

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: Seminole Trail (Rt. 29 North)
Map and Parcel: 41B-6
Census Tract & Block: 8 - 206
Present Owner: Clay Michie Peyton
Address: The Meadows
Present Use: Storage
Original Owner: Col. James O. Carr
Original Use: Residence

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Carr House at the Meadows
Date/Period: c. 1830
Style: Vernacular
Height to Cornice:
Height in Stories: 2
Present Zoning: B-3
Land Area (sq.ft.): 11.5. acres, plus adjoining tracts
Assessed Value (land + imp.):

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The old Carr house, now known as "the cook's house", has undergone many alterations over the past century and a half, and much original fabric has been lost. It is a two-storey log-bodied building, two bays wide and single pile, with a massive central chimney of random fieldstone. The high ceilings of the second storey would seem to indicate that this may once have been the main residence. Its high foundation of dry-laid stone has been replaced with cinderblock. The steeply-pitched roof is now covered with standing-seam tin and has a boxed cornice and decorative sawn bargeboard. The rafters are fitted together without a ridge board. The walls have been covered with weatherboarding, and a one-storey Victorian veranda now covers the facade. Windows are double-sash, six-over-six light, with plain trim. Several have been closed and filled in with logs. One odd feature is a small blind window, in the weatherboarding only, above the veranda, appearing to match a real casement window on the back of the house. The basement has one fireplace and at this time is unpartitioned. It has no inside stairway. There are two inter-communicating rooms on the main level. Each has an entrance door on the facade and a fireplace in the central chimney. No original doors or mantels remain. The beams in the ceiling of the north room are unshaped round logs. A single flight of open stairs, probably not original, rises along the north wall of the north room. One would expect enclosed corner staircases, probably one in each room with no communication between the two upper rooms. Only the south room at the second level has a fireplace, but the north room was

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

probably amply warmed by heat from the chimney.

The one-storey building with loft, which served as the kitchen until 1910, is half-timbered with brick filling and has a dry-laid stone foundation. The walls are now covered with weatherboarding. There is no fireplace, just one small interior end chimney for a stove. The steep gable roof is covered with standing-seam tin and has a boxed cornice with applied rafter ends and decorative sawn bargeboard. The six-over-six light, double-sash windows and the beaded board-and-batten doors have plain trim. There is a tiny loft window in the southern gable end. Originally there were two rooms of unequal size, each with a door on the facade, but the partition has been removed.

GRAPHICS

In 1817 Garland Carr of Bentivar, brother of Dabney Carr, deeded an 850-acre tract "on the waters of Meadow Creek" to his son James Carr (ACDB 20-465). According to tax records, the first buildings erected were on a 365-acre section which James Carr sold to Lilburn Railey in 1828 (ACDB 28-279). Tax records show that more buildings were erected during the decade of the 1830's. The two-storey log house was probably built circa 1830 and served as the main residence until a larger house was built, probably circa 1840. In 1859 James Carr sold his son Richard H. Carr 279.2 acres "known as the 'House tract' of the Meadow Creek farm" and moved to Amherst County (ACDB 57-614). Richard Carr immediately resold it, and it changed hands several times during the next few years and more of the Carr land was returned to it. An 1866 deed was the first to identify it as "The Meadows". Family tradition is that Captain H. Clay Michie purchased the 440-acre plantation from John Wood, Jr. in 1868, but the deed is dated 1871 (ACDB 66-718). He rebuilt the main house and covered several of the outbuildings with weatherboarding to match. This included the old log house and the half-timbered building which was used as the kitchen until about 1910 when a kitchen wing was added to the main house and the back porch was removed and attached to the log house. The log house was used as servants quarters until the early 1960's, and it has undergone many changes over the years.

CONDITIONS

Fair

UTM: 17/720460/4215450

SOURCES

City/County Records
Mr. and Mrs. Clay M. Peyton
Woods, Albemarle County in Virginia

Architectural  *And Historic*
Survey

Graphics



