

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 Kapp, John Henry, Farm

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number N side NC 65, 0.1 mi E of jct w/NC 67
(4647 Bethania-Tobaccoville Road) not for publication

city or town Bethania vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 zip code 27040

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.)

William S. King, Jr. SHPO 7-14-92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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	
7	0	buildings
1	0	sites
4	0	structures
0	0	objects
12	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/agricultural outbuilding

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/agricultural field

SUBSISTENCE/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: I-house

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof METAL

other WOOD

BRICK

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns 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)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1870-1942

Significant Dates

1870

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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:

John Henry Kapp Farm
Name of Property

Forsyth County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 13

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

(A) 1

17	557380	4004150
Zone	Easting	Northing

(C) 3

17	557860	4004320
Zone	Easting	Northing

(B) 2

17	557780	4004150
Zone	Easting	Northing

(D) 4

17	557760	4004400
Zone	Easting	Northing

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 / Gwynne S. Taylor, Historian

organization Consultants date March 30, 1992

street & number 637 N. Spring St. / 700 Arbor Rd. telephone (919)727-1968 / 725-9000

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101 / 27104

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 _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 1

Description:

The John Henry Kapp Farm (hereafter referred to as Kapp Farm) is a late nineteenth and early twentieth century farmstead located near Bethania in rural western Forsyth County. The nominated property stretches along the north side of NC 65 (Bethania-Tobaccoville Road) between NC 67 (Reynolda Road) and Lakeview Drive. Kapp Farm consists of a two-story frame vernacular farmhouse and surrounding domestic yard, a tenant house, a collection of farm outbuildings arranged primarily behind and east of the house, a surviving cultivated field associated with the farm, and woods which border the north side and portions of the south side of the property. Kapp Farm includes twelve resources: seven buildings, four structures, and one site. All contribute to the historic character of the property.

Although additional land which was part of John Kapp's original 106-acre farm survives with the property, it no longer contributes to the historic character of the farm. Only that portion of the property which still conveys the characteristics of a late nineteenth-early twentieth century Forsyth County farmstead for which the property is significant is included in the nomination. Thus, the nominated property retains a high degree of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

1. John Henry Kapp House. 1870, ca. 1880, ca. 1910. Contributing. The Kapp house is a two-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling which evolved in appearance primarily from 1870 to ca. 1910, with only few modifications subsequent to that time. The original, front portion of the house, constructed of brick-nogged timber framing, is believed to have been built in 1870 when John Kapp purchased the property from his father and married Sallie Lehman. Its typical I-house form features a brick foundation, a three-bay facade, and a metal-sheathed gable roof (originally covered with wood shingles) with gable-end brick chimneys laid in common bond. Six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows are flanked by louvered shutters, and the central entrance features a four-panel door and Greek Revival-style sidelights and transom. The front porch, which dates from ca. 1910, is composed of a full-facade first story and a center-bay second story. The whole is decorated with turned posts, simple sawn brackets, and a turned balustrade.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Access to the second story level of the porch is achieved by a door from the upper stair hall. This glass and wood-paneled door replaced the original second story center bay window. A documentary photograph of the house believed to date from the late nineteenth century demonstrates this, as well as the fact that during that period the house had only a pedimented entrance bay porch. Documentary photographs also reveal that while the house now has a boxed cornice with corner returns and plain frieze board which date from the ca. 1910 remodeling, it previously had overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends.

A long two-story tee extends from the center rear of the house, flanked by one-story, shed-roofed porches. While the tee continues the brick foundation and boxed cornice of the front part of the house, it differs in several ways. The tee windows have paneled shutters, the porches have chamfered posts and sawnwork balustrades, and the gable-end chimney is on the interior rather than the exterior. A brick stove stack (date unknown), has been added to the exterior, and replaces the chimney in use. Family tradition relates that originally the house had a separate kitchen which was later joined to the house by the dining room. Physical evidence does not make this transition clear, but does suggest that the tee in its present form is an addition which had been made by the late nineteenth century--probably ca. 1880. On the west side of the tee, the south end of the porch was enclosed ca. 1920 to create a bathroom. Also on the west side a stair leads from the porch down to the partial cellar beneath the tee. On the east side of the tee, the south end of the porch was enclosed and extended just east of the front block of the house ca. 1920 to create a room for Sallie Kapp during the last years of her life. At the north end of the tee on the east side, a shed-covered walkway extends eastward from the porch to the small one-room shed-roofed unit where the gasoline pump which powered the well was housed. This room and walkway covering attaching it to the house were built by the early twentieth century.

The main block of the Kapp house has a center hall plan, and the tee connects with the front of the house by a transverse hall which leads also to the bathroom on the west side and "Sallie's room" on the east side. In the front, oldest part of the house, the walls are plastered. The ceilings are plastered on the first floor and sheathed with

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 3

wide flush boards on the second floor. The open-string stair has a heavy turned newel, a rounded handrail, and turned balusters. The spandrel is sheathed with flush boards. The present stair rises to the second floor in a single run, reaching the landing at the point where the front part of the house joins the tee. At the head of the stair, a double arch spans the hall. Physical evidence strongly suggests that originally the stair had two shorter runs which, with a landing, fit entirely within the front part of the house. The stair was likely altered when the tee was added. The present landing at second story level has vertical beaded board sheathing and is flanked by large closets with double-leaf, two-panel doors. Greek Revival style influence is seen in the two-panel doors, post-and-lintel mantels, and parlor chairrail of the front part of the house. Door and window surrounds are plain, as are the high baseboards. The tee features flush boarded walls and ceilings on the first floor and plastered walls and flush boarded ceilings on the second story. Two-panel doors are found throughout, and one on the second story is wood-grained.

The Kapp house is surrounded by a yard with multiple hardwood trees. A picket fence (8) separates the house from a front drive which parallels the present road. Another drive leads from the road along the east side of the house to the outbuildings which stretch eastward behind the house. In addition to the surviving outbuildings (see following), others were once located to the sides and rear of the house. These included several water wells, a milk well, a carriage house, and a wood shed. An ice house stood southeast of the house near the road. A late nineteenth century documentary photograph shows additional fences around the house and an ornamental garden in front. These do not survive.

2. Smokehouse. Late 19th cent. Contributing. Located directly behind the house, the smokehouse is a one-story weatherboarded frame building with a metal-sheathed gable roof and an entrance on the south end. The smokehouse is unusual in that it encompasses not only the room where the meats were hung and cured, but also an anteroom where the meats were first salted down, the salt being stored in a wooden bin.
3. Storage shed. Late 1920s. Contributing. Adjacent to the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

-
- smokehouse on the east, the storage shed is a small frame building with vertical board siding, an entrance on the south side, and a metal-sheathed gable roof. It was first used as a storage shed, then as a chicken house, and finally as a storage shed once again. Behind the storage shed is a wire-enclosed dog pen of recent origin.
4. Shop. ca. 1930. Contributing. East of the storage shed stands a small weatherboarded frame building with a metal-sheathed gable roof, an entrance on the south side, and a window on the north side. It was used as a workshop by Ernest Kapp, Jr., and later as a sleeping room for the Kapps' cook.
 5. Chicken house. 1920s. Contributing. Located southeast of the shop, the chicken house is a small frame structure with vertical board siding, an entrance on the south side, and a metal-sheathed shed roof. Behind the chicken house is a small frame doghouse of recent origin.
 6. Crib/Granary. Late 19th cent. Contributing. Southeast of the chicken house is the combination crib/granary. It is one of the oldest outbuildings on the farm. A frame structure with a metal-sheathed gable roof, it is composed of a wood-slatted corncrib on the west side and a weatherboarded granary on the east side.
 7. Barn. 1870s. Contributing. Probably built about the same time as the Kapp house, the large weatherboarded barn is a handsome building which has changed remarkably little since its early years, judging from a documentary photograph. The metal-sheathed gable roof is well ventilated with a gabled monitor, vents beneath the eaves, and shed-roofed vents along each end at the base of the gable. Constructed of both heavy timbers and lighter-weight timbers, the barn has a large center passage which runs from north to south and narrower transverse passages running through the center from east to west. On either side of the lateral passages are animal stalls, and loft space is overhead. A shed-roofed tack room is attached to the front of the barn, and another shed room is built to the rear. In earlier years a pig pen stood adjacent the barn on the east, but it does not survive.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 5

8. Fence. ca. 1900. Contributing. The white picket fence which runs along the front yard of the house is the only survivor of several which defined spaces near the house during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Its brick piers flanking the central entrance date from later in the twentieth century.
9. Crib/Granary. ca. 1900. Contributing. West of the Kapp house, the crib/granary is a frame structure with a metal-sheathed gable roof sheltering a weatherboarded granary on the north side and a wood-slatted corncrib on the south side. The entrance is on the west side. This outbuilding was one of those used by tenant farmers who worked on the farm in the twentieth century.
10. Tenant house. ca. 1900. Contributing. Located along the west property line of Kapp farm, the former tenant house is a two-story, weatherboarded frame building with gable end facing the road. The house has a five-panel front door in the gable end, a shed-roofed front porch with a surviving chamfered post with turned bracket, and four-over-four sash windows. A shed runs across the rear of the house to extend beyond the house on the west, and a plywood-sheathed room has been added to infill the space formed by the ell of the house and rear shed.
11. Tobacco pack house. ca. 1900. Contributing. Behind the tenant house is a frame pack house with vertical board siding, a metal-sheathed gable roof, and an entrance on the south end. It was used by the tenant farmers. A log barn once accompanied the tenant complex, but it no longer stands.
12. Agricultural landscape. ca. 1870-present. Contributing. The surviving agricultural landscape which continues to contribute to the historic character of the Kapp farm consists of several elements. At the east end of the nominated property is a cultivated field bordered along the northeast, northwest, and west sides by pine trees. In earlier years winter wheat or tobacco were planted here, but now soybeans are cultivated. South of the barn (7) and crib/granary (6) are the remains of a grass field which was used for the cows. It is bordered on the east and south by pine trees. North of the house are woods filled primarily

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

with pines. Although in earlier years this area included a vegetable garden and fruit trees, the timber land here and elsewhere on the site reflect the historical fact that the farm always had numerous acres in timber and that some of this was harvested as a part of the farm operations. West of the house is a small field which in earlier years was a corn field and now serves as part of the house yard. The remainder of the agricultural landscape is composed primarily of wooded areas of pines and hardwoods.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

8. Statement of Significance

SUMMARY

The John Henry Kapp Farm, near Bethania, N.C., is significant in the history of Forsyth County, North Carolina, because it is one of the best remaining examples of a prosperous farm complex which represents the late nineteenth and early twentieth century agricultural and architectural development in the county. The period of significance for the property begins in 1870, the year Kapp purchased the land from his father, and ends in 1942 to accommodate the criterion of the National Register which suggests that properties be 50 years old to qualify. The main house and outbuildings and the approximately thirteen acres immediately surrounding them exhibit a high degree of historic integrity and continue to maintain the design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm in Forsyth County. The Kapp Farm fulfills Criterion A of the National Register by its association with the broad pattern of Forsyth County's rural agrarian development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is also historically tied to the Moravian congregation at Bethania, as the Kapp family has been active there since 1799, and to the agricultural heritage of the Bethania community. The Kapp Farm represents the late nineteenth and early twentieth century end of Bethania's agricultural time-line which began in 1759. The agricultural area of significance was selected because the farm illustrates well both the changes and the similarities which existed in the process of cultivating the soil and producing crops such as various grains, potatoes, fruits and tobacco in Forsyth County during the period following the Civil War until the 1940s. The Kapp Farm also meets Criterion C by the distinctive characteristics of the two-story farmhouse which illustrates changing architectural styles in rural Forsyth County around the turn of the century, and by its outbuildings, including a heavy-timber framed barn and an early twentieth century tenant house. The architectural area of significance was chosen because the design and construction of the main buildings ca. 1870, along with later alterations and additions, reflect styles popular in rural Forsyth County during this period, as well as the changing needs dictated by agriculture and other human needs, such as tenant housing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8 John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The historical background for the John Henry Kapp Farm begins in the mid-18th century to illustrate how the Kapp Farm is historically tied to the Moravian Congregation at Bethania, is physically located within the 2,500-acre Bethania Town Lot established in 1758, and has continued to be a part of the agricultural heritage of Bethania. Indeed, it is probable that the field included in this National Register nomination has been under cultivation since before John H. Kapp received the farmland in 1870.

In 1752 the Moravians, German-speaking Protestants, purchased 100,000 acres in the heart of what is now Forsyth County, and in 1753 the first settlement, Bethabara, was established by Brethren from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. In 1754 Jacob Kapp (great-grandfather of John H. Kapp) and seven other young men from the Moravian outpost at Christian's Spring, Pennsylvania, were sent to help complete the settlement at Bethabara. Jacob Kapp became the assistant to Bethabara's miller, Johannes Schaub ("Grind the Grain," Keith Kapp). From Bethabara the Moravians branched out to establish other communities throughout the 100,000-acre Wachovia Tract, and in 1759 a second settlement, Bethania, was established approximately three miles northwest of Bethabara. At Bethania a small residential section had been laid out by Moravian surveyor Gottlieb Christian Reuter in 1758 in the midst of a 2,500-acre Town Lot, and the community was established as a German agricultural community in which each residential lot holder was also assigned "out lots" for cultivating fruit and grain and for other purposes as well ("Annotations," Vol.1).

It was to Bethania that Heinrich Kapp, Jacob's son (and John H. Kapp's grandfather), moved in 1799 to operate the grist mill at Bethania ("Grind the Grain," Keith Kapp). He also became an operator of the second grist mill near Bethania along with Saddler Hauser in 1825. A controversy erupted concerning the mill race and debris which caused stagnant water to back up toward Bethania, and Heinrich Kapp decided to move out of town approximately three miles north of Bethania ("Historical Notes," Vol. V, Louise Kapp). Heinrich taught his sons to be millers, and two of them, William and Thomas Jefferson (John H. Kapp's father), stayed close to Bethania. (Thomas Jefferson Kapp's house, built ca. 1850, remains standing approximately one and one-half miles north of Bethania.) By the 1870 Census, however,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetJohn Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 9

Thomas Jefferson Kapp listed himself as a farmer, not a miller, and he owned \$3,000 worth of real estate, having already sold his son, John Henry, \$630 worth (106 acres) in April of that year.

On March 3, 1870, twenty-six-year-old John Henry Kapp married twenty-one-year-old Sarah Elizabeth (Sallie) Lehman of Bethania, and soon thereafter they built a new house on their farm ("S.E. Lehman"). In the 1870 Census John H. Kapp listed himself as a miller, not a farmer, probably because he had owned the land only three months before the Census was taken in August (Ninth Census, 1870; Deed, April, 1870). By the 1880 Census John Kapp did list himself as a farmer, although by that time he was also a partner in several business pursuits. In 1871 Kapp went into partnership with his brother-in-law, Oliver J. Lehman, and another Bethania resident, F. A. Butner, to form the mercantile and plug tobacco manufacturing firm of O.J. Lehman & Co. in Bethania (Memoir). By the time of his death in 1896 at the age of fifty-two, John Kapp owned a one-third interest in O.J. Lehman & Co., a one-third interest in F. A. Butner & Co. at Pinnacle, N.C., a one-third interest in Butner Kapp & Co. at Kapps Mills in Surry County, N.C., and a one-fourth interest in Kapps Milling Co., as well as the Kapp Farm. The Memoir read at Bethania Moravian Church during his funeral called him a "thoroughgoing business man" and stated that "It is hard for us to understand why one so useful should be taken from us, but God knows best" (Memoir; Will of John Kapp).

John and Sallie Kapp had five children, born from 1871 to 1883, when his youngest daughter, Mary Amanda (Mamie), was born. Mamie lived on the Kapp Farm after her marriage to Ernest E. Kapp (a distant cousin) in 1909 and continued to take care of her mother, Sallie, who also lived on the farm until her death in 1929. Ernest Kapp purchased the farm outright after Sallie Kapp's death. After the deaths of Ernest and Mamie Kapp, the farm was inherited by their three children: Reverend John H. Kapp II, a Moravian minister; Mrs. Emma Kapp Weber, wife of F. Herbert Weber, also a Moravian minister; and Ernest E. Kapp, Jr. In 1980 Emma Kapp Weber and John Henry Kapp II settled with Ernest Kapp, who took his share of the estate and left Emma and John with the rest. Emma Weber died on April 18, 1981, and the property passed to her heirs, Rev. Weber and their daughter, Elizabeth Marie Weber Nodine, and to Rev. John Kapp. In 1983 the division of the property was concluded and Rev. Weber and Marie received the homeplace lot (Application for Historic Designation; Kapp interview).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 10

HISTORIC CONTEXT: AGRICULTURE

In the years immediately following the Civil War, Forsyth County's farms grew smaller and more numerous. Since there were not a lot of large slaveholders in the area, the freeing of the slaves and resultant shift in farming methods did not have as great an effect on the rural economy of Forsyth County as it did elsewhere. The number of farms in the county in 1869 was 1,272, and almost 55 percent of these averaged between twenty and one hundred acres. Most of the rural population was white and most of them owned their own farms (Forsyth, 178). In August, 1870, John Vest, the Census taker, recorded that John H. Kapp owned 15 acres of improved land, one horse, one milk cow, eleven pigs, and \$5 worth of farm implements and machinery. The Kapp Farm produced 28 bushels of wheat, 12 of Irish potatoes, 20 pounds of butter, and 12 gallons of molasses (Ninth Census, 1870).

Not surprisingly, agricultural concerns played a large part in the daily life of the Bethania Moravian congregation. In the minister's yearly review of events, called the "Memorabilia," it is apparent that weather conditions and their effect on crops were subjects of great concern and in large part shaped the context in which Bethania and the rest of rural Forsyth County lived. Reverend Christian Lewis Rights commented in the "Memorabilia" of 1872 that:

"The Spring was late and cold and farm work was put back considerably in consequence. The Summer was upon the whole favorable, rather too wet in the early part, and crops upon the whole turned out well. Wheat was fair. Oats and hay very good. As also corn both on the upland and in the bottoms with a fair share of potatoes Irish and Sweet. Of summer fruit there was a full crop of apples and peaches, but the winter apples nearly all dropped off before they came to maturity so that but few were saved" ("Memorabilia," 1872).

By 1880 North Carolina as a whole had recovered its pre-war volume of production. 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 (Lefler, 521). In Forsyth County, the general upswing was reflected by the 1880 "Memorabilia" in which Rev. R.P. Leinbach noted that: "The husbandman, has, as a rule been abundantly blessed for his labors, bread stuffs are abundant and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 11
John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

prices in general remunerative. The general stagnation of business under which the country had groaned has been removed, and trade, and business in all its various avenues and departments become remarkably quickened and revived" ("Memorabilia," 1880).

The average farm in Forsyth County in 1880 contained 115 acres; out of 1,871 farms, 774 of these were between 100 and 500 acres (Report on Agriculture, 1883, 128,76). While the Kapp Farm was typical in size, the value of the Kapp Farm as a whole, including land, fences and buildings, was \$1,500, which was above the 1880 average value of \$1,042 for farms in North Carolina (Tenth Compendium, 720; 10th Census; 13th Census). John Kapp was a prosperous farmer in 1880, reflecting the general upswing in North Carolina and Forsyth County. The 1880 Census reported that Kapp now owned \$60 worth of farm implements and machinery and \$193 worth of livestock. He planted 15 acres of Indian corn, 10 acres of oats, 10 acres of wheat, 1/4 acre each of Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes, 20 acres of cow peas, and 3 acres of tobacco. Kapp's orchards included 3 acres of apples with 100 trees, and one acre of peaches with 50 trees. In addition, he produced 24 pounds of honey and two pounds of wax, and he cut 20 cords of wood.

The total number of farms in Forsyth County increased to 2,088 by the 1890 Census and the value of farm products in 1890 was \$637,150, as compared with \$496,759 in 1880 (Report on Agriculture, 1883; Report on Statistics, 1895). Farmers in general, however, continued to be plagued by over production and falling prices, and 1890 did not seem to be a good year for the Kapps or for crops in the Bethania vicinity (Lefler, 523). Reverend Leinbach commented that: "The winter months were marked with a degree of mildness of weather which was as unusual as the moisture of the preceding months had been. There was so little freezing weather that the insects in the bottom land, and especially when protected by the immense quantities of drift collected along the stream, were not frozen out, and in the spring when the farmers came to plant their corn, it was found to be a very difficult matter to get a stand--and the corn crop suffered materially in consequence" ("Memorabilia," 1890). In addition, Rev. Leinbach went on to say that because of the warm weather an outbreak of typhoid fever had occurred in Bethania and "among those most heavily afflicted in our immediate neighborhood has been the family of Br. John Kapp. . . for several months he and his companion were confined to the sick room with dangerous

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetJohn Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 12

illness, and before they were recover [sic], one of their sons at Chapel Hill was stricken down with typhoid fever, from which he is just beginning to recover" ("Memorabilia," 1890). Continuing his end of the year message, Rev. Leinbach also stated that "This year will also be remembered by many on account of its financial disasters. . . . several banks failed, others refused to discount loans; private business enterprises fell through--all causing such a decline in prices in cotton and tobacco that the monied interest of the whole country has to suffer. . . ." ("Memorabilia," 1890). After his bout with typhoid fever in 1890, John Kapp may have never entirely regained his health. He died six years later, in 1896, and his Memoir contained the observation that, "We have noticed several years that our Brother's health was failing, and in the early summer it became apparent that the end was not far off." While individual agricultural census records for Forsyth County in 1890 were destroyed, it is probable that, because of Kapp's declining health and his subsequent death, his farm during this period began to follow another agricultural trend--tenancy.

Various forms of farm tenure in the post-Civil War south included ownership, tenancy and/or sharecropping (Daniel, xii). The term "tenancy" includes those who rented the land to farm for a fixed amount of cash and those who farmed the land for a share of the crop's profits. The 1880 Census was the first census to collect data on the types and prevalence of farm tenure, and in that year 52,722 of North Carolina's 157,609 farms were operated by tenants (13th Census, Vol. VII, 222). In Forsyth County, out of 1,871 farms, 15 farms were rented for a fixed amount of cash. and 291 were rented for a share of the produce (Report on Agriculture, 1883, 77). In North Carolina the majority of tenants were sharecroppers (Lefler, 577). John Kapp operated his own farm and did not have a tenant in 1880, even though he was engaged in several additional business pursuits (10th Census). The Moravians felt strongly that hard work was a virtue, and their religious beliefs may have provided a reluctance in some cases to operate a farm with tenants unless it was absolutely necessary. The presence of a ca. 1900 tenant house (10) on the Kapp Farm and the recollections of family members, however, establish that the farm was operated with the help of tenants from around the turn of the century until "sometime after World War II when we began renting the land to farmers in the neighborhood" (Kapp interview). The 1900 Census recorded Sallie Kapp as the head of the family and her children still living at home as James L., 29,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 13

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

a clerk; Thomas E., 27, manager of a lumber mill; Henry H., 20, in school; and Mamie A., 16, also in school (1900 Census, Population, Sheet 13). Sallie Kapp probably used a tenant arrangement to operate the farm after she was widowed, with her children helping as well. The families who lived in the tenant house also used an adjacent barn (no longer standing), as well as a crib/granary (9) and a tobacco pack house (11). The number of farms operated by tenants in Forsyth County steadily increased from 594 in 1900 to 686 in 1910, and from 748 in 1920 to 1,083 in 1930 (13th Census, Vol. VII, 249; 15th Census, Vol. II, 359). By 1940, 940 of Forsyth's 2,096 farms were operated by tenants, which reflects a decline from 32.4 percent in 1930 to 26.9 percent in 1940 (16th Census, Vol. I, Agriculture, 314).

In the cotton and tobacco growing areas of the South, three different kinds of contracts usually existed between landlords and tenants. One arrangement called for the landowner to furnish the land, wood, buildings, and one-fourth of the fertilizer in exchange for one-fourth of the crop. Another contract expected the landowner to furnish the land, wood, buildings, feed, teams, tools and one-half of the fertilizer and take one-half of the crop. In a third type of arrangement, the landowner provided the land, wood, seed, and all the fertilizer and took half of the crop. Most of the time, these were oral arrangements which also included an understanding that the tenant could have land to work his own garden; elements of paternalism carried over from antebellum days, even though many of the tenants were white (Daniel, 32).

According to Rev. John Kapp II, who grew up on the Kapp Farm, the tenant arrangement on his grandfather's farm reflected the popularity of the third type of arrangement in the tobacco culture. A different arrangement existed for the other crops. For tobacco, the Kapps supplied the fertilizer, seed, equipment, wood, and tobacco barn, and they received half of the crop. For the various grains and other crops, the Kapps furnished the fertilizer, grain and equipment, and the tenant provided the labor and received one-third of the crop. This variation between crops existed because of the labor-intensive nature of raising tobacco; it had to be wormed, the leaves pulled, and slowly cured. In addition, the Kapps furnished the tenants with a dwelling house and well on the farm, a barn and granary to use adjacent to the tenant house, tool sheds, and a plot of land on which to garden. While there are no records on the length of time tenant families stayed on the farm, Rev. Kapp recalls that the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm

Forsyth County

North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 14

"Davis family worked with us as tenants for a long time" (Kapp interview). Most of the tenants who lived on the Kapp Farm were white, but a black couple, Addie and Dave Steele, also worked on the farm, even though they lived in their own house nearby. Addie Steele helped to cook and clean in the house, while Dave tended some of the crops and performed other odd jobs. Dave did receive a share of the crops. Addie Steele's sister, Ola, also helped keep the house and she lived for a time in a small outbuilding behind the house, as well as in an upstairs room (Kapp interview).

Throughout most of the twentieth century, Bethania and its immediate vicinity have remained agriculturally oriented. In 1920 Reverend Walter Grabs reported that "We have reason to be thankful for a year of abundant growth in the field, as the good hand of Providence has favored us with fruitful seasons of sunshine and rain." In 1930 Rev. Grabs noted that "The continued drought of the summer. . . has left many a farmer in a state of close circumstances, while others (are) well nigh, if not altogether in a needy condition" ("Memorabilia," 1920, 1930). By 1940 Rev. Grabs was celebrating his thirty-ninth year at Bethania Moravian Church, and, along with the continuing comments about the weather for the year, he spoke about the community in words which could still be used to describe both Bethania and the continuing agricultural heritage of the Kapp Farm: "Bethania. . . still lives in the past as well as in the present. . . . It holds its own in family names, in memories, traditions, marked buildings, historic places and preservation of old customs. This is Bethania, preserving its own identity and continuing in its old-time individuality" ("Memorabilia," 1940).

HISTORIC CONTEXT: ARCHITECTURE

The John Henry Kapp Farm is significant in Forsyth County because it is one of the best surviving examples of a prosperous farm complex from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Other fine farmhouses of the period in the county such as the 1881 George Hauser House and the ca. 1870 Westmoreland House do not include a complement of outbuildings, and other late nineteenth century farm complexes which do contain outbuildings, such that of Gideon T. Shore, are more modest in nature (Taylor, 99, 148). In addition, the Kapp Farm is an important addition to the architectural context of Bethania's unique farming community. During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries most

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetJohn Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 15

members of the Bethania congregation farmed their "outlots" but lived in the houses along Main Street, several of which survive. Prosperous mid-nineteenth century farms in the Bethania vicinity that were not a part of the town lot/outlot system are represented by the brick Beverly Jones House (NR) and the frame Samuel Stauber Farm (NR). The Kapp Farm adds a fine example of a late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm complex to the architectural and agricultural time-line of Bethania, and it illustrates that, by the late nineteenth century, traditionally Germanic Moravian building practices were ignored. Whereas the 1852 Stauber House exhibited a fieldstone foundation, interior chimneys and corner fireplaces, the next generation Kapp Farm exhibited none of those characteristics. The Kapp Farm is a fine example of a prosperous Forsyth County farm, not only a Moravian one.

As one of the best surviving examples of a prosperous farm complex from the turn of the century, the Kapp Farm both illustrates changing architectural styles and reflects the needs of John Kapp's family and his farm. In 1870 the house was a vernacular, Greek Revival-influenced I-house with a center hall plan typical of the period in Forsyth County. The I-house, a type which originated in English folk culture, was a two-story house at least two rooms wide but only one room deep, with the entrance on the long side (Southern, 71). There were few academic interpretations of the Greek Revival in Forsyth County's I-houses; the style generally appeared in the form of houses with heavier, squarer and wider proportions, large 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 (Taylor, 30). This pattern was consistent with the development of the Greek Revival I-house across North Carolina, which almost always featured a center hall plan, simple woodwork and two-paneled doors (Southern, 78).

By the early 1880s, however, the Kapp House changed to reflect the Kapps' expanding family and their prosperous farming and business enterprises. It was probably before the birth of their fifth child, Mary Amanda, in 1883, that the Kapps enlarged their farmhouse with the addition of a two-story rear ell with side porches on either side. An undated documentary photograph shows the house with these rear porches and a one-bay pedimented front porch with sawnwork and turned balustrades. This front porch may have been the original one built in 1870. In addition, the photograph shows ornamental landscaping in front of the house

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetJohn Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 16

and a well house to the rear. The landscaping, in particular, was not typical of late nineteenth century farms in Forsyth County, and it may have been influenced by the fact that Sallie Kapp's sister, Emma Lehman, was a well-known botanist and professor at Salem Academy in Salem ("Emma Lehman," 24).

The early 1880s appearance of the house probably remained unchanged until after John Kapp's death in 1896, since he became ill in 1890 and was in poor health for several years ("Memorabilia"). The well house to the left rear of the house, the only outbuilding shown in the photograph, is no longer standing. Even though they were not pictured, the late nineteenth century appearance of the other surviving outbuildings probably has changed little since that period because their use remained the same. The ca. 1870 heavy-timber barn (7) continued to house cows, horses and mules and the equipment they needed; the corn crib and granary (6) reflected the continuing crops of corn and wheat; and the smokehouse (2) was still used for salting and curing meat well into the twentieth century. The heavy timber barn is a good example of this outbuilding type in Forsyth County. Large barns constructed with mortise and tenon joints were found on some of the more prosperous farms in the county, such as the Samuel Stauber Farm (NR). Double-pen logs barns were more common for smaller farms. Other outbuildings on the Kapp Farm were typical in style and function to their counterparts across Forsyth County, with the exception of the smoke house. The smokehouse features an anteroom for salting meat which is an unusual trait for Forsyth County.

The late nineteenth century barn, smokehouse, and crib/granary do appear in an early twentieth century panoramic view of the Kapp Farm taken from the southeast, along with other outbuildings which are no longer standing such as a milk well (where milk and other perishables were lowered to keep cool) and carriage house. This photograph also shows the remodeled farm house with a single-story full facade porch and two-tiered entrance bay which exist today. This remodeled appearance is likely the result of Mary Amanda (Mamie) Kapp's marriage to her distant cousin, Ernest Elias Kapp, on May 1, 1909 (Kapp Bible). Mamie Kapp's mother, Sallie, continued to live on the farm with the newlyweds, and Ernest purchased the farm outright after her death in 1929. Mamie Kapp had lived in the house all of her life and probably wanted to remodel it after her marriage. The outbuildings west of the main house do not appear in the early twentieth century panoramic view because of the angle of the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 8 Page 17

photograph, but according to architectural evidence and family interviews, the two-story tenant house (10) was built around 1900, along with its outbuildings: a crib/granary (9) and a tobacco pack house (11). A double-pen log barn used by the tenants is no longer standing.

Other outbuildings which are typical of Forsyth County and which reflect the ongoing farming operations of the Kapp Farm are the chicken house and shop. The chicken house (5) was built in the 1920s, as was the storage shed (3), and the shop building (4) was built around 1930 (Kapp interview).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 9 Page 18

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Annotations." Vol.1, No. 6. Moravian Archives. Winston-Salem, N.C. April, 1987.

"Application for Historic Designation, Kapp House." Trust Department, Wachovia Bank. Winston-Salem, N.C.

Census Reports, Vol VI, Twelfth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1900, Agriculture, Part II, Crops and Irrigation. Washington: U.S. Census Office, 1902.

Compendium of the Tenth Census (June 1, 1880). Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883.

Daniel, Pete. Breaking the Land. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1985.

Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930. Agriculture, Vol. II, Part 2. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1932.

Forsyth County Records, Office of the Register of Deeds, Forsyth County Courthouse, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Fries, Adelaide. Wright, Stuart Thurmond. Hendricks, J. Edwin. Forsyth, the History of a County on the March. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1976.

Grabs, Rev. Walter. Bethania Memorabilia, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940. Archives of the Moravian Church South. Winston-Salem, N.C.

Kapp Family Bible. In possession of John H. Kapp, II. Bethania, N.C.

Kapp, John Henry. Memoir. November 29, 1896. Archives of the Moravian Church South. Winston-Salem, N.C.

Kapp, M. Keith. "And Well to Grind the Grain." Three Forks of Muddy Creek, Vol II. Winston-Salem: Old Salem, Inc., 1974.

Kapp, Louise. "The Bethania Mill." "Historical Notes," Vol. V, No. 1. Bethania: Bethania Historical Association, 1990.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number 9 Page 19

Kapp, Louise. "Sarah Elizabeth Lehman." Handwritten manuscript. 1992.

Lefler, Hugh Talmage. Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina: The History of a Southern State, 3rd ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1973.

Leinbach, Rev. R. P. Bethania Memorabilia, 1880, 1890. Archives of the Moravian Church South. Winston-Salem, N. C.

Report on the Productions of Agriculture as Returned at the Tenth Census (June 1, 1880). Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883.

Report on the Statistics of Agriculture in the United States at the Eleventh Census: 1890. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1895.

Rights, Rev. Christian Lewis. Bethania Memorabilia, 1870, 1872. Archives of the Moravian Church South. Winston-Salem, N.C.

Sixteenth Census of the United States: 1940. Agriculture, Vol. I. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1942.

Southern, Michael. "The I-House as a Carrier of Style in Three Counties of the Northeastern Piedmont." Carolina Dwelling. Raleigh: North Carolina State University, 1978.

Taylor, Gwynne S. From Frontier to Factory, An Architectural History of Forsyth County. Winston-Salem: City-County Planning Board, 1981.

Taylor, Gwynne S. Interviews with John H. Kapp, II, grandson John H. Kapp, and Louise Kapp. Forsyth County, N.C. 1992.

Thirteenth Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1910, Vol. VII: Agriculture 1909 and 1910. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1913.

United States Census. Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Forsyth County, N.C., Inhabitants Schedule, Productions of Agriculture; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Forsyth County, North Carolina, Inhabitants Schedule,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 20

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Productions of Agriculture; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Forsyth County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 21

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

UTM references (continued):

(E) 5 17/557380/4004270

Verbal boundary description:

The nominated property consists of portions of tracts 27H, 27G, and 27F of Block 4747, Forsyth County Tax Map 594886, as delineated by the heavy black line on the accompanying tax map.

Boundary justification:

The nominated property includes approximately thirteen (13) acres of the original John Henry Kapp Farm. The boundary has been drawn to include the John Henry Kapp house, the outbuildings, a cultivated field, and a portion of the woodlands which border the rear of the nominated property. Although the Kapp farm once stretched north and northeast to encompass 106 acres, and although the property remains in family ownership (though in separate parcels), portions of the larger acreage have lost their historical integrity. The nominated resources include the surviving elements of the Kapp farm which together convey the late nineteenth-early twentieth century physical character of the place.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

John Henry Kapp Farm
Forsyth County
North Carolina

Section number Photos Page 22

Photographic identification:

The following information applies to all nomination photographs:

- 1) John Henry Kapp House
- 2) Bethania vicinity, Forsyth County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) February, 1992 - Photos A-I
March, 1992 - Photo J
- 5) State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC
- 6-7) A: overall view, to northeast
B: facade of house, view to north
C: oblique view of house, to northeast
D: rear elevation, view to south
E: stair hall, view to south
F: second story stair hall, view to north
G: smokehouse, shed, and shop, view to northeast
H: barn, view to northeast
I: tenant house and tobacco pack house, view to
northwest
J: agricultural field, view to west

JOHN HENRY KAPP FARM, FORSYTH Co., NC

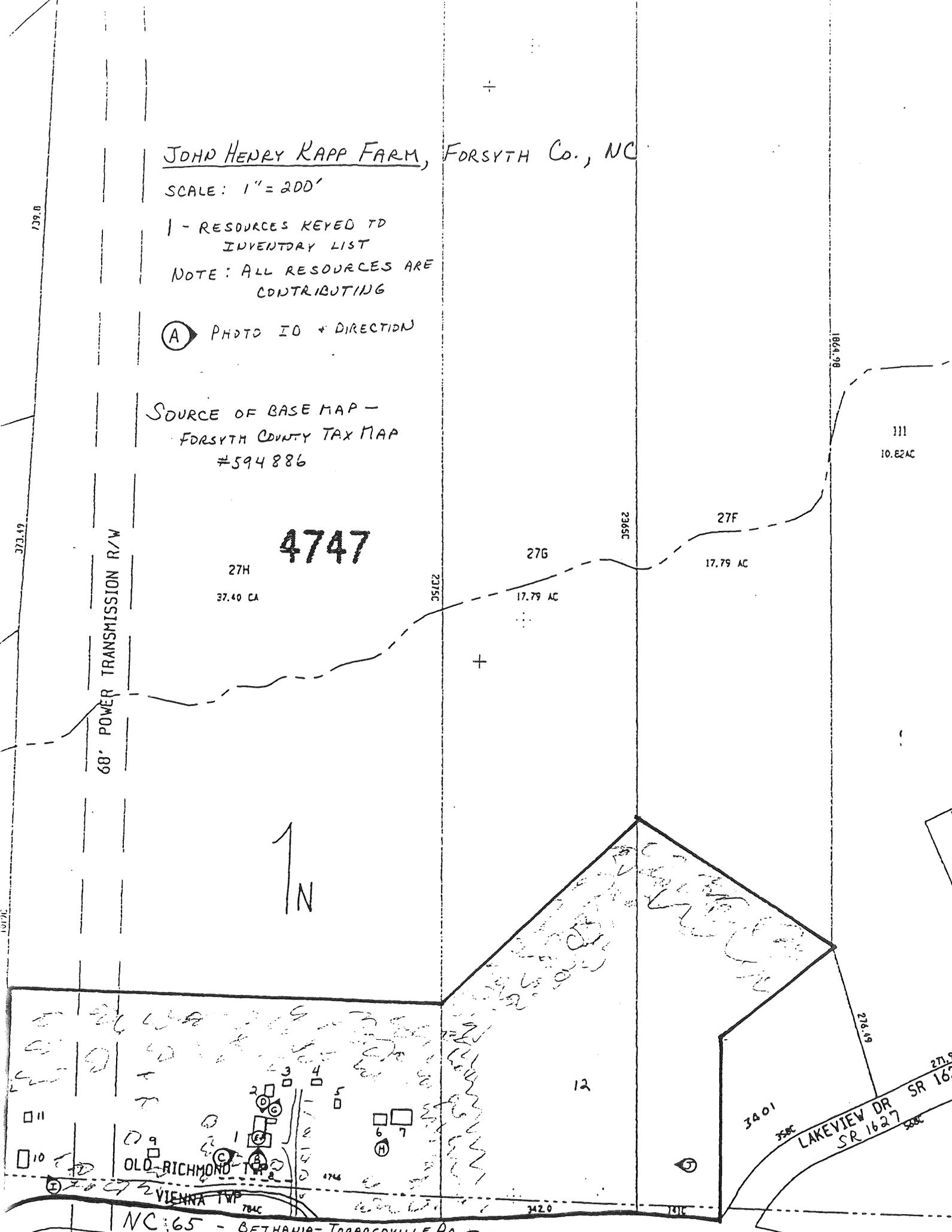
SCALE: 1" = 200'

1 - RESOURCES KEYED TO
INVENTORY LIST

NOTE: ALL RESOURCES ARE
CONTRIBUTING

(A) PHOTO ID + DIRECTION

SOURCE OF BASE MAP -
FORSYTH COUNTY TAX MAP
#594886



4747

27H

37.40 CA

27G

17.79 AC

27F

17.79 AC

111
10.82 AC

68' POWER TRANSMISSION R/W

↑
N

12

OLD RICHMOND TWP

VIENNA TWP

NC:65 - BETHANIA-TOBACCOVILLE RD.

LAKEVIEW DR
SR 1627

4008
12'30"
4007

4956 III NW / BROWNVILLE 19 MI.
(VIENNA) / EAST BEND 8.5 MI.

JOHN HENRY KAPP FARM
FORSYTH CO., NC
RURAL 4 ALL QJAD
1:24000

- A. 17/557380/4004150
- B. 17/557780/4004150
- C. 17/557860/4004320
- D. 17/557760/4004400
- E. 17/557380/4004270

4006
4003
10'

