

National Register Advisory Committee Meeting
June 13, 2024
Archives and History Building, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh
Third Floor Conference Room (#308)

Chairwoman Barbara Snowden called the meeting to order promptly at 10 a.m. and asked to begin introductions, starting with visitors, followed by State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff, and the committee members themselves.

Those attending Visitors introduced selves first: Annie McDonald, Olivia Heckendorf , Pofue Yang, Mary Ruffin Hanbury, Matt Jorgenson, Heath Anderson, Sam Bridges, Marcus Pollard, Julieanne Patterson, Debra Taylor Gonzalez, Sydney Alston, Rhonda Little, and Carla Rosenberg.

HPO staff in attendance included Ramona Bartos, Hannah Beckman-Black, Kristi Brantley, Chandra Burch, Jenny Burnham, Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, Renee Gledhill-Earley, Katie Harville, Sharon Hope, Beth King, Amanda Langlois, Michele McCabe, Kelly Molloy, Lauren Poole, Jeff Smith, Julie Smith, Rebecca Spanbauer, James Stephens, Brett Sturm, Megan Sullivan, Lori Townsend, Darin Waters, Mitch Wilds, and Sarah Woodard.

Committee members attending were Fred Belledin, David Dennard, Mary Beth Fitts, Tamara Holmes-Brothers, Valerie Ann Johnson, Joe Opperman, Shawn Patch, and Barbara Snowden.

David Bergstone, Newell Clark, David Ruffin, and Josi Ward were absent.

Ms. Snowden acknowledged the number of people in the room who care about preservation in North Carolina. She then turned the meeting over to Dr. Darin Waters, who extended thanks to the committee and staff. He said that he appreciates the Secretary and Governor's proposal for capacity-increasing changes in the short session.

Ramona Bartos provided the committee with a printed report from her reporting to the Historical Commission. She also encouraged the committee to review the Traditional Cultural Places draft bulletin.

Ms. Snowden called for a motion on to approve the February minutes: Fred Belledin moved approval and Joe Opperman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

When Ms. Snowden asked if anyone had any conflicts of interest, no one responded.

The National Register presentations began with the Western Region.

Downtown Taylorsville Historic District, Alexander County

Rebecca Spanbauer began her presentation with a note that all images in the presentations are provided by preparers unless otherwise noted. She located Taylorsville on a map, provided a map of the district boundary, and provided the town's history as the county seat. The district's period of significance begins in 1906 with the construction of the district's oldest building, Taylorsville United Methodist Church and ends in 1970 with the completion of the Alexander County Courthouse. She gave a tour of the district in chronological order from oldest to newest. The district is eligible for listing under Criteria A and C in the areas of commerce and architecture.

Walker Top Baptist Church, Burke County

Sarah Woodard presented Walker Top Baptist Church, noting that all the photographs were made by her or by the applicant. She located Walker Top on a map and provided a site plan of the resource. Ms. Woodard also noted that the nomination was prepared by Ivy Bridges, who is a high school junior. The building's period of significance is limited to its construction year of 1845. Ms. Woodard showed photographs of the interior, exterior, and grounds. The church is eligible for listing under Criteria C for its architecture and it meet Criteria Consideration A for religious properties.

At the end of her presentation, Ms. Woodard turned the floor over to Sam Bridges, an advocate for the church. His daughter prepared the nomination, and Mr. Bridges spoke passionately about the building.

The committee decided to vote on Walker Top alone. Shawn Patch moved to approve the nomination. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed 7 to 0.

Seven Gables, Cleveland County

Hannah Beckman-Black continued with Seven Gables in Cleveland County. She located the Tudor Revival House on a map and described its exterior and interior. She presented original plans and recounted a 1935 fire that gives the house two periods of significance: 1929, the date of the original house and 1935, the date of reconstruction work after the fire. The house has a small addition dating to the 1970s, but otherwise, the house retains good integrity. She also described the landscape. The house is locally significant in the area of architecture under Criterion C.

Stepp's Mill, Henderson County

Ms. Beckman-Black moved forward with Stepp's Mill, which she located on a map. She described the site and boundary which include the mill, a post office, a house, and the dam. Ms. Beckman-Black gave a history of the mill as a community hub and described the changes to the mill and site over time. The period of significance begins in 1913 when the mill was completed and began operations and ends in 1955 when production at the mill ceased. The mill is eligible for listing under Criterion A for associations with industry and social history.

Fred Belledin asked a question about the boundary for Stepp's Mill, which Ms. Beckman-Black addressed, and then Ms. Snowden called for a motion. Mr. Patch moved to approve the

Downtown Taylorsville Historic District, Seven Gables, and Stepp's Mill for listing. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it was approved 7 to 0.

Before moving to the next presentation, Ms. Bartos noted that a nomination for a historic district in Wilson had been removed from the agenda because of concerns the town has about the nomination.

Sidney Cotton Mill, Alamance County

Ms. Spanbauer returned to the podium to present the Sidney Cotton Mill in Graham. Ms. Spanbauer provided a tour around the building, explaining its evolution through six additions. She also presented photographs of the interior in the exterior. The building's period of significance runs from its earliest phase of construction in 1886 to 1945, when the most recent additions were made. This time span represents the building's history within the context of industry in Alamance County. The building is eligible for listing under Criterion C for its architecture.

Copland Fabrics, Alamance County

Julie Smith presented the nomination for the Copland Fabrics complex in Alamance County. She described the changes at the mill to modernize it from its earliest incarnation in the nineteenth-century as a cotton manufactory to a modern, mid-twentieth-century rayon production facility. She used Sanborn maps and historic photos to illustrate how the buildings changed to accommodate this new production. The mill is eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of industry with a period of significance beginning in 1941 and ending in 1973.

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Buildings 82 and 83, Forsyth County

Ms. Smith continued with the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Buildings 82 and 83 in Winston-Salem. She located the buildings on a map, presented the boundary, and described how the two buildings are joined with a hyphen. Because of the hyphen, they are considered a single building. She noted that the rail line along the side of the building is considered a contributing resource to the site. She used a Sanborn to illustrate the building's construction. She provided exterior photos and interior photos and described how the warehouses contributed to R.J. Reynolds' downtown factories.

West End Cemeteries Historic District, Durham County

Jeff Smith proceeded with a presentation of West End Cemeteries Historic District in Durham. Ms. Snowden asked Mr. Smith to review the Criteria Consideration related to cemeteries, which he did. Mr. Smith also paused to introduce Sharon Hope, who was not in the room during introductions. Mr. Smith continued by locating the resource, which is a collection of four cemeteries, on a map, and he explained how the name, West End Cemeteries Historic District, is intended to acknowledge the variety of cemeteries included in the boundary. He described each cemetery and provided photos of the types of tombstones and funerary art in each cemetery. Dr. Dennard drew attention to Durham's Certified Local Government statement regarding mitigation for damage done to the Black community during the Jim Crow era. Ms. Snowden invited the

guests supporting the nomination to speak. Debra Taylor Gonzalez spoke briefly to describe the Fitzgerald Cemetery and the Henderson Cemetery in more depth, reviewing the histories of the families in both of those cemeteries. Dr. Johnson noted that the Pauli Murray National Historic Landmark abuts the Fitzgerald Family Cemetery. She noted that racism had impeded Black progress. Dr. Dennard also asked a question about taphophiles, meaning one who has a passion for studying funeral rites, and any information someone with that interest might provide about these cemeteries.

Ms. Snowden called for a vote on the seven nominations from the Western and Piedmont Regions: Downtown Taylorsville Historic District, Seven Gable, Stepp's Mill, Sydney Cotton Mill, Copland Fabrics, R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Buildings 82 and 83, and the West End Cemeteries Historic District.

Mr. Opperman made a motion to approve all of the nominations. Dr. Dennard seconded the motion. The vote to approve was 7 to 0, with the chair not voting.

Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse, Nash County

Lauren Poole moved on to the Eastern Region and presented the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse in Nashville. She described what the cooperative was, how it was structured, and what regions the co-op served. The group built small warehouses across Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, which caused larger companies to disparage the cooperative. Ultimately, a group of larger companies filed a lawsuit to end the cooperative. In 1926, the cooperative lost that lawsuit. Ms. Poole provided a historic interior photo of a co-op warehouse in Greenville to provide an idea of what the interior would have looked like historically. She continued with photos of the exterior of this warehouse and interior photos. The warehouse is eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of Agriculture as a remnant of a brief powerful movement, with a period of significance beginning in 1922 with the building's construction and ended in 1927.

Elizabeth City Cotton Mills, Pasquotank County

Ms. Poole continued with the Elizabeth City Cotton Mills in Elizabeth City. She located the mill on a map. She presented the history of the mill that detailed its prosperity, expansions, and closure during the Great Depression. The mill was closed for about two years during the 1930s, and its production increased in support of the war effort during World War II. In the post-war era, an addition added an office to the façade and when air conditioning was added, the company bricked in the mill's windows. Ms. Poole used maps and floor plans to describe the building and its changes over time. She provided photos of the interior and exterior and explained that it is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Industry. The building's period of significance extends from 1896 to 1967.

Ms. Snowden asked for questions or discussion regarding the Eastern Region nominations. Hearing none, she called for a vote on the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse

and the Elizabeth City Cotton Mills. Dr. Dennard made a motion to approve the nominations, and Mr. Patch seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 to 0.

At 11:45, the committee took their lunch break.

The committee restarted the meeting at 12:34.

Dr. Waters and Ms. Bartos presented certificates of appreciation to Ms. Snowden and Tamara Holmes-Brothers in recognition of the end of their terms on the committee. Dr. Waters expressed thanks and appreciation for their work. Ms. Snowden talked about her experiences in North Carolina and how much she's enjoyed her time on NRAC. Dr. Holmes-Brothers also expressed her enjoyment and the enrichment she gained from her time on NRAC.

Sarah Woodard introduced Jenny Barnham, the new Eastern Office Manager.

The committee then turned to the Study List presentations.

Malvern Hills Pool and Park, Buncombe County

Hannah Beckman-Black began the Study List presentations with the Malvern Hills Pool and Park in Buncombe County. She used historic photos to present the park's history before moving to a labeled site plan and current photos to describe the resource. She concluded with a recommendation for Study Listing, likely under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment and Recreation.

Akin-Axley-Davidson House, Cherokee County

Ms. Beckman-Black continued with the Akin-Axley-Davidson House in Cherokee County. She located the house in far western North Carolina and presented a history of the family associated with the house's original construction. She described the house's use as a tourist home in the early and mid-twentieth century. She then provided current and historic photos that illustrated changes to the building that have resulted in significant loss of integrity. Ms. Beckman-Black reported that staff does not recommend Study Listing.

Champion Fibre Company Mill, Haywood County

Ms. Beckman-Black moved forward with a presentation of the Champion Fibre Company Mill in Haywood County. After locating the site in the town of Canton, she described the history of the company and its influence over the town of Canton. Her history of the site included historic photos and aerial images. Ms. Beckman-Black acknowledged limits in access to the site, but she remarked that staff feels that enough information has been provided to support Study Listing. She presented current photographs along with a highlighted site plan to help orient viewers. Staff recommends adding the mill to the Study List, likely eligible under Criterion A in the area of Industry, and possibly under Criterion B for an association with Ruben B. Robinson.

Dr. Dennard asked about the opportunity for the Akin-Axley-Davidson House to come back to the Study List process in the future. Ms. Beckman-Black responded that should more information come to light it can be represented; properties can always come back to the process.

Ms. Snowden asked for a motion. Valerie Ann Johnson made a motion to accept staff recommendations to list the Malvern Hills Pool and Park and Champion Fibre Company Mill, and to not list the Akin-Axley-Davidson House. Dr. Dennard seconded Dr. Johnson's motion, and the motion passed 7 to 0.

Dark Branch Historic District, Brunswick County

Julie Smith continued with the Dark Branch Historic District in Brunswick County. She started with a map of the area and described the plantations that had made up the area historically. Ms. Smith described how African Americans moved to this area in the post-Civil War era. She used current photos to give a tour of the community. Dr. Johnson was pleased to see a potential Gullah Geechee site coming forward.

Dr. Maya Angelou House, Forsyth County

Ms. Smith continued with the Dr. Maya Angelou House in Forsyth County. She located the house in Winston-Salem on a map. She provided a brief review Dr. Angelou's life and showed photographs of her birthplace in Missouri and a school she attended in Arkansas. The HPOs in Arkansas and Missouri do not believe any other buildings associated with Dr. Angelou are still standing in those two states. Ms. Smith described Dr. Angelou's life as she moved to Winston-Salem and purchased this house, and she noted that Angelou purchased another house on Bartram Road, also in Winston-Salem, where Angelou began living after 1993. After 1993, Dr. Angelou used this property as a guest house. In the early 2000s, she also bought a house in Harlem. The house that is the subject of this application is where she lived when she wrote the poem for the Clinton inauguration, but she is known to have stayed in hotel rooms while writing, so she may not have written the poem in this house. A period of significance would begin with her purchase of the house in 1981 and would need to meet Criteria Consideration G, which addresses properties that are not yet fifty-years old. Discussion of the fact that Study Listing describes the *potential* for National Register eligibility *pending* additional information.

Dr. Dennard made a motion to approve both the Dark Branch Historic District and the Dr. Angelou House. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Opperman asked questions about a future nomination for the Angelou House, and he asked staff to make sure the other house on Bartram Road is documented.

Alamance Mill Village Buildings, Alamance County

Mr. Smith presented the Alamance Mill Village Buildings in Alamance County. He located the area on a map and illustrated where these buildings are relative to the existing Alamance Mill Village Historic District, listed in 2007. Mr. Smith presented images and provided justification for *not* adding these buildings to the Study List.

Dr. William Dobson House, Forsyth County

He continued with the Dr. William Dobson House in Forsyth County. He started with maps and then a historic photo of the house. He described the deconstruction of the house in Davidson County and its reconstruction about six miles away in Forsyth County. He reviewed Criteria Consideration B that addresses moved properties. He described the original situation as imperiled and noted similarities between the original location and the new location. He concluded by recommending placement of the house on the Study List.

Dr. Henry Rembert and Elaine B. Malloy House, Forsyth County

Mr. Smith's next presentation was the Dr. Henry Rembert and Elaine B. Malloy House in Forsyth County. He located the house on a map in Winston-Salem. He provided a history of the home's design and construction, and presented photographs of its interior and exterior, and described its layout around a courtyard. Mr. Smith reviewed Dr. Malloy's remarkable career as a surgeon. Mr. Smith recounted North Carolina's Nation Park Service National Register reviewer's recommendations regarding an approach to designating this house. Mr. Smith recommends adding the Malloy House to the Study List.

High Point Central High School Historic District, Guilford County

He moved forward with High Point Central High School Historic District in Guilford County. After presenting a map and site plan of the campus, he identified the buildings on the campus and began showing photographs of the buildings, including some interior images. Dr. Dennard asked if John Coltrane graduated from here, but Mr. Smith had not learned of that during his review of this application. Mr. Smith recommended Study Listing for this district.

Chestnut Hill Historic District, Rowan County

Mr. Smith's next presentation was the Chestnut Hill Historic District in Rowan County, and he began by noting that part of this district lies within the expansion area this committee approved at the last meeting, and that this neighborhood had been rejected for Study Listing about ten years ago. He provided Sanborn maps of the neighborhood to illustrate its development as a distinct neighborhood. Staff recommended Study Listing, with likely areas of significance being community planning and development and architecture.

Lincoln School, Rowan County

Mr. Smith continued with the Lincoln School in Rowan County, also in Salisbury. The Lincoln School was also known as the Salisbury Colored School. He located the building on maps and used historic photos to show how the building changed over time. Staff recommends Study Listing this school.

John E. and Jean A. F. Ramsay, Sr. House, Rowan County

Mr. Smith's final presentation was the John E. and Jean A. F. Ramsay, Sr. House in Rowan County. Mr. Smith presented a map of the location and began describing the Modernist dwelling.

He also recounted Mr. Ramsay's career as an architect. This house was Mr. Ramsay's personal home. Staff recommends adding the Ramsay House to the Study List.

Ms. Snowden asked for a motion. Mr. Patch made a motion to accept staff recommendations to approve Study Listing for the Dobson House, Malloy House, High Point Central High School Historic District, Chestnut Hill Historic District, Lincoln School, and Ramsay House and reject Study Listing for the Alamance Mill Village Buildings.

Mr. Opperman seconded the motion and it passed 7 to 0.

The committee took a five-minute break.

Salisbury Historic District Boundary Increase, Rowan County

Ms. Woodard began her presentation of this increase area by explaining how it is, essentially, a technical correction to the boundary expansion approved at the last NRAC meeting. She located the expansion area on a map and provided a look at each of the buildings within the expansion area. The expansion would add several resources associated with African American history, most notably the Kelsey and Nobel Funeral Home buildings which are associated with Lula Kelsey who was a remarkable leader in voting rights, social welfare, and in African American activism. It is likely that the earlier funeral home building could be individually listed for its association with Lula Kelsey. Staff recommends approving the expansion area for the Study List.

City Lunch Building, Franklin County

Ms. Woodard continued with the City Lunch Building. She located the building on a map in Franklinton and provided an overview of the history of this building. She provided photographs of the interior and exterior. She then described comparable examples of commercial buildings in Franklinton to illustrate staff's recommendation that the building not be Study Listed.

Biltmore Hills, Wake County

Ms. Woodard pinpointed Biltmore Hills on the south edge of Interstate 40 and shared a history of when the development was started and how it was advertised to African American buyers. She cited contemporary news reports and ads and showed photos of the houses. She cited the Multiple Property Documentation Form titled Post-World War II and Modern Architecture in Raleigh, N.C., 1945-1965, which the application relies upon. Staff recommends adding Biltmore Hills to the Study List because it is potentially eligible for the Register under Criteria A and C with a likely period of significance extending from 1959 to 1970.

Sunset Avenue Public Works Historic District, Nash County

Ms. Poole returned to the lectern to present the Sunset Avenue Public Works Historic District in Nash County. She located the resource on a map labeled to identify each resource. She noted that the Rocky Mount Power Plant was added to the Study List in 2023, but with concerns about historic integrity. This application presents a new approach to listing by addressing the area as a district with multiple resources related to public utilities. She used maps, historic photos, and

current photos to describe the district and illustrate the evolutions of the included buildings. Staff recommends adding the Sunset Avenue Public Works Historic District to the Study List. Applicable criteria might be A in the area of engineering and/or community planning and development and C for architecture.

St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church, Nash County

She moved on to St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church in Nash County. The church houses an African American congregation, and Ms. Poole noted the church's proximity to the Spring Hope Historic District. She then presented a history of the congregation and the construction of this building. She discussed how the church was used as a school after a fire destroyed Spring Hope's Black school. She presented photos to describe how the building has changed over time. Changes include brick veneer, additions, new pews, carpeting, and sheetrock in the sanctuary space. Staff does not recommend adding the church to the Study List because of significant alterations to the interior and exterior.

Mylcraft Manufacturing Plant, Northampton County

Ms. Poole continued with Mylcraft Manufacturing Plant in Northampton County. She located the plant on a map and described the organizational history of the factory. The mill was segregated into Black sections and white sections, separated by a wall. In the 1960s, large additions accommodated increasing production using a new screen-printing technique. She provided a tour of the facility. The factory closed after a 1975 labor relations board complaint regarding unionization. The building is very plain but retains good integrity and was significant to Rich Square's economy. Staff recommends Study Listing of the plant.

Winslow Grove School, Perquimans County

Ms. Poole followed with a presentation of the Winslow Grove School in Perquimans County. She located the school on a map in a rural area. The Winslow Grove School was an African American school tied to the Winslow Grove AME Zion Church, which dates from the late 19th century. The school is named for the previous white property owner. She provided photos of the diminutive building. The building has deteriorated, but retains an unaltered interior, and exterior alterations have been minimal. Staff recommends Study Listing the church; it likely would be eligible for listing under Criterion A.

Ms. Snowden asked for questions or comments, and then for a motion. Dr. Johnson made a motion to accept all staff recommendations to list the Salisbury Historic District Boundary Expansion, Biltmore Hills Historic District, Sunset Hills Public Works Historic District, the Mylcraft Manufacturing Plant, and the Winslow Grove School and staff's recommendation to *not* list the St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church and *not* list the City Lunch Building. Mr. Patch seconded the motion and it passed 7 to 0.

Dr. Dennard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:05. Ms. Snowden thanked the committee for their support of her.

NATIONAL REGISTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 13, 2024

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location: Archives and History Building, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh
3rd Floor Conference Room (#308)

The public may attend in-person or view the meeting on YouTube via livestream.

<https://youtube.com/live/AumZLVkbj7E?feature=share>

NATIONAL REGISTER AND STUDY LIST AGENDA

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>PROPERTY/LOCATION</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>
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NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

Western Region

Alexander County	Downtown Taylorsville Historic District Taylorsville	Rebecca Spanbauer
Burke County	Walker Top Baptist Church Morganton vicinity	Sarah Woodard
Cleveland County	Seven Gables Shelby	Hannah Beckman-Black
Henderson County	Stepp's Mill Hendersonville vicinity	Hannah Beckman-Black

Central and Southeastern Regions

Alamance County	Sidney Cotton Mill Graham	Rebecca Spanbauer
Alamance County	Copland Fabrics Burlington	Julie Smith
Forsyth County	R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company Buildings 82 and 83 Winston-Salem	Julie Smith
Durham County	West End Cemeteries Historic District Durham	Jeff Smith
Durham County	Geer Cemetery Durham	Sarah Woodard

COUNTY	PROPERTY/LOCATION	PRESENTER
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Eastern Region

Nash County	Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association Warehouse Nashville	Lauren Poole
Pasquotank County	Elizabeth City Cotton Mills Elizabeth City	Lauren Poole

STUDY LIST APPLICATIONS**SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH*****Western Region***

Buncombe County	Malvern Hills Pool and Park Asheville	Hannah Beckman-Black
Cherokee County	Akin-Axley-Davidson House Murphy	Hannah Beckman-Black
Haywood County	Champion Fibre Company Mill Canton	Hannah Beckman-Black

Central and Southeastern Regions

Brunswick County	Dark Branch Historic District Winnabow	Julie Smith
Forsyth County	Maya Angelou House Winston-Salem	Julie Smith
Alamance County	Alamance Mill Village buildings Alamance vicinity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Alamance Boarding House (AM2880) ○ Mrs. Overmans Mill House (AM2881) ○ Overman's Grocery (AM2882) 	Jeff Smith

COUNTY	PROPERTY/LOCATION	PRESENTER
Forsyth County	Dr. William Dobson House Clemmons vicinity	Jeff Smith
Forsyth County	Dr. Henry Rembert and Elaine B. Malloy House Winston-Salem	Jeff Smith
Guilford County	High Point Central High School Historic District High Point	Jeff Smith
Rowan County	Chestnut Hill Historic District Salisbury	Jeff Smith
Rowan County	Lincoln School Salisbury	Jeff Smith
Rowan County	John E. and Jean A. F. Ramsay, Sr. House Salisbury	Jeff Smith
Rowan County	Salisbury Historic District Expansion Salisbury	Sarah Woodard
Franklin County	City Lunch Building Franklinton	Sarah Woodard
Wake County	Biltmore Hills Raleigh	Sarah Woodard
<i>Eastern Region</i>		
Nash County	Sunset Avenue Public Works Historic District Rocky Mount	Lauren Poole
Nash County	St. Stephen Missionary Baptist Church Spring Hope	Lauren Poole
Northampton County	Mylcraft Manufacturing Plant Rich Square	Lauren Poole
Perquimans County	Winslow Grove School Belvidere	Lauren Poole