APPLICATION FOR HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION

Preparing Your Application:
Please use black ink or type and use paper no larger than 11" x 17" for the required supporting information. Capital Area Preservation (CAP) staff is available to advise in the preparation of applications.

Filing Your Application:
When completed, the attached application will initiate consideration of a property for designation as a local historic landmark. The application will enable the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission (WCHPC) to determine whether the property qualifies for designation.

Mail the application to Capital Area Preservation, PO Box 28072, Raleigh, NC, 27611. Submitted materials become the property of the Wake County Government and will not be returned. Incomplete applications may be returned to the applicant for revision. CAP staff will contact applicants after receiving an application to discuss the next steps of the designation process (see Landmark Designation Q & A for more information). Please feel free to contact CAP with any questions at 919.833.6404, or e-mail at info@cappresinc.org. CAP can be found on the web at www.cappresinc.org.

Thank you very much for your interest in protecting Wake County's historic resources!

*The guidelines developed for this application are based on the evaluation process used by the National Register of Historic Places. National Register evaluation principles regarding criteria, category classifications, and integrity have been adapted for local applications.

1. Name of Property
   Historic Name: Carpenter Supply Store + Farmer's Cooperative and Meeting Hall
   Current Name: Carpenter Farm Supply Company Complex

2. Location
   Please include the full street address of the property, including its local planning jurisdiction. Wake County Property Identification (PIN) and Real Estate Identification (REID) Numbers can be found at the Wake County property information website at http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/mainpage.htm, or by contacting the Wake County Planning Department.
   Street Address: 1933 Morrisville-Carpenter Road, Cary NC 27519
   Planning Jurisdiction: ________ PIN Number: 0735739514 REID: 0811762
   Deed Book and Page Number: Book 0783 Page 0155
   Current Tax Value of Property: $179,289.00

3. Owner Information (If more than one, list primary contact)
   Name: Dale R. Carpenter and Joel Carpenter
   Address: 1709 Morrisville-Carpenter Road, Cary NC 27519-8640
   Phone: Email: Ownership (check one): [X] Private [ ] Public

4. Applicant/Contact Person (If other than owner)
   Name: MDM Historical Consultants (under contract with Wake County)
   Address: PO Box 1391 Durham NC 27702
   Phone: 919.906.3136 Email: cynthia@mdmhnc.com
   Cynthia de Miranda
5. **Signatures**
I have read the general information on landmark designation provided by the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission and affirm that I support landmark designation of the property defined herein.

Owner: [Signature] Date: 10-23-09
Owner: [Signature] Date: 10/23/09
Owner: [Signature] Date: 11-20-09
Applicant: [Signature] Date: 11-20-09

(If different from owner)

6. **General Data/Site Information**

   Date of Construction and major alterations and additions: 

   Number, type, and date of construction of outbuildings: 

   A. Approximate lot size or acreage:  .5 acres, 2 discontinuous buildings on one parcel
   B. Architect, builder, carpenter, and/or mason:
   C. Original Use:  Farm supply store, farmer's cooperative, meeting hall
   D. Present Use: 

7. **Classification**

   A. Category (select type from below):  2 Buildings
      - **Building** - created principally to shelter any form of human activity (i.e. house, barn/stable, hotel, church, school, theater, etc.)
      - **Structure** - constructed usually for purposes other than creating human shelter (i.e. tunnel, bridge, highway, silo, etc.)
      - **Object** - constructions that are primarily artistic in nature. Although movable by nature or design, an object is typically associated with a specific setting or environment (i.e. monument, fountain, etc.)
      - **Site** - the location of a historic event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself possesses historic, cultural, or archeological value, regardless of the value of any existing structure (i.e. battlefields, cemeteries, designed landscape, etc.)

   B. **Number of Contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:**
      A contributing building, site, structure, or object adds to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archeological values for which a property is significant because it was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significance of the property, and possesses historic integrity or is capable of yielding important information about the period.

      |            | Contributing | Non-contributing |
      |------------|--------------|------------------|
      | Buildings  | 2            | 0                |
      | Structures | 0            | 0                |
      | Objects    | 0            | 0                |
      | Sites      | 0            | 0                |
Please contact the Survey Coordinator at the State Historic Preservation Office to determine if the property is included in the Wake County survey (919.733.6545).

National Register Status and date (listed, eligible, study list): Contributing Buildings, Carpenter NR Historic District, listed 2000.

8. Supporting Documentation (Please type or print and attach to application on separate sheets. Please check box when item complete.)

A. Physical Description Narrative of All Resources on the Site ✓
For primary resource, describe overall form, number of stories, construction materials, roof shape, porches, windows, doors, chimney, important decorative elements, and significant interior features whether or not the interior is being proposed for designation. Provide number, type and location of outbuildings, with an entry on each that includes construction date and brief description. Provide description of landscape and setting of all buildings, structures, etc. on the property.

B. Historical Background Narrative ✓
Chronology of the property and its owners, including any historical events or historic persons associated with the property, presented in paragraph form.

C. Significance Statement ✓
In a clear, concise statement tell why the property meets the criteria for local designation. Please refer to pages 47-48 in The Handbook for Historic Preservation Commissions in North Carolina when preparing statement of significance. A link to the Handbook can be found on the SHPO website site at http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov/commhome.htm. Specifically refer to the Criteria for Significance and Aspects of Integrity. Also state if the property rises to the level of significance needed for designation when compared with all others of its style, type and period in the county, town or city. For example, a building or structure might be a community’s only surviving examples of Greek Revival architecture or it may be a unique local interpretation of the Arts and Crafts movement.

D. Landmark Boundary ✓
Clearly explain the significance of the land area proposed for designation and its historical relationship to the building(s), structure(s) or object(s) located within the property boundary or, in the case of sites, the historical event or events that make the land area significant. For buildings and structures, the designated land area may represent part of or the entire original parcel boundaries, or may encompass vegetative buffers or important outbuildings. For objects, the designated land area may continue to provide the object’s historic context (i.e., a statue’s historic park setting). For sites, the designated area may encompass a landscape that retains its historic integrity (i.e., a battlefield encompassing undisturbed historic view sheds).

F. Bibliography ✓
Bibliography of sources consulted.

9. Photographs ✓
All photographs are required to be digital in JPEG (.jpg) format, and submitted on a CD or DVD. Please note the following requirements:
- Minimum Standard: 6.5" x 4.5" at a resolution of 300ppi (a pixel dimension of 1950 x 1350)
- File Size: There is no maximum or minimum for the file size of an image; however, smaller file sizes may be necessary when emailing images.
- Proof Sheet: Proof sheets are required to show what is on a CD or DVD without having to load the disk. Proofs may be printed in either color or black and white as long as the images are crisp and legible. There should be a minimum of four and a maximum of six proofs per 8.5" x 11" sheet, with no image smaller than 3.25" on its longest side. Proofs
should be labeled as they appear on the disk.

- **Naming Images:** Please label image files for the Local Designation Application as follows:

  LM_PropertyName Description.jpg
  Example: LM_Smith House_front façade.jpg

For buildings and structures, include exterior photos of all elevations of the primary resource and any other contributing and non-contributing resources; photos of significant exterior trim or other features or details; photos of the main building or structure within its setting; photos of each significant landscape feature; and photos of notable interior spaces, significant trim and/or other features or details. For objects, include a view of the object within its setting, as well as a variety of representative views. For sites, include overall views and any significant details.

10. **Floor Plan (for buildings and structures)** ✓

Please include a floor plan showing the original layout, approximate dimensions of all rooms, and any additions (with dates) to the building or structure. Drawings do not have to be professionally produced nor do they need to be to exact scale, but should accurately depict the layout of the property. (Building sketches from the Wake County property information website are not acceptable.)

11. **Maps**

Include two (2) maps: one (1) clearly indicating the location of the property in relation to nearby streets and other buildings, and one (1) showing the proposed landmark boundary of the property and all significant resources. Tax maps with the boundaries of the property are preferred, but survey or sketch maps are acceptable. Please show street names and numbers and all structures on the property.
8. Supporting Documentation

A. Physical Description Narrative of All Resources on the Site

The Carpenter Farm Supply Company Complex comprises two buildings that flank Carpenter Upchurch Road immediately south of its intersection with Morrisville Carpenter Road in the Carpenter community of western Wake County. The ca. 1880 Farmers’ Cooperative stands on the west side of the road and faces north; the early-twentieth-century Carpenter Farm Supply Store stands on the east side of the road and faces west. Additions have been made to both buildings in the twentieth century, but the original construction of each structure is largely unchanged. The complex has remained in the same family since the late nineteenth century; current owners Dale and Joel Carpenter are the great-grandsons of the business founder William Henry Carpenter.

**Farmers’ Cooperative Building**

The Farmers’ Cooperative is a two-story, frame, gable-front building with corrugated metal siding. The facade faces north and features a centered, single-leaf paneled door at the first story and a pair of boarded windows at the second story. A square vent pierces the front gable end. The metal-covered roof has a slight overhang and narrow rafter tails are exposed. A squared cupola with pyramidal roof was added to the building in the 1990s. The east side of the Farmers’ Cooperative has no fenestration and the corrugated metal siding extends to the ground, obscuring the foundation type and material. Additions obscure both the west side elevation and the lower story of the south-facing rear elevation. The upper portion of the rear elevation matches that of the facade, with a pair of boarded windows at the second story and a square vent at the rear gable end.

The first-floor interior of the Farmers’ Cooperative features wood walls lined with wood shelving on the east and west sides. Wood rafters support the second-story floor; much of the interior of the ground floor and the entire second story meeting-hall space was inaccessible during survey due to the building’s current use as fertilizer storage for the retail business.

A single-story, frame, gable-end, ca. 1950 truck garage extends from the rear elevation of the ca. 1880 Farmers’ Cooperative; weatherboard clads the sides of the garage and metal covers the roof, which has a slight overhang. The garage’s south-facing elevation has a double-leaf hinged door of vertical boards with vertical wood siding sheathing the building’s gable end.

Appended to the west side of the Farmers’ Cooperative is a ca. 1950 single-story seed warehouse of timber-frame construction with corrugated metal siding. The side-gabled building has a ca. 1970 shed-roofed addition across its rear elevation and a ca. 1985 loading dock, silo, and open-sided storage shed at its west side. A ca. 1950 shed-roofed front porch spans the facades of the original Farmers’ Cooperative and the later warehouse. The porch has sawn timber porch columns and a concrete-block pier foundation. In front of the Farmers’ Cooperative, the porch floor is wood; it is concrete in front of the warehouse and extends slightly north beyond the edge of the porch roof, serving as a loading dock. The northwest corner of the porch was enclosed in the early 1970s to form an office.

The warehouse interior is open and features wood-clad walls and a concrete floor. The north and west sides of the main warehouse space have large door openings that lead to the loading...
docks; the openings can be secured with sliding wood doors. A third, open doorway in the south wall leads to the shed-roofed rear warehouse addition, which is also an open plan and is only accessible through the main warehouse space. A single window centered on the rear elevation lights the space.

The ca. 1985 loading dock on the west side of the warehouse is a poured concrete slab over a wood crib with railings on the west and south sides. Trucks can pull up to the north edge of the dock for loading and unloading. A metal silo stands between the loading dock and a shed-roofed, open-sided, corrugated metal storage shed with poured concrete floor is attached to the west side of the rear addition to the warehouse. Both were added to the complex around 1985 as well.

Carpenter Farm Supply Store Building

The Carpenter Farm Supply Store was built in four stages. The oldest section is the 1885 front-gabled, single-story, frame building on stone pier foundation at the north end of the overall structure. A two-story brick store with parapet at the south end dates to 1916 and was originally a freestanding building. A frame structure joined the two store buildings in 1917. In the late 1980s, a concrete-block addition was made across the rear of the store building.

The building’s west-facing front elevation includes the facades of the 1885 and 1916 store buildings joined by the 1917 addition. A shed-roofed porch with turned wood porch columns adorned with sawn brackets stretches across the width of the building’s facade. The frame sections of the building include both weatherboard and German siding at the facade. Double-leaf, partially glazed, paneled doors provide access to the interior of the 1885 store building and a six-over-six double-hung wood window to the right of the door lights the interior. A rectangular opening in the gable wall has a wood-plank door on metal hinges. The 1917 addition features only a single-leaf replacement door in its narrow facade. The brick store building has a symmetrical facade consisting of centered, double-leaf, partially glazed, paneled doors in a segmentally arched doorway flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash with three-light transoms in segmentally arched openings. Each of the two identical windows that light the interior of the second story are aligned directly above their first-floor counterparts. A low, stepped parapet with simple projecting brick cornice tops the facade wall of the brick store building. All windows across the entire facade are flanked by louvered wood shutters.

An original shed-roofed room lines the north elevation of the 1885 store building; the exterior completely lacks fenestration and features weatherboard at the facade and corrugated metal siding along the north elevation. A single-story, concrete-block addition at the back of the store buildings spans the width of the building and features a steeply pitched shed roof. A metal double-leaf door provides access to the concrete-block addition from its north elevation and a single-leaf metal door pierces its south end, but the entire east side of the concrete-block rear store addition lacks fenestration.

A gable-roofed concrete-block garage addition extends to the east from the back of the south end of the shed-roofed concrete-block store addition. A firewall with stepped parapet separates the two sections. The rearmost portion of the garage addition contains three garage-bay openings at the south elevation, but the gable-roofed addition otherwise lacks fenestration. Weatherboard clads the gable end at the east end of the building.
The second story of the brick store, visible above the concrete-block additions that obscure its lower story, features a pair of segmentally arched window openings with six-over-six sash and three-light transoms, matching the treatment and placement at the front of the building. The south elevation of the brick store has no fenestration.

Today, the entrance to the store is through the double doors in the brick store building. The interior of the brick store features a wood floor with brick and plaster walls lined with wood shelving and crammed with merchandise. The original back doorway remains and leads into the concrete-block rear addition; the doorway is flanked by six-over-six sash windows with three-light transoms as seen at the front of the building.

A wood stair at the northeast corner of the space leads to the second story, which features an open room occupying roughly the rear two-thirds of the second floor. At the front of the building, two smaller rooms served as an office for William Carpenter and a barbershop. No furniture or finishes indicating these uses survive.

The interiors of the frame sections of the building have been altered from their original appearance. The 1917 frame addition has a plywood floor and ceiling; walls are covered with pegboard to display the hardware supplies that stock the room. The pegboard and merchandise displays also cover the west wall, obscuring the door to the front porch. The interior of the earliest store building section features a linoleum tile floor, sheetrock and plaster walls, a spray-on ceiling surface, and ceiling-mounted fluorescent lighting. An open doorway at the back of the wood-frame store leads down three steps into the concrete-block addition, which has exposed concrete-block walls and a linoleum-tile floor.

B. Historical Background Narrative

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the rural village of Carpenter grew faster than other rural Wake County villages due to the prosperity of the new "bright leaf" tobacco crop that replaced cotton. Tobacco grew well in western Wake County, and the local agricultural economy likewise thrived. The first known store at the Carpenter crossroads was the Farmers' Cooperative that operated out of the ca. 1880 two-story frame building at the southwest corner of Morrisville Carpenter Road and Carpenter Upchurch Road. The building was likely built by the cooperative. 1

In 1885, twenty-year-old William H. Carpenter established a farm supply store on Good Hope Church Road in southwestern Wake County, about a half mile northeast of the crossroads. Carpenter soon learned that the Durham and Southern Railroad planned a route through the area; in 1895, he built the single-story, gable-front store building and its side shed-roofed section at the crossroads and moved his business there. Carpenter and his wife Alice continued to acquire land in the area, including the Farmers' Cooperative building across the road from the new store location; presumably, the cooperative was defunct at that point. In 1905, the


Wake County Landmark Designation Report:
Carpenter Farm Supply Store and Farmers' Cooperative, Carpenter, North Carolina

Prepared by MdM Historical Consultants, PO Box 1399, Durham, NC 27702 • 919-906-3136
Carpenters donated right-of-way for the coming railroad, ensuring that their store would be ideally located for both automobile and rail traffic. Tracks were laid in 1906.\(^2\)

According to local tradition, the Farmers' Cooperative building served as a meeting house for a farmer's union and for fraternal organizations in the first decades of the twentieth century. Records of the early-twentieth-century Farmers’ Educational and Cooperative Union show that a Carpenter chapter met from 1912 through 1920; the exact location is not specified in the records, but the Farmers' Cooperative is the building that local oral history identifies as a union hall. Current owner Dale Carpenter has also found record books of a junior order of a fraternal organization similar to the Freemasons in the building.\(^3\)

In 1916, William Carpenter built a second, separate store building on the east side of Carpenter Upchurch Road, just several feet south of his 1895 store building. The new structure was a two-story brick building with a stepped parapet and segmental arched windows with six-over-six double-hung sash. Stylistically, it has much in common with early-twentieth-century store buildings built in the same period in the county's incorporated towns. In 1917, a frame addition connected the two store buildings. That center section intermittently served as the local post office until the service was permanently discontinued and moved to Morrisville in the 1930s.\(^4\)

William Carpenter sold the farm supply business to his son Melvin Carpenter in 1922. Melvin ran the business for more than twenty years and sold it to his son Roland E. Carpenter upon Roland’s return from service in Casablanca with the Army Air Corps during World War II. Roland added the warehouse and extended the porch on the west side of the Farmer’s Cooperative in the early 1950s and put in some loading docks on that side to unload goods from trains stopped in Carpenter. He also added the gabled frame garage at the back of the Farmer’s Cooperative to shelter a delivery truck. In the early 1970s, he made the rear addition to the warehouse and enclosed a portion of the front porch to house a small office.\(^5\)

Roland’s wife Hilda Ferrell Carpenter continued running the business after her husband's death in 1977, selling it to her sons Dale and Joel Carpenter when Dale graduated from college in 1982. The brothers replaced the rail loading docks with the current loading docks, silo, and shelter in 1985; the newer docks are tailored for trucks rather than rail cars. In the late 1980s, they added all of the concrete-block additions at the rear of the Carpenter Farm Supply Store and did some interior remodeling in the wood-frame sections of the building. The cupola on the Farmers’ Cooperative was likewise added in the late twentieth century. The brothers, the fourth generation to run the store, continue in business today.\(^6\)

C. Significance Statement

The Farmers’ Cooperative and the Carpenter Farm Supply Company Store are both associated with the agricultural history of Wake County, a significant economic activity in the county’s history. Few buildings represent the agricultural community and economy that existed in rural

\(^2\) Edwards, 23; Malloy and Little, 22.

\(^3\) Carpenter interview; Edwards, 21; Malloy and Little, 7.

\(^4\) Dale Carpenter interview; Malloy and Little, 8; Edwards, 33.

\(^5\) Dale Carpenter interview.

\(^6\) Ibid.
Wake County in the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth century as well as the buildings that compose the Carpenter Farm Supply Company Complex. The Farmers' Cooperative served the commercial needs of early farmers in the area; later, it was a meeting place for both agricultural and fraternal organizations. Its cooperative and meeting-hall functions are unique in the area. The Carpenter Supply Company Store and its two early expansions reflect the agricultural growth of the area in the first half of the twentieth century and the commercial needs of the surrounding farming community. The 1916 brick store building is architecturally notable as the only rural brick store building in Wake County. That type was common in towns but unknown at rural crossroads like Carpenter.

Both buildings retain integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association. The buildings, despite side and rear additions in the second half of the twentieth century, retain their essential original form, materials, and overall appearance. The interior plan of the buildings likewise remains intact, including the back stair and second-story office spaces in the 1916 brick section of the Carpenter Farm Supply Company Store; some finishes in the frame sections of the Carpenter Farm Supply Store have been removed or covered by remodeling. The buildings remain in their original location at the Carpenter Crossroads, and their rural setting is largely unchanged. Modest early twentieth-century farmhouses stand along the road south of the complex, and a general store and warehouse from the same period stand on the north side of the crossroads. The railroad tracks likewise survive.

D. Landmark Boundary

The boundary proposed for this landmark designation is depicted on the accompanying proposed boundary map. This boundary encompasses the entire parcel that the buildings occupy, which includes the land historically associated with the Carpenter Farm Supply Store complex. Note that this parcel straddles Carpenter Upchurch Road.

F. Bibliography

Carpenter, Dale. Interview with the author, October 23, 2009.


Carpenter Farm Supply Company

Farmers' Cooperative Building

Floor Plan

Carpenter, Wake County, NC
Carpenter Farm Supply Company
2nd floor Brick store building floor plan

not to scale

Carpenter, Wake County, NC
Carpenter Farm Supply Company Complex
Location Map
Carpenter, Wake Co., NC.
Carpenter Farm Supply Company Complex--Site Map

Carpenter, Wake Co., NC
PROPOSED LANDMARK BOUNDARY

Map created on 10/16/2009 11:24:22 AM
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Proposed landmark boundary marked in a heavy line.