



**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory  
Secretary Susan Kluttz

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

October 27, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kate Husband  
Office of Human Environment  
NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*  
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Replacement of Bridge 27 over US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop, B-3159, Lexington,  
Davidson County, ER 14-0744

Thank you for your memorandum transmitting the Historic Structures Survey Report for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report and offer the following comments.

We concur with the report findings that **the headwall and channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch are contributing elements in the National Register -listed Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865)**. The stone bridge toward the western end of the channel and a retaining wall leading to the bridge from the south were recorded as a contributing structure in the original historic district nomination. This report makes it clear that the historic resource is actually much larger and the stone-lined channel extends from the bottom of Hames Street to a point south of 96 7<sup>th</sup> Street on the historic district map.

Please confirm the status of the stone retaining walls on the south side of US29-64-70/I-85 (F, G, and H on page 23 site plan). These appear to be located within the National Register-listed Lexington Residential Historic District. However, their location in the district is not discussed in the report.

The above comments are made in accord with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. If you have any questions concerning them, please contact me at 919-807-6579.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

[mfurr@ncdot.gov](mailto:mfurr@ncdot.gov)

**Replace Bridge No. 27 on US 52/NC 8 over the US 29-64-70/I-85  
Business Loop, Davidson County, North Carolina  
In-Depth Architectural Evaluation**

**TIP No. B-3159  
WBS No. 38331.1.1**

**Prepared for:  
The North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Project Development & Environmental Analysis Branch  
Century Center  
1020 Birch Ridge Road  
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*Architectural Historian***

**NCR-0201**

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

## **MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) intends to replace Bridge No. 27 on US 52/NC 8 over US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop in Lexington, Davidson County. This report represents documentation of a channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and a stone-faced headwall (NCDOT Survey Site Number 1) located within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project, as per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. This project is included in the current North Carolina State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as Project Number B-3159 and is federally funded.

For the preparation of this evaluation report, the Coastal Carolina Research (CCR) architectural historian conducted architectural analysis and in-depth National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) evaluation of the channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall.

This report recommends that both features are contributing elements to the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865), which was listed in the NRHP in 2008.

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## INTRODUCTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) intends to replace Bridge No. 27 on US 52/NC 8 over US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop in Lexington, Davidson County. The study limits are located to the south side of W. Seventh Street to the west of Hames Street, and to the north of the southbound lanes of US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop (Figure 1). This project is included in the current North Carolina STIP as Project Number B-3159 and is federally funded. This report includes the results of Coastal Carolina Research's (CCR) architectural analysis and in-depth evaluation of one resource (a channelized section of an unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and a stone-faced headwall) located within the APE (Figure 2). The investigations comply with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended. Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment. This report is on file at NCDOT and is available for review by the public.

### Methodology

NCDOT conducted the survey and prepared this evaluation report in accordance with the provisions of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*<sup>1</sup> and NCDOT's *Survey Procedures and Report Guidelines for Historic Architectural Resources*. This survey and report meet NCDOT and the National Park Service guidelines. NCDOT conducted the evaluation survey to evaluate the resource according to the NRHP criteria.

The NRHP criteria require that the quality of significance in American history, architecture, culture, and archaeology should be present in buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and that the buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts:

- A. are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- B. are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- C. embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.<sup>2</sup>

For the preparation of this evaluation report, at the request of NCDOT, the CCR architectural historian inspected the channelized section of an unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall in September 2014. Field documentation included notes, sketch maps, and digital photography. Background research was conducted at the Davidson County Public Library (Lexington Branch), the Davidson County Register of Deeds (Lexington), and the

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<sup>1</sup> National Park Service, 2014. 48 CFR 44716; 36 CFR Part 800; 36 CFR Part 60

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

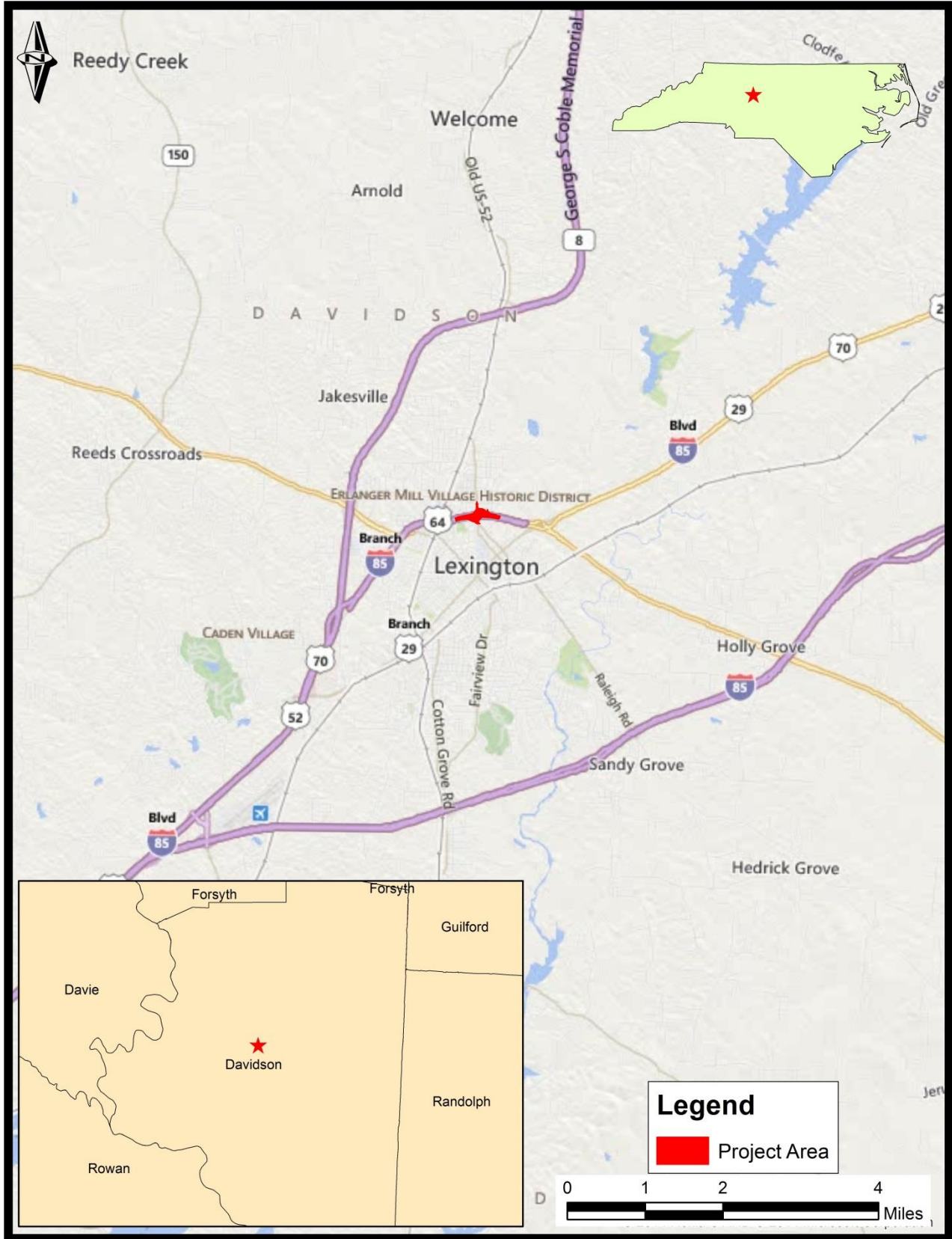


Figure 1: General Location of the Project Area for Replacing Bridge No. 27 on US 52/NC 8 Over the US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop (B-3159).



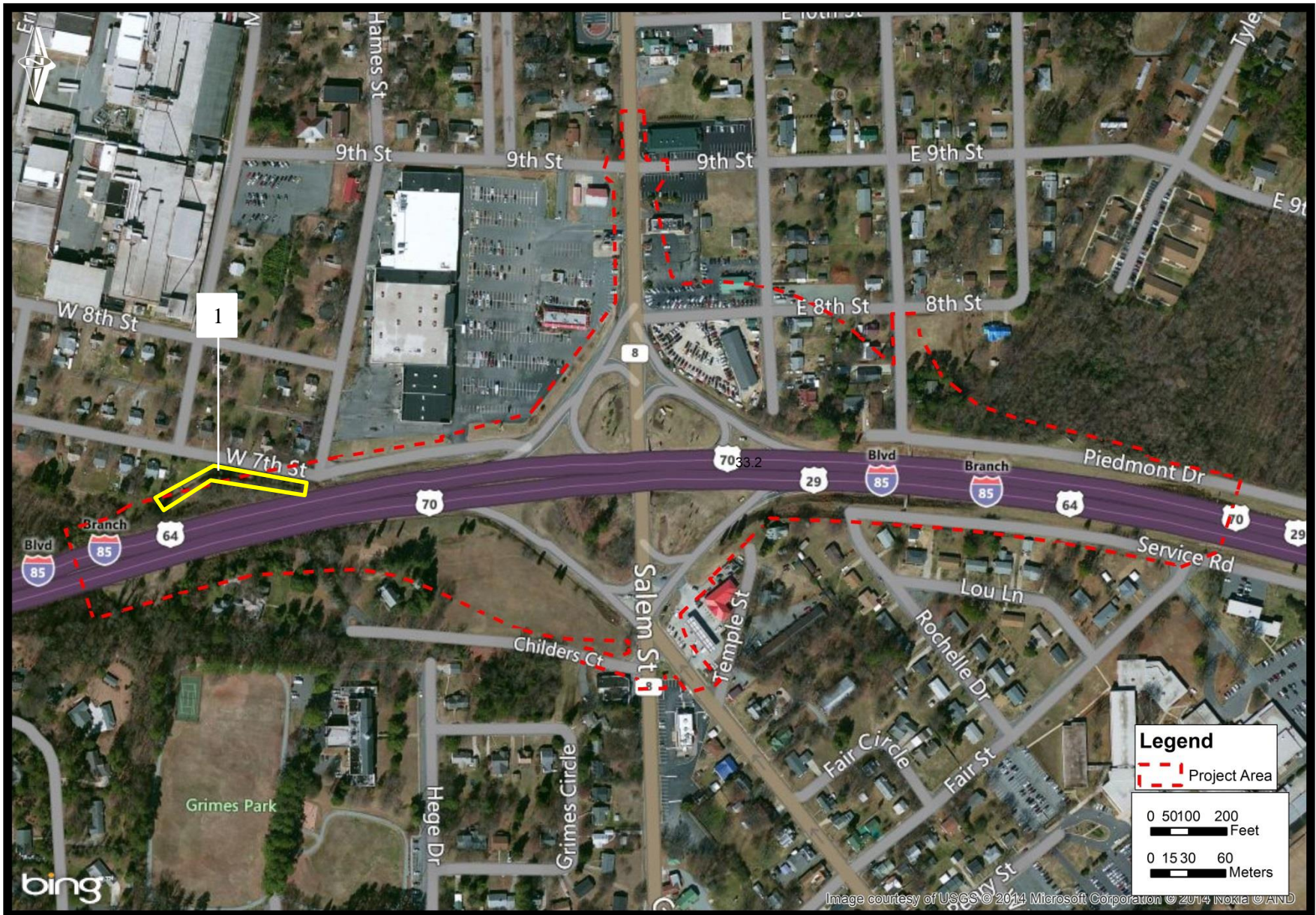


Figure 2: Location of Surveyed Resource, Shown on Aerial (B-3159) (ArcGIS Image Service 2014).

Davidson County Historical Museum (Lexington), both online and on site. Additional background research was conducted at the CCR library in Tarboro, North Carolina, and using online sources.

### **Summary of Results**

The resource consists of a channelized section of an unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall, which is located at the south end of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District. Based on the information obtained during the evaluation, the features comprising this resource are contributing elements to the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865), which was listed in the NRHP in 2008.

### **Physical Environment**

The evaluated resource is located between W. Seventh Street and the southbound lanes of US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop, and its immediate setting is still predominantly bucolic with the exception of the modern roadway. The mill village is located to the north and retains much of its landscape design, and the adjacent embankment of US 29-64-70/I-85 Business Loop is lined with trees and shrubs. The only noticeable change in the resource's environment is a modern shopping center located to the northeast.



## PROPERTY INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

Resource Name:	Channelized section of unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and stone-faced headwall
NCDOT Survey Site Number:	1
HPO Survey Site Number:	DV1784
Location:	South side of W. Seventh Street, Lexington, Davidson County
Parcel ID:	Part of the resource falls within the right of way of I-85 Business and part of parcel # 1100600000008
Dates(s) of Construction:	ca. 1916
Recommendation:	Contributing resource to the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865)



Figure 3: View of Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch and Stone-faced Headwall, Looking East.

### **Setting**

The channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch (referred to as the Erlanger Branch in the 2008 NR nomination<sup>3</sup>) runs along the south side of W. Seventh Street. The stone-faced headwall is located at the intersection of W. Seventh and Hames Streets and SR 1540. The stream runs east to west through a wooded area between W. Seventh Street and I-85 Business and opens up into a grassy area associated with the property at 96 W. Seventh Street (Figures 3 and 4).

<sup>3</sup> Heather Fearnbach, Erlanger Mill Village Historic District, Lexington, Davidson County, National Register Nomination (# 07001371), 2008.

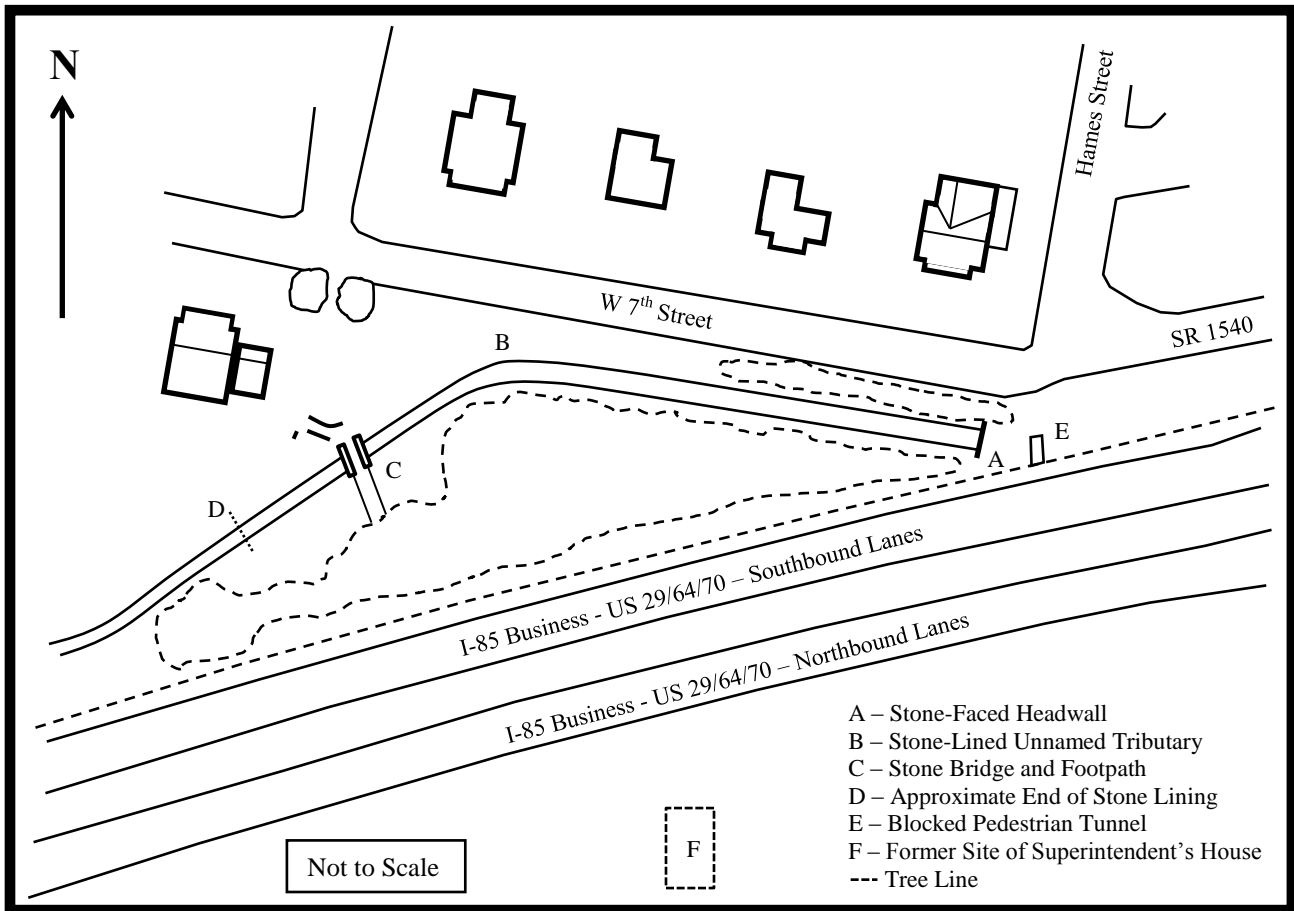


Figure 4: Sketch Map of the Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch.

### Property Description

Constructed around 1916, the channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch is located between W 7th Street and the southbound lanes of I-85 Business (US 20/64/70) at the southern end of the Erlanger Mill Village in Lexington, North Carolina. The unnamed tributary currently emerges via a culvert from the embankment for I-85 Business through an oval-shaped, stone-faced headwall and runs west (Figure 5). It originally extended underneath, what was then known as Church Street (now Hames Street). The culvert appears to be constructed from coarse rubble and concrete, and the headwall is laid in un-coursed stone (Figures 6 and 7). Both sides of the unnamed tributary are lined with stones for the full height and for approximately 435 feet to the west of the headwall, after which the waterway it reverts to its natural state (Figures 8 through 10). Located approximately 340 feet west of the headwall is a small 14-foot-long and 10-foot-wide stone bridge, which crosses over the unnamed tributary from north to south (Figure 11). The bridge is a contributing structure of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865). Located to the north of the bridge are low sections of stone wall, one of which is partially crescent shaped, and to the south is a stone footpath that originally led to the house of the superintendent of the mill, which is now demolished (Figures 12 and 13).





Figure 5: Detail of Stone-Faced Headwall and Culvert for Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking Southeast.



Figure 6: View of Interior of Concrete Culvert for Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking East.





Figure 7: View of Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch and Stone-Faced Headwall, Looking East.



Figure 8: View of Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking West.





Figure 9: View of Channelized Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking West.



Figure 10: View of Natural Section of Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking East.





Figure 11: View of Bridge over Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking Southwest.

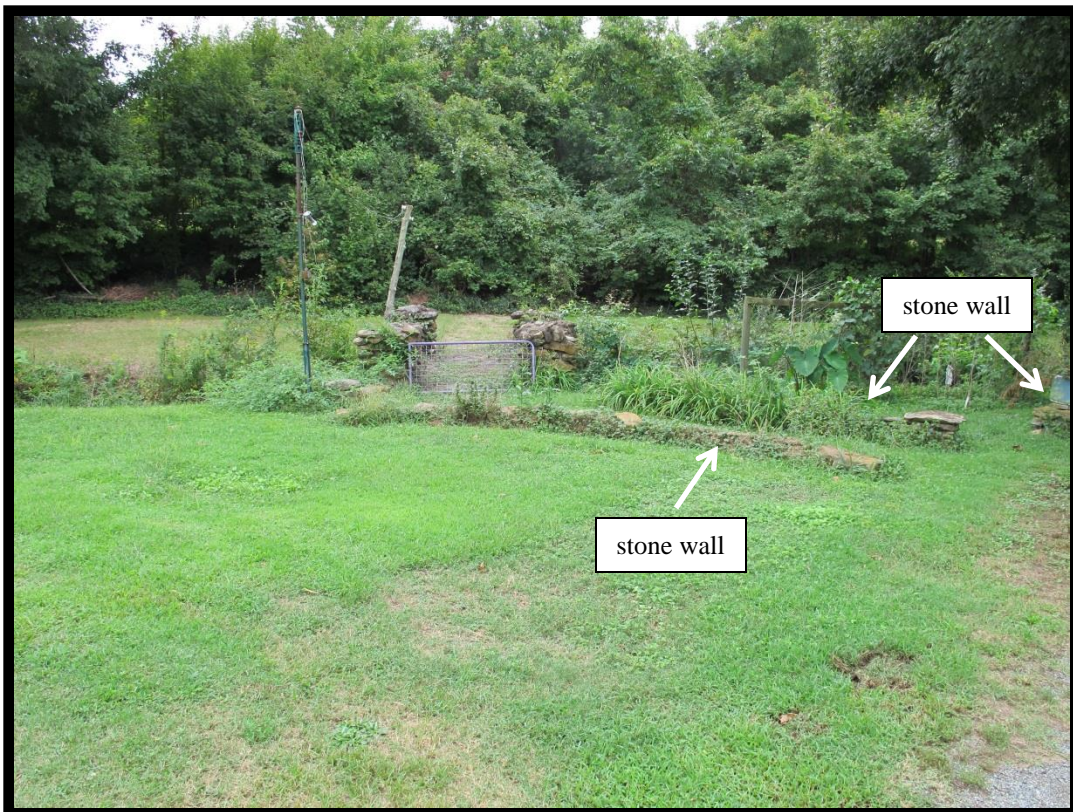


Figure 12: View of Low Stone Walls in Front of Bridge over Unnamed Tributary of Michael Branch, Looking Southeast.





Figure 13: View of Stone Path Originally Leading to Superintendent's House, Looking Southeast.

## Historic Background

The historic context for the evaluated resource is connected with the historic context of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District, of which it is an integral part. The Erlanger Mill Village was created around the Erlanger Cotton Mills. Abraham and Charles Erlanger purchased a site just north of Lexington in 1911 to establish a new mill for the production of cotton fabric to be used in their men's undergarment plant in Baltimore, Maryland.<sup>4</sup> The mill village was laid out in three distinct phases. The first phase occurred between 1916 and 1917, and was confined to an approximately eight-block area just to the north, east, and south of the mill (Figure 14). The second phase took place between 1917 and 1923, and expanded the village along Home [Street] (now Olympia Street) to the west of the mill, Broad [Street], Rainbow [Street], and Snow (now Second Rainbow Street) to the north and northwest, and South [Street] (now Short Street) to the southwest (Figures 15 and 16).<sup>5</sup> The crescent-shaped section of Rainbow and Snow were the work of Earl S. Draper, a landscape architect based in Charlotte (Figure 17).<sup>6</sup> A 1917 recruiting brochure described the first-time experience of visitors to the village:

“One approaching Erlanger Village for the first time is most impressed perhaps, by the perfection of the building arrangements.... The employees' cottages in the newer portion of the village are the most modern bungalow designs, being built with great individuality from thirty original special drawings....”

The brochure also described the craftsmanship of the houses, the high quality of materials, and the modern amenities, such as electric light and a modern sewage system.<sup>7</sup> The third phase occurred between 1923 and 1929, and involved the construction of houses along the north side of Snow (now Second Rainbow Street).<sup>8</sup>

The Erlanger Mill Village was not your average early twentieth-century mill village, in that it was not only utilitarian and functional, but also attempted to achieve the City Beautiful aesthetics on a village scale. Especially since Erlanger newsletters even referred to “The Village Beautiful.”<sup>9</sup> Earlier mill villages opted for a uniform house design based on nineteenth-century vernacular examples, but during the first quarter of the twentieth century, leading textile manufacturers opted to create “model mill villages.”<sup>10</sup> In 1899, Daniel A. Tompkins wrote “A Textbook for use of Textile Schools and Investors,” where he analyzed every part of a cotton mill operation, starting with the actual cotton, and dealing with investors, accounting, and bookkeeping, but also with “Operatives Homes.”<sup>11</sup> Tompkins spelled out the need for proper

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<sup>4</sup> Fearnbach, Section 8, p. 75, and “The Erlanger Story,” 1964 promotional brochure in the Erlanger vertical file at the Davidson County Library, Lexington, North Carolina.

<sup>5</sup> Most of the streets were renamed when the village was incorporated by Lexington in 1942. Fearnbach, Section 8, p. 79.

<sup>6</sup> Fearnbach, Section 8, p. 75.

<sup>7</sup> Quoted in, Phoebe Zerwick's “Company Town: Erlanger's Townsfolk Recall the Good and the Bad During the Time When the Mill Meant Everything.” *Winston-Salem Journal*, January 1, 1989, C1, C3.

<sup>8</sup> Fearnbach, Section 8, p. 75.

<sup>9</sup> The Erlanger Company, “Erlanger – The Village Beautiful,” in *The Erlanger Community*, Volume II, No. 2, March 1921, p. 5.

<sup>10</sup> Brent Glass, “Southern Mill Hills: Design in a “Public” Place,” in Carolina Dwelling, ed. Doug Swaim, 138-149, Raleigh: North Carolina State University, The Student Publication, p. 146.

<sup>11</sup> Daniel A. Tompkins, *Cotton Mill, Commercial Features*, Charlotte, North Carolina, D. A. Tompkins, 1899. On housing see Chapter 9, pp. 116-121.

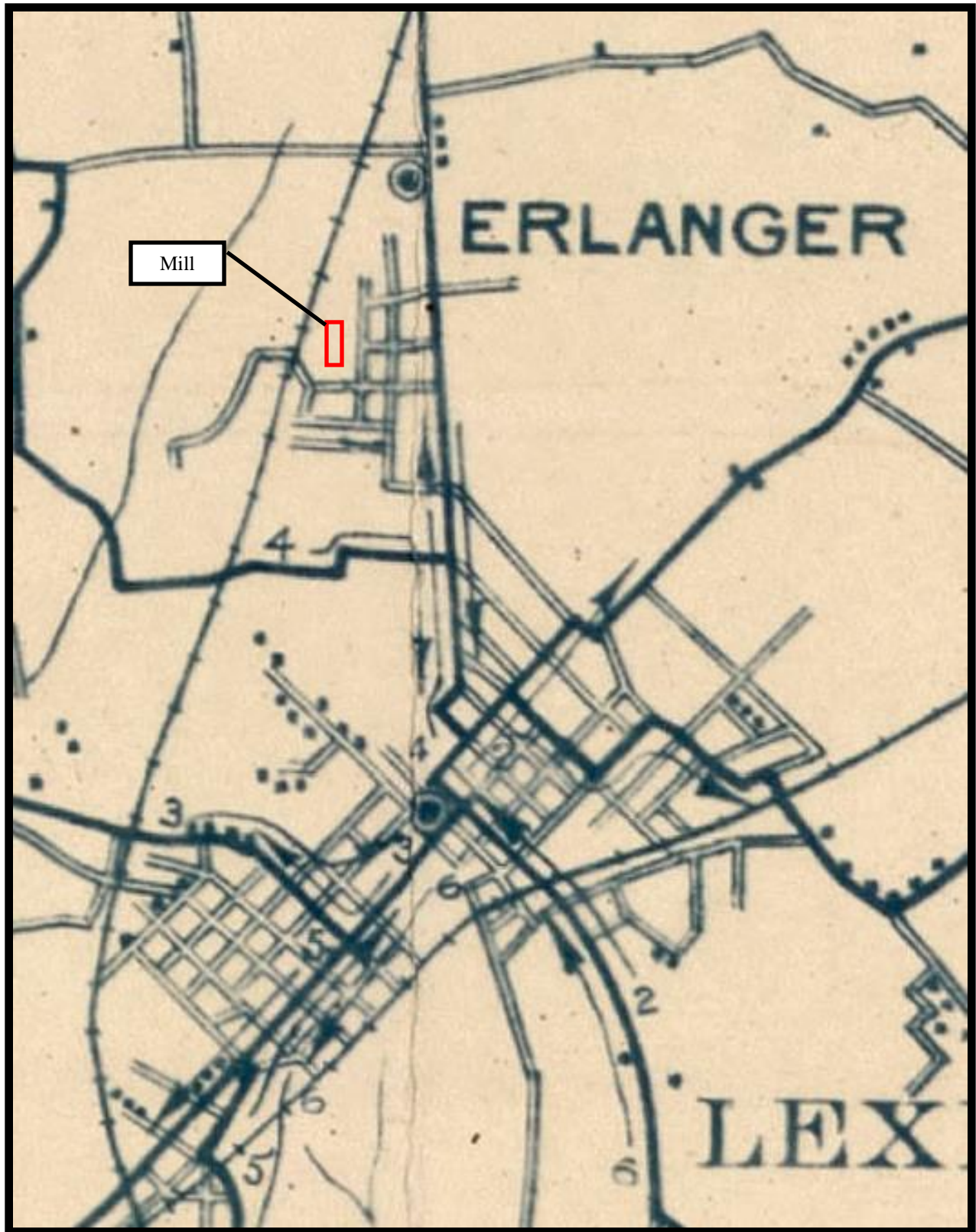


Figure 14: Detail of ca. 1910-19 Rural Delivery Routes in Davidson County, Showing the Street Plan for Erlanger Mill Village (United States Post Office Department ca. 1910-1919). Note approximate location of mill.



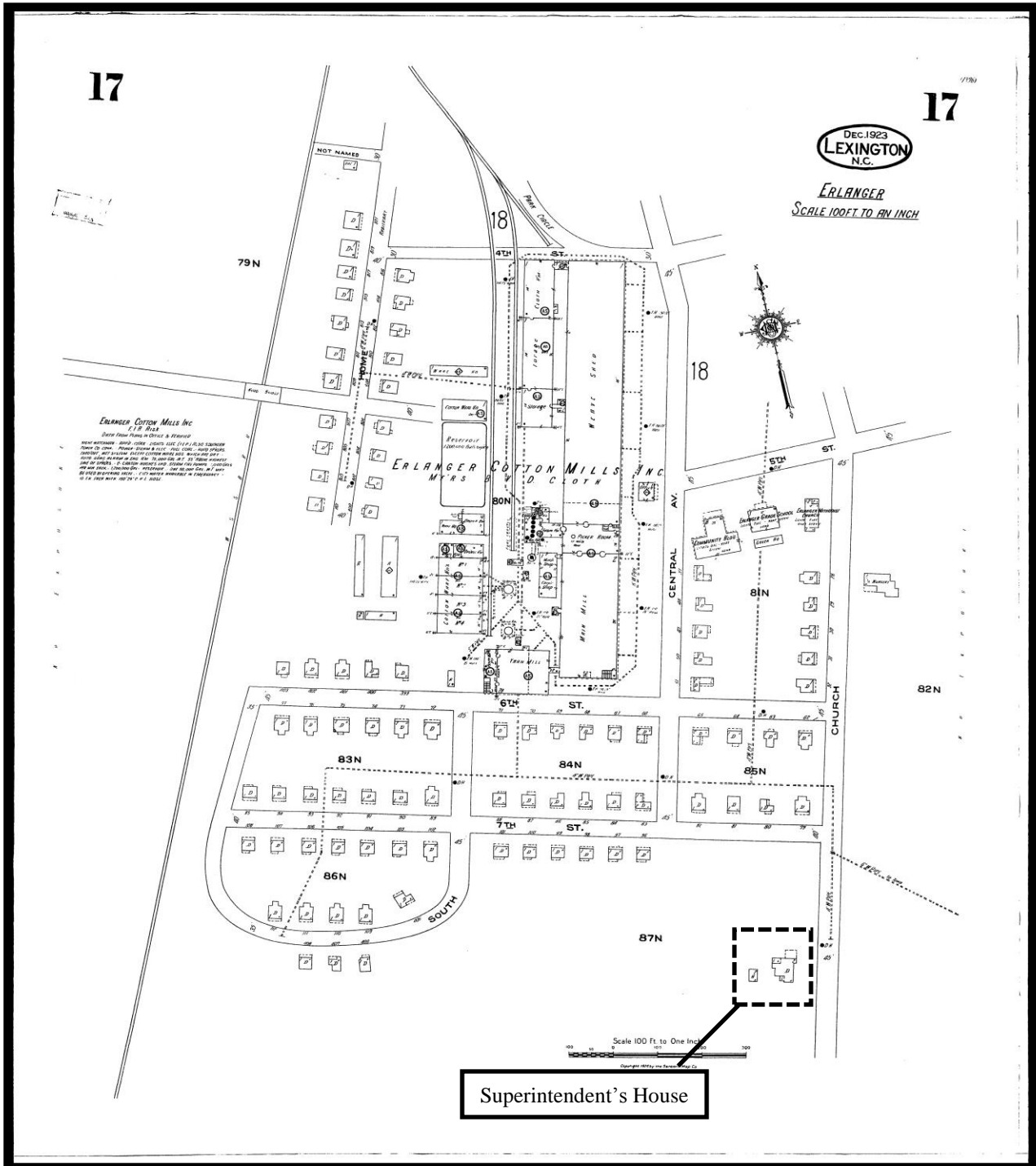


Figure 15: 1923 Sanborn Map (Page 17) of Lexington, Showing the South End of the Erlanger Mill Village (Sanborn 1923a). Note the superintendent's house.

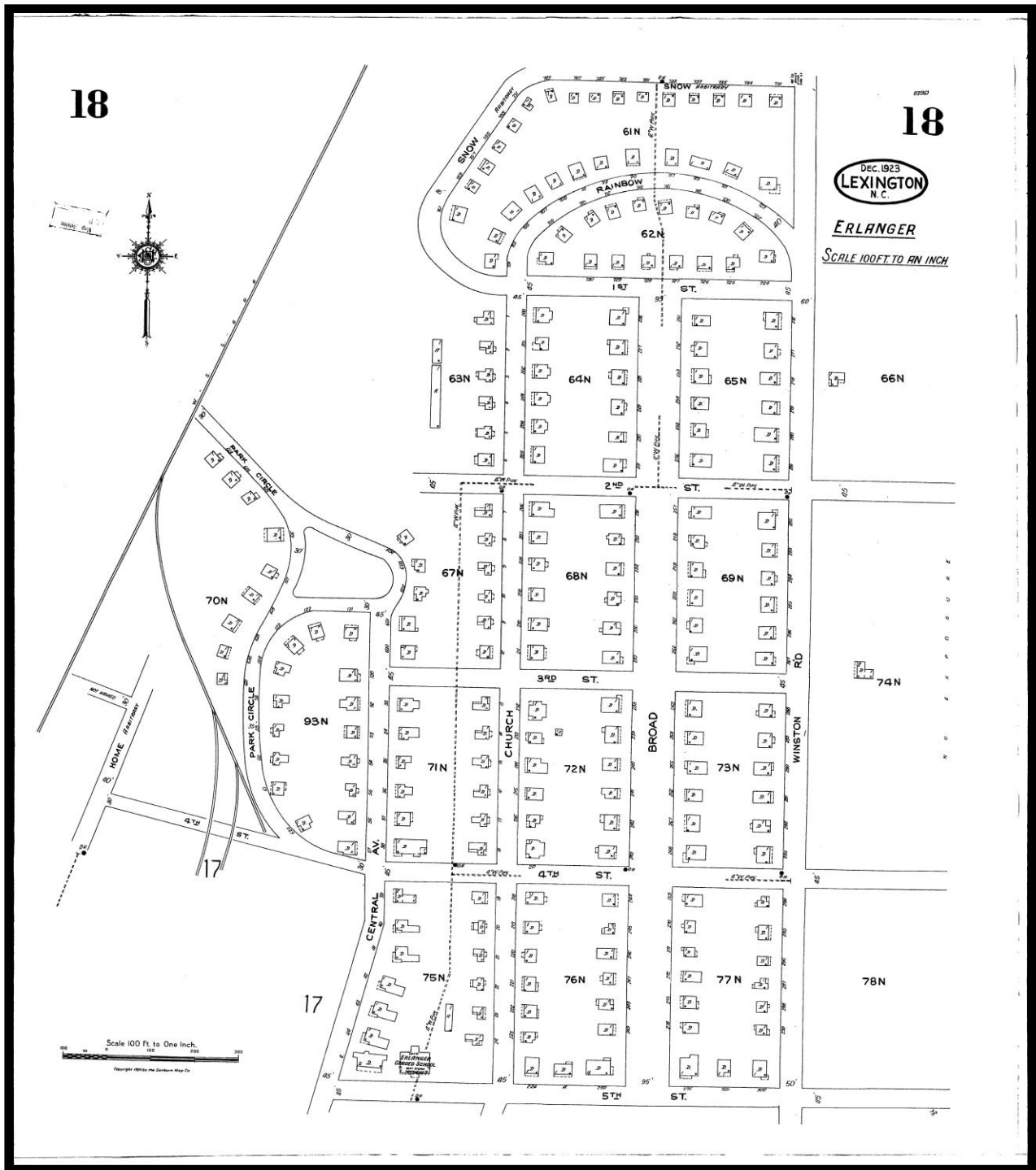


Figure 16: 1923 Sanborn Map (Page 18) of Lexington, Showing the North End of the Erlanger Mill Village (Sanborn 1923b).



Figure 17: Undated Design for the “Study for Village Extension, Erlanger Mills, Lexington, NC,” by E. S. Draper (North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives 2014a).



housing and the fact that the “one style fits all” no longer applied; “Different families have different tastes, and as operatives grow in intelligence and prosperity, this differentiation in taste becomes more marked.”<sup>12</sup> While the early building stock at the Erlanger Mill Village is modest and traditional, the second phase of construction showed great variety in the assembly of stylish Craftsman Bungalows, and supposedly, the employees could pick from thirty different designs.<sup>13</sup>

The use of stone around the village does not seem to tie in specifically with the Craftsman style, or with the work of E. S. Draper at the north end of the village; however, it was used both functionally and aesthetically between circa 1916 and 1923. Draper was instrumental in the design of other mill villages in the Southern United States, trying to reconcile the economic aims of the mill and upgrading the lives of the mill workers.<sup>14</sup> In his design for the Pacolet Mill Village in South Carolina in 1919, he utilized the topography of the site to create terraces and stone retaining walls to avoid the uniformity of the more traditional mill village.<sup>15</sup> The earliest use of stone at Erlanger Mill Village can be found on the retaining walls at the south end of the mill on Sixth Street (now Eight Street) (Figure 18). Some of the mill houses built during the first phase along Church Street (now Hames Street) still followed a traditional design with stone foundations (Figures 19 through 21). During the second phase stone was used for retaining walls along the east side of Broad Street and the south side of Fifth Street (now Ninth Street), as well as for the chimney of the Kindergarten and Day Nursery building at the corner of Broad Street and Fifth Street (Figures 22 through 27).

The use of stone retaining walls seems to have been part of the overall design of Erlanger Mill Village and was carried through to the superintendent’s house at the south end of the village near the channelized section of unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall that are analyzed here. The house faced onto Church Street approximately 400 feet southeast of the intersection between Seventh Street and Central Avenue (now Mill Street) (see Figure 15). A stone footpath gave the superintendent a shortcut to Central Avenue and the mill office (Figure 28). The house no longer survives, and the construction of US 29/70 Bypass in the early 1950s terminated the direct connection between the mill village and the superintendent’s house. However, stone retaining walls survive at the site of the superintendent’s house as well as in an early photograph, which shows the back of the house and a retaining wall with steps leading down to the footpath (Figures 29 through 30). The footpath leads down to a small stone bridge, which crosses over the stone-lined tributary of Michael Branch on the south side of Seventh Street. The historic photograph showing the back of the superintendent’s house (see Figure 29) suggests that the retaining walls and the footpath (and likely the bridge, stone-lined tributary, and stone-faced headwall) were built shortly after, or contemporaneous with the house. These features all tie in with the overall design of the mill village and the use of stone.

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<sup>12</sup> Tompkins, p. 116.

<sup>13</sup> Zerwick.

<sup>14</sup> Margaret Crawford, “Earle S. Draper and the Company Town in the American South,” in *The Company Town: Architecture and Society in the Early Industrial Age*, ed. John S. Garner, New York: Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 139-172.

<sup>15</sup> Crawford, pp. 160-61.

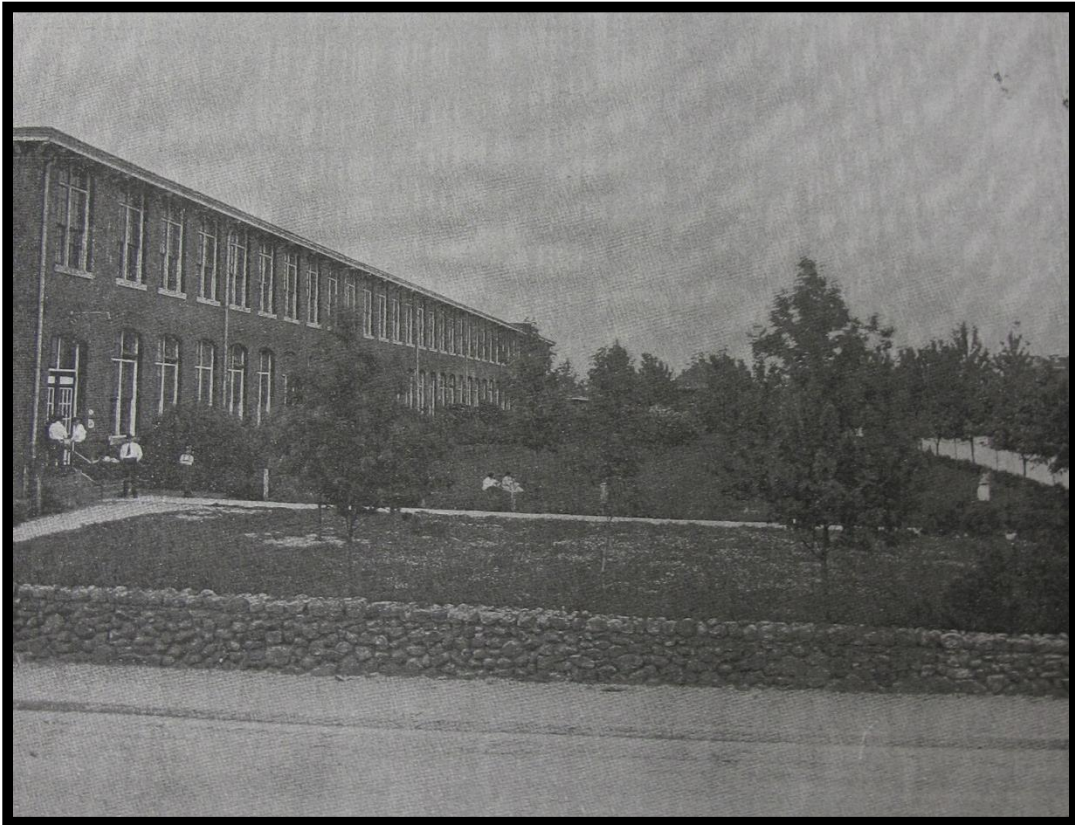


Figure 18: Historic Photograph Showing the Original Mill and the Stone Retaining Wall on the North Side of Sixth (now Eight) Street, Looking Northwest (The Erlanger Company 1921).



Figure 19: Mill House at the Corner of Sixth and Church (Hames) Streets (now 62 Eight Street), Looking Southeast.





Figure 20: Mill House at 29 Church (Hames) Street, Looking Southwest.



Figure 21: Mill House at 28 Church (Hames) Street, Looking Northwest.





Figure 22: View of Stone Retaining Wall at the Corner of Broad Street and Second Street (now Twelfth Street), Looking Northeast.



Figure 23: View of Stone Retaining Wall at the Corner of Broad Street and Second Street (now Twelfth Street), Looking Southeast.





Figure 24: View of Stone Retaining Wall at the Corner of Broad Street and Fourth Street (now Tenth Street), Looking Northeast.



Figure 25: Detail of Stone Retaining Wall and Stone Steps in the 200-Block of Broad Street, Looking East.





Figure 26: View of Stone Retaining Wall on the Corner of Fifth Street (now Ninth Street) and Broad Street, Looking Northeast.



Figure 27: View of the Stone Chimney of the former Kindergarten and Day Nursery at the Corner of Broad Street and Fifth Street (now Ninth Street), Looking Southwest.

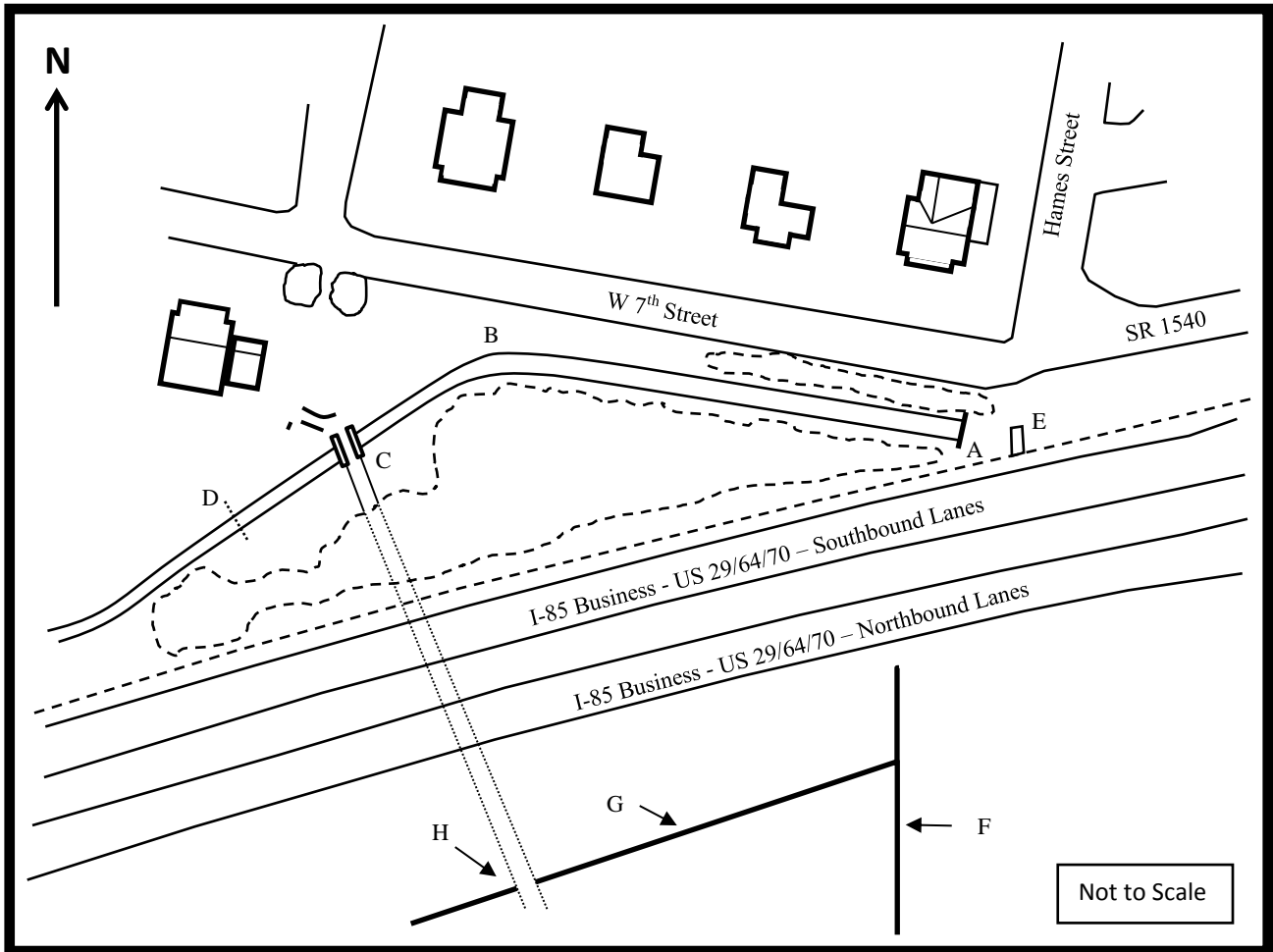


Figure 28: Sketch Map Showing the Location of Footpath Leading from the Mill Village to the Superintendent's House. Note the additional features depicted include A) stone-faced headwall; B) stone-lined unnamed tributary; C) stone bridge and footpath; D) approximate end of stone-lining; E) blocked pedestrian tunnel; F) stone retaining wall (see Figure 30); G) stone retaining wall (see Figure 31), and H) stone steps (see Figure 29).



Figure 29: Undated Historic Photograph Showing the Stone Retaining Walls and Steps Leading Down to the Footpath at the Rear of the Superintendent's House, Looking Southeast (North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives 2014b).





Figure 30: View of Stone Retaining at the Site of the Superintendent's House Looking West.



Figure 31: View of Stone Retaining at the Site of the Superintendent's House, Facing the Erlanger Mill Village, Looking Southeast.

### **National Register Evaluation**

For purposes of compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the resource described as the channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall is recommended a contributing resource to the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District (DV0865). The resource is significant as an aspect of the overall planning and design of the mill village and does not appear to be individually eligible for the NRHP based on design, engineering, or specific associations.

#### *Integrity*

The channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall remain in their original location, and their immediate setting is still predominantly in keeping with the mill village setting, despite the construction of US 29/70 (I-85 Business). The design, materials, and workmanship are typical for the period and correspond to other stone features that are part of the overall design of the Erlanger Mill Village. Because of the integrity of materials and setting the resource retains much of its original feeling. The channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall are associated with the Erlanger Mill Village and with the early twentieth-century efforts in mill-village design to combine the utilitarian aspects of the mill with the aesthetic-based efforts to improve the lives of mill workers.

The Erlanger Mill Village is listed in the NRHP under Criterion A for industry and community planning and development, and under Criterion C for architecture, at the local level, with its period of significance being 1913 to 1953. The channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch appears to have been constructed during the period of significance and its design and materials are reflective of contemporary designed landscape features as seen throughout the mill village. This resource is therefore recommended as a contributing element of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District.



## National Register Boundary Justification

The present National Register boundary for the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District, as delineated in the nomination, runs along the north side of the southbound lanes of I-85 Business/US 29/64/70, and to the east of Hamas Street (Figure 32). The channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall are already incorporated within this boundary, and a boundary adjustment is therefore not necessary.

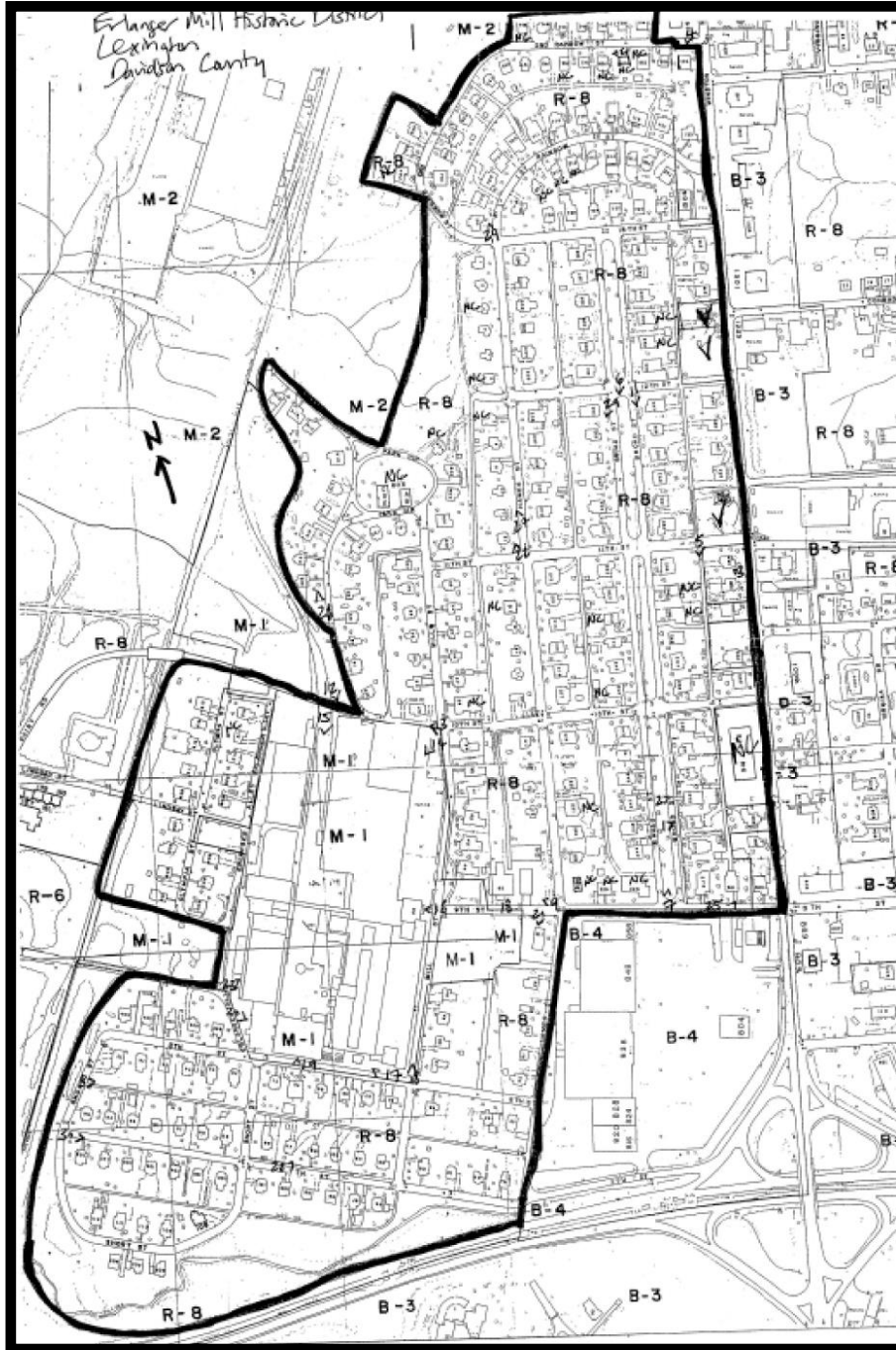


Figure 32: Erlanger Mill Village Historic District Map (Fearnbach 2008). Note location of channelized section of the unnamed tributary of Michael Branch and the stone-faced headwall.

## REFERENCES CITED

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- 1992 "Earle S. Draper and the Company Town in the American South," in *The Company Town: Architecture and Society in the Early Industrial Age*, ed. John S. Garner, New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 139-172.

### The Erlanger Company

- 1921 "Erlanger – The Village Beautiful," in *The Erlanger Community*, Volume II, No. 2, March 1921, p. 5. From vertical file at the Davidson County Library, Lexington, North Carolina.

### "The Erlanger Story"

- 1964 Promotional brochure in the Erlanger vertical file at the Davidson County Library, Lexington, North Carolina.

### Fearnbach, Heather

- 2008 Erlanger Mill Village Historic District, Lexington, Davidson County, National Register Nomination (# 07001371).

### Glass, Brent

- 1978 "Southern Mill Hills: Design in a "Public" Place," in *Carolina Dwelling*, ed. Doug Swaim, 138-149, Raleigh: North Carolina State University, The Student Publication.

### National Park Service

- 2014 National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Electronic document, [http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15\\_2.htm](http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm), accessed August 8, 2014.

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- 2014b Folder 0439: Lexington: Erlanger Mills: Scan 01. (Undated photograph showing the retaining wall and steps at the rear of the superintendent's house). Electronic document, [http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/dig\\_nccpa/id/20551/rec/1](http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/dig_nccpa/id/20551/rec/1), accessed September 23, 2014.

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Zerwick, Phoebe

1989 "Company Town: Erlanger's Townsfolk Recall the Good and the Bad During the Time When the Mill Meant Everything." *Winston-Salem Journal*, January 1, 1989, C1, C3.

**APPENDIX A**

**QUALIFICATIONS**

## **Jeroen van den Hurk, Ph.D.**

## **Architectural Historian**

### **Address**

Coastal Carolina Research (CCR)  
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### **Education**

Ph.D., Art History (American Art and  
Architectural History),  
University of Delaware, 2006

M.A., Architectural History,  
Utrecht University, the Netherlands, 1994

### **Professional Societies**

Member Society of Architectural Historians

Vernacular Architecture Forum  
(Board Member)

Member National Trust for Historic  
Preservation

### **Professional Experience**

Dr. Van den Hurk received his M.A. in architectural history from Utrecht University in the Netherlands. He graduated from the University of Delaware in 2006 with a Ph.D. in American Art and Architectural History. His dissertation, "Imagining New Netherland: Origins and Survival of Netherlandic Architecture in Old New York," focuses on the architecture of New Netherland, providing an analysis of the historical documents referring to the built environment and the surviving architecture, as well as a comparative study of contemporary seventeenth-century Dutch architecture. He has eighteen years of experience documenting historic buildings, including work in the Netherlands and twelve years in the United States (in Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Virginia, and North Carolina).

From 2006 to 2007, he was a Limited Term Researcher at the Center for Historic Architecture and Design at the University of Delaware, in charge of project management for the Delaware Agricultural Landscapes Evaluation and a cultural resources survey of Cape May Point, New Jersey, among other tasks.

From 2007 to 2010, he was a Lecturer at the College of Design, Department of Historic Preservation at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. There he taught both historic preservation and architectural history classes.

As principal architectural historian for CCR, he has completed numerous surveys for transportation projects including VDOT identification surveys for the I-73 Henry County Alternative, the extension of Odd Fellows Road in Lynchburg, the Coalfields Expressway project southwestern Virginia, and the US 501 bridge replacement in Amherst and Bedford Counties. In North Carolina he has completed an NCDOT survey and evaluation for the NC 87 widening project in Bladen and Columbus Counties and a survey for Dare County in connection with proposed pathways for the Outer Banks Scenic Byway, as well as surveys in Cumberland and Harnett Counties for US 401 (R-2609) and Lee County for NC 42 (R-3830). Smaller transportation projects include the Carpenter Fire Station Road realignment project for the Town of Cary; a survey for improvements to Rives Road/US 301 in Petersburg, Virginia; an architectural survey for the widening of Fall Hill Avenue in Fredericksburg, Virginia; and an architectural evaluation for the City of Suffolk's US 58 widening project in Suffolk, Virginia.

Other projects include the 2010 countywide survey of Hertford County in eastern North Carolina, conducted for the North Carolina SHPO.