

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Waller House

Pfafftown vicinity, Forsyth County, FY1485, Listed 8/25/2014

Nomination by Heather Fearnbach

Photographs by Heather Fearnbach, May 2012 and March 2013



Overall view



Rear view

**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 Waller House
other names/site number Waller – Joyner Farm

2. Location

street & number 9186 Reynolda Road **N/A** not for publication
city or town Pfafftown 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 for 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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or 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:) _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Waller House
Name of Property

Forsyth County, NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	5	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	5	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

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: hewn log dwelling

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: Log

WOOD: Weatherboard

ASPHALT

roof METAL

other

Narrative Description

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

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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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1770-1820

Significant Dates

ca. 1770-1790

ca. 1800-1820

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown (log)

Long, A. J., carpenter (1940s)

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:

North Carolina Dept. of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, NC

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 12.56 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

See Latitude/Longitude coordinates continuation sheet

1	_____	_____	_____	3	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____
					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 Heather Fearnbach
organization Fearnbach History Services, Inc. date 3/24/2014
street & number 3334 Nottingham Road telephone 336-765-2661
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 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 Jonathan M. and Suzanne C. Hanna
street & number 3996 Leinbach Drive telephone 336-403-3121
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27106

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 listing. 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 20303.

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Section 7. Narrative Description

Setting

The Waller House and associated outbuildings occupy a 12.56-acre parcel that was part of a much larger farm owned by successive generations of the Waller and Joyner families for more than two hundred years. The property is located approximately eleven miles from downtown Winston-Salem in Old Richmond Township at Forsyth County's northwest corner. The mailing address—9186 Reynolda Road, Pfafftown—reflects the farm's proximity to the post office just under six miles to the southeast. Neighboring crossroads communities include Dozier about three miles west and Donnaha around six miles northwest. The area's gently rolling topography and rich soil manifest its closeness to the Yadkin River, which forms most of the county's western edge. Although some large agricultural and wooded tracts remain, residential development continues to encroach upon the rural setting.

Acreage historically encompassed within the Waller-Joyner farm flanks Reynolda Road, which runs east-west on the parcel's north edge, and Waller Road, which proceeds north-south on the property's west side. A gravel drive leads from Reynolda Road to the house and unpaved farm roads extend to the outbuildings. As the Waller family grew and prospered, they moved from a one-and-one-half-story log dwelling erected in the late eighteenth century into a two-story log residence constructed in the early nineteenth century. The smaller log building's primary elevations face east and west, but the later residence has a north-south entrance orientation. Since around 1940, an open L-shaped porch has provided sheltered space between the two buildings and an enclosed shed porch has projected from the one-and-one-half-story house's west elevation. A mid-twentieth-century attached carport extends from the two-story dwelling's west elevation across the original house's north elevation.

Five frame 1940s outbuildings—a meat curing house, corn crib/chicken coop/equipment shed, barn, shed, and tobacco barn—stand near the dwellings. A pile of debris close to the east property line south of the tobacco barn contains remnants of other structures including metal roofs and building components. Two fruit trees are the sole vestiges of the orchard to the north near Reynolda Road.

Aerial photographs indicate that land usage has been relatively consistent for the past fifty years. The area north of the domestic complex, once a cultivated field and orchard, remains open, and is screened from the road by a tree stand. The majority of the tract is wooded. As of 2014, slightly less acreage near the house and outbuildings is cleared than shown in a 1961 aerial photograph and the wooded areas have denser growth.¹ The multi-acre fields' and pastures' irregular shapes, which conform to the landscape contours, are still visible on adjacent tax parcels.

¹ Aerial photographs, North Carolina Geological Survey, 1961, and Forsyth County, 2010.

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A culvert carries Fries Creek under Reynolda Road north of the National Register boundary and the tributary then flows south and west eventually emptying into the Yadkin River. A smaller creek winds through the forest to the south.²

Waller House, ca. 1770-1790, contributing building

Exterior

This one-and-one-half-story, side-gable-roofed, single-room log building originally served as a residence but has functioned as a kitchen for much of its history. Although faux-brick rolled-asphalt siding sheathes the rectangular structure beneath its German-sided gable ends, selected siding removal revealed weathering on the sizable logs hewn on four sides and joined with V-notches. Raised wood grain indicates that the logs were exposed to the elements for some time. As in many other comparable local buildings, weatherboards likely covered the logs during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The house rests on hewn log sills and half-round log joists supported by dry-laid stone piers infilled with concrete block. Sheet metal panels cover the roof. A concrete block stovepipe chimney erected by the Joyner family in the late twentieth century rises on the south elevation, replacing a stone chimney with a brick stack.

On the east elevation, a central late-eighteenth-century door comprised of wide boards and tapered battens hangs on mid-nineteenth-century cast-iron butt hinges and is secured by a late-nineteenth-century cast-iron rim lock. The matching board-and-batten door at the west elevation's center retains late-eighteenth-century wrought-iron strap hinges and a mid-nineteenth-century cast-iron thumb latch. Early-nineteenth-century, six-over-six, double-hung wood sashes held together with corner pegs and robust muntins pierce the north elevation's center and the east elevation south of the door. These windows retain wood "stops" that rotate to hold lower sashes up in an open position.

A single fixed nineteenth-century sash with six panes near the south elevation's west end illuminates the building's southwest corner. In close proximity on the west elevation, two square, early-twentieth-century, four-pane windows hinged on the sides open into the kitchen above the sink. Screens added on the outside of these casement window openings allowed the intermediate area, which is as deep as the log walls, to function as a pie safe. In the attic, the early-twentieth-century, four-over-four, double-hung wood sash window on the north elevation displays a thinner muntin profile. The Joyners installed wood-framed, top-mounted, wire-mesh window screens in the 1940s.

With the assistance of his neighbor, carpenter A. J. Long, Raleigh Stanford Joyner built a full-width shed porch on the west elevation around 1940. The three-sided enclosure effectively doubled the

² "Fries" is also spelled as "Free's" and "Frees" in various historic documents referring to the creek that ran through the Waller property.

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sheltered outdoor domestic work space. Harry Joyner recalled that the property also included a milk well that was located in the area now sheltered by the carport. His parents filled in that dry well soon after purchasing the farm.³

Interior

The building's significant interior features include the northwest corner stair, where three steps lead to a late-eighteenth-century board-and-batten door at the base of its enclosed upper run. The door hangs on replacement butt hinges and is held closed by a late-eighteenth-century wrought-iron thumb latch and keeper attached with wrought nails. The log walls visible inside the stair enclosure are also whitewashed, but the log sections exposed underneath the steps have no finish. A short board-and-batten door encloses the under-stair storage space.

The room's flat board window and door surrounds are simple, with butt edges. The fireplace opening was covered to facilitate the use of a heating stove, but retains a vernacular mantel that emulates high-style classical examples. Simple, delicate, tapered pilasters on plinth bases frame the firebox below a tall flat lintel topped with a stepped upper section comprised of three shorter and progressively thicker boards supporting a shelf with curved corners. At the building's southwest corner, the wood base for the wide porcelain-enameled sink flanked by two draining boards contains four doors and a deep drawer. The log walls remained exposed for some time before being sheathed with wide vertical circular-sawn boards, which, like the other first-floor interior woodwork has been painted. The floors are covered with plywood.

On the west porch, the framing studs are exposed, flanking the upper screened window openings and revealing the back of the exterior German siding boards on the walls' lower sections. Wide flush boards sheath the ceiling and several generations of early-to-mid-twentieth-century linoleum cover the floor. At the southeast corner, a board-and-batten trap door opens into a shallow excavated-earth root cellar. In the southwest corner, the Joyners added a square concrete box above the stone-lined well to extend it to floor level. The wood-framed box resting on the porch floor elevates the well access to a comfortable working height and secures the opening.

The unfinished attic features whitewashed log kneewalls and original wide floor boards, the bottom sides of which are visible from the room below. The roof framing system comprises pole rafters pegged together at the roof peak and spanned with circular-sawn nailing strips below the metal panel

³ Farmers utilized dry wells to preserve perishables including dairy products, eggs, and fruit and vegetables prone to spoilage. Often located on or adjacent to a back porch, these wells were lined with shelves or contained wood or metal carts that could be lowered deep enough to reach a ground temperature of around fifty degrees. Given that their primary function was dairy product storage, such holes in the ground were generally called milk wells.

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roof. A long board attached to the rafters at a diagonal angle ameliorates wind shear. There is no ceiling. The circular-sawn studs on the circa 1940 German-sided gable-end walls are also exposed.

Waller House, ca. 1800-1820, contributing building

Exterior

The Wallers' two-story, side-gable-roofed, log residence stands southeast of the original house. The structure rests on hewn log sills and half-round log joists supported by dry-laid stone piers infilled with dry-laid stone. Faux-brick rolled-asphalt siding sheathes the rectangular structure beneath its German-sided gable ends and sheet metal panels cover the roof. The Joyners replaced the double-shouldered stone chimney and its brick stack on the east elevation with a concrete block stovepipe chimney in the late twentieth century.⁴

The house has a north-south entrance orientation. On the north elevation, a central door comprised of wide boards and tapered battens hangs on mid-nineteenth-century cast-iron butt hinges and is secured by a late-nineteenth-century cast-iron rim lock as well as a late-twentieth-century padlock. The matching board-and-batten door on the south elevation's center retains the original wrought-iron strap hinges, which feature thin, flat, rounded ends secured to the door with large wrought rose-head nails. After the top hinge, which hung on a wrought-iron pintle, failed, the Wallers installed a shorter wrought-iron strap hinge with a pointed end above the original hinge. A late-nineteenth-century cast-iron rim lock, mid-twentieth-century cast-iron sliding bolt, and late-twentieth-century brass chain latch plate manifest ongoing security improvements. The Joyners added wood-framed screen doors to the front and rear porch entrances in the 1940s.

Early-nineteenth-century six-over-six sashes held together with corner pegs and robust muntins pierce the west elevation just north of its center and the north and south elevations east of the entrances. These windows retain wood "stops" that rotate to hold lower sashes up in an open position. The early-twentieth-century four-over-four sash windows near the north elevation's west end and on the east elevation's first and second stories north of the chimney are taller and narrower and have thinner muntin profiles, as do the mid-twentieth-century eight-over-eight sashes on the façade's second floor. The Joyners installed wood-framed, top-mounted, wire-mesh window screens on the surrounds in the 1940s.

The Joyner family also undertook other improvements after purchasing the farm in June 1940. The replacement shed-roofed front and rear porches erected at that time have square posts, plywood ceilings, tongue-and-groove wood floors on concrete block foundations, and metal roofs. With the assistance of his neighbor, carpenter A. J. Long, Raleigh Stanford Joyner extended the rear porch with

⁴ The Joyners used the residual brick and stone to line the north wall in the basement of the shed to the southeast.

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a second, slightly lower level after adding a German-sided porch room, later converted into a bathroom, at the building's southwest corner.⁵

A double-leaf board-and-batten trap door near the rear porch floor's northeast corner provides access to the open wood ladder stair leading to the cellar. Variation in wall treatments and foundation and post configuration indicates that the unfinished space cellar was created in stages, with the east section being a later excavation. The cellar has an exposed earth floor and earth walls reinforced with dry-laid stone at the west end. Two rows of log posts, most of which retain bark and rest on flat stones, support the dwelling's center. Under the rear porch, square wood piers, most elevated off the ground on concrete blocks, brace the hewn and half-round log floor joists.

Interior

The house contains two rooms on each level: a hall-parlor plan on the first floor and two roughly-equal-sized second-story bedrooms. The first floor's west room or parlor is slightly narrower than the east room or hall, which contains a fireplace and a central stair that leads north in a straight steep run along the west wall to the upper floor. The mid-nineteenth-century stair rises from two exposed steps at its base to a board-and-batten door that hangs on butt hinges and is held closed by a mid-twentieth-century cast-iron sliding bolt. The stair enclosure terminates at a short, narrow, second-story hall between two bedrooms. A shared closet occupies the space above the stair.

The first floor may have originally had an open plan with a stair in the southeast corner leading to the second story, which may also have had only one room, but residual architectural evidence is inconclusive. Circular-sawn, hand-planed, and painted horizontal boards secured with cut nails sheathe the first floor's central partition wall and stair enclosure. The wide board-and-batten door on the partition wall south of the stair hangs on butt hinges and is secured by a cast-iron thumb latch and keeper attached with cut nails. This evidence suggests a mid-nineteenth-century installation date for the partition wall, stair, and doors. The exposed ceiling joists and the undersides of the wide second-story floor boards have also been painted.

In the summer of 1940, Stanford Joyner and A. L. Long installed vertical knotty pine boards on the first floor walls, removing original window and door trim and mantels in the process. Long penciled an inscription on the back of a board he attached to a wall in the east room on June 11, 1940, stating that "it is raining now and a very hot day." Stanford's son Harry remembers that it was several years before the second floor walls and ceilings were finished in a similar manner. Matching board-and-batten doors with twentieth-century cast-iron rim locks hang on brass butt hinges in the bedroom and closet door openings. The Joyners later added a narrow hardwood floor on top of the original boards in the upstairs bedrooms and covered the downstairs floor boards with plywood sheets and carpeting.

⁵ Harry L. Joyner, conversation with Jon Hanna, November 10, 2013.

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Jon and Suzanne Hanna removed the first-floor paneling in January 2013, revealing hewn whitewashed logs with crumbling mortar and sections of early baseboard with a beaded upper edge.⁶

Outbuildings

The Waller House and associated outbuildings occupy the residual 12.56 acres of the family's original 350-acre tract. The farm size fluctuated as it supported seven generations of the Waller and Joyner families. The 1940s outbuilding complex serves as a reminder that despite the population's gradual mid-twentieth century transition from farming as the primary means of earning income to industrial, service, and professional careers, farm residents continued to erect basic structures to accommodate livestock and agricultural production.

No early outbuildings constructed by the Wallers remain. The Joyners' 1940s structures are clustered in relationship to their function, taking advantage of the topography while economizing labor. The dwelling and outbuildings are located in high, well-drained areas. The meat curing house is situated in close proximity to the kitchen to facilitate its use for meal preparation and to provide security for its contents, but far enough away to minimize fire danger. The barn and corncrib/chicken coop/equipment shed stand farther south of the house to minimize odors, insects, and noise, but not at such a distance that chore completion routes were needlessly long. Buildings like the tobacco barn were located close to agricultural fields.

Meat Curing House, 1940s, noncontributing building

A board-and-batten-sided one-story meat curing house stands northwest of the Waller House. The front-gable roof extends to shelter the board-and-batten door on the east elevation. The stud walls are exposed on the interior and shelves, hooks, and a large wooden bin allowed for meat curing and storage. The building rests on a concrete block foundation and is protected by a sheet metal roof.

Corncrib/Chicken Coop/Equipment Shed, 1940s, noncontributing building

South of the house, a tall, narrow, frame corncrib features a low-pitched, broad, front-gable roof that extends on either side to create open equipment sheds. The Joyners enclosed the south shed with wire mesh to create a chicken coop. The upper sections of the corn crib's side and rear elevations consist of slatted boards that provide air circulation for stored corn. Horizontal boards cover the façade (east elevation), where a tall, narrow board-and-batten door allows access to the interior. A small plywood door has been cut into the rear (west) elevation.

⁶ Ibid. Jon and Suzanne Hanna discovered Long's inscription when they removed the paneling.

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Barn, 1940s, noncontributing building

South of the corncrib/chicken coop/equipment shed, vertical boards sheath the large, side-gable-roofed, three-bay, two-level, heavy-timber frame barn, which the Joyners expanded over time with the construction of one-story, balloon-frame, side equipment sheds and rear livestock stalls. The open two-bay east shed was erected in two phases. The single-bay west shed has metal-sheathed side and rear walls. The barn's central section is open, flanked by stalls secured by board-and batten doors to the east and rear. The west side features an elevated floor and a large wood feed bin. A fixed wood ladder provides access to the loft above the east stalls. Harry Joyner stated that his father acquired the barn from a Bethania farmer and then moved and reconstructed it with the assistance of carpenter A. L. Long.⁷

Shed, 1940s, noncontributing building

The Joyners also erected the large, front-gable-roofed, two-story shed southeast of the house. Black rolled asphalt covers the wall sheathing boards, which are installed vertically on the main block and rear shed and horizontally on the north shed addition. The central section has a deep basement accessed by stairs with brick-lined walls leading down from the rear shed. The foundation walls are concrete block and formed concrete. An almost-full-height stone wall has been erected along the north foundation wall, perhaps using the chimney stones. A pervasive moisture problem resulted in termite infestation that destroyed the floor system and north sill, but replacement log joists have been installed and a log sill and wide board flooring will soon be added. An open wood stair leads to the loft.

An original double-leaf board-and-batten door pierces the north shed addition's west elevation. Window screening secures the walls' open upper sections, providing light and air flow. Wood shelving wraps around the room's walls.

Tobacco Barn, 1940s, noncontributing building

A frame one-story tobacco barn stands northeast of the Waller House. The front-gable, metal-roofed building has vertical board and black rolled asphalt siding on the walls and weatherboards in the gable ends. The south foundation is brick, allowing for tobacco flue openings, while the remaining foundation walls are formed concrete. The open north equipment shed is the only section remaining of sheds that once wrapped around the building. The Joyners harvested the first tobacco crop before the tobacco barn's construction and thus cured the leaves in the dwelling's attic.⁸

⁷ Harry L. Joyner, conversation with Jon Hanna, November 10, 2013.

⁸ Ibid.

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Archaeological Potential Statement

The Waller House is closely related to its surrounding environment. Archaeological remains, such as trash pits, privies, wells, and other structural remains which may be present can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the contributing structures. Information including land-use patterns, agricultural practices, social standing, and social mobility, as well as structural details, is often evident only in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the structures' significance. At this time no professional archaeological investigation has been undertaken to discover such remains, but owner exploration has determined that they exist and should be considered in the property's future development.

Integrity Statement

The Waller House possesses a good degree of integrity. The log dwellings constructed ca. 1770-1790 and ca. 1800-1820 retain elements such as eighteenth- and nineteenth-century board-and-batten doors and hardware, double-hung wood-sash windows, wide board floors, flush-board interior sheathing, a vernacular mantel, and enclosed staircases. The one-room house has functioned as a kitchen for much of its history. The residence remained relatively unchanged until Raleigh Stanford and Irene Smitherman Joyner purchased five tracts of what had been his family's farm in 1940. During the next decade, the Joyners erected outbuildings and updated the house, constructing front and rear porches and a screened porch around the well west of the kitchen, sheathing the residence in faux-brick rolled asphalt siding, and installing knotty pine paneling throughout the two-story dwelling. In the late twentieth century, the Joyners removed the stone chimney with a brick stack on the original dwelling's south elevation and the similar chimney on the two-story residence's east elevation and replaced them both with concrete block stovepipe chimneys. The family made only a few other modifications during the remainder of their sixty-year tenure. In 2014, Jon and Suzanne Hanna initiated a careful rehabilitation in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

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Section 8. Statement of Significance

The Waller House, which comprises two of Forsyth County's oldest extant hewn log dwellings, manifests the utilization of traditional building practices and available resources as early settlers established farms in the North Carolina Piedmont. Henry and Sarah Waller likely erected the one-and-one-half-story, side-gable-roofed, single-room log house soon after they arrived in what was then Surry County around 1770. As the Waller family grew and prospered during the early nineteenth century, they expanded their holdings with the construction of the adjacent two-story side-gable-roofed log residence that features a hall-parlor first-floor plan. The one-room building retains a vernacular mantel with classical pilasters, an enclosed corner stair, and flush-board interior sheathing, while the two-story dwelling has a horizontal-board partition wall and an enclosed central stair with a straight run. Other significant elements include eighteenth- and nineteenth-century board-and-batten doors and hardware, double-hung wood-sash windows, and wide board floors. The dwelling's period of significance is circa 1770 to 1790 for the one-and-one-half-story house and circa 1800 to 1820 for the two-story-house, encompassing the two buildings' likely completion dates. The rarity of comparable Forsyth County residences of this age, plan, and hewn, V-notched log method of construction makes the buildings meet National Register Criterion C for architecture.

Historical Background

Area Settlement History

In what is now Forsyth County, the Muddy Creek basin's abundant water supply, natural resources, and fertile soil proved attractive to English, Scots-Irish, and German settlers including Maryland farmers John Douthit and Christopher Elrod, who joined the movement south to homestead in the North Carolina Piedmont by 1750. Most colonists initially erected log dwellings, replacing them with more finely-crafted heavy-timber frame and masonry structures as circumstances allowed. The population influx precipitated the formation of Rowan County, encompassing the area west of Orange and north of Anson Counties, in 1753. That same year, after six months of exploring North Carolina in search of suitable land to settle, Bishop August G. Spangenberg led the Moravians to purchase 98,985 Rowan County acres from English Lords Proprietor John Carteret. They called the land "Wachau" after an Austrian estate that had belonged to their benefactor and spiritual leader Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf. The tract later became known as "Wachovia," the Latin form of the name.⁹

⁹ Penelope Niven and Cornelia B. Wright, *Old Salem: The Official Guidebook* (Winston-Salem: Old Salem, Inc., 2004), 8-17; Frank V. Tursi; *Winston-Salem: A History* (Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, Publisher, 1994), 30-34, 43; Michael O. Hartley and Martha B. Hartley, "There is None Like It:" The South Fork Settlements and the Development of Colonial Wachovia," Old Salem, Inc., 2003, 15-16, 22.

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In an effort to expand the Moravians' American presence, fifteen unmarried men traveled from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to the North Carolina backcountry, arriving on November 17, 1753. Twelve of them remained to create a settlement called Bethabara. The majority of Moravian immigrants were craftsmen and shopkeepers, most of whom who had little farming experience but possessed the necessary skills to establish congregation towns.¹⁰ In February 1765, after carefully evaluating sites delineated during Reuter's demarcation of Wachovia's 154 square miles, church elders selected a central location for the permanent congregation town they named Salem. The community's builders erected a log dwelling in January 1766 to provide shelter while they crafted substantial heavy-timber and brick structures, many designed by Wachovia administrator and planner Frederic William Marshall. Masons Melchior Rasp and Johann Gottlob Krause, carpenters Martin Lick and Christian Triebel, and cabinetmaker, organ builder, glazer, and millwright Joseph Ferdinand Bullitschek facilitated much of the eighteenth-century construction.¹¹

The backcountry's population burgeoned after a 1763 treaty ended the French and Indian War. Moravian elders modified their original land use plan in order to attract settlers who required sizable tracts to farm profitably and wished to purchase rather than rent acreage. By allowing carefully-vetted colonists to move to North Carolina and acquire land from the church, they not only increased Wachovia's work force but recruited new congregants and clientele for Moravian craftsmen and shopkeepers. This decision permitted typical dispersed frontier settlement patterns rather than the Moravians' usual town planning approach.¹²

In 1790, census takers enumerated 8,528 residents in Stokes County, which then encompassed the area that would become Forsyth County. Almost all were self-sufficient farmers who depended upon the labor of family members, day laborers, and slaves to facilitate the relentless cycle of tasks related to planting and harvesting fields, tending livestock, and erecting and maintaining farm buildings and structures. The county's African American inhabitants included 13 free blacks and 787 slaves.¹³ Given that many land grants and property acquisitions encompassed sizable tracts, residents typically lived at great distances from each other, meeting at churches and in crossroads communities and small

¹⁰ Adelaide L. Fries, ed., *Records of the Moravians in North Carolina, Volume I, 1752-1771* (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1968 reprint), 73-74, 78-79; Daniel B. Thorp, "Assimilation in North Carolina's Moravian Community," *The Journal of Southern History*, Vol. 52, No. 1 (February 1986), pp. 22, 32.

¹¹ Larry Edward Tise, *Winston-Salem in History, Vol. 9: Building and Architecture* (Winston-Salem: Historic Winston, 1976), 9; Niven and Wright, *Old Salem*, 20-27, 41; Adelaide L. Fries, *The Town Builders* (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Company, 1915), 10-11, 15.

¹² Thorp, "Assimilation in North Carolina's Moravian Community," 34-36; S. Scott Rohrer, "Evangelism and Acculturation in the Backcountry: The Case of Wachovia, North Carolina, 1753-1830," *Journal of the Early Republic*, Summer 2001, pp. 199-229.

¹³ S. N. D. North, director, Bureau of the Census, *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790: North Carolina* (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1908), 10.

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towns to socialize, trade, and address business matters. It was during this period that the Waller family erected their first log home and established a farm near the Yadkin River.

Waller Farm History

Henry Waller, born around 1718, resided in Surry County, North Carolina, by 1771, when he is included on the county's first tax list. After serving in the Revolutionary War, he purchased 350 acres flanking Fries Creek near the Yadkin River for fifty shillings from the State of North Carolina on April 3, 1780. Waller, his wife Sarah, and their children subsequently established a subsistence farm that persevered for generations. Upon his death in 1783, Sarah and the couple's three sons—Jacob, Henry Thomas, and Adam—inherited the property, which became part of the newly-created Stokes County in 1789. Sarah headed a six-member household in 1790, which is the last time she is enumerated in a census.¹⁴

After Sarah's death, Henry Thomas Waller, born in 1770, retained a third of his parents' Stokes County land and, according to family tradition, resided on the farm for the rest of his life. His brother Jacob sold his third of the acreage to Bethania blacksmith Adam Butner on July 18, 1793, and appears to have moved to Salisbury soon thereafter. Henry and Jacob's sibling Adam Waller must have also left the area, as he is not enumerated in Stokes County census records.¹⁵

Henry Thomas Waller acquired an additional 784 acres between 1798 and 1809. He married Nancy Dyal, born in 1786, on October 27, 1804, and, the couple had six children—Elizabeth, Nancy, Mary E., Rebecca, Henry Thomas Jr., and Squire James—between 1805 and 1822 who survived to adulthood. In 1810, the Waller household included seven people: three girls, two young women, and two men. By 1820 the family had grown to encompass ten members, but numbered seven in 1830 as children left home.¹⁶

Henry Thomas Waller sold some of his land by 1838, when Surry County tax records indicate that he owned 396 acres worth \$850. He died in December 1839, leaving his property to his wife and their

¹⁴ Surry County was created from Rowan County in 1771 and Stokes County carved from Surry County's north end in 1789. Henry and Sarah's Waller's birth, death, and marriage dates have not been determined. It appears that Henry Waller was born in Virginia around 1718. Stokes County census reports include a household headed by Jacob Waller in 1790. It is possible that this is Henry and Sarah Waller's son and the same Jacob Waller who headed an eight-member Salisbury household in Rowan County in 1800. "Surry County, North Carolina, 1771 Tax List," and Revolutionary War enlistment records accessed online at ancestry.com in May 2012; Surry County Deed Book B, page 83; First Census of the United States, 1790: Surry County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Alice E. Richardson, "Waller: A Family History," PDF of 1988 document in the Family History Library of Brigham Young University.

¹⁵ Surry County Deed Book 2, page 12.

¹⁶ Dyal is also spelled Dial in period sources. Stokes County Deed Book 3, page 207; Book 4, pages 127 and 128; Book 7, page 93; and Book 5, page 332; United States Census Population Schedules, 1810-1830; marriage records.

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sons. In 1840, Nancy is enumerated as the head of a household that included another woman, likely one of her daughters. Her son Henry Thomas Jr., born in 1817, married Charlotte Moser, born in 1820, on April 21, 1840, and the couple lived nearby. The 1841 Bethania District tax list indicates that Nancy Waller held 181 acres and Henry Thomas Waller Jr. owned 116 acres, formerly part of his parents' land, on Fries Creek.¹⁷ Henry Thomas and Charlotte Waller had four children by 1850, at which time the census taker estimated their holdings to be worth \$450.¹⁸

Henry's younger brother, Squire James Waller, born in 1822, and his wife Virginia native Isabella G. Wall, born in 1830, married on December 6, 1846. It is likely that the couple resided with his mother Nancy in the family's two-story log dwelling, although they are not enumerated in the 1850 census. By 1860, however, Squire and Isabella Waller are listed as owners of land valued at \$1,000 and personal property worth approximately \$1,500. Their household included three young sons—Henry Thomas III, James William, and John J.—as well as Squire's mother. The farm's production increased, with 50 acres under cultivation and 220 remaining unimproved. Livestock included 1 horse, 1 mule, 2 milk and 3 other cows, and 53 hogs worth \$250. The Wallers are not listed among Forsyth County's slave owners, so they may have hired members of the adjacent households to work as sharecroppers, tenant farmers, or day laborers on their farm.¹⁹

The Wallers' lives were dramatically altered by the onset of the Civil War. Squire Waller enlisted in Company K of the North Carolina Third Infantry Regiment on October 27, 1863, leaving his family to exist as best they could for the war's duration.²⁰ Reduced crop production and trade disruptions limited agricultural income, and staple goods were in short supply. Most southern farmers suffered great economic challenges including substantial losses of material goods, livestock, and labor during and after the war. These stressors generally resulted in declining farm values.

¹⁷ The 1841 tax list is difficult to read due to ink runs. Sixth Census of the United States, 1840: Stokes County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; marriage records; Richardson, "Waller: A Family History," vi, xii, 5.

¹⁸ Henry Thomas and Charlotte Waller's farm encompassed 30 improved acres and 67 unimproved acres, farm implements valued at \$70, and livestock (2 horses, 2 milk and 2 other cows, 16 hogs) worth \$129. The reported 1860 yield was typical for the region: 30 bushels of wheat, 225 bushels of Indian corn, 10 bushels of oats, and 16 bushels of Irish potatoes, 50 pounds of flax, 4 bushels of flax seed, 4 tons of hay, and 32 pounds of butter. Charlotte Waller died in 1853, soon after the birth of her ninth child. Henry Thomas wed Mary Vest in 1855 and the family moved to Kansas via Kentucky in 1857. Henry Thomas and Mary had eight children and remained in Kansas until their respective deaths in 1902 and 1917. Richardson, "Waller: A Family History," 6; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Forsyth County, North Carolina, Population Schedule and Bethania District Agriculture Schedule.

¹⁹ Squire and Isabella Waller's reported 1860 farm returns were 72 bushels of wheat, 50 bushels of rye, 3000 bushels of Indian corn, 15 bushels of oats, 3 bushels of peas, and 5 bushels of sweet potatoes, 5 pounds of flax, 1 bushel of flax seed, 3 tons of hay, 100 pounds of butter, 10 pounds of honey, and \$20-worth of orchard products. Census takers valued their farm implements at \$60. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Forsyth County, North Carolina, Population and Slave Schedules and Bethania District Agriculture Schedule.

²⁰ "American Civil War Soldiers," enlistment records accessed online at ancestry.com in May 2012.

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It appears, however, that the Waller family fared better than most, as the 1870 census takers valued Squire Waller's real estate at \$700 and his personal property at \$500. The agricultural schedule reported that the farm, which encompassed 135 improved acres and 100 acres of woodlands, had a cash value of \$700, equipment worth \$125, and livestock with an assessed value of \$254. Two of Squire and Isabella's sons—James and John—remained at home along with their grandmother, Nancy.²¹

The Waller household continued to evolve over the next decade. Nancy died during this period, and Squire and Isabella's son James married Susan Tate in May 1870. The young couple's son William was born in 1871. Susan must have died soon after, as James and William Waller resided without her in his parent's log residence in 1880. Squire and Isabella's youngest son John, his wife Martha, and the couple's two young children, Charley and Alin, also occupied the family home. In addition, census takers enumerated two white farm laborers—William Coble and Laura Rumley—who lived on the Waller property that year.²²

Squire and Isabella Waller actively supported local institutions, deeding an acre to Forsyth County in order to facilitate the construction of a public school in Old Richmond Township in December 1870. The school system erected a one-room log building on the property.²³ The Wallers, in conjunction with J. H. and Ellen Scott, also deeded one acre to New Bethel Baptist Church in 1896.²⁴

By 1900, three generations of Wallers operated farms in close proximity to each other. Henry Thomas Waller III and his family resided one dwelling away from his grandparents, Squire and Isabella, whose son James and his second wife Mary Jane Long's home was next door. James and Mary Jane Waller's daughter Elizabeth, her husband James H. Joyner, and their daughter Lillie lived with them.²⁵

Census takers also listed three adjacent Waller family households in 1910. Twenty-eight-year-old John, his wife Octavia, and their two young daughters occupied one dwelling. Eighty-eight-year old Squire, Isabella, and Elizabeth Shields, who was likely Isabella's widowed sister, were enumerated next, followed by fifty-eight-year-old James and his wife Mary. John and his grandfather Squire

²¹ Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Old Richmond Township, Forsyth County, North Carolina, Agriculture Schedule.

²² Name spelling varies in census records and Richardson, "Waller: A Family History," xiv. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Old Richmond Township, Population Schedule.

²³ The log school was moved to a site on Waller Road? from the north side of NC 67 and occupied by Elwood and Grady Speas's grandfather, Isaac Nathan Speas, until his death on January 8, 1937 at the age of 98. The Speas's father taught at the African American school on NC 67. The log school was still standing in 1978. Gwynne S. Taylor, interviews with Elwood Speas, December 19, 1878, and Averette Jansen and Grady Speas on December 21, 1978.

²⁴ The families were connected by marriage. Henry T. Waller III married Mary L. Scott, the daughter of John Scott and Mary Polly Sprinkle, on September 2, 1875.

²⁵ Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900: Old Richmond Township, Population Schedule.

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owned their homes, while the census returns indicate that James rented a dwelling and worked as farm laborer, likely for his father.²⁶

Squire Waller died on September 12, 1910, and Isabella followed on December 9th of the same year. The couple was interred at the New Bethel Baptist Church cemetery. Their sons John and James Waller served as the estate's executors. John and Martha Waller sold seventy-two acres to his cousins J. W. and L. A. Speas on December 17, 1910. At that time, census records indicate that John and Martha resided on a farm they owned in Stokes's County's Yadkin Township, where they remained.²⁷

Family members and neighbors purchased the Waller farm contents, ranging from crops to personal effects, at an auction held in January 1911. The sale, which generated \$277.73, encompassed a wide variety of household goods ranging from items used for food preparation, storage, and serving, to furnishings, linens, floor coverings, tools and farm apparatus, livestock, and farm products. It appears that Isabella Waller was a prolific quilter, as the auction inventory includes nine counterpanes, twenty-four quilts, one quilt top, and a quilting frame.²⁸

James and Mary Waller acquired his parents' log house and farm. By 1920, the couple's daughter Elizabeth Joyner's and her husband's household adjacent household had grown to include eight children, all of whom helped with the Waller-Joyner farm operation. James and Elizabeth Joyner's eldest daughter Lillie L. Joyner was a public school teacher at that time. Mary Waller died in 1926 and James retained their farm until January 27, 1934, when he deeded it to his grandchildren, retaining a life estate. No one lived on the eighty-six-acre farm in 1935, but sharecroppers planted and harvested nine acres of corn, tobacco, wheat, oats, hay, and five fruit-bearing trees. Upon James Waller's death on October 20, 1937, family members took possession of five tracts ranging in size from approximately two to sixty-four acres.²⁹

In June 1940, Raleigh Stanford Joyner, known as "Stanford," and his wife Irene Mae Smitherman purchased five tracts of what had been his family's farm. Stanford, who was James and Elizabeth

²⁶ Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910: Old Richmond Township, Population Schedule.

²⁷ John Waller died in Stokes County on October 24, 1924. Forsyth County Deed Book 290, p. 233; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910: Old Richmond Township, Population Schedule; Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920: Old Richmond Township, Population Schedule; death certificate; Richardson, "Waller: A Family History."

²⁸ "J. W. and J. I. Waller," estate settlement records, Forsyth County Will Book 4038, pp. 1436-1461.

²⁹ Octavia Spainhour Waller, born on September 4, 1882, married John Henry Waller on December 25, 1904. Octavia and her four children are enumerated one household away from James and Elizabeth Joyner in 1920 and eight households away from them in 1930. In 1935, two family members lived on her twenty-six acre property, cultivating eight acres of corn, tobacco, wheat, Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes, and two fruit-bearing trees. They did not report owning any livestock. Octavia died on October 5, 1956. Death certificate; North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division, *Farm Census Reports*, 1935, Box 51 (Edgecombe-Forsyth Counties), North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh; Forsyth County Deed Book 367, pp. 253 and 254; "Plans for Waller Funeral Incomplete," *Winston-Salem Journal*, October 21, 1937, p. 3.

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Joyner's oldest son, erected outbuildings and updated the Waller House with the assistance of carpenter A. J. Long. During the early 1940s, Stanford Joyner was a Quality Oil Company driver, based at the service station on Northwest Boulevard and Reynolda Road's northeast corner, and Irene worked as seamer at Hanes Hosiery Mills. The couple had two children: Wanda and Harry.³⁰

When the Joyners acquired the Waller House, 36.9 percent of Forsyth County residents lived in rural areas, but only 11.7 percent occupied and worked on farms.³¹ The Joyners, like many of their neighbors, relied upon on the livestock and poultry they raised, the crops they grew, and the commodities they produced to supplement income from other employment. Stanford's younger brother Delbert Winfield Joyner assisted with the farm management, while neighborhood youth including Earlie Vogler provided labor.³²

In 1945, tenants planted and harvested corn, tobacco, hay, and a home garden on twenty-six of the Joyner farm's seventy-six acres and tended two milk cows, one hog, and fifty chickens. Harry Joyner remembers that approximately half of the family's acreage was on Reynolda Road's north side, including a twelve-acre tract near the Yadkin River planted in corn. The family kept bees and cultivated apple, peach, pear, and persimmon trees. Harry also recalled that fall activities such as corn shucking and molasses-making were tasks shared by the entire community.³³

Stanford Joyner was a Forsyth County jailer and deputy sheriff for most of his career. He died on May 10, 1975, but Irene Joyner owned the farm until her death on March 11, 2001. The couple attended New Bethel Baptist Church and is interred in the congregation's Tobacoville cemetery. Tony R. and Karen N. Billings acquired the house, outbuildings, and surrounding acreage from the Joyners' heirs in

³⁰ Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, Bethania Township, Forsyth County, Population Schedule; "Raleigh Stanford Joyner," World War II draft registration card, 1942.

³¹ Forsyth County's 1940 population numbered 126,475. In January 1942, 10,640 Forsyth County residents lived on farms owned and operated by their families and an additional 4,260 people occupied and worked on farms as tenants. Frank Parker, Agricultural Statistician, ed., *North Carolina Farm Survey, 1941, as reported in January, 1942* (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, 1942); Zellmer R. Pettet, supervisor, *Sixteenth Census of the United States: 1940, Agriculture, Volume I, Part 3* (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1942), 305, 341, 407.

³² "Delbert Winfield Joyner," *Winston-Salem Journal*, December 4, 1981, p. 18; Harry L. Joyner, conversation with Jon Hanna, November 10, 2013.

³³ Raleigh Stanford Joyner, born on November 10, 1900, and Yadkin County native Irene Mae Smitherman, born on May 13, 1907, married in Tobacoville on July 27, 1929, with Dwight Tuttle, Rosetta Joyner, and A. H. Smitherman as witnesses. In 1931, the Joyners resided in at 211 South Green Street in Winston-Salem, where Stanford found employment as a "convict guard." Forsyth County marriage register; *Miller's and Hill's Winston-Salem City Directories*, 1931-1958; Forsyth County Deed Book 478, page 138; North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Statistics Division, *Farm Census Reports*, 1945, Box 99 (Durham-Forsyth Counties), North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh; Harry L. Joyner, conversation with Jon Hanna, November 10, 2013.

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November 2001. The Billingses conveyed 12.56 acres including the two log dwellings and associated farm buildings to Jon and Suzanne Hanna in June 2011.³⁴

Waller House Architecture Context

In age, plan, and method of construction, the Waller House, which contains two of Forsyth County's oldest extant hewn log dwellings, manifests the perpetuation of traditional building practices and the utilization of available resources as early settlers established farms in the North Carolina Piedmont. The total number of Forsyth County's extant log dwellings has declined by almost one third since 1981.³⁵ The rarity of intact late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth-century residences similar to the Waller House makes this resource's preservation particularly significant.

Most early log dwellings were one room sheltered by a side-gable wood-shingled roof and elevated above grade on wood or stone piers to allow for air circulation beneath the structure. Additional rooms without interior connections might be added to expand these modest one-story dwellings, creating plans such as the "saddlebag," featuring two contiguous rooms often heated by a central chimney, or the "dogtrot," two structures separated by an open central breezeway under a common roof. Stick and daub, parged log, and stone chimneys most commonly served the first generation of log buildings, followed by brick as backcountry residents undertook its manufacture. Larger rectangular one- and two-story dwellings employed frame interior partition walls to form hall-parlor or three-room plans. By the late nineteenth century, builders replaced timber-frame and wood-shingle roof systems with circular sawn rafters and nailing strips topped with standing-seam metal roofs comprised of panels folded, crimped, and soldered together.³⁶

Freestanding kitchens were standard components of most domestic complexes from the seventeenth through much of the nineteenth centuries in rural and urban North Carolina. Kitchens were often one or two-room log or frame structures with large cooking fireplaces, typically located near the primary residence among a cluster of outbuildings such as dairies, meat curing houses, wash houses, and well houses. As cooking stoves became widely available and affordable in the late nineteenth century, their use significantly reduced the heat generated by food preparation as well as the associated fire risk.

³⁴ The Joyners' daughter Wanda and her husband Kreisler D. Speas and their son Harry and his wife Margie P. Joyner conveyed the property to the Billingses. Harry and Margie Joyner erected the adjacent brick house at 9240 Reynolda Road in 1956 and sold it before 1993. Death certificates; "Raleigh Stanford Joyner," *Winston-Salem Journal*, May 11, 1975, p. D3; "Irene Smitherman Joyner," *Winston-Salem Journal*, March 13, 2001, p. B4; Forsyth County Deed Book 1772, p. 1447; Deed Book 2217, pages 1348 and 1349, and Book 3004 page 2999.

³⁵ Heather Fearnbach, Forsyth County architectural survey update, 2006-2009.

³⁶ Bruce D. Bomberger, "The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings," Preservation Brief 26, United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service Cultural Resources Preservation Assistance, September 1991, p. 4.

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Home owners thus frequently attached freestanding kitchens to residences with open breezeways or hyphens or renovated a room within a dwelling's main block to serve as a kitchen.³⁷

The Waller House reflects this evolution. Henry and Sarah Waller likely erected their one-and-one-half-story, side-gable-roofed, single-room log house soon after they arrived in what was then Surry County around 1770. As the Waller family grew and prospered during the early nineteenth century, they expanded their holdings with the construction of the adjacent two-story side-gable-roofed log dwelling, which features a hall-parlor first-floor plan. The one-room house has functioned as a kitchen for much of its history and has been connected to the two-story residence since around 1940 by an L-shaped porch.

It is currently impossible to determine exactly when the Wallers erected each house. Dendrochronology, the science of dating logs based on tree growth rings, could be employed to establish a date range during which the trees were most likely felled, but will not be undertaken at this time due to its cost. Analysis of the hewn logs does not delineate a narrow construction window as the building technology remained unchanged over time and was frequently used to execute residences and dependencies through the nineteenth century's third quarter and outbuildings, particularly tobacco barns, through the mid-twentieth century. Log construction's enduring popularity stemmed from its relative simplicity and affordability. Builders required only established stands of straight and tall white oak, chestnut, cedar, fir, yellow poplar, or pine trees and a felling axe, a broad axe, and a saw to complete a rot- and insect-resistant log structure. The process of shaping logs to create one or more flat sides was considerably more labor-intensive than leaving them round, but facilitated coverage of the log exterior with wood siding and the interior with flush sheathing boards, both of which provided valuable insulation. In this approach, as seen at the Waller House, wood furring strips nailed to the logs allowed for secure and level sheathing attachment. Log interiors often display signs of several generations of finishes, ranging from whitewash to plaster, paper, fabric, or flush board sheathing.³⁸

Creating tightly-fitted corner notches in a variety of configurations was a time-consuming but important component of log building technology. Forsyth County settlers, many generations of whom were of English, German, and Scots-Irish heritage, tended to employ V-notching and half-dovetailing to secure log ends. Builders inserted chinking, typically comprising wood slabs or stone held in place by soft materials such as clay and straw, in the horizontal gaps between logs. Daubing—a smooth, thin coat of clay, lime, and a binder such as animal hair—finished the joints. Whitewash applied to both interior and exterior walls sealed the daubing. As daubing cracks and deteriorates rapidly due to

³⁷ Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *Guide to the Architecture of Eastern North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996), 447.

³⁸ Bomberger, "The Preservation and Repair of Historic Log Buildings," p. 6.

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temperature and moisture changes and whitewash dissipates with water exposure, frequent reapplication is necessary.³⁹

Although faux-brick rolled-asphalt siding sheathes both Waller dwellings beneath the German-sided gable ends, selected siding removal under the porch at the one-story building's northeast corner revealed weathering on the sizable logs hewn on four sides and joined with V-notches. Raised wood grain indicates that the logs were exposed to the elements for some time. As with many other local examples, weatherboards likely covered the logs during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Due to the encapsulation of the logs walls between exterior and interior sheathing, the Waller House retains wood, stone, and clay chinking; clay-based daubing; and whitewash in some locations. The buildings rest on hewn log sills and half-round log joists supported by dry-laid stone piers infilled with concrete block.

Careful investigation of plane and saw marks on frame building components provides important clues to their dates. Straight rather than radial saw marks indicate the use of pit or sash saws. Pit sawn lumber is distinguished by irregular saw marks, while water-powered sash sawn boards are characterized by more regular, albeit still jagged, saw marks. Circular saws were not in general use in North Carolina until the 1840s. Builders hand-planed boards to create more finished surfaces, as often seen on doors, wall, and ceiling boards. Craftsmen utilized molding planes with a variety of profiles to ornament exposed framing beams, baseboards, window and door surrounds, door and shutter panels, and window sashes.

The Waller House's significant early features include eighteenth and nineteenth-century board-and-batten doors, double-hung wood-sash windows, wide board floors, flush-board interior sheathing and an enclosed winding corner stair in the one-room building, and a central vertical-board partition wall and an enclosed central stair with a straight run in the two-story dwelling. The one-story building's fireplace opening has been enclosed, but retains a vernacular mantel that emulates high-style classical examples in its simple, delicate, tapered pilasters on plinth bases below a tall flat lintel topped by a stepped upper section comprised of three shorter and progressively thicker boards supporting a shelf with curved corners. Thick paint coats obscure plane and saw marks on the faces of many of these elements, but raking light reveals hand-planing on board-and-batten doors and the exposed faces of the wall and stair sheathing boards. On the rear surfaces, small sections of which are visible underneath both stair enclosures, circular saw marks are apparent.

Nail type analysis is another useful dating mechanism. Carpenters utilized nails wrought by blacksmiths until the late eighteenth century, when nails with machine-made shafts and hand-applied heads became available. Machine-headed cut nails were common by the 1840s and machine-made wire nails by the 1890s. In the Waller House, wrought nails secure early elements such as board-and-

³⁹ Ibid., p. 5.

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batten doors and the one-room building's mantel and the floorboards in its attic. Cut nails secure mid-nineteenth-century flush board sheathing on the one-room building's walls and the two-story dwelling's central partition and stair enclosure.

Double-hung wood-sash windows illuminate the interior. Corner pegs and robust muntins hold nineteenth-century six-over-six sashes together, while twentieth-century four-over-four and eight-over-eight sashes display thinner muntin profiles. Early-nineteenth-century windows retain wood "stops" that rotate to hold lower sashes up in an open position.

The board-and-batten exterior and interior doors in both structures also date to various building phases. The oldest doors comprise wide boards and tapered battens and employ multiple generations of hardware ranging from eighteenth-century wrought-iron strap hinges to nineteenth-century cast-iron butt hinges, thumb latches, and rim locks. Although cast-iron fixed-pin butt hinges manufactured in England were available in the United States by the end of the eighteenth century, wrought-iron strap hinges remained prevalent in rural buildings through the end of the nineteenth century. Twentieth-century locks and sliding bolts provide additional security. At the two-story dwelling's rear entrance, for example, the original wrought strap hinges, which feature thin, flat, rounded ends, remain secured to the door with large wrought rose-head nails. After the top hinge, which hung on a wrought pintle, failed, the Wallers installed a shorter wrought strap hinge with a pointed end above the original hinge.

Forsyth County Log Architecture Context

The Forsyth County architectural survey update completed in 2009 established that less than twenty log houses erected prior to 1820 remain in good condition. Construction dates are conjectural in most cases, but several rural log dwellings as well as a few examples in the Moravian congregation towns of Salem and Bethania have been in use for approximately the same amount of time as the two Waller residences. Property owners erected the vast majority of the county's extant log houses in the mid-nineteenth century and many of these resources have been moved, significantly altered, or are in a deteriorated state.

Although Moravian builders quickly transitioned from log to heavy-timber frame and brick construction, several significant log houses associated with early settlement efforts survive. The Miksch House at what is now 532 South Main Street in Salem is Forsyth County's oldest definitively-dated log dwelling. Johann Matthew Miksch and Maria Christina Henrietta Petermann married in 1764 and operated Bethabara's community store before occupying their side-gable-roofed, two-bay-wide, log house in Salem on April 18, 1771. The town's first privately-owned residence, soon

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sheathed in clapboards to present a more finished appearance, features a terra-cotta tile roof pierced by an interior chimney that serves its two primary rooms.⁴⁰

Also in Salem, Martin Lick erected in 1787 the one-and-one-half-story side-gable-roofed house that stands at 512 Salt Street. The exposed hewn log structure is stabilized by full-dovetail corner notching, the most difficult joinery technique to execute due to the precise measuring and sawing required. Lick's carpentry skills were honed by his work with two of Salem's master craftsmen, joiner Frederick Beck and cabinetmaker Johann Krauss. The two-bay-wide house manifests a three-room plan organized around an interior chimney called "Flurkuchenhaus" that was common in residences erected by those of Germanic heritage. Like the Miksch House, the Lick residence has a fire-resistant terra-cotta tile roof. Subsequent owner shoemaker Johann Leinbach made only a few changes during his tenure from 1795 until 1838. John Jacob Boner purchased the house in 1840.⁴¹

The one-story, side-gable-roofed, two-bay house Swaim House, thought to have been built around 1790, is comparable to the Miksch House, the Lick-Leinbach-Boner House, and the circa 1770-1790 Waller House in terms of size and form. The Swaim House originally stood in southeastern Forsyth County's Broadbay Township, but was moved in 1970 about twenty miles to its current location at 5580 Seidel Street in Bethania. Nearby, the two-story, side-gable-roofed, log house that Jacob Shore built in 1805 at what is now 524 Main Street is comparable to the Long-Sprinkle House and the circa 1800-1820 Waller House. Wood siding has sheathed the building for most of its history and full-width porches provided additional living space. The Lehman family, who owned the Shore property from the early nineteenth century through the 1950s, enlarged and modified the house to meet their needs.⁴²

West of Bethania, the 47.15-acre Hunter-Vest Farm at 7391 Wishing Well Road in Old Richmond Township includes two log houses, one erected by Thomas and Elizabeth Hunter around 1790 and the other likely constructed by their grandson Thomas Hunter and his wife Frances in 1867. The one-room, one-and-a-half-story south section of the 1790 residence, which was erected by Thomas and Elizabeth Hunter in two phases, is similar to the Waller's first house in that V-notches join its hewn logs and an enclosed corner stair leads to the second floor. A chimney with a wide stone base and a freestanding brick stack like those that served the Waller House heats the one-story, one-room northern section, which is of more rudimentary log construction. A brick end chimney with stepped shoulders heated the southern section, indicating its slightly later construction date. Board-and-batten doors provide access to both rooms, which are illuminated by wood-sash windows of various shapes and configurations. The log walls are exposed on the interior and the exterior.

⁴⁰ Fries, ed., *RMNC, Vol. I*, 296, 336, 343, 373, 399, 442, 489; Niven and Wright, *Old Salem*, 42-44; Frank L. Blum Construction Company, "1960s News," ninetieth anniversary celebration materials, December 2012.

⁴¹ Niven and Wright, *Old Salem*, 108.

⁴² Michael O. Hartley, Martha B. Boxley, and Gwynne S. Taylor, "Bethania Historic District Amendment and Boundary Increase," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 1991.

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Thomas and Frances Hunter's residence southeast of his grandparent's house represents the ongoing persistence of log construction given that the main block's southeast end is a one-room log building erected in 1867. As at the Waller House, board-and-batten doors are hung on wrought-iron strap hinges. In the process of constructing a one-and-one-half-story frame addition on the log dwelling's northwest end, builders sheathed the entire dwelling with weatherboards and connected the sections with front and rear porches.⁴³

Like the nearby Waller and Hunter-Vest properties, the 163-acre Long-Sprinkle Farm at 7050 Fries Creek Road in Old Richmond Township also encompasses two generations of log dwellings. The earlier one-room log residence resembles the ca. 1770-1790 Waller House in that it retains tall flush-board interior sheathing, a vernacular mantel, an enclosed corner stair, board-and-batten doors, a six-over-six double-hung wood-sash window, and wide first story and attic floor boards. Flush boards sheath the façade under a mid-twentieth-century shed porch added to facilitate the building's storage function. The Longs erected a two-story, side-gable-roofed, weatherboarded log house around 1840 and the one-story side-gable-roofed addition on its west end in the 1880s. The log section retains two-over-two double-hung wood-sash windows, flush board sheathing under a shed-roofed front porch supported by turned posts, a Flemish bond chimney with glazed headers on the east elevation, and a stone foundation.

The Idol-Swaim House that stands at what is now 9790 Creekwood Forest Drive in Kernersville also evolved over time. The Idol family built the dwelling's original section during the nineteenth century's second quarter. The hall-parlor-plan log house has six-over-six double-hung wood-sash windows, a stone foundation, and brick end chimneys. Like the Waller House, the interior is remarkably intact, retaining myriad original features such as board-and-batten and raised-panel doors with wrought-iron H-L and strap hinges, wrought-iron thumb latches, molded and three-part mitered window and door surrounds, plaster and flush-board-sheathed walls, a simple post-and-lintel mantel, and an enclosed corner stair. Subsequent owners added the gabled entrance portico and the one-story gabled rear ell in the mid-twentieth century. The house is now aluminum-sided and used for storage. A log smokehouse stands on the adjacent Creekwood Farms property.⁴⁴

⁴³ Sprinkle Farm, LLC., an entity created by Bud Baker, restored the 1867 log house in 2008, painting the interior and exterior, updating systems, and installing a new wood shingle roof.

⁴⁴ The Swaim family, Palestine Glascoe, Will Hedgecock (Palestine's son-in-law), and Margaret Clodfelter (Will's daughter) successively owned the property. Gwynne S. Taylor, "Idol-Glascoe House," Forsyth County survey file, June 1979; Heather Fearnbach, Forsyth County architectural survey update, March 2007.

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Section 10. Geographical Data

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

1. Latitude: 36.205619
Longitude: -80.418411

2. Latitude: 36.205800
Longitude: -80.416759

3. Latitude: 36.205723
Longitude: -80.414871

4. Latitude: 36.204629
Longitude: -80.415321

5. Latitude: 36.204162
Longitude: -80.415836

6. Latitude: 36.204286
Longitude: -80.417703

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Waller House are indicated by the bold line on the enclosed map. Scale: one inch equals approximately sixty feet.

Boundary Justification

The Waller House occupies a 12.56-acre tax parcel. The National Register boundary encompasses the house, outbuildings, and residual acreage historically associated with the farm, thus providing an appropriate setting.

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Section 11. Additional Documentation

Photo Catalog

Photographs by Heather Fearnbach, 3334 Nottingham Road, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, May 2012 and March 2013. Digital images located at the North Carolina SHPO.

Waller House
9186 Reynolda Road
Pfafftown vicinity, Forsyth County
North Carolina

1. Waller House setting, looking south (2012)
2. Waller House façade (north elevation) (2012)
3. Waller House, southeast oblique (2012)
4. Waller House, ca. 1800-1820, east room, central stair, looking northwest (2012)
5. Waller House, ca. 1800-1820, east room, looking north (2013)
6. Waller House, ca. 1770-1790, north elevation, east end (2013)
7. Waller House, ca. 1770-1790, enclosed stair in northwest corner (2012)
8. Waller House, ca. 1770-1790, looking southwest (2013)
9. Barn, 1940s, north elevation (2012)