NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

West End Historic District
Kings Mountain, Cleveland County, CL0955, Listed 9/3/2010
Nomination by Davyd Foard Hood
Photographs by Davyd Foard Hood, November 2007
500 Block of Gold Street, north side

600 Block of Mountain Street, north side
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 West End Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

Street & number 206, 308-406, 600, 207-613 West Mountain Street, 206-506, 301-509 West Gold Street; 204-206 South Cansler Street; 108, 204 South Tracy Street, 200-204 South Watterson Street, 204 South Goforth Street  
N/A not for publication

city or town Kings Mountain  
State North Carolina code NC county Cleveland code 045 zip code 28086

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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:  

☐ entered in the National Register.  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register.  
☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper  
Date of Action
### 5. Classification

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<td>100 Contributing 44 Noncontributing</td>
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<td>district</td>
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**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**

0

### 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**

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**Current Functions**

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### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**

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**Materials**

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<tr>
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<td>Wood</td>
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**Narrative Description**

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

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Enter categories from instructions)

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

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

- **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** moved from its original location.
- **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.

### Period of Significance

ca. 1882 – ca. 1955

### Significant Dates

1899

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Asbury, Louis Humbert
Breeze, Victor Winfred

### Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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## 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: Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  39

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

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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  Davyd Foard Hood
organization
Street & number  Isinglass, 6907 Old Shelby Road
telephone  704/462-1847

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 listing. 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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

7. MATERIALS continued: Walls: Stone, aluminum and vinyl;  Other: brick

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The West End Historic District is located in Kings Mountain and in the west central part of a city located at the extreme east edge of Cleveland County and about five miles north of the North Carolina/South Carolina border. The district is linear in plan and an irregular rectangle in shape, comprising an historic residential neighborhood that developed along West Mountain and West Gold streets, whose parallel east/west paths are linked by perpendicular streets bearing names important in the history of Kings Mountain and this district, namely Cansler, Tracy, Watterson, and Goforth streets. City Street defines a part of the district’s east boundary while Sims Street carries along the west edge of the westernmost property in the district. On the east the district begins with houses standing at 206 West Mountain and 206 West Gold streets, which are located in the first block west of Railroad Avenue and the parallel tracks of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad that carry on a generally north/south path through the heart of Kings Mountain. The streets in the district are asphalt paved and two-lane with concrete sidewalks flanking the two main residential avenues. The topography is relatively flat with some gentle rise except on the south side of the 300 block of West Gold Street and 413 West Gold Street where the grade drops noticeably to the south in the side lawns and rear yards of houses standing on the south side of the street.

The West End Historic District is both distinct in the Kings Mountain cityscape and yet woven into the fabric of its architecture and history. The West End Historic District’s northeast corner is about two city blocks diagonally southwest of the southwest edge of the Central School Historic District (NR 2001) on the east side of the railroad corridor. With houses lining both sides of West Mountain and West Gold streets, facing south and north, respectively, on both streets, the district’s historic residences look inward, upon themselves and each other. On the east the district is flanked by one- and two-story commercial buildings, including the Plonk mercantile store, that face east onto Railroad Avenue and across the railroad tracks to the main commercial district on the east side of the railroad line. A city park at the district’s southeast corner occupies acreage that was earlier the site of the Ware family’s milling operations, overlooked by the family’s residence at 206 West Gold Street. The district is flanked on the south by later development in the Crescent Hill area and along Bridges and Landing streets where the Bridges family operated an airstrip beginning in 1945. On the west, housing of a mixed character and generally later date continues beyond the boundary along both of the district’s principal streets. The north side of the district is distinct from the historic character of buildings and their use between City and Watterson streets. Two commercial buildings and a faux historic house have replaced historic houses on the north side of West Mountain Street between surviving houses at 206 and 308 West Mountain Street. The modern campus of West Elementary School occupies almost
the entire north side of the 500 block of West Mountain Street, between Watterson and Goforth streets. In the 600 block of West Mountain Street, the sprawling complex of parking lots and other facilities of the First Baptist Church have claimed the historic houses on the north side of the street, as late as fall 2008, except for the Isaac Benjamin Goforth House at 600 West Mountain Street.

The landscape of the district includes both mature native trees and plantings of a woody and herbaceous character added by house-builders and residents since the 1880s. Native oaks, maples, dogwoods, pines, and occasional Eastern cedars, are supplemented by magnolias, deodora cedars, cunninghamias, crape myrtles, flowering cherries and crab apples, and a host of flowering shrubs favored from the late-nineteenth century into the mid-twentieth century. Pecan trees, planted throughout the neighborhood in the opening decades of the twentieth century, usually in side or rear yards now provide both an airy canopy and plentiful nuts gathered by homeowners and their visitors alike. Property lines, particularly in back yards, retain plantings of a particular form of ligustrum from the 1920s to 1940s or so. The grass-covered lawns of houses are enhanced by specimen plantings, mixed shrub borders along property lines, shade trees, and foundation plantings including camellias, azaleas, hydrangeas, nandinas, spireas, and numerous evergreen species. These favored plants from the earliest decades of construction in the district have remained the choice of later-day owners, and the historic landscape character of the district is preserved. Only the occasional use of Leyland cypress for screening, as along the property line between 301 and 303 West Mountain Street, strikes a modern note as does the infrequent appearance of photinia.

The variety in lot size in the West End Historic District is evident on the district map, where some property lines survive from the 1899 Tracy-Dixon plat. Visible also is the distribution of housing in the district, varying setbacks from the streets, and the generally-held practice of locating houses near the street fronts of lots rather than behind spacious front lawns except for the larger, more imposing residences in the 300 and 400 blocks of West Mountain Street and the Ware, Plonk, and Phifer houses (#s 206, 208, 311, 313, and 405) on West Gold Street. The spacious rear grounds of houses were used for ornamental gardening only in a few circumstances and more often for small vegetable patches and for frame or brick garages and other historic outbuildings. The semi-rural character of the district in the early decades of the period of significance is recalled in the survival of several barns, at least two poultry houses, and meat-houses. The outbuildings standing with the ca. 1916-1918 Phifer Family House and the ca. 1933 Glee Acor Bridges House, both on the south side of West Gold Street are the largest, most important such groupings. Modern outbuildings, mostly prefabricated storage buildings, erected since ca. 1955 are generally small, positioned out of view in back yards, and inobtrusive.

The architectural character of the district and its appearance during the period of significance, ca. 1882 to ca. 1955, is formed by the one-, one-and-a-half-, and two-story frame and brick veneer houses that
comprises four general groups of residential buildings dating mostly from ca. 1900 to ca. 1939. The two-story weatherboarded Ware Family House with its late-Victorian finish, dating to ca. 1882 and the oldest house in the district, antedates and anticipates the group of Queen Anne-style frame cottages with varying degrees of finish including the Neal Family House (207 W. Mountain St.) and the Isaac Benjamin Goforth House (600 W. Mountain St.), and larger houses of the early-twentieth century such as the remodeled Willeford House (308 W. Mountain St.), the Batie Meek Ormand House (311 W. Mountain St.), the Plonk family houses (311-313 W. Gold St.), and the John Martin Patterson House (301 W. Mountain St.). Being typical of their period, the larger, mostly two-story houses in this grouping incorporated elements of both the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles in their plans and finish with a rising symmetry becoming evident in the John Martin Patterson House. A small, important group of turn-of-the-century one-story, three-bay, single-pile cottages with ells were mostly remodeled or overbuilt as bungalows, a practice seen at 400 West Mountain Street among other examples. The district’s brick and frame bungalows, of one- or one-and-a-half stories form the third important set of buildings and they range in size and finish from the modest gable-front examples to larger houses like those built by Bright Dixon Ratterree (411 W. Mountain St.) and Campbell Phifer (405 W. Gold St.), as well as the well-finished, appealing James Monroe Rhea House (611 W. Mountain St.) with its jerkinhead roof and the small bungalows built by Aileen Ormand Carpenter and Pride G. Ratterree (312 and 404 W. Gold St.). The fourth important identifiable group of West End houses comprises the mostly brick veneer period cottages of the 1930s with characteristic asymmetrical facades, gable-front bays, façade chimneys, inset corner porches with arched openings, and a modicum of Tudor half-timbering or stone dressings on occasion. Important examples include the Ira Grady Patterson and R. Coleman Gold houses (407 and 505 W. Gold St.), the Estelle Willeford King House (307 W. Mountain St.), and the elegant Claude Hoyte Hambright House that nearly transcends this classification as a handsome Tudor Revival-style house (406 W. Mountain St.). The Colonial Revival style saw its first, limited expression in the district in combination with the Queen Anne style in the finish of early-twentieth century houses. The West End boasts two fully-realized Colonial Revival houses, the handsome frame Neisler-Page House (404 W. Mountain St.) of ca. 1924, which was probably designed by Louis Humbert Asbury, and the brick house built by Dr. William Lee Ramseur (405 W. Mountain St.), a final pre-War II bow to the style designed in 1940 by Shelby architect Victor Winfred Breeze.

The effects of alterations to houses and intrusions have had a limited impact in the West End Historic District. Alterations have come mostly in the matter of materials and the use of aluminum, vinyl, or faux-stone siding over original weatherboards and other exterior finish, and the replacement of original window sash. These changes are not unique to the West End Historic District but symptomatic of those affecting historic properties and districts throughout North Carolina. Only in five instances have such changes justified a noncontributing status. There are also two houses in the district built after the end
of the period of significance, both on the site of lost earlier historic houses. Intrusions in the district have come in a form that is not unique to the district but common to historic neighborhoods throughout the state, namely apartment buildings and condominiums, except for the Gold Street Apartments, that have been erected on the site of lost historic buildings. But these buildings, seven in number, have the advantage of being relatively small in scale and residential in their appearance and use. Four of the seven are also one-story in height. Of the seventy-seven primary buildings in the district, sixty-two are historic houses, one (211 W. Mountain St.) is an historic apartment building, seven are noncontributing houses, and seven are apartment buildings or condominiums.

Inventory List
The inventory list is organized on a street by street basis. It begins on West Mountain Street, with the resources on the north side of the Street, 206, 308-406, and 600 West Mountain Street. The resources on the south side of Mountain Street, 207-613 West Mountain Street, are next. This same model is followed on West Gold Street where the properties located at 206-506 West Gold Street are followed by those at 301-509 West Gold Street. Those streets, aligned on an east/west axis, are followed by the perpendicular streets that link the two principal residential routes, progressing east to west, and on the east and west sides of these streets, respectively. The properties at 204-206 South Cansler Street are followed, in turn, by 108 South Tracy Street, 200-204 South Watterson Street, and 204 South Goforth Street.

The dates given for primary buildings in the West End reflect a comparison of the physical fabric of the buildings with deeds, tax records, and all other available information, including two meetings of knowledgeable local residents and telephone interviews with them and others as the writing advanced. The dates for outbuildings reflect like comparisons, but with somewhat less certainty. The names of primary buildings incorporate the known or believed builder of a property, and the hyphenated addition of the names of others who had a critical effect on its appearance through remodeling during the period of significance or on its survival through long-term ownership. In some few instances, where the ownership history was complicated or elusive, primary buildings are simply identified as “House” with their known associations noted in the entry. In the preparation of this nomination the author has made every reasonable effort to be correct and factual in the research, composition, and editing phases of the work. Any errors that remain or any misrepresentations are unintentional.

West Mountain Street, North side

206 West Mountain Street
McGill-Crook House
ca. 1915; ca. 1955, Contributing building
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

The present appearance of this one-and-a-half-story side-gable roof frame house owes to a Colonial Revival-style remodeling of a one-story house with a wraparound front porch and a rear ell that is first known as the residence of Andrew McGill. The remodeling was effected in the 1950s by Ethel McGill Crook (1898-1985) and her husband William Kenneth Crook (1898-1970). The house’s asymmetrical Colonial Revival styling with a center entrance set in a façade gable, and varied window openings reflects a continuation of the period cottage tradition in the West End. The three-bay house, sheathed with aluminum siding and an asphalt roof, is flanked by a one-story porch on the east gable end opening onto City Avenue and a pendant screened porch on the west end. A one-story ell and a shed-roof dormer are on the rear elevation.

Outbuilding
ca. 1980-2000, Noncontributing building

This small gable-front frame building has weatherboard elevations, a sheet-metal roof, and paired six-panel doors on the east front.

308 West Mountain Street
Willeford Family House
ca. 1881; ca. 1910-20, Contributing building

The site of this imposing house was purchased in 1881 by Bennett Robert Willeford (1852-1900), who then built a house which was overbuilt and remodeled to its present Colonial Revival-style appearance by his widow Dora Bell Willeford (1859-1928). It remained the home of their daughter Irma Willeford Thomson (1886-1973) and her husband Joseph High Thomson (1890-1976) until their deaths. Standing on a brick foundation the large weatherboarded frame house has a two-story three-bay main block under a hip roof with a two-story hip-roof wing offset on the west side, a shallow bay on the east side, and an expanded, remodeled one-story rear ell. The Tuscan column wraparound hip-roof porch incorporates a screened section in its southeast front corner and a recent faux-Victorian railing. The windows contain original and replacement six-over-six sash while the hip-roof attic dormer has a three-part window with vertical lancet panes. The interior retains both original 1880s and Colonial Revival finish.

Garage
ca. 1950; 1979, Noncontributing building
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

This two level rectangular building has a concrete-block first story housing a three-vehicle garage, with openings on its west side, and a vinyl-clad frame upper story which was converted to an apartment in 1979 by the Potters who purchased the house in 1977. A metal stair incorporating a stoop rises on the north side to the apartment entrance. The roofing is asphalt shingles.

Storage building
ca. 1978, Noncontributing building

This small frame storage building with a sheet-metal gable-front roof is built of materials salvaged when the Potters pulled down a deteriorated frame garage.

310 West Mountain Street
Pressley-Rhea-Long-Griffin House
ca. 1885; ca. 1952, Contributing building

The appearance of this picturesque one-story weatherboarded frame cottage, covered with an asphalt side-gable roof, derives from an expansion and remodeling effort undertaken in about 1952 by Ellerbe Wilson Griffin (1883-1971), the owner/proprietor of the Griffin Drug Company, and his wife Mabel Kurfees Griffin (1895-1982). A small frame side-gable roof cottage, with a three-bay main block and a one-story ell, believed to have been built by Lavinia E. Pressley on the lot she purchased from Dr. Tracy in 1885, apparently survived largely intact through sales to Samuel B. Rhea in 1895, to Alex M. Long in 1907, to Mr. Griffin in 1924, and in that form represented on the Sanborn Map into 1951. The upper gable ends of that house were sheathed with board and batten which is visible in its west gable end, above the roof of the west wing. The Griffins added the wing on the west gable end and then redressed the entire house with scalloped frieze boards, erected the new front porch on an open concrete terrace, and relocated the kitchen from the one-story ell to an enclosed shed on the rear elevation. The windows contain varied sash.

Barn
ca. 1900-1925; ca. 1930s-1940s; ca. 1980s, Contributing building

This barn is one of three that survive in the West End. The small rectangular frame building is sheathed with weatherboards and vertical boards and has a sheet metal roof. It was expanded, probably during the 1930s or 1940s, by two bays and a shed on the south and with a shed addition across the combined west elevation of both main blocks. The windows on the east side and the paired glazed doors on the north gable end were added by the Moschlers, who acquired the house in 1987 and refitted the barn interior for a shop.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

400 West Mountain Street
Claude Q. and Cora Rhyne House
ca. 1900; ca. 1921, Contributing building

This seemingly conventional one-and-a-half story weatherboarded frame bungalow, under an expansive side-gable asphalt shingle roof and now covered with vinyl siding, represents an overbuilding of a small three-bay, turn-of-the-century cottage. The façade of that house survives behind the engaged full-façade porch supported by square posts with a square-member railing. The original entrance, featuring three-pane side-lights and a three-pane transom, was refitted with a Craftsman door. A shed roof dormer is centered above the entrance. On the rear a one-story ell is flanked on the east and west sides by shed-roof blocks. Window openings on the façade, the side, and rear elevations hold two-over-two, six-over-six, and three-over-one sash. A local tradition that the original house was a parsonage for the Methodist Church remains unconfirmed. Its present appearance is believed to reflect a remodeling undertaken by Claude Q. (1884-1942) and Cora Long (1885-1972) who purchased the property in 1921.

Storage building
ca. 2008, Noncontributing building

This small rectangular prefabricated building of manufactured materials and an asphalt gable-front roof has paired doors on its east end.

402 West Mountain Street
Richard Halbert Webb House
ca. 1936, Contributing building

Erected for Richard Halbert Webb, an employee of the Neisler family textile mills, and on a lot sold to him by Paul Mauney Neisler in 1936, this idiosyncratic brick house reflects an imaginative variation on the theme of the period cottage. The appearance of the one-and-a-half story, three-bay house is dominated by the exceedingly tall hip roof of the main block, that terminates in a narrow ridge line centered by the interior chimney, and the shallow, projecting gable-front pavilion whose eave lines echo the pitch of the hip roof. This frontispiece contains the centered entrance enframed with rustic stonework and holding a Craftsman-style door. It also splayed to the east to engage one of the brick piers that frame the double-track drive leading off Mountain Street to the contemporary garage north of the house. A concrete terrace on a brick base carries across the front of the house. As usual on period cottages the fenestration varied here, and some openings were fitted with replacement sash in about the
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

1990s. It is unclear whether the shed roof dormers on the front and east elevations are original, expanded, or re-glazed. Small gable-roof ells are set on the west and rear elevations.

Garage
cia. 1936, Contributing building

Contemporary with the house, this single-vehicle brick-veneer garage is covered with a hip roof of asbestos shingles. The garage opening on the east side, originally fitted with hinged doors, has been partially covered with an open stud-wall structure. The garage has a dirt floor, blind north and south side walls, and a window in the west side.

404 West Mountain Street
Neisler-Page House
cia. 1924, Contributing Building

Built ca. 1924 on land acquired in 1923 in partnership with E. A. Smith Jr., this asymmetrical one-and-a-half story gambrel roof Colonial Revival-style house was home to Paul Mauney Neisler (1897-1973) and his family until 1937 and a residence of his sister, Grace Neisler Page (1910-1999) until 1996. Although the original plans for the house are not known to survive, the house is believed to have been designed by Charlotte architect Louis Humbert Asbury (1877-1975) for Mr. Neisler. A residence for P. M. Neisler is listed as job #550 in Mr. Asbury’s job book with the drawings dated 7 January 1924. Mr. Neisler and his wife conveyed title to the house in October 1937, three months following Miss Neisler’s marriage to Harry Ephriam Page (1908-1985) in July 1937. Mr. Neisler and Mrs. Page were members of one of Kings Mountain’s most prominent textile families. Mrs. Page’s name and that of her sister Margaret were combined as Margrace, the name of the family’s largest, most successful mill. (See Margrace Mill Village Historic District, NR 2009). Although the three-bay façade is asymmetrical, the arrangement of the richly-detailed entrance in a gable-frontispiece near its center, the positioning of windows, and the elegant recessed porch in the southeast corner, that opens onto the east terrace and is supported by Tuscan columns, achieve an elegant balance. The house is now sheathed in wide aluminum siding and covered with a green asphalt shingle roof. The window openings hold six-over-six sash. The east and west gambrel-end elevations have a general symmetry, and a two-story ell, with a glazed sleeping porch on the second story, and a one-story shed are located on the rear. Brick chimneys are centered on the east gambrel end and the ell’s north gable end.

Garage
cia. 1924; 1950s, Contributing building
The main two-story gambrel-roof block of this frame building, with two openings on its south side for vehicles, appears to be the original garage that was erected at the extreme west edge of the lot. On the second level dormer windows are inset. A one-story, flat-roof frame shed, with a concrete floor and on a concrete base was added in the 1950s on the east end to provide garaging for a third vehicle. A stair rises above this addition for access to the garage’s second level. The elevations are sheathed with both weatherboards and German siding.

Servants Quarters
c. 1930-40, Contributing building

Although this small L-plan three-room, one-story frame cottage does not appear in this form on the Sanborn insurance map revised in 1951, it possibly incorporates a small (one-room) building on the map or was moved to this site. The house stands on low brick piers, has German siding, and a sheet metal roof, and four-over-four sash in plain board surrounds. A five-panel door opens from the wood floored porch in the corner of the ell, with square posts, into the interior that is sheathed with beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling.

406 West Mountain Street
Claude Hoyte Hambright House
c. 1934, Contributing building

This imposing Tudor Revival-style, one-and-a-half story brick-veneer house, enhanced with stone dressings, and stucco half-timbering, was an important house of its period and it remains one of the most sophisticated residences in the West End. Its architect has not been identified. The house was built for Mr. Hambright (1903-1999), the proprietor of the City Ice and Coal Company, and his wife, Evelyn Pursley (c. 1909-2004), on the site of a frame turn-of-the-century cottage that was the residence of her mother Emma H. Pursley. With Mrs. Pursley’s sale of the lot to her daughter in 1933, that house was moved to the northwest and turned to face Watterson Street where it stands today. Charles Lowry Hambright and his family now occupy his grandparents’ house. The balanced, yet asymmetrical Mountain Street façade of the asphalt-roofed house follows Tudor Revival tradition with decorative brickwork. It has a principal gable-front bay, incorporating a stone-dressed chimney, a related porch pavilion with stone-enhanced brick piers, and a half-timbered gable bay, and a porch inset in its southeast corner that has stone and brick piers and continues as an open terrace. The house is fitted with multi-pane metal casement windows with transoms, which continue along its generally symmetrical side elevations to the rear, where an open shed roof carport has been added.

Playhouse
ca. 1990-2000, Noncontributing building

This small rectangular, weatherboarded frame building has an asphalt-shingle gable roof and a shed on its east front protecting a board-and-rail door and a window.

Garage
ca. 1934, Contributing building

This two-vehicle frame garage, standing on a concrete base, sheathed with weatherboards, and covered with an asphalt-shingle hip roof, has an opening on its south side protected by sliding vertical board doors.

Poultry House
ca. 1935-40, Contributing building

This small rectangular, frame building is sheathed with both flush and vented horizontal boards and covered by a sheet-metal shed roof. It has two door openings on its south front.

600 West Mountain Street
Isaac Benjamin Goforth House
ca. 1900, Contributing building

This picturesque, well-preserved one-story turn-of-the-century frame cottage, with an L-shaped porch carrying along its Mountain and Goforth street elevations, is one of the oldest houses in the district. Its stands on brick piers with brick infill and has an asymmetrical plan with weatherboarded elevations. Three corbelled brick chimneys and a flue stack rise through the asphalt-shingle roof. On the façade paired offset gables have large rectangular, louvered vents set in gable ends of sawtooth-cut wood shingles. The original porch supports were replaced with bungalow-style brick piers with square, tapering wood posts. On the rear elevation, round louvers appear in the gable ends and a small turned-post porch survives. The house is first known as the residence of Isaac Benjamin Goforth (1875-1963) and his wife Ruth (1904-1982). Whether the house was built for him, a member of his family, or another owner is unclear. However, the Goforth family had land holdings in this area and Goforth Street bears the family name.

Barn/garage
ca. 1930-40, Contributing building
Covered with an asphalt-shingle gambrel-front roof, this one-and-a-half-story rectangular frame building stands on a brick and concrete block foundation and is sheathed with wide German siding. The garage opening on the south front is fitted with an overhead door. Simple shed-roof sheds have been added on the north and west sides.

Outbuilding
ca. 1920-40, Contributing building

Having the appearance of a well-house, this small rectangular frame building has an open area on the south and an enclosed block on the north under an asphalt gable-front roof.

West Mountain Street, South side

207 West Mountain Street
Neal Family House
c. 1899, Contributing building

This well-preserved turn-of-the-century one-and-a-half-story weatherboarded frame cottage is one of the few known houses in the district--and Kings Mountain--which has remained in the same family for over a century. It stands on property conveyed by William Oates and William Alexander Ware and their wives to Lewis F. Neal (1848-1942) of Cherokee County, South Carolina, in October 1889 (Cleveland Deeds, II/176-77). The house remained the residence of Mr. Neal, his wife Martha (1874-1945), their son Ernest Wright Neal (1892-1936), and his wife, Helen Galloway Neal (1891-1994) until some years before her death. The house remains a family rental property. The asymmetrical plan, typical of the period, features a projecting gable front ell on the three-bay façade which is flanked on the east by a turned post porch that wraps the northeast corner and continues down the east side to an enclosed room at its south end. The house stands on brick piers with brick infill and is covered with an asphalt-shingle hip roof punctuated by brick chimneys, dormers, and gables. The windows hold six-over-six sash. On the rear elevation the original porch on the west side of the ell was enclosed and a shed roof dormer added. The open wood deck dates to the late twentieth-century.

211 West Mountain Street
Mauney Apartments
c. 1931-1935, Contributing building

This large rectangular two-story Craftsman-style rubble stone veneer building, holding four spacious well-designed and fitted-up apartments, is the only known historic apartment house in Kings Mountain
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

and the first such multi-family unit believed to have been built outside the confines of mill villages. The walls are laid up in various stones in a rustic, uncoursed manner with concrete joints and features large overscaled windows. The building is covered by a low hip asphalt-shingle roof and features jerinhead dormers on both its principal Mountain and Cansler street elevations. The three-bay Mountain Street elevation has a one-story center bay porch which protects entrances to the first- and second-story apartments. Its stone piers continue above the flat roof where they are linked by iron railings that enclose a porch for the second-story unit. The façade’s side bays have over-scaled openings fitted with multipane metal casement windows with transoms. The wide west/Cansler Street elevation has general symmetry with large corresponding windows in the three center and north bays and a porch, essentially replicating the appearance of the Mountain Street porch, in the south end of the elevation providing access to the two units in the south half of the building. All four units have back entrances opening onto a two-tier service porch, with a metal stair linking its levels, positioned near center on the east elevation. The south elevation has corresponding windows on each level and a door into the basement service area. The grounds, with period foundation plantings, retain the ruined stone-veneer walls of a contemporary one-story four-vehicle garage. The Mauney Apartments were built by William Kemp Mauney (1889-1971), the youngest son of Jacob Simri Mauney. The apartment building stands on a corner lot that Mr. Mauney purchased from Lewis F. and Martha Neal in 1926.

301 West Mountain Street
Patterson Family House
ca. 1922, Contributing building

One of the most imposing and best-preserved houses in the West End, this elegant two-story weatherboarded frame house reflects elements of both the Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles in its typically symmetrical design and finish. The center-hall, double-pile plan house has a wide three-bay façade and generally symmetrical side elevations with corresponding windows on each level. The window openings of varying sizes, hold single, paired, or triple six-over-six sash windows in plain board surrounds with projecting drip caps. These sash windows retain their original black color. The house stands on a full brick foundation and it is covered with an asphalt shingle hip roof with shaped exposed rafters. Its trio of symmetrical one-story porches are the defining feature of its appearance. The center bay entrance porch is supported by Tuscan columns that rise to a deep, two-part frieze under a low hip roof. The scored concrete porch steps down to open terraces at either side, in front of the flanking windows, that link the entrance porch with the larger porches on each side of the house. In plan the fronts of these three porches are on an axis parallel with the façade, and their widths are complementing. The side porches are supported by square brick piers, linked by wood railings, that rise to the tall two-part frieze seen at the entrance. These three porches and the rear ell are covered with a standing seam metal roof. The west porch incorporates a porte cochere of like finish. The house was
built for John Martin Patterson (1870-1950) and his wife Roberta Simonton Patterson (1884-1972). It remained the home of their children Marion Elisabeth (1914-1998), Robert Malcolm (1926-1984), and Leone Patterson (b. 1916) until 2002.

Garage
c. 1922, Contributing building

This rectangular one-story one-car garage, on axis with the drive off Mountain Street that carries under the porte cochere, stands on a concrete base. Its elevations are laid up with rusticated concrete blocks, others of a different pattern, and brick, that indicate either choice or repairs. The asphalt shingle hip roof has exposed rafter ends.

303 West Mountain Street
Tonya Terrace
1998, Noncontributing building

This long rectangular one-story brick-veneer building, aligned on a north-south axis with a blind gable end to Mountain Street, contains five two-bedroom apartments. It was built by Tommy E. Hall. Each of the apartments in the traditionally-styled building is covered by its own side-gable asphalt-shingle roof, and these drop in their height sequentially, telescope-fashion, from north to south. Each apartment has a three-bay east front with a center entrance under a gable-front porch. Consistent repetition appears on the west rear elevation where each unit has a small service porch giving on to a small brick-walled yard. The building occupies the site of a one-story concrete-block house built by James Beverly Patterson, a brother of John Martin Patterson, in the 1920s. In 1928 Rufus Grier Plonk (1887-1967) purchased the house, which remained the residence of his son, James Harold Plonk (1919-1997).

Utility building
Ca. 1998, Noncontributing building

Contemporary with the apartment building, this small rectangular, one-story frame building stands on a low brick foundation, has vinyl sheathing and an asphalt shingle gable-front roof. Paired wood doors on the east gable front are preceded by a low ramp; the other elevations are blind.

305 West Mountain Street
Eloise Willeford Nickels House
1932, Contributing building
This one-story-with-attic brick-veneer period cottage with Tudor styling was built in 1932 for Eloise Willeford Nickels (1895-1983) and her husband James Calvin Nickels Jr. (1891-1933), and it remained the home of Mrs. Nickels until the early 1970s when she relocated to Sharon Towers in Charlotte. The house has a three-bay wide front block, covered with a side-gable asphalt roof, and a hip-roof rear ell that comprises about half of the house. The east side porch was enclosed early on. The house’s distinguishing features are its stucco half-timbered gables and the elegant echo of the three-part living room window in a diminutive three-part attic window positioned below the half-timbering in the gable-front façade bay. The front door is located in a second, smaller gable-front projection which was remodeled in recent years and extended toward Mountain Street to shelter a handicap ramp. The half-timbering in the main gable was repeated on the extension that is supported on turned posts with railings. The single, paired, and three-part windows are fitted with six-over-one sash.

Garage
ca. 1955, Noncontributing building

This concrete block garage, with space for two vehicles, a wide opening on its east gable end, and blind walls, is covered with a sheet-metal roof. It replaced a frame garage visible in a documentary view.

307 West Mountain Street
Estelle Willeford King House
ca. 1931, Contributing building

This appealing one-story brick-veneer period cottage is essentially rectangular in plan and covered by an expansive asphalt-shingle hip roof. The wide Mountain Street façade has a four-part composition with the arch-headed entrance located in a shallow projecting, west of center, gable-front bay with vertical half-timbering in the gable end. A rustic stone-veneer chimney rises immediately east of the bay, between it and the three-part living room window. This composition concludes with a recessed porch in the northeast front corner, which has wide segmental arched openings on its front and side elevations. The shallow kitchen ell on the rear elevation is covered with a hip roof. The varied window openings hold six-over-one sash. This house was built for Mrs. King (1892-1981) and her husband Grady William King (1895-1953), Kings Mountain’s first fire chief, on a platted lot of Dr. Tracy’s estate which her mother purchased in 1899. It remained Mrs. King’s residence into the 1970s.

Garage/Apartment
ca. 1940s; early 1950s, Contributing building
This rectangular two-level building began as one-story two-car brick garage with an opening on its east side. The garage was expanded by the addition of a concrete-block bay on the south side and raised to two stories. The frame second story apartment, covered by a gable-front asphalt-shingle roof and now sheathed with vinyl siding, has a three-bay east front with a center entrance flanked by windows with paired six-over-six sash. It is accessed by a stair that rises to a stoop-like balcony across the front of the building.

309 West Mountain Street
Oliver Preston Lewis House
1949, Contributing building

Erected on the east side of the Batie Meek Ormand House on a lot set apart and purchased from the Ormands by Dr. Lewis in January 1949 for $1,800, this house is the best documented building in the West End. It was built as a mirror reversal of plans prepared and published by Rudolph A. Matern, a Jamaica, Long Island, architect, who made them available to Dr. Lewis. Built by Kelly Dixon, a local contractor, the house was home to Dr. Lewis (1897-1983) and his wife, Sara Kate Ormand Lewis (1906-2004) until their deaths, and is now the residence of their grandson. The one-and-a-half-story brick-veneer house has a spare Colonial Revival character typical of post World War II houses of its type and scale with contemporary influences on its fenestration. It is essentially rectangular in plan with a brick chimney and a one-story screened porch on the west gable end and a shallow projection on the rear where steps rise to the kitchen door. The house has an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof. The three-bay façade features a center entrance flanked by windows holding two-over-two horizontal sash. The paired gable-front dormers in pendant positions are now sheathed in vinyl siding as are the house’s gable ends, where the fenestration reflects its double-pile plan. Except for the addition of the vinyl siding over wood-sheathed fabric, the house survives as completed in 1949.

Carport
ca. 1960, Noncontributing structure

This simple shelter is supported by seven round metal poles which rise to a frame with a narrow plywood frieze and a corrugated metal shed roof. The asphalt paved drive continues under the carport.

311 West Mountain Street
Batie Meek Ormand House
ca. 1903; 1910s, Contributing building
Arguably the most picturesque house in the West End--and the city--this expansive one-and-a-half-story Queen Anne-style frame house is said to have been acquired as a small cottage in 1903 by Mr. Ormand, and to have been enlarged to its present appearance soon thereafter. This tradition is supported by a deed, dated 21 August 1903, by which Jerome B. Thomasson and his wife conveyed the property to Mr. Ormand for $1,000. A receipt for an insurance policy, valued at $650, dated 22 August 1903, and made out to J. B. Thomasson survives. Mr. Thomasson was a builder. The house’s survival, virtually intact and unaltered, with a wealth of turn-of-the-century fabric and finish inside and out, owes to its history of ownership. It remained the residence of Mr. Ormand (1869-1970) and his wife Mary Lillian Allison Ormand (1871-1960) until their deaths. The Ormand House was purchased from the Ormand estate in 1975 by George Langdon Hatch, the present owner.

The generally rectangular house is sheathed with an early form of German siding and weatherboards. It stands on brick piers with brick in-fill. Its principal hip roof, the secondary hip and gable roofs, and the dormers are covered with red-painted stamped metal shingles. The porch is covered with standing-seam metal. The elevations with shallow set-backs and ells are well-developed, and particularly those fronting on Mountain and Tracy streets. The window openings hold original four-over-four, two-over-two, and one-over-one sash with some variety, as well, in their simply molded or plain board surrounds. The three-bay façade is dominated by the appealing one-story wraparound porch, supported by turned posts linked with spindle friezes and railings, and the three complementing hip-roof dormer windows on the second level. The northeast corner of the porch was refitted as a screened porch in the mid-twentieth century. The turned-post porch continues south on the three-bay west/Tracy Street elevation to a door opening into the one-and-a-half-story gable-front dining room ell with a wood shingle gable end. This elevation also has corresponding windows on each level. The center bay is slightly recessed. The rear and west elevations have similar fenestration.

Garage
1990,
Noncontributing building

This weatherboarded frame two-vehicle garage was built by George Hatch to replace the earlier, deteriorated Ormand garage that was pulled down. The garage has a brick foundation, a concrete floor, and a side-gable roof of painted metal. The west gable end has paired openings onto Tracy Street and two windows.

Shop
ca. 1920-40, Contributing building
This small rectangular frame building is said to have been a workshop built for Mr. Ormand. It does not appear at this location on the Sanborn map revised in 1951, and is possibly a section of a three-part outbuilding standing on the lot edge on Tracy Street that was moved to this location. It has weatherboard elevations, a sheet-metal shed roof, and a concrete floor added by Mr. Hatch. It has two wood doors on its west front and window openings.

401 West Mountain Street
Alexander Apartments
c.a. 1982, Noncontributing building

This traditionally-styled one-story brick-veneer duplex and a second identical building standing to the south, facing east at 204 S. Tracy Street, were built by Ruby M. Alexander and her husband on the site of a two-story frame Kiser family residence. The building is laid up in salmon-colored common bond brick and covered with a side-gable asphalt roof. It is rectangular in plan except for a shallow projecting two-bay gable front ell centered in the four-bay façade. Entrances into the A and B units are set in the east and west sides of the ell respectively. The gable ends are three-bays wide. On the rear elevation a shallow shed extension symmetrically incorporates storage closets and back porches for each unit.

403 West Mountain Street
Ware Family House
c.a. 1900; c.a. 1930-40, Contributing building

The present appearance of this substantial two-story weatherboarded frame house appears to date to a ca. 1930s remodeling of a ca. 1900 house. The early history remains to be confirmed. As a result of a civil suit associated with the settlement of Martha Ware’s estate, the house and lot were put up at auction in January 1931 and bid in at $2,500 by Susan Carlyle Ware, the administrator. Miss Ware (1882-1962), the daughter of James Andrew and Martha Isabelle Torrence Ware, was a long-time second-grade teacher at the West End School. The front block of the house, three-bays wide and two bays deep is sheathed with wide weatherboards and covered with an asphalt shingle side-gable roof. Paired brick interior chimneys rise on either side of its center hall. The façade has a one-story gabled Colonial Revival-style center bay entrance porch. The door and flanking sidelights have tall glass panes and a fanlight whose segmental arch form echoes the ceiling of the porch. The flanking bays have large single pane windows with ten-pane transoms. The other window openings hold six-over-one sash. A one-story sunroom on the east gable end complements the one-story porch on the west gable end; the porch has square wood columns, and both features have a standing seam metal roof. A large
two-story ell on the rear elevation has a one-story hip roof addition on its south gable end and a later open wood deck.

405 West Mountain Street
Dr. William Lee Ramseur House
1940, Contributing building

Dr. William Lee Ramseur purchased the site of this Colonial Revival-style house from John Byron Keeter on May 1, 1939. Either later in 1939 or early in 1940 he engaged Victor Winfred Breeze (1889-1961), a Shelby-based architect, to prepare plans for the new residence. Those plans, dated 11 April 1940 and comprising eight sheets, survive in the office of his successor firm, Holland and Hamrick Architects, PA, Shelby. Dr. Ramseur (1900-1962), a native of Kings Mountain and the son of Harvey Lee Ramseur, was a bachelor at the time of the purchase. He married Christine Rhyne (1908-1999) in August 1940 and the couple occupied the new house later that year. The house is built of common bond red brick, that were painted, and then scraped to create a mottled, rosy appearance. The Ramseur house possesses a strong presence in the West End, in part because of its design, its siting and landscaped grounds, and a high degree of integrity and continuous maintenance. However, it is a relatively small house, comprising the main two-story block and one-story wings at each of its gable ends. The center block has a three-bay facade with the entrance recessed in an arch-headed opening containing a paneled door flanked by sidelights and a fanlight transom. The flanking bays hold eight-over-twelve sash windows. Shorter, smaller windows occupy corresponding positions on the second story. The house’s asphalt-shingle side-gable roof is flanked by chimneys. The north, east, and south side walls of the sunroom are fully glazed, while the west, kitchen wing has small windows centered on its three exposed sides. At the rear, steps rise to a stoop at the back door. The house remained Mrs. Ramseur’s residence into the 1990s.

Garage
1940, Contributing building

The plans for this building, incorporating a small apartment for Dr. Ramseur’s chauffeur on the second story, were drawn by Victor Winfred Breeze. They comprise a single sheet dated 13 June 1940 that exists together with the house plans at Holland and Hamrick, PA. This two-vehicle garage is a rectangular one-and-a-half story frame building set on a brick foundation, sheathed with wide siding and covered with an asphalt-shingle gable roof. Paired openings on the west elevation are fitted with overhead doors. On its north gable end wood steps rise to a two-panel door opening into the second-story apartment. A two-panel door at the east end of the north side provides access to the garage. It is
on axis with the house’s back door. Two six-over-six windows are set in the east side with a gable-roof dormer window above.

Outbuilding
ca. 1940-50, Contributing building

This small frame building stands on a low brick foundation and is sheathed with German siding. According to Dr. Ramseur’s daughter, it was used first, briefly, and unsuccessfully as a meat-house; for most of its existence the building has been used for general storage. It has an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof. A five, horizontal panel door is set in the east gable end and rectangular openings on the north and south sides are fitted with louvers.

407 West Mountain Street
McGill House
ca. 1920-1930, Contributing building

This small one-story gable-front frame bungalow was built by a member of the city’s large McGill family. In March 1928 L. A. McGill and his wife conveyed this property to W. J. McGill and his wife, Minnie Ruth McGill (1896-1947). Whether the house was standing at the time of the transaction is unclear. Mrs. McGill was a teacher at the West End School. The house stands on a brick foundation and is sheathed with vinyl siding. The asphalt-shingle roof has exposed purlins on its eaves. The asymmetrical façade features a projecting gable-front, partially recessed porch in the northeast corner. It has square wood posts and a rectangular louvered vent in the gable end. The single and paired window openings hold replacement one-over-one sash. An open wood deck with steps to ground level is set on the rear elevation.

Outbuilding
ca. 1960-1980, Noncontributing building

The small rectangular frame building is sheathed with vertical sheathing and covered with a gable-front asphalt-shingle roof. It has a door of like materials and a small window in the north front.

411 West Mountain Street
Bright Dixon Ratterree House
ca. 1919, Contributing building
Bright Dixon Ratterree (1891-1983), a native of the West End and the eldest surviving son of Sumpter Ratterree, bought the lot on which this one-and-a-half story bungalow stands in 1912. According to the tax records the house was built in 1919, a date that coincides with the appearance of the house. The large frame side-gable bungalow is about square in its footprint and has an engaged L-shaped porch that carries across the wide three-bay façade and continues as a screened porch about half-way down the east gable end. The porch is supported on square brick piers. A broad shed-roof dormer is positioned above and holds a three-part window. The openings have plain board surrounds and hold mostly twelve-over-one sash. The house’s broad side elevations have an asymmetrical balance and reflect the triple-pile plan. A chimney flanked by windows, a projecting shed-roof bay, and small triple windows and a flue stack on Watterson Street, reflect the position of the living and dining rooms and kitchen here. A shallow-gable-front bay is set at the south end of the east elevation. The eaves of the asphalt roof are finished with unusual rectangular, open brackets. The rear elevation has a newly-built open wood deck with a turned railing and a shed-roof dormer. Mr. Ratterree, his wife, Mary Melissa Gamble Ratterree (1895-1983), and their daughter Margaret Elder Ratterree (1922-2006) lived here until their deaths.

Carport
c.a. 2007, Noncontributing structure

The elevations of this two-vehicle brick garage are fitted with wood lattice panels on three sides with a wide entrance on the south gable end. The roof is asphalt shingles.

501 West Mountain Street
West Mountain Townhouses
c.a. 1984, Noncontributing building

This lot was the site of a large two-story frame house occupied by W. Joseph Crawford (1867-1947) and his wife Vinnie Littlejohn Crawford (1878-1968). The property was acquired by Charles and Ruby Alexander who erected this five-unit apartment building. The rectangular two-story brick veneer building, covered by a side-gable asphalt roof, has a long symmetrical five-part elevation on Mountain Street. A shallow projecting one-story shed contains the recessed entrance for each unit and a flanking enclosed bay. The second story has a five-bay arrangement. The brick gable ends of the building are blind. On the rear elevation each unit has a stoop and a flanking shed-roof one-story storage closet.

503 West Mountain Street
Goforth House
c.a. 1928-1935, Contributing building
According to local tradition this one-story brick veneer period cottage was built by Charles Asberry Goforth (1894-1985) who acquired its site in his purchase of the lot on which #505 stands in December 1927. The same local tradition recounts his residency there for a short period before he set this lot apart and built a new house. Following contemporary patterns, the house consists of a side-gable roof main block and a hip-roof rear ell, all laid up in wire-cut common bond brick. The four-bay façade has gable-front porch with paired arched openings and an arch-headed louvered vent in the attic level. The window openings hold replacement six-over-six sash. The original rear porch, in the southeast corner has been enclosed with vinyl siding. A shallow deck has been added on the rear.

505 West Mountain Street
Peterson-Irvin House
c. 1900; c. 1924-1927, Contributing building

Probably dating from the turn of the century, this house is first known as the residence of Lucy C. Peterson who purchased it in 1912. She and her husband sold it to Batie Meek Ormand on 21 April 1923. Two months later Mr. Ormand and his wife sold the property for $4,000 to John Y. and Pearl Irvin. Mr. Irvin served as superintendent of the Kings Mountain schools from 1923 to 1927. In August 1927 they sold the improved, remodeled house for $6,500 to John S. Carpenter. In December 1927 John S. Carpenter sold the house to Charles A. Goforth. The Irvins surely added the bungalow-style porch supports and the decorative shed roof glazed dormer on the façade, however, the early history of the house remains to be confirmed. The one-story vinyl-clad, asphalt-roofed weatherboarded frame house comprises two blocks; a single pile, side-gable roof front block and an end-gable-roof rear ell. The three-bay façade has a full-façade engaged porch supported on brick piers with replacement posts. Although the front door has been replaced, the original surround, incorporating three-pane sidelights and the three-pane transom, remains. The window openings now hold replacement six-over-six sash. The rear ell, positioned behind the west half of the front block and its shed porch have been remodeled through time but retain their early configuration.

Garage
c. 1930-40, Contributing building

This small rectangular gable-front frame building began as a one-vehicle garage, with its opening on the east gable end. It was expanded on the south elevation by a full-depth shop that has a workbench under the six-pane south window. The garage is sheathed with vinyl siding and has an asphalt-shingle roof.

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Ed W. Hord House
ca. 1907-10, Noncontributing building

Although this large two-story double-pile weatherboarded frame house has suffered alterations during an apparent conversion to rental property in the later twentieth century, and a not altogether sympathetic current, ongoing renovation, its form recalls its role in the history of the West End as one of the earliest and most imposing houses erected on the former Tracy lands put up for sale in 1899. It was built by Ed W. Hord, said to have been a blacksmith at the Margrace Mill, and his wife Lillie (Hord) Hord, one of eighteen children born to Jesse Hord (1813-1898) on a lot purchased in December 1906 of C. S. and Corrie E. (1868-1907) Elam. The Hords appear to have resided here through a foreclosure in 1933, its purchase by Mrs. Hord’s brother-in-law J. C. Keller in 1936, and his conveyance of the house back to Mr. and Mrs. Hord that same year. The house remained the home of Mrs. Lillie Hord until 1964 when she and Mr. Hord’s heirs sold the house to Robert G. and Hetty Cox. The house was a symmetrical three-bay façade with a central entrance, a three-part window in the corresponding bay above and a hip-roof attic dormer which is nearly flush with the front wall. Fenestration on the side elevations, including a one-story east-side bay, reflect the double-pile plan, and a two-story ell stands on the rear elevation. Window openings contain one-over-one replacement sash.

Outbuilding
ca. 1910-20, Contributing building

Although deteriorated and neglected, this small rectangular frame building appears to have been an early garage or shop. It stands on a low concrete base and is covered with a gambrel-front sheet metal roof. Early weatherboarding survives on the east and south sides while unpainted wood shingles sheath the north and west sides. Paired replacement wood doors are set on the front.

Carport/Pergola
ca. 1960s, Noncontributing structure

A rectangular concrete floor, a brick lattice north wall, and five brick piers aligned on the south, with the wall and piers supporting a round pipe frame, remain. The roof is lost.

511 West Mountain Street
Ware-Jones-Blalock House
ca. 1902-03; mid-late twentieth century, Noncontributing building
Although the form of this one-story frame cottage and its hip on side-gable asphalt roof remain visible, the substantive changes made to this house in recent years compromise its essential integrity. The house was built by Edwin Lee Ware (1878-1959) on a lot he assembled in 1902-03, and sold by Mr. and Mrs. Ware in 1918 to H. B. Jones. In 1946 Mrs. Gertrude Mae Jones, his widow, sold the house to Charles Edward Blalock (1909-2002). The original wraparound porch has been lost, and the three-bay original block and the one-story west wing have received new windows and a veneer of faux, manufactured stone. Mr. Blalock was responsible for these mid-twentieth century changes. An east wing has been enclosed and sheathed with manufactured materials as have the house’s other elevations and its ell.

Storage building
c. 1980-2000, Noncontributing building

This prefabricated building is built of manufactured materials and covered with a gable-front asphalt roof. A low ramp leads to paired doors on the front.

Garage
c. 1952-60, Noncontributing building

This two-story rectangular concrete-block building has a wide opening on the north gable front, fitted with an overhead door, and a metal stair that provides access to the second-story apartment. It has metal windows and an asphalt gable-front roof.

513 West Mountain Street
House
c. 1982-86, Noncontributing building

This unusual, rectangular two-level three-bay house is essentially a variant split-level dwelling. The concrete-block lower level is partially below ground and has the appearance of a raised basement supporting a frame upper story that is sheathed with panels of horizontal and diagonal vinyl siding and covered with an asphalt side-gable roof. The center-bay entrance, set mid-level, is covered by a gable-front porch. A screened porch on stilts on the rear is accessed by a wood stair. A rental house, it stands on the site of an earlier one-story house occupied by William C. (1859-1944) and Susan Mae (1882-1979) Putnam.

601 West Mountain Street
J. C. Keller House
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

ca. 1939, Contributing building

This one-and-a-half story brick veneer period cottage stands on/about the site of a one-story frame house that was moved west and now stands at #605. J. C. Keller purchased the property in 1935 and lived here for several years before building this house. Mr. Keller and his wife Julie Hord Keller lived here until their deaths. The house passed by will to Estelle Hord Ware (1906-1990), the wife of Charles DeWitt Ware (1908-1999), and then to their daughter Phyllis Ware Austin (b. 1934). The house has a side-gable roof front block and an expansive gable-roof rear ell, all under asphalt roofs. The asymmetrical four-bay façade has a near center arched and gabled entrance porch, whose tile floor continues to the east as a terrace and meets the floor of the sitting porch recessed behind arched openings in the house’s northeast corner. A gable-front wall dormer rises off-axis behind the entrance. The paired windows on the façade and others through the house have six-over-six sash. On the west elevation a chimney, flanked by vents, and a flue stack are partially engaged. The side and rear elevations have asymmetrical fenestration. A simple metal shed-roof awning, supported by metal posts, adjoins the rear of the house.

Garage
ca. 1939, Contributing building

Standing on a low concrete foundation and sheathed with German siding, this small frame building has an asphalt gable-front roof and an opening on the east end to Goforth Street.

605 West Mountain Street
Harmon House
(ca. 1890); 1920s; ca. 1939, Contributing building

This house was built and stood on about the site of the brick J. C. Keller House until ca. 1939 when it was relocated here. The house is believed to have been a Harmon family residence that was sold in 1935 by W. W. Harmon to Mr. and Mrs. Keller. It remained in the Keller-Ware family until 1981. The expansive one-story-with-attic weatherboarded frame, side-gable roof bungalow with bracketed eaves appears to be a 1920s overbuilding of a small three-bay, single-pile house. An engaged full-façade bungalow style porch shelters the center entrance, holding an Italianate-style door and surround, and the flanking bays with four-over-one sash that recur throughout the house. The brick piers on the porch were linked by wood railings in 2002. A gable-roof attic dormer is set above the front door. The side elevations have a general balance and are fitted with large, tall louvered attic vents. A one-story gable-roof ell and an L-shaped porch occupy the rear elevation.
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

Garage
c.a. 1939, Contributing building

Standing on a low brick base, this one-vehicle frame garage is sheathed with German siding and covered with an asphalt gable-front roof. It has a full-width opening on the north front and blind elevations.

Storage building
c.a. 2000, Noncontributing building

This prefabricated building is of manufactured materials and covered with a side-gable asphalt roof. Paired doors of like materials and a small window are in its north side.

607 West Mountain
Warlick House
c.a. 1905-15; c.a. 1920s, Contributing building

The history of this one-story frame turn-of-the-century house remains to be confirmed. Its known ownership begins with that of Abron Plato Warlick (1883-1966), a concrete worker, and his wife, Texie Smith Warlick (1884-1966) who lived here until their deaths. It remained in the ownership of their daughter, Lallage Warlick Falls Holtschulte (1910-2009), the widow of both Gillie Falls (1909-1944) and Clement Holtschulte, into the 1970s. The appearance of the house reflects both its original early twentieth-century construction and a dramatic remodeling in about the 1920s when the bungalow style porches were added. The original form of the weatherboard cottage with its expansive hip-on-gable roof and interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps is visible. It has a three-bay façade with a center, late-twentieth century entrance incorporating sidelights. The bungalow-style refitting involved the addition of a three-window shed roof dormer above the entrance and the porches aligned across the façade. The design, in fact, recalls the appearance of the trio of porches on the John Martin Patterson House. Here the entrance is sheltered by a gable-front porch supported by paired square columns on paired paneled concrete piers. Open terraces below overhead wood trellises link that porch with a screened porch on the northeast corner of the house and a like porch and porte cochere on the northwest corner. The paneled concrete piers of the entrance porch reappear on the corner porches where they are connected by low concrete railings. The inventive use of concrete is exceptional and an engaging advertisement of Mr. Warlick’s abilities. During recent ownership(s) the house has been covered with vinyl siding and its front door and window sash have been replaced.

Storage building
c.a. 1990-2000, Noncontributing building
This small prefabricated storage building is made of manufactured materials and covered with a gable-front asphalt shingle roof. It has a two-leaf door of like material in its east gable front.

609 West Mountain Street
House
ca. 1900; ca. 1920s, Contributing building

The history of this asymmetrical-plan one-story, turn-of-the century house, owned for a time by a member of the Roberts family, is unconfirmed, however, it stands with the nearby home of Isaac Benjamin Goforth as one of the earliest houses on West Mountain Street. The three-bay façade incorporates a projecting gable-front wing and an ornamental gable on the main block which are both sheathed with decorative wood shingles that also appear in gable ends on the east and west sides of the house. The L-shaped front porch has bungalow style supports with square wood columns on brick piers. The back part of the house has recently-built hip and gable-roof additions, all covered with asphalt shingles. Weatherboards are visible on some elevations while others are covered with vinyl siding. The windows hold replacement one-over-one sash.

Garage
ca. 1930, Contributing building

This frame garage is sheathed with weatherboards and covered with an asphalt shingle hip roof with exposed rafter ends. The opening to Mountain Street is fitted with sliding vertical board doors.

Garage
ca. 1980-2000, Noncontributing building

Covered with an asphalt-shingle gambrel roof and sheathed with manufactured materials, this prefabricated one-and-a-half story building has paired garage openings with overhead doors on its east side and a stair to the upper-level on the north side.

611 West Mountain Street
James Monroe Rhea House
ca. 1923-24, Contributing building

James Monroe Rhea (1891-1936), an employee of the Neisler mills who acquired the lot in 1923, built this house. He lived here until his death. His widow Elizabeth Mauney Rhea (1897-1990) remained in
the house into the late 1980s, when she went to a nursing home. It was sold out of the family in 1991 to the present owners. One of the few bungalows covered with a jerkinhead roof in the West End, this large, well-detailed, and well-preserved bungalow, is rectangular in plan, stands on a brick foundation, and is sheathed with weatherboards. The roof, which is fitted with elegant C-scroll brackets on its eaves, has asphalt shingles. The three-bay façade is sheltered by an L-shaped porch which wraps around the northeast corner of the house and incorporates a porte cochere. The two-stage brick piers are linked by a brick pierced railing. The Craftsman-style front door with its sixteen pane sidelights is complemented by window openings holding nine-over-one or twelve-over-one sash with plain board surrounds with drip caps. The front and rear gable ends are fitted with openings holding a twelve-pane window flanked by louvered side panels. The side elevations are balanced, and the west elevation has a centered ornamental wall dormer fitted with a louvered vent.

613 West Mountain Street
Wright-Blackmer House
ca. 1923-24, Contributing building

Believed to have been constructed on speculation by builder Fred James Wright (1897-1960), and sold in 1924 to Charles P. Weir for $6,500, this one-story house is one of two surviving houses in the West End built of concrete blocks. In 1928 Mr. Weir and his wife sold the property for $6,250 to Hayne Stirling Blackmer (1895-1944) who lived here until his death as perhaps did his widow Louise O’Farell Blackmer (____-1973). The three-bay house is covered by a low, expansive asphalt shingle hip roof, which engages the L-shaped porch that wraps around the northeast front corner of the house and the inset gable roof that covers the axial archway framing the front door. Like the neighboring Rhea house the porch supports are brick piers linked by a brick railing. The window openings hold mostly paired eight-over-one bungalow-period sash in molded wood frames. A modern wood deck is set on the southeast corner of the house.

Outbuilding
ca. 1970s-1990s, Noncontributing building

A rectangular frame building sheathed with manufactured sheet siding and covered with a gable-front asphalt-shingle roof, this building has paired doors opening on its west end to Sims Street, paired windows on its north and south sides, and a single door covered by a shed roof porch and flanked by windows in its east gable end.

Storage building
ca. 1980s-1990s, Noncontributing building
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

This small prefabricated storage building is sheathed with manufactured horizontal siding and covered with an asphalt roof, and has a wide door on its north gable front.

West Gold Street, North Side

206 West Gold Street
Ware Family House
c. 1882, Contributing building

According to family and local tradition this large late-Victorian two-story frame house was built in about 1882 for William Oates Ware (1833-1918) coincident with his original purchase of a portion of the R. S. C. Love milling property. If not built in that year, the house was surely constructed by about 1888, when Mr. Ware purchased the third of three tracts of Mr. Love that made up his milling complex on the south side of Gold Street. In 1907 Mr. Ware and his wife conveyed the house and its grounds of about 1.5 acres to William Alexander Ware (1862-1949), his son and business partner, subject to a life interest. The house remained a family residence through the life of the builder’s granddaughter Ava Juanita Ware (1903-1995) and an estate-owned rental property until being sold out of the family in 2008.

The T-plan weatherboarded frame house stands on brick piers with brick infill and is covered with asphalt gable roofs. The wide three-bay Gold Street façade features a projecting gable-front bay on the west flanked by a highly decorative, original two-level porch which shelters the center entrance and the tier of windows on the east but stops short of carrying to the house’s southeast front corner. Both levels of the porch are supported by bracketed chamfered posts linked by ornamental sawnwork railings. The elevations under the porch are flush-sheathed. The first-story doorway, with an Italianate-molded door, features sidelights and a glazed transom while the second-story door is flanked by sidelights only. The window openings, with plain surrounds with drip caps, hold either original six-over-six sash or replacement sash of like design (mostly on the second story). The east gable end of the main block is two bays wide while the long west elevation has three bays of corresponding windows on each level. The rear elevation includes an inset one-story kitchen ell and an adjoining L-plan porch which has been enclosed through time. The remarkably intact interior retains original woodwork, fittings, light fixtures, and original/early paint schemes.

Shop
c. 1910-1930, Noncontributing building
Covered with a sagging asphalt side-gable roof, and sheathed with weatherboards, this long-neglected rectangular frame building has deteriorated toward ruin. Paired board-and-rail doors are centered on the south elevation.

Garage
c. 1920-1930, Contributing building

Laid up in one-to-five bond, this two-vehicle brick garage is covered with a sheet-metal hip roof. The opening on the east side is fitted with sliding vertical board doors. A simple frame shed addition on the north is deteriorated.

Poultry House
c. 1920-1940, Contributing building

Covered with a sheet metal roof, this small weatherboarded frame building has standard and short (for chickens) board-and-rail doors on its south front. Remnants of wire fencing suggest the house was either in or adjoined an open lot.

208 West Gold Street
Pinecrest
c. 1937-1938; c. 1952, Contributing building

Pinecrest, a one-story brick veneer house dating principally from the 1930s with a west ell added in the early 1950s, was the home of Lena Bernice (Ware) McGill (1905-2007) from c. 1938 until her death. Lena Ware, the youngest daughter of William Alexander and Caroline (Anthony) Ware, married John Lowery McGill in 1933. Mr. McGill (c. 1904-1998) was then a resident of the district, at 408 West Gold Street, where he and Mrs. McGill lived until this house was completed. Mrs. McGill received title to the lot on which the house was built in September 1936 from her parents and later enlarged her holding to its present size. The house’s name derives from the grove of pines on its grounds extending west to Cansler Street. The house and its large lot were bequeathed to Erskine College, Mrs. McGill’s alma mater, and Boyce Memorial Associate Reform Presbyterian Church. Essentially a period cottage, the generally rectangular house has white-painted elevations, probably dating to the c. 1952 addition, and a side-gable asphalt shingle roof with exposed rafters. The six-bay Gold Street facade is enhanced by paired, shallow unequal gable-front bays. The dominant west bay is actually two bays in width and includes the off-center entrance sheltered by a metal porch with decorative supports. It is served by a concentric series of brick steps, in the form of a quarter-circle, that arc to the northeast and engage a shallow terrace that carries across the east part of the facade behind a low brick openwork railing.
window openings contain single, paired, and triple six-over-six sash. The side and rear elevations are marked by a like asymmetrical balance. On the rear a metal covered terrace links the house with a large, flat-roof open carport with a concrete floor and metal supports.

304 West Gold Street
Davidson-Jackson House
ca. 1942, Contributing building

Carl W. Davidson (1902-1945) and his wife, Mary Lou (Hord) Davidson Niven (1905-1999), acquired the small lot on which this house was built, just under 6,000 square feet, in March 1942 from F. M. and Carrie Biggerstaff. After Mr. Davidson’s death in a train accident, his widow remained here for a time, married Jesse F. Niven in 1953, and then rented the house for many years. For the longest period it was the home of Howard Byers Jackson (1912-1994), an employee of the Neisler mills, and his wife, who eventually bought it. Hazel (Ashcraft) Jackson (b. 1914) remains the owner/occupant. Standing on a brick foundation, the small one-story-with-attic Colonial Revival-style frame house is sheathed with wide German siding and has an asphalt shingle side-gable roof. The three-bay south façade has a center entrance and flanking windows sheltered by a Tuscan-column porch with a roof railing. The house’s rectangular footprint is extended on the east by an offset single-vehicle garage, also under a side-gable roof, and on the west by a shallow rectangular one-story bay with windows on its three sides. The window openings hold replacement eight-over-eight sash.

306 West Gold Street
William L. Fortune House
ca. 1932, Contributing building

William L. Fortune (1874-1943) and his wife, Tempie Ellen (Jones) Fortune (1880-1961), purchased the lot on which this house stands in April 1932 from the Elmer Lumber Company for $700. The house is believed to have been built shortly thereafter. It remained a residence of the Fortune family until 1978 when Pauline (Fortune) Weaver sold it to Mary Everhardt Cole (1905-1978), the widow of Clyde Hord Cole (1903-1967). Virginia Faye Cole (1930-1992) and Margaret Louise (Cole) Dover (b. 1927), the current owner, resided here afterward. The one-story-with-attic brick veneer house reflects the hybrid character of the 1930s and incorporates features of both contemporary bungalows and period cottages in its design and finish. Its dark two-tone brick are laid in common bond. Soldier courses form the water table and the lintels of the window openings. The principal, rectangular block is covered with a jerkinhead asphalt shingle roof. The three-bay south façade features paired unequal gable front blocks with decorative half-timbering. The larger gable shelters the porch under its west half and engages the roof of the smaller projecting block on the east that contains a glazed sun parlor. Single,
paired, and triple-sized openings contain six-over-one sash. The side elevations reflect a like, asymmetrical balance, with a side porch and entrance on the east elevation while the rear block is covered with a low hip roof.

308 West Gold Street
Gold Street Apartments
c.a. 1971-1975, 2 Noncontributing buildings

The lot on which this pair of identical, four-unit apartment blocks stand was a wooded, undeveloped property from its ownership in the Tracy-Dixon family until ca. 1971-1975 when the two blocks were constructed either simultaneously or successively. The east block, containing apartments #1 through #4, is a rectangular two-story brick veneer building, measuring twenty-seven feet on its north and south gable ends, which are blind, and seventy feet on its long west front and east rear elevations. The buff-colored brick are laid in common bond and the roofing is asphalt shingles. The west front has entrances into each of the four two-story apartments flanked by a single window opening on the first story and a single pendant window per unit on the second story. The six-panel vinyl-clad doors and metal eight-over-eight sash windows appear to be replacements. The center half of the second story elevation is sheathed with vertical exterior sheet siding. On the unit’s rear, east elevation a service entrance and concrete stoop per unit, is flanked by a small shallow, one-story shed roof storage closet. This east block overlooks a grass-covered square that is flanked on its west side by a second block of identical design and finish with its east front entrances onto the square. A rectangular asphalt-paved parking lot is located between the sidewalk and the south elevations of the paired blocks. The Gold Street Apartments are said to have been built by a Mr. Young and were acquired by the present owner in 1998.

310 West Gold Street
Dixon House
ca. 1900-1910; ca. 1925, Contributing building

The present deteriorated, bungalow-style appearance of this house belies its age and significance as one of the oldest surviving houses on West Gold Street. The earliest history of the turn-of-the century cottage is unconfirmed. It was possibly a Ware-family rental residence. In December 1919 William Alexander Ware and Mrs. Ware sold the house and lot to Robert Barnett Dixon (ca. 1863-1951) who lived here with his wife Frances Watterson Dixon (d. 1931) until their deaths, as did their son Lee Dixon (1914-1999). Mr. Dixon, a widower, conveyed the house to his son and daughter-in-law in 1948, retaining a life interest. The one-story, three-bay frame house comprises a single-pile main block and a one-story rear ell, standing on brick piers with brick infill and covered
with a stamped metal roof. The elevations are sheathed with asbestos shingles. The side-gable roof of the main block was raised during the ca. 1925 remodeling to a higher pitch and expanded to engage the full-façade front porch. A shallow shed-roof attic dormer was then centered above the entrance. In the later decades of the twentieth century the porch supports were replaced with inexpensive metal posts, windows refitted with 1960s-era two-over-two horizontal sash, and a “picture window” installed. The ell at the rear is flanked by a later infill block on the west that includes a service porch.

Storage building
ca. 1920-1925, Contributing building

This small frame gable-front building is sheathed with asbestos shingles and covered with a sheet metal roof. A frame shed-roof addition occupies its north side.

Carport
ca. 1960-1980, Noncontributing structure

This small deteriorated, rudimentary one-vehicle frame structure has sheet fiberglass sheathing and a gable-front asphalt roof.

312 West Gold Street
Aileen Ormand Carpenter House
ca. 1924-1925, Contributing building

In July 1924 Batie Meek Ormand and his wife deeded the site of this house, a rectangular lot in the northeast corner of Tracy and West Gold streets to their eldest child, Aileen Ormand Carpenter (1897-1971). She had married Charles Troy Carpenter (1896-1984) in 1920. The couple resided here until their respective deaths, and the house which remains in family ownership was occupied by Charles Troy Carpenter, Jr. (b. 1921) until about 2005. In 2009 it was occupied by Dorcas Aileen Carpenter Plonk (b. 1929). The one-story-with-attic frame bungalow is one of the most intact and best preserved houses in the district. Rectangular in plan, the gable-front house stands on a common-bond brick foundation, is sheathed with weatherboards, and is covered with an asphalt shingle roof. The eaves are fitted with unusual, distinctive brackets featuring framed rectangular openings rather than the expected conventional triangular voids. On the three-bay south façade the eaves embrace a shallow projecting gable-front porch, occupying the west half of the elevation including the off-center entrance. The main gable has paired, fixed six-pane attic windows while the porch gable has vertical sheathing. The porch is supported by tapering wood posts on brick piers. The house’s window openings hold six-over-one bungalow-style sash. On the west, South Tracy Street elevation, paired gable ends flank a side porch
that has been glazed with metal jalousie windows. The rear elevation has a shallow hip-roof enclosed porch, and the east side has balanced fenestration.

Storage building
ca. 1955, Noncontributing building

Covered with an asphalt-shingle shed roof, this small frame storage building is sheathed with vertical boards.

400 West Gold Street
William F. Logan House
c.a. 1920; ca. 1970s, Contributing building

This two-story frame Foursquare house is first associated with William F. Logan who is said to have lived here until his death. It remained a residence of his widow and, according to local tradition, the house was converted to apartment use by the Logans’s heirs. The usual rectangular footprint of the two-bay, two-story block was expanded at construction by a one-story full-façade porch with thick brick piers that terminated with a porte-cochere off the house’s southwest front corner, a one-story bay on the east elevation, and a one-story block on the rear elevation. In the post-1952 conversion, the east bay was enlarged and raised in part to two stories and the rear block was both enlarged and partially raised to two stories. The house is now sheathed with wide aluminum siding and covered with an asphalt-shingle roof. A metal stair rises on the east side of the house and provides access to a second-story apartment. The window openings contain both original four-over-four sash and replacement one-over-one metal sash.

402 West Gold Street
Plonk House
c.a. 1933; ca. 1990-2000, Contributing building

This spare Colonial Revival-style two-story brick veneer house was built ca. 1933 by Rufus S. Plonk (1895-1983). Its somewhat severe present appearance owes also to the replacement of its original sash windows, probably six-over-six, with modern one-over-one sash. The rectangular two-story house is covered by a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof, with flush eaves, and has a three bay south façade. The red, wire-cut brick elevations are laid up in common bond and have a soldier-course water table. The window openings have soldier-course lintels. The center entrance is protected by a small gable-front porch with an arch-headed opening framing the front door. The paired window openings on either side and in pendant positions on the second story, as well as the house’s other windows are fitted with
replacement one-over-one metal sash. The arc of the front porch recurs on the house’s east one-story side porch where the arched openings on its three sides have been infilled with sheathed framing and partial glazing. The house’s east and west gable ends have a balanced fenestration as does the rear elevation where a one-story shed-roof service porch has been enclosed. Mr. Plonk lived here until his death in 1983, and the house remained a family residence for some years thereafter. The windows were replaced by later owners.

Storage building
ca. 1970-1980, Noncontributing building

This small prefabricated storage building is sheathed with manufactured sheet siding and covered with an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof. A door of like material is centered on the east gable end.

404 West Gold Street
Pride G. Ratterree House
ca. 1924, Contributing building

This appealing one-story frame bungalow is one of the most accomplished in its design in the district. The lot on which it stands was purchased in April 1924 by Pride G. Ratterree (1894-1947), a son of Sumpter Ratterree, who lived in the 300 block of West Mountain Street, and the brother of Bright Dixon Ratterree who lived at 411 West Mountain Street. Mr. Ratterree and his wife, Ruth W. Ratterree (1894-1963) occupied the house until their deaths. The house’s principal architectural development occurs at its south front where a gable-front entrance projects forward of a single-pile side-gable-roof block that, in turn, is positioned in front of the house’s main gable-front block. The gable-front entrance is actually the frontispiece to an expansive porch that is recessed in the house’s front southeast corner and engages the porte cochere in the east end of the side-gable-roof block. A Craftsman-style door, with complementing sidelights, opens from the porch into the living room in the west half of the side-gable-roof block. The porch and porte cochere are supported by square brick piers with concrete caps and brick railing. The house stands on a brick foundation. Its original weatherboarded elevations are now covered with vinyl siding, and the window openings hold one-over-one metal sash, however, the original C-scroll brackets remain in place along the house’s eaves. The house’s side elevations have a balanced fenestration while an original one-story ell is offset on the rear elevation.

406 West Gold Street
Lester Alexander Hoke House
ca. 1928, Contributing building
Despite the addition of vinyl siding to its elevations and the refitting of its windows with one-over-one replacement sash, this substantial two-story frame house retains much of its period character. The lot on which it stands was acquired in February 1928 by Lester Alexander Hoke (1902-1965) and his wife, Pearl (Watterson) Hoke (1902-1967), and remained their residence to death. Mr. Hoke was the proprietor of an eponymous electrical contracting concern. The changes to the house were effected by the present owner who purchased it in 1973. The house stands on a brick foundation and its core two-story block is covered by a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof. The asymmetrical south façade is dominated by a tall gable-front entrance pavilion that recalls similar features on contemporary, brick period cottages. A one-story screened porch on the east gable has its pendant in a one-story side-gable-roof wing on the house’s west side. A one-story ell projects on the rear elevation.

Carport
c.a. 1955-1975, Noncontributing building

This frame two-vehicle shelter is covered by a side-gable asphalt-shingled roof and has enclosed gable ends flanking the concrete-floored garage area.

Swimming Pool/Decking
c.a. 1975-2000, Noncontributing structure

This above-ground pool incorporates deck to form a recreational facility for family use in the area north of the house and west of the carport.

408 West Gold Street
Wright-McGill-Biser House
c.a. 1928, Contributing building

Believed to date to about 1928, this appealing one-story frame bungalow has had three known owners including members of the Biser family since 1938. In December 1928 Baxter T. and Eliza Wright, probably the builders, sold the house, which was then under mortgage, to John Lowery McGill. John McGill resided here as a bachelor, and after 1933 with his wife, until they occupied their new house at 208 West Gold Street. In July 1938 Mr. and Mrs. McGill sold the house to Nell Watterson Biser (1905-1982), the wife of Meredith Hill Biser (1900-1980), whose daughter is the absentee owner. Standing on a brick foundation and sheathed with weatherboards, the house has a rectangular main block, covered with an asphalt-shingle jerkinhead roof, and a one-story gable-roof ell and shed block on the rear. A third, decorative jerkinhead roof feature, fitted with a demi-lune attic vent, is positioned above the south façade’s center entrance and behind the shallow entrance-bay porch supported by
Tuscan columns. A screened porch, inset in the house’s southeast corner, is supported by a trio of molded wood columns on a brick pier. The window openings retain their original six-over-six sash.

Garage
ca. 1928-1940, Contributing building

Rectangular in plan, this one-story weatherboarded frame, two-vehicle garage is covered with an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof. Paired sliding doors, sheathed with vertical boards, protect the wide opening on its south front. The garage has a dirt floor.

410 West Gold Street
Henry Huffstetler House
c.a. 1931-1932, Contributing building

This small, one-story rectangular brick veneer bungalow is believed to have been built by Henry Huffstetler of whom little is known. He purchased the small lot for $450 in June 1931. The multi-tone reddish-brown brick are laid up in common bond with a header-course water table. Its low asphalt-shingle hip roof is finished as a jerkinhead on the south façade where it enframes a rectangular opening fitted with a single-pane attic window flanked by louvered vents. A like duality appears in the hip roof of the front porch which is finished as a front-gable roof on its projecting east end, which is sheathed with half-timbering. The three-bay façade has a center entrance flanked by openings with paired four-over-one bungalow sash that survive throughout the house. The side elevations, with engaged chimneys, have a balanced fenestration, while an enclosed frame porch is inset in the rear northwest corner.

Garage
c.a. 1933-1934, Contributing building

The small one-vehicle gable-front frame garage is sheathed with weatherboards and has a sheet metal roof. The opening on the south front, with clipped corners, has been fitted with paired plywood doors. The other elevations are blind.

412 West Gold Street
Blalock-Whitener House
c.a. 1933-1934, Contributing building
This substantial Tudor-styled brick veneer bungalow was built by Charles Edward Blalock (1909-2002) who acquired its small lot for $300 in July 1933 from Frank Goforth. In 1947 Mr. Blalock and his wife sold the house to Ernest Karl (1890-1961) and Dolly Marion (1916-1996) Whitener, its long-time owner/occupants. Covered with a cross-gable asphalt-shingle roof, the one-story with attic bungalow has common-bond reddish/brown elevations. Its defining features are the trio of half-timbered gable ends that appear on the south façade and east side porches, the east gable end, and on the west elevation. Each is finished with parallel vertical members in a plaster field. The porches are supported by square brick piers and have small attic windows in their gable ends. The house’s four-bay façade and side elevations have a balanced fenestration with six-over-six sash in single and paired openings that are painted brown. At the back of the house shallow, one-bay wide blocks project on both the east and west elevations.

Storage building  
ca. 1970-1980, Noncontributing building

This small rectangular, one-story prefabricated building is sheathed with manufactured siding and covered with an asphalt-shingle gable-front roof. It has a door on its south gable end and is painted brown.

414 West Gold Street  
Daniel M. Finger House  
ca. 1947-1948, Contributing building

Generally rectangular in plan, this one-story post-World War II Colonial Revival-style frame house is sheathed with wide weatherboards and covered with an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof. On the long five-bay south façade, the center entrance and two bays to the east are protected by a shallow recessed porch supported by square wood columns. A small, shallow brick-veneer ell, painted white like the sheathing, was added to the east gable end, set back in the north half of the elevation and below a trio of small rectangular louvered attic vents. A small rectangular screened sitting porch, with a gable roof, probably dating to the 1950s, has been added off the northeast corner of the house. Its framing incorporates a railing around three sides, and the north gable end is sheathed with wide siding. This corner lot was earlier the site of a one-story frame turn-of-the-century house that was home to Novalla Phillips and lost to fire. Daniel M. Finger and his wife, Dorothy (Hoke) Finger, purchased the lot on which they built in June 1947, and in March 1952 they enlarged their grounds by purchasing a lot of the same width, immediately north of the house from Bright Dixon Ratterree. Mrs. Finger was a daughter of Lester Alexander Hoke and grew up at 406 West Gold Street.
502 West Gold Street
Carpenter-Davidson House
ca. 1937-1940, Contributing building

This small minimal traditional house was probably built by J. D. S. Carpenter who purchased its small lot in 1937 for a stated $50. In 1945 he and his wife sold the house and lot to Hubert Davidson, a brother of Carl Davidson (see 302 West Gold Street). The one-story-with attic frame cottage stands on a brick foundation and has aluminum siding elevations and an asphalt-shingle side-gable roof. Its rectangular footprint, expanded by the small entrance bay porch on the three-bay south façade, has been enlarged by the addition of a compatible one-story hip-roof bay on the east gable end, and an ell and carport on the rear. The plain board window surrounds enframe original six-over-six wood sash.

504 West Gold Street
House
ca. 1925-1930; ca. 1991-2000, Noncontributing building

The construction history of this once-appealing gable-front one-story bungalow is unresolved. The property on which it stands was sold in 1928 by John Oates Plonk and D. F. Hord and wives to C. S. Hedrick who sold it in May 1930 to W. D. Weaver who, in turn, sold it in August 1930 to E. B. Davis. Mr. Davis and his wife defaulted on a mortgage. The house was acquired in 1935 by Baxter Wright, who sold it in 1939 to Ferguson R. Plonk. Ferguson and Fred Plonk sold the house in 1944 to Elmer Hardin, its longest term owner/occupant. After its acquisition by the current owner the siding of the house was replaced with unpainted boards, its bracketed gable ends were re-sheathed with unpainted chevron sheathing, the wood posts on the porch’s brick piers were replaced, and its windows refitted with replacement one-over-one metal sash. Through those changes the original form of the rectangular house, with a three-bay south façade, an L-shaped front, southeast corner, porch under a projecting gable-front roof, and a shallow gable front bay on the east side have remained.

Storage building
ca. 1991-2000, Noncontributing building

This sizable prefabricated rectangular building is sheathed with manufactured materials and covered by a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof. Paired doors are centered on the south front.

506 West Gold Street
Bumgardner-Eskew-Briggs House
ca. 1920-1925, Contributing building
West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

While the ownership of the property on which this house stands is known from 1906 forward, the matter of whether the present appearance of this one-and-a-half story frame bungalow represents the thorough remodeling of an earlier house or is the result of a single building program in the 1920s is unconfirmed. In 1906 J. C. Bumgardner acquired an 0.75-acre lot on the north side of Gold Street for $410 at auction in the settlement of a Watterson family estate. Mr. Bumgardner held the property until March 1928 when he sold the east half of the lot for $2,000 to Mrs. Mary R. Sims. In November 1928 Mrs. Sims sold the property for the same price to A. J. Eskew. The house remained in the Eskew family until February 1942 when it was sold to Paul H. Briggs, an employee of the Mauney Mills, and his wife, who occupied it until their deaths in 1981. The now-unoccupied house remains the property of the heirs of their daughter Margaret Juanita Briggs Ware (1926-2006).

The rectangular house is sheathed with aluminum siding and covered by an expansive side-gable asphalt-shingle roof which splays to cover the full-façade porch on the three-bay south elevation and the shed on the rear north elevation of the house. The porch is supported by square wood posts and protects the center entrance and its four-pane/three panel door. The window openings hold original bungalow-style four-over-one sash. A gable front dormer is centered above the entrance. The side elevations are two bays wide and include single windows on the second story. On the rear, a doorway flanked by windows opens into the recessed porch.

Garage
ca. 1920-1940, Contributing building

This rectangular one-story frame building stands on a concrete block foundation and is covered with a gable-front sheet-metal roof. Paired vertical board doors protect the opening on the south gable front which is flush sheathed. The other elevations, blind except for a six-pane window on the east side, are sheathed with weatherboards.

301 West Gold Street
Fred J. Wright House
ca. 1925-1935, Contributing building

One of two surviving concrete block houses in the district built by Fred James Wright (1897-1960), a manufacturer of concrete blocks, this house is first remembered as a residence of his daughter Madge (Wright) Rhea (1919-2000) and her husband. In March 1938 Mr. and Mrs. Wright sold the house to David R. Hamrick. The purchase price of $2,700 was in addition to the assumption of the balance of a $2,000 mortgage held by the Kings Mountain Building and Loan Association. Whether Fred J. Wright lived here or for what period is unconfirmed. Mr. Wright’s manufacturing plat was located southwest
of the house, on apparently adjoining property, and accessible from Cansler Street. The elevations of
the house are visually arresting. Small rectangular concrete blocks are laid as “stretchers” in a Flemish
bond pattern with red terra cotta brick or block “headers,” producing a somewhat checkerboard effect.
The one-story Wright house is rectangular in plan except for the projecting gable-front porch on the
asymmetrical north façade that has been glazed with metal jalousie windows. An extension of the east
dge of this gable contains a tall arched opening that fronts an extension of the porch floor as an open
terrace along the east, Cansler Street elevation now partially sheltered by a metal awning. An open
wood deck occupies most of the rear elevation. The window openings contain both replacement and
original six-over-one sash. The house is covered by a side gable roof with shallow jerkinhead gables,
and these gable ends have small attic windows.

The grounds of the house include a mortared stone wall, parallel with the drive off Cansler Street, that
retains the immediate rear lawn and a series of terraced stonework flower beds that flank the west side
of a mortared stone staircase descending to the much lower grade of most of the lot. This house is one
of a series of houses on the south side of Gold Street whose lots have a noticeable drop in grade from
their north front southward to the rear lot line.

303 West Gold Street
Fred James Wright Jr. House
cia. 1942, Contributing building

Fred James Wright Jr. (1922-1996), a partner with his father in Fred J. Wright & Son, a manufacturer
of concrete blocks, built this two-story brick veneer house in about 1942, coincident with his marriage
that year to Lillian Aileen Moss (1921-2008). The couple left the house in the 1950s for a suburban
residence, however he continued operations at the block plant until about the early 1970s when it was
closed. The spare Colonial Revival-style two-story common-bond brick veneer main block and its
contemporary one-story wings stand on a full basement, that is on grade on the rear elevation, and are
covered with a side-gable asphalt-shingle roofs. The principal three-bay north façade features a center
entrance in a shallow brick enframement and double window openings to either side and in
corresponding positions above. This main block is flanked on the east by an enclosed one-story, vinyl-
clad porch and on the west by a one-story brick veneer wing with a secondary door opening to West
Gold Street. Brick chimneys rise on each gable end of the main block with symmetrical fenestration on
the second story and attic levels. On the rear elevation an open wood deck, supported by tall posts,
incorporates an apparently earlier, first-story shed-roof porch. The window openings hold replacement
one-over-one metal sash.

Garage
305 West Gold Street
Hamrick-Fulkerson House
c.a. 1937-1938, Contributing building

In July 1937 David R. Hamrick purchased the small lot on which this period cottage was built for $650, and the house was probably built soon thereafter. He and his wife Helen Hambrick owned the house until May 1952, when they sold the property to William Jennings and Ruth Raby Fulkerson who were both teachers at Central High School. The one-and-a-half-story brick veneer period cottage is built of multi-tone red and olive wire-cut brick, laid up in common bond. The front block, which projects on the east elevation, is covered with a tall, steeply pitched side-gable roof with louvered vents while the main, rear block is covered with an end-gable roof, both of asphalt shingles. The principal architectural development occurs on the north façade, where the roof of the gable-front entrance pavilion sweeps to the east and in front of a façade chimney. The off-center entrance, with a replacement door, is flanked on the west by a small window and on the east by an inset arch-headed niche, with a six-pane attic window in the upper gable. An ornamental lozenge is worked in yellow brick on the north face of the chimney. In a departure from usual practice, the window openings have no defined lintel treatment and painted cast concrete sills. They hold six-over-six wood sash. The east and west elevations have generally balanced fenestration in the basement and first-story levels and dormer windows on the second story. The enclosed first-story shed-roof porch is raised on tall supports and effectively serves as a shelter for a conventional door into the basement level that is essentially on grade.

307 West Gold Street
Charles A. Goforth House
c.a. 1936-1937, Contributing building

Charles A. and Angie Goforth purchased the small lot on which this house stands for $500 in December 1936 and are said to have lived here until their deaths. The one-story brick veneer period cottage, laid up in dark red common-bond brick, has a side-gable roof front block and a deep rear block covered with a hip roof. Both are covered with asphalt shingles. Here, as next door at #305, the principal development occurs on the asymmetrical four-bay façade which incorporates an inset porch in the northeast front corner of the house. The porch has a single arch-headed opening on the façade,
with an echoing arc in the eave, and paired openings on its east side. The dominant feature here, however, is the projecting gable-front entrance bay whose roof sweeps down on the west in front of a chunky chimney with decorative brickwork on its upper face. The window openings, enhanced with soldier-course lintels, hold six-over-six, eight-over-eight, or four-over-four sash. The side elevations have an asymmetrical balance. A one-story parapet-roof brick veneer garage, fitted with an overhead door, was added in the 1950s along the downgrade south end of the east elevation. The rear elevation is on grade at the basement level and fitted with a shed-roof porch, which is overbuilt on the main level with an enclosed gable-roof frame ell. These features are of inferior construction.

309 West Gold Street
Fred James Wright Sr. House
ca. 1931-1935, iilding

According to family tradition this house was built by Fred James Wright Sr. (1897-1960), the founder of Fred J. Wright & Son, manufacturers of concrete blocks. The company plant was located in a complex of buildings located immediately south of this house. Mr. Wright and his wife left this house about 1956 for a new residence at 814 West Mountain Street where he lived until his death. The one-story weatherboarded frame bungalow stands on a full brick foundation. The north, front half of the house is covered with a side-gable jerkinhead roof, with a third jerkinhead roof offset on the front elevation over the porch, while the rear half of the house is covered with a hip roof. Paired louvered attic vents are set in the front gable while a small window is located in the east gable end. An L-shaped porch, supported by square wood posts on brick piers, wraps the northeast corner of the house. The main entrance, recessed at the back of the porch, is joined by a secondary entrance under a gable-roof hood in the west half of the asymmetrical five-bay façade. Window openings hold original six-over-one sash. The side and rear elevations have a general balance. The small service porch in the southwest corner has been enclosed and a small deck added beside it at the south end of the west side. The basement, essentially on grade at the back of the house, included garaging accessible on the east.

311 West Gold Street
Plonk House
ca. 1910-1915, Contributing building

This early-twentieth-century two-story frame house has served as a Plonk family rental residence for the majority of its existence, since at least ca. 1950. According to family tradition it was built by William Lafayette Plonk (1855-1924) after the death of his wife, Martha Regina (Ware) Plonk (1859-1904), a daughter of William Oates Ware. Mr. Plonk relocated here from his St. Luke’s Church community farm and lived here until his death. Standing on brick piers with brick infill, the house is
comprised of a principal two-story, two-bay hip-roof main block, a recessed two-story, one-bay hip-roof west wing, and a one-story rear ell. The main block and wing are linked by the expansive hip-roof front porch, with an ornamental gable in front of the main entrance, whose supports (apparently) were changed to the surviving bungalow-style tapered wood posts on brick piers. In the conversion to apartment use, a second door was added beside the main entrance while a third apartment was served by its front door in the west wing. Over time the L-shaped rear service porch has been enclosed for new uses. The original sheathing is now covered with vinyl siding and the window openings have been refitted with one-over-one sash. In actuality the changes made to the exterior of the house are more substantial than those on the interior where original mantels, doors, and door and window surrounds survive.

Carport
ca. 1950, Contributing structure

This two-vehicle shelter has a concrete floor that is an extension of the concrete driveway and metal V-shaped supports for its flat roof.

313 West Gold Street
Plonk Family House
ca. 1912-1913, Contributing building

This expansive two-story late-Queen Anne-style house has been a residence of the Plonk family since its construction by John Oates Plonk and it is one of the largest surviving houses in the district. John Oates Plonk (1880-1951), the eldest of five sons born to William Lafayette and Martha Regina (Ware) Plonk and a grandson of William Oates Ware, was born north of Kings Mountain in the St. Luke’s Church community, and in 1912 he married Elvira Worth Faust (1887-1970) of Mount Vernon Springs, Chatham County. In about 1899 he became a clerk in the Kiser family’s general mercantile store, and eventually he and other members of the family acquired ownership of the store, which they operated as Plonk Brothers and Company. (Although altered, the Plonk store still stands in the northwest corner of West Gold Street and Railroad Avenue.) The house remained Mr. Plonk’s residence until his death in 1951 and that of his wife until her’s in 1970. For about three decades the house remained in family ownership, some times occupied in part by members of the family. In 1996 the house became the property of Carl Neisler Plonk (b. 1962), a grandson of the builder, and a great-grandson of industrialist Charles Eugene Neisler, who occupies it with his wife. They are responsible for the recent changes to the house that include vinyl siding, window replacements with six-over-six metal sash, and bracketed turned porch posts on the expansive one-story hip-roof north front porch.
The house comprises a large two-story, three-bay main block, covered with a tall hip roof, with a two-story three-sided bay on the west side, a two-story, single bay east wing covered by a side-gable roof, and paired one-story ells linked by a shed-roof porch on the south rear elevation. The east rear ell has been raised to two stories and the service porch enclosed. The picturesque composition includes the towering brick stacks of the interior chimneys and an attic gable, centered on the façade, that retains its original multi-pane window. The essential form, character, and presence of the house and its historical associations, have survived the recent refittings.

Storage building
ca. 1996-2000, Noncontributing building

This small gambrel roof prefabricated building is sheathed and covered with manufactured materials. It has a large opening with doors on its west front.

405 West Gold Street
Phifer Family House
ca. 1916-1918, Contributing building

Surviving virtually intact since its construction, together with its original outbuildings, continued family occupancy, and strong historical associations, this expansive one-and-a-half story weatherboarded frame bungalow is one of the most important early-twentieth century houses in Kings Mountain. Campbell Phifer (1882-1962) grew up in Kings Mountain on a farm in the area of today’s Phifer Road. In 1913 he married Minnie Rebecca Ware (1886-1970), the eldest daughter of William Alexander Ware, who grew up at 206 West Gold Street. In April 1916 Mr. Phifer purchased its grounds, a large lot adjoining the former Tracy house on the west, from Dr. Tracy’s grandson, Wright Tracy Dixon. The house was built shortly thereafter and followed by its barn and the combination meat-house and wood-house. In 1917 Mr. Phifer purchased from William L. Balthis four lots immediately south of the house and the barn that was used as pasturing. Having been a clerk in the D. M. Baker hardware concern since 1906, he and George Cansler bought the store (on today’s Battleground Avenue) and its stock in 1921 and operated it as Phifer Hardware Company. In 1936 he became sole owner/proprietor of the hardware concern and operated it until his death in 1962. In 1970 the house became the residence of the Phifers’s son, Marriott Darlington Phifer (1921-2010), and his wife Bess Alice Hambright Phifer (b. 1917).

The one-and-a-half-story weatherboarded frame house’s presence on West Gold Street is enhanced by its elevated site, in a lawn retained by a low wall along the street, and its design that includes a near full-façade porch and deep eaves with exposed purlins. The double-pile main block is a rectangle
expanded by the north front porch, a projecting gable front bay on the west elevation, and a one-story ell, service porch, and shed room on the rear elevation. The house stands on a brick foundation and is covered by a side-gable, asphalt-shingle roof.

The principal architectural development occurs on the three-bay north façade. Here the porch is supported at the corners by square brick piers. Shingle-clad archs link the corner piers with the façade while a broad arch, supported by intermediate piers, spans the distance across the front of the house. The center entrance retains its original glazed door and ornamental screen door. The flanking windows hold beveled glass transoms above large fixed panes. The gable-front dormer on the façade and the other windows hold original one-over-one sash. The interior survives essentially unchanged.

Meat-house/Wood-house
c.a. 1916-1919, Contributing building

This small weatherboarded frame domestic outbuilding, standing on a brick foundation and covered with a side-gable sheet metal roof, is a unique survival in the historic district. It appears to have been used for a variety of domestic storage purposes and principally for cut cord wood and cured pork in a small, wire-lined well-finished “room” in the building’s southeast corner. A vertical board-and-rail door provides access to this space while another is positioned beside it on the south side. Two additional board-and-rail doors are set in the building’s north side. Openings for light and ventilation also occur on the north, west, and south sides where they are fitted with either bottom-or side-hinged blinds.

Barn
c.a. 1916-1919, Contributing building

Although this weatherboarded frame building has long since ceased being used for its original purposes, it remains in good condition. The rectangular building stands on low stone piers and is covered with a side-gable sheet-metal roof. Sliding vertical board doors protect the center passage on the long north and south sides. Paired vertical-board doors also occur on the east side of the sliding door on the building’s north front. The east gable end is blind except for access to the loft. On the west gable end two board-and-rail doors provide access to stabling on the west side of the center passage. These doors are flanked by openings for air and light that are protected by bottom hinged blinds. Short lengths of original/early wire fencing survive to the west of the barn where an old iron water trough also stands.

Garage
United States Department of the Interior
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c. 1920-1930, Contributing building

This rectangular two-vehicle garage is built of dark red brick laid up in common bond with a header-course water table and other header coursings. Paired sliding wood doors protect the broad opening on the north front, while the side walls are blind, and a small six-pane fixed window is centered on the south side. The building has a concrete floor and is covered with a clipped gable-front asphalt-shingle roof.

407 West Gold Street
Ira Grady Patterson House
c. 1928-1929, Contributing building

The site of this house was also a part of the Tracy estate that was put up for sale in December 1917 by William Leonard Balthis and bought by Campbell Phifer, who sold it in October 1928 to Ira Grady and Willard Patterson. Ira Grady Patterson (1890-1977), who had an Esso Oil Company franchise in Kings Mountain, built the house and resided here until his death, as did his widow, Willard B. Patterson (1894-1987). It was acquired by James Albert Childers and his wife in 1988. They conveyed it in 1993 to their son and his wife, Martha N. Childers, who became the sole, current owner in 1997. The large one-and-a-half story brick-veneer period cottage is built of reddish/brown wire-cut brick laid up in common bond with a soldier-course water table and lintels and header-course frames for the arched tops of the front entrance and porch openings. The side-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The principal architectural development occurs on the asymmetrical four-bay north façade where paired gable front bays contain the entrance porch on the west and a taller bay containing a large three-part window in the living room. A façade chimney, with decorative brickwork, rises between these bays while a sitting porch, with an arched opening overlooking West Gold Street and two on the east side, (all now glazed), is recessed in the house’s northeast corner. The house’s side elevations have a balanced fenestration and projecting gable-front bays while a hip roof second-story block appears above the enclosed porch on the rear first story. Except for that enclosure and alterations to the kitchen the house remains remarkably intact with its original Craftsman-style front door and six-over-six and six-over-one window sash.

Garage
c. 1928-1930, Contributing building

Rectangular in plan, this one-story parapet roof three-vehicle brick garage is laid up in common-bond brick. On the wide north front a hip-roof pent carries across the top of the single opening, which is fitted with three stepped sliding wood doors that feature twelve-pane transoms above vertically
sheathed faces. The side walls of the garage are blind. Simple fenestration on the rear wall provides additional interior light to the concrete-floored garage.

409 West Gold Street
Keeter-Crisp House
c.a. 1926-1927; ca. 2004-2007, Noncontributing building

The present appearance of this large one-story frame house owes to a dramatic, unsympathetic program of overbuilding and remodeling effected to the one-story frame house built by John Byron Keeter (1896-1963) and his wife Mary Norris Alston (1896-2000). The Keeters, who operated a department store in Kings Mountain, soon sold the house to members of the Blanton family. The present owners, who acquired the house in 2004, are responsible for most of the additions and alterations, which effectively subsumed the Keeters’s small frame cottage in a house that is doubled in size with an entirely new front block and façade. The elevations of the house are sheathed with either “perma-stone,” wood shingles, or vinyl siding and the multiple jerkinhead and hip roof surfaces are covered with asphalt shingles.

Garage/storage building
ca. 1970-1980, Noncontributing building

This rectangular prefabricated one-and-a-half-story frame building is covered with a gambrel-front asphalt shingle roof. During field recording in 2008 the building, with horizontal sheathed elevations, was being renovated/repaired.

Storage building
c.a. 2004-2007, Noncontributing building

This small rectangular prefabricated storage building has manufactured sheathing and roofing.

411 West Gold Street
Henry Moore House
c.a. 1931-1935, Contributing building

Like other period cottages in the district, this one-story brick veneer house comprises two blocks; a side-gable-roof front block, with projecting gable ends, and a main block behind it, with a balanced fenestration and covered with a hip roof. The red brick are laid up in common bond, and soldier courses form the water table and lintels. The house was built by Henry and Bertie Spake Moore who
purchased the property from H. P. and Mary Louise Keeter in April 1931. The Moore family were long-term owner/occupants. The principal development appears on the front block and its asymmetrical north façade which is dominated by paired nearly equal gable-front bays that are flanked on the east by the arch-headed openings of a partially recessed porch in the house’s northeast corner. The east gable front, essentially the center of the façade, comprises the entrance in a secondary gable-front arch-headed frontispiece, a façade chimney, and a conventional window opening. The west gable contains a single large opening fitted with a trio of six-over-six sash windows. The east and west gable ends of the front block are fitted with arch-headed six-pane attic windows. The side elevations of the main block have a balanced fenestration, with centered recessed entrances, while the rear has two symmetrically-positioned windows. The entrance on the east has been enclosed while the west doorway is served by wood steps rising to an open wood stoop.

413 West Gold Street
Glee Acor Bridges House
dca. 1933, Contributing building

In February 1933 Glee Acor Bridges (1894-1966) and his uncle Robert Coleman Gold (see 505 West Gold Street) purchased the 10.75-acre “Bumgardner Home Tract” on the south side of Gold Street. The property, including the residence of J. C. Bumgardner, was the subject of a defaulted mortgage held by the Commercial Bank & Trust Company that became insolvent in 1929. In July 1933 the two men divided the residual acreage with Mr. Bridges receiving the site of this house and adjoining property. Mr. Bridges was the founder of a hardware store in Kings Mountain in 1916 on today’s Battleground Avenue that operated successively as Gold and Bridges, with R. C. Gold as a partner, and as Bridges and Hamrick with David R. Hamrick as a partner. The store has operated as Bridges Hardware from the 1950s, through its relocation to the current premises at 100 South Cansler Street in about 1975, and its sale out of the family in 1987, to the present.

Although this brick veneer house appears to be a one-story residence when viewed on West Gold Street, it is essentially a two-story dwelling. Because of the sharp drop in grade, on the south side of West Gold Street, the house’s west, south, and east basement elevations are fully exposed and on grade on a lot whose north, Gold Street side is marked by a tall brick retaining wall. The house’s west elevation, facing Bridges Street and served by a half-circle drive off the street, is effectively a secondary façade and includes a basement level garage at its north end. The dark red wire-cut brick are laid up in common bond, and the window openings are in soldier-course surrounds. They hold original six-over-six sash. The house’s cross-gable roof is asphalt shingles. The asymmetrical three-bay West Gold Street façade includes the expected gable-front bay containing the entrance and a large window and a façade chimney. The present gabled and shed roof front porch, with column-supported arched
openings on its front and west side, is either a later addition or a rebuilding of an earlier treatment. The wide west Bridges Street elevation has a garage and one-story hip roof screened porch on the basement level, a three-bay main level, and a louvered attic vent. The three-bay south elevation has a small one-story glazed ell on the basement level that was essentially a small conservatory for wintering over valuable plants. The east elevation has balanced fenestration and a stoop on the main level elevated on tall brick piers and encircled by a reused decorative iron railing. The deep narrow lot, whose shape derives from the later laying out of Bridge Drive on its west side, contains five frame outbuildings.

Storage building
c.a. 1933-1940, Contributing building

Standing south of the house, this small rectangular one-story frame building stands on low brick piers, has German siding and an asphalt-shingle hip roof. A glazed door on the west front has a braced hood while a six-over-six sash window is centered on the east side, and the north and south elevations are blind.

Shop
c.a. 1933-1940, Contributing building

This small one-story frame building stands on low brick piers, is sheathed with German siding, and covered with a sheet-metal gable-front roof with exposed rafters. A door is set in the north gable end. The window openings on the west and south sides have lost their sash. The east side is blind.

Meat-house
c.a. 1933-1940, Contributing building

This small rectangular one-story frame building stands on a poured concrete pad and is covered by a sheet-metal, gable-front roof. A board-and-rail door is centered on the west gable front. The other elevations, sheathed with German siding and weatherboards, are blind except for small, screened vents on the east and south sides that are protected by top-hinged blinds. A braced shed-roof pent carries on the south side over an extension of the concrete pad.

Barn
c.a. 1933-1940, Contributing building

This one-story-with-loft rectangular frame building is sheathed with German siding and covered with a sheet-metal gable-front roof with exposed rafters. The half-width opening in the west half of the north
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front is protected by a sliding vertical-board door. The loft access in the upper gable is covered. Two openings on the east side and a doorway opening into a flush-sheathed stall indicate stabling on this side of the barn. Small covered openings occur on both levels on the south gable end, and the west side is blind.

Garage
c. 1933-1940, Contributing building

Similar in form and appearance to the above barn, sheathed with weatherboards, and covered with a sheet-metal gable-front roof, this garage has paired sliding wood doors on the full-width north opening, blind side walls, and a full-width frame shed-roof addition on the south gable end. The garage has a dirt floor while the shed addition has a wood floor, weatherboard elevations, and a sheet-metal roof.

Ruined building
c. 1940, Noncontributing building

Rectangular in plan, this small one-story masonry building is built of brick and terra cotta block and covered with a poured concrete roof. Its east wall and a portion of the south wall, including an apparent door opening, have collapsed. According to Mr. Bridge’s son, Joseph Cleophas Bridges (b. 1923), who was also a partner in the family hardware concern, this building was built as off-premises storage of dynamite sold at the store.

501 West Gold Street
O. O. Jackson House
c. 1933-1934, Contributing building

The site of this house was a portion of the Bumgardner lands purchased in February 1933 by Glee A. Bridges and R. C. Gold. In June 1933 the two men set this small lot apart and sold it to O. O. and Lelia B. Jackson. Mr. Jackson was a Chevrolet dealer in Kings Mountain, and is believed to have built this house soon after acquiring the lot. The one-story brick-veneer period cottage is built of dark red wire-cut brick that are laid up in common bond. Soldier courses form the water table and enframe the window and door openings, as at the Bridges house, which is both contemporary and possibly by the same contractor/builder. The house has a side-gable-roof front block, which projects as a porch on the east side, and a hip-roof rear block, and both are covered with asphalt shingles. The principal development occurs on the north façade which has three planes, stepping back in telescope fashion west to east. The gable-front west bay holds a double-window with six-over-six sash on the main level and a louvered attic vent. Beside it, on the east, the entrance is contained in a diminutive gable-front
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recessed bay flanked by a façade chimney on its east side. A second double window and the arch-headed opening of the sitting porch in the northeast corner of the house complete the façade. The porch also features a like arched opening on its south side and paired openings on the east, which are now infilled with woven wire screening. The east, west, and south elevations of the main block have a balanced fenestration. A brick stoop with wood lattice elevations and a hip roof on the west side appears to be an original feature.

Garage/apartment
ca. 1933/ca. 1980-1990, Noncontributing building

The gable-front vinyl-sided north half of this small rectangular one-story apartment appears to have been the one-vehicle frame garage for the Jackson house that was expanded by a concrete-block ell on the south side that is covered with a side-gable roof, also of asphalt shingles. The building’s vinyl and concrete-block north and west walls are blind; the front door is set in the east elevation of the ell that also has a window on its south side.

503 West Gold Street
Dr. C. W. Harper House
c. 1935-1936, Contributing building

Dr. C. W. Harper purchased the lot on which he built this remarkably plain Colonial Revival-style house in November 1935 from R. C. Gold and his wife who lived immediately to the west. The two-story brick-veneer house is rectangular in plan with a two-bay projecting gable-front bay on its north façade, a one-story hip-roof sitting porch on its east gable end, and a two-story frame shed-roof, vinyl-sided block in the center of its rear south elevation that appears to be the enclosure and overbuilding of a porch. The red brick are laid up in common bond with no water table. The window openings, with replacement metal sash, have soldier-course lintels, and those on the façade have been fitted with prefabricated decorative lintels. The house is covered with an asphalt shingle roof. The four-bay north façade includes the projecting two-bay block in its west half which has a plastered attic gable fitted with a demi-lune louvered vent. The off-center entrance is protected by a simple gable-roof porch with columns. The east half of the façade has two symmetrical bays, and is covered with a side-gable roof finished with a plastered attic gable on its east end, where the side porch has been glazed with metal jalousie windows. The house’s west and south elevations have a general symmetry.

Garage
c. 1935-1936, Contributing building
This rectangular one-story brick-veneer garage is apparently contemporary with the house and covered with an asphalt-shingle hip roof. The long east front of the building has a garage opening fitted with an overhead door, and a smaller opening to the south. The garage’s north and south sides are blind while two symmetrically-positioned windows on its west side have been infilled with brick.

505 West Gold Street
Robert Coleman Gold House
ca. 1933-1934, Contributing building

In February 1933 Mr. Gold and his nephew, Glee Acor Bridges, purchased the 10.75-acre “Bumgardner Home Tract” lying on the south side of Gold Street at public auction. In July 1933, following the sale of a lot to O. O. Jackson (see 501 West Gold Street), the two men divided the holding. In the division Mr. Gold reserved the lot on which he built this house for himself. The house was built soon thereafter and it remained Mr. Gold’s residence until his death in April 1949. Mr. Gold was a partner in the hardware business, Gold and Bridges, with his nephew. In 1951 the house was purchased by E. E. Marlowe and his wife who were long-term residents. The one-and-a-half-story brick-veneer Gold house is the largest period cottage in the West End District. Essentially rectangular in plan the well-finished house comprises a side-gable roof front block and a hip-roof main block, both covered with asphalt shingles. The red, multi-tone wire-cut brick are laid up in common bond, and soldier courses form the water table and door and window surrounds. Window openings contain either original four-over-one bungalow sash or replacement one-over-one sash. The four-bay north façade includes two unequal gable-front bays, with the entrance in the smaller of the two, a façade chimney, and the arched, screened opening of the sitting porch located in the house’s northeast corner. The deep side elevations of the house have generally balanced fenestration with a gabled porte cochere centered on the west side and a gable front dormer on the east side above a corresponding shallow recess in the center of the elevation. The south/rear elevation is dominated by unequal one-story gable-front ells flanking the house’s center bays above which a gable-front dormer is positioned. The east ell has a brick stoop and a glazed basement.

Garage
ca. 1933-1934, Contributing building

Covered with an asphalt-shingle hip roof, the two-vehicle garage is a rectangular one-story brick-veneer building. The broad north opening retains its original, partially-collapsed paired sliding doors with fourteen panes in a double-tier transom above sheathing. The east and west side walls are blind and a six-pane window is centered in the south side.
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507 West Gold Street  
House  
ca. 1965-1975, Noncontributing building

This one-story brick veneer ranch house replaced the one-story frame house on this lot that was the J. C. Bumgardner homeplace and was standing as late as 1952. The house was also the home of Paul and Ethel McGinnis. The small common-bond house, covered with an asphalt-shingle two-part side-gable roof, is rectangular in plan and conventional in appearance. The house’s principal roof engages the north front porch and the carport at the west end of the house. Its asymmetrical fenestration includes a large multi-pane living room window under the porch with the main entrance.

Storage building  
ca. 1970-1980, Noncontributing building

This small prefabricated one-story building is covered with an asphalt-shingle gambrel-front roof and sheathed with manufactured siding. Paired doors in the east front are now collapsed.

509 West Gold Street  
Littlejohn House  
ca. 1919, Contributing building

While this house has a turn-of-the-century appearance, it is likely a retardataire example of the Queen Anne style erected by D. G. Littlejohn on the lot he purchased for $300 in January 1919 of William J. Crawford. In 1946 he and his wife conveyed title to their son James E. and Sarah (Coon) Littlejohn, whose son is the present owner. The picturesque one-story frame house comprises a principal hip-roof center block with asymmetrical gable-front bays of varying depth on each of its four sides. Standing on brick piers with brick infill, it is sheathed with vinyl siding and covered with asphalt shingles. The house’s expansive full-façade front porch carries across the front ell, the recessed main block where the centered entrance is positioned, down the east side of the main block, and continues across the north side of the east ell. It is supported by replacement square wood piers. The front entrance contains a partially glazed and paneled door with complementing sidelights. It is also fitted with a screened door with ornamental scrolling and a bird rising in flight from reeds worked in metal that was popular in the 1950s. An ornamental diamond-shaped window is located beside the entrance. Window openings contain six-over-six sash and replacement two-pane sash. On the rear elevation the L-shaped service porch has been enlarged and enclosed.

Flower house
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ca. 1945-1955, Contributing building

This small rectangular one-story building is built of concrete blocks and has an asphalt-shingle hip roof. It is fitted with large multi-pane windows on all four elevations and has a six, horizontal panel door on the north front. The interior retains low wood shelving for plants. It was built by James E. Littlejohn as a house for growing orchids; the enterprise was short-lived.

Cansler Street

204 South Cansler Street
Condominium Residences
ca. 2001-2002, Noncontributing building

This Colonial Revival-styled one-story brick veneer building was built as a three-unit condominium by Tommy E. Hall, a real estate entrepreneur. It replaces a one-story frame residence that stood on this site. The house is first remembered as the residence of Carolyn Rebecca (Hord) Harris, a daughter of Dr. Jacob George Van Buren Hord (1863-1930) whose Classical Revival-style mansion now houses Kings Mountain’s Mauney Memorial Library, and her husband. It was last the home of Harold Plonk. Although the building has an H-shaped appearance its footprint is essentially a rectangle. The east façade features paired two-bay gable fronts, each fitted with a smaller inset gable front containing the outer bays, which flank a three-bay recessed porch protecting entrances into each unit. Its soft pink brick are laid in common bond with quoining on the gable fronts. The roof is asphalt shingles. The north and south side elevations of the building are blind. On the rear elevation the units have gable-front porches, supported by square posts and railings, whose roof also shelters an enclosed utility room. Steps descend to small brick walled patios.

206 South Cansler Street
House
ca. 1920; and later, Noncontributing building

Although the general rectangular plan of this one-story frame building survives, a series of unsympathetic changes has effectively compromised its significant visual architectural qualities. The house was standing in October 1923 when May Patterson sold it and a lot that included the adjoining property on the west where the Carl Davidson House stands for $4,000 to Mrs. Helen G. Neal. From its construction into the 1940s-1950s, the house was apparently a single family dwelling, and probably a rental residence for most of that period. During most of the second half of the twentieth century it housed the offices of a series of doctors, dentists, and optometrists. In the late 1990s the building was
adapted for use as a two-unit rental residential apartment. It stands on brick piers with brick and some concrete block infill, is sheathed with asbestos shingles, and is covered with a gable-front asphalt-shingle roof. The window openings hold replacement horizontal-pane sash. The east front has a projecting gable front bay flanked on the south by a simple porch with replacement posts and a railing that appears to have been a section of the house’s original porch that wrapped around the house’s southeast corner. The north, south, and west elevations have a general three-bay symmetry. Collectively, the replacement sidings, window sash, and their surrounds, together with the diminished porch, have eliminated any visible references to the original finish, leaving only the brick piers upon which the house was built.

Tracy Street

108 South Tracy Street
A. M. Long Cottage
ca. 1928, Contributing building

Standing on the smallest lot (3,150 square feet) in the district, this small, one-story frame bungalow gains presence from the side-gable jerkinhead roofs that cover its rectangular form and projecting gable-front porch on the three-bay east façade. Although the porch has replacement vinyl posts and railings, the window openings retain their six-over-six wood sash. The house is sheathed with textured aluminum siding. The north side is blind, the south elevation has two paired windows, and the rear has a shallow block. The lot was deeded in February 1928 by Claude Q. and Cora (Long) Rhyne, then resident in the bungalow at 400 West Mountain Street, to A. M. Long, Mrs. Rhyne’s father, who built and occupied it as a retirement dwelling.

204 South Tracy Street
Alexander Apartments
ca. 1982, Noncontributing building

This traditionally-styled, one-story brick-veneer duplex, identical to the building at 401 West Mountain Street, was built by Ruby M. Alexander and her husband on the site of a two-story frame Kiser family residence. The building is laid up in salmon-colored common bond brick and covered with a side-gable asphalt shingle roof. It is rectangular in plan except for a shallow projecting two-bay gable-front ell centered in the four-bay east façade. Entrances into the A and B units are set in the north and south sides of the ell respectively. The gable ends are three bays wide. On the rear elevation a shallow shed extension symmetrically incorporates storage closets and back porches for each unit.
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Watterson Street

200 South Watterson Street
Crawford-Pursley House
ca. 1937-1939, Contributing building

Built by Joseph Wilson Crawford on a lot between his (now-lost) childhood home to the north and that of his brother (see 202 South Watterson Street) to the south, this house was the home for many years of James Howard Pursley (ca. 1904-1996), an older brother of Evelyn (Pursley) Hambright of 406 West Mountain Street. Mr. Crawford received title to the lot in January 1937 from his parents. One of the last houses built in the district prior to the curtailment of construction during World War II, the small brick veneer residence is essentially lacking in stylistic influences except for the side-gable jerkinhead roof of the main block that appeared on bungalows in the district. The common-bond house is covered with asphalt shingles. The three-bay east façade has a center entrance covered by a shed-like extension of the projecting gable-front roof of the screened sitting porch in the elevation’s south bay. The porch is supported by square brick piers linked by a low, blind brick railing. The house’s north and south elevations both have engaged chimneys and stuccoed gable ends; the south elevation also has a shallow projecting gable-front bay. The window openings have soldier-course lintels and most contain replacement six-over-six metal sash. A one-story enclosed frame shed occupies most of the rear elevation.

202 South Watterson Street
Harold D. Crawford House
ca. 1933-1936, Contributing building

In February 1933 W. Joseph and Winnie O. Crawford deeded the lot on which this house stands to their son Harold Dentist Crawford. Its grounds were enlarged by a narrow parcel on its north side in 1937 that was also conveyed by the Crawfords to their son. Both parcels comprised a part of the sizable lot fronting on West Mountain Street on which stood the now-lost two-story Crawford family house. Mr. Crawford (1910-1969) and his wife Virginia (Bird) Crawford (1909-1997) lived here until their deaths, and their daughter Margaret Jane Crawford (b. 1951) remains in residence. The minimal traditional one-story frame house stands on brick foundation, is sheathed with vinyl siding, and is covered with asphalt-shingle gable roofs. On the east façade a projecting screened gable-front sitting porch occupies the south half of the four-bay elevation and protects the entrance. Single and paired window openings hold original six-over-six sash here and on the house’s generally balanced sides. A gable-roof carport has been added onto the west end of a gable roof ell on the rear elevation.
204 South Watterson Street
Margaret Miller House
c. 1952, Contributing building

This small one-story common-bond brick veneer, side-gable roof minimal traditional house was built by Margaret Miller, the widow of Robert Miller, who lived here until her death. On the asymmetrical three-bay east façade, an eave extension of the asphalt-shingle side-gable roof protects the off-center entrance and the three-part picture window to the north. A brick chimney and a small, now glazed and sheathed sitting porch occupy the north side while the house’s south elevation has three windows below a sheathed gable end. On the west rear the ell that incorporated a carport has been enclosed.

Goforth Street

204 South Goforth Street
Harmon-Beam House
c. 1933, Contributing building

This appealing minimal traditional one-and-a-half story frame house was built in 1931-1932 by Sarah Mae Hamell Harmon (1899-1981) on a back/south portion of the Harmon family holding in the southwest corner of West Mountain and South Goforth streets. Mrs. Harmon, a native of Virginia, was then the widow of Walter Durham Harmon Sr. (1894-1930) and the mother of the couple’s four children. They occupied the house in Spring 1932, and in November 1932 she received title to the lot on which it stands from her late-husband’s uncle, William Walker Harmon (1870-1948), who was then residing in the family’s West Mountain Street home. In June 1934 Mrs. Harmon married Benjamin Franklin Beam (1907-1992), and they became the parents of a daughter born in 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Beam occupied the house until her death in 1981, after which it remained Mr. Beam’s residence until his removal to Cherryville where he died. The house was sold in 1984.

The small one-story-with attic gable-front dwelling built for Mrs. Harmon, with a partially engaged porch on its front/northeast corner and a rear service porch, comprises the principal part of the present house and all of its generally rectangular footprint except for the one-story ell added in the 1970s on its rear/southwest corner. In about the late 1930s the Beams undertook improvements to the house’s attic level, which originally featured one small bedroom and a larger, unfinished space, and crafted a new floor plan with three bedrooms and a bathroom. In this effort a gabled dormer was added on the north side to illuminate a bedroom, and a second gable-roof dormer was added on the south side of the house to provide additional light and ventilation for the master bedroom occupying the front of the second story. A third bedroom and bathroom, located in the southwest corner of the second story, were served
by a third, shed-roof dormer with windows on its south face. At the same time the Beams adapted a first-story bedroom, in the shallow projecting center bay on the house’s south side, as a family sitting room and refitted a window opening on its east side as a door opening to Goforth Street. In the early 1950s the front/northeast corner porch was enclosed as a home office, and the wide aluminum siding was added later in the 1950s or in the 1960s. The one-story west ell, added in the 1970s off the southwest corner of the house, contains a master bedroom/bathroom suite. In effect these improvements have an additive quality and the essential period character of the house remains, particularly on the façade where a shallow inset gable-front enclosed entrance bay, holding an arch-headed door, is flanked by an overscaled three-part window to the south, with a two-part window on the second story. Most of the first-story openings contain their original six-over-six wood sash while those on the second story hold replacement metal sash.

Carport
cia. 2000-2004, Noncontributing structure

This prefabricated metal roof carport has a Tudor-arch roof with enclosed ends supported by metal uprights rising from a concrete floor that is an extension of the driveway.

Storage building
cia. 1984-2004, Noncontributing building

Covered with a side-gable roof of corrugated metal, this small rectangular prefabricated building has elevations of exterior sheet sheathing, a door of like materials on its north side, and a small window in its east gable end.

Storage building
cia. 1984-2004, building

Covered with a front-gable roof of corrugated metal, this small rectangular prefabricated building has metal/aluminum siding and a door of manufactured materials in its south gable front.
NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY
The West End Historic District, an historic neighborhood of sixty-two single family dwellings and a ca. 1931-1935 stone apartment building lining West Mountain and West Gold streets and their linkages, occupies an important place in the history of Kings Mountain. The district meets National Register Criteria A and C and holds local significance in the areas of architecture and community planning and development. The period of significance begins in ca. 1882 when William Oates Ware built the large two-story late-Victorian-style house on West Gold Street, which remained a residence of his family until 1995, and extends to ca. 1955, by which date Margaret Miller built her minimal traditional house on South Watterson Street on a vacant lot that was the last in the district to be built up as a single family property and sympathetic improvements had been effected to earlier houses.

The West End Historic District is strongly associated with the development of Kings Mountain and the role of the Tracy and Dixons families and other founding citizens in its history. This relationship originates in the person of Dr. James Wright Tracy (1819-1896) who acquired a farm here in the White Plains community in 1857. In 1870-1872, when the tracks of the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line Railroad were laid through this area, they passed through Dr. Tracy’s farm, and it was Dr. Tracy’s wife, Regina Minerva (Stone) Tracy, then postmistress of White Plains, who was asked to name the station being erected at the edge of their farm. “Kings Mountain” was her response. Thereafter the fortunes of the town that became one of the leading textile communities of the North Carolina Piedmont were inextricably linked with those of the major north/south transportation artery at its heart.

A similar relationship existed between Dr. Tracy, his heirs, and the development of the neighborhood on the west side of the railroad tracks that came to be known as the West End. Much of the West End Historic District occupies Dr. Tracy’s acreage that was also bisected by the path of a westbound road leading to Shelby, Rutherfordton and on to Asheville that was named Mountain Street. In 1878 Dr. Tracy began selling lots on Mountain Street, including two on which houses were built in the 1880s that survive to the present. It was not until after Dr. Tracy’s death, in 1899 that a sizable part of the Tracy estate lying along Mountain and Gold streets was platted into thirty-seven lots by his heirs and offered for sale. Lying mostly within the bounds of the West End Historic District this plat was the first known residential subdivision in the city’s history, and it anticipated the platting and sale of other Tracy lands in the district through the ca. 1922 construction of West School on West Mountain Street to serve the developing neighborhood.
The architectural significance of the West End Historic District derives from the important body of houses erected in a period spanning some seventy-three years whose appearance, design, style, finish, and character define the essential character of the district and reflect the evolution of domestic architecture in Kings Mountain and its environs during these critical decades in the city’s history.

Within this neighborhood also stand a number of individual buildings, including the ca. 1882 residence of William Oates Ware, the proprietor of the Merchant Mills, the ca. 1903-1910s house occupied by Batie Meek Ormand until his death in 1970, the ca. 1916-1918 Phifer family bungalow and its outbuildings, the ca. 1924 Neisler-Page House that was home to two members of Kings Mountain’s leading textile family, the Mauney Apartments of ca. 1931-1935, and the 1940 Colonial Revival-style house built by Dr. William Lee Ramseur, which hold particular significance in the architectural landscape of Kings Mountain. Altogether these late-Victorian dwellings, turn-of-the-century Queen Anne-style cottages, bungalow residences, period cottages, and a small group of Colonial Revival-style houses, stand side by side in an intact neighborhood that was home to merchants, managers, supervisors, professional men and women, school teachers, tradesmen, and others who form the body politic of small-town America as well as those of higher station.

Historical Background and Community Planning and Development Context

The West End Historic District, comprising houses facing onto Kings Mountain’s West Gold and West Mountain Streets and their linkages, enjoys certain parallels with the city’s Central School Historic District (NR, 2001), however it holds significant distinctions that set it apart in the community. It also possesses important historical associations that exist in fact as well as in the architectural fabric of the district’s buildings. These are critical associations and buildings that reflect the evolution of the area from a rural community, first known as White Plains and chartered as Kings Mountain in 1874, to a small yet prosperous city in the Piedmont textile belt.

The earliest of these associations lies in the person of Dr. James Wright Tracy (1819-1896) and his wife, Regina Minerva Stone (1824-1894). James Wright Tracy was born in the Spartanburg District, South Carolina, and after his marriage to Regina Stone in 1844 he moved across the North Carolina/South Carolina border into Cleveland County, where the couple’s first and only child, Nora Catherine Tracy (1845-1933), was born. In 1850 he received his medical degree from Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky, and returned to Cleveland County and to Shelby where he purchased property in November 1850. For reasons now unknown, Dr. Tracy decided to relocate to eastern Cleveland County, to the White Plains settlement, where in January 1857 he bought the James A. Falls house and farm of 115 acres on the headwaters of Potts Creek (Cleveland Deeds, D/596-97). This newly-bought property included the greater part of the acreage comprising the West End Historic District.
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Dr. Tracy and his family settled on this land. Whether they then built the house, on the lot now in the southwest corner of West Gold and Tracy Streets where he is believed to have been living at the time of his death in 1896, is uncertain. He probably occupied the Falls house, whose location is not now known, and then built the Gold Street house. There are no known surviving photographs of that house to indicate its appearance and approximate age. Photographs made ca. 1956 of the house on the lot, then occupied by Fred Wendell Plonk are of a ca. 1915 weatherboarded frame house, which probably represents a replacement dwelling erected by Dr. J. S. Hood. However, the drive leading south to the Tracy house off today’s Mountain Street, survives as Tracy Street. The route of Mountain Street now generally follows the path of a road leading west to Shelby, which evolved into the main state highway that became US 74. Mountain Street served as the principal road leading west from Kings Mountain until the constructions of the King Street Overhead Bridge (NR, 2005) in 1938-39, and the rerouting of traffic onto the newly built westward extension of King Street.

The character of the White Plains settlement, here at the eastern edge of Cleveland County and just inside its east border with Gaston County, was forever changed in the 1870s when the tracks of the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line Railroad were laid through this area. Dr. Tracy conveyed an easement to the company across his land in August 1870 (Cleveland Deeds, M/313-314). The decision was made to establish a station for the railroad here, some 300 yards east of the Tracys’ Gold Street residence. It would be the first stop on the rail line above the North Carolina/South Carolina border. According to the memoir written by Dr. Tracy’s grandson, Since I Was Born, engineers for the rail line boarded with the Tracys. As postmaster of White Plains, North Carolina, Mrs. Tracy was the only figure holding a public office in the area. She, in turn, was asked to name the station and the town destined to grow around it. Foregoing the temptation of vanity, or to retain White Plains as a name, her response was Kings Mountain, in honor of the Battle of Kings Mountain and the sacrifice of those who died there. “The locating railroad engineers placed the station for the new town about two blocks east of the White Plains post office which in the early 1870s was in my grandfather Tracy’s home.”

The construction of the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line Railroad through the countryside in the period from 1870 to 1872, and the opening of this critical transportation artery linking Atlanta and Richmond, two centers of the post-Civil War New South, in 1873 effectively gave birth to the town of Kings Mountain along the eastern edge of Dr. Tracy’s farm. It also attracted a number of enterprising men, who joined Dr. Tracy as citizens of this new place. They all prospered as Kings Mountain gained presence and architectural form as a village around the small rail station. They also launched a series of mercantile operations, small manufacturing concerns, and related enterprises that formed the foundations of a promising textile industry in the closing decades of the nineteenth century. Captain Freno Dilling (1839-1924), among the first to come to Kings Mountain, moved his sawmilling operations in May 1872 from Cherryville, a small town situated about ten miles northwest in Gaston
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County, to a point on the east side of today’s North Piedmont Avenue, where he milled cross ties for the railroad and lumber for other new arrivals. In spring 1873 two brothers, William Andrew (1841-1929) and Jacob Simri (1846-1936) Mauney, came to Kings Mountain from eastern Cleveland County, acquired acreage on the east side of the railroad line, built houses, and jointly operated a mercantile store. In time, and with the development of the textile industry, their accomplishments would outshine those of their contemporaries in Kings Mountain. R. Y. McAden bought acreage in what is now the downtown business district, speculating on the future of the town. In February 1874, when the town was chartered, Dr. Tracy, Mr. Dilling, William Andrew Mauney, and D. C. Beam were named commissioners. Mr. Mauney, who was the town’s first postmaster, also became its first mayor.

Through the 1870s and early 1880s, they were joined by others, including the Garrett brothers, Frank, John, I. W. and Richard Garrett, who left the flat fields of Edgecombe County for the promise of Kings Mountain. Brothers Anderson P. (1846-1912) and Marcus (1848-1928) Carpenter came to the young village in about 1874 and operated a general merchandise store. Robert Calvin Grier Love (1841-1908), a son of the Gaston County family that would figure prominently in its long textile history, came to Kings Mountain in 1880. He established a small industrial complex on land southwest of the railroad station that today lays on the south side of West Gold Street, between Railroad Avenue and Cansler Street. He is believed to have operated both saw and grist milling here as well as a cotton gin. Mr. Love was apparently the only member of a growing class of entrepreneurs in Kings Mountain who failed to stay. In December 1882 Mr. Love sold a part of his concern to William Oates Ware and his son William Alexander Ware (Cleveland Deeds, Y/435), and in December 1883 he sold another principal part of the complex, including the gin house, to William Oates Ware and J. B. Kendrick (Cleveland Deeds, S/488-89). Mr. Ware, who built his house at the north edge of his 1882 purchase, was the progenitor of family whose members have lived in the West End Historic District to the present. Bennett Robert Willeford (1852-1900) was another native of eastern North Carolina who moved west to Kings Mountain in about 1880. He established a dry goods store in a building facing onto today’s Battleground Avenue.

These men, Messrs. Garrett, Love, and Willeford, and other contemporaries needed houses for their families. While they may have considered purchasing any available lots or existing houses along east King Street or in the area of central Kings Mountain, a portion of which became the Central School Historic District (NR, 2001), they did not. Instead, they purchased lots from Dr. and Mrs. Tracy on the north side of Mountain Street. Doing so they initiated the westward expansion of Kings Mountain and they launched the early residential construction of a neighborhood that has become this historic district. Between 1878, by which date Mountain Street had gained its name, and 1884 Dr. Tracy and his wife sold five lots to home builders. The locations of the first three of these, made to N. R. Long, John J. Garrett, and Robert Calvin Grier Love in 1878 and 1880 have not been precisely fixed to
surviving lot patterns (Cleveland Deeds, M/371), N/290, and P/185). However, those made in 1881 and 1884 to Bennett Robert Willeford and Lavinia E. Pressley of Abbeville, South Carolina, respectively, resulted in the construction of houses which exist today as the earliest portions of the residences at 308 and 310 West Mountain Street, respectively. A third house also dates to this period in the early 1880s. In about 1882 William Oates Ware erected the large two-story late-Victorian style house at 206 West Gold Street that overlooked his milling and ginning operations on the south side of Gold Street and that remained a family residence into 1995. These sales by Dr. Tracy were the last made here in the West End prior to his death in 1896. But they were not the last of those he made that were critical to the fortunes of Kings Mountain.

The milling and ginning operations established by Robert C. G. Love, which were continued by William Oates Ware and his son, as the Merchant Mills, could be said to have been the first step in the development of industry in Kings Mountain. However, the birth of the textile industry that dominated Kings Mountain’s physical growth, population increase, and overall economy well into the third quarter of the twentieth century came a few years later. Captain Dilling and the Mauney brothers, among others, became increasingly cognizant in the 1880s of the profits accruing to owners of textile mills in Gaston and Mecklenburg counties. They soon joined the ranks of those who invested in a multi-county area stretching from Charlotte to Rutherford County on the west, and northward in the Piedmont. Freno Dilling, William Andrew and Jacob S. Mauney organized the Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company and put it into operation in 1888. The brick factory was erected on the site of Mr. Dilling’s sawmill on North Piedmont Avenue. It prospered and soon required expansion. In December 1891 Dr. and Mrs. Tracy conveyed a tract of six acres along the north side of the railroad to the Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company (Cleveland Deeds, FF/289). In January 1893 they sold another, smaller tract adjoining the mill site to the company (Cleveland Deeds, BB/432). The expansion of the town’s first textile mill coincided with the organization of its second such manufactory. In about 1892 Erskine Falls and William Oates Ware built and placed in operation the Enterprise Mills. The new brick factory was erected on lands lying south of Mr. Ware’s existing milling operations which Dr. and Mrs. Tracy conveyed to Enterprise Mills in April 1893 (Cleveland Deeds, BB/443).

The death of Regina Tracy in 1894 brought Dr. Tracy’s only child, Nora Catherine Tracy Durham Dixon (1845-1933) and her second husband, Benjamin Franklin Dixon (1845-1910), back to Cleveland County where they remained through Dr. Tracy’s death in late autumn 1896. In October 1895 Dr. Tracy conveyed to this daughter the acreage lying on the south side of Gold Street, between his residence on the west and the Ware and Enterprise Mills property on the east (Cleveland Deeds, FF/572). This property would pass from her into the hands of others and into those of house-builders who erected the seven houses standing at 301 through 313 West Gold Street in the district.
The more critical event in the dispersal of Dr. Tracy’s real estate and the history of Kings Mountain came at the end of the century. In 1899 Bejamin Franklin Dixon, commissioner of the Tracy estate, had an essentially rectangular tract of the Tracy lands, lying on the south side of West Mountain Street, between Tracy Street on the east and a line just east of today’s Goforth Street on the west, and extending south of West Gold Street for 206 feet to a line parallel with Gold Street, platted into a subdivision of thirty-six rectangular lots arranged in three symmetrical rows of twelve lots each. They were all 206 feet deep, on their north-south axis. Their widths were of three measurements. The single-wide tier of three lots bordered by Tracy Street on the east were 74.75 feet wide. The tier of six lots carrying west to Dixon/today’s Watterson Street was 79.75 feet wide. The five-lot wide tier on the west side of Dixon Street measured eighty-four feet wide per lot. This plat is the first known residential subdivision in the history of Kings Mountain. Although many of the present-day lot lines vary substantially from the 1899 plat, reflecting both subdivisions and irregular combinations of lots, identifiable corners and lot lines clearly carrying forth from the 1899 plat are apparent today.

The public sale of these lots occurred on 6 May 1899. Construction in this majority part of the West End Historic District followed soon thereafter, and it coincided with house-building in adjoining parts of the district. The houses erected in the period from ca. 1899 to ca. 1915/1920 followed three general forms and degrees of finish. The smallest houses of this period were simple dwellings with a one-story, three bay, single pile front block with rear ells. Examples include 400, 505, and 605 West Mountain Street and 310 West Gold Street. All four were remodeled or enlarged in about the 1920s in the bungalow style. A second group of larger, mostly one-story houses with asymmetrical plans and elevations and enhanced architectural finish include the picturesque houses built by Isaac Benjamin Goforth (600 W. Mountain St.) and by Lewis F. Neal (1848-1942) (207 W. Mountain St.) and those standing at 607 and 609 West Mountain Street and 509 West Gold Street. The Batie Meek Ormand House (311 W. Mountain St.), acquired by Mr. Ormand (1869-1970) in 1903 when under construction, is the most architecturally developed of these one-and-a-half story frame cottages. Its remarkable appearance and integrity owes largely to his residence there until his death in 1970. Important two-story houses, of larger presence in the district include the Ware House (403 W. Mountain St.), the E. W. Hord House (509 W. Mountain St.), and the pair of Plonk-family houses (311-313 W. Gold St.) erected immediately east of Dr. Tracy’s house. John Oates Plonk acquired the lot on which he built #313, in a subdivision known as Tracy Park, in October 1912 from B. F. Dixon Jr. (Cleveland Deeds, YY/44).

In 1916-1917 the last remaining undeveloped portions of Dr Tracy’s estate in the West End Historic District moved toward development. This included acreage that had come into the possession of Nora Catherine Tracy Durham Dixon (1845-1933) and reflects apparent divisions coincident with the settlement of the estate of her husband, Benjamin Franklin Dixon. In 1916 Wright Tracy Dixon, her
son, sold the west side yard of the Tracy house grounds, a lot fronting 120 feet on West Gold Street (now 405 West Gold Street), to Campbell Phifer (Cleveland Deeds, BBB/89). In December 1917 property described in the deed as “being the J W Tracy home tract and others” was conveyed by another of Mrs. Dixon’s sons, Benjamin Franklin Dixon, Jr., to William Leonard Balthis (1879-1968), the husband of Pearl Dixon Balthis (1878-1948), Mrs. Dixon’s only daughter (Cleveland Deeds, BBB/490). Also in December 1917, Mr. Balthis had a parcel of about thirty acres, possibly including land conveyed in the above deed, platted into sixty-six lots for sale (Cleveland Plats, 1/13). This was an irregularly-shaped tract that lay mostly south and southwest of the Tracy and Plonk-family houses and included frontage of about 220 feet on West Gold Street immediately adjoining the parcel purchased by Mr. Phifer noted above. This frontage (including today’s 407 West Gold Street) would later be acquired by Mr. Phifer and resold, but first, on 19 December 1917, he purchased the four lots on the Balthis plat that lay immediately south of his 1916 holding (Cleveland Deeds, BBB/531). That same day John Oates Plonk and his father, William Lafayette Plonk, who built the house at 311 West Gold Street, bought lots behind their houses from Mr. Balthis (Cleveland Deeds, BBB/526-527). Mr. Phifer (1882-1962), the proprietor of a hardware store, erected a large frame bungalow residence together with a barn and other domestic outbuildings on the purchase made of Mr. Dixon, and he used the Balthis lots for pasture. This part of the West End district would retain an edge-of-town character for some years to come.

In retrospect, Mr. Phifer’s bungalow marks an important point in the history of Kings Mountain’s West End. Its construction was soon followed by that of another building, the West End School, since rebuilt, which reflected both the building up of this part of Kings Mountain and a critical investment in its further growth. Acreage on the north side of the 500 block of West Mountain Street was purchased in 1919 and the school completed in ca. 1922. In the period from the 1880s to 1920, the town of Kings Mountain experienced a dramatic increase in its population. This occurred principally through the continued expansion of the textile industry that effectively culminated in the construction of the Margrace and Patricia Mills and the adjoining Margrace Mill Village (NR, 2009) by Charles Eugene Neisler (1868-1931). The Enterprise Mill of 1892 was followed by the Dilling Mill in 1894 and the Bonnie, Cora, and Lula Mills in 1900. The city’s population of 337 in 1880 increased sixfold to over 2,000 in 1900, and to 2,601 in 1910, when Mr. Neisler placed the Pauline Mills in operation. By 1920 the population of Kings Mountain had climbed to 3,639, a figure that reflected in part the relocation of the Cleveland/Gaston County line to the east and the incorporation of an area known as East Kings Mountain into the town.

Improvements in transportation also had their effect on the physical fabric of the city, its growing architectural presence, and the emergence of the West End as a residential neighborhood. The single tract railroad completed through Kings Mountain in 1872 had been a tremendous stimulus to the
town’s growth. It also effectively bisected the townscape, on a north-south axis at its center, and then carried on a northeasterly path to Bessemer City and northerly points. In 1919 the economic and physical impact of the rail line was increased when the line was double-tracked, to facilitate the faster movement of north and south bound trains on parallel tracks. A new concrete overhead bridge was built in Kings Mountain as part of the Southern company’s system-wide facility improvement program. The Southern Railway Company Overhead Bridge (NR, 2007) provided a safe alternative to grade-level crossings and reduced the number of accidents between trains and the increasing number of automobiles and trucks on the town streets. Nevertheless, the grade-level crossing on Mountain Street, linking the West End with the commercial center of Kings Mountain and other residential areas, remained an important part of the local transportation system.

The other signal event of 1919 occurred in April, when the first street-paving project in Kings Mountain was initiated. This was a venture jointly funded by the State of North Carolina as part of the Good Roads Program and local government. The *Kings Mountain Herald* provided an update on the work in its 5 June 1919 edition.

> It is now a practical certainty that Kings Mountain and community will get a slice of government road money. The appropriation, as we understand it, will be sufficient to pay half of a 16 foot road for a distance of two and a quarter miles. It is the plan to begin this road at the Gaston County line near W. S. Mauney’s and proceed through King Street to Piedmont at the A. R. P. church, south a block to Mountain Street, west (on) Mountain Street until the distance is exhausted which will carry it well out of town toward Shelby.

The paving of Mountain Street through the West End in 1919 and the construction of the West End School both encouraged residential construction that continued through the 1920s and 1930s. The Phifer family’s bungalow, standing on a rise and boasting a generous porch overlooking Gold Street, was soon joined by other bungalows. The substantial one-and-a-half story frame side-gable roof bungalow built by Bright Dixon Ratterree (1891-1983) at the corner of West Mountain and Watterson streets was joined by others, including the large bungalow residence of James Monroe Rhea (1891-1936) with its bracketed clipped gables at 611 West Mountain Street, and the concrete block and brick bungalow built on speculation by Fred J. Wright (1897-1960) next door at #613 that he sold to Charles P. Weir.

The West End School, a rectangular one-story brick building with classrooms encircling an auditorium at its center, was completed ca. 1922 on a lot in the northwest corner of West Mountain and Watterson streets purchased for the proposed school in 1919. A one-story brick-veneered concrete block addition was made across its south/West Mountain Street elevation in about 1950. Further additions,
renovations, and replacement building occurred in the 1970s and again in the 1990s by which time the ca. 1922 and ca. 1950 blocks had been removed and replaced by new construction comprising the present school.

A like series of mostly frame bungalows on West Gold and South Watterson streets repeated the same forms and include the well-detailed residences of Charles Troy and Aileen (Ormand) Carpenter at #310 and Pride G. (1894-1947) and Ruth W. (1894-1963) Ratterree at 404 West Gold Street. Others in the West End remodeled and enlarged their existing turn-of-the-century houses with typical bungalow style porches, dormer windows, and bracketed eaves, including Claude Q. (1884-1942) and Cora Long (1885-1972) Rhyne and Abron Plato Warlick (1883-1966) at 400 and 607 West Mountain Street, respectively.

Acknowledging the degree of building in the West End in the opening decades of the twentieth century, the Colonial Revival style held relatively limited apparent appeal. Features of the style and its characteristic symmetry were sometimes combined with those of the Queen Anne style during the period. In about 1910-1920 Dora Bell Willeford remodeled her ca. 1881 house and added a Tuscan column wraparound porch and other typical Colonial Revival refinements. In about 1922 John Martin Patterson (1870-1950) built a large two-story weatherboard frame house (301 W. Mountain St.) whose hybrid 1920s character incorporates Colonial Revival detailing and deep bracketed eaves and a symmetrical three-part porch arrangement that includes a porte cochere. Later, in about 1925, Paul Mauney Neisler (1897-1973), a scion of the regionally prominent Neisler textile dynasty, erected a picturesque, asymmetrical, one-and-a-half story gambrel roof Colonial Revival-style house (404 W. Mountain St.). Believed to have been designed by Charlotte architect Louis Humbert Asbury, who designed a large number of handsome, imposing houses for clients in the Piedmont from the 1910s through the 1930s, Mr. Neisler’s house remains a landmark in the district and the city.

Given a local textile-based economy dominated by the well-managed Neisler family mills and those of other Kings Mountain investor/industrialists, and a relatively small business community with mostly individual or family owned and operated concerns, that provided essential goods and services to Kings Mountain residents and the immediate region, the Great Depression did not have a marked effect on house construction in the West End. The building-up of the neighborhood, encouraged by the West End School, street paving, and the town’s population growth, continued apace through the 1930s and up to the United States’s entry into World War II in 1941. By then, the West End was essentially built up. The houses of the 1930s represented a continued prosperity and enterprise, and in very particular instances they represented the decision of citizens who had grown up in the West End to remain here after marriage and raise their families in a familiar neighborhood. These choices also represented the subdivision of some larger house lots and the transfer of title to members of a second generation in
certain families. The fact that nearly all of the houses of the 1930s were brick veneer bears mention. Brick construction reflected both a different and a larger investment in place. The houses of this period have a high visibility, a general consistency in scale, and by their number and distribution they figure prominently in shaping the architectural character of the West End.

The matter of inter-family subdivision had its antecedent in the 1920s. In 1924 Batie Meek Ormand and his wife set apart the south half of his block-deep house grounds, and conveyed the lot in the northeast corner of Tracy and West Gold streets to their eldest daughter Aileen Ormand Carpenter (1897-1971). She and her husband Charles Troy Carpenter (1896-1984) then built the bungalow (312 W. Gold St.) that remains a family residence. Mr. Ormand, a native of Gaston County, was a conductor on Southern Railway trains for nearly fifty years when he retired in 1939. He resided at 311 West Mountain until his death at the age of 101 years. In 1949, he and Mrs. Ormand set apart the east side yard of the family house and deeded it to their youngest daughter Sara Katherine Ormand Lewis (1906-2004) and her husband Dr. Oliver Preston Lewis (1897-1983). The Lewises then built the late Colonial Revival-style house (309 W. Mountain St.) that remains the home of their grandson.

Meanwhile, there were subdivisions of the Willeford lands immediately to the east on Mountain Street. Irma Willeford Thomson (1886-1973), the eldest daughter of Bennett Robert Willeford, was destined to remain in her childhood home (308 W. Mountain St.) with her husband Joseph High Thomson (1890-1976) until their deaths. In 1931 she and her siblings conveyed a lot on the south side of West Mountain Street (Cleveland Deeds, 4F/106) to their sister, Estelle Willeford King (1892-1981). Mrs. King built a charming brick interwar period cottage (307 W. Mountain St.) that she occupied with her husband, Grady William King (1895-1953), who was chief of the Kings Mountain Fire Department from 1931 until his death. The remaining Willeford lot to the east was next conveyed to Mr. Willeford’s youngest daughter, Eloise Willeford Nickels (1895-1983), the wife of James Calvin Nichols Jr. (1891-1933). Mr. and Mrs. Nickels also built a picturesque one-story period cottage in 1931.

In the next block of West Mountain Street another inter-family transfer kept an important house in the same family, and the family residing in the West End. In 1937, having built and occupied the house at 110 North Gaston Street in what is now the Central School Historic District, Paul Mauney Neisler and Mrs. Neisler sold their West Mountain Street residence to Mr. Neisler’s sister Laura Grace Neisler Page (1910-1999), one of his two sisters for whom the family’s Margrace Mill was named, who owned it until 1996. Another inter-family subdivision occurred on Watterson Street. In 1933 W. Joseph Crawford (1867-1947) and his wife, then resident in a now-lost two-story frame house in the southwest corner of West Mountain and Watterson streets, conveyed the south part of their grounds to their son Harold D. Crawford (Cleveland Deeds, 4E/161). He built a gable-front cottage (202 S. Watterson St.),
which remains the home of his daughter. In 1937 Mr. and Mrs. Crawford conveyed the property lying between their home and Harold D. Crawford’s lot to another son, Joseph Wilson Crawford, who built a minimal traditional brick-veneer house (200 S. Watterson St., Cleveland Deeds, 4K/217). Possibly the last of these divisions occurred in 1936 when William Alexander Ware (1862-1949) conveyed a lot immediately beside the ca. 1882 Ware family house (206 W. Gold St.) to his daughter Lena Bernice Ware McGill (1905-2007) who built a one-story brick veneer house she called Pinecrest (208 W. Gold St.).

With the exception of the two plain two-story Colonial Revival-style brick-veneer houses built on West Gold Street by Rufus S. Plonk and Dr. C. W. Harper at #s 402 and 503, respectively, the houses of the 1930s were mostly one or one-and-a-half story brick veneer houses. With gable-front bays, pavilions, and porches, varying-sized window openings, often with façade chimneys and engaged side porches behind arched openings, and sometimes with a modicum of Tudor Revival-style half-timbering, these house have gained the sobriquet, “period cottage,” which references the first half of the twentieth-century interwar period. Important examples of this house form were built by Richard Halbert Webb (402 W. Mountain St.), Claude Hoyte Hambright (406 W. Mountain St.), William L. Fortune (306 W. Gold St.), Charles Edward Blalock (412 W. Gold St.), oil agent Ira Grady Patterson (407 W. Gold St.), Henry Moore (411 W. Gold St.), O. O. Jackson (501 W. Gold St.), and hardware dealer Robert Coleman Gold (505 W. Gold St.).

House building in the West End neighborhood in the 1930s was part of larger upbuilding in Kings Mountain that included residential construction in the neighborhood around the new Central School (NR, 2001) built in 1933, housing in other parts of the city, the erection of two key civic buildings, as well as the King Street Overhead Bridge. In July 1937 civic pride found expression in the completion of a new City Hall on Piedmont Avenue, the first such building to house all the functions of city government including the library and the fire department, which had been organized in 1931. It was joined in 1940 by a handsome new United States Post Office building in the southeast corner of Piedmont and East Mountain streets. These buildings--and the new houses--reflected a certain maturation in the fortunes of the town and a progressive spirit, as did the construction of the King Street Overhead Bridge (NR, 2005) and the attendant highway improvements. This last project also had a direct impact on the West End. When the bridge was officially opened in September 1939, westbound traffic, which had formerly traveled west out of downtown Kings Mountain along Mountain Street, hereafter followed on the newly-improved lanes of West King Street. Traffic entering Kings Mountain from the east now followed King Street from its east city limit, through the town center, and west to Shelby and points beyond. West Mountain Street then became a quieter, less-traveled street, but the West End School traffic and its direct path into the heart of downtown Kings Mountain kept it from becoming a sleepy lane.
The 1940s opened in the West End with the construction of an elegant Colonial Revival-style house (405 W. Mountain St.) for Dr. William Lee Ramseur (1900-1962). Dr. Ramseur was a cousin of Paul Mauney Neisler, who had built his own handsome Colonial Revival-style residence in ca. 1924, diagonally opposite on the north side of West Mountain Street, that was occupied then by Grace Neisler Page and her family. Restrictions imposed on building during World War II had little effect in the West End. Most of the lots had been built-up, and the character of the historic neighborhood was essentially defined by the war’s onset. However, three projects in the post-war years bear note. Daniel M. Finger’s one-story late Colonial Revival-style house at 414 West Gold Street was followed by the penultimate house erected during the district’s period of significance. It was built in 1949 by Dr. Oliver Preston Lewis (1898-1983) and his wife in the east side yard of her childhood home (311 W. Mountain St.). The house (309 W. Mountain St.) was built to plans drawn and published by Rudolph A. Matern, an architect who practiced at Jamaica, Long Island, New York. Only three single-family houses have been built in the district since 1950; Margaret Miller’s house (204 S. Watterson St.) of 1952, the modest house that replaced the early-twentieth century J. C. Bumgardner house at 506 West Gold Street in about 1965, and the house at 513 West Mountain Street of ca. 1982-86. Remodeling efforts of the early 1950s, predating the end of the period of significance in ca. 1955, include those made to the houses at 206 and 310 West Mountain Street, among others.

In the second half of the twentieth century--and the years following the end of the district’s period of significance, the West End has remained home to families whose members have lived in it virtually all of their lives, and other, newer families who have bought homes in a well-established neighborhood where children can walk to school. Appreciable degrees of continuity and change have coexisted in relative harmony. Change in the district and its immediate environs has come in two visible forms; commercial and institutional encroachment, and the replacement of historic houses by apartment or condominium buildings. Commercial encroachment has been limited in its impact and area to lots on the north side of the 200 and 300 blocks of West Mountain Street not included in the district.

Institutional encroachment has had a stronger impact. The expansion and rebuilding of the West End School, which has drawn residents since about 1922, has claimed three one-story frame cottages that stood in the 500 block of West Mountain, west of the school. Their site is now a school parking lot. The boundary of the district is drawn to exclude the school. In recent years the expansion of the campus of the First Baptist Church, which relocated to the 600 block of West King Street in about 1960, has expanded southward and claimed five south-facing houses on the north side of West Mountain Street’s 600 block. The Isaac Benjamin Goforth house (600 W. Mountain St.) remains alone at the intersection with the street to which the family gave its name.
Today, the West End Historic District and the earlier-listed Central School Historic District survive as important enclaves of historic, residential buildings that reflect the physical growth and evolving fortunes of Kings Mountain from its earliest years in the period around its receipt of a charter in 1874 into the mid-twentieth century. A number of contemporary houses, dating mostly from ca. 1900 to ca. 1940 stand along East King Street, however, commercial development and commercial use have taken a compromising toll on what was once an important residential thoroughfare. Likewise, the construction of US 74 Bypass and other changes in use have altered the fortunes of the North Piedmont Avenue area, north of the railroad line, where the handsome Colonial Revival-style residence of Charles Eugene Neisler (1868-1931) stands with some few other houses of note that rise to the definition of a cluster but probably not a district. Likewise, a small number of contemporary houses on Battleground Avenue, leading south out of Kings Mountain, stand alone or with another of similar date, in an area becoming increasingly commercial.

Architectural Significance

The local architectural significance of the West End Historic District derives from the significance of a small, but important group of individual houses in the district and from the collective significance of the neighborhood’s houses and the residential neighborhood they comprise. Although the Ware Family House (206 W. Gold St.), the oldest surviving, well-preserved house in the district, dates to ca. 1882, and the youngest of the historic residences, date to the early 1950s as do a small number of remodelings, up to ca. 1955, spanning a period of seventy-three years, the essential character of the West End is formed by the majority of its houses that were erected between ca. 1900 and 1940. These weatherboard frame and brick veneer houses, together with two concrete-block residences, and the stone veneer Mauney Apartments (211 W. Mountain St.) reflect an important residential neighborhood of small business owners, managers in the local textile industry, school teachers, and other professionals who chose to build on the lots platted for the Tracy-Dixon family in 1899 and adjoining areas that make up the West End Historic District. The domestic architecture of the West End Historic District reflects three principal style groups; late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century frame houses of one-, one-and-a-half, or two stories with late-Victorian period sawn and shingle decorative features sometimes combined with Colonial Revival detailing and a rising symmetry; bungalows of mostly one-and-a-half story, of weatherboarded frame construction and varying from sizable side-gable roof houses to small gable-front bungalows; and an important group of one- and one-and-a-half story brick veneer period cottages from the late 1920s through the 1930s that incorporate gable-front bays and pavilions, tiled porches with multiple arch-headed openings, decorative brick work around recessed entrances and on the façade chimney faces, asymmetrical window openings, and occasional Tudor-style half-timbering and round arches that lend presence to even modest houses. A small number of Colonial Revival-style houses punctuate the district’s streetscapes.
The houses lining the streets of the West End Historic District represent local interpretations of nationally popular architectural styles that flourished in the years from the late-nineteenth century through the interwar period and, arguably, as minimal traditional residences, in the burst of construction that followed on the lifting of building restrictions imposed during World War II. These styles, and their associated building patterns, begin chronologically with the late-Victorian period Queen Anne style, continue through the Craftsman-style houses and bungalows of the 1910s into the 1930s, and culminate with the period cottages of the late 1920s and 1930s. The Colonial Revival style, which gained popularity in the decades around the turn of the twentieth century, enjoyed a degree of favor throughout the period. All four styles were promoted and publicized in architectural patternbooks and magazines which gained widespread distribution and readership among housebuilders during this extended period.

The Queen Anne style, which rose to fashion in the closing decades of the nineteenth century as a revival of earlier English architectural fashion and was named for the monarch who ruled England from 1702 until her death in 1714, also represented the culmination of eclecticism that thrived during the long reign (1837-1901) of another English Queen, Victoria. Characterized by exuberance and lavish detail drawn from many sources, Queen Anne-style buildings displayed asymmetry in their massing, plans, and elevations, varied, usually picturesque rooflines incorporating hip and gable roofs, dormers, and towers, and an appealing combination of building materials. While important landmarks in the style were built in North Carolina, most notably to the designs produced by George Franklin Barber of Knoxville, Tennessee, among others, the Queen Anne-style buildings that animate the architectural landscape in town and country are mostly one-, one-and-a-half, and two-story residences, usually of frame construction and with varying degrees of sawn and turned woodwork ornamenting their porches, eaves, and shingle-clad gables.

The Craftsman style, largely represented in North Carolina by one- or one-and-a-half story frame and brick bungalows, also originated in the British Arts and Crafts movement, however, it owed its popularity in the United States to three men, Gustav Stickley and the architectural siblings, Charles Sumner and Henry Mather Greene, who practiced in California in the early twentieth century. The style takes its name both from the skillful exercise of talent and the title of Mr. Stickley’s magazine, *The Craftsman*, in which he promoted an informal architecture and like sympathetic designs for furniture and home furnishings. In California, the Greene brothers designed elegant houses with expansive, open, informal plans, natural, often native materials, and an architectural emphasis on structural integrity and expression. Their houses, and bungalows of the period throughout the nation, are enhanced with simple, usually rectilinear ornament, with well-finished eaves incorporating brackets, exposed rafters, and purlins, alone or in combination, and expansive porches, often
incorporating a porte cochere, featuring characteristic tapering wood columns on squat brick or stone piers.

In the later 1920s and 1930s architectural patternbooks and shelter magazines offered housebuilders another residential option--the period cottage. These one- or one-and-a-half story houses, usually of brick veneer construction, were distinguished by handsome asymmetrically balanced facades or front blocks incorporating multiple engaged or projecting gables, façade chimneys, ornamental brick coursing to enframe doors, windows, and louvered attic vents, and inset corner porches with arched openings that sometimes had their complement in the design of porte cocheres. While period cottages often incorporated certain Colonial Revival-style features, including demi-lune attic windows, their elevations, and particularly gable ends, were most often enriched with Tudor Revival-style half-timbering, stone detailing, and other decorative flourishes that imparted identifiable style, presence, and character. This house type enjoyed popularity in North Carolina’s smaller cities and towns.

The Colonial Revival style is probably the longest-lived of any architectural style in North Carolina. Having its genesis in the Centennial Exposition of 1876 in Philadelphia and the rising historical interest in the buildings, decorative arts, literature and other artifacts of the American Colonial and Federal periods, the Colonial Revival was also the first native-born architectural style. Making its initial appearance in the symmetrical, classical decorative finish of Queen Anne-style buildings in the 1880s and 1890s, it gained a sure identity of its own ca. 1900, when houses with symmetrical plans and elevations, and architectural detailing based on that seen earlier on Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival period houses and public buildings proliferated in towns and cities large and small. The Colonial Revival style evolved during the first half of the twentieth century and included a more academically-correct Georgian Revival mode in the 1920s and 1930s that sometimes produced replicas of eighteenth and early-nineteenth century landmarks as well as a Spanish Colonial revival mode. The genius of the style, however, was the free, imaginative adaptation of historical elements and precedents, in a program of general symmetry, that produced appealing houses favored by successive generations of builders and homemakers.

The Ware Family House, erected ca. 1882 at 206 West Gold Street, is both the oldest house in the district and one of the oldest, most intact houses in Kings Mountain, having been built less than a decade after the city received its charter in 1874. It also retains its picturesque scroll-sawn railings and bracketed posts on both levels of the front porch, as well as other important original features of both its exterior and interior finish. The Ware House stands with the second William Andrew Mauney House (106 N. Battleground Ave.), a bracketed late-Victorian dwelling, and the Garrett-Dilling House (100 N. Piedmont Ave.), another late-Victorian house with a mansard roof, as important architectural
accomplishments by the first generation of town leaders. The Mauney and Garrett-Dilling houses date to the last decades of the nineteenth century and stand in the Central School Historic District.

The one- one-and-a-half, and two-story weatherboarded frame houses erected in the years leading up to ca. 1915/1920 represent the size, form, and character of residential construction in Kings Mountain in that period. They stand today as part of a stable neighborhood, when so many of their contemporaries throughout Kings Mountain have been lost. The rerouting of westbound traffic off West Mountain Street in about 1939 to the newly-upgraded King Street accounts in part for their survival. That said, however, the smallest of these early houses, the center-hall plan, single pile one-story houses with rear ells, exist today principally in the cloak of a later bungalow dress. In some instances, as at the Peterson-Irvin House (505 W. Mountain St.), the three-bay façade was refitted with a bungalow-style porch (wood columns rising from brick piers) and an ornamental shed-roof dormer, while at others, including the Rhyne House (400 W. Mountain St.), the original single-pile, side-gable roof cottage was overbuilt, with its roof assuming a taller, more expansive profile to shelter the now expanded double-pile plan, with a shed-roof dormer centered on its façade.

Housebuilders of larger means in Kings Mountain and here in the West End, including Isaac Benjamin Goforth (600 W. Mountain St.) and Lewis F. Neal (207 W. Mountain St.), erected one- and one-and-a-half story dwellings of more presence, usually with asymmetrical plans and projecting gable-front façade, side, and rear ells. The finest of these early-twentieth century houses is the residence of Batie Meek Ormand (311 W. Mountain St.) which he bought in 1903 while under construction, finished with an atypically symmetrical facade, and occupied until his death in 1970. Its complex patterned-tin roofline, with multiple planes, dormers, and side and rear gable-front ells, and a wraparound porch supported with turned posts linked by spindle friezes and turned railings create a picturesque appearance that is unrivaled in Kings Mountain. The Ormand House is contemporary with the Queen Anne-style house distinguished with a two-story, conical-roof corner tower built for John David Mauney (1878-1947) at 118 North Piedmont Avenue (Central School Historic District).

The most affluent homeowners in the West End at this formative time in the neighborhood’s history, the decades flanking the turn of the twentieth century, occupied two-story houses that reflected a sympathetic combination of the late-Victorian Queen Anne and Colonial Revival-styles in their plans, massing, and finish. Those that survive have double-pile plans with side-gable or hip roof wings, generally symmetrical elevations, and tall hipped roofs, usually with ornamental attic windows on the façade. The Willeford Family House (308 W. Mountain St.), whose present appearance reflects an early-twentieth-century family refitting of its earlier house, retains the highest degree of integrity. Despite the varying changes to their original appearance, the Plonk family houses (#s 311 and 313) on West Gold Street, built by William Lafayette Plonk and his son, respectively, in the early 1910s,
continue to reflect their higher status in an earlier time, principally in their plan and massing. The senior Mr. Plonk’s house, adapted for rent as a three-unit apartment after his death in 1924, was refitted with a bungalow-style porch with tapering wood columns rising from brick piers.

The variation that characterized the earliest group of houses in the West End continued among the bungalows erected in the late 1910s and 1920s. And, in fact, it is this variety and idiosyncrasy even, continuing among the period cottages of the 1930s, as well, that defines this district and its place in the architectural history of Kings Mountain. The large, side-gable roof bungalow erected about 1919 by Bright Dixon Ratterree (411 W. Mountain St.) that remained the residence of his daughter until her death in 2006 fits within the conventions of the bungalow house type except for its unusual and distinctive horizontal brackets. The handsome late-1910s bungalow erected by Campbell Phifer, (#405), on a rise overlooking West Gold Street, is an important, remarkably-intact example with an expansive side-gable roof that slopes to engage a well-developed Craftsman front porch. Its deep eaves are finished with exposed purlins, rather than brackets. Two nearby weatherboarded frame bungalows on the north side of Gold Street, both built ca. 1924, represent appealing differences in contemporary houses. The Charles Troy Carpenter House (#312) in the northeast corner of West Gold and Tracy streets has developed elevations facing both streets and brackets with an unusual scroll profile. The one-story bungalow built by Pride G. Ratteree (1894-1947) is arguably the most sophisticated of the West End’s bungalows and those in the larger community. Its unusual plan includes a shallow gable-front pavilion that opens onto a deeply recessed porch, flanked by a porte cochere to the east and the living room to the west, which recalls such features on the California Craftsman-style houses that gave rise to this nationally-popular style.

The brick-veneer bungalow at 410 West Gold Street, the frame bungalow at 309 West Gold Street, and the cottage at 108 South Tracy Street built as the retirement home of textilist A. M. Long in ca. 1928 represent variants of the jerkinhead-roof model. The finest, best preserved example of the jerkinhead-roof bungalow is the well-preserved house at 611 West Mountain Street built about 1923 for James Monroe Rhea (1891-1936). Its eaves are fitted with elegant C-scroll brackets. The front porch, supported by squat two-part brick piers linked by a pierced brick railing, includes a porte cochere at its east end. Two doors east, at 607 West Mountain Street, Abron Plato Warlick (1883-1966) demonstrated extraordinary enterprise in fitting up his turn-of-the-century house with an unusual three part concrete bungalow porch/porte cochere design linked by overhead trellises in front of the façade windows and supported by paneled concrete piers.

The Colonial Revival style, which enjoyed wide popularity nationally and found limited expression locally in the handsomely-detailed ca. 1910s Charles Eugene Neisler house and the elegant brick house built for Dorris Carl Mauney (1881-1956), among others outside the district, and in other houses in
Shelby, Cleveland County, and the region, met with little realization in the West End. Elements of the style’s predominant symmetry and classical detailing appeared in the more imposing two-story houses erected in the opening decades of the twentieth century. They reappear as well in the ca. 1922 house built for John Martin Patterson (301 W. Mountain St.) and the ca. 1930s remodeling of the Ware house (403 W. Mountain St.) that was long the home of Susan Carlyle Ware (1882-1962). Three important Colonial Revival-style houses in the West End are architect-designed and the only three houses in the district for which the designer is known. The appealing two-story gambrel-roof house built ca. 1924 for Paul Mauney Neisler at 404 West Mountain Street, with a gable-front entrance bay and a recessed southeast front corner porch, is believed to have been designed by Charlotte architect Louis Humbert Asbury (1877-1975), who enjoyed a long, distinguished, and prolific career. In 1940, when Mr. Neisler’s cousin Dr. William Lee Ramseur (1900-1962) sought plans for his new house on the south side of West Mountain Street, at #405, he turned to Victor Winfred Breeze (1889-1961), a Shelby-based architect who had just gained acclaim for his Colonial Revival-style Shelby City Hall of 1939. Mr. Breeze produced a polished design for a two-story three-bay main block flanked by one-story wings in whitewashed brick and Dr. Ramseur’s garage with second-story quarters for his chauffeur. The Neisler and Ramseur houses are emblematic of their time in the Colonial Revival style’s twentieth century continuum, and, so too, is the spare character of the one-and-half story house (309 W. Mountain St.) built in 1949 by Dr. Oliver Preston Lewis (1897-1983) to plans by Rudolph A. Matern of Jamaica, New York.

The gable-front entrance bay on the Neisler House proved to be a hallmark of some fifteen brick-veneer houses erected in the late 1920s and 1930s that are one of the important defining features of the district and its clear identity in the larger landscape of King Mountain. These appealing one- and one-and-a-half story houses, known as “period cottages” and gaining increasing attention from both architectural historians and new owners, often incorporate simple Gothic or Tudor Revival detailing, including half-timbering, asymmetrical elevations involving gable-front bays of usually differing proportions, varying-sized window openings with soldier-course lintels, inset corner porches, usually with arched openings, and decorative brickwork around doorways and windows and often on the shafts of chimneys rising on the façades of these residences. The Neisler House is flanked by two such houses. The ca. 1934 stone-trimmed house (406 W. Mountain St.) built for Claude Hoyte Hambright features Tudor half-timbering on its front porch and gable ends and an expansive plan that recalls Tudor Revival country houses, mainly of the 1910s and 1920s, that are one of the antecedents of these smaller houses of middle-class business and professional men and women. A more uniform and different stone was used to enframe the front door of the house at 402 West Mountain Street built ca. 1936 for Richard Halbert Webb, an employee of the Neisler-held companies. Stone coursing had appeared a few years earlier on the ca. 1931 cottage (307 W. Mountain St.) built by Estelle Willeford.
King and her husband, on its chimney, and half-timbering was seen on the period cottage (#305) built next door in 1932 for Mrs. King’s sister Eloise Nickels and her husband.

It was on Gold Street, however, that West End housebuilders erected the larger number of such houses, and their presence remains the strongest here of anywhere in Kings Mountain. Virtually all of these houses were built for the owners of small businesses and professionals who occupied an important tier in the citizenry of Kings Mountain between the mill owners and the “operatives” in their mills. The period cottage built for oil distributor Ira Grady Patterson ca. 1928-29 (407 W. Gold St.) features the hallmark paired asymmetrical façade gables, a façade chimney, and a northeast corner porch whose arched openings are echoed in the framed arch-headed front door. The Henry Moore period cottage (411 W. Gold St.), built ca. 1931-1935, also has an arch-headed entrance echoing its porch, but inset here in a third shallow, projecting gabled bay superimposed with a chimney in one of the house’s two essentially equal façade gables. The period cottages constructed ca. 1933-34 for O. O. Jackson (501 W. Gold St.) and hardware merchant Robert Coleman Gold (505 W. Gold St.) repeat the characteristic features but with a certain rectilinear variety. The wide asymmetrical façade of the Gold House has an arch-headed entry in one of its two small façade gables and a porte cochere in its west gable end that complements the inset northeast corner porch. Mr. Jackson’s period cottage also features an inset northeast front corner porch and off-center façade chimney, however, its entrance has a flat head and a soldier-and-stretcher course surround that also frames its fenestration as it does that of the Gold residence. They were probably built by the same, unidentified contractor. These four period cottages are representative of the larger number on West Gold Street that includes the ca. 1933 residence of Glee Acor Bridges (413 W. Gold St.), with its tall two-story west and rear elevations, and Pinecrest (208 W. Gold St.) of ca. 1938-39 with a distinctive entry incorporating splayed quarter-circle steps that rise to a front terrace with a pierced brick railing.

Construction in the West End in the decade following World War II, up to ca. 1955, was limited to upbuilding on a few remaining open lots and a small number of sympathetic additions or remodeling. The spare Colonial Revival-style residence of Dr. Lewis and his family (309 W. Mountain St.) built in 1949 reflected a continuation of time-honored building forms and finish as did the minimal traditional houses built by Daniel M. Finger (414 W. Gold St.) in about 1947-48 and Margaret Miller (204 S. Watterson St.) about 1952. Additions or remodeling likewise reflected the spirit of the time. In about 1952 Lena Ware McGill added a side-gable roof west wing to her period cottage, Pinecrest (208 W. Gold St.), and redressed the brick elevations of her expanded house in white paint. Shortly thereafter, a block to the north, Ethel McGill Crook remodeled an early-twentieth century family cottage for her residence, giving the house (206 W. Mountain St.) the Colonial Revival styling it retains to the present.
The grounds of many houses in the West End also include garages that were usually erected to the rear of the house, between it and the back lot line, often contemporary with the dwelling or built shortly after its construction, and mostly within the period of significance. Frame examples range from the elegant two-car garage with chauffeur's quarters designed by Victor Winfred Breeze in 1940 for Dr. Ramseur (405 W. Mountain St.) to the simple square, hip-roof weatherboarded frame two-vehicle garage standing behind Mr. Hambright's expansive Tudor Revival-style house (#406) on the north side of West Mountain Street and a gable-front version standing behind the Bumgardner-Eskew-Briggs House (506 W. Gold St.), to a simple, single car weatherboarded frame gable-front garage such as the one standing behind the Henry Huffstetter House (410 W. Gold St.) of about 1933-34. Brick-veneer period cottages are often accompanied by contemporary brick garages, and important examples stand with Mr. Patterson's house (407 W. Gold St.) and Mr. Gold's residence (505 W. Gold St.).

Outbuildings other than garages, and those erected for storage mostly in the second half of the twentieth century, are few in number but important features in the historic West End landscape. When Campbell Phifer erected his bungalow (405 W. Gold St.) in the 1910s, his property was at the suburban edge of Kings Mountain. Given its semi-rural character he erected a contemporary side-gable roof frame barn for his livestock, a small frame combination meat-house/wood-house, and a later, ca. 1920-30, two-car brick garage. Small frame barns from the early twentieth century also stand behind the Pressley-Long-Rhea-Griffin House and the Isaac Benjamin Goforth houses at 310 and 600 West Mountain Street, respectively. The single largest complement of outbuildings, five in number, all frame, and dating to ca. 1933-1940, stand behind the Glee Acor Bridges House (415 W. Gold St.); they were used for both domestic and agricultural purposes and in conjunction with his hardware store.

The West End is also the location of the Mauney Apartments (211 W. Mountain St.), the only known historic apartment building in Kings Mountain. The multi-family use is one factor setting the two-story building apart from the district's historic single-family residences. Its largest distinction, however, is its Craftsman-style rubble stone construction, its large multi-pane windows, and the jerkinhead attic dormers that enliven its roofline. The apartment building was erected by William Kemp Mauney (1899-1971), the youngest son of Jacob Simri Mauney, who resided in one of its four well-finished apartments as did a number of other West Enders prior to building their houses in the neighborhood.

The West End Historic District, containing houses erected along its streets from ca. 1882 to ca. 1955 and a sizable complement of contemporary domestic outbuildings, reflects the important patterns of historic residential construction in Kings Mountain for all but the first few years of its existence as a town. These houses, outbuildings, and an outstanding ca. 1931-35 stone-veneer apartment building (211 W. Mountain St.) reflect regional building practices and the application of nationally popular styles to the housing needs of a significant part of the city's population. In Kings Mountain, as in other
towns and cities in the North Carolina textile belt whose economy and society was based on one principal industry, the architecture of place reflects its social and economic structure. In Kings Mountain a number of the city’s founding fathers and its textilists built houses near the center of town in an area now identified as the Central School Historic District. A number of those men but not all, and not Charles Eugene Neisler (1868-1931), the most enterprising and successful mill owner in the history of Kings Mountain, among others. Hundreds of the textile workers and their families lived in the villages built near the mills or in other nearby housing. The Margrace Mill Village Historic District reflects that pattern of social life. The West End Historic District is defined by and reflected in the houses erected for the town’s shopkeepers, small businessmen, school teachers, professional men and women, the city’s first fire chief, and their families, that important part of its citizenry who live and work in that critical middle ground between the mill owner and the factory operative. The district’s architecture reflects their lives, their dreams as home owners, and their accomplishments.

Endnotes

1. Robert Lee Durham, *Since I Was Born*, ed. Marshall William Fishwick (Richmond, VA: Whittet and Shepperson, 1953), 77-78, 90. Mr. Durham was Dr. Tracy’s eldest surviving grandchild, the son of Nora Catherine Tracy and Plato Durham (1840-1875). The memoir, while not a chronological narrative, is one of the most valuable sources for the little examined history of Kings Mountain’s formative first quarter century.

2. For Mr. Love and his life in Kings Mountain see *Since I Was Born*, 144-50.

3. Instead of being buried in the town to which they contributed so much, the bodies of Mrs. Tracy and Dr. Tracy were taken to Shelby and interred in Sunset Cemetery near the grave of Dr. Tracy’s father, William Tracy (1789-1842).

4. The year after platting and selling these lots in the West End, Benjamin Franklin Dixon (1845-1910) was elected state auditor of North Carolina. He was reelected in 1904 and 1908 and died in office on 26 September 1910. His remains were laid in state in the State Capitol and his body interred in Oakwood Cemetery.Accounts of his life are published in Ashe’s *Biographical History of North Carolina* and in the *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*, s.v. “Dixon, Benjamin Franklin.”

5. Nora Catherine Tracy Durham was married on 7 July 1877 to Mr. Dixon. They were the parents of a daughter, Pearl, who married William Leonard Balthis, and twin sons Benjamin Franklin Dixon Jr. (d. 1918) and Wright Tracy Dixon (d. 1955). Mrs. Dixon was living with her
daughter in Gastonia in 1933 when she died. Her body was taken to Raleigh and interred in Oakwood Cemetery beside that of her husband.

6. This house is one of two built of these materials by Mr. Wright in the West End Historic District. The second one stands at 301 West Gold Street. At least one other stands outside the district and further west on Mountain Street. Mr. Wright’s role as a manufacturer of concrete blocks and as a builder, and that of other early-twentieth-century builders, is one of the critical aspects of Kings Mountain’s architectural history that remains to be examined.

7. Cora Long Rhyne’s name figures prominently in the textile history of Kings Mountain, and was given to the Cora Mills established in 1900 by her father A. M. Long and others. Her name remains visible on the front elevation of the brick mill to the present. She was a teacher and principal at the West End School.

8. When Grace Neisler Page gave up residency at 404 West Mountain Street she did not leave the West End. She relocated to smaller quarters at 302 Crescent Hill Road in the recently built condominiums occupying the site of the lost residences of Dr. Tracy and Dr. J. S. Hood.
9. BIBLIOGRAPHY


Cleveland County Deeds, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cleveland County Administration Building, Shelby, NC.

Cleveland County Wills and Estates Records, Office of the Clerk of Court, Cleveland County Courthouse, Shelby, NC.


*Kings Mountain Herald*, “News Homes and Business Increase Here, 4 April 1935.


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM points continued –

5. Zone 17 E467670 N3899170

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the West End Historic District is defined by a bold black line on the enclosed map prepared at a scale of one inch equals 200 feet by the Kings Mountain Planning Department on 6 April 2010.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is drawn to include the important group of houses, related outbuildings, and the lots on which they stand, which forms a cohesive, physically identifiable neighborhood of historic buildings in the landscape of Kings Mountain. The boundary reflects the distinctive separation of this residential district from the commercial fabric on its east border, later development on its longer north and south borders, including the post-historic buildings of the West Elementary School and demolitions by the First Baptist Church in the 500 and 600 blocks of West Mountain Street, respectively, and a combination of compromised houses and later dwellings on the west side of the district. The boundary is drawn to include houses and related buildings that comprise a recognizable district with strong integrity, historical associations, and architectural significance.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

West End Historic District
Cleveland County, North Carolina

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Name of property: West End Historic District
2. County and State: Cleveland County, North Carolina
3. Name of photographer: Davyd Yoard Hood
4. Date of photographs: 23 March 2010
5. Location of original negatives: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC

Photograph views
A. Looking northeast on West Mountain Street with #400 (Claude Q. and Cora Rhyne House) in left foreground, #310 (Pressley-Rhea-Long-Griffin House) in center, and #308 (Willeford Family House) at right.
B. Looking northwest on West Mountain Street with #404 (Neisler-Page House) in right foreground and #406 (Claude Hoyte Hambright House) on left.
C. Looking north/northwest on South Goforth Street with 601 West Mountain Street (J. C. Keller House) in left foreground and 600 West Mountain Street (Isaac Benjamin Goforth House) in right background.
D. Looking southeast on West Mountain Street with #211 (Mauney Apartments) in center and west elevation of #207 (Neal Family House) visible on left.
E. Looking southeast on South Tracy Street to 311 West Mountain Street (Batie Meek Ormand House) in left foreground, and parts of #309 (Oliver Preston Lewis House), #307 (Estelle Willeford King House), and #305 (Eloise Willeford Nickels House) visible in center and to left.
F. Looking southeast from front lawn of 406 West Mountain Street, across the street, to #405 (Dr. William Lee Ramseur House) in right foreground and #403 (Ware Family House) on left.
G. Looking west/southwest from lawn of 609 West Mountain Street to #611 (James Monroe Rhea House) in center/left foreground and #613 (Wright-Blackmer House) in right background.
H. Looking northeast on West Gold Street to #208 (Pinecrest) in center foreground and #206 (Ware Family House) in right background.
I. Looking northwest on West Gold Street to #408 (Wright-McGill-Biser House) in right foreground, #410 (Henry Huffstetler House) in center, and #412 (Blalock-Whitener House) in left background.
J. Looking southwest on South Cansler Street onto West Gold Street with #301 (Fred J. Wright House) on left, #303 (Fred James Wright Jr. House) in center, #305 (Hamrick-Fulkerson House) in right background, and southeast corner of 206 South Cansler Street (House) on extreme right.
**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

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**West End Historic District**  
**Cleveland County, North Carolina**

K. Looking west/southwest on West Gold Street from front lawn of #307 to #309 (Fred James Wright Sr. House) in left foreground, #311 (Plonk House) in center, and #313 (Plonk Family House) in center/right background.

L. Looking southeast on West Gold Street with #407 (Ira Grady Patterson House) in right foreground and #405 (Phifer Family House) in left background.

M. Looking southeast on West Gold Street with #505 (Robert Coleman Gold House) on right and #503 (Dr. C. W. Harper House) on left.

N. Looking north/northwest on South Watterson Street with #202 (Harold D. Crawford House) in center and #200 (Crawford-Pursley House) on right, and part of south elevation of 501 West Mountain Street (West Mountain Townhouses) visible on extreme right.