

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC J. W. Scott Robinson Farm - Delta Farm
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
W side SR 1100, 1.5 mi N of SR 1105

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Third

CITY, TOWN
Ivanhoe VICINITY OF

STATE North Carolina CODE 037 COUNTY Sampson CODE 163

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mrs. Caroline R. Dellinger (919) 532-4487

STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 97

CITY, TOWN Ivanhoe VICINITY OF STATE North Carolina 28447

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Register of Deeds Book 957, Page 977

STREET & NUMBER
Sampson County Court House

CITY, TOWN Clinton STATE North Carolina 28328

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Thomas Butchko Jim Sumner, Researcher

ORGANIZATION Survey and Planning Branch DATE September 15, 1985

STREET & NUMBER 109 E. Jones St. TELEPHONE (919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN Raleigh STATE N. C. 27611

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1910 to replace a ca 1884 family home destroyed by fire the previous year, this Colonial Revival house was built for John Winifield Scot Robinson, one of Ivanhoe's wealthiest and most prominent citizens. The current owner and occupant, Robinson's daughter, does not remember the name of the contractor. However, she does recall that he was dismissed before the house was completed because all the windows were of a different size; the job was finished by local contractors. Robinson, a member of an old Ivanhoe Scottish family, served as the 1885 Sampson County representative to the General Assembly. He operated a general store and post office at his landing on the Black River, Delta Landing, from which the name of the plantation, Delta, was taken. Robinson was also a large farmer, making annual cattle drives to Wilmington and he ran a sizeable naval store operation. Large and spacious, located in a grove of trees down a private lane, the two-story, double-pile house has a front wrap-around porch and is notable for its excellent interior woodwork. Especially significant are the large - four feet wide - folding doors leading to the dining room. The handsome house is indicative of the fine quality of wood and workmanship available to the planter class in the early 20th century; it is historically tied to the development of steamboat travel on the Black River and with the old, pioneering Highland Scot families of Ivanhoe.

The five-bay-by-four-bay, two-story, double-pile frame house rests on brick piers and is sheltered by a standing seam metal hip roof. A single false gable marks the center of the roof. Substantial interior common bond brick chimneys with corbeled capitals rise from the roof. Across the front, or eastern facade, extends a screened porch carried by Tuscan columns and connected with a slender turned baluster railing. Covered with a hipped roof, the porch curves at the southeast and wraps along the southern elevation for two bays. Fenestration is two-over-two with flat surrounds and louvered shutters. A three-window bay on the north wall of the front northeast parlor has molded upper and lower panels. At the northwest extends a two-room rear ell, connected to the main house with a continuation porch along the ell's south elevation.

Upon entering through the ornate door with a large glass window, one is immediately struck by the spaciousness of the interior. Rising from the front of the hall, along the south wall, is a handsome staircase with turned balusters on a closed stringer terminating at an oversized, turned newel: the gentle angle of ascent makes climbing unusually comfortable and natural. The walls are plastered. The interior woodwork is all stained dark, which tends to lessen the size of the hall and rooms. Ceilings throughout the house are of similar sheathing, simply laid. Mantels, overmantels and other interior woodwork are of the Colonial Revival nature seen in other early 20th century rural houses. Baseboards are used throughout the first floor with the exception of the hall, which has a tongue-and-groove sheathed wainscot, and the front northeast parlor, which has a low, paneled wainscot. From this parlor, north of the interior chimney, is an unusually wide - 3½ feet - door of six, raised, horizontal panels leading to the rear parlor. From this rear parlor, which also has an overmantel, two unusually bi-fold doors give access to the large dining room. The two doors each consist of two sections hinged so as to fold against the frame. Approximately seven feet tall, the two halves are each comprised of two unequal sized sections, having five horizontal panels. When fully opened, this doorway spans twelve feet. The rear kitchen, with an engaged pantry that terminates the rear porch, has a handsome wooden Easklake mantel.

**United States Department of the Interior
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J. W. Scott Robinson House -

Continuation sheet

Delta Farm

Item number 7

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From the rear of the back porch rises a service stairs to the upstairs. The upstairs hall has a wainscot similar to the downstairs; the four bedrooms have neither wainscot nor baseboard. Upstairs mantels are simple and of local classical detailing.

Included on the house site are a number of the original frame outbuildings. Surviving are the gas house - where gas was manufactured for use in the lamps, the two-room servants-ironing house, two smokehouses, a trumpery house for storage, the root cellar, the remnants of the washhouse, and a former brick flower pit. Only two of the many cribs, stables and barns necessary for a farm this size survive. Included in the 444 acre farm - the same land given Robinson by his father in 1880 - is approximately 3,000 feet of frontage along the Black River, including the site of the former store at Delta Landing. Much of the acreage is still covered with mixed pine - hardwood forests.

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Continuation sheet J. W. Scott Robinson House - Delta Farm Item number 7 Page 2

INVENTORY LIST OF OUTBUILDINGS:

- A. Delco House - frame gable-roofed, weatherboarded structure used for house lights. Windowless with batten door and front gable. Added-on rear and side sheds.
- B. Root Cellar - heavy-plank frame building with front projecting gable. Area for storage under roof. Slightly dug into ground. Notable heavy hinges. Batten door.
- C. Trumpery House - for miscellaneous storage. Front-gable structure with vertically placed sheathed boards; now covered with asphalt siding. Four-panel door on long side.
- D. Large Smokehouse - front gable, weatherboarded structure, batten door. Twenty by fifteen feet. Meat was stored here after curing.
- E. Small Smokehouse - oldest outbuilding remaining. End-gable roof, boxed cornice with returns on rear gable. Frame. Meat cured here.
- F. Servants/Ironing House - frame, two-bay-by-two-bay, two-room, weatherboarded building under gable roof. Boxed cornice. Six-over-six sash.
- G. Crib - large frame building with horizontal sheathed boards. Original shakes show through the deteriorated replacement asphalt shingles. Very nice hinges on door. Deteriorated.
- H. Stable - frame building with horizontal sheathed boards containing three stalls, rather large and well built, adjoining stable on the east is the frame, shed-roofed privy for the workers. Deteriorated.
- I. Flower Pit - brick, built against rear shed on house, very deteriorated. Faces south.
- J. Fence - several sections of tall lattice fence.
- K. Dairy - very deteriorated. Small shed-roofed box on two-foot tall legs, moved here behind servants house from original location north of kitchen ell.
- L. Grape Arbor - three-poles square, fairly large.
- M. Washhouse - only ruins of chimney survive.

NOTE:

In addition to the washhouse, many other outbuildings were lost during Hurricane Hazel in October, 1954. Most were no longer in active use, and were never rebuilt. Former outbuildings keyed on site plan.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

_____ NATIONAL _____ STATE X LOCAL

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	1910	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Situated in a grove of oaks and surrounded by the surviving outbuildings of the extensive farmstead, this large, Colonial Revival house - noted for its spacious interior and the excellent woodwork - was the home of one of the area's wealthiest planters and merchants in the early 1900s. Built in 1910 to replace the previous ca 1884 house which burned in 1909, the house was the seat of the extensive farming and mercantile business of John Winifield Scott Robinson (1848-1927). Robinson, a descendent of the area's prominent settling Highland Scot families, at the time he built this house, was farming four farms in three counties and operated a general store and post office at Delta Landing, his private river boat landing on the Black River, from which the plantation's name is derived. The county's 1885 representative and 1899 senator to the state legislature in Raleigh, Robinson was prominent in local affairs and a leader in the Black River Presbyterian Church. The house and the 444 acres given him by his father, Daniel Robinson (1817-1897), in 1880, is owned and occupied by his daughter.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The J. W. Scott Robinson House and Farm are important examples in the rural plantation economy and agricultural development at the turn of the century. In an area where naval stores were an important industry since the 1760s, the Robinson Farm was one of the last in the county to be a major producer.
- B. This was the home of John Winifield Scott Robinson (1848-1927), the descendent of some of Ivanhoe's earliest and most prominent Highland Scot families. Proprietor of a general store, operator of the post office and owner of his private river boat landing at Delta Landing on the Black River, Robinson was an important force in the economic, political, social, and religious life of the community.
- C. Built in the popular Colonial Revival style, the large, two-story, 1910 house is an outstanding example of the quality of workmanship and the grace of upper-class farm life in the 1910s. Especially notable is the interior's woodwork, including the massive bi-fold doors leading to the dining room.
- D. Is very likely to yield information about late 19th-early 20th century agrarian life.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The John Winfield Scott Robinson house is located in the extreme southern part of Sampson County, near the community of Ivanhoe and adjacent to the Black River. The impressive Colonial Revival house was constructed about 1910 to replace a recently-burned 1884 house. Scott Robinson was one of the county's leading businessmen and farmers.

The Robinson family was one of a number of Scotch families to move to Sampson County (then New Hanover County) in the 1770s. William and Catherine Robinson settled near present-day Ivanhoe in 1771, along with their infant son Duncan, Scott Robinson's grandfather. The Robinson's quickly become one of the area's leading families. Scott Robinson was born in 1848, the son of Daniel Robinson (1817-1897) and Hannah Caroline Lamb Robinson. He married Mary Jeanette Corbett (1865-1962).

Scott Robinson was a county leader in a number of areas. However, he was probably best known as a businessman. He operated a number of general stores, a private river boat landing on the Black River, a grist mill, a cotton gin and press, a copper shop, blacksmith shops, and turpentine stills. He also farmed a number of tracts in Sampson and surrounding counties. In 1891, he owned 696 acres in Franklin township alone. Robinson served as postmaster for the community of Delta for ten years and for Ivanhoe for four years. He represented Sampson County as a state representative in 1885 and as a state senator in 1899. An active member of the Black River Presbyterian Church, he was widely known for his philanthropy. He built a one-room school in Ivanhoe in 1897 and was an active supporter of education in the county.² At his death in 1927, Governor Angus McLean eulogized him as "one of the most useful and constructive citizens of the state."³

The Robinsons had six children: Mary Jeanette, John Daniel, Laura, Frances, Caroline, and Winfield. Nettie Robinson continued to live at the house until her death in 1962. Winfield Robinson (1899-1954) inherited the property from his father. He never married so that at his death the house and land became the property of his four sisters.⁴

The Scott Robinson house, also known as Delta farm due to its proximity to Robinson's Black River boat landing, has considerable local historical significance. Robinson was one of the most important people in southern Sampson County during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, with contributions in business, agriculture, politics, and other fields. The importance of the house is increased by the large number of outbuildings surviving.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bizzell, Oscar M., ed. The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina. Winston-Salem, N. C.: The Hunter Publishing Company, 1983.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 444 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 7	7, 5, 2, 4, 2, 5	3, 8, 3, 6, 4, 7, 5	B	1, 7	7, 5, 3, 6, 5, 0	3, 6, 3, 6, 1, 2, 5
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1, 7	7, 5, 4, 7, 5, 0	3, 8, 3, 5, 3, 5, 0	D	1, 7	7, 5, 1, 5, 0, 0	3, 8, 3, 5, 8, 0, 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property to be nominated is the 444 acre home tract as deeded from Daniel Robinson to son, J. W. Scott Robinson, and recorded in New Hanover County about 1880, and in the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office, Book 957, Page 978, recorded on March 7, 1980. A copy of the deed and a rough sketch map drawn by the present owner are attached.

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J. W. Scott Robinson House -

Continuation sheet Delta Farm

Item number 8

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NOTES

¹Oscar M. Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina (Winston-Salem: The Hunter Publishing Company for the Sampson County Historical Society, 1983), 575-577, hereinafter cited as Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County.

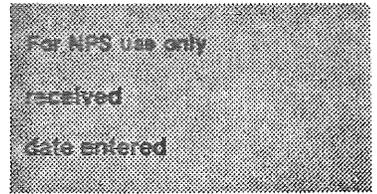
²Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 576-577; Sampson County Tax Records, 1891-1893; John S. Tomlinson (ed.), Assembly Sketch Book, Session 1885 (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1885), 43; News and Observer (Raleigh), August 24, 1899.

³News and Observer (Raleigh), September 16, 1927.

⁴Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 577; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900; Sampson County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

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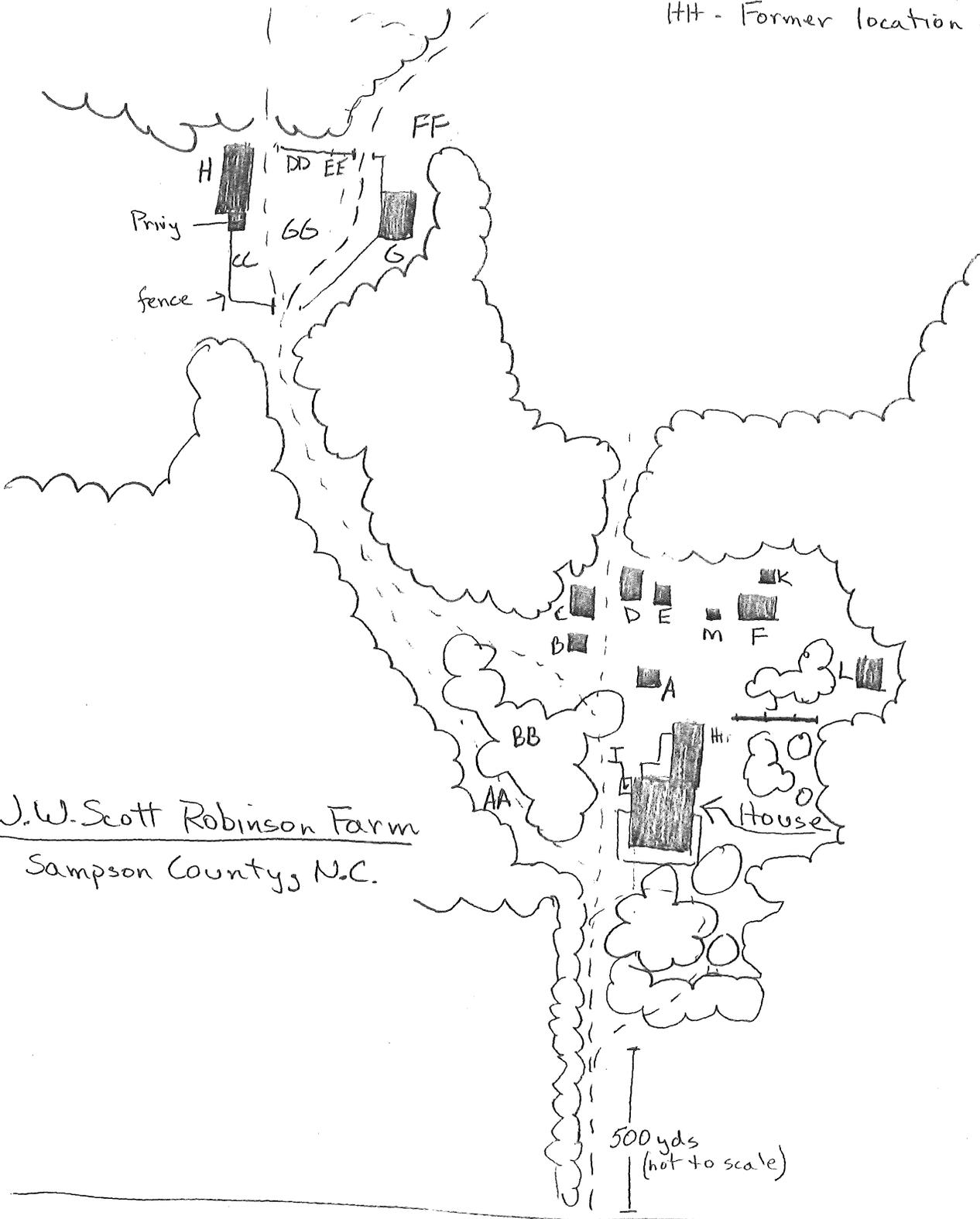


Continuation sheet J. W. Scott Robinson Farm Item number 10 Page 1

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The house is being nominated along with 444 acres which have been associated with the house since it was built in 1910, and before that was associated with the Robinson family and an earlier house, as well as farming, milling, ginning, turpentine and riverboating operations. The Delta Landing was a private landing on the Black River operated by Robinson during the late nineteenth century, and the site of that landing is on the property being nominated, as are sites of the other enterprises in which he was engaged. A large number of outbuildings also still stand on the property. The acreage being nominated is significant for the standing structures on it, the sites which are known, and will preserve the riverbanks and adjoining fields and woodlands, giving a realistic setting to the house.

- AA - Former carriage house, fell down during Hurricane Hazel in 1954
- BB - Former Wagon shed - burned
- CC - Former Stable
- DD - Former Pea crib
- EE - Former Shuck House
- FF - Former Big stable, 10 stalls
- GG - Former stable, 8 stalls
- HH - Former location of dairy, K



J.W. Scott Robinson Farm
 Sampson County, N.C.

500 yds
 (not to scale)

ER 1100

C Lat. 34° 38'
 Long. 78° 15'
 D Lat. 34° 39'
 Long. 78° 15'

Dr. Jeremiah B. Seavey Hou
 Atkinson Quadrangle
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

A 17 754200/3840900
 B 17 754750/3841075
 C 17 754950/3840500
 D 17 755675/3840325

J. W. Scott Robinson Farm
 Atkinson and White Lake Quads.
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500

A 17 752425/3836475
 B 17 753650/3836125
 C 17 754750/3835350
 D 17 751500/3835800

HARRRELLS
 TOMAHAWIC
 QUAD

Black River Presbyterian Ch.
 Rose Hill N. C. Quad.
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500
 17 753075/3832300

Ivanhoe Baptist Church
 Rose Hill N. C. Quad.
 Zone 17 Scale 1:62 500
 17 753200/3832225

