

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cox-Ange House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 113 North Church Street not for publication
city or town Winterville vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Pitt code 147 zip code 28590

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Jeffrey J. Crow SHPO 8/29/00
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
 entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register

Cox-Ange House
Name of Property

Pitt 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	
4	0	buildings
1	0	sites
		structures
		objects
5	0	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION & CULTURE: museum
OTHER: Storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular Queen Anne

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood: Weatherboard
roof Metal: Tin
other

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

See continuation sheet.

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 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

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Social History

Period of Significance

1904-1949

Significant Dates

1904

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register

Primary location of additional data:

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

Cox-Ange House
Name of Property

Pitt County, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.72 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 282290 3934110
Zone Easting Northing
2

3 Zone Easting Northing

4

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 Nancy Van Dolsen
organization _____ date December 30, 1999
street & number 1601 Highland Drive telephone 252.746.6053
city or town Wilson state NC zip code 27893

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Winterville Historical & Arts Society, Inc.
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town Winterville state NC zip code 28590

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina

Section 7 Page 1

Setting

The Cox-Ange House is located on the northeast corner of Church and Main streets in the town of Winterville in Pitt County. The house lot is long and narrow, and was once three acres, but was reduced to its present size of 0.72 acres prior to 1925. During the ownership of A.W. and Mary Louise (Ludie) Ange, the property was extensively landscaped. According to local history, Ludie Ange was the primary gardener in the family, and she created both ornamental and utilitarian gardens. An orchard was located on the southeast corner of the lot, and grapevines, apple, pear, cherry, fig, and plum trees still grow upon the property. The northeast corner, where the barn stands, was fenced and included pasture for the family cow, a poultry house and yard, and a vegetable-flower garden. The southwest and northwest corners of the lot were dedicated to ornamental gardens, including a water garden and a planting bed with a birdbath. The siting and design of the water garden and birdbath garden, according to Carleton Wood, a horticulturist specializing in historic gardens, "illustrate the piecemeal type of approach that was taken to develop this vernacular landscape."¹ The water garden, which was constructed with concrete, features two levels and a fountain. The lot has numerous planting beds that contain irises, daffodils, daylilies, crinum lilies, canna lilies, as well as other perennials. Ornamental shrubs, including camelias, roses, spirea, honeysuckle, hydrangeas, abelia, privet, hollies, and Rose of Sharon, are scattered throughout the property. A row of crepe myrtles flourishes in the area between the sidewalk and the street.

House, ca. 1900-1904, contributing

The Cox-Ange House, constructed ca. 1900-1904, is a two-story, L-shaped house with a prominent one-story wing that runs the length of the north side elevation and projects beyond the façade and rear elevation of the two-story block. A one-story porch with turned posts wraps around the façade and the south elevation. A small sleeping porch was constructed on the second-story at the north end of the porch. The house is weatherboarded and features simple cornerboards, a boxed cornice and sealed seam metal roof.

¹ Carleton B. Wood, Letter to Larue Evans of the Winterville Historical Society, 24 June 1998.

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Cox-Ange House
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Section 7 Page 2

A one-story shed-roof addition was constructed on the east elevation ca. 1910; a shed-roof addition was constructed to the rear of the ca. 1910 addition during the mid-twentieth century. A small two-story addition was built onto the east elevation for bathrooms during the mid-twentieth century. Windows throughout the house are six-over-six double-hung sash. The house retains its original floors, woodwork, doors, staircase, and tongue-and-groove beaded-board ceilings on the second floor. Doors throughout the house are constructed with five horizontal panels.

The main block of the house is a two-story side-passage, L-shaped building. The stairs feature turned balusters and a large turned newel. A fireplace is located on the east wall of the southwest room. The fireplace projects into the room approximately four feet, and has a chimney that steps back, creating a masonry shelf above the mantel. According to Fannie Mae Ange, who was born in the house, this platform was used as a warm area to grow plants during the winter months.² The mantel is stepped with a heavy shelf above, and features simple pilasters.

On the north side of the stair passage is a one-story wing. The wing projects from the façade of the house. The front room is a formal parlor that has a fireplace on the east wall; the mantel in this room matches the one in the back parlor (located east of this room) and the parlor on the opposite side of the stair passage. The back parlor could only be entered through the stair passage, and may have served as a downstairs bedroom. Through the rear of the stair passage is a long corridor that provides access to the rest of the rooms in the one-story wing, which originally served as the kitchen and dining room. A cistern was located underneath the corridor.

The dining room was heated with a stove; a brick flue is located on the north wall. A small passage with a cabinet (a butler's pantry) is located between the kitchen and the dining room. The kitchen is at the end of the ell, and a small open porch (later enclosed) was located on the south elevation, as was a small pantry with shelves.

The second-floor of the house contains a stair hall, two original bedrooms, a mid-twentieth century bathroom, and a storage area beneath the roof of the wing that was finished with tongue-and-groove beaded boards. The ceilings in this section of the house are finished with tongue-and-groove beaded boards. No fireplaces are located on the

² Fannie Mae Ange, Interview with Sarah Boat, 12 September 1989; Cox-Ange House, Pitt County Historic Resource Survey Form, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

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Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina

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second floor. Access to the sleeping porch is through the storage room, which suggests that the sleeping porch was an addition to the house. Sleeping porches were promoted in popular magazines during the period ca. 1905-1915.³

Barn, ca. 1900-1904, contributing

The barn is a frame, two-bay, front-gable building with a side machinery shed. The exterior is covered with 5V agricultural metal that is nailed to horizontal boards. The gable roof has extended rafter ends. On the south side of the building is a drive-in bay, and a side shed. The drive-in bay has no floor, and was originally partitioned with a horizontal board wall. The central bay is floored, and is separated from the two end bays by solid partition walls. A stair to the upper loft is located along the south wall of this section. The ceiling is covered with tongue-and-groove beaded boards. The north bay has no floor, and a tongue-and-groove beaded board ceiling. The loft is open to the rafters. The rafters are nailed at the peak to the ridge board.

Garage, ca. 1930, contributing

The garage is a frame, gable-front building, covered with 5V agricultural metal that stands on a brick foundation. The building measures 10 feet by 18 feet and has a partial concrete floor.

Wash House, ca. 1930, contributing

The wash house is a front gable, frame building with an extended rafter roof standing on a concrete foundation. The building measures 10 feet by 13 feet and has a brick chimney on the rear gable end. The exterior is covered with drop siding. The interior features a deep, double porcelain sink and a masonry kettle on the north wall. The interior is sheathed with tongue-and-groove beaded boards.

³ See Elizabeth Cromley's discussion of sleeping porches in Elizabeth Collins Cromley, "A History of American Beds and Bedrooms" in Thomas Carter and Bernard L. Herman, ed. *Perspective in Vernacular Architecture, IV* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1991)177-186.

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Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina

Section 7 Page 4

Yard, ca. 1910s-1920s, contributing

The yard surrounding the house and outbuildings contains vernacular ornamental and utilitarian gardens. An orchard with grapevines, apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees stands southeast of the house. The small pasture area is fenced near the barn. The remnants of a vegetable-flower garden are located in the northeast corner of the yard. The southwest and northwest areas of the lot retain elements of the ornamental gardens, including a water garden constructed with concrete featuring two levels and a fountain. A planting bed with birdbath is located at the southwest corner of the yard. The lot has numerous planting beds that contain irises, daffodils, daylilies, crinum lilies, canna lilies, as well as other perennials. Ornamental shrubs including camelias, roses, spirea, honeysuckle, hydrangeas, abelia, privet, hollies, and Rose of Sharon are scattered throughout the property.

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Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina

Section 8 Page 1

Summary

The Cox-Ange House, a well-preserved example of an early twentieth-century vernacular residence with extant outbuildings and a vernacular period yard, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture and Criterion A for social history. The house features elements that express early twentieth-century attitudes and beliefs, including the sleeping porch and an ell with a kitchen and dining room that do not connect directly to the formal living spaces in the front of the house. The importance of the garden to the family is articulated in the design of the fireplace with warming shelf for plants and the surviving landscape including the orchard, planting beds, and water garden. The retention of the outbuildings and the surviving landscape illustrate the utilitarian use of in-town land that was typical during the early twentieth century but which rarely survives into the present.

Historical Background

During the late nineteenth century, Amos Graves Cox (1858-1929) owned the lot upon which the Cox-Ange House stands, as well as the rest of the land associated with present-day Winterville.⁴ Cox, one of nine children of John Cannon Cox and Elizabeth Garner Cox, grew up on a farm near Ayden, North Carolina.⁵ His father invented and patented (in 1879) a cotton planter that A.G. Cox manufactured. By 1889, the manufactory and associated housing had grown large enough to warrant the establishment of a post office.⁶ A.G. Cox, as the first postmaster, selected the name "Winterville" for the growing community. During the 1890s, A.G. Cox began to partition his land into building lots. In 1897 Winterville was formally incorporated. The A.G. Cox Manufactory supplied the town with water and, after 1904, with electricity.⁷

⁴ Pitt County Deed Book M8:300; Pitt County Deed Index, Grantee. Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

⁵ Elizabeth H. Copeland, ed. *Chronicles of Pitt County, North Carolina* (Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing Co., 1982) 244, 247.

⁶ Scott Power, ed. *The Historic Architecture of Pitt County, North Carolina* (Greenville, NC: Pitt County Historical Society, 1991) 341-342.

⁷ Power, 345.

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Cox-Ange House
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Section 8 Page 2

On October 4, 1900, A.G. Cox and his wife, Susan Alice, sold a three-acre lot to A.G. Cox's younger brother, Fountain Oscar Cox, for \$300. F.O. Cox, who was twenty-four years old, began to construct a frame house upon the large lot in the northeast corner of Winterville.⁸

F.O. Cox, and his wife, Margaret, sold the house and its three-acre lot in July 1904 to Martha L. Cox for \$1,500. Six months later, Martha L. Cox sold the property for the same sum to A.W. Ange. Although on paper these deeds occurred six months apart, they both were recorded on the same day in January 1905.⁹

Arthur Walton Ange (1875-1961) was born in Martin County, North Carolina, and married Mary Louise (Ludie) Haddock in 1902. In 1904 A.W. and Ludie Ange moved to Winterville after A.W. Ange had formed a partnership with the Smith Brothers to open a general merchandise business.¹⁰ Ange and the Smith Brothers opened a store that was operated by the Ange family until the 1990s. In 1922 these partners constructed a brick store building at the corner of West Main Street and Mill Street.¹¹

The A.W. Ange family purchased the Cox-Ange House in January 1905. A.W., his wife, Ludie, and four of their children, Fannie Mae, Louise, Myrtle, and Gladys were born while the family lived in the house.¹²

In 1945, A.W. and Ludie's daughter, Fannie Mae, came back to the house to live and to help operate the family business.¹³ At his death in 1961, A.W. Ange bequeathed all his real and personal estate to his three surviving daughters, Fannie Mae Ange, Louise Ange White, and Myrtle Ange Black.¹⁴ Ten years later, Louise Ange White and Myrtle Ange Black sold their share of the "homeplace of the late A.W. Ange" to their sister, Fannie Mae Ange, for \$10.¹⁵ The property was no longer a three-acre tract, but the

⁸ Copeland, 247.

⁹ The relationship of Martha L. Cox to F.O. Cox is not known. Pitt County Deed Books G8:36; G8:35.

¹⁰ Copeland, 158.

¹¹ Power, 348.

¹² Gladys (1915-1917) and two Ange children born before the family moved to the house (Sarah (1903-1904) and Hugh Lafayette (1904-1919)) did not live to maturity; Copeland, 158.

¹³ Copeland, 159.

¹⁴ Pitt County Will Book 11, 432. Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

¹⁵ Pitt County Deed Book, T40, 702.

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Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina

Section 8 Page 3

approximately 280' by 120' (0.72 acre) lot it is presently.¹⁶ The property continued to be used as an in-town farm into the third quarter of the twentieth century.

Fannie Mae Ange held onto the house and lot until 1995 when she sold the property to James W. A. Black, Arthur L. Black, and Ludie A. Moore.¹⁷ Two years later, the property was sold to the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina, Inc.¹⁸ The Preservation Foundation placed protective covenants on the property and sold it to the Winterville Historical and Arts Society, Inc. in December 1997.¹⁹

Architectural Context

The Cox-Ange House is a well-preserved example of an early twentieth-century vernacular residence with extant outbuildings and a vernacular period garden. The house did not follow the popular architectural styles of the period, such as the Queen Anne style or other eclectic Victorian styles as portrayed in magazines and published builders' guides. Instead, the Cox-Ange House is representative of a regional response to the popular culture of the early twentieth century. According to Scott Power's study of Pitt County, the most significant architectural form to emerge during the period 1870 to 1910 in the county was "a center-hall plan house distinguished by the incorporation of a front or rear ell or both. This form approximates either a "T-shaped" or "L-shaped" configuration but retains a center-hall plan."²⁰ With the side wing, the Cox-Ange House exhibits this popular Pitt County form, and includes, as Power suggests is also typical of most Pitt County houses, little ornamentation. When entering the house, the feeling of a center-hall plan predominates, despite the exterior asymmetrical appearance. The Cox-Ange House exhibits traditional vernacular practices in the separation of the kitchen and dining room from the main section of the house. The only access to these spaces is through a secondary corridor although the two rooms are under the same roof as the formal spaces. The Cox-Ange House, while it fits into the general vernacular building vocabulary of the county, is unusual for its excellent state of preservation and in the

¹⁶ The 1971 deed is the first written documentation of the decrease in size of the property from three acres to a lot. An insurance map of 1925, however, also shows the property with its present dimensions. *Map of Ayden (with an inset of Winterville), Pitt County* (New York: Sanborn Insurance Company, 1925) 12. The disposition of the remainder of the original parcel has not been documented.

¹⁷ Pitt County Deed Book, 617:226.

¹⁸ Pitt County Deed Book, 758:472.

¹⁹ Pitt County Deed Book, 791:183.

²⁰ Power, 118.

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Cox-Ange House
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details of the building. The warming shelf above the fireplace for plants and the sleeping porch are details that are unusual and make the Cox-Ange House a remarkable building.

The early twentieth-century barn, garage, and wash house exhibit integrity and are good examples of a rapidly disappearing type of building. Although once fairly common, in-town outbuildings dating to pre-1950 are becoming increasingly rare and the survival of all three buildings on one lot gives the property added significance.

Social History Context

The survival of the landscape with the outbuildings and house make the Cox-Ange House a remarkable historic property that illustrates early twentieth century small-town life in eastern North Carolina. Although small in-town farms were once fairly common throughout eastern North Carolina, the practice declined after World War II, and few continued into the third quarter of the twentieth century. Very few small in-town farms survived intact into the late twentieth century. According to Scott Power, author of the architectural survey of Pitt County, no other small in-town farm survives that exhibits the integrity of the Cox-Ange House.²¹

The retention of the outbuildings and the surviving landscape illustrate the utilitarian use of in-town land that was typical during the early twentieth century but which rarely survives into the present. The barn and the wash house speak to the work that was done on the property. A cow was kept in the barn to provide milk and butter for the family, and the wash house was used to clean the family's clothes and linens by hand, and to provide the necessary space for canning and processing food that was grown on the property. The orchard and the remnants of a vegetable garden also show that food was grown on the town lot. The landscape further indicates that the family used the lot as outdoor living space and chose ornamental plantings and garden structures to beautify their space.

²¹ Telephone conversation with Scott Power, August 19, 2000.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Cox-Ange House, Pitt County, NC

Bibliography

Ange, Fannie Mae, Interview by Sarah Boat, 12 September 1989. Cox-Ange House.

Pitt County Historic Resource Survey Form, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina, 12 September 1989.

Copeland, Elizabeth H., ed. *Chronicles of Pitt County, North Carolina*. Winston-Salem, NC: Hunter Publishing Co., 1982.

Cromley Elizabeth Collins, "A History of American Beds and Bedrooms" in Thomas Carter and Bernard L. Herman, ed. *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, IV*. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1991, 177-186.

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Pitt County Deed Books. Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

Pitt County Will Books. Pitt County Court House, Greenville, North Carolina.

Power, Scott, ed. *The Historic Architecture of Pitt County, North Carolina*. Greenville, NC: Pitt County Historical Society, 1991.

Sanborn Insurance Company. *Map of Ayden (with an inset of Winterville), Pitt County*. New York: Sanborn Insurance Company, 1925.

Wood, Carleton B. Letter to Larue Evans of the Winterville Historical Society, 24 June 1998.

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Section number 10 Page 1

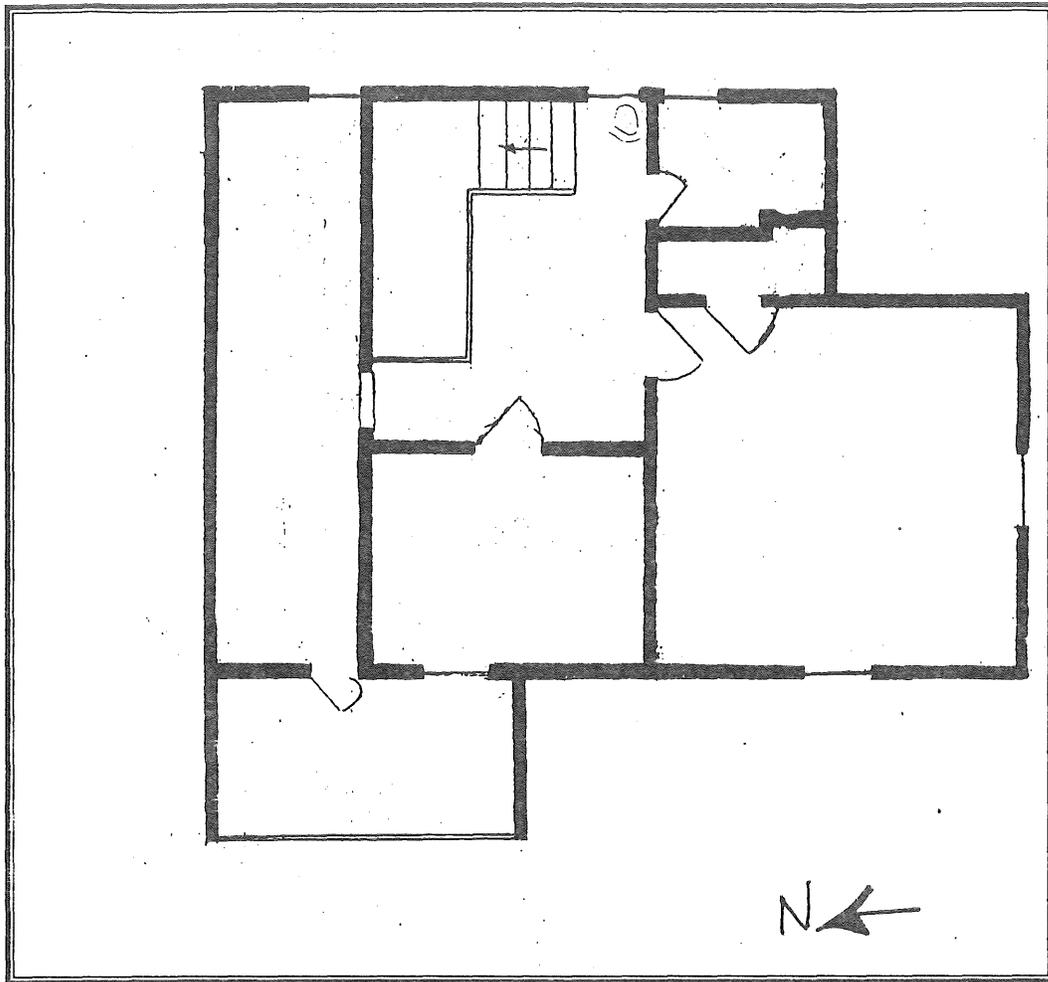
Cox-Ange House, Pitt County, NC

Verbal Boundary

The historic boundary corresponds to the current tax parcel.

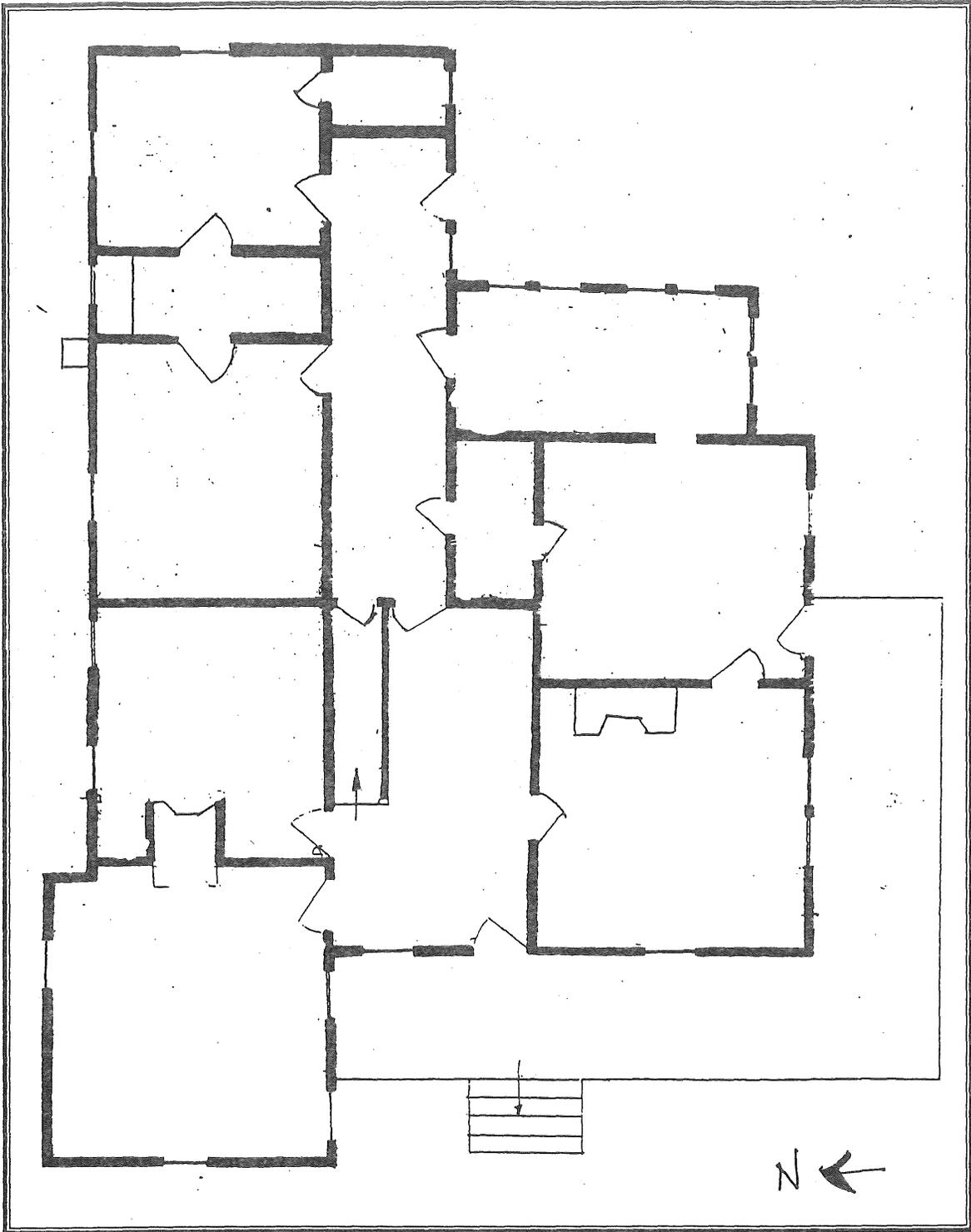
Boundary Justification

The historic boundary includes all of the historic buildings associated with the property, and includes the land associated with the property since 1925. The remaining portion of the 3-acre original tract has been subdivided and developed with buildings that do not relate to this historic property.



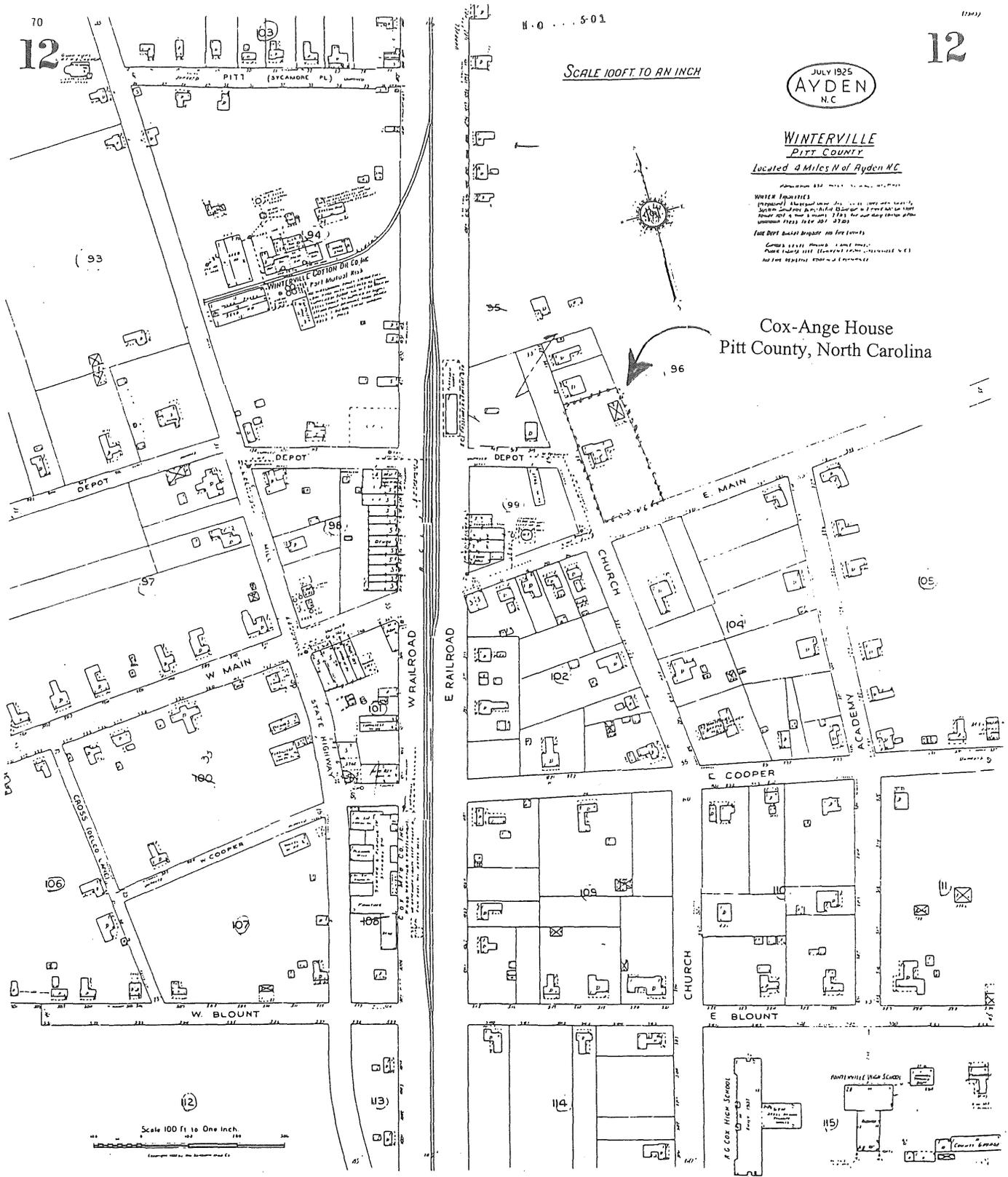
Second Floor Plan, Cox-Ange House

Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina



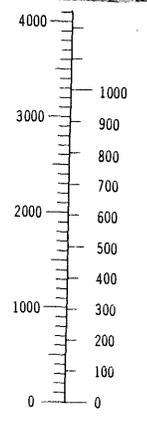
First Floor Plan, Cox-Ange House

Cox-Ange House
Pitt County, North Carolina



1926 Sanborn Map of Winterville showing the commercial district fronting the railroad and residential areas to

the east and west.



Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by .3048

To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

WORTHINGTONS CROSSROADS 2.4 KM

Greenville SW
COX-ANGE HOUSE
WINTERVILLE,
PITT COUNTY

EASTING
282 290

NORTHING
39 34110

3933

3935

32'30"

3936

3937

