

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 Harrellsville Historic District

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

### 2. Location

street & number East and West Main Street; Quebec St.; Tar Landing Rd.  not for publication

city or town Harrellsville  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Hertford code 091 zip code 27942

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Jeffrey J. Crow, Acting SHPO 10/16/95  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Property

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
69	24	buildings
12		sites
4	1	structures
		objects
85	25	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- COMMERCE/department store
- COMMERCE/warehouse
- RELIGION/religious facility
- RELIGION/church-related residence
- FUNERARY/cemetery

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- COMMERCE/department store
- RELIGION/religious facility
- RELIGION/church-related residence
- FUNERARY/cemetery

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Greek Revival
- Queen Anne
- Bungalow/Craftsman

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation BRICK
- walls BRICK
- WOOD
- roof METAL
- other STONE
- BRICK

**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

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Development and Planning

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1811-1945

Significant Dates

1827

1847

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Harrellsville Historic District  
Name of Property

Hertford County, NC  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property approximately 150 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 8	3 3 8 6 2 0	4 0 1 9 2 2 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	1 8	3 3 9 7 8 0	4 0 1 8 8 8 0

3	1 8	3 3 9 7 2 0	4 0 1 8 3 4 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	1 8	3 3 8 8 2 0	4 0 1 8 1 8 0

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Penne Smith / Consultant

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date August 31, 1995

street & number 415 Evans Street Mall, Suite 1 telephone 919-758-1446

city or town Greenville state NC zip code 27858

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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Harrellsville Historic District  
Hertford County, NC

### Section 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification:

Colonial Revival

Other: transitional Federal-Greek Revival

Other: I-House

#### Materials:

roof: Wood

Asphalt

other: Wood

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Hertford County, N.C.

The village of Harrellsville rests on a slight rise in the southeastern corner of Hertford County, eleven miles southeast of Winton, and ten miles east of Ahoskie, North Carolina. It is a short distance -- about four miles -- from the Chowan River and a shorter distance still from the Wiccacon River; this proximity to the rivers, vital eighteenth- and nineteenth-century trade routes for this community, was once the lifeblood of Harrellsville's farmers and merchants. The center of town, Harrellsville's small commercial district (Photograph 2), is clustered around the intersection of Main Street (N.C. Highway 45), running west to east before dipping south in proceeding to the nearby town of Colerain; Quebec Street (SR 1002) running south to the hamlet of Trap in Bertie County; and Tar Landing Road (SR 1433), which terminates eight-tenths of a mile north at Tar Landing on the Wiccacon.

The town is surrounded by open expanses of cotton fields, thick pine and hardwood forests, and swampland. From its early nineteenth-century beginnings as Bethel's Crossroads to the present day, Harrellsville's principal business has nearly always been agriculture; swine, cotton, sweet potatoes, tobacco, peanuts, and even cucumbers have been important export products. Not surprisingly, part of the historic district consists of farmland -- the fields around the Abner Harrell-Askew-Britton property west and north of Main Street's junction with Quebec Street, then the large expanse of farmland beside and beyond Harrellsville's "new" Baptist Church on the south side of East Main Street (Photograph 3); there are smaller fields along the north side of East Main Street beyond the former Harrellsville School. Beyond the farmland and woods immediately surrounding Harrellsville are two early twentieth-century vernacular African American churches, the brick-veneered Harrellsville Chapel to the west (at the point formed by the junction of NC 45 and NC 561), and the frame Mount Pleasant Church to the southeast on NC 45, which has been documented as being built on land donated by John Bembury Sharp in 1873, and then by his nephew, Henry Clay Sharp, in 1905. The churches, although they represent the very small portion of the proposed historic district's African American community, are outside the designated boundaries but are, nonetheless, important community landmarks.

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Besides the river routes and its fertile soil, Harrellsville owes its existence to its roadways. In his unpublished history of Harrellsville, Dr. Thomas Parramore credits George Bond, an early nineteenth-century planter, for incepting the future town of Harrellsville, which would surpass the earlier settlements of Mount Pleasant on the Chowan River, and Pitch Landing on Chinkapin, or Chinquapin, Creek (a tributary of the Wiccacon). As Parramore frames it, Bond's plantation (which Abner Harrell bought from John Wilson, Bond's successor, in the late 1820s), at the intersection of the main public road between Edenton and Winton, and the road leading on to the Chowan River's mills and fisheries, had the advantages of better proximity to river and towns alike (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). The three principal roadways of the town were today's Main Street (cited as "the main public road" in Harrellsville's wills and deeds throughout the nineteenth century); the Tar Landing Road, which, according to the 1863 Gilmer Map (Exhibit A), once crossed over the Wiccacon Swamp and linked with what is now SR 1400, which meant it ran parallel to the Winton Road but was closer to the settlements along the Chowan River; and "the Quebeck Road", so named, according to local history, because a nineteenth-century ship captain said it reminded him of his Canadian home (Mason 1994; Almasy, 1868-1896: 46). The first residences in Harrellsville, beginning with Bond's house, were sited along Main Street, Tar Landing Road, and Quebec Street, and development of the town, until the 1950s, continued along these roads.

In this proposed historic district of Harrellsville, along the two principal streets -- Main and Quebec/Tar Landing -- there are ~~eighty-five~~ contributing resources including residences (many with contributing outbuildings), commercial buildings, and one industrial building. There are twenty-five noncontributing resources in the proposed historic district that were built after 1945. Two streets -- Sunset (formerly Ghysom) Avenue and Taylor Drive -- which briefly run south and north off East Main Street, were created between 1952 and 1962, but are outside of the immediate proposed historic district. With four exceptions, not including

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outbuildings, the majority of Harrellsville's still-surviving significant buildings were constructed between 1870 and 1940. Commercial and residential buildings in the proposed historic district are primarily of frame construction, although there are a few brick buildings dating between 1915 and 1940. Harrellsville's architectural examples begin with the transitional late Federal-Greek Revival style, then post-Civil War frame houses, Victorian-style residences influenced by the stylistic revivals so popular and prevalent in larger towns and cities, late nineteenth-century commercial frame buildings, composites of Queen Anne and the early Colonial Revival style, late nineteenth-century frame I-houses, frame Craftsman bungalows, and one early twentieth-century service station that is still intact. By 1938, according to an informal map drawn by Harry K. Evans of Harrellsville (Exhibit B), all of the significant buildings now in this proposed historic district were in place.

The one hundred and thirty year-span that is Harrellsville's central architectural period of significance, is intertwined with the destruction of older buildings and their replacement by newer structures. The town that Harrellsville is today is an aggregate of its earlier periods. For example, in his history of Harrellsville, Parramore cites a letter published in a July 1859 issue of the Wilmington (N.C.) Herald written from Harrellsville, describing the town as "a very pretty village" with "five stores, a Methodist Episcopal Church, a hotel, and many beautiful family residences, and an Academy, where five years ago there were but few houses (Parramore MS, Chapter Five)." Presently, the Methodist Church stands across the street from its former site (it was rebuilt in the 1870s); the Union Male Academy, which was founded in 1842, was torn down in 1893; and the five stores, most of the "beautiful family residences" and the hotel are no more. Fires in 1864, 1888, and 1913 destroyed most of these buildings, and new ones replaced them to redefine the village that remains Harrellsville (Askew 162; Parramore MS, Chapters Five and Six). The town has remained a quiet backwater Hertford County community from the early twentieth century. That the frame stores along Main and

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Quebec Streets have survived with nearly all their original exterior and interior features intact is extraordinary; in most towns, brick replaced frame with these type of commercial buildings by the early twentieth century.

Apart from the two contained post-1952 small neighborhoods of Taylor Drive and Sunset Avenues, which are not part of the proposed historic district, the building periods in Harrellsville are intermingled; the closest one can come to charting areas within the town as consciously developing within the same architectural period would be: the four Craftsman-style and late Victorian-early Colonial Revival-style cottages on the east side of Quebec Road; the six Craftsman style and transitional Minimal Traditional style frame and brick cottages on the north and south side of East Main Street; the north side of East Main Street beyond the commercial area, which, in the 1870s to 1890s, had Harrellsville's Baptist Church and two-story dwellings, and the four surviving turn-of-the-twentieth-century commercial/industrial frame buildings in Harrellsville's commercial district -- the R.C. Mason & Son Store, the former W.A. Holloman Store, Hunter Taylor's former tin-sided warehouse, and Judge Blythe's one-story office. The earlier house lots are irregular in size. The later house lots, between 1905 and 1938, tend to adhere more to a quadrangular, regular shape. Houses on West and East Main Street are almost all set back from the street and are landscaped with shrubs, small flowering trees, and a few flower beds; nearly all the East Main Street houses have mature oak, pine, and pecan trees, which screen the houses from a distant view; the West Main Street houses are, comparably, barer. Quebec Street's houses are closer to the street, on a slight elevation at the north end of the street, with pine trees demarcating some of the lot boundaries. Farmland runs along the west side of Tar Landing Road, but the trees that obscure a direct view of the houses on the east side, one of which is a contributing structure, are mature beech trees and pines. According to elderly Harrellsville residents, there had been an avenue of elm trees, planted in the late nineteenth century by Henry Clay Sharp, a local landowner who was also Hertford County's Registrar of Deeds, that originally lined Main Street;

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confirming evidence of this can be seen in documentary photographs of East Main Street taken between 1907 and 1915. The trees, however, were gone by 1941, and the immediate commercial district has remained devoid of trees ever since.

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**Methodology**

The following references were used in preparing the inventory: The 1992 survey fieldwork files for Harrellsville executed by the Eastern Office of the Division of Archives and History; 1920 U.S. Census Records; the 1938 sketch map of Harrellsville drawn by Harry Evans (Exhibit B); and interviews with Harrellsville residents.

The inventory list is keyed to the accompanying sketch map and is organized street-by-street. It begins with the north side of Main Street from west to east; then, the south side of Main Street from east to west. Tar Landing Road is organized from south to north, on the east side. The east side of Quebec Street from north to south, and then the west side of Quebec Street from south to north concludes the keyed sketch map and inventory list.

**Key:**

C= Contributing Building  
NC= Non-contributing Building  
N/A= Neither contributing nor non-contributing (empty lots)  
C-si= Contributing sites (woodlands, fields, cemeteries)  
NC-si= Non-contributing site  
C-st= Contributing structure  
NC-st= Non-contributing structure

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Harrellsville Historic District  
Hertford County, N.C.

## Inventory of Buildings

List	#	Address	Date	Ht.	Description
------	---	---------	------	-----	-------------

West Main Street (N.C. Highway 45), North Side, from West to East

- |      |   |         |          |   |   |
|------|---|---------|----------|---|---|
| C-si | 1 | W. Main | ca.1811- |   | Sharp Family Cemetery: The cemetery, located just northwest of the Abner Harrell House, is the burial ground for several generations of Harrellsville's nineteenth-century citizens. Beside the Sharp cemetery are the burial plots for Abner Harrell (1789-1865) and his family, and Dr. William and John L. Smith, the father and infant brother of William Nathan Harrell Smith, a prominent mid-nineteenth-century Raleigh (NC) lawyer. The earliest grave marker is dated 1811.  |
| C    | 2 | 112     | 1945     | 2 | Askew House: The brick Georgian Revival house with two one-story flanking side extensions, was built for John O. Askew, III, and his siblings Lillian C. and Grady Askew between 1938 and the mid-forties. The Askew House has a centered front-gable portico entrance supported by doric columns. Unusual exterior features of this house include the three-part windows (a modern adaptation of tripartite windows), and the side exterior brick chimneys, each forming a segmental arch enclosure around the second story window. Builder was T.J. Byrd of Bertie County, North Carolina.  |
| C    | 3 | 112 1/2 | ca.1811  | 2 | Abner Harrell House: This house and its immediate surviving period outbuildings comprise the oldest collection of buildings in Harrellsville. The house is a Federal period frame two-story, side gable, which is five bays across, and has a hipped roof. It has retained many Federal style elements including much of its original beaded weatherboard siding; a two-story front-gable porch (the columns and lower porch were replaced by a Neoclassical Revival full facade hipped roof porch in the early 1900s) with flush sheathing and unusual transomed doorways; and a denticulated cornice with wood modillion blocks, which wraps around the roof and can be seen at the portico's pediment. There is a lunette with a molded sunburst in the pediment's tympanum. The interior, which was partly remodeled at the turn of the twentieth century, also has original elements such as wood graining and marbling on the |

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List #	Address	Date	Ht.	Description
				baseboards and doors, and vernacular tripartite wooden mantelpieces. The house is presently vacant.
C 3a		ca.1811	1	<b>Frame Pyramid-Roof Dairy:</b> This weatherboarded dairy with plaster cove cornice is adjacent to the house. The dairy still retains its plastered interior, the wooden ventilator grille which wraps around below the cornice, and some original beaded-weatherboarding.
C 3b		ca.1811	1	<b>Frame Smokehouse:</b> The small smokehouse, located in the small complex of outbuildings just behind the Abner Harrell House, has a false plate and pinned cornice; these are characteristic construction features found with eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century frame outbuildings in the Chesapeake and upper South, and are increasingly rare.
C 3c		ca.1830-	1	<b>Frame Schoolhouse:</b> This antebellum school for girls, according to local sources, was built between 1830 and 1850 and administered by Abner Harrell's third wife, Mary Womble Harrell. It is a side-gable building with beaded weatherboarding, some of its original louvered shutters, and a side vestibule entrance. The interior retains some of its original lathing and plasterwork, and has molded chair rails, nine-over-nine sash, a built-in paneled cupboard, and a tripartite mantel with reeded pilasters similar to one of the mantels in the Abner Harrell House.
C 3d		ca.1910	1	<b>Frame Shed:</b> The weatherboarded side-gable shed, located at the west side of the Abner Harrell House, has exposed rafters and replacement windows.
C 3e		ca.1910	1	<b>Frame Privy:</b> Apparently for servants in the early twentieth century.
C 3f		ca.1910	1	<b>Frame Stilted Dairy:</b> This small "milkhouse" is located on the east side of the Abner Harrell House, at a short distance from the nineteenth-century outbuildings.

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- |     |    |         |      |   |   |
|-----|----|---------|------|---|---|
| Cst | 3g | ca.1910 | 1    | Frame Pyramid-Roof Well House: The well house is located next to the milkhouse and behind the brick garage; the roofing is asphalt, and the "house" was framed, but never enclosed.   |   |
| C   | 3h | ca.1920 | 1    | Brick Front-Gable Two-Car Garage: The garage, which still has its original exposed rafters, is one of the few surviving Harrellsville garages built in the 1920s, as the automobile was replacing earlier forms of transport.   |   |
| C   | 3i | ca.1915 | 1    | Frame Storehouse: This unusual-looking outbuilding, a long side-gable with two small six-light windows and a double-door entrance, was probably a storehouse for the Askew Brothers' general store, formerly at the northeast corner of Main and Quebec Streets, from 1915, when John and Grady Askew took over their father's store until their retirement in the 1950s. |   |
| C   | 3j | ca.1920 | 2    | Frame Barn and Stables: A large, three-bay weatherboarded barn with storage facilities on the second floor and extensive stables on the first.  |   |
| C   | 4  | 106     | 1910 | 2   | J.L. Smith House: According to local documentation, this frame Queen Anne style farmhouse was built between 1910-1915 by a Charles Newberry for John Askew. The house was then occupied by J.L. Smith, a merchant who operated the Tar Landing and Mount Pleasant warehouses on the Wiccacon and Chowan Rivers; Smith also operated a store previously operated by B.H. Ward in Harrellsville in the 1910s-1920s. Exterior decoration of this weatherboarded house, apart from pedimented gables, pendants at the gable eaves and small gable/eave brackets, is minimal. The house, however, does have a wide wraparound porch with a pedimented entry supported by Tuscan posts, and two front gable three-sided projecting bay windows. The front yard has a mid-nineteenth-century wooden fence post, marking the boundary between the Smith house and the Harrell-Askew property. |

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- |    |    |     |      |       |  |
|----|----|-----|------|-------|--|
| NC | 5  | 104 | 1946 | 1-1/2 | R.L. Rowe House: The frame Minimal Traditional Cape Cod dwelling replaced the antebellum frame house known in Harrellsville as the Askew Cottage in 1946, when the Askew Cottage was moved to South Quebec Street in 1946.   |
| C  | 5a |     | 1890 | 1     | Frame Detached Kitchen: According to local sources, this two-room kitchen was moved from an earlier house, now demolished, owned by the Cotton family (who operated a store at the turn of the twentieth century in Harrellsville), and was on this site by the 1930s. The weatherboarded building has a corner engaged porch, four-over-four sash windows and Victorian style raised five-panel doors.  |
| C  | 5b |     | 1925 | 1     | Frame One-Car Garage: The weatherboarded front-gable garage/shed has exposed rafters, hinged double doors and a small six-light window.  |
| C  | 5c |     | 1925 | 1     | Brick Flower House: A small flat-roofed shed with a four-light window and entrance door, this structure was probably a potting shed and storage facility for gardening supplies and equipment.   |
| C  | 6  | 102 | 1930 | 1     | Stallings Bynum House: The one-story, front-gable brick bungalow is said to have been built by Stallings Bynum in the early 1930s. Cecil White, who operated the Askew Brothers' Esso Station next door in the 1930s, bought the house from Bynum and later sold it to W.M. Rowe. Distinguishing exterior features include the attached, partly screened, wraparound front porch supported by wooden posts over piers; the three-part front gable window; and the slightly broken pitch of the east roof, which is wider than on the other side. |
| C  | 6a |     | 1930 | 1     | Frame Shed: At the back of the property is a side-gable storage shed with hinged double doors, a side door entry, and loft window.   |
| NC | 7  | 100 | 1930 | 1     | Red Apple Store (former Askew Brothers Station): This building's original tile roof and castellated concrete piers have been completely eradicated. Other alterations, such as the garage bays' enclosure and the shifting of the original entrance, have damaged the integrity of this former 1930s gasoline service station (it is now a combination of the Red Apple Convenience Store and Citgo Gas), built for John and Grady Askew.  |

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East Main Street (N.C. Highway 45), North Side, from West to East

N/A	8	101			Empty Lot: Site of the 1880 Askew Brothers Store, which was demolished in the 1980s.
NC	9	103	1990	1	Centura Bank: The brick commercial building stands on the site of the second Bank of Harrellsville. The former bank was also a one-story brick structure.
NC	10	105	1959	1	Harrellsville Town Hall: The current Town Hall is a plain brick-venered two-bay building with no external decoration. It is on the site of a frame one-story, front-gable store, part of the 1880s C.L. Sharp "double store lot," which was torn down in the late 1950s.
C	11	107	1880?	1	Sharp Store (former): This small one-story, three-bay gable-front frame office is a good example of a late nineteenth-century/early twentieth-century doctor's office, or lawyer's office. The building, which has a pedimented front gable, a partly-enclosed sidelighted entrance with an air conditioning unit sticking out of what would have been the transom, and rear and side shed extensions, was the late Judge Joseph D. Blythe's office from 1968 until 1995. However, research of Hertford County records and documentary photos have established that Judge Blythe's office only became a professional office with his tenure of the building. This building has been traced to a "double-lot store" belonging to C.L. Sharp after 1873; the store then was in James Cotton's possession by 1905. There is good indication, from the records at the Hertford County Register of Deeds that this "double-lot" and its companion building (formerly on the site of #10) survived the 1913 fire, as did the Askew Store. In 1931, Tennyson Holloman bought the building and converted it to a grocery store.
C	12	109	1900	1	Taylor Warehouse: The front-gable frame warehouse sided with tin located next to Judge Blythe's former office, is the only surviving industrial warehouse structure in the proposed Harrellsville historic district. The warehouse has been linked to <b>Hunter H. Taylor, an early twentieth-century Harrellsville</b> merchant, whose one-story, front gable frame store with a false front parapeted facade (demolished 1970s) was located across the street. The warehouse's sole original exterior decoration is limited to the

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- roof, where there is a tin ventilator steeple with a weathervane, and a pressed tin crest finial at the front gable's apex. Inside is a front corner office with shelving, manufactured tongue-and-groove siding, and a low sheathed ceiling.
- N/A 13 Empty Lot: Site of former 1930s Hunter Taylor service station. Taylor built a two-story service station adjacent to his warehouse, which was torn down in the early 1980s.
- C 14 111 1910 1 1/2 "Jupe" Holloman House: Hunter H. Taylor built this frame gable and wing cottage, which, after two longtime tenants, became L.M. ["Jupe"] Holloman's house by 1944. The house has later extensions, and the original three-quarter attached shed roof front porch, supported by turned posts, has been enclosed and altered. Much does remain of the house's initial late Victorian character, from the front gable's cutaway corners and decoration (gable returns, abacus vergeboard, and, at the bottom of the gable, turned wooden pendants) to the sidelighted entrance and side pedimented dormers.
- C 15 201 1865 2 Shaw-Scull-Taylor House: This house, built for Norman Leslie Shaw in the mid-1860s, is a double-pile, side-gable center hall plan frame house with a later (ca. 1900-1920) attached one-story front porch and full height front-gable portico. The house's attenuated form and compactness, emphasized by the narrow parallel side gables, is a characteristic seen in third-quarter nineteenth-century architectural style like the Italianate and Stick Styles. The house's overhanging eaves, which flare at the base before the gable returns, is a feature seen with the Stick Style, but the house's exterior has none of the variegated patterns of siding seen with the Stick Style. Italianate-style decorative exterior features of this house include the bracketed cornice and the first floor entrance; the front facade's first floor windows are elongated, with panels that could once be opened, and both windows and the paneled doubleleaf door entrance have flat pedimented, Italianate wooden surrounds.
- Cst 15a ca.1920 1 Pump House: small frame building at southwest corner of lot whose exterior is similar to that of the house.
- Csi 15b 1880 Shaw-Scull Cemetery: The small family burial plot is located by the neighboring Ada Green House. Five of the seven graves are Sculls who died in childhood; the two adults in this cemetery are Fletcher S. Scull (1860-1881) and Lily Walton Scull Baker (1861-1918), the wife of Raleigh J. Baker, and Hunter Taylor's mother-in-law.

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|-----|----|-----|-----------|-------|--|
| C   | 16 | 203 | 1893      | 2     | Ada Liverman Green House: Built for E.M. Wooten, a local traveling salesman, in 1893, the Triple-A weatherboarded house has been in the Liverman family's possession for ninety years. The house, which has two paneled front bay windows, is missing its original ornamental vergeboard and has a 1915-1920s bungalow style attached hipped-roof front porch. The house's ground sills are said to have come from the nearby Union Male Academy, built in the 1840s and demolished in 1890.   |
| NC  | 17 | 205 | 1946      | 1 1/2 | House: The late 1940s frame Colonial ranch house, which is said to be on the site of the nineteenth-century Union Male Academy, was built for Jackson Askew Sharp, a local farmer. When Sharp moved to Robersonville in 1955, R.R. Jackson bought the house. Bob House later bought the dwelling, which has since been remodeled.  |
| Csi | 18 |     | 1905-1945 |       | Harrellsville Baptist Cemetery: Approximately twenty-nine of Harrellsville's Baptist parishioners, whose burial dates extend about forty years, are buried in this cemetery behind the site of the former Harrellsville Baptist Church (1875-1948). There are a few obelisks, but the other grave markers are more modest. There are mature oak, pine and cypress trees in the cemetery.   |
| C   | 19 | 209 | 1905      | 2     | Ike Taylor House: Ike Taylor, who operated the (Hunter) Taylor and Copeland Sawmill, built this two-story, gable-and-wing Queen Anne style frame house with a one-story attached rear kitchen ell (there are also two 1960s-1970s rear extensions) between 1905 and 1915, next to the Harrellsville Baptist Cemetery. The house's exterior features -- an attached hipped roof front porch, supported by Tuscan posts, with a pedimented entrance and a porte-cochere side extension, original weatherboarding, pedimented gables, and two-over-two windows -- include Colonial Revival-style elements, such as the unusual modillion cornice and the front-gable pedimented attic dormer. |

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|------|----|-----|------|-------|---|
| C    | 20 | 211 | 1925 | 1 1/2 | Baptist Parsonage: Before 1925, Harrellsville had no permanent accommodations for its Baptist ministers, who commuted to the town from Ahoskie. By 1925, however, Tom Walters, the minister of the Harrellsville Baptist Church, was living in a new one-and-a-half story Craftsman-style frame bungalow a short distance from the church. This bungalow now has a replacement front door and its original entrance sidelights have been covered, but most of its original exterior elements -- eight-over-one windows, exposed brackets, weatherboarding, the slim battered porch posts over small brick piers -- are still intact.  |
| C    | 21 | 215 | 1880 | 2     | Abner H. Askew House: Dr. Abner Harrell Askew (1844-1905) practiced medicine in Harrellsville from 1870 until his death in 1905. He and his wife built this folk Victorian two-story frame side gable house with a center hall plan, which then had a detached kitchen (now demolished) and Dr. Askew's office, a one-story, front gable rear ell that has survived. Lock Mitchell bought the house from Mrs. Askew between 1922 and 1930, replacing the original one-story attached shed roof porch and front-gable second story balcony, with its elaborate sawnwork, with a one-story hipped-roof front porch. The second-story portico was maintained but the sawnwork balustrade was replaced by a plain one, and paired square column posts replaced the earlier columns. |
| C-si | 22 |     |      |       | Field: This flat, grassy field has, according to maps, been undeveloped throughout Harrellsville's history.   |
| NC   | 23 | 221 | 1949 | 1 1/2 | House: On the site of an earlier house; of which no documentary photographs have, as of yet, emerged is a brick Cape Cod Minimal Traditional style dwelling built between the late 1940s and mid-1950s. The house is ensconced between mature pecan and oak trees.  |
| C    | 24 | 223 | 1920 | 2     | W.B. Gillam House: Wiley B. Gillam (1881-1947) and his wife, Myrtle Frederick Gillam (1890-1985), received the deed for this property from W.F. Jones in December 1919, and moved into their newly-built two-story frame late Queen Anne style house, with its high hipped roof and attached hipped roof wrap-around porch, in early 1921. The front porch, now partly screened in, is supported by slightly battered square posts, and has a pedimented entrance; above,   |

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on the second floor, is a now-enclosed "sleeping porch", which was a popular innovation in early twentieth-century residential architecture.

C 25 225 1940 1

Harrellsville School Auditorium: The former Harrellsville Auditorium -- an elevated one-story, three-bay brick building -- still retains a one-story side gable 'hyphen' building with a porch that served as a breezeway between the school (1924-1989) and auditorium. In 1937, Frank W. Benton, an architect from Wilson, NC, designed the current auditorium, which was built by the Work Projects Administration [W.P.A.] between 1939 and 1940.

The front facade of the auditorium is plain. The sole decorative elements are the three arched entrance bays, each entrance enclosed on the sides, leading to paired panel doors, which give the illusion of an arcade. Above each entrance bay is a now-enclosed small window or ventilator. Inside, the auditorium was lit by two three-part nine-over-nine windows and one three-part six-over-six windows, all of which are still in place.

NC 25a 1935 2

School Gymnasium: In 1935, the front-gable, metal-clad gymnasium was built behind the Harrellsville School, with the help of matched funds from the P.W.A. [Public Works Administration] and Hertford County. It is now in deteriorated condition.

NC 25b 1965 1

School Cafeteria: The brick 1960s one-story school cafeteria located to the east of the gym is currently used as a meeting place for the Harrellsville Historical Association.

NC 25c 227 1990 1

Harrellsville Volunteer Fire Department: The metal side-gable volunteer fire department building is on the site of the Harrellsville School.

C-si 26

**Field: This field embraces the John Bembury Sharp House and provides a pastoral setting for it.**

C 27 No # 1833 2

John Bembury Sharp House: John Bembury Sharp (d. 1875), a descendant of the Sharps who were among the first settlers in the Harrellsville area, built the two-story frame, center hall side-gable "Sharp Homeplace" in the 1830s. The house's Federal character includes the exterior's two original double-shoulder,

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exterior end chimneys, original molded window surrounds, beaded weatherboarding, and the original pattern boards at the cornice ends. In the older part of the house, the original baseboards and wainscoting/chair rails are intact, and there is a finely-rendered vernacular Federal-style tripartite mantel in the living room. In the 1920s, the house was remodeled; according to the family, the two-story front gable portico entrance and full-facade, one-story front porch were then added to the house. The one-story rear shed extension was expanded into a two-story rear wing, the old center hall staircase was removed, and a new one built in the new extension of the house. The house has remained in the Sharp family.

East Main Street (N.C. Highway 45), South Side, from East to West

C-si 28

**Field:** Like entry #22 on the north side of East Main Street, this field has remained undeveloped during the period of significance for this historic district. It is embraced on its south boundary by Long Branch Creek and woodlands that stretch beyond the town limits.

NC 29 206 1949 2

**Harrellsville Baptist Church:** In 1875, the first Baptist church, a frame front-gable building, was built near the Union Academy. In the late 1940s, the "new" Harrellsville Baptist Church, a brick late Colonial Revival building with a two-story rear extension, was built directly across from the old Baptist church and cemetery. This "new" church, a pedimented front-gable building whose steeple tower and front entrance are incorporated, is lit by arched stained glass windows. It is not at all obtrusive in the historic district and will fall into the conscribed period of significance within the next four years. The builder was T.J. Byrd of Bertie County, NC.

C 30 204 1910 1

**Sumner A. Ives House:** The frame one-story, hipped roof Queen Anne / Colonial Revival hybrid cottage named for Sumner Ives was actually built for Ives in 1910 by his father-in-law, Henry Clay Sharp. The house, now shaded by mature pecan trees, has an attached hipped-roof wraparound porch with a pedimented entry, supported by Doric posts. The front trabeated entrance, like the pedimented entry of the front porch, could be said to be inspired by the Colonial Revival style; otherwise, the house's vestibule/center hall plan, one-over-one windows, and shingled hipped roof dormers with Queen Anne stained glass windows, are more in keeping with early twentieth-century late Victorian houses.

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|---|-----|-----|------|-------|---|
| C | 30a |     | 1920 | 1     | Frame Garage: At the back of the Sumner Ives House is a high hipped-roof frame one-car garage in decrepit condition.  |
| C | 30b |     | 1920 | 1     | Frame Smokehouse: Located directly behind the Ives House is a small front-gable frame smokehouse with exposed rafters.  |
| C | 30c |     | 1920 |       | Privy: Just behind the smokehouse and rabbit shed at the Ives House is a small frame shed privy. It is not known if the Ives family used this privy but, given that other nearby houses, like the W.B. Gillam House, did not have indoor water closets until the 1920s, this privy may not have been just for servants.   |
| C | 30d |     | 1920 | 1     | Frame Rabbit Shed: According to neighbors, this side-gable frame outbuilding with a side shed extension was used for breeding and keeping rabbits.  |
| C | 31  | 202 | 1929 | 1 1/2 | William E. Cullens House: The one-and-a-half story frame Bungalow, built in 1929, replaced a two-story frame house that burned in 1928. Both houses were the home of William E. Cullens, Hertford County's Sheriff in the 1890s, and his wife, Pauline. Today, the house appears much as it did sixty years before; the roof has been replaced but the house has its original bungalow style porch, sidelighted entrance, four-over-one windows (paired at the front), small shed bay windows on the sides and a front gable dormer at the front. |
| C | 31a |     | 1929 | 1     | Frame shed: The side-gable weatherboarded shed directly behind the garage appears to have been built at the same time as the 1929 Cullens House.  |
| C | 31b |     | 1929 | 1     | Hipped-roof garage: The weatherboarded one-bay garage still has its exposed rafters and is now used as a storage space.   |
| C | 32  | 200 | 1905 | 2     | Jim Powell House: The two-story frame Triple-A house was built in 1905 by James M. Powell, a local farmer, to replace an earlier house that burned. The back porch, which wrapped around the back of the house to the rear kitchen ell, was later enclosed before 1945 and the original center hall of the house was altered in the 1940s. The upstairs of the house still has its original manufactured beaded board tongue-and-groove ceilings and wainscoting, and there is a late Victorian style staircase at the back of the house.         |

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The now-screened front porch has some of its original spindle frieze and a pedimented entrance.

C 32a 1916 1

Frame Garage: This extremely well-preserved weatherboarded clipped-gable, two-car garage has its original sliding doors. It was moved slightly east in 1953 to make way for Sunset Avenue. Decorative features include patterned shingles at the gable ends, exposed rafters, and the sixteen-light windows in each sliding garage door.

Csi 32b 1920

Site: The site is the foundation of the Powells' Delco house, a power generator that was vital to many early twentieth-century rural homes and farms.

Csi 32c 1900

Powell Family Cemetery: The family cemetery is a short distance south of the house, near the 1950s Harrellsville Fire Station building on Sunset Avenue.

NC 33 116-118 1950 1

Harrellsville Post Office: The current post office, a small brick flat-roof building with no exterior decoration and two three-bay storefronts, is located at the southwest corner of East Main Street and Sunset Avenue, the latest of many post offices sited in Harrellsville since 1827.

NC 34 114 1930 1

B & H Garage: Lillian Copeland bought this lot from B.F. Williams, a Harrellsville merchant, in 1918. M.E. Baker later bought the property from Mrs. Copeland in the 1950s and operated the building -- a front-gable frame building with a side shed extension and a metal rear extension -- as the Baker & Holloman ("B & H") Garage until the early 1990s. The building has been altered considerably through the years between 1930 and 1990, especially by the later brick facade and metal covering.

N/A 35

Empty Lot: Site of former H.H. Taylor General Store (demolished 1970s)

NC 36 106 1969 1

Iloggards Supermarket: The brick-veneered grocery and grill, built in 1969, is at the back of the lot where Jupe Holloman's frame general store stood until the late 1960s.

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C 37 102 1905 2

R.C. Mason & Son Store: The R.C. Mason & Son Store is one of the very last of the vernacular turn-of-the-twentieth century frame stores once throughout Harrellsville's commercial district. The store's exterior and interior are exceptionally intact and untouched. It is a handsome two-story, three-bay frame gable front vernacular turn-of-the-twentieth-century commercial building clad in weatherboard and its front and back gables decorated by shingles, ornamental vergeboard at each apex, and gable returns. The original two-over-two windows now have louvered shutters, and the large two-over-two display bay windows flanking the store's entrance are original. The original shed roof awning, supported by plain wooden posts, that sheltered passers-by on the sidewalk has been replaced by a smaller pent roof shelter. Both front and back doors have large two-light transoms. Inside, the original flush patterned beaded board siding is evident throughout the store, as well as original built-in wooden shelving with millwork trim cornices. At the back of the first floor is a stair leading to the second floor balcony area. The balcony, an elliptical balustraded space once used for displaying clothes, is now sealed from view downstairs by a tarpaulin sheet; the wooden racks where linoleum rolls were once kept still line the upstairs walls.

C 37a 1936 1

Frame Warehouse: Mason & Son's one original outbuilding is a front-gable metal-clad warehouse built behind the store in 1936.

C 38 1890 1

Warren A. Holloman Store (Former): By the early 1930s, Ralph C. Mason owned the former Warren A. Holloman Store, and used it as an annex for his store; in 1930, this 1890s one-story frame front-gable building was moved a short distance due south from its original location at the southeast corner of Main Street and "the Quebec Road". The building has remained a well-preserved example of a late nineteenth-century rural community store. Its exterior decoration, limited to ornamental vergeboard at the gables, returned gables at the entrance facade, and patterned beaded board-sided bay panels flanking the entrance bay, is mostly intact. At the back doubleleaf doors, manufactured beaded board siding covers earlier paneled doors. At the front, the raised recessed entrance is sheltered by an attached shed standing-seam metal awning; the large six-over-six front display windows and paneled doubleleaf sash doors with a two-light transom are original.

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C	39	100	1930	1	D.N. Evans Service Station: David N. Evans, an early twentieth-century farmer and businessman, built this Art Deco style brick gasoline and service station in 1930. The station, including a two-bay garage, a three-bay office area with its original three-over-one display windows and one-light entrance transom, is further distinguished by the parapeted roofline and Mission style tile roof, which wrap around the service canopy to the Quebec Street side of the station. The soffits, and service canopy piers' paneling were obscured when the station's original plain brick veneer was painted white in the 1960s; the service station is well-preserved and intact.
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West Main Street (N.C. Highway 45), South Side, from East to West

C	40	101	1919	2	Scull-Evans House: The Scull-Evans House, at the southwest corner of Main and Quebec Streets, is a good example of an early two-story Colonial Revival hipped-roof frame house, with twin side interior chimneys, paired and three-part windows, and a full-facade, one-story front porch. The house was built in 1919 for Bismark Scull, the Hertford County Sheriff, to replace an earlier house on the site. The front porch, which has a corner gazebo, was extended between 1919 and 1941 to create a porte-cochere. The contractor may have been D.L. Thomas of Ahoskie.
C	40a		1890	1	Frame Kitchen: The weatherboarded side-gable kitchen at the back of the Scull-Evans House was moved from an earlier house in the early twentieth century. The kitchen has a corner recessed porch supported by plain wooden posts.
C	40b		1835	1	Frame Smokehouse: The front-gable smokehouse at the Scull-Evans House is located beside the 1890s kitchen. Exterior elements include a board-and-batten door with nails set in a diamond pattern, and some original beaded weatherboarding.
NC	40c		1950	1	Frame Flower Shed.
C	41	103	1930	1	Dr. Estus White House: The exterior of the three-bay, front-gable frame bungalow first rented by Dr. Estus White has changed little

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since it was built in the late 1920s by J.J. Taylor and S.P. Fairless. From photographic evidence, its attached front-gable porch is still supported by two corner wooden posts over brick piers, and its original four-over-four windows are still in place, as are the standing seam metal roof of both house and porch, the exposed rafters and brackets, and the decorative shingles on the porch's front gable. The rear porch is now enclosed.

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|-----|-----|---------|---------------|--|
| NC  | 41a | 1930    | 1             | Frame Garage: At the back of the White House is a front-gable, weatherboarded 1930s two-bay garage in poor condition.  |
| NC  | 41b | 1950    | 1             | Tin-sided Shed: A frame outbuilding with tin siding and a side shed extension is located directly behind the White House.  |
| C   | 42  | 105     | 1935-40 1 1/2 | Harry Evans House: The frame vernacular Craftsman cottage with a engaged half-width porch "supported" by a single post over brick pier, and a front gable shed dormer was built in the late 1930s for Stanley and Bernice Winborne by Buck Weaver, a local African-American carpenter, and Harry Evans; D.N. Evans owned the property. The one-and-a-half story side gable main block was built on site, and the one-story rear ell with its side gable extension was moved from the Lassiter-Baker lot and joined to the house. Harry and Polly Evans were the next occupants of the house, obtaining it in the early 1950s. The house is still owned by the Evans family. A comparison of the house in its current state and earlier documentary photographs indicates that it is still much as it was in the 1940s. The house is still covered by a standing seam metal roof and weatherboarded. The exposed rafters and brackets are in place, as are the original two-over-two windows. |
| C   | 42a | 1935-40 | 2             | Frame and Concrete-Block Barn: Behind the Evans House is a large front-gable frame and concrete block barn, part of which is said to have been built by Mr. "Daisy" Baker, ca. 1880s, for the former Lassiter-Baker House.   |
| C   | 42b | 1935-40 | 1             | Frame Shed: The side-gable weatherboarded shed was a pump house also built between 1935 and 1940, and is located directly behind the house.  |
| N/A | 43  |         |               | Empty Lot: Site of antebellum Lassiter-Baker House, possibly built by Abner Harrell for one of his daughters (See <u>Almasy, Hertford County Wills</u> ). Later owned by Mr. Daisy Baker at end of nineteenth century, then D.N. Evans by 1915. Mature pecan trees still in lot.   |

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|------|----|-----|------|-------|--|
| C    | 44 | 109 | 1924 | 1 1/2 | Henry Morris House: Henry L. Morris, a blacksmith and undertaker, had this common bond brick Craftsman bungalow built in 1924 by John Saunders. Saunders, a Norfolk contractor, was then working on the two-story brick Harrellsville School. According to Lou Evans Mason, who was a nine-year old neighbor in 1924, this was the only brick house in Harrellsville for many years. The wraparound bungalow style front porch still has its exposed rafters and post-over-piers, and is partly screened; it shelters the three-bay front facade, comprised of two paired six-over-one windows flanking a sash entrance door, all with segmental arches. Above is a front gable dormer with a paired window and its original exposed rafters and knee braces. There is also a one-story rear ell extension with an enclosed frame and brick porch. |
| N/A  | 45 |     |      |       | Empty Lot  |
| C    | 46 | 113 | 1930 | 1     | Tennyson Holloman House: L. Tennyson Holloman, who sold his former grocery to Joseph Blythe in 1968, built this front-gable frame bungalow cottage in 1930, and lived here for forty more years. The bungalow has retained many original exterior features, from its two original interior brick chimneys and standing seam tin roof to the spacious attached hipped roof wraparound bungalow style front porch, and front paired six-over-six windows.  |
| C-si | 47 |     |      |       | Field: This field provides a setting and vista for the Sharp Family Cemetery and the Askew House to the north across West Main Street. In the wooded area at the town line's southwestern corner is the site of the boyhood home of Robert Lee Vann, an early twentieth-century African-American Harrellsville citizen who served in President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Cabinet.  |

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Tar Landing Road (State Road 1433), East side, from Main Street Intersection going North:

NC st	48	100	1960		Utility Lot: This lot belongs to the Town of Harrellsville, and has power lines and propane tanks.
NC	49	104	1950	1 1/2	House: A frame Minimal Traditional Cape Cod five-bay, side-gable cottage with two side porches.
N/A	50				Empty Lot
C	51	106	1890	3	Dorsey Taylor House: Dorsey Taylor, an established small farmer by the 1870s, bought a sixty-acre tract of land on the Tar-Landing Road (SR 1433) from E.M. Wooten in January, 1891; the property had originally been part of Jacob Sharp's large land holdings in the early nineteenth century. According to local history, Dorsey Taylor built a two-story I-house on the site of the previous house, utilizing the surviving twin exterior end single-shouldered brick chimneys (one of which has a date brick inscribed "HCO NC CWV WAS MADE 1860") Dorsey Taylor's house has a sidelighted entrance, sheltered by an attached hipped roof porch supported by turned posts, which enters into a center-hall with a plain semi-enclosed stair facing the back. There is a later one-story rear ell, which connects a formerly detached post Civil War frame kitchen; the kitchen has a small engaged porch, and its former chimney has been removed.

Quebec Street, East Side, going South from W.A. Holloman Store (former) [SR 1002]:

C	52	101	1910	2	Bradshaw-Perry House: According to local history, a Dr. Bradshaw lived in the one-story coastal cottage that is now the rear ell of this frame "story and a jump" Triple-A side-gable house; this "side-gable" was built in the early twentieth century. Distinctive exterior features of this hall-and-parlor plan house include the centered front gable, the asymmetrical window arrangement of the front facade, and the battered wooden posts supporting the attached shed roof porch. The front porch was extended after 1945 to create a porte-cochere.
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C	52a		1915	1	Frame Smokehouse: A weatherboarded smokehouse, built around the time of the Bradshaw-Perry House, is at the back of the lot and has been "enclosed" in a 1920s-1930s hipped-roof frame garage shed with exposed rafter ends.
NC	53	103	1970	1	House: This is a one-story brick ranch on the site of an antebellum house (removed in the 1970s). The lot, however, still has its original mature cedar and oak trees.
C	54	105	1924	1 1/2	J.E. Wilder House: The frame Craftsman, side-gable house, with its bungalow style porch below the long shed dormer, is an especially good example of this popular early twentieth-century house form. Original exterior elements include the shed dormer's patterned shingles and paired two-over-two sash windows, exposed rafters, triangular knee braces, and the bay window on the north side of the house. Mature pecan trees planted by the Wilders in the 1920s are still on the lot.
C	54a		1935-40	1	Frame Garage: At the back of the Wilder property is a large front-gable weatherboarded garage with a side shed extension.
C st	54b		1940	1	Well House: Directly behind the Wilder House is a small concrete block well house.
N/A	55				Empty Lot
NC	56	109	1949	1 1/2	Methodist Parsonage: The frame side-gable Minimal Traditional Cape Cod cottage was built in 1949 on land given by J.E. Wilder to Noah Lowe, his brother-in-law. Mrs. Hunter H. Taylor, who was an active member of the Harrellsville United Methodist Church, bought the property from Lowe's widow in the early 1950s, and the house has been a parsonage for the Methodist Church.

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C	57	111	1920	1	<p>Jesse Taylor House: Jesse Taylor built this frame hipped-roof late Victorian cottage between 1919 and 1920. The house has its original standing seam metal roof, three hipped-roof dormers on the west, north, and south sides of the house, and an attached hipped roof front porch supported by turned posts. The shuttered windows are large two-over-two sash and the sidelights flanking the front door are now enclosed.</p>
C	57a		1925	1	<p>Frame Shed: Directly behind the Jesse Taylor House's one-story rear ell is a front-gable weatherboarded shed with a side shed extension.</p>
C	58	113	1920	1 1/2	<p>Cowan House: Lloyd Cowan bought this frame side-gable Craftsman style house in the late 1920s. Its bungalow style porch, which projects from both ends of the house, originally wrapped around to the north side of the house and incorporated a porte-cochere on the south side. The flooring on the north side has been removed, but the porch wing is still intact. Original exterior elements are intact, such as the front-gable, paired-sash window dormer, the three-over-one sash windows, the porch's tapered wooden posts over brick piers, and the exposed rafters and triangular knee braces.</p>
N/A	59				<p>Empty Lot</p>
N/A	60				<p>Empty Lot</p>
C-si	61				<p>Woods: This small area of woodland, which has never been developed, is evocative of Harrellsville's nineteenth-century agricultural community. William D. Valentine, the nineteenth-century Harrellsville lawyer, describes woods such as these in his diary, where he notes walks to the town with his dog and gun, and hunting along the way.</p>

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Quebec Street, West Side, going North from Daniel Sharp House (former)

- |    |    |      |         |       |  |
|----|----|------|---------|-------|--|
| C  | 62 | No # | 1885-90 | 2     | Daniel Sharp House: The frame single-pile I-house has a one-story rear kitchen ell with a side porch. The house, in fair condition, is especially distinguished by the two-story, full-facade front porch capped by three parallel gables with vernacular decoration and patterned shingles. Such vernacular porches, derived from Caribbean types that were adapted in the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century southeastern United States, and are increasingly rare. The porch, now supported by square wooden posts, still has its slim turned pilasters and patterned tongue-and-groove ceilings. According to local history, the first floor's small casement windows were originally floor-length sash windows. The house has been linked to Daniel Sharp, a former African-American slave who became a farmer after the Civil War. Sharp's death was mentioned in the March 5, 1915, edition of the <u>Hertford County Herald</u> ; "Uncle Daniel was well known," the obituary concluded, "and will be greatly missed by the whites as well as the colored people." |
| NC | 63 | No # | 1930-50 | 1 1/2 | House: The frame vernacular Minimal Traditional Cape Cod cottage has exposed rafter ends, paired six-over-six sash windows, a recessed entrance, side screened porch and two twin interior brick chimneys. The symmetry of the house, except for the front door and side porch, suggest that it may have been a duplex at one time. It appears not to be occupied.   |
| NC | 64 | No # | 1970    | 1     | Brick ranch with side-gable roof.  |
| C  | 65 | No # | 1924    | 1 1/2 | Sessoms House: The frame side-gable Craftsman bungalow and its laundry outbuilding were part of a larger tract of land that belonged to an African-American carpenter, John Henry Sessoms, in the early twentieth century. The house, screened by evergreens and dogwoods, has a projecting wraparound extension of the bungalow style front porch. Original exterior elements, such as the patterned gable shingles, three-over-one sash windows, and triangular knee braces, are well-preserved and intact.  |

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- |      |     |     |         |   |  |
|------|-----|-----|---------|---|--|
| C    | 65a |     | 1924-30 | 1 | Frame Laundry Building: The long front-gable, three-bay weatherboarded building at the south corner of the Sessoms property, facing Quebec Street, was a laundry and dry cleaners operated by the Sessoms family.  |
| C    | 66  | 124 | 1850    | 1 | Askew Cottage: The frame side-gable Greek Revival style cottage with a rear ell, enclosed shed porch, and a pedimented portico was moved from its original location on West Main Street (where the R.L. Rowe House is today) to Quebec Street in the 1940s. At the north elevation, the two four-over-four windows have two-part surrounds with molded edges and mitred corners. Other exterior features include the roof's returned boxed cornice, the portico's turned columns and the original transomed entrance, which may have once been sidelighted. Inside, the house is a center-hall plan with more original features, such as the six-panel hall door, and beaded weatherboarding where the original rear ell was enclosed. This house has been associated with significant nineteenth-century Harrellsville families like the Yeates, the Lassiters, and the Askews. |
| NC   | 67  | 122 | 1970-80 | 1 | Brick ranch with enclosed side garage.   |
| N/A  | 68  |     |         |   | Empty Lot: This lot, a wooded area with a small creek next to Quebec Street, has picnic tables, a small frame well, and lawn furniture. It is apparently used for local recreation.  |
| C-si | 69  |     |         |   | Woods: Although a smaller wooded area than on the east side of Quebec Street, this area, nonetheless, recalls the early agricultural and densely wooded character of Harrellsville in the nineteenth century.  |
| C    | 70  | 116 | 1910    | 2 | Leicester House: The frame front-gable, two-bay house was built in the early twentieth century and was, in the 1940s, the home of Jordan and Helen Leicester. The house, which has a side hall plan, is a form more commonly seen in larger towns like New Bern and Elizabeth City, where such houses were built for mill and lumber yard workers.   |
| N/A  | 71  |     |         |   | Empty Lot  |

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N/A	72				Empty Lot
N/A	73				Empty Lot
C	74	108	1905	2	Baker-Rountree House: The well-preserved frame Triple-A I-house, standing just below the Harrellsville United Methodist Church, has a one-story L-plan rear ell, an attached hipped-roof front porch with a pedimented shingled entrance bay, and decorative louvered ventilators in its gable ends. Jim Powell, whose own house on East Main Street was built at the same time, owned property on Quebec Street's west side, and may have built this house originally for rental.
NCst	74a		1970	1	Frame Dog House
NC	74b		1970	1	Frame Shed
C	74c		1920-30	1	Frame Shed: The front-gable shed at the back of the house has a side shed extension enclosed by later siding. The original part of the shed has German siding and exposed rafters.
C	75	106	1880	1	Harrellsville United Methodist Church: The Harrellsville United Methodist Church is a frame weatherboarded front-gable building with its steeple tower integrated between the front gable of the nave and the projecting narthex's front gable. It was built between 1879 and 1880 and is the latest of three Methodist Churches established in Harrellsville in the past one hundred and eighty-four years. The "new" church on Quebec Street is a restrained version of the vernacular Gothic Revival Style, with some early Colonial Revival elements; as such, it is not dissimilar from traditional New England Congregational churches. The church is lit by arched opalescent stained glass windows; the two windows flanking the transomed doubleleaf front entrance have louvered screens. Inside, the walls have patterned tongue-and-groove manufactured beaded board siding and a Gothic Revival-inspired lectern/altar and communion rail.
C-si	75a		1878-1945		Harrellsville Methodist Cemetery: Located directly behind the Methodist Church is a small church cemetery shaded by evergreen trees. There are forty-one marked graves, covering the period between 1878 and the second World War, in addition to a very few

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later graves. Family plots include the Barker, Gatling, Durfey, Saunders, and Gillam lots. There are three grave markers indicating three decedents (W.J. Barker, W.F. Durfey, and Elijah Hester Lyon) who served in the Confederate Army.

NC 76 104 1980 1 Harrellsville Rescue Community Squad: The four-bay, side-gabled building is of corrugated metal.

C 77 102 1930 1 1/2 Winborne House: The frame front-gable late Craftsman cottage built for L.T. Winborne has an attached hipped-roof wraparound bungalow style porch that extends to incorporate a porte-cochere; the other side of the porch is now screened.

C 78 100 1843 1 Old Methodist Parsonage: The Late Federal-early Greek Revival frame side-gable weatherboarded house has flush eaves, a five-bay front facade with nine-over-nine sash windows, and a center doubleleaf entrance with a five-light transom and six paneled sidelights on each side. Between 1843 and 1901, it was Harrellsville's Methodist Parsonage and, in the 1850s, the childhood home of Walter Reed. The former parsonage is now the Harrellsville Historical Association's archives and museum, and is considerably intact; the house still has its original wide Greek Revival style baseboards and chair rails. There is a very simple mantelpiece with mitered corners in the front parlor, over which hangs a portrait of Abner Harrell. Glass and mahogany counters from Harrellsville's late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century dry goods stores are now used to display artifacts at the parsonage.

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### Summary

The historic district of Harrellsville, North Carolina, is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, as a model of the rural, self-sufficient early twentieth century agricultural community in northeastern North Carolina. The district is also eligible for listing under Criterion C for its excellent collection of nineteenth- and early-to-mid- twentieth-century residential, commercial and religious buildings that remain virtually intact in their original settings.

The period of significance for Harrellsville's building history begins circa 1811, the estimated building date of the Abner Harrell House and the date of the first burial in the adjacent Sharp family cemetery, but the period during which the town achieved most of its physical development was between 1870 and 1941. An informal map of Harrellsville drawn in 1938 indicates that, with the exceptions of the Askew House, the Harrellsville Baptist Church, and the W.P.A.-funded and expedited Harrellsville School Auditorium, all of the town's significant buildings were then in place. In the overall period of significance, a plantation and mercantile enterprise became an antebellum village with a well-established academy, then a prosperous small turn-of-the-century town generated, as earlier, by the generous surrounding natural resources of fertile land, pine forests, and nearby water routes. Most of the current residents, white and African American, are the descendants of families who have lived in this area of Hertford County for over two hundred years -- landowners and farmers turned merchants like the Sharps, the Sculls, the Evanses, the Askews, the Harrells, and the Taylors; and free blacks and descendants of slaves who became farmers, like the Parkers, the Sharpes, the Sessoms and the Freemans.

Harrellsville's proximity to the Wiccacon and Chowan Rivers made it a vital trade center in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In 1890, Branson's North Carolina Business Directory lists Harrellsville as having a population of 200, making it the third largest (behind Murfreesboro and Winton) of the six listed towns in Hertford County. Harrellsville, in 1890, had seven general stores, two seine fisheries, two grist

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mills; the Virginia-based Albemarle Steamer Company exported Harrellsville's agricultural produce and lumber up the Chowan River to Suffolk and Norfolk. But Harrellsville was not to overtake Murfreesboro or Winton. Ahoskie's incorporation in 1893, and its thriving lumber and railroad industry attracted new citizens, which included many former residents of Harrellsville. In 1890, Ahoskie was not even listed in Branson's; in 1896, it had a population of 100. By 1905, Ahoskie had 600 residents, and Harrellsville had 109; fifteen years later, 600 increased to 1,429. Harrellsville's eclipse by Ahoskie, perversely, was a positive factor for its preservation. Today, though some nineteenth- and early twentieth-century buildings have been lost from Harrellsville's Main and Quebec streets, most historic residential and commercial buildings have remained well-preserved and intact.

## Historical Background and Community Development Context

The rural area in which Harrellsville is encompassed, four miles west of the Chowan River, has been constantly traveled and inhabited by settlers since Ralph Lane's discovery of the Chowanoke Indian community at the site of present-day Mount Pleasant in 1586. In 1663, Sir William Berkeley, then the Royal Governor of Virginia, made a land grant to the first Surveyor-General of North Carolina, Thomas Woodward; Woodward's 2,000 acres from the Virginia colony was sited on the west side of the Chowan, beginning "fifty poles below a small creek which is at the lower point of the old Indian Towne [site of Mount Pleasant], running west-southwest (Parramore MS, Chapter Two)." In 1701, Woodward's heirs sold the "Woodward's Creek" property to Lewis Williams, who had moved south from Nansemond County, Virginia, ten years before. (Parramore MS, Chapter Two) Because of the Tuscarora and Meherrin Native American communities, white settlement did not take hold until the 1720s when the Wynns, Sharps, Downings and Sumners began to colonize the lower Wiccacon area, which was then a part of the newly-formed Bertie County.

Trade on the Wiccacon and Chowan Rivers -- the export of tar, pitch, lumber, and agricultural products to cities north --

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was an important eighteenth-century business. Custom houses were established at Mount Pleasant, Tar Landing, and Pitch Landing in the 1720s and 1730s. John and Jacob Van Pelt of New York City bought 100 acres of land in the Chinkapin (or Chinguapin) Creek area in the 1730s, near the future site of Harrellsville (Belnay, 16). Another early entrepreneur was William Downing, who established the Mount Pleasant Landing in the 1720s; according to Parramore's research, Downing, who was from Boston, was a successful mariner-businessman who owned property in fish- and shellfish-rich Newfoundland (Parramore MS, Chapter Three). Closer to present-day Harrellsville was the village built around the Van Pelts' Pitch Landing, approximately three miles west, which included, among its settlers, emigrants from Connecticut who came to make a profit from the naval stores industry (Parramore MS; Chapter Three).

The area was difficult to travel in the eighteenth century, due to swamps and poor roads. Until 1759, when a courthouse was established at Winton (formerly Outlaw's Landing) and Hertford County was formed from Bertie in 1760, legal matters had to be settled in the less accessible town of Windsor, which was, and is, Bertie County's seat (Parramore MS, Chapter Three; Lefler and Newsome, 71, 712, and 713). Churches, due to the isolated settlements and travel conditions, were slow in coming; the small Church of England Chapel near Tar Landing on the Wiccacon was built in the 1750s but, by the 1790s, the Anglican Chapel (as it was referred to into the 1840s) was being used for Methodist services. Francis Asbury, the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Methodist preacher, recorded an 1804 visit to the Wiccacon area where "the windows were open and the people trembled under the cold, if not under the Word. After crossing two ferries, we came to Gates Courthouse, twenty miles . . . I feel for these people of these low lands; with the exception of a few towns and select places, my ministry amongst them must be near its end (op. cit., Higgins, 2)."

Jeremiah Dargan, the founder and pastor of Windsor's Cashie Baptist Church in the 1770s, preached in the Wiccacon area in the early 1780s (Taylor, 55). Dargan belonged to the Separate Baptist sect, which was considered a synthesis between the Regular Baptists (who were more closely associated with

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Calvinist doctrine) and the General Baptists, who had run afoul of the Philadelphia Baptist Association in the 1750s for proclaiming that their faith and salvation were assured by baptism alone, and not repentance (Joyner, 2-3; Taylor, 55). Dargan himself was apparently instrumental in Samuel Harrell, a Major in the Hertford County Revolutionary War's Militia (and the father of Abner Harrell), converting to the Baptist persuasion in the 1780s (Taylor, 55). Earlier, at Windsor's Cashie Baptist Church, Lemuel Burkitt, a Particular Baptist preacher who helped to create the Kehukee Baptist Association in 1769, is said to have received the Divine inspiration which brought about the Great Revival of 1802; over a thousand people were converted during the camp meetings held, and a Baptist church was founded in Colerain (Joyner, 4-5; Taylor, 55). The first Baptist church in the Pitch Landing-future Harrellsville area, Bethlehem Baptist Church, was not established until 1835.

"At the beginning of the nineteenth century," Dr. Thomas Parramore has written, "it is doubtful that anyone would have predicted that a settlement would rise where Harrellsville now stands," noting the then-successful enterprises of the Pitch Landing community; in 1806, 10,000 barrels of tar and turpentine were shipped from Pitch Landing and the six hundred acres comprising the town was owned by James Jones, who had attracted many of the would-be local and northern entrepreneurs. (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). Unfortunately, the community's fortunes collapsed between depletion of the natural surrounding resources, Jones' alleged greediness (a contemporary of Jones', according to Parramore's research, wrote that he priced his lots too high) and downfall due to miscalculated speculation of local naval stores during the War of 1812. (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). John O. Askew, III (1888-1969), whose grandfather's ruined house may be Pitch Landing's only surviving structure, documented that Pitch Landing did maintain a post office off and on after this point until March 9, 1881 (Askew, 161).

As early as 1806, a Pitch Landing resident, Dr. William L. Smith, recognized the agrarian potential of the area, writing that "The land in this neighborhood is a thin shallow soil, about 7/8 of which is covered with lofty pines . . . very fertile by the side or [sic.] rivers and would produce most

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luxuriant crops of corn, cotton, rice & c (sic.) if it could be drained" (Parramore MS, Chapter Three). He noted the resident settlers tended toward subsistence farming, clearing as little land as possible to preserve the financially-beneficial pines, and let hogs and cattle run wild in the woods (Parramore MS, Chapter Three). But by 1811 a planter named George Bond had established a plantation about four miles east of Pitch Landing on higher ground. Its location had, as Parramore has documented, several advantages: The soil and forests were not depleted, and the farm was closer to the Chowan River Landings and to Tar Landing. It was also located at the intersection of two well-traveled roads, the main public road to Edenton and the road to the Chowan settlements (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). The Methodists who established a permanent worship site out of the former Anglican Chapel re-named it Bethel Church in 1811; consequently, by the 1820s the intersection of the two main roads and its nearby buildings was known as Bethel Crossroads (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). John G. Wilson, who had bought Bond's plantation, built a store at Bethel Crossroads in 1825 and was appointed postmaster of Bethel on April 9, 1827.

Abner Harrell bought Wilson's "well-known situation and [450 acre] farm", as advertised in an October 1829 issue of the Edenton Gazette, by 1830. The "well-known situation" had the additional assets of a "new and convenient store and warehouses", which were located 500 yards from "a well furnished two story dwelling house . . . with a kitchen, loom house, large barn, together with stables and other outhouses." (Parramore MS, Chapter Four) Harrell quickly moved into ascendancy in the small community, establishing himself as a shrewd, pragmatic businessman and farmer. A sampling of his acquisitions from local estate auctions between 1830 and 1831 are indicative of Harrell's pragmatism; rather than buying what little furniture, feather beds, silver, or books that could have been had at such auctions, Harrell was buying twenty bushels and more of cow peas (an important foodstuff for livestock, and also useful as fertilizer), grubbing hoes, cows, and turkeys (Fouts; Vol. 1, 1829-1831; Perriam, 170). Other early acquisitions for his farm included hogs, farming implements, and, in March, 1834, "one negro Girl, Lucia" (Fouts; Vol. 2, 1833-1834). Within twenty years of purchasing the Wilson property, Harrell had increased

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its acreage to 1,000, 400 acres of which were divided between the cultivation of sweet potatoes, corn, peas, cotton, and livestock -- some sheep, but mostly swine (United States 1850 Agricultural Schedule Hertford County; Harrellsville Section).

The social circle that revolved around Harrell and his fellow planters, the Sharps and Askews, enjoyed dining at each other's houses, weddings, and other ritual gatherings. William D. Valentine (1806-1856), a local country lawyer whose diary offers a fascinating glimpse of this community, writes of being persuaded by his friend, John Harrell, "to stay with him for the purpose of going to the oyster party at our friend [Abner Harrell's] where would be young ladies" in December 1838 (Valentine, 12/8/1838). Valentine, who had studied for the law in Richmond and was something of a pastoral aesthete, had what might be most politely described as an ambivalent attitude toward the robust and wealthy Abner Harrell; on one occasion, he describes Harrell as "a rough bear in manners and a fanatic in faith (Valentine, October 8, 1838)." However, Valentine was not above eating Abner Harrell's oysters or attending his children's weddings; he writes, in January 1839, of having attended Alpha B. Harrell's wedding in Winton on the 23rd and, the next day, Sarah Harrell's wedding to John O. Askew of Pitch Landing at her father's house where, after conceding the guests' decency (and financial wealth) as people, he concludes, "In all this was no refined or intellectual feast --- the table was the best feast I enjoyed (Valentine, 1/25/1839)."

In 1847, Abner Harrell was the cause of an uproar in the Bethel community. At the Bethel Church's summer meeting, it was discovered, according to William Valentine, that Harrell had written the Postmaster General, requesting that Bethel's post office be re-named "Harrellsville" -- without, according to Valentine, at least informing the community first (Valentine, July 1847; Parramore MS, Chapter Four). "The citizens of the neighborhood, learning the fact, got up a remonstrance against such change," Valentine writes, adding that "Mr. A.H. got red and scalded." But in December, 1847, Bethel became Harrellsville even though many resisted the name change. As late as the early twentieth century, apparently, some Harrellsville natives referred to the town as Bethel (Askew,

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161; H.C. Sharp, to whom Askew refers, died in 1927).

Bethel -- or Harrellsville -- had become, in the 1840s, a thriving village with a new school. The Union Male Academy, a handsome two-story building east of the village, was founded in 1842 and many of its teachers and students -- particularly Jesse Yeates (a relative by marriage to Abner Harrell), Thomas Roberts Jernigan, and Hunter Sharp -- went on to pursue careers in international diplomacy and public service (Askew, 162; Winborne, 242-244; Parramore MS, Chapter Five). There was also a school for girls, first established on Abner Harrell's own plantation in the 1830s, and later, in 1851, an annex of the Union Academy (Jones MS, 1; Parramore MS, Chapters Four and Five). Harrell's school, a one-story frame side gable building still on the property, had two schoolmistresses, one of whom, Miss Mary Womble (1819-1857), was to be the last of Harrell's four wives (Jones MS, 1; Winborne, 187). Parramore writes that, in the 1850s, the town "strove to create and maintain such a community atmosphere as would cause parents at some distance to send their children here for an education," noting the festivities attached to the school year's events (Parramore MS, Chapter Four). That there were more convenient places to worship was probably essential; the Methodists had abandoned the Anglican Chapel in 1842 and erected a church on the south side of East Main Street, the site being, roughly, where the current Hoggards Store, behind R.C. Mason & Son, is today (Valentine, 10/27/1842; Higgins, 1). The Bethlehem Baptist Church was also attended by Harrellsville residents (Valentine, 6/12/1837; Joyner, 47). And the town, and its farmers, continued to flourish: The agricultural schedule for the United States 1850 Census shows that John Bembury Sharp, a local planter who operated a seine fishery, had harvested 3,000 bushels of Indian corn, had livestock valued at \$1,500.00, and had ginned 40 bales (400 pounds each) of cotton in 1849. Joseph and E.D. Scull, whose ancestors had originally settled closer to the Chowan River, opened a general store in Harrellsville in 1851, and cornered their advantage of also being tailors by adding a proviso that they would not make clothes from any cloth not bought at their store (Parramore MS, Chapter Four).

In 1860, Harrellsville's planters and major farmers --

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Harrell, John O. Askew, John B. Sharp, E.D. Scull and Joseph J. Scull -- had, among them, cleared 2,994 acres of woodland. Between them, they owned ninety sheep, 535 swine, and had cultivated over 50,000 bushels of Indian corn and a thousand of sweet potatoes (United States Agricultural Schedule, Hertford County, Harrellsville Section, 1860). As such, they were only a fraction of the developments within Hertford County and a smaller fraction, still, in the neighboring counties of Bertie, Gates, Chowan, and Northampton. Hertford County alone had tilled 73,000 acres in 1860 and had, overall, over 3,000 sheep and 20,000 swine (United States Census Statistics, 1860). As early as 1852, William D. Valentine, in assessing the area's economy, had concluded "Tar, turpentine, and lumber are about used up," emphasizing the growing importance of the farms (Valentine, 5/1852). And despite Harrellsville's comparative puniness in production to its neighbors, in 1860 Harrell, Sharp, and Askew were in that elite percentage (two percent), according to Cornelius Cathey, of landowners possessing over 500 acres (Cathey, 44). Even with the labor exacted of slaves, the average farm had gradually decreased in size from 1850 to 1860, and only one-third of the landowners (30% of North Carolina farmers and planters, according to Cathey) owned more than ten slaves (Cathey, 44).

The Civil War did not directly affect Harrellsville until nearly the very end but the community suffered, as others did, from hardship and loss of family members. Lou Evans Mason, a lifelong resident of Harrellsville, said in a 1991 interview for the Virginia Pilot (Norfolk, VA) that, as a child, she remembered "My grandmother used to just cry and tell us not to talk about it when I would ask her about the war (Whitt, B-3a)." The late Roxana Askew Jones (b. 1853), in a 1928 lecture prepared for the local United Daughters of the Confederacy chapter, recalled that the Yankees, when entering Harrellsville, "set fire to the Abner Harrell Store used for the commissary department." On the second raid, the Union troops, enroute to capture Confederate horses and wagons at Pitch Landing, "searched all houses for 'apple jack' [brandy]. . . took all horses" and, though they returned horses belonging to private citizens, killed all the Confederate horses and mules and burned their wagons (Jones, 5).

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Abner Harrell's misfortunes from the war provide one illustration of losses suffered in the community; before the partial destruction of Harrellsville by Union troops in January 1864 and the liberation/escape of his sixty-five slaves, Harrell's real estate value was \$25,000 and his personal estate was valued at \$46,000 (United States Population and Agricultural Schedules for Hertford County, Harrellsville Section, 1860). Harrell rewrote his will in August 1864, altering it to provide his son, William J. Harrell (described as a "gentleman of pleasure" living with his brother-in-law's family in the 1880 census), with a life write only of the Harrell plantation, which was to revert to the youngest children, Lucy and Ellen, after his son's death. (Almasy, 1857-1868: 37-38) In another document, however, dated May 1865 and proven by John O. Askew in 1879 (Hertford Co. Will Book "G"/239), Harrell left his plantation to his son-in-law, John Askew, reserving the plantation for himself in what were to be, literally, the remaining days of his life.

By 1870, Harrellsville was making some headway toward rebuilding its village and recultivating its crops, although without the aid of slave labor. Overall, 9,406 acres of land in the township were cultivated; the value of farming implements and machinery was at \$3,586.00, and the value of livestock (sheep, swine, and cattle) was at \$35,050. One hundred and twenty-nine households were listed as, combined, cultivating 33,593 bushels of Indian corn and, between, ninety farms, 470 bales of cotton were harvested (United States Agricultural Schedule for Hertford County, Harrellsville Section, 1870). The 1872 Branson's Business Directory (published in Raleigh, NC) lists three stores in Harrellsville -- the Scull brothers, who were running separate businesses, and Norman L. Shaw -- and W.G. Freeman as the town physician. However, five years later, the town had eight general stores, one of which was operated by Charles L. Sharp, John Bembury Sharp's son, who was also involved in business ventures with John O. Askew (Hertford County Register of Deeds, G/245 and G/247, Harrell>Sharp & Askew, 1879). It is possible that half of Charles Sharp's "double store" was the late Judge Joseph Blythe's office on East Main Street and, as such, may be the oldest surviving commercial building in Harrellsville; further investigation of the building

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itself will be necessary to confirm this.

Prosperity continued, and increased, in the 1880s. The Scull brothers, for one, still maintained their separate general stores and had, especially E.D. Scull, acquired woodland and farms from less-successful landowners (Branson's 1884; United States Agricultural Schedule for Hertford County, Harrellsville Section, 1880). Land maintenance was also more extensive; local farmers like Charles L. Sharp spent a great deal on building and repairing fences (\$160.00), fertilizers (\$150.00), and labor (\$1,200.00) [Agricultural Schedule, 1880]. The 1884 Branson's Directory lists eighty-five farmers in the Harrellsville area (where the seven largest farmers had only been listed before), along with eight general stores, a lumber store, a printer, a boarding house, and a new resident physician -- Dr. Abner H. Askew, Abner Harrell's grandson.

The Union Male Academy, a great source of pride to Harrellsville, closed in 1872 and was used for some time afterwards as a Baptist church, until the first one was built nearby in 1880. Then, the building -- in 1880 documentary photographs, a handsome two-story building with a cupola -- was used as a school before being torn down in the early 1890s. After the Civil War, schools for black children were gradually established in Harrellsville township, one of the first, according to local African American historian Mauvice Brett, in 1868 (Brett, 1). By 1917, there were seven schools for the community's African American children (Brett, 2). By the early twentieth century, Harrellsville township's white children went to the Harrellsville School, a two-story temple-front building on East Main Street where the brick W.P.A. school auditorium now stands, or the small schools established in nearby Evans Town or Christian Harbor (Harrellsville MS; Mason 1994; Evans 1994). The first Harrellsville School, originally a one-room classroom, was given to the community by the Sharp family in 1900 (Harrellsville MS; Mason 1995). The first schoolteachers, Mildred and Thelma Durfey, commuted to the school from their home north of the Wiccacon River (Branson's; Mason 1994, 1995). Nora Mason of Edenton was the principal by 1915 (Hertford County Herald, December 25, 1914).

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were constructed by the early 1920s; Dr. Powell's garage, a frame clipped-gable structure with sliding sash doors, is still standing. Although a steel bridge built across the Wiccacon River in 1922 facilitated further travel, a car in Harrellsville was not a common thing in the first quarter of the twentieth century, as road conditions were not up to the automobiles; most of the locals confined their driving to pleasure trips along the West Chowan shoreline (Parramore MS, Chapter 8). And buggies were not relegated to the past too quickly; according to the Albemarle Steam and Navigation Ledgers at the Harrellsville Historical Association, David N. Evans was receiving "buggies" from Greenville, North Carolina (possibly from the Flanagan manufactory), on a regular basis in 1919.

By the early 1940s, the roads in southeastern Hertford County had caught up to the automobile which, itself, had continued to progress and metamorphose. Harrellsville's main streets were paved in 1938 and 1939, but the Ahoskie road was not paved until the 1940s. The Askew Brothers had built an Art Deco masonry service station at the northwest corner of Tar Landing Road and Main Street in the 1930s; David Evans also built an Art Deco masonry station (Photograph 2) across the street from the Askew station at the same time. Neither station went out of business; furthermore, Hunter Taylor built his two-story "pink station", just east of the Askew and Evans stations, in 1930. A 1941 documentary photograph taken by Lou Evans Mason of Harrellsville's East Main Street even shows that there was a Sinclair gasoline service station just beyond Hunter Taylor's store (about where M.E. Baker's garage, sometimes known as the B & H Garage, stands today). In the photograph, six cars and a truck are visible along Main Street; even if Harrellsville was a small backwater community, there was enough business, between farms and transport, to support four gas stations all in viewing distance of each other.

After 1919, little printed, or written, documentation exists about Harrellsville; the Hertford County Herald's "Harrellsville News" column became less frequent after 1916 and virtually stopped by 1920. There was no directory for Harrellsville, unlike the larger towns of Ahoskie and Windsor. Consequently, apart from deeds, oral history, and occasional written references, it is difficult to piece together the

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During the last half of the nineteenth century, Harrellsville was home to some significant personages. Walter Reed lived there as a child; Reed's father was the minister at Bethel Methodist Church (later Harrellsville United Methodist Church, relocated to Quebec Street in 1875) between 1856 and 1860 (Askew, 161). Hunter Clay Sharp, a relative of John and Charles Sharp, attended the Union Academy and then after a short stint at the University of Maryland's Medical School (1881-1882) went on to a distinguished foreign service career. In 1894 Sharp was appointed an envoy to the United States Embassy in Tokyo, becoming a Vice Consul and Interpreter for the Embassy by 1900. In 1920, he was appointed Consul General for the U.S. Embassy in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he died three years later (Sharp private papers; Askew, 162; Parramore MS, Chapter Eight). Another Harrellsville native who was a contemporary of Sharp's, and who, according to Parramore, took Sharp to Tokyo, was his brother-in-law, Thomas Roberts Jernigan; Jernigan was appointed by Grover Cleveland in 1885 as Consul to Kobe, Japan, and, in 1895, was Consul to Shanghai, China, for two years (Askew, 162; Parramore MS, Chapters Seven and Eight). During that time, Jernigan was involved with helping Japanese imprisoned in China during the Boxer Rebellion (Parramore MS, Chapter Eight). Jernigan remained in Shanghai to work as an attorney for Standard Oil, occasionally visited by his son, Starkey Jernigan; his wife, Fannie Sharp Jernigan, remained in Harrellsville (Winborne, 242; Askew, 163; Hertford County Herald, September 3, 1915). Robert Lee Vann, in his short memoir, recalls that Mrs. Jernigan, who lived outside of the village, was a music teacher.

Vann himself, an African American who grew up among the "beautiful lawns" and "stately trees" of Abner Harrell's old home, was the son of one of the Askew family's domestic servants (Vann, 269). The Askews, especially Mrs. John O. Askew, II (the former Mary Valentine, ironically William D. Valentine's niece), took a personal interest in young Vann's education (Vann, 270). Vann received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1906, and a law degree from the same institution three years later (ibid., 269). He then founded the Pittsburgh Courier, one of the first major African American urban newspapers, and became, during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's administration, a Special Assistant to the Attorney General

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(Vann, 269; Askew, 164). Another notable African American in later nineteenth-century Harrellsville was Parker D. Robbins, an inventor from nearby Powellville, who was Harrellsville's postmaster in the 1870s before moving to Duplin County where he was to build a steamboat for freighting cotton, tar, and pitch along the Cape Fear. During his time in Harrellsville, Robbins patented a cotton cultivator and a saw sharpener (Barfield, 12).

From the above, the Harrellsville natives who went elsewhere are indicative of a progressive view that apparently flourished in the prosperous late nineteenth-century town. With the improved transportation of railways, the steamers along the Chowan and roadways, the outside world, if only Franklin or Suffolk, was considerably more accessible. A 1904 timetable for the Albemarle Steam and Navigation Company (1840-1929), which provided connections for the Norfolk and Southern and Atlantic Coastline Railroads, shows Harrellsville as a destination and embarkation point (Price, 203). The townspeople, particularly the Askew family, took advantage of the improvements of travel; Lillian Askew (1878-c.1960), Abner Harrell's great-granddaughter, studied in Norfolk and graduated from the prestigious Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore (Hertford County Herald obituary, n.d.). Her brothers, Grady and John O. Askew, III, traveled to Atlantic City on a regular basis and, in 1915, Grady Askew traveled to San Francisco for the U.S. Exposition, a forerunner of the World's Fair (Hertford County Herald, 1915-1917).

Transportation, however, from Harrellsville at the turn of the twentieth century was not without its hazards or dangers. The December, 11, 1914 issue of Ahoskie's Hertford County Herald wrote of the death by drowning by "Uncle William Mintenall, the faithful old ferryman at Boone Harrell Ferry" [a ferry crossing on the Wiccacon River in constant operation from the eighteenth century] who had "accidentally [fallen] overboard last Wednesday a.m." (December 11, 1914, 3). A 1916 article in the Hertford County Herald's Harrellsville section announced the town's relief that the Winton ferry, their connection to Norfolk and points north, was again running after a brief hiatus (June 16, 1916, 4). Although prosperous at the turn of the century --

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citizens, the Bank of Harrellsville in 1912; the bank, a one-story cement block structure whose front was remodeled with a rock-faced concrete block and brick facade in 1938, stood immediately to the east of what is now the R.C. Mason & Son Store and was demolished in the 1980s (Askew, 168; Mason, 1994). Henry Clay Sharp also planted elm trees along Main Street and was helpful to the Harrellsville African-American community; in 1905, he sold four and a half acres of his land for a nominal fee to the Mount Pleasant Church for a new and larger church (Mount Pleasant, 6). Sharp also built the two-story front gable general store for his stepson, Bembury L. Sharp, that became Williams Brothers and finally R.C. Mason & Son, in 1905 (Photograph 2). The Askew Brothers took over their father's business -- a two-story, narrow frame store, at the northeast corner of Main Street and Tar Landing Road, with a false front parapet facade and a wheel window in the second story -- in 1916 (Hertford County Herald, January 21, 1916, 5). The Askew Brothers sold a range of products, including eyeglasses and white canvas shoes, but the bulk of its advertising, especially at the beginning of their thirty-nine year run, was for "Original and Genuine 'American' Close Mesh Hog and Cattle Fences", "Guano Sowers," barbed wire, and harrows (Hertford County Herald, 1916-1918). Other early twentieth-century merchants in Harrellsville included Wiley B. Gillam, Tennyson Holloman the grocer, and Hunter Taylor, whose general store and warehouse were all a conveniently short distance from his home on East Main Street. One of the town commissioners, B.N. Sykes (1887-1957), who lived just outside Harrellsville, furthermore, was listed as one of the Progressive Farmer's "Master Farmers of North Carolina" in 1927 (Mason, 1995).

In the spring of 1915, the "Harrellsville News" section of Ahoskie's Hertford County Herald mentioned that "Mr. Jesse Taylor took a crowd of young ladies to Capeharts fishery Monday on (sic.) his automobile (April 23, 1915: 4). Three years later, the same newspaper listed four Harrellsville citizens as the owners of "four new cars"; J.A. Powell, the town doctor and the son of Jim Powell, has a Studebaker Six, as did B.N. Sykes. Bismark Scull had a Reo and Starkey Sharp, an Oldsmobile Six (December 13, 1918: 1). Garages for these "horseless carriages"

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in 1905, Harrellsville had three doctors, nine general stores, and a population of 109 citizens -- its economy was tied to the river trade, and therefore vulnerable.

In 1905, Harrellsville was already aware of the growing town of Ahoskie, ten miles to the west. Previously not much more of a crossroads, Ahoskie as known today came into being when, in 1885, a logging rail line was built by Joseph Tunis (formerly of Salisbury, Maryland) to convey lumber from his sawmill to points in Bertie County (Letsinger, 7). In 1889, A.G.M. Serpell, of Norfolk, included Ahoskie as a stop on his Norfolk and Carolina Railroad, from its Norfolk to Tarboro line, and the first passengers made the trip in 1890 (Letsinger, 7). Two years before, the Cockey and Powell sawmill had opened in Ahoskie; between the breakup of Cockey and Powell in the late 1890s and the establishment of the Branning Manufacturing Company's sawmill in Ahoskie, economic opportunities abounded (ibid.) In 1900, the Atlantic Coastline Railroad's inclusion of Ahoskie as a stop further cemented its ascendancy as Hertford County's marketplace. Harrellsville and its neighboring towns of Powellsville and Colerain were hampered by what Letsinger terms "intolerable roadways," a situation that did not improve, even with the 1922 replacement of the Boone Harrell Ferry with a steel bridge, until the Colerain road was improved in 1937 and the Harrellsville road to Ahoskie (N.C. 561) in the mid-1940s (Letsinger, 4). By that time, however, Harrellsville was a considerably smaller and more sedate village; many of her citizens, like Raleigh J. Baker (the man who coined the phrase "Watch Ahoskie Grow"), Russell Callis, and Bismark Scull, had moved to Ahoskie in the first quarter of the twentieth century (Askew, 166-167; Mason, 1994).

However, Harrellsville did not die on the vine in the way the Pitch Landing community had. Through the enterprises of Hunter Taylor, Ralph C. Mason, Sr., the Williams Brothers, Grady and John Askew (II and III), David N. Evans and other early twentieth-century townspeople, the town did not overtake Murfreesboro or Ahoskie but it did remain a viable center of farming and commerce. Henry Clay Sharp, Hertford County's former Registrar of Deeds, who married Charles L. Sharp's (a cousin) widow, founded, along with John O. Askew, II, and other

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history of the town in a cohesive way; rather like a distant radio station, Harrellsville's 1920s, 1930s and 1940s begin with audible facts intermittently silenced by the intervening static of time past. In this case, oral history, backed up by some documentation, closes some of the gaps. The steamboat trade was gone by the 1930s (Askew, 169; U.S. Postmaster General Application, 1931). An application to the United States Postmaster General in 1931 states that there were one hundred and fifty-one families within a one-mile radius of the new post office. At this time, the other economic ventures along Harrellsville's waterways were declining; the Askews' warehouse at Tar Landing closed in the 1930s, although the nearby H.H. Taylor Sawmill continued for a few more years (Mason, 1995). Harrellsville's town streetlights were turned on on February 4, 1937 (Mason, 1995).

Early-to-mid-twentieth-century recreation in the town has not been completely documented; it is known that Harrellsville had a baseball team, like many small towns, in the early twentieth century. The Hertford County Herald mentions the town baseball team twice (July 16 and July 30, 1915: 4). There is no information about the team after the 1920s. A player for the nearby Colerain baseball team, Henry Ghysom, was considered good enough to have a street named after him in 1953. The street's name was later changed to Sunset Avenue.

A two-story brick school was built east of the Harrellsville temple-front school in 1924 and, in 1938, the older school building was torn down to make way for a modern brick auditorium designed by Frank W. Benton of Wilson, North Carolina. According to the Hertford County News Herald, the Harrellsville School closed in 1964, when students were bused to Ahoskie (News Herald, July 29, 1985).

From antebellum wooden fence posts covered in ivy to family cemetery plots just beyond ancestral frame houses, the past is never very far away in Harrellsville. The village combines the pastoral landscape one visualizes in a Thomas Hardy novel with the gentle, occasionally fractious, communal interactions over generations that could easily be placed in a novel by Anthony Trollope or Jane Austen. Harrellsville has persevered and

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endured, from its well-preserved residential and commercial buildings to its agrarian basis and its families, whose roots in the community go back a century or two. In its current state, it is the very model of the rural early twentieth-century in the Albemarle region of North Carolina.

### Architectural Context

Although a village, Harrellsville's contributing architectural resources encompass traditional building forms and nationally popular styles within a one hundred and forty-year period, from the Federal period to the late Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles of the later 1940s. The significance of the overall architecture is its typicality for the time period and the setting -- and its survival. For example, the frame commercial buildings along East Main Street, such as the R.C. Mason & Son Store (No. 37), the former W.A. Holloman Store (No. 38), and the former Blythe office (No. 11) are typical examples of late nineteenth-century small town dry goods and general stores that are now rare examples. Most towns replaced their frame stores with brick ones by the turn of the twentieth century; Ahoskie, and even the nearby community of Powellsville in northeastern Bertie County, have brick, rather than frame, commercial buildings. The alternative to brick, with commercial buildings, was often to vanish; Cofield, a Hertford County town once comparable to Harrellsville, is comparatively devoid of any significant commercial buildings. Hertford County's seat, Winton, also has relatively few significant commercial buildings compared to Harrellsville.

A crucial factor in Harrellsville's architectural integrity is that other comparable Hertford County towns, particularly Winton and Cofield, have lost much of the "sense of place" that Harrellsville has managed to preserve. Harrellsville has kept its original layout; all of the roads in the town, with the exception of Sunset Avenue, Taylor Drive, and Taylor Landing off Tar Landing Road, have been in place since the mid-nineteenth century. Even with the removal of trees in the commercial district and some of the stores and older houses in the center of Harrellsville, the residential and commercial districts are

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still cohesive. Many of the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century houses, furthermore, have their original outbuildings and landscaping.

A further dimension to Harrellsville's architectural and geographic resources include the fields and woodlands surrounding the town. The principal mid-nineteenth-century citizens of Harrellsville -- the Harrells, Askews, Sharps, Downings, Durfeys, and Sculls -- were all landowners and their farms were adjacent to their homes and stores. The continuation of fields and woods within the town limits is a continuation of the early agricultural basis of the town. William D. Valentine, the nineteenth-century Harrellsville lawyer, was intimately acquainted with the surrounding woodlands and describes walking through them, sometimes with a gun and a dog, in many of his journal entries.

Harrellsville's surviving antebellum buildings are in the late Federal and vernacular Greek Revival style. Abner Harrell's (No. 3) and John Bembury Sharp's (No. 27) plantations stand at the west and east ends of the town, along Main Street. Both houses are two-story, side-gable timber frame dwellings with original beaded weatherboarding, double-shouldered exterior end chimneys and, inside, wainscoting and vernacular tripartite wood mantelpieces. The Harrell House (No. 3) and its outbuildings comprise the oldest collection of buildings in Harrellsville, and certainly the most historically significant.

The house is thought to have been built circa 1810, and was mentioned in John Wilson's advertisement of the property in the Edenton Gazette in 1827. The antebellum school, according to local sources, was built between 1835 and 1850. Abner Harrell's house, originally sited at the end of a long avenue of trees, is now semi-visible from West Main Street. The old Methodist Parsonage (No. 78, ca. 1843) and the Askew Cottage (No. 65, now on South Quebec Street) were closer to the center of town. These are both one-story, single-pile houses with a center-hall plan and rear ells. There are a few miscellaneous antebellum outbuildings; except for the outbuildings on Abner Harrell's farm, the other outbuildings appear to have been moved from other sites. Other antebellum artifacts include two gravestones in the Sharp cemetery plot (No. 1, dating from the early

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nineteenth century; their decoration -- both scrolled-top marble tombstones, one with a nearly prostrate weeping willow -- and lettering are more typical of New England or Middle Atlantic late eighteenth-century/early nineteenth-century tombstones. As it happens, Dr. William L. Smith (no dates given on the stone) came to the Harrellsville-Pitch Landing community at the end of the eighteenth century from Connecticut; the remains of his infant son, John L. Smith (d. 1811), lay under the tombstone decorated with the willow.

The traditional I-houses in Harrellsville built after the Civil War are typical of surviving rural vernacular postwar dwellings, with one exception. The exception is the Daniel Sharp House (No. 62), a single-pile, two-story weatherboarded side gable I-house, which has an unusual attached two-story porch crowned by three front gables decorated with patterned vergeboard and shingles. There were also traditional houses, with composite eclectic exterior features, built along East Main Street in Harrellsville in the last half of the nineteenth-century. One was the Shaw-Scull-Taylor House (No. 15), built for the merchant Norman Leslie Shaw in the 1860s, a two-story, double-pile, side gable center hall plan frame house with Italianate and Stick Style elements. Another was Dr. Abner Askew's house (No. 21, ca. 1880), a two-story vernacular Victorian frame side gable house, has some Italianate features and one unusual later nineteenth-century feature, which is that the narrow-shouldered twin chimneys are at the back eave wall. The Abner Askew house is still set back some distance from East Main Street, and the indication of the avenue of trees once leading to the house is still evident.

The turn of the twentieth century brought a range of traditional late Victorian-Queen Anne style residences to Harrellsville, the occupants of these residences being, for the most part, the village's middle class and farmers. Jim Powell, a farmer and landowner, built a two-story Triple-A I-house (No. 32) to replace an earlier house; Ike Taylor, who operated William Copeland and Hunter Taylor's early twentieth-century sawmill, built a gable-and-wing, two-story house (No. 19) by the

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old Harrellsville Baptist Church, close to the site of the Union Male Academy. The houses all reflect elements of styles contemporary at the time -- for example, many of the entrances and porches have early Colonial Revival style features, and the interplay of pedimented projecting bays and irregular floor plans common to the Queen Anne style are exhibited in some of the houses. Both the Jim Powell House, at 200 East Main Street, and the Baker-Rountree House (No. 74; see Photograph 1) on the west side of Quebec Street, are similar Triple-A, two-story side gable houses built circa 1905 in Harrellsville. The Baker-Rountree House may have been another house built by Jim Powell, who was a major landowner of property on Quebec Street's west side. The Ike Taylor House, "Jupe" Holloman House (No. 14), and J.L. Smith House (No. 4), all located on the north side of West and East Main Streets, are all gable-and-wing plan Queen Anne style residences.

The Scull-Evans House (No. 40), at the southwest corner of Main and Quebec Streets, is a good example of an early two-story Colonial Revival hipped roof frame house with twin side interior chimneys, paired and three-part windows, and a full-facade one-story front porch. The house was built for Bismark Scull, the Hertford County Sheriff, circa 1919, to replace an earlier house on the site. The front porch, which has a corner gazebo, was extended to create a porte-cochere.

The Jesse Taylor House (No. 57; see Photograph 4) on the east side of Quebec Street and the Sumner Ives House (No. 30), located on the south side of East Main Street, were built about ten years apart (the Ives House, circa 1910, and the Taylor House, circa 1920) but are both two examples of late Victorian one-story hipped roof cottages with decorative hipped dormers. The Sumner Ives House, the more elaborate of the two, has a wraparound front porch with a pedimented entrance and its dormers have Queen Anne-style stained glass windows.

In the early twentieth century, four of Harrellsville's most prominent houses -- the Abner Harrell House (which had passed to the Askew line), the Shaw-Scull-Taylor House (during the time Hunter and Mattie Scull Taylor lived there), the Abner H. Askew House (during the 1920s) and the John Bembury Sharp House --

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were altered by the addition, to each, of a Neoclassical Revival style full-facade, one-story front porch surmounted by a two-story front gable portico supported by vernacular style columns. The chronology, according to local sources, is that the Abner Harrell House was the first house to have its porch altered (c. 1910-1915), followed by the John B. Sharp House (c. 1910-1920), then the Shaw-Scull-Taylor House (c. 1920) and, finally in the later 1920s, the Abner Askew House. A possible clue as to the identity of the unknown porch builder may be found through a former turn-of-the-twentieth-century Harrellsville resident, Raleigh J. Baker, whose former house on Church Street in nearby Ahoskie has a front porch and portico nearly identical to the Harrell and Sharp houses. According to Philip Letsinger's architectural inventory of Ahoskie, Raleigh Baker "converted his two-tier porch to a one-story porch and extended the center roof gable to become a two-story portico supported on paired full-height columns" in 1910 (Letsinger, 44). Letsinger goes on to note the "unusual vernacular interpretation of the classical orders" of these columns, which, unlike the Sharp and Harrell houses, also have full-length pilasters.

The houses built in Harrellsville in the 1920s and 1930s were, primarily, vernacular frame one-and-a-half story side gable Craftsman cottages with bungalow style front porches. The building period of these houses begins about 1924 and ends in the late 1930s. The first Craftsman bungalow in Harrellsville, the modest Baptist Parsonage on East Main Street (No. 20), was built ten years after a July 1915 article in the Hertford County Herald, entitled, "The Bungalow Has Come To Stay: Type of Building in Greater Demand Than Ever". Unlike the irregular plans of the Queen Anne houses and the not always efficient plans of earlier houses, the bungalow's efficiency was touted, in addition to the "splendid light" in the kitchen contained within the main block of the house. The two Craftsmen cottages in Harrellsville with the most exterior decoration are the J.E. Wilder House (No. 54) and the Sessoms-Bullock House (No. 65), both on Quebec Street. The Wilder House, built circa 1924, has an engaged full-facade bungalow style porch over which is a shed dormer with two paired two-over-two windows, knee braces, exposed rafters, and shingling. The Sessoms-Bullock House, built circa 1930 by an African American family who operated the

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front gable frame laundry and dry cleaners outbuilding directly on Quebec Street, though obscured by evergreens and other trees, also has exterior decorative elements, primarily the patterned shingles and knee braces at each side gable.

In addition to the frame Craftsman houses, there are two brick Craftsman bungalows, one, the Henry L. Morris House, (No. 44), built in 1924, and the other, the Stallings Bynum House (No. 6), built in 1935 for the operator of the Askew Brother's Esso Station. The later Craftsman cottages, like the Dr. Estus White House (No. 41) and the Winborne House (No. 77), are one-story front gable dwellings. The Harry Evans House (No. 42) on the south side of West Main Street, however, is a one-and-a-half story side gable Craftsman cottage built in the mid-to-late thirties.

The Askew House (No. 2), a two-story, three-bay brick late Georgian Revival dwelling with two one-story side extensions, has unusual exterior features including a more modern version of tripartite windows and the side exterior end brick chimneys, each forming a segmental arch enclosure around a second story window.

Overall construction in the Harrellsville Historic District topped out around 1942. There are a few Minimal Traditional Colonial one-and-a-half story frame cottages just outside the period of significance, the two oldest being the current Methodist Parsonage on Quebec Street (No. 56), which was built in 1949, and the R.L. Rowe House (No. 5) on the north side of West Main Street, built in 1946. There are also, in the African-American neighborhood along South Quebec Street, brick ranches and metal pre-manufactured houses and trailers from the 1970s and 1980s.

The three remaining late nineteenth-century frame commercial buildings in Harrellsville -- the Blythe office, the W.A. Holloman Store, and the R.C. Mason & Son Store -- are all three-bay, front gable weatherboarded buildings built between the late

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1870s and 1905. The Holloman and Mason stores have most to nearly all of their original exterior decoration of ornamental vergeboard, prominent gable returns, and large bay display windows with manufactured beaded board paneling and entrance ceilings; the Mason Store's front gable is decorated with patterned shingles and the louvered shutters seen in a documentary photograph of the store c. 1910 have been restored. The interior of the Mason store is exceptionally well-preserved, and features an elliptical second story balustraded balcony, original shelving with millwork trim, glass and mahogany display counters, patterned manufactured tongue-and-groove beaded board siding, and nearly all of the store's original hardware fixtures (including period fire extinguishers). The front gable frame Taylor Warehouse (No. 12) sided with tin, located directly to the east of the Blythe office, is the only surviving industrial warehouse structure in the Harrellsville historic district.

The two academic structures, one contributing, built between 1920 and 1938 in Harrellsville are the former Harrellsville School Gymnasium and Auditorium (No. 25) on the north side of East Main Street (the Harrellsville School, a two-story brick building built in 1924 was demolished in the 1980s). The only contributing service station in the district is now the D.N. Evans Texaco Station (No. 39) at Quebec and East Main Street.

There are now only two churches in the historic district. Harrellsville's United Methodist Church (No. 80) was built in 1880 on the west side of Quebec Street, the third and latest of the community's Methodist worship sites; the first, the 'Anglican Chapel' near Tar Landing, was used until 1842, when a church was built in Harrellsville. The church on Quebec Street is a weatherboarded front gable structure that combined traditional nineteenth-century ecclesiastical architecture with interior details possibly inspired by the Akron Plan churches which were transforming the traditional nave/sanctuary plan of nineteenth-century churches; the partitioned space to the opposite side of the choir stall was once a Sunday School. The Baptist Church (No. 29), a late Colonial Revival brick pedimented front gable building is currently just outside of the

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period of significance but is, nonetheless, a good example of a Colonial Revival ecclesiastical structure. The 1916 agricultural map of Hertford County has a detail of Harrellsville (Exhibit C), indicating that there was yet another church, roughly just east of the Harrellsville School. This may have been the first site of the African-American Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, which is now further east on the Colerain road. The church was gone before 1920, and no known documentary photographs exist.

Since 1945, there have been some changes to Harrellsville's streetscapes, and the loss of some commercial buildings. In 1952, Sunset Avenue, which was cut between the Harrellsville Post Office and the Jim Powell House on the south side of West Main Street, was planned by Harry K. Evans; it was then called "Ghysom Avenue," in honor of a baseball player for the Colerain team; Henry Ghysom (Harrellsville, like many early twentieth-century towns, had had a baseball team as early as 1915 and apparently some citizens continued to follow other local baseball teams avidly) and contained nineteen lots, ten of which were developed. Taylor Drive, located on the north side of East Main Street beside the "Jupe" Holloman House and the Shaw-Scull-Taylor House, is a residential cul-de-sac development of houses dating from the 1970s, in addition to the new Wiccacon Masonic Lodge building. None of these newer neighborhoods has threatened the integrity of Harrellsville's surviving historic buildings or streetscape. The newer buildings -- Hoggards Store on the south side of East Main Street, Town Hall (c. 1959), and the Centura Bank alteration of the former second Bank of Harrellsville -- are all small buildings which do not adversely affect the Harrellsville historic district's character.

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Additional UTM information  
18/338520/4018460

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Harrellsville Historic District are as indicated in the accompanying Harrellsville Historic District sketch map drawn to a scale of approximately 1"=200'; property lines are taken from the Harrellsville Tax Map drawn by Brad Moore, 1992 summer intern, Eastern Office of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. The tax map was verified against the aerial maps of the community in the Tax Records office at the Hertford County Courthouse, Winton, NC, by Penne Smith in May 1995, and is correct.

The boundaries are drawn along the property lines to exclude the two post-1945 neighborhoods, Taylor Drive and Sunset Avenue, from the Harrellsville Historic District. The west, northwest and southwest boundaries reflect the town limits of Harrellsville which, according to the maps, have not changed in these areas since 1916. The southeast boundary follows Long Branch Creek before moving north to exclude Taylor Drive. The northeast, east and southeast borders of Harrellsville were extended to incorporate the Harrellsville School by 1938.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Harrellsville Historic District are drawn to incorporate the largest number of contributing resources within the town of Harrellsville's limits, as well as residences immediately outside the town limits, such as the Daniel Sharp House (No. 62, 1885-1890) and the Sessoms House (No. 65, ca. 1924), which are both significant resources associated with Harrellsville's African-American community. The historic district has been extended a short distance east of the town limits (as well as to the south) to include the John Bembury Sharp House (No. 27, ca. 1833-1835).

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