

Historic Property Survey Summary

County: **Mecklenburg**SSN: **MK1378**

Blockface#:

Quad: Charlotte West

PIN: 141-11-206

X: -80.9571 Y: 35.18025

DOT Project #: U-3321

OSA#:

Update Mo: 12 Yr: 2007

☒ No Alt ☐ Alt ☐ Det ☐ Rehab☐ Removed ☐ Outbldg Loss☐ No Acc. ☐ Not Fnd ☐ FileMsg☐ Newly ID'd ☐ Needs Resch.Property Name: **Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse**Street or 911 Address: **7500 Steele Creek Road**Location Description: **W side NC 160, 0.7mi NE of jct w/ SR 1155**Town/vicinity: **Charlotte**District: **None 0**

District Dates: NRdate:

SLdate:

DOEdate:

Local District:

☐ Recommended for SL☐ StudyList SLDate:☐ NR NRDate:NR # **None**☒ DOE DOEdate: **4/14/2008**DOE Type: **ER**Local Status: **None**

Ownership:

Principal Resource Material Integrity: **High** Condition: **Good** Location Integrity: **Original**Architectural Data: Date: **1910**Major Style Group: **Colonial Revival; Craftsman/Bungalow**Construction: **Balloon Frame**Ext. Material: **Weatherboard: Plain;**

Later Covering:

Height: **2 story** Roof: **Hip**

Plan I Not known

Core Form (Domestic): **Double Pile**1st Design Source and attribution: **Brown, Paul**Major Theme **Architecture**

2nd Theme:

Group Association: **Scotch Irish**Religious Affiliation **Presbyterian**Historic Function: **Domestic - single dwelling****Written Summary:**

Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse stands as one of the more important surviving architectural resources in the rural Steele Creek community and the finest example of the Colonial Revival style. One of the oldest settlements in the county, Steele Creek took shape around Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, one of Mecklenburg County's original seven Presbyterian churches organized by Scots settlers in the mid-eighteenth century. While threatened by intense development pressure, the community retains a collection of important buildings including the Hayes-Byrum Store at Shopton, Steele Creek Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, and a small number of dwellings oriented to the store, the church, and N.C. 160 (Steele Creek Road). Dr. Dan L. Morrill, historian and director of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, observes that during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the prominent church and Steele Creek's fertile soil attracted a community of farmers, tradesmen, and professionals, who built an ensemble of unusually stylish houses for rural Mecklenburg. Commissioned by the congregation of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church for their pastor, the handsome, Colonial Revival manse neatly reflected the community's adoption of the latest architectural trend. By the 1910s, Steele Creek boasted three imposing, two-story, frame, Colonial Revival residences, all built by local contractor, Paul Brown. Of the three, the Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse (1910) is the oldest and the only one to survive. Neither the Ike Freeman House (1914) nor the Dr. Richard Z. Query House (No. 180) (1919), which had been determined eligible for the National Register in 1990, is extant.

The well-preserved Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse combines the boxy, two-story, cubic form of the popular American Foursquare style with Colonial Revival detailing. The house has a hip roof with overhanging eaves, Craftsman style windows, and a pedimented front porch supported by classical columns.

The house also retains its original weatherboard siding. The property includes a front gable, weatherboarded garage that appears to be contemporary with the house.

Condition Report:

Steele Creek Manse, 7728 Steele Creek Road, MK1378

This property served as the parsonage for the locally prominent Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, which was very active in the community. The main house has seen moderate alteration in the form of residing with vinyl and window replacement, but its form, proportions and overall design remain unchanged. The gabled front porch, a prominent feature, is still in place, along with the pyramidal slate roof and hipped dormer. The large barn that once stood on the property has been razed, diminishing our understanding of how the property was used during its period of significance. Two smaller structures remain: a one-story frame shed at the end of the driveway and a concrete block well house at the rear property line.

Behind the main house are two sites whose original use has not been determined: a one-story frame structure of simple design that may have been used as a tenant house in the past and a cemetery with arched stone slab bearing the legend MK CM. Oother headstones are said to have been removed. A neighbor stated that the frame structure reportedly was used as a school for African Americans but this has not been verified. Little information was readily available concerning the construction, development, period of use, and involvement by local citizens with these two properties. As such, it is difficult to determine their association with the Steele Creek Manse.

NRHP Recommendation:

The house and supporting resources are recommended for National Register listing under listing under Criterion A for their association with the Steele Creek congregation. The associated cemetery and school warrant additional research in order to determine if they were associated with the Manse or should be considered a separate property. It is unclear if these two features should be considered contributing structures or a separate property. These two features should be considered potentially eligible for listing as individual properties or as contributing structures to the Steel Creek Manse.

Outbuildings/Features

Actions

Year	Month	Surveyor	Action/Report
2007	12	Mattson, Alexander & Associates	environmental review
2020	02	Erickson, L. - Environment & Arch.	Charlotte-Douglas Airport project

Steele Creek Manse (MK1378)

This property served as the parsonage for the locally prominent Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, which was very active in the community. The main house has seen moderate alteration in the form of residing with vinyl and window replacement, but its form, proportions and overall design remain unchanged. The gabled front porch, a prominent feature, is still in place, along with the pyramidal slate roof and hipped dormer (Figure 15 and Figure 16).

The large barn that once stood on the property has been razed, diminishing our understanding of how the property was used during its period of significance. Two smaller structures remain: a one-story frame shed at the end of the driveway and a concrete block well house at the rear property line.

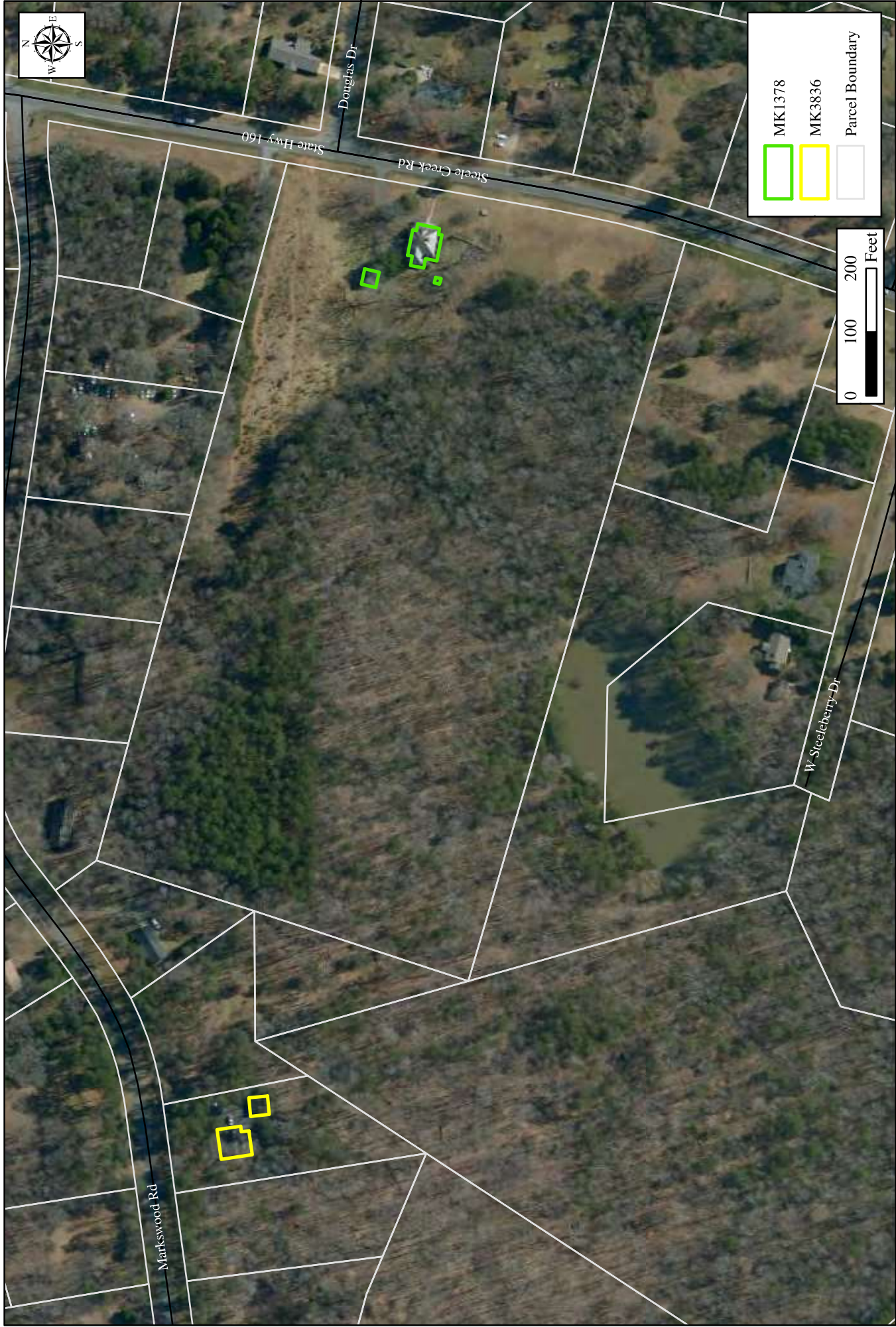
Behind the main house are two sites whose original use has not been determined: a one-story frame structure of simple design that may have been used as a tenant house in the past and a cemetery with arched stone slab bearing the legend “MK CM.” Other headstones are said to have been removed. A neighbor stated that the frame structure reportedly was used as a school for African Americans, but this has not been verified. Little information was readily available concerning the construction, development, period of use, and involvement by local citizens with these two properties. As such, it is difficult to determine their association with the Steele Creek Manse (Photo Proof Set 13).

NRHP Recommendation: The Steele Creek Manse has been previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. This property is covered under the existing MOA between the FAA and NCDCNR. The associated cemetery and school warrant additional research to determine if they were associated with the Manse or should be considered a separate property. It is unclear if these two features should be considered contributing structures or a separate property. These two features should be considered potentially eligible for listing as individual properties or as contributing structures to the Steel Creek Manse.

9311 Markswood Road (MK3836)

This house is a typical example of a 20th-century log kit house with matching garage (Figure 15 and Figure 16). Built in 1982, it stands two stories high and three bays wide with an almost-symmetrical façade, gabled roof and exterior end chimney. It is in good condition and appears to have seen little alteration, retaining a high degree of material integrity. However, the house represents a common property type of the late 20th century and lacks individual distinction (Photo Proof Set 14). For this reason, it is not recommended for National Register listing under Criterion C.

NRHP Recommendation: 9311 Markswood Road marks a common property type that lacks individual distinction. It is not recommended as eligible for the NRHP.



Charlotte Douglas International Airport
Historical Resources Summary Project
Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Aerial with MK 1378 and MK 3836 Identified
Aerial Provided by ArcGIS Online
Environment & Archaeology LLC

Figure 16

MK1378, Steele Creek Manse, 7500 Steele Creek Road, V.W., February 2020



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._01

Front View



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._02

Back View



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._03

Left View



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._04

Right View



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._05

Outbuilding Side View



MK1378_SteeleCreekManse_02 20 V.W._06

Outbuilding Back View

#14, 7728/7500 Steele Creek Rd, MK1378, Map #9, 1910, Steele Creek Manse



#14, 7728/7500 Steele Creek Rd, MK1378, Map #9, 1910, Steele Creek Manse



#14, 7728/7500 Steele Creek Rd, MK1378, Map #9, 1910, Steele Creek Manse



#14, 7728/7500 Steele Creek Rd, MK1378, Map #9, 1910, Steele Creek Manse



No. 16 Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse
West side of N.C. 160, 0.6 mile north of junction with S.R. 1155
Shopton vicinity, Mecklenburg County

Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse stands as one of the more important surviving architectural resources in the rural Steele Creek community and the finest example of the Colonial Revival style. One of the oldest settlements in the county, Steele Creek took shape around Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, one of Mecklenburg County's original seven Presbyterian churches organized by Scots settlers in the mid-eighteenth century. While threatened by intense development pressure, the community retains a collection of important buildings including the Hayes-Byrum Store (see No. 18) at Shopton, Steele Creek Presbyterian Church and Cemetery (No. 15), and a small number of dwellings oriented to the store, the church, and N.C. 160 (Steele Creek Road). Dr. Dan L. Morrill, historian and director of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission, observes that during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the prominent church and Steele Creek's fertile soil attracted a community of farmers, tradesmen, and professionals, who built an ensemble of unusually stylish houses for rural Mecklenburg. Commissioned by the congregation of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church for their pastor, the handsome, Colonial Revival manse neatly reflected the community's adoption of the latest architectural trend. By the 1910s, Steele Creek boasted three imposing, two-story, frame, Colonial Revival residences, all built by local contractor, Paul Brown. Of the three, the Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse (1910) is the oldest and the only one to survive. Neither the Ike Freeman House (1914) nor the Dr. Richard Z. Query House (No. 180) (1919), which had been determined eligible for the National Register in 1990, is extant (Gatza 1990: 39-44; Morrill 2007).

The well-preserved Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse combines the boxy, two-story, cubic form of the popular American Foursquare style with Colonial Revival detailing (**Figure 34; Plates 115-122**). The house has a hip roof with overhanging eaves, Craftsman style windows, and a pedimented front porch supported by classical columns. The house also retains its original weatherboard siding. The property includes a front gable, weatherboarded garage that appears to be contemporary with the house.

The manse is recommended as eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for architecture and meets Criteria Consideration A because of its architectural significance. The manse retains the seven qualities of integrity including integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The garage is considered a contributing resource.

The property is not considered eligible under any other criterion. The property is not eligible under Criterion B because it is not associated with individuals whose activities were demonstrably important within a local, state, or national historic context. Finally, the house is not considered eligible under Criterion D because the architectural components are not likely to yield information important in the history of building technology.

The proposed National Register boundaries encompass the house, an original garage, and tree-shaded yard of roughly seven acres that provides a setting for these two contributing resources. The remainder of the more than sixteen-acre tract is heavily wooded and excluded from the National Register boundaries. The east side of the proposed boundary along N.C. 160 is defined by the highway right-of-way. The proposed boundaries are shown in **Figure 35**.

Figure 34

Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse
Site Plan

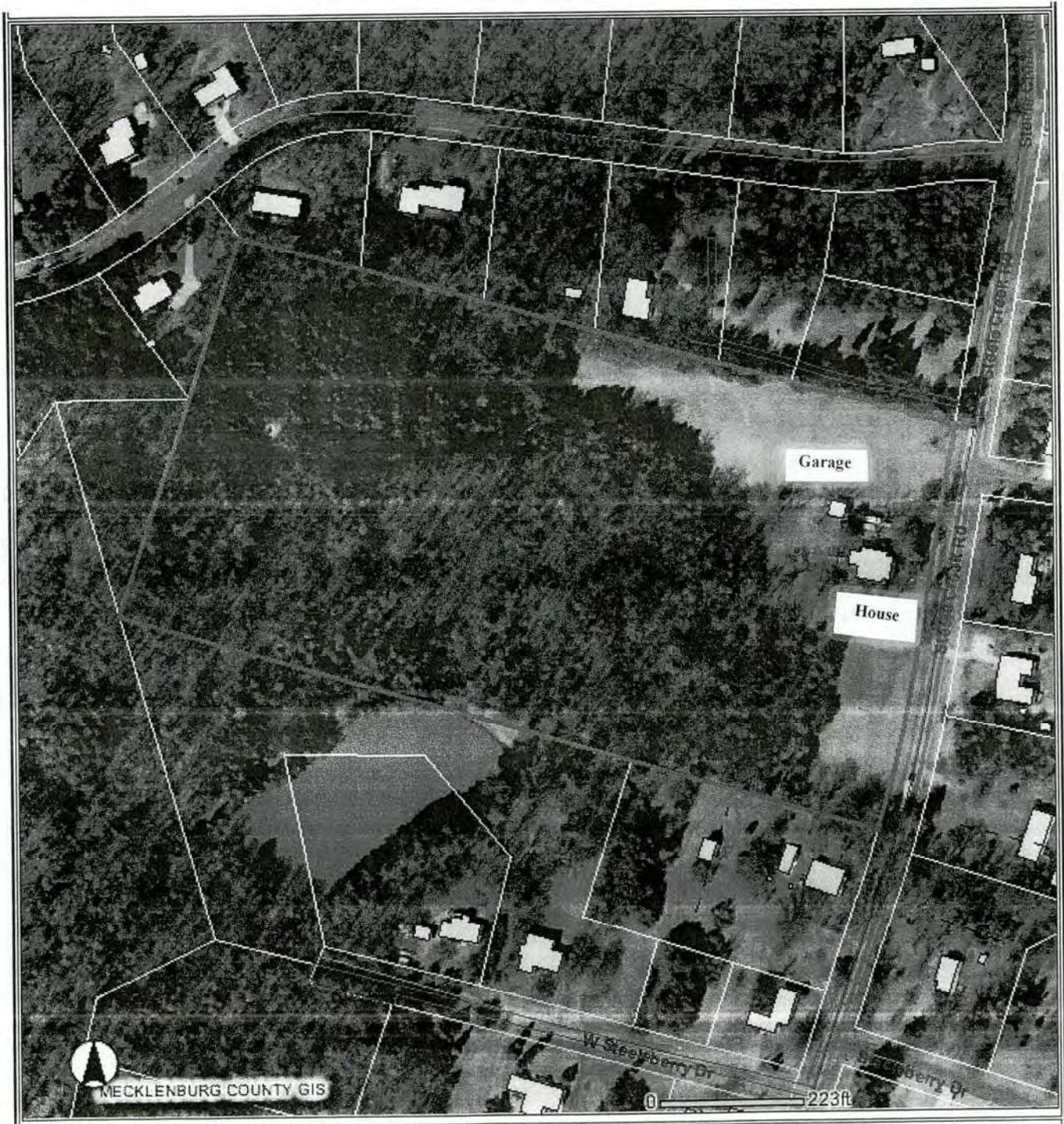
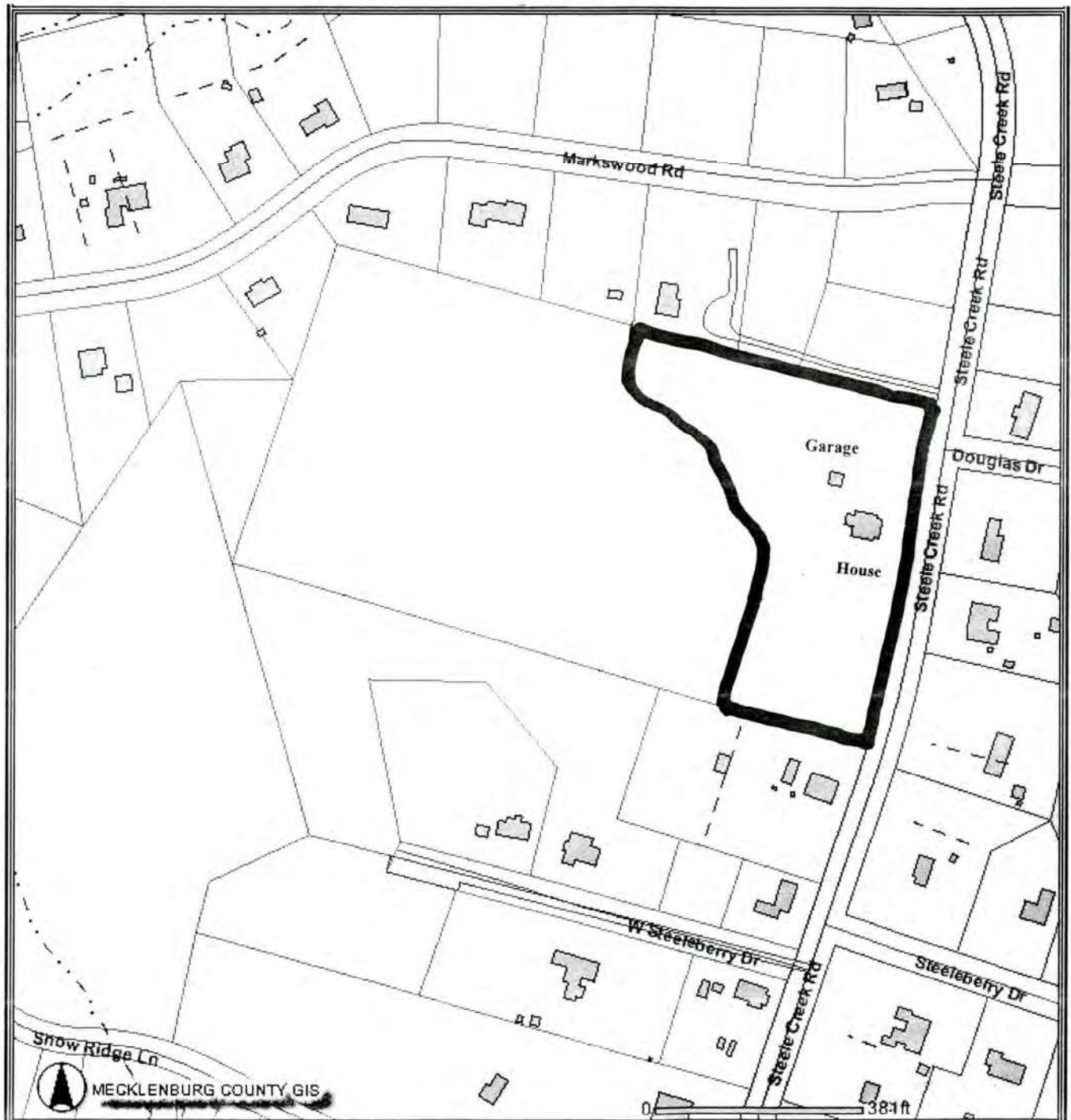


Figure 35

**Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse
Proposed National Register Boundaries**



Source: Mecklenburg County Tax Map

Scale: 1"=381'



Plate 115. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, House and Setting, Looking North.



Plate 116. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, House and Setting, Looking Northwest.



Plate 117. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Facade, Looking West.



Plate 118. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Side (North) Elevation, Looking Southwest.



Plate 119. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Rear (West) Elevation, Looking Southeast.



Plate 120. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Façade and Side (South) Elevation, Looking Northwest.



Plate 121. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Window Detail.



Plate 122. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Manse, Garage, Looking West.