

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Walker's Inn
AND/OR COMMON
Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
S.R. 1505, NE side of junction with S.R. 1393
CITY, TOWN
Andrews
STATE
North Carolina
VICINITY OF
CODE
37
COUNTY
Cherokee
CODE
039
NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mrs. Margaret Walker Freel Millsaps
STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 430
CITY, TOWN
Andrews
VICINITY OF
STATE
North Carolina

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Cherokee County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Murphy
STATE
North Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Walker's Inn is a two-story, five-bay frame house with an engaged double porch across the main facade. The house rests on a stone foundation. The original portion of the building, the southeast half, is a three-bay log house with central entrance. The logs are exposed at the first level on the front, but otherwise the house is covered with lapped siding except for the board-and-batten used on the second-story porch wall. To the left (northwest) of the log portion is a central hall and one room. The unbalanced fenestration of the main facade is reflected in the placement of heavy, square porch posts, six above and seven below. The first-floor porch has no balustrade; there is a scalloped cornice at the first level and a functional balustrade of simple, squared members at the second level. The windows have six-over-six sash and vary somewhat in size. Frames are generally simply molded. There is a stuccoed, exterior end chimney at either gable end which is flanked by similar windows at both levels and small, six-pane windows at the attic level. Across the rear is a one-bay wide, two-story extension which is incorporated under the unbroken sweep of the roof. (This extension complements the front porch in size.) A one-story wing, attached to the northwest rear corner by a breezeway (now enclosed), houses the cooking and eating area. The gabled wing has porches along its northwest and southeast sides. The construction is of a functional nature. The rear of the house has uneven fenestration and reflects several changes.

The interior, too, is simple and functional, without ornamentation. The stair, originally in the southeast (log) portion, has been removed and an open-string stair consisting of square newel post with molded cap, rounded handrail, paired square balusters is in the central hall. The interior, which follows a center-hall plan one room deep, generally has flush-sheathed walls and utilitarian mantels consisting of a simple shelf above the fire opening.

In the front yard is a frame well house and in the rear is a log outbuilding.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		Exploration and Settlement

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Walker's Inn was the home of William Walker who obtained the land after it was made available for settlement following the Cherokee Removal. The inn was a mid-nineteenth century stagecoach stop on the state-built road leading from Franklin to Murphy, a road which was important to the development of far western North Carolina. A visit to Walker's Inn in the 1850s by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead in his Southern travels was vividly described in his book, The Slave States.

William Walker, born in 1812, no doubt became acquainted with William P. Waugh when they both resided in Wilkes County. Waugh, a native of Pennsylvania, and his nephew John Finley, "were pioneers in the establishment of chain stores carrying a complete line of general merchandise and extending throughout western North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and other southern states." Waugh and Walker were associated in the first store in Valley Town, the location of Walker's Inn. Valley Town was in the newly acquired Cherokee lands which had been acquired and opened to settlement in 1839 following the removal of the Cherokee Indians to Oklahoma. Settlers and entrepreneurs rapidly took up the land, including W. P. Waugh, who acquired many tracts, assigning some of them to relatives and friends.

It was evidently on land acquired through his association with Waugh, that Walker was to make his home. It is unclear what year the log portion of the house was built but family tradition holds that the year was 1844. The house is in district #7, tract 45 on Junaluska's Creek which "William P. Waugh was the purchaser" for the sum of \$832.00. It is unclear who made the initial payment or payments; however, on February 4, 1852, William Walker paid \$424.44 which was the balance of payment for tract 45 in district #7 and the property became his. His home, which came to be called Walker's Inn, was located on the Western Turnpike between Franklin and Murphy. This road had been provided for by act of the General Assembly in 1839:

Be it enacted . . . that the Governor . . . appoint . . . Commissioners . . . State Road leading from Franklin, Macon County, to the Town site called Murphy, from the eight to the twenty nine mile post . . . twenty one miles . . . two thousand dollars be . . . accruing from the sale of the Cherokee Lands . . . Ratified 4 January 1839.

The inn was apparently well established before 1857 when it was visited on July 6th by Frederick Law Olmstead. In his book, The Slave States, Olmstead described his visit:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE one

I have to-day crossed the Tomahila mountain, having spend the night at an unusually comfortable house, known throughout all the country as "Walker's," situated at its western base. Apparently it is a house which the wealthy planters from the low country make a halting station on their journey to certain sulphur springs farther north and east. There were plenty of negroes, under unusually good government, and the table supply was abundant and various. Yet every thing was greasy; even what we call simple dishes, such as boiled rice, and toast, were served soaking in a sauce of melted fat. I gave the stable boy a quarter of a dollar for thoroughly cleaning my horse, but rode away with less than usual scrutiny of the harness, and when I came to climb a steep pitch of the mountain, discovered that the rascal had unbuckled and kept the preventer-girth.

The road, which is excellent, and which was built by aid of a State appropriation, follows for some distance the slopes of a water-course, and then, tack² and tack, up a steep mountain-side . . . at about twelve miles from Walker's . . .

Walker served as magistrate and judge of the County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and in 1846, was appointed the first postmaster of Valley Town. In 1848 Walker was commissioned a captain in the Valley River Militia, and during the Civil War he served in the Commissary Department of the Confederate Army. In 1864, Union soldiers captured Walker at his home and carried him away as a prisoner from which he never returned.

His widow, Margaret Scott Walker, cousin of General Winfield Scott, continued to operate the inn following the war, but through the years much of the land accumulated by her husband dwindled. It is said that "during the years following the Civil War, before the railroad was built from Asheville across the mountains, there was a stage coach run from Franklin to Murphy, and an overnight stay at the Walker Inn was a necessity as well as a pleasure." Margaret Walker died in 1899 and the house has served as a private residence during the twentieth century. The present owner has assembled many papers and objects associated with William and Margaret Walker, her grandparents, and maintains the house as her residence and as a house museum.

¹General Statutes chapter XXXII, 1839.

²Olstead, F. L. The Slave States, p. 217.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cherokee County Records, Cherokee County Courthouse, Murphy, North Carolina
 (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Census Records).
 Cherokee County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
 (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Census Records).
 Freel, Margaret W. Our Heritage, The People of Cherokee County, North Carolina
 1540-1955. Asheville, North Carolina: The Miller Printing Company, 1956.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	249640	3,819,7860	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

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 and architectural description by Charles Greer Suttlemyre, Jr., survey specialist

ORGANIZATION

Division of Archives and History

DATE

4 June 1975

STREET & NUMBER

109 East Jones Street

TELEPHONE

919/829-7862

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-655) 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Charles Greer Suttlemyre, Jr.

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4 June 1975

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE one

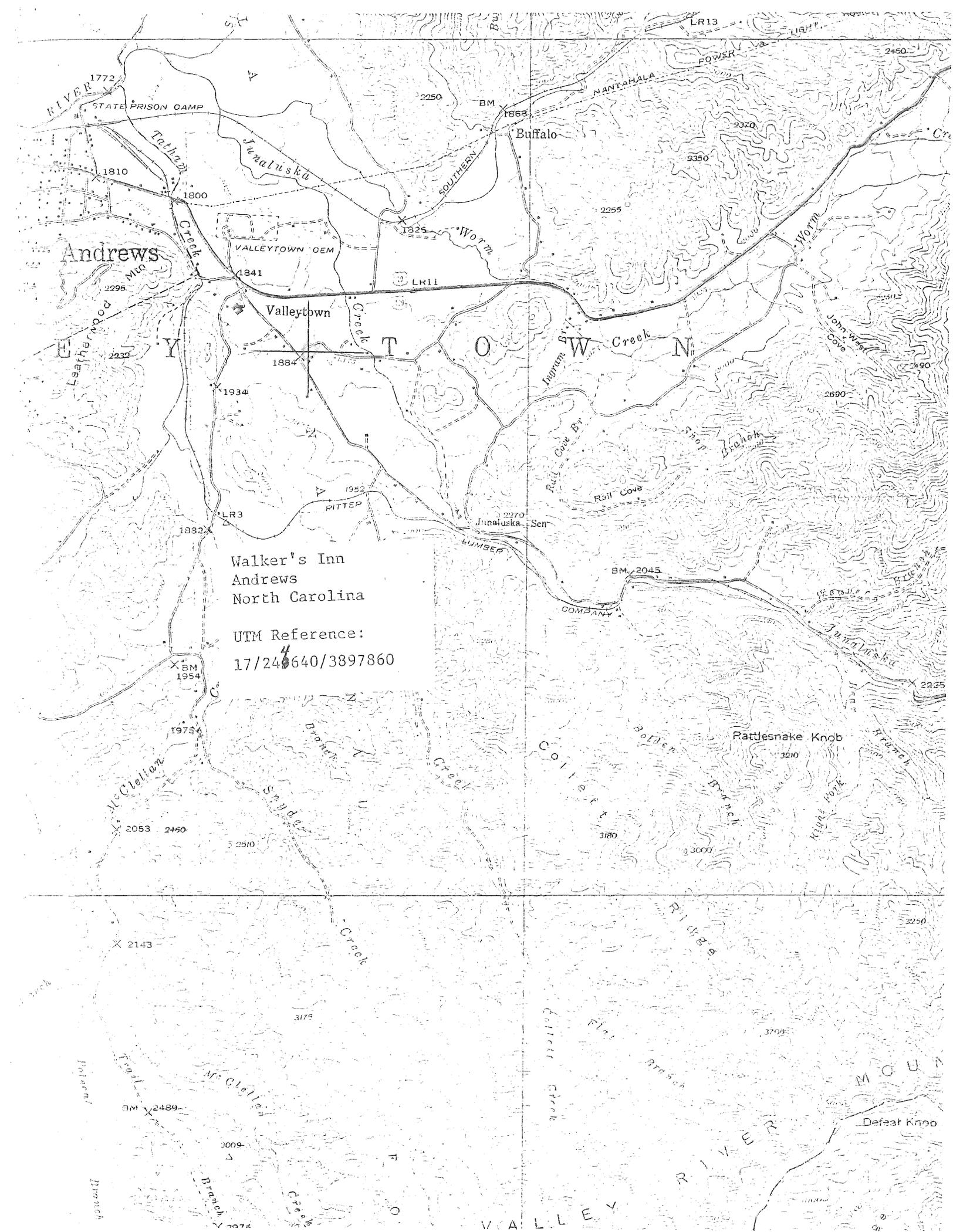
Laws of the State of North Carolina, Passed by the General Assembly at the Session of 1838-1839. Raleigh, North Carolina: J. Gales & Son, Office of the Raleigh Register, 1839.

Olmstead, Frederick Law. The Slave States (Before the Civil War). New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1959.

Secretary of State's Office, Land Grant Records, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Wilkes County Records, Wilkes County Courthouse, Wilkesboro, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Wills).

Wilkes County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
(Subgroups: Wills).



Walker's Inn
Andrews
North Carolina

UTM Reference:
17/240640/3897860

