

Preliminary Ownership History of the
John F. Payne Barn
Located on the Brian, George and Kayla Roberts Property
(South) Marshall Township
Madison County, NC

The Brian, George and Kayla Roberts property is located on the east side of Bailey Branch Road, near its intersection with Snowbird Road, about 1.5 miles south of the town of Marshall, in the South Marshall Township of Madison County. The barn-of-interest, the John Payne barn, is located less than 200' east of Bailey Branch Road, about 500' south of Snowbird Road. The barn is a flue-cured tobacco barn believed to have been built around 1900. Based on public records available at the Register of Deeds office in Marshall, the probable owner/builder of this barn is John F. Payne who lived on Bailey Branch Road (formerly highway 213) from the late 1800s until his death in 1949.

The Payne (aka Pain) family has a long history in Madison County, though the number of deeds in this area (on the 'waters of Bailey Branch') is relatively few. The barn tract was most likely acquired by Anderson L. Payne in 1880, when he purchased 2 tracts, totaling 150 acres, along Bailey Branch via a county auction for \$300. Anderson Payne died in 1897, at the age of 73, leaving the land to his son, John. From the 1900 census, John is listed as a farmer, and considering his father's age at the time of his death, it seems most reasonable that John built or had built the subject barn. John's son, Roy J. Payne, was born in 1896 and farmed, and lived, with his father even after marrying Nell Davis in 1930. John died in 1949 and Roy was bequeathed the barn tract via his father's last will and testament. Roy passed away in 1981 and once Nell died in 1995, the acreage was passed on to their nephew, Robert Payne. Less than a month after Nell's passing, Robert Payne sold the tract to James and Viola 'Jane' Roberts, who, in turn, conveyed the tract, and three other parcels, to their children, Brian, George and Kayla in 2014.