

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The Samuel Cox House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

SE side S.R. 1636, 0.1 mile S of jct w/U.S. 221

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Scottville

VICINITY OF Scottville

5th

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

North Carolina

37

Ashe

009

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER: Abandoned

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Vince C. Waddell

STREET & NUMBER

Old County Line Road

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Scottville

VICINITY OF

North Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ashe County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Jefferson

STATE

North Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Standing on a hilltop, near the site of the Cox Homestead, the present "T" plan house is the result of two building efforts by the Cox owners. The first is the two-story log, gable roof, main section (now weatherboarded) erected by Samuel Cox in the mid-19th century. Near the turn of the century his son, Franklin, added the one-story frame ell to the rear (south) elevation. Later a frame addition was made to the east side of the ell which completed the present plan of the house. On the property are several outbuildings.

The main block, set on stacks of dry-laid stone, has dovetailed construction with logs of varying widths; the widest are on the front (north) elevation. The log construction was covered with weatherboards ca. 1880. (Some of the weatherboards on the north and west elevations were removed in 1974.) A frieze board is carried across the north and south elevations and returns on the gable ends. A stone exterior end chimney stands against the east elevation. A one-story, shed-roof porch extends the full length of the front facade; the sheet tin roof has weatherboarded ends and is supported by plain posts, square-in-section. Behind the porch the north elevation has a two-bay division marked by a three-panel door and a window of six-over-six sash. The second level single bay elevation has a window with six-over-three sash. In the east elevation a window of six-over-six sash is set to the right of the chimney at the first level with windows of six-over-six sash flanking the chimney at the second level. The west elevation has a single bay with a window of six-over-six sash at each level. On the rear of the house there is now a door which provides access to the frame addition. The second level has a two-bay division - small window openings from which the sash is lost.

The interior first floor has a two room plan. The walls and ceilings of both rooms are finished with flush sheathing and the walls now are covered with wallpaper. Doors on both north and south elevations open into the large east room which contains the fireplace. The original mantel has tapered vertical boards flanking the cut-soapstone fireplace above which is a single raised panel and mantel shelf. Door and window surrounds are of plain unmolded boards. Access to the enclosed stair is also from this room. The rest of the first floor is given to a small bed chamber, with a ceiling of exposed joists with a fine beaded edge. The second floor of the log house, apparently never partitioned, has flush horizontal pine sheathing. A simple railing encloses the stair opening.

About 1900, a one-story frame ell set on a full stone foundation was attached to the back of the log house achieving a "T" plan. Originally only the gable roof and the floor connected the house and ell, creating an open air passage between which has since been enclosed. The ell is covered in weatherboards with frieze boards carried under the eaves down the east and west three-bay sides returning on the one-bay gable (south) end. The three-bay west side has a door in the center bay with windows of six-over-six sash on either side. The sheet asbestos roof is pierced at the ridge line by a brick chimney. The interior has a two room plan and is finished with flush horizontal pine sheathing. The door and window surrounds and the mantels are formed of plain unmolded boards.

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A later frame addition, attached ca. 1927 along the east side of the frame ell, is attached to the gable roof of the ell. An interior common bond brick flue stack rises through the roof. A simple vertically sheathed porch was later added ca. 1940 at the south end of the last addition.

The late farm buildings include a concrete spring house with a shed roof and two frame buildings with shed roofs.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cox family is important in the early settlement of the New River Valley. Captain John Cox (1739-1818) had settled on the Virginia portion of the Valley in Grayson County before the Revolutionary War. After the War he moved about ten miles south on the New River to Cranberry Creek in North Carolina. His grandson, Samuel Cox (1811-1868), built a two story log house upon land acquired from his father, Joshua Cox (1773-1860). (It is representative of many built in the Valley on or near the family farmstead by second and third generation descendants of early settlers. Its two-story, two-room plan, under a gable roof, with an exterior-end stone chimney was the last and most sophisticated form of log construction for a domestic building.) Samuel's son, Franklin Cox (1853-1905), an important local tanner, enlarged the house which remained in the Cox family until 1955.

The structure near Scottville in Ashe County known as the Samuel Cox House was probably built between 1850 and 1860 by Samuel Cox, the father of W. F. (Franklin) Cox. The land on which he erected the building was part of "a certain piece of parcel of land lying . . . on the waters of Cranberry Creek and the South Fork of New River" which was deeded to Samuel Cox by his father, Joshua Cox, in 1832.

Samuel Cox died intestate in 1868, and in the settlement of his estate the Ashe County Superior Court awarded his widow, Mary Cox, one-third of his land. Her portion included the Cox House. Following his father's death, Franklin Cox lived with his mother, farming and operating a nearby tannery. Mary Cox died sometime around 1880, and evidently she left the Cox House to Franklin.

The 1880 census shows the tannery managed by Franklin Cox produced 150 hides and 120 skins valued at \$400 during the preceeding year. Cox operated the tannery year round and employed one full time worker to whom he paid a salary of \$175 per year. The total capital investment in the tannery was \$500.

Franklin Cox died intestate in 1905 and the Ashe County Superior Court appointed administrators to divide his estate among his widow, Alice Cox, and his children. According to his estate records the "house and tan yard" were located on lot No. 6 in the land division made by the administrators. They awarded this tract to his daughter, Buena Cox, who held the property as a "tenant in common" since she was a minor at the time of settlement.

In 1933 Alice Cox and her children, including Buena Cox, jointly deeded to her son, Ed Cox, the remaining property of Franklin Cox, which still contained

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lot No. 6. In 1955 Ed Cox sold "Lot No. 6 in Division of W. F. Cox Lands" to V. O. and Ruth Waddell. The Waddells still own the Samuel Cox House.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ashe County Deed Books. Office of the Register of Deeds, Ashe County Courthouse, Jefferson, North Carolina.

Ashe County Estate Records, 1819-1935. Archives, Division of Archives and History.

U. S. Bureau of the Census: Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. Ashe County: Population Schedule; Manufacturer's Schedule.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	4,7,1,8,6,10	4,0,3,6,4,3,10	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Research by Joe Mobley, researcher; architectural description by Davyd F. Hood, consultant

ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>Division of Archives and History</u>	
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
<u>109 East Jones Street</u>	<u>919/829-4736</u>
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
<u>Raleigh</u>	<u>North Carolina</u>

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

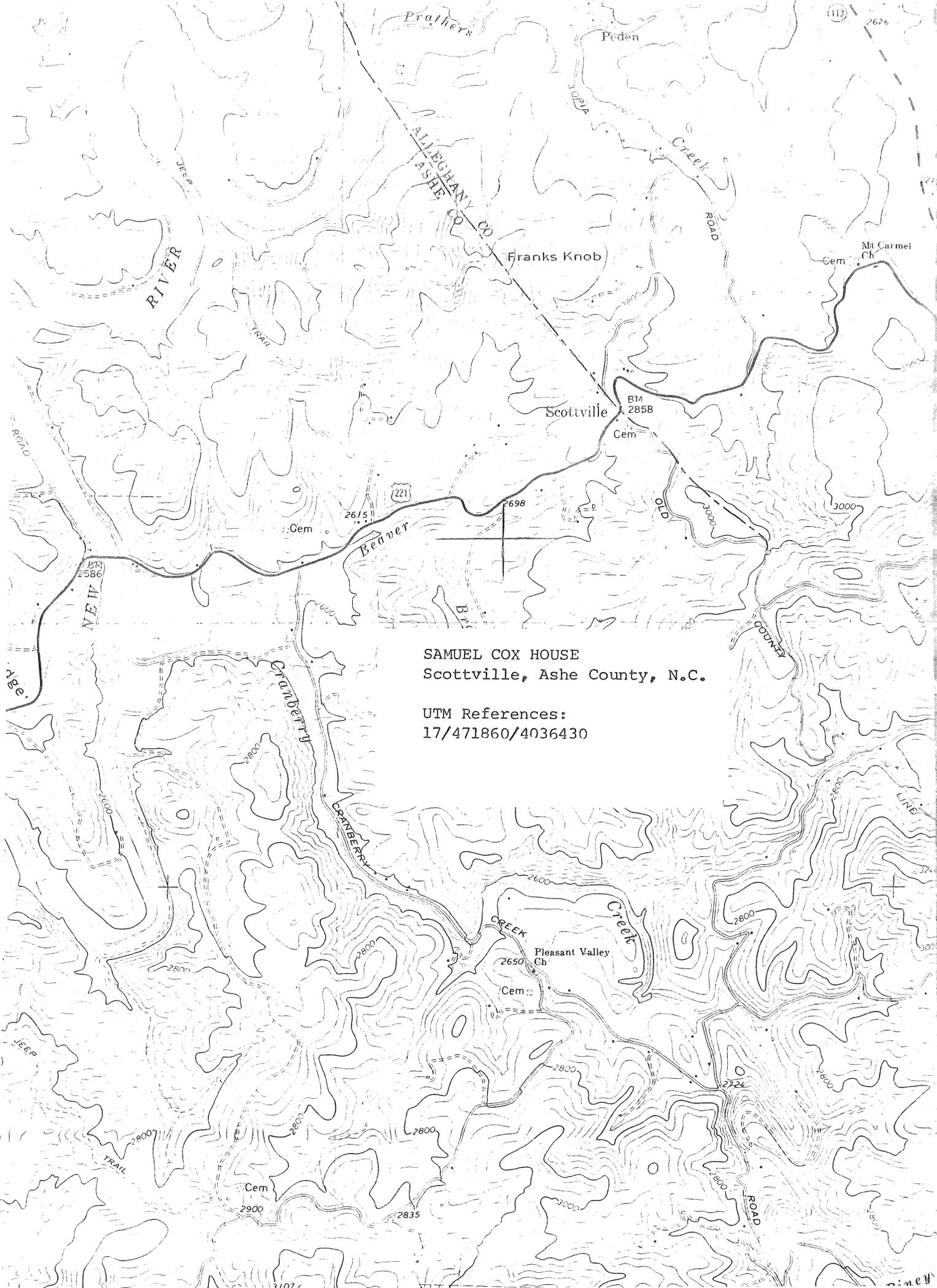
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Larry E. Jim*

TITLE

DATE 7/8/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DATE	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
ATTEST	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	



SAMUEL COX HOUSE  
Scottville, Ashe County, N.C.

UTM References:  
17/471860/4036430

