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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

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This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

_x_ New Submission ___ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

"Historic and Architectural Resources of Duplin County, North Carolina, ca. 1790-1943"

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Settlement and Early Development in Duplin County: 1736-1837

The Railroad Era and the Emergence of Towns in Duplin County: 1837-1875

Town Building and Agricultural Prosperity in Duplin County: 1876-1943

C. Form Prepared by

name/title Jennifer Martin

organization _____ date October, 1994

street & number 1 Brucemont Circle, Apt. 6 telephone 704-258-2695

city or town Asheville state North Carolina zip code 28806

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey J. Crow Acting SHPO — 14 Sept 95

Signature and title of certifying official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

for Edson H. Beall — 10/20/95

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

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- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
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PREFACE

Small towns and modest communities mixed with large expanses of wooded land and cleared fields typify the rural landscape of Duplin County. Since settlement in the eighteenth century, most people of the county have led simple existences supported by subsistence farming. In the past, most of the citizens in this southern Coastal Plain county have been isolated by many miles from the nearest urban centers of Raleigh, Fayetteville, and Wilmington. Labor-intensive farm life, the traditional existence for most of its citizens, kept Duplin County residents working and socializing at home and in the immediate community. Strong familial bonds were strengthened by a traditional, rural lifestyle wherein children continued the farm work of their parents and grandparents.

The county's economic history has been marked by a few periods of prosperity interspersed with longer periods of economic stagnation. In the mid-nineteenth century the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad cut through Duplin, ending a long era of isolation from the coast; by the late-nineteenth century, the railroad created a transportation route for farm products from this fertile portion of eastern North Carolina.

The most recent sign of progress came in 1990 with the completion of Interstate 40 through the county and the establishment and growth in Duplin County of some of the state's largest agriculture-related industries. Pork and poultry producers located in the county rank in the top twenty of North Carolina's most profitable private companies.[1] Related to the establishment and expansion of agricultural corporations has been the construction of modern farm facilities designed to hold large quantities of livestock and modern dwellings built for workers and executives of these agribusiness companies. Businesses in the county's towns have seen increased revenues from new residents, and several franchise restaurants and gas stations have appeared along the interstate.

Progress and economic prosperity have affected the economy of Duplin County positively, but this progress has come at a heavy cost to the architectural heritage of the county. Local farmers produce livestock and crops for large companies based in the county. On the one hand, this practice allows farmers to continue a traditional agricultural-based lifestyle. At the same time, the economic rewards these farmers have enjoyed has led many Duplin County farm families whose ancestors settled here in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to abandon the old family home and build new dwellings like those found in the suburbs of Raleigh and Fayetteville. In addition, new agricultural practices have led to the disuse of some outbuildings and the alteration of traditional landscapes.

E. STATEMENT OF HISTORIC CONTEXTS

INTRODUCTION

Located in the southeastern section of the North Carolina Coastal Plain, Duplin County is the ninth largest county in the state and encompasses approximately 819 square miles. In 1993, the approximate population of the county was 39,000. Wayne County lies to the north of Duplin; Pender to the south; Sampson to the west; and Lenoir, Jones, and Onslow to the east. The county was formed in 1750 from a portion of northern New Hanover County and named for Sir Thomas Hay, Lord Dupplin, an English nobleman.[2] The county seat of Kenansville lies west of the Northeast Cape Fear River and south of Goshen Swamp in the central portion of the county . Other incorporated

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towns include Beulaville, Greenevers, Faison, Warsaw, Wallace, Rose Hill, Teachey, Calypso, and Magnolia. Numerous unincorporated communities are dispersed throughout this large county.

Gentle rolling hills in the northwest, to poorly drained flat lands in the southeast characterize the topography of the county. The highest elevation is 167 feet at Bowdens, while the lowest elevation is twenty feet in the south where the Northeast Cape Fear River flows out of the county.[3]

Flowing north to south, the Northeast Cape Fear River is Duplin County's major waterway and provides the most substantial drainage. The river runs east and west along the boundary between Duplin and Wayne counties for approximately ten miles, and then gradually turns and flows southward through the county, to the town of Wallace, and then on south to Pender County. Other waterways provide additional drainage for county soil. Stewarts Creek flows westward from the vicinity of Warsaw and Kenansville into Sampson County, while Goshen Swamp draws water out of the northwest corner of Duplin. A system of smaller creeks and branches meander their way through the county.[4]

The county is made up of four geological terraces whose physical properties have determined the composition of the soil and the degree of water drainage; these two characteristics are crucial to successful agricultural practices. The Coharie terrace, which occupies a small section of northwest Duplin, is made up of sandy, well-drained soil. The Sunderland terrace, which extends from the southern edge of the Coharie terrace to the central portion of the county, is nearly level and slopes gently from its northwest corner to the southeast. Because of the dissolution of limestone underlying this terrace, sinkholes, known locally as the "Bottomless Wells," have formed in the vicinity of Magnolia in western Duplin County. Occupying the southeast quadrant of the county is the Wicimico terrace which consists of level topography, bottomlands, and wet swamplands locally referred to as pocosins. Angola Bay, "an almost impenetrable jungle of the average character of pocosin lands," is the largest such swampland and is located in southeastern and south central Duplin County.[5] Poorly drained soil made up of clay, sand, and gravel have produced the Wicimico terrace. The Chowan terrace occupies a small area of extreme south central Duplin County, and like the Wicimico terrace, it is poorly drained and composed of clay, sand, and gravel.[6]

The characteristics of these terraces have had a profound effect on the agriculture in Duplin County. The Coharie and Sunderland terraces, in the northwest and central areas of the county, provide above average agricultural productivity. Although agricultural production census records do not delineate which crops were grown in specific areas of the county, local farmers maintain that these regions have historically been conducive to the growing of market crops like tobacco, cotton, and soybeans, as well as corn and hay. The Wicomico terrace, in the central and southeastern section of the county, contains more organic matter and possesses poor to fair agricultural production potential. The Chowan terrace, located in the extreme south and southeastern portion of Duplin, is not well-suited to any cultivation.[7]

In a study of Duplin County's historic agricultural practices as related to these geological formations, University of North Carolina scientist Paul Warner Mausel concluded that early settlers on the Coharie and Sunderland terraces farmed large areas of land and were likely to grow tobacco and corn. The quality of soil provided fewer risks of failure for these farmers and encouraged them to cultivate large tracts of improved land

with market crops. Where the soil was of lower quality, smaller tracts were cultivated and conservative planting practices were employed. Mausel found that the Wicomico terrace has historically been farmed by those cultivating small allotments of land.[8]

Oak, hickory, pine, and dogwood trees with a mixture of shrubs originally covered the northern portion of Duplin County, while long-leaf pine, gum, ash, water, and white oaks and various shrubs grew in the southern reaches of the county. Presently, loblolly pines are the most common trees followed by bottom-land hardwoods and pine-hardwoods. Angola Bay and other swampy area of the county contain approximately twenty types of shrubs. Wiregrass is the only indigenous grass in the county; other species found in the county have been introduced.[9]

The following discussion of Duplin County's history from 1736 to 1943 is divided into three periods which reflect three phases of growth and evolution. The first phase includes early settlement and development in the county and extends from 1736, the year of the first white settlement, through 1837, the year before the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad traversed the county. The second period commences in 1838, with the railroad's establishment, and ends in 1875, when the last major railroad town was incorporated. The third period begins at the dawn of an agricultural boom period of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and ends in 1943, the cutoff date for properties recorded in the survey. Although these are three rather large chronological periods, they are useful in illustrating the manner in which the county's economic, social, and architectural character was transformed by the railroad and the development which followed and how this transportation corridor proved to be a benchmark in the county's development.All references to sources are contained in the endnotes which follow the text. References to particular survey properties are noted by the individual survey site number, such as "DP 100."

SETTLEMENT AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT IN DUPLIN COUNTY, 1736-1837

The first white settlers to inhabit what is now Duplin County consisted mainly of Swiss, Germans, English, and Scotch-Irish colonists who had originally settled in coastal North Carolina or in other colonies. Under the sponsorship of Swiss land company Georg Ritter & Company, a colony of persecuted Swiss and German Palatines under the direction of Baron Christoph von Graffenreid had left England in 1710 and landed in Virginia. Their numbers reduced by the time they reached the North Carolina coast, these Palatines eventually settled between the Neuse and Trent Rivers. Graffenried, with a hundred Swiss settlers in tow, later joined the Palatines and officially established the town of New Bern.[10]

In the second decade of the 1700s, after yellow fever and Indian attacks decreased the settlers' numbers, Graffenried returned to Europe to settle a mounting debt he owed Colonel Thomas Pollock. Graffenreid, who had used the settlers' land for security against the loan, failed to settle the debt so Pollock foreclosed on the mortgages on the New Bern property. By 1743, Cullen Pollock, Thomas's son, had evicted the colonists and many of them had migrated westward to northern New Hanover County (now Duplin County).[11]

Among other early settlers were English who came from both the upper and lower Cape Fear River regions and from the colonies of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Others came from the Albemarle region to the northeast and from counties adjacent to Duplin.[12] But by far the greatest number of early settlers to present-day Duplin County

were Scotch-Irish from Northern Ireland who came to America in the 1730s under the direction of London merchant Henry McCulloh. Having been initially granted a total of 60,000 acres of land in eastern North Carolina by King George II, McCulloh transported a group of colonists from Ulster in northern Ireland to the southern Coastal Plain. Although McCulloh's efforts at colonization virtually failed and the validity of his land titles became the center of court battles, by 1736 small communities were established throughout present-day Duplin County.[13]

Under the terms of the land grant, colonists first established a settlement in the county at Soracte (now Sarecta) on the Northeast Cape Fear River. According to county historian A.T. Outlaw, ten houses had been built at Soracte by John Pidcock, John Porter, and William Lewis by the 1730s. Settlers established communities throughout the county at the same time: Beasley's Mill near present-day Magnolia; Goshen near Millers Bridge, northeast of present-day Kenansville; Grovemont (present-day Kenansville); Red House (near present-day Wallace); on Turkey Branch; and at what is now the town of Faison. Settlers from neighboring colonies and from other North Carolina counties settled mostly along the Northeast Cape Fear River and its tributaries.[14]

Although little is known about eighteenth century Africans in Duplin County, their numbers were recorded in the earliest censuses. In 1786, there were 4,193 whites and 1,153 blacks in the county. By 1790, when the first official United States Census was taken, 1,386 of the county's 5,662 total population were blacks. By the end of the century, the number of blacks had climbed to 1,919. A large proportion of blacks living in Duplin in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century were slaves; in 1790 only three free blacks lived in Duplin, but ten years later that number had grown to 55.[15]

The number of free and enslaved blacks continued to climb throughout the early nineteenth century and by the end of the 1830s, 4,677 slaves and 261 free blacks lived in Duplin County, representing over forty percent of the total population. Interestingly, in relation to growth in the numbers of blacks in the county, the population of whites had actually decreased from 6,796 in 1800 to 6,244 by the late 1830s.[16]

County Organization

In March of 1750 Duplin County was formally created from New Hanover County. The first county court convened in 1751 at Goshen at the McRee settlement; four years later it was moved to a site near present-day Baltic on land given to the county by Captain Joseph Williams. This community near the current Duplin-Sampson County border remained the seat until 1784 when Sampson was carved out of Duplin; later that year the county court was moved to James James's store, just south of present-day Kenansville.[17]

When Sampson County was created from Duplin in 1784, commissioners were appointed to choose the site of a new, more centrally located county seat. They selected land on Sheriff James Pearsall's plantation near Grove Swamp. The county purchased four acres of land from Pearsall and the area became known informally as the "Courthouse Plantation" and later, "Duplin Courthouse." Pearsall's home, located nearby, provided room and board for judges, attorneys, and witnesses. In 1785 a courthouse was constructed and tavern licenses were granted to area residents including Pearsall, James, and William Wilkinson. Several permits to build bars were issued as well. By the first decade of the nineteenth century, this center of local government was still quite small consisting only of the courthouse, a jail, several bars, and the Pearsall farm.[18]

By 1816, county officials had decided to build a new courthouse and expand the county seat. In October 1817, county surveyor Hugh Maxwell laid off a one-acre square with the 1785 courthouse at the center and eight lots arranged around the square. The area around the village was laid out in 1818 and the name changed to Kenansville in honor of Duplin County resident James Kenan, a member of the House of Commons and delegate to the North Carolina Provincial Congress. That same year lots in the town were sold to the highest bidders and the new courthouse built. This frame structure was rectangular, stood on eight-foot piers, and was painted white with a brown door.[19]

Kenansville's growth and prosperity came earlier than that of other county towns and was virtually unrelated to the later boom period associated with the growth of the railroad in the late nineteenth century. As the center of county government, Kenansville played a more limited role in the maturation of the county-wide economy. Eventually a commercial area developed around the courthouse square, but the town's specific role was as the nucleus of local government and with its academies and churches, the focal point of county social and cultural life.

Early Religion and Education

The Presbyterian Scotch-Irish who made up the bulk of Duplin County's first settlers quickly established congregations at their settlements, and in nearly every case they built unadorned log churches. Early churches were at Rockfish near present-day Wallace, Goshen seven miles northeast of present-day Kenansville, and at Grovemont near present-day Kenansville. Organized in 1736, the Grove congregation (now Grove Presbyterian Church) is one of the oldest Presbyterian congregations in the state.[20]

Although several Presbyterian houses of worship were erected, their congregations went without a permanent minister for several years. Beginning in 1740, the Philadelphia Synod sent missionaries to visit congregations throughout the colony. In 1755-1756, missionary Hugh McAden made a tour of the colony and noted in his journal that he found seven meeting houses in the area between the Hyco and Yadkin Rivers. On his journey McAden travelled to Grove Church and preached there on March 18, 1756; one year later he returned as Grove Church's first regular minister while continuing his pastorate in present-day Duplin, Pender, and New Hanover Counties.[21]

Citing the unhealthy climate of Duplin County, McAden left Grove Church after serving ten years as the minister. A new minister for the church was not approved until 1794 when John Robinson took over the role; Robinson stayed in the county for five years before founding a church in Fayetteville. Samuel Stanford served Grove and other congregations in the county for thirty-three years. Later ministers included Malcolm Campbell Connoly who served until 1850.[22]

The Anglican Church played an important, but short-lived role in Duplin County's early religious history. In 1810, historian William Dickson stated that, "Soon after the County of Duplin was established and the inhabitants became more numerous, most of the people and then the principal characters in the county professed themselves to be members of the Episcopal or established Church of England."[23]

The first Anglican minister was Reverend William Miller who was invited to the county by the vestry in 1760. Because no church had been erected, Miller preached at private homes and proved to be popular until he was accused of immorality. He was dismissed from St. Gabriel's Parish after two years' service and Reverend Hobart Briggs

became the minister. William Dickson noted Briggs "was sober, grave, and not addicted to any vice." After his salary was suspended around the time of the American Revolution, Briggs left and "No Preacher of the Regular Episcopal Church has, since him ever visited this Country." With no organization in the county, most of the former Anglicans joined other denominations.[24]

The Baptist presence in Duplin County began when Reverend Philip Mulkey visited in the early 1760s. Reverend William Goodman organized the first Baptist church in the county at Bear Marsh in 1763. During the Revolution, the denomination's numbers expanded. Congregations were formed and churches were built at Nahunga, Concord, Muddy Creek, Limestone, and Prospect. By the late eighteenth century, Baptists had become the largest denomination in the county.[25]

As in the rest of North Carolina, Methodism did not appear in Duplin County until after the American Revolution. In the mid 1780s, several preachers visited the county and formed societies. The first organized church was established at Carr's Branch around 1790 after the land was deeded to Francis Asbury, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the first ordained Methodist bishop in the United States. In the early nineteenth century, Methodist churches were founded at Providence, Charity, Wesley, Carlton Chapel, Magnolia, and Kenansville.[26]

Once churches were established, schools usually followed. In colonial North Carolina, churches were among the first institutions to establish schools. In Duplin County, a few small private schools were established, but "Previous to the Revolution and in time of the War, schools of any kind had not been so much attended to." Classes were held at places such as Rockfish and Maxwell; Henry Gillman was one of the early schoolmasters who travelled throughout the county.[27]

After the Revolution, more formal educational institutions were organized. Established in 1785, Grove Academy was affiliated with Grove Church and operated for over a century. Because the institution relied on private support, consistent funding had become a problem by the early nineteenth century. According to William Dickson, the academy "had no other funds than the voluntary Subscriptions of Individuals." Despite frequent financial hardships, the school remained in operation until 1907.[28]

Founded in Kenansville in 1796 by Henry Farrior and Dr. J.W. Blount, the Presbyterian Female Institute had been established to educate girls of the Wilmington Presbytery. By the mid-nineteenth century the institute became the James Sprunt Institute in honor of the prominent local educator, James Menzies Sprunt. Born in Scotland in 1818, Sprunt came to Wilmington in 1839 where he responded to a newspaper advertisement for a teaching position in Duplin County. From 1839 to 1845, Sprunt taught at Hallsville, a community on the Northeast Cape Fear River. In 1845, he moved to Kenansville where he became headmaster of Grove Academy. In 1860, he became headmaster of the Female Institute. Sprunt also served as a pastor in churches throughout the county and as a chaplain in the Civil War. He served as Register of Deeds for Duplin County until his death in 1884.[29]

Several private schools were proposed and advertised in the early nineteenth century prior to the beginning of the free public school system which began in 1841. The following schools are identified with Duplin County, but whether they all definitely operated as education facilities, or for how long, remains uncertain: Green Academy;

Goshen Academy; Friendship Academy; Williams Academy; Line Academy; and Bethel Academy. Only Hannah Moore Academy, organized in 1837, can be documented.[30]

Agriculture and Early Industry

Agriculture has always been the foundation of Duplin County's economy, and the farm has traditionally been the basic economic unit in the county. In their countries of origin, Duplin County's eighteenth-century settlers were typically farmers and they brought their traditional agricultural practices to the colony. Like others who settled throughout eastern North Carolina, they felled trees and cleared land for fields and let their livestock range in the forests. Instead of fencing their stock, farmers were required by law to enclose crops.[31]

The first census of the county taken in 1790 depicted a society of small- and medium-sized farm families. Most households did not have slaves, but the vast majority of those who did held one to five blacks in bondage. Of the 671 heads of household, 439 were non-slaveholders. Of the 232 slaveholders, the majority owned one to five slaves, while only eight individuals owned twenty or more slaves.[32]

Most of the county's families were subsistence farmers who grew ample corn, beans, grain, and often tobacco for their own needs and perhaps enough for a modest profit.[33] The earliest description of Duplin County agriculture is provided by William Dickson in 1810. Of the northern tier of the county, Dickson proclaimed that the land was "proper for the culture of Indian corn, peas, potatoes, also wheat, rye, and oats." Dickson referred to the "piney lands," most likely the lower half of the county, as producing various crops when manure was employed as a fertilizer.[34]

Like most counties in the Coastal Plain, Duplin lacked adequate transportation routes for shipping agricultural surpluses. The Northeast Cape Fear River, the only principal watercourse leading out of the county, was readily accessible only to the less fertile, poorly drained regions of southern Duplin county, while the better agricultural lands to the north lay at a distance from this route of trade. Dickson commented in 1810 that "The county being Remote from Navigation there is no trade in it." Therefore, the typical farmer of the era in Duplin County produced only enough for his own needs or for the needs of those in his proximate community.[35]

Efforts to improve transportation routes from Duplin to other parts of the Cape Fear River region cannot be documented until 1830. An April 28, 1830 newspaper article from Wilmington applauded the citizens of Duplin County in their efforts to build a road to the port city:

> We learn from a respectable source, that a scheme to improve the road between this town and Duplin Court House, has been recently the subject of discussion in Duplin County, and that the forming of a firm causeway through the heavy sands . . . was particularly noticed during the discussion . . . we have reason to believe, that the inhabitants of Duplin County, will subscribe liberally to an undertaking for such purposes.[36]

The Duplin Road, as it was known, linked the port city with Duplin County.[37] Typically, such efforts to improve access to larger towns in the region were private endeavors funded by those who had a financial interest in improved transportation.

While the earliest settlers lived close together in communities like Sarecta, by the late eighteenth century the population was growing and families had begun to settle on farms scattered throughout the county.[38] Many migrated to various parts of the county because they typically engaged in farming practices which exhausted the soil. William Dickson lamented in 1810 that "the Citizens have not yet adapted any Successful Method of Manuring their lands . . . But when [the soils] wear out and become Poor, [farmers] Cut down [trees] and open fresh lands."[39] These agricultural practices which exhausted the soil eventually led many North Carolinians, like their neighbors in Virginia and South Carolina, to migrate westward to the fertile lands of Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, and the states of the Lower South.

In addition to agricultural pursuits, many early Duplin Countians engaged in the production of naval stores such as tar, turpentine, pitch, and rosin. The county's long-leaf pine forests encouraged the growth of the industry soon after initial settlement. The production proved to be beneficial to farmers: they could harvest naval stores when inclement weather prevented field labor and by harvesting many of the trees for tar, the farmer was also clearing the land for crops.[40]

In 1921, University of North Carolina chemist Charles Herty first assessed the environmental impact of this harvesting progress. According to Herty, early settlers in the Coastal Plain of North Carolina harvested tar and pitch from long-leaf pine forests for use in the construction of wooden ships. Eventually, settlers began collecting crude turpentine as well. According to Herty, while these methods of harvesting were destructive to the forests, they were encouraged as a method for land clearing.[41]

The harvesting of pine trees for naval stores in Duplin County took place exclusively on bottomlands adjacent to water sources. From the pre-Revolutionary period through the first few decades of the nineteenth century, small farmers dominated production. These local harvesters sent their tar and pitch down the Northeast Cape Fear River to Wilmington; from that port, the products could be shipped to overseas markets. Despite the decrease in British bounties for naval stores after 1729, tar, turpentine, and pitch continued to be major exports for North Carolina during the late 1700s and throughout the nineteenth century.[42]

During the period 1815 to 1830, new technology began employing turpentine and rosin more extensively and thus, exports of tar and pitch declined, while exports of crude turpentine, spirits of turpentine, and rosin increased. By the early nineteenth century, the production of rubber, which required spirits of turpentine as a solvent, had grown. More importantly, spirits of turpentine, when mixed with alcohol, served as a lighting fluid. Rosin began to be used in the making of soap and derivatives of rosin were used as an illuminant and as a lubricant. The demand and production of these types of naval stores continued to increase throughout most of the nineteenth century.[43]

Architecture

Architecture dating from the eighteenth century is rare in Duplin County, except for a few frame and log dwellings built during the last decade of the century. The bulk of

the earliest houses in the county date from the first few decades of the nineteenth century and include log cabins, Coastal Plain cottages, hall-parlor plan houses, and I-houses.

In 1810, William Dickson reported,

> The first inhabitants of Duplin and Sampson counties built and lived in log cabins, and as they became more wealthy, some of them built framed clapboard houses with clay chimneys. At present there are many good houses well constructed with brick chimneys and glass lights. There are no stone or brick-walled houses, nor any that can be called edifices in the county. The greatest number of the citizens yet build in the old stile [sic].[44]

Dickson's description of the transition of the local vernacular architecture from simple cabins to more well-designed dwellings presents a clear picture of the county in its evolution from a frontier to a more settled colony.[45]

Travellers to eastern North Carolina during the eighteenth and early nineteenth century commonly mentioned log houses as the principal dwelling type. Swedes and Finns first introduced log construction into North America, but Germans and Britons, especially Scotch-Irish, established the building technique in the New World. Logs from trees felled by settlers to the Coastal Plain were plentiful and because of the ease of construction of log dwellings, this house type became the most common dwelling form in the region.[46]

Early dwellings in Duplin County typically exude an unpretentiousness evident in both form and style. Because of the abundance of timber in the Coastal Plain as well as the lack of skilled builders and craftsmen, the overwhelming number of early buildings were unadorned, frame structures. By the early decades of the nineteenth century the population increased, the economy expanded, and elements of distinct architectural styles had left their imprint on both interior and exterior features. Dwellings built in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century feature both hall-parlor and center-passage plans. Exterior and interior features exhibit conservative elements of Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival architecture.

The earliest surviving dwellings in Duplin County show a range of traditional forms, plans, and construction methods which date from circa 1790 to 1831. The circa 1790 Colonel Stephen Miller House (DP 153) is located between Kenansville and Sarecta. The original section of the Gaston Kelly House (DP 104) dates to the late eighteenth century and is located in the Red Hill community. The Chasten-Wallace House (DP 211), located near Chinquapin, likely dates to the early nineteenth century. The Pigford Place (DP 80), located just south of Kenansville, was constructed in the early nineteenth century. Waterloo, located in the Albertson community, was built between 1806 and 1831. The Stallings-Newkirk House (DP 400), built during the early nineteenth century is located in the Concord community. The Richard Best House (DP 467) was built around 1830 near Warsaw. The 1831 Benjamin Franklin Chambers House (DP 96) stands near

Westbrook Crossroads. These eight dwellings are representative of the finest styles, forms, and construction materials common in Duplin County during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries as settlement matured and more carpenters and builders moved to Duplin County, more and more dwellings, as Dickson observed, were well-finished and more fashionable. An unusually early survivor of such "good houses" which Dickson praised in 1810 is the circa 1790 Colonel Stephen Miller House (DP 153), built for revolutionary war veteran Stephen Miller (1752-1826). This small, well-finished, one-story, hall-parlor plan dwelling has both flush sheathing and an intricately moulded cornice on the front and rear elevations of the main block. In hall-parlor dwellings, the larger "hall" was used as the family room. This was where most of the household activity took place and from where typically a stair rose and led to the sleeping loft. The more formal parlor functioned as a private space and often contained a bed. The hall of the Miller House features a Federal mantel and a fully-panelled Georgian boxed stair. A door with geometric molding separates the hall and parlor.

The Gaston Kelly House (DP 104), probably built in the late 1700s, exemplifies another early traditional house plan, for it appears to have been originally built as a dogtrot consisting of two main rooms with shed porch rooms divided by an open breezeway. This open plan allowed for the flow of breezes through the dwelling; this climactic adaptation was carried out in central-passage houses built throughout the nineteenth century. Further enhancing the close spatial relationship between the interior and exterior is the loft stair which originally led directly to the front porch. During the early nineteenth century, the house was expanded and the exterior walls of the breezeway enclosed to form a central-passage. Interior features include Federal mantels, H-L door hinges in the loft, and multi-panelled interior doors. The earliest identified owner of the house was Gaston Kelly (b. 1846; d. 1922), a farmer who lived in the dwelling during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The Chasten-Wallace House is a remarkable, little altered survivor of the county's early building practices. It best exemplifies the area's once predominant traditions of log building, as well as other early regional patterns which now seldom survive. This plank log house, partially covered in weatherboard, has full dovetail notching at its corners. While the earliest settlers built log houses quickly and with little skill, plank dwellings with complex notching systems such as this one were designed to endure.[47] The house follows the traditional hall-parlor plan with two rooms of roughly equal size; behind the hall and parlor is a pair of rear shed rooms which were originally used as sleeping rooms. Spanning the front facade is an engaged porch, a regional feature which enhanced the integration of exterior and interior spaces. A stair which leads from the attic or loft directly onto the front porch is also an early feature found on dwellings of the period. The roofline of the west gable end extends past and encompasses the present brick chimney. This feature may indicate an earlier wooden chimney. Because of the lack of good clay for brickmaking in the county, early chimneys were typically constructed of wood and mud and then sheltered and stabilized by an extended roof. Later, when these chimneys were replaced with brick stacks, the original roof configuration was often maintained. Another early feature of this house which exhibits the extensive use of virgin pine by early residents is the lightwood foundation piers. This hard wood is created when sap remains in the tree when it is killed. As a result, the wood becomes resinous and termite damage

and deterioration are avoided.[48] Joseph Chasten (b. 1798) probably constructed this dwelling and Dock Wallace (1846-1928) acquired it when he married Chasten's daughter, Christy Catherine.[49]

The Pigford Place (DP 80) dates from the early nineteenth century and, as characteristic of the Georgian and Federal style, features flush gable ends and an original double-shouldered chimney. This central-passage house presents an early variation of an important regional form, the Coastal Plain cottage with a single pitch roof extending over rear shed rooms which flank a recessed porch. However, unlike Coastal Plain cottages, the Pigford house has no front porch. Interior features show a marked Greek Revival influence, including post and lintel mantels and wide recessed panelled wainscotting. The Pigford family built the house, but it has been in the Brown family for several generations.

Waterloo, located near the Albertson community and built from 1806 to 1831, presents a different local expression of the Federal style. Built from 1806 to 1831, this two-story, frame dwelling features beaded clapboarding, exterior end chimneys, and a front entrance topped with a transom. Originally the plan of this rectangular dwelling consisted of a single room flanked with one-story side wings; second stories have been added to the wings. Built as the home of the Grady family, Waterloo features rare hand-painted interiors. According to local tradition, Eliza Anne Grady Simmons (1801-1855), an early resident of the dwelling, created the border painting with a brush and her fingerprints.[50]

The Federal period marked the emergence of a small wealthy planter class in Duplin County. Financial prosperity resulting from agricultural pursuits gave rise to a slaveholding class which could afford to build impressive dwellings. Shadrack Stallings, a Revolutionary War veteran, planter, and representative in House of Commons in the late eighteenth century, built one of the county's finest examples of a two-story, single-pile Federal dwelling. The Stallings-Newkirk House (DP 400) is a frame I-house with rear shed rooms and a double shouldered chimney. The hall-parlor plan house has two original Federal mantels and other simple Federal woodwork. The house continued to operate as the center of a large plantation under the ownership of the Newkirk family who purchased it during the mid-nineteenth century.

The Richard Best House (DP 467), like the Stallings-Newkirk House, is an I-house that was originally the centerpiece of a large plantation. It represents the I-house's transition from the Federal to the Greek Revival style. Constructed around 1825, the central-passage plan Best House has rear shed rooms flanking an original rear recessed porch; the full-width front porch is fronted with Doric pillars. Interior Greek Revival elements include post and lintel mantels and two-panel doors.

Very few pre-Civil War examples of the Coastal Plain cottage remain in Duplin County. This one- or one-and-a-half story dwelling with a fully-engaged front porch and rear shed rooms enjoyed popularity from the eighteenth century through the early decades of the twentieth century. Typically, the center-hall plan replaced the earlier hall-parlor plans during last few decades of the nineteenth century. The cultural origins of the cottage are undetermined, though several architectural historians have suggested that because of the form of the porch or "piazza" the house may have Caribbean origins.[51]

The Benjamin Franklin Chambers House (DP 96) is the earliest surviving Coastal Plain cottage in the county. Constructed in 1831, the one-and-a-half story house has a broad single slope gable roof which shelters the deepset porch across the front and the

rear shed rooms. In early nineteenth century Duplin County, coastal cottages were typically the homes of relatively substantial farmers. By the late nineteenth and early twentieth century these cottages were typically built by middle-class farmers. Beneath the hall and parlor of the Chambers House is a two-room, raised brick cellar, a rare feature for early houses in the county. A simple post-and-lintel mantel and panelled wainscotting remain on the interior. The dwelling rests on tall lightwood foundation piers constructed of virgin pine.

Duplin County's earliest dwellings reflect an evolution in craftsmanship and style as well as a need to adapt to the local climate and environment. As the eighteenth century progressed into the early antebellum period, carpenters' and builders' sense of technique, form, and fashion advanced. Mouldings became more detailed, center-hall plans often replaced hall-parlor plans, and mantels started to resemble those found in pattern books. But while architectural style gained significance, the adaptation to the local environment never receded in importance. Engaged or recessed porches which acted as an invitation to the outside world to enter a home's interior space, signify the close association between people and the land to which they dedicated their lives. On a practical level, open breezeways, recessed porches, and porch rooms allowed for the free flow of air in a climate that could be oppressive.

Early dwellings also mirror the maturation of the local agricultural economy. From modest late-eighteenth-century heavy-timber frame and log two-room dwellings to Federal-influenced two-story plantation houses, these buildings exhibit the confidence farmers and planters had in the future of Duplin County. They built substantial dwellings to show that they believed in the land and the crops its rich soil could produce. With the coming of the railroad and the opportunities for trade it would bring, many of their dreams of economic success were to be realized.

THE RAILROAD ERA AND THE EMERGENCE OF TOWNS IN DUPLIN COUNTY: 1838-1875:

The single most important factor which transformed Duplin County from a land of mostly self-sufficient farmers to a more prosperous market-oriented economy was the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. The line did not redefine the county's economy and agriculture immediately. Rather, the process was slow and the change from a self-sufficient, subsistence way of life for most residents did not come until the last several decades of the century when small railroads were consolidated into larger companies, thus improving long-range movement of perishable crops.[52] When the rail line was laid in Duplin in 1838, it signaled the beginning of the end of the cultural and economic isolationism which had prevailed in the county since settlement. The railroad gradually began to shift the focus away from the often unnavigable Northeast Cape Fear River as the principal transportation route for surplus goods and naval stores and led to the growth and prosperity of once sleepy hamlets along the tracks. Affluence brought by the Wilmington and Weldon enabled wealthier residents to build more stylish dwellings and for middling farmers to improve their own homes.

Advances in Transportation

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the lack of reliable routes of transportation had inhibited Duplin County's economic growth. Internal improvements

which began in the fourth decade of the nineteenth century not only boosted the agricultural economy by allowing access to outside markets, but also began the transformation of the social and cultural climate of the once-isolated population.

William Dickson observed in 1810 that the Northeast Cape Fear River was only navigable "in the winter or when the waters are raised by heavy rains." Dickson also ventured that "Duplin County abounds with good roads through every part it."[53] While most of these were local roads connecting various parts of the county, few roads led from Duplin to other areas of the Cape Fear River region. The Duplin Road ran to Wilmington and a route existed from Cross Creek (now Fayetteville) to Duplin County. But despite the river and these early roads, relatively little trade took place in the towns of the Lower Cape Fear. Therefore, because early transportation routes offered access only to small-scale markets, Duplin County's economy continued to remain somewhat stagnant and farmers continued to produce on a small scale or to harvest naval stores. Moreover, farmers' reliance on naval stores inhibited the development of a well-balanced economy and thus a more competitive market.[54]

Originally chartered in 1833 as the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad, it was first planned that the line would run from Wilmington through Duplin County and then proceed to the capital city. Although the destination point was changed to Weldon after the people of Raleigh failed to garner the funds required to complete construction of the line, the name was not changed to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad until 1855.[55]

The Duplin County portion of the Wilmington and Weldon railroad was completed by 1838 and the entire 161 miles of line was opened in 1840. With the completion of the railroad, Duplin County farmers were able to transport their goods more quickly and efficiently than before. With this new mode of transportation the focus of economic and social activity became concentrated along the railroad right-of-way in the western half of the county. Entering Duplin County at Duplin Roads (present-day Wallace), the railroad continued up through Teachey's Depot (present-day Teachey), Stricklandsville (now Magnolia), Duplin Depot (now Warsaw), Bowden's, Faison, and left the county just north of Calypso. The line ran straight in a roughly north-south direction except where, because of the change in destination from Raleigh to Weldon, it made a northeast turn at Faison. Because of the increased trade that the railroad brought, right-of-way communities soon began to flourish.[56]

The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad also played a decisive role in Civil War transporting soldiers and supplies from Wilmington to the major battle theaters in Virginia. Tension arose between the Confederate Army and the railroad company when the former imposed their own timetable for transporting soldiers and supplies, thereby interrupting regular train schedules. The line suffered further when Federal troops burned the trestle at Goshen and a bridge over the Neuse River; by 1863, the line had incurred damages of approximately $100,000. By 1864, the lack of replacement iron rails from the northeast had taken its toll on the line; compounding the wretched condition of the railroad was the abuse the tracks were taking from both Federal and Confederate troops. Regular operation resumed on August 27, 1865 with only a few locomotives and freight cars, and no passenger cars in a condition suitable for service. Eventually with capital investment and added freight services the railroad was able to recover from the devastations of war.[57]

In addition to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, other modes of transportation improved before the Civil War. Beginning in the 1840s, the state chartered stock companies to build plank roads throughout the state. Constructed with eight-foot-long heart pine wood planks, these roads were called "farmer's railroads" because they allowed farmers to haul their own crops to the railroad and to markets in neighboring towns. In 1849 the state chartered a private company to built a plank road from Fayetteville to Warsaw by way of Clinton; the road was supposed to continue on to New Bern, but that leg of the route was never finished. The Fayetteville-Warsaw Road was completed by 1856 and allowed people in Clinton and Fayetteville access to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. Despite their popularity, these roads were short-lived because they were constructed of wood which had to be frequently replaced. By the 1860s, this early "good roads movement" had proven to be temporary and most of the routes had disappeared. The only remnant of the route in Duplin County is found in a street name; Plank Road Street in Warsaw was originally an extension of part of the Fayetteville-Warsaw road.[58]

Industry

Encouraged by new routes to market, the collection and processing of naval stores, primarily turpentine, continued to be an important industry in Duplin County during the mid-nineteenth century. With the advent of the railroad in the 1830s and the development of plank roads in the 1850s, farmers involved in the trade had increased opportunities for shipping their products.

In his 1856 travel journal, Frederick Law Olmsted described the extent of this enterprise across the pine lands of eastern North Carolina. According to Olmsted the "demand" for naval stores "has increased, owing, probably, to the enlarged consumption of spirits of turpentine in `burning fluids,' and the business has been extended into the depths of the forest."[59]

The 1850 census listed twelve turpentine distilleries in Duplin County.[60] In 1860, turpentine distillers dominated the manufacturing sector of the county. In the Smith Township community located near the Northeast Cape Fear River in eastern Duplin County, Zaccheus Smith, Sr. and his son, Zaccheus Smith, Jr., operated distilleries.[61] By 1870, thirteen turpentine distilleries operated in the major towns of the county including Rose Hill, Kenansville, and Warsaw.[62] By the end of the nineteenth century, however, the industry was beginning to die out as supplies of long-leaf pines had been depleted.

Saw and grist milling was another important industry in Duplin County during the middle decades of the nineteenth century. A gazetteer of the period indicates that fifty-five grist mills and thirty saw mills were in operation in 1840 in Duplin County.[63] By 1860, the census of manufactures listed six water-powered saw mills in operation; grist mills were not recorded.[64] In 1870, a business directory noted that Halstead Bourden was operating a steam-operated saw mill in Warsaw, and corn, flour, and saw mills were operating in the towns of Kenansville, Teachey, and Warsaw.[65] As with the naval stores industry, milling prospered as a result of the expanded trade role of the railroad after its recovery from the Civil War.

Agriculture

Immediately preceding the Civil War, Duplin County agriculture remained diversified. In terms of quantity, corn was the leading crop in the state and in Duplin

County in 1860. Duplin produced over 413,000 bushels that year with most of that consumed locally. Self-sufficient farms still outnumbered market-oriented farms.[66] Corn was grown throughout the South and because of its widespread production as a universal cereal, local crops seldom were involved in more than local markets. Corn was a dietary staple for white and black North Carolinians and in counties where it was not exported, enough of the cereal was grown for local consumption. Besides being a major component of the southern diet, corn was also the main feed for livestock which was an important factor in Duplin's agricultural economy.[67]

Before the Civil War farmers in Duplin County were overwhelmingly self-sufficient, and most of what was produced in the fields was food crops. Because of the risks involved in a market economy where prices for cotton or tobacco were seldom stable, and because they followed the traditional patterns bred of the years of isolation, farmers during the period typically were conservative and grew staple crops before or instead of money crops.[68] In addition, within the household Duplin County families exhibited further self-sufficiency by producing their own goods and products such as cloth and leather. In contrast to counties whose rate of home manufacture had decreased with the emergence of a market economy, in 1860, Duplin had the third highest value of home manufactures in the state.[69]

Typical of the self-sufficient farmers of the mid-nineteenth century was Bryan Newkirk Williams (see DP 376). In 1850, on his 750 acres, 600 of which was fallow land, pasturage, or woods, Newkirk held seventy swine, thirty-three sheep, and less than ten other livestock. To feed his family as well as to supplement the grass his livestock consumed, Williams produced 750 bushels of corn. From his sheep, Williams was able to get fifty-two pounds of wool. To feed his horses, he grew five tons of hay and to feed his family he produced peas, beans, and sweet potatoes. The one hundred pounds of butter produced on the farm was likely the work of Williams' wife.[70]

The persistence of the self-sufficient farmer was the hallmark of mid-nineteenth century agriculture in Duplin County, but this is not to say that money crops were not present in the county. There were farmers growing cotton, tobacco, and rice. In 1850 on his plantation near Calypso, Albert Hicks (DP 297) produced an impressive twenty-two bales of cotton and a thousand pounds of rice. During that same year, John Noles produced 100 pounds of tobacco on a farm near Wallace. While these rates of production for such money crops are impressive, men like Hicks and Noles were the exception and not typical Duplin County farmers.[71]

At 1,171 bales, cotton production in Duplin was less than that in other eastern North Carolina counties a year before the Civil War. Ten years later the amount had grown slightly and there were three cotton gins operating in the county.[72]

Like cotton, tobacco was not a significant money crop in Duplin County before or immediately after the Civil War. In 1860, only a little over six hundred pounds was grown and ten years later the amount plummeted to less than three hundred pounds.[73]

Rice, the staple of low country plantation society, was a money crop grown in rather significant amounts in Duplin County. The wet, low-lying areas along the county's many water sources was well-suited to rice production. In 1860, Duplin County produced 110,204 pounds of rice, the third highest amount in the state. However, Duplin's role in the cultivation of rice was overshadowed by coastal Brunswick County which produced in excess of six million pounds that same year. Duplin's rate of production of rice continued

to climb and ten years later 155,599 pounds were grown; however, by this time several other counties had surpassed Duplin in the production of the grain.[74]

Town Development and the Emergence of a Commercial Sector

Between 1852 and 1875, six Duplin County towns were incorporated; five of these towns straddled the tracks of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. As town development progressed so did the commercial sector of Duplin's economy. The number of merchants grew during the middle decades of the nineteenth century, especially in the railroad towns. In 1867, only ten merchants were in business in all of the railroad towns combined. In 1869, as post-war recovery took hold, eleven merchants were located along the rail line in Duplin and by the next year that number had increased to sixteen. By 1877, fifty-six merchants were in business in Wallace, Teachey, Rose Hill, Warsaw, Magnolia, Bowdens, and Faison.[75] Similarly, Kenansville, the county seat, had five merchants in 1867 and seven by 1869. By 1877 there was a total of ten businesses in Kenansville including groceries, confectioners, and liquor stores.[76]

Country stores were a significant element of the rural economy of the county. In 1867, two stores each were in the river communities of Hallsville and Chinquapin. The number of rural stores climbed throughout the 1870s and into the eighties. By 1877, there were ten rural stores in Duplin with a total of seven located in the river towns of Chinquapin, Hallsville, and Sarecta.[77] The continued growth of these towns into the late decades of the nineteenth century demonstrates the continued influence the Northeast Cape Fear River exerted on those areas of the county isolated from the railroad. People living along the river would continue to use the Northeast Cape Fear for transportation up until the first few decades of the twentieth century when the automobile and new roads made access to rural Duplin County more expedient. Stores adjacent to the river received goods by flat boat from Wilmington up until the second decade of twentieth century.[78]

Religion and Education

As they had in the period after initial settlement, churches continued to be an important social element in the lives of county residents in the middle decades of the nineteenth century. During this period, some of the oldest organized churches in the county constructed new sanctuaries to hold ever-growing congregations. The present sanctuary of the Grove Presbyterian Church (DP 476) was built in the late 1850s, as was the rural Bear Marsh Church (DP 325).

Several African-American churches were established after the Civil War. Freed people constructed the First Baptist Church (DP 542) in Warsaw in 1888 and Rockfish A.M.E. Church (DP 371) near Wallace in the late nineteenth century. Around 1858, members of the Wells Chapel Baptist Church constructed a new chapel and gave the old building to the black members of the church. The blacks moved it to the Sampson County community of Harrells and the name changed to Keithern Chapel.[79]

Before 1840 there were no public schools in North Carolina. In 1840 county taxes and money from the State Literary Fund were used to create thirty public school districts throughout Duplin County. Also, several more private academies were founded in the two decades before the Civil War. Among the private schools established were Franklin Military Academy; Warsaw High School, a Baptist institution; and Kenansville Seminary.[80] The Magnolia Male Academy (DP 423) was chartered in 1858 and built soon

after. Although classes were interrupted briefly by the war, the school remained in operation until the early twentieth century.

African-Americans: From Slavery to Freedom and Beyond

By the beginning of the fifth decade of the nineteenth century, the population of Duplin County included almost equal numbers of blacks and whites. In 1840, the population of Duplin County was 11,182. The 6,244 whites constituted about fifty-six percent of the population. Slaves and freed blacks numbered 4,938.[81] In 1860, census figures show that there were 7,124 enslaved blacks in Duplin County; this number exceeded the slave populations in neighboring Sampson, Wayne, Lenoir, Columbus, Bladen, and Johnston counties.[82]

Immediately following emancipation, the Freedmen's Bureau established schools throughout the southern Coastal Plain. While educational facilities were successfully operated in most major towns and cities in the region after the Civil War, no schools were set up for newly freed blacks in Duplin County. In fact, when two black men attempted to open a school in Magnolia around 1866, they were forced to close after only one day when whites threatened to burn the school building.[83]

From the Civil War to the end of the nineteenth century, Duplin County black citizens established new communities in rural areas and settled in existing towns. Black residential neighborhoods formed in and around towns like Kenansville, Wallace, and Warsaw, while entirely black settlements were founded in rural Duplin County at such places as Little Creek and Rockfish. During the late nineteenth century, many black congregations were established including the First Baptist Church of Warsaw (DP 542), the First Baptist Church of Rose Hill (DP 437), and the Rockfish A.M.E. Church (DP 371) near Wallace.

Architecture

Houses:

In the mid-nineteenth century, Duplin County residents continued to build homes, farms, churches in the localized vernacular tradition which had emerged in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In his mid-nineteenth century travels through eastern North Carolina, Frederick Law Olmsted described the homes in the turpentine-producing region of southeastern North Carolina as "log-cabins...sometimes chinked, oftener not-without windows of glass."[84]

However, as improvements in transportation led to a rise in prosperity, elements of stylish architecture began to appear in the county. In 1874, a local newspaper observed,

> On all sides of the [rail] road for several miles distant, one cannot but observe signs of prosperity. Comfortable dwelling houses and even some very handsome villas meet the eye.[85]

The most influential architectural style before and immediately after the Civil War was the Greek Revival. From the grand, two-story dwellings in Kenansville to the simpler, hipped-roof cottages found throughout rural Duplin County, the Greek Revival

style permeated traditional forms and plans. The style became so entrenched in the building vocabulary of the county's contractors and carpenters that the simplified elements of it persist in dwellings built well into the late nineteenth century.

The county's grandest antebellum dwellings are exuberant expressions of the Greek Revival style. During the 1840s the advent of improved transportation and the arrival of a market economy buttressed the small planter class of the county. The planters who stood at the head of this hegemony were not typical of farmers in Duplin County, for small self-sufficient farmers far outnumbered the planters. However, the upper tier of the population wielded power over the local economy by controlling most of the wealth. The stylish dwellings built in the decades before the Civil War reflect the power these families exerted in the local economy and society.[86]

The Greek Revival style merged harmoniously with the general conservative tastes of builders and residents in Duplin County. Neoclassical elements were easily applied to the simple, symmetrical dwellings and pattern books published in the first half of the nineteenth century helped to supplant earlier Georgian and Federal stylistic elements with new designs for mantels, columns, and porticoes. Center-passage plans dominated among the largest houses while the hall-parlor plan of the eighteenth continued to appear in smaller dwellings of the period. In the dwellings of this era, a fusion of national stylistic concepts and localized building traditions forms a unique architectural expression in Duplin County.

The greatest concentration of Greek Revival dwellings can be seen in the county seat of Kenansville. Here, in the two decades before the Civil War, builders and clients established what would become examples of the localized version of the style. Eleven dwellings in Kenansville model the forms which can be found throughout the county. Plain frame houses of one and two stories featuring delicate balustrades and commanding porticoes in a simplified Doric order characterize the distinctive local Greek Revival style. Bold Doric cornerposts and pillars represent the commanding position of the dwellings' occupants. The houses as a group of dwellings exhibit a congruence between the simplicity of their overall form and the elegance of classical motifs and elements.

These houses follow a center-passage plan one or two rooms deep. Mantels composed of posts and lintels are topped with Doric caps identical to those applied as exterior elements. Stairs are delicately crafted with slim unadorned balusters, round handrails, and turned newel posts. Door and window surrounds are plain and feature simple corner blocks.

The Dr. Needham Herring House (DP 344), which embodies all of the elements of the localized version of the Greek Revival style, is the county's finest example of the style. Built in the 1850s near Kenansville, the Herring House is typical of two-story, double-pile dwellings of the period. The interior is embellished with fashionable decorative elements such as a delicately moulded ceiling medallion in the northeast parlor, heavily moulded panels under the windows of each parlor, and a gently curving open well stair with a plain newel post and slender balusters. The two-story portico is adorned with a delicate sheaf-of-wheat balustrade which contrasts with the bold square classical pillars and pilasters topped with Doric caps; recessed in the pillars and corner pilasters is a Gothic Revival-inspired panel.

Greek Revival dwellings built in Kenansville and throughout the county during this period also display climatic adaptations to the hot, humid climate. Porches, especially

when recessed or engaged, merge interior and exterior living spaces, while broad central passages and breezeways between houses and kitchens act as funnels for the free movement of air.

In the Kelly-Farrior House (DP 475) in Kenansville, the original access to the second floor was an enclosed stair located in the breezeway which separates the kitchen ell from the main block of the house. Although exterior stairs were a common theme in dwellings built in the county during this period, there are no intact examples remaining.[87] The Greek Revival cottages scattered throughout the county further demonstrate the builders' proclivity for integrating features to improve the flow of breezes through the dwelling. The Joel Loftin House (DP 292), a square, one-story, hipped roof cottage located near the community of Beautancus, is small in size, but its wide hall featuring double doors front and back allow breezes from south or north to flow unhindered through the dwelling. Large nine-over-six windows on all four elevations of the dwelling further facilitate the movement of air.

Duplin County builders also incorporated the Greek Revival style into various vernacular forms including several "one-and-a-half pile" dwellings in the county. These center-hall houses have equal size parlors flanking the hall; behind each parlor is a small, unheated room. Like other Greek Revival dwellings in the county, these homes typically feature Doric corner pilasters and identical pillars along the front porch. Among the finest examples of this form is the Henry Hanchey House (DP 226), located in the Hanchey's Store community of south central Duplin County. The frame house features a wide frieze embellished with a diamond motif and Doric pillars along the front porch. An attached log kitchen covered with weatherboard features a large Federal mantel and predates the main block of the house. The W.B Hawes House (DP 208), constructed around 1870 and located near the community of Register, features particularly delicate Greek Revival door and window mouldings.

Elements of the Greek Revival style were also expressed in Coastal Plain cottages of the mid-nineteenth century. Constructed in 1849, the Jerry Pearsall House (DP 92) is a hall-parlor plan Coastal Plain cottage with Doric pillars dignifying the recessed front porch. The circa 1840 Barfield House (DP 159), located in the Albertson community, and the David Fussell House (DP 463), near Rose Hill, have Doric pillars fronting their recessed porches, an especially striking blend of traditional form and classical enrichment. Similar pillars are found on the Yancey Jones House (DP 40), a circa 1850 massive single pitched roof cottage with a recessed porch.

During the mid-nineteenth century, another popular national style, the Italianate, was also integrated into the idiom of the local building craft. While it had its origins in the English picturesque movement of the early nineteenth century, the pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing helped to popularize the Italianate style in the United States beginning in the 1850s. Bracketed eaves, hip roofs, square porch pillars with chamfered corners, and arched or hooded windows characterize vernacular adaptations of the style. Although Greek Revival overshadowed the Italianate style on the built landscape, elements of the latter were prominent in several of the county's finest dwellings. The most spectacular combination of the two styles is the Buckner Hill House (DP 318) near Faison. Built around 1850 as the centerpiece of one of the county's largest plantations, the massive two-story house carries the local indoor-outdoor spatial integration to its extreme, with a unique cross-passage plan in which two broad passages intersect at the center so

that when the wide doors on four sides are thrown open, the interior becomes almost an indoor porch with four large rooms opening from this space. Bold Greek Revival and Italianate elements enhance its grandeur. Pilasters at the corners emphasize the mass, while an Italianate bracketed cornice underlines the wide overhang of the hip roof. On each elevation, one-story hip roofed porticoes shelter double-leaf doors graced with transoms and sidelights.

A more mature expression of the Italianate style is seen in the Chauncey Graham House (DP 480) in Kenansville. Constructed in 1855, this two-story frame dwelling features a low-hipped roof with bracketed eaves. Square panelled posts grace the two-story inset front porch which spans half the facade resulting in an interior L-plan with a central-passage. The Graham House possesses rich detailing including lozenge motifs within polygonal panels on the front doors and in the panels under the sidelights; rectangular flat panels along the balcony's frieze; and polygonal panels on the bay window's base and on the porch pillars. Crossetted architraves, chamfered porch posts, and pilasters on the bay window along with the solid panelled interior stair railing make this dwelling one of the county's most stylish residences. An almost mirror image of the Graham House is the contemporaneous Smith House (DP 369) located west of Wallace. The house exhibits a similar inset porch, bracketed eaves, and low-hipped roof. The interior features Greek Revival post and lintel mantels, wide plain door and window surrounds, and both bull's-eye and square moulded corner blocks.

Along with the infusion of national architectural styles during the mid-nineteenth century was the persistence of regionally distinct house forms. While several coastal cottages exhibit elements of the Greek Revival style, others were built more simply and conservatively. A large number of coastal cottages were built in and around Smith Township in eastern Duplin County during the mid-nineteenth century. The James Maxwell House (DP 152), the Troy Smith House (DP 193), the Ivey Smith House or former Leon Post Office (DP 186), the Durant Williams House (DP 194), and the Zaccheus Smith, Sr., House (DP 185) are located in Smith Township and are small hall-parlor plan Coastal Plain cottages with double pitched roofs.

Outbuildings:

Intact and extensive farmsteads from the mid-nineteenth century have not survived in Duplin County. As agricultural technology changed over in the last two centuries, early farm buildings fell out of use and were either neglected or destroyed. Fortunately, a few individual outbuildings from the period do remain, indicating a high level of craftsmanship especially in the area's plank building tradition. One of the best crafted such structures is the Jerry Pearsall smokehouse (see DP 92). Built in 1849, it is a plank structure with full dovetail notching at its corners and a front gable roof. Tight dovetail plank construction was used for smokehouses throughout much of eastern North Carolina, for this method was considered especially strong and secure. A similar smokehouse stands adjacent to the Joel Loftin House (DP 292). This circa 1850 plank smokehouse has full dovetail notching at its corners; the builder numbered each plank after it was hewn so that the structure could be assembled correctly on the farm.

Public Buildings:

Just as dwellings of the antebellum period reflected the emergence and authority of a wealthy planter class, so public buildings of the period were designed to reinforce the power and position of local churches, organizations, and government, as well as people

associated with such local groups. Imposing Greek Revival churches built during this period were designed to accommodate growing congregations, as well as to assert the position of the church and its members. Built in the 1850s, the Grove Presbyterian Church (DP 476) in Kenansville harmonizes with the handsome frame Greek Revival residences along Main Street. The pedimented, gable front sanctuary features Doric corner pilasters that carry a broad entablature enriched with dentils. An imposing bell tower accentuated by small Doric corner pilasters rises from the roof's ridge. Along the sides and front facade of the church are windows with pointed arches, a touch of the Gothic Revival.

St. John's Lodge (DP 473), located in Kenansville and built in 1860, is another impressive Greek Revival front gabled building. Poised on a knoll in the county seat, the lodge has a low hipped roof and Doric corner pilasters. Among the early members of the lodge were some of the county's most prominent planters including James Kenan and Shadrack Stallings.[88]

In county seats throughout the state, the courthouse has historically been considered the most important public building. It is typically the most commanding structure in the town and stands as an affirmation of the power of the local government. Since its founding, Duplin County has had four courthouses. The current facility, which was constructed in 1911, replaced a courthouse constructed in 1818 and extensively remodeled in the Greek Revival style in 1848. When completed the building melded with the local Greek Revival style. The 40'x 40' three-story frame building featured massive corner Doric pilasters and a heavy entablature. A parapet with sheaf-of-wheat balustrade concealed the low hipped roof.[89]

Although the Greek Revival style took a firm hold in the non-domestic buildings constructed during the mid-nineteenth century, the Italianate style made a bold statement in the form of the Magnolia Male Academy (DP 423). This reflected a statewide trend for while the Greek Revival proved to be popular in both rural areas and in towns, picturesque styles like the Italianate were generally restricted to cities and rail towns such as Magnolia.[90] Constructed in 1858, the two-story frame structure features a bracketed cornice, imposing 12 over 12 sash windows, and a projecting bell tower which dominates the front facade.

Two trends were at work on the built landscape of Duplin County in the middle decades of the nineteenth century: the continued appearance of traditional, often provincial types of dwellings and the emergence of national architectural styles, especially the Greek Revival. As the century progressed, high style architecture gained a more prominent hold in the vocabulary of local carpenters and builders and dwellings of all sizes began to display the influence not only of the Greek Revival style, but also of the Italianate. In addition, commercial and public buildings as well as churches exhibited the plans and design elements of national styles. Underlying this inclination toward a more high style idiom was the pervasiveness of local building adaptations, namely the cohesion between interior and exterior spaces which enhanced the free movement of air through dwellings. So while the outside forces influenced regional builders, they were not quick to forget climactic concerns which allowed for comfortable living.

TOWN BUILDING AND AGRICULTURAL PROSPERITY IN DUPLIN COUNTY, 1876-1943:

Although the railroad had come to Duplin County in the third decade of the nineteenth century, its full impact on the area's economy would not begin to be fully experienced until the 1880s and 1890s. In these decades many small lines in neighboring states were merged with the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad so that by the end of the century, the network stretched from Columbia, South Carolina to Weldon, North Carolina. The early twentieth century saw the further transformation and expansion of the railroad infrastructure in Duplin County, for in 1900, the Wilmington and Weldon, the Atlantic Coast Line Company of South Carolina, and the Norfolk and Carolina were sold to and merged into the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company of Virginia.[91]

Such mergers made it possible to transport crops from Duplin County and other agricultural areas in eastern North Carolina to northern markets and not just to outlets in the region. Previous problems such as the differences in gauge, or the distance between rails, between southern and northern lines had impeded successful rail shipments to northern towns and cities. Once the problems of gauge and cooperation among railroads were resolved, new and distant markets were opened to Duplin County's agricultural products. A new period of prosperity which began in the last few decades of the nineteenth century was due largely to improvements in the railroad and these economic good times would persist until the middle of the twentieth century.[92]

Population and Ethnicity

Throughout the last few decades of the nineteenth century, both the white and black population had steadily increased. Of the 18,771 people in Duplin County in 1880, 10,586 were white and 8,185 were black--a continuation of the fifty-six percent to forty-four percent margin found forty years earlier. Ten years later the total population had increased by a little less than one thousand, but the black population had actually decreased slightly to 7,900. This decline can be attributed to the out-migration by blacks throughout the south to northern cities in search of social justice and economic opportunity.[93] By the turn-of-the-century, 22,405 people were living in Duplin County and of those 13,877 were white and 8,528 were black. Almost sixty-two percent of the county's population was now white. Due largely to agricultural prosperity, the population continued to rise throughout the first half of the twentieth century.[94]

The Growth of Towns

As a result of the railroad-based growth in commerce and agriculture, the rail towns of Duplin County prospered. Towns like Warsaw, Magnolia, and Wallace had been formally incorporated during the middle decades of the nineteenth century, but these hamlets blossomed into towns with the improvements in railroad transport.[95] With these improvements new, more distant markets opened, farmers began producing and selling more crops, and a general era of prosperity had begun. By the turn of the century, the rail town of Warsaw surpassed the centrally-located county seat of Kenansville as the largest and most populated town in the county. Indeed, as early as 1884 a traveller to Kenansville noted, "the village through which [the] railway runs attracts over half the trade which Kenansville got in former days."[96]

Warsaw

Like the other railroad towns in Duplin County, Warsaw economy benefitted greatly from the improvements made to the railroad in the 1880s and its consolidation into the Atlantic Coast Line network by 1900. As growing numbers of farmers brought crops to the town to ship to faraway markets, Warsaw bustled with commercial activity as hotels, shops, and cafes lined the tracks. In 1884, L. Aaron, David Brown, and A.S.C. Powell operated hotels; ten grocers, two saloons, a fertilizer store, and two liveries were in business; and three physicians and one lawyer were practicing in town. By 1905, Warsaw commercial sector had become more diversified and boasted hotels, a bank, clothing stores, hardware dealers, an insurance agent, a telephone company, and an undertaker.[97] In 1908, a local paper offered this description:

> "Warsaw is getting more and more like New York every day," remarked a travelling man while on the streets there last Tuesday. . . .After being told that Warsaw was the best town on the map by one of the business men, the stranger replied, "Yes, she's a good town and I'm going to move my folks here too.[98]

The obvious boosterism of the article notwithstanding, Warsaw grew to be one of the county's most important commercial centers during the first half of the twentieth century.

Magnolia

Magnolia, a picturesque town just south of Warsaw, also owed its prosperity to the railroad. Shipment of naval stores, cash crops, and vegetables from the town led to the development of an extensive commercial center. News of Magnolia's prosperity was reported all over the state:

> The Wilmington and Weldon Railroad is doing quite an extensive business at this place. From January 1st, until July 1st, 1879, there were shipped from this point 517 barrels of spirits of turpentine, 1,198 barrels of rosin, 70 bales cotton, 564 barrels of tar. During this spring and summer 140 packages of vegetables have gone from this place to Northern markets.[99]

Late nineteenth century Magnolia was home to numerous businesses including the Magnolia Hotel, Middleton House Hotel, and H. Carrolls Jewelry. Magnolia's commercial sector was much more diversified than Warsaw in 1884, for it included not only grocers, liveries, and saloons, but also insurance agents, auctioneers, a sewing machine agent, a printer, and nurserymen.[100]

Around the turn of the century, locals claimed Magnolia to be the largest bulb producer in the world. In 1908, a local newspaper boasted:

> The bulb growers have had fine seasons in

> which to make a fine lot of the various varieties. Dahlias, Cannas, Caladiums, and tube roses grow in Duplin County in great abundance. In fact we have the largest bulb enterprise in the country at Magnolia.[101]

The next year, the paper reiterated:

> For miles out from Magnolia these bulbs are grown by the farmers and carried to where they are cured by drying and made ready for shipment to all parts of this country and to several foreign countries.[102]

John Croom of Magnolia, the most renowned local producer of bulbs, in the 1880s purchased the Magnolia Male Academy (DP 423) and used it for storing the bulbs he grew. In addition to selling bulbs, Croom and his brother manufactured strawberry crates and sold flour and fertilizer.[103]

Wallace

Originally called Duplin Roads for the stage lines which intersected there, Wallace was initially incorporated in 1873. In 1899 the town was again incorporated and a new name was chosen in honor of Stephen D. Wallace, vice-president of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. William and Dorothy Boney first settled in the area in 1800, but little town growth occurred until the arrival of the railroad. In the mid-nineteenth century their son, Gabriel Boney, opened a cotton gin, turpentine distillery, and general merchandise store near the right-of-way.[104] In the late 1870s, one other general merchandise store operated in town, but in the 1880s, a local newspaper reported,

> The spirit of improvement has reached this little `berg' consequently the enterprising firm of Mallard & Houston, formerly of Deep Bottom, have just completed a new and neat store, and put in a heavy stock of general merchandise. Their debut adds much to the trade and appearance of the place.[105]

By 1884, eighteen general merchandise stores were operating in the town.[106]

Wallace's growth depended on its strategic location along the railroad, but the greatest boost to its prosperity was the introduction of strawberry cultivation around 1880. According to local historian Lillie Boney Williams, Gabriel Boney became acquainted with the berry while he was on a buying trip in Baltimore, and soon introduced the crop to his home community.[107]

In the 1890s large-scale strawberry farming developed in rural areas around Wallace. In 1897 Sam Westbrook and his family planted one of the area's largest crops of the berry.[108] Although one local observer incorrectly credited Westbrook with the first strawberry crop in Wallace, Westbrook's big crop did represent the beginning of a local industry which continued until the 1950s:

> There is some talk of a new industry making its debut at [Wallace]. A gentleman by the name of Westbrook . . . proposes to start the culture of strawberries . . . on a large scale, at that place, if the citizens show him the proper encouragement.[109]

In the wake of Wallace's success, strawberry farming became an important industry for farmers in the outlying areas around the other railroad towns. After the berries were picked from the fields, farmers would transport their crops to the nearest rail town where they were shipped to northern markets. These rail towns served as the embarkment place for thousands of bushels annually from around 1900 to 1950.

Rose Hill

Rose Hill originated in the mid-nineteenth century as a naval stores depot. Established along the tracks of the Wilmington and Weldon between Teachey and Magnolia, the town was incorporated in 1875 and again in 1901 when the original charter expired. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the town served as a center for lumber manufacturing and, like the county's other rail towns, as a market for produce and distribution point for farm products. In the first half of this century Rose Hill boasted several industries including a casket factory, a pickle plant, and turkey hatchery.[110]

Faison

A town has occupied the site where Faison stands since the early nineteenth century. Though incorporated in 1872, the town did not experience substantial growth until the end of the nineteenth century. During the 1890s farmers around the town began meeting the demand from northern cities for fresh fruits. Around 1900 the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad built long platforms along the tracks in Faison for loading fruits and vegetables. By the turn of the century, the lucrative produce market had attracted buyers to the town who paid the farmers for their produce before it was shipped; previously farmers had to wait to be paid when their goods were sold up north. After World War I, motorized trucks made the town more accessible and buyers from all over the country were travelling to Faison to purchase produce. In the 1940s, the market was moved from its original site along the railroad's right-of-way to land belonging to the Ellis family just outside of town where it remains today.[111]

Agriculture

During the period from 1875 to 1943, Duplin County agriculture diversified with farmers growing new market crops and selling traditional crops, like cotton and tobacco, in larger amounts than before. The fast and efficient transport that the railroad provided made this expansion in agriculture possible. New methods of cooling boxcars, combined with the wider use of fertilizers and the increased consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by urban populations, encouraged the development of truck farming, or fruit and vegetable cultivation for the purpose of shipping to a distant market, in areas accessible to the rail towns.[112]

The sandy soil around the rail towns was ideal for the cultivation of small fruits. Strawberries were a particularly popular fruit and were grown extensively in western

Duplin County. Willie Wells operated a strawberry farm outside of Wallace during the second decade of the twentieth century. Calypso resident George Albritton (see DP 285) was one of the county's largest strawberry farmers during the first few decades of the twentieth century. According to the agricultural census of 1900, while Duplin County produced only 10,730 quarts of blackberries and dewberries and 3,900 quarts of raspberries and logan berries, the county's farmers produced almost four and a half million bushels of strawberries. In 1940, 764 farms in the county produced almost three and a half million quarts of strawberries.[113]

Vegetables of all kinds were equally important to the local economy during the period, as large quantities of produce were bought and shipped from the rail town of Faison. The railroad had initially made the markets possible, but by the 1920s trucks were hauling produce from the town: thousands of bushels of beans, peas, peppers, and okra. By 1920, the value of Duplin County market vegetables was well over $400,000, a figure second only to New Hanover County.[114]

Cucumbers proved to be such an important vegetable crop during this period that their abundance in the vicinity of Faison led to the establishment of one of the county's earliest factories. In 1929 the Charles F. Cates and Sons, Inc. opened a pickle plant in Faison. This operation provided a direct market for local cucumbers and supplied jobs and additional revenue to the town. In 1932, the Raleigh *News and Observer* reported the factory handled 50,000 bushels of cucumbers each season. Faison continues to be home to both a large vegetable market and Cates Pickles.[115]

Just as railroad improvements led to the development of truck farming in Duplin County, they also encouraged the production of cotton as a cash crop. With distant markets more readily accessible, production of the crop increased in the early twentieth century. The 1880 agricultural census reported that 4,449 bales were produced on 9,654 acres, or .46 bales per acre of cotton. Over the next several decades production of the crop rebounded and in 1925, 15,019 acres of Duplin County farmland yielded 5,766 bales of cotton, or .38 bales per acre of cotton.[116]

Rice production remained substantial in the county after 1875. In 1880, the county produced over 300,000 pounds. Ten years later, Duplin County was fourth in the state in pounds of rice produced, with 613,054 pounds grown on a little over 1,000 acres. That same year, Brunswick County produced over a million pounds on only 1,328 acres.[117]

Although cotton, and to some extent rice, proved to be viable cash crops in the early twentieth century, it was tobacco that took over as Duplin County's dominant cash crop. While cotton and rice cultivation were typically limited to only a few of the largest farmers, tobacco could be grown by almost all farmers in conjunction with the food crops they needed to remain self-sufficient. By the early twentieth century farmers had turned to the cultivation of tobacco whose value had been steadily increasing since the 1870s. Prices for cotton fell as a rise in cotton production in Egypt and India greatly reduced the international demand for American cotton. Although cotton was never completely abandoned, by the early twentieth century farmers had made a significant shift from cotton to tobacco.[118]

As bright leaf tobacco cultivation appeared on most farms by the first decade of the twentieth century, the crop altered the economy and landscape of the county. Tobacco could be described as a "democratic" crop in that it brought cash prosperity to a large number of farmers throughout the county. As one pamphlet of the period noted,

> The introduction of tobacco culture in Eastern North Carolina has raised many a mortgage and made many weary hearts rejoice. It has stimulated every branch of trade and has been the means of giving honorable employment to many people who had no visible means ofsupport.[119]

Agricultural production records demonstrate the rapid escalation in tobacco production which took place from the late nineteenth through the first several decades of the twentieth century. In 1880, only 4,655 pounds of tobacco were harvested from sixteen acres; in 1890, only 2,100 pounds were raised on six acres. Yet, in 1900, the county's farmers grew over a million pounds of tobacco on almost 1,500 acres. In 1930, over six million pounds of tobacco were produced in the county.[120]

A significant alteration to the agricultural landscape came in the late nineteenth century with a change in the laws dealing with free ranging livestock. Until the late 1800s, eighteenth-century stock laws brought to the colonies from Europe during early settlement persisted, continuing the old system of allowing stock to roam free and requiring farmers to fence crops. As was occurring throughout North Carolina during the late 1800s, Duplin County passed a new fence law requiring citizens to keep livestock fenced on their property. In 1908, a local paper warned "stock will no longer be allowed on the streets of Kenansville.[121] Compliance came slowly, for a year later the paper urged,

> Let us have a clean town and this can only be done by keeping stock off and then the streets should be given attention with a good working.[122]

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the population of cattle and swine had decreased as more farmers turned their focus to the cultivation of crops.[123] In 1890, the agricultural census recorded 38,969 swine, 4,259 milk cows, and 7,159 other cattle, figures considerably lower than the 1860 totals. However, during the first half of the twentieth century, flocks of chickens and turkeys were expanded, and poultry-raising emerged as an important sector of the agricultural economy. Turkey production remains one of the county's most profitable agricultural ventures.

Post-Civil War Farm Labor

The changing relationships of farm workers and owners following the Civil War and into the twentieth century signified a radical shift in the nature of agricultural labor in Duplin County. In the decades after the war, land-owning whites attempted to adjust to black farm workers' new freedom while still maintaining the economic and social dominance to which they were accustomed. Blacks, on the other hand, were anxious to farm their own land and produce crops and raise livestock for themselves and their families. Some blacks, like Isaac Powers, became land owners. Powers, who was born in 1850, had learned to read and write while still a slave. After the war, Powers began buying land in both Duplin and Pender counties. By 1880, he owned ten acres and grew rice, peas, and sweet potatoes and raised cattle and poultry. Around 1890, he built a house (DP 370) near Wallace in southwestern Duplin County. Powers was active in

Republican politics and served as a circuit minister in the A.M.E. church for over fifty years.[124]

Most blacks were not as fortunate as Powers. When it became apparent to blacks that freedom did not necessarily mean economic independence, old patterns of black subservience to the white landowner reemerged under the system of sharecropping and to some extent, tenant farming. Also swept into this system were a growing number of poor whites who found themselves landless as the number of farms in the late nineteenth century increased while the number of owners did not.

Farm tenancy operated in various and often complex forms during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, among these arrangements two distinct forms of farm laborer emerged: the sharecropper and the tenant. Under the sharecropping system, the landowner typically provided the worker with land, tools, animals, seed, clothing, food, and a dwelling in exchange of a share of the resulting crop. A cropper received his share after the owner had deducted what he was owed by the cropper. Tenants, on the other hand, worked the land and paid the landowner rent in the form of a share of the season's crop.[125]

In 1880, a total of 783 croppers and tenants worked on Duplin County farms, while 1,483 farms were operated by owners. As tobacco and cotton production increased during the first half of the twentieth century, so did the rate of farm tenancy. In 1900, nearly thirty-six percent of all farms in the county were operated by tenants and croppers. By 1920, this percentage had risen to almost forty-eight percent of all farms. Of the 2,186 tenants and croppers working farms in 1920, 1,229 were white and 957 were black. In 1930 and 1940 the percentage of tenant and cropper operated farms hovered around forty-eight percent, and by 1940, the number of white and black tenants and croppers was nearly even.[126]

The conditions under which croppers and tenants lived and worked was the source of much discussion and debate during the early twentieth century. Commentators and reformers such as socioeconomic Samuel Hobbs, Jr. often remarked of the deplorable conditions under which these workers lived:

> Their dwellings are wooden shanties, sometimes mere log houses. In more than half of these dwellings it is possible to study astronomy through the holes in the roof and geology through the cracks in the floor.[127]

Hobbs went on to call the work arrangement the "tenant problem" and likened it to a social evil wherein the tenant's interest in church and Sunday school had been supplanted with moonshining and boot-legging.[128]

Industry

During the late nineteenth century farmers scattered throughout Duplin County harvested turpentine which in turn was gathered at several distillers in the area. The distillation process separated the crude turpentine into oil and rosin. Usually an established merchant collected and distilled the turpentine as part of his business. As long as turpentine production remained profitable, communities located near the harvest areas prospered as the rail towns did. Chinquapin, for example, lay twelve miles from the

railroad, but flourished with the turpentine industry. A journalist described the town in 1881:

> The village can boast of six stores, and five turpentine distilleries, and is accessible to one of the finest turpentine sections in our state. The amount of business done here is simply wonderful, taking in consideration the fact that within ten mile square there are nearly twenty five stores.[129]

Chinquapin merchant G.B.D. Parker, one of the county's most prominent business men during the period, operated a successful store (DP 275) in the community where he ran a busy turpentine distillery.

In 1884, distillers were located in Kenansville, Wallace, Magnolia, Outlaw's Bridge, and Albertson; four distillers were located in the river community of Hallsville.[130] Late in the century, the number of distillers declined as the supply of long-leaf pines decreased, so that by 1897, a total of only seven distillers were operating in the county.[131] One observer lamented the end of the industry: "The naval stores business has followed receding lines of the virgin long-leaf pine, which has melted away like a snow man in the sun."[132]

Despite the depletion of the long-leaf pine by the remnants of the naval stores industry, the timber trade continued the extraction of other types of wood from the county during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Several large lumber companies operated in the county during the period. The Rowland Lumber Company at Bowdens employed many Italian immigrants and during the early twentieth century a portion of the town was known as "little Italy." Enterprise Lumber operated in the Goshen Swamp area and the Norfolk Lumber Company and the Cumberland Company both operated in Wallace. In the 1920s, the Camp Manufacturing Company established a mill along Rockfish Creek outside of Wallace and constructed a mill village with separate white and black worker housing.[133]

Several lumber companies chartered railroads in the county during the first half of the twentieth century. Small company-owned lines made it possible to transport wood from remote parts of the county to the main railroad. Such a line was incorporated in 1914, when a group of investors met at Bowdens to charter the Atlantic and Carolina. Rowland Lumber Company of Bowdens, under president A.R. Turnbull, paid for the railroad which carried passengers, wood, farm products, and fertilizer between Warsaw and Kenansville. Sold to the Atlas Plywood Corporation of Boston in 1931, the Atlantic and Carolina operated until around 1940.[134] During the 1920s, the Enterprise Lumber Company, which harvested trees around Goshen Swamp, built a railroad which operated along what is now Tram Road in northern Duplin County. According to Irving Kornegay, who was born around 1902, the company used the railroad to transport wood from the swamp and surrounding areas to Mount Olive in Wayne County.[135]

The early twentieth century saw the expansion of other types of wood and lumber-related businesses in Duplin County. In 1903, crate factories for holding and transporting fruits and vegetables were operating in Warsaw and Wallace; W.D. Cooper of Kenansville was dealing in wooden shingles. By 1911, thirty-three saw mills were in operation. The

Magnolia Manufacturing Company was producing crates and furniture and A.W. Newcomb had opened a sash, door, and blind company. The Atlantic Coffin and Casket Company was established in Rose Hill during this period as well.[136]

Corn and flour mills and cotton gins functioned throughout Duplin County during the period, each serving farmers scattered over a small area. In 1884, a total of twenty-eight milling facilities operated in the small communities and larger towns of the county. Several mills survive in the county including Maxwell Mill (DP 167), Boney's Mill (DP 349), and a mill that operated on the Henry Hanchey Farm (DP 226) in the early twentieth century.In the 1880s, cotton was ginned in conjunction with milling operations; in 1884, B.R. Cooper and W.B. Middleton, both of Kenansville, operated cotton gins along with their grist mills. Mrs. W. Cooper of Warsaw operated a cotton gin, corn mill, and saw mill.[137] By the first and second decades of the twentieth century, the number of facilities had increased and gins were operating in communities throughout the county.[138] However, by the second and third decades of the century, when tobacco had taken over as the principal cash crop, the number of cotton gins began to decline.

The Growth of County-Wide Commerce

Increased economic development and the resulting wide-spread prosperity led to the growth and diversification of Duplin's commercial sector. In the county's towns, the number and kinds of businesses increased dramatically from the late nineteenth to the first few decades of the twentieth century. Whereas in the nineteenth century, most business dealt in dry goods, by the 1890s confectioners, druggists, furniture dealers, butchers, and bankers had established businesses in towns all over the county.

The number of country stores also increased throughout the county. One observer in 1884 commented that "the woods are full of little shops and cross road stores."[139] As farmers moved away from a system of self-sufficiency and into a more market-related economy, stores were established to meet their needs as consumers. The local store, like the rural church, functioned as a social center and reprieve for rural county residents who were otherwise engaged in often labor-intensive farm work.

The county merchant had an even greater role in the local economy, more specifically in the complex tenant-landowner relationship which permeated agricultural labor patterns during this period. The crop-lien system, as it is known, involved a merchant providing seed, fertilizer, and clothing on credit and often loaning money to a tenant. The merchant was repaid for the loan by the farmer when the crop was harvested. In a crippled economy, this operation proved useful for it allowed farmers to work, but the system was sometimes riddled with fraud which was perpetuated by lenders who charged inflated interest rates; in North Carolina interest rates were as high as twenty percent for a six-month period.[140] Because of their financial status and political power, landowners were more likely to be paid from the harvest before the merchant. If a yield of crops was not high or prices were low or if merchant defrauded the farmer, the latter could find himself in debt to the merchant. When a worker, land owner, and merchant attempted to claim the rights to a crop which was too small for everyone to receive his share, it was the worker who came up short and found himself in debt. The perpetual cycle of debt to a lender intensified when the farm worker had to carry over the unpaid debt to the next season.[141]

Religion and Education

Churches:

As population increased during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, so did the number of churches. Both black and white congregations expanded in size and small groups of parishioners like the organizers of Smith's Chapel (DP 192), an offshoot of Hebron Church (DP 178), established their own places of worship. In some cases regional denominational officials established churches to meet the needs of expanding congregations, especially in growing towns along the railroad. In 1884, the Wilmington Presbytery organized the Duplin Roads Presbyterian Church (DP 511) (now Wallace Presbyterian) in order to alleviate overcrowding at Rockfish Presbyterian, one of the oldest churches in the county.[142]

The church was an important element in the county's black community. Clergymen in the black community held a position of great local esteem and often became prominent figures. Ezekiel Ezra Smith (1852-1933), who was born to free parents in Duplin County and ordained a Baptist minister, became ambassador to Liberia in 1888 under President Cleveland. Dr. Smith was head of Fayetteville State Normal School for forty-two years.[143]

The overwhelming majority of churches built during the period were simple, frame structures. When the new white frame Duplin Roads Presbyterian Church (DP 511) was completed in 1884, one congregation member commented that "we must be careful that we do not worship the building instead of the God who has made it possible."[144] More stylish buildings were constructed as well. The Magnolia Baptist Church (DP 430) is an imposing Gothic Revival-inspired brick church built during the period. The brick Calypso Methodist Church (DP 284) was built around 1910 in the Romanesque Revival style.

Schools:

Despite a local journalist's lament in the late nineteenth century that "the most serious obstacle to the advancement of this section...is the want of a sufficient number of good schools," much improvement was made in the way of education during this period.[145] Private schools such as James Sprunt Institute (formerly Kenansville Seminary) continued to operate. But also during this period, there was an increase in the number of public schools. By 1916, seventy-nine schools for whites and thirty-nine schools for blacks had been established and there were over a hundred public school teachers in the county.[146] The Reaves School (DP 24) served students in the Rone's Chapel area of north central Duplin County around the turn of the century. Smith's Chapel School (DP 191), a small frame school, was operated by Smith's Chapel.

In the late 1920s Duplin County white schools were consolidated and large centrally located facilities were built throughout the county to replace numerous small country schools. Automobiles and buses allowed children who lived in rural parts of the county access to these schools. Benjamin Franklin Grady School (DP 148) and the Chinquapin School (DP 261), both Neoclassical Revival structures, were built during this period.

While statewide educational reform movements provided white students with improved curricula and better facilities, black students continued to attend small schools scattered throughout the county. Although funding for black education did not equal that for whites, there was an increase in the amount spent on black students beginning in the 1920s. Additional financial help for building schools for blacks came from private

foundations such as the Rosenwald Fund, a program designed to improve black education throughout the South. With the financial backing of Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, the fund helped built new schools in fifteen southern states, including North Carolina. The Rosenwald Fund built seven schools in Duplin County from 1919 to 1929 and of those, only the Magnolia School (DP 544) built in 1926, remains.[147]

As white schools had been before consolidation, black schools were dispersed throughout the county during the early twentieth century. Little Creek School (DP 222), Charity School (DP 545), and Stanford School (DP 384) were all built in the 1920s and 1930s. Schools operated for three months until the school year was lengthened to six months in the twenties. According to W.L. Pierce, a teacher at the Charity School in the thirties who has interviewed ex-students of these schools, students walked as many as six miles to school. In the winter, students spent the first hour of the day making a fire in the wood stove. Often the students would have a devotion followed by a few calisthenics before classes began. Among the foods students brought from home for lunch were ham or sausage biscuits, preserves, butter beans, black-eyed peas, cornbread with sorghum, peanuts, and walnuts. On Mondays, they would often bring leftovers from Sunday dinner.[148] As late as 1948, twenty black schools continued to operate in the county; the majority of these had been built during the second and third decades of the twentieth century.[149]

Architecture

With the prosperity and growth brought by increased rail activity in Duplin County, sleepy towns along the right-of-way were transformed into busy commercial centers. The most conspicuous transformation came in the development of business districts. Although few commercial buildings from the nineteenth century survive, large numbers of early twentieth-century one-, two-, and three-story mercantile stores and hotels remain in the county.

Warsaw has retained most of its early twentieth century commercial buildings in its downtown area. Nearly four blocks of brick buildings are intact and several free-standing railroad related businesses remain. Commercial buildings in the town are one-, two-, and three-stories and reflect early twentieth-century national trends in building. The two-story brick Davis Hotel (DP 518) and the two-story frame Warsaw Inn (see DP 543) were built within the first two decades of the twentieth century and served as lodging for passengers travelling on the railroad. The second floor of the Davis Hotel housed rooms, while shops occupied the first floor street level. The Bank of Warsaw (see DP 520), a one-story brick building, features arched bays along its facade. The three-story Quinn-McGowan Furniture Company (see DP 520) was built in the second decade of the twentieth century and features a stepped roofline and decorative cross motifs along the facade.

Wallace has retained large sections of its commercial area; in addition, it is the only railroad town in the county whose depot remains on its original site. The frame one-story rectangular Craftsman-influenced depot features knee braces along its eaves and gabled dormers on three elevations. Like Warsaw, Wallace boasts one-, two-, and three-story brick commercial buildings. Among the most significant structures remaining is the Art Deco Farrior building and Z.J. Carter's Store (see DP 497).

Commercial areas in Magnolia, Teachey, Rose Hill, Faison, and Calypso are smaller, but remain significant as a reflection of the prosperity the towns experienced in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Early twentieth-century commercial buildings in Magnolia include the one-story brick Bank of Magnolia block (DP 411), which was constructed around 1911 and features decorative brick work and two original storefronts on its facade. The bank was the only financial institution in the county to remain in operation during the Great Depression. The one-story frame Hunt Dry Goods Store (DP 413) was built around 1900 and features a two-story false front with brackets along its cornice.

Teachey (see DP 459) retains a small block of early twentieth century commercial buildings, as well as a late nineteenth century post office and store built by John C. McMillan. A two-story, front-gabled, frame lodge, also built by McMillan, stands adjacent to the tracks. The majority of Rose Hill's commercial area (see DP 438) dates to the mid-twentieth century. One significant commercial building is a two-story brick structure built in the early twentieth century by G.B.D. Parker of Chinquapin. The building has decorative brick arched bays along its facade and originally housed Henderson's General Merchandise Store, Carr Drug Store, and a finishing room for a casket company.

Several commercial buildings remain in the towns of Faison and Calypso, located in northwestern Duplin County. Built during the mid-nineteenth century, the Thornton Store on Faison's Main Street is a one-story frame structure with a front-gable roof. Another notable commercial property is the Faison fire station building, built around 1900 to house C.S. Hines's general merchandise store. The second floor facade of this building retains its original pressed metal front with decorative raised relief pilasters, medallions, and bracketing. In Calypso, two small brick commercial blocks remain. A two-story block (DP 279) originally housed the Albritton Brothers store and a clothing store. There is little physical evidence of the vegetable markets that flourished in this town around the turn-of-the-century before the operations were moved to neighboring Faison. However, one of Calypso's early twentieth century produce sheds under which vegetables were traded is located just outside of town behind the Oscar Lambert House (DP 288).

Early twentieth-century stores and service stations dot the rural landscape. Among the rural stores remaining from this period is the John James Store (DP 255), built around the turn of the century. This three-story, front-gabled structure has a two-story porch fronted by Doric capitals on both levels. Arnold Scott's Store (DP 112), built around 1910, is a frame two-story building which was a gathering place for residents in north central Duplin County; during the early twentieth century the Enterprise Lumber Company rail line ran directly in front of the store. The Summerlins Crossroads General Store (DP 97), built around 1930 along the route leading from Kenansville to Mount Olive, is a two-story brick building that retains its original glass storefront. Service stations from the period reflect the impact of the automobile during the early twentieth century. A former Pure Oil Station (DP 150), located between Kenansville and Pink Hill, a town in Lenoir County, reflects standardized plan features and is distinguished by steeply pitched gable roof canopy. Stacy Chestnutt acquired the plans for the station from the Pure Oil Company in the 1930s, and construction was completed in 1939.

Late Greek Revival-style elements continued to influence the domestic architecture of the period, while the nationally popular picturesque styles, the Second Empire and Gothic Revival, had virtually no impact on the county's dwellings. Elements of Victorian

styles, especially the Queen Anne, began to turn up in rural locales as well as in the rail towns in the last two decades of the century. At the turn of the new century, overall architecture in the county remained conservative and rooted in the late nineteenth century. But by the 1920s and thirties, a period of significant agricultural prosperity, mass-produced building parts made dwellings affordable and farmers who were making more money from crops replaced older houses with new dwellings. This period also marked the emergence of more popular national styles.

During the late nineteenth century, the persistence of elements of Greek Revival architecture on both grand and modest dwellings signaled the immense popularity the style retained in the county for over half a century. While house forms may have changed, design components continued to exude the classicism so prevalent in dwellings built in the middle decades of the 1800s. The center-passage house on the 1892 Robert Daniel Kornegay Farm (DP 146) has Greek Revival-influenced Doric pillars and corner pilasters which resemble closely those on dwellings built during the mid-nineteenth century. The two-story, single-pile W.S. Boney House (DP 348), unusual for its angled main block, was built in the 1870s and is fronted by a series of recessed panelled Doric pillars. A pair of rooms flank each side of this central-passage plan house which also features a two-story rear ell. Another finely executed example is the house (DP 370) built around 1890 by black farmer Isaac Powers near Wallace. The one-story, single-pile form is executed with stylish Greek Revival-inspired elements including crossetted architraves over the windows, a tripartite doorway, heavily moulded gable end cornice returns, and Doric pillars, pilasters, and corner boards with recessed panels.

Popular house types during the period included the L-plan, and to a lesser degree, the T-plan. These new styles mark a shift from rectangular plans and signal the development and availability of sawn lumber and machine-produced hardware and design elements. Porches and stairs could be fashioned with factory-turned spindles, newel posts, and balustrades. The railroad made such material readily accessible to county builders and carpenters. A lively example is the Flowers House (DP 283) in Calypso built by a local farmer around 1890. This one-story, L-plan features a porch adorned with turned posts and scrolled sawnwork. While decorative millwork adorned several of these dwellings, most were starkly plain with simple squared porch posts. The Oscar Lambert House (DP 288), an one-story L-plan house in northwest Duplin County, exhibits a restrained plainness common on these dwellings built in the early twentieth century.

By the turn of the century, county residents were building more frequently in popular styles, particularly the Queen Anne with its asymmetrical massing, bay windows, shingles, and incised ornament. The Mary Dickson Carr House (DP 98) constructed in 1904 is one of the finest local expressions of Queen Anne asymmetrical massing and decor. Built by contractor Sam Newton for Mary Carr and her four children after her husband died in 1900, the house features a hipped roof and gables projecting from three elevations. Interior design elements include several hand-grained doors and a Victorian incised newel post. The influence of the Queen Anne style is also evident on the Rivenbark House (DP 215). A pair of front facing gables embellished with diamond motifs dominate the facade of this one-story dwelling built in 1907; a decorative diamond-shaped stained glass graces one of the front gables. Victorian elements, including a highly pitched roof and decorative shingle work, embellish the circa 1875 Leroy Franklin Johnson House (DP 409). The Matthews House (DP 464), a one-story, single-pile dwelling built in the early twentieth

century, features a front gabled porch with elaborate decorative sawn work and turned posts.

While asymmetrical houses and dwellings trimmed with animated sawn work and Victorian-inspired decorative elements are found in the county, they did not supplant more familiar dwelling types, especially the immensely popular one-story, single-pile house. These symmetrical, center-hall plan houses continued to be built in large numbers during the first three decades of the twentieth century. A one or two-room ell, which replaced the shed rooms of the nineteenth century, usually occupied the rear of the main block of these dwellings. The ell typically housed the kitchen, which had been moved from a detached building on the property, and the dining room. The appearance of rear ells signaled the advent of electricity in a community. A fine example of the one-story, single-pile house is the James David Bonham House (DP 358) built around 1905 by a tobacco farmer. It is a symmetrical, rectangular dwelling with a center-passage plan and brick gable end chimneys. Typically the dwellings of middle class farmers, the abundance of this house type chronicles the prosperity farm families, especially those who grew tobacco along with food crops, experienced during the early 1900s.

Two-story, single-pile houses were as popular as their one-story counterparts. "I-houses," as they are known, were typically built by prosperous farmers and are found in rural areas, and to a lesser extent, in the towns. Tobacco farmer Samuel Tilden Patterson built such a house (DP 161) near the Albertson community in 1912. This imposing symmetrical dwelling has a center-hall plan, rear shed rooms, and a rear ell. The only deviation from the dwelling's overall simplicity is a one-story, shed roof porch accented with sawnwork and turned posts.

The emergence of national architectural styles came to the county in the form of the bungalow. The bungalow originated in southern California and spread to the rest of the country through pattern books and popular magazines such as *Ladies' Home Journal*. Open spaces typically characterize the interior plan of the bungalow. Although bungalows vary according to geographic region and date of construction, these one-story houses features broad gables, dormer windows, porches with square piers or battered posts, and exposed structural members. While architects designed bungalows for wealthy clients all over the country, the versatility and inexpensiveness of this house type made it attractive to people in the county who desired a sturdy, yet affordable dwelling. With its low roof, open plan, and front porch, an element well-suited to the climate of the South, the bungalow was a widely popular style in Duplin County. Beginning in the 1920s, several types of bungalows began to appear. The John Carter House (DP 523) in Warsaw exemplifies the style. Built during the third decade of the century by tobacconist John Carter, the house features wide overhanging eaves and massive porch pillars. The Powell-Byrd House (DP 280), a ready-made bungalow assembled in Calypso around 1920, features a low gabled roof, rafters tails, knee braces along the eaves, and a living room around which all the other rooms revolve. Manufactured by the Aladdin Company in Wilmington, the house reached the northern Duplin County town by rail car.

Much more pervasive in the county was the front gable or southern bungalow built extensively during the 1920s and thirties. Small farmers or tenant farmers usually built or occupied front-gable bungalows. These plain dwellings typically were three bays wide with a front-facing gable roof. Some have bungalow features such as flared pillars atop brick piers and knee braces along the eaves of the roof, while others are strikingly plain

with simple square porch posts and little decorative embellishments besides the characteristic exposed rafter tails.

While tenant houses and dwellings belonging to small farmers were often indistinguishable, early twentieth-century tenant houses in Duplin County typically were small frame buildings in disrepair. Tenant houses typically were one-story frame houses with two to four rooms. Linda Flowers, daughter and granddaughter of Faison tenant farmers, asserts that local tenant houses were those in the "worst shape, the porches rotted and rags sometimes for where a windowpane had been, houses without underpinning or septic tanks, running water or electricity." The house often came with the land and a tenant neither had the money nor was willing to repair and improved a house which did not belong to him. Landlords seldom made repairs to the tenant's house.[150]

Farm complexes associated with the agricultural boom which occurred during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are plentiful in the county. The long period of tobacco's reign as the dominating cash crop has left many barns used for flue-curing the crop, a practice which fell out of use when the process became mechanized. Although some analysts have attempted to attribute certain forms to these barns according to the geographic area in which they are built, flue-curing tobacco barns in Duplin County come in many forms. Some have sheds around them, while others do not. They are built of log or vertical frame; some are covered in board and batten siding while rolled asphalt envelops others. They have hipped and gable roofs.

Farms with tobacco barns typically display an informal plan with the house in front of the outbuildings. These tall, box-like curing barns stand away from the dwelling in isolation or grouped together in rows. Packhouses, used for storing the leafs, can be found near the curing barns. The Norwood Blanchard Farm (DP 262), anchored by a bungalow, features flue-cured tobacco barns standing in isolation across the road from the house. The W.G. Fussell Farm (DP 458) features a Craftsman-influenced, two-story dwelling and several outbuildings including a wood shake covered packhouse situated in a clearing on the south side of the house.

The procedure for cultivating flue-cured tobacco endured in eastern North Carolina until the 1950s. On hardscabble farms throughout Duplin County, men, women, and children took part in every aspect of the tobacco culture. In January of each year tobacco seeds were germinated in prepared plantbeds which were then covered in cheesecloth to protect the plants from infestation. Throughout the winter and early spring, wood was cut to heat the curing barns during the summer. By spring the tobacco was transplanted in the fields. Because the seedlings had to be transplanted as quickly as possible to ensure uniformity among the stands and thus a good harvest, crews of thirty to fifty workers completed this task. Throughout the growing season flowery suckers which drained the plant of nutrients had to be removed.[151]

July marked the beginning of the harvesting process, an activity in which the whole family participated. Men in the field would strip the plant of the leaves ready for harvest and place them in a mule drawn wagon by which they were taken to the tobacco barn. Women and children at the barn would hand the leaves to the stringer who would tie the leaves to long sticks. The sticks were then placed on scaffolding inside the barn.[152]

Tobacco curing was a delicate and often precarious job for farmers. After a fire was started in the hearth of the barn, the temperature was allowed to reach about one

hundred degrees. At this temperature for twenty-four to forty-eight hours, the leaves would turn a golden yellow. By increasing the temperature to 135 degrees the color was set in the leaves. Finally, the heat was raised to 180 degrees in order to dry the stems. The family prepared the leaves for market by placing them in the packhouse where they were graded and tied into bunches for transport to the warehouse.[153]

Farms of the period generally display outbuildings which reflect the diversified nature of agriculture during the period. Oriented toward the house are such outbuildings as smokehouses, kitchens, and chicken houses, structures directly associated with the farm chores of female family members. At a distance from the house are barns and outbuildings affiliated with the male work sphere.[154] Illustrating this pattern is the Bryan Newkirk Williams Farm in western Duplin County. The house began around 1800 as a single-pen log cabin, but evolved into a Coastal Plain cottage with bungalow features. A circa 1900 log crib, a circa 1950 gambrel-roof barn, flue-cured tobacco barns, and circa 1940 hog houses sit in a roughly linear pattern in a field isolated from the house, while the smokehouse and former kitchen stand directly behind the dwelling.

Straddling the railroad towns are farms associated with truck farming or fruit and vegetable production. The R.L. Wells Farm (DP 405), like other farmsteads in the southwestern portion of the county, produced strawberries as well as tobacco. In addition to a bungalow, several barns, sheds, and two rows of long frame barracks for housing itinerant strawberry pickers remain on this property.

Several individual notable outbuildings also survive from this period. The Charles Bunyon Hawes handhouse (DP 546) was built around 1910 to house strawberry workers who came to the county during the spring to pick strawberries. It is a two-story, frame building with a front gable roof and an exterior end chimney; the interior consists of a single large room on each floor. Large numbers of tobacco barns survive which are not part of a farm complex, but stand in isolation. Three log tobacco barns were surveyed: the Grover Rhodes Barn (DP 181) built in 1944; the Benjamin Franklin Smith, Jr. Barn (DP 180) constructed in 1924; and the Bland Barn (DP 229) built in the 1930s. A small number of board and batten tobacco barns remain in the county as well. The board-and-batten Hampton Durant Williams Tobacco Barn (DP 189) was built around 1925 and, with its hipped roof, is one of the most stylish outbuildings in the county.

Economic expansion brought by the railroad worked to transform the architecture of Duplin County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Beginning in the 1880s, houses could be built inexpensively with sawn lumber and factory-produced hardware and decorative elements. Profits from tobacco and truck crops like strawberries allowed middle class farmers to build new dwellings. In the towns, merchants erected one, two and three-story commercial buildings of well-made brick and the old courthouse, the county's most conspicuous building, was replaced by a new Neoclassical Revival brick structure in 1911. While the influence of the Greek Revival remained visible, new styles like the Queen Anne began to gain popularity late in the century. As the county moved into the ever-increasingly industrialized twentieth century, national styles became more influential. While these styles did not totally supplant the simple frame dwellings which remained common in this overwhelmingly rural county, popular forms like the bungalow did influence the builders of even the plainest houses. The exceedingly simple front gable bungalow with its exposed rafter tails appealed to residents and by the 1930s it had become the most common house type in the county.

DUPLIN COUNTY SINCE 1943

Agriculture has remained the dominant industry in Duplin County since the mid-twentieth century, transforming in a myriad of ways with changing technology and markets. Cotton has made a strong comeback in the last several years. Tobacco is still an important crop, and with mechanization, which developed in the 1970s, preparation of the crop for market has become less-labor intensive. Modern bulk barns have replaced flue-cured barns as the principal means of curing bright leaf tobacco.

The strawberry industry which led to such great prosperity in the early twentieth century has all but disappeared. There are a few "U-Pick" farms around the railroad towns, but states such as California have taken over large-scale strawberry production.

Within the last few decades, a new type of agriculture, agribusiness, has come to Duplin County. Instead of working their farms alone and selling to local markets, county farmers produce agricultural products for firms such as Murphy Farms and Carrolls Foods. These large corporations have done much to preserve the family farms in the area; families can stay on the land and do the work that their ancestors have done for generations. In turn, these large farming operations have made Duplin County one of the state's largest producer of poultry and hogs.

Faison still retains its role as important produce center in the county. In the spring and summer, the little town is bustling with buyers who come to the large sheds to buy at wholesale all types of fruits and vegetables. The town is also home to Cates Pickle Company, a seven-acre plant located along the rail tracks. Virtually replacing black and white tenant farmers are Hispanic workers drawn to the Faison area for jobs in the vegetable fields. Descendants of tenant farmers have either left the county, purchased a farm, or work in area factories and plants. While many Hispanics work on a seasonal basis, many more have made Duplin County their home. Their imprint on the culture of the county is evident in the Mexican food which is widely available at the local grocery and in the rodeos which are frequently held in the area. The local public radio station broadcasts a Spanish-speaking radio show on Saturday mornings.

Once the most significant element in the improving and developing the county's economy, the railroad has all but vanished. The line is still used for hauling farm supplies, but there is no longer passenger service and the rail towns have lost their functions as gateways to market. The automobile culture has had a profound effect on the county and Interstate 40 has replaced the railroad as the major transportation corridor through Duplin.

Post World War II domestic architecture in the county consists mainly of 1940s and 1950s period cottages, ranch style houses, minimal traditional dwellings, and Neoclassical Revival houses. Mobile home parks dot the landscape. Public buildings constructed after the war include the 1947 Neoclassical Revival Beulaville School, the circa 1960 modern courthouse annex, and the circa 1975 Neocolonial Revival Kenan Auditorium.

Flue-curing tobacco barns and packhouses remain, but because of mechanization they have lost their original function. They typically sit empty or are used for storage. Farmers now use metal bulk barns for tobacco cultivation. Privies and detached kitchens lost their functions decades ago and today are a rare feature on the landscape. Among the most common modern outbuildings found in the county today are long flat metal and wood hog and poultry barns for housing thousands of turkeys, chickens, and swine.

The goal of this project has been to document the houses, buildings, and landscape features which remain in Duplin County. Through this detailed exploration has come an understanding of the way in which people have lived and what they have produced, as well as how they feel about their own pasts. People in Duplin County have a deep regard for the past. Mixed in with their comments of how hard things were for their ancestors is a respect for an era when life was simple and everyone knew his or her neighbors. Along with a regard for traditions is a respect for things associated with the past. From an old straw broom to the old homeplace built of sturdy "fat lighter," people in Duplin County recognize the material past as being a part of themselves and it is up to them to preserve this past for their descendants.

NOTES

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F. ASSOCIATED PROPERTY TYPES

Property Type 1: Farm Complexes
- A. Farm Complexes: 1865 to World War I
- B. Farm Complexes: Post World War I (1919-1943)

Property Type 2: Houses
- A. Houses Built from the Post-Colonial Period to the Civil War Era (ca. 1790-1865)
- B. Houses Built Between the Civil War and 1943

Property Type 3: Outbuildings
Property Type 4: Institutional Buildings
- A. Churches
- B. Schools
- C. Other Institutional Buildings

Property Type 5: Commercial Buildings
Property Type 6: Industrial Buildings and Sites

National Register and National Register Study List properties are listed after the description of each property type.

PROPERTY TYPE 1: FARM COMPLEXES

Introduction

Farm complexes make up a large number of the properties surveyed during this project. Duplin County's rich agricultural past has left a landscape dotted with pre-1943 farm houses. Although almost all the dwellings built in rural Duplin County before 1943 were part of a farmstead, intact farmsteads are very rare because modern agribusinesses such as swine and poultry producers have combined former, smaller, family-owned acreages. This, together with the overall decline of the family farm, has caused farm outbuildings and other agriculture-related structures to disappear. As a result, many former extensive farmsteads now only consist of a dwelling and perhaps one or two support buildings.

Farm complexes dating from the eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth century have not survived in Duplin County. Houses from this period which were originally part of a farm do survive, but support features which would justify the designation of a property as a "farm complex" from this period do not exist.

Description

A farm complex is made up of a number of components. In Duplin County there is almost always a dwelling as the focal point of the property. Dependencies, including domestic and agricultural outbuildings, are the second major components of the farmstead. Domestic outbuildings may be defined as those structures associated with the operation of a household such as wash houses, kitchens, privies, and smokehouses. According to historian Sally McMurray, the close association between household functions and certain outbuildings gave rise to what she describes as the female sphere of a farm complex. Within what was traditionally the woman's work sphere were outbuildings such as chicken houses, granaries, and sheds. Although these buildings are typically frame, a few log plank smokehouses exist.

Agricultural buildings include those structures directly associated with the production of crops or livestock, such as cribs, barns, tobacco barns, packhouses, and silos. These structures are associated with the male work sphere and are primarily frame with a few examples of log barns and cribs. With the type of agricultural diversity that was once common in Duplin County, domestic and agricultural outbuildings may serve multiple functions or their function may change over time. An example of a farmstead with outbuildings divided between the female and male spheres is the Bryan Newkirk Williams Farm in western Duplin County. At the center of the complex is circa 1800 house which, through additions in the mid-nineteenth century and in the 1920s, evolved from a coastal plain cottage into the cottage form with bungaloid features. A circa 1900 log crib, a circa 1950 gambrel-roof barn, flue-cured tobacco barns, and circa 1940 hog houses are scattered in a field isolated from the house, while the smokehouse and former kitchen stand directly behind the dwelling.

In Duplin County, farmsteads are both ordered and informal in their layout. In general, outbuildings radiate out from the main dwelling. The layout may be linear in that the outbuildings are in straight rows or the arrangement may be roughly semi-elliptical with the outbuildings curved in a row behind the dwelling. However, occasionally the outbuildings may be simply scattered about the landscape in no distinguishable pattern. Domestic outbuildings, especially smokehouses, are located in close proximity to the dwelling.

Landscape features make up another important element of the farmstead in the county. Such features include fences, cultivated fields, pasture land, trees, gardens, grapevines, creeks, and cemeteries. Where these elements are present, there are specific spatial patterns common in the county. Landscape fencing is quite often found in front of the dwelling, especially if there is a yard between the house and the road. Modern barbed wire or electrical fencing is extremely common and used for securing livestock; these types of fences can be seen surround large parcels of pasture land along the county's roads. Fields and pastures are seen along the road and may or may not be near the dwelling. This is especially true when feeding patterns for cattle dictate that grazing fields be rotated so that livestock do not overgraze one area. Often, this alternative grazing land is isolated from the principal farmstead and farmers must transport livestock from one pasture to another. Gardens and grapevines are almost always located near the dwelling. Pecan trees dot the yards of many farms and quality trees and the nuts they produce are a matter of pride to many county residents. Trees planted in the nineteenth century line the driveway of the Joel Loftin Farm (DP 292), while later trees were planted as a result of local agricultural extension services projects of the 1920s and thirties which encouraged the planting of the nut-bearing trees. Either single or groves of pecan trees are typically located in front of or in close proximity to the dwelling.

Cemetery placement varies in different areas of the county. In portions of the county where the population has historically been less dense in comparison to the areas around the towns, small family cemeteries are frequently located in close proximity to a dwelling. The W.B. Hawes House (DP 208), the John K. Smith Homeplace (DP 391), and the Hezekiah Dobson House (DP 230) feature family cemeteries adjacent to the dwelling. It is not uncommon to find a small cemetery in the middle of field that is under cultivation. Such plots are usually surrounded by a fence. In areas of the county where members of an extended family have lived for several generations, there is frequently a

centrally-located cemetery. Several members of the Wells family are buried in a small plot along Wells Town Road where several of the family dwellings are located. The closer to a large church, town, or community a house or farm is located, the more likely family members will be buried in a large cemetery. For this reason, small cemeteries located adjacent to dwellings are not frequently found in more developed western Duplin County.

A. Farm Complexes: 1865 to World War I

The majority of surveyed farm complexes date from the late nineteenth century to the first few decades of the twentieth century. Farms from this period reflect the diversity of agricultural production in Duplin County. Oral testimony from family members confirm that these farms often produced a single cash crop as well as various food crops. Farmsteads from this period range from quite small, with only a few outbuildings, to properties with numerous auxiliary structures. A typical early twentieth-century small farm is the Zollie Kornegay Farm (DP 164), located near the Pleasant Grove community. Zollie Kornegay built the frame, one-story, single-pile dwelling in 1918. Surviving outbuildings date from the same period and include a shed, wash house, barn, packhouse, and smokehouse.

Larger farm complexes reflect a similar diversity in the types of outbuildings present. These farms typically have a larger number of outbuildings spread over a much bigger area. The Samuel Tilden Patterson Farm (DP 161) is anchored by a 1912 frame I-house. Outbuildings on the farm include log tobacco barns, a smokehouse, sheds, packhouses, and barns. The Patterson family operated a large tobacco farms, but also grew corn and other staple crops.

Farm dwellings of this period are typically traditional in plan and stylistic elements. Late Greek Revival, Victorian, and Colonial Revival houses are commonly the heart of these farmsteads. Among the house types found on farms of this period are one- and two-story triple-A-roof dwellings; one-and-a-half pile houses, one-story, single-pile houses; I-houses; and one- and two-story L-shaped dwellings.

The Henry Hanchey Farm (DP 226) is perhaps the best example from this period of a farmstead with a one-and-a-half pile dwelling. This interesting plan consists of a center hall flanked by two large rooms, behind which are two smaller, unheated rooms. The kitchen, which is now located in the rear ell, is a circa 1800 single-pen log house which was moved up to the dwelling and covered with weatherboarding when it was incorporated into the main house. Several chicken houses are located in front of the dwelling and barns, cribs, and stables are situated on the north side of the dwelling. Tobacco barns and a mill house are located behind the house.

Other intact or representative farmsteads from this period include the Mordecai Bennett Farm (DP 309), the William Chancey Carlton Farm (DP 390), the Marshburn Farm (DP 368), and the Willie Blanchard Farm (DP 354).

National Register and Study List Properties

-Henry Hanchey Farm (DP 226), SR 1974, Hanchey's Store vic. (SL)
-Robert Daniel Kornegay Farm (DP 146), SR 1518, Pleasant Grove vic. (SL)
-Leroy Franklin Johnson Farm (DP 409), SR 1133, Brice's Store vic.
-J.L. Albritton Farm (DP 310), SR , Calypso vic.

-Farm (DP 341), SR 1004, Westbrook Crossroads vic.
-Robert Dickson Farm, SR 1917, Magnolia vic. (NR)

B. Post-World War I Farm Complexes (1919-1943)

Farmsteads from the period following World War I are similar in appearance to those from the previous period. The only discernible difference is the type of dwelling in which the farmer lived. Traditional vernacular dwellings, as well as houses with localized interpretations of the Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles, were the most common types of dwellings built during this period. Many earlier houses were remodeled during this period as well. The Bryan Newkirk Williams house (DP 376), a coastal plain cottage, was updated in the twenties with a bungaloid porch and dormers windows. This remodeling of the front porch in the bungalow style was one of the most common treatments during this period and is found, not only on coastal plain cottages, but also on late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century I-houses, one-and-a-half pile dwellings, and one story, single-pile houses. The W. Deems Clifton House (DP 330), an I-house built in 1909 near Faison, received an updated look in the twenties when a one-story porch with bungaloid flared pillars atop brick piers topped with a Colonial Revival gable was added to the facade.

Craftsman dwellings make up a significant number of farm dwellings in the county. The Walter Thigpen Farm (DP 145) features an American four-square house built in the 1920s by a Kinston contractor for tobacco and corn farmer Walter Thigpen. Around the same time, carpenter Saks Cole built a bungalow for Norwood Blanchard on his farm near Chinquapin (DP 262). Perhaps the finest local interpretation style is seen in the dwelling on the W.G. Fussell Farm (DP 458). Built by Fussell and his brother-in-law, Mr. Akens, this frame, two-story structure features characteristic exposed rafter tails, knee braces, and dormer windows.

A local interpretation of Colonial Revival style is seen in the George Warren Albritton house located on a farm (DP 285) near Calypso. The centerpiece of a large strawberry farm in the early twentieth century, this 1928 two-story dwelling is asymmetrical and features pedimented gables and paired sash windows. The dwelling also exhibits influences from the Craftsman style including battered porch pillars atop brick piers and four-over-one sash windows.

With the continued profitability of tobacco culture, flue-cured barns were being built in large numbers during this period. Most commonly, these outbuildings were built of frame, but log barns continued to be built during and beyond this period. As a young man in 1944, Grover Rhodes built a log barn (DP 181) near one (DP 180) his father-in-law had built in 1924. In addition, several hip roofed, board-and-batten flue cured barns remain in the county. In 1925, Hampton Durant Williams built a most stylish board-and-batten tobacco barn (DP 189) on the farm (DP 194) his grandfather established in the nineteenth century.

During this period kitchens were being integrated into new homes instead of constructed as separate buildings. In many cases, those which were originally detached, were often incorporated into older dwellings. Once electricity and indoor plumbing came into wide use in the county as a result of rural electrification during the 1930s, kitchens no longer had to be separated from the house for fear of fire which could destroy the kitchen and often the entire dwelling. In addition, advances in plumbing and the installation of septic tanks allowed bathrooms to be built inside the dwelling, eliminating

the need for outhouses. These technological changes altered the appearance of the farmstead by consolidating the woman's domestic work sphere within the confines of the house.

Wood-frame hog and poultry barns were built extensively during this period. Some of these structures are elongated and not unlike the modern versions that have recently appeared on the rural landscape of the county. Other smaller types are simple rectangular structures. The Ceness Taylor Farm (DP 319) features several small chicken and turkey houses from the 1930s. These structures have shed roofs and groups of bays on their south elevations which provided needed sunlight and ventilation.

National Register and Study List Properties

-George Warren Albritton Farm (DP 285), NC 117, Calypso vic. (SL)
-W.G. Fussell Farm (DP 458), SR 1146, Rose Hill vic. (SL)
-Norwood Blanchard Farm (DP 262), SR 1970, Chinquapin vic. (SL)
-Bryan Newkirk Williams Farm (DP 376), SR 1126, vic.

Significance

The historic farm complexes of Duplin County are potentially eligible for National Register designation under criterion A for agriculture and criterion C for architecture and the quality of craftsmanship of buildings, or as representative examples of early or rare techniques. The county's historic farms chronicle the long and important role that agriculture played in the development of the county. Farmsteads in the county further chronicle the diversified nature of agriculture in the county, as well as the boom periods associated with such crops as tobacco and strawberries. Farms typically feature barns and stables related livestock raising, as well as structures used historically for crop production, such as corn cribs. Although the flue-curing of tobacco fell out of widespread practice in the 1970s, the continued appearance of barns associated with the process exhibits the degree to which tobacco was grown throughout the twentieth century. Farmsteads help to further illustrate the everyday lives of the men and women who built and occupied them in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Registration Requirements

In order for a farm complex or individual component of a farmstead in Duplin County to be eligible for the National Register, it must meet certain registration requirements. The basic requirement is that the property, or the majority of buildings, structures, and field patterns on the farm, should be fifty years old or older. The farm and its components should illustrate a theme or periods in the county's agricultural development and retain integrity in form, material, and workmanship. Farm complexes should retain an integrity of location and setting, as well as in the arrangement of buildings, structures, and landscape features such as ponds, fields, and fences. For an entire farm complex, integrity is determined by that of the numerous components which make up the entire farmstead. These components include dwellings, outbuildings, landscape features, and other contributing elements. Individual buildings and structures may have been altered or moved within the complex without affecting the integrity of the entire complex. In fact, such alterations or moves often reflect changes in agricultural methods and are important for understanding the evolution of farming techniques.

PROPERTY TYPE 2: HOUSES

Introduction

This property type has been divided into two time periods: the first period extends from the late eighteenth century to 1865; the second, 1865 to 1943. Some houses do not fit neatly into one chronological category because of expansions and alterations that have occurred over decades. For example, the Bryan Newkirk Williams house (DP 376) spans the two periods. The Williams house was originally a circa 1800 single-pen log house. Around 1850, it was converted into a coastal plain cottage. Finally, in the 1920s, bungalow features were added to the dwelling. Since there is no visible physical evidence of the log structure, and since the house appears to be a coastal plain cottage with twentieth-century additions, the 1850 date would determine where the house falls in the property type chronology.

Description

A. Houses Built from the Post-Colonial Period to the Civil War Era (ca. 1790-1865)

Surviving pre-Civil War Houses in Duplin County are few because of natural deterioration, outright neglect, or intentional destruction. Those properties that do survive are constructed of superior materials, such as heart pine or hewn timbers, and represent the most highly crafted dwellings built during the period. Surviving structures are of heavy timber frame construction, typically the most stable building method. Early dwellings in Duplin County typically exude an unpretentiousness evident in both form and style. Because of the abundance of timber in the coastal plain, as well as the lack of skilled builders and craftsmen, early buildings were overwhelmingly simple, wood frame and log structures. By the early decades of the nineteenth century, the population had increased, the economy had expanded, and elements of distinct architectural styles had left their imprint on both interior and exterior features. Because the built environment does not exist in a vacuum, late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century dwellings reflect the evolution of changing building methods, styles, and forms. Dwellings built in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries feature both hall-parlor and center hall plans. Exterior and interior features exhibit conservative elements of Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival architecture.

From memoirs of the period, it is evident that log construction was a common building type in the county during this period. The best surviving example of early log construction is the Chasten-Wallace House (DP 211) built in the early nineteenth century. Although the house has been covered in weatherboard, the full-dovetail notching is visible under the front porch roof.

The circa 1790 Colonel Stephen Miller House (DP 253) is an early, well-designed heavy timber frame house located east of Kenansville. This one-story, hall-parlor plan dwelling has both flush sheathing and an intricately molded cornice on the front and rear elevations of the main block. Traditionally, the larger hall was the focal point of the household and from where typically a stair rose and led to the sleeping loft. The parlor usually functioned as private space and often contained a bed. The Miller house represents the early infusion of architectural ornament in the county. The hall of the Miller House features a Federal mantel and a fully-panelled Georgian boxed stair. A door

with geometric molding separates the hall and parlor. Revolutionary War veteran Stephen Miller (b. 1752; d. 1826) constructed this dwelling.

The Gaston Kelly House (DP 104) presents an interesting case of architectural evolution in Duplin County. The house is of timber frame construction and was built in the late 1700s. Now a center-hall-plan house with a bungaloid porch, the dwelling appears to have been originally built as a dogtrot. During the early nineteenth century, the house was expanded and exterior walls added to create the center hall. Interior features of this house include Federal mantels, H-L door hardware in the loft, multi-panelled interior doors, and a stair which originally led from the loft to the front porch. The earliest known owner of the house was Gaston Kelly (b. 1846; d. 1922), a farmer who lived in the house during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Early coastal plain cottages in the county are distinguished by the extreme verticality of their roof-lines and, in some cases, a stair which leads from the front porch to the loft. The Benjamin Franklin Chambers House (DP 96), built in 1831, exhibits the verticality of other early coastal plains, but its most unique feature is a full brick basement. The house is framed with heavy hewn timbers and features Federal mantels, wainscotting in the hall, and wide plank interior sheathing throughout. The Jacob Jean Smith, Sr. House (DP 190) dates from the 1830s and originally featured a porch to loft stair. Naval stores manufacturer Zaccheus Smith built his coastal plain cottage (DP 185) around 1830. Although somewhat deteriorated, this simple hall-parlor plan cottage features a grand Federal mantel in its hall.

By the mid-nineteenth century, coastal plain cottages had changed slightly with many examples having a double-pitched roof. Examples of antebellum coastal plain cottages with double pitched roofs include the James Maxwell House (DP 152) and the Ivey Smith House (DP 186). Others of this period, including the John and Catherine Maxwell House (DP 151), continued to evidence a single pitched roof.

The Greek Revival style appeared in Duplin County around 1830 and permeated all facets of domestic construction for much of the nineteenth century. The most exuberant expressions of the Greek Revival style are manifested in the county's most grand dwellings. By the 1840s with the advent of improved transportation and the arrival of a market economy, a small planter class had emerged. These men possessed common economic and social interests and the ideas and viewpoints of this planter class came to be emulated by the community at large. The men who stood at the head of this hegemony were not typical of farmers in Duplin County during this period. In fact, planters were far outnumbered by small self-sufficient farmers. However, this upper tier of the population wielded power over the local economy by controlling most of the wealth. The stylish dwellings built in the decades leading up to the Civil War when the planter hegemony would be challenged reflects the power these men and their families exerted in the local economy and society.

The overall conservative tastes of builders and residents in Duplin County merged comfortably with the Greek Revival style. Neoclassical elements were easily applied to the traditional symmetrical center hall plan dwelling. Builder's pattern books published in the first half of the nineteenth century helped to supplant earlier Georgian and Federal stylistic elements with new designs for mantels, columns, and porticoes. The hall-parlor plan of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century virtually disappeared from dwellings constructed during this period. What emanates in dwellings of this era is a fusion of

national stylistic concepts and more localized building ideologies which form a unique architectural expression which defines Greek Revival in Duplin County.

Houses of this style in the county typically have low-hipped or gable roofs, doors with long vertical panels, classically-inspired porches and cornerboards, and post-and-lintel mantels. As in other areas of North Carolina, Greek Revival features are often found in conjunction with Federal-style elements. The combination of these elements represent the transition in popularity from the Federal to the Greek.

The greatest concentration of Greek Revival dwellings can be seen in the county seat of Kenansville. Here, in the two decades before the Civil War, builders and clients established what would became the epitome of the localized version of the style. Eleven dwellings in Kenansville model the forms which can be found throughout the county. The language of the Greek Revival style in this town is characterized by plain frame houses of one and two stories, but imbued with the Doric order, delicate balustrades, and fashionable yet commanding central porticoes. What results is a group of dwellings which as individuals exude a congruence between the unpretentiousness of their overall form and the elegance of classical motifs.

These houses maintain a typical center hall plan and are one or two rooms deep. Mantels with their posts and lintels exude a strength expressed firmly with Doric caps identical to those applied as exterior elements. Stairs are delicately crafted with slim unadorned balusters, round handrails, and turned newel posts. Door and window surrounds are plain and feature simple corner blocks.

Dwellings built in Kenansville and throughout the county during this period reflect climatic adaptations necessary in the hot, humid southern Coastal Plain of North Carolina. In the Kelly-Farrior House (DP 475) located in Kenansville, the original access to the second floor was an enclosed stair located in the breezeway which separates the kitchen ell from the main block of the house; although exterior stairs were a common theme in dwellings built in the county during this period, there are no intact examples remaining.

The Dr. Needham Herring House (DP 344) embodies all of the elements of the localized version of the Greek Revival style and is perhaps the county's finest example of the style. Built in the 1850s and located near Kenansville, the Herring House is typical of other two-story, double-pile dwellings of the period. However, the Herring House is embellished with exceedingly fashionable decorative elements such as a delicately molded ceiling medallion in the northeast parlor, heavily molded panels under the windows of each parlor, and a gently curving open well stair with a plain newel post and slender balusters; the stair's carriage features raised wave panelling. Such stylishness is continued along the exterior facade where the two-story portico is adorned with a delicate sheaf-of-wheat balustrade which contrasts with the bold square classical pillars and pilasters topped with Doric caps; recessed in the pillars and corner pilasters is a Gothic Revival-inspired panel.

Greek Revival styling had its applications to other vernacular forms including the "one-and-a-half pile" dwellings in the county. These center hall houses have equal size parlors flanking the hall; behind each parlor is a small, unheated room. Like other Greek Revival dwellings in the county, these homes typically feature Doric corner pilasters and identical pillars flanking the front porch. Among the finest examples of this form is the Henry Hanchey House (DP 226), located in the Hanchey's Store community of south

central Duplin County. Constructed in the mid-nineteenth century, the exterior of the house features a wide frieze embellished with a diamond motif. The W.B Hawes House (DP 208), constructed around 1870 and located near the community of Register, features particularly delicate Greek Revival door and window moldings.

The Joel Loftin House (DP 292) represents a regional variation on the Greek Revival style. This one-story Greek Revival cottage was built in 1852 and has a center hall flanked by a four rooms of equal size; a low hipped roof tops the dwelling. Doric pillars and pilasters and a handsome tripartite doorway provide a classical treatment to this dwelling of modest size. A much more ambitious expression of the style is the Albert Hicks House (DP 297). This two-story dwelling was originally a hip-roofed I-house built in the early part of the nineteenth century. In 1846, a large rear addition was completed. The house combines Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival mantels and features delicately molded Federal doors and long-vertical panelled Greek Revival doors.

The mid-nineteenth century saw the introduction of the Italianate style in Duplin County. Although the style is rare in the county, three fine examples survive. The Buckner Hill House (NR 1975) features elements from both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. This circa 1850 two-story, frame cross-hall plan dwelling features Greek Revival doorways with transoms and sidelights and Italianate influences most notable in the low-hipped roof and bracketed eaves. The Dr. Graham House (DP 480) in Kenansville is the county's purest and most intact example of the Italianate style. Constructed in 1855, this two-story frame dwelling features a low-hipped roof, a full-height porch, and bracketed eaves. The Graham House possesses rich detailing including lozenge motifs within polygonal panels on the front doors and in the panels under the sidelights; rectangular flat panels along the frieze of the balcony; and polygonal panels on the base of the bay window and on the porch pillars. Crosetted architraves, chamfered porch posts, and pilasters on the bay window along with the solid panelled interior stair railing make this dwelling one of the county's most stylish residences. An almost mirror image of the Graham House is the Smith House (DP 369) located west of Wallace. A contemporary of the Graham House, the Smith House exhibits a similar full-facade inset porch, bracketed eaves, and low-hipped roof. The interior of the Smith House features Greek Revival post and lintel mantels, wide plain door and window surrounds, and both bull's-eye and square molded corner blocks.

National Register and Study List Properties

-Richard Best House (DP 467). SR 1110, Warsaw vic. (SL)
-Benjamin Franklin Chambers House (DP 96). SR 1300, Kenansville vic. (SL)
-Chasten-Wallace House (DP 211), NC 50, Chinquapin vic. (SL)
-William Wright Faison House (DP 468), SR 1304, Bowdens vic. (SL)
-Albert Hicks House (DP 297), NC 403, Calypso vic. (SL)
-Buckner Hill House, SR 1354, Faison vic. (NR)
-Gaston Kelly House (DP 104), SR 1306, Red Hill vic. (SL)
-Joel Loftin House (DP 292), SR 1368, Rone's Chapel vic. (SL)
-James Maxwell House (DP 152), NC 11, Pink Hill vic. (SL)
-Colonel Stephen Miller House (DP 153), NC 11, Kenansville vic. (SL)

-Pigford Place (DP 80), SR 1957, Kenansville vic. (SL)
-Smith House (DP 369), NC 41, Wallace vic. (SL)
-Stallings-Newkirk House (DP 400), SR 1101, Concord vic. (SL)
-Waterloo, NC 111, Albertson vic. (NR)

B. Houses Built Between the Civil War and 1943

The last half of the nineteenth century and the first few decades of the twentieth century was a period of agricultural prosperity for a large sector of the county's population. The railroad was completed through the county in 1838, but did not lead to widespread economic expansion until improvements were made in the line during the late nineteenth century. The improved railroad reached new, more distant markets and led to the growth of truck farming, or commercial fruit and vegetable production, and to an increase in the production of traditional cash crops like cotton. In addition, the first half of the twentieth century saw an increase in the cultivation of bright-leaf tobacco, a cash crop grown by a majority of farmers in the county. The economic prosperity resulting from the railroad and profitable agricultural pursuits led to a period of increased building in the county.

While most people in the county benefitted from the economic prosperity of this period, houses built following the Civil War and up through the first half of the twentieth century are conservative in form with very little exuberant ornamentation. While homes built in the towns for merchants and attorneys are often grand, dwellings constructed for and by typical farmers were quite modest.

Dwellings of the late nineteenth century continued to exhibit Greek Revival-influenced elements. By the end of the century, wood mills made Victorian embellishments such as turned posts and sawn ornament more affordable and such elements began to be applied to dwellings constructed in traditional forms throughout the county. In addition, the railroad made decorative trim, as well as building material, more easily accessible to builders.

The center hall plan house became increasingly popular during this period. The majority of one- and two-story dwellings surveyed from this period have center halls and are single-pile, or one-room deep. One-and-a-half pile and double-pile houses with center halls became more common by 1900.

The Lewis Nixon Williams House (DP 547) in the Fountain community of eastern Duplin County is an extremely intact house which retains its setting as well. The stark plainness of this dwelling is typical of more rural houses built around 1900 in the county; however, the intact nature of this property and its setting make it a unique vestige of early-twentieth-century rural life. The box-shaped dwelling is unpretentious in its simplicity. A recessed-porch detached kitchen is located next to the house and is still in use by Bertha Williams , the daughter of the builder. A small garden is located just off the southeast corner of the kitchen and a swept yard flanks the periphery of the house and kitchen. A simple, weathered post fence is located in front of the dwelling.

The Greek Revival style had such an indelible effect on the built environment in Duplin County that elements of it are evident in dwellings built at the end of the nineteenth century. Classical elements that first appeared during the antebellum period continued to be applied to all types of dwelling well past the 1870s. The ubiquitous Doric pillars and corner pilasters, as well as cornice returns, appear on one-story, single-pile

dwellings, one-and-a-half pile dwellings, and one-story, double-pile dwellings. Post-and-lintel mantels are found in dwellings built during the early twentieth century. The application of late Greek Revival elements is found on the circa 1870 Winfield Scott Loftin House (DP 317). This front-gabled, center hall, double-pile dwelling has Doric pillars on its front porch, cornice returns on its gable ends, and post-and-lintel mantels. An even later house, the Robert Daniel Kornegay house (see DP 146), a center hall, double-pile farm house built in 1892, has both classical pillars and corner pilasters.

With the growing importance of the railroad in the late nineteenth century, the use of decorative trim increased on dwellings in the county. Trim such as sawn porch ornament, eave brackets, and vergeboard was applied to traditional, vernacular forms like one-story, single-pile houses, as well as Queen Anne-inspired dwellings. The Matthews House (DP 464), a center hall plan, one-story, single-pile dwelling built in the early twentieth century, features a front-gabled porch with elaborate decorative sawn work and turned posts. Unlike other communities so directly influenced by the railroad, the most exuberant expressions of Victorian architecture are nearly non-existent in the county. Where the style is evident, such as in the rail town of Warsaw, it is commonly mixed with more other styles such as Neoclassical Revival. This veritable lack of pure Victorian architecture is likely owed to the overall conservative natures of the residents of the county.

Victorian elements are most common in and around the railroad towns of western Duplin County. In Warsaw, several dwellings features turned posts and sawn ornament. The Henry L. Stevens, Sr. House (DP 524), a two-story irregular plan dwelling with Queen Anne asymmetrical massing, is adorned with delicate spindle work, ornamental lattice, and turned posts. Decorative sunburst motifs are found on an exterior gables and on an elaborate square, fluted newel post. The L.P. Best House (DP 525), located across East Hill Street from the Stevens House, combines the Queen Anne style with Neoclassical influences. The Best House features a turret on its southeast corner, a rare feature in otherwise staid late-nineteenth century Duplin County architecture. The only other turret found on a Duplin County house is one on the John and Maggie McMillan House (DP) in the railroad town of Teachey. Compared to the Best House which has irregular massing and a series of hipped and gables roof-lines, this late-nineteenth-century, side-gabled, double-pile house is overall conservative in form. A more common application of Victorian architecture is found in Rose Hill where several dwellings along Main and Church Streets feature turned posts.

Starting in the late nineteenth century, builders of traditional hip-roof and side-gabled dwellings began add centrally-located front gables. The resultant houses are commonly called "triple-A's" by regional architectural historians. This decorative element is found on double-pile hip-roofed cottages and one- and two-story, single-pile dwellings throughout the county. The Claude Herring House (DP 48), a one-story hip-roofed dwelling, features the small gable on its facade, as well as on its side elevations. The Deane Waller House (DP 111), a center hall plan house, is a good example of a one-story triple-A, while the Gaston "Gat" Kornegay House I (DP 154) is a representative example of a triple-A I-house. The Kornegay House, a center hall dwelling, was built in 1913 and features tongue-and-groove interior sheathing and a two-story rear ell.

One-story, double-pile hip-roofed cottages, also referred to as pyramidal cottages, are another common element of the architectural landscape of early-twentieth century

Duplin County. These center hall dwellings are typically plain in ornamentation and are found mostly in rural areas of the county. The Ed Rouse House (DP 57) has a pair of internal chimneys and a hip-roofed ell and is a typical example of the house type. The Columbus Hanchey House (DP 225) is a hip-roofed cottage with Victorian elements such as a particularly ornate Eastlake-inspired door and turned porch posts.

The emergence of national architectural styles came to the county in the form of the bungalow. While architects designed bungalows for wealthy clientele all over the country, the versatility and inexpensiveness of this house type made it attractive to people in the county who desired a sturdy, yet affordable dwelling. With its low roof, open plan, and front porch, an element well-suited the climate of the South, the bungalow was a widely popular style in rural Duplin County, as well as in the towns. Beginning in the 1920s, several types of bungalows began to appear. The John Carter House (DP 523) in Warsaw exemplifies the style. Built during the third decade of the century by tobacconist John Carter, the house features wide overhanging eaves and massive porch pillars. Much more pervasive in the county was the front gable or southern bungalow built extensively during the 1920s and thirties. These plain dwellings typically were three bays wide with a front facing gable roof. Some examples have bungalow features such as battered wooden posts atop brick piers and knee braces along the eaves of the roof, while others are strikingly plain with simple square porch posts and little decorative embellishments. The E.E. Kelly House (DP 103) features battered posts supporting its front porch, while the Perry Grady House (DP 132), built in 1928, features paired posts atop brick piers along the front of wrap-a-round porch.

Rural bungalows, including examples which were originally components of farmsteads, reflect localized interpretations of the Craftsman style and are located throughout county. The circa 1930 Henry Sanderson farm house (DP 81) features a recessed porch similar to those found on the county's coastal plain cottages. Craftsman details on this side-gabled dwelling include four-over-one double-hung sash windows, knee braces and exposed rafter tails along the eaves of the roof, and a front gabled dormer centrally located on the dwelling's facade. The front porch is supported with small posts atop brick piers and extends to the north elevation creating a porte cochere. The Homer Hawes House (DP 217) with its recessed porch is a similar expression of the Craftsman bungalow style.

Just as it made building materials such as sawnwork trim, sashes, and blinds more easily accessible, the railroad also made prefabricated, mail-order dwellings easier to obtain. Two mail order dwellings, both located in Calypso, were surveyed in county; however, it is likely that additional modest dwellings in the county's rail towns were also obtained through mail-order companies. The J.R. Maxwell House (DP 282), a plain two-story, irregular plan house, was ordered from the Sears company around 1914 and shipped by rail car to Calypso. Much of the house was originally covered with wood shingles. The Powell-Byrd House (DP 280), a mail-order bungalow assembled in Calypso around 1920, features a low gabled roof, rafters tails, knee braces along the eaves, and a living room around which all the other rooms revolve. The front porch extends out to porte cochere and features Classically-inspired posts atop brick piers. Manufactured by the Aladdin Company in Wilmington and featured in the company's 1919 catalog, the exterior wall material of the house was originally cedar shingles; the house was covered in aluminum siding in 1948.

By the mid-twentieth century, the railroad had fallen out of widespread use as trucks became the principal method of transportation for agricultural products. The production of truck crops, especially strawberries, declined as states such as California took over fruit growing. By the 1970s, the agricultural landscape had changed tremendously with large agribusiness corporations establishing their headquarters in the county. Large hog and turkey shelters began to dot the landscape and supplant the self-sufficient farm complex.

With these changes in agricultural patterns in the 1970s, came another period of increased building. Farmers and their families built elongated, brick ranch houses and Neo-Colonial Revival dwellings. As had happened in the first half of the twentieth century, building patterns reflected the transformation of the agricultural economy.

National Register and Study List Properties

-W.S. Boney House (DP 348). NC 41, Wallace vic. (SL)
-Mary Dickson Carr House (DP 98). SR 1957, Kenansville vic. (SL)
-W.B. Hawes House (DP 208). SR 1141, Register vic. (SL)
-John L. James House (DP 256). SR 1827, Sloan (SL)
-Gaston "Gat" Kornegay House I (DP 154). NC 11, Kornegay (SL)
-Winfield Scott Loftin House (DP 317). SR 1301, Bowdens vic. (SL)
-Lewis Nixon Williams House (DP 547). SR 1715, Fountain vic. (SL)
-Powell-Byrd House (DP 280). 208 Third St., Calypso (SL)

Significance

Dwellings are significant as reflections of the architectural trends which take place over time. In addition, they exhibit the unique adaptations of national and popular styles by local builders. Early houses, those dating from the late-eighteenth and early nineteenth century, reveal traditional building methods and exhibit the range of house forms citizens employed. Because these early surviving dwellings are built of the finest materials, they represent the history of the county's wealthiest citizens. Post-Civil War dwellings are plentiful and the large number of substantial dwellings from this period are a reflection of the wide-spread prosperity agriculture provided with the help of the railroad. More modest dwellings, most of which were historically part of a self-sufficient farmstead, attest to the prevalence of the cultivation of tobacco in conjunction with food crops.

Registration Requirements

National Register eligibility requirements are much more stringent for individual houses compared to those which are part of a farm complex. For those eligible under criterion C, for architecture, there must be a high degree of integrity from the period of significance. However, because of their rarity, early houses may have undergone more alteration and remain eligible for the National Register. Alterations to early houses may add to the property's significance by contributing to the understanding of the progression of stylistic influences and building techniques. Houses significant under criterion A, for their association with events, or under criterion B, for their association with important persons, must not be the best examples of their type, but rather should largely retain historic character from the period of significance.

Typically, a high degree of integrity is essential to the eligibility of individual dwellings if the primary area of significance is architectural. For early houses, the

affixing of vinyl, asbestos, or aluminum siding does not necessarily rule out eligibility. However, houses with siding must retain the majority of their original attributes, such as form and detail, and the siding must emulate of the original exterior material. To be eligible to the National Register, houses must be located on their original sites. A dwelling with outstanding architectural or historical merit which has been moved might remain eligible if architectural integrity is intact and the new site is similar to the original setting.

Several dwellings in Duplin County do not represent a single style or type of architecture, but rather display a progression of stylistic influences and construction techniques and illustrate the methods in which Duplin County residents updated their dwellings over time. Therefore, alterations made at least fifty years ago are considered as part of the historic fabric of the houses if they retain integrity of design, materials, and craftsmanship and have not been adversely affected by later additions or alterations.

PROPERTY TYPE 3: OUTBUILDINGS

Outbuildings are an essential part of Duplin County farmsteads and households. Outbuildings in the county survive as parts of farmsteads, in relation to individual dwellings, and in isolation. The greatest bulk of outbuildings date to the early twentieth century.

Smokehouses are the most common outbuilding. Most of the smokehouses in the county are frame or log, and several are covered in wood shakes. Perhaps the oldest smokehouse in the county is the Jerry Pearsall Smokehouse (see DP 92). This small, rectangular structure is built of log and has full dovetail notching at its corners. Wood shake covered smokehouses are found behind the Serena Williams House (DP 403) in southwestern Duplin County and behind the John James House (DP 256) in the Sloan community.

Other types of outbuildings are found in scattered locations throughout the county. Simple frame garages dating to the first half of the twentieth century are common in rural Duplin County. Among the properties which such structures are the Robert Wells House (DP 402) and the Thomas Jefferson Kornegay House (DP 166). Flower houses are rare in the county, although there is a small brick structure for the cultivation of flowers and plants during the winter next to the Dr. Needham Herring House (DP 344). Strawberry "hand" houses for housing pickers who came to Duplin for the spring harvest season are found in the areas around the rail towns. The R.L. Wells Farm (DP 405) features several barrack-type structures that were used for hand houses during the early twentieth century.

Barns of all types are found throughout the county. A hay barn with a gambrel roof is located behind the Winfield Scott Loftin House (DP 317) near Bowdens. The Bryan Newkirk Williams Farm (DP 376) features a front gabled roof barn built in the 1950s. Norwood Blanchard built a log barn with stables underneath a hay loft on his farm (DP 262) during the first half of the twentieth century. A circa 1930 frame stable with several stalls is located on the Henry Hanchey Farm (DP 226).

Tobacco barns and packhouses are perhaps the most common types of agricultural outbuildings. Tobacco barns are commonly frame and log, while pack houses are almost always frame. Tobacco barns are frequently arranged in rows such as the five located in front of the John and Catherine Maxwell House (DP 151). Behind the Thad Turner House (DP 136) there are two rows of several tobacco barns. Packhouses commonly stand alone,

and groups of packhouses are usually arranged informally on the farmstead. Packhouses are two stories tall with gabled roofs. Frequently, one-story sheds flank each side of the two-story block, allowing for the storage of heavy equipment such as tractors.

Study List Properties

-Jerry Pearsall Smokehouse (DP 92), SR 1300 , Kenansville vic.(SL)
-Charles Bunyon Hawes Hand House (DP 546), SR 1102, Rose Hill vic. (SL)

Significance

Outbuildings, like farmsteads, are important vestiges of Duplin County's agricultural heritage and reveal a great deal about farm life in the county. Early outbuildings such as smokehouses and corcribs are significant as representatives of pre-twentieth-century domestic organization, traditional construction techniques, and craftsmanship. Several types of outbuildings, such as flue-curing tobacco barns and strawberry hand houses, are associated with agricultural processes which are no longer utilized and therefore, reveal information about these farming methods.

Registration Requirements

With a few exceptions, individual outbuildings are typically not eligible for the National Register. Surviving examples of certain distinctive and rare building types are eligible if they remain intact. As a part of a farmstead, a group of outbuildings may be eligible as contributing resources in a complex if it is intact and individual members retain basic integrity of form and structure from the period of significance. Surviving examples of certain distinct and scarce building types such as corner-notched plank smokehouses and strawberry hand houses are eligible individually if they remain substantially intact.

PROPERTY TYPE 4: INSTITUTIONAL BUILDINGS

Churches, schools, and civic-related structures were historically important to the everyday life of Duplin County citizens. Whether they were rural or located in towns, these structures served an important social and cultural function in a county where people were generally dispersed and social contact could be infrequent.

A. Churches

The county's earliest surviving churches were built in the decade before the Civil War. Imposing Greek Revival churches built during this period were designed to accommodate growing congregation, as well as to assert the position of the church and its members. Built during the decade before the Civil War, the Grove Presbyterian Church (DP 476) in Kenansville blends well with the handsome frame Greek Revival dwellings along the Main Street. This gable front building features Doric pilasters flanking a transom and entablature adorned with dentils along the cornice. An imposing bell tower adorned with small Doric pilasters sits perched on the roof's ridge. Along the sides and front facade of the church are windows with pointed arches. The Bear Marsh Baptist Church (DP 325) was built in the Greek Revival style just prior to the Civil War. The rectangular building has a low hip roof and cornerboards with Doric capitals.

With few exceptions, churches built during the last several decades of the nineteenth century were overwhelmingly plain. Most are frame, gable-front structures with one to three bays on the facade. Churches of the period often possess understated late Greek Revival or Gothic Revival stylistic embellishments. Many of these structures

have been altered with the addition of brick veneer or vinyl, aluminum, or asbestos siding. Early twentieth century churches are both brick and frame and possess more stylish features including elements of the Gothic Revival and Romanesque Revival styles.

Typical of the plain churches of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is Smith's Presbyterian Church (DP 192) in Smith Township. The original portion of this church was built around 1895 and is a rectangular frame structure with a centrally located front door flanked by plain windows. Similar to the Smith Presbyterian Church is the 1883 Jones Chapel (DP 27), a rectangular frame building with cornice returns and front gable roof. The most intact of the rural frame churches is Hebron Church (DP 178), constructed in 1890. This rectangular church follows the nave plan and features original wood pews and has never been wired for electricity. An historic cemetery established when the church was built flanks each side of the building.

Although plain churches with few stylistic details continued to be built in the county in the twentieth century, more stylish architectural statements were made with some worship houses built during the period. The Calypso Methodist Church (DP 284) was built in 1910 and is the county's only expression of Romanesque Revival architecture. This high hip roofed brick church features lancet windows, a tall tower above a broad front gable, arched windows, and steep roof-lines. Several brick Gothic Revival-inspired churches were built during this period including the 1921 Magnolia Baptist Church (DP 430) and the 1908 Duplin Roads Methodist Church (DP 511). The style was also executed in wood frame examples such as the Teachey Presbyterian Church (DP 460), built in the early twentieth century.

National Register and Study List Properties

-Calypso Methodist Church (DP 284). SR 1317, Calypso (SL)
-Concord Missionary Baptist Church (DP 397). SR 1002, Concord (SL)
-First Baptist Church (DP 437), Church Street, Rose Hill. (SL)

B. Schools

Only two schools dating to the nineteenth century were documented during the survey. The Magnolia Male Academy (DP 423) was built in 1858 and is the county's finest example of Italianate architecture. The nineteen room two-story frame structure features a bracketed cornice, imposing 12 over 12 sash windows, and a projecting bell tower which dominates the front facade. The Reaves School (DP 24) near Rone's Chapel was built in the late part of the century by saw mill owner Wilson Reaves. This frame structure possesses Victorian influences most notable in its cutaway corners.

Early-twentieth-century African-American schools are numerous in the county. The Magnolia School (DP 544) was built with the assistance of the Rosenwald Fund in 1926. The unique H-shaped brick building exhibits the standardized plan used throughout the South. Other schools for black students in the county are frame and include the rectangular frame gabled-roofed Charity School (DP 545); Stanford School (DP 384), a rectangular frame buildings with a front gabled roof; and Little Creek School (DP 222), a particularly stylish Craftsman-influenced building with knee braces along its eaves.

As in other counties across the state, the end of the 1920s saw the consolidation of schools in the county and the construction of several large brick facilities for white

students. The Benjamin Franklin Grady School (DP 148) and the Chinquapin School (DP 261), both brick Neoclassical Revival structures, were designed by Wilmington architect Leslie Boney. Both schools feature an elongated main block with a centrally located Classical portico.

National Register and Study List Properties

-Benjamin Franklin Grady School (DP 148). NC 11, Korgegay vic. (SL)
-Chinquapin School (DP 261). NC 41, Chinquapin (SL)
-Little Creek School (DP 222). SR 1950, Greenevers (SL)
-Magnolia Male Academy (DP 423). Railroad Street, Magnolia (SL)

C. Other Institutional Buildings

Fraternal lodges were an important part of life in small towns throughout Duplin County during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Steeped in tradition, these groups were another way that citizens who were otherwise scattered throughout the county could socialize. Only two lodges remain intact in the county. St. John's Lodge (DP 473), located in Kenansville and built in 1860, is an impressive Greek Revival-style temple-form building. Poised on a knoll in the county seat, the lodge has a low hipped roof and Doric corner pilasters. Among the early members of the lodge were some of the county's most prominent planters including James Kenan and Shadrack Stallings. John McMillan, a prominent Teachey businessman and Civil War veteran, built a lodge (see DP 459) in the rail town in 1870. This frame two-story front gabled structure is quite plain with little stylistic embellishments.

While lodges offered social centers for men in the county, woman's clubs gave county females their own gathering places. The emergence of such clubs coincided with the Suffrage Movement and the need for women to forge an identity in their communities separate from their families. The Wallace Woman's Club (DP 497) was built in the 1930s for the express purpose of community service, but also to serve a social function. The frame rectangular building features a low-hipped roof and exhibits typical Craftsman-influenced characteristics such as exposed rafter tails and knee braces along the eaves.

The Magnolia School was built in the early twentieth century and was similar in style to the B.F. Grady and Chinquapin schools. The school was destroyed later in the century, but its auditorium and gym remain. Both structures were built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) as part of a Federal relief program instituted by President Franklin Roosevelt. The Magnolia School Gym (DP 428) is a frame structure with a hipped roof, while the auditorium (DP 429) is a more stylish brick building with arched, semi-elliptical bays.

National Register and Study List Properties

-Magnolia School Auditorium (DP 429). NC 117, Magnolia (SL)
-Magnolia School Gym (DP 428). NC 117, Magnolia (SL)
-St. John's Lodge (DP 473). Lodge Street, Teachey (NR)*
-Teachey Lodge (see DP 459). First Street, Teachey (SL)+
-Wallace Women's Club (DP 497). Street, Wallace (SL)

*Indicates the property is part of a National Register district
+Indicates the property is part of a potential National Register district

Significance

Institutional buildings are historically significant as centers of community development and for the role they play in the social and educational history of the county. Some of these buildings are architecturally significant as well, either as notable examples of institutional architecture in Duplin County or as representative examples of the most popular plans and styles of buildings constructed throughout the county.

Registration Requirements

Churches which are eligible under Criterion A for their histories, are the only extant representatives of historically important communities, or are located within historic districts might display a lower degree of architectural integrity and still be eligible or considered a contributing member of a district. To be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for architecture, a church must be at least fifty years old, retain its location, setting, and overall architectural integrity of design and workmanship from the period of significance, and be good representative examples of church architecture as a whole in Duplin County. Alterations to the exterior appearance of an individually eligible structure should be minimal and a majority of the original interior finish should be present. Although not desirable, replacement siding should not render an architecturally significant church ineligible if it is of at least locally exceptional architectural importance, all other features are substantially intact, the replacement siding has been carefully applied, and the original sheathing underneath appears to be intact.

Schools and other institutional buildings are important representatives of community development and everyday life in the county. Such buildings should retain their integrity, but because they are quite rare in the county, this threshold is lower than for churches. For these structures, original location, form, and materials should be maintained. However, replacement siding should not render the building ineligible for inclusion in the National Register.

PROPERTY TYPE FIVE: COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Description

One-, two-, and three-story commercial buildings in Duplin County are numerous and found in rural areas, as well as in the railroad towns in the western section of the county. The majority of these buildings are rectangular in shape and constructed of brick; with a few exceptions, rural stores are of frame construction. Commercial buildings in the county date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Much like institutional buildings, rural stores in the county serve an important social function by providing a central meeting place for otherwise isolated farm families. Merchants also played a role in the local economy, more specifically in the complex tenant-landowner relationship which permeated agricultural labor patterns during this period. The crop-lien system, as it is known, involved the merchant loaning seed, fertilizer, clothing, and often money to a tenant. The merchant

received payment for the loan from the farmer when the crop was harvested. The system was often riddled with fraud which was perpetuated by merchants who charged inflated interest rates. Other problems arose when the worker, land owner, and merchant attempted to claim the rights to a crop which proved too small for everyone to receive his share. Typically, the worker was short-changed and found himself in debt. The perpetual cycle of debt to a lender began when the cropper or tenant had to carry over the unpaid debt to the next growing season.

The Summerlins Crossroads General Store (DP 97) was built in the 1930s and is rare example of a rural brick commercial building. This imposing two-story building features a decorative brick cornice on its three-bay facade, as well as a stepped roofline on its east and west elevations. The building retains its original storefront which consists of two large display windows and a recessed double door entrance. Other rural stores established in the twentieth century include the circa 1890 John James Store (DP 255) in Sloan. This imposing three story, frame, gable front store features Doric pillars along its two-story front porch. The G.B.D. Parker Store (DP 275) built around 1890 in Chinquapin is a one-story, frame store with a remarkably well-preserved interior which features original shelving adorned with decorative scrolled brackets and tongue and groove interior sheathing. Oscar Walker's Store in Beautancus (DP 323) is a one-story, frame building which features original interior shelving and tongue and groove ceiling and walls. Bungaloid pillars atop brick piers front this circa 1930 rectangular building.

With the prosperity and growth brought by increased rail activity in Duplin County, sleepy towns along the right-of-way were transformed into busy commercial centers. The most conspicuous transformation came in the development of business districts. Although few commercial buildings from the nineteenth century survive, large numbers of early twentieth century one, two, and three-story mercantile stores and hotels remain in the county. In the county's rail towns, commercial buildings are typically grouped together in linear commercial blocks. These rectangular-shaped buildings feature a main entrance on the short end, which usually faces the street, or in some instances, the railroad tracks.

The commercial area of Wallace (DP 491) includes several blocks of early-twentieth century commercial buildings rendered in brick with various degrees of corbeled detailing above the top bays. The two-story, brick T.Q. Hall Mercantile building features Art Deco designs and two decorative brick courses over the second floor bays. The two-story, brick Z.J. Carter's Store features brick courses identical to that on the Hall building, but instead of the Art Deco motif, simple elegant arches top the double louvered windows on the second floor. The one-story, brick Rose Oil Company building features striking Art Moderne brick work. The Wallace depot, the county's only depot which retains its original setting, is also located within the district and illustrates the close connection the railroad had to the commercial development of this town. This circa 1920 one-story, rectangular frame depot features wide overhanging eaves accented with Craftsman-influenced knee braces. Front gabled dormers topped with finials grace two elevations of the building. A long, rectangular freight depot stands adjacent to the Wallace depot. The Faison depot of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad was moved to its current location away from the right-of-way and thus does not retain its original setting.

Warsaw retains most of its early twentieth century commercial buildings in its downtown area. Nearly four blocks of brick buildings are intact and several free-standing railroad related businesses remain. Commercial buildings in the town are one-, two-, and

three-stories and reflect early twentieth century national trends in building. The two-story brick Davis Hotel (DP 518) and the frame Warsaw Inn (see DP 543) were built within the first two decades of the twentieth century and served as lodging for passengers travelling on the railroad. The Bank of Warsaw (see DP 520), a one-story brick building, features arched bays along its facade. The three-story Quinn-McGowan Furniture Company (see DP 520) was built in the second decade of the twentieth century and features a stepped roofline and decorative cross motifs along the facade.

Commercial areas in Magnolia, Teachey, and Rose Hill are less extensive, but remain significant as a reflection of the prosperity the towns experienced in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Bank of Magnolia Commercial Block (DP 411) in Magnolia dates to 1911 and is a one-story, brick commercial block which retains its early twentieth century storefronts. The former Hunt Dry Goods Store (DP 413), also in Magnolia, is a one-story, front gabled frame building with a two-story, bracketed false front. In Teachey (see DP 459), a small block of early twentieth century commercial buildings remains, as does a late nineteenth century post office/store built by John C. McMillan. A two-story frame lodge, also built by McMillan, also stands adjacent to the tracks. The majority of Rose Hill's commercial area (see DP 438) dates to the mid-twentieth century. One significant commercial building is a two-story brick structure built in the early twentieth century by G.B.D. Parker of Chinquapin. The building has decorative brick arched bays along its facade and originally housed Henderson's General Merchandise Store, Carr Drug Store, and a finishing room for a casket company.

Several commercial buildings remain in the towns of Faison and Calypso, two rail hamlets located in northwestern Duplin County. Built during the mid-nineteenth century, the Thornton Store is located on Main Street in Faison and is a one-story frame structure with a front gable roof. Other notable commercial properties include the Faison fire station building which was built around 1900 and originally housed C.S. Hines General Merchandise Store. The second floor facade of this building retains its original pressed metal front with decorative raised relief pilasters, medallions, and bracketing. In Calypso, two small brick commercial blocks remain. A two-story block (DP 279) originally housed the Albritton Brothers store and a clothing store. There is little physical evidence of the vegetable markets that flourished in this town around the turn-of-the-century before the operations were moved to neighboring Faison. However, one of Calypso's early twentieth century produce sheds under which vegetables were traded is located just outside of town behind the Oscar Lambert House (DP 288).

National Register and Study List Properties

Individually eligible commercial buildings within large historic districts are not listed here.

-Bank of Magnolia Commercial Block (DP 411). Magnolia (SL)
-Calypso Commercial Block (DP 279). Calypso (SL)
-(former) Hunt Dry Goods Store (DP 413). W. Main St., Magnolia (SL)
-Parker Store Commercial Block (DP 438). Rose Hill (SL)
-Summerlins Crossroads General Store (DP 97). SR 1004, Summerlins Crossroads (SL)
-Teachey Historic District (DP 459). Teachey (SL)
-Wallace Historic District (DP 491). Wallace (SL)

-Warsaw Historic District (DP 519, DP 520, DP 521). Warsaw (SL)

Significance

Commercial structures are a reflection of the prosperity experienced in Duplin County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The railroad which brought trade to the railroad towns had a direct impact on the commercial areas of these towns. Rural stores were more social in nature, providing farmers central gathering places as well as a center for trade. Merchants in Duplin County also played a significant role in the lives of sharecroppers and tenant farmers. Commercial buildings eligible for listing are typically significant under criterion A, as representatives of community, commercial, and transportation development in Duplin County. Several properties may eligible under criterion C as exceptional or representative examples of Duplin County's commercial architecture.

Registration Requirements

Most of the county's historic commercial buildings are located in potential National Register Districts, while one rural store has been determined eligible. To be eligible, an individual commercial building should retain its original setting and the majority of its interior and exterior features. The storefronts and interiors of buildings in districts may exhibit alterations and still be considered contributing resources if the original shape of the individual buildings have been retained and at least the upper portion of the front facades remain intact.

PROPERTY TYPE SIX: INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AND SITES

Description

Because Duplin County has historically been a wholly agricultural county, industrial buildings are farm-related. The only types of buildings in this category which remain in the county are mills. The Seth Turner Saw Mill (DP 202) dates to the early twentieth century and is still in use today. The mill is typical of early twentieth century saw mills and consists of equipment sheltered by a long, rectangular, front gable roof supported by simple square posts. At this band saw mill, felled trees are cut into lumber. The descendents of Seth Turner, the founder of the mill, still operate it. Maxwell Mill (DP 167) retains its setting with a mill pond as its backdrop. A mill has been located on this site since the nineteenth century. This Craftsman-influenced building was constructed in the 1930s and corn and lumber were milled here until the 1950s. A mill has been located at Boney's pond since the eighteenth century, but the current structure was built in the 1930s. Heavy timbers from an earlier structure were used to build Boney's Mill (DP 349), a simple gabled building. Like the Maxwell Mill, this facility was used for grinding corn and milling lumber.

Study List Properties

-Maxwell Mill and Pond (DP 167). SR 1554, Pink Hill vic. (SL)
-Boney's Mill (DP 149). NC 41, Wallace vic. (SL)

Significance

Industrial buildings are rare in Duplin County, but nevertheless represent an important sector of the county's economic history. The mills which remain in the county are eligible under criterion A as representatives of the industrial development of Duplin County and under criterion C as examples of an important regional building type.

Registration Requirements

Mills in Duplin County are predominantly isolated. Because of their rarity, individual buildings might sustain a higher degree of alteration than most domestic structures and still remain eligible. An industrial building must retain its original location and overall original form. In addition, most of the original construction material should be present.

G. Geographic Data

Duplin County, North Carolina

H. SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION METHODS

The loss of historic resources and the realization of the fragility of those properties which remain have been the incentives for locals to organize to preserve the rich architectural legacy of the county. In 1992, Leon Sikes of the Duplin County Economic Development and Tourism Department applied for a grant from the North Carolina Division of Archives and History to fund a county-wide architectural survey. The Duplin County commissioners were awarded a grant to fund the survey. Sikes, a published local historian and active member of the county's historical society, with the assistance of Woody Brinson, Executive Director of the Duplin County Economic Development Commission, garnered the necessary matching funds to support the fourteen-month project from county organizations and businesses. Leon Sikes continued his support of the project by acting as the local coordinator, while Catherine W. Bishir of the Survey and Planning Branch of the Division of Archives and History supervised the work of the consultant who was retained to conduct the survey.

The Duplin County Architectural Survey was conducted over the projected fourteen-month period. The consultant chosen for the project was Jennifer Martin, a graduate of the Historic Preservation master's program at Middle Tennessee State University. The survey began with a planning phase that included a reconnaissance survey of the county and the preparation of a preliminary report on the county's history and architectural resources. Fieldwork began in November 1992 and concluded in September 1993; in all, 530 properties were documented. The consultant travelled every public and accessible private road in the county. Hundreds of properties, including dwellings, farm outbuildings, churches, schools, and commercial structures were documented with photographs, written descriptions, and site plans; hundreds more were map coded on United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographical maps. Information on these historic resources is contained in individual files located at the Division of Archives and History in Raleigh. The survey and documentation processes were conducted according to North Carolina Division of Archives and History standards and guidelines. As a result of the survey, individual resources and districts were listed on the Division of Archives and History's "Study List." Properties on this list are those resources which appear to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The study list is a critical component of the project and properties on the list are considered during the implementation of preservation planning projects. The survey of Duplin County also produced USGS topographical maps with the properties coded, color slides of the resources, presentations to county organizations, and this Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Although the survey was the work of a single consultant, many individuals offered invaluable assistance. Leon Sikes not only acted as local project coordinator, he also contributed information about individual properties and genealogy of county families. Hundreds of individuals provided historical information and personal stories about specific properties and people associated with these sites; also, several individuals accompanied the consultant in the field. Because there is a conspicuous lack of secondary sources on the county's history, the project would have been impossible without the oral testimony of these people. Individuals who contributed greatly to the consultant's knowledge of the county include Cornelius McMillan, Burma Farrior, Dr. Dallas Herring, John Patterson, Shirley Stroud, Lugene Hemphill, Irving Kornegay, Prentiss Smith, W. L.

Pierce, Gladys and Grover Rhodes, Willie Outlaw, Norwood Blanchard, James Parker, Harry Stroud, Brian Sandlin, and Cecil Kornegay. Claudia R. Brown, Linda Harris Edmisten, and Catherine W. Bishir of the Division of Archives and History assisted in the preparation of the study list.

This survey and the inventory of properties it produced are designed to encourage Duplin County residents to preserve the many examples of local history and culture that survive today. A true preservation ethic exists among county residents; this was apparent among the many individuals the consultant encountered who lamented on the loss of numerous historic dwellings and buildings. Several residents have already undertaken or are in the process of completing restoration projects. Among these individuals are Tony Davis (Dudley-Hicks House); Lynn Dail (Dr. Needham Herring House); James Loftin (Joel Loftin House); and Jackie and Albert Grant (Richard Best House). Two dwellings, the Buckner Hill House and Waterloo, were listed in the National Register prior to the start of this survey. Several property owners in the towns of Warsaw, Faison, and Wallace have completed restorations of commercial buildings and were able to take advantage of preservation tax incentive programs. Their success will encourage others to maintain and safeguard the unique built environment which is so important to the heritage of Duplin County.

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