

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Kenilworth Inn

other names/site number Appalachian Hall; General Hospital No.12;
United States Naval Convalescent Hospital, Kenilworth Park

2. Location

street & number 60 Caledonia Road not for publication N/A
city or town Asheville vicinity N/A
state North Carolina code NC county Buncombe code 021 zip code 28803

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Crow SHPO 11/6/01
Signature of certifying official Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> National Register		
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____		

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
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Hotel

HEALTH CARE: Hospital

Sanatorium

Resort

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT: Not In Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals/ Tudor
Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STUCCO

STONE

roof ASPHALT

other BRICK

WOOD

Narrative Description

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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.)

Property is:

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 last 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

HEALTH/MEDICINE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1918 – 1951

Significant Dates

1918

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

GREENE, RONALD

CAROLINA WOOD PRODUCTS

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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:

Kenilworth Inn
Name of Property

Buncombe, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.81 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 17 360370 3937410
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
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 Korey Maney, Project Manager

organization E. F. Howington Company date July 23, 2001

street & number 60 Caledonia Road telephone 828-236-9101

city or town Asheville state NC zip code 28803

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 Kenilworth Inn Apartments, LLC c/o E. Frank Howington

street & number 60 Caledonia Road telephone 828-236-9101

city or town Asheville state NC zip code 28803

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

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Kenilworth Inn
Buncombe County, North Carolina

SUMMARY

Kenilworth Inn sits atop Kenilworth knoll, approximately two and a half miles south of downtown Asheville. Kenilworth Inn rises from the banks of the Swannanoa River and provides a panoramic view of the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains. Nestled in the residential suburb of Kenilworth, the nominated property consists of gently sloping topography, punctuated with deep green magnolias, shady oaks, and various evergreen trees. The nominated property includes 5.81 acres, Kenilworth Inn, and two contributing outbuildings. The property is bound by Caledonia Road on the north and west, and on the south and east by a wooded hillside.

1. Kenilworth Inn, Contributing. 1918

Kenilworth Inn is an early twentieth-century Tudor Revival style luxury hotel, consisting of a raised basement under four full stories and a coved attic. The 1918 structure is laid out in a T-plan comprised of three wings extending from a five and a half story central block. The main roof is covered in red asphalt shingles, while the porches and bay windows are covered with standing-seam metal and soldered tin roofs, respectively. The complex roof is formed by a main side-gable configuration that is enlivened by gabled and half-hipped wall dormers, and simple gabled and hipped dormers, all with applied half-timbering. The placement, size, style, and pattern of the dormers are different on each wing. Wide, overhanging eaves continue throughout and frame the exposed rafters. The exterior load-bearing walls are two layers of hollow clay tiles attached to a heavy timber frame, supported by a concrete foundation. Exposed basement walls are of stone or brick construction. The exterior walls are covered in stucco with brick quoins at each corner. The various windows located on the west and north wings range from eight-over-one double-hung to six-over-one paired windows. Smaller, six-over-one windows mark the bathrooms, and the larger or paired windows mark the suites. Triple windows are present on the east wing in an attempt to soften the forty-five degree bend. Modern double-hung windows replaced the original windows in 1986, but maintained the sash configuration. Windows on the first, second, and third stories are trimmed with brick quoins, while the fourth and fifth story windows are defined with applied timbers painted brick red. Many of the original double French doors with multi-paned sidelights and transoms, characteristic of 1920s construction, remain intact throughout the lobby level as well.

The front (south) façade has a central block that protrudes slightly from the T-plan. The change in depth is defined by the brick quoining and magnified by a central four-story bay window. Beginning on the second floor and extending upward to the fifth floor, it is flanked by symmetrically placed paired windows. This portion of the building was once topped with an observatory, which was removed in 1995. The front facade is accentuated by a segmental-arched porte cochere at the base of the central block. It is built of rough-cut, quarry-faced granite set in an irregular course and highlighted with grapevine mortaring. The parapet is detailed with battlements and is supported by massive buttressed piers.

The west wing extends from the central block and contains many recurrent features. The fifth floor (attic) has hipped dormers alternating with fourth floor gabled wall dormers. Below the stucco walls, a partially covered

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porch runs the entire length of the south façade, and an open terrace concludes the west wing's western façade. Ornamental iron railing was installed on the terrace in the early 1970s, replacing a simple wooden rail. The ground slopes away from the porte cochere, exposing the basement level until it is fully above ground. A granite wall, constructed in the same manner as the porte cochere, serves as the foundation. However, a concrete foundation is used on the north façade beneath an eight-foot high brick veneer band. The brick band, eight feet in height, is topped with a brick soldier course.

The east wing extends from the central block and is angled south at approximately forty-five (45) degrees. Dormers are again present as seen on the roof of the west wing. An enclosed veranda, made entirely of granite stone, flows from the porte cochere and wraps around the east wing to outline the north façade as an open terrace. The basement is partially above ground level, and a basement level greenhouse protrudes from the southeast corner. The original greenhouse was located on the north wing in a fenced recreation area, but was moved for patient safety in the early 1970s. Entrances and windows at the basement level are topped with flat arches and prominent keystones. Two-story three-bay windows flank a modern, enclosed fire escape, at the end of the east wing. Beneath the fire escape, a granite double staircase steps down from the enclosed veranda.

The north (rear) wing roof has both gabled and hipped wall dormers; however, gabled dormers replace the hipped shed dormers at the attic level on the west façade. The west façade also has an enclosed stone veranda that intersects the west wing at a raised, cylindrical stone masonry structure. The first floor of the eastern facade is embellished with seven projecting, one-story, three-bay windows offset by brick banding. An extension to the north wing once housed the kitchen and has a pyramidal roof with a square cupola.

The main entrance, positioned centrally beneath the porte cochere, is surrounded with multi-paned sidelights and transom. A vestibule separates the double-door entry from the main lobby and retains the original light fixture. The expansive lobby of Kenilworth Inn is ornamented with multiple large square columns, classical-inspired moldings, paneled wainscoting, crown molding, and a twelve-foot boxed-beam ceiling. The floor is covered with one-inch and three-inch, white and green octagonal tiles set in a geometric pattern currently covered with commercial carpet and mastic glue. The lobby is complete with a glass enclosed front desk, original light fixtures, and a fireplace with a classical mantelpiece. The limestone mantelpiece is adorned with egg-and-dart molding and acanthus leaves, and has a marble hearth. Large open doorways with Arts and Crafts style woodwork open to smaller lounge areas on both sides of the lobby. The classical elements, such as the simple columns and thick moldings, continue throughout the side lounges. Although the main lobby has not been greatly altered, its plaster ceiling, walls, and columns are severely deteriorated from years of water damage and subsequent neglect.

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Kenilworth Inn
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To the left of the lobby, the "Music Room" or west lounge leads to a double loaded hallway accessing thirteen one-room suites approximately fifteen feet by eighteen feet in size. Each suite shares an adjoining modern bathroom.

The east wing lounge, or "Card Room", contains glass front cabinetry with countersunk brassware along the entire west wall. This lounge is similar to the classical interior finish of the main lobby, except the floors are oak rather than tile. Original double French doors lead to an open porch on the north, and a set of original windows overlook the main entrance on the south wall. In the 1990s, this lounge was altered with the addition of a modern restroom, and a modern fire door replaced the original walnut French doors that lead to the auditorium. The bulk of the east wing holds a ballroom that is approximately 120 feet by 45 feet. Even though this area has been grossly altered over the last thirty years, many of the classical-inspired features are still present, such as: the boxed-beam ceiling; the large triple windows, and the double French doors with sidelights and transom. Maple wood floors exist in fair condition beneath layers of carpet and plywood. Doors on the south wall open to an enclosed veranda, and on the north to an open terrace, while a stage added by the United States Navy in the 1940s at the east end of the long room conceals another set of veranda doors. In the 1970s, this area became a group therapy room and faculty education center. In an attempt to institutionalize the ballroom and provide a more appropriate setting in which to hold these sessions, several original windows were covered or removed and in filled with sheetrock or plywood. Partition walls erected in 1995, divided the adjacent enclosed veranda into four areas to accommodate additional classrooms. All of the original exterior doors were replaced with modern fire doors as well. Several mechanical closets were erected in the 1990s to accommodate the massive HVAC equipment installed.

Between the main lobby and the north wing, a staircase leads all the way to the fifth floor (attic). The deep steps are solid marble, and then wood after the first floor landing. A simple turned baluster railing was added in 1995.

Originally, the north wing of the lobby level housed a colonnaded dining room with high ceilings and an oak wood floor, a long open porch, and a large kitchen. In the 1970s, a conference room and storage area was added, and the porch was enclosed and sectioned into a serving line and side dining area with two additional storage areas. The dining room and kitchen retain much of their original features today. Each square column in the dining room has seven foot tall paneling, which also covers the walls, and the thirteen-foot ceiling is defined with crown molding. The western portion of the room is lined with several double French doors opening to an enclosed porch that until recently served as a sunlit side dining room. Pleasant eastern light fills the dining room by way of seven bay windows overlooking the northeastern courtyard. A tennis court and basketball court are in their original position adjacent to the north wing. Besides these features and a few various trees, mature evergreens and maples, the courtyard is largely open and grassy. A 2,700 square foot kitchen with an original terrazzo floor and clerestory window concludes the north wing.

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The lobby level rests upon a partially above ground basement level. Since the 1960s, the basement has been used historically for recreation, building maintenance, housekeeping, and accounting offices. Prior to the 1960s, this portion of the building was primarily reserved for laboratories and treatment rooms as part of Appalachian Hall, while one wing was a recreation area for patients. The maintenance shops and storage areas are still located in the north wing, which leads to an exit at a loading dock beside the boiler house and garage. The north and west wings are serviced by a long double-loaded hallway. The west wing contains twelve compact accounting offices on one side and four larger mechanical, electrical, and storage rooms on the other. The east wing is the recreation area, and is largely open and plain with a concrete floor. A bowling alley added by the United States Navy in the 1940s lines the south wall, and a craft room and greenhouse complete the east wing.

Unlike the first floor (lobby level) and basement, there are no open common areas on the upper floors. The second, third, and fourth floors are all composed of the same simple plan. Each of the three wings is divided into approximately twenty rooms. The rooms share small bathrooms and are entered from a double loaded hallway. Four-inch wood trim with a simple cap surrounds each window and door. An elevator at the north wing's end and another one at the beginning of the east wing service the building. Because of the many dormers in the roof, the fifth floor (attic) has a coved ceiling which narrows the floor plan to a single row of rooms on each wing.

2. Boiler House, Contributing. 1918

Until the early 1970s, the boiler house remained the single source of heat, hot water, and electricity for Kenilworth Inn. The boiler house is located at the end of Kenilworth Inn's north wing and faces north, overlooking Caledonia Road. It is a tall, one story building approximately forty-four feet in width and sixty-two feet in length. The ridge of its half-hipped roof holds a shallow gabled clerestory that was used for ventilation. The building is supported by a poured concrete wall foundation. As the ground is gently sloping, the foundation rises from three feet at the east elevation to four feet at the west end. The exterior stucco walls are a pale yellow and are pierced by three asymmetrically placed red brick quoin multi-sash windows on all sides. On the interior, the hollow clay tiles are exposed, as the interior walls are unfinished. Although similar in style to the inn, the boiler house was built for function and therefore has only one single door for entry. The floor plan is simple, consisting of a large room that housed two, two-hundred horsepower, low pressure, coal fed steam boilers, a smaller room containing the electrical panels, and a bathroom with a shower. A circular, solid steel door, eight feet in diameter and weighing nearly half a ton, is all that remains of the original coal fired steam boiler today. At the northwest corner, the base of a smokestack that once stood one hundred and ten feet high is present. The original brick structure was bell topped and could be seen from miles away.

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3. Garage, Contributing. 1944

The United States Navy built the garage in 1944 during Kenilworth Inn's period as a naval convalescent hospital. (Sanborn Company map, 1945) Sitting east of the boiler house and separated by a three-foot gap, it housed high-ranking officials' military vehicles. The Navy's design incorporated features characteristic of Kenilworth Inn. Approximately forty feet wide and forty-eight feet in length, the garage is slightly smaller than the boiler house, but resembles it in shape and style. The half-hipped roof with open eaves is patterned after the boiler house roof, which is patterned after the hipped roofs capping the ends of each wing of the inn. The familiar red and pale yellow color scheme is present; however instead of bricks and stucco, the builders used only weatherboard. The west facade contains symmetrically placed windows, and four garage doors span the north (main) facade of the garage. The interior walls and roof are open and unfinished, exposing the massive timbers supporting the roof.

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Kenilworth Inn
Buncombe County, North Carolina

SUMMARY

The imposing Tudor Revival style Kenilworth Inn in Asheville, North Carolina, meets National Register Criterion A for social history and health and medicine due to its long history from 1918 to 1951 as a luxury resort hotel (1923-1930), military hospital (1918-1919, 1942-1944), and private mental health facility (1931-1942, 1944-1951). Financed and built in 1918 by James Madison Chiles, a prominent Asheville developer, the Inn replaced an earlier Kenilworth Inn (1890) that had been completely destroyed by fire in 1908. Asheville's booming economy during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries depended heavily upon tourism, particularly the promotion of the health effects of the mountain air. Chiles envisioned his new inn as equal to other luxury hotels in Asheville, such as the Grove Park Inn, The Manor, and the Battery Park Hotel, which catered to well-to-do visitors drawn to the area's fashionable health and recreational attractions. Its use as a convalescent hospital by the United States military during the two world wars and as Appalachian Hall, a mental health facility during the 1930s and early 1940s, speaks to the property's continuous associations with the area's significant history as a health center. Although Appalachian Hall continued to operate as a mental hospital after 1951, it has been determined that the property does not have exceptional significance, and therefore the fifty-year date for Criterion A is the end of the period of significance. Kenilworth Inn is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture, as it is an excellent example of the Tudor Revival style, and the period of significance is 1918, the initial construction date for the building. Distinctive Tudor Revival features include the picturesque rough stone masonry of the lower stories and porte cochere, the contrasting masonry, stucco and half-timbering of the exterior, and the dramatic roofline with a variety of half-hipped and gabled dormers. The inn is Asheville's largest Tudor Revival style building, and it compares favorably with other non-residential buildings in the same style.

HEALTH and MEDICINE and SOCIAL HISTORY CONTEXTS

Kenilworth Inn is significant in the areas of health and medicine and social history, because it was one of Asheville's largest social centers as a resort hotel (1923-1930), a mental health hospital (1931-2000), and a military convalescent hospital that served in both World War I (1918-1919) and World War II (1942-1944). Kenilworth Inn's history is inherently entwined with Asheville's own story, as the building's changes in function mirror the social and economic changes Asheville has experienced throughout the years.

Before the railroad came in 1880, making the community accessible to wealthy northern industrialists, Asheville was already attracting visitors seeking the city's fresh air and mild climate with hopes of relief from various pulmonary illnesses. Many of these early visitors suffered from tuberculosis and had heard of

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Asheville's reputation for its healing climate and world-renowned tuberculosis sanatoriums. In the 1870s, tuberculosis was the most dreaded disease in the world and the leading cause of death in the United States.¹ Tuberculosis, "the White Plague", was rampant throughout the country from the late 1800s through the mid-1900s and played a major and beneficial role in the building of Asheville. During this period, the medical world diagnosed and advertised Asheville as having perfect conditions for healing the pulmonary lesions associated with tuberculosis.² As Asheville developed into a national tuberculosis center, the number of visitors seeking relief steadily increased.

Dr. H. P. Gatchell established the first tuberculosis sanatorium in the United States, "The Villa", in Kenilworth in 1871.³ Although The Villa closed its doors in 1873, other doctors, such as Dr. Joseph W. Leadsman of the Mountain Sanitarium for Pulmonary Diseases (1875-1880), opened sanatoriums in Asheville that established the area as a leading tuberculosis center. In 1885, Dr. S. Westray Battle arrived in Asheville where he lived at the Battery Park Hotel. He immediately opened a private practice specializing in the treatment of pulmonary diseases, primarily tuberculosis. Being from Virginia and New York, Dr. Battle had numerous connections throughout the eastern United States and is responsible for bringing wealthy and resourceful entrepreneurs to Asheville. George Vanderbilt first came to Asheville with his mother, who was being treated for malaria by Dr. Battle.⁴ E.W. Grove, another major developer responsible for much of Asheville's growth during the 1900s, was advised by Dr. Battle to move to the healing climate of Asheville.⁵ As Asheville's reputation as a health center grew, tourism also grew, and luxury hotels were constructed as the city needed accommodations for visitors whether here for business, health, or pleasure.

Tourism in Asheville soared in the 1880s as people all over the country gained easy access via the railroad to the city's beautiful surroundings and climate. Wealthy northern industrialists joined tourists in Asheville's first period of growth, which lasted through 1900. Histories depict Asheville during this time as "...one of the most well known tourist centers in America."⁶ Great luxury hotels, including Colonel Frank Coxe's spectacular Battery Park Hotel (1886; torn down in the 1920s to make way for city development by E.W. Grove and later rebuilt in 1924), Edwin George Carrier's Belmont Hotel (1887), and Joseph M. Gazzam's Kenilworth Inn (1890) were built to accommodate tourists looking for healthful resorts. These early hotels displayed Asheville's beauty to many visitors and prompted them to seek permanent residence here.

One such visitor was Senator Joseph M. Gazzam from Pennsylvania. Joseph M. Gazzam had been Pennsylvania's state senator from 1877-1880. After visiting Asheville many times, he made it his home in 1889. In 1890, Joseph Gazzam purchased 151 acres from Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Rossell and Sophia M. Rossell of Asheville, and began to construct one of the largest luxury resort hotels in the area, the original Kenilworth Inn.⁷ J. M. Gazzam named the inn after Sir Walter Scott's nationally acclaimed novel, Kenilworth.

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Kenilworth Inn
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Kenilworth Inn was completed late in 1890. Soon after the inn's completion, on February 27, 1891, Senator Gazzam formed the town of Kenilworth; although, he did not incorporate it.⁸ Shortly after Kenilworth Inn opened, Kenilworth Inn along with the Battery Park Hotel achieved national recognition as among the most elegant hostelries in the entire country.⁹

The massive Tudor style wood frame building sat upon a knoll amidst a 151 acre park overlooking the French Broad and Swannanoa rivers. The first story of the original Kenilworth Inn, made of solid stone, boasted sprawling piazzas on every side, while the wood-frame second-story held matching balconies. Guests approached the main entry doors through a stone porte cochere similar to the one that decorates the main façade of the reconstructed inn.¹⁰ Due to its proximity to the train station and the city, Kenilworth Inn was very popular with travelers. Guests arrived from the train station by carriage, and upon their arrival, enjoyed all the modern amenities of the time, including private baths and fireplaces. Kenilworth Inn successfully operated until April 14, 1909, when it was destroyed by fire from an unknown source.¹¹ As the building was not adequately insured against such a total loss, Senator Gazzam did not rebuild; instead, he sold the 151-acre site and the ruins of Kenilworth Inn to James Madison Chiles and the Kenilworth Park Company in 1912.¹²

James Madison Chiles, known as Jake Chiles, was a young entrepreneur who first made his money in the furniture industry. First visiting Asheville in 1908, the year prior to the fire, Mr. Chiles fell in love with the views from Kenilworth Inn.¹³ When Kenilworth Inn was lost to fire, there were only a few great hotels standing in Asheville: the Belmont Hotel (1887), the Battery Park Hotel (1886), and the Manor in Albemarle Park (1899). After seeing great potential for growth in Asheville, James Chiles made it his permanent residence in 1908.¹⁴ The loss of the inn inspired Chiles to say, "A new and better Kenilworth will rise, Phoenix-like, from its ashes."¹⁵ Chiles spent the next eight years fulfilling his vow.

In 1911, James Chiles incorporated Carolina Nova Cola Company. He sold the company in 1912 and purchased the 151-acre parcel of land where the old Kenilworth Inn had stood.¹⁶ Some of this land parcel was combined with future purchases to become part of the surrounding residential area, but a large portion was held intact and reserved for the grounds of Kenilworth Inn. In September 1913, he and partners created Kenilworth Park Company, the corporation that incorporated the town of Kenilworth.¹⁷ The town had been organized in 1891 by Senator Gazzam, but was not incorporated until 1913. James Madison Chiles was elected as the first mayor of Kenilworth and served consecutively in this capacity until his death in 1925. Also in 1913, Kenilworth Development Company, the corporation dedicated to the residential development of the town of Kenilworth, was incorporated with E.G. Hester as the president and manager and Chiles as the vice-president and secretary.¹⁸ The Kenilworth Development Company immediately began to create "one of the most beautiful residential sections in Western North Carolina. Mr. Chiles sought to have in the plans something that would forever stand as a monument to his efforts."¹⁹ Chiles's monument would be the present Kenilworth Inn,

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Kenilworth Inn
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around which the rapid residential development of Kenilworth was centered during the real estate boom of the 1920s.

E. W. Grove's Grove Park Inn and Green and Lange's Langren Hotel had just opened as tourism flourished. James Chiles knew that there would be no better time to rebuild Kenilworth Inn, however local businessman and even his own partners in the other two Kenilworth Companies did not agree that reconstructing the inn was a sound investment. As a result, Chiles spent the next three years soliciting local businessmen for the funds. Kenilworth Company, the corporation dedicated to rebuilding Kenilworth Inn, was not formed until 1916 due to lack of investors. It was a separate entity from the Kenilworth Park Company and the Kenilworth Development Company; although, Chiles was a major stockholder in all three.

On November 3, 1916, Kenilworth Company entered a contract with Carolina Wood Products Company, a Michigan-based business with offices in Asheville, for the construction of Kenilworth Inn.²⁰ The agreement stated that Carolina Wood Products Company would completely fund the construction in exchange for bonds issued by Kenilworth Company and secured by a primary lien on the deed. The contract stated that Kenilworth Company would pay \$10,000.00 each year from 1919 until 1931 to Carolina Wood Products. In 1930, when the Depression closed the banks in Asheville, it was the default of this lien that caused Kenilworth Inn and Company to go bankrupt. The construction began in November 1916 and was nearly completed in January 1918; however, Kenilworth Inn did not open as a luxury hotel until March 1923. The delay was due to America's entry into World War I.

Kenilworth Inn was used as a military hospital during World War I from February 1918 until September 1919, during which time the facility that would later become Asheville's permanent Veterans Administration hospital was under construction.²¹ In February 1918, James Chiles leased 337 acres located in Azalea, an area east of Asheville currently known as Oteen, to the United States Army for the construction of a hospital that could accommodate the large number of soldiers training in the area for duty in the First World War.²² At this time, Chiles also leased Kenilworth Inn to the United States Army as General Hospital No. 12 until the permanent building at Azalea, United States Army General Hospital No. 19, now known as Oteen Veterans Administration Hospital, was completed. During this period, Kenilworth Inn was the only military hospital in the area for sick and wounded soldiers, primarily those suffering from tuberculosis.²³ In September 1919, after United States Army General Hospital No. 19 at Azalea, N.C., was fully operational, United States Army General Hospital No. 12 was deactivated, and Kenilworth Inn was released from service.²⁴

Since the Army's lease of Kenilworth Inn provided that the building be returned to James Chiles in the condition at which it was when leased, the United States Army was responsible for the removal and subsequent replacement of all ceiling, wall, and floor materials that may have been contaminated by the tuberculosis virus.

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While the United States Army had not made any alterations that permanently effected the building's exterior or any interior floor plans, extensive electrical and plumbing renovations had been done to allow for autopsy rooms, dark rooms, storage closets, various exam rooms, x-ray rooms, surgical rooms, and more. The undoing of these minor, yet extensive alterations, coupled with the decontamination of the entire 146,000 square foot building, took over two years to complete. The Kenilworth Company spent nearly another year to add finishing architectural details, such as partitioning the large lobby with rich Arts and Crafts style woodwork to allow for small, cozy lounges on either side and to finish the porches.²⁵

After nearly ten years, James Chiles's dream of rebuilding one of Asheville's largest hotels became a reality. After Roscoe Marvel, manager, added furnishings and finishing touches, the Kenilworth Company opened Kenilworth Inn to the press on March 10, 1923.²⁶ Kenilworth Inn opened in the middle of Asheville's second period of growth, which began with America's entry into World War I and ended with the Depression. Although many factors influenced Asheville's incredible growth during these years, tourism continued to be a major factor. People loved to visit Asheville for many reasons: the surrounding mountains, the mild climate, and its world famous luxury hotels and resorts. By 1916, an estimated 250,000 annual visitors were coming to Asheville, and many felt that Asheville's advancement depended upon "adequate hotel facilities."²⁷ The great hotels of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were disappearing fast; some were lost to fire like the Belmont, and some were destroyed in the process of city development as Coxe's Battery Park Hotel had in 1922. The Kenilworth Inn, a needed hostelry, could accommodate 500 guests year round.

The most popular luxury hotels of the 1920s reflected the grandiose nature of the times. Kenilworth Inn, the Grove Park Inn, the Manor, and the rebuilt Battery Park Hotel (1924), shared characteristics that made them known throughout the world as among the greatest luxury resorts of the 1920s.²⁸ Each of these hotels were built on hilltops in the midst of woodlands and offered guests a quiet, beautiful mountain vacation, while providing quick and easy access to the city for shopping, entertainment, and business. Each of these rambling hotels displayed fine craftsmanship and design. Terraces and verandas flowed into open porches on all sides, so guests were constantly exposed to the fresh air and mountain views they desired. Elegant furnishings, interior finishes, recreational facilities, and the social atmosphere of these resorts made them so attractive to tourists.

Kenilworth Inn's design provided space for important social activities common among the great hotels of its era, such as: impressive lobbies decorated with large open fireplaces and fine furniture; ballrooms where formal dances with orchestras and famous musicians occurred almost nightly; large sun rooms or solariums for tea and social visits; and billiard lounges for ladies and gentlemen. These common areas appealed to the social nature of guests and offered them the greatest luxury of all: entertainment without traveling to the city.

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Kenilworth Inn operated successfully as a resort hotel from 1923 until 1929 and advertised similar amenities as the Grove Park Inn and the Manor. All three hotels boasted modern rooms with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains set in wooded park-like settings. Entertainment for the guests was offered in the form of various recreational activities, such as: tennis, horseback riding, billiards, dancing, and more.²⁹

Because of its strong social associations with the community, particularly Kenilworth, Kenilworth Inn was a major social center. Like the Grove Park Inn and the Manor, Kenilworth Inn invited and encouraged the general public to visit the inn “any day or night of the week for dance, music, and family fun” through various newspaper advertisements.³⁰ Long time resident of Kenilworth and son of James Madison Chiles, John “Ike” Chiles, remembers Kenilworth Inn as the site of many community based functions, such as community picnics on the front lawn, various holiday memorial events such as Easter egg hunts and fireworks displays, and especially the live entertainment offered in forms of music, magic, and dance. Among many famous visitors, John Chiles remembers Houdini’s most welcome performance.³¹

Kenilworth Inn offered a variety of entertainment throughout its life as a luxury resort. A radiophone was installed just before the inn opened to the public in March 1923. Radio receiving stations within range (1,000 – 1,500 miles) of Kenilworth could tune in and listen to Station W-F-A-J, Kenilworth Inn, Asheville, North Carolina. Kenilworth Radio Concerts were aired live from the music hall and featured: the Kenilworth Inn Orchestra; Spencer Orchestra of New York; and the famous Jan Garber Orchestra; as well as other distinctive artists.³² Guests also received complimentary passes to Biltmore Forest and Asheville Country Clubs.³³ Two social events were especially important: the first annual Kenilworth and Biltmore Forest Horse Show in August of 1923, and the 1928 art exhibits at Kenilworth Galleries, both held on the grounds of Kenilworth Inn.

When James “Jake” Madison Chiles died in 1925, he was buried in Riverside Cemetery. His wife, Leah Arcouet Chiles, assumed the responsibilities of his shares in the Kenilworth Corporations. She was also elected as the Mayor of Kenilworth in November of 1928, and according to the Macon, Georgia newspaper, she was the first woman mayor to be elected in the state of North Carolina.³⁴ Even before she became mayor, Leah Chiles heightened the sense of community in Kenilworth and surrounding areas, such as Biltmore, by promoting habitable conditions for less fortunate citizens. One letter dated May 23, 1927 thanks Mrs. Chiles for: “All that you have done for us...to get us out of the mud and give us pure water to drink and privilege of lights to see our way through the difficulties which we have had all these years and no one to help us out... We the undersigned hereby try to express to you our heartfelt thanks...”³⁵ This letter is written on an old piece of paper and is signed by many names recognized as those buried in the old slave cemetery in Kenilworth.

Although Roscoe Marvel managed Kenilworth Inn and Company, Leah Chiles maintained her interest in Kenilworth Inn socially. She promoted the inn and Asheville in many ways. Not only did she drive to Florida

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every year in her Land of Sky “booster” car; she also attracted much attention to Asheville through the arts. Mrs. Chiles, a talented artist, was an active member of the Asheville Art Association, and devoted much of her time to improving the quality of life through cultural education. In 1928, she created the Kenilworth Galleries.³⁶

In April 1928, Kenilworth Inn was the location of the largest exhibit of paintings in the South, showering Asheville with publicity. More than 100 artists from twelve states and three foreign countries had paintings on display. Among them were Kiffin Rockwell (one of the seven founders of the Escadrille Americaine, and the first pilot to shoot down a German plane in the First World War), A. C. Wyatt, famous English painter of garden and landscape, and High Point’s Mrs. R. P. Royer, as well as artists from Italy and Germany.³⁷ Mrs. John Francis Amherst Cecil (Cornelia Vanderbilt) and her husband, J. F. A. Cecil, both sponsored and attended the events. With help from Roscoe Marvel and the Cecils, Leah Chiles converted the ballroom and surrounding solarium into Kenilworth Galleries.³⁸ Kenilworth Galleries hosted various art shows through November 1928, and each one was larger and received increasingly more attention in the art world. Especially one autumn art show in particular. It was held in honor of Armistice Day, and guests of honor were members of the American Legion and Mrs. James C. Rockwell, Kiffin Rockwell’s mother.

As the banks began to close in 1929, the city of Asheville wanted to annex Kenilworth and other suburbs in an attempt to economically protect the city and surrounding areas. Leah Chiles agreed with the Asheville Mayor, but fought any annexation without a vote by the people of Kenilworth. After much publicity and many heated debates between the two Mayors, Kenilworth was granted the right to a vote. The vote was nearly unanimous in favor of annexation, and on June 30, 1929, the Honorable Mayoress, Leah Chiles, surrendered the town of Kenilworth to the “bigger, better, and wealthier” city of Asheville.³⁹ Soon after, the bank closings in Asheville caused Kenilworth Inn Company to default its payments to Carolina Wood Products Company. Kenilworth Inn sat empty for one year, before it reopened not as a resort hotel, but as a sanatorium.

In October 1931, local brothers, Dr. William Ray Griffin, Sr., and Dr. Mark Griffin converted Kenilworth Inn into a mental health facility. The Griffin brothers had previously owned and operated a mental health facility named Appalachian Hall on French Broad Avenue in Asheville from 1916 until 1931. With the increasing number of patients needing treatment during the depression, the doctors realized their practice had outgrown the facility. The Griffin brothers moved Appalachian Hall into the vacant Kenilworth Inn in 1931. The spaciousness and interior organization of the building allowed for easy organization of the patients according to the diagnosed level of care individually prescribed as part of their treatments. Patients were diagnosed as a Level I, free range of the hospital and grounds; Level II, limited range of the hospital and grounds with supervision; or Level III, isolation, and were housed on the appropriate floor (first, second, or third floor, respectively).⁴⁰ Besides changing the name and adding examination and treatment rooms, the building

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remained relatively unchanged. The surrounding property was not changed either, as patients diagnosed at the lower levels of care were permitted and encouraged to participate in the same outdoor activities as guests of Kenilworth Inn had in previous years. There were other privately-owned mental health facilities in Asheville, the first being Highland Hospital (established 1904), but according to the Robert Griffin, Appalachian Hall's convalescent atmosphere differed from the others more disciplined regimens.⁴¹

In an era when doctors focused treatments upon physical ailments, Appalachian Hall and the Griffins treated both emotional and physical ailments. Appalachian Hall provided a convalescent atmosphere where treatments varied according to the individual patient, and usually included a mixture of approved recreational, occupational, and physical therapies. Treatments in the physical therapy department in the early 1930s were standard and included hydrotherapy, thermotherapy, and electrotherapy.⁴²

In February 1943, during World War II, the United States government called Appalachian Hall into service as "U.S. Naval Convalescent Hospital, Kenilworth Park", and Appalachian Hall was temporarily moved to two local hotels: the Princess Anne Hotel, which still exists as a bed and breakfast on Furman Street and the Forest Hill Inn (demolished in the 1980s for construction of a modern apartment complex) on Forest Hill Drive in Kenilworth."⁴³ Prior to moving to Appalachian Hall, Grove Park Inn had been the location of the United States Naval operations and rest center in 1942.⁴⁴ As "no general visitations" were allowed at the "U.S. Naval Rest Center" established at the Grove Park Inn, it differed from the convalescent hospital activated at Appalachian Hall.⁴⁵ While the two hospitals shared a common goal of convalescing soldiers with rest and relaxation, the Kenilworth Park hospital added recreation to the program. Soldiers were sent to Kenilworth Park Hospital after reaching the convalescent stages of recuperation from injuries or illnesses contracted during duty and enjoyed the same amenities as Kenilworth Inn guests and Appalachian Hall patients had in prior years, in addition to new recreational fixtures added by the Navy. The Navy added a stage to the ballroom for motion pictures and a bowling alley to the basement.⁴⁶ The building once again became a social center for dances, picnics, motion pictures, and other stage shows hosted by the U.S. Navy.⁴⁷ The dining hall was open to the public, as well, because public interaction with the convalescing soldiers was thought to boost the soldiers' morale and promote speedy recoveries. Nearly 7,000 patients of all nationalities were treated before the hospital was deactivated in April 1946.⁴⁸ After the U.S. Navy vacated Appalachian Hall, Dr. William Ray Griffin and Dr. Mark A. Griffin reoccupied the building where they operated Appalachian Hall

Later, in the early 1950s, when William Griffin, Jr., and Robert Griffin joined their father, William Ray Griffin, Sr., in practice at Appalachian Hall, many of the earlier methods of treatment were replaced with new ones, such as the use of tranquilizers. William Griffin, Jr., and Robert Griffin also brought newly developed diagnostic methods to Appalachian Hall, such as electroencephalography.⁴⁹ A neurology department with laboratories for the diagnosis of organic central nervous system disorders was constructed in the basement. In

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the mid-1970s, the Griffins realized that the field of mental health was changing, and insurance companies began to push institutions for shorter treatments and faster results. The Griffins, unable to maintain the large building economically, sold Appalachian Hall to Magellan Enterprises, a real estate holdings company, in the 1980s. Kenilworth Inn continued to be known as Appalachian Hall until new owners changed the name in 1994. From 1946 until 1994, Kenilworth Inn continued to be used as a mental health facility known as Appalachian Hall.

Charter Behavioral Health System purchased Kenilworth Inn in 1994, and the building became known as Charter Asheville. E. F. Howington, the current owner, purchased Kenilworth Inn and the surrounding twenty-five-acres from Charter on October 22, 2000. Kenilworth Inn experienced many changes of name and function throughout the years, but its historical importance to the community never faltered.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Kenilworth Inn, built by Carolina Wood Products Company in 1918, is architecturally significant as one of Asheville's finest Tudor Revival style buildings. The style was popular in the United States from the 1890s through the 1930s, and both the castellated and cottage variants of the style were commonly used in house design, particularly for larger residences for the wealthy. Although Asheville contains dozens of Tudor influenced residences, there are very few apartment buildings, commercial, or institutional buildings in the style. Of Asheville's luxury hotels from the 1890s and early 1900s, the Kenilworth Inn stands out as the only example of the Tudor Revival style. Actually, few hotels of this period remain, many having been lost to fire, like the original Kenilworth Inn (1890) and the Belmont (1887), or to make way for city development like the original Battery Park Hotel (1886) and the Langren Hotel (1913). The Grove Park Inn (1913), the Manor Inn (1898), and Kenilworth Inn (1918) are Asheville's only remaining luxury hotels from the early 1900s. Kenilworth Inn is thought to be designed by Ronald Greene, a prominent architect in Asheville who designed a number of the city's downtown buildings on Pack Square.

Asheville's resort hotel architecture of the early twentieth century is representative of the eclectic architectural styles prevalent during the period, yet they share similarities inspired by the widespread Arts and Crafts movement. Because it was the region's center of tourism and industry, Asheville attracted a diverse group of architects during the late 1800s and early 1900s.⁵⁰ Architects Rafael Guastavino (Biltmore Estate), Richard Sharpe Smith (Biltmore Estate), and Ronald Greene (Jackson Building), among many others, designed architecturally diverse buildings throughout Asheville. The great hotels surviving from this era display strong individual influences of the ornate Queen Anne and Shingle Style (the Manor Inn), the sophisticated Tudor

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Revival (Kenilworth Inn), the Georgian Revival (Battery Park Hotel, 1924) and the rustic Arts and Crafts style of the Grove Park Inn.

Although the designs of these hotels are dictated by vastly different styles, the incorporation of local, natural materials as emphasized by the Arts and Crafts movement, created some familiarity amongst them. As granite was plentiful in local mines, granite stone masonry is characteristic of the region's late nineteenth and early twentieth century resorts. In many buildings of the period, the natural materials became the focal point of the building, as is the case with the Grove Park Inn and the Kenilworth Inn. Kenilworth Inn's impressive porte cochere, built entirely of granite, is the focal point of the main façade and is accented by granite wrap around porches and terraces. Local stonework is also the main focus of the Grove Park Inn as it is entirely constructed of local stone. The exterior lower level load bearing walls of the Manor and the Kenilworth Inn are entirely constructed of local stone. "Local stonework in a variety of colors and textures gave individuality to otherwise standard building forms" and "in Asheville; some sense of a regional architectural character emerged" as a result.⁵¹ In addition, the Grove Park Inn, the Manor, and the Kenilworth Inn were all designed to accent the strong presence of the surrounding Blue Ridge Mountains in keeping with the Arts and Crafts influence of a strong kinship with natural surroundings. These hotels are set in park-like settings and surrounded by sprawling open porches and terraces, reflecting the tourists' appetites for fresh air and mountain views.

Kenilworth Inn is characteristic of early twentieth-century Tudor Revival style construction and is one of Asheville's only commercial examples. Richard M. Hunt, leading architect for the Biltmore House, largely introduced Tudor style construction to Asheville in the late 1800s.⁵² As Hunt created Biltmore Village in the spirit of his English heritage, the majority of the structures are Tudor Revival in design. Richard S. Smith, another prominent Asheville architect, inherited Hunt's English Tudor style and incorporated it into the development of Biltmore Forest residences. While R. S. Smith and Charles N. Parker built many Tudor Revival homes in Asheville, few commercial buildings were constructed in the style. The original Battery Park Hotel (1886) and the original Kenilworth Inn (1890), both no longer existing, were two of Asheville's most elaborate Tudor Revival style commercial structures.

When James Chiles aspired to rebuild the Kenilworth Inn, he attempted to maintain a connection between the old and the new by incorporating characteristic features of the Tudor Revival style. As a result, the present structure, although largely different in appearance from the first, celebrates the style. A defining feature of Tudor construction is a division of the use of materials between the foundation and upper floors. Kenilworth Inn's granite foundation and stucco upper walls provide an excellent contrast between stories. The Tudor Revival style also highlighted a picturesque roofline, and the Kenilworth Inn's prominent roof design is diverse, lively, and interesting. It is a complex arrangement of wall and roof dormers and hipped and shed gables. The applied half-timbering characteristic of Tudor Revival style is present in the fourth story gables. The bay

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windows along the east façade of the north wing are also indicative of the Tudor Revival style. Kenilworth Inn is Asheville's largest Tudor Revival building.

Interestingly, the interior finishes of the Kenilworth Inn incorporate designs in a variety of styles, including the Tudor Revival, classical, and the Arts and Crafts. The double French doors with multi-paned sidelights and transom, the stairwell, and the bay windows are compatible with the Tudor Revival style. The large wooden doorways that separate the lobby area into cozy side lounges are Arts and Crafts influenced and pair well with the heavy wood trim which surrounds each window and door. A touch of classicism is mixed in by the use of large square columns, simple in design, throughout the grand lobby area. The high beamed ceilings are also encased in classical moldings. Other common features, of no less importance, are the prominent flat arches and keystones above foundation doors and windows and the handsome brick quoining that heavily defines each window and corner of the second and third stories.

Although D. J. Drexel of Chicago, Illinois, drafted the blueprints, Kenilworth Inn is believed to be the work of local renowned architect, Ronald Greene. Ronald Greene was born in Coldwater, Michigan in 1891. He studied at the Pratt School of Architecture and Columbia University in New York and at the Bèaux Arts Atelier in Cleveland, Ohio in the early 1910s.⁵³ Ronald Greene's exact date of arrival in Asheville is unknown; however, family accounts place him in Asheville in 1916.⁵⁴ A memorandum of agreement entered by and between Carolina Wood Products Company and Kenilworth Company on November 3, 1916, credited the "firm of Donaldson & Meir of Detroit, Michigan and Roland Greene of Asheville, North Carolina" with the design of Kenilworth Inn.⁵⁵ The 1917 Asheville City Directory has a listing for Ronald Green, chief engineer of Carolina Wood Products Company, but no Roland Greene was listed in the Asheville City Directories, 1910-1923. 'Roland' was probably a clerical error. Carolina Wood Products Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan is also first listed in the 1917 Asheville City Directory. It is possible that Ronald Greene was employed with the Detroit firm at the time he designed Kenilworth Inn for James Madison Chiles, and perhaps he relocated to Asheville with Carolina Wood Products Company in 1917, where he acted as chief structural engineer of the Kenilworth Inn project. Ronald Greene is not listed at any other time in the Asheville city directories except in 1922 where he is listed as an architect and structural engineer.

Ronald Greene's first recognized commission, in Asheville, was for Claxton School in 1922 (NR 1992).⁵⁶ Greene designed many of downtown Asheville's most prominent buildings of Pack Square in the 1920s, such as: the Jackson Building; the Asheville Municipal Building; and the Westall Building. Although Greene specialized in commercial and civic building design, he also designed residential buildings, many of which are located in the Kenilworth neighborhood. In 1925, Ronald Greene designed the Longchamps Apartment building, a six-story Tudor Revival style structure, at 185 Macon Avenue near the Grove Park Inn. This

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building resembles Kenilworth Inn; however, it has many French influences in its design. Greene remained in Asheville until 1951 at which time he relocated to Gastonia and designed many major civic buildings.

ENDNOTES:

¹ Stephens, Irby, M.D., "Asheville: The Tuberculosis Era". North Carolina Medical Journal, September 1985. Vol. 46, No. 9, p. 455.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Swaim, Douglas. Cabins & Castles, The History & Architecture of Buncombe County, North Carolina, Asheville, North Carolina: Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County, 1981, p. 24

⁷ Grantor and Grantee Books located at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds office in Asheville, North Carolina.

⁸ Sondley, F.A. A History of Buncombe County, North Carolina, Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Co., 1977, p.659.

⁹ Asheville City Directory 1890 and 1896-97 Eggleton, Prof. J.D., "Asheville and Vicinity Historical Section", p. 50-53. Kenilworth Inn is first listed in Asheville City Directory 1890. Swaim, p. 43.

¹⁰ 1900 Information Brochure, "Kenilworth Inn". p. 4. John Chiles Collection.

¹¹ "Kenilworth Inn Totally Destroyed by Fire at 3 O'clock This Morning." Asheville (NC) Times, 14 April 1909. Part of the "Hotels, inns, taverns, etc." file, Pack Memorial Library, Asheville, North Carolina.

¹² Grantor and Grantee books located at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds office in Asheville, North Carolina.

¹³ "Chiles, James Madison. "Biographical" file, Pack Memorial Library, Asheville, North Carolina.

¹⁴ Grove Park Historic District National Register of Historic Places Nomination.
Grantor and Grantee Books located at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds Office.

¹⁵ Harris, Theodore. "Dream of James Madison Chiles Realized After Years of Toil; Foresight Great Aid to County," Asheville Times, June 1925. John Ciles Collection, scrapbook entitled "James Madison Chiles".

¹⁶ Asheville City Directories 1911-12 and Grantor and Grantee books located at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds office in Asheville, North Carolina.

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¹⁷ Articles of Incorporation of Kenilworth Park Company, September 1913. John Chiles Collection, Asheville, NC. These partners were P.G. Bowman, J.J. McCloskey, R.A. Wilson, and E.G. Hester all of Asheville, NC.

¹⁸ Asheville City Directories 1913-1915. Article of Agreement dated October 20, 1912, recorded at the Buncombe County Register of Deeds, Deed Book 215, p.401-402, in which E.G. Hester signs as the president and J. M. Chiles signs as the vice-president and treasurer.

¹⁹ "J.M. Chiles Dies at Home in Town that he Founded," Asheville Times, 1925. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "James Madison Chiles".

²⁰ Memorandum of Agreement by and between Carolina Wood Products Company and Kenilworth Company dated November 3, 1916. John Chiles Collection.

²¹ National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Oteen Veterans Administration Hospital Historic District, Buncombe County, prepared by Douglas Swaim and Jim Sumner, 1982.

²² Ibid.

²³ "Gen. Ireland and Party Left Sunday", Asheville-Times. 17 March 1919. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "James Madison Chiles".

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Asheville City Directories 1919-21. Kenilworth Inn first listed as "US General Hospital No.12" and then "US Public Health Hospital".

²⁶ "Kenilworth Inn is Reality After Months of Preparing on Part of hotel Owners", Asheville Times, 11 March 1923.

²⁷ Black, David R. Historic Architectural Resources of Downtown Asheville North Carolina, Asheville, North Carolina: City of Asheville, 1979, p. 12-14.

²⁸ Swaim, p. 43.

²⁹ National Register of Historic Places Nomination, The Manor and Cottages, prepared by Edward F. Turberg and Robert Topkins,

³⁰ Various advertisements in the Asheville-Times. 1923-1929. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook, "Kenilworth Inn Company".

³¹ Interview with John Chiles, 9 November 2000.

³² "Kenilworth Inn Announces Radiophone", Asheville Times, 4 March 1923 and "Kenilworth Inn Dinner Dance", advertisement. Asheville Times, 23 July 1923. John Chiles Collection. See working file for copy of his scrapbook entitled "Kenilworth Inn Company (1870-1930), Kenilworth Inn Galleries Art Show (April 23-28 and November 12-21st, 1928), and Kenilworth Hippodrome".

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- ³³ "Kenilworth Inn", advertisement. Asheville Times, 1923 July. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "Kenilworth Inn Company".
- ³⁴ "She is Mayor". Macon, Georgia News, 27 December 1928. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled, "Leah Arcouet Chiles (1885-1953)."
- ³⁵ John Chiles Collection, the original letter is signed by many names of persons who are buried in the old slave cemetery in Kenilworth.
- ³⁶ "Great Booster for Land of Sky". Asheville Times. John Chiles Collection. See working file copy of "Leah Arcouet Chiles (1885-1953) scrapbook. Leah Chiles would paint her car with various slogans that advertised Kenilworth Town, Kenilworth Inn, and Asheville and drive to St. Petersburg, Florida every year.
- ³⁷ "Kenilworth Galleries Will be Open Today". Asheville Times, 28 April 1928. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled, "Kenilworth Inn Galleries Art Show". There are numerous accounts of World War I which name Kiffin Rockwell as the first American to shoot down a German plane on the French front line located at the United States Air Force Museum in Ohio at the World War I history gallery. Also, the First Flight Centennial Commission recognizes Kiffin Rockwell for this military accomplishment.
- ³⁸ Photograph of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. A. Cecil, Roscoe Marvel, and Leah Chiles. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "Kenilworth Inn Galleries". Original photograph held by John Chiles.
- ³⁹ June 30, 1929 resolution of surrender presented to the city of Asheville by the Honorable Mayoress, Leah A. Chiles. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "Leah Arcouet Chiles (1885-1953).
- ⁴⁰ Interview with Robert Griffin of Asheville, North Carolina, former owner of Appalachian Hall. 9 November 2000.
- ⁴¹ Ibid.
- ⁴² Interview with Robert Griffin, 9 November 2000. Hydrotherapy involved aiming high-pressure streams of water, usually a fire hose, at nude patients. Thermotherapy consisted of the patient being placed in a box up to his/her chin. The attending doctor then raised or lowered the temperature as prescribed. Electrotherapy used low voltage electrical waves administered directly to specific areas of the brain via carefully placed electrodes. All of these treatments were thought to alter the levels of chemicals produced by the brain; thus, altering behavior. Pictures of these treatments are shown in the "Appalachian Hall" brochure.
- ⁴³ "Naval Hospital Commissioned in Ceremony". Asheville Times, 24 May 1943. "Sanatoriums" file, Pack Memorial Library, Asheville, North Carolina.
- ⁴⁴ "218 Japanese and Germans Interned at Grove Park Inn", Asheville-Times. 16 May 1942. Asheville-Buncombe County Pack Memorial Library "World War, 1939-1945" file.
- ⁴⁵ Ibid.

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⁴⁶ Interview with Robert Griffin, 9 November 2000.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ "Navy Hospital Deactivated Today", Asheville-Times. Date unknown. John Chiles Collection, scrapbook entitled "Kenilworth Inn and Company".

⁴⁹ Electroencephalography was used to measure and map abnormal brain patterns and seizures. Newly developed in the late 1940s, the young Griffin doctors studied this method as interns at various neurological institutions. Interview with William Griffin, Jr., January 22, 2000.

⁵⁰ Bishir, Catherine, Southern, Michael T., and Martin, Jennifer F. A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Press, 1999. p. 55-60

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Swaim, Douglas, Cabins & Castles: The History & Architecture of Buncombe County, North Carolina, Asheville, North Carolina: Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County, 1981. p. 83.

⁵³ National Register of Historic Places Draft Nomination, Snowbird Mountain Lodge, Graham County, North Carolina, Section 8, page 10. Prepared by Davyd Foard Hood, 1993.

⁵³ Hood, Davyd Foard. Snowbird Mountain Lodge National Register of Historic Places, Draft nomination. Section 8, page 10.

⁵⁴ Hood, Davyd Foard. Snowbird Mountain Lodge National Register of Historic Places, Draft nomination. Section 8, page 10.

⁵⁵ Memorandum of Agreement by and between Carolina Wood Products Company and Kenilworth Company. Dated November 3, 1916. John Chiles Collection.

⁵⁶ National Register of Historic Places, Draft nomination for Snowbird Mountain Lodge, Graham County, North Carolina as prepared by Davyd Foard Hood, 1992.

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"Leah Arcouet Chiles, 1885-1953"

"James Madison Chiles"

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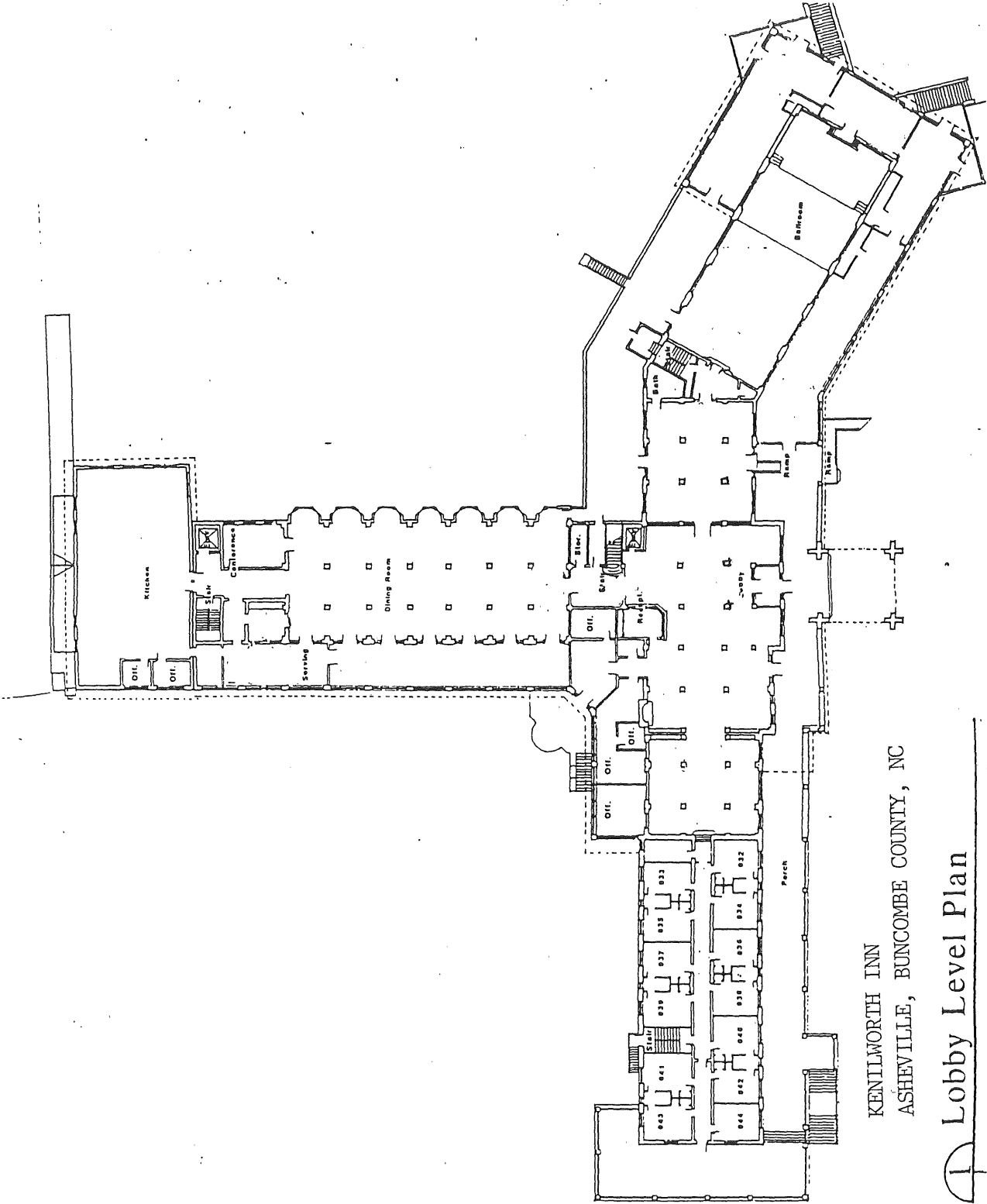
Kenilworth Inn
Buncombe County, North Carolina

Boundary Description

The boundaries of this nomination are indicated on the accompanying county tax map.
(Portion of Pin Number 9648.19-71-4713).

Boundary Justification

The 5.81-acres included in this nomination was historically part of the original tract of land purchased by James Madison Chiles and preserved by him for the grounds of Kenilworth Inn. The larger hotel tract has been reduced significantly by intense residential development in the Kenilworth area.



KENILWORTH INN
 ASHEVILLE, BUNCOMBE COUNTY, NC

Lobby Level Plan

