Ogburn Station

Ogburn Station, now a part of Winston-Salem, grew out of 51 acres purchased by Edmund Ogburn from the Moravians. Located north of Winston near the present-day intersection of Germanton Road and NC-66, the area around Ogburn’s farm began to be settled around 1840 and is an historical example of the early influence of railroads in this county.

Ogburn Station is named after the grandson of Edmund Ogburn, John Wilkerson “Wick” Ogburn. His father, James, was a pioneer tobacco farmer and brought the first tobacco press to Forsyth County. As the area around the family’s property became more settled, various services began arriving, mostly related to travel. For example, a stage coach that was used until the 1920s served Ogburn Station, passing through Stanleyville from Rural Hall.

When rail lines came through Forsyth County in the late 19th century, Ogburn Station developed as a trading post for horses, cattle and other goods. Land around the station was also dedicated as campground space for travelers on their way to Winston. Businesses began to spring up in the area, mostly small startups that served a transient clientele. As time passed, however, the local businesses became more established, so that the range of available amenities included floral shops, restaurants and lunch counters, grocery stores, dry cleaners, meat markets and service stations. J.S. Pulliam Barbecue, a staple in the community since 1910, still operates today.

Local businesses created a large part of the character associated with Ogburn Station through the 20th century, but the national economic struggles of the 1970s took their toll on the area. The Ogburn Station Merchants Association has been instrumental in encouraging a renewed commercial enthusiasm in the area, particularly around the intersection of Old Rural Hall and Old Walkertown Roads.

The Ogburn Station area includes present-day Ogburn Station, Mineral Springs, Oak Summit, Northview, Fair Oaks, and the Pine Brook Country Club. The physical structure bearing the same name no longer exists, but it is believed to have been located on Liberty Street near the current Smith Reynolds Airport.

This information is also available at the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission’s web site: http://www.ForsythCountyHRC.org