



Figure 40. NCDOT Survey #33, Midway Diner (GF-1545), 6270 Burlington Road, Guilford County and NCDOT Survey #34, Goodall Residence (GF-8194), 6270 Burlington Road, Guilford County, aerial photograph (2010) showing recommended NRHP boundary.

**NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121)
6709 Burlington Road, Sedalia vicinity, Guilford County
Guilford County PIN 8824868060**

Location and Setting: The Cyrus Augustus Wharton property is located on the north side of two-lane US 70 (Burlington Road) (Figures 41–49). The surrounding landscape, formerly rural and agricultural, currently is made up of a mix of modern commercial and residential buildings. A bank and parking lot are located to the west, and a modern residential subdivision is across the road to the south.



NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), looking northeast.

The immediate setting consists of a large grass lawn planted with mature shade trees. A paved driveway bordered by crepe myrtles is on the west. A high wooden picket fence with stone bases and gate posts runs to the west of the main house and separates the driveway and entrance area from the rear yard and outbuildings. A short board fence runs along the east end of the property. The locked main gate prevented access to the rear half of the property, rendering the outbuildings and rear elevation of the main house inaccessible for detailed inspection. No buildings were accessible for interior inspection or photography.

Property Description: The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House is a two-story house with Queen Anne Style details built ca. 1890. The dwelling features a low brick foundation, balloon-frame construction now clad with aluminum siding, an L-plan form with a ca. 1930–1940 rear addition (not visible for photography), and a hip roof clad in asphalt shingles with cross-gable ells on the south and west. The central façade entry opens to a wraparound porch on the south and west elevations with a half-hipped roof that features spindle work below the eaves and turned and bracketed posts. A secondary entrance is located below the west end of the porch roof and provides access to the west ell. The main entrance consists of a single-leaf wood door flanked by tall rectangular sidelights. The house features two central interior brick chimneys and 1/1 double-hung sash windows throughout. Some of the windows on the east elevation are paired. A leaded stained-glass window is located directly above the façade entry.

Outbuildings (all date from the early twentieth century):

Outbuilding #1: A one-story frame domestic outbuilding is located west of the house. Oriented to the east, this one-story building features frame construction clad in weatherboard, rests upon a stone pier foundation, and features a metal-clad front-gable roof. A wood single-leaf entrance door is sheltered by a metal hood. Despite deterioration, the building retains integrity.

Equipment Shed: A one-story frame equipment shed is located just north of the first building and west of the main house. Oriented to the east, this one-story building features frame construction clad in weatherboard, rests upon a stone pier foundation, and features a metal-clad front-gable roof. Despite deterioration, the building retains integrity.

Barn: A two-story frame transverse barn is located north of the house. Oriented to the south, this five-bay barn features frame construction clad in weatherboard and a metal-clad side gabled roof. The central façade entry allows passage to the other side of the barn. Additional openings are visible on the gable ends. The barn retains integrity; however, it is in a deteriorated state.

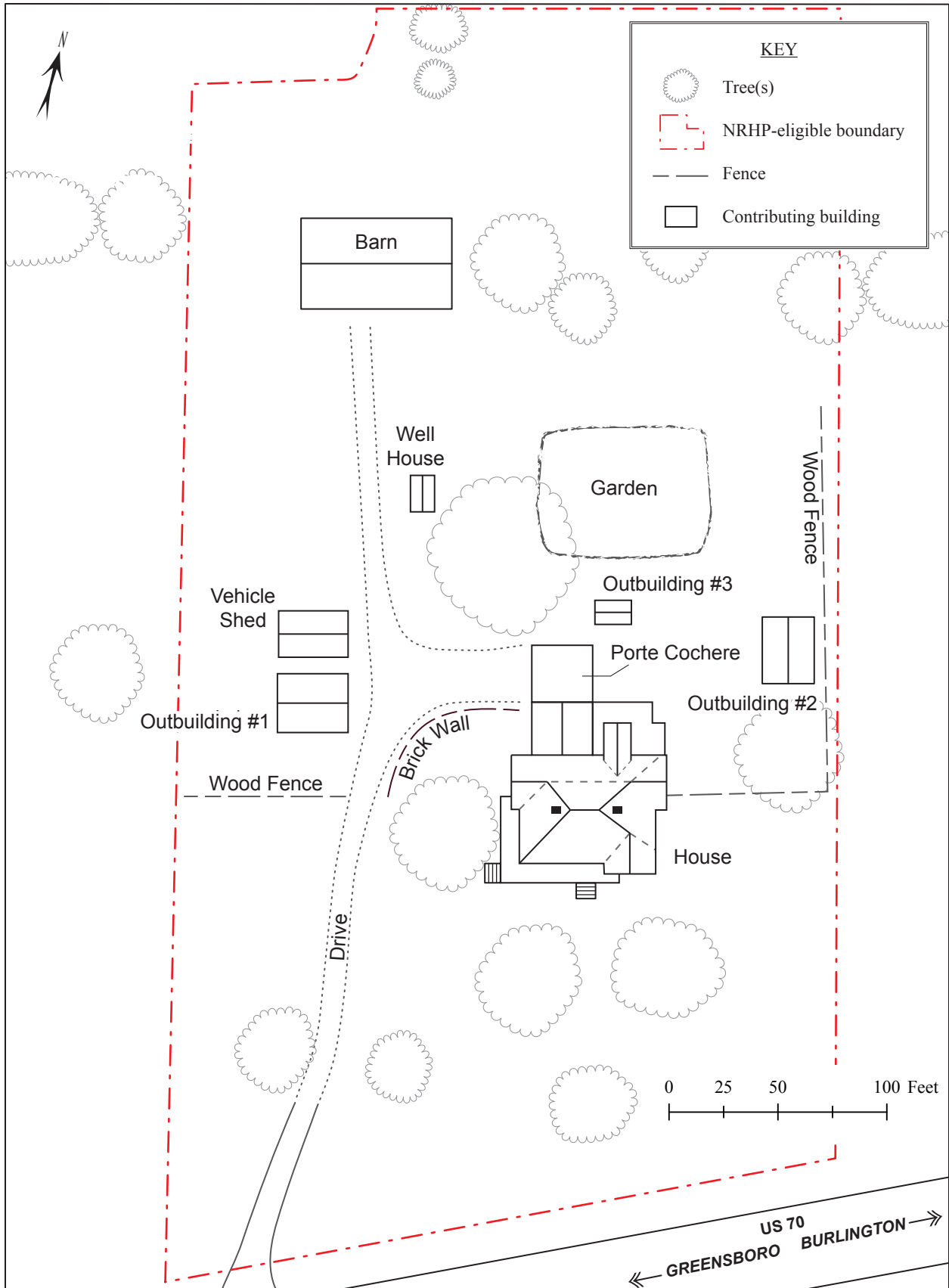


Figure 41. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, site plan and recommended NRHP boundary.

Outbuilding #2: A small one-story front-gable frame outbuilding is located northeast of the house. Oriented to the west, this building features frame construction clad in vinyl siding and rests upon a stone pier foundation.

Wellhouse: A small wellhouse is located north of the main house. Oriented to the south, it features a metal-clad front-gable roof that extends to the south and is supported on chamfered posts with brackets and spindlework.

Outbuilding #3: A building of undetermined age or use is located to the northeast of the main house. Resting on raised stone piers, it features a front-gable roof, double-leaf wood door on the south, and wooden steps leading to the west. The roof extends over a wooden porch, and square posts support the porch.



Figure 42. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, south façade, looking northeast from driveway.



Figure 43. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, south façade looking northeast from front lawn.



Figure 44. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, east elevation looking northwest from the front lawn; a portion of the frame barn is visible to the rear and an unidentified outbuilding is located between the house and the barn.



Figure 45. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, domestic outbuilding and vehicle shed located northwest of the main house, looking northwest.



Figure 46. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, (left to right), barn, vehicle shed, and domestic outbuilding, looking north.



Figure 47. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, barn, south side looking north.



Figure 48. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, outbuilding located northeast of the main house, looking north.



Figure 49. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, rear yard in foreground, with wellhouse and barn in background, looking northwest.

Historical Background: The tract of land associated with the house at 6805 Burlington Road was divided from the lands of W.R. Smith to his heirs—William, Juliana, Nancy Jane, Mary, and Lizzie—on May 2, 1877. William Smith acquired Lot 1 of the lands of his father, comprised of 43 acres of unimproved land valued at \$572. None of the other lots were valued over \$600, indicating that they too did not contain residences or other structures (GCDB 53:17). On November 13, 1899, William P. Wharton (the guardian of Willie Smith) sold Cyrus A. Wharton two tracts of land adjacent to the lands of Daniel P. Faust Esq. and others: one tract contained 85 acres and a woodland tract of 11 acres. The deed explained that “the land descended to Willie Smith on the death of her father William A. Smith (she was an only child) and being part of the land divided of his father William R. Smith” (GCDB 115:430).

Cyrus Augustus Wharton was born on September 5, 1854 in Guilford County, one of 10 children of John Wharton Sr. a farmer and his second wife, Jane Bennett. According to his obituary, Wharton lived in Guilford County all his life and the sites where he was born and died are within a mile of each other. On March 6, 1876, Cyrus married Anna Donnell, and they eventually had six children and six grandchildren, two of which, Cyrus R. Wharton (son) and Richard L. Wharton (grandson), served as Chairman of the Board of the nearby Palmer Memorial Institute. During his 76 years, Cyrus Wharton served as a member of the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners, chairman of draft board No. 1 of Guilford County during World War I, was an active member of the Democratic Party, and as a successful farmer worked on his farm until a week before his death on March 3, 1931 (Anonymous n.d.).

County tax assessment records indicate that the Cyrus Wharton house was built around 1890, which is supported by field observation. According to a 1980 newspaper article about a Christmas tour of homes, Cyrus Wharton’s home and cotton and grain farm was known as Elmwood after the large elm trees on the property (Burlington Times-News 1980:3C). The C.A. Wharton house appears on the 1895 and 1908 maps of Guilford County (Benbow and Johnson 1895; Miller 1908).

On February 4, 1934, Wharton's heirs—Albert E., Mary, T.E., Maud, H.W. Winstead, Effie Wharton Winstead, C.R. Wharton, Leslie L. Wharton, and John Wharton—transferred the 85 acres to Lee A. and Lillie Phillips Wharton (GCDB 734:173). On February 1, 1970, Charles A. Wharton, who co-owned the “Old Cyrus A. Wharton Place,” transferred the property to Charles' wife, Gertrude (GCDB 2569:457). Following the death of Gertrude W. Wharton, Janis and James H. Rascoe who inherited the land from Janis' mother, Gertrude, sold the land to David and Deborah Fryan on August 9, 1983 (GCDB 3308:404). During the time that Janis and James Rascoe owned the home, their daughter, Jennifer Lee, was the fifth Wharton generation to live at Elmwood (Burlington Times-News 1980:3C).

On June 23, 1992, following the bankruptcy of David and Deborah Fryan, their bank, acting as a trustee, sold 12.9 acres of the Wharton property to Richard P. Hickey Sr. (GCDB 3974:1719). According to county tax assessment records, the property is currently owned by Richard P. Hickey Sr. and Richard P. Hickey Jr.

Statement of Integrity: The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House retains its integrity of setting, workmanship, location, design, feeling, and association. The application of aluminum siding impacts the integrity of materials. The outbuildings retain all aspects of integrity.

NRHP Criteria Assessment: The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House is recommended **not eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion A. According to the NRHP: “[t]o be eligible under Criterion A the property must retain integrity and must be associated with a specific event marking an important moment in American pre-history or history or a pattern of events or historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state, or a nation. Furthermore, the property must have existed at the time and be documented to be associated with the events. Finally, the property's specific association must be important as well” (NPS 1990:12). Research has not established any important event or pattern of events associated with this property.

The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House is recommended **not eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion B. According to the NRHP: “[f]or a property to be eligible for significance under Criterion B, it must retain integrity and 1) be associated with the lives of persons significant in our past, i.e., individuals whose activities are demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context; 2) be normally associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he/she achieved significance; and 3) should be compared to other associated properties to identify those that best represent the person's historic contributions. Furthermore, a property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is or was a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group” (NPS 1990:15). Neither its original owner, Cyrus Alexander Wharton, nor its subsequent owners are known to have been individuals significant in our past.

The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House is recommended **eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion C on the local level as embodying the elements of a Queen Anne Style residence with a collection of historic outbuildings. According to the NRHP “[f]or a property to be eligible under this criterion, it must retain integrity and either 1) embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; 2) represent the work of a master; 3) possess high artistic value; or 4) represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction” (NPS 1990:18). For most of the nineteenth century, rural domestic architecture in Guilford County had primarily consisted of variants of the I-house form with some elements of the Greek Revival or Italianate Styles. The Queen Anne Style, such as seen at the Cyrus A. Wharton House, represented a break from this basic form and allowed for wraparound porches, multiple entrances, and a freer floor plan.

In Guilford County, the Queen Anne Style was most prevalent in cities such as Greensboro and High Point, reflective of cotton-derived wealth during the late nineteenth century. However, as noted in

Architectural Resources: An Inventory of Historic Architecture, most of these urban houses have been demolished. In rural Guilford County, the two best examples of the style are Oakhurst at Oakridge Institute (1897) and the Henry Clay Brittain House (1908) near Summerfield (Smith 1989:29). Both represented extremely sophisticated and skilled interpretations of the Queen Anne Style, employing polygonal and rounded bays, towers, and much decorative woodwork on both the exterior and interior. The nearby Whitsett House (1895) on NC 61 is notable for its high-pitched hipped roof, wraparound porch with classical columns, and rounded bay (Smith 1979:106).

Gibsonville also contains a notable collection of simpler Queen Anne Style residences dating from between 1895 and 1910 and identifiable by their hipped roof with cross gables, wraparound porches, and polygonal or rounded bays (Smith 1979:84–85). It is with this group of houses in Gibsonville that the Cyrus A. Wharton House shares the most similarities, rather than the more elaborate high-style examples described above. Elements of the Queen Anne Style present include the two-story height, projecting gable-roofed bays, wraparound porch with turned posts and spindlework, and the second-story stained glass window above the entry. Despite the application of aluminum siding, the Cyrus Augustus Wharton House retains the integrity necessary to convey its significance under Criterion C.

The Cyrus Augustus Wharton House is **not eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion D. According to the NRHP: “[f]or a property to be eligible under Criterion D, it must meet two requirements: 1) the property must have, or have had, information to contribute to our understanding of human history or prehistory, and 2) the information must be considered important” (NPS 1990:21). The property is not likely to yield any new information pertaining to building design or building technology.

NRHP Boundary Justification: The NRHP boundary for the Cyrus Augustus Wharton House has been drawn according to the guidelines of National Register Bulletin 21, *Defining Boundaries for National Register Properties*. The boundary corresponds to the tax parcel boundaries, containing 2.41 acres, and includes the main house and contributing historic outbuildings (Figure 50; see Figure 41). The southern boundary is defined as the north side of the US 70 right-of-way.