



a history of the

Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve



F I R E F L Y
PRESERVATION CONSULTING

a history of the **Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve**

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Prepared for
Wake County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
Raleigh, North Carolina

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Project Description

The Kellam-Wyatt Farm is a historic farm property located on North Rogers Lane approximately six miles east of Raleigh near the confluence of Crabtree Creek with the Neuse River. The property consists of nearly 59 acres, of which approximately 23 acres are forest, 18.5 acres are hay fields or pasture, 9.5 acres are man-made ponds, 6 acres are cultivated fields, and 2 acres are building sites.¹ This land has been farmed since at least the mid-1800s, as has the surrounding area. However, Wake County's population continues to grow rapidly as more people move to the Raleigh area for employment and educational opportunities. As a result, most of the former farmland surrounding the Kellam-Wyatt Farm was transformed into housing developments in the 1990s and early 2000s. Now the last remaining natural acreage among this dense recent development, the farm serves as a green space and refuge for wildlife.



*Kellam-Wyatt Farm tax parcel boundary
(courtesy of Wake County iMaps)*

In 2018, Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt, the last owners to actively farm the land, donated the property to Wake County to be used as a public park, and therefore the Kellam-Wyatt Farm will become a Nature Preserve within the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) program. As such, the property will have limited public access, minimal amenities, and a single recreational use. The master planning process for the preserve is scheduled to begin in early 2020, with an anticipated opening date sometime in 2022.

To provide information to the public about this important community resource, to aid in the master planning process, and to prepare the preserve to open to the public, Wake County funded this project to conduct an oral history interview with Susan Wyatt, develop a historical narrative of the property, identify important architectural and landscape features, and provide recommendations for future use. Firefly Preservation Consulting, LLC, conducted the oral history interview with Susan Wyatt in February 2019 with staff from Wake County PROS. A transcript of the interview is included in this report. Wyatt also provided a wealth of family history, photographs, and maps of the property, as well as family history from Anne Goulding Foster. Additional genealogical and historical research was conducted to supplement this material. The historical narrative contained in this report includes the families who have owned the land since at least 1850. A site visit was conducted in June 2019 to document significant natural and cultural resources within the property boundaries, including houses, outbuildings, fields, ponds, and roads. This information was used to develop a land use history, as well as a series of land use maps, which are incorporated in the architecture and landscape history in this report. The recommendations for future use contained in this report take into consideration Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt's goals for the property, Wake County PROS' mission, the historic uses of the property, and the value of the existing natural and cultural resources that remain extant.



Historical Narrative

c.1850-1878: The Wilder Farm

The fifty-eight acres that comprises the present-day Kellam-Wyatt Farm was originally part of a much larger plantation. Gaston H. Wilder (b.1814, d.1873) owned six hundred acres in Milburnie on the banks of the Neuse River. He served in the House of Commons in the 1840s, and he served as a paymaster in the Mexican War.² He married Sarah Hinton (b.1833, d.1901) in 1850 and they had eight children. The land was worked by thirty-eight enslaved African Americans.³ After the Civil War, Wilder had the help of at least three sharecropper families, the Bunches, the Debnams, and the Taylors, all of whom agreed to give Wilder “an interest in and lien upon this crop of cotton and other products” in exchange for an advance on the supplies needed for the coming year.⁴ Wilder died in 1873, and in 1878, his land was sold at auction.⁵



The red circle indicates the homestead of G.H. Wilder near the confluence of the Neuse River and Crabtree Creek.
("Map of Wake County," 1871, drawn by Fendol Bevers, courtesy of University of North Carolina Libraries)

1878-1918: Neuseoco Plantation

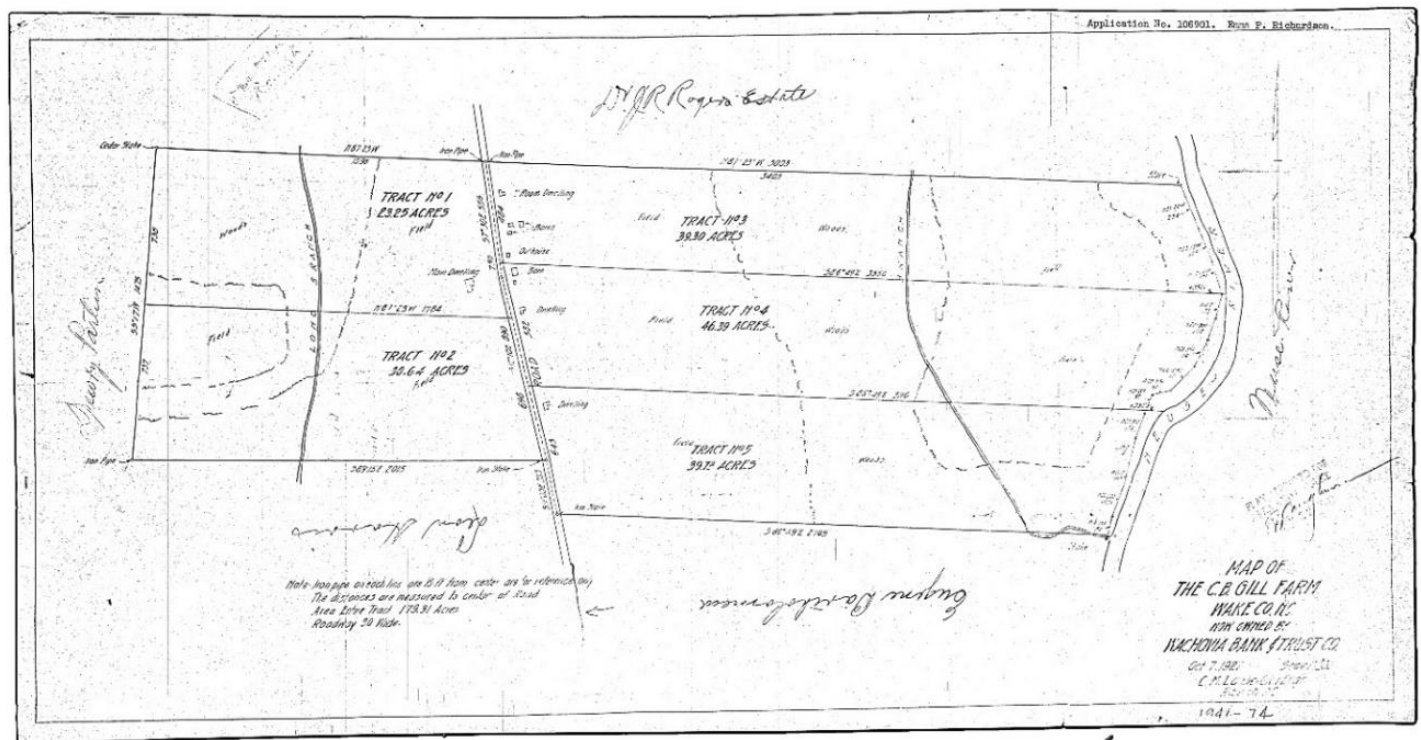
Bailey P. Williamson (b.1838, d.1919) purchased Wilder's land, as well as an adjacent forty-four acres from Thomas Bridgers, Wilder's brother-in-law, in 1878.⁶ Williamson was a widower from Virginia. He had four children with his first wife, Isabella (b.1842), who died in 1875. In 1879, he married Ella S. Mial (b.1854, d.1941), and they too had four children. It appears Williamson did not live on the plantation, however, as the 1880 census lists his occupation as merchant and his home in Raleigh.⁷ It appears he may have hired a plantation manager, tenant farmers, or sharecroppers to work the land, and when he sold the property in 1897, it had acquired the name "Neuseoco Plantation."⁸



The plantation was purchased from the Williamsons by David Chenault Batchelor (b.1869, d.1945) and her husband, William P. Batchelor (b.1851, d.1934) in 1897.⁹ William Batchelor was born in Raleigh, then moved to St. Matthews Township after his marriage to David Chenault in 1895. They had six children and appear to have lived on the farm for only a short time.¹⁰ They attempted to sell the property to S.C. and Viola von Gottschalk and J.R. and Sarah Overstreet in 1911, however the von Gottschalks and Overstreets sold their interest in the partially purchased property back to the Batchelors the following year.¹¹ In 1913, the Batchelors divided the former Neuseoco Plantation into eighteen smaller parcels, known as the Batchelor Farm, which they then sold through Kearney O. Pool, another local farmer.¹²

1918-1936: The Gill Farm

In 1918, Clarence B. Gill, Sr., (b.1882, d.1956) purchased approximately 130 acres of the Batchelor Farm from Kearney O. Pool, followed by approximately forty-nine additional adjacent acres from Raleigh real estate broker D.F. Fort in 1919.¹³ Gill had married Ada Blanche Duke (b.1888, d.1976) in Durham in 1909, and they moved to Raleigh and had six children.¹⁴ Although Gill purchased the farm in 1918, he remained in Raleigh and ran the merchandise brokerage firm C.B. Gill & Company with his brother Charles H. Gill and associate Charles V. Holland. In 1920, Gill mortgaged the farm with the Atlantic Life Insurance Company based in Richmond.¹⁵ By the late 1920s, he had moved to Tampa, Florida, where he was a salesman for a salt, macaroni, and feed products company and later worked in advertising for a retail grocer.¹⁶ In 1935, Atlantic Life Insurance Company foreclosed the 179-acre farm.¹⁷



1927 Map of the Gill Farm, comprising the central portion of the former Batchelor Farm/Neuseoco Plantation
(Book of Maps 1941, Page 74, Wake County Register of Deeds)



1936-1970: The Richardson Farm

In 1936, Emma Poe Richardson (b.1895, d.1993) and her husband, George (b.1882, d.1962), purchased the Gill Farm.¹⁸ George D. Richardson was born in 1882 in Dry Fork, Virginia (about fifteen miles north of Danville), and he was one of seven children of Henry Joseph Richardson and Sallie Davis Richardson. Emma Poe was born in 1895 in McKim, West Virginia, one of twelve children of James Poe. Her mother, Caroline Hogue Poe, was Poe's second of three wives, who died when Emma was just two weeks old. He married Mary Boor when Emma was six months old. The family relocated to Witt, Virginia, about six miles south of Dry Fork, around 1910.¹⁹

Both George D. Richardson and Emma Poe grew up on family farms, and Richardson later told his children and grandchildren about waking up at three o'clock in the morning to get water for washing before walking to the local school.²⁰ He completed primary school, which ended after eighth grade at that time.²¹ Richardson attended Massey Business College in Richmond in 1903, and he worked at the O.H. Berry and Company clothing store there from 1905 to 1910.²² He then took a job with the Atlantic Life Insurance Company in Richmond, and in 1915, he relocated to Raleigh, where he served as a district insurance agent. According to family oral history, George D. Richardson met Emma Poe when he was attending the church where she was playing organ, likely somewhere in the Danville area, and they were married at her parents' home near Danville in 1917.²³ The Richardsons first lived in an apartment on Tilden Street, then they lived on North Blount Street while they built a home on Carr Street in the Hayes Barton neighborhood of Five Points, north of Raleigh.²⁴ They had three daughters, Sallie Carol (b.1918, d.1989), Emily Taylor (b.1919, d.2000), and Virginia Daniel (b.1921, d.2012).



*George D. Richardson
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*



*Emma Poe Richardson
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

In 1931, Richardson retired from insurance sales. He instead took up farming, and owned acreage in both Wake and Johnston counties. In 1936, the Richardsons purchased the former Gill Farm on North Rogers Lane, east of Raleigh, from the Atlantic Life Insurance Company. In 1943, they added ninety-three acres on the east side of the road and south of the Gill Farm that were also originally part of the Batchelor Farm.²⁵ They grew primarily tobacco there, first using mules to pull narrow sleds for harvesting. When tractors became common, they left every fifth row unplanted to allow room for the tractor to drive between rows without damaging any of the crop. A 1944 newspaper article highlighted Richardson's use of emerging farming techniques, including using the ridge method for cultivating tobacco. The farm also produced cotton, corn, and hay, and the Richardsons raised milk cows, Black Angus cattle, goats, and hogs.²⁶

The Richardsons also had significant business interests. Emma Poe Richardson purchased two-thirds of the assets of the Nowell Clothing Company in Raleigh in 1934, partnering with A.G. Nowell who retained the remaining one-third. The following year, the Richardsons purchased the company's building, which was located at 311 Fayetteville Street but was demolished in the 1990s. In 1947, Emma Richardson's share of the company was transferred to her husband, and in 1948 the partnership was dissolved when Nowell moved the store to another building. Richardson began a new partnership with Homer Lanier and James Womble, and together they operated the Lanier-Womble Men's Fine Clothing Store. The store operated from 1949 until Richardson sold the building in 1960.²⁷



Richardson also assisted his sister Mary's sons, J. Garland Jones and Earl Jones, with the expansion of the Jesse Jones Sausage Company. The company produced sausage, hot dogs and bologna, and was established by their father, Major Jesse Jones (b.1881, d.1956), in Danville, Virginia, in 1926. With Richardson's help, the Jones brothers expanded the company to North Carolina in 1947, building a plant on Jones Sausage Road in Garner. Richardson served as the head of the plant for a short time, and by 1955, J. Garland Jones was the manager, Earl Jones was the business manager, and Richardson's son-in-law, John Upham, served as sales manager. The company was a significant employer in the Garner area, employing at least thirty people in 1955. After Major Jesse Jones' death in 1956, his sons renamed the company Jesse Jones Sausage Company in his honor. The Danville plant was closed in 1968, and Jesse Jones Sausage Company was purchased by General Mills in 1970. It was combined with the Slim Jim company of Philadelphia to form GoodMark Foods, which produced Slim Jims at the Garner plant. GoodMark was separated from General Mills in 1985, then merged with Con Agra in 1998. The plant closed in 2010.²⁸

Active in the community, Richardson served with a number of local organizations, including the Rotary Club of Raleigh, Raleigh Production Credit Association, Federal Land Bank Association of Smithfield, and the Farmer's Cooperative Exchange.²⁹ He served on the board of the Wake County Mutual Soil Conservation Association in the 1930s, which worked to combat soil erosion caused by farming activities throughout the county, and he was one of the founders of the Wake County Farm Bureau, which lobbied for farm legislation at the state and federal levels.³⁰ He was appointed to the State Highway Commission in the early 1952, and during his term, the state planned improvements to Highway 64. The Long Branch creek flowed through Richardson's farm creating a wetland, and he wanted to instead construct a series of ponds to create an improved irrigation system. The state agreed to dig the ponds and build the dams and spillways needed, and Richardson agreed to let the state keep the excavated soil as fill for the highway project. The result was the construction of four ponds in 1952, each between five and ten acres, which flow into Crabtree Creek and then into the Neuse River.³¹ The middle two ponds filled first, while the upper and lower ponds took several years to fill.



*Robert Kellam (left), George D. Richardson (seated), and Timothy Goulding (right) near the cabin and pond
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

In 1953, Emma Poe Richardson's brother, Charles L. Poe, built a small home on the west bank of the largest pond (known today as Turfgrass Lake Number Three). Poe purchased the house for \$495 from the Army following World War II, possibly from nearby Camp Butner.³² Although the ponds were used primarily for irrigation, for a few years Poe allowed local residents to fish there for a small fee, and sometimes offered boat rentals to fishermen as well.³³ The Richardsons built a cabin near Poe's house in the 1950s, just south of their property line on land owned by their daughter, Carol Richardson Upham. The Richardsons often stayed at the cabin on weekends, and they and the Uphams held family gatherings there. They planted a garden near the cabin, and they harvested wild blackberries and plums to make jams and jellies there each year.³⁴

Between 1951 and 1957, George and Emma Richardson deeded the farm to their three daughters in life estate with remainder to their grandchildren.³⁵ The southeastern portion of the farm went to George and Emma Richardson's oldest daughter, Carol Richardson Upham. She and her husband, John Upham (b.1917, d.1976), had one son, John Upham, Jr., (b.1959). Their property included a forty-acre parcel of the Gill Farm, as well as the ninety-three-acre parcel of the Batchelor Farm the Richardsons purchased in 1942, both on the east side of North Rogers Lane.³⁶ In 1951, the Uphams purchased sixty-five acres on the west side of North Rogers Lane, south of the Kellam-Wyatt Farm, followed by an additional adjacent fifty-one acres the following year, both of which were also once part of the Batchelor Farm.³⁷ The Uphams used their acreage to grow Tifton Hybrid Bermuda grass sod.³⁸





*Emma Poe Richardson (seated)
with daughters (left to right) Carol, Emily, and Virginia in 1985
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

The northwestern portion of the farm, which constitutes the Kellam-Wyatt Farm, went to George and Emma Richardson's middle daughter, Emily.³⁹ She graduated from Broughton High School, then attended Salem College and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, Ohio, where she studied harp. While studying in New York City in 1942, she met Leewan Kellam (b.1919, d.1951), a medical student at Columbia Medical College, and they were married in 1945. After Kellam completed his medical internship in 1946, they moved to Spokane, Washington, where he served as a flight surgeon in the Army Air Corps. While pregnant with their son in 1947, Emily Richardson Kellam returned to North Carolina to live with her parents in Raleigh, and Robert Kellam (b.1947, d.2016) was born that year in Durham. After completing his service in Washington, Leewan Kellam and his family relocated to Morgantown, Kentucky, where he opened a medical practice in January of 1949. He passed away in 1951, and Emily Richardson Kellam returned to North Carolina with her son. They lived in Chapel Hill while she earned her master's degree in

music from the University of North Carolina. In 1955, she joined the North Carolina Symphony, performing as first harpist, and she also served on the music faculty at Salem College, the University of North Carolina, and East Carolina University. Emily Richardson remarried in 1968 to James Babcock (b.1915, d.2014), who was the general manager of the Westinghouse Meter Plant in Raleigh. Soon after, he was transferred to Pittsburgh, but they returned to Raleigh after his retirement in 1978.⁴⁰

The northeastern portion of the farm, across North Rogers Lane from the Kellam-Wyatt Farm, went to George and Emma Richardson's youngest daughter, Virginia Richardson Goulding.⁴¹ Virginia and her husband, William Goulding (b.1918, d.1970), lived on their portion of the farm, and they had three children, Anne (b.1943), Timothy (b.1947, d.2019), and Margaret (b.1961). Their farm included the livestock operations, with a chicken coop, a milk house, and stables for horses, cows, and goats, as well as tobacco pack houses.⁴²



*Emma Poe Richardson (seated at center)
with her children and grandchildren in 1987
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*





*Emily Richardson Kellam Babcock
with horse Roanie
at the Richardson Farm in 1941
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

The Richardson Farm reached its peak in the late 1950s and early 1960s. The combined acreage of Carol Richardson Upham, Emily Richardson Kellam, and Virginia Richardson Goulding was approximately four hundred acres. The Uphams grew turf grass, while George D. Richardson raised tobacco, cotton, and livestock on the Kellam and Goulding tracts. Livestock barns were located on the Goulding tract, and cotton was grown on the northern part of the Kellam tract. Tobacco, the farm's primary product, was grown and cured on the Kellam tract, then stored in pack houses on the Goulding tract. The Richardsons' grandchildren, Robert Kellam, Anne Goulding Foster, and Timothy Goulding spent many summers helping harvest tobacco. Anne Goulding Foster recalls that Robert Kellam and Timothy Goulding would ride the sleds in from the fields loaded with freshly harvested tobacco leaves, and she and the other women would string the tobacco under the shade of the trees near the tobacco barns.⁴³ Because they had spent so much time at the farm, helping to harvest the tobacco and learning to swim in the ponds, the family believes the Richardsons ensured the farm would eventually pass to their grandchildren so that they would have "the opportunity to enjoy the land as he [George] had, and his hope was that they would come to feel as strongly as he did about the need to preserve and protect it."⁴⁴

A number of sharecropping families assisted the Richardson family with their crops, especially the tobacco. The Griffin family worked for the Richardsons in the 1950s and lived in a house on the farm adjacent to North Rogers Lane. Eugene Griffin (b.1906, d.1973) was born in Franklin County, and Ida Mae Brannan (b.1915, d.2013) was born in Johnston County, both having been raised in tenant farmer or sharecropper families. They were married in 1936 and worked on a farm in Johnston

county, possibly also owned by George D. Richardson. They came to the Richardson's farm on North Rogers Lane in the early 1950s. In addition to farming tobacco, Eugene worked as a carpenter and Ida Mae waited tables at Woolworth's. They had three children, Cynthia (b.1937, d.2010), Chester (b.1945), and Andrew (b.1948), and an adopted daughter, Linda Senger (b.1937). By 1960, the Griffins had left the farm and bought a home in Raleigh.⁴⁵ The Hinton and Wiggins were African American sharecroppers and farm laborers who lived on the Upham and Goulding tracts of the farm and also helped with the tobacco crop. Although each sharecropper was responsible for his own crop, they all helped one another, especially at harvest time. George D. Richardson was also active in the farming activities, visiting the farm often and taking the tobacco to local auction houses.⁴⁶

George D. Richardson passed away in 1962, and Emma Poe Richardson continued to live on Carr Street in Raleigh until her death in 1993.⁴⁷ Meanwhile, development pressure caused by the rapidly growing population coming to work in Raleigh and Research Triangle Park began to take its toll on the Richardson Farm. In 1976, Carol Richardson Upham gifted thirty acres east of North Rogers Lane to her son, John Upham, Jr. In 1985, TGF Associates, a partnership between five Raleigh businessmen, purchased approximately two hundred acres from Carol Richardson Upham, as well as John Upham, Jr.'s thirty-acre parcel, and built the Village Lakes subdivision in the late 1980s.⁴⁸ Carol Richardson Upham retained the twenty acres where her home was located until her death in 1989. In 1999, the property was sold, and the Lakeland Estates subdivision was constructed in the early 2000s.⁴⁹

In 1973, Virginia Richardson Goulding's son, Timothy, and his cousin, Robert Kellam, co-founded the River Meadows Kennels on a part of the Goulding tract. In 1975, she deeded a thirty-acre parcel to her son and his wife, Gina, to build a house. Timothy and Gina Goulding and Robert Kellam operated the kennel until 1982 when they leased the kennel to Wake County for use as the county animal shelter. A new county animal shelter was constructed on Beacon Lake Drive in 1998, and in 1999, Marlow & Moye, LLC, purchased both Goulding properties and built the Summer Place subdivision.⁵⁰



Only Emily Richardson Kellam Babcock's tract remained under family ownership and undeveloped. After George D. Richardson's death, the farm was used for several years by a local farmer to grow hay. During that time, Emily Richardson Kellam Babcock and her husband lived in Raleigh and later Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, while Robert Kellam, known as Bob, was in school. He attended Culver Military Academy in northwestern Indiana where his grandfather, Lee Roy Kellam, served as the Dean of Studies and Director of Guidance. After graduation, he attended Yale University, where he received a bachelor's degree in biology in 1970. Kellam returned to Raleigh to operate the family farm after finishing his degree.⁵¹

1970-2018: The Kellam-Wyatt Farm

Upon returning to the farm in 1970, Robert Kellam lived in his great-uncle Charles Poe's former home. He owned about fifty-eight acres of his grandparents' original 271-acre farm with his mother, Emily Richardson Kellam Babcock. He married Evelyn Hill in 1971, and they had a daughter, Leewyn, in 1974. Kellam built an addition on their house that year to accommodate their growing family, completing the labor himself rather than hiring a builder. Kellam and Hill divorced in 1978.⁵²

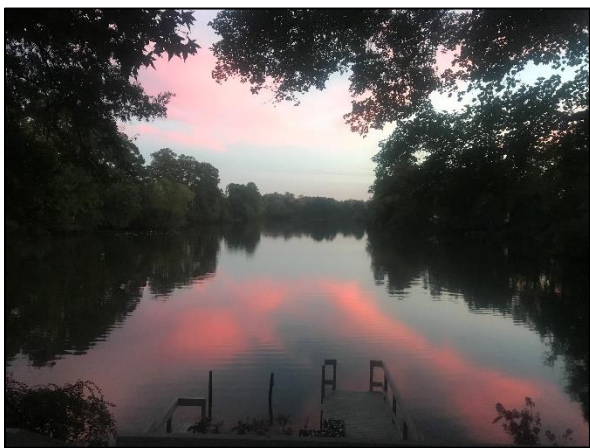
Not long after the Environmental Protection Agency was established in 1970, Bob took a position in the Office of Air Quality, Planning, and Standards in Research Triangle Park. He remained with the EPA for over thirty years and served on several committees and task forces. He participated in a partnership with the European Union to address long range transport of air pollutants, and later represented the EPA for the United Nations Environmental Program as the co-chair of a group of air emissions experts developing guidance for an international treaty addressing persistent organic pollutants. Bob retired in 2004 while serving as the Associate Director of the Information Transfer and Program Integration Division, which oversees implementation and compliance with air quality regulations.⁵³

While working for the EPA, Kellam met his future wife, Susan Wyatt (b.1948), who also worked in the Office of Air Quality, Planning, and Standards. Wyatt was born in 1948 in Lynchburg, Virginia, to William and Mary Stephenson Wyatt. William Wyatt was the Headmaster at the Virginia Episcopal Boarding School, and Mary Stephenson Wyatt worked in the Alumni Office. Wyatt and her sister, Caroline, were raised on the school campus, which was a former farmstead where they had a garden, cows, and pigs. Like Kellam, Wyatt also learned about the land from her grandparents, who lived in Winston-Salem where they cultivated a large vegetable garden and worked a small farm. Wyatt graduated from E.C. Glass High School in Lynchburg in 1966, then earned a Bachelor's in Biology from the College of William and Mary in 1970 and a Master's in Public Health from the University of North Carolina in 1972, specializing in Air Pollution Control Engineering and Occupational Health. Kellam and Wyatt both attended an MBA night program at Duke University, which they completed in 1978.⁵⁴



*Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt in the garden in 2014
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*





*Sunset View from the Kellam-Wyatt House
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

Wyatt joined the Environmental Protection Agency in 1972 developing emission standards for industrial facilities. She was the first female environmental engineer hired by EPA's Office of Air Quality and Standards, and after her promotion to Branch Chief, she became the first female manager in a technical, rather than administrative, role. Wyatt recalls the head of the division who hired her "was interested in promoting women. So he hired me and then made sure I got all kinds of opportunities working there." She lived in Chapel Hill at that time, where she maintained extensive gardens in the challenging gravel and clay soils.⁵⁵

Kellam and Wyatt married in 1984 and built a house on the farm in between the northern two ponds. They chose the house site near a boyhood treehouse Kellam had built with his cousin, Timothy Goulding, that looked southward down the pond now known as Turfgrass Lake Number Three. About eighteen acres of their fifty-eight-acre farm was

maintained as open fields, while the rest remained forested. They used a portion of the open field acreage for a large garden, and Jesse Satterwhite, a local farmer, grew coastal Bermuda hay, sorghum, and winter rye for his cattle on the remainder of the cleared acreage. Kellam's daughter, Leewyn, moved back to her childhood home further south along the pond's shoreline with her husband, Brian Hatch, in 2003.⁵⁶

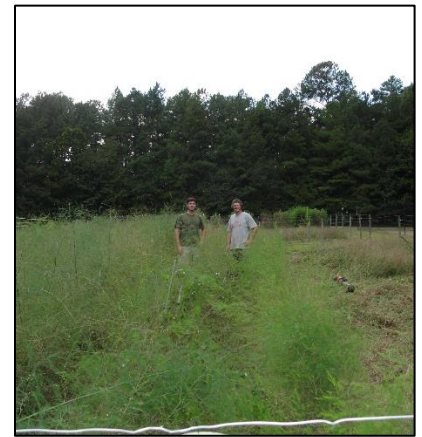
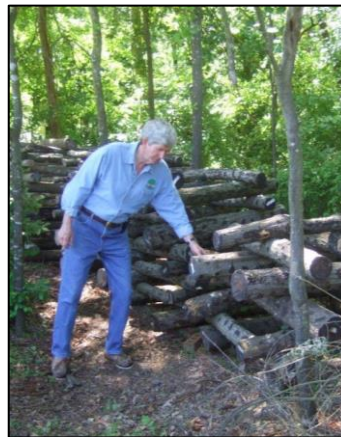
When Kellam and Wyatt retired from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2004, they started a Community Supported Agriculture Cooperative that provided organically grown vegetables on a subscription basis. Nine families joined their CSA Co-op the first year, which grew to thirty families by their tenth season. They grew about forty varieties of fruits and vegetables, raised free-range chickens for eggs, kept bees for pollination and honey, and maintained pollinator gardens. They also sold blueberries, raspberries, blackberries, shiitake mushrooms, honey, and other produce at the Midtown Farmers Market at North Hills and the downtown farmers market, which was on Fayetteville Street at that time. The farm also provided produce to Irregardless Café in downtown Raleigh. Kellam recalled that "the hours are long, the pay is poor, and the weather is inevitably fickle, but there is something deeply satisfying about working the earth and watching it produce its bounty." Kellam constructed several sheds for the gardening operations, as well as installing solar panels to provide the necessary electricity, and Kellam and Wyatt continued to manage the CSA Co-op until 2015.⁵⁷ Leewyn Kellam helped with the farming operations, working in the gardens and the farmers market booths, as did Larkin, Kellam and Wyatt's guard dog for the chickens, known as the "Farm Manager."⁵⁸



*Left: Susan Wyatt and Robert Kellam pose for an advertising photo in 2013
Middle: One of several flower gardens at the farm, with Robert Kellam and "Farm Manager" Larkin in 2015
Right: Leewyn Kellam and Robert Kellam at the Midtown Farmers Market in 2010
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*



Kellam volunteered with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, serving on the Wake County Extension Advisory Council and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service Foundation Advisory Board, including terms as chair of each. He and Wyatt also participated in the Extension Master Gardner Volunteer program, with Kellam serving as a leader in county and state programs and the endowment. Ardent supporters of agricultural education, Kellam and Wyatt invited groups to tour the farm and learn about local food production, sustainable agricultural practices, and wildlife conservation. They hired students from North Carolina State University to work at the farm, many of whom went on to careers in agricultural and environmental fields. During workdays throughout the summer, CSA Co-op members and their children, farmers market customers, Master Gardeners, and other members of the community visited the farm and helped with various tasks. Students from Wakefield High School, Master Gardner training classes, Junior Master Gardeners, EPA alumni groups, and even local bird-watching organizations also toured the farm.⁵⁹



*Left: Participants in a farm workday in 2010
Middle: Robert Kellam teaching a tour group about shitake mushrooms in 2014
Left: North Carolina State University students Beau Wagoner and Andrew Henry growing asparagus
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

Kellam and Wyatt were also dedicated to the conservation of nature and wildlife, so in 2013 they partnered with the City of Oaks Foundation to place a conservation easement on the farm with the goal to protect wildlife habitat and provide a place for public education. In 2018, they donated the property to Wake County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space for use as a public nature preserve.⁶⁰

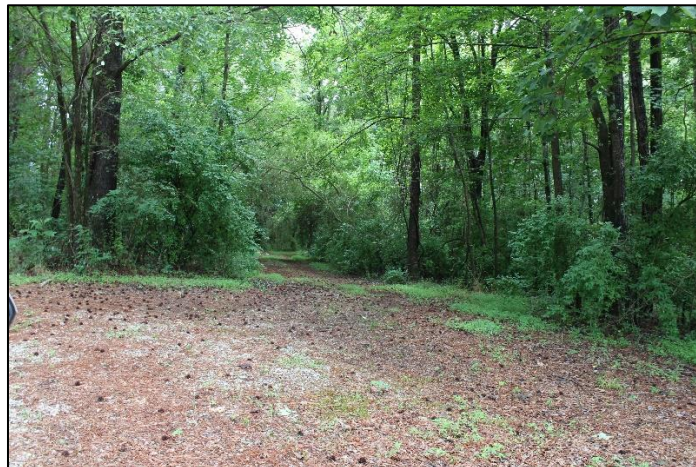
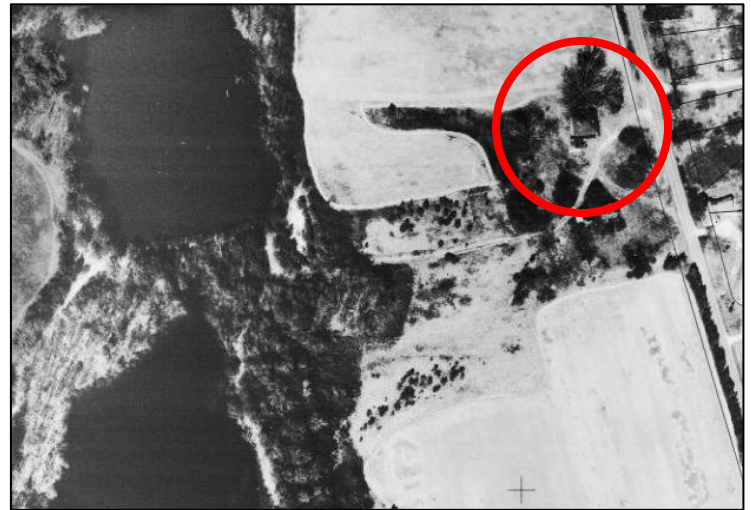


Architectural and Land Use History

Architectural History

The Kellam-Wyatt Farm is located on the west side of North Rogers Lane, just north of the confluence of Crabtree Creek with the Neuse River. Long Branch flows north-south through the property, and four small ponds were constructed in the early 1950s to convert the cypress wetland formed by the creek into a better irrigation system for farming.

The first house built on the property was the Griffin House, named for the sharecropping family that lived there in the 1950s, which was located near the current entrance to the property adjacent to North Rogers Lane. The house was a one-story, hip-roof building of vernacular design, probably constructed in the early twentieth century. The house did not have indoor plumbing, so there was an outhouse located nearby, however the Griffins did own a washing machine, which was kept on the porch. The house was shaded by mature trees, including at least one pecan tree and at least one large oak tree. It was likely vacant from the late 1950s, when the Griffins moved to Raleigh, until it was demolished in 1981, although the driveways and trees remain extant.⁶¹



Top Left: Griffin House c.1981 (courtesy of Susan Wyatt)
Top Right: 1981 Aerial image showing the Griffin House (courtesy of Wake County iMaps)
Bottom: Current view of the Griffin House site and farm road to tobacco curing barns site



The second house was built by Charles Poe, Emma Poe Richardson's brother, who built a small house on the west side of one of the middle ponds in 1953. Poe purchased the house for \$495 from the Army following World War II, possibly from nearby Camp Butner. It's address was Box 105-B, Route 5 until at least the 1970s. The road was later renamed, and the address was changed to 727 North Rogers Lane. Charles Poe's great-nephew, Robert Kellam, moved into the house in 1970 and constructed an addition in 1974 that nearly doubled its footprint. In 2003, Kellam's daughter, Leewyn Kellam, moved into the house with her husband, Brian Hatch, where they remained until the property was donated to Wake County in 2018.⁶²



*Top Left: west elevation, prior to 1974 addition Top Right: east elevation, prior to 1974 addition
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

Left: current west elevation Right: current east elevation



The third house built on the property was built by Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt on the north end of the one of the middle ponds (now known as Turfgrass Lake Number Three). As a child, Kellam had built a treehouse with his cousin, Timothy Goulding, at the north end, looking down the pond. He told his cousin at the time that if he ever built a house on the farm, it would be in that location. In 1984, on the day they were married, Kellam and Wyatt laid out the footprint for the house. It is three-stories high with seven levels, and the south elevation is a wall of windows providing views of the pond.⁶³



Left: south elevation Right: dock and view south

A number of outbuildings were built on the farm to support both the Richardsons' tobacco cultivation and the Kellam-Wyatt vegetable gardens. There were several tobacco curing barns on the property, including two located adjacent to the Griffin House at the entrance to the farm. They were demolished in 1981.



*Left: Tobacco Curing Barns c.1981 (courtesy of Susan Wyatt)
Right: 1981 Aerial image showing the Griffin House and tobacco curing barns (courtesy of Wake County iMaps)*



Several outbuildings remain extant adjacent to the Kellam-Wyatt House and the garden fields. These include an equipment shed (2012) and office (2016); a barn containing sinks for washing and refrigerators for storing vegetables after harvesting (2001); a greenhouse (2006) and hoop house (2012) for growing vegetables during the winter months; and a chicken coop (2008) for raising newly-hatched chickens. There was also a mobile coop (2009) for adult chickens, which was moved around the property to unused fields, utilizing the chickens' natural behaviors to remove weeds and fertilize the gardens before the next season's planting. This coop has been removed from the farm for use by a local farmer. Kellam and Wyatt also installed solar panels (2011) to provide the electricity needed to operate the farm. All of these outbuildings were constructed by Kellam with the assistance of NCSU student employees and his cousin Timothy Goulding's son, David.⁶⁴



*Top Left: Equipment Shed with Office Top Right: Vegetable Cleaning and Storage Barn
Middle Left: Greenhouse and Hoop House Middle Right: Hatchling Chicken Coop
(photos by Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski)*

*Bottom Left: Robert Kellam collecting eggs and Susan Wyatt feeding chickens at the Mobile Chicken Coop Bottom Right: Solar Panels
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*



There are also outbuildings adjacent to the Kellam-Hatch house. These include a small storage shed, an A-frame well house for the well Robert Kellam dug in the 1970s, and a treehouse built in the early 1980s by Robert Kellam for his daughter, Leewyn.



Left: Leewyn Kellam Treehouse Right: A-Frame Well House

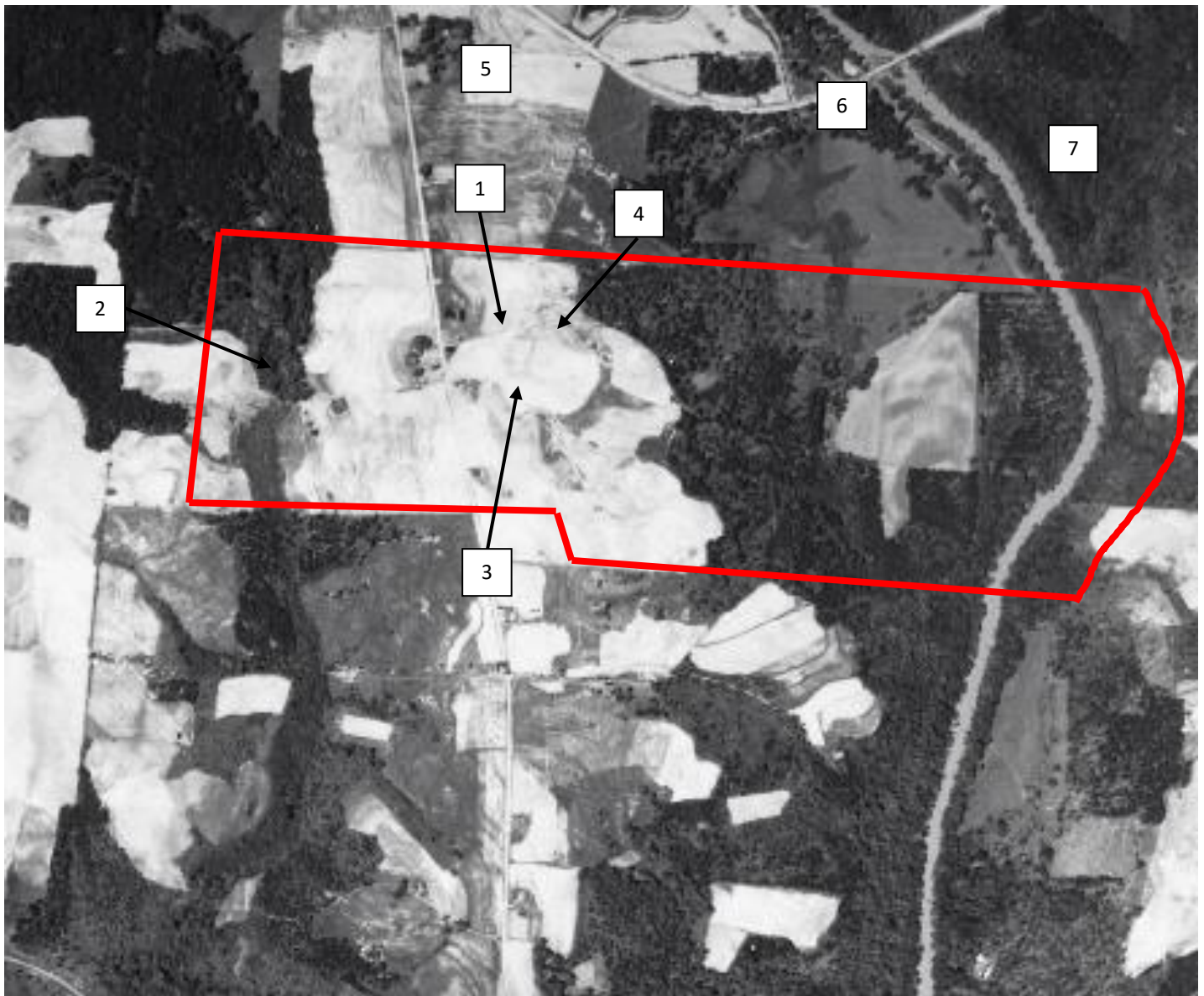
Two additional buildings have been removed from the farm. The Richardson Cabin, built on the Upham tract in the 1950s, was located on the west bank of one of the middle ponds (now known as Turfgrass Lake Number Three), not far from the Poe-Kellam-Hatch House. The cabin was demolished when the land was sold in 1993 to become part of the Village Lakes subdivision.⁶⁵ There was also a shed near the southeastern field of the Kellam-Wyatt Farm, which for a short time was owned by Carol Richardson Upham and used for the turf grass operation. When that approximately ten-acre parcel reverted ownership back to Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt, they demolished the shed. However, the conservation easement allows for a small building to be constructed again on this part of the farm for use in farming or educational activities.⁶⁶



*Left: 1970s Aerial Photo showing the Richardson Cabin (top) and turf grass shed (bottom)
Right: Turf grass shed in 1970
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*



Land Use Map - 1938



1938 USDA Historical Aerial Photo – the red line delineates the Gill Farm/Richardson Farm
(courtesy of University of North Carolina Libraries)

— Gill Farm/Richardson Farm Approximate Boundary

1 Griffin House

2 Tobacco Fields

3 Tobacco Curing Barns

4 Farm Outbuildings (likely milk house and livestock barn)

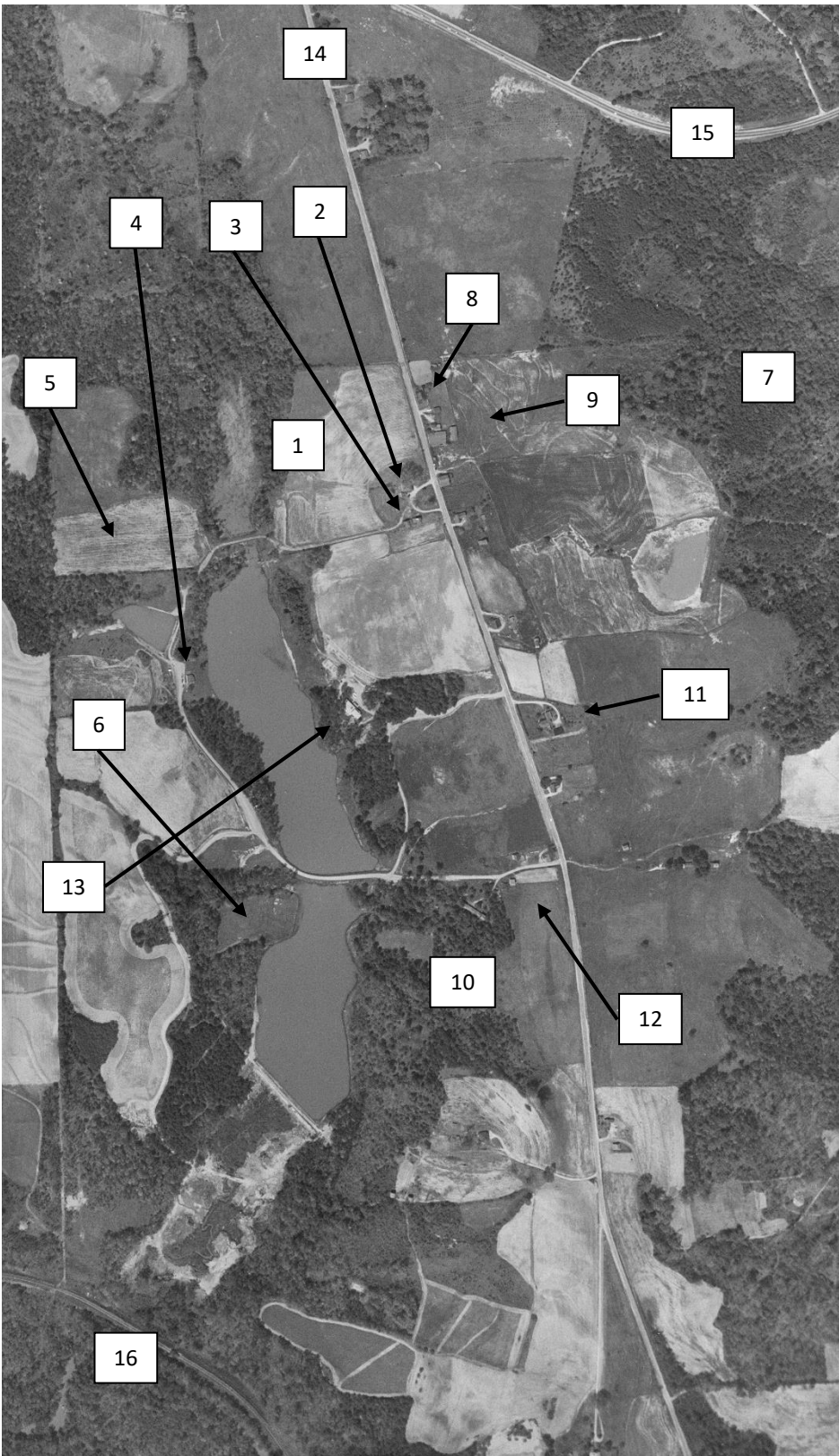
5 Route 5/Rogers Lane

6 Highway 64

7 Neuse River



Land Use Map - 1959

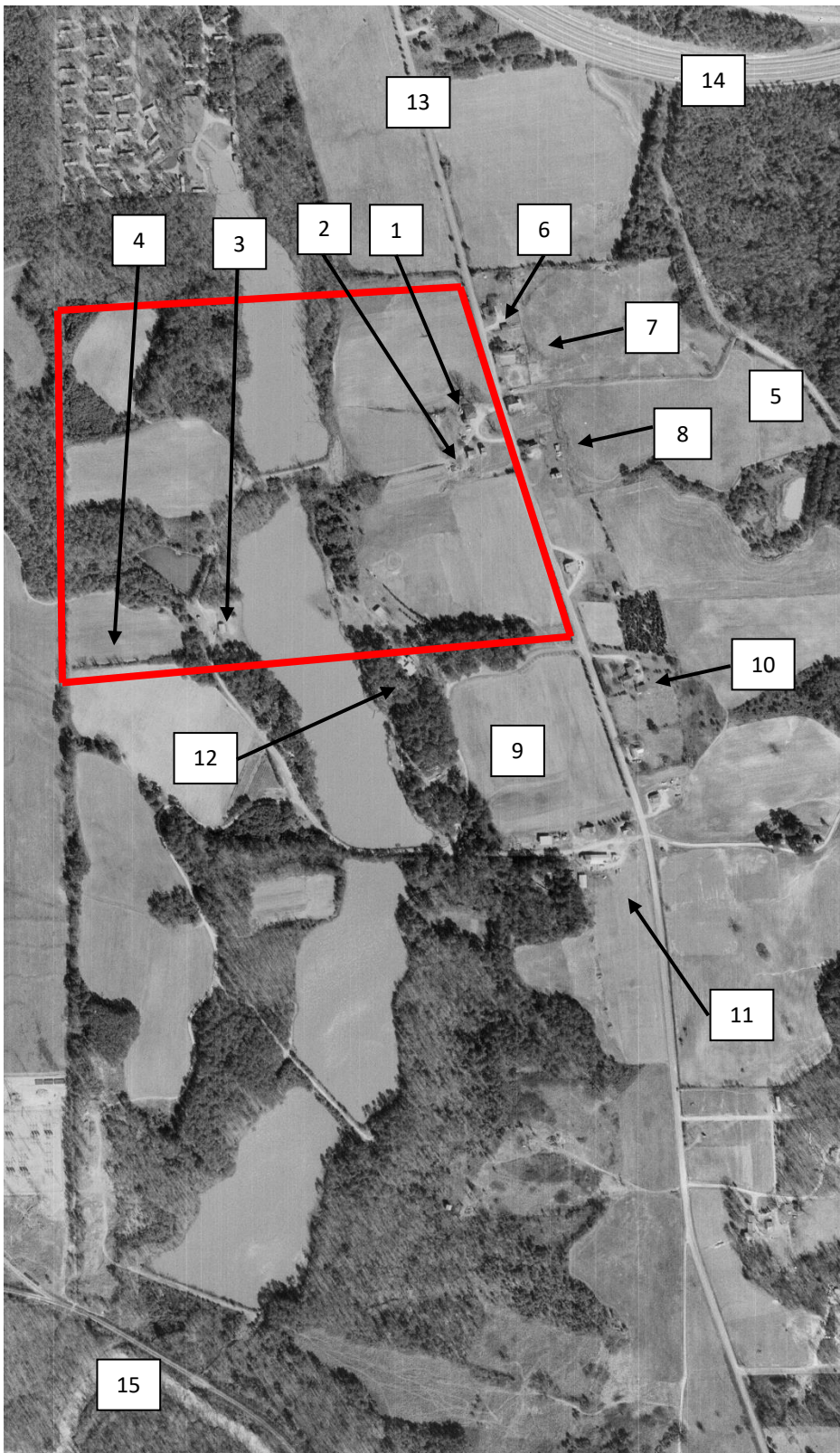


- 1 Emily Richardson Kellam Inheritance
- 2 Griffin House
- 3 Tobacco Curing Barns
- 4 Poe-Kellam-Hatch House
- 5 Tobacco Fields
- 6 Tobacco Seeding Field
- 7 Virginia Richardson Goulding Inheritance
- 8 Virginia Richardson Goulding House
- 9 Farm Outbuildings: Chicken Coop, Milk House, Livestock Barn (horses, cows, goats), Tobacco Pack Houses
- 10 Carol Richardson Upham Inheritance/Farm
- 11 Carol Richardson Upham House #1
- 12 Turf Grass Farm Office
- 13 Carol Richardson Upham House #2
- 14 Route 5/Rogers Lane
- 15 Highway 64
- 16 Crabtree Creek

1959 USDA Historical Aerial Photo
(courtesy of University of North Carolina Libraries)



Land Use Map - 1971



1971 USDA Historical Aerial Photo
(courtesy of University of North Carolina Libraries)

— Robert Kellam Farm Approx. Boundary

- 1 Griffin House
- 2 Tobacco Curing Barns
- 3 Poe-Kellam-Hatch House
- 4 Organic Vegetable Garden
- 5 Virginia Richardson Goulding Farm
- 6 Virginia Richardson Goulding House
- 7 Farm Outbuildings: Chicken Coop, Milk House, Livestock Barn (horses, cows, goats), Tobacco Pack Houses
- 8 Future Site of Timothy & Gina Goulding House and River Meadows Kennel
- 9 Carol Richardson Upham Farm
- 10 Carol Richardson Upham House #1
- 11 Turf Grass Farm Office
- 12 Carol Richardson Upham House #2
- 13 Route 5/North Rogers Lane
- 14 Highway 64
- 15 Crabtree Creek



Land Use Map - 2015



- Robert Kellam Farm Approx. Boundary
- 1 Hay Fields
- 2 Kellam-Wyatt House
- 3 Organic Vegetable Garden & Outbuildings
- 4 Poe-Kellam-Hatch House
- 5 Summer Place
- 6 Waterford Landing
- 7 Lakeland Estates
- 8 Village Lakes
- 9 Anderson Point
- 10 Route 5/Rogers Lane
- 11 Highway 64
- 12 Crabtree Creek
- 13 Emily Babcock Lake
- 14 Turfgrass Lake Number Three
- 15 Turfgrass Lake Number Two
- 16 Turfgrass Lake Number One

2015 Aerial Photo
(courtesy of Wake County iMaps)



Recommendations for Future Use

When considering the future use of the property, it is important to consider Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt's purposes in placing the conservation easement and donating the land to the county park system. In Robert's words in 2013: "Our main goals for the property are, first and foremost, to protect it from development. We would also like for it to continue to be a sanctuary for wildlife, a location for nature education and conservancy, and to be available for multiple, sustainable uses including: an incubator farm, community gardening, greenway, and a public park maintained in its natural state."⁶⁷

"When I first came here, I looked out the window and there was a Great Blue Heron. And I just fell in love with the place," Susan recalls, saying that her fondest memories of the farm included "birds, especially water birds, such as the Great Blue Herons in both lakes almost every day, Green Herons, Kingfishers; Bluebirds; naturally-occurring native plants including pink lady-slippers, jack-in-the-pulpit, green and gold."⁶⁸

With these priorities in mind, the top recommendation for future use is a wildlife observation preserve. Susan Wyatt notes that a great variety of songbirds, birds of prey, and waterbirds frequent the property, as well as a number of mammals, reptile, and amphibian species. The property also provides opportunities to enjoy native plant-life, with a variety of mature trees and naturally occurring native plants. An excerpted list of animals observed at the Kellam-Wyatt Farm is included in Appendix B, and a full list of plants and animals observed is included in the "City of Oaks Foundation Baseline Documentation Report."



Left: A Great Blue Heron visits the Kellam-Wyatt House dock (courtesy of Susan Wyatt)

Right: A turtle explores the equipment shed

The Kellam-Wyatt House features a multi-story wall of windows facing the lake, providing an ideal use as a nature center. Public accessibility would need to be addressed, as the house has seven levels, bearing in mind that only public floors need to meet state and federal accessibility requirements. Remaining spaces could be designated for staff or storage purposes without necessitating public accessibility alterations.

Use as a wildlife observation preserve facilitates both public education and public participation in the park, with opportunities for contests, such as wildlife photography or bird identification; participation in broader wildlife conservation initiatives, such as the Cornell Ornithology Lab bird counts; providing wildlife observation resources to the public, such as a binocular checkout stations or birding and wildlife identification guides; offering work days to conduct park maintenance, such as removing invasive plants; and providing species-specific programming, such as Monarch migration events. The "preserve" use within the Wake County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space system is ideal for a wildlife observation preserve, as preserves typically have limited public access, few amenities, and a single recreational use, resulting in minimal disturbance to wildlife.



The Poe-Kellam-Hatch House is also a valuable asset to the preserve and would serve well as an educational programming facility with easy access to the pond, restroom facilities, and space for programming, offices, and storage. Kellam and Wyatt often invited local school groups, CSA Co-op members, and Master Gardner classes to tour the farm, as well as providing educational opportunities for students at North Carolina State University. The continuation of educational programming focused on farm-to-table initiatives, agricultural history, and sustainable agriculture should be a priority for the future use of this property. The storage shed, treehouse, and A-frame well house at the Kellam-Hatch House could be utilized to support these educational programs and should be retained until the use of the house has been determined.



*Left: Robert Kellam leads a farm tour for Environmental Protection Agency alumni
Right: Robert Kellam leads a farm tour for a local Audubon society
(courtesy of Susan Wyatt)*

Part of Kellam and Wyatt's vision for the property is active use for farming or gardening. This could be achieved through leasing fields to local farmers, or by serving as an incubator farm or community garden. The farm outbuildings remain useful if the fields and gardens remain in use, and they should be retained until the use of the existing farming and gardening fields has been determined.

Kellam and Wyatt's participation in local organizations and relationships with their community are also important to the legacy of the farm. Many of the above recommended uses could be achieved and/or enhanced through partnerships with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and Wake County Center, Master Gardener program, North Carolina State University, Community Supported Agriculture Cooperatives, and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as local farmers, schools, and organizations.⁶⁹



Endnotes

Project Description

- ¹ “City of Oaks Foundation Baseline Documentation Report,” provided to author by Susan Wyatt.

Historical Narrative

- ² John H. Wheeler, *Historical Sketches of North Carolina from 1584 to 1851* (Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott & Grambo, 1851), 418; Rev. Moses H. Wilder, *Book of the Wilders* (New York, NY: Edward O. Jenkins, 1878), 131-132.
- ³ United States Census Bureau, “1850 U.S. Federal Census – Slave Schedules,” www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); United States Census Bureau, “1860 U.S. Federal Census,” www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); Wilder, *Book of the Wilders*, 131-132.
- ⁴ “N.A. Bunch to G.H. Wilder,” August 12, 1872, Deed Book 34, Page 463, Wake County Register of Deeds; “C.F. Debnam to G.H. Wilder,” August 13, 1872, Deed Book 34, Pages 463-464, Wake County Register of Deeds; “John B. Taylor to G.H. Wilder,” August 13, 1872, Deed Book 34, Pages 464-465, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ⁵ “R.H. Battle, Jr., to B.P. Williamson,” January 1, 1878, Deed Book 49, Page 259, Wake County Register of Deeds; “Thomas B. Bridgers to B.P. Williamson,” March 11, 1878, Deed Book 49, Page 717, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ⁶ “R.H. Battle, Jr., to B.P. Williamson,” January 1, 1878, Deed Book 49, Page 259, Wake County Register of Deeds; “Thomas B. Bridgers to B.P. Williamson,” March 11, 1878, Deed Book 49, Page 717, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ⁷ “Descendants of James Jones (& a few allied lines),” family tree, www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); United States Census Bureau, “1880 U.S. Federal Census,” www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020).
- ⁸ “B.P. Williamson and wife Ella S. to David C. Batchelor,” March 1, 1897, Deed Book 143, Page 583, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ⁹ “B.P. Williamson and wife Ella S. to David C. Batchelor,” March 1, 1897, Deed Book 143, Page 583, Wake County Register of Deeds.
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- ¹¹ “David C. Batchelor and Husband to S.C. von Gottschalk and Wife, et al.,” June 30, 1911, Deed Book 252, Page 387, Wake County Register of Deeds; “S.C. Gottschalk, et als., to David C. Batchelor,” October 1, 1912, Deed Book 268, Page 428, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ¹² “Map of the Batchelor Farm,” December 24, 1913, Book of Maps 1911, Page 106, Wake County Register of Deeds; “W.P. Batchelor and David C. Batchelor, his wife, to K.O. Pool,” February 2, 1916, Deed Book 305, Page 7, Wake County Register of Deeds; 1910 U.S. Federal Census; 1920 U.S. Federal Census.
- ¹³ “K.O. Pool and wife, Pattie F. Pool, to C.B. Gill,” November 26, 1918, Deed Book 334, Page 131, Wake County Register of Deeds; “D.F. Fort and wife to C.B. Gill,” January 2, 1919, Deed Book 334, Page 234, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ¹⁴ 1910 U.S. Federal Census; United States Census Bureau, “1930 U.S. Federal Census,” www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); United States Census Bureau, “1940 U.S. Federal Census,” www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020).
- ¹⁵ “Clarence B. Gill & Wife to Andrew D. Christian et als. Trs.,” April 15, 1920, Deed Book 355, Page 544, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ¹⁶ Hill Directory Co., *Raleigh N.C. Directory, 1915-1916* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Company, Inc., 1915), www.digitalnc.org (accessed February 2020); Hill Directory Company, *Raleigh (N.C.) Directory, 1919-1920* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Company, 1919), www.digitalnc.org (accessed February 2020); Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, *Telephone Directory, 1925, Raleigh, N.C.*, www.digitalnc.org (accessed February 2020); 1930 U.S. Federal Census; 1940 U.S. Federal Census.
- ¹⁷ “Andrew D. Christian Tr. et al., to Atlantic Life Ins. Company,” November 20, 1935, Deed Book 705, Page 396, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ¹⁸ “Atlantic Life Insurance Co., to Emma P. Richardson,” December 1, 1936, Deed Book 730, Page 210, Wake County Register of Deeds.
- ¹⁹ 1880 U.S. Federal Census; 1900 U.S. Federal Census; 1910 U.S. Federal Census; Personal history of Emma Cerula Poe Richardson, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, via email and postal mail, January 2020.
- ²⁰ George D. Richardson obituary, March 12, 1962, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.
- ²¹ Bob Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School, 2013, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.
- ²² Personal history of George D. Richardson, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.



²³ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020; "George Richardson weds Miss Poe of Danville, VA," January 31, 1917, *Greensboro Daily News*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; "Richardson-Poe," February 6, 1917, (*Raleigh*) *News & Observer*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.

²⁴ Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; "History of the Lakes Adjacent to Lakeland Estates," provided to the author by Susan Wyatt; Personal history of George D. Richardson; George D. Richardson obituary; 1920 U.S. Federal Census; 1930 U.S. Federal Census; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt by Cheri Szcodronski via email, March 20, 2020.

²⁵ Personal history of George D. Richardson; "M.T. Abel Appointed General Agent Here," January 9, 1931, (*Raleigh*) *News & Observer*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; "Atlantic Life Insurance Co. to Emma P. Richardson," December 1, 1936, Deed Book 730, Page 210, Wake County Register of Deeds; "E.L. Bartholomew to Emma P. Richardson," June 1, 1942, Deed Book 883, Page 170, Wake County Register of Deeds.

²⁶ Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; "History of the Lakes Adjacent to Lakeland Estates"; Bob Kellam, notes for eulogy, 2016, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History," provided to author by Susan Wyatt; Personal Interview with Susan Wyatt; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt by Emily Catherman Fryar via email, February 25, 2019; County Agents Report Eastern Farm Activities," October 2, 1944, (*Raleigh*) *News & Observer*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.

²⁷ Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; "History of the Lakes Adjacent to Lakeland Estates"; National Park Service, Historic American Buildings Survey, "311 Fayetteville Street (Commercial Building), Written Historical and Descriptive Data," HABS NC-405, 1990.

²⁸ George D. Richardson obituary; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020; "M.J. Jones, 75, Businessman, Succumbs," *Greensboro Daily News*, May 5, 1956, www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); "The Jesse Jones Story," *The High Point (NC) Enterprise*, November 1, 1962, www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020); Jesse Jones Sausage Advertisement, *Statesville (NC) Record and Landmark*, June 22, 1956, www.newspapers.com (accessed February 2020); "City's FPC Complaint against Appalachian Top Story of Year; General Election 2nd," *The Danville (VA) Register*, January 1, 1969, www.newspapers.com (accessed February 2020); North Carolina Business Hall of Fame, "Ron E. Doggett," <http://www.historync.org/laureate%20-%20Ron%20Doggett.htm> (accessed February 2020); Hill Directory Company, *Hill's Raleigh (Wake County, N.C.) City Directory, 1955* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Co., Inc., Publishers, 1955), www.digitalnc.org (accessed February 2020).

²⁹ George D. Richardson obituary.

³⁰ "Land in Wake Badly Eroded: 15,000 Acres Abandoned in County, Assistant County Agent Says," June 29, 1936, (*Raleigh*) *News & Observer*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; "Farmers Decide to Form Bureau: Committee Appointed to Perfect Organization of County Farm Bureau," April 6, 1936, (*Raleigh News & Observer*, provided to author by Susan Wyatt.

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³⁶ "George D. Richardson & Wife, Emma P. Richardson, to Carol Richardson Upham," September 18, 1951, Deed Book 108, Page 307, Wake County Register of Deeds; "Mrs. Emma P. Richardson and George D. Richardson, her husband, to Carol Richardson Upham, Emily Richardson Kellam, and Robert George Kellam," September 9, 1957, Deed Book 1287, Page 430, Wake County Register of Deeds.

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⁴¹ "Mrs. Emma P. Richardson and George D. Richardson her husband to Virginia Richardson Goulding, et als.," September 9, 1957, Deed Book 1287, Page 424, Wake County Register of Deeds.

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⁴⁴ Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School.



⁴⁵ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, February 25, 2019; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020; 1920 U.S. Federal Census; 1930 U.S. Federal Census; 1940 U.S. Federal Census; Hill Directory Company, *Hill's Raleigh (Wake County, N.C.) City Directory, 1950* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Co., Inc., Publishers, 1950), www.digitalinc.org (accessed February 2020); 1955 Raleigh City Directory; Hill Directory Company, *Hill's Raleigh (Wake County, N.C.) City Directory, 1960* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Co., Inc., Publishers, 1960), www.digitalinc.org (accessed January 2020); Ida Mae Griffin Obituary, *(Raleigh) News and Observer*, www.ancestry.com (accessed February 2020).

⁴⁶ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020.

⁴⁷ Hill Directory Company, *Hill's Raleigh (Wake County, N.C.) City Directory, 1963* (Richmond, VA: Hill Directory Company Publishers, 1963), www.digitalinc.org (accessed February 2020); "Emma P. Richardson Heirs to Virginia R. Goulding," Estate File E-391, February 26, 1993, Wake County Real Estate Data, Ownership History, wakegov.com (accessed February 2020).

⁴⁸ "Carol R. Upham to John E. Upham, Jr.," December 28, 1976, Deed Book 2463, Page 127, Wake County Register of Deeds; "TGF Associates" Assume Name Certificate, September 1, 1985, Deed Book 3577, Page 117, Wake County Register of Deeds; Carol R. Hayes and husband, Cecil Hayes, to TGF Associates," September 6, 1985, Deed Book 3577, Page 118, Wake County Register of Deeds; "John E. Upham, Jr., to TGF Associates," September 6, 1985, Deed Book 3577, Page 122, Wake County Register of Deeds.

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⁵⁰ "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History"; "Anne Poe Goulding, et als., to Timothy R. Goulding," December 11, 1975, Deed Book 2366, Page 437, Wake County Register of Deeds; "Timothy R. Goulding and wife, Eugenia H. Goulding, to Marlowe & Moye, LLC," June 30, 1999, Deed Book 8352, Page 1517, Wake County Register of Deeds; "Timothy R. Goulding, et als., to Marlow & Moye, LLC," June 30, 1999, Deed Book 8352, Page 1522, Wake County Register of Deeds.

⁵¹ Robert George Kellam obituary, August 2016, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

⁵² Robert George Kellam obituary; Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

⁵³ Robert George Kellam obituary; Kellam, notes for eulogy.

⁵⁴ Personal history of Susan Reynolds Wyatt, provided to author by Susan Wyatt; Personal Interview with Susan Wyatt; Robert George Kellam obituary; Kellam, notes for eulogy.

⁵⁵ Robert George Kellam obituary; Kellam, notes for eulogy; Personal history of Susan Reynolds Wyatt; Personal Interview with Susan Wyatt.

⁵⁶ Kellam, history notes for interview with Enloe School; Personal history of Susan Reynolds Wyatt; "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

⁵⁷ Robert George Kellam obituary; Personal Interview with Susan Wyatt; Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020.

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Architectural and Land Use History

⁶¹ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020.

⁶² Personal Interview with Susan Wyatt; "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

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⁶⁶ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020.

Recommendation for Future Use

⁶⁷ "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

⁶⁸ "Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve History."

⁶⁹ Personal Communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020. For more about Robert Kellam and Susan Wyatt's vision for the property, see c



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Appendix A:

Transcript of Oral History Interview with Susan Wyatt

Oral History Interview with Susan Wyatt

Interviewed by Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski and Emily Catherman Fryar

February 22, 2019

at Kellam-Wyatt Farm, 730 North Rogers Lane, Raleigh, NC

Note: The following transcription is provided for reference only. Personal and unrelated conversation has been omitted from the transcript. The transcript has been edited for clarity by removing stuttering, start-and-stop sentences, and filler words such as “umm,” “just,” “yeah,” “like,” and “you know.” In general, run-on sentences and slang terms are transcribed as spoken. Clarifying information added to the transcript is notated with [brackets]. Periodic time markers are provided in italics and formatted minutes:seconds into the interview.

Introductory Conversation – Susan explaining research materials she’s providing

4:32

Cheri: You’re from Virginia?

Susan: That’s right, I’m from Lynchburg, Virginia.

Cheri: Lynchburg. Ok.

Susan: That’s right. And I got here by – how did you know? Well she (Emily) probably told you I’m moving back there.

Cheri: Yeah. Well and my sister lives in... she lives in Smithfield and teaches in Suffolk and so I’ve been all over that part of Virginia.

Susan: And I went to school at William and Mary, down in that area. Well I first – Bob and I both worked at the Environmental Protection Agency and I got to know him there. And then I moved here in 1984. So obviously I wasn’t here for much of the prior history of the farm, but he talked about it a lot, and he had these records that I could pull together. But it sounds like you’ve looked at deeds and things?

5:30

Cheri: A little bit, yeah. I wanna pause here and talk more about y’all working for the EPA.

Susan: Oh ok.

Cheri: When were you there?

Susan: Well we started – I started there in 1972.

Cheri: Ok. That’s really early for the EPA, right?



Susan: Right, it was right after it was formed. I was an engineer there, which, I was – that was unusual, very unusual to have a woman environmental engineer. And I became a manager there, which, I was the first manager that was an engineer as opposed to an administrative person.

Cheri: Were there many women that you worked with?

Susan: No. Well not other than secretaries and human resources kind of people. But later they came and now there's more women than there are men there.

Cheri: Was that a struggle? Or did they accept you?

Susan: Well I was real lucky because the person that hired me had eleven children, and I think the majority of them were girls. And he was real interested in promoting women. I think that's what allowed me to even go work there in the first place. When I went there, I had a master's degree and when I first interviewed, they wanted me to do personnel work. I had two interviews. That, which didn't fit my background at all, and I couldn't type worth a hoot. And the other one was with the head of a division, or the assistant head of a division, that was interested in promoting women. So he hired me and then he made sure I got all kinds of opportunities working there. So I was just lucky. There were no other women engineers hardly for three or four years, I think. And Bob first worked at NIEHS [National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences] and then went to management intern program in Washington with NIEHS, and then he wanted to come back here and EPA had an opening. I can't remember what year he went there. He started with the government in 1971 but when exactly he went to the EPA I don't know, but like 1973 or 1974. It was early.

8:22

Susan: So we stayed there until January 2004, so a little over thirty years. Then he had this farm and he had been interested in organic farming since he first moved here in 1971. So he started up the farm business. Well we'd always had a vegetable garden and that kind of thing, but as far as selling vegetables he started that when we retired. I was helping him, but he was the main instigator on it. And we had shared responsibilities. Then from 2004 through 2015 we did that and sold vegetables to a CSA. Do you know what that is?

Cheri: Yeah.

Susan: Which included a lot of people from EPA. You know they all knew us and were interested in having fresh vegetables. And Irregardless Café, which is a restaurant downtown. And Lawrence Hills Farmers Market [per personal communication with Susan Wyatt, January 2020, this is incorrect and intended to be "the downtown farmers market," which was on Fayetteville Street at that time]. You probably don't know it. That's a farmers market at a local shopping center. And then one that was downtown, I don't know if it's still down there or not, right downtown. So we had about forty different kinds of organic vegetables and fruits. And we had chickens, and different colored eggs. And we had bees, so we had some honey. Local schoolchildren came out sometimes and we had workdays here where people in the CSA would come out and have firsthand experience with where their vegetables were coming from and bring their children.

Cheri: That's a lot of skills, to do all of those things, so where did he learn all of that? Trial and error?

Susan: I know that he had a very high IQ, and I'm not trying to brag about him, but I think that played a role because he was so versatile in what he did. He went to Yale and he majored initially in English and then in Biology, and so that's why he got into the science stuff. But here, he'd just grown up working here on the farm. They didn't live here but he'd come out here to work, so I'm sure he learned stuff from being here. But they were mainly growing tobacco. They did have a big vegetable garden, but as far as what they sold, it was tobacco, corn, and they had cotton for a while. But I think he just learned about growing vegetables through his experience with his grandparents but then he just learned on his own. We both went through the Master Gardening program, so we enhanced our learning through that. But he knew a lot about it before that. And when I say he was very versatile, he built half the house where my stepdaughter lives. He and his cousin built a dog



kennel on his cousin's property across Rogers Lane. And I mean, they built it themselves. We both did a lot of work here, but he did tile work, stuff that required more skill. Then he built all the buildings that are up there for the gardens himself. So I think he just learned on his own, and he was smart enough to figure things out.

Cheri: Sounds like he just had a knack for farming and the land.

13:12

Susan: Yeah he did. And he got that I think, the love of gardening, from the grandfather. His main job, by the way, was not farming. The grandfather grew up on a farm in Virginia, near Danville. And the grandmother grew up on a farm in West Virginia. But he started working for an insurance company and moved to Richmond, Virginia. And then the insurance company wanted to open an office in Raleigh, and that's how he got to Raleigh. So he worked for an insurance company for a long time, but then he, I forget how old he was, but he was fairly old. About 1935ish he bought I think four farms, there were several farms. And then he owned Lanier-Womble Clothing Store downtown. And he owned the building now where the big PNC is.

Cheri: Oh, the Briggs Building? The hardware building?

Susan: No, not that one. It's near there. There's a huge, tall building, I think it's called the PNC Building, where there are a lot of offices. [PNC Plaza at 301 Fayetteville Street] Well the building that's Bob's grandfather owned is torn down, but it was there. So he owned that. I don't think he worked in the clothing store, but he was owner of it. He also started Jones Sausage.

Cheri: He was busy!

Susan: But his favorite thing was the farm. And he'd come out here and work on the farm. How he did all that stuff is beyond me, but you can kind of see how Bob kind of fell into it.

Cheri: Were they close?

Susan: Yes because Bob's father died when he was three. They lived in Spokane, Washington at the time but he and his mother moved back here, and they lived with the grandparents for a while. And when they weren't actually living with them, they were in this area and of course visited. And the grandparents did not actually live here, but they had a cabin that was not on this property, but on the property that became the cousin's property. They had a cabin. They'd come out here on weekends and have picnics, and that's where they had the vegetable garden.

Cheri: So how did he meet his wife if she was from West Virginia? Did she come to Raleigh too? Did they meet here?

Susan: No, they met in Danville, Virginia. The [family] history tells about how she and her father ended up in Danville. The grandparents lived in the Five Points area, which is near downtown.

Cheri: People talk about how we're so transient today, but people moved around a lot for a long time.

Susan: Yeah they did. And to them, this was way out in the country. You know, we're only like five miles from downtown, or six maybe. So this was a big excursion to come out here.

17:15

Cheri: So how much acreage is here now? It's about fifty?

Susan: Fifty-nine. Let's see, I wrote it down here... 59.272 based on the last survey.



Cheri: Right. That's what they're taxing you for anyway.

Susan: Right. Well not me!

Cheri: Not anymore! That's true!

Susan: Well we had an agricultural deferment on the property and then we put a conservation easement, so the taxes here were never that bad. But originally the farm – this is where it gets complicated. It started out as the Gill Farm. And I put them in here [indicates research packet]. I'm getting to your question about acreage because...

Cheri: It changes.

Susan: Yeah. There was a lot that went on here, and hopefully you can learn more about it than I [know] about some of the adjacent properties. But the Gills apparently owned this property and it was called the Gill Farm.

Cheri: And it was this side, but it went across Rogers before Rogers was even called that right?

Susan: Right, it was called Route 5. Yeah and I have all these pictures up here [indicating photo collection laid out for interview, which has been digitized by Wake County PROS], and I need to know whether you already have access to them. So then they deeded the property, a Deed of Trust, which I don't know what that really means, to the insurance company. And then they foreclosed the property in 1935 and it went to the insurance company. And then the Richardsons bought it in 1936. And I can count up the acres, but I don't know exactly how many acres that was. It was probably around sixty plus eighty-four is what I'm guessing just based on what occurred later. The reason it gets confusing is because there were three daughters of the Richardsons and for sure the property that was the Gill property was split between Bob's mother [Emily] and the youngest daughter, whose name was Virginia, and their respective families. But the oldest daughter, named Carol Richardson Upham Hayes, she may have owned part of the Gill property too. Or if she did, she owned that plus more. So the whole property that they called "The Farm" was 388 acres at one time, and it went, like you said, it was on this side of the road and it encompassed all four lakes that go down and it went down to the Neuse River on the other side. So it was a big hunk. I really don't understand what went on with the oldest daughter. She lived down here at the bottom of this lake [indicating south] and of course they owned all that property. They had a turf grass business, she and her husband, Jack Upham. I'm pretty sure the grandfather gave her a hunk of property, but they bought more property in order to run this turf grass business. As far as the other two daughters, Emily, Bob's mother, and Virginia, her sister, he left the property to them in life estate with remainder to the children. Basically, this side of Rogers Lane was Emily, and that was the sixty acres, and then on the other side was I think about 82 or 84 acres to Virginia's family. And he left it in life estate with remainder [to the children], meaning that no one could sell the property unless the mother and the children all agreed. And if it wasn't sold while the mother was living, it went to the grandchildren. And that's really critical because Bob thinks that the grandfather knew that the grandchildren, especially him, had this love of the property and would probably preserve it and try to keep it as a farm. Virginia's children, there were three of them, and one of them lives in Maryland, one of them lived here on the farm for a while, and the other one, she wasn't even part of it because she wasn't living when the grandfather was alive. But they obviously wanted to sell their part in it. And it got sold and so there's a development there.

Cheri: And they sold it to the developers?

Susan: Right.

Cheri: There wasn't anything in between?



Susan: No. The only thing, it wasn't really in between, but Tim Goulding, one of the sons, he and his wife, Gina Goulding, had a house on the other side of the road for a while. But when the family got ready to sell the property to the developers, they moved to Cary. So I'm just trying to say that they lived here for a while. And in fact, Virginia lived in a house over there on the other side of the road too when the children were young. Everyone in the family lived here at one time. Bob being an only child, that made it easier, and his mother was empathetic with the fact that he wanted to preserve the farm.

24:22

Cheri: So who lived on this side [indicating north] then that sold land for that development?

Susan: That never belonged to the family. That belonged to the Rogers family.

Cheri: Was he a doctor? That the road was named after?

Susan: I think so.

Cheri: A community, local doctor?

Susan: I know nothing about him, in fact I'd forgotten about that, him being a doctor. Because the Rogers I knew was a descendant. And I didn't know him well, I just knew him because we were down at City Hall together. He was a relative of course. So we had nothing to do with that property.

Personal Conversation

Susan: I don't how he was, or when he died, but I think it was probably the son that we met and was probably my age, so he wasn't ancient. But they had a farm too, there was farming over there. And some of the old aerial photographs I have show all the property was mowed, nothing but farm country up in this area.

26:13

Cheri: So how about this side of you? [indicating south]

Susan: Well that side, that all is what belonged to the oldest daughter. And I don't know how much of it was the Gill farm. I've got it here on the map, but if there were 388 acres and you subtract 144, whatever that is, like 200 and some down there. So the lower half of the lake belonged to – and all the other property down there – belonged to Carol Upham and her husband Jack Upham. And like I was saying, the family cabin was on the property that became hers. Before she died, her son's name was John Upham, and he had absolutely no interest in farming. He's a priest.

Cheri: That's a slightly different field.

Susan: Yeah. He was much younger than Bob, well he is much younger than Bob was. She knew he wasn't interested in farming. She told us she wanted to be good stewards of the property. Well in her mind that meant building housing developments. That was her view. But she did preserve 20 acres that she left to her son, where her house was, which was at the lower end of this lake. So even before she died, housing developments were started on whatever she had, 255 minus 20, which extended everywhere down here along the other two lakes as well as the bottom of this lake. When she left her 20 acres and her house to her son, he wasn't allowed to sell it until he was forty. That was probably a mistake because that just made him hate the property. He just had to get out of here, and the day that he was forty he was gone. So he sold that to what became Lakeland Estates. Everything else down this way belongs to Village Lakes. But the property where their house was is called Lakeland Estates.

29:15



Cheri: So then if you go back this direction [indicating west], that's your not quite sixty acres, and then are there more housing developments on that side too?

Susan: A mobile home park. This house is in the center, this property. And I guess there's one other wrinkle. There's one field over here, that way [indicating south], that's on this property that the grandfather – well it was near the house that the oldest daughter [Carol Upham] lived in and she wanted that property because it was so close to her house. So he let her have it until she died, but he left it in life estate with remainder to Bob's mother and then Bob. So there was 9.4 acres that for a while belonged to her but is now part of this property.

Cheri: I remember seeing that in the deeds. The way you explain that makes sense.

Susan: Another thing you'll see in the deeds, but I would just ignore it because it's so complicated and it's not important, is that when we built this house, they wouldn't let us have a mortgage unless we owned the land that it was on. And we had to have ten acres for some reason in order to build a house, it was some kind of rule. But in order for us to have ten acres that didn't belong also to his mother, we had to give her ten acres. So we gave her ten acres up on the road here, that she could have sold if she wanted to but thank goodness she didn't. As soon as we paid off the mortgage and she was dead, we recombined all the property into one. And by that time the aunt that owned the 9.4 acres... Well the problem is we went through these gyrations two or three, well at least two times, and if you try to follow all that deed history...

Cheri: There's a lot of back and forth.

Susan: Yeah, it's not even...

Emily: It's just names on paperwork, it's not really the practical use of the property.

Susan: Right. It was just something we had to do in order to build a house.

31:58

Cheri: So did the aunt [Carol Upham] grow anything on that 9.4 [acres]? Is that what she wanted it for?

Susan: Turf grass.

Cheri: Oh right, right. Ok.

Susan: In fact, this is the part for Emily probably, that field is less... I don't know what to say except productive. It's been farmed to death. The other fields, you'll see the hay grows up higher than the weeds, but that field, they just tore all the nutrients out of it by planting turf grass. As long as the grandfather was living, there was mainly tobacco, but he also did corn and cotton, and for a little while had some cattle. After he died, this farm that belonged to Bob was mainly just hay except where we had vegetable gardens. And then later we expanded that field, so it filled up the whole field with vegetable gardens. But other than that, it just kind of sat except for that turf grass field until the aunt died in 1989. So other than hay, it hasn't been producing anything since then.

Cheri: Was it dairy cattle?

Susan: I don't know. It was Angus cattle. And I'm guessing that means beef cattle.

Cheri: Oh ok, I think that's beef cattle, yeah.

Susan: I don't remember him talking about milking cows.



Cheri: That seems like the kind of thing you'd remember.

Susan: Yeah.

Cheri: Was the corn just to support the livestock?

Susan: I don't know.

Cheri: Ok. I was wondering if they might have taken it to mill or anything like that.

33:58

Susan: I don't know, because I only know about the corn from reading what Bob wrote. And unfortunately, as far as other people that can help you, if you go back to this list [indicating research materials], where it talks about first cousins... Well John Upham is the priest, I don't think he'd be helpful. For one thing he's a priest and didn't care about farming, but he's much younger than us. He could probably tell you about the turf grass business, but that wasn't really this property. So the children of Virginia: the oldest daughter, named Ann Poe Goulding Foster, she is the oldest of all the grandchildren, and she is very interested in the history. And she unfortunately lives in Maryland, but she does have a second home in New Bern, so she comes down here every now and then. And she keeps telling me that she's going to put together all this stuff, but I think her problem is there's so much of it she had trouble getting it...

Cheri: It's overwhelming.

Susan: And they've also had some health issues to deal with, but she's the main other person I know that can help. She would know things – like what you asked me about corn, she would know, and I don't. Like I said, she and her family did live here for a little while on the other side of the road when they were children. The next person named Tim Goulding would have been helpful except unfortunately he has brain cancer. He remembers some stuff, but... Luckily, I talked to him last year before he got brain cancer, and he helped me identify a lot of stuff that's on these aerial photographs. Then Margaret is the youngest child, and she's kind of like John Upham, she's much younger, and she never really lived on the farm. She owned and lived in the grandparents' house that's down at Five Points, so she knows all kinds of stuff about that but less about the farm. And then the second cousins, David Goulding at the bottom, he lived here when his parents obviously lived here, until he was, I think, in the second grade. And he loves the farm, he likes coming out here. And he won't know anything, like the ancient history, but he's familiar with the more current history. So I can give you Ann Poe's email address.

Cheri: Absolutely. She might just be happy to hear that something is happening, even if she can't help us out. I think she'd be glad to know that it's going on. So that would be great.

37:28

Cheri: I had a question then I lost it...

Susan: Well I will tell you one thing I wanted to say, that I thought of when you first said to tell my story. When I first came here, I looked out the window, and at that time it was down at the other house, and what I just absolutely loved was I looked out the window and there was a Great Blue Heron. And I just fell in love with the place when I saw that Great Blue Heron. There's usually a Great Blue Heron in this lake and the other lake almost every day. So I love the water birds.

Cheri: I was watching the grebes swim around as we were coming in. I love them. They just look sassy or something, they way they sit so low in the water and their noses are just up all the time. And I don't know, I just love them, I think they're adorable. [laughter]

Susan: They are.



Cheri: They're fun to watch. Do you have any eagles over here?

Susan: Every now and then a Bald Eagle will come, and I think I sent you a picture [to Emily], there was one here about January 22nd, if I remember correctly.

Cheri: It's about nesting time.

Susan: About twice a year they fly through here. And he was here for a half a day, sitting in the tree out here. But these lakes aren't really big enough, I don't think, to support them more regularly.

Cheri: They're too small for them to nest here, yeah.

Susan: Yeah, and the herons, I've never seen a nest here either, but I know there's rookeries near here. Every now and then we get a great white egret [Great Egret] come and stay for a day or two.

Emily: They're my favorite.

Susan: And Cormorants are here, Kingfishers, Green Herons. Often there's Hooded Mergansers, but this year I've had a few but it's not been that cold. And I used to put minnows in the lake when I owned the property, and we got more birds when we were stocking. But there have been a few this year. And we even had a Green-Winged Teal one time.

Cheri: [to Emily] You've got a birding preserve. [laughter]

Emily: Oh absolutely. [laughter]

Cheri: Do you know how excited I am right now? [laughter]

Susan: You know the sad part though, is when people come, they all run away. [laughter]

Cheri: It's true. [laughter]

Emily: You have to sit here for a while, and be quiet. [laughter]

Cheri: Well that's what birding is. It's an operation in patience, that's for sure. [laughter]

Susan: Well there's owls. We've had Piliated Woodpeckers.

Cheri: I saw a Red-Bellied [Woodpecker] climbing around that tree a little bit ago.

Susan: Yeah they're around here a lot. And I have bluebird boxes out there.

Cheri: She [Emily] was telling me about those as we were walking up actually.

Susan: And there were a lot of naturally occurring, native plants. Now there unfortunately getting destroyed by all the invasive plants coming in here. And that gets worse every year. But we did have some Lady Slippers, I'm not sure if we do anymore, over here in the woods. But I've found Jack-in-the-Pulpits within the yard naturally, Crane-Fly Orchids are out there, Green and Golds occur naturally.

Cheri: Is it wet enough for flytraps or anything to grow down there?

Susan: No.



Cheri: It's not swampy enough, right?

Susan: No, but I'm glad you mentioned that because apparently it was before they built the lakes. Of course, there was a creek here, and it must have been fairly wet because cypress trees grew here. I've never seen cypress trees growing anywhere else... I see remnants of them still in the upper lake. But the aunt [Carol Upham] built her house, and you know they cut down the cypress trees when they built the lake, and there are still stumps in the lake. She built her house out of the cypress. So that was kind of interesting.

Cheri: Do you get any of the bigger mammals? I assume you have some deer... maybe all the deer? [laughter]

Susan: We definitely have deer. [laughter] Bigger animals like bears, no.

Cheri: Do you get any coyotes?

Susan: Yeah I've seen coyotes. I don't know if I'm seeing the same animal or different animals, but I only have seen one at a time. And I thought they usually moved in groups.

Cheri: Usually they do, yeah, interesting...

Susan: So at first I thought it was a dog, but after several sightings I decided it was a coyote. And we definitely have fox families, racoons – they love to eat our chickens.

Cheri: Do you have any porcupines?

Susan: No, we don't. We have groundhogs, which we don't love. You know it's interesting, we don't have chipmunks here, but in downtown Raleigh or sections of north Raleigh, even within the beltline but on the north side of town, they have them.

Emily: You rarely see them in the Piedmont.

Cheri: [to Emily] You probably had a lot growing up.

Emily: Yeah.

Cheri: Yeah, we have them everywhere in Pennsylvania.

Emily: Chipmunks are everywhere in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Cheri: I was surprised to move here and not see chipmunks hardly ever.

Emily: I've seen some in the mountains sometimes, but not a lot.

Susan: Well I have a friend that lives on Vick Avenue, which is between downtown and the beltline, and she has them in her backyard and feeds them all the time. [laughter]

Cheri: I would too. [laughter]

Susan: So I don't know what other... and rabbits obviously.

Cheri: And I'm sure you have turkeys.



Susan: We have had turkeys, but not now.

Cheri: Oh really?

Susan: I haven't seen turkeys since... and I saw quail too, like twenty-five years ago. Have you seen any turkeys? [to Emily]

Emily: Not at the park. I've seen some at Lake Crabtree before, but I feel like even then maybe they were dumped there by somebody.

Susan: At Horseshoe Farm I think they had some naturally occurring.

Cheri: Huh. Interesting.

Susan: There's five deer I see regularly, but I've actually seen less deer and I think maybe it could be because of the coyotes.

Emily: We definitely have coyotes at Oak View too, in the woods. I've not seen them, but I've seen remnants from them.

Susan: Yeah, I see poop too. [laughter] Let's see if there anything else we haven't...

45:20

Cheri: So is there a farming history in your family also? Or did you come by this just through your husband?

Susan: No, my grandparents definitely. They had big gardens, and that's where my gardening came from, my grandmother. They lived in downtown Winston-Salem. Back in those days people had huge lots, and they had a huge vegetable garden in their backyard. And then they had a piece of property out in the country that they farmed too. Yes, I definitely followed them around. My father was the headmaster of a school in Lynchburg, Virginia, and it was on an old farm. And our family always had a huge garden there, and there were pigs and cows on the property there. So no, I did not grow up on a farm, but I grew up on a big space like this that had been a farm. And then my relatives had a big farm in southwest Virginia. We used to go visit there, and they didn't have indoor plumbing or anything. It was a real farm. [laughter] What I call a real farm. [laughter]

Cheri: Did you mother work too?

Susan: Yes. She did multiple jobs, but she worked at the school in the alumni office. You asked earlier about when I went to work at EPA – well it was an all-boys school, so I was used to being around all boys. We lived on the campus of the school, and we ate with them in the cafeteria and everything. And my husband, one way we became close was that he went to a boarding school also. That's what started us really talking. [laughter] He went to boarding school in Indiana, and his other grandfather worked there. So we had that in common.

47:46

Susan: One thing I didn't mention, that's kind of interesting, that wasn't on this property but it was on the original Gill Farm, the part that Virginia Goulding owned – my husband and her son Tim Goulding, the one that has brain cancer, built a dog kennel over there. I think it was 1973, was when they started building it. In 1982, Wake County started leasing it for the Wake County Animal Shelter, and they kept it until they built the permanent facility.

Emily: That's interesting. I didn't know that.



Susan: And other ties with Wake County – the aunt named Virginia, she worked for the school system teaching deaf children. And my stepdaughter, Leewyn, works as a teacher’s assistant with Wake County Schools. And my husband – like I said, we both got into the Master Gardener program, but he went way beyond that. He really got into the extension service, and he was on advisory boards both for the county and for the state for the extension service. He thought we were going to end up donating the property to the city. If he knew we had donated to the county, he would be so happy because he felt really strong ties with the county for a lot of reasons. Because they’re more into agriculture, for one thing, but he had worked so closely with the extension service.

49:44

Cheri: So tell me about your conservation easement. How did you decide to do it with – it was City of Oaks Foundation, right?

Susan: Right.

Cheri: How did you choose who to do it with, and how did you come to the decision to do it?

Susan: We really started thinking about it way back in the nineties because we had friend who did work, not here but in Virginia, with conservation properties. She gave us the idea. At that time, we talked to Triangle Land Conservancy. And then we didn’t really get into it, we were just too busy working and kind of put it off until we retired. And then we went and talked to them again, and the person we talked to was Kevin Bryce, who was the... I don’t know what they called him... the executive director I’m guessing is what they called him. So we talked to him, but we also talked to NC State and the science museum, just multiple people, just getting ideas. There was also someone named Bill Flournoy, who worked with the state in conservation business, but also on the side conserved a lot of properties around here. I forget the name of his group, but we were busy talking to all these people about different options. Then it turned out that Kevin Bryce went to work for City of Oaks Foundation, he left Triangle Land Conservancy. And he contacted us when he went to City of Oaks because we were in the city and they had a strong interest in properties within the city, whereas Triangle Land Conservancy is more spread out. So it was really because of Kevin. And Charles Meeker who had been the mayor of Raleigh showed a lot of interest. It was really they chose us more than we chose them. [laughter] And they were so good to work with. Bob was on the board as the treasurer, and I’m now still on the board there, where I took over his job, and won’t be doing it when I leave. They’re a really good group, and even though they focus on the city, they’re interested in the county as a whole too.

52:50

Cheri: So sort of in the same vein, can you tell me about your decision to give the land to the county too, and what your vision, what your goals with that were? How did you come to that choice and what did you hope for?

Susan: I think at the very end of this paper [indicating research materials], I copied down something that my husband wrote in 2013 that I think summarizes it real well. He stated “our main goals for the property are, first and foremost, to protect it from development. We would also like for it to continue to be a sanctuary for wildlife, a location for nature education and conservancy, and to be available for multiple sustainable uses, including an incubator farm, community gardening, greenway, and a public park maintained in its natural state.” Wake County seemed interested in the same things, so it was an easy choice. Chris Snow seemed very interested.

Cheri: [to Emily] Didn’t he grow up on a tobacco farm?

Emily: I think so.

Cheri: He got so excited when we were crawling around tobacco barns. [laughter]

Emily: Yeah, he did. [laughter]



Cheri: He's the right kind of guy for this kind of thing. [laughter]

Emily: It very much aligns with the sort of parks we tend to build when we're doing it from scratch, that it's keeping them as natural as possible and allowing the public but not overbuilding. It's not going to be a city park, it's not going to be a rec center here or a playground there. We have that model already in place, where we're keeping things in their natural environment.

Susan: That's a good point too, because I've visited every one of your older parks, and of course I spend a lot of time over at Oak View because it's so close. And I've been struck by that, plus how well taken care of they are. Also how each one is very different, and how the park reflects whatever was there. Your park is totally different from Lake Crabtree for example. And Yates Mill Park, that one is very different. And then Shearon Harris... I forget that name of that one...

Cheri and Emily: Harris Lake.

Susan: Yeah. I haven't been to the newer ones, the ones that are preserves.

Emily: I think there's room for this to be similar to the preserves, but also different from the preserves.

Personal Conversation

58:20

Emily: Over the years we've been focusing more on making sure we know the cultural preservation of all of our parks and not just the ones with historic structures that are open to the public. We've been able to use Cheri's skills to do cultural surveys of our existing parks so we have that information and we can use it in some degree – whether at Blue Jay, I know you did one there, at Lake Crabtree you did one. There's a small home site at Crabtree, the remnants of a home site. But interpreted now, so people coming to mountain bike can still learn about what used to be here. And have it in varying degrees at all our facilities, so we can make sure from the start we have that. Cheri's also doing the Southeast Park cultural survey as part of us getting up and going, to capture that information from the start because you might not be able to in the future.

Susan: Yeah, people die. Everybody's going to be dead that knows.

Emily: And it's much harder to find that information out.

Personal Conversation

1:01:14

Cheri: You answered all of the questions that I wrote down.

Emily: Can I ask a question? [laughter]

Cheri: Yes, please do. [laughter]

Emily: I want to know about the house. Because I would love to know how it came to be and what your thought process was when you built it. I would love to see it remain.



Susan: My husband and his cousin, Tim, built a treehouse, I think it was near the top of the small driveway, when they were, I think they were eleven. And he decided then, looking down the lake, that he wanted to put a house here, so that's how that got started. When we first met, I owned my own house over in Chapel Hill. I liked to garden over there, but I noticed the gardening over here was a lot better. [laughter] He had been married before, and we were a little worried about getting married and worried about getting divorced again, so we didn't rush into marriage is what I'm trying to say. About 1984 we decided to get married, and because I could sell my house in Chapel Hill, we had money that we could build a house here. This house is kind of like a treehouse, and I'd always liked split-level houses anyway, because they provide some privacy. So we talked to an architect, and we actually drew out a lot of it but of course he made it work. There's seven levels to the house. I have to take you upstairs and show you my favorite spot before you leave. It's at the top level and you look out and see both lakes, it's like you're in the trees. Does that help? Is that what you...

Emily: Yeah, absolutely.

Susan: Because the house was expensive to build, we tried to cut back on the costs. We did all the painting, Bob did all the tilework, and we did all the cleanup. We did a lot of stuff that we could do to keep the cost down. So that helped us. And painting here is not a picnic. [laughter] The outside is even worse. That made us love the house even more, when you put sweat equity into it.

Emily: It's very unique.

Cheri: [to Emily] You're right that it's a ready-made nature center too, because I've just been watching this heron out here hunting since you pointed him out flying. He landed right there. [laughter]

Personal Conversation

1:04:54

Discussion of research materials, maps, photographs, artifacts etc.

1:11:58

Susan: This is kind of interesting... this is the other house, the small house, we didn't talk much about it. It was built in 1953 by the brother of Mrs. Richardson. And the way he got that house, it's an old World War II Army house. They had these modular houses, and he got it and brought it down here.

Cheri: Was it from Camp Butner?

Susan: I don't know. This may say. This is his little book he kept. It just says purchased house for \$495, but it doesn't say where he purchased it. Ann Poe may know. But he wrote down all the... And we know that there were a lot of Native Americans that lived here, I'm sure because of the creek. And Bob found all these [indicating artifacts] either after it rained or when he was plowing the fields. Some of these are broken, but probably some of these are tools.

Continued conversation about the research and artifact collection.

1:16:41

Susan: This is a treasure hunt game that my husband made. His grandfather told him that there was an old Indian burial ground up here at the end of the lake, which I'm sure he made that up. [laughter] But based on that, my husband made this treasure hunt game. He loved children. [to Emily] If we can do children's activities here eventually, he was really into that.

Emily: Oh yeah.



Susan: So he made this map, which was supposed to be Blackbeard's brother's map where Blackbeard's brother somehow made it up this creek [laughter] and buried some treasure somewhere around here. He had all these clues in bottles and put this all over there where the burial ground was supposed to be. Eventually the children would find this treasure chest that had gold-wrapped chocolate coins in it. And I'm sure those kids remember that adventure. It included going out in the boat to an island down there where he had a big crocodile, not a real one. [laughter] He was really into that kind of stuff.

More conversation about the research and artifact collection.

1:18:45

Susan: So these are about 1976. I don't know how I figured that out. So where are we? There's so much stuff here it's hard to see, but this is this lake [indicating the lake immediately adjacent to the house] and this is the house that we were just talking about that's down there [indicating south] that my stepdaughter lives in now, that the uncle built from the World War II [house]. My husband later doubled the size of it, but that's it I think before. I don't know if it was doubled by then. It doesn't look doubled, and I say this map was 1976 but he doubled it in 1974 so I'm not sure. And this is where we are now but there's no house. That was his original garden. This was down at the end of the lake. There were tobacco seedlings. And this is not on our property, but on the lower property. And Ann, the cousin Ann, said she found a whole lot of arrowheads there, and she has and they're in real good condition. There was a house up here where you first came in the driveway. There was an old house. I don't know who originally lived in that house and I don't think any of the relatives know either. Because by the time they lived here it was just a house people rented. I don't know if Gills lived there or where they lived. There were other houses on the other side of the road too. This is a picture of that house. It was torn down in 1981. It's a fairly small house but it had these great big trees. These are all tobacco barns that were up there at the end of the driveway too. This is the house down there that the uncle built before it was expanded. So that was how it would have looked when it came from the Army.

More conversation about research materials and collection.

1:22:32

Cheri: [indicating aerial photos] Who took them?

Susan: Bob did. He rented a helicopter. Well, he didn't rent the helicopter. [laughter]

Cheri: He rented a ride in a helicopter. [laughter]

Susan: They built a sewer line along here, which we absolutely hated, and they went way out of where they were supposed to. We had a lot of trouble. So he rented a helicopter ride in order to take photos to show the city council what was going on, how it was tearing things up. So it was kind of a byproduct of a problem, we have these nice pictures.

More conversation about research materials and collection.

1:23:56

Susan: And these are mobile homes of some people that worked on the larger... that really worked for the aunt. They were a black family that lived there.

More conversation about research materials and collection.

1:24:30

Cheri: So were these folks tenant farmers?



Susan: I'm guessing. When you say "tenant farmers" to me that means they were growing vegetables themselves. They probably grew some vegetables, but I think they worked for whoever was doing what. Later the uncle and the aunt were growing turf grass so I'm sure they weren't growing turf grass for themselves. Before that, the family probably worked for the grandfather. What kind of the relationship they had, I don't know.

More conversation about research materials and collection.



Appendix B:

Follow Up Interview with Susan Wyatt

Follow Up Interview with Susan Wyatt
Interviewed by Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski
January 2020
via Email and Postal Mail

Note: The following information was exchanged between Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski and Susan Wyatt via email and postal mail over several weeks in January 2020. It represents the personal experiences of Susan Wyatt, as well as the recollections of Anne Poe Goulding Foster as communicated to Susan Wyatt in January 2020. The information is presented here in question-and-answer format. The text is copied as provided, excepting conversational elements, proofreading notes, and personal comments for the author. Only the formatting has been changed in order to compile the information into a single, easy-to-read document.

Question(s): When did they build the cabin? Where was it? When was it torn down?

Response: Anne does not remember the exact date for building the cabin, but remembers it happening during the mid-1950's after the lakes were constructed. This fits with logic since the cabin was strategically located beside the lake behind a big rock. Anne says, "I always thought of the cabin as Aunt Carol's and Uncle Jack's, but I do think that it was built by George D. and Emma with a lot of input on design, furniture, etc., from the Uphams. Emma and George D. stayed out there overnight sometimes; I think at least one bedroom was off the living room on the side with the bathroom. I remember that built-in sofas in the main room could be made into bunk beds and were used when Jack's brother and family visited. The cabin was used a lot by Carol and Jack for entertaining their good friends, for family cook-outs, etc."

The cabin was torn down by the Village Lakes developers after they purchased Carol's properties in 1985. The cabin was not located on the Kellam-Wyatt property, but on the Carol Upham property. It was located south of the Kellam-Wyatt property on the Southwest section of the second lake behind a large rock. It is across from where Carol Upham House #2 was located. There is also a big rock on that side. There are now 6 Village Lakes houses on the Southwest section of the lake. The cabin was mid-way down that group of six houses. Fortunately for the lake, people living in the Village Lake house near the location of the cabin have not cut down the trees beside their house; however, this means that it is not possible to see the rock I am talking about without being in a boat. I do not have any clear pictures of the cabin. You can sort of see it in some of the aerial photos I provided if you look just south of the Poe-Kellam-Hatch house. It is hard to see because it is heavily covered with trees. By the time I moved to Kellam-Wyatt Farm in 1984, Carol was renting the cabin to a family. I saw the outside of the cabin, but not the inside. It was not fancy on the outside, just a one-story, simple, more or less square building. But as you can tell from Bob's notes, the beauty of the cabin was the memories of the family gatherings there.

Question(s): Who were the nephews that George D. helped to establish the Jesse Jones Sausage Company? Is there any information about this business? When was it established? Was it based in Raleigh? What products did they sell and where? When did it close/when was it sold, etc.?

Response: Anne says the names of the nephews were Garland and Earl Jones. She said that the company was called Jones Sausage in the beginning. After a lawsuit brought by another Jones Sausage Company (probably the one in Wisconsin), the company name was changed to Jesse Jones Sausage. It was named after their father whose name was Major Jesse Jones, husband of George D.'s sister, Annie Richardson Jones. Annie and Major lived in Danville, VA. Major was his first name, not a rank. An internet site about "Jones Sausage Road" in Raleigh says that Jesse Jones Sausage Company was founded in the 1920's to 1930's, was purchased by General Mills in 1970 and later by Con Agra, and closed in 2010.



The two main products were sausage and hot dogs. Jesse Jones Sausage was a well-known brand in Raleigh, and I remember seeing the products in the grocery store. The internet site says that the hot dogs were bright red and sold at NC State's Reynolds Coliseum and Martinsville Speedway in Virginia. Anne says "Yes, they made hot dogs. I remember Carol and Jack Upham selling them at the company concession at the NC State Fair."

Jesse Jones Sausage Co. was located on Jones Sausage Road (which is still there) between east Garner and southeast Raleigh, not far from Historic Oak View County Park.

Also note that when I googled Jesse Jones Sausage, it says that Major Jesse Jones (1881 - 1956) founded Jesse Jones Sausage in Danville in 1926. It is hard to know which came first, Raleigh or Danville. No one in the family has ever talked about Major's business, but I am guessing that Major started the original business in Danville and then George D. helped Major's sons expand the business to Raleigh? This would help to explain why George D. started a business with which he had no history.

Question(s): Do you know anything about the Griffin family? Any first names? Did they all work as farm laborers? Were they tenant farmers? Did they rent the house from the Richardsons? How long did they live there?

Response: All the information about the Griffins comes from Anne. She says "The Griffins were white sharecroppers. The parents' names were Ida Mae and Eugene M. Griffin. I can picture them in my mind, the inside of their house, the outhouse, the pecan tree, the washing machine on the porch, etc., etc. I spent many a night and a lot of days there. They had a daughter and two sons, Cynthia, who was older than I, but still a friend, and Chester and Andy, closer to Bob and Tim's ages. Theirs was one of the yards where I worked with the women and girls under the shade of huge trees stringing tobacco, and Tim and Bob rode the tobacco sleds in from the fields. We worked at other locations on the farm too, but that was the one that always comes to mind. One day Cynthia and I went into downtown Raleigh on the Trailways bus (flagged it down at Rogers Lane and Rte. 64). I believe Mother (Virginia) had made an appointment for Cynthia with Dr. Ligon, our dentist who had an office in the Professional Building downtown. Our parents were perfectly comfortable letting us go into the city alone via Trailways! Turned out that Cynthia was terrified of the dentist and his Novocain needle. In spite of my assurances, she would not stay in Dr. Ligon's chair, so we left and went shopping and to the drug store for some lunch. Cynthia put something on Layaway at a store (possibly Belk's) and paid a bit down using a \$100 bill! Her father had given it to her from his tobacco harvest, telling her to bring back most of it. I had never seen a \$100 bill in all my life and was astounded! I do not know when they left the farm."

Anne continues "Sharecropping families, white and black, worked together in the harvest at various barns and fields up and down the Lane. Here's my understanding of how things worked, though I could not possibly have understood the whole picture. George D. owned the land and the houses and barns, but whether he charged any rent, I do not know. I assumed he did not, but I could easily be wrong. I imagine he had an individual agreement with each sharecropping family. He always went to market, I assume with sharecroppers, to sell the tobacco and shared in the income of the sharecroppers, each of whom was responsible for cultivating his own crop. I know George D. paid many of the farm expenses, but how expenses were shared with the sharecroppers I do not know. He was very hands-on, going to the farm, walking in the fields checking the crops frequently. The sharecropping families counted on each other to help with the harvest, but I do not know if they paid each other or how they kept track of hours and amounts of shared work. I was paid 50 cents an hour by each sharecropper to string his/her tobacco, but I always suspected that George D. paid them to pay me. I thought I had seen a few papers at Mother's with some of George D.'s farm expenses, but I have not run across them at my house".

Anne continues, "In Annapolis with Mother's (Virginia's) things I have a record of who came to her funeral in early 2013. Among the attendees was Alma Doris Dunn Hinton, the African American wife of sharecropper James Hinton who lived down the Lane and on the same side as Carol's old house (meaning House #1), as well as next door to our house at one time. I think James was still alive in 2013 as well as was their son Wayne. If I can find her contact information, I'll let you know. Alma knew Bob, Tim and me very well as children and if still living, she could possibly help. She might know what happened to the Griffins. In 2013 Alma lived in the Longview Gardens area."



Anne later looked up Ida Mae on the internet, learned that she was born in 1916, died July 2, 2013 and is buried in Montlawn Cemetery in Raleigh. She was predeceased by her husband Eugene and her daughter Cynthia (who was born in 1938 and who was 5 years older than Anne). Anne remembers that the Griffins were from Johnston County where George D. had at least one other tobacco farm. She thinks that families on both farms may have helped each other in the fall harvest. There is no record of when the Griffins moved away from the house that was on Kellam-Wyatt farm, but the house was long abandoned by the time it was demolished in 1981. There may be a way to determine when they no longer lived there based on census data?

Anne remembers another sharecropper on the bigger farm (not on the part that became Kellam-Wyatt) named Boots Wiggins. "He was African American and lived on the lake side of Rogers Lane south of Aunt Carol's "old and new" driveways at the corner of the dirt road that was the only road leading to the lower dam across the bottom of the second lake and beyond to the tobacco seed beds where I found arrowheads (This seed bed is marked on one of Cheri's aerial photos). Boots had a daughter named Odessa and other family members I can't remember. His face with tears in his eyes is an image I will never forget from the time his tobacco barn burned full of curing tobacco. It was his entire year's income, gone in one tragic fire."

Note that by the time I (Susan) moved to the farm in 1984, the primary business on the larger farm was the Upham's turf grass business. There was an African American family named the Holders that lived on their farm, all working for the Upham's. The sons worked for turf grass and the mother worked at the Upham house.

Question(s): Was the small fishing and boat rental business operated by the Richardsons?

Response: This was a VERY small informal business that Uncle Charlie Poe (Emma's brother who built the Poe-Kellam-Hatch house) operated. He particularly loved the small secluded pond that is between the Kellam-Wyatt and Poe-Kellam-Hatch houses.

Additional Information Provided February 2020: This was mostly people paying to fish; sometimes they rented a boat and sometimes they just fished from shore.

Question(s): What was happening on the Kellam-Wyatt part of the farm from George's death in 1962 until Bob's return in 1970?

Response: Uncle Charlie Poe continued to live in his house until his death in 1965. With regard to the fields, the field included in the 9.4 acres in life estate to Carol (the southeast field on Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve) continued to be used for the turfgrass business. As far as I know the other fields were not used for anything other than for cutting hay.

Question(s): Can you tell me more about the work with the students? What ages? What did you teach them? Was it only field trips or did you do internships/hire students as well? What did the college kids study at NC State? Did you also host adult programs, like extension programming or master gardener programs? Etc. Do you have any photos of groups visiting?

Response: From 2004 through 2007, Leewyn Kellam (teacher's aide in public schools) spent her summers working on the farm. After that she continued to help year-round and she went every Saturday to help with Farmers' Market. But we needed more help. We employed (they were paid) horticulture students from N.C. State. They worked part-time in the winter and full-time in the summer. It was win-win. They got hands-on experience and we learned from them. We had one or two students each year. The students who stand out most in my mind were Morgan Milne, Beau Wagoner, Adam Bensley, Jamie Derose, Emily Kleinhenz, and Henry Weaver. After graduation, all of these students pursued careers in agriculture or in some cases, environmental work. Henry Weaver, who continues to have a strong interest in the Kellam-Wyatt Farm, lives in Knightdale, works for the North Carolina Agriculture Department, and has a huge garden on his newly acquired property.



The most frequent child visitors to the farm were children of the CSA members. We had about 4 workdays a year for CSA members and they brought their children to work in the gardens. These children were of all ages – elementary school and high school. One of them even dressed up to help with beekeeping and still talks about it. We always served lunch.

We had a big workday in 2010 when Farmers' Market customers, Master Gardeners, and other community members came with their families for a workday. I have a photo from that.

Students from a special agricultural program at Wakefield High School came once a year for three or four years in a row for a tour.

Other groups that came for tours were the adult Extension Master Gardener training classes, the junior master gardeners (these were elementary school age), and an EPA alumni group. We also had a bird-watching group from the local Audubon.

In earlier years we had big groups for volleyball parties for children and adults. The Volleyball Court was in the open space at the base of the gardens.

I will include at a few photos with visitors.

Additional Information:

With regard to George D. and Emma, I have learned a little more from Bob's cousin Anne Poe Goulding Foster. At some point (we don't know a date), Emma's father moved the family from West Virginia to a farm he purchased in Witt, Virginia. Witt is near Danville, Va. If you remember, George D. was from Dry Fork near Danville. Emma attended Randolph-Macon Institute, a private secondary school in Danville for girls, now long closed. Anne Poe remembers hearing a story that Emma was playing the organ in a church in Danville when George D. "spotted" her. We still do not know the date of their marriage, but it likely occurred in the Danville area.

With regard to Carol Upham's properties, Carol and her son John sold most of their properties to Village Lakes in 1985. However, Carol retained her house (the one in your diagrams labeled Carol Upham House #2) along with about 20 acres (I do not know the exact acreage) surrounding it. She continued to live there until she passed away in 1989. At that time, her son John inherited her house and the acreage surrounding it. He and his family lived there until approximately 1999. He then sold that property to a developer that constructed Lakeland Estates.

With regard to the Virginia Goulding and Tim Goulding tract, even though Virginia owned the land, Bob and Tim were both co-founders and equal partners in the construction and operation of River Meadows Kennels. (That is, Bob was much more than a helper; he was probably the instigator). In 1975 when Virginia deeded Tim the 30-acre parcel, it was probably because he and Gina were married on October 11, 1975 and needed clear title to build a house. Their house was between the Kennels and Rogers Lane. They lived in that house about 10 years before moving to Cary. You may be correct that River Meadows Kennels was also on the 30-acre tract. I have not studied the deeds.

With regard to Bob's parents, Leewan was a medical student rather than a resident when Emily met him. Leewan and Emily did not go to Spokane until 1946. After he left the service in October 1948, they did relocate to Morganton, Kentucky, where Leewan opened a medical practice on January 10, 1949. The important thing is that Bob was born in Durham, North Carolina, (which was always very important to him, to be Triangle born and bred) rather than in Spokane. The reason is that Emily decided to come home and live with her parents in Raleigh in the latter stages of her pregnancy. It has always seemed peculiar to me that people in Raleigh drove all the way to Durham to have babies, but I think there may have been a specialty maternity hospital there?



Emily was the first harpist with the North Carolina Symphony, rather than the first harpist to join the symphony. In symphony vernacular, the first harpist or the first violinist means that they are the highest ranking (or the lead player) of two or more musicians of that instrument. There were probably other harpists who had been in the symphony before her time there. Also, she “served on the faculty” of the three schools. That is the way it is worded in her obituary I think on purpose because most of her teaching was one-on-one rather than in the classroom.

Bob’s obituary said that Lee Roy was Dean of Admissions. However, I have since learned from reading things that Emily wrote that he was Dean of Studies and Director of Guidance.

With regard to my father, he was the Headmaster. He held several positions over time, but this was his final position.

With regard to the open fields on our farm, the fields had been cleared many years ago and all we did is maintain them in that condition, primarily through allowing a nearby farmer named Jesse Satterwhite to cut them for hay.

I would like to add something about Leewyn Kellam working on the farm. She worked in the gardens in the summers and every Saturday at our farmers’ market booth, and she helped with chores year-round. Recognizing her could be accomplished without adding a lot of words by inserting “with the help of their daughter Leewyn Kellam,” between “They” and “grew” on the fourth line of the second full paragraph on page 8. There was also our livestock guardian dog, Larkin, who was hired to guard chickens and who we referred to as our “Farm Manager”. I will send a photo of her.

If we are talking about the number of buildings on Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve, there was one other building beside the two houses and the sheds that are now there, the Griffin house, and the two tobacco barns. The other was a storage shed on the east side of the lake that belonged to Carol Upham and was near the original homesite of Carol Upham House #2. There is still a concrete slab where this shed was located. There were 9.4 acres adjacent to Carol Upham’s property that was left in life estate to Carol, then to Emily and then to Bob. Once Bob owned that 9.4 acres (which is now part of Kellam-Wyatt Farm Preserve), we demolished the old storage shed. I will send a photo of the storage shed. If we are talking about the number of buildings around the second lake, there were three other buildings beside the two existing houses prior to the sale of the Upham properties to developers. These were the cabin, Carol Upham house #2, and the storage shed.

Regarding the outbuildings in the report, the top left is an equipment storage building (which also includes a small office), top right is what we called the “Barn” which contains refrigerators and sinks for washing vegetables as well as storage, bottom left are a greenhouse on the left and a hoop-house to the right for growing vegetables in winter months, and bottom right is a small chicken coop for raising newly hatched baby chickens. I am going to send you a photo of the main chicken coop. The County did not want that coop, so I gave it to another farmer. However, it was more interesting because it was a mobile chicken coop that was moved around the gardens where chickens ate weeds and provided fertilizer. The photo could be included as part of the farm history of raising chickens. Bob personally constructed all of these outbuildings with the help of the N.C State students who worked there and Tim’s son David Goulding. One other structure still there that you might want to include is the solar panels which we installed to provide electricity for the farming operations. I will send a photo in case you want to add it.

Regarding growing corn on the farm, Anne said in writing about how tobacco was the main crop, that “Granddaddy raised field corn for the animals and, as a crop, lots of cotton too. The field across the Lane from our house (Virginia’s house) and north of the Griffins’ was full of cotton in the early 50’s. Tobacco was much easier to harvest and, I imagine, more lucrative.” I am guessing they took the cotton to what is now Historic Oak View Park to be processed.



Appendix C:

List of Animals Observed

(excerpt from City of Oaks Foundation Baseline Documentation Report)

Birds

American Crow
American Goldfinch
American Robin
Bald Eagle
Barred Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Black-and-white Warbler
Black Vulture
Blue Grosbeak
Blue Jay
Brown Creeper
Brown-headed Cowbird
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Thrasher
Bufflehead
Canada Goose
Cape May Warbler
Carolina Chickadee
Carolina Wren
Cedar Waxwing
Common Yellowthroat
Cooper's Hawk
Cormorant
Dark-eyed Junco

Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Bluebird
Eastern Phoebe
Eastern Towhee
Fish Crow
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Gray Catbird
Great Blue Heron
Great White Egret
Green Heron
Great-Horned Owl
Green-winged Teal
Gulls
Hooded Merganser
House Finch
Indigo Bunting
Killdeer
Loggerhead Shrike
Northern Cardinal
Northern Flicker
Northern Parula
Northern Rough-wing
Osprey
Ovenbird

Pied-billed Grebe
Pileated Woodpecker
Pine Siskin
Pine Warbler
Purple Finch
Prothonotary Warbler
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Red-headed woodpecker
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Ring-necked Duck
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Summer Tanager
Swallow
Tufted Titmouse
Turkey Vulture
White-breasted Nuthatch
White-eyed Vireo
White-throated Sparrow
Wild Turkey
Woodthrush
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Yellow-rumped Warbler

Mammals

Bat
Beaver
Gray Fox
Groundhog
Muskrat
Opossum
Raccoon
Squirrel
White-Tailed Deer

Amphibians and Reptiles

American Bullfrog
Black Rat Snake
Chorus Frog
Copperhead
Grey Tree Frog
Northern Leopard Frog
Spring Peeper
Various Turtle Species
Water Moccasin

Butterflies & Dragonflies

American Lady Butterfly
Black Swallowtail Butterfly
Blue Dasher Dragonfly
Cabbage White Butterfly
Cloudless Sulphur Butterfly
Common Buckeye Butterfly
Eastern Amberwing Dragonfly
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly
Fiery Skipper Butterfly
Fritillary Butterfly
Halloween Pennant Dragonfly
Monarch Butterfly
Northern Pearly-eye Butterfly
Question Mark Butterfly
Red Admiral Butterfly
Red-spotted Purple Butterfly
Silver-spotted Skipper Butterfly
Slaty Skimmer Dragonfly
Summer Azure Butterfly
Widow Skimmer Dragonfly

