



City Of Raleigh
NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY, NC 391
LAURA M RIDDICK
REGISTER OF DEEDS
PRESENTED & RECORDED ON
12/29/2010 AT 14:52:38

BOOK:014218 PAGE:00616 - 00620

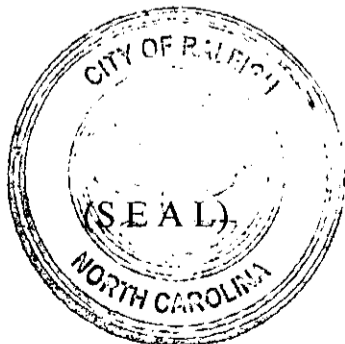
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF WAKE)

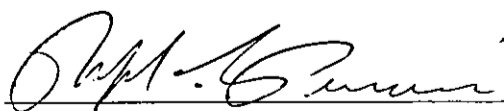
CERTIFICATION

I, Ralph L. Puccini, Assistant Deputy Clerk of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina,
do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of City of Raleigh

Ordinance No. (2010) 759 adopted July 6, 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and have caused the Seal of
the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 16th day of December, 2010.




Ralph L. Puccini
Assistant Deputy Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. (2010) - 759

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE **LATTA HOUSE & UNIVERSITY SITE** IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC LANDMARK

WHEREAS, the property located at 1001 Parker Street, Raleigh, NC, is owned by the City of Raleigh; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission for the City of Raleigh and otherwise provided for the preservation of certain historic sites and buildings by the passage of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has made an analysis and recommendation that the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, on the 19th day of January, 2010, a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chamber of the Avery C. Upchurch Municipal Complex, Raleigh, before the City Council of the City of Raleigh and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 3C, Chapter 160A, Article 19 of the North Carolina General Statutes, preceding the adoption of this ordinance, have been complied with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

Section 1. The property designated as the Latta House & University Site, in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is declared a Raleigh Historic Landmark. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

The property located at 1001 Parker Street, Raleigh, NC, owned by City of Raleigh; the 1.97 acre parcel described in deed book 12839, page 0169 recorded in Wake County Registry.

Section 2. Those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological and/or cultural significance or any combination thereof are as follows:

The Latta House and University Site has historical significance for its association with African American educator Reverend M.L. Latta, Latta University, and early education for Raleigh's African American community. The university also played an important role in the historic community of Oberlin.

The site has archaeological significance for the intact subsurface deposits dating to the historically significant occupation of the property by the Reverend M. L. Latta and Latta University (c. 1892 to 1930).

Significant elements of the site include known and suspected archaeological deposits dating from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century, some of which are identified in the Raleigh Historic Landmark Designation Report. Known archaeological deposits include evidence of the Latta House, the Manual Training Department, a midden heap, and a well. Significant elements of the historic setting include remaining trees, lawns, and planting beds.

Section 3. No portion of the exterior features of the site, (including known and suspected archaeological deposits, trees, planting beds, and lawns, or any other appurtenant features) located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be altered, restored, moved, remodeled, or reconstructed so that a change in design, material or outer appearance occurs unless and until a certificate of appropriateness is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission or its successors; provided however that the Raleigh Planning Director or designee may approve certificates of appropriateness for minor works as listed in the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission.

Section 4. No portion of the exterior features of the site, (including known and suspected archaeological deposits, trees, mature plant materials, and lawns, or any other appurtenant features) located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days has elapsed following final review by the Commission of a request for demolition (or any longer period of time required by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14 as it maybe amended hereafter); provided however, that demolition may be denied by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission in the event that the State Historic Preservation Officer determines that the building, site, or structure has statewide significance as provided by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14.

Section 5. All owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence shall be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be indexed after the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

Section 7. City administration and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have erected an appropriate sign on the site hereinabove described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic landmark by action of the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh provided, should the owners of the hereinabove described property not consent to the erection of said sign on the described premises, City administration and the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

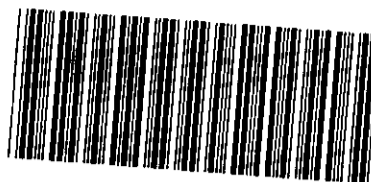
Section 8. In the event any building, site, structure, or object designated by this ordinance is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 9. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Adopted: July 6, 2010

Effective: July 6, 2010

Distribution: Department of City Planning
Inspections Department
Raleigh Historic Districts Commission
Wake County Tax Assessor
Property Owner
Registrar of Deeds



BOOK:014218 PAGE:00616 - 00620

**Yellow probate sheet is a vital part of your recorded document.
Please retain with original document and submit for rerecording.**



**Wake County Register of Deeds
Laura M. Riddick
Register of Deeds**

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_____ New Time Stamp
_____ # of Pages
5

Raleigh Department of City Planning
 One Exchange Plaza
 3rd floor
 Raleigh, NC 27602
 919-516-2626

www.raleighnc.gov/planning

Fee	_____
Amt Paid	_____
Check #	_____
Rec'd Date:	_____
Rec'd By:	_____
Completion Date:	_____

(Processing Fee: \$257.00 - valid until June 30, 2009 - Checks payable to the City of Raleigh.)

RALEIGH HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION APPLICATION

This application initiates consideration of a property for designation as a Raleigh Historic Landmark by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission (RHDC) and the Raleigh City Council. It enables evaluation of the resource to determine if it qualifies for designation. The evaluation is made by the Research Committee of the RHDC, which makes its recommendation to the full commission. The historic landmark program was previously administered by the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission but has been transferred back to the city; procedures for administration by the RHDC are outlined in the Raleigh City Code, Section 10-1053.

Please type if possible. Use 8-1/2" x 11" paper for supporting documentation and if additional space is needed. All materials submitted become the property of the RHDC and cannot be returned. Return completed application to the RHDC office at One Exchange Plaza, Suite 300, Raleigh or mail to:

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission
 PO Box 829 Century Station
 Raleigh, NC 27602

1. Name of Property (if historic name is unknown, give current name or street address):

Historic Name: REV. M.L. LATTA HOUSE AND UNIVERSITY SITE

Current Name: _____

2. Location:

Street 1001 PARKER ST

Address: _____

NC PIN No.: 0794948980

(Can be obtained from <http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/>)

3. Legal Owner of Property (If more than one, list primary contact):

Name: CITY OF RALEIGH

Address: 222 W HARGETT ST

City: RALEIGH State: NC Zip: -276011316

Telephone No: (919) (996)-(3100) Fax No. () () -()

E-Mail: _____

4. Applicant/Contact Person (If other than owner):

Name: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC FOR RALEIGH HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

Address: 524 SOUTH NEW HOPE RD

City: RALEIGH State: NC Zip: 27610

Telephone No: (919) (212)-(1760) Fax No. (919) (212)-(1707)

E-Mail: sseibel@esinc.cc

5. General Data/Site Information:

Date of Construction and major additions/alterations: Period Of Significance C. 1905-1922

Number, type, and date of construction of outbuildings: N/A

Approximate lot size or acreage: 1.97 acres

Architect, builder, carpenter, and/or mason: N/A

Original Use: Former location of the Rev. M.L. Latta House and Latta University, a private African American educational institution

Present Use: Site is presently open space used as open space.

6. Classification:

A. Category (check all that apply):

Building(s) Structure Object Site

B. Ownership

Private
Public Local State Federal

C. Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	0	0
Structures	0	0
Objects	0	0

D. Previous field documentation (when and by whom): INTENSIVE CULTURAL RESOURCE INVESTIGATION: THE REVEREND M.L. LATTA HOUSE AND LATTA UNIVERSITY SITE, WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. BY: SCOTT SEIBEL, RPA AND TERRI RUSS, RPA, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS NO. 1320, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

E. National Register of Historic Places Status:

Check One:

Entered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 3/1/2002	Nominated <input type="checkbox"/>
Determined Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> Date:	Determined Not Eligible <input type="checkbox"/> Date:
Nomination Not Requested <input type="checkbox"/>	Removed <input type="checkbox"/> Date:

7. Reason for Request: Site was previously designated as a Raleigh Historic Landmark based on the historical significance of the property and the existence of a c. 1905 two-story Queen Anne-style house. The site was automatically delisted when the house was destroyed by fire in 2007. Archaeological investigations have indicated that the site contains intact subsurface deposits, which contribute to the National Register significance of the property and the local historic significance of the property.

8. Is the property income producing? Yes No

9. Are any interior spaces being included for designation? Yes No

10. Supporting Documentation (Attach to application on separate sheets. Please type or print):

A. Photographs/Slides:

At least two sets of current exterior archival-grade photographic prints (minimum print size 5"x7") of all facades of the building and at least one photo of all other contributing and non-contributing resources. If interior spaces of the property are being considered for designation, please include two sets of photos for these features. Prints may be created by using archival-grade black and white film photography and processing or digital photography. The minimum standard for a digital print is 5x7 at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (ppi). This translates into a pixel dimension of 1950 x 1350. Digital images must be printed with an acceptable ink and paper combination as determined by the National Park Service. This list can be found at:

<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/policyexpansion.htm#digital> All photographs must be labeled with the name of the structure, address and date the photograph was taken with pencil or archival-approved photo pen. In addition to prints, all digital images should be submitted on a CD-R in TIF or JPG format. Any additional exterior or interior views and views of other structures on the property (color, black and white, or slides) will be helpful.

B. Map:

Please include a map showing the location of the property. A sketch map is acceptable, but please note street names and number. Any other structures on the property should also be shown. Please include a "North" arrow. Map should be no larger than 11" x 17".

A tax map with boundaries marked is preferred, which can be found at:

<http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/>.

C. Architectural Significance:

Describe the property, including exterior architectural features, additions, remodelings, and alterations. Also describe significant outbuildings and landscape features. If the owner is including interior features in the nomination for the purpose of design review protection; describe them in detail and note their locations. Include a statement regarding the architectural significance of the property.

D. Historic Significance:

Note any significant events, people, and/or families associated with the property. Include all major owners. Note if the property has ever been recorded during a historic building survey by the City of Raleigh or by the NC State Historic Preservation Office. If so, who and when? (See application item 6.D.) Please include a bibliography of sources. Information regarding prior designations can be found by contacting the Survey & Planning Branch of the NC State Historic Preservation Office at 919-807-6570, 919-807-6573 or at:

<http://www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us/spbranch.htm>.

**Report for the Raleigh Historic Landmark Designation Application for
The Reverend M.L. Latta House and University Site**

1001 Parker Street
Raleigh, North Carolina

Prepared by
Terri Russ, RPA
Environmental Services, Inc.

Revised by
The Raleigh Historic Districts Commission, Inc.

November 17, 2009

In 2006 Latta University, comprised of the Reverend M.L. Latta House and 1.97 acre property, was designated a Raleigh Historic Landmark (RHL) based on its historical and architectural significance. The property lost its designation following the house's destruction by fire in 2007. This report proposes the redesignation of the Rev. M.L. Latta House and University Site (herein "Latta Site") as a RHL based on archaeological and historical significance.

In this report, a brief history of Latta University, its role as an educational institution in Raleigh, and Reverend M.L. Latta is followed by a summary of the archaeological investigation of the property. The final section discusses the historical and archaeological significance of the Latta Site. Additional historical and archaeological information, maps, and photos may be found in *An Intensive Cultural Resource Investigation: The Reverend M.L. Latta House and Latta University, Wake County, North Carolina* (herein "ESI Report") by Scott Seibel, RPA and Terri Russ, RPA produced for the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission and the City of Raleigh (2009).

Historical Background

Oberlin

A historical overview of Oberlin Village is found in the 2002 National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic and Architectural Resources of Oberlin, Wake County, North Carolina, 1865-1952" (herein "Oberlin MPDF"). Additional information is found in *Culture Town: Life in Raleigh's African American Communities*, written by Linda Simmons-Henry and Linda Harris Edmisten and published in 1993. This report's background is largely drawn from these publications and from Reverend M.L. Latta's autobiography, *The History of My Life and Work: Autobiography of Rev. M .L. Latta, A.M., D.D.*, published in 1903.

Following the end of the Civil War, 149 acres of property northwest of Raleigh and owned by Duncan Cameron, a politician and banker who reportedly had owned nearly 1,900 slaves,

were subdivided and sold to freed slaves. In 1866, James E. Harris, a former slave of Cameron's, established Oberlin Village, named for Oberlin College in Ohio, which he had attended. Oberlin Village became a close-knit community of homes, businesses, schools, and churches.

There was a sizable educated African American middle class present early in the Oberlin community. The Oberlin MPDF offers insight into its population:

Tax rolls for four prominent Oberlin citizens in 1900 show that wealth could range dramatically. Rev. P. T. Hall, Willis M. Graves, Rev. M. L. Latta, and John T. Turner were all in their early 40s or early 50s in 1900. Rev. Hall, however, owned only \$170 in real estate while Rev. Latta, who was building Latta University during this period, owned \$1100 worth. The largest land holder of the four was John T. Turner who owned real estate valued at \$2175.

The educated middle class in Oberlin had evolved early in the community's history and was indicated by factors such as the high rate of home ownership. The education of the community members is also indicated in the historical record. In 1900, for example, the Wake County Tax Lists show that both Rev. P. T. Hall and Rev. M. L. Latta owned libraries valued at \$25 and \$20 respectively.

It is within this context that Oberlin was the first of Raleigh's communities to offer education to African Americans, evidenced by the founding of two institutions in the late nineteenth century: the Oberlin School and Latta University.

African American Education in Raleigh

Early African American schools were commonly funded by religious institutions; some remained private, and some transitioned into public schools. A number of these institutions were founded in Raleigh during the late 1860s.

Shortly after Oberlin's establishment in 1866, Wilson Temple United Methodist Church founded the Oberlin School. The first of its kind, predating the city's graded school by seven years, the graded school educated 100 students by the end of the 1870s.

In 1867, one year following the establishment of the Oberlin School, the Washington (then named Lincoln) School opened as a private elementary school built in cooperation between the American Missionary (Congregational) Association and the Freedmen's Educational Association. Located on Fayetteville Street near Shaw University, the school later transitioned into Raleigh's first, and public, African American high school in 1924.

African American institutions of higher learning were established in Raleigh during this time period as well. Shaw University, the oldest historically African American university in the south, grew from religious roots. Founded in 1865 by a missionary, the school was chartered by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1875, establishing it as a private educational institution. St. Augustine's School, with a strong connection to the Episcopal Church, began

in 1867 as a private normal school, which evolved from its more traditional role as a trade school into a liberal arts college.

While religious organizations provided a base, public interest in providing education for the state's African American population grew following the Civil War; according to the Oberlin MPDF:

Since most of North Carolina's freedmen's villages were founded by former slaves who had been denied opportunities for education, schools were given great importance and seen as the way to gain true equality. In fact, one of the earliest large organizations of African Americans was the North Carolina State Teachers Association. This group called a State Colored Education Convention in Raleigh in 1877 with 140 delegates from forty counties. In North Carolina's African American communities, the schools and school functions were a focal point. For example, each year William C. Smith, the editor of the *Charlotte Messenger*, Charlotte's African American newspaper, carefully covered the graduation exercises at black schools and colleges as well as providing endorsements for the opening of new African American institutions.

In 1877, Wake County voters approved a property tax valuation to fund the purchase of existing buildings for two African American schools: Washington School in south Raleigh and Garfield School in east Raleigh. At this time it was unusual to use public funds for white education and even more rare to fund African American schools. The 1877 referendum also funded the construction of a new building for the Oberlin Graded School.

Private schools for African Americans that were founded by independent individuals, of which Raleigh boasted two, were uncommon. The Berry O'Kelly School was located in the nearby 1860s freedmen village of Method. The Oberlin MPDF reports that "in 1917 a Baltimore paper acclaimed it the 'finest and most practical rural training school in the entire South.'" Berry O'Kelly was the first accredited African American high school in the state of North Carolina. The second of these private educational institutions was Latta University.

Latta University

In 1892, the Oberlin community experienced an expansion of the educational program provided by the Oberlin School through the founding of Latta University by Rev. M.L. Latta.

Reverend Morgan London Latta was born into slavery in 1853 at Fishdam, one of the quarters of the Cameron Plantation in Durham County. Although a slave as a child, he was able to attend school, albeit on an irregular basis. A few years after Latta and his family were emancipated, he attended Shaw University in Raleigh where, after years of economic hardship, he obtained second and first class certificates. Prior to establishing Latta University, Latta spent nearly twenty years teaching at various institutions, including one of the former Cameron plantation quarters as well as various district schools. In addition to his

work as a teacher, Latta worked various jobs including selling sewing machines and canvassing for the proposed Lynchburg and Durham Railroad.

While Latta owned four properties prior to the establishment of Latta University, (one in Durham, two in Braggtown, and one in Raleigh), he chose to locate his university on a farm in Oberlin Village. The presence of a strong African American community must have been a major reason why chose Oberlin, which he called “West Raleigh.” In his autobiography, Latta describes the location as “the very best that could be desired for this school, being outside the busy city, but within easy reach by means of the electric street cars, which run near the institution.” Latta University’s property grew to nearly 300 acres in size by 1903.

In his autobiography, Latta reported that thousands of students had attended the university. The book also claimed that there were 23 buildings on campus and a capacity to accommodate 1,400 students, though a fire had destroyed three buildings, including the library. However, the *Second Annual Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Latta University, Oberlin, North Carolina, 1893-1894* lists only 92 students during that school year. According to the ESI Report, men were charged \$6.75 per month while women were charged \$5.75. Debt was an on-going problem with funding the operations, and the Reverend often had to raise additional funds from friends and the public. The Industrial Department operated an industrial farm where students could work and receive free room and board as well as earn up to \$10 per month. Admission was allowed only to those 17 years of age or older. A full session of the Industrial School ran 10 months and taught such skills as carpentry and brick laying for the men and laundry and house work for the women. Students who intended to work their way through school were only allowed to attend Night School. Many of the Latta University graduates went on to obtain Board of Education certification to teach at public schools.

During its heyday, as education for African Americans expanded, the University appeared in Raleigh’s city directory. The 1993 Latta University Raleigh Historic Landmark designation report (herein 1993 Landmark Report) states:

From 1905 through 1919, Latta's University, as it was listed, regularly appeared in the city directory's black business section under the head in "schools, colleges, and academies" along with, at various times, Johnson High School, Edenton St. School, St. Ambrose Parish School, St. Augustine's, Nazareth Catholic School, St. Agnes Training School for Nurses, Leonard School of Pharmacy, Leonard Medical School, and Shaw University. For the same period, there were only three black public schools listed -- Oberlin School, Washington Graded School, and Chavis School on West St.

1919 was the final year in which Latta University appeared in the directory, and the 2002 National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Latta House reports that the school closed in 1922. The August 8, 1948 issue of the *News and Observer* reported that all university lands were dispersed through mortgage disclosures between the years of 1920 and 1928.

Rev. M.L. Latta, Educator

As discussed previously, Rev. Latta received his education at Shaw University in Raleigh. According to the August 8, 1948 *News and Observer*, Latta studied with Shaw's first president, Dr. Henry Martin Tupper, and there earned his teaching certificate. The 1993 Landmark Report for Latta University indicates that to pay for his schooling, Latta taught at district schools and night school. Graduation led to a public school teaching career that would last almost twenty years.

Latta had unusual and sometimes unpopular opinions on issues of racial equality. The 1993 Landmark Report describes:

Latta decided to establish a University, the first to have a "representative of the race at the head", to "solve the race problem". He advocated compulsory education and believed strongly in the power of education to enable blacks to become economically self-sufficient. Latta advised blacks "to get the mighty dollar and buy property and they will have all the recognition they want." (Latta, p. 64) He believed that "there is no honor in anything on earth unless you have property, the mighty dollar, and push and vim." (Latta, p. 192) Local blacks did not understand Latta or his intentions and held "indignation meetings" in protest. Local whites supported him in principle, but with little financial aid.

Fundraising was apparently one of Latta's talents. The Oberlin MPDF describes the University's mission:

His idea in founding Latta University was to prove that an African American could "do something." Thus, his university was funded and managed by his own efforts without being supported by an outside religious or charitable organization. Latta University did emphasize the study of the Bible, however and the development of "a thoroughly Christian character." The school provided industrial or vocational education, a night school, and even an orphanage.

The 1993 Landmark Report further describes Latta's fundraising accomplishments:

By 1903, Rev. Latta had made over one hundred fund-raising speeches in the United States and Canada. Prior to that time, he had spent nine months in England, raising \$9260; in five weeks in France, he collected \$1240. In 1903, he reported that there was no mortgage on the school, and the school owed "but a very little."

Around 1905, Latta built the Latta House, which was designated (as Latta University) a Raleigh Historic Landmark in 1993, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2002, and destroyed by fire in 2007. The 2001 National Register nomination describes the two-story Queen Anne-style house as "one of the largest and most fashionable in Oberlin at a time when small Queen Anne or tri-gable cottages were the norm," a significant statement about Rev. Latta's status within the Oberlin community.

This period of wealth was short-lived, however, as is related in the 1993 Landmark Report. Perhaps heralded by the cessation of the University's recordation in the 1919 city directory, Latta and his family were listed as residents on the school property for another decade. In the 1920 federal population census, 57-year-old Morgan Latta is listed as head of household, teacher, and employer. His wife, then not employed, and seven children, six employed and one in school, resided with him. The school apparently no longer boarded teachers or students. By 1922 Rev. Latta was listed in the directory with his wife, employed; a son, employed; and two daughters, in school. In 1925, with the Depression, Latta's financial situation plummeted, and by 1930 the family was no longer listed in the directory.

Archaeological Research

An archaeological investigation of the property was undertaken in order to determine if the site retained sufficient archaeological integrity to contribute to redesignation of the property as a Historic Landmark through the City's Raleigh Historic Landmark (RHL) designation program.

The archaeological investigation included a study of historic maps and photographs of the property in order to assist in the identification of potential outbuildings and school buildings related to the Latta House and/or Latta University. A complete discussion of this investigation can be found in the ESI Report, which is incorporated into this report by reference. Relevant map and photograph excerpts can be found at the end of this designation report.

Archaeological field methods used during the investigation included the excavation of 82 shovel tests and three formal excavation units, the recording of six features, and the collection of 3,025 artifacts. An analysis of the artifacts recovered during the shovel testing shows that spatial patterning exists at the site, suggesting the locations of the Latta House, numerous buildings associated with Latta University, and activity areas. The presence of posthole features revealed in the excavation units shows that the footprints of various Latta University buildings and other physical features (such as fences) are preserved at the site.

The wide array of artifacts recovered speaks to the diverse activities that occurred at the site. Artifacts represented activity groups related to foodways, architecture, personal/recreational, and household/agricultural labor. Many of the recovered artifacts could be directly dated to the occupation of the property by the Latta family and Latta University. Based on the study of the historic photographs of the university as well as the types of artifacts recovered, it is believed that the portion of the university that is preserved on the 1.97-acre lot is the Manual Training Department.

Latta University Raleigh Historic Landmark History

The Raleigh Historic Districts Commission (RHDC), established in 1961, serves as the City of Raleigh's (City's) official historic preservation advisory body. The RHDC is charged with recommending properties or areas within Raleigh's city limits to be designated by ordinance as local historic landmarks to the City Council, as well as reviewing exterior changes to

designated landmarks. A local historic landmark site may include individual buildings, above-ground or subsurface remains, archaeological sites, areas, or objects that have historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural significance.

Under Raleigh Municipal Code of Ordinances Part 10 (*Planning and Development*), Chapter 1 (*General Provisions*), Article E (*Historic Districts Commission*), Section 10-1053 (*Adoption of Ordinances Designating Historic Landmarks When the Historic Districts Commission has Jurisdiction*),

No building, structure, site, area, or object shall be recommended for designation as an historic landmark unless it is deemed and found by the Historic Districts Commission to be of special significance in terms of its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural importance, and to possess integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and/or association.

While the city code criteria recognize the significance of archaeological resources with respect to historic sites and districts, guidance for determining archaeological significance for RHL designation has not been formally established. The following recommendations utilize the National Register guidelines for evaluating archaeological sites' eligibility within the criteria of the city code. City code and National Register criteria for designation are constructed of parallel and nearly identical language. While by definition, city code criteria are the required standard for evaluating a RHL designation, because of the similarity of the criteria used in the two programs, National Register guidelines have been determined by the RHDC to be an appropriate reference to evaluate archaeological significance.

Historical Significance

In 1988, Latta University was noted in the *African American Communities Survey* conducted by the RHDC. In 1993, the RHDC authored an application for the university property to receive RHL designation on the basis of the Latta House's architectural and Site's historical significance (RHDC 1993). Latta University was subsequently declared a RHL by the City Council (Ordinance No. [1993] 305) following the recommendation of the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission, which at that time administered properties now under the jurisdiction of the RHDC. In January 2002, the RHDC found that the nomination for the Rev. M.L. Latta House met National Register criteria and recommended that it be submitted to the National Register Advisory Committee for listing (RHDC Business Meeting Minutes, 15 January 2002). The property was listed in the National Register on 16 May 2002 under Criteria A, B, and C (discussed below). According to designating ordinance provisions, the property was automatically de-listed as an RHL after the house was destroyed by fire in 2007; however, at this time the Rev. M.L. Latta House remains listed in the National Register.

To be designated a RHL, a property must typically exhibit "special significance" in terms of historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural importance. A property must also retain integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and/or

association (City Code Section 10-1053[a]). While the above-ground architecture associated with Latta University no longer remains, the property's historical and cultural significance, as well as its recently-identified archaeological integrity, render the property eligible for RHL redesignation.

Archaeological Significance

Archaeological investigations of the Latta Site revealed the presence of intact subsurface deposits dating from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century, the time period it was utilized by Latta University. In order to establish a basis for the evaluation of its archaeological remains as a contributing resource for RHL redesignation of the Latta Site, National Register Criterion D was utilized.

National Register Criteria for Evaluating Archaeological Sites

The evaluation of an archaeological site for inclusion in the National Register rests largely on its research potential, that is, its ability to contribute important information through preservation and/or additional study (Criterion D).

The National Register criteria for evaluation are stated as follows:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and;

Criterion A: Properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of our history;

Criterion B: Properties that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;

Criterion C: Properties that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and

Criterion D: Properties that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, important information in prehistory or history.

The Reverend M.L. Latta House was listed in the National Register in 2002 under Criteria A, B, and C. As the destruction of the house compromised the property's significance under Criterion C, one of the goals of this investigation was to determine if archaeological deposits on the property would render the property eligible for designation as an RHL according to National Register Criterion D. The evaluation of the Latta House and University archaeological site under Criterion D is based upon the following four inquiries:

- a. Site Integrity – Does the site contain intact, undisturbed cultural deposits?
- b. Preservation – Does the site contain material suited to in-depth analysis?
- c. Uniqueness/Context – Is the information contained in the site redundant in comparison to that available from similar sites, or do the remains provide a unique or insightful perspective on research concerns of regional importance? Is the information relevant to an established historical context?
- d. Relevance to Current and Future Research – Would additional work at this site contribute to our knowledge of the past? Would preservation of the site protect valuable information for future studies? While this category is partly a summary of the above considerations, it also recognizes that a site may provide valuable information regardless of its integrity, preservation, or uniqueness.

The application of Criterion D utilizing these four categories provides for an objective assessment of the significance of an archaeological site. In the case of the Latta Site, these categories were used to supplement the evaluation of the significance of the archaeological remains regarding the redesignation of the site as a historic landmark under a RHL designation and per City Code Section 10-1053(a).

Site Integrity

The site contains areas of intact cultural deposits. While the destruction and subsequent demolition of the house destroyed the archaeological deposits directly associated with the footprint of the house, artifact patterning was identified around and to the north, south, and west of the house. The site contains intact cultural features dating to the period of significance, including a stone lined well and posthole features from Latta University buildings.

Preservation

Many of the artifacts recovered from the site during the current investigation can be associated with a specific temporal range. Items such as a wrought iron padlock, a shoe polish bottle, a shotgun shell, amethyst glass shards, fragments of milk glass canning lids, and cut nails all date to the Latta occupation between 1892 and ca. 1930. Numerous animal bone fragments were recovered during the excavations. The presence of preserved faunal remains can inform on the types of animals and cuts of meat consumed by the Latta family and the Latta University students. Not only are Latta-period features present on the property, these features are well preserved and exhibit little disturbance from later occupations.

Uniqueness/Context

The property is unique in its association with the historic Latta University, the Reverend Latta, and African American cultural history in Wake County and the larger region. As the only remaining property associated with the historic university, the archaeological remains have the potential to yield valuable and unique information regarding the Latta University and African American culture in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Relevance to Current and Future Research

Preservation of this site will protect this information for future investigations. Additional research investigations could contribute to the limited written record regarding the university and offer a greater understanding of the daily life and activities of the Latta family and the Latta University students. Specifically, posthole patterns appear to be present that would aid in reconstruction of the physical layout of the university buildings, while artifact patterns would aid in identifying the activities associated with these buildings. Also, the recovery of items of daily use such as tablewares, personal items such as jewelry and toys, and food remains such as animal bones would give insight into the personal lives of the former inhabitants of the site.

Based on the results of this investigation, the project area is believed to contain intact archaeological deposits that appear to date to the use of the property as the residence of the Latta family and as Latta University. The deposits date to the historically significant occupation of the property by the Reverend M. L. Latta and Latta University and thus make the site eligible for redesignation as a Raleigh Historic Landmark.

Summary of Recommendations

The initial RHL designation was based on both the architectural significance of the existing structure as well as the historical significance of the property's association with the Reverend M.L. Latta and Latta University (RHDC 1993). While the architectural significance of the property may no longer be considered, the historical significance of the property remains unchanged and serves as one basis for the redesignation of the property as a RHL. The Latta House and University Site is a unique remnant of an early, significant period of African American education in Raleigh. The foundation of an educational institution by an individual, funded through donation according to Latta's personal belief that African American education was critical, was unusual. The university also played an important role in the historic community of Oberlin. In this context, according to city code, the Latta Site has special significance in terms of historical importance.

Archaeological investigations suggest that the property contains intact subsurface deposits dating to the period of significance (ca. 1892 to 1930). Detailed supporting information on the archaeological findings may be found in the ESI Report. National Register evaluation criteria provide the framework for determining that the Latta Site has special significance

according to city code in terms of archaeological importance due to identified archaeological deposits dating to the property's period of significance.

The findings of the archaeological survey of the Latta Site further contribute to the significance of the site. The attached map "Rev. M.L. Latta House: Area of Intact Archaeological Deposits" from the ESI Report delineates the area of significance, which includes evidence of the Latta House, the Manual Training Department, a midden heap, and a well, each of which should be protected by RHL designation.

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BOUNDARY MAP, LATTA HOUSE AND UNIVERSITY SITE



Area of Intact
Archaeological Deposits



Property Boundary
 House
 Shovel Test Location
 Large Tree

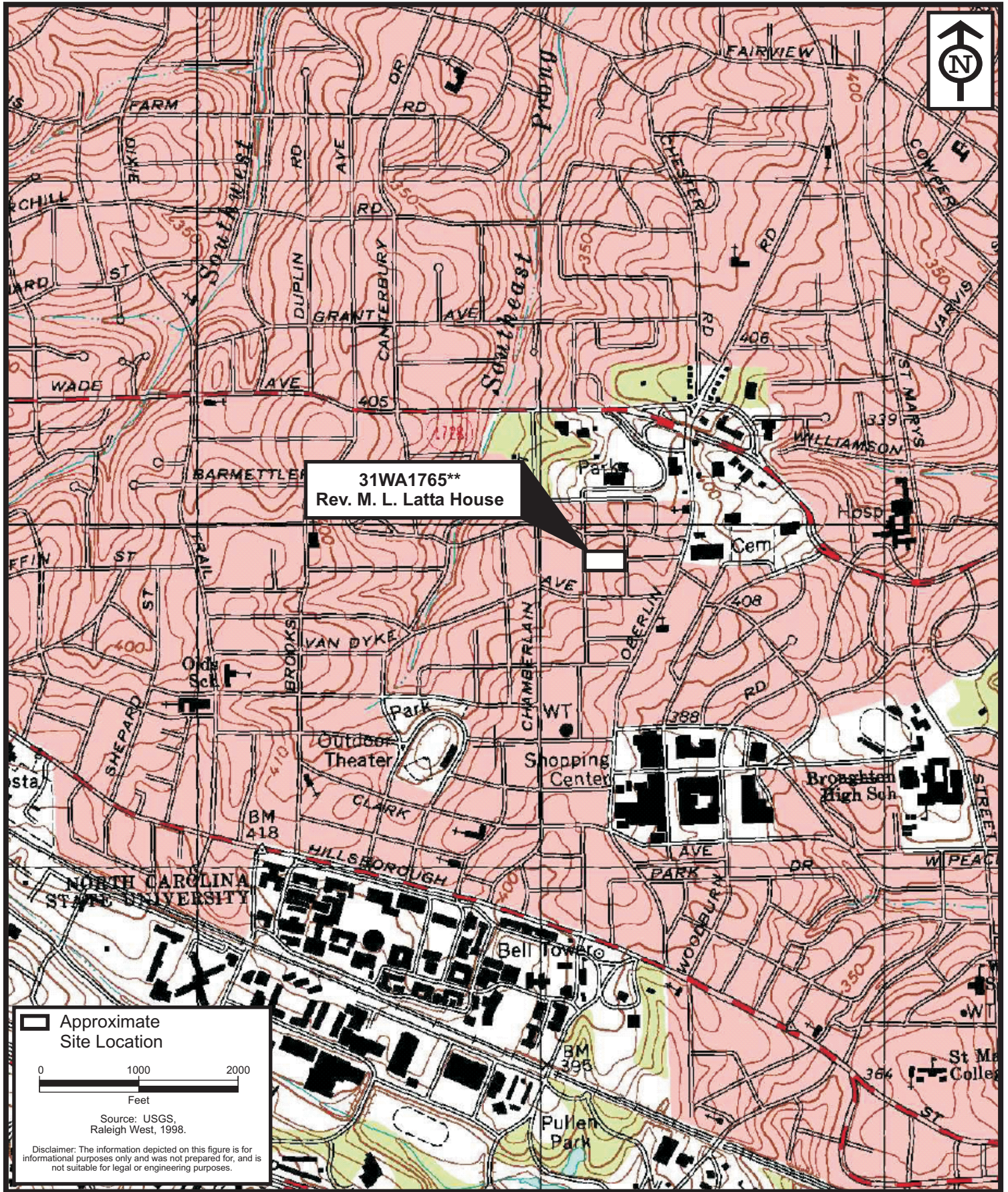
Source: ESI Data, 2008-2009.

Disclaimer: The information depicted on this figure is for informational purposes only and was not prepared for, and is not suitable for legal or engineering purposes.

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Area of Intact Archaeological Deposits
Rev. M. L. Latta House
 Wake County, North Carolina

Project:	ER08145.00
Date:	Mar 2009
Drwn/Chkd:	MP/SS
Figure:	7.1



Project Location
Rev. M. L. Latta House
 Wake County, North Carolina



View of property from Parker Street, facing northwest.



View of interior of property, facing southwest.



South and east elevations.



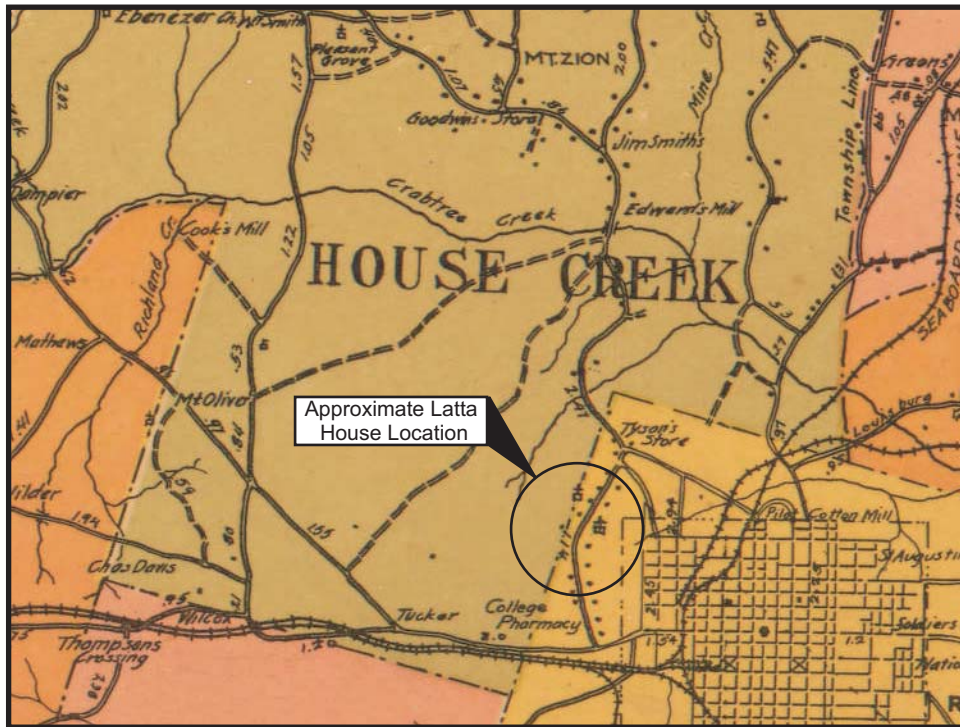
East and north elevation.



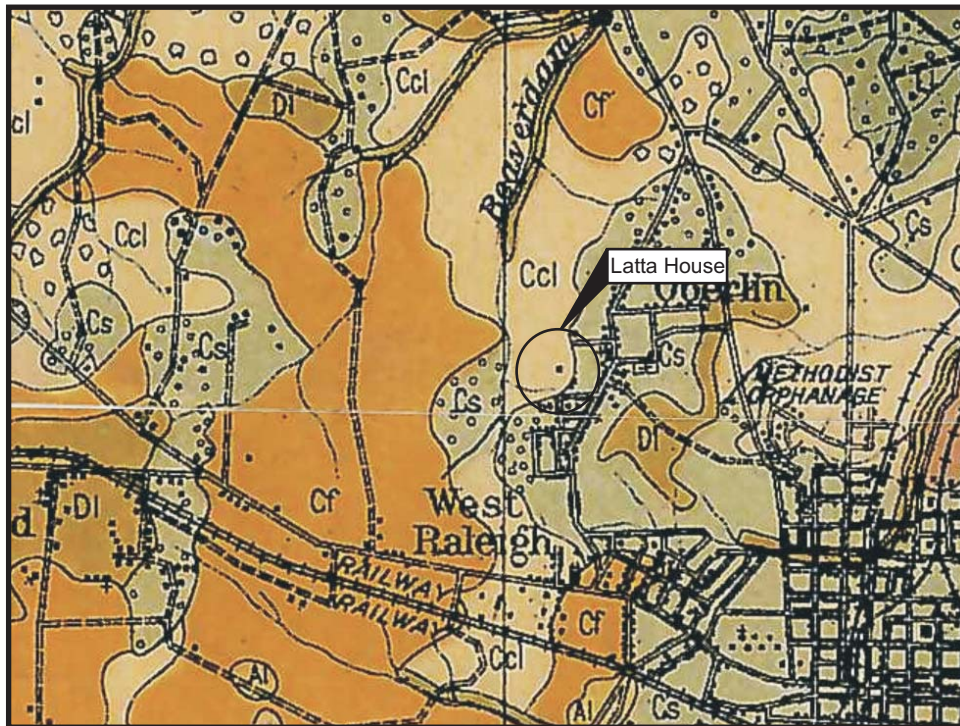
East elevation.



South and east elevations after fire.



Spoon 1911 Map of Wake County.



1914 Soil Map of Wake County (USGS 1914).

Historic Maps
Rev. M. L. Latta House
 Wake County, North Carolina

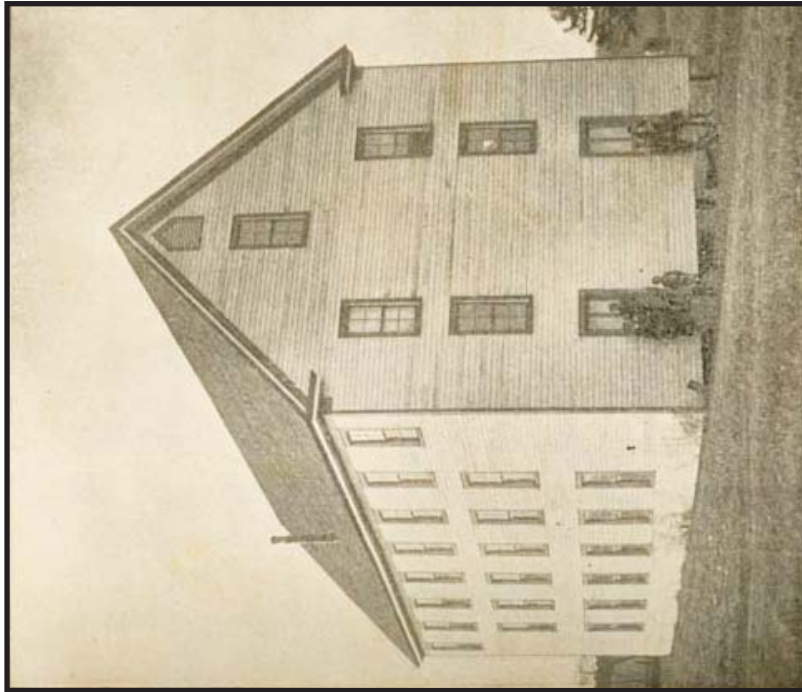


Industrial Training Department.

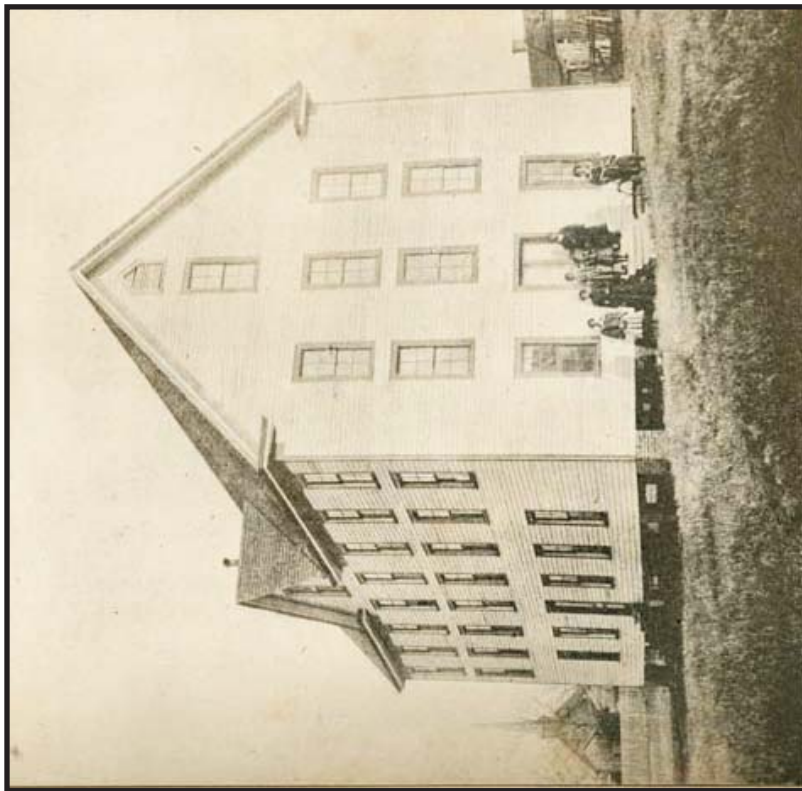


Kindergarten Department.

Autobiography Pictures
Rev. M. L. Latta House
Wake County, North Carolina



Chapel and Young Men's Dormitory.



Young Ladies' Dormitory.

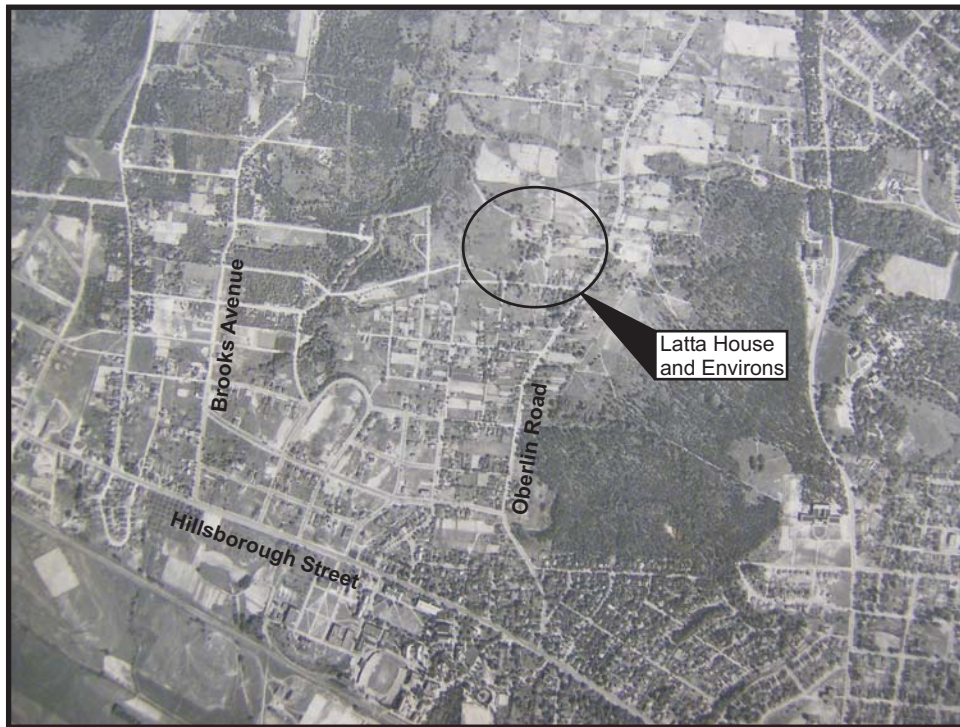


Manual Training Department.

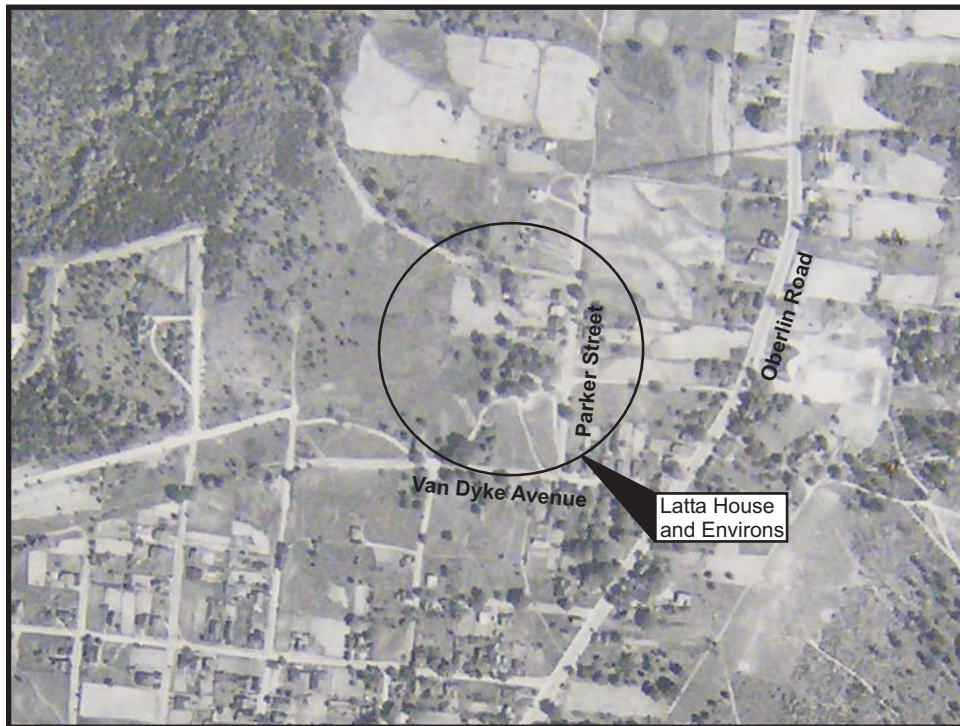


Residence of Rev. M. L. Latta.

Autobiography Pictures
Rev. M. L. Latta House
Wake County, North Carolina

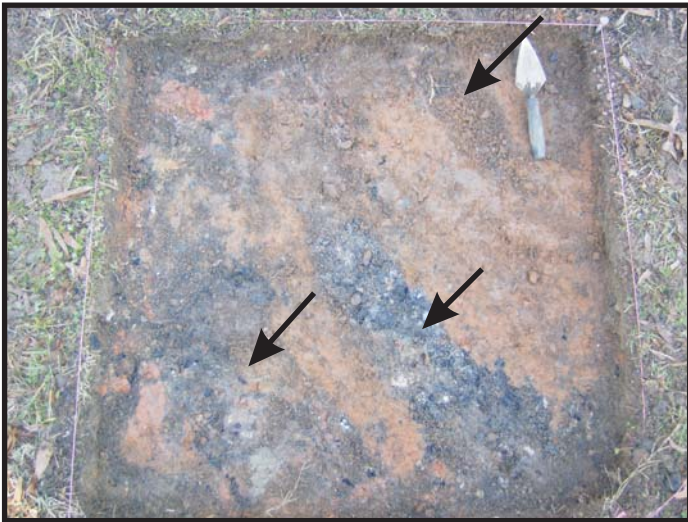


1938 Aerial of Wake County.



Closeup of Latta House vicinity.

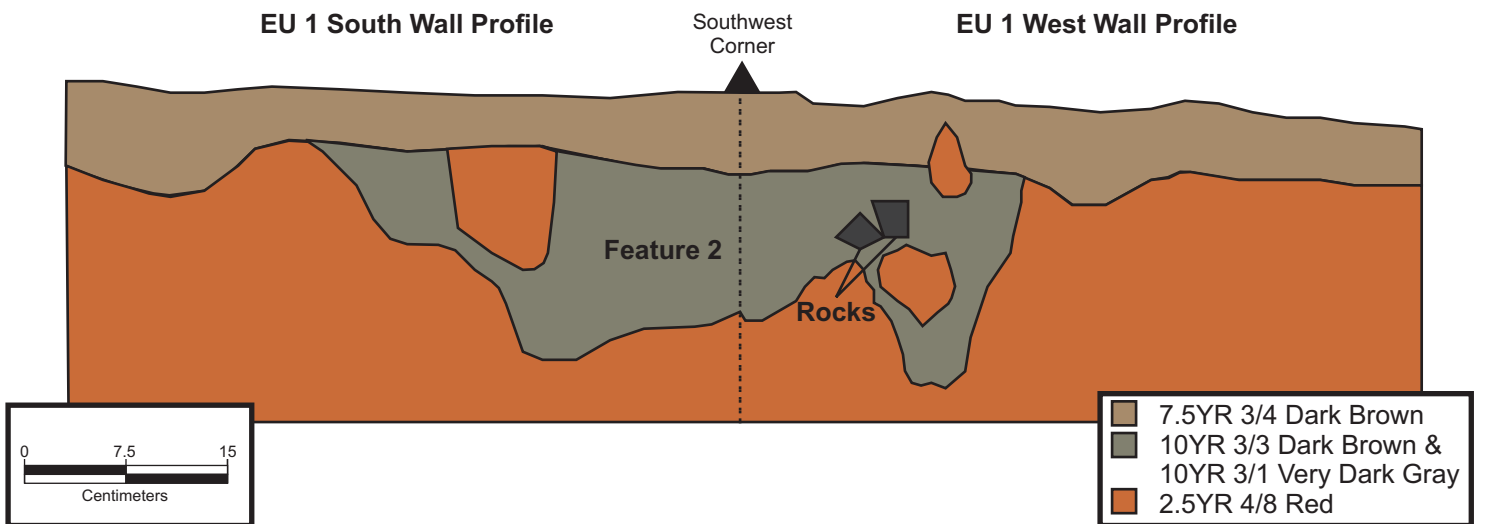
1938 Aerial Photograph of the Latta House
Rev. M. L. Latta House
Wake County, North Carolina



Plan photo of Feature 1 (EU 1).



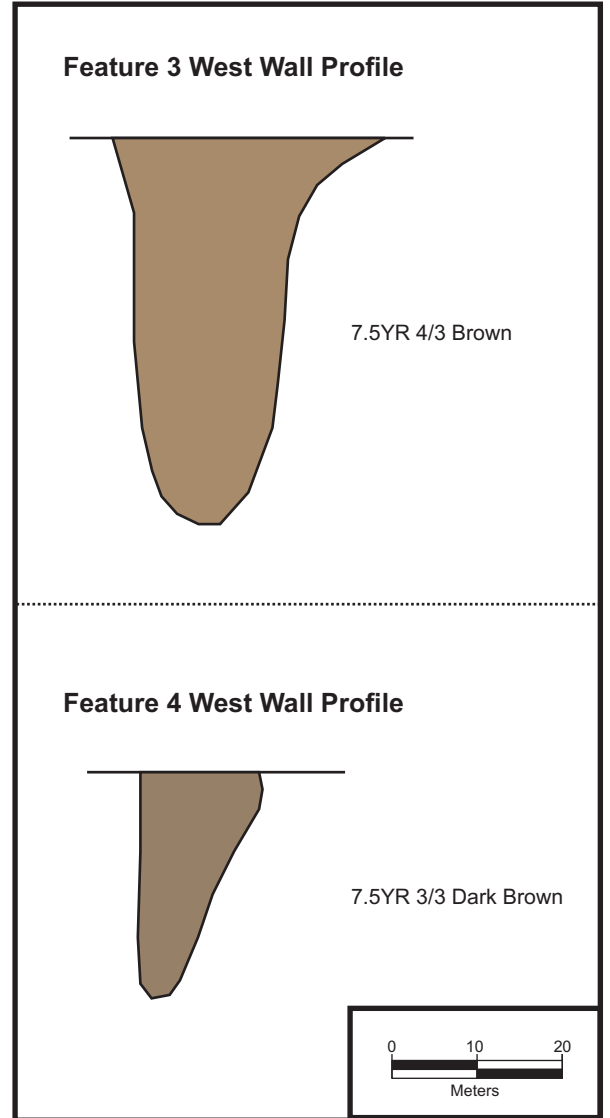
Plan photo of Feature 2 (EU 1).



Plans and Profiles-EU 1 and Features 1 and 2
Rev. M. L. Latta House
 Wake County, North Carolina



Plan photo of Features 3, 4, and 5 (EU 2).



Features 3 and 4 profile drawings.



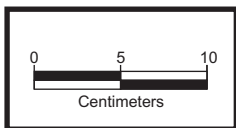
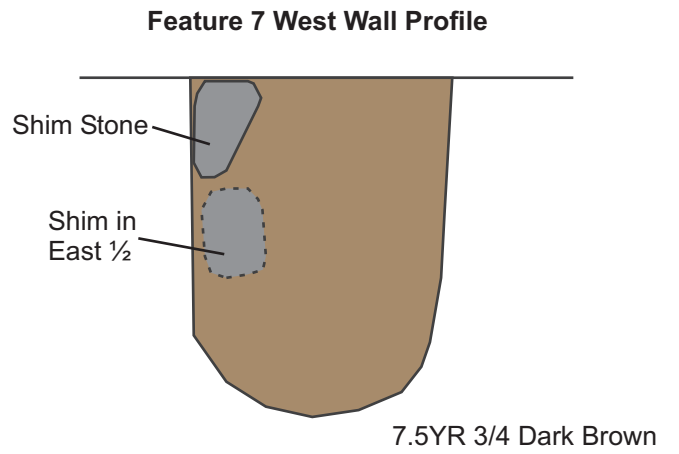
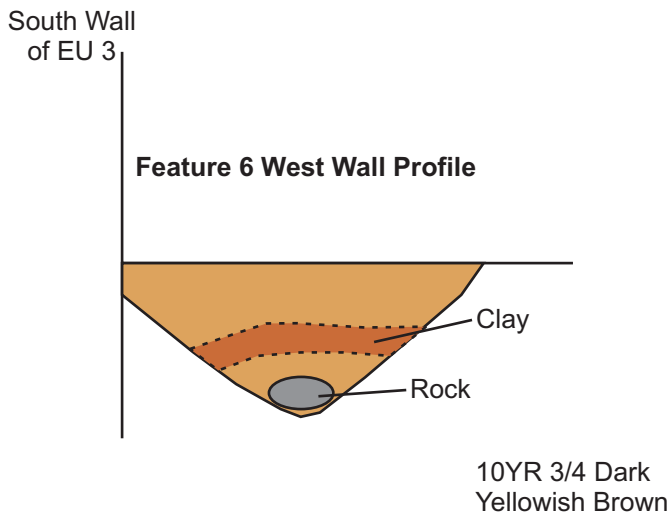
EU 2 north wall profile.

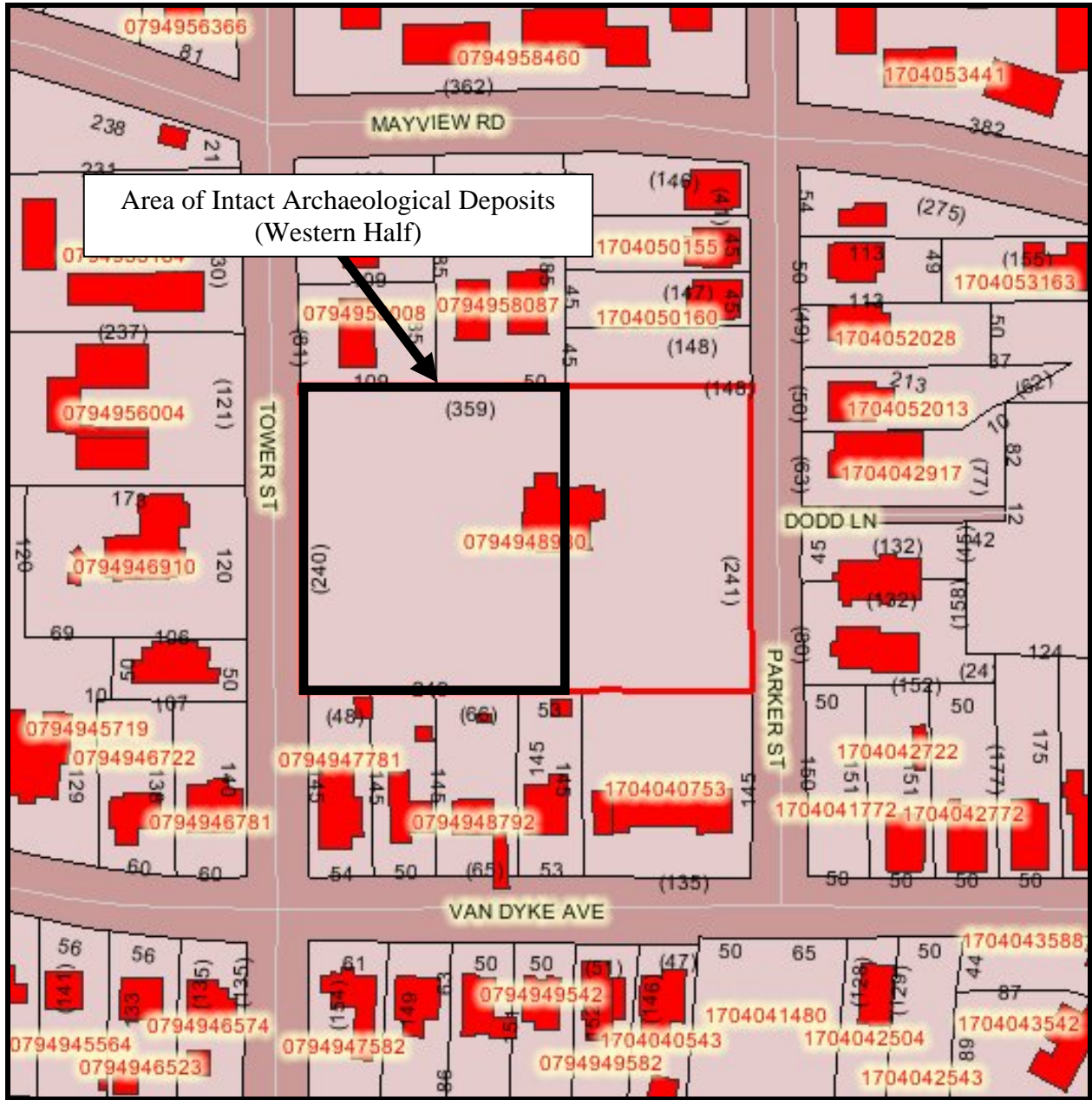


Plan of Features 6 and 7 (EU 3).



Profile of EU 3, south wall.





Area of Intact Archaeological Deposits at Reverend M.L. Latta House Site