

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 Obediah Farrar House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 9910 Barringer Road N/A not for publication

city or town Haywood vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Lee code 105 zip code 27330

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

William S. Price, Jr. 6-22-93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau _____

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

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

Obediah Farrar House
Name of Property

Lee, N.C.
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>		sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
		objects
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Historic and Architectural
Resources of Lee Co., N.C.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
TRANSPORTATION/road-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls WOOD

roof METAL
other BRICK

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1850-1859

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Obediah Farrar House
Name of Property

Lee, N.C.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 38 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	117	671371010	394111310
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	117	67150410	394181210

3	117	6752120	394141910
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	117	6738180	394181010

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 J. Daniel Pezzoni

organization Preservation Technologies, Inc. date March 16, 1993

street & number PO Box 7825 telephone (703) 366-7657

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24019

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 Mrs. Paul Barringer, Jr.

street & number 9910 Barringer Road telephone (919) 775-5957

city or town Sanford state NC zip code 24019

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Obediah Farrar House, Lee Co., N.C.

7. DESCRIPTION

Summary

The Obediah Farrar House is located at 9910 Barringer Road, which runs northeastward off of State Route 1500 in the northeastern corner of Lee County, North Carolina. The house stands amid the low-lying fields and pine woods on the west bank of the Deep River, approximately one mile northwest of the point where the Deep and Haw rivers form the Cape Fear River. The Farrar House was built in the 1850s and is a two-story, mortise-and-tenon frame farmhouse that exhibits the I-house form. The exterior features weatherboard siding, a standing-seam metal-sheathed hip roof, brick exterior end chimneys displaying decorative brickwork, a brick and stone foundation, a one-story rear shed wing incorporated into modern one-story rear and side additions, and a modern one-story front porch. The center-passage-plan interior features an enclosed winder stair that rises from the rear of the passage. Both the exterior and the interior are detailed in the Greek Revival style. Passing in front of the north-facing house is an antebellum road trace; near the house are several twentieth-century structures and landscape features.

Following this summary is an inventory that lists each resource by its historic function, followed by its date or period of construction, its status as contributing or noncontributing to the character of the property, and a description. Following the inventory are a full description of the Obediah Farrar House and a discussion of the integrity of the property. More information on the architectural character of the property is contained in the Architecture Context section of this report.

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Obediah Farrar House, Lee Co., N.C.

Inventory

1. **House.** 1850s. Contributing building.
2. **Road.** Early nineteenth century. Contributing structure.
This road may be the same established by a Chatham County court order of 1801; it was definitely in use by the 1850s. Barringer Road, the access drive from Lower River Road (State Route 1500) to the Obediah Farrar House, follows this road. The east half of the road is visible as a grassy trace slightly higher than the cultivated field that borders it on the north. The road follows a cut several feet deep where it passes through woods at the east end of the nominated area.
3. **Garage.** *Ca.* 1980. Noncontributing building.
This garage is a one-story, gable-roofed frame building of simple design.
4. **Pump House.** 1960s. Noncontributing structure.
This pump house is a small, low, concrete-block structure that contains a pump that provides water to the house. A well was formerly located between the pump house and the main house. Another well was located to the south of the main house. A twentieth-century frame pack house was located to the west of the pump house.
5. **Tobacco Barn.** 1940s. Noncontributing building.
This flue-cure tobacco barn is constructed of brick tiles and has weatherboard gables; a standing-seam metal roof; a partially collapsed shed-roofed work area on the north side; and metal flues and log tier poles on the interior. The barn was heated by oil from a tank on its west side.
6. **Site.** Contributing site.
Surrounding the house and antebellum road trace are fields and wood lots that evoke the character of the property during the mid-nineteenth century.

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Description of House

The Obediah Farrar House is an example of a common, mid-nineteenth-century, Lee County form known as an I-house. (The characteristics of the form are a one-room-deep, two-story massing with front and rear elevations that are broader than the side elevations.) Rising on the ends of the house are stretcher-bond brick chimneys with tumbled shoulders. The west chimney has a semi-annular block at the level of the shoulders bearing the date "185_." The last digit of the date is either a zero or a six. (When the date was retouched in the 1960s, the last digit was repainted as a six.) The small semicircle of brick at the center of the date block is painted with radiating white lines. Evidence of a red wash and pencilled mortar joints is apparent on the chimneys.

The house has a three-bay front elevation. The front entry has a double-leaf door (that looks like a double-panel door when closed) and is surmounted by a narrow seven-light transom. The entry and the 6-over-6-sash windows typical to the house have molded surrounds with blank corner blocks. At the corners of the house are paneled pilasters measuring 1'-5" in width. The cornice has a canted board at the edge of the metal roofing. The foundation consists of stone piers with a modern underpinning of brick.

The front porch dates to about 1960 and replaces a porch of similar form. The porch is supported by chamfered posts and has a balustrade with balusters that are square in section. Set back from the original section of the house are modern, one-story frame additions with weatherboard siding, 6-over-6-sash windows, and hipped and gable roofs. The side wings tie into a rear addition that incorporates an original rear shed wing of the house. The original brick chimney of this rear shed wing has been replaced with a modern brick chimney in the same general location. On the south side of the rear addition is a glassed-in vestibule.

The interior of the Obediah Farrar House is characterized by plaster wall finishes, plaster and flush board ceiling finishes, two-panel doors, beaded baseboards (high in the downstairs, low in the upstairs), and channeled door and window surrounds with blank corner blocks. The narrow center passage, accessed through the front entry, has a double-leaf door at the back that leads into the rear shed wing. Also at the back of the passage on the east side is an opening to the stair. The center passage features a beaded baseboard that is more elaborate than others in the house, and a front entry surround with moldings similar to those on exterior surrounds.

The room on the west side of the passage is slightly larger than the east room and probably served as the main parlor. This room has decorative panels located between the baseboards and the window sills, and a modern Georgian Revival mantel with paneled pilasters and a paneled

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Obediah Farrar House, Lee Co., N.C.

overmantel. The room on the east side of the passage has a Greek Revival mantel with fillet moldings and narrow tapered pilasters. The stair, which rises through this room, has an enclosure of vertical flush boards, a beaded stringer, and a small two-panel door to the closet under the winders. The rear shed wing contains two rooms. The smaller west room serves as a kitchen. The east room serves as a dining room. The east wall of this room is sheathed in pine boards salvaged from former pews of the Moncure Methodist Church. The modern fireplace opening in this wall has a simple architrave surround.

The upstairs has beaded window surrounds with outer file moldings, flush board ceilings, and plain mantels with recessed single-panel friezes. A bathroom has been inserted between the two upstairs bedrooms. The roof is constructed of sawn rafters (apparently straight-sawn) that are butted and nailed at the ridge and sheathed with circular-sawn roof boards. The interiors of the modern side and rear additions to the house are simply detailed.

Integrity Statement

The Obediah Farrar House had fallen into severe disrepair by 1960, with broken window lights, a collapsed front porch, a missing mantel in the west downstairs room, and a deteriorated rear shed wing. In 1960-1961, the present owner of the house and her late husband undertook one of Lee County's earliest professional rehabilitations. Old Salem restorationist Jack Griffin designed a new front porch, modeling the chamfered porch posts on a single surviving original post. The missing mantel was replaced with the Georgian mantel and overmantel currently in the house, and the surviving exterior and interior trim was retained and preserved. Over the years, one-story bedroom and living wings were added to the house. These additions were designed to complement the original section through the use of similar materials, detailing, and massing, and they were set back and kept to one story in height to avoid overpowering the original section.

None of the original domestic and agricultural outbuildings associated with the house survived to 1960. The current outbuildings and landscape features are mostly small and unobtrusive. In addition to the twentieth century features mentioned in the inventory are a brick tobacco barn foundation dating to the 1940s, and a modern boxwood garden with brick walkways. Near the main house are mature shade trees and old ornamentals such as a large crape myrtle at the northeast corner of the front yard. In former times the house was framed by a large oak (extant) and a holly (gone) when viewed from the road that passed in front of it. The nominated acreage includes a mix of cultivated fields and woodlots (more of the former) that approximate in appearance the nineteenth-century setting of the house.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Obediah Farrar House belongs to a group of mid-nineteenth-century farmhouses located in the northeastern quadrant of Lee County, North Carolina, that display decorative brickwork in the construction of their chimneys. The two-story frame house was built by Farrar during the 1850s on a road at the western approach to the Haywood Bridge over the Deep River. The house features exterior and interior detailing in the Greek Revival style, and an enclosed winder stair rising from the rear of the center passage. From the turn of the twentieth century until 1960 the residence served as a tenant house. The Obediah Farrar House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of architecture, as defined in the Multiple Property Documentation Form *Historic and Architectural Resources of Lee County, North Carolina*. The property is also eligible under Criterion A in the area of transportation (as defined by the aforementioned report) for the inclusion of a 5,000-foot-long section of the antebellum road leading to the Haywood Bridge. The house is of local significance, and the period of significance for the house and associated road encompasses the 1850s.¹

Historical Background

The early history of the parcel on which the Obediah Farrar House stands is closely linked to the development of the town of Haywood, located across the Deep River in present Chatham County.² Haywood was established in 1796 at the confluence of the Deep and Haw Rivers as a speculative venture associated with early canal development along the Cape Fear River and its tributaries, the Deep and Haw rivers.³ In 1801, the Chatham County court directed that a road be laid out from Haywood westward, a road that would have passed near the later Obediah Farrar House and may in fact be the origin of the road trace passing in front of the house today.⁴ In 1810, Edward Farrar purchased 259 acres including the house site for \$1,200.⁵ Eight years later Farrar sold the acreage to John A. Ramsey for \$4,000.⁶ Speculation associated with the formation of the Cape Fear Navigation Company in 1815 may account for the dramatic increase in the value of the property. Another possibility is that the Haywood Bridge may have been constructed by 1818, the west end of which would have stood on the property.⁷ In the 1820s the property was owned by Joseph Hawkins, state comptroller and a resident of Raleigh.⁸

The property passed back into the Farrar family in 1849 when Obediah Farrar purchased 300

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acres of land "lying on the South Side of Deep River opposite [*sic*] the Town of Haywood" for \$1,000.⁹ Obediah Farrar (*ca.* 1810-1865) was first mentioned in local records in 1836 when he and Peter and Jane Farrar (possibly siblings) sold an eighty-three-acre parcel on the Cape Fear River near Avents Ferry.¹⁰ The 1840 census lists Farrar as the head of a household of two adult white males, one adult white female, one adult female slave, and two female slaves under the age of ten.¹¹ Farrar married Sarah (also known as Sally) Avent, probably a daughter of Joseph Avent, in 1840.¹² In 1842, Farrar purchased a 250-acre parcel from Joseph Avent that was located on the Cape Fear River apparently just downstream from the tract he purchased in 1849.¹³ Farrar sold the 250-acre parcel to Micajah J. Hawkins, Jr. of Warren County in 1847, and it was from Hawkins two years later that he purchased the 300-acre parcel on which he built his house.¹⁴

The 1850 census lists Obediah and Sarah as owning \$1,200 worth of real estate, one eighteen-year-old male slave, one fifty-two-year-old female slave, and two female slaves aged fifteen and fourteen.¹⁵ By 1860, according to the census of that year, the Farrars owned \$3,000 worth of real estate and \$7,000 worth of personal estate representing a slaveholding of twelve including five adults. Of the Farrar's 300-acre farm, 125 acres were improved. The farm produced corn, wheat, and four 400-pound bales of cotton, and it supported herds of four horses, twelve cattle and milk cows, eighteen sheep, and forty-eight swine.

The construction of river improvements by the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company during the 1850s stimulated commercial activity in Haywood, and Farrar, by that time linked directly to the town by the Haywood Bridge, appears to have benefitted from the boom. Farrar's real estate dealings during the 1850s and early 1860s illustrate the rise in his fortunes. In 1857, William H. Hughes mortgaged two town lots in Haywood to Farrar for \$10; in 1859 Farrar sold the lots to Joseph Avent for \$425.¹⁶ In 1862, Obediah and Sarah received a 115-acre parcel valued at \$1,450 in the division of Joseph Avent's holdings on the Cape Fear.¹⁷ Although Farrar appears to have been mainly concerned with farming, in 1852 he served as one of ten commissioners for the newly incorporated Haywood and Pittsboro Plank Road.¹⁸ Farrar was not listed as a stockholder of the plank road in 1858, and he was not involved in the incorporation of the four other plank roads projected in 1852 to link Haywood and its neighbor Lockville with other communities.¹⁹

It was during the flush decade of the 1850s that Farrar built his two-story frame dwelling on the south side of the Haywood Road. The date of construction is either 1850 or 1856, as indicated by the partially effaced date on the west chimney. The fact that Farrar bought the property in 1849 would suggest that he built the house soon afterward, although it is possible the Farrars first lived in another dwelling on the property, or that they lived elsewhere. Other supporting

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evidence for an 1850 date of construction are the dates of the other Lee County houses with dated decorative chimneys--1846, 1847, and 1852. (However, this line of reasoning would not necessarily rule out an 1856 date.) The period of intensive construction activity by the Cape Fear and Deep River Navigation Company near Haywood and the attendant economic stimulus dates to the mid-1850s, suggesting the 1856 date is more likely. Five maps depicting house sites in the area exist for the period 1852 to 1874, but unfortunately none show the Obediah Farrar House.²⁰

The 1850 census indicates that Obediah and Sarah lived alone, but by 1860 forty-year-old Martha Farrar and three-year-old Caroline E. Hughes had joined the household. Martha may have been Obediah's sister, and Caroline may have been a niece of Sarah's.²¹ Sarah Farrar died between November 1862 and May 1864, for on May 11, 1864, Farrar married Ann Eliza Clegg (1834-1886), the daughter of David and Eliza Bynum Clegg.²² Farrar and Clegg were married by J. B. Martin, a minister of the nearby Brown's Chapel Methodist Church.²³ Obediah Farrar died on October 21, 1865.²⁴

After Obediah Farrar's death, 120 acres were granted to Ann in 1870 as her widow's dower.²⁵ In 1871, Ann Farrar's farm included two horses, a mule, and a stock of cattle, sheep, and swine.²⁶ On April 26, 1871, Ann Farrar married Benjamin F. Powell (1821-1885) of Warren County, N.C.²⁷ Benjamin and Ann had two living offspring: David C. (1873-1874) and Benanna (1872 or 1874-1928). In 1877, Benjamin Powell may have been a principal in the general merchandise concern of Powell & Crutchfield in Haywood.²⁸ Powell's 1885 obituary noted that he held the rank of captain during the Civil War and that he was "highly esteemed by all who knew him."²⁹

Ann Powell died in 1886. Benanna Powell, who was a minor when her mother died, went to live with her uncle Henry Clegg in Centre Township, Chatham County, where she was enumerated in the 1900 census. The Obediah Farrar House probably became a tenant house at this time. During the first two decades of the twentieth century, the house was rented by James H. Crutchfield (b. ca. 1863), his wife Ella B., his son James Dixon, and his daughter Betty Fannie.³⁰ James Dixon helped his father farm the property until 1913, when he moved to Moncure to work at a lumber mill.³¹ Three tenant houses apparently stood on the property during this period. A ruinous one-story frame dwelling, located in the southeast corner of Barringer and Lower River roads, is one of these. Another stood approximately 800' west of the Farrar house near a present gate on Barringer Road. The third was located near a spring at the northeast corner of the nominated area, and was occupied by an old man in the early twentieth century.³²

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Benanna Powell married Thomas M. Lasater (b. 1874) in 1902, and in 1905 the couple had a daughter, Anne Powell Lasater.³³ The Lasaters sold off various parcels during the following years, including a series of two-acre residential lots along the Seaboard Coastline Railroad that may have been associated with the African-American community at Ward's Chapel.³⁴ In 1930, Anne P. Lasater married Harvey L. Madison of Yadkin County, N.C.³⁵ In 1940, Thomas Lasater and his then wife, Daisy Lambeth Lasater, conveyed the 127-acre parcel "known as the Powell Place" to Anne Madison.³⁶ Madison sold the property to Sanford industrialist Paul J. Barringer for \$4,000 in 1943.³⁷

Barringer used the property for agricultural purposes, raising tobacco and swine. The house went unoccupied and fell into disrepair. In 1960, Paul J. Barringer conveyed the property to his son and daughter-in-law, Paul J. Barringer, Jr. and Jane Swindell Barringer.³⁸ The Barringers undertook one of Lee County's earliest professional rehabilitations in 1960-1961, hiring Old Salem restorationist Jack Griffin to design a new front porch among other work. Jane Barringer is the present owner and occupant of the Obediah Farrar House.

Architecture Context

The significance of the Obediah Farrar House in the architectural development of Lee County is discussed in the Multiple Property Documentation Form *Historic and Architectural Resources of Lee County, North Carolina* under the heading "Transportation-related Development in Lee County, 1850-1879: Architecture." The house is significant as one of several mid-nineteenth-century farmhouses in the northeastern quadrant of Lee County that display decorative brickwork in the construction of their chimneys. The dated examples of these houses (aside from the Obediah Farrar House) span the years 1846 to 1852, and their chimneys appear to have been built by an accomplished brickmason or school of brickmasons. The Chatham County industrial schedules of the 1850 census list one brickmason, Paskill McCoy. McCoy, who probably operated in the Cape Fear River area of Chatham County, produced 150,000 brick and 2,000 yards of plastering during the year preceding the census, and it is likely that he also built brick chimneys.³⁹ The fact that the area's decorative chimneys were built over a period of at least six years argues against their being the product of an itinerant, and their sophistication argues against the involvement of an unskilled brickmason. McCoy--the area's only producer and builder in brick on a commercial scale at mid-century--was probably the builder of the Obediah Farrar House chimneys.⁴⁰

Other notable architectural features of the Obediah Farrar House are the placement of its stair and the relative quality of its Greek Revival detailing. As is the case in many antebellum Lee

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County houses, the stair in the Obediah Farrar House rises from the rear of the house, rather than from a point near the front entry. This "back stair" arrangement has been observed in other parts of the state with a strong Highland Scot presence. The Greek Revival characteristics of the house include the paneled corner pilasters, the channeled and molded exterior and interior door and window surrounds with blank corner blocks, the two-panel doors, the trabeated mantel in the downstairs east room, the panels under the windows in the west downstairs room, and (arguably) the simple mantels in the upstairs. The corner pilasters, mantels, and chimney detailing of the Obediah Farrar House are similar to the 1852 Farrish-Lambeth House, located three miles to the west, and it seems likely that the brickmasonry and finish carpentry of the two houses were produced by the same craftsmen.

Transportation Context

The significance of the property in the transportation history of Lee County is supported in the *Historic and Architectural Resources of Lee County, North Carolina Multiple Property Documentation Form* under the headings "Early Development in Lee County, 1740-1849: Introduction," and "Transportation-related Development in Lee County, 1850-1879: Transportation." Roads were one component of a network of transportation improvements including plank roads, navigation works, and railroads that connected Lee County to the outside world during the nineteenth century. The road passing in front of the Obediah Farrar House was unpaved, as were most other roads of the period. Topographical features such as road cuts and raised road beds are the most common indicators of old road traces in Lee County.

Endnotes

1. A number of individuals assisted in the preparation of this report. Jane S. Barringer, the owner of the property, provided leads that assisted in the research, and also shared her insights into the physical development of the house and its setting. Architectural historian Ted Lawrence of Sanford assisted in the analysis and measurement of the house. Claudia Brown of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office reviewed the draft report and helped see the project through to completion.
2. The Obediah Farrar House was located in Chatham County until the formation of Lee County in 1907.

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3. Malcolm Fowler, "Where Mermaids Played . . . And Haywood Was a Pittsburgh of the South." (Raleigh, N.C.) *News and Observer*, October 27, 1957; Rachel Osborn and Ruth Selden-Sturgill, *The Architectural Heritage of Chatham County, North Carolina* (Pittsboro, N.C.: The Chatham County Architectural Survey Committee, 1991) 8. In 1788 the site of Haywood had been proposed as the location for the state capitol. See Wade Hampton Hadley et al, *Chatham County, 1771-1971* (Durham, N.C.: Moore Publishing Company, 1971) 194.

4. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N.C. Chatham County Road and Bridge Records, 1801-1839. This road is referred to as the "Old Haywood road" on an 1850s map of the Deep River Coal Field.

5. Chatham County Deed Book T, p. 32.

6. Chatham County Deed Book V, p. 109.

7. According to Barringer family tradition, piers associated with this bridge are visible at low water. Another family tradition holds that the bridge was washed out by a freshet in the 1870s.

8. Wake County Will Book 20, p. 128. At the time of his death in 1827, Hawkins also owned land in Warren, Cumberland, Moore, and Montgomery counties.

9. Chatham County Deed Book AH, p. 355.

10. Chatham County deed Book AD, p. 422.

11. Obediah Farrar does not appear by name in the 1830 census. Farrar's name is spelled "Farror" in the 1840 census.

12. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N.C. Chatham County Marriage Bond Abstracts, 1772-1868.

13. Chatham County Deed Book AH, p. 567.

14. Chatham County Deed Book AH, page 559.

15. Obediah Farrar appears to have been omitted from the 1850 agricultural schedules for Chatham County. Considering Farrar did not purchase the 300-acre tract from Hawkins until August 23, 1849, it may be that the \$1,200 real estate valuation listed in the 1850 census represents his Cape Fear holdings. Farrar's name is spelled "Farrow" in the 1850 census. A possible slave cemetery is located in a clump of trees in a field approximately 1,200' southeast

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of the main house. Not far beyond this cemetery is a field that may have been used as a race track during the nineteenth century.

16. Chatham County Deed Book AK, p. 273, and Deed Book AL, p. 130.

17. Chatham County Deed Book AN, p. 42.

18. Hadley, pp. 148-149.

19. Chatham County Road and Bridge Records, 1801-1839; *Acts of North Carolina, 1852*, pp. 263, 273, 283, 302, 320.

20. These maps are the 1852 "Map of the Cape Fear and Deep Rivers from Fayetteville to Hancock's Mill," the 1853 "Geological Map of Deep River Coal Field," the 1856 "Map of the Deep River Coal Field," the 1870 "Map of Chatham County, N.C." (the Ramsey Map), and the 1874 "Map of Raleigh & Augusta A. L. R. R. . . ."

21. Caroline, Lenora, and Sarah Hughes received a parcel in the 1862 division of the lands of Joseph Avent. Caroline may have been related to the William H. Hughes who mortgaged the two Haywood lots to Farrar in 1857. The 1856 "Map of the Deep River Coal Field" shows two Hughes residences to the south of the Obediah Farrar House.

22. W. Harold Broughton, ed. *The Cleggs of Old Chatham* (Marceline, Mo.: Walsworth Publishing Co., 1977) 278.

23. Brent H. Holcomb, *Marriages of Chatham County, N.C., 1772-1868* (Baltimore, Md.: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1987) 87; Levi Branson, ed. *The North Carolina Business Directory* (Raleigh, N.C.: J. A. Jones, 1867) 27.

24. Broughton, p. 278.

25. Chatham County Deed Book AO, p. 327.

26. Chatham County Deed Book AP, p. 5. Ann Eliza Farrar is missing in the 1870 North Carolina population schedules.

27. Broughton, p. 278.

28. Levi Branson, ed. *The North Carolina Business Directory* (Raleigh, N.C.: Levi Branson, 1877-1878) 68.

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29. (Pittsboro, N.C.) *The Chatham Record*, August 13, 1885.
30. 1910 census; Interview with Mrs. Jack Fields, Sanford, N.C., March 26, 1992.
31. Fields interview.
32. Jane Barringer interview, Lee County, N.C., December 8, 1992. An area of daffodils and "Russian olive" shrubbery marks the site of the second tenant house. The spring near the third tenant house may be an early dwelling or camp site, considering its bold flow and its proximity to the river.
33. Broughton, p. 278.
34. Various Chatham County deeds.34.
35. Broughton, p. 278. Both Anne and Harvey were teachers.
36. Lee County Deed Book 34, p. 459.
37. Lee County Deed Book 37, p. 599.
38. Lee County Deed Book 74, p. 497.
39. McCoy's entry notes that he "built chimneys and Houses," although the phrase is crossed out. The term "brickmason" clearly identifies McCoy as a builder in brick.
40. An Irish-born brickmason named Elmore Faucett worked in the Rollins Store vicinity of Lee County in 1860, according to the census of that year. Faucett may have been involved in the construction of the Western Railroad, which was proceeding through the county at that time.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the Obediah Farrar House nominated area are shown on the map that accompanies this report. The boundaries are described as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of the intersection of the Lower River Road and Barringer Road, follow the north side of the 60'-wide Barringer Road right-of-way approximately 1,800' eastward to a property line, then follow the property line approximately 2,900' eastward to the point at which it is crossed by a power line clearing, then follow the west side of the power line clearing approximately 600' southward to the southeast corner of the intersection of the clearing and the road trace, then follow the south side of the road trace approximately 750' westward to the west side of the drainage ditch where it passes under the road trace, then follow the inside edge of the drainage ditch (the side nearest the Farrar House, generally the north side) westward to a point at the corner of the woods approximately 300' southwest of the Farrar House, then follow the edge of the woods southwestward and then northwestward to the south side of the 60'-wide Barringer Road right-of-way at a gate, then follow the south side of the right-of-way approximately 1,800' westward to the Lower River Road, then cross Barringer Road to the beginning, encompassing approximately thirty-eight acres.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Obediah Farrar House nominated area are determined so as to include three historic resources: the Farrar House, the antebellum road that runs in front of the house, and the house surroundings. Present property and right-of-way lines were given precedence as boundary determinants; in their absence, relatively permanent natural and man-made features such as forest/clearing boundaries and drainage ditches were used. Only the visible remnant of the historic road was included within the boundaries. Since the road cannot be traced beyond the Lower River Road on the west and the power line clearing on the east, these features made logical end points for the nominated area.

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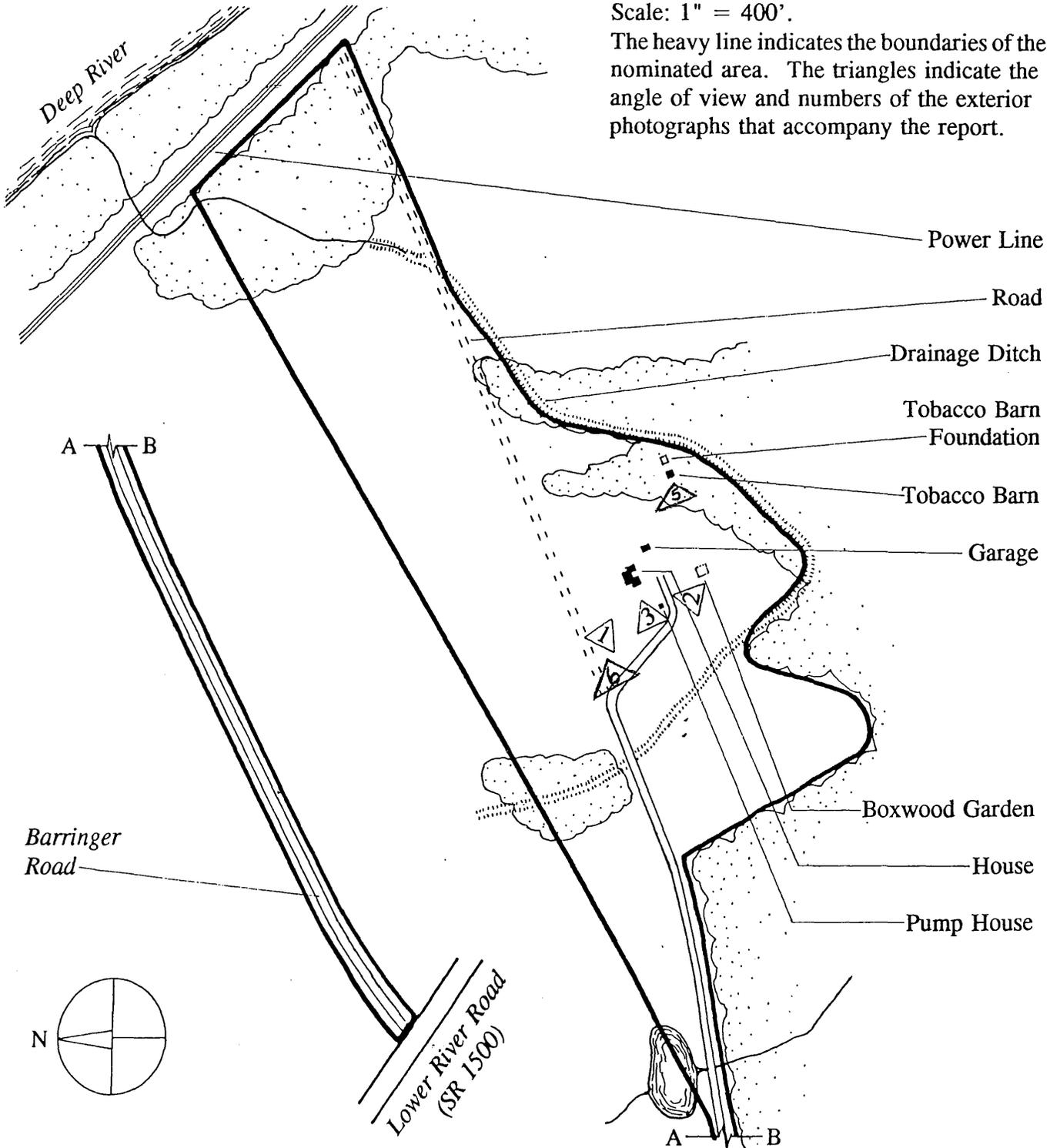
Obediah Farrar House, Lee Co., N.C.

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Map of the Obediah Farrar House
Nominated Area.

Scale: 1" = 400'.

The heavy line indicates the boundaries of the
nominated area. The triangles indicate the
angle of view and numbers of the exterior
photographs that accompany the report.



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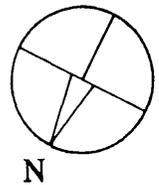
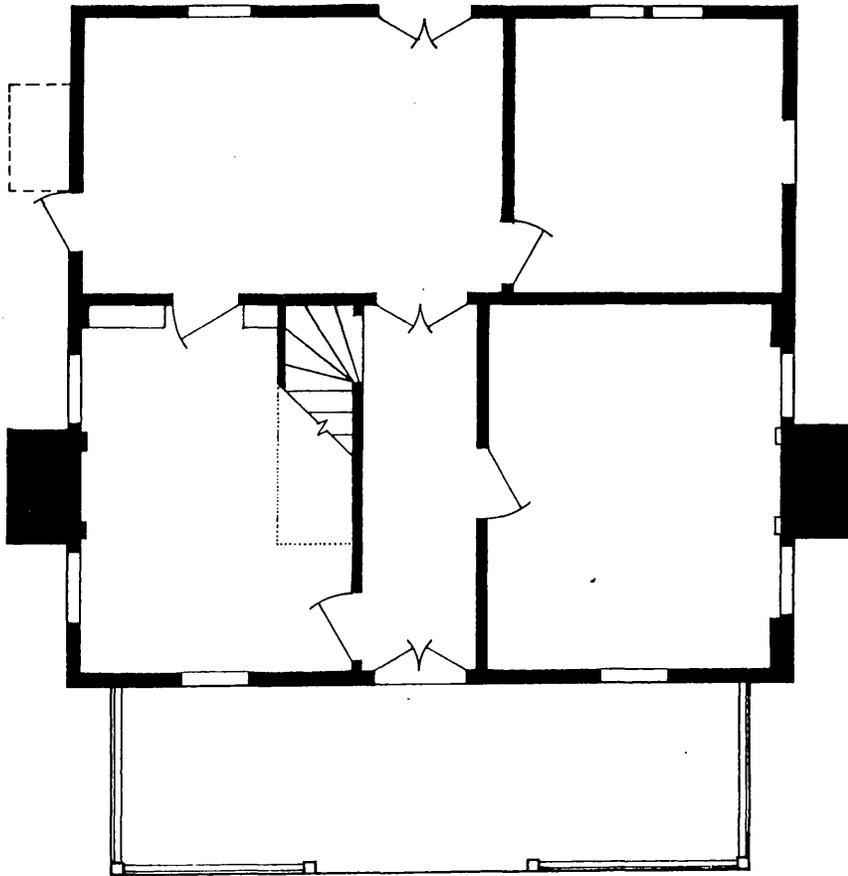
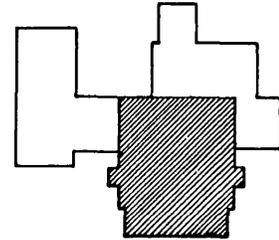
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Plan of the Obediah Farrar House (first story).

Scale: 1/8" = 1'.

Black indicates original fabric; dashed line indicates former shed room chimney. Also shown is a diagram indicating the original section of the house and the reconstructed front porch (hatched) in relation to the twentieth-century addition (clear).



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