

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 an 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 South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District

other names/site number N/A

## 2. Location

street & number Union St., S., bet Corban & Cabarrus Aves.  not for publication

city or town Concord  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Cabarrus code 025 zip code 28025

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 J. Crow SHPO 8/25/97  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of 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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____

South Union St. Courthouse & Commercial H.D.  
Name of Property

Cabarrus Co., NC  
County and State

**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	
11	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
11	2	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

3

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/department store
- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE/business
- GOVERNMENT/courthouse
- GOVERNMENT/city hall
- SOCIAL/meeting hall
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
- GOVERNMENT/government office
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Italianate
- Second Empire
- Romanesque

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Brick
- walls Brick
- Stucco
- roof Slate
- other Glass
- Stone

**Narrative Description**

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

South Union St. Courthouse & Commercial H.D.  
Name of Property

Cabarrus Co., NC  
County and State

**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 grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Politics and Government

**Period of Significance**

1875-76 to 1947

**Significant Dates**

1875-76

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Appleget, George S. H. (architect)

Ahrens, F. W. (builder)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**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:

Survey & Planning Branch, Division of Archives & History, Raleigh

South Union St. Courthouse & Commercial H.D.  
Name of Property

Cabarrus Co., NC  
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 17 | 538100 | 3918330  
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 Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization (consultant for) Concord Downtown Development Corporation date May 26, 1997

street & number 637 N. Spring Street telephone 910/727-1968

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

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 SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Cabarrus County, North Carolina

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### DESCRIPTION:

Continuation --

#### Architectural Classification:

Classical Revival

#### Materials:

Walls: Granite  
Other: Metal  
Concrete

Narrative --

#### Location:

The South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District is located in the center of Concord, the county seat and the geographic center of Cabarrus County in North Carolina's western Piedmont. The district constitutes part of Concord's historic and present-day commercial core along Union Street between Cabarrus and Corban avenues. The fourteen buildings of this small linear district are found primarily along the southwest side of South Union Street on either side of Barbrick Avenue. Only two buildings--the former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14) and the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13)--are located on the northeast side of the street, on either side of Means Avenue. The district differs from its commercial surroundings by including only that concentration of buildings that still conveys in a tangible way the appearance of Concord's commercial and governmental center during the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries. Surrounding the district and the rest of Concord's commercial center are the town's residential and industrial areas. In particular, northwest, west, and southwest of the district lies the North Union Street Historic District (NR, 1986), and southeast of the district lies the South Union Street Historic District (NR, 1980), both of which contain the substantial and stylish houses of historic Concord's industrial,

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business, and professional families. North and west of the district, beyond the residential areas, are Concord's historic textile mills.

### Physical Character:

Except for the former Cabarrus County Courthouse with its memorial monuments (#14) and the current City Hall Annex (#3), the district consists entirely of commercial buildings. Again, except for the former courthouse, the buildings in the district are densely arranged in a contiguous manner characteristic of historic urban commercial centers. Spaces between the buildings occur only due to the interruptions created by Means and Barbrick avenues and one narrow alley on the southwest side of Union Street. Facade lines abut the sidewalks, where ornamental trees have been planted in an intermittent manner. The buildings on the southwest side of Union Street and northwest of Barbrick Avenue run in varying depths back toward Market Street, which forms their rear property line and part of the district boundary. The spaces thus formed behind the buildings are used as small, informal parking areas, some paved and others covered with gravel. Southeast of Barbrick Avenue, the district boundary runs close behind the two buildings. On the northeast side of Union Street, the former Cabarrus Savings Bank building consumes its entire lot and is bordered on the rear (and outside the district) by an alley. The exception to the physical arrangement of buildings in the district comes with the former Cabarrus County Courthouse. Emphasizing the importance of this building to the county and to Concord, the structure is set back from Union Street and Means Avenue and is surrounded by a grassy lawn that is deep on the front and narrow on the sides and rear. Trees are planted around the courthouse, although the one at the corner of Union Street and Means Avenue is the only large tree, and a walkway curves in front of the courthouse, providing access from both Union Street and Means Avenue. Two memorial monuments on the courthouse lawn further distinguish the physical character of this building.

The layout of the district today is much the same as it was during the historic period of significance, 1875-76 to 1947. Several changes can be noted, however. Prior the turn of the century, Means Avenue was only an alley and Barbrick Avenue did not exist. Several alleys were interspersed between the buildings on the southwest side of Union Street. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many of the buildings along Union Street were frame and/or only one-story in height and were more a collection of individual buildings rather than contiguous buildings. By 1885, four of the present buildings (29%) in the district had been constructed, and by 1910, this number had increased to nine buildings (65%). Since 1924, only two buildings have been added within the district boundaries: the tiny Watch Repair Shop (#9) in the early 1930s at 34 Union Street,

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S., and the 1957 City Hall Annex (#3).

Certain physical traits characterize the buildings in the historic district. All fourteen are of masonry construction. Brick accounts for thirteen buildings (93%), of which three have stuccoed facades. One, the Pythian Building (#8), is faced in rusticated stone. Half the buildings are two stories in height. Twenty-one percent are one story, and an equal number are two and a half or three stories. Only one has more than three stories, that being the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13), with five stories. The buildings vary more in width, ranging from one bay wide--the smallest (#9) being only four feet--to nine bays wide. Ornamentation also varies, from none--on the Watch Repair Shop (#9)--to the highly sophisticated detailing of the P. M. Morris Building (#5) and the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13). Most buildings exhibit some amount of ornamentation between the two extremes. The quality of design and workmanship exhibited throughout the district varies from good to excellent, and although several of the historic buildings were probably architect designed, only one building is linked with certainty to a specific architect, that being the former Cabarrus County Courthouse designed by George S. H. Appeget. Buildings in the district range in date from the oldest, the former courthouse built in 1875-1876, to the newest, the 1957 City Hall Annex, which also happens to be only building erected since the early 1930s and the only one that falls outside the district's period of significance. During this period (1875-76 to 1947), four buildings (29%) were erected prior to 1885 (the first Sanborn Insurance Map coverage), five (36%) were built between 1890 and 1910, and four date from ca. 1920 to the early 1930s. The most predominant architectural styles found in the district are the late Victorian Italianate and the early-twentieth-century Classical Revival. Distinguished examples of the Second Empire and Romanesque Revival styles are also seen in the former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14) and the Pythian Building (#8), respectively.

While the buildings in the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District present a variety of styles, periods, and sizes that work together to create a cohesive and visually stimulating group of historic commercial and governmental buildings, several buildings stand out individually. The finest building in the district is also the oldest--the 1875-76 former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14). Considered by many to be the pre-eminent historic and architectural landmark in the county and one of the finest late-nineteenth-century courthouses in the state, this imposing building that exhibits a combination of the Italianate and Second Empire styles was listed in the National Register in 1974. When built, the courthouse set the tone for expectations concerning the quality of design in Concord and in the town's commercial area, in particular.

The ca. 1903 Pythian Building (#8) is a dramatic example of the Romanesque Revival. Its bold use of rusticated cut granite and arched window surrounds outlined in contrasting brick, along with its parapeted cornice and roof pavilion, create a distinguished design unparalleled in the district.

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Architectural classicism is seen best in the 1903 P. M. Morris Building (#5) and the 1923-24 former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13). The Morris Building is one of the largest in the district, a full three stories in height and nine bays in width. The nine bays are divided into three sections of three bays each. The center section, enframed by tall pilasters, is somewhat more elaborate than the other two sections, with its full round arches, decorative keystones, Ionic pilasters, and cartouches in the window spandrels. The three-bay sections flanking the center display segmental arches and banded brickwork. Both the organization of the facade and the detailing demonstrate a strong classical sense. Built two decades later, the former Cabarrus Savings Bank continues the Classical Revival theme, with a round-arched, ashlar-stone base, heroic Corinthian pilasters that rise four stories to a pronounced classical cornice, and a crowning brick-and-stone parapet. The first-floor banking room is the most outstanding interior space in the district, exhibiting arched windows, tall Corinthian columns, a paneled ceiling with classical moldings, and marble fixtures.

Even the smallest buildings in the district make significant contributions to the physical characteristics of the place. The narrow, one-story commercial building (#12) at 28 Union Street, S., demonstrates a great deal of refinement in its yellow brick facade with contrasting concrete detailing and segmental-arched shop front. Perhaps the most intriguing building in the district, however, is the Watch Repair Shop (#9). This tiny, one-story building exhibits no stylistic flair, but is eye-catching because of its four-foot width that is barely large enough to hold a door and small shop window. This building filled the narrow alley space between the two larger buildings on either side, thus providing a solution to the need for a small shop space since it was constructed in the early 1930s.

### **Integrity:**

Most of the buildings in the district remain in good to excellent physical condition, and all but two contribute to the historic and architectural character of the district. Of these two, the commercial building (#2) at the south corner of Union Street and Barbrick Avenue has had its facade covered with metal sheathing and, at the same time, is in poor repair. However, the original late-nineteenth-century detailing remains intact under the metal facade, only waiting to be restored by a new owner. The other non-contributing building in the district is the 1957 City Hall Annex (#3), the only building that post-dates the period of significance. Of the sixteen total resources in the district, twelve buildings and two monuments--eighty-eight percent--contribute to the character of the district, while only two buildings--twelve percent--do not. Although many of the first-story shop fronts have been remodeled during the twentieth century--a common malady in historic commercial districts--the upper levels of these buildings remain anywhere from somewhat to extremely intact, continuing to

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convey the architectural character of the period in which they were built. Several buildings in the district, such as the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13) and the Commercial Building (#12) at 28 Union Street, S., have been so well maintained that they do not appear to need exterior restoration. The former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14) was restored in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and several buildings (e.g. #4, #7, #8) have been rehabilitated since the publication of *The Historic Architecture of Cabarrus County North Carolina* in 1981. Other buildings, such as the Elks Hall (#1) and the commercial building (#2) adjacent to it, await restoration or rehabilitation using Tax Act incentives. All-in-all, the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District retains a high degree of historic and architectural integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association reflecting its period of significance, 1875-76 to 1947.

### Inventory List:

The following inventory is organized geographically, starting with the Elks Hall building at 80-82 Union Street, S., and then moving in a northwesterly direction along the southwest side of Union Street, S., to the commercial building at 28 Union Street, S., then crossing Union Street and continuing in a southeasterly direction to include the former Cabarrus Savings Bank at 57 Union Street, S., and ending with the former Cabarrus County Courthouse at 65 Union Street, S.

The inventory list provides the name, location, date of construction, contributing or non-contributing status, and summary of the historical and architectural data for each resource in the district. (Local practice is to list addresses as Union Street, S., rather than as S. Union Street.) Information is based primarily on a combination of on-site inspection and research with Sanborn Insurance Maps from 1885 to 1927, old photographs, articles reproduced in *A Bicentennial History of Concord*, Peter Kaplan's *The Historic Architecture of Cabarrus County North Carolina*, oral interviews, and other sources. The inventory entries are keyed by number to the accompanying district map.

For each property in the inventory, there is a corresponding file containing the survey form, photo proofs, and any documentary information available. The inventory files are maintained at the State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Archives and History, in Raleigh.

- 1. Elks Hall**  
80-82 Union Street, S.  
ca. 1905  
Contributing building

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Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that from at least 1885 to 1902, the Morris House hotel was located on this site. By 1906, however, the present two-story brick building had been constructed or the earlier building had been enlarged and completely remodeled to its present form. The second story was designed as a meeting hall for the B.P.O.E. (Elks) and served in that capacity for several decades. During the building's early years, the post office and a drugstore occupied the first story. While the drugstore continued at its location in the north half of the building, by 1921 the post office in the south half had been replaced by the Concord Tribune and Times Printing office. The building remains one of the best preserved early-twentieth-century commercial buildings in Concord's central business district. Brick pilasters divide the facade into a pair of three-bay storefronts and a single-bay stair hall at the south end. A raised-brick round arch accents the round-arched stair entrance, and the composition is echoed on the second floor by a round-arched window with a raised-brick, round-arched label. Crowning the facade, a brick paneled parapet rises above a projecting modillioned cornice fabricated of metal. Segmental-arched windows line the sides and rear of the building.

2. **COMMERCIAL BUILDING**  
S. cor. Union St., S., & Barbrick Ave., SW.  
1892  
Non-contributing building

This two-story brick commercial building is currently listed as a non-contributing resource in the historic district because of its metal front that was probably added in the 1960s. Beneath the metal sheathing, however, the original decorative brick facade remains intact. It is anticipated that new owners will remove the metal sheathing so that the building can be recertified as a contributing resource in the district. It will then be a prime candidate for a Tax Act historic rehabilitation project. Beneath the metal, the original facade is ten bays wide, marked by brick pilasters and segmental-arched windows. Corbeled brickwork runs along the cornice, and segmental-arched windows line the sides and rear. The most unusual architectural feature is the original shed-roofed skylight located on the second floor near the rear of the northwest elevation. In 1885 and 1887, an older two-story building that was part of the Morris House hotel occupied the site. The present structure appears for the first time on the 1892 Sanborn Insurance Map, with an indication that the south two-thirds of the building were still unfinished. Through the years, various commercial enterprises occupied

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the building, including a harness and carriage shop, a furniture store, a printing office, a grocery store, a general merchandise store, and an undertaking parlor. The most consistent use, however, was B. V. Matthews's photography studio, which for years occupied the second floor of the northwest third of the building and utilized the natural light afforded by the skylight.

### 3. CITY HALL ANNEX

66 Union Street, S.  
1957

Non-contributing building

This modern, two-story brick building with ribbon windows was constructed as the Concord City Hall in 1957 based on architect George A. Griffin's design. It replaced the three-story, late Victorian, brick town hall, fire department, and opera house that had been built on the site in 1903. The present building now serves as an annex to the newer City Hall located up Union Street, S., just outside the historic district.

### 4. (FORMER) TOWN HALL

60 Union Street, S.  
by 1885

Contributing building

Sanborn Insurance Maps suggest that this two-story brick building had been erected by 1885, when a building of the same configuration housed a saloon and billiard parlor. By 1887 its use had changed to a cigar and tobacco shop on the first floor, with a lodge room on the second floor. By 1892, Sanborn Maps showed that the town offices were located on the first floor. The second floor continued as a lodge room until at least 1921. The building remained the town hall for more than a decade, until a new municipal building was erected next door in 1903. Soon thereafter, Henry G. Ritz opened the Ritz Variety Store on the first floor; it was a popular local institution until at least the 1920s. Ritz sold toys, musical instruments, odd pieces of china, novelties, ice cream, candy, and fruit. Not surprisingly, Ritz and his store became favorites of the children in the community. Today the building serves as a law office. It retains much of its original appearance, except for the loss of its heavy, metal, bracketed and paneled cornice. The upper level of the facade features a stucco finish,

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scored to resemble ashlar blocks. The finest surviving features include the molded metal window cornices on the second floor and the iron pilasters--manufactured by the Southern Foundry Company of Owensboro, Kentucky--which enframe the first-story store front. The store front, itself, has been restored in recent years (after having been remodeled in the mid-twentieth century), and once again has a central entrance flanked by transomed shop windows. A stair entrance to the second floor is located at the south end.

### 5. P. M. MORRIS BUILDING

48-56 Union Street, S.  
1903  
Contributing building

Brothers Z. A., W. L., and W. W. Morris erected this large, three-story, brick commercial and office building in 1903, after inheriting most of the estate left by their father, Phileman Milton Morris (1828-1902), for whom they named the building. It replaced a row of frame stores. Early ground-floor tenants included Cabarrus Savings Bank, Bell and Harris Furniture Company, and Julius Fisher and Company, a store that sold women's and children's clothing and household furnishings. A number of Concord doctors, lawyers, and business people have occupied office space on the upper two floors during the more-than-ninety years since the building was constructed. Although the ground floor storefronts have been remodeled through the years--typical of older downtown commercial buildings--and the stone and brick detailing has been somewhat obscured by a coat of white paint, the Morris Building remains one of the finest and best preserved turn-of-the-century structures in Concord's central business district. Except for the cornice, which has been removed, the entire upper two stories of the facade remain intact, exemplifying the widespread use of classical detailing in late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century commercial architecture. The nine bays of the facade are organized in three sections, with the center section being slightly more elaborate than the two side sections. Features include banded brickwork, round-arched windows in the center section flanked by segmental-arched windows in the two side sections, rusticated stone pilasters, egg-and-dart capitals, Ionic pilasters, scroll-like keystones, and cartouches. A recessed central entrance, fronted by a tile floor with a brass insert that reads "P. M. Morris," opens to the stair leading to the second floor. The handsome stair well at second-floor level is lined with turned balusters, paneled newels, and a molded handrail. The stair to the third floor remains intact with the same detailing as the main stair, although it has been enclosed in recent years.

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Surviving original features of the upper floors include the doors; transoms; windows; and door, window, baseboard, chair rail, and cornice moldings.

### 6. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

46 Union Street, S.  
ca. 1925  
Contributing building

A narrow alley separates this one-story store from the P. M. Morris Building. Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that it was erected between 1921 and 1927, replacing a one-story lunch room on the site. The simple, clean-cut brick building is typical of smaller commercial buildings constructed during the 1920s. The facade features a deeply recessed central entrance and is decorated above with only a simple cornice, a plain recessed panel that stretches nearly across the entire width of the building, and a series of small, white, diamond-shaped blocks that contrast crisply with the dark red bricks.

### 7. (FORMER) G. W. PATTERSON WHOLESALE GROCERY

42 Union Street, S.  
ca. 1890  
Contributing building

Sanborn Insurance Maps suggest that this handsome, stuccoed brick commercial building was constructed or remodeled to its present form between 1887 and 1892. For several decades it served as a grocery, most notably the wholesale grocery of G. W. Patterson. Typically, the first-story shop front has been remodeled, but the upper levels of the facade remain intact with an unusual design that gives the illusion of a three-story elevation. Five second-story windows stretch across the facade, surmounted by a row of eleven vertical panels that look like the enclosed, or "blind," windows of a third story. The whole is crowned by a bracketed cornice, whose brackets correspond in position with the vertical spacers dividing the panels below. Inside, the building retains a decorative pressed metal ceiling.

### 8. PYTHIAN BUILDING

40 Union Street, S.  
ca. 1903

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### Contributing building

The three-story, stone-veneered Pythian Building is one of the finest and best-preserved turn-of-the-century commercial structures in Concord's central business district. It was built by the Pythian Realty Company, a firm incorporated in 1902 by Charles Ritchie, J. L. Miller, and others. The building was designed to accommodate ground-floor stores, upper-story office space, and a large, second-floor meeting hall for the Knights of Pythias, a fraternal order. The Ritchie Hardware Company occupied the store in the north half of the building for several decades, and Efir's opened their first Concord store in the south half in 1907 or 1908. For several years during the early twentieth century, the Eagle's Club occupied the north front second-floor rooms. The Pythian Building exhibits a distinctive design influenced by the nineteenth-century Romanesque Revival style. Pilasters and round arches of rusticated stone divide the facade into five bays; within the areas defined by the arches, the second and third story windows are set in yellow, paneled brickwork. At the cornice level directly above the pilasters, bold stone corbels that project forward and above the main roof line emphasize the facade's five-bay division; the corbels framing the center bay rise to form an open pavilion on the roof that appears in numerous old photographs of Concord's downtown. Although the store fronts have been remodeled, some original features remain intact, including rusticated stone pilasters, cast-iron store-front columns, and partially hidden leaded-glass transoms over the display windows. One of the stores retains a decorative, pressed-metal ceiling. Particularly handsome are the broad, central stair with beaded-board wainscot that leads to the second floor, and the second-floor landing that features original transomed doors, interior windows, a beaded-board wainscot, and a decorative tile floor. A partially-enclosed, balustraded and wainscoted stair leads from the landing to the third floor.

### 9. WATCH REPAIR SHOP

34 Union Street, S.

ca. early 1930s

Contributing building

This tiny, one-story building is an historic curiosity in downtown Concord. Its plain brick facade is only four feet wide and includes a recessed entrance and narrow shop window set on an angle. Sanborn Insurance Maps show that until at least 1927 the site on which the building stands was a narrow alley between the two adjoining buildings. Tradition claims that

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the property owners on either side of the alley had a dispute about the exact location of their property line, so the owner of 32 Union Street, S., purchased the alley and enclosed it as a small shop. Tradition continues that an ice cream stand first occupied the site. However, by at least 1936, I. J. Helms was using the little building for his watch repair and jewelry shop. When I. J.'s brother, Marvin W. Helms, returned home from World War II in December, 1945, he joined I. J. in the business. In 1946 I. J. Helms moved away, and Marvin took over, operating the business until 1977 as M. W. Helms Jewelers, which sold and repaired watches. For several years after 1977, the building was occupied by a hot dog stand. Since 1982, Ken Untz has used the building for his watch repair business.

### 10. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

32 Union Street, S.

by 1885

Contributing building

Strikingly decorative brickwork draws attention to this late-nineteenth-century commercial building. Although the first-story store front has been remodeled, the rest of the two-story brick facade remains largely intact. Three sash windows with raised brick labels organize the second-floor facade, while a broad, sawtooth-brick band and a dentil course contribute to the distinguished cornice. The date of construction is not certain, but Sanborn Insurance Maps suggest that the building had been erected by 1885. Through the years it has served variously as a general store, a printing office, a dry goods store, a hardware store, and for other specialty businesses.

### 11. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

30 Union Street, S.

by 1885

Contributing building

Like its neighbor at 32 Union Street, S., this two-story brick building appears to have been built by 1885, the first year in which Sanborn Insurance Maps were made for Concord. These maps also reveal that an addition was built to the rear of the building between 1921 and 1927. Typical of downtown commercial buildings, the shop front was remodeled in the twentieth century with plate glass show windows and a deeply recessed entrance. Although

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the shop front has been altered and the decorative cornice has been removed, the building still contributes to the historic character of the district because its scored-stucco second-story facade and three segmental-arched sash windows with segmental-arched hood molds continue to convey the proportions, rhythm, and style of late nineteenth-century commercial buildings. For more than two decades, the building served as a general merchandise store; later it was used for a variety of retail purposes.

### 12. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

28 Union Street, S.  
ca. 1920  
Contributing building

This diminutive building demonstrates that even the smallest of Concord's commercial buildings could boast a great deal of style during the early twentieth century. Sanborn Maps show that it was built between 1911 and 1921 (stylistically it appears to date closer to 1920), replacing an alley between the two adjacent buildings. It was first used as a doctor's office, but by 1927 it had converted to use as a store. In recent years has been a shoe repair shop. The yellow brick facade is largely consumed by the shop front, whose off-center door and adjacent shop window are headed by a three-part, segmental-arched transom with arched brick lintel and concrete keystone. The facade is enframed by narrow, paneled brick pilasters which ascend to the decorative concrete of the building's parapet.

### 13. (FORMER) CABARRUS SAVINGS BANK

57 Union Street, S.  
1923-1924  
Contributing building

Located across Means Avenue from the historic Cabarrus County Courthouse, the former Cabarrus Savings Bank is one of the most architecturally significant buildings in the historic district. Built in 1923-1924, the five-story building of sophisticated Classical Revival design assumed a physical prominence in Concord's downtown that matched its stature as a financial institution. The Cabarrus Savings Bank was chartered in 1897 and grew rapidly, opening branches in Albemarle, Mt. Pleasant, and Kannapolis in the succeeding twelve years. The bank first rented space in the Propst Building, but moved to the P. M. Morris Building (#5)

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soon after that building was constructed in 1903. The bank remained there for two decades until constructing its own building. In 1930 the Cabarrus Savings Bank changed its name to the Cabarrus Bank and Trust Company, which it remained until becoming a part of First Union Bank in recent years. The architect of this handsome building has not been identified. In true Classical fashion, it is organized like a column into base, shaft, and capital. The tall base of the building is clad in ashlar limestone and consists of tall, round-arched windows and fine classical trim. The pedimented bank entrance, the pilastered doorway to the elevator and stairs, and the inscribed bank sign are all particularly handsome. Above the limestone base, yellow brick pilasters with Corinthian capitals contrast with the red brick walls and rise four stories to a broad limestone frieze and dentiled and modillioned cornice. A brick and limestone parapet rises above the cornice. The main banking room presents an outstanding interior space of sophisticated classical design. Tall, round-arched windows create a light and airy feeling, while heroic Corinthian columns support a richly detailed paneled ceiling. In recent years a two-story wing has been added to the north side of the bank. Though decidedly modern, its use of materials and tall arcade fronting on Union Street sympathetically coordinates with the original building.

### 14. (FORMER) CABARRUS COUNTY COURTHOUSE

65 Union Street, S.  
1875-1876  
Contributing building

The seat of local government for nearly a century, the 1875-1876 courthouse, listed individually in the National Register in 1974, is the county's pre-eminent historic and architectural landmark. Designed by architect George S. H. Appleget (1831-1880), the courthouse is one of North Carolina's finest late-nineteenth-century public buildings. Cabarrus County's second courthouse, a two-story brick structure erected in 1826, was destroyed by fire in 1875. Later that year, the county commissioners contracted with Appleget, then living in Charlotte, to prepare plans for a new building. Appleget, a native of New Jersey, had previously worked in Raleigh where he is known to have designed the Heck-Andrews House (1869) on Blount Street and the original section of Estey Hall (1874) at Shaw University. The commissioners awarded the construction contract to F. W. Ahrens, a Charlotte builder who also erected Graves Hall at what is now Barber-Scotia College in 1876. A small addition was built to the courthouse in 1901, when the recess at the building's

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northeast corner was filled with a two-story brick structure of one room on each level. Thirteen years later the courthouse was given its largest addition with the construction of a three-story rear wing and an adjacent jail; the present porch, which replaced the original wooden structure, was also built at this time. The last addition, made in 1954, closed in the space between the courthouse and the jail, and added an L-shaped wing on the building's southeast side. After the county's fourth courthouse was built in the early 1970s, the 1875-1876 courthouse was threatened with demolition. In 1973 Historic Cabarrus, Inc. was organized by concerned citizens for the purpose of saving the building. After the jail and the 1954 addition were demolished in 1976, the old courthouse was leased to Historic Cabarrus, Inc. and restoration began. The original design of the courthouse, a two-and-a-half-story, stucco-covered, brick building, is a synthesis of the Italianate and Second Empire styles. The main block of the building features a slate-covered mansard roof, while the facade is dominated by a pedimented central pavilion crowned by a dramatic clock tower with a convex mansard roof. The whole abounds with rich, Italianate classical detailing. The interior includes a vestibule with a pair of circular stairs and other late-nineteenth-century woodwork. The second floor courtroom was remodeled in 1963. Fronting the courthouse is a grassy lawn with a circular sidewalk leading from Union Street and Means Avenue, a large shade tree and several smaller trees, and two monuments (see below). Narrow lawns border the other three sides of the building.

### **CONFEDERATE MONUMENT**

1892

Contributing object

The Confederate monument originally stood northwest of the Courthouse entrance, but was moved to its present location when the center walkway was replaced with the present circular walkway. The granite monument is formed by eight pieces. At the base, the monument measures five-by-six feet, but gets progressively smaller, in stages, until terminating with a ball at the top. It is sixteen-and-a-half-feet tall and weighs 25,000 pounds. The cost of the monument, which was dedicated on May 8, 1892, was \$900.

### **MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN**

1916

Contributing object

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In May, 1916, a round ironwork fountain was installed on the lawn at the northwest corner of the courthouse. Its inscription reads, "In memoriam to the Cabarrus Black Boys who destroyed the British ammunition May 17, 1771 in defense of American liberty." It was erected by the Cabarrus Black Boys Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

#### Summary:

The South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District, the historic commercial and governmental center of Concord and Cabarrus County, is locally significant in the areas of commerce, politics and government, and architecture. Its resources--fourteen buildings and two memorial monuments--tangibly convey the development and importance of this small area of 3.2 acres from 1875-76, when Cabarrus County's third courthouse was built, until 1947, the last year in which the district meets the fifty-year criterion for listing in the National Register.

When the county's third courthouse (#14 - NR, 1974)--a monumental structure of combined Italianate and Second Empire stylistic influences--was erected in 1875-76, it firmly established its location in the center of Concord as the preferred site for the business of county government. The 1875-76 courthouse served the county as such for nearly a century, until the fourth courthouse was built in the early 1970s, and continues to be an important symbol of the historical role of county government in Cabarrus. The town of Concord also chose this area as the proper site for its governing activities. By 1892, the town offices were located in the building at 60 Union Street, S. (#4) and remained there until a much larger municipal building was erected next door in 1903. Town government continued to occupy the site at the corner of Union Street and Barbrick Avenue when a new city hall was built there in 1957. This building, now serving as the City Hall Annex (#3), is the only one in the district constructed after the period of significance, but it fulfills an important role in continuing the presence of town government within the district. The district's long association with local government in Cabarrus County and Concord fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register.

After the Civil War, the spectacular growth of the county's textile industry transformed Cabarrus from an almost exclusively rural into a predominantly urban county. Concord grew from a courthouse village of 880 inhabitants in 1870 into a city of 7,910--the eighth largest in the state--by 1900. The county's immense industrial activity spurred the expansion of commercial development in Concord, where wholesale and retail businesses flourished. Although other towns in Cabarrus County benefitted from the county's industry, most of the growth took place in Concord, which was the largest town, the county seat, and the primary place of residence for the business and professional classes. Although many of the buildings from this period survive in some form along Union Street, those that largely retain their appearance from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are concentrated within the district boundaries. Such large and impressive structures as the P. M. Morris

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Building (#5), the Pythian Building (#8), and the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13) clearly identify the district as the pre-eminent center of commerce and finance in Cabarrus County. The strong association of the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District with the significant and long-term commercial development of this town and county marks another way in which the district fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register.

Among its collection of buildings, the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District contains some of the most architecturally significant commercial and governmental structures in the county. While the buildings work together to create a composite image reflective of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, some of the buildings are significant individually, such as the 1875-76 former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14 - NR, 1974), an Italianate/Second Empire building designed by Charlotte architect George S. H. Appleget and one of the finest nineteenth-century courthouses in North Carolina; the ca. 1903 Pythian Building (#8), a bold example of the Romanesque Revival style; and the 1903 P. M. Morris Building (#5) and former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13), both fine examples of the Classical Revival used in a commercial context. These buildings are complemented in the district by various examples of standard commercial design typical of the late nineteenth and first third of the twentieth centuries. In presenting an excellent collection of commercial and governmental buildings from the period, the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District fulfills Criterion C for listing in the National Register.

Eighty-eight percent of the district's buildings contribute to its historic and architectural character. Although some buildings exhibit store fronts that were remodeled during the mid-twentieth century, and several have had their decorative cornices removed, as the whole the district remains well preserved and retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, continuing to convey a strong physical sense of the period in which it evolved.

### **Historical Background/Politics and Government and Commerce Contexts:**

Cabarrus County, whose population and economy are predominantly urban and industrial but whose three-hundred sixty-three square mile area is predominantly rural, occupies a triangular section of North Carolina's western piedmont. Settlement of present-day Cabarrus began in the mid-eighteenth century; the area was populated primarily by Scotch-Irish and Germans. In 1792, the North Carolina Legislature approved the formation of the county from what was then northeast Mecklenburg. Concord was established in 1796 near the center of the county to serve as the seat of local government.

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Corn, wheat, and oats were the staple crops of Cabarrus farmers for over a century and a half after the county was first settled. Cotton, the county's traditional cash crop, assumed major economic importance during the antebellum period and remained important until the middle decades of the twentieth century.

The specular growth of the county's textile industry during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century was the pivotal event in the county's history, transforming Cabarrus from an almost exclusively rural into a predominantly urban county. Concord grew from a courthouse village of 880 inhabitants in 1870 into a city of 7,910, the eighth largest in the state, in 1900. The completion of the North Carolina Railroad from Goldsboro to Charlotte in 1856 greatly increased the amount of cotton that could be shipped from Concord and reduced the cost of its transportation. Concord soon became the major cotton market for an area that included parts of several of the surrounding counties. The profits of Concord's successful cotton buyers, including John Milton Odell and James William Cannon, enabled them to furnish much of the capital for the revival and unprecedented growth of the county's textile industry during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. By the turn of the century, Concord had become one of North Carolina's leading industrial centers. Although Concord ranked eighth in population among North Carolina cities, its capital investment of two million dollars was exceeded only by Charlotte and Winston.

From the beginning, Concord served as the governmental center of Cabarrus County. The first courthouse, built in 1796, was a thirty-foot-square structure located at the intersection of present-day Union and Corban Streets. It was used for thirty years, until the second courthouse, a two-story brick building, was constructed at the northwest corner of Union and Corban Streets, less than a hundred feet from the original courthouse. In 1875, the second courthouse burned to the ground. Later that year, the county began construction nearby of its third courthouse, a monumental Italianate/Second Empire-style building designed by Charlotte architect George S. H. Appalet. A native of New Jersey, Appalet had previously worked in Raleigh, where he is known to have designed the Heck-Andrews House on Blount Street and the original section of Estey Hall at Shaw University. The courthouse was completed in 1876 and continued to serve the county for nearly a century, until the fourth courthouse was built next door (and just outside the district) in the early 1970s (Horton, 21-23). After being threatened with demolition, the 1875-76 courthouse was preserved through the extraordinary efforts of Historic Cabarrus, Inc., a group organized for that purpose. Their efforts were supported by its listing in the National Register in 1974. Thus, today the 1875-76 Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14) remains not only an historic and architectural landmark reflecting the important role of Concord as the county seat, but also serves as an important historic preservation success story in the state.

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The role of the historic district in local government was not limited to the county courthouse. This section of Union Street also became the home of Concord's town government. By 1892, the town offices were located in the building at 60 Union Street, S., (#4), and remained there until a much larger municipal building was erected next door in 1903. That handsome, three-story, brick building with decorative brickwork and a corner tower contained the city offices, the fire station, and an opera house. Although the 1903 building no longer stands, the site at the corner of Union Street and Barbrick Avenue continued to serve as the home of local government when a new city hall was built there in 1957. The building now serves as the City Hall Annex (#3). The only building in the district constructed after the period of significance, it nevertheless serves an important role in continuing the presence of municipal government within the district. (The main municipal building is located up Union Street, just beyond the historic district.)

Cabarrus County's late-nineteenth-century industrial development produced corresponding expansion in the wholesale and retail trade of its towns. Most of this growth took place in Concord, which was the largest town, the county seat, and the primary place of residence for the business and professional classes. They built fine houses north and south of the commercial and governmental center in areas that now make up the North Union Street and South Union Street neighborhoods, listed in the National Register in 1986 and 1980, respectively. Levi Branson's business directories for North Carolina give some sense of the growth that took place in Concord during the period. In 1877-78 the directory listed twenty-one commercial establishments in Concord; by 1896 the list included sixty-five such enterprises. During the 1870s, the business district along Union Street consisted of a collection of brick and frame structures of one and two stories. By the turn of the century, the street was almost completely lined with masonry buildings with enough substance and style to draw attention and prestige to their establishments.

Like many other towns, Concord has lost much of its late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architecture to demolition or irretrievable facade alterations. But the small South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District retains a group of fine late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century commercial buildings that confirms the long-time importance of this place as the pre-eminent commercial center for the county. While some of the buildings (#1, #6, #7, #10, #11) reflect standard commercial design from the late nineteenth and first quarter of the twentieth century, other buildings, such as the substantial, three-story P. M. Morris (#5) and Pythian (#8) buildings, both built in or around 1903, clearly demonstrate the commercial powers at hand in Concord around the turn of the century.

Concord continued to grow during the 1920s, and while the population and industrial output of nearby Kannapolis was rapidly approaching that of the older town, Concord remained the home of

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the county's most affluent citizens and retained its role as the area's principal center of business and finance. One major project that both reflected and insured Concord's continued pre-eminence was the construction of the Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13), in 1923-24 across Means Avenue from the courthouse. At five stories tall the largest commercial building erected in Concord up to that time, the former Cabarrus Savings Bank building exhibits fine classical design and detailing on both exterior and interior. It remains an important economic and architectural anchor in the historic district today.

After the bank, only two buildings (#6 and #9) were erected within the area encompassed by the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District during the 1920s and 1930s. By that time, the district had been filled with handsome buildings that continued to serve the commercial and governmental interests of the town for a number of years. In fact, only one building in the district--the present City Hall Annex (#3), 1957--was erected from the mid-1930s to the present. Perhaps in part because of the preservation of the 1875-76 courthouse, most of the commercial buildings in the historic district have not been replaced, but proudly retained and preserved for present and future use. (Except where otherwise noted, this discussion was drawn from Peter R. Kaplan's *The Historic Architecture of Cabarrus County North Carolina*, particularly pages x-xi, 24-27, 37-38, and 41-43.)

### Architecture Context:

The South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District has the most concentrated collection of well-preserved commercial and governmental buildings from the last quarter of the nineteenth century through the first third of the twentieth century in Cabarrus County. Several of the twelve buildings in the district that contribute to its historic and architectural character--such as the former Cabarrus County Courthouse (#14), the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13), the Pythian Building (#8), and the P. M. Morris Building (#5)--are of particular architectural significance on an individual basis. Together, the collection of contributing buildings forms a well-preserved and cohesive continuum of commercial and governmental architecture representative of the period from 1875 to 1947.

The most architecturally significant building in the historic district is also the oldest--the former Cabarrus County Courthouse. Built in 1875-76 by builder F. W. Ahrens according to the plans by Charlotte architect George S. H. Appalet, the former courthouse is a monumental two-and-a-half-story, stuccoed brick structure exhibiting a combination of the Italianate and Second Empire styles. The building's large size, tall clock tower, and physical set-back from the street proclaim it

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an important civic building. Confirming its significance, the former courthouse was listed in the National Register in 1974.

Several buildings in the district were built prior to 1885, according to Sanborn Insurance Maps. These include the former Town Hall (#4) and the commercial buildings at 32 and 30 Union Street, S. (#10 and #11). They can be described best as standard commercial fare of the late nineteenth century. Each is a three-bay-wide, two-story, brick structure. Either flat or segment-arched second-story windows have pronounced lintels, and shop fronts have been altered to varying degrees. The decorative cornices have been removed from former Town Hall and the commercial building at 30 Union Street, S., but the commercial building at 32 Union Street, S., retains its fine cornice. With brick bands of dentil and sawtooth designs, it is able to achieve a great effect by simple means. Built soon thereafter around 1890, the G. W. Patterson Wholesale Grocery (#7) is somewhat grander in scale. This two-story brick building is five bays wide and appears to be three stories tall because of its upper-level band of eleven rectangular recessed panels that at first glance give the appearance of another row of windows. The Patterson Grocery retains its bracketed cornice.

Three architecturally significant buildings were erected shortly after the turn of the century. Built in 1903, the P. M. Morris Building (#5) is one of the largest buildings in the district. Its three-story, nine-bay facade is covered with classical brick details that divide the facade into three sections with a slight emphasis on the center section. Banded brick courses, large segmental and round-arched windows, classical pilasters, and fancy keystones and cartouches leave no question as to the high status of the building in Concord's downtown. The Pythian Building (#8), erected around 1903, is another impressive three-story commercial building. Its five bays of windows are bordered in brickwork to give the appearance of tall, round-arched openings. The most striking aspect of the Pythian Building is its rusticated granite block facade in the Romanesque Revival style. The building is also distinctive for retaining its small, open, roof-top pavilion. On a somewhat smaller scale, the Elks Hall (#1) dates from ca. 1905. This two-story brick building is seven bays wide, divided into two sets of three-bays along with a single bay at the south end that signals the entrance to the stair. The largely intact building retains its paired windows, round-arched stair entrance with round-arched second-floor window, its bracketed metal cornice, and its paneled brick parapet.

Buildings constructed in the 1920s demonstrate the variety of building sizes that continued to be built in the district. One of the most charming buildings in the district is the commercial building located at 28 Union Street, S., (#12). Built around 1920, the building filled an alley between the two larger buildings on either side. Although it is only one-story tall and one bay wide, it packs a strong sense of style with its door and shop window headed by a three-part, segmental-arched transom crowned by a brick segmental-arched lintel with concrete keystone. Narrow, paneled brick pilasters

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on either side of the shop front rise to a decorative concrete parapet. The ca. 1925 commercial building at 46 Union Street, S., (#6), is more simply designed, but nevertheless handsome and tidy. This one-story, one-bay-wide, brick building has a recessed shop front entrance and white concrete diamonds and band around a recessed, upper-facade panel that contrast with the dark red of the brickwork. The most important building erected in the district during the 1920s is the former Cabarrus Savings Bank (#13), erected in 1923-24. Its prominence is asserted by its five-story height and rich classical detailing. The tall first floor is defined by its ashlar-blocked limestone covering. From there, yellow-brick pilasters with Corinthian capitals contrast with the red-brick walls and rise to a classical, parapeted cornice. The interior banking room, which corresponds with the ashlar-clad first story of the exterior, continues the classical refinement of the exterior with its round-arched windows, tall Corinthian columns, and classically molded paneled ceiling.

The two most recent buildings in the district continue the architectural interest established by the earlier buildings. The most unusual building in the district is the Watch Repair Shop (#9) built in the early 1930s. Filling a narrow alley way, its brick facade is only four feet wide, and its narrow entrance and shop window are recessed on an angle from the street. Although the City Hall Annex (#3) was built in 1957, after the district's period of significance, it is a handsome modern building of its time with ribbon windows. This most recent building in the district was designed by architect George A. Griffin.

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Untz, Ken. Interview by Laura A. W. Phillips, May 20, 1997.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

#### Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District is shown by the heavy black line on the accompanying district map.

#### Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the South Union Street Courthouse and Commercial Historic District is drawn to include those commercial and public buildings erected during the district's period of significance, 1875-76 to 1947, that contribute to the historical and architectural character of the district and form a discrete and cohesive group in the center of Concord.

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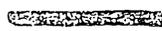
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### PHOTOGRAPHS:

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs. The photographs are keyed by letter to the district map.

- 1) South Union St. Courthouse and Commercial Historic District
  - 2) Cabarrus County, North Carolina
  - 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
  - 4) 3/97
  - 5) State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 
- 6-7)
    - A. Streetscape, SW side South Union Street  
View to S
    - B. Streetscape, SW side South Union Street  
View to NW
    - C. Elks Hall  
View to W
    - D. Commercial Building: S cor. Union St. & Barbrick Ave., S.W.  
View to S
    - E. P. M. Morris Building  
View to W
    - F. Watch Repair Shop  
View to SW
    - G. Commercial Building: 28 Union St., S  
View to SW
    - H. (former) Cabarrus Savings Bank  
View to N
    - I. (former) Cabarrus County Courthouse  
View to N

SOUTH UNION STREET COURTHOUSE AND  
COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- H INVENTORY NUMBER
- C CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
- N NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
- AV PHOTO VANTAGE POINT
-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY

SCALE: 1"=100'

