Metal Garage and Pole Shed, camera looking northeast