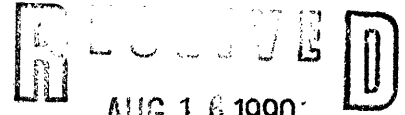


1465

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

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 Ocracoke Historic District other names/site number

2. Location

street & number southwest tip of Ocracoke Island, two-three not for publication n/a city, town block arc around Silver Lake Ocracoke vicinity r/a state North Carolina code NC county Hyde code 095 zip code 27960

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/district/site/structure/object categories. Totals: 251 contributing, 140 noncontributing resources.

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 5 (Light-house)

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: William S. Fair, Jr. Date: 8-6-90

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. determined eligible for the National Register. determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper: Jay L. [Signature] Date of Action: 9/28/90

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
 Domestic: hotel
 Defense: coast guard facility
 Transportation: water-related
 Landscape: natural feature

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
 Domestic: hotel
 Defense: coast guard facility
 Transportation: water-related
 LANDSCAPE: natural feature

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: vernacular late Victorian
 Colonial Revival
 Other: late Shingle Style
 Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
 walls weatherboard
 shingle
 roof asbestos
 other synthetics

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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)

Social History
Exploration/Settlement
Architecture

Period of Significance

1823-1959

Significant Dates

1823
1959

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Porter, Noah (lighthouse)
Gaskins, Thomas F.
Scarborough, Charlie

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

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

Acreeage of property approximately 200 acres

UTM References

A 18 409780 3886160
 Zone Easting Northing

C 18 410920 3885580

B 18 410640 3886680
 Zone Easting Northing

D 18 409780 3884650

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Boundary is shown on the accompanying district map, drawn in 1987 from composite tax maps at a scale of 1 inch = 200 feet.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the densest concentration of historic resources and to exclude recent construction.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Genevieve & Tim Keller (draft); M. Ruth Little (final)

organization Land & Community Res / Longleaf Hist. Res. date 1987 (draft) 1990 (final)

street & number 3501 Turnbridge Dr. telephone 919-787-4589

city or town Raleigh, state NC zip code 27609

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Description:

Ocracoke is a sixteen mile long island, ranging from one-half mile wide to two miles wide at the village near its southern extremity, located between Hatteras and Portsmouth Islands on the North Carolina Outer Banks. It is thirty-four miles across Pamlico Sound from the Hyde County mainland, and is part of Hyde County. It is the only major island with a permanent population which has not been connected to the mainland by a bridge. It is accessible to the public by means of ferry from Hatteras Island to the north, or ferries from Swan Quarter and Cedar Island on the mainland. There is a small air field on the island for private plane access. Ocracoke village is the only portion of the island that has been inhabited in recent years, because the rest of the island was acquired by the National Park Service as part of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Park between 1937 and ca. 1953.¹ The entire island is accessible by Highway 12, built between 1957-1959. Prior to this the island had only dirt roads, and the remote areas away from the village were sparsely settled with small farms and hunting cabins.

Ocracoke village is on the west, sound side of the island, at the mouth of Cockle Creek which was dredged first in the 1930s and again during World War II to create a circular harbor, known as Silver Lake, about one-quarter mile in diameter. The mouth into Pamlico Sound is about 200 feet wide, just the width of the ferry channel. The year-round population of the village is 650, augmented considerably from late spring to early fall with visitors. The village is primarily residential, with a small commercial center on Silver Lake, the Coast Guard Station at the harbor mouth, the 1823 cone-shaped white lighthouse south of the harbor (toward Ocracoke Inlet at the south end of the island, which was the access to Pamlico Sound in earlier days) and a small number of relatively small scale motels and condominiums built around the harbor.

Although small, the village has historically been divided into two geographic areas and corresponding social groups. The "Creekers" live "around Creek" or "Up Trent" on the northeast side of Silver Lake, above old Cockle Creek; the "Pointers" live "Down point" near Springers Point, southwest of Silver Lake. For most of the village's history, each section has had its own church. Highway 12 is the general dividing line between the two sections. The oldest documented houses are "around Creek," while the 1823 lighthouse is "Down Point."

The historic district contains 391 resources: 232 contributing buildings, 15 contributing cemeteries, 4 contributing structures (the lighthouse and three resource networks: the cisterns, the picket fences, and the docks), and 139 noncontributing buildings and 1 noncontributing structure (pool and cabana,

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#5b). The contributing resources were built between 1823 and 1959. A total of 85 of these are less than fifty years old, built in the 1941-1959 period. Forty-six of these are primary buildings, 38 of them are outbuildings, and one is the British Cemetery (#61). Altogether, 64% of the resources are pre-1959 and are contributing. The district spreads out around Silver Lake, with an irregular outer boundary drawn to include the legal lot lines of contributing buildings and to exclude recent, noncontributing buildings. The nominated area represents roughly one-half of the total acreage of the village. Most of the excluded area is post-1959 development out along Highway 12. Two prominent topographic features give unity to the district: Silver Lake Harbor, which serves as the focus, and the dense, tangled vegetation which forms a solid cover over much of the district. This vegetation covers not only vacant lots, but grows in thickets around the periphery of house lots, giving limited vistas along the streets.

The village has typical thick Outer Banks vegetation consisting of dense clumps of scrub pines, live oaks, water oaks, black myrtles, yaupon, and red cedar, all of which grow in stunted masses. The soil is sandy, and many of the traditional dwellings are sited in clearings inside these dense clumps of trees, all but invisible from the street. Grassy lawns are a relatively recent phenomenon, and the typical residence still has a natural sand and scrub brush yard. Lots are small, the result of constant subdivision from the original nineteenth century holdings to accommodate dwellings for family members, and houses are often set in side or rear yards.

After the vegetation, the most distinctive feature of the village is the roads, which have no recorded names (commonly used terms are used in this nomination for the sake of clarity), and which are often simply narrow dirt paths which go across private lots. These roads developed as footpaths, and houses had no need of orientation to the street since almost all transportation was on foot. Since the advent of car ferries in the 1950s, cars have become relatively common, but garages are elevated on pilings, with ramps, to keep cars away from the occasional high waters. Many Ocracokers still do not own cars, and bicycles are a frequent means of transportation. The roads which handle the most vehicular traffic are now paved with asphalt, but many are still sand. The best remaining example of a traditional path is Howard Street, a narrow sandy lane with vegetation creating a natural canopy along its length.

The chief characteristics of traditional Ocracoke houses that make island architecture significant are form and setting, both reflecting adaptations to the climate and topography. The houses are of frame construction and small in scale. Brick and stone were unavailable locally. The locally-available wood was of short lengths because of the stunted size of Ocracoke trees. Many of the

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traditional houses are said to be built from wood salvaged from shipwrecks.

The traditional Ocracoke homestead consists of a small frame house set in a clearing in the native vegetation. Like mainland traditional architecture of the nineteenth and early twentieth century, kitchen and dining facilities are generally located in a rear ell or detached rear building. This location kept kitchen heat and odors away from already crowded living and sleeping space in the main block. Also like the North Carolina mainland, a front porch is usually present. Front porches are a basic element, while many rear ells also had porches. Net tying and kitchen tasks such as peeling and sorting vegetables could be accommodated on a shaded porch on a hot summer's day.

Several outbuildings and structures are set around the house: a brick cistern and one or two small frame storage buildings (sometimes called net houses) set at the side or rear, and a picket fence defining the front yard. Other traditional facilities sometimes present are a wash house (a small frame building with a chimney or flue), a family graveyard enclosed with a fence, and a "fish bench" (a wooden shelf near a spigot or water pump where fish are cleaned). All of these structures are typically crowded onto a small lot. In addition, crab pots, fish nets, and boats are frequently stored in the yard, which is of sand. Early deeds record the sales of property with stables, outbuildings and garden plots much as they would in any rural community, indicating the dual agrarian and water-oriented traditions of the island. Other structures that have become necessities in recent years are a pump house (small wooden structure on pilings) to get public water and a garage (wooden front-gabled building on pilings), with a ramp to keep the automobile from flooding in high water.

ANTEBELLUM BUILDINGS

The 1823 lighthouse (#168) is the oldest known building and is firmly documented. Three houses are believed to be antebellum: the Simon and Louisa Howard House (#99) on Howard Street is said to have been built before 1840; the Kugler Cottage (#140) facing Pamlico Sound near the mouth of the harbor is said to be mid-19th century; and the Tolson-Rondthaler House (#144) is said to have been built ca. 1860. These share the story and a jump form and small scale, and all three are said to have pegged frames. According to Ocracoke historian Ellen Marie Cloud, this is a good indication of antebellum age. The Howard House is extremely small, appearing to contain one room with a loft. Size is one indicator of age on the island, because wood for framing was a scarce commodity prior to the modern era. Other than size, the house gives no outward indication of being older than the typical story and a jump: it has two-

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over-two sash windows, asbestos siding, and a replacement brick flue. Another antebellum house may be the Tolson-Rondthaler House, which has the only instance of nine-over-six sash windows found in the village. Since this is an early sash type, this supports an antebellum date for this house. The typical story and a jump house has two-over-two sash.

MOVING AND SALVAGING: THE ISLAND ETHIC

The traditional houses are very small in scale because large trees were not available for framing. The houses reputed to be antebellum are even smaller than the late 19th century houses. In fact, a number of the houses have traditions associated with their construction from salvaged ship timbers. At first this seems far-fetched, but the specificity of these traditions-sometimes including not just the name of the ship but the type of ship that it was and the date of the wreck-gives credence to these traditions. These include not only the small story and a jump houses, but surprisingly, even bungalows built in the 1930s. The Simon and Sarah Garrish House (#89) on Howard Street is said to have been built about 1888 from timbers from the wreck of the "Old Bateman." No less than three buildings: the Myron Garrish Bungalow (#90) on Howard Street, the Willis Bungalow (#10) on the Harbor Loop Road, built in the 1920s, and a kitchen (#166a), supposedly were built with lumber salvaged from the shipwreck "George W. Truitt." No doubt the salvaged timber was used for portions of the framing of these buildings, rather than providing all of the lumber necessary. The Spencer Bungalow (#178) on Lighthouse Road is the last known example of shipwreck salvage tradition: it was supposedly built in 1937 from the shipwreck "Naomis," which was carrying a cargo of lumber. In this case, it was probably the cargo lumber that was used, rather than the actual ship's timbers.

Shipwrecks were not the only source of salvage materials. Other buildings were salvaged, both private homes and abandoned government buildings. The home (#148) of the Bryant family, the only black family on the island after the slaves were freed during the Civil War, is actually the Boat House of the U.S. Life Saving Service, built in 1904 and abandoned about 1910. The Bryants moved it onto their adjacent property and converted it to a dwelling with minimal changes.

The recycling ethic continues on Ocracoke, now perhaps prompted as much by a preservation impulse as by economic necessity. About 1980 the Senseney family moved the late 19th century Hatteras Life Saving Station Radio Shack from Hatteras Village where it was threatened with destruction, and today it is

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used as a storage building behind their house (#150).

PRE-1941 HOUSE TYPES

The houses of Ocracoke village can be divided into a few distinct types that remain remarkably constant until the 1960s. These are the story and a jump; the two-story, single-pile, three bay wide house (I-House); the one-story hipped-roof house, (called a pyramidal cottage if the roof is an extremely high hip); the foursquare, and the bungalow. The first type discussed here, the coastal cottage, so important on the North Carolina mainland, is more notable in Ocracoke for its absence than its presence.

Coastal Cottage:

An important eastern North Carolina house form during this period is the "coastal cottage," or "Tidewater South" cottage: a one-story house set on a high foundation, with a full-length front porch engaged beneath the steep gable roof. The attic space generally contains sleeping areas, ventilated by gable end windows, dormer windows, or by windows beneath the porch roof. Although the story and a jump form that is the most basic house type on Ocracoke corresponds to the core of the "coastal cottage," there are only one or two with true engaged porches: the Kugler Cottage (#144) and the Phillips-O'Neal-Spencer House (#111). Perhaps the porch type was once common on Ocracoke, or perhaps engaged porch construction required a greater use of lumber than was practical on Ocracoke. At any rate, all but a handful of the antebellum houses on the island are gone. The Kugler Cottage has two features that give it a "coastal cottage" appearance: an engaged front porch without a porch ceiling, and six-pane casement windows in the front loft wall, beneath the porch. These windows give ventilation to the loft rooms, but no light. The Phillips-O'Neal-Spencer House has an engaged front porch, but any other original construction features are obscured because the porch has been enclosed.

Story and a Jump:

The basic Ocracoke historic house type is the "story and a jump": a diminutive frame house, three bays wide, with a steep gable roof, gable end chimney, a front porch, and a one-story rear kitchen shed or ell with chimney. No less than 47 of the houses in the district built up to the 1930s are this standardized type. Not all of them are still contributing, for Ocracoke is a harsh habitat for architecture, and the accelerated weathering that has occurred on the island has required frequent replacement of exterior features such as siding and chimneys.

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One of the best preserved story and a jump houses is the Benjamin Fulcher House (#53) on the British Cemetery Road, said to have been built in the late 19th century for Benjamin Fulcher by Charlie and Thad Scarborough from framing salvaged from wrecked ships. The house has retained weatherboards, an open shed porch with turned posts and an exterior gable end corbelled brick chimney, all apparently original. Unlike many of the type, the attic rooms were not enlarged by the addition of a shed dormer in the early twentieth century. Its integrity is enhanced by its site, in a clearing of oaks, cedars and mimosa. An example of a story and a jump house that has lost its integrity is the Gilbert and Malsey O'Neal House (#46), also on the British Cemetery Road, built ca. 1877, which has suffered the enclosure of the front porch, a new concrete block chimney, and vinyl siding. The front shed dormer, believed to have been added in the 1930s by the son of the original owner, is a traditional alteration that would not have jeopardized the integrity. The type was even reproduced by Virginia philanthropist Sam Jones in the 1950s in the Whittler's Cottage (#125) on the harbor, which has two gabled front dormers in its steep gable roof.

Although the hallmark of the story and a jump is a habitable attic, most of them had attic windows only in the gable ends. Dormers seem to not have been part of the builder's vocabulary until later, and most dormers are shed type dormers added in the 1930s and 1940s. Three of the story and a jump houses: Bragg-Tolson House (#132), Hallas A. Bragg House (#143), and the Eliza and William O'Neal House (#177) have a decorative front cross-gable with a window, thus becoming a variant type called the "triple-A" in North Carolina.

The Ocracoke story and a jump house is typically a hall-parlor plan with bedrooms located in the loft. The central front door opens into the larger room, the "hall," actually the main family room where most activities took place. An enclosed stair to the loft is located along the partition wall. The chimneys did not usually have open fireplaces, but had flues for iron stoves. Ocracoke has a mild climate, wood was scarce, and fire was a fear, so that big open wood-burning fireplaces were not practical nor necessary. Coal was generally burned in the stoves. Beaded tongue and groove sheathed interior walls are typical, with plaster rarely found. Not only would plaster have been difficult to obtain on Ocracoke, but the damp climate probably made it impractical.

I-House:

Although not nearly as numerous as the story and a jump, there are approximately 17 two-story single pile houses (known as I-Houses) dating from the

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1890s to the 1920s. These have the same secondary features as the story and a jump type: attached porches and rear sheds or ells. These houses with full second stories reflect the greater level of prosperity on Ocracoke in the early 20th century brought about by a diversified local economy.

One of the earliest known, and one of the most interesting, two-story single pile houses is the William Charles Thomas House (#130), overlooking the harbor on the west side. It was built just after the hurricane of 1899 for ship captain William Charles Thomas by local builder Charlie Scarborough. This house originally had a two-story front porch which blew off in the hurricane of 1944. The eaves and prominent center cross-gable have pierced sawtooth bargeboards, a stylish finish seen on only one other Ocracoke house, the Hallas Bragg House (#143). This house is one-story with a center cross-gable, the "triple-A" house type which was so popular on the North Carolina mainland at the turn-of-the-century. It is said that the Thomas House was designed by Capt. Thomas to resemble houses he had seen in the West Indies. It is also said to have the first floor trap door on Ocracoke, an innovation originated by Scarborough, who had fresh memories of the devastation caused by the 1899 hurricane. The batten shutters are apparently replacements of the originals.

Such ornate Victorian trim as sawnwork porches, gable ends decorated with sawnwork and fancy bay windows, hallmarks of Victorian architecture in turn-of-the-century towns on the mainland, were apparently seldom found on Ocracoke. The John Wilson McWilliams House (#126), ca. 1890, is a notable exception. It is actually L-shaped, with a two-story front gable projecting from the two-story main block. Imbricated shingles and sawnwork decorate the front gable. The wrap-around porch has bracketed turned posts. McWilliams was a prosperous farmer and storekeeper.

One of the largest of the I-Houses is the Amasa Fulcher House (#51) on British Cemetery Road, built for Amasa Fulcher about 1904, apparently as a story and a jump, and enlarged to a full two stories slightly later. Fulcher was one of the first island merchants. Another good example is the Horatio Jones Williams House (#39), behind Berkley Manor, built ca. 1901 for Williams, who was in the U.S. Coast Guard. Another fine two-story house is the Isaac O'Neal House (#80), built for a freight boat captain about 1909. One of the finest pairs of houses in the district are the two-story Lawrence Howard House (#94) and the Rev. Perry Coleman Howard House (#95), built side by side on Howard Street in the first decade of the 20th century. They were built by father and son.

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Pyramidal Cottage:

The one-story double-pile hipped-roof house type, ubiquitous in eastern North Carolina, barely exists on Ocracoke. Among the few examples are the Hatton and Chloan Howard House (#98), ca. 1904; the Frederick and Dezzie Bragg House (#118), ca. 1900; the Gaskill House (#145), ca. 1904; the James Henry Garrish House (#151), ca. 1905; and the Tom Ballance House (#196), ca. 1910. All of these have central hall plans, and several of the roofs are of pyramidal form. The type apparently experienced a brief popularity in the first decade of the century. This expansive house form no doubt required a lavish use of lumber that was difficult to obtain on the island.

Foursquare:

The foursquare, like the two-story single pile house, was built by prosperous families in the early 20th century. One of the finest examples is the David Williams House (#2), saved and moved to its prominent new site near the ferry landing. This was built for Coastguardsman David Williams about 1900, and its Italianate eaves and front porch and spacious central hall floor plan make it one of the most stylish historic houses on Ocracoke. On Lighthouse Road are three foursquares interspersed among other traditional houses: the Simpson-Basnett-Garrish House (#152), ca. 1914; the Richard F. O'Neal House (#155), 1922; and the Nathan Spencer House (#157) ca. 1922.

Bungalow:

By the 1920s the Craftsman bungalow became the home of choice for Ocracokers, and there are some 25 well-preserved examples in the district. Many of these were built by local builders. Most Ocracoke bungalows, like the earlier house types, are modest, lacking the exuberant detailing and bays, porches and porte-cocheres of their mainland counterparts. The bungalow was not dissimilar from the traditional story and a jump house, and was adopted quite readily by islanders. Typical of an Ocracoke bungalow is the Will and Sigma Willis House (#10), built ca. 1930 across from the commercial center by local builders Charlie and Thad Scarborough. Willis had a small store and operated the island mailboat. The house has an engaged front porch, a low hipped roof with front dormer, and is covered with wood shakes. The sills are said to have been salvaged from the shipwreck "George W. Truitt." By far the finest Ocracoke bungalow is the Gillis Riddick House (#50), built ca. 1936 by Thad Gaskins, supposedly from lumber from the shipwreck of the "Naomis." The eaves of the hipped roof and of the pedimented front dormer have Japanese-style brackets, and the engaged porch has massive "battered" columns on a

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solid porch rail. Simple, front-gabled Craftsman-influenced houses continued to be built on Ocracoke until the late 1940s or early 1950s.

One of the only houses built on the island during World War II is a bungalow, the Calvin O'Neal Sr. House (#117), located adjacent to the Ocracoke School on Schoolhouse Road. The 1 1/2 story, side-gabled house has Craftsman styling, with a corner engaged porch and cedar shakes. Calvin O'Neal was a local builder and built this for his own home.

HISTORIC RESORT ARCHITECTURE

There is very little historic resort architecture on Ocracoke until regular ferry service began in 1959 because the few island visitors stayed either in private houses or in a small number of hotels and inns. There were apparently a few summer houses built from the late nineteenth century on, but the only one that has been documented is the Moss-O'Neal House which was demolished in early 1990. Ocracoke houses were occasionally enlarged, adapted, or had auxiliary rental cottages constructed to serve as boarding houses and inns beginning in the late 19th century. The Chase-Bragg-Boos House (#190), now known as the Sound Front Inn, is a 19th century house that became an inn in the early 20th century when owner Gary Bragg rented rooms to hunters and fishermen. He also had several small rental cottages built on the property.

PRE-1941 NONRESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE

Only three known nonresidential buildings in the Ocracoke Historic District predate 1941: two stores and a U.S. Lifesaving Service boathouse. Ocracoke stores, fish houses and other nonresidential buildings were generally built on the water, thus their survival rate is low. The oldest commercial building standing is the Styron Store (#171), on Lighthouse Road at a prominent intersection, built in the 1920s by Capt. Albert Styron. This is a traditional frame gable-front store, with a simple false facade and a front shed porch. It is typical of early 20th century corner stores throughout North Carolina.

Another early store is the Willis Store and Fish House (#23), built on pilings at the edge of the harbor about 1930. It is a small one-story hipped frame building with asbestos siding that is probably original. It is typical of shoreside commercial architecture of the early 20th century.

LIFE-SAVING BUILDINGS

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Although always few in number, Ocracoke's life saving buildings have been perhaps the most significant buildings on the island throughout its development, both because of their size and their function. The Lighthouse complex (#168) is an outstanding example of a lighthouse and keepers' quarters that represents more than one hundred and fifty years of maritime heritage. The lighthouse and a small brick keeper's quarters were built in 1823, and the quarters was enlarged to a two-story brick duplex in 1896. Several portions of the two early U.S. Life Saving Service stations established on Ocracoke in 1883 and 1904 have survived. One is a ca. 1904 boat house converted to a dwelling (#148). This shingle-clad structure with a pyramidal roof still retains the double door openings for the boats, and basically retains its original, functional design. The other is the detached kitchen of one of the Life Saving stations, which was moved to the rear yard of the Gillis Riddick House (#50) and functions as a storage building.

CLIMATIC ADAPTATIONS

The harsh climate dictated the siting of Ocracoke buildings away from the water, in the shelter of native thickets that offer some protection from storms. None of the domestic buildings that survive on Ocracoke was originally sited close to the sound or ocean, although some have been moved to waterfront sites, for example, the Williams House (#24), a turn-of-the-century story and a jump house that was rescued from demolition and is a gift shop on Silver Lake now. Another climatic hazard is flooding caused by unusually high tides. One architectural response was the use of trap doors in the floor to allow the water to pour into the house rather than to float the house off its foundation. This innovation apparently started after the Hurricane of 1899. The only known example is in the William Charles Thomas House (#130), but there are probably numerous others. Outbuildings and houses built in recent years on the island are set on high wooden pilings to protect them from water damage. All of the storage buildings and garages built in the past decade are set on two to four foot wooden pilings, with wooden ramps providing access to the doors.

CISTERN:

Certainly the most characteristic climatic adaptation in Ocracoke architecture is the rain water cistern. The cistern was a storage tank for rain water, collected in the gutters along the roof eaves and channeled into the cistern, which is located near the kitchen. The water was then pumped out of the cistern, by hand pumps in early days and later by machine pumps. Although a community water system was installed in the 1970s, the traditional cisterns still remain at houses built before then, and the construction types built during each historical

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period are distinct and can be roughly dated by design.

The three basic cistern types are the round brick type, with a domed top; the rectangular brick type, with a vaulted top; and the modern brick or concrete or concrete block type of varying shapes. The round and rectangular types are pre-World War II and represent fine masonry craftsmanship. They are one of the most unusual and distinctive architectural features on Ocracoke.

The round brick type appears to be an older type than the rectangular type, and is present on houses built from the nineteenth century up to the early 20th century. For example, the Dixon-Williams House (#9), built in 1913, has one, as does the William and Fanny Howard House (#14), built in the 1870s. The barrel-vaulted rectangular brick cistern apparently came in the early 20th century, and one is found at the Horatio Jones Williams House (#39), built about 1901, and at the Gillis Riddick House (#50), built in 1936. During the early 20th century, the round and rectangular types were apparently built concurrently. Sometimes the cistern outlasts the house, as may have happened at the Dallas Williams House (#42), built about 1930, which has a round domed cistern that was probably built for an earlier house on the site. By the 1950s, when island romantic Sam Jones was constructing his landmark inns, cistern construction had shifted to the use of concrete, which allowed more flexibility of shape and size. The cistern of Berkley Manor (#3), built in 1951, is a large rectangular flat-topped brick structure located so close to the inn that it functions as a patio. Where islanders obtained cistern brick in the early days is an interesting question, but it certainly was not made on the island, since there is no native clay on Ocracoke.

Several Ocracoke houses retain the hand-operated cistern pumps. The best-preserved Ocracoke homestead is the Rev. Perry Coleman Howard House (#95), on Howard Street, built about 1900. It retains a detached kitchen, located beside the house, with the rectangular cistern between the two buildings. The front porch extends across to the kitchen and shelters the hand pump, located in the end of the cistern. Many Ocracoke cisterns are still connected to roof gutters, and some are still in use because the owners prefer the taste of rain-water to the community water.

Although cisterns are important architectural resources in the district, and are classified as "structures," they are not counted individually in the resource count because of the difficulty of classifying them as to contributing or non-contributing status. Like the ubiquitous picket fences, they are considered as a network of contributing structures and are counted as one structure.

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PICKET FENCES

Ocracokers have traditionally fenced in their front yards and their cemeteries for various reasons, chiefly to control livestock, to protect garden plots, to secure fishing equipment stored in the yard, and to define private space. Some houses had two fences: an outer fence circling the entire property and an inner fence circling the house. The definition of space was particularly important in this crowded village, where lots were continually being subdivided, where yards often did not front on streets, and where streets themselves were simply narrow dirt paths. The best preserved streetscape in the district is Howard Street, where the street is defined by continuous picket fences. Unlike cisterns, which are built of durable masonry, picket fences are made of perishable wood, and are continually rebuilt. The presence of a picket fence of traditional design is noted in the district inventory, but the fence is not counted as a separate resource because of the difficulty of dating and classifying by contributing or noncontributing status. Like cisterns, fences are a network counted as one contributing structure.

DOCKS

Weathered wooden docks jut into the water all around the shore of Silver Lake harbor. Some of these are private, some commercial, and there is a sizeable state ferry dock located beside the Coast Guard Station. Docks have been a necessary feature of Ocracoke life since at least the 1930s, when a map of Ocracoke village prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers showed Silver Lake bristling with them.² As with picket fences, docks deteriorate quickly and are continuously repaired and rebuilt, and giving them construction dates is difficult. Silver Lake's docks form a network which add to the historic environment of the district and are counted as one contributing structure.

OCRACOKE BUILDERS

The earliest identified builder on Ocracoke is Noah Porter of Massachusetts, who constructed the Ocracoke Lighthouse out of solid brick and built the adjacent brick keeper's quarters. It is obvious that a builder who specialized in masonry lighthouse construction would have been necessary for such a mammoth undertaking. However, Ocracoke has had a strong group of local carpenters who have constructed the houses and other buildings since at least ca. 1888, date of the earliest house associated with a local builder. The earliest known local builder was Thomas F. Gaskins, who is said to have built his own story and a jump house ca. 1888 (#132). No less than twenty-one of the houses in the district built between ca. 1888 and ca. 1950 are associated with

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particular local builders, an unusually large number. Normally the builders of modest houses remain anonymous, but perhaps local tradition has kept their names alive in Ocracoke because it has remained such a close-knit community.

After Thomas F. Gaskins, the next known builder is Charlie Scarborough, who worked from the turn-of-the-century until the 1930s. His earliest attributed building is the William Charles Thomas House (#130), ca. 1899. This is a large, impressive I-House. In the 1920s and 1930s he often collaborated with Thad Gaskins; and the Capt. Gaskill House (#112) of 1925, the Eliza and William O'Neal House (#177) of 1928, and the Celia and Enoch Tolson House (#129) of 1933 are attributed to them. The Tolson and Gaskill houses are bungalows; the O'Neal House is a story and a jump which they dismantled and rebuilt on another site.

Charlie and his brother Thad Scarborough worked as a team from the 1920s to ca. 1950, and six houses are credited to them. These are the remodeling of the Leonard and Aretta Williams House (#128) 1922; the Will and Sigma Willis bungalow (#10), ca. 1930; the William and Doris Garrish House (#176), 1932; Lonnie Burrus Sr. House (#127), 1934; Capt. Joe Burrus House (#113), 1940; and the Styron-Garrish House (#154), ca. 1950. All but the first and last houses are bungalows: the first is a foursquare and the last is a modest ranch.

Thad Gaskins (1887-1961) apparently began building as a very young man. His earliest known building is his own residence (#150), a story and a jump house built early in the 20th century. Other houses attributed to him solely are the Williams-Teeter House (#60), ca. 1920, which began as a story and a jump; the Gillis Riddick House (#50), a fine ca. 1936 bungalow; and the John Gaskill House (#192), one of the last Craftsman style houses built on the island, in the 1940s.

Another local builder was Stanford Jackson, credited with three early 20th century story and a jump type houses: the Elisha Ballance Sr. House (#73), 1908; the William and Della Scarborough Sr. House (#72), 1912; and the Charlie Garrish Sr. House (#63), 1913. Bill Gaskins is credited with one house, a two-story traditional house built in 1912 for Lawrence Howard (#94).

The last local builder who built during the period of historical significance was Calvin O'Neal, Sr. He began his career in the 1940s, and built late examples of the bungalow style and modest period cottages. Two of those which he built in the district are his own residence (#117) in the early 1940s (said to be one of the few non-military buildings constructed on Ocracoke during the war) and the Stanley and Hulda Gaskins House (#77), 1949.

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ARCHITECTURE 1941 TO 1959

Thirty-five primary buildings, 36 outbuildings, and the British Cemetery (#61), a total of 72 resources, date between 1941 and 1959, the end of the period of significance for the district. These resources include almost all of the non-residential buildings on the island. 1959 is a significant year because it marked the advent of state-operated car ferries, the opening of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, and the paving of Hwy 12 across the island. These events opened up Ocracoke Island to modern tourism and ended Ocracoke's traditional isolation.

Almost none of these buildings was constructed during World War II. Activity during the war centered around the new Coast Guard Station and the U.S. Navy Base constructed at the inlet. Two of the only private projects known were the erection in the early 1940s of the two churches. The other major resource dating from the war years is the British Cemetery (#61) of 1942, containing the graves of four British seamen who drowned when a German submarine sank their ship off Ocracoke.

Following World War II domestic architecture changed little. For example, the John Gaskill House (#192) was built in the 1940s by local builder Thad Gaskins in a vernacular Craftsman style, with a recessed corner porch, an interior corbelled chimney, two-over-two sash windows, and asbestos siding.

Moving and salvaging continued to be one way of creating new buildings on Ocracoke during this period, and the old Coast Guard Station, which burned ca. 1942, and the Navy base, abandoned after the destructive hurricane of 1944, provided many opportunities for this. Some enterprising islanders moved buildings from the Navy Base and adapted them as houses, commercial or institutional buildings. For example, the Wahab Rental Duplex (#40) was a chapel on the Navy base, and was moved from the base ca. 1945. It is a wide, plain, side-gabled one-story building with asbestos siding. The fellowship hall of the United Methodist Church (#115), a one-story frame side-gabled building with asbestos siding, was a naval barracks moved here soon after the war. The west one-story wing of the Island Inn (#147) was created in 1948 from several Navy barracks put together. This wing has vertical tongue-and-groove sheathing and a roof with exposed rafter ends. Henry Bragg built his one-story vernacular house (#135) on Silver Lake in the late 1940s from wood purchased from the old Coast Guard Station.

Private homes were also recycled during this period. When Ocracoker Willie Humnings returned from World War II and needed a house, he built his tiny

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house (#36) with salvaged framing from his grandmother Garrish's house, which had blown into the marsh in the hurricane of 1944 and had been abandoned.

Houses built in the 1950s are modest frame ranches, generally with low gable roofs, asbestos siding, and small front porches. Because these buildings continue the traditional features of small scale, frame construction, front porches, and modest detailing characteristic of houses built prior to World War II, they are counted as contributing resources in the district.

Churches

Ocracoke has two churches, the United Methodist Church (#115) in the "Up Creek" section and the Assembly of God Church (#162) in the "Down Point" section. Both were built in the early 1940s and are small buildings of traditional form and materials. The Methodist Church was built with lumber salvaged from the demolition of the Island's two previous Methodist churches, and marked a unification of the earlier churches. Neither church has a church cemetery, but there are private family cemeteries located behind both churches.

Commercial Buildings

Among the non-residential resources dating from the post-war period are four of the oldest commercial buildings on the island: the Water Plant Office, the Community Store, the Old Post Office, and the Merchant Mariner Gift Shop. These are small frame hipped or gabled buildings of vernacular design. The Community Store (#25), built on the harbor shore in the 1950s, is a one-story frame, gable front building that is connected to docks, and was built on the site of the old Amasa Fulcher Store. Although built in the mid-20th century, it retains traditional form and materials, and indicates the continuing traditional character of Ocracoke buildings in the 1950s. The old Ocracoke Post Office (#28), built in 1954 on the harbor shore, is now adaptively used as a gift shop since a brick post office was built in the 1970s. Its form and materials, a small frame building with asbestos siding and wooden sash windows, are another example of the continuation of tradition in the 1950s. Finally, there is a ca. 1950 gift shop still standing on the harbor shore-the Merchant Mariner Gift Shop (#29), a small square, one-story frame building with a high hip roof. It was actually a hunting cabin at Green Island Hunting Club (in the marshes northeast of the village), and was moved here and converted to a shop. It is thought to be the first gift shop on the island.

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Coast Guard Station and British Cemetery

The present Coast Guard Station (#1), built ca. 1942 facing the mouth of Silver Lake, is a two-and-one-half story main building with a one-story boat house to the rear. A tall, square observation tower is attached to the main building, which has a gabled roof with dormers, a wrap-around porch, six-over-six sash windows and other details of the Colonial Revival style. The Coast Guard Station is an enlarged version of a frame, Colonial Revival residence. It was built near the site of an earlier Coast Guard Station, built in 1904 and dismantled about 1942. The earlier station was sited behind the present station, facing the sound. Unfortunately both the main building and the boat house have recently been given vinyl siding.

The British Cemetery is the symbol of the important role played by Ocracoke during World War II. The four British seamen buried here were killed when their ship was sunk off Ocracoke in 1942 by a German submarine. The U.S. Navy brought their bodies to Ocracoke to be buried.

Resort Architecture

This period also saw the construction of the earliest hotels and lodges on the island that survive. The oldest remaining building built as an inn is the Island Inn (#147), which, like most Ocracoke buildings, achieved its present form through adaptive reuse and salvaging. The core of the building is a two-story, gable front frame Odd Fellows Lodge/School Building, built in 1901. In 1942 Ocracoke entrepreneur Robert Stanley Wahab converted the first floor to a coffee shop, and the upstairs became a naval officers' club. In 1948 Wahab moved several Naval barracks from the base to the west side of the building to create a dance hall, and in the 1950s he added a two-story west wing as a dining room and guest rooms. It was named the Island Inn sometime in the 1950s. The hotel continues to operate and remains a major Ocracoke landmark.

During the 1950s the two most splendid inns on Ocracoke, Berkley Manor (#3) and Berkley Castle (#124), were built by industrialist and island philanthropist Samuel (Sam) S. Jones (1893-1977) of Norfolk, Virginia. Both of these rambling three and one-half story buildings with picturesque towers and exuberant dormers are on the Harbor Loop Road, giving Silver Lake harbor a distinctive skyline. Local people recall how Jones designed the "castle" by sketching it in the sand and hiring local builders for its construction. Across the harbor loop road from the "castle," on the harbor shore, is the "Whittlers Cottage" (#125) built by Jones to provide a place for retired fishermen to whittle wood while enjoying each other's company.

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Jones owned the Berkley Machine Works and Foundry Company in Norfolk, and married an Ocracoker, Ruth Kelly, granddaughter of Capt. George Gregory Howard, a sea captain. Joneses' motivations were a mixture of entrepreneurship and philanthropy. Not only was he capitalizing on the growing influx of tourists to the island, but he was also providing jobs for many local tradesmen. The third large building erected by Sam Jones was his own house (#134), a smaller version of the inns, on the shore of Silver Lake harbor. It is still owned by his widow. All of these buildings, as well as a tiny two-story, square dock house on the harbor shore (#137), have the same eclectic style that borrows elements from the Williamsburg Colonial Revival and from New England turn-of-the-century resort architecture. Walls are covered with wood shakes, a tall hipped tower and wings extend at various angles, and roofs bristle with dormers. Berkley Castle is the most imposing building because of its symmetrical seven-bay wide main block, with double-tiered dormers, and the four story tower which rises behind the main block. Jones was a colorful and beloved adopted Ocracoker, and he is buried beside his favorite horse out on Springers Point.

ARCHITECTURE 1959 TO THE PRESENT

Following the paving of Route 12, the establishment of a free ferry from Hatteras, and the advent of truck traffic to Ocracoke, new construction began to resemble that found in almost any community in the United States. Resort-related buildings, low-rise roadside motels, and second homes in any number of contemporary styles have been built since the 1960s. In the 1960s roadside motels and restaurants began to be built along Route 12 near the village. Several historic houses have been adapted, enlarged, and moved for various commercial purposes and now serve as restaurants and gift shops. For example, the William and Fanny Howard House (#14) is a late nineteenth century story and a jump now used as a restaurant, and the William Ellis Williams House, (#24) is a ca. 1900 story and a jump moved to the harbor shore to prevent its demolition, and now used as a gift shop. Beginning in the late 1960s a number of vacation cottages have been built in such styles as the A-frame, chalet style, or contemporary Outer Banks rustic. In the 1980s, two multiple-story hotels have been built on Silver Lake harbor and compete for a place in the Ocracoke skyline with the lighthouse, Coast Guard Station, and Sam Joneses' towered inns.

Criteria Consideration G: Exceptional Significance

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Evaluation and appreciation of the exceptional significance of Ocracoke's architecture from this less than fifty year old period depend upon an understanding of the historical reality of life in Ocracoke prior to the institution of regular ferry service in 1959. The harsh climate on the island and the scarcity of lumber are the two primary factors that have affected how buildings look and how they have been changed through the years. Almost every characteristic of the buildings have evolved because of these realities. For these reasons, buildings retained traditional characteristics on Ocracoke far longer than on the North Carolina mainland, and some of the island buildings built between 1941 and 1959 are of exceptional significance because they continue pre-World War II traditions.

EVALUATION OF CONTRIBUTING STATUS

All resources built up to 1959, the advent of the modern era in Ocracoke, are considered contributing if they have retained architectural and historical integrity. However the integrity threshold for Ocracoke buildings has been lowered because of the unique climatic pressures on the built environment. Nearly all of the historic buildings have been modified to adapt to severe weather conditions, to alleviate the effects of constant exposure to wind, moisture and insects, to compensate for the scarcity and expense of building materials on an island, and in response to contemporary life. Given the spatial constraints of the island, many houses were enlarged by adding dormers, and sometimes by adding a full second story. Such changes were usually made during the historical period, and do not affect the contributing status. Typical alterations made in recent years include such generally reversible changes as screening porches, enclosing porches, applying wooden shingles or synthetic siding over the original horizontal weatherboards, raising the original foundations and replacing chimneys. The traditional native landscaping which remains at most Ocracoke homesteads helps to preserve the historic character of the parcels in spite of such alterations. Luxuriant vegetation rises in tall mounds around the typical house and contributes almost as much to the historic character as the building fabric itself.

A traditional story and a jump house will typically have replacement siding, porch alterations, and a rear addition, but is still considered contributing if it retains its traditional form and setting. For example, the Simon and Sarah Garish House (#89), one of the landmark Ocracoke homesteads on Howard Street, is a story and a jump built in 1888. Changes are a replacement chimney, two front dormers, a rear addition, aluminum siding, and a replacement porch railing, yet the homestead is still contributing. The site retains an early storage building, a round domed cistern, and characteristic Ocracoke landscaping.

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When post-World War II changes have obscured the basic form or when so many replacement materials have been used that the Ocracoke feeling is lost, the building is classified as noncontributing. For example, the James and Helen Fulcher House (#67) on the Back Road was built ca. 1907, apparently as a story and a jump, but in a major remodelling ca. 1930 the roof was altered to create an engaged porch with a central dormer, and a substantial rear addition has altered the original form so that it looks like a bungalow. If no other changes had happened, this could still be considered contributing, but more recently the windows and chimney were replaced, the porch was screened, and artificial siding was added. As a totality, the house has lost its architectural integrity.

FOOTNOTES

1 Beginning in 1937, when Congress authorized creation of the National Seashore system, the state of North Carolina began to acquire Ocracoke land by condemnation. The state gradually put all of the parcels together and sold them to the National Park Service in 1953 for the park. Author's interview with Bebe Woody, National Park Service, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, April 19, 1990; David Stick, The Outer Banks of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1958. p. 300.

2 Map drawn in 1939. Copy in Ocracoke Historic District file, North Carolina Historic Preservation Office.

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INVENTORY LIST

Explanation of Survey Data:

Building dates, original and subsequent owner information, and anecdotal traditions in the entries are drawn from "Citizen Questionnaires" collected by the Ocracoke Preservation Society during the architectural survey. This information was compiled and edited by local Ocracoke historians Ellen Marie Cloud and Ward Garrish. Cloud and Garrish have conducted an intensive study of Ocracoke archival records, including deeds, birth and marriage and death records, census records up to 1900, church records, cemetery records, road keepers minutes, Army Corps of Engineers records, old maps, military records, guardianship records, court records including special proceedings for Hyde, Carteret, Dare, Currituck, Craven and Washington counties, records of the Collector of the Port of Ocracoke, and the John Gray Blount Papers. Before Ocracoke became part of Carteret County, records were recorded in the county in which a person was trading. The information which has been compiled is in the private collection of Ellen Marie Cloud. Much of the historical information in this list and in the rest of the nomination comes from the research of Cloud and Garrish.

The accompanying historic district map has only primary resources keyed; auxiliary resources are listed in the inventory list. Subsidiary houses, such as a rental house on the same parcel as the primary house, are generally counted as out-buildings.

The first assessment of Ocracoke's historic architecture by the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office was in 1980, when the most significant buildings were recorded as part of the overall Hyde County Survey by Diane Lea and Claudia Roberts.

The comprehensive architectural survey was conducted in 1987 by Genevieve and Tim Keller, of Land & Community Associates, Charlottesville, Va., through an appropriation to the Ocracoke Preservation Society from the North Carolina State Legislature. The Kellers prepared a draft National Register nomination, but they decided not to complete the project.

In the spring of 1990, M. Ruth Little, of Longleaf Historic Resources, field-checked the inventory, revised the boundaries of the district in consultation with Dru York and Claudia Brown of the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, and rewrote the National Register nomination.

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RESOURCE COUNT

CEMETERIES

All cemeteries in the district are noted. Each isolated cemetery, usually defined by a fence, is counted as an individual site. Where a cluster of individual family cemeteries are adjacent, the cluster is counted as one site.

CISTERNS

The presence of a cistern, where known, is noted in each entry. Cisterns are not counted as individual contributing structures. The entire network of cisterns is counted as one structure.

PICKET FENCES

The presence of a picket fence, the traditional fence design on Ocracoke, is noted in the entries, but they are not counted as individual structures. The entire network of picket fences are counted as one structure. More modern types of fences, such as horizontal plank fences or simpler rail fences are not considered significant historic resources and are not counted as part of the network.

BUILDING MATERIAL

Unless otherwise noted, all buildings are of frame construction.

STREET NAMES

Ocracoke village has no legal street names or street numbers. For the sake of clarity, commonly used references to the various streets were used in this list and in the district map. These references were collected through conversations with residents and through a village map, prepared by Ocracoke schoolchildren, which hangs in the Ocracoke School. Three of the side streets have no commonly used names, and these are referred to as Road A, Road B and Road C in this list.

ORGANIZATION OF LIST

Numbering proceeds from north to south, starting with the Coast Guard Station on the north side of Silver Lake and proceeding south around the lake. For north-south streets, the east side is first, then the west side. For east-west roads, the south side is first, then the north side. Major streets are usually listed in their entirety, then side streets which intersect them are listed.

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INVENTORY

Harbor Loop Road, from north side of harbor mouth south to Hwy 12, land side

C 1. Coast Guard Station. ca. 1942

The United States Coast Guard Station is an important island institution. The original station on this site, built in 1904, was behind the current building and faced Pamlico Sound. This burned about 1942 and the current station was built soon afterward. The main building is a 2 1/2 story frame, Colonial Revival style gable roofed building with a 5-story tall, square observation tower overlooking the harbor, 6/6 sash, a large corbeled interior brick chimney, front and back roof dormers, and a hip porch extending around three sides with plain boxed posts and a plain railing. It has recently been sided with vinyl.

C a. Boat House. ca. 1942. 1 1/2 story gabled frame building of complementary design, with roof dormers, gable end chimney, 6/6 sash and some original solid wooden shutters. It has a gable end brick chimney of similar construction to that of the main building. Four boat bays face the main building. This is said to have been built for the 1904 station, but if so, it was substantially remodelled to match the 1940s station. It has recently been vinyl sided.

C 2. David Williams House. ca. 1900.

Substantial foursquare with deep hip roof, interior chimneys, sawnwork eave brackets, and hipped front porch with original boxed posts with sawnwork spandrels, two-over-two sash, one-story rear ell with recessed porch. Asbestos siding, central hall floor plan. In order to save it, the Ocracoke Preservation Society moved this house in 1989 to its present location on land owned by the National Park Service visitor's center from its nearby original location just north of the Anchorage Inn, facing the harbor. The original site had been bought by the Anchorage Inn and the house was endangered. It is believed to have been built by David Williams (1858-1938) who served in the Coast Guard. Williams purchased the original tract from William H. Wahab for \$10 in 1890 (DB 19, 497). He was married to Alice Wahab (1865-1953), sister of James Hatton Wahab (see entry #4).

C 3. Berkley Manor. ca. 1951.

One of Ocracoke's most distinctive and unique landmarks. The shingle-clad, two-story main building was built around an earlier structure with the old wood

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framing reused in the interior. A 4-story tower rises above the main part of the building. The main facade of the rambling structure is 7 bays wide. A multiplicity of gable-roofed wings and dormers and the large pyramidal-roofed central tower give the Manor its unique roofline and irregular floor plan. Tall medieval revival style exterior brick chimneys on both the main wing and its additions add vertical emphasis.

The brick foundations, stairs and decks of this complex link these structures to other buildings built for Sam Jones, Sr., who bought this property from the heirs of Dezzie Fulcher and built the existing manor over the 19th century house belonging to the Fulcher (Farrow?) family. There is a large expanse of lawn appropriate to the height and massing of the complex. Circular sand and oyster shell drives and indigenous vegetations such as cedars and myrtle shrubs contribute to the integrity of the property. The manor is named for Jones' Norfolk, Virginia ironworks, Berkley Machine Works.

C a. Auxiliary House. ca. 1951. Five-bay wide 1 1/2 story house of similar rambling shingled and dormered design.

C b. Garage. ca. 1951. Gabled building with vertical board siding and shingled gable ends.

C c. Boat House. ca. 1951. Gabled L-shaped building with weathered vertical board siding and shingled gable ends.

C d. Privy. ca. 1951. Small, shingle-clad, gabled building.

NC e. Laundry. Late 20th c. Low, gable-front frame building, 3 bays wide, clad partially in shingles, partially in metal.

NC f. Outbuilding. Late 20th c. Small gable-front frame building with metal sheathing.

Cistern. ca. 1951. Large brick flat-topped type.

C 4. James Hatton Wahab House. ca. 1886.

1 1/2 story central gabled house, 3 bays wide, central hall plan. The gable may have originally been ornamented. The present pedimented and columned stoop and two enclosed side porches were added in 1936-37. Dormers have been added above the rear kitchen ell. This was built for James Hatton Wahab (1861-1915), a notable Ocracoker who served in the Life Saving Service. It was also

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owned by his son, Robert Stanley Wahab (1888-1967). The younger Wahab established and operated the Island's ice and electric plant, began the Wahab Village and Wahab Hotel, and turned the former Odd Fellows' Lodge building into an inn that was the forerunner of today's Island Inn. Wahab was one of Ocracoke's first native entrepreneurs and one of the first to envision the island's tourist potential. Robert Wahab's widow, Myra Wahab, is the current owner.

C a. Work shed. Late 19th c. Two bays wide, side gabled, asbestos shingle siding.

C b. Garage. 1940s. Gabled building with asbestos shingle siding.

C c. Wahab Rental Cottage. Early 20th c. Side-gabled, three bay 1 story house with rear shed wings. Front shed porch with plain posts and picket balustrade. Asbestos shingle siding. This rental cottage was built for Alexander and Epherena Garrish by Thomas W. Howard in the early 1900s.

Picket Fence. Traditional design, with front arbor gateway facing harbor. Encloses entire complex.

Vacant Lot

NC 5. Anchorage Inn. ca. 1979.

Tallest building on the island other than the lighthouse. The bulky 4 1/2 story brick veneer motel is the dominant feature on Silver Lake, and a notable intrusion in the historic harbor area. The dormered, gabled roofline softens the silhouette slightly.

NC a. Gift Shop. 1980s. Small frame side-gabled building across the road on the harbor shore.

NC b. Pool and Cabana. 1980s. Small frame pool house, pool is fenced. Located on harbor shore.

NC c. Ocracoke Fishing Center. 1980s. Small side-gabled frame marina facility.

C 6. Guthrie House. 1928.

1 1/2 story hip-roofed bungalow with large central front gabled dormer and engaged porch with slightly tapered square posts and replacement railing. The

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interior plan features a central hall and a parlor and sitting room on opposite sides of the hall. Built for Matthew P. and Emelis Guthrie. Matthew T. Guthrie (1874-1948), a Harker's Island native who was stationed on Portsmouth Island in the Life Saving Service and who married Emelis O'Neal (1883-1957) from Ocracoke in 1904, purchased the property in 1910 (DB m33,536). The Guthries lived in an earlier house that had been the Doxsee home until they had the existing bungalow built in 1928. After Mrs. Guthrie's death, the three Guthrie daughters sold the property to Neafie Scarborough. She sold it in the early 1960s to Archil Perry Pentz, who operates the adjacent Harborside Motel.

NC a. Outbuilding. Side-gabled building with weatherboard. This is said to have originally been a house, built for Charles McWilliams and Annie Toler, but has lost its integrity.

NC b. Greenhouse. Late 20th c.

NC 7. Harborside Motel and Gift Shop. 1960s.

The gabled, 2-story motel has an engaged 2-story porch and is built according to a standard motel plan. The plain, weatherboarded gable end facing the street is ornamented with the name of the motel and a wood cut-out of a pilot's wheel.

NC a. Gift Shop. 1960s. Across the street, on the harbor shore, is a small 1-story gabled frame commercial building that differs little from residential structures of the period.

NC 8. The Sandfiddler. 1980s.

One-story, gabled frame building with T1-11 siding and screened porch, built as sandwich and ice cream shop.

C 9. Dixon-Williams House. 1913.

Well-preserved 2-story frame traditional house, weatherboarded, with single-pile, side-gabled 3-bay wide main block, interior chimneys with corbelled caps. Gable returns on gable ends. Hipped porch with simple posts and railings. Rear kitchen ell. Center hall plan. Martin C. Dixon, a Portsmouth Island native, had this house built, but it is known primarily for subsequent owners Zini (1890-1970) and Lola H. Wahab Williams (1849-1980), whose son Larry Williams in-

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herited the house.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

C 10. Will and Sigma Willis House. ca. 1930.

1 1/2 story bungalow, shingled, engaged front porch with box posts on wood stanchions, front dormer with squared tripartite window, low hipped roof. North corner of porch has been screened. Exemplary example of the bungalow on Ocracoke. In 1924 Will Willis acquired this property from Frank T. Fulcher (DB 47, 387). Willis had this house built by Charlie and Thad Scarborough sometime between 1924 and 1931: the sills are from the shipwreck "George W. Truitt." Willis was an Ocracoke store owner and operated a mailboat between Ocracoke and the mainland North Carolina settlements of Smyrna and Morehead City. Willis' daughter, Sigma, has owned the property since 1956.

Cistern. Large, stuccoed rectangular type.

NC 11. Jack Willis House. 1960s.

Four-bay wide frame ranch built for Jack Willis, son of Will Willis who lived next door (#9). Will purchased this property from Frank Treat Fulcher.

NC a. Storage building. 1960s? Vertical sheathing.

Picket fence.

C 12. Alexander Norman Garrish House. ca. 1903, 1940s.

Foursquare with hipped roof, rear ell, hipped front porch with plain posts, two exterior brick chimneys, and weatherboard. Originally a story and a jump, this was remodelled to present appearance in the 1940s. It was built for Alexander Norman Garrish (1880-1919), probably about 1903 when he first married, but certainly by 1911 when he married his second wife, "Miss Elicia" (1889-1978), who lived in the house until her death.

C 13. Howard Family Cemetery.

Family plot with approximately 12 gravestones enclosed by a plank fence. Earliest inscribed stone seen has a death date of 1912.

NC a. Belle Willis Mobile Home.

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C 14. William and Fanny Howard House (Pelican Restaurant). 1870s.

Traditional story and a jump house. The large gable-end double shouldered chimney with corbelled cap is a rare survival for Ocracoke. This is one of the oldest surviving houses on the island, and its chimney and detached kitchen are hallmarks of early Ocracoke building. Now covered with asbestos siding, and the front porch is enclosed and used as a dining area for the restaurant. The Pelican Restaurant has been located here since the late 1970s. A large oak to the front is a dominant visual element and makes the commercial use less conspicuous. According to local tradition, the house dates from the 1870s. An 1875 deed conveys the property with a house from Enoch Ellis Howard to his son William E. Howard (1857-1933) (DB 17, 343). William E. Howard left the house to his wife Fannie (1863-1940) who lived here until her death (Will Book 13, 57-59).

C a. Detached Kitchen. 3-bay, single pile, with salt box roof and shed porch. Originally connected to house by a breezeway that has been removed. Converted to a dwelling in 1940s.

C b. Outbuilding. Early 20th c. Gabled, vertical sheathed storage building.

NC c. House. 1970s. 1-story side-gabled frame house built at rear of lot. Sometimes used as gift shop.

Cistern. Round domed type.

C 15. Jacob and Brittena Williams House. ca. 1908.

Traditional story and a jump house, wood shingled, with shed roofed porch with heavy turned posts, now screened. Rear addition. The shady setting, with oaks, cedars, mimosa and pine, contributes to the feeling of a traditional Ocracoke homestead. Jacob (1887-1954) and Brittena H. Williams (1887-1971), had the house built around 1908 at their marriage. According to local tradition, it was moved from the middle of the block to its present location shortly after construction. It remains in the family.

C a. Outbuilding. Pre-WWII?. Gabled storage building at rear.

C 16. Uriah Garrish Family House. 1930s.

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1 1/2 story front gabled, clapboarded bungalow. Wide front gable, shed porch, now screened, interior chimney. Built for the Uriah Garrish family. Uriah Garrish was the son-in-law of Jacob Williams who lived on the adjacent parcel.

NC a. Outbuilding. Late 20th c. Gabled, plywood siding.

C 17. Fowler O'Neal House. ca. 1900.

Story and a jump with substantial changes: replacement concrete block chimney, replacement front porch, side shed addition and asbestos siding, but integrity of form and feeling remain.

C a. Storage building. 1940s. Gabled, vertical sheathing.

Vacant Lot

NC 18. Angle-Jeffries House. 1960.

1-story front gabled house, weatherboarded. Built on site of a house demolished in 1947. It was remodelled in 1982.

NC a. Outbuilding. ca. 1982. Polygonal T1-11 storage building.

NC b. Garage. ca. 1982. Weatherboarded construction.

NC 19. Silver Lake Motel. 1984.

Typical popular style late 20th century 2-story motel form, its intrusiveness somewhat mitigated by the frame, gabled construction, wood-shingled walls, rustic design, and the two-story porch along entire length.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1980s. Small, hipped frame storage building.

NC b. Silver Lake Motel Annex. 1990. Under construction. 3-story frame, shingled motel with three projecting gabled towers with round-arched windows extending above the roofline. Balconies on each level overlooking the harbor.

Harbor Loop Road, north side of harbor mouth south to Hwy 12, shore side

NC 20. Motel. 1970s.

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Located on harbor shore, this 2-story stuccoed masonry building with a full 2-story facade porch is a typical late 20th century popular style motel.

C 21. (former) Light Plant and Ice House. ca. 1936.

Three bay, 1-story double-pile building built partially of frame and partially of concrete block, served originally as the ice plant and electric company for Ocracoke. Originally it was connected by docks to a number of the fish houses located on Silver Lake. A long cement stoop runs along the south facade of the building, shaded by an attached shed roof. A cinderblock, shed-roofed single bay addition has been added to the east side and another shed cinderblock and clapboard addition to the west.

C 22. (former) Water Plant Office. ca. 1950.

Located on the edge of a dock on Silver Lake, this small commercial building was formerly a utility office where Ocracoke residents paid their electric and water bills. A recently added porch extends from the east facade.

C 23. (former) Willis Store and Fish House. ca. 1930.

Built for Will G. Willis, this 1-story two-bay dockside store is one of the few surviving early commercial buildings on Ocracoke. Main roof is hipped, with several shed porches. Asbestos siding is probably original. It was later operated by son Jack Willis.

C 24. William Ellis Williams House. ("Gathering Place"). ca. 1900.

Although moved from its original location to prevent demolition, this traditional story-and-a-half house is well-preserved. The house has two front dormers, probably added, and a hipped front porch with square posts. Along the rear is a shed addition with a small covered stoop with turned posts. The house was built in the early 1900s, most probably for William Ellis Williams (1878-1934), son of Millard Fillmore Williams. It was originally on a site near the Millard Fillmore Williams House (entry #76) and was moved from that site to the land where the Anchorage Hotel is now located. In 1983 David and Sherrill Senseney acquired it and moved it to its present site, elevated on pilings above Silver Lake Harbor where it serves as a gift shop.

C 25. Community Store. 1950s.

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The 1-story frame, gable front building, three bays wide, was built in the 1950s on the site of the old Amasa Fulcher Store. The old store was connected to fish houses and to the Will Willis Dock. Amasa Fulcher (1876-1946) was a prominent Ocracoker who had also been a part owner of the J.W. McWilliams Store. This plain, vernacular building is covered with asbestos shingles and weather-board, with an exterior brick chimney on the front gable end. The current front is located in the north flank, facing the parking area, and has a new shed porch with turned wooden posts.

NC 26. Bluff Shoal Motel. 1966.

1-story single-pile brick veneered motel typical of post-World War II motels, with a gable roof and a narrow engaged porch along the front (east) flank. Along the rear overlooking the harbor is a screened porch. A new front wing has been added at the south end.

NC a. Garage. ca. 1966.

NC b. House. 1970s. 1-story frame gabled ranch, with vinyl siding, built on the shore behind the motel.

NC 27. U.S. Post Office. early 1970s.

One-story brick building, three bays wide, with parapetted shed roof and plate glass storefront.

C 28. Old Post Office. 1954.

Small 1-story gabled frame building with asbestos siding and sash windows. This post office was built in the 1950s vernacular of Ocracoke, in contrast to the 1970s post office built in the popular American post office idiom. A sign on the building reads "Old Post Office 1954-1967." A one-bay frame addition with T1-11 siding was added at the south end, and it is now used as a gift shop. This originally stood where the current post office now stands, and was moved to this site when the new post office was built.

C 29. Merchant Mariner Gift Shop. ca. 1950.

Three-bay wide frame commercial building with high hip roof, recently clad in T1-11 siding. Located close to the road beside a very large live oak tree. Wahab Howard had this structure moved from Green Island Hunting Club (lo-

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cated "down below" in the marshes to the northeast) and converted it to a shop, thought to be the first gift shop on the island.

NC 30. Jolly Roger Grog Shop. 1980s.

Small frame commercial building of traditional design with clipped gable roof and weatherboard siding. North side deck and dock.

NC 31. South Point Seafood. 1980s.

Contemporary version of the traditional Ocracoke fish houses that were built on or adjacent to docks. Two-story frame, hipped building, two bays wide, with T1-11 siding. 1-story rear and side wings containing receiving, packing and loading facilities for seafood.

NC 32. Vann Henry O'Neal Net House. Early 1980s.

This small gabled building with T1-11 siding was built as a net house in the early 1980s and enlarged by one bay in 1986. It is traditional in form.

Road A (behind Berkley Manor)

C 33. Frances Garrish Kemp House. Early 1950s.

One-story gable front house with wood shingle siding. Front porch has been enclosed.

NC a. Rental House. 1960s. Small one-story frame side-gabled house with concrete block foundation and small porch. Built in side yard of Kemp House.

C 34. Richard Farrow O'Neal House. Betw. 1916 and 1930.

Traditional story-and-a-half house with rear kitchen ell, returned end gables, interior end brick chimney with corbelled cap. Enlarged with front shed dormer at a later date. According to local tradition, this was built for Richard (Dick) Farrow O'Neal (1877-1944) out of timbers from the wreck of the *Ida Lawrence*. Warren Scarborough (1883-1953) was second owner of house.

a. Cistern. Rectangular concrete type.

C 35. George Gaskins Family House. ca. 1931.

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Traditional story-and-a-jump house with interior end brick chimney with corbelled cap and rear kitchen ell. Some wood shakes and some asphalt siding. The front porch has been enclosed, and in 1964 a full length front dormer was added. The present owner is Zorabable Gaskins, a carpenter and fisherman and son of first owner George M. Gaskins (1887-1967), a fisherman who served in the military during World War I.

Cistern. Rectangular brick type.

C 36. Willie Humnings House. ca. 1946.

Small one-story frame house, four bays wide, with side gable roof, asbestos shingles, and enclosed front porch. Present owner Willie Humnings, Ocracoke native and wood carver, built this house with lumber that he salvaged and floated from his grandmother Epherena Fulcher Garrish's house in the "Up Trent" area of the island (nearby to the northeast) where it had been damaged in the hurricane of 1944.

Cistern. ca. 1962. Concrete block type.

NC a. Outbuilding. ca. 1973. Small frame storage building.

C 37. O'Neal-Garrish-Guthrie Family Cemetery.

Family plot with a number of gravestones. The oldest death date is that of Nancy O'Neal, died 1902.

C 38. Uriah Wahab Garrish Sr. House. ca. 1925.

Traditional two-story hip-roofed house covered with wood shingles. Hipped front porch with plain posts wraps around side. It is owned by local fisherman Sullivan Garrish, and is said to have been built for his father Uriah (1874-1968).

Cistern. Stuccoed, rectangular, barrel-vaulted type.

C a. One-room kitchen, wood shingled and gabled. ca. 1925. Said to have been disconnected from main house. Now delapidated

C b. Outbuilding. 1940s. Gabled, vertical sheathed.

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C 39. Horatio Jones Williams House. ca. 1901.

Traditional two-story hip-roofed house covered with wood shingles, with hip wrap-around porch with plain posts, partially screened. It is said to have been built in 1901 for Horatio Jones Williams (1877-1968), who served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

Cistern. Brick rectangular barrel-vaulted type.

NC a. Garage. Late 20th century. Traditional wood-shingled construction, raised on pilings, with ramp.

NC b. Outbuilding. Late 20th century. Traditional wood-shingled construction, with clipped gable roof.

Road B (south of Berkley Manor)

C 40. Wahab Rental Duplex. ca. 1945.

Side-gabled building, six bays wide, with screened porch at each end of the main facade and asbestos siding. This was moved to this site shortly after World War II from the Naval Base, where it was used as a chapel during the war.

NC 41. Eleanor's Old and New Shop. ca. 1960.

Former garage converted to a shop. Two-bay front gabled frame building with T1-11 siding.

C 42. Dallas Williams House. ca. 1930.

Substantial bungalow with engaged porch on squared posts resting on stanchions, embellished with a pyramidal-roofed dormer featuring double windows. The concrete block foundation appears to be a replacement, and a pair of brick chimneys seem to have been reworked. Aluminum siding. Dallas Williams (1892-1966) is said to have built the house on a lot subdivided from his grandfather William Wahab's property, just west of this facing the harbor.

C a. Outbuilding. ca. 1930. Small gabled storage building with asphalt siding.

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- C b. Outbuilding. Small gabled storage building with metal sheathing.
Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

NC 43. Mobile Home. Owned by A. B. Rose.

NC 44. Togo Wynne House. Late 20th century.

One-story side gabled ranch, three bays wide.

British Cemetery Road: North Side

C 45. Maggie and Charlie Minor O'Neal House. ca. 1914.

Traditional two-story side-gabled single-pile house with interior end chimneys with corbelled caps, a rear kitchen ell, and asbestos siding. It was built for Charlie Minor (1877-1940) and Maggie O'Neal, on land subdivided from his father Gilbert O'Neal's adjacent house lot.

NC 46. Gilbert and Malsey O'Neal Family House. ca. 1877.

Traditional story-and-a-jump house which has lost its integrity through such alterations as the enclosure of the hipped front porch, a new concrete block exterior chimney, and vinyl siding. At some point a shed dormer was added, characteristic of this Ocracoke house type. Gilbert O'Neal (1848-1911) bought the property from his father-in-law (DB 17, 56). O'Neal, a sailor who married Malsey Toler in 1877, had the house built about the time of the marriage. Their son, Hiteous, remodelled the house in the 1930s and perhaps added the shed dormer.

NC a. Outbuilding. Late 20th c. Gabled storage building with plywood siding.

NC 47. Elmo M. Fulcher, Sr. House. c. 1960.

One-story gabled ranch built by Elmo M. and Lilian Fulcher, Sr. on the site of their old home. The earlier house was not demolished but was sold to James F. Powell who had it moved to a lot on Highway 12 near 3/4 Time Saloon (outside the district).

NC a. Outbuilding. Late 20th century. Gabled storage building.

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Cistern. Round brick vaulted type.

C 48. **Gray-O'Neal House.** Early 20th century.

Traditional two-story, side gabled, single pile house, with interior chimney with corbelled cap, front shed porch, now screened, rear kitchen ell. Covered with weatherboards. This was built for Jesse Gray and wife Neva O'Neal, and later was the home of Robert Benjamin O'Neal, a fisherman and painter (1887-1953) and his wife Fannie O'Neal (1889-1964).

C 49. **Mildred and Ronald T. O'Neal Rental House.** 1958. Small one-story side-gabled three bay wide house, typical of the dwellings built by Ocracoke residents in the late 1950s. Built for Mildred and Ronald O'Neal on property that had been in the O'Neal family since the 1920s.

C 50. **Gillis Riddick House.** ca. 1936.

One of the finest bungalows on Ocracoke. This 1 1/2 story, shingled house has an engaged porch supported by wide "battered" columns on a solid porch rail. It retains its original ornamentation, including Japanese-influenced brackets at the eaves and beneath the pediment of the front dormer. The house is said to have been built by Thad Gaskins for Gillis Riddick when he purchased this 1/2 acre parcel from Maud and Amasa Fulcher, his in-laws (DB 55, 80). The timber is said to have come from the sailing vessel "Naomis". The Riddick family lived here until 1942. The white picket fence is said to be original to the house. The front yard has the thick stand of cedar trees characteristic of early Ocracoke homesteads.

C a. **Outbuilding.** Early 20th c. Shingled storage building with pyramidal roof originally located at one of the U.S. Life Saving stations built on the island in the late 19th century. Its original function was a detached kitchen.

Cistern. Brick, rectangular type.

C 51. **Amasa Fulcher House.** ca. 1904.

Traditional two-story, hip-roofed, single-pile house, an unusually substantial example of the type for the Island. The interior end chimney and rear ell are intact. The attached front porch has turned posts and a spindled railing. On each side of the first story are small hipped bays. The first story is weatherboarded while the second story has wood shingles. According to local tradition, this house apparently started out as a story and a jump and the second story was added

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slightly later. It was built for Amasa Fulcher (1876-1946) and is still owned by his daughter, Fannie Pearl Fulcher, a retired school teacher, who lives here during the summer. In 1900 Amasa O'Neal (1837-1909) sold this property for "\$10 and natural love and affection" to his grandson Amasa Fulcher (DB 25, 546), a prominent layman of the Methodist church in Ocracoke. He established his store, the forerunner of the present Community Store, in 1918; was a part owner of the J.W. McWilliams establishment on Cackle Creek, and served as secretary of the by-laws committee of the Odd Fellows Lodge in 1910.

C a. Storage building. Early 20th century. Side gable, two-room, vertical sheathed.

C 52. Family Cemeteries.

Located at the northwest intersection of the main road and a side lane are four small family plots, each with its own enclosure. The first plot, right on the main road, is the Fulcher Cemetery, whose gravestones include that of Benjamin Fulcher (1847-1887) and Amasa Fulcher (1876-1946). The second plot has graves for the Needham, Tolson, Farrow, Williams and McWilliams families. The marker for Eliza Ann McWilliams (1831-1878) has the oldest death date. The obelisk for Tilmon Farrow (1798-1880) is said to be made of pewter. The third plot contains graves for members of the Williams, Garrish and Howard families, with the oldest death date being 1905. The fourth plot contains members of the Williams family, the oldest death date being that of infant James Williams who died in 1882. Typical of family cemeteries on the Island, these have the same native landscaping as residential yards, with sand surfaces and dense native vegetation. Three of the plots have woven wire fences, the other has a concrete block wall.

C 53. Benjamin Fulcher House. Late 19th century.

Well-preserved traditional story-and-a-jump house with exterior gable end, corbelled capped chimney, open shed porch with turned posts, and weatherboards. A traditional landscape of oaks, cedars and mimosa complements the house. Built in the late 19th century for Benjamin Fulcher (1847-1887), the property was once part of the same tract as the Amasa Fulcher House just to the west. The house was built by Charlie and Thad Scarborough from framing believed to have come from wrecked sailing ships found on the beach. It remained in the Fulcher family until the late 1950s when it was sold to the Sheppe family of Charlottesville, Virginia, among the first of the post-World War II summer residents.

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NC a. Outbuilding. ca. 1970. Gabled, vinyl sided storage building on pilings.

C b. Outbuilding. Early 20th century. Side-gabled, with batten doors and vertical sheathing.

Cistern. Brick, round vaulted type.

British Cemetery Road: South Side

C 54. Kelly and Irene O'Neal House. 1952.

One-story, side gabled three bay wide house typical of the modest dwellings built for Ocracoke residents following World War II. The enclosed front porch was added in 1981. The house was built for Kelly and Irene O'Neal by Zora Gaskins on the site of a store. A horizontal board fence surrounds the property.

C 55. O'Neal Family House. 1870s.

Traditional story-and-a-half house with numerous alterations, including a one-bay front stoop which probably replaced a larger front porch, the reworking of the exterior end chimney, asphalt siding, and a side screened porch. Nevertheless, the house retains sufficient features to be a contributing example of this dominant traditional house type on the Island. It was the home of Howard L. O'Neal, a local wood carver, and his wife, Martha Garrish O'Neal, and is known as "Papa Howard's." The house is now a rental, but remains in the O'Neal family.

Cistern. Rectangular, brick, barrel-vaulted type.

C 56. Travis Williams House. 1930s.

Gable-front, two-bay wide Craftsman style house with a pyramidal roof, engaged front porch, now screened, and wood shingle siding. David Fletcher, current owner, had the house moved to this site in the 1980s when the Sandfiddler was built on its original lot facing the harbor. Travis Williams either had this house built or remodeled an earlier house to this appearance in the 1930s.

C 57. William Arthur O'Neal, Sr.-Scarborough House. ca. 1930.

Gable-front, three bay wide, one-story weatherboarded house with a front

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clipped gable, and an engaged porch with boxed posts on brick stanchions. A compatible side wing was added recently. William Arthur O'Neal Sr., a tug boat captain who also served in the Army Corps of Engineers, built the house. The Charlie Mann Scarborough (1874-1958) family purchased the property and moved here after the U.S. Navy had bought their family house for the naval base. Son Alton Scarborough used the house as a summer home until 1979; his son Alton, Jr. has lived in the house since 1980. The expansive lawn has cedars, oleander, mimosa and oaks.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1980s. Gabled storage building.

NC b. Rental House. 1980s. Small, gable front three-bay wide frame house at rear of lot.

NC 58. Eugene Grant House. ca. 1978.

Two-story vertical sided house, one of the first resort-type houses built in the old section of the island.

NC 59. Former Methodist Episcopal Church North Parsonage. 1928.

Traditional story and a jump house with alterations that have taken away its integrity. These include the enclosure of the front porch and side additions.

C 60. Williams-Teeter House. ca. 1920, 1947.

Traditional story and a jump house, remodeled by Wahab Howard and Ben Spencer in 1947 to add a second story with a high hipped roof and a shed rear addition. It is covered with asbestos siding. The house is believed to have been built for Willie (1891-1960) and Nancy (1902-1974) Williams by Thad Gaskins. Their daughter Iona and her husband Frank Teeter are the current owners.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1980s. Small gabled storage building on pilings.

Cistern. Round brick domed type.

C 61. British Cemetery. 1942.

Perhaps the most famous landmark on Ocracoke, this is a small well-maintained graveyard for four British sailors from the British vessel "H.M.S. Bedfordshire," which was sunk by a German submarine enroute from Norfolk to Morehead City. The bodies were recovered by the Navy and brought to Ocracoke for burial.

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The four gravestones are enclosed by a picket fence.

C 62. Howard-Wahab-Williams Family Cemeteries.

A group of three family cemeteries with separate enclosures extends along the east side of the road, in the curve, just north of the "British Cemetery." The first plot, beside the British Cemetery, for Williams family members, has a brick wall with a picket gate. The oldest death date is 1915. The next cemetery is the largest family cemetery in the historic district, and has an architecturally imposing enclosure, an arched masonry gate and a tall picket fence with masonry posts. Members of many different families are buried here. Some of the oldest marked graves here are for John Howard, died 1832; Louisa Heggart, died 1835; Jordan Dailey, died 1843; and Sarah Gaskins, died 1850. The northernmost cemetery is another Williams family plot, enclosed with a horizontal plank fence, with graves dating from the 1930s.

C 63. Charlie W. Garrish, Sr. Family House. 1913.

Traditional story-and-a-jump weatherboarded house with a hipped front porch and rear kitchen ell. In 1949 a front shed dormer was added, a typical change. Later alterations were the replacement of the gable end chimney and the screening of the front porch. The picket fence enclosing the house yard is said to date from 1930. Charlie W. Garrish, Jr. (1890-1968), who made his living through commercial fishing and dredge boating, bought this property in 1912 from Charlie Small McWilliams (DB 36, 118) and had the house built by Stanford Jackson. A daughter, Mildred Garrish O'Neal, and her husband, Ronald, live in the house today. The setting retains a rural feeling characteristic of traditional Ocracoke homesteads.

C a. Outbuilding. ca. 1953. Gabled storage building, vertical sheathing.

C b. Outbuilding. ca. 1953. Gabled storage building, vertical sheathing.

Cistern. Brick, rectangular barrel-vaulted type.

NC 64. Ollie and Amasa Garrish House. ca. 1960.

One-story, three bay, side-gabled, weatherboarded ranch typical of the year-round residences built in Ocracoke during this period.

NC a. Outbuilding. Gabled storage building with asphalt siding.

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Continuation Sheet Ocracoke Historic District, Hyde CountySection number 7 Page 40**C 65. Preston and Bertha Garrish House. ca. 1930.**

Relatively late example of the Foursquare house, three bays wide with a hipped roof and original interior chimney and front hipped porch with tapered posts on brick stanchions. The house yard was enclosed with a picket fence until recently. The house was built for Bertha and Preston Garrish (1885-1970) and is now owned by Carlton B. O'Neal. The deep setback and the ring of cedars in the front yard are characteristic of early Ocracoke homesteads.

NC a. Mobile home.**C b. Outbuilding. 1930s?. Gabled storage building on pilings.****C c. Outbuilding. 1930s? Gabled storage building on pilings.****C d. Outbuilding. 1930s? Gabled storage building on pilings.****C 66. George W. and Alvania O'Neal House. ca. 1895.**

Traditional story-and-a-jump house, with a typical front shed dormer addition. Front shed porch with plain posts, replacement concrete block chimney. Characteristic large oaks and mimosa surround the house, which was built for George W. O'Neal (1869-1949) and Allie (Alvania) Spencer O'Neal (1874-1939) when they married.

C a. O'Neal Cemetery.

Directly across the road is the family plot. The oldest marked grave found is for B.G. Spencer (1828-1896), and the oldest O'Neal family member found is G.T. O'Neal, died 1904. It is surrounded by a relatively recent picket fence.

The Back Road (Navy Cement Road)
East Side**NC 67. James and Helen Fulcher House. ca. 1907.**

Apparently a traditional story and a jump originally, a major remodelling around 1930 seems to have created the present bungalow form by extending the roof out to form an engaged porch, adding a central shed dormer, and adding a shed addition across the rear. More recent replacement of windows, addition of artificial siding, screening of porch, and rebuilding of chimney has rendered the house noncontributing. It is believed that James "Hobby" Fulcher, Lloyd Ful-

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cher's father, built the house when his parents George L. (1844-1908) and Nancy Ballance Fulcher (1848-1915) gave him the property.

Vacant Lot (Site of Moss-O'Neal House, ca. 1890, demolished 1990. This 1 1/2 story house with cross-gabled roofline and Italianate trim was built by Moss Planing Mill of Washington, N.C. for Beverly Moss of Washington as his vacation home, on a point of Ocracoke known as Mary Ann's Ridge. It was moved to this site in 1899. The house had become deteriorated.)

C 68. Williams House. ca. 1936.

Hip-roofed three bay wide bungalow with engaged porch, now screened, original exterior corbelled chimney, wood shake siding. This was built for Jones and Josephine Williams by local builder Thad Scarborough.

C 69. William W. and Lillian Jackson House. 1909-1912.

Traditional story and a jump with front shed porch, now partially enclosed and screened, and a rear kitchen ell. Covered with wood shingles. It was built by Wilson (Wilse) Jackson (1887-1974), a fisherman, carpenter, and well-known Ocracoke wood carver in his later years, whose widow Lillian Moss Gaskin Jackson (1890-1983) lived in the house until her death. Jackson purchased the lot from his parents for \$5 in 1909 (DB 33, 534) and is said to have completed the house before his marriage in 1912.

C a. Privy. Early 20th century? Shed-roofed, vertical sheathed.

NC b. Outbuilding. 1960s? Shed-roofed, vertical sheathed storage building.

C c. Rental House. 1920s. Very small 1-story side gabled house, three bays wide, with front shed porch. This may have been moved to this site.

Cistern. Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

NC 70. Mary Eliza Jackson House. 1960.

One-story side gabled frame ranch with replacement T1-11 siding is typical of the many modest dwellings built in Ocracoke since World War II.

NC a. Outbuilding. ca. 1960. Gabled storage building, covered with plywood.

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C 71. Etta Scarborough House. ca. 1922.

Characteristic Ocracoke front-gabled bungalow, three bays wide, weather-boarded, with engaged front porch with boxed posts on a solid railing, interior chimney. Etta Scarborough had the house built following the death of her husband Henry Bateman Scarborough (1888-1922) on the site of her father Aaron Ballance's house. The property remains in the Ballance family, and the picket fence and large live oaks create a characteristic Ocracoke setting.

Picket fence.

NC a. House. 1990. One and 1/2 story frame, side gable house under construction in the rear yard.

C 72. Della and William Scarborough, Sr. House. 1912.

Traditional story-and-a-jump house with rear kitchen ell, hipped front porch with turned posts, now screened, original interior end chimney and weatherboard siding. Believed to have been built ca. 1912 by Stanford Jackson for William Kelly Scarborough (1893-198?) who acquired the property from his father William Joseph Scarborough, Sr. (1857-1907). William Kelly Scarborough worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was captain of various dredges. His wife Della Susan Garrish Scarborough died in the 1980s. Large oaks, cedars and hydrangeas complement this 1 1/4 acre characteristic early Ocracoke homestead.

C a. Privy. Early 20th century? Tall, narrow, gabled structure.

C b. Outbuilding. pre-1950. Gabled storage building.

Cistern. Rectangular barrel-vaulted brick type.

C 73. Elisha Ballance Sr. Family House. 1908.

Traditional story and a jump house enlarged by the addition of a full-length front shed dormer. Front hip-roofed porch with scalloped bargeboard and turned posts, and wood shingled walls. The kitchen wing was added in the 1940s or 1950s and the old detached kitchen was removed. House appears to have been raised somewhat on a new concrete piling foundation, and a concrete block flue has replaced the original chimney. Elisha Ballance acquired this property from his father Aaron Ballance, and had the house built by Stanford Jackson out of

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lumber from the "Ida Lawrence" the year he married his first wife Lela. After her death, Ballance, a fisherman on the Ida Lawrence, married Emma Gaskins in 1914. The partial picket fence was rebuilt in the 1970s.

NC a. Outbuilding. Built or rebuilt ca. 1990. Gabled, wood shingled storage building on piling, with ramp.

Picket fence.

Cistern. Rectangular stuccoed type.

NC 74. House. 1980s. Contemporary front-gabled rustic style house with front deck.

C 75. Carrie Styron House. 1950s.

Side-gabled, one-story, three bay wide frame ranch, typical of the simple year-round residences built in the 1940s and 1950s in Ocracoke.

NC a. Mobile Home. Norman H. Styron, the owner's nephew, lives in this behind his aunt's house.

NC b. House. 1990. 2-story gabled frame house, on piling, under construction in rear yard between main house and mobile home.

C 76. Millard Filmore Williams, Jr. Family House. Early 20th century.

Substantial 2-story, three bay wide, double-pile, hip roofed house, covered with weatherboard. Raised from 1 1/2 to 2 stories in 1927. Main boxed eaves have simple brackets. Full length hipped front porch has heavy turned posts and spindled railing, and diagonal tongue-and-groove sheathing on the porch facade. It is now screened. Two exterior end brick chimneys, one original and one apparently replaced. Rear kitchen ell. Millard Filmore Williams, Jr., part owner of a freight boat, had this house built across the road from that of his father, Millard Filmore Williams Sr. (1851-1924). A son, Millard Nelson Williams, lived in the house a short time following his mother's death.

NC a. Outbuilding. ca. 1972. Frame garage and storage building.

Cistern. 1927.

C 77. Stanley and Hulda Gaskins House. 1949.

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One-story, side-gabled frame house is unusually decorative for a post World War II Ocracoke residence, Asymmetrically placed front pedimented stoop with an arched entry flanked by pairs of square columns. A fine live oak enhances the setting. The Gaskins had the house built by local carpenter Calvin O'Neal.

Cistern. 1949.

The Back Road: West Side

Vacant Lot

NC 78. **Garrish-Esham House.** Late 1930s, remodelled 1980s.

Traditional story-and-a-half house enlarged by present owners so that original integrity lost. Contemporary design, with wood shingles, front deck. Believed to have been built in the late 1930s for Jacob Garrish on property that he acquired from Perry Coleman Howard. An older house on the site was torn down in the 1930s. Virginia and Eph Esham bought the property in 1953 and lived here for many years, and their son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. David Esham are the current owners. The picket fence was built in 1975.

C a. Outbuilding. 1940s? Gabled storage building.

Cistern. Rectangular type.

Picket fence.

C 79. **Maurice Ballance House.** Early 1950s.

Typical modest front gabled bungalow with attached gabled porch, now screened. It was built for Maurice Ballance on a lot across the road, and was moved to its present site. A plank fence defines the yard.

C 80. **Isaac O'Neal House.** ca. 1909.

Two story single-pile house, five bays wide, and one of the most substantial of the early Island houses. Like several other houses on the west side of the "Back Road" in the "Patty's Holler" section, a ridge in this vicinity that was the site of early residences, this house faces west, away from the present road. A one-story porch with turned posts and spool spandrels extends around three sides of the main block, and the one-story rear ell appears to be a 1920s or

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1930s addition. The high hip roof has Italianate eave brackets, and the roof dormers were added by present owners. Isaac Freeman O'Neal (1885-1968), known as Red-Headed Ike O'Neal, purchased this property from Frank T. Fulcher in 1909 (DB 34, 41) and probably had the house built about this time. O'Neal ran the freight boat from Ocracoke to Washington, N.C. O'Neal's daughter, Lucille O'Neal Garrish, inherited the house and left it to her son Danny Garrish; he sold it to the current owners, who operate it as the Crews Inn, a bed and breakfast. The picket fence, oyster shell drive, lush native landscaping and its secluded location along a dirt lane off the road create a traditional setting.

C a. Wash house. Early 20th c. Gabled, vertical sheathing. Two rooms, one used for net storage.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

Picket fence.

NC 81. **Morris Ballance Rental House.** 1980s.

Small 1-story hip-roofed frame house.

NC 82. **Mobile Home.**

83. **Dave Summers Williams House Site.**

Old house site, with traditional landscaping. Several old outbuildings remain:

C a. Garage. ca. 1940. Wood-shingled. Attached storage room.

C b. Outbuilding. Small gabled storage building.

NC c. Rental house. 1970s. Tiny board-and-batten cottage.

Cistern. Rectangular barrel-vaulted brick type.

C 84. **Jones Williams House.** 1953.
One-story hip roofed frame Jim Walters house.

NC a. Mobile Home. Located in side yard.

C 85. **Tom Frank Gaskins Family House.** ca. 1883.

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Traditional story and a jump house, with rear ell. Originally located on the adjacent lot, and moved here in the 1960s. Original front door and porch have been removed; new entrance and a shed screened porch have been added to the gable end. Wood shingles. Although moved, this is one of the few surviving Patty's Holler houses. It was built for Tom Frank Gaskins (1854-1948), who purchased the land from his father Benjamin Gaskins in 1883 (DB 17, 97). It is believed to have been built about this time since all the Gaskin children are said to have been born in this house. It is known locally as "Tom Frank's Joe's" for Gaskins' son William Joseph Gaskins (1887-1967) who lived here for many years. At his death it went to David Esham and later to Doward Brugh. It is now owned by Lil and Grover Miller who use it as a summer house.

NC 86. Brelig House. 1989.

Coastal cottage form, with traditional landscaping.

C 87. Elmo Cleveland Gaskins House. 1930s.

Three-bay wide, 1-story hip-roofed house typical of Ocracoke houses of the period. Enclosed front porch, asbestos shingles. Believed to have been built for Cleveland Gaskins, this house was a gathering place in "Patty's Holler" where island men came to socialize. Gaskins' son-in-law Kelly O'Neal is the current owner.

C a. Outbuilding. 1950s? Gabled storage building.

Howard Street: East Side

C 88. Russell and Salina Williams House. ca. 1945

Modest 1-story, four bay wide frame ranch typical of the period on the Island. Asbestos siding, exterior end brick chimney. This was built when the earlier house on this site, the William Dexter (1876-1914) and Eleanor Ballance House, was demolished. William Ballance ran the freight boat from Ocracoke to Washington, N.C.

C a. (former) William D. Ballance Kitchen. Early 20th c. Traditional 1-story frame detached kitchen, gabled, with weatherboard siding and a recessed porch with vertical tongue-and-groove siding.

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C 89. Simon and Sarah Garrish Family House. ca. 1888.

Traditional story and a jump house with hipped front porch with turned posts and replacement railing. Alterations include the rebuilding of the exterior gable end chimney, two front gabled dormers, a rear addition and aluminum siding, yet the homestead remains a strongly contributing site. The traditional landscaping, associated structures, and plank fence complement the setting. According to local tradition, it was built about 1888 for Simon Garrish Jr. (1865-1935) and Sarah E. Howard (Miss Sade) Garrish (1870-1961). Tradition is that it was built from salvaged timbers from the wreck of the "Old Bateman" brought from the beach by horse and cart by Simon and Tom W. Howard, and that the brick in the chimney was ballast on a cargo ship unloaded between Ocracoke and Portsmouth. Part off the original William Howard II tract, this property is now owned by a Garrish grandson.

C a. Outbuilding. Early 20th c. Gabled storage building.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

C 90. Myron Garrish House. ca. 1925.

Modest bungalow, three bays wide, hip-roofed, with small engaged porch. Original weatherboard and exterior brick chimney. Rail fence. Said to have been built from the salvaged timbers of the "George W. Truitt," a four-mast schooner that came ashore loaded with lumber in 1925. Myron's son Irving Garrish formerly lived here, but now maintains this as a rental.

C 91. Edwin and Ludicie Wells House. c. 1943.

One-story frame, hip-roofed duplex, six bays wide, with asbestos siding, engaged front porch with two entrances. Walter O'Neal had this built on the former site of Ocracoke's Methodist Church South to rent to naval personnel during World War II. Local tradition holds that the house was built with lumber salvaged from the Springer House at Springer's Point. Edwin and Ludicie Wells bought the house in 1946 and it remains in the family.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1980s. Gabled storage building.

NC b. House. 1980s. 2-story wood-sided contemporary house in rear yard.

C 92. Gaskins-O'Neal House. ca. 1883.

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Traditional story-and-a-half house with original wide, single shoulder chimney and original rear shed. Front shed porch, now screened, with rebuilt square, tapered posts. Front gabled dormers possibly added at a later date. Asbestos siding. The 1883 deed from Solomon Howard to William W. Gaskins mentions buildings on the property (DB 17, 341). Since the house is said to have been built for Gaskins, these buildings may have been demolished and Gaskins may have built a new house about 1883. Stanley O'Neal (1885-1956) and his wife Mozelle later owned the property. The native landscaping and picket fence contribute to the setting.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1980s. Gabled storage building on pilings, with ramp.

Cistern. Rectangular barrel-vaulted brick type.

Picket fence.

C 93. Ocracoke Methodist Church Parsonage. ca. 1951.

Small frame ranch with asbestos siding and engaged porch. Traditional landscaping and recent picket fence. Built as the parsonage on the site of the former parsonage.

C a. Outbuilding. 1950s. Gabled, asbestos-sided storage building.

C 94. Lawrence Howard House. 1912.

Well-preserved early homestead, with weatherboarded two-story three-bay wide, single pile house with hipped front porch with turned posts and vertical tongue-and-groove sheathing, and rear kitchen ell with engaged porch. Interior end corbelled chimney. Functional shutters in the gable ends are an unusual survival. Lawrence Howard, son of Perry Coleman Howard, had the house built in 1912 by Bill Gaskins. This parcel was once part of the original William Howard tract and passed through to Perry Coleman Howard (1835-1902), son of Solomon Howard. It is still in the Howard family. The site has traditional landscaping and a picket fence.

C a. Howard Family Cemetery. Located in north side yard. Enclosed by horizontal plank fence. Oldest tombstone inscription found is that of Ann M. Howard, died 1880. Rev. Perry Howard is buried here.

C 95. Stacy Howard House. 1909.

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Well-preserved early homestead with weatherboarded two-story three-bay wide single pile house. Front shed porch with plain posts. Detached one-story gabled kitchen is located beside the house, parallel to the main facade, and is joined by a shed breezeway. (Ocracoke kitchens are generally located to the rear.) Across the rear of the house is a one-story shed addition. Like other lots on Howard Street, this lot was once part of the original William Howard tract. This house was built for Perry Coleman Howard (1835-1902), whose widow and children deeded it to his son Stacy Howard in 1909 (DB 33, 531-532). Blanche Howard Jolliff, a daughter of Stacy Wilson Howard (1885-1968) owns the house.

C a. Outbuilding. 1940s? Gabled frame storage building.

NC b. Outbuilding. 1970s? Gabled frame storage building.

Cistern. Rectangular barrel-vaulted brick type. The location of this cistern between the house and kitchen, with the hand pump sheltered by the breezeway, is probably once common on Ocracoke, but this is the only known example of a covered cistern left on the island.

Howard Street: west Side

C 96. Irvin Garrish Rental Cottage #2. 1950.

Small gable-front one-story frame building with asbestos siding, enclosed front porch and glassed side porch. One of the earlier rental cottages built on Ocracoke.

NC 97. Irving Garrish Rental Cottage #1. 1965.

Tiny three-bay, one-story, weatherboarded cottage with side-gable roof and entry stoop.

C 98. Hatton and Chloan Howard House. ca. 1904.

One-story weatherboarded double-pile house with steep hip roof, original interior chimney, attached shed front porch with turned posts, now screened. Gabled rear ell. Although a typical turn-of-the-century house type in mainland North Carolina, this type is rarely seen in Ocracoke. This parcel was part of the Howard family land. The house was the residence of Hatton Hoover Howard (1880-1942), who married Chloan O'Neal in 1904. It may have been built for

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Washington Bradford Howard, who later moved to Virginia. Lindsey Taft Howard is the current owner. The picket fence and traditional landscaping contribute to the setting.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

Picket fence.

C 99. Simon and Louisa Howard House. ca. 1840?

Small traditional story and a jump house that is believed to have been built before 1840, making it one of the oldest buildings on the Island. In its present form, with 2/2 sash windows and asbestos siding, it appears no different from the typical turn-of-the-century houses of this form on the Island, except for its slightly smaller scale. The extremely narrow house is three bays wide, and has a small shed front porch and a rear shed wing. The exterior end brick flue is somewhat recent. The house has been in the Howard family for many years, and is believed to have been the residence of Simon B. Howard (1800-1840) who married Louisa Gaskill in 1827. Their daughter Eliza Howard and her husband Benjamin Gaskins inherited the property and, in turn, left it to their daughter Ella who married William H. Fowler.

NC b. Outbuilding. 1960s? Shed-roofed storage building with asbestos siding.

Cistern. Rectangular barrel-vaulted brick type.

C 100. Abner Bennett Howard House. ca. 1900.

Two-story side-gabled three bay wide house in deteriorated condition, with asbestos shingles, front and rear shed additions. Said to have been built for Abner Bennett Howard (1861-1912) about the turn of the century.

C a. Outbuilding. Gabled, asbestos-sided storage building.

C 101. Capt. George Gregory Howard House. ca. 1900.

Substantial 2-story, side-gabled, three-bay wide weatherboarded house. House faces west, away from Howard Street. The east flank has an enclosed shed porch with a wood shingled room built above it, and the west flank has a two-story wood shingled wing. The "cupola" on top, a small windowed observatory, is a distinctive, apparently original, feature. The house is said to have

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been built for sea captain George Gregory Howard (1841-1916) on land from the original William Howard tract. The captain's son William Hinman Howard and his wife Merian Spencer (Miss Mame) later lived here. It is known now as the Carlton Kelly House for the grandson of Capt. Howard, who lived here until his death. Carlton's sister Ruth was married to Sam Jones, and Jones maintained the house after Carlton's death. Jones' daughter currently owns the house.

C a. Outbuilding, Early 20th c. Gabled, wood-shingled storage building.

NC b. Outbuilding. 1980s. Hipped storage building with plywood sheathing.

Cistern. Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type, with hand pump.

Cistern. Rectangular, flat-roofed type with hand pump.

C 102. Howard Rental House. ca. 1930.

Deteriorating one-story, three bay wide side gabled house with replacement brick flue, asbestos shingles, small front shed porch, now enclosed. This faces away from Howard Street, to the west.

NC 103. The Village Craftsman. 1970s.

Sensitively sited and designed gift shop, with traditional 1 1/2 story form, weathered board-and-batten siding, and a front shed dormer.

Highway 12 and side lanes: east side

C 104. Gaskill-Tolson House. ca. 1897.

Traditional story and a jump house which remains contributing despite the large enclosed front porch. The gabled front dormers may be an early addition, but the house retains its exterior end single-shoulder chimney. Asbestos shingles. Rear kitchen ell. Robert Gaskill, believed to have been the original owner, bought the property from E.E. Howard in 1894 (DB 21, 340). He left the house to his wife's nephew Elmo Murray Tolson (1885-1957). It is known locally as "Miss Elsie's House" for his wife Elsie Tolson who owned it until recently. The house originally sat on a sizeable tract.

NC a. Ice Cream Stand. 1970s. Small weathered wooden building sited

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beside the road at the front of the lot.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

NC 105. **The Island Ragpicker. 1970s.**

One-story frame building of traditional design, with vertical cypress siding, wide hipped front porch.

NC 106. **Henry and Sybil Wilder House. 1970s.**

One-story double-wide modular home.

C 107. **Marvin and Lavella Howard House. 1951**

One and 1/2 story frame, three-bay wide, side gabled house with enclosed front porch, representative of post-World War II dwellings on the Island. It faces Highway 12. It may have been built as a duplex.

C a. Outbuilding. 1950s. Gabled storage building.

C 108. **Lawton and Connie Howard House. 1957.**

One-story frame side gabled house, typical of post World War II Ocracoke dwellings, with asbestos siding, screened front porch and side and rear wings. Built for Lawton and Connie Howard by Henry Wilder.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1960s. Gabled storage building.

C 109. **Bragg-Fulcher House. 1879.**

Traditional story-and-a-half house with front shed porch with vertical tongue-and-groove sheathing, weatherboarding, replacement chimney and rear shed addition. According to local tradition, this house was built before 1880, and would have been the residence of Thomas Bragg (1791-1884). Bragg's niece Rebecca and her second husband William H. Fulcher were the next owners. They sold the property to Homer Howard (1868-1947) whose son Enoch inherited the property.

NC 110. **Harry Osman House. 1970s.**

One-story double-wide contemporary modular home.

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NC a. Outbuilding. 1970s. Gabled storage building.

C 111. Philips-O'Neal-Spencer House. ca. 1900.

Rare example of the coastal cottage form on Ocracoke. One and 1/2 story frame house, three-bays wide, with engaged front porch (now enclosed), rebuilt chimneys, a gabled side addition, and aluminum siding. The house is believed to have been built for George Philips of Washington, N.C. about 1900 but was later purchased by Walter O'Neal (1885-19?), who lived here with his family until about 1918 when it was sold to Benjamin G. O'Neal (DB 38, 570). The WPA sewing room for the Island women was located here during the Depression. Herman Spencer (1905-1981) and his wife Flossie (1903-1976) were the next owners, and their daughter Gaynelle Tillett is the current owner.

C a. Outbuilding. Early 20th c. Gabled two-room storage building with vertical sheathing.

Cistern. Round, flat-roofed brick type, with unusual milk-bottle shape. Another unusual aspect is its location directly in front of the front porch.

C 112. Capt. Thurston and Nora Gaskill House. 1925.

Substantial 1-story gable-front three-bay wide Craftsman style house with hipped front porch supported on battered porch posts (now screened). Double windows on each side of front door, wood shingled walls. The house is set in a traditional lush thicket of cedars, wax myrtles and oleander. The house was built for Capt. Gaskill in 1925 by Thad Gaskins and Charlie Scarborough. The Gaskills owned a large tract of land here but have deeded all but the immediate house lot to their children.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1970s? Gabled storage building, plywood siding.

Hwy 12: west side:

C 113. Capt. Joseph Burriss House. 1940.

Substantial 1-story gable front three-bay wide Craftsman style house with enclosed front porch, wood shingled siding. On the north side a small addition was built in 1972 to serve as a gift shop. The house was built for Capt. Joseph Burriss as a retirement home by Thad and Charlie Scarborough. Capt. Burriss was

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the last lighthouse keeper at the Ocracoke light, serving from 1929 to World War II. At his death his son Oscar, a local hunting and fishing guide, inherited it. His daughter next owned the house and sold it to present owner Ann Ehringhaus in 1982.

NC a. Workshop. 1960s. Gabled, plywood sheathing.

Cistern. Large rectangular concrete block flat-topped type.

Schoolhouse Road: north side

NC 114. Mr. and Mrs. William Nathan Spencer House. Late 20th century.

Two-story side-gabled three-bay wide house that is traditional in form. Covered with masonite and aluminum siding. Apparently an old house site, for there is an old cistern and a well-developed stand of old live oak trees on the lot.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1970s. Gabled storage building with T1-11 siding.

Cistern. Round, domed brick type.

C 115. Ocracoke United Methodist Church. 1943.

As one of two churches on Ocracoke, this building is an essential social and religious institution. The modest frame building, covered with asbestos siding, is traditional in form, with a gable front, surmounted by a small steeple. 6/6 sash windows with two-pane transoms mark the side bays, and side and rear wings have been added for church activities. The double entrance doors with a segmental arched surround with a keystone are set in the center of the main facade in a gabled entrance vestibule. The church was built with lumber salvaged from the demolition of the Island's two previous Methodist churches, and was dedicated on July 4, 1943.

C a. Fellowship Hall. 1940s. One-story side-gabled building covered with asbestos siding, was originally a naval barracks at the Ocracoke Naval Base, and was moved here after World War II.

C 116. Group of Family Cemeteries.

In thick woods, behind the church along Howard Street is a group of small family cemeteries with separate enclosures of picket, wire, concrete block, or metal pipe. Among the Ocracokers buried here are members of the Howard, Ballance,

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O'Neal, Garrish, and Bragg families. The oldest inscribed gravestone found is for Mary Catherine Ballance, 1850-1855. A burial was made here as recently as 1989.

C 117. Calvin O'Neal Sr. House. Early 1940s.

One and 1/2 story side-gabled Craftsman style house, one of a small number of houses built on the Island during World War II. Cedar shingle siding, corner engaged porch now glassed, and an original kitchen ell to the rear. It was built by carpenter Calvin O'Neal Sr. to replace his earlier house that was destroyed by fire and is significant for its association with an important twentieth century Ocracoke builder. Large yard with traditional landscaping.

NC a. Outbuilding. 1960s? Small gabled storage building.

NC b. Outbuilding. 1960s? Small hipped storage building.

C 118. Frederick and Dezzie Bragg House. ca. 1900.

One of a small number of 1-story double-pile pyramidal roofed houses. Front shed porch, now screened, interior corbelled chimney, wood shingle siding, rear ell, and side screened porch. Thomas Bragg (1797-1884) acquired this property in two separate transactions: DB U, 356 (1827) and DB V, 431 (1830). He had a house on the property but it is believed that his grandson Frederick demolished the house to build this house about 1900. Dezzie Bragg (1876-1955) inherited the property from her second husband Frederick Wilson Bragg (1876-1930) (WB 13, 5). The large lot has lush traditional landscaping and a plank fence.

NC a. Mobile Home on rear of lot.

NC b. Artist's Studio. 1960s? Weathered one-story building with large screened porch. Located on rear of lot.

Harbor Loop Road west from Hwy 12

NC 119. Apartment House. 1981.

Two-story Saltbox style house, set gable end to road, wood shake walls.

NC a. Double wide mobile home to rear. ca. 1970.

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NC 120. Harry Salem Mobile Home .

NC 121. Pirate's Quay Hotel. 1988 .

Three and 1/2 story, four bay building raised on tall stilts, with a picturesque roofline marked by dormer windows, natural siding.

122. Gaskill Rental Cabins.

C a-c. 1940s. Three simple, side-gabled one-story cabins with a combination of weatherboard, flush sheathing and asbestos siding materials and shed porches with turned posts. One is a single-family, three bay wide building, the other two are six bay wide duplexes. Originally built for the Navy Base in the 1940s, these were moved after WWII to "Down Below" where they were used as rental cabins for visiting duck hunters until the National Park Service acquired the land for the National Seashore in the 1950s. The Gaskill family moved them to this site for rental cabins, and they are currently owned by Daisy Gaskill.

NC d. Jim Walter rental cabin. 1960s. This is the fourth cabin on the site.

C 123 a-c. Lakeside Cottage Court. 1950s.

Early example of Ocracoke tourist accommodations, consisting of three one-story blocks, each containing four or five rooms, with a side-gable roofs, continuous shed porches with wooden posts, Craftsman type windows, and asbestos siding.

NC d. Small commercial building. 1980s. opposite the court, on the shore. Gabled roof, T1-11 siding. Originally associated with the court.

C 124. Berkley Castle. 1950s.

Large private house which is a prominent landmark at the south end of the harbor. The building, symmetrical from the front, is a seven-bay wide, 2 1/2-story wood shingled Colonial Revival style building with a hipped roof with double-tiered dormers and flanking cross-gables at the end bays. Projecting above the center bay, behind the main block, is a four-story hipped tower. From the sides and rear the symmetry dissolves into a rambling, additive complex of 1, 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 story wings with the same styling, characterized by dormers, large colonial style brick chimneys. The entire complex has 6/6 sash windows, flush eaves with pattern boards. This is a notable example of the "Sam Jones Style,"

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influenced by both New England turn-of-the-century resort architecture and by Colonial Williamsburg style. Built by local carpenters for Ocracoke philanthropist Sam Jones (1893-1977), who purchased this property from Charley McWilliams, son of John McWilliams.

C 125. Whittler's Cottage. 1950s.

Tall 1 1/2 story cottage with a steep gabled roof, two tall front dormers, a hipped front porch with turned wooden posts, and the trademark wood shake walls of the Sam Jones style. The small 1-story side wings are later additions. It was designed by Sam Jones and built by local builders to provide a place for retired fishermen to pass the hours by whittling. Still in the Jones family, it is used as a vacation home.

C 126. John Wilson McWilliams House. ca. 1880.

Large two-story late Victorian style house that is one of the larger scale and more decorative historic houses on Ocracoke. The front projecting gable has imbricated shingles and sawnwork. A recent rehabilitation necessitated considerable replacement of materials, as the house was seriously deteriorated. The weatherboard, wrap-around porch, windows, and interior beaded board-and-batten walls and trim are all replacements. At the rear is a large deck and staircase leading to a new widow's walk on the roof. The interior center hall floor plan has been retained. The house was apparently built for John Wilson McWilliams (1869-?). When he left Ocracoke sometime after 1910 for Black Mountain to relieve his tuberculosis, he gave Charlie Caswell McWilliams and his wife Hilda Tolson McWilliams a life estate in the house. The McWilliams store, fish house and net house located on the harbor in front of this house were destroyed in the hurricane of 1944. The fish house supplied such major fish markets as the Fulton Fish Market in New York. Like many Ocracoke families, the McWilliams also owned sheep that grazed in the marsh "down below" and sold wool to markets in Newport News, Va. The house remained in the McWilliams family until 1986.

C a. Storage Building. 1940s(?) Gabled, vertical sheathing.

C 127. Lonnie Burrus, Sr. House. 1934.

Representative bungalow, a mirror image of #129, with a corner recessed porch, triple-pile, hipped roof with front clipped hip dormer, side bay window, and original weatherboard. Leonard D. Williams had this house built by Thad and Charlie Scarborough for his daughter Mrs. Lonnie Burrus. Jacob Gaskill

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(1787-1863) and his wife Annie Scarborough Gaskill (1792-1832), who are buried in the graveyard located on this property, are believed to have lived in an earlier house on this site.

NC a. Storage building. ca. 1960. Shed roof, vertical sheathing.

Cistern: round, domed brick type.

C 128. Leonard and Aretta Williams House. 1913.

Originally similar to the Martin C. Dixon House, this was remodelled in 1922 by Thad and Charlie Scarborough to the present hipped Foursquare form. The large, three-bay wide house has two interior chimneys, original weatherboarding, and a hipped front porch now enclosed as a sunroom. It was built for Leonard Williams (1875-1957) and his wife Aretta (1878-1962) and remains in their family.

C a. Storage building. 1940s?. Small, gabled, vertical sheathing.

C 129. Celia and Enoch Sylvester Tolson House. 1933.

This bungalow is a mirror image of #127, with a corner recessed porch, now screened and enlarged with a side shed addition, and wood shakes instead of weatherboard. The two tall brick chimneys are apparently original. It was built by Thad Gaskins and Charlie Scarborough on Williams family land for Leonard D. Williams' daughter Celia (1896-1978) who married Enoch Sylvester Tolson (1894-197?). It remains in the family.

C 130. William Charles Thomas House. ca. 1899

Sited overlooking the harbor, this is a major landmark on the south side of Silver Lake. Tall two-story, single pile side gable house with prominent center cross-gable. All three gables are ornamented by pierced, sawtooth bargeboards, apparently original. The house has two-over-two sash and batten shutters, apparently replacements of the originals. The rear ell, with recessed porch, may be original. The interior originally had a center hall on the first floor, but one hall wall has been removed. The beaded tongue and groove sheathing, wide molded trim, open-string staircase, and four-flat panel doors are all apparently original. Alterations include the asbestos siding, and the destruction of the original two-story front porch by the hurricane of 1944. The house was built just after the hurricane of 1899 for ship captain William Charles Thomas (1857-1930) by Charlie Scarborough, and is said to have one of the earliest trap floor

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doors in Ocracoke. The house is said to have been modelled on double-tiered porch houses like those Capt. Thomas had seen in the West Indies where his ship traded. A daughter, Lillian Thomas, who married Stacy William Simpson (1887-1956), owned the property for many years.

Cistern: round, domed brick type.

NC 131. Summer Cottage. ca. 1960.

Small narrow side-gabled house with vertical siding and one wall of jalousie windows that gives this cottage the look of a sun room. It is almost hidden by cedars and underbrush.

C 132. Bragg-Tolson House. ca. 1888.

Traditional story and a jump house with one of the few examples of a front cross-gable found on Ocracoke. The house has a rear ell and a front shed porch with chamfered posts that are probably original. Despite the replacement concrete block chimney, replacement windows, and vinyl siding, the house retains integrity of form and setting. Said to have been built by carpenter Thomas F. Gaskins as his own residence about 1888, it is popularly known as the Tolson House for Charles S. (1891-1963) and Levicie Tolson (1889-19?) who lived there for many years. It remains in the Tolson family.

NC a. Storage building. ca. 1975. Shed-roofed, plywood siding.

NC 133a-b. Houses. 1970s.

This parcel contains two modest summer cottages: a 1-story, three-bay-wide, side gabled house with large front dormer, cypress siding, front screened porch; and a 1 and 1/2 story, side gabled three-bay wide house with wood shake siding and deck.

C 134. Samuel Jones House. ca. 1959.

This typically exuberant and rambling gabled and dormered house with a 3-story tower at the core was built by industrialist Sam Jones as his own residence soon after he acquired this property. It is said to have been built around an existing house that had been owned by Henry Bragg (1891-1957), but there is no visible evidence of an older house. The features include gabled wings extending from three sides of the 3-story tower, a massive double shouldered exterior chimney, and wood shake siding.

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- C a. Storage Building. ca. 1959. Hipped, wood shake siding.
- C b. Storage Building. ca. 1959. Hipped, wood shake siding.
- C c. Guest House. ca. 1959. Small, 1 1/2 story cottage, wood shake siding and wrap-around porch with turned posts.
- C d. Family cemetery. Contains members of Bragg family.
- NC 135. Henry Bragg House. 1940s, ca. 1970.

One-story, side gabled weatherboarded house with rear ell built by Henry Bragg of wood bought from the old Coast Guard Station. The Runyons, an early off-island family, bought the house from him and ca. 1970 enlarged it with a two-story, double pile, wood shingled addition, turning the Bragg House into a side wing.

- C a. Storage Building. 1940s. Gabled, vertical sheathing.
- C b. Storage Building. 1940s. Gabled, T 1-11 siding.

Cistern: rectangular vaulted brick type. "July 31, 1943" is written in the stucco, presumably the date it was finished.

- NC 136. Ocracoke Crab Company. ca. 1970.

Small, 1-story, shed-roofed fish house located on the harbor shore.

- NC a. Rental cottage. c. 1970. Tiny, front-gabled house with large screen porch, aluminum siding.

- C 137. Sam Jones Dock House. 1950s.

One-over-one hip-roofed building covered with wood shakes and built on a dock in the water, with 8/8 sash windows and wooden steps leading to the second-story door. This was built for Sam Jones, apparently as part of a seafood processing facility. It is still owned by his estate.

- C 138. Meeker Cottage I. ca. 1950.

Small, 1-story side-gabled frame cottage, three bays wide, located on the har-

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bor shore, partially built out over the breakwater. Partial masonite, partial wood shake siding, and wraparound screened porch on shore sides. One of the first beach cottages built on the island after WWII, it was built from materials salvaged from the Navy Base in the late 1940s or early 1950s by the Meeker family who have continued to summer at Ocracoke since that time.

NC 139. Meeker Cottage II. ca. 1980.

Contemporary beach cottage, visually dramatic parabolic curved screen porch wraps around three sides of a sweeping shed roof, natural wood siding. Prominently sited at the harbor entrance point opposite the Coast Guard Station.

C 140. Kugler Cottage. Mid-19th century.

Believed to be one of the oldest surviving houses on Ocracoke, this story-and-a-half house has six-pane casements in the upper facade to light the attic rooms, a feature shared by the O'Neal Family House (#55). Interior chimney apparently original. Apparently original engaged front porch has no ceiling, allowing air circulation to the casement windows. The main block and rear shed have 6/6 sash, and the shed has two exterior batten doors. It is now partially covered with wood shakes, and partially with T1-11. The house faces the sound, and according to oral history and deed research was moved to this site in the early 20th century, probably about 1915 when Ellen Mallison purchased this property. Ellison Mallison Kugler purchased the property in 1943 and the Kugler family continues to summer here.

Lossie's Ridge:

NC 141. House. 1980s.

Two-story frame Saltbox style summer house with two-level porch facing the sound, and wood shake siding.

C a. "My Blue Heaven". 1940s. Rectangular, gabled building, two bays wide, which is a decoy shack moved to this site from Green Island Hunting Club "down below" in the 1950s when the National Park Service bought that section of the island. Here it was used by Maltby Bragg as a decoy house and sometime residence, and acquired the nickname "My Blue Heaven." In 1989 it was moved from the adjacent property, closer to the harbor, to serve as an annex to the 1980s summer house and rehabilitated.

C 142. Hurricane House. ca. 1900.

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Known as the Hurricane House for the written record of the hurricane of 1944 found on interior walls, this is a traditional story and a jump house with rear ell. It has large 6/6 sash, a shed-roofed screen porch, and wood shake siding. It was moved a short distance, apparently within the same property, and renovated as a summer cottage in 1986.

Cistern: round, domed type.

Aunt Sarah Ellen's Lane

C 143. Hallas A. Bragg House. ca. 1900.

This 1 1/2 story single-pile house with prominent front cross-gable has the same pierced sawtooth bargeboard outlining the gables as does the Capt. Thomas House next door. The main block has 2/2 sash and an original interior end corbelled chimney and an attached shed porch. The 1 1/2 story rear ell, with large dormers, is a 1940s addition. The house has wood shake walls. It was built for Hallas Bragg (1873-1938).

Cistern. Large, concrete block type.

C 144. Tolson-Rondthaler House. ca. 1860.

Believed to be one of the oldest surviving Ocracoke houses, this story and a jump house retains some 9/6 sash windows that help to support this claim. The exterior chimney, shed-roofed front porch, and jalousie windows are replacements, and the walls have wood shakes. The rear shed kitchen wing was added after 1930. The parlor mantel is said to be original. It is said to have been built for Daniel Tolson (1816-1879), but is better known for Alice and Theodore Rondthaler (1899-1966), off-islanders who purchased it during the 1930s as a summer house and eventually moved to Ocracoke where Rondthaler became principal of the school and Mrs. Rondthaler a teacher. The Rondthalers were of tremendous importance to Ocracoke. Alice Rondthaler's scrapbooks have preserved a record of the unique island culture from the 1930s to the 1950s. Rondthaler is largely credited with introducing mosquito control measures to the island. It remains in the Rondthaler family.

C a. Rental cottage. 1940s. Side-gabled, three bay wide house made of materials salvaged from the Navy Base. Now covered with T1-11 siding.

C 145. Gaskill House. ca. 1904.

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Small, double pile hip-roofed cottage, clad in wood shakes, with a rear ell, one bay wide front shed porch, and two chimneys, one exterior side in the main block and one at the rear of the ell. This property belonged to Benjamin D. Gaskill, Sr. (1837-1881) and his wife, Sarah Ellen. This house was built for his son, William Davie Gaskill, and was acquired about 1915 by another son, Benjamin D. Gaskill, Jr. (1871-1953). His son, Clinton Gaskill, inherited the house and still lives here.

Cistern: Rectangular, vaulted brick type.

C a. Storage building. ca. 1930. Small, gabled, vertical sheathing.

NC b. House. 1980s. Four-bay wide ranch, with aluminum siding, built for a Gaskill family member on the site of the original Gaskill house on the property, which was torn down early in the century.

NC 146. David S. (Sonny) and Geraldine Tolson House. ca. 1960.

Late example of the traditional story-and-a-jump house, with long front and rear dormers, a long rear ell, and shed-roofed front porch, partially enclosed.

Lighthouse Road, South side:

C 147. Island Inn. 1901, 1940s, 1950s.

The 2-story gable front block with 2-story porch is the original building, built in 1901 as the Oddfellows Lodge of Ocracoke on the opposite side of the road on land purchased from James W. and Zylphia Howard (DB 25, 14-16). The second floor housed the lodge and the first floor was the island's first public school. In 1920 the lodge was sold to Benjamin B. O'Neal (1880-1939) who moved the building across the street and then back again to its original site. Between 1939-41, O'Neal sold the property, which extended to the harbor, to Robert Stanley Wahab (1888-1967) for \$700. In 1942 the first floor was converted to a coffee shop and the upstairs rooms housed men working on the Naval Base. Later the upstairs became a naval officers' club called The Crow's Nest. In 1948 Wahab had several former Navy barracks moved to the west side of the building to create a dance hall. In the 1950s he added a 2-story wing with a dining room on the first floor and guest rooms upstairs to the east side. The next owner was Doward Brugh, who renamed it the Island Inn. Since then it has changed hands several times.

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C a. Outbuilding. Early 20th century. Gabled, weatherboarded building with roof overhang sheltering front elevation, perhaps originally a detached kitchen.

C b. House. 1950s. Small weatherboarded side-gabled 1-story house with front shed porch.

NC c. Annex. ca. 1980. 2-story frame block located across Lighthouse Road from the Inn.

C 148. (former) Boat House, U.S. Lifesaving Service. Last quarter of 19th century.

Residence built before 1910 as a boat house. This 1-story, pyramidal-roofed building is covered with wood shakes, has some original 6/6 sash windows, and retains evidence of the front and rear openings for boat storage, with the double batten doors still in place on one end; the other opening has been infilled. The building was moved to its present location in the 1930s from its original site just to the west, still marked today by two marble markers placed there by the Lifesaving Service. Since that time it has been the residence of the Bryant family, who owns this property and is believed to have been the only black family to live on Ocracoke since just after the Civil War. They acquired the land through their grandparents Hark and Winnie Blount, who bought it in 1900, and the deed (DB 25, 13) describes it as the lot "whereon John Bragg lived and died." Minor changes were made to convert it to a residence for the Bryants. The property is quite overgrown and the building is not visible from Lighthouse Road.

NC a. Mobile Home.

NC 149. Philip Howard House. 1977.

Two-and-one-half story frame house with board-and-batten siding, enlarged in 1985, is traditional in design, with a narrow front shed porch and characteristic Ocracoke landscaping. This is the original site of the U.S. Life Saving Station.

C 150. Thadeus Gaskins House. Early 20th c.

Traditional story and a jump house with 2/2 sash, a front gabled addition that creates an "L" form, a wraparound porch with tapering, boxed posts, and a rear

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dormer. Vertical sheathing, interior chimney. According to local tradition, this was built by Thad Gaskins (1887-1961), noted local builder, at "Round Creek" on the opposite side of Silver Lake, as his own residence. He moved it "Down Point" near the lighthouse, and the front wing was added later by a family member as an ice cream shop. The present owners, the Senseneys, moved it to this nearby lot to save it in the 1970s.

C a. Storage Building. Late 19th c. Gabled, board-and-batten building, originally the radio shack from the Hatteras Life Saving Station in Hatteras Village, moved here in 1980 to save it.

C 151. James Henry Garrish House. ca. 1905.

One-story hip-roofed, double pile cottage with porch that wraps around three sides to the rear ell. Original weatherboarding, turned porch posts, original interior chimneys. The kitchen located in the rear ell was connected by a breezeway, now enclosed. The house was built for James Henry Garrish (1877-1947) shortly after he acquired the property from the McWilliams family in the early 1900s.

Picket fence.

Cistern: Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

C a. Storage building. 1930s? Gabled, vertical board siding.

C 152. Simpson-Basnett-Garrish House. ca. 1914.

Foursquare with hipped roof, bracketed cornice, interior chimney and unaltered wraparound porch with tapered boxed posts, apparently original. First story has weatherboard, second story has wood shakes. The sash windows are replacements. Crepe myrtle and large oleanders enhance the yard. It was built for Lloyd Simpson about 1914, when he acquired the property from John W. McWilliams (DB 38, 13). Simpson sold it to Preston Basnett in 1923 (DB 47, 550), and Basnett sold it to James D. Garrish in 1927. Garrish's widow Ruby A. Garrish still lives here.

Picket fence...

C 153. Julian Bell Styron House. ca. 1900.

Although resembling a Foursquare from the front, this hipped roof 2-story house is actually only a single pile deep. It has a front, central hipped dormer, a

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hipped front porch now enclosed with jalousie windows, original weatherboard, interior chimney, and a rear ell. The house is believed to have been built for Julian Bell Styron (1876-1924), son of Parliament Styron (1848-1927), who acquired the property about 1900. It remains in the Styron family.

NC a. Garage. 1980s.

C 154. Styron-Garrish House. ca. 1950.

Small, 1-story three-bay side-gabled cottage with asbestos shingles, side addition, built by Thad and Charlie Scarborough for Thurmond and Sidney Mae Styron. Mrs. Styron and her second husband Leslie Garrish live here now.

C 155. Richard F. O'Neal House. 1922.

Foursquare with full front porch with turned posts, original interior chimney, hipped rear ell and new vinyl siding. The house sits in a grove of cedars. The house was built for Richard F. O'Neal (1877-1944) and his wife Sally Jane (1882-1949).

Cistern: Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

NC a. Storage building. 1980s. Plywood sheathing.

C 156. Esther and Andrew Spencer House. ca. 1908.

Two-story, single pile, side-gable house retains exterior end chimneys (apparently original except for replacement stacks), a front shed porch with turned posts which is apparently original, and a rear ell, but the sash windows are replacements and it has aluminum siding. Cedars and oaks enhance the front yard. Summers Spencer (1885-1947) purchased this property from John W. McWilliams and wife Elizabeth in 1908 (DB 32, 133) and had the house built by 1922 when he and his wife Esther Simpson Spencer (1891-1952) enlarged their property with an additional land purchase from McWilliams (DB 46, 19).

C a. Storage building. 1940s? Gabled, vertical sheathing.

NC b. Mobile Home

NC c. Mobile Home

C 157. Nathan Spencer House. ca. 1922.

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This is the third Foursquare house on this block, contributing to a commanding streetscape. The wraparound porch with tapering, boxed posts; weatherboarding, interior chimney, and rear ell all appear to be original. Unlike the other two Foursquares' hipped roofs, which have ridges, this roof is pyramidal. It was built before 1922 for Nathan Spencer (1882-1947), (DB 46, 22), and remains in the Spencer family.

Cistern: rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

C a. Family cemetery. The oldest inscribed stone is for Andrew Spencer (1844-1906).

NC b. Storage building. 1980s. Plywood sheathing, on pilings.

NC c. Mobile home.

C 158. Emory and Irma Midgette Foster House. ca. 1900.

Two-story, single-pile, side-gabled house with original interior chimney, long rear ell, and front shed porch which has been enclosed. The walls are covered with some weatherboard and some asbestos siding, and a rail fence encloses the front yard. It is believed that the earliest owners were the Foster family, from Buxton, who moved to Ocracoke with the U.S. Coast Guard about 1920.

C 159. Tilman W. O'Neal House. 1890s.

Story and a jump house with original rear ell with a recessed porch with vertical sheathed porch wall, exterior end corbelled brick chimney, wood shake siding, 2/2 and 4/4 sash, and a hipped front porch with bungalow-style posts, probably 1920s replacements. On the north side of the ell is a large screened porch addition. The house was built for Tilman W. O'Neal (1875-1914).

C a. Storage building. 1930s? Front-gabled, vertical board siding.

Cistern: Round, domed brick type.

C 160. Owen Gaskill House. 1957.

One-story, side-gabled, four-bay wide modified ranch, with aluminum siding.

C a. Storage building. 1950s? Gabled, plywood sheathing.

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C 161. Parsonage, Assembly of God Church. 1954.

One-story front-gabled frame house with asbestos siding and front hipped porch that has been enclosed. It was built in 1954 on the site of the earlier parsonage, which had burned.

C a. Storage building. ca. 1950. Gabled, asbestos siding.

C 162. Assembly of God Church. 1940s.

Small, well-preserved church of traditional front-gabled form, four bays deep, with a central two-stage entrance tower topped by a pyramidal steeple, six-over-six sash windows, and asbestos siding. At the rear is a one-story addition which extends one bay on each side of the sanctuary. The church was built in the late 1940s as the result of a split within the Methodist congregation, and like the Methodist Church, is significant as one of only two churches on the island. The interior was remodelled in the 1960s.

C 163. Elijah Styron House. 1890s.

Although additions have obscured the traditional story and a jump form of this house, it does retain an original gable end chimney, 2/2 sash, and some weatherboard, and was built for Elijah Styron (1841-1910). Curiously, it is set with its gable end to the street. The original front porch has been enclosed and the current entrance is from the gable end under an early hipped, wraparound porch with turned posts. Synthetic siding covers most of the walls.

C a. Family cemetery. Large, fenced cemetery, with oldest inscribed stone being that of Elijah Styron.

NC b. Storage building. 1960s? Gabled, plywood sheathing.

Lighthouse Road: north side

C 164. Elijah Styron Jr. House. ca. 1910.

Story and a jump house with rear ell, hipped wraparound porch enclosed as sunroom, 6/6 sash and original interior end corbelled chimney. According to local tradition, Elijah Styron, Jr. (1888-1963) had this house built on land he acquired from his father; it is still in the Styron family. A rail fence encloses the yard.

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C a. Storage building. 1930s? Gabled, vertical sheathing.

C b. Rental cottage. 1950s. Small side-gabled frame house with engaged full front porch.

C 165. Emma and Simon O'Neal House. ca. 1900.

Story-and-a-half with hipped front porch with turned posts, original exterior end corbelled chimney, two-over-two sash, and wood shake siding. The house has a rear shed addition, and was built for fisherman Simon O'Neal (1881-1937) near the time of his marriage to Emma Styron, daughter of Elijah Styron Sr. The site has cedars and pines, and a rail fence.

C 166. Simpson-Gaskins-Williams House. ca. 1900.

Two-story, side-gabled, single-pile house with interior end corbelled chimney and 2/2 sash. The front porch has been enclosed and the main entrance has been shifted to the gable end, which faces Lighthouse Road. On the original rear (now west) side of the house is an ell addition and an additional ell which was added in 1944 to rent to navy families stationed on Ocracoke. It has a low gable roof, weatherboard, and four-over-four sash. Apparently, Wallace W. Simpson bought this property from Holloway Ballance in 1846 (DB I, 511). The house may have been built for John and Rosa Simpson since they sold the house to Brian Gaskins in 1923 (DB 47, 92). Charlie Williams has owned the property since 1944, and operated it as a well-known hunting and fishing lodge in the 1950s.

C a. Rental cottage. ca. 1930. Actually a detached kitchen, built from timber salvaged from the "George W. Truitt" which wrecked in 1928. Moved to this site in 1946 and first used as a store, later as lodging for hunting and fishing parties. This has a gabled roof and vertical sheathing.

C b. Storage building. 1940s. Small, gabled, vertical sheathing.

C 167. Styron House. ca. 1925.

Unusually early duplex, of bungalow form, with hipped roof, engaged front porch, two-over-two sash, and vertical sheathing. It was built for a member of the Styron family and is still in Styron ownership.

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C a. Family cemetery. Small plot, with graves of William Thomas Styron (1884-1937); lola Styron, died 1941; and an infant who died in 1919.

C 168a-b. Ocracoke Light Station. 1823, ca. 1897, 1928-19.

The only historic property on Ocracoke that is already listed in the National Register, this also includes the oldest documented historic building and the most famous landmark on the island. The lighthouse is a conical 69 ft. tower of brick, heavily whitewashed, which was built in 1823 by Noah Porter of Massachusetts and is the oldest lighthouse still in use on the North Carolina coast. The adjacent keepers quarters, also built in 1823-24 by Porter, was a one-story, three room, gabled brick house. In 1897 the dwelling was raised to 2 stories. In 1928-29 accommodations for a second keeper were attached to the first one, in a similar Colonial Revival style with a brick first story and wood-shingled second story. In 1929 a shed porch was added across the long west elevation. During an extensive 1950 refurbishing the interior was refinished, indoor plumbing was added, and the porch was screened. Very few changes have been made since 1950. The lovely site has ancient cedars and live oaks.

C c. Outbuilding. ca. 1897? Rectangular, gabled, two-room board-and-batten building with six-over-six sash. According to the National Register nomination this was originally a dining room.

C d. Outbuilding. ca. 1897? Narrow, rectangular gabled building, with board-and-batten walls, batten doors, probably used for storage.

C e. Oil House. pre-1938. Tiny square stuccoed brick building with a flat roof, originally used to house oil and backup supplies for the lighthouse, now housing the electric generator.

Picket fence.

Cisterns: Two rectangular, flat-topped, concrete types.

C 169. Hoggard House. 1940s.

Modest, one-and-one-half story side gabled house, three bays wide, with asbestos siding, built soon after World War II on land that was part of the Andrew Spencer family property and is still owned by the family. On the same lot, just to the east, the Andrew Spencer House, a story-and-a-half house built early in the 20th century, stood until 1989 when it was demolished.

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C a. Family cemetery. The oldest inscribed stone among the graves of Garrish and Spencer family members is for David Garrish (1899-1906).

NC b. Storage building. 1980s. Gabled, T1-11 siding, pilings.

C 170. Spencer House. Early 20th c.

This one-story, side-gabled, three-bay-wide house with rear ell is not a traditional story-and-a-jump, because it has longer, lower proportions and apparently never had habitable attic rooms. It has original weatherboarding, an exterior end corbelled brick chimney, and, at the rear of the ell, an originally detached structure, probably the kitchen, that is now connected by an enclosed passageway. This house was built on land belonging to John Spencer, and is still in the Spencer family.

C a. Storage building. 1940s? Small, gabled, asphalt siding.

C 171. Albert Styron Store. 1920s.

Three-bay-wide, front-gabled frame store, with a low hipped roof and simple false facade. A front shed porch is supported by turned posts. The store has two-over-two sash, double front doors, and asbestos siding. It is believed to have been built of lumber from Albert Styron's homeplace on Hog Island in Carteret County which was demolished when the family moved to Ocracoke. Captain Albert M. Styron (1893-1956) operated this general merchandise store for many years. Although vacant, it is still a prominent landmark.

NC 172. Spencer House. 1970.

Small, four-bay wide, single-pile frame ranch with T1-11 siding and aluminum siding and carport. Rail fence. Built for Bill and Lydia Freda Spencer.

NC 173. Spencer House. 1960.

Small front-gabled house, three bays wide, with gabled front screened porch, synthetic siding, and rail fence. Built for Bill and Lydia Freda Spencer.

NC 174. Leroy O'Neal House. 1970.

Four-bay wide frame ranch with masonite siding and front gabled porch.

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C 175. (former) James D. Garrish Store. 1927.

Three-bay wide, hip-roofed bungalow with asbestos siding, engaged porch now enclosed as a room, with wood shake siding. James D. Garrish operated a store here until 1945, and in the late 1960s it was remodelled as a house for Garrish's son and daughter-in-law James D. and Dora Jane Garrish.

NC a. Garage. 1960s? plywood sheathing.

NC b. Storage building. 1960s? Gabled, T1-11 siding.

C 176. William and Doris Garrish House. 1932.

Front-gabled bungalow, three bays wide, with front hipped porch, now screened, side dormer, interior corbelled brick chimney, and aluminum siding. Built by Thad and Charlie Scarborough for William and Doris Garrish; Mrs. Garrish still lives in the house.

C a. Storage building. 1950s? Gabled, vertical sheathing.

C b. Privy. 1950s? Vertical sheathing.

C 177. Eliza and William I. O'Neal House. ca. 1910, 1928.

Story and a jump house, one of the few with an original front cross-gable. Four-over-four sash windows in the half-story, interior corbelled brick chimney, shed front porch with plain posts, and original weatherboard. A rear addition includes a garage wing extending to the side. Built for William I. O'Neal (1889-1927) and his wife Eliza in the "round pond" area on the other side of the harbor, but it was dismantled and moved to its current site by local carpenters Thad Gaskins and Charlie Scarborough in 1928 because Eliza was not happy living on that part of the island. The house was undergoing reconstruction when William, a fisherman, drowned with his brother Ivey O'Neal. Eliza raised her family here, and daughter Isabella Morris, the current owner, still lives here.

C 178. Selma and Benjamin E. Spencer House. 1937.

Well-preserved bungalow with cross-gabled roof, decorative roof brackets, front-gabled porch with boxed posts on brick stanchions, exterior end corbelled chimney, and wood shake siding. Built for Benjamin E. Spencer (1908-1975) by Thad Gaskins. Some of the framing came from the shipwrecked sailing vessel "Naomis," which was carrying a cargo of lumber. The house is still in the Spen-

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cer family.

Picket fence.

C a. Storage building. 1930s. Gabled, asbestos shingles.

C 179. Hattie and Samuel Tilden Spencer House. ca. 1918.

Late story and a jump type house, with exterior brick chimney, hipped front porch, now screened, rear shed, and asbestos siding. Built sometime before 1918 for Samuel Tilden Spencer (1878-1942) and his wife Hattie W. Simpson Spencer (1877-1918). Son Wallace Spencer, local duck carver, had the house remodelled in the 1950s.

C a. House/Workshop. ca. 1950. Gabled, asbestos siding.

Picket fence.

Cistern: Concrete block, flat type.

NC 180. Vickie and Elmo Murray Fulcher, Jr. House. 1968.

Large Colonial Revival style frame 1 1/2 story house with four front dormers, vinyl siding. The house is set well back from Lighthouse Road among cedar trees.

NC 181. Styron House. ca. 1970.

Modest 1-story frame side-gabled summer cottage, three bays wide, with screened front porch and T1-11 siding.

Loop Road, Springer's Point area

C 182. Benjamin F. Williams House. ca. 1900.

Traditional story and a jump house with rear ell and 6/6 sash, but with a replacement front porch, replacement chimney, and vinyl siding. It was built for Benjamin F. (1886-1959) and Teresa Styron Williams on land previously owned by Mrs. Williams' father James Styron.

NC a. Storage building and garage. 1960s. Plywood sheathing.

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NC b. Mobile Home.

C 183. Ivey and Eliza O'Neal House. Early 20th c.

Traditional story and a jump house with original weatherboard, shed front porch with turned posts, original interior end corbelled chimney, rear ell, and 2/2 and 6/6 sash. The yard has live oaks and is enclosed by a rail fence. This was the home of Ivey O'Neal (1887-1927), who drowned with his brother William near Ocracoke bringing in a load of fish. His widow Eliza Ella Styron O'Neal (1890-1953) lived in the house following his death, although she had the house taken apart and moved from "Up Trent" (northeast of Silver Lake) to its present site. It remains in the O'Neal family.

C a. Family cemetery. Oldest inscribed stones are for Ivey O'Neal and his brother William.

C b. Storage building. 1940s? Gabled, asphalt siding.

NC c. Garage. 1980s. Two car, ramp, plywood sheathing.

C 184. Steve and Frances O'Neal House. 1940s.

Modest three-bay wide ranch with front screen porch and rear ell. The house is typical of post World War II dwellings built on Ocracoke, and has tall cedars and a rail fence in the front yard. It was built for Steve and Frances O'Neal, and Frances still lives here.

C 185. Benjamin O'Neal House. ca. 1949.

Modest three-bay wide asphalt-shingled cottage with a bracketted cross-gable over the west front bay, typical of post-World War II houses on Ocracoke. It has an expansive yard with a rail fence. It was built for Benjamin O'Neal.

C a. Storage building. 1940s. Gabled, asbestos shingles.

Road C: Dirt Lane running north from Lighthouse Road

C 186. Needham Simpson House. ca. 1910.

Small 2-story side-gabled single-pile house with a clipped gable over the south front bay and the north gable end that is unusual for this traditional Ocracoke

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house type. It has 2/2 sash, a narrow, hipped front porch, now partially enclosed, with tapering, boxed posts, an original exterior end corbelled chimney, and wood shake siding. The yard is densely planted with cedars and ornamentals. It is believed to have been built for Needham Simpson (1893-1970) on land sold to him in 1915 by his siblings (DB 37, 589). This is known locally as the homeplace of Needham's parents George Simpson (1842-1912) and Mary Jane Fulcher Simpson (1854-1927), but it is not known if this incorporates an earlier house or was built on the site of an older house.

Picket fence.

C 187. Edward Fulcher House. ca. 1887.

Story and a jump house with rear ell and 2/2 sash. The hipped front porch is enclosed, and the exterior chimney is concrete block replacement. The house was built for Edward Fulcher about the time of his marriage to Sarah Francis O'Neal in 1887. The expansive yard has a rail fence.

NC a. Storage building. ca. 1970. Gabled, plywood sheathing.

C 188. Irving Styron House. 1950s.

Modest three-bay-wide weatherboarded ranch, with enclosed front porch and concrete block gable end chimney. Typical of post World War II housing on Ocracoke.

NC a. Mobile home.

NC b. Mobile home.

C 189. Harry and Daisy Ballance House. ca. 1911.

Foursquare, with original weatherboard, original rear ell with recessed porch, interior chimney, 2/2 sash, and front porch, now screened. Wooded front yard of cedars and oaks. The house was built for Harry Ballance (1886-1951) about the time of his marriage to Daisy Stowe (187 -1971). It faces west, toward the sound, and away from the dirt lane.

NC a. Storage building. 1980s. Gabled, T1-11 siding, on piling.

NC b. Contemporary house. 1980s. Two-story, unpainted weatherboard, set on pilings.

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Cistern: Round, domed brick type.

C 190. Chase-Bragg-Boos House (Sound Front Inn). 1828-1834; 1940s.

Impressively large 2-story, double-pile, hip-roofed frame house sited on a large parcel with a commanding view of the sound. The house has 2/2 sash, is covered with German siding, and has a two-story rear ell that appears to be early. The front, full-facade, hipped porch has been enclosed, and a 2-story flat-roofed sleeping porch, with jalousie windows, was added to the north side in the 1940s.

In 1828 Elisha Chase purchased a parcel of "3 acres more or less" (DB W, III) where the house is currently located from the heirs of Thomas Wahab (177-c.1811). The deed recording Chase's sale in 1834 to William and George Howard mentions a house, stable and outbuildings (DB W, 234). If an early construction date is true, the house is likely to have been built between 1828 and 1834 for Elisha Chase. George Howard bought the property from the court in 1867, and sold it to Samuel Dudley Bragg in 1868 (DB 10, 300). Bragg (1836-1902) sold it to "his wife and all his children and children to come" in 1869 (DB 10, 307). Local tradition holds that as a seafaring man, Bragg was afraid he would be lost at sea and wanted to make sure that his family would have property. Bragg was indeed lost at sea, and his son Gary Bragg (1881-1954) ultimately became sole owner. He began to rent rooms to hunters and fishermen, and had several small cottages built for rentals. Navy personnel rented these during World War II. Gary Bragg sold the property to Warwick T. and Marguerette Boos in 1951 (DB 64, 124); they named it Sound Front Inn and operated an inn here until the 1970s. Thus this is not only believed to be one of the oldest houses on the island; it is one of the earliest inns.

C a. Outbuilding. Early date. Hip roof, vertical sheathing.

C b. Rental cottage. 1930s? Gabled, vertical sheathing.

NC 191. Warwick and Linda Boos House. ca. 1980.

One-story, front-gabled house with T-1-11 siding, enclosed side porch, picket fence and old live oak tree.

NC a. Storage building. ca. 1980. Gabled, plywood sheathing.

C 192. John Gaskill House. 1940s.

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One-story side-gabled three-bay wide house representing a late example of a bungalow, with a corner, recessed front porch, interior corbelled chimney, 2/2 sash and asbestos siding. Landscape features such as numerous cedars and the marsh edging the property give an Ocracoke character to the site. Local carpenter Thadeus Gaskins built this for current owner, John Gaskill, on the site of Gaskill's father's homeplace.

Cistern. Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

C a. Storage building. 1940s? Gabled, wood shake siding.

C 193. Felig House. 1950s.

Modest hip-roofed ranch, corner recessed porch now enclosed with jalousies, aluminum siding and metal casement windows. Built in the 1950s for Mr. and Mrs. Felix Felig on land acquired from Mrs. Felig's father, Lum Gaskill.

NC a. Storage building. 1960s? Shed-roofed, aluminum siding.

C 194. Gaskins-Styron House. Early 20th c.

Story and a jump house with interior end corbelled chimney, 2/2 sash, original weatherboard, rear shed, and front hipped porch, now enclosed. The house is believed to have been built for Frank Gaskins; Norman and Annie Moore Styron, current owners, have lived here since 1946.

C 195. Family Cemeteries. 19th and 20th centuries.

Collection of family plots grouped loosely together on a large, heavily wooded parcel on the east side of the dirt lane. Some are fenced, some have no marked boundaries. Among those buried here are Benjamin Ballance, died 1891, and Capt. Wesley Austin (1864-1941).

C 196. Tom Ballance House. ca. 1910.

One of several pyramidal cottages surviving on Ocracoke. This one has an engaged front porch, partially screened and enclosed, a rear shed, 2/2 sash, asbestos shingles, and a replacement concrete flue and some jalousie windows. Local tradition indicates that it was built for Tom Ballance (1889-1956) on land that had been in the Ballance family since the 19th century. A rail fence encloses the front yard.

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C a. Storage building. 1930s? Large, hipped roof, six-over-six sash, and German siding.

Corky's Road: West Side

C 197. Albert Styron House. 1920s.

Large Colonial Revival style Foursquare, with wraparound porch with tapering boxed posts, and a hipped front dormer. Other original features are the front door located in the north front bay, 2/2 sash, and the exterior end corbelled chimney. The building has aluminum siding. Oleanders, cedars, and a rail fence surround the house. It is significant as the home of one of Ocracoke's most celebrated captains, a fisherman known as "Big Albert." Albert M. Styron (1893-1956) purchased the property in 1920 (DB 44, 242), and it remains in the Styron family. Capt. Albert also operated the adjacent store (# 171).

NC a. Storage building. ca. 1980.

NC 198. Styron-O'Neal Rental House. ca. 1962.

Jim Walter-type three-bay ranch with side screened porch, German siding.

C 199. Norman Styron Rental House. ca. 1950

Small three-bay, side gabled 1-story house with small hipped front porch, asbestos siding.

NC 200. Scarborough Mobile Home.

Mobile home with 2-story frame addition.

C 201. Clarence Scarborough House. 1920s.

Front-gabled, three-bay wide bungalow with wood shake siding, hipped front porch with tapered box posts on brick stanchions, exterior and interior brick chimneys, and diamond window in front gable end. Built for Clarence Scarborough, who operated the adjacent store. A rail fence borders the yard.

C 202. (former) Corky's Store. 1920s.

Front-gabled three-bay wide frame store with pedimented front porch with

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tapered boxed posts, 2/2 sash windows, and vertical sheathing. The store was originally operated by Clarence Scarborough, who lived next door (#201) and later by Corky Mason, for whom the road is known as "Corky's Road." Corky, from Atlantic, N.C., married a local girl and they ran the store in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

C 203. George W. Simpson, Jr. House. Early 20th c.?

Story and a jump with replacement exterior end chimney, 6/6 and 4/4 sash, wrap-around porch, now screened. About 1920 a 2-story wing was added to the south side, creating an L-shaped house. Both sections have wood shake siding. An early owner was George W. Simpson, Jr. (1892-1960). The yard has thickly clustered cedar trees.

Picket fence.

Cistern: Round, domed brick type.

C 204. Benjamin Joseph Garrish, Jr. House. ca. 1920.

Two-story, side-gable, three bay wide, single pile house with original interior end brick chimney, 2/2 sash, rear ell, wraparound porch with turned posts, now screened, and wood shake siding over original weatherboard. Local tradition indicates that this house was built for Benjamin Garrish (1885-1941).

Cistern: Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

C 205. (former) Leslie Garrish Tavern. 1930s.

Front-gabled house with hipped front porch, now screened, asbestos shingles, and small 2-story addition at the rear covered with masonite siding. Original owner Leslie Garrish operated a beer parlor or tavern here during the 1930s.

Corky's Road: east side

C 206. Capt. Wesley Austin House I. ca. 1915.

Story and a jump with rear shed, hipped front porch, now enclosed, 2/2 sash windows, asbestos siding. Built for lighthouse keeper Leon Wesley Austin, this was subsequently owned by Sam Jones.

NC a. Storage building. 1970s? shed-roofed, plywood sheathing.

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Picket fence.

C 207. Capt. Wesley Austin House II. 1926.

Substantial Craftsman style house that looks like a 1-story Foursquare, with a hipped roof, front and side hipped dormers, and hipped front porch, now enclosed. Rear kitchen ell, original weatherboard and interior corbelled chimney. Capt. Wesley Austin (1864-1941), the Ocracoke lighthouse keeper from ca. 1912-1930, acquired the property in 1924 (DB 47, 350) and had this house built two years later. His daughter Wilma Williams owned it until recently. It now has vinyl siding.

C a. Wash House. ca. 1926. Two-room, side gabled building, vertical sheathing.

Picket fence.

Cistern: Rectangular, barrel-vaulted brick type.

C 208. David S. Williams House. ca. 1900.

Unique variation on the traditional story and a jump, with two front cross-gables giving additional light to the attic rooms. Original weatherboard, 2/2 sash, and wraparound porch with replacement posts. Early rear shed addition. Built for David S. Williams (1875-1956).

NC a. Jim Walter-type four-bay wide frame ranch. ca. 1975. Located at the rear of the property.

C 209. John N. Midgette House. 1933.

Front-gabled, three-bay wide bungalow with gable-on-hip roof, engaged front porch with tapered posts on brick stanchions, interior corbelled chimney, and wood shake siding. Built for John N. Midgette, whose son Carl Midgette, current owner, uses it as a summer cottage.

C 210. Warren Williams House. 1870s.

Unusually small story and a jump house with exterior corbelled brick chimney, 2/2 sash, hipped front porch, now enclosed, rear shed, asphalt siding over original weatherboard. Tradition suggests that this house was built for Warren

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Williams (1847-1926) in the 1870s, and an 1889 deed states that his house was standing on this parcel.

C a. Storage building. 1930s? Gabled, asphalt siding.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY:

The Ocracoke Historic District has statewide significance under Criterion A, in the areas of Exploration/Settlement and Social History, and under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The Ocracoke Historic District is North Carolina's only surviving, inhabited, Outer Banks island settlement to retain much of its historic character. The approximately 200 acre district, fanning out in an arc around Silver Lake Harbor, consists of the densest concentration of historic resources surviving in Ocracoke village, including the 1823 Ocracoke Lighthouse (the oldest surviving lighthouse still in use on the North Carolina coast), the 1942 Coast Guard Station, several historic commercial buildings, and over 100 houses built primarily between the 1880s and the 1930s. The period of significance extends from the earliest extant resources, built in the 1820s, to 1959, the year that Ocracoke entered the modern era. Some forty-six primary buildings built between 1940 and 1959, and an equal number of contemporary outbuildings are of exceptional significance because of their continuation of traditional Ocracoke building practices.

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT AND SOCIAL HISTORY CONTEXTS

Although North Carolina's picturesque coastline contains a number of historic port settlements, most notably the towns of Edenton, Beaufort, Washington, Elizabeth City, Swansboro and Wilmington, very little historic settlement remains on the Outer Banks, the barrier islands which border much of the coastline and which figured so prominently in the early exploration and settlement of the state. These "barrier islands" are well named, for they have always impeded ship access to the mainland. Ships could cross through the banks only at narrow inlets, and then faced the problems of navigating the shifting sand bars of the shallow sounds.

Ocracoke village cannot be compared to these mainland port towns, connected to major metropolitan areas by railroads and highways and whose eighteenth and nineteenth century prosperity resulted in the construction of large, stylish buildings set in grid-patterned blocks. Such towns as Beaufort and Wilmington have large historic districts containing well-maintained nineteenth century houses, enhanced by large hardwood trees and cultivated lawns.

Ocracoke can be understood only by comparison with other Outer Banks settlements, which share the inaccessibility, the shifting, sandy topography, the stunted vegetation, and the exposure to storms. Coastal historian David Stick's

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definitive history, The Outer Banks of North Carolina, chronicles the rise and fall of dozens of tiny settlements, but notes that by the mid-eighteenth century the two largest communities on the Outer Banks had become Pilot Town (Ocracoke) and Portsmouth, which flanked Ocracoke Inlet, the most important inlet in the state. Until 1846 practically all trade into northern North Carolina was funneled through Ocracoke Inlet.¹

Portsmouth was the most important of the two settlements because it was established by the North Carolina Colonial Assembly in 1753 as the official state customs and warehouse facility for ocean shipping. This transshipping facility was necessary because ocean ships could enter Ocracoke Inlet and safely anchor in the Pamlico Sound, but, because of the shoals, could not cross the sound to the mainland. Ship owners and traders were "obliged to employ small vessels, in lightening others of greater burden over the swatch, which is not only very expensive, but also very dangerous."² For this reason, Portsmouth was developed with wharves, warehouses, a customs house, and a marine hospital. At its peak, in 1860, it had a population of 600 persons and 105 dwelling houses.³

Ocracoke village was settled early in the 18th century by pilots, who guided ships across Pamlico Sound, and was known by the late 18th century as "Pilot Town." Ocracoke never had the official government functions of Portsmouth, which is perhaps one reason that the settlement still survives. Portsmouth was evacuated during the Civil War and was gradually abandoned as a governmental customs port. It never recovered its economic viability. By 1861 Ocracoke Inlet, its reason for being, had lost its status as the chief North Carolina inlet to Hatteras Inlet at the north end of Ocracoke Island. This new inlet, cut through the banks in 1846 by a heavy storm, gradually siphoned shipping away from Ocracoke Inlet and became the major inlet by the 1860s. Prior to 1846 Ocracoke was attached to the northern Outer Banks, forming a peninsula extending south from Cape Hatteras. Even though Hatteras Inlet handled almost all traffic by the 1860s, this was the beginning of the decline of coastal shipping in general due to the railroad. Modern age ocean freighters could more economically enter a port with railroad facilities, such as Morehead City, and eliminate the bothersome process of "lightening."⁴

Portsmouth gradually declined to a handful of residents. In 1880 there were 44 dwellings on the island. The Portsmouth Lifesaving Station closed in 1938. By 1959 there were less than 15 residents left. In the 1970s the island was acquired as part of the Cape Lookout National Seashore, and Portsmouth Village is now maintained as a ghost town.⁵

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The third most important settlement on the Outer Banks was probably Diamond City, near Cape Lookout. This was a village of whalers, with a population of about 500 people by the late 19th century. The village was devastated by the Hurricane of 1899, and within three years all had left, floating their houses across the sound to the mainland.⁶ Many went to Harkers Island, in Carteret County, and many others relocated their houses to the "Promised Land" on Bogue Sound in the town of Morehead City.⁷ Diamond City is not even a ghost town; it has simply disappeared.

Numerous small nineteenth century communities survive in some form on the Outer Banks. The most notable of these are Corolla, Duck, Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, Hatteras, Wash Woods, Seagull, Colington, Kinnakeet/Avon and Buxton. Some of these settlements grew up around lighthouses and lifesaving facilities built by the U.S. Life Saving Service, and later by the U.S. Coast Guard. The three major lighthouses on the North Carolina coast are at the three major capes-Cape Hatteras, Cape Lookout, and Cape Fear-and there are a series of Life Saving Stations and Coast Guard Stations dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Most of these are listed in the National Register. Settlements grew up around these facilities in the late 19th century and faded away when the stations were closed. Some of the Outer Banks settlements, such as Nags Head, Corolla and Kitty Hawk, were founded as resorts, and retain small concentrations of historic resources, but have undergone tremendous modern development that has either damaged or erased their historic village atmosphere.

Seen in the context of the exploration and settlement of the Outer Banks, and the social history of the settlers, Ocracoke is the last surviving historic community on the banks. Families such as the Williams, the Howards, the Garishes, the Gaskins, the Gaskills, the O'Neals, the Braggs, the Jacksons and the Scarboroughs still living in Ocracoke village trace their ancestry back to the 18th century pilots in "Pilot Town". The village is still a living entity, and the old stories of shipwrecks, of heroic deeds, of the great hurricanes, of the wild horses that once roamed the island, and of the colorful characters bred by the isolation of the Outer Banks, are passed down from one generation to another.

ARCHITECTURE CONTEXT

Perhaps the only comparable collection of historic buildings which compare to the Ocracoke Historic District is in Portsmouth Village. As of 1977, when Portsmouth Village was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it contained about 25 primary buildings, with various outbuildings, located along narrow grass-covered lanes in secluded settings among the native vegetation. His-

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torian Leonard E. Brown, who prepared the nomination, described a sense of compartmentalization caused by the meandering system of roads and the dense vegetation surrounding each house. He dated most of the buildings between the late 19th and the early 20th century, and described them as vernacular in design. The only architectural style which he could label was the Bungalow, although he felt that the early 20th century Portsmouth Coast Guard Station had Stick Style elements.

An examination of photographs of a sampling of the buildings indicates that two of the earlier houses, the Henry Pigott House and the Old Grace (Wallace) House are the same story and a jump form found at Ocracoke. Although the nomination describes them as two-story, they are actually one-story with a habitable attic, lit by gable end windows and by front cross gable windows. The Pigott House has a hipped front porch; the Grace House has a shed front porch. The Pigott House contains the associated structures typical of an Ocracoke homestead, with a detached kitchen, several storage sheds and a privy, all enclosed by a picket fence. One noticeable difference between these Portsmouth houses and Ocracoke houses is the degree of alteration. Portsmouth houses, abandoned as year-round residences many years ago and functioning now as vacation cottages or simply abandoned, have not undergone the replacement of siding, the enclosure of porches, and the additions that characterize most Ocracoke houses. Portsmouth is a museum village; Ocracoke is a living village.

Therefore the buildings, setting, road system, and landscaping of Portsmouth village are quite similar to Ocracoke village, but there is one major distinction. Because Portsmouth has been abandoned for so many years, only a portion of the story of the village can be read from its buildings. Ocracoke still contains the whole story, but that story is now undergoing dilution from new construction. Ocracoke can never be a museum village, but the use of height controls, design review and the preservation of native vegetation and open space will allow the old and new to coexist.

Analysis of the particular building types found on Ocracoke, from the story and a jump to the I-House, the Foursquare, the Pyramidal Cottage and the Bungalow, indicates nothing unique. All of these house types also form the bulk of housing between the mid-19th century and the mid-20th century on the North Carolina mainland. Because of Ocracoke's coastal location, the visitor is tempted to look for the "coastal cottage," characterized by its wide front porch engaged beneath a steep gable roof. Such engaged porches, found both on one-story and two-story houses, are characteristic of antebellum houses along the mainland coast. Their absence on Ocracoke may simply be the result of at-

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trition: being primarily an antebellum house type, they have not survived on the island. An alternate reason may be that this type of porch roof, with rafters integral to the main roof extending out to shelter the porch, surely requires more wooden timbers than the shallow shed or hip porch roof characteristic of Ocracoke story and a jump houses. On an island where house framing was often salvaged from wrecked ships, the engaged porch may have been an unavailable luxury. Two-story porches are also characteristic of the North Carolina coast, beginning in the eighteenth century, but only one Ocracoke house is known to have had a double porch. The William Charles Thomas House (#130), ca. 1899, a large I-House said to have been modeled on West Indian houses which Capt. Thomas had seen on his voyages, originally had a double front porch, and the upper porch entrance is still visible. The entire porch blew off in the hurricane of 1944 and has never been rebuilt.

What is unique about Ocracoke architecture is the collective totality of houses, churches, stores, lighthouse and coast guard station set on small lots in clusters arranged by kinship rather than by deliberate design, connected by a network of meandering paths, without street names or numbers, their privacy maintained not only by picket fences but by walls of native vegetation. The traditional Ocracoke homestead with its finely crafted brick cistern, storage houses, and family graveyard all crowded into a small sandy clearing is a very architecturally significant entity, found in no other area of North Carolina except the Outer Banks, and in no other surviving village except Ocracoke. Rain water cisterns are certainly found at historic homesteads elsewhere in North Carolina, but not as a standard feature as they are in Ocracoke. The best preserved street in the Ocracoke historic district, Howard Street, remains a sandy path, bordered by historic homesteads, picket fences, family graveyards and dense vegetation. There is not another streetscape like it anywhere in the state.

EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF 1941-1959 PERIOD CONTEXT

Most of the 35 contributing buildings and about the same number of outbuildings in the district built between 1941 and 1959 are of exceptional significance in North Carolina architecture and social history primarily because they represent a continuation of the local traditions which make the pre-1941 architecture of the district significant. These local building traditions are the small scale, the use of cisterns, the traditional sandy fenced yard and dense vegetative enclosure, and the use of vernacular design or the conservative interpretation of popular style by local builders. The local social traditions which continued during this period are the extended family networks which determined placement of new dwellings, maritime occupations, and the isolation of island life. There are surely few backwater areas in the state where architecture and

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society remained so traditional during the 1940s and 1950s as on Ocracoke. Elsewhere in North Carolina, the post World War II years marked the large scale construction of sprawling brick ranches in standardized subdivisions, of experiments in modern International Style designs for commercial and institutional buildings, and of the beginnings of commercial strips with gas stations and fast food restaurants. Post World II society became more mobile, the extended family became geographically separated, occupations became less dependent upon local resources, and television and telephones began to break down regional social traditions. This entire transformation was delayed on Ocracoke until the 1960s, and even then happened only partially. Until 1959, Ocracoke's isolation made it exceptionally significant. The resources surviving from this period reflect this significance.

The resort architecture built for island philanthropist Sam Jones in the 1950s: Berkley Manor (#3), Berkley Castle (#124), Whittlers Cottage (#125) and Jones' own house (#134), is of exceptional significance not because it represents Ocracoke traditions, but because it represents the last manifestation of a regional Outer Banks tradition, the grand hunting lodge. Such extravagant lodges were built as hunting clubs for wealthy duck hunters from the late 19th century well into the early 20th century on the North Carolina Outer Banks. The most famous of these is the Whalehead Club [NR], on the banks near Corolla in Currituck County. This was built in the 1920s, and the one-story building has a deep hip roof with a long row of dormer windows that give it an almost Chateausque appearance, although the detailing is influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement.⁸ The design of Berkley Castle, with its deep hip roof and double rows of dormer windows, may have been influenced by the Whalehead Club, which Jones would have known in his travels back and forth from Norfolk to Ocracoke. The "Sam Jones style" is really based on the Williamsburg Colonial Revival, with the substitution of wood shakes for clapboard, and the multiplicity of wings and dormers and tall towers give a picturesque eclecticism to the designs.

Sam Jones' hobby was building and he admired colonial Virginia architectural design. His residence in Norfolk, Sajo Farm (the name is a combination of the first two letters of his first and last names), is a huge brick house copied after Berkley Plantation in northern Virginia. The most important influence on his Ocracoke buildings was Colonial Williamsburg architecture, which Jones loved. He added wooden shakes to the surfaces of the Ocracoke buildings because of their practicality for the island climate.⁹ The wood shakes and towers characteristic of North Carolina lifesaving stations may have been a secondary influence. Wood shingles and towers have remained popular architectural elements in Ocracoke since the 1950s, and island residents refer to such buildings

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as being in the "Sam Jones style." Neither was a residential architectural tradition on Ocracoke prior to Sam Jones' construction projects. Jones' buildings in the Ocracoke Historic District can certainly lay claim to exceptional significance.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Ocracoke was settled by the early eighteenth century, but violent coastal storms are believed to have destroyed all significant construction built prior to the late nineteenth century with the notable exception of the 1823 Ocracoke Lighthouse and a handful of small houses. The lighthouse is the oldest light still in use along the Carolina coast and the earliest extant structure on Ocracoke (#168a). The lighthouse keeper's quarters, a one and one-half story detached house, also of brick, was built at the same time. It is extant (#168b), but was expanded to a two-story duplex in 1896 and has lost its original form and appearance.

Ocracoke has a long and colorful history full of tales of Blackbeard and other pirates, much of which is not well-documented, but there is limited physical evidence predating the late nineteenth century. As early as 1715 North Carolina's colonial assembly passed an act for settling and maintaining pilots at Ocracoke Inlet.¹⁰ In 1718 notorious pirate Edward Teach, known as "Blackbeard," was killed by the British Navy at a spot now known as "Teaches Hole" south of Ocracoke village near the Ocracoke Inlet.¹¹ Until 1770 when it was annexed to Carteret County, Ocracoke was an isolated independent island.¹²

Historian Stick thinks it probable that the earliest settlement on Ocracoke was located at Cackle Creek (present-day Silver Lake), about three miles east of the inlet, for by the 1770s this was the location of "Pilot Town," present-day Ocracoke Village.¹³ Ocracoke Inlet remained open to American traffic during the American Revolution, with tobacco, pork, powder, ammunition, salt and other necessary supplies transported through the dangerous inlet with the assistance of Ocracoke pilots.¹⁴ Between the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Ocracoke developed from a remote outpost of pilots into a small maritime village.¹⁵ In 1845, Ocracoke was reassigned to Hyde County and has been a part of Hyde County since that time.¹⁶ Since Ocracoke's significance today is derived primarily from its role as a fishing village in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, this historical summary deals primarily with the island's history following the Civil War.

Ocracoke's land use patterns were already well established by the time of the Civil War, with the major property owners associated with the island having al-

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ready acquired land and settled upon it. The earliest relevant property transfer on Ocracoke is the 1759 sale of approximately one-half the island to William Williams (dates unknown) by William Howard, Sr. (1700-ca.1795), who had owned the entire island of Ocracoke (Hyde County D.B. A, 708). Both Howard and Williams families have been associated with the island since that time, and have made numerous land transfers that have developed the community. Howard, the fourth known colonial era owner, had acquired the property from Richard Sanderson of Perquimans County and is the first of the early owners known to have established his home on the island.¹⁷

The Civil War, of course, interrupted Ocracoke's trade with both mainland and distant ports and provided dangerous wartime conditions for fishermen and other mariners. But following the war there was a gradual rebuilding of the island's simple water-based economy as trade resumed along the Carolina coast. Throughout the rest of the century Ocracoke grew and developed as a result of this trade. The island benefited from improved life saving measures, navigational progress and innovation. In the late 1860s Ocracoke captains piloted vessels between mainland ports such as nearby Washington, North Carolina as well as more distant ports in the West Indies. Commercial fishermen worked the waters of Pamlico Sound and sold their catch to markets not only along the Sound but also in the Norfolk, Virginia area. Until 1931, when Cackle Creek was dredged to create Silver Lake, the lack of a convenient, safe, deep harbor prevented large ships from docking at Ocracoke. Large ships anchored out from shore, and cargos were unloaded by smaller boats.

Throughout the remainder of the 19th and early 20th centuries, a small number of families subdivided their land repeatedly to provide buildable lots within the village for children, grandchildren and other relatives. Lots were also sold to the few off-islanders moving to the island for employment with the Life Saving Service, or occasionally to a mainlander wanting land for a vacation house.

The organization in 1874 of the Life Saving Service (which merged with the U.S. Coast Guard in 1910) was an event of major significance for Ocracoke, for two of North Carolina's eighteen stations were established on the island. The first station was built in 1883 at Hatteras Inlet on the northern end of Ocracoke and the second was built in 1904 in Ocracoke village.¹⁸ The arrival of the first life guard station brought changes to the tiny island. The effectiveness of the station personnel coupled with the simultaneous appearance of steamboats that drew less water and maneuvered more quickly than sailboats brought the old occupation of piloting to an end. The men who had once piloted boats over the dangerous Ocracoke Swash in Pamlico Sound now accepted positions as cap-

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tains on boats owned by well-to-do merchants in Washington, North Carolina and other port cities.¹⁹

The economic impact of the Life Saving Service was also felt on the island with the emergence of a group of residents with a regular dependable income as well as in new opportunities for boat captains and others engaged in commerce. There were also a few maritime industries that processed and shipped seafood products such as the Doxsee Clam Factory that developed near the mouth of the Cockle Creek harbor in the late 19th century.²⁰ Consequently, the late 19th century saw the construction of the island's first known two-story houses, grand by Ocracoke standards, as well as the establishment of several new stores and a second Methodist congregation.

In the period of relative prosperity following the establishment of the life saving station, life saving personnel such as David Williams (#2) and James Hatton Wahab (#4), merchants such as John Wilson McWilliams (#126), and freight boat captains such as William Charles Thomas (#130) built substantial and even fairly elaborate houses by Ocracoke standards. These houses are still Ocracoke landmarks, and represent the zenith of Ocracoke's prosperity during the historic period.

ISLAND ECONOMY AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE

The federal census records for Ocracoke for the years up to 1900 reveal the dominance of maritime occupations on the island. Only a few non-seafaring occupations, such as dry goods merchant, grocer, carpenter, day laborer, seamstress and shoemaker, are reported. The primary occupations during this period were sailor (or mariner or seafarer), fisherman, oysterman, boat pilot, boat captain, boat builder, net-tyer, and various other maritime occupations. A few much-coveted positions such as lighthouse keeper or employee of the U.S. Life Saving Service were also maritime in nature.²¹ Such jobs were coveted not only because of the prestige of the position but also because of the dependable salary. Financial security was rare on Ocracoke where not only a man's life but the support of his family depended on the productivity and safety of his sailing vessel. As in most traditional communities, men were the primary wage earners and most women kept house and performed domestic chores. The small garden plots that were part of most homesteads would have been women's work. Generally, Ocracoke men spent substantial periods of time away from home engaged in seafaring occupations.

The precarious nature of Ocracoke's seafaring occupations is well-illustrated through a tradition concerning the Samuel Dudley Bragg family. In 1869 Bragg

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(1836-1902) sold his property, the Chase-Bragg-Boos House (#190), to his wife and all his children and children to come [Hyde County D.B.10, 307.] Although this seems a curious sale, local tradition holds that as a seafaring man, he was afraid he would be lost at sea and wanted to make sure that his wife and children would have property. And, in fact, this is exactly what happened. Bragg, like many Ocracoke mariners, was lost at sea.²²

By the early 20th century Ocracoke's fish houses were major supplies to such east coast fish markets as the Fulton Fish Market in New York City, bringing considerable revenue to the island. During the first two decades of the 20th century prosperous merchants such as Amasa Fulcher (#51), who operated a store on Cockle Creek, and freight boat captains such as Isaac O'Neal (#80) had substantial houses constructed. A number of enterprising residents were able to make a good living by combining service-related jobs with nontraditional maritime occupations. The John Wilson McWilliams family (#126), for example, owned livestock at free range "down below," in the marshes between the village and Hatteras Inlet to the northeast, and had such products as sheep wool for sale to markets in Newport News. Will and Sigma Willis (#10) had a store on Cockle Creek and operated a mailboat. Walter O'Neal built a second house in 1918 which was an elaborate foursquare style. O'Neal was a fisherman, a hunting guide for visiting mainlanders, and operated a freight boat and a mail boat to Hatteras. O'Neal's house was on Harbor Loop Road, on the present site of the Silver Lake Motel Annex (#19). It was moved outside the district ca. 1988 in order to save it.

RELIGION

The earliest record of the presence of a church on the island is in 1828 when the Ocracoke-Portsmouth Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established. From 1828 to the outbreak of the Civil War, clergymen of the Methodist Episcopal Church served the island's religious needs. From 1861 to 1869, however, the unsettled wartime and postwar conditions left Ocracoke without a clergyman. By 1885 the prospering Ocracoke community was able to support two Methodist congregations, one Methodist Episcopal Church, South congregation and one Methodist Episcopal Church congregation.²³ The presence of two congregations reflects the two somewhat separate communities within the village: the "around creek" or "up trent" section east of the harbor, and the "down point" section near Springer's Point, toward the Portsmouth channel. These two congregations united and built one building out of the two previous buildings in 1943, the present United Methodist Church (#115), located in the "up creek" section. A new congregation was formed "down point" as an Assembly of God Church (#162). Both of these 1940s church buildings are still in

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use.

EDUCATION

There was a school on Ocracoke Island as early as 1806, and in 1808 William Howard sold to the Ocracoke School Committee a parcel on which to build a school.²⁴ Later in the first half of the century there were two schools on the island. Both were destroyed during the Civil War and were apparently rebuilt.²⁵ In the 1870s a school, known as "Captain Wilson's School," is said to have been established for the benefit of the children of the families of the Life Saving Service.²⁶ The earliest known school building which has survived is the central section of the Island Inn (#147), built in 1901 as the Oddfellows Lodge, with the first floor serving as the public school. By this time the two schools had apparently been combined. It served this purpose until 1917 when a new school was built on Schoolhouse Road. This school, a one-story frame building, was used until 1971 when it was demolished and the present school building erected. It is outside the historic district.

RESORT LIFE

The late 19th century marked the beginning of Ocracoke's development as a resort. Mainlanders apparently first had summer houses built on the island in the 1870s. The house built by Washington, North Carolina sawmill owner Beverly Moss about 1890 stood on the east side of the Back Road until recently. It was a modestly stylish Victorian cottage. In 1885 a group of mainland businessmen opened the first hotel on the island, the Ocracoke Hotel, a two and one-half story frame building with a double wrap-around porch, on the northeast side of Cockle Creek near the present Coast Guard Station. Vacationers came to the hotel on two steamers, the "Hatteras" and the "Ocracoke," which plied between Washington and New Bern, North Carolina out to the island. It was so successful that it was enlarged after the first year, and continued to be popular until the hurricane of 1899 seriously damaged the building. Although it continued in operation, a kitchen fire in the spring of 1900 completely destroyed the building and it was not rebuilt.²⁷

A second hotel was built during this period, the less lavish Doxsee House (no longer standing), a two-and-one half story frame building with a one-story wrap-around porch, built in 1897 at the Cockle Creek entrance near the present site of the Ocracoke Crab Company (#136). This featured a hunting lodge, boarding house, and dance hall, and operated until 1920. Auxiliary buildings on the site contained the Doxsee Clam Factory, an early seafood processing plant on the island. The factory apparently shut down about the same time as the lodge.²⁸

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Another aspect of Ocracoke's resort life was its popularity as a hunting retreat. Until the 1940s or 1950s the island was a very popular duck hunting area, and islanders earned good livings serving as hunting guides to mainland visitors. Hunters often stayed in tiny cabins located out in the marshes, all of which are now gone except for three 1940s cabins which stood in the area known as "Quork Hammock" at the northern end of the island along Highway 12 until they were moved to the Harbor Loop Road after the Park Service opened the National Seashore Park. They are now known as the Gaskill Rental Cabins (#122). One of the earliest inns on Ocracoke, the Sound Front Inn (#190), got its start in the early 20th century when owner Gary Bragg rented rooms to hunters and fishermen. One of the first buildings which Sam Jones built on Ocracoke was the Green Island Hunting Club, located "down below" in the marshes to the northeast. He brought business associates there to hunt. This has been demolished.

THE DEPRESSION

The economic hardships of the 1930s had a severe effect on Ocracoke. Resort business diminished, and the weekly supply boat reduced its scheduled trips to the island. Markets for Ocracoke seafood were reduced and maritime jobs were cut back. Ocracoke had some modest assistance from the federal government during the 1930s, but the only documented example is a women's sewing room set up in the Walter O'Neal House (#111) by the Works Progress Administration. In general, Ocracokers subsisted from the sea and small gardens. One of the most far-reaching events of this period was the dredging of Cockle Creek to create a harbor, allowing ships to anchor on shore for the first time. This was done by the Army Corps of Engineers,²⁹ but because of the Depression it did not stimulate economic development until later. Native Ocracoker Robert Stanly Wahab laid the groundwork for Ocracoke's modern tourist development during this period. He built a hotel (now known as the Island Inn) out of the old Oddfellows Lodge, and built the first ice plant and electric plant on Cockle Creek in 1936 (#21).

WORLD WAR II

Because of its strategic position along the North Carolina coast, Ocracoke was an important Coast Guard base during both world wars. During World War II Ocracoke also had a Navy Base, which was called the Navy Section Base from 1942 to 1944, and the Amphibious Training Station in 1944 and 1945. The base was located near the U.S. Coast Guard Station at the harbor entrance, and Cockle Creek was dredged for the second time to allow navy boat traffic to use

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the harbor. At that time, the harbor was named Silver Lake.

In 1942 the navy recovered the bodies of four crewmen from the British vessel "H.M.S. Bedfordshire," which was sunk by a German submarine enroute from Norfolk to Morehead City, and brought them to Ocracoke for burial.³⁰ Now known as the British Cemetery, this small graveyard (#61) located adjacent to private family cemeteries in the "Up Creek" area is one of the best known historic sites on the island, revered by islanders as a reminder of the island's proximity to military encounters during World War II and its role in the war effort.

The hurricane of 1944, the worst storm that Ocracoke has suffered during the 20th century, marked the demise of naval operations at the Ocracoke naval base. The base was closed, and all of the buildings were sold and moved away or taken apart and reused in numerous Ocracoke buildings that still stand. The 1944 hurricane even left one local landmark known as the Hurricane House (#142), a story and a jump house built about 1900 that has a written record of the hurricane inscribed by the resident during the storm. Although moved and renovated, one wall retains a portion of the report, which noted that six houses were demolished by the storm.

POST-WORLD WAR II

The late 1940s and 1950s were a period of slow changes on the island which brought about the modern tourist era. The chief factors that created modern Ocracoke were the establishment of the National Seashore in 1953 and the establishment of state-operated ferries. Since the late 1930s, the state of North Carolina had been acquiring island land outside of Ocracoke village in order to create the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.³¹ The first regular ferry to serve Ocracoke was private. It was begun in the late 1940s by Frazier Peele of Hatteras, and operated across Hatteras Inlet. But this was at the north end of the island, and Route 12 between Ocracoke village and Hatteras Inlet, a distance of thirteen miles, was not paved, so that this four-car ferry had limited impact on the village. Between 1957 and 1959 the state paved Route 12, bought out Peele's ferry service, and instituted free ferry service from Ocracoke to Hatteras. The state toll ferries from Swan Quarter, on the Hyde County mainland, and from Cedar Island, on the Carteret County mainland, which take two hours to make the crossing, were established ca. 1960. Until 1960 a freight boat from Washington, North Carolina delivered weekly supplies to Ocracoke, but this was discontinued after the state ferries began. Other mail boats connected the island to the Morehead-Beaufort area and to the fishing village of Atlantic, also in Carteret County, but Washington was the mainland market to which Ocracoke

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was most closely connected during the 19th and first half of the 20th century.

Sam Jones, of Norfolk, Virginia, was one of the most influential shapers of Ocracoke during the 1950s. Jones (1893-1977) owned the Berkley Machine Works and Foundry Company in Berkley, a suburb of Norfolk, and he spent much time on Ocracoke from the 1950s to his death in 1977. In addition to his own large house, he built two large lodges, Berkley Manor (#3) and Berkley Castle (#124), in which to entertain business clients of his company. These were such big projects that they stimulated the local economy and provided jobs for numerous islanders. Out of his love for the people of Ocracoke, he built the Whittlers' Cottage (#125) as a gathering place for retired fishermen. Jones was born near Swan Quarter, county seat of Hyde County, where his father was postmaster. He trained as a machinist, and in 1913 went to Norfolk to work for the Berkley Machine Works. He later acquired ownership of the company. He became interested in Ocracoke in the 1920s, and married Ruth Kelly, of Belhaven, North Carolina, who was descended from the Howard family of Ocracoke.³²

THE MODERN ERA: 1959 TO THE PRESENT

Today, trucks and not boats bring most goods to Ocracoke. The seafood industry, although still a vital island activity, is secondary to tourism, which affects every islander directly or indirectly. While the typical visitor in the past came to the island to enjoy its primitive isolation, a growing number are seeking more luxurious accommodations in the hotels, inns, and condominiums that are beginning to be built. The biggest changes have come since 1980, and are caused by multi-story motel and condo buildings that dwarf the historic buildings. Fortunately, the commercial-type development that creates a "strip" is building up along Highway 12 away from the historic village, but the threat to the historic district is from multi-story motel and condo buildings that dwarf the historic buildings. The major intrusion in the district at the present time is the Anchorage Inn (#5), which rises four and one-half stories on the harbor loop road overlooking Silver Lake. It is constructed of brick, a non-traditional material that clashes with the traditional frame construction around it. The Ocracoke historic district documented in this nomination retains its architectural and historical integrity as the surviving late 19th and early 20th century Outer Banks community, but this integrity is fragile, and needs the protection of both National Register listing and the design guidelines incorporated in local historic district designation.

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FOOTNOTES

1 David Stick, The Outer Banks of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1958. p. 43.

2 Stick, 305.

3 Kenneth E. Burke, Jr. The History of Portsmouth, North Carolina. privately printed by the author, 1974.

4 Stick, 296.

5 Portsmouth Village National Register Nomination, 1977, copy at the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

6 Stick, 311.

7 Author's personal knowledge, gathered from visits in Carteret County.

8 Whalehead Club National Register Nomination, 1980, copy at North Carolina Preservation Office, Raleigh.

9 Telephone interview with Sam Jones Jr., Norfolk, April 24, 1990, by the author. Sam Jones Jr. is the oldest of Sam Jones' five children. Berkley Machine Works & Foundry Company, PO Box 5566, Norfolk, Va. 23523 (telephone 804-545-3561).

10 Hyde County History (hereinafter cited as History), Hyde County Historical Society, 1976. p. 5.

11 Stick, 300.

12 Ibid., p. 7.

13 Stick, 300.

14 Ibid., p. 7.

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15 There is little documentation concerning life in this period other than the records of shipwrecks, deeds and census accounts. These records support the slow but steady growth of the little village.

16 History, p. 7.

17 A substantial amount of research into early deeds, birth and marriage records, and census records has been accomplished by local residents Ellen Marie Cloud and Ward Garrish and was shared with the district survey team, Genevieve and Timothy Keller. Cloud and Garrish have compiled chains of titles dating back to the 18th century for a number of the properties, and have compiled historical and anecdotal accounts of many of the principal property owners and their families. These files are kept by Ellen Marie Cloud at her Ocracoke residence and can be reviewed by appointment.

18 History, p. 11.

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid., p. 34.

21 U.S. Census Records up to and including 1900, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N.C.

22 This story was related to Tim and Genny Keller by Ellen Marie Cloud, March 1987.

23 History, pp. 46-48.

24 Carteret County D.B. P, 243: Edwin Daily, school master, rents land for a house, pig pen and fig orchard from John Williams, 1806; Carteret County D.B. P, 186: deed from William Howard to Ocracoke School Committee, 1808.

25 Educational records, copies of which are in the collection

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of Ellen Marie Cloud, prove this early history. Among these records is an 1867 letter to the Superintendent of the Hyde County schools stating that both schools were destroyed during the war and requesting that both be rebuilt.

26 History, p. 48.

27 History, p. 28.

28 History, p. 57.

29 History, p. 52.

30 History, p. 38-41.

31 Author's interview with Bebe Woody, National Park Service, Cape Hatteras National Seashore, April 19, 1990; David Stick, The Outer Banks of North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1958. p. 300.

32 Author's interview with Sam Jones, Jr., Norfolk, Va. April 24, 1990.

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OCRACOKE HISTORIC DISTRICT, Hyde County, North Carolina

All negatives are in the photographic archives of the State Historic Preservation Office unless otherwise indicated.

All properties were field checked in the spring of 1990 and their condition and integrity have not changed since the dates of these photographs.

All properties are contributing unless otherwise noted.

A. Howard Street View. 1988. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in the collection of the photographer.

B. Ocracoke Lighthouse and Keepers' Quarters. April, 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in collection of the photographer. (Inv. #168)

C. Aerial Photograph of Ocracoke Historic District looking northwest. 1988. Ann Ehringhaus. Negative in the collection of the photographer.

D. Kugler Cottage. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #140)

E. Ivey & Eliza O'Neal House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northeast. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #183)

F. Simon & Sarah Garrish House, Howard Street. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from west. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #89)

G. William I. & Eliza O'Neal House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from southwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #177)

H. Stacy Howard House, Howard Street. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #95)

I. Lawrence Howard House, Howard Street. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from west. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #94)

J. Charlie W. Garrish, Sr. House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from southwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #63)

K. Isaac O'Neal House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from southwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #80)

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- L. Capt. William Charles Thomas House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from east. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #130)
- M. Amasa Fulcher House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #51)
- N. Chase-Bragg-Boos House (Sound Front Inn). April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from west. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #190)
- O. Gillis Riddick House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from southwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #50)
- P. Maggie & Charlie Minor O'Neal House, rear kitchen ell. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northeast. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #45)
- Q. Storage Building at Amasa Fulcher House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #51a)
- R. Side cistern at Simon & Sarah Garrish House, Howard Street. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #89)
- S. (former) Boathouse, U.S. Lifesaving Station. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #148)
- T. Fish Bench at Dallas Williams House. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from north. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #42)
- U. George W. & Alvania O'Neal House, with family cemetery across road. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from west. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #66)
- V. Coast Guard Station. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from south. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #1)
- W. Berkley Manor. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from southwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #3)
- X. Berkley Castle. April 1990. Ann Ehringhaus. View from northwest. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #124)

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Y. (former) Willis Store and Fish House. April 1990. Ann Enrninghaus. View from southeast. Negative in the collection of the photographer. (Inv. #23)

Z. Anchorage Inn. 1986. J. T. Keller. Noncontributing. View from west. (Inv. #5)

AA. Bluff Shoal Motel. 1986. J. T. Keller. Noncontributing. View from east. (Inv. #26)

BB. James and Helen Fulcher House. 1986. J. T. Keller. Noncontributing. View from northwest. (Inv. #67)

CC. The Village Craftsman. 1986. J. T. Keller. Noncontributing. View from northeast. (Inv. #103)

DD. William Nathan Spencer House. 1986. J. T. Keller. Noncontributing. View from southwest. (Inv. #114)

[Note: Photographer Ann Erninghaus resides in Ocracoke, NC.]