

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 Heartsfield-Perry Farm

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

2. Location

street & number NW side SR 2224, 0.1 mi. SW of SR 2300 N/A not for publication

city or town Rolesville  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Wake code 183 zip code 27571

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 SHPO 11/26/02  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
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:

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

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
11	2	buildings
2	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
14	2	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, NC (c. 1770-1941)

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

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

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

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
HEALTH CARE/medical office  
FUNERARY/Cemetery  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/ag. outbldg.  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facil.  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/ag. field

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

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
VACANT  
FUNERARY/cemetery  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/ag. outbldg.  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/animal facil.  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/ag. field

**7. Description**

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

Early Republic/Federal  
Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival  
Other: 19th Century Dove-tailed  
Plank Building

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone  
walls weatherboard  
roof metal  
other stone

**Narrative Description**

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

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Name of Property

Wake 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

**Period of Significance**

1790s - 1950

**Significant Dates**

1790s

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Name of Property

Wake County, NC  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 22.55 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	7
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7	3	5	0	4	0
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3	9	7	7	4	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

3 

1	7
---	---

7	3	5	5	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	7	7	5	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

2 

1	7
---	---

7	3	5	4	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	7	7	8	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4 

1	7
---	---

7	3	5	2	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	7	7	2	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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 Beth Keane, Preservation Consultant

organization Retrospective date August, 2002

street & number 2001 Metts Avenue telephone 910-815-1096

city or town Wilmington state NC zip code 28403

**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 Leslie A. and Lee Mae Pearce

street & number 6812 Oakridge Dr. telephone 919-848-0405

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27612

**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.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 1

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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### Narrative Description

The Heartsfield-Perry Farm occupies an approximate twenty-two-acre parcel in rural northeastern Wake County, near Rolesville and the Franklin County line. From the crest of a small knoll in a grove of mature oak trees, the early nineteenth-century house faces south toward the two-lane Mitchell Mill Road (SR 2224). A narrow unpaved drive, approximately one-tenth of a mile long, leads from the road to the east end of the house, passing a small family cemetery, as well as the mid-nineteenth-century office of Dr. Wesley Heartsfield, both located on the west side of the drive. Adjacent to the house to the east is a mid-nineteenth-century, detached kitchen, with a covered well situated in front of the kitchen. Approximately fifty feet from the southeast corner of the house stands a mid-nineteenth-century smokehouse with an attached shed.

A number of auxiliary outbuildings are included in the farm complex. A small privy is located approximately one-hundred feet north of the house, while a number of frame and log farm buildings, at least two of which appear to be of early- to mid-nineteenth-century vintage, are situated northeast of the main house. Later outbuildings, associated with twentieth-century tobacco cultivation, are located near the rear of the twenty-two acre parcel, northeast of the farmhouse. The outbuildings vary in condition from good to poor. Landscape features fanning out from the farm buildings in all directions include cultivated fields, pastures, and wooded areas. Because of the recent subdivision of the 200-acre farm, this nomination includes the twenty-two-acre tract remaining in the ownership of a descendent of the Perry family along with the main house and the associated outbuildings. The nominated property retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Inventory List

1. Heartsfield-Perry House    Original one-room house – 1790s  
   Addition(s) -- early nineteenth century  
   Greek Revival style update – c. 1840  
   Contributing Building

The Heartsfield-Perry House appears to have been built in three or four stages. Beginning as a modest one-room-with-loft dwelling built in the 1790s, the house was expanded during the early nineteenth century into a central passage plan, with the original room as the rear ell. It has not been confirmed through physical evidence whether this expansion was completed in one or two building episodes. It is possible that the southeast room was added first, with the central passage and southwest room added later. Also, it

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section Number 7 Page 2

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is not known if this larger house was one and half stories or two stories in height. Lastly, around 1840 the house took on its present appearance when it seems to have undergone a major transformation. The house was re-designed with a low-pitched hip roof; massive cut granite stone chimneys were constructed on the end walls of the main block and the north wall of the original room; a double-tier Greek Revival-style porch on the south façade was added; and Greek Revival two-panel doors and mantels installed in rooms in the main block.

The exterior of the Heartsfield-Perry House gives few clues as to its original appearance. The two-story house with two-story rear ell and one-story rear shed features a symmetrical three-bay facade with central doors at both levels. The front doors, each with four upper lights, are modern (c. 1973) replacements. The house has a slight eave overhang with a narrow band of trim below and narrow corner boards. A simple Victorian wraparound porch resting on stone piers spans the front of the house and the east side of the rear ell. The porch is supported by turned posts with decorative brackets and enclosed with turned balustrades. A standing-seam metal roof protects the hipped roof of the porch, as well as the main house and rear two-story ell.

Narrow six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the chimneys at the first and second stories of the east- and west-side elevations, except for the first-story bay south of the east chimney which was converted to a door. The windows on the second level hug the chimney stack, indicating that there may have a gambrel roof over the house at one time. The house is distinguished by two large double-paved-shoulder chimneys with stacks of cut granite blocks, located on the east and west elevations. The bottom third of a chimney, also of granite stone, is attached to the north elevation of the rear ell.

A close inspection of the mortared stone foundation illuminates the separate building periods of the house. The foundation under the rear ell is very likely the oldest and consists of large irregular fieldstones. The stones under the southeast corner of the house are smaller and more uniform in size, while the southwest corner foundation stones are larger, square cut granite blocks, similar to the chimney construction.

The mitered corners of the first-floor windows in the front section of the house also indicate an older date than the non-mitered second-floor windows. The windows in the rear (original) section have been replaced with six-over-six double-hung sash windows. Plain weatherboards, which likely replaced the original siding c. 1840, clad the exterior of the house. A seam is visible, however, between the oldest rear section and the front southeast portion of the house where the two rooms were joined when the house underwent its first expansion. The unmitered windows on the second floor support the premise that the main block of the house was raised to a full two stories at a later date.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section Number 7 Page 3

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Of mortise and tenon construction, the earliest section of the house is now the rear ell. A modern entrance door flanked by a six-over-six sash window is included on the first level of the rear ell addition's east elevation. An abbreviated single six-over-six sash window is located on the second level. The north elevation of the ell includes the lower one-third of a cut-stone chimney flanked by a six-over-six window on its east side. The second level of the north facade includes two narrow six-over-six sash windows positioned close to either side of where the former chimney stack would have been located. The west elevation is partially covered by a one-story shed addition attached to the north elevation (rear) of the main block of the house. It also includes one six-over-six sash window on the first level and one abbreviated six-over-six sash window on the second level.

A small one-story c. 1840 shed addition is situated on the north side of the main block of the house and attached to the west side of the two-story ell. A rear door protected by a shed roof opens into the central passage of the house. A six-over-six sash window and a small c. 1940 cinderblock chimney are located on the north elevation of the shed, west of the door. A narrow six-over-six sash window is located above the shed addition on the second level of the north elevation of the main block of the house.

The interior of the Heartsfield-Perry House provides additional clues to the various periods of construction. The present configuration of the dwelling comprises a central passage, single-pile plan with a rear two-story ell and a rear one-story shed addition. Variable-width heart pine flooring, raised two- and six-panel doors, wide, plain baseboards, and plaster walls and ceilings appear throughout the house. Wainscot in the central passage on both levels consists of flat panels constructed of horizontally placed wide pine boards. The mantels are of vernacular Federal and Greek Revival style with wide panels over the fireplace opening and flat mantelshelves.

A board-and-batten door with H-hinges and a box lock is located on the west wall of the original rear section of the house, opening into the central passage. Wainscoting in this room, currently utilized as a kitchen, includes two flush fourteen-inch boards surmounted by a flat chair rail. A vernacular Federal mantel with a three-panel frieze and a flat shelf surrounds the fireplace on the north wall. The upper walls and ceiling have been covered with sheet rock and coated with a thin layer of plaster. The floor is covered with modern sheet vinyl. An enclosed winding stair located in the southwest corner of the room rises to a small hall on the second level. The staircase is sheathed with wide flush boards. A Federal mortise-and-tenon, six-panel door provides entrance to the room over the kitchen. The outline of a former opening in the floor of the second level provides evidence that this area was formerly accessed by a ladder or a steep stair from

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section Number 7 Page 4

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the first floor. A vernacular Federal mantel with a flat panel in the frieze and a flat mantelshelf surrounds the north-end covered fireplace.

The later addition to the south is accessed through a door located in the south wall of the kitchen, adjacent to the winding stair. A thick wall, formerly the exterior wall of the original portion of the house, divides the two rooms. The room measures approximately seventeen by fifteen feet. The ceiling is rather low and the original floor has been covered with a more recent wood floor. A modern door (c. 1970) located south of the fireplace provides access to the wrap-around porch. A Federal mortise-and-tenon, six-panel door opens to the central passage. A second enclosed winding staircase, accessed from the central passage, is positioned in the northwest corner of the room.

The central passage is five-feet wide and sheathed on both sides and the ceiling with approximate one-foot wide flush boards. The lower third is divided into square sections by flat molding. To the east, an enclosed winding stair leads from the hall to the second floor. The staircase is also sheathed with wide flush boards. The staircase ascends to a central passage with a room on either side.

The southwest front room on the opposite side of the central passage is the most formal of the three first-floor rooms. The room is larger, approximately fourteen by seventeen feet, the ceiling is higher, and the mantel with its freestanding beveled columns is more formal. The door to the room from the central passage is a two-panel Greek Revival style door. The floors are of heart pine boards and the walls and ceilings have been covered with sheet rock and plastered.

The room over the southeast room is slightly higher than the adjacent room over the original part of the house, requiring a step up to enter the room from the back staircase and hall. The mantel in the room is similar to the one in the room below it with double tier pilasters and a flat panel frieze and flat mantelshelf. The floor retains the original heart-pine floorboards, while the walls and ceilings are covered with plaster.

The mantel in the upper-level, west-side room is also similar to the mantel in the room below it, minus the beveled columns. The floor between the upper-level front rooms slants considerably downward when crossing the passage from the southeast room to the southwest room.

The current owner updated the house in 1973 with indoor plumbing, modern kitchen appliances, and a heating and cooling system. The one-story shed room attached to the rear (north side) of the house incorporates a laundry room, a closet and a c. 1973 bathroom. A second-story bathroom was added at approximately the same time west of



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 6

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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5. Privy c. 1900 Contributing Outbuilding

Located approximately one hundred feet behind the main house, the two-hole privy measures five feet, nine inches by four feet, four inches. The wood frame building sits on a concrete block foundation and is covered with five-inch board siding and capped by a galvanized steel roof.

6. Doctor's Office c. 1840 Contributing Outbuilding

Dr. Wesley Heartsfield's office is located on the western side of the driveway, approximately one hundred feet off the southwest corner of the main house. The frame building measures eighteen feet, four inches by sixteen feet, three inches and faces east. The office rests on a rubble stone foundation and includes a storage room (cellar) underneath the building. The entrance door (replacement) is centered on the east elevation and consists of diagonally-laid planks. Original windows on the east elevation have been sided over. Weatherboard siding (not original) covers the building, while the hipped roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. A double four-pane sliding window (replacement) is located on the north side. The original exterior-end, cut stone chimney remains on the south side of the building. The office is one of only a few rural professional offices still standing in Wake County.

7. Mule Barn c. 1805 Contributing Outbuilding

A one-story log structure measuring eleven feet by twenty-nine feet, eight inches formerly utilized as a mule barn, sits approximately one hundred feet from the northeast corner of the detached kitchen. The building rests on stone piers and includes a wood foundation. The gable-end building exhibits V-notched log construction with hatchet marks. The structure is currently partially faced with weatherboards. The building includes three stalls, lined with plywood nailed to interior boards and enclosed by various plywood doors. A metal roof covers the barn. The building is currently in poor condition.

8. Pack House c. 1940 Contributing Outbuilding

A two-story frame gable-front packhouse, measuring eighteen feet, six inches by twenty feet, six inches, with weatherboard siding and a metal roof sits approximately fifty



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 8

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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eighteen feet, four inches. The building rests on a stone foundation, while the siding consists of a double layer of vertical boards with a layer of felt in between. The gable roof was of 5V crimped galvanized steel, but the felled tree has destroyed the roof. The barn has two attached sheds on the south and east sides.

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13. Tobacco Barn #2 w/horse shed c. 1950 Contributing building

Of wood frame construction, this eighteen by eighteen foot gable-roofed building rests on a concrete block foundation and has a double layer of vertical board structural skin and a 5V crimped galvanized steel roof. Attached to the west side is a four-stall horse shed of pole barn construction measuring eighteen by thirty-seven feet.

14. Tobacco Barn #3 c. 1970 Noncontributing building

Measuring eighteen by eighteen feet, this wood frame tobacco barn rests on a concrete block foundation, has plywood sheathing, and is topped with a 5V crimped galvanized gable metal roof. A shed addition is attached to the east side of the building.

15. Cemetery c. 1850-1972 Contributing Site

Situated near the entrance to the property on the west side of the driveway, the family cemetery is largely overgrown by bushes and vines and not accessible. Previous surveyors have attested that the remains of the Heartsfield, Price, and Perry family members are buried in the cemetery. The only headstones currently visible mark the graves of Julia Alice Mitchell Price (January 23, 1895 to May 6, 1972) and D. B. Price (August 14, 1885 to August 12, 1948) along with Tiggs Price, Herman Dwight Price and Winnie Price (no dates). The Price family obtained permission from the Perry family to bury family members on the property.

16. Agricultural Landscape c. 1850-present Contributing Site

The surviving agricultural landscape continues to contribute to the historic character of the Heartsfield-Perry Farm and consists primarily of cultivated fields lying south, east, and west of the farmhouse. Hardwood trees shade the farmhouse and line the northern edge of the property. A board fence connects the farm buildings, providing an enclosed paddock area for the farm's three resident horses. The land continues to be used essentially as it was during the period of significance of the farm. The agricultural landscape conveys the visual character typical of this area of northeastern Wake County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 9

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Heartsfield-Perry Farm and its full complement of associated outbuildings are important resources associated with the nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century agrarian life of Wake County. Locally significant under Criterion C for architecture, the Heartsfield-Perry Farm illustrates late-eighteenth- and early- to mid-nineteenth-century vernacular building practices in northeastern Wake County. Built in three or four stages from the 1790s through ca. 1840, the house exhibits a progressive enlargement that such a house would undergo as the owner's family size increased and became more prosperous. The house also exhibits the desire of rural property owners to update their homes in the current popular architectural style by the addition of architectural trim, mantels, doors, and porches. Although the house currently appears as a two-story, single-pile house with a central passage and a two-story rear ell and one-story rear shed addition, evidence remains of the original one-story-with-loft, mortise-and-tenon 1790s house resting on a rubble stone foundation. Extensive intact woodwork includes paneled wainscoting, pine floors, plain, wide baseboards, two enclosed staircases to the second floor, and Federal and Greek Revival-style mantels in each room.

The property is also being nominated under Criterion A for agriculture. The Heartsfield-Perry Farm, with its expansive rural setting, is an outstanding and rare example of an antebellum farm complex in Wake County. The property comprises a number of outbuildings including a detached kitchen, a free-standing physician's office, a smokehouse, a log barn, a converted feed barn which may originally have been a slave house, and a covered well, all dating from the early to mid nineteenth century. An early twentieth-century horse barn and a privy are also among the associated outbuildings. Structures associated with the tobacco production from the first half of the twentieth century include a pack house and three tobacco barns. The farm buildings illustrate the shift in crops produced during the farm's long history. The period of significance begins c. 1790, when it is believed the original portion of the house was constructed, and extends to c. 1950, the date of the last contributing outbuilding.

The historic and architectural context for the Heartsfield-Perry Farm is established in the multiple property documentation form (MPDF) entitled *Historic and Architectural Resources of Wake County, North Carolina (ca. 1770-1941)*. The historical context is specifically covered in Context 1: British and Africans Shape an Agrarian Society (Colonial Period to 1860), Context 2: Civil War, Reconstruction, and a Shift to Commercial Agriculture (1861-1885), Context 3: Populism to Progressivism (1885-1918), and Context 4: Boom, Bust, and Recovery Between World Wars (1919-1941). The property, incorrectly identified and spelled as the Hartsfield-Price-Perry Farm (WA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 10

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

1832) in the MPDF on page 3 of the Introduction, was placed on the North Carolina Study List in 1991. The Heartsfield-Perry Farm has the characteristics of Property Type 1A: Farm Complexes from the Colonial Period to 1865 (Section F, page 109-111). The later nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings at the farm are also indicative of farm complexes from this time period which are described under Property Types 1B and 1C. The house itself is also listed under Property Type 3A: Houses Built from the Colonial Period to the Civil War Era (c. 1770-1865) (Section F, page 125-131), where it was cited as the Hartsfield-Price-Perry Farm. The farm complex as a whole meets the registration requirements as outlined on page 117 of Section F, as it contains the requisite historic resources with very good historic integrity.

### **Historical Background and Agriculture Context**

Andrew Heartsfield (b. 1765), who established his home on the Little River in northeastern Wake County, was one of six children born to Andrew Heartsfield and the former Sarah Lynn McElroy. The elder Andrew Heartsfield had begun to acquire substantial landholdings in present-day Wake County as early as 1761. In January of that year, he received a Granville grant for 357 acres on "both sides of Crabtree Creek." Numerous tracts were acquired by the elder Heartsfield in this general area (Angley, p.1).

The earliest documentary evidence of the younger Andrew Heartsfield's acquiring property in northeast Wake County occurs in a deed registered in 1798 but quite possibly executed much earlier. In this deed, Heartsfield received from William Jeffreys (for the sum of five hundred and a half silver dollars) 252 1/4 acres land on the South side of the Cedar prong of Little River. It is conceivable that this land had already been improved by Jeffreys before its sale to Heartsfield, considering the recited consideration seems very high for the acreage involved. On the basis of architectural analysis and documentary evidence, it may be surmised that the original one-room-with-loft house was included in this purchase and likely built during the 1790s (Angley, pp. 1-2). Andrew Heartsfield, was listed in the federal census of 1790 with his wife, Siddie, ten additional free whites, and five slaves. Their children included James, Mary, Elizabeth (b. 1800, d. 1866), Martha (b. 1806), Cynthia, and Wesley (b. 1810). In consideration of his growing family, Andrew Heartsfield enlarged the house during the early nineteenth century creating a central passage, single pile house with a rear ell.

In 1805 and 1808 Andrew Heartsfield added considerably to his property on the Little River by purchasing tracts adjoining his existing holdings. The deed for the 1808 transaction referred specifically to "Andrew Heartsfield on Little River" indicating that he had certainly established a permanent residence in the area by that time. He subsequently added further to his holdings near present-day Mitchell's Mill and also

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 11

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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acquired considerable land slightly upstream along what was called "the middle prong of Little River" (Anglely, p. 2). Heartsfield built a dam and the area's first grist mill along the river around 1800. In addition to operating the mill and his farms, he was a Methodist preacher and served a number of congregations in the area throughout his life. By 1819, Andrew had accumulated nearly 1700 acres of land and owned at least nine slaves (Fabric, p. 5).

In 1829, Andrew Heartsfield played a prominent role in the formation of Antioch Church, which is thought to have been located somewhere on his property. He is known to have been instrumental in the establishment of the Heartsfield Meeting House near Forrestville during this same year. For many years thereafter he served as minister to both congregations; and in 1850, he played a role in merging the two churches to form the Rolesville Methodist Church, which continued in Rolesville until its removal to Wake Forest in the 1930s (Anglely, p.3).

Andrew's son, Wesley, born in 1810, grew up at the mill, studied medicine in Cincinnati, and practiced in the Rolesville area. He married Candace (Lucy) Smith of Forrestville (Wake Forest) on February 21, 1835 (Heartsfield family folder). In 1839, Andrew Heartsfield deeded to his son, Wesley, a 1,131-acre parcel including the Heartsfield homeplace (Wake County Deed Book 15, p. 256). With what he received from his father, in addition to land he purchased from Bryan Green and William Jeffreys, Dr. Wesley Heartsfield accumulated sizable holdings on both sides of the Little River prior to the Civil War. Wesley and Candace became the parents of nine children, eight of whom were listed in the 1860 census as follows: John (age 23, a student of medicine), Jacob (age 21, farmer), Flavius (age 19), Della (age 17), Alva (age 15), Henry (age 14), Siddy (age 8), and Alice (age 7). Wesley's father, Andrew Heartsfield (age 94, Methodist minister) was also listed as a member of the household in 1860. It seems plausible that Dr. Wesley Heartsfield added the third room and raised the roof for a full second story around 1840 to accommodate his growing family.

Dr. Heartsfield served in 1859 as secretary of the Botanico Medical Society, a short-lived organization, which sought to reduce the use of "mercurial and other poisons, bleeding, blistering, freezing, starving and the knife" through treatment of diseases with herbs and other plants. Dr. Heartsfield lost three of his five sons in the Civil War. Around 1900, a small community arose near his father's "mill seat" known variously as Heartsfield or Hartsville and later as Mitchell's Mill, after R. Calvin Mitchell purchased much of the Heartsfield holdings (Green-Heartsfield House NRN, section 8, page 2).

The 1850 and 1860 census provide additional information on the farming operations carried out by Wesley Heartsfield on the plantation established by his father.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section Number 8 Page 12

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In 1850, the Heartsfield plantation embraced 750 acres under cultivation and 1,386 acres of unimproved land. The cash value of the farm was placed at \$10,000, and the principal crops were corn and cotton. At this time, Wesley Heartsfield was listed as the owner of thirty slaves. Ten years later, the Heartsfield plantation included 730 acres of improved land and 1,470 acres which were unimproved. Its cash value had now risen to \$17,000, and the number of slaves had increased to forty. These slaves were housed in nine slave dwellings, one of which may survive as a relocated outbuilding on the farm, currently utilized as a feed barn. By 1860, the Heartsfield plantation held a considerable amount of livestock and annually produced sizable quantities of peas and beans, corn, sweet potatoes, and cotton (Angle, p. 4).

In addition to his occupations of physician and farmer, Wesley Heartsfield took over operation of his father's grist mill on the Little River in 1838. He also built a sawmill in 1851 and a new grist mill the following year. In 1866, Wesley conveyed to his son, Flavius, 566 acres of land lying east of the Little River and north of the Halifax Road (now SR 2224). Located on this land was Flavius Heartsfield's residence, which still stands on the south side of SR 2303 and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1989 (Green-Heartsfield NRN)..

Wesley Heartsfield passed away in August of 1880, one year after the sale of his mill to A. J. P. Hams, who, in turn, sold the mill to Richard Calvin Mitchell in 1883. His estate was subsequently divided into three parts. Parcel No. 1, including the Heartsfield homeplace and some 200 acres was allotted to Heartsfield's daughter, Alice S. Heartsfield. The lands included in this tract bordered the mill tract and the Little River on the east and lay along both sides of Cedar Prong Creek. Parcel No. 2, also comprising 200 acres, went to his daughter, Siddle Heartsfield Barham, while Parcel No. 3, also containing 200 acres, was to be sold and the proceeds divided equally between the children of Lucy E. McKay and son, Jacob A. Heartsfield. The will mentioned that his surviving sons, Jacob and Flavius, had already been given "all intended for them to have from the estate" (Will Book A, p. 193).

Alice Heartsfield married William E. Redford of Wake Forest on January 23, 1884 (Wake County Vital Records). It can be assumed that during the time period that the Redfords owned the farm, that the family entered into sharecropper and tenant farmer agreements. It has been reported that cotton farmers in Wake Forest Township in the northeast had a thirty-nine percent rate of tenancy among 157 whites and ninety-five percent among 188 blacks in 1880. Wake Forest area farmers, with richer, more valuable soils and a higher concentration of non-landowning former slaves, tended to take greater financial risks and produced large cotton crops (Lally, p. 37). Beginning in the 1880s, however, a growing number of Wake County farmers were turning to more lucrative

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 13

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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bright leaf tobacco, since it could bring three times more money than cotton (Lally, p. 49).

Alice and her husband sold the Heartsfield homeplace along with 153 acres to Burrell Perry (b. July 24, 1850, d. June 12, 1933) and his wife, Annie May Perry (b. November 20, 1869, d. March 14, 1934) on October 5, 1904 (Deed Book 195, p. 57). William Redford died on May 2, 1923, while his wife, Alice Heartsfield Redford, died on September 8, 1934. They are buried at Wake Forest Cemetery (Wake County Vital Records).

Burrell and Annie Perry lived on the farm from 1904 until their deaths in the early 1930s. The Perrys raised their family and farmed the land, growing principally tobacco, cotton, and corn. They also raised pigs and chickens and kept several milk cows, as well as mules and horses for pulling the plows. They relied on at least one tenant farmer, along with hired hands to help them with the farm (Pearce interview, April 4, 2002). Because census statistics after 1890 fail to distinguish between farm sizes of owners and tenants, it is difficult to determine the exact types and amounts of crops grown on individual farms. It is safe to surmise, however, that tobacco became the prominent cash crop early in the twentieth century, with corn running a close second. When the tobacco wilt hit about the time of World War I, many families turned to alternate crops such as wheat and soybeans. In 1944, a new wilt-resistant variety of tobacco restored some of the tobacco prosperity and soon every farmer in the area was experimenting with the new wilt-resistant tobacco (Lally, p. 88). The addition of tobacco related outbuildings on the farm indicate that this continued to be an important crop throughout the latter half of the twentieth century. For example, the packhouse, used for packing and storing of tobacco leaves before going to market was added to the property in the 1940s, while the tobacco barns were added in the 1920s, 1940s, and 1950s.

Upon the death of Annie Perry in 1934, the farm was left to her daughter, Willie Mae (b. February 13, 1894, d. January 4, 1970). Willie Mae Perry married Lee Wyatt Jones (b. January 13, 1889, d. April, 1962) on November 29, 1914 (Wake County Vital Records). The house was occupied by a tenant farmer during the period the Jones owned the farm.

The Joneses had five children: Durwood, Lee Mae (b. Jun 28 1923), Donald, Bobby W., and Millard. Their daughter, Lee Mae, married Leslie Arthur Pearce (b. April 20, 1920) on June 7, 1947 (Wake County Vital Records). Willie Mae Jones devised the Heartsfield-Perry Farm, including 112 acres, to two of her children, Durwood Jones and Lee Mae Jones Pearce in 1970 (Will File #70-E-87). Durwood and his wife, Clarice, sold their share of the inheritance (59 acres) to his sister, Lee Mae Pearce, in 1973 (Deed

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 14

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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Book 2136, p. 165).

Lee Mae and Leslie Arthur Pearce retained ownership of the house and 112 acres for twenty-nine years, renting the house to various tenants over the years, while also leasing the land for farming. The principal crops grown during the last thirty years have included tobacco, corn, soybeans, and wheat. The Pearces' made several improvements to the house in 1973 including the addition of indoor plumbing, a heating and cooling system, two bathrooms, and the addition of interior kitchen appliances. They also added several of the tobacco barns located near the rear of the nominated parcel, one in 1950 and one in 1973 (Pearce interview, April 4, 2002). On January 7, 2002, Lee Mae Pearce sold eighty-nine acres to the Trust for Public Land, a California nonprofit corporation, while retaining ownership of twenty-acres, the farmhouse, and associated outbuildings. Wake County, in agreement with the Trust for Public Land, has resolved to maintain the acreage as open space or park land.

Although the house has previously been referred to as the Heartsfield-Price-Perry House, there is no documentary evidence that the Price family ever owned any portion of the nominated property. Julie Alice Price (b. January 23, 1895, d. May 6, 1972), who is buried on the property along with several Price family members, was the daughter of Richard Calvin Mitchell who owned the mill property during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Price family received permission to bury family members on the property from the Perry family.

### Architectural Context

Much of the architectural context is derived from the multiple property documentation form entitled, *Historic and Architectural Resources of Wake County, North Carolina (ca. 1770-1941)*, completed in 1993 at the conclusion of the county survey conducted by Kelly A. Lally and Todd Johnson. The Heartsfield-(Price)-Perry Farm is described under Property Type 1, as a farm complex from the colonial period to 1865.

During the last years of the eighteenth century and the first years of the nineteenth, the gentry of North Carolina's central piedmont built substantial houses with greater frequency, reflecting their success as commercial agriculture increased. Yet, by and large, they tended to remain within regional traditions established before the Revolution. In Wake County, the Heartsfield-Perry House numbers among relatively few houses from the eighteenth and very early nineteenth centuries that have not undergone many subsequent alterations.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 15

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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The Heartsfield-Perry Farm is typical of many of these early houses in that it underwent a series of modifications, as the Heartsfield family grew and their fortunes increased. The current appearance of the house can be classified as late Federal style with Greek Revival details. Architectural evidence suggests, however, the original mortise-and-tenon portion of the house began as a one-story-with-loft, one-room house, built near the end of the eighteenth century. It is probable that Andrew Heartsfield was responsible for the enlargement of the house during the early nineteenth century to a central passage house with a rear ell. By creating a central passage and raising the roof to accommodate a full second-story, Heartsfield could accommodate his family. Lower level windows and the west-side front room door exhibit mitered corners, while the east-side front room door and the second-floor windows are not mitered. Paneled wainscoting and mantel pieces, likely dating from the c. 1840 update, are preserved on the interior. A central door on the facade of the upper level attests to the previous existence of a two-tiered porch, a popular Greek Revival-era embellishment. The low hipped roof, another Greek Revival characteristic, also is an indication the roof may have been changed from a gable or gambrel roof during this time period. Interior doors are a combination of Federal-era six-panel doors located in the older sections of the house and Greek Revival-era two-panel doors located on the southwest front room and the upper level rooms.

The dramatic transformation of the house c. 1840 can likely be attributed to Dr. Wesley Heartsfield, which he undertook not only for the practical purpose of accommodating his large family, but also to reflect his prominence and status in the community. Somewhat later, possibly during his daughter's ownership, the two-tiered Greek Revival porch was replaced with a stylish Victorian-era wraparound porch with turned posts and balusters and decorative sawn brackets. Indoor plumbing, heating and cooling systems, bathrooms, and modern kitchen appliances were not added to the house until 1973.

A few small but carefully finished frame houses remaining in Wake County demonstrate that in the eighteenth century even some of the county's wealthiest residents started with relatively modest dwellings. Both Joseph Lane, a Justice of the Peace, and Aaron Rogers, a planter and ferry operator, had one-room houses built in the late eighteenth century that were expanded and remodeled in the early nineteenth century. Like the Heartsfield-Perry House, both of these dwellings had large hearths, enclosed corner stairs leading to attic bedrooms and gable roofs. Like larger frame houses of the period, these modest houses had frames of hewn or sawn timbers that were mortised, tenoned, and joined together with wooden pegs, then covered with weatherboards.

A slightly more spacious house form, the central passage, single-pile plan was also prevalent among substantial farmers in this era. The Heartsfield-Perry House

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 16

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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demonstrates the expansion of a modest one-room house into a more substantial symmetrically designed house with circulation spaces, as the fortunes of Andrew and Wesley Heartsfield increased. Houses were also expanded by adding rear shed rooms or other extensions to the side or rear. There were many variations according to personal needs and preferences. Two-story dwellings became increasingly numerous in the nineteenth century.

The Heartsfield-Perry property is also an excellent example of a Wake County antebellum farm complex. Large antebellum farm complexes generally included the most stylish of Wake County's dwellings, with Georgian, Federal, or Greek Revival characteristics, depending upon the date of construction. These complexes included outbuildings common on smaller farms, such as kitchens, smokehouses, and barns, as well as dairies, wash houses, and slave dwellings. The largest among them were small communities unto themselves, with their own cotton gin houses, gristmills, blacksmith shops, stores, and sometimes schools and churches, all of which probably served neighboring farms as well.

Commanding an impressive rural view, the Heartsfield-Perry farm complex comprises, in addition to its two-story, antebellum farmhouse, a collection of early farm buildings including a mid-nineteenth century detached kitchen, an early-nineteenth-century wellhouse, a smokehouse with dovetailed plank construction, and a log mule barn. A building currently utilized as a feed barn, is thought to have been built c. 1840, and architectural evidence suggests it may have originally been utilized as a slave house or a kitchen. The mid-nineteenth century office of Dr. Wesley Heartsfield stands next to the curving drive to the house. One of only a few rural professional offices still standing in Wake County, Dr. Heartsfield's office stands one-story tall with a low hipped roof and cut-stone chimney and stone foundation.

Among other intact pre-Civil War farm complexes documented during the 1991 Wake County survey are the Hood-Anderson Farm near Eagle Rock, which boasts the county's only known, surviving antebellum store building and a rare slave or early tenant house. The George W. Scarborough Farm (WA 1958), also near Eagle Rock, has a rare dairy among other outbuildings. The Wall Plantation (WA 1666), outside of Wake Forest, includes an outstanding mid-nineteenth-century wellhouse, smokehouse, dairy, and small dwelling house; while Aspen Grove (WA 1951) west of Wendell, has two large, mortise-and-tenon frame barns.

The architectural significance of the Heartsfield-Perry Farm becomes evident in the context of extant early nineteenth-century frame houses in northeastern Wake County. Remaining on its original site, the well-preserved house epitomizes the evolution of a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 17

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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modest one-room house into a large, stylish two-story house with a rear two-story ell. The interior continues to exhibit restrained elegance and fine craftsmanship in the flat paneled and sheathed wainscoting and the vernacular Federal- and Greek Revival-style mantels. In addition, its complete set of outbuildings and surrounding fields conveys the story of the property through its two-hundred-plus years of history. Although the crops may have changed over the years, the fields continue to be farmed much the same as they were throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Long rows of corn and tobacco radiate out from the farmhouse, continuing the tradition of rural agricultural production in northeastern Wake County.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section Number 9 Page 18

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 19

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
Continuation Sheet

Heartsfield-Perry Farm  
Wake County, NC

Section 10 Page 20

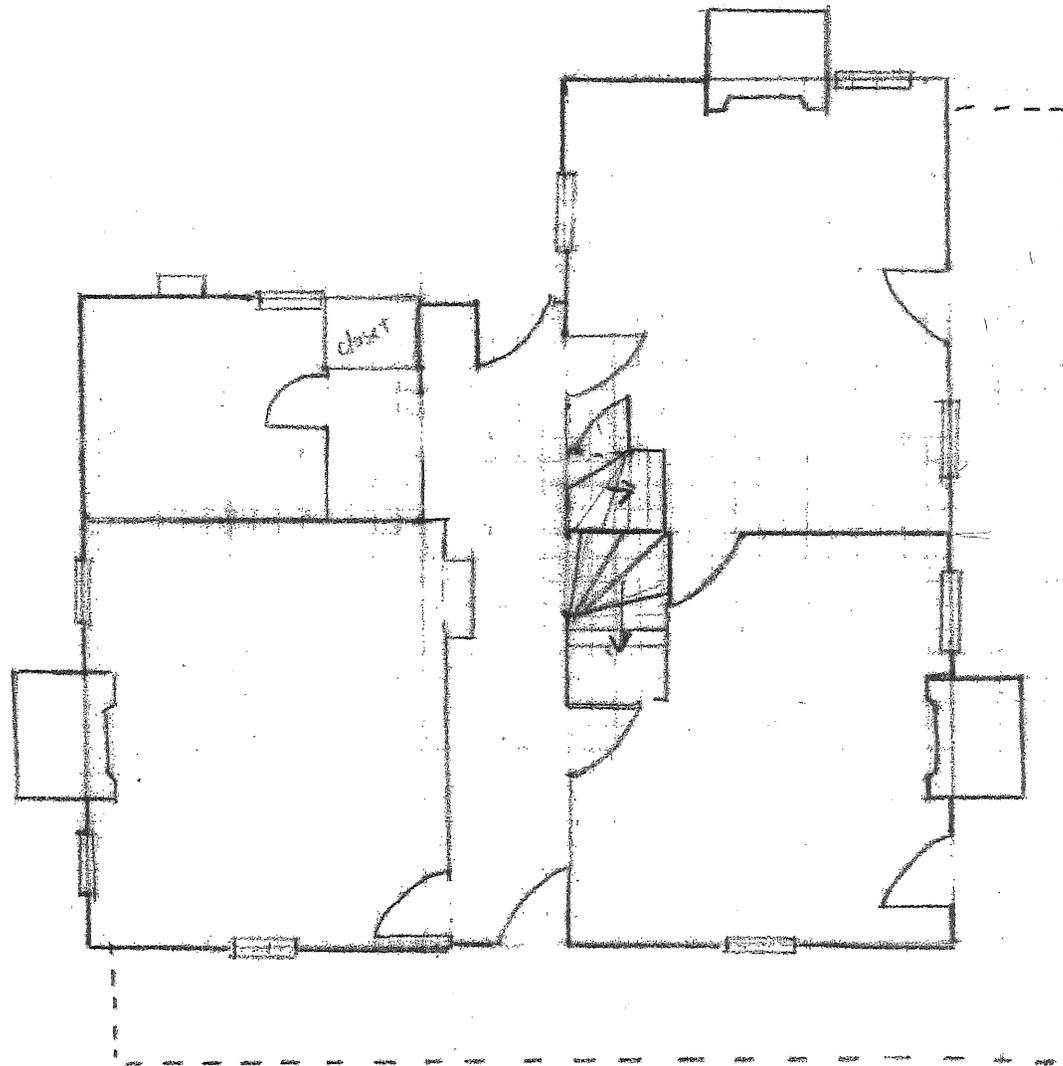
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**Verbal Boundary Description**

The Heartsfield-Perry Farm nomination includes 22.55 acres. The boundary is indicated by the shaded portion of the accompanying Wake County tax map, parcel 9836, shown at a scale of one inch equals two hundred and thirty (230) feet. The property is situated on the northwest corner of SR 2224 and SR 2305.

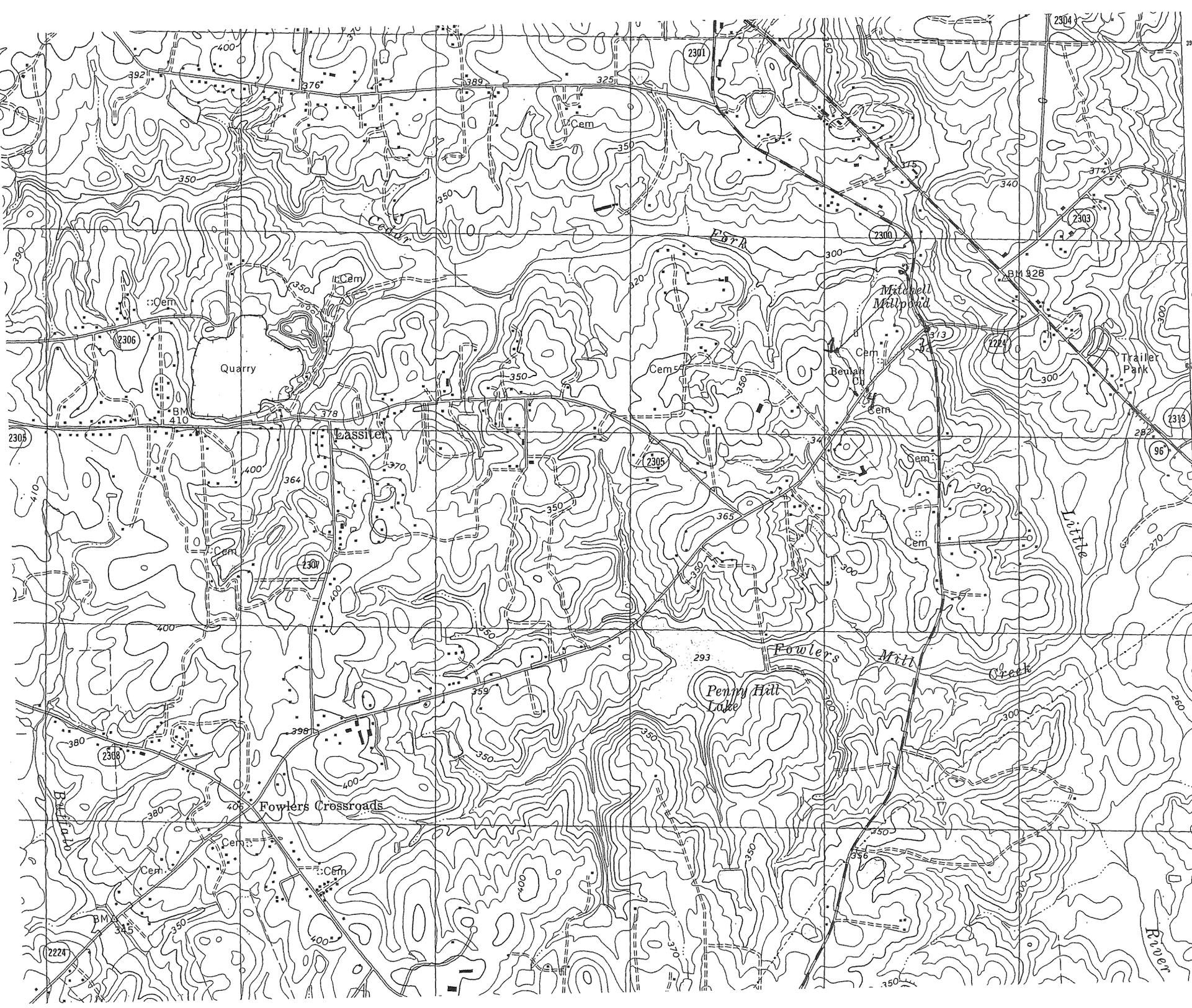
**Boundary Justification**

The property boundary for the Heartsfield-Perry Farm entails a 22.55 acre tract containing the c. 1790 Heartsfield-Perry House along with the full complement of domestic and agricultural outbuildings. It includes enough land to retain historic and architectural integrity in an agricultural landscape, including tobacco fields, corn fields, pastures, and woods. The nominated parcel is the entire acreage remaining in ownership of a Perry family descendent.



HEARTSFIELD-PERRY HOUSE  
NW side SR 2224, 0.1 mi. SW of SR 2300  
Rolesville vicinity, Wake County, NC

1 inch = 8 feet



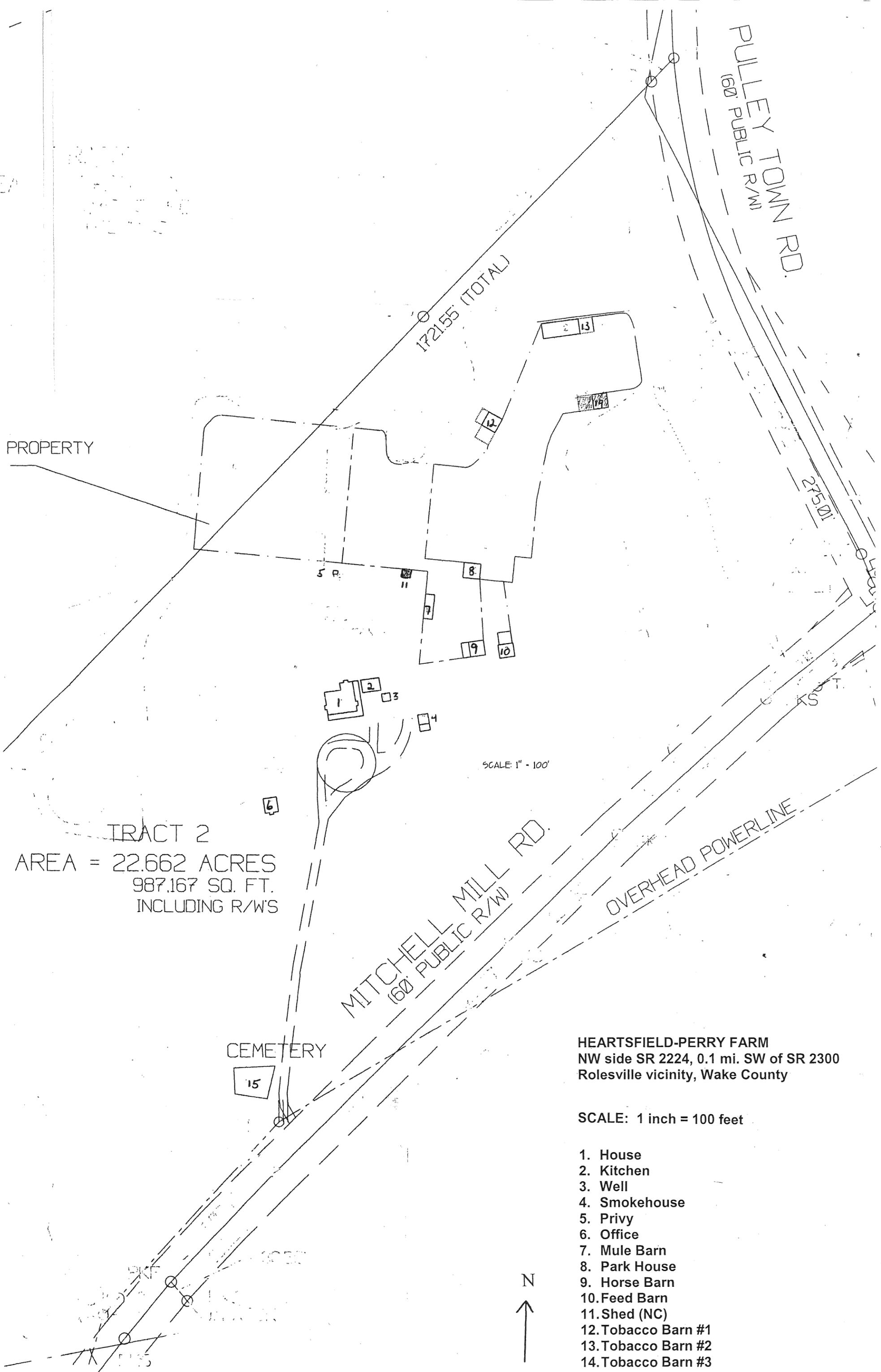
Hearfield  
 Perry  
 Farm  
 Wake Co.  
 NC  
 1. N 3977431  
 E 735040

2. 3977800  
 735420

3. 3977580  
 735540

4. 3977220  
 735220

Rolesville  
 Quad  
 Zone 17



**HEARTSFIELD-PERRY FARM**  
 NW side SR 2224, 0.1 mi. SW of SR 2300  
 Rolesville vicinity, Wake County

SCALE: 1 inch = 100 feet

- 1. House
- 2. Kitchen
- 3. Well
- 4. Smokehouse
- 5. Privy
- 6. Office
- 7. Mule Barn
- 8. Park House
- 9. Horse Barn
- 10. Feed Barn
- 11. Shed (NC)
- 12. Tobacco Barn #1
- 13. Tobacco Barn #2
- 14. Tobacco Barn #3



