

# INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Iredell County

☒ MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR ☐ THEMATIC NOMINATION

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Statesville Commercial Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION See Item #10 and attached map.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Statesville

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9th

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

037

COUNTY

Iredell

CODE

097

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

### CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

### OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☐ PRIVATE

☒ BOTH

### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES RESTRICTED

☒ YES UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☒ GOVERNMENT

☒ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☒ PARK

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple ownership. (See attached list.)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Laura A. W. Phillips (Winston-Salem)

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

February 4, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

Archives and History

TELEPHONE

(919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT      ☐ DETERIORATED  
☒ GOOD      ☐ RUINS  
☒ FAIR      ☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Statesville Commercial Historic District is just that—the commercial core of Statesville which encompasses the oldest area of commercial development in the town. The district is centered on the main intersection of Statesville, the crossing of Broad and Center streets, and spreads outward in four directions from that point, covering all or parts of nine city blocks and including more than eighty buildings. All properties except the First A. R. Presbyterian Church at 123-125 E. Broad St. (No. 81) are commercial or governmental in nature if one includes the former County Jail at 122 Meeting St. (No. 69) and the former County Courthouse at the southwest corner of S. Center and Court streets (No. 70), although they are now used for cultural and educational purposes.

The two main streets in the district, Broad and Center, are wider than the shorter stretches of Meeting, Court, Front and Cooper streets which are also included within the district. Both Broad and Center streets are lined with small dogwood trees which add color to the district in fall, spring, and summer. Although these are relatively new plantings, an engraving from the 1890s depicts S. Center St. with large trees along either side. Most buildings in the district are attached, creating long commercial rows. Most building facades are adjacent to the sidewalk, while a few buildings—the First A. R. Presbyterian Church, the U. S. Post Office at 200 W. Broad St. (No. 46), the former County Jail and the former County Courthouse—are set back from the street with small lawns in front. Such placement tends to emphasize these buildings, and the resulting green spaces offer relief from the hard surfaces of the concrete sidewalks and asphalt streets. The most notable of these green spaces is the area in front of the old Courthouse, which is the largest and provides a setting for the stern Confederate soldier who gazes down at the town from his tall marble pedestal. The most recently created "green space" is the pocket park (No. 15) created where a building was demolished on E. Broad St. just west of 114 E. Broad. This small park consists of an S-shaped stone wall with plantings on the east side and quarry tile pavers on the west side, a circular fountain, and an abstract mural painted on the side of the adjacent building. These refreshing green spaces, along with the street trees, several remaining early twentieth century decorative cast iron fire alarm boxes, and the mixture of building styles add variety and visual interest to the resulting streetscapes.

Several parking lots are found within the district. All but one are largely concealed to the rear of buildings, where they are useful but do not disrupt the visual flow of the architecture. The exception is the gravel parking lot on W. Broad St. (No. 45) across Meeting Street from the Post Office. This area is somewhat unsightly and does disrupt the continuity of the streetscape.

One of the most intriguing features of the district is the character created by the rear building facades in several areas. These tend to be less altered than the front facades, and in some cases are as decorative as the front. The continuity of design exhibited by these facades offers great opportunities for development emphasizing the quality of design present in this normally "hidden" portion of Statesville's commercial district. A prime example of the special character created by these rear facades is found in the center of the block bounded by N. Center, W. Broad, Meeting and West End which includes the rear facades of buildings No. 30-41. This area, almost completely enclosed by the side and rear facades of these buildings, is entered by several alleyways from the main streets. The sense of discovery upon entering this area is great. The rear portion of 119-123 N. Center St. (No. 30) is every bit as decorative as its front facade. Large arched doorways open to the rear and segmental-arched windows line the side. Projecting brickwork in horizontal and vertical bands establishes a type of grid pattern on the side and rear walls, creating a visually interesting sense of three dimensionality. Within the

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

upper rectangles formed by this grid are small crosses formed by projecting brickwork. The side windows are alternately 2/2 sash and two-light fixed windows, creating another pattern. The resulting effect of this particular building is a rich multiplicity of patterns. The rear facades of the other buildings in this inner-block area provide a uniform appearance, with arched doorways--often with transoms--and rows of segmental-arched windows with either 6/6 or 2/2 sash.

Because the Statesville Commercial Historic District contains what were once the primary local government buildings, the oldest banks in town, and the core of the commercial buildings--where the quality of a building not only revealed status but also presumably attracted customers--the quality of design, reflecting several popular styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, is high. The majority of buildings in the district are two stories in height, though others range from one to six stories tall, with most of these being either one or three stories. Brick was the primary material used in the construction of most of the buildings, with trim being executed in stone, wood, cast iron, pressed metal, terra cotta and various modern materials.

Most buildings in the district are in good or excellent condition, although the level of preservation of the original designs varies. Several of the buildings are virtually unaltered on the exterior, while others have had their facades completely covered by new materials during the mid-twentieth century. On some of those which have been altered, the original facades were actually destroyed during the process, while on others the original facade is still intact under the new covering and could be rescued. These altered facades were largely the victims of the mid-twentieth century zeal for updating, modernizing and thereby "improving" the downtown area, a trend common throughout the country. During this renewal process, most buildings were neither left unaltered nor totally altered, but rather underwent modest alterations to modernize the first story levels--which were most visible to the sidewalk pedestrian--and thereby create more shop window display area.

Two-thirds of the buildings in the district contribute to its overall historical and architectural character. Because of front facade alterations, some of these buildings do not at first glance appear to contribute to the district, but in actuality do because of their intact rear facades which contribute to the important character of the alleyways. "Non-contributing" buildings do not really constitute intrusions to the positive qualities of the district, but rather just appear as nondescript structures which fill the spaces between the buildings of more positive character. They are important in terms of scale within their two and three-story context. Unfortunately, some renovations have harmed at least two of the buildings in the district, 114 E. Broad St. (No. 16) and 119-123 N. Center St. (No. 30). These buildings, which represent two of the most intact and architecturally interesting in the district, have been sandblasted, causing damage to both brick and wood.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

The Statesville Commercial Historic District is located on the top of a low hill. This hill not only provides the commercial area with a prominent geographic location in the town today, but also probably played a significant role in the original selection of this location when Statesville was first created. The area that was to become Statesville was established by the Legislature as the county seat of Iredell in 1789, largely because of its location next to Fourth Creek Church.<sup>1</sup> A log courthouse was built on the "Square" formed by the intersection of Center and Broad streets. These streets were laid out from the Square, generally in the directions of the compass points, and stores were gradually built on the four corners and surrounding area.<sup>2</sup> Growth was slow, for in 1800 the population consisted of only 76 persons and by 1850 there were only 215 people in town.<sup>3</sup> In 1850 the town still centered around the Square, where a brick courthouse had replaced the original one of logs.<sup>4</sup> By that time there were more stores and at least two hotels.<sup>5</sup> However, on December 18, 1854, the village of Statesville was largely destroyed by a conflagration which burned most of the town west of Center Street and the courthouse in the Square.<sup>6</sup>

Statesville soon began to rebuild after the fire, and by the time the Western North Carolina Railroad came through in 1858, it was well on its way in changing from a county seat village to a trading center. The third courthouse was built in 1855 at a new location--on the west side of S. Center St., one-half block from the Square. It shared the street during the second half of the nineteenth century with at least two hotels, various commercial structures, and in 1892 the Federal Building and Post Office.<sup>8</sup> The early hotels and commercial buildings were replaced with new ones in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; two banks appeared on the west side of the street; and the courthouse itself was replaced in 1899 by the building which presently stands at that location. The other streets in the district gradually evolved in much the same manner as S. Center St., so that the present building fabric of the district dates primarily from the half century between ca. 1875 and ca. 1925.

An analysis of construction dates for buildings remaining within the district reveals a pattern of growth since the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Apparently only about ten per cent of the present structures were built prior to 1885. Then between ca. 1886 and ca. 1905 the largest period of growth took place, with twenty-four per cent of all present buildings having been erected during those years. The next period, between ca. 1906 and ca. 1918, saw an apparent slow-down in construction, with only eighteen per cent of present buildings being constructed then. Growth picked up between ca. 1919 and ca. 1930, with twenty-two per cent of the present buildings dating from that period. By 1930 the present form of the district was largely in place, for by that time approximately 74 per cent of all currently existing buildings had been built. For the next twenty years, the appearance of the commercial area of Statesville changed little, for only six percent of the present buildings date from that time. Then, in the years after 1950, downtown renewal efforts brought significant changes to the visual character of the district. Post 1950

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3

construction efforts have accounted for approximately twenty per cent of all extant buildings. Actually several of the buildings that can best be dated as post 1950 may have been constructed much earlier and then drastically remodelled in recent years. The resulting outward appearance--that of a mid-twentieth century building--is nevertheless the same. In addition to this twenty per cent which appear to have been built after 1950, another 34 per cent of the earlier buildings show some evidence of mid-twentieth century remodelling, especially at the first story level. However, these figures are somewhat deceiving, for whereas it may seem that mid-twentieth century construction and remodelling dominates the visual character of the district, this is not so. Statesville has not become, in fact, just another commercial center whose past has been obliterated by the drive toward urban renewal which accompanied the 1950s and the 1960s. Rather, the late nineteenth and early twentieth century fabric remains as a dominant visual force and makes the district a distinctive entity with a high quality of architecture reflecting the period during which Statesville became a proud industrial, commercial and cultural center in Piedmont North Carolina.

The architectural styles present in the district illustrate primarily the main periods of commercial growth in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Statesville and can be grouped into three main categories--Late Victorian, early twentieth century Classical, and 1920s Eclectic.

The earliest broad stylistic group present consists of late nineteenth century buildings which can generally be called Late Victorian. Some show Gothic influences, other Italianate, and still others Romanesque, if not more than one of these influences at the same time. The former Walton and Gage Store at 201 W. Broad St. (No. 50) is one of the most architecturally interesting buildings in the district. This relatively unaltered store, built by 1885, suggests not only the Italianate style with its decorative, paired wooden brackets, but also gives a strong Gothic feeling with its pointed arches which surmount the side windows on the first story. One of the most ornate buildings from this period is the Miller Block at 102-104 W. Broad St. (No. 34), built by 1885. Its unaltered second story displays well-defined pressed metal pedimented and bracketed window lintels, brick hood moulds which repeat the triangular line of the pediments, and a heavy, pressed-metal upper cornice. Partial pilasters which terminate at second story window level in corbelled brickwork points hang like so many banners from the roof-line. The intricacies of the detailing on this building are a delight to the eye. On the opposite corner of the Square from the Miller Block, the former First National Bank (101-103 S. Center St., Building No. 14) also makes use of decorative window lintels. Unlike the Renaissance-influenced triangular pediments on the Miller Block, those on the former bank building reflect a later Italianate feeling and are somewhat more ornate. The primary feature, however, of this 1890 building is the clock tower, which projects upward from the corner of the three-story structure. Its four clock faces still mark the time for Statesville citizens.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 4

Four other well-preserved examples from the late Victorian period, dating from ca. 1880 to ca. 1895, are the Lazenby-Montgomery Store at 110 W. Broad St. (No. 36), the former Sloan's Hardware store at 107½-109 E. Broad St. (No. 23), the commercial building at 115 N. Center St., and the commercial building at 114 E. Broad St. (No. 16). These four outstanding buildings exhibit a wealth of details, including such features as pressed metal projecting cornice with finials, or a brick corbelled cornice, segmental-arched windows with segmental-arched hood moulds or rectangular windows with decorative lintels, decorative cornices above first story level, and in the case of 107½-109 E. Broad St., ornate cast iron pilasters. Although these buildings show related features, each makes its own colorful statement in the district.

One special phase of the late Victorian period in architecture focused on Romanesque influenced styles. By far the most architecturally significant structure in the Statesville Commercial Historic District is the 1892 Federal Building and Post Office, which was converted in 1941 to the Statesville City Hall. Already listed inficidually in the National Register, this building is perhaps the best example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style in North Carolina,<sup>9</sup> reflecting the influence of architect Henry Hobson Richardson in the 1870s and 1880s. The city hall at 227 S. Center St. (No. 1), is an exemplar of the style with its sense of weight and massiveness, its rusticated sandstone and terra cotta details which contrast with the red brick body of the building, its complex surface articulation, and its huge stone arch which enframes the recessed main entrance. This exceptional building was designed by W. J. Edbrooke, supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department, at a cost of \$77,500.<sup>10</sup>

Other buildings in the district are less complex examples of the Romanesque Revival with less Richardson flavor. The commercial building at 106-108 S. Center St. (No. 62), the former Henkel Live Stock Co. at 119-123 W. Broad St. (No. 53) all represent this architectural mode and were built between 1895 and 1911. Each features a parapeted cornice line, brick corbel courses near the cornice, and the use of multiple arches. The primary feature of 106-108 S. Center St. is its monumental, rusticated stone, arched entrance, reminiscent of Richardson's work. The buildings at 119-123 N. Center St. and 121-123 W. Broad St. each feature paired or tripled arches. At 119-123 N. Center St. the second-story windows themselves are round arched with arched surrounds, while at 121-123 W. Broad St. the windows themselves are rectangular but have arched surrounds above, with the center arch being larger than those on either side.

In Statesville, design turned gradually from the Romanesque Revival to the more classically-oriented Renaissance Revival. At first glance there is little difference between several of these Renaissance Revival structures and the Romanesque Revival examples. This is especially true of 125-127 W. Broad St. (No. 52) adjacent to the slightly more Romanesque 121-123 W. Broad St. (already described). 125-127 has more strongly pronounced round-arched windows with granite keystone arch surrounds and

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

also a classical entablature with architrave, frieze and dentilled cornice. 109 W. Broad St. (No. 59) has arched windows, with only brick surrounds, and features a strongly articulated dentil cornice with paneled parapet above and quoined pilasters on either corner of the first story level. One of the finest examples of the Renaissance Revival style in Statesville is the sophisticated former Merchants and Farmers Bank at 113 W. Broad St. (No. 57), built in 1908 and now used by North Carolina National Bank. Prominent features of this building include quoined pilasters with Ionic caps which divide the facade into five bays, paneled spandrels with relief casts of lions' heads between second and third story windows, round-arched third story windows with round-arched stone surrounds with acanthus keystones, and full entablature with architrave, frieze and overhanging modillioned cornice. Another sophisticated, although quite different, example of the style can be seen in the former Iredell County Jail at 122 Meeting St. (No. 69). Built in the form of an Italian Renaissance palace, the Old Jail was designed by Charlotte architects Wheeler, Galliher and Stern and constructed by the J. A. Jones Construction Company, also of Charlotte.<sup>11</sup> This impressive two-story brick building features two hip-roofed front wings with overhanging modillion cornice flanking an arcaded, recessed entrance porch with parapeted balcony. The rear cell block is attached to the front administrative block by an arcade.

The full-blown Classical Revival styles of the early twentieth century exhibited stronger ties to ancient Greece and Rome than did the also classically influenced Renaissance Revival. Several proud examples of this early twentieth century classicism can be found in the Statesville Commercial Historic District. Three of the best examples are located side by side on S. Center Street. The first of these is the fourth Iredell County Courthouse at the southwest corner of S. Center and Court streets (No. 70), designed by the Charlotte architectural firm of Hayden, Wheeler and Schwend and built in 1899 by Atlanta contractor Nicholas Ittner.<sup>12</sup> It reflects the French-influenced Beaux Arts style. The five-bay wide, three-story, center blocks is fronted by a two-story, tetrastyle Corinthian pedimented portico and crowned by a mansard cupola. The center block is flanked by pilastered wings. The importance of this building in Statesville is asserted by the front lawn which sets it off from the surrounding buildings. Just north of the former Courthouse at 116 S. Center St. (No. 64) is the former Commercial National Bank, an example of the Neo-Classical Revival style with some hold-overs from the Renaissance Revival. Built ca. 1909, it retains the arched windows popular during the Renaissance Revival, but the dominant feature of the building is its two-story portico with paired Ionic columns surmounted by a pedimented entablature. The modillioned entablature continues around the building and is "supported" by Ionic pilasters. On the other side of the old Courthouse at 210 S. Center St. is the former Peoples Loan and Savings Bank (No. 71). This 1914 building is a more restrained example of the Neo-Classical Revival, highlighted by two-story Doric pilasters, which divide the wall space into bays, and by a modillioned cornice with parapet.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

6

Between 1915 and 1930 several delightful buildings were constructed in the district which can only be described as Eclectic because they display a mixture of influences or no clearly definable influence at all. The first of these is the former Carolina Motor Company at 128-132 E. Broad St. (No. 21), built in 1916. This building features warm red brickwork, end-bay entrances under wide segmental arches, and bracketed cross gables. Just west of this building are two brick commercial structures at 124-126 E. Broad St. (No. 20) and 118-122 E. Broad St. (No. 19). Both have parapeted cornices and terra cotta trim in primarily a diamond-shaped motif. Related to these buildings in detail is another building located across the street (No. 82). Perhaps the most decorative of all of these buildings with no clearly identifiable style is the former Montgomery Ward Store at 114-116 N. Center St. (No. 29A). This fanciful two-story structure delights the eye with its glazed terra cotta tile front with decorative tile panels, urn-topped pilasters, and center bay relief cast of a female figure bearing a torch and balanced on a small globe with a ribbon labeled "Spirit of Progress." Other district structures built between 1925 and 1930 which are rather individualistic in style are the Gray Building at 302 S. Center St. (No. 76) and the Sterns Building at 145-153 E. Broad St. (No. 83). The two-story brick Gray Building has a low tile roof, stone trim, and a rather baroque entrance with curvilinear pediment and urn. The six-story Sterns Building is the tallest in the district. Its red brick surfaces are accented by white terra cotta trim on the first two stories and again on the sixth. Details on this building include a Greek-style fretwork band, a garlanded cartouche, fluted pilasters, roundels with a floriated design, and decorative urns with medallions illustrating a classical female head. The variety seen in these buildings adds architectural interest to the district.

The mid-twentieth century is represented by an array of less imaginative buildings and remodelling efforts on some of the earlier structures.

The Statesville Commercial Historic District is distinct from its surroundings in that it represents the historic core of the commercial center of town and contains all of the older buildings of interest and significance which can be perceived as a unit. The district is encompassed by scattered commercial buildings of lesser interest and by parking areas and then by the surrounding residential areas.

(Additional information on each of the 83 properties in the Statesville Commercial Historic District is included in the accompanying Inventory List.)

### Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Homer M. Keever, Iredell-Piedmont County (Iredell County Bicentennial Commission, 1976), p. 91.

<sup>2</sup>Ruth Little-Stokes, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, Iredell County, N. C. (Statesville: N. C. Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives



FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

and History, and Tredell County Historic Properties Commission, 1978), p. 71.

<sup>3</sup>Keever, p. 156.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid., p. 160.

<sup>5</sup>Ibid., p. 161.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., p. 163.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., p. 164.

<sup>8</sup>Little-Stokes, p. 71.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., p. 72.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid., p. 73.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL

\_\_\_\_ STATE

\_\_\_\_ **X** \_\_\_\_ LOCAL

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

|                                               |                                                  |                                                 |                                                 |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE  | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE     | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY  | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                               |                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |                                                 |                                              |

\_\_\_\_ SPECIFIC DATES

\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Statesville Commercial Historic District, the historical heart of Statesville, represents the oldest area of commercial and governmental development in town. The main intersection at Broad and Center streets was, in fact, the location of the first Iredell County Courthouse, built shortly after Statesville was created as the county seat in 1789. This intersection and the surrounding area have remained the focal point of Statesville commerce and government. Some of the finest architecture in Statesville is located within the district, representing primarily the period during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century when the town developed into the trading center for the northwest Piedmont. The dense, relatively small-scale urban fabric of the period remains largely intact.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. As the historical center of government and commerce in Statesville and Iredell County, the area comprising the Statesville Commercial Historic District has played a pivotal role in the development of both Statesville and Iredell County from their creation in 1788-1789 to the present day. The present building fabric of the district reflects most the period during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century when Statesville developed into the trading center of the northwest Piedmont. Thus in turn the district is associated with the important late nineteenth and early twentieth century urbanization of the state, which had previously remained almost entirely rural. This period produced rapid urban growth in dozens of towns, especially in the Piedmont.
- C. The Statesville Commercial Historic District represents a significant and distinguishable historic and architectural entity, many of whose components embody the distinctive characteristics of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial and governmental architecture. Excellent examples of such styles as Late Victorian Commercial, Romanesque Revival Renaissance Revival, Beaux Arts Classicism, Neo-Classical Revival and 1920s Eclectic are represented. The foremost of all the architectural gems in the district is the 1892 Statesville City Hall (originally the U. S. Post Office and Federal Building), probably the finest example of the Richardsonian Romanesque in North Carolina.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

When Iredell County was carved out of western Rowan in 1788, one of the first decisions to be made was the selection of a site for the county seat. After much debate, the General Assembly in 1789 passed a bill which placed the county seat on a site next to prominent Fourth Creek Presbyterian Church in the central part of the county.<sup>1</sup> On May 25, 1790 Fergus Sloan sold 68 3/4 acres to the county commissioners for the town that was to be called Statesville.<sup>2</sup> Why the name "Statesville" was chosen is no longer clearly known.<sup>3</sup> After the town boundaries were laid off, a log courthouse was built in the center of the "Square" created by the intersection of the two main streets, Broad and Center.<sup>4</sup> Although the Courthouse is no longer located at this site, this intersection remains the center of town, surrounded by the commercial core of Statesville.

During its earliest years Statesville was a tiny community where the county court met four times a year and where the clerk of court kept his office. From the first, however, there were two taverns and at least three stores.<sup>5</sup> In 1800 there were only 76 persons in town, six of whom were slaves.<sup>6</sup> In 1820 the log courthouse was replaced by a brick one.<sup>7</sup> By 1834 there were two taverns, which doubled as hotels, six stores, one on each corner of the square plus two others, three doctors, three lawyers, three shoe shops, two tailor shops, a carriage shop, a tanyard and other small-scale industry.<sup>8</sup> By 1850 Statesville, population 215, had grown somewhat as a trading center, with nine merchants listed in the 1850 census.<sup>9</sup> Then on December 18, 1854, Statesville received a tremendous setback when a great fire burned the courthouse and most of the town west of Center Street.<sup>10</sup>

The town soon began to rebuild after the fire. One big change was the new courthouse, built in 1855. It was not built on the Square, as had been the first two, but rather was relocated on the west side of S. Center St. a half-block from the Square. For the next few years, even before the railroad arrived in 1858, there was much building activity in Statesville.<sup>11</sup>

As in so many of the state's towns, the greatest impetus for growth in Statesville which transformed the town from a county seat village to a bustling trading center, resulted from the arrival of railroads in the late 1850s and early 1860s. On October 1, 1858, the Western extension of the North Carolina Railroad reached Statesville and opened up a whole new world of possibilities for trade. In March of 1863 Statesville's second railroad--the Atlantic, Tennessee and Ohio--reached town but was immediately dismantled to provide iron for the railroad from Greensboro to Danville, which enabled the South to get supplies more easily to Lee's army in Virginia. The A T & O had been rebuilt, however, by 1871 and still other railroads followed. Statesville's grand opportunity had arrived.<sup>12</sup>

Many of the stores remained the same as in the earlier years of Statesville, while new stores were added to the commercial scene. A big change came with the establishment of the wholesale merchant business. Although many wholesale businesses

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

were in operation during these years following the Civil War, by far the foremost<sup>13</sup> firm was that of the Wallace brothers, who were active for nearly half a century. The Wallaces also developed Statesville's own particular trade, medicinal roots and herbs, and their herbarium became the largest in the United States. From 1870 to 1944 the herbarium operated out of a large warehouse on the corner of Walnut and Meeting streets, where the former Barnes Hotel (No. 68) now stands.<sup>14</sup>

Wholesale merchants and retail merchants stimulated Statesville's development into a trading center that served far more than just the local area. Its back country, or trading area, consisted of seventeen counties, among which were Iredell, Alexander, Wilkes, Ashe, Watauga, Surry, Davie, and Yadkin.<sup>15</sup>

While barter was the method of trade for many years, by the end of the nineteenth century banks had begun to spring up in Statesville, some short-lived, others of more lasting duration.<sup>16</sup> By 1887 the First National Bank of Statesville had been organized. In 1889 the directors purchased the burnt block on the southeast corner of the Square and by March 1890 had built the three-story brick building which stands there today (No. 14).<sup>17</sup> A four-faced clock tower was incorporated into the corner of this building. It became known as the Alliance Clock because of the furor caused by the Farmers Alliance over the fact that one-fourth of the cost of this clock for the townspeople was paid for by the county using the farmers' hard-earned tax dollars.<sup>18</sup> Nevertheless, this building with its infamous clock tower has served as a landmark marking the center of town. The First National Bank operated until 1933, when it succumbed to the Depression.<sup>19</sup> In 1900 another bank opened in Statesville the Statesville Loan and Trust Company. In 1909 it became Statesville's second national bank, called the Commercial National Bank, and in 1914 moved to the fine Neo-Classical Revival building at the corner of S. center and Court streets, where it operated until failure in 1928.<sup>20</sup> A third bank, the Merchants and Farmers Bank, was organized by Fred B. Bunch (who later withdrew to become active in the Statesville Cotton Mill) and James Allen Knox. Knox was so active in the bank until his death in 1949 that it was often thought of as Jay Knox's bank. The Merchants and Farmers Bank opened in 1908 in the ornate, three-story Renaissance Revival style building on the south side of W. Broad St. (No. 57). In 1960 it merged with the North Carolina National Bank and still operates as such.<sup>21</sup> In 1914 a fourth bank known as People's Loan and Savings Company, was organized and in the same year built a refined Neo-Classical Revival structure for its purposes just south of the courthouse on S. Center St. (No. 71). In 1957 this bank merged with Northwestern Bank.<sup>22</sup> Other banks were created through the years, but these were the most prominent of those which began during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century and have left their marks not only in the banking world, but also in the fine architecture which they added to the Statesville commercial scene.

Adding to the activity generated by the many commercial enterprises and banking institutions were the governmental facilities which have been located in center Statesville since its founding in 1789. Four of these governmental buildings remain,

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

two of which still operate as such. The oldest is the former U. S. Post Office and Federal Building, completed in 1892 and used since 1941 as Statesville City Hall (No. 1). This exceptional example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style was designed by W. J. Edbrooke, supervising architect of the U. S. Treasury Department, and is probably the best representative of the style in North Carolina.<sup>23</sup> It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This structure was used as the Federal Building until a new post office and Federal courthouse (No. 46) opened at the northwest corner of Broad and Meeting streets in March 1939.<sup>24</sup> The new building was constructed in 1938 under the supervision of architect R. Stanley Brown, supervising architect Louis A. Simon, and supervising engineer Neal A. Melich, according to the cornerstone. It is an interesting mixture of classical and modern motifs and dominates the western edge of the district.

By the end of the nineteenth century the third Iredell County Courthouse, built in 1855 on S. Center St., had become too small for the needs of the county, and the fourth courthouse (No. 70) was built to take its place in 1899. Reflecting the architectural trend popular for North Carolina courthouses at the time, this courthouse was designed in the monumental Beaux Arts style of classicism by Charlotte architects Hayden, Wheeler & Schwend and was constructed by Nicholas Ittner, Atlanta contractor.<sup>25</sup> Though the county courts and other offices have been housed since 1972 in a new, fifth, courthouse at another location, the "Old Courthouse" is now used by Mitchell College and still serves as an architectural and cultural focal point of the district. In 1909, a decade after the fourth courthouse had been built, another impressive government building was erected on the corner of Meeting and Court streets behind the courthouse. The Charlotte architectural firm of Wheeler, Galliher and Stern designed the Iredell County Jail (No. 69) in the form of an Italian Renaissance palace, and it was built by the J. A. Jones Construction Company of Charlotte.<sup>26</sup> The "Old Jail" now serves as the headquarters of the Iredell Arts Council and other cultural groups.

Throughout its history the commercial center of Statesville has played a prominent role in the historical development of the town. Iredell County, and the surrounding region--from the time it was created as the county seat in 1789 with the first courthouse located at the intersection of Broad and Center streets, through the period during the second half of the nineteenth century when it functioned as a major trading center in the western Piedmont region, and through the first three quarters of the present century when it has continued as a civic, cultural and commercial center in Statesville. The area encompassed by the Statesville Commercial Historic District includes all those remaining buildings which have contributed to the significance of this center.

Although this section of Statesville has played a prominent role in the commercial and governmental history of the area, its history parallels the development of a number of other Piedmont North Carolina towns, at least during the nineteenth century. What does make it remarkable at the present time, however, are the visible reminders

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

of its history which still exist. The commercial district retains an impressive number of historical and architectural resources, which, if played to full advantage, would make the district even more remarkable. With three-quarters of the present structures having been built between the last quarter of the nineteenth century and ca. 1930, the architecture of the district conveys a cohesive quality; this is enhanced by the historical continuity presented in the various governmental and commercial buildings which have remained intact and in use. The fine examples of the various architectural styles present—including the Late Victorian, early twentieth century Classical and 1920s Eclectic—tell the story of the special prominence of the town and its commercial center during those years, as well as reflecting the story of its growth and change from its earliest days as the county seat of Iredell.

And yet, even with all the architectural and historic qualities which remain to make the present district a special place, there are also elements which do not contribute to the cohesiveness of the district. These are primarily in the form of insensitive mid-twentieth century design, either in new construction or in remodellings of some of the older buildings. However, a recent (1977-1978) downtown revitalization study prepared by Environmental Perspectives of Charlotte has stressed the architectural and historical qualities of the district (among other things). This along with the possibilities for utilizing the provisions of the 1976 Tax Reform Act as related to income-producing historic properties, may encourage property owners to retain the distinctive earlier architectural characteristics which remain, and perhaps retrieve intact facades which lie hidden. Several recent "restoration" attempts have been both encouraging and discouraging--encouraging because efforts have been made to preserve and play-up the distinguishing architectural features of these buildings for continued use or adaptive re-use, and discouraging because harmful sandblasting was used as a primary method in these attempts, to the detriment of the buildings involved. Possibilities exist for the adaptive re-use of the former Vance and Barnes hotels. An especially encouraging sign has been the adaptations of both the Old Courthouse and the Old Jail for educational and cultural uses.

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>Homer M. Keever, Iredell-Piedmont County (Iredell County Bicentennial Commission, 1976), p. 91.

<sup>2</sup>Mary Hill Long, "Statesville Township," in Iredell County Landmarks, compiled by Virginia Fraser Evans (Statesville: Iredell County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1976), pp. 110-111.

<sup>3</sup>Keever, pp. 92-93.

<sup>4</sup>Long, pp. 110-111.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 5

<sup>5</sup>Keever, p. 155.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., p. 156.

<sup>7</sup>Long, p. 111.

<sup>8</sup>Keever, pp. 157-159.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., pp. 156, 161.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., p. 163.

<sup>11</sup>Ibid., pp. 164-165.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid., pp. 219-222.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., pp. 240-241.

<sup>14</sup>Ibid., pp. 241-243.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., pp. 247-248.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., p. 249.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid., p. 250.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid., p. 274.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid., p. 251.

<sup>20</sup>Ibid., p. 444.

<sup>21</sup>Ibid.

<sup>22</sup>Ibid.

<sup>23</sup>Ruth Little-Stokes, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, Iredell County, N. C.  
(Statesville: N. C. Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History  
and Iredell County Historic Properties Commission, 1978), p. 72.

<sup>24</sup>Keever, p. 292.

<sup>25</sup>Little-Stokes, p. 73.

<sup>26</sup>Ibid.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

### Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at the southeast corner of the lot on which City Hall (No. 1) stands, then running northwest approximately 100 ft., then running northeast approximately 40 ft., then running northwest along an alley behind district buildings No. 2, 4, & 5 (as numbered on district maps) approximately 160 ft. to the rear extension of building No. 5, then running northeast along the edge of this building and continuing in a straight line approximately 120 ft. to the east curb line of Cooper St., then running northwest along this curb line approximately 180 ft. to the corner of Cooper St. and an alley which connects Cooper St. and Tradd St., then running northeast along the south edge of this alley approximately 170 ft.; then running northwest and along the east edge of building No. 21 approximately 250 ft. to the south curb line of E. Broad St., then running northeast approximately 100 ft., then running northwest across E. Broad St. and along the east edge of building No. 83 approximately 190 ft., then running southwest along the rear of building No. 83 and continuing in a straight line approximately 160 ft. to the east boundary of the lot on which First Associated Reform Presbyterian Church stands, then running northwest along this line approximately 35 ft. to the rear of the church property, then running southwest approximately 400 ft. along the rear of the church property and continuing in a straight line along the north side of building No. 29B to the east curb line of N. Center St., then running northwest along this curb line approximately 85 ft. and then running southwest across N. Center St. and following the north edge of building No. 30 and continuing to the west edge of the alley which runs behind building No. 30, then running southeast approximately 175 ft. to the rear of building No. 41, then running southwest approximately 400 ft. along the rear of buildings No. 41 and 42 and continuing along the rear of the parking lot and crossing Meeting St. and continuing along the rear of the Post Office (No. 46) property to the west boundary of this property, then running southeast along this property line to the north curb line of W. Broad St., then running southwest along this curb line approximately 75 ft., then running southeast across W. Broad St. and along the west property line of building No. 47 and continuing in a straight line to the south curb line of Walnut St. (approximately 430 ft.), then running northeast along this curb line approximately 240 ft. to the west curb line of Meeting St., then running southeast along this curb line approximately 20 ft., then running northeast across Meeting St. and continuing in a straight line next to the south side of the Old Jail (No. 69) and the Old Courthouse (No. 70) approximately 180 ft. to the rear property line of building No. 71, then running southeast in a straight line along the rear lines of buildings No. 71-74 approximately 180 ft. to the north edge of the old Vance Hotel property (No. 75), then running southwest along this line approximately 60 ft. to the rear of the main Vance Hotel building, then running southeast in a straight line approximately 160 ft. to the south curb line of W. Front St., then running northeast approximately 50 ft. along this curb line to the west property line of building No. 76, then running southeast to the west property line of building No. 76, then running southeast approximately 120 ft. along this line to the south boundary line of building No. 76, then running northeast along



FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 2

Boundary, cont.

the south property line of building No. 76 approximately 210 ft. to the east curb line of S. Center St., then running northwest along this curb line to south curb line of E. Front St., then running northeast along this curb line approximately 120 ft., then running northwest across E. Front St. to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the Statesville Commercial Historic District have been drawn to include all those properties which would contribute historically and/or architecturally to the district. Immediately surrounding the district is a layer of commercial buildings and parking lots of little or no significance either architecturally or historically and beyond that mixed usage areas and residential areas. On its eastern edge, the Commercial District is separated from the East Broad Street--Davie Avenue Historic District by a row of non-contributing commercial buildings. The western edge of the Commercial District is very close to the Mitchell College Historic District. These two districts could conceivably have been joined as one, but were not, both because one is a district of commercial and governmental components while the other is primarily residential in nature with a few educational and religious properties of significance and because they are perceived locally as separate entities which developed as a result of different stimuli.

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

See continuation sheet item #8.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 30

UTM REFERENCES

|   |      |         |       |      |          |       |
|---|------|---------|-------|------|----------|-------|
| A | 1, 7 | 5, 08   | 83, 0 | 3, 9 | 60       | 6, 00 |
|   | ZONE | EASTING |       |      | NORTHING |       |
| C | 1, 7 | 5, 08   | 20, 0 | 3, 9 | 59       | 4, 00 |

|   |      |         |          |    |          |      |
|---|------|---------|----------|----|----------|------|
| B | 1, 7 | 5, 08   | 89, 5, 0 | 39 | 5, 94    | 0, 0 |
|   | ZONE | EASTING |          |    | NORTHING |      |
| D | 1, 7 | 5, 08   | 1, 00    | 39 | 5, 98    | 0, 0 |

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

## INVENTORY LIST - STATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT, STATESVILLE

The following inventory list includes all properties located within the Statesville Commercial Historic District, keyed by number to the inventory maps.

Dating: Most dates given are those revealed by the Sanborn Maps and indicated by the (SM) after the date. Dates given as, for example, "by 1905" mean that the 1905 map was the first one to illustrate this area and that in that year the building was already present. Dates given as, for example, "1911-1918" mean that the building was not present on the 1911 map but was on the 1918 map, so that it must have been built between those years. More than one dating period given for a particular property indicates several known phases of building. Dates which are not listed as being based on the Sanborn Maps are either based on other types of documentation or are mid-20th century in date.

Assessment: All properties are coded by letter as to their relative value within the district, and these assessments are, in turn, color-coded on the inventory map. The following is an assessment key:

- |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| P - Pivotal      | Those properties which because of their historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics play a primary, central or "pivotal" role in establishing the qualities for which the district is significant. |
| C - Contributing | Those properties which, while not pivotal, are supportive of, and contribute to, the historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant.                            |
| F - Fill         | Those properties which have neither an especially positive nor an especially negative impact on the general characteristics of the district.                                                                     |
| GS - Green Space | Planned green space or park.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| PL - Parking Lot | Paved or unpaved parking area.                                                                                                                                                                                   |

Inventory, Number, Name, Address,  
Date, Assessment, and Description

1. City Hall  
227 S. Center St.  
1892  
P

U. S. Post Office, Courthouse, and Customs House now used as City Hall. Two and one-half-story brick structure which is one of best examples of Richardsonian Romanesque style in North Carolina. Listed in National Register.

2. Commercial Building  
Rear of Alley just North of City Hall  
1911-1918 (SM)  
C

Small one-story brick building, 2 x 3 bays with smaller two-bay wide addition on left side. Main section of building topped by segmental arched parapet with recessed panel in center. First used as auto showroom and office. Later uses included Chinese Laundry and auto repair shop.

3. City Hall Annex  
just North of Alley on North side of City Hall  
Ca. 1960  
F

Low, narrow and deep one-story addition to J. C. Penney's building next door with glass windows and doors across front and part way down right side. Recessed about 10 ft. from usual facade line.

4. J. C. Penney Co.  
217 S. Center St.  
1957  
F

Two-story commercial building with lower level having plate glass display windows and doors and upper level covered with grey slate-like or formica panels with vertical metal dividing strips. J. C. Penney opened their first retail outlet in Statesville in 1924 on W. Broad St. and in 1957 had the present building constructed. The local impact of Penney's has not been the retail outlet but their warehouse and distribution center built east of Statesville in 1946.

5. Spainhour's  
211 S. Center St.  
1957  
F

Four-story commercial building with first story having plate glass display windows and doors and upper levels covered with tan-colored ceramic tiles, two vertical panels of windows, and one vertical panel (on right side) of glass blocks. Spainhour's is a large dry goods department with headquarters in Wilkesboro, N.C. which opened in Statesville in 1942 with Jack Spainhour as manager. In 1957 they moved to their present location in the new Stimpson-Wagner building.

6. Commercial Building  
207 S. Center St.  
Indeterminate age, but mid-20th C. facade  
F

Mid-20th C. facade on two-story commercial building. Plate glass windows and deeply recessed entrance on first story level. Remainder of facade is covered with small turquoise ceramic tiles.

7. Commercial Building  
203 S. Center St.  
1919, mid 20th C.  
C

Two-story brick and terra cotta commercial building with stepped parapet with "H" monogram shields, terra cotta tile projecting cornice with egg and dart molding and heavy acanthus scrolled brackets. Below cornice building has been covered with small ceramic tiles and plate glass display windows and doors, but enough of the original fabric remains to suggest that the building could be returned to its former, more coherent appearance. C. S. Holland had the structure built in 1919 for the firm of Ramsey-Bowles-Morrison which was Statesville's largest dry goods establishment in the early 20th c. The firm remained at this location until 1957 when it dissolved and Woolworth's came to town and took over the building.

8. Commercial Building  
117 S. Center St.  
1919, mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story commercial building, slightly taller than 203 S. Center (No. 7) but with identical original detailing. However, on this building the entire second story, including tripartite windows, is intact. Only first story level, with metal sheathing metal canopy and plate glass windows has been altered. C. S. Holland was the owner of this structure as well as 203 S. Center. (See No. 7).

9. Commercial Building  
115 S. Center St.  
Indeterminate age, but mid-20th C. facade  
F

Possibly Ca. 1895 but modifications make accurate determination difficult. Small one-story commercial building with entire front, except for plate glass display windows, now covered with rubbed metal sheathing. Out of scale with surrounding two-story buildings.

10. Commercial Building  
113 S. Center St.  
by 1895? (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Possibly Ca. 1895, but modifications make accurate determination difficult. Two-story brick commercial building with corbelled cornice above recessed panels. Most of second story area covered by wide, segmentally arched window, now enclosed, with corbel table below, dividing stories. Quoining along right side of building. First story altered.

11. Commercial Building  
109 S. Center St.  
by 1895 (SM), mid 20th C.  
C

Greatly altered. Two-story brick commercial building closely related to 113 S. Center St. Originally had corbelled and dentilled cornice above masonry panels, contrasting masonry banding between windows and along side edges. Original facade is apparently intact although obscured by present vertical metal panels which, if removed, would make the structure a contributing element of the district.

12. Commercial Building  
107 S. Center St.  
Indeterminate age, but mid-20th C. facade  
F

One-story commercial building with facade remodelled mid-20th C. with gold metal screen and blue and white plastic signage.

13. Commercial Building  
105 S. Center St.  
Indeterminate age, but with mid-20th C. facade  
F

One-story commercial building with facade having undergone a mid-20th C. alteration of glass tiles and plate glass display windows.

14. (former) First National Bank  
101-103 S. Center St.  
1890, mid-20th C.  
P

Three-story brick commercial building with corner mansard clock tower. Round and segmental-arched windows headed on the Broad and Center St. sides by decorative Italianate lintels. Sawtooth brick string course between floors. Modern alteration to first story. The bank was organized in May 1887 and in the fall of 1889 construction began on the building which was ready for occupancy in mid-March 1890 with George F. Shepherd as president. The bank closed in January 1933- a victim of the Depression. Through the years the third floor has accommodated many civic and cultural activities as well as serving doctors and dentists with office space. The clock on the tower is called the "Alliance Clock" after the Farmers Alliance was directly responsible for some county commissioners losing election, or being elected only after a struggle, because the commissioners appropriated \$175.00 (one-fourth of the total cost) of the county farmers' tax money for the clock for the City of Statesville.

15. Pocket Park  
Just west of 114 E. Broad St.  
Ca. 1975  
GS

Park with S-shaped stone wall and plantings on east side, quarry tile pavers on west side, and circular fountain. Bordered on two sides by fence and on third side by adjacent building with painted wall. There had been a two-story brick building on the site.

16. Commercial Building  
114 E. Broad St.  
1890-1895 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick commercial building, well-preserved with exception of recent definitely detrimental sandblasting. First story has intact original entrance and windows, metal bracketed cornice over first story, 6/6 sash at second story with metal bracketed lintels, brick corbel cornice and corner quoins. Right side of building painted in modern mural.

17. Troutman's Cafe  
116 E. Broad St.  
1925-1930 (SM)  
C

One-story commercial building with truncated hip tile roof, pedimented gable dormers, and corner pilasters with concrete caps and bases.

18. Commercial Building  
110 Cooper St.  
1925-1930 (SM), mid-20th C.  
F

Greatly altered one-story brick veneer building, pedimented gable end to street, mock temple-like facade, paneled wood pilasters, tripartite frieze and monitor roof at roof ridge. Parking lots on south side and across street on east.

19. Commercial Row  
118-122 E. Broad St.  
1928  
C

Row of three basically unaltered one-story brick commercial buildings with terra cotta trim, corner pilasters with stepped parapet in-between, and trim in rosette and diamond patterns. This row is located on the former site of the Iredell County Jail.

20. Commercial Building  
124-126 E. Broad St.  
1911-1918 (SM), 1925-1930 (SM)  
C

One-story brick commercial building, apparently built between 1911-1918, but remodelled between 1925-1930 in same style as 118-122 E. Broad St., with terra cotta-trimmed parapet having diamond-shaped trim above terra cotta cornice.

21. (former) Carolina Motor Co.  
128-132 E. Broad St.  
1916  
C

Two-story brick former auto showroom and body shop. Two end-bay entrances, each under a wide segmental arch with 4/4 sash windows grouped in three's and bracketed cross gable above. Four-light casement windows above center front bay with two large display windows below. Interior has balcony on three sides. Structure was built as Carolina Motor Co. by D. M. Brown Contracting Co. of Statesville with Charles C. Hook of Charlotte as architect. The building was sometimes used for dances of the Big Band type.

22. Commercial Building  
111 E. Broad St.  
1925-1930 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick commercial building with plate glass windows and door on first-story. Second story has panel of glass blocks below stepped parapet.

23. (former) Sloan's Hardware Store  
107½-109 E. Broad St.  
by 1895 (SM)  
P

Ca. 1880. Two-story brick, late Victorian commercial building with relatively unaltered front. First story has Mesker & Co. cast iron pilasters and frieze with delicate applied ornamentation in organic design. Second story has segmental-arched windows, now filled in, with brick hood molds and iron balustrades. Brick corbelled cornice and bracketed metal upper cornice with corner finials. The hardware was operated by William Reece Sloan. No. 107½ served as the office for the hardware store.

24. Commercial Building  
105-107 E. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick commercial building with second story segmental-arched 6/6 sash. Right half of building has gable end to street, triangular patterned vertical ventilation openings, metal columns, glass block transom, and metal bracketed cornice. Left half not as intact but retains some of same features. The structure was a hardware store in 1885 and in 1900 was a harness factory operated by Jesse Brown.

25. Commercial Building  
103 E. Broad St.  
Indeterminate age, but with mid-20th C. facade  
F

Two-story brick commercial building possibly dating from ca. 1885 (as suggested by Sanborn Maps) but greatly altered in mid-20th C.

26. Holmes Building  
101 E. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick commercial building with corner entrance. Possibly built by 1885, as suggested by Sanborn Maps and elderly resident Ralph Sloan, but if so, greatly altered during 20th century. Homer Keever in Iredell-Piedmont County (p. 439) claims that this is the oldest building in uptown Statesville, built by T. H. McRorie when Statesville was being rebuilt after the great fire of 1854. There is little physical evidence remaining on the exterior that would suggest a mid-19th C. construction date.



27. Commercial Building  
104 N. Center St.  
1933, 1967  
F

Non-descript three-story brick commercial building remodelled in 1967.

28. Commercial Row  
108-112 N. Center St.  
1938  
C

One-story yellow brick veneer commercial building with patterned brick cornice, divided into three store units by pilasters topped with concrete urns.

29. (former) Montgomery Ward Store  
114-116 N. Center St.  
1925-1930 (SM), mid-20th C.  
(A) C, (B) F

(A) Two-story brick commercial building with glazed terra cotta tile front, frieze with applied tile panels and floral details, and urn-topped pilasters dividing facade into three bays. Center bay has tile relief cast of female figure bearing torch and balanced on small globe with ribbon labeled "Spirit of Progress." Elliptical arched windows (now filled in) with iron balustrade at second story. First story remodelled. (B) One-story addition dominated by wood shingled canopy and plate glass. Montgomery Ward rented the building when it was first constructed but closed their business after a few years.

30. (former) Henkel Live Stock Co.  
119-123 N. Center St.  
1895-1905 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick, Romanesque Revival style commercial building with pilasters dividing the nine bay facade into five major sections. First-story has round-arched entrances and second story has round-arched windows. At center section the parapeted cornice is taller than on sides. Segmental-arched side windows, and round and segmental-arched windows and large doorways at rear. Rear is slightly later addition which is fairly elaborate with vertical and horizontal brick dividing elements creating flat brick panels with projecting brick crosses. Entire building recently sandblasted and now undergoing renovation. In 1902 C. V. and L. P. Henkel and David Craig organized the Henkel Livestock Company, later changed to Henkel-Craig Livestock Company with stockholders over the entire state of N. C. In 1918 the company gave way to the automobile and was sold to outside interests.

31. Commercial Building  
117 N. Center St.  
1905-1911 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick commercial building, drastically altered with very plain front facade in mid-20th C. Relatively unchanged side and rear elevations with 6 to 1 common bond walls and 2/2 sash with segmental-arched openings. Side and rear elevations contribute to coherence and appearance of alleyway system.

32. Commercial Building  
115 N. Center St.  
by 1890 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick, late Victorian Italianate style commercial building. Three bays wide, segmentally arched doors and windows with granite sills and brick hood molds, and sawtooth patterned brick corbelled cornice. First used as a furniture store and later as a cattle feed store.

33. Lazenby-Montgomery Hardware Store  
111-113 N. Center St.  
1916  
C

Three-story brick building, three bays wide with each bay containing group of three 9/9 sash. Bays separated by brick pilasters. Brick corbelled cornice with brick panels underneath. (See No. 36 for information on Lazenby-Montgomery.)

34. Miller Block  
102-104 W. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM), mid 20th C.  
P

Large, two-story brick, nine bay wide corner commercial building with elaborate detailing. First story remodelled mid-20th C. except for Mesker cast iron pilasters flanking the two storefronts. Second story unaltered on front and side with pressed metal pedimented and bracketed window lintels. Brickwork above repeats shape of lintels. Heavy pressed-metal upper cornice. Three shallow cross gables decorate rear roofline. Built as rental property by William C. Miller and used by various mercantile businesses.

35. Commercial Building  
108 W. Broad St.  
late 19th C., mid 20th C.  
C

Two-story brick, late Victorian commercial building with first story remodelled mid-20th C. except for cast iron Mesker fluted pilasters. Second story apparently unaltered with 1.1 sash, ornate brickwork frieze and cornice, corbelled brick brackets, and pilasters. Rear elevation has rectangular and segmental-arched 6/6 sash and shallow gable roofline.

36. Lazenby-Montgomery Store  
110 W. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM), ca. 1935  
C

Two-story brick, late Victorian commercial building with first story remodelled in Colonial Revival style and second story nearly unaltered. Ornate metal cornices at first and second story levels, pressed metal bracketed window lintels and sawtooth brick frieze course on second story. Interior has hanging balcony along both side walls as well as built-in shelving with bracketed cornice—probably original. Rear elevation has common bond brick wall and segmental-arched openings. An elevated walkway links this building with 113 N. Center St. This structure owned and operated as a hardware in 1885 by W. A. Thomas who turned the business over to others to go into manufacturing. In 1905 L. R. Lazenby and J. T. (Thad) Montgomery, who were working there, took over and changed the name of the store. Lazenby-Montgomery Hardware is one of the oldest firms in continuous operation in Statesville. (See No. 33.)

37. Commercial Building  
112 W. Broad St.  
Late 19th C., mid 20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building with front now covered with marble tiles and plate glass due to mid-20th C. remodelling. Rear has 5 to 1 common bond and looks like it and 114 W. Broad may have originally been one building. Three 6/6 second story windows with segmental arches. Rear contributes to coherence and appearance of alley.

38. Commercial Building  
114 W. Broad St.  
Late 19th C., mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building with front now covered with large ceramic tiles and large metal flower blossoms in upper corners after drastic mid-20th C. remodelling. Rear has 5 to 1 common bond, 4/4 sash windows with segmental arches on second story, doorway with five-light transom and segmental arch. Rear contributes to coherence and appearance of alley.

39. Commercial Building  
116 W. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building with corbelled cornice. Second story windows (now closed in) still have rusticated stone keystone and band across front acting as sill. First story has stuccoed surface. Rear has common bond brickwork and three segmentally arched 6/6 sash at second floor. First story doors and windows on rear have been somewhat altered, while retaining their segmental arches.

40. Commercial Building  
118 W. Broad St.  
Late 19th C., mid-20th C.  
F

Two-story brick building with cornice line about four feet lower than other buildings. Red brick second story, narrow simulated stonework first story, striated brickwork at side wall, and brick addition on rear.

41. Commercial Building  
120 W. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building with front completely remodelled mid-20th C. Side with 4 to 1 common bond and segmentally arched openings (though some bricked in). Seven bay deep rear addition in five to 1 common bond, and 6/6 sash. Side and rear contribute to coherence of alley. Structure has seen various uses such as general store, wholesale liquor store, bowling alley and billiards, and printing office of the newspaper, The Landmark. Presently a stationery store.

42. Commercial Building  
122 W. Broad St.  
Late 19th C., mid-20th C.  
F

Two-story brick building with upper level of front stuccoed over. Modillioned cornice seems to be only original element left of facade. Side has five to one common bond with traces of painted signage. Greatly altered.

43. Commercial Building  
124 W. Broad St.  
Indeterminate age, but with mid-20th C. facade  
F

Two-story brick building drastically altered and now covered with ceramic tiles and pebbled concrete.

44. Commercial Building  
126 W. Broad St.  
1900-1905 (SM), mid-20th C.  
F

Two-story brick building completely stuccoed over on front and upper part of left side.

45. Parking Lot  
NE corner W. Broad & Meeting Sts.  
PL

Large gravel pit parking lot.

46. U. S. Post Office  
200 W. Broad St.  
1938  
C

Three-story, 7 x 7 bay, Flemish bond brick and stone building. 8/12 windows with stone lintels and sills, brick pilasters dividing facade on second and third stories, and French doors opening onto ironwork and bronze balconies. Classical motifs used for decorative detailing. Large front entrance has crosssetted surround with dentilled cornice. Interior has L-shaped lobby with plain barrel-vaulted ceiling. The structure was built by architect R. Stanley Brown, supervising architect Louis A. Simon, and supervising engineer Neal A. Melich.

47. Commercial Building  
211 W. Broad St.  
1911-1918 (SM), 1918-1925 (SM)  
C

Large two-story brick building with first story somewhat altered by changes in display windows and entrances but unaltered on second story. Paired 2/2 windows with flat-arch lintels and brick keystones. Louvered lunette vents above some windows and flat panels above others. Corbelled cornice. Bays divided by brick pilasters. Fourteen bay-deep side with 2/2 segmentally arched windows, and six to one common bond variation. Rear addition ca. 1920 is in same design. An early 20th century photo reproduced in Iredell County Landmarks is labeled the Carolina Motor Company. May have been the location of this business before it moved to E. Broad.

48. Commercial Building  
209 W. Broad St.  
1905-1911 (SM)  
F

Plain one-story brick building with large glass windows and recessed panels in brick above.

49. (former) Coca-Cola Bottling Co.  
205 W. Broad St.  
1911-1918 (SM)  
C

One-story brick building with plate glass display windows and doors. Corbelled cornice above windows, large recessed panels above this, and corbelled cornice at roofline.

50. (former) Walton & Gage Store  
201 W. Broad St.  
by 1885 (SM)  
P

Ca. 1880. Relatively unaltered two-story brick late Victorian building in Italianate style with some Gothic features. Brick pilasters dividing bays which have paired 1/1 sash. First story windows on east side elevation headed by blind pointed arch and surrounded by pilasters with fleur-de-lis capitals and with elongated wooden brackets above. Wooden cornice wraps around front and east elevations at first and second story levels with paired wooden brackets marking bays and smaller single brackets between bays. Walton & Gage was a fine woman's wear, furs, piece goods, shoes, and hats store under the partnership of W. W. Walton, Harry Redwood, and Dr. Aaron B. Gage.

51. Commercial Building  
129-131 W. Broad St.  
Ca. 1960  
F

Plain one-story brick building with plate glass windows.

52. Commercial Building  
111 W. Broad St.  
by 1900 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story yellow brick building with first story completely altered in mid-20th C. Second story is unaltered with row of seven, attached round-arched 1/1 sash windows with rusticated granite keystone arch surrounds and sills. Pressed metal frieze and dentilled and modillioned cornice with stepped parapet. Reflects somewhat the Renaissance Revival style.

53. Commercial Building  
121-123 W. Broad St.  
1905-1911 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick Romanesque Revival building with first story storefronts remodelled mid-20th C., but second story basically unaltered and divided into two major sections--

53. Commercial Building, Cont'd.

each bordered by pilasters and with 1/1 windows headed by three connected round arches. Parapeted eave with corbelled brick string course.

54. Commercial Building

119 W. Broad St.

Indeterminate age, but with mid-20th C. facade

F

Two-story building with entire front except for entrance covered with stucco. A building was first shown here on 1895 Sanborn Map, so this building may date from 1890-1895, but it has been so drastically altered that it's difficult to tell.

55. Commercial Building

117 W. Broad St.

1890-1895 (SM), 1953

C

Two-story building with sawtooth brick frieze course and pressed metal bracketed cornice with small cross gable in center. Facade below frieze course covered with stucco. During the early 1920s, this was the leading movie theater in town.

56. Commercial Building

115½ W. Broad St.

1918-1925 (SM)

F

Very narrow one-story shop fitting into alley space.

57. (former) Merchants and Farmers Bank

113 W. Broad St.

1908, ca. 1935

P

Three-story brick building in Renaissance Revival style. First story remodelled ca. 1935 with three large round-arched windows and stone pedimented entrance. Ornate upper stories remain unaltered. Five bays marked by quoined pilasters with Ionic capitals. Spandrels between windows contain panels with relief casts of lions' heads with wings. Third story windows surmounted by round-arched stone surrounds with acanthus keystones. Center bay of third story has keystoned flat arch with lion's head roundel above. Pressed metal overhanging cornice with dentil and modillion ornament. This was Statesville's third bank and was organized by Fred B. Bunch and James Allen Knox in 1908. In 1960 Merchants and Farmers merged with North Carolina National Bank.

58. Commercial Building

111 W. Broad St.

Indeterminate age, but ca. 1960 facade

F

Two-story building with mid-20th C. facade. Second story level covered by cinder-block open screen. First story plate glass.

59. Commercial Building  
109 W. Broad St.  
by 1905 (SM)  
C

Two-story brick Renaissance Revival style building. First story shop fronts altered but still flanked by quoined pilasters. Second story unaltered with paired 1/1 sash with round-arched fanlight with brick surround. Pressed metal projecting dentilled and modillioned cornice with paneled parapet.

60. Commercial Building  
100 S. Center St.  
Ca. 1940  
F

Plain two-story brick building with plate glass storefront.

61. Commercial Building  
104 S. Center St.  
1900-1905 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building remodelled in 20th C., but retaining rusticated granite corner pilasters and pressed metal molded cornice. Unaltered second story facade has center and corner brick pilasters, groups of three 1/1 sash with transoms, and rusticated granite lintels and sills. Frieze has casement windows with flanking corbelled pilasters.

62. Commercial Building  
106-108 S. Center St.  
1895-1900 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick building with central rusticated granite round-arched monumental entranceway. First story has pressed metal cornice with corner gabled brackets and corner brick and granite pilasters. Second story is divided into three bays with 1/1 sash and round-arched lunettes. Three round-arched louvered ventilators in center bay, which has corbelled brick course under metal eave cornice. Center bay parapet projects above side bays.

63. Commercial Building  
110-112 S. Center St.  
1895-1900 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

Three-story commercial building, remodelled mid-20th C. with metal panels and plate glass display windows. Original facade apparently still intact under metal sheathing as indicated by area of metal facade near top which has peeled away, revealing original facade underneath. Early photo shows urns at top corners of building, a row of round-arched windows on third story with stone string course below. Second story shown with 1/1 sash with side windows having stone lintels and center paired windows having stone and brick voussoired lintels. With removal of metal sheathing, building should once again play contributing roll in district.

64. (former) Commercial National Bank  
116 S. Center St.  
1905-1911 (SM)  
P

Narrow, two-story brick Neo-Classical Revival building with high rusticated granite foundation. Shallow two-story portico with paired Ionic columns and entablature with plain frieze and modillioned cornice forming triangular pediment. Modillioned cornice with parapet above continues around the building. Pilasters with Ionic capitals as found at corners and down the south side marking bays. Second story has round-arched windows with stone surrounds and acanthus keystones. Main entrance has Baroque pediment with finial topped by terra cotta (?) owl. First story has replacement windows, but retains granite lintels. Around 1909 the Commercial National Bank was formed out of the Statesville Loan and Trust Co., becoming Statesville's second national bank. The bank failed in 1928, but then the Statesville Industrial Bank operated at this location from 1937 to 1966.

65. Commercial Building  
106-108 Court St.  
Indeterminate age, but mid-20th C. facade  
F

Two-story building with facade covered with mesh screen which almost obscures brickwork and sash on upper story. Metal and narrow brickwork on lower story. Core of building may date from between 1900-1905.

66. Commercial Row  
110-132 Court St.  
No. 110-116 by 1918 (SM)  
No. 117-134 by 1925 (SM)  
C

Long row of attached, two-story brick buildings with coherent overall design. Row gives stepped appearance due to downward slope of street. Horizontal feeling counteracted by plain brick pilasters which divide row into sections. 1/1 sash windows and corbelled cornice.

67. Commercial Building  
110 S. Meeting St.  
Indeterminate age, but with various 20th C. alterations  
F

Altered one-story brick building with double-leaf glass and wood paneled front door.

68. (former) Barnes Hotel  
Meeting St. at foot of Court St.  
1947  
C

Large 13 x 12 bay four-story brick building with metal and concrete trim. Horizontal feeling counteracted by fluted concrete pilasters on either side of central entrance bay. Simple modern block which hasn't been well maintained. This structure was never completed for its intended purpose. It did at one time serve as a factory and is now a warehouse. This was the site of the famed Wallace Herbarium, the largest in the United States, which stood here from 1870 to 1944.



69. (former) County Jail  
122 Meeting St.  
1909  
P

Two-story buff-colored brick building in Renaissance Revival style. Five bays wide with three center bays recessed forming an arcaded porch with parapeted balcony. Paired 1/1 sash surrounded by concrete or stone quoins and garlanded cartouches in window spandrels. Paneled frieze, and overhanging modillioned cornice. Front section of building joined to rear cell block by arcade. The jail was built in 1909 on the site of an earlier jail which had been built in 1873. Wheeler, Galliher & Stern architects of Charlotte designed the building, while J. A. Jones of Charlotte was the contractor.

70. (former) Iredell County Courthouse  
SW corner S. Center and Court Sts.  
1899, 1940  
P, C, GS

Square, two-story brick building designed in Beaux Arts classical style with main facade having a five-bay wide, three-story center block surmounted by a mansard cupola and fronted by a two-story tetrastyle pedimented portico. Flanking one-bay wide two-story wings. Variety of window types and variety of trim materials, including granite, terra cotta, smooth stone, wood, slate, and cast iron. Charlotte architects Hayden, Wheeler and Schwend designed the building, which was erected by Atlanta contractor Nicholas Ittner. Simple 1940 rear wings compatible with original structure. Listed in National Register.

71. (former) Peoples Loan and Savings Bank  
210 S. Center St.  
1914, mid-20th C.  
C

Two-story brick Neo-Classical Revival style building with some mid-20th C. remodelling to first story facade. Pilasters on front corners and between bays on north side, side paired windows, and parapet above modillioned cornice. The bank was organized in 1914 and occupied its new building in the same year. It continued operation at the same location until 1958. In 1957 the Bank merged with Northwestern Bank.

72. Commercial Building  
212-214 S. Center St.  
1918-1925 (SM), mid-20th C.  
F

Two-story brick building with stone cornice and stepped parapet. Greatly altered with plate glass windows, metal canopy, and stuccoed mid-section with remains of windows above.

73. Commercial Building  
218 S. Center St.  
1918-1925 (SM), mid-20th C.  
F

Two-story brick building, almost identical to 212-214 S. Center St. with cornice and low-stepped parapet. First story plate glass windows and six second story windows--now bricked in.

74. Commercial Building  
220 S. Center St.  
1911-1918 (SM)  
C

Two-story, four-bay wide brick building. Second story brick is in three shades of red, creating patterned designs. Corner paneled pilasters, 1/1 sash, recessed brick panels above windows, and corbelled cornice. First story altered with plate glass windows.

75. (former) Vance Hotel  
Northwest corner of S. Center and W. Front Sts.  
1918-1925 (SM)  
C

Large buff-colored building, five stories tall and seven bays wide by ten bays deep. Simple, arched main entrance. First story has banded brick effect. Building topped by modillioned cornice with pierced parapet. The hotel was built just after World War I under the leadership of Columbus Vance Henkel. It was named the Vance partly for Henkel and partly for Governor Zebulon B. Vance.

76. Gray Building  
302 S. Center St.  
1925-1930 (SM)  
C

Two-story, 3 x 7, buff-colored brick building with low tile roof and concrete or stone trim. Paneled frieze and overhanging moulded cornice. First story windows have brick borders with keystone and floriated corner blocks. Entrance on W. Front (now enclosed) has baroque architrave with urn in center of curvilinear pediment. One-story matching addition on south side used as bus terminal with carport at left rear. The building was once a hotel (ten rooms) and cafe built by John Gray, Sr.

Structures numbered 77-83 are physically located east of No. 22 (or 111 E. Broad St.)

77. Commercial Building  
113 E. Broad St.  
by 1930 (SM)  
C

One and one-half-story commercial building with stone paneled front, modernistic sawtooth pattern along cornice, and diagonal recessed entrance.

78. Commercial Building  
117 East Broad St.  
1918-1925 (SM)  
F

Two-story brick commercial building with majority of facade now covered with cream-colored metal (?) panels.

79. Commercial Building  
119 E. Broad St.  
1925-1930 (SM)  
F

One-story brick commercial building with majority of facade covered with corrugated metal panels.

80. Commercial Building  
121 E. Broad St.  
1918-1925 (SM)  
F

One-story brick commercial building. Completely plain.

81. First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church  
123-125 E. Broad St.  
1958, 1973-74  
C, GS

Large brick church in "Wren-Gibbs Georgian" style (with matching educational building at rear) set back from regular facade line to allow for lawn and trees. Projecting front portico with Corinthian columns and dentilled pediment above. Building highlighted by four-stage tower with copper-covered steeple. The church was organized in 1869 with the first church being built in 1874, the second one ca. 1900, which was demolished to build the third and present one in 1958. The educational building and offices were built in 1973-74.

82. Commercial Building  
between 125 and 145 E. Broad St.  
1925-1930 (SM), mid-20th C.  
C

One-story commercial building related in style to buildings No. 19, 20, 28, and 29. Yellow brick with decorative terra cotta (?) tile trim across top and down side pilasters, bands of tile, square tiles with abstract floral pattern and parapeted cornice. Plate glass store windows and doors across front with wood-shingled pent eave above.

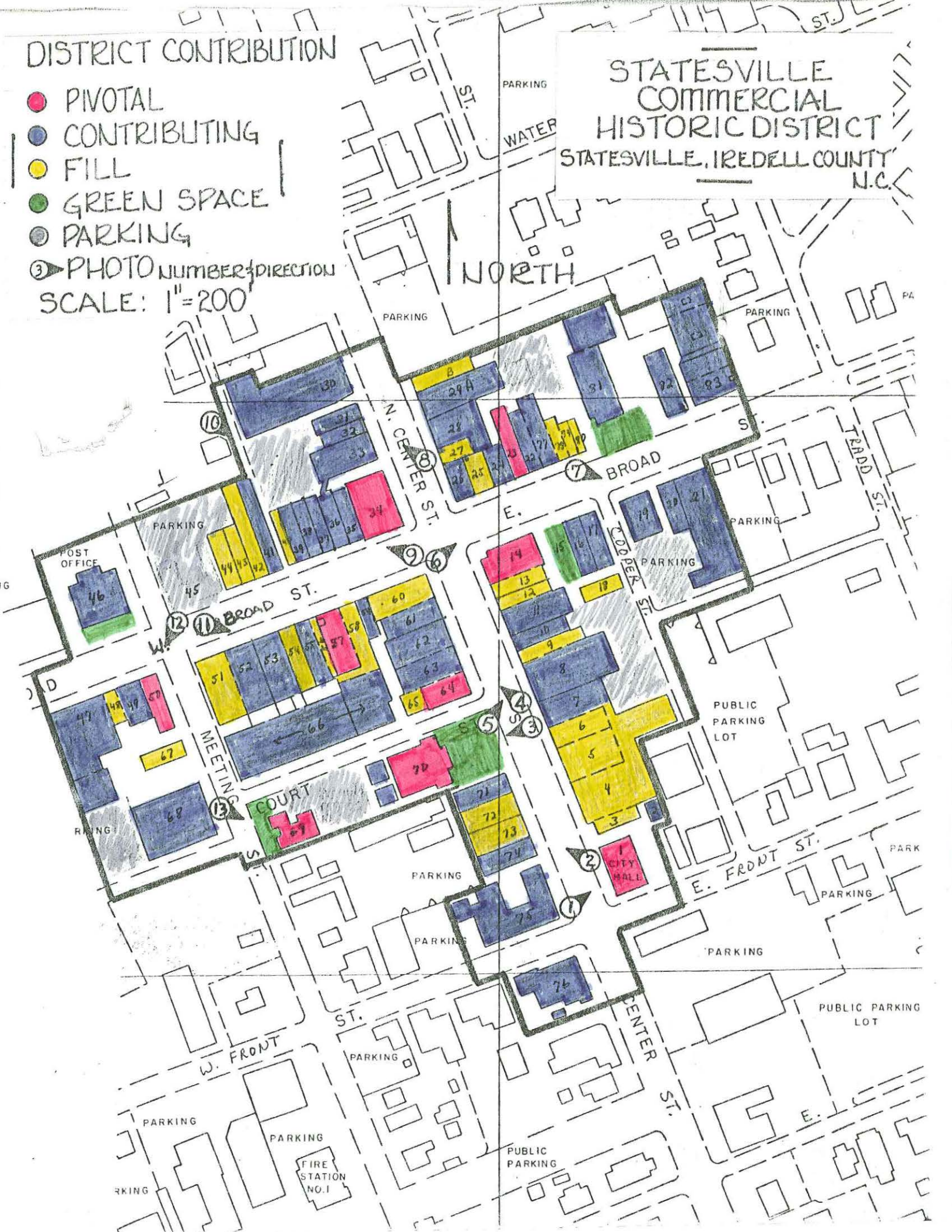
83. Sterns Building  
145-153 E. Broad St.  
1925-1930 (SM)  
C

Six-story brick building with terra cotta trim on first two stories and on facade of sixth (acting to accentuate top of building and cornice area). Sixth story area has band under windows with Greek fretwork and at mid-point of band is decorative area with garlanded cartouche. Windows and entrance of first two stories are outlined with terra cotta decorative work of fluted pilasters with composite capitals, roundels with acanthus leaf-type flowers and decorative urns with medallions showing female classical head. Complex is composed of two stories, a theatre, and an office building.

# DISTRICT CONTRIBUTION

- PIVOTAL
- CONTRIBUTING
- FILL
- GREEN SPACE
- PARKING
- ③ PHOTO NUMBER DIRECTION
- SCALE: 1"=200'

## STATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT STATESVILLE, IREDELL COUNTY N.C.





United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 1-7 Page 1 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

[Note: Only amended items and the required NPS certification are included below.]

1. **Name of Property:** Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)
3. **State/Federal Agency Certification:** As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant locally.

Jeffrey J. Crow, Acting SHPO  
Signature of certifying official/Title31 July 95  
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.]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

5. **Number of Resources within Property:**

54 Contributing buildings    27 Noncontributing buildings

7. **Description**

When interest rose in the early 1990s among Statesville Commercial Historic District property owners in the federal investment tax credits for certified historic rehabilitations, the number of Historic Preservation Certification Applications reviewed by North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office staff also increased. As staff examined the historic district nomination prepared in the late 1980s, they realized that substantial alterations to numerous properties since 1980 had rendered the document outdated. Staff also discovered that the 1980 nomination contained numerous inconsistencies such as assignment of inappropriate status and counting multiple buildings with common walls as one; also, the inventory list was difficult to follow due to an almost haphazard presentation of the individual resources. Consequently, it was decided to prepare this amendment in order to thoroughly update the inventory list and key it to a revised site map. The amendment also changes the end of the period of significance to 1941 (see item 8).

The 1980 nomination listed eighty-three resources including eighty-one buildings, a small park, and a parking lot. Although three historic buildings have been added to the inventory list and several have been lost, the total number of buildings cited in this amendment has not changed. The additions were realized when certain buildings with multiple storefronts were correctly re-evaluated as multiple structures (current entries 3 and 4, 38 and 39, and 80 and 81. Conversely, one new building (entry

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

47) occupies the site of two razed historic buildings (former entries 82 and 83). Three other buildings that were razed during the 1980s were former entries 2, 3, and 18. A parking lot counted in the original nomination is now occupied by a modern bank, current entry 64, and the "pocket" park, former entry 15 that was counted as green space, is now a parking lot that is not included in the amended inventory list.

While the total number of contributing (originally "pivotal" or "contributing") and noncontributing (formerly "fill" or "intrusive") resources also remains the same as in the original nomination, the status of approximately twenty percent of the properties has changed. Eight pivotal or contributing resources have been reclassified as noncontributing and eight fill or intrusive properties have been reclassified as contributing.

Most of the contributing to noncontributing status changes correct errors made in the original nomination. For three of these, extensive unsympathetic alterations had not been adequately evaluated (e.g., current entry number 12, cited as contributing because an intact facade appears to survive under modern metal panels), while the post-1941 construction dates of two buildings (current entries number 46, a 1958 church, and number 35, built in 1947) apparently had been overlooked. Three other buildings with altered main facades (current entries 7, 56, and 57) had been classified as contributing because of their intact alley elevations. Despite a compelling argument for the importance of alley elevations in determining building status, the main facades remain the determining factors in a downtown characterized by vibrant streetscapes.

The success of Statesville's participation in the National Main Street program through the Downtown Statesville Development Corporation is visually evident in the numerous facade renovations. Several buildings that were largely intact but suffering varying degrees of deterioration or relatively minor unsympathetic changes at the time the original nomination was prepared have been rehabilitated, while four buildings (current entries 11, 43, 44, and 79), all fairly plain one- and two-story brick structures, have been reclassified as contributing due to the removal of modern screens or panels that obscured upper facades. In addition, two largely intact buildings (entries 34 and 59) had been incorrectly given post-1941 construction dates and two unaltered buildings erected prior to 1925 (entries 69 and 77) had been evaluated as "fill," or noncontributing, apparently because they are so plain. Thus, eight properties formerly evaluated as noncontributing are cited as contributing in this amendment.

As noted in the 1980 nomination, very little building occurred in downtown Statesville after 1930, the implicit end of the original period of significance, and in fact only four properties are known to date to the expanded period of 1931 to 1941 covered by this amendment. Three of these, entries 1, 2, and 4, are modest brick buildings, of which the most elaborate, the commercial building at 108-112 N. Center St. (entry 2), is characterized by a simply patterned brick cornice and pilasters defining three storefronts. The fourth property is the 1938 U. S. Post Office (entry 65), a large, rather austere three-story block of red, Flemish bond brick with restrained neoclassical detailing in cast stone. Although they were outside the period of significance, the building at 108-112 N. Center St. and the U. S. Post Office were classified as contributing in the 1980 nomination. The Lackey Building at 116 N. Center St. (entry 4) was described as fill but was counted as an addition to the former Montgomery Ward Store (entry 3) rather than an individual property. The commercial building at 104 N. Center St. (entry 1) is noncontributing due to an extensive remodelling in 1967.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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**AMENDED INVENTORY LIST**

The following inventory list is an amendment in two respects of the list prepared for the nomination in 1980: the building descriptions and histories are current through early 1995 and the order of presentation has been revised. Now, the buildings are presented street by street, beginning with the streets running approximately north-south, east side preceding west side and moving from east to west, followed by the streets running approximately east-west, north side preceding south side and moving from north to south. Each change in a consecutive progression of street addresses is indicated by a sub-heading. The amended entry number and current status appear at the left margin, followed by the original entry number and status in parentheses.

**North Center Street, east side**

1/N (27/F). **Commercial Building.** 104 N. Center St. 1938. Nondescript three-story brick commercial building remodelled in 1967.

2/C (28/C). **Commercial Building.** 108-112 N. Center St. 1938. One-story yellow brick veneered commercial building with patterned brick cornice, divided into three storefronts by pilasters formerly topped with concrete urns.

3/C (29/C). **(former) Montgomery Ward Store.** 114 N. Center St. 1925, mid-20th c. Two-story brick commercial building with glazed terra cotta tile front, frieze with applied tile panels and floral details, and urn-topped pilasters dividing facade into three bays. Center bay has tile relief cast of female figure bearing torch and balanced on small globe with ribbon labeled "Spirit of Progress," the Montgomery Ward logo. Elliptical arched windows (now filled in) with iron balustrade at second story. First story remodelled. Montgomery Ward rented the building when it was first constructed but closed their business after a few years.

4/C (29/F). **Lackey Building.** 116 N. Center St. 1941, mid-20th c. One-story brick building dominated by plate glass storefront with canvas awning. For many years it served as an addition to the building at 114 N. Center St.

**North Center Street, west side**

5/C (33/C). **James Iredell Building/(former) Lazenby-Montgomery Hardware Store.** 113 N. Center St. 1916. Three-story brick building, three bays wide with each bay containing group of three one-over-one sash, except for central first-story entrance containing double doors flanked by single windows. Bays separated by brick pilasters. Brick corbelled cornice with brick panels underneath. (See No. 53 (36) for information on Lazenby-Montgomery.) Building has been rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

6/C (32/C). **Commercial Building.** 115 N. Center St. 1886. Two-story brick, late Italianate style commercial building. Three bays wide, segmentally arched doors and windows with granite sills and brick label hood molds, and sawtooth patterned brick corbelled cornice. First used as a furniture store and later as a cattle feed store.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

**7/N (31/C). Commercial Building.** 117 N. Center St. Ca. 1900, mid-20th c. Two-story brick commercial building, very altered with very austere modern facade of painted brick and replacement windows. One side and rear elevations facing alleys remain relatively intact.

**8/C (30/C). (former) Henkel Livestock Co.** 119-125 N. Center St. 1895-1905 (SM). Two-story brick Romanesque Revival style commercial building with pilasters dividing the nine-bay facade into five major sections. First story has round-arched entrances and second story has round-arched windows. At center section the parapeted cornice is taller than on sides. Segmental-arched side windows, and round- and segmental-arched windows and large doorways at rear. Rear is slightly later addition which is fairly elaborate with vertical and horizontal brick dividing elements creating flat brick panels with projecting brick crosses. Late 1970s rehabilitation entailed sandblasting. In 1902 C. V. and L. P. Henkel and David Craig organized the Henkel Livestock Company, later changed to Henkel-Craig Livestock Company with stockholders over the entire state of NC. In 1918 the company gave way to the automobile and was sold to outside interests.

**South Center Street, east side**

**9/C (14/P). (former) First National Bank.** 101-103 S. Center St. 1890, mid-20th c. Three-story brick commercial building topped by corner mansard clock tower. Round- and segmental-arched windows headed on the Broad and Center St. sides by decorative Italianate lintels. Sawtooth brick string course between floors. Decorative cornice apparently replaced by plain brick parapet. Modern alteration to first story. The bank was organized in May 1887 and in the fall of 1889 construction began on the building, which was ready for occupancy in mid-March 1890 with George F. Shepherd as president. In 1929, both this bank and Commercial National Bank (entry 25) each had 1% of the state's bank deposits. First National Bank closed in January 1933, a victim of the Depression. Through the years the third floor has accommodated many civic and cultural activities as well as serving doctors and dentists with office space on this and the second floor. The clock on the tower is called the "Alliance Clock" after the Farmers Alliance was a factor in a local election of county commissioners following their appropriation of \$175.00 (one-fourth the total cost) of the county farmer's tax money for the clock for the city.

**10/N (13/F). Commercial Building.** 105 S. Center St. Ca. 1900, late 1940s. One-story brick building with entire facade altered with Moderne plate glass storefront and large Carrara glass tiles.

**11/C (12/F). Commercial Building.** 107 S. Center St. Ca. 1900, mid-20th c. One-story commercial building with plain brick upper facade (from which later replacement screen recently removed) and post-World War II storefront containing small display windows.

**12/N (11/C). Commercial Building.** 109 S. Center St. Ca. 1895 (SM), mid-20th c. Radically altered two-story brick building. Originally distinguished by corbelled and dentilled cornice above masonry panels and pilasters of contrasting masonry. Original facade apparently is intact beneath metal panels that completely obscure it; storefront has been reconstructed. Occupied by the Belk department store for much of this century.

**13/N (10/C). Commercial Building.** 113 S. Center St. Ca. 1895 (SM), mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with corbelled cornice above recessed panels. Storefront reconstructed in 1980s with



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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brick veneer and aluminum-framed plate glass windows. Second story dominated by wide, segmental-arched opening, also filled with modern aluminum-framed plate glass. With 109 S. Center, occupied by the Belk department store for much of this century.

**14/N (9/F). Commercial Building.** 115 S. Center St. Ca. 1895?, late-20th c. One-story brick building extensively altered on main facade at least twice, most recently with brick veneer and aluminum and glass storefront.

**15/C (8/C). Holland Building.** 117 S. Center St. 1919, mid-20th c. Two-story brick and terra cotta building divided into a three-bay (north end) and a one-bay section, each featuring a stepped and gabled parapet and a projecting terra cotta cornice with egg and dart molding and panels between heavy acanthus scrolled brackets. At the second story of the three-bay section, each bay contains a tripartite window with single-pane sashes and multi-paned transoms. The one-bay section has a similar window at the second story but it is five-part. Only first-story level, with metal sheathing over transom, flat metal canopy, and plate glass windows, has been altered. C. S. Holland was the owner of this structure as well as 203 S. Center.

**16/N (7/C). Commercial Building.** 203 S. Center St. 1919, mid-20th c. Two-story commercial building, slightly shorter than 117 S. Center but originally identical in construction and detailing. Below the cornice the building has been radically altered with stucco and new glass and aluminum storefront with deeply recessed entrance. C. S. Holland also has this building constructed, for Ramsey-Bowles-Morrison, Statesville's largest dry goods establishment in the early 20th c. The firm remained at this location until 1957 when it dissolved and Woolworth's came to town and occupied the building.

**17/N (6/F). Commercial Building.** 207 S. Center St. Indeterminate age, modern facade. Two-story building extensively altered with modern plate glass windows and recessed entrance at first story and stuccoed veneer completely covering upper facade to conceal all original detail including windows.

**18/N (5/F). Commercial Building.** 211 S. Center St. 1957. Severe modernistic, four-story building, on site of the historic Cooper House hotel. Original first-story display windows largely replaced by stuccoed infill. Upper three stories marked by two vertical ranks of narrow windows incised in flat facade sheathed in tan-colored ceramic tile. South end of the main facade is an unbroken, full-height vertical panel of glass block.

**19/N (4/F). Commercial Building.** 217 S. Center St. 1957. Two-story building with lower level having three storefronts of plate glass display windows and doors and upper level covered with narrow, grey enamelled metal panels. Built by J. C. Penney; now three individual retail establishments.

**20/C (1/P). City Hall.** 227 S. Center St. 1892. Former U. S. Post Office, Courthouse, and Customs House sold to City for use as City Hall in 1941. The two-and-one-half-story brick structure is one of the best examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style in North Carolina. Listed individually in the National Register in 1973.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

---

South Center Street, west side

**21/N (60/F). Commercial Building.** 100 S. Center St. Early-20th c., late-20th c. Brick commercial building with late 20th-c. wood frame and plate glass storefront and austere red brick upper elevations dating to remodelling following a fire.

**22/C (61/C). Commercial Building.** 104 S. Center St. 1900, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building featuring buff brick main facade and tall attic story marked by stringcourses, pilasters, and small windows. Recessed storefront completely remodelled but original metal cornice and rusticated granite block facing south pier and outlining former entrance to second story (apparently closed off when adjoining 100 S. Center street remodelled). Second story is two bays divided by a pilaster, each bay containing a group of three windows with one-over-one sashes and transom.

**23/C (62/C). Commercial Building.** 106-108 S. Center St. 1895, mid-20th c. Two-and-a-half-story brick building with central rusticated granite round-arched monumental entranceway. First story has pressed metal cornice with corner gabled brackets and corner brick and granite pilasters. Second story is divided into three bays with one-over-one sash and transoms in outer bays and Victorian upper sashes in middle bay. Tall attic story has lunette windows under metal eaves cornices in outer bays and three tall and narrow round-arched louvered vents in middle bay, all with label hood molds. Center bay rises as flat parapet with corbelled brickwork under metal cornice.

**24/C (63/C). Commercial Building.** 110-112 S. Center St. 1895, mid- and late-20th c. Three-story commercial building, elevation above storefront restored in 1980s to reverse mid-20th c. application of metal panels. Second story features one-over-one sash with side windows having rusticated stone lintels and center paired windows having stone and brick voussoired lintels. Third story has round-arched windows with label molding and stone string course doubling as sills; paired windows separated by a pressed metal cartouche. Original urns atop outer edges of parapet have been lost.

**25/C (64/P). Commercial National Bank.** 116 S. Center St. 1903. Narrow, two-story brick Neo-Classical Revival style building with high rusticated granite foundation. Shallow two-story portico with paired Ionic columns (said to be largest solid granite columns in the state) and entablature with plain frieze and modillioned cornice forming triangular pediment. Modillioned cornice with parapet above continues around the building. Pilasters with Ionic capitals are found at corners and down the south side marking bays. Second story has round-arched windows with stone surrounds and acanthus keystones. Main entrance has Baroque pediment with finial topped by statue of an owl. First story has replacement windows, but retains granite lintels. Around 1909 the Commercial National Bank was formed out of the Statesville Loan and Trust Co., becoming Statesville's second national bank. In 1929, both Commercial National Bank and First National Bank (entry 9) each had 1% of the state's bank deposits. Commercial National Bank failed later that year. The Statesville Industrial Bank operated at this location from 1937 to 1966.

**26/C (70/C). (former) Iredell County Courthouse.** 200 S. Center St. 1899, 1940. Square, two-story brick building designed in Beaux Arts classical style with main facade having a five-bay-wide, three-story center block surmounted by a bellcast hip-roofed cupola and fronted by a two-story tetrastyle pedimented portico. Flanking one-bay-wide, two-story wings. Variety of window types

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

---

and variety of trim materials, including granite, terra cotta, smooth stone, wood, slate, and cast iron. Charlotte architects Hayden, Wheeler and Schwend designed the building, which was erected by Atlanta contractor Nicholas Ittner. Simple 1940 rear wings compatible with original structure. Listed in National Register 1979.

**27/C (71/C). (former) Peoples Loan and Savings Bank.** 210 S. Center St. 1914, mid-20th c. Two-story brick Neo-Classical Revival style building with some mid-20th c. remodelling to recessed storefront flanked by original one-story pilasters. Full-height pilasters at front corners and between bays on north side, side paired windows, and parapet above modillioned cornice. The bank was organized in 1914 and occupied its new building in the same year. It continued operation at the same location until 1958. In 1957 the bank merged with Northwestern Bank. Now a retail establishment.

**28/N (72/F). Commercial Building.** 212-214 S. Center St. 1918, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with cast stone cornice and stepped parapet. Greatly altered with plate glass storefront, flat metal canopy, and panel covering most of upper elevation except for very small replacement windows.

**29/N (73/F). Commercial Building.** 218 S. Center St. 1918-1925 (SM), mid-20th c. Two-story brick building, originally very similar to 212-214 S. Center St. with cast stone cornice and stepped and gabled parapet. Storefront also is modern and transom is covered. The six second-story windows have been bricked in (the window sash survive behind) and entire upper facade painted.

**30/C (74/C). Commercial Building.** 220 S. Center St. 1915, mid-20th c. Two-story, four-bay brick building. Brick is in three shades of red, creating patterns in the corner panelled pilasters, surrounds of the one-over-one sash, recessed brick panels, and corbelled cornice. First story altered with modern storefront.

**31/C (75/C). (former) Vance Hotel.** 228 S. Center St. 1921. Large buff-colored building, five stories tall and seven bays wide by ten bays deep. Simple, arched main entrance. First story has banded brick effect. Building topped by modillioned cornice and slightly stepped and gabled pierced parapet. The hotel was built under the leadership of Columbus Vance Henkel. It was named partly for Henkel and partly for Governor Zebulon V. Vance.

**32/C (76/C). Gray Building.** 302 S. Center St. 1926. Two-story three-bay by seven-bay, buff-colored brick building with concrete or cast stone trim. Panelled frieze and overhanging molded cornice topped by canted tiled parapet. First-story windows have brick borders with keystone and floriated corner blocks. Both main entrances have flat baroque surround with urn in center of curvilinear pediment. One-story matching addition on south side used as bus terminal with carport at left rear. The building was once a hotel (ten rooms) and cafe built by John Gray, Sr.

### South Meeting Street, east side

**33/C (69/P). (former) County Jail.** 122 S. Meeting St. 1901. Two-story buff-colored brick building in Renaissance Revival style. Five bays wide with three center bays recessed and fronted by an arcaded porch with parapeted balcony. Paired one-over-one sash surrounded by concrete or cast stone quoins and garlanded cartouches in window spandrels. Panelled frieze and overhanging

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

---

modillioned cornice. Front section of building joined to rear cell block by arcade. The jail was built on the site of an earlier jail built in 1873. Wheeler, Galliher & Stern, architects of Charlotte, designed the building, while J. A. Jones of Charlotte was the contractor. It was listed in the National Register with the former Courthouse in 1979.

South Meeting Street, west side

**34/C (67/F). Commercial Building.** 110 S. Meeting St. Ca. 1925. Tall one-story brick building with centered double-leaf glass and wood panelled front door flanked by paired windows. Upper main facade decorated with diamond patterns of buff-colored brick.

**35/N (68/C). Building.** 120 S. Meeting St. 1947. Large thirteen-bay by twelve-bay four-story brick building with metal and concrete trim. Horizontal feeling emphasized by concrete bands above first floor is counteracted by fluted concrete pilasters running through all four stories on either side of central entrance bay. Never completed for its intended purposes of the Barnes Hotel, it served as a factory and later a warehouse. Rehabilitated with replacement one-over-one windows in 1980s as housing. Occupies the site of the famed Wallace Herbarium, the largest in the United States, which stood here from 1870 to 1944.

East Broad Street, north side

**36/C (26/C). Commercial Building.** 101 E. Broad St. By 1885 (SM), mid-20th c. Two-story building with tall stepped parapet, corner entrance and 20th-c. storefront. Homer Kever in *Iredell-Piedmont County* (p. 439) claims this is the oldest building in downtown Statesville, built by T. H. McRorie when Statesville was being rebuilt after the great fire of 1854, but there is little physical evidence to indicate such an early date. Overall proportions, corner pilasters, and very large windows with lintels and sills suggest a late 19th c. date.

**37/N (25/F). Commercial Building.** 103 E. Broad St. Ca. 1890, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building extensively altered with mid-20th-century facade consisting of stone-veneered storefront and plain brick upper elevation with metal-framed multi-paned windows. Originally similar or identical to 107 E. Broad.

**38/N (24/C). (N) Commercial Building.** 105 E. Broad St. By 1885 (SM). Two-story brick building with storefront extensively altered mid-20th century. Two early six-over-six double-hung sash windows in segmental-arched openings remain in upper story, but cornice has been removed. Only other original remnant is metal cornice above storefront. Originally similar or identical to 107 E. Broad.

**39/C (24/C). (C) Commercial Building.** 107 E. Broad St. By 1885 (SM). Two-story brick building with gable roof and six-over-six sash in segmental-arched windows at second story. Brick in front gable pierced for ventilation alteration. Storefront retains original configuration and metal cornice. The building and the formerly similar (if not identical) building next door at 105 E. Broad were a hardware store in 1885 and a harness factory operated by Jesse Brown in 1900.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 9

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

**40/C (23/P).** (former) Sloan's Hardware Store. 107-1/2 - 109 E. Broad St. Ca. 1880. Relatively intact two-story brick building notable for its decorative features. First story has Mesker & Co. cast iron frame of three pilasters (defining small office to west and larger storefront to east) and frieze with delicate applied ornamentation in organic motifs. Wide segmental-arched windows (now with brick infill, the building's only major alteration), brick hood molds, and marble sills highlight the second story. Tall metal cornice with corner finials surmounts corbelled brickwork. Williams Reece Sloan operated his hardware store here during the late 19th century. 107-1/2 served as the store's office.

**41/C (22/C).** Commercial Building. 111 E. Broad St. 1925-1930 (SM). Two-story brick building featuring molded cast stone surround enframing storefront and band of windows (originally one-over-one double-hung sash, now replaced with solid expanse of glass blocks) across most of second story. Storefront is somewhat altered but retains original configuration. Upper elevation with stylized geometrical figures in contrasting light brick and stepped parapet has Moderne character.

**42/C (77/C).** Commercial Building. 113-115 E. Broad St. By 1930 (SM). Tall one-story building with stone-panelled front, modernistic sawtooth cornice, and two storefronts recessed on the diagonal.

**43/C (78/F).** Commercial Building. 117 E. Broad St. 1920. Two-story brick building recently rehabilitated with removal of cream-colored panels sheathing main elevation. Storefront and two double second-story windows are modern plate glass replacements, but remainder of exterior now largely intact.

**44/C (79/F).** Commercial Building. 119 E. Broad St. 1925-1930 (SM). Small and very plain but largely intact one-story brick building with recessed entrance centered in plate-glass storefront with brick bulkheads. Door is modern replacement.

**45/C (80/F).** Commercial Building. 121 E. Broad St. 1925-1930 (SM). Small one-story brick building identical to 119 E. Broad St. next door, except that entrance door with full-height window is original.

**46/N (81/C).** First Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church. 123-125 E. Broad St. 1958, 1973-74. Large brick church in "Wren-Gibbs Georgian" style set back from regular facade line to allow for lawn and trees. Projecting front portico with Corinthian columns and dentilled pediment above. Building highlighted by four-stage tower with copper-covered steeple. The church was organized in 1869 and erected its first building in 1874. The second building, constructed ca. 1900, was demolished to build the current one in 1958. The educational and office wing was built in 1973-74.

**47/N (82/C & 83/C).** Commercial Building. 139 E. Broad St. 1980s. Two-Story Post-Modern red brick building with cast stone trim, surrounded by a landscaped parking lot. Replaced a one-story commercial building and a large six-story building containing stores, a theatre, and offices, both built in the late 1920s.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 10

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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East Broad Street, south side

**48/C (16/C). Commercial Building.** 114 E. Broad St. 1890. Two-story brick building, well-preserved with exception of detrimental sandblasting ca. 1980. Highly distinctive for completely intact original storefront with metal molded cornice and pilasters with modillion capitals. Tall second-story windows have six-over-six double-hung sash and molded cornices supported by large brackets. Upper elevation also features brick quoins and brick cornice of corbelled pendants.

**49/C (17/C). Commercial Building.** 116 E. Broad St. 1930 (SM). One-story brick building with truncated tile roof featuring "Spanish" tile and small gable-parapeted dormers with round-arched multi-paned windows. Pilasters with concrete caps and bases flank full-width storefront with transom and recessed entrance.

**50/C (19/C). Commercial Building.** 118-122 E. Broad St. 1928. Row of three storefronts that look like three identical but separate buildings because the easternmost unit is slightly shorter than the middle unit, which is slightly shorter than the westernmost unit. Each one-story unit has a simple stepped parapet with terra cotta trim, and geometric inlays in contrasting brick. At the end of the building and between each unit there is a tall pilaster with slightly recessed vertical panel rising to a height just above the tallest portion of the parapets.

**51/C (20/C). Commercial Building.** 124-126 E. Broad St. Ca. 1910, 1925-1930 (SM). One-story brick building, apparently built ca. 1910 but remodelled between 1925 and 1930 in same style as 118-122 E. Broad St. next door. Main facade contains two narrow storefronts with recessed central entrances. Above, a molded terra cotta cornice spans the facade, topped by a stepped and gabled parapet with terra cotta coping and diamond-shaped trim.

**52/C (21/C). (former) Carolina Motor Company.** 128-132 E. Broad St. 1917. Two-story brick former auto showroom and body shop. Tripartite configuration has gable-front end pavilions with entrances in wide segmental arches and banks of triple four-over-four double-hung sash windows at the second story. Central section features an expanse of plate-glass windows at the first story and a band of twelve four-pane casement windows above. Slate-covered roof has a deep overhang with knee braces in the gables. Interior has balcony on three sides. Structure was built as Carolina Motor Co. by D. M. Brown Contracting Co. of Statesville according to a design by Charlotte architect Charles C. Hook. The building occasionally was used for dances with music provided by "big bands." Restoration of the building as an antique mall was undertaken in 1993.

West Broad Street, north side

**53/C (34/P). Miller Block.** 102-104 W. Broad St. 1885, mid-20th c. Large two-story brick building at prominent corner site, distinguished by nine-bay main facade and elaborate detailing. The building originally contained three storefronts, but a mid-20th c. remodelling combined the two west storefronts as one and altered the east front, leaving only the original Mesker cast iron pilasters intact; the east storefront was restored in 1994. On both Broad and Center street facades, unaltered second story displays pressed metal pedimented and bracketed window hoods, the shapes of which are repeated in the brickwork above. Heavy pressed-metal upper cornice. Three shallow cross gables

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 11

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

---

decorate rear roofline. Built as rental property by William C. Miller and used by various mercantile businesses.

**54/C (35/C). Commercial Building.** 108 W. Broad St. 1896, mid-20th c. Two-story late Victorian brick commercial building with first story remodelled mid 20th c. except for cast iron Mesker fluted pilasters. Second story apparently unaltered, with one-over-one sash, ornate brick frieze and cornice, pronounced corbelled brick pendants, and pilasters defining single windows flanking middle triple window. Rear elevation has rectangular and segmental-arched six-over-six sash and shallow gable roofline.

**55/C (36/C). (former) Lazenby-Montgomery Hardware Store.** 110 W. Broad St. 1885, ca. 1935. Two-story brick, late Victorian building. 1930s remodelling of storefront retained original configuration and metal cornice. Second story is virtually unaltered, with ornate metal cornice, pressed metal bracketed window hoods, and sawtooth brick frieze course. A recent paint scheme of deep red on the brick and blue-grays elsewhere highlights the architectural elements. Interior has hanging balcony along both side walls as well as built-in shelving with bracketed cornice, probably original. Rear elevation has common bond wall and segmental-arched openings. An elevated walkway links this building with 113 N. Center St. (see No. 5 (33)). This structure owned and operated as a hardware store in 1885 by W. A. Thomas, who turned the business over to others to go into manufacturing. In 1905 L. R. Lazenby and J. T. (Thad) Montgomery, who were working there, bought the business and changed the name of the store. When Lazenby-Montgomery Hardware ceased operation in 1993, it was one of the oldest firms in continuous operation in Statesville.

**56/N (37/C). Commercial Building.** 112 W. Broad St. 1894, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building extensively altered with plate glass storefront and marble panels covering entire upper elevation in mid 20th c. Rear elevation intact with five-to-one common bond and six-over-six second-story windows in segmental arches.

**57/N (38/C). Commercial Building.** 114 W. Broad St. 1894, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building. Modernistic plate glass storefront and sheathing in large ceramic tiles with large metal flower blossoms in upper corners are result of mid 20th c. remodelling. Intact rear elevation has five-to-one common bond, four-over-four second story windows in segmental arches, and an entrance with a five-light transom, also in a segmental arch.

**58/C (39/C). Commercial Building.** 116 W. Broad St. Ca. 1885, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building featuring corbelled pendant cornice. Second-story windows (now filled with brick) retain rusticated stone keystones and course acting as sills. Storefront altered but retains corbelled brick cornice. Rear has common bond brickwork and three segmentally arched six-over-six second-story windows.

**59/C (40/F). Commercial Building.** 118 W. Broad St. 1921, mid-20th c. Diminutive two-story brick building, several feet shorter than adjacent buildings, with modestly corbelled cornice and pair of three-over-one windows in second story. Remodelled storefront features "permastone."

**60/C (41/C). Commercial Building.** 120 W. Broad St. Ca. 1885, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with front facade completely remodelled ca. 1940 in restrained design. Side and rear

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 12 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

---

common bond elevations have segmental-arched openings. Building has seen various uses such as general store, wholesale liquor manufacturing facility, bowling alley and billiard parlor, and Brady Printing.

**61/N (42/F). Commercial Building.** 122 W. Broad St. Ca. 1890, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with radically altered storefront and remodelled upper elevation covered in stucco. Modillioned cornice seems to be only original element left of facade. Originally occupied by the Crescent Theatre.

**62/N (43/F). Commercial Building.** 124 W. Broad St. Ca. 1900, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building drastically altered mid 20th c. with new facade of pebbled concrete and ceramic tiles.

**63/N (44/F). Commercial Building.** 126 W. Broad St. Ca. 1900, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with plate glass storefront and three one-over-one windows in second story. Extensively altered mid 20th c. with application of stucco to main facade and upper portion of west elevation.

**64/N (45/parking lot). Commercial Building.** NE corner W. Broad & Meeting Sts. 1980s. Brick-veneered Colonial Revival style bank building embracing drive-up teller lanes and surrounded by a landscaped parking lot.

**65/C (46/C). United States Post Office.** 200 W. Broad St. 1938 (cornerstone). Three-story, seven-bay by seven-bay, Flemish bond brick and stone building with classical motifs used for decorative detailing. Eight-over-twelve windows with stone lintels and sills at first story. Recessed walls containing openings give effect of pilasters at second and third stories. At the second story, French doors open on to shallow balconies with iron and bronze railings; third story has four-over-four windows. Large front entrance has crosseted surround with dentilled cornice. Interior has L-shaped lobby with plain barrel-vaulted ceiling. Designed by architect R. Stanley Brown under supervising Louis A. Simon; Neal A. Melich was supervising engineer.

**West Broad Street, south side**

**66/C (59/C). Commercial Building.** 109 W. Broad St. Ca. 1905. Two-story brick Renaissance Revival style building. First-story shop fronts altered but outer frame of quoined pilasters remains. Intact second story features three windows, each paired one-over-one sash under round-arched fanlight in brick surround. A prominent pressed metal dentilled and modillioned cornice is topped by panelled brick flat parapet.

**67/N (58/F). Commercial Building.** 111 W. Broad St. 1900; ca. 1960. Two-story building with modern replacement facade featuring cinder-block screen at upper elevation.

**68/C (57/P). (former) Merchants and Farmers Bank.** 113 W. Broad St. 1908, ca. 1935. Distinctive three-story brick building in Renaissance Revival style. First story, which originally had two storefronts flanking a round-arched entrance, was remodelled ca. 1935 with cut stone veneer, four large round-arched windows, and a pedimented stone entrance surround; ornate brick upper stories remain unaltered, with five bays marked by horizontally striated pilasters with Ionic capitals. Spandrels between windows contain panels with relief casts of lions' heads. Third-story windows



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 13Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

surmounted by round-arched stone surrounds with acanthus keystones. Center bay of third story has keystoned flat arch with lion's head roundel above. Pressed metal overhanging cornice with dentil and modillion ornament. This was Statesville's third bank, organized by Fred B. Bunch and James Allen Knox in 1908. In 1960 Merchants and Farmers merged with North Carolina National Bank, now NationsBank.

**69/C (56/F). Commercial Building.** 155 W. Broad St. 1918-1925 (SM). Very narrow and plain one-story brick shop created by filling in alley between 113 and 117 W. Broad.

**70/C (55/C). Commercial Building.** 117 W. Broad St. 1890-1895 (SM). Extensive alterations made in 1953 to the facade of this two-story brick building were partially reversed in 1994 with the removal of stuccoed panels covering the upper elevation. Although the replacement plate glass storefront remains, the one-over-over double-hung sash windows in segmental arched openings have been restored at the second story. A sawtooth brick frieze course and pressed metal bracketed cornice with small central cross gable cap the main elevation. During the 1920s, this was the leading movie theatre in town.

**71/N (54/F). Commercial Building.** 119 W. Broad St. Ca. 1900; mid-20th c. Two-story brick building thoroughly altered with plate glass storefront and sheathing of stucco that entailed obliteration of second-story windows and all original detailing.

**72/C (53/C). Commercial Building.** 121-123 W. Broad St. 1905-1911 (SM), mid-20th c. Two-unit, two-story brick building in Romanesque Revival style. Storefronts remodelled mid 20th c., but second story virtually unaltered. Three pilasters, horizontally striated at the first story, frame the two units, each of which features second-story windows headed by connected round arches. Outer windows are single replacement sixteen-over-sixteen while central opening has narrower paired twelve-over-twelve (also replacements; originals survive in storage) and a taller arched head. Tall stepped parapeted cornice has corbelled brick string course and short pilasters with corbelled bases.

**73/C (52/C). Commercial Building.** 125-127 W. Broad St. Ca. 1900, mid-20th c. Two-story yellow brick building with first story altered mid-20th c. Second story is unaltered with row of seven attached, round-arched one-over-one sash windows with rusticated granite keystoned arch surrounds and sills typical of the Romanesque Revival style. Pressed metal frieze and dentilled and modillioned cornice with stepped parapet.

**74/N (51/F). Commercial Building.** 129-131 W. Broad St. ca. 1960. Plain one-story brick building with plate glass windows.

**75/C (50/P). (former) Walton & Gage Store.** 201 W. Broad St. 1876. Relatively intact two-story, red brick Italianate building incorporating Gothic features. Molded cornices with paired scroll brackets and pilasters topped by larger, elongated paired brackets highlight the two stories of both facades of this corner building. First-story windows on the east elevation are headed by blind pointed arches and flanked by fleur-de-lis capitals at the pilasters. The storefront has been altered with plated glass windows on the main facade, but is intact on the east. Second-story windows are narrow, paired one-over-one sash separated by slender colonettes. Walton & Gage was a fine women's wear, furs,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 14 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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piece goods, shoes, and hats store under the partnership of W. W. Walton, Harry Redwood, and Dr. Aaron B. Gage.

**76/C (49/C).** (former) **Coca-Cola Bottling Company.** 205 W. Broad St. 1911-1918 (SM). One-story brick building with two storefronts of plate glass windows and central entrances. Above each storefront is a large recessed panels and a corbelled cornice.

**77/C (48/F).** **Commercial Building.** 209 W. Broad St. 1905-1911 (SM). Plain one-story brick building with original storefronts of large wood-framed plate glass windows and upper elevations with recessed panels.

**78/C (47/C).** **Commercial Building.** 211 W. Broad St. 1911-1918 (SM), 1918-1925 (SM). Large two-story brick building with first story somewhat altered by changes in display windows and entrances but unaltered on second story where pilasters divide bays containing double or paired single two-over-two windows with flat-arch lintels and brick keystones. Louvered lunette vents top some windows and flat panels above others, with a corbelled cornice above. Fourteen bay-deep side with two-over-two segmentally arched windows, and six-to-one common bond variation. An early 20th c. photo reproduced in *Iredell County Landmarks* and labelled "Carolina Motor Company" may indicate that the business was located here before it moved to E. Broad St.

**Court Street, north side**

**79/C (65/F).** **Commercial Building.** 106-108 Court St. 1925, mid-20th c. Two-story brick building with two altered storefronts. Upper elevation is rather plain, with four two-over-two double-hung sash windows (the middle two paired) and a cornice of small corbelled pendants.

**80/C (66/C).** (former) **Bristol Hotel.** 110-116 Court St. 1911-1918 (SM). Two-story, three-unit brick building with altered storefronts but intact second stories. At the second story, each of the three bays features a double one-over-one double-hung sash window topped by a pair of recessed panels and modest corbelling. Built as the Bristol Hotel, the building originally accommodated the hotel office and a small restaurant in the north storefront, a print shop in the south units, and hotel rooms on the entire second floor.

**81/C (66/C).** **Commercial Building.** 118-132 Court St. 1918-1925 (SM). Long two-story brick building containing approximately ten storefronts divided into five units that step down slightly with the descent of the street to the west. All sections of the building are unified by single or double one-over-one double-hung sash windows at the second story and simple corbelling at the cornice. Pilasters separating each bay also divide the cornice and in alternating units extend through the storefronts. Two units have their storefronts bricked in; the rest retain their original configurations. Early occupants of the building included a bottling works at the west end, a print shop, a bowling alley, and pool hall, and several retail shops.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 15

Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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8. Statement of Significance

Period of Significance: 1876-1941

Although the original, 1980 nomination for the Statesville Commercial Historic District did not specify a period of significance, the text implied a period beginning ca. 1875 and ending at the fifty-year cut-off of 1930, despite the fact that certain post-1930 resources were discussed and considered as contributing to the historic character of the district. With this amendment, the period of significance is specified as beginning in 1876, the construction date of the oldest building in downtown Statesville, and extending to the eve of World War II in 1941 when construction effectively ceased for several years. Of the four buildings constructed from 1931 to 1941, the most impressive, the U.S. Post Office of 1938, is addressed in the statement of significance of the 1980 nomination. The other three--at 104, 108-112, and 116 N. Center St.--are modest buildings erected to house retail or service establishments.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photographs Page 16 Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Iredell County, NC

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**PHOTOGRAPHS**

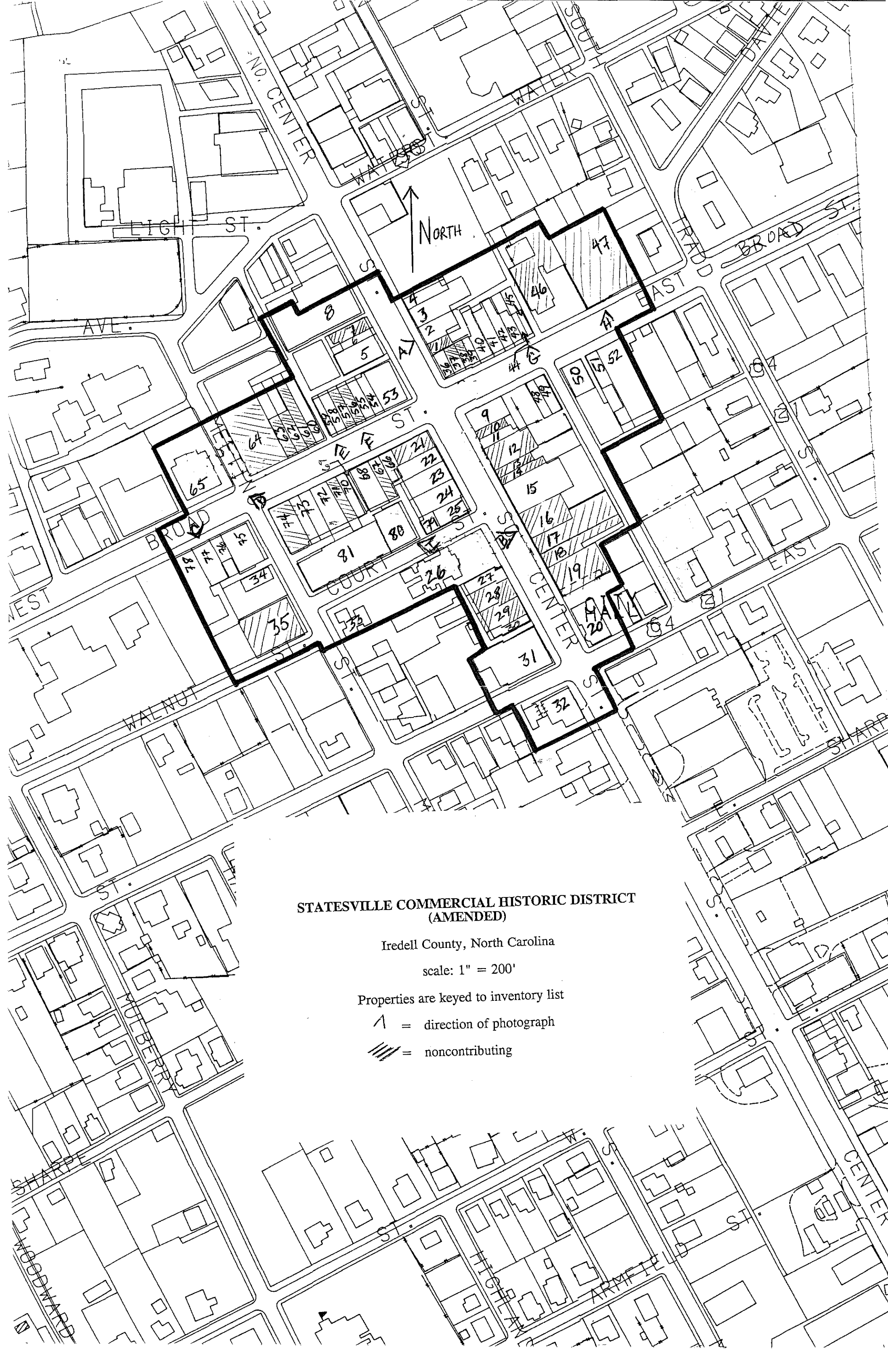
All of these photographs depict properties cited in the description as having changed, for better or worse, since the district was listed in the National Register in 1980.

The following information applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: Statesville Commercial Historic District (Amended)  
Location: Iredell County, North Carolina  
Photographer: Robin Hubbell  
Date of Photograph: July 1991\*  
Negative Location: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC

- A. 108-112 N. Center St. (entry 2), to the northeast
- B. 203 S. Center St. (entry 16), to the northeast
- C. 209 W. Broad St. (entry 77), to the southeast
- D. U.S. Post Office, 200 W. Broad St. (entry 65), to the west
- E. 118 W. Broad St. (entry 59), to the northwest
- F. 112 W. Broad St. (entry 56), to the northwest
- G. 119 E. Broad St. (entry 44), to the northwest
- H. 139 E. Broad St. (entry 47), to the north
- I. (former) Bristol Hotel (110-116 Court St. (entry 80), right) and 118-132 Court St. (entry 81), to the west

\*Note: These photographs were taken in the summer of 1991. Field visits in the Spring of 1995 revealed that the photographs continue to depict the properties accurately.



**STATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
(AMENDED)**

Iredell County, North Carolina

scale: 1" = 200'

Properties are keyed to inventory list

↖ = direction of photograph

/// = noncontributing