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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms
Southern Pines vicinity, Moore County, MR1324, Listed 9/9/2013
Nomination by Davyd Foard Hood and Glenn Stach

Hunt Trail and Jump

Fire Lane
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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property
   Historic name: Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms
   Other names/site number: Mile-Away Farms
   Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location
   Street and number: 1745 North May Street (Mile-Away Farms)
   City or town: Southern Pines  State: NC  County: Moore
   Not For Publication: N/A  Vicinity: X

3. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
   I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets
   the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic
   Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I
   recommend that this property be considered significant at the following
   level(s) of significance:

   ___ national  X statewide  ____ local

   Applicable National Register Criteria:
   _X_A  _X_B  _X_C  ___D

   __________________________________________________________________________

   Signature of certifying official/Title: ___ Date
   North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

   __________________________________________________________________________

   Signature of commenting official: ___ Date
   Title: ___ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _______________________

___________________________________________________________

Signature of the Keeper                                       Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

Private:  X

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

Building(s)  

District  X

Site

Structure

Object
Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms
Name of Property

Moore County, NC
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>32 buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1 sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4 structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
<td><strong>37</strong> Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC / single dwelling
DOMESTIC / secondary structure
SOCIAL / clubhouse
RECREATION / outdoor recreation
AGRICULTURE / agricultural field
AGRICULTURE / agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE / animal facility
LANDSCAPE / park
LANDSCAPE / forest
LANDSCAPE / conservation area

Current Functions

DOMESTIC / single dwelling
DOMESTIC / secondary structure
SOCIAL / clubhouse
FUNERARY / cemetery
RECREATION / outdoor recreation
AGRICULTURE / agricultural field
AGRICULTURE / agricultural outbuilding
AGRICULTURE / animal facility
LANDSCAPE / park
LANDSCAPE / forest
7. Description

Architectural Classification
Colonial Revival
Other: Front-Gable Cottage

Materials:
Principal exterior materials of the property:
WOOD: weatherboard, plywood, particle board
BRICK
METAL: tin, aluminum
TERRA COTTA
ASPHALT
CONCRETE: concrete block

Narrative Description
(See Continuation Sheets)
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- [ ] 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
N/A

Areas of Significance
ARCHITECTURE
SOCIAL HISTORY
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
CONSERVATION

Period of Significance
1929-1963

Significant Dates
1929
1930
1937
1942
1950
1955
1963
Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms
Moore County, NC

Name of Property

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Moss, William Ozelle, designer of hunt fences and trails and fox dens
Delehanty, John Bradley Washington, architect

Statement of Significance Narrative
(See Continuation Sheets)
9. Major Bibliographical References


Coleman, Claudia, Telephone conversations with author, many dates in 2011 and 2012.

Crocker, Charles Thomas, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.

Delehanty, John Bradley Washington, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.


Healy, Augustine, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.


Huttenhauer, Helen. Young Southern Pines. Southern Pines, NC: Moore County Historical
Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms  

Moore County, NC

Name of Property

Moore County, NC

County and State

Association, 1980.

Jenks, Almet, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.


Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, Office files for the Moore County Hounds and the Tryon Hounds, Millwood, Virginia.


Moore County Deeds, Death Certificates, and Records of Corporations, Office of the Register of Deeds, Carthage, NC.

Moore County Wills and Estates Records, Office of the Clerk of Court, Carthage, NC.

Moore County Hounds Hunt Diary, Volumes II and III, 1928-1935.

The *New York Sportsman*, 8 April 1876.


Reed, Verner, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.
Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms  Moore County, NC

Name of Property  County and State


“Edgemoore Tract Is Acquired For The Hunt,” 4 April 1930.


Tate, Lloyd Patrick, Jr., In-person interview with author, Southern Pines, NC, 16 December 2011.


Tompkins, Boylston Adams, Biographical file compiled by this author, Vale, NC.


Walthour Family Genealogical File, compiled by Russell F. Walthour for Henry Tayloe Compton, Taylor Compton, Southern Pines, NC.


Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms

Name of Property

Moore County, NC

County and State

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 #__________
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #__________

Primary location of additional data:
_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other

Name of repository: _____________________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ____________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __Approximately 2,852 acres

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated boundary of the district is outlined by a heavy black line on the accompanying Site Map at a 1:600-scale, and further detailed on an Enlarged Site Map at 1:150-scale. Both maps are based on Moore County, NC, GIS data obtained and updated through 2013. Generally these boundaries are, beginning at the north corner of Mile-Away Farms entry drive (PIN # 858200939384), where it intersects North May Street, running southeast along the entry lane and property line, then turning southwest along a road trace extending across the Brewster Barn property (PIN # 859213036827), then turning southeast along the property line extending to Sheldon Road, then turning northeast and running along Sheldon Road to its intersection with Firelane 2 (Mile-Away Lane), turning northwest to its intersection with North May Street before turning back southeast to the northwest edge of Kaylor Field (PIN # 859200248527), running along the northwest edge of the property line where it meets North May Street, before extending southeast along the property line where it meets the property line of the Walthour Moss Foundation (PIN # 950200044439), then extending along the northwest boundaries of the Walthour Moss Foundation lands to the intersection of Equestrian Road, then turning northeast to the intersection of Firelane Three, then turning southeast along Firelane Three, before departing along the northeast boundaries of the Walthour Moss Foundation Lands, extending eastward to the intersection of Young’s Road and Carroll’s Branch, then departing from Young’s Road and extending west along the Walthour Moss Foundation property line, to its intersection with Firelane Three, then turning southwest and extending southwest along the Walthour Moss Foundation property line where it meets the intersection of Firelane Two (Mile-Away Lane) and Young’s Road, then turning east along the Walthour Moss Foundation property line, where it turns back to meet Young’s Road along four un-named lanes, before turning south near Old Mail Road, at the easternmost property line of Ginny Field (PIN # 859100794755), then extending south to Young’s Road, then turning west along Young’s Road, before turning north along the western-most property line of Hobby Field (PIN # 859102692852) to its intersection with Old Yadkin Road, then turning southwest along Old Yadkin Road running along the Walthour Moss Foundation property line to its intersection with Firelane One, then running northwest along Firelane One before turning southwest along the Walthour Moss Foundation’s property line running along an un-named lane that meets Old Yadkin Road, before turning back northeast along the un-named lane, before turning northwest along the Walthour Moss property line, and Firelane One, then heading west along Firelane One across Carroll’s Branch, before turning northwest along Firelane One, and running along the southwest property line of the Paddock Jr. (PIN# 859200019686) continuing northwest to Sheldon Road, then turning northeast along Sheldon Road, before turning northwest at the southern-most corner of Mile-Away Farms (PIN# 859200023817), then running along the property line northwest to its intersection with North May Street, then turning northeast along North May Street to the original point.
Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the intact acreage historically associated with the Moore County Company, the intact residual acreage historically associated with Mile-Away Farms, and the terrain over which the Moore County Hounds have continued to hunt since 1929, all of which retain sufficient landscape integrity.

Included within these boundaries are two equestrian farm properties lying adjacent to Mile-Away Farm’s Barn Complex, whose landscape and architectural resources further contribute to the district. The Brewster Barn Complex was constructed by the Mosses, beginning in 1948 as an axial extension of the Mile-Away Barn complex, in association with William J. Brewster, Joint Master of the Hunt in 1950. An adjoining equestrian, winter estate lying to the southeast of Mile-Away’s barn complex, The Paddock Jr., is also included, on land assembled by B. A. Tompkins, during the early acquisition of the hunt lands, and actively hunted by the Moore County Hounds.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: __ Davyd Foard Hood  
street and number: 6907 Old Shelby Road  
city or town: Vale state: North Carolina  
zip code: 28168  
e-mail:  
television: 704.462.1847  
date: December 28, 2012

and by

name/title: Glenn Stach, RLA  
organization: STACH, pllc, Preservation Landscape Architecture & Planning  
street and number: 81 Ivy Meadows Drive  
city or town: Weaverville state: North Carolina  
zip code: 28787  
e-mail_gstach@stachdesign.com  
television:828.337.3480  
date: December 28, 2012

Additional Documentation

- Two large format 36”x48” maps titled: Site Map at a 1:600-scale, and an Enlarged Site Map at 1:150-scale
- An annotated USGS map indicating the property's location, and UTM references
- An 11”x17” Historic Property Ownership Map at a 1:2,000-scale
• ca. 1952 Historic oblique aerial photograph depicting Mile-Away Farms, the Brewster Barn Complex, and the northwest edge of the hunt lands.

**Photographs**

The following information applies to photographs #1 through #10 unless appropriately noted.

Name of Property: Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms.
Location: Southern Pines, Moore County, North Carolina.
Name of Photographer: Glenn Stach
Date of Photographs: 19 March 2013
Location of High Resolution Digital Images: Division of Archives and History
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

The following information applies to photographs #11 through #34 unless appropriately noted.

Name of Property: Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms.
Location: Southern Pines, Moore County, North Carolina.
Name of Photographer: Davyd Foard Hood.
Date of Photographs: 31 May-1 June 2013.
Location of Original Negatives: Division of Archives and History
109 East Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

**Photographs**

1. Primary Trail (3), stacked log jump (4), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southwest.
2. Control burn of Longleaf Pine forest (1), open rail fence/ jump (4), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southwest.
3. Turpentine Trees (1), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking south.
4. Tar Kiln (1), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking northeast.
5. Firelane 3 (2), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southeast.
6. Crossing of Carroll’s Branch (3), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southeast.
7. In-line Fence/ Jump (4), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southwest.
8. Coop Fence/ Jump (4), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking south.
9. Earth entry pipe (5), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking east.
10. Earth, partially excavated (5), Moore County Hunt Lands, looking southwest.
11. Main Barn (M2), Mile-Away Farms, looking east.
12. Main Barn (M2), Spreader Shed (M3), and Pump House (M12), Mile-Away Farms, looking northwest.
14. Small Barn (M4), Mile-Away Farms, looking west, with barbecue pavilion (M6) on left.
15. Garage (M5), barbecue pavilion (M6), and small barn (M4), Mile-Away Farms, left to right, looking north/northwest.
16. Kennels (M7), Mile-Away Farms, looking west with run-in shed (M17) in right background.
17. Moss Residence (M11), Mile-Away Farms, looking south, 25 April 2012.
18. Run-in sheds #1-4 (M13-16), Mile-Away Farms, looking west.
19. Overall landscape view of Mile-Away Farms (M1) and Brewster Barn Complex (B1), looking north from Sheldon Road.
20. Implement Shed (M20), Mile-Away Farms, looking northeast.
21. Hobby Field Hay Barn (M21), Mile-Away Farms, looking northeast.
22. The Paddock Jr. (P1), landscape view, looking east.
24. Run-in Sheds #1-2 (P6-7), The Paddock Jr., looking east with the The Paddock Jr. (P1) in right background and Chicken Coop #1 (P8) at left, 8 October 2012.
25. Skyline Farm House/Barn (1), landscape view, looking southeast with run-in shed #3 (4) on left.
26. Russell-Brannum Farm, landscape view with north end of Buchan Field in the foreground, looking southeast with Moss-Russell-Brannum Barn (1) in center middle distance.
27. Windswept Farm, landscape view with house (1), well-house (3), and horse barn (2), left to right, and paddocks, looking southeast with the Rader Farm house/barn (1) in right middle distance.
28. Sheldon Road landscape view, looking southwest with the main barn (M2) at Mile-Away Farms on extreme right in middle distance.
29. Brewster Barn Complex (B1), landscape view, looking north from Sheldon Road with Brewster Barn (B2) and garage (B3) in middle distance.
30. Brewster Barn Complex (B1), landscape view, looking northeast with show ring (B4) in foreground and Brewster Barn (B2) and garage (B3) in middle distance.
32. Brewster Barn (B2), interior, fireplace in the assembly room, looking north.
33. Brewster Barn (B2), interior, dressing closets on the northwest side of the assembly room, looking northwest.
34. Garage (B3), Brewster Barn Complex, looking northeast.
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Overview
More than 2,852 acres of recreational hunt lands, together with a handsome assemblage of equine farms and facilities at Mile-Away Farms (Mile-Away), the Brewster Barn Complex, and The Paddock Jr., comprising 22 contributing, and 37 noncontributing resources, stand at the center of Moore County’s horse country, one mile east-northeast of the core of Southern Pines. Held within the bend of Young’s Road and North May Street, this land comprises the surviving portion of an extensive holding acquired in 1929-30 for fox hunting by a small group of wealthy equestrians, organized as the Moore County Company. The property’s significance reflects a long-standing conservation ethic that has sustained the recreational hunting grounds of the oldest organized hunt in North Carolina, and the largely unspoiled equestrian fields and facilities.

The district lies at the heart of a major equine community, lining both sides of Young’s Road and the sand clay lanes leading off its curving paved path. The surrounding area, outside of the National Register boundary, has something of a hybrid low-density, rural-suburban appearance reflecting the siting of houses, stables, and related buildings at the end of sandy lanes on sizable acreages that are extensively fenced for pastures, paddocks, and along property lines. The integrity of the recreational hunt lands, and the cultural affiliation and residency of the Moore County Hounds at Mile-Away, sustains the dominant equestrian land use and rural landscape setting of this area.

Today, much as it did during the period of historic significance, the district is comprised of two principal component parts. The largest and most dominant character area, the Moore County Hunt Lands, comprises over 2,580 acres of well-managed pine forest dissected by ravines and streams, and branches that contribute to the land’s natural beauty and habitat value. Managed and adopted as both natural area, and equine recreational lands since 1929, the property possesses over forty-seven lineal miles of trails, an extensive system of jumps and fences, and man-made fox dens.

The second character area encompasses the planned equestrian lands associated with and adjoining Mile-Away Farms, its historic core, which fronts North May Street, and descends southeasterly across Sheldon Road toward the edge of the pine-laden hunt lands. Developed as an extension of Mile-Away’s core, the Brewster Barn Complex was constructed by the Mosses beginning in 1948 in association with William J. Brewster, Joint Master of the Hunt. An adjoining equestrian winter estate, The Paddock Jr., built by B. A. Tompkins, a significant figure in the history of Moore County Company and the hunt, encompasses land frequently hunted by the Moore County Hounds, and includes an appealing late Colonial Revival-style residence and farm complex constructed in 1950-51 between Sheldon Road and the hunt lands. Over the course of time, resultant of subsequent generational transfers, The Paddock Jr. would become the residence of Virginia Moss and would be passed down, along with Mile-Away to her heirs. Mile-Away encompasses land conveyed to William Ozelle and Virginia Walthour Moss in 1937, maintaining an extensive acreage of paddocks, fields, and sand-clay lanes converging at the farm’s core complex of barns and related buildings, including the kennels of the Moore County Hounds. As a result of recent, post-2006 family real-estate transactions, five in-parcels supporting early twenty-first-century
houses and stables [947 Sheldon Road], [949 Sheldon Road], [951 Sheldon Road], [230 Mile-Away Lane], [305 Mile-Away Lane], intrude upon the historic landscape setting, but otherwise do not materially affect the significance of the property.

Detailed Description

Note: The following detailed description is organized by the property’s two principal component parts, those being the Moore County Hunt Lands, and Mile-Away Farms, and adjoining properties. Mile-Away’s descriptive narrative is followed by a detailed description of the Brewster Barn Complex. A description of The Paddock Jr., an adjoining property significant to the history of the hunt, and actively hunted by the Moore County Hounds follows. A description of the recent subdivision of a portion of Mile-Away’s fields and pastures closes the description. As the overall property’s eligibility is due in large part to the integrity of its cultural landscape, this narrative conveys the characteristics and classification of the property as a rural historic landscape, as defined in National Register Bulletin 30, Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes.

1. Moore County Hunt Lands
ca. 1929-1963
Contributing site

The Moore County Hunt Lands, an expansive pine-covered woodlands, totaling more than 2,580 acres, make up the majority of the property’s land mass. Situated just east of the core complex and pastures of Mile-Away Farms, the hunt lands lay within the bend of Young’s Road. The property is buffered from road frontage, in most cases, by private estates backing up to the hunt lands. It is the residual acreage of the lands utilized and stewarded by the Moore County Hounds since their early establishment. The hunt continues to play out over this dramatic landscape today. As a result of the hunt’s long-standing stewardship ethic, and sound land management practices, this sensitive ecosystem exists today much as it did during the historic period. The forest’s managed, open understory provides the canvas upon which the recreational features of equestrian sport are revealed.

The hunt lands rest gently upon a deeply dissected natural landscape of rolling sand hills, divided by a network of streams and drainages. Carroll’s Branch is the principal water course and flows in a generally west to east direction in the near center of the woodland, bordered by swampy ground with dense growth. Over twenty additional heads and branches further dissect the property and add to the natural beauty and rigor of this natural, albeit, well-managed woodland landscape. Several man-made ponds exist across this vast acreage, created both for scenic, and habitat value, and the functional use of watering one’s horse. Other confluences naturally establish water features, creating swamp lands, which further support diverse biotic and scenic landscape character. Documented on a published 1919 soil survey map of Moore County, and visible in historic aerial photographs dating to the period of historic significance, the interior of the hunt lands were un-peopled with no housing or buildings marking the interior of this landscape. On the 1919 map the remainder of the woodland was described as being covered with “Norfolk sand” soil. It drains well and provides a substantial base, suitable for good
The native “pine barrens” represent the principal defining natural feature of the hunt lands. These woodlands have a remarkable, open character that provides good habitat for wildlife and appealing grounds for hunting and riding. Their ecology largely consists of infertile soils dominated by native wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*) and longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*). The varying age of the pine forest is represented by old-growth stands, as well as communities of young trees. The slow growth rate and comparatively narrow caliper and girth of longleaf pines, belies the age of this old-growth forest. Older trees flatten out at their crowns, creating a gnarled, picturesque canopy. The longleaf pine’s shiny needles, which grow in excess of sixteen inches long, provide a straw matting that has the overall affect of softening this landscape. Although this plant community visually dominates most of the acreage, at closer look the understory of the forest is host to a great many shade-loving species of ferns, wildflowers, lichens, and mosses. Even the canopy of pines gives way to more diverse compositions of woody plants in the swamp thickets of the bottom lands where oak, hollies, and poplar are present.

Ecologically dependent on fire for regeneration and suppression of invasive species, the forest would not have survived were it not for the conservation and public safety practices established and carried out over the last century. The relatively high integrity of the forest today, and the continued existence and use of the Civilian Conservation Core (CCC)-era fire lanes established in the 1930s, attests to the continued conservation and management of the property’s natural environment. Not only has burning sustained the natural ecosystem, and reduced hazardous fire loads, it is an integral management objective of its stewards. The open character of the pine barrens, made possible through prescribed burning, is essential to the strategic and largely open spatial requirements of the recreative sport of fox hunting. Were non-native invasive plant communities allowed to “naturalize”, the ecology of this landscape would be drastically altered, and the property’s principle recreative land use greatly diminished.

Another layer of natural and cultural significance bestowed on the pine forest of the hunt lands, are the scars these pines bear, dating back to the area’s employment in the lucrative turpentine industry. Prior to John T. Patrick’s establishment of Southern Pines, the depot at Manley Station, which was located within one-quarter mile west of Mile-Away Farms, was a center for turpentine production. Remnant traces of this industry are visible on more than one-hundred documented “boxed pines,” their trunks scarred with gashes to let loose the flow of sap collected for turpentine, pitch and rosin. The resin extracted from turpentine trees was used for the naval stores industry. The process of extraction consisted of a series of consecutive cuts, at diagonals or in a V-shaped pattern, known as “chipping,” that concentrated the flow into a collection box attached to the tree. Additionally, six remnant tar pits have been identified, at present, on the property. These pits, or “tar kilns” were used to produce tar; burning every facet of the downed pines, in a dangerous and noxious process. These features are well-preserved, and their survivorship and pristine context, one to another is a rarity, even within the tarheel state. While these features do not materially contribute to the period of historic significance relevant to the hunt lands and Mile-Away Farms, they are integral to the overall significance of the property and further support the significant conservation story established by the hunt, and its stewards through time.
Situated on the edge of the hunt lands is Hobby field, a fifty-six acre open equestrian field situated along Young’s Road at its intersection with Old Mail Road (Old Mail). This open pasture complements the pine-covered terrain of the interior of the hunt lands, and has long been associated with community and equestrian events of the Moore County Hounds. A Moss-era barn anchors the north edge of the field along a split rail fence line that encloses the property on all sides. Old Mail runs through the property in its northerly alignment; its entrance at Young’s Road is marked by a thirty-foot-wide, four-board gate and heavy-timber gateposts. A smaller ten acre portion of the field lies east of Old Mail, and has historically served as an equestrian field event course, known colloquially as Ginny Field.

2. System of Fire Lanes
ca. 1934
Contributing structures

The expansive, rolling topography of the hunt lands present themselves with such a vastness of scale and dominance of pine canopy that they could be described as disorienting were it not for the property’s nearly orthogonal grid of sandy fire lanes, and the meandering low-lying landmark of Carroll’s Branch. Circulation networks within the hunt lands are defined by two types and functions. The functional layer of more than nine miles of sandy fire lanes, indicative of the 1934 CCC’s lanes, service the native pine forests of the hunt lands. These roughly twelve-foot wide sandy lanes, which vary in width depending on the severity of the adjacent terrain, are aligned east to west through the property. Fire Lane One follows portions of the historic alignment of the Old Yadkin Road, a historic hunting and trading path along the southern boundary of the property, before turning north-east into the interior of the hunt lands. This lane, once oriented in its northeasterly direction continues to an extension that largely divides the property into two halves as it makes its way across the sand hill terrain before terminating north at Young’s Road. A portion of Old Mail was enlarged to serve as a Fire Lane through portions of the hunt lands and intersects Young’s Road along the southern boundary of the hunt lands, next to Hobby Field. The road passes through Hobby Field and enters the hunt lands as a twelve-foot wide sandy lane at its intersection with Young’s Road from the south where Fire Lane Two, also called Mile-Away Lane at its intersection with North May Street, moves between Kaylor Field to the northeast, and Buchan Field to the southwest before entering the hunt lands. Fire Lane Two continues through the hunt lands running northwest to southeast through the full length of the property, emerging along Young’s Road on the south boundary of the property. Fire Lane Two is offset one mile from and parallel to Fire Lane One. Fire Lane Three, departs Equestrian Road, an access road that parallels highway US 1, designed for the safe and abundant parking of horse trailers and vehicles. This is the preferred public entrance to the hunt lands, and is located adjacent to the NC State Equine Health Center. Fire Lane Three departs this public entrance, in a northwest-to-southeast alignment, extending to Young’s Road. Fire Lane Three is offset one mile from Fire Lane Two. Together this network of fire lanes provides limited vehicular and service access to the forested acreage of the hunt lands, and serves as an important orientation tool for day-users.
3. System of Hunt Trails
ca. 1929-1963
Contributing structures

A second layer of circulation, fashioned more organically upon this landscape than the gridded fire lanes, is the extensive network of narrow sandy equestrian trails, of varying widths and functions, employed for both the hunt and more leisurely riding, and walking. The trail system is both historic and comprehensive, covering more than thirty-eight miles in its entirety. Established first by the Moore County Hounds, and stewarding and expanded by Moss, these freely rambling hunting trails and paths appear largely as indentations on the woodland floor with a pine needle coating over their sand base. A review of historic aerial photographs dating to the late 1930s, and 1950s attests to the retention of this extensive trail system today, much as it appeared during the historic period. Two principal types of trails date to the historic period and continue their intended use. Primary trails, the larger and most predominant trails, traverse the rolling hills of the property. Their alignment responds to both the topographic features of the rolling landscape, the long-standing paths of the hunt, and their access to the many points of entry into the hunt lands from the pastures of Mile-Away and the residences backing up to and served by Young’s Road. Delineated on the historic district map, these trails extend through the hunt lands, accessed by the system of fire lanes and easements from neighboring members of the Young’s Road equestrian community. Largely single-track in character, the sandy meandering paths of primary trails intersect the fire lanes at regular intervals, and are the chief route of travel during the hunt and leisure riding. In the mid-1980s, in response to a growing trend in equestrian carriage sport, a portion of the primary trails in the western portion of the property were widened slightly to support the passage of both horse and carriage. Much narrower in width and less traveled a second type of trail, the huntsman trails, constitute the narrowly-defined trail segments surrounding the low-lying bottoms of Carroll’s Branch and its many tributaries, or heads. These trails are used by the “Huntsman” the staff member in charge of the hounds, and his accompanying “Whips,” those members who ride on the far outside flanks of the hunting “Field” (the main group of riders) charged with keeping the hounds within bounds. These lesser traveled trails are also used during “drag hunts” where a scented article is dragged across the property in advance of the field, to simulate the path taken by a fox attempting to evade the hounds. These trails also allow the staff to be accessible to the hounds while hunting live game.

In order to facilitate and plan any number of hunt routes and scenarios, Moss established earthen fords or crossings at strategic locations along Carroll’s Branch, and its tributaries. Seen by the hunt as more than a tactical structure, most crossings, and their accompanying jumps have been named; a tradition, whose date is uncertain, and bestows a playful, cultural significance to trail system. Names like, “Fell-In Bridge,” “Refugio,” and “Roller Coaster,” attest to a storied history of past hunts, beloved horses, historic landmarks, and the character of the terrain at the crossing and jump. These tactical features also bear names like “Van Urk’s Bridge,” “Edmisten Crossing,” and “Murtagh,” named for former hunt members, or friends of the hunt.

In the more recent past, major crossings along fire lanes have added hand rails, or guide rails, constructed of round timber posts and single-log rails. Additionally, the contemporary addition of trail
signs and markers, constructed of wood-engraved cedar or oak planks, with white-painted lettering identify important intersections, crossings, and jumps.

4. System of Jumps and Fences
c.a. 1942-1963
Contributing structures

The wooded field of this equestrian park of sorts would not be complete were it not for the strategic placement of features erected to test a rider’s skill and agility in support of the hunt. Jumps, also called “fences,” include both free-standing features and those incorporated into existing fence lines. Jumps are typically located in one of three positions within the hunt lands. Most prevalent is the placement of jumps in low-lying positions, along primary trails as they approach stream crossings or fords. Jumps may be found in pairs, one on each side of the fire lanes, where primary hunt trails intersect the fire lanes. Historically, fence lines, along the perimeter of the hunt lands were also constructed, leaving out a top rail within the fence to accommodate passage. In most cases, the horse and rider are provided a side trail around the jumps, accommodating multiple skill levels along the same trail.

Moss employed the old Edmisten Sawmill (established c.a. 1930) along Yearling Head and Carroll’s Branch to outfit both posts and rails for fences and jumps. Edmisten sawmill was Today a vestige of Moss-era post-and-rail fencing is visible within the tree-line separating Mile-Away Farms from the hunt lands, and along the western boundary fencelines of The Paddock Jr. The cedar posts are rectilinear in their cross section, with oblong cut-outs in support of three rails per each fence section. Where rails have deteriorated, pine or cedar rails replace the original fence sections. All jumps and fences are natural-surface wood construction, and lack paint or stain.

Five types of jumps or fences exist across the hunt lands today. Most of these features include one or two fence sections with a missing or lowered top, at a height ranging from two feet and six inches to four feet above grade. In most cases, jumps not otherwise incorporated into fence lines include wings or flanking fences segments that visually channel horse and rider to the center of the jump or fence. Visible today are more than fifty-five obstacles classified as one of the following styles of jump: in-line fences, most often created by taking the top rail off of an existing fence row; open rail fences, created with two or three split rails, and taller flanking fence sections on each side; stacked log or stacked rail jumps, created by stacking logs or rails as the primary jump, with taller wings or flanking fence sections on each side; and coop jumps, created with rails or wood planks nailed to an A-frame foundation. Study suggests that the open rail fences, and in-line fences date to the Moss era, with some remnant cedar posts attesting to this presumption. In these original locations, when fence rails have deteriorated, they appear to have been replaced in-kind to a large degree. While the stacked log, and coop jumps are not of the fashion established by Moss, their construction affords an easier level of difficulty on the whole, and convey historic use. Together, the jumps and fences are counted as a single contributing system of designed features, laid out for the purposes of equestrian sport, adding a degree of difficulty and variety of experience to the extensive trail system.
5. System of Earths (Man-made Fox Dens) 
ca. 1942-1963 
Contributing structures

For the purposes of both habitat value and hunt strategy, William Ozelle Moss implemented a series of man-made, subterranean red fox dens, or “earths” across the hunt lands. Their exact date of construction is unknown, however, it is likely they were installed over time, no earlier than 1942, when W. O. Moss first held title as master of the Moore County Hounds, and contemporaneous with the permanent relocation of the hounds to Mile-Away Farms. Later installations by Moss have been recollected to date to the early 1960s. Today eight clay-tile and concrete earths have been identified on the property. Their location, most often near a water source, was certainly a matter of practical concern for habitat. The partial excavation of one typical earth located near Carroll’s Branch, affords insight into Moss’s design and construction. The observed structure consists of a central concrete box, or bunker, measuring four feet by two feet by one foot, buried approximately twelve inches beneath the earth’s surface. The box is typical of storm water junction boxes, used in the construction of municipal storm water systems. A single four-inch diameter stand pipe, or clean-out, rises above the bunker and is capped for periodic monitoring or service. It is understood these standpipes were also used by the Huntsman to provide food for a resident fox, a practice employed to encourage residency and familiarity. The bunker is accessed by its inhabitant from either of two flanking extensions of eight-inch diameter vitrified clay pipes. In this instance, the pipes extend roughly twenty-five feet from the concrete bunker in either direction making at least one forty-five-degree elbow along the length of the pipe. The pipes gently slope away from the bunker, allowing for positive drainage and daylight. Investigation of the earth provided two important clues relevant to its effectiveness and era of construction. Firstly, it was apparent that an animal had recently used the structure, witnessed by an abundance of pine-straw and leaf litter bedding (not indicative of red fox nesting habits). Secondly, the excavation of a section of the flanking pipe entrances revealed the make and manufacturer of the pipe, attributed to one Pomona Corporation, Greensboro, NC. A review of the North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State corporations filings shows the company was formed in 1963 and remains in existence today as Pomona Pipe Products, Inc. In order to limit disturbance, the other seven presently identified earths were left undisturbed. They exhibit similar qualities visible only by their clay-pipe entrances. As with the fences and jumps, these features are counted as a single system of man-made features laid out across and complementing the natural beauty and challenging terrain of the hunt lands. It is important to note that these man-made habitats serve to supplement the natural habitat of natural surface dens, known only to the red fox.

6. Hill Top Cemetery 
ca. 1976 
Noncontributing site

On a high wooded knoll with views extending for miles to the southeast across the entirety of the hunt lands, the Mosses set aside 2.1 acres of ground that would be their final “check” and resting place. Upon William Ozelle Moss’s death on 22 August 1976, and Virginia Walthour Moss’s death some thirty years later on 13 January 2006, they were laid to rest within the shade of this wooded acreage, across which
they had hunted and managed for over seventy years. Elizabeth “Betty” Dumaine, former member of the hunt, also interned here is credited with the idea of establishing the cemetery, and the commissioning of the commemorative features of the cemetery. The site is indistinguishable from the surrounding pine woods and grasslands, save for a painted wooden commemorative sign, and a brick masonry commemorative bench and wall. The commemorative sign includes a poem titled “Tranquility,” attributed to Nancy Sweet Escott, and gives homage to Virginia Moss for setting aside this land for the internment of invited members of the hunt. The four foot tall brick masonry memorial wall spans roughly sixteen inches in length, constructed in a southeast-facing arc. A small seat-wall of brick is contained within the arc of the wall, which includes the engraving; “In Memory of Happy Days with Moore County Hounds, Horses, Foxes, and Friends.” Small concrete statuaries of a single fox and hound are positioned on both ends of the wall.

M1. Mile-Away Farms  
ca. 1937-1963  
Contributing site

Mile-Away Farms, the symbolic core of Moore County’s horse country, rests on a gentle rise fronting North May Street and exists as the residual portion of a 92.66-acre property acquired by the Mosses in 1937. The property conveys a largely open character employing a variety of equine settings, but principally that of pasturage and a core complex of barns and outbuildings. A sandy lane carrying perpendicular from North May Street, serves as the entrance to Mile-Away, departing in a southeasterly course. A metal-scrolled sign post and weathervane mark the North May Street entrance. The entry is secured by the recent 2013 construction of a wooden gate and pair of heavy timber gateposts, each adorned with hound statues. The entrance road continues in a straight alignment toward and alongside Mile-Away’s core before terminating at an intersection with Sheldon Road, a local sand-clay lane that pre-dates Mile-Away’s core, setback some 2,000 feet from North May Street. It is on this subtle rise that the Mosses erected an important equine complex defined by an assemblage of barns and outbuildings, their primary residence, and kennels of the Moore County Hounds.

A review of historic aerial photography suggests the early landscape of Mile-Away Farms was one of light pine-covered pastures and several well-defined fields. Buchan Field, a rolling, rectilinear, hay field running parallel along the southeast edge of Sheldon Road, has served as a visually open field, important to the spatial character of Mile-Away. Northeast of Buchan Field, across Mile-Away Lane lies Kaylor Field, a flat, open field that was home to a host of equestrian field sports and annual gatherings by the hunt equestrian community. The fields and pastures of Mile-Away span Sheldon Road, and descended southeasterly toward the wooded hunt lands. A remnant post-and-rail fence running along the northwest edge of the hunt lands, continues to delineate the threshold between the fields and paddocks of Mile-Away to the northwest, and the hunt lands to the southeast. These outer-lying pastures and fields of Mile-Away continue to convey an open character employed in equestrian uses, despite recent subdivision of these lands, described later in this section.

The plan of Mile-Away’s 2.25 acre core complex of barns and outbuildings resembles an elongated
quadrangle aligned perpendicular to the entrance from North May Street. A 1939 aerial photograph 
testifies that the earliest structure of the Mosses’s equine complex was the eighteen-stall main barn, 
whose northeast corner housed their living quarters from ca. 1930 to ca.1940. The largest building in the 
group, this imposing structure is positioned on the northeast, short end of the quadrangle, parallel with 
the entrance lane. The original kennels, built in the summer of 1942, occupied a pendant position on the 
southwest end of the quadrangle, on axis with and opposite to the main barn. They too, were originally 
frame, but were replaced by the Mosses with concrete-block kennels in 1970. Sizable paired buildings 
occupy pendant positions on the longer sides of the quadrangle, parallel to both May Street and Sheldon 
Road, respectively. The Mosses’s one-and-a-half story gable-front cottage and a combination 
 garage/workshop are aligned along the front, northwest-facing side of the quadrangle, parallel to May 
Street, while a smaller barn and the clubhouse pavilion, where hunt breakfasts are served, stand on the 
rear, southeast-facing side of the complex. The interior of the quadrangle, now largely open, historically 
housed two riding rings; one aligned with a cross-axial lane just west of the main barn, with a smaller 
ring along the long axis nearer the kennels. The core complex was established among the largely open 
fields, dotted with individual clusters of native longleaf pine. Thriving today, much as they appeared 
historically, the pines provide shade to Mile-Away’s core, emboldened by individual plantings of 
southern magnolias defining more formal positions at the entry and along the southwest frontage.

The immediate landscape surrounding Mile-Away’s core barn complex is fenced by fields and paddocks 
of varying sizes, to pasture and exercise horse and hounds alike. The area between North May Street and 
Sheldon Road incorporates some twenty acres of pasture. A block of nine co-joined, one-third-acre, 
square paddocks, lay north of the farm complex, accessed by two parallel turf lanes extending toward 
North May Street. A large rectilinear paddock fronts North May Street, while other sizable square and 
rectilinear paddocks surround the west end of the curtilage. Two square paddocks of roughly one acre 
separate the core complex from Sheldon Road. These fields are serviced by a grid of both sand, and turf 
lanes. Strategically placed outbuildings, or run-in sheds, support the paddocks and provide shelter and 
 feed locations.

M2. Main Barn 
ca. 1937-1938, 1980s, 2009-2010, 2012 
Contributing building

The main barn at Mile-Away Farms was the first building erected by the Mosses on the property they 
acquired on 26 April 1937, and it was completed and in service by 1939 when it appears alone on its 
knoll-top setting in an aerial photograph of that year. On completion it became the largest known private 
horse barn erected in Moore County, and it has remained a landmark in the equine landscape of Southern 
Pines and the Sandhills to the present. The rectangular, weatherboarded-frame, one-story-with-loft barn 
was built on a northwest/southeast axis with its gable front facing northwest to North May Street, whose 
route was then coterminous of that of highway US 1. The farm lane leading upgrade and southeast from 
North May Street continued along its long northeast side to Shelton (now Sheldon) Road. Its path, with 
perpendicular lanes leading off it at some distance to the west and south in front and to the rear of the 
barn, respectively, became one of the four lanes that form a quadrangle inside which the principal
buildings of Mile-Away Farms would be erected, except for the kennels. (They were built in summer 1942 in a pendant position to the barn on the southwest side of the sand lane that encloses the quadrangle on that side.)

When built the center/cross aisle barn, essentially symmetrical in both its plan and elevations, provided the important essential facilities for the Mosses’s young, but promising, operation. It contained eighteen individual stalls, arranged in three groups of six, in the east, south, and west quadrants of the barn. The like six spaces in the north quadrant of the barn contained tack and service rooms, a lavatory for staff, and living quarters for the Mosses, including an appealing pine-sheathed living room that was accessible from both the barn’s interior center aisle and a door on the barn’s gable-front porch. The Mosses’s living quarters were not a conventional apartment; instead, they comprised three separate rooms that did not communicate with each other. The living room, in the north corner of the barn, is the best detailed and has a Craftsman-style brick mantel as well as an adjoining closet and small bathroom. The room used by the Mosses as a bedroom also has a closet and small bathroom, which is located between tack rooms and accessible only from the barn’s center aisle. Rudimentary kitchen facilities were apparently located in another of the rooms. The Mosses occupied these rooms from ca. 1938 to ca. 1949 when the separate one-and-a-half-story frame residence (M11) was completed on the farm. Thereafter, these rooms served as guest quarters for friends, hunters, and other equestrian visitors, and, more recently, for tack and utility needs.

The main barn stood intact as built, painted white with dark trim around the windows and a silver roof from ca. 1938 until the early to mid-1980s when the barn and other buildings at Mile-Away Farms were covered with “German pattern” vinyl siding, which recalled the German siding that originally sheathed a number of buildings on the farm. While a questionable decision even then, made to eliminate the need of painting and its expense, the original fabric of the barn, including its boldly-shaped rafter ends, survived intact until very recently. In 2009-2010, the barn’s metal roofing was replaced with pre-painted green sheet metal having a ribbed appearance with Plexiglas skylighting. In late October and early November 2012, the present owner removed the vinyl siding from the elevations and began to remodel the exterior of the landmark barn. The somewhat deteriorated original weatherboard sheathing on the northwest front, except on the wall under the porch, that on the main level of the southeast elevation, and the weatherboarding on the entire northeast elevation was removed. It was replaced with plywood sub-sheathing and manufactured composition siding. The original, simple frame surrounds on the windows and doors on these altered portions of the elevations were likewise replaced with manufactured composition materials. The multi-pane Craftsman-style sash in the stall windows was removed and replaced with dark green-painted board-and-rail blinds. The original window sash in the apartment and tack rooms had been replaced earlier, probably in 2009-2010, with the present multi-pane metal sash. The 2012 remodeling of the barn included the replacement of the metal mounts and rollers for the sliding doors on its four elevations. The window openings in the upper part of each door were refitted with Craftsman-style three-pane sash.

The course of the remodeling was altered in process, and the original weatherboard siding on the barn’s southwest side was preserved in place and painted white as was the new composition siding on the
The main barn, rectangular in plan except for a shallow entrance porch at the north edge of the northwest front elevation, stands on a poured (in form) concrete foundation, is sheathed with both original weatherboards and replacement composition siding, and is covered with a green pre-painted, ribbed sheet metal gable-end roof that incorporates Plexiglas skylighting. The broad gable front of the barn, facing northwest to North May Street, is simply treated. On the ground level a large centered opening provides access to the center aisle interior. It is protected by a sliding, top-hinged wood board-and-rail door that is vertically sheathed and fitted with paired, rectangular three-pane windows. A gable-front porch, protecting a door into the apartment, occupies the wall to the north of the opening. It has a concrete floor, simple square-in-plan posts on low brick piers, and a gable-front roof. The upper gable end retains its original paired, centered window openings, each holding three-pane Craftsman-style sash. The roof’s eaves are boxed.

The barn’s long northeast elevation has a generally symmetrical fenestration on each side of the centered opening onto the cross passage, which is protected by paired sliding, top-hinged board-and-rail doors with vertical siding. Each leaf has an opening containing a Craftsman-style three-pane sash that replaces the earlier six-pane sash. The north half of the elevation has eight conventional window openings holding replacement eight-pane sash that illuminate the apartment and tack rooms inside the barn. A common-bond brick chimney, flanked by two of the eight windows, stands near the north edge of the elevation and provides a fireplace for the apartment living room. A brick utility flue stack that stood near mid-way of this part of the elevation has been taken down. The fenestration in the east half of the northeast elevation features six symmetrical square openings, one per stall, which are fitted with vertical-member metal gratings inside each opening. These openings are fitted with board-and-rail blinds. The elevation is sheathed with composition siding.

On the barn’s southeast elevation a large centered opening provides access to the center aisle. Each leaf of its original board-and-rail doors has an opening now fitted with Craftsman-style three-pane sash. The main level is sheathed with composition siding while the upper gable end retains its original weatherboard sheathing. Paired square openings are centered above the passage entry and at a lower level than the like loft window on the front gable end. These openings retain their original plain board frames and Craftsman-style three-pane sash.

The barn’s southwest elevation generally retains its original appearance with a symmetrical arrangement of six square stall openings on either side of the center cross-passage opening. The original paired sliding board-and-rail doors that protect this opening have windows holding Craftsman-style three-pane sash. The stall openings retain their plain board surrounds and vertical-member iron gratings. Both the original three-pane Craftsman sash windows and later single-pane replacements have been removed, and each opening is fitted with green-painted board-and-rail blinds.
Given the recent compromises to the exterior integrity of this historic equine landmark, the survival of the interior is all the more remarkable and impressive. Except for the mellowing of the native pine sheathing to a rich, warm nut-brown color, the interior survives essentially as completed and put to use by the Mosses in about 1938. The center aisle and cross passages have poured concrete floors as do the living quarters and tack rooms. The stalls have dirt floors with traditional bedding. The long sides of the center aisle reflect the general symmetry seen on the exterior. The three sections of six stalls in the east, south, and west quadrants have identical treatments while a series of six board-and-rail doors, with vertical grooving, open into the pine sheathed tack rooms, apartment, and lavatory in the north quadrant.

The loft level of the barn has a complementing, spacious arrangement. The area above the center aisle is open to the roof. The barn’s loft is actually paired lofts above the alignments of stables and facilities on each side of the center aisle. The loft floor projects forward of the faces of these alignments, as a linear overhang, that facilities unloading of hay from wagons or trucks pulled along the aisle and provides cover to those entering and leaving stalls and their equipment, etc., from loose hay falling onto their heads from above. The loft is open on both sides except for a feed bin that is enclosed in the area above the northeast cross passage.

The three sections of six stalls and the eighteen individual stalls are identical in their finish and appearance. The stalls are twelve feet square. The elevations of these sections and the stalls have a continuous half-height apron of horizontally-sheathed flush pine boards. The upper half of the elevations are finished with spaced horizontal boards that provide light and ventilation. The stall doors are centered, per stall, and have a two-part arrangement that echoes the sheathing arrangement. The lower half of each door is vertically sheathed on rails while the upper section is a metal grill of vertical members. The doors are on axis with the openings in the exterior walls. The hinges, gratings, and all other metalwork in the barn were produced by Frank H. Kaylor, a local blacksmith who lived on today’s Mile-Away Lane (Firelane 2) and worked in a workshop (M19) built for him by Mr. Moss. The stalls have dirt floors, sheathing and partition walls that repeat the pattern described above, corner, wall-mounted metal hay racks, built-in corner feed troughs of wood, and flat-back portable plastic water buckets.

The tack rooms and the living quarters are sheathed vertically with pine board of varying widths with battens covering their vertical joints except in the living room where the boards are flush-joined. The tack rooms retain their original built in cupboards, counters, and shelving as well as metal hooks for tack and horns for saddles and some later fittings.

M3. Spreader Shed
ca. 1939-1941
Contributing building

The spreader shed is a one-story, weatherboarded frame rectangular building that functions as a garage and storage for the manure spreader. It is situated close to the main barn so that the manure removed daily from the barn stalls can be loaded into it, pulled away when a load has accumulated, and spread on
the fields, pastures, etc. The shed has full-width openings on its northwest and southeast gable ends that are fitted with diagonal braces, a poured concrete floor, and frame side walls that rest on a low brick masonry foundation. These blind side walls are sheathed with wide weatherboards; the gable ends about the openings are sheathed with wide German siding. The eaves of the gable front roof are flush sheathed and enhanced with shaped rafter ends having a swollen, pendant-shaped design. The design of these rafter ends first appeared on the main barn and it was repeated on the contemporary pump house as well. The roof is covered with 5-V metal. The structural members of the shed and its sheathings are visible inside, unpainted, and aged to a mellow nut-brown color. Paired, shallow shelves carry along a part of the southwest side. Short lengths of two-by-fours are nailed on the northeast wall onto the studding and serve as brackets for ladders, rope, hoses and other materials requiring dry storage.

M4. Small Barn
ca. 1939-1942
Contributing building

This weatherboard frame building, small only in comparison with the main barn, has a simple, traditional rather old-fashioned appearance. Rectangular in plan, the barn stands on a poured-in-form concrete foundation whose perimeter is finished with a ground-level splash apron to shield water. The elevations are now covered with “German pattern” vinyl siding; the gable-front roof is covered with sheets of corrugated metal painted silver. The wide northwest and southeast gable end elevations are essentially alike in appearance. Each has an off-center ground-level opening reflecting the asymmetrical plan that is fitted with a top-hinged sliding door sheathed with vertical boards. In the upper gable ends, square openings are centered in each elevation and provide access to the hay lofts. They are also fitted with top-hinged sliding doors, though sheathed with vinyl siding. A trio of small square openings, symmetrically positioned in the three angles of the triangular gable, originally provided ventilation for the hay loft, but as the loft is no longer used for hay the openings have been sheathed with plywood.

The northeast and southwest elevations have stall openings fitted with Dutch doors with iron hinges that are vertically sheathed on “Z”-shaped rails. Four symmetrically-positioned doors on the northeast elevation open into four of the five stalls aligned on the northeast side of the through-passage. The opening into the center stall is sheathed over and it is now only accessible from the passage. The southwest elevation retains its original complement of five doors. The center single-leaf door opens into a pine floored and sheathed tack/feed room. The other four doors open into stalls. Inside, the asymmetrical plan of the barn features an alignment of stalls, one-deep, on the northeast side and a double tier of stalls and a tack/feed room on the southwest side. The outer tier of four stalls and the tack/feed room are served by the five doors on the southwest side while the inner tier of three larger stalls have openings onto the passage with vertically sheathed, half-height doors. The stall partitions are spaced horizontal pine boards. Some slight alterations have occurred and partitions adjusted to accommodate changed needs and usages. The interior pine framing and sheathing remains unpainted.
M5. Garage
ca. 1939-1941, ca. 1950, ca. 2006-07
Contributing building

The original block of this building, with its additions and adaptations through time, most recently as the clubhouse for the Moore County Hounds, is the tall rectangular gable-front frame building erected as a garage for the farm fire truck. It has a concrete block foundation. The original siding of the main block and its southwest side additions, possibly German siding, is now covered with “German pattern” vinyl siding. On the southeast gable front a large garage opening is protected by sliding top-hung doors sheathed with vertical boards. A six-pane window is centered in the loft/attic level. The side elevations were blind. Illumination and ventilation were provided by paired six-pane windows on the main level of the northwest gable end. It also has an opening into the loft protected by paired, side-hinged, vertically-sheathed doors. The roofing is silver-painted corrugated metal.

The frame gable-roof ell on the southwest side of the former garage contains a pine-sheathed lavatory and is believed to be contemporary with the ca. 1950 barbecue pavilion (M6). It has a door and window on its northwest side. In the 1950s or very early 1960s, a series of four frame whelping kennels were added on this side of the garage in the area southeast of the ell. This block is covered with a metal shed roof. The whelping kennels are built on a concrete block foundation. Three of the kennels open onto concrete pad pens with woven wire fencing aligned across their southwest front while the fourth kennel, immediately beside the ell, opens onto a like grass-covered fenced pen.

In ca. 2006-07, after the building, kennels and other property were acquired in August 2006 by the Moore County Hounds, the former garage became the clubhouse and was fitted up with simple, satisfactory kitchen facilities in its northwest end. A doorway was then cut in the garage’s northeast wall and fitted with paired glazed doors that open under the covered walk linking it with the barbecue pavilion (M6).

M6. Barbecue Pavilion
ca. 1950
Contributing building

The barbecue pavilion was built ca. 1950 as a freestanding shelter for barbecues, picnics, and hunt breakfasts enjoyed outdoors. Rectangular in plan and perpendicular to the earlier garage, it has a poured concrete floor and two-stage square wood piers rising to an open roof. The sub-roofing is applied in a chevron pattern and decoratively painted in red and blue. The roofing is silver-painted 5-V metal. The pavilion has two cooking stations. The larger of the two is for barbecuing a whole hog or pig (or smaller parts thereof). The small unit is for cooking pans and pots. The flat-roof covered walk linking the pavilion with the garage, where paired glazed doors were installed in its northeast wall, was added ca. 2006-07.
M7. Kennels
M8. Kennel Run-in Shed #1
M9. Kennel Run-in Shed #2
1970
Three Noncontributing buildings

The famed address of the Moore County Hounds anchors the west end of the farm complex, defined by the 1970 kennels described above. The single-story kennels open into two, twin one-fourth-acre yards enclosed by chain-link fencing. The beloved hounds are housed within the kennels and yards, with the north yard reserved for bitches (female hounds) and the south yard, respectively, housing the dog-hounds (male hounds).

The kennels comprise two parts; the kennel building and a series of complementing, woven wire/chain link fenced pens and runs, and a pair of run-in sheds engaged with the pens and positioned in the south and west corners of the rectangle. This complex occupies the site of the farm’s original frame kennels that were built in the summer of 1942 to receive the Moore County Hounds. These replacement kennels, built in 1970, are of concrete block and covered by an expansive side-gable roof of 5-V sheet metal painted silver. The southeast and northwest gable ends are sheathed with German siding. The elevations have a general symmetry.

The rectangular plan of the kennel building features a courtyard that is recessed in the center front of the building with its long sides parallel with the kennel’s northeast front elevation. The front is fitted with a center door flanked by low apron walls supporting metal grating. The courtyard is flanked on its short southeast and northwest sides and its long southwest rear elevation by an essentially symmetrical series of spaces comprising six individual kennels, an office in the front north corner of the building, a feed room, and a whelping room. The courtyard and these spaces all have concrete floors and exposed concrete block walls. The courtyard has painted walls and a pine-sheathed ceiling. The office has painted walls, a varnished pine-sheathed ceiling, a stainless steel sink and cabinetry, with a metal door opening to the courtyard and a six-panel wood door on the front of the building. The six kennels have metal grill doors opening into the courtyard, raised wood beds, and door openings into their respective runs. Each of the six kennels has its own run; the runs are laid out and fenced in a fan-like arrangement within the overall rectangular plot. The two large runs on the east are for dog-hounds, the pendant runs on the west are for bitches, and the two slightly smaller interior runs have optional use for hounds of either sex, both sexes, or puppies and young hounds. The feed room and the whelping room, where expectant bitches and their litters are housed during birth and the days thereafter, are in the center rear of the building.

The northeast front of the pens and runs is fenced with woven wire fence. The interior metal partition fences creating the six distinct pens vary somewhat one to the other, but all have bases of either poured concrete or concrete blocks.
The two run-in sheds in the south and west corners of the compound have dual purposes and two-part plans. They are built of concrete blocks, with full-width openings on their long southeast and northwest sides, German-sided gable ends above blind block walls, and side-gable roofs of 5-V sheet metal. A blind concrete block partition wall, carrying parallel with the long sides of each building, divides it into two unequal rectangular parts representing one-fourth and three-fourths of each. The shallow one-fourth part of the shed fronting on the kennels is fitted with a raised ledge for the hounds for lounging. The larger part of the building, which opens onto the respective adjoining paddock, functions as a run-in shed and has a feeding trough and wall-mounted hay mangers mounted against the partition wall. The respective fronts of these run-ins are supported by trios of square wood piers on tapering poured concrete plinths and fitted with four wood gates.

M10. Garage/workshop
cia. 1950-1952
Contributing building

Rectangular in plan, this one-story-with-loft frame building stands on a low brick masonry foundation and is covered with a side-gable roof of asbestos shingles (that appear nowhere else at Mile-Away). Its elevations are now covered with “German pattern” vinyl siding, which conceals the original siding on the building. The building has two principal elevations that contain the entrances into its respective, named parts. The long northeast elevation has two garage openings, fitted with overhead doors, that provide access to the garage space that comprises the center third and the northwest third of the building. Each garage door has four tiers of blind panels and a fifth tier at the top featuring four oversized panes. The symmetrical east part of this elevation has a pair of paired six-over-six sash windows that provide natural illumination for the workbench that carries under them inside the workshop. The building’s southeast gable end has a large centered, full-story opening that allows horses to be brought in for shoeing and vehicles and large equipment to be brought inside for repair. The opening is protected by top-hung sliding (vertical) board and rail doors that are now covered with vinyl siding. Each leaf has a square opening centered near the top that is fitted with a single pane of glass. Large paired openings at the loft level are fitted with oversized panes. The pendant northwest gable end has two symmetrical openings holding six-over-six sash that illuminate and vent the garage. Paired six-over-six windows are also positioned at the loft level. The garage/workshop’s southwest elevation has another pair of six-over-six sash windows that illuminate and vent the garage and like openings, now fitted with large panes, that illuminate the workshop. In recent years a simple shed with creosote pole supports and a roof of 5-V sheet metal has been erected against this southwest wall and occupies about three-fourths of its width.

The respective interior spaces of the garage/workshop are unchanged and retain a high degree of integrity. Both have poured concrete floors. The partition wall defining the two spaces is sheathed with boards nailed in a chevron pattern and the sub-sheathing on the outside walls is applied in a complementing diagonal manner. This sheathing and the exposed structural members are unpainted and have aged to a rich nut brown color. The garage is said to have been used principally for carriages and
carts. Iron mounts of different designs for tack, some marked “J. L. Mott Iron Works,” are positioned on the partition wall in the garage.

A two-panel door in the center of the partition wall opens into the workshop. The aforementioned workbench carries completely across the workshop’s northeast end. It is fitted with six wood drawers under the work shelf and complementing cabinets with plywood doors below the drawers. The wall area between the partition door and the north end of the workbench is fitted with open shelving and bins. A brick and metal forge used for shoeing horses and other metalworking stands in the west corner of the workshop.

M11. Moss Residence  
ca. 1948-1949  
Contributing building

Having an appealing, almost picturesque appearance, the Moss residence is a one-and-a-half-story gable-front frame house with simple traditional finish. It stands on a full brick basement that is illuminated by two-pane metal windows in shallow wells that are positioned in complementing positions below the first story fenestration. Rectangular and gable-front in plan, the house is now sheathed with “German pattern” vinyl siding, which covers the house’s original siding. The house’s gable-front roof, the two gable-roof dormers on its northeast elevation and the large shed-roof dormer on its southwest elevation are covered with asphalt shingles. The original six-over-six wood sash windows have been replaced with metal six-over-six sash. Their simple board frames are also covered with vinyl as are the eaves and other exterior wood surfaces.

The house’s elevations have a general symmetry beginning with the two-bay northwest façade where an inset gable-front porch protects the entrance in the north bay. It has a concrete floor bordered by brick, brick steps, and paired wood posts at its front corners. The façade’s west bay has paired six-over-six windows on the first story and a single six-over-six sash window in the gable above. Both side elevations have a general three-part arrangement. The northeast elevation, moving from front to back has a common-bond brick chimney flanked by windows that serve the living room, paired six-over-six sash windows in the center of the elevation that illuminate a small office, and smaller paired six-over-six sash windows at the rear, above the sink in the house’s kitchen. The southwest elevation has single windows in the front and center bays and paired six-over-six sash windows in the south bay that illuminate the dining room.

The house’s southeast rear elevation, the one probably most seen by visitors to Mile-Away Farms, horsemen, and fox-hunters, is its most developed. Here a shallow shed-roof addition contains a two-part, screened porch supported by wood posts linked by a diamond-work wood railing whose pattern is repeated in panels that frame the screened door aligned with the door opening into the kitchen. The east half of the porch is a conventional porch while the south half contains a brick stair that descends to the basement in a southward flight.
The intact interior of the Moss Residence has an unusual plan for its day featuring a large reverse L-shaped space that contains the living room across the front of the house and flows into the dining room at the back in its south corner. A lavatory, closet, and stair to the second story, with a stair to the basement in the corresponding space below its rise, are grouped along the room’s southwest wall. The aforementioned office and kitchen are partitioned as separate spaces on the northeast side of the house with the kitchen in its back east corner. The interior has pine flooring and board-and-batten pine sheathing that has aged naturally to a rich nut-brown appearance. The windows and doors are framed by plain boards. The doors are all vertically sheathed. The kitchen cabinetry is a replacement for the original cabinets. The second story of the house has a large bedroom in the northwest front with closets and a bathroom as well as two small rooms at the rear that served as guest rooms and/or storage. The basement is one large space with a poured concrete floor and exposed brick walls.

M12. Pump House
ca. 1939-1941, 2013
Contributing building

The small rectangular brick masonry pump house, laid up in one-to-six bond, is arguably the most architecturally developed building at Mile-Away Farms. It is colorful as well with red brick elevations, white-painted woodwork, black-painted ironwork, and a (recent) green metal roof. Attention is focused on three areas. The first is the northwest front of the pump house where its projecting gable front roof was supported by lattice-work panels at each side and a like lattice-work grill occupies the front gable. In the spring of 2013 the original posts and lattice-work panels and gable-front grill were replaced in kind, with the exception of the lattice-work panels. The four-pane-over-square-panel wood door has dramatically over-scaled iron hinges. The northeast and southwest side elevations have a centered opening fitted with a four-pane metal window. Here the roof’s shaped, projecting rafter ends have a swollen pendant-shaped design seen earlier on the barn and the spreader shed. On the rear elevation a large, centered opening is fitted with paired doors with the same dramatically over-scaled black iron hinges seen on the front door. Each leaf has six panes above a rectangular panel. The interior is a single space with wood steps descending down to the concrete floor sunk well below grade. It contains a large tank and four smaller tanks.

M13. Run-in Shed #1
ca. 1980, 2012-2013
Noncontributing building

About 1980 Mrs. Moss decided to erect a pair of run-in sheds in the front paddocks to supplement the one existing historic shed that stood near North May Street (and was pulled down in fall 2012). Claudia Coleman (b. 1947), an artist and friend of the Mosses who had a studio in the main barn apartment for a time, provided the design for the simple structures. Two of the present four, the two on the northeast side of the lane that accesses all four, between it and the farm drive, were built first, about 1980 by Randall Moss, a local carpenter/builder.
While designed for two horses, they could be used to stable four when pressed. The design is simple. A rectangular single-pen concrete block building is divided by a concrete block partition wall carrying front to back. These two pens are then divided by transverse frame partition walls, with a fitted gate. The openings on the southwest front of the building are fitted with double-leaf Dutch doors while the two openings on the back of the building, opening into the paddock, are protected by a top-hung sliding door. A horse could be brought down the lane and placed in the front stall for the night, with the partition gate closed. In daytime the gate could be opened and the horse would have the run of the paddock. In short, the design allowed flexibility for changing circumstances. A simple shed-roof service shed, un-floored with simple supports and 5-V sheet metal roofing, would be built on one gable end or the other. The original design by Ms. Coleman was utilized for all four run-in sheds.

In 2012-2013 this shed and the three others (M14-M16) aligned on the lane were remodeled and given essentially identical appearances. In each case the rectangular concrete-block pen and its stall arrangements were retained; however, the low gable-end roofs of each were replaced by taller gable-end roofs that engage open-sided sheds, which are now all located on the southeast gable ends of the four run-in sheds. The roofs are covered with pre-painted green sheet metal as seen on the main barn (M2) and the pump house (M12). The blind gable ends are sheathed with composition siding. Each of the four gable-end sheds is supported by square wood posts sunk into the earth and has an earth floor.

M14. Run-in Shed #2
cia. 1980, 2012-2013
Noncontributing building

Same description as M13.

M15. Run-in Shed #3
cia. 1985, 2012-2013
Noncontributing building

This run-in shed is one of two erected in about 1985 on the southwest side of the access lane. This shed and its contemporary (M16) differ from the earlier sheds in having Dutch doors on their rear elevations opening onto paddocks.

M16. Run-in Shed #4
cia. 1985, 2012-2013
Noncontributing building

Same description as M15.
M17. Run-in Shed #5
   ca. 2000
   Noncontributing building

Standing alone in the pasture to the west of the paddocks served by the above four run-in sheds, this frame shed was built by Todd McCrimmon. It has manufactured exterior sheet siding on its blind east, north, and west walls, and a full-width opening on the south side. The roof is 5-V sheet metal.

M18. North May Street Entry Gate
   ca. 1960, 2013
   Noncontributing structure

A white painted, double-swing, wood-framed gate marks the historic North May Street entrance to Mile-Away Farms’ core farm complex. Located at the property’s northeast corner, along the historic sandy-laned entrance road, the gate announces the entrance to the property and limits access to Mile-Away’s core during off-peak hours. Historically, the entrance was marked by the natural wood-stained, twelve-inch-square, heavy-timber posts installed by Moss in the early 1960s. By the 1980s each column had been adorned by Mrs. Moss with a pre-fabricated concrete hound statue. In the spring of 2013, the posts were painted white and outfitted with a framed wooden cap, and new flanking fences constructed between the posts extending to and perpendicular with the adjacent four-board paddock fences. Two twelve-foot wood-frame gates were added and painted white. The pre-fabricated concrete hound statues were returned atop the newly capped and painted timber columns, and secured in a temporary fashion with a metal strap.

M19. Kaylor Workshop
   ca. 1955-1960
   Contributing building

Standing on the north side of Mile-Away Lane (Firelane 2), at the northwest edge of lands held by the Moss heirs, this building was a part of the group of service buildings erected here by William O. Moss in an informal alignment. Two of the group, this building and an implement shed (M20) survive intact, while the fence mill that originally stood near the northwest end of the equipment shed was recently moved onto the grounds of The Paddock Jr. A two-level horse feeding barn stood nearby, on the present Russell-Brannum property, but has been greatly altered and expanded.

According to local tradition this building was built for and long used as a workshop by Frank H. Kaylor, a machinist and metalworker, who lived in a (now-remodeled) house immediately to the northwest and was a close, long-time friend of Mr. Moss. The iron hinges and other metalwork used on the buildings at Mile-Away Farms were made by Mr. Kaylor.

The one-story workshop is a simple utilitarian building, rectangular in plan, and built of concrete blocks. It is covered with a gable-front roof of sheet metal. The southwest front gable end and its pendant on
the rear elevation are sheathed in wide German siding. The front elevation features a large centered full-height opening protected by paired sliding vertically-sheathed board-and-rail doors. Located inside the building, rather than on its exterior, the doors have centered openings in each leaf holding large panes. The northwest and southeast side elevations have a generally symmetrical fenestration, but they do not mirror each other. The northwest elevation has a conventional door near its front west edge, three window openings holding metal awning windows, and a flue stack near the north edge. The southeast elevation has five window openings, one of which is smaller in size, fitted with metal awning windows. The workshop’s rear elevation has a smaller, centered ground-level opening fitted with vertically-sheathed board-and-rail doors, also holding single-pane windows in each leaf, and a awning window between the opening and the building’s east corner. The interior has a poured concrete floor and exposed block walls.

M20. Implement Shed
cia. 1950-1960
Contributing building

The rectangular side-gable roof block of this weatherboarded frame building was erected to store farm equipment used in Mile-Away’s horse and cattle operations. The roof is sheet metal. Its long eight-bay front, facing southwest to Mile-Away Lane, is fitted with eight, top-hung sliding board-and-rail doors with vertical sheathing. The gable ends are blind. The shed’s northeast rear elevation has a series of generally symmetrical window openings holding six-over-six sash. A simple shed roof, frame extension, for additional shelter and storage, was added across the elevation in about the late 1950s or early 1960s.

M21. Hobby Field Hay Barn
ca. 1980-1985
Noncontributing building

Of rudimentary construction and now deteriorated, this simple, rectangular frame building was erected for hay storage. It has an earth floor, simple wood posts, a wide opening on its west gable end, sheet plywood sheathing on the other three elevations, and a sheet metal gable roof.

B1. The Brewster Barn Complex
ca. 1948-1963
Contributing site

The nine-plus acre Brewster Barn Complex comprises land owned and developed by the Mosses as an extension of Mile-Away’s core complex of barns, in association with William J. Brewster, Joint Master of the Hunt. The property exhibits a largely open character, conducive to active use for equestrian sport. Developed in symmetry with Mile-Away’s main barn, the property’s buildings and structures adhere to an axial order that reinforces their symbolic and functional connection with Mile-Away. Draped on a depression in the landscape, which extends from the main barn, descending in grade to the show ring, the grade rises southeasterly back up to the Brewster Barn, which rests on an elevation equal to Mile-
Away’s main barn. South of this axial relationship lies the Brewster garage and breaking pen. Reinforcing its connection to Mile-Away, the property was historically accessed by a lane extending from Mile-Away’s core, still visible as a modest depression in the landscape, framed by two Southern Magnolia trees. Today the landscape and its contributing features exist much as they did during the Mosses’s ownership and establishment of Mile-Away.

B2. Brewster Barn  
ca. 1948-1949; ca. 1989; ca. 2009  
Contributing building

The Brewster Barn is a large, imposing one-and-a-half-story late Colonial Revival-style weatherboard frame barn that stands on a knoll to the northeast of, and in an axial relationship to, the earlier main barn (M2) at Mile-Away Farms. Its southwest façade is essentially parallel to the long northeast side elevation of the main barn, and the centered openings in their respective elevations align. In plan the two large barns flank a large show ring (B4) of ca. 1950-1952 that is centered in a swale between them. For some years after its construction, the Brewster Barn, its contemporary garage (B3), and the show ring (B4) were linked to the main complex at Mile-Away by a lane that appears in photographs as an extension of the lane carrying along the northwest side of that complex. Although that lane has ceased to be used except on special occasions, its slightly depressed roadbed remains visible in the greensward and its earlier status is defined by a gate in the fencing and paired, towering, ca. 1950 magnolia trees that flank its junction with the main drive leading up to Mile-Away from North May Street.

When built, the Brewster Barn, the garage, and the show ring, as well as a lost training ring, were on the acreage of Mile-Away Farms owned by the Mosses, but the barn then, as now, had the name of its builder, George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, and its president, William John Brewster (1893-1977), who also served as a joint master of the Moore County Hounds with William O. Moss. In 1955 the Mosses deeded, through an intermediary, a 21.30-acre tract on which the barn, garage, and rings were standing, to George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated. In 1959 the firm sold the property to the first of a series of owners who made other improvements, including the construction of a residence on the North May Street front of the lot. Since 1959 the barn and adjoining resources have been maintained as private property separate from operations at Mile-Away Farms. However, on occasion the show ring (B4) has been utilized for special events, one of which was the celebration of Virginia Walthour Moss’s eightieth birthday on 7 October 1989.

The appearance and architectural character of the Brewster Barn derive from an insistent symmetry and the development of its fabric, finish, and facilities above the local, conventional provision of shelter for horses and their care. The interior arrangement of the barn, with its grouped stalls along a center aisle with open lofts above, built of pine that has remained unpainted and mellowing with age to the present warm patina, and fitted with bold, black-painted iron hardware produced by Frank H. Kaylor, repeats features seen earlier in the main barn on Mile-Away Farms. The larger stalls in the Brewster Barn are one difference. The principal difference, and one that sets the Brewster Barn apart from all others that preceded it in Moore County, is the unparalleled provision of facilities for the pleasure of equine life.
These are grouped in the center of the barn on respective sides of the center aisle and flanked by paired blocks of stalls. The assembly room and the spacious porch in the front and center of the building, provides handsome spaces for riders to gather before and/or after participation in fox-hunts, horse shows, and pleasure riding. In plan the assembly room is flanked by essentially identical dressing rooms for male and female riders that include four cedar-lined dressing closets, each with shelves, drawers, and a hanging rod for riding habits and full bathrooms. (In ca. 1989 the bathroom on the northwest was refitted as a galley kitchen.) The pendant spaces in the center of the rear, northeast tier of stalls include a large tack room for the owner(s), a smaller tack room for visiting riders, feed and laundry rooms, and a passage that opens into a grooms’ bathroom and an enclosed stair that rises to the efficiency apartment for a resident groom on the loft level.

The Brewster Barn is rectangular in plan, with shallow, gable-front blocks projecting on its southwest (front) and northeast (rear) elevations, and well-preserved architectural fabric and finish. It stands on a low red-brick foundation, laid in common bond that incorporates a small brick-walled, concrete-floored basement utility room for mechanical systems under the assembly room, and a small, separate crawl space for access to the plumbing in the service area and apartment at the rear of the building. The elevations are sheathed in wide pine boards, painted white, that have the appearance of mitered corners but actually have overlapping joints that alternate front to side in successive tiers of the weatherboarding. Bold-three-part entablatures crown the elevations. A plain-board architrave carries along the top of the weatherboards and directly above the conventional window openings. The boards comprising the frieze have incised cuts to simulate a free modillion-block frieze. The cornice comprises a molded course that, in elevation, appears to support the exposed copper guttering. The first-story window openings holding double-hung sash are positioned directly below the entablature. Their framing comprises plain board uprights that rise from shallow, simple sills to the plain-board architrave. The stall windows and those in the upper gables have conventional, inset plain-board surrounds. All of this applied framing is painted dark green. The barn is covered by a side-gable roof of asphalt shingles and has flush, simply-finished gable ends. The roof is enhanced by paired gable-front dormers on each side of the projecting gables and a trio of large octagonal copper ventilators positioned symmetrically along the ridge line. The face and sides of the dormers are trimmed with a reduced-scale version of the incised modillion-block course along their eaves. In elevation the center ventilator is obscured on the façade by the brick chimney that serves the assembly room fireplace and the furnace in the basement.

The elevations and fenestration of the Brewster Barn relate directly to its interior plan. On its long southwest façade, the dominant one-and-a-half-story, three-bay gable-front block and porch mark the location of the assembly room. On the first story three double-leaf glazed oak doors with transoms open under the handsome demi-lune porch, while paired six-over-six sash windows are positioned in the upper-gable opening and serve a loft-level storage room. The porch is supported by corresponding Tuscan columns, free-standing at the front of the porch and engaged on the wall where they frame the entrance bays, and has a brick floor. Openings on the northwest and southeast sides of the block hold six-over-nine sash windows that illuminate the bathrooms adjoining the respective dressing rooms. At ground level, a four-pane metal window in a protective brick well and a hatch door, positioned respectively below those windows, serve the basement. The large openings flanking the projecting block
hold paired six-over-nine sash windows that illuminate the two dressing rooms. In plan these rooms are flanked by four stalls on the northwest and southeast, respectively, which are indicated by square openings on the façade. These openings are fitted with interior metal gratings for the safety of the horses and six-pane suspended sashes that can be raised inside the wall for ventilation. The paired, symmetrical dormer windows hold six-over-six sash.

The northwest and southeast gable-end elevations of the bar are essentially identical in their appearance. The wide center-aisle openings are protected by double-leaf sliding doors that are vertically sheathed and have symmetrical openings in their upper halves fitted with six-pane sash windows. Single window openings are centered in the upper gables and hold six-over-six sash windows that illuminate and ventilate the loft level.

On the Brewster Barn’s northeast, rear elevation, eight openings serving the stalls on the northeast side of its center aisle are in mirror-like positions to those on the façade. The fenestration of the projecting gable-front block and flanking bays differs. The first story of the gabled block has a four-bay arrangement, including two large openings holding paired six-over-six sash windows illuminating the owner’s tack and feed rooms, a smaller opening holding a six-over-six sash in the grooms’ bathroom, and a conventional door opening onto the passage leading to the interior and out onto a shallow brick stoop. The large opening in the upper gable that originally held four-part sash windows was altered ca. 1989 and fitted with glazed, four-part sliding doors that open from the groom’s apartment onto the simple elevated wood deck constructed at the same time by the present owner. The deck is supported by square wood posts and has a railing of three spaced, horizontal boards. It is not accessible from ground level. Paired window openings, each holding six-over-six sash windows serving the laundry and visitors’ tack rooms, occupy the bays on each side of the projecting block, between it and the respective stall openings. Below them, at ground level, two-pane metal windows in brick wells illuminate the crawl space.

The interior of the Brewster Barn has a center-aisle plan with an asphalt surface carrying between concrete thresholds at its gable-end entrances. The woodwork, partition walls, and sheathing are all of pine and unpainted, having a rich mellow patina on the ground-level stalls and rooms and the open loft above. The stalls are aligned on both sides of the aisle in groups of four and have a consistent finish. In elevation the lower half of each quartet of stalls is sheathed with flush horizontal boards, while the upper half is finished with narrow horizontal boards spaced in a symmetrical, rhythmic fashion to provide good air flow. The stall doors are centered, in pendant positions to their respective window openings, and vertically sheathed. They are mounted on bold full-width black-painted iron hinges crafted by Frank H. Kaylor. Each stall has a complementing blanket rack. Each stall has flush horizontal sheathing on the outside walls and on the partition walls to about a two-thirds height with metal grating in the upper third of the partition wall. Earth floors are overlaid with bedding and a narrow concrete perimeter band. The two stalls flanking the service rooms on the northeast side of the center aisle are used for washing and grooming horses. The open loft levels, which project slightly above the aisle walls, are accessible by wood ladders mounted on each side of the aisle and by shallow bridges at each gable end that span the center aisle.
The assembly room and dressing rooms on the southwest side of the aisle are accessible from the barn’s interior by two symmetrically-positioned doors, with six panes above two panels that open from the aisle into shallow anterooms. Separate doors of like design then open respectively into the central assembly room and a dressing room. The floors of the anterooms and dressing rooms are covered with glazed tan-colored tile installed ca. 2009, their walls are sheathed with flush vertical pine boards, and the ceilings covered with “celotex.” The dressing room on the northwest side of the assembly room has four dressing closets and complementing storage closets aligned on its northwest wall that are fitted with vertically sheathed pine doors with metal gratings in rectangular openings for ventilation. Storage closets above each of the dressing closets are fitted with double-leaf, vertically-sheathed doors. The bathroom for this dressing room, positioned between it and the assembly room, was refitted ca. 1989 as a galley kitchen with white appliances and cabinetry, “Sheet-rock” walls, and vinyl floor covering. The dressing room on the southeast side of the assembly room has four dressing closets and complementing storage closets aligned on its southeast wall. A door in its northwest wall opens into the bathroom that has a glazed tile floor, a toilet alcove, a walk-in shower stall, its original blue sink on chrome legs, and faux-tile wall covering.

The assembly room, in the center of the southwest tier of spaces, enjoys the most developed interior decoration. Its principal feature is a bold Craftsman-style chimney and fireplace laid up in header brick with stepped shoulders and a decorative stepped course on its sides. The mantel comprises heavy chamfered pine posts, curved-front impost blocks, and a thick beam shelf. It occupies the center of the room’s northeast wall and is flanked by six-over-six sash windows that overlook the barn’s center aisle. The floor is laid with alternating oak and dark wood boards in a concentric fashion. The walls are sheathed with flush, wide vertical boards with a high molded cap. The wall surfaces above the cap are decoratively painted. A bold cornice encircles the room and frames the ceiling of stained, striated wood panels laid in checkerboard fashion.

The barn’s four service rooms are aligned in the center of the stalls on its northeast side and comprise, from northwest to southeast, a laundry room, the owner’s tack room, an opening onto the passage providing access to the exterior and the loft apartment, the feed room, and the tack room for visiting riders. The walls in all these spaces are vertically sheathed with pine boards. The ceilings are also pine-sheathed. Wood doors with six panes above two panels open from the aisle into both the laundry and owner’s tack room, which have ca. 2009 glazed terra cotta tile floors. Both rooms have small glazed-front, wall-hung cabinets mounted beside windows on their outside walls. Six-part doors with two square panes above four panels open from the center aisle into the feed and visitor’s tack rooms, which have wood floors. The feed room has a built-in unit with five metal-lined bins and two-leaf hinged lids on its southeast wall. The tack room has four closets aligned on its southeast wall. They have vertical-board doors and simple shelving. The passage leading to the rear of the barn has doors aligned on its southeast wall opening, from the aisle to the rear door, respectively, into a closet, the stair to the loft apartment, and the grooms’ bathroom. The loft, efficiency apartment has an informal L-shaped plan, pine flooring, and pine-sheathing walls and ceiling. Three closets and a small bathroom are aligned on its northwest wall. Two large openings with paired six-over-six sash windows and a small six-over-six sash window in the bathroom overlook the barn’s center aisle. Paired sliding glazed doors flanked by
like fixed panes in the northeast wall open onto the deck. A door in the apartment’s southeast wall opens onto the loft and has a screen door for ventilation.

B3. Garage
ca. 1948-1949; ca. 1952-1955
Contributing building

Built at the same time as the Brewster Barn and sheathed with the same wide weatherboards as its elevation, this asymmetrically-composed late Colonial Revival-style one-story frame building comprises two principal blocks arranged in a T-plan. The larger of the two blocks, the stem of the “T,” is rectangular in shape, provides garaging for three conventional vehicles and space for a workbench, and is covered with a hip roof. The top of the “T” is a narrow perpendicular block covered with a gable-front roof that provides garage space for a large horse van. It has oversized openings on both gable ends for easy drive-through entering and exiting. Within a few years of its construction a shed extension was added onto the southeast side of the garage to provide run-in sheds for the adjoining paddocks. The garage stands on a low red brick foundation, has weather-boarded elevations, and is covered with hip and gable-front roofs of asphalt shingles. The eaves are finished with wide frieze boards and boxed cornices that contain concealed gutters. Square-in-plan, hip-roof frame ventilators with sheet plywood sheathing sit on the ridge lines of the hip and gable roofs in complementing positions. Here, as at the barn, the window openings and the overhead garage openings are positioned directly below the frieze boards. The windows surrounds have plain-board uprights rising from conventional sills to the frieze boards. The garage openings are simply framed.

The garage’s elevations have an asymmetrical, yet balanced appearance. Its southwest, front elevation has three large openings fitted with glazed-and-paneled overhead doors and a single six-over-six sash window in the main block and a tall opening fitted with an over-sized, overhead glazed-and-paneled door in the gable-front block. The tympanum of this block is sheathed with plywood and fitted with a replacement, decorative concealed gutters. Square-in-plan, hip-roof frame ventilators with sheet plywood sheathing sit on the ridge lines of the hip and gable roofs in complementing positions. Here, as at the barn, the window openings and the overhead garage openings are positioned directly below the frieze boards. The windows surrounds have plain-board uprights rising from conventional sills to the frieze boards. The garage openings are simply framed.

The addition on the garage’s southeast side is covered by a shed-like extension of the gable-front roof and has a deep, braced pent eave along its entire width. While its southwest side wall is engaged with the front elevation of the garage, its northeast end projects beyond the horse van garage a few feet. This projection is weather-boarded and covered by a gable roof. The run-in sheds have a principal three-part arrangement defined by heavy timber posts that have seen some sympathetic secondary frame partitioning through time.
The interiors of both garage blocks have poured concrete floors and unsheathed walls with the diagonally-nailed sub-sheathing under the weatherboards visible. The partition wall between the two blocks has diagonally-applied sheathing on the side facing the main garage interior. The original workbench is built along the northwest wall of the vehicular garage and occupies the space between the door and a small closet enclosed in its north corner. The workbench has a metal top, drawers, and paired doors protecting storage below. The closet has a six-panel wood door. Natural light from the two windows is enhanced by paired hanging lamps with green metal shades. A trio of these hanging lamps are positioned in like, strategic fashion near the windows in this block’s northeast side where they provide illumination for any servicing of vehicles.

B4. Show Ring
c. 1950-1952
Contributing structure

The show ring is an open track enclosed by a low wood railing used for horse shows, equine exhibitions, and training. The ring lies at a position on cross-axis in between the Brewster Barn, and Mile-Away’s main barn. Its position at the low point in the field, establishes the ring as a prominent focal point in the landscape, which supported its use for events, and in particular for showing, and subsequently selling horses. The ring is a symmetrical oval measuring roughly 300 feet long and 150 feet wide. The sand clay track encircles a greensward of like shape. Its perimeter rail was built by Moss, taking into consideration an unobstructed view from a spectator’s seated position. The three-foot, nine-inch-tall top rail allows an unobstructed view of the ring. The decorative perimeter fence is of wood construction with eight-by-eight posts. The top of the posts, between the upper two rails are fitted with shaped-bottom braces that in elevation have the appearance of impost blocks and impart an architectural character to the railing. Posts are spaced at ten-foot intervals spanned by three rails each. A pedestrian gate is positioned along the cross axis, along the northeast and southwest sides of the ring. Two double gates are positioned on the northwest and southeast ends of the ring, and serve as the points of entry for horse and riders. The simple double-leaf rectangular gates are enhanced with diagonal bracing. They open onto access lanes from both Mile-Away Farms and Sheldon Road, respectively.

B5. Breaking Pen
c. 1989
Noncontributing structure

Erected for Mrs. Gina Brown this round, sand clay pen is enclosed by a tall frame, unpainted wall carried on wood posts that splays outward as it rises from the ground. The horizontal boards are bolted to the posts and spaced for ventilation. It has a simple board-and-rail door on the west side. The pen occupies the site of a c. 1950-1952 training ring similar in shape to the show ring (B4) but smaller that appears in early documentary photographs, and is said to have been used on occasion for cock fights. The pen is used to break thoroughbred yearlings as part of their training for the race track.
On 38.95 acres in the southwest corner of the property lies the residual estate purchased in 1950 by Boyleston Adams Tompkins, an early figure in the history of the Moore County Hounds. On this gently sloping plateau, which descends sharply toward a man-made pond near its center, Tompkins established a residence, which he called The Paddock Jr., convenient to both Sheldon Road to the north and the expansive acreage of the hunt lands to the southeast. The property has an open character, employed as pasture along its northwest-facing Sheldon Road frontage. Longleaf pines populate the plateau, growing denser as the property descends southeasterly toward the hunt lands. A man-made pond, known as Tompkin’s Pond, lies in the southeast corner of the property, at the head of Carroll’s Branch. The 2.25 acre pond lies below the primary residence’s dominant position at the end of the entry drive. The pond’s bermed edges provide passage for horse and riders making their way from Mile-Away’s core barn complex into the hunt lands beyond. A nine-foot-wide sandy-lane entrance drive departs Sheldon Road at a position opposite the southern corner of Mile-Away’s core. Just as the Sheldon Road gated entry into Mile-Away Farms at this junction is marked by two heavy timber gate posts adorned with fox statues, the entry to The Paddock Jr. is fashioned with fox statues atop round timber gateposts. The sand-gravel drive departs at a right angle to Sheldon Road and descends gently, roughly 600 feet to the primary residence. Lined with a handsome allee of pecan trees, dogwoods, and crape myrtle, the drive is well shaded, as it terminates in a series of looped drives, providing access to the main residence and a rental cottage. Both structures are positioned with prominent views of the hunt lands, across Tompkin’s Pond. Two clusters of barns and outbuildings flank the property’s residential core. Lining the entrance drive, and property boundaries are perhaps the greatest concentration of extant Moss-era fence posts throughout the Mile-Away landscape. The fences are indicative of the period fences that Moss used to line the paddocks and fields of Mile-Away, and delineating the boundaries of the hunt lands and adjoining properties on the northwest edge of the hunt lands. One specimen post has found a position of prominence at the end of the entry drive, within the tear-shaped vehicular loop and forecourt to the residence.

The land on which The Paddock Jr. and its outbuildings stand was purchased on 2 January 1950 by Boyleston Adams Tompkins of 770 Park Avenue, New York City, who engaged John Bradley Washington Delehanty to design the house as a winter residence. Mr. Delehanty (1888-1965) had an office in the city at 2 West 45th Street, and specialized in the design of country houses, many of which were built for clients in the favored enclaves of Long Island. At present this is the only identified house of his design in North Carolina. Although the plans for The Paddock Jr. are not known to exist, a presentation drawing inscribed “The Paddock Jr. (,) Property of Mr. & Mrs. B. A. Tompkins at MacNeil
Township, Southern Pines, N.C.,” is framed and hangs in the house. The drawings were probably prepared in 1950 and construction undertaken that year. On 25 May 1951 Mr. Tompkins and his wife conveyed The Paddock Jr. to their daughter Judith Lee Tompkins who resided with them on Park Avenue. Water was supplied to the house from the well at Mile-Away Farms by guarantee of a deed executed by the Mosses. Built on a lot bordering the lands of The Moore County Company and Mile-Away Farms, The Paddock Jr. stood at the near center of the developing equine community.

The Paddock Jr. is a sophisticated late Colonial Revival-style one-story H-plan brick masonry house of deceiving simplicity. It enjoys a handsome tree-lined entrance drive off Sheldon Road, which forks slightly to the northeast and forms a symmetrical loop in front of the house’s west façade while another fork carries generally east to the apartment (P3). The house is built of red brick laid up in common bond that has a utilitarian appearance and indicates the architect’s intention that its elevations were to be painted, however, for reasons now unknown that enhancement was not carried out. The cross-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Aside from its insistent symmetry, in plan and generally on its elevations, the house has few stylistic enhancements. The principal features are the round, louvered ventilators, which are centered in the upper face of each gable end and framed by a circular header course, soldier-course lintels, and projecting header brick window sills.

The Paddock Jr. stands as built with four exceptions. A gable-roof carport of like design, sympathetic in its siting and appearance, was added on the front northwest corner of the house and provides covered access to the kitchen. It has a low brick apron and wood lattice elevations supported on square posts that also hold large panes of glass mounted behind the lattice for weather protection. The gable end is sheathed with manufactured exterior sheet sheathing with vertical striations. This addition was likely made soon after construction, during Miss Tompkins’s ownership, or later in the 1950s or early 1960s during Mrs. Fiske’s seasonal occupation. A one-story den, also sympathetic in its design, was added on the north side of the house as a gable-end wing and accessible from both the living and dining rooms. It appears to date to the 1960s or early 1970s. The more drastic change to the house, however, was the recent, post-2006 replacement of the original six-over-six sash windows with one-over-one metal sash. Except for the expected refitting of the kitchen, which has occurred at successive points in its history and changes in ownership, the interior of The Paddock Jr. remains as built.

The symmetry of the house’s H-shape plan and the location of the principal front and rear entrances in the recessed hyphen linking the legs of the “H” provide a welcoming forecourt on the façade and a slate-paved terrace on the rear that overlooks a sizeable pond, which predates the house and was the principal consideration in the siting of The Paddock Jr.

The two-bay gable front ells flank the forecourt and are linked by a picket fence centered by a gable-form pergola, which is axially positioned with the house’s front door. The entrance, its flanking bays, and a door in the southeast corner of the forecourt, which accesses the guest rooms in the south leg of the “H” are sheltered by a deep, projecting eave. The carport is offset at the northwest corner of the house and has a brick apron carrying under white-painted wood lattice elevations. The gable roof has wood sheathed ends.
The north and south side elevations of The Paddock Jr. are enhanced with shallow gable-front ells whose width repeats that of the hyphen. They originally had a generally symmetrical four-part arrangement that survives on the south elevation where windows illuminate the three bedrooms and two bathrooms aligned in the south leg of the “H”. The fenestration includes a bay window in the west front guest room; it is three-part and has single windows. These window openings and others have header sills and soldier-course lintels. At the basement level, a full-height door in a well opens into the basement which is also illuminated by a pair of metal frame, two-pane windows. The pattern is altered on the north elevation where the gable-roof wing housing the den is a dominant, yet sympathetic addition with closely matched brickwork and a three-part window that echoes a like window illuminating the dining room.

The east, rear elevation of The Paddock Jr. has a three-part arrangement with single-bay gable-front ells flanking the slate-paved terrace. The bays are fitted with centered oversized openings with single panes, having the appearance of “picture windows” of the 1950s that provide views from the interior to the pond. A staircase with steps rising from the ground level on the north and south to an axial landing, with another, transverse step rising to the terrace level, links the terrace and the house grounds. The terrace is an open rectangle, enhanced with shallow perimeter planting beds. Doors open onto it from the entrance hall, living room, and master bedroom. The chimney on the south side of the terrace, that serves a fireplace in the master bedroom, also provides an outdoor grill. Shallow shed-roof blocks, with brick and wood-sheathed elevations, now having an incongruous appearance, are positioned along the west half of the north and south sides of the terrace. They were originally to be spanned by an overhead trellis that when planted would have provided shade, but whether the trellis was built is unclear.

The interior of The Paddock Jr. is remarkably well-designed and elegantly appointed with traditional woodwork, six-panel doors, original and early equestrian-theme wallpapers, and a large pine-paneled living room with built-in bookcases. Its plan reflects the symmetry of the exterior. The front door opens into a hall that occupies most of the hyphen, and is on axis with paired doors opening onto the terrace. The hall has framed openings at its north and south ends. The north opening has the form of a recess with a broad axial opening into the dining room and doors in its east and west sides, respectively, that open into the living room and a passage that communicates with the kitchen, its pantry, and service closets. A similar recess at the south end of the entrance hall gives onto passages on the east and west sides that connect, respectively, to the master bedroom suite with extensive closet space and a pair of guest rooms flanking a shared bathroom. Here, as is likely in Mr. Delehanty’s other houses, he well understood and appreciated the lives lived by his clients and provided them with comfortable accommodations on par with those of their primary residence.

P3. The Apartment (“The Minimus”)
Noncontributing building

The apartment is a one-story concrete block and structural terra cotta block masonry building, covered with gable-end and hip roofing with asphalt shingles, that is rectangular in plan except for the engaged porch offset at the left end of its front elevation. It has two front-facing, triangular louvered attic vents at
the ridge line and manufactured sheet sheathing in the gable end. The exact history of the building is yet to be understood, however, it is possible that the central block of the present building was built as a small guest apartment for a family friend. It is constructed of terra cotta blocks and contains a pine-sheathed main room with a fireplace whose chimney is flanked by a small bathroom and a dressing closet with a built-in dresser. It has two paired six-over-six sash windows that overlook the Walthour-Moss Foundation woodlands (to the east). Their brick sills are repeated in Mrs. Moss’s addition to the south. Whether there was a small kitchenette is unclear. The space immediately beside it, to the north, appears to have been a garage that has since been enclosed and finished as a bedroom. After acquiring the property from Mrs. Fiske’s estate in 1987, Mrs. Moss added a perpendicular concrete-block wing containing a kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, and the porch now enclosed with jalousie windows. It has six-over-six sash and simple finishes inside. In about 2008 Cameron Sadler added the smaller stuccoed concrete-block section on the pond (north) end of the building that houses a bedroom and closet serving the bedroom in the refitted garage. The apartment’s generally symmetrical west elevation has both six-pane and six-over-six sash windows. The building has been called “The Minimus” for some years.

P4. Horse Barn
ca. 1988-1990
Noncontributing building

The horse barn was built by Mrs. Moss after she came to reside at The Paddock Jr. The barn is a one-story, rectangular frame building, sheathed with manufactured exterior sheet siding, that is covered with a gable-end roof of asphalt shingles that projects on the northwest front elevation where it shelters the two Dutch doors into permanent, sheathed stalls, a third door for the tack room, and the open front of the run-in stall in the southwest end of the alignment. The other sides are blind. A concrete pad for grooming adjoins the northeast end of the barn.

P5. Barn
Originally built ca. 1950-1960, moved here ca. 2008
Noncontributing building

Originally built to house the fence mill and its operations, and sited near the implement shed (M20) at the northeast end of Buchan Field, this frame building was moved here and reset on a poured concrete pad and a concrete block foundation. The side-gable roof of painted sheet metal has exposed end rafters; the roof extends as a shallow projection on its gable ends. The principal original feature of the building is the weatherboard sheathed wall with mitered corners with four generally symmetrical window openings of which three hold original six-over-six sash, and the fourth is enlarged and now holds six-over-nine sash. The building’s other three walls were open. After the move the northwest gable end of the building was enclosed and its lower level sheathed with board-and-batten below original weatherboarding in the upper gable, and finished inside for use as a tack room. It has conventional doors on the southwest and southeast sides and modern fenestration on the other two sides, and large openings for vehicular access on the southwest elevation.
P6. Workshop  
ca. 1988-1990  
Noncontributing building  

This small, rectangular one-story service building appears to be prefabricated. It stands on a poured concrete pad, has elevations of manufactured exterior sheet siding, and is covered with a gambrel-front roof of asphalt shingles. A double-leaf door of like materials opens into the interior, which has partial plywood sheathing. There are two small windows in the rear gambrel end. (The building was possibly placed here as a pump house.)

P7. Run-in Shed #1  
ca. 1950-1955, moved here ca. 2007  
Noncontributing building  

This well-built rectangular frame run-in shed originally stood in the Mile-Away Farms pasture that was platted and sold in 2010 to Lynn W. McGugan. It was moved here ca. 2007 and serves its original purpose. It is sheathed with German siding and covered with a gable end roof of sheet metal. The side elevation to Sheldon Road is open while the other elevations are blind.

P8. Run-in Shed #2  
ca. 1950-1955, moved here ca. 2007  
Noncontributing building  

The history on this building is the same as above. Its construction is essentially the same except that the run-in opening is framed by narrow German-sided wall sections that, in effect, frame the opening.

P9. Poultry House #1  
ca. 2009-2011  
Noncontributing building  

Having an *ad hoc*, Quonset hut appearance, this structure is built of metal and frame materials and has vertical, wall-like sheathed ends and low side walls framing the pen area. The front end wall is fitted with a gabled cap. The pen has an arched metal framework on which the screen wire is attached. Areas of the wiring are covered with sheet metal to provide shelter for the animals. It was built by Lincoln Sadler.

P10. Poultry House #2  
ca. 2009-2011  
Noncontributing building  

The history and description of this building is essentially that of the above poultry house (P8), except that both end walls have gabled caps.
P11. Chicken Coop
ca. 2009-2011
Noncontributing structure

This small flat-roof, rectangular frame structure with wood support posts has four open sides protected by wire. It has a board roof.

P12. (former) Fox House
ca. 1950-55, moved here ca. 2008
Noncontributing building

This building, originally a part of the kennels in which foxes were kept to provide scent for the drag hunts, stood near a now-lost cattle barn on the part of the Mile-Away Farms pasture that was platted and sold in 2008 to Mr. and Mrs. Janis, now 951 Sheldon Road. The small, rectangular frame building is sheathed with both board-and-batten and German siding in its gable ends and covered with a gable-front roof of 5-V sheet metal. Removed from its original site, lacking its adjoining metal fenced runs, and lacking integrity, it is now noncontributing despite its original significance in the history of drag hunts and fox hunting in Moore County.

Mile-Away Farms In-parcels

Today five in-parcels supporting early twenty-first-century houses and stables, occupy subdivided lots within the historic boundaries of Mile-Away’s fields and pastures, to the southeast side of Sheldon Road. While the placement of each contemporary residence and supporting equestrian outbuilding intrudes upon the historic landscape setting, the properties continue the equestrian land use first established at The Paddock Jr., and within Mile-Away’s core complex, and therefore do not significantly compromise Mile-Away’s landscape integrity. Buchan Field separates three, adjoining, developed, subdivided parcels behind, and southeast of Mile-Away’s core barn complex, and two other parcels to the northeast. While each parcel contains newly-built residences and supporting barns, stables, and outbuildings, their open, fenced pastures, dotted with Longleaf Pine continue to convey the spatial character and setting important to Mile-Away’s sense of place.

McGugan Farm
947 Sheldon Road

1. McGugan Residence/ Stable/ Garage
2010-2011, 2013
Noncontributing building

The lot on which this large irregular U-shaped building stands, comprising 10.31 acres, was sold on 16 March 2010 by Mile-Away Farm, Inc., the corporation of the Moss heirs, to Lynn W. McGugan, trustee of the Lynn W. McGugan Revocable Living Trust. The present five-part U-shaped building comprises
the center block, hyphens, and stable block, which were erected in 2010-2012, and the residential wing that is nearing completion in 2013. Reflecting a recent interest to combine multiple uses in a single building, the McGugans’s year-round residence/stable/garage was designed by John Keating, a Chicago-area architect, and built by Peter Dowd, a building contractor based in Carthage, North Carolina.

The eclectic, traditionally-styled building includes the one-story side-gabled rectangular, stone masonry center block with a cupola, a small sunroom hyphen on its west side, also side-gabled that connects with the residential wing, a hyphen on the east side in the form of a breezeway, and the rectangular, hip-roofed, stuccoed six-stall stable wing. Three three-bay center block has deeply-recessed, double-leaf glazed doors on the front and back, narrow three-pane windows in the flanking bays, and a bow-front stone terrace on the south rear. The stable is fronted by an arcade that is a continuation of the breezeway and terminates on the north with a one-and-a-half story two-vehicle garage with an apartment above it. The apartment is illuminated by a large, west-facing gable-front dormer that is engaged with the block’s hip roof. The pendant residential wing now under construction is of complementing character and enjoys generally symmetrical elevations. The elevations are finished with stone veneer and composition materials while the roofing is both metal and asphalt shingles on respective blocks of the building. The grounds are grass-covered and have a thick grove-like canopy of pine trees.

2. Chicken Coop
ca. 2011-2012
Noncontributing structure

This small two-part, two-level frame structure comprises a rectangular wire-fenced pen at ground level and a smaller, shed-roof upper block that is both screened and sheathed, which contains nesting boxes and is accessible internally from the lower pen.

*Rader House/Barn*
949 Sheldon Road

Rader House/Barn
949 Sheldon Road
2009
Noncontributing building

The lot on which this combination house and barn stands, comprising 10.30 acres, was conveyed on 22 December 2008 by Mile-Away Farm, Inc., to Richard and Lori Rader of Palm Coast, Florida. The architect/designer and builder are not known.

The eclectic, yet traditionally-styled one-and-a-half-story building can best be described as comprising a principal gable-front barn block with its center-aisle entrances visible on the northeast and southwest gable ends and a major residential wing with a stone-veneer northwest gable end, which is effectively the front of the house block. The barn appears to be built of concrete block with an applied stucco
finish. Its four horse stalls and a center grooming stall, fitted with metal Dutch doors and paired doors, respectively, open under an engaged shelter, supported by square posts on low stone veneer piers, on its southeast side. Double-leaf sliding doors are centered on the northeast and southwest gable ends of the barn block and open onto its center aisle. Four six-over-six windows on the northeast front and like-positioned double-leaf glazed doors, opening onto the roof deck of a one-story porch, also flanked by windows on the southwest serve the living quarters in the barn’s loft level. The porch floor is engaged with an open terrace accessible from the residential block. The tier of spaces on the northwest side of the barn’s center aisle accommodates both residential and equine use. The elevations of the concrete block and frame building are finished with stone veneer, stucco, and composition materials. The stone-veneered gable front of the residential block has a gable-roof entrance porch with wood posts on low stone piers and appealing header-course brick surrounds framing the windows and entrance. Asphalt shingles cover the gable roofs. The grounds of the house/barn are grass-covered, pine tree-shaded, and include a fenced paddock between the house and the Walthour-Moss Foundations lands.

Windswepth Farm
951 Sheldon Road

The lot on which this house, a horse barn, and a well house stand, comprising 20.22 acres, was sold by Mile-Away Farm, Inc., on 12 March 2008, to Eric M. and Kendyl B. Janis of Clayton, North Carolina. The eclectic design of the house and barn reflects the collaboration of Mrs. Janis and an interior designer who drew up the plans to the owner’s expressed wishes. Jay-Kar Contracting, Incorporated, of Southern Pines, erected all three brick-veneer frame buildings. The brick has a mottled sand coloration and is laid in common bond. Although now occupied by the owners, this house is sited and designed to be a guest house. The principal residence is to be built in a pendant position to the west with a similar relationship to the horse barn.

1. House
2010
Noncontributing building

While having a generally rectangular plan, the appearance of this house reflects the combination of high, multiple asphalt-shingled gable-roof planes, offsets and projecting bays on the southeast and northeast elevations, five garage openings fitted with decorative overhead doors, and varied fenestration with stone-trimmed openings. This combination has produced a house that has no clear front or rear elevation, but has expressed development on each of its sides. The simplest of these is the northwest elevation where paired windows on the first story and complementing dormer windows illuminate the tall pull-through garage for a horse trailer. The northwest “half” of the building is partitioned and used as garages for vehicles of differing sizes while the southeast “half” contains living quarters now occupied as a second home by the owners, which are accessed from an engaged porch on the southeast elevation that faces the woodlands of the Walthour-Moss Foundation. The fenestration includes single, double, and triple six-over-six sash windows, an ornamental arch-headed six-pane window, and dormer
windows, together with glazed, single-pane French doors. The grounds of the house include a terrace on its southwest side and foundation plantings of mostly evergreen shrubbery.

2. Horse Barn
2010
Noncontributing building

The gable-front, common-bond brick-veneer frame horse barn is built on a center-aisle plan and provides stableing for six horses together with a grooming stall, a utility room, and a large tack room. It is a true rectangle in plan except for a shallow projecting, off-center gable roof ell on its northwest side facing Sheldon Road, which is finished with a stone veneer. The three-bay northeast and southwest gable ends are essentially identical in appearance and feature paired ornamental sliding doors on the opening into the center aisle, windows with six-over-six sash, stone lintels, and board-and-rail blinds. The loft openings are also fitted with sliding doors and positioned below a triangular louvered vent. The eaves of the asphalt-shingle roof are heavily boxed. The side elevations have a general symmetry, excepting the ell on the northwest elevation, with three arch-headed stall openings fitted with metal Dutch doors on each side and stone-trimmed windows serving them and the auxiliary rooms. The architectural treatment of the stone-veneered ell includes arch-headed openings framing the entrance and a large multi-pane three-part window and transom on the first story, a small attic window in the upper gable, and a gable-front porch supported by wood posts on low square stone piers.

3. Well-house
2010
Noncontributing building

Rectangular in plan and covered with an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof, the well-house is a small brick-veneered frame building with a door on its northeast gable front. The other elevations are blind.

Russell-Brannum Farm
230 Mile-Away Lane

The 14.89-acre lot on which this small farm’s buildings stand was sold by Mile-Away Farm, Incorporated, to Munro Russell on 12 October 2007. The acreage had previously been used as a horse pasture, and a two-level barn erected ca. 1950-55 by Mr. Moss stood here on the southeast edge of Buchan Field. Mr. Russell drastically remodeled the historic concrete block and frame barn and converted the second-story hay loft into living quarters. On 24 April 2012 he sold the property, then including the barn, two small frame outbuildings, and a log-construction building he relocated here from Virginia to Robert Kent Brannum and his wife. They added an eight-stall ell on the northwest side of the barn, built a separate house, and now reside here year-round.
1. Moss-Russell-Brannum Barn  
Noncontributing building

The fabric and appearance of this barn reflects the three periods of its construction, alteration, and addition. The original Moss barn is the core structure, rectangular in plan, two stories in height, and now covered with a gable-end roof of pre-painted sheet metal. The lower level is built of concrete blocks while the upper level was sheathed with wide German siding and had openings on its northwest side at the loft level for unloading hay. The loft was vented by small windows in the upper northeast and southwest gable ends. A feed room in the center of the ground level was flanked by sizeable, separate open four-bay feeding shelters for horses. The shelter at the northeast end of the barn and opening on its southeast side onto “poplar pasture” was for weanlings. The like, pendant shelter at the southwest end of the barn opened onto a separate pasture on the barn’s northwest side that then included a part of Buchan Field.

Mr. Russell left the first story of the barn as built. On the second level he installed living quarters in the center of the barn, with over-scaled, multi-bay fenestration on the southeast side, and removed sheathing at both gable ends of the loft, where he created faux Rustic porches with an unprotected Rustic-style stair on the northeast end descending to ground level.

In 2012 Mr. Brannum added a one-story-with-loft frame gabled eight-stall ell, also covered with pre-painted sheet metal, on the northwest side of the barn and effectively created a T-plan building. A small, four-sided cupola crowns the juncture of the two blocks. The ell has engaged full-length sheds protecting the stall entrances on its northeast and southwest sides and a low, inset loft level which has the appearance of a clerestory. Double-leaf sliding doors on the ground level and like double-leaf doors on the loft level protect openings on the northwest gable end. Traditional in its design and sheathed with white-painted composition materials, the barn has doors enhanced with paired x-shaped rails painted in contrasting color and the expected finish on its center-aisle stabling.

2. Log building  
Nineteenth century, moved ca. 2008-2010  
Noncontributing building

The original purpose of this rectangular single pen, diamond-notch log-construction building is not known. It stands on low stone piers and is covered with a side gable roof of sheet metal with board-and-batten gable ends. A stone-sided earth ramp on its northeast side leads to a large opening cut into the wall.
3. Kennel/Workshop  
ca. 2008-2010  
Noncontributing building

Having the appearance of a run-in shed, and sited in such a fashion, this small rectangular, possibly pre-fabricated one-story frame building, is said to have been first used as a kennel and is now used as a workshop. It stands on a concrete pad, has brown-stained board-and-batten sheathing, and an off-center gable-end roof of sheet metal. It has a Dutch door with X-shaped rails on the northeast gable end, four windows on the southeast side, two windows on the northwest elevation, and a Dutch door on the southwest gable end, the upper half treated as a window.

4. Run-in Shed  
ca. 2008-10  
Noncontributing building

Rectangular in plan, sheathed with brown-stained board-and-batten, and covered by an off-center gable-end roof of sheet metal, this shed has Dutch doors with X-shaped rails on its northeast and southwest gable ends, a blind southeast elevation, and two openings on its northwest side opening onto a pasture, one with Dutch doors with X-shaped rails.

5. Brannum House  
2012  
Noncontributing building

The traditional design of the wood frame Brannum House reflects a hybrid combination of two popular house types of the early twentieth century; the one-story house with ornamental gables on its façade and a high hip roof representing a simple version of the Queen Anne style and the bungalow, whose iconic porch supports usually featured a stone or brick pier supporting tapering wood posts. Those features appear in the Brannum House whose design was adapted from a photograph for the owner by David Nichols of Southern Pines. It was built by Russ Cribbs Construction Company of Pinehurst. The generally symmetrical north facing five-bay façade features varied fenestration, three gables, porch posts with stone piers, and a stone veneer apron, below composition sheathed elevations, that wrap the front corners and carry along its sides. The rear elevation, facing south/southeast to the Walthour-Moss Foundation woodlands, has a visible basement level with living quarters and a wood deck on the main level, which engages a gable-roof porch. A three-vehicle garage also covered with a hip roof of asphalt shingles is set at an angle to the house’s main block and linked to it with a hyphen. First occupied by the Brannums on 1 November 2012 the house has grass-covered grounds and minimal foundation plantings.
Skyline Farm
305 Mile-Away Lane

The triangular tract of land comprising 10.01 acres on which Skyline Farm is located was sold by Virginia Walthour Moss to D. Bradley Charles and his wife, Maryann S. Charles, on 23 July 1996. It was described in the deed as being on the north side of Carroll Road, which was an earlier name for today’s Mile-Away Lane that is also Fire Lane Two, and the transaction also included an easement for access to the property from North May Street along Carroll Road. The property had been a part of Mrs. Moss’s Mile-Away Farm, Incorporated, until 22 July when in her role as president she conveyed the property into her personal ownership. Mrs. Charles was an employee of Mile-Away Farm, beginning in about 1981, and trained and showed horses for Mrs. Moss. Except for the drives and the immediate yard encircling the house and barn, the acreage is mostly fenced with dark post and rail fencing.

1. House and Barn
1996-1997
Noncontributing building

Designed by Linda Dreher of Vass, and built by contractor William Gozzi of Southern Pines, the farm house and barn are a large modified H-shaped building comprising two large rectangular blocks linked by a short, small hyphen that provides covered movement from one to the other. Mr. Gozzi built all four of the buildings at Skyline Farm. The house and barn stand on a low stucco-clad concrete block foundation and are sheathed with vertically-grooved manufactured exterior sheet siding. The two blocks are covered by gable-end roofs of asphalt shingles. The building is traditional, almost utilitarian in appearance, and exhibits little decorative finish.

The building stands on a near east/west axis and will be described as such. The Charleses’s house is the smaller of the two blocks and forms the south half of the building. It has two-bay west and three-bay east elevations and a large gable-front screened porch and open deck on the south side that look across paddocks into the woodlands of the Walthour-Moss Foundation.

The one-story-with-loft barn is built on a center aisle plan and has four horse stalls plus grooming, utility, and tack rooms together with office space. The openings into the center aisle in the east and west elevations are protected by paired top-hung sliding doors with each leaf having a glazed upper half and a sheathed lower panel with an applied X-shaped device. Paired doors of like design cover the loft entrance on the west elevation while paired openings in the east gable end are fitted with six-over-six sash. The ground-story windows also hold six-over-six sash. The gable roof extends on the barn’s north side to cover a shelter supported by braced square uprights. A square cupola with louvers sits atop the barn’s ridge line.
2. Run-in Shed #1
1996-1997
Noncontributing building

Contemporary with the house and barn, this frame shed is a rectangular frame building sheathed with the same vertically grooved exterior sheet siding as the house and covered with a gable-end roof of asphalt shingles. An opening on the north gable end, protected by a sliding door, opens into a small hay/feed room enclosed in the shed’s northwest corner. It engages a partition wall under the ridge line that divides the respective east and west shelters, which have full-width openings. The south wall is blind.

3. Run-in Shed #2
ca. 1998
Noncontributing building

This small rectangular frame building is sheathed with vertically grooved exterior siding and covered with an asphalt shingle side-gable roof. The symmetrical southeast front of the shed has paired openings for the shelters that flank a centered feed room protected by a sliding top-hung door. A like sliding top-hung door centered on the northwest elevation provides access for the delivery of feed and hay from outside the paddocks. The other elevations are blind.

4. Run-in Shed #3
ca. 1999
Noncontributing building

This shed represents a third variant of run-in-shed design and has a two-part arrangement. A hay and feed room, accessible through a door on the east side, occupies the blind south half of the building while the run-in shelter, with an opening on the west side, occupies the north half. Like the other sheds, this one is sheathed with vertically grooved sheet siding and covered with a side-gable roof of asphalt shingles.

INTEGRITY
The integrity of the Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms district is best demonstrated by the continuity of its cultural landscape resources. This landscape and its remnant historic features retain the integrity of the district’s historic equestrian farms, and the pristine Sandhills setting of the Moore County hunt lands. The district’s architectural resources reinforce and facilitate the historic association of each property with the history of equestrian sport, and the Moore County Hounds.

The more than 2,852 acres nominated lands include the intact portions of the original 2,000-plus acre hunting grounds secured by the Moore County Company. The setting and feeling of the district’s hunt lands and associated equestrian farms are distinctive and evokes the historic qualities of the landscape even today. A well-managed pine forest, well-maintained sandy lanes and equestrian trails, and the
purposeful placement of jumps and fences give the appearance that this seemingly natural landscape is both well-managed and protected. The landscape thus retains a high degree of integrity with little disturbance over a more than eighty year period, with the continued association of the Moore County Hounds and corresponding protection and management of the hunt lands by the Walthour-Moss Foundation.

The district’s character-defining landscape features convey a high degree of integrity of materials and workmanship for the district. Over forty-seven miles of earthen trails, a conserved pine forest, and built elements of the hunt and associated equestrian farms, namely paddocks, fences and jumps continue the historic setting and materiality. The mature and mixed-age pine forest of the hunt lands continues to convey the biotic community of the pine barrens. The forest, as conserved, conveys important elements of size, scale, and scenery to the district. The preeminence of wiregrass (*Aristida stricta*) and longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) across the hunt lands is made possible by the continued land management practices of the Walthour-Moss Foundation and their partners. Although jumps and fences have been added, many retain their original alignment and some retain original cedar posts with rails replaced in-kind in keeping with the historic condition.

The integrity of the district’s architectural resources reflects both active preservation and contemporary build-out. Taken together the buildings and structures of the district largely convey the property’s historic character and association, best represented by the well-preserved character of the Brewster Barn and the intact buildings and structures of Mile-Away Farm’s core farm complex. However, the recent subdivision of Mile-Away’s outlying fields and pastures somewhat alters the setting of the district. The five current in-parcels mark a departure from the style, material, and scale of the historic buildings, and, furthermore, spatially separate both Mile-Away’s complex and the Brewster Barn complex from the hunt lands. Incremental refurbishing of buildings and structures has also diminished the integrity of design, materials, and workmanship of some individual buildings. Recent alterations to some of the buildings at Mile-Away have resulted in the removal of original material and detailing, and their replacement with modern materials and construction methods. However, most of these buildings retain sufficient integrity to convey their historic significance.

In summary, the Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms’ high degree of landscape integrity overshadows its individual, noncontributing architectural features, and successfully conveys the character and qualities of its historic period and identity. Despite recent development, the district’s continued association with the Moore County Hounds and the long-standing stewardship ethic that has preserved the land, making its terrain suitable for the hunt and equestrian recreation, is clearly evident and well-supported in the preservation of the contributing features of this hunt-country landscape.

**A GENERAL STATEMENT REGARDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

The property’s significance is closely related to the surrounding environmental and subsequent landscape use. Archaeological remains related to the naval stores industry, such as tar kilns and other structural remains which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the historical development of the property. Information concerning the evolution of
land-use patterns, agricultural/industrial practices, and social mobility, as well as structural details is often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the property. At this time no investigation has been done to fully document these remains, but it is noted that they exist within the property boundaries, and this should be considered in any development of the property.
Summary Paragraph

The Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms, comprising about 2,852 acres of pine-covered woodlands and the barn, kennels, residence, outbuildings, and paddock complex at the heart of a legendary horse farm, together with The Paddock Jr. and the Brewster Barn Complex, which both hold important historical associations with the principal resources, occupy an important place in the equine history of Moore County and the state of North Carolina. Together, these four resources at the northeast edge of Southern Pines embody the historic center of a semi-rural community of horse farms in an expansive landscape of fenced pastures and paddocks lining paved and sand-clay roads and drives leading to set-back houses, barns, and stables. The Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms hold statewide significance in the areas of conservation, recreation, and social history for their association with the history of fox-hunting in North Carolina, the development of the leading equine community in the state at Southern Pines, and as a privately-funded conservation initiative, whose origin can be traced to 1929, that is preserving thousands of acres of longleaf pine woodlands in the North Carolina Sandhills. The ca. 1948-1949 Brewster Barn holds local significance in the area of architecture as a highly developed and remarkably well-preserved horse barn that is arguably the most imposing equine-related building in Moore County. These historic properties meet National Register Criteria A, B, and C, reflecting as well the contributions of William Ozelle Moss (1902-1976) and Virginia Walthour Moss (1909-2006) to equine life and sport. The period of significance begins in 1929 with the first acquisition of woodlands for fox-hunting by The Moore County Company, continues through the creation of Mile-Away Farms by the Mosses and the relocation of the Moore County Hounds there in 1942, and carries up to 1963, by which time the Mosses had made their critical contributions to fox-hunting and secured their place in the equine history of Moore County and North Carolina. Both, however, continued their association with the Moore County Hounds and their leadership roles in the equine community until their deaths. Although the equine use of the hunt lands and Mile-Away Farms continues through to the present, the post-1963 use is not of exceptional significance.

The genesis of this important chapter in the equine and social history of the Sandhills and the state occurs earlier, nearby, and through the efforts of a small number of individuals led by the ardor of the novelist James Boyd (1888-1944) for fox-hunting. Following on his experience in the field foxhunting abroad while a student at Trinity College, Cambridge, from 1910 to 1912, James Boyd returned to Weymouth, his family’s winter estate in Southern Pines, and founded the Moore County Hounds in 1914. The pack’s progress, interrupted during World War I, was renewed in 1919 with James Boyd’s decision to live year-round in Southern Pines. The Moore County Hounds, the first modern-day hunt in North Carolina, was recognized by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association and the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America in 1920. In 1923 Jackson Herr Boyd joined his older brother as a joint master of the Moore County Hounds, and they shared that position until 1942. In 1929, after a decade of unprecedented growth in the resort communities of Southern Pines and Pinehurst, the Boyd brothers led the formation of The Moore County Company and its acquisition of a vast 2,000-plus acre tract that lay northeast of Southern Pines and bordered a part of the Weymouth estate. The property was
the as-yet unsold part of a platted subdivision known as Edgemoore Heights. In this prescient action they were joined by Augustine Healy, Charles Thomas Crocker, and Boylston Adams Tompkins, all fox-hunting scions of wealth and privilege and members of the Moore County Hounds. The Sandhills Citizen announced the purchase on 4 April 1930 under the caption, “Edgemoore Tract Is Acquired For The Hunt.”

War intervened again, and the Boyd brothers were compelled to give up their leadership of the Moore County Hounds. In 1937 William O. and Virginia Walthour Moss had purchased a small farm on the west side of The Moore County Company lands and by 1939 they had built an eighteen-stall horse barn on the property that became Mile-Away Farms. The hounds were relocated to newly-built kennels at Mile-Away in summer 1942 and they have remained on these grounds to the present. William O. Moss became master and huntsman of the Moore County Hounds and held those offices until his death in 1976. Between 1942 and 1963--and afterward, the Mosses oversaw the growth of fox-hunting in the Sandhills and actively supported the development of an important, influential equine community on and around Young’s Road. In ca. 1948-1949 they saw to completion the Brewster Barn and companion garage at Mile-Away Farms that bear the name of William John Brewster, a joint master of the Moore County Hounds.

The Mosses’s long stewardship of the Moore County Hunt Lands culminated in the formation of the Walthour-Moss Foundation. In 1978 Mr. Moss’s bequest of 1,700-plus acres to the foundation, comprised mostly of The Moore County Company lands that had been absorbed into Mile-Away Farms, became official. Between 1979 and 1987 Virginia Walthour Moss donated a further 700-plus acres of Mile-Away’s pine woodlands to the Walthour-Moss Foundation. From about 1987 until her death in 2006 Mrs. Moss resided at The Paddock Jr., which had been built in 1950-1951 by Boylston Adams Tompkins on acreage bordering both Mile-Away Farms and the hunt lands of the Moore County Hounds. Her body was buried in Hilltop Cemetery, where that of her husband had been interred in 1976, in the center of woodlands through which they had hunted during most of their adult lives and that are now preserved, managed, and maintained through their foresight and generosity.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND, RECREATION, CONSERVATION, AND SOCIAL HISTORY SIGNIFICANCE

Introduction

While the establishment of the Moore County Hounds in 1914, its recognition by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association and the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America (hereinafter MFHA) in 1920, and the acquisition of vast woodland acreage at the edge of Southern Pines as the hunt lands of the pack in 1929-30 occurred in what has been described as a golden age of fox-hunting in America, the genesis of the sport in the Carolinas, and other parts of the South below Virginia, lies in events of the late nineteenth century. The two oldest hunts in these states, the Moore County Hounds in
North Carolina, and the Aiken Hounds, which were established at Aiken, South Carolina, also in 1914, but were recognized by the MFHA earlier, in 1916, were both organized in communities that gained prominence and prestige as winter resorts in the late nineteenth century. Southern Pines, coupled with Pinehurst, its sister resort, and Aiken both flourished in the opening years of the twentieth century as increasing numbers of the affluent from the Northeast and Upper Midwest sought refuge in a milder, temperate winter climate. These men, women, and their families first stayed in the hotels, inns, and boarding houses erected for their accommodation, and enjoyed the recreational opportunities and facilities provided for their pleasure. Equestrian events, together with golf and tennis, were favored by a clientele that enjoyed leisure. Many of these visitors, after extended stays year after year in rented lodgings, bought lots and acreages on which they built winter residences. This evolution produced a seasonal resident population that soon created social institutions of their own. James Boyd of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Southern Pines, and Thomas and Louise Hitchcock of New York and Aiken, the founders of the Moore County Hounds and the Aiken Hounds, respectively, were members of this society. In both towns the hunts have proved to be the most lasting of these institutions and in each instance they have become important features of the social and recreational life of their respective communities.

The development of winter resorts in the South and the influx of seasonal visitors and residents into the Carolinas were made possible by the expansion of rail lines and service in the decades around the turn of the twentieth century. Aiken, however, had an advantage in this regard. The Charleston to Hamburg Railroad, completed in 1833 by the South Carolina Canal and Railroad Company, carried through Aiken and gave its residents convenient access to Charleston, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia. Augusta lay on the southwest side of the Savannah River, directly opposite the west terminal of the line at Hamburg, on the east side of the river that formed the boundary between South Carolina and Georgia. The railroad brought goods and visitors to Aiken and Augusta from Charleston and enabled inland farmers and planters to send crops to the port city and its markets. Both towns prospered and gained presence and seasonal residents.

Aiken’s development as a winter resort began in the 1870s and flourished through the 1880s and 1890s and well into the twentieth century. A critical figure in this transformation was Louise Eustis (1867-1934), the daughter of George Eustis (1828-1872) and granddaughter of William Wilson Corcoran (1798-1888), the wealthy banker, philanthropist, and benefactor of the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C. The young Miss Eustis came to Aiken with her aunt, Miss Celestine Eustis (1836-1921), who assumed responsibility for her following her parents’ early deaths. In 1891 Louise Eustis, already an accomplished horsewoman, married Thomas Hitchcock (1860-1941) and together they promoted Aiken as a resort and a center of winter equestrian sports. Their private hunt, established in the 1890s, drew friends, and they went on to establish a formal hunt, the Aiken Hounds, in 1914, the Aiken Horse Show in 1916, and the Aiken Drag Hunt in 1919. The hunts, the horse show, and a steeplechase race were held on vast woodlands the Hitchcocks acquired and placed in trust, in part, for equestrian use. They survive today as Hitchcock Woods.
The development of Southern Pines and Pinehurst in Moore County, North Carolina, followed on events in Aiken and reflect many parallels in their growth and prestige as a center of winter equestrian sports in North Carolina. As in Aiken, equestrian life in Moore County has become a highly-successful year-round operation. The construction of the Raleigh and Augusta Rail Road, advancing from the North Carolina capital through Moore County, on into South Carolina, and beyond to Augusta, Georgia, in the 1870s made possible the successful development of Southern Pines and Pinehurst as winter resorts. John T. Patrick (1852-1918) acquired a tract of some 675 acres lying on both sides of the railroad tracks in an area known as Shaw’s Ridge and laid out a town on a grid plan that was first called Vineland and soon renamed Southern Pines.2

James Walker Tufts (1835-1902) of Boston had a different type of resort in mind for the larger, timbered woodland acreage he bought some six miles west of Southern Pines. He engaged the firm headed by Frederick Law Olmsted to design the proposed village. Warren H. Manning, then working in the Olmsted firm, was largely responsible for the design of the town plan that featured a series of curvilinear and concentric streets aligned along the spine of Beulah Hill Road. Construction of buildings and streets advanced in 1895 sufficiently that the resort opened with a short season in February 1896. The built-up resort operated a full winter season in 1896-97.

Southern Pines and Pinehurst were both billed initially as therapeutic, pine-scented health resorts, but quickly changed their policies and advertising to appeal to healthy visitors and prospective residents seeking winter recreational opportunities in a temperate climate. Mr. Tufts had completed a golf course at Pinehurst by 1898 and soon attracted Donald Ross, the legendary golf-course designer, to Pinehurst, which became a mecca offering multiple courses for golfers. The resort management also staged equestrian gymkhanas for its guests that anticipated the equestrian development in Moore County, which would be centered nearby at Southern Pines in the area of today’s Young’s Road.3

Most of the seasonal home-builders in Pinehurst and Southern Pines erected houses on town lots in the respective communities; however, some individuals sought sizable acreages, which they developed into estates. James Boyd (1831-1910), a Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, coal magnate and the grandfather of novelist James Boyd (1888-1944) who founded the Moore County Hounds, bought the first and largest of a series of adjoining tracts on the east side of Southern Pines in 1904. He eventually amassed a property of about 1,570 acres, which then constituted the largest known privately-owned winter estate in Southern Pines. He named his estate and his family’s imposing Colonial Revival-style winter residence Weymouth. The Boyd family’s Weymouth estate was the home of the Moore County Hounds from 1914 to 1942 and its acreage constituted the early, important hunt lands of the pack. Weymouth remains in use today as the name of the residual Boyd winter estate and the later Colonial Revival-style mansion designed by Aymar Embury II for the novelist fox-hunter and in the title of the Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve, which represent significant survivals of the Boyds’s early twentieth-century estate.4
Others, who would figure prominently in the history of fox-hunting in Moore County while being winter residents of Pinehurst, followed Mr. Boyd’s example. Charles T. Crocker (1866-1954), a wealthy Massachusetts paper manufacturer, began assembling tracts for an estate he called Pinewild Farm in 1915 and continued to add to the holdings until 1939. Pinewild Farm was the first of two major winter estates created on the west side of Pinehurst. Hunts are known to have been held on both estates on occasion. Verner Reed, another fox-hunter and an important member of the equestrian community in Moore County in the interwar period, assembled an estate of over 1,300 acres that he appears never to have named. Mr. Crocker’s residence and guest house were of rustic log construction; his stable was frame. Verner Reed’s Colonial Revival-style brick mansion was the centerpiece of an establishment that included a large frame horse barn and kennels for his private pack of foxhounds.

While the Moore County Hounds is the oldest organized hunt in North Carolina, and its history is independent of earlier, nineteenth-century activity in the state cited in volume one of J. Blan van Urk’s The Story of American Foxhunting: From Challenge to Full Cry, acknowledgment should be made of those efforts. An association known as the Raleigh Hunt existed in the state capital in the 1820s. An account of the pack was published in the American Turf Register in January 1830. Another account was published in the American Turf Register in May 1830. That same issue also carried an article on the nearby Smithfield Hunt in adjoining Johnston County. Mr. van Urk made note as well of fox-hunting at Lake Landing in Hyde County but provided no documentation of his source. The further history of these hunts remain to be examined.

Mr. van Urk addressed fox-hunting in North Carolina in the closing decades of the nineteenth century and gave particular notice to activity in Greensboro, quoting paragraphs from an article published in The New York Sportsman on 8 April 1876, hereinafter repeated.

> . . . It has been the custom, for the past few years, for a number of gentlemen from Washington and Philadelphia to make an annual visit here for a fox-hunt. They come early in November, and remain generally about three weeks. They first came at the invitation of Judge Thomas Settle, of our State Supreme Court, and Mr. Thomas Keogh, citizens of this town, who took them about twenty miles into the back country. . . . Those who came on the first venture never missed a return.

At our last hunt in November 1875, we were all so well pleased with our success that our guests prevailed on us to organize a regular fox-hunting club, the purpose being to secure for ourselves and friends a three or four weeks’ good time every year. The expenses to those members living outside the State is nothing, for they are our guests. . . .

My object in writing this letter to the Sportsman is to extend an invitation through its column to Messrs. Bennett, Jerome, Lorillard, and gentlemen of their standing in New York, to join or become the guests of our club and visit us next year, if they want the real
excitement and pleasure of a fox-hunt. Our organization is named the Piedmont Fox-Hunting Club.

(signed) G.H.B.  

Another hunt occurring in 1884 was recounted and published in the *Canadian Sportsman* and subsequently reprinted in *Wallace’s Monthly* in June 1884.  

The account of hunting in and around Greensboro in the mid-1870s is particularly important as it relates the long practice of sportsmen from the Northeast coming to central North Carolina for field and equestrian sports. These men and their friends also traveled to North Carolina for bird hunts in the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Their contemporaries, including Samuel G. Allen (1870-1956), also came to Moore County. Some built their own lodges in Guilford and Davie counties (see Boxwood Lodge, NR, 1995) and their tradition found its most important example in the operations of the Croatan Club in Cumberland and Harnett counties that was reorganized as Overhills with the financial backing of Percy Rockefeller (1878-1934). Joseph Brown Thomas, one of America’s great hunters, breeders of hounds, and the author of *Hounds and Hunting Through the Ages*, published in 1928 by The Derrydale Press, designed the kennels at Overhills and hunted there in the winters of 1920 through 1930.  

J. Blan van Urk had initially launched the writing of *The Story of American Foxhunting* as a one-volume work but soon came to realize multiple volumes would be required for the magisterial undertaking. He had completed and seen to publication a second volume covering the period from 1865 to 1906 before the planned four-volume series was terminated by the publisher in 1941. This shifting perspective accounts in part for the appearance of post-1861 material on fox-hunting in North Carolina in the first volume that covers the period from 1650 to 1861. He likewise included in volume one material on the breeding of hounds in North Carolina in the last decades of the nineteenth century. He singled out the legendary “Bryon Hounds” and complimented their breeding by Colonel Thomas Goode Tucker (1807-1897) of Gaston, Northampton County, and Dr. B. A. Capehart of Avoca, Bertie County, North Carolina. His discussion concluded with a remembrance of a legendary red fox known as “White Tip.” 

North Carolina’s Rockingham County was a section famous for many fine sportsmen and outstanding foxhunters—to say nothing of old White Tip, the crafty red of the 1870’s. On the day of his last run, White Tip ran for better than twelve hours, covering an estimated distance of between seventy-five and eighty miles. The old boy even ran into another State—Virginia, near Canville (sic)—in trying to shake the four hounds left out of a pack of 100 that had started the day’s chase. The stalwart four, who will always be remembered by foxhunters of North Carolina, were Rock and Beck, owned by Colonel John Durham Scales; Mr. William Hairston’s Comet and Mr. John W. Broadnax’s Phillis.
Many sporting men and women started in this hunt—on pure breds, cocktails, mules, and on foot; how many finished, if any (and it’s doubtful unless horses were relayed), is not determinable. The start was at Colonel Stephen Moore’s, with every hound from miles around gathered for the occasion. Some of those in the chase and over whose plantations White Tip ran—either foxhunters of note then, or in previous years—were: Major Alex. Galloway, Colonel John Durham Scales, Judge Thomas Settle, Major J. Turner Morehead, Colonel Davis Settle, Judge John H. Dillard, General Alfred Scales and his brother Robert Scales, Esq.¹⁰

The Moore County Hounds

Given the financial and social privileges of his upbringing, the young James Boyd (1888-1944) likely took up riding in his early youth, first on ponies and then horses. Whatever the case, he was an accomplished rider when he traveled to England and the Continent in 1909 and returned, after graduating from Princeton University in 1910, to study at Trinity College, Cambridge. According to tradition it was while in England and a student that James Boyd first rode to hounds, was captivated by the experience, and remained enthralled by fox-hunting until his death. He recalled the memory of his first hunt in the introduction he penned for the 1934 reprint of Anthony Trollope’s Hunting Sketches. On receiving his degree from Trinity College, James Boyd returned to the United States in 1912. He taught for a year at the Harrisburg Academy, 1912-1913, and then spent extended periods during 1913 to 1916 in Southern Pines recuperating from illness that would revisit him through the course of his life. It was early in this period that he organized the Moore County Hounds and saw the pack approved in 1914 by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association as an established hunt. He was the first master of the Moore County Hounds and he maintained the hunt’s hounds in the kennels at Weymouth alongside the frame stable that survives to the present with an addition, the kennels were rebuilt after a fire in 1936.¹¹

The history of the Moore County Hounds, between their establishment in 1914 and recognition by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association and the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America in 1920, remains unclear. The file on the hunt maintained at the office of the MFHA lacks any of the documents providing information on the Moore County Hounds that would have been submitted for review and approval by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association in either year except for the map of the Moore County Hounds’ hunt country, which was filed with the MFHA on 11 February 1920 by James Boyd and recorded by Henry G. Vaughn, secretary of the MFHA. The recorded hunt country comprised many thousands of acres bordered by Carthage, the Moore County seat, on the north, Hoffman, on the north side of the Richmond/Scotland County line on the south, Jackson Springs, a town inside the Moore/Montgomery County line, on the west, and Lobelia, on the Harnett/Hoke County line, on the east. A portion of the eastern boundary was coterminous with that of the Camp Bragg Reservation (today’s Fort Bragg). Whether James Boyd saw good hunting prospects in the large territory or was simply being protective of valuable hunt lands in the area and sought to preserve them
for his pack is unclear, however, it appears likely most of the hunts occurred in and around Southern Pines, Pinehurst, and Aberdeen.12

James Boyd’s commitment to fox-hunting in Moore County met with certain early success in 1914 and 1915, and the 1915-1916 season opened with marked optimism. The Sandhill Citizen echoed this enthusiasm in an article it published in its pages on 24 December 1915 under the heading “New Year’s Hunt Breakfast.”

On New Year’s Day Mr. James Boyd will give a hunt breakfast at Weymouth which will be one of the notable events of the day in this section, although it will be largely informal.

Mr. Boyd, who has ridden to hounds much, both in this country and in England, is fond of the sport and thinks the Sandhills one of the best places for it he has ever seen. Its soft yet firm turf and its fine climate make the natural conditions ideal.

With the desire of bringing together under pleasant and neighborly social conditions the winter residents and those who have always lived here Mr. Boyd has invited 150 or more, representing both classes and that they will enjoy the occasion immensely goes without saying.

The Pinehurst pack and Mr. Boyd’s drag hounds will be worked together this winter and a hunt club organized with as large a membership as may be obtained under the most favorable circumstances.

The Sandhill Citizen recounted the success of the breakfast for its readers in its pages of 11/12 January 1916 in an article under the heading “Hunt Breakfast at Weymouth.” Later in January Mr. Boyd arranged a drag hunt at Weymouth in honor of Rodman Wanamaker Jr., a Philadelphia friend of equestrian renown.13 At the end of the year, as the launch for the 1916-17 hunt season, James Boyd entertained a party of some 150 to a hunt breakfast on Christmas Day 1916 at Weymouth.14 The guest lists for these festive occasions included both permanent residents of Southern Pines and Moore County and winter residents who were members of the Moore County Hounds, other riders, and those content as spectators.

The war in Europe and the United States’s entry in it in 1917 interrupted what might have been a continuous development of the Moore County Hounds. James Boyd sought to join the American armed services in 1915 and 1916 but failed in his efforts largely, it appears, because of his chronic health issues. In August 1917 he was successful in gaining a commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Ambulance Service, however he did not begin service until the summer of 1918 in Italy. After his transfer to service in France, his health again failed, hospitalization was required, and in March 1919 he returned to the United States where he was discharged in July 1919.
Meanwhile his courtship of Katherine Lamont (1896-1974), an heiress and (summer) resident of Millbrook, New York, where James Boyd had hunted, blossomed and the couple was married in Millbrook on 15 December 1917. In 1919 the couple returned to Southern Pines and decided to make it their permanent home. They would soon set about building a new residence on the Boyd’s Weymouth estate that complemented the family’s subdivision of portions of the estate as Weymouth Heights and enhanced its attractiveness for prospective home builders.

A hunt breakfast at Weymouth on New Year’s Day 1920 both acknowledged the Boyds’s return to Southern Pines at the end of the war and celebrated the revived fortunes of the Moore County Hounds coincident with the MFHA’s official recognition of the pack that year. James Boyd, his wife Katherine, and his brother Jackson Boyd were hosts to the breakfast served at one o’clock by the staff of the Highland Pines Inn that was followed by a drag hunt at three o’clock. The Sandhill Citizen reported on the event on 9 January 1920 with “The Drag Hunt” as the heading. “The occasion was a most happy inauguration of the new year. The opening of the Weymouth mansion and the presence for the season of several members of the family is a matter for congratulation. The drag hunts will be given at frequent intervals. Two or three years ago they were extremely popular, but the war called the young men of the family into the service and not until this season could they be resumed.” In 1923 Jackson Herr Boyd (1892-1983) joined his older brother as a joint master of the Moore County Hounds, and the Boyd brothers continued as joint masters of the hunt until 1942.

The Moore County Hounds flourished as a hunt in the 1920s, and its existence in the temperate climate of Moore County, which offered a winter season for fox-hunting, flanked on the calendar by autumn and spring hunting seasons in other parts of the United States and Canada, drew equestrian sportsmen to Southern Pines and Pinehurst. Charles T. Crocker, the third-generation Massachusetts paper manufacturer, continued to add to his Pinewild Farm holding and joined the Moore County Hounds. Augustine “Gus” Healy (1895-1975), another avid fox-hunter who came to Southern Pines in the early 1920s, would become a prominent member of the Moore County Hounds and, like Mr. Crocker, he was one of the six original stockholders of the Moore County Company. His wealth derived from the Chicago music house, Lyon & Healy, co-founded by his father Patrick J. Healy (1839-1905), which began manufacturing harps in 1889, grew to become the largest music house in the world by the turn of the century, and continues in operation today as the leading manufacturer of harps. In May 1923 Mr. Healy began assembling tracts on the south side of Young’s Road for a winter estate he named Firleigh Farms. His two-story frame hunting “box,” also known as Firleigh, became a center of equestrian social life after its completion in 1924.15

The matter of when Boylston Adams Tompkins (1891-1972), a senior vice-president of Bankers Trust Company in New York City, began wintering (in rented or leased quarters) in Moore County remains to be confirmed, however, in 1927 he acquired three adjoining tracts from members of the Hamlin, Maples, and Yeomans families comprising some 123.50 acres off Bethesda Road that in 1929 would be the
location of a club providing seasonal accommodations and stables for hunt members and their horses known as The Paddock, Incorporated.  

Verner Zevola Reed Jr. (1900-1986) was another of the legendary figures in the history of fox-hunting in Moore County who came to the area in the 1920s and assembled a large winter equestrian estate of some 1,337 acres between 1928 and 1934 on the west side of Pinehurst. He, too, was a member of the Moore County Hounds, however, his wealth, extraordinary even by Moore County’s winter colony standard, enabled him to own, breed, and hunt with his private pack of hounds. His Colonial Revival-style mansion, completed in 1929 and probably the largest built in Moore County in the first half of the twentieth century, and its managed woodland acreage survive in a handsome state of preservation, but the horse barn was lost to fire in 1963 and the kennels lost except for sections of deteriorated fencing.

The idea of forming a company to acquire significant lands for hunting was surely influenced by the expansive development of both Southern Pines and Pinehurst in the 1920s. Both resort communities saw significant building up and important houses erected within their boundaries. Southern Pines was enlarged by the adjoining development of Weymouth Heights, a part of the Boyd family estate that was platted for residential development in 1920. Simultaneously, large tracts of land lying between the two resort communities, along today’s Midland Road were platted for residential development as Knollwood and Edgemoore Heights. In 1904, when James Boyd set about creating his winter estate, he acquired two large tracts, each totaling more than 500 acres, that formed the core lands of his property. Such sizeable, available tracts in the resorts’ environs, including those owned by Dr. Balduin von Herff that became a part of the Knollwood and Edgemoore Heights subdivisions, had essentially been taken up by the later 1910s and early 1920s and destined for resort, golf course, and/or residential development. Charles T. Crocker had purchased fifteen tracts of varying, smallish size between 1915 and 1919 for his Pinewild Farm (and added another twelve between 1920 and 1929). While Augustine Healy’s intentions were less ambitious, he nevertheless made five purchases (of six tracts) between 1923 and 1925 to form the 344-acre lands of Firleigh Farms.  

As active participants in the development of Weymouth Heights in the 1920s, James and Jackson Boyd had been part of the suburban development occurring around Southern Pines. As the thirst for land and lots grew through the 1920s, they and Messrs. Crocker and Healy saw the need for decisive action to preserve open lands close to Southern Pines for hunting.

Simultaneously, the rise of fox-hunting in the United States through the opening decades of the twentieth century, a period described as a golden age of the sport, produced two important histories of the hunt in 1928. During the score of years since its publication in 1908, The Hunts of the United States and Canada, Their Masters, Hounds, and Histories had served as the standard, authoritative work on the subject. Written by A. Henry Higginson, MFH, and Julian Ingersoll Chamberlain, it followed on the example of The Foxhounds of Great Britain and Ireland; Their Masters and Huntsmen, published in 1906 in London, and included accounts of the established hunts in North America. Only two of these were located in the American South below Virginia, a center of the sport: the Iroquois Hunt that was
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established in 1880 in Lexington, Kentucky, and “Mr. Hitchcock’s Hounds,” the private pack supported by Thomas Hitchcock in Aiken, South Carolina, that would become the Aiken Hunt.

Both authors, residing in South Lincoln, Massachusetts, followed hunting and its increasing popularity through the 1910s and 1920s, and in 1928 produced a second highly important book, *Hunting in the United States and Canada, Being an illustrated history of each of the Hunt Clubs and individual packs on the North American Continent, and presenting first-hand information of early Colonial Foxhunting, hitherto unpublished, as well as reproductions of portraits of early celebrities the existence of which has not been known to hunting men*. In their “Foreword to the Southern Hunts” they noted changed conditions. “To the south, the Moore County, founded in 1914, at Southern Pines, North Carolina; and the Aiken Drag, at Aiken, South Carolina, are both well known; while the Iroquois Hunt, founded by General Roger Williams in 1880, but given up for a number of years, has just taken on a new lease of life; and Florida has recently joined the ranks of hunting states with the Coral Gables Hunt, near Miami.”

The three-page account of the Moore County Hounds, including a short, concise description of a drag hunt, was based on “details...described to us by James Boyd, who founded the Moore County Hounds in 1914.”

With vast woodlands to retire to, foxes are seldom found in the open country, and owing to this, and to the fact that the supply of foxes does not warrant more than one or two days a week, a drag is also laid. The same hounds are used, and every effort is made to simulate fox-hunting. For the drag, a piece of sacking about eight inches square is put in the bed of a live fox, kept at the kennels for this purpose. The line is laid on foot by a man thoroughly familiar with fox-hunting, who starts about two hours ahead of hounds from the covert to be drawn that day. This covert may be of considerable extent, sometimes several miles square, and the M. F. H. does not know in what part of the covert the line may be found nor where it may lead. Checks, when they occur, are natural, and made so through the foxcraft of the dragman, who does not lift the drag from the ground. To obviate as far as possible, confusion of scent, the dragman is left at his starting point by motor car and picked up again at the “kill,” which is usually made by digging a sort of earth, in the bottom of which is placed a piece of meat which has been rubbed with the drag sack. This method of laying a drag seems to maintain the tenderness of hounds’ noses and, to a large extent, their “fox sense,” pace and drive depending on scenting conditions, as in fox-hunting. Runs are from six to ten miles long, and, under normal conditions, the tendency is, of course, for hounds to increase their pace as they gain on the dragman, and at the end they mark the earth and dig out for themselves.

*Hounds and Hunting Through the Ages* was the second landmark work in the history of hunting in the United States published in 1928. Joseph Brown Thomas (1879-1955), its author, was a legendary figure in American hunting, as a hunter, a breeder of hounds, and writer, and the creator of extraordinary facilities for the sport at his Huntland estate near Middleburg, Loudoun County, Virginia, and kennels.
for Percy Rockefeller at his Overhills estate in Harnett and Cumberland counties, North Carolina. Joseph Brown Thomas hunted at Overhills during winter seasons from 1920 to 1930, and he recounts the experiences of many hunts at Overhills in his book, which is both a memoir and a history of hunting. Its illustrations include a plan of the Overhills kennels that fell into ruin, that of Huntland, which is also illustrated by photographs and survives as an important scene of hunting today, and two reproductions of paintings of his hounds in hunt at Overhills by Percival Rosseau (1859-1937).

Whether Joseph Brown Thomas hunted with the Moore County Hounds is unconfirmed at present, but likely. *The Pilot* published a short notice on 25 January 1929 of a dinner in Southern Pines he attended earlier in the week. “Percy Rockefeller of New York, gave a dinner Tuesday evening at the Highland Pines Inn in honor of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Thomas and others of his guests at Overhills, the Rockefeller estate. Mrs. David Sloane later entertained the party at her Weymouth Heights home. The trip to Southern Pines was made by motor.”

Finally, it was the growing popularity of fox-hunting in Moore County and the flourishing of the Moore County Hounds in the 1920s that pressed these visionaries to action. Like other organized hunts, the Moore County Hounds maintained records of their hunts which were recorded in journals by the hunt secretary or one of the masters. Volume One of the Moore County Hounds hunt diaries covering the period up to the season of 1927-28 has become misplaced through time--or lost--and unavailable for reference for this nomination.

“The Moore County Hounds Diary, 1928 to 1932, Vol. II” survives and represents a record of hunts for four seasons, handwritten by Jackson Boyd, beginning in autumn 1928 and continuing through spring 1932. The 1928-29 season featured fifty-one meets held between 14 November 1928 and 16 March 1929. The first account, that of a “Cubbing drag for puppies” on Wednesday 14 November 1928, was led by James Boyd on “Iroquois,” Jackson Boyd on “Engineer,” the huntsman Harry Nott on “Ferryman,” and “In field Verner Reed, Nelson Hyde, Miss Rountree, Johnny.” On the cubbing draw the following Friday, Mrs. Reed was with Mr. Hyde, Johnny, and Mr. Moore in the field. Augustine Healy was whip for the formal “Opening Meet” on Saturday, 8 December 1928, and he exercised that role for many, if not most of the meets up to 1934. Each of Jackson Boyd’s entries contains a brief account of the hunt, the territory hunted, and the length of the hunt. The names and number of the hounds taken on each meet were recorded in a register in the diary as was the roster of meets with short mentions of the areas hunted. These included “Henry Page’s Pecan Orch.--Jim Swetts,” “Carroll’s Branch,” “Hamlin-Butlers-Bowers-Buchan Field-Olive-Bass,” “Knollwood-Shaw House pasture-Buchan Field-Butlers-Goldsmith’s-Olive winter pasture,” “Healys Rye Field-Young’s . . . Buchan Field,” “Wickers-Healy-Orchard-Shaw-Bowers-Buchan field-Home pasture-Orchard,” and so forth.20

The Moore County Hounds’s 1928-1929 winter season was the pack’s most active and successful to date and reflected the efforts of James Boyd, his brother Jackson, Augustine Healy and others to build up the
With every stable crowded to capacity and private owners and livery men looking everywhere for more stalls, the riding and hunting season is on in the Sandhills in full cry. Never before in the history of this section have so many horses been shipped here for use during January, February and March, the three big hunting months. Freight and express cars were being unloaded at the Southern Pines siding almost every day this week.

Among the new shipments were fifteen horses, all hunters, from Chicago, the property of William Teter, prominent Chicago banker, Donald McPherson, Chicago attorney and Charles Steele, also a banker. These three sportsmen have been coming to Southern Pines with their families for several seasons and hunting with the Moore County Hounds. Mr. Teter and Mr. Steele will stop at the Mid-Pines Club when they arrive in a few days, while Mr. and Mrs. MacPherson always make their residence here at the Highland Pines Inn.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Robinson of Toronto, Can., have shipped their four hunters in anticipation of their arrival in Southern Pines next week. The horses are being cared for at the Laing Stables, where the Teter, Steele and McPherson mounts are also quartered. The Laing stables are already full, and Mr. Laing has leased the auxiliary stable belonging to the Boyds on the Reservation road, where he will quarter as many as he can of the thirty hunters which he is shipping here from Millbrook, N.Y. and his farm in Virginia. These hunters are for the use of hotel and cottage guests during the hunting season.

Peter Jay, former Minister to the Argentine and a brother-in-law of Mrs. Jackson Boyd, has sent down four horses which are being cared for by the Laing stables. Mr. Jay has leased a house in Southern Pines for the hunting period.

To provide stalls for his own mounts and those of a few friends who are making up his annual party, B. A. Tompkins, vice-president of the Bankers Trust Company of New York is having the dairy barn on his property adjoining the Southern Pines Country Club development remodeled. Mr. Perkinson has the contract for constructing the stables, which will provide box stalls for sixteen horses and quarters for grooms. Mr. Tompkins purchased three years ago the Yeomans, Maples and Hamlins farms, some 140 acres stretching from the ridge road leading to the Kahler and Butler farms down to Dan Leman’s property. Among those who will accompany Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins this season are Mr. and Mrs. William P. Willetts, Mrs. Landon K. Thorne, Mr. and Mrs. William Evarts and Mrs. William A. Phillips, all of New York, and Mrs. Franklin King, of Boston.
Mr. and Mrs. Martin H. Knapp, of Syracuse, N.Y. arrive February 1st with four hunters, for which Mr. Knapp has arranged stabling in the Tompkins stables. Mr. Knapp spent several weeks in Southern Pines recently and is considering a winter home here. He is a writer of fiction and friend of Mr. and Mrs. Struthers Burt. The Knapps have taken rooms in the Highland Pines Inn for February and March.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Danforth of New York are shipping some six horses to Southern Pines for February hunting with the Boyd pack. Mr. and Mrs. James Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Worrall Hyde and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Butler, all of New York and vicinity, come the latter part of January for several weeks, bringing six horses with them. All but the Hydes have been here for several seasons. Worrall Hyde hunts his own pack of hounds near Greenwich, Conn. and has been attracted to Southern Pines for winter hunting.

Five weeks later, on 15 February 1929, *The Pilot*’s second article provided an overview of the developing equine community in Southern Pines and very specific efforts of note under the front-page headline “Record Field Hunts Fox As Horse Colony Grows.”

There were forty-nine in the field following the Moore County Hounds on last Monday’s fox hunt, the record number for this season and the greatest number for this time of year since James and Jackson Boyd started their pack in Southern Pines. The height of the season comes around Washington’s birthday, when the fields have numbered more than fifty riders, and with nearly fifty out already, there is no doubt that another week or two will see the all-time records for followers of the local hunt broken.

That Southern Pines is rapidly becoming one of the leading horse centers of the country in winter is already acknowledged wherever horse people gather. Those who come here for the first time to ride recognize the reason for its growing popularity. It is, they say, an ideal country for hacking and hunting, with its sandy trails through the long leaf pines, its varied scenery its accessibility for those who can spend but a short time here, and its climate. There is seldom a day when the horse lover cannot comfortably take his horse out, and rarely a scheduled hunt day when hounds cannot safely follow the drag or pursue the fox.

**Famous Horseman Here**

This is meaning much to Southern Pines and the whole section. Each year sees some horseman or horsewoman deciding on this vicinity as a place to establish a winter or all-year round home. One of the leading horsemen in America, James S. Wadsworth, of Geneseo, N.Y., master of the famous Geneseo Valley Hunt, came here a year ago for the first time, intending to remain but a few days. He stayed the balance of last winter, purchased land along the Bethesda road near the Lemons (sic) place, and is breaking
ground for stables for some of his famous hunters and race horses within a very short time. The hunting attracted Miss Harriet Ogden here. She is a regular member of the field with the Boyd hounds. Last year Miss Ogden and her mother decided to establish a home here and purchased the attractive cottage they now occupy on the Midland road.

The land purchased a few winters ago by B. A. Tompkins, Frederick W. Ecker and Mrs. Landon K. Thorne, of New York, some 140 acres covering the Hamlin, Maples and Yeomans farms, was the direct result of the hunting colony and the riding hereabouts. This land has now been developed and is being further developen (sic) as a center for the visiting horse people, a place where they may school their horses over a variety of fences and over big, open fields. Mr. Tompkins has just completed a private stable for sixteen horses, where he and his winter guests have their hunters stabled this season. These mounts a year ago were stalled with W. A. Laing at the Halcyon Hall stables, but despite their transfer to their own home on the old Hamlin farm, Mr. Laing still has more horses this winter than he can care for in his two stables and has some quartered downtown.

There are more horses today in Southern Pines than there have ever been since the development of riding here started. The growth has been consistent each year, and there is no reason to believe that it will slow up. Private owners are already seeking stalls for their horses for next winter, and one local resident has been commissioned to build a new stable for one group which comes here for the hunting every season.

Thomas A. Kelly has just completed the remodeling of a section of his garage into stables for four horses, and has four hunters, the property of Mr. and Mrs. Hostetter of New York, already quartered there. The Hostetters are new comers to Southern Pines, leasing the Magnolia cottage, adjoining Mr. Kelley’s (sic) residence, for the remainder of the season.

Among other developments in the local horse world is the completion during the week of the new brick stables for Augustine Healy, at his Firleigh Farm. Mr. Healy has a modern, fireproof stable for five hunters.

The highly successful 1928-29 hunt season no doubt spurred the incorporation of The Moore County Company and its subsequent acquisition of the lands comprising the core acreage being nominated. Both efforts had surely been under consideration for some months if not longer. The Moore County Company was incorporated in June 1929 with six named stockholders each subscribing seventy shares valued at $100 each for a capitalization of $42,000. The six named stockholders were Charles T. Crocker, Katharine L. Boyd, James Boyd, Augustine Healy, Jackson H. Boyd, the estate of Eleanor H. Boyd with Jackson H. Boyd as trustee. Firleigh Farms was the stated principal office of the corporation. The certificate was approved and signed by the North Carolina Secretary of State on 20 June.21 Four days later, on 24 June, the company acquired its first lands. Augustine Healy and his wife conveyed about one-half of the Firleigh Farms acreage, three adjoining tracts totaling about 169.40 acres, to The
Moore County Company. 22 That same day the Boyd brothers, Mr. Healy, Mr. Crocker, and their wives, executed deeds to the company for a tract of 3.75 acres on James Creek that they had purchased as a group in February 1929. 23 In a third deed dated 24 June 1929 Augustine Healy and his wife, James and Jackson Boyd and their wives conveyed the Willis J. Young Farm, comprising 92.50 acres, to The Moore County Company. 24 Today’s Young’s Road, which holds these hunt lands in its arc, is named for the family and its farm. That same day James and Jackson Boyd and their wives made yet a fourth conveyance, three tracts totaling 93 acres on the Old Yadkin Road, to The Moore County Company. 25

These four acquisitions, including the incorporators’ original purchase of Mr. Young’s farm early in 1928, all anticipated the company’s fifth, major, and last known significant acquisition. On 15 October 1929, The Moore County Company entered into an agreement with Knollwood, Incorporated, the developer of Edgemoore Heights, to exercise an option to purchase lands totaling some 2,300 acres at the price of $47.50 per acre at any time up to 21 February 1930. The property was described as “constituting and embodying all of the lands owned by the party of the first part, lying east of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, on both sides of Carroll’s Big Branch, adjoining lands of the party of the second part, Walter S. Halliwell, Augustine Healy, Guy E. Tracy, James S. Wadsworth, H. A. Page, Jr., and State Highway No. 50, Clare B. Metcalf Keating, J. B. Eastwood, the McDaniel farm, Hugh Dave Cameron, and others, comprising and including all of the unsold portions of the so called Edgemoore Heights properties, and the lands purchased from Dr. W. C. Mudgett, known as the Wilson-Mudgett land, and perhaps others, containing, according to the surveys of Francis Deaton and others, the aggregate sum of 2,300 acres, more or less.” 26 The vast acreage included woodlands, some of which were utilized in naval stores operations, swamp lands along the low-lying Carroll’s Branch, and open fields that had a history of agricultural use. As the hunt diary entries for 1928-1929 and those of subsequent seasons indicate, it was territory well known to members of the Moore County Hounds. The deed for the option agreement acknowledged a payment of $6,600 by The Moore County Company and stipulated a payment of $20,000 on delivery of the deed, four additional payments of $20,000 due on February 1 in 1931, 1932, 1933, and 1934, and a final payment of $9,250 due on 1 February 1935.

In the months immediately after the recording on 7 November 1929, the Boyds and others in The Moore County Company and the Moore County Hounds entered into a new, renegotiated agreement for the purchase of the lands. At this distance the matter of who sought the new terms, whether the huntsmen or Knollwood, Incorporated, the seller, is not known. On 3 March 1930, Knollwood, Incorporated executed an agreement with Boylston Adams Tompkins for the acreage described as “All those several tracts, lots or parcels of land located in McNeills Township, Moore County, North Carolina, on the East side of the S. A. L. Railway, the Northerly side of Young’s Road, the Southerly side of State Highway No. 50, on both sides of Carroll’s Big Branch and shown on a map entitled ‘Lands of Knollwood, Incorporated, made by Francis Deaton, C. E., revised by W. I. Johnson, Jr.,’ being that portion of the Edgemoore lands described as follows: Farm Plots Nos. 112, 113, 114 . . .comprising approximately 2000 acres, more or less.” The agreement acknowledged the earlier payment of $6,600 by The Moore County Company, describing it as having secured the option on the property, Mr. Tompkins’s payment
of $5,000 on 3 March, and his promise to pay the remaining balance due of $57,400 “in cash not later than the 1st day of April 1930.”27 The payment was made and the deed executed on 29 March 1930.28

The descriptions of the property varies in the two deeds and the agreement and the acreage decreases from 2,300 acres to 2,000 acres, more or less, but in all cases Knollwood was divesting itself of the Edgemoore Heights lands east of the Seaboard Air Line Rail Road. Mr. Tompkins, who purchased the property on behalf of The Moore County Company and the Moore County Hounds, held title to it until 15 October 1940 when a deed to The Moore County Company was executed.29

The Sandhill Citizen published a three-paragraph article about the purchase on 4 April 1930 under the heading “Edgemoore Tract Is Acquired For The Hunt.” Its concluding paragraph describes the motive for the purchase in contemporary language.

The purchase of the greater part of the Edgemoore Heights tract comprising 2100 acres by James and Jackson Boyd, B. A. Tompkins and several others who are keenly interested in the Hunt in the Sandhills is the largest and most important realty transaction that has taken place in the Sandhills since the purchase of Knollwood ten years ago.

The purchase embraces a continuous body of land running out the Young Road from the Southern Pines boundary, around the Willis Young farm, on to the east, almost to the county line, thence northward in the Sweetheart Lake region, out to the Highway No. 50 above the James Swett place, and back down through the country not far from the highway to Manly and around that village to Southern Pines. It takes a large portion of the original Von Herf (sic) tract which Mr. H. A. Page, Jr., sold to Knollwood, and which has been given the name of Edgemoore Heights. A reservation of about a hundred acres is left to Knollwood reaching from Manly to Southern Pines and out the road toward the Young and Healy lands, but aside from that and some other reservations, some of which had already been sold to small buyers, Edgemoore passes to the buyers in bulk.

The primary motive in making this purchase was the permanency of the territory over which the Moore County Hounds have been hunting, and the possession and control of the territory for the development and expansion of the aims of the new owners to create in the new possession an outlet for the growth of substantial sports that the Moore County Hounds have stimulated. From the observer’s view point it looks like a gigantic movement to build here in the Sandhills a big private recreation field that shall be satisfying on the big scale the area of the land permits and with the help that the financial standing of the builders makes possible.30

The acreage, well-known to members of the Moore County Hounds, was placed in use in 1929-1930 and remain in equestrian use to the present. Within a few years the purposes of both fox-hunting and conservation were enhanced by the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps. An article in The Pilot on
15 December 1933 carried the heading “CCC at Work in Fight on Forest Fires in County,” and subheading “Federal Employees Laying Out Fire Lanes to Break Force of Conflagrations” and stated “a line from the Fort Bragg base line will swing around by Carroll’s branch, by Niagara and over to the Knollwood ... valley heads.” Two leading members of the Moore County Hounds, Jackson Herr Boyd and Verner Z. Reed, were listed as local committeemen in the effort. The surviving records of the CCC in Moore County are yet to be examined, however, the three fire lanes which survive today, including two carrying some three miles west from Young’s Road to North May Street, are those constructed by the CCC. Confirmation appears in Jackson Boyd’s diary entry introducing the 1934-1935 season where he wrote “The CCC has built a grid of fire lanes in Carroll’s Branch. Fox signs & reports are plentiful, deer more so.”

In 1936 and 1938 The Moore County Company sold small tracts of its holdings to individuals who would figure in the equine life of Southern Pines. These transactions anticipated those later made by the Mosses which were so instrumental in cultivating the horse industry in Southern Pines and making it the leading center of equine activity in the state. On 17 April 1936 The Moore County Company sold a 30.81-acre tract in the east corner of Young’s Road and Old Yadkin Road to George Noel Armstrong Laing (1907-1936), the legendary jockey and trainer, who used it as a training and exercise field until his untimely death on 18 November 1936. On 13 May 1938 the company sold a larger tract of about 117 acres on the southwest side of the Old Yadkin Road to Hugh Sicard of New York City. Jackson Herr Boyd signed the deed as vice-president of The Moore County Company. There were no further known sales by The Moore County Company until 1950.

The mid-1930s were marked by other significant events in the Moore County equine community, one of which, the arrival of William Ozelle and Virginia Walthour Moss in Southern Pines, was crucial in the long-term history of the Moore County Hounds and these hunt lands. The divorce of Augustine and Jeanette Reid Healy and his conveyance of Firleigh Farms and its remaining 149 acres to Mrs. Healy in April 1934 effectively meant the loss of his influential, physical presence as a winter resident on Young’s Road. He nevertheless retained a house on Magnolia Road in Pinehurst as a winter residence until 1944, and for some time, at least into the 1947-1948 season, he continued to hunt with the hounds. Mrs. Healy, who did not remarry, also joined hunts on occasion. For a decade his active, visible role in the hunt community, second only to that of James and Jackson Boyd, had been critical to its rising prominence and popularity among winter residents. The wedding of William Ozelle Moss (1902-1976) and Virginia Walthour (1909-2006) and their decision to settle permanently in Southern Pines, where they were the owners of Mile-Away Farms from 1937 until their deaths in 1976 and 2006, respectively, became inseparable from the twentieth-century history of equine sports in Moore County and the state.

The surnames of both are both combined in the name of the Walthour-Moss Foundation, a conservation organization and the owner of these hunt lands, which was established by their bequests and gifts. Virginia Walthour was the third daughter and fourth child of Henry Clayton Walthour (1874-1940) and Helen Millward Buckman Walthour (1874-1955). Through her grandfather, Andrew Maxwell
Walthour, and great-grandfather, William Lowndes Walthour (1828-1890), she was descended from George Washington Walthour (1799-1859) of Liberty County, Georgia, who was described at his death as “the largest slaveholder and the richest man in our county.” William Ozelle Moss was a son of Willie E. Moss and Byrd Currin Moss and a native of North Carolina. His ancestry is of plainer stock. The couple are said to have met at the annual Blowing Rock Horse Show where he was showing and she, with her sister, Sarah Millward Walthour Compton (1902-1982), were giving riding lessons to children whose families were summering in the North Carolina resort. Soon after their marriage the couple came to Southern Pines and rented stables and quarters in the east corner of Northeast Broad Street and Connecticut Avenue where they continued their equine interests. Their decision to locate in Southern Pines was likely influenced in part through their friendship with Lloyd Manson Tate, a well-known horseman who operated the livery concession in Pinehurst during the winter season. He is better known as the founder of the Blowing Rock Horse Show in 1923. Mr. Tate’s son, Lloyd Patrick Tate Sr., known affectionately as “Junebug,” was a life-long figure in the Moore County equine community and a close friend of the Mosses, and particularly Mr. Moss.34

In 1937 Mr. and Mrs. Moss acquired a generally rectangular tract of some 92.44 acres, fronting on North May Street (then US 1) that became the location of their Mile-Away Farms and, in 1942, became the home of the Moore County Hounds and their kennels. The acreage adjoined the lot on which the Manly depot stood, comprised lot #s 125, 126, 126½, 135 and 136 of the Edgemoore Heights subdivision, and also lay on both sides of Carroll’s Big Branch and Sheldon Road. Whether there were buildings on the property in 1937 is uncertain. In the deed of 1929 by which G. H. Dortch of Raleigh acquired the property it was described as “sometimes referred to as the old Petty home place.”35 Whatever the case, the choice property enjoys a distinct prominence overlooking North May Street and the old Blue mill pond on the Moore County Company Lands to the east. All of the present buildings and improvements were built by the Mosses. By 1939 the Mosses had built the large eighteen-stall barn (M2) that remains today the centerpiece of a complex of equine and hunt related activities at Mile-Away Farms. It contains a small apartment in its north corner that the couple occupied until building the one-and-a-half story frame cottage (M11) that was long their home, later that of Mr. Moss individually, and lastly, and presently, the home of the huntsman of the Moore County Hounds. In plan, and visually, the barn occupies the commanding position at Mile-Away Farms, on a rise overlooking pastures, fields and woodlands in every direction. Four additional buildings, the spreader shed (M3), the small barn (M4), the garage erected for the farm fire truck (M5), and the pump house (M12), are said to have been built between 1939 and 1942, when the frame kennels were added.

In October 1940 the Mosses filed papers to incorporate Mile-A-Way Stables, to deal in a wide range of equine, agricultural, and real estate activities with a capital stock of $100,000 in 1,000 shares with a par value of $100 each. They identified themselves and Eloise H. Tracy of Wyalusing, Pennsylvania, as original subscribers to one share each.36 After the incorporation was approved the Mosses conveyed their 92.66-acre 1937 purchase to Mile-A-Way Stables, Incorporated, on 28 October 1940.37 In February 1941, Mile-A-Way Stables, Inc., acquired a tract of 28.26 acres on the north side of the earlier purchase,
being the principal parts of Knollwood lots 137 and 138, from John B. Cameron. Then, on 1 July 1941, Mile-A-Way Stables, Inc., conveyed the two properties back to Mr. and Mrs. Moss. A preliminary certificate of dissolution for Mile-A-Way Stables, Inc., was approved in September 1941 and a final dissolution approved in July 1942. Presumably it was after this date that the Mosses adopted “Mile-Away Farms” as the name of their property, in honor of the fact, as above, it was a mile away from their original rented quarters in central Southern Pines.

The Boyd-era history of the Moore County Hounds ends with events in 1940 and 1942. On 15 October 1940 the 2,000-acre tract acquired on behalf of the Moore County Hounds in 1930 through the renegotiated agreement by Boylston Adams Tompkins was conveyed to The Moore County Company. Mr. Tompkins and his wife, Eleanore, were signatories to the conveyance as were sixteen others, members of the Moore County Hounds, who either subscribed to the $6,600 paid by The Moore County Company to secure the option on the property in 1930, figured in financial arrangements (as yet unidentified) that secured the purchase that spring, or became stockholders of The Moore County Company between 1930 and 1940. The eight married couples joining the Tompkinses in this conveyance were James and Katharine Boyd, Jackson and Harriet McCook Boyd, Almet and Charlotte W. Jenks, Charles T. and Fay B. Crocker, Lindsay and Katharine W. Bradford, Henry C. and Jeanette J. Taylor, Stanley W. and Ruth Timson Burke, and F. P. and Katherine McM. Shepard. The deed cited an earlier instrument of 25 April 1930 executed by Mr. Tompkins in which “he declared that the title to the parcels of land conveye
d in said (1930) deed aforesaid mentioned would be held in trust only for the sole use and benefit of himself and the parties aforesaid named . . .” who now joined him in the 15 October 1940 conveyance to The Moore County Company.

Following on the season of 1941-42 James and Jackson Boyd decided they could no longer maintain the hounds hunted by the Moore County Hounds at the Weymouth kennels. The die was cast by the United States’s entry into World War II, James Boyd’s compromised health, and Jackson Boyd’s order to active duty as a captain in the Marine Reserves in which he had charge of a special canine operation. Acting for himself and on behalf of his brother James, Jackson Boyd resigned their joint masterships of the Moore County Hounds in a letter of 26 July 1942 to the MFHA. The response on 31 July from William Plunket Stewart was highly respectful. “I am indeed sorry to know that you and your brother feel it necessary to discontinue your long and splendid association with the Moore County Hounds. We have all felt that having you two at the helm in Southern Pines was such a wonderful thing for the sport, and I know when I report the matter to our executive Committee, it will be as much regret to them as it is to me. We all feel so strongly the importance of keeping fox-hunting going during the war, even though it may be on a reduced scale. . . .”

A month later, in a letter of 29 August 1942, Jackson H. Boyd described the evolving circumstances to Joseph J. Jones at the association’s Boston office. “. . .As it is now, Mr. W. O. Moss is taking over as soon as kennels on his farm are completed, which should be in a week. He will have 19 cpl.–half or cross breeds and will try to keep things going for the duration or until he joins up. . . .Mr. Moss is most
William Ozelle Moss, alternately known as William O. or W. O., and affectionately as “Pappy,” became master of the Moore County Hounds in 1942 and held that title, with the later assistance of his wife and others as joint master, until his death in 1976.

The Moore County Hounds at Mile-Away Farms

At the end of World War II, as communities readjusted to changed, postwar circumstances, W. O. Moss was the effective dean of the equine community in Southern Pines. James Boyd, the founder of the Moore County Hounds, had died in 1944. Jackson Boyd, who suffered the death of his only brother following that of the elder of his two sons in 1942, took permanent leave of Southern Pines in 1946, and that same year Verner Reed also sold his mansion, stable, kennels and the principal part of his estate near Pinehurst and likewise departed the society of the North Carolina Sandhills. Katherine Lamont Boyd, who remained at Weymouth until her death in 1974, maintained an interest in the hunt so beloved by her husband, but she rode less and less, while allowing the Moore County Hounds to ride over the family’s still-sizable holdings. Charles T. Crocker, the sixth original incorporator of The Moore County Company, celebrated his eightieth birthday in January 1946. His important role as an investor, at a crucial point in the history of the hunt, continued to provide benefit even as he rode to the hounds less often. Few in the hunt community today recognize his name even while riding over the lands his foresight made possible by his sixth part; he died eight years later on 29 January 1954 at Pinewild Farm.44

The name of Boylston Adams Tompkins is likewise little remembered today, and his crucial role in the preservation of the Moore County Hunt Lands is even less known. Having overseen the building of a residence and the adaptation of an existing dairy barn for a sixteen-stall horse barn at The Paddock in 1929, he built The Paddock Jr. (P1) on the south side of Mile-Away Farms in 1950-1951, to designs by New York architect John Bradley Washington Delehanty (1888-1965), and gave it to his daughter, Judith Lee Tompkins, in May 1951. The Paddock Jr., also significant in social history for its associations with fox-hunting, is well-known as the winter residence of Constance Morss Fiske (1896-1987), an avid rider and fox-hunter, who rode side-saddle, and a long-time member of Moore County Hounds, from 1957 until her death in 1987, and afterward as the last home of Virginia Walthour Moss.45

During the three decades from 1946 to his death in 1976, William Ozelle Moss and his wife, Virginia, exercised the senior, leadership roles in the development of the equine community in Southern Pines and the state’s Sandhills. At Pinehurst horse shows, gymkhanas, and harness racing had continued after the war at the trotting track and stables located alongside NC 5, in large part as venues for entertaining guests at the resort’s hotels. However, with the permanent relocation of the Moore County Hounds to
Mile-Away Farms in 1942 and the inaugural running of the annual steeplechase races at Stoneybrook in 1949, nearby on Young’s Road, the momentum was fixed in Southern Pines and anchored by Mile-Away Farms and the hunting lands of the Moore County Hounds held by The Moore County Company.

The end of World War II and the general expansion afterward allowed the Mosses to continue with their improvements at Mile-Away Farms. In plan the large barn of ca. 1937-38 and the kennels completed in the summer of 1942 occupied the short northeast and southwest sides, respectively, of a distinctly-conceived rectangular plan. In ca. 1948-1949 they erected a one-and-a-half story weatherboarded frame house (M11), with its gable front facing northwest, as their residence and in ca. 1950-1952 the garage/workshop (M10) in complementing positions on the rectangular grid. The other principal outbuildings, including the pump house, the small barn, the fire truck garage, and the pull-through spreader shed, had been built between about 1939 and 1942.

The completion of the Moss residence (M11) and the garage/workshop (M10) in ca. 1948-1952 was contemporary with other, more dramatic improvements effected to both the farm and hunt lands in the same period. Both projects owed to the active commitment of William John Brewster (1893-1977), the president of George M. Brewster & Company, a major construction and road-building company located in Bogota, Bergen County, New Jersey. Mr. Brewster was the son of George M. Brewster (1866-1930), the company founder, who died in Pinehurst during a winter sojourn. The matter of when William J. Brewster became involved with the Moore County Hounds remains to be confirmed, but his presence in the hunt and his financial contributions secured his appointment as a joint master in about 1950. His role was noted in an article entitled “Hunting With Moore County Hounds Maintains High Level Set of Yore” that was published in a special edition of The Pilot in December 1951.

One is struck, viewing the hunting these days, by how few changes have taken place. . . .

And, actually, what changes have taken place in the hunt, aside from the personnel? Perhaps the greatest is in the country itself. When the kennels were moved out to their present location on the farm of Joint Master M.(sic) Ozelle Moss, it was natural that the country should move that way, too. The Mosses developed their own pastures and adjacent woodlands, building fences and opening up rides. With increasing settlement of this section, it was natural that they should feel concerned to open up country under their own control as much as possible. The old fox-hunting ground of former days, Carroll’s Branch and the so-called Sheep-pen and Waterworks Country was cleaned up and trails were opened everywhere. William J. Brewster of Pinehurst, who joined Mr. Moss as joint master last year, took a special interest in the country west of the railroad tracks and had a great number of bridges and rides built there. This work has lately been continued in Carroll’s Branch. Mr. Moss estimating that about forty bridges were put in over the swamps. These are laid on heavy creosoted timbers and form a solid structure over which horses can gallop with safety. A bulldozer was among Mr. Brewster’s additions to the
hunt equipment and this has proved invaluable in clearing lanes and opening up swampland that was formerly unrideable. In some cases dirt and turf have been laid over great culverts, to create wide grass lanes through the woods.

All this new construction has made a great difference in the ease and speed of crossing the country. Where, in the old days, the swamps acted as an extra obstacle to negotiate, and the narrow crossings, some of which included a jump over a running stream, required a good deal of skill on the part of both horse and rider, now these are eliminated, as is also much of the rough going through scrub oak. The result is that this is now a good hunting country for beginners as well as safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

While a degree of earth moving was involved in the process, Mr. Moss’s hand in the work was intuitive and knowing, and the lands today retain a remarkable, seemingly undisturbed naturalness across their breadth. There are no other such expansive, well-developed, and appealing hunting lands of such size and character in Moore County or known in North Carolina as these, which, in addition, are held in trust and conserved in perpetuity for public enjoyment through the Moss bequests and conveyances.

The improvements in the hunt lands were matched in ca. 1948-1949 by the construction of a splendid new barn, the Brewster Barn (B1), on the north edge of Mile-Away Farms and on a true axis with the earlier, ca. 1937-1938, main barn. The two barns stand on elevated ground and overlook a large, oval show ring (B3) added in ca. 1950-1952 and centered on the lower ground between them. A large garage (B2), providing shelter for a horse van and three conventional vehicles, was built, also in ca. 1948-1949, off the east gable end of the sixteen-stall barn. While built on Mile-Away Farms, on lands owned by the Mosses, the barn was known from the outset as the Brewster Barn and it retains that name in the hunt community to the present.

The Brewster Barn represents an equine collaboration between the Mosses and Mr. Brewster whose facts, beyond those in land records, are not now known. In November 1952 the Mosses executed a deed of trust to the firm of George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, to secure an indebtedness of $50,000, which apparently reflects the cost of construction for the barn, the garage, the show ring, and a now-lost ring for cockfighting, whose site is presently occupied by a later training ring (B4). The deed was cancelled in 1955 coincident with the transfer of ownership of the buildings, the rings, and their grounds of 21.3 acres to George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated. The property remained in Brewster ownership into 1959 when it was sold to the first of a series of owners, most of whom have had an association with the hunt community.47

W. O. and Virginia Moss were instrumental in both the building up and broadening of the equine community and equestrian life in Southern Pines and the North Carolina Sandhills to its present status as the center of equine activity in North Carolina. In this they had the support of colleagues in the equine world who laid the foundations for today’s equine sports and its valuable commercial side. James and
Jackson Boyd figured in this group as did Lloyd Manson Tate, the founder of the Blowing Rock Horse Show who also operated the livery concession in Pinehurst, his son Lloyd Patrick Tate (1928-2012) who, with his wife Ann Cannon Reynolds Tate (1920-2001) created the 400-plus acre Starland Farms on Midland Road (that after ca. 1987 was developed as a residential subdivision), and Michael Gerard Walsh (1906-1993), the Irish-born horse trainer who located on Young’s Road. Mr. Walsh and his wife Cathreen Walsh assembled tracts for their Stoneybrook Farm between 1944 and 1956 and held the first running of the Stoneybrook Races there in 1949. The races were moved to the Carolina Horse Park (outside the boundary of Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms) in 2000; the historic race track has since been erased and the property is partially developed and compromised. One of the last horsemen drawn to Southern Pines and the community around Young’s Road was Raymond Christy Firestone (1908-1994), president and chairman of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, who in 1966 and 1967 purchased six adjoining tracts in McNeill Township on Young’s and Old Mill roads and created Landmark Farm, which was his winter residence until his death. Four of the six tracts were purchased from either Mile-Away Farms, Incorporated, or the Mosses. Raymond Firestone bought the first of these parcels, a tract of 34.50 acres, from Mile-Away Farms on 7 March 1966. By a deed of the same date Mr. Firestone executed an indenture to the Mosses conveying a hunting easement across the property allowing them, their heirs, assigns, and guests “the right, privilege, permission and easement to hunt, without guns or other firearms, upon, over and across the lands and premises hereinafter described, with the dogs now known as ‘Moore County Hounds’, or with such other pack of dogs, in lieu thereof, as may be recognized and approved for hunting by the corporation or organization known as the ‘Masters of Fox Hounds Association of America’.”

The sale of lands to Mr. Firestone, in 1966-1967, in which the Mosses sold acreage held personally or by Mile-Away Farms, reflects a third area in which William and Virginia Moss exerted a critical influence on the character of the Sandhills equine community. Beginning with the 1937 purchase of the tract on which the stable and kennel complex was built, W. O. Moss, with his wife, acquired dozens of tracts of land around the edges of it and The Moore County Company hunting lands. The Mosses held some of the acreage, incorporating it into Mile-Away Farms, and sold other tracts around the edges of the core holding to horsemen who they saw as desirable members of the equine community who could both make a contribution to breeding, showing, hunting, and racing, and be congenial neighbors. Preliminary research into the Mosses’s real estate operations indicate that whenever a sale was made restrictive language was often, if not usually, inserted in the deed to preserve the rural character and use of the property, to forbid any subdivision, and to give the Mosses the right of first refusal if the new owner decided to sell. In many instances, an indenture executed simultaneously by the new owner, as grantor, provided an easement across the property for fox-hunting. In this fashion the Mosses both contributed to the physical building up of equine operations and facilities in the Young’s Road area while preserving the use of an expanded area, outside their ownership, for the sport of fox-hunting. The paired deeds associated with the sale to Raymond Firestone is one example, another, also in 1966, is represented by the like deeds for a sale to William F. and Lillian A. Abelman of Bergen County, New Jersey.
Mosses were also instrumental, through the gift of lands in 1969 to the North Carolina Veterinary Research Foundation, in locating the present NC State Equine Health Center on Young’s Road.

Preserving the Past for the Future

The matter of when and how the Mosses assumed stewardship of The Moore County Company lands and the means by which they acquired the stock, shares, and offices of the company remain to be confirmed. Presumably these came in part, at least, with the transfer of the Moore County Hounds to Mile-Away Farms in summer 1942. In 1938 when the company sold acreage to Hugh Sicard the deed was signed by Jackson Herr Boyd as vice-president of The Moore County Company. In 1949 when Mr. and Mrs. Sicard sold the property to the Vales, The Moore County Company also executed a quitclaim deed; it was signed by W. O. Moss as president of the company. Presumably these came in part, at least, with the transfer of the Moore County Hounds to Mile-Away Farms in summer 1942. In 1938 when the company sold acreage to Hugh Sicard the deed was signed by Jackson Herr Boyd as vice-president of The Moore County Company. In 1949 when Mr. and Mrs. Sicard sold the property to the Vales, The Moore County Company also executed a quitclaim deed; it was signed by W. O. Moss as president of the company.51 Another quitclaim deed in 1950 and three further deeds executed in 1953, 1957, and 1962 by The Moore County Company, Incorporated, were signed by W. O. Moss as president.52

Two actions in 1966 consolidated stewardship and ownership in Mile-Away Farms, Incorporated. On 1 January W. O. and Virginia Moss, as president and secretary of The Moore County Company, Incorporated, filed articles of amendment to the company charter. Two of the amendments bear especial note. The first article was the amendment of the company name: “The name of this corporation is Mile-Away (sic) Farms, Incorporated.” The stated capital of the corporation was raised from the original $75,000 to $100,000 representing 1,000 shares with a par value of $100 each. With nine deeds in 1966 the Mosses also conveyed significant holdings in McNeill Township and the Young’s Road area to Mile-Away Farms, Incorporated. Another like conveyance occurred in 1969 and three further, apparently final conveyances were made by the Mosses to Mile-Away Farms, Incorporated, in 1972.54

The circumstances by which the Mosses came to determine that the preservation of their principal lands, comprising those originally acquired in 1929-30 by The Moore County Company and adjoining parcels added to it through time, could best be achieved through ownership by a conservation trust and the organization of The Walthour-Moss Foundation remain to be thoroughly understood. One influence was the example in 1963 of James Boyd’s sons who sold the largest residual part of the Boyd family’s Weymouth estate, a tract of just over 400 acres, to the State of North Carolina to assure its preservation. This acreage, covered by towering stands of aged pines, is now operated as the Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve. One knowledgeable member of the community, Lloyd Patrick Tate Jr., has also advanced the influence of Raymond C. Firestone as encouragement.55 Another strong, likely influence was the example of Thomas Hitchcock Jr. in Aiken, South Carolina. In 1939 he oversaw the organization of the Hitchcock Foundation as a charitable foundation and made a gift of 170 acres of the family’s woodlands, then described as 1,191 acres, and long used for riding and hunting, to the Hitchcock Foundation. The gift was announced in the Aiken Journal and Review on 13 December 1939 under the headline “Hitchcock Gives famous Woods for Park: Woods Adjacent To His Winter Home To Be Used For Public Park.” Following Mr. Hitchcock’s death on 29 September 1941 the remaining...
1,021 acres were conveyed by his estate to the foundation. The greater opportunity for extraordinary good was lost, however, when the family retained some 6,809 acres in the Hitchcock Realty Company and subsequently sold the land for its timber and real estate development.56

In 1970 and 1974 W. O. and Virginia Moss took steps to advance their interests. On 1 January 1970 articles of incorporation for The Moore County Hounds, Inc. were drawn, signed, and presented to the North Carolina Secretary of State. Two of the twelve stated purposes of the corporation bear note; “(b) To own, manage, and operate a private pack of hounds and a hunt club with all facilities incident thereto, and to stage and carry on private and public fox-hunting and equestrian activities.” And “(k) To make donations of its funds to private land owners for the construction, improvements and repair of trails, fences, firelanes, bridal (sic) paths, and other property necessary or desirable for the full enjoyment of fox-hunting and other equestrian activities.” W. O. Moss, Virginia Moss, Raymond C. Firestone, and Richard D. Webb were the listed incorporators and directors.57 In March 1974 The Walthour-Moss Foundation was established as a trust to implement, manage, and preserve the hunt lands then held by Mile-Away Farms and enjoyed by the Moore County Hounds.58

William Ozelle Moss died on 22 August 1976 and his body was interred in Hilltop Cemetery, a small cemetery on a knoll in the woodlands that survives as an inholding in the hunt lands. In his will, dated 13 February 1976, he named Southern National Bank as executor of his estate and named four heirs of his real and personal property: Virginia W. Moss, his friend Lloyd Patrick Tate, Ellen Miska, also a friend, and The Walthour-Moss Foundation. Mr. Moss’s bequest to the foundation was not a specified acreage but shares of stock in Mile-Away Farms that would essentially comprise forty-nine per cent of the ownership. He bequeathed unnamed shares of stock to Mrs. Moss that, together with her own shares, would equal a controlling interest of fifty-one per cent. In effect he confirmed his confidence in her judgment about the future preservation and conservation of the hunt lands.59

One of the initial steps in the settlement of his estate and the execution of its bequests was the preparation of a plat of the Mosses’s Mile-Away Farms holdings. “A Division and Plan of Mile-Away Farms, Inc.” was drawn from surveys by Charles D. Ward with a date of 26 May 1977. By two deeds, both dated 22 March 1978, the real estate of Mile-Away Farms was distributed to the Walthour-Moss Foundation and Mrs. Moss. The stated conveyance to the Walthour-Moss Foundation comprised 1,747.39 acres, less the 2.1-acre cemetery inholding and a tract of 6.8 acres deeded to Mrs. Moss, leaving 1,738.58 acres becoming the property of the foundation.60 The remainder of the Mile-Away Farms acreage, including three tracts comprising 1,364.27 acres, the 2.01-acre cemetery parcel, and nineteen further tracts was deeded to Virginia Moss. This conveyance also included the home complex with the barns, kennels, residence, garage, related buildings, paddocks, and pastures.61 From 1942 to his death in 1976 W. O. Moss served as master/joint master and huntsman of the Moore County Hounds. Following his death Virginia Moss became a joint master of the pack with Richard D. Webb, who had become joint master with Mr. Moss in 1961. She also served for a time as huntsman until the hunt’s
first professional huntsman, Don Folmer (1939-2011) was hired. Mile-Away Farms, Incorporated, was dissolved and succeeded by Mile-Away Farm, Incorporated, during Mrs. Moss’s ownership.

On 28 December 1979 Mrs. Moss donated a tract of 15.07 acres to the Walthour-Moss Foundation. She would make further donations in the 1980s for a total personal donation of 715.73 acres. The Walthour-Moss Foundation was formally incorporated as a Section 501(c)3 nonprofit company in 1981 “To operate exclusively for charitable, educational, religious and scientific purposes” and within this regard “to hold and maintain open land for the propagation and preservation of wildlife, for use for equestrian purposes, and the conservation of any real property held hereunder in its natural state (except to the extent alterations are necessary or desirable for its use for equestrian purposes).” The sixteen member board of directors named in the articles of incorporation included Mrs. Moss, Raymond C. Firestone, Hardie Scott who was then the owner of Firleigh Farms, Page Shamburger who was a close personal friend of Mrs. Moss and a granddaughter of Ambassador Walter Hines Page, Lloyd Patrick Tate, Richard Davis Webb, members of the Moore County Hounds and other hunts, and yet others who brought needed professional abilities to the foundation. In November 1982 a quitclaim deed was executed by Mrs. Moss, Mile-Away Farms, and Southern National Bank to effect corrections to earlier deeds: it corrected the 1978 conveyance to 1,783.36 acres less only the 2.01-acre cemetery parcel and thereby defining it as 1,781.35 acres. On 31 December 1982 the trustees of the Walthour-Moss Foundation, created as a trust in 1974, conveyed the newly-described parcel to the Walthour-Moss Foundation organized as a nonprofit corporation in 1981. In 1997 Mrs. Moss was named one of the first two recipients of the MFHA’s “Hunting Habitat Preservation Award.” Her co-honoree was Mrs. Nancy Hannum, a former master of Mr. Stewart’s Cheshire Foxhounds in Pennsylvania.

Virginia Walthour Moss died on 13 January 2006 at the age of ninety-six at her residence, The Paddock Jr. and her body was interred in the woodland Hilltop Cemetery where Mr. Moss was buried thirty years earlier. The preliminary accounting listed an estate in excess of $3.18 million of which $2,511,925.34 represented her real estate holdings. She bequeathed a tract of 120 acres known as the “Sweetheart Lake Property” to the Walthour-Moss Foundation, devised certain personal property to her granddaughter, Virginia Tayloe Compton Brandt Thomasson, (b. 1951), and devised her residual estate to the Amended & Restated Virginia W. Moss 2001 Revocable Trust. The will, dated 28 June 2001, was amended by codicils in 2003, 2004, and 2005. In the first of these she devised The Paddock Jr., then her residence, to her grandnieces, Virginia T. C. B. Thomasson and Cameron W. Compton Slade (now Sadler). Fox-hunting by the Moore County Hounds continued in its established pattern with a season beginning in October and continuing into March with hunts on Monday or Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The core barn, kennel, and paddock complex at Mile-Away Farms was sold by her heirs. The kennels, garage/pavilion-clubhouse, garage, Moss/huntsman’s residence, small barn and their site and setting of 10.47 acres were purchased by the Moore County Hounds, Incorporated. The eighteen-stall barn, the
spreader shed, the pump house and the principal paddocks and pastures carrying down to North May Street, altogether occupying some 20.20 acres, were sold in March 2008 to Donald W. Warren Jr. of Hillsborough, a member of the Moore County Hounds, and his wife. Richard D. Webb, Cameron (Mrs. Lincoln) Sadler, Effie (Mrs. M. Nixon) Ellis, and Michael B. Russell are the current joint masters of the Moore County Hounds. The Moore County Hounds remains a private pack with participation in its hunts by acceptance of invitations issued annually by the joint masters. In recent years between 200 and 300 invitations have been issued per year. The average weekday field in good weather has increased in recent seasons from about forty to as many as sixty riders with larger fields on Saturdays.

A Concluding Appraisal

In 2014 the Moore County Hounds will celebrate the centennial of its establishment as a hunt in 1914. In that year, when James Boyd organized the Moore County Hounds and sought acceptance by the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association, his hunt was the first to be established in North Carolina. Together with the Aiken Hounds, which was also established in 1914, it was one of the two earliest established or registered hunts in the American South below Virginia, the long-celebrated center of fox-hunting in the United States. During the century since 1914, the Moore County Hounds has thrived as a social and recreational association in Moore County with a status and appeal recognized well beyond the state and region, Southern Pines has developed as the leading center of equine life in North Carolina, and fox-hunting has grown as a sport in both the state and the South.

The Tryon Hounds, the second oldest of seven hunts in North Carolina now recognized by the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, was established in 1926 as a seasonal hunt by individuals associated with the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club. These hunters, like those in Southern Pines, came to North Carolina, to Polk County in this instance, to enjoy a milder climate than their home states. They hailed mostly from Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan, and most were members of riding clubs or fledgling hunts (in Bloomfield, Michigan, Owentsia, Illinois, and Long Meadow/Winnetka, Illinois) that have folded. Equestrians in Tryon also mounted horse shows and a steeplechase, the Block House Races, however the community and others of later date in North Carolina did not rise to the level of that achieved by the many permanent, year-round equestrians and their farms in Moore County. In 1934 the Tryon hunt purchased seven and one-half couples of hounds from the Overhills estate of the late Percy Rockefeller. The Tryon Hounds was recognized in 1935.

The Sedgefield Hunt, whose country lies in Guilford and Rockingham counties, North Carolina, and the south Virginia area near Danville, is historically contemporary with the Tryon Hounds. It was established in 1927, registered in 1938, and recognized in 1941. North Carolina’s other four hunts were all established in the second half of the twentieth century and illustrate the popularity of fox-hunting in yet other regions of the state. The Mecklenburg Hounds, established in 1956 and recognized in 1966, hunt in Union County, North Carolina, and Lancaster County, South Carolina. The Red Mountain Foxhounds, established in 1969 and recognized in 1982, have a large country that includes parts of...
Durham, Person, Orange, Caswell, and Warren counties, North Carolina, and Halifax County, Virginia. The Yadkin Valley Hounds, established in 1976 and recognized in 1979, hunt in Davie, Iredell, and Yadkin counties, North Carolina. The newest hunt, the Green Creek Hounds, was established in 1988 and recognized in 1994. Its territory embraces parts of Polk and Cleveland counties, North Carolina, and Union County, South Carolina.70

Within this group the Moore County Hounds, like the Aiken Hounds in South Carolina, also has the distinction of having and enjoying as its primary hunt country, a large tract held, maintained, managed, and preserved by a nonprofit organization exclusively for conservation and equestrian use while also preserving large acreages for broader educational opportunities in the field of natural history. With the acquisition of these lands in 1929-1930, James, Jackson, and Katharine Boyd, Charles T. Crocker, Augustine Healy, and Boyston Adams Tompkins acted with a remarkable prescience that anticipated the later efforts of Thomas F. Hitchcock at Hitchcock Woods in Aiken, South Carolina, and some few other equestrians in other parts of the United States whose members have the means and desire to preserve important, expansive tracts for equine use through direct ownership or through easements, which are utilized with success in Virginia. The creation of the Walthour-Moss Foundation and its continuing stewardship of the Moore County Hunt Lands have made permanent the farsighted actions of the Boyds and their friends in 1929-1930.

Finally, the conservation of the Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms and their continued survival have been possible through the foresight and dedicated stewardship of a small group of individuals for whom both are a legacy. Inspired by the pleasure of fox-hunting in England in the early 1910s, James Boyd returned to the United States and to Moore County, North Carolina, and established a hunt in 1914 that would thrive for a century with a membership made up of both seasonal/winter and year-round residents of the Sandhills. He contributed a significant part of his time and fortune to maintaining the pack of hounds at his Weymouth estate from 1914 to 1942 while he also served as master of the Moore County Hounds and joint master with his brother Jackson from 1923 to 1942. The Boyd family led the initiative to acquire these lands in 1929 and made four-sixths of the original investment. This exceptional pair of brothers was matched in their commitment by that of William Ozelle and Virginia Walthour Moss. The Mosses accepted custody of the hunt’s hounds in 1942 and they have been kenneled at Mile-Away Farms ever since. Mr. Moss was both master/joint master of the hunt and its huntsman from 1942 to this death in 1976, all the while promoting fox-hunting and the equine industry in the Sandhills. Virginia Walthour Moss, as his widow and in her own right, built on their shared accomplishment and acted as a joint-master of the hunt, and its de facto patron, until her death in 2006. The best intentions and energies of both and their commitment to the pleasures of equine life and its society in the Sandhills survive in the Walthour-Moss Foundation, these pine-covered woodlands, over which they hunted, and the buildings in which they lived and work. These circumstances—and their significance—are unmatched anywhere else in North Carolina.
ARCHITECTURE SIGNIFICANCE

The local significance of Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms in the area of architecture is associated with the Brewster Barn (B1) that was erected ca. 1948-1949 on Mile-Away Farms. It was the third of three barns built for stabling horses on the farm within the span of eleven years and the most imposing, by far, of the three. Plans for the sixteen-stall barn, believed to have survived into recent years, cannot now be located, and its designer remains unknown. Nevertheless, the interior arrangement, with four groups of four stalls aligned symmetrically along its center aisle is similar to that of the main barn (M2) at Mile-Away and so is the unpainted, mellow appearance of the pine boards used for its interior sheathing, partitioning, and other architectural features. This character reflects both the traditions of barn construction and the experienced hand of William O. Moss. Another point of consistency is the hand-forged iron hinges, latches, and other metal fittings that were produced by Frank H. Kaylor whose workshop and foundry (M18) stand on Mile-Away Farms’s historic acreage. However, the late-Colonial Revival-style Brewster Barn was conceived and built on an altogether grander scale with oversized stalls, an assembly room with connecting dressing rooms for male and female riders, a groom’s apartment on the loft level, and a highly developed exterior with large, octagonal copper ventilators positioned symmetrically on its ridge line.

Although built on Mile-Away Farms, and owned by the Mosses through 1954, the barn has been known as the “Brewster Barn” from the date of its completion to the present. This appellation derives from its association with William John Brewster (1893-1977), who became a joint master of the Moore County Hounds about the time of its completion, and who was then president of George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, a major heavy construction company based in Bogota, New Jersey. The barn, garage (B2), and show ring (B3) are believed to have been erected by the Brewster company, which is also known to have built an extensive array of agricultural and recreational facilities at Camp Hemlock, the Brewster family’s 4,000-plus acre retreat in the Pocono Mountains near Greentown in northeast Pennsylvania, during both the interwar period and post-World War II years. The Brewster Barn was owned by George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, only from 1 January 1955 until 12 September 1959, when the firm sold the barn and its grounds to the first of a series of later twentieth-century owners.71

The Brewster Barn represents the acme of historic equine architecture in Moore County and it reflects the maturation of a community of equestrians and fox-hunters whose origins are traced locally to the Boyd family, their Weymouth estate, and the 1910s. The frame block of the Weymouth stable, dating to ca. 1910-1920 and expanded ca. 1928 by a brick gable-end addition, is the earliest known surviving hunt-related stable in the Sandhills. It and the adjoining kennels were the home of the Moore County Hounds and the Boyds’s hounds from 1914 until their relocation to Mile-Away Farms in 1942. Fox-hunters associated with the Moore County Hounds and the acquisition of the hunt lands by The Moore County Company in 1929-1930 also erected horse barns in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s, which have met differing fates. Both the house and barn erected by Charles T. Crocker on his Pinewild Farm near Pinehurst were lost to the redevelopment of the estate as Pinewild Country Club of Pinehurst, a
golf/country club/residential community, in the later twentieth century. The five-stall brick barn built by Augustine Healy in 1929 at Firleigh has been adapted and remodeled by a later owner. On 1 March 1929 The Pilot published an article on work occurring at The Paddock under the direction of Boylston Adams Tompkins: “This winter the dairy barn which had been used for several seasons by the Milam Dairy farm was remodeled into stables for sixteen horses . . . .” It survives and comprises a simple series of stables, tack and feed rooms aligned on three sides of a rectangular court. The frame stable erected ca. 1928-1929 by Verner Z. Reed at his winter estate near Pinehurst was built on a similar, elongated U-shape plan but finished to a more exacting, imposing standard. It was lost to fire in April 1963. The small five-stall barn designed by Martin Evans Boyer Jr. (1893-1970) and built ca. 1930-1932 by Almet Jenks at his Pickridge estate fronting on Young’s Road has been well-maintained and preserved intact to the present.72

William O. Moss was surely familiar with most, if not all, of these barns in 1937 when he contemplated the construction of the main barn (M2) at his Mile-Away Farms. Containing eighteen stalls, tack rooms, and living quarters for himself and Mrs. Moss, it was the largest and most ambitious private horse barn in Moore County when completed in about 1938 and placed in service. It retained that status until ca. 1948, when he and William J. Brewster joined forces and undertook the building of the Brewster Barn. While the circumstances of their informal partnership remain to be confirmed, documentary photographs, including aerial views, reflect their obvious intention to build an imposing barn for show, hunt, and sales use in a pendant position to Mile-Away Farms’s main barn. An axial lane was created to link the two buildings and the show ring (B3) centered between them. The design and placement of the garage (B2) off the southeast gable end of the Brewster Barn reflects both intent and the positioning of buildings for a satisfying architectural effect demonstrated earlier at Mile-Away Farms.

Today, with the integrity of the main barn at Mile-Away Farms somewhat compromised by a remodeling in 2012 and its significance diminished, the Brewster Barn has remained intact and well-preserved. It is both a landmark in the Young’s Road equine community and an important, highly developed example of private barn construction in the larger Sandhills community where fate has not altogether favored the survival of its contemporaries. In effect, the Brewster Barn, now long since passed out of the ownership of the Moss and Brewster families, is an architectural metaphor for the equine community the Mosses envisioned, and it remains the most distinguished privately-owned building of its type in Moore County.
Moore County Hunt Lands and Mile-Away Farms

Name of Property

Moore County, NC

County and State

Endnotes


2. Two of the several published works on Southern Pines that are of especial value are Manley Wade Wellman, The Story of Moore: Two Centuries of a North Carolina Region (N.p.: Moore County Historical Association, 1974) and Helen Huttenhauer, Young Southern Pines (Southern Pines, NC: Morgan/Hubbard Printing, 1980).

3. For Pinehurst see the designation report for the Pinehurst National Historical Landmark District (1996) that was co-authored by Davyd Foard Hood and Laura A. W. Phillips.


5. This author compiled documentation on Messrs. Crocker and Reed and their purchase of property from the Moore County Register of Deeds, from site visits to the respective properties, and other sources. Pinewild Farm became a golf club and residential subdivision named Pinewild Country Club of Pinehurst after its sale by Mr. Crocker’s heirs. His residence and the stable are lost, however, the log guest house remains on a sizable lot, unoccupied but maintained by the corporate owner. Verner Reed’s estate has enjoyed a high degree of stewardship. Since 1953 it has been owned by the McKeans of Boston and is now a residence of John W. McKeans and named Sandy Woods Farm.


7. Published in van Urk, 1:172.

8. van Urk, 1:171-72.

9. For Overhills see the draft National Register nomination for the property prepared at the request of the Percy Rockefeller (and Elliman family) heirs in the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. This writer was the principal author of the draft manuscript. Overhills was subsequently sold to the United States of America and absorbed into operations at Fort Bragg.


12. Moore County Hounds file, Office of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, Millwood, Virginia. This writer examined the contents of the file on Wednesday, 14
November 2012. Hereafter cited as MCH file, MFHA. The absence of material in the MFHA file for the Moore County Hounds can be explained in part by the nature of the cooperative yet competing interests of the two hunt organizations. The National Steeplechase and Hunt Association maintained control of hunt recognitions until 1934 when the MFHA assumed that responsibility. The National Steeplechase and Hunt Association had ceded responsibility for recording hunt territory to the MFHA by 1918. Thus the map of the Moore County Hounds hunt territory submitted to the MFHA might well be the first document formally submitted to that office. The records for 1914 and the 1920 recognition may well remain with the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association or its successor organization, a possibility that has not been explored.

15. A National Register nomination for Firleigh is being prepared coincident with this nomination, q.v.
17. Moore County Grantee Indexes.
20. This writer examined Volumes II and III, which covers the seasons of 1932-33, 1933-34, and 1934-35, for this nomination.
23. The conveyance was made in two deeds. Messrs. Boyd, Crocker, and Healy and their wives conveyed their undivided five-sixths interest in the tract as a group, Moore County Deeds, 107/154-55. Jackson H. Boyd, as trustee and executor of Eleanor H. Boyd’s estate, conveyed the estate’s one-sixth undivided interest separately, Moore County Deeds, 107/148-49.
27. Moore County Deeds, 109/251-53. The agreement was handled locally on behalf of Mr. Tompkins “by Jackson Herr Boyd, Attorney-in-Fact” who served as his agent in the matter.
30. Balduin von Herff (1855--after 1936), a native of Worms, Germany, and a trained agricultural chemist, came to the United States in 1882. By about 1885 he was working at a station in Moore County operated by the State Board of Agriculture in fertilization and crop studies. A brief discussion of the work, without any mention of Dr. von Herff, appears in
North Carolina and Its Resources Illustrated (1896), pp. 171-73. In 1885 he began acquiring tracts near Southern Pines, and he continued to make purchases into 1928. On 12 June 1919 he sold his principal holdings, combined and described as eleven tracts totaling 6,435.47 acres to Henry A. Page Jr. (Moore County Deeds, 73/504-19). Unfortunately little is known of Dr. von Herff: his place in the agricultural and horticultural history of Moore County merits serious scholarly address.

32. Moore County Deeds, 122/358-61, also mortgage deed 62/66.
34. Lloyd Patrick Tate Jr. (b. 1949), interview with author, Southern Pines, N.C., 16 December 2011.
35. Mr. Dortch acquired the property from C. B. and Lalla K. Cheatham on 7 March 1928, Moore County Deeds, 104/451 and 107/232. The Dortches apparently made no improvements before entering bankruptcy and conveying the acreage to Paul F. Smith, the trustee in the Dortch bankruptcy, who sold it to the Mosses for $2,500 on 26 April 1937, Moore County Deeds, 124/307-08. The T-plan house appearing at the North May Street front of lot #135 on the 1919 subdivision plan of Edgemoore Heights was possibly the “old Petty home place.” Whether it still stood in 1937 is not known.
37. Moore County Deeds, 133/497-98.
38. Moore County Deeds, 129/423. On the 1919 plat of Edgemoore Heights the home of Alex. Cameron stands at the North May Street front of lot #138.
41. Moore County Deeds, 133/377-80. Almet and Charlotte Jenks occupied Pickridge on Young’s Road as their winter residence, the Crockers wintered at Pinewild Farm, the Burkes occupied Tremont on Tremont Road which they built on acreage purchased from Augustine and Jeanette Healy, and Jackson and Harriet Boyd had a winter residence on Connecticut Avenue, across the street from Weymouth. The Tompkinses, the Bradfords, the Taylors, the Burkes, and the Shepards were all residents of New York City.
42. MCH file, MFHA. William Plunkett Stewart to Jackson H. Boyd, 31 July 1942.
43. MCH file, MFHA. Jackson H. Boyd to Joseph J. Jones, 29 August 1942.
45. The Paddock Jr. has an interesting history and distinct associations with the Walthour family. The acreage on which it was built was acquired by Annie Isabelle Remington of Providence, Rhode Island, in 1926 (Moore County Deeds, 100/148) and remained undeveloped until 1950 when she sold the property to Mr. Tompkins (Moore County Deeds, 166/94). Boylston Adams Tompkins and his wife, Eleanor Louise Marshall, built The Paddock Jr. and on 25 May 1951 conveyed it to their daughter Judith Lee Tompkins who was then living at 770
Park Avenue in New York City (Moore County Deeds, 171/341). In 1954 she married Henry Tayloe Compton (1925-2012), a nephew of Virginia Moss. In October 1957, after the birth of the couple’s second child, Judith Lee Tompkins Compton sold The Paddock Jr. to Constance Morss Fiske of Framingham, Massachusetts, the wife of Gardiner H. Fiske, who was an accomplished horsewoman and long-time member of the Moore County Hounds. On 24 November 1987 her executors sold The Paddock Jr. to Virginia Moss (Moore County Deeds, 584/109-112). Mrs. Moss moved from Pineholm on Young’s Road to The Paddock Jr. and lived there until her death. She bequeathed The Paddock Jr. to her grandniece, Cameron Walthour Compton Slade (b. 1966), the eldest daughter of Henry Tayloe Compton and his second wife, Carol Tulane Bond, who now resides at The Paddock Jr. with her husband Lincoln Sadler.

46. George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, was founded in about 1919 by George M. Brewster (1866-1930), a native of Cold Spring, New York. He married Mary Cooke. William John Brewster (1893-1977), the first-born of the couple’s three known children, was born on 24 February 1893 in Alpine, New Jersey. George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, specialized in large-scale and transportation-related construction projects including work on the George Washington Bridge and Lincoln Tunnel, which link New Jersey and New York City, and the New Jersey Turnpike. The firm’s offices and facilities were located in Bogota, New Jersey. After decades of successful operations, financial reverses in the late-1950s and early-1960s forced the dissolution of the company. George M. Brewster and his son both resided in Hackensack, New Jersey. William J. Brewster and his wife, Mildred, were the parents of three children, including a son, George M. Brewster (b. ca. 1926), who served as secretary of the family firm. William J. Brewster died in Dade County, Florida, on 19 December 1977.

47. The deed of trust, Moore County Deeds, 96/125, specified two payments of $2,500 per year, beginning on 15 May 1953, with the second on 15 November 1953, until the total was paid. The mortgage was cancelled on 3 May 1955. The conveyance to the Brewster firm occurred on 1 January 1955. The Mosses executed a deed for the property to Evelyn Thomas who, in turn, conveyed the property to George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, Moore County Deeds, 197/379-80 and 377-78, respectively. On 12 September 1959 George M. Brewster & Son, Incorporated, conveyed the Brewster Barn property and the Brewster family’s winter residence on Linden Road in Pinehurst to Charles A. and M. V. Pitts of Toronto, Canada, Moore County Deeds, 233/47-51.

48. Moore County Deeds, 144/601-02, 149/547-48, 559-60, 207/183-85. 49. Moore County Grantee Index, Moore County Deeds, 288/594-97, Moore County Deeds, 288/598-601, respectively. Mr. Firestone made further additions to Landmark Farm in 1968 and other real estate investments in Moore County into the 1970s.

50. Moore County Deeds, 295/459-61 and 295/466-69. The conveyance was for 5.5 acres on a part of the Boyds’s Weymouth estate acquired by the Mosses in 1963 during the reduction of the family holdings in the 1960s. The hunting easement, also dated 11 October 1966, covered the tract purchased by the Abelmans.
51. Moore County Deeds, 162/412-13, 162/460-61. Both deeds were dated 13 May 1949.
53. Moore County Record of Corporations, 8/130-33. The amendments were certified by the Secretary of State on 21 January 1966.
54. Moore County Grantor and Grantee Indexes.
55. Lloyd Patrick Tate Jr., interview with author, Southern Pines, N.C., 16 December 2011.
57. Moore County Record of Corporations, 10/165-170. The incorporation was certified on 8 January 1970.
58. There is no record of incorporation of The Walthour-Moss Foundation in this first stage of existence.
59. Moore County Wills and Estates Records, 76 E 214. Mr. Tate was bequeathed “all of my clothes wheresoever located at the time of my death.” Ms. Miska received Mr. Moss’s real estate at Lake Surf, Vass, other real estate, personal property, and financial bequests.
63. Moore County Record of Corporations, 17/495-501.
64. Moore County Deeds, 494/105-09.
65. Moore County Deeds, 496/448-57.
66. Moore County Wills and Estates Records, 06 E 58.
67. Moore County Deeds, 3090/383-85, also 3396/301-03 and 3396/304-08.
69. Tryon Hounds file, Office of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of America, Millwood, Virginia. This writer examined the contents of the file, which is richer in its content than that for the Moore County Hounds, on Wednesday, 14 November 2012.
70. Information on these North Carolina hunts is taken from the 2012-2013 MFHA Hunt Roster and Business Directory, pp. 26, 39, 55, 59, 69.
71. The chain of title for the Brewster Barn and its acreage, which has remained intact to the present, was researched, and the documentation is held by this author. The present house and enhancements to its grounds reflect the efforts of several of its’ sequential owners. They are not included in this nomination. Camp Hemlock was sold in the 1960s to a Canadian-based firm that developed its acreage as a residential park.
72. John W. McKean, letter to author, 1 February 2012.