

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Winston, Obediah, Farm

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number State Road 1638

N/A not for publication

city, town Creedmoor

X vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Granville

code 077

zip code 27522

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

- building(s)
X district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic & Architectural Resources of Granville County, N.C.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official: William S. P... State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: 6-14-88

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic-single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic-single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

roof asphalt

other wood

brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 DESCRIPTION

Screened in late summer and early fall by green fields of tobacco, exposed in a long stretch along State Road 1638 in the winter and spring, the Obediah Winston Farm includes a Greek Revival style antebellum dwelling and 12 outbuildings, one probably a slave house. Two stories tall and one-room deep, the farm's heavy timber frame, beaded weatherboard dwelling was built by Obediah and Permelia Bullock Winston, probably in the 1850s. The placement of the five bays of the house's front facade suggest that it was built in two different stages. The uniform finish and plan suggest, however - particularly inside at the second floor - that the front block of the building was built all at the same time, although with a plan quite unusual among surviving county dwellings.

The Winstons' house is finished, outside, with flush gable ends; exterior end brick chimneys; box cornices and decorative patternboards; beaded weatherboards; six-over-six windows and two-panel doors set in raised rectilinear surrounds; and a front and rear porch. Of all of these original features, each of which is often found at local Greek Revival style buildings, the porches are perhaps most striking. They retain their original octagonal columns and handrails, thin "tobacco stick" stiles and hand-planed ceilings.

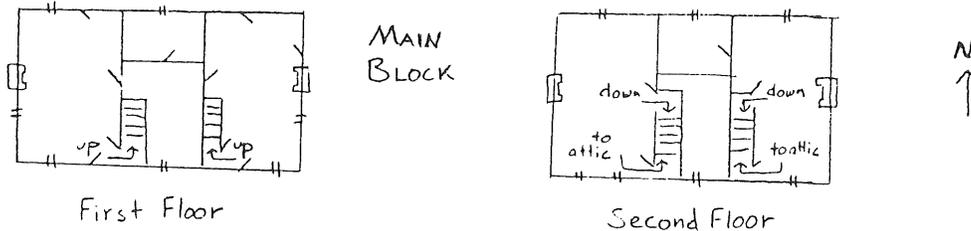
Five bays cross the house's south facing front facade, three clustered to the west, two to the east. The left two bays of the front facade lead into one large chamber, now a bedroom; the right two bays lead into another large chamber, now the living room. Between them is a small front room, now a bedroom, lit by the centermost of the five front bays, and a smaller room to its rear, now a bathroom. (See first floor plan below) These downstairs rooms, though sheetrocked and with altered surrounds, retain their original two-panel doors, post and lintel mantels and unusual exposed beaded ceiling joists. Their finish is all of one piece. Each of the two large rooms is served by its own closed stair. Upstairs the plan is virtually identical. (See second floor plan below) The upstairs rooms have not been altered, however, retaining their original two-panel doors, post and lintel mantels, flat-angled surrounds, unpainted board walls and ceilings, and exposed beaded ceiling joists. The uniform finish of these rooms suggests that they were built at one time. If the house was built in two stages, the three-bay front section was probably built first, the two bay east section added shortly thereafter. To the rear of the house, and extending to the west,

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is a one-story kitchen ell built in the twentieth century. The eastern third of the rear porch was torn away to make room for it.



To the east of the house ["A" on sketch map] is the farm's oldest outbuilding, a substantial square-notched log outbuilding partly sheathed with weatherboards [B] that is probably a contemporary of the house. Its chimney, loft and exposed beaded ceiling joists suggest that it was originally a dwelling, perhaps a slave house. Its chimney and proximity to the house also suggest that it may have been built, or later used, as a kitchen. Stretched basically to the sides and rear of the house are outbuildings connected with farm life and bright leaf tobacco production. Closest to it are the contributing slave house, a contributing early twentieth century frame potato house [C], a contributing late nineteenth/early twentieth century frame stable [D] and a contributing late nineteenth century frame smokehouse [E]. To its west are three additional contributing outbuildings - a tall mid/late nineteenth century mortise and tenon packhouse [I], a late nineteenth century frame tobacco barn [J] and a tiny early twentieth century frame tenant house [F] - and five non-contributing, post-World War II outbuildings, two tobacco barns [J and M] and three large open sheds [K, L and M]. Completing the 38 nominated acres of the property, in addition to its contributing fields, are a farm pond and the marker to the front of the house that memorializes the graves, since plowed under, of Obediah and Permelia Winston and their descendants.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Agriculture

Period of Significance

1850s-1937

Significant Dates

1850s

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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

See continuation sheet

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The long, one-room deep, two-story dwelling on the Obediah Winston farm, coupled with a log outbuilding to its east that may originally have been a slave house, is significant as an intact representative of a rural Granville County, antebellum dwelling. (See Historic Context 1 - The Plantation Era in Granville County, 1746-1865) With an additional 11 surviving late nineteenth and early twentieth century outbuildings and fields still green with tobacco in the fall, the house is also representative of life in the county on a bright leaf tobacco farm. (See Historic Context 2 - Bright Leaf Tobacco and Rural Granville County, 1866-1937 - and associated Property Type 6 - Outbuildings) The house is further significant architecturally as a finely finished, well-maintained and unusually planned Greek Revival style dwelling. (See associated Property Type 2 - Greek Revival and Romantic Style Dwellings) The farm was cultivated by traditional methods within the past 50 years; its significance is not extended past 1937, however, because it has not achieved exceptional significance since that date.

Historical and architectural evidence indicate that Obediah Winston built the house in the 1850s. According to local tradition, he was its builder and first occupant¹; he and his wife, Permelia Bullock, were buried on the property²; it was handed down through his family until 1964; and its Greek Revival style finish is similar to that of other buildings in the county raised during the two decades preceding the Civil War. According to Granville County deed records, Winston acquired a number of tracts of land in the vicinity of the farm between 1836 and 1860, although inexact descriptions make it difficult to determine which deed, or deeds, refers to the tract upon which he built his house and farm.³

The value of Winston's real estate, and his slave ownership, increased dramatically between the taking of the 1850 and 1860 federal censuses, indicating that he built the house in the 1850s. At the taking of the 1850 census, he and his wife, 41 and 39 years of age respectively, had five children, one slave and real estate valued at \$1,462.00. By 1860, they had eight children, nine slaves and real estate valued at \$5,172.00.

In 1874, through a court proceeding, the Winstons' heirs sold a 100 acre tract of land that apparently included the dwelling to one of their sons, Moses, for \$2,350.00 [Deed Book 38, Page 320]. Moses' son and daughter-in-law, James V. and Lois

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Winston, sold the property - by then consisting of two tracts of land of 63 and 49.9 acres - from the family in 1962 to its present owners, Jean H. and Paul A. Walters, Jr., who presently rent the property out to tenants who farm it and maintain it in excellent condition [Deed Book 155, Page 414].

Architecturally, the house is a fine example of the Greek Revival style in the county. Its front and rear porches retain octagonal handrails and columns - a favorite Greek Revival motif in the county; "tobacco stick" stiles; and ceilings finished with hand-planed boards. Beaded weatherboards, two-panel doors, six-over-six windows and raised rectilinear surrounds - features also common to the style in the county - mark the exterior as well. Inside, the Greek Revival style is continued at the post and lintel mantels, two-panel doors and flat-angled moldings. The plan of the house is quite unusual, its exterior bay placement suggesting it was built in two phases, but its uniform finish, particularly upstairs, suggesting just a single construction date. Although two stories tall and one-room deep, it does not fit the center-hall plan, I-house mold common in the county by the mid-nineteenth century.

The farm's earliest outbuilding, the mid-nineteenth century log building to the house's east, is its most significant. Its chimney, beaded ceiling joists and loft suggesting that it was once a dwelling, the building may well have been a slave house. If so - and it may also have perhaps originally been a kitchen - it is one of the few slave houses known to still stand in a county the population of which was approximately half slave at the time of the Civil War. The other contributing outbuildings - a potato house, stable, smokehouse, tenant house, tobacco barn and early pegged packhouse - are visual reminders of the property's post-Civil War use, continuing to the present, as a farm chiefly devoted to raising domestic goods and bright leaf tobacco.

¹ Interview with local historian, and distant relation of Permelia Bullock, Kathryn Bullock Royster, October 8, 1987.

² A marker set in the ground in front of the house states that Obediah and Permelia Bullock, married 1832, were buried 600 feet

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to the north and 150 feet to the east. Buried with them were four of their children - Elijah (1839-1862), James (1843-1853), Alexander (1850-1863) and John Thomas (1856-1878) - and, apparently, two grandchildren, Edy and Virginia Josephine. The marker is all that remains to memorialize the family, for the cemetery has been plowed under and lost.

³The seven deeds are found at: Deed Book 8, Page 204, 1836 (264 acres); Deed Book 11, Page 70, 1841 (16 1/4 acres); Deed Book 12, Page 41, 1842 (48 3/4 acres); Deed Book 13, Page 360, 1845 (104 1/2 acres); Deed Book 16, Page 93, 1850 (16 1/4 acres); Deed Book 18, Page 186, 1853 (56 1/2 acres); and Deed Book 21, Page 127, 1860 (16 1/4 acres).

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property approximately 38 acres

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marvin Brown/Architectural Historian & Patricia Esperon/Historian
organization Granville-Oxford Historic Survey date 12/9/87
street & number P.O. Box 1556 (State Hist. Pres. Off.) telephone 919-693-1491
city or town Oxford state N.C. zip code 27565

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Section number 9 Page 1 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Granville County Deeds. Granville County Courthouse, Oxford,
N.C.

Interview with Roy Lee Ellington, resident of property, October
27, 1987.

Interview with Kathryn Bullock Royster, local historian and
distant relation of Permelia Bullock, October 8, 1986.

Interview with Mrs. Paul Walters, owner of property, October 2,
1986.

United States Manuscript Censuses. Microfilm located at Richard
H. Thornton Public Library, Oxford, N.C.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM REFERENCES

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	709710	4001440
B	17	709730	4001930
C	17	709900	4001940
D	17	709900	4001800
E	17	710050	4001790
F	17	710050	4001860
G	17	710110	4001870
H	17	710140	4001680
I	17	710030	4001510

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at point A: 17 709710 4001440 on the USGS polygon, where the north side of State Road 1638 meets the field line, continuing in a straight line north, along the field line and then following the edge of the woods, approximately 1750 feet to point B: 17 709730 4001930 on the polygon, where the tree line turns east. Continuing in a straight line east, along the tree line, approximately 625 feet to point C: 17 709900 4001940 on the polygon, where the tree line turns southeast. Continuing in a straight line southeast, along the edge of the woods, approximately 325 feet to point D: 17 709900 4001800 on the polygon, where the tree line turns east. Continuing in a straight line east, along the edge of the woods, approximately 450 feet to point E: 17 710050 4001790 on the polygon, where the tree line turns northeast. Continuing in a straight line northeast, along the edge of the woods, approximately 300 feet, to point F: 17 710050 4001860 on the polygon, where the tree line turns east. Continuing in a straight line east, along the edge of the woods, approximately 325 feet, to point G: 17 710110

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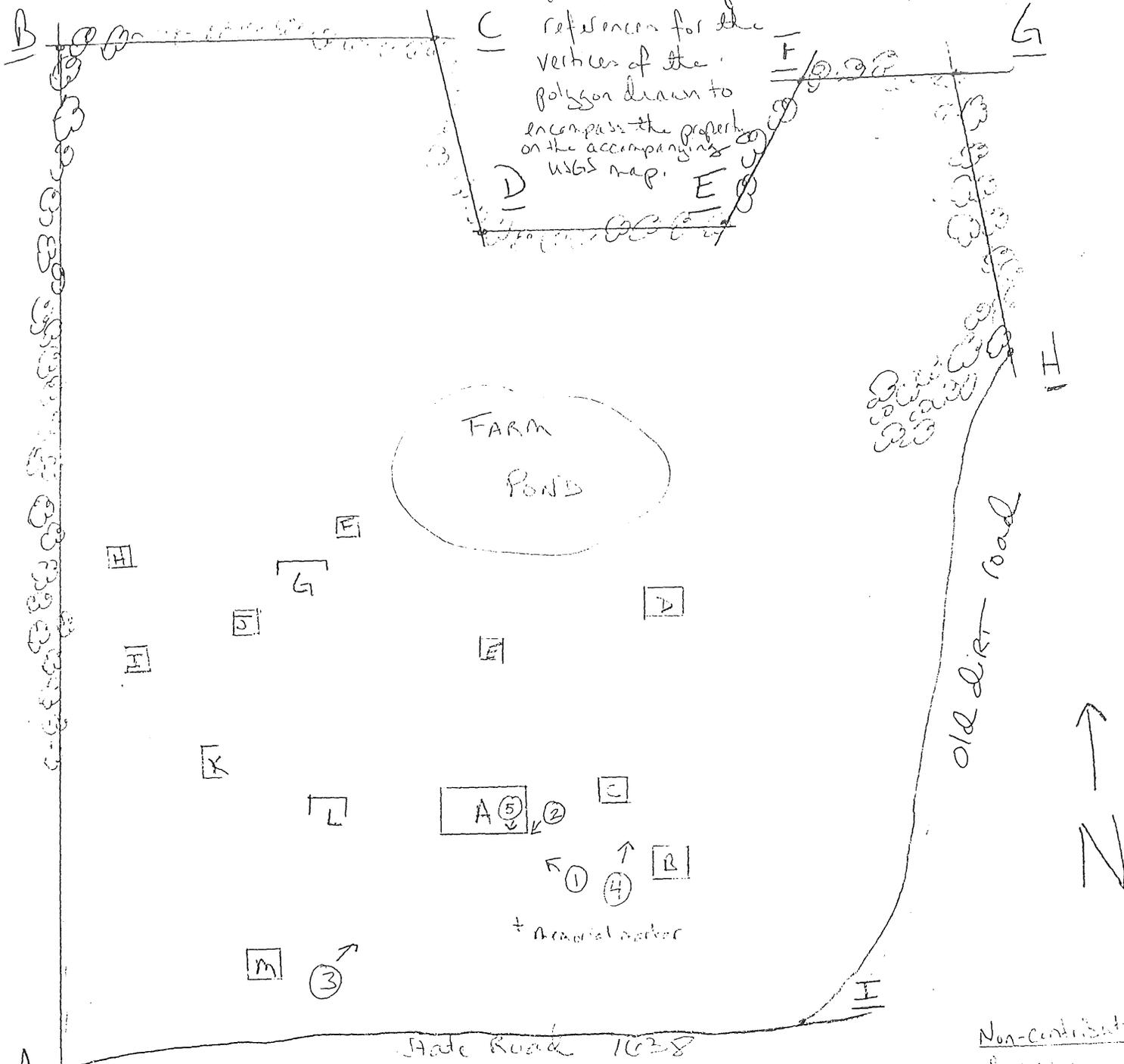
4001870 on the polygon, where the tree line turns south. Continuing in a straight line south, along the edge of the woods and through a small grove of trees, approximately 500 feet, to point H: 17 710140 4001680 on the polygon where the tree line meets the western edge of the old dirt road (marked on the USGS map). Continuing along the western edge of the dirt road, approximately 1750 feet to point I: 17 710030 4001510 on the polygon, where the western edge of the dirt road meets the northern side of State Road 1638. Continuing west along the northern side of State Road 1638, approximately 1750 feet to the point of origin.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Approximately 38 acres that have been historically associated with the property, maintain historic integrity, and convey the property's historic setting are being nominated for the National Register. The remaining acreage has been excluded because it is now woodland.

The western boundary from UTM points A to B includes the dwelling to its east and excludes woodland and property not owned by the owners to its west. The northern boundary from UTM points B to C, C to D, D to E, E to F and F to G includes the dwelling to its south and excludes woodland to its north. The eastern boundary from UTM points G to H and H to I includes the dwelling to its west and excludes property not owned by the owner to its east. The southern boundary from UTM points I to A includes the dwelling to its north and excludes property not owned by the owner to its south.

Underlined capital letters refer to references for the vertices of the polygon drawn to encompass the property on the accompanying USGS map.



Contributing Buildings

- A - 1850s frame dwelling
- B - mid 19th cent. log slave house
- S - late 19th/early 20th century frame stable
- F - late 19th century frame smokehouse
- E - early 20th century frame tenant house
- I - mid/late 19th century pressed pole house
- M - late 19th century frame tobacco barn

OBEDIAH WATSON FARM

Granville County, N.C.

Approximately 38 acres

Approximate scale 1" = 250'

Contributing structures:

- G - early 20th cent. frame pole house

Non-Contributing structures:

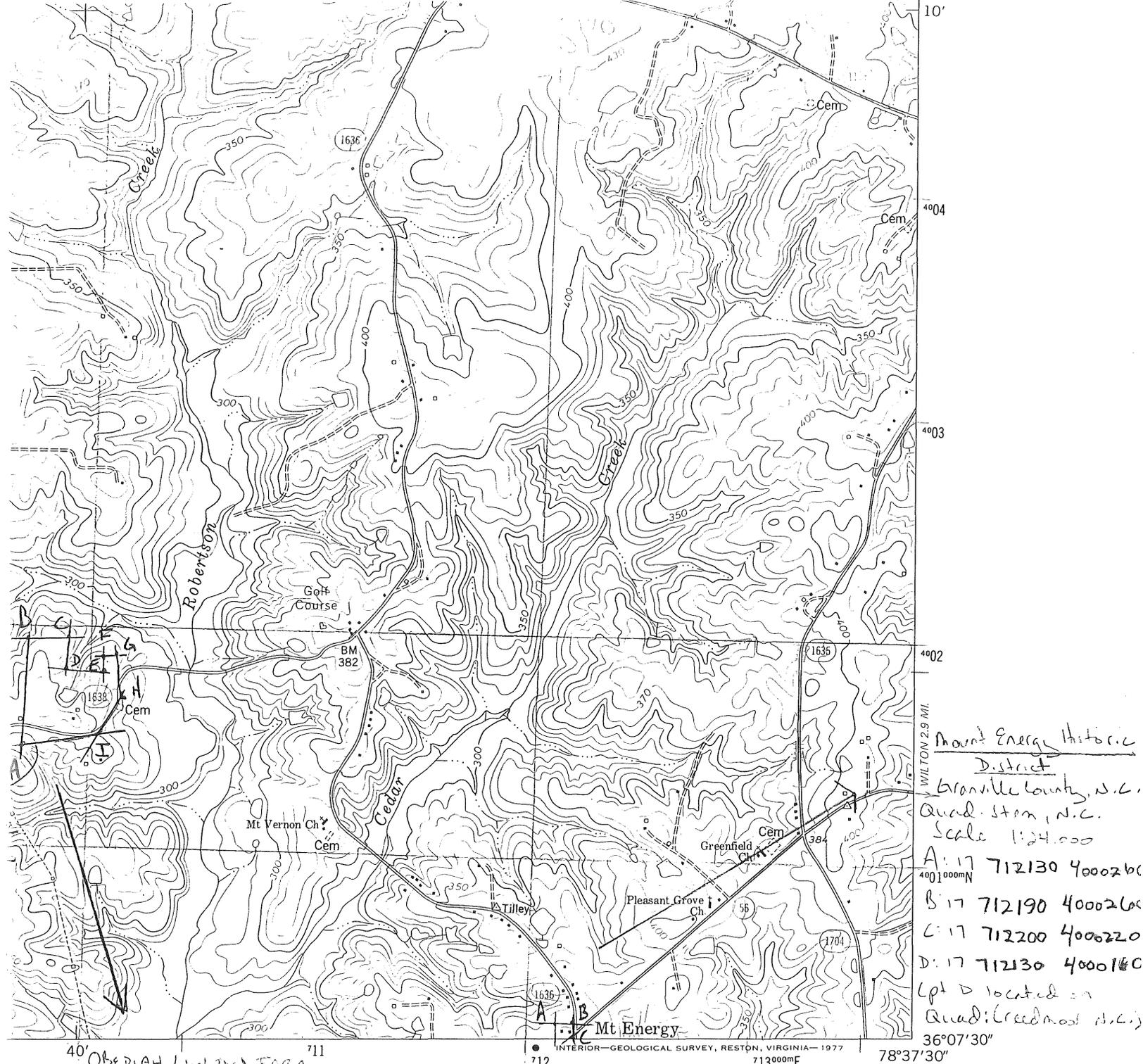
- G - post WWII frame open shed
- H - post WWII frame open shed
- L - post WWII frame open shed

Non-Contributing Buildings:

- 4 - post WWII frame - metal tobacco barn
- M - post WWII frame tobacco barn

Contributing site

Cultivated fields



10'
 4004
 4003
 4002
 4001000M
 Mount Energy Historic District
 Granville County, N.C.
 Quad: Stem, N.C.
 Scale 1:24,000
 A: 17 712130 4000260
 B: 17 712190 4000260
 C: 17 712200 4000220
 D: 17 712130 4000160
 Lpt D located on Quad: Creedmoor N.C.
 36°07'30"

40' 711
 Obediah W. Adams Farm
 712
 INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1977
 713000E
 78°37'30"

1 MILE
 Granville County, N.C.
 Quad: Stem, N.C.
 Scale 1:24,000

A: 17 709710 4001440
 B: 17 709730 4001930
 C: 17 709900 4001940



QUADRANGLE LOCATION
 D: 17 709900 4001800
 E: 17 710050 4001790
 F: 17 710050 4001860
 G: 17 710110 4001870
 H: 17 710140 4001680
 I: 17 710030 4001510

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Primary highway, hard surface _____
 Secondary highway, hard surface _____
 Light-duty road, hard or improved surface _____
 Unimproved road _____
 Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

STEM, N. C.

NW/4 CREEDMOOR 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3607.5—W7837.5/7.5

1974

AMS 5256 II NW—SERIES V842

(GRISOM)
5256 II SE

