

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 Wakefield Dairy Complex

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number West side Falls of the Neuse Road (SR 2000), 1.2 miles north of N/A not for publication  
Neuse River (12417 Falls of the Neuse Road)

city or town Wake Forest

vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Wake code 061 Zip code 27587

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Stephen J. Crow SHPO  
Signature of certifying official/Title

11/25/02  
Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Wakefield Dairy Complex  
Name of Property

Wake 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 count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

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

Historic and Architectural Resources of Wake County, North Carolina (ca. 1770-1941)

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture: animal facility

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture: animal facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Gothic- roofed barn

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Brick

Walls Weatherboard

Roof Asphalt

Other

**Narrative Description**

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

See continuation sheets

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Agriculture

**Period of Significance**

1934-1951

**Significant Dates**

1934, 1951

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Rich, S.O., builder

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

See continuation sheets

Wakefield Dairy Complex  
Name of Property

Wake County, NC  
County and State

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

#### Bibliography

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

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

#### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

State Archives, North Carolina State University Special Collections

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 17 719280 3981790  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_

#### 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 Ellen Turco and April Montgomery

Organization Circa, Inc date July 22, 2002

street & number P.O. Box 407 telephone 919-416-1016

city or town Durham state NC Zip code 27702

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

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

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

#### Photographs

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

#### Additional items

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

Wakefield Dairy Complex  
Name of Property

Wake County, NC  
County and State

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**Property Owner**

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

name Mary Schilling  
street & number 6324 Wake Falls Drive telephone 919/562-6811  
city or town Wake Forest state NC zip code 27587

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

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

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**SECTION 7/DESCRIPTION**

**Setting**

The Wakefield Dairy Complex is located on the west side of Falls of the Neuse Road (SR 2000) in northeastern Wake County, approximately two miles southwest of the town of Wake Forest and 1.2 miles north of the Neuse River. Falls of the Neuse Road has historically served as the boundary between rural New Light Township to the west and the more prosperous Wake Forest Township to the east. The Wakefield Dairy Complex consists of an 8,000 square foot dairy barn with silos, a bull barn, and a calf barn arranged around a courtyard. A milk house formerly occupied a site southeast of the dairy barn.

At one time the Wakefield Farm comprised 2,200 acres and sprawled across New Light and Wake Forest townships. Today, the complex sits on an eleven-acre tract surrounded by the Triangle Players Club Golf Course to the south and southeast, and by the Wakefield Plantation housing subdivision to the north and west. A narrow strip of approximately six acres northeast of the dairy barn is used as horse pasture. An open-air, steel-frame riding ring was constructed in 2001 northeast of the dairy barn. The large riding ring severs the visual connection with the pasture. The pasture shares its western boundary with the rear yards of the subdivision houses. White wood fencing delineates the pasture from the yards, and the yards from one another. Although this area may have been historically associated with dairy activities it is not included in the nomination because its historic appearance has been significantly altered by the introduction of modern fencing and the riding ring. The five acres on which the remaining structures sit are being nominated to the National Register.

**Inventory List**

**1. Dairy Barn, 1934, contributing building**

The dairy barn is a massive, rectangular, four-story structure comprising over 8,000 square feet. It was constructed to accommodate a herd of approximately thirty-five Guernsey milk cows. Two fifty-foot, dome-topped silos constructed of 10" x 12" terracotta tiles connect to the barn's west elevation via a one-story brick breezeway. A one-story, rectangular, four-stall wing topped

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by a side gabled roof with flared eaves projects from the barn's north elevation. An identical wing was removed from the south elevation during the 1980s.

The barn is covered in German siding painted gray with dark green trim. The original color scheme was white with dark green trim. Twelve pane, divided light window sash were once found throughout barn's first story. These windows remain on the north wing, but have been removed in the ground story of the main block. Despite the removal of the first story sash, the window openings retain their two-part X-batten ventilation shutters. The upper shutter is hinged at the top and can be propped open. The bottom shutter is fully removable and can be hung on hooks below the window opening on the barn's exterior. More than fifty window openings retain these shutters.

The barn's predominant feature is the graceful bell-shaped roof that slopes steeply from the ridge to the slightly flared overhanging eaves. A hay hood is located on the east elevation. The underside of the cornice and hay hood is finished with narrow, flush, horizontal sheathing. A plain frieze is tucked underneath the eaves on all elevations. A triangular bracket supports the roof overhang at each corner of the building. The roof is covered with green asphalt shingles and capped by three large, equally spaced, hipped-roof ventilators.

Livestock entered the barn's central passage through stock openings on the gable end elevations. Sliding X-batten doors cover the openings. Sliding double screen doors cover the batten doors on the exterior. Supplies were loaded from the ground to the second story storage space through three, paired, sliding X-batten doors set in the second story of the west elevation. The third story storage space is lit by two, twelve pane fixed sash windows. A single fixed sash is set high in the west gable end. Sliding X-batten doors and fixed, twelve light window sash are set in the east elevation to illuminate and access the barn's cavernous hayloft. Also on the east elevation, a stair with a Chinese Chippendale balustrade rises from the ground to the second story. This stair is not present in 1963 documentary photographs.

The interior contains a cross-hall plan. A total of twenty-four oversized box stalls are located on each side of the central passage. The box stalls were constructed sometime after the late 1970s when the barn changed from dairy cow to horse use (Darch interview). This reorganization of the first floor space is the only significant alteration to the building's interior. While beef cattle and horses are typically confined to stalls, dairy cows require farm hands to have close access to the

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animals in order to obtain milk. Thus, dairy barns had stanchions that secured the animal while allowing the farm hands to tend to it. The state-of-the-art Wakefield Dairy Barn was no exception. According to Nelson Leonard, who worked on the farm in the 1940s, a row of stanchions originally ran down the center of the barn. The cow's heads were secured in the stanchion but they were able to stand, lie down and move from side to side. Raised feeding troughs were located in front of the stanchions and a cement waste trough was set into the floor behind them.

Four box stalls are found in the north wing. Pregnant cows were placed in the box stalls several days before giving birth and, according to Mr. Nelson, watched by the farm hands around the clock. The cow and her calf remained in the box stalls until five days after birth when the calves were moved to the calf barn and the cows were returned to the milking herd. The box stalls in the north wing may be original and may have been used as models for the stalls of the main block (Schilling interview). The twelve-by-twelve foot stalls are sheathed in horizontal pine boards. The floors are concrete covered with equestrian pavers. The stalls are accessed by double sliding doors that consist of horizontal pine sheathing on the bottom half and vertical iron bars on the top.

Throughout the barn, horizontal knotty pine sheathing covers the walls. An enclosed stair in the barn's northwest corner climbs to the immense three-story hayloft. The second, third and fourth stories at the west end of the barn are separated from the loft by a partition wall that divides the loft from smaller storage rooms. The third and fourth story rooms are accessed from an open stair that runs up the outside of the partition wall. The fourth story room still houses the machinery that powered the pulley system that moved the hay bales the length of the massive loft. A hay auger brought the bales from the ground to the loft. The bales were then stacked from floor to ceiling (Nelson interview). From the hayloft, the structure's impressive frame is visible forty feet above the floor. The open span roof is supported by a series of closely spaced rafters made up of six, one-inch by six-inch laminated boards, flexed to create the roof's bell shape. Floors are six-inch wide pine planks pierced with square hay chutes around the perimeter.

## **2. Calf Barn, 1934, contributing building**

The calf barn sheltered the calves born at Wakefield from five days of age until they were about six months of age (Leonard interview). The T-shaped structure consists of a two-story, three-bay,

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front gable main block flanked by one-story, side-gabled wings. Original shingles, painted white, cover the exterior. The trim is dark green. Documentary photos indicate that the nine pane, divided light, tilt-in windows are original. These windows remain in most openings on all but the front elevations. Windows are set in simple surrounds. 1963 documentary photographs reveal that X-batten shutters, like those found on the dairy barn, covered the windows. The front elevation was altered in the 1980s to accommodate the offices for the North Hills Corporation (Schilling interview). The original wood sliding doors seen in a documentary photograph have been replaced by modern, glass, double entry doors. A canvas awning shelters the front entry. The awning is minimally attached to the façade and has not permanently damaged or altered it. The original doors to the second story hayloft have been replaced with six-over-six, double-hung windows.

Portions of the interior have been altered to accommodate offices, however the calf barn does retain some original materials and features of its plan. Partition walls have been erected in the north and south ends of the main block and one-story wings, creating a large central office space with two flanking offices. Original walls retain vertical pine sheathing, although it has been painted. The cement floor has been covered with carpet.

The rear portion of the calf barn is now used as storage and has been less altered. The sheathing is unpainted and the cement floor remains. On either side of the center passage are four stalls. Chamfered pine posts remain at the front corner of each stall. On the north side of the center passage the stalls have been in-filled with dry wall to create individual storage spaces, however the chamfered posts are still visible. In this rear section the nine pane divided lights remain, as does the hardware that secured them in the tilt-in position. The second story hayloft has been altered for use as apartments for farm hands. It is unknown when this alteration was made.

### **3. Bull Barn, 1934, contributing building**

Unaltered from its 1934 date of construction, the bull barn is a two-story, front gable, wood frame building with a shed wing on the west elevation. A hay hood projects beyond the barn's gable-end wall like that of both the dairy and calf barns. The bull barn is sheathed with German siding and has "X" design motif doors and shutters. Like the dairy barn, the bull barn is painted gray with dark green trim. The façade is pierced by an entry door and a band of four window openings on the first story, and two sliding hayloft doors on the second story. Three doors on the

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first story of the east elevation provided entry for the bulls to their stalls from the outside. Due to their dangerous nature, there were never more than three bulls on the farm at one time (Nelson interview).

Three bull stalls comprise most of the first-floor interior space. The stalls are constructed out of massive wood planks, necessary to secure the 3,000 pound bulls. A side passage provided access to the water and feed troughs at the front of the stalls. The barn's dirt floor remains. The second story hayloft is accessed by a ladder stair that rises behind the front door.

**Integrity Statement**

The remaining structures of the Wakefield Dairy Complex retain exterior integrity of materials and design elements. Slight modifications have been made to the east elevation of the calf barn and the south and east elevations of the dairy barn. Although the interior plans of the dairy and calf barns have been somewhat altered, the interiors still retain much of the original materials. The bull barn's interior is unaltered. The arrangement of the buildings illustrates the interdependency of the structures. While the pasture and the milk house have been lost, the remaining structures illustrates how the dairy herd was housed, fed and raised.

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**SECTION 8/ STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**Summary**

The Wakefield Dairy Complex was constructed in 1934 for John Sprunt Hill's Guernsey dairy herd. Hill was a prominent North Carolina banker, businessman and philanthropist. His farm at Wakefield was one of three model dairy farms he owned in Wake and Durham Counties. The complex is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, for architecture as an intact Wake County dairy complex consisting of an 8,000 square foot Gothic-roofed dairy barn, a calf barn and a bull barn. The stylish structures at Wakefield are unified by decorative motifs, such as the white and green paint theme and the X-batten window shutters and doors. These design elements identify each building as part of the larger complex. The complex's size and architectural detailing set it apart from the modest working farmsteads that characterized Wake County's rural environment.

The Wakefield Dairy Complex is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, for agriculture, as an assemblage of buildings that tells the story of progressive dairy farming in Wake County from 1934 through 1951, when the buildings were converted to house and feed beef cattle. By the 1930s the cotton boll weevil had reached Wake County, forcing farmers to abandon cotton production and diversify their farming operations. In an effort to overcome the state's reliance on tobacco and cotton, the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service encouraged Wake County farmers to undertake dairy production. County extension agents provided farmers with barn plans that incorporated modern sanitary practices intended to increase milk quality and production. As a result of this effort, the volume of milk produced in the county quadrupled between 1920 and 1930. While the most of the pasture and the milk house have been lost, the remaining three structures illustrates how the dairy herd was housed, fed and raised.

The architectural and historic context of the Wakefield Dairy Complex is established in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Wake County, (ca. 1770-1941)." Historical context for the complex is presented in "Context 4: Boom, Bust, and Recovery Between the World Wars," (pages E65- 78) and in Property Type 2: Outbuildings (pages F117-124) which describes the Wakefield Dairy Barn. The dairy complex meets the registration requirements for outbuildings/complexes as outlined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (page F124).

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**Historical Background**

The Wakefield Dairy Complex is what remains of John Sprunt Hill's 2,200-acre Wakefield Farm. Hill was born in Duplin County in 1869. After graduating from the University of North Carolina, Hill attended law school at Columbia University, graduating in 1894. While working as an attorney in New York City, Hill met and married Annie Louise Watts of Durham, North Carolina. Annie Louise was the only daughter of George Washington Watts, owner of the American Tobacco Company. Due to Watts' illness, Hill and his wife returned to Durham in 1903 so Hill could take over management of the American Tobacco Company. Once in Durham, Hill was active in local business, government, and philanthropic ventures until his death in 1961. (Hill's Durham home at 900 South Duke Street is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.) Hill established the Home Savings Bank, and the Durham Bank and Trust Company. He also served on the Board of Directors of local businesses such as Erwin Mills and Home Security Life Insurance. Hill's philanthropic contributions include the endowment of the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina, construction of the Durham Athletic Park, and donations of land and money for the Hillandale Golf Course and Watts Hospital.

In the years following the Depression, Hill purchased many small local banks to form what would later become Central Carolina Bank. One of the banks Hill acquired was the Bank of Wake Forest. Hill's tract at Wakefield was assembled through foreclosure sales. The farmers around Wake Forest were eager to divest of their no-longer-profitable farms and Hill provided a welcome opportunity to do so (Nelson interview). Hill amassed a large tract on which he could indulge his farming hobby, particularly his interest in raising Guernsey dairy cows. By the time Hill acquired the Wakefield tract his family was already operating three dairy farms in Durham County; Wakefield Farm became the Wake County outpost for Hill's dairy operations. The farm also produced hay for feed, and hybrid corn and carala wheat. Hill also raised Percheron draft horses there.

Construction on the Wakefield Dairy Complex began in 1934. The buildings were added to the many structures already on the property including the Wakefield Plantation House, tenant houses, slave dwellings, barns and sheds. (All of these structures have been demolished.) The plantation house was occupied by farm manager Leslie Forbes (Nelson interview). S.O. Rich of Knoxville, Tennessee was hired by Hill to oversee construction of the buildings. Thomas Hicks,

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builder of the mill housing at the Royall Cotton Mill in Wake Forest, was hired as master carpenter. All timber was cut and milled on the property.

Hill's chosen breed of cow was the Guernsey, a breed known for the high quality of its milk and easy going nature. It is likely that the Wakefield herd was created at least in part from those Quail Roost, Croas Daile and Hillandale. Annual reports of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension from the 1930s and 1940s reveal that cows were shuttled back and forth between the farms. For example, in 1940 "Quail Roost Clara" produced 1339 pounds of milk at Wakefield Farm. Hill's herd numbered around thirty-five cows, far less than his large land holdings and huge, modern barn could support (Nelson interview).

Hill was an active member of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, or DHIA. The North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service sponsored the association. The purpose of the DHIA was to encourage progressive dairy and breeding practices and to recognize farmers who incorporated these practices through a testing and reward system. Cows from Hill's Wakefield Farm, as well as his Durham County farms and George Watt's Hill's Quail Roost Farm, appear on the DHIA "Honor Roll" throughout the 1930s. Honor roll cows were milked three times per day and produced at least 300 pounds of butterfat annually. In 1939, only fifty-eight of the state's 116 DHIA herds had honor roll cows. Six of the twenty-nine cows at Wakefield were placed on the honor roll in 1940. Despite Hill's strict adherence to progressive dairy practices, he did not utilize the milking machines that were becoming prevalent in the 1930s. Each cow at Wakefield was milked by hand. Hill believed that the machines damaged the cow's udders thus causing an overall decrease in production (Nelson interview).

By the 1930s, Wake County had approximately twenty large dairy operations, most of which sold their milk to the local Pine State Creamery. Ever the entrepreneur, Hill established Long Meadow Dairy in Durham to process the milk from his Wake and Durham County dairy farms. Hill also founded a farmer's co-operative based in Durham County to provide feed, seed, fertilizer and fuel to local farmers. The co-operative later merged with Southern States Cooperative, one of the largest farmer-owned co-ops in the U.S.

John Sprunt Hill sold the farm to his son George Watts Hill in 1947. George Watts Hill sold the farm to A.P. Brown in 1951. In 1952, the farm was sold to Gregory Poole, who maintained 500 head of Hertford beef cattle on the tract. The North Hills Corporation purchased the land in the 1980s. Once the buildings were no longer used for agricultural purposes, many fell in disrepair

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and were demolished. In the late 1990s, the land was sold again to the developers of the Wakefield subdivision. In 2000 Mary Schilling purchased the complex and eleven acres to save it from demolition. Schilling carefully restored the structures and received the 2001 Anthemion Award from Capital Area Preservation, Inc. in recognition of her efforts. Today the barn houses horses.

**Architecture and Agriculture Contexts**

The Wakefield Dairy Complex is one of only a few dairy complexes surviving in Wake County, out of approximately twenty that operated in the early 1930s (Lally 141). Other surviving large, early twentieth dairy complexes in Wake County are the Charles Y. Williams Farm near Knightdale, the Nipper and Bailey Farms in the Bayleaf community in the northern part of the county, and the Ballentine Farm near Fuquay-Varina. None of these farms still functions as a dairy operation. The Nipper and Bailey Farms are abandoned. Two, large, brick Gothic-roofed dairy barns, similar in form to the one at the Wakefield Dairy Complex are still in use at the North Carolina State University School of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh.

None of the surviving dairy complexes in Wake County display the level of architectural detail found at the Wakefield Dairy Complex. The typical Wake County dairy barn is a simple building on a family farm where the dairy activities were part of a diversified farm operation. Barns were often expected to perform a variety of functions, such as feed and equipment storage and livestock shelter, and were adapted over time to meet changing needs and practices. Generally, barns were simple, unadorned structures. The Nipper Dairy Farm is anchored by an early twentieth century, one-story farm house and includes a circa 1930 gable-end barn, a 1955 gambrel roof barn, two 1930s silos, a 1940s metal corn bin, 1950s hay shed and a chicken house. The Nipper family cultivated corn and cotton until cotton became unprofitable in the 1920s. From the 1930s through the 1980s, dairy products provided the family's main source of income, although that income was always augmented by other crops.

Wakefield Farm was not an owner-occupied family farm. Owner John Sprunt Hill assembled his 2,200 acre tract at the end of the Depression to create a show place where he could demonstrate the latest in agricultural architecture and dairy practices. (By 1932 when Wakefield farm was under construction, Hill already owned two Guernsey dairy farms in Durham County, Hillandale, and Croas Daile. His son, George Watts Hill owned Quail Roost Farm also in Durham County. Of the three, only Quail Roost Farm remains. Its large barn is identical to the

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one at Wakefield Farm. The farm is owned by a Hill descendent and is used for horses.) In an effort to diversify North Carolina's farm industry and to overcome the state's reliance on tobacco and cotton production, the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service provided assistance to farmers throughout the state in the early twentieth century. The Extension provided brochures and bulletins containing plans for modern dairy barns and also referred farmers to other such publications from the Office of Rural Engineering and the State Board of Health. The Wakefield Dairy Barn incorporates many state-of-the-art features promoted in these publications such as milking stanchions, feed and waste troughs, and a mechanized hay bale moving system. However, these features are not unique to Wakefield and are found in other Wake County dairy barns. The Wakefield Dairy Complex is distinguished from other local dairies by its size and exterior appearance. Unlike the simple and unadorned side-gable milking barns found at the Nipper and Bailey Farms, the stylish structures at Wakefield are unified by decorative motifs, such as the white and green paint theme and the X-batten window shutters and doors. These design elements identify each building as part of the larger complex. The size of the buildings and the level of architectural embellishment sets the Wakefield Dairy Complex apart from the modest working farmsteads that characterized Wake County.

Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries it was common for wealthy men to create showplace farms that utilized progressive farming techniques and state-of-the-art equipment. The purpose of these endeavors was twofold; to show off the owner's wealth, and to serve as model farms that encouraged modern agricultural practices. Piedmont North Carolina has several surviving examples of model farm buildings constructed by "gentleman farmers". In the mid-nineteenth century Paul Cameron, said to be the richest man in the state, built a stylish, hipped-roof, board-and-batten barn on his 30,000 acre tract in current day Durham County. Cameron claimed it was "the best stables ever built in Orange (*sic*) County" (Bishir 258). In the 1910s tobacco magnate R.J. Reynolds built Reynolda Village on his one-thousand-acre estate outside of Winston-Salem. The Bungalow-style complex was intended to be a model of self-sufficient agriculture, and included agricultural buildings, business offices, worker housing, a school and a church. John Sprunt Hill followed the tradition of the Piedmont gentleman farmer when he began acquiring land and building model farms in the 1920s. Wakefield's dairy complex may be the sole representative of a privately-owned model farm in Wake County.

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**SECTION 9/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Wake County, North Carolina

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**SECTION 10/GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**Boundary Description**

The boundary includes approximately 6 acres of land delineated by a heavy black line on the accompanying 1"= 200' scale Wake County tax map.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the three remaining buildings and six acres associated with twentieth century dairy farming at Wakefield Farm. The Triangle Players Club Golf Club is located to the south and southeast of the nominated property and the Wakefield Plantation housing subdivision borders the property to the north and west, and is separated from the property by white wood fencing. The nominated six acre tract retains its historic appearance, since it is still fenced pasturage.



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WAKEFIELD DAIRY BARN  
WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

PLAN: FIRST FLOOR

Project

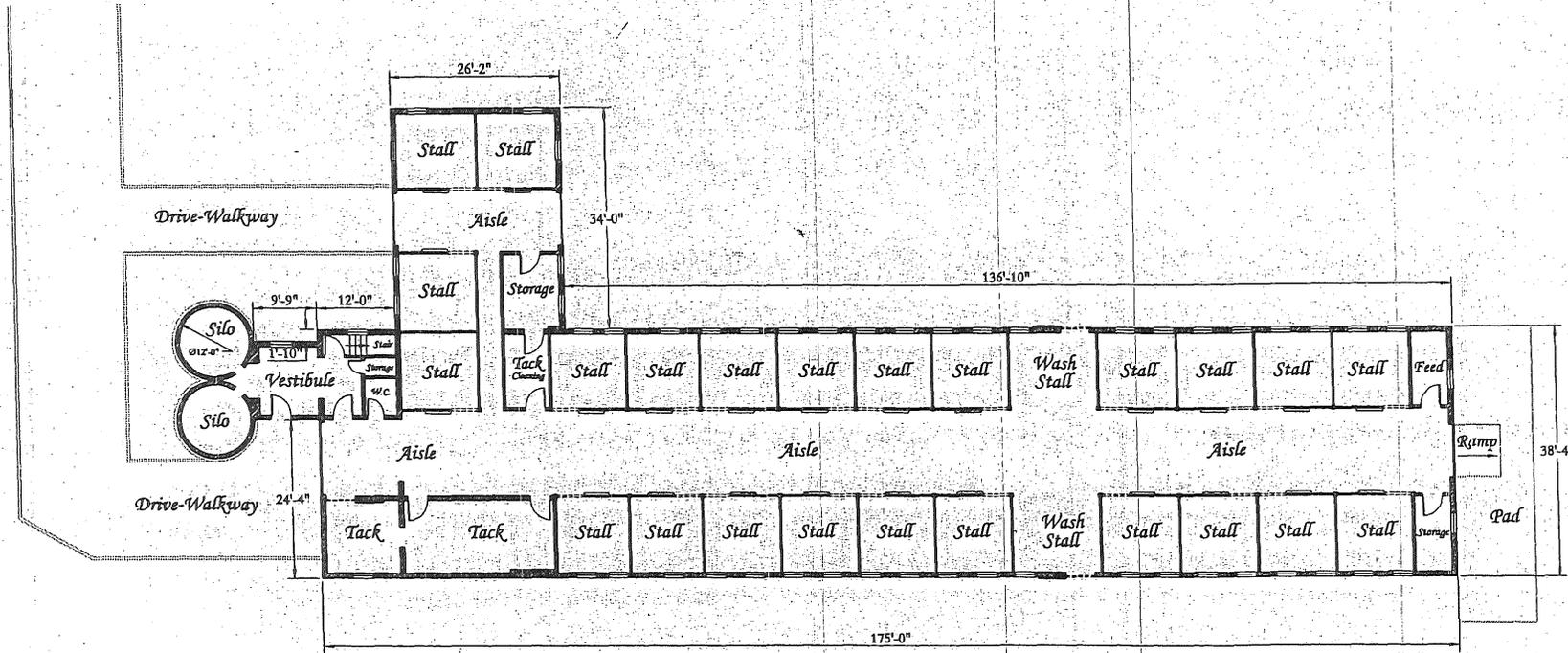
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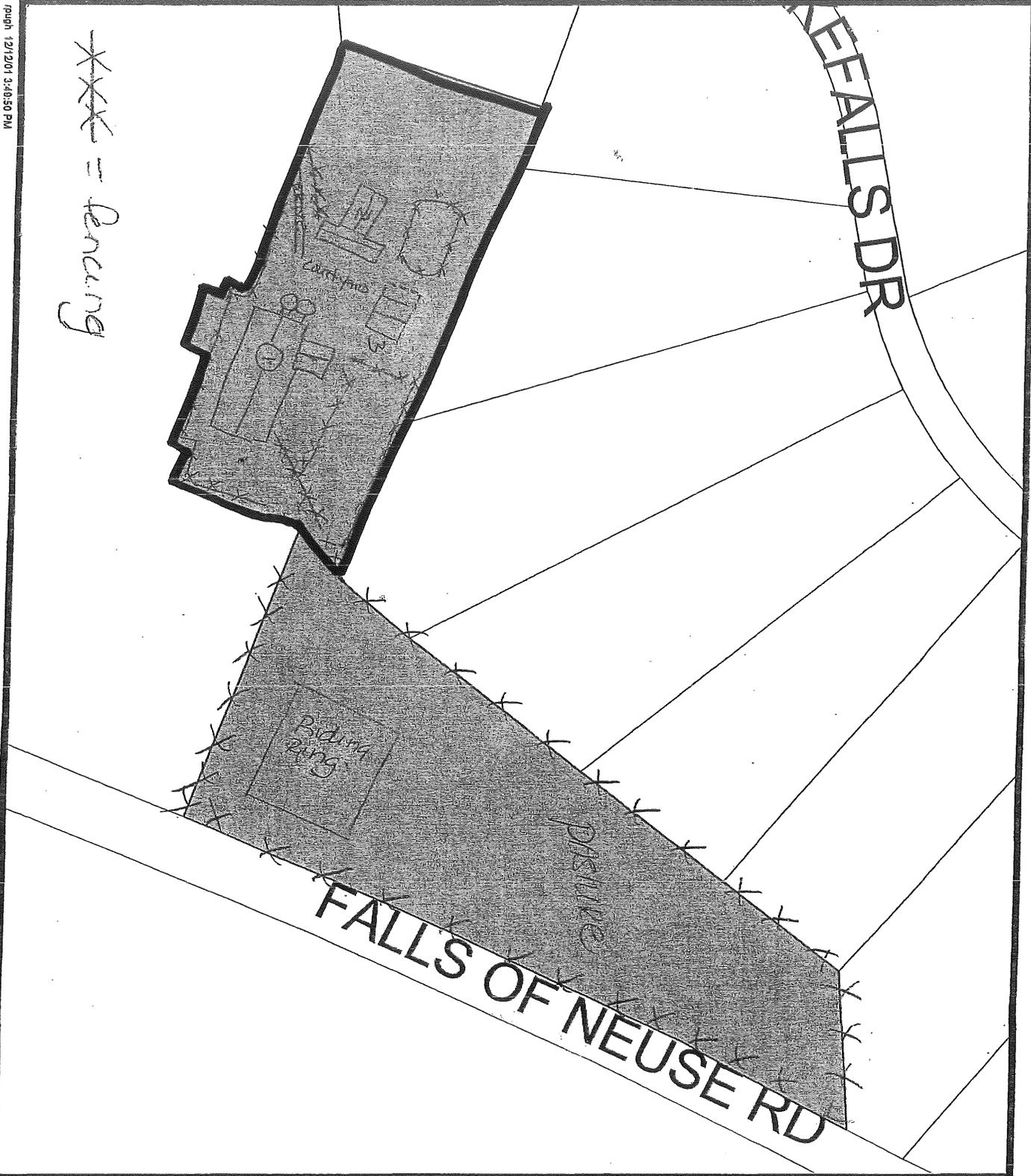
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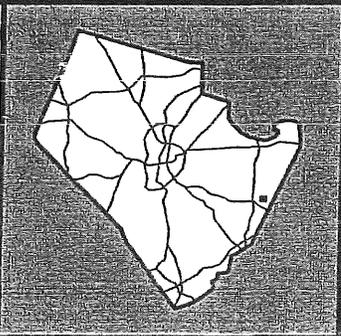
WAKEFIELD DAIRY BARN: PLAN - FIRST FLOOR

~~XXX~~ = fencing



This document is a graphic representation only of field-surveyed contours. Wake County assumes no responsibility for any errors.

Wakefield Dairy Complex  
 Site plan  
 12417 Falls of the Neuse Road  
 (SR 2000)  
 Wake County, North Carolina  
 — Boundary of nominated property



WAKE COUNTY  
 PLANNING  
 DEPARTMENT  
 WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

WAVEFIELD  
DRIVE  
COMPLEX  
WAVE 57'30"  
zone  
Easting  
79280  
Northing  
3981790  
USGS  
MAP  
WAVE  
FALLS  
NC

