NAME: Biltmore Avenue Cluster: 140 Biltmore Avenue

LOCATION: 140 Biltmore Avenue

OWNER: Grace C. Holcomb Heirs
26 Broadway
Asheville, NC 28801

DESCRIPTION: 140 Biltmore Avenue is a two-story rubble granite apartment building covered with a smooth, tan stucco. The roof is a low, hipped one and sports four chimneys, two at the front center and two smaller stacks at the south side. The center two bays of the four-bay front elevation project, and have a two story porch on either side. There is a doorway with a plain, molded surround in the center of this pavillion and a street entrance on the north, or grade level porch. The upper level of each porch has a cast-concrete balustrade and a molded concrete urn on the corner pedestal. Windows are double-hung sash, single or double, and on the front pavillion, triple. The foundations for the house project slightly and form a watertable.

SIGNIFICANCE: 140 Biltmore Avenue is one of a row of granite and stucco apartment buildings on the lower end of Biltmore Avenue. These structures are an unusual form for North Carolina, their massing and detailing reminiscent of European or English models rather than the typical Late Queen Anne or Colonial Revival residences of the period. It is likely that these buildings were influenced in their design by similar structures designed by English emigree architect R. S. Smith, or were actually designed by Smith. 140 Biltmore is the latest of this row, Sanborn insurance maps indicating that it was constructed between 1913 and 1917. Although later, it has the same massing and general details as the other two. The surfaces have been simplified, however, and there is a good indication of the increasing use of concrete by Smith and others in Asheville in the ornamental and structural elements of the building. (over)

DATE: ca. 1913-1917
PHOTO NO.: N.78-2--1679
UTM: 17-359480/3939420
ACREAGE: Less than 1 acre
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: See Plat Map, Ward 1, Sheet 5, Lot 25

DATE RECORDED: 
BY: 