

**Chatham County Historical Association, Inc.**

P. O. Box 93 / Pittsboro, NC 27312 / (919) 542-3603

[www.chathamhistory.org](http://www.chathamhistory.org)

1 February 2007

Ms. Kathy Smith  
Polk-Sullivan, LLC  
P. O. Box 5689  
Cary, NC 27512

Re: Structure on McBane Tract

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for your telephone call of 18 January 2007 regarding a structure on the McBane Tract that had been overlooked in earlier surveys. Thank you also for arranging for me to visit the site; John David Eliason took me by there last Friday.

We found a reasonably sturdy two-room cabin, well-constructed, with a stone fireplace blocked off to install a cast iron cookstove. The structure at first appears to be of great age, but apparently is not. The wood planks are not tongue-in-groove and are nailed with cut nails. The weathered siding and other materials may have been recycled from an earlier structure. As best as I can find out, the structure, which has neither electricity or plumbing, was never lived in but rather was used by hunting groups or riding groups, probably connected to the McBane family or even the Dark family, previous owners. A storage shed or shelter behind the house contains miscellaneous salvaged items, including windows that may have been intended for the cabin. Materials in the structure and cabin, as well as items in both places could probably be selectively salvaged for recycling, but I doubt they would repay the effort.

I took photographs to document the structure, which will be of local interest as the physical appearance of the neighborhood disappears. The Chatham County Historical Association appreciates your cooperation in notifying us of this structure and facilitating my visit.

Cordially,



Jane Pyle

copy: Lynn Richardson  
Fred Vatter