

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic name North Main Street Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

Street & number 400-700 blocks of N. Main Street, 300-400 blocks of N. Maple Street,  
N side of 100 block of Albright Avenue, 200 block of Albright and Long Avenues, 400  
block of Marshall Street and 107 Hill Street N/A not for publication  
city or town Graham vicinity N/A state North Carolina code NC  
county Alamance code 001 zip code 27253

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986,  
as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_\_\_ request for  
determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering  
properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and  
professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  
X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this  
property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_ statewide X locally.  
( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Crow SHPO 4/27/99  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register  
criteria. ( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
\_\_\_\_\_ entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_ determined not eligible for the National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_ removed from the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper Date  
of Action

=====  
5. Classification  
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>101</u>	<u>28</u> buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>101</u>	<u>28</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC/single dwelling, multiple dwelling; EDUCATION/school; RELIGION/religious facility; COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC/single dwelling, multiple dwelling, retirement home, RELIGION/religious facility; COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

=====  
7. Description  
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate, Queen Anne, Gothic Revival, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival,  
Craftsman, Tudor Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick  
roof asphalt  
walls weatherboard  
other concrete

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====  
8. Statement of Significance  
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Community Development

Architecture

Period of Significance circa 1850-1949

Significant Dates 1851, 1903

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property approximately 24 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	<u>17</u>	<u>643500</u>	<u>3993620</u>	2	<u>17</u>	<u>643610</u>	<u>3993700</u>
3	<u>17</u>	<u>644540</u>	<u>3993080</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>644900</u>	<u>3992680</u>

         See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title M. Ruth Little and Michelle Kullen  
organization Longleaf Historic Resources date February 20, 1999  
street & number P.O. Box 2826 telephone (919) 832-9006  
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27602-2826  
=====

=====  
12. Additional Documentation  
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====  
Property Owner  
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
=====

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 1  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

**Section 7: Description**

The North Main Street Historic District stands on the north side of the business district of the town of Graham, in central Alamance County. Serving as the county seat, Graham is surrounded by the textile communities of Burlington to the north and west, Haw River to the east and modern suburban development to the south. Irregular in shape, the North Main Street Historic District spans approximately twenty-four acres and is composed of all or portions of sixteen blockfaces. The district, the most intact residential area north of Graham's central business district, contains single and multi-family dwellings, two schools, one commercial building and three churches ranging in date from the 1850s to 1949. The boundaries of the North Main Street Historic District extend northward, eastward, and westward from the junction of North Main Street and Albright Avenue. The blockfaces included in the district are the 400 to 700 blocks of North Main Street, the 300 and 400 blocks of North Maple Street, the property at 107 Hill Street, the north side of the 100 block of Albright Avenue, the 200 block of Albright and Long Avenues, and a portion of the 400 block of Marshall Street. The two-lane, generally north-south North Main Street, the main thoroughfare through the center of the historic district, is quite level compared to Long and Albright Avenues that conform to the surrounding rolling terrain.

The North Main Street Historic District contains a total of sixty-four principal resources and fifty-four secondary resources. One-hundred-and-one buildings or seventy-eight percent of the total number of resources are counted as contributing. These are made up of sixty-four buildings, primarily houses, and thirty-seven garages and sheds. None of the buildings in the district is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The historic district features large dwellings erected for the leading businessmen, doctors, and industrialists in Graham, as well as smaller houses for tradesmen. Many of the residences are sited on spacious lots with mature shade trees and boxwoods, and epitomize nationally popular architectural styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Two houses in the district, the Holt-Clapp House and the Kernodle House, date from Graham's formative era of the mid-nineteenth century. The Holt-Clapp House at 309 N. Maple Street, built about 1860, has vernacular Italianate features. The Kernodle House at 315 N. Maple Street may have been built about 1850 for the Staley family, but was definitely the residence of J. D. Kernodle Sr., editor of the *Alamance County Gleaner*, the area's leading newspaper since 1875.

A number of late-nineteenth century Queen-Anne-style houses stand in the district. These are generally two-story frame dwellings with a gable and wing form built by prominent townspeople. The most intact example of this style is the well-preserved Dr. William Long House at 200 Albright Avenue. Built by a local dentist and fire chief circa 1900, the three-bay house features a decorative front porch and front gabled bay wing. Beginning about 1900, a number of sizeable Colonial Revival and Neoclassical-Revival-style houses were constructed. The Parker-Long House at 609 N. Main Street is a well-preserved and imposing example of the Colonial Revival style with such eclectic features as a green-tiled hipped roof and large paired eave brackets. Next door, the circa 1910 Captain E.S. Parker House, 605 N. Main Street, is a Colonial Revival-Craftsman style house with a gambrel front wing. The stately two-and-a-half story General Donnell Scott House, 619 N. Main Street, built in 1919, is a five-bay Colonial-Revival-style house. Three pyramidal hip-roofed cottages stand in a row on the east side of the 500 block of N. Main Street. Built in the early twentieth century, all three houses are one-and-a-half stories tall, of frame construction, have one-story porches, and stand on raised brick foundations.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 2  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

Craftsman and Period Revival style dwellings were also built throughout the district, several known to have been "kit houses" ordered from the Aladdin Homes Company which had a factory in Wilmington. The 1920 W.A. McAdams House at 414 N. Main Street, a "kit house," is a stylish frame, front-gable bungalow with wood shake walls. Perhaps the finest bungalow is the circa 1910 Edward S. Parker Jr. House at 601 N. Main Street. The Carl Longest House, 427 N. Main Street, of the 1940s, is a brick veneer dwelling with a round witches cap entrance turret and segmental-arched door openings characterizing the French Normandy Revival style.

One commercial store, two former schools and three churches are interspersed throughout the district. The store, an early twentieth century grocery, stands at the northwest corner of North Main and Guthrie Streets. The former Graham Graded School, built in 1903 in the brick Gothic Revival style with sizeable wings added in the 1930s, stands in the 600 block of North Main Street. The only historic church in the district is the Graham Methodist Episcopal Church sanctuary, built in 1914 on the dramatic triangular site created by the junction of North Main and North Maple Streets. The imposing brick Classical Revival style church is now the Graham Church of the Nazarene.

**Inventory List**

**Note:** Properties are organized alphabetically by street name and numerically by street number. The east side of North-South streets and the north side of East-West Streets are listed first. Dates are estimated using design and style, the 1910, 1924 and 1931 Sanborn Maps (SM), 1935, 1948, 1952-53 and 1954 City Directories (CD), and the extremely thorough 1985 book *Auction and Action: Historical Highlights of Graham, North Carolina* by Durward Stokes (Stokes). Oral histories were provided by local residents including Dan Horner, Drucilla Hearn, and Nita McMullen (interview).

All buildings are categorized as C (contributing) or NC (noncontributing) based on the following criteria. Any building built after the end of the period of significance, in 1949, is noncontributing due to its age (NC-age). Buildings built before 1949 that have lost their architectural integrity because of substantial additions and/or alterations incompatible with their original character are categorized as noncontributing because of these changes (NC-alt.). Examples of this are complete window, door, and porch replacements; artificial siding that obscures the original door, window, wall and eave detailing; and extensive post-1949 additions. Artificial siding such as aluminum, vinyl or asbestos shingles does not automatically render a building noncontributing as long as the application of the siding does not obscure the decorative finish of the openings and the eaves.

**100 block Albright  
Avenue, N side**

110 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1915

**Dr. Kirk Hardee House.** The two-story, five-bay, frame Classical Revival style house with a Craftsman flair features a low-hip roof, wide eaves with exposed rafter tails, wide plain siding, one-over-one sash windows and a glazed front door with flanking nine-over-nine sash windows. Other elements include a pedimented one-bay entrance porch with fluted Doric columns and a one-story side porch supported

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 3  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

by fluted columns on brick bases with Craftsman style wood railing.

Dr. Hardee, druggist at the Graham Drug Company, built this house for his family circa 1915. The house is now owned by Cary Worthy, director of the Alamance County Art Center. (interview, CD)

114 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Thompson House.** The two-story, three-bay frame Neoclassical Revival style house exhibits a hipped roof, two concrete block chimneys, single and paired one-over-one sash windows and a one-story hipped wraparound porch. Alterations include the enclosure of the porch ends, replacement vinyl covered posts, vinyl siding, and some replacement window sash. A two-car carport with concrete block foundation and metal posts is attached to the rear of the house.

The house was built circa 1900 for Mr. Thompson, a partner of Rich and Thompson furniture dealers. Ernest W. Thompson occupied the house in 1935. (interview, CD)

**200 block Albright  
Avenue, N side**

200 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Dr. William Long House.** The two-and-one-half story, frame gable and wing Queen Anne house is extremely intact. The three-bay house features a gabled roof with a front gable wing with a cutaway bay with sawnwork brackets with finials, decorative gable end shingles, and a triangular vent. The house has plain siding and one-over-one sash windows with molded caps. Other features include a transomed front door and a one-story wraparound porch with original turned posts with curvilinear brackets and turned railing.

Dr. Will Long, a local dentist and fire chief, built the house circa 1900. William S. Long occupied the house in 1935. (interview, CD)

C Garage. 1940s. Front-gabled, frame, one-car garage with plain siding.

208 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Wicker House.** The intact two-story transitional Queen Anne/Neoclassical Revival style house features a side-gabled roof with two front gable wings and wide overhanging eaves. The gable ends feature curvilinear bargeboard, sawtooth shingles and peaked louvered vents. The house is covered with German siding and exhibits two-over-two sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, an interior brick chimney and a one-story wraparound porch with Doric columns and heavy original railing.

The house was built for Mr. Wicker circa 1900. John E. Wicker occupied the house



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 4  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

in 1935. The house was the residence of school teacher Mary Beck at one time. It is presently owned by Eric Crissman. (interview, SM, CD)

NC Shed. ca. 1990. Gabled, one-story shed.

C Shed. ca. 1920s. Small, frame gabled storage building with plain siding.

210 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1902

**Mayo R. Rieves House.** The one-story, Queen Anne cottage with side-gable roof features two front gables with decorative diamond vents, two interior brick chimneys, and an original front porch with turned posts and brackets. Alterations include vinyl siding, replacement one-over-one sash windows, replacement porch railing and a replacement front door.

The house was built circa 1902 for M.R. Rieves, who was listed as an insurance agent in 1935. It was later sold to Dan Horner. (interview, CD)

C Shed. 1930s. Tiny, gabled building with plain siding.

214 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**William N. Huff House.** The intact, two-story, gable and wing Queen Anne style house exhibits two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, one-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door with sidelights, and a wraparound porch with Craftsman style brick and paneled posts. The front wing has a one-story bay with beadboard apron.

William Huff, who was listed as a piano tuner in 1935, is the earliest known owner. The McGuire family also occupied the house at one time. (interview, CD)

**200 block Albright  
Avenue, S side**

201-203 Albright Ave.  
C  
late 1890s

**(former) Graham Academy.** The one-story, frame, Triple-A dwelling with two rear gable ends was originally constructed as a school house. The unusual proportions of the building, and its large six-over-six sash windows, betray its original function. The school apparently faced Marshall Street, with the entrance in the gable end. Now a duplex, the house exhibits a three-bay main facade with side hipped entrance porches with recently replaced posts, weatherboard siding, and a tin roof.

The local Presbyterian Church financed the construction of the building in the late 1890s for the Graham Academy, which prepared students in primary and academic branches for college, university, or business. The charge to students was between

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 5  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

\$1.50 and \$3.50 per month. T. Dudley Dupuy of Davidson College first conducted the school. He was assisted by Mrs. Mary C. Bason. John S. Rowe operated the school the second year. In 1903 the Graham Graded Public School was constructed on North Main Street making the Graham Academy unnecessary. The school disbanded and the building was converted to a dwelling soon after.

In 1935 the house was occupied by Lawson E. Perry, an assistant shipping clerk at Oneida Mills. The Ezzel family occupied the house at a later time. Frank Warren Sr. owned the house as rental property during the 1940s and apparently converted the dwelling to a duplex. (interview, Stokes, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1924. Front-gable, frame, two-car garage with weatherboard siding, exposed rafter tails, tin roof and plywood doors.

205 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Larsen House.** The one-story, gable and wing Queen Anne style cottage with cutaway bay is currently being remodeled. Although the house is covered with vinyl siding and all windows, doors and porch elements are recent replacements, the overall form and size of the bays have been retained.

Augustav and Inga Larsen occupied the dwelling in 1935. Mr. Larsen was a superintendent of construction. Ben Waddell, a retired postmaster in Bonlee, is a later known occupant of the house. (interview, SM, CD)

C Shed. 1940s. Small, frame shed with German siding, shed roof, a glazed and paneled door, and window openings.

C Garage. ca. 1924. Deteriorated, front-gable, frame, one-car garage with tin roof and plain siding.

209 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Dr. J. L. Johnson House.** The two-story, gable and wing Queen Anne/Classical Revival style dwelling features a side-gabled roof with front gable wing. A one-story Classical porch, apparently original, with plain railing and Doric columns, wraps around the front facade. The house exhibits one-over-one sash windows, a picture window on the first story, a glazed and paneled front door, weatherboard siding, and decorative diamond vents in the gable ends. A two-story addition with bands of one-over-one sash windows is attached to the original one-story rear hip roof section.

Dr. J. L. Johnson was apparently the original owner of this early twentieth century house. Dr. Johnson was also listed as the owner in the 1935 City Directory. (interview, SM, CD)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 6  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

C Garage. ca. 1924. Frame, two-car garage with tin roof, board and batten siding and weatherboard siding in the front gable end.

211 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Robert Walden House.** The two-story, Queen Anne style house with pyramidal roof with front gable wing features a one-story hip wraparound porch, a cast-stone foundation, and a gable dormer. A two-story and a one-story addition are attached to the rear of the house. Alterations include vinyl siding, a replacement porch, replacement windows and doors. The oval window on the right of the entrance has replacement glass.

Robert Walden occupied the house in 1935. The house is presently rented by Dewey Mays. (interview, CD)

215 Albright Ave.  
C  
ca. 1924

**Joseph J. Phillips House.** The one-and-a-half story, three-bay, side-gabled, frame bungalow features single and paired five-over-one sash windows, two stuccoed interior chimneys, an engaged one-story porch with replacement wood posts, and vinyl siding.

Joseph J. Phillips, an insurance agent, occupied the house in 1935. The house is presently rented by Margaret Moore Clark. (interview, CD)

**100 block Hill Street, N  
side**

107 Hill St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Dr. Oliver J. Paris House.** Standing on a cast-stone foundation, the two-one-half-story, three-bay, pyramidal-hip-roofed Queen Anne style dwelling has front and side cross-gabled wings. The five-paneled front door and one-story hipped porch with round columns on cast-stone bases and a turned balustrade are original. Alterations include replacement one-over-one sash windows, and aluminum siding.

Dr. Oliver J. Paris had this house built circa 1900. (interview)

C Garage. 1940s Frame, front-gabled, two-car garage with vertical board sliding doors and exposed rafters.

C Shed. 1940s. Frame side-gabled building with vinyl siding.

**200 block Long  
Avenue, N side**

204 Long Ave.

**Anderson House.** The one-and-a-half story, side-gable bungalow features a front

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 7  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

C  
ca. 1924

gabled wing, an engaged porch with battered posts on brick bases, a gabled dormer, paired four-over-one sash windows, weatherboard siding, and a Craftsman-style glazed door.

According to local residents the house was built for the Anderson family.  
(interview, SM)

210 Long Ave.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Arthur P. Williams House.** The one-story, frame, gable and wing Queen Anne cottage has a cutaway front bay, gable eave returns, a one-story hip wraparound porch, a glazed and paneled door, and two-over-two sash windows. Alterations include aluminum siding and replacement porch posts and railing.

Arthur P. Williams occupied this house in 1935. (CD)

C Garage. ca. 1924. Frame, one-car garage with vertical board doors and exposed rafter tails.

212 Long Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**J.D. Foust House.** The two-story, three-bay, frame, Triple-A dwelling features a dentil cornice, two-over-two sash windows, a rear gable ell, and a one-story hip porch with turned posts and plain railing. The house is covered with vinyl siding and the foundation is covered with imitation flagstone panels.

J.D. Foust, first secretary of Graham's Savings and Loan Bank, built this house circa 1900. Joel P. Williams occupied the house in 1935. (interview, CD)

NC Shed/carport. 1980s. Modern, pre-fabricated shed and carport.

214 Long Ave.  
NC-alt  
ca. 1924, 1980s

**Qualls House.** The one-and-one-half story pyramidal hip-roofed cottage has been greatly altered. The house retains the original glazed and paneled door, two-over-two sash windows, and a hip dormer. Alterations include replacement stained vertical wood siding and replacement porch posts and railing.

The house was apparently built for the Qualls in the 1920s. Mrs. Qualls was the bookkeeper of White's Mill. A machinist named B. Minter Cheek occupied the house in 1935. (interview, SM, CD)

NC Garage. 1980s. Modern, side-gable, three-car garage with shed addition. Covered in same stained wood as house.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 8  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

**200 block Long  
Avenue, S side**

211 Long Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900

**(former) First Baptist Church Parsonage.** The two-story, frame Triple-A dwelling is currently undergoing rehabilitation. The house features plain siding, a diamond vent in the front gable, a one-story gable ell, replacement one-over-one sash windows, and a one-story hip porch with turned posts and brackets. The porch floor is currently missing and it appears that the plain siding will be covered with vinyl siding. A large, one-story rear addition is in progress.

The house was built circa 1900 as the First Baptist Church parsonage. The Reverend Rayborn P. Ellington family resided in the house in 1935. (interview, SM, CD)

NC Shed. 1940s. Deteriorated, small frame shed with exposed rafter tails.

215 Long Ave.  
C  
ca. 1900, 1920s

**D. J. Walker House.** The one-and-a-half story, gable and wing house appears to have been updated with Craftsman style elements. Although the basic form is Victorian, the shed dormer intersecting with the front gable, one-story hipped wraparound porch with Doric columns and thick plain railing, and twelve-, nine-, and six-over-one sash windows and a glazed and paneled door with sidelights are Craftsman features.

D.J. Walker built this house circa 1900 on the original homeplace of the Nicholson family. Lawrence and Sarah Nicholson occupied the house in 1935. Mr. Nicholson was a local carpenter. (interview, SM, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1924. Front-gable, frame garage with side shed covered in German and weatherboard siding.

C Shed. 1930s. Frame, German sided shed with exposed rafter tails.

**400 block North Main  
Street, E side**

421 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Montgomery-Harden House.** The two-story, Queen Anne style house features cross gables, two interior brick chimneys, a tin roof, asbestos shingle siding, and a one-story hipped porch with upper balcony. Porch and balcony have original posts, turned railings and spindle friezes of unusual, abstracted Eastlake Gothic design. The front gable bay features a first story cutaway bay window. Fenestration includes two-over-two, six-over-six, and one-over-one sash windows and a glazed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 9  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

and paneled door with sidelights.

The house was built circa 1900 for the John B. Montgomerys, and for many years was the home of Tom H. Harden, who worked at Graham Hardware. Mrs. Thomas H. Harden Jr. now lives here. (Stokes, interview)

423 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1935

**Paul Longest House.** The Craftsman style one-and-a-half story, side gable dwelling features cross gables, exposed rafters, brackets, weatherboard siding, and a front pedimented porch supported by paneled Craftsman posts on brick bases. Fenestration includes paired and triple six-over-one sash windows, six-paned casements in the gable dormer, a Craftsman style door with multi-paned sidelights, and French doors leading to the front porch.

The house was built by Paul Longest circa 1935. Alan Jordan recently purchased the property. (interview)

C Garage. ca. 1935 Front gable, frame two-car garage with wide weatherboard siding and exposed rafters.

427 N. Main St.  
C  
1940s

**Carl Longest House.** The one-and-a-half story, four-bay French Normandy Revival style dwelling features a dark reddish brown brick veneer, a steeply pitched hip roof, a round witches cap entrance turret, segmental arched door openings, glazed and paneled doors, and decorative eave brackets. Other elements include jack arches over the doors and a stretcher row water table course. Fenestration includes tripartite one-over-one sash windows and six-over-six sash in the turret.

Carl Longest, a major in the army and a salesman had the house built in the 1940s. Carl's wife, Mable, was a school teacher. Tarvia Jones occupied the house in 1948. (interview, CD)

C Garage. 1940s Pyramidal hipped roof, frame two-car garage with German siding, exposed rafters and vinyl doors.

**400 block North Main  
Street, W side**

402 N. Main St.  
C  
late 1940s

**John and Lorena Stratford House.** The two-and-a-half story Elizabethan Revival brick veneered house features a side-gabled main block, a two-story front gable wing, an interior brick chimney, six-over-six and eight-over-eight sash windows, corner porch with a fluted column, and a bull's eye gable window.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 10  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

The house was built for Lorena Kernodle and her husband John B. Stratford in the late 1940s on the site of her parents' house, which was moved to the rear of the lot and still stands at 315 N. Maple Street. It is presently owned by Hugh Sharpe. (interview, Stokes)

C Garage. late 1940s. Brick, two-car garage shell.

404 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1948

**Lovick Kernodle Apartments.** The two-story, seven-bay brick veneered Colonial Revival apartment building features six-over-six sash windows, a dentil and modillion wood cornice, a glazed front door with classical concrete surround, and a herringbone brick beltcourse between the two stories.

The apartment building, apparently a quadraplex, was built for Lovick Kernodle, owner of a Coca-Cola Bottling Plant in Danville, Virginia. In 1948 the apartments were occupied by Parker Herbert, Leo Grutsch, Hal McAdams, and David Long. The building is presently owned by Greg Franklin. (interview, CD)

C Garage. 1940s Side-gabled brick veneer garage.

408 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1890

**Fitch-Montgomery-Cook House.** The two-story, frame Victorian gable and wing house features plain siding with cornerboards, two-over-two sash windows, wide cornices, and a glazed and paneled front door. The eave returns have been altered with exaggerated scallop boards and the front porch has been removed.

The house was built for Dr. W.E. Fitch in the early 1890s. Fitch sold the property in 1894 to Thomas C. Montgomery, local agent for the Southeastern Express Company and part owner of the Mont-White Theatre in downtown Graham. The Montgomery family resided in the house until 1928 when it was sold to R.N. and Dora Cook. Mr. Cook served as county sheriff from 1908 to 1916. Cook also operated a clothing store, and served as local postmaster, deputy clerk of the court, tax collector, and secretary-treasurer of Graham. R.N. Cook died in an automobile accident in the same year he purchased the property. In 1929 Dora Cook opened the Happy Hours Kindergarten in the house, which operated for over thirty years. (Stokes, interview)

412 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1924

**Curtis Wrike House.** The one-and-a-half story Colonial Revival style house with brick veneer features a gable and wing form with a corner porch with brick piers. Other features include nine-over-one sash windows, a sidelighted door shielded by a gabled stoop with brick posts, stuccoed and half-timbered gable ends and a two-bay gabled dormer with exposed rafter tails.

The house was built for Curtis Wrike, owner of a drugstore in Graham about 1924.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 11  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

(Stokes, interview, SM)

C Garage and Cook's Quarters. ca. 1924. Brick, front-gabled garage with attached side-gabled cook's quarters. The garage bay is faced with vinyl siding and vinyl doors.

414 N. Main St.  
C  
1920

**W.A. McAdams House.** The frame, front-gable Craftsman bungalow exhibits a wood shake exterior, wide bracketed eaves, paired and tripled nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled door, and an offset front gable porch supported by wood posts on stone rubble piers.

The house is an Aladdin kit house built in 1920 for Mr. and Mrs. W.A. McAdams. (Stokes, interview, SM)

C Garage. ca. 1920. Frame, front-gable, two-car garage with wood shake walls and exposed rafter tails.

418 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1935

**Howell Farrell House.** The one-story Craftsman bungalow with side clipped gable roof features a front shed dormer, one-over-one sash windows, German siding, an interior brick chimney and a front shed porch, presently screened in, supported by wood Doric columns. A front-gabled, single garage is attached to the right side of the house by a small wing.

The house was built circa 1920 for Howell Farrell, son of Robert Farrell who lived on North Maple Street. Howell Farrell served as an officer of the National Bank of Alamance. (interview, SM)

422 N. Main St.  
C  
1914

**(former) Graham Methodist Episcopal Church.** Standing on a triangular lot, the one-story, imposing Classical Revival church laid in Flemish bond brick is three bays wide by five bays deep. The church features a classical portico supported by paired Doric columns. Surmounting the portico is a brick bell tower with quoining, stuccoed round arched replacement louver vents and a stained glass oculus window with a cross. The windows are round arched stained glass windows with white-painted keystones and vouissors. The front entrance features a semi-oval pediment surmounting a double-leaf door with a stained glass transom.

Built in 1914, the present church is the second church building constructed on this site by the Methodist Episcopal Church congregation. In 1939, this congregation joined the Methodist Protestant Church to form the First United Methodist Episcopal Church, and a frame fellowship hall was attached to the rear and brick-veneered. In 1956 Methodist congregation moved elsewhere and sold the property



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 12  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina

to the Graham Church of the Nazarene, its present occupant. (interview, Stokes)

**500 block N. Main  
Street, East side**

503 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1924

**Miss Ella Holt House.** The intact two-story, front gable Craftsman style house has a one-story hipped-roof porch and side porte-cochere. These are supported by battered posts on brick bases and have knee braces and a wide plain porch railing. The house has a three-part window in the upper gable, six-over-one and replacement one-over-one sash windows, weatherboard siding, a replacement front door with original Craftsman style sidelights, exposed rafter tails, and two exterior end chimneys.

The house is said to have been built for Miss Ella Holt, a principal of a school in Burlington for many years. It appears on the 1924 Sanborn Map. (interview, SM)

507 N. Main St.  
C  
1920

**Barefoot-Tate House.** The two-story, five-bay, frame Colonial Revival house with three gabled dormers features scalloped cornice brackets, a semi-circular front portico supported by Doric columns, an exterior end brick chimney, and a one-story side porch, apparently enclosed at a later time. Vinyl siding and replacement nine-over-one sash windows have been added.

The house was built for Dr. J. J. Barefoot, a local physician, in 1920. The house was designed by Aladdin Homes, a mail-order firm, and shipped in parts by freight from Wilmington and assembled on the site. Later the house became the property of Allen D. Tate, Sr., an executive of White's Mill and mayor of Graham in 1953 to 1955. The house is now owned by Mr. Sinclair. (Stokes, interview, SM)

C Garage. ca. 1940. Frame, two-car, hipped roof garage with attached shed. Features include German siding, exposed rafter tails, and new vinyl door. (SM)

511 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1931

**Ben M. Rogers House.** The two-story, Colonial Revival house, with hipped roof, is three bays wide and brick veneered. The house features a pedimented portico with fluted porch posts, and an interior brick chimney. Brick detailing includes a stretcher row cornice and water table and header row window sills. A one-story, hipped porch on the right is now enclosed. Vinyl trim and soffits and replacement six-over-one sash windows have been added. A two-car garage with hipped roof and the same brick veneer is attached to the house by a now enclosed one-story porch.

The house was owned by wealthy landowner Ben M. Rogers at one time. It is also said to have been a private teacherage for the nearby Graham Graded School on

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 13**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

North Main Street. (interview, SM)

C Playhouse or shed. ca. 1931. Small, one-story, hipped roof building with same brick veneer as house.

**500 block North Main  
Street, West side**

508 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1940

**Moser Grocery Store.** The one-story, three-bay brick commercial building features one-to-six common bond brick veneer, a recessed sign panel, tile coping, stepped side parapet eaves and a replacement storefront of plate glass framed in aluminum.

The store was built as a grocery store for Darrell and Judy Moser. In 1948 Graham Furniture Company occupied the store. It is presently occupied by Stratton Wood Flooring store. (interview, CD)

514 N. Main St.  
NC-alt.  
ca. 1940, 1990s

**Darrell Moser House.** The two-and-one-half story brick, cross-gable Tudor Revival dwelling features single, paired and triple six-over-six replacement sash windows, soldier course lintels and header sills, an enclosed shed porch with round arched openings, and a projecting shed entrance bay with hipped dormer and classical door surround. A large two-story, aluminum sided addition was added to the rear of the house in the early 1990s.

The house was built for Darrell Moser in the 1940s. Moser operated a grocery store on N. Main Street, two lots south of the house, at the corner of Guthrie Street. The Mosers' son, Kirk Moser, now owns the property. (interview, SM)

NC Garage. ca. 1990. One-and-a-half story, side-gable, frame, two-car garage with aluminum siding and two gabled dormers.

518 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1935

**John Rogers House.** The large one-and-a-half story, side gable, frame bungalow features an engaged full-facade porch with replacement vinyl columns, four-over-one sash windows, a three-bay gabled dormer, vinyl siding, and an interior stuccoed chimney.

The house was built for John Rogers circa 1935. (interview, CD)

522 N. Main St.  
C  
mid-1940s

**Henry Whitt House.** One-story, front gable brick house with partially enclosed front porch, picture windows, single sash windows, an interior brick chimney, and iron porch railing. Metal awnings shield the windows and side porch.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 14  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina

According to local residents this house was a prefabricated design from Aladdin Homes. Henry A. Whitt lived here in 1948. (interview, CD)

592 N. Main St.  
NC-alt  
1925, 1979

**Wayman Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church.** The original appearance of this 1925 front gable brick church, originally four bays deep with Gothic arched windows in wooden surrounds and a soldier course near the foundation level, is obscured by a front gable vestibule with geometric-arched openings which was added to the front of the church in 1979. A large front-gable addition with one-over-one sash windows and a recessed entrance is connected to the main block at the rear right corner.

The Wayman Chapel A.M.E. Zion congregation was organized in 1883 and named in honor of the denomination's Bishop Wayman. (cornerstone, Stokes)

**500-600 block North  
Main Street, East side**

515 N. Main St.  
NC-age  
ca. 1950

**Love Apartment Building.** The two-story, five-bay brick veneer building containing four apartments features a hipped roof, combed Flemish bond brick, single and paired vinyl six-over-six sash windows, and a flat roof portico with vinyl columns. The entrance consists of a glazed and paneled door surrounded by a dentil cornice and fluted pilasters.

The building was built for Ed Love circa 1950 on the site of the former Methodist Protestant Church. (SM, interview)

519-521 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1940

**Duplex.** The one-story Craftsman style duplex with side-gable roof and Flemish bond brick-veneer, features a center front gable surmounting two multi-paned doors with bracketed hoods. It has a center brick chimney, paired six-over-one sash windows, exposed rafter tails and a rear gable ell. Across the facade is an original concrete and brick patio.

The property was owned by Walter ("Salty") Sykes at one time. (interview)

C Garage. ca. 1940. Frame, front gable, two-car garage with German siding.

523 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**(former) Methodist Episcopal Parsonage.** The one-story, three-bay pyramidal hipped-roof cottage with cross gables stands on a raised brick foundation. All windows have been replaced with one-over-one aluminum sash, and vinyl siding covers the exterior. A one-story hipped porch with plain railing and Doric posts

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 15  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

shelters the front glazed and paneled door with sidelights.

The house was built circa 1900 as the Methodist Episcopal Parsonage. The Reverend Cuyler Heath occupied the house in 1935. It is now a private dwelling occupied by B. Graham Rogers. (interview, SM, CD)

NC Carport. ca. 1950. Flat roof carport with metal posts.

527 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**(former) Teacherage.** The one-story, three-bay, pyramidal hipped-roof cottage with front and side gables stands on a raised brick foundation and is covered with vinyl siding. The four-bay entrance bay projects slightly underneath a hipped roof wraparound porch supported by columns on brick bases with plain railing. Fenestration consists of one- and two-over-one sash windows and a glazed and paneled door with sidelights.

The house served as a teacherage for the Graham Graded School for many years. Between 1935 and 1948 the house was occupied by Needham G. Bryan. Present occupants Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Ward have occupied the house for thirty-six years, as tenants of the Alamance County School Board and as owners since 1974. Wink Ward served as a Graham school principal for many years. (interview, SM, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1924. Frame, front-gable, one-car garage with German siding, exposed rafter tails, and tongue and groove sliding door.

531 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Ward-Hogan House.** The one-and-a-half story pyramidal hipped-roof cottage with a front-gabled wing exhibits a one-story shed porch with wide wood railing, Doric columns, and a hip roofed dormer. Fenestration includes single and paired nine-over-one sash windows and a multi-paned door. The interior brick chimney appears to have a replacement stack.

The house was built by the Ward family circa 1900. Mrs. Olivia M. Ward occupied the house between 1935 and 1948. It was later occupied by the Hogan family for many years. (interview, SM, CD)

C Shed. ca. 1940. One-story, frame, front-gable shed with German siding, weatherboard siding, and a vertical board door.

601 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Edward S. Parker Jr. House.** The one-and-a-half-story, three-bay, frame, clipped side-gable Craftsman bungalow features a center hipped dormer with balcony, an engaged one-story full-facade porch supported by stuccoed porch columns, two interior brick chimneys, and a rear ell with shed dormer. Fenestration includes

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 16  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

paired thirty-five-over-one sash, nine-over-one sash windows and several multi-paned casements. The center recessed bay contains the front glazed and paneled door with leaded glass transom. Side gables are pedimented, with plain siding like the walls.

The house was built for Edward S. Parker Jr., son of Captain E.S. Parker who in the 1870s owned the forty-acre tract roughly between present-day Water Street and Providence Street. Edward S. Parker Jr. was a lawyer and leading citizen of Graham until the 1920s when he moved to Greensboro. Marvin E. Yount, the superintendent of the county school system, lived in the house during the 1940s. The house is now the John R. Essen residence. (Stokes, interview, SM)

C Garage. ca. 1940. Frame, two-car garage with German siding, exposed rafter tails, and double swinging doors.

605 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Captain E. S. Parker House.** This Colonial Revival-Craftsman style house, a variation on the gable and wing plan popular at the turn of the century, features a side-gable main block with a gambrel front wing. The main entrance is sheltered beneath an engaged front porch with Craftsman style posts and railing. The house has clipped gable ends, an interior brick chimney, eyelid dormers, and diamond-paned upper sash windows and transom and sidelights. It has been remodeled several times over the years.

Captain E.S. Parker, who died in 1914, built this house after he sold his house at 609 N. Main Street to J. Dolph Long. The house stands on the original site of Parker's 1879 home. Other owners include attorneys Lewis Allen and Tom Carter. (Stokes, interview, SM)

NC Garage. ca. 1980. Frame, front-gable, two-car garage with vinyl siding and one-over-one sash windows.

609 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1879, ca. 1900

**Parker-Long House.** The well-preserved and imposing Colonial Revival style two-story frame house has a two-story side wing with a one-story enclosed porch set between the two main blocks. Such eclectic features as a green-tiled hipped roof with large paired eave brackets enliven the design. The side-hall-plan house has a glazed front door with transom and sidelights set within a classical entrance porch with paneled posts, Doric columns, and a roof balustrade. The house has plain weatherboard, wide beadboarded eaves, nine-over-one sash, casement windows, some with Union jack-design muntins, and a hipped dormer with shingle siding.

The house was built in 1879 on a lot slightly to the south of the present lot for

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 17  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

Captain E.S. Parker, a lawyer and owner of the forty-acre tract between present day Water and Providence Streets. Parker moved it to its present site about 1910 and sold it to attorney J. Dolph Long, who remodeled it. By 1948 it was the home of retired merchant Cecil Moser. (Stokes, SM, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1900. One-story, frame, hipped roof garage with green tile roof, weatherboard siding and exposed rafter tails. Alterations include the replacement of the original sliding garage door with a glazed and paneled door and window.

615 N. Main St.  
NC-age  
ca. 1952

**Moser House.** The one-and-a-half story, side-gable brick veneer ranch house features eight-over-eight and six-over-six sash windows, two interior brick chimneys, stone sills and header row lintels, and a pedimented stoop supported by classical fluted columns. The front door is flanked by fluted pilasters and topped by a modillioned cornice.

The house was built by Cecil Moser for his mother, Cora A. Moser in the early 1950s. (interview, CD)

NC-age Garage. ca. 1952. Steeply-pitched side gable, brick, two-car garage with two-over-two sash windows and interior corner stairwell to attic space.

619 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1919

**General Donnell E. Scott House.** The stately, two-and-a-half-story, Colonial Revival style frame house is five bays wide, with one-story side wings and rear ell. The facade has a two-story portico with square paneled posts, twelve-over-one and nine-over-one sash windows, weatherboard siding and three gabled dormers. A swan's neck pediment with center finial surmounts the front door.

The house was built for General Donnell E. Scott, owner of the Scott Hosiery Mill (now the Sydney Cotton Mill) in Graham, in 1919. According to local citizens the portico replaced a smaller porch in 1939. The side porches and rear wing were added at this time. It is presently owned by Miriam Lawrie as her residence and the "Tara Day Care Center."

C Maid's Quarters. ca. 1900. Frame, gabled, one-story, three-bay house with weatherboard siding, replacement front porch, four-over-four sash windows, and remains of a brick chimney stack. The house does not appear on the 1924 or 1931 Sanborn Maps suggesting that it may have been moved to the property at a later date. (SM)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 18  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

**600 block of North  
Main Street, West side**

600 N. Main St.  
C  
1903, 1930s

**(former) Graham Graded School.** The original building comprises the central rectangular section, with central arched entrance, flanking polygonal towers, and projecting wings at the ends. This section retains the original common bond brick walls, wide stuccoed arched surround with pilasters, segmentally-arched windows in the upper towers, and stone window sills.

The school was built 1903 as the Graham Graded School. By 1905 it had nine grades with eight teachers and 350 pupils. By 1931 a detached auditorium had been built to the rear. This is now gone. After 1931 a flanking pair of two-story brick wings were constructed at an angle to the main block. Since the building ceased to be a school in 1971, it has been renovated as a retirement home. Changes include removal of the turrets atop the towers, replacement of the original sash windows with smaller windows, and a complete interior renovation. (SM, Stokes)

**700 block of North  
Main Street, East side**

701 N. Main St.  
NC-alt  
ca. 1915

**Dr. W. S. Long House.** The two-story, frame, Queen Anne style dwelling with pyramidal roof and cross gables exhibits a three-bay facade. The wraparound porch appearing on the 1924 and 1931 Sanborn Maps was removed in recent years to add a hipped entrance porch with wrought iron railing, and a side sunporch. The house also has replacement windows and vinyl siding.

Dr. W. S. Long, the former president of Elon College, built this house. He sold the property to Seymour S. Holt, an executive of the Travora Mills. The house was later remodeled for apartments. It is presently owned by the Mize family. (Stokes, interview, SM)

NC Garage/carport. ca. 1924. Frame garage with German siding has a three bay metal carport attached to the front and side sheds.

707 N. Main St.  
C  
1918

**Walter Smith House.** The one-and-a-half story, frame Dutch Colonial Revival house features a three-bay shed dormer, two exterior end brick chimneys, six-over-six sash windows, and a pedimented stoop with wood posts on brick bases. Additions to the house include a one-story side wing, enclosure of the one-story side porch, a two-story rear ell, aluminum siding, and a replacement front door.

The house was constructed in 1918 for Walter Smith who owned Smith Feed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 19  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina

Company. It was later purchased by the Johnsons, who owned Johnson Oil Company. According to the present owner, Mrs. Elaine Mills, Mr. Johnson used the large garage to service his company trucks. (interview, SM)

C Garage. ca. 1918. Frame, front-gable, two-car garage with wide German siding, tin roof, and exposed rafter tails. Before 1950, the original garage was doubled in size with a rear addition, covered with wide vertical boards and two sliding garage doors on the left side.

C Shed. ca. 1918. One-story, frame, front-gable shed with German siding, exposed rafter tails, tin roof, five-paneled door, and a side shed addition.

713 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1940

**Isley House.** The one-and-a-half story, four-bay, Tudor Revival style house with combed Flemish bond brick veneer features a cross-gable form, eight-over-eight and six-over-six sash windows with concrete sills, a Tudor style door, interior brick chimney, and a false arched wall.

The house was built for Randolph and Clara Isley circa 1940. Mr. Isley worked as a superintendent of Scott Hosiery Mill while Mrs. Isley was General Don Scott's secretary. (interview)

C Garage. ca. 1940. Frame, front-gabled, two-car garage covered with weatherboard siding.

715 N. Main St.  
C  
1940s

**William B. Compton House.** The one-and-a-half story, five-bay, frame side gable house exhibits flanking exterior end brick chimneys, German siding, two gabled dormers, a rear shed dormer, and a one-story porch supported by paired square posts surmounted by a plain balustrade. Fenestration consists of replacement six-over-six sash windows and a multi-paned door.

The house was occupied by William B. Compton in 1948. (CD)

C Garage. 1940s. Frame, front-gabled, two-car garage with German siding. The doors have been taken off and stored inside the building.

**700 block of North  
Main Street, West side**

700 N. Main St.  
NC-age  
1966

**Graham Friends Church.** The three-bay, front-gable, brick veneer church features a pedimented portico, vinyl trim, double six-paneled doors flanked by fluted pilasters, horizontal paned stained glass windows, a metal steeple, and a two-story



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 20**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

hipped addition with same brick veneer to the right rear side of the chapel.

NC Fellowship Hall Building. ca. 1960. One-story, three-bay, front-gable, building with asbestos shingles features six-over-six sash windows and a shed portico with handicap ramp.

The Graham Friends Church was organized in 1907. The present church building was constructed in 1966. (cornerstone)

V

**Vacant Lot.**

710 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**W.A. Bradshaw House.** The two-story, Queen Anne style dwelling with pyramidal roof and two-story pedimented bay wing features a decorative tin shingled roof, one-over-one sash windows, an interior brick chimney with corbeled cap, and a one-story hip wraparound porch with turned railing and wood battered posts on brick bases. A one-story, vinyl sided, hipped roof addition was added in recent years, and the main block has vinyl siding.

W.A. Bradshaw built this house circa 1900. Mr. Bradshaw owned Bradshaw Motor Company in 1935. The current owner, Hassel Andrews, has completely remodeled the house in recent years. (interview, CD)

NC-age Carport. 1990s. Two-story, frame, front-gable carport with two bays and one-over-one sash window in upper floor.

714 N. Main St.  
C  
ca. 1931

**Copeland House.** The one-story, frame, three-bay simple Craftsman house features a side gable roof, four-over-one and five-over-one sash windows, two brick chimneys and a pedimented stoop. Recent alterations include vinyl siding and replacement vinyl porch columns.

The house was built by local contractor Everett Braxton circa 1931 and sold to Mr. Copeland of Copeland Mills. Alton T. West, a clerk, occupied the house in 1935. It was later a rental property of Curtis Wrikes'. (interview, CD)

**300-400 block North  
Maple Street, E side**

301 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Frank Miller House.** Standing on a brick foundation, the one-story, three-bay, frame gable and wing house features weatherboard siding, a pressed tin roof, four-over-one sash windows, and a hip roofed porch with turned posts and exposed rafters. The gable ends feature diamond shaped ventilators. The one-story rear

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 21  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

gable ell has German siding and six-over-six aluminum sash windows. Alterations include the replaced wood porch railing, some one-over-one sash windows, and a vinyl front door.

Frank Miller is the earliest known owner of the house in 1935. In 1948 the house was occupied by Frank Miller and Henry Evans. (interview, CD)

V

**Vacant Lot.**

305 N. Maple St.  
NC-alt  
ca. 1900

**Clarence Bradshaw House.** The two-story, frame gable and wing house is encased in vinyl siding. The house features a one-story hip roofed porch with replacement turned railing and aluminum encased columns, a standing-seam tin roof, an interior ridge brick chimney, replacement one-over-one sash windows, a replacement front door, and a one-story hip roofed rear addition.

NC Garage. ca. 1950 1-story, three-bay concrete block garage with common bond brick veneer, flat roof, and tile coping. Garage features two vehicle bays with wooden paneled roll-up doors, and a side entrance with glazed and paneled doors. Mr. Bradshaw built the garage to store the trucks used in his wholesale grocery business.

C. W. Bain built the house about 1900, and the Thompson family purchased it later. Clarence Bradshaw, a local grocer, purchased it in 1917 and the family lived here for many years. By the 1940s the house was apparently divided into apartments. In 1948 the house was occupied by Nannie Burke, Clyde Brooks, Mollie Stancil, and Ila Crutchfield. (Stokes, interview, CD)

309 N. Maple St.  
C  
1860s

**Holt-Clapp House.** This vernacular Italianate house, apparently built about 1860, is one of the oldest houses in Graham. Its deep front yard sets it apart from adjacent dwellings. The two-story, three-bay house has such Italianate features as a hip roof with overhanging eaves, tall slender sash windows of nine-over-nine and nine-over-six on the facade and six-over-six and six-over-four flanking the gable end chimney, as well as a front door with arched lights and a hipped front porch with chamfered posts, sawnwork brackets and a sawnwork balustrade. The design may have been influenced by the books of Romantic architect A.J. Downing. His associate A.J. Davis designed a dwelling for the Holt family, local industrialists, in the nearby countryside, which may have influenced the stylistic features of this house. At the rear is a one story ell. The house is covered with aluminum siding.

According to Durward Stokes, either Joseph J. Holt or his son Rev. John H. Holt built this house in the mid-1800s. They owned a large tract of land in this area.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 22  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

Later owners were Peter and J. W. Harden and the Reitzel family. In 1905 William and Ella Clapp purchased the house. They were living here with their daughters Blanche, Ida, Lee and Nettie on "Maple nr. Main" in 1910. William was a foreman at Scott-Mebane Manufacturing Company. William still resided here in 1935. (Stokes, interview, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1930 One-story, front gable frame one-car garage with plain siding, exposed rafters, tin roof, and sliding wood door.

313 N. Maple St.  
C  
late 1940s

**Henan Holt Apartments.** Small-scale one-story, four-unit, twelve-bay, side gable brick apartment building featuring two-over-two horizontal sash windows, combed Flemish bond brick veneer, interior brick chimney flues, and pedimented stoops on the north side.

The apartment building was built in the late 1940s by Henan Holt as an investment property. (interview)

315 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1850 , ca. 1890

**J.D. Kernodle House.** The two-story, three-bay, frame house with flanking exterior end brick chimneys may date to the early years of Graham's history. A detached rear gabled kitchen with exterior end chimney, now connected to the house, has retained its weatherboard siding. The house, covered in vinyl siding, features six-over-six sash windows in the upper story, six-over-nine sash in the first story and four-over-four on the sides and rear. The pedimented one-bay porch with chamfered posts and decorative trim protecting the double-leaf glazed and paneled entrance was probably added when the house was moved.

The Staley family apparently bought this lot in 1875 and built the house, then sold it to John D. Kernodle, the owner and editor of the *Alamance County Gleaner*, in 1889. The house originally faced North Main Street, but Kernodle moved it back to its current location on the rear of the lot about 1900. (Stokes, interview)

C Shed. 1940s One-story, frame, front-gable shed with weatherboard siding. Building was not accessible during time of survey.

401 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1939

**Victor King House.** One-story, three-bay side-gable brick Tudor Revival house exhibits half-timbering in the front projecting gable, six-over-six sash windows, a front exterior chimney and a side gable porch with brick and concrete porch posts and half-timbering in the gable end.

Victor L. King, first manager of the A&P Grocery store in Graham, built the house as his residence. (Stokes, interview, CD)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 23  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

NC Garage. ca. 1980. One-story, two-bay, front-gable garage with vinyl siding, vinyl paneled and glazed door, and a six-over-six sash window.

403 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1940

**Coman Isley House.** One-story, front-gable Craftsman bungalow featuring a three bay front facade, knee braces, and an engaged full-facade porch supported by vinyl covered battered posts on brick bases. The house is covered with vinyl siding and has replacement windows and doors.

Coleman Isley, owner of Isley Grocery store, built this house circa 1940. The house was later the residence of Dr. Hawkins. It is now home to Mrs. Boyd Wright. (interview, CD)

NC Carport ca. 1970 Two-car carport with concrete block walls and front gable.

405 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1935

**Eugene Holt House.** The one-and-a-half story Craftsman bungalow with clipped front gable is covered with aluminum siding. The house features four-over-one sash windows, a multi-paned and paneled door, and a hip-roofed porch with paired replacement posts and a porte-cochere with replacement metal supports.

The house was built circa 1935 for Eugene Holt, a clerk at the "Crack and Joe" store. (CD, Stokes)

C Garage ca. 1940. Frame, two-car garage with front gable, German siding, and original sliding doors.

407 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1935

**Kuhl Holt House.** The one-story, three-bay clipped side gable house features aluminum siding, a projecting gable entrance with front exterior brick chimney, and single and paired six-over-six sash windows.

Although Kuhl Holt, a clerk at the "Crack and Joe" store was living in a house on this lot in 1935, this house may have been built for him somewhat later. (CD, Stokes)

C Garage ca. 1940. Frame, clipped side gable garage with German siding, exposed rafters, brick foundation, and a board and batten sliding door.

**300-400 block North  
Maple Street, W side**

302 N. Maple St.

**W. J. Nicks Rental House.** The frame I-house with center cross gable features

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 24

North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina

C  
ca. 1915

quatrefoil vents at all gables, bracketed corner eaves, and plain siding. Other features include six-over-six sash windows, a hipped porch with Craftsman posts, an exterior end chimney, a rear chimney, and a frame one-story rear shed.

About 1915 W.J. Nicks contracted with E.J. Boggs to build the present house as a rental. The dwelling was rented to various tenants including the Alexander Geanes family. In 1919 the house and lot were sold to W.B. Lewis for \$1,900. It is presently owned by Banks Smith as rental property. (Stokes, SM)

306 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**Ben Farrell House.** The frame I-house with center cross gable exhibits two interior brick chimneys, aluminum siding, replacement one-over-one sash windows, and a one-story porch with cross gable Craftsman base supports and turned railing. The front entrance is a multi-paned door with sidelights.

The house was built for Ben Farrell after his wife purchased the lot from A.L. Bain in 1900. Ben Farrell left Graham in 1901 for a year to work for the Delgado Mills at Wilmington. During this time the house was rented to J.J. Snyder, J.C. Copeland, and John F. Murray. Ben Farrell moved back to the house and became an expert tailor and men's clothing salesman at Sellars Department Store in Burlington. (Stokes)

308 N. Maple St.  
NC  
ca. 1906

**Robert H. Farrell House.** The one-and-a-half story, frame Victorian Cottage features a front cross gable with a Queen Anne style stained-glass window, bracketed eaves, a hip porch, some original two-over-two sash windows, original entrance sidelights, and a rear brick chimney. A one-car carport is attached to the rear one-story section. A number of alterations, including wood shake siding with a high brick veneer dado, replacement porch posts and railing, and some replacement sash, have compromised the architectural integrity.

In 1897 Robert Farrell bought the lot from his brother, Ben Farrell, who lived next door at 306 N. Maple St. Robert Farrell built his first house so that one driveway ran between both houses and could be used by both families. The present house replaced the original house which burned in January 1906. Farrell was a salesman and an official in the Green & McClure Furniture Company for many years. (Stokes)

NC-age Garage. ca. 1960. Large, 3-bay, frame, side gable garage with plywood sheathing.

310 N. Maple St.  
C

**Bain-Thompson House.** The large two-and-a-half-story Queen Anne style house with gable and wing form features six-over-six sash windows, plain siding, and two

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 25  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina

ca. 1890s, 1920s

interior brick chimneys with paneled caps. In the late 1920s, a wide one-story gable wing with shed dormer was added to provide space for an apartment. The overscaled bargeboard on the front gable of this wing and on the front gable of the main block must have been added in the late 1920s when the wing was built.

The house was built in the mid-1890s for A.L. Bain, the superintendent of Oneida Mills for fifteen years. In 1900 Bain sold the house to Dr. J.B. Thompson. In 1905 Dr. Thompson willed the property to his son Charles A. Thompson, a member of the firm Rich and Thompson furniture dealers. The Thompsons extensively remodeled the house in the late 1920s, adding on a separate apartment wing whose earliest occupants were Donnell S. Holt and his wife Margaret McConnell Holt. In 1935 Burke and Doric McConnell occupied the apartment. The house was held by the Thompsons until the 1970s. It is presently used as a single residence. (Stokes, interview, SM, CD)

C Garage. ca. 1930. Frame, front-gable two-car garage with plain siding, exposed rafters, and diagonal sheathed sliding doors.

400 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1930

**J. Walter Browning House.** The intact one-story brick Tudor-inspired bungalow exhibits a front gable roof with front and side gabled wings. Features of the house include stuccoed gables with false half-timbering, front picture windows with transoms, six-over-one sash windows, exposed rafter tails, and an engaged wrap-around porch with brick support posts and railing.

The house was built for J. Walter Browning after 1930, replacing an earlier frame house owned by Benjamin White. Browning was the successful owner of a Burlington grocery business. The Browning family moved to Florida shortly after the death of their son, Robert Franklin Browning, who was killed in combat during World War II. (Stokes, interview, SM)

C Garage. ca. 1930 Front-gable brick garage with exposed rafters and two replacement glazed and paneled doors.

408 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1936

**J. Walter Browning Rental House.** The one-story, three-bay side gable brick veneer house features six-over-six sash windows, a pedimented stoop, and a one-bay frame addition on the left side extending to the rear of the house.

The house was built by J. Walter Browning as rental property circa 1936. Browning was the successful owner of a Burlington grocery business. The Browning family moved to Florida shortly after the death of their son, Robert Franklin Browning, during World War II. (Stokes, interview, SM)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 26**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

C Garage. ca. 1936. Frame, gabled one-car garage with plain siding.

V **Vacant Lot.**

410 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1915

**W. J. Nicks House I.** The one-story, three-bay side-gable Victorian cottage with one exterior end chimney and one interior rear ell chimney retains its plain siding, wide boxed eaves with center cross gables, six-over-six sash windows and original hipped front porch with chamfered posts. Other features include drop pendant brackets and circular gable vents.

This house and the one at 412 N. Maple Street were built for local general store owner W.J. Nicks and rented to various tenants over the years. They were later owned by the builder's daughter, Mrs. Durward T. Stokes. (Stokes)

412 N. Maple St.  
C  
ca. 1915

**W. J. Nicks House II.** The one-story, three-bay side-gable Victorian cottage with one exterior end chimney and one interior rear ell chimney features plain siding, wide boxed eaves with center cross gables, six-over-six sash windows, diamond gable vents and original hipped front porch with turned posts.

This house and the one at 410 N. Maple Street were built for local general store owner W.J. Nicks and rented to various tenants over the years. They were later owned by the builder's daughter, Mrs. Durward T. Stokes. (Stokes)

Southwest corner of N.  
Maple and Guthrie  
Streets  
NC-age  
1975

**First Baptist Church.** The low-front-gable brick church of Modern design was erected by the First Baptist Church congregation in 1975. The congregation was originally organized one hundred years earlier between 1865 and 1875. Adjacent to the property on the south is an asphalt parking lot used by the (former) Methodist Episcopal Church at 422 N. Main Street. (cornerstone)

**400 block Marshall St.**  
**E and W sides**

406 Marshall St.  
NC-age  
ca. 1950

**House.** The one-and-a-half story, brick Period cottage features an eight-over-eight sash bay window, a side-gable roof, and shed stoop with a patterned brick wall. The rear gable ell contains eight-over-eight sash windows and metal casements.

NC-age Garage. ca. 1950. Two-car, front-gable garage with German siding, sliding doors, and a small covered addition.

407 Marshall St.

**Currie Moore House.** The one-and-a-half story, side-gable, frame house exhibits

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 7 Page 27**

**North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

- C  
ca. 1915
- an engaged front porch with chamfered posts with curvilinear brackets on brick bases, and a glazed and paneled front door. The two bay hipped dormer is flanked by two smaller dormers. The windows and exterior siding are replacements.
- The house was built for Currie Moore early in this century. It was later the home of the builder's daughter, Mrs. E.L. Handy and her family. (Stokes)
- 411 Marshall St.  
C  
ca. 1931
- Cheek House.** The one-story side-gabled bungalow features two triangular shaped eyelid dormers, four-over-one sash windows, a multi-paned front door, a brick foundation, picture window and a gabled one-bay porch supported by battered posts on brick bases. Alterations include aluminum siding, an enclosed side porch, and some replacement one-over-one sash windows.
- NC-alt Shed. ca. 1931 One-story, frame shed with exposed rafter tails, replacement door and aluminum siding.
- According to local residents the house may have been built for the Cheek family. The house appears on the 1931 Sanborn Insurance Map. (SM, interview)



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 28**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

**Section 8: Statement of Significance**

**Summary:**

The North Main Street Historic District, an extremely well-preserved residential district containing sixty-four principal historic buildings, primarily houses, built from the mid-nineteenth century to 1949, is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A as the most intact late nineteenth and early twentieth century residential neighborhood in Graham. Established in 1851 as the county seat of Alamance County, Graham evolved during the second half of the century as a small trading and government center surrounded by rural estates owned by such industrialist and professional families as the Holts and the Kernodles. A few miles away, Company Shops, the repair shops for the North Carolina Railroad established in 1855, began to attract textile mills in the 1880s and soon outgrew the county seat, renaming itself Burlington in 1887. Graham, lacking railroad access, experienced a smaller amount of mill development in the late nineteenth century. By 1911 there was sufficient economic interaction between Burlington, Graham and Haw River, a mill community on the Haw River a few miles to the north, that an interurban trolley was established between the three towns.

The North Main Street Historic District is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its significant architecture. The district contains handsome residences built for mill owners, superintendents, lawyers, doctors, educators, merchants and others from the 1890s to the 1940s. A small group of the houses built in the third quarter of the nineteenth century as the seats of rural estates stand as a reminder of Graham's rural past. These include the ca. 1860 Holt-Klapp House, the 1879 Parker-Long House, and the 1875 Staley-Kernodle House. Other landmarks of local historical and architectural significance are the 1903 brick Gothic Revival style Graham Graded School, and the Graham Methodist Episcopal Church of 1914. The locally-significant district's period of significance begins with the oldest building, constructed about 1860, and continues to 1949, the last year in which the fifty-year-old criterion is met.

**Historical Background and Community Development Context:**

The North Main Street Historic District has evolved over more than one hundred years to its present dense appearance. Graham itself was created out of farmland as the county seat of Alamance County, carved out of Orange County in 1849. An appointed commission purchased seventy-five acres in the county's geographical center for the county seat. After a heated debate in the General Assembly, Giles Mebane, sponsor of the bill creating Alamance County, named the county seat Graham in honor of the contemporary governor, William A. Graham. Silas M. Lane, a local surveyor, laid out the town in a square extending from present Market Street on the north side of the courthouse to McAden Street on the south side. Once completed, the plan contained sixty-eight lots on seven streets surrounding a smaller square reserved for the courthouse and jail. In January of 1851, Graham was incorporated.<sup>1</sup>

Many of the sixty-eight original lots were sold at an auction sale in 1851, while the rest were purchased at later dates. During the town's first few decades it established a strong presence in the region as a trading and legal

---

<sup>1</sup> *Graham Historic District National Register Nomination*, 1983; Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 3, 14.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 29  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

center. The first courthouse, a two-story brick building, was erected in Graham on the Court Square in 1851. Mercantile stores, small brick and frame offices, and several hotels were built surrounding the courthouse. A saloon, drugstore, female seminary, and several private dwellings were also erected in the area. Graham quickly emerged as a trading center not only for Alamance County residents but for those in the neighboring counties of Orange, Chatham, Caswell, and Randolph.<sup>2</sup>

The mid-1850s brought about a major decision for the town leaders. The North Carolina Railroad, the only east-west trunk line through the state, made plans to lay tracks through the county seat and make the town the site for its repair shops. Town leaders decided that the railroad would pose a negative impact upon the trading center, disturb the operation of the court, and possibly destroy the carefully laid out town plan. The decision was made that the North Carolina Railroad was not allowed to lay any tracks within one mile of the courthouse and another location had to be selected for the repair shops. As a result, the North Carolina Railroad bypassed Graham and laid its tracks two miles northwest of Graham to create Company Shops (now Burlington) in 1856. The decision to deny the railroad to build through Graham proved to be a momentous one. Because of its advantages as the hub of east-west railroad traffic in North Carolina, Burlington attracted textile mills and soon outgrew the county seat, while Graham remained a small country town.<sup>3</sup>

Until the late nineteenth century, Graham remained strictly rural in character, with residential development dispersed on large tracts scattered around the courthouse. Edwin M. Holt, pioneering Piedmont industrialist, and his family played a major role in Graham's history. In the 1870s Holt built a home for each of his three daughters along South Main Street, two of which still stand as major landmarks. About 1873 Holt built an Italianate villa for his daughter Emma and her husband Captain James White House at 213 South Main Street. This was recently restored as the Alamance County Art Center. In the adjoining block at 141 South Main Street, Holt erected another villa in 1878 for Mary Holt and her husband Captain James N. Williamson. This landmark now serves as the NationsBank office. Holt's son, industrialist L. Banks Holt, owned a nearly 500 acre tract south of the courthouse, and in 1884 built a splendid Victorian villa (now demolished) in the center of it, along present-day South Maple Street.<sup>4</sup>

The original northern town boundary, West Market Street, marks the southern boundary of the North Main Street Historic District. During the later 1800s, the area in which the North Main Street Historic District is situated remained strictly rural, with scattered houses similar to those built south of the courthouse. The east side of the 400 block of North Main Street was the old James H. Holt Estate. Holt, an industrialist associated with his father, Edwin M. Holt, bought the seventeen acres in 1868, and built a house on the east side of North Main Street in the curve of the road where Albright Street now intersects, about 1870. Holt moved to Burlington in the late 1870s. The house was demolished in 1974 and Graham public housing was constructed on the site.<sup>5</sup> In the 1870s Captain E.S. Parker purchased a forty-acre tract of land on the east side of North Main Street, in

---

<sup>2</sup>Graham Historic District National Register Nomination, 1983.

<sup>3</sup>Graham Historic District National Register Nomination, 1983; *Centennial History of Alamance County*, p.93-96.

<sup>4</sup>Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 145.

<sup>5</sup>Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 72-74.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 30**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

the 500-600 blocks between present day Water and Providence Streets and built a house, now 609 North Main Street. Parker, a lawyer, founded the *Alamance Gleaner* in 1875, and published the newspaper until 1880 when he sold it to J. D. Kernodle. Parker farmed his land, raising cattle, hogs, chickens, and vegetables, and had an apple orchard at the southeast corner of present day Parker and North Main Streets.<sup>6</sup> The Staley family bought a four-acre tract on North Main Street in 1875 and built a two-story house, purchased in 1889 by J. D. Kernodle, publisher of the *Gleaner*, who moved it about 1900 to 315 North Maple Street, where it still stands. The vernacular Italianate style house at 309 North Maple Street was built in the mid-nineteenth century by the Holt family (either Joseph H. or his son the Rev. John H.), who owned a large tract in this vicinity.<sup>7</sup>

Graham's quiet rural atmosphere began to change in the 1880s when the textile mill boom of the region first entered town. The Scott family built the first two textile mills in Graham. James Sidney Scott and his brother-in-law, W.C. Donnell, financed construction of the first cotton mill on West Harden Street in 1882. Shortly after, L. Banks Holt bought the mill and renamed it Oneida Mills. Although still standing, it is no longer in operation. In 1885 James Sidney Scott and his sons, J. L. Scott and H. W. Scott, constructed the Sidney Cotton Mill in north Graham, still in operation.<sup>8</sup> Sidney Cotton Mills manufactured textile goods until 1929 when the firm became the Sidney Hosiery Mills.<sup>9</sup> West of the former Oneida Mills office, a two-story brick structure was erected in 1898 for the Scott-Mebane Manufacturing Company. H. W. Scott and J. K. Mebane started the firm, which was financially backed by their mutual father-in-law, L. Banks Holt.<sup>10</sup> The presence of textile mills accelerated Graham's growth, and the solid streetscapes of stylish houses along North Main Street, North Maple Street, Albright and Long Avenues reflect the growth from the 1890s to the 1940s. Most of the farmhouses that surrounded the courthouse in the late 1800s have been demolished in the twentieth century as their estates were subdivided and newer residences built.

During Graham's early history, Elm Street, the east-west main axis, was considered the principal street, but as Graham developed, Main Street became the more important artery, probably because the Graham depot was built in the mid-1850s along the North Carolina Railroad tracks one mile north of town at the terminus of the street.<sup>11</sup> North Main Street was the link between downtown Graham and the North Carolina Railroad depot. Before 1888, the street was a plank road running from Graham's business district one mile north to the Graham depot. Passengers and mail were carried by stage coach to and from the depot. It was not until 1892 that Graham's streets were officially named by the town commissioners.<sup>12</sup>

During the 1890s and early 1900s the district assumed its current street plan and lot subdivision pattern. Prominent businessmen, physicians, and lawyers began building houses north of the town square along North

---

<sup>6</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 75-76.

<sup>7</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 155, 295.

<sup>8</sup> *Graham Historic District National Register Nomination*, 1983

<sup>9</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 77.

<sup>10</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 172.

<sup>11</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 14.

<sup>12</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 50.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 31**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

Main and Maple Streets. Albright, Long and Marshall streets, the east section of the historic district, occupy the farmland of the old James H. Holt Estate, subdivided in the 1890s. Albright Avenue was laid out by W. P. Albright, who acquired the Captain James A. Graham House at the southeast corner of North Main and Albright. (The First United Methodist Church now stands on the site of the demolished house.) In the words of local historian Durward Stokes, Albright Avenue's "opening provided numerous residential lots for sale."<sup>13</sup> An observer noted in 1930 that there were more than a "dozen nice homes where once was a field devoted to the usual farm crops and a pasture for stock."<sup>14</sup> William Long, a dentist and local fire chief, built one of the first houses in this new section, the large two-story gabled Queen Anne style house at 200 Albright Avenue, around the turn of the century. In the 1890s A.L. Bain, a superintendent of Oneida Mills had a two-and-a-half story Queen Anne style house built on the west side of North Maple Street. The house was later sold to Dr. J.B. Thompson. Dr. Salesmen and brothers Ben and Robert Farrell, built a frame I-house and a Victorian cottage respectively in the early twentieth century on the west side of North Maple Street. Three pyramidal-hipped roofed cottages on raised foundations were built in a row along the east side of North Main Street. One was built as the Methodist Episcopal parsonage while the other two were apparently built for school superintendents and teachers of the Graham Graded School across the street.

After a 1901 failed attempt to establish a streetcar in the county, Graham was first introduced to this form of public transportation in October of 1911.<sup>15</sup> Plans for the line were started in 1908 by the Burgrahaw Traction Company and nearly completed in 1909. The plans were delayed by company financial troubles leaving the car line to be sold at public auction. The newly-formed Piedmont Railway & Electric Company purchased it for \$10,000 and completed the line by 1911. The car line began in the northern section of Burlington at the E.M. Holt Plaid Mills and wound its way through town stopping at the railroad station, major streets, and Harden Junction. At this junction, a branch line extended east stopping near the west end of the bridge over Haw River. The main line continued south across the railroad to Climax Street in Graham thence one block east to North Main Street and down that street to a stop in front of the Graham courthouse.<sup>16</sup>

The district contains two historic school buildings, the Graham Academy, built in the late 1890s by the local Presbyterian Church at the corner of North Marshall Street and Albright Avenue, and the 1903 Graham Graded School, located in the 600 block of North Main Street on the west side. Both schools are now adaptively used for other functions. The Graded School, Graham's town school until the 1960s, resulted from an appeal by townspeople for a new public school. About 1896 town officials appropriated \$500 to purchase the lot on the west side of North Main Street between present College and Parker Streets, from L. Banks Holt. The 1891 school building on Melville Street was moved to the new location by contractor, N. R. Wood. In 1903 a request was made to the General Assembly for the creation of a Graham School District and for a graded school financially supported by the town. As a result the Graham Graded Public School opened in December of 1903 under the superintendency of C.R. McIver. The two-story brick structure valued at \$16,174.18 replaced the

---

<sup>13</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 72.

<sup>14</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 73.

<sup>15</sup> *Centennial History of Alamance County*, 137-138.

<sup>16</sup> Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 269-274.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 32**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

frame 1891 school which was dismantled in 1906. The school had eight teachers serving 350 pupils in nine grades.<sup>17</sup>

By 1914 Graham remained a quiet residential community when compared to Burlington. Graham's growth was inhibited by its geographical location as it was bounded by the textile community of Haw River to the northeast, the rapidly growing city of Burlington to the north and west, and the vast L. Banks Holt estate covering most of the southern area of town. This development ring around the town shaped Graham's future. New industries increasingly located in Burlington rather than in Graham, causing Burlington's population to grow four times faster than that of Graham. Graham, however, took pride in its quiet, genteel atmosphere.<sup>18</sup>

The arrival of the automobile doomed streetcar transportation, and the trolley line ceased to run in 1923. Residential development continued in the district until World War II, when all but a few of the lots along North Main, Albright, Maple and the other streets in the district had been developed. The presence of the Graham Graded School and several churches stabilized the middle-class neighborhood.

Presently, in the late twentieth century, the regional growth of the Burlington area is affecting the North Main Street Historic District as well as other Graham neighborhoods. The construction of Interstate 85 one mile to the south of the courthouse in 1957 has drawn development in that direction, away from North Main Street. The Graham Graded School closed in 1971. The decline of the textile mill industry has eliminated many jobs from the town, and changed Graham into a suburban community from where people drive to jobs in Burlington and other nearby cities, such as Chapel Hill. The Graham business district has struggled to maintain its economic stability. Perhaps the major disruptive force in the historic district is heavy traffic, both automobiles and trucks, along North Main Street, the main artery leading through town to northern destinations. The Graham Planning Department hopes that the prestige that will result from listing in the National Register will help the district to attract new residents and will encourage restoration of the old houses. Rehabilitation Tax Credits available from both the federal and state governments may bring a much-needed boost to rehabilitation activity in the North Main Street Historic District.

**Community Development and Architecture Context:**

The North Main Street Historic District represents the overlay of a grid-patterned residential neighborhood onto the nineteenth century farmscape that surrounded the small county seat of Graham. Rural estates owned by the well-known industrialist clan of the Edwin M. Holts and lawyers such as Capt. E. S. Parker and J. D. Kernodle were broken up at the turn of the century to create lots for town houses. The Parker House, Kernodle House, and Holt House still stand, although moved and remodeled. The four solid blocks along North Main, and the flanking blocks of North Maple, Albright, and other streets that compose the district represent middle-class development spreading from this main artery that lead from the courthouse to the depot on the North Carolina Railroad between the 1890s and the 1940s. An interurban streetcar line, called the Burlington, Graham and Haw

<sup>17</sup>Stokes, *Auction and Action*, 227-228; *Centennial History of Alamance County*, 197

<sup>18</sup>*Graham Historic District National Register Nomination*, 1983.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 33  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

River Line, ran along North Main Street from 1911 to 1923, turning the area into a streetcar suburb of Burlington, where most of the county's economic activity originated. Burlington, the location selected for the North Carolina Railroad's repair shops when rejected by Graham, became a textile mill center that has nearly gobbled up Graham.

Residents of North Main Street were not mill workers, but merchants, managers and professionals who built along the trolley line because of its location along prestigious Main Street. A number of the most significant houses along North Main Street were erected during the streetcar era: the bungalow of Edward S. Parker Jr. at 601 North Main; the Neoclassical style Parker-Long House remodelled by lawyer J. Dolph Long at 609 North Main Street; the stately Colonial Revival style house for Donnell E. Scott, owner of the Scott Mill, at 619 North Main Street; the house at 701 North Main Street for former Elon College president Dr. W. S. Long; and the Dutch Colonial house at 707 North Main Street for Walter Smith, owner of Smith Feed Company.

Comparable streetscapes of streetcar era architecture exist in a number of Piedmont North Carolina cities. Greensboro's first trolley, completed in 1902, ran from downtown to South Greensboro, to Proximity Mill Village, and to Lindley Park at the west terminus (many trolley developers placed rural parks at the terminus as an incentive to ride the trolley).<sup>19</sup> This line provided transportation out to Proximity Cotton Mill, northeast of town, as well as other mills throughout Greensboro. Certain streets along the trolley route, such as West Market Street, became prime sites for fashionable dwellings. The finest houses in the new Charlotte suburb of Dilworth, laid out in the 1890s, were built along East Boulevard, the route of the trolley line from downtown Charlotte out to Latta Park.<sup>20</sup> In Winston-Salem the fashionable suburb of West End developed from the 1890s to the 1920s along the streetcar route from the business district out to the Zinzendorf Hotel, a resort destination.<sup>21</sup> One of Durham's first streetcar lines, established in 1901, ran out to Lakewood Park; another to Trinity Park, a subdivision where development was densest close to the trolley line.<sup>22</sup> In nearby Burlington, the most exclusive suburb that developed in the early twentieth century was the West Davis Street-Fountain Place neighborhood,

---

<sup>19</sup> Gayle Hicks Fripp, "Greensboro's Early Suburbs," *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, 53.

<sup>20</sup> Thomas W. Hanchett, "Charlotte: Suburban Development in the Textile and Trade Center of the Carolinas," *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, 71-72.

<sup>21</sup> Davyd Foard Hood, "Winston-Salem's Suburbs: West End to Reynolda Park," *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, 61.

<sup>22</sup> Claudia Roberts Brown, "Durham's Early Twentieth-Century Suburban Neighborhoods," *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, 40.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 8 Page 34  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

located just west of the town limits and served by the Burlington, Graham and Haw River Trolley Line.<sup>23</sup>

The trolley lines controlled suburban development in North Carolina Piedmont towns from the 1890s to the 1920s. The prime building sites were located directly on the trolley lines. Just as previous generations had built their Italianate villas and Queen Anne showplaces along the railroad tracks, so early twentieth century homeowners selected the choice lots along the avenues and boulevards where the trolleys ran to erect their large Queen Anne, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman residences. Although Graham's trolley did not begin to run until ten to twenty years later than those in larger Piedmont cities such as Durham, Greensboro, and Charlotte, it had the same result—the development of a fashionable avenue of middle-class houses.

---

<sup>23</sup> Claudia Roberts Brown, West Davis Street-Fountain Place Historic District National Register nomination, 1983; telephone interview with Helen Walton, Burlington, December 30, 1998.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 9 Page 35**  
**North Main Street Historic District**  
**Alamance County, North Carolina**

**Section 9: Bibliography**

- Bishir, Catherine W. and Lawrence S. Earley, *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1985.
- Black, Allison H. *An Architectural History of Burlington, N.C.*, Historic District Commission of Burlington, 1987.
- Brown, Claudia Roberts, *Graham Historic District National Register Nomination*, On file at the State Historic Preservation Office, 1983.
- Burlington, Graham and Haw River City Directory*, Piedmont Directory Company, Asheville, 1909-10 and 1929-30.
- Hill's Burlington City Directory*. Hill Directory Co., Inc. Richmond, VA. 1935, 1948, 1952-53, and 1954.
- Lounsbury, Carl. *Alamance County Architectural Heritage*, The Alamance Historic Properties Commission, 1980.
- Interviews with the following Graham residents: Dan Horner, Drucilla Hearn, and Nita McMullen, November 1998; Helen Walton, Burlington, December 30, 1998.
- Stokes, Durward. *Auction and Action: Historical Highlights of Graham, North Carolina*. The City of Graham, N.C. 1985.
- Whitaker, Walter. *Centennial History of Alamance County 1849-1949*. Alamance County Historical Association, Burlington 1949, 2<sup>nd</sup> printing 1974.

**Maps:**

- Alamance County Tax Map of Graham, North Carolina, Map No. 151, 1948.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Graham, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N.C.: 1910, 1924, and 1931.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section 10 Page 36  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

**Section 10: Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The boundaries of the district are shown by a black line on the accompanying map, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100 feet. The map is a composite of Alamance County Tax Maps of Graham, No. 151, No. 154, and No. 159 mapped in 1948.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundaries are drawn to include the densest concentration of contributing resources in the historic Graham neighborhood. Boundaries follow streets and property lines with the following exceptions. On Parcel 119-621, containing the parking lot for the First United Methodist Church, only a portion of the parking lot is included. On Parcel 10A-625, containing the O.J. Paris House, only the house and garage are included. On Parcel 110-647, containing the Charles Thompson House, only the house and garage are included. On Parcel 10-626, containing the General Donnell Scott House, only the house and maid's quarters are included.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Section Photos Page 37  
North Main Street Historic District  
Alamance County, North Carolina**

**Photographs:**

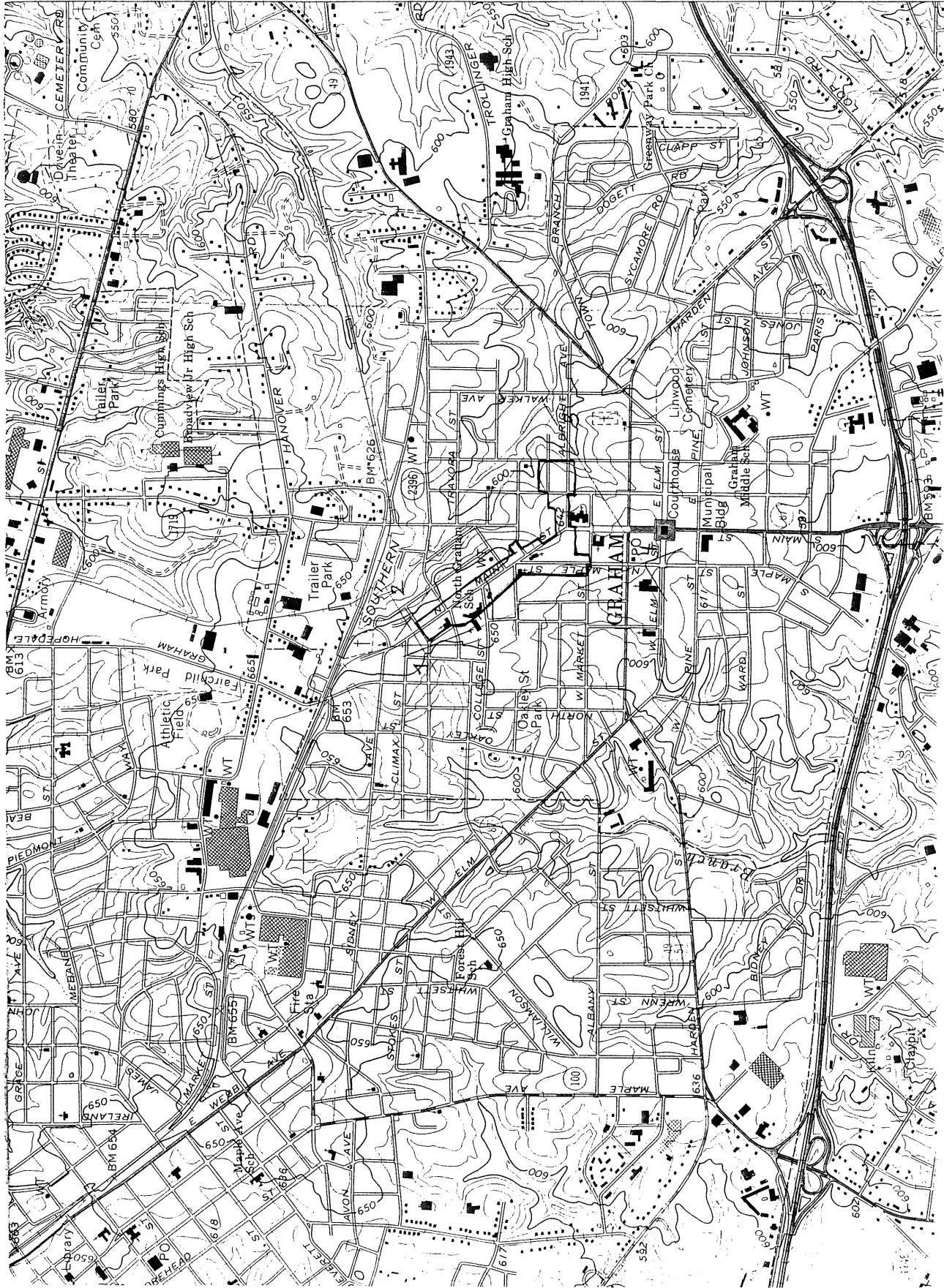
The following information pertains to all photographs:

Photographer: Ruth Little or Michelle Kullen

Date: September to November 1998

Location of negatives: North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh

- A. Intersection of N. Main and N. Maple Streets, looking east.
- B. 500 block of N. Main Street, E side, looking northeast.
- C. 400 block of N. Maple Street, E side, looking southeast.
- D. (former) Graham Graded School, 600 block of N. Main Street, W side, looking west.
- E. Dr. William Long House at 200 Albright Avenue, looking northeast.
- F. Holt-Clapp House at 309 N. Maple Street, looking southeast.
- G. Bain-Thompson House at 310 N. Maple Street, looking southwest.
- H. Parker-Long House at 609 N. Main Street, looking east.
- I. General Donnell Scott House at 619 N. Main Street, looking east.
- J. House at 406 Marshall Street, looking north.
- K. W.A. Bradshaw House at 710 N. Main Street, looking southwest.
- L. D.J. Walker House at 215 Long Avenue, looking south.
- M. W.A. McAdams House at 414 N. Main Street, looking southwest.



(MEBANE)  
5156 III SE

- 3994
- 5'
- North Carolina  
Historical  
Geography  
N.C.
- UTM
- 1 E 642500 N31
  - 2 E 643600 N31
  - 3 E 644540 N31
  - 4 E 644900 N31

