

Figure 50. NCDOT Survey #29, Cyrus Augustus Wharton House (GF-2121), 6709 Burlington Road, Guilford County, aerial photograph (2010) showing recommended NRHP boundary.

## NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177) 7210 Burlington Road, Whitsett, Guilford County Guilford County PIN 8834376181

*Location and Setting:* The Edwards House is located on the south side of two-lane US 70 (Burlington Road) just east of its junction with NC 61 in Whitsett, Guilford County (Figures 51–61). The property is bounded by woods on both the south and east, US 70 on the north, and the property at 7206 Burlington Road on the west. A gas station and a lot used for selling portable sheds are visible to the west of the property. The immediate setting consists of a grass lawn planted with some mature trees to the south of



NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, looking southwest.

the main house. A semi-circular, unpaved driveway is located to the north of the house. At the time of the 2012 survey, the Edwards House was vacant and was not accessible for interior photography or inspection.

**Property Description:** Set on a brick foundation, the one-and-one-half-story, three-bay Craftsman-style dwelling and garage were constructed by J.P. Edwards and wife Sally in 1935. It is of wood-frame construction with common-bond brick veneer. Painted concrete is used for the window sills, as a belt course around the entire building, and as caps for the porch piers and rear brick steps. The clipped-gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles, features two interior brick chimneys, an exterior-front chimney, and has a shallow pitch that breaks on the north side to form a shed roof over the incised three-bay wraparound porch with battered posts. A single dormer with clipped-gable roof, exposed rafter ends, and a tripartite window with 4/1 double-hung wood sash windows is centered on the north façade. A second dormer with clipped-gable roof, exposed rafter ends, and a double window with 4/1 double-hung wood sash windows is centered on the south elevation.

The front (north) porch has battered wood columns set on brick piers with concrete caps. A second shedroofed porch, this one enclosed by a wood knee-wall and screening, is located on the south. A shedroofed window bay with exposed rafter ends and a tripartite window with 4/1 double-hung sash is located at the east and west gable ends. The fenestration consists of 4/1 double-hung sash windows with wood molding. Smaller windows with 1/1 sash flank the attic windows on the gable ends. On the east wall beneath the porch is a decorative roundel consisting of a single circle of header bricks enclosing a painted concrete circle with a square-inside-a-square design.

Located a short distance to the east of the main house is the one-story, one-bay frame-with-brick-veneer garage built at the same time as the house. The garage is oriented to the north and has a replacement rollup metal garage door. The front-gable roof has clipped gable ends. On the west is a centered single-leaf wood door with a paneled lower half and a 6-light window on the upper half. To its right is a paired window with 6/1 double-hung sash.







Figure 52. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, northeast elevation and surrounding property, looking southwest with driveway in foreground.



Figure 53. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, northwest elevation, looking southeast.



Figure 54. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, northeast elevation, looking southwest.



Figure 55. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, south elevation, looking north.



Figure 56. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, southwest elevation, looking northeast.



Figure 57. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, detail of west wall beneath porch with decorative roundel, looking east.



Figure 58. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, detail of typical tripartite window, west window bay, looking east.



Figure 59. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, garage, east elevation, looking southwest.



Figure 60. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, garage, southwest corner, looking northeast.



Figure 61. NCDOT Survey #15, Edwards House (GF-8177), 7210 Burlington Road, Guilford County, view of house and garage in foreground, looking northwest.

*Historical Background:* On April 18, 1926, 202.1 acres of the Annie L. Foust lands were purchased by F.W. Haymore of Forsyth County for \$16,000 (GCDB 577:257). That same year, F.W. Haymore sold the land to the Greensboro Joint Stock Land Bank (GCDB 539:423), the land was subdivided, and was thereafter known in legal documents as the F.W. Haymore Subdivision. Many of these lots were further subdivided by the bank in 1932.

The tract currently associated with the house at 7226 Burlington Road is described as lots 4–6 of the F.W. Haymore Farm subdivision. County tax assessment records indicate that the house on the property was constructed in 1900; however, it is more likely that the home was constructed by J.P. Edwards who purchased the tract from the Greensboro Joint Stock Land Bank on August 2, 1935 for the sum of \$10 (GCDB 695:336). James P. Edwards was identified as owning a grocery in the 1930 and 1940 U.S. censuses, prior to which he was a barber (USFC 1930, 1940). On the 1940 U.S. census, his home was valued at \$4,000 (USFC 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940). In August 1977, following the death of wife Sallie Edwards, her heirs, described as Morton Edwards et al., transferred the land to Sylvia Edwards of Guilford County (GCDB 2894:422). The house is currently unoccupied.

*Statement of Integrity*: The Edwards House does not appear to have had any exterior alterations or additions other than the enclosure of the rear porch. The house is in good condition although currently vacant. The Edwards House and its garage retain all seven aspects of integrity.

**NRHP** Criteria Assessment: The Edwards 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 prehistory 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 Edwards 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 owners J.P. and Sally Edwards, nor its subsequent owners are known to have been individuals significant in our past.

The Edwards House is recommended **eligible** for the NRHP under Criterion C on the local level as embodying the elements of the early-twentieth-century Craftsman Style employed on a Bungalow-form residence. 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). The Craftsman Style was the dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the country during the period from about 1905 until the early 1930s. The style represented a reaction to the perceived fussiness and overly decorated architecture of the Victorian era. Like its English equivalent, the Arts and Crafts Movement, the Craftsman Style employed a variety of materials in a single building and delighted in different finishes, textures, and colors. The Craftsman Style originated in southern California with the architects Greene &

Greene, Bernard Maybeck, and Julia Morgan. Like the contemporaneous Prairie Style, it quickly spread across the country through pattern books and popular magazines such as *Western Architect, The Architect, House Beautiful, Good Housekeeping, Architectural Record, Country Life in America, and Ladies' Home Journal*, which served to familiarize the rest of the nation with the style. Some pattern books even offered completely pre-cut packages of lumber and detailing to be assembled by local labor.

Through these pre-cut examples, the one-story Craftsman Bungalow quickly became one of the most popular small house types in the country. The bungalow, derived from Indian prototypes as observed by the British, was a popular and economical house form that was easily adaptable to Craftsman Style architectural features. Elements of the Craftsman Style applied to the bungalow form are clearly evident on the Edwards House, built in 1935. These include the low pitched roof (in this case a jerkinhead roof) with a front that overhangs to shelter an incised porch, tapered wood porch columns on brick bases, exposed wood rafter tails, rectangular window bays (rather than the polygonal bay windows seen in the earlier Queen Anne Style), grouped sash windows with four-light upper sash over a single-light lower sash, and brickwork laid in decorative patterns. The house is complemented by its matching automobile garage. The decorative roundel set beneath the porch is a distinctive feature not known to be present on other houses in this area. The builder/architect of the Edwards House is not known.

The Edwards House is by far the most sophisticated example of the Craftsman Style observed during the 2012 survey along US 70 in Guilford and Alamance counties. Two far simpler examples can be found in the F.W. Haymore Subdivision. The Friddle House (NCDOT Survey #26) (GF-8175) at 7226 Burlington Road displays such Craftsman features as wood knee-braces, double-hung windows with multi-pane upper sash, and battered porch columns on brick bases. However, the porch is not fully integrated with the rest of the house and the use of replacement siding and windows impacts the integrity of workmanship and materials of this house. The Foster House (NCDOT Survey #14) (GF-8174) at 7216 Burlington Road is simpler still and is basically a rectangular box with a jerkinhead roof, a small, one-bay central porch, and triangular dormers. The Hoffman House (NCDOT Survey #26) (GF-8187) is located a few miles west of the Edwards House and is another Craftsman Style Bungalow observed during the US 70 survey. It features a typical low-pitched roof, wide wraparound porch, and grouped windows. However, it lacks the expressive use of differing materials and finishes seen on the Edwards House and has replacement siding along its cornice and replaced windows, thus impacting its integrity of materials and workmanship. The Edwards House retains all seven aspects of integrity necessary to convey its significance as a Craftsman Style residence under Criterion C.

A search of the NC HPO database shows no Bungalow or Craftsman-style houses in Guilford County listed individually in the NRHP or determined eligible for listing. The NRHP-listed High Street Historic District in High Point and Stokesdale Commercial and North Main Street Historic District in High Point both contain examples of this residential style.

The Edwards 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 the history of building design or technology.

**NRHP Boundary Justification:** The NRHP boundary for the Edwards 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, containing 2.04 acres (Figure 62; see Figure 51). The northern boundary is the south side of the right-of-way for US 70.