

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 Barnes-Hooks Farm

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number SR 1354 NW of intersection w/US 117 (414 Stuckey Rd.) N/A not for publication

city or town Fremont vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Wayne code 191 zip code 27830

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 Crow, Acting SHPO 19 July 95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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

Barnes-Hooks Farm
Name of Property

Wayne, 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	
3		buildings
2		sites
	4	structures
1		objects
6	4	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

-0-

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure
Agriculture/subsistence/animal facility
Agriculture/subsistence/processing
Agriculture/subsistence/agricultural field
Industry/processing/extracting/extractive facility
Transportation/road related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Domestic/secondary structure/storage
Agriculture/subsistence/animal facility
Agriculture/subsistence/processing
Agriculture/subsistence/agricultural field
Not in use
Not in use
Agriculture/subsistence/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Hall and Parlor
Other: late Greek Revival/Italianate cottage
Other: side-gabled cottage

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
walls wood/weatherboard
roof asphalt
other tin

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

early nineteenth century - 1945

Significant Dates

early nineteenth century

ca. 1874

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:

Barnes-Hooks Farm
Name of Property

Wayne, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 86 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 18 | 229280 | 3940700 |
Zone Easting Northing
2 | 18 | 229760 | 3940740 |

3 | 18 | 229720 | 3998640 |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | 18 | 229260 | 3998980 |

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 Karen Edmundson and State Historic Preservation Office

organization _____ date June, 1995

street & number 414 Stuckey Rd. & 109 E. Jones St. telephone _____

city or town Fremont & Raleigh state North Carolina zip code 27830 & 27601-2807

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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Edmundson

street & number 414 Stuckey Road telephone _____

city or town Fremont state NC zip code 27830

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.

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Barnes-Hooks Farm
Wayne County, North Carolina

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Barnes-Hooks Farm, which encompasses eighty-six acres, is located in north-central Wayne County approximately one mile from the Wilson County line, and two miles from the town of Fremont. The property is south of Great Swamp and is the residual portion of a two hundred and eighty-three-acre tract of land purchased by Jacob Hooks in 1846 from William N. Barnes, Burkett Barnes, Jonathan Barnes, and Bunyan Barnes. In 1848, Jacob Hooks gave his son, Bennett, the same tract in a gift deed. The original and residual tracts are bounded in part on the east by Myrtle Spring Branch that is dammed to create a farm pond.

The pristine rural setting of the farm is evocative of the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century agrarian society of eastern North Carolina. Existing contributing buildings on the property include an early-nineteenth-century hall and parlor house; the Greek Revival/Italianate-style Hooks House (ca. 1874); a timber-frame mule stable and a frame tenant house that date from around 1920; and a tobacco barn that was built around 1930. In addition to these contributing buildings are a ca. 1874 smoke house to which a carport wing was added about 1976; and two grain bins and a large shelter that were erected in 1976 and 1980, respectively.

The farm complex is sited northeast of a deep curve in State Route 1354. The approach to the farmhouse is an ellipse-shaped driveway which at one time was wide enough to accommodate a horse and buggy. The shape of the drive made it unnecessary to back or turn a buggy in order to return to the main road. The surrounding fields and woodlands offer a serene setting removed from the road, and the house is sited in a grove of mature pecan trees and water oaks.

The topography of the Barnes-Hooks Farm is unusual for northern Wayne County that is generally characterized by flat fields with large vistas. Behind the farm complex, to the northeast, is a rolling swale that is fenced and planted with a grass pasture cover. Cultivated fields embrace the swale on the west and north. To the east, the land slopes into woodlands that line Myrtle Spring Branch. An early wagon road, a rapidly disappearing supporting structure of nineteenth-century farm life, bisects the complex from the southwest to the northeast of the farm complex and continues beyond Myrtle Spring Branch.

A marl hole is located on the northeast corner of the farm. Based on the prevailing geological conditions of the area, it is probably Greensand marl which is rich in potash and phosphorus. Marl commonly was used as a fertilizer by farmers prior to the widespread availability of commercial fertilizers.

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Three walnut groves, a rarity for this area of Wayne County, contain a significant amount of uncut timber. One grove shades the wagon road on the eastern portion of the property, and two are located north of the swale.

Inventory List.1. Hooks House. ca. 1874. Contributing building

Built in front of the early nineteenth-century Barnes House between 1872 and 1875, the Hooks House originally was a side-gabled, double-pile, center-hall plan weatherboarded dwelling with simple Greek Revival and Italianate detailing. After the Hooks House was built, the Barnes House served as a kitchen and was attached to the new house with a breezeway until about 1920, when a rear kitchen ell with a glassed-in side porch was added to the original 1872 block, and the Barnes House was moved about one hundred feet to the southeast. In 1975, the porch was extended to the east and weatherboarded to accommodate a bedroom and den.

The Hooks House faces south through the grove and across the drive toward the road. Originally, the intersecting gable roofs of the house and the ell were covered with a standing seam metal roof. The pitch over the main block was raised slightly in 1975, and the metal was replaced with asphalt shingles. The east and west elevations of the main block contain brick, single-shouldered chimneys. The original house and the 1920s rear ell rest on piers constructed of handmade bricks, and the timber sills of the original block are handhewn. The entire house is covered with weatherboards; those dating from the 1870s are seven-and-one-half inches wide. Molded wooden corner boards finish the main elevation of the house.

A full-length, hip-roofed porch shelters the symmetrically composed main elevation. The roof of the porch is supported by attenuated, coupled, square-in-plan wooden columns that frame the central entry and define the corners of the porch. The handrail and footrail of the matchstick balustrade are joined to the columns by mortise and tenon joints secured by pegs.

The four-paneled, heart pine front door is surmounted by a transom and flanked by sidelights, all with matching multi-pane lights set in molded wooden surrounds. The fenestration of the original block is symmetrical: the double-hung sash is six-over-six in molded wooden surrounds with wooden sills. The two windows flanking the main entrance are hung with the original hinged wooden blinds. All of the windows in the ca. 1874 section of the house contain most of their original lights.

The front rooms flanking the center hall of the original block each measure fifteen by fifteen feet. Each has a fireplace located in the wall opposite the center hall. The wooden mantels in both

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Barnes-Hooks Farm
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rooms are original: that in the west room is finished with geometric panels and moldings on its pilasters and architrave inspired by the Greek Revival style, while the mantel in the east room is derived from the Italianate style with its applied curvilinear molding and beveled wooden panels on its architrave.

The doors throughout the original block are four-panel heart pine. Several have been stripped and repainted. The stripping process revealed evidence that at one time some had been finished with decorative graining. The walls and ceilings of the front rooms and the ell originally were finished with tongue-and-groove boards; these have been covered with sheetrock. The baseboards throughout the original block are seven-and-one-half-inch-wide boards surmounted by a molded rail and finished with quarter-round.

The floors throughout the entire house are heart pine boards. Those in the center hall average about six inches wide, and are sixteen-and-one-half feet long. The flooring in the original house is secured with cut nails.

The west rear room of the original block opens to the front room through six-panel pocket doors. This room remains intact, while the east rear room was subdivided around 1940 when a bathroom and a closet were installed. The house remained unchanged until 1975, when the present owners extended the east porch on the rear ell to accommodate a bedroom and den.

2. Barnes House. early nineteenth century Contributing building
Thought to have been built by members of the Barnes family, this hall and parlor house with rear shed rooms is a rare early nineteenth-century vernacular house type. It faced south until about 1920, when it was moved about one hundred feet southeast and oriented to the west so that a rear ell could be added to the Hooks House.

The timber-frame, side-gabled, clapboarded house is one and one-half stories high. The main (west) elevation opens into the hall with a hearth in the north elevation, and a door in the south wall that leads into the parlor with a boxed stairway in the southeast corner. A rear door in the hall portion of the house leads into a small hall separating the rear shed rooms. The main entry in the hall, the door in the rear wall of the hall, and the back door in the shed hall can all be opened to create a breezeway through the depth of the house. After it was moved, shed rooms were added to each end without changing the original lines of the house, and the brick chimney that occupied the east wall of the hall was probably removed either before or during the move. The steeply-pitched side-gabled roof is covered with tin that was probably applied in the 1920s;

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however, there are ghost marks that indicate the roof was originally covered with wood shingles. The five-and-one-half-inch-wide weatherboards have never been painted.

The fenestration of the main (west) elevation is symmetrical, with four-over-four double-hung sash flanking the front door which is not original. This pattern is repeated in the rear (east) elevation, except that the board-and-batten back door may be original. One window opening from which the sash has been removed is located between the fireplace and the front wall. A window is located in the loft on the north elevation. There is a ghost mark of a portico over the front door.

The wall are supported by eight-inch-by-eight-inch timber handhewn sills. The floor joists are logs, approximately eight inches in diameter, with a hewn edge.

The front door opens into the hall that contained the fireplace which is located on the south elevation. The brick has been removed and the opening covered with weatherboarding. The opening measures six feet wide by six feet high. The shelf mantel which is trimmed with beaded molding surrounds is still in place.

The hall, parlor and two rear shed rooms are sheathed with ten-and-one half-inch-wide boards with overlapping grooves that are secured with wrought nails. The flush sheathing on the interior is finished on the front surface only. The door and window openings are trimmed with molded surrounds. Floors are edge-to-edge boards, except for the hall which has tongue-and-groove floorboards. The wall between the hall and the rear shed room has been removed. The north shed room remains intact.

Wooden crown molding is applied in the hall, parlor, and rear shed rooms. Original board-and-batten doors remain in the north parlor wall, the rear doorway between the two shed rooms, and the boxed staircase.

The loft has exposed rafters which are joined by mortise and tenon joints and pegged. Collar beams are present and are notched into the rafters and held in place with pegs. Every other collar beam has been removed which allows for the width of a tobacco stick, indicating the house may also have been used as a tobacco outlet in the late nineteenth or early twentieth centuries.

3. Smoke house, ca. 1874. Noncontributing structure

The smoke house is a rectangular frame building with an overshot front-gabled tin roof. The main (west) elevation is sheltered by the deep overhang of the roof. Located northeast of the Hooks House and north of the Barnes House, the smoke house forms the north point of the domestic

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cluster within the farm complex. Although a post-and- shed-roof carport has been added to the north side, making the building noncontributing, the mortise and tenon joints, cut nails, and width of the weatherboarding indicate that the smokehouse is contemporary with the Hooks House. The addition of the carport did not damage the overall structural integrity of the outbuilding.

4. Mule stable and feed barn. ca. 1920. Contributing structure

The mule stable and feed barn is a timber-frame, pine-board-sheathed structure covered with a tin roof. It is composed of three sections: the two-story, gable-front center block contains a single open crib on the first level and a loft on the second. The main (south) elevation contains the opening into the interior. A one-story, post-and-shed roof shelter flanks the center block on the west, while extended shed-roofed fenced loafing supported by timber posts extends along the east elevation.

5. Tenant House. ca. 1920. Contributing building

A small, weatherboarded, gable-front house with a tin roof, the Tenant House is composed of one center room flanked by two smaller ones. The main (west) elevation is symmetrical and the fenestration is double-hung sash in wooden surrounds. The kitchen is located in a shed room to the rear (east) of the main room, and there is no indoor plumbing. Evidence of a garden exists south of the house.

6. Tobacco Barn. ca. 1930. Contributing structure

The two-story square-in-plan four-room tobacco barn is a pine frame structure covered with asphalt paper resting on a brick foundation. The main (east) elevation is surmounted by a front-gable tin roof with a drying vent. There is an opening in the main elevation, a "stringing shelter" on the north elevation, and a small door on the rear (west) one.

7. Grain Bins. 1976. Noncontributing structures

Two five-thousand-bushel grain bins fabricated of galvanized steel on concrete foundations are located southeast of the farm complex.

8. Large Shelter. 1980. Noncontributing structure

An aluminum hipped-roofed structure supported by trussed poles and sided with asphalt paper, the shelter is located in a pasture east of the wagon road and north of the farm complex.

9. Landscape. Contributing site

The landscape of the Barnes-Hooks Farm includes the pasture, fields, walnut groves, woodland, and wagon road contained in the residual eighty-six acres of a nineteenth-century tract of some

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two hundred and eighty acres.. The land continues to be used essentially as it was during the period of significance of the farm, and the agrarian landscape conveys the visual character typical of many coastal plain farmsteads during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The pattern of cultivated fields and pastures has not been changed. A farm lane forms the western boundary of the nominated property. This lane allows access to farmland to the west and north which was a portion of the original acreage. The northern boundary is defined by a drainage ditch. The cultivated fields adjoin the yard of the farm complex on its west and north. The pasture and pond in the swale to the northeast is presently being grazed by cattle. The woodland forms the eastern boundary along with Myrtle Spring Branch. There are three groves of walnut trees, one located on the eastern portion of the property and two located north of the pasture. In the northeast section of the property, there is a marl hole. Marl was used as a fertilizer prior to the advent of commercial fertilizers.

The wagon road meanders in a northeasterly direction through the farm complex to the pasture and woods to a crossing at Myrtle Spring Branch. The ruts formed by the wagon wheels are still evident and the roadbed is about two feet deeper than the surrounding terrain at some points. This was a communal route that allowed for commerce and visiting among local families and residents.

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Wayne County, North Carolina

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Barnes-Hooks Farm in the Nahunta area of northern Wayne County is a rare surviving example of an eastern North Carolina yeoman's farm that has remained in the ownership of the same family for two hundred and fifty years. Settled by mid-eighteenth-century emigres from Virginia, the antebellum Nahunta-area farmers prospered on small to middle-sized holdings that produced diversified crops using family and slave labor. Following the Civil War, the local landowners followed the state-wide agricultural trend toward tenant farming and cotton and tobacco cultivation. The Barnes-Hooks Farm represents this evolution of agricultural practices in the present farm complex that is the center of a residual eighty-six-acre tract. The complex is anchored by a hall and parlor house thought to have been built by the Barnes family in the early nineteenth century, and a ca. 1874 transitional Greek Revival-Italianate house that was built by Bennett Hooks. In addition to the two houses, the agricultural complex features a collection of outbuildings and an extremely rare marl hole that was an early source of phosphate fertilizer, arranged in an agricultural landscape of pastures, fields, and walnut groves that is evocative of the historic rural landscape of eastern North Carolina. The Barnes-Hooks Farm meets Criterion C for significance in architecture, and Criterion A for significance in the history of agriculture. The presence of the two nineteenth-century houses demonstrates the evolution from the solidly traditional hall and parlor house type to the typically conservative interpretation of nineteenth-century popular house styles. The collection of outbuildings, ranging from the ca. 1874 smokehouse, to the 1920s-era tenant house, and the ca. 1930 tobacco barn, represents the turn-of-the-century transition to the tobacco culture in Wayne County. The agricultural landscape, that extends beyond the boundaries of the nominated eighty-six-acre residual Barnes-Hooks Farm to encompass much of the original nineteenth-century acreage farmed by Bennett Hooks, is a remarkably intact vista of fields and pastures drained by Myrtle Spring Branch and transversed by a wagon road that was probably associated with the earliest Virginia settlers to the area. The Barnes-Hooks Farm presents a rare and important glimpse into the nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century eastern North Carolina agricultural society that was founded by eighteenth-century yeoman farmers and sustained through a century and a half of social and agricultural change.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Nahunta area, which includes the northern Wayne County town of Fremont and the surrounding countryside, was one of the first regions settled in the present-day county. The vast majority of the early settlers migrated to this area of eastern North Carolina from Virginia. Among the first arrivals were members of the Hooks, Barnes, and Aycock families, who arrived in the mid-eighteenth century. These families received major land grants and accumulated large

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holdings in and around Great Swamp, Burnt Swamp, and Bass Swamp. The close proximity of these families made marriages among them common.

Hardy Hooks (ca. 1732-1801) is the progenitor of the Hooks family in Wayne County. It has not been documented where he was born, but most likely his was a Virginia family that migrated to the Nahunta area from nearby Chowan County. In 1778 he received a land grant from the state for three hundred and fifty acres on Great Swamp adjoining what was described as his own property.¹ In 1797, he received another land grant for one hundred acres on the west side of Burnt Swamp.² His son Jacob (5 March 1784-ca. 1854) married Priscilla Barnes (30 April 1797-13 February 1873). Charlotte Hooks, a daughter of that marriage, married Benjamin Barnes. Serena (Hooks) Aycock was a granddaughter of Hardy Hooks and mother of Governor Charles Brantley Aycock.

Hardy Hooks died in 1801. His will, which was recorded in August, 1801, divided his holdings among his sons Robert, Jacob, Bardin, Harmon, and Cullen. His daughter, Charlotte, received fifty acres of land.³ Hardy Hooks's will was witnessed by three individuals as was required in Virginia, while in North Carolina, only two witnesses were required. The presence of three witnesses is usually an indication of an individual with Virginia roots. The extensive inventory of Hardy Hooks's personal property, including sixteen slaves, indicates that he was an individual of some wealth.⁴

John Barnes, who was a contemporary of Hardy Hooks, received land grants on both sides of Great Swamp adjoining the holdings of Hardy Hooks and others of the Virginia settlers. In 1761, John Barnes received four hundred and ninety acres located on the south side of Great Swamp.⁵ He was granted an additional six hundred and forty acres in 1782.⁶ Myrtle Spring Branch, Great Swamp, and a corner with Hardy Hooks are landmarks described in this grant. John Barnes's will is dated 9 September, 1789, and lists his sons Simon, Samuel, Benjamin, and John; and daughters Elizabeth, Christian, and Zilpha.⁷ He bequeathed his plantation to his son John. John Barnes, Jr. was an executor of Hardy Hooks's will and was appointed guardian of his three minor children, Charlotte, Cullen, and Harmon Hooks.

John Barnes, who is believed to be the son of Simon Barnes, died intestate on 12 August, 1830.⁸ At the time of his death, he owned over two thousand acres bordered on the west by Myrtle Spring Branch, and on the east by Contentnea Creek. The northern boundary was on both sides of Great Swamp. His land was divided among his children Rebecca, Jonathan, Burkett, Bunyan, and William by court-appointed commissioners. The commissioners were Rufus Daniel, Jacob Hooks, and James Aycock.⁹ In the documented genealogy of Joseph R. Edmundson, the present owner of

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the nominated property, Rebecca, who married Nathan Davis, is a third great-grandmother; Burkett is a third great-grandfather; and Benjamin and Charlotte (Hooks) Barnes are third great-grandparents. Benjamin Barnes is probably a grandson of John Barnes who wrote his will in 1789. Therefore, the nominated property on which the farm complex is located has remained in the same family for two hundred and fifty years.

The Barnes-Hooks Farm is the residual portion of the original tract Jacob Hooks purchased on 12 December, 1846 from William N. Barnes, Bunyan Barnes, Burkett Barnes, and Jonathan Barnes, all of whom were the sons of John Barnes.¹⁰ This tract contained two hundred and eighty-two and three-quarters acres and it is likely there was a hall-and-parlor house on the property. It was bounded on the west by Burnt Swamp and on the east by Myrtle Spring Branch. A wagon road, which is still extant on the nominated property, connected Jacob Hooks's property with the farm of John Barnes who died in 1830. On 3 August, 1848 Jacob Hooks gave his son Bennett the same tract of land as a gift, and Bennett Hooks's son retained ownership of this property until the residual eighty-six acre tract with the farm complex on it was sold to Joseph R. Edmundson in 1965.

Bennett Hooks was born 14 November, 1824. He is listed in the 1850 census as living with his parents, Jacob and Priscilla. The value of his real estate was listed at eight hundred dollars.¹¹ This is obviously the acreage purchased by Jacob Hooks from the Barnes family for seven hundred and eleven dollars. Jacob Hooks died in 1855. He left Priscilla a lifetime estate in his plantation, and after her death the property was willed to his son Henry W. Hooks. Bennett Hooks was given one hundred acres lying on the east side of Burnt Swamp and south side of Great Swamp.¹² The description of this property places it next to the two hundred and eighty-two and three-quarter acre tract given to Bennett in 1848. In 1854, Bennett inherited an additional sixteen acres from his brother Jacob Hooks.¹³

The 1860 census lists Bennett as married to Christian (Barnes) Hooks and living with their two children, Franklin, who was two years old, and one-year-old Thomas. Bennett and Christian were probably married shortly after Jacob Hooks's death in 1855. Bennett Hooks's real estate was valued at four thousand dollars and his personal real estate was valued at five thousand five hundred dollars.¹⁴ In 1863, Bennett Hooks purchased thirty-three acres for three hundred and sixty-three dollars from Jesse Kirby.¹⁵ This property was on the east side of Myrtle Spring Branch, adjoining the lands of Bennett Hooks and William N. Barnes. The addition of this tract gave Bennett Hooks a total four hundred thirty-one and three-quarters acres. His occupation was listed as farmer. It is probable that upon their marriage, Bennett and Christian Hooks took up residence in the early-nineteenth-century Barnes House.

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Wayne County, North Carolina

The Civil War affected northern Wayne County as it did other areas of the state. Although no major battles occurred in the county, many local men enlisted and county families suffered casualties. General Sherman and his troops occupied at Goldsboro, approximately twelve miles away from the Barnes-Hooks Farm. Residents of the Nahunta area suffered deprivation during the Reconstruction years. A large Federal army garrison remained in Goldsboro for several years after the conflict ended. Residents were harassed by marauding Federal troops and the remnants of the Confederate Army. During this time, the Hooks family hid meat and other possessions under the boards of the loft floor in their house.

After the Civil War, the emancipation of the slaves resulted in the rise of tenant farming and sharecropping. Bennett Hooks, and later his son Tilden Hooks, farmed their land in this manner. From the late nineteenth century until the subdivision of Bennett Hooks's acreage, there were four somewhat substantial tenant houses and several smaller ones on the farm. One small tenant house remains on the nominated property.

Christian Hooks died in 1870, leaving Bennett with four children ranging in age from six to fourteen years.¹⁶ Bennett's mother, Priscilla, died on 13 February, 1873.¹⁷ Bennett Hooks married Louisa Barnes, daughter of Andrew and Patience (Hooks) Barnes about 1872.¹⁸ With a new wife and the prospect of additional children, Bennett Hooks saw the need for a new house. The new center-hall-plan house with conservatively-stylish Greek Revival and Italianate-style details was built in front of the old hall and parlor house. The older house then became the kitchen dependency and was connected to the new house with a breezeway.

Four children were born to Bennett and Louisa Hooks. They were Patience (12 December 1873-9 September 1921), William Tilden (29 January 1875-7 September, 1969), Lillie (17 November 1877-16 June 1881), and Simon (11 February 1881-5 November 1943). William Tilden Hooks was the first child born in the new house.¹⁹ Patience and Simon never married. Tilden Hooks outlived his siblings, but never had any children.²⁰

The 1880 census reports that Bennett and Louisa lived with their three children, Patience, Tilden, and Lillie. Fannie, a child from Bennett's first marriage also lived in the home. At this time, Bennett Hooks's land and livestock were valued at two thousand five hundred dollars.²¹

Bennett Hooks's will is dated 17 March 1879. He bequeathed five hundred and four acres to Franklin H. Hooks, Thomas R. Hooks, and Fannie L. Hooks, who were children from his first marriage. Their portions were located on the land which had belonged to their mother, Christian

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Wayne County, North Carolina

Barnes Hooks. The four hundred and thirty acres on which Bennett and Louisa had resided was left to Louisa, and after her death, was to be divided among her children.²²

After Bennett's death in 1897, Tilden Hooks continued to live with his mother and sister. Patience Hooks died 9 September, 1921, and Louisa Barnes Hooks died 25 July, 1922. On 8 March, 1924, Tilden Hooks, who was almost forty-nine year old, married Charity Frances Hooks, daughter of Christopher and Susan (Barnes) Hooks.²³ Miss Fannie, as Tilden's bride was known, was a great-granddaughter of Jacob Hooks. It was around the time of this marriage that the rear ell was added to the ca. 1874 center-hall-plan house, and the Barnes House was moved about one hundred feet to the southeast.

Before the 1890s, most agricultural activity in Wayne County revolved around subsistence farming, and cotton was the main cash crop. This began to change when the tobacco market was opened in Wilson around 1892, allowing the Nahunta-area farmers a nearby outlet for a second cash crop. As a result agricultural practices in the area began to change to accommodate tobacco cultivation.

Tilden Hooks employed tenants and day laborers to plant and raise his crops. The tenants required housing which customarily was provided by the farmer. During the height of Tilden Hooks's farming career, there were four somewhat substantial tenant houses on his property, together with a number of smaller ones. Only one small one dating from around 1920 remains on the nominated property. Tobacco barns were required to cure the tobacco crop that the farmer and the tenants raised. In 1965, there were three tobacco barns which Tilden Hooks had constructed on the nominated property during the 1920s and 1930s.²⁴ They were all located approximately one hundred feet north of the Tilden Hooks House. Around 1930, he erected a mule stable and feed lot northeast of the house near the smoke house. The proximity of this livestock shelter to the house, indicates that Tilden Hooks supervised the care and feeding of his mules, and maintenance of his stock and farming equipment.

The agrarian landscape of northern Wayne County has gradually changed as access to nearby towns and cities has improved. After World War II, residents of the area migrated to population centers as non-agricultural occupational opportunities expanded. As a result, farmers like Tilden Hooks found it increasingly difficult to lure tenants, and thus to farm in the manner that had developed over some half a century. These conditions compelled Tilden Hooks to sell off portions of his father's original two hundred and eighty-three acres. He was ninety years old when he sold the homeplace with its residual eighty-six acres so he and his wife could move to town.²⁵ Miss Fannie died before the move could be completed, but Tilden Hooks moved to nearby Fremont. However, he often returned to the farm where he was born and spent his life to walk in the yard

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and eat from the grapevines that still produce fruit every fall. In 1965 when the farm was sold to Joseph R. Edmundson, a descendant of Hardy Hooks and John Barnes, there was a barn loom in the loft of the hall and parlor house. A nephew of Miss Fannie's took the loom and disassembled it for storage. Twenty years later, the Edmundsons retrieved the pieces and reassembled the loom which now stands in front of the fireplace of the house.

Of the three tobacco barns standing in 1965, one was constructed of log and was unusable. It was removed, but the other two were used to cure tobacco until 1970. Around that time, the second pre-1945 barn was removed. The third one remains and is used for storage. Today, tobacco that is raised on the farm is cured elsewhere.

Since the sale of the nominated property to Joseph R. Edmundson, the land has been under constant cultivation. Mr. Edmundson has planted peanuts, corn, soybeans, and tobacco. Day laborers have replaced tenant farmers. The field patterns have remained unchanged, and the pastures are grazed by Angus cattle. In 1994, Mr. Edmundson cash-rented the farm to Kim Davis, who is a descendant of Rebecca Barnes Davis, daughter of John Barnes. Mr. Davis continues to plant corn, tobacco, and soybeans. Mr. Edmundson still maintains the cattle and plants rye cover in the pasture every Fall for the cattle to graze in throughout the winter and early spring.

From 1965 until 1974, the Hooks House was used a residence for day laborers. On 28 August, 1975, Joseph R. Edmundson married Karen J. Remp. Before their marriage, they decided to renovate the Hooks House for their home. They did the majority of the work themselves, and made every effort to maintain the integrity of the house. In March, 1976, they moved into the house and continue to maintain the farm complex.

AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT

The agricultural history of the families of northern Wayne County parallels the development of agricultural practices in North Carolina. The state was largely settled by yeoman farmers who established small-to-middle-sized holdings, rather than by wealthy planters who held large plantations. For the most part, during the antebellum period, there was an established, middle-class of farmers who often owned slaves. The Hooks family were typical of this class. In the 1820 census, Jacob Hooks was listed as owning sixteen slaves. By 1840, this number had increased to twenty.²⁶ In Jacob Hooks's will dated 26 September, 1855, a total of forty-two slaves were willed to his wife and children.²⁷

The agricultural development of the Nahunta area of Wayne County was enhanced with the completion of the Wilmington-Weldon Railroad in 1840, which established a depot as Nahunta

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(now Fremont.) The Hooks Farm is located approximately two miles north of Fremont. This made the sale and transportation of Jacob Hooks's farm produce much easier, and fertilizer and farm machinery more accessible. Prior to this time, many of the area farmers relied on traditional methods, such as applying naturally-occurring marl to the soil as fertilizer.

In 1850, the average size of a Wayne County farm was 369 acres.²⁸ In the 1850 Agricultural Survey, Jacob Hooks, then sixty-six years old, listed three hundred acres of improved land and seven hundred acres of unimproved land, for a total value of three thousand dollars. He also possessed ninety sheep, and two hundred swine. His livestock was valued at twelve hundred and ninety dollars. He planted primarily wheat and Indian corn.²⁹ Bennett Hooks, who at this time was residing with his parents but farming his own property, was listed as having fifty improved acres (that probably included the Barnes House) and two hundred and thirty-five unimproved acres valued at eight hundred dollars. This clearly was the land, including the nominated property, Bennett received from his father, Jacob.

In the 1860 Agricultural Survey, Bennett Hooks was listed as having one hundred and fifty improved acres and seven hundred and sixty-nine unimproved acres with a value of thirty-six hundred dollars. The value for the livestock was reported as five hundred dollars. He planted primarily wheat, Indian corn, oats and some cotton.³⁰ In 1860, the average Wayne County farm encompassed about three hundred and sixteen acres.³¹

After the Civil War, the shift from slave labor resulted in the rise of tenant farming and sharecropping. The average size of farms began to decline because of the effects of emancipation and the economic conditions generated by Reconstruction policies. However, Bennett Hooks was able to maintain above-average landholdings.

In the 1870 Agricultural Survey, Bennett Hooks reported one hundred and fifty acres of improved land and six hundred and fifty-three unimproved acres. The value of his livestock was listed at five hundred and fifty dollars. Bennett reported thirty-nine swine, ninety-two bushels of winter wheat, five hundred bushels of Indian corn, one hundred bushels of oats, six bales of cotton, and one hundred and fifty pounds of sweet potatoes.³² In 1870, there were one thousand and fifty farms listed in Wayne County, and of those, only thirteen contained more than five hundred acres, but less than one thousand acres.³³

In 1880, there were two thousand six hundred and sixty-seven farms in Wayne County. Eighty-one of these were more than five hundred acres, but less than one thousand acres. Seventy-three five-hundred-plus-acre farms were cultivated by their owners, two were rented for fixed-money rentals,

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and six were rented for shares of the products.³⁴ In the 1880 Agricultural Survey, Bennett Hooks reported sixty improved acres and seven hundred unimproved acres. He listed twelve acres of Indian corn, five acres of wheat, thirteen acres of cotton, two acres of sweet potatoes, one acre of apple trees, and two acres of peach trees.³⁵

Tilden Hooks, who was twenty years old in 1895, began his farming career at a time of transition in the agricultural environment of Wayne County. Until the 1890s, cotton was the leading cash crop, but it was gradually superseded by tobacco after the establishment of a tobacco market in Wilson in the early 1890s. Tilden Hooks raised both tobacco and cotton with the help of tenant labor. Tobacco cultivation and processing required curing barns on the farm acreage. In 1965, three tobacco barns remained on the nominated property. These were built in the early twentieth century, and only one of them presently stands. The relationship between the landlord and the tenant varied among farmers in the area. Usually, the landlord provided tenant housing and a share of the crop in return for labor. At the height of Tilden Hooks's farming career, he maintained four somewhat substantial tenant houses and three shanties for hired hands. There is one ca. 1920 tenant house remaining on the nominated property.

Throughout the early and mid-twentieth century, Tilden Hooks farmed his property with help of tenant labor. During this time, it was not unusual for the landlord to assume a passive role in the actual planting and processing of the crops. Rather, the landlord would supply seed and fertilizer, provide equipment, and broker the crops. Until the late 1940s, the majority of the cultivation was accomplished with mulepower, also supplied by the landlord. The mule stable, built by Tilden Hooks, around 1930, is located approximately one hundred feet from the house. This allowed him to oversee the care of his mules and assure the proper care of his farming equipment. Although the post-war years ushered in a mechanical revolution in agricultural practices in Wayne County, Tilden Hooks, who was by then in his seventies, continued to farm using traditional tenant-labor methods. The decline of the agricultural manpower necessitated the subdivision of the farm, and four tracts were sold over a period of twenty years. Presently, although the new owners have adopted mechanized farming methods, the rural landscape, with its traditional field patterns, has remained much as it was during the Barnes-Hooks Farm period of significance.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The buildings and landscape structures of the Barnes-Hooks Farm combine to create a significant, remarkably intact, Wayne County example of a yeoman farm that chronicles domestic building practices from the early and late nineteenth century, and agricultural practices of the mid-twentieth century. There are few documented examples of such intact farm complexes in the area: another such is the Ella C. Peele Farm in northwestern Wayne County that is centered around a

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circa 1840 transitional Federal to Greek Revival farmhouse and early-twentieth-century tobacco barns. In neighboring Wilson County, the circa 1849 transitional Federal to Greek Revival Elder William Woodard House and its complement of outbuildings reflects typical early twentieth-century farm life. Therefore, the buildings and structures set within the agricultural landscape of the Barnes-Hooks Farm appear to be rare surviving examples that illustrate changing architectural styles, construction techniques and agricultural practices in Wayne County.

The early nineteenth-century Barnes House is a weatherboarded hall-and-parlor-plan dwelling with rear shed rooms. A rare surviving vernacular house type, the Barnes House reflects deeply-rooted building traditions brought to Wayne County by eighteenth-century Virginia settlers. The hall-and-parlor-plan house is comprised of two rooms of unequal size - - the hall into which one enters and the adjacent smaller parlor. There was often a stair from the hall that led to a sleeping chamber or loft above. In the case of the Barnes House, the boxed stair is located in the parlor. This traditional house plan developed during the early settlement of the Chesapeake area and was common throughout the Atlantic seaboard region as late as the first third of the nineteenth century.³⁶ Contemporary accounts relate that throughout eastern North Carolina all but the wealthiest settlers built solid, well-crafted, unpretentious frame variants of hall-and-parlor houses until improved transportation and broader distribution of architectural pattern books allowed builders access to fashionable house plans and manufactured building elements.³⁷ Many examples of the hall-and-parlor-plan house in eastern North Carolina have been overbuilt or altered, such as the early nineteenth-century Wilkinson House in Wilson County. Though there are many hall-and-parlor-plan houses identified in North Carolina, at present the Barnes House is the only documented hall-and-parlor-plan house in Wayne County.

The circa 1874 Hooks House was built by Bennett Hooks after his marriage to Louisa Barnes, probably in anticipation of an expanding family. The center-hall-plan house with Greek Revival and Italianate details was erected in front of the old hall and parlor house. The older house then became the kitchen dependency and was connected to the new house by a breezeway. Like the Elder William Woodard House, the Hooks House is a modest farmhouse with conservative, but stylish details. Both houses feature a symmetrically-composed main elevation with six-over-six double hung sash in molded window surrounds. The front door is similar to other houses of the same period with its multi-pane sidelights and transom. The move toward mass-produced building materials is illustrated in the use of cut nails in the Hooks House as opposed to the handmade, wrought nails in the earlier Barnes House. Manufactured building materials such as these would

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have been available in the Nahunta area after the 1840 establishment of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. Though there is no documentation, it is possible that some of the interior details of the Hooks House were ordered from a catalog and delivered by the railroad, as this was practiced in areas serviced by a rail-system.

The house probably changed little between 1874 and 1920. In 1920 Tilden Hooks married Charity Frances Hooks, and with this marriage the rear ell with glassed porch was added to the house, and the hall and parlor house that had been serving as the kitchen dependency, was moved approximately one hundred feet to the southeast in order to accommodate the addition. This practice of improving houses by enclosing breezeways, adding rooms, and making improvements to lighting and plumbing facilities was common in eastern North Carolina during the 1920s. According to Kate Ohno, author of *Wilson County's Architectural Heritage*, during this period, rural homeowners usually improved existing houses instead of building new ones.³⁸ Changes in the building industry provided homeowners with alternatives to traditional building practices. Mass produced components, such as doors, mantles and fenestration could be ordered and installed in existing structures, thus enabling the owner to improve an existing building. ³

The extant outbuildings associated with the Barnes-Hooks Farm date from the Tilden Hooks period of ownership. The smoke house is the only surviving domestic outbuilding and is contemporary with the Hooks House, as demonstrated by the mortise and tenon joints and cut nails. It is a rare surviving example of what was once an essential rural building type. Its orientation to the domestic cluster is typical as smokehouses and dairies were often placed conveniently near the kitchen.

The mule barn, tenant house, and tobacco barn date from the early twentieth century and the period of tenant farming on the property that occurred under the direction of Tilden Hooks. The mule barn is a timber-frame utilitarian building sheathed with pine boards and was used for the storage of feed and livestock. It is a sturdy, modest barn without significant detail, typical of pre World-War II outbuildings in eastern North Carolina. The tobacco barn is the last remaining of three original barns used for the curing and storing of tobacco. Their presence reflected the opening of a tobacco market in Wilson in 1892, and the resulting shift from subsistence farming and cotton production to the raising of tobacco as a cash crop. The tobacco barn is a plain building of manufactured materials and was probably assembled quickly in order to accommodate the expanding acreage under cultivation of the new crop. Since present-day farmers are now curing tobacco in modern bulk barns, this tobacco barn and others like it are rapidly disappearing.

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Wayne County, North Carolina

The production of tobacco in the early twentieth century was labor intensive and often required the employment of tenant farmers and day laborers. The simple weatherboarded, gable-front tenant house on the Barnes-Hooks Farm is one of the four original tenant houses of a substantial size. It is composed of one room flanked by two, smaller rooms and would have housed a tenant farmer and his family. This one-room-plan, that occasionally coupled with shed rooms was commonly used for tenant housing in North Carolina. This building, like the tobacco barn, was probably constructed of manufactured materials shipped in on the railroad and that were purchased and assembled by Tilden Hooks. This complex of buildings is among the last remaining physical evidence of agricultural and building practices in Wayne County from the early- to mid-twentieth century.

ENDNOTES

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6. Wayne County Register of Deed Office, Book 1, page 136, Wayne County Courthouse, Goldsboro.
7. Will of John Barnes, September 9, 1789, Wayne County Wills, (microfilm), North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.
8. Wayne County Register of Deed Office, Book 16, page 217, Wayne County Courthouse, Goldsboro.
9. *Ibid.*
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12. Wayne County Recording Docket, Book 12, p.112 (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).
13. Wayne County Register of Deed Office, Book 25, page 625, Wayne County Courthouse, Goldsboro.
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20. *Ibid.*
21. *Tenth Census of the United States: 1880: Agriculture*, Wayne County North Carolina, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).
22. Will of Bennett Hooks, May 17, 1789, Wayne County Wills, (microfilm), North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.
23. Marriage Records, Wilson County Courthouse, Wilson County, North Carolina.
24. Edmundson, Karen R. Interview with Joseph Edmundson.
25. Edmundson, Karen R. Interview with William Tilden Hooks
26. Fourth Census of the United States: 1820: Wayne County North Carolina, Population Schedule, and Sixth Census of the United States: 1840: Wayne County North Carolina,

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Population Schedule, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

27. Wayne County Recording Docket, Book 12, p.112 (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

28. *Ninth Census of the United States: 1870: Agriculture*, Wayne County North Carolina, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

29. *Seventh Census of the United States: 1850: Agriculture*, Wayne County North Carolina, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

30. *Eighth Census of the United States: 1860: Agriculture*, Wayne County North Carolina, National Archives, Washington, D.C. (microfilm, State Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

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Barnes-Hooks Farm
Wayne County, NC

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Barnes-Hooks Farm is all of the eighty-six acres purchased by Joseph R. Edmundson from W. Tilden Hooks on May 10, 1965, and is the property described in Wayne County Deed Book 644, page 431. The eastern boundary of the property is Myrtle Spring Branch and an arbitrary property line that follows the generally north-south 120' contour line south and east of the Branch to an arbitrary north-south line that meets the intersection of SR 1354 and SR 1355. From that point, the south boundary of the farm follows State Route 1354 northwest and west to its intersection with a north-south farm lane that forms the west boundary of the property. The north boundary is defined by the northeast curve of the farm land to its intersection with a west-to-east drainage ditch that joins Myrtle Spring Branch at its easternmost point.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Barnes-Hooks Farm is the residual eighty-six-acre portion of a two hundred and eighty-three-acre tract purchased by Jacob Hooks in 1846 from the heirs of John Barnes. This tract contains a late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century farm complex, together with adjacent fields and pastures, which retain historic and architectural integrity in an intact agricultural landscape.

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Barnes-Hooks Farm
Wayne County, NC

PHOTOGRAPH SCHEDULE:

Barnes-Hooks Farm
Wayne County, North Carolina

Photographer:

Karen R. Edmundson

Date of photographs:

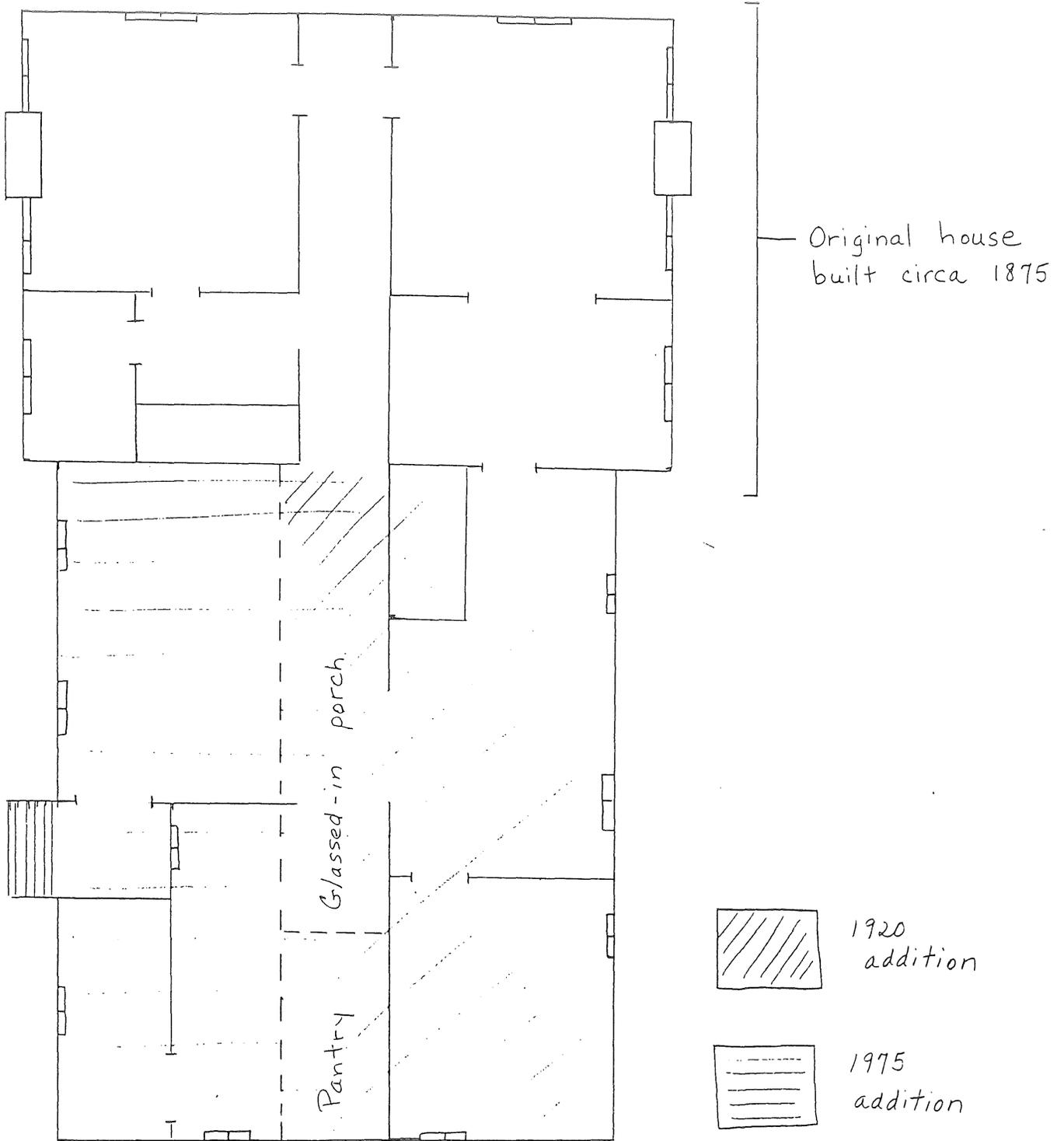
May 1995

Location of negatives:

Division of Archives and History
Raleigh, North Carolina

- A. Hooks House
looking west
- B. Interior of Hooks House
mantel in east room
- C. Interior of Hooks House
mantel in west room
- D. Barnes House
looking southeast
- E. Interior of Barnes House
staircase
- F. Smoke house
looking east
- G. Mule stable and feed barn
looking east
- H. Tobacco Barn
looking northwest
- I. Pasture
looking north

Front Porch (facing south)



Hooks house, located on Barnes-Hooks Farm

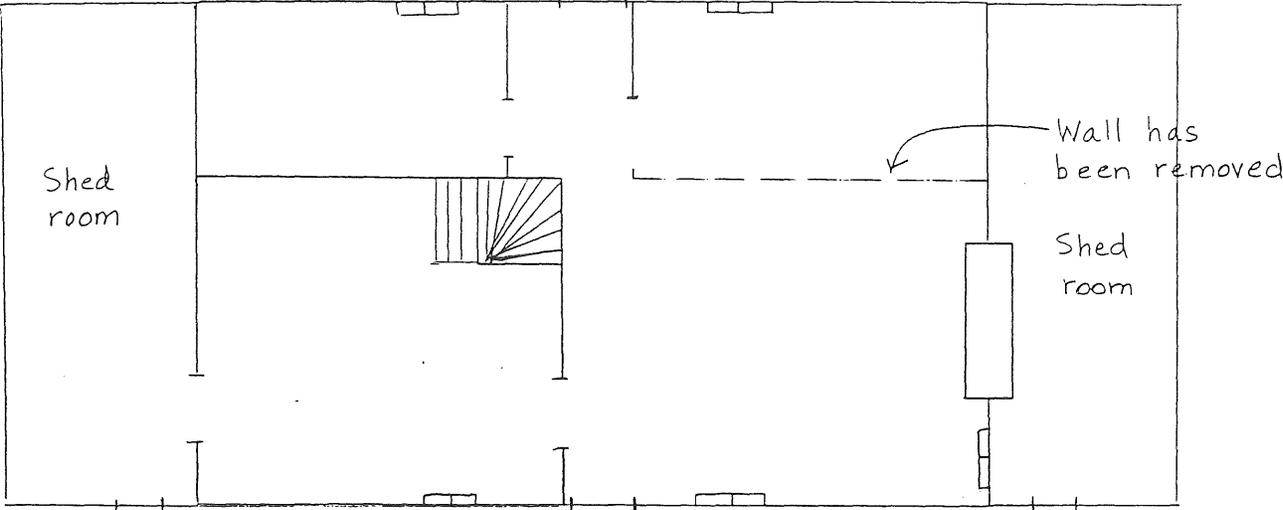
Wayne County, North Carolina

Karen Edmundson, 1995

Exhibit A

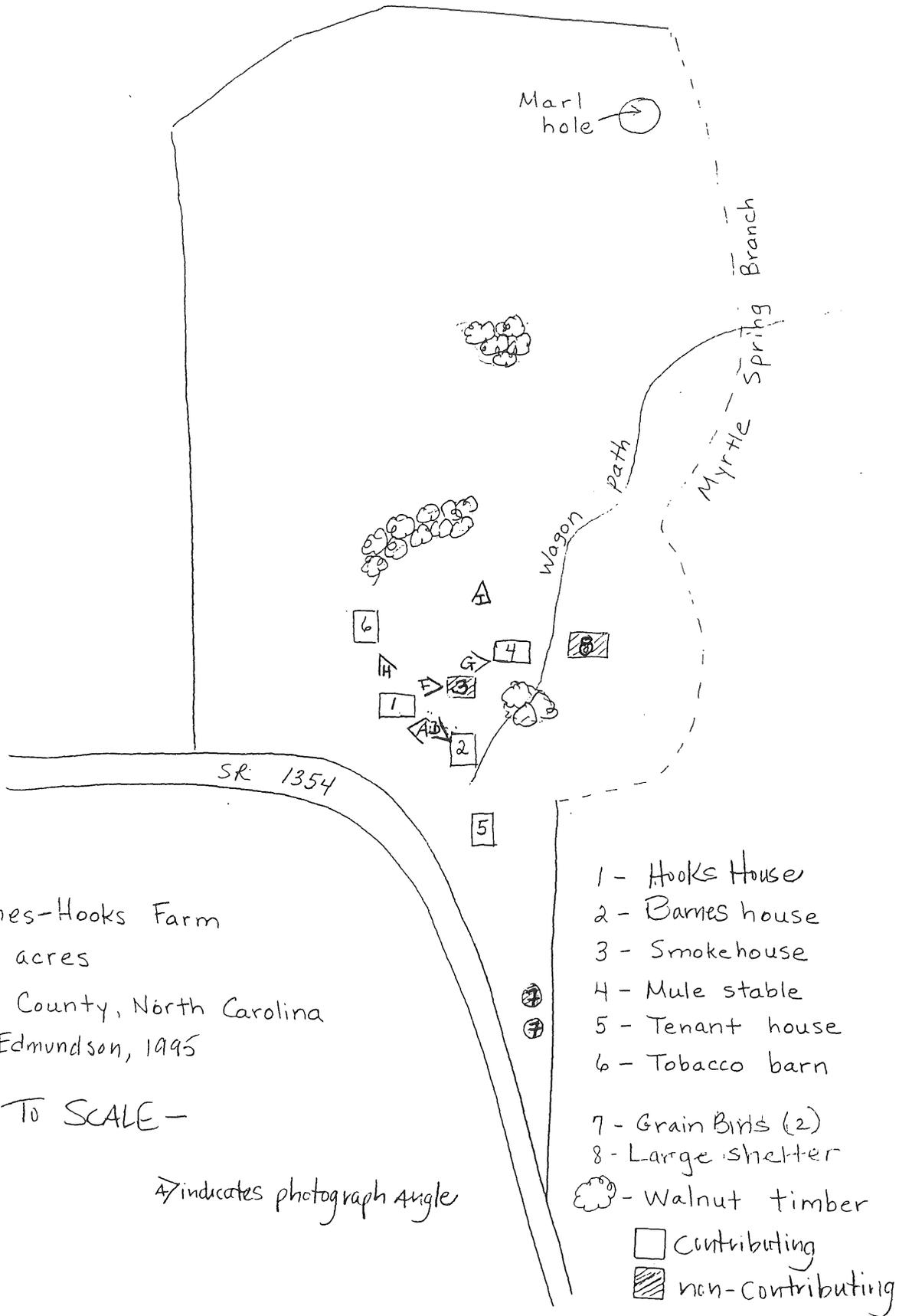
Barnes House, located on Barnes-Hooks Farm

Wayne County, North Carolina
Karen Edmuntson, 1995



Front (now facing west)

Exhibit B



Barnes-Hooks Farm

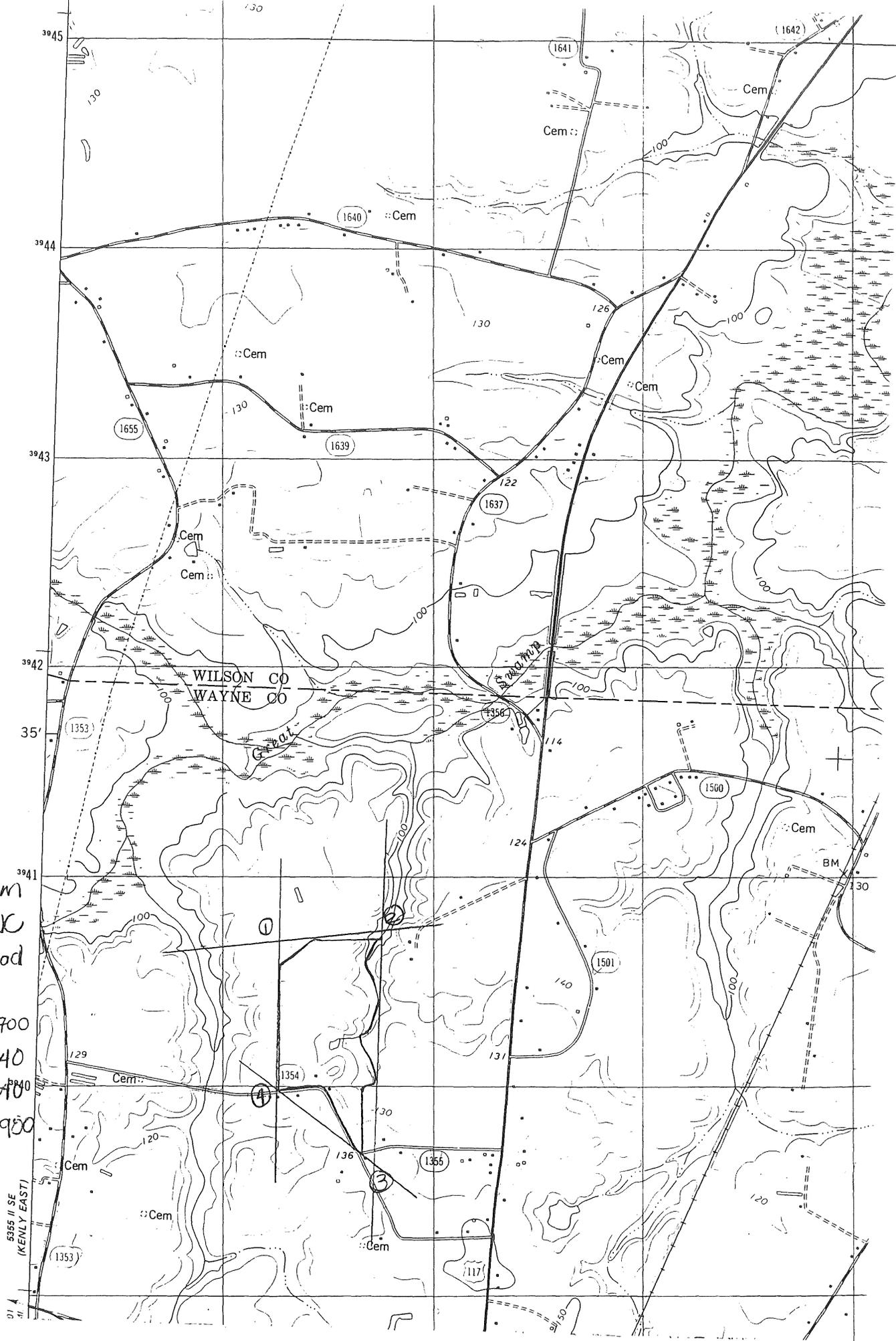
86 acres

Wayne County, North Carolina

Karen Edmundson, 1995

- NOT TO SCALE -

Barnes-Hooks Farm
 Wayne County, NC
 Fremont Quad
 Zone 18
 DE/229280 N/3940700
 DE/229760 N/3940740
 DE/229720 N/3998640
 DE/229260 N/3998950



5355 (1 SE
 (KENLY EAST)

