

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase
and Additional Documentation**

Chapel Hill, Orange County, OR1748, Listed 1/30/2008
Nomination by Ruth M. Little
Photographs by Ruth M. Little and Robert Stipe, 2005 and 2006



101 Pine Lane



503 Laurel Hill Circle



124 Fern Lane



103 Round Hill Road

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
X district
site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

34

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: single dwelling
Domestic multiple dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: single dwelling
Domestic multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

- Colonial Revival; Modern Movement
International Style
Other: Ranch

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation brick
roof asphalt
walls brick
wood
other slate
stone
vinyl

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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.)

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.

Areas of Significance

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

(Enter categories from instructions)

architecture

Period of Significance

1937-- 1960

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sprinkle, William Van

Webb, James

Matsumoto, George

Carr, George Watts

Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Name of Property

Orange Co., N.C.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 20 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing
1 17 677060 3975800
2 17 677280 3975040

Zone Easting Northing
3 17 677450 3974680
4 17 677260 3974580
X 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 M. Ruth Little

organization Longleaf Historic Resources date July 25, 2007

street & number 2312 Bedford Ave. telephone 919.412.7804

city or town Raleigh state N.C. zip code 27607

12. 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 _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

Section 7: Description

The Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation extends the period of significance to 1960 and adds twenty-six houses to the Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District (NR 1989). The original district consists of Country Club Road, Laurel Hill Road, Laurel Hill Circle and Round Hill Road. The boundary increase consists of properties on Pine Lane, Fern Lane, Iris Lane, Ledge Lane, Laurel Hill Road, Round Hill Road, and Country Club Road. The added houses were primarily constructed after 1940, the end of the period of significance of the original historic district. They represent the important post-World War II phase of construction within and adjacent to the original subdivision developed by William C. Coker in 1927. The district additional documentation updates the original nomination by re-evaluating seven noncontributing houses to be contributing because they were constructed during the expanded period of significance, and by changing one contributing house to noncontributing because of substantial alterations and additions that have affected its architectural character.

The expanded historic district is bounded on the north by Raleigh Road (NC 54), on the east and west by property owned by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and on the south by S. Fordham Boulevard (US 15-501 Bypass) and by recently constructed houses on St. James Place. The subdivision was called Rocky Ridge Farm or Rocky Ridge Development on the original subdivision plats of the late 1920s. Because the main subdivision road is named Laurel Hill Road, the neighborhood has been called Laurel Hill for many years. Four of the thirty added houses are post-1960 and are noncontributing. Four sheds are noncontributing; two pools are counted as noncontributing structures.

Laurel Hill Road contains the oldest and most architecturally distinguished houses in the subdivision. These were listed in the original district. No. 308, 400, 404, 602, 604, 606, 608, and 612 Laurel Hill Road are included in the boundary increase. The other additions are 302 Country Club Road, at the entrance to the subdivision; 101 Ledge Lane (a small street that extends to the east of Country Club Road); 101 and 103 Round Hill Road (a one-block lane intersecting Laurel Hill Road); nine houses on Pine Lane (a one-block road that intersects Laurel Hill Road); four houses on Fern Lane (a two-block street that forms the south end of the subdivision); and four houses on Iris Lane (which intersects Fern Lane).

Most of the additional houses are either Colonial Revival-style brick houses, Cape Cod-style houses, Colonial-style Ranches, Contemporary, and Colonial/Contemporary-style houses. The Colonial Revival-style houses are generally one-and-one-half-story brick, side-gabled houses with authentic period windows, siding, and entrance trim. Typical examples are the Boyd House, 313 Country Club Road, 1954, designed by George Watts Carr; the Harland House, 608 Laurel Hill Road, ca. 1945; and the Bond House, 101 Pine Lane, 1937, designed by William Van Sprinkle. The Hickey House, 3 Iris Lane, is a two-story Colonial Revival-style house built in 1960 that has the same careful period details as the earlier houses. Typical Cape Cod-style houses, essentially smaller versions of the Colonial Revival, are the Taylor House, 100 Fern Lane, 1954, and the Ellis-Thomas House, 103 Pine Lane, 1951.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 2
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

The Colonial Ranches have characteristic Ranch house form and period details such as entrances and sash windows. The 1952 Cadmus House, 7 Iris Lane and the 1955 Taylor House, 106 Fern Lane are typical of these. The Contemporary Ranches and Split-Levels have characteristic forms with contemporary features such as vertical wood siding, low overhanging roofs, and large casement or sliding windows. Five of them were designed by the Webb brothers: the Eliason House, 103 Round Hill Road, 1948; Calhoun House, 104 Pine Lane, 1951 (Split Level); Thurstone House, 400 Laurel Hill Road, 1952; Darden House, 124 Fern Lane, 1954 (Split Level) (attributed); and the Weedon House, 100 Pine Lane, 1957. One house, the Julian House, 101 Ledge Lane, 1954, is an International Style design by George Matsumoto.

The Tatum House, 308 Laurel Hill Road, is a Colonial/Contemporary-style probably constructed from mail-order plans, The two-story Colonial Revival-style main block has a one-story split-level living room wing with a modern bowed window, and across the front is a shed porch with louvered screens and built-in stone planters of contemporary character.

Houses in the boundary increase that are noncontributing because they were built after the end of the period of significance are 4 Iris Lane, a 1963 Split-Level; 604 Laurel Hill Road, an early 1960s Colonial Revival; 606 Laurel Hill Road, a Colonial/Contemporary built in 2006; 104 Pine Lane, a Contemporary built in 2007, and 101 Round Hill Road, a ca. 1990 brick house.

The boundary increase houses contain a high level of integrity. The most common addition is a side or rear wing or an attached carport or garage. Such additions are generally small in scale in relation to the original main block and therefore their visual effect is minimal. For example 100 Fern Lane is a Colonial Revival-style cottage that has a side garage wing addition that mimics the design of the main block. It is set off from the main block by a hyphen.

The seven houses in the original historic district that have become contributing due to age are generally of Colonial Revival or Cape Cod style of brick or frame construction and relatively small in scale. They were built in the 1940s and 1950s.

Inventory List: Properties are organized alphabetically by street name and numerically by street number. Building dates and historical information were researched by Bob and Josie Stipe through research in the earliest city directory of 1957 [1957 CD], the next directory of 1959, and through interviews with property owners and long-time residents. This contribution is indicated by [Stipe Notes]. M. Ruth Little collected some historical data during the fieldwork, primarily through interviews. The properties are named for their first owners.

All buildings are categorized as C (contributing) or NC (noncontributing) based on the following criteria. Any building built after the end of the period of significance, 1960, is noncontributing due to its age (NC-age). Buildings built before 1960 that have lost their architectural integrity because of substantial additions and/or alterations incompatible with their original character are categorized as noncontributing because of these changes

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 3
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

(NC-alt.). Examples of this are complete window, door, and porch replacements; artificial siding that obscures the original door, window, wall and eave detailing; and extensive post-1960 additions. Artificial siding such as aluminum, vinyl, or hardiplank does not automatically render a building noncontributing as long as the application of the siding does not obscure the decorative finish of the openings and the eaves.

BOUNDARY INCREASE	
Country Club Road, south side	
302 Country Club Rd. C 1950	Dean C. O. Cathy House. Brick 1 ½-story Colonial Revival-style house with a side-gable roof, projecting gabled wings at each end of the façade, and a center recessed porch with wood columns. Original 8-over-8 wood sash windows and a multi-pane picture window with flanking 6-over-9 sash beneath the porch. Recent additions include a shed dormer, a deck with a pergola, and the conversion of the side porch into a sunroom. Original owner was Dean C. O. Cathy. Dr. H. G. Jones has owned it for many years. [Stipe Notes]
Country Club Road, north side	
313 Country Club Rd. C 1954 George Watts Carr, architect	Bernard and Thelma Boyd House. Large 1 ½-story Colonial Revival-style house with wood shake siding, interior chimney, 3 gabled dormer windows, and 2-over-2 sash windows. Center recessed porch with boxed posts. Façade has two multi-pane picture windows. The house was built for Bernard H. Boyd, a UNC religion professor, and his wife Thelma. [Stipe Notes]
Fern Lane, north side	
100 Fern Lane C 1954	Rowe-Green House. 1 ½-story, 5-bay, side-gable Cape Cod-style house with weatherboard, a center chimney, and a six-panel entrance with wide fluted pilasters. The side elevation has some original 8-over-8 wood sash. Alterations include replacement 6-over-9 sash, replacement wood railing at the front entrance, and a rear shed dormer. The 1-story side-gabled wing on the east side is connected by a hyphen. This may have been the original garage that was converted to living space, or may be an addition. The original occupants were Eleanor R. Rowe and Philip P. Green, Jr. [1957 CD, Stipe Notes]

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 4
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

<p>106 Fern Lane C 1955</p>	<p>James A. Taylor House. Side-gable 6-bay-wide Colonial Ranch with wood shingled walls, center chimney, and a center recessed door. The living room has a front bay window with small panes. Remaining windows are 8-over-8 wood sashes. At the west side is an original attached garage entered from the side. The original occupant was James A. Taylor. The original blueprints are labeled American Home House Blueprint House #33, copyright American Home Magazine, 1954. [1957 CD, Stipe Notes] <u>NC Pool.</u> Ca. 2000. In-ground swimming pool in rear yard. <u>NC Pool House.</u> Ca. 2000. Shed-roof pool house with wood siding.</p>
<p>110 Fern Lane C 1957</p>	<p>Dr. Ernest Wood House. Brick, side-gable, 5-bay Ranch with a recessed 2-bay garage wing on the west side. The center recessed door has large flanking sidelights and vertical siding in the recessed area. Windows include 6-over-6 sash and fixed 20-pane windows. To the right of the entrance is a front cross-gable. The first owner was Dr. Ernest Wood, the first radiologist to practice at UNC hospitals. Bill Dooley, head football coach at UNC, purchased it in 1969 and lived here until 1994. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>124 Fern Lane C 1954 Jim Webb, architect</p>	<p>Thomas H. Darden House. Striking Modernist Split-Level house with a butterfly roof, vertical wood siding, a post-and-beam frame, fixed plate glass windows, large clerestory windows, and a front brick chimney. The original master bedroom at the left side is set on a higher level than the main living area. Projecting to the front is a carport and covered walkway with slender wood posts supporting a flat roof. At the right side is a recessed addition containing the master bedroom and a sunroom. The original screen porch, located behind the living room, has been enclosed as a dining room. The earliest known occupant is Thomas Darden. According to oral tradition, Jim Webb designed the house. [1959 CD, Stipe Notes] <u>NC Shed.</u> Ca. 2005. Small shed with vertical siding and flat roof.</p>
<p>Iris Lane, east side</p>	
<p>4 Iris Lane NC-age 1963</p>	<p>DeWalt House. Large Colonial Revival-style Split Level with a one-story section at left and a 2-story section at right. The roofs are side-gabled. The lower level is brick-veneered, the remainder has vinyl siding. The living room contains a large multi-pane picture window. Across the living room section is a shallow porch with wood columns.</p>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 5
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

	Dr. and Mrs. DeWalt were the owners from 1963 to 2000. [Stipe Notes] <u>NC Shed. Ca. 1980.</u> Front-gabled shed with T-111 siding.
Iris Lane, west side	
3 Iris Lane C 1960	Jim Hickey House. 2-story side-gable 5-bay Colonial Revival-style house with weatherboard, 8-over-8 wood sash windows, and a pedimented entrance porch with paired colonettes set on square bases. The entrance has a 2-pane transom. Other features are a wide boxed cornice and an exterior end chimney. At right is a 1-story garage wing with a small cupola. The original owner was Jim Hickey, UNC football coach, who remained here until 1977. [Stipe Notes]
5 Iris Lane C 1957	Charles Henderson House. Large Ranch with stucco walls, a gable-on-hip roof, a center chimney, and a wide front-gabled wing containing a garage, entered from the side. The other section of the wing is a recessed entrance porch with a decorative metal corner post. Windows include 6-over-6 and 8-over-8 wood sash and a bay window. The original occupant was Charles Henderson. [1957 CD]
7 Iris Lane C 1952	Robert T. Cadmus House. Colonial Revival-style 5 bay side-gable brick Ranch with a recessed door with sidelights and flanking pilasters and 8-over-8 wood sash windows. The living room has a large multi-pane picture window with flanking sashes. A shallow porch with wood latticed posts extends from the entrance to the left side. At the left end is a sunporch. All trim is covered with vinyl. Robert T. Cadmus, a physician and first director of UNC Memorial Hospital, was the original owner. [1957 CD, Stipe Notes]
Laurel Hill Rd.	
308 Laurel Hill Rd. C 1957	Jim and Edna Tatum House. Colonial Revival/Contemporary style house with a 2-story side-gabled main block and a 1-story living room wing set on a split-level. Board-and-batten covers the lower level; vinyl weatherboard the upper level. The living room wing is of stone, with an end chimney of stone and a bowed front window. The entrance with sidelights is sheltered by a recessed porch that extends across the main block, with a louvered screen at each end and stone planters. The 2-story rear wing with garage and screen porch was added in recent years. UNC football coach Jim Tatum and his wife Edna had the house built in 1957.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 6
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

	[Stipe Notes]
400 Laurel Hill Rd. C 1952 Jim Webb, architect	Louis and Thelma Thurstone House. Contemporary 1-story L-shape house with a hipped roof with wide eaves, vertical wood siding, and an entrance with tall transoms and wide sidelights. Other windows are vertical casements with transoms. An original 2-car carport extends from the right side and is connected to the house by a screen porch. Architect Jim Webb designed the house for Louis and Thelma Thurstone, UNC psychologists. Contractor was Ellington & Sparrow. [Stipe Notes]
404 Laurel Hill Rd. C 1950 William Van Sprinkle, architect	Ed Cameron House. Colonial Ranch-style house, 4 bays wide, with a side-gable roof, wood shingled walls, a recessed door with small sidelights, and 2-over-2 wood sash windows. At the left is a front-gable wing with board-and-batten siding. At the left side is an original screen porch. Architect William Van Sprinkle designed the house for UNC math professor Ed Cameron. Contractor was T. D. Green. [Stipe Notes]
602 Laurel Hill Rd. C 1960	Richard Bradford House. Colonial Revival-style 1-story side-gable brick house with 12-over-12 sash windows, a portico with paired columns, an interior chimney, and a 2-bay wing with a recessed porch on the south side. Although the house is first listed in the 1962 city directory, it may have been built as early as 1957. Richard Bradford was the owner/occupant in 1962. [Stipe notes]
604 Laurel Hill Rd. NC-age 1963	William Dye House. Colonial Revival-style 1 ½-story gable-and-wing brick house with an interior chimney, multi-pane windows, and a recessed entrance. William Dye, a UNC botany professor, was the original owner. Later owners were Edwin Tenny, then his daughter Julie and her husband Bill Reppy, a UNC law professor. [Stipe notes]
606 Laurel Hill Rd. NC-age Ca. 2006	House. Colonial Revival/Contemporary-style 1 ½-story brick house with a hip roof, sash windows, and a front shed-roof porch with classical columns. A columned arcade extends sideways to enclose a patio.
608 Laurel Hill Rd. C Ca. 1945	J. P. Harland House. Colonial Revival-style 1 ½-story house with wood shingled walls, 6-over-6 sash, and 3 gabled wall dormers. Multipane picture windows flank the center entrance. At left is an original screen porch; at right is an original garage with a metal cupola. The house is set sideways on the lot so that the garage faces the street. J.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 7
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

	P. Harland, UNC classics professor and famed archaeologist, was the original owner. [Stipe Notes]
610 Laurel Hill Rd.	Vacant Lot.
612 Laurel Hill Rd. C 1957	Henry Ferguson House. Brick and frame Split-Level house with a garage in the lower level, bedrooms in the upper level, and living room in the 1-story side brick wing. The upper level has asbestos shingles. Windows are 1-over-1 sashes. A shed porch across the 1-story section has replacement boxed posts and a simple railing. Henry Ferguson was the occupant in 1957. [Stipe Notes]
Ledge Lane	
101 Ledge Lane C 1954 George Matsumoto, architect	Milton and Virginia Julian House. Architect George Matsumoto designed this landmark International Style house for Milton and Virginia Julian, who operated Milton's Clothing Cupboard on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill. Built on a sloping site, the small house has the quintessential Modernist arrangement of a lower level set into the hillside that supports a cantilevered main story. A concrete block wall encloses the lower level of the rectangular flat-roofed house. The kitchen, located on the main floor facing Ledge Lane, has continuous glazing in the upper wall. The kitchen wall is sheltered by a shallow recessed porch. Sliding glass doors open from the rear wall of the lower level into the yard. The upper level has lightweight wooden panels and windows, some fixed and some casement-type, with a screened porch cantilevered out from the rear wall. A concrete block retaining wall encloses the parking area at the side. Construction was delayed by a lawsuit brought by owners of the surrounding lots, who opposed the house because they believed that its modern design was out of character with existing houses. The lawsuit went to the North Carolina Supreme Court, where the design covenants were held unenforceable. [Stipe Notes].
Pine Lane, north side	
100 Pine Lane C 1957 Jim Webb, architect	Fred and Josephine Weedon House. Contemporary Ranch built on a slope, with an exposed basement at the rear, with wood shingle siding, sliding windows, an interior concrete block chimney, and a recessed entrance with an adjacent jalousie window. A deck and rear bedroom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 8
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

	<p>balcony was added in 1981. It was built as a retirement home for Fred and Josephine Weedon. Jim Webb was the architect; Ellington & Sparrow was the contractor. The Weedons' daughter, Josie Stipe and her husband Bob Stipe have lived here for many years. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>102 Pine Lane C 1938</p>	<p>Urban T. Holmes House. Colonial Revival-style painted brick house with a deck-on-hip roof, a recessed entrance, 6-over-6 wood sash with paneled aprons and arched lintels, and a 1-story side wing with an end chimney. Across the front are 3 shed dormers. The sloped site allows for a basement level garage in the right side. Original owner was Urban T. Homes, a UNC classics professor. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>104 Pine Lane NC-age 2007</p>	<p>House. Contemporary transitional-style frame house with hipped roofs, a front porch, and a front garage wing.</p>
<p>108 Pine Lane C 1957-1958</p>	<p>William and Kathryn McKnight House. Raised brick Ranch with side-gable roof that faces away from the street. The simply-finished house has a door with a single large sidelight, a recessed entrance porch with a decorative metal post, 1-over-1 metal sash windows, and a side screen porch elevated on high posts. William A. and Kathryn McKnight were the original owners. Kathryn was still in residence in 2006. [Stipe notes]</p>
<p>Pine Lane, south side</p>	
<p>101 Pine Lane C 1937 William Van Sprinkle, architect</p>	<p>Richmond and Marjorie Bond House. Brick Colonial Revival-style house with five parts: a center 1 1/2-story side-gabled main block, a hyphen and a side-gabled 1-story wing to the right, and a 1-story side-gabled wing and a low gabled garage wing to the left. The main entrance has a small transom and a dentilled lintel. The upper façade has 4-pane casements set in flush siding. A dentilled brick string course separates the first story from the upper level of the main block. The wood windows have 12-over-12, 8-over-8, and 6-over-6 pane sashes. In the garage wing are wall dormers. It was built for Richmond and Marjorie Bond. William Van Sprinkle was the architect; Ellington & Sparrow was the contractor. [Stipe Notes]</p>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 9
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

103 Pine Lane C 1951	Ellis-Thomas House. Cape Cod-style 1 ½-story side-gabled brick house with an end chimney, 8-over-8 wood sash windows, 3 gabled 6-over-6 dormers, a screen porch on the right side, and a gabled garage wing at the left, connected by a screened hyphen. Gordon Ellis of the UNC education department was the original owner. Henry and Mary Thomas acquired the house shortly after construction. Henry was a UNC chemistry professor; Mary was a librarian at UNC Medical School. [Stipe Notes]
105 Pine Lane C 1955	Joe and Peggy Galloway House. Contemporary style side-gabled brick Ranch on a daylight basement. The door has a large single sidelight and is set in a recessed corner porch with a boxed post. Wood casement windows are set in bands. The 2-car carport of contemporary design attached to the front is an addition. Original owners were Joe and Peggy Galloway. He was director of placement at the UNC School of Business; she was a public school teacher. [Stipe Notes]
107 Pine Lane C 1960	Gordon and Martha Cleveland House. Colonial Revival-style 1 ½-story side-gabled house with a side-hall plan, a 6-panel entrance with sidelights set in a pilastered surround, and 8-over-12 and 6-over-9 sash windows. The walls have wood shakes. At left is a lower 1 ½-story wing with board-and-batten siding and a gabled 6-over-6 dormer. The sloping site allows for a full basement. Gordon Cleveland, a UNC political science professor, designed the house for himself and his wife. Contractors Ellington & Sparrow built it. [Stipe notes]
109 Pine Lane C 1959	Hugh and Verna Holman House. Cape Cod-style 1 ½-story side-gabled house with a recessed entrance, 8-over-12 and 6-over-6 sash windows, 2 dormer windows, and a small left side gabled wing. Replacement hardi-plank siding. The house was built for Hugh Holman, a UNC English professor and his wife Verna. [Stipe notes] <u>NC Shed. Ca. 2002.</u> Side-gabled shed with hardi-plank siding.
Round Hill Road, south side	
101 Round Hill Road NC-age Ca. 1990	House. Side-gabled brick 1 ½-story house with a recessed door, vertical casement windows, and roof skylights.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 10
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

<p>103 Round Hill Road 1948, 1980 C Jim Webb, architect</p>	<p>Norman Eliason House. Contemporary Ranch with side-gable roof, vertical wood siding, metal vertical casement windows, a rear chimney, and a large rear patio. The house was built for UNC professor Norman Eliason and his wife by architect Jim Webb. An early addition was the enclosure of the original screen porch at the right as a dining room and the addition in front of a carport designed by Webb. At the left end is a 2-bedroom addition made about 1980. The house faces to the rear, with a deck overlooking the rear yard. It has been owned by Mary Penniall Dale for many years. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>Additional Documentation</p>	
<p>Houses that have become noncontributing due to alterations: HD property # in ()</p>	
<p>116 Laurel Hill Rd. (#8) NC-alt. Ca. 1929, ca. 1990</p>	<p>Cornelia Spencer Love House. Hip-roofed 1-story cottage that was remodeled and enlarged about 1990. Little original exterior fabric remains. The interior chimney, entrance with sidelights, and a hipped dormer window are original. The original wall shingles have been replaced with wood siding. At the right is a large 2-story wing of modern design, with large areas of glass and a metal balcony. The house was constructed for Cornelia Spencer Love, a librarian and granddaughter of Chapel Hill civic leader Cornelia Phillips Spencer.</p>
<p>Houses that have become contributing due to age</p>	
<p>3 Buttons Rd. (#30) C 1960 William Van Sprinkle, architect</p>	<p>Charles and Kay Bream House. Contemporary 6-bay long Ranch with a hipped and gabled roof designed by William Van Sprinkle for Charles Bream, UNC radiology professor, and his wife Kay. Siding consists of vertical wood and brick; windows are the sliding type. A recessed porch with thin metal posts extends along most of the façade to a 2-car carport set on the diagonal. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>102 Laurel Hill Rd. (#3) C Ca. 1946</p>	<p>House. Small 1-story brick side-gable house with an interior chimney, a center entrance with transom and sidelights, and paired sash windows flanking the entrance. To the rear is a frame wing. Although traditional</p>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 11
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

	<p>in form, the large transom and sidelights have a contemporary character. The 1-over-1 sash windows are probably replacements. The house was built prior to 1950 by Dudley D. Carroll, Dean of the UNC School of Business, for an in-law. It was later owned by UNC English professor Blyden Jackson. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>104 Laurel Hill Rd. (#4) Early 1950s C</p>	<p>Frances V. Newcome House. Brick, side-gable 1 ½-story Cape Cod-style house with an entrance with fluted pilasters, 8-over-8 and 6-over-6 wood sash windows, and three gabled dormers. Exterior end chimney. At the left is a 1 ½-story frame wing with a shed dormer connected by a small hyphen. This is probably an addition. Mrs. Frances V. Newcome was the owner in the 1957 city directory. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>304 Laurel Hill Rd. (#21) C Ca. 1955</p>	<p>Victor A. Greulach House. 2-story side-gabled Colonial Revival-style house, four bays wide, with an end chimney and 8-over-8 wood sash windows. The first story has board-and-batten siding; the upper story, which overhangs slightly, has weatherboard. Beneath the shed porch with boxed posts is an entrance with sidelights. At left is a 1-story wing with an end chimney. Victor A. Greulach was the owner in 1957. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>501 Laurel Hill Rd. (#17) C Ca. 1957</p>	<p>Hughes Bryan House. Cape Cod-style 1 ½-story side-gable house with 2 gabled 6-over-6 sash dormers, a center chimney, flush siding, and 6-over-9 sash windows. Across the rear roof is a shed dormer. At left is a recessed 2-bay wing. Hughes Bryan was the owner in 1957. [Stipe Notes]</p>
<p>503 Laurel Hill Rd. (#18) C Ca. 1957</p>	<p>Waverly Branch House. Colonial Williamsburg-style 1 ½-story side-gable house, 5 bays wide, with beaded siding, a slate roof, end chimneys, and 6-over-6 sash windows. The entrance, with a transom, has a pedimented entrance porch with paired box posts. Other features are a modillion cornice and 3 gabled dormer windows. The house has flanking 1-story wings. The right wing, apparently a porch, is now enclosed with modern windows. In 1957 Waverly Branch, who was prominent in UNC affairs, owned the house. His wife was the chancellor's secretary for many years.</p>

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 12
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

House integrity and construction date re-evaluated, also address corrected	
307 Country Club Road (313 in original HD-#25) C Ca. 1935, ca. 1965	Robert Voitle House. Colonial Revival-style 1 ½-story cottage with an exterior end chimney, a corner recessed porch, weatherboard, and six-over-six and 4-over-4 wood sash windows. Other features are two gabled dormer windows and an original attached garage on the left side. It was built for Robert B. Voitle. In the mid-1960s architect Arthur Cogswell added a low flat-roof modern art studio to the rear. The addition has vertical wood siding and large fixed glass windows. [Note: It was mistakenly dated 1955 and therefore classified noncontributing.]
Houses constructed within original district boundary	
1 Iris Lane. NC-age 1988	Joe Ferrell and Joe Fama House. 2-story side-gabled contemporary/colonial-style house with weatherboarded walls, a center gabled wing with open porch on the first floor sheltering the entrance, and large windows. <u>NC Garage/Apartment.</u> 1988. 1 ½-story side-gabled 2-car garage with upper apartment in same style as house. <u>NC structure Swimming Pool.</u> Ca. 1988. In-ground swimming pool.
102 Round Hill Road NC-age Ca. 2000	Duplex. 2-story hipped-roof house with a center chimney, stained weatherboard, vertical sliding windows, and a large deck at the left side. The first story is one apartment; the second story is another. This is built on the rear parcel of 116 Laurel Hill Road in the original district.
209 Laurel Hill Road NC-age 1997	Eusonia. 1-story Contemporary brick and weatherboarded house with wide carport wing set at right angles to the main block. The name carved on a boulder, "Eusonia," apparently refers to the design inspiration from Frank Lloyd Wright's Usonian houses of the 1930s. The house stands on the rear section of the lot originally belonging to 306 Laurel Hill Road.
Update of Current Street Addresses	
Address in Original Nomination	Current Address
1 Ridge Rd. (#1)	3 Ridge Rd.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 13
Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.

2 Ridge Rd. (#2)	5 Ridge Rd.
210 Laurel Hill Rd. (#10)	300 Laurel Hill Rd.
212 Laurel Hill Rd. (#11)	304 Laurel Hill Rd.
313 Country Club Hill Rd. (#23)	307 Country Club Rd.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8, Page 14

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

Section 8: Statement of Significance

The Boundary Increase to the Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District incorporates the intact post-World War II development phase of the subdivision into the district boundaries. This phase consists of twenty-five houses built from 1937 to 1960 along Laurel Hill Road, the spine of the district, and the small lanes that branch off of it, and five houses built afterward. The historic 1927 Rocky Ridge Farm development is the only pre-World War II suburb in Chapel Hill that was planned along the City Beautiful principles of road design that conform to the contours of the land. Developer William Chambers Coker, a botany professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, and T. Felix Hickerson, an engineering professor who was a national figure in road design, created the subdivision plan in 1927. Thirty-four houses were built from 1928 to 1940 in Colonial Revival and English Tudor styles. A number were designed by local architects George Watts Carr, Hackney and Knott, and William Van Sprinkle. The added residences consist of a mixture of small and medium-sized Colonial Revival-style houses, a group of four Contemporary houses designed by the Webb architectural firm of Chapel Hill, a dramatic International Style house designed by North Carolina State College architect George Matsumoto, and a group of representative Ranch houses of Colonial character. The Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase meets National Register Criterion C for its local architectural significance.

The period of significance for the boundary increase begins in 1937 with the oldest building in the boundary increase, the Bond House at 101 Pine Lane, and continues to 1960 when historic development of the neighborhood was completed. The historic buildings in the boundary increase generally retain their architectural integrity, including original wall materials, windows, and front entrances.

This nomination expands the period of significance for the original historic district to 1960 to recognize the properties that have achieved contributing status since 1989. The nomination amends the original nomination by re-evaluating seven houses from noncontributing to contributing status because they were built during the expanded period of significance, or, in the case of 307 Country Club Road, the original nomination dated the property incorrectly. One house is amended to noncontributing status because of major alterations. Several street addresses in the original nomination are also corrected.

Historical Background:

Note that the following discussion uses the common name of the subdivision, Laurel Hill, instead of the name of Rocky Ridge Farm that was utilized in the 1989 nomination. The nomination for the Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District ended the period of significance at 1940 in order to include the initial spurt of construction from 1928 to 1930 and the late 1930s construction that followed the building hiatus of the Depression. The thirty-two houses in the district included an assortment of large and small Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and vernacular cottage residences. Building activity was again interrupted in the subdivision during the 1941-1945 years of World War II. Three new houses constructed within the original historic district--209 Laurel Hill Road, 102 Round Hill Road,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8, Page 15

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

and 1 Iris Lane—are documented.

The decade or so following the war was a period of intense development in Laurel Hill as throughout Chapel Hill. The University of North Carolina expanded during the postwar era to meet the demand for higher education. Many new faculty were hired; North Carolina Memorial Hospital opened in 1950, and medical personnel moved to town to teach and work in the hospital and the School of Medicine, newly expanded from two years to four years. The newcomers needed places to live, and architects moved to town to supply their needs. By 1950 most of the level plateau of Chapel Hill village had been built up. The hilly farmland around the village was being subdivided to meet the demand for new houses.¹

Laurel Hill was expanded into adjacent property in the W. C. Coker Estate after his death in 1953. The original suburb consisted primarily of lots 1-16 of the Rocky Ridge Development, plat map dated June 1927, and lots 1-14 of the Buttons Development on Rocky Ridge Farm, plat map dated July 1927. These plats consist of Ridge Road, Country Club Road, Laurel Hill Road and Buttons Road. The boundary increase consists of three additional streets: Pine Lane, Iris Lane, and Fern Lane, and one house on Ledge Lane. Pine Lane was part of the original plat, indicated by the fact that 101 and 102 Pine Lane were constructed in the late 1930s. Laurel Hill Road terminated at the south edge of 603 Laurel Hill Road on the 1927 plat. It was extended to the south to connect with the 15-501 Bypass about 1945. Iris Lane and Fern Lane were platted in 1954 (Orange County Plat 5, page 30).

The neighborhood remains a very desirable residential area due to its proximity to the university campus and to the great beauty of its large lots and heavily wooded terrain. The Laurel Hill Neighborhood Association seeks to expand the boundaries of the National Register Historic District to include the post World War II development in order to stabilize the area's historic identity.

Architectural Context

The original district met National Register Criteria C for the significance of its architecture and Criterion A for its Community Planning and Development significance as Chapel Hill's first planned picturesque suburb. The boundary increase meets Criterion C for its locally significant residential architecture. The houses in the boundary increase are a significant collection of late 1930s Colonial Revival and late 1940s and 1950s Modernist houses. It does not have the same community planning and development significance as the original district area because it was not planned by the developer/engineer team of William C. Coker and T. Felix Hickerson. Architecturally the increase contains houses constructed primarily from 1937 to 1960.

The finest of the Colonial Revival-style houses is the earliest, the 1937 Bond House at 101 Pine Lane, designed by local architect William Van Sprinkle. It reflects the dominant character of the 1930s residences in the original

¹ M. Ruth Little, *The Town and Gown Architecture of Chapel Hill, North Carolina 1795-1975*, 81.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8, Page 16

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District. The five-part brick house has a one-and-one-half-story main block flanked by lower wings connected by hyphens. The diminutive upper story, which has wood sheathing with two pairs of four-pane casement windows, is characteristic of Sprinkle's smaller Colonial Revival houses, such as the Edkins House, 739 Gimghoul Road, in the Gimghoul neighborhood of Chapel Hill (although the brick continues into the upper story and the windows are shorter sash windows). The first postwar house to be built in Laurel Hill was the Colonial Revival cottage of J. P. Harland, a classics professor, at 608 Laurel Hill Road about 1945. The small garage wing on the side of the handsome traditional house acknowledges the importance of the automobile in this suburban location. Prior to World War II, garages in Laurel Hill were located at the end of the driveway.

In 1948 Jim Webb, a city planner and architect moved to Chapel Hill in 1947 to help found the new planning school. Webb and his brother John Webb, who worked with him in Chapel Hill in the early years, had studied with architecture professor William Wurster at the University of California at Berkeley, then worked in Wurster's San Francisco office. Wurster created the so-called "Bay Area Style," an informal modern style of California Ranch that adapted to hilly sites by means of raised basements, with porches, patios, balconies and carports extending the living space out into nature. His post and beam frameworks eliminated the need for load-bearing interior retaining walls and ceilings, thus interiors had flowing spaces and cathedral ceilings. Exterior walls had vertical wood siding and large windows that opened to the rear vista rather than on the street side. The Webb houses that went up in Chapel Hill in the postwar years were truly suburban designs that celebrated the precipitous thickly forested piedmont terrain and differed profoundly from the familiar Colonial Revival houses that populated the town. Significant clusters of Webb houses were built in two nearby developments of the 1950s: Whitehead Circle, located near UNC Hospital, and Highland Woods, a cooperative university community located across the 15-501 Bypass from Laurel Hill. As in Laurel Hill, each house is customized to its site. Some have low gabled roofs set parallel to the street, others have their gable ends facing the street, but all follow the principle of a private street façade and a rear façade that opens up to the woods.²

One of Jim Webb's first Chapel Hill houses was designed in 1948 for English professor Norman Eliason and his wife at 103 Round Hill Road in Laurel Hill. The lot, at the end of a cul-de-sac, slopes toward the rear. The surviving blueprints are signed by Lawrence Enersen, the architect with whom Webb apprenticed while earning his North Carolina architectural license. The modest Contemporary side-gabled Ranch house has sleek lines, with small windows across the front and larger areas of glass along the rear wall of the living room overlooking the woods. Although the blueprint shows a carport attached to the front, this was not built. A short time later the owners enclosed the original side screen porch as a dining room and added a carport in front of the dining room. The interior features cathedral ceilings with exposed roof rafters and continuous wood sheathed walls. Jim Webb and his firm designed at least three other Contemporary-style Ranches and Split-Level houses in Laurel Hill in the 1950s. These are the Thurstone House, 400 Laurel Hill Road (1952), Darden House at 124 Fern Lane (1954), and Weedon House, 100 Pine Lane (1957).

² See discussion of the development of Highland Woods in *The Town and Gown Architecture of Chapel Hill*, 266-269. This is taken from Van Wyck et al., "The Saga of Highland Woods" and from various conversations with Bob Stipe in 2004-2005.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8, Page 17

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

The Thurstone House of 1952 was regarded as one of the firm's best by Jim Webb. The low house L-shaped house designed for the Thurstones, who were psychologists affiliated with the university, has vertical wood siding, a hipped roof, and an original carport connected by a screen porch. Copious glass around the entrance and large casement windows with transoms light the interior. The Weedon House is a Ranch with an open floor plan. The Darden House is a dramatic Split-Level with a butterfly roof that creates high interior spaces. The house is not firmly documented as the work of the Webbs; the attribution is based on oral tradition.

These Webb houses, so startlingly different from the traditional prewar houses decorated with forms taken from colonial American and medieval English architecture, apparently did not attract unwanted attention in Laurel Hill. But in 1955, when Chapel Hill clothing merchant Milton Julian started construction of a small International Style house on his steeply sloping lot at 101 Ledge Lane at the edge of Laurel Hill, the neighbors filed suit in court to block him. They felt that the design, by N. C. State College School of Design professor George Matsumoto, was out of place. Until developer Professor Coker's death in 1953, he or his wife had personally approved all house plans prior to construction and apparently required new home builders to consult with the university architects, Atwood and Nash.³ Coker naturally favored the popular revival styles of the period. This design review process ceased after his death. The neighbors argued that the design was not in character with surrounding houses and attempted to use the deed restrictions in the subdivision governing aesthetic harmony to prevent Julian from building his home. They sued all the way to the North Carolina Supreme Court, which held that the design covenants were personal to Coker, and that they were unenforceable since his death.⁴ Matsumoto was a native Californian who worked in Kansas and Chicago before coming to North Carolina to help establish the new School of Design in 1948. So the Julian House went up. The International Style rectangular flat-roofed house consists of a concrete block basement supporting a cantilevered main level, with Asian style wood panels and a recessed entrance and a screen porch extending across the rear, overlooking the woods. Matsumoto's own 1954 house and studio (NR-1994) at 821 Runnymede Road in Raleigh is a similar rectangular flat-roofed Asian-inspired design. The ground level housed his studio.

Most houses built in Laurel Hill during the 1950s were of conventional design. The Ranch, a long house that hugged the ground and often had an integral carport or garage, was the most popular style. Math professor Ed Cameron built a Ranch at 404 Laurel Hill Road that was designed by architect William Van Sprinkle, who favored the Colonial Revival style. Sprinkle used colonial features to define the Cameron House. Dr. Cadmus, first director of UNC Hospital, had a colonial Ranch built for himself at 7 Iris Lane in 1952. Architect George Watts Carr, a life-long champion of the Colonial Revival style, designed a Cape Cod-style house for religion professor Bernard Boyd at 313 Country Club Road in 1954. An interesting Colonial Ranch is the Taylor House, 106 Fern Lane, built in 1955 from blueprints ordered from the American Home Magazine. The original blueprints have remained with the house. The design is a rustic shingled Ranch with a bay window with small panes of glass lighting the living room and an attached garage at the end. Joe Galloway of the School of

³ *The Town and Gown Architecture of Chapel Hill*, 66.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 88.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8, Page 18

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

Business had a contemporary Ranch built for himself at 105 Pine Lane in 1955. In 1957 Dr. Ernest Wood, the first radiologist at UNC Hospital, had a brick Ranch constructed for himself at 110 Fern Lane. Of course the traditional Colonial Revival-style house continued to be built in Laurel Hill throughout the 1950s and into the 1960s. Waverly Branch and his wife, long-time secretary to the Chancellor, built a house evoking the design of colonial houses in Williamsburg, Virginia at 503 Laurel Hill Road in 1957. An interesting combination of the Colonial Revival and the Contemporary appears in the house at 308 Laurel Hill Road built for legendary football coach Jim Tatum in 1957. Probably constructed from mail-order plans, the main two-story block has proper colonial features, but the living room wing rises up a level to the side, with a modern bowed window, and across the front is a shed porch with louvered screens and built-in stone planters.⁵

During the 1960s, most of the remaining lots in the boundary increase were filled primarily with conventional Colonial Revival-style houses. A few architect-designed homes have been constructed in recent decades.

⁵The historical information is taken from Bob and Josie Stipe's "Building Notes."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 19

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 20

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

Section 10: Boundaries

Verbal Boundary Description:

The addendum boundaries are shown on the attached district map, adapted from the Orange County GIS map. It is drawn at a scale of 1 inch = 200 feet.

Boundary Justification:

Boundaries are drawn to include the streets of the Laurel Hill subdivision that were excluded from the original district nomination due to their age. Houses that are less than fifty years old, or pre-1960 houses located at the edges that have lost integrity due to extensive exterior alterations are excluded from the boundary.

Additional UTM References

5 17 677040 3974750

6 17 676940 3975000

7 17 676750 3975260

8 17 676750/3975700

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section Photos Page 21

**Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation
Orange County, N. C.**

Photographs:

Unless otherwise identified, all photographs were made by Robert E. Stipe in 2005.

- 1 101 Ledge Lane, view from east. Photo by Bill Garrett, 2006.
2. 101 Pine Lane, view from north.
3. 103 Round Hill Road, view from north.
4. 107 Pine Lane, view from northwest.
5. 302 Country Club Road, view from north.
6. 400 Laurel Hill Road, view from northwest.
7. 124 Fern Lane, view from south. Photo by Ruth Little, 2006.
8. 5 Iris Lane, view from east.
9. 503 Laurel Hill Circle, view from east. (Has become contributing due to age). Photo by Ruth Little, 2006.
10. 3 Buttons Road, view from southeast. (Has become contributing due to age) Photo by Ruth Little, 2006.
- 11 604 Laurel Hill Road, view from east (noncontributing)