

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 Mount Welcome

other names/site number John Franklin Reinhardt House

2. Location

street & number West side of jct of SR 1511 and SR 1412

N/A not for publication

city, town Mariposa

vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Lincoln

code NC 109

zip code 28080

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

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

Category of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

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 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. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official William S. Reinhardt, Jr.

Date 7-29-91

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
: secondary structure
Agriculture: storage

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
: secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Late 19th Century Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood-weatherboard
Stone-fieldstone
roof Asphalt
other Metal: tin
Stucco

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 1John Franklin Reinhardt House
Architectural Description

Sitting on a gentle wooded rise on the west side of the junction of the Old Plank Road and the Mariposa Road, Mount Welcome is a two-story double-pile weatherboarded frame dwelling. Because of its form, proportions, and its low hip roof it has the appearance of a more conventional antebellum dwelling; instead, it was erected in 1885 and, according to family tradition, between August and December of that year. In the heyday of its life when it was the seat of John Franklin Reinhardt's farm and afterward that of his son, the house was the centerpiece of a large group of farm and agricultural outbuildings, most of which stood to the northeast, east, and southeast of the house. However, the rerouting of the Mariposa and Old Plank roads, changes in the family's agricultural operations, and finally the decline and cessation of farming here about 1970, have resulted in the demolition, abandonment, or finally collapse of most of the agricultural outbuildings and tenant houses leaving the house as the chief vestige of the family's occupation of this place. Facing southeast to the Mariposa Road and occupying the well-chosen site of a house of an even earlier generation, Mount Welcome sits at the back of a broad lawn and greensward ornamented with plantings of deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, bulbs, and perennials. The surviving stone and frame outbuildings--with the exception of the stone rental cottage on the east side of the Old Plank Road--stand in an uneven arc in and around the backyard of the house.

According to family tradition the Bartlett Shipp house that originally occupied this site was deteriorated when John Franklin Reinhardt bought the property in 1876. Presumably, he made the decision to pull down the old transitional Federal/Greek Revival house and replace it with a new house--the one being nominated. However, he did not completely clear the site. It appears that he retained and reused a small one-story block of the old house; it is the ell of the present dwelling. The consistent surviving interior and exterior finish of this ell, traditional Federal/Greek in character, supports this theory. Inside the main block, Reinhardt also reused doors of Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival design, sections of wainscoting, and other moldings that were reshaped (?) as aprons under the broad six-over-six sash windows. It is believed that all this woodwork came from the Bartlett Shipp homeplace.

The exterior appearance of Mount Welcome is little changed from its original appearance as documented in a photograph from the 1890s that shows John Franklin Reinhardt and his family in a group on and about the front porch. The house rested on a low, full stone foundation. Then the house was painted in a two-tone (light and dark) color scheme. The weatherboards, window sash, and plain board friezes of the two-tier porch are light while all other parts of the finish--except the two-tone chamfered posts--are dark in color. Today the house rests on a low stucco over cement block foundation that was added in 1985-1986 when termite damage to the sills was repaired; the house is painted all white.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 2

The elevations are framed by simple cornerboards; the broad flat eaves of the house are also simply molded and feature a shallow frieze band that carries around the house. A pair of brick chimneys rise through the roof, now covered with asphalt shingles. The chimneys have recessed panels on their four sides and simply corbelled tops.

The three-bay southeast front elevation is dominated by the center-bay two-tier porch that shelters the entrances on each level and the flush-sheathed wall between them and the windows to either side. The chamfered post supports have molded panel bases and are ornamented with cutwork quatrefoil brackets. There was never a railing on the first-story porch; however, there is a balustrade of turned members on the second-story porch. The first-story entrance is comprised of a two-panel double-leaf door surmounted by a three-pane transom; the door on the second story has a similar two-pane transom. The doors are set in surrounds with a late-nineteenth century backband molding; the windows have plain board surrounds with narrow projecting bands across the top of the lintels. The window openings hold six-over-six sash here and throughout the main block; the louvered blinds on the front elevation have been repaired, restored, and returned to their places whereas those on the side and rear elevations await renovation.

The broad northeast and southwest side elevations of the house's main block are symmetrical in their appearance with two windows on each level illuminating the rooms of the double-pile plan. The rear, northwest elevation of the house presents a somewhat more complicated appearance and reflects some sequential changes. Here the earlier free-standing Shipp block--used as a kitchen and dining room and attached to the house by a breezeway--is now more fully integrated. The Shipp block/ ell stands behind the western half of the main house. The connecting breezeway was enclosed, ca. 1916-1921, and the space converted to a pantry and passage connecting the kitchen (the former dining room) and dining room. The old kitchen, the northwest half of the block, was taken down. In 1988 the northwest end of the hall was extended the depth of the former breezeway and the original (reused antebellum) doubleleaf door was relocated at the new northwest end of the first-story hall. The area to the north of the lengthened hall was originally a shed room; it was divided nearly in half with a bathroom enclosed in the west end while the remainder was made into a porch. The present kitchen ell is surrounded on the outside three sides by a continuous wraparound porch supported by simple replacement chamfered posts. It is covered by a gable roof. The porch continues to the north across the remainder of the rear elevation of the main block: there it is covered by a shed roof (along the house's northwest elevation) that slopes to the northwest from the ridgeline of the ell roof. The northwest ends of this gable and shed are sheathed in weatherboards; the porch floor is wood planks as are the front porch floors. Although there have been some modest changes in the appearance of the ell--most notably the enclosure and glazing of the porch on its southwest side in 1988 to create a sun porch--the original flush sheathing on the northeast side elevation and a nine-over-nine sash window survive and suggest its original

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 3

appearance. In the ca. 1916-1921 remodeling the exterior end brick chimney on the northwest gable end was mostly taken down and replaced by a brick flue; it and a pantry beside and to the north of it are covered with vertical flush sheathing.

The interior of the John Franklin Reinhardt House follows a center-hall, double-pile plan with four principal rooms on each story in the main block. The finish is largely consistent, room to room, with the exception of the reused doors and where oak or pine flooring was laid down over the original pine floors in the 1920s or 1940s. The plaster walls were covered with sheetrock in the 1980s renewal. The ceilings are either flush boards or plaster. The baseboards comprise tall plain boards with applied molded tops. The door and window surrounds feature plain boards with an applied Victorian molded backband. As noted earlier, the windows have flat-molded-panel aprons between the sills and baseboards that are reused from the earlier Shipp house. The Victorian mantels also vary room to room; however, they follow the same general form with molded, tapered, or otherwise finished pilasters rising to broad frieze boards that are overlaid with variously sawn curvilinear and scalloped aprons below the projecting shelves. On the first story the four-panel doors opening from the hall into the four rooms are somewhat irregularly placed and thus not symmetrical or opposite each other. Curiously, the stair well is enclosed. A single step at the original back northwest end of the hall, on the north side, rises to the north to a shallow landing from whence the main flight rises, parallel to the hall's partition wall, to the southeast to the second story.

For all memory the front room on the left (south) side of the hall, with a plaster ceiling and ca. 1926 oak flooring, has been used as the parlor. It has cast iron panels forming the hearth that are said to have been locally cast. The front room on the northeast side of the hall is used as a sitting room and has a "Fox and Crane" iron panel in the center of the hearth. The ceiling here is flush sheathed. There is a four-panel door to the right (northeast) of the fireplace that originally opened into a closet but now opens directly into the back and only first-story bedroom. This bedroom is the smallest room of the four on the first story since the stairwell is enclosed out of it. The closet under the stair is fitted with a reused six-panel late-Georgian door while the closet to the right (southwest) of the fireplace is fitted with a contemporary four-panel door. A modern six-panel door in the northwest wall opens into the bathroom that was installed in the former location of the shed room after John Forney acquired the house; it has a second door that opens into the back of the hall. The bedroom has ca. 1933 pine flooring, a brick hearth, and a sheetrock ceiling. The bathroom has five-inch pine flooring and wallpaper over sheetrock walls.

The dining room, the fourth principal room on the first story, is located behind the parlor. It also has a ca. 1933 pine floor overlaid on the original pine flooring, a seven-part hearth of iron plates, and a flush sheathed ceiling. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 4

closet to the left (northeast) of the fireplace is fitted with a four-panel door while the china press to the right (southwest) of the fireplace has double-leaf doors featuring three stacked glazed panes above a flat molded panel concealing the less attractive storage. A door in the northwest wall opens into the small passage that connects to the kitchen; the former pantry to the northeast has been refitted as a laundry room and half-bathroom.

As noted earlier the present kitchen is a hold-over from the earlier Shipp house. It retains portions of its molded, flat panel wainscot and chairrail along the southwest wall. Another section of flat-paneled wainscot was reused to make the door into the pantry closet to the right (northeast) of the fireplace that has long since been covered over; a flue opening was installed for a wood-burning cook stove--probably about 1916-1921. The ceiling is flush-sheathed with beaded boards; the deteriorated floor was replaced with pine flooring in the 1980s renewal. There are two six-over-six sash windows here that date to the 1885 building program and they are finished in a fashion similar to those in the main block. From 1885 until 1916-1921 the present kitchen was used as the dining room; then the ell had two rooms and the rearmost one was used as the kitchen. The old kitchen was taken down in the 1916-1921 remodeling effort.

The floor plan of the second story is largely identical to that of the first story and consists of four bedrooms; in the 1980s renewal a bathroom has been enclosed in the bedroom directly above the first-story bedroom. The finish of these rooms largely replicates that of the first story. All of the rooms retain their original pine flooring; the ceilings on the second story are flush sheathed. The two bedrooms above the parlor and sitting room both have reused, pegged six-panel late-Georgian doors opening into the hall. The doors on the closets are four-panel; the hearths are brick. A reused, pegged six-panel late-Georgian door also opens from the hall into the bedroom over the dining room. Here there are four-panel doors into the closet beside the fireplace and into the storage closet in the attic over the kitchen. The flooring in this room is ten-to-fourteen-inch wide boards that also appear to be reused. The bedroom over the first story bedroom has been partitioned into a small bedroom/dressing room and bathroom. A two-panel Greek Revival style door opens from the hall into the bathroom fitted in the west part of the space; it has a stained and grained finish on the bathroom side. The door connecting the bedroom with the bedroom over the sitting room is made of reused flat molded-panel wainscoting and has a handsome stained and grained finish. The finish of this bedroom is the same as that of the other rooms.

The Secondary Resources

The following eight stone and frame outbuildings and houses that stand on the property being nominated are all cited as "Noncontributing" to the significance of Mount Welcome. These small and simple buildings are traditional in form, plan, and finish, and typical of their period and place; most are more than fifty

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 5

years old. None of them is intrusive to the landscape that forms the setting of Mount Welcome. As will be seen, all of them, except the gold mine shed, were erected after John Franklin Reinhardt's death in 1913, the year that marks the end of the period of significance for this nomination. The gold mine shed, erected elsewhere on the farm and outside the nominated acreage, was moved to the rear of the house yard, 1916-1921, by John Forney Reinhardt.

1. Gold Mine Shed. Later 19th century, moved here 1916-1921. Noncontributing.

Dating from the late 1880s or 1890s, this open frame shed stands immediately behind (northwest of) the kitchen ell. According to family tradition the building was moved here around 1916-1921 by John Forney Reinhardt. It was originally constructed at the gold mine on the larger farm and used in the late 1880s and 1890s when Reinhardt attempted to make a profit from mining; that effort was partially successful. The shed has vertical uprights of various materials including cedar tree trunks and replacement creosote poles. The building is covered with a sheet metal gable roof and has flush sheathed gable ends that conceal a loft storage area. The shaped corners of the two openings facing the house suggest that it was used for automobile shelter for a period; during the seventy-plus years it has stood here it has been used for storage of every type. It now stands in deteriorated condition.

2. Smokehouse. Ca. 1930. Noncontributing.

Standing to the right (and northeast) of the gold mine shed, is the rock smokehouse. It is a small rectangular building, constructed of mortared field stone and other rocks gathered by John Forney Reinhardt, and dates from about 1930. Off-center on the east front elevation is a board and batten door with long strap hand-forged iron hinges that is said to have been reused from the earlier smokehouse on the farm. The building has a poured cement floor and wood rafters supporting a shed roof covered with sheet metal. The building was used until about 1970.

3. Guest House/Rental Dwelling. Early 20th century; moved here ca. 1960. Noncontributing.

The site of this building, standing to the north of the house, was first occupied by a small frame building that according to family tradition first served as a school and was later the cook's house. That building was taken down about 1954. About 1960, John Forney Reinhardt obtained a small two-room building from a nearby property owner and moved it onto the site and added a shed across the rear elevation. The building rests on a running bond brick foundation and is covered with German siding and an asphalt-shingle gable roof. The center entrance on the front three-bay elevation is protected by a shed extension of the roof that extends over a poured cement and cement block stoop. The interior has a living

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 6

room, kitchen, bathroom, and two bedrooms. Reinhardt fitted the building up for rental to those who would also serve as general caretakers of the property while he was away. It remains a rental building.

4. Pump House. 1938. Noncontributing.

According to family tradition, this small mortared rock building was constructed from stones gathered on the place by John Forney Reinhardt in 1938 when running water was put into the house. Standing to the northeast of the house and on the east side of the driveway, it has a poured/cast cement vaulted roof and a door in its northwest end.

5. Tool Shed. Ca. 1975. Noncontributing.

Standing to the west of the house, this simple shed-roof frame building is covered with synthetic Masonite siding and a sheet tin shed roof; it has a dirt floor. There are paired doors and two windows on the west elevation. Having the general appearance of shed-roof poultry houses of the first half of the 20th century, and occupying the site of an earlier poultry house, it was built about 1975 by Philecta Reinhardt for general storage.

6. Storage Building. Ca. 1920; moved ca. 1940. Noncontributing.

This small wood frame storage building is one of two standing frame buildings located on the west side of an abandoned farm lane to the north and northeast of the house. Both were relocated here from their original sites elsewhere on the farm. Standing on stone stack piers it is covered with flush horizontal sheathing and a sheet tin gable roof. The singularly impressive feature of this building is the handsome reused door on the east side elevation. It features three wide vertical boards on the interior to which the exterior, narrower boards have been nailed on a 45-degree angle. The pattern of nailing is rigidly symmetrical and is arranged to create a pattern of eight squares, two side-by-side and four from top to bottom. The door is hung on unusually long hand-wrought iron strap hinges that are likely original to the door; a 19th century lock also remains on the door. Where the door was originally used remains a matter of speculation; however, it is possible that it might have been on the small store that John Franklin Reinhardt operated.

7. Corn Crib. Ca. 1916; moved ca. 1940. Noncontributing.

Standing a few feet to the west of the storage building is the frame crib that was relocated here from its original location about 1940 when the Mariposa Road was relocated to the south (its present location). The crib originally stood with the barn near the middle of the present road. When relocated it was placed on stone stack piers. A board and batten door is located in the flush sheathed south gable end. The other elevations are covered with flush, ventilated sheathing. The roof is covered with sheet tin.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 7 Page 7

8. Rock House. Ca. 1948-1950s. Noncontributing.

In the late 1940s, John Forney Reinhardt began the construction of a small one-story frame house here that he covered with a veneer of stones gathered from his fields and pastures. The dwelling stands on a basement and was completed in the early 1950s. It is covered with an asphalt shingle gable roof. There are four small rooms in the house; the living room is sheathed with vertical pine sheathing, common to the 1950s, while the other three rooms are sheathed with sheetrock. Standing in an overgrown condition on the east side of the Old Plank Road, the house has been little used in the past twenty years and is deteriorated.

Footnote

1. In 1818 Bartlett Shipp married Susan Forney, the daughter of Gen. Peter Forney who had established the Mount Welcome Forge. On 13 August 1822 Peter Forney deeded a tract of 249 1/2 acres to Bartlett Shipp. Whether this tract is the one on which Shipp built his "home place" that would later be the site of Reinhardt's Mount Welcome has not been determined; however, its position on Leeper's Creek and the reference to adjacent property owners and the "Fish trap" that appear on a plat made thereof in 1856 encourage that possibility. Thus, it is likely that Shipp built his house shortly thereafter--a supposition supported by the surviving architectural fabric--and occupied it until, according to tradition, he removed to the house built by his brother-in-law Jacob Forney from whence he removed to Lincolnton where he died. After the Shipp ell, the only reminder of the Shipp occupation of this site are the oldest crepe myrtles in the front yard.

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
Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1885-1913

Significant Dates

1885

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Reinhardt, John Franklin

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 1

Statement of Significance

Mount Welcome, erected in 1885 by John Franklin Reinhardt on the site of the earlier Bartlett Shipp house, is a landmark in the architectural and political history of Lincoln County. John Franklin Reinhardt--iron-forge operator, planter, gold miner, and state legislator--was a member of a powerful, influential, and affluent plantation society in eastern Lincoln County, counting among their number national, state, and local political figures. As the great-grandson of General Peter Forney, Christian Reinhardt, Sr., and the Rev. John Gottfried Arndt, Reinhardt was born to a tradition of agriculture, industry, and public service strongly tied to family life and religious principle. He and his descendants perpetuated that tradition. Following his return to civilian life at the end of the Civil War, he assisted his father in the operation of the Rehobeth Iron Furnace, operated a corn and flour mill from the 1860s into the 1880s, and mined for gold on his plantation in the 1880s and 1890s. In 1885 he built Mount Welcome, a house that remained his home until his death. In 1894 he was elected to the first of six terms in the State Legislature, winning election to that body more often than any other Lincoln County politician during the period from 1865 until 1936. In 1898-1899 he distinguished himself by his pledge and vote in the emotional issue of black suffrage, thereby winning the broad respect of both black and white citizens. Mount Welcome, a substantial, well-finished but unpretentious house, is also significant in the architectural history of Lincoln County as an intact member in a succession of important houses erected in eastern Lincoln County by its industrial- and agricultural-based society in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Likewise, it is also a valuable representative of a group of post-Civil War and later-nineteenth/early-twentieth century houses that are the last distinguished body of dwellings erected in the county outside Lincolnton. Erected in 1885, Mount Welcome was John Franklin Reinhardt's home for the last twenty-eight years of his life until his death in 1913. Although it has remained the home of his descendants to the present, its primary significance lies in its associations with his important political career and its role in the architectural history of Lincoln County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 2Mount Welcome
Historical Background

John Franklin Reinhardt (1844-1913), the iron forge operator, state legislator, planter, and gold miner who built the house known as Mount Welcome, was a member of a small and cultivated society who occupied plantations and farms in eastern Lincoln County. This circle of friends--closely related by marriages through several generations--was descended from the pioneer settlers of Lincoln County. John Franklin Reinhardt, through his paternal and maternal lines, was descended from a host of important men and women who, in this age, are recognized as the founders of Lincoln County. Critical members of this group of forebearers include the members of all county families except Brevard and Graham who were counted as friends and relatives by marriage. Christian Reinhardt, Sr. (1743-1818), his great-grandfather, was a pioneer German settler whose plantation fields were the site of the Revolutionary Battle of Ramsour's Mill. He married Barbara Elizabeth Warlick (1754-1806), the daughter of Daniel Warlick--the progenitor of that large family in Lincoln County. Christian Reinhardt, Jr. (1774-1839), John Franklin's grandfather, married Mary Forney (1785-1867), the youngest daughter of General Peter Forney (1756-1834), himself a Revolutionary soldier of note, pioneer iron-maker in Lincoln County, and the proprietor of the Mount Welcome Forge. Christian and Mary Forney Reinhardt raised a large family and among their sons was Franklin Monroe Reinhardt (1807-1869), the father of John Franklin, who operated the Rehobeth Iron Furnace in partnership with Bartlett Shipp (1786-1869) in the 1850s and 1860s. In 1834 he married Sarah M. Smith (1816-1879), the daughter of David Smith (1789-1874) of Magnolia Grove, and his wife Elizabeth Arndt (1783-1870), the daughter of the important Lutheran minister, the Rev. John Gottfried Arndt (1740-1807).¹

Franklin Monroe and Sarah (Smith) Reinhardt had a family of ten children. John Franklin, the fourth son and fifth child of the couple, was born on 14 May 1844. With the deaths of Daniel Monroe (1836-1862) at the Battle of Sharpsburg, young David Smith (1839-1842), and James William (1842-1861)--also a casualty of the war--John Franklin became the senior male sibling, the eldest of the five sons who lived to adulthood and achieved prominence in Lincoln County or elsewhere. Mary Elizabeth (1834-1916), the first born of the family, married Marcus Boyd and lived at Maiden in Catawba County; the second daughter and sixth child, Virginia Shipp (1847-1853), died at the age of six.²

In 1852, Franklin Monroe Reinhardt, in partnership with his uncle Bartlett Shipp, purchased and operated the Rehobeth Iron Furnace. In the 1860 Census he gave his occupation as iron monger; his household included his wife and six of his seven sons.⁴ James, the eldest son at home, was listed as an iron works clerk; John Franklin was listed as a student. Mary Elizabeth had been married in 1852 and was absent from the household; Virginia Shipp had died in 1853. The decade of the 1860s opened with great promise for the family. Franklin Monroe was making a good living at the iron works and with seven sons he could count on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 3

their labor and support. The Civil War undermined his efforts and greatly disrupted the life of the family.

It was John Franklin Reinhardt's good fortune to survive four years as a soldier in the Civil War and to return to the family. He had enlisted on 25 April 1861 as a member of the Southern Stars, Company K, and participated in the Battle of Bethel--the first battle of the war. When the Bethel Regiment was disbanded, John Franklin re-enlisted in Company C, 9th Regiment, on 3 May 1862, and served through the war. He was present with General Joseph E. Johnston at his surrender near Greensboro on 26 April 1865. When John Franklin Reinhardt returned to Lincoln County he worked with his father and Bartlett Shipp at the Rehobeth furnace. This cooperative effort was to be short-lived. In 1869 both Franklin Monroe Reinhardt and Shipp died within weeks of each other: Shipp on 26 May and Reinhardt on 9 June.

In the mid-1870s the division and settlement of the Reinhardt and Shipp⁶ estates brought John Franklin Reinhardt into the ownership of some 1,000 acres. On 23 March 1874 he acquired the Hammarschold Mill⁷ Tract of 125 acres on Leper's Creek for \$1,200 from his mother and his siblings. In 1876 Reinhardt made two purchases totaling nearly 800 acres that brought him into the ownership of the principal lands he would plant for the remainder of his life. On 10 March 1876. William Marcus Shipp (as executor of the estate of Franklin Monroe Reinhardt), his mother Susan Forney Shipp, and Shipp (as his father's heir) sold to John Franklin Reinhardt a tract containing 2⁷/₂ and 3/4 acres "Known as a part of the Furnace Lands" on the "Old Plank road."⁸ Four months later, on 15 July 1876, Susan Shipp Johnson and her husband, V. Quarles Johnson sold John Franklin Reinhardt a tract of 517 acres "on the plank road." This second tract was the larger part of 958 acres "Known as the Bartlett Shipp Home place . . .," that Susan Forney Shipp (1797-1880), the daughter of Gen. Peter Forney, gave her daughter Susan Shipp Johnson (1837-1885) on 10 February 1876.¹⁰ Although it is not specified in the language of the deeds, the acreage that John Franklin Reinhardt bought included the Bartlett Shipp House on whose site he would erect a new house in 1885.

Five years earlier, on 7 May 1871, presumably while he was living in his father's house, John Franklin Reinhardt took Philecta Louise Smith (1848-1903) as his bride.¹¹ She was the daughter of James Madison Smith (1809-1874) who, since 1857, was operating the Vesuvius Iron Furnace and living in the house that bore the same name, and his wife Hettie Rudisill (1812-1891), the great-granddaughter of pioneer settler Michael Rudisill.¹² Like his father, John Franklin Reinhardt sired ten children: three daughters and seven sons. His first two sons Quantrell (1872-1873) and Franklin Madison (1874-1901) were born prior to John Franklin's purchase of the Bartlett Shipp home place. His third son, James Morrison, was born on 9 November 1876 and may have been born in the Shipp house; however, there is a family tradition that he was born in a two-story weatherboarded log house that still stands on the hill overlooking Rehobeth Furnace. The next three

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 4

children may (or may not) have been born in the Shipp house: Hettie Mabel (1879-1953) on 6 January 1879; William Benedict (1881-1961) on 13 March 1881; and Mary Edna (1882-1949) on 14 December 1882. Rather propitiously, John Forney Reinhardt, the couple's fourth son who would live on at Mount Welcome after his father's death, was born on 21 August 1885 when, according to family tradition, the present house was being built. The couple's three last children were born in the new house: Richard Robert (1887-1964) on 15 November 1887; Philecta Louise (1889-1972) on 22 October 1889; and, lastly, Wade Hampton (1892-1957)--named for the general under whom his father served for a period in the Civil War--on 3 December 1892.¹³

It appears that during the twenty-year period during which his children were being born, John Franklin Reinhardt farmed the lands he purchased or inherited. Prior to his marriage--and by late 1869--he was operating a flour and grist mill; he continued to operate it as late as 1884. In the early 1880s there are a series of mortgages of personal property and the yearly crops, with J. F. Reinhardt and Co. as the holder; they suggest Reinhardt was operating a store and making loans and advances of goods to small farmers who might also have been tenant farming on his property.¹⁴ During this period Reinhardt was also purchasing additional lands adjoining his family farm and elsewhere. Reinhardt also tried gold mining on the property in the late 1880s and 1890s; however, the cost of extracting the gold was higher than its value and the effort was eventually abandoned. The Reinhardt¹⁵ Post Office was established here in 1888; "Leckie" Smith was the postmistress.

By the mid-1890s Reinhardt was a man of means and with broad respect in the Machpelah community and in Lincoln County. It also appears that his accomplishments provided him with the ability and time to pursue political office. In 1894 he was elected to the first of three terms in the State House of Representatives; he was re-elected for the sessions of 1899 and 1901. Lincoln County had long furnished the state with political and military leaders; William A. Graham, had served as governor of North Carolina (1845-1849). W. A. Graham, Jr. (1839-1923) was a fellow farmer in the Machpelah community and member (1899-1908) of the State Board of Agriculture before his longer tenure (1908-1923) as commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.¹⁶ Public service was a community interest and vocation.

Reinhardt's life as a farmer, political leader, father, and husband was going well when the century¹⁷ opened and in 1902 he was elected to his first term in the State Senate of 1903. However, tragedy struck Reinhardt in 1903 when on 21 September his wife Philecta "Leckie" died. W. A. Graham, Jr., wrote the obituary that was published in the Lincolnton newspaper.¹⁸ She was interred beside the grave of her second son Franklin Madison, at the nearby New Hope Methodist Church about two miles to the north on the Old Plank Road. Six years later, on 16 September 1909, Reinhardt married Alice Abernathy (1867-1945), the daughter of Milton Abernathy who had grown up on her father's farm on the Lincoln-Gaston

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 5

County line. A son born to the couple died at birth. John Franklin Reinhardt was elected to a second term in the State Senate in 1906 and to a third term in 1910.¹⁹

On Monday, 9 June 1913, John Franklin Reinhardt died on the operating table in the Charlotte Sanatorium. An extensive obituary appeared in the Charlotte Observer on 10 June 1913 and was reprinted on 13 June in the Lincolnton newspaper.²⁰ In an editorial the Observer praised Reinhardt and his public service:

"A valuable man to the State is lost in the death of J. F. Reinhardt of Lincoln County. A substantial citizen, he was a promoter of welfare in his community and a leader in all that makes for the progressive life. He served his State well and ably as a Legislator, having been the originator of several acts that are even now recognized as having been put on the statute books to the benefit not only of county but the State at large. He was of the line of men who, having large influence, always exerted it to the good of his fellow man. He was endowed with a strong and sturdy character--a figure in community life that will be missed for years to come."

Alfred Nixon, the long-time clerk of court in Lincoln County, paid John Franklin Reinhardt like respects in a long recount of his life in a "Memorial Address Read Before Lincoln Lodge No. 137 A.F. and A.M. At a Meeting Held in July." It should be noted that Reinhardt had joined the lodge in October 1865 upon his return to Lincoln County and had been a member of forty-eight years. Nixon informed his fellow lodge members that Reinhardt's last public appearance had been his attendance at "the reunion of his camp, W. J. Hoke, No. 1596, U.C.V., Tuesday June the 3rd" at Memorial Hall in Lincolnton.²¹

In his will, Reinhardt made provisions for his widow and ordered that the remainder of his estate be divided between his children. He appointed his eldest son James Morrison as executor. The inventory of the personal property of the deceased, filed by his son and executor James Morrison, lists: \$2,159.75 on hand; \$680.67 in accounts identified as "good and can be collected"; \$638.33 in accounts "considered worthless"; four shares of stock in the bank at Stanley where his son James Morrison was cashier; and two shares of stock in the 1st National Bank of Lincolnton; and "one lot of Merchandise" with an estimated value of \$250. The furnishings of Mount Welcome were listed as "Household and kitchen furniture." The remainder of the typescript inventory was a two-page list of agricultural implements and machinery, grains, and livestock. The specific listing of each and nearly every piece of equipment used in operating his farm provides a fascinating record of the operation of a substantial farm in the western Piedmont. Included on the list are: one cider mill; two cotton gins; two engines and boilers; one corn mill; one molasses boiler; two Cole cotton planters; two wheat cradles; two two-horse plows; one Cole guano distributor; one

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 6

mowing machine; one hay rake; one wheat drill; one stalk cutter; two wagons; one hack; two buggys; one corn sheller; five sets plow harness; two mules; one horse; one cotton planter; one lot shop tools; one fruit evaporator; three iron kettles; one garden plow; and one lawn mower among other items including plows, cultivators, and smaller tools. John Franklin Reinhardt's²² real estate was in eight tracts and totaled 771 and 1/4 acres, more or less. The largest of these holdings was the old Shipp place of 517 acres on which he had built his house, Mount Welcome.

Among the eight surviving children it was apparently clear that their brother John Forney Reinhardt (1885-1983) was the one to carry his father's mantle and to farm the lands of the plantation on the Old Plank Road. After his father's death Reinhardt maintained his residence at Mount Welcome and would live here for another sixty-plus years. In two separate transactions in August 1913, James Morrison and Richard Robert Reinhardt deeded their individual 1/8th undivided interests in the John Franklin Reinhardt lands to John Forney for \$3,500 and \$3,200, respectively.²³ In a further series of transactions in 1917 the remaining lands were divided among the heirs and deeded to individual family members. In the spring of 1917, the collective heirs sold the house tract of some twenty-four acres to William Benedict Reinhardt. Four years later, on 21 March 1921, W. B. Reinhardt and his wife sold the twenty-four-acre tract to John Forney Reinhardt and his wife.²⁴ Despite the provision made for her to remain on the Reinhardt lands, Alice Abernathy Reinhardt departed the family house and returned to live with her family. Following her death on 19 May 1943 her body was interred in the Reinhardt family plot at New Hope Church cemetery.

On 2 June 1914 John Forney Reinhardt was married to Willie Jeanette Brown, the daughter of William Hillary Asbury Brown of Charlotte; they moved into Mount Welcome. The couple's first child Philecta Smith was born at Mount Welcome on 26 February 1918. A second daughter, Elizabeth Brown, was born and died on 3 January 1920. The couple's third daughter and last child was also given the name Elizabeth Brown; she was born on 9 September 1921.

John Forney Reinhardt farmed the lands he inherited from his father and bought from his siblings for over half a century until about 1970 when he reached the age of eighty-five. He continued raising cotton and corn--the mainstays of his father's crops--until about 1945 when cotton became unprofitable; it was eventually replaced by soy beans. For varying periods during his career he also raised a range of truck crops including string beans, English peas, melons, and raspberries. The largest of his truck crops was sweet potatoes. In the 1930s he provided land on the Old Plank Road as the site of a frame community potato curing house that today lies in ruins. John Forney Reinhardt also had herds of²⁵ Jersey and Guernsey dairy cattle and cross-bred Hertford and Angus beef cattle.

The farm outbuildings that remain at Mount Welcome give little indication of the extent of the farming operations carried on here for over three-quarters of a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 7

century by the father and son. Changing agricultural practices and the re-routing and paving of the Mariposa and Old Plank roads have taken their toll. During this period there were as many as six tenant houses on the farm, some of which surely dated to John Franklin's lifetime. All of these have been lost; the last surviving one faced the Mariposa Road and burned in the 1970s. There remain two rental dwellings on the property. The great barn and corn crib both stood to the southeast of the house along the Mariposa Road; when it was re-routed and paved in the late-1930s/early-1940s the barn was dismantled and rebuilt and the crib moved to the north to sites northeast of the house. The barn collapsed about 1974. The crib remains standing and is included in this nomination. The small cow barn, the poultry house, the pig sheds, the privies, and the store that stood to the southeast of the house--its original site now covered by the Old Plank Road--have also been lost.²⁶

While he occupied Mount Welcome, John Forney Reinhardt undertook two programs of remodeling. The first occurred ca. 1916-1921 and included the rearrangement of the kitchen and dining room and the enclosure of the old breezeway that connected the main house to the kitchen/dining room wing.

During the 1930s John Forney undertook other alterations and improvements to his property. Foremost of these was the addition of a rock porch to the front of his house under and across the two-tier and original frame porch built by his father. Erected in the early 1930s, it took the form of an open terrace with a rock balustrade supporting plinths for flower urns. It was removed in 1985-1986 when the house was raised on a new foundation because of termite damage. The rocks used for the porch and for two additional outbuildings were gathered from the farm fields. The largest of these buildings is the smokehouse that stands to the northeast of the house; it was built about 1930. The rock pumphouse, built in 1938, stands to the east of the house. Behind the house stands the shed from John Franklin Reinhardt's gold mining operations on the farm that his son moved into the house yard in the late 1910s. The third stone building on the property is a small rock-veneer rental dwelling that stands on the east side of the Old Plank Road; it was begun in the later-1940s and completed in the early-1950s. In the early 1960s Reinhardt moved a small frame house into the house yard and placed it on the site of an earlier building that had been used both as a schoolhouse and a kitchen; it was used as a rental dwelling for tenants who sometimes²⁷ have functioned as caretakers for the property in the family's absence.

During John Forney's ownership of Mount Welcome his two unmarried sisters Hettie (1879-1953) and Louise (1889-1972) considered the place home although they lived in Florida during their retirement. That was likewise the case with John Forney's two daughters. Philecta (b. 1918) became a teacher and taught in Charlotte schools; she maintained an apartment there but returned to Mount Welcome on weekends, holidays, and in the summer. Elizabeth Brown (b. 1921) was married at Mount Welcome on 11 June 1950 to Cecil Roscoe Mabry.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 8

As might well be understood John Forney Reinhardt decreased the scale of his farming operations in his later years and some fields began to lie fallow.²⁸ He also sold off tracts of the family holding and at his death it was less than 200 acres. He ceased farming altogether about 1970 and about 1974 he and Mrs. Reinhardt removed to Atlanta to be near his daughter Elizabeth. Mrs. Reinhardt died in Atlanta on 8 September 1977. John Forney Reinhardt died there on 3 March 1983. The bodies²⁹ of both were brought back to Lincoln County and interred at New Hope Church.

In his will John Forney Reinhardt bequeathed all his personal and real property to his two daughters to be divided equally between them. Philecta, the eldest, was designated as administrator. The assets of his estate totaled \$152,788.90; Mount Welcome and its³⁰ surrounding 186.5 acres was his principal asset and it was valued at \$150,550. That property is jointly held in equal undivided shares by Philecta Reinhardt and Elizabeth R. Mabry. In 1985 the two sisters undertook the renewal and restoration of Mount Welcome. Their first major effort was to remove their father's rock porch and repair the termite-damaged sills of the house and to raise it on a new, low stuccoed cement block foundation. Other efforts including painting the exterior and interior and glazing the southwest side porch on the ell have followed to the present. Except for the matter of the paint color the house stands today as it did when built in 1885 and as it appears in a photograph made by H. A. Seidell in the 1890s showing John Franklin Reinhardt and his family in a group at the front porch. The two sisters and Mrs. Mabry's family use Mount Welcome as a summer residence and for holiday gatherings.

Architecture: Context and Significance

Relatively simple in its appearance and finish, Mount Welcome, the John Franklin Reinhardt house, nevertheless holds an important position in the architectural history of Lincoln County. Within the context of its contemporaries--frame farm seats constructed in the post-Civil War period and the later-nineteenth century--it is an intact example of the persistence of the center-hall, double-pile plan from the antebellum period. In the larger chronology of domestic architecture in Lincoln County from the later eighteenth century through the opening decades of the twentieth century, it holds both representative and individual significance; here its architectural significance and family associations are closely applied to the economic and social history of Lincoln County.

The rich soils of Lincoln County provided wealth in the late-eighteenth century and the nineteenth century through the antebellum period that enabled planters and iron manufacturers to build a distinguished group of houses. These imposing and well-finished houses have a regional significance extending well beyond the county's borders. First among this group are: Vesuvius Furnace begun by Joseph Graham in 1792, subsequently expanded, and owned by James Madison Smith in 1871 when his daughter Philecta married John Franklin Reinhardt;³¹ the bold brick

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NCSection number 8 Page 9

house built in 1793 by the Rev. Andrew Loretz, the pastor of Daniels Reformed Church;³² and Woodside, the Federal plantation house built in 1798 by Lawson Henderson.³³ Vesuvius Furnace, bearing the name of the iron forge, stands but a few miles from the Reinhardt House and is one of the oldest of the important houses in the Machpelah community.

In the early years of the nineteenth century these three houses (and surely other lost ones) were joined by another impressive group of residences, erected from agricultural and industrial profits. Foremost in this group and one of the great houses³⁴ of Piedmont North Carolina is Ingleside, built for Daniel M. Forney about 1817. Its undocumented design is attributed to Benjamin Latrobe. Ingleside stands but a couple of miles to the northeast of Mount Welcome; Daniel Forney (1784-1847) was the son of Gen. Peter Forney who established the Mount Welcome Forge and the brother of John Franklin Reinhardt's paternal grandmother Mary Forney Reinhardt. Also nearby is Magnolia Grove, another two-story, five-bay brick Federal mansion; it was erected in 1824 by David Smith, the father of Sarah M. Smith Reinhardt and John Franklin's grandfather.³⁵ The third great house of this trio is Shadow Lawn, erected in Lincolnton in 1826 for Paul Kistler.³⁶

The houses of the antebellum period generally followed one of three forms. The two-story brick house from the earlier years was repeated at the Jacob Ramsour House (1830s) and the larger five-bay³⁷ house built by Col. John Hoke at Laboratory, near Lincolnton, in 1844. A second house type, then new to Lincoln County, was the two-story double-pile frame house. Examples were erected by the Henderson family on the Reepsville Road west of Lincolnton in the 1850s and by Elisha Barrett in Lincolnton about 1852.³⁸ It was this form that John Franklin followed when he built his house in 1885. The third house type and the most common in the Piedmont was the two-story three-bay, single-pile frame house with a one- or two- story ell. The two foremost intact³⁹ examples from the 1850s are the houses built by Jacob Hoover and Jacob Lantz.

In the post-Civil War years, the two-story, single pile, frame house with gable end chimneys, one-story porch, and rear ell became the dominant house form in the Piedmont landscape. It was within this context that John Franklin Reinhardt chose to build a house with individual character, a house with a two-tier front porch that recalled its antecedents of thirty years earlier. Reinhardt's house is one of only two significant surviving nineteenth century double-pile frame houses in eastern Lincoln County. About ten years later in 1894, William A. Graham, Jr. (1839-1923), also a resident of the Machpelah community and the grandson of⁴⁰ Gen. Joseph Graham, erected a more conventional bracketed Victorian farmhouse. Reinhardt's brother, Joseph Edgar (1850-1926), erected a similar Victorian house about 1900 where, like the Graham house, the ornament appeared on the porches, eaves and gables of the house.⁴¹

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 10

Within the contexts of both county and community, Mount Welcome, the John Franklin Reinhardt House is an important building. As one in a series of nineteenth century houses erected by members of the prominent families of eastern Lincoln County, it demonstrates a significant shift in economic status enjoyed by those families. Although the social status of the Reinhardt family remained unassailable and John Franklin Reinhardt would serve six terms in the state legislature and achieve broad appreciation as a farmer, his house was not the mansion of his ancestors. Instead, Mount Welcome was a substantial, well-finished but unpretentious house that fit its roles as the seat of a 1,000-acre holding and the home of the gentleman planter and politician John Franklin Reinhardt.

When the architectural survey of Lincoln County was published in 1986 the house received relatively little attention despite the fact that it was placed on the Study List for the National Register as a result of the survey. That situation it appears was the result, in large part, of its then somewhat derelict and unphotogenic condition. Now restored and renewed, it again stands as a prominent building in the Lincoln County landscape.

Politics/Government: Context and Significance

The tradition of political service to the county, state, and nation that engaged the lives of prominent men of eastern Lincoln County and Lincolnton began in the eighteenth century. It had its origins in the military activities of the Revolutionary War that occurred in the region including the Battle of Ramsour's Mill that was fought on land belonging to Christian Reinhardt, Sr., John Franklin Reinhardt's great-grandfather. General Peter Forney (1756-1834), also a great-grandfather, commanded troops during part of the period from 1776 until 1781. Some six years thereafter he began his career as an iron-maker in Lincoln County; among his investments was a forge near his plantation, Mount Welcome, whose name descends to the present with this property. Forney served in the State House of Commons from 1794 through 1796 and in the State Senate in 1801-1802. He was a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1813 until 1815. Peter Forney was succeeded in the halls of Congress by his son Daniel Munroe Forney (1784-1847) who served in the House of Representatives from 1815 until 1818. Daniel M. Forney, the brother of John Franklin Reinhardt's paternal grandmother, likewise served in the State Senate from 1823 until 1827.⁴² In 1818 Susan Forney, the daughter of General Peter Forney, was married to Bartlett Shipp (1786-1869). His service in the State Legislature from 1824 until 1830 overlapped that of his brother-in-law. Shipp was also one of the Lincoln County delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1835.⁴³ The friendship and business and familial relationships between Bartlett Shipp and Franklin Monroe Reinhardt, John Franklin's father, are well known. Consequently, it is not an overstatement to suggest that Shipp was a mentor of young John Franklin Reinhardt.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 11

Another political tradition was established by William Alexander Graham (1804-1875), likewise a son of the Machpelah community, being the son of General Joseph Graham of Vesuvius Furnace. The younger Graham departed Lincoln County for his education at the University of North Carolina and the study of law. He established a law practice in Hillsborough by 1828, and from 1833 through 1840 he represented that town and Orange County in the State legislature. In the latter year he was elected to the United States Senate and served into 1843. In 1844 he was elected governor of North Carolina in a contest with Michael Hoke, also a son of Lincoln County; he was reelected in 1846 and served to January 1849. In 1850 Millard Fillmore appointed him secretary of the navy. In 1852 he ran as the vice-presidential candidate on the Whig party ticket but was defeated; he returned to North Carolina where he exercised critical influence in political affair during the late-antebellum, Civil War, and reconstruction periods.

Whereas agriculture had held relatively little interest for Graham, it was to be the field of expertise for his son William A. Graham, Jr. (1839-1923) and his grandson William A. Graham (1873-1943). Graham, Jr., returned to Lincoln County after service in the Civil War and established his farm on the former plantation of General Graham. He was a long-time friend of John Franklin and Plilecta Reinhardt and when she died in 1903 Graham wrote the obituary that was published in the local newspaper. He represented Lincoln and Gaston counties in the State Senate in the 1870s and through his championing of agricultural reform he was appointed to the Board of Agriculture in 1899; he held that position until he was elected state commissioner of agriculture, a position he held until his death. He was succeeded by his son who held the office until 1936.⁴⁴

The mixture of politics, family, and society was a potent and formidable one in Lincoln County. Governor William A. Graham's sister Mary was married in 1824 to the Rev. Robert Hall Morrison (1798-1889), a Presbyterian minister who would serve as the first president of Davidson College (1837-1840). Their son Capt. Joseph Graham Morrison (1842-1906) was a friend and business partner of John Franklin Reinhardt. Their daughter Mary Anna Morrison (1831-1915) was married at Cottage Home in Lincoln County in 1857 to Major Thomas Jonathan Jackson. As the widow of Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson (1824-1863), Mrs. Jackson achieved almost legendary status in North Carolina and the South.⁴⁵ In 1907 John Franklin Reinhardt introduced a bill in the State Senate to place Mrs. Jackson on the pension roll of the Senate.⁴⁶

In the Annals of Lincoln County William L. Sherrill wrote pointedly of the Reinhardt family's role in the political life of Lincoln County. "The Reinhardts have always been noted for courage, thrift and popularity with the people, and every generation from Christian Reinhardt they have represented Lincoln or Catawba Counties in both branches of our State Legislature." Michael Reinhardt, John Franklin Reinhardt's great-uncle, served four terms in the State Senate. Likewise, John Reinhardt, also a great uncle (and Michael's brother),

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 12

also served in the House of Commons in 1799 and 1800. His son, Franklin D. Reinhardt was a member of both the House of Commons (1844-1850) and the State Senate (1858) whereas W. P. Reinhardt, also a son, represented Catawba County in the State Legislature from 1862 until 1867.⁴⁷

In the eulogy read before the Lincolnton Lodge, Alfred Nixon compared John Franklin Reinhardt to Cincinnatus of antiquity, a man "called from the plow to the helm of state," citing his election six times to the North Carolina General Assembly. During this period of political service spanning the years from 1894 through 1911, John Franklin Reinhardt took an active interest in legislation for the benefit of his county and region and in the provisions for the (fellow) aging Confederate veterans of North Carolina. He served as chairman of the pensions committee and also served on various committees during his career including mining and agriculture; in the latter capacity he benefitted from his experience with iron production and as a gold miner and farmer.⁴⁸

It was in 1898 and 1899 that John Franklin Reinhardt demonstrated the civic responsibility that earned his highest mark as a political leader. William L. Sherrill provides a short account of this critical role.

When a candidate for the House in 1898 it was rumored that the Legislature would attempt to restrict the right of suffrage to those only who could stand the educational test, the purpose being to deprive the ignorant negroes of suffrage rights. The race question was a tense issue in the campaign, though the suffrage question was not raised. A goodly number of negroes were for Mr. Reinhardt and when they counselled with him about suffrage he frankly told them he would oppose the restriction of it. When the Legislature met in January, 1899, the Democrats almost to a man were for the educational test, but "Jack" Reinhardt, whose word was his bond, stood square to his promise, running the risk of being discounted for not being "regular." A weak-kneed politician under pressure would have forgotten the promise and gone with the crowd, but Reinhardt saved his self-respect by being true to his word, with the result that he made friends by so doing, as was provided in four later contests in which his majorities steadily increased. The people believed in him and stood by him, for they could depend upon him always.⁴⁹

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 13

Footnotes

1. The genealogical information on John Franklin Reinhardt and the Reinhardt Family that appears in this nomination has been composed from a number of primary and secondary sources. Three of these merit recognition: the author's interview with Philecta Reinhardt and Elizabeth Reinhardt Mabry on 28 August 1990 at Mount Welcome; "Reinhardt Family Bible Records" compiled by Frances Reinhardt Puckett and Deborah Casper, a copy of which is located in the Lincolnton Public Library; and correspondence between the author and Mary Jane Fowler (a descendant of David Smith) on 12 October, 29 October, and 16 November 1990. Copies or photocopies of all of the above, together with photocopies of obituaries and other materials supplied by the individuals named above, are included in the file for Mount Welcome at the Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N.C. The North Carolina Highway Historical Marker for Peter Forney stands at the intersection of the Old Plank and Mariposa roads on the nominated property. The Mount Welcome forge was one of the earliest significant iron works erected in Lincoln County and dates to about 1790. It is thought to have stood to the south of Reinhardt's Mount Welcome, on or about the main run of Leepers Creek, and close on Mariposa. There are no known surviving remains of the forge and Peter Forney's house is likewise long-lost.

2. Joseph Edgar (1850-1926), the fifth son of Frankin Monroe, was a prosperous farmer and cotton gin owner. In 1906 he entertained Thomas Alva Edison at his house near Iron Station, a few miles west of Mount Welcome. It, too, remains the residence of his descendants. Peter Forney (1853-19__) removed to Colorado and Ephriam Brevard (1855-1919) moved to Texas where he died. Of the five brothers it was Robert Smith (1858-1925) who probably achieved the greatest affluence. The principal source of his wealth was his investment in the Elm Grove Cotton Mill at Lincolnton. It still stands as does the handsome Beau Arts office building that he erected on Court Square in Lincolnton in 1909. In 1908 he laid out the Elm Grove subdivision adjacent to the mill property. Marvin A. Brown, Our Enduring Past (Charlotte, Delmar Company, 1986), pp. 142, 146, 156, 208. Hereinafter cited as Brown, Our Enduring Past.

3. Brown, Our Enduring Past, p. 207.

4. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

5. Louis H. Manarin, Compiler, North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865, A ROSTER, Vol. II CALVARY (Raleigh: State Division of Archives and History, 1989), p. 33. Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1867-1868 lists Shipp and Reinhardt as the proprietors of an "Iron Making" concern under "Manufactories." In the category "Mills and Owners" F. M. Reinhardt is listed as the owner of the Rehobeth (flour?) Mill at Iron Station which was also the post office for the iron manufactory.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 14

6. Bartlett Shipp was buried in the churchyard at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Lincolnton. In his will dated 3 June 1869--eight days after the death of Bartlett Shipp--Franklin Monroe Reinhardt left all of his real estate including the furnace lands jointly held with Bartlett Shipp to his wife. He gave specific instructions that any sale or division of those land should be in the best interests of both his and Shipp's heirs. He also appointed William Marcus Shipp, Bartlett's son and his cousin, as the executor of his estate.

7. Lincoln County Deed book 47, pp. 416-417, Office of the Register of Deeds, Lincoln County Court House, Lincolnton, N.C. Volumes in the series will hereinafter be cited as Deed book.

8. Deed Book 49, pp. 92-93.

9. Deed Book 49, 124-128.

10. Deed Book 49, pp. 99-100. Susan Forney Shipp and her daughter Susan Shipp Johnson are also buried at St. Luke's Church, Lincolnton. Susan Forney Shipp was married to Capt. Vivian Quarles Johnson, a Civil War veteran and railroad executive. He died on 15 October 1887 and was buried with his first wife, Jane Eliza, at St. Luke's Church. It is somewhat unclear who was living in the Bartlett Shipp home place when this sale occurred or in the decades preceding the sale. The house that stood here where Mount Welcome now stands is thought to have been built by Shipp after his marriage in 1818 to Susan Forney and occupied until sometime in the 1830s (or 1840s) when Shipp purchased the frame residence of his wife's brother Jacob Forney that stands a few miles to the north of Mount Welcome. From that house Shipp moved into Lincolnton where he was living when he died. A newspaper article entitled "The Bartlett Shipp Home," published in the Lincolnton newspaper, and thought to have been written by Lena Graham, features a photograph of Reinhardt's Mount Welcome but it appears to offer confusing information on the occupation of the "home place" and the Jacob Forney house as if they were one and the same dwelling.

11. Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Lincoln County, North Carolina: Population Schedule. Sarah Reinhardt is listed as the head of household #284 in the Ironton Township that included John Franklin, who listed his occupation as farmer, and the four younger sons. The household also included two Black female servants Polly Reel (58) and Martha Reinhardt (11) and John Reinhardt (38), a Black farm laborer.

12. Vesuvius Furnace was listed in the National Register in 1974.

13. Hettie Mabel Reinhardt, the eldest of the three daughters, attended Elon College and was graduated in 1910 from the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing in Charlotte. In March 1915 she was one of eleven American Red Cross nurses sent to Russia where she served until October 1915. In 1917-1919 she also

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 15

served as a nurse under Dr. Stuart McGuire with the 45th Base Hospital of the American Expeditionary Forces. She returned to North Carolina and served as a nurse and teacher at St. Peter's Hospital in Charlotte, at Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville, and at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem. From 1932 through 1934 she served as president of the North Carolina State Nurses Association. Because of poor health she retired in 1938, and relocated to St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1940, where she lived with her sister Louise; she died there in 1953. An account of her career appears in Tar Heel Nurse, March, 1954, pp. 5-6. Mary Edna Reinhardt Keith, the second daughter, was a graduate of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina. She was described in her obituary in the Asheville Citizen-Times (20 February 1949) as a "pioneer in home demonstration work in the State, and a teacher in North Carolina public schools for 30 years." William Benedict Reinhardt studied electrical engineering at North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (now North Carolina State University), graduated therefrom, and relocated in the Yukon Territory (and Alaska) where he worked for several years. He later had a Franklin automobile dealership in Seattle, Washington; he spent the remainder of his life on the West Coast. James Morrison Reinhardt was a successful businessman in Lincoln County where his younger brother Richard Robert Reinhardt practiced veterinary medicine. Wade Hampton Reinhardt, also a veterinarian, was a veteran of both World Wars I and II and retired as a Lt. Col. to Lincoln County. As the addresses for John Franklin Reinhardt in the editions of Branson's North Carolina Business in the 1870s and 1880s suggest he and his family might have been moving around a bit in those years and the actual birthplace of his children born prior to 1885 may remain unconfirmed. This was also discussed in a letter from Philecta Reinhardt to the author, 18 February 1991. The decision to build anew at Mount Welcome in 1885 may then represent his decision to establish permanent roots at the old Bartlett Shipp home place.

14. Deed Book 52, p. 264; Deed Book 52, p. 285; Deed Book 52, p. 290; Deed Book 52, p. 340. A fragment of an account book belonging to John Forney survives in his granddaughter's possession. There are three accounts listed for the year 1871: Jack Reinhardt (John Franklin was known as "Jack"); J. F. Reinhardt; and Wm. M. Shipp. The book was used as a scrapbook and most of the pages are lost, thus we do not know the extent of his mercantile operations. Family tradition suggests that his store functioned as a commissary. This seems likely since no edition of Branson's North Carolina Business Directory in the 19th century lists John Franklin as a merchant. The 1869 edition lists him as the proprietor of a flour and grist mill with Iron Station as the post office. In the 1872 edition he is again listed as a flour mill owner but with Iron Station as his post office. The 1877-1878 edition cites his mother as the owner of the mill. In 1884 he appears as both the proprietor of a corn and flour mill with Iron Station as the post office and as a farmer with a Lowesville address. Apparently "Iron Station" was his post office in the 1870s for an undetermined period when, according to family tradition, he and his family "moved about."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 16

15. Brown, Our Enduring Past, p. 218. Branson's Directory in 1890 lists John Franklin as the operator of a gold mine and a farmer at "Reinhardt's" post office. The corn and flour mill at "Reinhardt's" was being operated by "Morrison & Reinhardt"; Reinhardt's partner was Joseph James Graham Morrison who also had a farm at Reinhardt's post office. In the 896 and 1897 editions of Branson's Directory John Franklin is listed as the owner of a gold mine at Reinhardt and Joseph Graham Morrison was the proprietor of a general merchandise store at the same post office. Neither edition lists John Franklin as a farmer in those years.

16. Brown, Our Enduring Past, p. 213. National Register nomination for William A. Graham, Jr., Farm, listed in the Register in 1977.

17. The only exception to this period of promise at the turn of the century was the death of his second-born son Franklin Madison on 29 June 1901. He was buried at New Hope Methodist Church. During the opening decade of the 20th century John Franklin was purchasing cotton from area farmers and ginning it at Mount Welcome. The only extensive entries in a surviving farm account book list the purchase of cotton during the years from 1904-1907.

18. A copy of this obituary, clipped from the Lincolnton newspaper, survives among the Reinhardt Family papers. The copy bears no date. There are no surviving newspapers for the early 20th century in public repositories.

19. John Franklin Reinhardt's political career is discussed later in this nomination in "Politics/Government: Context and Significance."

20. Charlotte Observer, 10 June 1913. John Franklin was buried beside his wife at New Hope Church.

21. Alfred Nixon's "Memorial Address . . ." was printed, apparently locally; however, no date, publisher, or place of publication appears in the surviving copy in the Reinhardt Family papers. Hereinafter cited as Nixon, "Memorial Address." A photocopy was provided to the author and appears in the file for Mount Welcome.

22. Lincoln County Will Book 6, pp. 67-69, Office of the Clerk of Court, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, N.C., Lincoln County Estates Records--F. M. Reinhardt, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N.C. Deed Book 112, pp. 365-367.

23. Deed Book 112, pp. 365-367 (James Morrison Reinhardt and wife Lelia to John Forney Reinhardt); Deed Book 112, p. 376 (Richard Robert Reinhardt to John Forney Reinhardt).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 17

24. Deed Book 125, pp. 15-17 (Reinhardt siblings to William Benedict Reinhardt); Deed Book 125, p. 441 (W. B. and wife Lillie B. Reinhardt to John Forney and wife Willie B. Reinhardt). During the short period from 1917 until 1921 John Forney Reinhardt made his home at Mount Welcome while the house tract was legally owned by his brother. In fact, during the period from his father's death in 1913 until the estate was settled and the lands allocated in 1917, Reinhardt farmed his father's fields for the mutual benefit of his siblings. This arrangement persisted for some time after the lands were divided just as the two unmarried sisters of his generation continued to consider Mount Welcome their home.

25. Author's interview with Philecta Reinhardt and Elizabeth R. Mabry, 28 August 1990; hereinafter cited as Reinhardt/Mabry Interview.

26. Reinhardt/Mabry Interview.

27. Reinhardt/Mabry Interview. Also, author's interview with Philecta Reinhardt on 9 October 1990; hereinafter cited as Reinhardt Interview.

28. During the last years that John Forney occupied Mount Welcome he sold portions of his real estate holding. John Forney's farm account book survives in the Reinhardt Family papers. His operations for the period from 1955 through 1963 are documented in the series of pencil entries on pages near the middle of the book. Some two-dozen pages beginning in 1932 preceding this text and a smaller number of pages following the entries for 1963 have been cut or torn from the book.

29. John Forney's obituary appeared in the Lincoln Times-News on 4 March 1983.

30. Lincoln County Wills, File 83-E-106, Office of the Clerk of Court, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, N.C.

31. National Register nomination for Vesuvius Furnace, listed in the Register in 1974.

32. National Register nomination for the Andrew Loretz House, listed in the Register in 1972.

33. National Register nomination for Woodside, listed in the Register in 1973.

34. National Register nomination for Ingleside, listed in the Register in 1972.

35. National Register nomination for Magnolia Grove, listed in the Register in 1972.

36. National Register nomination for Shadow Lawn, listed in the Register in 1972.

37. Brown, Our Enduring Past, pp. 14-15, 138, 188.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 18

-
38. Brown, Our Enduring Past, pp. 16, 127.
39. Brown, Our Enduring Past, pp. 18-19, 123-124.
40. National Register nomination for the William A. Graham, Jr., Farm listed in the Register in 1977.
41. Brown, Our Enduring Past, p. 208.
42. William S. Powell, Editor, Dictionary of North Carolina Biography. Volume 2 D-G (Chapel Hill, N.C.; University of North Carolina Press, 1986), pp. 221-223. This volume and others in the series are hereinafter cited as Powell, Dictionary of North Carolina Biography. Also, C. L. Hunter, Sketches of Western North Carolina Historical and Biographical (Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton Company, 1930), pp. 259-264. Hereinafter cited as Hunter, Sketches of Western North Carolina.
43. Hunter, Sketches of Western North Carolina, pp. 271-278.
44. Powell, Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, pp. 337-341.
45. Adelaide and Eugenia Lore and Lt. Col. Robert Hall Morrison, The Morrison Family of the Rocky River Settlement of North Carolina (Charlotte: Observer Printing House, 1950), pp. 281-283. Also, Powell Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, Volume 3 H-K, p. 264. According to Reinhardt family tradition John Franklin Reinhardt had a business relationship with Joseph Graham Morrison in the operation of the cotton mill at Mariposa. The nature of this relationship has not been documented. In the 1890 edition of Branson's North Carolina Business Directory there is an entry for a corn and flour mill operated by Morrison & Reinhardt at Reinhardt's. It appears possible that the site of this mill became the site of the Morrison Cotton Mill at Mariposa that was listed with Joseph Graham Morrison as owner and with capital of \$75,000 in the 1896 and 1897 editions of the directory. In those years Morrison also operated a general merchandise store at Reinhardt.
46. Journal of the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina. Session 1907 (Raleigh: E. M. Uzzell & Co., 1907), p. 140.
47. William L. Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County North Carolina (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1967), p. 41. Hereinafter cited as Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County.
48. Nixon, "Memorial Address." The complete history of John Franklin Reinhardt's career in the state legislature remains to be documented; however, Sherrill's account of aspects of his career and the fact that he was elected and reelected to the state legislature for a total of six times confirms his leadership on a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Mount Welcome, Lincoln County, NC

Section number 8 Page 19

local and regional basis. In Annals of Lincoln County Sherrill includes a list of the "Lincoln County Members of the General Assembly" for the period 1779-1936; the book was originally published in 1937. During the period from the end of the Civil War in 1865 until 1936 no other Lincoln County individual was elected to the legislature as many as six times. In the Senate Session of 1907 he introduced four bills concerning the care and pensions of Confederate veterans and widows (S.B. 270, 479, 743, and 1836) and other bills concerning schools, game laws, the prohibition of alcoholic beverages in Lincoln and Catawba counties, and the governing of Lincolnton.

49. Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, pp. 335-336.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Brown, Marvin A. Our Enduring Past. Lincolnton, N.C.: Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission. 1986.

Lincoln County Records. Office of the Clerk of Court, Lincoln County Court House, Lincolnton, North Carolina (Subgroup: Wills).

Lincoln County Records. Office of the Register of Deeds. Lincoln County Court House. Lincolnton, North Carolina (Subgroup: Deeds).

Reinhardt, Philecta. Interview by Davyd Foard Hood, Mount Welcome, 9 October 1990; interview notes in the Mount Welcome file.

Reinhardt, Philecta, and Mabry, Elizabeth Reinhardt. Interview by Davyd Foard Hood, Mount Welcome, 28 August 1990; interview notes in the Mount Welcome file.

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

Acreage of property app. 24 acres

UTM References

A

1	7
---	---

4	9	5	0	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	5	9	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

B

1	7
---	---

4	9	5	3	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	5	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	7
---	---

4	9	4	8	9	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	4	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D

1	7
---	---

4	9	5	2	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	2	0	2	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property being nominated is outlined on the enclosed plat of the property of Elizabeth R. Mabry and Philecta S. Reinhardt prepared by Milton V. Viggers (Piedmont Surveying Company) on 31 October 1985. It consists of the "House Tract," described in Lincoln County Deed Book 135, p. 441, that was conveyed by the Reinhardt siblings to William Benedict Reinhardt in 1917 and that he, in turn, conveyed to his brother John Forney Reinhardt in 1921.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The property being nominated comprises 24 acres of the sisters's undivided holding of 190.17 acres; this acreage includes the residence, outbuildings, house grounds, and surrounding property. It is the property that was identified and described as the "House tract" in the division of the John Franklin Reinhardt property in 1917. The greater part of the remaining 166 acres is woodland and fields that have lain fallow for the past twenty-twenty-five years and do not retain their agricultural significance. See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Davyd Foard Hood

organization _____ date 28 January 1991

street & number 7360 Old Shelby Road telephone 704/462-4331

city or town Vale state North Carolina zip code 28168

This is a portion of a map, copied at 100%, entitled "Property of
 abeth R. Mabry and Philecta S. Reinhardt, Catawba Springs Township,
 coln County, North Carolina," drawn at a scale of 1"=200' and dated
 October 1985.

VS 190.17 ACRES TOTAL
 BY COMPUTER COORDINATES

D.B. 125, PAGE 12
 D.B. 135, PAGE 442
 FILE 83-E-100, CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

60-FOOT
 R/W
 (ASPHALT ROADWAY)

OLD PLANK ROAD
 S.R. 1511
 (FORMERLY HIGHWAY 73)

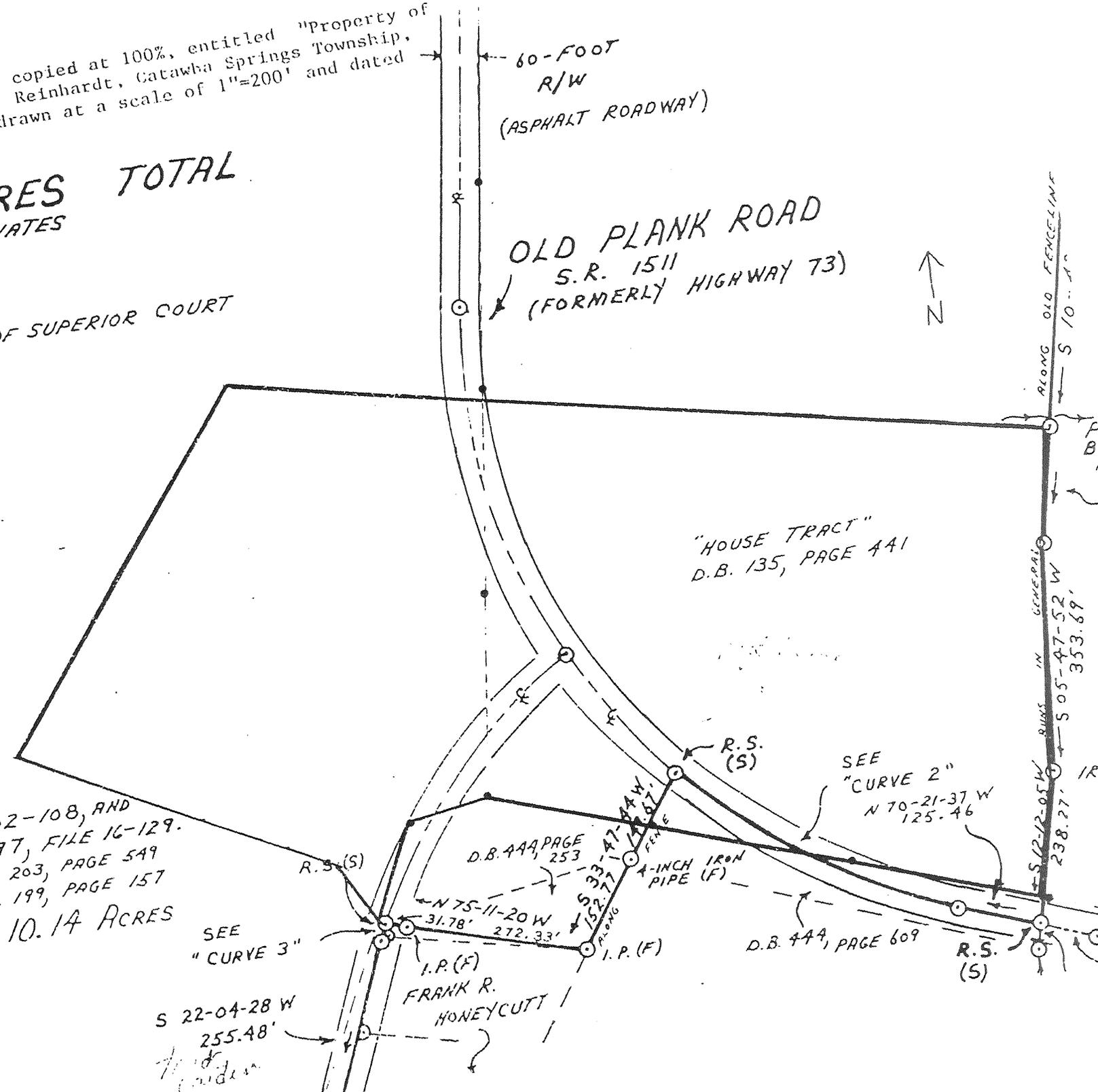


"HOUSE TRACT"
 D.B. 135, PAGE 441

DUKE POWER COMPANY
 PAGE 28, LINCOLN CO.
 DUKE FILES

BOOKS 501-497, FILE 102-108, AND
 FILE 503-26; BOOK 497, FILE 16-129.
 DEED REFERENCE: D.B. 203, PAGE 549
 D.B. 199, PAGE 157

AREA OF EASEMENT: 10.14 ACRES



ALONG OLD FENCE LINE
 S 10-10-10
 S 12-12-05 W
 S 05-47-52 W
 238.27' 353.69'

SEE
 "CURVE 3"

SEE
 "CURVE 2"
 N 70-21-37 W
 125.46

D.B. 444, PAGE 253

D.B. 444, PAGE 609

R.S. (S)

R.S. (S)

R.S. (S)

I.P. (F)
 FRANK R.
 HONEYCUTT

4-INCH IRON
 PIPE (F)



3924
27'30"
FICKS CROSSROADS E MI
10 MI TO INTERSTATE 77
3922
22 MI
LAKE NORMAN SOUTH
4854 IV N.W.

Mount Welcome
MARIPOSA VIC, N.C.
LOWESVILLE ROAD
ZONE 17

- A: N 3920595
E 495020
- B: N 3920500
E 495380
- C: N 3920420
E 494845
- D: N 3920220
E 495250

