

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Leslie-Taylor House

Vass vicinity, Moore County, MR0190, Listed 1/14/2008

Nomination by Michelle Michael

Photographs by Michelle Michael, August 2006



Façade view



Rear view

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any 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 Leslie-Taylor House

other names/site number Maple Lawn

2. Location

street & number 270 Carthage Road not for publication N/A
city or town Vass vicinity N/A
state North Carolina code NC county Moore code 125 zip code 28394

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

Signature of certifying official Date
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register	_____ Signature of the Keeper	_____ Date of Action
<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): _____	_____	_____

Leslie-Taylor House
Name of Property

Moore County, North Carolina
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>3</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
In the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC- Single Dwelling
- DOMESTIC- Secondary Structure
-
-
-
-
-
-

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC-Single Dwelling
- DOMESTIC-Secondary Structure
-
-
-
-
-
-

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
roof Asphalt
walls Weatherboard

other Concrete, Asbestos, Metal

Narrative Description

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

Leslie-Taylor House
Name of Property

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Ca. 1879

Significant Dates

Ca. 1879

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository:

Leslie-Taylor House
Name of Property

Moore County, North Carolina
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11.7 +/-

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>654780</u>	<u>3902840</u>	3	<u>17</u>	<u>655060</u>	<u>3902620</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>655140</u>	<u>3902800</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>654940</u>	<u>3902660</u>
					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 Michelle A. Michael, Consultant

organization _____ date 8/23/07

street & number 1801 Queen Street telephone 910-257-3047

city or town Fayetteville state NC zip code 28303

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Leslie T. Whitesell, Frederick H. Taylor, Anthea Taylor Tate

street & number PO Box 748 telephone 910-576-6111

city or town Troy state NC zip code 27371

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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Leslie-Taylor House
Moore County, North Carolina

7. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary:

The Leslie-Taylor House is a three-story, double-pile, frame house located on the north side of Carthage Road in Vass, Moore County, North Carolina. The house is set well back from the road and is pristine in its rural setting. The land surrounding the house is owned by the descendants of the Leslie-Taylor family and encompasses approximately one thousand acres total. The land included in this nomination is approximately eleven acres immediately surrounding the house and contributing outbuildings. In its overall form and elaborate detailing the house, built around 1879, is the most finely ornamented example of Victorian Eclecticism in Moore County. Rear additions were built in the 1950s but do not detract from the magnificence of this home. The main house as well as its contemporary smokehouse and carriage house all maintain a high degree of integrity with respect to location, setting, design, workmanship, feeling, and association. The property has remained in the possession of the original owners, descendants who have been constant stewards of this architectural landmark. Three outbuildings to the north and northeast of the house are non-contributing due to their later dates of construction.

Leslie-Taylor House Exterior:

The exterior of the Leslie-Taylor House is an exuberant representation of Victorian Eclecticism, made-up of Italianate and Gothic Revival architectural features. The three-bay house is sheathed in weatherboard and capped with a clipped-side-gable roof pierced by corbelled interior chimneys. The majority of the windows in the house are two-over-two double-hung sash. Three steep Gothic gables with ornate sawn bargeboards add character to the third floor of the façade. The larger, central gable contains a window with drip molding while the smaller flanking gables have diamond-shaped vents. A recessed central entrance with an arched-paneled, double-leaf door, a double-leaf screen door, and transom and sidelights framed by elaborate sawnwork muntins, as well as a rooftop balcony with a sawnwork balustrade, mark the central bay. A bracketed door hood offers protection from the natural elements to the balcony entrance also consisting of a double-leaf door, transom, and sidelights. Two full-height, double-hung, two-over-two windows with louvered wood shutters flank the balcony and are positioned directly under the gables of the third floor. The nearly full-width first floor porch is a one-story hip-roof with elevated central section supported by paired brackets as well as chamfered posts also embellished with sawnwork cornices, brackets, and balustrades.

The east and west elevations are nearly mirror images of each other. Bargeboards are evident along the top of the clipped gable, and paired brackets support the returning eaves. A pair of double-hung, two-over-two window with shutters is found at the third floor. A projecting bay window, located beneath a second-floor balcony and adorned with lattice panels, paired brackets, sawnwork balustrade, chamfered posts and bellcast roof, composes the bay closest to the front of the house. The balcony is accessed from a second-floor bedroom through a pair of double-leaf doors flanked by ornate sidelights and protected by

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screen doors. All of the balcony doors and surrounds are the same. A small one-over-one, double-hung window with shutters near the center of the elevation marks a bathroom. The bay closest to the rear of the house is composed of a single, double-hung, one-over-one, wood window with shutters at the second floor over a projecting bay window on the first floor. The bay window is one window deep with three windows across it has a wide cornice and decorative paired brackets.

The rear (north) elevation of the main block is a clipped gable form with steep central gothic gable with paired brackets under the wide cornice. Two second floor windows with shutters are visible on the west side of the rear elevation and a first floor window matches the one just above it. The kitchen ell projects from the east side of the elevation. A single-shoulder, gable-end brick chimney is extant on the kitchen as are a wide cornice, Doric-style cornerboards, and weatherboards. A large one-story, hip roof, glass and brick enclosure has been added to the east elevation, but is easily recognizable and does not encapsulate the original form of the kitchen from the exterior. A second, one-story, hip-roof, brick addition projects from the kitchen on the west side and serves as a rear entrance to the house. This was originally a hip-roof porch that was enclosed during the mid-twentieth century. The bathroom addition, a one-story hip-roof addition sheathed with weatherboard, was made earlier in the twentieth century and is seen on the rear elevation on the west side of the main block. The bathroom is accessible from the enclosed porch as well as the first floor bedroom. A flat-roof structure with square posts and latticed cornice was built to cover the patio area on the northwest corner of the house in the mid-twentieth century.

Interior:

The interior of the Leslie-Taylor house maintains an equal degree of integrity to match the exterior. The only alterations to the house include the kitchen, hall, bathroom, and den additions to the first floor; the additional of closets and bathrooms to the second floor, and the adaptation of the second floor fireplace boxes to central heat and air. A central hall, two rooms deep, composes the main block of the first floor. The wide center hall stair, rising to the back of the house or north along the east wall, boasts an elaborately carved newel post and carved balustrade. Paneled wainscot and simple crown moldings are also evident in the hall. The parlor to the west features raised paneled walls, a bay window, and dentil molding. The mantel has paneled pilasters supporting a paneled entablature with unusual curved centerpiece. The east parlor is similar, except the walls are finished with wallpaper and the fireplace box projects from the wall plane with a Gothic-influenced mantel consisting of elaborately-shaped paneled pilasters that support a Gothic-peaked entablature. The room also contains a bay window with arched-paneled wainscot. A bedroom is located behind the west parlor. It also contains a projecting bay added in the mid-twentieth century. This room is more simply finished than the elaborate public rooms. Across the hall to the east is the dining room. It is a large room with bay window on the east wall, and a Gothic mantel with paneled pilasters, peaked entablature, and dentil molding under the mantel shelf and flanking built-in cupboards on the south wall. The bay window and cupboards were added during the mid-twentieth century. Two doors are located on the north wall; one leads to a butler's pantry, converted into

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a kitchen, which now connects the original kitchen to the house. The other door leads to the den addition. The mid-twentieth century kitchen is a tiny, rectangular-shaped kitchen with passage to the dining room and original kitchen to the north, and a pass-through window to the den in the east wall.

The original kitchen is now the rear ell of the main house. It has been converted into a library but maintains its original feeling and is easily interpreted as a kitchen. A large brick fireplace takes up most of the north wall and is flanked by mid-twentieth century built-in bookcases. The ceiling has exposed beams and flat plaster. Sliding glass-and-wood divided light doors lead east to the den. The den is constructed of brick and glass. It also has access to the dining room and a pass-through window to the kitchen. The addition to the west side of the original kitchen is accessed by louvered fold-away doors. This area was originally an L-shaped back porch which has been enclosed, and now houses a laundry area to the north. A sliding door to the west leads to the rear porch, as well as access to the bathroom on the first floor. The main entrance hall is also accessible from this addition. Both the east addition and west enclosure were completed in the mid-twentieth century.

A second carved newel marks the second floor hall. The second floor plan is very similar to the main block of the first floor with a central hall separating two rooms at the front and two rooms at the rear, all bedrooms. The hall is finished with plaster walls and ceiling. Six inch plain baseboards line the walls at the floor and carpet covers the hardwood floors. Porcelain door knobs with lock boxes are evident on the four-panel doors which have two-part surrounds. At the south end of the hall is a double-leaf door leading to the second-floor balcony on the front of the house. A window is located at the north end of the hall over the stair. All four rooms upstairs are similarly finished with bead board walls and ceilings rather than plaster, and two-part crown moldings. The closets, added in the early twentieth century, all have louvered doors. Both of the front (south) bedrooms have double-leaf doors leading to exterior balconies on the side elevations of the house. Two bathrooms were added to this floor during the early twentieth century. They are located between the front and back bedrooms, flanking the large chimneys, with passage through to both rooms. Closets were installed on the other side of the chimney in the west rooms. The northeast bedroom closet was built along the west wall of that room. Heaters have been installed in place of the fireboxes in the second floor bedrooms and the mantels were removed. They are currently stored in the dairy barn.

A staircase rises from the back of the second floor hall to the attic or third floor, also with a center hall but with only one room on each side. The stair curves at the north end of the hall. A beautiful sawnwork balustrade protects the attic hall from the stairwell. In contrast to the individual sawnwork balusters on the first and second floor staircase, the attic balustrade is likened to a single sheet of wood that has been cut out and bent to form the balustrade. Closets have been built into each side of the hall on the south side for additional storage. A window illuminates the space on the north end of the hall. Tortoise shell door knobs and lock boxes adorn the four-panel doors leading from the hall to the flanking rooms. The walls in the attic are sheetrock and the wood floor is unfinished. The brick chimneys are exposed and stand in the

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middle of each of the two attic rooms. Small vertical board doors allow access to the eaves on the north side of each room.

Smoke house, ca. 1879, Contributing building

A small, seven-sided, frame smoke house with pyramidal, asphalt shingle roof and brick foundation is located north of the house. The one-and-one-half-story building is sheathed with weatherboard and boasts a two-part cornice with modillions, west-facing double-leaf entrance door with iron strap hinges, and a decorative turned finial atop the apex of the roof. A hip-roof door hood protects the doors. Each of the other elevations is adorned by a single louvered vent opening with a pedimented hood supported by modillions. The interior of the smokehouse has exposed framing and a stair along the southwest wall that leads to a small balcony extending across two sides of the structure.

Carriage House, ca. 1879, Contributing building

The frame, one-story, two-bay, gable-front Gothic-influenced carriage house with asphalt shingle roof and brick foundation faces west and is located northeast of the main house. This picturesque outbuilding is sheathed with weatherboard. Decorative bargeboard and cornice returns adorn the gable which is topped by a weathervane. Modillions support the cornice. The carriage house doors are paired pointed arch doors of flush vertical boards. Drip moldings cap the openings. A round vent with sawnwork decoration is located in the center of the gable. Framing is exposed on the unfinished interior.

Generator House, 2000, Noncontributing structure

The generator house is located just east of the main house. It is a small gable-front, frame structure with hinged wooden door and asphalt shingle roof.

Dairy Barn, ca. 1926, Noncontributing building

A large west-facing, three-story-with-basement dairy barn located northeast of the carriage house, closer to the agricultural fields. It is a gambrel-roof building with a one-story side-gable wing to the south. A multi-part addition forms an "L"-shape on the front of the wing. The roof is sheathed with metal while the building is covered in weatherboard. The windows were replaced in the 1960s with two-over-two, horizontal-light, double-hung wood sash windows. A smaller two-story gambrel roof wing was attached by a two-story gabled hyphen to the east side of the barn in 1963-1964, when the Moore County Humane Society was started here. The interior of the barn reveals a central passage flanked by stalls on either side and large loft on the second floor. The south wing was converted into an apartment in the late twentieth century.

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Shed, ca. 1900, Noncontributing structure

The shed is a long, side-gable structure with a metal roof supported by wooden posts located directly between the wash house and dairy barn.

Wash House, ca. 1879 / 1930s, Noncontributing building

The wash house is a one-story, one-bay, gable-front frame building with concrete block foundation, asbestos shingle siding, and asphalt shingle roof, located north of the garage. A three horizontal-light, half-glazed door with three cross panels and metal stoop awning makes up the entrance. Horizontal-light, double-hung windows are located in this double-pile building. The corbelled brick central chimney with stepped shoulder appears to be older than the 1930s building. The interior walls and ceilings are finished with flush boards. The family's old cast iron wash pot still stands on the stove in the center of the room.

Garage, ca. 1930s/1950s, Noncontributing building

The garage apartment is a south-facing, two-story, three-bay, front-gable building with wide weatherboard siding located north of the smokehouse across the rear circular drive. The two-bay, shed-roof second story projects over the three-bay garage with a mid-twentieth-century modern style. Horizontal-light, two-over-two, windows flanked by shutters provide the fenestration on the second floor. The garage doors are wood paneled with one row of glazed panels to provide light.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary:

The Leslie-Taylor House meets Criterion C for architecture due to its local architectural significance as one of the fullest examples of Victorian Eclecticism in Moore County. The style is characterized by steeply pitched gable roofs, full-width porches, decorated bargeboards, cross-bracing, bay windows, drip mold window crowns, and brackets. The Leslie-Taylor House, built around 1879 for local physician Dr. James Addison Leslie, exhibits all of these elements in a single picturesque composition. The house maintains a high degree of integrity with respect to location, design, materials, workmanship, setting and association. The house and surrounding outbuildings represent an intact representation of a late-nineteenth century home and its necessary buildings in North Carolina. In addition to the house, a smoke house and carriage house contribute to the integrity of the property. Remaining outbuildings, though noncontributing, are rural in nature and are in keeping with the sense of place surrounding the Leslie-Taylor house and its history. The Period of Significance for the property is circa 1879, the date of construction.

Historical Background:

Moore County is located in the sandhills region of the state between the piedmont and the coastal plain. It was formed from Cumberland County in 1784 and named for Captain Alfred Moore (1755-1810). Captain Moore was a Revolutionary soldier and associate justice in the United States Supreme Court who came from Brunswick County (Powell, p. 333). Carthage, the county seat was established in 1796 near the center of Moore County. The Fayetteville to Salem Plank Road was constructed through the county in the 1850s and improved trade in the region (Bishir, p. 269). A series of plank roads and dirt roads were the only transportation routes until the arrival of the railroad in the late nineteenth century. Soon after, winter resort communities such as Southern Pines and Pinehurst were established throughout the county to provide recreation and temperate climates to wealthy industrialists during the cold northern winters. Year round residents of the sandhills made their livings from farming, logging, and naval store industries such as turpentine distilling.

The small community of Winder was established prior to 1907 and named for an official of the Raleigh and Augusta Air Line Railroad (Powell, p. 509). The town was incorporated in 1907 and renamed Vass, for William Worrell Vass (1820-1896), who was treasurer of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad (Ibid).

James Addison Leslie was born in Holly Springs, Wake County, North Carolina. A Civil War veteran and graduate of the University of Virginia and Medical School in Pennsylvania, Leslie is listed in his father's household in the 1870 Census in both Wake and Cumberland Counties. In the Buckhorn Township of

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Wake County, Archibald Leslie is listed as “Stilling Turpentine” while his son, James A., is listed as a practicing physician. In the same year, Archibald is listed in the Quewhiffle Township of Cumberland County as “Stilling Turpentine” while son, James A., is a clerk in a store. As the elder Leslie owned property for pine production throughout the region, listing them in both locations is not impossible. Dr. Leslie married Miss Annie Maria McNeil, daughter of Alexander McNeill, in 1871. Family tradition says that Dr. Leslie acquired the thousand acre tract from a cousin of his bride, a McKeithan. The two moved with three children to Vass in 1878 and began building their home, to be known as “Maple Lawn”. Oral history has it that an architect from Raleigh, named Mr. Connery, designed the house and it was built by Mr. Allen, also of Raleigh, but there is no information to substantiate that claim. After moving into their new home, probably in 1879, the couple had two more children, one of whom, Charles, died in infancy. The surviving Leslie family children were Emma Florence, Lillie James, Walter, and Annie Myrtle. Dr. Leslie continued his medical practice out of his home and operated the farm and lumber business until his death in 1918. He is listed in the 1880, 1900, and 1910 Federal Census as a farmer and merchant rather than a physician.

The Leslies’ second daughter, Lillie, married Frederick Whiteside Taylor in 1905 and lived at Maple Lawn. In addition to maintaining the house, farm, and family lumber business, Mr. Taylor began a dairy in 1926, marked by the construction of a large barn on the property. Their son, Frederick Leslie Taylor, was born at Maple Lawn and maintained it as his home. He became President of Troy Lumber Company, the family lumber company, as well as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Campbell College near Buies Creek in Harnett County. In the mid-twentieth century the dairy ceased operation and the barn was used for horses until 1963-1964 when it became home to the Moore County Humane Society. The family has continued to farm and timber this land throughout its history. Mr. Taylor’s widow, Alliene, passed away in 2005 leaving Maple Lawn to her children, Frederick H. Taylor, Anthea Taylor Tate, and Leslie Taylor Whitesell, the present owners of the property.

Architecture Context:

The Italianate, Gothic Revival, Second Empire, and Queen Anne styles are all grouped within the Picturesque or Victorian era between 1830 and 1900. Usually, buildings constructed during this era are embellished with intricate detail and elaborate ornament. The writings of Alexander Jackson Davis in the 1830s popularized the picturesque Gothic style for domestic architecture in the United States. His ideals were expanded upon by Andrew Jackson Downing who published *Cottage Residences* and *The Architecture of Country Houses* in the 1840s and 1850s. These books promoted the Gothic style and rural, natural environments. The majority of high style examples of the Gothic Revival were adapted for larger, industrial cities of the North or Midwest, more modest vernacular examples are seen in the south. In Catherine Bishir’s North Carolina Architecture, Bishir explains how the picturesque ideal breached popular taste in this rural state:

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In North Carolina, the picturesque movement concentrated in cities and along the new transportation routes that were extending the market economy across the state. Far from supplanting neoclassicism in popular taste, the picturesque mode was restricted to an urban and progressive rural clientele, for whom it remained one among many stylistic alternatives. Examples of the Gothic Revival and Italianate style appeared alongside Greek Revival and traditional structures. Not until after the Civil War and the widespread industrialization of Popular architecture did the picturesque mode penetrate ordinary building. (Bishir, p. 269).

The widespread industrialization of the period from 1860 to 1900 coincides with a portion of the period known as the Victorian era. During this era, building and house design changed rapidly. Construction techniques, as well as mass-produced details and components, allowed for much more extravagant houses than had previously been reserved for only the wealthiest of clients. This is evidenced by the architectural styles popular during the Victorian era; late examples of the Italianate and Gothic Revival as well as the Second Empire, Stick, Queen Anne, Shingle, and Richardsonian Romanesque.

The architecture of Moore County spans from late eighteenth century plank construction to the extravagant homes of the Pinehurst elite. Within its boundaries is a plethora of styles and vernacular renditions. Carthage, the county seat, displays a wide variety of late nineteenth century styles contemporary with the Leslie-Taylor House. The George Calvin Graves House, built in 1882 and renovated in 1897, combines the Second Empire and Queen Anne styles with elements of Colonial Revival. Located in town on Barrett Street it is characterized by its unusual incorporation of towers, turrets, porches, balconies, and bays. The W.T. Jones House, built in 1897, in Carthage, is characteristic of the Queen Anne style in its turned, sawn, and shingled woodwork, asymmetrical massing, and a wraparound porch. The nearby town of Cameron also contains several examples of the Queen Anne style. Two more close communities, Pinehurst and Southern Pines, were established during the last decades of the nineteenth century as havens for wealthy northerners. However, the majority of their architectural stock dates from 1890 to the 1920s.

Although there are many examples of Queen Anne and a few examples of Italianate and Second Empire, the Late Victorian Gothic or Victorian Eclectic style of architecture is rare within Moore County, North Carolina. The style is characterized by steeply pitched gable roofs, full-width porches, decorated bargeboards, cross-bracing, bay windows, drip mold window crowns, and brackets. The circa 1879 Leslie-Taylor house exhibits all of these elements in a single picturesque composition. The sawnwork balustrades add a Victorian era detail to the overall Gothic Revival style of the home. The Leslie-Taylor House is the only example of the Late Victorian Gothic style of architecture in the county.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Books:

Bishir, Catherine W., *North Carolina Architecture*. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, Portable Edition, 2005.

Bishir, Catherine W. and Michael Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina*. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

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Leslie-Taylor House
Moore County, North Carolina

UTM References (Continued)

5. Zone 17 E 654760 N 3902740

Boundary Description: The boundary that encompasses the Leslie-Taylor House and outbuildings including approximately 11.7 acres more or less, a portion of the parcel identified in the Moore County Register of Deeds office as Deed Reference 1327 553, 1327 550, 1327 547 and by Property Pin # 951405194344 as identified by the Moore County Tax Office.

Boundary Justification: The boundary described above represents a portion of the land historically associated with the Leslie-Taylor House and outbuildings at 270 Carthage Road. The nomination boundary line runs immediately north of the barn, from the east parcel boundary to the west parcel boundary, providing an appropriate setting for the house and its outbuildings.

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National Park Service

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Leslie-Taylor House
Moore County, North Carolina

Photographs:

The following information pertains to all photographs

Photographer: Michelle A. Michael

Date: August 2006

Location of Negatives: North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, NC

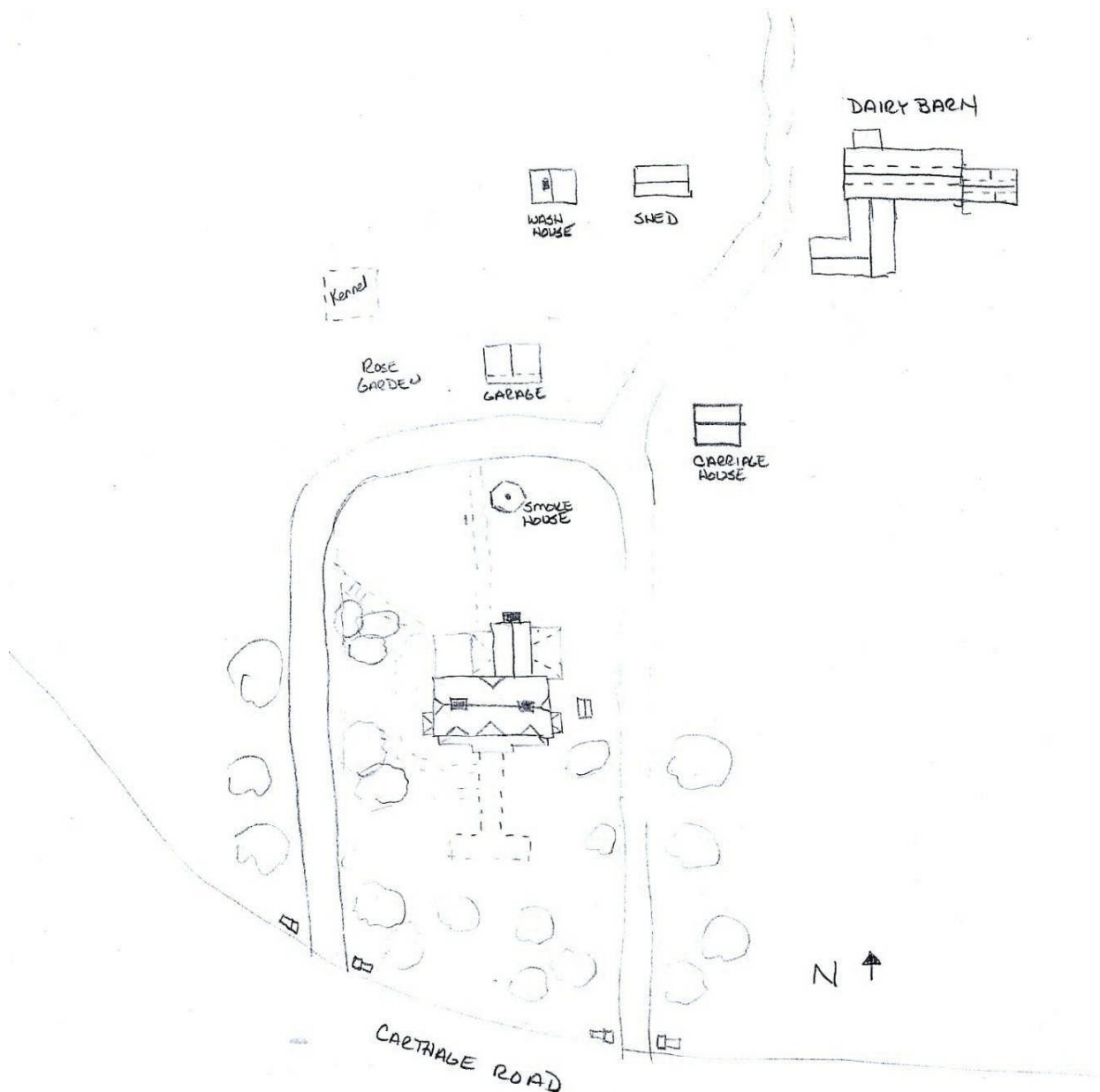
1. View of front (south) of the Leslie-Taylor House.
2. View of the east elevation of the Leslie-Taylor House.
3. View of the rear (north) elevation.
4. Oblique view of the northwest corner (rear) looking southeast.
5. Oblique view of the southwest corner (front) looking northeast.
6. Interior view of front entrance door looking south.
7. Interior view of west parlor mantel.
8. Interior view of east parlor mantel.
9. Interior view of second floor hall, stair, and newel post.
10. View of carriage house façade (west elevation) looking east.
11. View of smokehouse façade (west elevation) looking east.
12. View of wash house, shed, and dairy looking east.

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Leslie-Taylor House
Moore County, North Carolina



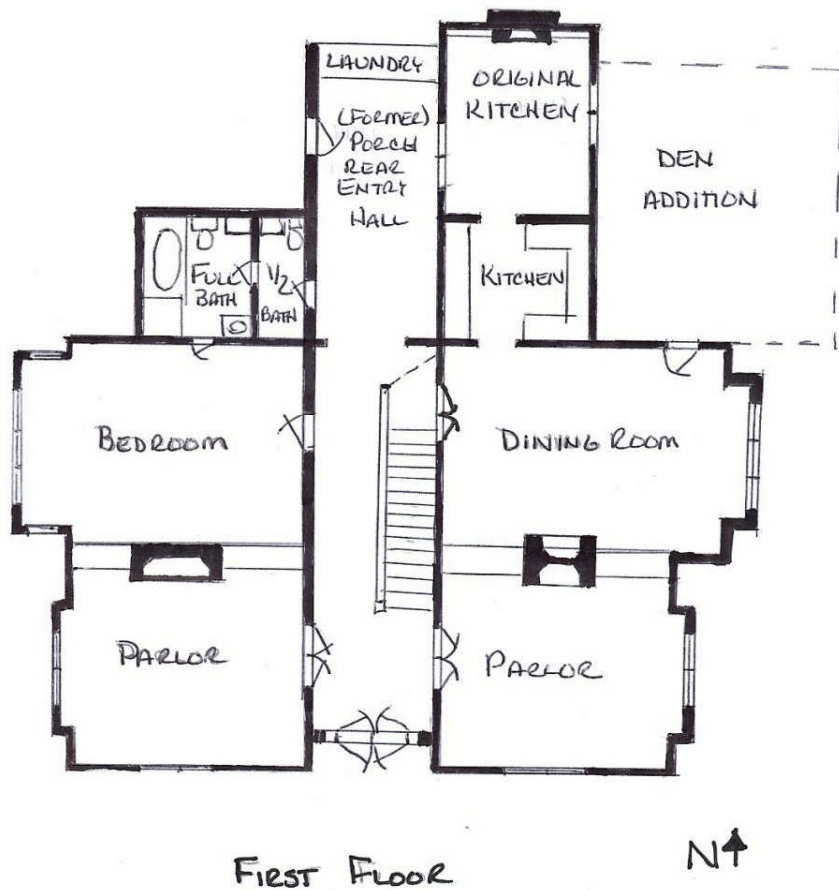
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Leslie-Taylor House
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Not to scale



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Section number Floor Plan Page 14

Not to scale

