National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park
Greensboro, North Carolina

Coble Barn

Historic Structure Report



Cultural Resources

Southeast Region

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Coble Barn

Greensboro, North Carolina

Historic Structure Report

October 2015

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About the front cover: View of the Coble Barn looking west, November 2014.

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Greensboro, North Carolina

Historic Structure Report

Approved: _____ 3 NOV 2015
Superintendent, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park — Date

Recommended: _____ NOV. 9, 2015
Chief, Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division, Southeast Region — Date

for Recommended: _____ 11-13-15
Deputy Regional Director, Southeast Region — Date

ACTING Approved: _____ 11.13.15
Regional Director, Southeast Region — Date

Contents

Project Team vii
Foreword viii

Management Summary

Historical Data 1
Treatment and Use 2
Administrative Data 3
Project Scope and Methodology 3

Developmental History

Historical Background and Context 7
Prehistory to Contact 7
Early European-American Settlement, circa 1730s–1776 8
The Revolutionary War, 1776–1783 10
Post-War Village Life, 1783–1857 14
Initial Battle Commemoration, 1857–1900 14
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Establishment, 1903–1917 17
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, War Department Administration, 1917–1933 18
Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, National Park Service Administration, 1933 to present 19
Tannenbaum Historic Park, 1984–2006 24
Chronology of Development and Use 26

Physical Description and Condition Assessment

Site 27
Exterior Evaluation 29
Interior Evaluation 33
Condition Assessment 37

Significance and Integrity

Significance Criteria 41
Period of Significance 42
Character-Defining Features 43
Assessment of Integrity 43

Treatment and Use

Requirements for Treatment and Use 45
Laws, Regulations, and Functional Requirements 45
Alternates for Treatment and Use 46
Ultimate Treatment and Use 47
Guidelines for Treatment 47
Recommendations 48
Recommendations for Further Research 51

Bibliography 53

Appendix: Drawings

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Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Historic Structure Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and cultural landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Region. A number of individuals contributed to the successful completion of this work, but we would particularly like to thank the Project Team who authored the report. The authors would like to thank the staff at the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park who assisted with the project, including Superintendents Charles Cranfield (retired) and Doyle Sapp (current), Park Historian John Durham, and the Park staff who assisted with the inspection of the Coble Barn and its environs. We like to also thank our partner Eastern National represented by Nancy Stewart. Additional thanks to Historical Architect Danita Brown, AIA, of the Southeast Regional Office for her assistance. We hope that this study will prove valuable to park management in ongoing efforts to preserve the buildings and to everyone in understanding and interpreting these unique resources.

Dan Scheidt, Chief
Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division
Southeast Regional Office
2015

Management Summary

At the request of the National Park Service (NPS), Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) has developed this Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the Coble Barn at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Greensboro, North Carolina. Figure 1 is a map of North Carolina showing the location of the park and Greensboro. Figure 2 is a map of the park. Figure 3 is an aerial image showing the location of Coble Barn within the Hoskins Farmstead site.

The Hoskins House Historic District, including the Coble Barn as a contributing structure, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.[1] The Coble Barn was not included as a contributing structure in the National Historic Landmark documentation prepared for the battlefield in 1999.[2]

The findings of this study indicate that the Coble Barn is not a contributing structure to the Hoskins House Historic District, due to its relocation from its original site, lack of association with the Hoskins House and the site of the battle, and the severe deterioration of original materials. However, the structure could be further assessed for individual significance as an example of an early nineteenth century double-pen log barn. Until such determination is made, and because the barn is currently part of the interpretive program of the park, future maintenance and repair work should be considered within the context of the legal mandates and policy directives established by National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Guideline (Director's Order 28) for the protection of cultural resources.

Historical Data

Settlement of the Carolinas began in the late seventeenth century in coastal areas; by the mid-1730s small groups of settlers began to move into the Piedmont. As a result of the growth in population, three new counties were formed in the Piedmont between 1750 and 1771, including Guilford County, which was founded in 1771. In 1774, the state legislature authorized construction of a courthouse, prison, and stocks for Guilford County. The courthouse was completed by 1781.

Among the early residents of the county were Joseph Hoskins and Hannah Evans Hoskins. The Hoskinses purchased a 150-acre property on Horsepen Creek near the courthouse in 1778.

On March 14, 1781, Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene's army of nearly 4,500 American militia and Continentals reached Guilford Courthouse while moving through the region seeking a position of military strength as they were shadowed by British troops under the command of Gen. Charles Cornwallis. An initial skirmish along New Garden Road delayed the British advance toward Guilford Courthouse. The battle unfolded on March 15, 1781, with fighting occurring on nearby farmlands of Joseph Hoskins. After 2-1/2 hours of intense and often brutal fighting, Cornwallis forced his opponent to withdraw from the field. Greene's

1. Michael T. Southern, with research by Thomas Taylor, Hoskins House Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, prepared January 31, 1988, listed in the National Register, March 15, 1988.

2. John Hiatt, National Historic Landmark Nomination, Guilford Court House Battlefield, prepared January 6, 1999.

retreat preserved the strength of his army, but Cornwallis's frail victory was won at the cost of more than 25 percent of his army. Reduced to a force of only 1,500 men, Cornwallis had lost too many to retain an effective fighting force in the Carolinas. Afterward, Cornwallis returned to Wilmington and eventually removed his forces to Yorktown, Virginia, where he met ultimate defeat in 1781.

Following the Revolutionary War, the number of settlers increased and residents expanded the area under cultivation and cleared the virgin forest that covered most of the battlefield's 1,000 acres. The village of Guilford Courthouse ceased to exist in 1785 when the North Carolina General Assembly chartered a new community nearby to serve as the county seat that was referred to as "Martinville." As the center of county government, however, Martinville failed to thrive, and the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions was moved to newly chartered Greensboro in 1809.

During the nineteenth century, Americans began to form groups with the mission of honoring, protecting, and commemorating the events of the 1770s and 1780s that led to the formation of the new nation. The first local effort to commemorate the battle of Guilford Courthouse was initiated in 1857, when a group referred to as the Greene Monument Association was organized and began fund-raising activities to erect a memorial to the American general in his namesake city. The Civil War broke out before the Association could achieve its goal, which would remain unfilled until after Reconstruction. The Centennial of American Independence in 1876 proved to be a watershed for commemoration. At this time, Congress appropriated funds to erect monuments at Yorktown, Bennington, Saratoga, Newburg, Cowpens, Monmouth, Groton, and Oriskany. Locally, the goal of honoring the battle of Guilford Courthouse was taken up by a new organization—the Guilford Battle Ground Company.

Greensboro businessman Judge David Schenck was elected the first president of the Guilford Battle Ground Company in May 1887. Within its first year of operation, the organization acquired nearly 62 acres of battlefield land. The battleground was beautified and sixteen monuments were erected by 1902.

Following years of failed attempts, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park was established in March 2, 1917, on lands acquired by the Guilford Battle Ground Company Control of Guilford National Military Park was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service in 1933.

Alarmed by the development beginning to occur along the western edge of the battlefield, a group of Greensboro citizens formed a non-profit organization—Guilford Battleground Company—intending to raise funds to purchase the Hoskins House and surrounding land in 1984. The Hoskins House was purchased in 1985 by the newly formed nonprofit.

In 1986–1987 the group undertook efforts to restore the Hoskins House. At this time, a kitchen outbuilding was constructed south of the house, and the Coble Barn was relocated from a site near Julian, North Carolina. It is believed that the barn was built circa 1830 by George "Joel" Coble (1808–1894), a son or grandson of immigrants of German stock who settled in southeastern Guilford County by 1781.

All of the tracts associated with the Hoskins Farmstead, which totaled 7.69 acres, were deeded to the City of Greensboro in 1988 to form the basis of Tannenbaum Historic Park. In 1992, a visitor center was constructed at the Tannenbaum Historic Park. Additional renovations to the house were undertaken throughout the 1990s and 2000s. In 2010, the National Park Service acquired Tannenbaum Historic Park from the City of Greensboro.

Treatment and Use

The Coble Barn is of interest as part of the interpretation of colonial and early American life to park visitors and to the extent that original nineteenth century building materials survive in repairable condition. It is anticipated that the interpretive use of the building will continue. The recommended overarching treatment for the

building is therefore *Rehabilitation* to support ongoing use of the house as part of the park's interpretive program, while retaining and protecting historic character-defining features and building fabric.

The barn is generally in poor condition, with significant and extensive repairs required to address weathering-related deterioration of the log walls. Addressing these distress conditions will involve replacement of existing logs with new replica materials as well as repair of salvageable original materials. Replacement of non-original materials such as the roof, and the addition of limited electrical service to the building, is also recommended.

Administrative Data

Locational Data

Building Name: Coble Barn

Location: Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Greensboro, North Carolina

UTM Coordinates: Zone 17 N: 3998970 E: 603234

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates: 36.1294 degrees north, 79.8527 degrees west

LCS Number: N/A

NPS Asset Number: 233121

Related Studies

Thomas E. Baker. *Redeemed from Oblivion: An Administrative History of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.* Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1995.

John Hiatt, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park *Cultural Landscape Report.* Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Division, 2003.

John Hiatt, National Historic Landmark Nomination, Guilford Court House Battlefield, prepared January 6, 1999.

Michael T. Southern, with research by Thomas Taylor. Hoskins House Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, prepared January 31, 1988, listed in the National Register, March 15, 1988.

Cultural Resources Data

The Hoskins House Historic District, including the Coble Barn as a contributing structure, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1988. The barn is a non-contributing structure in the National Historic Landmark documentation prepared for the battlefield in 1999.

Period of Significance: circa 1830

Proposed Treatment: Rehabilitation

Project Scope and Methodology

The goal of the HSR is to develop planning information for use in the repair, maintenance, and preservation of historically significant buildings. First developed by the National Park Service in the 1930s, HSRs are documents prepared for a building, structure, or group of buildings and structures of recognized significance to record and analyze the property's initial construction and subsequent alterations through historical, physical, and pictorial evidence; document the performance and condition of the structure's materials and overall physical stability; identify an appropriate course of treatment; and, following implementation of the recommended work, document alterations made through that treatment.

This HSR addresses key issues specific to the Coble Barn, including the history and construction chronology of the building (as possible based on available archival documentation); the existing physical condition of the exterior and interior materials; and the historic significance and integrity of the structure.

The following project methodology was used to prepare this study.

Research and Document Review. Archival research was performed to gather information about the original construction and past modifications and repairs for use in assessing existing conditions and developing treatment recommendations for the building. Documents reviewed included maps, historic photographs, and other written and illustrative documentation about the history, construction, evolution, and repairs to the building. The research for this study built upon prior historical and archival research by the National Park Service and others, as outlined in the bibliography provided with this report. Primary reference material for this study was obtained from Guilford Courthouse National Military Park collections. Project team members also met with Superintendent Charles Cranfield; Historian John Durham; Nancy Stewart of Eastern National; and Jim Kirkpatrick, former Greensboro mayor pro tem and former President and current Honorary Chairman of the Guilford Battleground Company; Vicki Boyce, Maintenance Coordinator; and William Bragg of King's Mountain National Military Park (who was assisting with the Facility Management Software System at Guilford National Military Park) during the site visit to discuss the history of the house and barn, previous and anticipated repair projects, and future planning efforts for the Hoskins Farmstead area. Additional research material was also obtained from the National Park Service Technical Information Center (TIC) in Denver.

Condition Assessment and Documentation. Concurrent with the historical research, a condition survey of the building was performed and observations were documented with digital photographs, field notes, and annotations on sketch drawings prepared by the project team while on site. The condition assessment addressed the exterior and primary interior spaces and features of the buildings, as well as visible primary portions of the building structural systems.

Development of History, Chronology of Construction, and Evaluation of Significance. Based on historical documentation and physical evidence gathered during the study, a context history and a chronology of design and construction were developed. An evaluation of the significance was also prepared, taking into consideration guidelines provided by *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.*[3] This evaluation of history and significance provided the basis for the development of treatment recommendations.

Treatment Recommendations. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties guided the development of treatment recommendations for the significant exterior and interior features of the buildings. Following the overall treatment approach of *rehabilitation*, which ensures preservation of character-defining features while allowing new and continued use of the building, specific recommendations were developed to address observed existing distress conditions as well as long-term preservation objectives.[4]

Preparation of Historic Structure Report. Following completion of research, site work, and analysis, a narrative report was prepared summarizing the results of the research and inspection and presenting recommendations for treatment. The HSR was compiled following the organizational guidelines of NPS *Preservation Brief 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports*, with modifications made to the organizational structure as needed to meet the purposes of this project.[5]

3. *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, 1997).
4. Kay D. Weeks and Anne E. Grimmer, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Historic Preservation Services, 1995).
5. Deborah Slaton, *Preservation Brief 43: The Preparation and Use of Historic Structure Reports* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 2005).

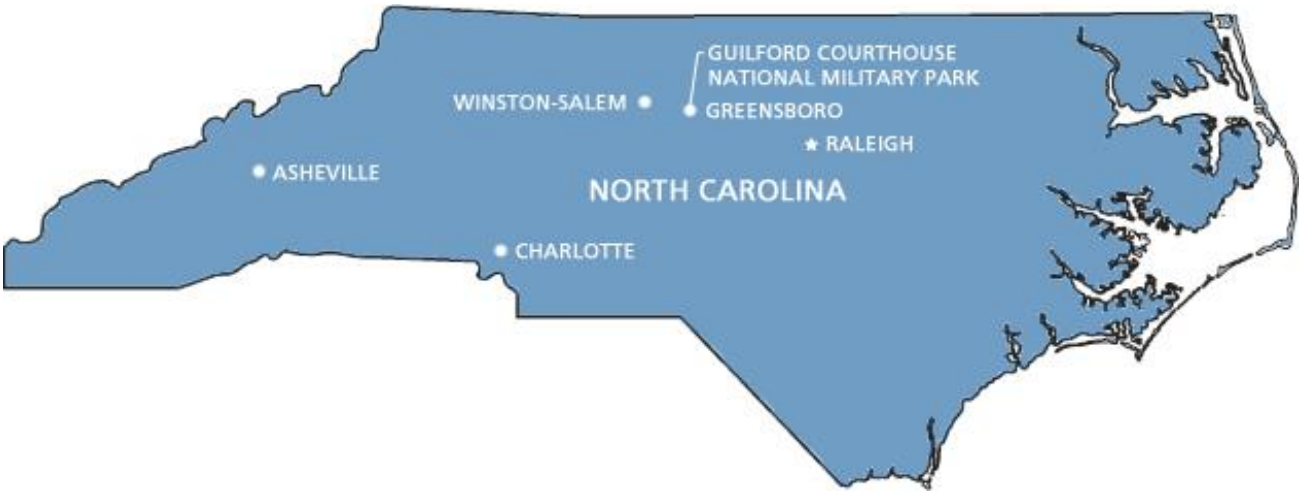


FIGURE 1. A map of North Carolina showing the location of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park and Greensboro.

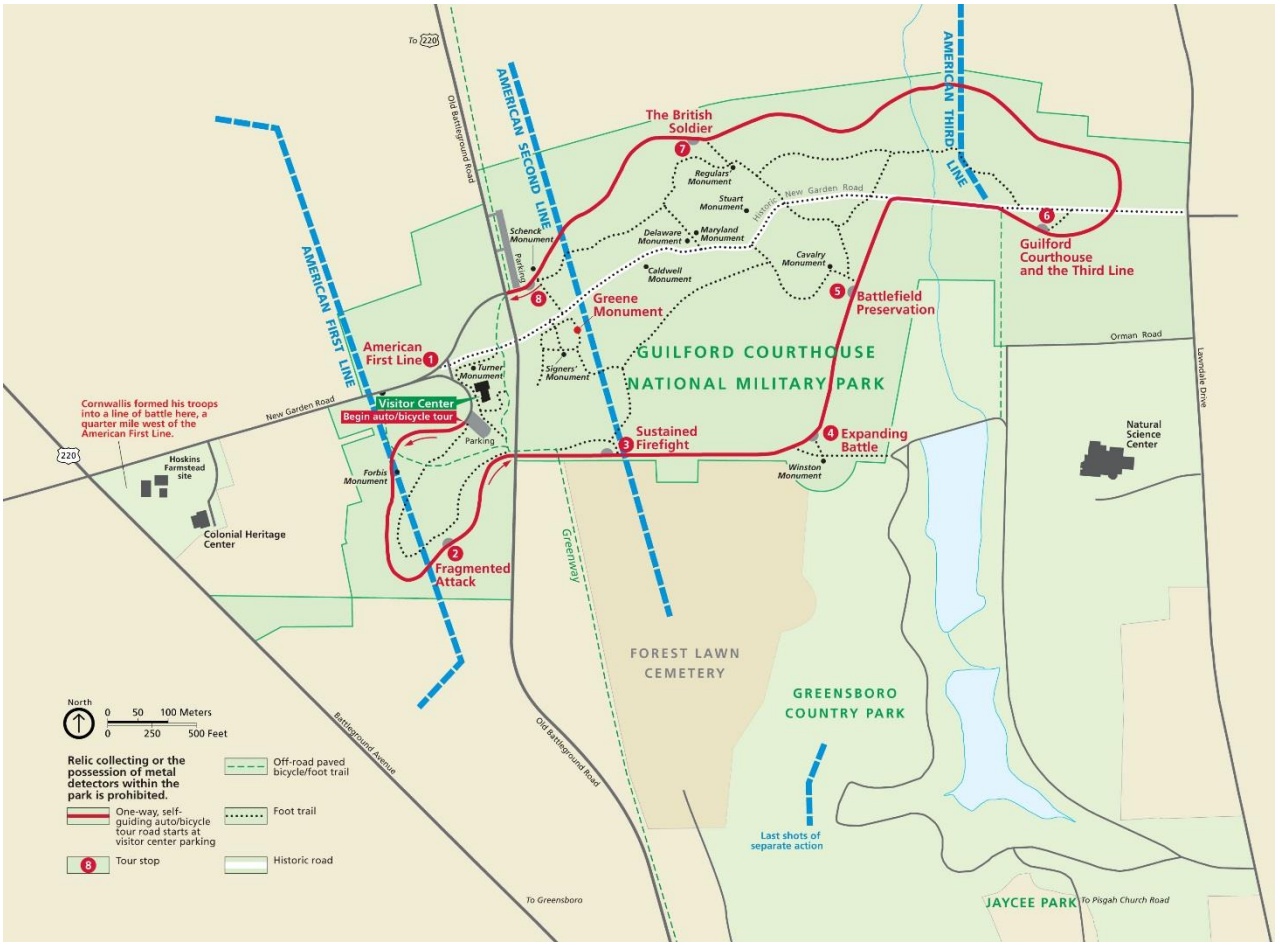


FIGURE 2. A map of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, with the Hoskins Farmstead site at left. Source: National Park Service.



FIGURE 3. An aerial view of the Hoskins Farmstead site.

Developmental History

Historical Background and Context

Prehistory to Contact

Few Native American sites have been identified within the Guilford Courthouse battlefield landscape to date, although investigations conducted in 1984 by Wake Forest archeologists hired by the Guilford Battleground Company uncovered cultural features, artifacts, and fill episodes. Material evidence of prehistoric activity included six non-diagnostic, lithic artifacts manufactured of local material (metavolcanic) that date to the period.[6]

Archeological evidence for cultural activity within the Piedmont region of North Carolina suggests that early Native American groups were nomadic and visited the area while hunting Pleistocene megafauna and foraging during the Paleo-Indian period (10,500 to 8,500 BCE). The period is characterized by the Clovis points manufactured from high-grade lithic materials such as Coastal chert, Piedmont metavolcanics, Ridge and Valley cherts, and western Piedmont quartz.[7] The Archaic period (8,500 to 1,000 BCE) correlates with the Holocene epoch associated with the environmental transformation from boreal tundra to deciduous plant communities that followed the last glaciation. Tool types increased during the Archaic period. Cultural activity, while still primarily mobile and nomadic, began to include seasonal encampment, with populations becoming adapted to a local or more regional environment. Populations appear to have increased as well. No sites relating to Archaic or Paleo-Indian period dwellers, however, have been located at or in the immediate vicinity of Guilford Courthouse.[8]

The Woodland period (1,000 BCE to 1,000 CE) is characterized by the introduction of earthen pottery and triangular chipped stone projectile points, and the cultivation of plant foods. Many Woodland era sites have been identified along stream corridors and in riverine environments.[9] Before 200 BCE, most cultural groups within the area were mound builders. The so-called Mississippian period (1,000 to 1,600 CE) was characterized by the beginning of village development on a large scale. Although groups continued to build mounds, they also began to establish large and complex villages, sometimes palisaded, while also maintaining expansive trading networks. As the period progressed, inhabitants also appear to have begun to disperse into smaller, isolated farmsteads.[10]

The first European visitors to the region were Spanish explorers. They were later joined by

6. Linda France Stine, Roy S. Stine, and Kristen S. Selikoff, "Multidisciplinary Landscape Research at Tannenbaum Historic Park, Guilford County, North Carolina" in *North Carolina Archaeology* Vol. 52 (October 2003), 38–39.
7. Linda France Stine and Kristen Selikoff, "Landscape Archaeology at Tannenbaum Park, Greensboro, North Carolina (31Gf413)" (Prepared for the Guilford Battleground Company, Tannenbaum-Sternberger Foundation and Tannenbaum Historic Park, Greensboro, North Carolina, 1984), 6.
8. John Hiatt, *Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Cultural Landscape Report* (Atlanta, Georgia: National Park Service, 2003), 8.
9. Stine and Selikoff, 9.
10. Ibid., 10.

British and French explorers, traders, and fur trappers, who introduced trade and commerce to the local peoples. During the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, two Siouan cultural groups—the Keyauwee and the Saura (Cheraw)—are known to have occupied villages located within a 40 mile radius of the battlefield.[11] Historic accounts of the local peoples were provided by those traveling through the area. The first to describe the central Piedmont was John Lederer in 1670, who had been sent by the Virginia Colony's Governor Berkeley to explore the region. One of the routes used by the Siouan culture groups as well as the European-American explorers was the Great Path, which passed within 15 miles of present-day Greensboro.[12] The arrival of European-Americans introduced diseases, such as yellow fever, that contributed to the decline of some native cultural groups. Others left in response to raids by warring tribes.

In the early 1730s, planter William Byrd II of Charles City, Virginia, visited one of the Saura's former towns on the Dan River near the North Carolina-Virginia border, and wrote about his visit. Byrd noted that the Saura "had been a considerable nation" until incursions by Iroquoian peoples from the north compelled them to abandon their homeland in the first decade of the eighteenth century. In response, they are said to have moved southward, where they joined the Keyauwee, who resided in a palisaded village near present-day Asheboro. The merged group later resettled on the Pee Dee River in South Carolina, and assimilated into the Catawba nation by 1739.[13]

Early European-American Settlement, circa 1730s–1776

King Charles of England officially created the province of Carolina in 1663; the new proprietary colony, as constituted, extended between colonial Virginia and Spanish Florida, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. King Charles used the new province to reward families of his supporters by providing them with large land grants. Within Carolina, he granted charters to eight of his staunchest aristocratic allies, who became known as the Lord Proprietors.[14] By the 1690s, two distinct population centers had developed within Carolina—one to the north and the other to the south—prompting the Lord Proprietors to divide the large province into two administrative units. In 1712, North Carolina and South Carolina officially became separate political entities.[15]

Over the first two decades of the eighteenth century, proprietary mismanagement suggested that the Crown reacquire the grants. Although seven of the grant holders agreed to sell their grants back to the Crown in 1728, Lord Proprietor Carteret, and later his son, Lord Granville, did not. With the exception of what became known as the Granville district, North Carolina was officially converted into a royal colony in 1729. In the 1740s, the King ordered that his lands be surveyed to ensure the legal validity of colonists' land holdings in the district. Various attempts were made to complete this survey between the order and the 1770s. Carteret's claim encompassed a 60-mile-wide area in the northern half of North Carolina, extending from the Outer Banks to the Blue Ridge. Carteret, who never visited his landholdings, appointed agents to manage the affairs of his land office in the colony. It remained in operation and continued to issue its own land grants, including many reports of unscrupulous dealings, until the American Revolution.[16]

Most immigrants chose to settle near the ocean and within the inner coastal plain until the 1730s. Small groups of settlers began to move inland into the Piedmont beginning in the mid-1730s. Immigration accelerated during the 1750s, and continued to grow until the outbreak of the Revolution. Settlers came principally from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, and were of British, Scots-Irish, and German descent. They often followed the Great Wagon Road, which arose from the port in Philadelphia and traveled through central Pennsylvania's Great Valley, and

11. Hiatt, CLR, 8-9.
12. Stine and Selikoff, 11.
13. Hiatt, CLR, 9.
14. Stine and Selikoff, 12, and Hiatt, CLR, 10.
15. Hiatt, CLR, 10.
16. Stine and Selikoff, 12, and Hiatt, CLR, 10.

continued south through the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia to Roanoke, where it split. One branch headed in a more westerly direction, while the other led east of the Blue Ridge Mountains into the Piedmont of North Carolina. Many of the settlers were Quakers; a group of Pennsylvania Quakers established the settlement of New Garden near present-day Guilford College in the mid-eighteenth century. While surveying the surrounding countryside, the newly arrived Quakers reportedly found tracts of open grassland, possibly the result of Saura use of fire for agricultural and hunting management.[17]

Settlers were lured by the prospect of the cheap, arable land offered by the agents of the Granville district.[18] By the early 1760s, African slaves would make up a portion of about 10 percent of the households.

In response to the growth of the population, several new counties were formed in the Piedmont between 1750 and 1771. By this time, local residents had formed a group known as the Regulators to protest a bias in state taxation and representation policies toward Tidewater landowners and against Piedmont farmers.[19] The Regulators accused county officials of widespread corruption involving embezzled tax revenues, exorbitant fees for required public services, arbitrary seizure of private property, and the imposition of high, regressive taxes on the county citizenry. In May 1771, Governor Tryon decided to send troops to the area in response to the threat of rebellion. The Battle of Alamance ensued, with the Governor's forces prevailing.[20] Guilford County was formed from Rowen County following the battle in an effort to address underlying problems of social and economic inequity between Tidewater and the Piedmont.[21]

One of the initial needs of the new county was to establish a center of government and authority. In 1774, the state legislature acted to authorize construction of a courthouse, prison, and stocks for Guilford County. Although records detailing the process that followed do not survive, the courthouse was constructed at some point before 1781, as it was known to have been present during the Revolutionary War battle fought in the area. The structure was at least partially complete by October 1776, as it is described in the diary of a Moravian resident who noted that a General Muster was held at the time at Guilford Courthouse. In addition, in 1777, the General Assembly is known to have passed "An Act for appointing Commissioners to finish the building of a Court-House, Prison and Stocks in the County of Guilford."[22]

Among the residents of the county at the time of the battle were Joseph and Hannah Evans Hoskins. They purchased a 150-acre property "on Horsepen Creek and both sides of the main road" (present-day New Garden Road) near the courthouse in 1778 from James and Mary Ross.[23] The Rosses had acquired the property from Robert Mitchell, who owned it between 1762 and 1774.[24] Although little is known about the configuration and use of the property prior to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, the Tarleton map of the battle prepared in 1787 shows cleared fields and two buildings associated with the Hoskins property; British General Lord Charles Cornwallis would also describe the farm as a "considerable plantation," suggesting that the property had been settled and farmed well before the battle in 1781.[25] While it is likely that a house stood on the

17. Hiatt, CLR, 10, from Ethel S. Arnett, *Greensboro, North Carolina: The County Seat of Guilford* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1955), 7; Hiram H. Hilty, *New Garden Friends Meeting* (Davidson, North Carolina: Briarpatch Press, 1983), 3.
18. Hiatt, CLR, 11, and Stine and Selikoff, 12.
19. Stine and Selikoff, 12.
20. Hiatt, CLR, 12.
21. Stine and Selikoff, 12.
22. Hiatt, CLR, 12.
23. Guilford County Deed Book 1:439; and Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 25.
24. Guilford County Deed Book 1:285.
25. Michael T. Southern, "Hoskins House Historic District" National Register nomination (Raleigh, North Carolina: N.C. State Historic Preservation Office, 1988), 8-4.

property at the time of the battle, the date of origin of the dwelling located there today cannot be confirmed through available archival documentation; recent dendrochronological testing of wood members suggest it was constructed circa 1810s.[26] The first direct written claim that the present house was standing in 1781 was made in 1889 by Judge David Schenk, founder of the Guilford Battle Ground Company that sought to protect the historic battlefield.[27]

Joseph Hoskins (1751–1799) and Hannah Evans Hoskins (born circa 1765) were from Chester County, Pennsylvania. Little is known about their circumstances, although they were relatively prosperous farmers.[28] Archeological investigations conducted in 1984 to search for one or two purported mass British graves stemming from the March 15, 1781, Battle of Guilford Courthouse uncovered eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century ceramics such as creamware and pearlware, wrought nails, and olive glass, and greater amounts of nineteenth- and twentieth-century ceramics, glass, and marbles on the property. These artifacts support interpretation of the property as a historic farmstead or plantation site. Although a total of 773 historic artifacts were recovered during this work, no graves were identified.[29]

The Revolutionary War, 1776–1783

On April 19, 1775, the Battles of Lexington and Concord signaled the beginning of military hostilities between England and American patriots. The events at Lexington and Concord fueled a rebellious spirit within the colonies that contributed to the ensuing political and military war. The two forces engaged one another throughout the Northeast as well as the South for several years, with neither side taking command or control of the war. The entry of France into the fray in February 1778 on the side of the patriots led to an effective stalemate in the Northern theatre by 1780. In control of New York City, the British set as a goal consolidation of their influence in the economically important South. Already engaged in a Southern Campaign in which they had captured Savannah, Georgia, in December 1778, and hoping to capitalize on the presence of many residents who considered themselves Loyalists to the British Crown and might be convinced to join the ranks, the British decided to focus more attention on the region in 1780.

On May 12, 1780, British forces under the command of Gen. Sir Henry Clinton gained control of Charleston, South Carolina. On August 16, 1780, General Cornwallis defeated patriot forces under the command of Horatio Gates in the Battle of Camden, South Carolina. At this point Americans began to fear loss of the South to England. On October 7, 1780, however, patriot militia from North Carolina and Virginia defeated British troops at Kings Mountain, while on January 17, 1781, they were victorious in the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina

The Battle of Guilford Court House, North Carolina, on March 15, 1781, built on the earlier successes and would prove to be an important turning point in the American Revolution.[30] Although a tactical victory for the British, Cornwallis lost 25 percent of his troops after the battle and thus suffered a strategic loss. While regrouping, Cornwallis determined that conquest

26. Southern, 8-4; Joseph P. Henderson, Henri D. Grissino-Mayer, Saskia L. Van De Gevel, and Justin L. Hart, "The Historical Dendroarchaeology of the Hoskins House, Tannenbaum Historic Park, Greensboro, North Carolina, U.S.A." in *Tree-Ring Research* Vol. 65 (1, 2009): 37.
27. Southern, 8-5.
28. Southern, 8-4, incorrectly notes that the Hoskins were Quakers, based upon confusion with a different, unrelated Joseph Hoskins born in 1814 and buried in the Quaker cemetery at New Garden.
29. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 38–39; from Lawrence E. Abbott, Jr., *Archaeological Investigations at the Hoskins House, Guilford County, North Carolina* (Winston Salem, North Carolina: Wake Forest University Archaeology Laboratories of the Museum of Man, 1984).
30. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 20.

of Virginia held the key to recovering the Carolinas, which might force the collapse of the patriot war effort. With weakened forces, Cornwallis abandoned the Carolinas, hoping for success in Virginia. At Yorktown, seven months later, Lord Cornwallis would surrender to the combined American and French forces under Gen. George Washington, effectively ending the war.[31]

In September 1780, General Washington was asked to appoint a new commander for the American forces in the South after General Gates was relieved of his command following defeat at Camden.[32] The patriot forces in the region were under the command of Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene. Washington chose Greene, his most trusted lieutenant, to follow Gates. Greene referred to his troops, encamped near Charlotte, North Carolina at the time, as "the Shadow of an Army in the midst of Distress."[33] He quickly determined to move the men elsewhere in search of food and to procure other necessities. After dividing the army into two, he led one wing to Cheraw, South Carolina, where food was available, while the second, under the command of Brig. Gen. Daniel Morgan, headed west to challenge British outposts in western South Carolina. Morgan and his troops defeated Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton at Cowpens.[34]

Following the engagement at Cowpens, Greene determined to reunite his army, and personally joined Morgan to guide him to a rendezvous point in Guilford Courthouse. The two wings of Greene's army met there on February 8, 1781. Greene determined the need to move north to avoid another encounter with Cornwallis, who was in pursuit of the Americans. Greene managed to cross the Dan River unchallenged before Cornwallis changed tactics and decided to remove his forces to Hillsboro, North Carolina.[35]

Joining forces with other patriots in Virginia, Greene decided to move south again on February 24, 1781. In response, Cornwallis moved his troops north. For the next few weeks, the two armies shadowed one another, generally moving in a westward direction toward Guilford Courthouse. The courthouse, a well-known regional landmark, was located on high ground overlooking the intersection of two important transportation routes: Salisbury [New Garden] Road and Retreat [Reedy Fork] Road and thus offered several military advantages if controlled.[36]

Greene and his men reached the hamlet on March 14 and set up camp. Cornwallis, only 12 miles away at the time, decided to advance along New Garden Road in order to engage the Americans. In a letter to Thomas Jefferson, Greene noted, "On the 14th we marched to Guilford Court House and took a position within 8 miles of the enemy's encampment, with a view to attack them the next morning, but they anticipated our designs and moved down upon us."[37] Greene had sent a detachment under the command of Gen. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee ahead along the road. His troops engaged the British in a skirmish near a meeting house along the road that resulted in thirty British casualties, and allowed the Americans to retreat to the main force, an army of nearly 4,500 American militia and Continentals, at Guilford Courthouse; the larger American force also benefitted from the delay of British advance.[38]

In the fighting that unfolded on March 15, 1781, the farmlands of Joseph Hoskins were part of the battle area. The landscape over which the Battle of

31. Guilford Courthouse National Military Park website (accessed March 5, 2015).
32. Letter from George Washington to Samuel Huntington (President of Congress), October 22, 1780. George Washington Papers 1741–1799, Series 4.
33. John Hiatt, "Guilford Court House Battlefield" National Historic Landmark nomination (Greensboro, North Carolina: Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, 1999), 18.
34. Hiatt, NHL, 18–19.
35. Ibid., 19.
36. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 21.
37. Letter from Greene to Thomas Jefferson, March 16, 1781.
38. Hiatt, NHL, 21–22.

Guilford Courthouse would be fought was generally rural and agricultural, with a patchwork of open fields and a predominance of forest, despite its proximity to the county seat. American General Nathanael Greene described the area as, "Wilderness, with few cleared fields interspersed here and there."[39] Greene's tactics upon establishing a defensive position on the field focused on dividing his forces into three successive lines, with the first two containing the militia, and the third the more seasoned American regular or Continental troops. Both the first and third lines edged open fields to their front, which would force the British to attack across unprotected ground. In between, the British would also have to navigate through a forest stand. The third line also occupied high ground, affording a distinctive advantage against an attacking army.

British General Lord Charles Cornwallis would later describe the battlefield encountered as follows:

> We found the rebel army posted on rising grounds about a mile and a half from the court house . . . . Immediately between the head of the column and the enemy's line was a considerable plantation, one large field of which was on our left of the road [sic], and two others, with a wood of about two hundred yards broad, between them on our right of it; beyond these fields the wood continued for several miles to our right. The wood beyond the plantation in our front, in the skirt of which the enemy's first line was formed[,] was about a mile in depth, the road then leading into an extensive space of cleared ground about Guilford court house.[40]

The plantation described by Cornwallis was the land associated with the Joseph Hoskins farmstead, located in association with fields along New Garden Road, which bisected the battlefield on an east-west axis. According to the Tarleton map of the battlefield, the first American line was located approximately 450 yards east of the Hoskins house. A dense deciduous woodland, approximately one-half mile in width, separated the Hoskins farm from the courthouse. The American second line was positioned in this woods, approximately 500 yards behind the first line. Both of these straddled New Garden Road. The third line was placed in a double front formation on a ridge north of the New Garden Road and northwest of the courthouse. It was located approximately 600 yards behind the second line, and commanded the cleared ground south and west of the courthouse.[41]

The British attacked by marching up the New Garden Road. When they began to cross Little Horsepen Creek near the Hoskins Farm, artillery fire from the American lines led them to halt to return fire using their own artillery. To deploy his troops for the ensuing battle, Cornwallis arrayed the men in two wings, using the woods west of the Hoskins House for cover.

Over the course of the next two hours, the British would advance and break both the first and second American lines, before reaching the open ground in front of the third line. Despite the numerically superior American army deployed in a prepared position, the British were able to push the men of the third line, forcing Greene to retreat.[42] Despite the tactical victory, Cornwallis lost a far higher percentage of men (including officers) and arms than the Americans, which

39. Nathanael Greene to Samuel Huntington, 16 March 1781, in ed. Richard K. Showman, et al., *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, vol. 7 (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press, 1994), 434.
40. Cornwallis to Lord George Germain, March 17, 1781, in *Banastre Tarleton, A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781 in the Southern Provinces of North America* (London: T. Cadell, 1787, reprint, Arno Press, 1968), 304.
41. Hiatt, NHL, 22–23.
42. The term "push" was used in its military context in the eighteenth century to mean "to exert force on," specifically, to "push bayonets" to force the enemy to retreat.

would ultimately jeopardize his plans for controlling the region.

Greene's retreat preserved the strength of his army, but Cornwallis's frail victory was won at the cost of more than 25 percent of his forces.[43]

Reduced to a force of only 1,500 men, Cornwallis had lost too many to retain an effective fighting force in the Carolinas. Afterward, Cornwallis returned to Wilmington and eventually removed his forces to Yorktown, Virginia, where he met ultimate defeat in 1781.[44]

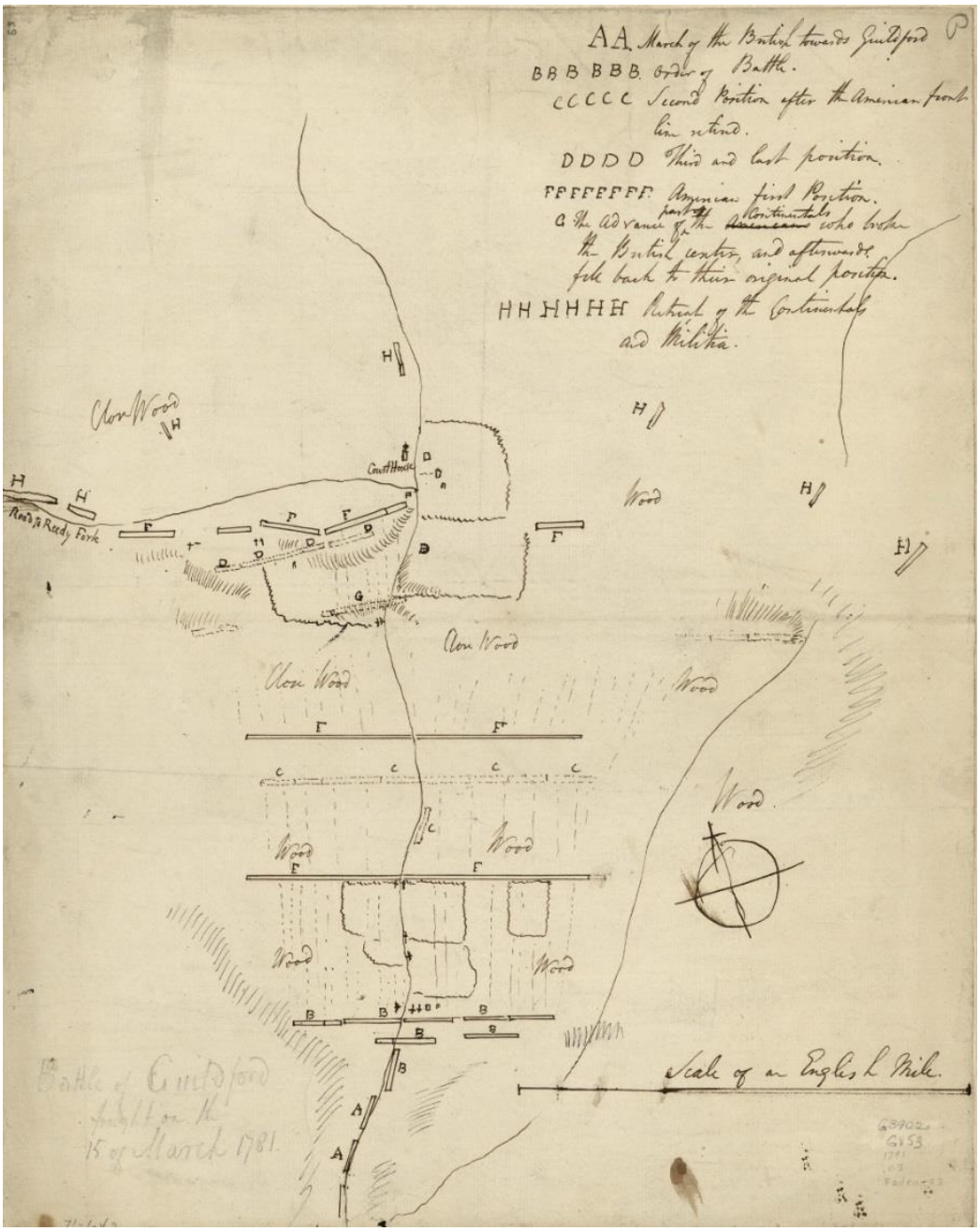


FIGURE 4. Haldane map of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Source: Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

43. Guilford Courthouse National Military Park website (accessed March 5, 2015).

44. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 21–23.

Post-War Village Life, 1783–1857

Although residents of the Guilford Courthouse area initially left their homes to escape the fighting, some complaining of foul odors and the presence of spirits moving about the battlefield, life soon returned to normal and the work of farming.[45] As the number of settlers increased during the late eighteenth century, residents slowly expanded the area under cultivation and cleared the virgin forest that had covered three-quarters of the battlefield's 1,000 acres.[46] The village of Guilford Courthouse ceased to exist in 1785 when the North Carolina General Assembly chartered a new county seat referred to as "Martinville." As the center of county government, however, Martinville failed to thrive, and the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions was moved to newly chartered Greensboro in 1809. Without the business of the court, Martinville fell into a severe economic decline.[47]

During the late eighteenth century, the Hoskins property changed hands when Joseph Hoskins died and his land was divided between his sons according to his will. Two of his sons, Joseph and Ellis, divided the parcel of land where their father had lived. Although it is not known how much land each son received, his will suggested that Joseph received the section containing the house.[48] There are no additional records relating to disbursement of the property for a ninety-one year period. During the late nineteenth century, records indicate that Joseph Hoskins's son, Ellis, transferred three tracts to his son J. E. Hoskins of Woodford County, Kentucky, which included all of Joseph Hoskins's original property. It remains unclear how Ellis acquired the original farm. It is known that Ellis Hoskins's brother Joseph purchased adjoining lands in 1828.[49]

Another feature of the Guilford Courthouse Battlefield today is the structure referred to as the Coble Barn. This structure was originally located near the village of Julian in southeast Guilford County, about 11 miles from downtown Greensboro. Although documentation is limited, it is believed that the barn was built by George "Joel" Coble (1808–1894), a son or grandson of immigrants of German stock who settled in southeastern Guilford County by 1781. George Coble's father, Jacob Coble (1788–1847), is known to have willed George a property totaling 250 acres in 1832. By 1828, George Coble had married Elizabeth Ingle. It is possible that Coble built the barn, with the help of neighbors and local artisans, as part of establishing his own homestead and farm after marrying. The barn would have supported the subsistence-level agrarian pursuits of the Coble household. Typically during this period Piedmont farmers were producing corn, wheat, hay, and various vegetable crops; raising dairy and other cattle, sheep, and swine; and maintaining a team of work horses. A barn to support livestock needs would have been a critical feature in a modest farm operation of this type. The Cobles lived in a substantial log house a short distance from the barn. They did not own slaves.[50]

Initial Battle Commemoration, 1857–1900

As the nineteenth century progressed, reverence for events leading to American independence and the achievements of the Founding Fathers grew, and Americans began to form groups with the mission of honoring, protecting, and commemorating the revolutionary events of the 1770s and 1780s. By mid-century, several monuments had been erected on battlefields, while the home of George Washington was preserved by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. The first local effort to commemorate the battle of Guilford Courthouse was initiated in 1857, when a group referred to as the Greene Monument Association was organized and began fund-raising activities to erect a memorial to the American general in his namesake city. The Civil War broke out before the Association could

45. National Park Service, *Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Administrative History* (1995), Chapter 1.
46. Ibid.
47. Ibid.
48. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 25–26, from Guilford County Records, File #.0166
49. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 25–26.
50. Southern, 8-6–8-7.

achieve its goal, which would remain unfilled until after Reconstruction.[51]

The Centennial of American Independence in 1876 proved to be a watershed for commemoration. As the last Federal occupation troops withdrew from the South, an era of national reconciliation began. Patriotism and nationalism were popular and there was widespread public support for the establishment of memorials to George Washington and other key figures of the Revolutionary War era and the principles for which they fought. In 1876 alone, Congress appropriated funds to erect monuments at Yorktown, Bennington, Saratoga, Newburg, Cowpens, Monmouth, Groton, and Oriskany. Similar bills were introduced but not acted upon for Brandywine, Bemis Heights, Kings Mountain, and Guilford Courthouse.[52]

One of the key figures in raising awareness of the importance of American historic sites was historian Benson J. Lossing. Lossing was commissioned by the House of Representatives' Committee on the Library to make recommendations regarding Revolutionary War sites deserving of monumentation. In a report filed on February 2, 1884, Lossing identified fifteen battlefields "of considerable note" that he thought should receive funding for "substantial monuments." Guilford Courthouse was among them. Despite his recommendation, the bill, H.R. 2475, was never acted upon.[53]

The imperative to mark the Guilford Courthouse Battlefield would soon be championed by businessman David Schenck, who settled in Greensboro in 1882 after accepting the post of General Counsel of the Richmond and Danville Railroad. Around 1887, Schenck became interested in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, and concerned that it was not marked in any way. He described it at the time as consisting of "a few wooded areas surrounded by abandoned and eroded fields covered with broom sedge and field pines."[54] Schenck spent many weekends walking across the land with a book detailing the battle, *Reverend Eli Caruther's Interesting Revolutionary Incidents: And Sketches Of Character, Chiefly In The "Old North State."*[55]

In October 1886, Judge Schenck described his vision for marking the battlefield, which he later noted in his journal:

> Last fall, I visited Mr. Hoskins, who lives on part of the Battle Ground, and as I drove over the sacred spot on my return home, I suddenly conceived the idea of purchasing it and endeavoring to persuade the United States or the state, or wealthy individuals to erect suitable monuments thereon to preserve the memory of the men who here crippled Cornwallis, so that he began the race of escape which ended in his capture at Yorktown.[56]

Schenck soon bought 30 acres of battlefield property at $10 per acre from farmer Emsley Sikes who, he believed "owned all that part of the battle field south of the Salisbury or New Garden Road." He added 20 acres north of the road soon thereafter from the "Dennis heirs." With these purchases Schenck believed he had acquired the location of the American third line of battle, considered to have been the site of the heaviest fighting at Guilford Courthouse.[57]

Because he was unable to fund additional land purchases with his railroad salary of $5,000 per year, Schenck approached several Greensboro businessmen about establishing a nonprofit corporation to preserve the battleground. With several supporters, Schenck drew up a charter and with its approval by the North Carolina General Assembly in March 1887, founded the Guilford Battle Ground Company. The company charter defined the organization's purpose as "preserving and adorning the grounds on and over which the battle of Guilford Court House was fought . . . ."[58]

51. Administrative History, Chapter 1.
52. Ibid.
53. Ibid.
54. Ibid.
55. Ibid.
56. David Schenck Journal, 7 May 1887, David Schenck Papers, SHC.
57. Administrative History, Chapter 1.
58. Ibid., citing Schenck, *Memorial Volume*, 138–140.

At the company's organizational meeting held on May 6, 1887, Schenck was elected president. The company's charter authorized the issuance of 1,000 shares of capital stock at $25 per share to finance the purchase of as much as 200 acres of the battlefield property. The organization conservatively estimated they would need $2,000 to purchase and restore the battlefield.[59] Within its first year of operation, the Guilford Battle Ground Company spent nearly $3,000 to acquire 62 acres of land, including Schenck's 50 acres, and to erect a caretaker's cottage that included a reception room and museum. They also worked to beautify the grounds, and erected a monument on the battlefield to memorialize Capt. Arthur Forbis, the most prominent local casualty of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. The granite marker was donated by a local stoneworks.[60] By the time of Judge Schenck's death in 1902, sixteen monuments, most funded by private donations, had been placed on the company's battlefield land.[61]

Work to improve the appearance of the battlefield involved clearing of the "tangled wilderness of briars, old field pines, broom sedge and every species of wild growth which comes up on old worn out fields," and planting a "luxuriant crop of oats."[62] As was popular at the time, the goal was to beautify the landscape as a commemorative gesture, rather than return it to the historically accurate condition of the battle, which had been predominantly wooded. Most notable of these battlefield beautification projects was the 1892 damming of a Hunting Creek tributary to form artificial Lake Wilfong between the American second and third lines in order "to improve the attractiveness of the grounds." Also constructed were two spring houses and a restaurant to accommodate the many visitors to the site who arrived by train from nearby Greensboro.[63]

Because the organization had limited its land acquisition to 200 acres, interpretation of the battle was made to fit the company's land holdings. For example, the location of the American third line was shifted almost a quarter-mile west from its true location to fall within Schenck's original 50-acre land purchase, affecting interpretation of the final stage of the battle of Guilford Courthouse.[64]

It was also during the late nineteenth century that Schenck proposed that the Guilford Battle Ground include a Revolutionary War cemetery. Schenck was able to convince the descendants of several of North Carolina's notable revolutionaries to remove their ancestors' remains to the new burial ground, including North Carolina signers of the Declaration of Independence William Hooper and John Penn, and Continental Brig. Gen. Jethro Sumner. None of these men had served at Guilford Courthouse.[65]

By the early 1890s, the company had expended most of its capital, and began to lobby the North Carolina General Assembly for funds. It was successful in its appeal and began to receive annual appropriations for the "improvement and preservation of the grounds." Nonetheless, it soon became clear that the Guilford Battle Ground Company could not perpetually preserve the battlefield without governmental assistance.[66] It would take thirty years for the company to convince the federal government of the value of such a plan.

During this period, the Coble farm, where the barn now sited on the battlefield was originally located, also changed hands. Upon the deaths of George and Elizabeth Coble in 1894, the farm passed to their unmarried daughter Letitia.[67]

59. Ibid.
60. Ibid.
61. Ibid.
62. Ibid.
63. Ibid.
64. Ibid.
65. Ibid.
66. Ibid,
67. Southern, 8-7.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park Establishment, 1903–1917

In 1903, Guilford Battlefield became the beneficiary of federal funds when Congress appropriated $10,000 to erect a pair of Romanesque arches in memory of slain North Carolina generals Francis Nash and William Lee Davidson. Congress, however, left the task of site selection to Governor Charles B. Aycock, who, following a period of intense lobbying from several communities interested in housing the monument, designated Guilford Battle Ground as the site for these structures in spite of the fact that both Nash and Davidson were killed prior to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Aycock's decision may have been swayed by the company's efforts to claim the park as the state's primary Revolutionary War shrine. Following the award, the company launched an effort to make Guilford Battle Ground a National Military Park in 1904, not realizing that Congress had been inundated with thirty-four bills of a similar nature since 1901.[68] Concerned about the cost of these proposals, the House Committee on Military Affairs held a hearing in April 1902, which resulted in two outcomes. These included the promulgation of the "Antietam Plan," which suggested acquisition of fragments of historic sites could suffice to successfully interpret battles and other memorable places and events as a way to defray costs, and the introduction of H.R. 14351 to create a "national military park commission . . . to restore, preserve, mark and maintain . . . such battlefields, forts, cemeteries, or parts thereof . . . ." from all of America's wars, "and to establish military parks thereon." The 1902 act resulted in a suspension of Congressional consideration of bills to establish additional national military parks while the commission studied the issue.

The bill to establish Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, however, continued to be introduced three times over the next few years—in 1904, 1905, and 1907—without passage.[69]

Throughout this period the Guilford Battle Ground Company lobbied to introduce federal legislation to erect a monument to General Greene. In 1910 Joseph Morehead prevailed upon Senator Lee S. Overman to introduce the bill, which passed and was signed into law on February 13, 1911. The monument was dedicated on July 3, 1915, at the Guilford Court House Battle Ground.[70] National Park Service Historian Ronald F. Lee, in *The Origin and Evolution of the National Military Park Idea*, identifies the passage of the Greene Monument bill as the first step in the creation of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.[71]

Following the erection of the monument, Representative Charles M. Stedman introduced another bill to establish Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. This one prevailed and was signed into law March 2, 1917, providing:

> That in order to preserve for historical and professional military study one of the most memorable battles of the Revolutionary War, the battlefield of Guilford Courthouse, in the State of North Carolina, is hereby declared to be a national military park . . . .[72]

Guilford Courthouse, which had grown to 125 acres in size and was marked with twenty-eight monuments and graves, became the first Revolutionary War battlefield preserved as a national park and the only national military park created in the period 1900–1925.[73]

68. Administrative History, Chapter 1.
69. Ibid.
70. Ibid.
71. Ronald F. Lee, *The Origin and Evolution of the National Military Park Idea* (National Park Service, 1973), 45.
72. Administrative History, Chapter 1.
73. Ibid.

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, War Department Administration, 1917–1933

An early visitor to the new park offered an uninspired response to the site:

> My first impression of this historic spot was one of extreme annoyance. A group of patriotic citizens, animated by the very best intentions, acquired the battleground some years ago. They have since decorated it lavishly with granite tents, boulders, pyramids, and triumphal arches until it now resembles a suburban cemetery. The patriotism that inspired the great effort involved is not questioned; the good taste is. Bronze figures of Clio and statues of former presidents of the Battle Ground Company—no matter how public spirited these citizens may have been—seem sadly out of place upon this historic field. I wish to except from this criticism the great equestrian statue of Nathanael Greene that has recently been unveiled. Had it stood alone dominating the landscape, the impression would have been noble and effective.[74]

Whether this assessment was shared by all visitors is unclear. However, Guilford Courthouse was certainly unlike the other national military parks, all of which were much larger in size and related primarily to the Civil War. The presence of many monuments that had nothing to do with the battle was of concern. Also at issue was the fact that its founders had no sense of restoring the site to its historic appearance. This point was important, as the 1917 act that created Guilford Courthouse National Military Park gave the Secretary of War responsibility for preserving the site "for historical and professional military study."[75]

Like the Civil War battlefields already under the direction of the War Department, administration of Guilford Courthouse was entrusted to three commissioners. As assigned, the commission would include a chairman, who was a resident of Guilford County, and representatives from the states of Maryland and Delaware, whose Continental regiments had figured prominently in the fighting at Guilford. The commission's charge involved ascertaining and marking, "with historical tablets or otherwise," all lines of battle and points of historical interest "within the park or its vicinity," engaging the states whose troops fought at Guilford Courthouse to permanently mark the positions of its troops "with monuments, tablets, or otherwise," and making these sites accessible by opening or repairing roads.[76]

The first resident commissioner was Paul Schenck, youngest son of Guilford Battle Ground Company founder David Schenck. Five years would elapse before a Maryland commissioner, Professor John C. Daves, was appointed. A commissioner from Delaware was never appointed. It appears that the commission never met, and Schenck managed the property in much the same way that it had been under the Battle Ground Company's proprietorship, with the exception that he wished the property to be considered a battlefield rather than a park.[77]

Despite Schenck's approach to considering the property a battlefield rather than a park, four new monuments were completed during this period. There was no effort to mark the battle lines. The requests that Schenck made for funding in 1922 to repair two rapidly deteriorating spring houses and a speaker's pavilion, artifacts of the Guilford Battle Ground Company, were denied as these structures were considered incongruous to the mission of the national military park.[78]

In March 1922, Schenck was replaced by Edward E. Mendenhall, a political crony of President Warren G. Harding. When Schenck left office as Resident Commissioner, he removed most of the artifacts from the park museum, claiming them as the property of his late father and on loan from the Guilford Battle Ground Company.[79]

74. Administrative History, Chapter 2, from Ernest Peixotto, *A Revolutionary Pilgrimage* (New York: Charles Scribners Sons, 1917), 309.
75. Administrative History, Chapter 2.
76. Ibid.
77. Ibid.
78. Ibid.
79. Ibid.

Mendenhall perpetuated many of the resource management practices established by the Guilford Court House Battle Ground Company, such as removing undergrowth from the floor of the remaining forested areas. He also ordered the extirpation of all wild plants and shrubs from the park, gilded the park's five bronze statues, and painted several stone monuments, including some with alternating white and black stripes.[80] Despite complaints regarding these practices, including a 1930 Army inspector's report that criticized Mendenhall's inclination to turn the park into a "beautiful site" and "picnic ground," Mendenhall remained in the position of Resident Commissioner until Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected president in 1932. On October 14, 1933, he was replaced by James H. Roane, a Greensboro stockbroker with strong ties to Sixth District Democratic Congressman William B. Umstead.[81]

The Coble farm changed hands during this period. Upon her death in 1922, Letitia Coble left the farm property to Eva Leanna Clapp, a neighbor who apparently had cared for Miss Coble in her old age.[82]

Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, National Park Service Administration 1933–present

On June 10, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 6166, which effectively consolidated all national parks and national monuments, national military parks, and other parks into a single national park system. The National Park Service was directed to administer the system. Guilford Courthouse National Military Park was among the historic sites transferred to the agency as part of the executive order. A few days after new Resident Commissioner James H. Roane took over at the park, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes announced a $97,000 allocation of funding for improvements to Guilford Courthouse. The improvements were based on the findings of inspectors from the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, a temporary re-designation of the National Park Service, who had recently visited Guilford.

In January 1934, a second delegation of National Park Service officials, headed by Associate Director A. E. Demaray, visited Greensboro to inspect the park and decide how best to spend the $97,000 allocation. The *Greensboro Record* reported on January 15 that $30,000 would be expended to improve park roads and trails with the remainder going to other physical improvements, such as a new fireproof museum and administration building, a superintendent's residence, and a utility building. Demaray also noted that the Davidson and Nash arches would likely be relocated to allow for the widening of New Garden Road so that it might accommodate two-way automobile traffic, provided the State of North Carolina would deed the roadway to the United States. He also indicated his hope that the National Park Service would accept an offer made by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners to donate the 8-1/2 acre site of the 1781 courthouse to the park. The National Park Service indicated that it would be willing to construct a replica of the courthouse on the land as part of battlefield interpretation.[83]

Although the new museum and administration building and superintendent's residence—both two-story brick structures designed to recall eighteenth century Moravian architecture of nearby Salem, North Carolina—were completed in 1935, the courthouse reconstruction was deferred in hopes of finding historical documentation for the original structure.[84]

During the 1930s, a Civil Works Administration Historical Program was established in Greensboro that conducted research into the physical history of Guilford Courthouse at the time of the battle, and a master plan was prepared for the park by the National Park Service. The goal of the master plan was an attempt "to remedy conditions and to restore the area as much to its original condition at

80. Ibid.
81. Ibid.
82. Southern, 8-7.
83. Administrative History, Chapter 3.
84. Ibid.

the time of the battle as possible." To this end, plans were made to remove Lake Wilfong, its dam, and an associated loop road, conduct reforestation efforts, restore the understory of existing forest areas, remove non-native plant species, and establish screen plantings to limit views of the new museum and administration building and the superintendent's residence. The plan also indicated changes to the two public roads that traversed the park, U.S. Highway 220 and New Garden Road, including paving with bituminous macadam and smoothing of their grades and alignments to meet evolving engineering standards. New Garden Road traversed the park on an east-west line along the route of an eighteenth century wagon road that ran from Hillsboro to Salisbury. During the battle, the British had advanced along this roadway and the American defenders deployed across it. As such, New Garden Road served as a critical terrain feature of the battle. Although the road had fallen into disuse during the nineteenth century, the Guilford Battle Ground Company had reopened it. During the twentieth century, it would become an important east-west connector for the community of Greensboro. U.S. Highway 220 bisected the park in a north-south direction, running parallel to the tracks of the Atlantic and Yadkin Railroad. It followed a road bed established in the 1890s through the park and became known as Battle Field Road and Battle Ground Road. It was paved and designated as part of the Federal Highway System in 1925. The master plan also proposed paving the Southeast Boundary Road (Holt Avenue) and the West Loop Road (First Line Road).[85]

The park received its first superintendent in 1936, when Guilford Courthouse was placed in the Revolutionary Areas Group under the direction of Coordinating Superintendent B. Floyd Flickinger of Colonial National Historical Park. Flickinger dispatched Rogers W. Young to Greensboro as Acting Historian to supervise historical and educational programs at Guilford Courthouse, King's Mountain National Military Park, and Cowpens National Battlefield Site. By 1939, when the first master plan was revised, all of the major elements of the 1936 master plan had been completed, with the exception of the screen planting around the superintendent's residence and the museum administration building.[86] During the period between April 1934 and December 1939, the park acquired 23.49 acres of land through seven separate donations. The majority of the land was used to facilitate road development projects along the park's southern and eastern boundaries. Although the state was willing to convey 11-1/2 acres of the land associated with New Garden Road to the United States in April 1937, it was not willing to do the same regarding U.S. Highway 220. Permission was readily granted to raise the grade and make other improvements to this road, but State officials were unwilling to deed the right-of-way to the National Park Service since it is part of a State and Federal Highway. Renovation of U.S. 220, along with the improvement of New Garden Road and the paving of approximately two miles of other park roads, was accomplished by contract with the Bureau of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture in February 1938.[87]

The most important parcel acquired in the 1930s was the 8-1/2 acre site that reportedly included the site of the eighteenth-century courthouse. This tract was presented to the park by Guilford County and the surviving members of the Guilford Battle Ground Company. With these acquisitions the park reached a size of approximately 148.49 acres in 1939. The park, already a haphazard assemblage of parcels, became even more complicated with the addition of the courthouse parcel, located 3/8 mile from the rest of the site; the two pieces were connected by the 100-foot right-of-way of New Garden Road.

Located adjacent to the park to the south was Forest Lawn Cemetery, established in 1930. Greensboro Country Park, which also abutted the national military park to the east, was established in 1932 and completed using Public Works Administration funds in 1934. Although the fact

85. Ibid.
86. Ibid.
87. Ibid.

that Greensboro Country Park offered recreational opportunities helped to reduce the traditional view of the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park as a picnic ground, it grew to include construction of lakes in ravines that had been part of the British avenue of approach when attacking the America third line. The city zoo, established in 1934, occupied the hill where British artillery had fired on the American counter attack. Residents and visitors inevitably began to think of the two parks and the zoo as a single cultural site with recreational benefits.[88]

Lands to the north and west of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park remained vulnerable to development, and were continually threatened. In response to a proposed residential development on a tract north of the park where some of the battle's heaviest fighting had occurred, Acting Superintendent William P. Brandon issued a proposed "Land Acquisition Program for Guilford Courthouse National Military Park" that suggested the park secure five tracts in the area totaling approximately 40 acres. These parcels included the property targeted for residential development, parcels that would better connect the courthouse site with the park's other holdings, a buffer strip along the south side of New Garden Road, land associated with the left wing of the second American battle line, and a residential property near the Holt Avenue entrance that contained an incongruent dwelling.[89] Brandon's proposal remained the core of the park's land acquisition plan for the next twenty-five years; most of the recommended parcels were acquired.

One development that occurred within the park was a new amphitheater. In 1938, the park was visited by a Region One landscape architect who announced that he was charged with laying out the proposed feature in the area immediately west of the Nathanael Greene Monument, even though it had not been included in the 1936 master plan. Acting Superintendent Brandon questioned the decision to build the amphitheater, which was to be located near the center of the second American battle line, a critical combat area. Despite Brandon's objections, the amphitheater was built, and the lawn west of the Greene Monument was heavily landscaped to create an artificial riser effect, with a brick stage and wooden portico located at its apex.[90]

In April 1941 the route of U.S. Highway 220 was relocated to a new corridor approximately one-half mile beyond the park's western boundary, helping to remove much of the through traffic from the park. The alignment of the road was guided in part by local resident James MacClamroch, a member of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce's Good Roads Committee, and a history enthusiast. The initial plan for the rerouting of the road prepared in 1940 suggested that it would cross a site associated with the battle—the eighteenth century farmstead of Joseph Hoskins. MacClamroch used his influence to have the highway moved approximately 300 feet west of the Hoskins House.[91] After the route was relocated, the older roadbed was renamed State Road 2340, or Old Battleground Road, and incorporated into the State-maintained county road system. It remained lightly traveled until the early 1980s, when the City of Greensboro began to expand around the park.[92]

MacClamroch followed his success in influencing the route of U.S. Highway 220 with a recommendation that Guilford Courthouse National Military Park be substantially expanded to include an area 500-acres in size, bounded to the north by Lake Brandt Road, to the east by Hillsdale Drive, and by the new alignment of U.S. Highway 220 to the south and west. The National Park Service responded by indicating that it would be pleased to accept land by donation within the current proposed boundary, but that purchase was

88. Ibid., Chapter 4.
89. Ibid., Chapter 5, citing William P. Brandon, "A Land Acquisition Program For Guilford Courthouse National Military Park," May 9, 1940, 602-01, GUCO, Record Group 79, National Archives, microfilm.
90. Ibid.
91. Ibid., Chapter 6.
92. Ibid, Chapter 3.

likely outside the realm of possibility given the lack of funds available, and the cost of maintenance should the land be acquired. MacClamroch spent several years lobbying unsuccessfully for expansion, eventually becoming a vocal critic of the National Park Service.[93]

Little was accomplished at the park during World War II, and federal funds were limited for the decade that followed the end of the war. One area of focus for the park in the years following the war was the rebuilding of the museum collection following the removal of the Guilford Battle Ground Company's artifacts twenty-five years earlier. The park was assisted in the endeavor by local collectors and two chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who helped to purchase a Revolutionary War drum.

Park administrators, however, spent much of this period addressing a local land management controversy involving an adjacent parcel owned by Charles O. Martin that came to be known as the Martin Trespass Case. In January 1941, Martin approached Acting Superintendent Brandon about plans to construct a residential subdivision of twelve to fifteen homes on his 36-acre tract that fronted the south side of the New Garden Road right-of way. The property was located near the courthouse site and very likely included archeological remains of the post-Revolutionary War village, Martinville. About 200 feet of the property was submerged beneath Lake Caldwell, the northernmost lake in the Greensboro Country Park; as such it was under easement to the City of Greensboro. Martin did not pursue the project officially until after the war. Anticipating a problem working with the National Park Service to secure the necessary road access to the development, Martin engaged MacClamroch as his attorney to negotiate access along New Garden Road, which fell within park boundaries.[94]

Although permission was not forthcoming, Martin initiated construction of a new road between Nathanael Greene Road in the Country Park and New Garden Road. His actions were followed by legal proceedings and meetings between the park and Martin in 1950 and 1951. Despite a lack of resolution, Martin proceeded to develop his parcel with a movie theater, recreation facilities, and a restaurant.

The issue was subsequently taken up in court in 1953. In March 1956, the Federal District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina ruled entirely in the favor of the National Park Service. However, the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals later reversed the decision, setting up another three years of court proceedings. Despite several rulings, the official status of the road and its private use by the development remained unchanged.[95]

Meanwhile, acquisition of the parcels identified in Brandon's 1940 plan continued. In 1957, the one-acre parcel near the Holt Avenue entrance was acquired, and the buildings on it demolished. A second priority parcel also came up for sale in the late 1950s that the park was not able to acquire. This 10-acre property was acquired by three local businessmen who offered to sell it to the park. After the National Park Service failed to dedicate the funds, the businessmen developed part of the property in 1960–1961 as a warehouse-office complex. In 1979, the park acquired a small portion of the property totaling one-third acre to establish plantings.

In 1956, the National Park Service embarked on a large-scale park planning and enhancement program known as Mission 66. Planning documents from the period that relate to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park indicate that encroaching development and public use of New Garden Road were the greatest threats to the park. In response, planners recommended the addition of screen plantings along park margins, and further consideration of closing New Garden Road. Neither of these objectives was met during the ten-year planning horizon of Mission 66. However, the park did acquire one parcel along Liberty Lane.[96]

93. Ibid., Chapter 6.
94. Ibid., Chapter 8.
95. Ibid.
96. Ibid., Chapter 9.

However, it was during Mission 66 that plans to expand the park began to take hold, based on the challenges presented by the encroachment of development by the Martin family and the need to establish a northern bypass road. A committee that included representatives of the National Park Service, the Greensboro Mayor, City Manager George Aull, City Planner Ronald Scott, and Recreation Director Oka T. Hester, as well as Sixth District Congressman Horace R. Kornegay, prepared a plan that would allow the National Park Service to acquire at-risk parcels while developing the proposed bypass road. By the end of 1963, 100 acres had been identified as desirable for purchase.[97] The first land purchase, a tract totaling 29.69 acres, occurred along the park's northern boundary in 1966. In 1967, several additional parcels totaling 40.92 acres were acquired, including 36.40 acres of the Martin property that included the recreational improvements. The park later exchanged 16.84 acres of this land with the city to secure the 11.76-acre zoo site. The park also secured the last 0.87-acre piece of the Webb tact near the courthouse, although it was acquired through condemnation. Three additional tracts totaling 3.59 acres, 0.36 acres, and 0.25 acres respectively, located north of the courthouse and near the Holt Avenue entrance, were acquired in the 1970s. By the end of the decade the park had reached a size of 220 acres, and several visual intrusions had been removed.[98]

Losses, too, had occurred. By the early 1970s, forests that had once edged the park to the north had been cleared, and a housing development referred to as Battle Forest constructed where the right wings of the American second and third battle lines had once stood. Development of the western approaches continued and several smaller houses were built in the area between the park boundary and the Hoskins House.[99]

In 1968, the National Park Service prepared a new master plan for Guilford Courthouse National Military Park in order to update the planning guidance afforded in the former plan that dated to 1936. Among the initiatives called for in the plan, one of the most challenging and controversial involved amendment of the park tour road. The plan called for the closure of all vehicular access points from the Country Park, closure of New Garden Road, and the construction of a bypass road 300 feet north of the existing road. New Garden Road would be replaced with a walking trail, while a new tour road would be built with stops at six key points of the battle, each complete with small parking areas and interpretive exhibits.[100] The plan also suggested improvement of the visitor services and interpretation offered in the 1937 contact station. To enhance interpretation throughout the park, the plan recommended restoration of the battlefield based on additional historical and archeological research. Not advocated was additional land acquisition.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the visitor center occurred on August 4, 1974, in anticipation of the National Bicentennial. Work also began on the tour road and associated interpretive wayside exhibits, as well as a comfort station. Archeological investigations conducted in 1974–1975 to locate the historic courthouse and retreat road yielded several results, including evidence of the courthouse and a nearby well, the site's use as a field hospital, and the possible retreat road.[101]

The National Park Service also succeeded in closing part of New Garden Road as it ran east through the park from its intersection with Old Battleground Road, and restored it to its eighteenth century appearance.[102] In 1982, the tracks of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad were abandoned. The park converted these into a recreational greenway trail corridor in 1990.[103]

On land near the park, succeeding generations of the Hoskins family continued to occupy the house

97. Ibid., Chapter 11.
98. Ibid.
99. Ibid.
100. Ibid., Chapter 12.
101. Ibid.
102. Hiatt, NHL, 12.
103. Ibid.

and sell off portions of the original eighteenth century property. In 1951, the house and one acre were purchased by historian Burke Davis.[104] Davis later acquired additional land adjacent to this parcel and built a retaining wall and a large tennis court to the west of the house.[105] David Wyrick bought the property from Burke Davis in 1971. Wyrick removed the asphalt tennis court and re-seeded and fenced the area.

During this period, the Coble farm also changed hands. Miss Clapp sold the Coble farm to Fred Norman after World War II. Norman continued to use the barn for his mules and cows for several years.

Tannenbaum Historic Park, 1984–2006

Alarmed by the development beginning to occur along the western edge of the battlefield, a group of Greensboro citizens formed a nonprofit organization—Guilford Battleground Company—in 1984 intending to raise funds to purchase the Hoskins House and surrounding land. The group believed the house to be the only structure to survive from the period of the battle. It had been extensively remodeled during the twentieth century, and the group also intended to restore it to its historic appearance.

In 1985, Wyrick sold his property to the newly formed nonprofit, which also purchased the adjacent George Moore and Jess Ferrill properties at the same time.[106] The group received financial help from the Tannenbaum-Sternberger Foundation and local government funding. In 1986 the group undertook efforts to restore the Hoskins House, including removal of the twentieth century additions, the brick veneer, and the replacement of deteriorated logs.[107]

In 1986, Norman sold the log barn, house, and another log building on the Coble farm property to a speculative dealer in old buildings. The house was resold to buyers in another county, and removed from Guilford County. After learning that the barn would be sold for salvage materials, members of the Guilford Battle Ground Company approached the owner and secured its donation for a proposed new park they planned to form on the Hoskins property near Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. The barn was moved and restored on the new site in 1987.[108] Also constructed on the Hoskins House site was a summer kitchen dependency.

All of the tracts associated with the Hoskins farmstead, which totaled 7.69 acres, were then deeded to the City of Greensboro in 1988 to form the basis of Tannenbaum Historic Park. The park was named for a local doctor whose family donated a large sum to the project. A twentieth-century brick home initially served as the park visitor center. It was replaced by a new building (now known as the Colonial Heritage Center) in 1992.

In 1988, the Hoskins House National Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an example of an early American backcountry home. The district included the Hoskins House and Coble Barn.[109]

National Historic Landmark documentation for Guilford Battlefield was completed in 1999. The work completed to document the significance of the battlefield was funded in part through a grant provided in 1999 by the Tannenbaum-Sternberger Foundation to the Guilford Battleground Company. The grant also funded enhancement of the park interpretive exhibits and interpretive programs using the data collected through historic, archeological, and architectural research.[110] The Coble Barn was identified as a non-contributing resource.

Over the years, Tannenbaum Historic Park personnel attempted to improve the grounds by adding topsoil, grading, and seeding, and adding

104. Guilford County Deed Book 1402:625
105. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 37.
106. Ibid.
107. Ibid., 38.
108. Southern, 8-7.
109. National Register ID number 88000175.
110. Stine, Stine, and Selikoff, 37–38.

sidewalks, picnic tables, and other public amenities.[111]

In 2008, the Guilford Battleground Company approached the National Park Service to gauge its interest in taking ownership of Tannenbaum Historic Park and incorporating the site into the Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. In February 2010, the National Park Service acquired Tannenbaum Historic Park from the City of Greensboro.

Since the National Park Service assumed ownership of the Tannenbaum Historic Park, no major changes to the barn have occurred. Ongoing park efforts continue to live-trap and remove groundhogs burrowing under the barn.

111. Ibid., 38.

Chronology of Development and Use

March 15, 1781	Battle of Guilford Courthouse.
Circa 1830	George Coble, newly married in 1828, builds a log barn on the farm he inherited from his father in 1832. The barn is located near the village of Julian in Guilford County.
1857	Greene Monument Association organized to memorialize the Revolutionary War general in his namesake town.
1887	Guilford Battle Ground Company chartered. Beautification and memorialization of the battlefield begun.
1894	Coble Farm is inherited by Letitia Coble, daughter of George and Elizabeth Coble.
1911	Federal legislation passed to construct a monument to General Greene on the battlefield.
1917	Guilford Courthouse National Military Park established, under the management of the War Department.
1922	Coble Farm acquired by Eva Leanna Clapp upon the death of Letitia Coble.
1933	Guilford Courthouse National Military Park transferred to National Park Service administration.
1934–1939	The park acquired 23.49 additional acres in seven separate donations.
1941	U.S. Highway 220 was re-routed to the west of the park. The new alignment was 300 feet west of the Hoskins House.
Late 1940s	Coble Farm sold to Fred Norman.
1986	Coble Barn and other log structures on the farm sold by Fred Norman for salvage.
1987	Coble Barn relocated to Hoskins House property and reconstructed.
1988	Hoskins House Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places, including the Coble Barn as a contributing structure.
1988	Hoskins House property deeded to the City of Greensboro as Tannenbaum Historic Park.
1999	National Historic Landmark documentation prepared for the battlefield, including the Hoskins House Historic District. The Coble Barn was considered to be a non-contributing structure.
2010	Tannenbaum Historic Park acquired by NPS and added to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

Physical Description and Condition Assessment

Site

Coble Barn is located in the western portion of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park and is one of three structures that make up the Hoskins Farmstead site (Figure 5). The other two structures, Hoskins House and a small kitchen, are situated to the east of Coble Barn (Figure 6). A small fenced garden is located directly north of the barn with a wood-frame garden shed adjacent to the garden (Figure 7 and Figure 8). A blacksmith shed sits between the barn and the Hoskins House (Figure 9). North of the blacksmith shed is a utility area enclosed by wood fencing (Figure 10).



FIGURE 5. View of the Hoskins Farmstead site from the south.



FIGURE 6. The blacksmith shed (right), Hoskins House (center), and summer kitchen (left).



FIGURE 7. The garden west of the house.



FIGURE 8. Garden shed, with the corner of the Coble Barn at left.



FIGURE 9. The blacksmith shed.



FIGURE 10. At center, the fenced utility enclosure.

The site is characterized by a manicured turf lawn with scattered trees throughout (Figure 11). In addition, a grove of trees is situated northwest of the barn near the intersection of New Garden Road, which runs north of the farmstead, and Battleground Avenue, which runs to the west. Split-rail fencing surrounds most of the farmstead's north, east, and south boundaries (Figure 12 and Figure 13). A concrete-paved path leads to the Hoskins Farmstead site from the nearby Colonial Heritage Center (Figure 14 and Figure 15). A paved parking lot sits to the east of the Colonial Heritage Center with direct access to Green Acres Lane to the south, with a curved driveway connecting the lot to New Garden Road to the north.



FIGURE 11. The site is characterized by a manicured lawn with scattered trees.



FIGURE 12. Split-rail fencing edges the property along New Garden Road.



FIGURE 13. Split-rail fencing and interpretive signage is also present on the site.



FIGURE 14. Paved path to the house.



FIGURE 15. The Colonial Heritage Center.

Exterior Evaluation

Coble Barn is a one-and-one-half story double pen log structure with a gable roof clad with wood shingles. The barn sits on a stone foundation present at the corners of the structure (Figure 16 and Figure 17). An open bay is present at the center of the barn. The building has a rectangular plan measuring approximately 48 feet long by 22 feet wide. The structure is oriented with its end gables on a north-south axis. The south and north gable ends are clad with wood clapboard siding. A wood forebay roof extends from the east elevation just below the main gable roof.



FIGURE 16. Coble Barn from the southeast.



FIGURE 17. The stone foundation present at a corner of the structure.

The walls of Coble Barn are comprised of square-cut logs generally 6 inches wide (Figure 18). The ends of each log are dovetailed, allowing the logs to interlock at the corners, as well as at other areas where multiple logs intersect.



FIGURE 18. Square-cut logs along the north elevation of the barn.

The east elevation consists of an open center bay, 18 feet wide, that extends to the bottom of the forebay roof, approximately 11 feet high (Figure 19). Eleven logs, set horizontally, are visible, with the top log spanning the entire elevation over the open center bay. Small doorways, approximately 5 feet tall and 3 feet 6 inches wide are centered on the two outer bays that flank the open bay (Figure 20 and Figure 21). Wood doors consisting of vertical wood planks are present in each doorway. The doors open into the building (Figure 22). Lumber is present at the jambs of the door, with wood pegs connecting the jamb members to adjacent logs (Figure 23). The logs at the head and sill of each doorway are notched, allowing the height of the door opening to be larger. A wood-framed forebay roof, located above the open bay and spanning the width of the elevation extends east from the building. Four logs extend from the barn and support a wood beam that in turn supports the roof joists. The forebay roof is clad with wood shingles.



FIGURE 19. The east elevation of Coble Barn.



FIGURE 20. Partial east elevation showing the south outer bay.



FIGURE 21. Partial east elevation showing the north outer bay.



FIGURE 22. A wood doorway on the east elevation.



FIGURE 23. The jamb at a wood doorway. Note the wood pegs.

The north elevation of the barn consists of fourteen logs that span the entire elevation (Figure 24). Wood clapboard siding is present at the gable, with five half-moon-shaped cutouts present near the peak of the gable (Figure 25). The eleventh log from grade extends to the east and serves as a support for the forebay roof on the east elevation. The structure of the forebay roof is visible from the north elevation (Figure 26). The ends of a series of logs running north-south and supporting an interior loft are visible above the sixth log from grade. As a result of the load placed on it, this log is bowed, with the center of the sixth log resting on the fifth log below.



FIGURE 24. The north elevation of Coble Barn.



FIGURE 25. Wood clapboard siding at the gable end.



FIGURE 26. The structure of the forebay roof.

The west elevation consists of fourteen logs laid horizontally, with the top four logs extending the length of elevation spanning over the center bay (Figure 27). The open center bay that runs east-west through the Coble Barn is visible at the center of the west elevation. The opening is approximately 18 feet wide and 11 feet high. The stone foundation is visible at the corners of the barn as well as at each side of the open bay. The roof joist ends are visible at the top of the elevation.



FIGURE 27. The west elevation of Coble Barn.

Like the north elevation, the south elevation consists of fourteen logs that span the length of the entire elevation (Figure 28). The stone foundation is visible at the corners of the building at the base of the elevation. Wood clapboard siding is present at the gable, with five half-moon-shaped cutouts present near the peak of the gable (refer to Figure 25). The eleventh log from grade extends to the east and serves as a support for the forebay roof on the east elevation. This log is bowed upward, with the center of the eleventh log touching the bottom of the twelfth log directly above. The structure of the forebay roof is visible from the north elevation. The ends of a series of logs running north-south and supporting an interior loft are visible above the sixth log from grade.



FIGURE 28. The south elevation of Coble Barn.

The roof structure of Coble Barn consists of log joists that support wood sleepers, which in turn support the wood shake shingles atop the gable roof (Figure 29 through Figure 31).



FIGURE 29. An interior view of the roof structure.



FIGURE 30. Log joists meeting the walls at the base of the roof.



FIGURE 31. The open soffit at the roof. Note the exposed log joists.

Above each door opening to the enclosed pens of the barn, a sheet metal lantern hangs from a wrought iron strap nailed to the log walls (Figure 32). The lanterns are modern reproductions of historic light fixtures.



FIGURE 32. Lantern above the door to the southwest pen.

Interior Evaluation

The interior of Coble Barn is divided into four spaces, including the open-air center bay. Two enclosed pens are present south of the center bay, with a single enclosed pen north of the center bay. Lofts are present above the center bay as well as both the south and north pens.

The pen to the north of the open bay is approximately 20 feet long and 13 feet wide. The walls of the north pen are exposed logs and the floor is wood planks (Figure 33). The wood plank floors are supported by logs laid on the earth below. A loft is located over the north pen and is accessed by a wood ladder, which is located near the southeast corner of the pen (Figure 34).



FIGURE 33. A view of the north pen.



FIGURE 34. The loft above the north pen.

The center bay, approximately 18 feet wide and 22 feet long, is a covered, open air space. The north and south walls consist of wood logs matching the size and style of those seen on the exterior of the building. There is no finished floor in the center bay. The ceiling of the center bay consists of exposed log beams and the underside of the floor in the loft space above (Figure 35). An opening in the ceiling extends from near the north wall to the south wall in the center of the bay. The wood-framed opening visible in the north loft can be seen near the center of the north wall of the center bay. An additional opening is present in the south wall (Figure 36). A door near the west end of the south wall connects the center bay to the southwest pen (Figure 37). The short doorway, approximately 5 feet tall and 3 feet 6 inches wide, contains a wood door constructed of vertical wood planks. Lumber is present at the jambs of the door, with wood pegs connecting the jamb members to the adjacent logs. Situated near the top of the wall, a wood grille covers a small opening centered on the south wall of the center bay (Figure 38). A similar grille is centered on the north wall.



FIGURE 35. The ceiling of the center bay.



FIGURE 36. A wood-framed opening in the south wall of the center bay.



FIGURE 37. The south wall of the center bay.



FIGURE 38. The south wall of the center bay.

The southwest pen is accessed from the center bay through a door opening along the north wall of the southwest pen (refer to Figure 37). The door swings into the pen. The southwest pen, approximately 10 feet wide and 13 feet long, has exposed log walls (Figure 39). Wood shingles have been fastened to the logs on the south and west walls to cover the openings between the logs. Shingles were also placed along the bottom of these walls to cover the opening between the bottom logs and the ground. There is no finished floor in the southwest pen (Figure 40). The ceiling is unfinished, with log beams and the underside of the loft floor above visible (Figure 41). Some of the log beams are smaller diameter members with bark remaining on the log. Due to a lack of dovetail engagement with the rest of the structure, it appears that these bark-covered logs are non-original elements, while every third log beam is original. The floor of the loft above is plywood.



FIGURE 39. The southwest pen.



FIGURE 40. The floor of the southwest pen.



FIGURE 41. The ceiling of the southwest pen.

Accessed through the door at the south end of the east elevation, the southeast pen is approximately 10 feet deep and 13 feet long (Figure 42). The walls are exposed logs, while the floor is unfinished. The ceiling consists of exposed log beams and the underside of the plywood floor of the loft area above (Figure 43). A hollowed-out log feeding trough is present along the north wall of the southeast pen (Figure 44). A wood grille is present above the feeding trough and may have been used to hold hay or animal feed.



FIGURE 42. The southeast pen.



FIGURE 43. The ceiling in the southeast pen.



FIGURE 44. The feeding trough and grille in the southeast pen.

The loft over the open center bay has wood plank flooring, with an opening near the center of the loft that extends almost the full width of the space (Figure 45 and Figure 46). The underside of the roof is visible throughout the lofts (Figure 47). Log walls extend east to west on either side of the center loft. The walls, four logs in height, separate the center loft from the lower lofts above the south and north pens. An aluminum ladder stored in the building connects the south loft to the center bay loft.



FIGURE 45. The loft over the center bay.



FIGURE 46. The opening near the center of the loft over the center bay.



FIGURE 47. The loft over the center bay.

The loft above the two south pens is accessed by a ladder in the southeast pen. The loft has a plywood floor and exposed log walls. The south loft is open to the loft above the center bay to the north (Figure 48 and Figure 49).



FIGURE 48. A view of the loft over the southwest pen.



FIGURE 49. The loft over the southeast pen.

The north loft is supported by wood logs that span the width of the north pen. Wood planks supported on the wood logs form the floor of the north loft (Figure 50). A framed opening is present in the south wall of the north loft. A wood grille covers the opening, which is also visible from the center bay.



FIGURE 50. The floor joists at the north loft.

Condition Assessment

The following notable conditions were observed at the exterior of Coble Barn:

- Severe decay of logs was observed throughout the perimeter walls of the structure. Numerous logs were found to be hollow, with significant section loss (Figure 51 through Figure 54). Based on the observations conducted for this study, the extent of severe deterioration is quantified as follows:
    - North wall: 10 of 14 logs have severe deterioration.
    - West wall, north half: 8 of 15 logs have severe deterioration.
    - West wall, south half: 10 of 15 logs have severe deterioration.
    - South wall: 11 of 14 logs have severe deterioration.
    - East wall, south half: 8 of 14 logs have severe deterioration.
    - East wall, north half: 9 of 14 logs have severe deterioration.
- Severe decay of log rafters that comprise the roof structure was observed (Figure 55). Five of the forty-two rafters (twenty-one each side) were found to be severely decayed and mostly hollow.



FIGURE 51. A severely deteriorated log.



FIGURE 52. A severely deteriorated, hollow log.



FIGURE 53. A hollowed-out log.



FIGURE 54. A severely deteriorated log.



FIGURE 55. A deteriorated log rafter.

- Deflection of the log supporting the cross beams below the north loft was observed. The bottom of the log at its center was observed to be resting on the log below (Figure 56).
- Deflection of the log beam that extends to support the forebay roof on the south elevation was observed (Figure 57). The top of the log at its center was observed to be in contact with the log above.
- Deterioration of the clapboard siding at both the north and south gables was observed (Figure 58).
- A number of wood shingles on both the main roof and forebay roof were found to be decayed and missing (Figure 59).
- Deterioration was observed at the door sill at the north door at the east elevation (Figure 60).
- Bowing of the log beams supporting the forebay roof was observed (Figure 61).



FIGURE 56. Deflection of a log along the north elevation.



FIGURE 57. Upward deflection of a log beam along the south elevation.



FIGURE 58. Deterioration of the clapboard siding at the gable end.



FIGURE 59. A view of decayed and missing wood roof shingles.



FIGURE 60. Deteriorated log door sill at the north pen.



FIGURE 61. Bowing of the forebay roof.

The following notable conditions were observed at the interior of Coble Barn:

- Severe decay was observed on the interior side of the logs, particularly in the loft (Figure 62).
- Severe decay of log floor joists over the open center bay was observed (Figure 63).
- Shingles installed on the interior of the southwest pen were found to be in a state of decay, particularly those at the base of the walls (refer to Figure 40).



FIGURE 62. Severe deterioration of the logs at the loft level.



FIGURE 63. Severe decay of log floor joists.

Significance and Integrity

Significance Criteria

The Criteria for Evaluation for listing in the National Register of Historic Places state:

> The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
>
> A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> D. That has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
>
> **Criteria Considerations**
>
> Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:
>
> a. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
>
> b. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
>
> c. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or
>
> d. A cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
>
> e. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
>
> f. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
>
> g. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.[112]

The Hoskins House Historic District, including the Coble Barn as a contributing resource, was listed in the National Register in 1988. The

112. *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 60,* "The National Register Criteria for Evaluation."

National Register nomination states that the site is significant for its association with the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on March 15, 1781, when 2,000 British troops under the command of Lord Cornwallis formed their lines around the house in anticipation of the battle. The nomination further states that the site retains integrity of feeling and association with the battle and therefore is nationally significant under Criterion A.[113]

The nomination states the Coble Barn is locally significant under Criterion C as a "fully preserved example" of an early nineteenth century double-pen log barn. The nomination further states that the double-pen barn is one of the most distinctive historic barn types in central and western Piedmont North Carolina.[114] The historic district nomination also notes Criterion Consideration B, "a building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value . . . ," with reference to the Coble Barn.[115]

The National Historic Landmark nomination documentation prepared in 1999 for Guilford Courthouse Battlefield indicates that the property is significant under National Register Criterion A and under National Historic Landmark Criterion 1:

> . . . [properties] that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified with, or that outstandingly represent, the broad national patterns of United States history and from which an understanding and appreciation of those patterns may be gained . . . .[116]

The National Historic Landmark documentation indicates that the Coble Barn is non-contributing.

The findings of this study concur with the National Historic Landmark assessment that the barn is a non-contributing structure to the battlefield. Due to its relocation from another site in the 1980s, lack of association with the Hoskins House and the battle, and severe deterioration of original materials, the barn should also be considered non-contributing to the Hoskins House Historic District. The Coble Barn does not appear to meet the eligibility requirements for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Further research could be conducted to evaluate the possible local significance of the barn as an example of an early nineteenth century double-pen log barn characteristic of the region. This assessment would need to take into consideration the barn's diminished integrity resulting from its relocation and the severe deterioration of the surviving original logs.

Based on research and review of documentation conducted for this study, updating of the National Register Nomination for the Hoskins House Historic District is warranted to provide a more accurate assessment of the history, significance, and integrity of the Coble Barn.

Period of Significance

The National Historic Landmark documentation for Guilford Courthouse Battlefield identifies a period of significance of March 15, 1781, and indicates that the Coble Barn is a non-contributing resource. The National Register nomination for the Hoskins House Historic District cites a period of significance and significant dates as follows: 1781 as associated with the Battle of Guilford Courthouse; the late eighteenth through early

113. Michael T. Southern, with research by Thomas Taylor, Hoskins House Historic District, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, prepared January 31, 1988, listed in the National Register, March 15, 1988.
114. Ibid.
115. Ibid.
116. John Hiatt, National Historic Landmark Nomination, Guilford Court House Battlefield, prepared January 6, 1999. Note that the battlefield, as a previously established historical national park, was administratively listed in the National Register upon its establishment, October 15, 1966. The documentation gives the name of the site as Guilford Court House Battlefield, rather than Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, the official name of the NPS unit.

nineteenth centuries as related to the Hoskins House; and circa 1830 as related to the Coble Barn.

Research conducted for this study concurs with the findings of the National Historic Landmark documentation in determining the Coble Barn to be a non-contributing structure to the period of significance of the site, 1781. However, due to its relocation from another site in the 1980s, this study indicates that the barn should be considered a non-contributing structure to the Hoskins House Historic District. Should further study indicate that the barn is individually significant as an example of its type and period of construction, an appropriate period of significance for this resource would be circa 1830, based on currently available documentation.

Character-Defining Features

The historic nature of significant buildings and structures is defined by their character, which is embodied in their identifying physical features. Character-defining features can include the shape of a building; its materials, craftsmanship, interior spaces, and features; and the different components of its surroundings.[117]

The following list identifies the existing character-defining features of the exterior and interior of Coble Barn:

- Log walls with dovetail connections at the corners.
- General form of the double-pen barn, including the gable roof and shed forebay roof.
- Open center bay visible from the east and west elevations.
- Existing configuration of door openings throughout the building.
- Cedar shake shingles on the main gable roof and forebay roof along the east elevation.

Assessment of Integrity

Assessment of integrity is based on an evaluation of the existence and condition of the physical features which date to a property's period of significance, taking into consideration the degree to which the individual qualities of integrity are present. The seven aspects of integrity as defined in the National Register Criteria for Evaluation are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. As noted in the *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*:

> Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.... Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.... Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.... Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.... Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.... Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.... Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.[118]

The property must retain the essential physical features that enable it to convey its historical significance. The essential physical features are those that define both why a property is significant (National Register criteria) and when it was

117. Lee H. Nelson, FAIA, *Preservation Brief 17: Architectural Character: Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings as an Aid to Preserving Their Character* (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, Technical Preservation Services, 1988).

118. *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1997), 44–45.

significant (period of significance). The bulletin further defines integrity as "the ability of a property to convey its significance."[119]

The historic integrity of Coble Barn has been assessed within the context of its contribution to the Hoskins House Historic District addressed in the National Register nomination (1988).

Integrity of Location. Coble Barn was originally located near Julian, North Carolina, a village in southeast Guilford County, approximately 11 miles from Greensboro. Moved to its current site in 1987, Coble Barn lacks integrity of location as it is no longer situated in its original location.

Integrity of Design. Coble Barn retains a high degree of integrity of design, as the basic form and details of the structure remain, despite several small alterations that have been made.

Integrity of Setting. Coble Barn lacks integrity of setting. The barn has been moved from its original location and its current setting is not consistent with the barn's historic setting.

Integrity of Materials and Workmanship. Coble Barn retains a low degree of integrity of materials and workmanship, primarily due to condition issues. The wood logs, the primary material of the structure, are in poor condition with significant deterioration present. In addition, the roof structure and cedar shake shingles are severely deteriorated. Other features such as wood doors are generally intact; however, it is unclear if these features are original.

Integrity of Feeling. Coble Barn retains a moderate degree of integrity of feeling. The structure was constructed to serve as a barn and is presently interpreted as such, although it originally was associated with a much larger farmstead. The loss of setting and the move from its original location diminish integrity of feeling.

Integrity of Association. Coble Barn retains no integrity of association. While the Hoskins House site is associated with the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, the barn has no association with the site. Coble Barn is a relatively intact example of a nineteenth century double-pen log barn of the local region; however, it has no known association with the historic events that occurred on this site.

119. Ibid.

Treatment and Use

Requirements for Treatment and Use

The National Register nomination for the Hoskins House Historic District (1988) identifies the Coble Barn as a contributing resource within the historic district.[120] However, National Historic Landmark documentation for the Guilford Courthouse Battlefield (1999) identifies the Coble Barn as a non-contributing resource.[121]

As discussed in the Significance and Integrity section of this report, findings of the HSR concur with the National Historic Landmark documentation that the barn is a non-contributing resource to the historic battlefield. However, pending further assessment of the potential individual significance of the barn as an example of its type and period of construction; pending potential revision of the National Register nomination for the historic district, which indicates that the barn is a contributing structure; and because the park maintains the barn and its environs for interpretive purposes, it is appropriate for the barn to be managed as a cultural resource. Thus, treatment and use of the Coble Barn should be considered within the context of the legal mandates and policy directives established by National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Guideline (Director's Order 28) for the protection of cultural resources. Coble Barn should be understood as an example of local vernacular construction and retained if useful for interpretation of colonial-era life to park visitors.

Laws, Regulations, and Functional Requirements

Key laws, regulations, and functional requirements that apply to the work recommended herein include the following:

- National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Guideline (Director's Order 28), which requires planning for the protection of cultural resources on park property.
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), which mandates that federal agencies, including the National Park Service, take into account the effects of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment.

Treatment of the building and site are also to be guided by the following:

- Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- *International Building Code* (IBC), 2012
- *International Existing Building Code* (IEBC), 2012

120. Southern.

121. Hiatt, National Historic Landmark Nomination, Guilford Court House Battlefield, prepared January 6, 1999,

- North Carolina Building Code, 2012, effective from September 1, 2011, which is based on the 2009 IBC

- North Carolina Existing Building Code, 2015. The 2015 North Carolina Existing Building Code became effective on March 1, 2015. It is based on the 2012 IEBC

The National Park Service is self-regulating in terms of enacting and enforcing building code standards. Guilford Courthouse National Military Park is therefore not legally subject to local or state building code requirements. When undertaking repairs to historic buildings, the National Park Service endeavors to have the work comply with model building code standards. At this time, the 2012 IBC with Appendices (replacing Chapter 34 with the IEBC) is the model building code used by the National Park Service and is referenced by the National Park Service Denver Service Center for design and construction. The National Park Service Denver Service center also references the 2012 IEBC, with Appendices and Resource A.

In the 2009 and 2012 editions of the *International Building Code*, Section 3409–Historic Buildings, paragraph 3409.1 states:

> Historic Buildings. The provisions of this code relating to the construction, *repair*, *alteration*, *addition*, restoration and movement of structures, and change of occupancy shall not be mandatory for *historic buildings* where such buildings are judged by the *building official* to not constitute a distinct life safety hazard.

In response to these laws and regulations, life safety concerns should be addressed in the repair of the building. Due to widespread deterioration of the logs, the Coble Barn is potentially structurally unstable in its current condition and is unsuitable for use without repair.

Alternates for Treatment and Use

The National Park Service has developed definitions for the four major treatments that may be applied to historic structures: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. The four definitions are as follows:

> **Preservation** is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.
>
> **Rehabilitation** is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.
>
> **Restoration** is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.
>
> **Reconstruction** is defined as the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at

> a specific period of time and in its historic location.[122]

Of the four treatment approaches, *rehabilitation*, which involves applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic structure, is most appropriate for the Coble Barn. This treatment would allow for the extensive repairs and material replacement necessary to stabilize the building on its present site.

Preservation, which involves sustaining the existing form of a structure, is not relevant, as the barn is too severely deteriorated in its present condition and cannot be feasibly preserved without substantial replacement of original material. *Restoration* would return the building to its appearance during the period of significance. Since the barn retains its original design, repairs are needed primarily to address ongoing material deterioration, not to re-create missing features.

When it was relocated to its present site, the barn was re-assembled to match its original design. Relatively few modifications were made to the building at that time. Many of the materials and features of the building have significant deterioration, resulting in reduced historic integrity. Retention of intact original materials combined with replacement of severely deteriorated materials is practical and appropriate, and will allow the barn to be preserved and continue to serve as part of the interpretation of colonial-era life in this region of North Carolina.

Ultimate Treatment and Use

Guidelines for Treatment

Guidelines and requirements for treatment have been defined based on the preservation objectives and requirements for treatment and use outlined above. All treatment guidelines and recommendations were developed in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation are as follows:

1. A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

2. The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

3. Each property shall be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or architectural elements from other buildings, shall not be undertaken.

4. Most properties change over time; those changes that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features shall be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature shall match the old in design,

122. Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

color, texture, and other visual qualities and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features shall be substantiated by documentary, physical, or pictorial evidence.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, such as sandblasting, that cause damage to historic materials shall not be used. The surface cleaning of structures, if appropriate, shall be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.

8. Significant archeological resources affected by a project shall be protected and preserved. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures shall be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale, and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.[123]

The basic guidelines for work on the Coble Barn and its immediate setting are as follows:

- Undertake all work in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation.

- Retain the character of the historic site by protecting the individual building and associated significant site features.

- Protect adjacent natural resources during construction activities.

- Document through detailed as-built drawings, photographs, and written narrative all changes and treatments to the historic site and building. Maintain records of treatments and preserve documentation according to professional archival standards. Maintain a copy of records in National Park Service archives.

- Retain features and materials at both the exterior and interior of the building that date from the period of significance to the greatest extent possible.

- Incorporate sustainable design principles in all future projects that respect the preservation principles listed above.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are intended to address the severe existing deterioration of the materials that comprise the barn. Also included below are recommendations for cyclical work needed to maintain the barn over time.

- Due to the fragile nature of the structure, all stored building materials and furnishings should be removed and relocated to an appropriate storage facility. No materials or equipment should be placed on the loft or raised platforms in the barn.

- Public access to the barn should be limited using signage and verbal directives from park staff to visiting groups. If necessary, consideration could be given to erecting a low fence around the barn.

- The wood shingles covering gaps between logs, non-original log joists with bark, and non-original loft decking at the southwest pen should be removed.

- The southwest corner of the barn should be monitored for further movement or displacement.

123. Ibid.

- The log wall structure requires repair due to severe deterioration. Consideration should be given to replacement of individual logs with large hollow voids or similar decay of more than half the cross section of the log. The replacement process would begin with the fabrication of a replica log with end notches to match the existing assembly. The wall would be gently jacked upward just above the log indicated for replacement, until the deteriorated original log can be removed. Then, the new log can be installed in the original location and the upper part of the structure lowered into place. The new logs may require treatment with a wood stain to better blend with the weathered appearance of the original logs. Based on the condition assessment performed as part of this study, it is estimated that approximately seventy-five logs (including some roof rafters) may require replacement. This number of severely deteriorated logs comprises nearly 50 percent of the exterior walls.

  To better understand the existing deteriorated condition of the wood, it would be helpful to compare existing conditions as documented during field work for this study with documentation available from 1987, when the barn was moved to and erected on site. This comparison would help determine the extent to which deterioration observed today was present circa 1987 and to what degree deterioration has progressed since that time, as well as which logs are 1980s replacement members. This information would be useful to inform and refine the treatment recommendations to address existing deterioration.

- Consideration should be given to providing an ongoing treatment approach to mitigate and kill decay fungi. One system that can be used consists of inserting borate rods into selected logs; however, although it appears that this approach could be readily implemented, it would only be effective locally. Another system is application of copper naphthenate, available in proprietary wood treatment products, to provide protection against wood decay and improve water resistance. This treatment could be used in selected locations such as at ends of logs or where wood is near or in contact with the ground. Copper naphthenate makes the wood appear bright green in color upon application; although it weathers to brown over time, this approach may be visually intrusive, as all of the wood members are exposed to view.

- For individual logs with decay but where the overall log is not so severely deteriorated as to require replacement, installation of a dutchman (selected partial replacement) can be considered. The deteriorated portion of the individual log would be cut out, and a matching wood piece would be installed, joined to the original log with dowels.

- Where an individual log has wood decay or voids that collect rainwater, use of a consolidant can be considered. For consolidation, the wood surface would be prepared by removing all material affected by decay, and deep cracks and voids filled to create a profile that will shed water. As most filler materials are vulnerable to degradation by ultraviolet light, a paint coating in a color that blends with intact adjacent log areas would need to be applied to repair locations. For the Coble Barn, the locations where consolidant treatment would be effective are often at the ends of logs at the corners of the pens. Since the end grain of each log is exposed, this treatment is likely to be highly visible and may be visually intrusive.

- Consideration could also be given to treating exposed logs with a clear penetrating water repellent. This treatment would not address existing significant deterioration; however, it may provide benefit in slowing deterioration of logs that are currently mostly intact. This treatment could be further considered for implementation after overall repairs are implemented.

For any of the repair approaches discussed above, trial repairs should be conducted to evaluate the

efficacy and completed results of the repair. Trial repairs could also be evaluated over time to further assess the repair approach.

- Treatment to prevent termite infestation should be implemented on a regular basis as part of cyclical maintenance.

- The existing wood shingle roof should be replaced. Roof replacement will include removal of all existing roof materials down to the existing spaced nailers. The nailers should be inspected for decay, and affected elements replaced. New wood shingles should then be installed, matching the existing spacing and exposure.

- Smaller wood components, such as clapboard siding or door jambs, also require replacement with matching new components where severely decayed.

- The building should be inspected and treated regularly for termites and other insect pests that are endemic in the region.

- The ongoing program should be continued of live-trapping small mammals that burrow beneath the building, and releasing them in an appropriate natural setting elsewhere in the county.

- The grades around the building should be monitored to ensure positive drainage away from the foundation. If ponding occurs during heavy rainfall, consideration could be given to adding French drains parallel to the building wall, consisting of 6-inch perforated PVC pipe in drain rock wrapped in geotextile drain fabric and buried in washed gravel. New drains would need to be coordinated with site-specific archeological and cultural landscape considerations. (If extensive dismantlement of the barn is undertaken for repairs, other measures could be implemented at the foundation to protect the structure in the future. For example, consideration could be given to pouring a concrete slab on grade under the barn, which would limit burrowing by small mammals and vermin. The concrete slab could be concealed below a thin layer of sand or gravel, to maintain the appearance of an earthen-floor structure.)

- The barn currently lacks any mechanical or electrical systems. Consideration could be given to adding minimal electrical power for emergency lighting and/or maintenance purposes as well as telecommunication wiring for fire safety or security systems. Where required, electrical and telecommunication cabling should be run underground and connect to a waterproof PVC conduit inside the barn.

The barn is unrelated historically to the battlefield or the house; however, further research and assessment are recommended to determine whether the barn is individually significant as an example of its type and period of construction. Should it be determined that the barn is not individually significant, removal rather than rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance could be considered. If removal is determined to be appropriate, one approach to this process could involve dismantling and removing the barn in the near term, rather than continuing to repair and maintain it. If removal of the barn is planned but cannot proceed in the near term, and if repairs are not implemented, active use of the structure should cease immediately, including removal of stored building materials and furnishings as noted above. It may be necessary to erect a low fence or similar means on the site to keep visitors away from the building. The structure would need frequent monitoring to assess its condition.

In either case, intact fragments of original wood could be salvaged for possible reuse or for archival purposes. Should additional documentation be discovered about a barn that existed on the site during the period of significance, a replica barn could be built on the site for purposes of interpretation.

Recommendations for Further Research

1. Archival research should be conducted to understand the original design, construction, and evolution of the Coble Barn in greater detail than as represented by currently available documentation, and to better understand the potential individual significance of the structure as an early nineteenth century double-pen log barn. As part of this effort, the National Register nomination could be updated.

2. Wood species identification and pathology could be conducted to confirm the wood species present and better understand mechanisms of observed wood decay.

3. Structural analysis could be conducted to better understand structural deficiencies that may exist due to the deteriorated condition of the barn.

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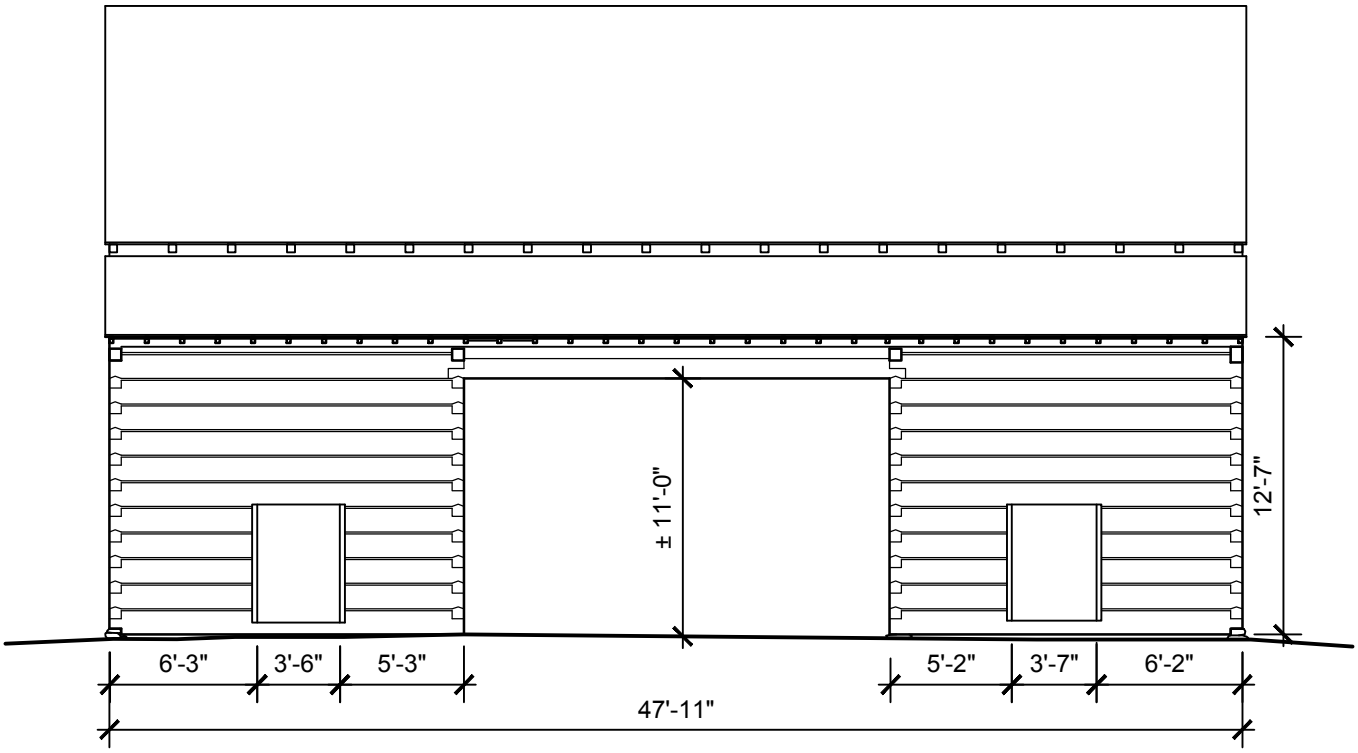
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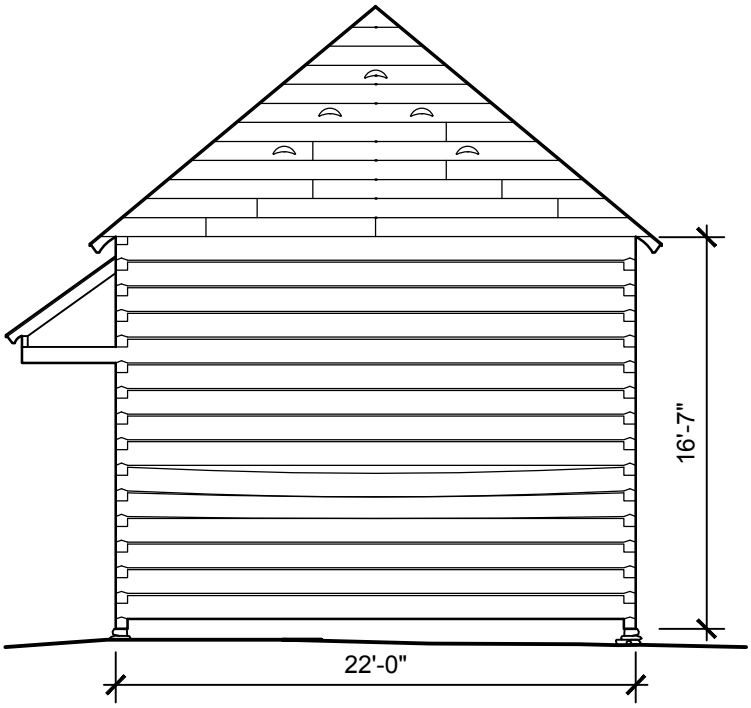
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Appendix: Drawings



East Elevation

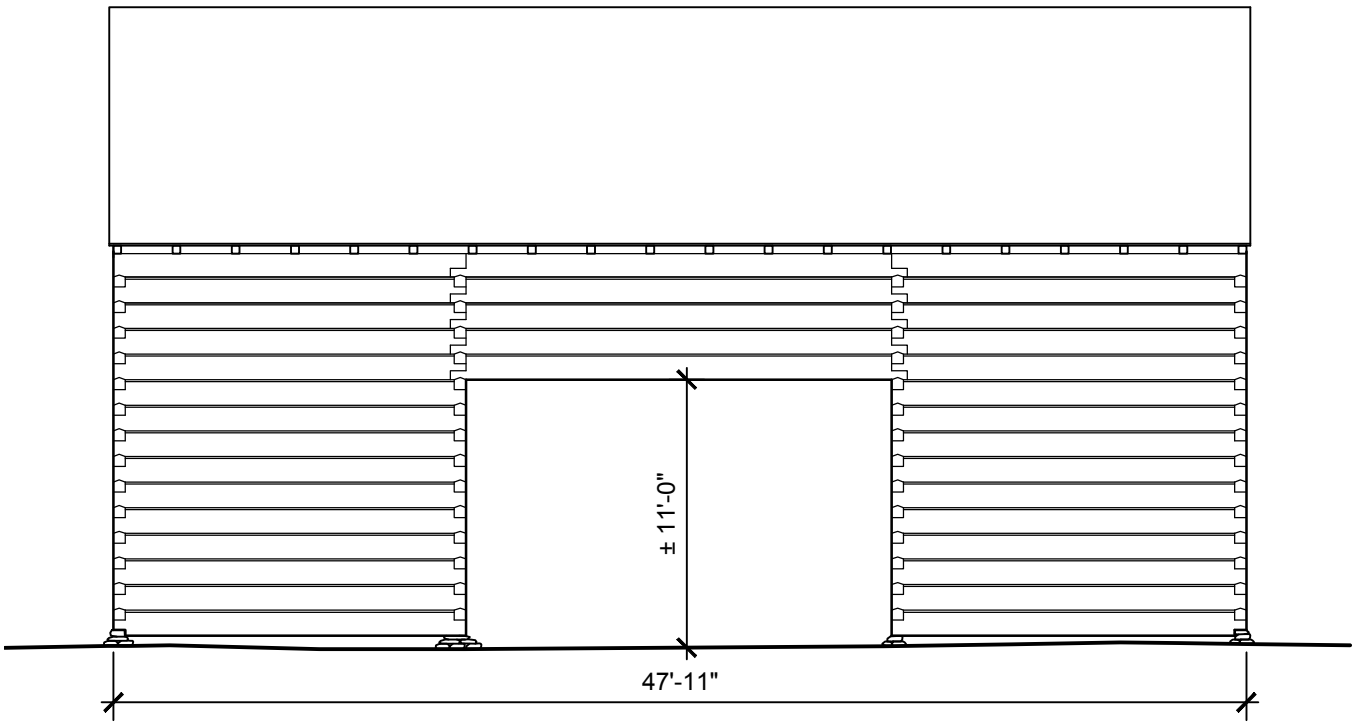
Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"



North Elevation

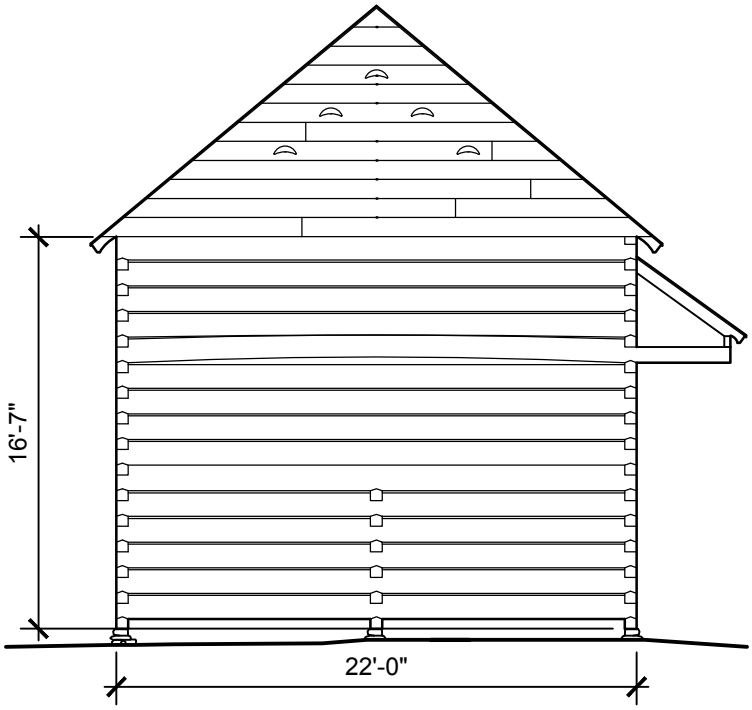
Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"

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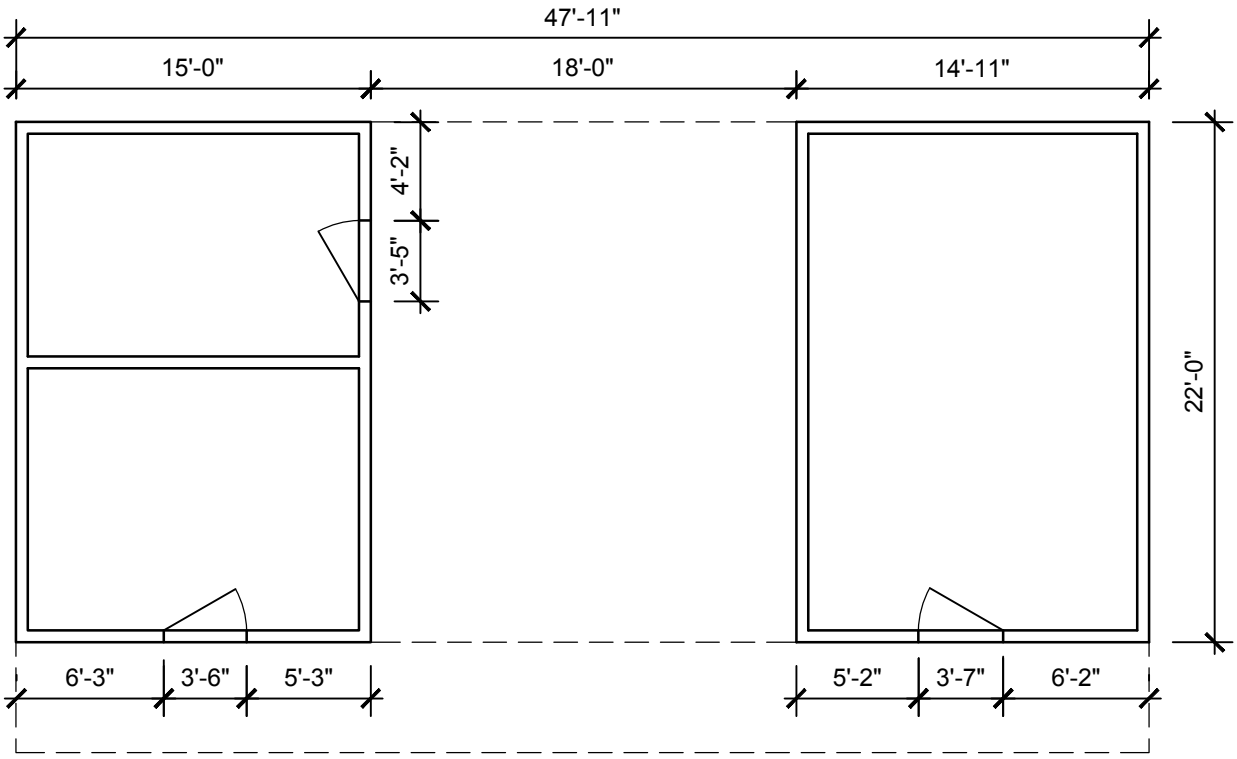
West Elevation

Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"



South Elevation

Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"



Floor Plan
Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"

N



Roof Plan
Scale: ⅛" = 1'-0"

N