NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

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 Clayton Family Farm

other names/site number John and Matthew Clayton Farm

2. Location

street & number 5809 Stanleyville Drive (NE corner, SR 1920 and NC 66) N/A☐ not for publication

city or town Stanleyville N/A☐ vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 Zip code 27045

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 7/31/01

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:

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

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Clayton Family Farm
Name of Property

Forsyth Co., 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	
8	3	buildings
4	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
12	3	Total

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

N/A

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
TRANSPORTATION/road-related
COMMERCE/store
FUNERARY/cemetery
LANDSCAPE/pond
DOMESTIC/secondary structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
FUNERARY/cemetery
AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Single-pen log
Greek Revival
Other: I-house

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK
WEATHERBOARD
roof ASPHALT
other BRICK
WOOD

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

Clayton Family Farm
Name of Property

Forsyth Co., 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 pafterns 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)

Transportation
Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1800 - 1931

Significant Dates

ca. 1800
1879

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:

Clayton Family Farm
Name of Property

Forsyth Co., NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 25

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	565490	4006560
2	17	565720	4006470
3	17	565600	4006040
4	17	565120	4006040

☐ 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 Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization N/A date October 12, 2000

street & number 637 N. Spring St. telephone 336/727-1968

City or town Winston-Salem state NC Zip code 27101

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 James G. and Alma C. Clayton (see continuation sheet)

street & number 5809 Stanleyville Dr. telephone 336/377-2676

City or town Rural Hall state NC Zip code 27045

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.

DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification, cont'd.

Italianate

Materials, cont'd.

Walls: Log

Other: Marble

Summary

The Clayton Family Farm at 5809 Stanleyville Drive is located at the junction of SR 1920 (Stanleyville Drive) and NC 66 (Old Hollow Road) in the Stanleyville community of northern Forsyth County. Now on the edge of the Winston-Salem city limits, the farm consists of about twenty-five acres of house site, expansive lawn, and woodlands that form a rural oasis in what is now a built-up, modern residential environment.

The Clayton Family Farm land has been in the same family since the late eighteenth century. Although the land is no longer farmed, it retains a total of fifteen resources. Twelve of these, or eighty percent, contribute to the historic significance of the property and include two historic roadbeds, an historic pond site, the ca. 1800 weatherboarded log John Clayton House, the 1879 brick Matthew C. Clayton House, the former Clayton Store, five log and frame outbuildings, and the family cemetery. Three additional outbuildings do not contribute to the historic significance of the property. The farm's resources range from fair to excellent in condition, with moderate alterations consistent with the changing needs of a rural family.

The Matthew C. Clayton House, the Clayton Store, and all the outbuildings are located on the north side of the former Old Hollow Road. In the woods behind these buildings is the site of the so-called open pond, used by travelers in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries for watering their horses and other livestock. South of the former Old Hollow Road, and west of the former Old Wagon Road, stands the John Clayton House. Originally it stood just west of the Matthew Clayton House, but it was moved in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century to its current position facing Stanleyville Drive. The cemetery is located on a hill southeast of Phelps Circle, east of the houses and outbuildings. Prior to

the mid-1950s, a several-acre corn field stood south of the Matthew Clayton House; this land now forms an expansive lawn leading up to the house. Behind the Matthew Clayton House, the current timber land was, prior to the mid-twentieth century, planted in tobacco and corn and was the site of several tobacco barns as well as the open pond. The nominated property, now consisting of only a fraction of what comprised the Clayton lands in the nineteenth century, forms the surviving associated setting for the farm's built resources.

All in all, the Clayton Family Farm possesses a relatively high degree of historic integrity in terms of its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Inventory List

1. **Great Wagon Road**
   Mid-eighteenth century
   Contributing site

   Two sections of the Great Wagon Road roadbed can still be seen on the Clayton Family Farm property. One section, located behind (east of) the John Clayton House, is a linear depression about one hundred feet long, about twenty feet wide, and ranges from about three to four feet deep. The other section is located north of the garage and dairy and west of the equipment shed (or, northwest of the Matthew Clayton House) and is approximately one-hundred feet in length, twenty-five feet in width, and ranges from around one to four feet in depth. The road's significance to the Clayton property is that it placed the family at a strategic crossroads (with Old Hollow Road) in the area. The road eventually was realigned, probably ca. 1920, to follow the path of present-day Stanleyville Drive.

2. **Old Hollow Road**
   Late eighteenth century
   Contributing site

   Until 1953, Old Hollow Road—as it is most commonly known—ran directly in front of the original location of the John Clayton House and, after 1879, of the Matthew C. Clayton House. Today the road is also designated as NC 66. The significance of the road to the Clayton Farm is that it positioned the farm at an important crossroads with the Great Wagon Road (now Stanleyville Drive). In 1953 Old Hollow Road was realigned southward to its present route, leaving the

Matthew Clayton House with a broad expanse of front lawn. However, its earlier route is still clearly visible on the Clayton property. It runs approximately two hundred fifty feet eastward from Stanleyville Drive as the paved, twenty-foot-wide driveway to the Matthew Clayton House and from there continuing eastward, with little or no depression, approximately three hundred feet across the grassy lawn bordered by an alignment of trees and shrubbery to Phelps Circle (SR 1925).

3. **Open Pond**
Mid-eighteenth through nineteenth-century use
Contributing site

The current survey map of the Clayton Family Farm (drawn by Norris Clayton, professional engineer and land surveyor, February 5, 1996) shows the physical depression northeast of the Matthew Clayton House that once formed a pond, along with the ditch line that drained the pond sometime after 1920. Since the mid-twentieth century, the site has grown up in trees. The pond was known as the "open pond," because during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, it served as a watering place for the horses and livestock of travelers along the Great Wagon Road. Though it was on private property, the pond was freely available to all, thus it was "open." The first known reference to the open pond is on *The Great Map of Wachovia*, Part I, begun in 1758 by Christian Gottlieb Reuter. It is again referred to in the 1799 deed of the property to John Clayton, Sr., the 1801 will of John Clayton, Sr., and the 1817 deed of the property to John Clayton, Jr.

4. **John Clayton House**
ca. 1800; moved late nineteenth or early twentieth century
Contributing building

Facing Stanleyville Drive (SR 1920) at its intersection with Old Hollow Road (NC 66), the John Clayton House is a two-story, two-bay-wide, weatherboarded log dwelling. It was moved in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century from its original site just west of the Matthew Clayton House to its present location. The house stands on a masonry-mix foundation of brick, stone, and concrete blocks and features a metal-sheathed side-gable roof with overhanging boxed eaves and pronounced cornice returns, a replacement exterior brick chimney and brick stove stack on the southwest side, and a shed-roofed front porch balancing shed rooms on the rear. The original exterior appearance of the house is uncertain. It may have had exposed logs (notch type

unknown), for family tradition claims that it was weatherboarded in 1860. However, the presence of several beaded weatherboards on the southwest side of the house in an area that would have been hidden by the original chimneys suggests that the house had beaded weatherboards prior to 1860. It is likely that features of Greek Revival influence, including the form and detailing of the roof eaves, the flush-sheathed facade beneath the porch, the angled and mitered molding of the front entrance and window surrounds, and the fireplace mantel, date from the time of the1860 weatherboarding. The house has six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows, except for the two second-story facade windows, which have later replacement sash. The current plain porch posts are twentieth-century replacements, although the porch itself probably dates from the mid-nineteenth century. Extending across the rear of the log house is a heavy-timber frame, shed-roofed addition with two rooms. Its construction and detailing suggest that it was added not long after the original construction of the house.

The exterior of the John Clayton House belies its true age. The interior, however, retains an impressive collection of features that are consistent with detailing used in houses in the Salem vicinity during the late eighteenth century. For a log house located on the outer edge of the Wachovia Tract, the John Clayton House exhibits surprisingly sophisticated detailing. Of particular note are the beaded ceiling joists, the wide hand-planed and bead-edged boards that sheathe the first-floor walls and the ceilings of the shed rooms, and the batten doors, each of which varies from the others. All doors are composed of three wide vertical boards. The front and rear exterior doors have straight horizontal battens, the ones on the front door having beaded edges and the ones on the rear door having beveled edges. The rear door retains wrought iron strap hinges. The interior doors between the main body of the house and the rear shed and between the two shed rooms have tapered battens; those on the door between the main room and shed are beaded, while those on the door between the shed rooms have molded edges. The door between the main room and shed also retains fancy wrought iron strap hinges and Suffolk latch hardware. Originally the log portion of the house had a single-pen plan. Probably after the house was moved to its present location and became a tenant house, a partition was installed on the first floor creating a two-room hall-and-parlor plan. The large fireplace on the southwest side wall of the house has been blocked-in for a stove. Its mid-nineteenth-century vernacular mantel retains its stepped shelf but has lost its frieze and pilasters. In the south rear corner of the log portion of the house, a narrow stair leads to the second floor. Originally it was only partially enclosed; the present enclosure of the bottom half of the stair is composed of regular-width narrower boards and appears to date from the same period as the partition between the two front rooms. The second floor was probably originally unfinished; today it has beaded board wall and ceiling

sheathing, and board partitions create two main rooms and closets. As elsewhere in the house, the second floor has batten doors.

Family tradition claims that when John Clayton formally acquired the property in 1817, a substantial log house was already there. Exactly when the house was built, or by whom, is not certain. John's father, John Clayton, Sr., had acquired clear title to the property in 1799, but his 1801 will indicates that he and his wife, Charity Banner, were living nearby on a different tract of land. John Clayton, Jr., and his wife, Elizabeth Moore, raised a large family in the house and lived there until their deaths in 1863 and 1858, respectively. Their son, Matthew, and his wife, Sarah McKinney, continued to occupy the house until building their own brick house in 1879. According to family tradition, the log house was then used for a while as a store by John Gideon Clayton (only son of Matthew and Sarah), for grain storage, and for general storage. During either the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, the house was moved to its present location, where it served as a tenant house for many years. Though relocated, the John Clayton House has continued to contribute significantly to the historic and architectural character of the Clayton Family Farm. More recently it has been used as an antiques shop and is now unoccupied. The Clayton family has given the log house to Preservation North Carolina, who plans to resell it with a preservation easement.

5. **Matthew C. Clayton House**
1879
Contributing building

Family tradition asserts that Matthew C. Clayton built his substantial two-story brick house in 1879; its form and stylistic features are consistent with that dating. After the deaths of Sarah and Matthew Clayton (1916 and 1920), the house came into possession of their only child, John Gideon Clayton, who lived his entire life there until his death in 1931. The present owners and occupants—since 1952—are James Gideon Clayton, son of John Gideon and Ora Belle Clayton, and his wife, Alma. The house has seen only minor alterations through the years, including several small frame additions made between the 1920s and the 1950s by John Gideon and James Gideon Clayton. More recently an unobtrusive handicap ramp has been attached to the front porch.

The I-house form, though not the material, of the Matthew Clayton House is typical of vernacular farmhouses built in the Piedmont during the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth

centuries. It is a two-story, three-bay-wide, four-to-one common-bond brick structure with a brick foundation and a low side-gable roof whose overhanging eaves have exposed rafter ends. It has gable-end chimneys and a one-story rear ell. A one-story, hip-roofed porch extends across most of the facade and is supported by handsome Italianate-style wood posts composed of a paneled base, a chamfered post, and decorative sawnwork brackets. Probably in the 1920s, the porch was extended around the southeast corner of the house; it was screened in the late 1930s. Also in the 1920s, a frame bedroom was added to the east side of the house, a frame wash room and a frame storage room were added to the north end of the rear ell, and a porch was added to the east side of the rear ell. Balusters were later added to that porch, probably in the 1950s. A shed-roofed porch originally stretched the length of the west side of the rear ell of the house. At its north end was a brick-lined well. Around 1957, the north end of this porch was enclosed for a bathroom. Probably at the same time, the remainder of the porch was enclosed with jalousie windows to create a sun room.

An Italianate-style double-leaf door with four panels per leaf and narrow sidelights and transom provides entrance to the front of the house. The interior has pine floors, plastered walls, and board ceilings. It follows a center-hall plan with a single room on either side of the stair hall, upstairs and down, and a two-room ell, plus the additions described above. Interior doors are uniform throughout the house and are a simpler version of the front door; they are single doors with two panels and a three-light transom. Door and window surrounds are plain. The six mantels display simple Italianate styling. All have chamfered pilasters, mantel shelves with curved ends, those in the two main rooms supported by ogee moldings, and all have plain friezes, except for the parlor mantel, which has an added decorative panel. The handsome stair rises from front to rear in the center hall and has a heavy, turned, Italianate-style newel, turned balusters, a rounded railing that is ramped at the second-floor landing, and a particularly well-detailed paneled spandrel. A small bathroom, enclosed with pine paneling, was added beneath the stair in the 1940s. Originally, the rear ell contained the dining room and, behind it, the kitchen. When Ora Belle Clayton got an electric stove, probably in the 1940s, she installed it in the dining room, which then became the kitchen. Later, James Gideon Clayton converted the former kitchen to a bedroom, which it remains.

6. **Clayton Store**
ca. 1910; moved ca. 1931
Contributing building

Around 1910, John Gideon Clayton built a store west of the brick Matthew Clayton House. When built, the store was strategically positioned at what was then the northwest corner of the junction of the Great Wagon Road and Old Hollow Road (both roads were subsequently realigned). The store, a one-story, weatherboarded, frame building with a front-gable roof and two-over-two sash windows, originally had a double-leaf, paneled entrance located on the southeast corner so that it addressed both roads. The building ceased its use as a store at the end of 1931, when John Gideon Clayton died in an automobile accident. By that time, the Great Wagon Road had been moved to the west, behind the store, to the present location of Stanleyville Drive. The store was then converted to a tenant house and moved several feet north so that it nearly touched the adjacent small log structure (former slave house) and could better be used in conjunction with it. At the end of World War II, James Gideon and Alma Clayton, son and daughter-in-law of John Gideon Clayton, lived for a time in the house. For its use as a house, the building's corner entrance was squared off and a gable-roofed porch with turned posts was added to the east end. Interestingly, the original corner entrance was left intact on the interior, where it is still visible. The building is now used for storage.

7. **Slave House**
Mid-nineteenth century
Contributing building

The 1860 census lists John Clayton as the owner of twelve slaves, and family tradition claims that this small building located just north of the Clayton Store was originally a slave house. Set on a low foundation of mixed rubble, it is a one-story log structure with clay-chinked square-notched logs, a wood-shingled gable roof (now covered over with corrugated metal), a collapsed brick chimney on the north gable end, and batten doors on east and west sides with simple wrought iron strap hinges. A small window on the east side lights the one-room first floor, which has exposed logs and ceiling joists and is white-washed. A narrow corner stair leads to the loft, which has a three-log-high knee wall and a small window on the south end. Here the wood-shingled roof is fully exposed.

8. **Smokehouse/Potato House**
Mid to late nineteenth century
Contributing building

This one-story, V-notched log building has a metal-sheathed roof with an overhanging front gable

and a squat batten door with wrought iron strap hinges. The low interior space features built-in slanted shelving along the west wall and a ladder stair to the loft in the southeast corner. The building has the appearance of a potato drying house (and census records show that potatoes were one of the crops raised on the farm), but Clayton family tradition claims it was a smokehouse. In fact, the building may have served both uses, and potentially others, at different times. It stands northwest of the Matthew Clayton House and behind the original location of the John Clayton House.

9. **Garage**
ca. 1950
Non-contributing building

Just east of the smokehouse/potato house stands a two-car garage. It was built around 1950 using the logs from a tobacco barn that had been located in the field behind the house which was planted in trees at about the same time. The numbering at the ends of the logs doubtless helped with their reconstruction. The barn has a broad gable roof covered with corrugated metal.

10. **Dairy**
Early twentieth century
Contributing building

East of the garage stands a small frame building with a raised concrete foundation and vertical board siding. It has a batten door on the south end and a metal-sheathed front-gable roof. On the inside, the raised foundation forms a shelf around the perimeter of the building. Now used for storage, the building originally functioned as the farm dairy.

11. **Equipment shed**
ca. 1920; moved in mid 1950s
Contributing building

At the rear of the house lot behind (north of) the Matthew Clayton House stands an equipment shed. It is a one-story frame structure with vertical board siding and a metal-sheathed shed roof. The west end consists of an open-front tractor shed, while the east end has an enclosed room for storage. The shed was originally built across Old Hollow Road south of the house. After the road was moved in 1953, the shed was relocated to its present site.

12. Outhouse
First half of twentieth century; moved in 1960s
Contributing building

Just east of the equipment shed and set discreetly several feet back is a frame, one-hole outhouse. The small building has wide, horizontal board siding, a narrow batten door, and a shed roof covered with corrugated metal. The date of construction is not certain, but the outhouse originally stood, along with another, much closer to the east side of the Matthew Clayton House. In the 1940s the Claytons got indoor plumbing. In the 1960s, one of the outhouses was destroyed, while this one was moved to its present location. There it continued to be used until the 1980s by a tenant living in the former store building, because that building had no plumbing.

13. Barn
ca. 1880; moved and rebuilt mid-1950s
Non-contributing building

The barn is located northeast of the Matthew Clayton House. It is a one-story, double-pen, V-notched log building with a center passage, a shed roof, and a frame shed on the north end. Originally, the barn was a full two stories and stood south of the house on the opposite side of Old Hollow Road. After the road was moved in late 1953, the barn was dismantled and rebuilt in its present form on the current site.

14. Temporary Shed
Last quarter twentieth century
Non-contributing building

Just east of the Matthew Clayton House stands a modern metal shed used for the storage of lawnmowers and other equipment.

15. Clayton Cemetery
1833-1998
Contributing site

The family cemetery is located east of the house tract and across Phelps Circle but contiguous

with the rest of the Clayton property. A curving dirt lane leads uphill to the cemetery site, a wooded area surrounded by a chain link fence (earlier a white picket fence) and a mowed field. Shaded by cedars and hardwoods and further beautified by boxwoods, other shrubbery, and periwinkle, the cemetery contains a close grouping of approximately fifty graves dating from 1833 to 1998. Each generation of Claytons who has lived on the property is represented. The mid-nineteenth-century graves have simple stones, generally with either rounded or peaked heads. Some of the later stones are more developed, including the marble obelisk with lengthy epitaph marking the grave of Matthew C. Clayton (1830-1920).

SIGNIFICANCE

Significant Dates, cont'd.

1910
1931

Summary

The Clayton Family Farm comprises a locally significant ensemble of twelve historic resources (and three non-historic resources) on a rural tract of approximately twenty-five acres in north Forsyth County, North Carolina. Located at the strategic junction of two eighteenth-century roads—the Great Wagon Road, by which Moravians, Germans, and Scotch-Irish settlers found their way from Pennsylvania to North Carolina's western Piedmont and the Quaker Road (later Old Hollow Road), which connected the Friends from Guilford County's New Garden Meeting with their mission in the "west fields"—and possessing the "open pond," where travelers on these roads could freely water their horses and livestock, the farm prospered through the continuity and change associated with multiple generations of Clayton family use over two centuries. In addition to the sites of these important transportation resources, the property retains the ca. 1800 John Clayton House, a rare surviving example in the county of a substantial and refined early log house; the 1879 Matthew Clayton House, an excellent and well-preserved brick representative of the vernacular I-house form that proliferated in Forsyth County and the rest of North Carolina's Piedmont during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; a rare mid-nineteenth-century log slave house; a ca. 1910 country store converted after 1931 to a small dwelling; four late nineteenth and twentieth-century contributing outbuildings; and the family cemetery. The Clayton Family Farm possesses local significance associated with the early transportation history of the area and thus fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register. The property possesses architectural significance because it retains several important local examples of nineteenth and early twentieth-century building types, thereby meeting National Register Criterion C. The farm also fulfills Criterion Consideration B, because although the John Clayton House, the Clayton Store, the equipment shed, and the outhouse were all moved very short distances to new locations on the property during the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries, they have retained sufficient integrity of design, materials, setting, and feeling to remain significant to the historic character of the farm. In addition, the architecturally rare and significant John Clayton House retains most of its historic materials, log construction, and interior woodworking details to convey its architectural values from ca. 1800. The period of significance for this historic property extends from the ca. 1800 construction of the John Clayton House through the construction of the 1879 Matthew Clayton House and the ca. 1910

construction of the Clayton Store to the accidental death of John Gideon Clayton at the end of 1931, after which the store closed and farming on the property gradually diminished. Today, the Clayton Family Farm remains in the ownership, occupancy, and good stewardship of the Clayton family.

Historical Background

The history of the Clayton Family Farm is a story of continuity and change during two centuries of the same family ownership. Since the 1790s, five consecutive generations of the Clayton Family have owned this land and five generations have occupied it.

The land which the Clayton Family Farm occupies was part of the nearly 100,000-acre Wachovia Tract that the Moravians began to settle in the mid-eighteenth century. Coming from Pennsylvania through Virginia to North Carolina on the Great Wagon Road, the Moravians established their first settlement, Bethabara, in 1753, nearby Bethania in 1759, and their main town, Salem, in 1766 (Taylor, 4-9). The *Great Map of Wachovia, Part I*, begun in 1758 by Christian Gottlieb Reuter, was periodically updated during the remainder of the eighteenth century. At the approximate location of this property it carries the notation, "John Clayton 203 Acres the 28th of Novbr 1796" (*Great Map*).

Nonetheless, it was not until February 7, 1799, that John Clayton (ca. 1756-1801) actually gained title to the property in a deed from Frederic William Marshall, the administrator of Wachovia (Deed Book 3, p. 188). The delay was likely due to the fact that it was common practice for the Moravians at that time to initially establish an agreement—an intent to sell—with a prospective buyer, but then formally convey the land by deed only when the new owner had paid in full for the property and had proved to be an upright neighbor (Starbuck Interview).

The deed set forth the key location identifiers for the property that became the Clayton Family Farm—the open pond, the Quaker Road, and the Road from Bethabara to the Town Fork (Deed Book 3, p. 188). The open pond was a place made available for travelers to water their horses and livestock. It was, therefore, "open" for the use of those other than the just the owner of the pond. The Quaker Road was an old road that led from the New Garden Friends Meeting in Guilford County to the Westfield Friends Meeting, established as a mission by the New Garden Friends in 1772 near present-day Mount Airy in Surry County. This road was later called the Old Hollow Road because the area around the future Mount Airy was called "the Hollow" (Phillips, 270, 40). The Road from Bethabara to the Town Fork (an early name for the Germanton area) was what this section of the Great Wagon Road was called. It was also referred to as the King's Road, the Road to Virginia, and later, the Germanton Road. Thus, a property located at such a crossroads was prime real estate.

When John Clayton died in 1801, his will bequeathed the property "known by the open pond tract

at the crossroads which I purchased of William F. Marshall" to his eldest son, John Clayton (1788-1863) when he arrived at lawful age. The will made clear that the house and plantation where John (the elder) and his wife, Charity Banner, had been living was a different tract of land. The will further directed that Clayton's sons should receive "a good English education" and his daughters some education and support "out of the whole stock and income of my estate such as rents of the open pond tract and others," indicating that he had been using the open pond tract as rental property (Will Book 2, p. 7).

John Clayton (the younger) was only thirteen years old when his father died. When he began living on the open pond tract is not known, but he did not acquire full title to the property until June 25, 1817, when the other heirs of John Clayton (the elder) deeded it to him for one thousand dollars. Why John had to obtain a deed and pay for the property that his father had bequeathed him is not clear. Nevertheless, in describing the tract, the deed says that it included "the house and plantation whereon the said John Clayton now lives." Family tradition asserts that when Clayton purchased the property, a substantial log dwelling already stood on it (Deed Book 8, p. 114; *History of North Carolina*, 248).

Who built the house is not known, nor is the exact date of construction. The builder does not appear to have been either of the John Claytons. It may have been the person who was renting the property from the elder John Clayton. Numerous physical indicators, including the use of wrought iron or wrought-iron-headed nails, suggest that the log portion of the house could have been built either in the late eighteenth or very early nineteenth century. Therefore, ca. 1800 has been selected as an approximate date of construction. The frame rear shed, which exhibits detailing very similar to that found in the log house but which uses cut nails, appears to have been added in the early nineteenth century. It may well have been built by the younger John Clayton.

In 1816 John Clayton married Elizabeth Moore, who was from an old and respected Stokes County family (Marriage Bond). They reared nine children in the two-story log house that faced the Quaker Road just east of its junction with the Great Wagon Road. A tenth child, Jackson, died as an infant in 1833 and was the first to be buried in the family cemetery. The Claytons farmed with the help of slaves—eight in 1830 and twelve by 1860 (Census, 1830 Population Schedule and 1860 Slave Schedule). A small log house on the property is believed by the Clayton family to have been one of the slave houses. In 1860, the last time John Clayton was listed in the census, he had 425 acres, 150 of which were improved. Four of his sons—Ruben, William, Matthew, and Gabriel—were also listed, but each with only about one-third the number of improved acres that John had. In that year, John produced the largest crop of corn in the Buffalo District, but compared with his neighbors, he raised a relatively small amount of tobacco. Like the other farmers in the area, John operated a diversified farm that raised cattle, sheep, and swine and such by-products as wool and butter, and grew crops of wheat, rye, oats, and potatoes, in addition to corn and tobacco (Census, 1860 Agriculture Schedule; Little, 16). The log smokehouse or potato house on the property probably dates from this mid-nineteenth-century period.

Elizabeth Clayton died in 1858 and John Clayton followed in 1863. John Clayton's will directed that his property of various types be given to each of his nine surviving children. It also noted that John Clayton had already given land to several of his sons. The home tract with about 268 acres was bequeathed to John Clayton's youngest son, Gideon Edwards Clayton (John Clayton Will). Civil War combat claimed the lives of two of John Clayton's sons—Gabriel and Gideon—and wounded a third, Matthew. Before these sons went off to battle, they agreed that if one was killed, his land would go to the other two. With both Gabriel and Gideon having been killed, Matthew was left with their property, including more than 475 acres and the home tract, in addition to his own property (Inventory of Gabriel T. Clayton; Inventory of Gideon Edwards Clayton).

In 1866 Matthew Columbus Clayton (1830-1920) married Sarah McKinney, his deceased brother Gabriel's sweetheart. They first lived in John Clayton's log house, and Matthew farmed. In 1879 they built a substantial brick dwelling adjacent to the old house and facing south on Old Hollow Road. Their farmhouse with late classical detailing was one of the finest in the area. There they remained the rest of their lives. Sarah died in 1916; Matthew followed in 1920. Matthew and Sarah were both members of the Hickory Ridge Methodist Protestant Church and were "among the most highly esteemed and popular residents of that section" (*Twin-City Daily Sentinel*, January 10, 1916). At the time of his death, Matthew was the only surviving member of the original company of Forsyth Riflemen, who had left the county in 1861 to fight for the Confederacy (*Twin City Sentinel*, December 4, 1920).

Matthew and Sarah Clayton had only one child, John Gideon Clayton (1873-1931). "Gid" lived his entire life on the Clayton farm, and when his parents died, he inherited the property. In 1898 Gid married Ora Belle Ziglar. He farmed, engaged in various general business affairs, was a justice of the peace for more than thirty years, and was a Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias, a Democrat, and a member of the New Garden Friends Church (Little, 17; *History of North Carolina*, 248). Around the turn of the twentieth century, Gid Clayton operated a general store in the old John Clayton log house. Around 1910, he built a frame store on the property whose corner entrance was oriented toward the junction of Old Hollow (formerly Quaker) and Germanton (formerly Great Wagon) roads. During the 1920s, people in the neighborhood received their mail at the crossroads. The store was not officially a post office, but a wagon wheel laid on its side on a pole outside the store served as a repository for the mail. Attached to the spokes of the wheel were shoe box-like mail boxes; as people approached the wheel, they turned it until it came to their box, from which they retrieved their mail (Kathleen Clayton Interviews, September 25 and October 1, 2000).

John Gideon Clayton was killed in an automobile accident on December 31, 1931. This event had a significant impact on the Clayton family and their farm. By the time of Gid's death, the old Germanton Road (Great Wagon Road) had been realigned, taking on the route of present-day Stanleyville Drive. This meant that the crossroads was now behind the store, so that the store's location was no longer as

advantageous as it had been. When Gid died, the store closed. Another change after Gid's death was that the agricultural use of the farm gradually diminished until the early 1950s, and then ceased altogether in the 1960s (Kathleen Clayton Interview, September 20, 2000).

When Gid Clayton died, Ora Belle was left with their three children: Lucy Virginia, who was twenty-one years old; Mary Belle, who was seventeen; and James Gideon, who was only twelve. Several months later, in March of 1932, both daughters married. Ora Belle reared James Gideon, known as "J.G.," on the family farm. In 1944 he married Alma Adeline Clayton. After World War II, J.G. and Alma lived for several years in the store, which had been converted to a tenant house, while Ora Belle continued to reside in the brick house (Alma, Norris, and Kathleen Clayton Interview).

Ora Belle Clayton died on December 10, 1951, twenty years after the death of her husband. At this time, Gid Clayton's property was divided among the three children of Gid and Ora Belle. J. G. ended up with the house tract. Change on the property continued in the 1950s. In late 1953, Old Hollow Road, which had run east-west immediately in front of the John Clayton House and then the Matthew Clayton House, was moved southward to its present alignment. After the move, the barns and other outbuildings that had stood on the south side of the road across from the house were torn down or moved and rebuilt behind the house. Eventually, the corn field south of the house became a beautiful front lawn for the Matthew Clayton House. Except for the stretch west of the house that became the farm's driveway, the old road bed was taken up and the ground planted with grass. Nevertheless, the path of the road remains visible because much of it is bordered by trees and shrubbery. North of the house, the former corn and tobacco fields were planted in trees around 1950 (Kathleen Clayton Interviews, September 20 and 25, 2000).

Today, the Matthew Clayton House is still occupied by J.G. and Alma Clayton, the fifth generation of Claytons to own the property. With the help of their grown children, they plan to continue the preservation of the house and farm within the family. In another effort toward long-term preservation, in September, 2000, the Claytons gave the John Clayton House and approximately one-half acre of surrounding land to Preservation North Carolina. The organization plans to resell the property with a preservation easement.

Transportation Context

During the eighteenth century and most of the nineteenth century, roads were the only means of transportation in back country North Carolina. In this particular area of the Piedmont, there were no navigable waterways, and rail transportation did not arrive until the late nineteenth century. Roads, therefore, were critical to the development and maintenance of the area, providing the only method of

transporting people, goods, and information. Unfortunately, roads were limited in number and of poor quality. Roads shown on early maps are clear indicators of settlement patterns and economic connections between places. Today, roads that were present in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries have either been abandoned entirely or incorporated in whole or in part into the routes of modern roads.

The most important early road providing access to this part of the Piedmont was the Great Wagon Road. It was the route by which Moravian, German, and Scotch-Irish settlers traveled to the area from Pennsylvania in the mid-eighteenth century. The road began at Philadelphia, wound through the Valley of Virginia, and into North Carolina's Piedmont. There were branches of the road, the two primary ones being the Upper Road and the Lower Road. It was the Lower Road that cut through present-day Forsyth County (Wellman, 4-6). Over time, sections of the road took on the names of closer destinations along the overall route. Eighteenth-century maps and deeds associated with the Moravians' Wachovia Tract (most of present-day Forsyth County) identify the stretch of the road running through the northern section of Forsyth County variously as the King's Road, the Road to Virginia, the Road from Bethabara to the Town Fork, and the Germanton Road (not to be confused with present-day Germanton Road, NC 8, located a couple of miles to the east). Small portions of the Great Wagon Road can still be seen throughout its route. During the development of the Clayton Farm property, this stretch of the Great Wagon Road ran through it. Although around 1920 the road's route was realigned a little to the west forming present-day Stanleyville Drive (SR 1920), it originally ran east of the Clayton Store. The old route can still be seen in the linear depressions behind (east of) the John Clayton House and north of the garage and dairy.

Of course, there were other roads secondary to the Great Wagon Road that ran through present-day Forsyth County. By 1772, Wachovia's roads totaled ninety-two miles, with junctions on highways leading north to the Mount Airy area and on to Virginia, south to South Carolina, east toward Fayetteville and west toward Salisbury (Wellman, 4-6). One such road was the Quaker Road. It led from the New Garden Friends Meeting in present-day Guilford County to the Westfields Friends Meeting near present-day Mount Airy in Surry County, where the Quakers were establishing a mission in 1772. When many Quakers left the Westfield area as part of the great westward migration from North Carolina during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the Westfield Friends Meeting was discontinued from 1832 to 1868. The Quaker Road soon came to be called the Old Hollow Road, because the area around Mount Airy to which it went was known as "the Hollow" (Phillips, 270, 40). Based on the evidence of early maps and deeds and the twentieth-century name, this road passed through the Clayton Family Farm in an east-west direction, passing just south of the John Clayton House (at its original location), and later south of the Matthew Clayton House and the Clayton Store after they were built. In 1953 Old Hollow Road was realigned southward to its present site as part of NC 66. However, the old roadbed can still be seen running across the Clayton property, part of it still paved and serving as the

Claytons' driveway, and the other part running east of the Matthew Clayton House as a section of tree and shrub-lined lawn until it connects with Phelps Circle. The Quaker Road and the Great Wagon Road crossed each other just southeast of the ca. 1910 Clayton Store.

The remains of another important early transportation resource is found on the Clayton Family Farm, located northeast of the Matthew Clayton House in the present wood lot. Now seen as an irregular-shaped depression in the land, this was originally known as the "open pond" and was referred to as such on eighteenth-century maps of Wachovia and on early deeds for the Clayton property. In fact, for some years, the property was known as the "open pond tract." Although privately owned, this pond was available for the crucial watering needs of travelers along these roads. Because the pond's water was freely available, it took on its designation as an "open" pond.

The presence of these three important transportation resources—the Great Wagon Road, the Quaker Road, and the Open Pond—meant that the Clayton Family Farm property was at a strategic location. It was, in fact, an early rural transportation center that affected the development not only of this farmstead but of the surrounding area from the late eighteenth century through the mid-twentieth century.

Architecture Context

Among its historic resources, Clayton Farm possesses good and, in two cases, rare examples of building types, materials, and styles representative of Forsyth County's architecture during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These include two generations of farmhouses, a slave house, outbuildings, and a store.

Log houses were popular in Forsyth County as elsewhere in the Piedmont because of the relative ease with which materials could be gathered and assembled to create a dwelling. During the early nineteenth century outside the Moravian settlements, log houses predominated. The typical log house of the period was rectangular with one or two rooms, a loft, and a gable-end brick or stone chimney. Some log houses were a full two stories. Many log houses, and particularly the more stylish ones, were weatherboarded from the beginning. Although log houses once proliferated in the county, surviving examples—at least those that are reasonably intact and have not been heavily disguised by alterations and additions—are becoming increasingly rare (Taylor, 23; Little, 11).

The mid-nineteenth-century slave house on the Clayton Family Farm is a quintessential example of the most basic of log houses in addition to being a rare surviving example in the county of a slave house. It is a small, one-room house with exposed, square-notched logs, a gable roof, a gable-end fireplace (the chimney has fallen), one batten door on each long side of the house, and a single window on the first floor. The interior is unfinished except for being white-washed. A corner ladder stair leads to the loft

with its single small window on one gable end.

While many houses were built in the county with exposed logs and plain interiors, there were also many with weatherboard exterior sheathing and carefully executed interior finish reflecting aspects of popular style. In contrast to the slave house, the ca. 1800 John Clayton House is a rare surviving example of the larger and more sophisticated log dwellings of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Although family tradition asserts that the John Clayton House was weatherboarded in 1860, several beaded boards in the area where the original chimneys stood suggest that it may have been weatherboarded much earlier. The interior exhibits a collection of well-executed features that are consistent with those found in houses in the Salem vicinity during the late eighteenth and very early nineteenth centuries (Charles Phillips Interview). These include wide, hand-planed wall and ceiling boards with beaded edges, beaded ceiling joists, an enclosed corner stair, batten doors with beaded boards and beaded or molded battens that in two cases are tapered, and wrought iron hardware. The John Clayton House also exhibits typical nineteenth-century alterations, including the heavy-timber frame rear shed probably added during the 1810s and the mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival-influenced roof details, flush-sheathed porch details, and fireplace mantel.

Log construction was heavily used for outbuildings throughout the nineteenth century. Log construction was quick, inexpensive, and highly functional, suiting many purposes. On the Clayton Family Farm, the one-story outbuilding known as the smokehouse is a typical example and probably dates from the mid-nineteenth century, though this building form was found over a much broader period. Constructed with V-notched logs, its gable roof has a considerable front overhang over the batten door. This overhang was typical of smokehouses, and the Clayton family claims the building was used in that way. However, it may have been simply a meat curing house, as evidence of smoking is not apparent. The interior of the building has deep shelving and a loft consistent with potato houses and, in fact, the Claytons did grow potatoes. The building may actually have been used for different purposes at different times, a situation common for many outbuildings.

Logs were sometimes used for one outbuilding and later reused for another. This practical example of material conservation can been seen with two outbuildings on the Clayton Family Farm that date from the 1950s. The garage was built from the logs of a tobacco barn that had been located elsewhere on the farm. The one-story barn is a 1950s re-build of the two-story log barn that stood across Old Hollow Road from the Matthew Clayton House until after the road was moved in 1953.

Frame construction was also commonly used for outbuildings, and several are found on the farm. Just east of the garage is the dairy, a small building with vertical board siding, a gable roof, and a high concrete block foundation that created a cool place for the storage of dairy products. It is believed to have been built in the early twentieth century. North of the Matthew Clayton House and near the log barn stand two other typical twentieth-century rural outbuildings of frame construction. These are the

equipment shed, with its vertical board siding, shed roof, and both open and closed storage spaces, and the one-hole outhouse with horizontal board walls, narrow batten door, and shed roof. The equipment shed was built around 1920 and was originally located across Old Hollow Road south of the Matthew Clayton House. Like the log barn, it was moved to its present site after the road was moved in the 1950s. The outhouse was probably built during the first half of the twentieth century. It was moved from its original site closer to the house in the 1960s. Both the equipment shed and the outhouse have retained their architectural significance to the Clayton Family Farm since being moved.

The Clayton Store is another example of a recycled building on the Clayton Farm. With its weatherboard siding and gable-front roof, it is typical of small country stores built in Forsyth County during the early twentieth century. When built around 1910, the one-story frame store stood at the northwest corner of the junction of the former Great Wagon Road and Old Hollow Road. There, its corner entrance allowed it to address both roads. After World War II, the building was used as the home of James Gideon and Alma Clayton until they moved to the Matthew Clayton House in the early 1950s. To accommodate this new use of the store building, the corner entrance was squared off, a front porch was added, and the building was moved several feet to the north. Nevertheless, the building retains sufficient integrity of materials, design, setting, and association to remain a contributing resource to the historic character of the Clayton Family Farm.

The dominant building on the Clayton Family Farm is the 1879 Matthew Clayton House. It is representative of the most common late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century house form in the county—the two-story, one-room deep, side-gable house with front porch and rear ell. These so-called I-houses, with various amounts of decorative trim, are found throughout the county. Most are of frame construction, and many have been remodeled. Built when the brick-making industry was developing in Forsyth County, the Matthew Clayton House is a well-preserved and less-common brick example of this house type (Little, 13). The strong but austere exterior of the house is relieved by the repetition of exposed rafter ends and the one-story front porch with its Italianate-style chamfered posts with ornate brackets and paneled bases. The double-leaf front entrance with sidelights and transom sets the tone for the well-detailed late classical interior. In particular, the entrance, the stair newel, and the mantels reflect the Italianate style. Primarily during the 1920s, several small, one-story, frame additions were made as the needs of the Clayton Family evolved, and the front porch was extended around the southeast corner. These additions are typical of those often made during the second quarter of the twentieth century and do not distract significantly from the overall original character of the house.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Clayton Family Farm is shown by the heavy black line on the accompanying tax map, drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Clayton Family Farm is drawn to include approximately twenty-five acres comprised of the home tract, the woods tract that retains the site of the "open pond," and the cemetery tract. This acreage thus encompasses all historic resources associated with the Clayton Family Farm and its setting.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs:

1) Clayton Family Farm
2) Forsyth County, North Carolina
3) Laura A. W. Phillips
4) August, 2000
5) State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina

6-7)
- A: Overall view to NW
- B: Great Wagon Road roadbed, view to S
- C: Old Hollow Road roadbed, view to E
- D: Context view with John Clayton House, Clayton Store, and roads, view to E
- E: John Clayton House: NW elevation (facade), view to S
- F: John Clayton House: NE elevation, view to SW
- G: John Clayton House: SW and SE (rear) elevations, view to N
- H: John Clayton House: Main (south) room, first floor, view to SW
- I: Matthew Clayton House: S and E elevations, view to NW
- J: Matthew Clayton House: W elevation, view to E
- K: Matthew Clayton House: Rear ell and N elevation, view to SE
- L: Matthew Clayton House: Stair hall and front entrance, view to S
- M: Matthew Clayton House: Stair spandrel, view to SW
- N: Matthew Clayton House: Parlor mantel, view to W
- O: Clayton Store: view to NW
- P: Slave House: view to SW
- Q: Smokehouse/Potato House and Garage, view to NE
- R: Dairy, view to N
- S: Equipment Shed, Outhouse, and Barn, view to NE
- T: Clayton Family Cemetery, view to SW

PROPERTY OWNER, cont'd.

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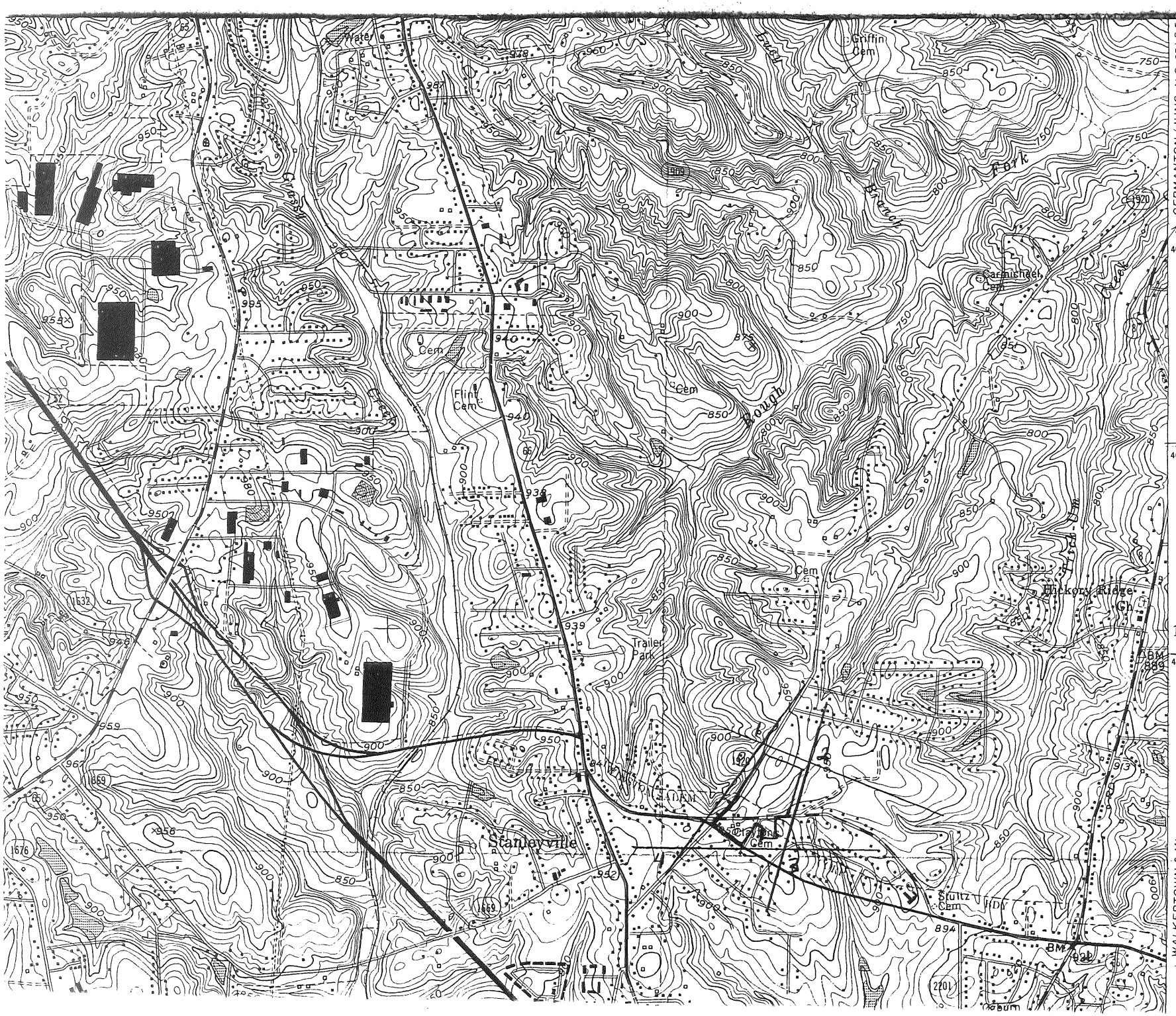

CLAYTON FAMILY FARM

FORSYTH CO., NC
RURAL HALL QUAD
SCALE - 1:24,000
ZONE 17
1. 565490/4006560
2. 565720/4006470
3. 565600/4006040
4. 565120/4006040