

# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY REPORT



## Historic Store Context

Burke, Caldwell, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford Counties

*Mitigation for the Widening of Enola Road (SR 1922/1924)  
in Morganton, Burke County*

*North Carolina Department of Transportation*

*TIP No. U-2551 WBS No. 34832 FA No. STP-1922 (1)*



*Prepared for: Human Environment Section  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1598*

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Cover photos taken by Heather Fearnbach, 2011  
(top row, from left) H. D. Leonhardt Store, Morganton, Burke County; Okey B. Biggerstaff General Store, Bostic,  
Rutherford County; Littlejohn Rock Store, Lenoir vicinity, Caldwell County  
(bottom row, from left) W. P. Crow Store, Hollis vicinity, Rutherford County; Tilley Store, Drexel vicinity, Burke  
County; Mull Store, Morganton, Burke County

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**April 2012**

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Date

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Mary Pope Furr, Supervisor  
Historic Architecture Group  
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Date

**I-40/I-77 Interchange Improvements  
Mitigation for the Widening of  
Enola Road (SR 1922/1924) in Morganton  
Burke County  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
TIP No. U-2551  
WBS No. 34832  
FA No. STP-1922 (1)**

**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) determined that the widening of Enola Road (SR 1922/SR 1924) in Burke County, North Carolina will have an effect upon the Broughton Hospital Historic District and U. S. B. Dale's Market, properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1987. Three additional resources—the Broughton Hospital Historic District Expansion, the Dale's home adjacent to the store, and Mull's Grocery and the proprietor's house—were determined eligible for listing in the NRHP based upon Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.'s 2002 architectural survey report for the road widening project. These properties will also be impacted by the proposed undertaking.

NCDOT contracted with Fearnbach History Services, Inc. (FHS) and Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) to carry out a three-part project. The first task entailed photographing the existing conditions of the Broughton Hospital Historic District, District Expansion, Dale's Market and House, and Mull's Grocery and House. Architectural historian Heather Fearnbach completed the photography in accordance with the Historic Structures and Landscape Recordation Plan provided by NCDOT and submitted the required photographs and maps in July 2011.

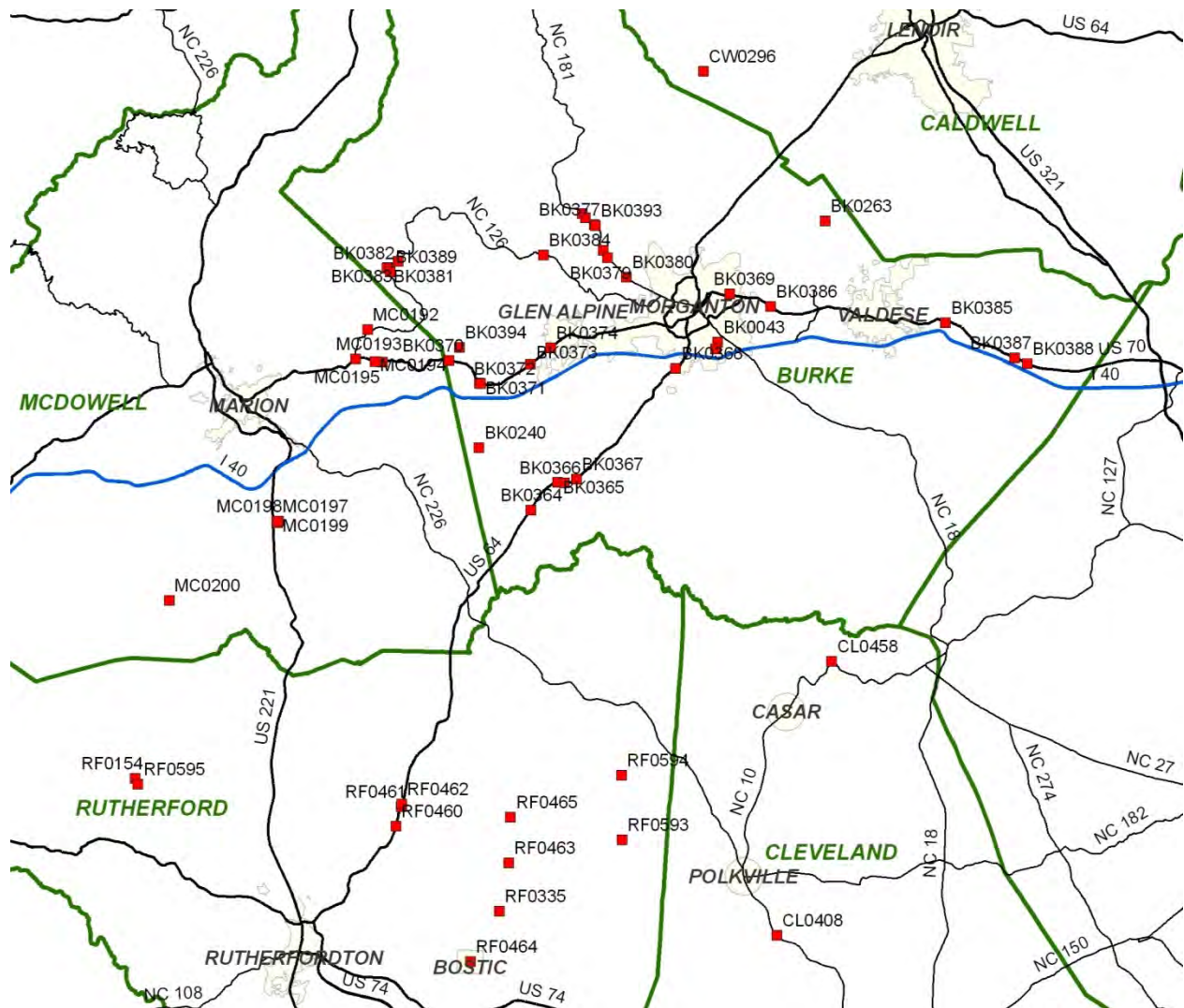
The second assignment was to undertake reconnaissance-level architectural survey of historic stores in northern Rutherford County and the southeastern portions of Burke and McDowell counties (outside of the Pisgah National Forest). NCDOT selected the study area based upon similarities in topography, settlement history, and architectural patterns. The third charge entailed the creation of a historic and architectural context for rural general stores in the study area that provides guidance for evaluating similar resources throughout the region. This report summarizes the survey findings and provides the required general store context.

Architectural historian Heather Fearnbach embarked on the fieldwork in July 2011, photographing comparable properties and interviewing property owners, knowledgeable local residents, and community historians who graciously shared background information and facilitated access to resources. This project would not have been possible without their assistance.

The principal investigator conducted research at the Burke County Public Library in Morganton, the McDowell County Public Library in Marion, the Mooneyham Public Library in Forest City, the Rutherford County Library in Spindale, the Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University, the Forsyth County Public Library in Winston-Salem, and the State Library of North Carolina in Raleigh. The Burke, Rutherford, and Cleveland County architectural survey publications and the associated files at the Western Office of Archives and History in Asheville supplied architectural context.

Ms. Fearnbach completed North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) database forms for each surveyed store and authored the report. Michael T. Southern, Senior Architectural Historian and GIS Coordinator at the HPO, created the map that illustrates the relative locations of the surveyed stores and provided assistance with database manipulation.

FHS and APS conducted the survey and prepared this report in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Advisory T 6640.8A (Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4(f) Documents); the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological and Historic Preservation (48 FR 44716); 36 CFR Part 60; 36 CFR Part 800; and the NCDOT document entitled *Historic Architectural Resources: Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines* (2003). The report meets FHWA, NCDOT, and National Park Service guidelines.



**Map illustrating the relative locations of surveyed stores**

created by Michael T. Southern, Senior Architectural Historian and GIS Coordinator,  
 North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, February 2012

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## **I. Methodology: Reconnaissance-level Historic Store Survey**

NCDOT contracted with Fearnbach History Services, Inc. (FHS) and Acme Preservation Services, LLC (APS) to undertake a reconnaissance-level architectural survey of historic stores in northern Rutherford County and the southeastern portions of Burke and McDowell counties (outside of the Pisgah National Forest). The principal investigator also documented one newly-identified Caldwell County store and two previously-surveyed Cleveland County commercial buildings as she encountered them in the process of traveling to the study area and they serve as excellent examples of the property type. The survey's goal was to identify a representative sample of rural general stores erected from the late-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth centuries in order to provide historical and architectural context for the two such properties that will be impacted by the Enola Road widening. As with all architectural surveys, it was not possible to document every historic rural commercial building, but the principal investigator included fifty-four resources that possess architectural or historical significance.

Principal investigator Heather Fearnbach conducted the fieldwork from July to December 2011, traveling secondary roads and highways to locate stores outside of town limits that merited investigation. She used USGS maps illustrating historic property distribution on file at the HPO to guide the survey. These maps and queries of the HPO's historic resource database revealed that only a few rural general stores within the study area had been previously documented in county-wide architectural surveys.

Haynes Store #1, erected to serve Cliffside Cotton Mill employees in southeastern Rutherford County, is the only rural store in the three-county region included on North Carolina Study List. The building is not addressed in this report as it is outside of the study area and was constructed as part of a mill village. Mull's Grocery, located a few miles south of Dale's Market, was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) based upon Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc.'s 2002 architectural survey report for the Enola Road widening project.

No Burke, McDowell, or Rutherford County stores are individually listed in the NRHP. However, the E. N. Washburn Store, Rutherford County's oldest identified family-owned and operated mercantile establishment, contributes to the National Register-listed Washburn Historic District, which also includes a funeral home, dwellings, and outbuildings on approximately sixty-five acres. U. S. B. Dale's Market in Burke County was listed in the National Register in 1987 as part of the Morganton Multiple Resource Area, which encompasses five individual properties and approximately 447 contributing resources in nine historic districts within the Morganton city limits.

The principal investigator photographed each store, interviewed property owners and knowledgeable local residents, conducted research, and authored the report. She coordinated with Chandrea Burch at the HPO to receive a survey site number for each surveyed property in order to electronically label the digital photographs and create Microsoft Access database forms. The completed forms include brief physical descriptions and historical background summaries incorporating material collected from oral history, maps, census records, deeds, death certificates, newspapers, and county history publications.

The principal investigator attempted to contact each property owner to explain the survey scope and request additional information. Many informants graciously shared their stories. In other instances, she left voice-mail or sent email messages but did not receive a response.



This survey will hopefully spur local interest in gathering rural general store history. Additional primary source research would be beneficial, and interviews with current and former store operators and customers are imperative as the documentation process continues. Oral history allows for the understanding of an area's history in a manner that is not possible from any other source. Whenever possible, oral histories should be audio- or video-recorded. Identification and digitization of historical documents and photographs in private collections to facilitate their preservation should be undertaken.

## **II. Rural General Stores: Historical Background**

The Civil War brought swift and dramatic change to the lives of rural residents throughout the divided nation who suffered great economic challenges including substantial losses of material goods, crops, and livestock during and after the conflict. The absence of a young male labor force made farm and business management difficult and the cost of basic staples rose dramatically, leaving many households unable to afford necessities. Although North Carolinians struggled to make ends meet after the war's end, freedmen and yeomen farmers slowly accumulated the resources to acquire land and establish small subsistence farms. The rural population from the Reconstruction era through the mid-twentieth century consisted primarily of farm owners; day laborers; sharecroppers, who usually received housing and staple goods from farm owners in exchange for a percentage of the crops they harvested; and tenant farmers, who paid cash rent for the land they occupied and cultivated. The vast majority of former slaves and white laborers unable to purchase property worked as sharecroppers.<sup>1</sup>

Farm families obtained goods they could not produce or manufacture at community stores, often bartering against future crop yields. When the economy recovered during the Reconstruction era, numerous entrepreneurs sought to meet rural residents' increased demand for commodities by establishing general stores with diverse inventories on well-traveled roads. Many proprietors were enterprising farmers seeking to supplement their income. They typically resided near their stores in order to protect their merchandise and monitor customer traffic while completing other tasks. Some farm and store owners also engaged in manufacturing endeavors, processing raw materials including corn, wheat, flax seed, and logs to produce meal, flour, linseed oil, and lumber, which they sold locally as well as to larger retailers.

Successful store owners often were, or became, community leaders given their economic and social status and relationship-building skills. They loaned money; dispensed advice; disseminated local news; sold revenue stamps and marriage licenses; arranged for doctor's visits; promoted civic, educational, political, and religious causes; and often served as post masters, distributing mail and newspapers. Store operation required daily attention and was usually a multi-generational family affair, with husbands, wives, their children, and extended family participating in such endeavors.

North Carolina merchants purchased inventory in trade centers such as Louisville, Richmond, Atlanta, and Charleston and shipped it by rail to depots close to their stores. Wagon drivers then picked up the merchandise and transported it to outlying areas. The Washburn and Withrow families, who operated

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<sup>1</sup> Federal census records allow for the hypothetical recreation of residency patterns as census takers enumerated households in the order they were interviewed, which generally corresponds to dwelling location. African American families listed after white households and without taxable property often worked as sharecroppers, tenant farmers, or domestic servants. In many cases, newly freed slaves took the surnames of their former owners and continued to reside in close proximity to them. Many men and women continued to work as farm laborers or as domestic servants even after new jobs became available in manufacturing plants.

Rutherford County stores for many years, made frequent shopping trips to New York. As rural commercial endeavors proliferated, manufacturers hired traveling salesmen, often called “drummers,” to facilitate product distribution.<sup>2</sup>

General stores carried goods ranging from foodstuffs such as coffee, tea, spices, sugar, flour, and candy, to tobacco, soap, medicine, shoes, sewing notions (fabric, thread, and other supplies), readymade clothes, china, cookware, stoves, hardware, farm equipment, fertilizer, feed, seeds, and coffins. Attractively-arranged shelves, tables, storage bins, and display cases, sometimes provided by vendors, lined the walls. Most stores included long counters used for measuring, weighing, wrapping, and processing purchases. Heavy wooden butcher blocks provided a surface upon which proprietors cut meat to order. Customers traded fruit, vegetables, eggs, butter, cider, chickens, and other items for merchandise.<sup>3</sup>



**George Leonhardt erected a general store at 810 E. Union Street in Morganton around 1926 and Vernon and Barbara Roberts have operated Burke Feed and Seed in the building since 1960. The interior retains original features including storage bins (above left) and a stove (above right). The store was not included in the survey sample given its location within a Morganton neighborhood rather than in a rural setting.**

Many farm families ordered and picked up provisions at local mercantile establishments on Saturday afternoons and availed themselves of the chance to visit with their neighbors who were doing the same thing. Inclement weather also provided opportunities for socialization. General stores served as gathering places for area residents, who could be found outside conversing on store benches sheltered by deep canopies during the warmer seasons and inside playing cards, checkers, or whittling around

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<sup>2</sup> Thomas D. Clark, *Pills, Petticoats, and Plows: The Southern Country Store* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1944), 13, 20, 58, 72, 84; Jim Harrison, *Country Stores* (Atlanta: Longstreet Press, 1993), 39-44.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

woodstoves in the winter. Larger stores often featured exterior stairs to provide access to second-floor meeting rooms utilized by groups such as the Masons, the Order of the Eastern Star, and local chapters of the Grange, the oldest national agricultural organization in the United States.<sup>4</sup>

Levi Branson's *North Carolina Business Directory* illustrates general store proliferation within the survey area during the late nineteenth century. The 1890 publication estimates that Burke County's population numbered 12,811 and lists twenty-seven Burke County towns and post offices. Morganton, the county seat, was by the largest by far with 1,500 residents, followed by Rutherford College with 200 inhabitants, Bridgewater with 125 occupants, and Connelly Springs with a population of 121. Entrepreneurs including W. W. Connelly in Connelly Springs operated 24 general stores throughout the county and 21 such businesses in Morganton.<sup>5</sup>

McDowell County contained 9,836 residents and nineteen towns and post offices in 1890, ranging from Marion, the county seat, which had 765 occupants, to Greenlee's and North Cove, each with 20 inhabitants. Seven post offices stood outside of communities and thus had no associated populace. The county's second largest town, Old Fort, was home to 225 people, while Dysartsville and Nebo each had a population of 125. The *North Carolina Business Directory* did not list any McDowell County general stores outside of towns that year, but three merchants had erected general stores in Dysartsville, five entrepreneurs had opened such businesses in Old Fort, and twelve mercantile establishments were operating in Marion.<sup>6</sup>

Rutherford County, with 15,198 residents and 43 towns and post offices, had the study area's most sizable population and thus the largest number of general stores in 1890. Rutherfordton, the county seat, claimed 800 inhabitants and 14 general and grocery stores, while Forest City had 275 occupants and 9 mercantile establishments. Brittain and Otter Creek each reported 125 occupants and remaining communities numbered less than one hundred inhabitants. Entrepreneurs including Rueben Washburn near Bostic and J. W. Biggerstaff in Sunshine operated 31 general stores in the county's rural areas.<sup>7</sup>

Local general stores remained the primary shopping venue for rural residents during the twentieth century's first decades as many secondary roads were poorly maintained, making travel to towns time-consuming and arduous. The 1902 *North Carolina Yearbook* lists twenty-six Burke County merchants in the unincorporated communities of Bridgewater, Brindletown, Camp Creek, Chambers, Chesterfield, Connelly Springs, Enola, Fonta Flora, Gibbs, Linville's Store, Pearson, Rollins, Shoup's Ford, Table Rock, and Worry. Rutherford County's rural stores were even greater in number, encompassing thirty-two mercantile establishments including those of E. N. Washburn and J. P. D. Withrow, who subsequently replaced the frame stores they operated at that time with masonry buildings that were included in this survey. McDowell County had a comparable number of rural general stores based on its population and size. Sixteen merchants in Ashford, Blalock, Dysartsville, Garden City, Kirksey, Montford, Nealsville, Nebo, Thermal, and Tom Creek served area residents.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid.; Formally known as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, the National Grange was established in Washington D. C. in 1867. <http://www.nationalgrange.org/about/history.html>.

<sup>5</sup> Levi Branson, ed., *Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1890, Volume VII* (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1889), 131, 134.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., 431-433.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., 587, 589-590.

<sup>8</sup> *The News and Observer, North Carolina Yearbook* (Raleigh: *The News and Observer*, 1902), accessed at [http://www.archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1902/northcarolinayea1902\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1902/northcarolinayea1902_djvu.txt) in November 2011. Burke County place name spelling varies over time. For example, the Brindletown post office operated from 1829 until 1907, but the

According to the *North Carolina Yearbook*, rural grocery and dry goods stores within the study area decreased slightly in quantity by 1915. Rutherford County retained the largest number of such stores—twenty-nine—that year. McDowell County merchants operated nineteen stores in rural communities including Ashford, Dysartsville, Garden City, Graphitesville, Mt. Mitchell, North Cove, Sugar Hill, Vein Mountain, and Woodlawn. The *North Carolina Yearbook* only lists six Burke County merchants outside of towns that year: the Berry Brothers in Drexel, A. H. Giles in Fonta Flora, the Noblett Brothers in Linville’s Store, R. W. Suddereth on Route 2 near Morganton, C. C. Hensley on Route 3 near Morganton, and Thomas Branch in Table Rock.<sup>9</sup>

Demand for farm products escalated during World War I, providing rural residents with more disposable income to spend at local stores, but many farm laborers moved to urban centers in search of better opportunities, taking their buying power with them. By the 1920s, transportation improvements ranging from increased paved road mileage to affordable automobiles facilitated more expeditious travel to purchase groceries and merchandise. Rural electrification provided farmers with the option of acquiring refrigerators and freezers to store large quantities of perishable food, making frequent trips to the general store unnecessary.

Despite these changes, local businesses remained economically viable, adjusting their offerings as needed. E. N. Washburn built a new store in 1925 to encompass a larger inventory selection including appliances and erected two additional brick buildings, one to serve as a furniture showroom and the other a funeral home. As automobiles, trucks, and tractors replaced wagons and horse- or mule-drawn plows, many store owners installed gas pumps, becoming precursors of the modern gas station and convenience store.

The Great Depression challenged store owners and consumers, as much of the American population experienced financial difficulties. Farm owners were unable to pay property taxes or purchase necessary provisions for themselves or the tenant farmers and sharecroppers who cultivated their land, and many lost their property. Tenant farmers and sharecroppers, in turn, could not compensate farm and store owners for lodging, equipment, or supplies with cash or a portion of their harvest. Farmers were at least able, in most cases, to provide sustenance for their families by planting larger home gardens, preserving food, and raising more hogs and poultry. Rural store proprietors often extended credit and allowed their customers to barter for the items they needed, making them more popular shopping destinations than the urban stores that required cash payment. Economic conditions improved by the late 1930s and then stalled as the country suffered a recession.

The economy finally rebounded during the early 1940s in response to increased demand for

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rural community’s name is now spelled “Brendletown.” Linville’s Store was known as Linville River from 1827 until 1870, when the post office of that name closed. Postal service resumed at Linville’s Store (which is also written without an apostrophe in some historic documents) in 1874 and continued through 1907. The Happy Home community’s name changed to “Connelly’s Springs” in 1886. Alternate spellings include “Connelys Springs,” which appears in post office records beginning in 1889, and “Connelly Springs,” which became official at the town’s 1920 incorporation. R. F. Winter, “Burke County,” list of post offices with historic post office location map and color postmark illustrations, compiled in September 2008, accessed at <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/burke%20county.pdf> in November 2011; Edward J. Phifer, *Burke County: A Brief History* (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, second printing, 2000), 96-100.

<sup>9</sup> *The News and Observer, North Carolina Yearbook* (Raleigh: *The News and Observer*, 1915), accessed at [http://www.archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1915rale/northcarolinayea1915rale\\_djvu.txt](http://www.archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1915rale/northcarolinayea1915rale_djvu.txt) in November 2011.

agricultural and industrial products during World War II. Many men and women enlisted in the military, and those left behind were occupied with the war effort in a variety of ways, from filling vacant positions in local manufacturing plants to participating in bond drives and planting victory gardens. Industrial jobs increased by seventy-five percent in the South over the course of World War II with traditionally underemployed groups such as women, African Americans, and the elderly receiving invaluable education, training, and experience.<sup>10</sup>

Such opportunities drew rural residents to cities, where they typically shopped even if they resided on farms. Local general stores continued to serve as community gathering places and places to acquire commodities, however, and veterans including Herman Edwards, Walter Lester Reep, Woodrow Wilson Taylor, and Edgar Nollie Washburn operated mercantile establishments within the survey area upon their return home. Tourism provided business for stores near recreational facilities and other scenic locations, and some establishments, like Longtown Grocery, located in close proximity to Lake James State Park, offered sandwiches and picnic supplies.

Few rural general stores have remained in operation through the early twenty-first century given competition from modern gas stations; convenience, grocery, and hardware stores; and big-box establishments. Those that are still in business supply local residents and tourists with basic commodities. Washburn's Store, for example, has managed to survive by selling popular seasonal items such as heaters, sleds, and gardening equipment.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Marilyn M. Harper, et. al. *World War II and the American Home Front* (Washington, D. C.: The National Historic Landmarks Program, October 2007), 3, 13-16.

<sup>11</sup> Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011.

### III. Surveyed Rural General Store Inventory

The following list of surveyed stores is arranged alphabetically by county and community and then in ascending order by address.

#### Burke County



**BK0385, Connelly and McGalliard Stores, ca. 1890, 1910  
6527 Main Circle Street, Connelly Springs**

The two two-story weatherboarded commercial buildings that stand on the south side of US 70 at its intersection with Main Circle Street have been relocated several times. The Connelly family erected the south store around 1890 facing the railroad approximately 275 feet south of its current location. Cal McGalliard constructed the north store circa 1910 west of the Connelly's store, also facing the railroad, about five hundred feet southwest of its current location.

The frame stores now occupy the northwest corner of a 2.61-acre parcel that includes a block of brick commercial buildings erected from circa 1900 through the 1950s. These edifices—most of which were built by the Hudson family—and two freestanding two-story buildings to the west are the other surviving remnants of Connelly Springs' commercial district. The Hudsons expanded their earlier stores to serve as Lindy's Furniture Company by constructing a showroom and warehouse on the commercial block's east and west ends.

Large window openings and stepped-parapet façades characterize both frame stores. The north building is larger due to the one-story shed wing that extends from its north elevation. A double-leaf paneled door on the façade provides access to the wing, while the building's recessed main entrance encompasses a tall, double-leaf, glazed door with a short paneled base. Tall, narrow, plate glass windows flank the door and two large, multi-pane, fixed sash windows complete the storefront. Replacement six-over-six double-hung sash pierce the façade's second story and the secondary elevations.

The south building retains an original double-leaf paneled door surmounted by an eight-pane transom. Replacement nine-over-nine first-floor windows and six-over-six second-story windows illuminate the interior. Both edifices rest on stuccoed, vented, concrete block foundations and temporary wooden steps lead to the main entrances.

William Lewis and Elizabeth Moore Connelly erected a log dwelling on their Burke County farm around 1838. Given their location midway between Salisbury and Asheville, the couple soon established a stagecoach stop and inn. The community that grew around them was known as Happy Home when postal service began in 1857. William L. Connelly was the first postmaster.<sup>12</sup>

The Connelly family operated a store by the time the Southern Railroad extended a line to the area in 1860. The route terminated at Happy Home—which the railroad company called “Icard Station”—due to the difficulties of engineering a line through the mountains. Commercial establishments grew rapidly, serving railroad traffic as well as tourists drawn to western North Carolina’s scenic beauty.<sup>13</sup>

In addition to their mercantile endeavors, the Connellys’ livelihood depended on farming. William L. Connelly’s widow Elizabeth owned a farm encompassing real estate appraised at \$800 and personal property valued at \$655 in 1870. Her son Horace lived with her and operated the family store in conjunction with his brother, William Waitzel Connelly, a farmer who resided in an adjacent home with his family. William owned real estate valued at \$800 and personal property worth an estimated \$1,250 in 1880, when his household included his wife, Agnes Elmira Franklin, and six of their children; his younger brother Horace, his wife Martha, and their two girls; William’s sister Emma; and a cook, Myra Loel. The census taker indicated that William’s primary occupation was farming, his older four boys worked on the family farm, Horace was a merchant, and Emma was the community’s postmistress, a position that she held from February 20, 1874 until January 20, 1887.<sup>14</sup>

In 1885, Elmira Connelly discovered, after consultation with Virginia chemist W. H. Taylor, that the water in a spring on the family’s farm had a high mineral content and was thus thought to have healing properties. Entrepreneurs from Salisbury constructed a fifty-room hotel near the railroad’s terminus to house visitors, and the community’s name changed to “Connelly’s Springs” in 1886. Alternate spellings include “Connellys Springs,” which appears in post office records beginning in 1889, and “Connelly Springs,” which became official at the town’s 1920 incorporation.<sup>15</sup>

Horace Connelly continued to run the family’s general store through the turn of the century. Brothers A. A. and Daniel P. Hudson opened a store in Connelly Springs in 1893, but after A. A. married Blanche M. Hayes in 1894 he returned to farming. Around 1900, Daniel P. Hudson built two one-story brick commercial buildings west of Connelly’s store. In 1902, Connelly Springs contained five general stores other than Hudson’s business. Their proprietors were J. E. Coulter and Company, D. P. Johnson, T. P. Goode, W. Dorsey, and the Connelly Springs Company, which also operated a hotel in the community. W. J. Alexander owned Connelly Springs’ most architecturally distinctive commercial

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<sup>12</sup> R. F. Winter, “Burke County,” <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/burke%20county.pdf>; Town of Connelly Springs, “Our History,” <http://www.connellysprings.com>, accessed in November 2011.

<sup>13</sup> Town of Connelly Springs, “Our History.”

<sup>14</sup> Myra Loel is spelled Mira Lail in 1870. United States Census, Population Schedules, 1870-1880; R. F. Winter, “Burke County,” <http://www.postalmuseum.si.edu/statepostalhistory/burke%20county.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> Town of Connelly Springs, “Our History.”

building, the two-story Rock Store, erected in 1914 with stone from Valdese and operated by his son D. W. Alexander. The Morganton *News-Herald* reported that Mr. Alexander's cash sales amounted to \$40,000 in 1920. A. A. Hudson's son Fred worked as a clerk in his uncle D. P. Hudson's store at that time and took over the business's operation after D. P.'s death in 1928.<sup>16</sup>

Jones E. Hudson acquired the Connelly's store in 1917 and moved the building about 250 feet south east of its original location, where it faced northwest toward what is now Main Circle, in 1926. He then erected a two-story brick general store on the Connelly building's original site in 1928 and expanded his inventory to include furniture in the 1930s. J. E. Hudson also managed the Connelly Springs depot and served as the railroad's local telegraph operator for thirty-two years.<sup>17</sup>

J. E. and Fred Hudson partnered in 1945 to run a general store that offered a wide variety of merchandise. In 1950, after J. E.'s sons Lindy and Ed became involved in the business, the family decided to dissolve the partnership. Fred retained the general store, which was well-known throughout the area for carrying everything from coffee, tea, spices, sugar, tobacco, and candy to soap, shoes, clothes, housewares, farm equipment, fertilizer, feed, and seeds. Farmers traded fruit, vegetables, eggs, butter, cider, chickens, and other items for merchandise they were not able to produce on their farms.<sup>18</sup>

J. E. Hudson and his sons established Lindy's Furniture Company, which is still in operation with showrooms in Connelly Springs and Hickory. J. E. passed away in 1952 and Fred retired on July 3, 1959. Connelly Springs' merchants suffered from US 70's realignment north of the town's business district, and buildings including the frame McGalliard and Connelly-Hudson stores stood vacant for many years. J. E.'s son Harry Lindy Hudson moved these two edifices to their current location around 2006 with the intention of using them as retail space. He replaced the majority of the windows at that time, but his restoration efforts have been stymied by building code issues.<sup>19</sup>

John Calvin McGalliard, known as "Cal," constructed a two-story frame grocery store around 1910 west of the Hudsons' buildings and operated it until his 1929 retirement. The store remained closed for a few years, but the year after Mr. McGalliard's death in 1933 Roy Simpson and Alvin McGalliard opened The People's Store. Alvin was only involved in the store for about six months before selling his interest to his brother Roy, who worked in a textile mill. Roy soon sold his share of the business to his brother John, who operated the store until leaving to serve in the military during World War II. John's motto was "if we don't have it, you don't need it." J. V. Hovis subsequently managed the store, followed by railroad employee Bert Wilson and his wife Mattie. The Hudsons then acquired the property.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> *The News and Observer*, North Carolina Yearbook, 1902; United States Census, Population Schedules, 1920-1930; Geneva Hiergesell, " 'Uncle Fred' Hudson Closes Connelly Springs Store, Long Known as Landmark In Area," *The Valdese News*, July 6, 1959; "Daniel P. Hudson," death certificate; Lynn Galvin, *Yesterday Is But A Dream: The Story of Connelly Springs, NC* (Connelly Springs, NC: Rockhaven Historical Review, 1986), p. 92.

<sup>17</sup> Harry Lindy Hudson Sr., telephone conversations with Heather Fearnbach, November 2011; J. Randall Cotton, Connelly Springs Business District," field notes and narrative from Burke County architectural survey, 1984, on file at the Western Office of Archives and History, Asheville; Lynn Galvin, *Yesterday Is But A Dream*, p. 103.

<sup>18</sup> Geneva Hiergesell, " 'Uncle Fred' Hudson Closes Connelly Springs Store, Long Known as Landmark In Area." Lynn Galvin, *Yesterday Is But A Dream*, pp. 107-108.

<sup>19</sup> Harry Lindy Hudson Sr., telephone conversations with Heather Fearnbach, November 2011; Geneva Hiergesell, " 'Uncle Fred' Hudson Closes Connelly Springs Store, Long Known as Landmark In Area."

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*; J. Randall Cotton, "Connelly Springs Business District"; "John Calvin McGalliard," death certificate; Lynn Galvin, *Yesterday Is But A Dream*, p. 102.





The Rock Store, above left, built in 1914 with stone from Valdese, stands at the west end of Connelly Springs' business district. The People's Bank, above right, erected in 1919, served as the Connelly Springs Post Office after the bank failed in 1926. A Lindy's Furniture warehouse and showroom flank the commercial block to the east (below, looking northeast, top, and looking southwest, bottom).





**BK0263, Tilley Store, ca. 1895, 2599 Smokey Creek Road, Drexel vicinity**

This one-and-one-half-story, front-gable-roofed, weatherboarded store has six-over-six sash windows flanking the board-and-batten front door. One window pierces the north elevation beside the northwest corner entrance. The window opening near the north elevation's east corner has been enclosed with weatherboards. Board-and-batten shutters secure the remaining first-floor windows as well as the second-story windows in each gable end. The one-story shed-roofed porch supported by square wood posts that sheltered the façade has been removed. The building rests on original stone and later concrete block piers and is protected by a metal roof.

The Tilley Store's interior is remarkably intact. Wide boards sheath the walls, floors, and ceiling. Wood shelves line the north and south elevations and a long, wide wood counter extends almost the building's full length. Wooden tables, storage bins, boxes, barrels, and baskets that provided additional display and storage remain. Stairs rise in a straight run from the room's northwest corner to the loft.

In 1880, Emmett Harrison Tilley (b. March 1, 1848), his wife Sarah Jane Guest (b. November 27, 1852), who was known as "Sally," and their two young daughters resided in Excelsior, a small community in northeast Burke County's Lovelady Township. Mr. Tilley was a merchant. The family subsequently acquired property northwest of Drexel in Smoky Creek Township where they built a frame I-house in 1892 and established a farm. Mr. Tilley continued his mercantile endeavors, erecting a two-story general store adjacent to the family's home. In 1910, the Tilley's son Horace Holman (b. July 23, 1887), his wife Jenny (b. March 20, 1887), and the couple's sons, Loy and Harold, resided in their household and assisted with the farm's operation. After Emmett's death on May 21, 1919 at the

age of 71, Horace took over the farm and store management.<sup>21</sup>

His granddaughter Nancy Tilley Stamey retains paperwork related to the store including invoices, receipts, and mail from the early 1920s. A delivery ticket verifies that Horace received a dry goods order shipped from Johnson City, Tennessee to Drexel via the Southern Railroad on March 25, 1921. Around that time, Jenny began chronicling the news regarding Amherst, the community where their farm was located, for a weekly Morganton *News-Herald* column that she continued to write for over thirty years. In 1930, Horace, Jenny, Harold, Loy and his wife Grace, and Horace's mother Sally resided on the farm.<sup>22</sup>

The Tilleys utilized a hillside cave southwest of the store as cold storage for potatoes, cabbage, and other produce. Horace and Jenny sold apples from their orchard, vegetables, eggs, and baked goods in their store and in Morganton on Saturdays. Their endeavors likely inspired Jenny's work with Burke County agricultural extension agent R. L. Sloan and Mrs. W. O. Johnson to establish the Burke Farmers Cooperative Market on May 4, 1935. The Amherst community benefited from an electrification initiative in 1937, which, along with transportation improvements, changed rural life dramatically. Ken Stamey, who married Horace and Jenny's granddaughter Nancy, remembers that the Tilleys had closed the store by 1958. Jenny Tilley passed away on December 18, 1968 and Horace followed on February 3, 1970.<sup>23</sup>



Extant outbuildings include the horse barn (above left) and corn crib/granary (above right) north of the store and a brick wellhouse. A large cow barn that stood in the wooded area northwest of the horse

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<sup>21</sup> United States Census, Population Schedules, 1880 and 1910. Loy Ashby Tilley's (May 18, 1907 - December 27, 1979) young wife Grace Leland Honeycutt (September 14, 1908 - August 31, 1930) died four days after suffering a miscarriage. Loy's second wife was Rispy Ann McAllister (October 21, 1910 - August 20, 1995). Sallie Tilley passed away on October 21, 1932. Death certificates accessed via [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) in December 2011; North Catawba Baptist Church Cemetery gravemarkers, recorded by Jack Hall in July 2010 and accessed online at <http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/burk/cem169.htm> in December 2011.

<sup>22</sup> United States Census, Population Schedule, 1930; Nancy Tilley Stamey, email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, January 2012; Helen F. Jackson, "Veteran Amherst Correspondent Enjoys Her Long Labor of Love," *The News-Herald*, Morganton, NC, November 1, 1954. This article states that Jenny Tilley was an Amherst native and one of farmer J. A. Berry's twelve children. She walked three miles each way to the Amherst School, where North Catawba Baptist Church pastor Dr. R. M. Patton and W. M. Moore were among the teachers.

<sup>23</sup> Helen F. Jackson, "Veteran Amherst Correspondent Enjoys Her Long Labor of Love;" Ken Stamey, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 10, 2011.

barn and two frame sheds north of the house are no longer standing. Ken and Nancy Stamey completely renovated the house in 1992. Work included window, door, porch, and roof replacement, as well as the removal of the deteriorated rear ell and the construction of a new rear wing and garage.<sup>24</sup>



**Tilley House**



**BK0386, Aikens Store, 1920s, 2241 US 70 East, Morganton vicinity**

This one-story German-sided store has a hip roof that extends to create a deep canopy that shelters the entrance. The square posts and poured concrete porch floor are replacements, but the beadboard ceiling is original. The windows flanking the double-leaf front door and those on the other elevations have been boarded-up. A metal awning shelters the rear entrance.

The store stands close to US 70 East on a parcel that includes three frame dwellings. Margaret O. Mauldin, who resides in a house she and her husband built on the adjacent lot (to the southeast) in

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<sup>24</sup> Ibid.; J. Randall Cotton, "Tilley House," field notes and narrative from Burke County architectural survey, 1983, on file at the Western Office of Archives and History, Asheville.

1934 owns the property. Mrs. Mauldin was born in Staunton, Virginia in 1914, and her husband, who passed away in 1988, was from Mt. Airy. The property was heavily wooded and the store had been there for some time when the couple purchased it. They did not move into their house until 1938. Mr. Aikens ran the store and lived in a small room in the back. His assistant, Ms. Mooney, resided in a small house near the store. Paul Watts erected the front-gable bungalow behind the store, which he and his wife operated through the 1950s. Mr. Mauldin built the two houses south of the bungalow in 1945-1946. The Mauldins never ran the store, but their daughter used the building as a thrift shop for a while. The gas pumps that stood in front of the store have been removed.<sup>25</sup>



**BK0387, Commercial Building, 1947, 1960s, 2458 US 70 East, Connelly Springs vicinity**

This two-story brick-veneered commercial building encompasses three storefronts with recessed entrances flanked by plate glass windows and sheltered by a pent roof that extends across the façade. The pent roof was added after the two-story, brick-veneered, 1960s addition at the building's east end, which has a shed roof and thus a slightly shorter façade than the original parapet-roofed section. Replacement six-over-six sash windows pierce the façade's second story, but the original six-over-six wood sash windows remain on the rear elevation's second story, as well as an original double-leaf door. Metal fire doors secure the first floor's rear entrances. A straight run of steel stairs provides access to the addition's second-story rear entrance. A narrow bay with boarded-up windows and doors projects from the west elevation's center. An original double-leaf door opens into the building's southwest corner.

Sylvia Chapman owns the building, which stands close to US 70 on a .50-acre parcel. Attempts to contact Ms. Chapman for additional information were not successful.

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<sup>25</sup> Margaret O. Mauldin, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 10, 2011; B. Rondal Mull, email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, November-December 2011.



**BK0388, Store ca. 1930, 2770 US 70 East, Hildebran vicinity**

This small, one-story, front-gable-roofed, stone store has a stepped parapet capped with concrete coping. The storefront window has been enlarged to contain a double-leaf garage door. A second such opening was cut into the west elevation. The single-leaf board-and-batten door on the façade's east side appears to be original.

The store stands close to US 70 on a 1.71-acre parcel owned by George Leon and Brenda S. Smith that includes a 1930 frame front-gable bungalow with vinyl siding and replacement windows and porch elements. Attempts to contact the Smiths for additional information were not successful.



**BK0384, Brown's Community Store, ca. 1945, 2743 NC 126, Lake James vicinity**

This small, one-story, front-gable-roofed, concrete block store has a stepped parapet and six-over-six sash windows flanking the double-leaf board-and-batten front door. A shed-roofed porch supported by square wood posts shelters the façade.

The store stands close to NC 126 on a 12.03-acre parcel that includes a 1945 frame residence and garage to the west and the ruins of a stone chimney at the edge of a field south of the store. Lenoir and Ada White sold ten acres encompassing the five-bedroom house, garage, and store to Robert Otto and Nora Brown for ten thousand dollars on February 14, 1952. The Browns changed the name of the business to “Brown’s Community Store” and continued to sell groceries and gas for years. Nora Brown retained ownership of the property after her husband’s death, eventually conveying it to her caretaker, Joan Chappell, in March 1999. Kenneth S. and Susan P. Ingram purchased the property from Mrs. Chappell, who is Susan Ingram’s mother, in April 2004. A tenant lives in the house and the Ingrams, who reside in Morganton, use the former store as storage. The building retains wood shelves lining the exposed concrete block walls, a wooden potato or onion bin, a beadboard ceiling, and a hardwood floor. The store was electrified, cooled by a fan, and heated with a woodstove.<sup>26</sup>

The stone chimney served the east end of a two-story, four-room, center-passage plan, log dwelling erected by William Alexander around 1812. The Alexanders farmed a substantial amount of acreage on what was then called the Yellow Mountain Road (now NC 126), a heavily-trafficked western North Carolina route, and sheltered travelers in their home, which was known as the Buckhorn Tavern. Farmer Rufus Carswell owned the Alexander House and approximately 142 residual acres in 1931. The Alexander family cemetery, which contains nine graves, is southeast of the chimney.<sup>27</sup>



**BK0381, Longtown Grocery, 1976, 6547 NC 126, Longtown**

Longtown Grocery, located in close proximity to Lake James State Park, is a one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block store with a deep roof overhang that shelters the façade. Three high, horizontal, plate glass windows near the north end illuminate the interior. The gabled wing at the building’s south end, which has an auxiliary entrance and a double-hung window, is not as deep. A metal sign mounted on the roof suggest that patrons “Enjoy Coca-Cola” and advertises that the store carried fishing and picnic supplies.

This building was included in the contextual survey as it is the third in a series of Longtown stores operated by the Dellinger family. J. C. Dellinger opened a small one-room frame general store that

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<sup>26</sup> After the sale, Lenoir and Ada White built a larger store a few miles away. Kenneth S. Ingram, telephone conversations and email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, November 2011; Lenoir and Ada White and Robert Otto and Nora Brown “Contract to Sell Land,” February 14, 1952; Burke County Deed Book 118, page 474.

<sup>27</sup> William Alexander, “Alexander House Has An Interesting History,” *Morganton News-Herald*, August 1, 1931, transcribed by Sandra J. West for the *Burke County Genealogical Society Journal*, August 2010, pages 78-79.

stood on the west side of NC 126 (at what is now 7335 South Mountain Institute Road) after retiring from his job as a game warden for the State of North Carolina around 1950. His son Frank returned home from Charlotte to care for his grandparents and erected a concrete block building at the same location to replace the frame store. Frank's store remained open until his nephew Paul C. Dellinger (b. 1937) constructed the Longtown Grocery, where he sold groceries, gas, and operated a sandwich shop for twenty-three years before retiring around 2000. He then rented the building for a few years. It is currently vacant and for sale.<sup>28</sup> Longtown Grocery occupies a 2.31-acre parcel which also contains a gabled frame pavilion southwest of the store, a gable-roofed concrete block building to the southeast, a brick Ranch house erected in 1966 to the south, and several outbuildings.



**BK0382, Herman and Faye Edwards Store, 1950, 8103 NC 126, Longtown**

This one-story concrete block commercial building stands on a triangular parcel surrounded by Dellinger's Loop, South Mountain Institute Road, and NC 126. The building has a flat parapet façade and stepped parapet side elevations. A projecting bay on the northwest elevation contains an auxiliary entrance and a concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the southeast elevation. The façade is obscured by vegetation, but a historic photograph illustrates the deep canopy that sheltered the storefront—which includes two pairs of six-over-six sash windows flanking a single-leaf central door—as well as the wooden benches that were under the windows, a Royal Crown Cola display rack, and enameled metal signs advertising Coca-Cola, Pepsi, and Dr. Pepper.<sup>29</sup>

Herman (September 21, 1920–February 12, 2000) and Martha Faye Edwards (b. November 9, 1928) purchased four-and-a-half acres on South Mountain Institute Road from attorney John M. Mull, who owned Whip-Poor-Will Dairy, in the late 1940s. Herman had a long association with Mr. Mull, as he had helped his father Samuel Grant Edwards (December 24, 1895–February 26, 1966), who was a carpenter and a stonemason, erect the stone dwellings and outbuildings on the Mull Farm. Samuel and Herman built many other stone houses throughout Morganton and rural Burke County. Herman also cared for Mr. Mull's livestock, drove wagons, and completed other tasks as needed, including selling ice cream on weekends at the small building that still stands near NC 126 in the mid-1930s. Given his carpentry and masonry skills, Herman enlisted in the Naval Construction Force, known as the Seabees, in 1942, and was deployed to the Pacific Theater, where his assignments included pouring concrete

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<sup>28</sup> Paul's father, Tom Dellinger, managed the nearby Whip-Poor-Will Dairy owned by John M. Mull. Paul C. Dellinger, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011.

<sup>29</sup> Historic (circa 1950s) photograph provided by Helen Norman.



plane runways on Okinawa. He and Faye married on May 1, 1945 while on he was on a short leave.<sup>30</sup>

After Mr. Edwards returned home, the couple resided in a small stone house on the Mull Farm. They subsequently built a frame dwelling and a stone wellhouse on the acreage they acquired from Mr. Mull and purchased the concrete block they needed to construct the store, which Mr. Edwards erected. He worked full-time for Great Lakes Carbon Company and Mrs. Edwards operated the store and cut boys' hair at the Southmountain Institute, an orphanage located near Lake James. The Edwardses placed weekly orders for canned goods and other groceries with traveling salesmen based in Marion and Morganton. Yelton Milling Company in Rutherford County supplied them with flour and livestock feed and Crown Petroleum with gasoline. The store was a popular community gathering spot, with many patrons stopping in to visit daily. Local children waited for the school bus inside the store on cold winter mornings.<sup>31</sup>

The North Carolina Department of Transportation purchased most of the Edwards's land to construct a new alignment for NC 126 in the 1950s, creating the triangular median where the store now sits. The couple and their three children, Nancy Elizabeth (b. November 28, 1946), Herman Eugene (b. September 1, 1952), and Rebecca Joanne (b. October 22, 1959) lived in three small rooms (a bedroom, kitchen, and bathroom) at the back of the store. Nancy remembers pumping gas, cutting bologna and fatback, and measuring flour and livestock feed for store patrons. The family had a milk cow and hogs, and Mrs. Edwards sold butter and buttermilk she made.<sup>32</sup>

Around 1961, the family moved into a stone house that Mr. Edwards constructed on a 23-acre parcel on the east side of Old NC Highway 105. He had erected a sanctuary for Oak Grove Baptist Church, which the family attended, while out of work during a strike at the Great Lakes Carbon plant. With the help of a friend, he quarried stone from the Linville River bank using an air compressor and transported it to the church site, where he shaped each stone with a chisel and hammer before laying the walls. Mr. Edwards used rock from the same quarry site to construct his personal residence and later procured stone from Paddy's Creek to build a house for his daughter, Joanne, and her husband Benny Dean Self. The original 23 acres includes a two-hundred-tree apple orchard. Mrs. Edwards, her three children, and their families reside in four adjacent dwellings on NC 105. George and Nancy Edwards Ollis purchased a contiguous 4.17-acre tract where they constructed a brick Ranch house in 1972.<sup>33</sup>

Herman and Faye Edwards sold their store to Blake Bristol when they moved into their new home. Mr. Bristol operated it for a few years before conveying the property to Paul Dellinger, who subsequently erected Longtown Grocery.<sup>34</sup> Patsy W. Jarrett now owns the store and its .29-acre lot.

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<sup>30</sup> Faye Edwards, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 30, 2011; Nancy Edwards Ollis, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 29, 2011; Oak Grove Baptist Church cemetery gravemarkers.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid. Mr. Edwards hired assistants to help him mix cement and move stone and sand, but Mrs. Edwards does not remember any other stonemasons working in the area. She does not know who constructed Joseph Hemphill's store.



**BK0383, Joseph Sidney Hemphill Store, 1930s, NC 126, Longtown vicinity**

This one-story stone store has a side-gable metal roof that extends to create a porch that shelters the entrance. The wood porch posts and floor are recent replacements. Metal bars secure the two-over-two horizontal sash windows that illuminate the interior. Paneled doors provide access from the façade and rear elevations.

The store stands on a triangular .64-acre corner lot owned by Carroll L. and Barbara C. Browning, who reside in the adjacent 1976 house at 1306 Rock Hill Street (located on a 1.20-acre parcel south of the store). Joseph Hemphill built and operated the store.<sup>35</sup>

Joseph Sidney Hemphill was born on June 16, 1874 to William P. and Margaret L. Hemphill. The couple owned a farm in McDowell County's Finley Township in 1900. By 1910, they had rented a farm on Linville Mountain Road in Burke County's Linville Township. Joseph lived with his parents, while his older brother Charles resided in the adjacent household with his wife Hattie and their two children. Charles owned and operated a general store. By 1920, William Hemphill had passed away and census records state that Joseph was a "country merchant." His brother, Thomas Theodore Hemphill, who lived next door with his wife Lillie Ann Shell and their children, was a farmer. The 1930 federal census indicates that they had switched roles by 1930, when Joseph was a farmer and Thomas is enumerated as a grocery store owner. Their mother Margaret Hemphill (b. April 25, 1880) died on June 26, 1932.<sup>36</sup>

According to local historian Helen Norman, Joseph erected the stone building after his first store, which stood next to his house on the opposite side of the road, burned in the 1920s. Mrs. Norman remembered that the store had closed by 1952 but was open through the 1940s, so it appears that Mr. Hemphill operated the store until shortly before his death on May 28, 1951. Mrs. Norman stated that the Hemphill dwellings and Thomas Hemphill's store, which was located close to his home, are no longer standing, and that Joseph and Thomas's brother Charles D. Hemphill's general store was in

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<sup>35</sup> Ibid.; Helen Norman, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 18, 2011.

<sup>36</sup> Joseph Hemphill's wife Hennie Kincaid (b. December 9, 1880), who helped him run the store, died on May 2, 1969. United States Census, Population Schedules, 1900-1930; death certificates.

Bridgewater, a small community southeast of Longtown.<sup>37</sup> Bridgewater prospered due to its railroad depot and proximity to Lake James, created by damming the Catawba River in 1918. Charles Hemphill's store is no longer extant, but his two-story, hip-roofed, frame dwelling, built in 1901, still stands on a hill at 3133 Bridgewater Road.<sup>38</sup>



**BK0389, Mull Farm Store, ca. 1930s, 6793 NC 126, Longtown vicinity**

The one-story stuccoed store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy that shelters the entrance. Spalling stucco on the square posts that support the canopy edges and in the front gable reveals that the stucco was applied to metal lath on the building's wood frame. A flush-board "wainscoting" wraps around the building's exterior below the windows. Tall six-over-eight sash windows flank the paneled front door. It seems that the window sashes were hung vertically rather than horizontally given the façade's limited wall space. A three-over-three sash window pierces the north elevation. The infilled window opening on the south elevation indicates that an identical window originally hung at that location. The shorter replacement window appears to contain four-over-four sash. A metal roof protects the building.

Peter and Mary Mull's son John Marion Mull (October 18, 1873 - January 10, 1964) completed his education at the University of Kentucky and opened a Morganton law office in 1896. He and Ida Harriet Alexander (August 9, 1873 - August 31, 1968) married on September 1, 1897 and their first daughter Mary was born in July 1898. The family resided at 217 Avery Avenue in Morganton. By 1910, their household included four children: Mary, William, Hazel, and John. In 1920, Mary was no longer living at home but the family had grown to include another daughter, Frances. In 1930, the Mull's household encompassed their children Hazel, Alexander, and Frances, their grandson Paul Dellinger Jr. and Ida's mother Mary Gash Alexander, whose husband, Captain William R. Alexander, had passed away. Ida worked as a bank cashier at that time and the couple owned a home valued at

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<sup>37</sup> Ibid.; Helen Norman, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 18, 2011.

<sup>38</sup> Howard S. Hendrix, "Bridgewater – The Town That Almost Disappeared," in *The Heritage of Burke County, Volume II* (Morganton: Burke County Historical Society, 2001), 93. Charles Hemphill's house is on the road's east side north of the railroad tracks, opposite the Rust House (now Bridgewater Hall Bed and Breakfast).

eight thousand dollars. The family attended First Methodist Church, where John taught a women's bible-study class.<sup>39</sup>

In addition to his work as a lawyer and state legislator, John Mull served as a postmaster, on the school board, and as Morganton's mayor in 1900. He also owned the Whip-Poor-Will (sometimes spelled Whippoorwill) Dairy, where he bred Guernsey Cattle after his father's death in 1921. The property encompassed dwellings occupied by farm laborers and, eventually, his daughter and her family, and as well as a small store and farm buildings. Samuel Grant Edwards, who was a carpenter and a stonemason, and his son Herman, who learned his father's trade, erected many of the Mull Farm buildings. Herman also cared for Mr. Mull's livestock, drove wagons, and completed other tasks as needed, including selling ice cream on weekends at the small building that still stands near NC 126 in the mid-1930s.<sup>40</sup>



John and Ida Mull's son John Alexander Mull (September 15, 1909 – March 19, 1982), an Appalachian State Teachers College (now Appalachian State University) graduate, assisted with the dairy's management for a short time before serving in World War II, after which he became a prominent Burke County real estate agent and developer. He asserted that his father owned the county's largest dairy herd in the 1930s, followed by Harrison Avery, who operated Swan Ponds Dairy, and Conley M. Poteat, who ran Woodside Dairy in Drexel. Whip-Poor-Will Dairy was the first in the area to adopt North Carolina Department of Health mandates regarding pasteurization and to achieve Grade "A" status. The dairy produced milk, butter, buttermilk, and ice cream using modern electric equipment—including an ammonia freezer obtained in 1933—powered by a generator that harnessed energy from Paddy's Creek. Delivery trucks transported orders to customers in Longtown, Glen Alpine, Morganton, and elsewhere along the route. John Mull's half-brother Horace Hobson

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<sup>39</sup> Peter Presnell (1830-January 13, 1921) and Mary Emaline Mull and their seven children—Frances, Zero, Archibald, Barbara Alice, Peter Ewell, William Barto, and John Marion—resided on a farm on Rhoney Road in eastern Burke County's Town Fork Township in 1880. Mary and her son Peter Ewell died in May 1887 after contracting typhoid fever. Peter married Martha J. Smith (June 4, 1862-September 23, 1932) in 1888 and acquired land on Linville Mountain Road in western Burke County's Linville Township (near what is now Longtown) where he established a farm, which he operated with the assistance of Martha and their four children—Horace Hobson, Texie, Jennie, and McCoy—until his death on January 13, 1921. United States Census, Population Schedules, 1870-1930; death certificates; B. Rondal Mull, telephone conversation and email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, November-December 2011.

<sup>40</sup> Mary Carleton Cole Snoterly, "Judge John Marion Mull," in *The Heritage of Burke County, Volume II* (Morganton: Burke County Historical Society, 2001), 372; Helen Norman, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 18, 2011; Faye Edwards, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 30, 2011; Nancy Edwards Ollis, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 29, 2011.

Mull (October 14, 1898 – October 1, 1960) owned a share of the business and aided in its operation. Longtown resident Tom Dellinger managed the Whip-Poor-Will Dairy for many years. John Mull led the initiative to establish Morganton’s Good Will Dairy Cooperative to support small farmers.<sup>41</sup>

Whippoorwill Development, LLC and O’Grady and Associates of Pittsford, New York acquired a 55.75-acre parcel that encompasses stone and frame dwellings, barns, a milking parlor, and concrete silos in 2005.



**BK0043, Dale’s Market, ca. 1904, 301 Enola Road, Morganton**

The one-story brick commercial building is executed in five-to-one common bond with a flat-parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations. A corbelled cornice, a sawtooth brick band, and three slightly recessed panels distinguish the façade above the shed-roofed canopy that shelters the storefront. George L. Nesker Architectural Iron Works of Evansville, Indiana manufactured the fluted cast-iron pilasters that flank the two central single-leaf doors and their transoms. Two large plate-glass display windows illuminate the store’s interior. The square wood panels at the storefront’s upper edge infill what was once likely a glazed transom above the windows and doors. A poured concrete pad extends across the façade, serving as a step up from street level. The painted sign containing the name “U. S. B. Dale’s Market” on the south elevation is weathered but still legible. A hand-operated fuel pump remains at the building’s southwest corner. A metal sign advertising that “B and S Discount Foods” offered “first quality and railroad salvage” groceries is mounted on the façade above the porch.

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<sup>41</sup> “J. Alex Mull,” photocopy of a February 23, 1959 article from an unidentified newspaper (likely *The News Herald*,” in the “Mull” vertical file in the North Carolina Room of the Burke County Public Library in Morganton; J. Alex Mull, “Dairying in the Great Depression era in Burke,” 2004 photocopy of a newspaper article from the scrapbooks of Treva C. Houpe in the “Mull” vertical file in the North Carolina Room of the Burke County Public Library in Morganton; Hazel Mull Cole (John Alexander Mull’s sister), “John Alexander Mull,” in *The Heritage of Burke County, Volume II* (Morganton: Burke County Historical Society, 2001), 371; “Whip-Poor-Will Dairy Prides Its Sanitation,” *The News Herald*, Morganton, September 12, 1933; Paul C. Dellinger (Tom Dellinger’s son) telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011; B. Rondal Mull and Mable M. Mull, *Mull Families of North Carolina: A History and Genealogy* (Franklin, NC: Genealogy Publishing Service, 1997), 68-69.



Two sets of paired replacement windows pierce the east end of each side elevation, lighting the rear apartment. A shed-roofed, German-sided addition with a concrete block foundation encompasses a porch above a storage area. Metal stairs with a metal railing provide access to the rear entrance.

Ulas S. Grant Dale (January 1, 1872-March 4, 1947) erected this general store to serve the Enola Road community, which includes the Broughton Hospital campus on the opposite (west) side of the road. Dale and Adelia Caroline Willis married on August 4, 1904, about the time that he opened his mercantile establishment. Grant Dale sold groceries, merchandise, and gas through the 1930s. The family's commodious frame bungalow, constructed around 1925 southeast of the store, manifests the business's success. Dale's other endeavors included erecting eight frame rental houses southeast of his bungalow, operating a no-longer-extant gas station at the junction of Laurel and Lincoln roads, building Morganton's first tennis court on Dale's Hill and a swimming pool on Burkemont Avenue, and managing a farm at Hell's Island (which was at the intersection of Interstate 40 and Old Shelby Road) and peach and apple orchards at Yellow Gap. He represented area residents on the school board, and, prior to busing, transported children to Morganton schools on a horse-drawn flatbed.<sup>42</sup>

After Grant Dale suffered a stroke in the late 1930s, his son, Ulysses S. Brantley Dale (December 8, 1909-February 19, 1991), took over the store's management. Ulysses married Pauline Baker on December 8, 1941 and soon constructed a second-floor apartment where the family lived until purchasing a house nearby. Pauline and her son, Gary Baker, helped Ulysses run the general store after his health declined. Dale expanded his business into the frame commercial building to the north in the 1950s, where he operated a department store for several years with the assistance of his neighbor Susan Turner. Worth Beach subsequently utilized the edifice as an automobile repair garage. Timothy W. Buff purchased the brick building in 1984 and opened B & S Discount Foods, which is still in operation. He also owns the now-vacant frame commercial building.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Suzanne Pickens Wylie, "Morganton Multiple Resource Area National Register of Historic Places Nomination," 1987; Peggy Dale Chapman, "U. S. B. Dale's Grocery and Market," in *The Heritage of Burke County, Volume II* (Morganton: Burke County Historical Society, 2001), 61.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*; Burke County Deed Book 659, page 235.



**Ulas S. Grant Dale, his wife Adelia, and their children on the front porch of their bungalow Ira Batha, Rama Perl, Wheeler, Homer Bynum, and Ulysses S. Brantley (front row, left to right)**  
Photograph courtesy of Peggy Dale Chapman (Homer Bynum Dale's daughter)

U. S. B. Dale's Market was listed in the National Register in 1987 as part of the Morganton Multiple Resource Area, which encompasses five individual properties and approximately 447 contributing resources in nine historic districts within the Morganton city limits. The Dale House, a one-and-one-half-story bungalow located at 303 Enola Road was determined eligible for the National Register in conjunction with Dale's Market in 2002 as part of the Section 106 evaluation of resources within the proposed Enola Road widening area of potential effects.<sup>44</sup> The adjacent frame store at 221 Enola Road is pictured below.



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<sup>44</sup> Mattson, Alexander and Associates, Inc., "Draft Architectural Survey Report, Enola Road from I-40 to NC 18, Morganton, U-2551, Burke County, ER 02-9941," prepared for NCDOT in 2002.



**BK0067, Mull's Store, 1928, 113 Enola Road, Morganton**

The commercial building encompasses an original rock-face concrete block central section, a two-story concrete block addition at the south end, and a one-story gable-roofed concrete block addition at the north end. A small shed-roofed restroom wing projects from the building's northwest corner. An almost full-width shed-roofed porch supported by replacement wood posts shelters the central single-leaf paneled door, which has a glazed upper section and a matching sidelight; the entrance near the original section's south end, which is identical except for the direction of the door swing; and the wide, three-part, plate-glass window that illuminates the store's north end. "Mull Bros. Grocery Since 1928" is painted on the rock-face concrete block wall above the porch roof. Several steps provide access to the porch's south end, as the grade slopes in that direction. Terra cotta coping caps the central and south section's parapet roofs.

The south addition features a roll-up garage door and a single-leaf entrance on the façade's first story, short six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows secured with metal bars on the side and rear elevations' first stories, and standard-sized six-over-six sash windows on the façade and rear elevations' second stories. The north addition has a single-leaf entrance at the façade's center and small high windows. Asbestos siding sheathes the gable ends.





Paul and Eula Mull married in 1927 and erected a store in 1928, where they sold general merchandise, groceries, livestock feed, and fertilizer to area residents, many of whom operated farms. According to oral history, the Mulls resided in the store until they constructed a stone house on the opposite side of the road in 1937. The Mulls ran the store through the 1990s and Howard and Rebecca Mull currently own the property. Eula Mull still occupied the house at the time of the 2001 Section 106 evaluation, but Teresa S. and Alan B. Anton purchased the house in 2005.<sup>45</sup>



The Mull Brothers Grocery was determined eligible for the National Register in conjunction with the Mull House at 127 Enola Road (above) in 2002 as part of the Section 106 evaluation of resources with the proposed Enola Road widening area of potential effects.



**BK0368, Store, 1930s, 1503 Burkemont Avenue, Morganton**

This side-gable-roofed concrete block store appears to have been constructed in two phases. The one-

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<sup>45</sup> Ibid.; Burke County online property card.

and-one-half-story eastern section's façade contains tall rectangular windows with interior security bars flanking the front door, which is paneled with a three vertical glazed panes in the upper section and is sheltered by a gable hood. A wooden staircase rises on the east elevation to the upper floor's entrance, which has an identical door. German siding sheathes the gable ends and a brick stovepipe chimney pierces the metal roof. The one-story western addition has metal casement windows flanking a front door identical to those in the original section, grooved plywood siding in the west gable end, and a metal roof.

The store stands on the southwest corner lot at the Burkemont Avenue and Fletcher Street intersection west of I-40 in Morganton. The parcel, owned by Katrina P. Tallent, includes a frame bungalow that faces Fletcher Street. Attempts to contact Ms. Tallent for more information were not successful.



**BK0369, H. D. Leonhardt Store, 1910, 1305 E. Union Street, Morganton**

This one-story brick store is distinguished by a tall, stepped, metal-sheathed parapet that covers the building's front gable end. A shed-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts on a concrete floor extends across the façade, sheltering the double-leaf front door, which is paneled with glazed upper sections. Full-width concrete steps provide access to the porch from the front (south) and west sides. Two tall four-over-four sash windows flank the entrance. The side elevations are blind with the exception of a small basement window near the west elevation's north end. Brick buttresses delineate the side elevation's bays and a brick stovepipe chimney rises on the east elevation. Pressed-metal shingles cover the roof.

The store stands close to the road near the southwest corner of a 5.60-acre parcel that includes a frame front-gable bungalow erected in 1937 to the northwest, an expansive two-story, hip-roofed frame house erected in 1901 to the east, and several outbuildings. A concrete retaining wall extends across the front lawn.

Henry D. Leonhardt (January 21, 1876 – April 24, 1947), the son of William and Janie Hoyle Leonhardt, erected and operated this store. Henry married Lydia N. Lutz and the couple resided on a farm they owned with their eight children, ranging in age from five months to twelve years, in 1910. The Leonhardts subsequently acquired the expansive transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival-style residence that stands at 1200 E. Union Street near the store. Henry married Martha Childers (November 7, 1875 – October 6, 1964) after Lydia's death. Henry and Lydia's son Thomas Everett Leonhardt (November 10, 1913 – June 17, 1960) wed Pansy Blanton and worked as a stock clerk at Blanton Hospital.<sup>46</sup> Attempts to contact Pansy Blanton Leonhardt, who owns the property, for additional background information were not successful.

Historic photographs of H. D. Leonhardt's home and the interior of his store appear on page 28 of *Images of America: Morganton and Burke County* by H. Eugene Willard.



**BK0374, Commercial Building, 1940, 695 US 70 West, Morganton**

This one-story stuccoed concrete block commercial building is distinguished by a tall stepped parapet that covers the building's front gable end. The stone veneer covering the storefront, the roll-up garage door, central single-leaf door, one-over-one sash windows, 5-V metal roof, and rear shed addition are recent modifications.

The building stands close to the road on a .56-acre parcel that includes a house trailer. Attempts to contact Frank Cooper, who owns the property, for additional information were unsuccessful.

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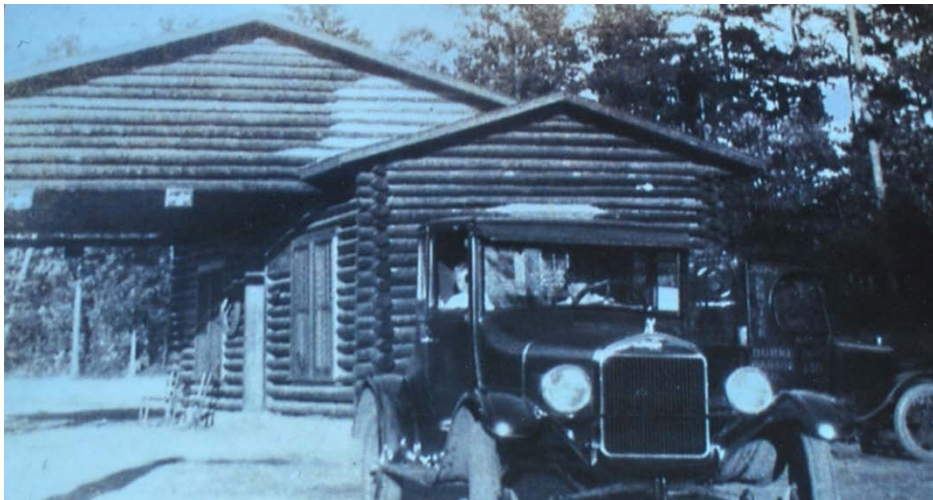
<sup>46</sup> United States Census, Population Schedules, 1910-1930; death certificates.



**BK0373, Wilson and Edna Taylor's Store, 1926, ca. 1960, 1297 US 70 West, Morganton vicinity**

A historic image illustrates that the log walls and canopy of this one-story, sided-gable-roofed, Rustic Revival-style store were originally unpainted and that the building was one-bay deep. Stripped log posts support the deep, side-gable-roofed canopy that shelters a wide replacement door and paired windows with four-over-one Craftsman-style sash covered with wire mesh security panels. The canopy retains a beadboard ceiling. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the west elevation through the deep roof overhang. The log rear shed addition and long concrete block east garage wing were later modifications.

The garage consists of a front-gable-roofed west section and with a side-gable-roofed east wing. Two metal roll-up garage doors, a single-leaf entrance pierce the façade and metal casement windows illuminate the interior. German siding sheathes the gable ends and a metal roof protects the building.



**Historic photograph courtesy of Jack Hyatt**

A small, rectangular, hip-roofed, public restroom building sheathed in metal siding designed to look like rusticated stone is west of the store. The building has four entrances with six-horizontal-paneled doors, small square windows, and exposed rafter ends.

The store stands close to US 70 West on a 7.23-acre parcel owned by the W. Wilson Taylor Trust that includes a brick bungalow, frame outbuildings, and several modern house trailers to the south.



Woodrow Wilson Taylor (1914-2003) and his wife Edna Gibbs Taylor (1915-1995) operated this store for thirty-eight years. US 70 had not yet been paved when Mr. Taylor purchased the property after his World War II military service. The hip-roofed restroom building was already in place, and had likely been constructed at the same time as the log building. He expanded and improved the log edifice to serve as a grocery store and gas station, and later added the concrete block garage wing, where he employed a mechanic to service cars, put snow chains on tires, and sell car parts. The gas pumps and tanks have been removed.

The Taylors lived in a four-room frame house that stood on the hill behind the store until 1951, when they moved the frame house and erected the brick bungalow that still stands on the site. The Taylors' business was successful enough that they were able to send both of their daughters to college. Their daughter Alice Taylor Leonard (b. 1943), a retired nurse who worked at Broughton Hospital for many years, resides in the brick Ranch house to the east. She remembers that her parents' store was the only place to buy groceries on US 70, and that her father never turned anyone away who needed assistance.

Jack Hyatt has rented the former store to house his business, Carolina Ribbon Craft, for about fifteen years. The building functioned as a furniture store for a few years before he rented it. Mrs. Leonard hired a South Carolina contractor to repair the log section of the store after a car ran into it several years ago.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> Alice Taylor Leonard and Jack Hyatt, telephone conversations with Heather Fearnbach, November 10, 2011.



**BK0372, Junior and Ruth Crawley Store, 1949, 2427 US 70 West, Morganton vicinity**

This long, one-story, side-gable-roofed, stuccoed concrete block store has four sets of paired windows flanking the front door and a window on the west elevation, all of which are vinyl replacements. The trim and quoins have been painted black in contrast with the gray walls. A black-and-white-striped concrete lighthouse stands at the west end of the concrete pad that extends across the façade. The vinyl siding in the gable ends and the metal roof are recent modifications.

Junior and Ruth Crawley operated a small store in a front room of their Dysartsville Road home before purchasing this building, which had been erected by Mr. Boyd to serve as a liquor store. The Crawleys built a house on the property and opened a grocery store and gas station in late 1950. They sold items ranging from food to tires, as well as Gulf gasoline. Mrs. Crawley manned the store during the day, while Mr. Crawley worked as a carpenter. He then worked the evening shift, remaining open until ten p.m. seven days a week. The Crawleys closed the store around 1965 and rented the building to a rug weaver, who set up several looms, and then to a clock repairman. Their son Jim Crawley used the building as storage for his heating and air conditioning business before selling the former store and house to Jerry W. and Brenda R. Whitten in 2002.<sup>48</sup>

The store occupies a 2.47-acre lot at the southeast corner of the US 70 West and Dysartsville Road intersection which also contains the Crawleys' 1950 house to the east and outbuildings south. The commercial building served as Safe Harbor Independent Baptist Church in 2011.

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<sup>48</sup> Jim Crawley, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, February 7, 2012.



**BK0371, Guy E. Martin Store, 1948, 2445 US 70 West, Morganton vicinity**

This small, one-story, hip-roofed concrete block store has paired windows flanking the front door and two windows on each of the remaining elevations, all of which are replacements. A concrete pad extends across the façade. A stuccoed stovepipe chimney pierces the asphalt-shingle roof. A steep grade change allowed for a full basement with an entrance on the south elevation sheltered by a shed-roofed porch.

The store occupies a .82-acre lot at the southwest corner of the US 70 West and Dysartsville Road intersection. James C. Lindsay owns the property, which now serves as Grace Community Church. Guy Elbert Martin (May 29, 1914 - March 6, 1995) built this store, where he sold groceries and resided in the basement apartment until his health declined. Mr. Lindsay purchased the property from Mr. Martin's estate and briefly operated a convenience store before renting the space to a succession of churches.<sup>49</sup>



**BK0370, Perkins Grocery, 1958, 3325 US 70 West, Morganton vicinity**

This concrete block store was originally one-story with a flat parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations framing the roof. The shed-roofed, metal-panel-sheathed, upper storage area and the shed-

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.; Mr. Martin was widowed at the time of his death and had two daughters who live in Burke County. "Guy Elbert Martin," death certificate.

roofed canopy that shelters the gas pumps and entrance were later additions. Wire mesh security panels cover the paired windows flanking the replacement aluminum-framed glass door and the windows on the other elevations. Wooden stairs provide access to the second-story entrance on the west elevation. A concrete block stovepipe chimney pierces the roof. Two frame, front-gable-roofed buildings—one that was used to store feed and the other for general storage—stand west of the store and are connected to each other and the store by narrow frame walls.

Perkins Grocery stands close to US 70 West at the east end of a 1.08-acre parcel that includes a 1962 Ranch house. Frank M. and Doris B. Perkins built this concrete block building in 1958 after the new US 70 alignment shifted traffic away from Frank’s family’s older frame store on Bridgewater Road. The couple resided in three rooms at the back of the new store with their two children until they erected the adjacent Ranch house. They originally sold groceries but now supply local residents with hardware and general merchandise.<sup>50</sup>



**BK0394, Perkins Store, 1930s, 3118 Bridgewater Road, Morganton vicinity**

This one-story German-sided store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy sheltering the entrance. Replacement square posts on stuccoed piers support the canopy edges. The porch floor is missing but much of the beadboard ceiling sheathing is intact. A brick stovepipe chimney pierces the metal roof. Six-over-six sash windows with interior metal security bars flank the diagonal-board front door.

The Perkins Store was one of several in Bridgewater, a western Burke County community that prospered due to its railroad depot and proximity to Lake James, which was created by damming the Catawba River in 1918.<sup>51</sup> Entrepreneurs including Charles D. Hemphill and Robert and Agnes

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<sup>50</sup> Doris B. Perkins, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 18, 2011.

<sup>51</sup> Howard S. Hendrix, “Bridgewater – The Town That Almost Disappeared,” in *The Heritage of Burke County, Volume II* (Morganton: Burke County Historical Society, 2001), 93.



Hilliard operated general stores in the area. In 1920, the Hilliard's household included their daughter Julia (February 23, 1895 – December 9, 1986) and her husband, Robert Constantine Perkins (May 28, 1886 – November 14, 1950), who had previously resided in Norfolk, where Robert worked as a carpenter in the naval yards. By 1930, the Perkins owned a Linville Township farm, where they resided with their children Agnes, Virginia, Robert J. and Frank, who was six months old when the federal census was taken in April of that year.<sup>52</sup>

The Perkins family subsequently operated a small store, which originally stood on Bridgewater Road's east side north of the railroad tracks, but has been moved to the road's west side. The building, which is overgrown and barely visible from the road, now stands southwest of the historic Rust House (BK0088) on a 2.5-acre parcel. Frank Perkins thought that Josh Rust might have built the store, which replaced an earlier building destroyed during the 1916 flood.<sup>53</sup>



### **BK0380, Mull Store, 1931, 1651 N. Green Street, Morganton**

This one-story German-sided store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy sheltering the entrance. The square posts on concrete piers that support the canopy edges are original. A brick stovepipe chimney pierces the roof. Four-over-four sash windows with board-and-batten shutters flank the front door, which has six glazed panes above three raised panels. A shed room with an auxiliary entrance extends from the north elevation.

The store stands close to North Green Street on a 5.60-acre parcel that includes an early 1900s house and barn as well as a modern house trailer and outbuildings. The building was moved a short distance

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<sup>52</sup> United States Census, Population Schedules, 1920-1930; death certificates.

<sup>53</sup> Frank Perkins, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, February 7, 2012. The Rust House, converted by David Stevenson and Keith Ollis into the Bridgewater Hall Bed and Breakfast in 2006, occupies a 1.56 lot adjacent to Bridgewater Road. Charles D. Hemphill (January 14, 1870 – October 6, 1952) lived in the two-story house at 3133 Bridgewater Road and operated a store that is no longer standing until he retired and moved to Statesville around 1945. The Hemphill House is on the road's east side north of the railroad tracks, opposite the Rust House.

to the west when North Green Street, which becomes NC 181, was widened. Ashley Taylor owns the property, which belonged to his great-grandparents, Benjamin Ish and Mary Lela Mull, who built and operated the general store. The store offered a wide variety of merchandise and gas and served as a community gathering place. After Mary's death in 1974, the couple's sons, James B. Mull and Benjamin I. Mull Jr., took over the business. Benjamin Mull Jr. ran the store until around 2001-2002 when his health declined. James B. Mull's daughter, Cynthia Mull Taylor, her husband, and their son Ashley rent the building to its current tenant, who uses it for storage. The interior is intact, retaining wood floors, beadboard walls and ceilings, shelving, and a woodstove. Ashley Taylor inherited the property from his grandfather, James B. Mull.<sup>54</sup>



**BK0379, Store, 1956, 2178 NC 181, Oak Hill vicinity**

This long, one-story, shed-roofed, concrete block store has a metal awning that extends across the façade above the wide, three-part, plate glass windows flanking the central front door. Metal bars cover the large windows on the side elevations. The lot's grade allows for a full basement.

The store occupies a .70-acre lot which also contains several outbuildings. Dewey L. and Edna P. Shuffler own this property as well as the 1.46-acre lot to the north that encompasses a Period Cottage erected in 1940 and outbuildings. Attempts to contact the Shufflers for information were not successful.

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<sup>54</sup> Cynthia Mull Taylor, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 10, 2011.



**BK0378, Oak Hill Grocery, 1954, 1986, 2372 NC 181, Oak Hill**

The central, front-gable-roofed section of this one-story concrete block store was erected in 1954. A gabled addition on the south elevation and a flat-roofed addition on the north elevation tripled the building's size and brick veneer was added to unify the façade. The original section retains German siding in the rear gable, a metal roof, and a central brick stovepipe chimney.

The store occupies a .25-acre lot which also contains a flat-roofed canopy over the gas pumps to the north. Oak Hill Enterprises owns this property as well as the parcel to the south occupied by the circa 1960 Oak Hill Grill.



**BK0375, Store, 1948, 3277 NC 181, Oak Hill vicinity**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block store has plate glass windows flanking the front door, brick and concrete block stovepipe chimneys piercing the roof, a frame rear shed addition, and an addition on the building's west end with a stepped-parapet façade.

The store occupies a 1.30-acre lot which also contains three dwellings, all erected around 1950 according to online property records, to the west. Attempts to contact Myrtle E. Shytle, who owns the property, for additional information were unsuccessful.



**BK0376, Store, 1938, 3245 NC 181, Oak Hill vicinity**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building has a two-part storefront with plate glass windows flanking the east entrance, which is sheltered by a gabled hood. A brick stovepipe chimney rises on the east elevation and German siding sheathes the gables. The west storefront contains two smaller, boarded-up windows on either side of its entrance. The concrete block garage addition on the building's west end is slightly taller to allow for a roll-up garage door in addition to the single-leaf entrance on the façade.

The store occupies a 1.30-acre lot which also contains a concrete block dwelling erected in 1969 according to online property records and a prefabricated storage building. Attempts to contact Pearl Wilson, who owns the property, for additional information were unsuccessful. Morganton resident Dewey Fox stated that his parents, Earl E. and Carrie S. Fox, operated the store for a few years in the early 1950s, when he was a child. The family resided in a house behind the store.<sup>55</sup>



**BK0377, Commercial Buildings, 1935, 2969-2971 NC 181, Oak Hill vicinity**

This property contains two commercial buildings: a one-and-one-half-story, side-gable-roofed, stone-veneered edifice and a smaller hip-roofed brick building to the east. The stone building features a stone chimney at the façade's center flanked by paneled doors with glazed upper sections and tall paired six-over-six-sash windows surmounted by decorative gables. An auxiliary entrance provides access from the east elevation. Rolled asphalt siding sheathes the gable ends and a gabled wing extends to the rear.

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<sup>55</sup> Dewey E. Fox, email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, January and February, 2012.



The brick building's façade encompasses two central single-leaf doors with six glazed panes above two vertical panels. Large metal casement windows sheltered by deep eaves illuminate the interior.



**BK0393, Store, ca. 1900-1910, 2957 NC 181, Oak Hill vicinity**

This one-story front-gable-roofed store has a weatherboarded façade, diagonal-board sheathing covered with faux brick rolled-asphalt siding on the other elevations, and metal roofs on the main block and the shed canopy that shelters the storefront. Six-over-six sash windows—two flanking the front entrance and one on each side elevation—illuminate the interior. The front entrance, which was likely a double-leaf door, has been removed and a garage door installed, but the transom above the door remains. A concrete pad extends across the façade. Replacement wooden steps lead to the paneled door at the auxiliary entrance on the west elevation. The store rests on a concrete block foundation and a brick stovepipe chimney pierces the roof.

The store stands close to NC 181 on a two-acre parcel that includes two mobile homes and modern storage buildings. Charles Dean Whisnant Jr. owns the property. Attempts to reach Mr. Whisnant for additional information were not successful.



**BK0364, Store, 1910s, 6127 US 64, Morganton vicinity**

This one-story weatherboarded store has a hip roof that extends to create a deep canopy sheltering the entrance. The stripped log posts on concrete piers that support the canopy edges are original. The central square wood post was a later addition, as was the narrow shed that extends across the rear elevation. A brick stovepipe chimney vents the wood stove. Flush boards sheath the interior walls and beadboard covers the main room's ceiling. The double-thickness front door, which consists of diagonal exterior boards and vertical interior boards, retains a wooden latch in addition to later hardware. The main room's windows are one-over-one replacement sash secured with interior metal grills. A four-over-four sash window and a fixed window with a four-pane sash illuminate the rear shed room, which has an auxiliary entrance on the south elevation.

The store stands close to US 64 on a 6.74-acre parcel that includes a modern residence and outbuildings. Joseph Henry Lane owns the property. His son David, who operates a business from the site, fabricating custom-made ink pens and knives, did not know the original store owner's name.<sup>56</sup>

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<sup>56</sup> David Lane, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, July 6, 2011.



**BK0365, Grover S. and Viola Holland Store, 1942, 1960, 5285 US 64, Morganton vicinity**

This one-story side-gable-roofed store retains German siding on the original section, including the deep gabled canopy that shelters the storefront. Paired three-over-one Craftsman-style windows flank the paneled door with a glazed upper section at the front entrance. Metal interior bars secure the windows and the door. A concrete pad extends across the façade and a brick stovepipe chimney rises on the east elevation. Faux brick rolled-asphalt siding covers the gabled west addition and a diagonal-board door provides exterior access to the auxiliary entrance on its north elevation. A metal roof protects the entire building.

The store stands close to US 64 on a 1.89-acre parcel that includes a front-gable bungalow and outbuildings. Grover S. Holland and his wife Viola operated this store for many years; his son of the same name now owns the property. Woodrow Clark built the store in 1942 and Grover S. Holland purchased it in 1946 and added the west room to store fertilizer and livestock feed around 1960. He sold groceries, general merchandise, and gas until his retirement in 1985. The building then served as a drapery fabrication workroom and is now a gun cover shop. Mr. Holland's family lived about five miles away on Connelly Road, where W. A. Holland operated a general store. Other stores in the area included Pilot Mountain Grocery and Brendletown Grocery.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> Grover Holland, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 10, 2011.



**BK0366, Lucy Roper's Store, ca. 1940s, 5109 US 64, Morganton vicinity**

This small, one-story, concrete block store had six-over-six sash windows flanking the front door, which is sheltered by an aluminum awning. Most of the window sashes are missing, but metal interior bars secure the openings. Parapeted walls, flat on the façade and stepped on the sides, frame the shed roof. A brick stovepipe chimney rises on the west elevation.

The store stands close to US 64 north of a creek on a 3.92-acre parcel that includes a residence and outbuildings. Lucy Roper operated this store, which has been closed for many years. The Ropers had a son named Wayne, who moved to Marion.<sup>58</sup> Attempts to contact the current owner, Frances Aileen Roper Branch, were not successful.



**BK0367, Watts Store, ca. 1930s, 4849 US 64, Morganton vicinity**

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<sup>58</sup> Ibid.; John Roper [area resident but not related to Lucy Roper], telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 10, 2011; Burke County online property card.



This small, one-story, front-gable-roofed concrete block store had six-over-six sash windows flanking the front and rear doors. Some of the window sashes are missing, but metal interior bars secure the openings as well as the front door. German siding sheathes the gable ends and a metal roof protects the building. The stovepipe chimney that rose on the west elevation has been removed, as has the sign that was in the front gable. The interior retains a wood board ceiling, shelves lining the upper half of each wall, and a concrete floor.

The store stands close to US 64 at the north end of a 7.79-acre parcel that includes a 1980 Ranch house. Velsie W. McCurry is the trustee for the property. Wilma Jean Watts now owns 7.71-acre property next door that contains a bungalow erected in 1934 and outbuildings. Abe Watts operated the service station across the road.<sup>59</sup> Attempts to contact Mrs. McCurry for additional information were not successful.



**BK0240, Reeps Grocery, early 1950s, south of the Reeps House at 5305 Dysartsville Road, Morganton vicinity**

Walter Lester Reeps, known as “Les,” built this Rustic Revival-style log store and gas station using round pine logs cut on his property. The business, which was the first of its type in the area, served local residents as well as travelers on Dysartsville Road. Mr. Reeps’s wife Juanita remembered that the store’s inventory included groceries, cold drinks, ice cream, and livestock feed, and that the Patten Oil Company supplied them with gasoline. The Reeps family resided in a frame house on Dysartsville Road before erecting a log dwelling in 1947 and a brick Ranch house facing Patton Road south of the store in 1955. Their business remained in operation until around 1962, when they sold the property to their neighbors, Frank and Sarah Queen, and moved to Asheville.<sup>60</sup>

The round logs used to erect the one-story, side-gable roofed store and house project past the saddle-notched corners and were painted a dark-brownish red with white ends to contrast with the bright white-painted mortar. The store’s façade contains two three over-one sash windows at its outer edges,

<sup>59</sup> David Lane, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, July 6, 2011; Burke County online property card.

<sup>60</sup> Juanita Reeps Patton, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, February 5, 2012; Patricia Reeps Williams (Les and Juanita Reeps’s daughter), telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, March 6, 2012; “Reeps Grocery,” Burke County architectural survey file located at the Western Office of Archives and History, Asheville; Millie Barbee, ed. *Historic Burke: An Architectural Sites Inventory of Burke County* (Asheville: Biltmore Press, 1987), 185.

with a partially-glazed wood door and screen door toward the north end. A large multi-pane display window pierces the façade's center and a metal roof protects the building. A painted metal "Drink Pepsi-Cola" sign remains in the north façade window.

A gabled-portico supported by square wood posts shelters the house entrance. Concrete and brick steps lead to a landing outside the partially-glazed front door. One-over-one sash windows illuminate the interior. The brick chimney stack rises through the deep eaves on the south elevation. The small shed-roofed projection adjacent to the chimney likely houses stairs leading to a basement storage area. A shed-roofed porch extends across the rear elevation.

In 1930, Les Reeps (August 8, 1918 – January 13, 1980) resided with his parents, John Hogan and Zelpha Jane Reeps, and eight siblings on a farm south of Morganton in Silver Creek Township. The Reepses owned a home valued at \$1,000 and John was employed as a laborer for the State Highway Commission. The elder boys—George, Davis, Grover, and Sam—helped on the family's farm. By 1941, Les and George lived in Newport News, Virginia and worked in a naval shipyard. Les served in the U. S. Navy from December 31, 1941 until October 10, 1945. He met and married Wilson County, North Carolina, native Juanita Whitley in Newport News and the couple remained there while he labored at the shipyard for a few years after the war. They subsequently moved to Burke County, but soon returned to Newport News, where Les worked at the shipyard while they saved money to build their Burke County store.<sup>61</sup>



**BK0240, Reeps House, 1947, 5305 Dysartsville Road, Morganton vicinity**

The Reeps House stands at 5305 Dysartsville Road. Reeps Grocery is south of the residence facing Dysartsville Road but does not have an address, as it occupies the north end of a lot encompassing a brick Ranch house at 5392 Patton Road.

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<sup>61</sup> "Walter Lester Reeps," *U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850-2010*, Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., accessed online in December 2011. Les's last named is spelled "Reeps" in naval records and his wife stated that they always spelled their name with a "s" at the end. His parents' death certificates—John Hogan Reep (September 9, 1881 – October 23, 1964) and Zelpha Jane Mangum Reep (October 29, 1888 - June 5, 1946)—and other family records do not have an "s" on "Reep." *North Carolina Death Certificates, 1909-1975*, Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007, accessed online in December 2011.

## Caldwell County



**CW0296, Littlejohn Rock Store, 1946, 2510 Playmore Beach Road, Lenoir vicinity**

This two-story, front-gable-roofed, stone store has an almost-full-width, shed-roofed front porch supported by round metal posts on a concrete block foundation. German siding sheathes the porch roof soffits and beadboard covers the ceiling. Six-over-one sash windows flank the double-leaf front and rear doors and illuminate the building's second floor. Vertical stone lintels distinguish the window and door openings. The hip-roofed, German-sided room that projects from the second stories rear elevation is supported by tall stone piers that have been infilled with concrete block. Wooden stairs provide access to the rear entrance. A pressed-metal roof protects the building's exposed, slightly-flared rafter ends. A stone chimney pierces the metal roof. A one-story stone pump-house with a pressed metal, side-gable roof and a diagonal-board door stands behind the store.

Lawrence Littlejohn commissioned John Branch to construct this store for him in 1946. Mr. Branch used local river rock to build the distinctive edifice. Mr. Littlejohn's general store provided area residents with groceries, livestock feed, and gas.<sup>62</sup> The store stands close to Playmore Beach Road at the southwest corner of its intersection with Packs Hill Road (SR 1333). Robert E. and Wanda Littlejohn own the 20.55-acre property which contains a mobile home behind the store and a residence on the opposite side of Playmore Beach Road.

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<sup>62</sup> Georgia Roberts (who resides in the mobile home behind the store and was married to Lawrence Littlejohn's son Joe for twenty-two years), conversation with Heather Fearnbach, July 18, 2011.

**Cleveland County**



**CL0458, Walker's Grocery, 1938, 6403 Casar Road, Casar vicinity**

This one-story German-sided store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy that shelters the entrance. Replacement metal posts on brick piers support the canopy edges. One-over-one sash windows secured with metal bars flank the paneled front door. A windowless shed addition with a board-and-batten door extends from the west elevation and a stovepipe chimney pierces the roof. "Walker's Grocery" is hand-painted on a two-board sign mounted to the front gable. The triangular wood projection below the sign is echoed in the smaller "brackets" at the canopy's edges.

The store stands close to Casar Road on a 2.10-acre parcel that is heavily wooded. Attempts to contact Wayne Lee Walker, who owns the property, were not successful. The Cleveland County architectural survey file states that Vernie C. Walker erected the grocery store in 1938.



**CL0408, Gold's Store, 1908, 1917, 3700 Polkville Road, Polkville vicinity**

This two-story, front-gable-roofed, weatherboarded store is distinguished by a stepped-parapet façade and a full-width, hip-roofed front porch supported by chamfered posts on a replacement poured concrete floor. Two double-leaf paneled doors with transoms provide access to the north and south rooms and four large four-over-four sash windows illuminate the first-floor interior. Two six-over-six sash second-story windows, partially covered with metal panels, flank a central metal-sheathed window.

A single, high, horizontal, three-part window pierces the south elevation east of a brick stovepipe chimney. The exterior stairs leading to the second floor have been removed and the doorway boarded-up. The north elevation is blind. A second stovepipe chimney rises from the roof.

The store stands close to Polkville Road on a 3.24-acre parcel that includes frame outbuildings. Donis Y. Gold owns the property, which belonged to her husband Robert S. Gold's family. She married Mr. Gold in 1979 and he passed away in 2006. His parents, Hubert Gold (d. 1969) and Thelma Mooney Gold (1900-1998) operated the store after Mrs. Gold's father and uncle, who opened the business and sold everything from groceries to shoes, clothes, and farm equipment. A hand-cranked gas pump stood in front of the store. The local Masonic Lodge met in the store's large second floor room for many years and Robert Gold and his first wife were among the founding members of the Eastern Star Chapter that was organized there. When Robert Gold closed the store he rented the property to a company that utilized the building to store yarn used to make rugs, and then to an antiques dealer who has occupied the building since around 1983. The shelves that lined the walls in the north room have been removed, but the south room is intact.<sup>63</sup>

The Mooney family's farm was on Rehobeth Church Road, which intersects Polkville Road directly in front of the store. Marcus Mooney donated the land upon which Union School and Union Baptist Church were erected. Pat Mooney married Rachel Jenkins, whose family owns Jenkins Foods, a meat-packing company in Shelby.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>63</sup> Donis Gold, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 9, 2011.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid.

## McDowell County



**Glenwood, looking north**



**MC0197, Store, 1952, 1510 Old US 221 South, Glenwood**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building has four plate glass windows flanking the central double-leaf front door. A deep hip-roofed canopy supported by round metal posts on brick piers shelters the façade and gas pumps. The canopy retains its original beadboard ceiling. Bracketed shed-roofed hoods extend across the façade's north and south ends outside of the canopy. The auxiliary entrance at the façade's north end has been infilled with concrete block and a one-over-one sash window. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises from the north elevation. A two-bay metal-sided and roofed garage extends from the south elevation.

The building currently houses the Glenwood Country Store, selling feed, fertilizer, plants, gas, and groceries. Patrick and Taisha Aldridge operate the store. Mr. Aldridge and his customers believe that Faye and Cliff Mode erected the building in the 1950s and ran Mode's Grocery for many years. The store still serves as a community gathering place, retaining outdoor seating to accommodate customers. Jimmy and Willette Lawing and Benny D. and Carol L. Ramsey own the 1.35-acre property. Mr. Aldridge's grandfather J. R. Aldridge opened two convenience stores/gas stations along the new US 221 alignment around 1972.<sup>65</sup>

<sup>65</sup> Patrick Aldridge, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, October 19, 2011; McDowell County property card.



**MC0198, Store, 1940, 1511 Old US 221 South, Glenwood**

This one-story, shed-roofed, stuccoed concrete block commercial building has five large windows—three metal casements and two plate glass—flanking a central double-leaf door and an auxiliary single-leaf entrance at the façade’s south end. A deep roof overhang with wood-clad soffits and an aluminum awning shelter the façade. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises from the north elevation. Livestock fencing extends along the west lot line, while chain-link fencing secures the remainder of the area west of the building (fronting Old US 221 South).

Terry L. Workman owns the one-acre property, which houses his business, Workman’s Leather. The Glenwood General Store operated at this location for many years and the building then served as a feed store. Sig Westmoreland constructed and ran the store until he became a mortician in Marion and sold the business to Otis Silver and Dollie Poteat, who later conveyed the property to Grayson Marlowe.<sup>66</sup>



**MC0199, Reid and Ruby Holland Store and House, ca. 1940, 1580-1590 Old US 221 South, Glenwood**

<sup>66</sup> Ibid.; James Haney, “Glenwood Once Was an Incorporated Town,” *The McDowell News*, April 27, 1950; James L. Haney, “The Town of Glenwood,” in *McDowell County Heritage, North Carolina*, ed. by Joanne S. Johnson (Waynesville, NC: Walsworth Publishing Company, 1993), 23.

This one-story, front-gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building has two large plate-glass windows flanking the central entrance. Two doors on the south elevation near the building's southwest corner provide additional access to the interior. The corner door is likely a restroom entrance. A brick stovepipe chimney pierces the metal roof.

Ruby E. Holland owns the 7.19-acre property, which also includes a 1930 hip-roofed frame bungalow and a frame barn/equipment shed. Reid Holland operated a store at this location for many years. He also owned an older store that has been demolished.<sup>67</sup>



**MC0200, Store, 1930s, Montford Cove Road, Montford Cove vicinity**

This one-story frame store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy sheltering the entrance. A single, central, stripped-log, braced post supports the canopy. Small double-hung windows secured with metal bars flank the board-and-batten front door. A shed room with a board-and-batten door extends from the west elevation. Rolled-asphalt faux-brick siding covers the vertical board wall sheathing. The building rests on a concrete block foundation and is protected by a metal roof.

The store stands close to Montford Cove Road on a 5.06-acre parcel that is mostly wooded and contains several other buildings not visible from the road. Deborah Mitchell of Douglasville, Georgia owns the property and Margaret Kindley of McLeansville, NC owns the adjacent 4.96-acre parcel to the north, which appears to have been historically associated with the store parcel.

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<sup>67</sup> Patrick Aldridge, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, October 19, 2011.





**MC0193, Store, ca. 1950s, US 70 East, Nebo**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, stuccoed concrete block store has one-over-one sash windows flanking the single-leaf front door, which is sheltered by a metal awning, as is the door on the east elevation. A small, hip-roofed restroom projects from the west elevation and a stuccoed stovepipe chimney rises from the east elevation. A rear entrance provides access to the basement.

The store currently serves as Sister Act Hair and Nail Salon. Attempts to contact, Nancy L. Sluzinski, who owns the one-acre property, for additional information were not successful.



**MC0194, Store, ca. 1950s, 5911 US 70 East, Nebo**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building has four large metal casement windows flanking the two double-leaf front doors. A deep roof overhang with vinyl-clad soffits shelters the façade. High, square, four-pane casement windows pierce the side elevations. Metal

siding covers the gable ends and a metal roof protects the building.

The building currently houses L & L Imports. Attempts to contact William K. Lawson, who owns the 1.97-acre property, which also includes several large metal-sided warehouses, for additional information were not successful.



**MC0192, Store, ca. 1953, 1509 NC 126, Nebo vicinity**

This one-story concrete block store has a flat-parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations capped with terra cotta tile coping. The plate glass has been removed from the large window next to the single-leaf front door and the window is partially boarded-up, as are the three high square windows on each side elevation. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises from the rear elevation east of a single-leaf door.

The store occupies a lot which also contains a brick-veneered Minimal Traditional-style house constructed in 1953 according to online property records. Attempts to contact, Ralph D. Brendle, who owns the one-acre property, for additional information were not successful. Local historian Helen Norman remembers that Max Young (December 24, 1908-April 21, 1984) and Beulah E. Lentz (May 30, 1914-September 7, 2001) owned this property. Mr. Lentz operated a tackle store called Lentz Boat Landing in the 1950s. The building later served as a taxidermist's workshop.<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> Helen Norman, email correspondence with Heather Fearnbach, November 2011; "Nebo Stores," in *McDowell County Heritage, North Carolina*, ed. by Joanne S. Johnson (Waynesville, NC: Walsworth Publishing Company, 1993), 94-95; death certificates.



**MC0195, Store, ca. 1940s, 6218 US 70 East, Nebo vicinity**

This one-story concrete block store has a flat-parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations capped with terra cotta tile coping. Plate glass windows with four-pane sidelights flank the façade's central entrance. Six-over-six sash and high windows with fixed six-pane sashes pierce the remaining elevations. A double-leaf rear entrance provides access to the basement.

The store is adjacent to 6224 US 70 East (parcel # 173200650636). No parcel number or property card information is available online for the store lot (6218). Attempts to contact neighbors for additional information were not successful.

## Rutherford County



**RF0464, Okey B. Biggerstaff General Store, 1910s, 157 N. Main Street, Bostic**

This one-story brick commercial building has a flat-parapet façade with a corbelled cornice and stepped-parapet side elevations. Corbelled arches surmount the two large façade windows and the double-leaf central door and transom. A recessed brick panel in the parapet likely once contained the store's name. The sloping grade allows for a basement, which has an entrance on the south elevation. The basement door, the canvas awning that shelters it, the two arched windows that flank the entrance, and the two twelve-over-fifteen sash double-hung windows above them are all recent replacements. A new metal fence secures the lot.

Lydia Jane Washburn, daughter of prosperous Rutherford County farmer, store owner, and Methodist Episcopal Church deacon Reuben Washburn, married Samuel and Sarah Blankenship Biggerstaff's son Okey Byron Biggerstaff around 1902. The Washburn family had operated a store a few miles north of Bostic in the crossroads community of the same name since the mid-nineteenth century. By April 1910, O. B. and Lydia Biggerstaff had three boys: Foy, Ralph, and Frank. Mr. Biggerstaff worked on a farm and the couple resided on the Rutherfordton Road.<sup>69</sup>

The Washburns likely funded Mr. Biggerstaff's opening of a general store in Bostic in the 1910s. In 1917, Lydia's brother Edgar Nollie Washburn collaborated with Okey Biggerstaff, Ed Thompson, and Dr. J. B. Thompson to found the Bank of Bostic, which was one of three Rutherford County financial institutions that remained in operation through the Great Depression. By January 1920 the Biggerstaff's owned a house in Forest City, operated their general store in Bostic, and had added a daughter, Annie Lee, to their family. In April 1930, the Biggerstaff's West Main Street home was valued at \$8,000. The couple eventually moved from Forest City to Sunshine, where they resided until

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<sup>69</sup> Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011; Davyd Foard Hood, "Washburn Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2002; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties, North Carolina, 1730-1936* (Asheville: The Miller Printing Company, 1937), 391.

their deaths in 1967. The Walker family purchased the Bostic store and subsequently conveyed it to a couple who operated an antiques shop and, in the mid-1990s, commissioned Clive Haynes to paint interior murals depicting Bostic's appearance around 1941 based on historic photographs.<sup>70</sup>

Jeff Aiello of Atlas Property Systems, Inc. owns this property and has preserved the store's murals. As part of the building's rehabilitation, Mr. Aiello hired African American concrete contractor Burford Brown to pour new concrete slabs at the entrances. Mr. Brown's grandfather Monroe Brown, a farmer who retired in the late 1960s, and his father Thomas, who was employed by Stonecutter Mills in Spindale for over forty years before retiring around 2000, also worked in the concrete business, pouring everything from sidewalks to patios, foundations, and retaining walls in Bostic and the surrounding area.<sup>71</sup>



**RF0335, E. N. Washburn Store, 1925, 2426 Bostic-Sunshine Highway, Washburn**

This one-story commercial building is executed in five-to-one common bond brick with a flat-parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations capped with terra cotta tile coping. A painted panel at the façade's center bears the name "E. N. Washburn," which refers to three generations of the store's proprietors. Square posts support the almost full-width metal-shed-roofed porch. The poured concrete pad that serves as the porch floor slopes slightly to the south, directing storm-water run-off to a drain in the parking lot.

Two large six-pane display windows secured with metal bars pierce the façade, while high metal casement windows on the side and rear elevations further illuminate the interior. An aluminum-framed

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<sup>70</sup> Ibid. The Bank of Bostic later became a First Union branch. Okey and Lydia Biggerstaff were both born in October 1878 and passed away within a few days of each other. Mr. Biggerstaff died in Broughton Hospital on April 9, 1967 and Mrs. Biggerstaff died in Rutherford Hospital on April 13, 1967. "Lydia Jane Washburn Biggerstaff" and "Okey Byron Biggerstaff," federal census records and death certificates, ancestry.com.

<sup>71</sup> Monroe Brown's farm was on Andrew Mills Road near the community of Washburn. In addition to concrete work he dug wells for his neighbors, a skill that he taught his son Charlie, who eventually took over that aspect of his business. Burford Brown stopped laying concrete in 2010 due to health issues. Jeff Aiello, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011; Burford Brown, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011; Edward Nollie Washburn, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 15, 2011; "Thomas Brown," obituary in the *Forest City Daily Courier*, September 29, 2005.

plate-glass storefront consisting of a double-leaf door flanked by wide sidelights protects the original, recessed, beadboard-sheathed entrance. A tall, double-leaf paneled door opens into the store, which retains narrow pine board floors, plaster walls, paneled wood posts that support the central ceiling beam, and a pressed-tin ceiling. Wood shelves and display cases line the walls and aisles, and a wooden toy train track is suspended from the ceiling's center. A metal safe from the First State Bank in Bostic, one of Edgar Nollie Washburn's business ventures, is among many historic artifacts on display.

The E. N. Washburn Store is Rutherford County's oldest identified family-owned and operated mercantile establishment. The pivotal building contributes to the National Register-listed Washburn Historic District, which is one of Rutherford County's most intact rural landscapes, including a funeral home, dwellings, outbuildings, and approximately sixty-five acres associated with the Washburn family since the mid-nineteenth century.<sup>72</sup>

Early Rutherford County settlers Gabriel and Priscilla Washburn's son John's children included three entrepreneurs who operated taverns or stores in conjunction with their farms: Benjamin, Perry, and Reuben. The family constructed one log and two frame stores at the intersection of Andrews Mill and Piney Mountain Church roads, which lead to Marion and Shelby, and the Bostic-Sunshine Highway. Reuben, who in addition to his primary occupation as a farmer and store owner served as a Methodist Episcopal Church deacon, married Sarah Ann Crowder. Their youngest son, Edgar Nollie, erected the first brick commercial building in the community of Washburn around 1902. He also built an expansive two-story, brick, Classical Revival-style residence across the road, where he resided with his wife Grace Elizabeth and their children upon its completion in 1915. He diversified his business interests, raising beef cattle and investing in a bank and a general store in Bostic and a store in Sunshine, operated by his brothers-in-law Okey B. Biggerstaff and Charles D. Davis.<sup>73</sup>

Edgar Nollie Washburn commissioned the construction of a new brick store in Washburn in 1925 and the adjacent funeral home in 1932. After his untimely death while on a business trip to New York in 1935, Edgar Nollie Washburn Jr. and his wife Margaret took over the store's operation, selling furniture, appliances, and farm equipment in addition to staple goods. Their son Edward Nollie, born in 1930, returned to Washburn to assist with the family business after serving in the United States Air Force and graduating from Wofford College in 1955. He assumed the store's management upon his father's 1968 retirement and still spends much of his time guiding his children and grandchildren as they continue to provide community residents and tourists with a wide variety of merchandise. Given the competition from big-box stores, their most popular inventory tends to be seasonal items such as heaters, sleds, and gardening equipment.<sup>74</sup>

Although the contractor who built the E. N. Washburn's 1925 store is unknown, it is likely that African American farmer Monroe Brown (May 16, 1893 - October 13, 1970), who lived close to Washburn on

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<sup>72</sup> Davyd Foard Hood, "Washburn Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2002; Merle Richey, "Washburn Historic District Boundary Increase," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2005. Revision of November 8, 2004 National Register nomination draft authored by Davyd Foard Hood.

<sup>73</sup> Ibid.; Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 391.

<sup>74</sup> Davyd Foard Hood, "Washburn Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2002; Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011.

a farm at 898 Andrews Mill Road, laid the concrete foundation and porch floor.<sup>75</sup>



**RF0463, Freeman Store, ca. 1951, 3490 Bostic-Sunshine Highway, Bostic vicinity**

This one-story, front-gable-roofed, concrete block store has two large metal casement windows flanking the central entrance. German siding sheathes the gable ends and a concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the south elevation.

Letha Vernelle Freeman owns the 57.48-acre property, which also includes a dwelling constructed in 1951 and three outbuildings. She stated that her husband built the store years ago and “its history is not of any interest.”<sup>76</sup>



**RF0465, E. N. Washburn Store No. 2, 1950, 4517 Bostic-Sunshine Highway, Sunshine**

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<sup>75</sup> Ibid.; Thomas Brown’s son Burford continued his family’s concrete business, but was forced to stop laying concrete in 2010 due to health issues. Burford Brown, telephone conversations with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011.

<sup>76</sup> Rutherford County online property card; Letha Vernelle Freeman, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011.

This one-story, front-gable-roofed, concrete block store's tall flat-parapet façade is capped with terra cotta tile coping. Large metal casement windows flank the central entrance and transom. A full-width shed-roofed porch supported by metal posts extends across the façade and a bracketed shed-roofed hood shelters the south elevation's auxiliary entrance. Two square four-pane windows pierce each side elevation. A 5-V crimp metal roof has been recently installed.

The Biggerstaff family began acquiring property in the vicinity of what became the Sunshine community in the eighteenth century. Rutherford County commissioner John Wesley Biggerstaff (1845-1910) married Mildred Haynes in 1867 and operated a general store, post office, sawmill, and cotton gin in Sunshine. Mildred and the couple's four children—Alice Buena Vista Biggerstaff Babington, Lelia Forest Biggerstaff Gettys, Delia May Biggerstaff, and John Howard Haynes Biggerstaff—contracted typhoid fever and died in the summer of 1897, soon after Delia graduated from Leesville College in South Carolina.<sup>77</sup>

As they had done in Bostic, the Washburns expanded the family's mercantile establishment north to Sunshine and set up a business for a son-in-law to manage. Rueben and Sarah Ann Crowder Washburn's daughter, Daisy Tabitha Washburn (1882-1961), married Charles Daniel Davis (1871-1936) in 1900 and the couple resided in Sunshine. Daisy's brother Edgar Nollie Washburn built a one-story frame store in the community and Charles Davis served as the manager. Charles and Daisy's daughter Merle Holland Davis (1901-1988) married North Carolina legislator and governor William Bradley Umstead (1895-1954).<sup>78</sup>

Okey B. and Lydia Washburn Biggerstaff moved from Forest City to Sunshine, where he had grown up on his family's farm, after 1930, and their son Foy took over the operation of the Washburn's satellite store in that community. After the frame store burned, he erected the extant concrete block commercial building in 1950. Foy ran the store until his health declined. He passed away in 1992.<sup>79</sup>

DTS Properties now owns the store, which occupies a .77-acre parcel on the west side of Bostic-Sunshine Highway.

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<sup>77</sup> Mrs. Charles Self, "Sunshine of the Long Ago," in *Rutherford County 1979: A People's Bicentennial History* (Rutherfordton: Rutherford County Bicentennial Committee, 1979), 621; R. K. Babington, "History of the Biggerstaff Family of Rutherford County, N. C.," published serially in the *Rutherfordton Sun* from November 1923 to February 1924; William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, North Carolina, Volume I* (Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, 1984), 54.

<sup>78</sup> Ibid.; Davyd Foard Hood, "Washburn Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2002; Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011.

<sup>79</sup> Rutherford County online property card; Edward Nollie Washburn, conversation with Heather Fearnbach, September 3, 2011 and telephone conversation on November 15, 2011; Merle Richey, "Washburn Historic District Boundary Increase," National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2005; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties, North Carolina*, 68. Foy Edwin Biggerstaff, born May 14, 1903, died on January 17, 1992 in Shelby (death certificate). His brother Frank Malcolm Biggerstaff married Carrie Gunn, moved to Burlington to serve as Burlington High School's principal, and later opened a real estate firm, Biggerstaff and Beamon. He died in Chapel Hill on August 7, 1969 at the age of 63 and was interred in Pine Hill Cemetery in Burlington. His brother Ralph L. Biggerstaff lived in Mebane and his sister, who had married M. L. Black, resided in Durham at that time. *Burlington Daily Times-News*, August 7, 1969, B1.





**RF0593, Withrow Store, 1905, 1940, 4501 Hollis Road, Hollis**

This stone store has a steeply-pitched front-gable roof with pressed-metal sheets covering the roof as well as the gable ends. The building's doors and windows have been boarded up or secured with metal bars, but an original paneled double-leaf door remains on the north elevation. Shed canopies shelter the loft doors. Historic photographs illustrate that similar, but longer canopies once protected the first-story entrances. A one-story stone shed addition extends from the west elevation. Sheet metal sheathes the roof and wood siding covers the gable ends. A gas pump stood in front of the store.

Revolutionary War veteran, state legislator, and Rutherford County sheriff James Withrow (ca. 1746-1838), his wife Sidney Brandon, and their three children resided near Cane Creek from 1779 until the early 1790s. James acquired five hundred acres adjacent to Hinton's Creek in what would become the Hollis community between 1794 and 1803 and moved to that property by 1800. Sidney remained on the Cane Creek farm, where she died in 1818.<sup>80</sup>

James and Sidney Withrow's descendants prospered and established sizable farms in the Hinton's Creek area. Their great-great-grandson Julius Plato Durham Withrow (1867-1926), known as "J. P. D.," opened a general store in the late nineteenth century, stocking goods ranging from sugar, flour, and coffee to farm equipment and caskets. The store served as the community's gathering place, and area residents often traded farm products and native plants such as ginseng and sassafras for items they couldn't grow or manufacture. J. P. D. Withrow purchased inventory in New York and other trade centers and shipped it by rail to Lattimore in neighboring Cleveland County, where wagon drivers picked up the merchandise and transported it to his store.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, North Carolina, Volume I*, 39, 441-446; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 409, 545-546, 608.

<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.*; Vida Price Hester, "A Window to the Past: A History of Hollis School," June 1997, 2-3, 12; Jay Hoagland, "A Walking Tour of Hollis," *Windmills*, November 1977; "Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Hollis High School for the year ending April 24, 1906;" Hedy Newton, "Hollis and Duncan Creek," in *Rutherford County 1979: A People's Bicentennial History* (Rutherfordton: Rutherford County Bicentennial Committee, 1979), 526-528;

J. P. D.'s brother James Withrow (1874-1945) married Julia Hamrick (d. 1961) and the couple established a farm east of Hinton's Creek. The community that grew around the Withrows' stores and farms was named "Hollis" upon the opening of a post office in 1890. Jesse G. Blanton, the first postmaster, initially dispersed mail from his home, but the post office subsequently moved to the Withrow Store. J. P. D. Withrow served as postmaster from 1894 until 1914 and his son Grady then undertook the job. The small, stone, gable-roofed building with a frame addition that stands on Hollis Road's east side opposite the store was later erected to serve as the community's post office.<sup>82</sup>

J. P. D. Withrow held celebrations, which he called "Big Days," that included picnics and barbecues with homemade ice cream and lemonade, speech contests, baseball games, and horse races. He also subsidized the construction of the Hollis High School in 1905, donating five acres and the majority of the stone building's approximately \$5,000 cost. His wife Laura Hamrick was the school's matron, and the couple operated a boarding house for students, who paid between one and three dollars in tuition and six dollars for food and lodging per month. The institution's enrollment grew rapidly, encompassing 150 students, most of whom were from North Carolina, in 1906. Upon Mr. Withrow's recommendation, the Rutherford County Board of Education acquired the school and expanded the facility with a four-room addition in 1923. After his untimely death on November 25, 1926 (Thanksgiving Day), at the age of 59, Grady Withrow established an annual fiddlers' convention in his father's honor. The event soon became Thanksgiving tradition in Hollis.<sup>83</sup>

Henry Grady Withrow (1889-1953) married Cora Irene Martin (1894-1974) of Ellenboro in 1913. Mr. Withrow operated his family's store and the Hollis post office for many years and was active in civic affairs and politics. He served in the state legislature from 1937 until 1941 and Mrs. Withrow represented the community on the school board. The couple's four sons, Kenyon, John, Robert, and William, all of whom are deceased, continued the family's tradition of community service. John became Hollis's postmaster in 1936. Robert and John had long careers as Rutherford County educators, teaching and coaching in Ellensboro and Sunshine. Kenyon researched Rutherford County history upon his retirement. William Harrill Withrow (April 22, 1977-February 17, 2006, known as "Bill," returned to Hollis after twenty-six years in the U. S. Navy and taught political science and geography at Garner-Webb University in addition to promoting causes such as peace and the conservation movement. Bill and his wife Dorothy "Ginger" Flack had two sons, William H. Withrow, Jr. and David Charles Withrow, and a daughter, Danielle Kay Withrow. Bill, his family, and Danielle reside in Hollis and own two family residences in addition to the former Hollis post office and the .75-acre parcel including the Withrow Store. David Withrow lives in Athens, Georgia with his family.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>82</sup> Ibid.

<sup>83</sup> Ibid.

<sup>84</sup> William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, North Carolina, Volume I*, 39, 441-446; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 409, 545-546, 608.



**RF0594, W. P. Crow Store, ca. 1920s, 1811 Duncan's Creek Road, Hollis vicinity**

This one-story frame store has a front-gable roof that projects to create a deep eave sheltering the entrance. Six-over-six sash double-hung sash windows flank the double-leaf paneled front door. Board-and-batten siding sheathes the main block and the exterior walls of the shed that extends from the north elevation, which contains a German-sided rear room accessed through a single-leaf door, as well as stairs to the basement. Rolled-asphalt faux-brick siding covers the front-gable, where “W. P. Crow Store” and “Drink Coca-Cola” signs are mounted. The building rests on a concrete block foundation and is protected by a standing-seam metal roof.

Two generations of historic gas pumps stand at the store's northeast corner. The interior retains beadboard sheathing on the ceiling and walls, which are lined with shelves.

James Bryson Crow (June 20, 1870 - January 22, 1929), the son of John S. Crow and Isabel McFarland, married Arrie Case Price (March 10, 1875 - July 2, 1942), the daughter of Reuben S. and Mary E. Price, in 1894 and the couple owned a farm on Duncan's Creek Road by 1900. They had two children, William Pinckney, called “Pink,” born on December 8, 1894 and Eula Ann, born on August 22, 1899. The couple erected a one-story, frame, gable-roofed house in 1902.<sup>85</sup>

Both of their children worked on the family farm through the late 1920s, when Eula Ann married a neighbor, Hobart L. McFarland (born March 29, 1897 to Abraham L. and Adeline “Addie” McFarland). The McFarland's family grew to include Guy (b. 1928), Fred (b. 1930), James Bryan (b. 1933), and Arrie Irene (b. 1936). Pink married Elizabeth Bell Gamble, known as “Lizzie,” who was a neighbor. After James Crow contracted pneumonia and died in 1929, Pink became the head of the Crow household, which included Lizzie, his mother Arrie, and her mother Mary in 1930.<sup>86</sup>

Pink Crow operated a dairy farm and sold milk to Carnation, whose drivers regularly procured milk from area farmers. He also ran a small general store, selling gas, groceries, and merchandise. Pink

<sup>85</sup> United States Census, Population Schedule, 1900; death certificates; Rutherford County online property card.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*; United States Census, Population Schedules, 1910-1930.

and Lizzie did not have children, but they cared for his sister's children after her untimely death on August 9, 1946 from Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. Pink and Lizzie were involved in a two-car collision on May 5, 1968 and Lizzie died at the scene and was interred at the Big Springs Baptist Church cemetery in Ellenboro. Pink passed away at Beam's Nursing Home in Shelby on May 25, 1975 and was also buried at Big Springs Baptist Church. Pink's niece Arrie Irene McFarland married Lewis Gene Toney and was widowed at the time of her death on October 4, 2005, when she resided at 1811 Duncan's Creek Road. Her brother Fred McFarland is the current owner of the 120-acre property, which includes the 1902 house, the store, two barns, and land on both sides of Duncan's Creek Road, much of which is wooded.<sup>87</sup>



**RF0460 Commercial Building, ca. 1949, 2003, 2931 US 64, Rutherfordton vicinity**

This one-story frame commercial building has a flat-parapet façade and stepped-parapet side elevations capped with terra cotta tile coping. Small windows flank the façade's central entrance, which is sheltered by a modern shed-roofed porch accessed by a wood handicapped ramp. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the north elevation and a wood shed extends from the south elevation.

Lyle and Donna Chittister own the one-acre parcel, which includes a mobile home. Mrs. Chittister was not sure who built the store, but has been told that after the store ceased to operate the building was two apartments and then a service garage. The Chittisters converted the building into a residence for their daughter. The former commercial building stands northeast of Rutherfordton in the rural community of Westminster.<sup>88</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Lizzie Crow was Charlie and Carrie Gamble's daughter. Eula's husband Hobart passed away on May 11, 1960. Ibid.; Edward Nollie Washburn, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 15, 2011; "Irene Toney," obituary, *The Forest City Daily Courier*, October 2, 2005.

<sup>88</sup> Donna Chittister, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, November 11, 2011.



**RF0461, Store, 1932, 3360-3370 US 64, Rutherfordton vicinity**

This one-story, front-gable-roofed, vinyl-sided store has three two-over-two sash windows flanking the central double-leaf, diagonal-board door. Two high rectangular windows pierce each of the side elevations. The building rests on a tall concrete block foundation. The sloping grade allows for a partial basement at the east end, which is illuminated by eight-pane, fixed-sash windows. A brick stovepipe chimney pierces the metal roof and a concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the north elevation. William H. and Patsy B. Groves own the 1.5-acre property in the rural community of Westminster, which also includes a 1950 Minimal Traditional-style house. Efforts to contact them for additional information were not successful.





**RF0462, Store, 1946, 3439 US 64, Rutherfordton vicinity**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block commercial building has two large multi-pane storefront windows flanking the entrance at the façade's north end and a metal casement window near the façade's center. A small projecting restroom bay with two narrow doors extends from the north elevation. German siding sheathes the gable ends and a stovepipe chimney pierces the asphalt-shingle roof.

William Andrew Waters Jr. and Eza Telander own the 3.75-acre property in the rural community of Westminster, which also includes a frame house erected in 1958. Efforts to contact them for additional information were not successful.



**RF0154 Hardin Store, ca. 1920s, 1940, 2191 Cove Road, Rutherfordton vicinity**

This one-story frame store has a front-gable roof that extends to create a deep canopy sheltering the entrance. Stripped-log posts support the canopy edges and "J. Lewis Hardin's Gro." and "Coca-Cola"

signs are mounted in its front gable. Square four-pane windows flank the five-raised-panel front door. German-sided shed rooms with board-and-batten doors extend from the north and south elevations. High, rectangular, six-pane windows pierce the south shed's front and rear elevations. The building rests on a stone and concrete block foundation and is protected by a metal roof. A shed canopy covers the store's rear entrance.

The store stands close to Cove Road on a three-section 18.04-acre parcel owned by Mary Alice Hollifield and Betty Hardin Hill. The smallest section, which is west of Cove Road, contains the residence that William Jesse Hardin erected in 1891, the store, and an herb storage building. Piney Knob Road bisects the acreage on Cove Road's east side, which is partially wooded.

William Jesse Hardin (March 17, 1876 - November 2, 1961) built a one-story, heavy-timber frame, hall-and-parlor plan house with a one-room rear ell in northwest Rutherford County in 1891. He soon constructed a small store that stood on the opposite side of what is now Cove Road and also served as the Nanito Post Office from 1897 until 1906.<sup>89</sup> In addition to his mercantile business, Mr. Hardin was a farmer and a Forest Service game warden. William Jesse and his first wife Cordelia M. Hill (February 27, 1866 - June 24, 1898) married on January 27, 1895 and soon had two children, Addie Esker and Harold. After Cordelia's 1898 death he married Rosa Hasletine Lanning (August 16, 1878 - May 14, 1919), called "Rosie," and the couple had nine children between 1899 and 1919. As the family grew, the Hardins added two rooms onto their dwelling's rear (west) elevation. Rosie passed away after experiencing complications during her daughter Hattie Lou's delivery, and the infant soon followed her mother in death. In 1920, Mr. Hardin was a widowed farmer with five children ranging in age from three to fourteen years old at home. His third wife, Louada Wilkerson (January 12, 1875 - January 2, 1942), known as "Louader," had one child from a previous marriage. The family attended Piney Knob Baptist Church.<sup>90</sup>

William Jesse Hardin moved his store just north of his house when the road alignment shifted. He constructed two shed feed and grocery storage rooms flanking the front-gable-roofed store, as well as a small free-standing frame building to the north to house the herbs that he supplied to an Asheville vendor. Mr. Hardin installed a hand-operated gasoline pump and purchased fuel from the Pure Oil Company. He sold produce including corn, okra, turnips, and lettuce from his farm, and well as a vast array of general merchandise. The store served as a community gathering place.<sup>91</sup>

William Jesse and Rosie Hardin's son, Joe Lewis Hardin (April 23, 1910 - December 15, 1998), married Ina Elnora Arrowood (November 24, 1910 - June 24, 2010). In 1930, the young couple and Ina's older sister Mary Arrowood rented a house in Caroleen, a southeastern Rutherford County mill village, and worked in the cotton mill, where both women were spinners. The Hardins subsequently moved back to Shingle Hollow. Lewis took over the management of the family's store after his

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<sup>89</sup> Kimberly I. Merkel, *The Historic Architecture of Rutherford County* (Forest City: Rutherford County Arts Council, 1983), 100; J. R. Hardin (Joe Lewis and Ina Hardin's son), telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 14, 2011. According to J. R. Hardin, the house framing is pegged together and the dwelling had a "white dirt" floor rather than a wood floor when he was small.

<sup>90</sup> United States Census Population Schedules, 1890-1930; death certificates; J. R. Hardin, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 14, 2011; Betty Hardin Hill (Joe Lewis and Ina Hardin's daughter), telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 14, 2011; Kathy Millwood, "William Jesse Hardin" and other Hardin family member records accessed at <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&Grid=53222766> in December 2011]

<sup>91</sup> J. R. Hardin, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 14, 2011.

father's death in 1961. Ina assisted him in the store and the business also had as many as seven employees at one time over the years. Until the late 1980s, product salesmen, called "drummers," stopped by weekly to take orders. After that time, Lewis Hardin travelled to Marion to purchase inventory. He operated the store until his death in 1998.<sup>92</sup>



**RF0154 Hardin House, 1891, 2191 Cove Road, Rutherfordton vicinity**



**RF0595 C. C. Matheny Store, 1959, 2058 Cove Road, Rutherfordton vicinity**

This one-story, side-gable-roofed, concrete block store has large metal casement windows with interior metal security bars flanking the front entrance. The single-leaf front door (which has replaced a wider door), the T-111 paneling on the façade, and the almost-full-width shed-roofed front porch supported by braced square posts appear to be recent modifications. German siding sheathes the gable ends and

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<sup>92</sup> Ibid.; United States Census Population Schedules, 1930; death certificates; Kathy Millwood, "William Jesse Hardin" and other Hardin family members.



casement windows pierce the side elevations. An auxiliary entrance provides access to the concrete block stovepipe chimney serves the building.

C. C. Matheny purchased land from William Jesse Hardin and erected this building in 1959. Columbus Bryan Hardin (William Jesse and Rosie Hardin's son) subsequently acquired the property and continued to operate the general store. The current owner, Donald Raymond McEntire, purchased the building—which now houses the Shingle Hollow Store—and 11.83 acres in 2006.<sup>93</sup>

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<sup>93</sup> J. R. Hardin, telephone conversation with Heather Fearnbach, December 14, 2011; Rutherford County online property card.

#### **IV. Rural General Stores: Architectural Context**

This survey encompasses fifty-one stores in Burke, McDowell, and Rutherford counties and three properties located just outside of the study area in Caldwell and Cleveland counties. The first rural general stores in the study area were rudimentary log buildings, none of which remain. The survey sample's earliest fifteen stores were constructed from the late nineteenth century through the 1920s, which was the prime era of rural general store operation. These buildings are modest in size and finish and most are executed in brick or frame. One surveyed resource from this period is stone and another is Rustic Revival-style log.

The Mulls erected the first concrete block store in the survey sample in 1928. The material's popularity due to its manufacturing ease, affordability, fire resistance, and minimal maintenance requirements is reflected in its prevalence in commercial building construction. Store proprietors built twenty-five of the thirty-nine surveyed edifices that postdate 1930 with concrete block. Many of these stores remain unpainted, but some have been painted or stuccoed.

In some cases several generations of commercial buildings stood at well-trafficked locations. The Washburns, for example, constructed one log, two frame, and two brick stores in Rutherford County at the intersection of Andrews Mill and Piney Mountain Church Roads—which lead to Marion and Shelby—and the Bostic-Sunshine Highway between the mid-nineteenth century and 1925. The Dellinger family erected one frame and two concrete block stores on North Carolina Highway 126 in Longtown near Lake James in Burke County.

#### **Weatherboarded Stores**

One- and two-story weatherboarded structures constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries typically have a rectangular footprint and feature flat- or stepped-parapet façades and full-width front porches. Most of the earliest stores included the survey sample manifest this form. The two-story weatherboarded commercial buildings that stand on the south side of US 70 at its intersection with Main Circle Street in the Burke County community of Connelly Springs have been relocated several times but retain character-defining features such as large window openings, paneled doors, and stepped-parapet façades. The Connelly family erected the south store around 1890 and Cal McGalliard constructed the north store circa 1910.

Gold's Store, built at what is now 3700 Polkville Road near the Cleveland County community of Polkville in 1908 and enlarged in 1917, is the only other two-story frame store in the survey sample. The front-gable-roofed weatherboarded edifice is distinguished by a stepped-parapet façade and a full-width, hip-roofed front porch supported by chamfered posts. Two double-leaf paneled doors with transoms provide access to the north and south rooms and four large four-over-four sash windows illuminate the first-floor interior.

The front-gable-roofed, weatherboarded Tilley Store, erected around 1895 near Drexel at what is now 2599 Smokey Creek Road in Burke County, is a rare example of a rural one-and-one-half-story commercial building. The store features six-over-six sash windows flanking the board-and-batten front door. Board-and-batten shutters secure the first-floor windows as well as the second-story windows in each gable end. The one-story shed-roofed porch supported by square wood posts that sheltered the façade has been removed, but the store's interior is remarkably intact, retaining wide

wall, floor, and ceiling boards; wood shelves; a long, wide wood counter; and wooden tables, storage bins, boxes, barrels, and baskets.

One-story frame commercial buildings were much more common in rural areas historically, but few remain. The front-gable-roofed store at 2957 NC 181 in the Oak Hill vicinity of Burke County, which appears to have been constructed between 1900 and 1910, features a weatherboarded façade with a shed canopy above the storefront. Six-over-six sash windows—two flanking the front entrance and one on each side elevation—illuminate the interior. The front entrance, which was likely a double-leaf door, has been removed and a garage door installed, but the transom above the door remains.

Two one-story frame Burke County stores—the 1910s weatherboarded building at 6127 US 64 south of Morganton and the 1920s German-sided Aikens Store at 2241 US 70 east of town—have hip roofs that extend to create deep canopies that shelter the entrances. The US 64 store retains original stripped log posts on concrete piers that support the canopy edges. A brick stovepipe chimney vents the wood stove. Flush boards sheath the interior walls and beadboard covers the main room’s ceiling. The double-thickness front door, which consists of diagonal exterior boards and vertical interior boards, retains a wooden latch in addition to later hardware.

The 1931 German-sided Mull Store at 1651 N. Green Street north of Morganton, the 1930s Perkins Store at 3118 Bridgewater Road west of Morganton, the 1938 German-sided Walker’s Grocery near 6403 Casar Road in northwestern Cleveland County, and the Hardin Store at 2191 Cove Road northwest of Rutherfordton, built in the 1920s and enlarged in 1940, have similar deep canopies, but front-gable roofs. The Mull Store features original square canopy posts on concrete piers and four-over-four sash windows with board-and-batten shutters flanking the front door, which has six glazed panes above three raised panels. The Perkins Store has six-over-six sash windows with interior metal security bars and a diagonal-board front door. At Walker’s Grocery, replacement metal posts on brick piers support the canopy edges. One-over-one sash windows secured with metal bars flank the paneled front door. “Walker’s Grocery” is hand-painted on a two-board sign mounted to the front gable. The triangular wood projection below the sign is echoed in the smaller “brackets” at the canopy’s edges. The Hardin Store features stripped-log posts that support the canopy edges and “J. Lewis Hardin’s Gro.” and “Coca-Cola” signs mounted in its front gable. Square four-pane windows flank the five-raised-panel front door. The Mull and Hardin stores and Walker’s Grocery have shed rooms extending from their side elevations. Such spaces were often used for feed and fertilizer storage.

W. P. Crow’s 1920s one-story frame store at 1811 Duncan’s Creek Road near the Rutherford County community of Hollis does not have a canopy, but the front-gable roof projects to create a deep eave sheltering the entrance. Six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the double-leaf paneled front door. Board-and-batten siding sheathes the main block and the exterior walls of the shed that extends from the north elevation. Rolled-asphalt faux-brick siding covers the front-gable, where “W. P. Crow Store” and “Drink Coca-Cola” signs are mounted. Two generations of historic gas pumps stand at the store’s northeast corner. The interior retains beadboard sheathing on the ceiling and walls, which are lined with shelves.

The 1942 Grover S. and Viola Holland Store on 5285 US 64 south of Morganton is the most recently-constructed wood-sided store in the survey sample. The one-story side-gable-roofed building retains German siding on the original section, including the deep gabled canopy that shelters the storefront. Paired three-over-one Craftsman-style windows flank the paneled door with a glazed upper section at

the front entrance. Metal interior bars secure the windows and the door. Faux brick rolled-asphalt siding covers the circa 1960 gabled west addition and a diagonal-board door provides exterior access to the auxiliary entrance on its north elevation. A metal roof protects the building.

### **Stuccoed Frame Stores**

The 1930s Mull Farm Store located on North Carolina Highway 26 near Longtown is similar in form to other surveyed frame stores in that the front-gable roof extends to create a deep canopy that shelters the entrance. The sheathing material is different, however, as stucco was applied to metal lath on the building's wood frame and a flush-board "wainscoting" wraps around the building's exterior below the windows. The damaged stucco in the front gable and on the canopy posts reflects the problems inherent in this exterior finish as moisture rusts the metal lath and freeze/thaw cycles cause the stucco to expand, crack, and spall.

### **Rustic Revival-style Log Stores**

Rustic elements were manifested in a variety of architectural styles, from Andrew Jackson Downing's suggested use of native stone and wood to create harmony between houses and their surroundings in mid-nineteenth century publications, to dwellings of the Arts and Crafts movement that encouraged a return to a more natural way of life during the industrial revolution. The Rustic Revival style became popular in the early twentieth century for buildings devoted to outdoor leisure activities. Characteristics of the Adirondack camp style promoted by architect William West Durant and pattern books such as *Bungalows, Camps and Mountain Homes*, published in 1915 by William Comstock, were reflected in rustic lodges such as the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park and the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North Carolina.<sup>94</sup>

The style remained popular through the 1930s for community buildings, particularly those constructed as part of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal programs. Round, dark brown logs with bright white cement mortar and stone foundations and chimneys frequently accentuate such a building's rustic nature. Saddle-notched logs, massive stone chimneys, and iron door hardware were intended to evoke the spirit of the American pioneer in a time of nationwide economic hardship. The ashlar and heavy timber bathhouse at Hanging Rock State Park in Stokes County, designed by Robert Ormand and constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1939, is an exceptional example of this style.<sup>95</sup>

Wilson and Edna Taylor purchased a small Rustic Revival-style log building erected at what is now 1297 US 70 west of Morganton to serve as a dance hall and converted it to a general store. A historic photograph illustrates that the log walls and canopy of the one-story, sided-gable-roofed, 1926 edifice were originally unpainted and that the building was one-bay deep. Stripped log posts support the deep, side-gable-roofed canopy that shelters a wide replacement door and paired windows with four-over-one Craftsman-style sash covered with wire mesh security panels. The canopy retains a beadboard ceiling. A concrete block stovepipe chimney rises on the west elevation through the deep roof

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<sup>94</sup> Catherine W. Bishir, Michael T. Southern and Jennifer F. Martin, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1999), 59-60; Bruce E. Johnson, "Built Without an Architect: Architectural Inspirations for the Grove Park Inn," in *May We All Remember Well, Volume I* (Asheville: Robert Brunk Auction Services, Inc., 1997), 217; Linda Flint McClelland, *Building the National Parks: Historic Landscape Design and Construction* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998), 98.

<sup>95</sup> Catherine W. Bisher and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 362.

overhang. The log rear shed addition and long concrete block east garage wing were later modifications.

A small, rectangular, hip-roofed, public restroom building sheathed in metal siding designed to look like rusticated stone stands west of the Taylor Store. The building, which has four entrances with six-horizontal-paneled doors, small square windows, and exposed rafter ends, is the only detached restroom facility in the survey sample.

Walter Lester Reeps built a Rustic Revival-style log residence at 5305 Dysartsville Road near Morganton in 1947 and a matching store and gas station a few years later. The round logs used to erect the one-story, side-gable roofed buildings project past the saddle-notched corners and were painted a dark-brownish red with white ends to contrast with the bright white-painted mortar. The store's façade contains two three-over-one sash windows at its outer edges, with a partially-glazed wood door and screen door toward the north end. A large multi-pane display window pierces the façade's center and a metal roof protects the building. A painted metal "Drink Pepsi-Cola" sign remains in the north façade window.

### **Brick Stores**

Some businesses reflected their success and stability by the construction of fireproof brick commercial buildings featuring elements such as decorative cornices, arched window and door openings, cast-iron storefronts, and large plate-glass display windows. The circa 1904, one-story, brick U. S. B. Dale's Market in Morganton serves as an excellent example of this trend. A corbelled cornice, sawtooth brick band, and three slightly recessed panels distinguish the flat-parapet façade above the shed-roofed canopy that shelters the storefront. George L. Nesker Architectural Iron Works of Evansville, Indiana manufactured the fluted cast-iron pilasters that flank the two central single-leaf doors and their transoms.

The one-story brick store H. D. Leonhardt erected in 1910 on Morganton's eastern outskirts (now 1305 E. Union Street) is distinguished by a tall, stepped, metal-sheathed parapet that covers the building's front gable end. A shed-roofed porch supported by chamfered posts extends across the façade, sheltering the double-leaf front door, which is paneled with glazed upper sections. Two tall four-over-four sash windows flank the entrance

The general store opened by Okey B. Biggerstaff, with financial assistance from his wife's family, the Washburns, at 157 N. Main Street in the Rutherford County community of Bostic in the 1910s is another intact example of this form. The one-story brick commercial building has a flat-parapet façade with a corbelled cornice and stepped-parapet side elevations. Corbelled arches surmount the two large façade windows and the double-leaf central door and transom. A recessed brick panel in the parapet likely once contained the store's name.

Edgar Nollie Washburn commissioned the construction of a new one-story brick store at 2426 Bostic-Sunshine Highway in the Rutherford County community of Washburn in 1925. A painted panel at the flat-parapet façade's center bears the name "E. N. Washburn," which refers to three generations of the store's proprietors. Square posts support the almost full-width metal-shed-roofed porch. Two large six-pane display windows secured with metal bars pierce the façade, while high metal casement windows on the side and rear elevations further illuminate the interior. An aluminum-framed plate-

glass storefront consisting of a double-leaf door flanked by wide sidelights protects the original, recessed, beadboard-sheathed entrance. A tall, double-leaf paneled door opens into the store, which retains narrow pine board floors, plaster walls, paneled wood posts that support the central ceiling beam, and a pressed-tin ceiling. Wood shelves and display cases line the walls and aisles.

The one-story, hip-roofed, brick building erected at 2971 North Carolina Highway 181 near Oak Hill in 1935 reflects the austerity of the economic depression, but is still eye-catching enough to attract customers. The façade features two central single-leaf doors with six glazed panes above two vertical panels. Large metal casement windows sheltered by deep eaves illuminate the interior.

The two-story brick-veneered commercial building that stands at 2458 US 70 East near Connelly Springs is also simply executed. The building manifests the appearance of an urban edifice, featuring three storefronts with recessed entrances flanked by plate glass windows and sheltered by a pent roof that extends across the façade. The pent roof was added after the two-story, brick-veneered, 1960s addition at the building's east end, which has a shed roof and thus a slightly shorter façade than the original parapet-roofed section. Replacement six-over-six sash windows pierce the façade's second story, but the original six-over-six wood sash windows remain on the rear elevation's second story, as well as an original double-leaf door.

## **Stone Stores**

J. P. D. Withrow used local stone to erect his large and unique store, which has stood at what is now 4501 Hollis Road in northeastern Rutherford County since 1905. The building features a steeply-pitched front-gable roof with pressed-metal sheets covering the roof as well as the gable ends. An original paneled double-leaf door remains on the north elevation. Shed canopies shelter the loft doors. Historic photographs illustrate that similar, but longer canopies once protected the first-story entrances. A one-story stone shed addition constructed in 1940 extends from the west elevation.

Lawrence Littlejohn commissioned John Branch to construct a store for him at 2510 Playmore Beach Road near Lenoir in Caldwell County in 1946. Mr. Branch used local river rock to build the distinctive two-story front-gable-roofed edifice with vertical stone lintels distinguishing the window and door openings. The store has an almost-full-width, shed-roofed front porch supported by round metal posts on a concrete block foundation. German siding sheathes the porch roof soffits and beadboard covers the ceiling. Six-over-one sash windows flank the double-leaf front and rear doors and illuminate the building's second floor. A pressed-metal roof protects the building's exposed, slightly-flared rafter ends.

Joseph Sidney Hemphill constructed his much smaller store on NC 126 near Longtown in Burke County with similar river rock. The one-story 1930s building has a side-gable metal roof that extends to create a porch over the entrance. The wood porch posts and floor are recent replacements. Metal bars secure the two-over-two horizontal sash windows that illuminate the interior. Paneled doors provide access from the façade and rear elevations.

The small, one-story, front-gable-roofed, stone store erected around 1930 at 2770 US 70 East near Hildebran features a stepped parapet capped with concrete coping. The storefront window has been enlarged to contain a double-leaf garage door. A second such opening was cut into the west elevation. The single-leaf board-and-batten door on the façade's east side appears to be original.

## Concrete Block Stores

Hollow concrete block became a widely-used building material in the early twentieth century given its manufacturing ease, affordability, fire resistance, and minimal maintenance requirements. Harmon S. Palmer patented a cast-iron hand-operated block-making machine that facilitated expeditious production in 1900. Within ten years over one thousand American companies fabricated concrete building block in a wide variety of textures, colors, and finishes ranging from smooth to tooled or embellished with panels, scrolls, or rope designs. Promotional materials advertised masonry patterns including pressed brick, cobblestone, and broken ashlar. Rock-face block, which emulated quarried stone, was the most popular mold. As the necessary materials—water, sand, Portland cement, and stone or gravel aggregate—were inexpensive and readily available, many consumers made their own block.<sup>96</sup>



**BK0353, George Leonhardt's store, erected at 810 E. Union Street in Morganton around 1926, is an excellent example of rock-face concrete block construction. The store was not included in the evaluated sample given its location within a Morganton neighborhood rather than in a rural area.**

Paul and Eula Mull erected the earliest concrete block store in the survey sample at 113 Enola Road south of Morganton in 1928. The commercial building encompasses an original rock-face concrete block central section, a two-story smooth concrete block addition at the south end, and a one-story, gabled, smooth concrete block addition at the north end. An almost full-width shed-roofed porch supported by replacement wood posts shelters the central single-leaf paneled door, which has a glazed upper section and a matching sidelight; the entrance near the original section's south end, which is identical except for the direction of the door swing; and the wide, three-part, plate-glass window that illuminates the store's north end.

By the mid-twentieth century, function was more important than aesthetics in terms of commercial building construction. The remaining concrete block stores in survey sample were executed in smooth-face block and are devoid of ornamentation. Examples of small, unpainted concrete block

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<sup>96</sup> Pamela H. Simpson, *Cheap, Quick, & Easy: Imitative Architectural Materials, 1870-1930* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1999), 11-22.

stores with flat-parapet facades include Lucy Roper's Store, erected in the 1940s near 5109 US 64 in Burke County south of Morganton, and two McDowell County buildings near Nebo: a 1940s store at 6218 US 70 East and a 1953 store at 1509 NC 126.

Stepped parapets enliven the facades of the circa 1945 Brown's Community Store at 2743 NC 126 near Lake James in Burke County, as well as the stuccoed concrete block store erected in 1940 at 695 US 70 west of Morganton, emulating earlier commercial buildings.

Front-gable-roofed concrete block examples include the 1930s Watts Store at 4849 US 64 in Burke County south of Morganton, Reid Holland's circa 1940 McDowell County store at 1580 Old US 221 South in Glenwood, and the 1951 Freeman Store near 3490 Bostic-Sunshine Highway in Rutherford County.

Many concrete block stores presented their long elevations to the road with a side-gable orientation. The 1930s store at 1503 Burkemont Avenue on Morganton's southern outskirts, two commercial buildings near Oak Hill—the 1938 store at 3245 NC 181 and the 1948 building at 3277 NC 181 and Junior and Ruth Crawley's 1949 store at 2427 US 70 west of Morganton—are representative Burke County examples. Surveyed McDowell County stores with this form include the 1950s building at 5911 US 70 East near Nebo, a stuccoed 1950s edifice that stands at the intersection of US 70 East and NC 126 near Nebo, and the 1952 store at 1510 Old US 221 South in Glenwood, which features a deep hip-roofed canopy that shelters its façade and gas pumps. The 1946 Rutherford County store at 3439 US 64 near Rutherfordton has a small projecting restroom bay with two narrow doors on its north elevation. The 1959 C. C. Matheny Store at 2058 Cove Road northwest of Rutherfordton retains large metal casement windows with interior metal security bars flanking the front entrance.

The 1948 Guy E. Martin Store at 2445 US 70 west of Morganton vicinity is the only hip-roofed concrete block store in the survey sample. The site's steep grade change allowed for a full basement apartment with an entrance on the south elevation sheltered by a shed-roofed porch.

The two shed-roofed concrete block commercial buildings included in the survey sample—the 1940 McDowell County store at 1511 Old US 221 South in Glenwood and the 1956 store at 2178 NC 181 near Oak Hill in Burke County—are devoid of embellishment.



## Store Security

Rural general store owners employed a variety of mechanisms to secure their merchandise, ranging from double-thickness doors with several locks to wood shutters that latched on the inside. Metal bars attached inside or outside window openings also deterred theft. Most proprietors resided adjacent to their stores, and some owners and managers occupied back rooms or basement or second-floor apartments, thus allowing them to closely monitor store activity.



**BK0364, Store, 1910s, 6127 US 64, Morganton vicinity**  
Interior latch on double-thickness front door  
(diagonal boards on the exterior, vertical boards on the interior)



**BK0365, Grover S. and Viola Holland Store, 1942, 1960, 5285 US 64, Morganton vicinity**  
Metal security bars inside front door and windows



**BK0380, Mull Store, 1931, 1651 N. Green Street, Morganton**  
 Board-and-batten shutters provide additional security for façade windows when closed



**RF0335, E. N. Washburn Store, 1925, 2426 Bostic-Sunshine Highway, Washburn**  
 Security measures include the creation of a vestibule outside of the recessed entrance (above left) and bars on the outside of windows (above right)



**BK0263, Tilley Store, 2599 Smokey Creek Road, Drexel vicinity**  
Board-and-batten shutters cover the six-over-six sash windows (above)  
Metal interior bars provide additional security (below)



## General Store Signage

Store owners often commissioned itinerant painters to execute signs painted or hung on their buildings' walls, doors, and canopies, usually including a store's name in addition to merchandise advertisements. Manufacturers also provided store proprietors with colorful embossed metal signs and display racks designed to attract consumers. As these items are extremely popular with collectors, many property owners stated that they had removed metal exterior signs for safe-keeping. Only a few signs, most bearing store names and marketing Coca-Cola, remain.



**BK0043, Dale's Market, ca. 1904, 301 Enola Road, Morganton**



**BK0380, Mull Store, 1931, 1651 N. Green Street, Morganton**



**CW0296, Littlejohn Rock Store, 1946, 2510 Playmore Beach Road, Lenoir vicinity**



**BK0240, Reeps Grocery, 1947, south of the Reeps House at 5305 Dysartsville Road, Morganton vicinity**



**RF0594, W. P. Crow Store, ca. 1920s, 1811 Duncan's Creek Road, Hollis vicinity**



**RF0154 Hardin Store, ca. 1920s, 1940, 2191 Cove Road, Rutherfordton vicinity**

## V. National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Guidelines

Rural commercial buildings that retain the seven qualities of historic integrity—location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association—are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture. Resources must typically be at least fifty years old to meet National Register standards, but properties that are especially architecturally or historically significant may qualify for consideration even if they have not yet reached fifty years of age.

General merchandise and grocery stores are often included on the National Register under Criterion A for commerce as they functioned as rural communities' economic and social centers, offering a wide variety of merchandise and services in addition to a place for neighbors to gather. Only a few rural general stores are still in operation as such, as most could not compete with larger retailers. Some buildings are being used for other commercial purposes, others serve as storage, and many are vacant.

Architecturally-significant rural commercial buildings may manifest distinctive forms, materials, or construction techniques, or they might be simply-executed but intact examples of a once common but now rare building type in order to qualify for National Register listing under Criterion C for architecture. General stores are disappearing from the rural landscape at an alarming rate, making survivors increasingly important. National Register-eligible rural commercial buildings should retain original exterior and interior finishes such as siding, windows, doors, floors, and wall and ceiling sheathing. Original shelving, display cases, and signage contribute to architectural and historical significance but their retention is not mandatory.

Some general stores may meet National Register Criterion B if the proprietor's achievements were exceptionally significant and the commercial building is the only extant resource associated with an individual's productive career. It is unlikely, but not impossible, that a general store might yield information about our past not otherwise accessible from other extant resources and written records, making it eligible for the National Register listing under Criterion D.

The following stores appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A for commerce and Criterion C for architecture based on their exterior appearance. Interior access was only possible for a few surveyed stores, so interior integrity would need to be verified. The historical and architectural significance of rural store proprietors' dwellings, which typically stand close to their commercial buildings, and any associated outbuildings should also be evaluated in each case.

### Burke County

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
BK0240	<b>Reeps Grocery and House</b> 5305 Dysartsville Road	Morganton vicinity
BK0263	<b>Tilley Store</b> 2599 Smokey Creek Road	Drexel vicinity
BK0364	<b>Store</b> 6127 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0365	<b>Grover S. and Viola Holland Store</b> 5285 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0369	<b>H. D. Leonhardt Store</b>	Morganton

BK0380	1305 E. Union Street <b>Mull Store</b>	Morganton
BK0386	1651 N. Green Street <b>Aikens Store</b>	Morganton vicinity
BK0389	2241 US 70 East <b>Mull Farm Store</b> (in conjunction with farm) 6793 NC 126	Longtown vicinity

### **Caldwell County**

<b>SSN</b>	<b>Property Name and Location</b>	<b>Town/vicinity</b>
CW0296	<b>Littlejohn Rock Store</b> 2510 Playmore Beach Road	Lenoir vicinity

### **Cleveland County**

<b>SSN</b>	<b>Property Name and Location</b>	<b>Town/vicinity</b>
CL0408	<b>Gold's Store</b> 3700 Polkville Road	Polkville vicinity

### **Rutherford County**

<b>SSN</b>	<b>Property Name and Location</b>	<b>Town/vicinity</b>
RF0464	<b>Okey B. Biggerstaff General Store</b> 157 N. Main Street	Bostic
RF0593	<b>Withrow Store</b> 4501 Hollis Road	Hollis
RF0594	<b>W. P. Crow Store</b> 1811 Duncan's Creek Road	Hollis vicinity



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## Appendix A. Surveyed General Store List by County and Survey Site Number

### Burke County

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
BK0043	<b>U. S. B. Dale's Market and House</b> 301 and 303 Enola Road	Morganton
BK0067	<b>Mull's Store and House</b> 113 Enola Road	Morganton
BK0240	<b>Reep's Grocery and House</b> 5305 Dysartsville Road	Morganton vicinity
BK0263	<b>Tilley House and Store</b> 2599 Smokey Creek Road	Drexel vicinity
BK0364	<b>Store</b> 6127 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0365	<b>Grover S. and Viola Holland Store</b> 5285 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0366	<b>Lucy Roper's Store</b> 5109 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0367	<b>Watts Store</b> 4849 US 64	Morganton vicinity
BK0368	<b>Store</b> 1503 Burkemont Avenue	Morganton
BK0369	<b>H. D. Leonhardt Store</b> 1305 E. Union Street	Morganton
BK0370	<b>Perkins Grocery</b> 3325 US 70 West	Morganton vicinity
BK0371	<b>Guy E. Martin Store</b> 2445 US 70 West	Morganton vicinity
BK0372	<b>Junior and Ruth Crawley Store</b> 2427 US 70 West	Morganton vicinity
BK0373	<b>Wilson and Edna Taylor Store</b> 1297 US 70 West	Morganton vicinity
BK0374	<b>Commercial Building</b> 695 US 70 West	Morganton
BK0375	<b>Store</b> 3277 NC 181	Oak Hill vicinity
BK0376	<b>Store</b> 3245 NC 181	Oak Hill vicinity
BK0377	<b>Commercial Buildings</b> 2969-2971 NC 181	Oak Hill vicinity
BK0378	<b>Oak Hill Grocery</b> 2372 NC 181	Oak Hill
BK0379	<b>Store</b> 2178 NC 181	Oak Hill vicinity
BK0380	<b>Mull Store</b> 1651 N. Green Street	Morganton
BK0381	<b>Longtown Grocery</b> 6547 NC 126	Longtown
BK0382	<b>Herman Edwards Store</b> 8103 NC 126	Longtown

BK0383	<b>Joseph Sidney Hemphill Store</b> NC 126 (southeast corner of junction of NC 126 and Rock Hill Street)	Longtown vicinity
BK0384	<b>Brown's Community Store</b> 2743 NC 126	Lake James vicinity
BK0385	<b>Connelly and McGalliard Stores</b> 6527 Main Circle Street	Connelly Springs
BK0386	<b>Aikens Store</b> 2241 US 70 East	Morganton vicinity
BK0387	<b>Commercial Building</b> 2458 US 70 East	Connelly Springs vicinity
BK0388	<b>Store</b> 2770 US 70 East	Hildebran vicinity
BK0389	<b>Mull Farm Store</b> 6793 NC 126	Longtown vicinity
BK0393	<b>Store</b> 2957 NC 181	Oak Hill vicinity
BK0394	<b>Perkins Store</b> 3118 Bridgewater Road	Morganton vicinity

### Caldwell County

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
CW0296	<b>Littlejohn Rock Store</b> 2510 Playmore Beach Road	Lenoir vicinity

### Cleveland County

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
CL0408	<b>Gold's Store</b> 3700 Polkville Road	Polkville vicinity
CL0458	<b>Walker's Grocery</b> 6403 Casar Road	Casar vicinity

### McDowell County

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
MC0192	<b>Store</b> 1509 NC 126	Nebo vicinity
MC0193	<b>Store</b> US 70 East (NW corner of the intersection of NC 126 and US 70 East)	Nebo
MC0194	<b>Store</b> 5911 US 70 East	Nebo
MC0195	<b>Store</b> 6218 US 70 East	Nebo vicinity
MC0197	<b>Store</b> 1510 Old US 221 South	Glenwood
MC0198	<b>Store</b> 1511 Old US 221 South	Glenwood
MC0199	<b>Reid and Ruby Holland Store and House</b> 1580-1590 Old US 221 South	Glenwood

MC0200      **Store**      Montford Cove vicinity  
 Montford Cove Road (W side Montford Cove Rd approx. 300 ft S of Shea Dr. intersection)

**Rutherford County**

SSN	Property Name and Location	Town/vicinity
RF0154	<b>Hardin House and Store</b> 2191 Cove Road	Rutherfordton vicinity
RF0335	<b>E. N. Washburn Store</b> 2426 Bostic-Sunshine Highway	Washburn
RF0460	<b>Commercial Building</b> 2931 US 64	Rutherfordton vicinity
RF0461	<b>Store and House</b> 3360-3370 US 64	Rutherfordton vicinity
RF0462	<b>Store and House</b> 3439 US 64	Rutherfordton vicinity
RF0463	<b>Freeman Store</b> 3490 Bostic-Sunshine Hwy	Bostic vicinity
RF0464	<b>Okey B. Biggerstaff General Store</b> 157 N. Main Street	Bostic
RF0465	<b>E. N. Washburn Store No. 2</b> 4517 Bostic-Sunshine Highway	Sunshine
RF0593	<b>Withrow Store</b> 4501 Hollis Road	Hollis
RF0594	<b>W. P. Crow Store</b> 1811 Duncan's Creek Road	Hollis vicinity
RF0595	<b>C. C. Matheny Store</b> 2058 Cove Road	Rutherfordton vicinity



## **Appendix B. Professional Qualifications**

### **FEARNBACH HISTORY SERVICES, INC.**

#### **HEATHER FEARNBACH**

##### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. in History coursework, 2006-2007, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- Master of Arts in History, emphasis in Public History, 1997, Middle Tennessee State University
- Graduate coursework in Anthropology, 1994-1995, University of Tennessee at Knoxville
- Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, 1993, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

##### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**President and Architectural Historian**, Fearnbach History Services, Inc., Winston-Salem, N.C., established May 2008

- Prepare Section 106/4f reports, National Register of Historic Places nominations, local designation reports, site management plans, historic structures reports, and historic furnishings plans
- Conduct comprehensive architectural surveys and historical research
- Provide historic restoration tax credit consultation

**Lecturer**, History and Interior Architecture Departments, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Spring 2008 to present

- Teach HIS/IAR 628, "Identification and Evaluation of the Historic Built Environment" to graduate students

**Lecturer**, Art Department, Salem College, Winston-Salem, N.C., Spring 2003 to present; Coordinator of the Certificate Program in Historic Preservation beginning Summer 2010

- Teach "Introduction to Historic Preservation" (ARTI 206/PRSV230) and "Preservation-Sensitive Sustainable Design" (PRSV 240) to undergraduates
- Recruit and advise certificate program students
- Arrange and supervise historic preservation internships

**Architectural Historian**, Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., Winston-Salem, N.C., January 2003 to June 2008

- Managed regional office of Georgia-based consulting firm
- Wrote National Register nominations, local designation reports, and site management plans
- Prepared historic resource documentation as required by Section 106/4f and coordinated reviews with local, state, and federal agencies as needed
- Performed field surveys to identify, evaluate, research, and document historic resources located in the areas of potential effect for proposed projects
- Conducted comprehensive architectural surveys for the State Historic Preservation Offices in North Carolina and South Carolina

**Architectural Historian**, Historic Architecture Section, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Department of Transportation, Raleigh, N.C., October 2000 to January 2003

- Performed architectural identification and analysis for project planning process
- Assessed project effects, devised and implemented mitigation as required by Section 106/4f
- Prepared relevant parts of environmental documents as required by NEPA
- Provided technical expertise for staff, Division personnel, and the general public
- Coordinated historic bridge relocation and reuse program
- Reviewed in-house staff documents and consultant documents

**Restoration Specialist**, Architecture Branch, Historic Sites Section, Division of Archives and History, Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, N.C., January 1999 to October 2000

- Served as Head of the Architecture Branch
- Supervised Facility Architect I position and temporary position
- Managed restoration, renovation, and new construction projects at twenty-two state historic sites
- Monitored in-house job request system and prioritized projects
- Provided expertise, advice, and counsel on building code, design, historic architecture, ADA, and restoration issues to site managers, maintenance personnel, and the public
- Coordinated the development of the section's programming for individual projects
- Handled the section's review of plans and specifications and provided written comments
- Acted as liaison with the State Historic Preservation Office

**Historic Site Manager II**, Somerset Place State Historic Site, Creswell, N.C., April 1998 to January 1999

- Managed daily operations involving administration, interpretation, and personnel
- Supervised and reviewed research projects
- Prepared general research and planning reports
- Revised the interpretive script for the site
- Revamped the education program and began a teacher's packet
- Reissued Somerset Place Foundation, Inc. publications
- Updated web page for the Historic Albemarle Tour web site
- Conducted regular, specialized and hands-on tours of Somerset Place, an antebellum plantation

**Field Surveyor and Assistant Coordinator**, The Center for Historic Preservation, Murfreesboro, T.N., August 1997 to May 1998

- Conducted grant-supported research and survey work to prepare one multiple property nomination including denominational histories and thirteen individual nominations of rural African American churches in Tennessee to the National Register of Historic Places
- Coordinated research and planning for the Civil War Heritage Area in Tennessee

**Graduate Research Assistant**, The Center for Historic Preservation, Murfreesboro, T.N., August 1996 to August 1997

- Museums: Developed an exhibit entitled "Murfreesboro: Settlement to Reconstruction" for Bradley Academy, an African American school converted into a local history museum
- Heritage Education: Drafted design proposal for a 1920s heritage classroom at Bradley Academy and assisted with grant writing and preliminary exhibit design for the new Children's Discovery House
- Heritage Tourism: Designed Civil War history wayside exhibits and an interpretive brochure for the Stones River and Lytle Creek Greenway in Murfreesboro, performed bibliographic research for the Civil War Heritage Area in Tennessee project and created a brochure for the Leadership Rutherford Committee

**Researcher**, National Park Service - Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, M.S., May 1997 to September 1997

- Visited repositories in Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi to accumulate information for a comprehensive bibliography on the modern motor road that is the major transportation corridor of the Natchez Trace Parkway
- Evaluated project research to date
- Prepared a final report (published 1998)

## **SUPPLEMENTARY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Board Member**, State Capitol Foundation, Raleigh, N.C., 2010-present

**Commission Member**, Raleigh Historic Districts Commission, Raleigh, N.C., 2002-2003

- Served on the Certificate of Appropriateness and Research Committees

**Board Member**, Historic Stagville Foundation, Durham, N.C., 2001-2003

- Served on the Buildings Committee (examined and documented historic resources)
- Assisted with special events

**Consultant**, Terracon, Duluth, G.A., 2001-2003

- Prepared communications tower review forms, conduct fieldwork, and provide additional documentation as requested for Section 106 compliance
- Presented proposed projects to the staff at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology

**Board Member**, Joel Lane House, Inc., 1999-2002

- Served as House Chairman (regularly inspected historic resources and scheduled repairs)
- Assisted with special event planning and execution
- Developed and implemented cyclical maintenance plan

## **ARCHITECTURAL SURVEYS**

- Forsyth County, North Carolina Phases I, II, III, and IV Architectural Survey (2006-2011)
- City of Concord Downtown Commercial Districts Survey Update, Cabarrus County (2008)
- City of Concord Residential Historic Districts Survey Update, Cabarrus County, North Carolina (2006)
- City of Lexington Architectural Survey (Historic Residential Neighborhoods and Erlanger Mill Village), Davidson County, North Carolina (2005)
- City of Thomasville Architectural Survey, Davidson County, North Carolina (2004)
- City of Rock Hill, South Carolina Architectural Survey for the City of Rock Hill and the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (2004)
- City of Greenville, South Carolina Architectural Survey for the City of Greenville and the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (2003)

## **HISTORIC CONTEXTS, STUDY LIST APPLICATIONS AND NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATIONS**

- *Forsyth County's Agricultural Heritage* (2011-2012)
- *The Bethania Freedmen's Community: An Architectural and Historical Context of the Bethania-Rural Hall Road Study Area*, Forsyth County, North Carolina (2011-2012)
- Downtown Sylva Historic District, Jackson County (2012)
- Wilkinson-Hurdle House National Register Nomination, Tarboro vicinity, Edgecombe County (2012)
- City Hospital - Gaston Memorial Hospital Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Gastonia, Gaston County (2011)
- Asheboro Hosiery Mills – Cranford Furniture Company Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Asheboro, Randolph County (2011)
- Chatham Manufacturing Company National Register Nomination, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2011)
- Washington Street Historic District National Register Nomination, High Point, Guilford County (2010)
- Farmington Historic District National Register Nomination, Farmington, Davie County (2010)
- Carolina Mill Study List Application, Carolina, Alamance County (2010)
- Booker T. Washington High School Study List Application, Rocky Mount, Edgecombe County (2009)
- Moore-Cordell House Study List Application, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2009)
- Stonecutter Mills Study List Application, Spindale, Rutherford County (2009)
- Beverly Hills Historic District National Register Nomination, Burlington, Alamance County (2009)
- Central City Historic District National Register Nomination Boundary Increase, Decrease, and Additional Documentation, Rocky Mount, Nash and Edgecombe Counties (2009)
- St. Stephen United Methodist Church National Register Nomination Draft, Lexington, Davidson County (2008)
- Blair Farm National Register Nomination, Boone, Watauga County (2008)
- Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Whitsett

vicinity, Guilford County (2007, 2008)

- Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Forest City, Rutherford County (2005, 2008)
- Erlanger Mill Village Historic District Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Davidson County (2005, 2007)
- Lenoir Downtown Historic District National Register Nomination, Caldwell County (2006)
- Lexington Residential Historic District Study List Application and National Register Nomination, Davidson County (2005, 2006)
- West Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination, Forest City, Rutherford County (2005)
- Loray Mill Historic District Boundary Expansion, Gastonia, Gaston County (2005)
- East Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination, Forest City, Rutherford County (2005)
- York-Chester Historic District National Register Nomination, Gaston County (2004)
- Turner and Amelia Smith House National Register Nomination, Wake County (2004)
- Kenworth Historic District National Register Nomination, Catawba County (2004)
- Main Street Historic District National Register Boundary Expansion, Forest City, Rutherford County (2004)
- Lewis-Thornburg Farm National Register Nomination, Randolph County (2003)
- Henrietta-Caroleen High School National Register Nomination, Rutherford County (2003)
- Everetts Christian Church National Register Nomination, Martin County (2003)
- First Christian Church National Register Nomination, Martin County (2003)
- Oak City Church National Register Nomination, Martin County (2003)
- West Raleigh National Register Nomination, Wake County, North Carolina (2003)
- Study List Applications: Randleman School, Randolph County; Linden School, Cumberland County; Cleveland School, Johnston County (2002)
- Peace House National Register Nomination, Granville County (2002)
- Ashland National Register Nomination, Bertie County (2002)
- Frank and Mary Smith House National Register Nomination, Wake County (2002)
- Winfall Historic District National Register Nomination, Perquimans County (2002)
- King Parker House National Register Nomination, Hertford County (2002)
- Study List Applications: Brentwood School, Guilford County; Powell-Horton House, Hertford County (2002)
- Porter Houses and Armstrong Kitchen National Register Nomination, Edgecombe County (2002)
- Hauser Farm (Horne Creek Farm State Historic Site) National Register Nomination, Surry County (2001)
- Garrett's Island House National Register Nomination, Washington County (2000)
- *CSS Neuse* National Register Nomination, Lenoir County (1999)
- St. Luke's A.M.E. Church National Register Nomination, Halifax County (1999); church destroyed by Hurricane Floyd in September 1999

## **LOCAL DESIGNATION REPORTS AND DESIGN GUIDELINES**

- Downtown Concord Historic District Local Designation Consultation and Report, Cabarrus County (2008, 2010)
- Lexington Residential Historic District and Erlanger Mill Village Historic District Local Designation Reports and Design Guidelines, Davidson County (2007-2008)
- Foust-Carpenter and Dean Dick Farms Local Historic District Designation Report, Whitsett vicinity, Guilford County (2007)
- Ludwick and Elizabeth Summers House Local Landmark Designation Report, Gibsonville vicinity, Guilford County (2007)
- James B. and Diana M. Dyer House, Local Landmark Designation Report, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2005)
- Grimes Mill Local Landmark Designation Report, Lexington, Davidson County (2005)

## **HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORTS AND RESTORATION PLANS**

- Restoration plan preparation for the Robson House and consultation during its installation in the chronological North Carolina history exhibit at the Museum of History in Raleigh, North Carolina (2009-2010)
- Leigh Farm Historic Structures Report and Site Management Plan, Durham County (2006)
- Burnt Chimney CDBG Redevelopment Project Recordation Plan, Florence Mill Property, Forest City, Rutherford County (2006)
- Lewis-Thornburg Farm Site Management Plan, Randolph County (2003)
- Historic Structures Report on the Robson House, with Peter Sandbeck, prepared for the Museum of History, Raleigh, North Carolina (2002)

## **SECTION 106 REPORTS**

- North Carolina Department of Transportation Interpretative Panel Research and Design: Mitigation for the Removal of Bridge No.338 over the Yadkin River in Elkin, Surry County (2011-2012)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Intensive Evaluation, Watkins Farm, Cornwall, Granville County (2010)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Intensive Evaluation, Ramsey Farm, I-40/I-77 Interchange Improvements, Statesville, Iredell County (2009-2010)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Greensboro Northern and Eastern Loops, Guilford County (2006)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: US 52 Improvement Project, Forsyth County (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: NC 109 Improvement Project, Forsyth and Davidson Counties (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey: Correction of Differential Settling along US 158 (Elizabeth Street) from NC 34 (North Water Street) to US 17 Business in Elizabeth City, Pasquotank County (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey: Correction of Differential Settling along US 17 Business/NC 37 from the Perquimans River Bridge to the NC 37 split, Hertford vicinity, Perquimans County (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey: Improvements to NC 33 from US 264 in Greenville to US 64 in Tarboro, Pitt and Edgecombe Counties (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Kerr Avenue Improvements, Wilmington, New Hanover County (2005)
- North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report: Salem Creek Connector, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2004)

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- “Northup and O’Brien,” biographical entry completed in 2010 upon the request of Catherine Bishir for the *Dictionary of North Carolina Architects and Builders*, an online resource administered by North Carolina State University.
- “Denominational Histories,” with Teresa Douglas, Rebecca Smith, and Carroll Van West, in *Powerful Artifacts: A Guide to Surveying and Documenting Rural African-American Churches in the South*, Center for Historic Preservation, Middle Tennessee State University, July 2000.
- *Paving the Way: A Bibliography of the Modern Natchez Trace Parkway* with Timothy Davis, Sara Amy Leach, and Ashley Vaughn, Natchez Trace Parkway, National Park Service, 1999.
- Index, *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Winter 1998.
- “Andrew Jackson Donelson,” “Samuel Donelson,” and “Stockly Donelson,” *Tennessee*

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATIONS FOR TAX CREDIT PROJECTS**

- Property owner assistance with the preparation of non-income producing tax credit applications for residences in National Register historic districts in Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2003-2012)
- Spencer's, Inc. of Mt. Airy, Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Surry County (2012)
- Cranford Industries Office Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Asheboro, Randolph County (2012)
- City Hospital - Gaston Memorial Hospital Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Part 1, Gastonia, Gaston County (2011)
- Asheboro Hosiery Mills – Cranford Furniture Company Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Parts 1 and 2, Asheboro, Randolph County (2011)
- Chatham Manufacturing Company Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Part 1, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2011)
- W. L. Robison Building Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County (2012)
- Royster Building Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Shelby, Cleveland County (2010-2011)
- Romina Theater, Horne Mercantile, Forest City Diner, Smiths Department Store, and Central Hotel Income-Producing Tax Credit Applications, Forest City, Rutherford County (2010-2011)
- Church Street School Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, Parts 1 and 2, Thomasville, Davidson County (2009)
- Peace House Income-Producing Tax Credit Application, rural Granville County (2002)

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (CONFERENCES/ANNUAL MEETINGS/STUDY PROGRAMS)**

- “New Tools for Old Designs: Researching Historic Architecture Today,” at the Traditional Building Conference Series, “Building Well: Traditional Design, Materials, and Methods,” Graylyn International Conference Center, Winston-Salem, April 2012
- Forsyth County’s Agricultural Heritage, keynote address at the 2011 Farm City Banquet, held by the Forsyth County Agricultural Extension Service, November 2011
- “From Farm to Factory: Continuity and Change in the Bethania Freedmen’s Community,” Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, October 2011
- “Winston-Salem’s Mid-Twentieth-Century Architecture,” Reynolda House Museum of American Art, October 2011
- “Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update,” numerous presentations for entities including the Winston-Salem-Forsyth County Planning Board, Historic Resources Commission, City Council, and County Commissioners; the Forsyth County Genealogical Society, the State Historic Preservation Office’s National Register Advisory Committee in Raleigh, the Winston-Salem Colonial Dames Chapter, and the Old Salem Garden Club
- “From the Roaring Twenties to the Space Age: Winston-Salem, North Carolina’s Mid-Twentieth-Century Architecture,” Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 2010
- “Winston-Salem’s Mid-Twentieth-Century Architecture,” Historic Preservation Month Lecture Series, Old Salem Visitor Center, May 2010
- “Forsyth County’s Cultural Landscapes,” Historic Preservation Month Lecture Series, Old Salem Visitor Center, May 2009
- “Forsyth County’s Historic African American Resources,” Preserve Historic Forsyth Annual Meeting, March 2009
- “Set in Stone: The Work of Frank W. Murrell and Sons,” Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians Annual Conference, Greensboro, North Carolina, October 2008
- “From Frontier to Factory Revisited: Forsyth County’s Diverse Architectural Legacy,” opening lecture at the

- Preservation North Carolina Annual Conference, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, October 2008
- “Leave No Stone Unturned: An Attempt to Uncover the Work of Charleston’s African American Stonemasons,” Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, July 2008
- “Early North Carolina Architecture,” North Carolina Museums Council Annual Meeting, Hickory, North Carolina, March 2007
- “An Anglomaniac Mansion in Tobacco Town: Mayer, Murray and Phillip’s Dyer House of 1931,” Colonial Dames Meeting, Winston-Salem, January 2007; Historic Architecture Round Table, Raleigh, North Carolina, October 2005
- “Gastonia’s Architecture: Portrait of a New South Economy,” with Sarah W. David, Preservation North Carolina Annual Conference, Gastonia, North Carolina, October 2005
- “Aladdin Homes: Built in a Day,” Fall Institute 2004, Perspectives on American Decorative Arts, 1776-1920, Winterthur, Wilmington, Delaware
- “A Movable Beast: NCDOT’s Historic Truss Bridge Reuse and Relocation Program,” Preservation North Carolina Annual Conference, Statesville, North Carolina, 2001
- “The African American Community of Bethania,” Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, July 1997

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

- Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute: Charleston, in Winston-Salem, NC, and Charleston, SC, July 2008
- “Green Strategies for Historic Buildings,” presented by the National Preservation Institute in Greensboro, NC, April 2008
- The Historic New England Program in New England Studies, Boston, June 2006
- “Historic Landscapes: Planning, Management, and Cultural Landscape Reports,” presented by the National Preservation Institute in Greensboro, NC, April 2005
- Winterthur Fall Institute 2004, Perspectives on American Decorative Arts, 1776-1920, Wilmington, DE
- “Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Program Improvement Training,” presented by the South Carolina Department of Transportation in Columbia, S.C., March 2003
- “NEPA Environmental Cross-Cutters Course,” presented by National Environmental Protection Agency in Raleigh, NC, July 2002
- “Advanced Section 4(f) Workshop,” presented by the Federal Highways Administration in Raleigh, N.C., November 2002
- “Assessing Indirect and Cumulative Impacts of Transportation Projects in North Carolina,” presented by the Louis Berger Group, Inc. in Raleigh, N.C., December 2002
- “Introduction to Section 106,” presented by the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in Raleigh, N.C., April 2002
- Restoration Field School, taught by Travis McDonald at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest in Forest, Virginia, Summer 2000
- “History of North Carolina Architecture,” taught by Catherine Bishir at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., Spring 2000
- Victorian Society Summer School in Newport, Rhode Island, taught by Richard Guy Wilson, Summer 1999
- Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute: The Backcountry, in Winston-Salem, N.C., Summer 1997

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Association for State and Local History  
 Friends of MESDA and the Collections

National Trust for Historic Preservation  
National Council on Public History  
North Carolina Museums Council  
Preservation North Carolina  
Southeastern Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians  
Southern Garden History Society  
Vernacular Architecture Forum



## CLAY GRIFFITH

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## ACME PRESERVATION SERVICES, LLC

825C Merrimon Ave, #345

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### EDUCATION

- Master of Architectural History (1993)  
University of Virginia
- Bachelor of Science, Architecture (1990)  
Georgia Institute of Technology
- Introduction to Federal Projects and Historic Preservation Law (1994)

### EXPERIENCE

- **Acme Preservation Services, LLC, Asheville, NC**  
November 2007 – present

Formed independent firm to provide historic preservation consulting services. Services provided include preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., Asheville, NC**  
January 2002 – October 2007

Served as Senior Architectural Historian in Asheville office of private consulting firm. Responsibilities included preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations, local landmark designation reports, rehabilitation tax credit applications, municipal historic architectural resources surveys, Section 106 compliance reports, and historical research.

- **North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Western Office, Asheville, NC**  
July 1998 – January 2002

Preservation Specialist serving the 25-county western region of North Carolina. Administered State Historic Preservation Office programs including statewide inventory of historic properties, survey and planning grant supervision, National Register of Historic Places nominations, environmental review, technical assistance, and public education.

- **North Carolina Department of Transportation, Raleigh, NC**  
June 1993 – June 1998

Preservation Specialist with Historic Architectural Resources Section. Responsible for conducting and preparing documentation in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and other state and federal environmental laws and regulations. Duties included conducting field work, identifying and documenting historic resources, evaluating National Register eligibility, and assessing effects to minimize impacts of NCDOT undertakings.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

- *Historic Architectural Reconnaissance Surveys for Division 14 Bridge Replacement Projects (for NC Department of Transportation), Graham, Henderson, Swain and Transylvania Counties, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Asheville Historic District Boundary Increase III, Boundary Decrease and Additional Documentation, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Sunnydale National Register Nomination and Tax Credit Application Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Supply & Foundry Company Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Asheville Survey Update, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Downtown Newton Historic District National Register Nomination (draft), Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *Spread Out Historic District National Register Nomination, Waynesville, Haywood County, North Carolina*
- *Dougherty Heights Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation (for USDA Forest Service), Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina*
- *Lynncote National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *South Montreat Road Historic District National Register Nomination, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Pink Beds Picnic Shelters and Wayah Bald Lookout Tower Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service), Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina*
- *Biltmore High School National Register Nomination, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Claremont High School Historic District Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation National Register Nomination, Hickory, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *East Main Street Historic District National Register Nomination, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina*
- *Adams-Millis Corporation Plant No. 8 National Register Nomination and Part 1 Tax Credit Application, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Mill Farm Inn National Register Nomination, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*
- *Richard Sharp Smith House Local Designation Report and National Register Nomination, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina*
- *Broyhill Conover Plant Redevelopment Determination of Eligibility and Recordation (for City of Conover), Conover, Catawba County, North Carolina*
- *Tryon Downtown Survey and Trade Street Commercial Historic District Study List Application, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina*

- *Monte Vista Hotel National Register Nomination and Local Landmark Designation Report*, Black Mountain, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Bank of Tryon National Register Nomination*, Tryon, Polk County, North Carolina
- *Wilson Lick Ranger Station Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina (co-authored with Lynn Marie Pietak, Ph.D., Archaeologist)
- *Graham County Courthouse National Register Nomination*, Robbinsville, Graham County, North Carolina
- *Historic Workcenters Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Pisgah National Forest, North Carolina
- *Charles E. Orr House National Register Nomination*, Brevard, Transylvania County, North Carolina
- *Franklin-Penland House National Register Nomination*, Linville Falls, Burke County, North Carolina
- *West Asheville End of Car Line Historic District National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *West Asheville-Aycock School Historic District National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Lookout Towers Documentation and National Register of Historic Places Evaluation (for USDA Forest Service)*, Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests, North Carolina
- *The Charlton Leland (Saluda Inn) National Register Nomination*, Saluda, Polk County, North Carolina
- *South Carolina Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Survey Report, US 21 Bridge over Catawba River (for Ralph Whitehead Associates)*, York County, South Carolina
- *Biltmore Hospital National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *South Carolina Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Survey Report, S-75 (Cherokee Road) over US 29 Bridge Replacement Project (for Kennedy Engineering and Associates)*, Anderson County, South Carolina
- *North Carolina Department of Transportation Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Replace Bridge 86 on SR 1328 over Howard Creek*, Watauga County, North Carolina
- *North Carolina Department of Transportation Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report, Replace Bridge 33 on SR 1335 over Meat Camp Creek*, Watauga County, North Carolina
- *Sunset Terrace Historic District National Register Nomination*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Mars Hill High School National Register Nomination*, Mars Hill, Madison County, North Carolina
- *Historic Architectural Resources Survey Report for Newfound Gap Road, Phase II, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (for Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.)*, Swain County, North Carolina
- *North Carolina Department of Transportation Phase II Survey Report, Replace Bridge 246 on SR 1503 over Laurel Creek, Evaluation of Ebbs Chapel School*, Madison County, North Carolina
- *Elk Park School National Register Nomination*, Elk Park, Avery County, North Carolina

- *Sawyer Motor Company Building Local Designation Report*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Bynum House Local Landmark Designation Report*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- *Grove Park Country Club Clubhouse Local Landmark Designation Report*, Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

**PUBLICATIONS**

- Contributing author, “North Carolina Architects & Builders: A Biographical Dictionary” (Website: <http://ncarchitects.lib.ncsu.edu>)
- “Henry Bacon,” “Douglas Ellington” and “Grove Arcade” in *The Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. University of Tennessee Press, 2006.
- “An Inventory of Douglas Ellington’s Architectural Work in Western North Carolina,” in *May We All Remember Well*, Vol. 2. Robert S. Brunk Auction Services, Inc., 2001