

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16).

1. Name of Property

historic name Stauber, Samuel B., Farm other names/site number

2. Location

street & number E & W side SR 1611, 0.05 mi. s. of SR 1626 city, town Bethania state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 zip code 27010

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: [X] private, [ ] public-local, [ ] public-State, [ ] public-Federal. Category of Property: [ ] building(s), [X] district, [ ] site, [ ] structure, [ ] object. Number of Resources within Property: Contributing 5, Noncontributing 2 buildings, 1 structures, 0 objects, Total 3. Name of related multiple property listing: N/A. Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] 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 [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official: William S. P... Date: 11-24-87. State Historic Preservation Officer. State or Federal agency and bureau.

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official. Date. State or Federal agency and bureau.

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this 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:)

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling  
agriculture/subsistence: agriculture  
outbuilding

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Work in progress

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weatherboard

roof tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Samuel B. Stauber Farm, located on both sides of Bethania-Tobaccoville Road one and a half miles north of Bethania, North Carolina, (NR), in the rolling hills of northern Forsyth County, is an excellent representative of a mid-19th century farmstead in Forsyth County. The complex of buildings and immediately surrounding 6.5 acres possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The Greek Revival farmhouse, constructed in 1852, stands on a slight elevation above the east side of the two-lane road leading to Tobaccoville, North Carolina, accompanied by a ca. 1852 slave dwelling, a mid-to-late 19th century smokehouse, and a ca. 1900 packhouse. (The early history of the slave dwelling is unclear, but local tradition supports this use and the interior finish suggests a mid-19th century date. The 1860 census listed two slave dwellings on the property.) The main house squarely faces the road but is set back approximately twenty-five feet and is separated from the road by a low fieldstone wall, two large catawba trees and other hardwood trees. The land behind the house to the east gently slopes down to a heavily wooded area and there is an open field on the south side of the house which terminates in a power line easement. The pack house stands directly behind the house and faces the smokehouse which is located on the north side of the house. The slave dwelling faces the road north of the smoke house and is set back approximately seventy-five feet. A tree line north of the dwelling visually divides this parcel of the road from the fields which lay beyond it to the north. Directly across the road from the slave dwelling stands a mid-19th century heavy-timber framed barn, its side (east elevation) turned to the road and its front (south elevation) facing the open field to the south. The approximately three-acre field in front of the barn contains a mid-to-late 19th century corn-crib/granery, the remains of another possible slave dwelling, and the remains of a brick well. The entire field containing the barn and other outbuildings is fenced. Even though much of the acreage of the original farm has been sold and/or developed for suburban housing, the original complex of buildings and the immediately surrounding 6.5 acres still convey the same feeling and association as they did in the period of significance between 1852 and 1884. The only accommodations to the 20th century are the asphalt on the road and the power lines.

The 1852 main house is a two-story, weatherboarded, gable-roofed dwelling, three bays wide and two deep with a ca. 1947 rear ell on the southeast

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corner. The house features a heavy-timber frame filled with brick nogging, a fieldstone foundation and interior end brick chimneys. It is one of only two mid-19th century frame houses in Forsyth County with interior chimneys and pedimented flush gable ends.<sup>2</sup> (The Michael Hauser House, built in the early 19th century in nearby Bethania and remodeled in 1850, is the only other known surviving example.<sup>3</sup>) An exterior end brick chimney stands on the east end of the rear ell. The Stauber House was built during the transition period when the Moravians began to abandon their native German folkways and became assimilated into the South's cultural mainstream. The use of fieldstone, the interior chimneys, and the corner fireplaces reflect German building customs, while the three-bay facade, center hall plan and interior finish are typical of Greek Revival houses in Forsyth County. The front facade of the house features a fieldstone stoop, a double-leaf front door surrounded by sidelights and a straight transom, and a pedimented porch roof. The stoop and cantilevered porch pediment were added ca. 1947 and may have been patterned after the J.C. Loesch House in Bethania (NR). They replaced an original facade-length, one-story porch which probably dated from the late 19th century.<sup>4</sup> Fenestration, except for the gable ends and the 1947 kitchen and rear ell, consists of two-over-two windows, probably dating from a late 19th century remodeling, with plain surrounds and louvered shutters. The pedimented gable ends contain two small six-pane windows. In summary, changes made to the Samuel B. Stauber House in the late 19th century probably included the two-over-two windows and louvered shutters, a facade-length front porch, a double-leaf front door with applied moldings, and red glass in the sidelights and transom surrounding the front door. In 1947, when Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker renovated the property, the changes included a new front stoop, a new rear ell and back porch (using materials from the former kitchen outbuilding which stood near the same spot), an indoor kitchen and two indoor bathrooms, and antique hardware on the rear entry doors. Even though the house may have been altered by Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord in the late 19th century and was altered again in 1947 by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker, both the exterior and the interior of the structure continue to represent a plainly-detailed but fine example of mid-19th century Greek Revival farmhouse architecture in Forsyth County.<sup>5</sup>

The interior of the house follows a double-pile, center hall plan, with the exception of the second floor "ballroom," the only one of its kind in the county. The entrance hall contains double-leaf doors on both the front and back entrances and a straight-run, open string stair with square balusters. The newel post is square, tapers near the top, and terminates in a ball with a beaded lower edge. A closet under the staircase features a two-paneled, Greek Revival door. The front doors to the house are

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paneled, with applied molding on the exterior, and probably were installed during the late 19th century. The glass in the sidelights and transom is a deep red color and also probably was added during a Victorian-era remodeling. The batten doors at the rear of the entrance hall are probably original to the house, although the hardware is not. Strap hinges were added to these doors in 1947 by the Tuckers.<sup>6</sup>

On the first floor, the two rooms on the north side of the house and only the front room on the south side contain original corner fireplaces with plain post and lintel, Greek Revival-style surrounds, in addition to the chairrail, baseboard, and five-paneled doors. An unusual feature is the rounded projecting chimney breast in the south front room; the chimney breasts on the north side of the house are flush with the walls. The rear room on the southeast corner originally served as a bedroom but was remodeled for use as a kitchen, pantry and bath in the 1947 renovation.<sup>7</sup> The entrance for the bath is from the entrance hall.

Interior finish on the second floor echoes the simplicity of the first floor with one exception -- the marbelized mantle on the north side of the house in the "ballroom." In addition, the plan of the second floor is unusual in Forsyth County's mid-19th century Greek Revival houses; the north side of the second story contains one large room which runs the length of the house. The mantel shelf wraps around the projecting chimney breast. Family tradition maintains that this room was used as a "ballroom," and Anna Long, the granddaughter of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, recalls her grandmother's stories of Salem Academy students dancing there, although it probably was against Academy rules at the time. According to Mrs. Long, Samuel Stauber operated a livery business which was patronized by Salem Academy when the students needed wagons and horses to take them on field trips to the mountains. On the way to and from Salem the girls would visit on the Stauber farm. The south side of the second floor is divided into two rooms -- the front room features a corner fireplace with a projecting chimney breast and the rear room was altered with the addition of a bath in the northwest corner. The doors which lead from the second floor stairhall into the rooms on either side are six-paneled, some with strap hinges, and probably were installed when the house was built, although they must have been salvaged from another building of an earlier period. The strap hinges may have been added by the Tuckers in the 1940's, but, according to family members, the six-paneled doors were there when the Tuckers purchased the property.<sup>9</sup> The second floor stairhall contains an enclosed stair leading to the attic with a two-paneled Greek Revival door featuring decorative wood graining.

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The rear ell was added by the Tuckers ca. 1947. It stands on the site of the former kitchen which was separated from the house by a covered walkway. Some of the material from the kitchen was used in the ell addition, but the Chimney was rebuilt and the interior paneling and the Dutch door to the porch were removed from a barn for use in the new room.<sup>10</sup> According to Bud Hunter, great-grandson of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, the old porch which originally covered the well behind the house was torn down when the rear ell was added.<sup>11</sup> The well remains in the same location close to the northeast corner of the house. A screened-porch with a stone floor now flanks the north side of the ell, providing covered access to the rear doors of the main house as well as the ell. Other features of the Stauber farm remaining with the house are:

1. Barn ca. 1847/1852, (c)

Located on the west side of Bethania-Tobaccoville Rd. across from the house, the thirty-five-foot, five-inch by sixty-foot, eight-inch barn faces south overlooking the field and other outbuildings in front of it. The large heavy-timber frame barn stands on a fieldstone foundation and is the only one of its type in Forsyth County which remains in its original location. The only other barn similar to it was removed from the Beverly Jones farm (NR) approximately 1/2 mile south of the Stauber farm to Old Salem in 1961.<sup>12</sup> Most barns of the period were double-pen log structures with an open center bay and stalls on either side, and the Stauber and Jones barns were much more sophisticated both in structure and plan. The two barns may have been built in the same year -- 1847 -- when the Beverly Jones house and outbuildings were built, and Stauber may have purchased the barn when he bought the farm of Elizabeth Conrad (widow of Jacob) in 1852.<sup>13</sup> The plan of the barn follows English antecedents in its rectangular shape with entrances on the long side and a passage through the building flanked by stalls on either side. Germanic influences can be seen, however, in the pent roofs covering the front entrances and in the small windows allowing light and air into the stalls.<sup>14</sup> The interior of the barn is divided into three major sections -- two sets of stalls with a floored walkway between them on the side, the main open bay or threshing floor in the center, and a walkway and three stalls along the east side of the barn. There is an open area behind the stalls on the northwest end of the building which makes the open threshing area L-shaped. Haylofts are located above the stall areas. The Stauber barn is preserved in remarkable condition, and details such as hollowed-log feeding troughs, overhead cribs to hold hay, wooden hinges, and lattice-work stall doors remain. The barn retains its integrity of setting, design, workmanship, feeling and association.

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2. Corn crib/granery, second half of 19th century. (c)

The twenty-six foot by eighteen foot corn crib/granery appears to date from the mid-to-late 19th century. According to Census records, Stauber grew large crops of Indian corn and maintained livestock, and this building played an important role on the farm. It is a frame structure on brick piers with an overhanging gable-front roof above diagonal-slat double doors. The corn crib is located south of the barn and faces the road. The interior features a floored open area between wooden storage bins in the front and corn cribs in the rear. The wooden grain bin to the right of the entrance is constructed of moveable wooden slats and can be reached by climbing the step ladder which leans against it. The bin on the left is a simple wooden box. The corn crib/granery is in remarkable condition and retains its integrity of setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association.

3. Slave Dwelling/tenant house (west side of road), ca. 1852, (NC)

This one-story, frame board and batten house may have been one of two slave dwellings on the Stauber farm mentioned in the 1860 census. It is completely overgrown and is in deteriorated condition. The remains of the house stand south of the barn and the corn crib/granery in the field across the road from the main house. Remnants of four-over-four windows and board and batten doors remain, but the mantel and other interior features are gone. It no longer contributes to the Stauber farm since it has lost its integrity of workmanship, feeling and association.

4. Brick well, mid-19th century (NC)

The ruins of a brick well stand in the tall field grass near the road in front of the deteriorated tenant house. A 1952 photograph shows the well in working order with a gable-roofed shelter covering it. The shelter is completely gone and only the square, brick wall around the well remains.

5. Smokehouse, second half of the 19th century.(c)

The frame eighteen-foot, six-inch by twelve-foot, three-inch smokehouse probably dates from the mid-to-late 19th century, and it strongly relates to the corn crib/granery with its gable-front overhanging roof. The smokehouse stands on the north side of the main house. Stauber raised hogs and probably preserved the meat in this outbuilding. The meathooks still hang from the ceiling of the structure. It is in good condition and contributes to the Stauber farm by its integrity of location, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

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6. Packhouse, ca. 1900. (NC)

A small frame packhouse or storage shed stands directly behind the rear ell of the house. It has shelves lining the walls, presumably for canned goods and other staples. Since the kitchen stood where the rear ell is now located, the packhouse provided easily accessible storage. It was probably built after the period of significance for the Stauber farm.

7. Slave Dwelling/Tenant House (East side of road), ca. 1852. (c)

This one-story, frame, gable-roofed structure with an overhanging roof on the front may have been one of the two slave dwellings referred to in the 1860 census. Local tradition maintains that this was a slave dwelling. It features board and batten siding and doors, one exterior end brick chimney with stepped shoulders, and a shed-roofed addition across the back. Windows beside the chimney are four-over-four, but the opposite end of the building features six-over-six panes. The house may have been enlarged in the late 19th century with an addition to the south end, and the rear shed addition was built ca. 1940. After the Tuckers purchased the farm in 1938, they renovated this structure first and used it as a weekend retreat while continuing to rent the main house until its renovation in 1947.<sup>15</sup> The dwelling measures twenty-two-feet, four-inches by twenty-five-feet and stands facing the road north of the main house, adjacent to the north side of the smokehouse. The one-room interior features plaster walls and a plain, Greek Revival-style post and lintel mantel. The house is in poor, but salvageable condition, and continues to contribute to the Stauber farm through its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

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Footnotes - Physical Description

<sup>1</sup> Memoir, Sarah Shore Stauber, April 17, 1864, Moravian Archives, Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, Winston-Salem.

<sup>2</sup> The author of this nomination conducted the historic and architectural inventory of Forsyth County for the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in 1978-79 and saw only the Stauber and Michael Hauser houses of frame construction with interior end chimneys and pedimented flush gable ends.

<sup>3</sup> Gwynne Stephens Taylor, From Frontier to Factory, An Architectural History of Forsyth County (2nd ed. Winston-Salem: City-County Planning Board 1981), p. 101.

<sup>4</sup> Gwynne S. Taylor, telephone interview with Bud Hunter, great-grandson of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, August 4, 1987, notes of interview in Samuel Stauber file, Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Taylor, Frontier to Factory, p. 101.

<sup>5</sup> Gwynne S. Taylor, telephone interview with Price Tucker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker, August 4, 1987, notes of interview in Samuel Stauber file, Survey and Planning Branch, N.C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>6</sup> Tucker interview.

<sup>7</sup> Gwynne S. Taylor, telephone interview with Mrs. Anna Shore Hunter Long, granddaughter of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, August 4, 1987, notes of interview in Samuel Stauber file, Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

<sup>8</sup> Long interview.

<sup>9</sup> Tucker interview.

<sup>10</sup> Tucker interview.

<sup>11</sup> Hunter interview.

<sup>12</sup> The author of this nomination conducted the historic and architectural inventory of Forsyth County for the N.C. Division of Archives and History in 1978-79 and saw only the Jones and Stauber barns to be examples of this type of barn in Forsyth County; Hunter James and Frances Griffin, Old Salem Guidebook (Winston-Salem; Old Salem, Inc. 1982), p. 100

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<sup>13</sup>Catherine Bishir, Dr. Beverly Jones House, National Register Nomination, Survey and Planning Branch, N.C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

<sup>14</sup>Tony P. Wrenn and Elizabeth P. Mulloy, America's Forgotten Architecture (New York: Pantheon Books, 1976), p. 92.

<sup>15</sup>Tucker interview.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Period of Significance

1852-1884

Significant Dates

1852

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Samuel B. Stauber Farm is significant in the history of Forsyth County, North Carolina, because it is one of the finest remaining representatives of a prosperous mid-19th century farmstead, complete with contemporary outbuildings and a high degree of integrity of setting. The 6.9 acres immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings strongly maintains the design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association of a mid-to-late 19th century farm. Occupied in 1852 by Samuel Benjamin Stauber, a member of the Moravian congregation of Bethania, until his death in 1884, the farm fulfills Criterion A for listing on the National Register by its association with the broad pattern of Forsyth County's rural agrarian development in the mid-to-late 19th century. In addition, the farmstead meets Criterion C by the distinctive characteristics of the two-story frame Greek Revival farmhouse which is an excellent example of rural Forsyth County's mid-19th century frame architecture and by its outbuildings, including the heavy-timber framed Stauber barn which is thought to be the only one of its kind in the county remaining in its original location. The Stauber farmhouse is one of only two Greek Revival frame houses in Forsyth County with interior end chimneys and pedimented gable ends; the other one, the Michael Hauser House, stands in nearby Bethania (NR). Built during the transition period when the Moravians began to abandon their native German folkways and become assimilated into the South's cultural mainstream, the house reflects both traditional German characteristics such as a fieldstone foundation, interior chimneys and corner fireplaces, and details from the nationally popular Greek Revival style such as a center-hall plan and mantels of simple post and lintel construction. The period during which the Stauber Farm gained its greatest significance includes the years from the purchase of the farm in 1852 until the death of its original owner and farmer, Samuel Benjamin Stauber, in 1884, and the subsequent subdivision of the land.

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The Samuel B. Stauber Farm is associated primarily with two themes of importance in the history of Forsyth County -- agrarian development between 1852 and 1884 and frame farmhouse architecture and outbuilding construction during the same period.

The development of agriculture in North Carolina and Forsyth County flourished in the 1850s and 1860s on the eve of the Civil War. Rising crop prices and better transportation to markets helped to increase the volume of crop production as well as the profits of the farmers. The total value of North Carolina crops increased from \$22,900,000 in 1850 to \$33,400,000 in 1860, and land values more than doubled during these prosperous years.<sup>1</sup>

The 1850s saw a definite trend toward the production of corn, wheat, forage, livestock and livestock products. In fact, the per capita value of these products for North Carolina as a whole exceeded the average for the entire country. Corn remained North Carolina's most widely-produced, most useful and largest crop. In 1850 over 300,000,000 bushels of corn were produced in 84 out of 86 counties in North Carolina.<sup>2</sup> Forsyth County produced between 30 and 40 bushels per capita in 1850.<sup>3</sup> Corn was an important part of the diet of the people as well as the livestock. Corn whiskey also was an important item of trade and consumption.<sup>4</sup> By the end of the 1850s wheat, too, was beginning to yield much better prices than in previous years, and livestock farmers were yielding greater profits through more attention to selective breeding and the general health of animals.<sup>5</sup> The minor cereals -- oats, rye, and barley -- were of lesser importance as money crops, although more rye and barley were grown by people of German descent in the Piedmont.<sup>6</sup> Even though tobacco growing was increasing in the state as a result of the discovery of the Bright Leaf curing process in 1839, Forsyth County ranked tenth among the counties growing tobacco in 1850.<sup>7</sup> Overall, improved farmland increased almost fifty percent in Forsyth County between 1850 and 1860, and the cash value of the county's farms doubled. By the time of the Civil War, Forsyth County was experiencing its greatest success yet in the development of its agriculture.<sup>8</sup>

Samuel Stauber was a forty-three-year-old farmer in 1850 with a wife, Sarah Shore Stauber, and six children. He owned 458 acres valued at \$1,200 outside the Moravian community of Bethania (NR), which he farmed with the aid of one white laborer and three slaves. Both Samuel and Sarah Stauber were members of the Moravian congregation of Bethania. One hundred and thirty acres of Stauber's farm were improved and on that

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acreage he grew crops typical of North Carolina and Forsyth County in the 1850s -- wheat, rye, oats, Indian corn, potatoes and flax. His livestock included five horses, eight milk cows, seven other cattle, and forty-three swine with a total value of \$370.<sup>9</sup> Stauber's farm was larger than the average North Carolina farm -- the average farm size in 1850 was 369 acres -- and he probably shared in the general farm prosperity of the 1850s in Forsyth County.<sup>10</sup> Hence, when widow Elizabeth Conrad's neighboring farmhouse burned to the ground on April 16, 1851, and she later decided to sell her farm, Stauber stood ready to purchase her 492 acres.<sup>11</sup>

Samuel Stauber purchased Widow Conrad's property on January 3, 1852 and built a two-story frame Greek Revival-style house facing the Bethania-Tobaccoville Road on this new tract.<sup>12</sup> He and his family moved into the new house on September 26, 1852.<sup>13</sup> Across the road from the house stood a large, heavy-timber barn with a shed roof on the north elevation which Stauber may have purchased with the farm or which he may have built. Other outbuildings built by Stauber in the years following his purchase include a corn crib/granery, a smoke house, and two slave dwellings.<sup>14</sup> By 1860 Stauber had become a highly prosperous farmer by both North Carolina and Forsyth County standards and his house and outbuildings reflected his economic stance.

In 1860 the average farm in North Carolina was 316 acres with seventy-two percent of that acreage unimproved. In Forsyth County the average farm contained less than 200 acres with less than seventy-five acres of improved land and was valued under \$2,500.<sup>15</sup> By comparison, Samuel Stauber had acquired 800 acres valued at \$5,500 by 1860, 200 of which were improved. He had increased his slave holdings to eight, although three of these were under ten years of age. Livestock on the Stauber farm was valued at \$1,000 and included ten horses, ten cows, fifteen other cattle, fourteen sheep and sixty swine. The increase in livestock mirrored the general trend in North Carolina in the 1850s, as did the increase in Stauber's wheat crop from 46 bushels in 1850 to 250 bushels in 1860.<sup>16</sup> Wheat was bringing as much as \$2.25 per bushel by the end of the 1850s in Forsyth County.<sup>17</sup> Perhaps because of the increased livestock to feed, Stauber's Indian corn production increased from 600 bushels in 1850 to 1600 bushels in 1860.<sup>18</sup> The increase in Indian corn production was unusual since corn production per capita in Forsyth County dropped approximately 10 bushels between 1850 and 1860.<sup>19</sup> By 1860 Stauber increased his rye crop from 15 bushels in 1850 to 150 bushels in 1860, but cut his oat production in half from 300 bushels in 1850 to 150 in 1860. Stauber grew no tobacco on his farm before the Civil War.<sup>20</sup>

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The War years contained personal hardships for the Stauber family, just as they did for many other families, but the farm seems to have survived better than most farms in North Carolina and Forsyth County. A son, Julius Francis Stauber, died in a hospital in Richmond on August 14, 1862, and Sarah Shore Stauber died at the age of 59 on April 17, 1864.<sup>21</sup> Samuel remarried to twenty-year-old Mary Jane Dull Shore on June 20, 1865, and brought her and John Shore, her son by a previous marriage, to the farm.<sup>22</sup> In 1866 Stauber sold 257 acres to his son, Tobias, and by 1860 the sixty-five-year-old Stauber still had holdings of 600 acres valued at \$4,500, 250 of which were improved.<sup>23</sup> There were only eleven farms in Forsyth County over 600 acres in 1860, and the average size of a farm in the county was 163½ acres.<sup>24</sup> The average farm size in North Carolina was 212 acres.<sup>25</sup> After the War Stauber's livestock included six horses, one mule, seven milk cows, ten other cattle, seven sheep, and thirty swine. Stauber hired one laborer, eighteen-year-old Hamilton Peddycord, to help him farm.<sup>26</sup>

The strongest indication of the hardship of the post war years on the Stauber farm may be decreased crop production. Even though Samuel Stauber had sold 249 acres to his son, Tobias, in 1866, his improved acreage actually increased from 200 acres in 1860 to 250 acres in 1870. Therefore a drop in production even though he had fifty more acres of cleared land seems to indicate problems on the farm. In 1870 Stauber's wheat crop yielded 170 bushels of wheat, down from 250 in 1860, and his rye production decreased from 150 bushels in 1860 to 70 in 1870. In addition, the Indian corn crop dropped from a high of 1600 bushels in 1860 to a low of 600 bushels in 1870.<sup>27</sup> The loss of slave labor may have had an effect on Stauber's farm, but some crops, such as wheat, never regained the pre-war volume of production anywhere in the state.<sup>28</sup> Nevertheless, Samuel Stauber's farm was highly prosperous by Forsyth County standards, and its acreage and productivity increased into the 1880s.

North Carolina agriculture as a whole recovered its pre-war volume of production by 1880. Corn, hogs, milk cows, beef cattle, oats and cotton had all recovered by 1880. In fact, there was a marked increase in the total production of farm crops and in specialization in the two major staples of the state -- cotton and tobacco.<sup>29</sup> The Stauber farm reflected some of these trends; production of corn, oats, rye and wheat increased significantly over the 1860 levels and, for the first time, seventy-three-year-old Stauber planted an acre of tobacco, producing 500 pounds.<sup>30</sup> The farm, however, did not reflect the trend to smaller farms seen elsewhere in North Carolina and Forsyth County. By 1880 Stauber had increased his holdings to 810 acres, 310 of which were improved, while the average farm in North Carolina for that year contained only 142 acres.<sup>31</sup> The average farm in Forsyth County in 1880 had approximately forty-two and a half

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acres of improved land, compared to Stauber's 310.<sup>32</sup> Most of the farms in the county, and the rest of the state, were not prospering in the last years of the 19th century. The rural population of Forsyth County was barely feeding itself; scientific agriculture was not practiced and much land was not being farmed.<sup>33</sup> In spite of North Carolina agriculture's recovery of production volumes, prices were falling because of overproduction and expenses were becoming higher. Farmers were falling into a serious economic depression, and four years after Samuel Stauber died on September 1, 1884, his land holdings of approximately 512 acres were subdivided in five parts of equal value and deeded to Mary Jane Stauber and their four children. Mary Jane received a fifty-seven acre tract surrounding the Greek Revival House and farm outbuildings.<sup>34</sup> Mary Jane Stauber remarried to Hamilton Peddycord, a former worker on the farm, in April of 1885 and they and Stauber's four youngest children continued to live in the house until they sold it to E. A. Ebert in 1914.<sup>35</sup>

The house built in 1852 for Samuel and Sarah Stauber illustrates both traditional German building practices and the distinctive characteristics of the Greek Revival style which swept across North Carolina and Forsyth County in the mid-19th century. German characteristics of the Stauber house include its fieldstone foundation, its interior chimneys and its corner fireplaces. The Greek Revival details of the Stauber house illustrate a typical interpretation of the style in Forsyth County. While there are a few academic interpretations of the Greek Revival style in Forsyth County, it generally appeared in the form of houses with heavier, squarer and wider proportions, boxed eaves and a low-pitched roofline, a center hall plan, larger windows, a front door surrounded by sidelights and a transom, mantels of simple post and lintel construction with a wide frieze, and doors with two long vertical panels. Forsyth's interpretation of Grecian taste was not a pure translation of the classicism of Greek temples; rather, the spirit of the style manifested itself in simple, functional details and plans. The use of marbleizing, wood painted to resemble marble, was also popular in Forsyth County during the Greek Revival.<sup>36</sup> The Stauber House features Greek Revival traits such as square proportions (approximately 27' x 30'), boxed eaves, and a low-pitched roofline. The front door surround accents the square proportions of the house with its straight transom above and sidelights beside it. (The configuration of the original front porch, however, is unknown at this time.) The interior features a central hall plan, and the interior finish is typical of the Greek Revival with its wide baseboards and simple mantels of post and lintel construction with wide friezes. The mantel in the second floor "ballroom" is marbleized, another trait widely used in Forsyth County's finer Greek Revival houses, even though the concept of a second floor ballroom was not typical. Most of the doors in the house are five

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and/or six paneled, but the doors leading to the closet under the main staircase and leading to the attic are the typical, two-paneled variety widely found in mid-19th century Forsyth County.

Of the approximately thirty-four remaining Greek Revival farmhouses in the county of substantial proportions, fourteen are brick, eleven frame, and nine log. The 1850 Census for the county remarks about "a vein of limestone running . . . through the county . . . and some eight or ten places have been worked and proved a profitable business in burning lime."<sup>37</sup> The increased availability of lime for mortar may account for the rise of brick structures in Forsyth County during the Greek Revival period, one of which was the 1847 house of Dr. Beverly Jones only one-half mile south of the Stauber farm on the Bethania-Tobaccoville Road. While the Jones farm contains some outbuildings contemporary with the house, the barn, which closely resembles the Stauber barn, was moved to the museum village of Old Salem in 1961 and restored. The Jones barn and the Stauber barn may have been built in the same year - 1847. Stauber purchased his property from the widow of Jacob Conrad. Jacob's brother, Abraham, was Beverly Jones' father-in-law and owned the land on which Jones built his house and outbuildings, and Abraham Conrad lived with Beverly and Julia Conrad Jones.<sup>38</sup> Jacob Conrad may have built the barn on the Stauber property before he died in 1848.<sup>39</sup> Whether Stauber purchased the barn or built it after he purchased the land, it remains an unusually fine example of a mid-19th century barn and is the only one of its type in Forsyth County in its original location.<sup>40</sup> The Beverly Jones house, however, is not typical of Forsyth County in that it was designed by an architect, Virginia-born Dabney Cosby.<sup>41</sup> The only other frame Greek Revival farm house in the county which compares with the Stauber farm is "Pilot View," the 1857 home of Augustus Eugene Conrad overlooking the Yadkin River. Again, however, Pilot View is not typical of Forsyth County because of its high-style double-tier front portico and double end chimneys and its high style details on the interior. In addition, the original barn no longer remains on the premises.<sup>42</sup> With a few variations, the Stauber House fits squarely within Forsyth County's traditional frame interpretation of the Greek Revival while its surviving collection of outbuildings and its integrity of setting is unusual for modern Forsyth County.

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## Footnotes - Statement Of Significance

<sup>1</sup>Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (3rd. ed.: Chapel Hill: The University Of North Carolina Press, 1973), p. 391.

<sup>2</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 393.

<sup>3</sup>Sam Bowers Hilliard, Atlas of Antebellum Southern Agriculture (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1984), p. 65.

<sup>4</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 313.

<sup>5</sup>Adelaide Fries, Stuart Thurmond Wright, J. Edwin Hendricks, Forsyth, the History of a County on the March (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1976), p. 107.

<sup>6</sup>Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, p. 108.

<sup>7</sup>Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, p. 109.

<sup>8</sup>Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, p. 110.

<sup>9</sup>Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Forsyth County, North Carolina, Population Schedule p. 188; Agriculture Schedule; Slave Schedule Compendium Of The Ninth Census (June 1, 1870) (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), p. 688-689

<sup>10</sup>Compendium of the Ninth Census (June 1, 1870) (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), p. 688-689.

<sup>11</sup>Kenneth G. Hamilton (ed), Records of the Moravians in North Carolina (Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History), Vol. 10, pp. 5621-22, 5628.

<sup>12</sup>Deed Book 1, p. 455, Office of the Register of Deeds, Forsyth County Hall of Justice, Winston-Salem.

<sup>13</sup>Memoir, Sarah Shore Stauber, April 17, 1864, Moravian Archives, Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, Winston-Salem.

<sup>14</sup>Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Forsyth County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule, p. 17.

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Footnotes - Statement of Significance cont.

<sup>15</sup>Compendium of the Ninth Census, p. 689; Hilliard, Atlas of Agriculture, p. 41-43.

<sup>16</sup>Eighth Census, 1860: Forsyth County, Population Schedule, Agricultural Schedule, Slave Schedule; Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 393.

<sup>17</sup>Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, p. 108.

<sup>18</sup>Eighth Census, 1860: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule.

<sup>19</sup>Hilliard, Atlas of Agriculture, p. 65-66.

<sup>20</sup>Seventh Census, 1850: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule; Eighth Census, 1860: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule.

<sup>21</sup>Memoir, Sarah Stauber.

<sup>22</sup>Memoir, Mary Jane Dull Shore Stauber Peddycord, Moravian Archives, Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, Winston-Salem.

<sup>23</sup>Deed Book 58, p. 39, Office of the Register of Deeds, Forsyth County Hall of Justice, Winston-Salem; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Forsyth County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule.

<sup>24</sup>Ninth Census of the United States, 1860, Table VII, Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, p. 178.

<sup>25</sup>Compendium of the Ninth Census, p. 689.

<sup>26</sup>Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

<sup>27</sup>Ninth Census of the United States, 1860: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule.

<sup>28</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 521.

<sup>29</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 521.

<sup>30</sup>Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Forsyth County, Agricultural Schedule; Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 522.

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Footnotes - Statement of Significance cont.

<sup>31</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 522.

<sup>32</sup>Compendium of the Tenth Census (June 1, 1880) (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883), p. 720.

<sup>33</sup>Fries, Wright, Hendricks, Forsyth, 178.

<sup>34</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 523; Memoir, Sarah Stauber; Commissioners Report, Record of Orders and Decrees Book 3, p. 296, Office of Superior Court of Forsyth County, Hall of Justice, Winston-Salem.

<sup>35</sup>Memoir, Mary Jane Peddycord; Deed Book 152, p. 77, Office of the Register of Deeds, Forsyth County Hall of Justice, Winston-Salem.

<sup>36</sup>Gwynne Stephens Taylor, From Frontier to Factory, An Architectural History of Forsyth County (2nd ed. Winston-Salem: City-County Planning Board, 1981), p. 30.

<sup>37</sup>Taylor, Frontier to Factory, 32.

<sup>38</sup>Catherine Bishir, Dr. Beverly Jones House, National Register nomination, Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History; Hunter James and Frances Griffin, Old Salem Guidebook (Winston-Salem: Old Salem, Inc., 1982), p. 100; Memoir, Sarah Stauber; Conrad Genealogy, in possession of Mrs. Jo Conrad Butner, Bethania, North Carolina; Seventh Census, 1850: Forsyth County, Population Schedule.

<sup>39</sup>Hamilton, Records of the Moravians, Vol. 10, p. 5280.

<sup>40</sup>The author of this nomination conducted the historic and architectural inventory of Forsyth County for the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in 1978-79 and saw no other barns comparable to the Stauber barn with strong integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

<sup>41</sup>Dr. Beverly Jones House, National Register Nomination.

<sup>42</sup>Taylor, Frontier to Factory, 33.



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- Hilliard, Sam Bowers. Atlas of Antebellum Southern Agriculture. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1984.
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- Taylor, Gwynne S. Interview with Bud Hunter, great-grandson of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, Forsyth County, N.C., August 4, 1987, interview notes in Stauber farm file.
- Taylor, Gwynne S. Interview with Mrs. Anna Shore Hunter Long, granddaughter of Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord, Forsyth County, N.C., August 4, 1987, interview notes in Stauber farm file.
- Taylor, Gwynne S. Interview with Price Tucker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tucker, Wyomissing, Pa., August 4, 1987, interview notes in Stauber farm file.

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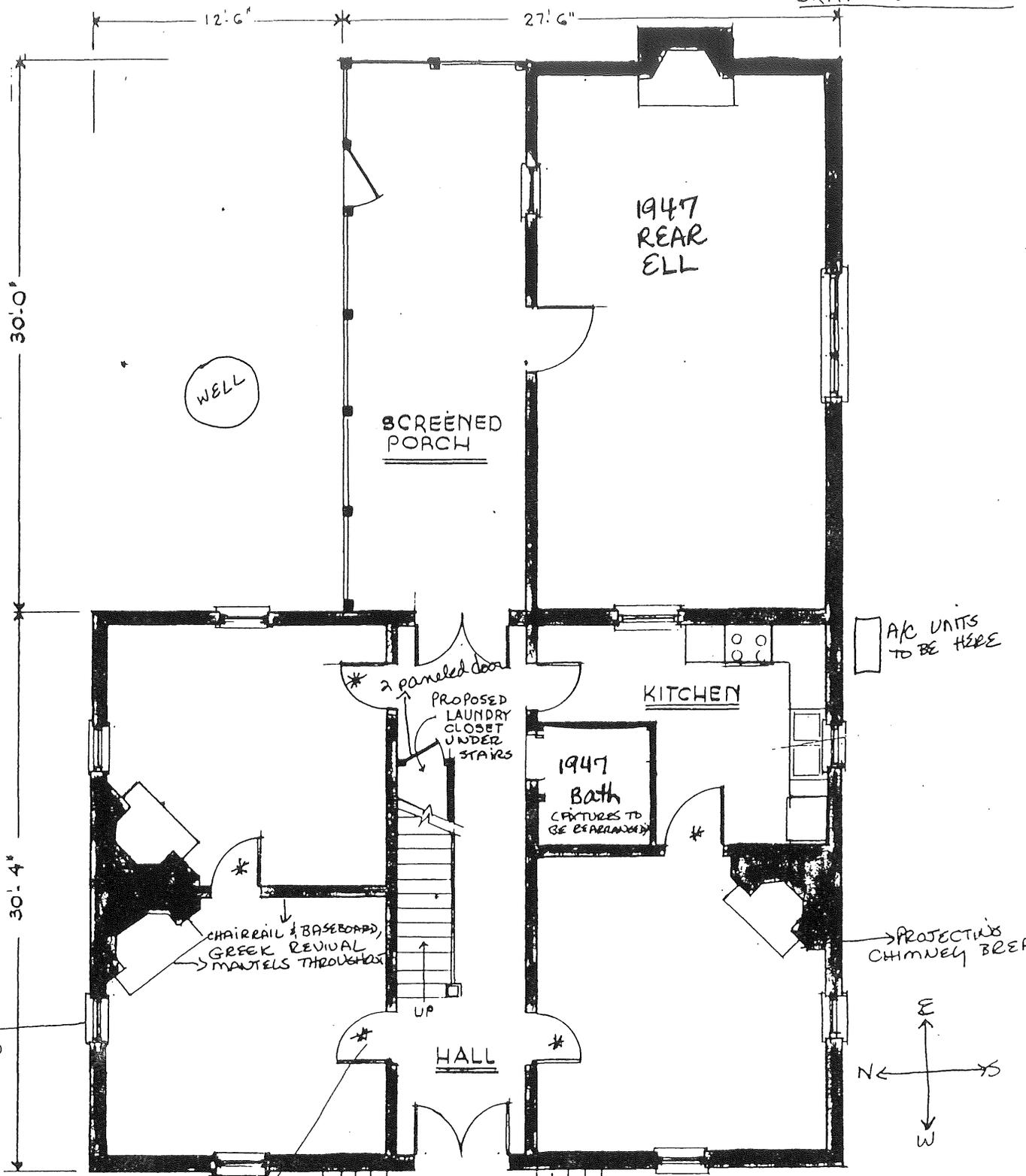
Verbal Boundary Description continued:

following the fence line to SR 1611 and then over an open field to the tree line, thence 669.5' north to a fence line, thence 413.5' west to the beginning, containing 6.5 acres, more or less, immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings of the Samuel B. Stauber farm as delineated in a heavy black line on the accompanying survey map. The land being part of tract 3 allotted to Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord in the division of the S. B. Stauber land as outlined in the Commissioners Report, Record of Orders and Decrees Book 3, Page 296, Office of Superior Court of Forsyth County, North Carolina, part of Tax Block 4974, Lot 13.

Boundary Justification continued:

surrounding countryside have been used as boundaries, in addition to the boundaries of the tract left to Mary Jane Stauber after Samuel's death. The 6.5 acres of the total 74 acre tract owned by Lamar S. Taft have been chosen because they will isolate entirely the S. B. Stauber farm from any planned development on the surrounding acreage. On the east side of the Bethania-Tobaccoville Road the boundaries have been drawn using visual barriers such as tree lines, fence lines and power lines. The tree line on the north side and behind the house visually isolates the property, and the power line easement to the south is the first interruption of the bucolic setting in that direction. On the west side of the Bethania-Tobaccoville Road the boundaries have been drawn using Mrs. Taft's property line, the property line used to delineate Mary Jane Stauber Peddycord's property deeded to her after Samuel's death.



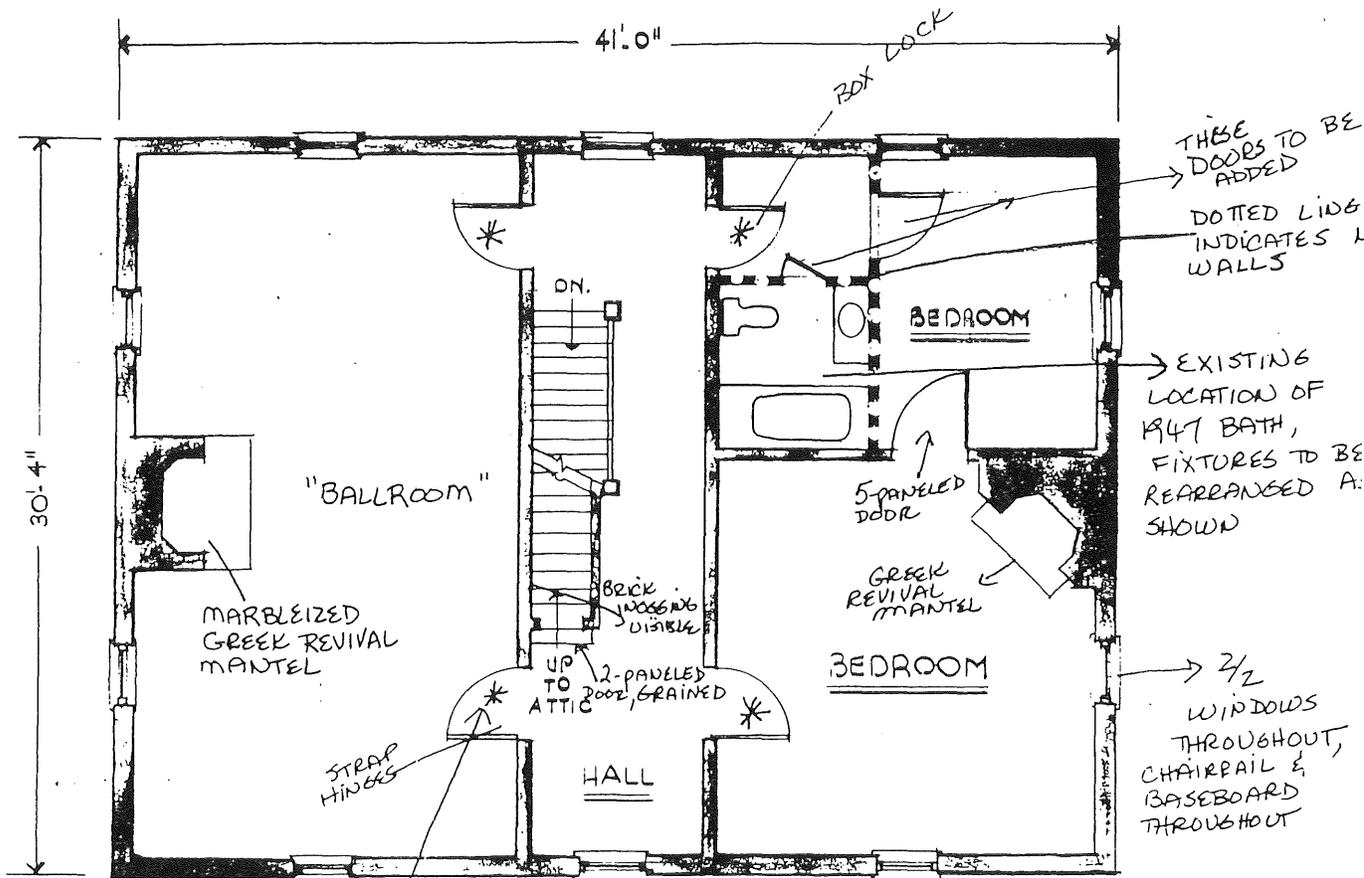


\* 5-paneled doors, except FRONT & BACK ENTRANCES WHICH ARE DOUBLE-LEAF

FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

# SAMUEL STAUBER HOUSE

BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE ROAD  
BETHANIA, NORTH CAROLINA

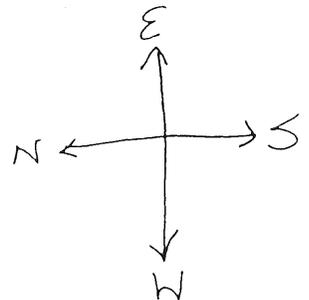


\* EARLY 19<sup>th</sup> C. 6-PANELED DOORS

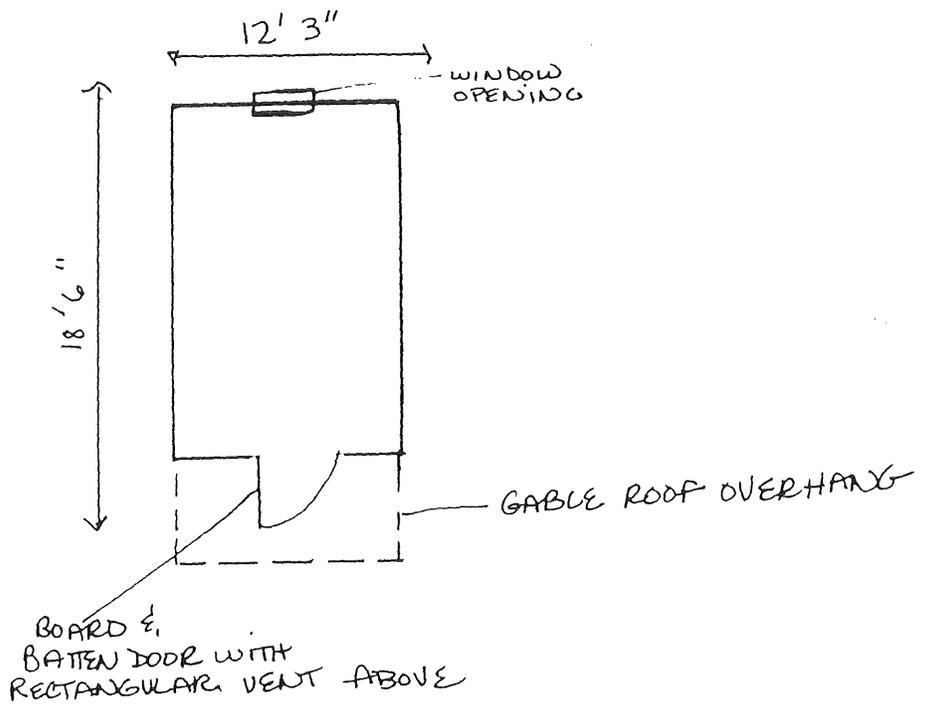
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

SAMUEL STAUBER HOUSE  
BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE RD.  
BETHANIA, N.C.

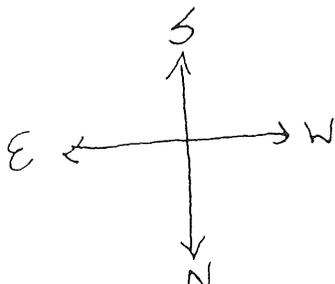


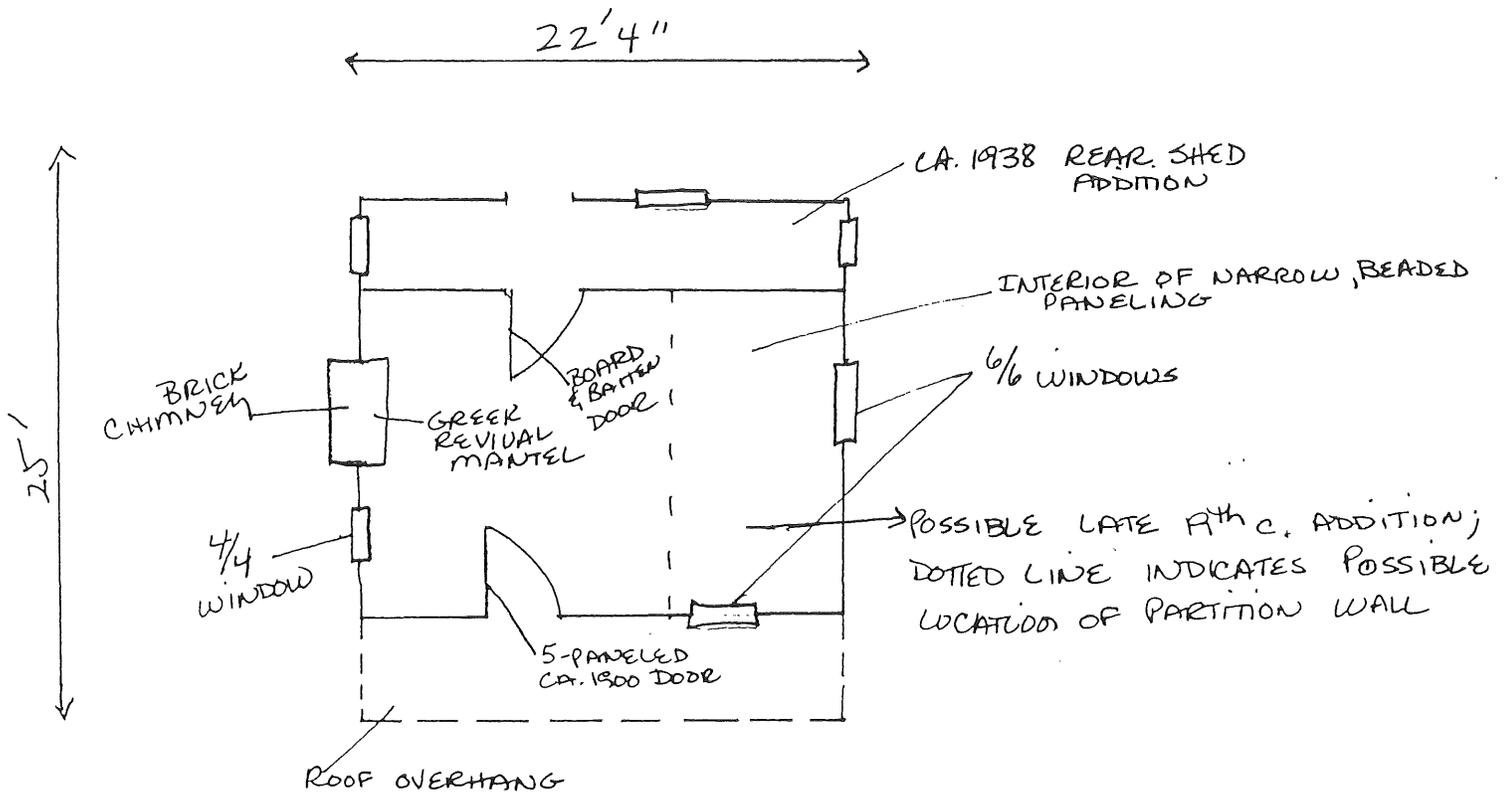
DRAWING NO. 3



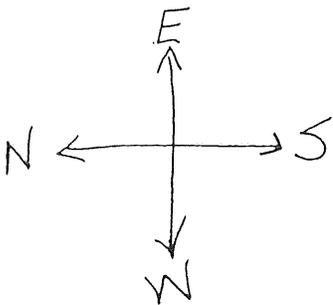
SAMUEL B. STAUBER FARM  
SMOKE HOUSE  
BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE RD.  
BETHANIA, N.C.

APPROX.  
SCALE 1" = 10'

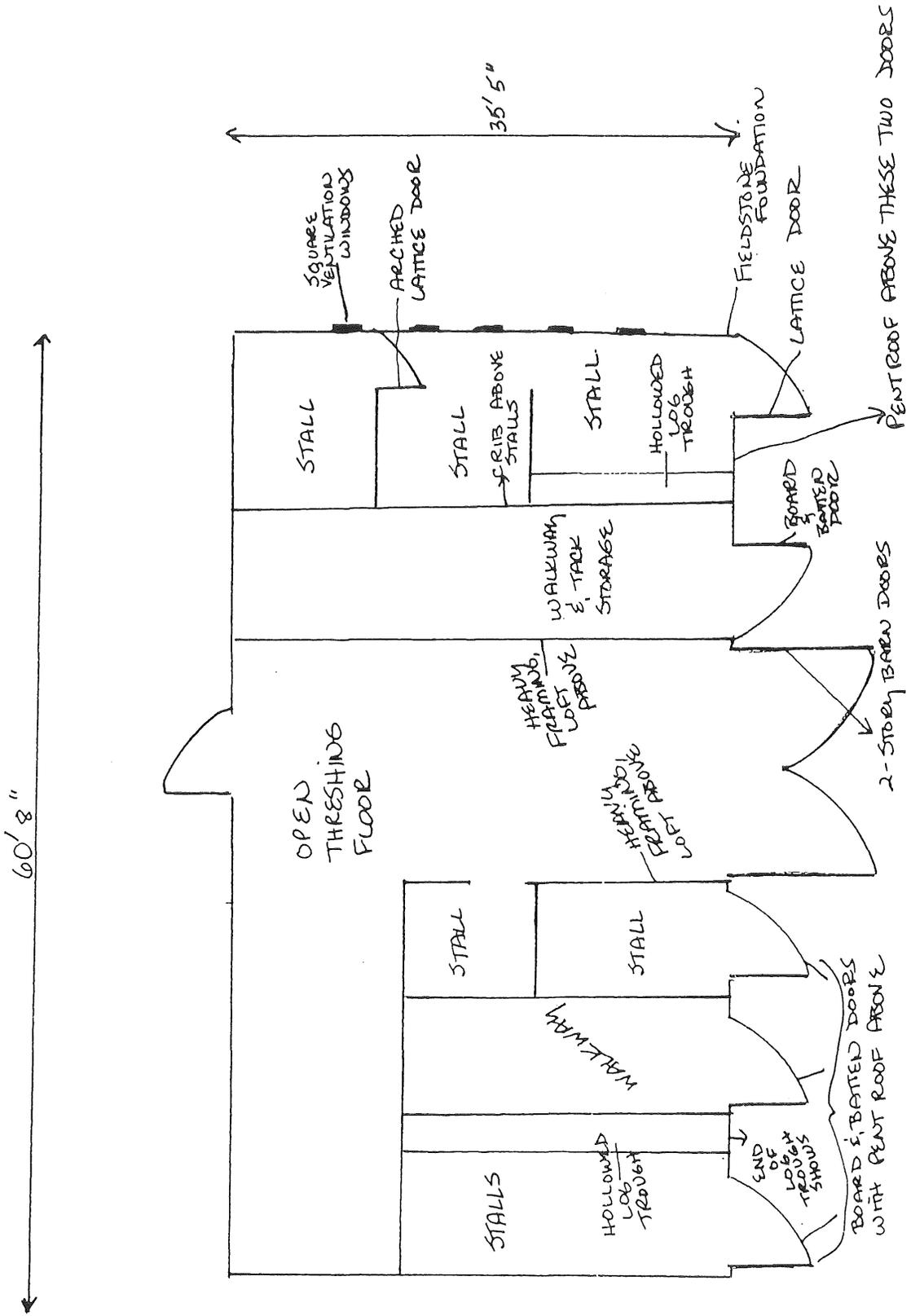




SAMUEL B. STAUBER FARM  
SLAVE DWELLING, EAST SIDE,  
BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE RD.  
BETHANIA, N.C.

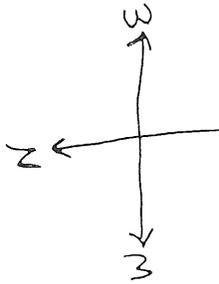


APPROX. SCALE  
1" = 10'

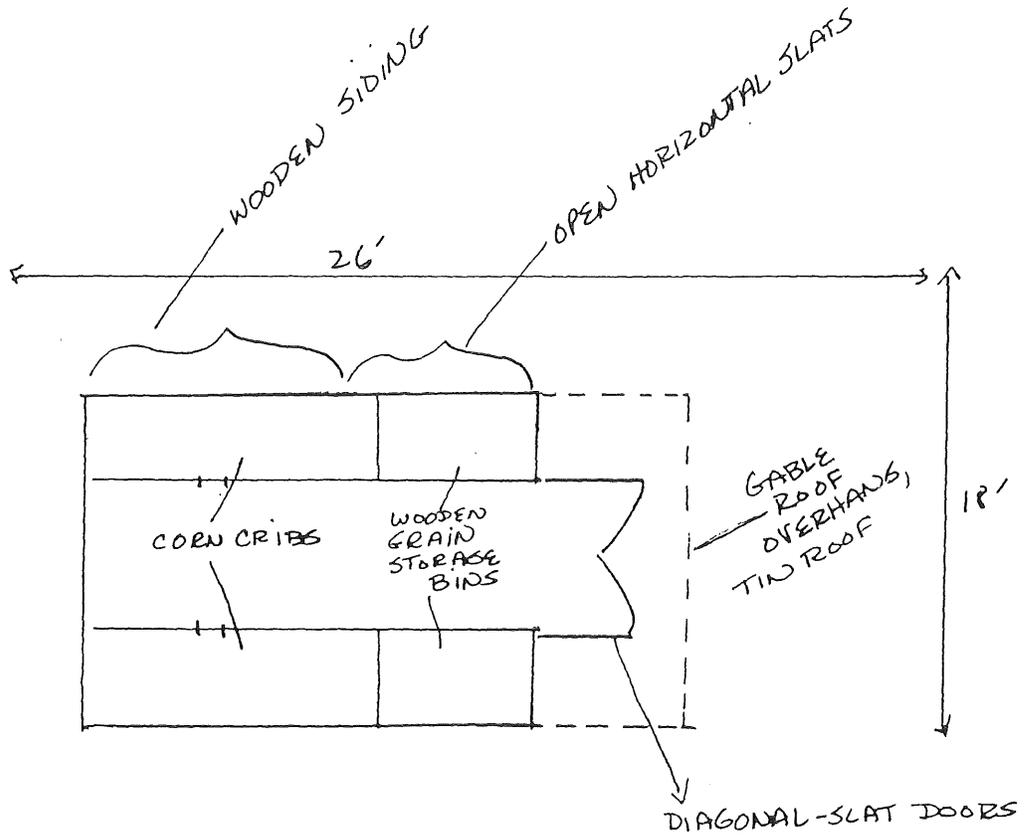


SAMUEL B. STAUBER BARN  
 BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE RD.  
 BETHANIA, N.C.

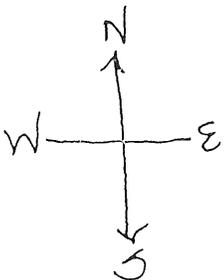
SCALE APPROX. 1" = 10'



DRAWING NO. 6



SAMUEL B. STAUBER FARM  
CORN CRIBS / GRANARY  
BETHANIA - TOBACCOVILLE RD.  
BETHANIA, N.C.



SCALE APPROX. 1" = 10'

JAMUEL B. STAUBER  
FARM  
558520 EASTING  
400600 NORTHING  
Rural Hill Quad  
Forsyth Co, NC  
Zone 17 124000

4008  
12'30"  
4007

4956 III NW / BOONVILLE 19 MI. Q.  
(VIENNA) / EAST BEND 5 MI.



