

**NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214),  
5503-5505 Burlington Road, Sedalia vicinity  
Guilford County PIN 7651-19-9062**

**Location and Setting:** This triplex at 5503–5505 Burlington Road is located on the north side of two-lane US 70, east of its intersection with Mount Hope Road and east of Greensboro (Figures 116–120).

**Property Description:** Constructed in 1932 according to Guilford County tax records, this brick triplex is located close to Burlington Road and is oriented to the south. This nine-bay building is of balloon frame construction clad with brick veneer, rests on a continuous brick foundation, and is sheltered by a hip roof clad in asbestos shingles. Symmetrical in design, the three sections of the building reflect the same arrangement of bays, although this is obscured by the modern screened porch on its façade. Each unit features a three-light wooden single-leaf door that opens to a concrete stoop. A front-gable hood supported by decorative brackets shelters the façade entries of the east and west units. Original wooden 3/3 double-hung sash windows flank each side of the façade entries, the original central entry is flanked by paired windows. A large three-bay enclosed porch sheltered by a cross-gable roof extends from the center of the building. Each end unit has a one-story, vinyl-clad bay on the rear. A later addition, the porch features aluminum siding on the gable end and 1/1 aluminum storm windows. An interior brick chimney extends from the hip roof on each end of the triplex. The building is in fair condition, but is unoccupied and was not accessible for interior inspection or photography.



*NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214),  
5503–5505 Burlington Road, looking northeast.*

**Historical Background:** Land records do not indicate an exact construction date for this building, although a 1932 date is given by the Guilford County Tax Assessor’s records. The tract, a 9-acre parcel adjacent to the land of John Doggess, is shown on the map of the J.G. Hanner land survey of 1908, which states: “There is located on this tract a residence known as the J.G. Gannon Home Place” (GCDB 614:229). In addition to the home place, another building, most likely this triplex, was constructed on a 9-acre portion of the land after its division in 1908, as it was sold in an improved state by 1928.

On September 26, 1946, Sydney Louis and Martha DeGrom sold the 9-acre tract to Sydney J. and Margaret DeGrom, their children, for the sum of \$10 (GCDB 1132:545). The DeGrom family retained the property until March 1, 2001, when Tommy DeGrom, executor for the estate of Margaret S. DeGrom, transferred the 5.63 acres containing the triplex to her heirs and the current owners, James G. DeGrom Jr. and Judy Allred and Fred and Kathy Burgin (GCDB 5168:129). The triplex is currently unoccupied.

**Statement of Integrity:** The DeGrom Triplex retains its integrity of location, materials, workmanship, and location. The addition of a large non-historic front porch obscures its appearance as a three-unit building and impacts its integrity of design and feeling. Although its historic use (commercial and/or residential) is not known), it is vacant and lacks integrity of association.

**NRHP Criteria Assessment:** The DeGrom Triplex 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

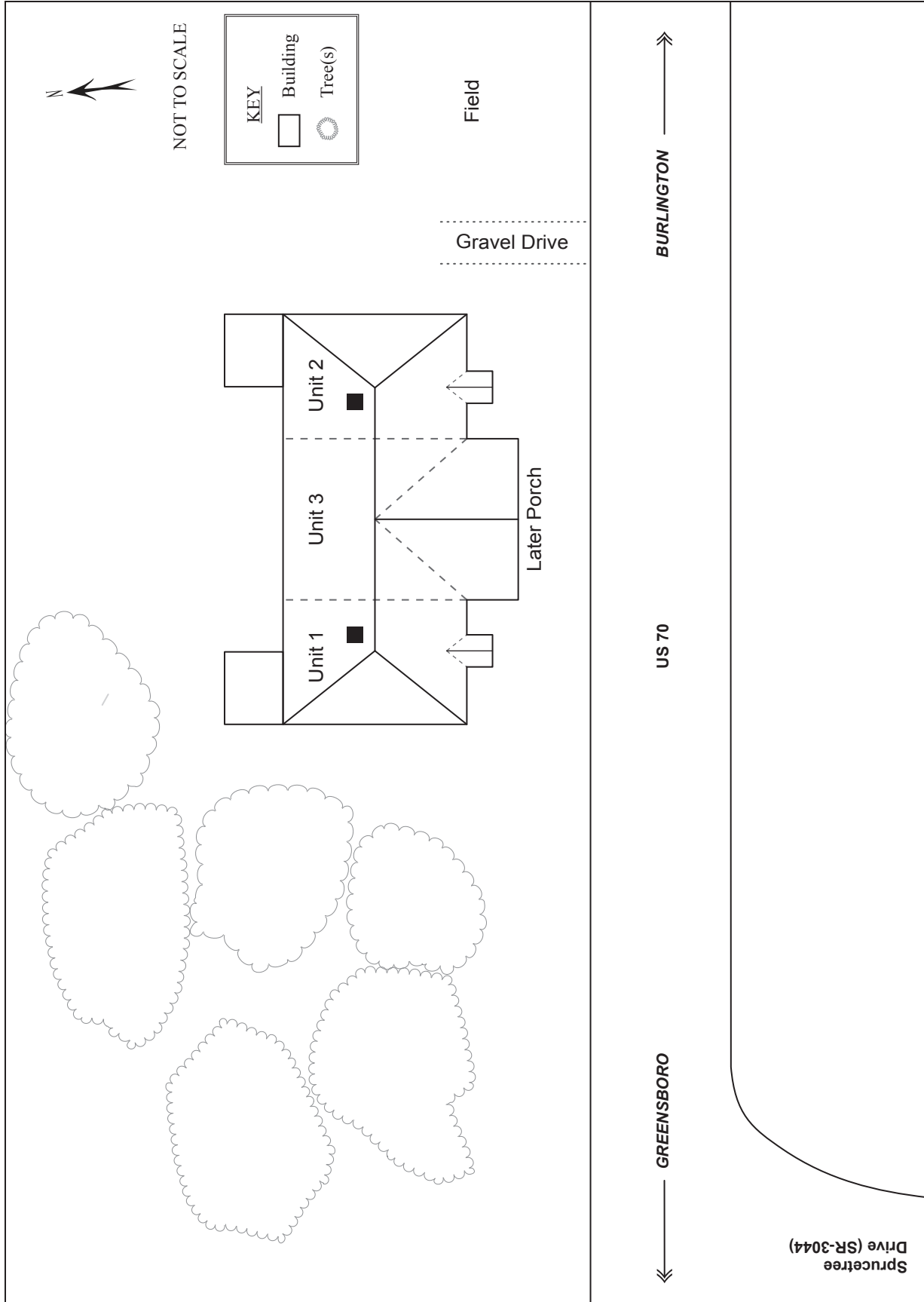


Figure 116. NCDOT Survey # 56: DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214), 5503–5505 Burlington Road, Guilford County, site plan.



Figure 117. NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214), 5503–5505 Burlington Road, Guilford County, looking northeast from south side of US 70.



Figure 118. NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214), 5503–5505 Burlington Road, Guilford County, view of south façade, looking northwest from US 70.



Figure 119. NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214), 5503–5505 Burlington Road, Guilford County, looking northwest.



Figure 120. NCDOT Survey #56, DeGrom Triplex (GF-8214), 5503–5505 Burlington Road, Guilford County, view of westernmost unit, looking northeast.

*important as well*” (NPS 1990:12). Research has not established any important event or pattern of events associated with this property.

The DeGrom Triplex 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 owners, the DeGrom family, nor its subsequent owners are known to have been individuals significant in our past.

The DeGrom Triplex is recommended **not eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion C. 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). Although a triplex building such as this is more usual in a city/town setting or even a village crossroads where space would be more at a premium, its location in what was an undeveloped section of Guilford County is unusual. The original and/or later functions of this building are unknown. The building is otherwise undistinguished architecturally and its original triplex function is obscured by the large front porch, altering the appearance to a duplex.

The DeGrom Triplex 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 the history of building technology or design.

**NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church  
and Cemetery (GF-8215)  
5210 Burlington Road, Greensboro vicinity  
Guilford County PIN 7651-19-9062**



*NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road*

**Location and Setting:** Mount Pleasant Baptist Church and Cemetery are located at the southeast corner of Mount Hope Road and US 70 (Burlington Road) (Figures 121–125). The main sanctuary is closest to US 70, with later additions appended to the rear and west. The church is accessed via a parking lot on Mount Hope Road, and additional large parking lots are located on the south, southeast, and southwest sides. The cemetery is located to the west of the church and is accessed by an entrance along US 70. Paved and unpaved drives traverse the cemetery and provide access to the burial plots. Only the educational wing and church office were accessible for interior inspection and no interior photographs were taken of the church or the other parts of the complex.

**Property Description:** Oriented to the north, this one-bay wide and three-bay deep Colonial Revival-style church built in 1961 features frame construction clad in running bond brick veneer, rests on a continuous concrete foundation over a full basement, and features a front-gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The central façade entry features double-leaf paneled doors with a five-light transom topped by a broken pediment. The façade entry opens to a brick patio sheltered by a full-height, pedimented portico with paired square posts and pilasters. An octagonal frame steeple with a four-sided metal spire, set on a square brick base, extends from the roof near the façade entry. The base of the steeple features two twelve-light circular windows on the east and west elevations. A side entry with a double-leaf set of six-light wooden doors flanked by three-light sidelights is located on the east elevation of the base of the steeple. This side entry provides access to the basement level of the church. Four seven-light stained glass windows with an awning window on the lowest section are located on the east and west elevations of the core of the church.

A large flat-roofed wing built in the 1970s extends from the southwest corner of the church. Constructed 2001–2002, an educational wing with offices and classrooms nearly tripled the size of the church complex.

The cemetery contains approximately 400 burials with some mid-to-late-nineteenth-century stones still in place, although most of the headstones date from the twentieth century. The cemetery is still in active use.

**Historical Background:** Much of the early history of Mount Pleasant Church is unknown, as records were not kept until 1832. Early church services were held in a brush arbor, reputedly at the site of the current cemetery. Most of the early congregation was comprised of women who met for prayer on weekdays, as a minister was not available on the Sabbath (Paisley n.d.).

The first church building was constructed in 1832. Although there were most likely earlier land grants, in 1856, Emory T. Wooters granted the first recorded tract of land to the congregation (Paisley n.d.). The original 1832 church building was replaced in 1868 by a structure without a ceiling that was furnished with crude benches. In 1875, under Reverend Zebedee Rush, the church was remodeled. Additional land was granted by Robert Gullett in 1877 (GCDB 55:224), and by Henry L. Clapp and his wife in 1886 (GCDB 73:180). Mount Pleasant Church appears on the 1895 and 1908 maps of Guilford County in its original location, on the north side of Old Stage Road (US 70) (Benbow and Johnson 1895; Miller 1908).

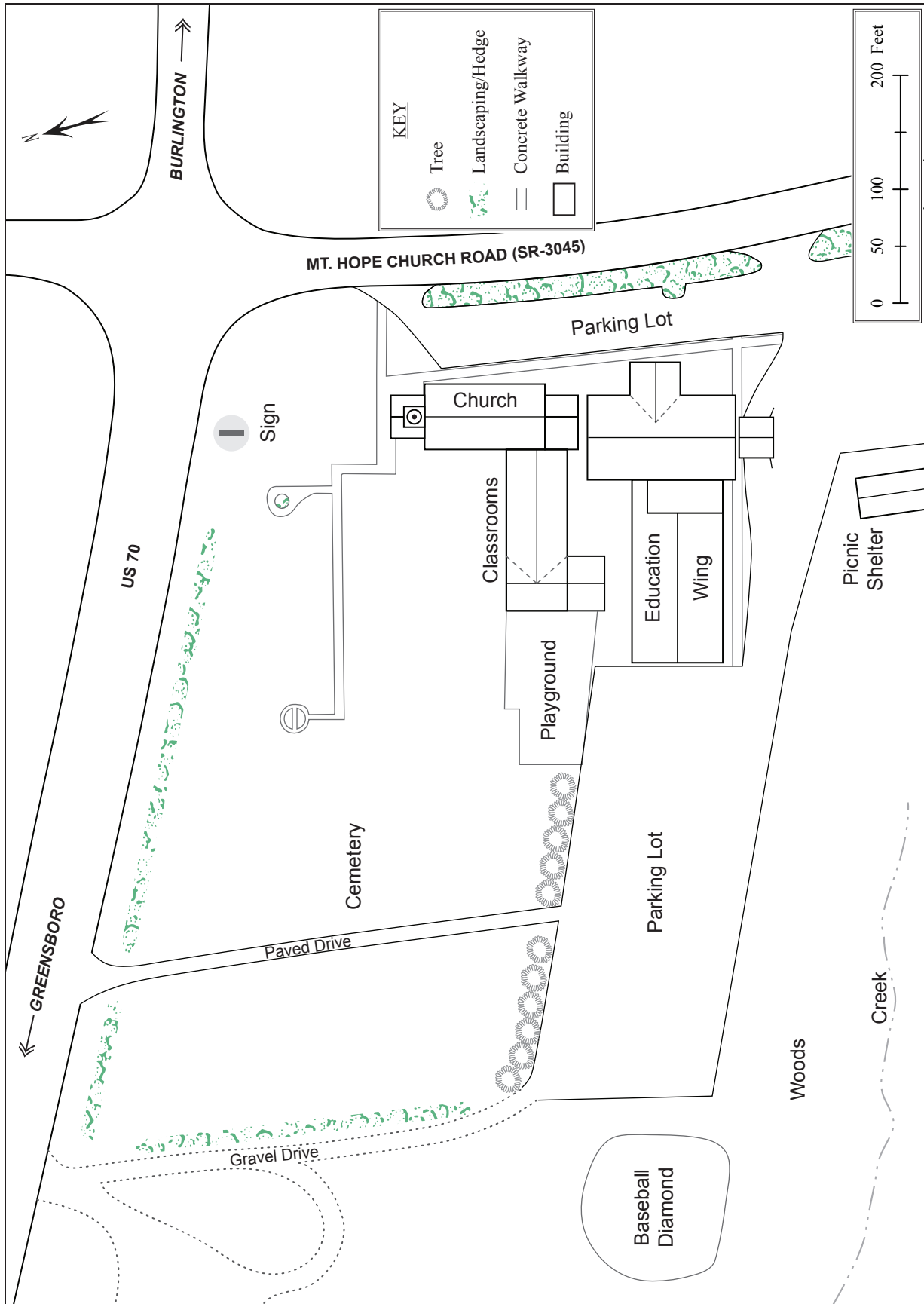


Figure 121. NCDOT Survey #59: Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road, site plan.

The church was again remodeled under Reverend A.S. Raper in 1906. Remodeling of the one-room church included raising the roof, adding a ceiling, building front entrances, and adding new benches and front memorial windows. In 1918 four classrooms were added to the back of the sanctuary under Reverend J.E. Woosley. Kerosene lanterns originally lit the church, but they were later replaced by gas lights on the ceiling. At the turn of the century, a Delco system was installed until electricity was added in the early 1920s (Clapp 1995:3).

While the remodeling of the church increased the square footage of the worship and educational space, more Sunday School rooms were needed by 1939. To serve this need, a building called the “hut” was built behind the church. Most of the materials and labor for its construction were donated by members of the congregation (Clapp 1995:3).

By the early 1950s, the church congregation had once again outgrown its facilities, and a building fund was started for the construction of a new church. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held on April 1, 1956, after receiving a land grant from Myrtle and Charlie Clapp in 1955 (Clapp 1995:1, 6). Construction of the new church’s educational building, designed in the Colonial Revival Style, was contracted to Waynick and Welker, with the understanding that the congregation could donate materials and labor to the construction project. The first service in the new educational building was held on Easter Sunday, 1957, and it was officially dedicated on March 29, 1959, two years after its completion.

In August 1960, the construction on the sanctuary began, with Waynick and Welker again serving as the contractors. Following the final worship service held in the basement of the educational building in March 1961, the first service was held in the new sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 2, 1961. The chapel, which was also used as a church school classroom, was dedicated on October 9, 1977 (Clapp 1995:6–7).

During the construction of the church, the cemetery also was improved. Many of the early headstones were lined up and the ground was seeded with grass. A row of crepe myrtles was planted in 1972, and on May 5, 1977, the church received a \$45,000 trust from the estate of Rosa Bell Clark Heath, the interest of which is used for the upkeep of the cemetery. Cemetery maps and records indicate that there are approximately 475 graves in the cemetery that are marked by headstones and bronze markers, including the grave of at least one Confederate veteran. The number of unmarked graves is unknown (Clapp 1995:8–9). The church administrative building and child development center were constructed in the early 2000s.

***Statement of Integrity:*** The Mount Pleasant Church has had all of its wood elements clad with vinyl siding, impacting the integrity of workmanship. The addition of large over-sized wings on its south and southwest sides have completely overwhelmed the 1961 church, impacting its integrity of design, feeling, and setting. The church retains its integrity of location and association.

***NRHP Criteria Assessment:*** Properties owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes such as the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church and its associated cemetery are eligible for listing in the NRHP if they meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration A: **A religious property is eligible if it derives its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance.** A religious property requires justification on architectural, artistic, or historic grounds to avoid any appearance of judgment by government about the validity of any religion or belief. Historic significance for a religious property cannot be established on the merits of a religious doctrine, but rather, for architectural or artistic values or for important historic or cultural forces that the property represents. A religious property’s significance under Criterion A, B, C, or D must be judged in purely secular terms.





Figure 122. NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road, façade, looking south from US 70.



Figure 123. NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road, looking southwest.



Figure 124. NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road, looking west from front of church building.



Figure 125. NCDOT Survey #59, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church (GF-8215), 5210 Burlington Road, looking southeast from cemetery with church on left and educational wing on right.