

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
**Office of Archives and History**  
**Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**UZZELL-BEST FARM**

La Grange, Wayne County WY0142 Listed 9/07/2023  
Nomination by Mary Ruffin Hanbury, Hanbury Preservation Consulting  
Photographs by Mary Ruffin Hanbury, October 2019, March 2021, January 2022



Façade, View to East.



Barns, View to West.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Uzzell-Best Farm  
Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

### 2. Location

Street & number: 1361 New Hope Road  
City or town: La Grange State: NC County: Wayne  
Not For Publication:  n/a Vicinity:  n/a

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification


As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets  
the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic  
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I  
recommend that this property be considered significant at the following  
level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

 8/28/2023  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title: **State Historic Preservation Officer** Date  
**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register  
criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official: Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title :

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>15</u>	<u>13</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- FUNERARY: cemetery
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: processing
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural outbuilding

**Current Functions**

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- FUNERARY: cemetery
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: processing
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural outbuilding



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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification LATE VICTORIAN

#### Materials:

foundation: BRICK

walls: WOOD, weatherboard

roof: METAL

## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

Straddling East New Hope and Millers Chapel Roads, the Uzzell-Best Farm contains three developed areas set within the context of cultivated fields and woodlots. The oldest of these areas includes the primary dwelling, a fine example of Victorian-era architecture, and an impressive complement of nineteenth- and twentieth-century agricultural outbuildings. To the west, a mid-twentieth-century house was built on an outparcel along Millers Chapel Road. In the late twentieth century, a grain processing and storage complex was constructed along the west side of East New Hope Road. Tobacco barns and sharecropper housing on the farm that were documented in earlier surveys were demolished in the late twentieth century. Despite these losses, the complex continues to communicate the appearance of a stylish late nineteenth-century residence set within a larger agricultural complex.

### Resource List:

Farm/Agricultural Fields (ca.1860), contributing site  
House (ca.1895), contributing building  
Cemetery (ca.1847), contributing site  
Kitchen (ca. 1860), contributing building  
Barn (ca. 1860), contributing building  
Smokehouse (ca. 1895), contributing building  
Barn (ca. 1860), contributing building  
Blacksmith Shop (ca. 1900), contributing building  
Mule Harness Shed (ca. 1900), contributing building  
Mule Barn (ca.1900), contributing building  
Plow Barn (ca.1900), contributing building  
Pack House (ca. 1920), contributing building  
Hog Shed (ca 1940), contributing building  
Playhouse (c. 1953), contributing building

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### Resource List (continued)

Garage (1958), contributing building  
Wellhouse (1995), noncontributing structure  
Horse Shed (ca. 2005), noncontributing building  
Dry Grain Silos (ca. 1980), noncontributing structure (3)  
Wet Grain Silo (ca. 1980), noncontributing structure (1)  
Shed (ca. 1980), noncontributing building  
Shed (large) (ca. 1980), noncontributing building  
Scale House (ca. 1980), noncontributing structure  
Office (ca. 1980), noncontributing building  
Utility Shed (ca. 1980), noncontributing building  
House (ca. 1964), contributing building  
Garage (ca. 1995), noncontributing building  
Office (ca. 1995), noncontributing building

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### Narrative Description

Uzzell-Best Farm is located in east central Wayne County, North Carolina, east of the City of Goldsboro. It is north of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad line and west of the US Highway 70 bypass in a sparsely developed and largely rural portion of Wayne County. The nominated parcel lies on three sides of the "T" intersection of East New Hope (SR1003) and Millers Chapel (SR1713) Roads. The house and curtilage, family cemetery, cultivated fields, and wooded areas along Bear Creek and its tributaries are located east of New Hope Church Road. West of New Hope Church Road are fields and wood lots and two developed areas located south of Millers Chapel Road—a non-contributing grain storage and distribution facility oriented toward East New Hope Road, and a 1950 residential outparcel fronting the south side of Millers Chapel Road.

A long drive, on axis with Miller Chapel Road and the main house, leads east from New Hope Road, crossing a tributary of Bear Creek, and then shifts north to a grassy parking area. A low brick wall defines a rectangular area around the Late Victorian-era house with a curved section that extended to enclose a mature tree, now gone, along the north side of the house. The area immediately surrounding the house includes several mature deciduous trees. Agricultural outbuildings are arrayed to the north, south, and east of the house within a roughly 250-foot radius. Farther east, roughly 500 feet from the house, a family cemetery enclosed in a low concrete block wall stands within a cultivated field. A farm road follows the northern boundary of the parcel, east of East New Hope Road, curves to a point east of the house, and continues to the east through the woods to access the easternmost fields.

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## INVENTORY

### *East of New Hope Road*

#### *Main Farm*

#### **House ca. 1895. Contributing Building**

The house is a one-story frame house, clad in weatherboard, resting on a brick foundation that was originally piers, later infilled. The various roofs are standing seam metal. The house could be described as Folk Victorian although the preponderance of cross gables, the pentagonal louvered vents, and peaked molding above some windows suggest a Gothic Revival influence. The near uniformity of windows, siding, and trim suggests this house was built largely at the same time, with nominal changes. It flirts with symmetry. The facade in elevation may appear to be symmetrical with its front-gabled wings and center cross gable, but the porch treatment reveals the shifted placement of the two wings.

The house is complex in massing and footprint. The major organizing form is a side-gabled core section. Cross-gabled wings of roughly equal size but staggered in placement intersect the main core of the house on its north and south ends. A cross-gabled rear ell incorporates a former kitchen, dining room, and subsequently enclosed breezeway to the south, and a shed-roofed porch at the north that has been enclosed to create a rear hall and a pantry accessed through the older kitchen. A small, shed-roofed bathroom addition is found at the south of the house, abutting the original core and the enclosed breezeway. An open, shed-roofed porch is found on the east side of the ell.

The facade has a central cross-gable. The south wing is set farther west than the north wing is. A shed-roofed porch extends across the south gable end, turns to the east, and continues north along the center section of the facade until it abuts the projecting north wing. The porch has turned posts with engaged posts at each terminus, a jigsaw balustrade, and stock carved brackets. The porch shelters two doors, a principal entrance north of center, and a secondary entrance on the north side of the south wing. The principal entrance, in a cased opening with a rectangular transom, is a single-leaf, two-panel, two-light door. The door's panels and tall, arched lights are enclosed with heavily molded surrounds. The secondary entrance is a single-leaf, five-panel door with an exterior screen door. South of the primary entrance is a tall, four-over-six, double-hung, wooden window in a cased opening that extends the full height of the wall, suggesting it may have housed a door at one point.

All three of the west-facing gables have cornice returns above a broad flat fascia that extends to the depth of the returns. Weatherboard siding extends within the gables to a point roughly 2/3 the height of the gables, above which there is a change in sheathing to flush boards set on the diagonal from a central axis. Each of the gables has a tall, pentagonal louvered attic vent with a sill and a molded cap that grazes the top of the weatherboards. The flanking gable ends have tall, narrow four-over-four windows centered under the gable. The northern window has a molded triangular cap, while the southern one abuts the porch ceiling. A third window, in the center

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section and south of the principal entrance, also abuts the porch ceiling. The wings both have corner boards that rest on broad horizontal board watertable trim.

The north and south elevations of the north and south cross-gabled wings respectively are identical and symmetrical. Each has a central cross gable with sheathing, trim, and louvers matching those on the facade. Each has two tall, narrow four-over-four windows with molded triangular caps. Their cornice returns, fascia, and water table trim match that on the facade.

The east elevations of the north and south cross-gabled wings have narrow four-over-four windows with molded triangular caps on each, pentagonal louvered vents, cornerboards, cornice returns, fascia, and watertable trim, but lack the diagonal sheathing found in the gables on the east, north and south elevations. The east elevation of the south wing has a shed-roofed bathroom addition with a window on its south elevation.

The east elevation of the rear ell has corner boards, watertable trim and fascia as on other gable ends, but no cornice returns, louvered vent or diagonal sheathing. It has a window in a pedimented surround, but its surround lacks a section of molded applied trim in the pediment that is found on the windows in the main core of the house. The north side of the ell has been augmented with a shed roofed addition that was originally an open porch but was subsequently enclosed. It has an open, shed-roofed, one-bay porch to the east with wooden posts sheltering a single-leaf door at the west and a shuttered window in a plain pedimented surround to the east. West of the porch are two eight-over-eight sash windows.

The south elevation of the ell has two four-over-four wooden sash windows in plain pedimented surrounds. Toward its west end is a pent roof over a single-leaf door with jalousie glazing at the west with a four-over-four, wooden, double-hung window immediately adjacent to the east.

### *Interior*

The main core of the house has a hall, five rooms, and a later bathroom addition. The rear ell, expanded by the enclosure ca. 1940 of a porch into a hall, has three rooms. The front hall and rear ell hall are on axis, separated by a door with a transom.

The primary entrance in the main core of the house leads into a hall with two doors on its north wall, one on its east, and one on its south. All doors are five-panel doors with two large vertical rectangular raised panels aligned over two smaller vertical rectangular raised panels and divided by a horizontal rectangular raised panel. The eastern door has a single-light transom above it. The hall has a broad baseboard, simple chair rail, and a beadboard wainscot. Above the chair rail, the walls are wallpapered, and the ceiling is painted beadboard with a bare bulb fixture.

Northwest of the hall is a sitting room. It is accessed by a five-panel door with a Victorian-era rim lock and ceramic knob. The sitting room has a molded picture rail and broad baseboards. The walls are papered, and the ceiling is painted beadboard. Area rugs cover painted wooden floors of uniform-width narrow boards. Roughly centered on this room's east wall is a fireplace. The



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wooden mantelpiece has five recessed panels above the opening arranged in a pattern with a central, square panel flanked by stacked rectangular panels. On either side of the opening is a pattern of two recessed diamond shaped panels, alternating with applied square blocks. Above each vertical pattern and flanking the paneling above the fireplace opening, incised scrolled wooden brackets rest in front of molded trim and support a thick wooden shelf.

East of this room and accessed through the main hall is a room most recently used as a kitchen. It has windows on its north, east, and south walls. Its west wall has a central fireplace flanked by closets with five-panel doors with a pattern similar to the door from the hall, but in smaller scale. The fireplace has been infilled with a metal sheet with an opening to accommodate a stove pipe. Above the firebox are two horizontal recessed rectangular panels flanking a square applied block. The fireplace surround's sides both have a recessed, vertical rectangular panel, and a thin trim piece separates the vertical members from the horizontal section. Brackets similar to those on the sitting room mantel support a thick wooden shelf.

The kitchen floor is covered in sheet linoleum. Up to about a five-foot height, the walls are clad in square ceramic tile, and a band of molded trim divides the tile work from wallpapering that reaches the ceiling. Appliances and mid-century base cabinetry line the north and east walls. The ceiling is painted beadboard.

South of the main hall is a room with a fireplace on its north wall, windows on the east and west walls, and a door on its south wall. A small cased-in closet is west of the fireplace. The floors are covered in linoleum, the walls are papered, and the ceiling is painted beadboard. The fireplace is similar to that in the kitchen, though lacking the recessed vertical panels flanking the opening. The fireplace opening has been largely enclosed, though accommodates ductwork for a space heater. A five-panel door leads to a bedroom at the south.

The south bedroom has windows on its south and east walls. The east wall also has a door to a bathroom addition. On the west wall is a fireplace. South of the fireplace is a door that by its scale and placement appears to be a closet but is actually a pass-through to the room at the west, referred to as a peddler's room. The south bedroom has beadboard ceiling, a broad baseboard, and painted wooden floors. Its fireplace has simple verticals resting on blocks and a horizontal member with two recessed horizontal panels below a strip of molded trim and a heavy wooden shelf supported by simple, blocky brackets.

The small bathroom east of this bedroom was added in 1958. It has linoleum floors. A window on its south wall is set above a commode. The sink is opposite the door, and a shower is at the north. The bottom half of the walls are clad in square aqua-colored ceramic tiles topped by a band of wooden trim, painted black.

The pass-through to the peddler's room has beadboard walls and shelving at the north and south flanking the passageway. The peddler's room has painted wooden floors, papered walls, a broad baseboard, and a beadboard ceiling. There are windows on its south and west walls. The north wall has an exterior door to the porch. This door has applied molding in the pattern seen in the

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five panel doors throughout the house and late twentieth century doorknob and lock. The east wall has a door to the pass-through and a closet, which flank a central fireplace. The fireplace has a thick wooden shelf supported by paired carved vertical members, each of which flanks a recessed vertical panel. Between the two sets, above the fireplace opening and below the shelf, are two horizontal recessed panels.

The ell section of the house is accessed through a door at the east end of the front hall and by an exterior door at the east end of its north wall. The east two rooms of the ell were once separate from the main house and contained a kitchen at the far east and a dining room at its west with a breezeway, now enclosed, between them and the core of the house. The porch-cum-hall now provides circulation for the ell rooms and an interior connection to the main core of the house.

The rear hall is a single-loaded corridor with three rooms along its south side. Its walls are weatherboard, save for a section of tile backsplash at a sink, and it has an angled beadboard ceiling. The floors are covered in sheet linoleum. There are vertical board seams on the north and south walls. On the north wall are three windows, two to the exterior and one, west of the weatherboard seam, to the current kitchen in the main core of the house. On the south wall are a door servicing the original kitchen at the east, a door and window servicing the original dining room, and, west of the weatherboard seam, a door serving the breezeway room at the west.

At the far east is a room that was originally the kitchen but is now a den. It has a door on its north wall to the hall. East of this door is a second door into a pantry that extends to the north. On the east and south walls of the original kitchen are windows. The west wall has a centrally placed fireplace, with a door at its north to the original dining room. The fireplace has a thick mantel shelf supported by tapered carved brackets. Floors are wooden, and the walls are papered.

The original dining room can be accessed from the kitchen at its east, and by a door from the rear hall. Its east wall has a central fireplace with two molded panels above the firebox and a thick shelf supported by carved tapered brackets. The fireplace is flanked by a door to the original kitchen at the north and a closet at the south. The south wall has a single window, and the north wall has a door and a window to the hall. The west wall has a window on what was an exterior wall, now to the enclosed breezeway. The room has a plank ceiling and papered walls.

The breezeway room at the southwest corner of the ell has a door on its north wall from the hall and an exterior door on its south wall. It has a beadboard ceiling and weatherboard walls. On its east and west walls are windows to the original dining room and the room south of the front hall, respectively. An additional window is immediately adjacent and east of the exterior door. Given that the window trim in the breezeway room is exterior trim and appears original, this space probably did not provide an east/west connection from the main core of the house and the original kitchen and dining room, but likely was the southern extension of an open porch (now enclosed) creating an L-shaped, open connector between the two buildings.

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### **Cemetery ca. 1847 Contributing Site**

East of the house and enclosed by a concrete block wall is a small family cemetery. Known as the Uzzell-Peele cemetery, it is thought to contain fifteen graves ranging from 1847 (Mary "Polly" Wood Uzzell) to 1929 (Eliza Peele Uzzell). Stones are largely tablet or flush. Though the initial construction of the cemetery predates the Period of Significance, its continued use within the Period of Significance renders it contributing. In light of the cemetery's strong association to the property and those who lived and worked the land for multiple generations, it is included as part of the total resource count in Section 5.

### **Kitchen ca. 1860 Contributing Building**

The kitchen predates the house and serviced the earlier house at this site. It is a side-gabled frame building, clad in weatherboard. The exterior end brick chimney on the north gable end has a narrow stack but a large firebox. The chimney has been reworked and the bond pattern is irregular. It has a single set of stepped shoulders and corbelling at the chimney base. The roof has a box cornice, and standing seam metal has been added over wooden shingles or shakes. There is a vertical board door on the west elevation and wooden sash windows on the east and north elevations. The interior has flush board siding and a large fireplace on the north wall. There is no evidence of a loft or separate living quarters, though survey field notes state a family member remarked the building was a dwelling for enslaved persons. Although the initial construction of the kitchen predates the Period of Significance, its continued use within the Period of Significance renders it contributing.

### **Barn ca. 1860 Contributing Building**

Though greatly altered, the core of this barn predates the Civil War. Family lore holds that bummers (Union General Sherman's foragers) raided its store of grain. The central, side-gabled section has lower, shed-roofed additions to the north, east and south. The exterior is clad in metal. Though the initial construction of the barn predates the Period of Significance, its continued use within the Period of Significance renders it contributing.

### **Smokehouse ca. 1895 Contributing Building**

Built contemporaneously with the current house, this frame outbuilding consists of a central, gable-roofed structure on a brick foundation flanked by low, shed-roofed wings that appear to be later additions. The gable roof extends beyond the west wall plane and has an exterior horizontal crossbeam. The central section is clad in weatherboard, and the wings in flush board siding. Each of the three sections has a vertical board door on the facade.

### **Blacksmith Shop ca. 1900 Contributing Building**

At the core of this evolved frame structure is a gable-roofed section used as a blacksmith's shop. A smaller, gabled wing extends to the south, and shed-roofed additions extend to the north and west. The exterior walls and roof are all clad in metal.

### **Mule Harness Shed ca. 1900 Contributing Building**

This small, frame, front-gabled shed stands on piers and is clad in metal. The vertical board entrance door is set north of center.

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### **Mule Barn ca. 1900 Contributing Building**

This tall, gable-roofed barn has a shed-roofed addition to the south, creating an uneven gabled appearance. The core of the building has a central passage with stalls on either side. It stands on a brick foundation. Though the exterior is clad in metal, a former exterior wall is exposed within the shed addition, displaying wide weatherboard siding. The loft was not accessed.

### **Plow Barn ca. 1900 Contributing Building**

This small, front-gabled building has a shed-roofed rear addition. It is entirely clad in metal, both seamed and corrugated. The facade has a double-leaf, vertical board door.

### **Pack House ca. 1920 Contributing Building**

This is a frame, two-story structure with a tall gable-roofed central section flanked by shed-roofed wings. Like the smoke house, the gabled roof stands proud of the facade and has an exterior horizontal crossbeam. Each section has a vertical board door on the facade. The central section has a second story hatch above, which is a dove-cote-like feature with three entrances, each with a bracketed shelf below. Metal cladding has been applied on the north, south, and east elevations.

### **Hog Shed ca. 1940 Contributing Building**

This long, shed-roofed frame building is clad in metal on the north side and variously in metal or wooden board railings on the south.

### **Playhouse ca. 1953 Contributing Building**

This one-bay, frame, gable-roofed building with metal siding and a metal roof was built as a children's playhouse.

### **Garage 1958 Contributing Building**

This front-gabled, three-bay garage is clad in metal siding. As with the pack house and smokehouse, the gable extends forward of the plane. Four knee brackets support the roof and a dove-cote of sorts at the gable, perhaps for purple martins rather than doves in order to reduce flying insects.

### **Wellhouse 1995 Noncontributing Structure**

This frame, gable-roofed structure, approximately two feet high, sits on a concrete block foundation, is clad in T-111 siding, and has a composite shingle roof.

### **Horse Shed 2005 Noncontributing Building**

Slated for demolition, this open, shed-roofed horse shed is supported by wooden posts.



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**West of New Hope Road**

***Grain Storage Facility, entire complex was built ca. 1980.***

**Dry Grain Silos (3) ca. 1980 Noncontributing Structure**

These three large cylindrical metal silos with conical roofs were built to dry and store corn.

**Wet Grain Silo (1) ca. 1980 Noncontributing Structure**

This smaller cylindrical metal silo was used to hold wet corn.

**Shed ca. 1980 Noncontributing Building**

This metal clad, gable-roofed shed with a shed-roofed addition is nestled at the northwest corner of the silos.

**Shed ca. 1980 Noncontributing Building**

This second larger, gabled-roofed shed, clad in metal with a shed-roofed addition, stands west of the silos.

**Scale House ca. 1980 Noncontributing Structure**

Located south of the silos, this drive-through facility was for the loading, unloading, and weighing of trucks.

**Office ca. 1980 Noncontributing Building**

At the eastern side of the complex is a gable-roofed, concrete block shed with a covered walkway extending to the east.

**Utility Shed ca. 1980 Noncontributing Building**

A partially enclosed, metal gable-roofed shed engages a utility pole at the northeast corner of the complex.

***Outparcel Residence***

**Single Family Dwelling ca. 1964 Contributing Building**

This one-story, brick-veneered ranch house has a metal-hipped roof. The facade features an exterior brick chimney, a recessed entrance, and an integrated planter. A deck and gazebo have been added to the rear elevation.

**Garage ca. 1995 Noncontributing Building**

South of the house is a side-gabled, three-bay frame garage with a shed-roofed addition.

**Office ca. 1995 Noncontributing Building**

A frame, gable-fronted office stands south of the house.

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**East and West of New Hope Road**

**Farm/Agricultural Fields ca. 1860 Contributing Site**

Cultivated fields are found throughout the nominated property with wooded areas at the southwest, and along streams tributaries of West Bear Creek - in the portion east of East New Hope Road.

**Statement of Integrity**

The Uzzell-Best Farm has not been moved and thus retains integrity of location. The farmhouse has been little altered and has a high degree of integrity of design. Since surveyed in 1992, three double-pen sharecroppers' houses and five tobacco barns, located on the west side of East New Hope Road and all dating from the early twentieth century, have been demolished. A new grain facility has been added. Despite this, the complex over all continues to retain a relatively high degree of integrity of design. This area of Wayne County continues to be only lightly developed, and the rural agricultural nature of the surroundings gives the farm a high degree of integrity of setting. As mentioned, the farmhouse has been little altered, giving it a high degree of integrity of materials and workmanship. Outbuildings have been repaired over time as needed, but they also have a relatively high degree of integrity of materials and workmanship. The property's continued agricultural and residential use gives it a strong integrity of association and feeling.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

### Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

AGRICULTURE

### Period of Significance

ca. 1875-1972

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**Significant Dates**

1895

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

The Uzzell-Best farm is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the category of Agriculture and Criterion C in the category of Architecture. Though it has suffered the loss of some outbuildings, the farm continues to encompass a wide complement of agricultural outbuildings that reflect the changes in over 150 years of continued agricultural use in Wayne County. The house itself is a fine example of Folk Victorian architecture and retains evidence of regional vernacular building typology. The period of significance extends from 1875, when the current parcel was subdivided from larger family holdings, through 1972, the year the farm was sold to a closely held family corporation.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance**

***Background***

The Uzzell-Best farm is said to occupy a remnant of the land grants to Thomas "Nature's Beauty" Uzzell (1715-1789), a native of Isle of Wight County, Virginia who moved to what was then Johnston County, now Wayne County, around 1754. He originally acquired 100 acres north of the Neuse River between Bear and Walnut Creeks. By 1777 the Uzzell family had extensive holdings in eastern Wayne County, with over 3,000 acres in the Bear Creek/Walnut Creek region.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Uzzell's great-grandson, Thomas "Big Tom" Uzzell (1814-1875), retained a portion of those holdings and expanded them. Besides the family cemetery, there are two resources dating to the mid-nineteenth century and "Big Tom's" tenure still extant on the nominated property: a barn that has been subsequently enlarged, and a kitchen that may have also served as housing for enslaved persons.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Daniel Pezzoni, ed., *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* (Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998), 179.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Pezzoni, ed., *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* (Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998), 197; Uzzell-Best Farm (WY0142) NC HPO survey files.



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"Big Tom" died intestate in 1875. Commissioners appointed by the Wayne County Superior Court were responsible for the distribution of the complicated and sizeable estate. The real property, mostly in Wayne County, was divided into 11 lots, corresponding to his 11 children, one of whom was Atlas Thomas Uzzell (1854-1911).<sup>3</sup> According to the *Industrial and Historical Issue* of the *Mt. Olive Tribune* of 1902, Atlas Thomas Uzzell (erroneously referred to as Albert T. Uzzell) moved to Jones County after the death of his father and lived there from 1875 to 1880. He married Eliza Peele (1863-1929) in 1879.<sup>4</sup> In 1884, he purchased the family homestead from heirs and moved to it.<sup>5</sup> The *Mt. Olive Tribune* article is substantiated by conveyances recorded with the Wayne County Register of Deeds in October 1884 showing Atlas's purchase of lots 7 and 8 (as described in the division of Big Tom's estate) from other heirs.

Atlas's time in the family homestead, of which no images have been found, was relatively brief. In March 1895, the house was destroyed by fire. The *Goldsboro Weekly Argus* and *The Goldsboro Headlight* report that the house was entirely destroyed. Thus, the current house on the site dates from 1895 at the earliest. Most of the contributing resources remaining on the property date to the period of Atlas Uzzell's ownership, and include a smokehouse, blacksmith shop, mule barn, plow barn, and mule harness shed.

Atlas Uzzell's will, executed in 1910, gave one lot to his wife (#8) and a second to his sons (#7). No other real property is listed in his will, suggesting that those two lots constituted the whole of his real property. In October 1924 Eliza sold her lot to her younger son Robert, retaining a life estate. Robert predeceased her, however, and appears to have died intestate. Robert's brother Floyd was the administrator of the estate. Through rules of intestacy, Robert's estate would have reverted to his only surviving parent, his mother. There appear to be no wills or records of subsequent transfer of the real estate from Eliza, but this can be inferred from later documentation. It is estimated that the tobacco pack house was built after Atlas's death, during the period the farm was owned by his wife.

In 1936 Floyd Uzzell and his wife Van conveyed to a cousin, Claude Washington Best (1887-1959, nephew of Sarah Uzzell Best 1824-1872), a 276.92-acre parcel described as having been inherited from his mother.<sup>6</sup> The land passed to Claude's son Kimber (1912-1997), and in 1972 Kimber and his wife Nancy conveyed this farm and numerous other holdings to a family business, Bestfarms, Inc. At that point the deed described the property as measuring "276.92 acres. more or less, it being the lands inherited by Floyd H. Uzzell from his Mother (sic), Eliza J. Uzzell, and being all the lands owned by him in said New Hope Township so inherited by him, and being the tract of land conveyed to Claude W. Best by Floyd H. Uzzell and wife, Van C. Uzzell."<sup>7</sup> The later resources on the property date to the Best family and Bestfarms ownership,

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<sup>3</sup> Thomas Uzzell, Estate File at North Carolina State Archives.

<sup>4</sup> "Albert T Uzzell," *Industrial and Historical Issue of the Mt. Olive Tribune*, 1902.

<sup>5</sup> "Albert T Uzzell," *Industrial and Historical Issue of the Mt. Olive Tribune*, 1902.

<sup>6</sup> Wayne County Deed Book 239, 209.

<sup>7</sup> Wayne County Deed Book 822, 500.

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including the hog shed, playhouse, and garage on the east side of New Hope Road and the non-contributing corn storage and drying facilities, and residential outparcel on the west side.

### *Agriculture*

Uzzell-Best Farm is significant as a well-preserved farmstead dating from the mid-nineteenth century in continuous agricultural use to the present day, owned by the same family. The extant and previously documented buildings and structures illustrate the evolution of changing agricultural practices of over a century in eastern Wayne County, North Carolina- the transition from an economy based on the work of enslaved laborers to the sharecropping system, a shift to tobacco production, and ultimately the consolidation of property under a family farming corporation reflect regional practices that are a part of the county's agricultural history.

Wayne County's land use and economy has historically been, and continues to be, dominated by agriculture. By as late as the 2017 agricultural census, close to half the county's land continued to be in agricultural use. Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century farms were heavily invested in crop production. As the twentieth century progressed, however, the county's output has shifted from crops to poultry and pork, particularly as tobacco fell from favor and truck farming was outpaced by industrial-scale production in other states.

In 1850 more than 89% of the land in Wayne County was in agricultural use, over half of which was improved. C.S. Wooten, in a remembrance published by the *Charlotte Observer*, writes of Tom Uzzell as having a farm with over 100 enslaved workers with a large corn crop:

In the early fifties I stood when a boy on a high hill overlooking the valley of Bear Creek and its western branch and I saw in the month of July on my father's land 300 acres of corn and on Council Best and Thomas Uzzell's land higher up the creek 400 acres of corn that would make 50 bushels an acre. It was one of the most beautiful sights I ever saw. It looked like one vast sea of waving green, and a grateful breeze fanned my brow laden with the sweet perfume emitted from the silks of the growing corn.<sup>8</sup>

While the enslaved population in North Carolina was dwarfed by those in neighboring Virginia and South Carolina, it was a significant aspect of the landscape, particularly in agricultural contexts.<sup>9</sup>

The 1850 census shows 23 enslaved people on Uzzell's Wayne County holdings: 10 male and 13 female, nine of whom were under the age of 10, and the oldest of whom was a 53-year-old man.<sup>10</sup> By 1860 there were 55 enslaved people on his Wayne County holdings: 23 male and 22 female, 15 of whom were under the age of 10, and the oldest was a 62-year-old man.<sup>11</sup> This is

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<sup>8</sup> C. S. Wooten, "Ante-Bellum Plantation," *The Charlotte Observer* May 18, 1902,11.

<sup>9</sup> 1850 census shows North Carolina with 288,548 enslaved persons in 1850; Virginia had 472,528 and South Carolina 384,984 United States Census of Population 1850

<sup>10</sup> United States Census of Population, 1850.

<sup>11</sup> United States Census of Population, 1860.

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roughly confirmed by the federal pardon sought by “Big Tom” in 1865. In it, he states that he has a plantation and had owned about 50 slaves.<sup>12</sup>

Tom further claimed that armies robbed him of stock and possessions, leaving him with only land, estimated to be worth over \$20,000.<sup>13</sup> An early barn, though altered, from Big Tom's tenure remains and family lore suggests this barn was raided by Civil War bummers, which may constitute the losses claimed in Big Tom's federal pardon request. A separate kitchen outbuilding that kept the smells and threat of fire from a cooking hearth separate from the primary dwelling also remains. While there is no definitive proof, survey notes at the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office include commentary from family members suggesting that the kitchen may have served a dual purpose as a slave dwelling. There is no other evidence of slave dwellings on the nominated property, and they may have been located on subdivided parcels or have been adapted into later sharecropper housing.

In the mid-nineteenth century, Big Tom Uzzell's total holdings in Wayne County, including Uzzell-Best Farm, increased from 975 (500 improved) acres in 1850 to 2,500 acres (1,000 improved) in 1870, and the value of his holdings increased from \$5,000 to \$40,000. Livestock holdings shifted, but included declining numbers of horses, increasing numbers of mules, and fluctuating numbers of milk cows, oxen, sheep, and swine. While agricultural censuses were not entirely consistent in the data recorded from decade to decade, it appears that Indian corn, peas and beans, and sweet potatoes continued to be staples at the farm, but production of wool, butter, and beeswax, which were more labor-intensive, declined after the Civil War. By the 1870 census, it was noted that Uzzell paid \$1,500 in wages, reflecting the end of a slave labor economy.

The census of population for 1870 shows Thomas, his wife, and ten children living at the home as well as Thomas McDaniel, a 50-year-old schoolteacher. Several African American families of farm laborers who do not own property are listed directly after the Uzzells in the census enumeration. Though not confirmed, they may have been sharecroppers on site. State survey files indicate that the farm once had three late nineteenth-century frame dwellings on the east side of New Hope Road. The double-pen houses were present in 1992 when the property was surveyed for an NCDOT project. By 1996, two remained. They were frame, one-story, side-gabled houses with exterior end chimneys. By 2005, both the remaining houses had been demolished. Family members confirm that they were inhabited by African American sharecroppers.

The sharecropping system was prevalent in the region and accounted for the majority of African American laborers in the immediate wake of the Civil War. An estimated 70 percent of African

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<sup>12</sup> Thomas Uzzell, Case Files of Applications from Former Confederates for Presidential Pardons (“Amnesty Papers”), 1865-67. <https://www.fold3.com/image/24083921>.

<sup>13</sup> Thomas Uzzell, Case Files of Applications from Former Confederates for Presidential Pardons (“Amnesty Papers”), 1865-67. <https://www.fold3.com/image/24083921>.

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Americans living in Wayne County in 1880 were sharecroppers.<sup>14</sup> Sharecropping and tenant farming developed in response to the freedom of formerly enslaved workers and the need to adapt quickly to a paid labor system. Sharecropping allowed farmers to rent farmland to sharecroppers who paid rent on land, housing, equipment, and stock, and often had no control over what crops were planted. In North Carolina these were generally wage laborers, who were compensated with a proportional share of what they produced, paid either in kind or in cash.<sup>15</sup> The sharecropping system provided little opportunity for laborers to improve their financial situation and graduate from the system. New Deal programs, enlistment in World War II, and the Great Migration are credited with creating a labor shortage that forced changes in agricultural labor practices.<sup>16</sup>

"Big Tom's" son, Atlas Uzzell, may have been more of a gentleman farmer, or at the very least must have delegated some management of the farm, as he served as the Wayne County treasurer for two terms and proceeded to serve two terms in the state legislature from 1903 to 1907. His farming experience informed his service, and he was noted for the introduction of the Land and Tenant Bill, which governed aspects of the relationship between a landowner and sharecroppers and/or tenants. In 1902, Atlas Uzzell was reported as having acreage in production for cotton, corn, tobacco, and peanuts. His son Floyd lived at home, working as a census agent and raising Jersey hogs and game fowl. Extant resources from Atlas's tenure include the mule barn, harness shed, plow barn, blacksmith shop, and smokehouse. The smokehouse shows an expansion in operations to include food processing, if even on a domestic scale. The other buildings indicate the increased use of mules to augment a paid labor force. The presence of a blacksmith shop implies the presence of skilled labor on site, not a reliance on an itinerant farrier.

A shift to tobacco production, begun during Atlas's tenure, is typical of agricultural trends in Wayne County. While Wayne County's gross tobacco production was more than only seven other counties in the state that produced tobacco in 1850,<sup>17</sup> by 1880 the county surpassed all other eastern North Carolina counties in tobacco production, a phenomenon attributed to Wayne County's ideal soil conditions.<sup>18</sup> Five tobacco barns used to cure tobacco existed on site until the mid-1990s. An early twentieth century pack house remains. After tobacco was cured in barns, it was moved to the pack house where it was graded, sorted, bundled, and stored until auction. The surviving pack house, unlike many agricultural outbuildings, has a specific form and use, and is a direct indication of the shift of many Wayne County farms to the lucrative tobacco trade.

During the Best family's tenure at the farm, from 1936 to 1972, hogs were grown for personal consumption. Tenant farmers who lived on-site until the mid-1960s produced tobacco, corn, and

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<sup>14</sup> Daniel Pezzoni, ed., *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* (Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998), 22.

<sup>15</sup> Harold D. Woodman, "Post-Civil War Southern Agriculture and the Law," *Agricultural History* 53, no. 1, (1979): 319-37.

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.ncpedia.org/sharecropping>.

<sup>17</sup> United States Agricultural Census 1850

<sup>18</sup> Daniel Pezzoni (ed) *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998.p 23



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soybeans. These resident tenant farmers operated under a “thirds” arrangement with one third of the capital provided by the Bests, who received one-third of the revenue.<sup>19</sup> Cotton production, which tapered off beginning in the 1920s with the infestation of boll weevils, began again in the 1970s as the pests were eradicated.

In the post-war era, the number of farms in Wayne County decreased from 4,946 in 1945 to 2,317 in 1969, when the total percentage of the county’s land in farm production had dropped to 60.9%. Average farm size increased from 55.4 acres in 1945 to 93.6 acres in 1969.

As farms consolidated, resulting in fewer and larger farms, the number of tenant farming operations dropped. In 1945 there were 3,323 tenant operations (roughly 67% of all farms) and by 1969 there were only 628 (roughly 27% of all farms). At Uzzell-Best Farm, tenant farmers were replaced in the late 1960s with sophisticated corporate farming organizations operating on a cash lease basis. They continued to grow tobacco, wheat, cotton, and corn, mostly for local markets. Often working on multiple landholdings for several landlord farm owners, the farm operators enjoyed economies of scale and diversified crop portfolios to manage risk.

As the day-to-day farming responsibilities evolved into a corporate structure, the ownership of the farm did as well. The closely held Bestfarms Inc. provided a corporate counterpart to the farm operators, offered tax benefits to the stockholders, and presented strategies for flexible continuous family ownership of the land. This trend of corporate ownership is mirrored in the agricultural census. The 1969 data showed for the first time the number of farms owned by corporations. In Wayne County in 1969 there were 24 corporately owned farms representing 5,045 acres. With the transfer of the Uzzell-Best Farm property to a corporate structure in 1972, the era of direct individual family ownership ended, and the era of corporate ownership, mirroring the corporate operations, began.

Contributing resources from the Best era, starting in the late 1930s, include a hog shed that likely replaced an earlier hog shed, a garage, and a small whimsical playhouse constructed for the leisure entertainment of children. The main house, though furnished, is no longer occupied. At one point, portions of it were rented as an office. A new house was built on an outparcel in the 1960s with modern conveniences and in a more contemporary style for Claude Best's grandson Max Rudolph Best, who resides there still. The consolidation of this property and other holdings into a family-held conglomerate served to distance the owners from the immediate day-to-day farming operations, reflected in the new dwelling, built at a remove from the earlier agricultural buildings and active farming operations.

### *Architecture*

The 1895 Uzzell-Best farmhouse is significant as it embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Folk Victorian style. It is also typical of local vernacular building trends with distinctive fireplace mantels and a regionally popular nineteenth-century form, the “breezeway kitchen.”

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<sup>19</sup> Max R. Best, interview with the author, August 17, 2023.

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The Folk Victorian style has been described as featuring trim and ornament drawn from the Queen Anne, Italianate, and Gothic Revival styles as applied to house forms that are simpler in terms of scale, massing, and texture than their high style sources.<sup>20</sup> The turned posts and jigsawed balustrade and brackets of the Uzzell-Best farmhouse are typical Folk Victorian trim. The angled siding in the gables provides some restrained variety of texture, but not to the exuberant extent of the Queen Anne style. Pedimented window surrounds with deep reveals that suggest hood molds are vaguely Gothic Revival, and their forms are echoed in the pentagonal louvered attic vents. Additional texture is provided by the deep eaves and returns above the flat cornice. The entrance door with twin panels and arched lights, all in heavily molded frames, hint at the Italianate.

Interior trim is a mix of stock Victorian-era door and window surrounds, baseboards, chair rails and wainscot. Ceilings are basic beadboard. Particularly notable, however, are the fireplace mantels. Those in the three principal rooms that have entrances onto the front hall all have a distinctive fireplace surround with an incised scroll bracket with a form, depth, and exuberance that suggest it was locally produced rather than a mass-produced item. While many features of the house, such as the porch railing, posts, and brackets, are mass-produced components that were readily available and made possible in the late nineteenth century by innovations in production and distribution, other aspects, notably several of the fireplace surrounds and mantels, are less familiar and appear to be locally made by an unknown carpenter.

The house also follows the vernacular form of a "breezeway kitchen." Architectural historian Penne Sandbeck, who conducted a comprehensive Wayne County survey upon which Daniel Pezzoni's *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* is based, noted that there were several of these dwellings in Wayne County with a rear ell that included a kitchen and sometimes other subsidiary rooms separated from the main house by a covered breezeway, a form akin to a dogtrot house, which is a vernacular typology found through the south in the nineteenth century, and thought to be a response to both structural limitations, particularly in log construction, and the need for air circulation in warm climates.<sup>21</sup>

A review of survey files and the book based on them shows that within a nine-mile radius of the Uzzell-Best farm were at least five other examples of breezeway kitchen houses. The Greek Revival-style James A. Howell House (ca. 1850, WA0030, 8.3 miles to the northwest) was noted to have had a breezeway kitchen until the mid-1950s, when it was damaged by Hurricane Hazel.<sup>22</sup> Strawberry Hill (ca. 1840, WY0040, 7.5 miles south), a Greek Revival-style house, has a now-enclosed breezeway that connected the house to a two-room kitchen/dining building similar to Uzzell-Best's with a central chimney serving both rooms.<sup>23</sup> The breezeway to the kitchen at the Berry A. Parks House (ca. 1879 WY0710, 1.6 miles north) was enclosed by the

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<sup>20</sup> Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013), 398.

<sup>21</sup> Penne Sandbeck, personal conversation with the author, November 2021.

<sup>22</sup> Daniel Pezzoni, ed., *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* (Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998), 189.

<sup>23</sup> Penne (Smith) Sandbeck field notes HPO Survey files

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1940s.<sup>24</sup> The Greek Revival style Erasmus Smith House (ca. 1860 WY0320, 8.2 miles north) had a breezeway to a rear kitchen/dining building with a central interior chimney,<sup>25</sup> but it appears that this building has been demolished. Likewise, the Federal-style Benjamin Best House (ca. 1800, WY0602) less than two miles to the southeast of the Uzzell-Best Farm, was documented in the 1990s when it was noted that a small kitchen and dining room outbuilding was until recently connected to the main house by a small breezeway.<sup>26</sup> It too appears to have been demolished.

At the Uzzell-Best house, the exterior trim for the once distinctly separate kitchen and dining room, some of which is now in enclosed spaces, is similar to that on the main core of the house but simplified and less distinctive, reflecting the secondary importance of the once separate and subsidiary spaces. As with other examples of breezeway kitchen houses, the Uzzell-Best house's breezeway connection was later enclosed, as was the north porch. Of all of the comparable houses with breezeway kitchens found, the Uzzell-Best is the youngest, built ca. 1895. Thus, it combines newer stylistic references with an older form, contributing to its architectural significance.

#### *Statement of Archaeological Potential*

Based on the review of this nomination by the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology (OSA), staff is of the opinion that there is potential for archaeological significance on this property. The tobacco barns and sharecropper housing documented in earlier surveys that were demolished in the late twentieth century indicate that there may be archaeological deposits associated with these former structures that may retain some level of integrity. Although the period of significance is listed as 1875-1972, it is noted that numerous enslaved persons were associated with the tenancy of Big Tom, but no reference is made of potential locations for an enslaved cemetery. Although "Big Tom" had extensive land holdings, some of those are no longer a part of this farm. Investigation of records indicating where dwellings and graves may be located was outside the scope of this project. It would be reasonable to state that there could be deposits associated with those types of resources, but again, the location and the existence on this particular parcel is unknown.

The potential for enslaved burials adjacent to or outside the walls of the family cemetery - their investigation is also outside the scope of this project - is present, according to OSA. Based on the fact that the main 1895 house replaced the previous primary residence, there is significant archaeological potential related to both of these earlier occupations and for the period of significance. This area also has a relatively high potential for pre-contact archaeological sites.

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<sup>24</sup> Penne (Smith) Sandbeck field notes HPO Survey files

<sup>25</sup> Penne (Smith) Sandbeck field notes HPO Survey files

<sup>26</sup> Daniel Pezzoni, ed., *Glimpses of Wayne County, North Carolina* (Goldsboro: Wayne County Historical Association, 1998), 179. There is a family connection to the Uzzells as Benjamin Best's grandson, Hinton James Best, was married to Sarah/Sallie Uzzell, 1824-1872.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** WY0142

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 276.92

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

1. Latitude: 35.368556° Longitude: -77.886958°
2. Latitude: 35.374761° Longitude: -77.868583°
3. Latitude: 35.376269° Longitude: -77.869367°
4. Latitude: 35.377617° Longitude: -77.866167°
5. Latitude: 35.373689° Longitude: -77.863747°
6. Latitude: 35.372281° Longitude: -77.867331°
7. Latitude: 35.369783° Longitude: -77.865978°
8. Latitude: 35.367892° Longitude: -77.876589°
9. Latitude: 35.366800° Longitude: -77.876353°
10. Latitude: 35.364400° Longitude: -77.882542°

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary includes all that property indicated by Wayne County records as parcels numbered 3539629356, 3539317165, and 3539307997 as shown on the attached map entitled National Register Boundary Map.

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### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes all that land subdivided as part of Tom Uzzell's estate in 1875, containing his homeplace and a portion of his farmlands, and kept intact and still in family ownership to the present.

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### **11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Mary Ruffin Hanbury  
organization: Hanbury Preservation Consulting  
street & number: PO Box 6049  
city or town: Raleigh state: NC zip code: 27628  
e-mail: maryruffin@hanburypreservation.com  
telephone: (919) 828 1905  
date: 2.4.22 (revised 8.25.2023)

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### Photo Log

Name of Property: Uzzell-Best Farm

City of vicinity: Goldsboro vicinity

County: Wayne County

State: North Carolina

Photographer: Mary Ruffin Hanbury (All photos)

Façade, view to East  
October 2019  
1 of 32

South Bedroom, View to North  
October 2019  
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Façade, view to Southeast  
October 2019  
2 of 32

Peddler's Room, View to North  
August 2021  
10 of 32

South Elevation, View to Northwest  
January 2022  
3 of 32

Enclosed Breezeway, View to South  
October 2019  
11 of 32

North Elevation, View to South  
October 2019  
4 of 32

Enclosed Rear Porch, View to West  
October 2019  
12 of 32

North Elevation, View to South  
October 2019  
5 of 32

Cemetery, View to East  
January 2022  
13 of 32

Interior, Front Hall, View to East  
August 2021  
6 of 32

Cemetery, Marker for Elizabeth Anne  
"Bettie" Parks Uzzell, View to East  
January 2022  
14 of 32

Interior, Kitchen, Mantel Detail, View to  
South  
August 2021  
7 of 32

Barns, View to West  
January 2022  
15 of 32

Original Dining Room, View to East  
October 2019  
8 of 32

Horse Shed, View to South  
August 2021  
16 of 32



Uzzell-Best Farm  
Name of Property

Wayne, North Carolina  
County and State

Mule Harness Shed, Mule Barn, Old  
Barn, View to Northeast  
August 2021  
17 of 32

Packhouse, View to South  
October 2019  
25 of 32

Garage, View to Northeast  
October 2019  
18 of 32

Packhouse, View to South  
October 2019  
26 of 32

Hog Barn, View to Northeast  
October 2019  
19 of 32

Grain Silos, Office and Shed, View to  
Southwest  
August 2021  
27 of 32

Plow Barn and Blacksmith Shop, View  
to Northeast  
August 2021  
20 of 32

Grain Silos and Shed, View to West  
August 2021  
28 of 32

Wellhouse and Kitchen, View to South  
October 2019  
21 of 32

Shed and Silos. View to Northeast  
August 2021  
29 of 32

Kitchen, View to Northwest  
October 2019  
22 of 32

Scalehouse, View to East  
August 2021  
30 of 32

Playhouse, View to Southeast  
October 2019  
23 of 32

Office and Shed, View to North  
August 2021  
31 of 32

Smokehouse, View to Northeast  
October 2019  
24 of 32

Outparcel house, View to Southwest  
August 2021  
32 of 32

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

# National Register Location Map

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map revised by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 8.24.23

## LEGEND

1. 35.368556° -77.886958°
2. 35.374761° -77.868583°
3. 35.376269° -77.869367°
4. 35.377617° -77.866167°
5. 35.373689° -77.863747°
6. 35.372281° -77.867331°
7. 35.369783° -77.865978°
8. 35.367892° -77.876589°
9. 35.366800° -77.876353°
10. 35.364400° -77.882542°

Google Earth

1 mi



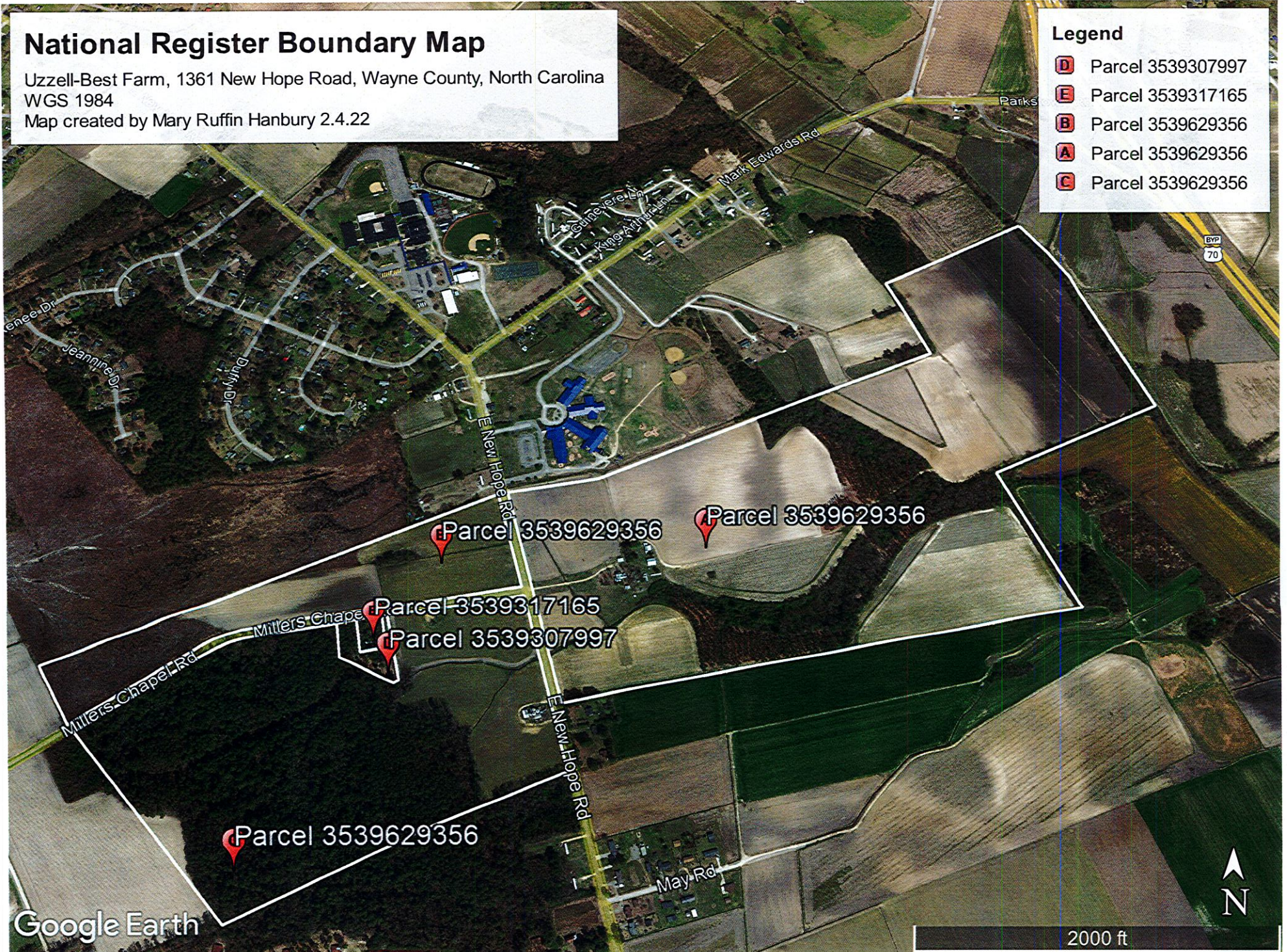


# National Register Boundary Map

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 2.4.22

## Legend

- D** Parcel 3539307997
- E** Parcel 3539317165
- B** Parcel 3539629356
- A** Parcel 3539629356
- C** Parcel 3539629356



Google Earth

2000 ft

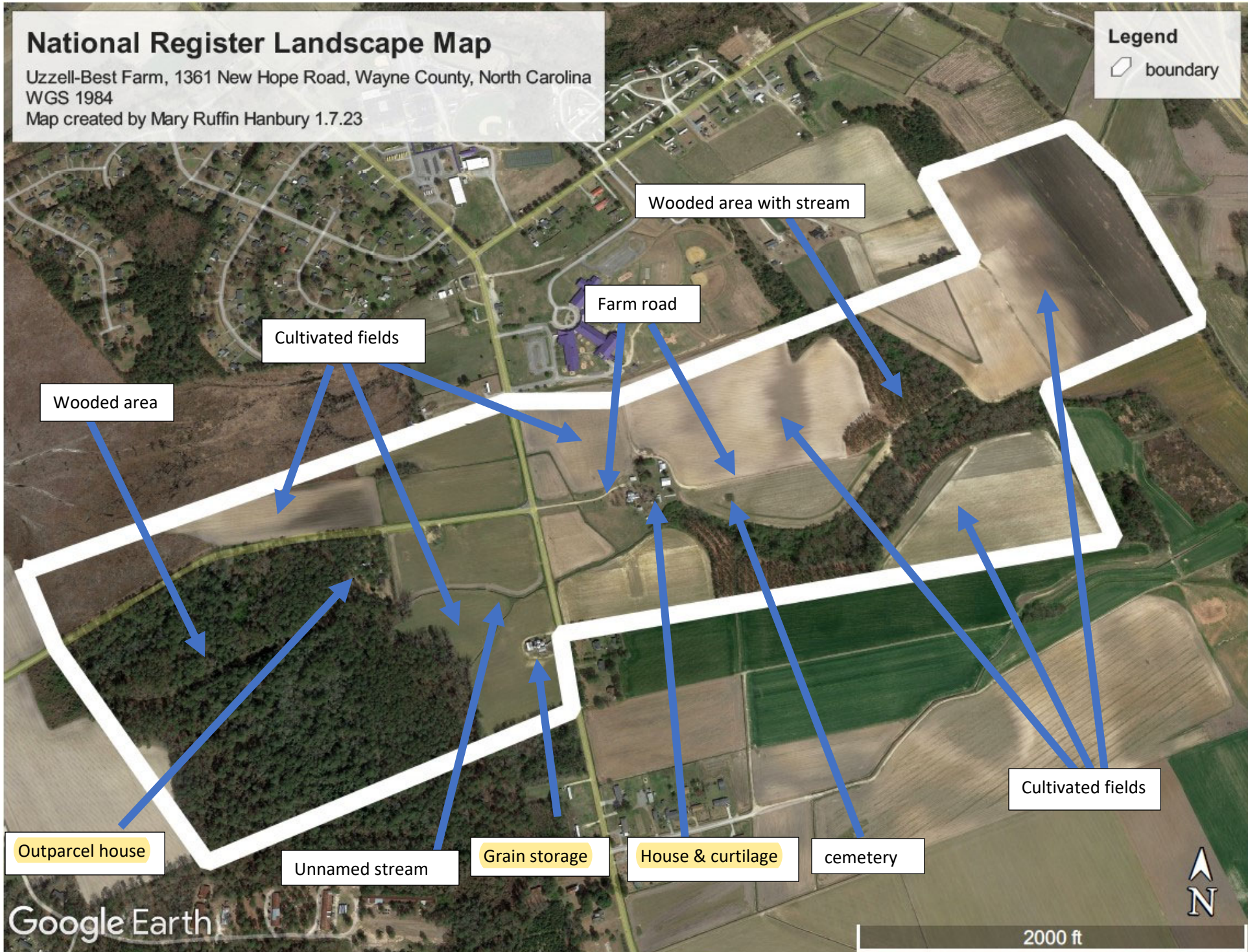




# National Register Landscape Map

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 1.7.23

**Legend**  
□ boundary



Google Earth

2000 ft



# National Register Site Plan, Grain Storage Facility

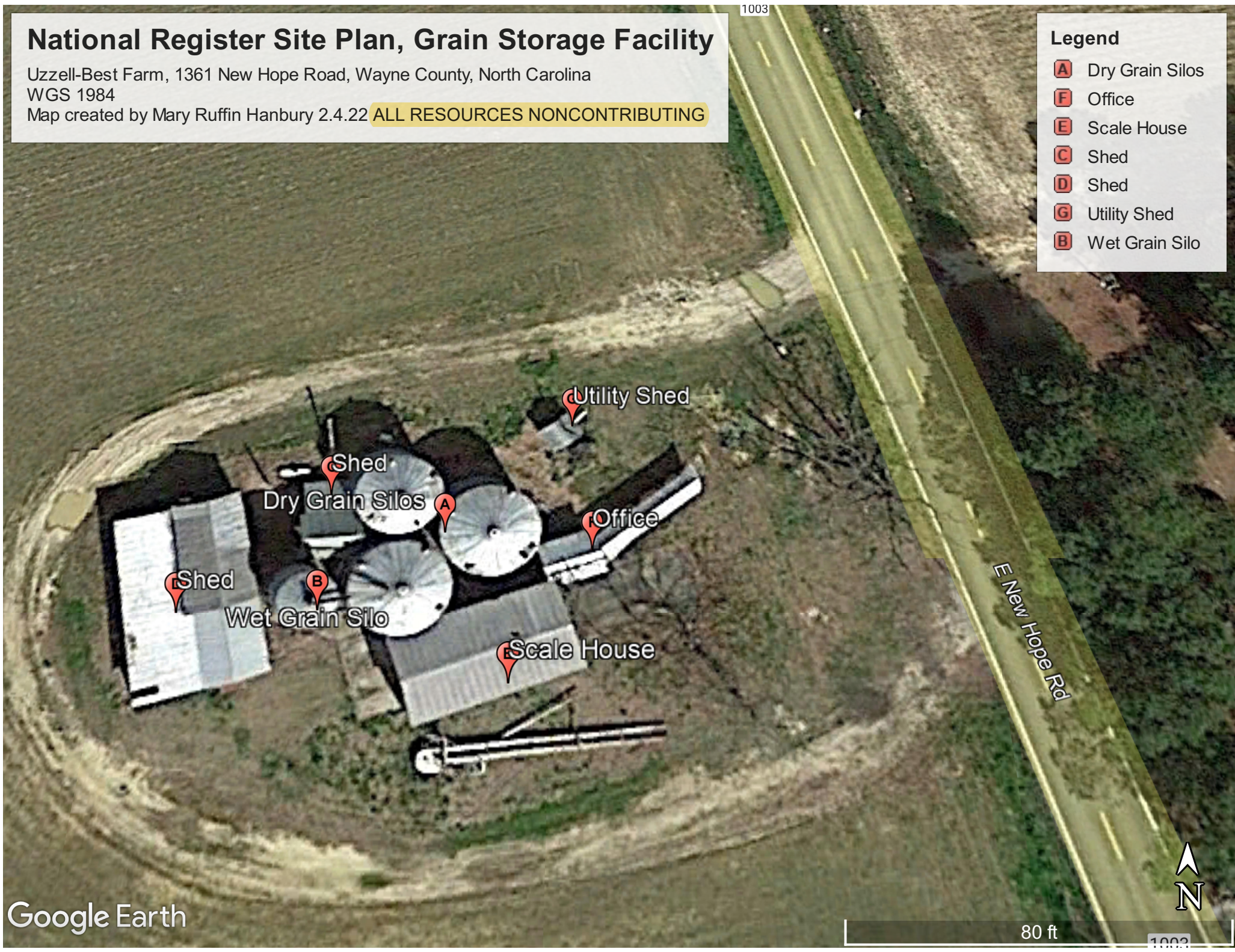
Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina

WGS 1984

Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 2.4.22 **ALL RESOURCES NONCONTRIBUTING**

## Legend

- A Dry Grain Silos
- F Office
- E Scale House
- C Shed
- D Shed
- G Utility Shed
- B Wet Grain Silo





# National Register Site Plan, Main House and Curtilage

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina

WGS 1984

Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 2.4.22, revised 3.13.23

ALL RESOURCES CONTRIBUTING except Horse Shed and Well House

## Legend

- J** Blacksmith Shop
- B** Cemetery
- O** Garage
- K** Hog Barn
- G** Horse Shed
- A** House
- D** Kitchen
- M** Mule Barn
- L** Mule Harness Shad
- N** Old Barn
- F** Pack House
- H** Playhouse
- I** Plow Barn
- E** Smokehouse
- C** Well House





# National Register Site Plan, Outparcel

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984

Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 2.4.22, revised 3.13.23

**ALL RESOURCES NONCONTRIBUTING**

## Legend

- C** Garage
- A** House
- B** Office

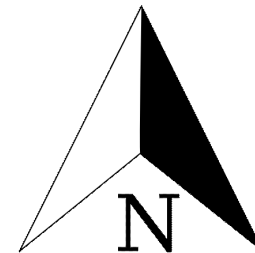
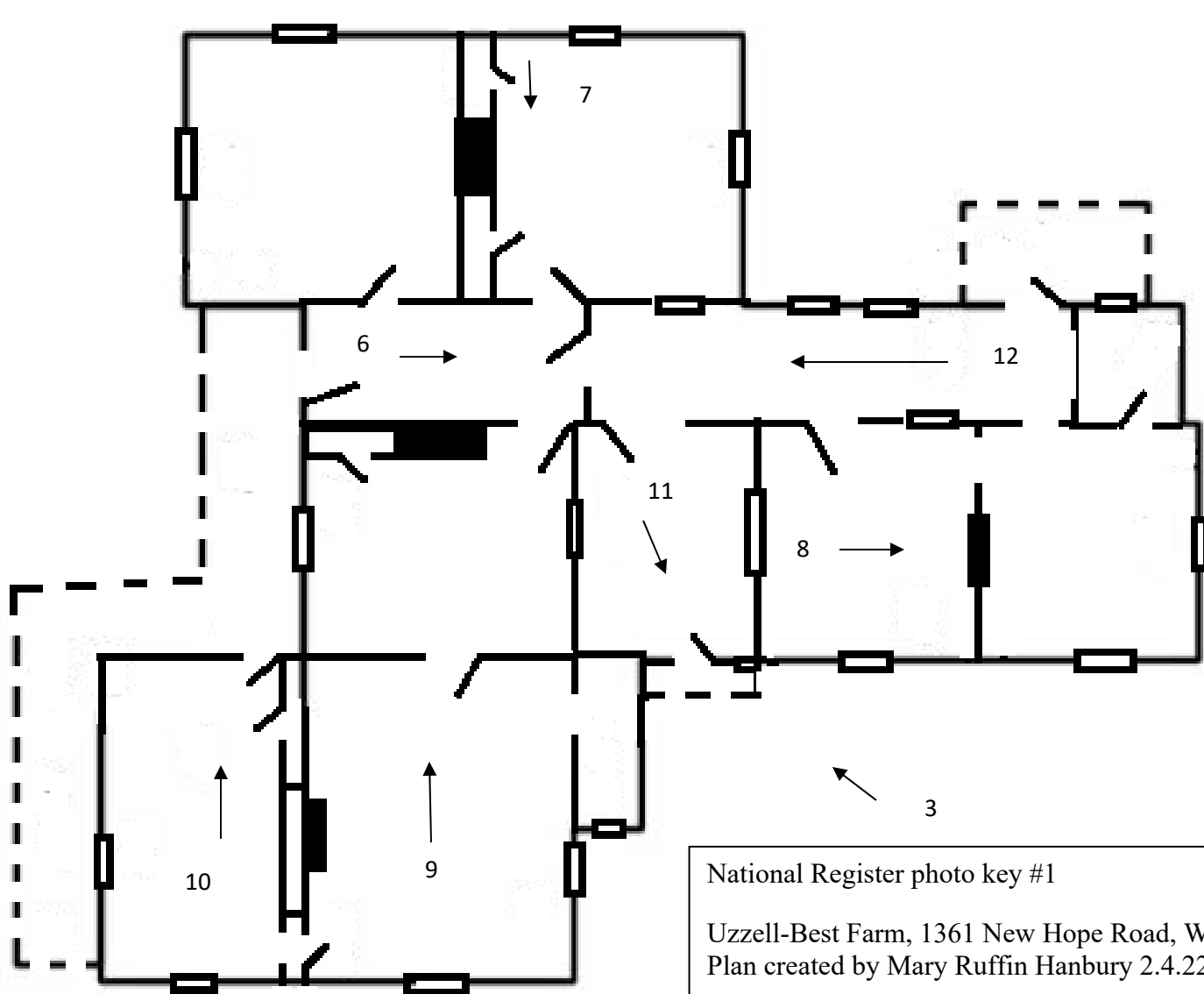


Google Earth

200 ft







National Register photo key #1  
Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
Plan created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 2.4.22  
not to scale



# National Register Photo Key 2

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 1.7.23

Legend



Google Earth

100 ft



# National Register Photo Key 3

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 1.7.23

Legend

32

27

28

30

29

31

Google Earth



300 ft

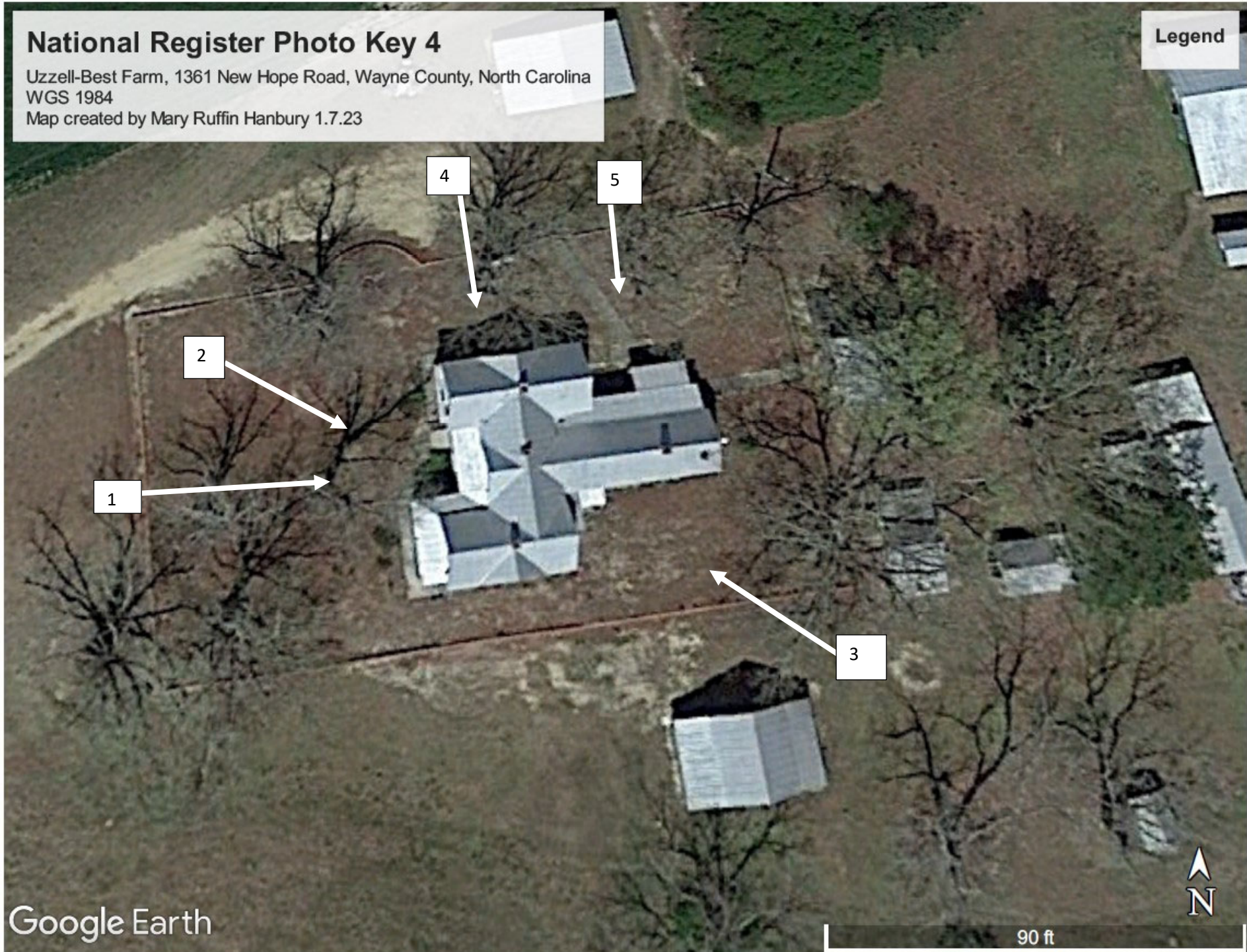




# National Register Photo Key 4

Uzzell-Best Farm, 1361 New Hope Road, Wayne County, North Carolina  
WGS 1984  
Map created by Mary Ruffin Hanbury 1.7.23

Legend



1

2

4

5

3

Google Earth

90 ft

