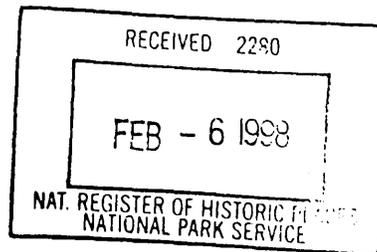


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



197
Up to date
nomination
as of
Sept.
18, 1998

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 locations, 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 Foscue and Simmons Plantations

other names/site number Foscue Plantation

2. Location

street & number Both sides of US 17 N/A not for publication

city or town Pollocksville N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Jones code 103 zip code 28573

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 forth 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.)

Jeffrey J. Crow SHPO 2/2/98
Signature of certifying official>Title Date

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 official>Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Director Date of Review

- 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)

Copy of complete nomination w/all post - 3/98 changes

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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Signature of certifying official Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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Signature of commenting official Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keeper _____
Date of Action _____
 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): _____

Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Name of Property

Jones County, North Carolina
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	
7	18	buildings
4	2	sites
1	1	structures
1		objects
13	21	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

-1-

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- FUNERARY/graves/burials
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- AGRICULTURE/processing
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural field
- EXTRACTION/extractive facility
- TRANSPORTATION RELATED/road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- FUNERARY/graves/burials
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural field
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature
- TRANSPORTATION RELATED/road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Federal
- Italianate
- Bungalow
- Other: front-gable barn

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Brick
- walls Brick
- Wood
- roof Asphalt
- other Wood

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheet.

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.)

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Agriculture
- Architecture
- Social History

Period of Significance

Ca. 1821-1947

Significant Dates

Ca. 1821
1878
1918

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Forbes, George--carpenter/builder

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:

North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina

Foscue and Simmons Plantations

Name of Property

Jones County, North Carolina

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 1,379.58 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>1 8</u>	<u>2 9 7 0 7 0</u>	<u>3 8 8 0 7 0 0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>1 8</u>	<u>3 0 1 4 6 0</u>	<u>3 8 8 0 5 3 0</u>

3	<u>1 8</u>	<u>3 0 1 5 0 0</u>	<u>3 8 7 7 7 5 0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>1 8</u>	<u>2 9 6 6 2 0</u>	<u>3 8 7 8 8 5 0</u>

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 Davyd Foard Hood

organization _____ date 30 October 1997

street & number Isinglass, 6907 Old Shelby Road telephone 704/462-4331

city or town Vale state N.C. zip code 28168

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 See continuation sheet

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 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 Reduction Project (1021-0013), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetFoscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 1Narrative Description

The Foscue and Simmons Plantations, marked by two important family residences and encompassing a remarkably intact agrarian landscape of cultivated fields and woodlands, is an important agricultural property in Jones County that has borne the imprint of the intertwined Foscue and Simmons families for some two hundred years and evokes historic land use patterns in the North Carolina Coastal Plain. Straddling US 17, historically known as the New Bern Road, they are an irregular, somewhat rectangular-shaped tract of land comprising a major holding of 1,353 acres in the ownership of James Edward Foscue, Sr., and Dr. Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr.; a one acre plus inholding held by the Foscue Plantation House Restoration Incorporated; a 24.58-acre inholding in the possession of Otis Bell, Kenneth Bell, Clair Ramsdell, and others; and a one acre inholding deeded by Carrie Simmons to C. L. M. Heath and wife in 1944. The first-named inholding of one acre plus is the site of the brick house (#2) erected ca. 1821-1825 by Simon Foscue, Jr., as the seat of the Foscue Plantation whose grounds at one time comprised all of the nominated acreage. The larger rectangular inholding now owned by Messrs. Bell, Ramsdell, etc., is a rectangular parcel lying on the west side of US 17 and fronting on the two-lane paved highway. Now the location of a frame bungalow (#19) erected by Christopher Stephens and Lucy Simmons and five additional dwellings (#21, #23-24, #26, and #28), this property was acquired by Lucy Koonce Simmons from Carrie Simmons whose parents had built the cottage seat (#12) of the Simmons Plantation. In 1951 Mr. Heath divided his one acre inholding on the east side of US 17 between Linca Heath Bynum, whose heir still owns the vacant north half, and Asa B. Heath, Sr., who sold his south half in 1974 to George Bell; a manufactured house (#30) is now on Bell's 0.50-acre south half.

The boundary of the combined plantations and the nominated acreage includes both natural features and straight lines that do not respect topography. The longest uninterrupted boundaries of the property are marked by the courses of the Trent River and Duck (Scott) Creek. The entire eastern and partial southeastern boundary of the acreage is formed by the swampy west bank of the Trent River, extending from the mouth of Duck (Scott) Creek on the north to the mouth of a small unnamed creek on the southeast. The long, principal north boundary is defined by the course of Duck Creek from its confluence with the Trent River on the east to a point just east of US 17 where it becomes a straight line carrying west to US 17. The south/southeast boundary of the property lying on the east side of US 17 is comprised of the course of a small unnamed creek from its confluence with the Trent River westward to its head where a single straight line then carries west to US 17. The irregular-shape boundary of the property lying on the west side of US 17 follows a series of straight lines that hold no particular reference with topographical features. The acreage of the plantations presently and historically has been unequally divided between woodlands that were maintained for naval stores in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and timber to the present, and cleared acres that are cultivated for field crops. The level of the land rises

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Continuation Sheet

Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 2

gently, gradually from about five feet above sea level on the east at the Trent River to about thirty-five feet above sea level on the extreme west boundary; thus, the drainage is virtually all on a west to east axis within the plantation.

The plantation lays astride US 17, connecting Pollocksville to the south with New Bern to the north, and a few miles south of the Jones/Craven County border. The path of US 17, known earlier as the New Bern Road, has been a major transportation artery through the plantation since the later eighteenth century and virtually all of the built resources of the plantation are oriented to the road. In the early 1820s, Simon Foscue, Jr., built his brick house (#2) facing west to the New Bern Road, and a half century later his granddaughter Christiana Foscue Simmons and her husband Amos built a one-story frame cottage (#12) on the west side of the road, facing east to the morning sun. The Foscues's now ruinous turn-of-the-century tenant house (#11) was built nearly opposite their brick seat, facing east onto US 17, and later in the twentieth century, Christopher and Lucy Simmons would occupy a frame bungalow (#19) facing east along US 17; after Lucy Simmons's land was sold out of the family in 1962 and 1972 and subdivided, a group of five dwellings were erected on his tract. Excepting the historic landscape of the plantations which covers all of the Foscue-owned acreage, the only man-built historic resources which lie beyond a proximity to US 17 are the Brick Vault (#4), the Foscues's four tobacco barns (#6-#9), and the marl pits/ponds (#10). The only other major transportation feature on the plantation is the former roadbed of the Atlantic Coast Line/Seaboard Air Line/CSX Railroad, carrying on a northeasterly axis from Pollocksville to New Bern. Abandoned by the CSX Corporation in 1987-1989, its bed is now maintained as an interplantation farm road.

1. The Plantation Landscape
Contributing Site

The landscape of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations reflects the long ownership of these lands in successive generations of the two intermarried families, their processes of place-making in the North Carolina Coastal Plain, and the maintenance and cultivation of woodlands and fields for naval stores, timber, and crops. The collection of houses, outbuildings, house grounds, cemeteries, fields, woodlands, farm roads, ponds, and the old plantation avenue, bear witness to the long occupation of place and an agricultural history that dates from the early nineteenth century to the Post-World War II period. The appearance of this landscape represents the long agricultural evolution of the plantations, from the early-nineteenth century when this acreage was held in the ownership of Simon Foscue, Jr., to 1878-1880 when it was divided between the two surviving children of his son and heir John Edward Foscue, and finally to 1973 when the two plantations were reassembled under the Foscue name where it remains today.

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Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 3

The Foscue Plantation House, the most conspicuous building on the plantation, is also the oldest known standing historic resource here; it represents the affluence of Simon Foscue, Jr., and his unprecedented ambition, in Jones County, to erect a very stylish house as the functional heart and symbolic center of his plantation. He also appears to have made a very conscious decision to erect his house in the public view, on the side of the New Bern Road, rather than in the physical center of his holding. This decision was the first in a series of decisions by members of his family, and others who now own land here, to orient buildings to the New Bern Road; not only buildings, but the new family cemetery (#3) were placed along the much-traveled road. Just over two-thirds of the total built resources of the nominated acreage address the road to one degree or another. The plantation seat stands on well-maintained house grounds of one acre that are enclosed in a brick pier and iron railing fence across the road front, and a woven wire fence on the north, east, and south sides. A similar woven wire fence encloses the Foscue Cemetery (#3). The Simmons Cottage (#12) stands in an open grass-covered lawn that is kept mowed but not maintained as well as the plantation seat. The Christopher Stephens Simmons house (#19) also stands on a grass-covered lawn as do the three later one-story houses which face east onto US 17 and the dwellings standing to the west behind this group.

Based on archival evidence and family traditions, it appears that the historic field and timberland patterns from the period of significance retain a high degree of integrity; the one known exception is that the "vault field" has been allowed to become a natural woodland, probably because the soil had become exhausted. This observation is based on two additional factors that confirm a highly probable continuum of historic traditional land use. Through the wording of deeds during the period of significance, the plantation acreage on the west side of the New Bern Road (US 17) is known to have been historically reserved for the cultivation of timber. Harvesting occurred here in 1902, 1923-1928, and 1947-1948. Following the historic pattern of cuttings every twenty years or so, about one-half of these western woodlands were harvested for marketable timber in the early 1990s and the other half in 1997. Except for three small fields lying immediately alongside the road on its west side, this entire area remains in woodlands to the present. Some two-thirds of the lands on the east side of US 17, stretching eastward to the Trent River are also covered with woodlands, and portions of these belonging to both Foscue family owners were harvested for timber in 1997. These woodlands were probably among those used for naval stores and turpentine production in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century, and they were surely among those into which cattle and swine were sent to forage in the nineteenth century before livestock was penned in fenced enclosures.

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Jones County, North Carolina

The second important factor that reflects a continuum in the cultivation of certain tracts on the plantation is the intelligent, historical practice of farming those fields and portions of one's plantation where the soil qualities were best for raising crops and the lands were good to tolerably drained. While soils can be built up through crop rotation and the use of commercial and natural fertilizers, the general characteristics of soil type are long established. Thus, good and better, well-to medium-drained soils are used for cash crops, lesser soils are used for pasturage and hay, and the poorest, swampy soils were maintained as natural woodlands. The SOIL SURVEY OF JONES COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, published in 1981 by the United States Department of Agriculture, shows that the acreage of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations is made up mostly of two distinct soil types: Craven very fine sandy loam (CrB); and Kenansville loamy fine sand (KeA). A band of Muckalee loam (Mk) is found along the west bank of the Trent River, and a wider band of Alpin fine sand (AnB) carries on the west side of the Muckalee loam; all of the damp Muckalee loam soil is covered with woodland, and most of the Alpin fine sand soil is also occupied by native, natural woodlands. Small percentages of the plantations are occupied by six other soils: Craven very fine sandy loam (CrC); Goldsboro loamy sand (GoA); Leaf silt loam (La); Lenoir loam (Le); Marvyn loamy sand (MaC); and Norfolk loamy sand (NoB).

The cultivated fields of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations occur in two general areas of the larger tract. The three small fields on the immediate west side of the New Bern Road are dwarfed in comparison with the larger fields on the east side that stretch from the roadside eastward to the large woodlands that occupy the middle ground between the road and the Trent River. This group of fields is made up of Craven very fine sandy loam and Lenoir loam and are generally suited to tobacco, corn, and soybeans. The plantation's largest group of fields are located about midway between the former road bed of the Seaboard Airline Railroad and the Trent River, and they are virtually all made up of Kenansville loamy fine sand which is likewise suited to growing tobacco, corn, and soybeans. Corn has been continuously grown on the plantation since the early nineteenth century, as evidenced in surviving documents and agricultural schedules. Peas grown on the Foscue Plantation in the early to mid-nineteenth century, also mentioned in surviving documents, and a now-forgotten staple of many nineteenth and early-twentieth century farms, have been succeeded by soybean production in this century. Tobacco has been a prominent crop on the plantations for much of the twentieth century, and five buildings (#5-#9) on the Foscue Plantation recall its long history as a cash crop here. Over the course of some 125 years through the period of significance, the principal crops have been grown year after year, in largely the same areas, by slaves, tenants, hired laborers, and now the businessman farmers who lease the lands. While the crops have remained largely the same through history, historically adjacent fields have been combined and thereby enlarged in tandem with the sequential transitions from oxen-pulled power, to

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Section number 7 Page 5 Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

the use of mules, tractors, and now the super-tractors, cultivators, and harvesters. These historic evolutions in the agricultural history of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations in Jones County are represented and visible in this landscape. A final significant feature of note in the landscape of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations is the old hedgerow of volunteer growth which grew up along the 1880 boundary between the two plantations; once a feature that physically separated the two plantations it survives and physically links two parts of a whole that began as one and have been recombined in the Foscue name.

1A. Circulation Network
Early-nineteenth Century--1947
Contributing structure

The New Bern Road has been an important part of the plantation's circulation network since the early-nineteenth century, even before 1821 when Simon Foscue, Jr., bought a small parcel at the south edge of his plantation from George Pollock and erected his brick seat (#2) to face the "Newbern road" which linked Pollocksville and points south to New Bern, the region's social and trading center to the north. A half-century later, when Foscue's granddaughter Christiana Foscue Simmons and her husband erected their house (#12) on a part of the ancestral holding, it, too, faced the New Bern Road. The initial paving of this road and its designation as "US 17" occurred during the period of significance. Two major farm roads service the fields and woodlands in the east two-thirds of the plantation, between US 17 and the Trent River. The oldest of these is the "plantation avenue" which begins just south of the Foscue Cemetery (#3) and carries in a nearly straight line eastward toward the Trent River. A similar farm road, positioned in the near-center of the Simmons's holding, serves a similar function in the north part of the larger holding, and probably dates to the development of this property by Christiana Foscue Simmons and her husband beginning in the 1870s. There can be no accident to the fact that it begins on the east side of the New Bern Road slightly off axis with the Simmons Cottage (#12) and extends eastward to the Trent River. Today these roads are linked by the former road bed of the Atlantic Coast Line/Seaboard Air Line/CSX Railroad which is maintained as a farm road.

2. Foscue Plantation House
Ca. 1821-1825
Contributing building (National Register, 1971)

The Foscue Plantation House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 for its statewide significance, is a handsome, entirely original, well-preserved, and immaculately maintained Federal-Style two-story brick dwelling. It is raised on a full brick basement and finished with an

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Section number 7 Page 6 Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

attic story illuminated by the paired windows in each gable end. When listed in the National Register, the house had been the residence of farm managers for about half a century, following on the death of Henry Clay Foscue in February 1918. Built by Simon Foscue, Jr., ca. 1821-1825, and the home of his descendants for nearly 100 years to 1918, the brick house was carefully restored in the mid-1970s by Mr. Foscue's great-great-grandsons James Edward Foscue, Sr., and Henry Armfield Foscue, Sr. The house was rented from the 1970s to 1995 and is now maintained by the Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Incorporated, a nonprofit association. During that project a two-story frame service ell was built on the south half of the rear east elevation. Standing on a brick foundation it is sheathed with weatherboards and covered with an end-gable roof of wood shingles. Entrance to the kitchen on the first story is by way of the house's original back door at the east end of the side hall. The kitchen is finished with modern cabinetry and appliances. The second story of the ell is accessible from a door in the east wall of the stair landing as it rises to the second level. A modern bathroom and closet facilities occupy this level of the addition.

Built on a side-hall plan, the brick house reflects the strong influence of New Bern and the Federal Style on regional building in the opening decades of the nineteenth century. It is essentially a well-developed townhouse-form building transplanted to the countryside to serve as the seat of an important Jones County plantation. An anomaly in Jones County and the only brick house known to have been built in the county prior to the Civil War, the house's Flemish bond facade and common bond side and rear elevations reflect the usual building practices of the period; however, the use of a brick cornice instead of the expected wood cornice anticipates the use of brick for the cornices of Greek Revival and Italianate houses of the mid-nineteenth century. The interior of the house, as noted by Peter Sandbeck in *THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF NEW BERN AND CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA*, is fully finished in a well-developed Federal Style and bears a sure relationship to the interior finish of the Coor-Cook, Frazier-Mayhew, and John R. Green houses in New Bern (see "Architectural Significance" in part eight of this nomination).

- 2A. Brick Fence
Ca. 1974-1976
Noncontributing structure

Erected as a part of the restoration of the Foscue brick house, this fence is composed of brick piers (of reused brick), connected by a low brick base, between which lengths of iron railing are inset. This treatment carries along the US 17 front of the house lot and down the side of the gravel drive where it turns near the iron gates and continues southward. It essentially functions as the front of the woven wire fence which encircles the one-acre house lot carefully maintained by the family.

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Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

3. Foscue Cemetery
1849-1918
Contributing site

Established in 1849 with the death of John Edward Foscue, this cemetery is the second family burial place on the Foscue Plantation and contains the graves of two generations of the family who occupied the plantation seat from its construction until 1918. The small (twenty-three feet by thirty feet) rectangular plot is located on the extreme south edge of the plantation and in the northeast corner of the junction of the plantation avenue with the New Bern Road; it is enclosed by a waist-height woven-wire fence. The ground area of the cemetery is largely bare and shaded by two aged Magnolia grandiflora trees inside the fence that probably date to 1849, and a Virginia cedar on the outside edge of the fence. There are eight graves marked by gravestones in the cemetery. The grave of John Edward Foscue (1809-1849) is marked by a handsome classical monument consisting of a three-part stepped, tapering base supporting an urn enriched with acanthus leaves and a flame finial. Mr. Foscue died on 25/27 April 1849. Less than five months later his eldest son George Christopher Foscue died on 17 September 1849, a month after his eighth birthday. His grave was marked by a white marble ledger stone, now supported on a replacement brick box vault. Mariana Francenia Foscue (1845-1863) died in Goldsboro, and because of the Union occupation of New Bern and the surrounding region her body was buried in Goldsboro. It was brought back to the Foscue Plantation in late May 1866 and reinterred in the family cemetery. Her grave is marked by a white marble tablet-form stone with a rounded top. The next interment in the cemetery was that of Sarah Frances "Fannie" Simmons Foscue (1848-1868) who died on 26 November 1868 from complications with childbirth; her grave was marked by a tall arched-top tablet-form stone, and footstone, which has been broken into four pieces, three of which lie across her grave on the east side of the upright base of the marker. The grave of her daughter, Mariana Frances Foscue (1868-1870), is marked by a small white marble tablet-form stone and footstone. After Caroline Foy Foscue died on 7 June 1881 and was buried here the following day, her name and dates were inscribed on a face of the monument she had erected some thirty-one years earlier for her husband. The last two interments occurred in 1917 and 1918. Gertrude H. Fonville Foscue (1854-1917) died on 30 December 1917 and was buried here; her grave is marked by a very simple rectangular white marble footstone-like panel. Less than three months later, Henry Clay Foscue died on 24 February 1918 and his grave was likewise marked. On 12 September 1978 the cemetery lot was conveyed by the Foscues to the Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Inc.

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Foscue and Simmons Plantations
Jones County, North Carolina

4. Brick Vault Site
(Eighteenth Century?) 1814-1853
Contributing site

The exact origins of this site as a burial place of the Foscue family are unknown; however, it was used as early as November 1814 when Simon Foscue, Sr., is said to have been buried here. Simon Foscue, Jr., who died on 10 December 1830, was buried here in a mahogany coffin made by John W. Nelson. For reasons that are now unknown, in 1849 when his son John Edward Foscue died, he was not buried here but at an elevated site to the southwest of the house which became the Foscue Cemetery (#3). However, when Simon Foscue, Jr.'s wife Christiana Rhem Foscue (1779-1853) died on 15 June 1853 her body was carried from the brick plantation seat eastward to be buried here. As her grandson Henry Clay Foscue would write some forty-two years later in a family memoir, "We laid her by her husband in the family vault on the ancestral plantation." Little visited since the mid-nineteenth century, the site has been covered by pine needles year after year for some 144 years. Today, its location is marked by sections of brickwork apparently representing parts of a low brick wall which enclosed the ground and two brick vaults which appear to mark individual graves. The surviving brickwork is composed of regular well-shaped molded bricks. The brick vault gave its name to the "vault field" which is mentioned in nineteenth-century records and is now a woodland.

5. Tobacco Pack House
1964
Noncontributing building

In 1964 a tornado destroyed the plantation's large frame barn and pack house, dating from the turn of the century; farm manager Linwood Page Meadows erected this simple two-level frame pack house that same year to replace it. The gable-front rectangular frame building stands on a cement block foundation and is sheathed in green asphalt roofing paper fixed with vertical wood battens; it is covered with a gable-front standing seam roof. Board-and-batten doors on the north gable end open onto the building's two levels. Simple one-story creosote pole sheds covered with sheet metal roofs occupy the east and west side elevations. A second door, under the west shed, opens into the main level which is simply finished and now used for family storage.

6. Tobacco Barn #1
Ca. 1946-1947
Noncontributing building

This small deteriorated rectangular frame building is the easternmost of four tobacco barns standing in a row in the east center of the plantation. It stands on a cement block perimeter foundation and is covered with green

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asphalt roofing paper fixed with simple vertical board battens. It is covered with a sheet metal roof. Board-and-batten doors are positioned on the east and west sides of the tobacco barn.

7. Tobacco Barn #2
Ca. 1946-1947
Contributing building

This small rectangular frame building stands on a cement block perimeter foundation and is covered with green asphalt roofing paper fixed with simple vertical board battens. It is covered with a sheet metal roof which is pierced on the east side by a trio of metal flue pipes. Board-and-batten doors are positioned on the east and west sides of the barn.

8. Tobacco Barn #3
Ca. 1946-1947
Contributing building

This tobacco barn is a virtual replica of the above building except that it has a creosote pole shed with a dirt floor on the west side. Pole bars survive inside, on stepped levels for hanging tobacco for curing.

9. Tobacco Barn #4
Ca. 1946-1947
Contributing building

This tobacco barn is virtually identical to tobacco barn #2 as described above.

10. Marl Pits/Ponds
Ca. 1940
Contributing site

Now having the serene appearance of scenic, natural ponds, these water-filled pits were the site of marl quarrying operations here by Leon Foscue Simmons. Three of the pits are grouped together near the west bank of the Trent River while two others of unequal size, are located a short distance west of the above group. They have filled with water and are now mostly encircled by volunteer growth. Collectively, these ponds cover about six acres. The easternmost group are used for recreational fishing, a pastime well-remembered by Mrs. Linwood Page Meadows, the widow of the last longtime (1955-1968) resident farm manager on the Foscue Plantation.

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11. Tenant House Ruin
Ca. 1890-1910
Noncontributing building

This ruinous one-story frame house was last occupied in the late 1960s by Thelma Morgan and her family; Mrs. Morgan worked as a paid hand for Linwood Page Meadows during the period (1955-1968) he served as farm manager. The house is covered with brick-imprinted asphalt paper and a sheet metal side-gable roof. Some six-over-six window sash remain in place within plain board surrounds. A brick flue stack is also visible through the dense volunteer thicket-like growth which has grown up around the house during the last quarter century. Standing on the west side of US 17 and to the northwest of the brick plantation seat, this ruin is the last visible reminder of the pair of tenant houses known to have stood on the west side of US 17.

12. Simmons Cottage
Ca. 1870-1878
Contributing building

This one-story weatherboarded frame Italianate-Style cottage was built as the residence of Christiana Caroline Foscue (1847-1933) and her husband, Amos L. Simmons, Jr. (1850-1928). The house was built either about the time of their marriage in the autumn of 1870 or ca. 1878 when the lands of John Edward Foscue were divided between Mrs. Simmons and her brother, Henry Clay Foscue. In that division Mrs. Simmons received title to 475 acres; in 1880 she acquired an additional 98 acres of the Foscue Plantation. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons resided here into the 1920s when they removed to a house in Pollocksville where they lived until their deaths. This house, in turn, became the home of their eldest son, Thomas Foy Simmons (1874-1964) and his wife, Eunice Chapman Simmons (1874-1955). Thomas Foy-Simmons lived here until shortly before his death on 20 August 1964, a month short of his ninetieth birthday. The house was subsequently rented. In 1973 Leon Dalmain Simmons sold the house and the major part of the Simmons Plantation to his cousin, Dr. Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr., and the property was recombined with the adjoining Foscue Plantation.

The Simmons cottage is an L-shaped building consisting of a center-hall, double-pile main block with a two-room kitchen/dining room ell; the two blocks are connected by a once-open porch which carries almost fully across the rear, west elevation of the main block. The porch is actually T-shaped with the stem of the inverted "T" forming a porch along the complete south side of the ell. The main block of the cottage stands on brick piers, and it is covered by a sheet metal roof pierced by symmetrically placed interior brick chimneys. The house's weatherboarded elevations rise from a sill board to a bracketed frieze, and they are enframed by corner posts finished as pilasters which also rise to support the frieze.

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The five-bay east front elevation is dominated by the center, entrance bay porch which stands on brick piers and is covered with a hip roof. Its openwork supports and railing are made up of a series of X-form members which creates picturesque diamond-shape patterning in the piers and railing. The X-shape reappears in the elaborate crossetted frontispiece which enframes the front door, its sidelights, and transom. The door is fitted with four molded, recessed octagonal panels. Five-pane sidelights with X-form tracery rise from blind molded panels to a five-pane transom also enlivened with X-form tracery. Greek Revival-Style panels, from an Asher Benjamin patternbook, serve as the base of narrow blind, X-embossed pilasters which rise between the door and its sidelights. The symmetrical window openings to either side of the porch are also finished with molded crossetted surrounds and contain six-over-six window sash. The north and south side elevations of the main block have a symmetrical two-bay arrangement reflecting the double-pile plan. On the cottage's north side the north end of the connecting porch is fitted with paired board and batten wood doors which appear to date to the nineteenth century; they could be closed in the winter and thus deflect cold winds from members of the Simmons family going from the house to the ell. These doors are protected by a shallow braced pent roof.

The kitchen/dining room ell appears to be somewhat later in date than the main block, and it probably replaced a free-standing kitchen. The ell's north elevation has two large windows in symmetrical positions and a third window, near the center of the wall, which originally illuminated a pantry partitioned in the northeast corner of the kitchen. A single six-over-six sash window is centered in the ell's west gable end. The west elevation of the ell is protected by a shed roof porch supported by simple wood piers. Its east end is partially enclosed and so too is the porch carrying across the rear of the main block; this enclosure appears to date to the 1960s (or possibly to the 1970s). A four-panel wood door opens from the kitchen onto the open porch and a six-over-six pane sash window on the porch illuminates the dining room.

The interior of the Simmons Cottage follows a center-hall, double-pile plan; interior chimneys in the partition walls between the pairs of rooms on the north and south sides of the hall contain fireboxes for fireplaces in each of the cottage's four rooms. The hall and rooms have painted pine floors, plaster walls, and flush sheathed ceilings. The interior of the cottage is intact and unchanged since its construction except for two matters. In the 1970s (or later) the plaster and lath was taken down in the rooms on the north side of the hall, apparently during a proposed renovation of the house. In the summer of 1997 the cottage's Italianate-Style mantels were stolen from the house; this occurred after the interior had been completely photographed on 19 May. Black and white photographs of the four mantels survive and can be used to replicate them.

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The hall is a long rectangular space and extends the depth of the house. Its floors are painted a tobacco color used for floors in the 1910s through the 1930s, the baseboards are painted brown, the plaster walls are painted pink, and the flush board ceiling is painted white; this scheme probably dates from the 1920s or 1930s. Doors in pendant positions on the hall's side walls open into each of the four rooms. The doors have a molded four-panel arrangement and retain their white or brown porcelain knobs; the surrounds feature plain boards enhanced with a molded backband. The color scheme in the hall is repeated in the pair of rooms on the south side of the hall. The front southeast room had a molded post-and-lintel mantel with inset peak in the bottom of the lintel that was fashionable in the post-Civil War period. A door on the north side of the fireplace opens into the rear southwest room where a closet is positioned in the recess on the south side of the chimney breast; the closet is an original feature and also has a four-panel door. Originally, the west wall held two symmetrically-placed windows which looked out on the porch. In the 1920s or 1930s the southernmost of these window openings was enlarged and fitted with a four-panel wood door to provide access directly onto the porch and to the dining room and kitchen. As noted the plaster and lath has been removed in the two rooms on the north side of the hall; however, their original flooring, baseboards, door and window surrounds, and ceiling remain in place. The mantel in the front northeast room, again a molded post and lintel composition, has a curvilinear-shaped apron across the bottom of the lintel. The mantel in the rear northwest room was virtually identical in form. Here a closet was built into the recess on the north side of the chimney breast and fitted with a four-panel door. The two windows on the west wall, looking out on the porch, remain intact.

The porch linking the cottage with its kitchen ell was originally open and functioned as a breezeway between the two blocks; the paired board-and-batten doors at the north end of the porch appear to have been added around the turn of the century. Hooks, for a hammock, are attached to the walls of the cottage and the ell. The enclosure of the porch appears to date from the 1960s or early 1970s; the original green paint on the porch's ceiling is visible through the rafters of the enclosure project.

The interior finish of the two-room kitchen and dining room ell suggests its construction about 1900 to 1920. In both rooms, the floors are made of narrow pine boards and the walls and ceiling are sheathed with tongue-and-groove ceiling. The dining room has windows in the center of its north and east walls and a window and door on the south wall onto the porch. The window openings are finished with crossetted lintels and aprons; the door has a crossetted lintel. Originally a door in the near center of the dining room's west wall opened into a pantry, partitioned in the northeast corner of the kitchen, by which access was made to the kitchen; that opening was closed up with flush boards, probably in the 1920s or 1930s. The finish of the kitchen

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surrounds is simpler and consists of plain boards encircled with a convex molding. A flue-opening for a wood cook stove is mounted in the ceiling. The ghost marks of the partition walls forming the pantry are visible here; however, they appear to have been taken down in the 1920s or 1930s. A four-panel door in the kitchen's west wall gives onto the open porch.

13. Granary Ruin
Early twentieth century
Noncontributing building

Probably dating from the early twentieth century, this small rectangular frame building was covered with a sheet metal roof. The walls of the building have given way and the roof has partially collapsed atop them. Volunteer trees enclose the ruin which is situated west/northwest of the Simmons Cottage.

14. Simmons Tenant House #1
Ca. 1920-1940
Contributing building

The exact origins of this building are unconfirmed: either it was built as a tenant house or it was built for another purpose and refitted for use as a residence in the early twentieth century. Whatever the case, it has not been used as a residence for some years; however, it remains evocative of the very simple, almost rudimentary buildings sometimes provided to tenants in the first half of the twentieth century. The gable-front frame building is sheathed with flush boards overlaid with brick-imprinted asphalt sheeting: its roof is covered with sheet metal. A full-facade shed porch, supported by simple piers, has a sheet metal roof. The fenestration is six-over-six sash. The four-room plan interior is simply finished with pine boards and doors that appear to be reused.

15. Simmons Tenant House #2
Ca. 1960
Noncontributing building

Probably erected by Leon Foscue Simmons, his wife, or his son Leon Dalmain Simmons, this simple one-story rectangular dwelling was occupied by the last resident hired farmer on the Simmons Plantation. It stands on a cement block foundation and is sheathed with manufactured siding with vertical battens; the side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shallow stoop precedes the center entrance on the five-bay east front elevation. The two-bedroom house includes an entrance hall, bathroom, laundry room, and a large combination kitchen/den area at the back of the house. The interior is finished with wall board and other manufactured materials of the 1960s.

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16. Barn
Ca. 1950-1960
Noncontributing building

This large frame building stands on a cement block foundation and is sheathed with corrugated metal sheets; the gable-front building follows a center-passage plan and has a dirt floor. Part of the interior is partitioned into pens and stable areas. The building is partially built of reused materials.

17. Marl Dredger
Ca. 1940
Contributing object

Apparently locally assembled from a tractor and other machinery parts, this dredger was used in marl quarrying operations carried on by Leon Foscue Simmons. It consists of a tractor-powered engine, a long crane, and the bucket. For reasons now unknown, it was brought away from the marl pits near the Trent River and parked a few hundred feet east of the above buildings (#14-16) and abandoned. While the marl pits have filled with water--and fish--and taken on the appearance of recreational ponds, whereby their origins are obscured, this object recalls an important instance in the retrieval of natural resources on the Simmons Plantation.

18. Fishing/Hunting Camp
Ca. 1960-1962
Noncontributing building

This simple frame building with a gable roof was built by Linwood Page Meadows, resident manager of the Foscue Plantation from 1955 to 1968. It was erected to provide covered accommodation for hunting and fishing parties where they could prepare and consume their game and fish. Situated on the bank overlooking the Trent River, it was also used as a recreational area by the Meadows family. Having ceased to be used, it has become deteriorated.

19. Christopher Stephens Simmons House (2612 Highway 17 North, Pollocksville)
Ca. 1918-1920
Contributing building

Several family traditions concerning this house and its occupation by Christopher Stephens Simmons (1878-1956) contradict each other; however, it was apparently standing here by 1920 when the Census enumerator recorded Mr. Simmons, a homeowner, and his family occupying household #184 next to household #185 headed by his uncle Amos L. Simmons, Jr. "Kit" Simmons was the fifth son of George Hatch Simmons, the grandson of Amos L. Simmons, Sr., and

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the great-grandson of Needham Simmons, one of Jones County's largest landowners in the early nineteenth century. He apparently inherited the Simmons homeplace, Greenwood's Vale, from his father; however, he lost it and spent the later decades of his life in reduced circumstances in this substantial yet modest bungalow. He and his wife Lucy Phillip Koonce (1876-1959) lived here until their deaths, raising sons Christopher and Bruce (1906-1993), and a daughter, Lucy. Lucy Simmons received title to this 25- (actually 24.58) acre tract in 1934. In the division of the Lucy Koonce Simmons land in March 1959 the site of this house, the road frontage to the south, and acreage to the west were defined as Tract N. 2; Tract No. 1 was an L-shaped parcel to the north and carrying behind (west of) Tract No. 2. Tract No. 1 was awarded to Bruce H. Simmons and wife who sold it in 1962 to brothers, Otis L. and Kenneth E. Bell. Tract No. 2 was awarded to Lucy Creagh Simmons Hargett (d. 1996) and her husband who sold it out of the family in 1972. The house is the home of Arturo Ramsdell, the son of Clair Ramsdell (#21).

The one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow stands on a stucco-covered brick foundation and is covered with a standing-seam metal roof. Its original elevations have been covered with vinyl siding. The house's side-gable roof engages a full-facade porch on its three-bay east front elevation which is supported by brick piers and square-in-plan wood columns. The center entrance is flanked by paired windows, and a shed-roof dormer is inset in the front plane of the roof. The window openings have been refitted with replacement one-over-one sash.

20. Poultry House
Ca. 1950-1955
Noncontributing building

This long rectangular cement-block building is covered with a front-gable sheet-metal roof that is punctuated with three metal ventilators along its ridge line. A door and window occur in the south wall below the gable end which is sheathed with rolled asphalt roofing paper. Six symmetrically-positioned six-pane windows occupy the east elevation.

21. Clair Ramsdell House (2620 Highway 17 North, Pollocksville)
Ca. 1979
Noncontributing building

The site of this house was originally a part of the house lot of the Christopher Stephens Simmons House (#19) and a part of Tract No. 2 in the division of his widow's land. Clair Ramsdell erected this conventional one-story frame ranch house in 1979 and continues to occupy the house with his wife. The house is covered with a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof and has an offset garage wing on the south end which has been enclosed in recent years as a family room.

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22. Utility building
Ca. 1981-1982
Noncontributing building

This small rectangular building is covered with manufactured sheet siding over creosote poles. The floor is poured cement. It was built by Mr. Ramsdell.

23. Perry Daughety House (2590 Highway 17 North, Pollocksville)
Ca. 1991
Noncontributing building

This traditional two-story frame house, sheathed with cedar siding and covered with an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof, was built by Kathy Bell, the daughter of Otis and Shirley Bell, and her husband Perry Daughety about 1991. It has a one-story garage wing on the south side.

24. Otis Leroy Bell House (2580 Highway 17 North)
Ca. 1962-1963
Noncontributing building

The site of this house and that of the adjoining home of Kenneth Bell (#26) and related buildings (#23 to #28), comprised a lot purchased on 29 March 1962 by brothers Kenneth and Otis Bell from Bruce H. Simmons, the son of Christopher Stephens Simmons; the two brothers divided the lot, and erected houses on the two new individual tracts. Otis Bell (born 1935) built this one-story brick veneer and frame ranch house in 1962-1963. It has a chimney standing on its north gable end and a rear ell; the side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Mr. Bell and his wife, Shirley Brit (born 1938), continue to live here.

25. Garage
Ca. 1991-1992
Noncontributing building

This two-car garage, with two overhead garage doors facing onto Highway 17 North, is a frame building on a low cement block foundation. It is covered with a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof.

26. Kenneth E. Bell House (2570 Highway 17 North)
Ca. 1962-1964
Noncontributing building

This small rectangular brick veneer house is covered with an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof. A door and three large openings holding paired sash windows

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are set on the front east elevation while a secondary entrance and window are positioned in the house's north elevation below a sheathed gable end. Built by Mr. Bell (born 1937), the house remains his residence.

27. Garage
1994
Noncontributing building

This rectangular frame building, sheathed in manufactured siding, is covered with a front-gable asphalt-shingle roof with wide eaves; on the rear, west elevation the eave extends to cover a shed along the west wall. An opening on the garage's north gable end is fitted with an overhead garage door.

28. Manufactured house (2568 Highway 17 North)
Ca. 1993-1994
Noncontributing building

This conventional double-wide mobile home was placed to the west of, and behind Kenneth Bell's house as the dwelling of his daughter, Sandra, and her husband, Mike Southard.

29. Manufactured house
Ca. 1991
Noncontributing building

Earlier occupied as a dwelling at another location by Kathy Bell and Perry Daughety, the mobile home was moved here about 1991 by Otis Bell and it is used for storage.

30. Manufactured house
1980s
Noncontributing building

This single-depth mobile home occupies the former site of the Asa Heath, Sr., House which was moved to the northeast onto Ten Mile Fork Road where it is the residence of his granddaughter. The property is now owned by George Bell and the mobile home is renter-occupied.

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Summary Paragraphs

The Foscue and Simmons Plantations, a pair of family-related, historically connected, and physically adjoining agricultural properties in Jones County, are significant in the history of the county in the areas of agriculture, architecture, and social history, and satisfy Criteria A and C. In addition, the Foscue Plantation House, erected ca. 1821-1825 by Simon Foscue, Jr., as the seat of his plantation, was listed in the National Register in 1971 for its statewide architectural significance. Laying astride US 17, historically known as the New Bern Road, a short distance north of Pollocksville and just below the Jones/Craven County line, the plantations comprise approximately 1,354 acres (and nonfamily-owned inholdings of 25.58 acres), whose cultivated fields and woodlands stretch eastward to the Trent River which forms their eastern boundary.

The history of the two plantations reflect unique circumstances. From the early-nineteenth century to 1878-1880 the entire acreage (including the inholdings) comprised the Foscue Plantation, established by Simon Foscue, Jr. (1780-1830), and inherited, expanded, and held intact by his son John Edward Foscue (1809-1849), and his son's widow, Caroline Foy Foscue (1820-1881). In 1878 commissioners appointed by the Jones County Court divided the plantation lands between the two surviving children of John Henry Foscue; careful consideration was made to apportion the cultivated fields and the woodlands between Henry Clay Foscue (1843-1918) and his younger sister, Christiana Caroline Foscue Simmons (1847-1933). In 1880 Christiana Simmons acquired an additional ninety-eight acres of the old plantation. A long hedgerow continues to mark the boundary established in 1880 between the plantations owned and occupied by brother and sister. In the division Henry Clay Foscue received the brick plantation seat, and Christiana and her husband, Amos L. Simmons, Jr. (1850-1928) erected a one-story Italianate cottage on her share of the family lands; both houses survive to the present. Soon thereafter, when Caroline Foy Foscue died on 7 June 1881, her funeral was preached in the parlor of the Simmons Cottage, where she last made her home with her daughter, and her body was carried about one-thousand feet southward, to the Foscue Plantation to be interred beside her husband's. During the next four decades, until the death of Henry Clay Foscue in 1918, this brother and sister lived side by side on ancestral lands, raising their families, and operating their plantations in similar fashion. From 1918 to 1973 the plantations were held by cousins and reassembled in the later year in the Foscue name where they remain today. This long-term family ownership of such a substantial tract of land, now spanning nearly two centuries, is very rare in Jones County.

The long continuous history of this land reflects two important characteristics of Jones County agricultural history: the harvesting of its

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abundant woodlands for turpentine, naval stores, and timber; and the cultivation of its arable fields for subsistence and cash crops. Likewise, these two plantations, originally one and now reunited, reflect important transitions in the evolution of farm labor and power sources. From its establishment until the Federal occupation of New Bern and the surrounding regions in 1862--and the Emancipation Proclamation--the Foscue Plantation was worked by slaves supervised by an overseer. In the years after the Civil War, the Foscue Plantation and its younger, sister farm, the Simmons Plantation, were operated by the two siblings with hired labor and then tenants; this practice continued into the early twentieth century. In this century tenancy was abandoned and both plantations were managed by farm managers and/or resident farmers. Since the 1970s the combined plantations, united in the ownership of uncle and nephew, are cash-leased to a large businessman farmer. In spite of the modern farming and timber management practiced on the Foscue and Simmons Plantations, the overall landscape retains a high degree of integrity from its period of significance. The historical and present timber land and cultivated fields reflect decades of continual and consistent use.

The agricultural history and significance of the family plantation is reflected in its fields and woodlands which have been held intact and within family for over 175 years. This agricultural significance is documented by the survival of dozens of receipts, invoices, statements, and other handwritten records which document and illuminate important aspects of the agricultural operations from the early nineteenth century into the mid-1860s. No other such collection is known to survive for a Jones County family. The combination of these documents, Federal Census data, and the historically intact family lands provide an extraordinary opportunity to understand the operations of this place which figured prominently in the rich agricultural history of Jones County.

While the agricultural history of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations is significant on the local level, the brick plantation seat erected by Simon Foscue, Jr., was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 19 November 1971 for its statewide significance in the history of architecture. Then believed to have been built about 1801, subsequent research places the construction of the house to the years between 1821 and 1825 when George Forbes "came and commenced Porticoes on tuesday the 5th of July." The two-story brick side-hall plan house reflects the strong regional influence of New Bern architecture in both its urban form and its well developed Adamesque finish which has been identified with a trio of handsome townhouses in the Craven County seat. The handsomely restored Foscue Plantation seat is the only brick house known to have been built in Jones County prior to the Civil War and one of the few such side-hall plan houses erected in rural North Carolina in the first half of the nineteenth century. Local significance in the area of architecture and the satisfaction of Criterion C is also

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associated with the survival of the one-story frame Italianate-Style cottage which Christiana Foscue Simmons and her husband erected as their plantation seat in the 1870s. Representative of a number of similar one-story raised cottages with either Greek Revival or Italianate-Style detailing in the inner Coastal Plain, this house was the first of its number known to have been erected in Jones County and it became the prototype for a group of like houses, finished in less ambitious fashion, that were built afterward in the years to the turn of the century.

The survival of these two family related plantations, originally one, divided in 1878-1880, and reunited in 1973, is important in the social history of Jones County for their association with two families whose members have been prominent in the history of Jones County from its formation out of Craven County in 1779 to the present. The plantation established by Simon Foscue, Jr., divided between two of his grandchildren and now reunited, is the only known major Jones County plantation which has survived in a single family ownership from the early nineteenth century to the present. This continuous ownership represents a remarkably strong bond between the Foscue and Simmons families and their ancestral lands which has eluded virtually every other extended family in Jones County.

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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SOCIAL HISTORY CONTEXT

The history of this important pair of adjoining plantations, related through marriage in successive generations of the Rhem, Foscue, and Simmons families and now held by James Edward Foscue, Sr., and his nephew Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr., begins in the mid-eighteenth century on the Trent River in a part of Craven County that later became Jones. On 4 November 1766 William Lipsey, planter, sold to Simon Foscue, Sr., planter, a tract "on the North side of Trent River Containing one hundred Acres Beginning at a Black Gum between the said land and Casper Granade's land thence . . . to a Pine by Trent River and down the River to the first Station" (Craven County Deeds 12 and 13: 601). Later, on 20 January 1775 Simon Foscue acquired a tract of 100 acres from Joseph Reasonover, including "Joseph Reasonover(')s Plantation" on the north side of the Trent River (Craven County Deeds Book 22: 38-40). It is possible that Simon Foscue, Sr., (ca. 1734-1814) already owned land in this area of Craven that became a part of Jones County at its formation in 1779; however, these are the first known deeds for land in the Craven County public records that specifically places him on the north side of the Trent River where his descendants continue to own property--these nominated lands comprising 1,353 acres--to the present.¹

The Foscue Family in the Colonial and Post-Revolutionary Periods

Simon Foscue, Sr., (ca. 1734-1814) prospered in Craven and Jones Counties and through three marriages, sired a very large family. He was first married on 29 March 1759 to Sarah Brocket, the widow of Benjamin Brocket, and he had four children with her: Stephen Foscue (1761-17__); Phoebe Foscue (1763-17__); Frederick Foscue (1766-1832); and Rachel Foscue (1771-____) who is said to have married a Mr. Davis, and to have left North Carolina. By a deed of 26 December 1780 he conveyed a total of eight slaves, silver spoons, beds and other furnishings to these four children, and to Frederick "the land and plantation I now live on with the appertenances to it belonging except the small room to my daughter Phoebe during her life or virginity. . . ." (Jones County Deed Book C: 101-102). Frederick Foscue prospered in Jones County. Both Stephen and Phoebe Foscue were dead by 1788, apparently never having married (Jones County Deeds Book 1: 428).

Simon Foscue, Jr. (1780-1830), the first child of his father's (second) marriage in 1779 to Nancy Mitchel (1749-1793), the daughter of Alexander Mitchel was born on 21 January 1780. The couple's three additional children were: Dorcas Foscue (1782-1869) who has been described as "afflicted"; Lewis Foscue (1784-18__) who served with General Andrew Jackson; and Sarah Foscue (1787-1852) who married Frederick Foy. Simon Foscue, Sr., is said to have taken Mrs. Elizabeth Stevenson as his (third) wife in 1800, and they too had four children: Stephen Foscue; Susannah Foscue, who married George Oldfield; Betsey Foscue; and Amos Foscue who married his cousin Elizabeth Foscue.

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Having given his home plantation to his son Frederick in 1780, Simon Foscue, Sr., soon went about acquiring new lands in Jones County. On 28 September 1782 he purchased from Andrew Blanchard a tract of 123 acres on the north side of the Trent River and west side of Beaver Dam Branch, adjoining Stephen Tilghman and a mill pond, and fronting on the "great road" which became known as the New Bern Road (Jones County Deeds Book C: 149-150). Mr. Blanchard reserved "all such Timber trees now on the said land which are proper for the sawing into plank or scantling at a saw mill with the liberty to cut and carry away the same at any time or times as he the said Andrew Blanchard . . . shall think convenient." Thus, from the eighteenth century, comes the precedent for the continued practice of handling tracts of a plantation for timber growing and harvesting. Simon Foscue, Sr., purchased a fifty-acre parcel near or adjoining the 1782 tract from Samuel Stevenson on 20 December 1787 (Jones County Deeds Book 4: 588-589). Another precedent for the pattern of land holding and recombination of family lands that has also characterized the Foscue family's operations to the present occurred the next year. On 31 May 1788 Frederick Foscue sold to his younger half-brother Simon Foscue, a tract of 130 acres on the north side of the Trent River which he had inherited from his brother Stephen Foscue (Jones County Deeds Book 1: 402-403). Internal references to the boundaries suggest that this tract was close to the former Blanchard property. Four years later, on 20 January 1792, Simon Foscue purchased from Benjamin and Sally Gray a tract of 150 acres that adjoined his existing land and fronted "on the great road . . . thence down the road to Beaver Dam Bridge" (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 15-16). Near the end of the year, on 24 November, he purchased 100 acres adjoining Samuel Hill from Miller Frost (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 73-74).

Simon Foscue, Sr.'s largest land purchase, for one thousand and four pounds, came on 7 April 1794 when he acquired from George Pollock a tract of 627 acres whose boundaries began "at a Cypress on _____ side of Trent River Brocket's corner thence . . . , thence down the river to its first station (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 326-327). On 8 May 1796 Simon Foscue paid Arthur Foscue fifty pounds for two tracts totaling 250 acres; the larger tract's boundary calls suggest it was contiguous with at least one of his earlier purchases (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 412-413). Arthur Foscue had purchased this property from Joseph Reasonover in 1789 (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 405-406). Mr. Foscue's final known purchase in the eighteenth century came on 29 September 1798 when he bought four acres on Parker's Branch for eight pounds from Edward Harrison (Jones County Deed Books 3: 421-422).

Although Simon Foscue, Sr., continued to add to his real estate holdings in the first decade of the nineteenth century, purchasing two tracts totaling about 316 acres, in 1803 and 1809 from John Thomas and Elizabeth Mumford,

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respectively (Jones County Deeds Book 3: 472-473; and Book 4, 343), he would simultaneously set about distributing portions of his property among the children of his second marriage.

Simon Foscue, Jr., Establishes Himself as a Planter

Like his father, Simon Foscue, Jr., would acquire sizable land holdings and develop an impressive estate including the two-and-a-half-story brick house that he built as the seat of his plantation. Through purchases between 1796 and 1823, Simon Foscue, Jr., would acquire tracts totaling 3,275.00 acres, plus a small quarter-acre tract on the Trent River bought of George Pollock in 1819 that was probably a ferry landing. Mr. Foscue, Jr., apparently held all of this property to 1828 except for two tracts totaling 496.50 acres that he sold to Needham Simmons in 1810, and the quarter-acre ferry landing which he sold to Solomon E. Grant in 1821. Thus his aggregate holding became 2,778.50 acres. It should also be noted that he possibly held even more property through undivided family interests. While a plat of his deeds has not been made, internal references suggest that most if not all of this property was contiguous and adjoined his father's plantation, of which he received 450 acres in 1805. In four deeds in 1828 and 1829 he conveyed a total of 1,413 acres to his seven children: the 500-acre home plantation and the brick house was conveyed to his only son John Edward Foscue.

In September 1796, at the age of sixteen, Simon Foscue, Jr., purchased two tracts of land on Beaver Dam Run from Stephen Tilghman of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. On 10 September 1796 he bought a parcel of fifty acres on both sides of Beaver Dam for twelve pounds (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 459-460). The second purchase, on 29 September, was eighty acres on the west side of Beaver Dam Run (Jones County Deeds Book 2: 457-458). In 1804 he acquired two tracts totaling 177 acres from James Harrison, the larger (150 acres) of which was on the west side of Beaver Dam (Jones County Deeds Book 4: 1-2).

On 7 May 1801, between the two paired land transactions, Simon Foscue, Jr. was married to Christina Rhem, the daughter of Jacob Rhem, a prominent Craven County planter, and his wife Hannah Harold. (As events proved, Jacob and Hannah Harold Rhem were also the parents of a daughter Elizabeth (1771-1819) who was married to Needham Simmons (1772-1822); Elizabeth Rhem and Needham Simmons's grandson, Amos L. Simmons, Jr., would marry Christiana Foscue, the granddaughter of Christina Rhem and Simon Foscue in 1870. These marriages reflect the tendency of nineteenth century Jones County planter families to intermarry.) Simon Foscue, Jr., and his wife were the parents of seven known children, six daughters and one son: Julia Foscue (1802-1877) who was married to Lewis Sanderson in 1818; Eliza Foscue (1803-18__) who was married to Daniel Sheppard Saunders in 1824; Nancy M. Foscue (1804-1853) who was married to John

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Clemons (d. 1852); Mary P. Foscue (1806-1850) who married (first) Richard Fonville and (second) N. H. Street; Hannah Harold Foscue (1807-1843) who was married in 1836 to Dr. James B. LaRoque (1784-1859); John Edward Foscue (1809-1849), the second male owner of the Foscue Plantation; and Christiana Louisa Caroline Foscue (1812-1838) who was married to John Hancock.

On 22 September 1801, four months after his marriage, Simon Foscue, Jr., was named as one of the four grantees in a deed drawn up by his father. Following his earlier, like action, Mr. Foscue, Sr., was distributing sixteen slaves and real property to the children of his second marriage; however, in this instance, he withheld a life interest in both the slaves and the lands. To Simon Foscue, his namesake, Mr. Foscue, Sr., conveyed "all that messuage tenement and tract of land lying in the County and state aforesaid on the north side of Trent river and west side of Beaver Dam branch whereon he now lives also seventy acres on the head of said Branch" (Jones County Deeds Book 3: 393-395).

In addition to his life interest in the slaves and land, there was another condition to the conveyance. Simon Foscue reserved "the two shed rooms of the house wherein Simon Foscue, Junr. now lives to and for the only proper use benefit and behalf of his said daughter Dorcas for and during her natural life or marriage whichsoever first happens." For reasons that are now unclear, a controversy arose within the family concerning the deed and/or its provisions, and a court suit ensued; the deed was revoked after being registered. Through subsequent deeds in 1805 and 1809, Mr. Foscue, Sr., achieved his intentions. Simon Foscue, Sr., executed the first of these deeds on 9 April 1805 and conveyed to Simon Foscue, Jr., a tract of 450 acres, more or less, on the north side of the Trent River and west of Beaver Dam with frontage on the "main road." The property was further described as "being part of a tract granted to the said Simon Foscue bearing the date the twenty-seventh day of April 1790" (Jones County Deeds Book 4: 164-165). Although the language of the second deed did not repeat the reference to the property being the messuage whereon Mr. Foscue, Jr. was living, there is no reason, at present, to think it was not. Simon Foscue, Sr. lived on until November 1814 when he died and was buried in the family's brick vault (#4) on this acreage. Mr. Foscue, Jr., was an executor of his father's will wherein Stephen and Amos Foscue, the sons of the third marriage were his principal heirs (Jones County Will Book B: 35-37).

In 1971 when the Foscue Plantation House was nominated to the National Register, the report gave Simon Foscue, Jr.'s marriage date as 30 April 1801, which was actually the date of the issuance of the marriage bond, and continued "It is probable that a short time afterwards he built the Foscue Plantation House on a tract located just north of Pollocksville and the Trent River. He obtained this land from his father by a deed of September 22, 1801,

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though it is evident from the wording of the deed that he was living there before that date." However, Simon Foscue, Jr. did not build his brick plantation seat in either 1801 or thereabouts or on the tract which he subsequently received from his father in 1805. On 26 July 1810 Simon Foscue, Jr., executed two deeds to Needham Simmons. The one for 16.50 acres on Beaver Dam was recorded first (Jones County Deeds Book 12: 105-106). The second deed was for 480 acres. Except for a few minor calls that might allow for thirty acres, the boundaries of this larger tract are identical to those for the 450-acre tract which his father conveyed to him in 1805 for 400 pounds (Jones County Deeds Book 12: 200-201). The selling price was \$2,700 for 480 acres. Consequently, Simon Foscue, Jr., did not build the brick plantation seat now listed in the National Register in either 1801 or on the tract he received from his father.

According to a family tradition, Simon Foscue built the brick house on property he acquired from George Pollock. On 11 January 1811, George Pollock (17__-1839) of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, a very wealthy planter and slave owner, prepared a deed whereby he conveyed a tract of 488 acres lying directly on the north side and course of the Trent River to Simon Foscue, Jr., for \$6,430 (Jones County Deeds Book 12: 45-46). The great difference in the selling prices for essentially the same acreages, 480 and 488 acres, being \$2,700 and \$6,430, respectively, suggests the existence of a major dwelling and/or other buildings on the Pollock lands which Simon Foscue, Jr., and his family might have occupied. He did not build the brick house on this tract.

Short of an exhaustive platting of the property acquired by Simon Foscue, Jr., absolute answers to the questions of when he built the brick house and on what tract remain. Guidance to the answers exists in the recent scholarship of Peter B. Sandbeck who cites the remarkable similarity of its interior woodwork to that of a small group of houses in New Bern known to have been erected between 1820 and 1823 (THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF NEW BERN AND CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, 68-71). On 19 March 1821, Simon Foscue, Jr., bought a small tract of eight acres from George Pollock; its boundary began "On the Newbern road at said Foscue's lower corner (Jones County Deeds Book 15: 145). Given Mr. Sandbeck's thorough research, the coincidence of this purchase in 1821 during the 1820 to 1823 period, the location of the property on the Newbern Road, and one additional piece of evidence, Simon Foscue, Jr., probably built his brick house between 1821 and 1825 on the small parcel he bought in 1821. The only known surviving document concerning actual construction of the house is a handwritten notation which survives in the Foscue Family Papers: "Mr. Forbes, George came & commenced Porticoes on tuesday the 5th July 1825(,) himself & boy at thirty-four dollars per month."

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The decade of the 1810s was a busy period for Simon Foscue, Jr., beginning with his purchase of the 488-acre tract from George Pollock in January 1811 and ending with another purchase from George Pollock on 5 March 1819. This later purchase at \$250 as for a quarter-acre parcel on the Trent River, "Reserving to the said George and to the Public a Road thirty feet wide with all the privileges of a Highway" (Jones County Deeds Book 15: 144). Although this small parcel could have included a warehouse or wharf, the more likely explanation for the size, the price, and the reservation for a public road is that the parcel was the site of a ferry across the Trent River which Mr. Foscue then began operating. He held this property until selling it to Solomon E. Grant on 2 March 1821 for \$500 (Jones County Deed Book 15: 185). Later family letters, however, indicate that Mr. Foscue was operating the ferry in 1822. Like other members of the county's plantation elite, Mr. Foscue was engaged in public affairs as well, having been appointed a Justice of the Peace for Jones County by Governor William Hawkins on 22 December 1813; the certificate signed by the governor hangs on the wall of the Foscue Plantation seat.

The next year his father died, sometime after signing his will on 25 August 1814, and prior to the preparation of an inventory of his estate that is dated 10 November 1814 (Jones County Wills Book B: 35-37. Foscue Family Papers). The language of the will indicates that Simon Foscue, Sr., was living with his wife and their four children at a plantation establishment at Batchelor's Creek that was separate from a house on his Trent River plantation. The inventory lists twenty-two slaves, household, personal, and agricultural property. The younger Simon Foscue and his half-brother Stephen Foscue were named executors. An auction of personal property not conveyed by will was held on 8 December 1814. The objects which Simon Foscue, Jr., purchased at the sale of his father's effects provide insight to his life and manner of living: a pair of fire dogs, a pair of brass candlesticks, eight glass tumblers, a lot of china ware, one lot spun wool and cottons, jugs, two stone butter pots, a wooling wheel, one reel and winding blades, one lot trumpery, 200 pounds of seed cotton, a side saddle, a churn, two pewter basins, a lot of old pewter dishes, a shovel, two old iron pots, 147 feet of plank, a sythe and cradle, a lot of flax in the straw, plows, a broad axe, two and one half bushels flax seed, a hand mill, empty barrels, 120 bushels of potatoes, twenty-one head of sheep, a sorrel mare, two grubbing hoes, augers, a mule, twenty head of cattle, one pair of tooth drawers, 5,100 pounds of peas in hull, stacks of fodder, a dutch oven, two chamber pots, a milk pale, reap hooks, iron wedges, and a chest. A neighboring planter, Needham Simmons, also purchased several lots at the sale including: a kettle and skillet, two trays, a wire sieve, a horse cart, two plows, two baskets and some leather, a corn cradle, and three weeding hoes. Neither man bought any of the seven lots of five to twenty-two-and-a-half bushels of "ruff rice," nor the single lot of two pea fowls purchased by William McDaniel.

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As events--and surviving letters--proved, Simon Foscue, Jr.'s conduct in the settlement of his father's estate and related land and family matters caused irreconcilable rifts in his relationships with his wealthy, older half-brother, Frederick Foscue, and his own younger brother, Lewis Foscue, who served with General Andrew Jackson and apparently never lived again in Jones County. Meanwhile, into the early 1820s Simon Foscue, Jr., continued to acquire property and build up an important estate. On 19 March 1821 he purchased from George Pollock an additional eight acres on the "Newbern road" for \$40 (Jones County Deeds Book 15: 145). Less than a year later, on 16 February 1822, he acquired a tract of 550 acres on the north side of the Trent River for \$1,800 from his half brother Stephen Foscue; this was the land which Stephen Foscue had received under the terms of the will of Simon Foscue, Sr. (Jones County Deeds Book 15: 189-190). Within a month he added further to his holding when George Pollock relinquished his right to 184 acres adjoining Foscue's property (Jones County Deeds Book 16: 39); that same property was the subject of a second (release/sale) conveyance by Daniel Marshburn on 10 September 1823 (Jones County Deeds Book 16: 40). (This is one early instance of the problems which arose through the sometimes vague language of land transactions in the later eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. A related issue concerns acreages, which were also often inexact.)

In 1823 a second pair of purchases, while adding to his estate, were made by necessity and to protect the welfare of his first-born child, Julia, who had married Lewis Sanderson in 1818; in 1820 she had presented Simon Foscue, Jr., with his first grandchild, Julia Caroline Sanderson, who would later become mistress of another great Jones County plantation, Oakview (later known as the Bryan-Bell Farm). Lewis Sanderson fell into financial difficulties by 1823, and on 8 December 1823 four tracts of his land, totaling 621 acres, were put up at auction. Mr. Foscue bid them in at \$410. Lemuel Hatch, sheriff of Jones County, conveyed the property to Mr. Foscue (Jones County Deeds, Book 16: 97-99). About that same time Lewis Sanderson sold the home plantation of 620 acres on which he and Julia were living, together with a small tract of fifty-two acres on Duck Branch, to Mr. Foscue for one thousand pounds (Jones County Deeds Book 16: 126).

In 1828 and 1829, perhaps anticipating his own death, Simon Foscue, Jr. executed four deeds by which he conveyed a total of 1,413 acres to his seven children. The first of these, on 20 September 1828, was perhaps by sheer necessity to provide a secure home for his daughter Julia Foscue Sanderson and her two children; he conveyed the fifty-two-acre parcel on Duck Branch back to her (Jones County Deeds Book 23: 53). On 6 June 1829, surely in the face of his own mortality, Simon Foscue, Jr. prepared and signed three deeds securing property to his seven offspring. Knowing the need to provide an income for his eldest daughter, he conveyed two slaves, the blacksmith Tom and a girl named Lucy, and eight lots in the town of Trenton, together with a

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warehouse on a quarter-acre lot, to John Edward Foscue as trustee for Julia Foscue Sanderson (Jones County Deeds Book 18: 266). Through another deed he conveyed to his only son John Edward Foscue "all that messuage or tenement of land whereon I now live with all its appertenances. . . . Containing by estimation five hundred acres be the same more or less together with four negroes namely Marey[,] Jerry[,] Cate[,] and Able and all my Crop[,] Stock of horses cattle hogs sheep provisions household and kitchen furniture china plantation tools smith tools . . ." (Jones County Deeds Book 18: 251-252). Inexplicably, Simon Foscue, Jr., made no reservation allowing for the continued residence of his wife in the plantation seat. In the third of these 1829 deeds, Mr. Foscue conveyed three tracts, including the ancestral holding he purchased of his half-brother Stephen Foscue and the fifty-acre parcel he bought of Stephen Tilghman in 1796, to his five daughters: Eliza Sanders, Mary Fonville, Nancy Foscue, Hannah H. Foscue, and Christiana Foscue. This deed also conveyed twenty slaves to the five women (Jones County Deeds Book 18: 253-254).

Simon Foscue, Jr. died on 10 December 1830, at the age of fifty, and his body was also placed in the brick vault that had earlier received the remains of his father and mother. His will, written on 11 May 1826, was entered for probate at the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in March 1831. It was unusually short for a man of his means and station, containing only five specific bequests. Incredibly, he made no real provision for his wife Christiana who would survive him by twenty-three years until her death on 15 June 1853; the circumstances of their relationship, her health, and perhaps her own independent means remain unexplained. Her only mention in the will occurs in item one in which he distributes his personal property in equal shares between Mrs. Foscue and his six youngest children. Specific bequests of land were made to his son John Edward Foscue, and to his daughters Christiana and Nancy. He also devised the four tracts of Lewis Sanderson's property totaling 621 acres, which he bought at the sheriff's sale in December 1823, to Joseph Rhem in trust for the support of his eldest daughter Julia Foscue Sanderson. He named John Edward Foscue as his executor (Jones County Wills, Book B: 108).

Having given his brick seat, its contents, and the stock and crops of his plantation to his son by deed in June 1829, there was little personal property to be divided among Mrs. Foscue and her six youngest children. A sale of miscellaneous items on 20 January 1831 netted the estate \$173.32½. That, together with cash on hand (\$1,264.60), notes, accounts, and judgments was compiled in an inventory of the estate on 14 March 1831; the total was \$4,571.19½. John Edward Foscue added a note at the end of the listing stating "All of which notes, accounts[,] Judgments[,] and tickets are doubtful" (Foscue Family Papers). Among the Foscue Family Papers is a final inventory

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of the residual estate with assets of \$2,073.14 and expenses and executor's commission of \$1,474.90 leaving \$599.24 (the inventory gives the figure as \$598.24) to be distributed to the legatees. Several items among the expenses bear mention. The sum of \$117 was paid to "Doctors for attention during his last illness and before." "Judgements in different courts for cost and other causes" cost the estate \$504.36½. "Lawyers bill for there [sic] attendance to suits before and after his death that was standing against him at his death" amounted to \$214, and "Witness tickets that occurred in lawsuits" totaled \$64.77. Probably included among the miscellaneous expenses that John Edward Foscue represented as a total of \$451.47½ in the final inventory was payment to John W. Nelson for "making Mahogany coffin and base for coffin" on 11 December in which the remains of Simon Foscue, Jr., were deposited in the family's brick vault. At least one of John Edward Foscue's sisters, Hannah, was not satisfied with the manner in which he settled his father's estate, and in 1836 she filed a civil suit in Jones County Court alleging that her father had died in possession of "Cash, Notes, Bonds, and other evidences of debt, together with stock, crops and other chattels amount to Ten thousand dollars, or some other large sum and much more than was necessary to pay debts & funeral expenses." On 14 September 1839, John Edward Foscue conveyed to Richard G. Fonville, in trust for Hannah Harold Foscue LaRoque, three slaves "and one bay horse & sulky, one riding gig, one sideboard, one bureau, one washstand, one workstand(,) three mahogany tables, three bedsteads, six beads [sic], and furnature [sic], two dozen chairs, three pr brass fire dogs shovels and tongs, four looking glasses, eighteen teaspoons, and eleven table spoons" (Foscue Family Papers).

John Edward Foscue and the Foscue Planation

When Simon Foscue, Jr., died on 10 December 1830, his son and heir, John Edward Foscue, had turned twenty-one years of age less than a month earlier--on 13 November. He would remain a bachelor, living at home with his mother, for a decade until 20 October 1840 when he was married to Caroline Foy (1820-1881), the daughter of Enoch Foy. Foy (1777-1846), a wealthy Jones County planter on the south side of the Trent River, was a member of the General Assembly nine times between 1803 and 1838. Four known children were born to the couple: George Christopher Foscue (1841-1849); Henry Clay Foscue (1843-1918), who would occupy the brick seat for a longer period than anyone in the family; Mariana Francenia Foscue (1845-1863); and Christiana Caroline Catherine Foscue (1847-1933) who would marry Amos L. Simmons, Jr. (1850-1928) in 1870 and live in the Italianate cottage (#12) on Foscue family lands she received in 1878-1880 for nearly her entire married life. For about fifty years she was the mistress of what became known as the Simmons Plantation while her brother Henry Clay Foscue was the owner of the Foscue Plantation.

The life of the Foscue Plantation continued along much the same line as it had

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in his father's day, with the slaves managed by an overseer. John Edward Foscue continued to acquire both slaves and land during his nineteen-year tenure as master of the Foscue Plantation. On 8 April 1841, six months after the marriage of John Edward and Caroline, her father, Enoch Foy, gave her a female slave named Doll, then thirty-five years of age, and her five children of one year to fourteen years of age (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Otherwise, the enlargement of his house and field labor force was through both natural increase and purchase. He also rented slaves including those belonging to his sister Nancy. On 19 April 1831 he bought five slaves who appear in the deed to have been a family for \$925 from John W. Guion and John M. Roberts (Foscue Family Papers). On 6 June 1839 he paid the relatively high price of \$625 for a twenty-year old female slave Dinah (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Jones County Deeds Book 20: 163(103?). On 25 March 1845 he paid \$2,050 for seven slaves which he purchased from H. K. Brugwyn of Northampton County (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Less than a year later, on 12 February 1846 he paid _____ Burgwyn \$950 for Tom Daniel, a negro blacksmith twenty years of age (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Jones County Deeds Book 21: 370).

John Edward Foscue's purchases of land were made from both neighbors and family members and spanned the period from 1827 to 1845. On 20 January 1827 he acquired 200 acres on the north side of the Trent River from Benjamin Gray (Jones County Deeds Book 18: 75). Mr. Foscue purchased his sister Mary Fonville's one-fifth undivided interest in two tracts she inherited with her sisters from their father for \$275 on 24 January 1833 (Jones County Deeds Book 19: 142-143). Four years later, on 11 February 1837, he sold the one-fifth interest in one of these tracts to his sister Nancy M. Foscue (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 46). And that same day he sold a one-fifth interest in the same tract that he had bought from his sister Eliza Foscue Sanders and her husband Daniel to (his sister?) Christiana Foscue (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 47). He purchased a tract of 155 acres on the bank of the river and on Duck Branch from William and Civil (Kornegay) Duncan on 10 September 1833 (Jones County Deeds Book 19: 141-142). John Edward Foscue's largest purchase came on 21 January 1835 when he bought two tracts totaling 620 acres from William Hart for \$2,675; the first tract on Duck Branch contained 320 acres, and the second tract of 300 acres (Jones County Deeds Book 19: 296-297). On 18 November 1837, Daniel Knight sold to Mr. Foscue a tract of ninety acres "lying on the west side of the main road leading from Trent bridge to Newbern" which Mr. Knight had inherited from his mother, a daughter of Daniel Kornegay (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 66-67).

On 26 January 1841, John Edward Foscue and George W. Harriett exchanged parcels of land to each's mutual benefit: Mr. Foscue traded the 155-acre Duncan tract to Mr. Harriett in exchange for a tract of unspecified acreage that adjoined Foscue's holding and also lay on the side of the public road (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 356-358). (A year later, on 25 January 1842,

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Mr. Foscue sold Mr. Harriett a tract of ninety acres on the river and on their shared line, probably for the purposes of straightening their respective, shared boundary and for mutual advantage (Jones County Deeds Book 21: 10-11). Members of the Harriett family continue to be neighbors of the Foscue Plantation to the present. Mr. Foscue increased his estate later in the year, on 9 March, when he bought two tracts from John and Frances Adams for \$600. The first tract of ninety acres lay directly on the river and adjoined George Harriett's line: the second tract of sixty acres apparently on the north side of Foscue's property adjoined the lands of Amos L. Simmons, the son of Needham Simmons, and the father of Amos L. Simmons, Jr. (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 361-362). In 1841 and 1842, John Edward Foscue acquired two undivided one-fifth interests in the 182-acre Marshburn tract which his five youngest sisters had inherited from their father (Jones County Deeds Book 20: 398-399; and Book 21: 18). His final known land purchase occurred on 15 January 1845 when he acquired from Elijah M. Dudley a one-acre lot on the Trent River at Trent Bridge (now Pollocksville) which adjoined a lot he had earlier bought of C. H. Foy and the property of Roscoe Barrus (Jones County Deeds Book 21: 267-268).

As events have proven, the property purchases which John Edward Foscue made in the 1840s were the last significant additions to the Foscue Plantation lands that, from 1878 until the 1970s were known as the Foscue and Simmons Plantations. Likewise, after 1845 and excepting the sale of fifty-three acres in 1882 to Lewis and Mary Hill (Jones County Deeds Book 30: 359), there would be no significant diminution of the estate lands that were divided between Henry Clay Foscue and Christiana Foscue Simmons in 1878.

On 4 March 1848, John Edward Foscue, "Seriously considering the uncertainty of life and mindful of the obligation upon everyman to leave his affairs in order," signed his will. He died on 25/27 April 1849. As far as can now be known, he was the first person to be buried in the family's new cemetery (#3) to the southwest of the house and in the northeast corner where the old plantation avenue joins the Pollocksville to New Bern Road (present day US 17). His early death from a hemorrhage was greatly mourned by his widow, his mother, and his four children, and his grave was soon marked by a handsome white marble Classical-style monument. Before the year was out, his eldest son, George Christopher Foscue would die and be buried beside him. John Edward Foscue's will was little longer than that of his father. He ordered the sale of twenty-two slaves, his property in Pollocksville, and any other items not mentioned in the will to provide funds to liquidate debts and any other obligations of the estate. He bequeathed to his mother one-third part of his remaining slaves and one-third part of the residual estate. To his widow, Caroline, he devised for her natural life "one third part of all my lands including my dwelling and other buildings attached." At her death the real estate was to be equally divided between his two sons. The other

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two-thirds of his negroes were to be sold and the proceeds divided between his wife and four children. Mr. Foscue also directed that his executor, James C. Bryan (1817-1850), one of Jones County's wealthiest planters and the husband of his eldest niece, Julia Caroline Sanderson, allot a year's provisions to his wife and family and to equally divide the remaining two-thirds of the residual estate among his widow and four children (Jones County Wills Book B: 199-200).

At his death John Edward Foscue left his mother, his widow, and four children, the eldest of whom was either seven or eight years of age. Not surprisingly, Caroline Foy Foscue objected to the terms of her husband's will, insisting that he had not made sufficient provision for her nor allowed her a dower right in his estate. She pursued the matter in Jones County court in July 1849, and a committee comprised of Roscoe Barrus, Nathaniel Maples, Bryan Bender, and Daniel Williamson was appointed to allot to the widow a year's provision. In their report to the court in December 1849 they stated that "There being no stock or crop on hand we allot to the said Caroline Foscue widow of said John E. Foscue the sum of Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars for one years provision of herself and family which sum includes the value of one bed and furniture and wheel and cards as provided for by the Statutes to be paid her by the executor of said John E. Foscue" (Jones County Estate Papers, State Archives). It would appear that the committee's report stating there was "no stock or crop on hand" was merely a convenience, and little short of a misrepresentation, which enabled them to allot cash money to Mrs. Foscue. On 12 June 1849 Caroline Foscue bought a large quantity of household furnishings together with livestock and crops, totaling \$642.39 at the sale of her husband's personal property. The livestock included thirty-five hogs, twenty sheep, four cows and calves, a team of red steers, a horse named Big Ben (\$61), a mule, a pony, a pig, and one lot of geese. The produce included three stocks of fodder, "all the corn at the house," amounting to thirty-two and one-half barrels, other corn described as "on River," the "contents of Milk house," together with hams and bacon.

On 20 March 1850, twelve court-appointed jurors awarded Caroline Foscue her dower and third of her husband's lands "containing about two hundred acres of cleared land(,) the dwelling and out houses attached thereto where the said deceased resided(,) also two pieces of wood land making together about seventy five acres" which was to be shared with the children. In addition, she was allotted four acres on the west side of the road across from the brick house, with the provision "that the said Caroline Foscue move the house now standing on said four acres on some convenient place on the children's land or build a house on said children's land as good for the convenience of those renting said land." She was also allotted one-third of the estate's remaining woodland and "one third of the Turpentine boxes." The jurors also decreed that her remaining dower be paid in cash from the sale of the Pollocksville lots (Jones

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County Estates Papers, State Archives).

Caroline Foy Foscue, Mistress of the Foscue Plantation

During the two decades following the death of her husband in 1849 Caroline Foy Foscue (1820-1881) demonstrated a remarkable resourcefulness raising her family and managing the affairs of the Foscue Plantation. Fate had not been kind to her in the later 1840s; her father died on 6 October 1846, her husband died 27 April 1849 and her eldest son died a few months later on 17 September 1849. Her situation would probably have been easier had her husband's executor, James C. Bryan (1817-1850) lived; however, his death in January 1850 left her unassisted in the complex management of the estate affairs until she turned to her brother for support. Ironically, Bryan's widow, Julia Caroline Sanderson (1822-1901), the eldest niece of John Edward Foscue, then faced a like dilemma in managing the Bryans' Oakview Plantation of nearly 1,300 acres until her son James C. Bryan (1839-1898) reached his majority (see Bryan-Bell National Register nomination). The strength of character forged in these circumstances, however, would serve Mrs. Foscue well during the upheaval in the Civil War when she was forced to leave the plantation in 1862, and to deal with the death of her eldest daughter in 1863, and in the financially difficult years afterward. During part of this period she was assisted by her brother Thomas D. Foy who was in her household in 1850 (1850 U.S Census).

These events were either in the past or well into the future during the 1850s, when she was busily rearing three children and managing the estate; the plantation prospered during her tenure and she bought additional slaves. On 12 January 1852 she bought four slaves from her brother, Miles Foy, and at the end of 1853 she purchased another family slave named Dick from the estate of Sarah Foy (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). She bought a boy named Jack for \$800 in December 1856 from Miles Foy and in January 1858 she paid Foy \$1,000 for a twenty-eight year old slave named Jacob; in April 1856 she gave a note for \$600 to Jacob F. Scott for a slave girl named Citty (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). During the 1850s, as guardian of three minor children, she was required to submit reports to the court detailing their expenses and income from the renting of their slaves and lands; examples of these and related documents survive in the Foscue Family Papers at the Southern Historical Collection and in the family's private papers. The family papers also include statements of accounts she ran with the merchant Roscoe Barrus at Pollocksville who provided her with all manner of goods and who took butter and other produce from the plantation in return.

The 1860s opened with much of the same promise the family enjoyed in the 1850s; however, the family circle on the plantation was soon reduced. In 1857 her son Henry Clay Foscue began attending school at Trinity (later Trinity College), and in the fall of 1860 both her daughters were students at the

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Greensboro Female College. In January 1861 Henry Clay Foscue entered the University of North Carolina; however, he resigned and enlisted in Company I, 27th Regiment, North Carolina Troops, on 17 June 1861. The Federal Army's occupation of New Bern in March 1862 and its subsequent movement through the surrounding country raised serious fears in Jones County, and although Mrs. Foscue was given a safeguard on 29 March 1862, signed by Lewis Richmond, Assistant Adjutant General under General Burnside, she and many others fled to the interior of North Carolina. In April, before she left, she saw six bales of ginned cotton valued at \$495 burned by orders of General Robert Ransom, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the enemy. Whether she went directly to Thomasville, Davidson County, is uncertain; however, she purchased a house there in the summer or early autumn of 1862.

Another military incident at the plantation, on 22 May 1862, shortly after Mrs. Foscue's departure, is recalled in the published history of the 17th Massachusetts Regiment.

When the regiment was at the Jackson Place, about six miles outside Newbern, Colonel Fellows received information from outside the Union lines that the Confederates had been ordered to gather in all the cattle, horses and such supplies as they could find in the neutral zone lying between the opposing forces, so as to prevent the Union troops from taking possession of them.

In order to defeat this scheme, Colonel Fellows, on May 22, 1862, ordered Captain Thomas Weir to march his company out on a foraging expedition to the estate of the widow Fosque, on the Pollocksville road, where, as it was well-known there were some good cows, horses and other property, which could be used by the Union forces to advantage, and thus defeat the designs of the Confederates on the much coveted property.

Captain Weir obeyed the order promptly, and succeeded in getting in the property referred to, and started to return to camp, when he was ambushed by a greatly superior force of the enemy. Captain Weir had only thirty-five men and officers in his command that day, and when he had placed some of them in charge of the horses, some in charge of the cows, and others in charge of the team hauling several bales of cotton, there were but few fighting men left to the captain to act as skirmishers and guard his flanks, so that, as a matter of fact, there were no skirmishers thrown on, because there were not enough men to do much with. Thus it was with Captain Weir as he marched away from Mrs. Fosque's that day (THE SEVENTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT, 125-126).

During 1862 and 1863 Mrs. Foscue kept up a steady correspondence with Roscoe Barrus who had also fled Pollocksville, retreating to Franklinton. Several of

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his letters to her survive in the Foscue Family Papers: her's are apparently lost. In one of the first of these, begun on 27 June 1862 and completed on 11 July after a trip back to Jones County, Barrus recounts his experience.

I got all the information I could from the surrounding neighbourhood, all I could learn from your place was that the enemy frequently visited it and had done considerable damage, on one of their visits they were severely repulsed by our men and some of them (the enemy) killed which happened some weeks ago of which you have no doubt heard.

Our neighborhood in Jones County is almost deserted by citizens, there is scarcely any moving about of the people, and the appearance seems to indicate that most of the former citizens are dead, some of the roads are growing over with grass except where the travel of our pickets prevent.

Beginning in the summer of 1862, Mrs. Foscue sought the help of Roscoe Barrus and others in securing a substitute for her son who wrote to Mrs. Foscue twice in August from Virginia pressing her to action because of his periodic bouts with illness. Their efforts did not prove successful until the spring of 1863. On 29 April 1863, Henry Clay Foscue was discharged from the Army of the Confederate States "having furnished an acceptable substitute." The relief in having her son back with her was dispelled a week and a half later by the death of her eldest daughter Mariana Francenia Foscue on 9 May 1863 in Goldsboro. She was buried in Goldsboro and in late May 1866, her remains were carried back to Jones County for burial beside her father and brother (#3).

Mrs. Foscue served as executrix of her daughter's estate and filed an inventory with the Jones County Court which was considered in December 1864. She had last submitted a guardian's account for her daughter to March term 1861.

. . . since which in consequence of the state of the country during the war and having to leave my home a part of the time I have been unable to make any return to Court. A large portion of the negroes belonging to the estate went off to the enemy in 1862 since which the income from the hire of those which remained has been but little. There are bills yet unpaid against the deceased for the year 1861 also after that date up to her death. The rent of the land since the war has also been very little (Jones County Estate Papers, State Archives).

It is unclear exactly when Mrs. Foscue returned to Jones County and the Foscue Plantation, whether in 1864, early 1865, or at the end of the war. Whatever the date, she, like the neighboring planters in the ruined county, had a formidable task facing her, and so, too, did Henry Clay Foscue. There were many decisions to be made and relatively little money to implement any of

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them. References in letters suggest that Henry Clay Foscue might have been considering giving up the life of a planter and entering business, a transition many men made with the loss of the antebellum slave labor force and the investment it represented. Mrs. Foscue's brother, Thomas D. Foy, had left Jones County and moved to Flemington, near Wilmington, and set himself up in the turpentine business. Writing to his sister on 5 August 1865 he told her to "Tell Henry now is the time to strike to make a fortune and he must press things if he wants to do so" (Foscue Family Papers). Two years later, on 1 September 1867 a cousin, Mrs. Henry T. Schroeder, wrote to Mrs. Foscue from Boston and asked her to write in return, "and tell me where you are and what you are all doing this year. If Cousin Henry continues farming or if he has gone to merchandising" (Foscue Family Papers). Meanwhile, on 1 June 1866, Caroline Foscue purchased a cow and calf for \$8 from E. F. Sanderson, an act that might be construed as a commitment to rebuild the plantation (Foscue Family Papers/JEF).

Caroline Foscue's reply to Mrs. Schroeder would surely have informed her of her son's courtship of Sarah Frances "Fannie" Simmons (1848-1868), the daughter of Amos L. Simmons, Sr., a neighborhood planter. Henry Clay Foscue and Sarah Frances Simmons were married early in 1868; however, their union was to be short lived. Fannie Foscue died shortly after the birth of a daughter, Mariana Frances Foscue, on 11 November 1868. She was probably buried in the Foscue Cemetery (#3), but, if so, her grave is not marked. Henry Clay Foscue would remain a widower for ten years. Little Mariana Frances Foscue died on 1 June 1870 and was buried in the Foscue Cemetery (#3) where her grave is marked by a white marble tablet and footstone. Four and a half months later a second union of Foscue and Simmons siblings produced a marriage that would last for nearly half a century, to 1928, and cement the physical and family connections between what was shortly to become the Foscue and Simmons Plantations. On 20 October 1870, the wedding anniversary of John Edward and Caroline (Foy) Foscue, their daughter Christiana Caroline Catherine Foscue (1847-1933) was married to Amos L. Simmons, Jr. (1850-1928). The bride and groom were both descended from Jacob and Hannah (Harold) Rhem, great-grandparents to each of them. Mr. Simmons was the youngest son of Amos L. Simmons, Sr. (1812-1892) and his wife Leah S. Koonce who lived in a handsome Greek Revival-Style plantation house, Greenwood's Vale, also in Pollocksville Township, and the grandson of Needham Simmons (1772-1822) and Elizabeth Rhem. Like his bride, Amos L. Simmons, Jr., was a member of a large and prominent Jones County family and well-connected to most, if not all, of the leading families in the county; his first cousin, Furnifold Green Simmons II was the father of Senator Furnifold McClendel Simmons (1854-1940), later one of the most powerful and influential political leaders to emerge from the area in the late nineteenth century and who served in the United States Senate from 1901 until 1931.

Given the fact that Mr. Simmons's elder brother George Hatch Simmons would

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likely inherit the ancestral seat, Greenwood's Vale, the one-story frame cottage (#12) was probably then built for the young couple on the Foscue holding on the north side of the New Bern Road. In the first decade of their marriage three children were born to the couple: Carrie Adele Simmons (1872-1954) who did not marry; Thomas Foy Simmons (1874-1964) who was married but had no issue; and Leon Foscue Simmons (1879-196) who married (first) in 1904 Sarah Brown with whom he had one son Leon Dalmain Simmons (19__-19__), and (second) to Ruth Lee (1908-1995) in 1941. Leon Dalmain Simmons had no children and with the eventual death of his widow Jane Farinholt Simmons this Simmons-Foscue line will become extinct.

Sibling Planters: Henry Clay Foscue at the Foscue Plantation and Christiana Foscue Simmons at the Simmons Plantation

Having been born at the Foscue Plantation on 15 August 1843 and having lived there until his death on 24 February 1918, Henry Clay Foscue occupied the ancestral brick house longer than any member of his family. He was also the last of the Foscue family to occupy the house as a permanent residence. Following the death of his wife, Fannie, in November 1868, Mr. Foscue resided at the brick house with his mother for a decade until taking a second wife in 1878. That year he was married to Gertrude Fonville, the daughter of Colonel Edward W. Fonville of Onslow County; on 2 November 1878 she gave birth to their only child, a son, John Edward Foscue (1878-1920), whose son and grandson are the present owners of the recombined Foscue and Simmons Plantations.

Henry Clay Foscue's second marriage in 1878 was the event that prompted two actions important in the history of the family-related plantation lands. On 12 December 1878, court-appointed commissioners divided the lands of John Edward Foscue, deceased, between brother and sister, Mr. Foscue and Mrs. Simmons. Henry Clay Foscue was given the Stanly tract of ninety acres and a large tract stretching from the Trent River to the New Bern road (now US 17), including the Foscue Cemetery (#3) "containing four hundred and seventy-six acres of cleared land with the brick dwelling house and other out houses and improvements and three hundred and fifty-five acres of piney woods land west of Pollocksville road valued at one dollar per acre containing in all nine hundred and twenty-one acres valued at Seven thousand three hundred and eighty dollars(,) subject to the widows dower valued at four hundred dollars."

The commissioners awarded Christiana Foscue Simmons Lot #2 "containing two hundred acres of piney woods land valued at one dollar per acre and two hundred and seventy five acres valued at seven hundred and twenty dollars, in all four hundred and seventy-five acres valued at nine hundred and twenty

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dollars, with one thousand and thirty dollars which is to be paid over by Henry C. Foscue to Christiana C. Simmons makes her lot equal to one fourth of whole valuation of the whole plantation" (Jones County Deeds Book 28: 24-26). Mrs. Simmons's larger, probably mostly cleared tract also lay on the Trent River and was further bounded by Duck Creek which was mentioned in Foscue deeds throughout the century. Apparently, Henry Clay Foscue only paid a token sum of \$78 to his sister; she pursued the further payment of \$952 in Jones County Court. Instead of a cash settlement, the two siblings agreed to an additional partitioning of the Foscue Plantation lands and the court concurred. On 28 February 1880, Mr. Foscue and his wife conveyed a rectangular ninety-eight-acre tract lying on the south side of the 1878 division line, twenty-six poles or two acres in width running from the Trent River westward to the back property line (Jones County Deeds Book 28: 64-67).

The second event prompted by Mr. Foscue's marriage to Gertrude Fonville in 1878 was Caroline Foscue's departure from the brick house for her daughter's nearby residence. Whether this was done for reasons of Mrs. Foscue's health or simply to allow Mr. Foscue and his new bride to make the plantation seat their own home is not known. Caroline Foy Foscue died on the morning of Tuesday, 7 June 1881, and her funeral was preached at the Simmons cottage (#12) at four o'clock on the afternoon of the following day. She was buried beside her husband in the Foscue Cemetery (#3).

The last decades of the nineteenth century at both the Foscue and Simmons plantation houses were taken up with the usual events of rural life and child raising. Henry Clay Foscue and his wife were the parents of one son, John Edward Foscue. He was educated at home with his cousins for a time, and later, while still a boy, he spent the winters with other cousins in New Bern so he could attend the better schools in the more cosmopolitan port city. In 1892/1893, at the age of fourteen, he went to Guilford College with his cousin Augustus Clyde Foscue (1874-1934). In 1897 he enrolled at the University of North Carolina and studied medicine for two years; he completed his medical education at the University of Maryland, graduating in 1901. He then served an internship at Johns Hopkins University. His Simmons cousins were educated at home and probably in the New Bern schools as well. Carrie Simmons, the eldest child, was never married and apparently stayed at home, and so too did her brother Thomas Foy Simmons who was married but had no children.

Farming on both plantations was apparently given over to tenants and the rhythm of life continued season after season. One important improvement to the economy of the region came in the early 1890s when a railroad line was built south out of New Bern to Pollocksville and probably on to Maysville, Belgrade, and Jacksonville. On 20 October 1890, Mr. Foscue and his wife deeded an easement measuring 125 feet in width through the plantation to the Carolina Land and Railway Company (Jones County Deeds Book 38: 11-12).

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The construction of this railroad (later Atlantic Coast Line Railroad) allowed for the even more extensive development of a timber industry, focused in New Bern, which fanned out into the adjoining counties. The old eighteenth and nineteenth century turpentine operations were soon replaced by systematic lumbering on the Foscue Plantation, and trees and woodlands remained an important source of income. The first of a known series of contracts with lumber companies was recorded in a deed of 3 March 1902 between Mr. and Mrs. Foscue and William B. Blades, James B. Blades, Charles G. Blades, and Lemuel S. Blades, trading as Blades Lumber Company. In exchange for \$2,000, the lumber company acquired "all the timber of every description, of and above the size of 12 inches in diameter at the base when cut, now standing or growing, upon which may be during the ensuing term of three (3) years, lying, standing, or growing . . . All the lands belonging to the said H. C. Foscue situated on the West side of the New Berne and Pollocksville Public Road, adjoining the lands of Amos Simmons & others on the North, the lands of John Hargett on the West, the lands of Zenos Hill & others on the South and the lands of Robbinson and others on the East, containing by estimation 300 acres more or less, being all the wood lands belonging to the tract of land I reside on, situated on the West side of Public road" (Jones County Deeds Book 45: 492-495).

While timbering had occurred on the Foscue plantation lands since the early nineteenth century, the availability of rail transportation enabled it to be carried on in a more organized and larger scale. This proved to be true on the plantation and throughout Jones County as well as in the larger region which focused on New Bern as a trading center. Consequently, portions of plantation lands which produced good timber were increasingly maintained for periodic timbering; thus the maintenance of productive woodlands, which represented an important financial resource, became nearly as important in the Jones County agricultural landscape as cultivated fields for cash crops.

Simultaneously, changes occurred in the pattern of life enjoyed by the Foscue family. While attending school in Greensboro young John Edward Foscue met Vera Maie Armfield (1878-1966), the daughter of Dr. David Allison Armfield (1837-1910), a prominent Guilford County farmer and physician. After completing his internship at John Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore, Dr. Foscue returned to Guilford County and was married to Miss Armfield on 26 October 1901. The couple settled in Jamestown where Dr. Foscue took over his father-in-law's medical practice. Four children were born to the couple: Vera Gertrude Foscue (19__-19__) who married Dwight Groome Davis; Henry Armfield Foscue (19__-19__) who married Valworth McMillan; Della Katherine Foscue (19__-19__) who married Ralph Waldo Slate; and James Edward Foscue (born 1909) who married Sarah Lacy Tomlinson. Dr. Foscue's decision to locate in Jamestown marked the first step in the eventual removal of this branch of the Foscue family to Guilford County. Beginning either in the 1900s or early

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1910s, Henry Clay and Gertrude Foscue would depart the plantation each year to spend the summer months in the cooler, less humid climate of Jamestown.

Within the space of three years, 1917 to 1920, three deaths dramatically altered the Foscue family circle. On 30 December 1917, Gertrude Fonville Foscue died and was buried in the Foscue Cemetery (#3). Less than three months later, on 24 February 1918, Henry Clay Foscue died and he was buried beside his wife. Their only son and heir, Dr. Foscue, was the administrator of their estates. He filed his final account as administrator of his father's estate on 1 January 1920; on 16 January 1920 he conveyed "all of the tract of land owned by me and heired from H. C. Foscue, containing from 700 to 1,000 acres" to his wife Vera (Jones County Deeds Book 75: 468-469). Dr. John Edward Foscue died at the age of forty-two on 9 November 1920; buried at Oakwood Cemetery, High Point, he was the first owner of the Foscue Plantation not to be interred on its grounds.

The Foscue and Simmons Plantations in the Twentieth Century

Vera Armfield Foscue continued to reside in the family home in Jamestown and to own the Foscue Plantation until her death on 9 August 1966. During most of this period, from 1920 to 1966, the practical aspects of supervising the Foscue Plantation and its tenants, as an absentee landlord, were handled by Mrs. Foscue and, in the later 1950s onwards, by her younger son, James Edward Foscue, who established himself in High Point. The farm's white manager occupied the brick house for much of this period; Luke Kinsey, an old black family retainer, occupied a small frame house in the back, east yard of the house for a portion of this time. On 1 May 1923 Vera Foscue entered into an agreement with the Rowland Lumber Company concerning the harvesting of timber on the plantation lands, and on 27 February 1928, she extended that agreement by a deed conveying to the company "all the trees and timber ten inches and upward in diameter at the base of trees at the time of cutting" on the west side of the "main highway leading from Pollocksville by the Foscue Cemetery to New Bern (Jones County Deeds Book 88: 424-426). The year before, in April 1927, Mrs. Foscue had entered into an agreement with J. A. Acker and R. C. Clark concerning the possible sale of the plantation's 125 acres on the east side of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad should marl deposits justify quarrying and purchase of those lands at the price of \$135 per acre. The land was not sold; however, marl quarrying for agricultural applications would occur here later in the twentieth century (Jones County Deeds Book 88: 214-215). The third known sale of timber from the 300-acre west tract of the Foscue Plantation, on 3 November 1947 to the Bate Lumber Company confirms both the valuable use of this tract for timber cultivation and the regular harvesting of the timber on an approximate twenty-year cycle. This sale was made of all "merchantable timber of every kind, twelve inches (12) or more in diameter, twelve inches (12) above the ground" (Jones County Deeds Book 105: 588-589).

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Vera Armfield Foscue held title to the Foscue Plantation until her death on 9 August 1966; she had outlived Dr. Foscue by nearly forty-six years. The Foscue Plantation was inherited by her sons, Henry Armfield and James Edward Foscue. They held the property jointly and undivided until 7 November 1969 when Henry Armfield Foscue, Sr., and his wife conveyed a one-quarter undivided interest in the plantation to their son, Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr., excepting a one-acre tract (Jones County Deeds Book 156: 263). Less than a month later, on 15 September 1970, Mr. and Mrs. Foscue deeded their remaining one-quarter interest in the Foscue Plantation to their son, making him the owner of a one-half undivided interest and co-owner with his uncle James Edward Foscue, Sr. (Jones County Deeds Book 156: 723-725). The following summer the Foscue Plantation House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The recognition accorded the house encouraged the Foscue brothers to undertake the restoration of the ancestral seat in 1974, and the work was completed in the mid 1970s. Ruth Lee Simmons, the widow of the brothers' cousin Leon Foscue Simmons, supported this project with the gift of \$20,000. On 21 March 1974 James Edward Foscue, Sr., and his wife and Henry A. Foscue, Jr., and his wife conveyed the family seat and its immediate grounds to Foscue House Restoration, Incorporated, a nonprofit corporation which continues to maintain the house to the present (Jones County Deeds Book 165: 732). It is opened to the public on an occasional basis, most recently on 3 May 1997 for a tour sponsored by the Jones County Historical Society.

The twentieth century history of the Simmons Plantation portion of the ancestral lands has been different; the cottage (#12) was occupied by the family until 1964. Christiana Foscue and Amos L. Simmons, Jr., lived here until the early 1920s, when they began residing in an expansive one-story frame house at 308 Pollock Street in Pollocksville with their unmarried daughter Carrie Adele Simmons (1872-1954). The house then became the residence of Thomas Foy Simmons (1874-1964) and his wife Eunice Chapman (1874-1955) who resided here until their deaths. During that period a small parcel of land was separated from the larger Simmons Plantation. In the late 1910s Christopher Stephens Simmons and his family occupied a small tract on the west side of US 17, between the brick plantation seat (#2) and the Simmons cottage (#12); in 1934 this tract of twenty-five acres was conveyed to "Kit" Simmons' wife Lucy (Jones County Deeds Book 90: 332). Mr. Simmons was the son of George Hatch Simmons, the elder brother of Amos L. Simmons, Jr., and thus a first cousin to Thomas Foy Simmons and his siblings. He had come into possession of Greenwood's Vale, the Simmons family's principal seat, around the turn of the century, married Lucy Phillip Koonce (1876-1959) in 1901 and lived there with his wife Lucy into the 1910s; financially embarrassed, he was forced to give up Greenwood's Vale and to live thereafter in reduced circumstances. According to family tradition, he renovated and expanded a small existing house (#19) on this tract, giving it a bungalow styling, and lived here until his death;

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Mrs. Simmons resided here until her death in 1959. That house was subsequently occupied by the Simmons's daughter Lucy Creagh Simmons (19__ -1996) and her husband Frederick Thomas Hargett who relocated to New Bern in the 1960s or 1970s. The parcel deeded to their mother, divided between Mrs. Hargett and her brother Bruce Herritage Simmons (1906-1993), was sold out of the family, and three conventional ranch houses have been built on lots to either side on inholdings within the larger Foscue family holding.

Leon Foscue Simmons (1879-1962), the youngest son of Christiana Foscue and Amos L. Simmons, Jr., was married to Sarah Brown in 1904; the couple had one son, Leon Dalmain Simmons, and were divorced. Leon Foscue Simmons moved to Richmond in the early part of the century, attended business college there, and was employed for many years at Miller & Rhoads Department Store. He returned to Jones County and in 1941 he was married to Ruth Burns Lee (1908-1995). They erected a substantial one-and-a-half-story frame house on the east side of US 17 near the north edge of the Simmons Plantation. That house, not included in this nomination, became the home of Miss Carrie Simmons in her later years and to her death in 1954, and the home of Mr. Simmons until his death in 1962; Mrs. Ruth Lee Simmons resided there until injuries in an accident occasioned her removal to a nursing home in Wadesboro. With the death of Leon Dalmain Simmons, without issue, the Simmons family of this plantation has become extinct.

In the 1970s the Simmons Plantation was reunited under the Foscue name. On 26 March 1973, Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr. (and his mother) purchased a 387.11-acre tract of the Simmons Plantation from Leon Dalmain Simmons and his wife (Jones County Deeds Book 163: 369-371). By a correction deed of 31 July 1973 Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr., became the full owner of the property (Jones County Deeds Book 164: 261-263). That summer, through deeds of 26 July and 30 August 1973, Henry A. Foscue, Jr., purchased a smaller 154.83-acre tract of the Simmons Plantation from the heirs of Clarence I. Vail and W. Earl Miller, respectively (Jones County Deeds Book 164: 531-539). Christiana F. Simmons had conveyed that parcel in 1916 to her son Leon F. Simmons and A. D. Judy (Jones County Deeds Book 67: 305-311).

On 7 May 1981, the total acreage of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations having been combined and then redefined on paper into seven tracts, was reconveyed by Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr. and his wife, and James Edward Foscue, Sr., and his wife, to each other to hold as separate wholly owned parcels (Jones County Deeds Book 184: 191-202). The northern half of the property, tracts #1, #2, #5, and #7, comprising 655.10 acres exclusive of rights of way, etc., became the property of Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr. This property, including most of the Simmons Plantation, had the Trent River as its east boundary, the course of Duck Creek for most of its north boundary, and a straight common line with James Edward Foscue, Sr., for most of its south boundary, all up to the New Bern Road; the boundaries of the tracts on the west side of US 17 are irregular. The southern half of the overall property, tracts #3, #4, and #6,

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comprising most of the former Foscue Plantation lands, became the property of James Edward Foscue, Sr., and his wife. The course of the Trent River forms the east and southeast boundaries of this tract; a small unnamed creek and the "old ditch" carrying on the south side of the plantation avenue form the remainder of the south boundary up to US 17. The boundaries of tract #6 on the west side of US 17 are irregular. Amendment/correction deeds were made on 20 August 1981 (Jones County Deeds Book 184: 578-584).

The survival of these historic plantation lands intact within the Foscue family over a period of nearly two hundred years, together with the family's two plantation seats erected in the nineteenth century, reflects a rare and remarkable achievement in Jones County. Further, the large scale of the holding (1,354 acres), preserved through six generations between Simon Foscue, Jr., and his great-great-great-grandson, Dr. Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr., might well represent the largest such acreage in the county that has been continuously held within a single family. This long tenure and the cultivation of these agricultural lands, through important changes in the social, political, and cultural life of the region, reflect the unusually strong bonds between the Foscue family and this place on which the imprint of their stewardship has been lasting.

Agriculture Significance

The agricultural history of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations reflect the two dominant practices that have been a consistent part of the agricultural history of Jones County from the eighteenth century to the present: the harvesting of its abundant woodlands for turpentine and naval stores and timber; and the cultivation of its arable fields for foodstuffs, for man and his livestock, and for income-producing cash crops. Thus, the productive, historic agricultural landscape includes both woodlands and cleared fields which have been cultivated in their fashion since Simon Foscue, Jr., assembled the lands comprising the family plantation in the opening decades of the nineteenth century. The terrain of the plantations, like that of Jones County in general, is flat to gently undulating. Its 1,353 acres are made up mostly of two soil groups: Leaf-Lenoir-Craven, and Muckalee. Nearly all of the land lying east of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad bed is made up of Muckalee soil; although it is nearly level and somewhat poorly drained, about one-third of this are is cultivated productively for crops while the remaining two-thirds, much of it along the Trent River, is occupied by woodlands and swamps. The soil on both plantations west of the railroad is Leaf-Lenoir-Craven and moderately well-drained and most of this is cultivated except for the large tract of 300-plus acres on the west side of US 17 that has historically been maintained by the Foscues as an income-producing woodland.

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The agricultural significance of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations derives from this parallel cultivation of woodlands and subsistence and cash crops through their long period of significance, and from the manner in which they reflect important sequential agricultural patterns in Jones County and eastern North Carolina. From its establishment into the Civil War period, and the emancipation of slaves, the Foscue Plantation was worked by slave labor. This was typical of substantial and large plantations throughout the Coastal Plain. At the end of the Civil War, large plantation owners like Caroline Foscue and her son, were faced with financial deprivation, the complete loss of their slaves, and the investment they represented. Few planters were able to retain their large acreages and successfully convert to using hired labor and tenants to farm their fields. Caroline and Henry Clay Foscue were among that number who were successful, as were their relatives, Julia Caroline Sanderson Bryan (1820-1901), the widow of James C. Bryan (1817-1850)--John Edward Foscue's executor--and her son James C. Bryan (1839-1898). (See Bryan-Bell Farm, National Register, 1989).

In the twentieth century, the Foscues, unlike the Bryans, were able to maintain their plantation. Through purchases in 1901, 1913, and 1918, the acreage of the Bryan plantation was acquired from the Bryan heirs by Joseph Hiram Bell (18__-1921) whose descendants continue to own and operate the farm. The Foscue Plantation, on the other hand, remained in the Foscue family ownership and a residence of the family until 1918. In 1920, conveyed to Vera Maie Armfield Foscue, the plantation entered yet another stage of agricultural history; from 1920 until the late 1960s/early 1970s, the plantation was held by the Foscues, as absentee owners, and managed by hired, resident farmers who first supervised the Foscue tenants and later operated on differing financial arrangements. This practice was followed throughout the state by owners with a real attachment to the place and history of family; however, more often than not, and in other circumstances, the Foscue Plantation would have been sold out of the family to large farmers like Joseph Hiram Bell.

In the late 1960s/early 1970s, the cultivation of the Foscue Plantation entered yet another stage in the sequence of agricultural operations in Jones County. Following a pattern observed by large land owners throughout North Carolina, the Foscues rented their arable acreages to a new generation of businessmen farmers, including John C. Howard, who owned a home farm but who also rented farms and large acreages for profitable large-scale production of traditional cash crops. That arrangement continues on the reassembled Foscue Plantation lands to the present.

The Simmons Plantation portion of the ancestral lands, separated from the larger Foscue holding in 1878 and recombined with it in 1973, reflects related patterns in the agricultural history of Jones County, including the traditional inter-family division of large holdings, here between two

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siblings, Henry Clay Foscue and Christiana Foscue Simmons. In 1870 Jones County's 182 farmers had an average holding of just under 500 acres; by 1900 there were 1,226 farms in the county and the average was reduced to a mere 125 acres. In contrast, Christiana Foscue Simmons held her 573 acres (except the 150 acres deeded to her son and Mr. Judy) intact until her death in 1933 when it passed to her heirs; and the major portion remained the property of her grandson until 1973 when he sold it to his cousin, Dr. Foscue and his mother. The Simmons Plantation, held by three generations of that family branch from 1878 to 1973, evolved from an owner-occupied and operated farm, to one which embraced tenancy, and finally a cash lease arrangement.

A second Simmons family dwelling on the nominated acreage reflects yet another, and unfortunate aspect of the agricultural history of Jones County. While some few families like the Foscues held onto the plantations established by their forebearers, others did not. Christopher Stephens Simmons (1878-1956) was the son of George Hatch Simmons, the grandson of Amos L. Simmons, Sr., and the great-grandson of Needham Simmons, who was perhaps the largest landholder in Jones County. Christopher Stephens Simmons lost the Simmons family's ancestral seat, Greenwood's Vale, and its lands in the 1910s or 1920s; he lived the last decades of his life in very reduced circumstances in a bungalow (#19) to the south of the Simmons Cottage.

The Eighteenth and Early-Nineteenth Century Origins of the Foscue Plantation

The first evidence of the Foscue family's agricultural operations can be found in Simon Foscue I's will of 1751 which makes specific bequests of cows, heifers, calves, ewes, and lambs as well as implements and other agricultural materials, along with this bequests of slaves, furniture, furnishings, and clothing to his six sons and three daughters. He devised to his son William one cow and a two-year old heifer; to Luke he gave two cows and calves, one ewe and one lamb; John Foscue was to receive one ewe and one lamb; a daughter Barbarie Bailey was to receive a cow and a calf, an ewe, and a lamb; Bell Foscue, the son who received the plantation, also received five cows and calves, together with "one Hand Mill & all the Hoes & Asces & Barrels & Tubs about my Plantation & Hogsheads" (Craven County Wills Book 5: 208-210). While the hoes and asces [sic] were clearly used in the cultivation of crops, the barrels and tubs were probably used for turpentine and naval stores production. The hogsheads would probably have been used either for the storage of foods, grains, or other perishables.

Simon Foscue, Jr., Establishes the Foscue Plantation

The first insight into the plantation's agricultural operations can be gained from the farm-related purchases which Mr. Foscue, Jr., made at the sale of his father's estate on 8 December 1814 which included implements, stock, and

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crops. These include: 206 pounds of seed cotton at four cents per pound; 120 bushels of potatoes; two-and-one-half bushels of flax seed; a lot of flax in straw; 5,100 (pounds?) of peas in hull; fifteen top stacks of fodder; one mule; one sorrel mare; twenty-one head of sheep; twenty head of cattle; five augers and one chisel; one pair of harness; one hand mill; 1 scythe and cradle; five plows; a shovel; a broad axe; two grubbing hoes; three weeding hoes; a tub; one lot of hogsheds and barrels; one lot of empty barrels; and a few miscellaneous items. Clearly he intended to raise cotton and flax on the plantation in 1815 as well as sheep for wool and cattle for beef and milk. The peas were probably acquired for resale; the fodder would have been fed to the cattle and livestock. These crops and livestock were typical of the larger Jones County plantations in the opening decades of the nineteenth century.

There are few other public or private papers that concern farm operations in the 1810s; however, there is a substantial group of family papers from the decade of the 1820s that reflect the agricultural operations on the plantation. On 3 February 1822, Mr. _____ Manly, a factor in New Bern (?), wrote to Mr. Foscue:

. . . I have purchased at Mr. Denny, twenty-five bushels of Northern Oats for seed, send for them when you want them, as I may be out of town. . . . I have heard of Johns conduct in resisting your overseer: if he had goodness, which he has not, I would have him severely punished. . . . There is not a yd. of bagging to be bot. here. But Justice & Devereux (?) have english canvass @ 24¢ which comes at less to the bag, than the bagging--but it takes three breadths.

I can get \$3.50 for 200 lbs. corn--is it right to take it? (Foscue Family Papers, SHC.)

References to the purchase of bagging occurs through the antebellum period; it was bought for transporting small grains for sale. A year later, on 26 March 1823, Mr. Manly again wrote to Simon Foscue, Jr.

Wm. Jarvis will purchase the Cotton if he likes it. He promises to go up tomorrow afternoon, to look at it. I wish you could be at the Gin to shew it . . . the first gined is probably the best.

I told Jarvis, I thought the Cotton as good any Carolina upland--but that the late picking had caused more of the leaf than usual with your crop (Foscue Family Papers, SHC).

Notations from 1825 indicate that in April he sold a total of thirty-eight bushels of (sweet) potato slips to Edmond Hatch, John Davis, and John Stanly. Earlier, on January 10th 1825, he had noted "Pork laid in this year . . . for

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family use 4,657 pounds" (Foscue Family Papers, SHC). A final important note from the mid 1820s concerns the use of woodlands for the foraging of cattle. On 17 November 1824, Mr. Foscue noted that he had "Turned into the woods . . . 11 head cows 5 head steers & 10 yearlings" (Foscue Family Papers).

At the end of the decade, on 8 February 1829, Simon Foscue bought livestock and other items from his half brother Amos Foscue: three cows and their calves; and thirty-seven head of "poor hogs" (Foscue Family Papers). The next year, on 1 June 1830, Simon Foscue bought "all the household & kitchen furniture and stock of Cattle and hogs, consisting of five head of oxen & twelve head of other cattle & twenty head of hogs" for \$50 (and probably other considerations) from Peter Godett of Craven County. This is an important, early specific reference to oxen, used to cultivate plantation fields and in the turpentine and naval stores industry, although it has been assumed they existed among plantation livestock (Foscue Family Papers).

In 1829 Simon Foscue, Jr., set about to assure the continued prosperity of his plantation by preserving it largely intact and in the hands of his only son, John Edward Foscue. By deed of 6 June 1829 he conveyed to his son the 500-acre "messuage or tenement of land whereon I now live," five slaves, "and all my Crop(,) Stock of horses(,) Cattle(,) hogs and sheep(,) provisions(,) household and Kitchen furniture(,) plantation tools(,) smith tools" (Jones County Deeds Book 18: 251-252). Simon Foscue died on 10 December 1830. Three weeks later, on 31 December David Manly presented a bill for picking cotton and other agricultural work on the plantation; Manly's "hands" picked 1,529 pounds of cotton at fifty cents a hundred pound (Foscue Family Papers). This bill was paid by John Edward Foscue as executor and so too was a bill from John D. Davis for 94 Turpentine barrels at \$28.20 plus other supplies (Foscue Family Papers).

John Edward Foscue and the Operation of the Foscue Plantation

Through the course of the 1830s and 1840s John Edward Foscue appears to have operated the plantation along the lines established by his father, and receipts, here again, provide insight into the scale and character of those practices. From 1834 receipts survive documenting "the rent of the Scott land" for \$30 for the year from George W. Harriett and payment to James Williams "for wages as an overseer and all other acts"; the sum was not stated (Foscue Family Papers/JEF).

Turpentine was an important source of farm income in the 1830s for John Edward Foscue. In 1835 he sold forty-five barrels of turpentine, of three different qualities (New _____, soft, and stiff) to ___ M. Granade in New Bern on 29 June, and on 5 August he sold 42 barrels of soft and stiff turpentine for \$84.60 to Jonathan Wood. On 29 July 1835, Mr. Foscue settled his \$42.71

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account with the New Bern merchant D. M. Van Bokkelin through the exchange of six middlings, 25 hams, and pork shoulders (Foscue Family Papers). In 1836 Mr. Foscue took 47 barrels of soft turpentine to the merchant Jonathan Wood on his account (Foscue Family Papers). Part of his turpentine production came from the boxes belonging to his maiden sister Nancy which he rented by the year, as well as hiring her slaves. That year John Edward Foscue also paid \$5.00 to James W. Granade for the freight on 100 empty barrels (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Barrels would normally be expected for use in transporting turpentine; however, a statement of 1 September 1837, indicates that New Bern merchant James Hancock took in and sold twenty-three barrels of corn from Mr. Foscue at \$4.50 per barrel for a total of \$103.50.

Another instance of exchange from 1839 again provides additional insight into the movement and sale of agricultural commodities in the period. During the months of March through August 1839, John Edward Foscue lodged in the tavern/inn/boarding house kept by William R. Street (in New Bern); Mr. Street also kept his horse which suggests he also had a stable or livery operation attached to his establishment. On 20 August Mr. Foscue delivered to Mr. Street 1,700 pounds of fodder, twelve barrels of corn, rye straw, and an unspecified number of lambs (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). The exchanges and barterers cited thus far have involved relatively small quantities of agricultural products. A statement from the firm of Higgins & Wood of Pollocksville from the spring of 1840 shows that between December 1839 and 17 March 1840, Mr. Foscue sold 282.70 barrels of Indian corn to the mercantile firm for \$575.45 (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). It is reasonable to speculate that this might well have represented most of the excess portion of the corn crop raised by Mr. Foscue in 1839 that he did not retain to feed his family and livestock.

When the census was taken in 1840, Mr. Foscue's household included his aged mother, himself, and one other white male between twenty and thirty years of age. He was also the owner of twenty-three slaves; of the twenty-six people in the household, eighteen were reported as employed in agriculture. On 20 October 1840 Mr. Foscue was married to Caroline Foy, the daughter of the wealthy planter Enoch Foy, and the final years of his life, up to his death in 1849, were given over to the continued management of his plantation and raising a family. The decade of the 1840s also opened with his subscription to Edmund Ruffin's FARMER'S REGISTER (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). He continued to keep an overseer to supervise the slaves; on 1 January 1841, he paid J. D. Simpson \$150 "in full for one year wages as overseer up to this date" (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Through the 1840s, Mr. Foscue continued to buy barrels and to take plantation produce to merchants for application against his bills; a number of merchants' statements for the 1840s survive in the Foscue Family Papers in the Southern Historical Collection; however, far more survive in the possession of James Edward Foscue, Sr. Among these merchants

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were Thomas Dudley Foy, Mrs. Foscue's brother, and Roscoe Barrus of Pollocksville. On 6 November 1841 Mr. Foscue paid George Debrule \$52.80 for 176 turpentine barrels, \$1.00 for two turpentine buckets, and seventy cents for "ten bushels of cole" (Foscue Family Papers). On 24 September 1845 Mr. Foscue paid \$30 for 100 turpentine barrels to R. H. Bender, and Bender supplied barrels in 1846 as well. Another important statement from the 1840s is the itemized list of blacksmithing services which W. P. Ward provided to Mr. Foscue in 1845 totaling \$20.45; much of his work involved "laying" and sharpening plows (Foscue Family Papers/JEF).

John Edward Foscue died 27 April 1849 and he named his friend and kinsman James C. Bryan (1817-1850), owner of the large Oakview Plantation (the Bryan-Bell Farm), as the executor of his estate. A sale of Mr. Foscue's personal property was held on 12 June 1849, and Mrs. Foscue bought thirty-five hogs, twenty head of sheep, four cows and calves, one yoke of red steers, a horse, a mule, a pony, a pig, and one lot of geese, together with more than forty barrels of corn, stacks of fodder, hams, and bacon. Mrs. Foscue also purchased slaves from her husband's estate; printed receipts survive for her purchase of "Big Sarah" and "yellow Mary" (Foscue Family Papers/JEF).

Caroline Foscue and the Management of the Foscue Plantation

From her husband's death until after the end of the Civil War, Caroline Foscue managed the agricultural operations of the Foscue Plantation, surely utilizing the services of an overseer, while also raising three children. The family tradition that her brother Thomas Dudley Foy assisted her in the management of the plantation is confirmed by his presence in her household in the 1850 Census. In that year she was listed as the owner of nineteen slaves, a relatively modest number compared with the thirty-six slaves owned by Amos L. Simmons, Sr., and forty-seven slaves owned by her late husband's kinsman Nathan Foscue who, like her, lived in the Beaver Dam District. Other planters in the adjoining Pollocksville District, including Daniel Williamson, Julia Caroline Sanderson Bryan, Edward Jones, and Richard Oldfield each owned sixty slaves or more; Julia Caroline Sanderson Bryan was the widow of Mr. Foscue's executor, James C. Bryan, who died in January 1850 before completing the settlement of the Foscue estate. Caroline Foscue's successful stewardship of the plantation can be observed in the fact that her ownership of slaves more than doubled to forty-eight at the time of the 1860 Census whereas Amos L. Simmons, Sr., had but increased his number by two to thirty-eight.

The statistics for the plantation's operations appearing in the Agriculture Schedule of the 1850 Census place it among the upper tier of the county's planters but not the uppermost tier of the wealthiest, most productive planters with large holdings in land and slaves. Caroline Foscue reported 200 acres of improved land and 800 acres of unimproved land with a total value of

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home-manufactures was \$45 while \$200 worth of animals were slaughtered (for home consumption).

In the 1860s, a series of changes occurred on the Foscue Plantation that radically altered agricultural operations, and the financial and social stability of the family just as it did for other important planter families in Jones County. It was a period of grave political and social disruption brought about by the occupation of New Bern and the countryside by Union forces, the removal of Mrs. Foscue and her daughters from the plantation in 1862 to inland North Carolina, the enlistment of Henry Clay Foscue as a private, the death of her eldest daughter, and the tremendous financial loss resulting from the freeing of the slaves through the Emancipation Proclamation. It is also the final decade for which significant family papers survive and illuminate the life of the Foscue Plantation. Before the end of the decade in 1870, John Edward Foscue had married Sarah Frances Simmons who died weeks after the birth of their daughter who, in turn, died on 1 June 1870. Five months later, on 20 October 1870, Mr. Foscue's only sister Christiana would be married to Amos L. Simmons, Jr., who then became Mr. Foscue's brother-in-law for a second time; the couple established themselves on the Foscue holding on the west side of the New Bern Road that became known as the Simmons Plantation.

At the end of the war, Caroline Foscue and her son Henry Clay, like other Jones County planters, were faced with the decision of whether to remain on the plantation or to leave it and engage in business pursuits in New Bern or elsewhere. Henry Clay Foscue decided to remain on the plantation and to continue farming; so doing he became the steward of its operations for the longest period of time of any member of the Foscue family. Clearly a part of his decision was influenced by a romance with Sarah Frances Simmons, the daughter of Amos L. Simmons, Sr., who had grown up at nearby Greenwood's Vale. The couple were married early in 1868, but by the end of the year "Fannie" Simmons Foscue was dead, dying on 26 November, two weeks after the birth of a daughter on 11 November 1868, who would die, in turn, on 1 June 1870. In BRANSON'S NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS DIRECTORY for 1869 Henry Clay Foscue was listed as one of Jones County's "Prominent Farmers"; however, his "550" acres were substantially less than those of many in this category, whose houses are now lost, their plantations dismembered.

Henry Clay Foscue and the Operation of the Foscue Plantation

The 1870 Census, recorded on 20 July 1870, listed Henry Clay Foscue as head of a household which included his mother, his only surviving sister Christiana, and Annie Foy, who was probably a cousin. The real estate, valued at \$7,500, included 700 acres of improved land and 600 acres of unimproved land. His

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\$7,000; a comparative review of acreages and land values suggests that the brick plantation seat was a significant component of the total valuation. Her farm implements and machinery were valued at \$100. Livestock valued at \$500 included: four horses, four milk cows, two "working oxen," five other cattle, twenty-three sheep, and seventy-six swine. The plantation's crops included: 1,900 bushels of Indian corn, 200 pounds of wool, 100 bushels of peas and beans, twenty bushels of Irish potatoes, 1,000 bushels of sweet potatoes, 150 pounds of butter, and eleven tons of hay. The value placed on "home-made manufactures" was \$25 and \$200 was reported as the value of animals slaughtered for the previous year. Mrs. Foscue had apparently ceased to engage in turpentine operations on the plantation as there is no known report for 1850. However, in 1856 she paid \$23.75 to her brother Thomas Dudley Foy for "making 65 dip Barrels" and "30 Scrape Barrels" (Foscue Family Papers), which suggests she renewed the traditional harvesting of turpentine in her woodlands. Receipts from the late 1850s indicate continued turpentine operations on the Foscue Plantation up to the outbreak of the war. In 1859 Mrs. Foscue rented turpentine boxes belonging to V. Civil paying a lesser price for "rent of Boxes first Dipping" than she paid for the "Second Dipping" (Foscue Family Papers).

Mrs. Foscue also continued to patronize the same merchants in Pollocksville and New Bern, with whom John Edward Foscue had carried accounts. Roscoe Barrus of Pollocksville remained the family's principal supplier. She bought cotton bagging and rope from him in 1852 and carried butter to him against her account (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). A statement of purchases in 1854 again documents her purchase of cotton bagging which was probably used for storage/transport of corn, sweet potatoes, or other produce. In the fall of 1858 she purchased bagging and rope from G. W. Simmons (Foscue Family Papers). Mr. Barrus also took care of financial affairs for Mrs. Foscue, and on 17 August 1860, credit in the amount of \$63.60 was applied against her financial account for "Cash proceeds of Turpentine" (Foscue Family Papers/JEF). Later that year, on 14 December 1860, Barrus applied the proceeds from 14 barrels of turpentine against Mrs. Foscue's running house account (Foscue Family Papers).

The 1860 Census reflects the plantation's prosperity in that final antebellum decade that was also marked by an increase of twenty-nine slaves to a holding of forty-eight on the eve of the Civil War. She reported 500 improved acres and 600 unimproved acres with a total real estate worth of \$15,000. The farm implements and machinery were valued at \$200. The plantation livestock, valued at \$1,700, consisted of six horses, one mule, fifteen milk cows, five oxen, twenty-five other (beef) cattle, forty sheep, and fifty swine. Her crops included 800 bushels of Indian corn, 4 bales of cotton, 150 pounds of wool, 100 bushels of peas, ten bushels of potatoes, 500 bushels of sweet potatoes, 100 pounds of butter, and seven tons of hay. The value of

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farm implements and machinery were valued at \$150. The livestock consisted of two horses, two milk cows, twelve sheep, and twenty swine. His crops for the year consisted of 300 bushels of Indian corn, sixty bushels of oats, ten bales of cotton, 24 pounds of wool, and 150 bushels of sweet potatoes. In comparison with the plantation's production in 1860, these statistics suggest a small but substantial farm rather than the prosperous plantation of antebellum times. But, considering devastations in the agricultural economy and the loss of the slave labor force, these crops represented a real accomplishment.

The more telling indication of the plantation's agricultural operations appears in the population schedule of the 1870 Census. In the enumeration of households in Pollocksville Township the Foscue Plantation seat was household #716. The preceding households, #712 through #715, are headed by members of the Debrule family who are farmers with small holdings. Of the seven households listed after #716, only one, headed by Abner Harriett (#720), owns real estate (\$1,250). Household #717 is headed by Hardy Bryan, a twenty-one year old black male farmer; household #718 is headed by John W_____, a forty-four year old white male farmer; household #719 is headed by James Harriett, a fifty-three year old white male farmer; household #721 is headed by S. A. Taylor, a twenty-nine year old white farmer; household #722 is headed by Rachel Fields, a sixty-year old white woman who was keeping house; and household #723 is headed by Lewis Jones, a twenty-four year old black male farm worker. While one (or more) of these non-land-holding farmers might have been tenants of Abner Harriett, whose family had long lived on the south side of the Foscue Plantation, the better likelihood is that some of them were tenants of Henry Clay Foscue on the Foscue Plantation. Mr. Foscue, like virtually all other major landholders in Jones County who found themselves both in reduced circumstances and without slave laborers, turned quickly to tenancy as a means of operating their farms. In the 1870 Census, 182 farms, averaging 492.7 acres, were located in Jones County. Thirty years later, in 1900, the number of farms would rise dramatically to 1,226; however, the size of those farms would fall to 125 acres, one-fourth the size of the average 1870 farm. Tenancy, either on a leasing or sharecropping basis, remained in place on the Foscue Plantation through the life of Henry Clay Foscue and probably into the 1930s. Today, only the ruins of a much deteriorated house (#11) reflect this long stage in the plantation's agricultural and social history.

The Foscue Plantation is Divided

The other important change in the agricultural history of the Foscue Plantation in the last quarter of the nineteenth century was the division of the John Edward Foscue lands between his son Henry Clay Foscue and his daughter Christiana Foscue Simmons. Such in-family divisions accounted in

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some part for the tremendous diminution in average farm size in Jones County from nearly 500 acres in 1870 to 125 acres in 1900. The division of the John Edward Foscue lands was coincident with Henry Clay Foscue's (second) marriage to Gertrude Fonville in 1878. The court-appointed commissioners awarded the plantation seat, the Stanly tract of ninety acres, 476 acres of cleared land, and 355 acres of piney woods, to Henry Clay Foscue. They awarded Christiana Foscue Simmons 275 acres of (probably cleared) land and 200 acres of piney woods. By winter 1880 when Henry Clay Foscue had not paid his sister the additional consideration of \$1,030 due her, she pursued the matter in court and settled for an additional long narrow tract of about ninety-eight acres immediately along the south side of her 1878 boundary with her brother. Thus, in 1880, Christiana Foscue held some 573 acres of the Foscue Plantation while Henry Clay Foscue held about 813 acres and the family seat. The total family holding of 1,386 acres is virtually the same acreage (1,353) now held by the Foscue family and included in this nomination, allowing for the inholdings and some discrepancy corrected by modern surveying capabilities.

For at least forty years, from 1878 to 1918, these two siblings resided on adjoining plantations composed of lands assembled by their grandfather and father, and operated them on a tenancy basis. A further symbolic link between the two houses occurred on 8 June 1881, following the death of Caroline Foy Foscue on the seventh of June. Her funeral was preached at the Simmons cottage (#12) where she had made her home with her daughter, and her body was carried southward to the home plantation for burial in the Foscue Cemetery (#3). In the 1880 Census the Simmons cottage was household #349 and the Foscue seat was household #355; in the listing they were both flanked by black or white households headed by farmers or farm hands, including Fields Sanders, a sharecropper, some of whom were either tenants of the two establishments or employed as laborers at one or the other. The Simmons household included the couple's three children, Caroline Foscue, and Amos L. Simmons, Sr. who had rented his Greenwood's Vale plantation to Edward Scott for \$500 per annum. Mr. Foscue reported 450 acres of cultivated land and 400 acres of woodland with a total value, including buildings, of \$9,000. Amos L. Simmons, Jr., reported 200 acres of cultivated land and 400 acres of woodlands with a total farm valuation of \$4,000. These acreages are remarkably close to those of the 1878 division and 1880 adjustment. Mr. Foscue's livestock, valued at \$600, included five milk cows, thirteen head of cattle, two calves, 105 sheep, and sixty lambs (of which thirty were sold living, four were slaughtered, twenty-five were "Killed by dogs," and six died from disease), twenty-six swine, and twenty poultry (which produced seventy-two dozen eggs in 1879). Mr. Foscue cultivated ninety-two and three-quarters acres himself, of which seventy acres was in corn and produced 720 bushels. He had two acres of oats which produced twenty bushels, twenty acres of cotton which produced eleven bales, and three-quarters of an acre in sweet potatoes which produced 100 bushels. The Foscue Plantation also had four apple trees and four peach

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trees. Mr. Foscue paid out \$425 in farm wages in 1879 on a total farm production valued at \$1,150. Mr. Simmons's farm operation was much smaller in scale. His livestock, valued at \$225, included one milk cow, five head of cattle, and two calves, thirty-two swine, and twelve poultry which laid sixty dozen eggs in 1879. Only three crops are listed in the agricultural schedule; he grew twenty bushels of oats, four bales of cotton, and 100 bushels of sweet potatoes on sixteen acres. The fact that Mr. Simmons apparently grew no Indian corn suggests that he was apparently dependent on one or more of his tenants for a share of their corn crop. Seven of the nine farmers listed in the Agriculture Schedule on the page with Mr. Simmons were sharecroppers.

The agricultural operations in place on both plantations by 1880 were continued through the remainder of the nineteenth century and into the early twentieth century. In 1872 both Mr. Foscue and Mr. Simmons were listed as "Prominent Farmers" in Jones County in BRANSON'S NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS DIRECTORY and both were listed continuously through the 1896 edition. The agricultural future of both plantations were also shaped by family events of the later 1890s and early 1900s. Although Henry Clay and Gertrude Foscue's only son, John Edward Foscue (1878-1920), studied medicine at both the University of North Carolina and the University of Maryland, that decision did not preclude his returning to Jones County or New Bern to practice medicine and run the farm. However, his marriage to Miss Armfield in 1901, and his taking up Dr. Armfield's medical practice at Jamestown, Guilford County, spelled the eventual end of the family's presence in Jones County as resident farmers. With Henry Clay Foscue's death on 24 February 1918, the descendants of Simon Foscue, Jr., ceased to reside in the brick plantation seat and it would subsequently be occupied by a series of farm managers employed by Vera Maie Armfield Foscue until her death and afterward by her son James Edward Foscue, Sr. The last, and perhaps most skilled of these men, was Linwood Page Meadows (1927-1997) who managed the farm from 1955 to 1968.

Agricultural Operations at the Simmons and Foscue Plantations from the Post-World War I Period to the Present

The death of Henry Clay Foscue in 1918, the conveyance of the Foscue Plantation in January 1920 to Vera Maie Armfield Foscue by her husband John Edward Foscue, and Mr. Foscue's premature death on 9 November 1920 at the age of forty-two resulted in important changes in the life of the plantation. For the second time in its history the plantation was placed in the hands of a woman; while Caroline Foscue had overseen important and devastating transitions in the agricultural life of the plantation from 1849 until after the Civil War, Vera Armfield Foscue, the absentee owner of the plantation from 1920 to her death in 1966, likewise oversaw important transitions in its agricultural operations. These included a gradual replacement of the tenant system with a farm manager who employed farm laborers, changes in power from

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mule-drawn machinery to the use of tractors and gasoline-powered machinery, and a gradual combination of smaller fields into larger fields as production was increasingly geared to the major cash crops of corn, tobacco, and soybeans. Of these three corn has probably been raised year after year since the early nineteenth century and the establishment of the plantation by Simon Foscue, Jr.

The raising of corn represents one unbroken crop tradition on the plantation; another is the maintenance of its woodlands for naval stores and timber. It is unclear, at present, just when turpentine operations ceased on the Foscue Plantation; however, the harvesting of timber has continued in uninterrupted and managed fashion to the present. The arrangements for the cutting and sale of timber-quality trees in the nineteenth century are not now known. However, the contract for an agreement in 1902 with the Blades Lumber Company of New Bern, one of the state's largest producers of lumber, was recorded by the Jones County Register of Deeds. It provided for the cutting of all timber above twelve inches in diameter in the woodland on the west side of US 17. This large tract of some three hundred acres has been maintained and cultivated exclusively for timber production throughout its entire known history and it is reserved, even to the present, for timber production; it is usually cut on a twenty--twenty-five-year cycle. In May 1923 Vera Armfield Foscue entered into an agreement with the Rowland Lumber Company for cutting the same tract, and in 1928 she extended the agreement including all trees ten inches and upward in diameter. In November 1947 the woodlands were again cut over, this time by the Bate Lumber Company, to produce lumber to supply the pent-up demand for building that followed the end of World War II.

If the system of tenancy had survived the Depression years, it was surely ended by World War II. By 1955, when Linwood Page Meadows moved onto the place to operate the plantation for Mrs. Foscue, only one tenant house was still standing; now a ruin (#11) it was then occupied by Thelma Morgan, a black retainer, and her family who remained in the house until the late 1960s. She and her children were not tenants, per se, but worked on a day or hourly basis for Mr. Meadows. Also lost by 1955 was the one-story frame cabin that stood in the backyard of the ancestral seat which had long been occupied by Luke Kinsey, an aged black family retainer. Additions to the plantation outbuildings included the four frame tobacco barns (#6-#9) that were erected for Mrs. Foscue about 1946-1947. In the 1960s Mr. Meadows constructed two buildings on the plantation. A tornado in 1964 destroyed the turn-of-the-century frame barn and pack house that stood to the east/southeast of the plantation seat; that barn, then the largest of the plantation's extant outbuildings, was replaced by a smaller tobacco pack house (#5) which stands to the southeast of the house. In the early 1960s Mr. Meadows erected a small frame hunting/fishing camp (#18) on the bank overlooking the Trent River that was enjoyed by his family and friends.

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The death of Mrs. Foscue in 1966 and the inheritance of the plantation by her two sons occasioned another transition in the agricultural operations. For some years prior to the death of his mother, James Edward Foscue, Sr., had supervised the plantation affairs and kept Mr. Meadows in their employment; however, change was in the offing. Two factors influenced Mr. Foscue's decision to cash-lease the farm's fields to area farmers. Over time, here on the Foscue Plantation, as elsewhere in Jones County and the state, the possibility of getting a good resident farmer to operate/manage a single farm was becoming increasingly difficult while at the same time many truly large-scale area farmers were entering into cash leases for large acreages and individual farms on a yearly (or longer) basis. Concurrently, a rising interest in the brick house and its future was emerging within the family; having been occupied by farm managers/overseers for about half a century, its preservation was assured by a restoration in the 1970s. Today the brick seat of the Foscue Plantation is handsomely maintained and opened to the public on an occasional basis while its fields are leased to John C. Howard whose cultivation of corn, soybeans, and other crops on its acreage continues the plantation's historic agricultural traditions and preserves the essential agricultural setting of the Jones County landmark. The "Foscue Farm" is the only farm or plantation in Jones County that is identified by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture as a "Century Farm"; this designation recognizes farms that have been in the ownership and operation of a single family for a century or more (NORTH CAROLINA CENTURY FARMS, 1989: 136).

The agricultural history of the sister Simmons Plantation has reflected a similar sequence of changes through the twentieth century; however, a member of the Simmons family remained in residence on the lands into the mid-1960s. Amos L. Simmons, Jr., and his wife Christiana Foscue, remained on the plantation and farmed its fields through the 1910s; however, in the 1920 Census enumeration he identified himself as a retired farmer, then sixty-nine years of age. His household (#185), including an unmarried daughter Carrie, was listed next to that (#184) of his cousin Christopher Stephens Simmons (1878-1956) who appears to have been living then in the bungalow (#19) on the west side of US 17 (family tradition and published accounts, however, do not place him in the house until the 1930s). It is likely that Amos Simmons had tenants on his farm into the 1920s. At some point in the 1920s, he, his wife and their daughter Carrie left the farm and moved into Pollocksville where Mr. and Mrs. Simmons lived until their deaths in 1928 and 1933, respectively. According to local tradition, Thomas Foy Simmons (1874-1964) and his wife moved into the Simmons Cottage concurrent, or nearly so, with his parents' relocation to Pollocksville. Thomas Foy Simmons (1874-1964) and Mrs. Simmons (1874-1955) lived in the Simmons Cottage (#12) until their deaths, and they were the last occupants of the house. Thomas Foy Simmons died on 20 August 1964. During the late 1920s and the 1930s, the fields of the Simmons Plantation were either cultivated by tenants or leased on a share or cash basis.

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In the late 1930s (or ca. 1940), Leon Foscue Simmons (1879-1962) resigned from Miller & Rhoads Department Store in Richmond and returned to Jones County and his family plantation. He built a substantial one-and-a-half-story frame house on the north edge of the holding, on the east side of US 17, where he lived with his wife Ruth and his sister Carrie until his death in 1962; the house was also home to his widow Ruth Burns Lee Simmons (1908-1995) until the late 1980s or early 1990s when she moved to a nursing home in her native Anson County following an accident. From ca. 1940 until 1973, the arable lands of the Simmons Plantation were managed by Leon Foscue Simmons, his widow, and his son (by a first marriage), Leon Dalmain Simmons (19__-19__) who sold the major share of the Simmons plantation to his cousin and back into the Foscue branch in 1973. During this period of just over three decades, Mr. Simmons had a hired farmer on the place who lived first in a gable front house (#15) and later in a small modern house (#14) erected either by Mr. or Mrs. Simmons, which was the home of the last farmer/tenant to live on the Simmons Plantation. The Simmons family, like the Foscues, harvested timber on their plantation. Leon Foscue Simmons also operated marl quarries (#10) near the west bank of the Trent River, taking advantage of yet another natural resource of his plantation. Today those quarries (#10) have filled with water, become quarry ponds, and have assumed a scenic and recreational importance on these combined plantations. However, their original function is recalled by the hulk of a dredging machine (#17) that stands abandoned in a plantation woodland.

In addition to the two houses which served as seats of the Foscue and Simmons families on the collective ancestral lands, the agricultural significance of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations is evident in the historic physical character of the landscape which survives to the present. The two important historic agricultural traditions of Jones County, the cultivation of field crops, and the maintenance of woodlands for naval stores and timber production, are reflected in the surviving patterns of woodlands and fields, each serving its distinct purpose as it has over the course of six generations of Foscue family stewardship. Here, as nowhere else in Jones County, the entire agricultural history of the county is recalled in family documents, buildings, and a pastoral agrarian landscape that has borne the imprint of a single planter family over nearly two centuries.

Architectural Significance

The Foscue House

The architectural significance of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations derives from the two important, architecturally sophisticated houses erected as the seats of the respective plantations. The two-and-one-half story brick house

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(#2) erected ca. 1821-1825 by Simon Foscue, Jr., was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 and cited as having statewide significance. In the mid 1970s James Edward and Henry Armfield Foscue, Sr., skillfully and sympathetically restored the house to its original handsome state, and it has been maintained by the Foscue family through the Foscue House Restoration, Incorporated. That impressive, stylish house is closely related to a series of houses erected in New Bern in the 1820s, and it shows the influence of the accomplished work demanded by and provided to New Bern house builders in the Federal period. The Simmons Cottage (#12) erected between 1870 and 1878 for Simon Foscue, Jr.'s granddaughter Christiana and her husband Amos L. Simmons, Jr., dates well after New Bern's ascendancy and is more closely associated with rural building patterns of the inner Coastal Plain. Of local significance, it is one of a small group of stylish one-story raised frame cottages built on a center-hall, double-pile plan, that occur in Duplin, Wayne, Lenoir, and Sampson Counties and less often in counties adjacent to the above.

In 1971 when the Foscue Plantation House was listed in the National Register, the conventional tradition at that time suggested that it was built in 1801, the year that Simon Foscue, Jr. was married to Christiana Rhem on 7 June and in which his father initially conveyed a tract of some 450 acres to him, and that it was built on that 450-acre tract. Subsequent research has shown the negation of the 1801 deed and its replacement with a later deed for the property in 1805; the larger concern regarding this property, however, is that in 1810 Simon Foscue, Jr., sold that tract, plus other acreage, to Needham Simmons.

In the 1980s Peter B. Sandbeck, an architectural historian with wide experience in North Carolina architectural history, completed an architectural survey of adjoining Craven County and New Bern, its county seat. THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF NEW BERN AND CRAVEN COUNTY was published in 1988 and reflects an unprecedented depth of research and understanding of building patterns in New Bern and Craven County. The ties between the Foscue Plantation seat and a group of brick and frame side-hall plan Federal houses in New Bern has long been obvious. Mr. Sandbeck's research linked the interior woodwork of the Foscue House with a group of three houses whose interior finish dates to the years from 1820 to 1823.

A distinctive school of woodworking can be recognized in a group of at least three of these frame townhouses of the later Federal period: the Coor-Cook, Frazier-Mayhew, and John R. Green houses. All built or finished on the interior between 1820 and 1823, these three houses have mantels and other interior details which appear to be the work of one carpenter-joiner. The particularly elaborate drawing room of the Coor-Cook house has flat-panel wainscoting, and in the chair-rail, a band

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of delicate sawn guilloche ornament identical to that seen at the Eli Smallwood house. This same school of interior woodworking can be seen in two important side-hall plantation houses in Jones County, the brick Foscue house and the frame McDaniel-Page house, both built ca. 1815-1820.

The widespread popularity of the stylish side-hall plan and form in New Bern during the early decades of the nineteenth century produced at least three known Federal side-hall-plan houses in the outlying areas of Craven and Jones counties. The political, social, and economic orientation of nearly every planter of any substance in both counties was necessarily focused on New Bern during this period. Many of the wealthier of this class resided in New Bern for all or part of each year. It is thus no surprise that the plantation houses of these two counties reflect the architectural influence of the region's trade center.

Probably the finest surviving example of the rural influence of the stylish side-hall plan is the brick Foscue Plantation house, built ca. 1820. Its interesting brickwork, Flemish bond on the all-important facade and common bond on the rear and side elevations, is highlighted by the vigorous corbelled, toothed cornice. The articulated detailing of this cornice is unique in the area and perhaps reflects the bricklayer's efforts to imitate the prominent wood cornices of the Eli Smallwood and Jones-Jarvis houses in New Bern. This cornice continues along both gable ends to create a fully pedimented effect like that seen on the side-hall houses of the Albemarle region. There were at least two known Federal-period frame examples of the New Bern side-hall influence in these outlying areas. One of these, the Bryan house, stood until about 1950 in Craven County near Vanceboro, in the section now known as Stewart Park. The one surviving photograph of this house taken before alterations shows it to have been a relatively plain example of the type. The McDaniel-Page house stood near Trenton in Jones County until its destruction by fire in April, 1984. (THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF NEW BERN AND CRAVEN COUNTY, 69-70.)

Mr. Sandbeck's proposed date of ca. 1815-1820 for the construction of the Foscue house allowed for the brick fabric of the house to be erected by 1820 which is the earliest date he can ascribe to its interior finish. However, he was not aware of two documents which allow for a closer, somewhat later dating of the house. In March 1821 Simon Foscue, Jr., purchased a small tract of eight acres "On the Newbern road at said Foscue's lower corner" (Jones County Deeds Book 15: 145) which is probably the site of this house. The other, more convincing document is a small paper in the Foscue Family Papers on which Simon Foscue wrote "Mr. Forbes, George came & commenced Porticoes on tuesday the 5th July 1825(,) himself & boy at thirty-four dollars per month." Except for his name nothing is presently known of George Forbes.

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When the brick seat was completed on the Foscue Plantation it became the first brick house known to have been erected in Jones County, and it was the only brick house in the county built prior to the Civil War. Its significance as an early-nineteenth century brick plantation seat extends beyond the borders of Jones County. The Foscue Plantation House is one of a very, very small group of such brick plantation seats erected in all of North Carolina in the Federal period. Their number includes Mulberry Hill in Chowan County, traditionally dated to ca. 1810; Ayr Mount in Orange County near Hillsborough, of ca. 1814-1817; and Ingleside of ca. 1817 in Lincoln County. All of these houses have been restored and all are listed in the National Register. Reflecting a stylish urban sensibility, these four houses are the precursors of a larger group of larger houses erected in the 1830s that were mostly finished with Greek Revival-Style detailing: Stonewall of ca. 1830 in Nash County; Cedar Grove of 1831-1833 in Mecklenburg County; Creekside of ca. 1837 in Burke County; and Lands End in Perquimans County. (All of this group are listed in the National Register.)

The Simmons Cottage

The Simmons Cottage (#12), erected between 1870 and 1878, is a less ambitious dwelling that, likewise, reflects its period. It stands within a small school of related one-story center-hall double-pile frame houses, raised on brick piers and covered with hip roofs. They first appeared in the 1840s with Greek Revival finish and served as farm houses in Duplin, Wayne, Lenoir, and Sampson Counties where a small number survive intact to the present. The Sloan House in Sampson County, of 1849, is one published example (NORTH CAROLINA ARCHITECTURE, 212); however, this house form has received less than deserved recognition, especially given its presence in the inner, central Coastal Plain. By the 1870s when this house was built the Greek Revival Style was giving way to the Italianate Style, incorporated on the Simmons Cottage, and a succession of late nineteenth century Victorian modes. It is the first known, surviving example of the form in Jones County and predates a group of similar houses from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries which have a more conventional finish. The house and its finish have survived intact to the present, except for some minor alterations in the later kitchen ell; in the summer of 1997 the house's four principal mantels were stolen, but after they had been photographed in the field recording for this nomination.

Endnote

1. By 1766 Simon Foscue, Sr., and other members of his family had a long familiarity with coastal North Carolina; they were there by the second decade of the eighteenth century and perhaps earlier. During the course of the eighteenth century, men in the family were named "Simon," in each generation, a fact which complicates an exact understanding of the genealogy and land

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ownership within the family, particularly in the Colonial period. Except for citations from public records, the early, eighteenth-century history of the Foscue and Simmons families is taken from two principal sources: "A Memoir of the Foscue Family from 1559 to 1859" by Henry Clay Foscue (1843-1918), an unpublished typescript genealogical account; and entries in THE HISTORY AND GENEALOGY OF JONES COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA (1987) prepared by Mrs. Henry Armfield Foscue, Sr., Mrs. Leon Foscue Simmons, and others.

These sources and the others cited in the Bibliography were used in the preparation of this nomination. The Foscue Family Papers, including those in the Southern Historical Collection and those held privately by James Edward Foscue, Sr., were invaluable to understanding the life of the Foscue Plantation during the nineteenth century up to the end of the Civil War. The family papers effectively end with the Civil War. There are occasional items for a few years in the 1870s and one item in 1881. Credit for the preservation of these papers must surely be given first to Christiana Rhem Foscue and to Caroline Foy Foscue who entered the family with her marriage to John Edward Foscue in 1840 and who remained its matriarch until her death on 7 June 1881. Deeds and wills are cited internally as are quotations from the Foscue Family Papers. In other instances where the source and publication date of a work cited are evident in the wording of the text, there is no redundant footnote repeating that same information.

The first member of the Foscue family in America is believed to be one "Symon Fortescue" who had a patent of 100 acres in the Corporation of Charles City, Virginia, in the early years of the seventeenth century (THE ORIGINAL LISTS OF PERSONS OF QUALITY, 268). Quoting from records of the Virginia Company, London, 31 October 1621, Mrs. H. A. Foscue cites Captain Henry Ffortescue as the uncle and administrator of the estate of Symon Ffortescue "who died intestate at sea on his return to England." She continues:

He apparently left a wife and at least one child on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, for many court records are there about different generations of Symon Foscues, with at least 17 variations in the spelling of the name!

First they lived in Northampton County near Hungars Creek, then Accomac County where, in 1691, Simon Foscue, with a partner bought a plantation "or dividant of land" called Nevilles Neck (about 675 acres) . . .

The will of Simon Foscue, Accomac County, Virginia, 1717, lists "My eldest son Simon, now at the Southerd" which meant Hyde County, N. C., since records of a council held at Bath Town 14th day March, 1745-46, list the Petition of Simon Fortescue, showing he had a patent granted him for 470 acres of land lying in Hyde County in year 1704-5; that soon after the Indian War broke out, your petitioner was shot in the head, his

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wife and children taken prisoners and carried away; his home burnt down, all lost, together with the patent. That he has continued ever since to pay just rent, etc.--Petition granted. . . .

Either Mr. Foscue's wife and children were later released or he married again and raised a large family; in his will, dated 11 November 1751, he makes bequests to six sons and three daughters. Simon Foscue (I) identified himself as of Hyde County; the will was entered in Hyde County court in December 1751 and recorded in Craven County (Craven County Wills Book 5: 208-210). Specific bequests included nine slaves, articles of clothing, cows and calves, beds, bolsters, sheets, and blankets, pewter items, a chest of drawers and "one great Iron Pot." Simon Foscue I made his son Bell Foscue his principal heir bequeathing to him "my Mannour Plantation I now live on with what Lands belongs unto it & one Negro Boy named Happy & one Negro Woman named Moll & one Negro Woman named Rose & one feather Bed & Bolster & one Sheet & one Blanket & one Rugg & one Hand Mill & all the Hoes & Asces & Barrels & Tubs about my Plantation & Hogsheads." He was also to receive "a Desk & Oval Table a great Iron pot & five cows and Calfs . . . before the shareing of my Estate that is not given." It is unclear at present whether there had been an earlier conveyance of land to any of the other sons including Simon Foscue, Sr., the father of Simon Foscue, Jr., who built the Federal-style plantation seat which survives on the Foscue Plantation.

Integrity Assessment

The Foscue and Simmons Plantations survive today as one of the largest, if in fact not the largest, family-owned holdings in Jones County that has remained virtually intact since the antebellum period. A review of the grantee and grantor indexes for Jones County indicates that there has been no significant change in the pattern of family ownership of John Edward Foscue's lands since his death in 1849. His plantation survived intact until 1878 when its 1,396 acres were divided between his son Henry Clay Foscue, who received 921 acres, and his daughter Christiana Foscue Simmons, who received 475 acres. The outer boundaries of that 1,396 acres has not altered to the present, as far as can be determined, except for one probable and one possible reduction.

The single probable reduction occurred on 2 March 1918 when John Edward Foscue and wife Vera sold a tract of two acres for \$100 to S. S. Harriette (Jones County Deeds Book 71: 9-10). That parcel was described as follows: "Beginning at ditch bridge on the old Foscue Avenue and running west up said avenue to J. E. Foscue's back or west line, then with that line northwardly to the Harriette line, thence South to the beginning containing two acres more or less." An attempt to plat that parcel leaves the impression that a call was omitted in the language of the deed.

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The possible reduction or diminution of the Foscue Plantation occurred on 15 March 1882 when Henry Clay Foscue and wife Gertrude sold a tract of "fifty-three acres more or less" to Lewis Hill and wife Mary for \$265 (Jones County Deeds Book 30: 359). The description of that parcel in the deed indicates that it, too, was along the south edge of the Foscue lands.

. . . bounded as follows viz: On the south by the lands of Abram Simmons, on the north by the lands of H. C. Foscue and on the west by lands of B. F. Scott. Beginning at the point where the line crosses the old Sanderson road in a Deed Executed by Mashburn (sic) to Simon Foscue 1822 and the corner of Abram Simmons tract of land. . . .

The deed between Daniel Marshburn and Simon Foscue was actually dated 10 September 1823 and conveyed 184 acres to Foscue for \$600 (Jones County Deeds Book 16: 40). George Pollock had executed a quit claim deed for that same tract of land to Simon Foscue on 19 March 1822 (Jones County Deeds Book 16: 39). If the fifty-three-acre tract was indeed a part of the 921 acres which Henry Clay Foscue received in the division of his father's estate, it was probably in the southwest corner of the surviving family holding and on the west side of US 17.

Given the vagaries of some estimates, locations, and citations together with improvements in surveying technology over the past 150 years, a precise statement is difficult. For instance, the description of the 476-acre house tract in the 1878 division is precise for its time; however, the description of the additional 355 acres of piney woods awarded to Henry Clay Foscue simply reads "and three hundred and fifty five acres of piney woods land west of the Pollocksville Road. Even forty-two years later, on 16 January 1920, when John Edward Foscue (1878-1920) conveyed to his wife Vera "all of the tract of land owned by me and heired from H. C. Foscue," the Foscue Plantation lands were simply described as "containing from 700 to 1000 acres."

The nominated property encompasses three inholdings. Within the boundaries of the 1878 division, there have been two sales of property in this century that have resulted in two non-Foscue family inholdings totaling 25.58 acres. The third inholding is the site of the Foscue Plantation House and the associated cemetery.

The first of the non-Foscue family parcels concerns the largest inholding (24.58 acres), a rectangular parcel on the west side of US 17 between the Simmons Cottage and the Foscue Plantation House, that is the location of resources #19 through #29. On 2 April 1934, Miss Carrie Simmons, who inherited the bulk of the Simmons Plantation lands from her mother Christiana Foscue Simmons, deeded that rectangular tract (described in the deed as "Containing 25 acres") to her aunt Lucy Koonce Simmons (1876-1959), the wife

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of Christopher Stephens Simmons (1878-1956) (Jones County Deeds Book 90: 332). Christopher and Lucy Simmons had been occupying the one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow (#19) on that property since ca. 1920 and they would live there until their deaths. A plat of the Lucy Koonce Simmons land was made in March 1959 and it was divided into two tracts between her son Bruce Herritage Simmons and her daughter Lucy Creagh Simmons Hargett. Bruce H. Simmons received tract #1, an L-shaped parcel, which he sold on 29 March 1962 to brothers Otis Leroy and Kenneth E. Bell and their wives (Jones County Deeds Book 137: 140). These brothers subsequently divided the property between themselves and erected houses (#24 and #26, respectively) which they occupy to the present. Lucy Simmons Hargett (d. 1996) and her husband Frederick Thomas Hargett received tract #2 which included the family residence (#19) where they resided for a period; on 20 September 1972 they sold the property out of the family to Ernestine White (Jones County Deeds Book 161: 647). On 23 May 1979 tract #2 was acquired by the present owner Clair A. Ramsdell and wife (Jones County Deeds Book 179: 296-297). Mr. and Mrs. Ramsdell erected a one-story frame house (#21) which they occupy to the present. The Simmons House (#19) subsequently became the home of their son Arturo Ramsdell. This total 24.58-acre inholding is now held in small tracts by five owners (Otis Leroy Bell and wife, Kenneth E. Bell and wife, Clair Ramsdell and wife, Arturo Ramsdell, and Perry Daughety and wife), none of whom are members of the Foscue family. The houses and buildings on this property are small and well-maintained; while they are noncontributing resources this intrusion in the historic landscape is minimal and does not diminish its overall integrity.

The second non-Foscue family inholding, a one acre tract, also derives from a sale by Miss Carrie Simmons. On 10 October 1944 Miss Simmons sold a square tract, measuring seventy yards on each side, located on the east side of US 17 a short distance northeast of the Simmons Cottage (#12), to Columbus L. M. Heath and wife Bessie Mae Simpson Heath (Jones County Deeds Book 106: 64). Seven years later, on 11 July 1951, Mr. Heath, now a widower, divided the parcel in half, creating two 0.50-acre tracts fronting west on US 17. He deeded the south 0.50-acre tract to Asa B. Heath, Sr., and wife who were then living on the property (Jones County Deeds Book 114: 48). He deeded the north 0.50-acre tract to Linca Heath Bynum and husband Paul Bynum (Jones County Deeds Book 114: 49); this still vacant parcel remains the property of (their daughter?) Eva B. Simpson. On 19 September 1974, Asa B. Heath, Sr. and wife sold their 0.50-acre tract to George Bell and wife, the present owner (Jones County Deeds Book 166: 867). A manufactured house (#30) is located on this tract; its lot is grass-covered and well shaded by trees and volunteer native growth, mitigating its marginally negative impact on the land.

The third inholding within the boundaries of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations is the one-acre-plus parcel which comprises the sites of the Foscue Plantation House (#2) and the Foscue Cemetery (#3) which are owned by

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the Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Inc. (Jones County Deeds Book 165: 732, Book 177: 161-162). The corporation was established to guarantee the preservation of the Foscue Plantation House. The family deeded the one acre site of the house to the Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Inc. on 21 March 1974; the miniscule site of the Foscue Cemetery (#3) was deeded to the nonprofit corporation on 12 September 1978.

The Plantation Landscape (#1, contributing site) includes the entire acreage owned by members of the Foscue family and the Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Inc.; this comprises 1,354 acres and includes all of the agricultural fields, woodlands, farm roads, and waterways held by the Foscue family together with resources #1A through #18. (Note: a part of the Circulation Network (#1A) is the path of US 17 and is owned by the state of North Carolina.) The Foscue Cemetery (#3), the Brick Vault Site (#4), and the Marl Pits/Ponds (#10) are each identified and discussed individually as contributing sites because of their historical importance and their association with the social and agricultural significance of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations; as components of the overall plantation landscape they are also constituent parts of the Plantation Landscape (#1). The character of these resources is conveyed in photographs A through N and T through Z. The two non-Foscue family inholdings, the 24.58-acre tract on the west side of US 17 (held by Messrs. Bell, Ramsdell, and Daughety and wives) and the one acre tract on the east side of US 17 (held by George Bell and wife and Eva B. Simpson) totaling 25.58 acres, are not contributing parts of the Plantation Landscape (#1) and are identified as two non-contributing sites in item #5 Classification on the Registration Form for this nomination. The character of these inholdings is conveyed in photographs P and Q through S. The Christopher Stephens Simmons House (#19) is a contributing building because of its historic importance and associations with the history of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations, although it is located on a portion of the inholding owned outside the family. Its character is conveyed in photograph O.

Harvesting in the woodlands of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations for turpentine, naval stores, and timber has been a part of the agricultural history of the plantations since the time of Simon Foscue (1780-1830). It is discussed on pages thirty-nine through forty of part eight, "Historical Background and Social History," and on pages forty-three through fifty-seven in "Agricultural Significance." The contracts for cutting timber on the Foscue Plantation in 1902, 1923-1928, and 1947 allowed lumber companies to cut all trees on the specified acreage on the west side of US 17 above a certain diameter. The contract of 1902 with the Blades Lumber Company of New Bern allowed the company to cut "all the timber of every description, of and above the size of 12 inches in diameter at the base when cut" (Jones County Deeds Book 45: 492-495). The 1923 and 1928 contracts with the Rowland Lumber Company allowed the company to cut "all the trees and timber ten inches and upward in diameter at the base of trees at the time of cutting" (Jones County

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Deeds Book 88: 424-426). The contract of 1947 with the Bate Lumber Company allowed the company to cut all "merchantable timber of every kind, twelve inches (12) or more in diameter, twelve inches (12) above the ground" (Jones County Deeds Book 105: 588-589). Thus during the first half of the twentieth century, at least, the larger timber was harvested and the smaller trees were left to grow. In recent years that system has been slightly altered through the cooperation of the Forest Resources Division of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the use of trained foresters. Now, and as recently as 1997, the historic plantation woodlands are harvested by selective cutting which leaves intact trees of varying size to reseed the woodlands. This practice follows the established guidelines of professional forest management; its effect on the character and appearance of the plantation landscape can be seen in photographs T through V of the woodlands on the west side of US 17 and in photograph X of timbering, also in 1997, on woodland portion of the Foscue Plantation between the abandoned railroad bed and the Trent River. This system of selective cutting and natural reseeding preserves the historic woodlands and maintains their presence, admittedly thinned for a period, in the historic landscape of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations.

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7. Materials

walls--vinyl
 asphalt roofing paper
 other
roof--metal

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10. Geographical Data

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The boundary of the nominated acreage is outlined in pencil by professional surveyors on the USGS Pollocksville Quadrangle map which accompanies this nomination. That same boundary also appears on the sketch map of the Foscue and Simmons Plantations included herewith.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The boundary of the nominated acreage encloses the lands of Simon Foscue, Jr., and his son John Edward Foscue that were divided in 1878-1880 between Henry Clay Foscue and Christiana Foscue Simmons and which were reunited in Foscue family ownership in 1973. This boundary includes inholdings which have passed out of family ownership.

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Property Owner
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Property Owners

Mr. James Edward Foscue, Sr.
529 West Parkway Avenue
High Point, NC 27262

Dr. Henry Armfield Foscue, Jr.
543 Fontaine Street
Pensacola, FL 32503
904/474-0096

Foscue Plantation House Restoration, Inc.
c/o Mr. James Edward Foscue, Jr.
1833 Country Club Road
High Point, NC 27262
910/882-6239

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Ramsdell
2620 Highway 17 North
Pollocksville, NC 28573
919/224-8131

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Leroy Bell
2580 Highway 17 North
Pollocksville, NC 28573
919/224-4666

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Daughety
2590 Highway 17 North
Pollocksville, NC 28573

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Bell
2570 Highway 17 North
Pollocksville, NC 28573
919/224-5086

Mr. Arturo Ramsdell
2612 Highway 17 North
Pollocksville, NC 28573

Mr. George W. Bell
P.O. Box 153
Pollocksville, NC 28573

Ms. Eva B. Simpson
5811 Highway 17 South
New Bern, NC 28563

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Foscue and Simmons Plantations
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Photograph schedule
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Schedule of Photographs

The following information applies to all of the photographs submitted with this nomination except as indicated for photograph H.

1. Name of property: Foscue and Simmons Plantations
2. Location of property: Jones County, North Carolina
3. Name of photographer: Davyd Foard Hood
4. Date of photographs: Photographs A through P shot on 19 and 21 May 1997; photographs Q through Z shot on 7-8 May 1998.
5. Location of original negatives: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601-2807
6. Description of views:
 - A. Overall view, Foscue Plantation House (#2), looking east.
 - B. Foscue Plantation House (#2), looking east/northeast, with Brick Fence (#2A).
 - C. Foscue Plantation House (#2), first-story hall, looking east.
 - D. Foscue Plantation House (#2), interior view, looking northeast from living room through double doorway into dining room.
 - E. Foscue Plantation House, interior view, second story, looking northeast in southwest front bedroom to hall.
 - F. Foscue Plantation, landscape view, looking east/northeast (on path of US 17) with Foscue Cemetery (#3), Tobacco Pack House (#5), and the old plantation road.
 - G. Foscue Plantation, landscape view, looking west across field to Tobacco Pack House (#5) and Foscue Plantation House (#2).
 - H. Foscue Plantation, Brick Vault Site (#4), looking east. Photograph by James Edward Foscue, Jr., on 22 November 1997.
 - I. Foscue Plantation, Tobacco Barn #4 (#9), looking west/southwest.

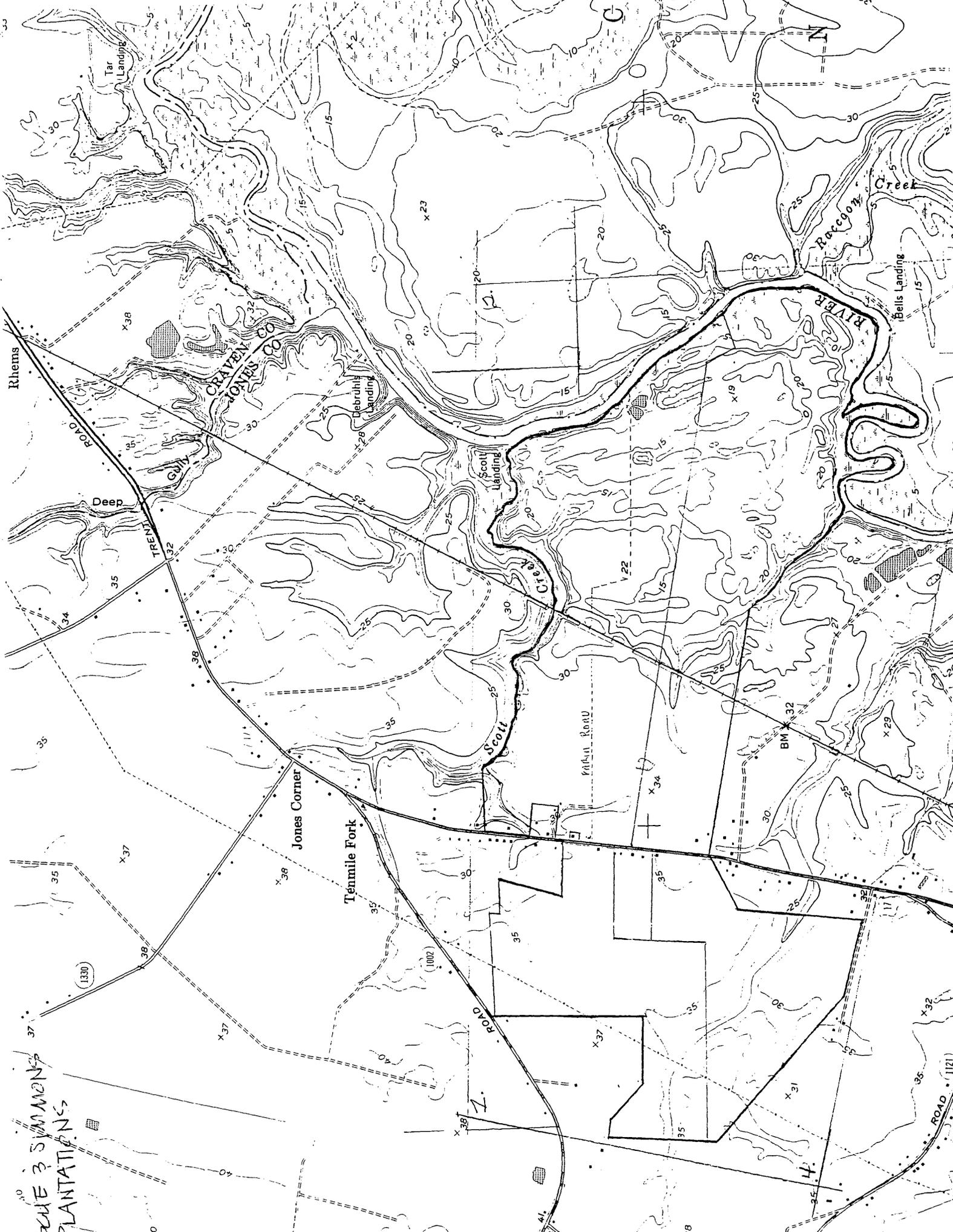
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- J. Simmons Plantation, Simmons Cottage (#12), looking southwest.
 - K. Simmons Plantation, Simmons Cottage (#12), front door, looking west.
 - L. Simmons Plantation, Simmons Cottage (#12), rear southwest bedroom, looking east.
 - M. Simmons Plantation, landscape view, looking southeast from cottage lawn and across path of US 17 to field on east side of New Bern Road.
 - N. Simmons Plantation, Simmons Tenant House #2 (#15) and Barn (#16), looking north.
 - O. Christopher Stephens Simmons House (#19), overall view, looking southwest.
 - P. Group of Bell-family buildings, looking southeast, left to right: Kenneth E. Bell House (#26), Garage (#27), Otis Leroy Bell House (#24), Garage (#25), Manufactured house (#29), Manufactured house (#28).
 - Q. View looking south/southwest on US 17, with Otis Leroy Bell House (#24), Kenneth E. Bell House (#26), and garage (#27).
 - R. Clair Ramsdell House (#21), looking southwest from US 17.
 - S. Manufactured House (#30) on south half of inholding #2, looking east.
 - T. Landscape view of the Simmons Plantation field and woodland, looking west, with Granary Ruin (#13) and edge of a firebreak on right side of image.
 - U. View of 1997 logging site on Simmons Plantation, looking west.
 - V. View up grass lane access into woodland on the Foscue Plantation.
 - W. View down abandoned railroad track, looking north/northeast from position just north of junction with old plantation road.
 - X. View of Foscue Plantation woodland, timbered in late 1997, looking south.
 - Y. View of a just-planted tobacco field on the immediate north side of the hedgerow marking boundary between Foscue and Simmons Plantations, looking west with farm road on right.
 - Z. View, looking south, of firebreak/access road in pine plantation in northeast corner field on Simmons Plantation.



OSCHUE & SYMMONS
PLANTATIONS

