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FOR  
REGISTRATION

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RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27602  
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ORDINANCE NO. (1992) 92

REGISTER OF DEEDS

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING Oak View, intersection of Poole Road and I-440 (the Beltline) IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC PROPERTY.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of a Historic Properties 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 Properties Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a historic property; and

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

WHEREAS, on the 4th day of November 1992 a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, Raleigh, by the City Council of the City of Raleigh and the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic property; 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 Oak View, in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is declared a Raleigh Historic Property. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

Oak View, intersection of Poole Road and I-440 (the Beltline), including approx. fifteen (15) acres, the exact same area included in the National Register, including house, outbuildings, support features associated with the house, and excluding roads to west and south, office buildings to east, and fields to north.

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

Exterior of Williams-Wyatt-Poole House including additions; gazebo; kitchen; water tower; carriage house; livestock barn; cemetery; cotton gin; pecan grove; and all landscape and appurtenant features on the approx. fifteen (15) acres described in Sec. 1.

Section 3. No building, site, structure or object that is designated in this ordinance located on the hereinbefore described site 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 Properties Commission or its successors.

Section 4. No building, site, structure or object that is designated in this ordinance located on the hereinbefore described site may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five

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(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).

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 Historic Properties 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 property by action of the Raleigh Historic Properties 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 Historic Properties 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 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: November 4, 1992

Effective: November 18, 1992

Distribution: City Council  
City Manager  
City Attorney  
Planning Department (2)  
Inspections Department (3)  
Raleigh Historic Properties Commission  
Wake County Tax Supervisor  
Wake County Registrar of Deeds  
Property Owner and/or Occupant

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*City Of Raleigh*  
*North Carolina*

\* \* \* \* \*  
CERTIFICATION  
\* \* \* \* \*

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA )  
COUNTY OF WAKE )

I, Gail G. Smith, City Clerk of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of Ordinance No. (1992) 92 - designating Oak View, at the intersection of Poole Road and I-440 (the Beltline), in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina a Historic Property - which was adopted by the Raleigh City Council Meeting held on Wednesday, November 4, 1992.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Seal of the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 10th day of November, 1992.



*Gail G. Smith*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail G. Smith  
City Clerk

**AN ORDINANCE EXPANDING THE HISTORIC LANDMARK BOUNDARY FOR OAK VIEW INTERSECTION OF POOLE ROAD AND I-440 (the Beltline) IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.**

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of a countywide Historic Preservation Commission for Wake County 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 City of Raleigh agreed to participate in the countywide Historic Preservation Commission through an interlocal agreement with Wake County; and

WHEREAS, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 1992 the Raleigh City Council adopted Ordinance No. (1992) 92 designating Oak View a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission has made an investigation and recommended the historic landmark boundary be expanded; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has made an analysis that the following additional property is eligible to be included in the landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2001 a public hearing was held in the City Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, Raleigh, by the City Council of the City of Raleigh to determine whether the hereinafter described landmark boundary should be expanded; 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 met.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE RALEIGH CITY COUNCIL THAT:**

Section 1. The historic landmark boundary for the property designated as Oak View, owned by the County of Wake, in the planning jurisdiction of Raleigh, North Carolina, be revised as follows:

Oak View, intersection of Poole Road and I-440 (the Beltline), Raleigh, including the Oak View County Park property (Wake County PIN #1723.11 65 8449) and a portion of the adjacent Wake County Office Park property (Wake County PIN # 1723.12 76 5323), being approximately 26 acres. The boundary is delineated on the south by the Poole Road right-of-way, on the west by the I-440 right-of-way, then following the stream and centerline of the ponds to the intersection with the Oak View property line on the east, as shown on the map filed with the designation report.

Section 2. Those elements that are integral to its historical, architectural, archaeological significance, or any combination thereof are as follows:

Exterior of the Williams-Wyatt-Poole House including additions; gazebo; kitchen; carriage house; livestock barn; cemetery; cotton gin; pecan grove; and all landscape and appurtenant

features on the approximately 26 acres described in Section 1.

Section 3. No building, site, structure, or object designated in this ordinance that is located on the hereinbefore described site 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 Wake County Historic Preservation Commission or its successors.

Section 4. No building, site, structure, or object designated in this ordinance that is located on the hereinbefore described site may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days has elapsed following final review by the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission of a request for demolition (or any longer period required by N.C.G.S. 160A-400.14 as it may be amended hereafter).

Section 5. All owners 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 Wake County Historic Preservation Commission are hereby authorized to have erected an appropriate sign on the site herein described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic landmark by action of the Raleigh City Council and the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission.

Section 8. In the event any building, site, structure, or object is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the city of Raleigh, this ordinance may be repealed.

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

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Council Member Odom made a motion that the above ordinance be adopted. Council Member Scruggs seconded the motion, and upon vote, the motion carried this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2001.

Effective Date:        Upon adoption

Distribution:    Word Proc – Taylor  
                  Planning – Brandon for Chapman  
                  Inspections – Ellis  
                  Wake County Register of Deeds  
                  Wake County Historic Preservation Commission - Pugh



*City Of Raleigh*  
*North Carolina*

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)  
COUNTY OF WAKE)

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Donna Hester, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of Ordinance (2001) 925 adopted January 16, 2001.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and have caused the Seal of the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 23th day of January, 2001.



Donna Hester  
Donna Hester  
Deputy City Clerk

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Oak View

other names/site number Williams-Wyatt-Poole Farm

### 2. Location

street & number NE corner, jct of Poole Rd. and Raleigh Beltline

not for publication N/A

city, town Raleigh

vicinity N/A

state North Carolina

code NC

county Wake

code 183

zip code 27610

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

#### Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

#### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> sites
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>9</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official William S. Poole

Date 20 Feb 91

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

See continuation sheet

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

See continuation sheet

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weatherboard

vinyl

roof slate

other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Oak View, Wake County, North Carolina

Section number   6   Page   1  

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Agriculture: animal facility

Agriculture: processing

Agriculture: agricultural field

Funerary: cemetery

Current Functions

Vacant/not in use

Agriculture: agricultural field

Funerary: cemetery

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 1 Description

Oak View, the farm established by Benton S. D. Williams in the 1850s, is located on a rise overlooking Poole Road, one mile south of the Neuse River, just east of the Raleigh Beltline. The nominated property is within the city limits of Raleigh, about four miles east of downtown. The farm complex includes a mid-19th century I-house with Greek Revival details that was enlarged and remodeled in the Colonial Revival style in 1940-41; a full-dovetail plank kitchen which dates to the first half of the 19th century; three turn of the century barns, one of which served as a cotton gin house; a pre-1940 water tower; and an extensive pecan grove planted in several sections beginning in the 1910s.

A driveway winds through the pecan grove from Poole Road to the house on the property. Probably laid out around 1970 when the Beltline was constructed, this drive is slightly east of the original drive, which followed a straight path from Poole Road to the house. Part of the original drive was encompassed by the right-of-way of the Beltline, but most of it is still visible on the lawn between single rows of cedar trees. The new driveway is flanked by more recently planted cedars, as is the eastern edge of the property bordering the Beltline.

Although the house is surrounded by bushes, deciduous trees, and a few remaining hardwoods, the oak trees for which the farm was named are no longer present, nor are the boxwoods forming the letters "OV", which were located in front of the house in the early 20th century. The extensive grove of pecan trees is the most prominent landscape feature. Several acres of the trees were planted in straight rows along the gently sloping hills in front of the house. Although exceptionally large in its present state, the grove was at one time even more expansive, extending to the west across fields that were superseded by the Beltline. A few trees survive on the Beltline's western right-of-way.

Although as large as 1000 acres under the ownership of Benton S. D. Williams in the mid-19th century, subsequent property divisions and transactions left the farm at a much smaller 170 acres by the early 20th century, and much acreage was lost to the right-of-way of the Raleigh Beltline in the 1960s. Wake County purchased the remaining 72 acres of the property in 1983. Since then, three buildings of the proposed Wake County office park have been constructed to the east of the farm complex, all of which are low in height, simple in design, generally sensitive to the rural landscape, and relatively well-screened by trees from the nominated property. To the north is undeveloped acreage that formerly served as agricultural fields for the farm, but which have lost integrity due to lack of cultivation and extensive overgrowth in the past several decades.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 2 Description

1. Williams-Wyatt-Poole House; ca. 1855, remodeled in 1940-1941: contributing (see Figures 1 and 2).

The main block of the dwelling at the center of the Williams-Wyatt-Poole Farm, a frame I-house dating from the mid-1850s, features its original two story pedimented portico with panelled columns and pilasters and sawn balusters on the upper level. The entrance is original as well, with two single panel doors surrounded by multi-paned sidelights and transom. The windows are 6/6 double-hung sash, some original, some replacements. The slate shingle roof also dates from the 1940-41 remodeling. In recent years, vinyl siding has been applied to all of the house except the porches, but it is believed that all original fabric survives underneath. A documentary photograph of the house shows that the cornerboards, cornice, and window surrounds are plain. The porch was and still is the most elaborate feature of the dwelling. The house originally had a shed room on either side of the extended central hall and two chimneys located on the rear of the main block which served the house's six fireplaces. An enclosed, straight stair located on the eastern wall of the central hallway rose from the back of the house to the front.

The house was expanded and renovated in late 1940 and early 1941 to accommodate the family of James Gregory Poole who had recently acquired the property. The renovation, which was completed by an unknown local contractor, was of high quality and was sympathetic to the original Greek Revival fabric of the house, yet clearly was of its own time with regard to the expanded configuration. The early shed rooms were encompassed by a two story rear addition, which resembles two rear ells, one slightly deeper than the other, with its parallel gables. The differences in depth accommodate the changes to the interior plan, which include a deep living room on the west end and two full rooms (a dining room and first floor bedroom) on the east end. When this occurred the rear wall and entrance were pushed back and a larger stair with ramped railings was added. Located along the west wall of the central hall, the open stair follows almost a complete run to a wide landing lighted by a 6/6 sash window, then takes a 180 degree turn up a few more steps to the second story hallway. The two rear chimneys were replaced with a single interior end chimney on the west end of the house.

A one story porch with trellised supports, topped by an iron railing, was attached to the west end of the main block and a one and a half story, T-shaped wing was added to the east end. The east wing, which contains the kitchen, family room, a bedroom, and two baths, is characterized by Colonial Revival details such as gable and shed dormers, a bay window, and an octagonal louvered cupola on the roof. The large granite rubble chimney on the north end of this addition is very similar to, but a much more recent version of, that found on the mid-19th century kitchen building behind the house.

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Continuation Sheet Oak View, Wake County, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 3 Description

The main block of the house retains a great deal of its original interior woodwork, including several two-panel doors, door and window surrounds with mitred corner blocks and surrounding panels, and some simple baseboards in several rooms. The second story bedroom on the west end has a simple Greek Revival style mantelpiece that was relocated from the rear of the main block. The flat wainscot with chair rail in the downstairs hall and three part replacement baseboards in the west room on the first floor (living room) and several of the bedrooms on both floors are of the type found frequently in Colonial Revival style houses. With the exception of the Federal Revival mantel and adjacent shelving in the west room on the first floor, most of the 1940s alterations and additions to the woodwork are of high quality and are exact copies of the original work. The woodwork in the east wing is in character with the Greek Revival woodwork in the early part of the house, featuring two panel doors at each of the entrances, although the surrounds are not so elaborate.

The renovations of 1940 and 1941 also entailed a thorough modernization of the house with the installation of indoor plumbing (including several indoor bathrooms) and an interior kitchen for the first time in its history. Thus, while every care was taken to respect and enhance the antebellum heritage of the house, an entirely new and modern dwelling was created, fit for a prosperous, mid-20th century family.

2. Gazebo: late 19th century; contributing (see figure 1).

Northeast of the house, the octagonal gazebo, which probably dates to the late 19th century, has cedar supports and wood shingle roof. Though the gazebo is structurally sound, the wood shingles are badly deteriorated.

3. Kitchen: early to mid-19th century; contributing; (see figure 3).

Behind the house to the north sits a one room, gable-roofed plank log kitchen with full dove-tail notching. Though apparently of mid-19th century vintage, the massive granite rubble chimney on the west end is built into an earlier window frame and does not appear to be original to the structure. The building was likely originally used as a secure storage or agricultural structure, possibly used as a dwelling for awhile before it was adapted for use as a kitchen when the main house was built ca. 1855. There are a few sections of beaded weatherboard siding on the north end of the building. The front and rear facades each have one 4/4 sash window with batten shutters and a batten door. The 6/6 sash window and shed on the east end were probably added around the turn of the century. The kitchen has sustained termite damage and has both early 20th century and recent interior sheathing, as well as a modern brick mantel.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet Oak View, Wake County, North CarolinaSection number 7 Page 4 Description4. Water Tower; pre-1940; contributing

Located slightly northeast of the house, the steel-frame water tower with wooden platform dates from the early to mid 20th century. The current steel water tank replaced a wooden tank prior to 1940.

5. Carriage House; ca. 1900; contributing (see figure 4).

This two story, frame, gable-roofed carriage house located northeast of the main house and water tower was built around the turn of the century and has a later shed on the east end. The building has three front entrances without doors that are wide enough for vehicles. German siding covers portions of the original board and batten walls. The building has a post and beam frame with an unfinished interior and exposed construction. The main block has two rooms with wooden floors; the shed has an earthen floor.

6. Livestock Barn; ca. 1900; contributing; (see figure 5).

Located north of the carriage house and built around the turn of the century, this two story, frame, gable-roofed livestock barn has sliding double front doors. Shed wings were added on both the east and west sides in the early 1940s. The west end shed was removed in recent years. German siding covers portions of the original board and batten walls. The building has a post and beam framing system. The interior is unfinished with exposed construction and earthen floors. The main block has a large room and six stalls along the east wall.

7. Barn foundation; late 19th century and ca. 1940; non-contributing

Rectangular stone rubble foundation of what appears to be a late 19th century outbuilding surrounded by the later concrete block foundation of a larger barn. The foundation is located north of the main house and kitchen at the edge of a field.

8. Cemetery; mid-19th century; contributing

Located between the house and the cotton gin house, the boundaries of the Williams family cemetery are marked by four granite corner markers. The grave markers have been removed.

9. Cotton Gin House; ca. 1900; contributing; (see figure 6).

Probably built around the turn of the century, this two story, L-shaped, post and beam framed building with later shed additions to the northwest of the main house served as a cotton gin house. The interior is unfinished and the construction is exposed. All of the ginning equipment has been removed.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North Carolina

Section number 7 Page 5 Description

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10. Pecan Grove; 1910s-1920s; contributing

Planted in several stages in the 1910s and 1920s, the pecan grove which occupies several acres of the yard in front of the house, with its straight rows of mature trees, contributes heavily to the setting of the property. One of only a few such orchards in Wake County and among the largest today (if not the largest), the pecan grove is an integral element of the Oak View landscape and an important productive part of the working farm from the 1910s until at least the 1940s.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Architecture

Politics and Government

Period of Significance

ca. 1853-1941

Significant Dates

1868

1941

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Williams, Benton S. D.

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 Significance

## SUMMARY

Oak View, in eastern Wake County, North Carolina, is significant in the areas of agriculture, politics and government, and architecture. The period of significance begins ca. 1853, the year Benton S. D. Williams purchased the tract of land and shortly thereafter began construction of his simple Greek Revival style dwelling with a fashionable two-tiered entrance porch, also known as the Williams-Wyatt-Poole House. Williams was a small-scale farmer whose domestic complex continues to reflect his farm's prosperity during the 1850s due to increased cotton production. Williams is locally important as one of only four Wake County delegates to North Carolina's 1868 Constitutional Convention which wrote and adopted the document that continues to guide the State of North Carolina. Post-bellum political shifts coincided with the onset of changes that occurred in Wake County agriculture from the mid 1860s through the mid-20th century and are represented at Oak View by a livestock barn, cotton gin house, carriage house and pecan grove. Operated with the help of slave labor before the Civil War, Oak View became, under ownership of the Wyatt family, one of Wake County's few late 19th and early-to-mid 20th century manager-operated farms, worked by both white and black wage laborers at a time when most farming was done by sharecroppers and small farm owners. Finally, the house at the center of the farm complex represents the 20th century trend in Wake County of remodeling older houses in the popular Colonial Revival style. Under the ownership of J. Gregory Poole, Sr., the Williams-Wyatt-Poole House was expanded and remodeled from 1940 to 1941. Although the renovation preserved the Greek Revival main facade and much of the interior trim, the finished product is entirely of its own style.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Oak View was originally a late antebellum and immediate post-Civil War family farm of 930 acres, which extended along Crabtree Creek, north of the house, for about a mile to the south. The farm is located about four miles east of downtown Raleigh in St. Matthews Township, only a short distance south of the Neuse River. The house was most likely constructed in the mid-1850s by Benton S. D. Williams (1799-1870), who first acquired land in the vicinity in 1829. The property was originally called Oak View, for four large oaks which grew in the yard and are no longer extant, and the farm remained known by this name until at least 1940.

Williams was the son of Willis and Eury Anderson Williams of the Wake Forest area of Wake County. Although his father owned neither land nor slaves, Benton Williams began purchasing real estate only a few years after his marriage to Burchet Powell in 1826 (Wake County Marriage Bonds). In 1829 he acquired 85 acres south of the present Oak View farm from Arthur Pool (Wake County Deed Book 9, 106), but he sold this land five years later to George Pool for a sizeable profit and purchased his first 200 acres at Oak View from the Charles Parish estate in 1835 (Wake County Deed Book 11, p. 496). In 1837



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National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North CarolinaSection number 8 Page 2 Significance

Williams purchased an adjoining 150-acre tract from Edward Rigsbee (Wake County Deed Book 12, p. 530), and by 1840 he had two slaves (1840 Census). Mr. and Mrs. Williams had at least six children born between 1829 and 1842: Clinton W., Virginia, John Q., Cicero, Napoleon B., and Elizabeth (1850 Census).

Williams allowed his children to take advantage of the public schools established by Whig supporters in the early 1840s, and by 1850 his son Clinton, age 21, was a local schoolmaster (1850 Census). In 1850 Benton Williams's 350-acre farm produced five bales of cotton, as well as the products of a typical self-sustaining farm--cattle, swine, wheat, corn, oats, hay, peas, sweet potatoes, and butter. At that time Williams owned one slave, a 28-year-old female who probably worked with Mrs. Williams in the house (1850 Agricultural and Slave Schedules).

The decade of the 1850s was a time of unprecedented economic growth in central North Carolina, fostered by the improvement in 1853 of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad and the completion of the North Carolina Railroad in 1856. Indicative of this growth, Benton Williams's annual cotton production increased to ten bales by 1859, and by 1860 he had nine additional slaves: males aged 48, 15, and 14; two males aged 11; females aged 60 and 15; and two females aged 10. There were two slave houses in 1860, plus one at Clinton Williams's nearby farm (1860 Agricultural and Slave Schedules). In 1853 the elder Williams had purchased two adjoining tracts of land, the first from John Hutchings, containing 214 acres and a small graveyard, and the second from Charles Horton, containing 366 acres which included a flooded mill site (Wake County Deed Book 20, pp. 400, 431). Williams chose a site on the land formerly owned by Hutchings to built his home in the 1850s. Williams's three oldest sons were married during the mid 1850s, but since their father had almost 1,000 acres of land by that time, they each settled down on their own individual farms on the Oak View lands (1860 Agricultural Schedule; Benton S. D. Williams Will, 1870).

After the emancipation of slaves, at least one of the Williams slaves, a young man in his teens by the name of Wyatt Williams, remained on the farm as a wage laborer. He was still living there with his wife, seven children, nephew, and niece in 1880, apparently working as a sharecropper for Clinton Williams (1870 and 1880 Censuses). In 1888, Wyatt Williams acquired 5-3/8 acres near Macedonia Baptist Church east of Raleigh and was able to satisfy the mortgage of his property within eight years (Wake County Deed Book 100, p. 203).

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Benton S. D. Williams served as a Wake County delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1868. With such neighbors as the wealthy and influential Republican Jefferson Fisher and antebellum governor Charles Manly, Williams was no doubt a familiar face to those in Wake County's political circles (Fendol Bevers' map of Wake County, 1871). His personal acquaintances provided the opportunity for him to be selected for the 1868 Convention, and his humble family background and modest wealth pointed him to the Republican Party, which sought to represent blacks and poor whites. Although not a leader in the convention, Williams was significant as part of the Republican majority which wrote North Carolina's current constitution and controlled state government during Reconstruction.

Williams died in 1870 and was buried in the family cemetery near the farmhouse, where several other family members were also buried. Just prior to his death, he devised a will that gave his wife Burchet the dwelling house, its contents, the accompanying outbuildings, and 303 acres, and he divided his other lands among his living children, bequeathing money to the heirs of his deceased son, John Q. Williams (Records of Wills, Wake County).

Burchet Williams outlived her husband by about sixteen years. She continued to carry on the small annual ten-bale cotton operation with the help of family members, wage laborers, and perhaps, at some point, sharecroppers. The censuses of 1870 and 1880 show that her son Cicero and family, as well as five orphaned grandchildren, lived with her and worked the farm. At the time of her death in 1886, a black man by the name of Ad Bunch was handling the farming operations at Oak View, as indicated by receipts in Bunch's name for cotton sold through the Raleigh commission merchants Williamson and Upchurch (Records of Estates, Wake County).

At Mrs. Williams's death, all her assets were liquidated to satisfy debts, and the remaining money was divided among her heirs. Her 303-acre farm was divided into four lots and sold at public auction. The first lot, containing 115 and 3/4 acres and the dwelling house and outbuildings, was purchased by Job P. Wyatt and Phil Taylor of Raleigh for \$22 per acre, several times the price paid some thirty years earlier (Records of Estates, Wake County; Wake County Deed Book 100, p. 118). Taylor sold his interest in the property to Wyatt three years later (Wake County Deed Book 104, p. 582).

Job P. Wyatt was the son of E. F. Wyatt, who founded Wyatt Harness Company in 1875. In 1881, Job Wyatt, along with Taylor and M. T. Norris, formed a partnership and began a farm supply business which later evolved into Job P. Wyatt and Sons and Wyatt-Quarles Seed Company. Both firms are still in business today in the Raleigh area (Heritage of Wake County, 590).

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After acquiring the Williams property in late 1886, Wyatt and Taylor probably retained the laborers or tenants who were living there and resumed the cotton-producing operation. Records of the farm from the late 1880s until the early 1900s are unavailable, but it is most likely that Wyatt began hiring a superintendent to manage the farm soon after he acquired the property, since census records and city directories indicate that he was an absentee landlord. One of the barns on the property was referred to as the "Hunnicut barn," so it is possible that Artemus Hunnicut, whom Wyatt held a mortgage against in 1894, was one of the early superintendents (Interview, Kiva Jones, Wake County Deed Book 124, p. 612). A former slave named Quint Faribault, who had a wife and two children, was also living at Oak View as early as 1900, when the farm was evidently rented to or managed by a G. W. Banks. It appears from the 1900 Census that there were six tenant houses on the farm, in addition to the main, two-story house. Two of the houses were occupied by black families, and four were occupied by single black men, all listed as farm laborers. Only four of the tenant houses were standing by the time of World War I, and none of these dwellings, which were located southeast of the house near the present Wake County office complex, is now standing (Interview, Kiva Jones).

Prior to 1906, Job Wyatt hired Wake County native George W. Williams (no relation to the earlier owners) to manage the farm. The 1910 Census shows there were still six tenant houses, occupied by the Faribaults, four other black families, and George Williams's son John. Wyatt died in 1911, and his son William L. "Will" Wyatt acquired full interest in the Oak View property, as well as two other local farms known as the "Betts place" and the "Pace place" (Wake County Deed Book 260, p. 271).

In 1919 George Williams retired from farming and moved to Raleigh with his wife Melissa and their son-in-law, James A. Jones, took over the farming operations at Oak View. Jones' wife, Emma Williams Jones, had died the previous year while the family was living at the Betts place across the road, also owned by Will Wyatt, so when he moved into the Oak View house his family consisted of five children and his widowed mother, who took care of the children for the next five years. In 1923 he married Bessie Spence, a native of Brunswick County, Virginia, and a teacher at the local Samaria School from 1922 to 1924. They had three children of their own (Interview, Kiva Jones).

Jones managed the farm for over twenty years, during which time he superintended an extensive cotton-producing operation and later converted to truck farming following the boll weevil infestation of the late 1920s. As recalled by his widow Bessie and daughter Kiva, there were numerous barns and other outbuildings on the farm during the early twentieth century, but most of these structures are no longer standing. The large horse and mule barn, which does remain, contained eight stalls and usually held four or five mules. The

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gazebo, or "sunhouse," and pre-1940 water tower also are still on the property. No longer standing are the corn crib, with an attached machinery shed; the circa 1919 cow barn and silo, although the foundation for the barn remains; the "Benton barn," used to store livestock feed; the "Hunnicut barn;" the tool shed near the cow stalls; the potato house; pump house; smoke house; and the chicken house, in which white and red chickens were kept separate (Interviews, Bessie and Kiva Jones).

There were only four tenant houses by 1919, and they, along with the main house, still had no indoor plumbing as late as 1940. Water was pumped with a gasoline engine from the well to the tower and then to the kitchen and two livestock barns. By the late 1930s, a wooden tank atop the water tower began to leak, so it was replaced by the present metal tank, with the pump also being replaced at some point by an electric one (Interview, Kiva Jones).

The cotton ginhouse was apparently built by Job Wyatt in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century to expedite the extensive cotton productions at Oak View. According to James A. Jones's son Drewry, it "ginned night and day for the entire neighborhood from about two miles up the road and to the [Neuse] river." After picking and weighing the cotton, it was hauled on wagons to the ginhouse, then taken to the second floor, where the ginning machine, powered by the same gasoline engine that pumped the water, separated the lint from the seed. The seed was saved for the next year's crop or sold to a cottonseed oil mill, and the processed cotton was dropped to the first floor to be made into bales with a cotton press. Then the bales were loaded onto wagons through the large door and taken to Raleigh for marketing. Sometimes several farmers would load their cotton bales at the same time and form a procession to Raleigh (Letter, Drewry Jones to Elizabeth Reid Murray).

By the 1920s, Oak View consisted of about 170 acres, with as much as 100 acres planted in cotton. The cultivation of cotton had its own distinctive seasonal work routine. Plowing and planting were done in the spring with mule-drawn implements, and after the seeds germinated there were several stages of chopping and plowing to thin out the plants and get rid of weeds and grass. The crop was usually "laid by" in midsummer, allowing farmers to catch up on other farm work, visit relatives, attend August revivals, or simply rest up for the busy picking season that lay ahead. When picking began in the early fall, every able-bodied man, woman, and child on the farm generally helped in the work. At Oak View, the hired farm laborers were paid by the hour for plowing and by the hundredweight for picking cotton (Interview, Kiva Jones). The year's work ended in late autumn when the last bag of cotton was ginned, baled, and wagoned to market, where the farmer or a creditor sold the cotton to a local buyer (Daniels, 5-6).

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Beginning in the late 1910s, Will Wyatt purchased cattle from Texas to supplement his farm income. The cattle were shipped to Raleigh by rail, herded to Oak View for Jones to fatten, and then taken back to the railroad depot in Raleigh to be shipped out, probably in the late winter prior to cotton planting. Since Wyatt owned land on Walnut Creek south of Oak View, Jones could water the cows there occasionally. At other times the cattle were fed and watered with silage and water pumped to the cow barn from the well. Also, from the late 1910s through the 1920s, Jones and his son Drewry planted, in a piecemeal fashion, the large grove of pecan trees to supplement the farm's income (Interview, Kiva Jones). Today the pecan grove is one of the most prominent features of the landscape at Oak View.

By 1929 the boll weevil infestation forced Wyatt and Jones to further diversify the farming operations at Oak View. Consequently, they agreed to abandon cotton production and increase the acreage planted in garden vegetables in order to sell fresh produce at the City Market in Raleigh. They also sold milk and butter from the cows on the farm. A number of truck farmers marketed their produce door-to-door, but Wyatt rented a stand in the northwest corner of the City Market six days a week. The day hands on the farm alternated driving to the market and working the produce stand each week. Some of the workers were allowed to take their own chicken fryers and other produce to sell (Interview, Kiva Jones).

In 1940, Will Wyatt sold the property to Julian M. Gregory, a Raleigh general contractor, and Wyatt helped to place the Jones family in a new home on the McCullers-Apex highway (State Road 1010) in southeastern Wake County (Wake County Deed Book 827, p. 282; Interview, Kiva Jones). Gregory sold the farm the following year to his business partner, James Gregory Poole, of Gregory and Poole, road contractors (Wake County Deed Book 871, p. 51). In late 1940 and early 1941, J. G. Poole had the old Williams house expanded and remodeled in the Colonial Revival style. The Pooles resided there for three years. Subsequent owners have been James E. and wife Mary Z. Bryan, who purchased the property from Poole in 1944, and Chauncey M. and Ella Jones, who acquired the property in 1955 from the widowed Mrs. Bryan (Wake County Deed Book 908, p. 458 and Book 1185, p. 134). A substantial portion of the property was taken over by the Raleigh beltline where it meets Poole Road halfway between the main house and Samaria Baptist Church to the west. The County of Wake acquired the house and 72 acres from Mrs. Jones in 1984 and is the present owner of the core complex of Oak View. Most of the buildings are vacant or are used for storage. One of the barns is used by the local 4-H chapter for spring activities. To the east of the Oak View complex, the county has constructed several buildings which house government offices and facilities.

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## POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

In the aftermath of the Civil War and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln in 1865, the new President, Andrew Johnson, a native of Raleigh and by then a Tennessee politician, began a policy of pardoning southern whites who had participated in the rebellion. The initial result was the reinstatement of the old planter elite into public offices and the subsequent enactment of "black codes" in southern states to maintain political and social control over freed slaves. By early 1867, the United States Congress passed the Reconstruction Acts in reaction to Johnson's lenient policies, cancelling the power of state governments and calling for new state constitutions which would give black men the right to vote. The Reconstruction Acts also mandated that any man over 21 who had taken an oath to support the United States Constitution and then had engaged in rebellion could not vote--a measure that disqualified most of North Carolina's Conservative Democrats.

Consequently, the Republican Party was organized in North Carolina in March of 1867, when pro-Union members of the state legislature met with other citizens of like sentiments from 56 counties to plan for a constitutional convention. Benton S. D. Williams of Oak View Farm was one of the Wake County delegates at the organizational meeting in the capital city. The others were James H. Harris, an outstanding Raleigh Negro, along with Stokes D. Franklin and Joshua P. Andrews (Sentinel, Mar. 12, 1867). Winning the confidence of fellow Republicans in the county, in 1867 Williams was nominated and eventually elected to serve as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1868, along with two other white pro-unionists and one black. Voter registration figures of 1867 show that Wake County had the highest number of qualified white voters and the fourth highest number of black voters, indicative of the county's post-war population growth and relatively strong pro-union sentiment (North Carolina Standard, Nov. 27, 1867).

Benton Williams voted with the Republican majority on practically every issue at the constitutional convention, favoring a system of state and county government that was more representative of the majority of citizens, particularly smaller farmers such as himself (North Carolina Standard, Mar. 11 and 18, 1868). The 120 delegates elected to the convention included 74 native whites of small means and pro-union views, 18 northern "carpetbaggers" who came to the south after the war, 15 blacks, and 13 Conservative Democrats. The new constitution they adopted in the early spring of 1868 called for the popular election of all officers (even the judiciary), changed the basis of representation in the senate from taxable wealth to population, denied veto power to the governor, called for the council of state to be elected, and provided for public schools and for the state university at Chapel Hill to be maintained. The delegate referred to as "Williams of Wake" died only two years after the convention, having won for himself little political and social

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prestige for his part in the new constitution, especially in the eyes of the disfranchised Democrats. Although the 1868 Constitution was written and adopted by delegates of little political prominence, many of whom were criticized by their opponents for their lack of education and knowledge of legal matters, the document continues to serve the state of North Carolina. The Oak View farmhouse is important to Wake County as the only home of the county's four delegates to the 1868 convention known to be standing.

## AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT

Agriculture in antebellum Wake County was characterized predominantly by subsistence farming, with the typical family owning 200 to 500 acres of land and less than ten African slaves. Cotton production and plantation agriculture were limited primarily to the eastern portion of the county on the fertile bottom lands along the Neuse River. Even after the north-south Raleigh and Gaston Railroad was opened in 1840 and the east-west North Carolina Railroad in 1856, about three quarters of the farmers in Wake County still produced either no cotton at all or just enough for paying taxes and buying such items as sugar, salt, and coffee, which could not be produced on the farm (1850 and 1860 Agricultural and Slave Schedules, U. S. Census). Although tobacco cultivation in Wake County increased steadily throughout the 19th century, and a few farmers did grow it commercially as early as the 1850s, tobacco did not become extremely popular among the county's farmers as a cash crop until the last two decades of the century.

The decade of the 1850s brought considerable economic growth to those Wake County farmers and planters who were fortunate enough to have both rich soils and nearby railroad stations. As a result of rising cotton prices and railroad connections with the important cotton and tobacco market at Petersburg, Virginia, as well as connections with the burgeoning textile mills in the North Carolina Piedmont, Wake County's cotton and tobacco production experienced unprecedented increases, although tobacco was grown commercially only in the northwestern portion of the county bordering Granville County. Cotton production rose from 2,059 bales in 1849 to 6,112 bales in 1859 (Compendia, 1850 and 1860 censuses). The number of African bondsmen also increased, ranking Wake with Granville, Warren, Halifax, and Edgecombe as the only counties in the state with over 10,000 slaves (Compendium, 1860 Census). The number of planters (defined as owners of twenty or more slaves) in Wake County likewise increased from 103 to 129 during the 1850s, and the county had two planters whose slaveholdings exceeded 200, with several owning over 100. However, most Africans in Wake County, as in the rest of North Carolina and the other border states, worked in smaller units often alongside their owners, tending swine, cattle, and sheep, and cultivating corn, wheat, sweet potatoes,

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vegetables, and maybe a small cotton or tobacco patch (1850 and 1860 Agricultural and Slave Schedules). Oak View Farm would have fallen into a category between the planter and the typical subsistence farmer, since the farm employed only about ten slaves and produced relatively small amounts of cotton.

The emancipation of slaves brought tremendous changes to Wake County. Although slavery had existed on a relatively small scale, the system of coerced labor was important to the local agricultural economy, as 83 percent of the county's farmowners in 1850 and 68 percent in 1860 owned at least one slave (1850 and 1860 Agricultural and Slave Schedules). Moreover, the loss of men in the Civil War and the resulting indebtedness families on the homefront incurred for food and supplies, together with losses of livestock and food supplies to invading Union forces, caused many smaller farmers to depend increasingly on cotton to help pay taxes and procure needed provisions. The crop lien law, passed by the state legislature in 1867 before Reconstruction, and the Raleigh Cotton Exchange, formed by the city's merchants in 1868, provided channels by which farmers finding themselves short of cash could buy goods on credit and use their next cotton crop as collateral. The Cotton Exchange also helped to make Raleigh the leading market in central North Carolina for the short staple fiber (Murray, 559).

By the 1880s, 93 percent of Wake County's farmers were producing cotton, but, as in antebellum times, the greatest volume came from the old plantation district in the east where fertile lands and Afro-American labor were more plentiful. The great shift to cotton in the 1870s effected little change on the farming operations at Oak View, as the farm was still producing the same volume as it did before the Civil War, but for former subsistence farmers who were forced into cotton production to help pay off debts, the shift was often ruinous. Rates of farm tenancy rose for both whites and blacks, especially in the eastern townships of Wake County (1880 Agricultural Schedule).

Immediately after the Civil War, freed slaves generally remained with their former masters or went to neighboring farms to work as wage laborers. Some moved to Raleigh, where they could send their children to school and receive protection and food rations from the Freedmen's Bureau. Because the wage labor system too much resembled slavery, many white landlords found themselves compelled within a few years to make changes in order to keep workers in the fields. Therefore, the sharecropping system was gradually adopted, allowing former slaves to oversee their own crops on an allotted acreage of typically 20 to 30 acres, depending on the size of the family, in exchange for a one-half or two-thirds share of the crop. Sharecroppers were provided with a small house on their plot of land, and they were generally required by the landlord to produce a certain amount of cotton or tobacco (Rawick, v. 14 and v. 15, passim; Compendium, 1880 Agricultural Census). Many whites also became sharecroppers when they were forced out of the owning class by foreclosure.



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In 1885, Wake County adopted the "stock law," first introduced in the North Carolina legislature in the early 1870's. The law, which had to be sanctioned by the majority of registered voters, required that all livestock be fenced, whereas for centuries farmers had fenced their crops instead and allowed their stock to range freely (Wake County Commissioners, Minutes, Dec. 1883-Mar. 1884, passim; North Carolina Public Laws, 1881 and 1885). The new law caused many landless farmers to move out of stock law territory or else begin buying meat instead of producing it themselves, thus increasing their debts. The primary result was a tremendous decline in livestock production in Wake County after 1885, with the gradual disappearance of the county's subsistence-farming culture (Compendium, 1890 Agricultural Census).

As debts mounted and cotton prices fell due to foreign competition with India following the Civil War, many small white farmowners were reduced to the ranks of sharecropper or cash tenant (one who paid a certain cash amount for renting farmland) by the late nineteenth century. There were a small number of farms, however, such as Oak View in eastern Wake County, which were operated by managers, or superintendents, and worked by wage hands living on the farm or in a nearby town or city. For a non-landowner in Wake County, especially after stock law came into effect and cotton prices dropped, this type of farming arrangement was ideal. The manager received a set salary and he had a house provided to his family rent-free. Although there was no opportunity for making profits from the crops, there was virtually no financial risk involved, since the landlord provided all the necessary mules, fertilizers, seeds, and other stock and supplies. By 1900 there were twenty-five white and six black farmers in Wake County classified as managers, out of a total of over 5,000, and there was a peak of 57 by 1910. During the post-world war and depression eras, the numbers fluctuated, but by 1940 there were only one black and eighteen white farm managers left in the county (Compendia, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1935, and 1940 Agricultural Censuses). Perhaps profit motive, particularly after World War I when cotton and tobacco prices soared, or the desire to own farms eliminated some farm managers, but, as in the case of Oak View, changes in ownership forced other farm superintendents to find new ways of making a living. (Interview, Kiva Jones).

Cotton was the leading crop in Wake County, as in the South, until the boll weevil infestation, which reached central North Carolina in the late 1920s. In some areas of Wake County, such as the vicinities of Apex, Fuquay Springs, Wendell, and Zebulon, bright leaf tobacco had already begun to dominate in the first two decades of the twentieth century, and numerous tobacco warehouses were opened for marketing the leaf. This shift to tobacco was made possible largely by the migration of farmers from Granville County and other areas affected by the tobacco disease known as the "wilt." There were also a few farmers throughout the county who produced fruits, vegetables, sweet potatoes, milk, butter, chicken fryers, and eggs to sell to Raleigh residents

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either door-to-door or at the City Market (Wake County: Economic and Social, 35-36). Thus, when cotton's profitability lessened, there were alternatives to keep Wake County farmers in business. Oak View was one farm which was able to adapt to truck farming after cotton was no longer profitable.

The boll weevil was the first major blow to cotton production in Wake County, causing the county's cotton acreage to decrease from 59,837 in 1925 to 48,000 in 1930. Then, because of a huge national cotton surplus due to overproduction, the federal government initiated a crop reduction program in 1932, financially compensating cotton farmers who agreed to reduce their acreages. Consequently, Wake County's cotton acreage was further decreased by over 27,000 between 1930 and 1935. By 1940 cotton was planted on less than 11,000 acres in the county and was soon to be phased out completely following World War II (Compendia, 1925, 1930, 1935, and 1940 Agricultural Censuses).

Many cotton producers in the late 1920s and early 1930s converted to tobacco, but when the federal tobacco acreage allotments were issued, non-tobacco farmers had to either purchase allotments from other producers or diversify their operations in order to stay on the farm. The new federal programs had the greatest impact on farm tenancy, as acreage reduction limited the available land for cultivating cash crops. Wake County's rate of tenancy declined accordingly from 58 percent in 1930 to 51 percent in 1940 (Compendia, 1930 and 1940 Agricultural Censuses). World War II brought about the greatest changes in agriculture, as large numbers of rural residents, particularly displaced tenants, flocked to industrial cities where they could command higher wages, never to return to the farm except to visit. Since that time, farm tenant houses have begun to disappear from the landscape, just as the antebellum slave houses did when the sharecropping system came into existence following the Civil War. Oak View was not greatly affected by the new federal crop reduction programs of the 1930s, since it had diversified its operations in the late 1920s. Changes in ownership and the location of the Raleigh beltline on its former cotton fields have contributed to its decline as an agricultural complex.

## ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Philadelphia's Centennial Exhibition of 1876 is commonly thought to have inspired a renewed interest in America's early architectural heritage, although architects were returning to "colonial" motifs as early as the 1850s (Rhoads, 50, 56). In response to the patriotism inspired by the Centennial, as well as the excesses of the Victorian period, American architects began turning to early colonial and Georgian style houses in the northeast for inspiration in their modern designs (McAlester, 326; Rhoads, 76).

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The term "colonial" in reference to American architecture defies a rigid definition. Kenneth Ames notes that "Under the colonial rubric we can find extraordinary varieties and digressions as well as regional interpretations with startlingly different visual effects . . ." (Axelrod, ed., 2). Although many early architects and historians used the the establishment of the United States of America at the end of the 18th century as the cut-off point for what is considered "colonial," others took a much broader view, looking to the Civil War or the "Age of Victoriana" as the markers for ending the Colonial period (Brown, 301; Rhoads, xxxxi). Thus, any earlier classically inspired mode, including the Greek Revival style dwellings of the mid-nineteenth century with their symmetrical facades and classical details, were (and still are) accepted in some circles as being "colonial," particularly if they are found in the south, where white columned porticoes are often associated in the "popular mind" with southern Colonial mansions (Rhoads, xxxx, 56).

The south seems to have been several years behind the northeast in its acceptance of the Colonial Revival (Rhoads, 113). While the more classically detailed dwellings were becoming increasingly popular in the northern cities and neighborhoods in the late 19th century, Victorian houses were still the rage in many southern locales (Rhoads, 113). In the 1910s and 1920s the popularity of the Colonial Revival style seems to have caught on in the southern states, including North Carolina (Rhoads, 112). Dwellings with colonial details began showing up in large numbers at this time in the suburbs of North Carolina cities as well as in the state's smaller towns and rural areas (see Bishir and Earley, eds, Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina).

The earliest Colonial Revival style dwellings in rural Wake County, North Carolina were, with a few exceptions, very simple. Most were symmetrical two story, double pile houses built in the first two decades of the twentieth century, such as the Rhodes House, near Williams' Crossroads (WA 1215)\* and the Herman Green House (WA 1277), south of Raleigh, with hip roofs, one or more dormer windows, interior brick chimneys, and wrap-around porches. The James Beale Johnson House near Fuquay-Varina (WA 566) is one of the exceptional examples. Designed by Raleigh architect Charles Pearson in the first decade of the 20th century, the J. B. Johnson House fits the stereotype of the southern "colonial" mansion with its colossal portico with massive doric columns. From the late 1920s through the 1940s and 1950s, the style flourished and details became more elaborate and more "correct" in comparison to early renditions of the Colonial Revival style. Dr. Glenn Judd built a fine two story, five bay house, two rooms deep with one story side wings, outside Fuquay Springs (now

\* Numbers in parenthesis are property identification numbers assigned by the Survey Branch of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.

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Fuquay-Varina) in the late 1930s (WA 474). The Judd House displays what seems to be the favorite Colonial Revival feature of the mid-20th century in Wake County: the "Mount Vernon" style porch, two stories high, supported by square posts and topped by a balustrade.

While many Wake County citizens were building new Colonial Revival style houses, a number of others were remodeling their existing homes, utilizing already symmetrical facades and adding Colonial Revival style porches, window and door moldings and surrounds, and mantelpieces. Colonial Revival renovations to existing houses in the county run from minor to extensive, depending on the tastes and resources of the owners. The earliest renovations tended to follow the stereotypical southern "colonial" mold, as exemplified by the Jones-Johnson House (WA 570) near Fuquay-Varina, an 1860s Greek Revival style house which greatly resembled the J. B. Johnson House (discussed above) nearby after it was remodeled. The most common way to update a dwelling in the 1930s and 1940s was the replacement of the porch with a "Mount Vernon" style example, such as the one added to the John Q. Adams House (WA 1157) and numerous other houses in the 1940s and 1950s. Occasionally houses were more extensively renovated, as was the case with the Hale House near Garner (WA 1268). Said to have been built in the early 19th century, the house was updated around the turn of the century and completely remodeled in the 20th century. The popular "Mount Vernon" porch was added, the building was made double pile under a wider side-gable roof, the windows and doors were replaced, and all of the earlier interior woodwork was replaced with Colonial Revival style elements. Only the exterior end chimneys of ca. 1900 vintage and large hewn sills in the basement of the house hint at a date of construction before the 1940s.

Built in the mid-1850s and ornamented with Greek Revival Style details popularized by the pattern books of Asher Benjamin, the house at Oak View in Eastern Wake County was expanded, remodeled, and modernized for the family of James Gregory Poole in 1940-1941 (Black and Black, 5). Although the Colonial Revival features are not spectacular, the renovation itself was sophisticated in comparison to that of other Wake County houses remodeled around the same time. Rather than being obscured or obliterated entirely, the original Greek Revival character of the house was retained. Always the most prominent feature of the dwelling, the two story portico was left intact, as were the first and second story entrances flanked by multi-paned sidelights and transoms. Most of the interior woodwork, namely the two-panel doors and window and door surrounds with mitred cornerblocks and panels, was left intact or replicated. And, although the exterior of the wing built onto the east side of the dwelling is marked by more typical Colonial Revival details, such as dormer windows and a louvered cupola, the Greek Revival theme was continued on the interior of the addition, with two-panel doors at all of the entrances.

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The inspiration for the renovation at Oak View appears to have come from very correct Colonial houses, on which it was not uncommon to have side wings (see McAlester, p. 163 example 8 and p. 167 example 8). However, with the addition of only one wing, instead of two, the renovation at Oak View was also in keeping with other architectural trends in the 1930s and 1940s, when "Eclectic" style houses were built--the so-called "period cottages" that tended toward asymmetricality.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kelly A. Lally and Todd Johnson, consultants  
organization Wake County Planning Department date June 30, 1990  
street & number P. O. Box 550 telephone 919-387-7210  
city or town Raleigh state North Carolina zip code 27602

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North Carolina

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**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North Carolina

Section number 10 Page 1

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: approximately 15 acres

UTM references

A: 17/719530/3961070

B: 17/719610/3960670

C: 17/719400/3960690

D: 17/719320/3961120

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary includes the area surrounded by the dashed line on the enclosed map entitled "Wake County Office Park: Existing Conditions," drawn at a scale of 1 inch = 100 feet. Note: Buildings in the adjoining office park are not shown because the base map was drawn prior to their construction.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes the house, outbuildings, and support features associated with Oak View and excludes the roads to the west and south, the modern office buildings to the east, and overgrown fields to the north.

United States Department of the Interior  
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**Continuation Sheet** Oak View, Wake County, North Carolina

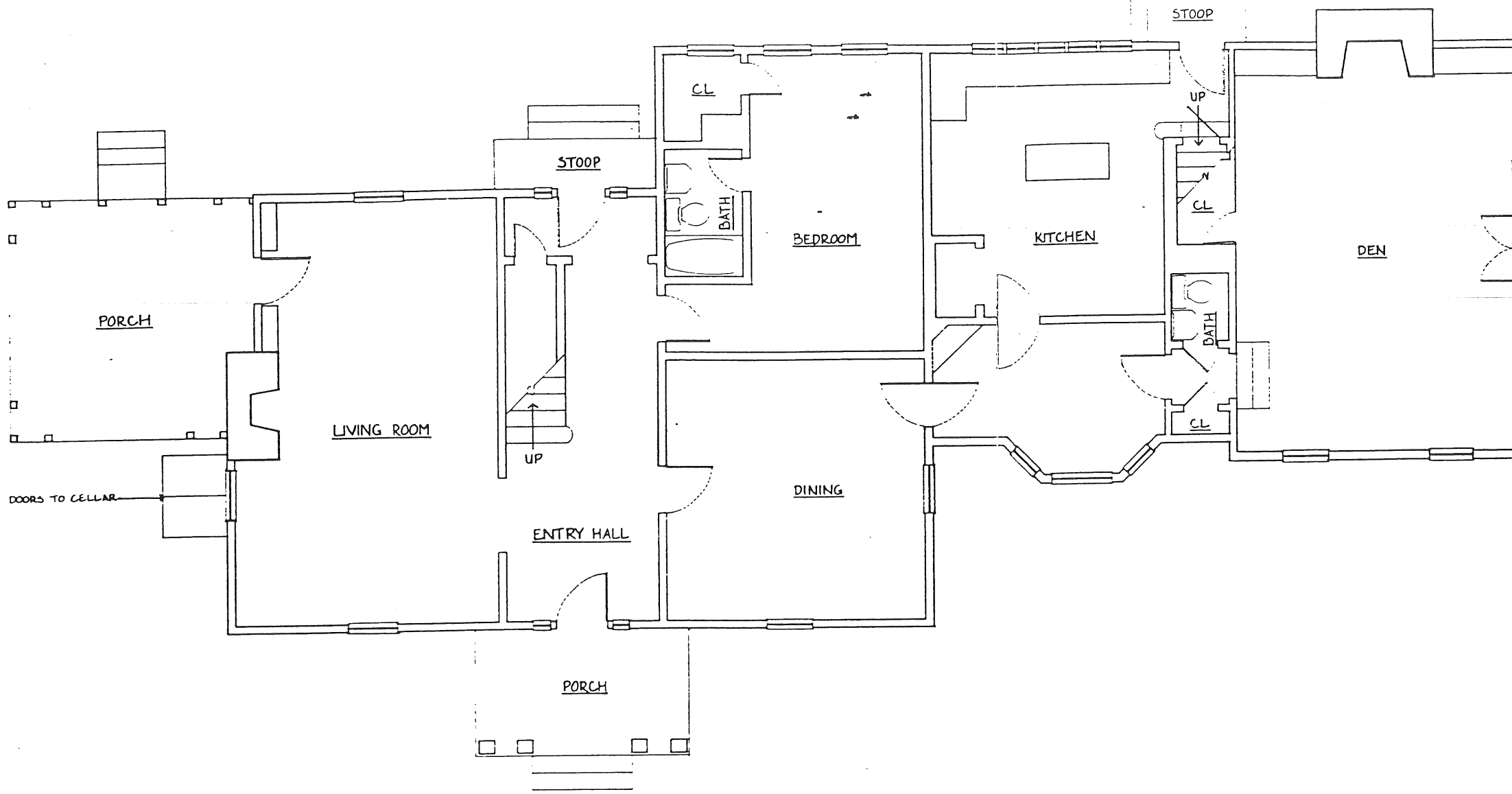
Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 1 Photographs

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Photographs

Oak View  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
Photographer: Kelly A. Lally (unless otherwise noted)  
January 1990  
Negatives on file at North Carolina Division of Archives and History

- A. House, gazebo, and water tower from the south
- B. House from south
- C. Front porch from south
- D. East wing from south
- E. Rear of house from the northwest
- F. Mantel, west room, second story
- G. Door, west room, second story
- H. View of stairway from first story hall
- I. Mantel, west room, first story
- J. Gazebo from the south  
photographer: Davyd Foard Hood, 1987
- K. Former kitchen from the southwest
- L. Livestock Barn from the south  
photographer: Davyd Foard Hood, 1987
- M. Carriage House from the south
- N. Cotton Gin House from the southeast
- O. Barn Foundation from the north
- P. View of Pecan Grove from the southeast



Oak View, Raleigh, NC

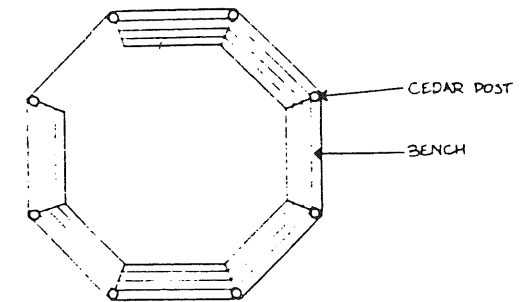
FIGURE 1

This is a reduced copy--  
scale indicated does not apply.

WYATT-POOLE

WILLIAMS-JONES HOUSE FIRST FLOOR PLAN AND GAZEBO  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

HEATED  
FLOOR AREA = 2005 sq ft



GAZEBO

Kurt Eichenberger  
Architect/AIA  
417 Glenwood Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
919-833-8884

OAKVIEW  
MEASURED DRAWINGS  
FOR WAKE COUNTY

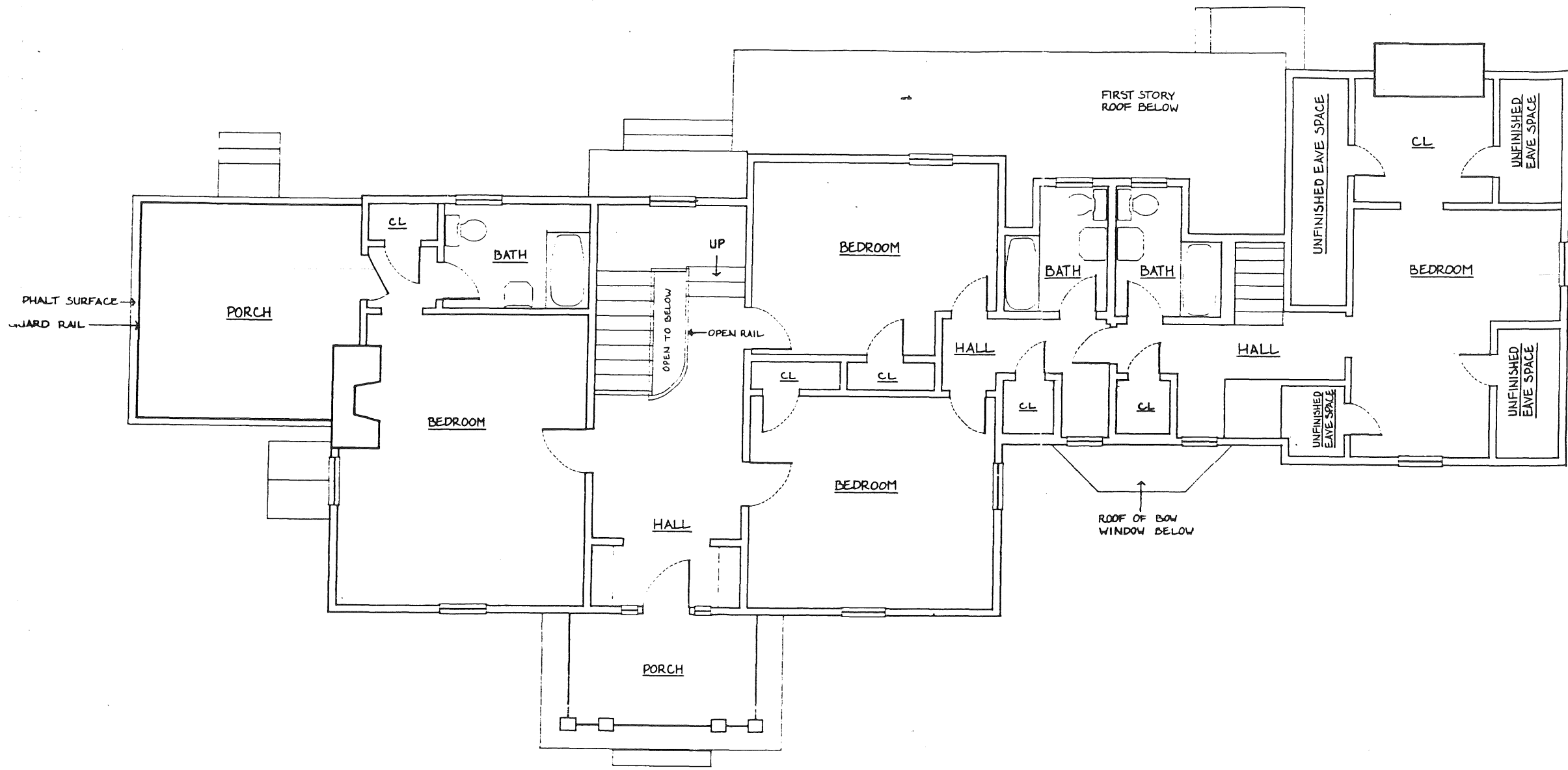
Issued: 5/5/30

Revised:

Drawn by: A.C.

Checked:

A-1



Oak View, Raleigh, NC

FIGURE 2

This is a reduced copy--scale indicated does not apply.

WYATT-POOLE  
 WILLIAMS-JONES HOUSE SECOND FLOOR PLAN  
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'0"

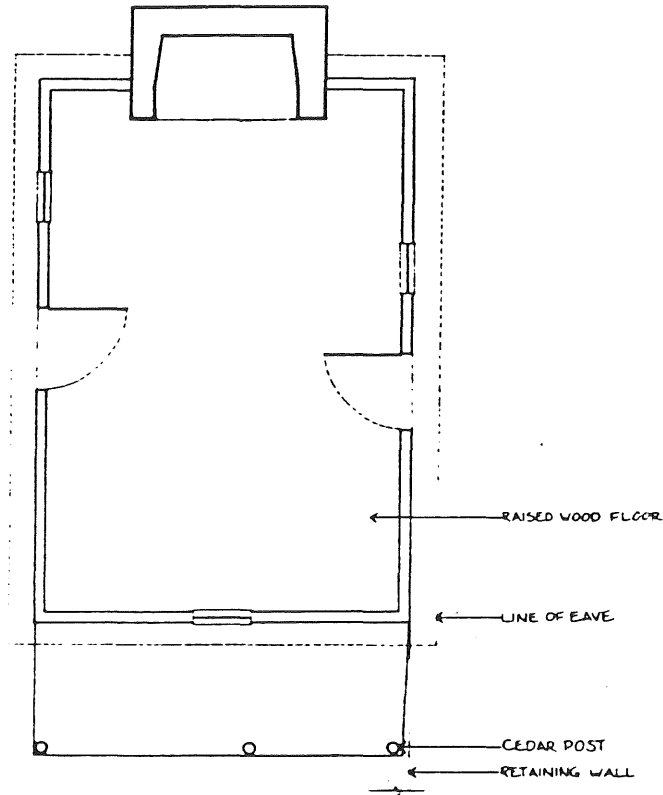
HEATED FLOOR AREA = 1726 sq. ft.

Kurt Eichenberger  
 Architect/AIA  
 4117 Glenwood Avenue  
 Raleigh, NC 27603  
 919-839-6394

OAKVIEW  
 MEASURED DRAWINGS  
 FOR WAKE COUNTY

Issued: 5/5/50  
 Revised:  
 Drawn by: A.C.  
 Checked:

A-2



PLAN OF DETACHED PLANK KITCHEN  
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

OAK VIEW, RALEIGH, NC

FIGURE 3

This is a reduced copy--  
 scale indicated does not apply.

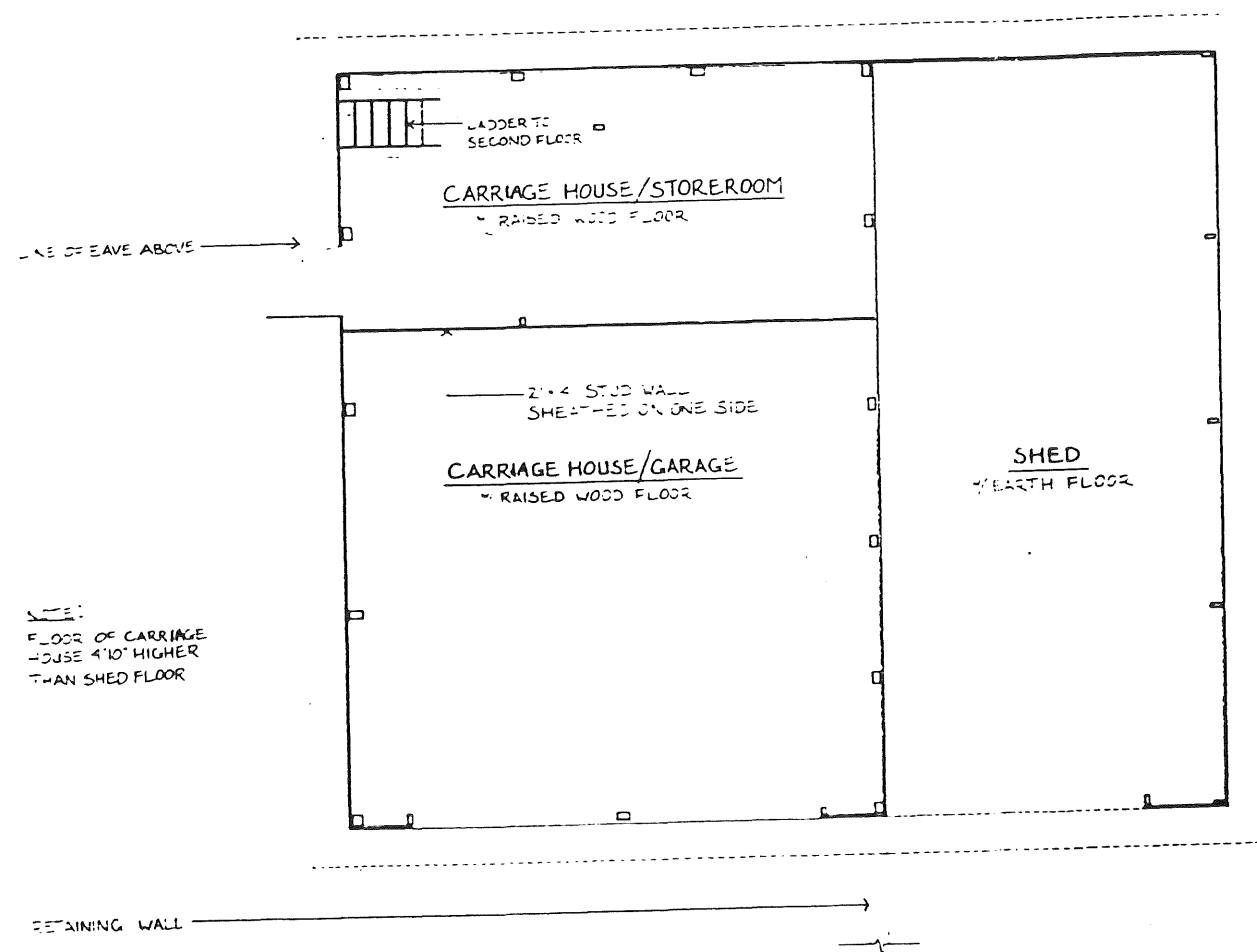


Kurt Eichenberger  
 Architect/AIA  
 413 Glenwood Avenue  
 Raleigh, NC 27603  
 919-833-8394


OAKVIEW  
 MEASURED DRAWINGS  
 FOR WAKE COUNTY

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 Checked:

A-3



NOTE:  
FLOOR OF CARRIAGE HOUSE 4'10" HIGHER THAN SHED FLOOR

 CARRIAGE HOUSE  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'0"

OAK VIEW, RALEIGH, NC  
FIGURE 4

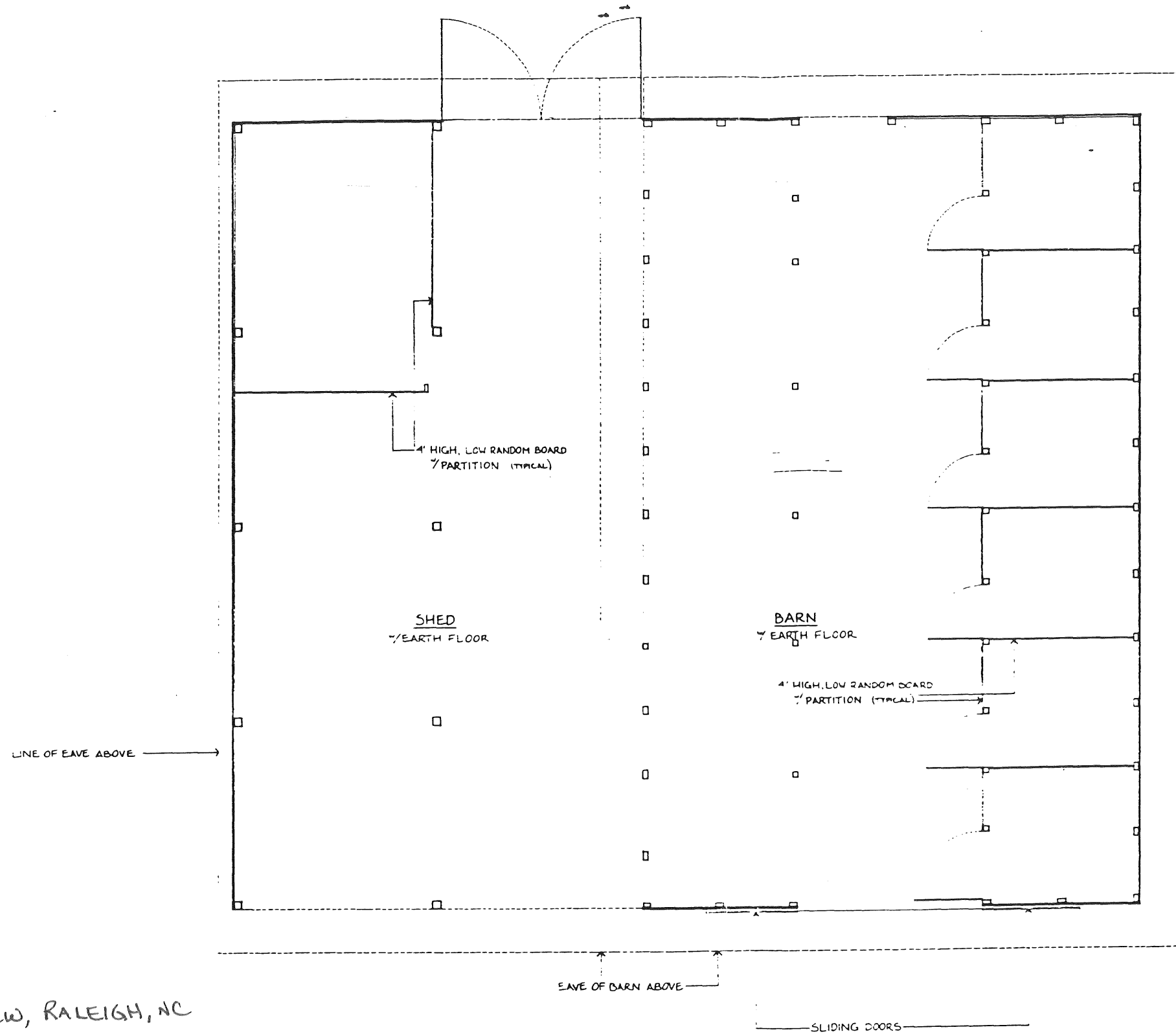
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Kurt Eichenberger  
Architect/AIA  
417 Glenwood Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
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OAK VIEW  
MEASURED DRAWINGS  
FOR WAKE COUNTY

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Checked:

A-4



OAK VIEW, RALEIGH, NC

1  
45  
LIVESTOCK BARN  
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'0"

FIGURE 5 This is a reduced copy--  
scale indicated does not apply.

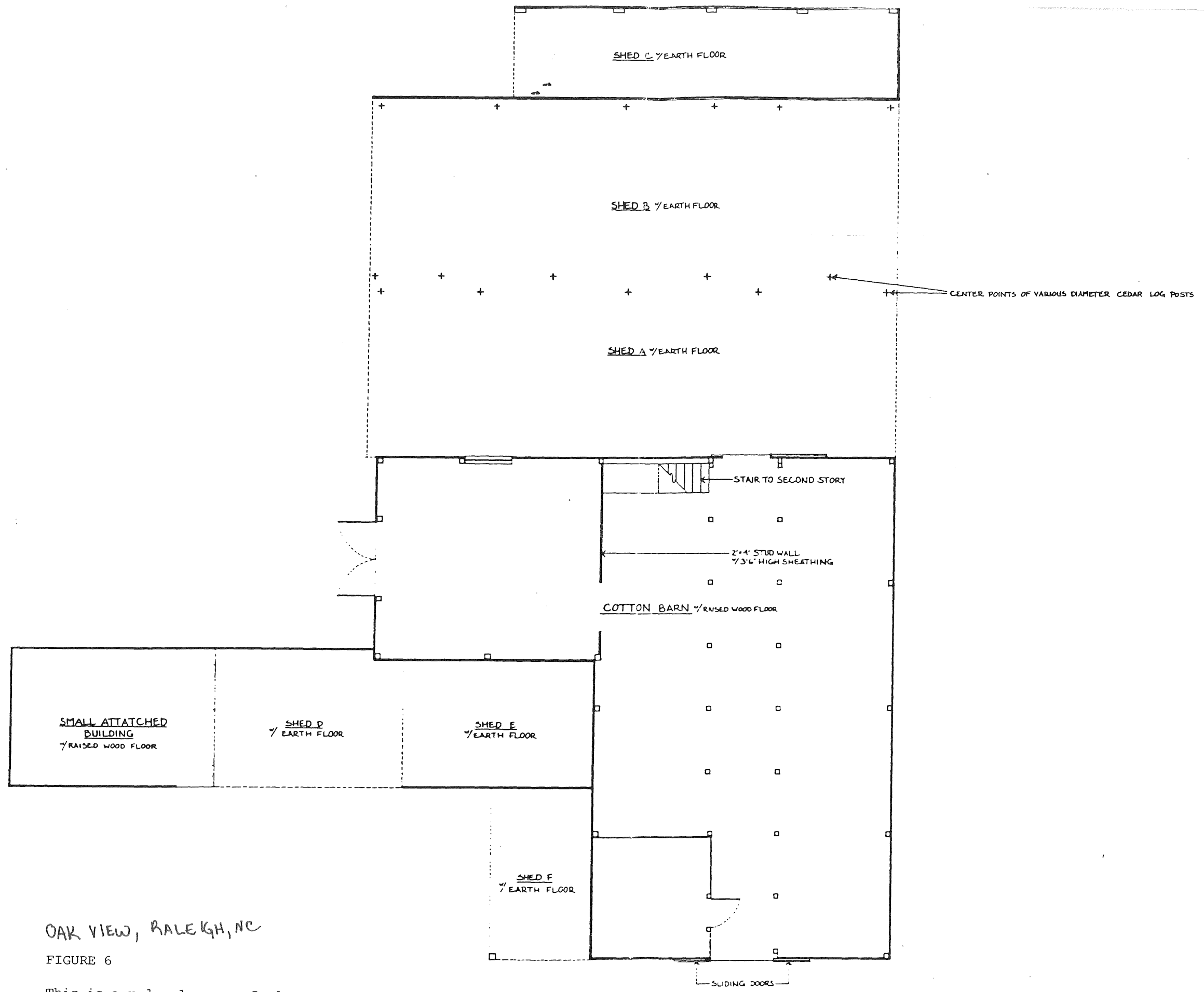


Kurt Eichenberger  
Architect/AIA  
413 Glenwood Avenue  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
919-839-6394

OAK VIEW  
MEASURED DRAWINGS  
FOR WAKE COUNTY

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A-5

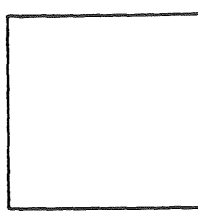
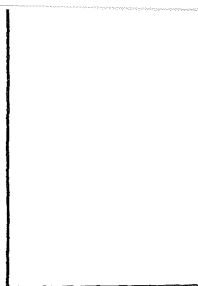


OAK VIEW, RALEIGH, NC

FIGURE 6

This is a reduced copy. Scale indicated does not apply.


**COTTON BARN**  
 SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



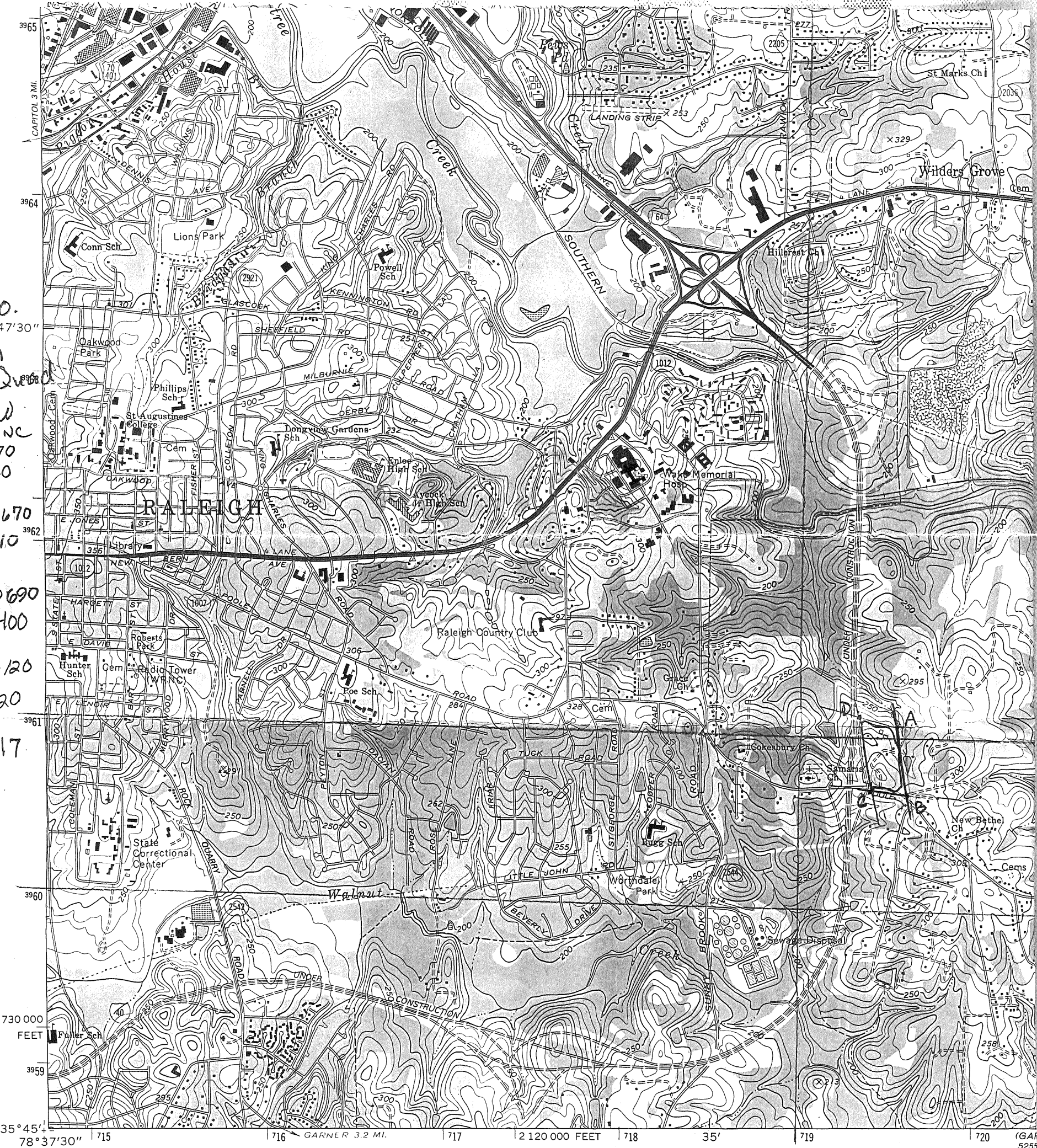
Kurt Eichenberger  
 Architect/AIA  
 412 Glenwood Avenue  
 Raleigh, NC 27603  
 919-833-6394

**OAKVIEW**  
**MEASURED DRAWINGS**  
 FOR WAKE COUNTY

Issued: 5/5/30  
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**A-6**



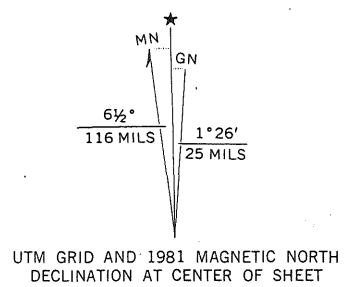


Wake Co.  
 47°30"  
 Raleigh  
 East Quarter  
 Oak View  
 RALEIGH, NC  
 A: 3961070  
 719530  
 B: 3960670  
 719610  
 C: 3960690  
 719400  
 D: 3961120  
 719320  
 ZONE 17

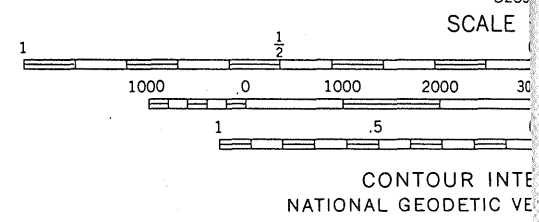
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and North Carolina Geodetic Survey  
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
 taken 1965 and 1968. Field checked 1968  
 Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on North  
 Carolina coordinate system. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator  
 grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum;  
 To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the  
 projection lines 12 meters south and 23 meters west as shown  
 by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
 Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in  
 cooperation with State of North Carolina agencies from  
 aerial photographs taken 1980 and other sources. This  
 information not field checked. Map edited 1981  
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

(LAKE WHEELER)  
 5255 II NW



UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



SCALE  
 CONTOUR INTERVAL  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VE

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATI  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

