

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 Belvidere Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

Roughly bounded by the Perquimans River
street & number NC 37, SR 1200, and SR 1213 N/A not for publication

city or town Hertford vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Perquimans code 143 zip code 27944

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Jeffrey J. Crow SHPD
Signature of certifying official>Title

3/31/99
Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official>Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register.
- removed from the National
Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

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 Belvidere Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

Roughly bounded by the Perquimans River
street & number NC 37, SR 1200, and SR 1213

N/A not for publication

city or town Hertford vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Perquimans code 143 zip code 27944

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register.
- removed from the National
Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Belvidere Historic District
Name of Property

Perquimans County, NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
71	36	buildings
3	0	sites
8	3	structures
0	0	objects
82	39	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

see continuation sheet

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

see continuation sheet

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

see continuation sheet

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation see continuation sheet

walls

roof

other

Narrative Description

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

Belvidere Historic District

Name of Property

Perquimans County, NC

County and State

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AgricultureArchitectureSocial History**Period of Significance**ca. 1800-1949**Significant Dates**1833, 1861, 1914, 1937**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A**Cultural Affiliation**N/A**Architect/Builder**unknown**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Belvidere Historic District
Name of Property

Perquimans County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 352 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 8	3 6 2		4 0 1 3	
Zone	Easting		Northing	
2 1 8	3 6 0		4 0 1 3	

3 1 8	3 6 1		4 0 1 5	
Zone	Easting		Northing	
4 1 8	3 6 2		4 0 1 5	

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 Drucilla H. York

organization Local History Associates date December 1, 1998

street & number 2001 East Fifth Street telephone 252-752-5260

city or town Greenville state NC zip code 27858

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 6 Page 1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Domestic: single dwelling
secondary structure
Commerce/Trade: specialty store
department store
Social: clubhouse
Government: post office
Religion: church-related residence
Funerary: cemetery
graves/burials
Agriculture/Subsistance: agricultural field
animal facility
horticultural facility
agricultural outbuilding
Industry/Processing Extraction: Manufacturing facility
Landscape: forest
unoccupied land
natural feature
Transportation: water-related
road related (vehicular)

Current Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling
secondary structure
Commerce/Trade: specialty store
department store
Social: clubhouse
Government: post office
Religion: church-related residence
Funerary: cemetery
graves/burials
Agriculture/Subsistance: agricultural field
animal facility
horticultural facility
agricultural outbuilding
Landscape: forest
unoccupied land
natural feature
Transportation: road related (vehicular)
Vacant/Not in Use

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 7 Page 2

7. Description

Architectural Classification

Early Republic: Federal
Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival
Late Victorian: Queen Anne
Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements:
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

foundation: brick
walls: wood - weatherboard
metal - tin
metal - aluminum
metal - steel
roof: metal - tin
metal - asphalt
other: brick
wood

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 3Narrative Description

Encompassing a rural agricultural area containing approximately 352 acres which centers around the village of Belvidere, the Belvidere Historic District is located on the east side of the Perquimans River in the northern section of Perquimans County. As NC Highway 37 approaches the village from the southeast, this district begins approximately 0.2 mile east of its intersection with SR 1200 and includes open farm and timber land surrounding the village to the east, south, and north. Its east-west length extends along NC 37 for 0.7 mile, and the bridge crossing the Perquimans is its western terminus. As the Perquimans River snakes to the south and north of this bridge, the terrain to the east is low wooded wetland. Following the eastern bank of the river, the district extends northward from NC 37 a little more than a half mile to its northern boundary taking in several notable small farms and the intersection of SR 1200 and SR 1213. The northern, eastern and southern district boundaries follow property lines, with one exception to the south near the river which cuts through woodland.

Much of the land included within the district is open, flat, farm land crisscrossed by drainage ditches and a few roads. Within the core of the district is the village of Belvidere, which extends for half a mile along NC 37. Here primarily residential and few commercial properties flank the highway. The district also contains, within the area north of the village, several small farms with outbuildings. The majority of timberland within the district extends along the east bank of the Perquimans River to the north and south.

Today, public transportation within the district relies upon one primary and two secondary paved roads. In addition, farm roads, oftentimes paralleling ditches, provide private access to fields, landings, or family cemeteries. The east-west course of NC 37 through the center of the district provides access to all but a few of the properties. This paved road, with origins in the eighteenth century, not only crosses the Perquimans River but leads to Piney Woods Meeting House, located approximately one mile west of the river. Intersecting the north side NC 37 within Belvidere, SR 1200 connects the village with the county's other Quaker community known as Whiteston, the home of Up River Meeting. This road was referred to as the Up River road in 1847 and has had several names through the years including Whiteville Grove Road, ca. 1910, and today Bethany Church Road. Also just north of the village and within the district is another T-intersection as Bay Branch Road (SR 1213) terminates at Bethany Church Road (SR 1200). Each of these roads has nineteenth and possibly late-eighteenth century origins.

Rising from the Dismal Swamp, the northern portion of the Perquimans River snakes and bends as a narrow tributary and bisects the village of Belvidere. Along either side of the river are swampy wetlands prone to year-round flooding. In the Belvidere area, river trade was ongoing from the eighteenth century into the twentieth century, connecting the village with the county seat, Hertford, and

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 4

important commercial points beyond. Shallow draft boats navigated this portion of the river stopping at local landings by the name of Newby, Griffin, and Darden. As documented in deeds, several local branches with the names of Long, Shipyard, and Cuddy also run into the river within the district. Their banks are generally surrounded by wooded areas. These branches, in a few instances, were incorporated into the field drainage network.

A small unincorporated rural village, Belvidere is the center of the historic district. Primarily residential in character, today it contains only three operating commercial enterprises aside from farming. Historically, the area first grew during the second half of eighteenth century as a result of the development by Thomas Newby of an important mercantile center at Newby's Bridge and near his Belvidere Plantation. This growth was followed in 1833 by the establishment of the Eastern Quarterly Meeting Friends Boarding School, locally known as Belvidere Academy. Located approximately half mile east of the river, this school and nearby Piney Woods Monthly Meeting to the west have fostered a dominant Quaker presence within the village during much of the district's period of significance. Beginning in 1827, a post office was located at Newby's Bridge; however, in 1861 it was relocated nearer the school to the east and named Belvidere. Through the years, the community's needs stimulated residential construction along the public road. In most cases, these dwellings served as the seat for a small farm or the properties included sufficient acreage for gardens and other household needs. The paving and grading of NC 37 in 1926 provided an important market link with Suffolk, Virginia. Each of these developments naturally had an effect on the agricultural and social history of the district.

Water and road transportation routes contributed to the creation and development of the Belvidere Historic District. Its agricultural landscape has changed little throughout its period of significance, 1800-1949. The district and its collection of fields, houses, outbuildings, commercial buildings, cemetery, roads, woodlands, and branches represent the Quaker society once prevalent in eastern North Carolina. It embodies here an agrarian Quaker society from the early nineteenth century, which developed into a significant Quaker center for education and commerce during the antebellum period and late nineteenth century and then adapted to educational changes and weakening Quaker ties during the twentieth century.

The architectural character of the district ranges from important Federal and Greek Revival-style properties, exuberant late-Victorian and Queen Anne-style dwellings, to late-nineteenth and twentieth-century small farms. All contributing buildings are frame, with the antebellum ones employing mortise-and-tenon construction. Brick piers are primarily used for foundations and chimneys. Antebellum houses include both small one-and-a-half-story and larger two-story structures, such as respectively the Joseph Smith House (#27) and the Rufus White House (#19). Two post-Reconstruction houses, which illustrate a retardataire use of traditional building techniques, are the William Henry Layden House (#26) and the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 5

John W. Layden House (#28). Although several examples are dramatically remodeled earlier dwellings, the late-nineteenth century Victorian and Queen Anne-style dwellings are generally large and sophisticated in workmanship and detail. This group includes such examples as the Francis H. Nicholson House (#18) and the Elihu A. White Farm (#1). Twentieth-century farms usually had two-story dwellings; however, some were more stylish than others. The John J. Chappell, Jr. (#22) and the Edwin S. White (#16) farms are varying-size bungalows with Craftsmen-style details. The only example of the American-Foursquare built in Belvidere is the Murray and Fernando C. White House (#10), which has undergone some modifications through the years.

All houses are oriented toward roads and their distance from the road varies from property to property. Field lines and forested areas appear to have remained much the same as they were 100 years ago. The most obvious exception are the former fields, pastures, and commercial sites associated with the Edwin S. White Farm (#16) and the Fernando C. White Mill Complex (#15). A number of sites, such as the Timothy C. Perry House (#5), the Josiah Chappell House (#24), the Elihu A. White Farm (#1), and the John J. Chappell, Jr. Farm (#22), show evidence of their original trees and shrubs. Landscaping features most often include pecan trees, oaks, crepe myrtle, magnolias, and dogwoods.

Many of the farms center around a domestic complex of buildings with additional agricultural buildings located nearby. Domestic dependencies within the district include smokehouses, milkhouses, wash house, biddy house, garages, buggy house, wells, pumphouses, potato house, and wells. Farm-associated structures are stables, a feed barn, chicken houses, and outhouses. Other historic resources within the district include a cemetery, a community building, three general stores, a gasoline station, automotive garage, mill complex with landing, roads, woodlands, and agricultural fields. Three farms best illustrate the range of buildings associated within a complex, namely the Elihu A. White Farm (#1), the John J. Chappell Farm (#22), and the Edwin S. White Farm (#16).

The condition of these resources in the district varies. All dwellings range from fair to excellent in condition and most have experienced minor alterations. Outbuildings have often suffered from neglect if their usefulness has ended. Others, however, are maintained for storage.

Non-contributing buildings in the district include one modular home, two mobile homes, two brick ranch houses, a brick post office, and several buildings which have been severely altered or were built after 1947. Non-contributing outbuildings are located on several farms; however, they are compatible with others within the district in scale and materials.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 6Integrity Statement:

With the encroachment of new residential, industrial, and commercial developments throughout eastern North Carolina, the rural landscape and its accompanying crossroads and villages are quickly being minimized and, in places, destroyed. The Belvidere Historic District, however, is an exception to this trend. It still embodies an agricultural village with a unique blend of historic structures, cultivated fields, and forests. These buildings are connected to one another by a transportation network of roads and waterways that has changed little in nearly 200 years. Highway 37, for example, has followed its present route since the early nineteenth century. Field patterns also cover nearly the same expanse of land that they did in the nineteenth century. Perquimans River and its tributaries are outlined by wooded areas, which not only provide a buffer between the district and the surrounding countryside, but also create a striking backdrop for the sweeping panorama of plowed fields, historic farmhouses, and the village of Belvidere east of the river.

The district does include a few non-contributing buildings, but most do not infringe on the historic character of the landscape. Several of the non-contributing structures are outbuildings which are now an integral part of the farm complexes. Others are brick and frame ranch houses within the heart of the village; however, their presence in the district is mitigated by their unobtrusive scale. The overall historic agricultural setting, feeling, and association of the district conveys the physical reference to its historic significance.

Potential Archaeological Resources:

Although the scope of this nomination did not include the investigation of potential archaeological resources, it is likely that the district does possess archaeological remains which have the potential to reveal information about its history and prehistory. The Yeopim Indians, a branch of the broad linguistic and cultural family of Algonquians, were the first known inhabitants of Perquimans County. On late sixteenth century English exploration maps, this region is identified by the Indian name, Weapemeoc. The earliest known white settlement occurred during the mid-seventeenth century principally along the waterfront of the sounds and rivers. Where and when these Native American and Anglo-American settlements occurred in the historic district can only be gleaned from archaeological research.

Other potential archaeological investigations may involve Newby's Bridge, an important center for local commerce during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Located on the public road which spanned the Perquimans River, it was associated with the neighboring Belvidere Plantation (NR 1977), an eighteenth century plantation developed by Thomas Newby containing approximately 1,000 acres. Historic place names, such as Eliab Griffin's Landing and Darden's Landing, are referenced in nineteenth century deeds as well as shipyards, tanneries, saw mills,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 7

and cotton gins. Archaeological excavations of these sites as well as the farm complexes can yield information relating to agriculture, transportation, commerce, and industry associated with the evolution of this rural Quaker community.

Inventory List

The inventory list for the historic district follows NC 37 from east to west beginning with the Elihu A. White Farm [#1] on the south side of the highway and returning on the north. This area represents the core of the village. At the intersection of NC 37 and SR 1200, the listing extends northward to the intersection of SR 1213, taking in both the William Henry Layden Farm [#26] and Joseph Smith House [#27] before returning on the east side of SR 1200. At its intersection with NC 37, the historic district is completed with the inclusion of Josiah Nicholson, Jr. Store [#29] and the Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb Farm [#30].

This nomination was initially proposed after an intensive survey of Perquimans County was undertaken by Drucilla G. Haley in 1979. Utilizing the basic standards of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office and Haley's original field notes, a field survey of all buildings within the proposed district was completed. The resulting property files include exterior photographs, historic information, and property sketch maps of all buildings, sites, and structures within the district. The historic documentation in these files was collected from public and private repositories, such as East Carolina University, Duke University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the North Carolina State Archives. Wills, deeds, U. S. census records, and newspapers were also utilized. The research assistance of Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., a genealogist in Hertford, North Carolina, was invaluable. The compilation of all these materials was essential in identifying period and level of significance, understanding integrity, and developing the context for the nomination as well as dating many of the structures. Aside from the standard requirements, the nomination is supported by documentary exhibits, including maps and photographs.

In addition, an overall district sketch map is incorporated into the nomination to help illustrate the district. The sketch map was traced from Perquimans County tax maps. Following the inventory list, each site is numbered and individual resources within the complex are assigned a letter. Sketch maps of the most significant complexes provide a more detailed view of the site but are not drawn to scale. Also, each non-contributing resource has a shaded roof configuration.

Resource Identity Key: Contributing (C) Non-contributing (NC)

Property Resource Types: Building (B) Site (S) Structure (ST) Object (O)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 8

-
- 1) Elihu A. White Farm: S side of NC 37 at junction with SR 1200.

Elihu Anthony White [1834-1900], the youngest son and child of David White [1783-1862], rose to become a prominent farmer and businessman in Belvidere and a political leader in Perquimans County. After attending school in New Garden in 1852, he returned to Belvidere and was keeping store by 1856. Serving as postmaster from January 6, 1858 until March 28, 1861, White was the last postmaster of Newby's Bridge and the first for Belvidere. In 1860, Elihu was listed as a merchant living within the household of his brother Rufus White. At this time the valuations placed on his real estate and personal property were respectively \$1,200 and \$3,500. Following his father's death in 1862, he inherited the "old place" once belonging to his uncle Nathan White [1791-1834]. Serving in the State Senate from 1868-1870, Elihu was absent from the county during its sessions. Public-service oriented, he was also a director of the Edenton & Norfolk Railroad in 1869. By actively investing in real estate particularly in the western states of Iowa, Kansas, and Indiana, his real estate holdings had risen in value to \$7,000 in 1870. A retail dry goods merchant, he was listed, however, as living on July 27, 1870 within the household of Josiah Nicholson, who operated a retail grocery in Belvidere. Also a newlywed, White had married his first wife, Margaret Morris White [1835-1878], on June 2, 1870 in Raysville, Indiana. In all likelihood, he had his original two-story frame dwelling built about the time of his marriage. Completing his term as a state senator, White returned to Belvidere and immediately became involved in local politics, serving as a county commissioner from 1873 to 1878 and as its chairman most of this time. E. A. White & Co. was one of five general stores operating in the Belvidere area in 1877-1878. On February 12, 1878, Margaret died soon after the birth of their fifth child, who also died within four months. The next year, White was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue for the Second District in North Carolina and in all likelihood, lived out side of the county for the next four years. In 1880 he was associated with two farms, a seventy-five acre one which he owned and a separate eighteen-acre one owned by E. A. White & Company. The smaller farm was valued at \$300 and produced solely 150 bushels of oats on fifteen acres. Traditional crops, Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and cotton, were grown on his larger farm, which was worked by both white and African-American farm laborers who were paid a total of \$400 in wages. Livestock on this farm included one horse, one mule, two milch cows, and thirteen head of cattle. Traveling back to Raysville, Indiana for a bride, Elihu married Emma Haughton White [1853-1933], the niece of his first wife, on October 22, 1885. The following year, he was elected as a representative to the State Legislature, which once again took him away from the county during sessions. After making an unsuccessful bid for Congress in 1888, White suspected fraud by the Democrats. The next year he became collector of the state's fourth district for the Department of Internal Revenue and in all probability lived for the next four years in Raleigh. Following his return, he began in 1895 a major renovation of his Belvidere home. On February 7, 1900, White died at the age of sixty-six leaving a wife and four children. In his will, he left his home farm to his widow and their daughter, Lucy O'Brien White.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 9

Active within the Quaker community during the 1890s, Emma H. White was a leader in the local Women's Christian Temperance Union as well as the principal at Up River Academy. Her household in 1900 included Elihu and Margaret's three daughters, Emma Laura, Clara Mable, and Margaret Bertha Allie as well as her twelve-year-old daughter, Lucy, and two African-American servants. This home tract included 100 acres, one dwelling, one barn, and four other buildings. Most members of the household worked. In 1910, Emma managed the farm, Emma L. taught school, Clara M. worked in the garden, and Margaret B. was a dressmaker. By 1920, Elihu's son, Dr. Elbert Scott White, 47, had returned to the home farm and taken over its management. A dentist, Elbert had first practiced in Belvidere during part of the 1890s in the same office as his cousin Dr. Thomas Newby White, a medical doctor. He then moved to Norfolk, Virginia where he established a successful practice before returning to Belvidere. Following the death of Elihu White's last child in 1968, the home farm was inherited by Harold Layton White, in whose hands it remains today.¹

Landscape: Expansive agricultural fields, the gradual bend to the west of NC 37, and the "Cuddy" branch with the Josiah Nicholson homeplace beyond help provide the setting for the Elihu A. White homeplace. The White homeplace is divided into two distinct areas containing home and farm related buildings. The former barn, dismantled in 1979, once separated the domestic and farm areas as the lane passed through its central open bay. The domestic area centers around an impressive Queen Anne-style dwelling set back from the NC 37 approximately 200 feet with an open expansive lawn at the front and sides. Drainage ditches define the side boundaries of this area, and a driveway extends along the east side of the house and parallels its orientation. West and northwest of the house stand nine pecan trees, the remnant of a larger grove. A large magnolia, with a stone bench beneath it, also stands to the west. Pines line the ditch east of the house and a giant oak shades this area. Three intermittently-placed curved stone benches encircle this tree. Five outbuildings are associated with domestic area to the rear of the house. A small stilted dairy stands directly behind the house, and a modern concrete-block pump house is to the west of its rear ell. An expansive household garden extends from the pump house to the site of the former barn. The smokehouse and chicken houses, all of which burned in the 1960s, were once located in this proximity. Forming a line just east of the lane are Alton's house, the buggy house, and potato house. Remnants of the fruit orchard still exist behind the barn site. As the lane continues, it passes a farm privy located near the edge of another field drainage ditch, then crosses the ditch, and ends in the area of two farm equipment and storage shelters. Pecan trees flank these shelters, which are surrounded on three sides by corn or soybean fields.

C NC P&R

- 1a 1 B House: Built ca. 1870, remodeled 1895; The Elihu A. White House today stands as an exceptional two-story frame Queen Anne-style dwelling featuring a square-in-section corner tower and a highly decorated one-story wrap-around porch. In all probability, his original structure built ca. 1870 was a two-story double-pile

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 10

C NC P&R

dwelling with center-hall plan, a one-story rear addition, and a detached two-story kitchen (Exhibit 1). Extensively remodeled in 1895, the house was enlarged by gable extensions to the east, north, and west. In all likelihood, the former detached kitchen was incorporated at the rear of the dwelling. These additions are identifiable within the house's complex roof configuration, a tall central pyramidal roof with lower projecting gables. A pyramidal roof with flared eaves caps the tower. A finial rises from the apex of each pyramid. All rafter ends are exposed and decoratively sawn. Although plain weatherboard sheathes the exterior, fanciful woodwork embellishes all features. Each primary gable end has a gable ornament, a window containing a translucent pane encircled with colored glass, and a decoratively shingled face. The porch features a spindle frieze, turned posts, foliate brackets, and turned balustrade. A decorative gablet accents the porch's corner entrance. The front entrance features a two-light transom and double-leaf doors with a single light over a framed panel. The double-sash windows contain one-over-one lights across the front facade but six-over-six lights elsewhere. A small decorative pent hood with diminutive brackets caps each window.

Darkly stained Eastlake woodwork highlights much of the remodeled interior with its plaster walls. The entrance hall features a handsome staircase with bold newel and balustrade, a corner fireplace, and a massive safe beneath the stairs. A delicate spindle screen emblazoned with the initial "W" separates the front and back halls. Door and window surrounds have symmetrical moldings and bull's eye corner blocks. Handsome darkly stained built-ins are present in the dining room, and original light fixtures throughout the house. Few indications of an earlier structure remain except several doors with six raised panels and an example of HL hinges with foliated ends.

- 1b 1 B Milk House: Built ca. 1900; Small frame structure with vertical board sheathing and shed roof; rests on brick pier foundation; has central door with side louvered side openings; measures four feet five inches by three feet eight inches.
- 1c 1 B Concrete Block Building: Built 1963; Gable-roof concrete block pumphouse with exposed rafter ends and an off-center door.
- 1d 1 B Alton's House: Built ca. 1895; Traditionally known as Alton's house by the White family and named for Alton Jordan, a nineteen-year old African-American farm laborer, who was living and working on the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 11

C NC P&R

homeplace in 1920. This small hip-roof frame building with plain weatherboard sheathing, has a boxed cornice exhibiting mitered corners and butt cypress shingles covered by modern agricultural metal. It rests on a brick pier foundation. The facade has a central doorway, and the other three elevations each have a single four-over-four double-sash window. The interior walls are plastered and the ceiling has narrow tongue-and-groove beaded boards. This building is a square measuring ten-feet three-inches.

- 1e 1 B Buggy House: Built ca. 1895; Gable-front frame structure with engaged shed rooms and plain weatherboard sheathing. The central entrance for the buggy has double-leaf doors and a loft door above its pent roof. The south shed was used as a tack room and it contains a stair to the loft. The opposing shed has an open bay for carts. A pent roof protects each opening. Lightning rods trim the gable ridge.
- 1f 1 B Potato House: Built ca. 1895; A gable-front frame building with central door and brick foundation. It is sheathed with rough circular-sawn boards and the roof is protected by standing-seam agricultural metal.
- 1g 1 B Farm Privy: Built ca. 1925; Small shed-roof frame one-hole outhouse sheathed with plain weatherboard and entered through off-center door. It measures four feet six inches by four feet three inches.
- 1h 1 B Storage Shed: Built ca. 1925; Open shed-roof storage shelter with front pent and weatherboard sheathing; measures seventeen feet six inches by seventeen feet four inches.
- 1i 1 B Equipment Storage Shelter: Built ca. 1925; Four-bay shed-roof frame shelter with front pent measures thirty-four feet four inches by seventeen feet two inches.

2) **Josiah Nicholson, Jr. House:** S side of NC 37 at junction with SR 1200.

Josiah Nicholson, Jr. [1831-1913], the third son of Josiah Nicholson, Sr., became a prominent merchant, farmer, and Quaker leader within the village of Belvidere. Throughout his life, he held various leadership positions in Piney Woods Monthly Meeting, Eastern Quarterly Meeting, and North Carolina Yearly Meeting. By 1854 he had established a mercantile business, J. Nicholson & Bro. with his older brother, Dr. William Nicholson. In 1857 he married Ellen M. Bassett, a member of Smithfield Monthly Meeting in Rhode Island. Several years later in 1860 he purchased from Jeptah White approximately thirty-one acres and in all probability soon began the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 12

construction of his home. At this time, he, his wife and one-year old daughter, Ann, were living within William's household. Throughout much of the Civil War, Josiah lived with his family in Rhode Island, returning shortly after the war's end. His mercantile business now centered on selling both groceries and shoes. On April 24, 1866, he began serving his first appointment as Belvidere's postmaster, a position he retained until June 23, 1893. During this time, he also served as a county commissioner, the census enumerator in Belvidere Township, as well as the county's treasurer. In 1870 Josiah's household was a large one and included his four children, a domestic servant, a farm laborer, and three boarders associated with the mercantile business, one of whom was Elihu A. White. His personal property was valued at \$3,000 and he owned thirty-two acres of land which included twelve improved and twenty woodland acres valued at \$2,500. Indian corn, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, butter, and swine were his primary farm products. By 1880 as a merchant, he operated a dry goods and grocery business and as a farmer, his property holdings had increased to 375 acres, of which 150 acres were tilled. The value of this farm was \$6,000. With the assistance of African-American farm laborers who were paid a total of \$400 in wages for fifty weeks of work, he was now raising primarily cattle, swine, Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and cow peas as well as one acre of cotton. Significant changes had also taken place within Nicholson's household which included the addition of his son-in-law and merchant, Archibald F. Riddick (30), a cook, house servant, and two farm laborers. Following the death of his first wife, he remarried twice, Harriet A. and then Elizabeth A. White [1846-1920], a teacher at Belvidere Academy and the daughter of Jeptha White. His mercantile business included his son, F. H. Nicholson, and was now known as J. Nicholson & Son. It traded heavily in grain and fertilizers, which were shipped from both Darden's Wharf and Winfall. His second appointment as postmaster of Belvidere began on June 10, 1897 and ended March 31, 1913. At times during his third marriage, Nicholson's household included as boarders Elizabeth's two half-sisters, Mary J. and Adelaide E. White, who also taught at Belvidere Academy. Nicholson died May 30, 1913.

L. Jay Winslow [1871-1960], a merchant, and his wife Delia Raiford Winslow purchased shortly after Nicholson's death the five-acre homeplace from his heirs. By 1915, Winslow was operating a store within the village in a one-story commercial building he had constructed on the property. With Mrs. Winslow's appointment on September 30, 1918 as Belvidere's postmistress, the post office was relocated in their store. Mrs. Winslow served in this position until March 31, 1951. In 1958, the Winslows began renting the property to McMullan White and his wife, Zenovah C., who purchased it in 1960 and in whose possession it remains. The former Winslow store stood on site until the late 1970s when it was demolished.²

Landscape: Located on the south side of NC 37, this property contains five acres and has three distinct areas, the house site, the outbuildings and fenced pasture directly behind the house, and a fallow household garden with pear tree beyond. An old lane known as the Cuddy parallels the eastern property line which extends along a drainage ditch. Another drainage ditch defines the western boundary of the house

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 13

site. West of it there is a large agricultural field. The house stands approximately seventy-five feet from the road with an open yard punctuated by two mature crepe myrtles. The Winslow's post office formerly stood in the northwest corner of the front yard. Two straight walkways converge at the house's front entrance, one directly from NC 37 and the other at an angle from the Cuddy. Several maturing pines line the western boundary of the house site and this area also includes a wisteria vine and fig bush. The perimeter of fenced pasture connects the four late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century outbuildings. Two mature pecan trees shade this area and one single pecan tree stands in the middle of the fallow garden.

C NC P&R

- 2a 1 B House: Built ca. 1860, remodeled ca. 1880, ca. 1895; In all probability, this house was constructed originally as a double-pile three-bay side-hall-plan frame dwelling, which was first enlarged to the west forming a center-hall plan and then again by a gable-front addition with wrap-around front porch and a double-tier western porch. The porch's Colonial Revival Tuscan columns are probably replacements added ca. 1920 by L. Jay Winslow. Important early features include the flush sheathed facade beneath the porch, the nine-over-six double-sash windows, and the exterior stepped single-shoulder chimney laid in 1:5 common bond. A transom and sidelights frame the front entrance with its three-panel door. Plain weatherboards sheath much of the exterior. Standing-seam tin protects the gable roof with its boxed cornices and returns. Many of the shutters which remain are jalousies. A one-story shed-roof porch now exclosed extends across the rear. The interior features simple woodwork, some of which is painted and grained.
- 2b 1 B Carport: Built ca. 1985; Open-sided carport with gable-front roof.
- 2c 1 B Pump House: Built ca. 1945; Small concrete block gable-front structure.
- 2d 1 B Storage Shelter: Built 1996; Gable-front shed made of modern fiberboard.
- 2e 1 B Garage: Built ca. 1920; Former garage adapted to storage building
- 2f 1 B Biddy House: Built ca. 1920; Small frame building with shed-roof and pair of six-over-six double-sash windows.
- 2g 1 B Chicken House: Built ca. 1920; Frame shed-roof structure with front pent overhang.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 14

C NC P&R

2h 1 B Barn: Built ca. 1920; Former detached kitchen for main house moved to present location and adapted into a barn; today stands as a central gable-front structure with flanking sheds and sheathed with weatherboards. Exterior painted barn red.

3) House: S side of NC 37, 0.05 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B House: Built ca. 1985; One-story double-wide mobile home with gable-roof. Mature pecan, pine and oak trees enhance the site which includes a large vegetable garden toward the back of the property.

1 B Storage building: Built ca. 1990; Butler metal building with central double-leaf sliding doors.

1 B Shed: Built ca. 1980; Gable-front frame shed with central entrance and open shed to one side.

4) House: S side of NC 37, 0.07 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B House: Built ca. 1950; One-story frame dwelling featuring diminutive gable-front stoop and gable-front projection. Former screen porch on east end is now enclosed. Four non-contributing frame outbuildings parallel the western boundary of the property along the drainage ditch including series of dog runs at the back end of the property. A mature pecan tree provides shade for these dogs. The office of Dr. I. A. Ward was formerly located on this site, but it was moved to the Nicanor area.

1 B Shed: Built ca. 1950; Shed-sroof frame storage building.

1 B Shed: Built ca. 1960; Small shed-roof building sheathed with agricultural metal.

1 B Shed: Built ca. 1955; Tall gable-front shed sheathed with agricultural metal.

1 B Shed: Built ca. 1960; Small gable-roof frame shed.

5) Timothy C. Perry House: S side of NC 37, 0.1 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

In 1910, Timothy C. Perry [1874-1956] was a salesman living within the household of local-merchant Rufus White and possibly working in White's Belvidere grocery store. Thirty-five and single, Perry purchased that same year from the estate of Mary J. White four-and-a-half acres of land in the heart of Belvidere directly across the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 15

road from the Belvidere Academy. Shortly thereafter, he moved the original Belvidere Academy building to his property. Built in 1835, this former academy was replaced in 1904 and moved a short distance to land owned by Josiah Nicholson. Local tradition maintains that the Nowell family then removed its exterior sheathing and it was this structural frame that Perry used to build his home. The 1919-1920 tax lists indicate that in recent years he had spent approximately \$1,000 on improvements to the property. In 1913, Perry also purchased Josiah Nicholson's former store within the village. He was soon not only operating the store but also building horse carts in an older store then located behind the present one. During this time, Perry married Pearl Duncan [1894-1964] and began raising a family. Ownership of the house remained within Perry's family until 1966 when it was purchased by Quinton T. Stallings.³

Landscape: Located on the south side of NC 37, the property is divided into two areas, the front house and rear garden sites. Drainage ditches line both the east and west property lines with the property forming an extended rectangle. The house sits back approximately 100 feet from the main road surrounded by an open lawn dotted several with crepe myrtle and dogwoods. To the west, a drive runs between the house and the drainage canal and then bends to skirt in front of a string of utility buildings, paralleling the ditch and ending with a series of dog pens the farthest from the house. Behind the dwelling, the property includes first a household and flower garden followed by a more extensive vegetable garden. Further delineating the area are seven mature pecan trees, four of which are interspersed between the utility buildings along the western boundary. Originally these pecan trees were part of an extensive grove forming three broad rows, which extended from the behind the house to the rear of the property at the woods.

C NC P&R

5a 1 B House: Built ca. 1910; This dwelling with center-hall plan is an impressive five-bay two-story frame dwelling with two-story rear ell and one-story kitchen extension. Sheathed with narrow gauge weatherboards with rounded edges, it features a gable roof with central-gable projection, pedimented gable ends, and standing-seam tin sheathing. Delicate Victorian sawn and turned woodwork, including turned posts, spindle frieze, sawnwork brackets, and turned balustrade, highlight the full-facade hip-roof front porch. Each front and side gable end exhibits delicate sawn-work gable ornaments, and square windows with a central translucent square pane framed by colorful smaller panes. The principal two-over-two sash windows have louvered shutters. Interior end chimneys rise from each two-story gable end, and a single-stepped shoulder exterior end chimney distinguishes the kitchen's gable end. These rear gables have extended eaves with returns. The formerly open one-story, rear, L-shaped porch with enclosed pantry end is now fully enclosed.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 16

C NC P&R

- 5b 1 B Smokehouse/Wood House: Built ca. 1920; This gable-roof frame building is distinguished by an enclosed smokehouse standing on a brick foundation at one end and a wood house with a large off-center bay featuring open-slat double-leaf doors at the opposing end. The gable roof is sheathed with a standing seam metal roof.
- 5c 1 B Equipment shelter: Built ca. 1967; This open front two-bay frame building features a shed roof with pent and metal exterior sheathing; used for cars and trucks.
- 5d 1 B Equipment shelter: Built ca. 1967; This smaller open front single-bay frame building also features a shed-roof with pent and metal exterior sheathing; used for tractors and farm equipment.

6) **Symmes-White House:** S side of NC 37, 0.15 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

A member of the Westport Monthly Meeting in Massachusetts, William A. Symmes moved in 1870 to Belvidere where he was received on certificate by Piney Woods Monthly Meeting and began teaching at Belvidere Academy. In 1873 Symmes was recommended as a Quaker minister and shortly thereafter married Margaret White [1850-1882], the daughter of David White. The following year, David White [1821-1895] deeded to his son-in-law 2.83 acres nearly opposite the Belvidere schoolhouse, and in all likelihood, Symmes had the two-story section of this house built. After teaching at Belvidere Academy through 1878, he moved to New York City and then sold his Belvidere property in 1880 to his wife's uncle, Rufus White [1827-1918]. Retaining the property until 1902, Rufus sold a larger fourteen-and-three-quarter-acre tract, identified as the northeast corner of Walter White's homeplace, to his nephew, Josiah White [1863-1947]. Josiah was the son of David White, who had operated a tannery in the village. In 1890, he was a school teacher in Belvidere and a newlywed married to Margaret Ellen Brown [1868-1954]. The Whites' family life over the next thirty years centered around farming his land and raising three children, two girls and a boy. By 1920, he had made approximately \$200 worth of improvements to the property which then included a dwelling and a barn. In 1930, Josiah and his wife deeded the property to their younger daughter, Margaret Scott White, and pledged to maintain insurance on the house until their death.⁴

- 6a 1 B House: Built ca. 1874, ca. 1902; Having evolved to its present-day appearance, this picturesque one-and-a-half story triple-A frame house with two-story T-addition illustrates the incorporation of older buildings with new construction to create a more sophisticated and up-to-date dwelling. The two-story section, in all probability, is a ca. 1874 hall-and-parlor house with a detached one-story one-room kitchen. At the turn of the century, a modern triple-A was built oriented to the main road and was enlarged utilizing this older

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 17

C NC P&R

dwelling and the detached kitchen. Notable features include the full-face hip-roof porch supported by Tuscan columns and the scalloped bargeboard outlining the front and side gables. Plain weatherboard sheathes the entire structure and most windows contain six-over-six sash. Standing-seam tin protects the roof. The newer roof section is pierced by a central interior chimney, and each gable-end includes a central window and cornice returns.

6b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1902; Gable-front frame shed with central entrance. Exterior sheathed with asbestos shingles and roof with standing-seam metal.

7) U. S. Post Office: S side of NC 37, 0.17 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B Post Office: Built in 1965, this one-story brick flat-roof building has a flat-roof canopy protecting off-center glass window and entrance door.

8) House: S side of NC 37, 0.2 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B House: Built in 1954, one-story brick ranch house with gable-front projection.

9) House: S side of NC 37, 0.27 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

Throughout the nineteenth century, this land was associated with the descendants of Josiah White [1750-1807], whose son David [1783-1862] inherited the old homestead. Married on October 8, 1808 to Elizabeth White [1789-1856], David fathered ten children, four of which were surviving sons: David, Jr. [1821-1895], Josiah T. [1824-1913], Rufus [1827-1918], and Elihu A. [1834-1900]. In 1856, David White received from his son, David, Jr., \$600 for building on his father's 300-acre parcel of land extending from Newby's Bridge east to Up River Road. The one-and-a-half-story coastal cottage that previously stood on this site until the mid-twentieth century may well have been this building. In 1880, David, Jr. sold two-hundred acres for \$3,500 to his first cousins, Oliver White [1852-] and Walter White [1858-], who in turn reapportioned it in collaboration with Rufus White in 1882. Walter retained seventy acres of the old homeplace until 1905, when the property was purchased respectively by J. B. Flora and N. Burfoot, G. W. Ward, Nathan Q. Ward and then Fernando C. White. White sold this portion of the land, and its later ownership included J. M. Copeland and James O. Layden.⁵

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 18

C NC P&R

- 9a 1 B House: Built ca. 1965; One-story brick ranch house, with open two-bay garage at west end.
- 9b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1945; Originally a two-bay shed-roof frame shelter later enlarged by a metal-sheathed extension which converted the roof to a gable.
- 9c 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1938; A small frame shed-roof building with off-center door; built for the Copeland family.
- 9d 1 B Barn: Built ca. 1938; Two-story gable-front frame barn with flanking sheds and shed extensions. Features include three portals and a opening with pent roof above the central portal used hoisting hay; built for the Copeland family.

10) Murray and Fernando C. White Farm: S side of NC 37, 0.3 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

In November 1919, Fernando C. White [1874-1949] purchased from Nathan Q. Ward seventy acres for \$5,000 in Belvidere extending east from the river along the south side of the road. This property during the nineteenth century was owned respectively by members of a different White family, Josiah, David, and then Oliver and Walter. Fernando, a son of Robert J. White, grew up on a seventy-nine acre farm north of Belvidere in the neighboring Quaker community, Whiteston. Following this purchase in 1919, he continued to make his home in Whiteston. A blacksmith by trade, White married Anna Perisho Saunders[1876-1935] in 1895, and they produced five children. On October 1, 1898 he was received into membership of Piney Woods Monthly Meeting. By 1910, Fernando had turned his talents toward the rapidly growing lumber business in the Whiteston area and was soon operating his first saw mill located near Up River Meeting House. Fernando expanded his business to Belvidere in 1918 by purchasing the Belvidere Ginning Company from L. N. Hollowell in October. Following a serious explosion at the Whiteston mill in August 1919, he began to shift his business to Belvidere. By 1920, this 230-acre property, known as the Rufus White tract, included two dwelling houses, no storehouses, three barns, and four other buildings in which he had invested approximately \$200 worth of improvements. White's eldest son, Fernando Murray [1899-], settled in Belvidere, built the present house ca. 1924, and became the principal at Belvidere Academy in 1925. By 1927, Murray switched houses with his father, who moved to Belvidere and quickly enlarged his new home with a two-story west wing. The east porte cochere was added shortly thereafter, followed by the east-elevation bay window in the late 1930s. Today, the property remains in the hands of White's descendants passing from his daughter Sylvia to her son, Linwood Clinton Winslow, Jr. This five-and-three-quarter-acre property today includes the home site and swamp land extending toward the river.⁶

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 19

Landscape: Fronting on the south side of NC 37, this property is bounded by the river's wooded swamp to the west, open farm land to the south, and a modern house site to the east. The house faces the road and sits approximately 100 feet back from it on the highest elevation just before the land begins a steady westward decline down toward the river. Framed by two mature magnolias, a drive loops in front of the house and then to the west joins a farm lane, which links three larger outbuildings. A grove of six pecan trees stands between these buildings and the main road. Several large beech trees also accent the site. Two additional outbuildings are located directly behind the house. Behind these, a large household garden replaces what was once the chicken yard. Family tradition maintains that the household garden was formerly located across the road near the mill. To the east of the house is a small flower garden.

C NC P&R

- 10a 1 B House: Built ca. 1924; This two-bay two-story frame dwelling exemplifies the American Foursquare house, popular during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Features typical of this form included its hip roof with central hip-roof dormer, wide overhanging eaves, and a strong horizontal line formed first by the full-facade porch and then porte cochere addition. Square-in-section tapered posts resting on tall brick pedestals support this porch and car port. A handsome balustrade skirts the porch with steps leading down to the side porte cochere and another set of steps leading up to the front entrance. The double-sash windows are typical of the period with three vertical lights over one. Including the three additions mentioned above, the house was enlarged in recent years by a one-story bath addition to the two-story wing as well as extensive kitchen renovations at the rear. A standing-seam tin roof replaces the original wooden shingles.
- 10b 1 B Garage: Built ca. 1924; A simple gable-front garage is sheathed with plain weatherboard and its central opening is protected by a simple pent. To better accommodate modern vehicles, its double doors were removed and the building was lengthened; however, the structure still maintains its overall character.
- 10c 1 B Pumphouse and Storage Room: Built ca. 1924; This gable-roof one-story frame building housed the well pump (west) and a storage room (east) with shelves lining three walls.
- 10d 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1924; A multi-purpose gable-front frame building with flanking sheds facing east toward the back of the house. The central section served as the smokehouse, the enclosed shed as a wash house, and the open shed as a wood house. The roof is sheathed with standing-seam tin, and the doors are board and batten.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 7 Page 20

#	C	NC	P&R
---	---	----	-----

- 10e 1 ST Farm Bell: Cast iron bell is raised on a wooden pole and supported by a cast iron bell frame; moved from near the back door to present site in recent years.
- 10f 1 B Stables: Built ca. 1930; Frame gable-front barn, modified by the removal of the flanking stables including five stalls and by the addition of modern work areas on north and rear elevations.
- 10g 1 B Feed barn: Built last half of the nineteenth century; This gable-roof frame building originally had a central entrance, now off center due to a later extension to the southern gable-end. The main section contains a corn crib.

11) **Perquimans River Bridge:** Spans the Perquimans River on NC 37, 0.25 mi. E of junction with SR 1111.

1 ST Built in 1954, small concrete bridge with open guard rails spans the river bend at the location of the historically important Newby's Bridge.

12) **House & Trailer:** N side of NC 37, 0.32 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B Mobile home with metal skirt around foundation.

1 B House: Built ca. 1965; Modest gable-end frame structure built utilizing the materials salvaged from the mid-nineteenth-century coastal cottage torn down next door to the Murray and Fernando C. White House.

13) **House:** N side of NC 37, 0.31 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

1 B House: Built ca. 1930; One-and-a-half story frame house with four bays, plain weatherboard sheathing, and an engaged front porch.

14) **Lewis Norman Hollowell House:** N side of NC 37, 0.28 mi. W jct. with SR 1200.

A native of Chowan County, Lewis N. Hollowell was a prominent businessman and merchant in Belvidere, serving as Belvidere's postmaster from November 1914-September 1918. Hollowell was also the principal share holder in the Belvidere Ginning Company which was incorporated in 1913 in association with several local

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 21

investors including members of the Ward and Chappell families. In 1918, he served as its secretary with I. A. Ward as president. As a merchant, Hollowell was also a partner with C. B. Hathaway of Gates County in Hathaway & Hollowell, which purchased from Rufus White in 1914 two small parcels of land adjoining the Belvidere Ginning Company. Their store housed the post office until it was moved to that of L. Jay Winslow, who was then the assistant postmaster. In 1915, Hollowell purchased an additional two acres from White on which he built his home. Toward the end of 1918, however, Hollowell began cutting his ties with Belvidere by first resigning as postmaster followed by the sale of the Belvidere Ginning Company in October. The next year Hollowell sold his home to the trustees of Piney Woods Congregation of Friends Church and moved his family to Hertford, the county seat. To this day, Hollowell's home continues to serve as the church parsonage.⁷

C NC P&R

- 14a 1 B Parsonage: Built ca. 1915; This handsome two-story frame T-plan house features a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around the front facade. Turned posts with diminutive brackets support this porch which is partially screened. Plain weatherboard sheathes the house, and standing-seam tin protects each roof. The gable roof has pedimented gable ends, each of which contains a large diamond-shaped ventilator. Interior chimneys rise from the east gable end and the juncture of the T-plan. The double-sash windows contain two-over-two sash. In recent years, a modern shed-roof carport was added to the west elevation and has since been partially screened.
- 14b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1965; Gable-front frame storage building with central bay and metal sheathing.

15) **Fernando C. White Mill Complex:** N side of NC 37, 0.25 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200; an overgrown straight mill path extends N from NC 37 along the west side of the store back approximately 0.15 mi. to the mill site on the southern bank of the Perquimans River.

Incorporated in 1913, the Belvidere Ginning Company operated on this site until 1918. L. N. Hollowell was its main investor. Other investors included T. R. Ward, I. A. Ward, Henry Copeland, N. Q. Ward, J. J. Chappell with I. A. Ward serving as its president at the time of its sale to Fernando C. White. Hollowell and his partner C. B. Hathaway also invested in the two small adjoining river-front pieces of property where they operated their mercantile business, Hathaway & Hollowell. After White purchased in 1918 the two-and-a-half-acre ginning company, he began making \$1,000 worth of improvements to the site which included "one Gin and Mill." The next year he bought the adjoining property to the east. Four years later he expanded his holdings again when he purchased from R. E. Chappell the property extending from the public road back to the mill, which lies east of the mill road and is referred to as "Walter gin house grounds." Another purchase from Chappell in

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 22

1926 secured for White an extensive piece of property stretching fully from the road to the river, which connected with his eastern property line. During Fernando's ownership and later that of his son, Edwin S. White, the mill area included a saw mill, grist mill, cotton gin, lumber yard, blacksmith shop, machine shop, and store. As an undertaker, Fernando operated his funeral business from his store.⁸

Landscape: A once thriving commercial area, the major portion of this property is now abandoned and so overgrown that it is inaccessible by vehicle or foot. Just west of the store, the former mill road clearly leads to the north off NC 37 through a low swampy area; however, its path is impeded by fallen trees and thick scrub growth. Located along the southern bank of the Perquimans River, the saw mill, grist mill, and cotton gin are in ruinous condition having received no maintenance in nearly twenty years.

C NC P&R

- 15a 1 B Mechanic's Shop: Built ca. 1913; One-and-one-half-story frame building with two-bay gable-front facade, vertical board sheathing, and exposed rafter ends; located on east side of mill lane directly behind store. An automobile mechanic, Vernon Lane, worked here for many years.
- 15b 1 B White-Hollowell-White Store: Mid-nineteenth-century; Local tradition maintains that this rare frame three-bay store was moved first from Rufus White's corner to a site across the road from its present site. Tradition also credits L. N. Hollowell with moving it to its present site during the early twentieth century. In all probability, the present site was associated with the enterprises of Walter White between 1880 and 1905, followed by Ward & Chappell. The building originally housed a store with quarters at the rear and included a finished half story. These fully-plastered living areas were once serviced by a rear chimney and were eventually converted to office and commercial use. The store's one-and-a-half-story gable-front exterior exhibits elements characteristic of the Greek Revival style, such as the peaked door and window surrounds with a beaded inner edge, simple wide cornerboards, and simple raking moldings with returns. An embodiment of the Greek Revival is the central entrance, containing double-leaf doors with two vertical raised panels and a notable symmetrically molded architrave with cornerblocks. The less formal east doorway, which enters the former quarters, includes a peaked lintel surround and a large door with three raised panels, two tall vertical ones above a smaller horizontal panel. Other important features include the plain flush-sheathed front facade, beaded porch-roof side arms, nine-over-six double-sash front windows, and original six-over-four double-sash windows with peaked lintels like that of the facade's half-story window. Ghost marks indicate that a centrally-placed double-shoulder chimney once stood at the rear

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 23

elevation on the building's original site. The present porch and shed addition to the east elevation are early-twentieth-century additions with the now collapsing barber shop at the rear, a ca. 1930 addition.

The store, itself, takes up the front three-fourths of the interior space with all mercantile display counters and shelving intact. Along each side, the hand-planed board walls are lined primarily with open shelves above and either bracket-supported bins or drawers below. Glass doors enclose two of these shelf units, an original 12-light door hangs in the southwest corner and midway along the east wall hangs a pair of doors with four lights each. A deep top shelf caps this wall shelving, and it is supported at each unit separation by a simple decorative bracket. Broad counters define the customers' center aisle. The face of each counter has two rows of horizontal flat panels and each slants backward from the top to the base. They also still exhibit an early brown and ocher paint scheme. Several separate counter top display cases remain. A narrow tongue-and-groove partition wall separates the front and rear rooms. Doors open into each room, one an office and the other contains the quarter-turn stair with landing. These two rooms both have plaster walls, and the partition between each is tongue-and-groove boards. The upstairs is one large room with plaster ceiling and knee walls. Family tradition maintains that Fernando C. White used this room to store coffins and would remove them through the gable-front window.

16) **Edwin S. White Farmstead:** N side of NC 37, 0.15 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

In 1926, Fernando C. White purchased from R. E. Chappell, this tract of land on which his youngest son, Edwin Saunders White [1906-1974], constructed his home in 1934-35. Edwin married Mary Chappell on September 4, 1929, and they had two children. On this small farmstead, he raised cattle, sheep, ducks, geese, and chickens. Working for his father at the mill until 1938, Edwin then purchased a truck and began his own business, hauling logs to area mills in Hertford and Plymouth. With his father's death in 1949, he inherited the mill and its operation. Cotton ginning ceased with the drop in the cotton market. Both the grain and saw mills continued operating until the early 1970s. The mill was then sold, and the store closed.⁹

Landscape: Located on the north side of NC 37, this compact farmstead includes three definable areas: the domestic area closest to the road, the barnyard directly behind the house, and the surrounding woodland to the east, north, and west. Now grown up as woodland, the area to the east included a pond and north to the mill a pasture. In the center of the domestic activities is an attractive bungalow, which

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 24

is set back from the road approximately 100 feet with a driveway extending from the road straight back along the east side to the garage. Sitting on a rise, it is beautifully sited on grounds framed to the east and west by woods. A mature pecan tree in each side of the front yard shades the house during the hot summer months. A variety of small shrubs including azaleas skirt the house. Crepe myrtles line the road west of it and three large magnolias grace the western side yard. Directly behind the house, a whitewashed board fence connects a row of domestic outbuildings including wash house, tool house, and garage, all painted white. A now closed off well is located near the backdoor of the house. On the other side of the fence, an open pasture begins to quickly slope down toward the stable, chicken houses, and feed barn. Today these buildings line the woods' edge to the north and are all painted red and trimmed in white.

C NC P&R

- 16a 1 B House: Built 1934-1935; This attractive one-and-a-half-story bungalow resting on a brick foundation features a three-bay facade, an engaged porch supported by square-in-section paneled posts resting on brick pillars, a central gable-front dormer sheathed with patterned shingles, and deep eave overhangs supported by stepped-end brackets. All windows are paired and contain three-over-one sash. The door of the central entrance repeats this three vertical-light configuration. Handsome original cast-iron fixtures flank the entrance, and exhibit globes mounted on foliate bases and supported by scrolled brackets. A one-story hip-roof bedroom addition was constructed ca. 1940 to the west elevation. It mirrors the character and features of the original house including the paired windows.
- 16b 1 B Wash house: Built during late nineteenth century; Moved here from the Nate White House in 1935 and adapted into a wash house, this small gable-front building has an off-center door and an enclosed shed addition to the west. Plain weatherboards sheath the exterior and standing-seam tin the roof. Measurements are four feet seven inches by nine feet two inches.
- 16c 1 B Garage: Built 1935; Gable-front frame building with open bay protected by pair of large vertical-board doors; open sheds flank each side of the garage.
- 16d 1 ST Well: Built 1935; Glazed clay pipe extends approximately three feet above ground.
- 16e 1 B Stable: Built in 1935; This gable-front one-story stable with loft features a peaked hay-hood on the front elevation, an open shed addition for carts to the west, and plain weatherboard sheathing. The east elevation includes entrances to two stables and a deep eave overhang. Its exterior is painted barn red trimmed in white.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 25

C NC P&R

Exterior measurements are approximately thirty-three feet eight inches by twenty feet ten inches.

16f 1 B Chicken House: Built in 1935; A shed-roof frame chicken house with off-center entrance and louvered vent. Its exterior paint and sheathing is identical to that of the stable. Measurements are approximately nine feet eleven inches by eight feet four inches.

16g 1 B Outhouse: Built in 1935; Two-hole shed-roof privy with central entrance and exterior finish identical to that of stable. Measures six feet four inches by four feet five inches.

16h 1 B Feed Barn: Built in 1935; This gable-roof frame barn has an extended eave overhang protecting the off-center doorway; it stands on a brick pier foundation; the plain weatherboards are painted barn red and trimmed in white; standing-seam tin protects the roof. Measures twenty-one feet two inches by fourteen feet five inches.

17) **Belvidere Community Building:** N side of NC 37, 0.1 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

Located on the site of the former Belvidere Academy which burned on May 2, 1935, this remarkably intact community building was constructed in 1938. The school property had remained in the hands of the Perquimans County Board of Education until 1937 when it was deeded respectively to John D. Hill, Fernando C. White, and then Perquimans County. With the advice of Gladys Hamrick, the local extension agent, a steering committee for the Belvidere Community Building was formed and comprised of the following members: Fernando C. White, Dr. E. S. White, J. M. Copeland, L. W. Anderson, F. M. Copeland, W. T. Smith, W. C. Chappell, W. J. Asbell, L. Jay Winslow, V. C. Winslow, and W. L. White. Constructed with W.P.A. assistance, the building remained in county ownership until October 1973 when it was conveyed to the Belvidere Homemakers Club.¹⁰

17 1 B Community Building: Built 1937; Little changed, this building today is an excellent example of its type seen here as a five-bay one-story gable-roof frame structure with a central double-leaf entrance protected by a modest pedimented porch capped with a cupola. Standing-seam tin sheathes each roof, and the gable ends have raking cornices with returns. All windows contain six-over-six double-sash windows and plain surrounds with mitered corners. Capped by a pyramidal roof with finial, the cupola contains the school's former bell. Arched-louvered ventilators pierce each of its sides. The plan for this remarkably intact multi-purpose building centers around an open meeting hall with an elevated stage area at the east end, an

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 26

enclosed kitchen at the west end, and a smaller meeting room as a rear extension. Tongue-and-groove boards sheath the walls and ceiling throughout with vertical boards forming the wainscoting and horizontal boards the remaining wall surface. Entered by two-step stairs to each side, the stage includes a small forestage and proscenium stage with curtain. In the stagehouse area, open wings provide dressing and storage space. At the opposing end of the hall, the wall features a large pass-through to the kitchen, a long narrow room with rear exit. A small pent roof protects this doorway. The bathrooms are a later addition made to the rear of the small meeting room. This building stands approximately one-hundred feet from NC 37.

18) **Francis H. Nicholson House:** N side of NC 37, 0.09 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200

Francis H. Nicholson [1867-], the youngest son of merchant Josiah Nicholson, Jr.[1831-1913], purchased in 1891 from the Trustees of the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School for \$150 a portion of the property associated with the Belvidere Academy. Shortly thereafter, he built this outstanding Queen Anne-style house. His father made Francis a partner in his mercantile business, Josiah Nicholson & Son, which also locally traded in grain and fertilizers. A public-spirited person, Nicholson served as a justice of the peace in Belvidere in 1897 and also represented Perquimans County in the House of Representatives in 1899. Having moved to Guilford County by 1904, he sold his Belvidere home for \$1,500 to his older sister, Anna Nicholson Riddick, the wife of Archibald F. Riddick [1849-1909]. After her husband's death, Anna also moved to Guilford County and sold this property in 1913 to Rufus Chappell of Chowan County. The next year, it was sold again this time to Sarah J. and Thomas T. Lamb, a Belvidere merchant operating T. T. Lamb & Bro. by 1915. Over the next fifteen years, various members of the Lamb family held title to the property, including Casper S. Lamb, Mary A. and W. H. Lamb, and Ruth Lamb. In 1929, William Thomas Smith purchased it and lived there until his death, after which his heirs sold it to Harold Brenton Winslow.¹¹

Landscape: Today this house site is bounded by maturing pines which help conceal and protect it from the traffic along NC 37. The house is set back approximately one-hundred-and-ten feet from the road on a long somewhat narrow piece of property. Mature oaks, pecans, and dogwoods shade the front yard. Smaller shrubs skirt the house's perimeter, and the farm bell stands directly behind it near the back door. A drive parallels the eastern property boundary and leads back to the string of outbuildings extending along the rear property line. Much of the landscaping, including the pines and ornamental shrubs, dates from the second half of the twentieth century.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBelvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 27

C NC P&R

18a 1 B House: Built ca. 1891; One of the grandest Queen Anne houses in Perquimans County, this house illustrates a forceful combination of Queen Anne forms and details dominated by projecting gables, bays, and a bold corner tower. A one-story porch encircles the tower base and features turned posts, turned balustrade, and a spindle frieze. Molded weatherboards sheath the first floor and rear elevations; however, a fanciful imbricated shingle pattern enlivens all other exterior wall surfaces. The front gable contains a delicate spindlework ornament. A gable extension, supported by turned corner brackets and featuring a fanned fish-scale shingle pattern, enhances the east elevation as does a handsome first-floor bay window capped with a turned balustrade. A simple scalloped rakeboard also outlines each gable. All windows feature one-over-one double sash and decorative lintels with diminutive brackets. A simple bracketed cornice skirts the tower, and standing-seam tin sheathes each roof. In 1976, a one-story wing was added to the east elevation at the back of the house.

The exceptional decorative character of the exterior also carries over to the interior through the use of parquet floors, ornate darkly-stained woodwork, fanciful tongue-and-groove sheathing, and decorative ceramic tiles. The tower entrance leads into a beautifully detailed stair hall, which along with the upstairs hall, features fully sheathed walls and geometrically-patterned parquet floors. Here, the use of beaded tongue-and-groove boards below a simple chair rail molding creates on the vertical a simple wainscot and above on the horizontal a robust herringbone-pattern for the walls. The stair includes handsome turned balusters and newels with incised geometric patterns. Outstanding original door and window hardware exists throughout the house, including unusual wooden door knobs.

18b 1 ST Farm Bell: Positioned near the rear door to the house, this cast iron bell with lever frame stands on a tall wood post. Marked Frederick Town, Ohio #2 and #3.

18c 1 B Privy: Built ca. 1920; Simple shed-roof frame building with off-center batten door; presently used for storage.

18d 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1920; Simple frame two-room shed with shed-roof with front pent overhang.

18e 1 B Barn: Built ca. 1910; Gable-roof frame barn with plain weatherboard sheathing; two-bay front elevation has door at west end and barred window at east end, pent roofs protect each opening.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 28

-
- 19) **Rufus White House:** N side of NC 37, 0.05 mi. W of jct. with SR 1200.

This property represents a portion of the sixty-acre tract acquired by David White [1783-1862] from Eliab Griffin in 1836 and may have become the relocation site for one of Griffin's houses mentioned in the transaction. By 1860, however, David White referred to it in his will as the home of his son, Rufus White [1827-1918]. In 1850 at the age of twenty-two, Rufus was still a member of his father's household, and listed as a shoemaker, possibly apprenticed to Sheperd Church, a Maryland shoemaker also living in David's household. On January 19, 1854, Rufus married Lydia Wilson [1835-1894] and during their forty-year marriage, produced nine children, seven of which survived infancy. In all likelihood, this house was built about the time of his marriage. Prior to the Civil War, Rufus owned personal property valued at \$4,950 and had become a prosperous farmer owning 370 acres, raising primarily Indian corn and sweet potatoes. His household included three children, a housekeeper, three black farm laborers, and his brother, Elihu A. White, a merchant. A leader in Piney Woods Monthly Meeting serving as an overseer and elder, Rufus became a prominent Belvidere landowner, merchant, and civic leader. He also served as State Senator from the 1st District. Following the war, Rufus continued to farm but diversified his interests by becoming a dry goods and grocery merchant. He also opened his home to boarders, usually associated with the Belvidere Academy, including its principal A. C. Collins in 1880. At this time, his farming operation was valued at \$10,000 and included 930 acres, 225 of which were tilled. He raised primarily Indian corn, cotton, sweet potatoes, buckwheat, and oats, and paid a total of \$300 in wages for seventy-five weeks to Black laborers. After his wife's death in 1894, Rufus continued as a farmer and merchant, and his daughter Cora assisted by keeping house for him. Oftentimes, his home provided room-and-board to his store salesmen, including John Q. Hurdle in 1900 and Timothy C. Perry in 1910.

Following Rufus's death in 1918, his children Cora Ella White and Henry Alva White inherited the home farm which they sold the following year to Edgar J. Layden. This sixty-acre property in 1919 included one-dwelling, one storehouse, one barn, and two other buildings. During the 1920s, it passed from Layden to William T. Smith, then Josiah Winslow, and finally Julian A. Chappell in 1930. Today, it remains in Chappell family ownership. Twenty years ago, the site included several frame outbuildings, now destroyed, namely, a smokehouse, stilted dairy, and barn.¹²

Landscape: The house is set back approximately 200 hundred feet north of the road, and agricultural fields frame this site to the west and north. Mature pines line its open front lawn to the east and west, and at one time, the lawn included a central brick walk. A separate kitchen is located directly behind the house. Three mature pecan trees flank the house, and a large sycamore stands to the east. The L-shaped property fronts on both NC 37 and SR 1200.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 29

C NC P&R

- 19a 1 B House: Built ca. 1854; Following a traditional two-story single-pile house form with rear one-story shed, this three-bay gable-roof frame Greek Revival-style dwelling follows a center-hall plan and features flanking stepped double-shoulder chimneys, each laid in a variation of common bond. The plain weatherboard sheathes the exterior and plain surrounds frame each window. The original double-leaf central entrance with five-light transom was altered in recent years. The facade's first-floor windows contain unusual twelve-over-twelve double sash. The second-floor front and rear facades have six-over-six sash as does the rear first floor. Tall attenuated windows with six-over-six and four-over-four sash define the side elevations. The hip-roof porch appears to contain original features such as its handsome posts and attached posts, which have simple caps and square-in-section shafts with entasis. The balustrade has since been removed. Each roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. The rakeboard is slightly tapered with a three-step molding and understated cornice returns. Throughout the interior, Greek Revival elements are evident in the woodwork, such as the mantels and the door and window surrounds. Other notable features are the doors with four raised panels and the single-board flat panel wainscoting. Out of the hall rises an unusual quarter-turn stair formerly enclosed by a door beyond the fifth step. The balustrade includes a square-in-section newel and rounded handrail.
- 19b 1 B Kitchen: Built in first half of the nineteenth century; In all probability, it was originally a hall-and-parlor dwelling with rear shed rooms flanking an open hall. This one-story building may well have been adapted to its present use as a detached kitchen by Rufus White when he had the two-story house constructed ca. 1854. He may have used these extra rooms here to help house his boarders. Notable features include nine-over-six double-sash windows, a Greek Revival door with two vertical raised panels, and wainscoting in the two principal rooms. An exterior end chimney associated with the hall is now gone.
- 19c 1 B Garage: Built 1998; Large gable-front frame garage with two-bays.

20) J. Emmett Winslow Pure Gasoline Station and Garage: NW corner of NC 37 at junction with SR 1200.

Josiah Winslow purchased the former Rufus White property in 1926 and conveyed the corner lot "now used as a gasoline filling station" to J. E. Winslow in 1930. This station was built about 1927, when the state hard surfaced the road through

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 7 Page 30

Belvidere and designated it as NC 37. The garage was constructed in the late 1930s.¹³

C NC P&R

20a 1 B Service Station: Built ca. 1927; Distinguished by its metal Spanish-tile hip roof, this one-story three-bay brick service station has an engaged front porte cochere supported by brick piers. These piers framed the former gasoline pump island. A deep eave overhang and plain bold architrave skirts the entire building. Although reasonably intact, the building was enlarged by a shed addition on the west elevation. Its slightly diagonal siting takes advantage of the corner lot and access to both NC 37 and SR 1200. The gas pumps were removed ca. 1990.

20b 1 B Garage: Built ca. 1938; Located directly behind the service station, this basic gable-front frame building faces SR 1200 and features a two-bay facade, one of which is a vehicle entrance with a track double-door. The southern facade has an identical entry. Standing-seam metal sheathes the roof and plain weatherboard the exterior walls. A modern open pole shelter stands just southeast of the garage.

21) Yow Farm: W side of SR 1200, 0.22 mi. N of jct. with NC 37.

Land associated with Eliab Griffin, Eliab Griffin, Jr., David White, Wayland White; White family house built ca. 1920 burned. Land appears to include Eliab Griffin's landing on east side Perquimans River, an important landmark and deed reference.¹⁴

21a 1 B House: Built 1981; Five-bay two-story gable-roof brick house with one-story north wing.

21b 1 B Smokehouse/Wood Shed: Built ca. 1970; Gable-front concrete-block smokehouse with off-center door; open wood shed added ca. 1985.

21c 1 B Butler Building: Built 1993; Metal equipment shelter.

21d 1 B Garage: Built ca. 1920, enlarged ca. 1985; Originally small one-car frame garage with gable-front and double-leaf doors; nearly doubled in size to include an additional open equipment bay.

21e 1 B Farm Office: Built ca. 1970; Small two-bay gable-front frame building with off-center entrance.

21f 1 ST Silo: Built ca. 1975; Metal grain silo.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 31

C NC P&R

21g 2 B Farrowing Houses: Built ca. 1970; Long open shelters with metal sheathing; originally used to raise pigs, however, today store grain.

21h 1 B Feed Barn: Built mid-nineteenth century; Rare small gable-front frame barn with shed-roof side extensions, one open and one enclosed.

22) John J. Chappell, Jr. Farm: W side of SR 1200, 0.25 mi. N of jct. with NC 37.

John Jordan Chappell, Jr.[1891-1926], the son of John J. Chappell [1863-1934] and Julia Anna Ward [1860-1945], grew up and worked on his father's farm in the Belvidere community until his marriage to Maud Odessa Jessup in 1916. By 1920 the couple had settled on their own farm unencumbered by any mortgage and were raising two young daughters. Chappell was also a huckster, who sold locally raised chickens, eggs and meat in Norfolk. Family tradition maintains that Chappell had admired a house in the Suffolk area and copied its design, when he began building his home. A remarkable collection of extant invoices from suppliers documents the construction of Chappell's home. Much of the lumber and plaster lathe for the house was purchased from Major & Loomis Company in Hertford with Kramer Bros. Company in Elizabeth City supplying the finish elements including windows, doors, brackets, and mantels. Two names, A. F. White and Arthur W. Chappell, also appear on Chappell's financial notations and in all probability were craftsmen hired to help build the house. John Chappell died during its construction, leaving the porch unfinished. Within two years it was completed, as well as the installation of French doors on the interior. Although the house was wired for delco, it was never used. Electricity became available in the late 1930s. Today Chappell's daughter, Thelma Chappell Riddick, continues to live in the homeplace.¹⁵

Landscape: Representative of a typical early twentieth-century small farm, this property includes three distinct areas: the house site, the household garden, and the farm field acreage.

The property's southern boundary, a drainage ditch, its row of outbuildings to the west, and a dirt lane leading back to the Chappell cemetery and the Perquimans River define the house site. Facing east, the house stands off-center to the north on its site and approximately 100 feet west of SR 1200. A concrete sidewalk extends from the house to SR 1200 and features a concrete five-step stair at its east end. A slightly meandering driveway extends directly from the road through the yard south of the house and creates a circle at the back. Planting beds reflecting modern landscaping trends help define the southern and northern edges of the house site and line the area in front of the outbuildings. These beds include bulbs, perennials, camellias, red tip, forsythia, dogwoods, and azaleas. Mature cedars, crabapples, magnolia, and sycamore help shade the yard. All the outbuildings except the privy line the eastern border of the household garden. Small plant beds surround most, and dog pens extend behind the chicken house and smokehouse. The privy stands back

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 32

of the chicken house and pen. South of the barn are two grape arbors, scuppernong and black James. The southern drainage ditch and the cemetery lane to the north define the triangular shape of the large vegetable garden and converge at a large holly tree before the lane bends north. Running along the north side of the lane is large field which in recent years was planted in either soybeans, corn, or watermelons.

C NC P&R

- 22a 1 B House: Built 1924-1926; An outstanding example in Perquimans County of a typical two-story gable-front Craftsmen bungalow which was becoming increasing popular in North Carolina between 1915 and 1930. Notable features include the extended eave overhang supported by triangular brackets and the hip-roof porch with square-in-section wooden posts resting on tall brick piers. The exterior of the first floor has plain weatherboard sheathing but the second floor has butt-shingle sheathing with a slightly flared base. These shingles are stained a deep red. All the windows have nine-over-one double sash and are generally grouped in threes on the front facade, twos along the side, and singly across the rear. The rear facade has a double-tier porch, a portion of which on the first floor was enclosed for a bathroom in the 1950s. Beautifully preserved, the interior features plaster walls and beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling throughout. Its three-room plan includes a parlor across the front and two rooms at the rear. On the south elevation, the stair rises from both the parlor and rear kitchen and joins at an intermediate landing before rising to the second floor. All light fixtures and interior woodwork remain intact.
- 22b 1 B Barn: Built ca. 1942; Gable-front frame barn with central entrance and enclosed shed with open bay on west elevation. Plain weatherboards sheath the exterior and standing-seam tin protects the roof which features exposed rafter ends.
- 22c 1 B Chicken House: Built ca. 1942; This typical shed-roof frame chicken house features plain weatherboard sheathing, an entrance on the south elevation, and a pent roof protecting the facade's seven open but screened bays.
- 22d 1 B Smokehouse: Built ca. 1942; Gable-roof frame smokehouse with central entrance. The exterior is sheathed with plain weatherboards and the roof with standing-seam tin. All rafter ends are exposed.
- 22e 1 B Brooder House: Built ca. 1942; Shed-roof frame building with off-center door, plain weatherboard sheathing, exposed rafter ends, standing-seam tin roof, and double-sash six-over-six window on southern elevation.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 33

C NC P&R

- 22f 1 B Privy: Built ca. 1942; Shed-roof frame structure sheathed with plain weatherboards, and off-center entrance. Moved here from site near ditch to the south.
- 22g 1 ST Farm Bell: Patent date 1886; Located at the rear southwest corner of the house, this cast iron farm bell stands on square-in-section wooden post. It is supported by cast iron yoke stamped No. 3, Crystal Metal which includes a rope pull lever. Moved here in 1949 by Thurman Riddick from the farm of his great aunt, Eva Trotman, near Trotville in Gates County.

23) **Eliab Griffin Cemetery:** W side of SR 1200, 0.26 mi. N of jct. with NC 37; at end of farm road 0.2 mi. W of SR 1200.

23 1 S Resting on a gentle rise near the eastern edge of the cypress swampy lowlands of the Perquimans River, this Chappell family cemetery contains approximately fifty-eight graves. A chain link fence, measuring 240 feet by 120 feet, separates and protects it from the surrounding cattle pasture. Tablet markers identify many graves; others remain unmarked. Burials here date from at least 1868 to 1958. A bent iron-rod fence with inner spear motif frames a small family plot containing about five graves. Family cemeteries like this one are typically found throughout the Belvidere area and Perquimans County; however, this is the only one contained within the boundaries of the historic district. It is also associated with Eliab Griffin, who had previously owned the property on which Belvidere Academy was built.

24) **Josiah Chappell Farm:** W side of SR 1200, 0.35 mi. N of jct. with SR 37.

The grandson of John Jordan Chappell [1816-1874] and the son of Charles Watts Chappell [1868-1937], Josiah Chappell, also known as Joseph [1897-] developed this small farm on land long associated with the Chappell family. From an early age he worked as a farm laborer on his father's farm. In 1920 Josiah was married and living with his wife, Vashti Copeland, within his father's household. He was also continuing to work on the home farm for wages. In all probability, this farm complex was built shortly after their marriage.¹⁶

Landscape:

Exhibiting a site plan typical of early twentieth-century small farms in Perquimans County, this Chappell homeplace, fronting on SR 1200, is surrounded by open agricultural fields. The rectangular form of the house site is defined by these

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 34

fields and reinforced by the linear placement of the support buildings along the western and northern perimeter. Centrally sited, the house sets back from the road approximately 150 feet, and three large pecan trees shade the open front yard. A dirt lane loops from near the lot's southeast corner, around the house, and back out to the road. Small shrubs skirt the perimeter of the house, especially azaleas.

C NC P&R

- 24a 1 B House: Built ca. 1920; This two-story gable-roof frame house follows a T-plan and includes a one-story hip-roof porch which wraps around the front facade. Turned posts support this partially screened porch. The five-bay facade features a central entrance and double-sash windows with two-over-two lights. The gable roof has boxed cornices with returns and in each gable end a square window with an inner frame of multi-colored lights. Interior chimneys are located at the southern gable end and the gable crossing. Plain weatherboard sheathes the exterior.
- 24b 1 ST Well: Built ca. 1920; Located near the house's north elevation and features a tall circular concrete curb with cap.
- 24c 1 B Chicken House: Built 1940; Shed-roof frame chicken house with plain weatherboard, an off-center door, and a pair of four-light southern-exposure windows.
- 24d 1 ST Gas pump: Installed ca. 1960; Rectangular metal box pump.
- 24e 1 B Equipment Shelter: Built ca. 1960; Gable-front open-bay structure sheathed with agricultural metal.
- 24f 1 B Stable: Built ca. 1920; Gable-front frame stable with two stalls, central loft, and flanking enclosed sheds. Sheathed with plain weatherboards, the structure has three open bays on the east elevation. An open shed extends across the rear facade.
- 24g 1 B Smokehouse: Built ca. 1920; Gable-front frame smokehouse with plain weatherboard sheathing and off-center door.
- 24h 1 B Birdhouse: Built ca. 1960; Frame two-story four-hole birdhouse for martins raised on pole.

25) William H. Winslow House: W side of SR 1200 at junction with SR 1213.

The origins of this coastal cottage are still uncertain after taking into account local tradition, historical research, and architectural evidence; however, today it stands as one of the most important extant ca. 1800 buildings in the area. Site

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetBelvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 35

associations remain unclear but the property was owned prior to 1821 by Uriah Hudson. Moses Hollowell held it for a brief period from 1821 to 1823 when William H. Winslow [?-1830] acquired it. During Winslow's ownership, a cluster of buildings is known to have been scattered over his property, which served as a polling place during several elections. In all probability, the house was present on this site at this time. Winslow's household in 1830 included his wife, Maria Perry, two daughters, one son, and four slaves. Following his death that year, his wife inherited the property which she deeded to her children, Mary Ann Elizabeth and William Perry Winslow. Apparently, Mary Winslow married on July 27, 1840 William Lane [1817-1856], who in 1842 was deeded that portion of Winslow's estate which included all the buildings except the two shops. The remainder of the estate he acquired in 1849. In 1850 Lane's household included Mary, his three children, Mary's twenty-two-year-old brother William Winslow, and Rachel White. His ninety-eight acre farm, with twenty-four improved acres, had a value of \$275 and produced Indian corn, beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, butter, and hay. In all likelihood, William Winslow, listed as a laborer, worked on the farm. Following the Civil War, Charles Layden began slowly purchasing portions of Lane's estate until he became its sole owner in 1870. Inherited by Charles' son Thomas L. Layden in 1882, the property was owned by various people including Matthew H. White until 1898 when Carrie L. Perry purchased it. Her family continued to own it until 1966 when Elton D. Layden purchased it.¹⁷

Landscape: Traveling on SR 1213 west toward SR 1200, the William H. Winslow House stands as a focal point marking this intersection. Little remains today other than its location at the junction of these two roads to signify its age or former land associations. The house stands approximately thirty feet from SR 1200 and faces east.

C NC P&R

25a 1 B House: Built ca. 1800; Exceptional example of a three-bay one-story frame coastal cottage with hall-and-parlor plan and rear shed rooms. Important early exterior details include single stepped-shoulder end chimneys laid in 1:5 American bond, wide flush beaded boards sheathing the porch facade, plain weatherboard elsewhere, and six-over-six double-sash windows framed by plain architraves with an inner bead and mitered joints. On the interior, the hall contains woodwork details typically found in area late-Georgian and Federal-style homes such as the wainscoting and the doors. This plain board wainscoting with simple chair rail and baseboard moldings encircles the room. Hung on HL hinges, the six-panel doors have primary flat panels and secondary raised. Each original surround has mitered joints, a molded backband, and narrow inner bead. A quarter-turn enclosed stair with winders rises from the hall's partition wall at the rear and leads up to a habitable attic. This unfinished attic has butt flooring, pegged mortised-and-tenoned common rafters, and a pinned cornice with raising plate. Originally the rear shed

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 36

C NC P&R

contained two rooms which flanked an open central porch. In the northwest room, wide boards still sheath the ceiling. A one-bay addition mirroring many of the building's early features was added ca. 1850.

- 25b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1960; Gable-front frame shed with off-center door and open side sheds.
- 25c 1 B Modular Home: Built ca. 1990; Double-wide modular home with front porch entrance.

26) William Henry Layden Farm: N side of SR 1213 at junction with SR 1200.

William Henry Layden [1840?-1882] was the second son of Charles Layden [1814-1882] and his first wife, Sarah Jones. In 1860, twenty-year-old William H. was living at home with his ten siblings and working as a farm laborer for his father as was his older brother James. By 1870, Henry had left his father's household, was living within George Simpson's household, and was working as a farmer presumably with Simpson. He may have been the recipient of a portion of the \$500 paid by Simpson in wages during the year. Although modest, Layden's real estate holdings then were valued at \$600 and his personal property at \$150. The owner of a small eighty-four-acre farm approximately two miles southeast of Belvidere, he raised on his fifty-improved acres modest numbers or quantities of swine, Indian corn, cotton, peas and beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes and hay. The value of his farm production was approximately \$395. In 1872 his father and his third wife Sarah Jane Griffin [1840-1916] deeded this property to William Henry. Four years later, he married Sarah Riddick on November 5, 1876. Although his occupation in 1880 is listed as "dry goods & grocer," Layden had reduced his personal farm holdings to twenty acres of which six acres were improved. He also rented for shares ninety-eight acres. On his own farm he simply raised four acres of cotton, which produced two bales with an estimated value of \$100. To produce this crop he paid out forty dollars in wages for ten weeks of work. Farming for shares, he primarily produced 200 bushels of corn on eleven acres and 1,000 bushels of sweet potatoes on four acres while raising chickens, cattle, and swine. The estimated value for this farm production was \$150, for which he paid out sixty dollars in wages to cover twenty-five weeks of work. Layden's household was large and included two young daughters, his brother Charles who worked as a laborer, three Perry step-children, and a cook, Anna Ward.¹⁸

Landscape: Traveling north on SR 1200 from Belvidere, this farmhouse which faces south provides a focal point at the intersection of SR 1200 and SR 1213. Oriented to SR 1213, the house site conforms to this corner with the farm buildings ranged directly behind it. Fields are located to the east and north. Mature pecan trees frame the sides of the yard and a large magnolia stands just east of the house. Turning off SR 1213, a drive winds along the west side of the house through the farm

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 37

yard and bends back to the west connecting with SR 1200. Originally, a picturesque picket fence paralleled the road along SR 1213, but it was removed in recent years.

C NC P&R

- 26a 1 B House: Built 1878; This gable-roof two-story frame house with two-story rear ell has an asymmetrical three-bay facade and nine-over-six double-sash first-floor windows and six-over-six second-floor windows. Other notable features include the entrance with six-light transom, the gable roof with boxed-cornice returns, and exterior end chimneys with stepped, single shoulders. A late-nineteenth/early-twentieth century, hip-roof, double-tier porch with turned posts and balustrade is one of the house's most distinctive elements and includes fan brackets and drop pendants. The former detached kitchen at the rear of the house has undergone significant changes in recent years including the removal of its chimney.
- 26b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1878; Gable-front frame shed with off-center door and sheathed with plain weatherboards.
- 26c 1 ST Equipment Shelter: Built ca. 1985, Three-bay metal-sheathed equipment shelter with shed roof.

27) **Joseph Smith House:** N side of SR 1213, 0.15 mi. E of jct. with SR 1200.

In 1834 Thomas D. Perry deeded to Joseph Smith his half interest in land conveyed to him and his brother John by their mother Mary Perry. This property included a dwelling which Smith occupied between 1834 and 1856; however, it was not until 1856, that Smith acquired the remaining half interest in the property from John B. Perry. A farmer, Smith had married Eliza A. White on May 19, 1830 and during their marriage, they had six children. In 1850 he owned thirty-five acres with a cash value of \$245 and was raising the standard crops of Indian corn, hay, sweet potatoes and wool as well as swine and sheep. By 1860 his two eldest sons were assisting him as farm laborers and his land holdings had more than doubled to eighty-one acres with a value of \$1,500. His crop and livestock production also increased and became somewhat more varied to include wheat, peas and beans, and cattle. After the Civil War, his personal finances were significantly reduced by 1870 to \$500 in real estate and \$250 in personal property. His two younger sons were now working on the farm and Joseph is identified as a farmer and minister. In all likelihood, he was a Methodist lay preacher and associated with Hickory Cross Church, located to the northwest near Perry's Bridge and the Gates County line. His first wife may have died six years earlier of complications associated with the birth of their youngest child, Elizabeth D. Joseph remarried in the 1870s; however, in 1880 he died leaving this property to his wife, Mary, and daughter, Elizabeth D. On December 15, 1880, she married Edward Layden [1853-1936], a farmer who rented for shares a sixty-five acre farm and raised swine, Indian corn, cotton, and sweet potatoes. Their family

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 38

grew in number to include five children, two sons and three daughters. By 1900, Edward was a widow raising his children with the help of a housekeeper and his sons assisted as farm laborers. Following his death in 1936, his children continued to live on the farm until 1972 when Maggie Layden sold it to a cousin, Charles Layden. Today the house is used as rental property.¹⁹

27a 1 B House: Built ca. 1856; Exhibiting an unusual but modified transverse-hall plan, this house is basically a one-and-half-story gable-front frame dwelling with bold Greek Revival details. The symmetrical three-bay facade has a central entrance with three-light transom and the door features two vertical raised panels over a single horizontal one. The one-story hip-roof front porch has a handsome boxed cornice with mitered corners. Wrought iron supports have replaced the original wooden ones. A boxed cornice also skirts the gable roof and at the front features returns. The opposing rear gable has flush eaves and two exterior chimneys with stepped single shoulders and laid in 1:5 American bond. The front double-sash windows have nine-over-six lights on the first-floor and six-over-six on the second. Elsewhere, they are mainly six-over-four. The surrounds are plain boards as are the sills. The interior features typical Greek Revival woodwork and molding details such as two-panel doors, simple low chair rail, and deep baseboards. A straight stair rises along the hall's primary partition wall and has a square-in-section newel and cap and a balustrade with thin rectangular-in-section balusters and handrail with splayed surfaces. A once detached kitchen stands to the east of the main house. Now connected by an enclosed bay, this one-story structure features an engaged porch, four-over-four double-sash windows and an exterior end chimney laid in 1:5 American bond with stepped single shoulders.

27b 1 B Shed: Built ca. 1960; Shed-roof shelter, constructed out of modern materials, has exposed rafter ends and a central entrance.

28) **John W. Layden Farm:** E side of SR 1200, 0.2 mi. N of jct. with NC 37.

John Westley Layden [1850-1916] was the eldest son of Charles Layden [1814-1882] and his second wife, Elizabeth Boyce. Raised in a large household with many children, John W. was working on his father's farm in 1870. On January 7, 1880, he married Sarah E. Winslow [1859-1944]. Later that same year, his father deeded thirty acres to him. The 1880 U.S. Census indicates that he owned a total of sixty-six acres. On a small scale, he was producing crops of Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and cow peas and raising cows, swine, and chickens. Mahlon Chappell, a laborer, was a member of Layden's household and in all likelihood assisted on the farm. John continued to increase his property holdings acquiring in 1882 from Archibald F.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 39

Riddick thirty acres and again in 1885 purchasing from Henry R. Elliott the thirteen acres on which his house stands. In all probability, he had his home built shortly after this purchase. According to the 1900 U.S. Census, Layden continued to farm, owning his property free and clear. His family now included eight children, five sons and three daughters. As was customary, his sons worked with him on the farm. Following John's death in 1916, ownership of the property has remained within the Layden family and most closely associated with his children, Charles D. [1885-1944], Olive E. [1890-1987], and Walter L. [1894-1955].²⁰

Landscape: Surrounded by open agricultural fields, this farm today remains as the sole complex on the east side of SR 1200 just north of the Belvidere intersection with NC 37. The house stands approximately 200 feet back from the road and faces west. Two rows of cedar trees line the open front lawn leading up to the house. A farm lane defines the south side of this domestic site and parallels an agricultural drainage ditch. Directly behind the house, a row of ancillary farm buildings parallels the north side of this domestic site.

#	C	NC	P&R
28a 1	B		House: Built ca. 1885; Similar in form with that of William Henry Layden, this three-bay two-story frame dwelling also has a two-story rear ell. Each gable end features extended over-hanging eaves and an exterior end chimney laid in 1:5 American bond with stepped single shoulders. The double-sash windows have nine-over-six lights on the first floor and six-over-six on the second. Symmetrically fenestrated, the front facade has a central entrance with side lights and transom. Plain weatherboard sheaths the exterior. A one-story hip-roof porch protects the facade's three bays. It features Victorian sawnwork details such as scroll brackets, turned posts, and turned balustrade. The interior follows a center-hall plan. Modern additions at the rear extend from the east and south elevations.
28b 1	B		Brooder House: Built ca. 1940; Shed-roof frame shed with front pent and plain weatherboard sheathing.
28c 1	B		Chicken House: Built ca. 1940; Shed-roof frame structure with front pent and plain weatherboard sheathing.
28d 1	B		Smokehouse: Built ca. 1940; Gable-front frame smokehouse with off-center entrance and plain weatherboard sheathing
28e 1	B		Equipment Shelter: Built 1975; Modern metal building with central enclosed area flanked by open sheds.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 7 Page 40

- 29) [former] Josiah Nicholson, Jr. Store and Belvidere Post Office: NE corner of NC 37 at junction with SR 1200.

A mercantile business has operated for over 150 years on this site with its earliest associations linked to a store owned in 1847 by Henry White (30b). A physician, Dr. William Nicholson [1826-1899] purchased White's property in 1853. White's store, however, was purchased in 1855 by brothers Josiah [1831-1913] and John [1833-] Nicholson who went into partnership in a business known as J. Nicholson & Bro. By 1860 Josiah had married and was living with his family within the household of his brother William. The next year the community was officially named Belvidere and the post office relocated to the eastern part of the village. Local tradition associates the building recognized as the first post office (30b) in Belvidere as Josiah Nicholson's store. Shortly after the Civil War on April 24, 1866, Nicholson was appointed postmaster of Belvidere a position he held until June 23, 1893 and then again from June 10, 1897 until March 13, 1913. Early on in 1869, Nicholson was in the grocery and shoe business but by the mid 1870s he was operating a general store. Josiah's son-in-law and merchant, Archibald F. Riddick and his wife, Anna Nicholson purchased in 1882 Dr. William Nicholson's property. The following year, they sold her father, Josiah, a half interest in this corner property which included the "new Store building" and warehouse. In 1887 Josiah's wife Harriett bought from Riddick the remaining half interest. By the mid 1890s, the business was operating as Josiah Nicholson & Son. Following Nicholson's death in 1913, Timothy C. Perry purchased the property and operated the store until Charles Layden purchased it from Perry in 1958.²¹

C NC P&R

- 29 1 B Store and Post Office: Built in 1882; An outstanding example of a late nineteenth century combination store and post office, this one-and-a half-story gable-front frame building has a three-bay facade with central entrance. Typical Victorian sawnwork detailing highlights the exterior and includes cutwork cornerboards and boxed cornices with returns and scalloped raking molding. Plain weatherboard sheaths the exterior walls and standing-seam tin the roof. Most of the double-sash windows contain nine-over-nine lights. On the west elevation, a pair of original four-panel shutters survives. The original post office entrance at the northwest end of this west elevation is paired with a nine-over-six double-sash window. The door has four slightly raised panels and its surround is plain with a simple mitred backband. Modern shed additions extend along the east side and across the rear.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 41

30) **Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb Farm:** N side of NC 37, 0.03 mi. E of jct. with SR 1200.

Dr. William Nicholson [1826-1899], the eldest son of Josiah Nicholson, Sr., had returned to Belvidere by 1850 upon completing his medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania, was living within his father's household, and was working within the community as a practicing physician. In 1853, he purchased from Henry White this property which included White's store. On January 1, 1854, he married Sarah Walton, the widow of Robert B. Newby at Piney Woods Meetinghouse. Active within Piney Woods Monthly Meeting, William was first recommended as an elder in 1855, chosen an overseer in 1863, and recommended a minister in 1865. On May 6, 1865 Sarah was also recommended an elder at Piney Woods. In 1860, his household numbered fourteen, including his brother, Josiah, and his family, a step-child, Dr. Thomas Nixon, a cook, and housekeeper. His 124-acre farm contained forty improved acres on which he primarily raised Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and swine. A moderately wealthy person, his real estate was valued at \$5,500 and personal possessions \$2,000. Following the Civil War, Nicholson was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of North Carolina. He was also able to retain a stable financial footing with a personal property valuation of \$1,000 and a real estate valuation of \$5,000 in 1870. Although greatly decreased in number, his household at this time included eight people, two of which were boarders associated with Belvidere Academy, William Symmes (6), a teacher, and Henry Parker, a student. By this time, he and Sarah had two sons, George age fourteen and William age nine. On his farm, he had cleared ten more acres and was now raising, in addition to Indian corn and sweet potatoes, hay, and butter, a more diverse selection of traditional products, including Irish potatoes, peas and beans, and wool. In 1870, Nicholson was appointed by Friends Associated Committee on Indian affairs as superintendent of the central department, a position which instigated the family's departure from Belvidere for the western territory. On November 4, 1871, the family requested a certificate to Lawrence Monthly Meeting in Kansas. Having settled in Douglas County, he became a federal Indian agent. Following his retirement, Nicholson moved in 1887 further west to California, living first in the Quaker community of Whittier and then Pasadena.

Between Nicholson's departure and the sale of his property in 1882, little is known about who occupied the house and operated the farm. Archibald F. Riddick [1849-1909], a merchant and native of Virginia, bought Nicholson's property in 1882. Married to Nicholson's niece, Anna Almy [1858-1932], the daughter of Josiah Nicholson, Jr., the newlyweds were members of Josiah's household (#2) in 1880. In all probability, Riddick worked with his father-in-law in his dry goods and grocery business. His career, however, took a different turn between 1889 to 1900 when he served as sheriff of Perquimans County. When Anna's younger brother, Francis H. Nicholson, moved his family to Raleigh in 1899 to begin his term in the General Assembly, the Riddicks moved into the Nicholson's Belvidere home (#18) next to the Academy and sold this farm. During their ownership, the Riddicks in all likelihood

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 42

enlarged Nicholson's house; however, it is uncertain whether or not they are responsible for its present appearance.

William H. Lamb [1854-1928], a prosperous farmer, purchased this property in 1899. He had a large household in 1900 with twelve people, seven of whom were his children ranging in age from two to twenty years old. His three oldest children were sons, who continued to attend school while the eldest was a general store salesman and other two assisted their father as farm laborers. By 1910 Lamb's household had decreased in size, but now included a boarding couple, Robert and Novella Darden; he was a groceries salesman and she a music teacher. Three of Layden's sons were noted as assisting as farm laborers on the home farm. Between 1906 and 1930, title of the property shifted back and forth between members of the Lamb family, but in 1919 this ninety-acre property included the main house, one barn, and four other buildings. Finally in 1930 it was purchased by R. E. Chappell. His heirs deeded it in 1931 to Piney Woods Friends Monthly Meeting, which retained possession of it until 1955 when Edwin S. White purchased it. The next year Charles E. Layden bought the property and within three years had also purchased the Josiah Nicholson Store (29). Today, he continues to live in the house and operate the store.²²

Landscape: This small farm contains three important components: the house site with its outbuildings, the farm yard, and agricultural fields. Large cultivated fields to the north and east frame the house site and the farmyard's livestock pens, which are located directly behind the domestic area. Drainage ditches outline this area to the east and north. Squarely oriented with the Elihu A. White House, the house stands approximately 150 feet from the north side of NC 37 as it gradually bends to the west. A straight concrete walk extends from the road to its front entrance and a secondary walk extends from this entrance to the store. The front lawn is open with only foundation plantings encircling the house and a mature pecan tree standing just west of the house. A driveway enters at the southeast corner, parallels the ditch, slowly bends around the rear of the house, and exits onto SR 1200 behind the store. The domestic outbuildings stand north roughly in a line of this drive. A clothesline supported by t-posts stretches in front of the brooder house and smokehouse to the pump house. A row of pine trees and another mature pecan are interspersed between these buildings. Behind these buildings extends a drainage ditch and a board fence on its opposing side. Painted white, this fence encircles the livestock area. The animal shelters are located in its northeast corner.

C NC P&R

30a 1 B House: Built ca. 1855, remodeled ca. 1895; An impressive Victorian dwelling embellished with fanciful turned and sawn work details, which in all probability evolved from a more modest two-story gable-roof frame dwelling constructed ca. 1855. Interior details, including doors with four-or six-raised panels, support the theory of an earlier dwelling. Today, this two-story dwelling with plain weatherboard sheathing features gable extensions at both the front

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 43

C NC P&R

and rear as well as a one-story wrap-around front porch and on the west elevation a bay window with second-story diminutive porch. Turned posts with brackets, spindle friezes, and turned balustrades enhance these porches. Decorative shingles and gable ornaments highlight the front and side gables. Each window has two-over-two double-sash and a decorative lintel with bracketed pent. All chimneys are interior. Irregular in plan and having undergone some modifications and modern enlargements, the interior features plaster walls and exemplary Victorian woodwork, including an elaborate stair with massive newel and ornate balustrade. Most mantels exhibit bracketed shelves ranging in form from simple to more complex. Apart from the earlier examples, door designs range from late Greek-Revival examples with two vertical panels to Victorian ones with heavy moldings outlining arched panels.

30b 1 B Garage/[former] Store & Belvidere Post Office: Built ca. 1850, moved to present site in 1955 from behind the 1884 Josiah Nicholson Store where it faced SR 1200; Local tradition maintains that this building, formerly owned by Josiah Nicholson, became the first post office in the newly named town of Belvidere in 1861. The earliest known store

occupying its former site was that of Henry White in 1847 followed by the establishment of J. Nicholson & Bro. by 1854 and then by 1860 that of J. and E. A. White. This building may very well have been Henry White's and then used by the Nicholsons and Whites. The one-and-a-half-story coastal cottage has plain weatherboard sheathing, narrow-beaded ceiling joists, six-over-six double-sash windows, and plaster-finished

half story. Converted to a storage building following its move in 1955 and extended at its east elevation to include an open three-bay garage, the former store measures thirty feet six inches by twenty-four feet eight inches; in poor condition, it stands as a rare example of an antebellum commercial building.

30c 1 B [former] Barber Shop: Built mid-nineteenth century, moved to present site; An unusual gable-front frame building measuring eleven feet two inches by twelve feet three inches; notable original features include beaded weatherboards, four-over-four double-sash windows with inner bead architrave and mitered corners, plaster interior, HL-hinge ghost marks; new roof sheathed with asphalt shingles.

30d 1 B Pump House: Built ca. 1945; Cinder block gable-front pump house built by Charles Layden.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 44

C NC P&R

- 30e 1 B Smokehouse: Built ca. 1960; Gable-front frame smokehouse built by Charles Layden and features off-set door, plain weatherboard sheathing, standing-seam metal roof, and flanking sheds used as woodhouse.
- 30f 1 B Brooder House: Built ca. 1925, moved in 1955 from Josiah Chappell Farm; Shed-roof frame structure with flush tongue-and-groove board sheathing, exposed rafter ends, and off-center entrance; converted to salt building.
- 30g 1 ST Farm Bell: Ca. 1920, moved in 1955 from Josiah Chappell Farm; Cast iron bell and frame manufactured by Crystal Metal and raised on a tall post.
- 30h 1 ST Bird House: Built ca. 1980; Frame two-story martin birdhouse with four-over-four holes.
- 30i 1 B Cattle shelters: Built ca. 1955; A string of three frame cattle shelters sheathed with agricultural metal.

31) Transportation Network:

- 31 1 S Three early, possibly eighteenth century, roads provide the primary transportation network within the historic district. Since the late eighteenth century, the principal road bisecting the district, NC 37, provided a link to the southeast with the countyseat of Hertford and to the west with Piney Woods Monthly Meeting. In all probability, portions of the present Bethany Church Road (SR 1200) formed the turnpike road illustrated in 1833 on the MacRae-Brazier Map, which also identifies "Belvedere" [Exhibit #1] All three roads, including the Bay Branch Road (SR 1213), however, appear on the 1877 map of Perquimans County [Exhibit #2] drawn by R. B. Cox, a surveyor. In the 1920s, the grading and then paving of these three roads began. Little evidence of the former Cuddy Road remains today; however, its presence is well documented within local deeds which also indicate the presence of a community well at its northern juncture with NC 37 and SR 1200. Farm roads provide important links for farmers with their fields and in many cases parallel field drainage ditches. They also allow access to family cemeteries, such as the Eliab Griffin (#23) and the White/Nicholson cemeteries, and possibly former landings. Now overgrown and impassable, the mill lane leading back to the Fernando C. White mill complex (#15) was once a vital industrial element within the community. Providing commercial, public, and private transportation beginning in the eighteenth

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 7 Page 45

C NC P&R

century, the river made an important contribution to the life and growth of Belvidere; however, its role is limited to recreational use today.

32) Belvidere Historic District Landscape:

32 1 S The natural and historic landscape of the Belvidere community blend together and form an open panorama of agricultural fields framed by stretches of woodland surrounding the village. In Belvidere, the building sites are oriented to the road and where applicable associated domestic and farm related activities in the rear. During the period of significance, overlays of roads, ditches, farms, home sites, and commercial activities developed, which today remain virtually intact and illustrate a remarkable integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Modern non-contributing properties are few and are usually concentrated within a site or area. Their scale and placement reduce their impact on the historic landscape and integrity of the district.

The natural resources and features in and around Belvidere range from the meandering course of the Perquimans River with its swampy stretches of timberland to the land's approximately six-foot increase in elevation within the district. This timberland includes largely gum and cypress with smaller quantities of juniper, pine, poplar, and maple. The woodland included within the district is associated with the course of the Perquimans River and the small branches which drain into it. Throughout much of the period of significance, this narrow river helped stimulate the area's commerce with several landings and mill sites especially along its eastern bank. On the other hand, the land is sandy loam highly suitable for agriculture when properly drained. The district encompasses mostly agricultural fields with the village as its core.

Agricultural development in this area of Perquimans County began in the early eighteenth century along the Perquimans River. By mid century, families were firmly established in the area and bore the names of White, Winslow, Perry, Stallings, Riddick, and Chappell, many of whom were Quakers. Thomas Newby, a Quaker leader, had also amassed in this vicinity a 1,000-acre plantation named Belvidere by the time he began the construction, on the river's west side, of its main house. From this period throughout the antebellum period, land holdings in northern Perquimans County varied in size from small farms to the large plantations, which were an exception. Its dominant Quaker society helped define the character of these farms

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 7 Page 46

with few benefiting from the use of slave labor. During the first part of the nineteenth century when the area around Newby's Bridge began to develop and the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School was evolving into a regional institution, the landscape was dominated by principally small farms. Later during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, some home sites began to contain only a few acres, enough to support domestic transportation and garden needs. Today, the landscape of the Belvidere Historic District documents these nineteenth century developments associated with the village of Belvidere. It also illustrates multi-generational family associations with the land which resulted in the development of several twentieth-century farmsteads.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 47Summary

With Quaker roots extending from the eighteenth century, Belvidere is situated in the heart of the Albemarle region approximately eleven miles northwest of Hertford, the county seat of Perquimans County. This rural village straddles the Perquimans River and its broad swampy wetlands. The historic district, however, focuses on that part of the community lying east of the river.

Associated with nearby Piney Woods Monthly Meeting to the west, this small rural village developed in tandem with the location of the Friend's Select Boarding School of the Eastern Quarterly Meeting there in 1836. During the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the 125-year Quaker presence in the Albemarle region was rapidly diminishing due to several out-migrations to the western portion of the state and western territories of Indiana and Ohio. By the mid-nineteenth century, Piney Woods was the only Quaker meeting remaining out of seven in Perquimans County. The county's northern section had become a Quaker stronghold, especially the area in the neighborhood of Piney Woods Meeting and Thomas Newby's Belvidere Plantation (NR, 1977) at nearby Newby's Bridge, and remains predominately Quaker today.

Shallow boats plying the river between Newby's Bridge and Hertford facilitated commerce among the farmers and merchants as well as aided transportation throughout the nineteenth century. In 1861, the post office name for this Newby's Bridge settlement was officially changed to Belvidere, and its location was moved a short distance from the river landing to a road intersection just east of the school.

Possessing a high degree of integrity, the Belvidere historic landscape is composed of a remarkable overlay of extant architectural fabric, natural features, transportation networks, commercial enterprises, and farming patterns. It also provides an insight into this rural community's development from a commercially based river landing into an emerging center of Quaker education more dependent on vehicular transportation.

Architecturally, the historic district embodies the stylistic trends and traditional methods of construction characteristic of the Albemarle region and eastern North Carolina. During the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century, buildings constructed in this area were all frame with heavy mortise-and-tenoned construction and followed traditional forms. The earliest dwelling is a one-and-a-half-story coastal cottage with Georgian/Federal-style woodwork known as the William H. Winslow House (#25). Mid-century antebellum dwellings featured similar Greek Revival detailing as exhibited by the Rufus White House (#19), a two-story gable-roof dwelling with center-hall plan, and the Joseph Smith House (#27), a one-and-a-half-story gable-front house with a transverse-hall plan. Following the Civil War, dwellings typically continued to follow a two-story gable-roof form as exemplified by the houses at the William Henry Layden (#26) and the John W. Layden (#28) farms.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 8 Page 48

By the late nineteenth century as the community was becoming more prosperous. New construction paralleled similar projects evident in larger towns, and houses incorporated modern conveniences using the fashionable Queen Anne style, as illustrated by the Francis H. Nicholson House (#18). Extensive remodeling projects at the Elihu A. White (#1) and Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb (#30) houses were also undertaken to emulate this Queen Anne style. The historic district also illustrates the transition from traditional to modern construction choices typical of the twentieth century as evidenced in the more traditional forms of the Timothy C. Perry (#5) and Josiah Chappell (#24) houses compared to the appreciation of Murray and Fernando C. White (#10), John J. Chappell (#22), and Edwin S. White (#16) for the more modern bungalow form.

Today the district also contains an outstanding cross section of both domestic and farm related outbuildings that complements the agricultural history of the village's rural historic landscape. All are frame and most date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This cross section of outbuildings includes dairies, smokehouses, a buggy house, chicken houses, garages, a potato house, stables, feed barns, and privies. Significant commercial buildings from the mid-nineteenth through the early twentieth century complement the domestic and agricultural building fabric within the community.

The remarkable overall integrity of the Belvidere Historic District's landscape, domestic architecture, including its farm complexes and plans, transportation network, and village orientation exhibits a highly significant microcosm of Quaker life and its associated transitions within eastern North Carolina during the period of significance, 1800-1949. Using National Register Criteria A and C, this district qualifies under the following areas of significance: agriculture, architecture, and social history.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 49Historical Background

The name Belvidere was first associated during the eighteenth century with the plantation of Thomas Newby [ca. 1725-1793], a prominent Quaker, planter, and merchant. An overseer and elder in Wells Monthly Meeting, Newby operated a store at Newby's Bridge which spanned the Perquimans River near his plantation seat, built during the mid-to-late eighteenth century. Tradition maintains a ca. 1767 construction date that corresponds with Newby's final land acquisition for his plantation called Belvidere. Apparently about 1785, he gave Belvidere (NR 1977) to his only son Exum Newby [ca. 1760-1812] following Exum's marriage. Exum's possession of the property was later confirmed in Thomas Newby's 1792 will. Following in his father's footsteps, Exum was a leading landowner and an overseer at Piney Woods Monthly Meeting. In addition to his agricultural and mercantile pursuits, he operated saw and grist mills, a wharf and shipyard at Newby's Bridge.²³

This commercial nucleus established by the Newby family at Newby's Bridge served as the catalyst during the early nineteenth century for further developments within the area. On December 4, 1827, the U. S. Post Office established its first local office within the Newby's store at Newby's Bridge and Mathias Jordan was its first postmaster. Most area families, including the Whites, Winslows, Jordans, Parkers, and Nicholsons, were Quakers and attended nearby Piney Woods Meeting. Some had originally moved to the area from Nansemond and Isle of Wight counties in Virginia. Thomas Newby's daughter Sarah [1758-1821] married Josiah White [1750-1807], and they had thirteen children, including David [1783-1862] and Nathan [1791-1834]. These men along with their contemporary Josiah Nicholson [1798-1852] fathered a remarkable and talented generation, who were later instrumental in the growth and development of the village named Belvidere.²⁴

The Society of Friends' Eastern Quarterly Meeting began discussions as early as 1801 concerning the establishment of a secondary school within the quarter. Over the next thirty years, the White and Nicholson families along with others from Piney Woods Monthly Meeting worked diligently toward the establishment of this school which became a reality in 1834 with its opening in the Piney Woods meeting house while construction of the schoolhouse was completed. Within the neighborhood of Piney Woods Meeting, the two- to three-acre school site was located just east of Newby's Bridge on the north side of the road nearly opposite David White's machine house. As the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School [Exhibit #3] began to grow and develop, its presence in turn helped transform over the next thirty years the community's commercial focus from an important local river landing into a village named Belvidere. A new development in the area was the establishment in 1851 of Whiteville Grove Baptist Church two miles north of the village.²⁵

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 50

Property holdings within the Newby's Bridge vicinity ranged in size and included improved agricultural lands or unimproved timberland. Farmers raised two main crops, Indian corn and sweet potatoes, as well as hay for their livestock. Cattle and swine constituted most of their livestock holdings with a few horses, milk cows, and sometimes sheep for domestic use. In 1850 one of the larger landowners in the vicinity, David White, Sr. [1783-1862] owned approximately 1,050 unimproved acres and 225 improved acres. On the other hand his eldest son, David, Jr. [1821-1895], had acquired 460 unimproved acres and eighty-five improved acres. More progressive than his father, he produced, in addition to corn and sweet potatoes, a variety of crops including Irish potatoes, wheat, and oats using the help of a yoke of oxen. By comparison, Joseph Smith was a small farmer with fifteen unimproved acres and twenty improved acres. Like David White, Sr., Smith did not diversify his crops; however, he did raise a few sheep possibly for domestic purposes and no cattle. Many households included domestic servants and farm laborers, many of whom were African-Americans.

Descriptions of the "simple life" on the former Robinson farm belonging to Josiah Nicholson, Sr. [1798-1852] during the second quarter of the nineteenth century provide an important insight to this antebellum Quaker farming community near Newby's Bridge. His four-hundred acre farm was mostly forest and included the following:

... a good two-story frame dwelling with veranda on the south side, and a one-story addition on the north side; of a neat, comfortable building thirty feet distant, as was then the custom, for kitchen, loom-room, and lodging quarters for the colored men, etc.; and of other necessary farm buildings.²⁶

At this time, the "simple life" within Nicholson's Quaker home was also described and noted as typical of Carolina Quakers:

Most of our clothing, including shoes, was made at home. Father raised sheep, for wool, and flax and cotton, which Mother and sisters would spin and weave into cloth and make into garments. Cattle were raised for beef, and the hides tanned at home, and father made nearly all our shoes-- chiefly in bad weather and at night, sewing them by the light made by pine knots in an open fireplace: by which light we also studied our lessons. We would lay a quantity of cotton on the hearth near the fire and pick out the seed by hand, as, when heated, the seeds were more easily removed. All the family took part in this exercise. When the flax straw or skin was thoroughly dry it was broken by a hand machine, the outside falling off and leaving the fiber, which was then drawn repeatedly through a hackle (or hatchel) comb, made of long, sharp, iron spikes fastened on a board: by which process the coarser fiber called tow was removed and of which rougher garments were made. Flax, instead of being cut by a sickle, was pulled up by hand, otherwise a large part of the best fiber near the root would be

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 51

lost. I well remember pulling breaking and hacking flax and wearing both tow and linen home-made garments.

When not in school father found work for all of us on the farm; and under such a wise leader the training was inestimable value to us. There were no mowing or threshing machines in those days. The wheat was cut with sickles and oats with scythes, and the grain was tramped out by horses as was done by oxen in the time of Moses. In the barnyard the soil was removed from a circular space of 30 or 40 feet in diameter, and on the outer portions of the circle the sheaves were laid and we would ride the horses in a slow trot until the grain was tramped out.

There were no hominy mills when I was a boy, and to remove the skin or hull of corn grains, we "brayed the corn in a mortar with a pestle." The mortar was made from a log about three or four feet long and 15 to 18 inches in diameter, by making a hollow place in one end with a chisel and mallet some twelve inches deep and as much or more in diameter. The pestle was made from the limb of oak or hickory about two inches in diameter. The larger end was split for about six inches and an iron wedge, such as was used for splitting fence rails by us and by Abraham Lincoln, inserted and held in place by an iron ring or band. The carefully selected corn was put in the mortar with some warm water and the continual "braying" with the pestle would ultimately remove the hull. This exercise was usually taken rainy days or evenings. I spent many hours at that tiresome work.²⁷

One of the founders of the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School, Nicholson also believed in the importance of a good education. His four sons not only attended the local Quaker schools but also went on to attend the Friends School in Providence, Rhode Island.²⁸

Just prior to the Civil War on March 28, 1861, the local post office officially changed its name from Newby's Bridge to Belvidere, an act which acknowledged the emergence of Belvidere as a village. The post office was now located in the Nicholson's store, which was formerly owned by Henry White, at the intersection of the community's main east-west and north-bound roads. Elihu A. White served as postmaster during this transition, from January 6, 1858 to April 24, 1866.²⁹ A son of David White, Sr., Elihu and his brothers, David and Rufus, were trained tradesmen, namely merchant, tanner, and shoemaker respectively before becoming prominent farmers within the community.³⁰ As the Nicholson brothers, William, Josiah, Timothy, and John also came of age, each settled within the community after finishing school. William was a practicing physician; Josiah, a merchant; Timothy and John, teachers. Appointed by the county commissioners, Timothy also served as county surveyor in the early 1850s. In addition, he is credited with initiating plans in 1854 to replace the old meeting house at Piney Woods with a simple gable-roof frame structure painted white. In 1858 Timothy moved to Pennsylvania, his brother John to Richmond, Indiana. Timothy soon followed John to Indiana, but John subsequently moved to Maryland.³¹

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 52

With the impending threat of a civil war in 1861, some local Quakers left the community moving to the western territories, a few moved to northern states for the duration of the war, but most remained in Belvidere. The various choices made within the Nicholson family illustrate the complexity of the times for this Quaker community. Before the war the family's matriarch Anna Nicholson moved to Indiana to live with her daughter, Elizabeth. With the formation of the Confederate States of America and having decided to try to remain in Belvidere, her son, Dr. William Nicholson, visited Jefferson Davis on behalf of southern Quakers stating their opposition to war and seeking a military exemption. On the other hand, the family of Josiah Nicholson, Jr. apparently spent a portion of the war in Rhode Island with his in-laws through the assistance of Confederate General Mat Ransom. Throughout the war, both forces, Union and Confederate, crossed the Perquimans River at Newby's Bridge.³²

During the Reconstruction years, the community of Belvidere included the post office, school, and two stores, one a grocery and shoe store belonging to Josiah Nicholson, Jr. and the other a dry goods store operated by J. & R. White. The post office, however, was not open regularly. On April 24, 1866, Josiah Nicholson, Jr. was appointed its new postmaster, a position he held until June 23, 1893.³³ In 1868, Dr. William Nicholson was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of North Carolina and became instrumental in procuring an act to protect conscientious objectors to war and military service. At home in Belvidere, he continued to maintain his medical practice until 1870, when he moved to Kansas to become the General Agent of the Indian Territory.³⁴ By 1872, the village included two corn mills and a coach shop operated by J. Robert Parker, who was also serving as a postal clerk. Residents of Belvidere held local and state political offices. For many years, Josiah Nicholson, Jr. was the treasurer of Perquimans County.³⁵ In the North Carolina legislature from 1868-1870, Elihu A. White served as senator from District I and Jeptha White was the representative. Elihu also served as captain of the steamer "Hertford" during the late 1860s and invested in the Perquimans Steam Navigation Company.³⁶

Farmers continued to raise staple products such as Indian corn, sweet potatoes, and hay. Some, however, were also growing small quantities of other crops such as Irish potatoes, peas and beans, winter wheat, oats, rye, and clover seed. The White brothers, David and Rufus, were producing honey and beeswax by raising bees, which helped pollinate Rufus' orchard as well as other crops. Also, father and son, Charles and Henry Layden, each raised one bale of cotton. Oxen and horses were the primary draft animals. In most cases, payments for farm labor wages were significant when compared to the estimated value of all farm production.³⁷

Belvidere continued to develop during the 1880s as rural community. In the 1880 U. S. census, Josiah Nicholson, Jr., the enumerator for Belvidere Township,

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 53

listed the Village of Belvidere separately. The village clearly spanned an area both east and west of Newby's Bridge. Its population was ninety-one and included twelve households. Ten heads of households listed farming as their occupations. Two of these farmers were also African-Americans, Moses Jackson and Henry Winslow. Three others had a second occupation, namely James R. Parker, who was an undertaker and Rufus White and Josiah Nicholson, who were dry goods and grocery merchants. The two other heads of household were Josiah T. White, a grain and saw mill operator, and Jay Brite, a laborer. Most households were generally large and some included extended family members, boarders, domestic servants, and/or farm laborers.³⁸

During the 1880s the village's appearance continued to reflect an agricultural character. Board fences outlined fields and pastures and picket fences defined house sites with domestic gardens [Exhibit #4]. Indian corn and sweet potatoes remained the principal crops with only a few acres planted in cotton as a cash crop. Steamboats belonging to the Inland Steamboat Navigation Company regularly traveled up the Perquimans River as far as Belvidere providing transportation for passengers and freight.³⁹ A prospering Josiah Nicholson, Jr. built a fashionable new combination store and post office in 1882. It replaced an older antebellum store, which was moved behind the new one. In 1884, there were at least five general stores, a blacksmith, wheelwright, and millwright in addition to corn, flour, and saw mills. Originally from Gates County, five members of the Knight family were working in the area as builders and contractors along with A. Cartwright. Rufus White's son, George W. White [1855-], was serving as the principal and teacher at Belvidere Academy. At this time, he was also the county's superintendent of public schools.⁴⁰

During the 1890s the community physically began to transform with several residential building projects which adopted the fashionable Queen Anne style. Although the Knights were still working in the area, none of the builders associated with these projects, however, are known. Francis H. Nicholson may have begun this building boom ca. 1891 when he had his new home built next door to the Belvidere Academy. This project was followed by remodeling ones at the homes of Elihu White, Josiah Nicholson, and Archibald F. Riddick. While extensive work was on going at White's home in 1895 [Exhibit #5], a family member, possibly Emma L. White, drafted a letter on July 8 which included the following:

Since writing you last two buildings have been started in Belvidere - something quite unusual, so as Lucy says, "Belvidere is blooming" - Papa is remodelling our house which is almost worse than building new if not quite. So Dr. White found he must prepare a place of abode. He is building a very nice office, which when completed I think will be quite an addition to the place. When he gets his barn built he thinks perhaps he can keep his "property" together as it is he has something at nearly every place here.⁴¹

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC****Section number 8 Page 54**

By 1902, this building activity included plans for a new school building at Belvidere Academy. The Quarterly Meeting's transfer of the school's oversight to Piney Woods Monthly Meeting in 1895 had stimulated such a dramatic increase in enrollment that these plans were fully realized in 1905 with the opening of a new school building. This building included an auditorium [Exhibit 6].

Other changes were also taking place within the community during the 1890s. By 1896 the population of Belvidere had risen to 500, and the area now included growing Baptist and Methodist denominations. Young people from the community were attending schools and colleges, such as Bryn Mawr, Peace Institute, Drexel Institute, Guilford College, Haverford College, and Philadelphia Dental School.⁴² The community included several tradesmen, namely a silversmith, J. Q. A. Rogerson; a tanner, M. R. White; a colt trimmer, Bragg Perry; and a blacksmith, John A. Vann. J. Nicholson & Son were also rice merchants and purchased many of their goods from Baltimore merchants.⁴³ Josiah Nicholson, Jr. believed in public service and served as a county treasurer, county commissioner, and notary public for Perquimans County following his appointment in 1891 by Governor Fowle. After having served for twenty-seven years, he stepped aside as postmaster for the Belvidere post office for four years while Elisha G. Simpson, a Democrat, served from June 23, 1893 to June 10, 1897.⁴⁴

The Perquimans River continued to provide important local transportation for passengers and farmers. Following its launch in June 1895, the new steamer Lakewood also plied the waters to Belvidere. In 1896 the steamer Lydia made regular trips up the Perquimans River to Newby's Bridge on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Stops were also made at Ward's and Darden's wharves for freight and passengers. The importance of quick transportation for truck produce stimulated local competition for this market. Belvidere crops were now in the Norfolk market within one day and making connection with the trains of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad. In May 1896 another steam boat, belonging to T. D. Saunders and built by the noted boat builder, E. S. Willis, was launched and named for the village of Belvidere. In the summer of 1897 a new wooden bridge was constructed over the river at Newby's Bridge to facilitate vehicular traffic.⁴⁵

Belvidere's agricultural environment was open to the changing times. In 1891, Fred Smith and Robert E. Buffkin purchased a Wire and Slat Fence Machine from the Indiana Fence Machine Company and built the first of its kind locally for Josiah Nicholson and Rufus White. This fence was described as the "most durable and cheapest fence ever made."⁴⁶ White was not only seeking out more economical ways of farming but also profitable crops as noted in a local newspaper:

New industry, or rather a new crop. Mr. Rufus White, of Belvidere, has some three acres of land in Castor Beans. These are the beans from

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC****Section number 8 Page 55**

which castor oil is made, and are worth from \$2 to \$4 dollars per bushels, Is this not a profitable crop. Good land will bring from 20 to 40 bushels per acre, which is much better than cotton at 8 cts per lb.....Mr. White is a progressive farmer and we are glad that he has introduced this crop to our farming community. Let our farmers all try the castor bean. You can get the seed from friend White at Belvidere, N. C.⁴⁷

The next year, J. S. Chappell of Belvidere exhibited this same enterprising resourcefulness when he secured the county rights to the Golden Bee Hive patent.⁴⁸ Local newspapers encouraged farmers to diversify their crops. On February 15, 1896 a Farmer's Institute was held in Hertford sponsored by the commissioner of agriculture with the assistance of Ben Skinner a professor at A. and M. College and a representative of the N. C. Experiment Station.⁴⁹ In a published letter to B. R. Lacy, the state's Labor Commissioner, Archibald F. Riddick of Belvidere, the county's sheriff, expressed his concern about use of mortgages by farmers. He offered the idea of using low-interest loans to promote the community and encouraged market gardening as a means of raising cash for the farmer.⁵⁰

The first half of the twentieth century marked many changes in the community of Belvidere but its character, as a small unincorporated rural village, remained intact. On the other hand, many of the spiritual leaders within this Quaker community were getting older or dying. By 1915 a great need for additional leadership had arisen locally, and Piney Woods Meeting called as its first paid minister, Adelbert Wood. Earlier in 1904, the North Carolina Yearly Meeting by informally adopting the pastoral system recognized and addressed this fundamental transition taking place in the Society of Friends. Locally by 1919, Piney Woods Meeting was also in need of a parsonage and purchased the Norman Hollowell House (#14) for that purpose.⁵¹

With motor vehicles and the railroad increasingly becoming the transportation of choice, river boat traffic on the Perquimans River to Belvidere diminished then disappeared. The main road through Belvidere was first graded and then paved in 1927. Josiah Nicholson, Jr. continued to serve as Belvidere's postmaster until his death in 1913. From March 31, 1913 until November 12, 1914, his sister-in-law, Adelaide E. White, filled the position. With the appointment of Lewis N. Hollowell, the post office was moved to Hollowell's store closer to Newby's Bridge and remained there until 1916 when it was moved again to the new store of L. Jay Winslow, the assistant postmaster. In 1914, Winslow had bought the home of Josiah Nicholson, Jr. and shortly afterwards built his store near the road in the northwest corner of the front yard. Shortly after Hollowell resigned as postmaster, Delia Raiford Winslow, the wife of L. Jay Winslow, was appointed to fill the position on September 30, 1918. She served as postmistress until March 31, 1951.⁵²

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet****Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC****Section number 8 Page 56**

During the decade beginning in 1910, the village adapted to some major transitions. Josiah Nicholson, Jr.'s death in 1913 marked several important changes. Aside from those associated with the post office, his store was sold in 1913 to Timothy C. Perry, a salesman who had worked in 1910 for Rufus White in his grocery store. An enterprising man, Perry also began building horse carts in the old store behind the current one. Previously in 1910, Perry had purchased both the property directly across the road from the Belvidere Academy and the old academy building, then moved the building to his property, and converted it into his dwelling. Another important transition was the sale in 1914 of Belvidere Academy to the Perquimans County Board of Education. It continued to serve the community as a public school until May 2, 1935 when it was destroyed by fire. With the assistance of the W.P.A., this site's community orientation was perpetuated by the construction of a community building there in 1938.

The families of Lewis Norman Hollowell and Fernando C. White made important contributions to the community in the early twentieth century. Each not only moved to Belvidere but made significant business investments within the community. Hollowell came from Chowan County and White had lived in the neighboring Quaker community of Whiteston. Serving as the postmaster of Belvidere from 1914-1918, Hollowell invested in the Belvidere Ginning Company and his partnership with C. B. Hathaway of Gates County opened a store, Hathaway & Hollowell, near the gin. Several years after building a home on neighboring land, he began selling his assets in Belvidere and then moved to Hertford. His home was sold to Piney Woods Monthly Meeting in 1919 to serve as the meeting's first parsonage. On the other hand, Fernando C. White first invested in Belvidere by purchasing the cotton gin in 1918. This business grew to include a grain mill and saw mill [Exhibit 7] and operated until the early 1970s. Both Hollowell and White provided an important twentieth century link for Belvidere with its eighteenth and nineteenth century commerce associated with the river.

In the 1920s, another generation of land transfers or sales within families initiated the establishment of several small farmsteads within the Belvidere community. Cousins Josiah Chappell and John J. Chappell, Jr. built on neighboring properties just north of the village which resulted in the establishment respectively of two very different farm complexes, one traditional and the other more modern. Within the village in 1934, Edwin S. White began building his bungalow on land purchased by his father, Fernando C. White. Edwin's farmstead adjoined his father's mill where he worked with his father until 1938. In 1949 following the death of Fernando C. White, Edwin took over management of the mill complex. Cotton ginning there ceased with the decline of the cotton market and the remainder of the mill continued operating until the early 1970s. The ongoing contributions of these farmsteads, the community building, and mill complex within the life of Belvidere justify the extension of the period of significance for the historic district through 1949.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 57Social History Context

Formed circa 1668 and one of the oldest counties in the state, Perquimans County is geographically isolated from most of North Carolina in an area known as the Albemarle region. Its accessibility to navigable waterways, primarily the Albemarle Sound and Perquimans, Little, and Yeopim rivers, promoted trade and development during the early years of the region's history. Out-migration from Virginia, the New England area, and England initiated the settlement of the Albemarle which occurred during the mid-seventeenth century in Perquimans County in areas such as Durants Neck, Old Neck, and Harvey's Point. This settlement though sparse slowly began to include the more remote inland areas of the county, which were accessible by way of either the winding swampy narrows of the Perquimans River or through back country trails which later became roads. Fertile land, abundant fish, and vast timber resources ensured the development of a stable economy.

In North Carolina, the missionary visitations of William Edmundson and then George Fox to Perquimans County in 1672 established the Society of Friends as the first religion to organize within the state. The county quickly became a center for Quaker activities with such notable leaders as Francis Tomes, Christopher Nicholson, and Jonathan Phelps. Their homes along the Perquimans River in the vicinity of Old Neck became regular Quaker meeting places prior to 1700. Most became Quakers through conversion. A Quaker since his youth, Nicholson, however, settled in Perquimans after fleeing further religious persecution in the Marblehead area of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1664. He became the surveyor of highways for the county and later served as a member of the General Assembly. Many Perquimans County Quakers held important public offices during this early period. One of the most influential was Francis Tomes, who was a justice of the peace, councilor, deputy to the Lord Proprietor Thomas Amy, deputy collector of customs and justice of the General and Chancery Courts.

Quaker influence in the county grew rapidly throughout the eighteenth century. During a visit to the county in 1709, William Gordon, an itinerant minister for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, noted that people had readily accepted the Quaker faith in reaction to the absence of other ministers, Anglican excesses, and the lack of religious literature.⁵³ Perquimans County continued to receive visitations from prominent Quaker missionaries, such as John Fothergill in 1721, Catherine Phillips in 1754, and John Woolman in 1757. Five meeting houses were serving the congregational needs of the county's Quaker community, and the North Carolina Yearly Meeting convened in the county generally at Old Neck through 1788.

In the northern portion of the county, Piney Woods Meeting was first established as a local meeting in 1724, then a preparative meeting, and in 1794, a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 8 Page 58

monthly meeting. It is situated on one-acre of land deeded by Thomas Blitchenden in 1743 and enlarged by a gift from Thomas Newby in 1832 of two additional acres. A meeting house is documented on this property as early as 1752. The present meeting house, however, was built in 1854 and extensively remodeled in 1927.⁵⁴

Several periods of out-migration westward had an important impact on the Quaker community within the Albemarle region, especially in Pasquotank and Perquimans counties. During the royal period from 1730-1775, Quaker power and influence within the Albemarle region began to decline and new settlements grew within the central portion of the state up to the Revolutionary War. Until then, Perquimans County had remained the center of Quakers in the state, but soon thereafter the North Carolina Yearly Meetings began to alternate primarily between Little River in the east and New Garden in the western portion of the state.

A great migration to the middle west about the beginning of the nineteenth century reduced the strength of all the meetings in North Carolina. Many meetings were laid down as a result of depleted memberships. During the second half of the eighteenth century, members of meetings within Perquimans most often had moved in state to Contentnea and Randolph County; however, during the nineteenth century, their destination most often was Ohio or Indiana. By 1835, Piney Woods remained as the only monthly meeting in the county and by the Civil War it was the only active congregation out of eight remaining.⁵⁵

The Society of Friends beliefs are rooted in primitive Christianity, the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the interpretation of the Scriptures, and the "...doctrine of the Inner Light, the heavenly guide given directly to inform or illuminate the individual conscience."⁵⁶ Membership was open to all who adhered to the Friends' principles, and all members could speak or minister to the meeting. Worship meetings were ideally a free, uninterrupted conversation with God, in which the Holy Spirit moved and induced individuals to pray or preach. Two types of meetings exist, worship and business/disciplinary. Within the Society there are four stages of meetings: preparatory, monthly, quarterly, and yearly.⁵⁷

Although meetings were open, three positions existed within Quaker congregations, namely overseers, ministers, and elders. By appointment, overseers, both men and women, gently watched over their respective membership offering guidance and resolution to concerns. Within a meeting, individuals were recorded as ministers after having demonstrated such a gift through their testimony, messages, and advice. No authority accompanied a ministerial title. Elders were wise and respected members of a meeting whose role was to watch over and advise the ministers. Meetings of ministers and elders were convened especially for the care and help of the ministry.⁵⁸

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 59

Within Quaker society, itself, meetings carefully reviewed members' behavior to insure appropriateness and disownment was a consequence of misconduct. Quaker customs dictated a plainness in dress and conversation. Modesty with no eye for fashion or frills was the rule. As derived from the Scriptures, plain speaking involved the use of Thee and Thou when addressing one person. Also, Friends refused to take oaths, an objection long recognized in North Carolina law and avoided through the use of affirmations. Marrying contrary to discipline was the most common cause for disownment in Perquimans County; however, some other conduct violations included not attending meeting, disobedience to parents, buying and selling of slaves, playing cards, unsettled debts, dancing, horse racing, and allowing misconduct of a child. Efforts were made first at the preparative meeting and then if necessary the monthly meeting to bring a member back into union with the Society before disownment.⁵⁹

Quakers in Perquimans County formed an influential element of society, which strongly affected the county's moral climate, supported education and social improvement, and provided leadership in the abolition of slavery and care of freedmen. The management of increased land holdings during the eighteenth century had prompted some Quakers to acquire slaves. On the eve of the Revolutionary War, several Perquimans County Quakers, such as Thomas Newby of Belvidere and Thomas Nicholson, expressed concerns publicly about the evils of slavery. In 1775 the North Carolina Yearly Meeting voted that Friends could not buy or sell slaves without the consent of their respective Monthly Meeting. The following year, the Quaker leadership ordered its members to no longer maintain slaves. Unfortunately as Quakers began manumitting slaves, local authorities declared their release illegal and sold them back into slavery. One creative method developed about 1808 for resolving the slavery problem was for Quaker meetings to purchase slaves. As property of the meetings, these slaves were protected from the restrictions of freedmen and the interference of local authorities, and they were cared for by concerned individuals. This issue of slaveholding was one that would encourage many Quakers to become social activists as well as encourage their westward migration until the Civil War.⁶⁰

Quaker influence and involvement in politics varied throughout different periods. During the period of early settlement, many in Perquimans County held public office. They also had a leading role in Culpepper's Rebellion, Governor Archdale's administration, and Cary's Rebellion. At times Quakers were also prohibited by the Society from serving in public office. As pacifists, Quakers also opposed bearing arms. During the Revolutionary War, this dilemma was resolved in North Carolina by their exemption from active service in tandem with the imposition of additional taxes on Quaker families.⁶¹ This dilemma was revisited during the Civil War, but many southern Quakers had either already moved to the northern states or, as most did, migrated to the western territories. During the Reconstruction period, Quakers did take a more active role in politics as "their emancipation-

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 60

advocacy and non-participation in Confederate politics became assets to government."⁶²

The Quakers' strong educational principles were slow to be realized in the Albemarle region. During the eighteenth century, schools were maintained within this area under the direction of committees appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Cooperation between the Yearly Meeting and subordinate meetings eventually paralleled efforts to develop public education in North Carolina during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Education previously was considered a function of the church rather than the state, and the education of gentlemen and professional classes was advocated. As the state grappled with the concept of public education during the early nineteenth century, the Quakers continued to establish primary schools in conjunction with meetings and in 1829 set a goal to establish libraries within every monthly meeting. The schools would include the instruction of both black and white children. The quarterly meetings also worked hard to establish academies, which would offer secondary instruction. Over an extended period four of these schools were realized namely, the Select Boarding School of the Eastern Meeting, Woodland Academy of Contentnea Meeting, Sylvan Academy of the Western Meeting, and New Garden Boarding School of New Garden Meeting.⁶³

Although the Eastern Quarterly Meeting initiated plans for their school in 1801, their dream did not materialize until 1834. Over the years, an appointed committee, which included David White and Josiah Nicholson, struggled with the concept and its implementation. Plans jelled in 1834 which included purchasing from Eliab Griffin a two-or-three-acre site near Piney Woods Meeting House and then procuring for \$425 per year the teaching services of Elihu Anthony, a native of New York state. Initially classes were held at Piney Woods Meeting House until the construction of the school building was completed in 1836. The planned school was described as:

...a house two Stories high 40 feet long and 20 feet wide with a petition in the middle, with a chimney at each end or a stove in each of the lower rooms, the upper rooms to be occupied for bed rooms or other purposes...⁶⁴

Although the school was called a boarding school, children actually boarded with Quaker families in the neighborhood. By late fall of 1834, work was progressing on the building. Early in 1836, the school house was completed sufficiently to accommodate the school. The committee continued to grapple with the issue of boarding students at the school, and was able to first accommodate the need in 1838 when an addition was planned to house students.⁶⁵

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 8 Page 61

Increasingly identified with the local community and referred to in 1841 committee reports as Newbysbridge Boarding School, the school continued to periodically experience financial ups and downs and the want of satisfactory instructors.⁶⁶ It managed, however, to balance its finances, teaching, and boarding obligations through the Civil War and Reconstruction era. Following the war, the Baltimore Association of Friends under the leadership of Francis T. King began to assist in the restoration and support of elementary schools in Quaker districts. One of their agents in North Carolina, John Scott, may be one of the first people to refer to the school as Belvidere Academy in his diary.⁶⁷

Following the war, a regular course of study was adopted at the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School which conformed with the curriculum established by the North Carolina Yearly Meeting and the Baltimore Association. Soon after Mary Jordan White took charge of the school in 1883, she established a study course in which graduating students could then enter college. By 1902, the school had become so established that subscriptions were initiated for a new and larger building which was completed in 1905. It continued to serve as the Eastern Quarterly Meeting School until 1914 when it was sold to the county commissioners and became a public school. A fire destroyed the school in 1935.⁶⁸

During the late nineteenth century, the North Carolina Yearly Meeting slowly embraced fundamental religious changes that were being adopted by Quakers more readily elsewhere. The former quietistic period associated with a more simple life was giving way, as evidenced by the deviation from such formerly disownable offenses as the holding of political office or marrying a non-Friend. In addition, meeting houses evolved into churches that incorporated music into services, which were now led by hired ministers. Congregations began providing parsonages for these ministers. Plain speech was also abandoned.⁶⁹ By 1920, Quaker life within the Belvidere community reflected all of these changes.

Agricultural Context

Small subsistence farms dominated the rural landscape of Perquimans County throughout the eighteenth century with only a few large landholdings amassed during the late 1700s. Perquimans County was one of the state's most populated counties and its agricultural economy soon was unable to support its increasing population. Concomitant with this rise in population, Quaker families began to migrate westward to the piedmont areas of the state. As a result during early nineteenth century, large farms were formed through the consolidation of smaller farms, many of which had former Quaker associations. A plantation society utilizing slave labor quickly

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 62

developed as farms were consolidated, particularly, in the southern half of the county. Opposition to slavery encouraged another Quaker out-migration ca. 1812 as families began moving to the free states in the old Northwest, especially Indiana. The county's population continued to grow, however, rising from 5,440 to 7,419 between 1790 and 1830. By 1860, it exhibited a slight decline to 7,238.⁷⁰

Farmers in Perquimans County depended on two principal crops, Indian corn and wheat, during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Smaller quantities of oats, beans, and potatoes were also produced. The 1780 taxables list indicates that sixty-five per cent of the Perquimans landowners owned 200 acres or less. Although the Society of Friends had renounced slavery at the time of the Revolution, slaves were an important part of the labor force in Perquimans County. As early as 1790, slaves comprised thirty-five percent of the Perquimans population and were owned by forty-six percent of the families in the county. Fewer than five bondsmen were owned by sixty percent of these slave-holding families. In 1790 the largest number of slaves in Perquimans were held by Gosby Toms and William Skinner, with fifty-two and forty-seven, respectively.

Trade with the West Indies remained active during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, with corn, staves, and shingles the principal exports. The rivers and creeks of Perquimans County provided numerous private landings where schooners and sloops from northern and West Indian ports traded commodities and manufactured goods for local produce. Many local merchants purchased their goods in New York and Philadelphia, and a few, like Samuel Nixon, owned sailing vessels.

Beginning around 1810, as the Quakers' small farm society began to decline in Perquimans County, their property was often consolidated into large plantations worked by slaves for such planters as James Leigh, Benjamin S. Skinner, William Jones, Francis Nixon, and Josiah T. Granbery. Many of these planters lived in Old Neck and were of Quaker descent, for example, Francis Nixon and Benjamin S. Skinner. Two Old Neck planters, William Jones and William Fletcher, were disowned by the Quakers in 1799 and 1817 respectively.

Drainage of land by ditches or canals was a common practice among farmers and planters due to the low and marshy terrain of much of Perquimans County. In some instances these ditches measured approximately four feet at the top, two and a half feet at the bottom, and five feet in depth. One ditch identified on county property measured five feet in width and one foot in depth.⁷¹ The ditching of land was proven remunerative through increasing land values and productivity. Extensive fencing protected each farm from livestock, which was allowed to graze openly. During the 1850s southern agriculturist Edmund Ruffin criticized this practice and recommended developing fenced pastures for livestock as a more economical alternative. Clearing

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 63

land, constructing and maintaining drainage systems, and building fences required time and a great deal of labor.

Concomitant with the growth in the size of plantations within Perquimans County was the modest growth of slave labor. Between 1830 and 1860, the slave population in the county increased from 2,749 to 3,558. In 1860, small farms with less than one-hundred acres, however, comprised seventy-one per cent of all farms in the county.⁷² Many of these smaller holdings were located in the western and northern portions of the county, where most Quaker families resided. Indian corn and wheat remained the county's two principal crops, but the cultivation of cotton was rapidly on the rise. The two bales of cotton produced in 1850 had dramatically increased to 225 bales by 1860.

In the present-day historic district area, where farmers apparently owned no slaves who engaged in agricultural labor, Indian corn remained the principal cash crop, but a diversity of other crops were produced in limited quantities, presumably for consumption on the farm. In 1850, David White, Sr., a farmer, was growing predominately Indian corn and small quantities of sweet potatoes and hay. His namesake, on the other hand, was a farmer and tanner who produced a more diverse selection of crops including oats, peas and beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes and hay, with Indian corn as his principal crop. Both also raised small numbers of cattle and swine. This trend continued through 1860, with a significant increase only in the production of sweet potatoes.⁷³

Although the economic depressions of 1819 and 1837 had reduced land values significantly in Perquimans County as well as in North Carolina, by 1850 general economic prosperity was once again on the upswing. "From 1850 to 1860 improved acreage in the county rose by twelve percent, to 52,182 acres; the cash value of farms, forty-nine per cent, to \$1,537,770; and the value of farm implements and machinery, forty-two per cent to \$47,594."⁷⁴ The value of livestock also rose by fifty-one percent. By 1860 in Perquimans County, the principal draft animals of the antebellum period, oxen, were slowly being replaced with mules. The 1850 and 1860 census figures clearly reflect this shift from 605 oxen and 471 mules to 568 oxen and 661 mules, respectively. In addition, the decline in the number of farms from 505 to 456 underscores the continuation of the trend to consolidate farms during the decade preceding the Civil War.

Property owners within the historic district also enjoyed the benefits of this prosperity as reflected by increases in land holdings and values. The death of Josiah Nicholson, Sr., in 1852 marked the beginning of significant transitions within the district and the inheritance or purchase of property by a new generation. Although their holdings, in many cases, included considerable acreage outside the

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 64

present-day historic district, most chose to settle near the school. This trend spurred the development of the village. In 1861 the post office was relocated just east of the school and named Belvidere.

Support for the Confederacy during the Civil War was not wholesale within Perquimans County. The Quaker community, whose numbers had risen once again prior to the war, were opposed to both slavery and the war. Also, seven out of every ten white men in the county did not own slaves and resented this unfair form of competition with free labor.

Reconstruction and its ensuing years wrought significant changes to the agricultural economy of Perquimans County. Some farmers were confronted with two major problems, "adapting to a new labor system" and "obtaining capital and credit."⁷⁵ Although few changes took place in agricultural production, a system of farming through tenancy now became widespread and furnished a solution to both of the farmers' problems. This system provided an alternative for many unskilled laborers and was based either on a cash arrangement or as in most cases, on sharecropping. Usually the landowner supplied the necessary seeds, tools, and mule teams. In return, he received one-half share of the tenant's crop. The Quaker community in the Belvidere area, on the other hand, rebounded fairly quickly following the Civil War and did not experience these farming and labor transitions.

Indian corn, wheat, and oats continued as the staple crops in the county following the Civil War. Corn remained the primary cash crop. This fact held true in Belvidere as well and included the continued smaller-scale production of sweet potatoes. Cotton was not grown in the Belvidere area until after the war, and like elsewhere in the county its production was on the rise. By the end of the century cotton had become an important cash crop, while wheat production had declined notably. During the early twentieth century, both soybeans and peanuts emerged as important money crops throughout the county. Tobacco was also grown, but on a small scale by comparison with other tobacco producing counties. The production and use of tobacco, however, was openly discouraged by the Society of Friends; therefore it is highly unlikely that farmers in the Belvidere community cultivated this crop. By the mid-twentieth century, soybeans, corn, and peanuts were the county's principal crops.

An extraordinary description of the county's rural landscape in 1897 was provided by M. H. Chappell of Knightstown, Indiana. While staying with Elihu A. White in Belvidere that August, he traveled in the county visiting family homesteads, especially in the Belvidere area, and wrote the following:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 65

The country is level and fertile, passing along the edges of the dismal swamp and for more than twenty-five miles, gardening vegetables for the northern markets was the principal industry, raising two crops on most of the ground. When we struck a woodland it was of towering pines supported by juniper, black gum and water oak forming a thick undergrowth.

The farming was the best condition and everything appeared favorable for prosperity. They raise but little wheat here, but corn and oats abundantly. Their main crops appear to be cotton, corn oats and rice. The cotton is now in bloom and being planted in rows some four feet apart and well hilled up. So when it rains the plants will not be injured. The bloom is white in the morning and about the size of a "morning glory" and by noon they are pink and by night deep red and fully mature and fall off by next morning when the cotton pod begins to form and grows rapidly and the long summers causes time for the fibre to fully mature, and the pods burst open when they are gathered and kept from rain and ready for the cotton gin. I visited a gin and found a large frame two story building so arranged that farmers could have their cotton weighed and sold or stored in berths in the upper story until used. The machinery looked like a threshing machine and was in the upper story. The seed is separated and the cotton fibre thoroughly picked and cleansed and from this machine it goes into a bailing machine which holds from five to eight hundred pounds and the bagging was of the material made in Knightstown by Casely & Son.....

The rice is planted in hills and the hills in rows each way and like the cotton is well cultivated and it is now nearly three feet high and some fifty stalks in a hill and looks like very green coarse grass.

Sweet potatoes and melons of all kinds in abundance. We see large fields planted in cantelopes and proves to be a very profitable crop. The water melon scenes are everywhere....⁷⁶

Livestock continued to provide income and labor for farmers. In spite of Edmund Ruffin's recommendation some sixty years earlier, cattle and hogs still foraged freely. Hogs, however, provided a good return for farmers with very little care. Farmers used both oxen and mules to cultivate the land, a practice which shifted in favor of mules by 1920. Raising sheep for wool also peaked and fell between 1880 and 1920. During the early twentieth century, interest in dairy herds rose fifty-five per cent by 1920.

The severe economic repercussions of the Civil War brought dramatic changes in farm ownership and management patterns. Large plantations often were divided into smaller farms, and as the figure for the number of farms increased, the size of farms diminished. In North Carolina, the number of farms increased from 75,203 in 1860 to 225,000 in 1900. The number of farms operated by tenants increased significantly; in 1880, more than one-third of the farms in the state were operated by tenants. This trend continued throughout the nineteenth century.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 66

Paralleling the state trend, the number of farms in Perquimans County also rose and fell. From 1870 to 1880, this number had more than doubled from 491 to 1,016, of which 744 were owner occupied and 272 hired. The number of tenant farms also continued to rise steadily and totaled 641 by 1900 and 762 by 1920. This 1920 figure represents fifty-two per cent of all the county's farms. Between 1920 and 1954, the number of farms, however, began a dramatic decline from 1,462 to 888, respectively. Eighty-four per cent of its farms ranged in size from one to ninety-nine acres in 1920.

In the Belvidere community during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, farms were predominately owner occupied and average in size. Farmers, however, were increasing known to farm and/or own other farms in the region. Their sons and hired farm laborers, both black and white, were routinely listed as working on the "home farm" within the census records. Sons, who remained within the community, usually established their own households during their early twenties as did Josiah Chappell (#24), John J. Chappell, Jr. (#22), and Edwin S. White (#16).

Architectural Context

Architectural developments within eastern North Carolina are closely linked to its agrarian economy and reflect the influences of vernacular building traditions and trade. Farms were first oriented toward navigable waterways which provided settlers with an easy source of transportation. As the population increased and land along waterways was no longer available, inhabitants moved further inland. This trend encouraged the construction of roads and the orientation of farms to them.

Until the early nineteenth century, small subsistence farms were common in Perquimans County and the Albemarle region, with each rooted in the vernacular building traditions of its inhabitants. An emerging plantation society based on slave labor, however, slowly introduced a more formal definition to the landscape and its buildings. Domestic areas, quarters, and farm yards were carefully planned as was its approach. Family and slave cemeteries were also components of the farm landscape. By the turn of the twentieth century, the overlay of small tenant farms initiated into the landscape began to break down, simplify, and replace the complex orientation of large farms and plantations. Concomitantly, small independent farms were built with their plans now adapted toward convenience and mechanized forms of agriculture.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 67

Although brick and log were early building materials, heavy timber frame construction with mortise-and-tenon joinery was the norm for most buildings. The expense of brick usually limited its use to foundations and chimneys. All materials were initially fashioned by hand, including lumber, shingles, bricks, and nails. The earliest known use of hand cut nails in the county is at the John Bogue House, built in 1802 and originally located northwest of Hertford. By 1850, three saw mills were operating in the county producing plank and scantling. Exum Stokes, as agent, operated, with the help of seven men, the county's only steam powered mill which produced one million board feet valued at \$8,000. The other two water-powered mills, operated by Josiah T. White and Thomas Wilson, produced 80,000 and 90,000 board feet respectively.

Regional in character, vernacular in interpretation, retardaire in development, and modest in form, the county's architectural evolution throughout the nineteenth century exhibits an increase in spatial needs and a re-evaluation of spatial functions. A desire for more utility, privacy, and/or formality, often, dictated a change in traditional plans. On the one hand, the Quakers tended to follow traditional forms but could also adapt to more practical solutions. The growing plantation society in the Old Neck, Durants Neck, and Harveys Neck areas, however, introduced and fostered a more sophisticated appreciation for up-to-date architectural trends. By the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, new construction in Perquimans County was increasingly governed by popular trend and mass production rather than traditional.

Period styles were usually illustrated in exterior and interior woodwork, often, in a retardaire manner. During the first half of the nineteenth century, these styles typically ranged from transitional Georgian/Federal to Greek Revival. Elements of the Greek Revival style, however, extended into the late nineteenth century at a time when local mills were mass producing building materials and millwork conforming to current modern styles. The most sophisticated of these Victorian styles, the Queen Anne and Eastlake, were more often seen in urban areas or small communities. In rural areas, typical two-story gable-roof frame dwellings were often simply dressed-up in turned and sawnwork detailing. During the early twentieth century, bungalows became moderately popular in rural as well as urban settings.

In Perquimans County by the nineteenth century, typical dwellings evolved as a composite of house forms, floor plans, and styles with economics, traditions, ability, and personal preferences serving as the determinate. One-and-a-half story and two-story dwellings with gable roofs were the norm. Most floor plans were either hall and parlor or center hall, with both usually having one or two shed additions. The front shed additions were always porches which were either engaged or attached and one or two stories. Rear shed additions, however, comprised a

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 68

series of two or three rooms, with the central area sometimes serving as an open porch. A double-pile plan and a symmetrical fenestration pattern were rarely used until the mid-nineteenth century. The same holds true for the use of two-story rear ells which were associated only with large plantation homes.

Porches traditionally fell into two types, the common one-story shed-roof form and the double-tier piazza. Representing a practical extension of living space, each is usually supported by posts and included a balustrade. The double-tier piazza, however, is most often associated with more up-scale dwellings and derived trade with the West Indies. In Perquimans County, two antebellum examples of the one-story porch are the Mitchell-Ward House (ca. 1832) and the Thomas D. White House (ca. 1842), both in Belvidere Township. The Fletcher-Skinner House (ca. 1820) and Land's End (ca. 1835) exhibit the two-story piazza.

The eighteenth century one-and-a-half-story gable-roof house with hall-and-parlor plan by the nineteenth century had transformed into a fully developed coastal cottage. This form was utilized by yeomen farmers, oftentimes Quakers, and examples are more evident in the northern half of the county. Outstanding early examples in Belvidere Township were the White-Jessup House (ca. 1795) and Willis Riddick House (ca. 1795) both built by substantial members of the community. Other county examples include the Baker Newby, William H. Winslow (#25), and Sarah Long houses.

Replacing the one-and-a-half-story dwelling in popularity, the early two-story gable-roof dwelling usually had a one-story shed-roof porch at the front and a one-story rear shed addition. Their interior plans were either hall-and-parlor or center-hall ones. In Perquimans County, the James Whedbee House (ca. 1790) is one of the finest examples of this form with transitional Georgian/Federal style detailing and a center-hall plan. On the other hand, the modest Layden-Reed House (ca. 1810) has a hall-and-parlor plan with transitional Georgian/Federal style detailing. In each house, the stair placement varies. The Whedbee house has a dog-leg stair rising in the hall, and the Layden-Reed House contains a straight stair which rises out of the central shed room. Located on Durants Neck road, both houses have asymmetrical fenestration patterns. On the other hand, the Thomas D. White House (ca. 1845) in Belvidere Township illustrates the retardataire use of various styles. The wainscoting and six-panel doors have raised panels featuring polychromatic trompe l'oeil painting to enhance these panels. The Federal three-part mantels are massive and elaborately reeded.

Earliest use of the Greek Revival style in Perquimans County probably stemmed from the work of James Leigh [1781-1854], a local builder and one of the largest property owners in the county. In his plantation Land's End (ca. 1835), Leigh utilizes the Greek Revival vocabulary of Asher Benjamin's architectural pattern

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 69

book, Practical House Carpenter, published in 1830. Cove Grove (ca. 1830) and the Edmund Blount Skinner House (ca. 1845) also imitate the mantel designs features in Benjamin's 1830 pattern book. Minard LaFever's The Modern Builders Guide, may have inspired the Greek Revival tripartite design for Stockton (ca. 1840), the plantation of Josiah T. Granberry. Both Stockton and the Skinner house exhibit two-story T-additions at the rear with flanking piazzas.

More vernacular interpretations of the Greek Revival in the county are found at the Godfrey-Reed House (ca. 1840), Rufus White House (#19, ca. 1854), and the Joseph Smith House (#27, ca. 1856). Interestingly, the floor plan of these three houses is different. In New Hope Township, the Godfrey-Reed House with its side-hall plan, contains a detailed interpretation of the Greek Revival utilizing cornerblocks and horizontal-panel doors. On the other hand in Belvidere Township, the White and Smith houses are much simpler, exhibiting such interior features as open string stairs, plain Greek Revival splayed surrounds, and doors with either horizontal panels or two vertical panels. The Rufus White House follows a center-hall plan, and the Joseph Smith House features a transverse-hall plan.

Following the Civil War, the two-story gable-roof house form continued to dominate the landscape well into the twentieth century and most featured a one or two-story ell. Mass production of popular Victorian turned and sawnwork elements enabled builders to economically update this modest house form with fanciful woodwork details. Porches and cornices were the primary recipients of these decorative elements. Boxed cornices with returns also had become a mainstream element. Chimney placement was shifting from an exterior position to, in most cases, an interior gable-end location. These interior stacks oftentimes reflected the increasing use of freestanding wood stoves for heating.

The location of the cooking and dining areas in a home also was in a state of transition from a separate and detached form to a two-room kitchen/dining room rear ell. Two examples of detached kitchen placement just prior to the Civil War are the Rufus White House with its detached kitchen directly behind the main house (#19) and the Joseph Smith House (#27) with its kitchen placed to one side of the house. The Burwell S. Riddick House (ca. 1880) is one of the most outstanding dwellings to incorporate not only the kitchen changes but also the new highly decorative sawn and turned work and chimney placement. Important later examples are the James H. Miller House built for \$600 in 1889, the Elihu A. White House (#1, 1895 remodeling), and the Timothy C. Perry House (#5, 1910). A modest one-story example is the Henry V. Corbett House (ca. 1895).

Small farms became more prevalent within the Belvidere vicinity during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Two examples are the William Henry Layden

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 70

Farm (#26, 1878) and the John W. Layden Farm (#28, 1885). Although few original outbuildings survive, the frame houses associated with each follow a two-story gable-roof form with a two-story rear ell and have several retardaire features. At the William Layden house, these features include a three-bay asymmetrical fenestration pattern with nine-over-six sash on the first floor and six-over-six on the second. Although it has a symmetrical three-bay facade, the John Layden house includes the older nine-over-six sash for all of its principal windows on the first and second floors. Both houses also have exterior gable-end chimneys with stepped single shoulders. The Josiah Chappell Farm (#24, 1920) is a twentieth century example illustrating the perpetuation of this two-story house form but here adapted into a T-plan by the extension of a front ell.

First introduced in the county during the 1890s with examples built only in Hertford and Belvidere, the nationally popular Queen Anne style was characterized by its complicated massing wrapped in bays, projecting gables, and elaborately detailed wraparound porches. In Hertford, the Tudor F. Winslow House (1894) illustrates the simplest form of the massing characteristic of the Queen Anne style. The Matthew H. White House (1893), however, exemplifies a fully articulated Queen Anne dwelling highlighted by turned and sawnwork detail, ornate stained glass windows, and a stylish combination gable and bay projection. A late, more restrained example is the Penelope S. McMullan House (ca. 1900), in all probability designed by the Durham-based architect Hill C. Linthicum. It features a handsome wraparound porch with porte cochere, an expansive entrance hall with a brick Romanesque arched mantel, and a handsomely appointed stair. The county's only other Queen Anne style houses, the Francis H. Nicholson House (#17, 1891) and the Elihu A. White House (#1, 1895 remodelling) are both located in the village of Belvidere. Virtually intact, each house exhibits not only the overall massing associated with the style but an array of patterned shingles creating a system of textural contrasts as well as elaborate turned and sawnwork details. The entrance hall of the White house contains the county's only known spindle screen, boldly featuring the initial W. The Nicholson house contains parquet floors and a beautifully detailed stair hall. On the other hand, the Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb House (#30) illustrates the incorporation of many Queen Anne-style elements into this house's remodelling.

In eastern North Carolina, the perpetuation of the coastal cottage as a typical house form throughout the nineteenth century provided the perfect backdrop for the acceptance of the nationally popular bungalow during the first half of the twentieth century. Modest gable-roof frame dwellings usually incorporated typical bungalow features such as deep overhanging eaves, dormers, and spacious porches supported by square-in-section posts resting on brick pedestals. Oversized triangular brackets accent the eaves. Two outstanding rural examples of this style built in the 1920s are the two-story gable-front John J. Chappell, Jr. House (#22, 1924-26) and the one-and-a-half-story James W. Overton House (ca. 1925) with engaged porch and extended shed-roof dormer. Each has weatherboard sheathing on the first

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 71

floor and stained shingles on the second level. The Belvidere historic district also includes the main house (#16a, ca. 1934-35) at the Edwin S. White Farmstead (#16). Similar in detail to the others, it is a modest one-and-a-half story example with a gable dormer.

Completely intact plantation and farm complexes do not exist today in Perquimans County; however, a good cross-section of domestic and agricultural outbuildings does survive which illustrates common construction techniques and forms. This cross-section includes smokehouses, dairies, kitchens, wash houses, privies, lock house, slave quarters, carriage or buggy houses, sheds, stables and barns. Outbuildings within a complex were placed according to convenience and use, either domestic or farm. Boundaries within these areas today, oftentimes, lack clear definition due to attrition. Most outbuildings were frame and utilized heavy timber mortise-and-tenon construction until the late nineteenth century. Evidence of the use of brick, plank or log is rare. Most have gable roofs protected by standing-seam tin covering the roof's original cypress shingles. Piers, both brick and cypress logs, provided foundation support.

As a part of a farm complex or plantation seat, smokehouses, dairies, and kitchens were positioned close to the main dwelling at the rear. A privy might be set to one side apart from the other structures. Ancillary buildings such as a carriage house or shed were located next to this domestic area. Farm-related barns and stables were set back near the outer perimeter of the complex. In Belvidere, only one small shed remains at the Yow Farm (#21), which is similar in form to one associated with the Elizabeth P. Clayton House near New Hope.

The majority of surviving domestic outbuildings, dating before the Civil War, are smokehouses and dairies. Smokehouses usually had gable-roofs and central entrances with board-and-batten doors featuring strap hinges and pintles. The stud system was closely placed and supported with diagonal bracing. Usually smaller in size, dairies feature either weatherboard or flush sheathing and either a pyramidal roof with deep overhanging eaves or a simple gable roof with an extended eave overhang at the front. Most have a grille or fixed louver ventilators.

Late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century outbuildings maintain much the same form as their predecessors with the only evolving difference being a change toward a lighter timber frame construction. Their placement within the complex became less formal and based on convenient access out back behind the domestic area. Sometimes new buildings replaced destroyed or outmoded older ones. Equipment shelters, chicken houses, potato houses, barns, stables, wash houses, woodsheds, privies, and garages were all part of the farm complex.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 72

Within the Belvidere Historic District over the last thirty years, the destruction of many principal outbuildings, both antebellum and late nineteenth century, has diminished the presence of the farm complex on the landscape. Such losses include at the Rufus White House (#19) a barn, smokehouse, and stilted dairy leaving only the house and its detached kitchen. At the Elihu A. White Farm (#1), an extraordinary barn plus chicken houses, smokehouse, and pumphouse were destroyed. Fortunately here, the surviving outbuildings, including a dairy, buggy house, potato house, and equipment shelters, clearly identify the domestic and farm-related areas within the complex. Other farms or farmsteads containing remarkably intact early twentieth-century complexes of outbuildings are the Murray and Fernando C. White Farm (#10), John J. Chappell, Jr. Farm (#22), Josiah Chappell Farm (#23), and Edwin S. White Farmstead (#16). In most cases directly behind the main house, these outbuildings form a single line which roughly parallels the house and road. The Edwin S. White complex, however, has two parallel rows of outbuildings. Here a fenced barnyard separates the smaller domestic outbuildings near the house from the larger farm buildings.

Belvidere also contains an important cross-section of commercial buildings, namely three nineteenth-century general stores and a ca. 1927 gasoline filling station with garage. All three stores are frame one-story structures with a finished half story and each may well have housed the local post office. Although in an altered state, the earliest one (#30b), an antebellum general store possibly owned by the White and Nicholson families, featured an engaged porch. The other two stores, the White-Hollowell-White Store (#15b) and the Josiah Nicholson, Jr. Store (#29), are both gable-front buildings with decorative sawnwork trim. The White store, also, retains elements of its original front porch. With the advent of the automobile in the twentieth century, filling stations, in turn, oftentimes featured a porte cochere through which a vehicle could drive. The J. Emmett Winslow Pure Gasoline Station (#20), built ca. 1927, is an outstanding example built of brick with a Spanish-tile hip roof.

Endnotes

¹ Perquimans County Deeds Y:515; Wills F:550, H:323; Estates 68-E-35; Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., Belvidere research notes, hereinafter referred to as Winslow, Belvidere research; Elihu A. White Papers, Special Collections, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC; Delia R. Winslow, History of Belvidere Post Office and Its Associations (Norfolk:

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 8 Page 73

Star Printing Company, 1951), 11,14, hereinafter cited as Winslow, History Belvidere P. O.; William Wade Hinshaw, Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy (Ann Arbor, MI: Edwards Brothers, Inc., 6 vols. 1936-1950), I: 20, hereinafter cited as Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, vol., page.

² Perquimans County Deeds FF: 54, FF: 352, HH: 4, 10:289, 41:245, 44:83, 41:245; Winslow, Belvidere research ; U.S. Census, population schedule, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910; agricultural schedule, 1860, 1870, 1880; Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., Perquimans County Tax List 1919-1920, Belvidere Township annotations, hereinafter cited as Winslow, Tax List 1919; Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 14; Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, I: 64-65; Letter from Josiah Nicholson to Timothy Nicholson dated August 2, 1898, Watson-Nicholson Papers, Southern Historical Collection, UNC-CH, hereinafter cited as Watson-Nicholson Papers, UNC-CH.

³ U.S. Census 1910 & 1920 Population Schedule; Perquimans County Deeds 1:479, 9:84; Winslow, Tax List 1919.

⁴ Perquimans County Deeds KK:671, NN:551, 5:126, 35:561; U. S. Census, population schedule, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1890, 518; Winslow, Tax List 1919; Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, 18, 75.

⁵ Perquimans County Deeds EE:77, NN:481, RR:304, 6:625, 13:74; Winslow, Belvidere research notes.

⁶ Perquimans County Deeds RR:304, 9:225, 13:74, 21:117, 27:322, 34:24, 48:30; U. S. Census, population schedule, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, I: 21, 84.

⁷ Perquimans County Deeds 10:676, 10:677, 12:488, 12:573, 12:595, 12:596; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 9.

⁸ Perquimans County Deeds I:105, 12:320, 12:488, 12:573, 15: 358, 17:114, 67:154, 82:313; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Edwin S. White advertisement, Kilcocanen (Hertford, NC: Perquimans County High School, 1958), n.p.

⁹ Perquimans County Deeds 17:114, 67:154, 82:310, 82:313; Interviews with Mary Chappell White, February 18, 1997 and March 14, 1998.

¹⁰ Perquimans County Deeds 12:589, 24:8, 24:22, 69:449; Dr. Harold White papers, Belvidere, NC

¹¹ Perquimans County Deeds YY:281, 2:274, 6:339, 10:290, !0:329, 13:379, 13:383, 19:73, 19:221, 56:123; Winslow, Belvidere Research notes; The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory, 1915, 362; Watson-Nicholson Papers, UNC-CH.

¹² Perquimans County Deeds X: 256, Y:256, Y: 269, EE:78, 12:566, 15:362, 16:427, 19:511, 104:872; Perquimans County Wills F:550, I:319; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; U. S. Census, population schedules 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910; agricultural schedules 1860, 1880; Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, I: 24, 82-83, 85.

¹³ Perquimans County Deeds 16:427; 19:511.

¹⁴ Eula Elizabeth White Willey, Ancestors and Descendants of J. Thomas and Allie B. Lane of Perquimans County, North Carolina n.p., n.d., 117- 121, hereinafter cited as Willey, Ancestors of J. Thomas Lane.

¹⁵ U. S. Census, population schedules, 1910, 1920; Willey, Ancestors of J. Thomas Lane, 102; Interview with Thelma Riddick on February 18, 1997.

¹⁶ U. S. Census, population schedules, 1900, 1910, 1920; Willey, Ancestors of J. Thomas Lane, 102.

¹⁷ Perquimans County Deeds U:398, W:330, AA:181, BB:34, CC:437, HH:85, HH:397, GG:261, V:39, 2:360, 54:126; Perquimans County Wills F:175; Perquimans County Plats 1:271,158; U.S. Census, population schedule: 1830, 1850, agricultural schedule: 1850; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Ingmore, Marriage Records of Perquimans County NC 1758-1865, 21.

¹⁸ Perquimans County Deed NN:306; U. S. Census, population schedules: 1860, 1870, 1880, agricultural schedule: 1880; Willey, Ancestors of J. Thomas Lane, 87.

¹⁹ Perquimans County Deeds Y:1, 26:400, 65:92; Perquimans County Wills H:97, J:177; U. S. Census, population schedules: 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910; agricultural schedules: 1850, 1860, 1880; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Ingmore, Marriage Records of Perquimans County NC 1758-1865 .

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 8 Page 74

²⁰ Perquimans County Deeds UU:449, 12:11, 13:234, 31:55, 56:519; U. S. Census, population schedules: 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910; agricultural schedules: 1880; Winslow Belvidere research notes; Willey, Ancestors of J. Thomas Lane, 86.

²¹ Perquimans County Deeds 3:164, RR:342, DD:386, WW:130, UU:332; Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 14-15; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1869 (Raleigh: J. A. Jones, Publisher, 1869), 128, hereinafter cited as Branson's Directory, date, page; Branson's Directory, 1872, 183; 1878, 242; 1884, 526; 1889, 518; 1896, 487; 1897, 487; Walter C. Woodward, Timothy Nicholson: Master Quaker (Richmond, Indiana: The Nicholson Press, 1927), 31, 52, hereinafter cited as Woodward, Timothy Nicholson.

²² Perquimans County Deeds 3:164, RR:342, DD:386, 7:616, 9:308, 10:449, 19:417, BB:558, 21:167; U. S. Census, population schedule: 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910; agricultural schedule: 1860, 1870; Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Hinshaw, Quaker Genealogy, I, 16, 64-65; The Economist (Elizabeth City, NC), April 28, 1899[sic].

²³ Carl Lounsbury and Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., "National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Belvidere, Perquimans County" (Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, 1976).

²⁴ Winslow, Belvidere research notes; Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 7-9.

²⁵ Zora Klain, Quaker Contribution to Education in North Carolina (Philadelphia: n.p., 1924), 113-115, hereinafter cited as Klain, Quaker Education NC.

²⁶ Woodward, Timothy Nicholson, 31.

²⁷ Woodward, Timothy Nicholson, 32-33.

²⁸ Woodward, Timothy Nicholson, 38. Note this Friends School in Rhode Island is also known as Moses Brown School.

²⁹ Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 11, 14.

³⁰ U. S. Census, population schedule, 1850, 1860.

³¹ Woodward, Timothy Nicholson, 46, 50-51.

³² Woodward, Timothy Nicholson, 65-66, 73; Elihu White papers, ECU.

³³ Branson's Directory, 1869, 128; Winslow, History Belvidere P. O., 14.

³⁴ The Economist, April 28, 1898 [1899]. This obituary was contained in the NC Collection Clipping File at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

³⁵ Branson's Directory, 1869, 128; 1872, 182-183.

³⁶ John L. Cheney, Jr., North Carolina Government 1585-1974: A Narrative and Statistical History (Raleigh: N.C. Department of the Secretary of State, 1975), 1233-1234; Elihu A. White papers, ECU.

³⁷ U.S. Census, 1870, agricultural schedule.

³⁸ U.S. Census, 1880, population schedule.

³⁹ U.S. Census, 1880, agricultural schedule; Branson's Directory, 1884, xxxiii.

⁴⁰ Branson's Directory, 1884, 525-527.

⁴¹ Elihu A. White papers, ECU. The Dr. White mentioned would be Dr. T. N. White, and the doctor's office was moved from Belvidere to the Nicanor vicinity. In the Historic Architecture of Perquimans County, North Carolina, it was mistaken for the Nicanor Railroad Station and was later moved further north within the township up Craney Island.

⁴² Economist-Falcon (Elizabeth City), June 15, 1894; Perquimans Record, September 19, 1894; Eastern Courier, June 24, 1897.

⁴³ Branson's Directory, 1896, 486, 487; Perquimans Record, April 15, 1894; Eastern Courier, July 27, 1895, May 15, 1895, March 6, 1895, March 20, 1895.

⁴⁴ Branson's Directory, 1890, 517; 1896, 486; Perquimans Record, April 8, 1891; Winslow, Belvidere P. O., 14.

⁴⁵ Branson's Directory, 1890, 517; 1896, 486; Eastern Courier, June 27, 1895, December 12, 1895, January 23, 1896, May 28, 1896, June 24, 1897, September 16, 1897.

⁴⁶ Perquimans Record, April 8, 1891.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 8 Page 75

⁴⁷ Perquimans Record, September 9, 1891.

⁴⁸ Perquimans Record, October 5, 1892.

⁴⁹ Perquimans Record, January 6, 1892; Eastern Courier, February 13, 1896; February 20, 1896.

⁵⁰ Eastern Courier, January 30, 1896.

⁵¹ Francis C. Ansccombe, I Have Called You Friends: The Story of Quakerism in North Carolina (Boston: The Christopher Publishing House, 1959), 24, 248, hereinafter cited as Ansccombe, Quakerism in North Carolina; Winslow, Belvidere research.

⁵² Winslow, Belvidere P. O., 15. In 1979, the Winslow's store which included the post office was torn down.

⁵³ Alan D. Watson, Perquimans County: A Brief History (Raleigh: NC Division of Archives and History, 1987), 26, hereinafter cited as Watson, Perquimans County.

⁵⁴ Raymond A. Winslow, Jr., "Perquimans County and the Society of Friends," Perquimans County Historical Society Yearbook, 1972, 10, hereinafter cited as Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends." This write-up provides a good general introduction to Quakers.

⁵⁵ Watson, Perquimans County, 69; Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954), 137, hereinafter cited as Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina; Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 5.

⁵⁶ Stephen B. Weeks, Southern Quakers and Slavery: A Study in Institutional History (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1896), 4-5.

⁵⁷ Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 4-5.

⁵⁸ Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 4-7.

⁵⁹ Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 5, 12-13.

⁶⁰ Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 4, 13; Watson, Perquimans County, 59-60.

⁶¹ Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 265.

⁶² Winslow, "Perquimans and Friends," 4.

⁶³ Ansccombe, Quakerism in North Carolina, 122; Seth B. Hinshaw, The Carolina Quaker Experience 1665-1985: An Interpretation (n.l.: North Carolina Yearly Meeting, 1984), 75.

⁶⁴ Klain, Quaker Education NC, 115.

⁶⁵ Mary Raper Butt, "The Belvidere Academy," The Southern Friend, Spring 1980, 35, hereinafter cited as Butt, "Belvidere Academy."

⁶⁶ Klain, Quaker Education NC, 123.

⁶⁷ Ansccombe, Quakerism in North Carolina, 123, 314; Butt, "Belvidere Academy," 38; Klain, Quaker Education NC, 130-133.

⁶⁸ Klain, Quaker Education in NC, 136, 141.

⁶⁹ Damon Douglas Hickey, The Quakers in the New South, 1865-1920 (Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms International, 1989, 16, 148-152, 158-163.

⁷⁰ The agricultural context for this nomination for the most part is taken directly from the National Register nomination for Old Neck Historic District (NR, 9-96) written by the author.

⁷¹ Watson, Perquimans County, 45.

⁷² Watson, Perquimans County, 43.

⁷³ U. S. Census, agricultural schedule, 1850, 1860. Among the residents of the present-day historic district, William Lane, the only known slaveholder, is noted in the 1850 slave schedule, as owning one seventy-five-year-old black female who in all probability worked within his household.

⁷⁴ Watson, Perquimans County, 44.

⁷⁵ Haley and Winslow, Historic Architecture, 55.

⁷⁶ Supplement Knightstown Banner, Elihu A. White papers.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 9 Page 76

Major Bibliographical References

Anscombe, Francis C. I Have Called You Friends: The Story of Quakerism in North Carolina. Boston: The Christopher Publishing House, 1959.

Branson's North Carolina Business Directory. Raleigh: Branson & Jones, Publisher, 1867-1868 [also used 1869, 1872, 1877-1878, 1884, 1889, 1896, and 1897 issues].

Butt, Mary Raper. "The Belvidere Academy." The Southern Friend, Spring 1980.

Cheney, John L., Jr. North Carolina Government 1585-1974: A Narrative and Statistical History. Raleigh: N.C. Department of the Secretary of State, 1975.

Eastern Courier (Hertford, NC).

The Economist (Elizabeth City, NC).

Economist-Falcon (Elizabeth City, NC).

Elihu A. White Papers. East Carolina Manuscript Collections, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC.

Haley, Dru Gatewood and Raymond A. Winslow, Jr. The Historic Architecture of Perquimans County, North Carolina. Hertford, N.C.: Town of Hertford, 1982.

Hickey, Damon Douglas. The Quakers in the New South, 1865-1920. Ann Arbor, MI: University Microfilms International, 1989.

Hinshaw, Seth B. The Carolina Quaker Experience 1665-1985: An Interpretation. N.P.: North Carolina Yearly Meeting, 1984.

Hinshaw, William Wade. Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy. Ann Arbor, MI: Edwards Brothers, Inc., 6 vols., 1936-1950.

Ingmire, Frances Terry. Perquimans County, North Carolina Marriage Records of 1758-1865. Athens, Ga.: Iberian Publishing, 1993.

Kilcocanen. Hertford, NC: Perquimans County High School, 1958.

Klain, Zora. Quaker Contribution to Education in North Carolina. Philadelphia: n.p., 1924.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage and Albert Ray Newsome. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number 9 Page 77

Lounsbury, Carl and Raymond A. Winslow, Jr. "National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Belvidere, Perquimans County." Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, 1976.

The North Carolina Year Book. Raleigh: The News and Observer, 1902 [also used 1905, 1910, 1913, 1914, 1915, and 1916 issues].

Perquimans Record (Hertford, NC).

Perquimans County Deeds. Office of the Register of Deeds, Perquimans County Courthouse, Hertford, N. C.

Perquimans County Wills. Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

United States Census. Microfilm of manuscript census records (population, agriculture, manufacturing and slave schedules), Perquimans County, NC, 1850-1880.

United States Census. Microfilm of manuscript census records (population schedule), Perquimans County, NC, 1900-1920.

Watson, Alan D. Perquimans County: A Brief History. Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1987.

Watson-Nicholson Papers. Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill.

Weeks, Stephen B. Southern Quakers and Slavery: A Study in Institutional History. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1896.

Willey, Eula Elizabeth White. Ancestors and Descendants of J. Thomas and Allie B. Lane of Perquimans County, North Carolina. N.p., n.d.

Winslow, Delia R. History of Belvidere Post Office and Its Associations. Norfolk: Star Printing Company, 1951.

Winslow, Raymond A., Jr. "Perquimans County and the Society of Friend." Perquimans County Historical Society Yearbook, 1972.

Winslow, Raymond A., Jr. Belvidere research notes.

Woodward, Walter C. Timothy Nicholson: Master Quaker. Richmond, Indiana: The Nicholson Press, 1927.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number 10 Page 78**Geographical Data****Verbal Boundary Description**

A sketch map of the Belvidere Historic District was traced directly from the Perquimans County tax office's base maps, which utilize aerial photographs at a scale of one inch equals 660 feet. The boundaries of the historic district follow either property lines or natural topographic features beginning at the southeast junction of Highway 37 and the property line for the Elihu A. White Farm (#1). In a southern direction the boundary travels along the eastern property line of the Elihu A. White Farm (#1) and then follows this line around until it adjoins the southern lines of properties #3-9. The district boundary then runs up the middle of the Perquimans River forming the western boundary, crosses NC 37, meanders to the east, and then heads north again. At the junction of the northwest corner of the William H. Winslow property and the Perquimans River, the district boundary turns to the east and runs along the northern property line for the Winslow property (#25). It then crosses over SR 1200 and connects with the northern property lines for the William Henry Layden Farm (#27) and Joseph Smith House (#27). At the southeast corner of the Smith property, the boundary crosses SR 1203 and follows the eastern property lines for the John W. Layden Farm (#28) and the Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb Farm (#30) before it rejoins NC 37.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of Belvidere Historic District reflect that area of east Belvidere which best reflects the agricultural, social, and architectural context discussed in the nomination yet includes a minimal number of non-contributing properties. The historic district boundaries provide an appropriate setting for all of the significant buildings, structures, landscapes, natural features, and complexes listed in the nomination as defined by its period of significance (1800-1947).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NCSection number _____ Page 79**Additional Documentation**List of Photographs for Belvidere Historic District

All photographs were taken by Drucilla H. York, architectural historian and consultant for the Belvidere Historic District project. Project negatives are housed with the North Carolina Division of Archives and History at 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh, NC. In the following list, the photograph number is given first. The number following the name of the property is the property's identification number and letter within the inventory listing. In all views, property locations are identified from left to right.

1. Belvidere Intersection of NC 37 and SR 1200: February 20, 1997; negative #N.98.6.285; NW view of intersection from short distance east on NC 37 includes Elihu A White house [#1a], Josiah Nicholson, Jr. house [#2a], Francis H. Nicholson house [#18a], J. Emmett Winslow Pure service station [#20a], Josiah Nicholson Jr. Store [#29], and Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb house [#30a].
2. Elihu A. White Farm [#1]: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.546; SW view of house from NE corner of site near NC 37. Dairy pictured directly behind house to far left.
3. Elihu A. White Farm [#1]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.537; Alton's house, buggy house, potato house.
4. Josiah Nicholson, Jr. House [#2]: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.569; Oblique view of house from NE.
5. Rear view of properties lining south side of NC 37: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.602; View includes Symmes-White House [#6], Edwin S. White house [#16a], Timothy C. Perry House [#5], Belvidere Community Building [#17], and House [#4].
6. Murray and Fernando C. White Farm [#10]: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.624; SW oblique view of house from north side of NC 37.
7. Perquimans River Bridge [#11]: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.492; View E of bridge from outside district down the middle of NC 37.
8. Lewis Norman Hollowell House [#14] and White-Hollowell-White Store [#15f]: February 19, 1997; negative #N.98.5.711; NW oblique view of buildings from S side of NC 37.
9. Edwin S. White Farmstead [#16]: May 22, 1997; negative #N.98.5.717; View of front facade of house and garage from south side of NC 37.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number _____ Page ____ 80

List of Photographs for Belvidere Historic District (continued)

10. Belvidere Community Building [#17]: February 19, 1997; negative #N.98.5.738; NE oblique view of front facade.
11. Francis H. Nicholson House [#18]: May 22, 1997; negative #N.98.5.791; View of the house's front facade.
12. Rufus White House [#19]: March 7, 1997; negative #N.98.5.836; SE oblique view toward NC 37 of the west elevations of the house and kitchen from a neighboring corn field.
13. J. Emmett Winslow Pure Gasoline Station and Garage [#20]: February 19, 1997; negative #N.98.5.856; NW oblique view of service station and garage from S side of intersection of NC 37 and SR 1200.
14. Bethany Church Road (SR 1200): February 20, 1997; negative #N.98.6.290; Looking north up the road from a distance, a southern view of the Yow Farm [#21], William Henry Layden Farm [#26], and John W. Layden Farm [#28].
15. John J. Chappell, Jr. Farm [#22]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.893; View of front facade of house [#22a].
16. John J. Chappell, Jr. Farm [#22]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.876; SW oblique view of outbuildings: barn, chicken house, smokehouse, and brooder house.
17. Josiah Chappell Farm [#24]: March 27, 1997; negative #N.98.5.927; NW oblique view of farm including smokehouse, stable, equipment shelter, and house.
18. William H. Winslow House [#25]: May 22, 1997; negative #N.98.5.963; S elevation of William H. Winslow house with William Henry Layden house [#26a] in distance.
19. William Henry Layden Farm [#26]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.987; NE oblique view of William Henry Layden house at intersection of SR 1200 and SR 1213.
20. Joseph Smith House [#27]: February 19, 1997; negative #N.98.5.999; NW oblique view of Joseph Smith house with former detached kitchen.
21. Josiah Nicholson, Jr. Store and former Belvidere Post Office [#29]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.1048; NE oblique view of store at the intersection of NC 37 and SR 1200 with Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb house [#30a] in the background.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Belvidere Historic District
Perquimans County, NC

Section number _____ Page _____ 81

List of Photographs for Belvidere Historic District (continued)

22. Nicholson-Riddick-Lamb Farm [#30]: March 6, 1997; negative #N.98.5.1076; S view front facade of house including in the background the former barber shop, farm bell, and garage/former store & Belvidere Post Office.

