

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Captain John S. Pope Farm

Cedar Grove vicinity, Orange County, OR1029, Listed 4/23/2013

Nomination by Heather M. Wagner

Photographs by Robert Pope and Heather M. Wagner, April 2010 and February 2012



Overall view of house and barn



Tobacco barns

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Pope, Captain John S., Farm
other names/site number _____

2. Location

Street & number 6909 Efland-Cedar Grove Road N/A not for publication
city or town Cedar Grove vicinity
State North Carolina code NC county Orange code 135 zip code 27231

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	Signature of the Keeper	_____	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain:) _____	_____			

Pope, Captain John S., Farm
Name of Property

Orange County, North Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
20	3	buildings
1	0	sites
1	1	structures
1	0	objects
23	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
Domestic: secondary structure
Agriculture/Subsistence: processing
Agriculture/Subsistence: storage
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural field

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
Domestic: secondary structure
Agriculture/Subsistence: storage
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural outbuilding
Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural field

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: I-house

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood: weatherboard
Wood: log
roof Metal
other Brick
Asphalt

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** moved from its original location.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture
Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1870-1963

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Pope, Captain John S., Farm
Name of Property

Orange County, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 73.05 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>664580</u>	<u>4007540</u>	3	<u>17</u>	<u>665220</u>	<u>4007130</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>665220</u>	<u>4007540</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>665580</u>	<u>4007130</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Heather M. Wagner
organization hmwPreservation date August 1, 2012
Street & number P. O. Box 355 telephone 336.207.1502
city or town Durham state NC zip code 27702

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

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

Name Robert Pope
Street & number 608 Polk Street telephone 919.621.1150
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27604

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

Section 7: Description

Narrative Description:

The Captain John S. Pope Farm is located at 6909 Efland-Cedar Grove Road near Cedar Grove, North Carolina, approximately eight miles northwest of Hillsborough in rural Orange County. The two-story I-house was constructed c. 1870-1874 and is one of the earliest remaining examples of a rural house form that was found throughout Orange County in the mid- to late nineteenth century. The house and a collection of twenty contributing and four non-contributing outbuildings are located on the farm's original 73.05-acre tract. The majority of contributing buildings were erected in several phases from c. 1865-1880, 1900-1930, and 1945-1960.

The house stands on the east side of Efland-Cedar Grove Road, one of the main routes from Hillsborough to Yanceyville and Milton, North Carolina, as well as to Danville, Virginia. The house is located close to the road and is accessed by a gravel drive just south of the house. The driveway curves and continues parallel to the road with domestic outbuildings, including a washhouse, flower house, corn crib, feed house, and a garage, located south of the house along the driveway. A gravel farm road intersects Efland-Cedar Grove Road just north of the house and extends toward the northeast corner of the property. Tobacco-related structures are oriented along this road with an ordering/stripping house and stick shed just east of the house, five tobacco barns on both sides of the farm road. A cluster of outbuildings, including a corn crib, log building, and wood sheds, stand at the east end of the farm road where they supported a log home that has been destroyed. The majority of the property is agricultural fields, though there are mature trees along much of the south border of the property as well as clusters of mature trees along a stream in the northeast corner of the property and two retaining ponds just south of the tobacco barns.

The inventory list is organized by location of building, moving from north to south along Efland-Cedar Grove Road and then from west to northeast along the farm road. Numbers assigned to the buildings in the inventory list correspond with the numbered buildings on the accompanying site maps. All of the buildings are one-story except where noted.

1. Captain John S. Pope House – c. 1870-1874, c. 1900, c. 1932, c. 1940, 2002, 2004, 2007

C – Building

The two-story, triple-A-roofed I-house is three bays wide and single-pile with a center-hall plan and a one-story, gabled ell at the left rear (northeast). The house has a stone pier foundation with concrete-block curtain walls. Stone chimneys in each gable end, including the rear ell, have been parged and the chimneys and brick stacks have been painted. The frame house has wood weatherboards, cornerboards, fascia, and a decorative board with beaded edge in the soffit. The low front gable is sheathed with sawn, notched boards and there is an applied wood medallion centered in the gable. The house has a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

low-pitched, standing seam metal roof with deep eaves. Original six-over-six, wood-sash windows remain with exterior storm windows. Four-over-four, wood-sash windows flank the chimney on the first and second floors of the left (north) gable end.

The front door is a fifteen-light French door with three-light-over-one-panel sidelights. The door is sheltered by a one-bay-wide, front-gabled porch with a vaulted ceiling and exposed rafter tails. The porch is supported by square columns on a brick foundation with a concrete-slab porch floor. The current porch is the third porch to be constructed on the house. Historic family photographs show the original porch as a one-bay-wide, hip-roofed porch supported by grouped square posts with diagonal bracing between the posts. A second porch, likely constructed around the turn of the twentieth century and evident in photographs from the late 1920s and early 1930s, was a three-bay-wide, shed-roofed porch supported by turned posts with decorative sawn brackets. The center gable was not part of the original structure and was likely added concurrent with this porch to give the house a Queen Anne design popular at the turn of the twentieth century. The current porch was constructed in the 1930s, perhaps as part of a building campaign in 1931-32 from which the family retains receipts for lumber, roofing, and other building supplies. It appears in photographs as early as 1942.

A one-story, gabled rear ell extends from the northeast corner of the front, two-story section of the house. The ell is frame construction on a stone pier foundation with concrete-block curtain wall. It has a stone chimney with brick stack in the east gable end. The ell has wood weatherboards and a standing-seam metal roof. A two-part c. 1940 addition to the north elevation of the ell was removed in 2002 and 2004 and fiber-cement siding and a 5V metal roof were installed where that addition once abutted the house. The ell has six-over-six, wood-sash windows and two three-light-over-three-panel wood doors open to a shed-roofed porch along the south elevation of the ell. A small c. 1932 addition on the south elevation of the porch was removed in 2007 and the porch, likely enclosed in the 1950s when a bathroom was added in the space, is now enclosed with fiber-cement siding and vinyl windows.

The front door opens to a center hall with a stair along the north wall and a door on the east wall that opens to the rear porch. There are living spaces on each side of the hall and two bedrooms flanking the hall at the second-floor level. There are eight-foot ceilings on the first floor and seven-foot ceilings on the second floor, all with painted, wide-plank horizontal sheathing on the walls and ceilings. Original wood floors are unpainted, medium-plank boards. There are eight-inch baseboards with a small trim detail at the top. Interior doors are two-panel, Greek Revival-style doors with box locks. Door and window surrounds are six-inch, flat-board surrounds with applied molding at the outer edge and no apron. Ductwork in the kitchen and second-floor rooms is enclosed with drywall.

There are fireplaces in each of the four main rooms. The first-floor mantels feature pilasters supporting a panel. The mantel in the south room has a scalloped lower edge and the one in the north room has a stylized arched lower edge. A mantelshelf with a corresponding curved front edge rests on each of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

these panels. The second-floor mantels are similar, but less decorative with squared-off panels and mantelshelves. The mantel in the south room has mitered corners and the one in the north room has rounded corners. Fireplaces on the south end of the house have parged surrounds, while those in the north rooms retain their uncovered brick surrounds; all have concrete outer hearths.

The stair, which runs east then turns south for two steps, features a tapered, square post at the bottom with a carved railing that extends over the post to form a T-shaped newel. The railing is constructed of several pieces of wood connected by pegs to form a continuous railing that extends up the stair and around the second-floor landing supported by slender, square balusters with a tapered newel post supporting the railing at the top of the stair. The newel post and first-floor mantels are stylistically similar to Thomas Day's simpler pieces, though their late date of construction means they may have been constructed by another woodworker possibly familiar with his work.

The one-story, gabled, rear ell features a dining room and kitchen that are accessed via a doorway on the east wall of the north room. Both rooms have painted, wide-plank horizontal sheathing on the walls and ceilings and the dining room has an unpainted wood floor. A batten door with flat surround on the east wall of the dining room connects the two rooms. Around 1920, the wall between the two rooms was moved approximately twenty-four inches to the west (into the dining room space) to allow for the installation of a modern kitchen; this newer wall is sheathed with horizontal beadboard on both sides. The kitchen has a tiled floor, modern cabinets and appliances, and a fireplace on the east elevation. The fireplace has a stone and brick surround, a concrete hearth, and a plain post-and-lintel wood mantel with a mantelshelf supported by curved brackets.

The dining room and kitchen each have an entrance to the enclosed, shed-roofed porch on the south elevation of the rear ell. The porch has modern wood flooring, baseboards, wide-plank horizontal sheathing on the ceiling and the north and west walls, and beadboard sheathing on the exterior (east and south) walls. Two-panel doors on the west end of the room access the main hall of the house and a storage area under the stair. A small bathroom has been installed on the east end of the porch with modern finishes.

2. Picnic Shelter – c. 2008

NC – Structure

Located within the space created by the house and rear ell, the small pyramidal-roofed picnic shelter is supported by square posts on a modern stone patio and has a 5V metal roof.

3. Well House – c. 1920

C – Structure

Just south of the house, the shed-roofed well house is supported by dressed logs. The roof framing is exposed and consists of four square beams that support slender framing to which the 5V metal roof is attached. Wood lattice shields the view of the well from the street (east) and originally extended all the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

way to the house as evidenced in photographs from the 1930s. The well itself has brick walls with a wood cover.

4. Washhouse – c. 1875, c. 1930s

C – Building

The washhouse stands on the north end, nearest the house, of a line of domestic outbuildings that extends parallel to the road. The front-gabled washhouse has a brick foundation, dovetail-notched log construction with exposed rough-hewn logs, painted wood weatherboards in the gables, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails. A brick chimney with stepped shoulders was added to the east elevation in the 1930s and there is a six-light casement window in the west gable. A batten door on the west gable end opens to a single room with exposed log construction and ceiling framing from which things could be hung. Concrete has been poured over the original dirt floor. The fireplace on the east elevation has a brick surround.

5. Garage/Smokehouse – c. 1900, c. 1920

C – Building

South of the washhouse, the front-gabled, frame garage has a stone foundation, wood weatherboards, and a standing-seam metal roof with exposed raftertails and rakeboards. On the west elevation there is vertical wood sheathing in the gable (partially covered by a horizontal-board backboard for a basketball hoop), a large sliding plywood door on the left (north) and a pair of batten doors on the right. A shed-roofed bay on the south end of the building was constructed c. 1920. It has a stone foundation, flush vertical sheathing on the west elevation and wood weatherboards matching the main garage on the south elevation with a 5V metal shed roof that tucks under the eaves of the main roof. It has a pair of hinged, batten doors on the west elevation. A shed-roofed, frame smokehouse is attached to the rear (east) of the garage. It was built concurrent with the garage and has a stone foundation, vertical wood sheathing, and a 5V metal roof. All three spaces have dirt floors and exposed framing on the interior.

6. Flower House – c. 1900

C – Building

South of the garage/smokehouse, the shed-roofed, frame flower house is located partially below grade and insulated with sawdust to regulate its temperature. The building's main structural members extend into the soil without a visible foundation. It has wood weatherboards on the side and rear elevations with vertical board-and-batten sheathing on the front (south) elevation. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails. There is a single batten door on the south elevation and two window openings are covered with vertical boards. The interior of the flower house features wood sheathing on the walls, a dirt floor, and shelves constructed around the perimeter of the building.

7. Garage – c. 1970

NC – Building

A short distance south of the flower house, a shed-roofed, two-bay, frame garage is supported by dressed timbers that extend into the ground without a foundation. The building has corrugated metal sheathing on the south and east elevations with various types of 5V metal sheathing on the north elevation, likely salvaged from the roofs of other farm buildings. It has a 5V metal roof with a shallow,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

shed-roofed section that extends across the front (west) elevation. The interior has a dirt floor and there is a storage space at the right rear (southeast) that is enclosed with plywood.

8. Corn Crib I – c. 1900

C – Building

South of the c. 1970 garage, a one-story, front-gabled, frame corn crib has a stone foundation, flush horizontal wood sheathing on the exterior, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails and rakeboards. The building has a single batten door on the west elevation and a shed-roofed lean-to on the north elevation with a 5V metal roof supported by dressed timbers. The interior features wide-plank flooring, exposed framing, and a screened area with horizontal slatted boards at the rear (east) two-thirds of the building that held the corn.

9. Feed Barn – c. 1900

C – Building

Just south of Corn Crib I, the one-and-a-half-story, front-gabled, frame feed barn has a stacked stone foundation, wood weatherboards, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails and a fascia board on the front (west) elevation. Two pairs of batten doors on the west elevation, stacked one above another to access both levels of the barn, are sheltered by a two-part, shed roof supported by dressed timbers and diagonal braces attached to the front of the building. One-story, shed-roofed stalls on the north and south elevations held the mules, which were fed in troughs on the outside walls of the main barn. The shed-roofed bays have stacked concrete-block foundations with wood weatherboards on the south bay and vertical wood sheathing on the north bay. The interior of main barn features wide-plank flooring on both levels, exposed framing, and feed troughs on the north and south ends of the room. The stalls have dirt floors and doors on the south elevation leading to a paddock.

10. Pre-fabricated Shed – c. 1990

NC – Building

South of the feed barn, the side-gabled, pre-fabricated storage shed rests on concrete-block piers. It has vertical plywood sheathing, a batten door on the south elevation and single vinyl windows on the north and south elevations. It has metal gable vents and an asphalt roof.

11. Outhouse – c. 2008

NC – Building

Just east of the washhouse and garage/smokehouse, this modern, shed-roofed, frame outhouse has vertical wood sheathing and a 5V metal roof. A batten door on the east elevation is accessed by a stone step.

12. Ordering/Stripping House – c. 1935

C – Building

East of the domestic outbuildings is a small collection of tobacco processing buildings. The two-story-with-basement ordering/stripping house has a poured-concrete foundation, frame structure with corrugated metal sheathing over flush wood sheathing, and a gabled 5V metal roof. A shed roof projects from the south elevation supported by dressed timbers and with exposed wood roof framing. Two doors on the south elevation, under the shed roof, access the two rooms of the first floor. The first-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

and second-floor levels have wide plank flooring and exposed framing. A ladder through a scuttle on the south end of the building accessed the attic. The basement is approximately eight feet deep with a dirt floor and is accessed via trap doors in the first-floor flooring. A central brick chimney rises between the two bays providing ventilation for potbelly stoves that once heated the space. Two low window openings on the first-floor level of the north elevation are sheltered by small shed roofs on knee brackets.

13. Metal Bulk Curing Barn I – c. 1955

C – Building

The prefabricated, metal curing barn is located just south of the ordering/stripping house and faces north with the main opening located under the shed roof of the ordering/stripping house. The gabled barn rests on concrete blocks and has metal framing and metal sheathing. It has a vent on the south gable end and plywood doors on the north gable end.

14. Metal Bulk Curing Barn II – c. 1955

C – Building

The prefabricated, metal curing barn is located just south of the ordering/stripping house and faces north with the main opening located under the shed roof of the ordering/stripping house. The gabled barn rests on concrete blocks and has metal framing and metal sheathing. It has a vent on the south gable end and plywood doors on the north gable end.

15. Stick Shed – c. 1950

C – Building

North of the ordering/stripping house stands the two-bay-wide, front-gabled stick shed. The shed is supported by dressed timbers that extend into the ground without a foundation and has corrugated metal sheathing over flush wood sheathing, flush wood sheathing in the gables, open bays on the south elevation, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails. It is now used as an animal shelter.

16. Tobacco Barn I – c. 1945

C – Building

Located along both sides of a gravel farm road that runs just north of the house from Efland-Cedar Grove Road toward the east end of the property are a series of tobacco barns. The westernmost barn is a frame tobacco barn with a concrete-block foundation and diagonal wood sheathing covered with corrugated metal sheathing. It has wood weatherboards in the gables and a 5V metal roof with a long vent running along the ridge. It has exposed rafter tails and a small door on the east elevation. The interior features a dirt floor, exposed frame construction and roof framing, and dressed logs, three across and four high, that run the depth of the barn and were used to hang tobacco.

17. Tobacco Barn II – c. 1875

C – Building

Northeast of the first barn is the oldest extant tobacco barn on the property. The hand-hewn log structure has a stone foundation and corrugated metal sheathing on the lower half of the exterior walls and covering wood weatherboards in the gables. The 5V metal roof has a vent along the ridge. Full-width, pent roofs on each elevation are supported by knee brackets and a shed-roofed bay on the east

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

elevation has collapsed. There is a batten door on the south elevation. The interior features a dirt floor, exposed roof framing, and dressed logs, three across and four high, that run the depth of the barn and were used to hang tobacco.

18. Tobacco Barn III – c. 1890

C – Building

Located near the center of the row of tobacco barns, this barn has a stone foundation, dressed-log construction, and wood weatherboards in the gables. Battens applied to the exterior indicated that the barn was covered with sheathing at one point. The 5V metal roof has a vent at the ridge. The barn has a low batten door on the east elevation that is sheltered by a pent roof supported by dressed logs. The interior features a dirt floor, exposed roof framing, and dressed logs, three across and four high, that run the depth of the barn and were used to hang tobacco. Evidence of the original metal flues remains in the stone foundation.

19. Tobacco Barn IV – c. 1915

C – Building

The last tobacco barn of log construction to be erected on the property, the structure has a stone foundation with a partial brick curtain wall. The barn is of hand-hewn, V-notch log construction that has been partially covered with 5V metal sheathing and has wood weatherboards in the gables. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails and a vent at the ridge. There is a batten door on the south elevation and full-width pent roofs supported by knee brackets on the east and west elevations. The interior features a dirt floor, exposed roof framing, and dressed logs, three across and four high, that run the depth of the barn and were used to hang tobacco.

20. Tobacco Barn V – c. 1955

C – Building

The newest of the five tobacco barns is located at the east end of the group. This frame barn has a concrete-block foundation and wood sheathing that is covered with a combination of corrugated metal and 5V metal sheathing. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails. The interior features a dirt floor, exposed frame construction and roof framing, and dressed logs, three across and four high, that run the depth of the barn and were used to hang tobacco.

21. Spring-fed Well – c. 1909

C – Object

A spring-fed well just southeast of the row of tobacco barns is denoted by an open concrete pipe. The well was used for making liquor and likely dates to 1909 when Carl Pope leased land from Mary Jane Pope “for the purpose of running a government distillery.”

22. Corn Crib II – c. 1930

C – Building

The front-gabled, frame corn crib is located at the east end of the farm road, northeast of the row of tobacco barns. The crib has horizontal wood sheathing with gaps between the boards to allow for ventilation. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails. There is a batten door on the east elevation of the structure. The interior has a wide-plank wood floor and exposed framing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

23. Workshop – c. 1960

C – Building

East of the corn crib stands an asymmetrical, front-gabled workshop. The frame building has a concrete-block foundation, vertical metal sheathing on the right (south) bay and right elevation with wood weatherboards in the gable and vertical plywood sheathing on the left bay and north elevation. The 5V metal roof has exposed rafter tails and there is a concrete block chimney near the right rear (southeast). The interior has a poured concrete floor and exposed framing.

24. Log Building – c. 1880

C – Building

This small log building is located north of the workshop. It has a stone foundation, rough-hewn V-notched log construction, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails. A window in the west gable end is covered by a batten shutter and there is a batten door in the east gable end. The interior features wide-plank flooring and exposed log construction. One of the earliest buildings on the property, it may have been constructed by John and Nancy McDade for farm laborers before the property was passed to John and Mary Jane Pope. Its original function is unknown, but a farmhand resided in the building until the late 1940s.

25. Wood Shed I – c. 1920

C – Building

Just north of the log building are two wood sheds. The westernmost shed is of dressed timber-frame construction with corrugated metal sheathing covering the exterior. It has a 5V metal shed roof with exposed framing and rafter tails. The interior has a dirt floor and exposed framing. It is now used as an animal shelter.

26. Wood Shed II – c. 1950

C – Building

The second wood shed, located just east of the other wood shed, is also of dressed timber-frame construction with corrugated metal sheathing. It has a 5V metal shed roof with a shallow shed roof on the west elevation that is supported by knee brackets and shelters the entrance. The interior has a dirt floor and exposed framing. The building is now used as an animal shelter.

27. Agricultural Landscape – c. 1860-1963

C – Site

The house and domestic outbuildings are located on the far west end of the property along Efland-Cedar Grove Road with a farm road extending from the house northeast toward the center of the property and then turning north to intersect Allison Road. A spring exists just south of where the farm road turns and a grove of trees near the spring extends from the center of the property to the northeast corner of the property, following the path of a spring-fed stream that feeds into the east fork of the Eno River. There is also a small grove of trees just south of the spring and trees line the east and south boundaries of the property. Two retention ponds were added to the property (the first in the early 1950s and the second in the late 1970s), just south of the farm road and west of the spring. Open fields cover the majority of the property, as was the case historically. Fields nearest the house were for grazing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

mules and cows. Fields at the north and east ends of the property were used to cultivate row crops including tobacco, corn, and grain. The fields are now used for the pasture-grazing of meat lambs.

Integrity Statement

The Captain John S. Pope farm is a complex of buildings and an agricultural landscape, most of which have been in continuous use for nearly a century and a half. The farmland itself has changed very little since the end of the historic period, based on aerial photographs taken by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1938, 1955, 1966, and 1972, which show little change to the field and forest patterns on the farm. However, the property has experienced architectural and agricultural-use changes. The house and its collection of domestic and tobacco-related outbuildings have experienced minor alterations over time including the replacement of the original front porch on the main house, the construction (and subsequent removal) of rear additions to the home, and the construction and removal of outbuildings on the property, including the demolition of a log tobacco barn along the farm road. These changes and the addition of two retention ponds to the property illustrate the continued use of the property as a tobacco farm through the early twenty-first century and do not significantly diminish the overall integrity of the farm and its building collection. While the farm no longer cultivates row crops, the shift from cultivated fields to pasture has minimal visual impact on the landscape and the historic open field and forest patterns have been maintained.

The structures are closely related to the surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, privies, wells, and other structural remains, which may be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the contributing structures. Information concerning land-use patterns, agricultural practices, social standing 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 structures. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is likely that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

Section 8: Statement of Significance

Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Captain John S. Pope Farm meets National Register Criterion A for agriculture for its role in the history of tobacco farming in Orange County. The farm is a well-preserved example of a mid-sized tobacco farm, typical of those that existed throughout northern Orange County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The farm has remained in continuous operation by the Pope family since at least 1870 and retains the 1874 acreage as well as its historic arrangement of fields and forests.

The property also meets National Register Criterion C for architecture. The two-story, triple-A-roofed I-house is one of the earliest extant and most intact examples of this rural house form, which was found throughout Orange County in the mid- to late nineteenth century. The property retains one of the largest collections of agricultural outbuildings in Orange County with buildings dating from c.1870-1874 through 2008, illustrating typical rural North Carolina building practices of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The house and its collection of twenty contributing outbuildings illustrate the property's continued use as a tobacco farm from the 1870s through the early 1960s.

The locally significant Captain John S. Pope Farm remains one of the best-preserved rural complexes in northern Orange County with a period of significance extending from c.1870 to 1963, during which the complex achieved its current appearance. The house was constructed c.1870-1874 and the majority of contributing buildings were erected from c.1870-1880, 1900-1930, and 1945-1960. While the property remained in continuous operation as a tobacco farm into the twenty-first century, there is no basis for a claim of exceptional significance for the later use of the farm and for those buildings less than fifty years old.

History of the Captain John S. Pope Farm

The 73.05-acre Captain John S. Pope Farm is a portion of the larger John Alphonse McDade (1807-1869) farm in northwest Orange County. McDade acquired the land in 1806 and lived nearby, but it is not known if he farmed the 73-acre tract. McDade had five children before his wife Nancy M. Woods McDade's death in 1845. At the time of her death their youngest daughter, Josephine, was only two years old and may have left the farm to live with other family. By 1850, the federal census lists McDade as a farmer in the "Northwest Division" of Orange County with the oldest four of the couple's five children still living on the farm: John M. (1831-1893), William Woods (1833-1862), Mary Jane (1835-1917), and Henry Lee (1838-1913).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 11

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

On May 8, 1859, Mary Jane McDade married John Saunders Pope. Born in 1836, Pope was the sixth child of Thomas P. and Mary Wheeley Pope, also listed as farmers in the Northwest Division of Orange County in the 1850 federal census. Shortly after their marriage, on October 6, 1861, Pope enlisted as a private with the North Carolina 31st Infantry Regiment and fought in the Civil War. He had reached the rank of captain when he mustered out of the military on April 26th, 1865, after the surrender at Bennett Place in Durham.

Family legend holds that John and Mary Jane Pope began construction of their house shortly after their wedding on land given them by her father, but the construction was interrupted by the war. When John left for the war, Mary was seven months pregnant; she lived nearby with her father for the duration of the war. The couple legally acquired the land in 1869 when, after his death, John Alphonse McDade's 183-acre tract of land was divided among his five children with each child receiving approximately 36.6 acres.¹ The house was likely still incomplete in 1870, as the federal census lists John S. Pope as a farm laborer living with Mary and their two eldest children (Thomas and Josephine) in Heigtown Township, near Prospect Hill, in Caswell County. Mary's grandfather, William Woods, lived in the Corbett community just west of Prospect Hill and the family was likely living with him until the house on Efland-Cedar Grove Road was completed.

The house was likely complete by 1874. That same year, Mary's brother Henry Lee McDade transferred his inherited portion of the land to Mary to create an approximately 72.8-acre tract.² By 1880, the federal census lists John S. Pope as a farmer in Cedar Grove Township in Orange County. Pope is listed with his wife, his three children (Thomas, Josephine, and Carl), and an unrelated African American servant, William Thompson, occupying the property. According to family legend, shortly after the construction of the house, Pope learned that the house had actually been constructed on the west property line, the front of the house resting on a narrow strip of land between the Pope property and Efland-Cedar Grove Road that was owned by David and Mary Wells. An 1879 deed records the transfer of one-half acre of land along Efland-Cedar Grove Road (then Hillsborough Road), and adjoining John Pope's tract, from Wells to Pope, confirming this belief and creating the distinctly-shaped 73.05-acre parcel that remains today.

Pope's youngest son, Carl McDade Pope, married Lindia Lee Harris in 1892 and the couple initially lived on a farm on nearby Lees Chapel Road. Captain John S. Pope died in June 1895 just after the birth of Carl and Lindia's second child. In the 1900 census, Mary Jane Pope was sharing the house with her son Carl, and his growing family, which included daughters Lottie May, Jodie Ruffin, and Mary Lee. Carl did not sell his property on Lees Chapel Road until 1904, when Mary Jane completed

¹ William Woods McDade and his wife Frances Murphey McDade both died of illness in 1862, leaving a son, William H. McDade, who was raised by his uncle Henry L. McDade, to whom his father's portion of the inheritance passed.

² It is unclear from deeds whether this was Henry Lee McDade's portion or the portion passed to William H. McDade when he became of age.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 12

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

her will leaving the farm to Carl. In 1909, Carl leased a portion of the farm from Mary Jane Pope “for the purposed of running a government distillery.” In February 1910, Mary Jane Pope formally deeded the 73.05-acre property, known as the John S. Pope Homeplace, to her son Carl McDade Pope. That same year, federal census records show Carl and Lindia and their seven children (Lottie, Jodie, Mary, John, Thelma, Lacy, and Inez) living on the property with Mary Jane Pope, then in her 70s. Mary Jane Pope died in 1917.

Carl and Lindia raised a large family on the farm. Robert Harris Pope, the couple’s youngest child was born in 1914, giving the couple a total of eight surviving children.³ Additionally, with the death of his older brother, Thomas, around 1914, Carl’s four nephews also moved onto the farm. Carl, who owned a sawmill, was responsible for several alterations to the house including renovations around the turn of the twentieth century that included the replacement of the original Greek Revival-style front porch with a shed-roofed porch on turned posts with sawnwork details and the addition of a decorative front gable to give the house a Queen Anne-style exterior. At this time, Carl also erected an addition to the garage, which in the 1920s, housed a truck Carl had purchased to haul lumber to and from his sawmill.

Carl McDade Pope died in 1927 and Lindia Lee Harris Pope remained in the house with her three sons running the farm. In the early 1930s, the current front porch and a small wing on the south side of the rear ell were erected by Carl’s youngest child, Robert Harris Pope. Robert Pope married Janie Sue Hester in 1936, and they lived in the house, electrifying it in 1937, the same year his son, Robert Harris Pope Jr. was born. Water and plumbing were run to the house in 1943-1944, relieving the need for heating water in the nearby washhouse. Shortly thereafter, a one-story wing was added to the north side of the rear ell. (Both rear wings were removed in stages from 2002 to 2007.)

In 1947, Lindia Lee Harris Pope died and the house and farm went to auction, from which Jodie, John, and Robert Harris Pope acquired the property in 1948. Robert continued to farm the land and in 1952, purchased an additional 1.46 acres from the heirs of David Wells on which he constructed a tenant house with its own well house. By 1967, he had purchased an additional .75 acres from the Wells heirs, adjacent to the 1952 parcel, and erected a garage for the second home. By 1980, both John and Jodie had died and Robert Harris Pope took full ownership of the property. He farmed the land, raising tobacco, just as his father and grandfather had, until the Fair and Equitable Tobacco Reform Act of 2004.

In 2006, Robert Pope deeded both the original 73.05-acre tract and the 2.28-acre tract that he had acquired in 1952 and 1967 to his son, Robert Harris Pope Jr. Robert Jr., the great-grandson of Captain John S. Pope, uses the land to pasture-graze meat lambs and proudly holds farm tours of the property and farm dinners in the house. He removed the wings added to the rear ell, constructed a new bathroom

³ Carl and Lindia Pope had a ninth child who died in infancy in 1908.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

in a portion of the enclosed rear porch, and maintains the property and outbuildings so that they can be interpreted by tour-goers. The 1952 and 1967 additions to the property were combined into the main parcel, but are not included within the National Register boundary.

Agricultural Context: Tobacco Farming in Orange County

Agriculture has long played an important role in the history and economy of Orange County. The topography of the county is predominantly gently rolling hills and flatland with a combination of sand, silt, and clay soils over an underlying base of rock. The sandy loam, which provides the drainage necessary for tobacco farming, are located throughout the county, but larger concentrations of the soil are found in the northern part of the county, making tobacco farming more successful there. With the popularity of brightleaf tobacco in the years leading up to and following the Civil War, the economy of northern Orange County came to rely heavily on tobacco cultivation. The number of county farms tending the brightleaf soared from 10.8 percent to 40.7 percent from 1850 to 1860 and the quantity of tobacco grown rose five-fold, exceeding a million pounds.⁴ While wheat and corn continued to be grown in all parts of the county, by 1860 seventy-five percent of tobacco growth in the county occurred in its northern section.⁵

Tobacco remained the major cash crop in northern Orange County from the mid-nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century and was grown by small and large farmers alike. In 1850, three-quarters of the county's farms contained less than 100 acres, while just a handful had more than 500 acres. The average size of farms dropped from 285 acres to 198 acres between 1860 and 1870, in part because of the lack of slave labor to work the fields, and the value of farms fell by half during the same period.⁶ However, the expanding tobacco markets in nearby Durham made tobacco increasingly more profitable at the same time. The 1870 United States federal census listed tobacco production at 530,442 pounds (though those figures included Durham County, which was still a part of Orange County).⁷

Like many mid-sized farms in northern Orange County, tobacco was the primary cash crop cultivated on the Captain John S. Pope Farm. It was a labor-intensive crop requiring leaves to be picked and strung by hand, so the Pope family employed a farm laborer as early as 1880, when the federal census lists an unrelated African American servant, William Thompson, living on the property with the family. A log building at the rear of the property housed the laborer, who likely took meals with the family and

⁴ Mattson, Richard L. "History and Architecture of Orange County, North Carolina," Unpublished manuscript. Hillsborough, NC: Orange County Planning and Development Department, 1996, pg. 20.

⁵ Carter, Jody, and Todd Peck. "Historic Resources of Orange County." Unpublished manuscript. Hillsborough, NC: Orange County Planning and Preservation Department, 1993.

⁶ Mattson, pg. 36.

⁷ Lefler, Hugh. Orange County 1752-1952. Chapel Hill: The Orange Printshop, 1953, pg. 122.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

used the small building only to sleep. The current owner remembers a farmhand living in the small log building as late as the late 1940s and the farm census records from 1925 and 1945 indicate that the cultivated acreage was worked not by the owner (C. M. Pope and later his widow), but by a tenant.⁸

In 1930, sixty-five percent of the acreage in Orange County that was dedicated to tobacco was located in Cedar Grove Township.⁹ In addition to cultivating tobacco, the Pope family and its tenant farmers also planted grains and small quantities of vegetables and managed livestock. In 1925, twenty acres were dedicated to tobacco, ten acres to corn, and seven acres to soybeans for hay. Additionally, there was a small family garden, twenty-five laying hens, and three milk cows.¹⁰ The 1935 census indicates a similar distribution of cropland with nineteen acres of tobacco, ten acres of corn, four acres of wheat, and three acres of rye. Additionally, the family had thirty fruit trees, four workhorses or mules, and four milk cows.¹¹ By 1945 the land use had shifted slightly with fourteen and a half acres of tobacco, seventeen acres of corn, and seven acres of hays, and the family had invested in poultry, selling 1000 broilers and fryers in 1945, and raised hogs and sheep on the land.¹²

Orange County remained predominantly rural well into the twentieth century, even as areas to the east were more fully developed. As late as 1952, seventy percent of the 254,729 acres that make up Orange County were considered farmland, one-third of county residents lived on farms, and twenty percent of the workforce was employed in agriculture.¹³ By the mid-twentieth century, the dominant farm size in Orange County was a small one. According to the 1950 United States federal census, there were 2,038 farms in Orange County and the average size was 87.9 acres. Eighty percent of farms contained between ten and 179 acres with those farms less than ten acres representing small vegetable patches and the farms larger than 180 acres utilizing mechanized farming practices.¹⁴

However, the amount of acreage contained on a farm was not necessarily a direct correlation to the amount of harvested acres. In 1952, seventy-percent of Orange County was considered farmland, yet the total acreage in cultivation was only 48,958 acres.¹⁵ In addition to harvested cropland, total farm acreage included pastured cropland, unharvested and unpastured cropland, open pasture, and

⁸ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1925, 1935, and 1945 Farm Census Reports, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

⁹ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1930 Farm Census Report, County Summaries, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

¹⁰ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1925 Farm Census Report, Orange County.

¹¹ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1935 Farm Census Report, Orange County.

¹² Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1945 Farm Census Report, Orange County.

¹³ Lefler, pgs. 228-229.

¹⁴ Lefler, pg. 231. 180 farms under 10 acres, 667 farms b/t 10-49 acres, 557 farms b/t 50-99 acres, and 405 farms b/t 100-179 acres, 132 farms b/t 180-259, 79 farms b/t 260-499, and 18 farms over 500 acres.

¹⁵ Lefler, pg. 229.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

unpastured woodlands, which alone comprised forty-six percent of farmland.¹⁶ Additionally, the production of tobacco, which required much hand labor and was grown on approximately one-half of the farms in Orange County, contributed to the relatively small number of harvested acres. Thus only about twenty percent of farmland was being actively cultivated and harvested in the mid-twentieth century.

The historic landscape of the Captain John S. Pope Farm is typical of a mid-sized farm in Cedar Grove Township with field patterns dictated by the type of soil and changing little, if at all, in the early twentieth century and a majority of the land remaining wooded or undeveloped. Farm census records from 1925 indicate that only thirty-nine acres of the ninety-three acres held by Carl M. Pope (twenty acres were part of a non-contiguous parcel) were cultivated with fifteen acres cleared but not tilled and thirty-nine acres being “woods, waste, pasture, etc.”¹⁷ By 1935 and 1945, forty-four acres were in cultivation with thirty-nine acres remaining unimproved.¹⁸ Much of the unimproved land was located near the spring and its resulting stream, just south of where the farm road turns; this low-lying ground is not suitable for row crops and remained forested. Additionally, fields nearest the house were seasonally used as small garden plots but were used predominantly for the grazing of livestock. The fields at the north and east ends of the property were used to cultivate row crops, including tobacco, corn, and other grains based on the type of soil that dominated each field. The farm census records indicate little change in the number of acres dedicated to each crop and aerial photographs taken by the United States Department of Agriculture in 1938, 1955, 1966, and 1972 show little change to the field and forest pattern of the farm in the twentieth century. While the farm no longer cultivates row crops, the shift from cultivated fields to pasture has minimal visual impact on the landscape.

Tobacco remained the prominent cash crop in Orange County through the early years of the twenty-first century. Four generations of the Pope family grew tobacco on the property from the 1870s through 2005. While the farm is no longer viable as a tobacco farm, the land remains in use, its open fields used to pasture-graze meat lambs for sale at local markets and restaurants. The family is proud to have the farm recognized as a Century Farm by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for its continued agricultural use by a single family and is seeking a conservation easement to ensure its continued agricultural use.

Architectural Context: Late Nineteenth-Century I-houses in Northern Orange County

The Captain John S. Pope house is an example of the I-house form that was found throughout the Upland South from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century. The I-house originated in

¹⁶ Lefler, pg. 231.

¹⁷ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1925 Farm Census Report, Orange County.

¹⁸ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1935 and 1945 Farm Census Reports, Orange County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 16

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

the English folk culture as a “symbol of economic achievement and social respectability in a democratic agrarian society.”¹⁹ With its long elevation to the street, it presents the most impressive façade and the one-room deep configuration provides good ventilation. Likely based on Greek Revival precedents, the I-house features a center hall flanked by a single room on each floor, a layout that allowed for breezes to be funneled through the building. Exterior end chimneys are common and the homes generally have a one- or two-story rear ell that contained kitchen or dining spaces, resulting in a “T” or “L” shape.

With the circulation of pattern books in the post-bellum years, high-style homes were built in some parts of the state. However, most residents preferred a traditional form, occasionally with applied decorative elements. “A staunchly rectangular and symmetrical dwelling, one or two stories tall, with a porch and a rear ell or shed containing a kitchen, remained the classic choice” for most rural residents in the late nineteenth century and “dominated the rural landscape from the 1860s throughout the rest of the century and into the 1910s and 1920s.”²⁰ Thus, the I-house form was repeated throughout the county from the late 1860s to about 1910 with varied levels of decoration (based on tastes and means).²¹ While the minimal detailing of most I-houses reflected the conservative nature of the farming class, decorative ornamentation began to be added as factory-produced lumber and millwork became more accessible.

The most common decorative element added to the I-house in the post-bellum years was a centered gable on the façade. Architectural historian Catherine Bishir notes that “the peaked front gable entered the popular idiom by the 1870s and proved a hardy favorite throughout the rest of the century, appearing in large and small, plain and fancy houses.”²² The center gable is rooted in the picturesque Gothic Revival cottage style popularized by the writings and designs of Andrew Jackson Downing and others. The gables varied in width, but are often ornamented with decorative shingles, notched weatherboards, brackets, vents, or bargeboards, resulting in a vernacular and unpretentious adaptation of that Gothic Revival style.²³ The application of a center gable to the I-house form was so popular in North Carolina that it became known as a triple-A roof, named for the three gables that defined the main block of the house. The center gable was sometimes built to update an existing I-house, but was just as often incorporated into the original construction. The gable on the Captain John S. Pope house was constructed around the turn of the twentieth century when the original porch was replaced.

The most common porch type on I-houses from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was a full-width, one-story shed- or hip-roofed porch on turned posts. The Captain John S. Pope house was

¹⁹ Southern, Michael. “The I-House as a Carrier of Style in Three Counties of the Northeastern Piedmont”, in Swaim, Doug, ed., *Carolina Dwelling*, North Carolina State University, 1978, pg. 71.

²⁰ Bishir, Catherine W. *North Carolina Architecture* (paperback edition). Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990, pg. 343.

²¹ Mattson, pg. 50.

²² Bishir, Catherine W., pg. 292.

²³ Mattson, pg. 51.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 17

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

constructed with a Greek Revival-style porch, but Carl Pope, the second owner, operated a sawmill in the area and replaced the original porch around the turn of the twentieth century. Following the trend toward the Queen Anne style, he erected a three-bay-wide, shed-roofed porch supported by turned posts with decorative sawn brackets, seen in photographs from the late 1920s and early 1930s. By the 1930s, the family replaced the porch once again, this time choosing a front-gabled porch with Colonial Revival details. Colonial Revival-style architecture, which often included columned porches, trabeated doorways, and dormers applied to a symmetrical façade, was more common in urban areas than in rural, but occasionally Colonial Revival elements would be incorporated into existing farmhouses.

Within Cedar Grove Township, a number of farms established between 1860 and 1905 have triple-A-roofed I-houses that are comparable in scale and design to the Captain John S. Pope house. However, the majority of I-houses from this period have deteriorated or been altered significantly. The c. 1870 Parker House I (2211 Laws Store Road) has been altered with the addition of vinyl siding and windows, and has been expanded toward the rear. The c. 1880 Parker House (8923 Walnut Grove Church Road) has vinyl siding, boarded-up window openings, and a replacement porch. The c. 1880-1927 Lee McDade House (6023 Efland-Cedar Grove Road) has a full-width replacement porch that dates to the 1920s and replacement windows throughout. The c. 1890 Bennie Corbett House (southwest corner of Carr Store Road and Allie Mae Road) retains a high level of material integrity, but is vacant and in very poor condition. The c. 1905 Stewart House (6422 Efland-Cedar Grove Road) has a one-story porch supported by tapered wood posts on brick piers; it has been altered with the installation of vinyl siding and windows and the addition of a large, two-story rear ell with attached garage.

Other farms in Cedar Grove Township retain I-houses in good condition, but do not have the acreage or outbuildings associated with the Captain John S. Pope Farm. The c. 1881 Walters House (across from 5719 Wilkerson Road) is a two-story, side-gabled house with a one-story rear ell that stands on approximately sixty-nine acres. The house is comparable to the Captain John S. Pope house, though not as well maintained, and the property retains a well house and several frame sheds, though not the quantity of outbuildings found on the Captain John S. Pope Farm. The c. 1864-1881 McKee-Miller House (6918 Walnut Grove Church Road) is very similar to the Captain John S. Pope house and retains an original one-story porch. The house, on a seventeen-acre tract, retains a cluster of outbuildings, including a privy, carriage house, shed, smokehouse, milking house, and several barns, but does not have any tobacco-related resources.

The best comparable example is the c. 1880-1902 Elix Timmin House (3107 Carr Store Road). The triple-A-roofed I-house has wood shingles and decorative vents in the gables, replacement windows throughout, a replacement metal roof, and a one-story, wrap-around porch with turned post and a concrete floor. The house stands on a 120-acre goat farm and retains fifteen outbuildings, including an impressive two-story frame barn with monitor roof, a smokehouse, kitchen, corncrib, washhouse, and several tobacco barns. A number of the outbuildings are modern metal buildings and two of them are

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 18

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

associated with a second house on the property at 3209 Carr Store Road. The c. 1911 Walter Hawkins Farm (6804 Wilkerson Road) has a triple-A-roofed I-house altered with a partially enclosed porch, vinyl siding, replacement windows, and a one-story addition on the west elevation. However, the 124-acre property retains well-maintained barns including four tobacco barns, a frame garage, carbide house, wheat house, corn crib, and frame barn.

Architectural Context: Late Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century Farm Complexes in Northern Orange County

Brightleaf tobacco dominated the Piedmont landscape and economy from the late nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century. By the turn of the twentieth century, North Carolina had surpassed Virginia as the most dominant tobacco market with forty-five market towns to Virginia's ten in 1908.²⁴ Tobacco production was especially prominent in the northern part of Orange County where, in 1930, Cedar Grove Township had 2,737 acres dedicated to the crop. Corn was the only crop grown in larger quantities in the township and throughout the county as a whole.²⁵

The arrangement and construction of outbuildings on the Captain John S. Pope Farm is typical of ante-bellum farmsteads. Domestic outbuildings are arranged in rows nearest the house, animal-related outbuildings arranged along a farm road near the house, and tobacco-related buildings clustered nearer the fields. Most nineteenth-century buildings were of log construction because when timber was common in the area logs were inexpensive and efficient to use to construct buildings on-site. As the number of local and regional sawmills grew, building construction gradually shifted from log to frame by the turn of the twentieth century, with the exception of tobacco barn construction where the logs served as an insulator. Farm buildings on the Captain John S. Pope Farm date from the 1870s through the mid-twentieth century and include examples of both log and frame construction.

Domestic outbuildings, including a washhouse, well house, garage with attached smokehouse, and flower house stand nearest the house. The well house was necessarily located close to the house so water could be easily transferred to the house for cooking and bathing as well as to the washhouse. The washhouse is a log structure, well insulated to remain cool in the summer and warm in the winter. A fireplace on the east elevation was necessary to heat the water for the laundry. The smokehouse, in this case a shed-roofed bay at the rear of the garage, was typically located near the house to prevent the expensive meat from being stolen.

The flower house, sometimes called a flower pit, was less common on the average middle-sized farm than the other domestic outbuildings. Flower houses were sometime constructed of brick, which was a

²⁴ Yeargin, Billy. North Carolina Tobacco: A History. Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2008, pg. 33.

²⁵ Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1930 Farm Census Report, County Summaries, Orange County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 19

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

better insulator than frame construction, and were also occasionally located under the main house, where the foundation was excavated and windows installed in the foundation wall to light the space. The flower house at the Captain John S. Pope Farm is a frame structure with a shed roof that is partially recessed into the earth to insulate the space from the cold winter so that it could be used for winterizing plants. Window openings on the south elevation allowed for light throughout the winter, creating a type of greenhouse for the plants. In addition to storing plants, the shelves on the interior of the flower house could hold canned food and gardening supplies and equipment.

Just south of the domestic outbuildings stand several animal-related structures, including a corn crib and feed barn. An additional dwelling and another feed barn at one time stood at the east end of the farm road, near its intersection with Allison Road, but now only the corn crib associated with those structures remains. The corn crib was a common building on any farm and, because it stored corn for livestock (and occasionally household) consumption, it was generally located very near the feed barn. The corn crib on the Captain John S. Pope Farm is of typical frame construction, rectangular in plan with a raised wood floor and gaps between the sheathing that are large enough to allow for air circulation, but small enough and covered with screening to prevent animals and rodents from accessing the corn. The one-and-a-half-story, front-gabled frame feed barn associated with the Captain John S. Pope house is also typical with wide-plank flooring on both levels and troughs along the side elevations. One-story, shed-roofed stalls on the side elevations have dirt floors and held the mules while they fed.

The Captain John S. Pope Farm illustrates the rise of cash-crop agriculture and the specialized buildings it required. Tobacco curing barns are located closer to the fields with a farm road running between the barns that allowed tractors to deliver loads of tobacco stalks from the fields to the barns. It was important that tobacco-curing barns be located close enough for convenience, but far enough apart that a fire would not spread from barn to barn.²⁶ Tobacco production barns (including the ordering/stripping house and stick sheds) are clustered between the house and curing barns as having the buildings in close proximity to one another made the farm more efficient.

The process of curing tobacco dictated the design of the tobacco barn and the log barns on the Captain John S. Pope Farm are typical of the form. The square barns are constructed of notched hewn logs, which themselves serve as a natural insulator, that are chinked with clay or cement and covered with wood weatherboards in the gables and metal sheathing on the main block. While metal, because of its conductive qualities, was less efficient than wood sheathing it was often added to the exterior of tobacco barns, likely because it required less maintenance. The gabled roofs have 5V metal roofing and a vent along the ridgeline that facilitated the movement of air through the barn. Shallow pent roofs sheltered the entrance to the barn and provided a shaded place for workers to “hand” (bundle) and

²⁶ Bishir, Catherine W., pg. 360.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 20

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

“loop” (tie) the tobacco onto the sticks for drying. Inside, the log structures were sturdy enough to carry the weight of the drying tobacco, which was hung from tier poles high inside the log barns.

Once the tobacco was cured, it was moved to the ordering/stripping house for sorting and grading before being shipped to market. The ordering/stripping house on the Captain John S. Pope Farm is a large, two-story frame building with a basement. The cured leaves, which remained bundled and tied to the sticks as they were for curing, were first moved into the basement of the structure, which is about eight feet deep, has concrete walls and a dirt floor, and is accessed via trap doors in the first floor. There the leaves were “ordered” by allowing them to absorb moisture from the earth to make them pliable and able to be “put in order.” From there, the sticks of tobacco were moved to the main floor of the structure, which has wide plank flooring, exposed framing, and low windows on the north elevation. There the tobacco leaves were “stripped” from the sticks and were graded by size, color, and quality. The low windows on the north wall of the building provided the natural light necessary for grading, but the shed-roofs over the windows prevented direct light from entering the space. The upper level of the ordering/stripping house, accessed via a ladder through a scuttle on the south end of the building, was likely used to store graded and stacked tobacco until it was time to go to market. Without windows and well above the grade of the land, the second floor space protected the leaves from moisture and insects.

The Captain John S. Pope Farm, like only a handful of agricultural complexes in Orange County, retains an impressive number of outbuildings from the late nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century, illustrating the continued use of the farm for nearly one-hundred and fifty years. With a farmhouse and twenty outbuildings constructed before 1963, the Pope Farm remains the most intact farmstead in Cedar Grove Township from this period. Extant farm buildings represent a continuation of building trends from the late nineteenth century with the flower house, corn cribs, feed barn, log tobacco barns, and the ordering/stripping house serving as good examples of specific building types from the early twentieth century. The farm has benefited from continued use and the maintenance of its buildings by four successive generations of the Pope family.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 21

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

Section 9: Bibliography

Bishir, Catherine W. North Carolina Architecture (paperback edition). Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990.

Bishir, Catherine W. and Michael T. Southern. A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Carter, Jody, and Todd Peck. "Historic Resources of Orange County." Unpublished manuscript. Hillsborough, NC: Orange County Planning and Preservation Department, 1993.

Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1925 Farm Census Report, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1930 Farm Census Report, County Summaries, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1935 Farm Census Report, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division. 1945 Farm Census Report, Orange County. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.

Harris, Cyril M. American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1998.

Lefler, Hugh. Orange County 1752-1952. Chapel Hill: The Orange Printshop, 1953.

Mattson, Richard L. "History and Architecture of Orange County, North Carolina," Unpublished manuscript. Hillsborough, NC: Orange County Planning and Development Department, 1996.

Orange County Register of Deeds.

Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District. Farm Services Administration Aerial Photos.

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600 to 1940. Washington D. C.: The Preservation Press, 1994.

Pope, Robert Harris Pope Jr. Personal interview with author. 22 February 2012.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 22

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

Pope, Robert Harris Pope Jr. Personal interview with author. 10 July 2012.

Southern, Michael "The I-House as a Carrier of Style in Three Counties of the Northeastern Piedmont", in Swaim, Doug, ed., *Carolina Dwelling*, North Carolina State University, 1978.

United States Federal Census Records. 1880-1930.

Yeargin, Billy. North Carolina Tobacco: A History. Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2008.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 23

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

Section 10: Geographical Data

Additional UTM References:

5. 17 / 664530 / 4007190

6. 17 / 664540 / 4007290

Verbal Boundary Description:

The National Register boundary is shown by a black line on the accompanying map at 1:200 scale.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the 73.05-acre tract of land that includes the original approximate 70-acres of land acquired by Captain John S. Pope and wife Mary Jane McDade Pope in 1869 as well as an approximate .5-acre piece of land along Efland-Cedar Grove Road that was acquired in 1874.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 24

Captain John S. Pope Farm
Orange County, North Carolina

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information pertains to all photographs:

Property Name: Captain John S. Pope Farm

County and State: Orange County, North Carolina

Photographer: Heather Wagner

Date: February 22, 2012

Location of Negatives: State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina

1. Captain John S. Pope House and farm complex
facing northeast
2. Captain John S. Pope House
facing east
3. Captain John S. Pope House
facing west
4. Captain John S. Pope House
facing south
5. Captain John S. Pope House, first floor center hall
facing northwest
6. Captain John S. Pope House, first floor north room
facing northeast
7. Flower House
facing northwest
8. Corn Crib I
facing northeast
9. Feed Barn
facing northeast
10. Ordering/Stripping House
facing northeast
11. Tobacco Barns
facing east