

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name South Main Street Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 100-600 blocks of South Main Street

n/a  not for publication

city, town Kernersville

n/a  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Forsyth

code 067

zip code 27584

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

#### Category of Property

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

#### Number of Resources within Property

##### Contributing

53

2

2

57

##### Noncontributing

26 buildings

1 sites

structures

objects

27 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic and Architectural Resources in Kernersville, N.C.

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 4

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official William S. Frisby Date 12-18-87

State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling  
Commerce/Trade: Specialty Store  
Religion: Religious structure  
Industry: Manufacturing facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling  
Commerce/Trade: Specialty Store  
Religion: Religious structure

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century  
Late Victorian  
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick  
walls brick  
weatherboard  
roof metal  
other asphalt

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The South Main Street Historic District is located in Kernersville, North Carolina. The district covers approximately 45 acres stretching about six blocks along South Main Street/NC 150, once the stage road to Salem, with portions of four side streets, as well as several properties along South Cherry Street, which parallels South Main Street.

Kernersville is a sprawling town, with a ten-block-long main street (North-South Main Street) paralleled by North and South Cherry Street to the west, with a major cross street (East-West Mountain Street) and several smaller cross streets and alleys. The district is bounded roughly by the rear lot lines of the 100-600 blocks of South Main Street. The eastern boundary is the rear lot lines of the 100-300 blocks of South Main, and the western edge of Salisbury Street which extends from South Main at a 45 degree angle. Interspersed among the older commercial and residential fabric in the district is mid-twentieth century development. Beyond the core of the town, strip development has occurred along each leg of the main crossroads.

The streets are two lanes wide, with parking along portions of the commercial blocks of South Main Street. The appearance of the original village is retained and enhanced by mature street trees, by Harmon Park, and by landscaped house lots. These lots are generally narrow, with houses set close to the street (in large part this is the result of the widening and paving of the roads). Several of the larger houses have deep rear lots, particularly those on the west side of South Main Street, where lots tend to stretch through the block to South Cherry Street. The blocks close to the main intersection have cement sidewalks; the 600 block of South Main does not.

The district has a total of 88 resources. Four of these, Korner's Folly and its three attendant outbuildings (#43, 1880), are already listed in the National Register. Of the remaining 84, 57 (68%) are contributing; 27 (32%) are noncontributing. The inventory list of 57 entries contains two buildings demolished after preparation of the inventory and the accompanying sketch map (#10, contributing and #11, non-contributing). Their demolition has been noted on the inventory list and on the map, and the resource count revised accordingly. The 33 resources not listed separately in the inventory are 29 outbuildings, two cemeteries (sites), and two fences (objects). The statistic which best indicates the high architectural significance of the district is that 21 of the buildings have pre-1900 construction dates.

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The streetscape in the South Main Street Historic District consists of approximately one block of commercial properties located in the 100 block of South Main Street, and residential properties interspersed with commercial properties along the rest of the streets. The majority of the commercial properties date from the late nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century, during Kernersville's period of industrialization and commercial development. The residential properties date from ca. 1834 to ca. 1930, with a wide range of types.

The earliest surviving architecture in the South Main Street Historic District is residential. The oldest house in the district is the Spears House, 307 South Main Street (#41; ca. 1834), which had a 1834 dated brick in the chimney found during recent renovation. Most of these early dwellings have been altered over the years, and bear little resemblance to their original style and massing although these attributes can generally be determined. The earliest houses are simple in detail, either one or two stories in height, and constructed either in heavy mortise and tenon framing, or log.

The Joseph Korner property, which ran from the intersection of what is now Mountain Street along both sides of South Main Street, was gradually split up among the third generation of Kerners, and a number of homes were built in the 1850s. These houses exhibit a more sophisticated character, are generally Greek Revival in detailing, two-stories in height and, are constructed in common bond hand-made brick. The Dr. Elias Kerner House (#27; 1857; photo H), built in 1857 is representative of the style. The nearly-full facade two-tier porch has been altered somewhat by the replacement of the original turned balustrade and the removal of decorative bracketing. As with most of these houses, a two-story brick ell was added to the rear. The popularity of brick for residential construction continued well into the 1870s, providing a continuity in fabric within the district.

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The 1870s saw the rise of a distinct style of house in Kernersville, associated primarily with members of the Kerner family. This style consists of a two-story "L" or "T"-shaped house, usually with the the leg of the "L" or "T" parallel to the street. The porches are generally in the angle of this leg. These houses are all masonry, generally of hand-made brick, with walls sixteen to eighteen inches thick, with a rear ell. The Theodore Kerner House (#34; 1877; photo K) is the best, most mature example of the style, with segmentally-arched bays, heavy drip molding, stone lintels, and corbelled cornice. The house follows the typical center-hall plan, with one room to the north and two to the south.

Frame residential architecture with elaborate decorative work, best evidenced by the Elias Kerner Huff House (#37; 1880; photo A), became popular. This one-story frame cottage has a number of additions to the rear and a band room, originally situated beside the house, was joined to it about the turn of the century. Huff helped organize and was the first director of the Kernersville band, and constructed a tiny band room to the side of his house for rehearsals. Double doors could be thrown open for performances. Huff was a local carpenter who also worked on Kerner's Folly (#43; 1880; photo G) and many decorative details of the Folly can be seen in this house. Both the exterior and interior of the house exhibit a wealth of turned and sawn work including a wraparound porch with lattice work, bargeboards, decorative shingling, turned balustrade and spindle frieze.

The last trend in residential architecture from this period of development was the embellishment of two-story frame dwellings with restrained late Victorian detailing. The James P. and Addie Kerner Adkins House (#28; ca. 1890; photo I) is the best, most intact representative of this style. The two-story house is sheltered by a side-gabled roof with false facade gable with decorative shingling in the gable ends. The house is center-hall in plan, one-room deep with one-story rear ell. The form is repeated in the house at 503 South Main Street (#44; ca. 1890), although this house has been substantially altered; and the Professor Weatherly House (#51; ca. 1890), among others.

The commercial architecture of the period is represented by the Greenfield and Kerner Tobacco Factory (#23; 1884; photo E), a massive three-story brick building, fairly typical of surviving commercial architecture of the period. The three-bay facade exhibits details popular in Kernersville commercial architecture, with segmentally-arched bays divided by pilasters which create a paneled effect.

The popularity of decorative brickwork in commercial architecture continued into the first decade of the twentieth century. The (former) Bank of Kernersville (#4; 1903; photo B) is a showcase of decorative brickwork, with segmentally-arched bays, pilasters and corbelling. The interiors of Bodem-

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hamer's Store (#42; ca. 1910) have been renovated for office space, but the exterior still exhibits its decorative brickwork and pilastered bays.

The district contains representative examples of several early twentieth century styles, including late Queen Anne/Colonial Revival, cottage and bungalow styles. The Queen Anne/Colonial Revival is represented by the Sam Vance, Sr., House (#53; ca. 1910; photo C) on West Mountain Street. This two-and-a-half-story frame house has a hip roof with cross gables, Palladian-inspired window treatments in the gable ends, a wraparound porch and Colonial Revival interiors.

The Bungalow also enjoyed popularity in the district during the 1920s. Serving as a transition between the earlier styles and the bungalow, the Dr. O. Y. Joyner House (#2; ca. 1920) is a story-and-a-half frame dwelling with nearly pyramidal roof, exposed rafter ends, interior chimney, and engaged porch. Three frame cottages built in the 400 block of South Main Street (#24, 25, 26; ca. 1920; photo F) all have modest bungalow detailing including exposed rafter ends, brackets, and engaged porches. The P. A. Fontayne House (#49; ca. 1920) is one of the best examples of the Bungalow style in Kernersville. This low frame dwelling has an asymmetrical gabled roof and engaged porch, and was the first prefabricated house in Kernersville, with sections coming in by truck.

The Colonial Revival style is found in the district in a number of houses. Several homes, including the Gentry-Greenfield House (#33; ca. 1860, ca. 1880, ca. 1900) and the Harmon House (#36; ca. 1860; ca. 1880; 1928/29) were remodeled in the style during the twentieth century. The style is well represented by DeWitt Harmon's Office (#13; ca. 1928). This tiny building is three bays wide and three bays deep, with a pyramidal roof and one-bay portico on slender columns.

The district contains two churches, both of which contribute to the character of the district. In 1922 the congregation of the Kernersville Moravian Church added a large, two-story Colonial Revival-styled brick educational wing to the south of the sanctuary. The congregation of the Main Street United Methodist Church (#21; 1924/25) built a new church in 1924/25. The Colonial Revival-styled brick sanctuary features a full-facade engaged portico with Ionic columns and dentil cornice. To the south and west lies the cemetery, with an assortment of mid-nineteenth to present funerary monuments.

During the 1920s commercial architecture turned from decoratively detailed brick buildings to larger, functional brick buildings with large show windows and modest detailing. The S and R Motor Company (#15; ca. 1928) is a two-story brick building which is functional in both design and execution. About 1930 the Pinnix Drug Store (#35; 1904, 1986) was remodeled in an austere Colonial Revival style, with plain brick veneering, large show windows and modest

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molded cornice.

The Depression brought a cessation of development in the district, and little or no development took place in the district until after after World War II. During the 1940s and 1950s several cottages and houses, mainly with modest Colonial Revival detailing, were built. An excellent example of this styling is the Elizabeth Sparks House (#38; ca. 1940), a one-and-a-half-story brick cottage with a wrought-iron balustrade across the roof of the full-facade porch. The Methodist Rectory (#20; ca. 1959) and the Charles Collicutt House, (#32; ca. 1950) are two-story brick dwellings built in the 1950s. The Rectory has a one-bay two-story portico; the Collicutt House has an engaged full-facade two-story Mount Vernon porch.

Today Kernersville is surrounded by 1970s and '80s development. The close proximity of I-40 has promoted service-related strip development to the south and north. Apartment and condominium projects have been built along the west side of South Cherry Street, effectively ringing the South Main Street Historic District.

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The inventory begins on South Cherry Street, at the north boundary of the district, and follows Cherry then Main streets, first west then east sides, north to south. The side streets follow, first West Mountain Street, south side; then Salisbury Street and Moravian Lane. The street names are given in capital letters, followed by entries which give: inventory number (keyed to the district map); street address; status; name of property; name of original owner or builder in bracket; a brief description of the property; outbuildings; and date of construction and major changes. Status is denoted by the letter C, or contributing to the overall character of the district; or N, or non-contributing within the district. Cross streets are given in parentheses. One property, Korner's Folly (#43) is already listed to the National Register, noted by NR following the date of construction. The information contained in the inventory is drawn from Gwynne Taylor's 1979 survey of Kernersville; Kernersville, North Carolina, Bicentennial, 1971; and interviews with several life-long Kernersville citizens.

## INVENTORY:

## SOUTH CHERRY STREET, West Side

1           302   Hunt-Kerner House.   C   ca. 1880.   [Charlie Hunt].   A one-story common bond brick house built by Charlie and Nina Kerner Hunt. The main block is under a side-gabled roof with gabled rear ell, and an over-sized replacement full-facade porch on posts and piers. The gable end contains a small four-over-four light bay. The bays of the house are segmentally-arched with molded wooden frames. The central entry is also set in an arched surround. Two interior chimneys pierce the roof. The interiors are plain but original.

## SOUTH CHERRY STREET, East Side, north to south

2           109   Dr. O. L. Joyner House.   C   ca. 1920.   This one-story frame bungalow originally was on the corner of Mountain and Cherry streets, but was moved one lot south when a service station was built on the corner in the 1980s. The dwelling is sheltered by a nearly pyramidal roof with exposed rafter ends, which engages a full-facade porch on posts and piers. A hip-roofed dormer with paired sash is located on the front facade and the roof is pierced by two interior chimneys. There is a one-story rear ell.

3           201   Rufus Harmon House.   C   ca. 1860, 1953.   This one-story frame house was built by Rufus Harmon, son of Salome and Apollos Harmon, on South Main Street across from his parents' home (#36). It was moved here from South Main Street when Harmon Park was established in the early 1950s. The house has a modest facade gable, and is three bays wide, with exterior end chimneys.

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SOUTH MAIN STREET, West Side, north to south

4 100 (former) Bank of Kernersville. C 1903. [George Fulp, owner; W. S. Linville, builder]. Built in 1903 for the first Bank of Kernersville, this two-story common-bond brick building has some of the most ornate brickwork remaining in the town. The narrow three-bay facade has segmentally-arched bays separated by plain brick pilasters which support a staggered corbelled frieze with a cornice above consisting of a sawtooth and mousetooth bands. The exposed Mountain Street side and rear elevations also have segmentally-arched bays and the mousetooth band continues the cornice. The interiors have been completely remodeled.

5 106 John King Store. N ca. 1879, ca. 1950. This two-story brick commercial building originally resembled the (former) Bank of Kernersville (#4) in its decorative brick work. Mr. King sold the store in 1882 to his brother, Jim King, who operated a general store there. The Firm of Fulp and Linville operated a general store here for many years. In the mid-twentieth century the entire front facade was reveneered, the storefront was remodeled and the second floor bays were altered, completely obliterating these details. Its former style is revealed in the decorative paneling and corbelling on the south side facade where the building extends above its next-door-neighbors, 100 (#4) and 108 South Main Street (#6).

6 108-10 Carello Building. N 1946. This two-story building is constructed of running bond brick with a flat roof with coping. The first floor consists of a replacement plate glass store front with central entrance. The second floor is unaltered with a central bay consisting of four sets of casement windows with continuous cement lintel and paneled "transoms" flanked by smaller one-over-one sash bays with infilled transoms. Centrally located above the central bay is a small panel with "CARELLO" in relief. The effect is of a late Chicago Style-inspired structure which, although too modern to be considered contributing, is still a positive element within the district.

7 112 Commercial Building. N ca. 1950. This one-story brick commercial building has plate glass display windows flanking the central entrance. The flat roof has cement coping.

8 114 Commercial Building. N ca. 1950. This building closely resembles 112 South Main Street (#7), being a one-story brick commercial structure with plate glass display windows, central entrance, and coped flat roof.

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9 116 Commercial Building. N ca. 1950, 1980. This one-story brick building was once similar to its neighbors at 112 and 110, (#7, 6) but has recently been renovated. The facade has been infilled and a shingled awning has been added to the front. The entrance is now to the side, and is sheltered by a carport.

10 (DEMOLISHED AUGUST 1987)  
132 Carriage Repair Shop. C ca. 1890. The two-story building is still remarkable intact both inside and out. The three-bay facade has a segmentally-arched doorway which has been infilled with a window, and the garage bay, although it now contains a storefront and entrance. The second floor has three bays with the end bay separated from the others with a pilaster, and a segmentally-arched panel containing all three bays. The lintels remain, but the windows have been boarded over. A diamond paneled motif is found in each corner and is repeated in the diamond ventilator at the center. The side elevations are approximately five bays deep (the number varies on each side and each floor), and the bays are flat-arched. The roof is flat with a slight parapet at the front. The remains of a two-story wooden rear porch remain. In the 1910s this building housed the "Forsyth News" offices and plant. NOTE: This building is being demolished (August 1987). The rear two-thirds have been torn down, leaving the facade standing for the present.

11 (DEMOLISHED AUGUST 1987)  
100 block Fruit Stand. N ca. 1950. A small three-bay block building. NOTE: This building was demolished after the inventory and accompanying maps were prepared, August 1987.

12 100 block Harmon Park. N At his death in 1948 DeWitt Harmon left his office (#13) and surrounding land to the town of Kernersville, which developed the property as a community park. Playground equipment and a picnic pavillion have been built and the lot, which stretches through the block, has been landscaped.

13 150 Harmon Office. C ca. 1928. [DeWitt Harmon, owner]. DeWitt Harmon, an engineer and businessman, built this diminutive office in the late 1920s. The tiny three-by-two-bay building is sheltered by a nearly pyramidal hip roof which is pierced by a central interior chimney. The bays are flat-arched and contain one-over-one sash, with a diamond and lozenge arrangement in the top pane of the front facade bays. The central entrance is has leaded sidelights and is surmounted by a fanlight. The entry sheltered by a one-bay gabled portico on slender columns and pilasters. The office served DeWitt Harmon's business needs, and he kept town records there for years. At his death in 1948 Harmon left the office to the town of Keernersville for use by the citizens of the town. It sits at one corner of Harmon Park (#12) which lies between Main and Cherry streets.

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(Harmon Lane)

14 200 Ralph Fagg House. N ca. 1945. This dwelling is in the Normanesque Revival style, constructed of rough textured brick with slate roof. The L-shaped house has a steep gabled front projecting ell with triple casement windows on the first floor and paired glass doors giving onto a dimiutive balcony on the second floor. The side section has a broad, low, gabled roof with clipped gable ends and an extension of the roofline to engage the wraparound porch which is supporte by square columns with arched brackets. There are three clipped-gable dormers and an exterior end chimney on the side projection. On the north side of the house the yard is graded to provide access to the garage which is built under the side of the house.

15 200 block S & R Motor Company. C ca. 1928, ca. 1970. [Clay Smith and Carey Ragland]. The principal facade consists of three show windows flanked by end entrances. A tiled bracketed hood shelters the second floor casement bays. The building is seven bays deep; the rear five bays have been infilled. A "double-wide" modular office has been added to the north side.

16 200 block Southern Pride Car Wash. N ca. 1985. This is a prefabricated carwash consisting of two bays flanking a center section. This and the Pantry (#17; ca. 1985) occupy the site of the S. G. Ring House.

17 200 block Pantry. N ca. 1985. This is a brick and plate glass convenience store built on the site of the S. G. Ring House.

18 228 Richard P. Kerner House. C 1867. Typical two-story common-bond brick dwelling built in 1867. It is a center hall plan dwelling, one-room deep, under a low gabled roof. The original center hall plan has been altered somewhat by the enclosure of a portion of the rear hall to create space for bath facilities. The bays on the principal facade consist of paired four-over-four sash. Side bays contain six-over-six sash. The entry has modest transom and sidelights sheltered by a mid-twentieth replacement eliptical hood on slender columns. The rear two-story rear ell is contemporary with the construction of the dwelling; the two-story rear porch has been enclosed and a one-story kitchen ell has been added. The modern brick garage is now attached to the house by a breezeway.

18 A C The front and side yards are enclosed by an early wrought iron fence.

(Tanyard Lane)

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19 300 Crawford House. C Ca. 1920. This one-story bungalow is now owned by the Methodist Church and is used as offices. The one-story frame bungalow features an engaged porch on posts and piers, and interior chimneys. Both house and garage appear on the 1924 Sanborn Insurance Map.

19 A C Ca. 1920. Frame garage converted to office space, contemporary with the dwelling.

20 304 Methodist Parsonage. N 1950. In keeping with much of the contemporary domestic architecture of Kernersville, this two-story brick-veneered dwelling is constructed in the Colonial Revival style. One-story wings, a room and a porch, project from either side of the main block; all are sheltered by gabled roofs. The central entry is sheltered by a 2-story portico on square columns.

21 306 Main Street United Methodist Church. C ca. 1924/25. The land for a Methodist church was donated by John Frederick Kerner, whose wife was a Methodist, in 1837. The present Neoclassically-styled church was built in 1924/5. The two-story brick building has a front-gabled roof which extends to create a pedimented portico supported by four large Ionic columns. The porch shelters round-arched bays with keystones and a central double-leaf entry surmounted by a fanlight. The building sits on a raised basement; the watertable is defined by a stone band. Side bays contain round-arched stained glass memorial windows. The interior is still principally intact, with a broad arch over the altar, pressed tin ceiling and white glass lamps suspended from the ceiling. Doors on either side of the sanctuary lead to the educational facilities at the rear.

21 A N 1961. Education Wing, also of brick, connected to the sanctuary by a breezeway. A second brick education wing is presently under construction to the rear of this facility. A balcony stretches across the street/front end of the building.

21 B C Cemetery with a variety of nineteenth and twentieth century stones lies to the rear and south of the Main Street Methodist Church

22 312 Nathaniel M. Kerner House. C 1857. As with many of the Kerner family houses, this two-story dwelling was built of common-bond brick. The main block and rear ell are sheltered under gabled roofs with a broad bracketed cornice. Exterior stepped-shouldered chimneys rise at either end of the main block. The bays contain six-over-six sash; the entry is the central bay. The second floor contains only two bays. The house is hall-and-parlor plan with a stair rising along the south interior wall. The interior has been altered over the years, and rooms have been added to the rear and south side, but the main block retains its Greek Revival mantels, surrounds, and flat-paneled wainscot.

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23 402 Kerner & Greenfield Tobacco Factory. C 1884, 1986. In the 1880s tobacco was the principal industry in Kernersville. The Kerner and Greenfield Tobacco Factory is one of two surviving factories in Kernersville. Built for J. M. Greenfield and his brother-in-law, Theodore Kerner, this three-story common-bond brick building has a flat roof stepped back from the street and with modest mousetooth band as cornice. In 1986 the factory was converted to condominiums. The front facade consists of three segmentally-arched bays with a central entrance on the first and second floors. The bays are defined by pilasters and a corbelled band between the second and third floor bays which creates a paneled effect. The one-story porch has been replaced. The interior has been completely renovated, with the exception of the massive columns which have been incorporated into the interior decor. A sun room has been added to the rear and porches to the sides.

24 404 W. O. Doggett House. C ca. 1920. [W. O. Doggett, owner and builder.] This is one of three houses built by W. O. Doggett who resided in this house. All three dwellings appear on the 1924 Sanborn Insurance Map. This modest frame bungalow has a front gabled roof with a lower gabled projection which contains a paired bay and a one-bay engaged porch supported by pylons on piers. The roof has decorative bracketing and the forward gabled end contains a three-part bay.

24 A C Ca. 1920. A frame double garage shared with 406 South Main Street (#25; ca. 1920).

25 406 R. L. Vereen House. C ca. 1920, 1950. [W. O. Doggett, builder.] This is one of three adjacent modest bungalows built in the early 1920s. All three houses appear on the 1924 Sanborn Insurance Map. This house has a front-gabled roof but the porch has been enclosed to create rooms. The central entry has a one-bay stoop with later styled bays flanking it.

26 408 J. W. Woolen House. C ca. 1920. [W. O. Doggett, builder.] This is the third of three adjacent bungalows built by Doggett in the early to early 1920s. All three houses appear on the 1924 Sanborn Insurance Map. This house has a front-gabled roof with a lower gabled projection which contains paired nine-over-one bays. The porch stretches across and along the south side of the main block, and is supported by pylons on piers.

27 414 Dr. Elias Kerner House. C 1857. A two-story brick house, five bays wide, with three-bay two-tiered gabled portico and exterior end chimneys. There are a two-story frame addition and a one-story shed rear additions, and a gallery connects the house to the garage. The house follows a center hall plan, one room deep, with the closed-string stair with flat sawn baluster, rising along the south wall of the hall. The interior woodwork is Greek Revival in styling, with post-and-lintel mantels, paneled doors and original

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hardware. The house sits on a large and beautifully landscaped lot with mature magnolias, oaks, and floral plantings.

28 418 James P. and Addie Kerner Adkins House. C ca. 1890. Two-story frame gabled dwelling with a "triple-A" gabled roof with decorative shingling in the gable ends and a one-story rear ell. There is a single stepped-shouldered chimney on the north end of the house. The interior follows a center hall plan one room deep with a closed string stair with turned balusters rising along the south wall of the hall. The entry is the center bay in the three-bay facade and is flanked by narrow sidelights. A nearly full-facade hip-roofed porch extends across the main facade.

28 A C Early twentieth century frame garage to the rear of the house.

(Moravian Lane)

29 504 Kernersville Moravian Church. C 1867, 1888, 1892, 1922, 1952, 1962. [Nelson Campbell, mason; Julius Harmon, architect; Joseph J. Kerner, Robert Fulton, Mr. Hemphill, Dawson McCuiston and George Stuart, carpenters.] The core of the Kernersville Moravian Church was built in 1867 on land donated to the congregation by John Frederick Kerner who had donated land to the Methodist congregation thirty years before. The church's main block is a brick gabled-front building with a three-tiered steeple crowning the vestibule which is flanked by one-bay side porches sheltering the entries. The vestibule and steeple were added about 1888. A three-part stained glass window in Gothic arched surrounds is located in the end of the vestibule. The interior of the church was remodeled in 1892 and in 1917 the side galleries were removed. The interior was remodeled again in 1962. In 1922 an education wing was added to the side of the sanctuary. It is also of brick, and has a side-gabled roof, in keeping with the original block. A later wing was added to the rear in 1952.

29 A N Erick community building was built across the parking lot in the mid-twentieth century.

29 B C A cemetery lies to the rear of the church, with a brick-walled family plot for members of the Kerner family. Each grave is marked by a square slab of concrete with a flat stone on top of it with names, dates and inscriptions engraved in it, making the cemetery uniform.

29 C C The entire cemetery is enclosed in a wrought iron fence.

30 600 Mrs. Pauline Fulton House. C ca. 1920. One-story L-plan house with shed porch across the long leg of the "L" on posts and piers. There is a

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one-story rear shed, original to the house. This house appears on the 1924 Sanborn Insurance Map.

30 A C Frame garage contemporary with the house.

31 602 S. L. Lowery House. N ca. 1940s. This one-story brick-veneered dwelling has a side-gabled block with a gabled front projection, gabled porch hood and interior end chimney.

32 604 Charles Collicutt House. N ca. 1950. This is a low two-story brick-veneered dwelling with full facade two-story porch on slender square columns. The style is vaguely mid-twentieth century Colonial Revival, with central entrance in a Colonial Revival style frontispiece.

33 610 Gentry-Greenfield House. C ca. 1860, ca. 1880, ca. 1900. This two-story frame dwelling was originally a typical, vernacular "I" house built about 1860 for John W. Gentry, a local merchant. The house was purchased by John Greenfield in 1881 (see Kerner and Greenfield Tobacco Factory, #23; 1884, 1986) from Lexington, N. C. The house was heavily altered by Greenfield in the Colonial Revival style. The house has a low pitched gabled roof, exterior end chimney on north end and a one-story rear ell. The one-bay gabled porch is a replacement, probably from the remodeling of the house.

33 A N Frame Barn, turn-of-the-century, in ruinous condition.

33 B N Frame garage, early 20th century, in ruinous condition.

33 C N Frame outbuilding, turn-of-the-century, in ruinous condition.

34 620 Theodore E. Kerner House. C 1877. This is the archtypical "Kerner" house. It is a two-story L-shaped brick house with rear additions constructed of common bond brick. The bays are arched with decorative brick drip molds of soldier courses. There are round-arched ventilators in the gable ends. Chimneys are interior and a later breezeway connects the house to the garage. There is a one-story rear ell. The porch shelters the central entry with sidelights and arched transom, and one bay in the leg of the "L". Posts are replacements, possibly the porch is replacement, too. The shutters and hardware with original locks, are original to the construction of the house. The interior is a center hall plan with two rooms to the south and one to the north. An open string stair rises along the north wall of the hall. The mantels are post and lintel, with decorative paneling. The house sits on a large landscaped lot with mature plantings.

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SOUTH MAIN STREET, east side, north to south

35 101 Pinnix Drugstore. C [John Pinnix, owner]. 1904, ca. 1930; 1986. This two-story brick drugstore originally featured the decorative brickwork of the turn-of-the-century. About 1930 it was remodelled in an austere version of the Colonial Revival style, with large multi-paned display windows and Colonial-style frontispieces at the entries. It remained virtually unaltered until late 1986 when it was renovated for office use. The exterior was altered by the replacement of all sash, and new partitions were made on the interior, however, the form, position of the bays, and the molded cornice remain intact.

36 149 Harmon House. C 1858, ca. 1880, 1926, ca. 1970. [Julius Kerner Harmon]. This house has undergone many alterations from its original two-story log form. The house was built for Julius Kerner Harmon in 1858. The frame northern section was added about 1880 to make the plan a center hall, and a rear ell was also added. In the late 1920s DeWitt Harmon, son of the original owners, completely remodeled the house to its present exterior appearance with the exception of the gallery, which is later. Some of the ca. 1928 interior remodeling remains, although considerable remodeling has been undertaken in the last fifteen years. The exterior is weatherboarded, and the main block is three-bays wide, and two deep. The roof is a side-gable pierced by three gabled dormers. There is a porte cochere to the side and a later gallery with deck across the front facade, replacing an earlier one-story hip roofed porch. The interior plan was a center hall, but the partition has been removed from the southern room, creating a large room, with parlor to the side. The mantels date from the Colonial Revival remodeling of the 1920s, but the floors have been covered with teak in the last fifteen years. The stair is between the southern front room and the rear two-story ell. DeWitt Harmon (see Harmon and Reid Roller Mill) made a fortune working for the Reynolds Tobacco Company and had the house remodeled in the Colonial Revival style shortly before the Crash of 1929.

36 A C Ca. 1928 In the side yard are remnants of once-expansive formal gardens and a glass and stone greenhouse.

36 B C Ca. 1928 To the rear is a frame garage, contemporary with the ca. 1928 remodeling of the house.

37 217 Elias Kerner Huff House. C 1880. Gwynne Taylor, who made an inventory of Forsyth County in 1979 called this house perhaps the best extant Victorian cottage in Forsyth County. Huff was a local carpenter who also worked for Jule Kerner's Reuben Rink Decorating Company; some of the detailing found in this house is also found at Korner's Folly (#43' 1880, NR). The main

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block of the house is under a side-gabled roof with facade gable which is incorporated into the wraparound porch. There is an exterior end chimney at either end of this block. There are additions to the rear and a story and a half addition with a low hip roof to the south side which contains the bathroom. The main facade is three bays wide, with six-over-six sash windows. In the southwest corner is a diagonal projecting bay. Wrapping around the main and south side facades is an ornate porch with the central facade gable and a lower, offset gable to the side/corner. Each gable end contains lacy sawn bargeboards and decorative shingles. There is a spindle frieze and lattice work at the offset angle. The porch is supported by turned posts. At the main entrance is a curved latticed screen. Huff was active in the community and organized the first band in the town and he built a tiny band room in his side yard to accommodate the band's practice sessions. The building originally sat with its gable end to the street, but was turned, the roof changed, and joined to the house to accommodate Huff's growing family. There is an entrance to the band room composed of double doors with solid panels with eight panes of glass above and a bracketed hood shelters it. This tiny room is fairly simply finished on the exterior, but the interior features a wealth of turned and sawn ornament, including mirrored overmantels. The lacy decorative work on the exterior of the house is repeated in the interiors. The center-hall-plan house is one room deep, with rear ell. The hall has delicate spindle and sawn work arches and much turned work. The wainscot is composed of beaded sheathing with turned and ornamented door surrounds. Mantels are also composed of turned and sawn work. The house now contains a gift shop and a restaurant..

38 223 Elizabeth Sparks House. N ca. 1940. Brick-veneered one-and-a-half story Colonial Revival cottage with full-facade porch with flat wrought-iron balustrade, and exterior end chimney to north.

38 A N Ca. 1940. Front-gabled frame garage.

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39 225 Rephelius Byron Kerner House. C ca. 1870. This two-story brick building is typical of the Kerner houses built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century in Kernersville. The L-shaped house follows a center hall plan with a large room to the north and a smaller room to the south. A one-story rear ell houses the kitchen and bath facilities. The bays are segmentally-arched with drop lintels, with round ventilators in the gable ends. The entry is a single leaf door with oval glass and sidelights in arched openings. The porch stretches across the side wing with a projecting gabled entry hood on slender columns and lacy bracketing. The porch has been enclosed to create a sun porch, but retains its posts, flat sawn balustrade, and decorative bracketing. Rephelius Byron Kerner was the great-grandson of Joseph Kerner. See Theodore Kerner House (#34; 1877).

40 303 Henry C. Korner House. C 1889. Henry C. Korner built this house for his mother, the widow of Philip Korner, in 1889. The house is L-shaped with a center hall plan. There are two unequal rooms on either side of the hall, and a rear ell which contains the kitchen. The southern front room features a three-part bay projection and a late Victorian mantel with mirrored overmantle. Behind this room is a smaller room, also with mantel and overmantel. To the north the rooms are more more equal in size with a central chimney serving fireplaces on the interior dividing wall. Door surrounds are fluted with mitered blocks, and throughout the house the wainscot consists of tooled leather which has been painted. Caesar Milch executed murals in the coved ceilings of the two front rooms, but these have also been painted over. Set in the angle of the "L" is a one-bay gabled porch supported by bracketed turned posts. Gable ends contain decorative shingling and turned gable end decorations. Over the three-part bay in the front projection is a decorative hood.

40 A C Early 20th century frame garage.

41 307 Spears House. C 1834, mid-20th c. This tiny one-story frame dwelling appears to date from the early to mid-nineteenth century although some changes have been made, particularly to the porch. The side-gabled roof extends over the sidelighted entry to create a small porch. There is an exterior end chimney on the south end of the house. The owners found a dated brick in the chimney when the interior of the house was renovated.

42 311 Bodenhamer Store. C ca. 1910. This two-story commercial structure sits in the "V" created by the junction of Salisbury and Main streets. The store retains much of its original detailing in spite of its recent renovation as offices. The two-story common bond brick building is T-shaped, with the stem of the T facing the street. A low hip roof with modillion cornice and interior end chimneys shelters the building. The bays are round-arched with four-over-four sash. The first floor facade has been enclosed, but retains the surrounds of the two original display windows which flank the

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central double leaf door. Paneled pilasters rise at either corner and the cornice has heavy drop corbelling. The side bays of this front section are round-arched on the second floor with paired eyebrow lights on the first floor. The bays in the rear section are round-arched facing the street and flat-arched on the rear facade. The interior has been completely remodeled and a two-story deck has been added at the rear; otherwise, the exterior is intact.

43        400 block Korner's Folly. C 1880. NR. This two-and-a-half story brick dwelling was constructed between 1878 and 1880 for Jules Gilmer Korner, a grand-son of Joseph Kerner. The house contains 22 rooms on four floors on seven levels, 20 fireplaces, and an attic theater, third floor ballroom, and massive entryhall with twenty-five foot ceilings in some rooms. The house originally flanked a carriage way and stables, with studio space in addition to domestic spaces. Korner was an artist, interior decorator and builder who used his dwelling as a showcase for his talents. Much of the woodwork was executed by Elias Kerner Huff (see Elias Kerner Huff House, #37), with murals done by Caesar Milch (see Henry Korner House, #40). Korner married Polly Alice Masten in 1886, and at that time Korner enclosed the massive carriage way through the center of the house to provide elegant vestibule, hall, dining and breakfast rooms. As work progressed on the house neighbors began calling the house "Korner's Folly"; when Korner heard the name he adopted it and had it inlaid in the tile of his front porch floor. The house has served a number of uses over the years and has sometimes stood vacant. Its ownership is now a corporation of family and interested people who are trying to restore the property, and who open the house during the spring, summer and fall to tours.

43 A C ca. 1880 Frame smokehouse.

43 B C ca. 1880 Brick privy.

43 C C ca. 1880 Frame Arbor.

44        503 (Archer Glass Museum). C ca. 1900, mid-twentieth century. This two-story frame house has a full-facade porch which has been enclosed and incorporated into a one-story side wing. The house has one-story rear additions as well. The exposed side-gable ends contain decorative shingling and attic lights with colored glass surrounds. The building now houses a glass museum and dwelling.

44 A N Mid-20th century block garage.

45        509 House. N ca. 1960. A modern brick-veneered ranch house with nearly full-facade porch.

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46 511 Meredith House. C 1893. This one-story retarditaire Greek Revival cottage was rebuilt after a fire in 1893. The low hip-roofed frame dwelling has a full-facade porch with Victorian turned posts and lacy sawn brackets, and gabled entry. The interior is a center-hall plan, two rooms deep, with interior chimneys. The back porch was enclosed to create additional rooms.

46 A C Early twentieth century frame garage.

46 B C Late nineteenth century frame wellhouse.

(Pine Street)

47 601 Rufus Hastings House. C 1880s. A two-story frame house with replacement siding, this center hall plan house is one-room deep, with one-story rear ell. The side-gabled roof has bracketed cornice, and the full-facade porch is supported by turned posts with sawn brackets and spindle frieze. The exterior end chimneys are in poor condition.

47 A C Early 20th century frame garage.

47 B C Early 20th century frame smoke house.

47 C C Early 20th century frame storage building.

47 D C Early 20th century frame storage building.

47 E C Early 20th century frame storage building.

48 605 Elliott Larston House. C ca. 1900. This one-story frame L-plan cottage has a shed porch with square posts across one leg of the "L". Sash is six-over-six. There is an exterior chimney on north end of the main block and a one-story rear ell.

49 615 P. A. Fountaine House. C ca. 1920. This one-story bungalow was the first pre-fabricated house to be built in Kernersville. The house was brought in sections on trucks. It has a side-gabled main block with asymmetrical facade gabled section, and low engaged porch on posts and pylons. All gable ends are bracketed.

50 623 Professor J. M. Weatherly House. C ca. 1890. This two-story frame dwelling was the home of J. M. Weatherly, principal of the Kernersville School at the turn of the century. It has a side-gabled roof with central facade gable with a small Eastlake-style window. Sash is two-over-two light. The central entry, composed of double leaf doors with a single pane of glass in each, is sheltered by a replacement one-bay gabled porch. There are exterior end chimneys and a small one-story bay wing with entry.

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51 625 Flynt House. C ca. 1900. One-story frame turn-of-the-century dwelling with habitable attic and rear ell. There are stepped-shouldered exterior end common-bond brick chimneys and a nearly full facade hip roofed porch on replacement bracketed posts.

51 A C ca. 1920 Two-bay frame garage.

WEST MOUNTAIN STREET, south side

52 111 Commercial Building. N ca. 1910, 1980. The early twentieth century brick commercial building on this lot has a replacement facade with replacement bays which obliterate any original detail. The rear and side walls retain infilled segmentally arched bays.

53 117 Sam F. Vance Sr. House. C ca. 1900. This is perhaps the most intact Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style house in Kernersville. The frame dwelling is two and a half stories in height, with a nearly pyramidal roof with lower cross gables. A one-story hip-roofed rear wing is original to the house. Gable ends contain Palladian-inspired three-part bays. A one-story porch wraps across the front and down each side of the main block, and is supported by Tuscan columns. The interior is irregular with an off-center entry leading into a corner room/hall, and to the rear and side rooms. The interior trim is Colonial Revival with typical mirrored overmantels with full-length columns and reeded wainscot. The house has been empty for some time, and is in poor condition, but is presently undergoing rehabilitation.

54 127 David A. Bodenhamer House. C ca. 1890. A two-story frame side-gable dwelling with exterior end brick chimneys. The house is a center hall plan, three bays wide, with central entrance. The facade is sheltered by a nearly full-facade hip roofed porch. There is a one-story rear ell, two bays deep.

SALISBURY STREET

55 412 Sam F. Vance, Jr. House. N 1834, 1942. This one-and-a-half story frame dwelling was remodeled in the Colonial Revival style, both inside and out in 1942 when the Sam Vances' acquired the house. The original cottage was built about 1834 and the ceilings of the two front rooms retain flush board ceilings. The exterior double-shouldered chimneys are also original. The present owners maintain that the interior walls are built over the original walls; this is plausible, given the depth of the walls.

55 A N Mid-20th century garage.

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56 411 House. C A ca. 1900. Two-story frame house with front projection with projecting three-part bay, and truncated hip roof with interior chimney. There is a one-story wing and one-story rear ell. The one-story with deck and balustrade porch is two bays wide and lies between the central front projection and the side of the house. The house has a spacious side yard with gardens.

### MORAVIAN LANE

57 Amos Mustian House. C ca. 1880. This low one-story frame dwelling appears to date from the mid-to-late-nineteenth century, although the house has been sheathed with asphalt siding. The plan appears to be two rooms flanking a central chimney with several additions to the rear and sides.

57 A N Late 19th century frame outbuilding, ruinous condition.

57 B N Late 19th century frame outbuilding, ruinous condition.

57 C N Late 19th century frame outbuilding, ruinous condition.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Exploration/Development  
Architecture  
Commerce  
Industry

Period of Significance

ca. 1834-1930

Significant Dates

1880  
1884  
1903

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Korner, Jules Gilmer  
Various/Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The South Main Street Historic District in Kernersville, North Carolina, is a six-block-long section containing a significant concentration of historic buildings dating from the formation of this crossroads community in the early nineteenth century, through its development as a railroad town in the 1870s, its late nineteenth century industrial boom, and the diversification of its economy as an early twentieth century commercial center. Among the fifty-four principal buildings are thirty houses, dating from the 1830s to 1930; seven stores and other commercial buildings dating from the 1880s to 1930, two of the originally established churches of the settlement, with graveyards, and one remaining tobacco factory. The most important landmark in the district, already listed in the National Register, is Korner's Folly, an eccentric brick Victorian style mansion built by Jules Gilmer Korner, grandson of the original Kerner settler, Joseph Kerner, over a period of years, being substantially complete in 1880. Korner, under the pseudonym "Reubin Rink," was one of the first commercial artists in the South, and created a national reputation painting "Bull Durham" billboards to advertise for the Blackwell Tobacco Company, and later Duke Tobacco Company, of nearby Durham, North Carolina. The twenty-two room "Folly," containing a ballroom and a theatre, functioned as Kernersville's social center well into the twentieth century. The local Little Theatre still presents plays there in the summer. Seven other Kerner/Korner houses--substantial, architecturally significant Greek Revival and Italianate two-story brick houses dating from 1857 to 1889--face one another across South Main Street. These houses are a testament to the importance of the successive generations of Kerners to the growth of Kernersville in the nineteenth century. The Kerner and Greenfield Tobacco Factory, built in 1884, one of only two remaining tobacco factories in town, stands in the district. Although these pivotal buildings and the other contributing buildings possess considerable individual architectural significance, making the district eligible for the National Register under Criterion C, the chief significance

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of the district lies in its evocative mixture of dwellings, stores, and factory representing the quintessential Victorian small town main street. Kernersville is one of the few Victorian main streets which survive in North Carolina. While most Victorian main streets were long ago rebuilt with solid rows of commercial buildings, this mixture of industrial, commercial, and residential buildings make the South Main Street Historic District eligible for the Register under Criterion A because of their strong association with the settlement period of the nineteenth century.

Criteria Exceptions A, B and D apply to the South Main Street Historic District. There are two architecturally significant contributing churches in the district: Kernersville Moravian Church (#29; 1867, 1892), with its cemetery, and the Colonial Revival style Main Street United Methodist Church (#21; 1924/25), with its cemetery. Both cemeteries have examples of funerary art from the mid-nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Two houses in the district, the Dr. J. O. Joyner House (#2; ca. 1920) and the Rufus Harmon House (#3; ca. 1860) were moved in order to prevent demolition. The Joyner House was moved to the adjacent lot in the 1980s; the Harmon House was moved a few lots west to the present site in the 1950s.

The historic contexts found in the South Main Street Historic District encompass all those found in the Kernersville Multiple Resource Property nomination. The district contains representative examples of buildings from the settlement, "boom" period and the early twentieth century period of diversification and maturation.

The earliest known building in the town, the Spears House (#41; 1834) is located in the district, and examples of all the property types are also found there, including Greek Revival brick homes, later Italianate brick homes, including three representatives of the locally significant T- and L-shaped houses, both one and two-story frame Victorian houses, and several good examples of early twentieth century dwellings and commercial buildings, including the Bank of Kernersville and Bodenhamer's Store (#42; ca. 1910)

The first really distinct architectural style of domestic architecture in the South Main Street Historic District coincides with the transition of the crossroads to a village. During the 1850s and 1860s a number of two-story brick Greek Revival style houses were built by third-generation Kerners. The

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three surviving examples of the style are located along the 200 and 300 blocks of South Main Street, and attest to the popularity of the style and the relative prosperity of their builders who included Elias Kerner, a doctor who also operated a grist mill; and Richard P. Kerner who was involved in a number of businesses which included the inn, a general store, a tanyard, sawmill and cotton gin. (1)

In 1837 John Frederick Kerner donated a tract of land to the Methodist congregation, to which his wife belonged, and the congregation built a small frame church on the site. This is the oldest congregation, and the site of the first cemetery at the crossroads. (2) In 1867 John Frederick Kerner again donated land, this time to the Moravian congregation, which immediately built a modest brick church. (3) The core of the present sanctuary contains the walls of the original church, but has been remodeled and enlarged a number of times since its construction. To the rear lies the Moravian cemetery and a small brick-walled Korner family plot. The Moravian cemetery is not arranged in traditional choir formation, but is laid out in a neat grid pattern with uniform concrete slabs with stone tablets, keeping the spirit of the organization of earlier Moravian cemeteries.

The Civil War halted development at Kerner's Crossroads, but by 1871 the area had developed sufficiently to be incorporated into a town named after its founding family. (4) Two years later the Western North Carolina Railroad established a line through Kernersville, connecting the town to Greensboro to the east and Winston to the west. (5) The coming of the railroad and the recovery of the agricultural economy in the surrounding countryside provided the impetus for the rise of tobacco manufacturing in the district. (6).

The development of a manufacturing economy resulted in a period of growth in Kernersville which culminated in an important feature of the district: the development of decorative brickwork, both in residential and commercial and industrial buildings. Two examples of decorative brickwork in residential architecture of the 1870s survive within the district. Constructed of handmade brick laid in common bond, these houses are two stories in height and are either "L" or "T" plans with porches along the leg of the "T" or "L" which parallels the street, and decorative bay surrounds.

Of the five tobacco factories in Kernersville, one, the Greenfield Tobacco Factory (#23; 1884) still stands in the district at 402 South Main Street. This brick factory is three stories in height with segmentally-arched bays defined by pilasters which give the facade a paneled appearance. In fact, a promotional bulletin produced for the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce in 1888 stated that "... there are more brick residences, stores and factories in Kernersville than any other town of its size in the State." (7)

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The story of tobacco in the district would not be complete without mention of Jule Gilmer Korner (one branch of the family uses the spelling Korner) who worked for Duke Tobacco company as an artist. Korner was the grandson of Joseph Kerner. Jule Korner, operating as the Reuben Rink Decorating Company, was responsible for the "Bull Durham" signs which were the trademark of the company. Korner was joined by his younger half-brother, Henry (Henry Korner House #40; 1889), who was called "Little Reuben Rink". (8).

Certainly the epitome of the extravagance of late-nineteenth century architecture is found at Korner's Folly (#43; 1880, NR), the home of Jule Gilmer and Polly Anne Marston Korner. Korner, an interior decorator as well as an artist, built the house as a showcase of his decorating talents with twenty-two rooms on four levels and twenty fireplaces. This quote from the nomination of Korner's Folly to the National Register of Historic Places best sums up the significance of the Folly:

Korner's Folly, one of North Carolina's few spectacularly eccentric buildings, is a unique monument to one man's extraordinary imagination, combining a sense of fun and fancy with the ingenuity of the immigrant clockmaker and the exuberant, full-blown extravagance of the nineteenth century tobacco tycoons."

Korner began working in Kernersville in 1875, and it is likely that he supervised the building of a number of the 1870s brick houses and the 1880s commercial and industrial buildings, since they and the Folly share a number of stylistic features, including the decorative corbelling, panels and pilasters. It is known that he worked with Elias Huff (Elias Huff House, #37; 1880), a carpenter, and stylistic elements found at the Folly are found also in Huff's house. Korner also brought Cesar Milch, a German painter, to Kernersville to paint the murals in the Folly. Milch painted murals at the house Henry C. Korner (#40; 1889) built for his mother after his father died in 1889. The murals have deteriorated, and were painted over.

Korner's Folly was the focal point for much of the social life in the district during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Mrs. Korner organized a Little Theater which presented plays and musicals, and in 1897 Jule Korner converted the top floor of the Folly to a theater for their use. (9) The third floor was occupied by a ballroom where numerous parties were given. The local Little Theater continues to utilize the theater for its productions, and parties and receptions are still held in the ballroom.

The prosperity of the 1880s and 1890s might have ended when the tobacco conglomerates of other piedmont towns, particularly Winston and Durham, overtook the smaller manufacturies at the turn of the century. But Kernersville en-

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joyed a diversity of commercial enterprises, and the tradition of small family-operated businesses continued. The Kerner and Greenfield Tobacco Factory (#23; 1884) was converted to a hosiery mill. The (former) Bank of Kernersville (#4; 1903; photo B) opened January 1, 1903 at 100 South Main Street, and a year later Pinnix Drugstore (#35; 1904, ca. 1930, 1986) opened across Main Street. (10)

The late 1910s and early 1920s saw the introduction of the automobile as a major social and economic force in Kernersville. The second motor company in town, the S and R Motor Company (#15; ca. 1928), built by Clay Smith and Carey Ragland, opened in the 200 block of South Main about 1928. The building still stands, virtually unaltered, and still functions as part of the Chrysler dealership in town.

The 1920s were a period of growth for the churches in the district. The Kernersville Moravian Church (#29; 1867; 1888, 1892, 1922, 1952, 1962) added a large brick educational facility to the south in 1922, and the Main Street United Methodist Church congregation constructed their third sanctuary on the land donated by John Frederick Kerner in 1837. This 1924/25 brick Colonial Revival sanctuary is the best example of a Colonial Revival style church in Kernersville. It features a full-facade portico on Ionic columns, arched bays and belfrey, with education wings to the rear. Beyond the sanctuary is the cemetery, which dates from the mid-nineteenth century.

The advent of the Depression effectively halted growth in the district. There was virtually no new architectural fabric added along South Main Street until about 1940 when several homes were built. Growth continued slowly into the 1950s and 1960s, and the 1970s and particularly the 1980s have been an economic boom period within the district, with a renewed interest in development, particularly in residential development. The area has become a "bedroom" community for nearby Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem. The resulting development has destroyed much of the historic fabric in the heart of Kernersville, and South Main Street has its share of later homes interspersed with the older homes.

The history of the South Main Street Historic District is the story of numerous piedmont main streets. The initial settlement stage was followed by the development of industry and a mercantile community, finally taking on the trappings of a town, with attendant diversified industries and support businesses. Much historic fabric of the district has been lost in the last fifteen years to the dramatic growth of the area, but significant examples of the Greek Revival, Victorian and late-nineteenth/early-twentieth-century styles remain, along with significant commercial structures. The district retains its ambience of a turn-of-the-century piedmont town.

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### FOOTNOTES:

- 1 Korner, Joseph Gilmer. Joseph of Kernersville. Durham, N. C.: Siemans Printery, 1956, pp. 45-46; hereinafter cited as Joseph of Kernersville.
- 2 Bicentennial Committee. Kernersville, North Carolina, Bicentennial. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Co., 1971 revised 1976, p. 24; hereinafter cited as Bicentennial.
- 3 Bicentennial, p. 25; Joseph of Kernersville, p. 100.
- 4 Bicentennial, p. 11; the text of the statute of incorporation provided for the town to be called Kernersville; to encompass a circle 1 1/2 miles in radius from the Academy (demolished, but marked with a plaque); for elections to be held within three months, and afterwards on the first Monday in May; and for the incorporation to take place upon ratification (March 31, 1871).
- 5 Lefler, Hugh Talmadge, and Newsom, Albert Ray. North Carolina: History of a Southern State. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1974, p. 362.
- 6 Fries, Adelaide, et. al. Forsyth: The History of A County on the March. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1976, p. 160; hereinafter cited as Forsyth: The History of A County.
- 7 Robbins, D. P. "Descriptive Sketch of Winston-Salem, and Its Advantages and Surroundings," Winston-Salem: Sentennial Job Print, 1888, p. 85; hereinafter cited as "Descriptive Sketch."
- 8 Forsyth: The History of A County, p. 160. See also Bicentennial, pp. 77-78.
- 9 Bicentennial, p. 86.
- 10 Bicentennial, p. 78-81.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bicentennial Committee. Kernersville, North Carolina, Bicentennial. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing company, 1971, revised 1976.

Fries, Adelaide, et. al. Forsyth: The History of A county on the March. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1976.

Korner, Joseph Gilmer. Joseph of Kernersville. Durham, N. C.: Seimans Printery Inc., 1956.

Lefler, Hugh Talmadge, and Newsom, Albert Ray. North Carlina: The History of A Southern State. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1974.

Robbins, D. P. "Descriptive Sketch of Winston-Salem, and Its Advantages and Surroundings." Winston-Salem: Sentennial job Print, 1888.

See continuation sheet

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 45 acres, more or less

UTM References

A 

1	7
---	---

5	8	3	2	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	9	7	5	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 

1	7
---	---

5	8	3	0	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	9	6	7	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B 

1	7
---	---

5	8	3	4	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	9	7	4	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 

1	7
---	---

5	8	2	3	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	9	9	6	6	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The South Main Street Historic District consists roughly of those properties in the 100-600 blocks, bounded by Cherry, Salisbury and Mountain streets. See continuation sheet and enclosed tax map (scale 1" = 200') of the district with the boundary in bold outline.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The South Main Street Historic District is composed of the major concentration of remaining residential and commercial properties dating from the peiod of settlement, ca. 1834, through two major periods of development in Kernersville to 1930. The area being nominated is ringed with later twentieth century development.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia Oswald  
 organization Consultant, Survey and Planning Branch date October 1987  
 street & number Rt. 4, Box 20M telephone (919) 362-1725  
 city or town Apex state Apex zip code 27502

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## Verbal Boundary Description.

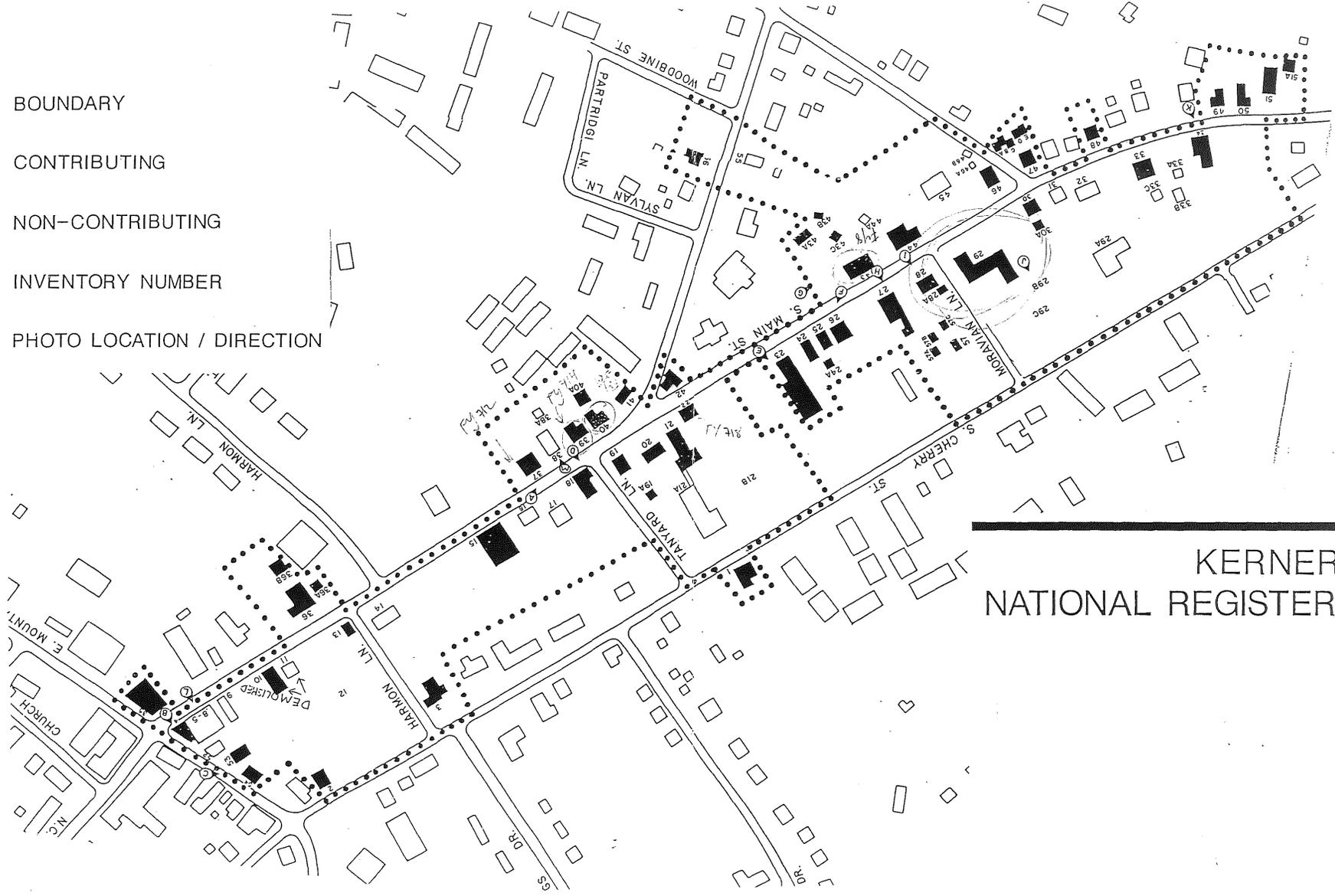
Beginning at the intersection of Main and Mountain sts. continue along the N side of E. Mountain St. 100' to the corner of the rear property line of 101 S. Main St.; turning S along the rear property line of 101 S. Main St. 125' to the side property line of 105 S. Main St.; turning W continue 150' to S. Main St.; turn S continue 350' along the E side of S. Main St. to 149 S. Main St.; turn E and continue 275' along the property line of 149 S. Main St. to the rear property line; turn south and continue 175' along the rear property line of 149 S. Main St. to the side property line of 149 S. Main St.; turn W continue 300' along the side property line of 149 S. Main St. to S. Main St.; turn south and continue 600' along the E side of S. Main St. to 217 S. Main St.; turn E and continue 250' along the property line of 217 S. Main St. to the rear property line of 217 S. Main St.; turn S and continue 400' along the rear property lines of S. Main St.; turn E along the side property line of 301 S. Main St. and continue 200' to the east side of Salisbury St.; then running 200' along the east side of Salisbury St. to the rear property line of 311 S. Main St, turning east and continuing 150' to the east side of S. Main St.; turn S along S. Main St. and continue 400' to the side property line of 415 S. Main St.; turn east and continue 250' following the side property line of 415 S. Main St., to the rear property line of 415 S. Main St.; turn NE and continue 200' along the rear property line of 415 S. Main St. to the side property line of 412 Salisbury St.; turn east and continue 450' along the side property line of 412 Salisbury St. crossing Salisbury St. and continuing along the side property line of 411 Salisbury St. to the rear property line of 411 Salisbury St.; then turn SE and continue 250' along the rear property line of 411 Salisbury St. to the N side of Woodbine St.; turn W and continue 550' along Woodbine St. continuing in a straight line along the side property line of 412 Salisbury St. to the rear property line of the east side of S Main St.; turn SW and continue 350' along the rear property lines of the E side of S. Main St. to Pine View St.; turn W and continue 200' along the S side of Pine View St., to the rear property line of 601 S. Main St.; turn S and continue 100' along the rear property line of 601 S. Main St. to the side property line of 601 S. Main St.; turn W and continue 100' along the side property line of 601 S. Main St. to the E side of S. Main St.; turn S and continue 150' along the E side of S. Main St. to the side property line of 605 S. Main St.; turn E and continue 200' along the side property line of 605 S. Main St. to the rear property line of 605 S. Main St.; turn SW and continue 100' along the rear property line of 605 S. Main St.; turn NW and continue 200' to the E edge of S. Main St.; turn S along the E side of S. Main St. and continue 275' along

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the E side of S. Main St. to the side property line of 615 S. Main St.; turn E and continue 250' along the side property line of 615 S. Main St.; turn S along the rear property line of the E side of S. Main St. and continue 250' along the rear property lines of the E side of S. Main St. to the side property line of 625 S. Main St.; turn W and continue 200' along the side property line of 625 S. Main St. to S. Main St.; turn N and continue 100' along the W side of S. Main St.; turn NW and continue 275' along the side property line of 620 S. Main St. to Cherry St.; turn N and continue 1150' along the E side of S. Cherry St. to the rear property line of the NW corner of S. Cherry St. and Moravian Lane; turn E and continue 250' along the rear property line of the NW corner of S. Cherry St. and Moravian Lane to the rear property lines of the W side of S. Main St.; continue 250' along the rear property line to the north side of 402 S. Main St.; turn E and continue 275' to the W side of S. Main St.; turn N and continue 200' along the W side of S. Main St. to the side property line of 312 S. Main St.; turn W and continue 450' along the side property line of 312 S. Main St. to S. Cherry St.; turn N and continue 250' along the E side of S. Cherry St. to the side property line of 302 S. Cherry St.; turn W and continue 200' crossing S. Cherry St. to the rear property line of 302 S. Cherry St.; turn N and continue 100' along the rear property line of 302 S. Cherry St. to the side property line of 302 S. Cherry St.; turn E along the side property line of 302 S. Cherry St. and continue 200' crossing S. Cherry St. to the E side of S. Cherry St.; turn N and continue 125' along the E side of S. Cherry St. to Tanyard Lane; turn E and continue 200' along Tanyard Lane to the rear property lines of the side of S. Main St.; turn N and continue 700' along the rear property lines of S. Main St. to the side property line of 2201 S. Cherry St., turning W along the side property line of 201 S. Cherry St. and continue 200' to the E side of S. Cherry St.; turn N and continue 500' along the E side of S. Cherry St. to the side property line of 109 S. Cherry St.; turn E and continue 150' along the side property line of 109 S. Cherry St. to the rear property line of 109 S. Cherry St.; turn N and continue 150' along the rear property line of 109 S. Cherry St. to the S side of W. Mountain St.; turn E and continue 425' along the S side of W. Mountain St. to the starting point.

# SOUTH MAIN STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

- ..... BOUNDARY
- CONTRIBUTING
- NON-CONTRIBUTING
- 50 INVENTORY NUMBER
- Ⓐ PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION



KERNERSVILLE  
NATIONAL REGISTER STUDY

