United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Playmore - Bowery Road Historic District

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number 1309-1311 Horse Cove Road, 7, 215, 225, 369, 455, and 172-176, 200, 462 Bowery Road, 375-471 Upper Lake Road, and 875 Ravenel Rd. N/A not for publication

city or town Highlands N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Macon code 113 zip code

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.)

[Signature of certifying official/federal agency and bureau]

[State of Federal agency and bureau]

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

[Signature of certifying official/federal agency and bureau]

[State of Federal agency and bureau]

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain) ______

[Signature of the Keeper] Date of Action

[Date]
### 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[x] Private</td>
<td>[x] District</td>
<td><strong>23 Buildings</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[x] Site</td>
<td><strong>6 Sites</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[x] Structure</td>
<td><strong>1 Structure</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[x] Object</td>
<td><strong>30 Objects</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ] Public-local</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Public-Federal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Historic and Architectural Resources of Macon County, North Carolina, ca. 600-1945

Name of Property

### 6. Function or Use

#### Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE/storage
- AGRICULTURE/animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding
- TRANSPORTATION/road related
- RECREATION/outdoor recreation

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- VACANT/not in use
- TRANSPORTATION/road related
- RECREATION/outdoor recreation

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
- Italianate
- Colonial Revival
- Other: Rustic

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
- Foundation: Stone
- Walls: Wood
- Roof: Asphalt
- Other: Brick

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

See continuation sheets.
8. Statement of Significance

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

- 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.

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:
Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 220

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

1
Zone
1
Easting
30010
30010
30015
30015

Northing
4170
4170
41620
41620

2
Zone
1
Easting
30010
30010

Northing
4170
4170

3
Zone
2
Easting
30150
30150

Northing
4120
4120

4
Zone
1
Easting
30150
30150

Northing
40080
40080

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 Ford Hood
date December 2001

organization

street & number Isinglass, 6907 Old Shelby Road
telephone 704/462-1847

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

street & number
telephone

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

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telephone

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

name

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

Narrative Description

The Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District is an enclave of historic nineteenth and early-twentieth century summer cottages situated on a ridge overlooking Horse Cove about one mile east and northeast of the town center of Highlands, a fashionable summer resort on an elevated plateau, 4,000 feet above sea level, in mountainous western North Carolina about eight miles north of the North Carolina/Georgia border. The name derives from two principal features of the district. Playmore is the grand summer estate created in 1879-1880 by the Ravenel family and owned since 1914 by the Monroe family of New Orleans; its seat, also known as Playmore (#1), grounds (#2), outbuildings (#3-9), and woodlands occupy 141.28 acres of the district’s approximately 220 acres. Most (about 120 acres) of this property lies on the south side of (asphalt-paved) Horse Cove Road (SR 1603) which continues to the west into the center of Highlands and descends sharply to the southeast into Horse Cove. The extreme southwest corner of this acreage includes about one-half of Sunset Rock, a broad, relatively flat stone outcropping in Ravenel Park (#37) affording great views to the west over Highlands. The remaining acreage comprises a large field and woodlands in the northwest corner of Horse Cove Road and its junction with Bowery Road (SR 1604). Bowery Road (#36), a packed clay and gravel lane, is the spine of the district and carries north from Horse Cove Road for about a half-mile where it is joined on the west by Upper Lake Road (SR 1605), also a gravel and packed clay lane. Here Bowery Road turns sharply to the east, in a ninety-degree curve; Kalalanta (#19-23) is located on the southeast side of the road and the Thornton Cottage (#24-26) occupies the tract in the northeast corner of the junction. These are the two northernmost summer cottages in the district. The McCarty House (#30) stands in the northwest corner of the junction, and Log Jam (#27-29) is located to its north and on the southwest side of Upper Lake Road. Other summer cottages in the district, Lucky Manor (#10), Rose Monroe Cottage (#11), The Fling (#12-16), Little House (#17-18), Treetops (#31-33), and Laureland (#34-35), lie on the east and west sides of Bowery Road between Playmore and Kalalanta. Ravenel Park (#37), on the south side of the district, is accessible by way of a narrow gravel road carrying through the Playmore lands. Until ca. 1964 this road was also the drive to Wolf Ridge (#38-39), a second Ravenel family house that stands on the south edge of the district; Wolf Ridge is now served by Ravenel Ridge Road, a former estate road that has become a residential avenue. Playmore, Wolf Ridge, and the cottages on the east side of Bowery Road enjoy splendid views to the east and southeast over Horse Cove and the mountain ranges stretching into northern Georgia. The district lays astride the Tennessee Valley Divide. A long-ago upheaval along this fault line thrust stones out of the ground, and they comprise a picturesque part of the landscape.
Because all of the cottages and their outbuildings except six (#17, #30, #34-35, #38-39) are located deep within their grounds and well off Horse Cove, Bowery, and Upper Lake roads, the appearance of the district is that of a well-maintained woodland, dense with native rhododendrons, and shaded by towering hemlocks and deciduous hardwood trees. The botanical richness of the district landscape was one of the features extolled by Samuel Truman Kelsey in 1876 in his promotional pamphlet, THE BLUE RIDGE HIGHLANDS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA. The boundary of the district adjoins the Coker Rhododendron Trail owned by the Highlands Biological Foundation. The grounds of Playmore on the south side of Horse Cove Road are defined by tall, well-maintained hemlock hedges, which extend to a pair of stone piers, flanking the entrance drive and set at an angle to the road. The existence of the other cottages is noted by simple gravel or asphalt paved drives, some (The Fling, Little House, Kalalanta) marked by paired stone piers; these drives usually then curve and continue for distances ranging from 0.05 to 0.15 of a mile to the respective houses.

The historic summer cottages and their outbuildings in the district range in date from 1879-1880 to ca. 1934-1940, and they are all of frame construction, covered with weatherboards, wood shingles, German siding, or board and batten, except for Log Jam which has chinked log elevations. Playmore, the most imposing house in the district, the oldest, and one of the finest summer cottages ever built in Highlands, is a two-story Italianate house; it is the seat of Highlands’s most developed nineteenth century estate that retains six of its historic outbuildings. Wolf Ridge, built in 1914 and thus the second Ravenel family summer house in the district, is a two-story-with-attic frame house sheathed with wood shingles that reflects the influence of both the Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles. The Fling, built in 1922, is a large handsome Colonial Revival-style two-story house that, like Playmore, retains its original caretaker’s house plus three additional domestic outbuildings. Kalalanta and Treetops are also two-story frame houses of traditional design and appearance, and both have garages and guest houses; the Treetops guest house is now a separately-owned cottage known as Laureland. Thornton Cottage is a small two-bedroom gable-front one-story house. The four noncontributing houses in the district, two built by members of the Monroe family, the third built by Mr. McCarty whose parents built Log Jam, and a rental cottage built by Mildred (Thornton) Johnson, have historical associations with the district and are non-intrusive; the McCarty House is the only stone dwelling in a district where stone has been used for chimneys, walls, walks, borders, and other enhancements since 1879. The well-developed grounds of five of the cottages are marked by a high degree of stewardship and they are contributing resources in the district.
Addendum in Response to the National Park Service Comments of 17 October 2001

In response to the questions posed by the National Park Service review of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District nomination, this consultant made a visit to Highlands, 14-16 November 2001, to reassess the boundary of the district and to re-evaluate the four properties in question: Ravenel Park; WolfRidge; the Tracy house at 660 Bowery Road; and the Pierson-Westbrook house at 800 Bowery Road. During the earlier fieldwork for the preparation of the nomination he had visited both Ravenel Park and Wolf Ridge to the south of the proposed district. During that fieldwork, while determining the northeast boundary of the district, he had observed the large stone Tracy house and its gate/guest house that stand on the 37.98-acre tract adjoining the east boundary of the Thornton Cottage grounds; the two buildings, both erected in the mid 1990s, are visible from Bowery Road. He had also become familiar with the Pierson-Westbrook property, which includes an inter-war period frame house that had been expanded and remodeled by the Pierson family through the mid-twentieth century.

The decision not to include the Tracy and Pierson-Westbrook properties in the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District was made on the basis of their age, architectural character, and integrity. That decision gained additional justification during the November site visit and stands. The earlier, initial decision not to pursue inclusion of Ravenel Park and Wolf Ridge in the district derived from other considerations including their ownership, uncertainty as to whether their owners would support inclusion in the district, and a real degree of urgency to gain National Register status for the properties in the original submission due to a proposed road project on Bowery Road.

The site visits to Ravenel Park and Wolf Ridge on 15-16 November confirmed their historic associations and integrity, and they are included in this revised submission as properties #37 and #38-39, respectively. Ravenel Park, a passive park affording pleasure to the Highlands resident and visitor alike, affirms the family’s association with the early history of Highlands. The research and its representation in the Wolf Ridge entry (#38) clarifies the early Ravenel family ownership of the substantial acreage by the two maiden sisters Marguerite and Clarissa, individually, and the merging of the bulk of the acreage into a single tract in the mid-twentieth century. In 1997 when the Ravenel subdivision was platted, Wolf Ridge and its front lawn were set aside on lot #30 comprising 5.39 acres. During the November site visit a board-and-batten covered frame barn (#39), appearing to be contemporary with the house built in 1914 for the Misses Ravenel, was identified in the woodland edge to the south of the house. It stands in the front (west) third of lot #29 in the Ravenel subdivision, and it is included in this revised
submission. The remainder of the property is excluded because of the extensive development and construction of large summer cottages in the residential park since 1997.

The Tracy and Pierson-Westbrook properties at the north edge of the district are not included in this submission for the reasons noted below. The Tracy house at 660 Bowery Road, one of the two "contemporary estates adjacent to but outside the northern boundary of the district," cited in the comments, occupies a 37-plus acre tract mostly on the north side of Bowery Road and adjoining the east boundary of the Thornton Cottage (#24-26) and the northeast boundary of the district. After acquiring this property, formerly in the Henderson family, Tom Tracy and his wife erected a large neo-Rustic stone house in the mid-1990s, built a substantial stone guest/gate house close on Bowery Road, and extensively landscaped the grounds. Erected more than forty years after the close of the period of significance, these two buildings and the landscape do not contribute to the significance of the district. They were initially excluded from the district for that reason, and they are excluded in this re-submission for the same reason.

The Pierson-Westbrook house at 800 Bowery Road occupies mostly wooded grounds of 19.37 acres; this acreage lies on the north side of Bowery Road and on the east/southeast side of the Tracy property. It is not contiguous with the boundaries of the proposed historic district. The popular view of the history of this place derives from traditions associated with an earlier, now lost house known to have stood here prior to the construction of the earliest portion of the present house in the inter-war period for the Pierson family. The appearance, architectural fabric, and finish of the house reflect at least five distinct phases of construction spanning the mid-twentieth century, beginning with the inter-war construction of a five-room one-story board and batten cottage. The cottage was effectively doubled in size in the 1950s by the construction of a dormitory style bedroom wing to the east; it is linked to the earlier block by a hyphen containing the dining room that features paired sliding aluminum and plate glass doors on the front. At different times an addition, containing utility and breakfast rooms, was made to the rear of the original cottage, while an ell was added to the rear of the bedroom wing to provide a second bathroom. The final major stage in the construction history of the cottage, appearing to date to the 1970s or 1980s, was the demolition of the front of the original cottage and the enclosure of the front porch into the living room. This newly-enclosed space, which incorporated a new entrance, was fitted with grouped vertical-pane windows and veneered with large over-sized stones that continue across the front of the bedroom wing's concrete block foundation. This substantial, unsympathetic remodeling, coupled with the replacement of the original window sash in the bedroom wing with one-over-one metal sash, altogether compromised the architectural character and integrity of the Pierson-Westbrook house, giving it the appearance and feeling of a house dating from the last third of the twentieth century.
The grounds of the Pierson-Westbrook house also contain three outbuildings that were constructed in the second half of the twentieth century, outside the district’s period of significance. The Pierson family erected a concrete-block, dirt-floor gable-roof garage, probably in the 1950s, and a very large concrete-block gambrel-roof barn, probably ca. 1965-1980. In 1994 the Westbrooks erected a small frame board-and-batten covered boathouse at the edge of the pond for storage. Neither the existing Pierson-Westbrook house nor any of its three outbuildings would contribute to the significance of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District.

In response to the last question in the paragraph concerning adjacent or nearby properties, the Ravenel family’s ownership of extensive lands (and lots) in and around Highlands should be noted. This nomination addresses the core holding at and around their summer house Wantoot that includes buildings erected by the family or otherwise comprising a part of their summer estate. It could not and cannot address the matter of all the lands owned by the Ravenel family that spread over thousands of acres, much of which was sold out of the family and developed through the course of the twentieth century, while other tracts are still held by members of the family who bear other surnames. In this regard, this consultant is well aware of a former Ravenel family holding on the north and northwest sides of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District and contiguous with the grounds of Treetops (#32) as noted in the original entry for same. This property was owned by Samuel Prioleau Ravenel, Jr. (1868-1940) and his first wife Florence Leftwich (18---1923). In 1920 they sold these twenty-four acres, including a lake, to the Misses White who, in turn sold the property in April 1924 to T. Peden Anderson. Mr. Anderson commissioned a subdivision plat of the acreage by John Quincy Pierson that was produced in May, and during the summer of 1924 he was selling lots around the lake in his Lindenwood Park. While this property was owned by members of the Ravenel family, its historic character and primary significance are associated with the development of the area as Lindenwood Park (one of the first such residential resort parks in the area focused on a lake), the architectural character and social significance of the summer cottages erected on lots surrounding the lake from the mid-1920s on, the long residency here (1931-1953) of Dr. William Chambers Coker (1872-1953), botanist, author, founder of the Coker Arboretum at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a founder and second director of the Highlands Museum and Biological Laboratory, and its successor institution, the Highlands Biological Station, which has a laboratory and museum facility at the edge of the lake that it also owns (DFH, 30 November 2001).
1. Playmore (formerly Wantoot)
   1309 Horse Cove Road
   1879-1880
   Contributing building

The large imposing two-story weatherboarded frame Italianate-style house known since 1914 as Playmore, and the seat of the summer estate of the same name, was built in 1879-1880 for Samuel Prioleau Ravenel (1822-1902) who purchased its grounds and contracted for its construction in September, 1879. The house was built by Francis Poindexter (1824-1902), a native of Stokes County, North Carolina, who came to Macon County in the 1840s, served as an apprentice to carpenter George Clampit, and gained a broad knowledge of the woods of western North Carolina and experience as a furniture maker and woodcarver. On 22 September 1879 Mr. Poindexter presented a proposal to Mr. Ravenel to construct the house for $3,503.50. The proposal was accepted, and today it hangs in the game room at Playmore. Mr. Ravenel called his summer estate Wantoot after the great de St. Julien family plantation at St. Johns, South Carolina, that entered the family through his great-grandfather Daniel Ravenel (1732-____).
Wantoot remained a summer residence of the Ravenel family through Mr. Ravenel’s lifetime and that of his widow, Margaretta Amelia Fleming (Parker) Ravenel (18__-1913). On 10 August 1914, the trustees of Mrs. Ravenel’s estate sold Wantoot and eighty-four acres of its grounds for $10,000 to Jules Blanc Monroe (1880-1960), a wealthy New Orleans attorney. Mr. Monroe renamed the estate Playmore and enlarged its grounds, but otherwise made virtually no changes except for the addition of a bathroom in the 1920s and the necessary mechanical improvements. Playmore remains the summer estate of his descendants who have been careful and sympathetic stewards of a house that has been acclaimed through the generations as Highlands’s finest summer house and a landmark in the landscape of the mountain resort community.

Playmore, a center-hall, double-pile house, stands on local stone piers (with later masonry infill), is sheathed with weatherboards, and is covered with a tall hip roof of patterned metal shingles. The elevations of the house are symmetrical, reflecting the interior plan, and finished with sill boards, corner boards, and a bracketed Italianate cornice. The broad five-bay (east) façade, overlooking Horse Cove to the southeast and a vast panorama of mountains, is framed by towering arbor vitae (of unknown species) which are now taller than the house and, in turn, frame the one-story porch. The porch has a wood floor, Tuscan columns linked by a low, heavy balustrade, and a tall flight of wood steps to the lawn. Paired doors with arch-headed panes, flanked by sidelights and an eight-pane transom, are set in the center bay and flanked by openings holding six-over-six sash in molded surrounds with operating blinds. The blinds on the
first story are solid for security while those on the five windows of the second story here, and around the house, are louvered. The house’s north elevation is also symmetrical with paired windows illuminating corner rooms on both stories. These pairings flank a narrow two-story bay. Its original first-story provided a study alcove off the living room; the second story was added by Mr. Monroe in the 1920s to provide a bathroom for the north second-story bedrooms. The rear (west) elevation of Playmore is a virtual replica of the façade except that it has no porch and the entrance, duplicating the front doorway, opens onto a shallow stoop with stone steps. The south elevation of Playmore is dominated by an off-center two-story rectangular service wing with a large kitchen, pantry, and service stairhall on the first story, and servants’s rooms on the second story. Its finish is consistent with the main block.

As handsome and imposing as Playmore is on the exterior, it provides little clue to the extraordinary interior finish of the house, the product of Mr. Poindexter’s genius with woods, and the degree of integrity it has retained through the 121 years of its existence. The wide center hall, the living room and game room on the north, and the dining room on the south are all sheathed in pre-blight chestnut that has remained unpainted and aged to a rich warm color. The floors in these rooms are laid with alternating boards of white ash and black walnut. The mantels, doors, and door and window surrounds as well as the staircase are all of unpainted woods and the finest grain. The expansive scale of the interior is enhanced through the broad openings from the hall to the living and dining rooms, which are fitted with paired six-panel doors. On the second-story the bedrooms have maple floors and most of the walls are covered with wallpaper; however, all of their architectural finish, including mantels, remains intact. The doors here are four-panel and set in molded surrounds. Much of the furniture dates to the Monroes’s acquisition of the house, and dates to the nineteenth or early-twentieth centuries.

2. Playmore Grounds
   1879; ca. 1914 onward
   Contributing site

The grounds of Playmore, comprising 141.28 of the district’s approximately 220 acres, reflect the long careful stewardship of the Ravenel and Monroe families, and a sensitivity to the scale of the holding and its place in a panoramic landscape. Most of the acreage is covered by volunteer woodland except the open area between the house and Horse Cove Road and the spacious grass-covered house grounds which extend to the south beyond the caretaker’s cottage and the complex of agricultural buildings. The boundaries of the estate along Horse Cove Road are planted with hemlock hedges which are well-maintained and set the estate apart. They carry up to a pair of stone piers hung with simple unpainted board gates. The drive to the house, just over
a quarter of a mile long, curves and then carries in a nearly straight line, almost due south, to the house. It is lined with white pines and the higher ground on the west is retained by low stone walling for part of the distance. Approaching the house, there are views to the west where stone outcroppings are visible and to the east, where some old apple trees and others stand in an open meadow which drops away to the east. Gradually, as one nears the house, the great view to the southeast over Horse Cove, which prompted the placement of the residence, becomes visible. By skillful planning and the use of a hemlock hedge close on the west edge of the drive, the view of the house is delayed until one is nearly upon it. Originally, the drive passed in front of the house; however, Mr. Monroe relocated it to the rear and added flower beds and an ornamental pond on axis with the house and others slightly downgrade to the southeast. The mowed grass lawn drops away to the meadow in an informal fashion on the front. The house is enhanced with large shrub foundation plantings and the aforementioned arbor vitae with large old hemlocks, pines and deciduous trees shade the grounds around Playmore. On the south side of the house is a parking area which engages the path of the old drive. It carries southwest to the caretaker’s house and then doubles back in a northwesterly route into the woodland and to an entrance, marked by a pair of tall upright quarried stones and protected by a woven wire gate, on what is now the road leading up from Horse Cove Road to Ravenel Park. This narrow gravel public road enjoys a right-of-way through the Playmore lands in its rise to the park. About half of Ravenel Park’s principal feature, a broad stone outcropping known as Sunset Rock, is located on the Playmore tract. In the woodland to the southeast of this entrance is a small ornamental pond, accessible from the drive by means of simple flights of inset stone steps, which dates to the turn of the twentieth century. The early-twentieth century tennis court, a flat, grass-covered rectangular area inset into grade to the northwest of the house and parallel with the edge of the Tennessee Valley Divide, is a second important leisure feature on the estate. Some enhancements remain, including two granite mill stones mounted as tables. The gentle hillside to the south of the house, between the caretaker’s cottage and the agricultural complex downgrade to the east, is terraced and was earlier used as an orchard and garden. The terraces remain as do a few old apple trees, and the area is grass-covered and mowed. When cows and chickens were kept for fresh milk and eggs, the barnyard was maintained and portions of the area fenced; however, the fencing is now mostly lost. Of the known buildings which stood on the estate, only the spring house is lost; however, the stone enhancements around the spring remain in place as does dry laid stone walling. The estate blacksmith shop, a small board and batten-sheathed frame building, stands in ruinous condition; its stone forge remains intact. Altogether the grounds, developed features, plantings, and stonework retain the feeling of a historic landscape and form a sympathetic setting for the buildings of the Playmore estate.
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

Section 7  Page 9

3. Root Cellar
   ca. 1880
   Contributing building

Inset in the hill immediately behind the house, the root cellar is a two-level building covered with a gable roof of patterned tin shingles. The lower story, on ground level with the house, is built of mortared stone, fitted with a board-and-rail door on its east elevation, and covered with a poured concrete cap which serves as the floor of the upper story. This space, which retains some early shelving, was used for the storage of root crops, fruits, and canned goods for family consumption; in the later half of the twentieth century it was used as a wood house. The frame upper story, with a door on its west gable end, is used for storage. A weatherboarded shed, added on its south side and fitted with a sliding garage door, is used by the caretaker for utility storage.

4. Privy
   ca. 1880-1900
   Contributing building

This remarkable survival from the early years of Highlands is very likely the only extant privy in the resort. The simple rectangular building stands on a low stone foundation, is sheathed with weatherboards, and covered with a side gable roof of sheet tin. The interior is partitioned by wide boards into three compartments. Two board-and-rail doors on the east front open into single-seat chambers for women; a door on the south gable end opens into a two-seater compartment that was probably for men. On the west side three windows are set high in the wall for illumination; the lowest part of the wall is open for removal of waste.

5. Caretaker’s Cottage
   ca. 1880; ca. 1920-1940 addition
   Contributing building

The caretaker’s house is comprised of three distinct blocks and a shed porch, with descending heights north to south, which have a telescopic appearance. The original house included the one-story-with-loft two-room block at the north end and the one-story-with-attic kitchen wing which share a central stone chimney. They stand on partially mortared stone foundations, are sheathed with weatherboards, and the roof is covered with pattern tin shingles. Window openings fitted with six-over-six sash are symmetrically positioned, and doors open into the kitchen and living room for the inset west porch. In the 1920s or 1930s, a shed was added on the south end of the
kitchen for a bathroom. Its roof has since been extended to cover a porch on the south that engages the cottage’s west porch in an L-shaped fashion.

6. Poultry house
   ca. 1880-1900
   Contributing building

The poultry house is a rectangular frame building standing on a dry-laid stone foundation and sheathed with board and batten; it is covered by an asymmetrical end-gable roof of asphalt sheeting. Its unusual plan features two pens of equal size with board-and-rail doors opening from each into the open center bay. Each pen has a large screened opening on the south for light and ventilation; the west pen retains its original/early wood roost and nests for laying hens. The side and rear (north) walls are blind.

7. Granary/crib
   ca. 1880
   Contributing building

The combination granary and crib is a rectangular weatherboarded frame building standing on wood piers and covered with an asphalt shingle gable-front roof which projects on the west to protect the entrance. On the front, wide rake boards have circular cut-outs near the ridge line for ventilation, and a board-and-rail door opens into the granary section. The crib is partitioned on the north side.

8. Barn
   ca. 1880
   Contributing building

The barn is a large well-preserved rectangular mortise-and-tenon frame building set on a poured concrete and stone foundation, sheathed with board-and-batten and vertical board siding, and covered by an end-gable roof with flush eaves and patterned tin shingles. The center passage, on a generally north/south axis, is flanked by four stables on the east side and two stables, a feed room, and a tack room on the west; the stables have vented partition walls and some retain their like doors. The passage is fitted with siding doors at each end; board-and-rail doors are centered on each gable end, above the passage opening, to provide access to the loft. At an early date, a board-and-batten sheathed shed was added on the west side of the barn; it has full width openings on its north and south ends and symmetrical six-over-six sash windows on its sheathed west side. The shed on the east side is of recent date and has creosote-pole supports.
9. Pump House  
   ca. 1994  
   Noncontributing structure

This small frame building, erected by estate caretaker Dan Garthwaite, stands on a poured cement pad, and is covered with a sheet metal gable front roof; the elevations are finished with exterior sheet sheathing. A board and rail door on the east front opens into a building that holds two 1,100-gallon tanks that are fed by three natural springs. The building stands on the site of an earlier pump house.

10. Lucky Manor  
    7 Bowery Road  
    1968  
    Noncontributing building

After the division in 1966 of Playmore’s Norfleet tract, Malcolm Logan Monroe (1910-2001) erected this substantial, two-story cottage for his use and that of his family when the rooms of Playmore were taken by other members of the Monroe family. The house is rectangular in plan, stands on a cement-block foundation, is sheathed with manufactured vertical sheet siding, and covered with a side-gable roof of asphalt shingles. A stone-veneer chimney is centered on the south gable end. Standing on a site with spectacular views to the southeast over Horse Cove, the house has a partially-covered wood deck that carries on three of its elevations, which have a generally symmetrical series of window openings fitted with one-over-one metal sash. The interior of the cottage has an open informal plan.

11. Rose Monroe Cottage  
    215 Bowery Road  
    ca. 1966-1980  
    Noncontributing building

In the division of the Norfleet tract of Playmore on 30 March 1966 between Malcolm Logan Monroe and his late brother’s widow, Rose Routh Milling Monroe (b. 1914), Mrs. Monroe received a 10.42-acre parcel with frontages on both Bowery and Horse Cove roads. In the later 1960s and 1970s she acquired a former mill building in Highlands and three single-pen cabins from the larger area; she reassembled the small chestnut-log buildings, linking them with new halls or dog-trots, and created a modern rustic four-pen log dwelling which recalls similar such efforts in Highlands and other mountain resort communities since the 1920s. Its blocks are composed in a picturesque fashion, with set-backs, off-sets, varied linkages, a variety of window...
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The house contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, and bedroom in the four log pens with additional bedrooms, bathrooms, and closets in the linkages and loft areas. Concurrent with this project, Mrs. Monroe enhanced the grounds of her cottage, building a long stone wall with inset steps on the south side of the drive to retain a perennial garden. In 1988 Mrs. Monroe purchased two tracts on the northeast side of her lot, comprising 8.21 acres, which had formerly been a part of The Fling’s grounds (#13). In 1998 she conveyed all three tracts to her daughter Alice Monroe Nelson and her husband L. Kent Nelson.

12. The Fling
225 Bowery Road
1922
Contributing building

On 26 January 1922 Mary Elliott Moore Evins (1872-1939) purchased a tract of some sixteen acres on the north side of Playmore’s Norfleet tract carrying on both sides of Bowery Road and east to Horse Cove Road for $1,500 from the Ravenel estate. She and her husband Samuel Nesbitt Evins (1871-1939) immediately engaged Highlands contractor William M. Cleaveland to erect this large Colonial Revival-style two-story frame house; The Fling was occupied by the family during the 1922 summer season. That year, or soon thereafter, the Evinses erected a combination wood house and laundry, a servant’s quarters, combination stable and garage, and a small caretaker’s house. Mr. Evins, a prominent Atlanta attorney and a founder of the Highlands Country Club, Mrs. Evins, and their family summered here until the fateful year of 1939 when she died on 13 July and he died four months later on 20 November. The house remained the summer home of their five children until 1978 when the heirs sold the house and thirteen acres of its grounds to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Keil Hunt. The Hunts subsequently reduced the size of the grounds, selling the tract on the west side of Bowery Road to the developer of the Biscuit Rock subdivision and two wooded tracts to the east. On 8 July 1987 they sold The Fling and its grounds of four acres to Mrs. Lelia Gilliam Barnes Cheatham (b. 1923), the wife of John Henry Cheatham, Jr. (b. 1924), who had previously summered at Treetops.

The Fling is an imposing house, rectangular in plan and symmetrical in elevation, sheathed with very wide German siding, and covered with an asphalt shingle side-gable roof. The skillful façade design features a two-story seven-bay main block, which is flanked by one-and-a-half-story two-bay wings that project slightly and whose roof extends across the face of the (recessed) main block as a pent; the pent engages the one-story center-bay porch. Window openings hold six-over-six sash. The wing elevations are enlivened and framed by pilaster-form corner boards
and additional pilasters defining bays. The rear elevation is a near replica except that the paired, glazed doors, transom, and sidelights in the center bay are protected by a bracketed hood set into the pent. A stone chimney and flue stack repeat the use of stone for steps and the low wall retaining the terrace on the rear. The interior of the house follows a center/stair hall plan with spacious rooms handsomely paneled with pre-blight chestnut; a series of paired ten-pane French doors link the first-story rooms in enfilade fashion. The architect of the house has not been identified; however, the firm of Hentz, Adler and Shutze which later designed the Highlands Country Club may have been responsible.

13. The Fling Grounds
   1922
   Contributing site

As is the case with most of the historic summer cottages in the district, The Fling is set well inside its lot, screened by the dense masses of native rhododendrons which exist throughout the district, and out of view from Bowery Road. When built in 1922 it had two entrances from Bowery Road; however, since 1978 only the south drive remains with the house; it is marked by mortared stone piers supporting urns, and its approach to the house is planted with hemlock hedges. These hedges and other plantings are combined with volunteer trees, shrubs, and ground plants and other introduced material in a fashion which seamlessly merges the designed grounds with their larger setting in the native woodlands. The drive forms a circle in front of the house that is grass-covered. Behind the house, stone is used to retain a pair of large grass-covered terraces with inset steps, the stone-paved terrace against the house, and a barbecue well. The house is enhanced with foundation plantings while the outbuildings are partially screened from view with hemlock hedges.

14. Laundry
   ca. 1922
   Contributing building

The laundry is a small rectangular frame building standing on concrete block piers, sheathed with board and batten, and covered with an asphalt shingle gable roof. The interior is divided into two rooms. A board-and-batten door in its west wall opens into the wood room in the west half of the building. A five-panel door in its north gable end opens into the laundry room which is illuminated by paired six-over-six sash windows on the east side and serviced by a brick flue stack rising on the south gable end. The laundry retains its original enamel-on-cast-iron tubs.
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15. Servants's Quarters  
   ca. 1922  
   Contributing building

The quarters, a small rectangular frame building on timber piers, is sheathed with German siding and covered with an asphalt shingle gable roof. It is finished with three bedrooms, with separate entrances, and a bathroom opening off the porch inset in its southeast front corner. The window and door openings are symmetrically positioned; the windows have six-over-six sash and the doors have five horizontal panels.

16. Stable/garage  
   ca. 1922  
   Contributing building

This utility building, the least developed of the estate’s outbuildings, is a rectangular frame building with a broad opening across its east gable end, wood shingle sheathing on its south wall, and sheet tarpaper on boards on its west and north sides; the west and north elevations were not sheathed with wood shingles. The loft storage area is served by a board-and-rail door inset in the German-sided gable above the garage opening and a stair in the store room in its southwest corner. One of two original stalls for horses at the west end of the building survives.

17. Little House  
   369 Bowery Road  
   ca. 1922  
   Contributing building

This one-story frame house, originally built as a caretaker’s cottage for The Fling, was expanded twice, in 1946 and 1974, after it came to be used by the Evins family for overflow from the “Big House.” The original house, first occupied by Zeke Shuler, was a rectangular four-room cottage with a kitchen, living room, and two bedrooms which comprises the west half of the present dwelling; the semi-detached bathroom was connected by a breezeway. In 1946 two bedrooms and a bathroom were added in the form of an ell on the rear. In 1974, following his purchase of the house and its two-and-three-fourths acres from his kinsmen in 1973, Samuel Evins, Jr. (1907-1997) added a large bedroom in an ell off the north side of the 1946 ell and modernized the kitchen; Leon Potts was the contractor for the 1974 work. The house, now having the plan of a “U” turned on its side, stands on a cement block foundation, is sheathed with wide German siding, and is covered with an asphalt shingle roof. The window openings in all three sections hold six-over-six sash. The only noticeable change in the exterior of the house is a large multi-
pane picture window added in the south end of the living room. A pair of dry-laid stone piers flank the entrance off Bowery Road which was one of two original entrances for The Fling.

18. Utility building
   1974
   Noncontributing building

This small frame building stands on a poured concrete foundation, is sheathed with manufactured exterior sheeting, and is covered by an asphalt shingle gable roof. It has paired doors on its east side and small one-over-one sash windows in its north and south sides.

19. Kalalanta
   455 Bowery Road
   1883; ca. 1920; ca. 1948
   Contributing building

The history of Kalalanta, built in 1883 by Mrs. Katherine T. Bingham and having had five intermediate owners until 1962 when it was purchased by Mrs. Foy Fleming, is the most complicated of any building in the district, and a fact mirrored in the appearance of the house. Mrs. Bingham acquired a tract of twenty-one and one-fourth acres in September 1882 from Stanhope Walker and Celia M. Hill, and built the two-story, L-plan core of the present weatherboarded-frame house in 1883. In April 1884 she and her husband sold their newly-built summer cottage and its grounds to Margaretta A. Ravenel for $2,800. Kalalanta remained in Mrs. Ravenel’s estate until April 1920 when her trustees conveyed the property to A. J. Salinas, Sr. Writing in 1930, Thomas G. Harbison (d. 1936), the distinguished scholar, botanist, and civic leader, had this to say about Kalalanta.

This place is situated on the extreme western end of Black Rock and overlooks Horse Cove and the mountains to the south and east. This is an old place and for years neglected, but several years ago A. J. Salinas of Augusta purchased this property and remodeled the house and made a lawn, making it one of the beautiful and interesting summer homes that nestle among the Highlands hills. A visit to this place will repay any one looking for magnificent views (FRANKLIN PRESS, 10 April 1930).

In September 1920, probably after completing his refitting of the house, Mr. Salinas (d. 1930) conveyed the house to his wife. Mrs. Salinas summered here until August 1948 when she sold the property to Eugene Howerd and his wife. Mr. Howerd added a one-story ell to the northeast gable end of the house, thereby expanding the living room, and added a full-façade
porch with elaborate cast-iron supports across the southeast front of the house which enjoys splendid views to the southeast over Horse Cove. While living here Mr. Howerdd purchased the Fairfield Inn in neighboring Jackson County and some 6,000 acres which he developed as Sapphire Valley resort. In July 1957 Mr. and Mrs. Howerdd sold Kalalanta to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle W. Terry who, in turn, sold it in October 1960 to Mr. and Mrs. S. Alan Sloan, Jr., of Essex County, New Jersey. The Sloans owned the house less than two years, until June 1962, when Mr. Sloan sold it to Joanne Louise Tait Fleming (b. 1925), the wife of Foy Burwell Fleming (1921-1985). In 1999 Mrs. Fleming conveyed Kalalanta and its remaining ten and one-half acres to the family-owned Kalalanta Corporation.

The appearance of the two-story, three-bay main block of the house and the ca. 1948 porch remains intact; however, some changes have been made to the rear of the house where the kitchen and some window openings were enlarged. The interior of the house retains important finishing elements of the 1883 construction. The present card room, which is sheathed, ceiled, and floored with alternating light and darker wood boards, might have originally been the entrance hall since the stair with its Eastlake-style newel, turned intermediate newel, and ornamental balusters is located here. This attention to the qualities of wood and its decorative use inclines an attribution to Francis Poindexter who built Playmore three years earlier. On the second story retardataire Greek Revival mantels and four-panel doors, some with transoms, remain in place in simple frames. Other fabric dates to ca. 1920, ca. 1948, and later.

20. Kalalanta Grounds  
   ca. 1920 onward  
   Contributing site

The developed grounds of Kalalanta, which largely date from the Salinas period, have the dense layered appearance of old places in western North Carolina with towering deciduous and evergreen trees forming an upper canopy; shorter, smaller trees including dogwood together with dense rhododendrons and native azaleas in the middle range; and a vast range of ferns, trilliums, ladyslippers, ground covers, and other native wildflowers on the woodland floor which covers most of the ten-plus acres. At Bowery Road the drive is marked by paired mortared stone piers supporting decorative wrought iron gates which appear to date to the Salinas ownership. The drive, which curves with the topography to the house and on to the garage and guest house, is lined with hemlock hedges. The grounds immediately around the house are grass-covered and mowed, and enhanced with low stone retaining walls. Foundation plantings include boxwood and other evergreens which are also used as specimen plantings in the front and back lawns.
21. Pump House
   ca. 1920
   Contributing building

The pump house is a square weatherboarded frame one-story building covered by an asphalt shingle hip roof with exposed rafter ends. A six-pane above three-panel door in the northeast front opens into the simply-finished cement-floored interior.

22. Servants's Quarters/Guest House
   ca. 1920; ca. 1970-1975
   Contributing building

Believed to date to early in the Salinas ownership and to have been built as servants's quarters, the guest house is a small board-and-batten sheathed one-story frame house covered by an asphalt-shingle roof. The original gable-front block was expanded in the 1970s by the Flemings with a shed roof addition on the east when the building was fitted up as a guest house. The interior, with finishes added by the Flemings, contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, bedroom, and bathroom, with additional sleeping accommodations in a loft area.

23. Garage
   ca. 1965-1970
   Noncontributing building

The garage is a conventional one-story building on a concrete-block foundation with elevations sheathed with manufactured exterior sheathing; it is covered with an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof. An overhead garage door is set on the front.

24. Thornton Cottage
   462 Bowery Road
   ca. 1938-1940
   Contributing building

Occupying the second largest residential tract in the district, Thornton Cottage is a small appealing gable-front frame building that was originally built as a garage for a proposed family summer house that was never realized. Nathaniel Macon Thornton (1866-1940), who was born in Haywood County, Tennessee, and moved to Florida in 1898, had a career in pharmacy and real estate and served in the Florida legislature and as mayor of Ormond. In October 1924 he purchased this lot of some twelve acres from Mrs. Ravenel's estate. Sometime thereafter he built...
the frame gable-front garage. In 1938 Mr. Thornton and his wife deeded the property to their son Burwell Thornton (1897-1976) who converted the garage into a two-bedroom cottage. In 1948 he deeded this property to his daughters. In 1972 Marion Thornton Blackmon conveyed her interest to her sister, Mildred F. Thornton Johnson, the present owner. The small rectangular building has a three-bay (east) façade sheathed with German siding and sheltered by a gable-front porch with square posts and a wood floor. The north and south sides of the cottage are sheathed with exterior grade plywood and each holds two symmetrical six-over-six sash windows fitted with protective wood blinds. The small ell on the rear is sheathed with German siding. The interior contains a living room, kitchen, two bedrooms, and bathroom with both pine sheathing and manufactured materials making up their finish.

25. Garage
   ca. 1945-1948
   Contributing building

Built by Burwell Thornton, this simple gable-front building with off-center paired board-and-rail doors on its east front has a stone foundation and an asphalt shingle roof. The building is sheathed with vertical boards on its front, asbestos shingles on its sides, and German siding on the rear.

26. Johnson House
    466 Bowery Road
    ca. 1950-1989
    Noncontributing building

This one-story rectangular frame rental house on the Thornton Cottage grounds, standing on a cement-block foundation, sheathed with cedar siding, and covered by an asphalt-single side gable roof, was built in stages through most of the second half of the twentieth century, and completed by Mildred Thornton Johnson. The appearance of the house, begun as a shop, left incomplete, and expanded and finished in the 1970s and 1980s, reflects its completion date, outside the period of significance.

27. Log Jam
    375 Upper Lake Road
    ca. 1926-1927
    Contributing building
One of the smaller Rustic-style log houses built by the acclaimed craftsman carpenter and builder Joe Webb, this two-story single-pen house survives remarkably well-preserved with its exterior and interior twig and limb railings and decorative finish intact. Its location, a one-acre parcel, was purchased in January 1926 by the Reverend Sidney Louis McCarty, Sr. (1874-1952) and his wife Louise Miller McCarty (1871-1962). The couple was married in 1902, two years after his ordination. He was a pastor to churches in Tallahassee, Florida, and Thomasville, Georgia, from 1900 to 1914 when he went to Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church in Augusta where he remained in the pulpit until retiring in 1938 to Windemere, Florida. The couple summered here until their deaths. Log Jam remained in the family until 1978 when the McCartys’s two surviving children Elizabeth Louise McCarty Rose (1903-1981) and Sidney Louis McCarty, Jr. (1906-2000) sold it and 0.98 acres of its lot.

Log Jam is a rectangular single-pen log house built of round logs laid up in a saddle notch with projecting ends at its corners; the logs are chinked with cement mortar. The gable ends of the east and west side elevations are sheathed with wood shingles. The house has wide sheathed eaves and an asphalt shingle gable roof. A mortared stone chimney, serving a fireplace in the living room area, rises in the center of its east gable end. The window openings, holding six-over-six sash in plain board surrounds, are asymmetrically positioned except on the west gable end where three windows and a door on the first story, and large openings holding paired sash windows on the second story are generally symmetrical. As with many summer cottages, Log Jam is enhanced with a porch which begins on the east side, wraps the house’s southeast corner, and then continues across the façade to the southwest corner; here the open porch engages a screened porch which occupies the entire west end of the house. The porch is supported by tree lengths, some of which retain their bark. The screened porch supports are linked by a picturesque limb-and-twig railing; its floor is wood. The east gable end porch continues as a covered stone-paved terrace which wraps the house’s northeast corner and continues to the one-story shed-roof addition on the north side, covered with wood shingles, which contains a laundry/utility room. The interior of Log Jam is a single space dominated by the exposed log walls, mellow woods, and the beautifully crafted staircase with a limb-and-twig railing which continues on the second story to protect the landing. The first story is essentially one space with a bathroom enclosed in a long narrow room which functions as an informal room divider and serves as the backdrop for the kitchen cabinetry. The second story is partitioned with three bedrooms and a bathroom and has similar, consistent rustic finish.
The small grounds of Log Jam have a rich denseness which provide a sympathetic setting for the rustic style house. The gravel drive off Upper Lake Road terminates in a circle off the west end of the house. Surface and unfinished quarry stone is used for walks, to form borders, for low retaining walls, and to enclose beds in the immediate house grounds which merge without obvious break into the native woodlands with their ground and shrub cover and towering upper story of hardwoods and hemlocks. Rhododendrons and other native plants are planted near the house where boxwoods have been introduced and provide a hint of domesticity in a landscape of volunteer and calculated naturalness. A simple clay path leads south and downgrade from the house to a summer house.

29. Summer House
   ca. 1980-1990
   Noncontributing structure

This simple rectangular retreat is located on the south edge of the Log Jam property, overlooking a branch, and isolated from any intrusive construction. It has a wood floor, bark covered uprights linked by a limb railing, and is covered with a sheet tin gable roof.

30. Sidney Louis McCarty, Jr., House
    471 Upper Lake Road
    ca. 1950-1955
    Noncontributing building

This one-story on basement L-shaped granite house, built in the early 1950s by stonemasons Philo Neely and Lawrence Bryson, was occupied in 1955 by Mr. McCarty (1906-2000) and his family; it remains a family residence. Mr. McCarty, the second son of the Reverend Mr. McCarty, Sr., and his wife who built Log Jam, married Margaret Betty Neely (1912-1986) in 1933; Miss Neely’s father, Hezekiah Benson Neely (1877-1940), and her brother, William Robert Neely (1903-1949), were successively caretakers at Playmore and occupied the caretaker’s cottage (#5). After service in World War II, he returned to Highlands, and in March 1946 he and Mrs. McCarty purchased the site of this house, originally a part of the Thornton Cottage grounds, from Burwell Thornton. Reflecting the informality of ranch houses of the 1950s, the McCarty house has an asymmetrical six-bay “front” elevation facing south onto Bowery Road; however, the back door, in the inside joint of the “L” has long since been used as the main entrance. The house has varied fenestration with metal horizontal pane sash.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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31. Treetops
   200 Bowery Road
   ca. 1926
   Contributing building

This two-story weatherboarded frame summer house and its garage/servants's quarters, although built ca. 1926 for Mrs. Mary H. Young, is better associated with two families which have owned the property since 1934: the Evans-Simpson family, 1934-1957; and the Cheatham family, 1957 to the present. Mrs. Young of Fulton County, Georgia, purchased a five-acre lot on the west side of Bowery Road adjoining both The Fling and Playmore estates on 1 January 1926 from S. P. Ravenel, Jr., for $1,000. Eight years later in August 1934 Mrs. Young sold the property for $5,000 to Mrs. Henry G. (Ethel H.) Evans of Montgomery, Alabama.

Treetops is a rectangular two-story frame house, standing on brick piers, sheathed with vinyl siding over weatherboards or German siding, and covered with a side gable roof of asphalt shingles. The house faces east (northeast) and has a one-story shed-roof service porch on its south gable end and a large, expansive shed-roof screened porch occupying the width of its north elevation. Here the outdoor leisure space has been extended by a wood deck of nearly equal size (to the porch) with inset wood benches. In a fashion similar to the Thornton Cottage, Treetops is a plain traditional building virtually devoid of any exterior stylistic references; however, the interior has a stylish period finish. The façade has an asymmetrical six-bay arrangement which reflects both the arrangement of its interior spaces and the quirkiness of its first-story plan. The glazed ten-pane front door and two small windows to the south, near the center of the facade, are sheltered by a simple one-story shed roof porch. The window openings contain one-over-one sash. On the rear elevation a stone chimney rises beside a one-story bay whose projection allows for a dining nook off the living room. Inside, about half of the plan is given over to a spacious and well-finished living room with a stone fireplace, painted paneled walls, and a natural pine recessed-panel and beam ceiling; the other half of the plan is taken up by the kitchen, pantry, a large bedroom, a bathroom, closets, and a stair to the second story. The second story retains its warm 1920s character with pine floors, unpainted flush-sheathed pine walls, beaded tongue-and-groove ceilings, and five horizontal panel doors.

32. Treetops Grounds
   ca. 1926
   Contributing site
As with other Bowery Road houses, Treetops is set deep within its lot and entirely beyond public view. The gravel drive makes a curve to the southwest off Bowery Road and then continues in a generally straight line through a dense tunnel-like thicket of rhododendron, crossing a small branch protected by uprights, to a gravel-covered circle in front of the house. The circle, planted with a specimen hemlock, is partially framed by hemlock and rhododendron hedges and by a low stone wall where it abuts the front lawn. Stone steps, inset in the slight incline leading up to the front door, are planted with perennials which join others and foundation shrubs across the façade. On the west side of the house the lawn is terraced and enclosed with dense rhododendrons and features stone enhancements including a barbecue well (added by the Cheathams) similar to the one at The Fling. The grounds of Treetops are contiguous with the Coker Rhododendron Trail owned by the Highlands Biological Foundation.

33. Garage/Servants' Quarters  
   ca. 1926  
   Contributing building

A simple covered walk links Treetops with the two-story frame garage and servants' quarters which is also sheathed with vinyl siding and covered with a gable-front asphalt-shingle roof. The first level is a dirt-floor two-car garage with a broad full-width opening on the front. Access to the servants' quarters above is by way of an exterior deck stair on the west (rear) side. The quarters include three rooms together with a bathroom. The rooms retain their wood floors and five-panel doors.

34. Laureland  
   176 Bowery Road  
   ca. 1934-1940  
   Contributing building

Laureland was built as a guest house for Treetops, by either Mrs. Evans or her daughter who summered here from the sale of Treetops in 1957 until September 1963 when she and her husband sold the cottage to Seaton Grantland Barnes, the brother of the owner of The Fling, who conveyed the cottage to his daughters in January, 1988. Laureland occupies a tiny 0.70-acre lot which is woodland except for a small grass-covered lawn on the northeast side of the house and the gravel parking area immediately off Bowery Road. The cottage is rectangular in plan with two differing sized ells, flanking a shallow stone paved entrance court, on the southeast (road) side and a screened porch on the (northwest) front. Laureland stands on brick piers, is sheathed with board and batten, and is covered with a side-gable asphalt shingle roof. Its window
openings contain six-over-six sash in plain board surrounds. On the northeast gable end three small windows positioned above the conventional windows survive as reminders of bunk beds which were originally built in the cottage’s two bedrooms here; the windows illuminated and vented the upper bunks. The interior includes a spacious living room with a fireplace, a kitchen, a pantry, a bathroom, the aforementioned two bedrooms where one set of bunk beds remains in place, and a bedroom and bathroom in the ell.

35. Laureland Guest Cottage  
172 Bowery Road  
ca. 1957-1965  
Noncontributing building

This simple small three-room rectangular building, built as quarters for Mrs. Florence Evans Simpson’s servant, Bernard. It stands on a concrete block foundation, is sheathed with board and batten, and is covered by an asphalt shingle side-gable roof; it has a three-bay front onto Bowery Road, and single or paired windows on the other three sides.

36. Bowery Road  
ca. 1880 (or earlier)  
Contributing structure

Bowery Road, the spine of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, leads uphill off Horse Cove Road (SR 1603), and then continues in a gently curving fashion, except for one sharp (near ninety-degree) turn to the northeast near its junction with Upper Lake Road (SR 1605), for approximately one-half mile to the entrances to Kalalanta (#19) and the Thornton Cottage (#24) at the north end of the district. Except for some cuts into the bank on one side or the other, at a few points along its length, the packed clay and gravel bed of Bowery Road rests on the gently rolling terrain and reflects the natural grade in the historic landscape. The age of the road is not known for certain; however, its length in the historic district incorporates part of the first known wagon road into the area that is now Highlands, and it was in use in 1879-1880 when Wantoot was built.

It is cited in the Hill-Bingham deed for Kalalanta (#19) in 1882 as “White side Cove Road” and could have been an Indian path as were many of the roads in western North Carolina used in the early settlement era. The road subsequently came to be known as Kalalanta Road and next as Bowery Road by which it is known today. For nearly all of its length in the district Bowery Road is embanked by dense rhododendrons which are one of the chief plants noted time and again by Samuel Truman Kelsey in his promotional pamphlet, THE BLUE RIDGE
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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HIGHLANDS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA. True to its history, Bowery Road has the feeling of a turn of the century estate road, with a private character arising from the fact that most of the houses are well set back on spacious grounds. In fact, for nearly four decades, from 1882 when Mrs. Bingham acquired her property and 1884 when Mrs. Ravenel bought Kalalanta from her, until 1920 when the Ravenel trustees first sold portions of the Margareta Ravenel estate here to others than Mr. Monroe, Bowery Road was essentially a private road on the old Wantoot/Playmore estate. Although traffic has greatly increased, the character, mood, and historic associations survive intact and evoke tangible feelings as one slowly drives its embanked and shaded course.

37. Ravenel Park
1914
Contributing site

Ravenel Park came into existence on 10 August 1914 when Thomas Fleming Parker and S. Prioleau Ravenel, executors of their mother’s estate, conveyed a tract of ten acres “to be known as ‘Ravenel Park’ ” to a group of trustees and “their successors in office for the purpose of making and maintaining thereon a public park to be used and enjoyed by the public forever. . . .” (Macon County Deeds, V-3/56-64). The boundary of the eight-sided park appears on a plat, prepared by John Quincy Pierson and W. B. McGuire and dated 27 August 1914, that also defines the boundary of the family estate simultaneously sold to Jules Blanc Monroe. The park is located on the south edge of the district and borders the (former Ravenel) Playmore estate to the north on four of its eight sides. The acreage of the park is undifferentiated in its plant material from the woodlands surrounding it and its borders unmarked except for its boundary on the south with the former Wolf Ridge lands (now the Ravenel residential park), which was marked in the later 1990s by a wire fence. Except for Sunset Rock, the path of the 0.7-mile single-lane gravel access road, and a small informal gravel-covered parking lot, the park lands are covered by a native upper story of deciduous trees, firs, and white pines, an under story of rhododendrons, mountain laurel, and other small shrubs and trees, and ground covers including mosses, galax, ferns, etc. A simple packed clay path links the road/parking area with Sunset Rock and several smaller paths lead from it and the edges of Sunset Rock into the woodlands. Sunset Rock and Ravenel Park continue to provide a pleasant site for scenic viewing and picnicking.

At this distance the process of “making” a public park appears to have involved little more than improvements to the route of an existing road on the Ravenel/Monroe estate and the creation of a path from the road to Sunset Rock. The impetus for the gift and the park was the broad, cliff-like
stone outcropping, known as Sunset Rock, a gathering point and picnic site for the Ravenel family which affords scenic views to the northwest over the resort center. The only known physical addition to the park property was a memorial stone at the edge of the access road bearing the following inscription:

Ravenel Park  
In Memoriam  
Margaretta A And  
S. Prioleau Ravenel  
Highlands  
1879.

(The nine original trustees named in the deed included Mr. Ravenel, his sisters Marguerite and Elise, and six civic leaders in the resort: Florence Coffin Bascom (1858-1943); William Cleaveland (18_ -1932); Mary Chapin Smith (1855-1940), a founder of the Hudson Library and the owner of the Highlands Inn (NR, 1990) from 1890 to 1925; Louise Hill, an important advocate for the Satulah Mountain park and a president of the Highlands Improvement Association; John Quincy Pierson (1879-1935), a surveyor and real estate man; and Dr. Alexander Pierce Anderson (1862-1943), a botanist and chemist who invented the process for treating cereals marketed by the Quaker Oats Company as puffed wheat and puffed rice and the builder of one of Highlands most imposing, now lost houses.) In 1987 the self-perpetuating board of trustees of Ravenel Park merged with those of the Satulah Summit Association, which held the park atop Satulah Mountain. Three years later, in 1990, the body was renamed the Highlands Land Trust, Inc., which is the present owner of Ravenel Park.

38. Wolf Ridge  
875 Ravenel Ridge Road  
1914  
Contributing building

Wolf Ridge, a two-story-with-attic frame summer house sheathed in wood shingles and reflecting the influence of the contemporary Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles, was built for the Misses Marguerite and Clarissa Ravenel and served as a summer cottage of the Ravenel family until 1996. The cottage stands slightly off-center on a residual 5.39-acre lot at the north edge of the 80.60-acre summer estate owned individually by Marguerite Ravenel until her death in 1962. Except for the woodland along its north border with Ravenel Park that includes both volunteer and planted material, the lot is largely open with a shallow stepped clearing on its east
side retained by parallel stone walls, and a large open lawn on the west in front of the house, which is framed by a wooded border on the south and partially shaded with specimen trees and shrubs. The west side of the lot, defined by Ravenel Ridge Road, is marked by a modern white picket fence.

The elevated site of the house, affording splendid views to the east and west and bound on the north by Ravenel Park, originally comprised a holding of thirty-two acres that was set apart from the larger Ravenel family lands in 1914 (Macon County Deeds, V-3/253-59). On 20 October 1914 Thomas Fleming Parker and S. Prioleau Ravenel, executors of their mother’s estate, sold two adjoining lots of the valuable hilltop acreage for $3,000 to their sister Marguerite Amelie Ravenel (18_-1962 ). The selling price confirms family tradition that the brothers, in the role of executors, had the summer house built for their sisters, who decamped Wantoot in the summer of 1914. Wolf Ridge remained the summer cottage of the two sisters, for whom Philadelphia was their primary residence, until their deaths. During this period, between 1924 and 1938, the sisters increased their summer estate through the purchase of adjoining tracts with each acquiring property in her individual name. In 1924 and 1938 Marguerite Ravenel acquired several tracts of the old Ravenel lands through two purchases, which increased her Wolf Ridge summer estate to 80.60 acres (Macon County Deeds, J-4/366-68 and B-5/352-53).

Clarissa Ravenel’s mountain woodlands represented a larger real estate holding. In 1924 she, too, acquired several lots (31.87 acres) of the family’s hilltop lands to the south of the Wolf Ridge house (Macon County Deeds, J-4/362-65); however, her principal acquisition comprising both big and little Fodderstack Mountains was made in 1925. She, in fact, brought the mountains back into family ownership. In 1920 her brothers, as executors, had sold the Fodderstack Mountain property to Frederic E. Kip of New York City for $7,500 (Macon County Deeds, F-4/134-37). Five years later Mr. Kip and his wife sold the same tract to Miss Clarissa Ravenel for $15,000 (Macon County Deeds, L-4/456-57). These two purchases by Miss Ravenel shared a common boundary with a tract of some 142 acres she had acquired in 1910 from the Macon County Land Company (Macon County Deeds, I-3/451-55). The contiguous lands held here by the two sisters totaled over 450 acres and included a shared mountain-top spring tract.

After Clarissa Ravenel’s death in 1951, Marguerite Ravenel summered here at Wolf Ridge until her death on 10 October 1962. Except for a token bequest of $8,000 to her nephew Dr. Thomas Parker, her estate, including Wolf Ridge, was devised in generally equal shares to the three surviving children of her sister Elise Ravenel Duane, the widow of Dr. William Duane (1872-1935); William Duane, Jr.; John P. Duane; and Margaretta Clarissa Duane Wood (d. 1996). In
the settlement of the estate all of the Ravenel lands at Wolf Ridge were assigned to Mrs. Wood except for the tract acquired by Clarissa Ravenel in 1910 that was set apart for John P. Duane. A new survey defined Mrs. Wood’s holding as 312 acres. At this time a new access road for the two separate properties was created off the southeast end of Laurelwood Lane in Highlands; it rose in the western part of Mrs. Wood’s tract and in a U-shaped path up to the Wolf Ridge house from the south. The Ravenel-Wood family ceased to use the old drive off Horse Cove Road they had shared for about fifty years with visitors to Ravenel Park. In 1980 Mrs. Wood placed this acreage in the Wolf Ridge Limited Partnership (Macon County Deeds, Q-13/95).

Margaretta Clarissa Duane Wood’s death on 6 February 1996 precipitated the sale of this ancestral Ravenel property out of the family. On 16 September 1996 her daughter Elise Wood du Pont sold Wolf Ridge and its adjoining acreage, described as 329.97 acres by a new survey, through two deeds to H. Ray McPhail, Will Stolz, and Alan McRae and Ravenel Associates (a joint venture composed of McPhail Properties, Inc., and Stolz-McRae, Inc.) for $4,100,000 (Macon County Deeds, O-21/1594-601 and 1609-613). The Wolf Ridge house and its immediate grounds were set aside on a lot of 5.39 acres that is lot #30 of thirty-one lots laid out on about 110 acres platted as a gated residential community named “Ravenel” where some dozen large neo-traditional summer cottages have been built to date. The path of the ca. 1964 access road was adopted and enhanced as Ravenel Ridge Road for the subdivision. Concurrently, the new owners sold the larger part of their acquisition, some 212 acres including the Fodderstack Mountains, to the Nature Conservancy.

Wolf Ridge, an appealing, well-preserved summer house reflecting the influence of both the Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles, is a substantial center-hall, double-pile two-story-with-attic frame house sheathed with unpainted wood shingles and finished with white painted, molded woodwork. Rectangular in plan, the house stands on a mortared stone foundation that encloses a full basement, accessible at grade on the east elevation. It is covered with an expansive wood-shingle hipped roof, enlivened with paired brackets and exposed rafter ends, that is pierced by paired stone chimneys. Wolf Ridge stands as completed in 1914 except for the partial replacement of some grouped six-over-one sash windows with large “picture window” panes in the original openings and the expansion of the east porch, overlooking Horse Cove, with a wood deck. The house stands at the east edge of a large open lawn that was originally encircled by a loop at the end of the drive off Horse Cove Road that also serviced Ravenel Park. Partially shaded by aged deciduous trees, the lawn is framed by natural and planted evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs on its north and south sides and enclosed by a modern white picket fence along its west edge (and the lot line); the steep drop of the grade on the east side of
the house is retained by paired stone walls before quickly giving way to the natural woodlands, which are periodically cut to maintain the extraordinary, expansive views to the east.

The elevations of the house are generally symmetrical and reflect the interior arrangement of rooms. The three-bay façade, overlooking the lawn, is centered by a one-story hipped porch with wood steps inset between the stone piers supporting the L-shaped trios of columns. Paired casement windows in the center, second-story bay are surmounted by a two-pane shed-roof dormer illuminating the attic. The south elevation also has a three-bay arrangement with a door, sheltered by a shallow porch, in the westernmost first-story bay; it opens into the kitchen which is served by paired casement windows in the center bay while like windows in the easternmost bay illuminate the butler’s pantry. The trio of openings on the second story contain paired six-over-one sash and illuminate the corner bedrooms and a communicating bathroom (which has been partitioned). The three-bay north elevation repeats the second story fenestration pattern. On the first story single windows flank a large overscaled center opening which now holds a large single pane of glass, and these windows illuminate the living room which occupies the north end of the first story. Small rectangular openings in the basement level hold multi-pane sash and provide light to the service rooms. The rear elevation has a full-width one-story hipped-roof porch on the main level, which is supported by tall mortared stone piers. The center and south “thirds” of the porch are screened as a sitting porch and fitted with glazed north and south ends. The north “third” of the porch is open, and it has been extended to the north by an open deck. The symmetrical windows on the second story flank a door in the center bay that opens onto a small, shallow deck inset in the porch roof.

The interior of the house has a spacious, intact plan and virtually all of its interior finish remains in place except that the two communicating bathrooms between the four, paired corner bedrooms on the second story were partitioned in the mid-twentieth century to provide separate bedrooms for each of the four bedrooms, and some relatively recent finishing in the attic provides additional dormitory-like sleeping quarters for overflow visitors. The front door opens into the stair hall with a U-shaped stair. Sliding paneled pocket doors link the hall with the living room and a second set of like doors link the living room with the dining room that is centered on the east side of the house. The living room has an exposed stone chimney breast flanked by glazed bookcases, a beam-and-panel ceiling, and a window seat and another glazed bookcase in the northeast corner. In the dining room a three-part buffet is built into the west wall and it, too, has a beam ceiling. The butler’s pantry and kitchen on the south side of the house retain most of their original glazed wood cabinets and dressers. On the second story each of the four principal
bedrooms retains its original finish with paneled doors in molded frames. The colored ceramic tile wainscots and fittings of the four bathrooms date to the mid-twentieth century. The basement level follows a center-hall plan with servant's rooms on the east side, a furnace/boiler room in the southwest corner, and an intact cold storage food pantry in the northwest corner.

39. Barn  
ca. 1914  
Contributing building

The barn is a rectangular one-story-with-loft frame building, sheathed with board and batten, and covered by a side-gable roof. When originally constructed it housed stables for the pleasure and driving horses and carriages of the Ravenel sisters. The door and window openings, for light and ventilation, are arranged for these uses. With the advent of automobiles, the barn came to be used for garaging, and more recently for household and grounds/garden storage.
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Summary

The Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, comprising Ravenel Park, six major summer cottages, three smaller cottages, together with fourteen related historic outbuildings on grounds totaling just over 220 acres, occupies a distinctive position in the history of Highlands, a summer resort located a few miles north of the North Carolina/Georgia line. The district satisfies National Register Criteria A and C and holds local significance in the areas of architecture and social history. The district reflects two associated historic contexts discussed in the HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES OF MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, CA. 600-1945: IV. The Richness of Macon’s Resources Realized, 1875-1904; and V. The Transportation Revolution in Macon County, 1905-1945. It is a significant example of Property Type 3-Resort/Vacation Houses as a valuable group represented in a historic district.

Highlands, established in 1875 by Samuel Truman Kelsey and Clinton Carter Hutchinson on a plateau that is one of the highest points in the eastern United States, quickly developed as a fashionable summer colony, attracting a cosmopolitan group of summer residents from the principal cities of the American South. An important factor in the tone and character of the resort has been the presence and contributions of leading families who have returned to Highlands generation after generation. After Messrs. Kelsey and Hutchinson, Samuel Prioleau Ravenel (1822-1902), a wealthy Charleston-born businessman, was one of the critical figures in the summer colony from his first purchase of lands here in 1879 until his death. Except for thirty acres of the Playmore lands that have been in the Monroe family since the early 1920s, all of the acreage in this district was owned by Mr. Ravenel or his wife, Margaretta Amelia (Fleming) Parker Ravenel (18__-1913), who was a major donor to the town’s Presbyterian church (NR, 1996). Their summer residence, a two-story Italianate house built in 1879-1880 by Francis Poindexter and named Wantoot in honor of an ancestral Ravenel plantation, is the oldest and most substantial nineteenth-century summer house in Highlands and survives intact on landscaped grounds with six of its original outbuildings. In 1914 the Ravenel siblings sold Wantoot and eighty-four acres of its grounds to Jules Blanc Monroe (1880-1960), a wealthy New Orleans attorney who enlarged his estate to more than 150 acres by 1924, changed its name to Playmore, and whose descendants continue to summer here in a house that has been in the same family for longer than any other in Highlands. That same year, 1914, Mrs. Ravenel’s sons, acting as her executors, set aside ten acres of family lands to the south of Wantoot as Ravenel Park and built a new summer house, Wolf Ridge, on an adjoining tract for their maiden sisters.
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

Opposite the entrance to Playmore is Bowery Road, a nineteenth century rhododendron-embanked lane that stretches for a half mile to Kalalanta, a house whose core is the two story cottage built in 1883 by Mrs. Katherine T. Bingham, which figures among the half-dozen oldest surviving houses in Highlands. Lining Bowery Road, and a short length of Upper Lake Road, between Playmore and Kalalanta, stand a group of houses whose appearance, history, and grounds reflect the evolution of domestic architecture in Highlands in the early-twentieth century: The Fling, an imposing Colonial Revival-style house built in 1922 for Samuel Nesbitt Evins, a founder of the Highlands Country Club; Treetops, and the Little House, well-preserved cottages that are representative of those built in the 1920s; Log Jam, one of a group of important, inventive, and elegant Rustic-style log and limb houses built by Joe Webb (1881-1950) in the 1920s and 1930s that are unrivaled in style and date elsewhere in North Carolina’s mountain resorts; and Laureland and the Thornton Cottage, small summer places that reflect the fortunes of other members of the summer colony in the late interwar period.

The architectural significance of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District is twofold: it derives from the individual importance of Playmore, Wolf Ridge, The Fling, and Log Jam as distinguished architectural properties; and the role of those cottages, together with Treetops, Laureland, the Little House, Thornton Cottage, and the fourteen historic outbuildings in representing the patterns of domestic architecture and place making in the resort in the period from 1879 through the 1940s. The significance of the district in the area of social history in the period from 1879 to 1951 is associated with the continued prominence of this neighborhood of houses in the social life of Highlands, the role of its summer residents, including members of the Ravenel family, in the development of the resort and its institutions, and the patterns of resort life, repeated in these houses, this district, and these families, generation after generation.
Historical Background and Social History Significance

The creation of Highlands as a summer resort in the last quarter of the nineteenth century forms part of a larger, broader development of the lands and natural resources of western North Carolina that had its origins in the antebellum period, was renewed in the post-Civil War years, and continued through the remainder of the nineteenth century into the opening decades of the twentieth century. Wealthy planters supported efforts in the antebellum South to expand railroad lines into the interior and mountain regions of the state, but in North Carolina and South Carolina these projects came to a halt in the early 1860s when the Civil War stopped construction in the Piedmont. The involvement of South Carolinians in this effort was associated with their creation of a summer colony at Flat Rock, North Carolina, just north of the South Carolina/North Carolina line in the 1830s; their project to link the port of Charleston with Asheville, by way of Columbia, Spartanburg, and Flat Rock, was paralleled by the North Carolina Railroad’s construction of a line from Raleigh west to Salisbury and on to Asheville. The work of engineering and scouting parties in the antebellum period was put to good result in the post-Civil War years, particularly in the 1870s, when construction began anew on railroad lines spurred by Northern investors who anticipated good returns on both the railway traffic and the harvesting of vast stands of virgin timber that would begin in earnest with convenient transportation. The men who laid out the paths of future railroad lines, those who assessed the timber and mineral resources, and the men who invested in both, also appreciated the potential of the Blue Ridge Mountain highlands, their scenery and climate, as the site of resorts for those seeking healthful cures or to escape the heat of near-tropical summers in southern cities. In the event it was only a matter of time before the eyes and energies focused on Flat Rock turned westward, into the further reaches of North Carolina.

Randolph P. Shaffner, the Highlands historian and author of HEART OF THE BLUE RIDGE: HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA, a history of the resort, believes the attention of Messrs. Kelsey (1832-1921) and Hutchinson (1833-1909) was drawn to Highlands by the scientific explorations and writings of Silas McDowell (1795-1879) who lived on a farm near Franklin from ca. 1830 until his death. McDowell served as a guide for botanists and explorers in the region including Moses Ashley Curtis who named the Helianthus dowellianus for him. When the entrepreneurs came to Macon County from Kansas is yet to be confirmed, but probably late in 1874 or early 1875. On 6 March 1875, Clinton Carter Hutchison purchased a tract of 839 acres on the plateau that became the site of Highlands from Joseph W. Dobson for $2 per acre. The Dobson family had previously used the tract for grazing cattle. Hutchison and Kelsey then laid out the town with some 325 lots arranged along streets served by Main Street positioned on
a southeast/northwest axis. The partnership advertised their undertaking in the form of a twelve-page promotional pamphlet, THE BLUE RIDGE HIGHLANDS IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, which extolled the virtues of the region's climate, scenery, natural resources, and other attractions for the permanent or seasonal resident. Written by Mr. Kelsey, it was published in 1876 and widely distributed.

We are laying out the town of Highlands as a convenience for our settlement. It is not the intention to try to make it a commercial town, but a center for the surrounding country, where will be located our Post Office, Stores, Shops, School house, Churches, Hotels, etc. It is situated on a beautiful undulating site on the main Franklin and Wahalla road, 20 miles south east of Franklin and 30 miles north of Wahalla. It occupies a central position on the Highlands, and a point from which good carriage roads can easily be made to reach all points on the Highlands, and all of the grandest scenery of the surrounding country.

Small lots will be laid out in the centre of town for business purposes, the balance in 2 1/2 acre and larger lots for residences for those who may wish to spend their summers here, or live near the school, church, post office, etc.

There are two small saw and grist mills near town, and we expect to have one built on the town site the coming season. We have a country store and post office, and will soon have a hotel and other conveniences. It is our purpose to build up a first-class school, and have all the facilities for improvement, and social and religious privileges, that are found in the best neighborhoods of the North or South.

Mr. Kelsey concluded his sketch with a paragraph headed, "How to Come," providing readers with information on the railroad lines linking principal cities with either Seneca, South Carolina, or the nearby town of Wahalla that was then the terminus of the Blue Ridge Railroad. Livery stables in both towns were equipped to transport travelers to Highlands, by way of present-day Bowery Road (#36), at reasonable rates. Wahalla was some thirty miles south of Highlands; Seneca was about forty miles distant. Readers were advised that "Most of the people who are locating here are from the North, but good citizens are welcomed from any part of the country."

T. Baxter White of Massachusetts, who is said to have moved into a house without doors or windows, was later joined by others including Joseph Halleck who in 1880 erected the Highlands Inn (NR, 1990) at the northeast corner of Main and Fourth streets, and then bought the Central House, the original section of what is now the Edwards Hotel (NR, 1992) directly opposite on the south side of Main Street; the Central House had been built in 1878. While some moved to
Highlands to live year-around, the growing settlement was soon cast as a summer resort and its future assured. Although Mr. Kelsey and Mr. Hutchinson, and others built substantial houses in the village, every writer on Highlands history has acknowledged that the first truly important and most imposing summer cottage was erected by Samuel Prioleau Ravenel.

The Ravenel Family in Highlands

Samuel Prioleau Ravenel (1822-1902) was the sixth child and fourth son born to Daniel Ravenel (1789-1873) and his wife Caroline Cripps (1791-1844) and a descendant of the French Huguenot emigrant Rene Ravenel (1656-____) who married Charlotte de St. Julien (1668-____) at Pompion Hill Plantation on the Cooper River in 1687. He was the grandson of Daniel Ravenel (1762-1807) and his wife Catherine Prioleau (1769-1849), and he was named for his paternal great-grandfather Samuel Prioleau (1742-1813). Mr. Ravenel was born and educated in Charleston and served as a captain during the Civil War. On 6 December 1865 he was married to a young widow, Margaretta Amelia (Fleming) Parker (18__-1913), the daughter of Thomas Fleming of Philadelphia. The mother of Thomas Fleming Parker (1860-1926) by her first husband, she would give birth to four children by Mr. Ravenel: Samuel Prioleau Ravenel, Jr. (1868-1940); Marguerite Amelie Ravenel (18__-1962); Clarissa Walton Ravenel (1872-1951); and Caroline Elise Ravenel (1874-19____) who would marry William Duane. The question of when and under what circumstances Samuel Prioleau Ravenel came to Highlands cannot now be definitely answered. A granddaughter, Margaretta Duane Wood, has suggested he came to this area in association with his involvement in the ill-fated attempt of the Blue Ridge Railroad Company to erect a line in the 1850s from Wahalla, South Carolina, to Knoxville, Tennessee, via Clayton, Georgia, and Franklin, North Carolina, and the Rabun Gap. He could have come here as a guest of the Hampton family who had been summering in nearby Cashiers since the 1840s. Or he could have met Messrs. Kelsey and Hutchison, possibly at Seneca, and accepted their invitation to Highlands. Whatever the case, he became assured of the prospects of Highlands and made his decision to acquire property here, in the summer of 1879.

During the course of September 1879 Mr. Ravenel acquired three contiguous tracts of land that would form the core of his summer estate and contracted for the construction of his summer cottage. Rather than purchase property from the developers of Highlands, Mr. Ravenel selected property about a mile east of the village center and along the ridge of the Tennessee Valley Divide that offered splendid views to the east and southeast across Horse Cove Valley to Georgia and South Carolina and included the stone outcropping since known as Sunset Rock that offered a view to the northwest over the town of Highlands as it was then being developed. In retrospect, it was surely the prize acreage then available to a prospective summer resident who
wanted a summer estate rather than property made up of a few lots or acres. On 6 September 1879 he acquired the first and largest of the three parcels, a 100-acre tract, from Edward H. Baxter of Westport, New York, for $600 (Macon County Deeds, P/391-92). Twelve days later, on 18 September, he purchased a fifty-acre tract for $150 from William B. and Elizabeth Dobson (Macon County Deeds, P/393-94). He recorded both deeds on 20 September, the same day he acquired a smaller parcel of undefined acreage linking the Dobson and Baxter tracts for $150 from S. F. and Jennette E. Bathrick (Macon County Deeds, P/472-73). Concurrent with these transactions, Mr. Ravenel had discussed the construction of his house with Francis Poindexter (1824-1902), a carpenter then living in Franklin, the Macon County seat. On 22 September 1879 Mr. Poindexter submitted a proposal to erect the two-story double-pile center-hall Italianate-style weatherboarded frame house (#1) for $3,503.50; the proposal is framed and hangs in the game room at Playmore. The house was probably finished in 1880. Concurrent with the construction of Wantoot, Mr. Ravenel had a series of domestic and agricultural outbuildings erected here, including a spring house, a root cellar, a caretaker’s house, a privy, a barn, a granary/crib, a blacksmith shop, and a poultry house. All of these survive except for the spring house and they (#3-8) comprise the largest such complex of historic outbuildings for a summer house at Highlands.

From the completion of Wantoot in 1880 until 1914, and the construction of Wolf Ridge for the Misses Ravenel, no known building occurred within the district except for the construction of the house (#19) at Kalalanta for Mrs. Katharine T. Bingham in 1883. Mrs. Bingham purchased a tract of twenty-one and one-quarter acres from Stanhope Walker and Celia M. Hill in September 1882 for $612.50 (Macon County Deeds, R/98-99). (In 1883 Mr. Hill (1816-1895) was elected the first mayor of Highlands.) Problems with materials delayed completion of the house until late in 1883, and the experience apparently caused Mrs. Bingham and her husband to sell the property in April 1884 to Mrs. Ravenel for $2,800 (Macon County Deeds, S/314-15). Except her name, and that of her husband J. F. Bingham, nothing is now known of the Binghams.

During this period, particularly during the years the Ravenels summered at Wantoot, up to Mr. Ravenel’s death in 1902 and that of Mrs. Ravenel in 1913, the village of Highlands grew into a recognizable town, and members of the family were involved in virtually every phase of civic life. The promises made by Mr. Kelsey in his promotional pamphlet were largely kept. Stores, hotels, boarding houses, a school, churches, and other institutions and amenities of town life came into existence to serve both the permanent residents and the increasingly prominent summer colony. While the Charlestonians who summered in Flat Rock were largely Episcopalians and erected St. John-in-the-Wilderness Church in 1852, the first sizable congregation in Highlands was made up of Presbyterians. In October 1883 Samuel and
Katherine Kelsey donated five adjoining lots (#318-326) on Main Street to The Corporation of the First Presbyterian Church of Highlands, a body that included Mr. Ravenel. The construction of the church (NR, 1996), begun in December 1883, completed in 1885, and costing approximately $6,600, was fully donated by Mrs. Ravenel and her sister Clarissa Fleming Burt as a memorial to their sister Mary Louisa Fleming. In January 1883, as it was nearing completion, Mrs. Ravenel donated town lot #316 to the church (Macon County Deeds, T/284-87), and she also donated the church’s first silver communion set; Mrs. Burt donated the pump organ.

In the 1890s Mr. and Mrs. Ravenel appear to have made their home at 1707 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, their principal residence. There, on 14 May 1902, Mr. Ravenel died, and his body was carried to Charleston for burial in Magnolia Cemetery (FRANKLIN PRESS, 28 May 1902). Ironically, Mr. Ravenel had written his will in the summer of 1879, on 2 July, as he was laying plans for his summer residence. Except for three personal items, his entire estate was devised to Mrs. Ravenel with absolute freedom to bequeath as she saw fit (Macon County Wills, 2/280-85).

Margaretta Ravenel continued to summer at Wantoot in Highlands and in the last years of her life, about 1908, she removed from Philadelphia to Greenville, South Carolina, to the home of her son Thomas Fleming Parker. Mr. Parker, the president of Monaghan Mill, was a successful textileist, social and civic leader, and widely respected for his progressive leadership in the areas of workers’ conditions, race relations, and town planning and improvements in Greenville. She died in Philadelphia on 23 March 1913. Her will, written in Greenville on 29 June 1908, was a much more complicated document than that of her husband. After directing the equal distribution of her “furniture, silver and Plate and pictures” among her five children, she named her two sons as trustees. They were charged with the control and supervision of her estate, to equalize its distribution among the five children, taking into account gifts she had previously made (Macon County Wills, 3/78-93).

The death of Mrs. Ravenel was one of a series of events affecting the role of the family in the continuing development of Highlands in the early twentieth century. Through the 1880s and 1890s Mr. and Mrs. Ravenel and their son Samuel Prioleau Ravenel, Jr., had continuously acquired property in the region and particularly in the area between Highlands and Cashiers, located some twelve miles to the northeast in Jackson County. A good road linking these two emerging resort communities had long been desired, and in 1902 Mr. Ravenel, Jr., secured a state grant to erect a toll road from Shortoff, a couple miles north of Highlands, to Cashiers. Mr. Ravenel owned and operated the toll road, with toll booths at Cashiers and Shortoff, until 1931 when it was acquired by the State of North Carolina and much of its route incorporated into the
path of present-day US 64. During the first three decades of the century the toll road was the town's principal road to the east. Mr. Ravenel developed property in this area and a large lake on the south side of US 64 continues to bear the family name. In road building and development, the younger Mr. Ravenel was following the example of his father; in 1888 Mr. Ravenel, Sr., had joined with Mr. Kelsey and Donald MacRae in forming the Linville Improvement Company which acquired some 16,000 acres in Avery County and set about creating a summer resort that has remained exclusive to the present (NR, 1979). In Highlands Mr. Ravenel, Sr., who appreciated the views from his own house and Sunset Rock, also saw the potential of Satulah Mountain, and in 1890 he built a road to the summit making its views accessible to the public. As a young woman Marguerite Amelie Ravenel followed her father's lead, joined the Highlands Improvement Society (formed in 1905), and in 1909 led the society's effort to purchase the summit of Satulah Mountain where a thirty-two acre park and stone shelter were created for public benefit (HERITAGE, Vol. II, 53).

After the feeling of family loss, the most critical impact of Mrs. Ravenel's death was the decision to sell the family's summer house, Wantoot, and its grounds. The decision begs understanding unless the five siblings could not decide among themselves who was to inherit it or whether they felt it was too large an establishment for one or another individually. The decision had three immediate results. On 10 August 1914, Thomas Fleming Parker and Mr. Ravenel, Jr., prepared two deeds as trustees of their mother's estate. By one they conveyed Wantoot, its outbuildings, and eighty-four acres of its grounds (#1-9) to Jules Blanc Monroe of New Orleans for $10,000 (Macon County Deeds, V-3/39-47, also V-3/48-56). The second deed conveyed ten acres, adjoining the Monroe purchase and including half of Sunset Rock, to a group of trustees in perpetuity as Ravenel Park (#37) (Macon County Deeds, V-3/56-64). In 1987 the Satulah Mountain and Ravenel parks were incorporated and in 1990 they came under the stewardship of the Highlands Land Trust (HERITAGE, Vol. II, 53-54). By a third deed, on 10 October, Mrs. Ravenel's sons sold two tracts of the family estate, adjoining the park and the now-Monroe lands and totaling thirty-two acres, to their sister Marguerite Amelie Ravenel for $3,000 (Macon County Deeds, V-3/253-59). The figure quoted in the deed confirms the family tradition that the brothers had erected a new summer house for their maiden sisters in the period preceding the conveyance. That house, known as Wolf Ridge (#38-39), remained a family summer residence until 1996 when it and the last of the old Ravenel lands originally forming the summer estate were sold out of the family. (However, a tract of some 142 acres purchased by Clarissa Ravenel from the Macon County Land Company in 1910 and lying on the southwest side of the Wolf Ridge tract sold in 1996, remains in family ownership.)
The purchase of Wantoot by Jules Blanc Monroe reflects the closeness of the Highlands summer colony, the strong connections between New Orleans and Highlands, and an affection for place that has remained in the stewardship of his descendants who continue to own some 166 of the district’s 220 acres. Mr. Monroe was born on 3 March 1880 in New Orleans, the son of Frank Adair Monroe (1844-1927) who was chief justice (1914-1922) of the Louisiana Supreme Court, and Alice Blanc. He received his law degree from Tulane University in 1901, immediately began the practice of law, and in 1909 entered a partnership, Hall & Monroe, which continued in practice as Monroe & Lemann until 1998. On 27 February 1908 he married Mabel Overton Logan (1881-1956). Two sons were born to the couple: Jules Rabun Monroe (1909-1961), and Malcolm Logan Monroe (b. 1910). According to family tradition Mr. Monroe first came to Highlands in 1905; however, his marriage in 1908 to Miss Logan, whose sister Virginia King (Logan) Eskrigge (1877-1953) and her husband were building what has become another landmark house in Highlands, influenced their purchase of the Ravenel property. World’s End, an Arts and Crafts-influenced Tudor Revival stone cottage atop Satulah Mountain, was built in 1908 to 1911 for Robert Brockbank Eskrigge (1868-1945) and his wife, and it remained their summer home until their deaths (Satulah Mountain Historic District, #9, 1995).

Jules Blanc Monroe’s stewardship of his estate, which he renamed Playmore, was exemplary: he preserved the buildings and grounds largely as bought; enlarged the physical size of the estate by a series of prudent purchases; and when improvements were necessary, including the addition of bathrooms to the house, he made them in a sympathetic fashion. The only building known to have been standing at Wantoot that is now lost was the spring house, and because of a total lack of use, the blacksmith shop has become a ruin in the last few decades. Through seven purchases of adjoining tracts between 1915 and 1925, Mr. Monroe essentially doubled the size of his Playmore estate to about 168 acres; some of this acreage was bought directly from Mrs. Ravenel’s estate and others, including the Norfleet tract, from individuals and all but thirty acres is known to have been owned by the Ravenel family (Macon County Deeds, W-3/498-504; A-4/323-24; E-4/82; J-4/107-08; J-4/251-54; J-4/281-82; and N-4/351-52).

Development in the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District in the 1920s

During the 1920s, a boom decade in Highlands and resorts throughout North Carolina, five additional real estate conveyances between 1920 and 1926 placed property in the hands of those who would build summer places along Bowery and Upper Lake Roads. The three earliest, dating to 1920, 1922, and 1924, were made by Mr. Parker and Mr. Ravenel as trustees of their mother’s estate; the last two, both in 1926, were made by Mr. Ravenel. Except for two small sales by which the grounds of Kalalanta and the Evins estate were somewhat diminished in 1963
and the 1980s, respectively, and the reduction of the Wolf Ridge estate to the present residual lot, the boundaries of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District were in place by 1926 and have remained intact to the present.

When Mrs. Ravenel bought Mrs. Bingham’s newly-built summer cottage in 1884, her purpose was either to lend assistance to a friend or simply to add an in-holding to the family’s Wantoot estate, or both; the identity of Mrs. Katherine T. Bingham, beyond her name, has not been established. From 1884 until 1920, the house known as Kalalanta was a part of the Ravenel estate, and it might have been rented, used for overflow guests, or occupied by friends. On 15 April 1920 Mr. Parker and Mr. Ravenel conveyed Kalalanta and twenty-two acres of its grounds, essentially the property acquired by Mrs. Bingham in 1882, to Mr. A. J. Salinas (1871-1930) of Augusta, Georgia, for $4,000 (Macon County Deeds, D-4, 445-47). Five and one-half months later, on 30 September, Mr. Salinas conveyed the property to his wife Rebie V. Salinas (Macon County Deeds, F-4, 167-68).

Mrs. Ravenel’s trustees next sold the wedge of land which lay at the north end of the Playmore estate, between it and Kalalanta. On 26 January 1922 Mr. Parker and Mr. Ravenel conveyed this twelve-acre tract to Mary Elliott Moore Evins (1872-1939), the wife of Samuel Nesbitt Evins (1871-1939), for $1,500 (Macon County Deeds, H-4, 541-44). The Evinses are the third family, after the Ravenels and Monroes, which has maintained a strong presence in Highlands and this district. Mr. Evins, a native of Spartanburg, received his law degree in 1893 from Harvard University, and moved to Atlanta where he established his practice in 1894. In 1898 he married Mary Elliott Moore of Columbia, South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. Evins immediately contracted for the construction of an imposing one-and-a-half-story frame Colonial Revival-style house (#12) by Highlands builder William M. Cleaveland, added stone piers at the Bowery Road entrance, and undertook other improvements to its grounds (#13) which remain in place. Their creation of a summer estate, which they named The Fling, while not on the scale of the Ravenel establishment, was substantial and included the construction of servants’ quarters (#15), a laundry (#14), a combination garage and stable (#16), and a caretaker’s house (#17). In 1927 Mr. Evins took the leading role in the organization of the Highlands Country Club, engaging his law partner Robert Tyre Jones, Sr. (the father of golfing great Bobby Jones), Scott Hudson, the president of the Atlanta Athletic Club, and others in the venture. Mr. Evins became a founding director of the club which elected Mr. Hudson president, and he, in turn, hired Donald James Ross, the legendary Scottish golf course designer to lay out the course here (HERITAGE, II, 49-50). The question of who engaged the Atlanta architectural firm of Hentz, Adler and Shutze to design the club house remains unknown; however, if Mr. Evins was the contact, as is likely, it is
possible that the firm or its predecessor/principals might also have designed the Evins summer house in 1922. William M. Cleaveland was the builder of both.

Another sale of property in the Ravenel estate occurred on 10 October 1924 when Mr. Parker and Mr. Ravenel sold a 12.50-acre parcel on the west side of Bowery Road for $1,500 to Nathaniel Macon Thornton (1866-1940) of Ormond Beach, Florida (Macon County Deeds, J-4, 353-54). Mr. Thornton’s intention to build a substantial summer residence here failed, and during the late 1930s a one-story garage built for the proposed house was adapted as a more modest summer cottage (#24); it remains the summer residence of his granddaughter.

The last two transfers of property in the district from the Ravenel family to new summer residents occurred in January 1926. These were deeded by Samuel Prioleau Ravenel, Jr.; apparently the sale of the Margaretta Ravenel estate lands had been completed in 1925 (Macon County Grantor Index). On 1 January 1926 Mr. Ravenel sold a five-acre lot adjoining the Playmore estate on the west side of Bowery Road for $1,000 to Mrs. Mary H. Young of Fulton County, Georgia (Macon County Deeds, M-4/247). She built the two-story frame summer house known as Treetops (#31) and its servants’ quarters/garage and summered here until 30 August 1934 when she sold Treetops for $5,000 to Mr. Henry G. (Ethel H.) Evans of Montgomery, Alabama (Macon County Deeds, W-4/503-04).

On 30 January 1926 Mr. Ravenel sold the smallest of the historic lots in the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District to the Reverend Dr. Sidney Louis McCarty, Sr., and his wife Louise Miller (Macon County Deeds, N-4/384-85). Dr. McCarty (1874-1952), the long-time pastor of the Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church in Augusta, Georgia, and Mrs. McCarty engaged Joe Webb to build a Rustic-style log summer house that remains remarkably well-preserved and numbers among the finest of the smaller, but beautifully detailed, houses Mr. Webb built in the 1920s and 1930s. The McCartys’s eldest son, the Rev. Charles Raymond McCarty (1904-1936) served as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Highlands, from 1929 until his untimely death in March 1936.

The Playmore/BoweryRoad District in the Mid-Twentieth Century

With the building up of houses on newly-bought lots in the 1920s, a certain stability marked the Bowery Road enclave through the 1930s, the 1940s, and beyond. Jules Monroe Blanc and his family continued to summer at Playmore and there was no real change in the status of the estate. Both Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Nesbitt Evins died in 1939; however, The Fling remained a summer home for the Evins family until December 1978 when it was sold out of the family. The caretaker’s cottage, subsequently dubbed the “Little House” (#17), was retained as a family
summer place. Kalalanta remained the lonely summer residence of Mrs. Salinas and her sister-in-law until August 1948; her husband had died in 1930 and her only child, A. J. Salinas, Jr., died in 1931. Eugene Howerdd, the new owner of Kalalanta, effected some changes to the house in the late 1940s including the wrought iron porch (Macon County Deeds, Q-5/439-441). Across Bowery Road, the Thorntons adjusted to a cottage smaller than they expected and in May 1948 it became the property of Mildred Thornton, the present owner, and her sister (Macon County Deeds, Q-5/563-64). Log Jam remained the summer residence of the Reverend Mr. McCarty and his wife until their deaths in 1952 and 1962, respectively, and it remained in the family until 1978. While summering here Mrs. McCarty compiled portions of her genealogical study of the Gregg family of South Carolina, FOOTPRINTS, which was published in 1951. Mrs. Henry G. Evans retained Treetops for less than four years, and in 1938 conveyed the property to her daughter Florence Evans Simpson (Macon County Deeds, B-5, 317-19). Mrs. Simpson and her husband summered at Treetops until July 1957 when they sold it and most of its grounds to Jayne Jackson Cheatham whose descendants continue to own Treetops (Macon County Deeds, J-6/380-82). The Simpsons reserved the guest cottage (#34) at Treetops and its grounds of seven-tenths of an acre until 1963 when they sold it to Seaton Grantland Barnes who renamed it Laureland and whose daughters are its present owners (Macon County Deeds, B-7/72; S-17/362; and I-22/1366-70).

Given the change that has occurred elsewhere, throughout the Highlands resort community in the past fifty years, the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District has remained intact with little alteration. Here, unlike other parts of Highlands, and the singular instance of Elise Wood du Pont who sold the family’s ancestral Wolf Ridge estate out of the family just seven months after her mother’s death for $4,100,000, the owners have resisted the lucrative subdivision of their lands and they have maintained the acreages which both form the historic settings of their cottages and provide a high degree of privacy. The only year-around residence in the district was built in the early 1950s by a son of summer residents who married a local Highlands girl, whose father and brother were caretakers at Playmore where she grew up, and decided to make his permanent home here. Sidney Louis McCarty, Jr. (1906-2000) enjoyed summers at Log Jam (#27) with his parents for a half dozen years until marrying Betty M. Neely (1912-1986) in 1933. In 1937 the couple established a farm a short distance north on Bowery Road where they successfully raised silver foxes for the American fur and fashion industry; the exigencies of World War II ended the operation. In March 1946 Mr. McCarty decided to build in Highlands and purchased the odd-shaped portion of the Thornton property that lay in the southwest corner of Bowery and Upper Lake Roads adjoining the Log Jam tract (Macon County Deeds, N-5/546-47). He and his wife lived at Log Jam until Macon County stonemasons Philo Neely and...
Lawrence Bryson completed their granite house (#30) in 1955; Mr. McCarty hauled the granite for the house from Elberton, Georgia. The McCartys occupied it until their deaths.

The deaths of both Jules Blanc Monroe and his eldest son Jules Raburn Monroe in 1960 and 1961, respectively, and the needs of an increasing family for summer accommodations prompted a division in 1966 of the sixteen-acre Norfleet tract of Playmore in the northeast corner of Horse Cove and Bowery roads; the 6.05-acre parcel in the corner was conveyed to Malcom Logan Monroe, the younger son; the larger 10.42-acre parcel to the north, also fronting on both roads, was conveyed to Rose Milling Monroe, the widow of Jules Raburn Monroe (Macon County Deeds, L-7/262). Following an enthusiasm for old log buildings in the region practiced by a few summer residents in Highlands, Rose Milling Monroe eventually acquired a log mill and three single-pen log dwellings which she reassembled here in the later 1960s and 1970s to create a cottage (#11) for her personal use when the rooms of Playmore were taken by other family members. Malcolm Monroe built for himself a more conventional two-story frame cottage (#10). Both cottages enjoy the spectacular views to the southeast over Horse Cove that are part of Playmore’s appeal. Changes in ownership occurred at The Fling and Kalalanta. Nathan K. Hunt who acquired The Fling from the Evins heirs in December 1978 sold it in July 1987 to Lelia Barnes Cheatham, the present owner, who had also summered in the district with her husband after the Cheatham family acquired Treetops in 1957 (Macon County Deeds, J-17/361). Kalalanta was briefly held by two owners between 1957 and 1962 when it was acquired by Mrs. Joanne L. Fleming who, in turn, has conveyed it to the family-owned Kalalanta Corporation (Macon County Deeds, X-6/362; S-23/1685-87).

The Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District occupies a distinguished place in the social history of Highlands and its development as a summer resort through the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth. Except for the McCarty House (#30) completed in 1955 as a year-around residence and the Johnson House (#26), all of the houses in the district retain their status as summer cottages, have not been subject to the changes and alterations necessary for year-around occupation, and retain the character and feeling that comprise an important reflection of summer life here during the resort’s historic development. Playmore, the centerpiece of the district, is not only the oldest surviving summer cottage in Highlands, but also one of the most important houses built in the history of the resort. In 1930, when it was fifty years old and its Italianate-style appearance was admittedly out of general fashion, Playmore held the place of honor in a special article, “Highlands, Site of Beautiful Estates,” written for the FRANKLIN PRESS by T. G. Harbison and published in a special edition of the newspaper.
I believe I can do no better than to begin with the first beautiful home built at Highlands by S. P. Ravenel of Charleston, South Carolina. He chose for his site the ridge on the north end of Sun Set Rock overlooking the deep valley known as Horse Cove and an ocean of mountain peaks extending to the horizon beyond. This is a magnificent view and with the ridge as a background makes a fine setting for a beautiful home (FRANKLIN PRESS, 10 April 1930).

Together with its outbuildings and grounds, Playmore reflects the character of Highlands’s early years, in the same fashion that Wolf Ridge, The Fling, Kalalanta, Log Jam, and Treetops reflect the resort’s summer life in the opening decades of the twentieth century.

While the buildings standing in the district hold a particular place in the social history of Highlands so, too, do the people who owned the cottages and summered here. From 1879 when Mr. Ravenel purchased land and contracted for the construction of Wantoot, until 1996 when Wolf Ridge was sold, the Ravenel family has figured prominently in the life of the resort. Important associations of family with place survive with the First Presbyterian Church whose construction Mrs. Ravenel and her sister underwrote, with Ravenel Park and Sunset Rock that the family donated as a public park, with Ravenel Lake at the Highlands Biological Station that was named for Henry William Ravenel, a noted botanist and kinsman of the Prioleau Ravenel family. However, the most significant association survives in connection with Playmore where they summered from 1880 to 1913, and with Wolf Ridge where members of the family summered from 1914 to 1996. Since 1914 Jules Blanc Monroe, Mrs. Monroe, and their family have also held prominence in Highlands, and with her sister and Mr. Eskrigge they have the distinction of owning two of the now legendary summer cottages of the resort. Next in longevity is the Evins family which acquired lands in 1920, built and occupied their summer cottage that year, and have summered continuously to the present. The critical role of Samuel Nesbitt Evins in the organization of the Highlands Country Club and the creation of a golf course that has remained an essential part of summer life is reflected in the house that he and his wife built in 1920 and occupied until their deaths in 1939. The associations of the Ravenel, Monroe, and Evins families with the life of the resort are established facts of history; however, at this date, when Highlands is bearing the scars of an unprecedented influx of new residents, widespread residential construction, and a degree of wealth heretofore unseen in the resort, the long associations of family with place, and its preservation, assumes a historical value itself, particularly with the Monroe family which has been the steward of Playmore since 1914. That important relationship of family to place also survives with the Evins family at the Little House (#17), the Cheatham family at The Fling (#12) and Treetops (#31), the Thornton family with their cottage (#24).
Architectural Significance

The architectural significance of the Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District derives both from the particular significance of individual properties in the district and the value of the group of cottages, grounds, and outbuildings as a representative collection of domestic building types that span the history of Highlands development from 1879 through the 1940s, predating by some six critical years the similar period of architectural significance of the Satulah Mountain Historic District (NR, 1995). Playmore, its grounds, domestic and agricultural outbuildings (#1-9), The Fling, its grounds and outbuildings (#12-17), Log Jam and its grounds (#27-28), and Wolf Ridge (#38-39), are summer places of obvious individual distinction. In the Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Historic and Architectural Resources of Macon County, N.C.,” both Playmore and The Fling (the Samuel Nesbitt Evins House) are noted as important examples of Property Type 3: Resort/Vacation Houses, and both were placed on the North Carolina Study List.

Playmore, the oldest surviving summer cottage in the resort and described in the above report as the “finest summer house built in Highlands,” is a large, well-finished and imposing Italianate-style house that has survived well-preserved and intact to the present. The significance of Playmore is enhanced by the survival of six of its original domestic and agricultural outbuildings (#3-8) and the ruins of a seventh, the blacksmith shop, that comprise the largest collection of support buildings for a summer house in Highlands of any period. During the research for this nomination, the identity of “F. Poindexter,” the builder of Playmore was discovered to be Francis Poindexter (1824-1902), a respected citizen of Macon and Haywood counties who achieved regional fame for his knowledge of woods and his skills as a cabinetmaker and wood carver. The survival of his written proposal to build Mr. Ravenel’s summer residence, dated 22 September 1879, documents this house as his only known building to date. The use of white ash and black walnut for flooring and his attention to the qualities and character of the other woods used in the Ravenel house reflect his recognized skills as a woodsman. Through his studied use of various native woods in Playmore’s interior finish, Mr. Poindexter anticipated the use of native materials that distinguish the later Rustic-style houses by Joe Webb in Highlands and builders in Blowing Rock and Linville where important collections of early-twentieth century summer cottages stand. Whether Mr. Poindexter also built the outbuildings here is not known at present; however, his involvement appears likely. The remarkable similarity between the interior of Playmore and the finish of the present card room at Kalalanta (#19) suggests that he was also the probable builder of that house in 1883 for Mrs. Bingham.
The Fling is a well-preserved Colonial Revival-style house that reflects the transfer of suburban house forms to resort communities during the early twentieth century that is seen throughout Highlands. In addition to the period treatment of its grounds (#13) with stone entrance piers, retaining walls, steps, and an outdoor barbecue, the estate includes its original laundry (#14), servants quarters (#15), combination garage and stable (#16), and caretaker’s house (#17), which altogether make up a substantial summer estate of the 1920s.

The work of craftsman, carpenter, and contractor Joe Webb (1881-1950) received the longest treatment afforded any known Macon County builder discussed in the Multiple Property Documentation Form; four individual houses plus the houses he built in Webbmont, a Rustic-style residential development, are cited (Section F, pp. 115-17). The materials, design, and finish of Log Jam, a two-story log house with extensive twig and limb enhancements, are typical of Mr. Webb’s best work, and Log Jam survives in pristine condition. The attention to detail, in both the structural, fabric of the house and its exterior ornamental woodwork, is equaled, and perhaps exceeded, on the interior where the stair and its limb and twig railing rises in the two-story southeast corner of the living room and the several woods, used for its doors, surrounds, floors, and millwork, have gained a rich golden brown patina.

Wolf Ridge (#38), with its wood shingle elevations, represents a link between the appreciation for fine woods first seen in the interior of Wantoot/Playmore and the culmination of the Craftsman tradition in the work of Joe Webb. Its symmetrical elevations and Colonial Revival-influenced finish also anticipate the design of The Fling and its construction eight years later.

While the above four summer places are of individual importance and reflect the stewardship of sustained family ownership, they and the other houses and historic outbuildings in the district, including Thornton Cottage (#24-25), Treetops (#31-33), and Laureland (#34), reflect the evolving tastes of summer cottage builders in Highlands in their materials, design, workmanship, and setting. Kalalanta (#19-22) represents the entire spectrum of domestic construction in Highlands through its historic development, having been built in the early 1880s, renewed in the early 1920s, and further refitted in the 1940s. Except for the McCarty House which is stone and erected outside the period of significance and Log Jam, all of the contributing houses and outbuildings are wood frame and sheathed with either weatherboards, German siding, or board-and-batten which were the preferred exterior sheathings for resort cottages. Most are enhanced with surface or quarried stone, whether it is used for chimneys, piers, foundations, porches, or steps, and nearly all feature the use of stone in the development of their settings and grounds, whether for entrance piers, retaining walls, inset steps, or flower borders; this usage, too, is representative of patterns seen in the larger resort community. A final consideration in the
architectural significance of the district has to do with matters of location and privacy. Typical of houses located at the edge of town, rather than the village center, most are situated on their lot, whether it be Log Jam’s one acre or Playmore’s eighty-plus so that they are neither visible from the public road or their neighbor and that sense of intentional remove also survives here.

Endnotes

1. Many people have written on Highlands; however, one of the most reliable is Randolph P. Shaffner, the author of the historical sketch on the town published in THE HERITAGE OF MACON COUNTY, VOLUME II, 1998, pp. 38-44, and the author of GOOD READING MATERIAL, MOSTLY BOUND AND NEW: THE HUDSON LIBRARY, 1884-1994, and HEART OF THE BLUE RIDGE: HIGHLANDS, NORTH CAROLINA published in 2001. These works and other sources used in the preparation of this nomination are cited in the bibliography. Quotations from these and others, as appropriate, will be noted internally as will references to Macon County deed and will books.

2. Samuel Prioleau Ravenel is descended from the emigrant Rene Ravenel through his first-born son, Daniel Ravenel (1692-____) who was married to Elizabeth Damaris de St. Julien (1690-____). Their seventh child and only son, also named Daniel Ravenel (1732-____) was first married to his cousin Sarah de St. Julien (17___-1757) and second to Charlotte Mazyck by whom he had one child Daniel Ravenel (1762-1807), Samuel Prioleau’s grandfather. Daniel Ravenel, the second, was the first of the Ravenel family to own Wantoot Plantation at St. John’s which came into the family from the de St. Juliens. The ancestry of Samuel Prioleau Ravenel is taken from RAVENEL RECORDS compiled and privately published in 1898 by Henry Edmund Ravenel (b. 1856), a nephew of Samuel Prioleau Ravenel, who was born at Seneca Plantation, Oconee County, South Carolina.

3. In February 1885 C. W. Slagle, Sr., prepared a plat of the Wantoot lands then owned by Mr. Ravenel. By that date he had purchased an adjoining tract of 200 acres from F. G. Hill, made an entry for 134 acres, and purchased a narrow triangular parcel from Mr. Kelsey. The estate totaled 538 acres (Macon County Deeds, S/240-42). Mr. Ravenel continued to acquire land in Macon County until 1894; most of the purchases were made in the 1880s. During the course of 1885, Mr. Ravenel divested himself of some 171 acres; Mr. Slagle made a new description of the now 367-acre property on 21 November 1885 for Mr. Ravenel (Macon County Deeds, T/562-64). In March 1886, Mr. Slagle prepared a description of the lands in Macon and Jackson counties held by Mrs. Ravenel, totaling 220 acres (Macon County Deeds, U/446-47). This description does not include the twenty-three-acre Kalalanta tract acquired
4. Francis Poindexter, the son of Thomas Pledge Poindexter (1800-1873) and a native of Surry County, North Carolina, came to Macon County in the 1840s where he became an apprentice to carpenter George Clampit. In the 1850 Macon County Census both Mr. Poindexter and fellow apprentice William Cunningham are listed in the household of Mr. Clampit, his wife and their four children. In 1855 he married Margaret J. Bryson and fathered five children with her. Having been crippled in an accident he did not serve in the Civil War but did duty as captain of the Macon County home guard. His construction of the Ravenel house at Wantoot is his only known documented building at present. In 1884, the year he was listed as a cabinetmaker in Franklin in Branson’s NORTH CAROLINA BUSINESS DIRECTORY, he left Franklin and moved to Waynesville where he lived with his daughter, Nebraska de Montalva Davis, and her family until his death. In Waynesville he achieved fame for his knowledge of woods, furniture-making, and wood carving. That knowledge of woods was utilized at Wantoot where he combined different woods for decorative emphasis and delight. Given the similarity in finish between Wantoot and the one fully sheathed, unpainted room at Kalalanta (#19), Mr. Poindexter was the likely builder of the house for Mrs. Bingham in 1883. The fullest account of his life appears in THE ANNALS OF HAYWOOD COUNTY.

5. Public perception, local tradition and accounts, not referencing Macon County deeds and tax maps, perpetuate the view that Sunset Rock lies within Ravenel Park when, in fact, slightly more than half of the rock formation is actually a part of the Playmore estate and held by members of the Monroe family. Jules Blanc Monroe came into possession of the western half of Sunset Rock on 20 March 1923 when he purchased a tract of 24.17 acres on the west side of the Playmore estate from Rebecca Smallwood Harris (Macon County Deeds, J-4/107-108). The deed by which Mr. Monroe acquired the eighty-four-acre core of Wantoot/Playmore in 1914 reserved a narrow twenty-foot wide strip on its west edge as the right of way for a public road up to Ravenel Park, which also came to be the road for the Ravenel family’s Wolf Ridge summer estate.

6. The Norfleet tract, in the northeast corner of Horse Cove and Bowery roads, was purchased on 3 January 1924 from Herbert L. and Elizabeth Atkinson Norfleet of Southampton County, Virginia (Macon County Deeds, J-4, 251-52). In 1966 it was separated from the Playmore estate and divided, by agreement, between Rose Milling Monroe and Malcolm Logan Monroe.
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

7. Mr. Thornton had a lineage as interesting as that of the Ravenel family counting among his ancestors members of the Boyd and Burwell families of Virginia and the Macon and Eaton families of North Carolina among others. Named in honor of the renown North Carolina legislator Nathaniel Macon, the brother of his great-grandmother Drucilla Jones Macon, he was a great-great-great-grandson of Alexander Spotswood, the famed Colonial governor of Virginia.
Bibliography


AUGUSTA HERALD (Augusta, Georgia), 18 August 1952

BLUE RIDGE ENTERPRISE (Highlands, North Carolina), 22 November 1883.

Church of the Incarnation National Register Nomination, 1996.

THE CONSTITUTION (Atlanta, Georgia), 21 November 1939.


FRANKLIN PRESS (Franklin, North Carolina), 28 May 1902; 10 April 1930.

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GREENVILLE NEWS (Greenville, South Carolina), 1-2 January 1927.


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Macon County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Macon County Court House, Franklin, North Carolina.

Macon County Wills, Office of the Clerk of Court, Macon County Court House, Franklin, North Carolina.


Burwell Thornton, letter to Marion and Mildred Thornton, 7 March 1950.


Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning in the northwest corner of Playmore tract one (PIN #7449.08-79-7098) at a point common with the Treetops and Highlands Biological Foundation tracts, the district boundary follows the west property line of this tract south to Horse Cove Road (SR 1603) then along the northwest and north side of the road to a point opposite the continuation of the west property line on the south side of the road; the boundary crosses the road and continues south along the west property line of the tract to its southwest corner, turns and carries along the south property line to its junction with the boundary of Ravenel Park (PIN #7449.08-78-5186), and it carries along the southwest border of Ravenel Park to its junction with the property line of the residual Wolf Ridge house tract (PIN #7449.07-77-4647); the boundary carries on the west property line of the Wolf Ridge house tract south to its junction with Ravenel subdivision lot #29 (PIN #7449.12-77-5481); the boundary carries along the west property line of this lot to its southwest corner where it turns and continues east to its junction with an intra-lot straight line drawn on a north/south axis fifteen feet east of the existing Wolf Ridge barn; the boundary then carries north along this straight line to its junction with the south property line of the Wolf Ridge house tract; the boundary then carries along the south and east/northeast property lines of the Wolf Ridge house tract north to the junction with Ravenel Park's south property line; here it carries east and north along the Ravenel Park property line to its junction with the south property line of Playmore tract one; the district boundary carries east along this south property line to its junction with Playmore tract two (PIN #7449.08-89-3298); the boundary carries along the south and east property lines of Playmore tract two to its meeting with Horse Cove Road where it crosses the road and carries on the east and northeast side of the curving road to the east corner of a wooded tract (PIN #7540.20-91-5662), formerly part of The Fling; the boundary continues along the northeast property line of this tract to its corner with the Kalalanta tract (PIN #7540.20-92-7257); the district boundary then carries along the south, east, and north sides of the Kalalanta tract to its north corner; here the boundary carries north across the Bowery Road (SR 1604) and joins the east property line of the Thornton Cottage tract (PIN #7540.16-92-3766); the district boundary follows the east, north, and west property lines of the Thornton Cottage tract to the meeting with Upper Lake Road (SR 1605); the boundary carries on the north side of Upper Lake Road west to a point opposite the west property line of the Log Jam tract (PIN #7540.16-82-6546), crosses the road and carries along the west and south property lines of the Log Jam tract to the corner with the McCarty House tract (PIN #7540.20-82-7373); the district boundary carries along the south and west property lines of the McCarty House tract to the meeting at the northwest corner of the Little House tract (PIN #7540.20-92-1146) and along the west and south property lines of the Little House tract to Bowery Road; the district boundary carries south on the west side of
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the historic district is drawn to include the site, setting, and contiguous lands historically associated with the Ravenel family summer estate Wantoot/now Playmore and the group of contiguous historic summer cottages and estates, located here on Bowery, Upper Lake, and Ravenel Ridge roads, that retain their historic feeling, character, associations, and integrity. The boundary, redrawn with this re-submission, includes both Ravenel Park and Wolf Ridge (and its barn) on the south edge of the Playmore lands that have strong historical associations with the Ravenel family’s nineteenth-century summer estate. Based on the initial fieldwork and a review of the boundary and adjacent properties made on 14-16 November 2001, the boundary is drawn to exclude adjacent properties that do not contribute to the significance and/or historic context of the district and do not have sufficient integrity. Specifically, these properties either have more recent residences (dating from the last twenty years) or the older residence has been significantly altered so that it no longer resembles its historic appearance. In addition, some properties have been recently developed with new subdivisions, which have resulted in substantial new construction, clear cutting, or modern landscaping of the property.
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National Park Service

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Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District Property Owners

Playmore: Bunrotha Limited Partnership
c/o Mr. J. Thomas Lewis
228 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70170

Ms. Linda Logan Monroe
501 Rose Street
Metairie, LA 70005

Mrs. Alice Blanc Monroe Nelson
Post Office Box 255
Pearlington, MS 39572

Mr. Raburn Blanc Monroe Kelly
2204 Calhoun Street
New Orleans, LA 70118

Mr. Julian Dantzler Kelly III
412 State Street Drive
New Orleans, LA 70125

Lucky Manor: Bunrotha Limited Partnership
c/o Mr. J. Thomas Lewis
228 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70170

Rose Monroe Cottage: L. Kent and Alice Monroe Nelson
Post Office Box 255
Pearlington, MS 39572

The Fling: Mr. John Henry Cheatham III, trustee
North Carolina Residence Trust
Post Office Box 1252
Griffin, GA 30224
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Property Owners</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Little House: | Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Nesbitt Evins IV 560 High Brook Drive, NE Atlanta, GA 30342  
Mr. Walter P. Evins 1088 Standard Drive, NE Atlanta, GA 30319-3320 | 54 |
| Kalalanta: | Kalalanta Corporation c/o Mrs. Joanne L. Fleming 4682 South Lake Drive Boynton Beach, FL 33436 | |
| Thornton Cottage: | Ms. Mildred Thornton Johnson Post Office Box 472 Highlands, NC 28741 | |
| Log Jam: | Mr. Donald C. Easterling Mr. Edward S. Hallman 51 Standish Avenue, NE Atlanta, GA 30309 | |
| Laureeland: | Mrs. Nathan Van Meter Hendricks III 230 The Prado Atlanta, GA 30309  
Mrs. Edward Inman 915 Buckingham Circle Atlanta, GA 30327 | |
| Treetops: | Mr. John Thomas Newton, Jr. 16 Stillwater Trace Griffin, GA 30223 | |
Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District, Macon County, North Carolina

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Mr. David G. Newton
651 Brook Circle
Griffin, GA 30224

Mrs. Victoria Newton Mooney
140 Peachtree Way
Atlanta, GA 30305

Mrs. Jan Newton Miller
46-A Marlin Lane
Key Largo, FL 33037

Ravenel Park: Highlands Land Trust, Inc.
Post Office Box 1703
Highlands, NC 28741

Wolf Ridge: Ravenel Associates
3 Ravin Drive, #1420
Atlanta, GA 30346

Also notify: Mr. H. Ray McPhail
McPhail Properties, Inc.
1660 Mt. Vernon Highway, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30338

Wolf Ridge Barn: Mr. Brian Powell
1498 Springside Point
Dunwoody, GA 30356
Schedule of Photographs

The following information applies to all photographs.

1. Name of property: Playmore/Bowery Road Historic District
2. County and State: Macon County, North Carolina
3. Name of photographer: Davyd Foard Hood
5. Location of original negatives: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC
6. and 7. Photographs

A. Playmore (#1), overall view, looking southwest.
B. Playmore, barn (#8), looking northeast.
C. Junction of Bowery Road (#36) with Horse Cove Road, looking south from Bowery Road across hemlock hedge into Playmore grounds (#2), with drive to Lucky Manor (#10) off east side of Bowery Road in left center of image.
D. Bowery Road (#36), looking north.
E. Rose Monroe Cottage (#11), looking northeast across drive, from perennial garden.
F. Bowery Road (#36), looking south from center of road, at foot of drive leading to The Fling (#12).
G. The Fling (#12), looking northeast, across front lawn (#13), with the roof of the laundry (#14) and the servants's quarters (#15) in left center.
H. The Fling (#12), east elevation, looking north/northwest, with stone-retained terrace.
I. Kalalanta (#19), looking north.
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J. Bowery Road (#36), looking west/southwest, with entrances to Kalalanta (#19) and Thornton Cottage on the southeast (left) and northwest (right), respectively, in the center of the image.

K. Thornton Cottage (#24) and its garage (#25), looking west.

L. Log Jam (#27), looking northeast, with porches on its south front and west gable end elevations.

M. Treetops (#31), looking west.

N. Laureland (#34), looking southwest.

O. Ravenel Park (#37), looking north/northeast.

P. Wolf Ridge (#38), west elevation, looking east.

Q. Wolf Ridge Barn (#39), side elevation.