CAPE LOOKOUT NATIONAL SEASHORE GUTHRIE-OGILVIE HOUSE

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT



Historical Architecture, Cultural Resources Division Southeast Regional Office National Park Service



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2004 Historic Structure Report Cape Lookout National Seashore Guthrie- Ogilvie House LCS#: 091829

Previous page, Cape Lookout, c. 1940 (CALO Coll.)

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Foreword

We are pleased to make availabe this historic structure report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Field Area. Many individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Cape Lookout National Seashore, especially the park's Facility Manager Mike McGee and Superintendent Bob Vogel. We hope that this study will prove valuable to park management and others in understanding and interpreting the historical significance of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House at Cape Lookout Village.

Chief Cultural Resources Stewardship Southeast Regional Office December 2004

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Executive Summary

The goal for treatment of the historically- private dwellings in Cape Lookout Village, including the Guthrie- Ogilvie House, is restoration of the exteriors to their appearance around 1950 and rehabilitation of the interiors for continued residential use, if that can be accomplished without compromising their historic character. This would include removal of the front porch addition, restoration of the historic roof line, replacement of modern aluminum windows, removal of asbestos siding, and restoration of the original tongue- and- groove siding. On the interior, treatment would include complete rehabilitation of the kitchen, installation of a new bathroom, replacement of electrical and plumbing systems, and limited structural improvements to improve the building's capacity to withstand wind and flood.

Historical Summary

The Guthrie- Ogilvie House is one of the primary structures that contribute to the Cape Lookout Village Historic District. Built

around 1924 by Luther Guthrie, who was stationed at Cape Lookout beginning in the early 1920s. The Guthries were one of the more prominent, or at least one of the more numerous, families in Carteret County, with their presence being noted in the county as early as 1810. Luther Guthrie was born on January 8, 1893, apparently in DeSoto County, Florida, but by 1901 the family had returned to Carteret County.

Guthrie is reported to have built the house at Cape Lookout "for his daughter." Although he and Lettie may have continued to live with his mother and siblings on Harker's Island after their first child was born, the birth of their daughter in May 1924 is thought to have precipitated the decision to build a house at Cape Lookout. Guthrie had a motor boat, but he was often called to duty at the Coast Guard Station on short notice, and the house made it possible for him to remain close to his family at all times. He retired from the Coast Guard with an unspecified disability on August 1, 1940, and died of a coronary thrombosis on September 12, 1943, at the age of fifty.

Luther Guthrie sold his house at Cape Lookout to Robert S. and Henry J. Ogilvie for \$225 on May 29, 1928. The Ogilvies enlarged the house at Cape Lookout and used it as a retreat for fishing expeditions throughout the 1930s and 1940s. On August 7, 1954, they sold the house to Paul Harvel, a nephew of one of the Ogilvie wives; and on August 25, 1958, Harvel sold the property to Headon Willis and Clifton Yeomans.

On October 26, 1977, the Willises sold Luther Guthrie's old house to the Federal government for \$14,000, and it became a part of Cape Lookout National Seashore. Their family retained a lease on the property until it expired in 2002.

Architectural Summary

Located about 220 yards northeast of the old Coast Guard Station and facing in a southeasterly direction, the Guthrie- Ogilvie House is a one-story, wood-framed, end-gabled structure that includes four main rooms, a bath room, and a full-length, screened, front porch. The main footprint of the building is about 40' by 22'-5", including the front porch, and contains nearly 900 square feet of floor space.

Vernacular design and construction broadly define the character of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. Like most of the other buildings at Cape Lookout, the house is a simple, utilitarian structure that was built in response to specific needs and circumstances, with little consideration of architectural style or refinement of detail.

The house was built around 1924 and later expanded substantially, reaching its current configuration by World War II. Significant alterations occurred after 1976, including replacement of the original front porch with a substantially larger porch, major alterations to the roof line, and replacement of all of the historic wooden window sash with aluminum windows.

Recommendations

In keeping with the parameters established for the park's other historic buildings by the park's 1982 GMP, the historic (and present) residential use of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House and the other structures that were historically private residences should be continued, if that can be accomplished without compromising their historic character.

Treatment of the Guthrie-Ogilvie House (and the other historic properties in the district) must, at a minimum, adhere to the Secretary's Standards if the historic character of the individual buildings is to be maintained. Of immediate concern is the present condition of the building, where termites, poorly-maintained windows and exterior finishes, as well as a variety of haphazard repairs threaten the building's continued preservation. In addition, the modifications to the building in the last twenty-five years have significantly compromised the house's historic integrity. Removal of the added roof and cement- asbestos siding, and relatively simple, straightforward repairs of the building's other historic features would restore that integrity. Rehabilitation of the building's interior and its plumbing and electrical systems would help insure the building's continued usefulness.

Site

- Remove or severely trim Carolina poplar in front of house.
- Raise grade beneath house to insure good drainage.

- Clear crawl space beneath house of all trash and debris.
- Remove storage building and elevated water tank.
- Follow recommendations of Cultural Landscape Report in determining additional treatment of the surrounding landscape.

Foundation

- Replace foundation piers.
- Raise finish floor level to accomodate changes in grade that are recommended for improved drainage.

Structure

- Reconstruct missing wall and repair framing in Room 103.
- As piers are replaced, inspect and repair sills and floor joists as necessary.
- Where feasible, improve connections of framing members to reduce the possibility of significant damage from high winds.
- Augment floor framing with added support beams as necessary.
- Remove addition to front porch and restore historic porch enclosure.
- Restore original roof line.

Roofing

 Examine original roof when modern front shed of roof is removed to determine appropriate roof covering.

Windows and Doors

- Repair and preserve existing front door.
- Repair and maintain existing back door from Room 103.
- Remove existing aluminum windows, determine original size of openings, and install new wooden four- overfour sash.

Porches

- Remove existing front porch and reconstruct historic front porch.
- Remove bathroom, partition, and enclosure from back porch and restore historic porch.
- Preserve shutters at northeast side of back porch and use as model for replicating missing shutters.

Exterior Finishes

- Remove asbestos siding and restore tongue- and- groove siding.
- Model window casing after exisiting front door casing, except for pedimented header.
- Repair and preserve boxed eaves.
- Paint siding and trim white.

Interior Finishes

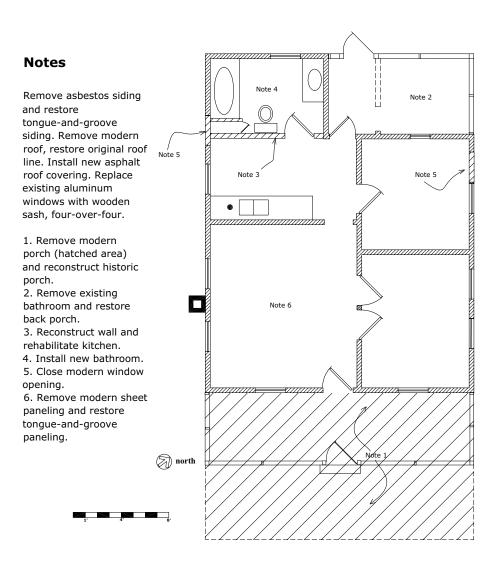
- Remove sheet paneling in Room 100 and restore historic tongue- andgroove siding.
- Finish walls and ceilings of new bathroom and rehabilitated kitchen with dry wall or sheet paneling.
- Use trim in Room 101 as model for missing trim in Room 100.
- Remove modern floor coverings and preserve samples of historic floor coverings.
- Repaint interior as desired.

Utilities

- Rehabilitate electrical and plumbing systems.
- Install new bathroom in northwest half of Room 103 after it is partitioned.
- Rehabilitate kitchen.
- Do not install central heating.

Additional Research

- Locate and interview Guthrie and Ogilvie family members regarding house's history;
- Conduct paint analysis of interior should it ever be opened for public interpretation;
- Complete Cultural Landscape Report and implement recommendations for site treatment.

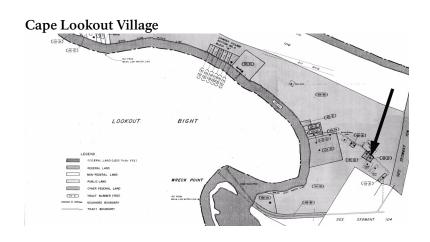


Administrative Data

Location Data

Building Name: Guthrie- Ogilvie House
Building Address: Cape Lookout Village

LCS#: 091832



Related Studies

Ehrenhard, John E. "Cape Lookout National Seashore: Assessment of Archeological and Historical Resources." SEAC, NPS, 1976.

Holland, F. Ross. A Survey History of Cape Lookout National Seashore. Department of History, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, NPS, 1968.

National Park Service. General Management
Plan/Development Concept Plan, Cape
Lookout National Seashore. Denver
Service Center, December 1982.

National Park Service. Cape Lookout National Seashore: Amendment to General Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. Southeast Regional Office, 2001.

Van Beck, Sara L. Cape Lookout National Seashore, Archives and Records Management Review. NPS, 2000.

Cultural Resource Data

National Register of Historic Places: Contributing structure in Cape Lookout Village Historic District, listed June 2000

Period of Significance: c. 1925- c. 1950

Proposed Treatment: Structural stabilization, exterior restoration, interior rehabilitation

Historical Background & Context

Marked by a lighthouse since 1812, Cape Lookout is one of three capes on North Carolina's Outer Banks. Lying at the southern tip of Core Banks, which stretch in a southwesterly direction from near Cedar Island to about four miles south of Harker's Island in eastern Carteret County, North Carolina, the area is part of the Cape Lookout National Seashore. Accessible only by boat, the cape is in constant flux from the harsh action of wind and ocean currents. As a result, since the late nineteenth century, the entire cape has migrated as much as a quarter mile to the west, and partly due to construction of a breakwater in the early twentieth century, the land area in the vicinity of the cape has nearly doubled in size. It is predominantly a sand environment whose native vegetation is limited to low stands of myrtle, live oak, cedar, and marsh grasses, along with non- native stands of slash pine that were planted in the 1960s.

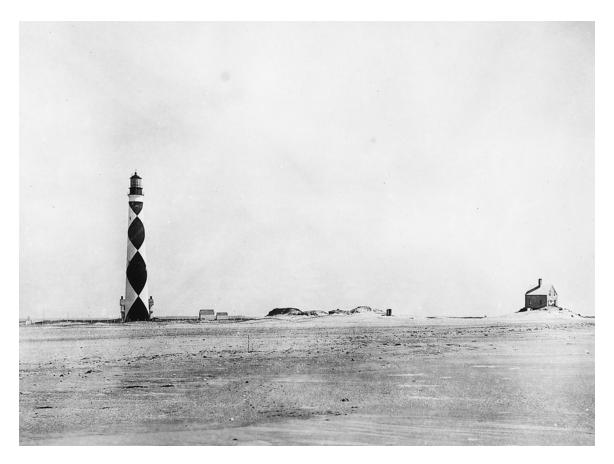


Figure 1 View to east of Cape Lookout Lighthouse, May 1899. First Keeper's Dwelling is at right. (CALO Coll. D-01)

Cape Lookout Bight began to attract some shipping activities in the mid- eighteenth century; but the low, sparsely vegetated land of Core and Shackleford Banks did not attract any permanent settlement until the late eighteenth century. Even then, settlement was apparently limited to temporary camps erected by fishermen and whalers, who had begun operations along the Cape by 1755. Sighting the whales from the "Cape Hills," a series of sand dunes up to sixty feet high that were located east and south of the present light house, the whalers

operated in small open boats, dragging their catch back to the beach where they rendered the whale blubber into oil.^I

Cape Lookout Lighthouse was authorized by Congress in 1804 but was not completed until 1812. Too low to be effective, it was replaced by the present structure in 1857-1859. With a first-order Fresnel lens, the new lighthouse was "the prototype of all the lighthouses to be erected subsequently on the Outer Banks."

The harsh conditions around the cape discouraged permanent settlement, and when Edmund

1. David Stick, *The Outer Banks of North Carolina* (University of North Carolina Press, 1958) p. 308.

Ruffin visited the area shortly before the Civil War, he described it as uninhabited except for Portsmouth near Ocracoke and a similar but smaller enlargement of the reef near Cape Lookout (where, about the lighthouse, there are a few inhabitants)."²

After the Civil War, the full economic potential of fishing at Cape Lookout began to be exploited; and by the late 1880s, Carteret County was the center of commercial mullet fishing in the United States. From May to November, when the mullet were running, scores of fisherman set up camps along the shore, especially on the sound side of the banks. Documented as early as the 1880s and featured in National Geographic in 1908, these mullet camps were apparently quite similar, featuring distinctive, circular, thatched huts with conical or hemispherical roofs (see Figure 2). Although some of these beach camps lasted several years, and one is even said to have survived the terrible hurricane of 1899, they were crudely-constructed, temporary structures, and none of them survives today.3

The shoals at Cape Lookout, which stretch nearly twenty miles into the Atlantic, remained a major threat to shipping until the development of better navigational aids in the early twentieth century. As a result, the first life-

- Edmund Ruffin, Agricultural, Geological, and Descriptive Sketches of Lower North Carolina, and the Similar Adjacent Lands (Raleigh, NC: Institution for the Deaf & Dumb & The Blind, 1861), p. 123.
- 3. David S. Cecelski, "The Hidden World of Mullet Camps: African-American Architecture on the North Carolina Coast," *The North Carolina Historical Review,* Vol. LXX, #1, January 1993, pp. 1-13.





Figure 2 Two of the mullet camps on Shackleford Banks, c. 1908. (reprinted in *North Carolina Historical Review*, Vol. LXX, #1, p. 5)

saving station on Core Banks opened at Cape Lookout in January 1888 a mile and a half southwest of the lighthouse. Under the direction of William Howard Gaskill, who served as station keeper for over twenty years, a crew of "surf men" served at the Cape Lookout station, patrolling the beaches and manning the lookout tower at the station throughout the day and night during the active season which, by 1900, extended from August through May.

Diamond City

By the 1880s, as the fishing industry became more lucrative, settlements developed on the protected sound side of Shackleford Banks west of the lighthouse. Diamond City, named



Figure 3 View north of the lifesaving station, c. 1893, with the lighthouse barely visible on the horizon at extreme right. (CALO Coll. G-09)

for the distinctive diamond pattern painted on the lighthouse in 1873, was the most important of these. Lying in the lee of a forty- foot- high dune about a mile and a half northwest of the lighthouse, Diamond City and two smaller settlements further west were home to as many as five hundred people in the 1890s, according to the National Register nomination, giving Shackleford Banks a larger population than Harkers Island.

There are a number of references to "the village" in the journals of the Cape Lookout Life-Saving Station in the 1890s, but these references should not be confused with the National Register district of Cape Lookout Village, which developed in the early twentieth- century.

While the life- saving station journals do not name "the village," on more than one occasion, they do note the three- mile distance from the life- saving station, which confirms that "the village" at that time was Diamond City on Shackleford Banks. Prior to World War I, the life-saving service crew was made up almost exclusively of men whose families had lived in Carteret County for generations. Although the surfmen lived at the station while on duty, they all maintained private residences elsewhere, and the life- saving station journals suggest that most of these dwellings, including that of the station's keeper William Gaskill, were at Diamond City and not on Core Banks.⁴

 Cape Lookout Life-Saving Station, Journal, December 6, 1890; December 6 & 26, 1891; January 25, 1892. The original journals are in Record Group 26 at the National Archives and Records Administration, East Point, Georgia.

By the 1890s, some fishermen began constructing more-permanent "fish houses" around the protected "hook" of Cape Lookout Bight, especially near Wreck Point, but these appear to have been used only during the fishing season. Even with something more than thatched huts for shelter, the cape fishermen often sought shelter in the life- saving station when their camps and fish houses were threatened by high winds and tides. On more than one occasion, as many as fifty fishermen somehow crammed their way into the life-saving station to ride out a storm. The fact that there are only two references in the journals to women or children taking shelter in the station in the 1890s, suggests that the men did not usually expose their families to the harsh living conditions associated with fishing the waters around Cape Lookout.⁵

Cape Lookout has always suffered from storm damage, but the hurricane that struck on August 18-19, 1899, was one of the deadliest ever recorded on the Outer Banks. Believed to be a Category 4 storm, the so-called San Ciriaco or "Great Hurricane" decimated the Outer Banks. Winds at Hatteras reached 140 m.p.h. before the anemometer blew away, and the Outer Banks were submerged under as much as ten feet of water. The surge swept completely across Shackleford Bank, heavily damaging Diamond City and the other communities to the west of the Cape. Another hurricane at Halloween, though not as strong as the first, produced a greater storm surge and completed the destruction of the Shackleford Bank communi-



Figure 4 View of Shackleford Banks after 1899 hurricane. Note the partially-submerged structures at upper right. (CALO Coll., F-184)

ties. So great were the damage and accompanying changes to the landscape that over the next year or two, the entire population abandoned Shackleford Bank, with most of them moving to Harker's Island and the mainland.

Cape Lookout Village

After the hurricane, a few residents relocated to Core Banks in the vicinity of the Cape Hills, but even before 1899 these sheltering hills were fast disappearing. Nevertheless, there were, according to one writer who visited the cape in the early 1900s, as many as 80 residents at Cape Lookout⁷, enough to warrant establishment of one-room school house. A post office was also

^{5.} Cape Lookout Journal, June 16, October 13, 1893; October 9, 1894.

^{6.} Cape Lookout Journal, December 22, 1896.

Fred A. Olds, "Cape Lookout, Lonesome Place," XLVI, #26, The Orphan's Friend and Masonic Journal (Oxford, NC, October 14, 1921).



Figure 5 View of Cape Lookout Coast Guard Station, 1917. In the background, are some of the small houses of "Cape Lookout Village." (CALO Coll. D-52)

established in April 1910, with Amy Clifton, wife of the lighthouse keeper, as post master. Post office records locate the post office "two miles north of the cape, near the light house landing," most likely in the 1907 Keeper's Dwelling. However, the widespread use of gasoline- powered boats after about 1905 made travel to Harkers Island, Beaufort, and elsewhere far more convenient, and it was soon apparent that the post office was not worth maintaining. It was discontinued in June 1911, barely fourteen months after its inception.⁸

Cape Lookout was, according to one visitor "a bustling place" in the early 1900s, especially after the Army Corps of Engineers announced in 1912 that a coaling station and "harbor of ref-

8. U. S. Post Office Record of Appointments of Postmasters, 1832-Sept. 30, 1971; Records of Site Locations, 1837-1950.

uge" would be established at Cape Lookout Bight. Sand fences were installed in 1913 and 1914 to stabilize some of the dunes, and in 1915, work began on a rubble- stone breakwater to enlarge and protect the Bight.

The project's most- ardent supporter was local Congressman John H. Small, who envisioned a railroad from the mainland that would help make Cape Lookout a significant port. Intending to capitalize on those plans, private developers organized the Cape Lookout Development Company in 1913 and laid out hundred of residential building lots and planned a hotel and club house to serve what they were sure would be a successful resort community. Unfortunately for all of those plans, there was less demand for a harbor of refuge than supporters had anticipated, and funding for the breakwater was suspended before it was complete. When plans for a railroad from Morehead City also failed to materialize, the development scheme was abandoned as well.9

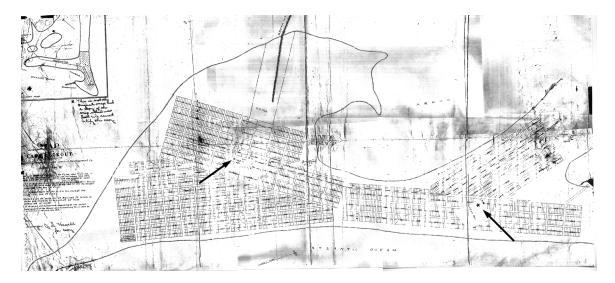


Figure 6 Plat of proposed development of Cape Lookout in 1915. Arrows have been added to indicate Coast Guard Station, at left, and Lighthouse at right.

In 1915, the Life- Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service were combined into the U. S. Coast Guard, and in 1916 construction began on a new Coast Guard Station to replace the old 1887 life- saving station. At the same time, pay scales were improved and a more- rigorous system of testing and training was instituted in an effort to produce a more professional staff. These measures and the availability of power boats, which lessened the crew's isolation, combined to greatly reduce the rapid turnover in personnel that had plagued the station since the 1890s.

The use of gasoline-powered boats around Cape Lookout was first recorded by the lifesaving station keeper in 1905, and this new

 National Register Nomination. Also see plat for Cape Lookout Development Company, Carteret County Superior Court Records, Map Book 8, p. 13. mode of transportation rapidly transformed life at the cape . 10 So many "power boats" were in use by 1911 that the station keeper began recording their appearance in the waters around the cape, with as many as thirty- five of them recorded in a single day. Even before the life- saving service got its first power boat in 1912, many if not most of the crew had their own boats and were using them to commute from homes in Morehead City, Beaufort, Marshallberg, and elsewhere. The convenience of motor boats no doubt contributed to what the National Register calls "a general exodus" of year-round residents from the Cape in 1919 and 1920. The oneroom school closed at the end of the 1919 school year, and some thirty or forty houses are reported to have been moved from the Cape to Harkers Island around the same time.

Fred A. Olds had visited Cape Lookout in the early 1900s and was even instrumental in getting a schoolhouse built on the island. When he returned for a visit in 1921, however, he found

^{10.} Cape Lookout Journal, June 30, 1905.

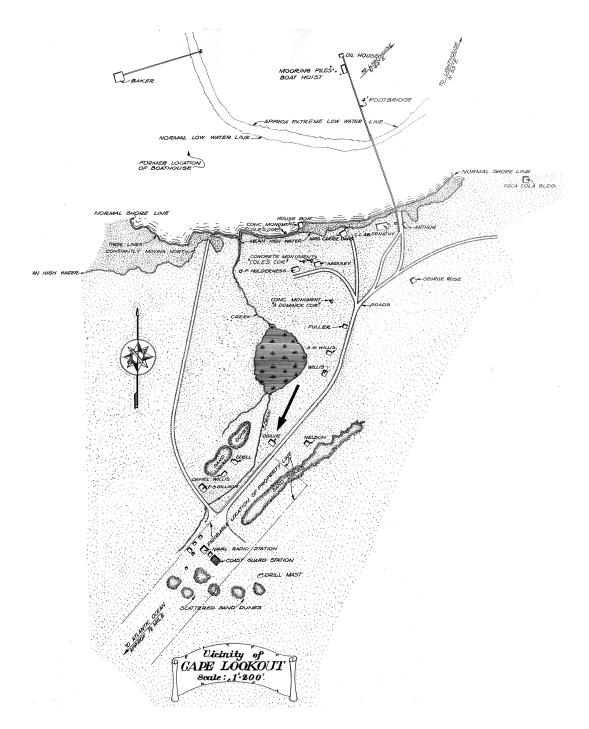


Figure 7 Map of Cape Lookout, August 1934, with arrow showing location of Guthrie-Ogilvie House. (U.S. Coast Guard Coll., copy in park files)

Cape Lookout to be "one of the 'lonesomest' places in the country." Only two or three families were living there by that time, he wrote, and "most of the houses are mere shacks, innocent of paint." He also found the landscape littered with "thousands of rusted tin cans" and "grass or any green thing... conspicuous by its rarity." The lighthouse and the Coast Guard station were, he thought, "the only two real places in it all."

Most of the houses left at the Cape were used as "fishing shacks," according to the National Register, and after World War I Cape Lookout became "an isolated haven for seasonal fishermen and hardy vacationers, most of them connected to the place by deep family roots." In addition, a few of the Coast Guardsmen with long- standing family ties to Cape Lookout maintained private residences that their own families occupied for at least part of the year. The Lewis- Davis House, the Gaskill- Guthrie House, and the Guthrie- Ogilvie House were all built as private residences by Coast Guardsmen in the 1910s and 1920s.

The Coast Guard's life- saving stations on Core Banks (one was located half- way up the Banks and another at Portsmouth) remained in service after World War I, but power boats and new navigational aids like the radio compass (or direction finding) station that the Navy began operating at the Cape Lookout Coast Guard Station in 1919 were rapidly rendering the life- saving service obsolete as a separate entity. The Portsmouth Life- Saving Station closed

11. Olds, "Cape Lookout, Lonesome Place."

in 1937, and the Core Banks Station in 1940. The Coast Guard Station at Cape Lookout remained active until it was decommissioned in 1982.

During World War II, the government expanded its military presence at Cape Lookout significantly. In April 1942, Cape Lookout Bight became an anchorage for convoys traveling between Charleston and the Chesapeake Bay. The 193rd Field Artillery was sent to the Cape to provide protection for the Bight, replaced that summer by heavier guns that remained in place throughout the war. Some, if not all, of the residences near the Coast Guard Station were occupied by Army personnel during the war years.

After World War II, the Army base was conveyed to the Coast Guard, which retained only ninety- five of the original 400+ acres that made up the base. Land speculation also increased, and several of the old residences were acquired by people without family ties to the cape.

The State of North Carolina began efforts to establish a state park on Core Banks in the 1950s, but by the early 1960s, it was apparent that the undertaking was beyond the capacity of the state alone, and efforts were begun to establish a national seashore, similar to the one that had been established at Cape Hatteras in 1953. In 1966, Congressional legislation was passed that authorized establishment of a national seashore at Cape Lookout that would include a fifty-

Rex Quinn, The Gun Mounts at Cape Lookout, Historic Resource Study (National Park Service, 1986).



Figure 8 View to northeast from near Coast Guard Station, c. 1942. The Guthrie-Ogilvie House is visible over the gentleman's left shoulder. (CALO Coll., Royer #4)

four- mile stretch of the Outer Banks from Ocracoke Inlet at Portsmouth to Beaufort Inlet at the western end of Shackleford Bank. In September 1976, enough land had been assembled for the Secretary of the Interior to formally declare establishment of the Cape Lookout National Seashore.

In the enabling legislation for the national seashore, "all the lands or interests in lands" between the lighthouse and the Coast Guard Station at Cape Lookout, which included the houses in what is now the Cape Lookout Village historic district, were specifically excluded from the new park. In 1978, however, the Federal government was able to acquire these lands

for inclusion in the national seashore. Rights of occupancy under twenty- five year leases or life estates were granted to those "who on January I, 1966, owned property which on July I, 1963, was developed and used for noncommercial residential purposes."¹³

Cape Lookout National Seashore was authorized "to preserve for public use and enjoyment an area in the State of North Carolina possessing outstanding natural and recreation values." That same year, however, Congress also passed the National Historic Preservation Act, and by the time the park was actually established in 1976, the area's historical significance

^{13.} National Park Service, Cape Lookout General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan, hereinafter designated "GMP," (Denver Service Center, December 1982), p. 30.

^{14.} *GMP*, p. 3.

was being recognized. In 1972 the Cape Lookout Light Station was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the first formal recognition of the value of the park's cultural resources. In 1978 Portsmouth Village was also listed on the National Register, followed by the Cape Lookout Coast Guard Station in 1989.

Most recently, in June 2000, the Cape Lookout Village Historic District was listed on the National Register. According to the National Register report, Cape Lookout is one of the last historic settlements on the Outer Banks to survive relatively intact and has statewide significance in social history, maritime history, and architecture. The district's period of significance encompasses all phases of historic development from 1857, when construction of the present lighthouse commenced, until around 1950 when the lighthouse was automated and the State of North Carolina began acquiring land for a proposed state park.

The Cape Lookout Village Historic District contains twenty- one historic resources, including the lighthouse (completed in 1859), two keeper's quarters (1873 and 1907), the old Life-Saving Station (1887), the old Life-Saving Station's boathouse (c. 1894), the Coast Guard Station (1917), and several private residences (c. 1910- c. 1950). Five of the ten historic private dwellings were built by fishermen or Coast Guard employees for their families from about 1910 to around 1950. Two houses were built about 1915 for Army Corps of Engineers workers, and two others were built as vacation cottages in the two decades before World War II. The National Park Service owns all of the prop-

erty in the district except for the Cape Lookout Lighthouse, which is owned, operated, and maintained by the U. S. Coast Guard.

Luther Guthrie

The Guthries were one of the more prominent, or at least one of the more numerous, families in Carteret County, with their presence being noted in the county as early as 1810. 15 Luther Guthrie was born on January 8, 1893, apparently in DeSoto County, Florida. His father Alonzo was born on Shackleford Bank in 1860 and married Margaret Frost on February 8, 1886, in Carteret County. They appear to have lived first at Salter Path; but by the time their third child, Luther, was born, they had moved to the vicinity of Tampa, Florida. 16

Why the Guthries moved to Florida is not known. However, the DeSoto County, Florida, 1900 census schedules show the presence of other Guthries as well as Fulchers and Gaskills, all born in North Carolina, suggesting that Alonzo and Margaret Guthrie already had friends and relatives in the area. Two or three other children were born to the couple in the 1890s; but by the time their next child was born in May 1901, they had moved back to Carteret

- 15. Mormon genealogical records at http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/ frameset_search.asp> provide data on the Guthries, much of it corroborated by the Federal Census of Carteret County, 1860-1930.
- 16. Luther Guthrie's parentage and birth and death dates are proven by his death certificate (26-190) in Carteret County.
- 17. Alonzo and Margaret Guthrie have not been located in the 1900 DeSoto County, Florida census.

County, where Alonzo Guthrie was listed as a retail merchant in the 1910 Carteret County census.

Luther Guthrie's career with the Life-Saving Service and, after 1915, the Coast Guard has been documented only through the station logs, but it appears to have begun on April 24, 1912, when he was appointed temporary surfman, substituting for Kilby Guthrie who had "deserted" when a new station keeper began duties four days before. The closeness of the two Guthries' relationship has not been documented.

Although Luther Guthrie did not become a full-time Coast Guardsman until the late 1920s, he periodically worked at the Cape Lookout Life-Saving Station during and after World War I. He even served as acting keeper for a short period in June 1914 when the station keeper, W. T. Willis, was on leave for a month due to illness in his family.¹⁸

Alonzo Guthrie died on August 25, 1914, reportedly at Salter Path, NC, and sometime after that, his widow moved with her younger children to Harker's Island, where she died on August 13, 1929.

On January 11, 1919, Luther Guthrie married Lettie Willis in Carteret County. 19 The daughter of Kirby and Emily Willis, neighbors of the Guthries on Harker's Island, Lettie was born around 1901. The young couple apparently set

18. Cape Lookout Llfe-Saving Station journals, April 24, 1912; March 17, 1914; June 1914.19. Carteret Co. Marriages, 41-Q. up housekeeping with his widowed mother and five of his siblings at their house on Harker's Island. Luther and Lettie's first child, Luther M. Guthrie, Jr., was born in 1921. At least three other children followed: a daughter Maryon L. in 1924, and twins Charlie C. and Cuerves L. in the fall of 1928.²⁰

Luther Guthrie served again as a temporary surfman at the Cape Lookout Life- Saving Station for a few months in 1921, before leaving in October because, according to the station log, "he ha[d] found other employment." Whatever the employment might have been, it must not have been as he expected, and in November he resumed intermittent service as a substitute at the station. He appears to have joined the Coast Guard on a full-time capacity in the late 1920s and was serving at the Fort Macon station when he was transferred to the Cape Lookout Station on May 15, 1930.²¹

Guthrie is reported to have built his house at Cape Lookout "for his daughter." Although he and Lettie may have continued to live with his mother and siblings on Harker's Island after their first child was born, the birth of their daughter in May 1924 is thought to have precipitated the decision to build a house at Cape Lookout. Guthrie had a motor boat, but he was often called to duty at the Coast Guard Station

- 20. These children are documented by the 1930 census, but dates are approximate.
- 21. Cape Lookout Life-Saving Station Journal, 16 May 1930.
- 22. National Register nomination and interview with David Yeomans, October 22, 2002.

on short notice, and the house made it possible for him to remain close to his family at all times.

Early in 1928, however, with their oldest child starting to school and Lettie pregnant with the twins, who would be born that fall, the Guthries decided to move back to Harker's Island. By that time, he may have already begun working at the Fort Macon Coast Guard Station, and no longer needing the house at Cape Lookout sold it in May 1928. After his return to the Cape Lookout station in 1930, the Guthries continued to live on Harker's Island. In November 1939, Luther Guthrie went into the hospital and, later, was put on extended sick leave. He retired from the Coast Guard with an unspecified disability on August 1, 1940, and died of a coronary thrombosis on September 12, 1943, at the age of fifty.23

The Ogilvies

Luther Guthrie sold his house at Cape Lookout to Robert S. and Henry J. Ogilvie for \$225 on May 29, 1928.²⁴ How the transaction came to be made has not been documented. The property was described in the deed as "one small portable cottage, two rooms, now on U. S. government lands."²⁵

The brothers Ogilvie were born in Scotland, Henry in 1886 and Robert in 1891. When they immigrated to the United States has not been documented, but by 1920 Henry and other family members were in Wilkes County in northwestern North Carolina. By 1930 Henry and Robert as well as their older brother George were operating a foundry in Wilkesboro. The Ogilvies enlarged the house at Cape Lookout and used it as a retreat for fishing expeditions throughout the 1930s and 1940s. On August 7, 1954, they sold the house to Paul Harvel, a nephew of one of the Ogilvie wives. Still located on U. S. government lands, the property was again described as "one small portable cottage," but by then it had three rooms. ²⁶

On August 25, 1958, Harvel sold the property to Headon Willis and Clifton Yeomans. The property had previously been described as simply "one portable cottage"; but the recorded deed for this transaction described the property as encompassing one acre, "being the same land conveyed to Robert S. Ogilvie by Luther Guthrie together with and including a certain cottage situated thereon."27 In June 1959, Willis and Yeomans sold a quarter acre of this property to Yeoman's cousin David Yeomans and his wife Clara who relocated the old life- saving station boathouse onto the site.²⁸ On October 26, 1977, the Willises sold Luther Guthrie's old house to the Federal government for \$14,000, and it became a part of Cape Lookout National Seashore. Their family retained a lease on the property until it expired in 2002.

^{23.} Cape Lookout Log, November 2, 1939, various dates in 1940, including August 1, 1940 stating his retirement.

^{24.} Luther S. [sic] Guthrie is the recorded grantor of the deed, but that is not correct

^{25.} Carteret County Deeds and Mortgages, Book 156, p. 75.

Carteret County Deeds and Mortgages, Book 156, p. 75.

^{27.} Ibid., Book 189, p. 103.

^{28.} Ibid., Book 206, p. 116.

Chronology of Development & Use

Built by Luther Guthrie, who began periodic work at the Cape Lookout Life- Saving Station in 1912, the house is one of seven that were built as private residences in the first half of the twentieth century. Historic photographs show that the house, which was built as a small, three- room cottage, had been expanded to its historic form and plan by the early 1940s and, except for installation of cement- asbestos siding in the 1950s, remained mostly unchanged until around 1979. Apparent physical alterations to the building and the character of the building materials themselves provide a general chronology for the building, but the non-destructive nature of building investigation for this report left unanswered many questions about the building's evolution. Continued investigation as modern materials are removed and repairs are made would resolve many of those questions.

Original Construction

The National Register nomination dates this house to c. 1910, stating that Luther S. Guthrie²⁹ . . . built this house for his daughter."

29. The middle initial "S" is found only in the deed recording Guthrie's sale of the house in 1928. In Life-Saving Station logs, the Federal census, and marriage and death records, no middle initial is given.

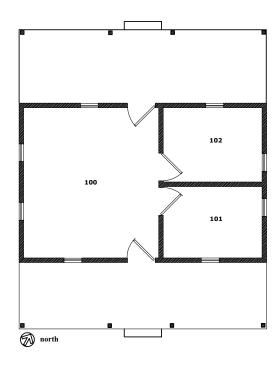


Figure 9 Probable plan of Guthrie-Ogilvie House as originally constructed. (T. Jones, NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 10 Detail of 1942 photograph showing Guthrie-Ogilvie House. The chimney was not an original feature of the house. (CALO Coll.)

Since the nomination was written, additional research in Cape Lookout Life- Saving Station logs, the Federal census, and Carteret County death, marriage, and land records have provided more details of Guthrie's life. Guthrie could have built the house around 1910, but that does not seem likely given that he was only seventeen years old at that time. He began working at the Life- Saving Station in 1912, a few months after his nineteenth birthday, and could have built the house prior to his marriage in 1919; but if the house was in fact built for his daughter, that must have occurred around the time she was born in May 1924.

The building materials used in constructing the house are difficult to interpret, being a mixture of materials that have been clearly salvaged from earlier buildings. In particular, some of the floor joists still have cut nails embedded in one edge where they once attached wood paneling or flooring. In addition, the walls and ceiling on the interior of the house are paneled with a random mix of double-beaded, double-V-joint, and plain tongue- and- groove boards. The plain boards are associated with later modifications to the building, but the other two types of paneling were part of the original construction. While double-beaded material, cut nails, and full-dimensioned framing lumber is typical of the 1890s and early 1900s, the V-joint material is more likely to be found in the 1910s and 1920s, a chronology of material use that is clearly evident in the old Life-Saving Station and other buildings in the district. It is quite possible that Luther Guthrie built his house at Cape Lookout in the early 1920s, using



Figure 11 Detail of c. 1943 photograph showing Guthrie-Ogilvie House. (CALO Coll., Royer Coll.)

materials salvaged from the Coast Guard Station as a number of its nineteenth century buildings (containing beaded paneling) were being replaced by new buildings (using V- joint paneling) during and shortly after World War I.

The original house encompassed what are now Rooms 100 and 101. End-gabled with board-and-battensiding and four- over- four windows, the house probably also included full-width front and rear porches. When the house was sold in 1928, it was described as "one small portable cottage, two rooms, now on U. S. government lands," but physical evidence suggests that the house in fact had three rooms originally. The presence of two adjacent doors between Rooms 100 and 101 is good evidence that

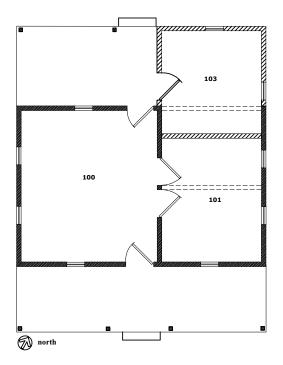


Figure 12 Plan of Guthrie-Ogilvie House after addition of a third room prior to World War II. (T. Jones, NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

^{30.} Carteret County Deeds and Mortgages, Book 156, p. 75.

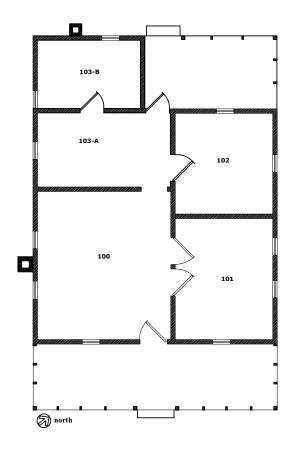


Figure 13 Probable plan of Guthrie-Ogilvie House, c. 1945. (T. Jones, NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

the latter space was originally partitioned into two rooms, with the chamfered boards that now divide the ceiling and walls of the room marking the line of the original partition wall. Almost certainly used as bedrooms, the rooms created by that partition were very small, less than 7' by 9', and if the deed description is accurate, Guthrie must have decided to combine the two rooms into one before he sold the house in 1928.

Room 100 must have served as a combination living room, dining room, and kitchen for the house, unless part of the back porch was always

enclosed for use as a kitchen. If so, evidence for an early enclosure of the back porch has not been located. Without indoor plumbing, the house must have had a privy also, but its location is not known.

Historic Changes

The house reached its present form between 1928 and about 1943 when the house first appeared in historic photographs. The Ogilvies added a third room to the house by relocating the northwest wall of Room 101 about 2-1/2' to the southeast and enclosing the northeast end of the back porch to create Room 102. Unlike Rooms 100 and 101, the new walls, ceiling, and floor were all finished with plain (rather than V- joint or beaded) tongue- and- groove boards.

Prior to World War II, the remainder of the original back porch was enclosed or rebuilt to create Room 103- A. Unlike the earlier rooms, the walls and probably the ceiling in this room were never paneled, which may mean that enclosure of this space was not contemporaneous with Room 102. Along with enclosure or replacement of the rest of the original back porch, a new back porch was built; but its southwest end had been enclosed as Room 103B by 1943. By then, too, a kitchen must have been in existence in Room 103A or 103B., which probably explains what appears to be a chimney that is visible at the rear of the house in the 1943 photograph.

The earlier enclosure of the original back porch used board- and- batten siding on the exterior walls, and the enclosure that created Room 103Bappears to also have used board- and- - batten siding, although it may not have been painted until after World War II.

The Ogilvies improvements to the house included the brick chimney for a wood- or coalburning stove at the southwest side of Room 100. A smaller brick chimney, apparently for a cook stove, was also constructed at the northwest side of Room 103B, which must have been in use as a kitchen by that time but was probably still a separate room from Room 103A.

Before the end of World War II, the Ogilvies enclosed the front porch with a low knee wall and screening, and it appears that the back porch was also screened. The small structure visible just to the rear of the house in historic photographs was probably a privy, which continued to serve the house until the 1950s.

Modern Changes

When the Ogilvies sold the house to Paul Harvel in 1954, the house was again described as "one small portable cottage" with three rooms, presumably Rooms 100, 101, and 102.³¹ Historic photographs show that Rooms 103 A and B were in existence during World War II, but since they apparently never had interior finishes, the house was described as having only three rooms, rather than the five for which there is physical and historical documentation.

Harvel was probably responsible for installing wooden shutters at the porches, two of which



Figure 14 View of Guthrie-Ogilvie House in 1999. (CALO Coll.)

remain at the northeast wall of the bathroom. Harvel also covered the original board- and-batten siding with cement- asbestos shingles and was probably responsible for installing asphalt shingles over or in place of the historic wood- shingle roof covering.

Harvel appears to have also upgraded the kitchen in the 1950s or 1960s, installing the kitchen sink and counter and probably opening the wall to create the pass-through to Room 100. By 1976, the back porch had been further enclosed to create a bathroom, but exactly when that occurred has not been determined.

More radical changes have occurred in the recent past and apparently included removal of the rear chimney and of the wall that originally separated Rooms 103A and 103B. All of the historic windows have also been removed, the openings enlarge, and aluminum-framed storm windows installed in place of the original wood windows. In addition the walls in Room 100 have been covered with sheets of plywood paneling. Most significantly, since 1976, the

^{31.} Carteret County Deeds and Mortgages, Book 156, p. 75.

Chronology of Development & Use

original front porch was removed and a new porch almost twice as deep constructed to replace it. Instead of the engaged roof of the original porch, an entirely new roof system was constructed to cover the original front shed of the roof and the new porch.

Physical Description

Located about 220 yards northeast of the old Coast Guard Station and facing in a southeasterly direction, the Guthrie- Ogilvie House is a one- story, wood- framed, end- gabled structure that includes four main rooms, a bath room, and a full- length, screened, front porch. The main footprint of the building is about 40' by 22'-5", including the front porch, and contains nearly 900 square feet of floor space.

Vernacular design and construction broadly define the character of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. Like most of the other buildings at Cape Lookout, the house is a simple, utilitarian structure that was built in response to specific needs and circumstances, with little consideration of architectural style or refinement of detail.

Site

A plan of the house may be found at the end of this section.

Designated Tract 105-27 when title passed to the park in 1977, the site was described as encompassing approximately one-third acre



Figure 15 View to west of Guthrie-Ogilvie House. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 16 View to south from rear of house, showing standing water several days after rain. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

with around 110 feet of frontage on the main road. The site is flat and very poorly drained. A slight depression has formed beneath the rear of the house, allowing large amounts of standing water to accumulate and remain standing under the house for extended periods of time.

Two large deciduous tree, probably Carolina poplar (*Populus canadensis*), were planted in front of the house in the 1970s. A shallow-rooted tree, one is leaning precariously over the eastern corner of the house. Eunynomous planted around the front porch has begun growing through the shutters into the porch. Smaller cedar and myrtle are found elsewhere on the property, most of which is grassed.

Three shallow wells were present on the property when it was appraised in 1977, perhaps associated with three cast- iron pumps that remain on the site. One is mounted on a wooden table near the south corner of the house, and there is one each in the kitchen and bathroom. The condition of these wells is not known nor is the location of the present water



Figure 17 View east of house. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

supply. The state of the site's septic system has also not been ascertained.

A wood- framed, plywood- covered storage building, constructed since 1977, is located a few feet west of the house, and there is a water tank elevated on a wood frame at the rear of the house. The condition of both structures is only fair.

Foundation

The house is set on wooden piles sunk to an indeterminate depth. The piles are very low, elevating the house less than a foot from the ground. Some have rotted away from the sills, leaving the building's sill and frame unsup-



Figure 18 View southwest showing modern storage building and water tank. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

ported at several locations. All are in poor condition.

Floor framing is generally undersized, and additional piers of concrete-block and brick have



Figure 19 View south under Room 101, showing front sill of house. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 20 View west under Room 101. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 21 View south under old porch, now a bathroom. Note original siding. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

been installed at random points in an attempt to correct some of these deficiencies.

Structure

The building is wood- framed using circularsawn lumber and wire nails throughout. Cut nails still embedded in some of the floor joists under Room 101 indicate material recycled from earlier structures, as do the random dimensions found in other materials throughout the building.

The building's close proximity to the ground and lack of access to the attic prevented complete characterization or full inspection of the framing. Like many of the privately-built residences at Cape Lookout, the house is generally under-structured, with undersized floor joists and widely-spaced joists and studs.

Framing is in generally fair condition in most of the house, but there has been major water damage to roof, floor, and wall framing on the northwest (rear) side of Room 103. In addition, parts of the rear of the house were originally framed for porches, which were later enclosed. With later repairs and alterations, the framing in these areas is very irregular and in generally poor condition.

Sills are generally 5- 3/4" by 8- 1/2", except on the rear addition where sills are single 2" by 8". Floor joists are typically 2" by 6" (actual dimension), lapped over the sills and set on centers 32" to 36" apart. Exterior walls were framed with widely- spaced 2" by 4" studs and 4" by 4" posts, typical of framing for vertically- installed

siding. The walls between Rooms 100 and Room 101 and between Room 101 and Room 102 are simple, unframed curtain walls constructed by nailing vertical tongue- and- groove boards to nailers at floor and ceiling. Although the attic was not accessible, rafters appear to be 2" by 4" and ceiling joists 2" by 6".

Windows and Doors

All of the historic windows have been removed, and it appears that they have also been enlarged. Original window frames and interior casing and trim have been lost along with all of the original sash. The present window openings are 2'- 6" by 4'- 6" with metal-framed, triple-track, storm windows in place of the historic wooden sash.

The front door is 2'- 6" by 6'- 5" by 1" thick. Hung with 3" butt hinges, it has five horizontal panels and is fitted with a rim lock. A white porcelain knob is present on the interior but has disappeared from the exterior. Modern, solid-panel, decorative shutters have been installed on either side of the front door. It is not clear if the shallow pedimented header above the door is a modern or an historic feature.

The house is now entered from the rear through a modern metal storm door, but it has been damaged by vandals. The original back door, which was probably a five- panel door like the other original doors in the house, has been lost.



Figure 22 View of front door. Shutters and possibly the shaped header are modern additions. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 23 View of typical modern storm window that replaced all of the historic wooden sash. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

Exterior Finishes

The exterior of the house was originally finishedwith 3-1/2" tongue- and- groove boards installed vertically without battens. Most of these remain on the house but are now covered with asbestos- cement siding installed in the 1950s. On the southeast sides of the two gables where the roof line was raised after 1977, the walls are finished with plywood. The rear facade of the house is also finished with plywood. On the outside wall at the bathroom, wooden, tophinged shutters remain fixed in place, evidence that the area was an open porch prior to installation of the bathroom in recent years.

The asbestos- cement siding on the house is presently painted yellow. Wood trim is painted white. Historically, exterior siding and trim appear to have been always painted white.

Except where the house was extended to the rear, eaves are boxed, the only instance of this eave treatment among the historic houses in the district. The junction between the fascia and the roof is trimmed with what appears to be a molded base cap.

The house was originally decked with 3- I/2"-wide, tongue- and- groove boards and finished with sawn wood shingles. Probably along with the modern alterations to the front shed of the roof, the wood shingles were overlaid with sheets of modern plywood finished with the present asphalt shingles.



Figure 24 View of typical wood siding and asbestos-cement siding. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 25 View of typical boxed cornice at right and modern alteration to front shed of roof at left. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 26 Vlew of typical exterior finishes including top-hinged shutters from original back porch. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

Interior

The existing floor plan of the house is quite similar to the floor plan that was in existence during World War II. The plan remained unchanged until the last twenty- five years when the wall that originally divided Room 102 was removed and the back porch enclosed for a bathroom and a small hall.

Floors, walls, and ceilings are generally finished with tongue- and- groove boards. Except for window trim, interior finishes appear to be mostly intact although much of it is covered with modern paneling and floor coverings. Historically, only Rooms 100, 101, and 103 appear to have had finished walls and ceilings.

Room 100

One of three original rooms in the house, this room measures 12'- 2" by 13'- 7". In addition to alterations to the windows and resulting loss of interior window casing, the most significant alteration to this room was installation of plywood paneling on the walls.

Floor: The floor is covered with a modern, brick- patterned, sheet- vinyl floor covering. Original flooring remains underneath and is typical tongue- and- groove, 3-1/2" wide.

Walls: Walls are now covered with 4' by 8' sheets of plywood paneling. What appears to be the original wall finishes- - 4- 1/2" double-beaded, tongue- and- groove boards, are visible beneath this paneling on the north wall and



Figure 27 View to southeast in living room or Room 100. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 28 View to west in Room 100. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

probably remains intact on the other walls as well.

Ceiling: The ceiling is set at 7'- 1" and is finished with 3- 1/2" double- beaded tongue- and- groove boards.

Trim: A modern baseboard, 3- I/2" wide, was installed along with the paneling. A modern I- I/2" bed molding was used as crown molding. The front door is cased with 3- I/2" double-



Figure 29 View to east of Room 101, through double doors that originally opened into two separate rooms. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 30 View of ceiling in Room 101, with arrows indicating location of wall that originally divided the space. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

beaded, tongue- and- groove boards, but it is not known if that was characteristic of the original door trim. All of the original window casing, stools, and aprons have been lost.

Miscellaneous: A wood- or coal- burning stove originally sat between the two windows on the southwest wall, vented to the brick chimney that remains on that side of the house. There is a modern, ceiling-mounted, light fixture in the room, replacing what historically would have been kerosene lamps.

Room 101

Measuring 8'- II" by II'- I", this space was created in the late 1920s or early 1930s by removing one wall and relocating another. Evidence for the position of these walls is visible in the ceilings of this room and Room 103.

Floor: The floor is covered with a modern, brick-patterned, sheet-vinyl floor covering. Original flooring remains underneath and is typical tongue- and- groove, 3-1/2" wide.

Walls: Walls are finished in a variety of materials. The northeast wall is finished with 3-1/2" double- V- joint, tongue- and- groove boards. The southeast wall is finished with doublebeaded, tongue- and- grooveboards. The northwest wall is finished with 4-1/2", doublebeaded, tongue- and- grooveboards. The southwest wall is formed by the plain side of the double-beaded boards used for that wall of the living room.

Ceiling: The ceiling, set at 7'- 1", is divided into four quadrants by a 4- 1/2"- wide molded base board and a 3- 1/2"- wide board with chamfered edges. The north quadrant of the ceiling is finished with plain, 3- 1/2"- wide, tongue- and-groove boards; the remaining three quadrants are finished with 3- 1/2"- wide, double- beaded, tongue- and- groove boards. The reason for this difference in ceiling treatment is not clear.

Doors: Both of the doors that open into this room have five horizontal panels and measure 2'- 6" by 6'- 5". They are hung with 3" butt hinges and have metal rim locks with white porcelain knobs.

Trim: One- inch quarter round finishes the junction of walls and ceiling. Baseboard is 3- 1/2", double- beaded, tongue- and- groove boards on all but the northwest wall where a 4- 1/2" molded baseboard is used.

Miscellaneous: A single, keyless, porcelain socket is mounted off center on the ceiling.

Room 102

Measuring 9'- 2" by 9'- 6", this room was created in the late 1920s or early 1930s by enclosing a portion of an earlier porch and relocating what is now the southeast wall of the room to take in about 2- 1/2' of what is now Room 101.

Floor: Flooring is typical 3- 1/2" tongue- andgroove boards covered with an early, floral- patterned, linoleum- type floor covering that itself is overlaid with modern, brick- patterned, sheet vinyl. The lack of discoloration and wear on



Figure 31 View to west into Room 100, showing double doors opening into Room 101. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 32 View east in Room 102, with arrows indicating line of wall that was relocated to create this room. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 33 View of linoleum-type floor-covering underneath modern vinyl in Room 102. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

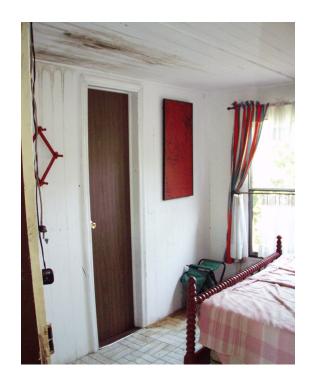


Figure 34 View north of Room 102, showing door added for bathroom. Note water damage to ceiling. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

the flooring itself indicates that the linoleum was installed when the floor was first laid. Similar linoleums may exist beneath the modern vinyl floor coverings in Rooms 100 and 101.

Walls: As in Room 101, the walls here are a mix of tongue- and- groove boards. The southeast wall is an un- framed curtain wall that is the plain, back side of the 4- 1/2" double- beaded boards that faces Room 101. The other three walls are finished with plain 3- 1/2"- wide tongue- and- groove boards, except for 2- 1/2' of the southwest and northeast walls which were originally part of Room 101. That part of the northeast wall is finished with 3- 1/2"- wide, double- V- joint, tongue- and- groove and of the southeast wall with 4- 1/2" tongue- and- groove.

Ceiling: The ceiling is finished with plain tongue- and- groove boards, 3- 1/2" wide, except for the 2- 1/2' that was originally a part of Room 101, where double- beaded boards were used.

Doors: The door to this room is a six-paneled door, 2'- 5" by 6'- 5" by 1- 1/8". It is fitted with a rim lock that originally had porcelain knobs but the outside knob is now missing. The bathroom door, which probably replaced an earlier window, is a modern, hollow- core, flush door, 1'- 8" by 6'- 7".

Windows: This room probably had two windows originally, one on the northeast wall and one on the southwest wall where the bathroom door is now located. The placement of a third window on the northeast wall indicates that it is a modern addition to the room.

Trim: One- inch quarter round finishes the junction of the walls and ceiling. There is no baseboard and original window casing, stool, and apron have been lost.

Miscellaneous: A keyless porcelain fixture is mounted on the ceiling on the eastern side of the room. Its placement off center was dictated by the limits of attic access above the room.

Room 103

The southeasterly side of this room (103- A on the plan at the end of this section) may have originally been built as a back porch, which measured about 6'-8" by II'-II". The rear or northwesterly side of the room (103- B) may have been built as a porch after enclosure of 103- B, but both spaces were enclosed prior to World War II. A brick chimney once stood outside the northwest wall of 103- B, which was probably used as a kitchen. After World War II, the wall separating the two rooms was removed to create the present space.

Floor: The original flooring appears to have been 3-1/2" tongue- and- groove, but it is now overlaid with sheets of plywood finished with a modern vinyl floor- covering.

Walls: The walls in this room were apparently never finished but left open to the studs and back side of the exterior siding.

Ceiling: The character of the original ceiling has not been determined since it is now covered with plywood. In the shed-roofed part of the room (103-B), which drops to a height of



Figure 35 View west in Room 103, showing deteriorated shed-roofed addition that was combined with this room after World War II. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 36 View of kitchen counter and cabinets in Room 103. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

about 5'-7" along the outside wall, there is no finish material on the ceiling at all. Significant water damage has occurred to the ceiling at the rear of the room, and removal of the separating wall between the two rooms weakened the



Figure 37 View northeast in Room 103. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 38 View to north in Room 103. Posts in foreground have been added to stabilize roof structure where wall was removed. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

ceiling structure, which is now supported by a series of posts.

Doors: There is no door in the opening (2'4" by 6'-5") between this room and Room 100. The back door to Room 105 is 2'-2" by 6'-6" by 1-1/4". A six-panel door hung with modern 3-1/2" hinges, it appears to have been salvaged from another building.

Windows: There was a single window in each of the rooms (103- A and 103- B) that were combined to make the present space. At the window nearest the counter, there is evidence of the framing of the original window, which was significantly narrower than the present opening. When the rooms were combined, a third window was added next to it on the southwest wall.

Miscellaneous: On the wall adjoining the living room (100), a pass-through between the rooms has been created. It measures 1' by 4'-4" and was perhaps created using part of an old window opening.

On that same wall, base and wall cabinets have been installed. The base cabinet is 2' by 8-8" and has a metal- edged counter top covered in sheet vinyl or linoleum and an enameled, metal, double- basin sink of the same vintage.

Mounted on the counter next to the sink is a cast- iron well pump, stamped with the manufacturer: Sanders Co., Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

On the wall above the counter, there is a wall-hung plywood cabinet, 48" long, above the

pass- through and a deep corner cabinet at the southwest end of the counter. All of these appear to date to the 1950s or later. Narrow shelves have also been installed between the exposed studs above the counter.

The stove is located on the opposite wall at the approximate location of the brick chimney visible in historic photographs, which no doubt served a wood or coal-burning cook stove.

Base cabinets have also been installed on both sides of the stove.

Room 104 and 105

These spaces are part of an addition made to the house prior to World War II which included Room 103. These spaces were originally a semienclosed porch that was screened above a knee wall and had top-hinged, wooden shutters, two of which remain on the exterior. A modern partition now separates a bathroom from a small hall that contains the back door to the house.

Floor: The floor of both spaces is tongue- and-groove overlaid with modern floor coverings.

Walls: The southwest and the southeast walls of the original porch were finished with vertical, 3-1/2"- wide, tongue- and- groove boards, like those used elsewhere on the exterior. Parts of these and all of the other walls, which historically had no interior finishes, are now covered with sheets of modern plywood paneling.



Figure 39 View northwest of bathroom. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)



Figure 40 View to north of Room 105. (NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

Physical Description

Ceiling: The ceiling is the exposed roof rafters and underside of tongue- and- groove roof decking.

Doors and Windows: The back door, which is 2'-8" by 5-4", is a metal storm door that has

been broken by vandals. The door to the bathroom is a modern hollow- core, flush door, 2'o" by 6'-7". The bathroom window opening is a modern creation and is covered by a storm window.

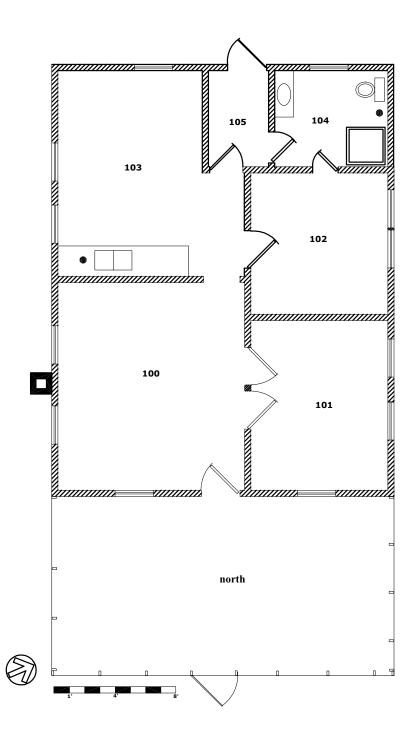


Figure 41 Floor plan of existing house. (T. Jones, NPS-SERO-CR, 2003)

Treatment and Use

Built around 1924 by Luther Guthrie, who began periodic work at the Cape Lookout Life- Saving Station in 1912, the house is one of seven historically significant structures that were built as private residences at Cape Lookout in the first half of the twentieth century. Typical of these residences, the house evolved from a simple three- room structure into the five- room house that exists today.

Vernacular design and construction broadly define the character of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. Like most of the other buildings at Cape Lookout, the house is a simple, utilitarian structure that was built in response to specific needs and circumstances, with little consideration of architectural style or refinement of detail.

This section of the Historic Structure Report is intended to show how a plan for treatment of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House can be implemented with minimal adverse affect to the historic building while still addressing the problems that exist with the present structure. Following is an outline of the major issues surrounding use of the building as well as legal requirements and other mandates that circumscribe its treatment. This is followed by an evaluation of the various alternatives for treatment before describing in more detail the ultimate treatment recommendations, which would encompass structural repairs and exterior restoration together with rehabilitation of the interior for continued residential use under the park's leasing program for historic buildings.

Since 1976, the Guthrie-Ogilvie House and several other residences in the park have been leased under the terms of a special use permit, and the owners have made a number of modifications to the houses during that period. With the recent expiration and temporary renewal of these leases, the park's approach to treatment and use of these structures has to be reconsidered in light of their recent historical designation as part of the Cape Lookout Village Historic District. For that reason, the park has ordered development of historic structure reports on many of the historic structures in the district. In addition to the Guthrie-Ogilvie House, reports are being developed on the Lewis- Davis House, the O'Boyle- Bryant House, the Gaskill- Guthrie House, Fishing Cottage #2, the Seifert- Davis or Coca- Cola House, the old Life-Saving Station and its Boat House, and the 1907 Lighthouse Keeper's Dwelling. As a result, all of the studies have benefitted from a comparative analysis in terms of both historical and architectural data that might not otherwise have been possible.

However, historical research on the has not been exhaustive, and continued research, including oral interviews with present and former occupants of the house, are encouraged. In addition, architectural investigation was non- destructive, and given the building's close proximity to the ground and the presence of modern finish materials both inside and outside the building, the condition of concealed elements could not be determined.

Development of a Cultural Landscape Report for the district has not been funded and the update of the park's historic resource study remains incomplete. Since none of the residential structures would probably be eligible for individual listing in the National Register, treatment options depend as much on the goals for the entire village as on the particulars of a single building. Final definition of the treatment approach to the historic district as a whole will await completion of the larger contextual studies now underway. In the meantime, an approach to treatment of the individual structures can certainly be recommended to insure their continued preservation while allowing the park to pursue a range of interpretive opportunities for the site.

Ultimate Treatment and Use

Because the Cape Lookout Village Historic District is a relatively new addition to the National Register, the park has not set a program of use for the private residences in the village, including the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. The authorizing legislation (Public Law 89-366) for Cape Lookout National Seashore mandated the park's establishment for the purpose of

preserving "for public use and enjoyment an area in the State of North Carolina possessing outstanding natural and recreational values."

By the time the seashore was actually established in 1976, the historical significance of the cultural resources at Portsmouth and at the Cape Lookout Light Station were also recognized. The general management plan (GMP) developed for the park by the Denver Service Center in 1982 states that one of the park's management objectives is "[t]o preserve intact, as feasible, the historic resources of the national seashore and to recognized that dynamic natural forces have influenced them throughout their existence and will continue to influence them."³² The GMP envisioned interpretation of the park's cultural resources that would "emphasize man and his relation to the sea" with maritime history a focus at the lighthouse and the cultural and economic life of the Outer Bankers at Portsmouth Village."33 Since that time, additional cultural resources besides the lighthouse station and Portsmouth have been recognized through National Register listing. In 1989, the Cape Lookout Coast Guard Station, with four intact historic structures, was listed on the National Register; and in June 2000, the Cape Lookout Village Historic District, with seven historically-private residential buildings, was listed as well.

An amendment to the 1982 GMP was completed in January 2001, but it only addressed improvements in overnight accommodations

and transportation services for visitors to Core Banks and not the additional cultural resources that had been identified since 1982. Nevertheless, these additional listings, which like the earlier listings are of statewide significance, do not appear to require any marked departure from the management approach established in 1982 for Portsmouth and the Cape Lookout Light Station.

Three points from the 1982 GMP are particularly relevant to decisions on the buildings in the Cape Lookout Village and in the Coast Guard complex as well.

- The 1982 plan "perpetuates the present level of use and development of Core Banks/Portsmouth Island..."
- Pointing out the resources' state level of significance, the 1982 plan intended "to preserve intact, as feasible, the historic resources of the national seashore and to recognize that dynamic natural forces have influenced them through their existence and will continue to influence them."
- "As appropriate, some structures may be perpetuated through adaptive use. Contemporary public and/or administrative rights will be allowed with necessary modifications. The qualities that qualified these resources for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be perpetuated to the extent practicable." 36

^{32.}Cape Lookout GMP, p. 4.

^{33.}Ibid.

^{34.}GMP, p. iii.

^{35.}Ibid., p. 4.

^{36.}Ibid., p. 35.

Use: In keeping with these parameters, the historic (and present) residential use of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House and the other structures that were historically private residences should be continued, if rehabilitation can be accomplished with minimal alterations to the building's historic character. Clearly, however, treatment of the house (and the other historic properties in the district) must, at a minimum, adhere to the Secretary's Standards if the historic character of the individual buildings is to be maintained.

Termites and a leaking roof threaten the building's continued preservation and significant structural repairs may be necessary, especially as modern finishes can be removed and the condition of the framing and underlying finish materials assessed. In addition, the modifications to the building in the last twenty- five years have compromised its historic integrity. Removal of the added roof, restoration of the original roof line, and recreation of the original double- hung windows would restore that integrity.

In addition, continued residential use requires rehabilitation, especially replacement of the building's electrical and plumbing systems. The Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters (or Barden House), the Life- Saving Station, and other government buildings were wired for lighting shortly after World War I and the Lewis- Davis House appears to have been wired shortly before or during World War II. Indoor plumbing, however, appears not to have been an historic feature of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. Designing and installing a more- permanent facility

that will not intrude on the building's historic character will be a major component of the building's rehabilitation.

Requirements for Treatment and Use

The Guthrie- Ogilvie House has a fragile character that can be easily destroyed by insensitive treatment. This character is embodied not just in the vernacular form of the building but also in its structure and its component materials, including wood flooring, paneling, windows, doors, nails, and hardware. The more these aspects of the building are compromised, especially through replacement or removal of the historic material or feature, the less useful the building becomes as an historical artifact.

Because it is a contributing building in a National Register district, legal mandates and policy directives circumscribe treatment of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House. The NPS' Cultural Resources Management Guideline (DO- 28) requires planning for the protection of cultural resources "whether or not they relate to the specific authorizing legislation or interpretive programs of the parks in which they lie." Therefore, the house should be understood in its own cultural context and managed in light of its own values so that it may be preserved unimpaired for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

To help guide compliance with the statutes and regulations noted above, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties have been issued along with guidelines for applying those standards. Stan-

dards are included for each of the four separate but interrelated approaches to the treatment of historic buildings: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. These approaches define a hierarchy that implies an increasing amount of intervention into the historic building. Rehabilitation, in particular, allows for a variety of alterations and even additions to accommodate modern use of the structure. However, a key principle embodied in the Standards is that changes be reversible, i.e., that alterations, additions, or other modifications be designed and constructed in such a way that they can be removed or reversed in the future without the loss of existing historic materials, features or characters.

Treatment of the building should be guided by the International Building Code, including that code's statement regarding historic buildings:

3406.1 Historic Buildings. The provisions of this code related to the construction, repair, alteration, addition, restoration and movement of structures, and change of occupancy shall not be mandatory for historic buildings where such buildings are judged by the building official to not constitute *a distinct life safety hazard* [emphasis added].

Threats to public health and safety will be eliminated, but because this is an historic building, alternatives to full code compliance are recommended where compliance would needlessly compromise the integrity of the historic building.

Alternatives for Treatment and Use

Alternatives for treatment and use of the Guthrie-Ogilvie House have been explored, but given the building's location and its small scale, these are limited.

Use: For most historic buildings, the highest and best use is the use for which the structure was originally designed, since it is changes in use that often necessitate significant alterations to the historic building. For the Guthrie- Ogilvie House, this use is residential, but because of the historical lack of indoor plumbing, continued residential use will require perpetuation of modern additions (e.g., an indoor bathroom) that alter the building's historic character.

Treatment: A number of repairs are necessary to preserve and to continue use of the structure, including replacement of missing wood windows, re-roofing, and rehabilitation of the plumbing and electrical systems. With those sorts of repairs, the building could continue to be used in a variety of ways. Continued use of the building would not necessitate restoration of the altered roof line, and if rehabilitation is sensitively designed and executed, the building's historical integrity need not be further diminished.

However, if the park's goal is to present the buildings in the Cape Lookout Village as they existed around 1950, removal of the added roof and cement- asbestos siding, reconstruction of the porches, and restoration of the original board- and- batten siding would be recommended.

Recommendations for Treatment & Use

In keeping with the parameters established for the park's other historic buildings by the park's 1982 GMP, the historic (and present) residential use of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House and the other structures that were historically private residences should be continued, if rehabilitation can be accomplished with minimal alterations to the buildings' historic character.

Treatment of the Guthrie- Ogilvie House (and the other historic properties in the district) must, at a minimum, adhere to the Secretary's Standards if the historic character of the individual buildings is to be maintained. Of immediate concern is the present condition of the building, where termites, poorly- maintained windows and exterior finishes, as well as a variety of haphazard repairs threaten the building's continued preservation. In addition, the modifications to the building in the last twenty- five years have significantly compromised the house's historic integrity. Removal of the added roof and cement- asbestos siding, and relatively simple, straightforward repairs of the building's other historic features would restore that integrity. Rehabilitation of the building's interior and its plumbing and electrical systems would help insure the building's continued usefulness.

Site

Treatment of the landscape around the house should be defined through a Cultural Landscape Report. Of some immediate concern, however, is the Carolina poplar near the east corner of the house. A shallow-rooted tree, it is leaning sharply in the general direction of the house, and since photographs of the house in 1976 show it at a very small size, the tree need not be considered historic and should be removed or severely trimmed so as to eliminate the possibility of its falling and damaging the historic structure.

The site is poorly drained and water routinely collects beneath the building, especially at the rear. As the foundation is repaired, the grade must be raised beneath the house to insure that water does not continue to collect under the house.

A large amount of trash and debris has also collected under the house, and this, too, should be removed in order to facilitate routine inspection of the foundation, sills, and floor framing.

The wood- framed storage shed and the elevated water tank are both modern features that intrude upon the landscape and should be removed.

In summary:

- Remove or severely trim Carolina poplar in front of house.
- Raise grade beneath house to insure good drainage.

- Clear crawl space beneath house of all trash and debris.
- Remove storage building and elevated water tank.
- Follow recommendations of Cultural Landscape Report in determining additional treatment of the surrounding landscape.

Foundation

The foundation piles are in poor condition and must be replaced. Placement should replicate the historic arrangement of piers, except where framing conditions necessitate additional support.

The grade within the footprint of the structure must be raised slightly to prevent ponding beneath the house. Consequently, the house should be raised slightly in order to maintain an adequate level above grade.

In summary:

- Replace foundation piers.
- Raise finish floor level to accomodate changes in grade that are recommended for improved drainage.

Structure

There has been major termite and water damage to the roof, wall, and floor framing in Room 103, which will necessitate demolition and reconstruction of part of that area. In addition, removal of the wall that historically partitioned what is now Room 103 destabilized the struc-

ture and ultimately led to some of the deterioration that is now evident. The wall should be reconstructed.

Because the building investigation for this study was non- destructive and because of the structure's close proximity to the ground, the extent of additional structural damage from rot and termites could not be determined; but as with most of the residences at the Cape, some damage is likely to have occurred. Further inspection of and necessary repairs to the framing should be coordinated with pier replacement. If damage is discovered that appears to necessitate repairs to the wall framing, less damage to historic fabric will be done if interior finishes are removed to expose the framing for repairs.

In some cases, sizing and spacing of historic framing members do not meet modern code requirements, but the historic framing can be augmented without total replacement. Spans can be reduced by additional beams run perpendicular to the joists at mid-span of the original joists.

Improvements to the connection of the wall framing to the perimeter sills will be possible, but augmentation of the wall framing is not recommended since that would necessitate total removal of interior and/or exterior finishes, something which cannot be accomplished without significant damage to and loss of historic materials.

The modern front porch should be removed along with the front shed of the main roof, which is also modern. Using photographs from

before 1978, the historic front porch can then be reconstructed and the original roof line of the house restored. Knee walls and screening were present on the porch by World War II and these should be reinstated in the new porch.

In summary:

- Reconstruct missing wall and repair framing in Room 103.
- As piers are replaced, inspect and repair sills and floor joists as necessary.
- Where feasible, improve connections of framing members to reduce the possibility of significant damage from high winds.
- Augment floor framing with added support beams as necessary.
- Remove addition to front porch and restore historic porch enclosure.
- Restore original roof line.

Roofing

When the modern front shed of the roof is removed, the roof covering of the historic roof can be determined. If there are more than two layers of asphalt shingles, that would be an indication that asphalt shingles were present near the end of the historic period and asphalt roofing should be used for re-roofing. Otherwise, wood shingles would be appropriate.

In summary:

 Examine original roof when modern front shed of roof is removed to determine appropriate roof covering.

Windows and Doors

The original front door remains in place and should be repaired and preserved. The exisiting back door (opening between Room 103 and 105). is antique but may be a recent addition to the house, salvaged from another location. The original door was probably a five-panel door like the front door, but it is not necessary to replace the existing door, which can be repaired and continue to be used.

All of the original four- over- four, wooden sash have been replaced, and the windows appear to have been enlarged. Removal of the exisiting aluminum windows and frames and a careful examination of the historic framing should make it possible to determine the size of the original window openings, which was probably similar to the 1'-7" by 3'-8", four- over- four windows used at the O'Boyle- Bryant House.

- Repair and preserve existing front door.
- Repair and maintain existing back door from Room 103.
- Remove existing aluminum windows, determine original size of openings, and install new wooden four- overfour sash.

Porches

The original front porch was entirely replaced after 1976. The existing modern porch should be removed, which will also allow restoration of the house's original roof line. The historic porch should be reconstructed along with the

knee walls and wooden shutters similar to those that remain on the exterior of the northeast wall of the present bathroom.

The bathroom, partition wall, and enclosure should be removed from the back porch and the porch restored. The surviving wooden shutters on the northeast side of the space should be preserved and new shutters replicated for the northwest wall.

In summary:

- Remove existing front porch and reconstruct historic front porch.
- Remove bathroom, partition, and enclosure from back porch and restore historic porch.
- Preserve shutters at northeast side of back porch and use as model for replicating missing shutters.

Exterior Finishes

The asbestos siding on the house is a modern addition that covers the historic tongue- and-groove siding. The asbestos siding should be removed and the historic siding restored.

Although the original size and configuration of the windows can be determined, precise detailing of casing and trim has not been determined. Casing and trim for the restored wooden windows should be modeled after the casing around the front door, except for the pedimented header. The header may not be historic; but until that is certainly determined, it should be preserved.

The boxed eaves on the house are unique among the historic district's private residences and should be repaired and preserved.

No paint analysis has been conducted, but during World War II, body and trim color appeared to be the same, apparently white. White siding and trim would be appropriate again.

In summary:

- Remove asbestos siding and restore tongue- and- groove siding.
- Model window casing after exisiting front door casing, except for pedimented header.
- Repair and preserve boxed eaves.
- Paint siding and trim white.

Interior Finishes

Most of the historic interior finishes remain intact and should be repaired and preserved. The modern sheet paneling should be removed from Room 100 and the underlying tongueand-groove paneling restored.

Historically, the interior of what is now Room 103 was not finished. However, the new bathroom and the rehabilitated kitchen that will occupy the space will require interior wall finishes. Dry wall or modern paneling would be appropriate on those walls.

New casing and other missing trim can be modeled after the historic casing and trim in Room 101.

Modern floor coverings should be removed,

but samples of the the historic linoleum in Room 102 and any other historic floor coverings that are removed should be preserved.

After repairs, floors, walls, ceilings, and trim should be repainted. Interior colors could be chosen by the park or by prospective tenants, since the interior will not be visible to the public.

In summary:

- Remove sheet paneling in Room 100 and restore historic tongue- andgroove siding.
- Finish walls and ceilings of new bathroom and rehabilitated kitchen with dry wall or sheet paneling.
- Use trim in Room 101 as model for missing trim in Room 100.
- Remove modern floor coverings and preserve samples of historic floor coverings.
- Repaint interior as desired.

Utilities

The house should be completely rewired, adding convenience outlets as necessary and ceiling fixtures wherever they are now located. Simple keyless sockets with bare bulbs presently light most of the interior, and given the character of the house, their use might be continued.

The existing bathroom should be removed along with restoration of the back porch, and a new bath should be constructed in the space created by reconstruction of the missing partition in Room 103. The existing kitchen should be completely rehabilitated. Bathroom fixtures, kitchen sink, and cabinets would be new.

Historically, the house has not been heated and that condition should be maintained. If necessary, electric baseboard heaters could be installed in some rooms.

In summary:

- Rehabilitate electrical and plumbing systems.
- Install new bathroom in northwest half of Room 103 after it is partitioned.
- · Rehabilitate kitchen.
- Do not install central heating.

Additional Research

The nature of the current study allowed for only limited research, and a number of potential sources for historical information have not been investigated. Most important would be interviews with Guthrie and Ogilvie family members.

Paint analysis was not part of the research for this report. If public access and interpretation is ever considered for the interior, a paint study would be necessary to accurately portray the historic appearance of the interior.

Finally, development of a Cultural Landscape Report is necessary to adequately define appropriate treatment of the site.

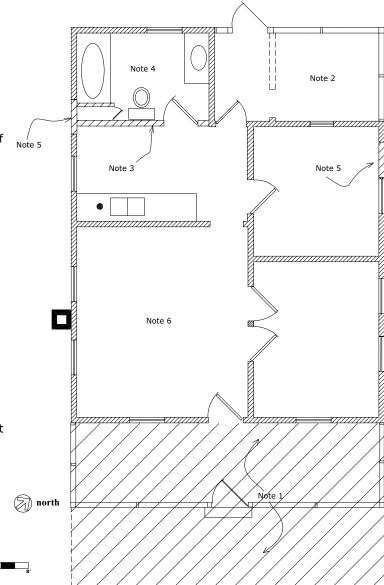
In summary:

- Locate and interview Guthrie and Ogilvie family members regarding house's history;
- Conduct paint analysis of interior should it ever be opened for public interpretation;
- Complete Cultural Landscape Report and implement recommendations for site treatment.

Notes

Remove asbestos siding and restore tongue-and-groove siding. Remove modern roof, restore original roof line. Install new asphalt roof covering. Replace existing aluminum windows with wooden sash, four-over-four.

- 1. Remove modern porch (hatched area) and reconstruct historic porch.
- 2. Remove existing bathroom and restore back porch.
- 3. Reconstruct wall and rehabilitate kitchen.
- 4. Install new bathroom.
- 5. Close modern window opening.
- 6. Remove modern sheet paneling and restore tongue-and-groove paneling.



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