National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property
   historic name Trianon Historic District
   other names/site number

2. Location
   Roughly bounded by N. Tiffany St., E. Gordon St., Orion St. and Waters St.
   street & number
   city, town Kinston
   state North Carolina
code NC
   county Lenoir code 107
   zip code 28501

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   □ private
   □ public-local
   □ public-State
   □ public-Federal
   Category of Property
   □ building(s)
   □ district
   □ site
   □ structure
   □ object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing
   □ 33 buildings
   □ 1 sites
   □ 3 structures
   □ 4 objects
   Total
   Noncontributing
   Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
   __0__
   Name of related multiple property listing:
   Historic & Architectural Resources of Kinston, N C

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official
   State or Federal agency and bureau
   Date
   9/18/89

5. National Park Service Certification
   I hereby certify that this property is:
   □ entered in the National Register.
   □ See continuation sheet.
   □ determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
   □ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   □ removed from the National Register.
   □ other (explain):
   Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
The Trianon Historic District is a roughly paddle-shaped area of approximately 9.5 acres located about 1/2 mile east of the central business district of Kinston, North Carolina, exhibiting the flat terrain typical of most of the city. The focus of the district is a rectangular 1.9-acre tract of open land which was the site of the Parrott Memorial Hospital (built as a residence ca. 1893 and demolished with later hospital additions in the late 1970s). The hospital site is approached via East Gordon Street, which continues along the site's north side, while its south side is bounded by Waters Street. Residential in character and largely developed between 1893 and 1930, the Trianon Historic District reflects the property type of Late 19th/Early 20th Century Residential Buildings and Neighborhoods in the Historic and Architectural Resources of Kinston.

The district contains a total of 34 resources, all of which are contributing; 26 are primary buildings (houses), seven are secondary buildings (mostly garages), and the last is a site, the open tract of land formerly occupied by Parrott Memorial Hospital. Six houses line the south side of two blocks and the north side of one block of Gordon Street west of Vance Street, which forms the western boundary of the hospital tract. The remaining houses face the hospital tract along Gordon (9) and Waters (11) streets. Large live oaks planted in the late 19th century are ranged along Gordon Street with a few surviving on Waters Street. The hospital tract contains a number of magnolias and live oaks but is otherwise undeveloped and overgrown with weeds, having the remains of paved driveways and parking areas associated with the hospital.

Architecturally, the district is representative of the patterns and styles typical of the period of development. Traditional forms employed throughout North Carolina in the late 19th and early 20th centuries comprise a substantial portion of the district's houses, with a number of small frame cottages along the blocks facing the hospital site. Elements of the Queen Anne and Classical/Colonial Revival styles appear as ornamentation--primarily on porches--on many of these modest houses. These styles receive a fuller interpretation in more substantial
residences, such as the McDaniel-Sutton House (#2), built in 1904 for the developer of much of East Kinston, James A. McDaniel; the J. C. Rasberry Rental House (#8), a two-story Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house; and the Wooten-Black House (#13), whose present Colonial Revival appearance apparently dates from a remodeling carried out between 1914 and 1919. The George W. Sumrell House (#14) is a larger house which has Classical Revival details on a more traditional form. The principal example of a house built in standard Colonial Revival style is the gambrel-roofed E. T. Turnley House (#12). The Craftsman style also has its representatives in the district on a small number of bungalows on Waters Street dating from the early 1920s. One house in the district dates from the early 1930s; the J. D. Arnold House (#21) is a Craftsman bungalow similar to others which already existed in the neighborhood. Also during the 1930s, a one-story brick commercial building was erected as an addition to the Chadwick-Parrott Rental House (#9).

In general, the physical relationships among the buildings and between the buildings and their surroundings are typical of Kinston and other growing North Carolina cities of this period. The houses are set close to the street on narrow, deep lots, although the house lots in the western blocks of East Gordon are wider than those facing the hospital site. The Lizzie Grady House (#26) at the east end of Waters Street has a slightly deeper setback, but its larger front yard is bare soil. The barrenness of this yard contrasts with others in the district; most houses have some foundation plantings, and a number have very well kept yards. The hospital site is the only undeveloped area in the district, and the J. D. Arnold House (#21), a frame bungalow built in the 1930s, stands on the only vacant lot appearing on the 1930 Sanborn maps for this area.

With the exception of the rock-faced concrete block first story of the outbuilding (OB-3) associated with the Wooten-Black House (#13), a small addition on the west side of the same house, and the brick commercial building attached to the Chadwick-Parrott Rental House (#9), the buildings in the Trianon Historic District are of frame construction. For the most part, they are one or one-and-one-half stories in height, with three two-story houses and one of two-and-one-half stories. Roof lines are gabled, hipped or gambrel and are covered with slate, standing seam tin or asphalt shingle. Foundations are brick piers, brick piers with concrete block or brick infill, or solid brick. Decorative details are typical of the period and architectural styles in the district, including sawn brackets, turned porch posts and balusters, spindle friezes, ornamental wood shingles, sunbursts, classical columns, transoms and sidelights at entrances, triangular knee braces, exposed
rafter ends, and tapered posts on brick piers. The Parrott-Coleman House (#1) originally had distinctive Stick-Style detailing on a front bay window; these elements have been covered with aluminum siding as has the main body of the house. Next door, the McDaniel-Sutton House (#2) has pebbledash in pedimented gable ends over two-story bays on the facade and east elevation; these surfaces are enhanced by curved braces and contain Palladian-influenced arrangements of attic windows and vents.

The most noticeable change which has occurred within the district since the end of its period of significance was the late 1970s demolition of the Parrott Memorial Hospital, which stood at the eastern end of the 1.9-acre tract at the center of the district. The earliest section of the hospital was the ca. 1893 one-story frame Queen Anne-style residence of James A. McDaniel which originally stood at the western end of the same tract. The house was moved eastward after McDaniel sold it in 1905 to physicians James M. and W. T. Parrott for use as a hospital to be known as the Robert Bruce McDaniel Hospital in memory of his son. The rest of the tract was set aside for use as a public park, but remained relatively undeveloped until it was sold in 1914 to the Parrotts. At about the same time, the Parrotts built a two-story brick addition to the hospital (renamed Parrott Memorial Hospital) at the west side of the original building. Between 1925 and 1930, a brick-veneered Nurses' Home was constructed at the southeast corner of the tract. None of these structures survives, and the tract is largely overgrown with weeds. Remnants of a driveway are used as a cut-through between the two flanking streets.

Other changes to the district include the installation of replacement siding—asbestos, aluminum and vinyl—on five houses and replacement of original porch supports with wrought-iron. One house has brick veneer on its facade and vinyl siding on the side elevations, but retains its essential character. In addition, as already mentioned, a small commercial building was added to a house facing the hospital site on East Gordon Street, and a garage was replaced by a small brick-veneered office at the Wooten-Black House (#13). A few of the larger houses have been converted to apartments, and there are offices in the Wooten-Black House (#13). But the area retains its feeling as a late 19th/early 20th century middle-income residential neighborhood.

Buildings in the district are in fair to good condition, with a small number in poor to deteriorating condition. Maintenance has been largely the province of individual owners; several owners do not live in the area, which has contributed to the decline of some property. This
is particularly evident at the eastern end of Waters Street. A number of houses, especially on Gordon Street facing the hospital site, have recently been refurbished.

The district is distinguished from its surroundings by commercial development to the west and by the more substantial nature of the houses in the district as compared to houses in the surrounding area of Kinston. At the eastern end of the district across from the central tract are dilapidated buildings of different construction materials and dates and uses. The close association of the district with the productive life of J. A. McDaniel and with the Parrott Memorial Hospital also differentiates the district. The boundaries are largely determined by the physical relationship between the houses and the large open space around which they are centered.
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INVENTORY LIST

Key:
C = Contributing  
N = Non-contributing  
OB = Other, secondary buildings  
S = Site

Sources of Information:
HLC = The Heritage of Lenoir County (Kinston, N. C.: Lenoir County Historical Association, 1981)  
LCRD = Lenoir County Register of Deeds, deed books, map books, etc.  
SM = Sanborn maps: 1901, 1908, 1914, 1919, 1925, 1930  
USC = U. S. Census

<table>
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<tr>
<th>List#</th>
<th>Street#</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Description/Original Owner-Occupant, If Known</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Side, East Gordon Street</td>
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C 1. 700  ca. 1900  1 1/2  Parrott-Coleman House; triple-pile frame late Queen Anne with some Stick Style details; hip-roofed main block has gable dormers on facade and west elevation; semi-hexagonal bay on east elevation; L-shaped three-bay facade; projecting right bay has bay window with narrow diagonal sheathing in panels separated by chamfered battens; wood shingled in pedimented gable end; entrance has sidelights and broad elliptical fanlight with elaborate leaded glass; two-bay porch has simple replacement square-section posts; house now clad with wide aluminum siding; owned and occupied for some years by Dr. Thomas Parrott, presumably to be close to the Parrott Hospital; later owned and occupied by City Clerk W. B. Coleman (MD, LCRD, CD, USC)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>C 2.</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>2 1/2 McDaniels-Sutton House; large frame Queen Anne/Colonial Revival with double-pile, center-hall plan; pyramidal-roofed main block with shallow pedimented two-story bays on east elevation and three-bay facade; slate roof; semi-hexagonal two-story bay and small pedimented dormer on west elevation; unusual hip-roofed square dormer on southeast corner; gable ends have pebbledash with curved wood pieces and Palladian window and vent treatments; one-story porch on facade and east elevation has groups of Ionic columns on brick piers; cornices have modillions; built for James A. McDaniel, the major developer of the Trianon area and of East Kinston and proprietor of the Caswell Hotel; later owned by local attorney and Kinston mayor Fred I. Sutton; converted to apartments. (CD, MD, HLC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 0B-1.</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>ca. 1915</td>
<td>1 Shed-roofed frame two-car garage with double-leaf doors, standing seam tin roof and exposed rafter ends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 3.</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>ca. 1901</td>
<td>1 John T. Aldridge House; late Victorian L-shaped frame cottage resting on brick piers; central hip-roofed section with gables over front and side wings; three-bay facade with projecting central entrance bay below gable; two-bay porch has slender Tuscan columns; gable ends have decorative shingles and sunbursts; standing seam tin roof; early owner/occupant Aldridge was listed in city directories as a foreman. (CD, SM, LCRD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 4.</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>ca. 1905</td>
<td>1 John E. Williams House; hip-roofed double-pile frame dwelling with pedimented projecting bay in left (west) bay of three-bay facade; two-bay porch supported by turned posts; distinctive bracketed gable hood over window in left front bay; standing seam tin roof; Williams was a postal carrier. (CD, SM, LCRD)</td>
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C. D. Wooten House; traditional double-pile frame house with pedimented gable roof in L configuration; three-bay facade; porch has tapered posts on brick piers, square-section balusters; clad in asbestos siding; Clarence D. Wooten was a watchmaker. (CD, SM, LCRD)

John A. Taylor House; gable-roofed frame double-pile house with Classical Revival influence; gablets flank central entrance bay of three-bay facade spanned by porch with turned posts; left (west) bay is projecting; entrance has transom and sidelights; standing seam tin roof; vinyl siding; Taylor was listed in city directories as a clerk. (LCRD, CD, SM)

Gable-roofed frame garage.

J. R. Kinsey House; double-pile frame house with Classical Revival influence; hip-roofed main block with center-hall plan; gablets with square attic windows over shallow bays flank central entrance bay of three-bay facade; full-facade porch has replacement wrought-iron supports; gablets on side elevations; entrance has transom and sidelights; aluminum siding; J. R. Kinsey was an early owner/occupant. (LCRD, SM)

J. C. Rasberry Rental House; frame double-pile Queen Anne/Colonial Revival on brick piers; hip-roofed main block and pedimented semi-octagonal two-story bay on facade; shallow pedimented bay on west elevation; small, flat-roofed square dormer over southwest corner; one-story rear wings; one-story wraparound porch has bracketed turned posts, turned balusters and gablet at entrance bay; standing seam tin roof; Rasberry, a prominent insurance agent, owned the house for many years. (LCRD, CD, SM)

Chadwick-Parrott Rental House; double-pile
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frame Colonial Revival–influenced cottage with L-shaped three-bay facade; standing seam tin gable roof; gablet on east elevation; full-facade porch has slender Tuscan columns; entrance has transom; large rear wing; one-story 1930s brick commercial building is attached to the west elevation; built by E. W. Chadwick; later owned by physician A. D. Parrott. (CD, SM, LCRD)

C 10.  814 ca. 1905 1

South Side, East Gordon Street

C 11.  816 ca. 1905 1

E. R. Waller Rental House; traditional single-pile gable-roofed frame house with gablet centered on three-bay facade; large rear wing; porch sheltering front bays has turned posts and balusters; standing seam tin pedimented roof; Waller operated E. R. Waller Co., sheetmetal workers. (LCRD, CD, SM)

E. T. Turnley House; double-pile, gambrel-roofed frame Colonial Revival with wide shed dormer across three-bay facade; full-facade, hip-roofed porch has shallow arched openings supported by four heavy square-section stuccoed full-height brick piers linked by low brick apron; Turnley was a clerk for Railway Mail Service. (CD, SM)

Wooten-Black House; large frame Colonial Revival which apparently was remodeled to its current appearance between 1914 and 1919; two-bay hip-roofed double-pile main block has small gabled dormer; two-story wing on east elevation; one-story wraparound porch has pedimented entrance bay, elliptical corners and groups of columns on brick piers;

C 12.  603 ca. 1925 1 1/2

C 13.  607 ca. 1896 2
entrance has classical surround, leaded glass transom and sidelights; slate roof; attached one-story garage on west elevation converted to brick-veneered office building; early occupant M. H. Wooten was a school teacher; later owner James W. Black, a native of Maine, was vice-president and general manager of Caswell Cotton Mills. (USC, CD, SM, LCRD)

Gable-roofed frame garage and apartment; first floor is rock-faced concrete block, while second is clad in asbestos siding; several large outbuildings and a greenhouse have been removed.

George W. Sumrell House; traditional gable-roofed, single-pile frame house with center-hall plan; German siding; three-bay facade has shallow semi-octagonal central entrance bay with steeply pitched gable roof, sawn brackets at corners; boxed cornice with deep returns; slate roof; diamond attic vents in gable ends; one-story porch across facade and west elevation has Tuscan columns, turned balusters, and pedimented projecting entrance bay; two-story rear ell and one-story wings; Sumrell was a co-founder of Sumrell and McCoy wholesale grocery concern. (CD, SM, LCRD, USC)

Carl W. Pridgen House; L-shaped frame Queen Anne/Colonial Revival with gabled semi-octagonal right bay on three-bay facade; central section at entrance is hip-roofed; several rear wings; porch following line of facade has pediment at entrance bay and Tuscan columns, west section enclosed; front gable end has wood shingle and sunburst above attic window; standing seam tin roof; Pridgen operated a general merchandise firm and a brokerage business and was Lenoir County Registrar of Deeds. (CD, SM, DB, USC)

Gable-roofed frame two-car garage with
McDaniel-Heath House; L-shaped frame Queen Anne with gable roof; three-bay facade has projecting gable-front right bay with semi-octagonal first floor distinguished by corner brackets; small gabled wall dormer centered over left (east) two bays which are sheltered by porch with turned posts and balusters and spindle frieze; shingled gable ends; rear wings; aluminum siding; apparently built by Trianon developer J. A. McDaniel; later owned and occupied by J. C. Heath, assistant chief of police. (LCRD, CD, SM)

House; triple-pile, gable-front frame house with two-bay facade; entrance in right (west) bay has transom; hip-roofed porch with tapered posts on brick piers; may be remodeled Seventh Day Adventist Church which appears at this location on 1919 Sanborn map. (LCRD, SM, CD)

House; gable-front frame Craftsman-influenced bungalow; triple-pile with asymmetrical three-bay facade; gable-front offset porch with replacement wrought-iron supports shelters facade openings and recessed northwest corner; standing seam tin roof. (CD, SM)

Gable-roofed frame two-car garage with exposed rafter ends and semi-octagonal opening.

Boyette-Croom House; double-pile frame hip-roofed house with asymmetrical three-bay facade topped by broad gable; entrance has transom and sidelights; heavy full-facade porch has full-height brick piers; facade has exposed rafter ends and standing seam tin roof.
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C 0B-6. 807 ca. 1922
been brick-veneered, while side elevations have aluminum siding; apparently built by W. E. Boyette; R. F. Croom, a mechanic, was long-time occupant; Richard C. Croom, superintendent of Hines Lumber Co., also lived there. (LCRD, CD, SM)

W. E. Stroud Rental House; gable-front, double-pile frame bungalow with three-bay facade; hip-roofed porch has paired square-section posts with trellis fill, turned balusters; Stroud owned a garage, grist mill and grocery. (CD, SM)

C 20. 809 ca. 1924

J. D. Arnold House; gable-front frame bungalow with Craftsman influence; double-pile with asymmetrical three-bay facade spanned by recessed porch with square-section posts and balusters; Arnold was a foreman with Hines Bros. Lumber Co. (LCRD, CD, SM)

C 21. 811 ca. 1931

W. Clay Croom House; double-pile frame Craftsman bungalow with standing seam tin gable roof; three-bay facade has paired windows flanking entrance with entrance-bay gabled porch with square-section posts on brick piers; rear wing; Croom was a salesman for Oettinger Bros. (LCRD; CD; SM)

C 0B-7. 811 ca. 1931

Shed-roofed frame garage with braced opening; gable roof has been added.

C 22. 813 ca. 1917

Jesse G. Brown Rental House; traditional double-pile, three-bay frame house with paired gables over bays flanking entrance; standing seam tin roof; porch has square-section posts; louvered attic vents in gable ends have decorative sawn surrounds; Brown operated a wholesale produce business. (LCRD, CD, SM, HLC, MD)
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<table>
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<th>Block</th>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C 24.</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>ca. 1918</td>
<td>Jesse G. Brown Rental House; triple-pile frame cottage with standing seam tin hip roof; asymmetrical four-bay facade spanned by porch with square-section posts; Brown operated a wholesale produce business. (LCRD, CD, SM, DM, HLC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 25.</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>ca. 1912</td>
<td>Grady-Brown House; diminutive double-pile frame house with standing seam tin hip roof; two-bay facade has porch with bracketed turned posts; rear ell; built by W. G. Grady, a salesman for H. E. Moseley Hardware Co.; later owned and occupied by J. Mark Brown, proprietor of Tide Water Fish Co. (LCRD, CD, SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 26.</td>
<td>823</td>
<td>ca. 1912</td>
<td>Lizzie Grady House; double-pile square frame cottage on brick piers with standing seam tin low hip roof; three-bay facade has porch with square-section posts; rear ell; deeper setback than other houses in district; Mrs. Grady was the wife of W. G. Grady (#25). (CD, LCRD, SM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C S-1.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A Parrott Memorial Hospital Site; 1.9-acre open space which serves as focal point of Trianon Historic District; was site of first J. A. McDaniel house, later converted to McDaniel Memorial Hospital; became Parrott Memorial Hospital in 1914; in operation until 1973; nothing survives of buildings; portion or tract was set aside for city park, but never used as such; area retains some mature trees at borders, but largely overgrown with weeds. (LCRD, HLC)</td>
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Block bounded by Vance, E. Gordon, Orion and Waters streets.
The Trianon Historic District is significant in the history of Kinston, North Carolina, as a representative of the residential neighborhoods which developed outside the existing limits of the town in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This was an era of tremendous growth and prosperity in Kinston as the town became an important tobacco market and trade and industrial center for eastern North Carolina, resulting in a rapidly increasing population and a broadening middle class, which in turn caused an acceleration in the housing industry. The district also contains a relatively intact collection of houses reflecting the area's period of development, including large Queen Anne/Colonial Revival houses, as well as more modest traditional dwellings with accents derived from the Queen Anne, Classical Revival and Craftsman styles. The historical and physical focus of the district is a rectangular open area on which stood the first regular, fully-staffed hospital in Kinston and Lenoir County. The first section of this hospital was built ca. 1893 as a residence for James A. McDaniel, the developer of the Trianon neighborhood and much of East Kinston. These areas were developed with a mix of worker and middle-income housing, a phenomenon clearly reflected in the Trianon Historic District. McDaniel donated his house for use as a hospital in the early 20th century; with additions, the Parrott Memorial Hospital continued in operation here until the early 1970s. Although the hospital was demolished in the late 1970s, the tract has remained undeveloped with the majority of the district's houses facing it from north and south. McDaniel's 1904 residence survives on a prominent corner in the district, along with at least one of his speculative houses, and the district represents the physical entity in Kinston most closely associated with his impact in the community as a developer and civic benefactor. The Trianon Historic District reflects the historic context of Kinston's Era of Accelerating Prosperity, 1890-1941 and is a member of the Late 19th/Early 20th Century Residential Buildings and Neighborhoods property type.
Historical Background

The Trianon Historic District is a late 19th/early 20th century residential neighborhood containing 26 primary buildings, all houses, seven secondary buildings, and one site. The district is located about 1/2 mile east of the central business district of Kinston, North Carolina, and one block northeast of the Orion Knitting Mills and Kinston Cotton Mills. Largely developed between 1893 and 1930, the compact 9.5-acre district is historically and physically focused around a 1.9-acre tract of open land. The houses clustered along the tree-lined streets are typical of worker and middle-class housing in Kinston during the district's period of significance.

By the mid 1890s, when Kinston's population was beginning to accelerate as a result of its development as a tobacco market and a trade and industrial center, the town's original core was largely developed. Various local entrepreneurs owning substantial tracts of land outside the town limits began subdividing their acreage and selling building lots. Among these individuals was James Alexander McDaniel (1867-1928), who was born in Jones County but moved to Kinston in the 1870s with his mother, sister and step-father, R. W. King [Heritage, p. 309]. King, who died in 1883, was a major landowner in Kinston who possessed a large tract of land east of the town as well as several lots within the town limits and land in Lenoir County and New Bern. Much of the "Home Plantation" east of Kinston was allotted to King's great-niece, Tiffany West, who continued to cultivate the land for another ten years [Gray's Map of Kinston; Will book A, p. 296; deed book 14, p. 763; and "Realty Changes in Kinston"].

McDaniel, who was educated at the Kinston school operated by Dr. R. H. Lewis, Wake Forest College and the Eastman Business School in Poughkeepsie, New York, purchased 300 acres of Miss West's lands in 1893 [Heritage, p. 309; and deed book 15, p. 763]. McDaniel made the purchase less than one year after his marriage to Laura Evans Warters. The McDaniels soon built a handsome one-story Queen Anne frame house on their new property, at what was then the end of an extension of East Gordon Street [Heritage, pp. 309 and 62; and Dreyer, Kinston's Architecture, p. 128]. At the end of the century, the Kinston Free Press reported that McDaniel had

... built far out in the field a beautiful residence. It was considered that the young man had put his money to a foolish use. But he had thought before he leaped. He began cultivating and improving a portion of it and
laid the balance off into lots and extended the streets from the town through the farm, set out trees and began to offer all kinds of inducements to parties wishing to build.

That beautiful residence, once far out in that old field, for a while looked lonely, but now has drawn the town right up to it and around it [Kinston Free Press, 2 September 1899, p. 26].

The McDaniels also sold some of their East Kinston holdings to the Kinston Cotton Mills and Orion Knitting Mills, the town's earliest entries in the state's textile industry [deed book 23, pp. 84 and 87].

One of the areas set aside for development by McDaniel was the two blocks of East Gordon Street approaching his new residence, as well as an extension of the same street running along the north side of McDaniel's 1.9-acre residence tract and a parallel new street to the south. The original name of the latter was apparently Warters Street (his wife's maiden name), but it later became known as Waters Street [deed book 30, p. 427]. Other streets in this area were Tiffany, Trianon, Vance and Orion [Sanborn maps]. While it is not known why the name Trianon was chosen for the area, it is clear from an 1899 newspaper advertisement that McDaniel was already calling his East Kinston development by that name [Kinston Free Press, 2 September 1899].

Among those purchasing building lots in the Trianon area were attorney T. C. Wooten, whose two-story frame Queen Anne residence (razed) on the northeast corner of Gordon and Tiffany streets appeared in the 1897 Industrial Issue of the Kinston Free Press; school teacher M. H. Wooten, whose house was later owned and occupied by Maine native James W. Black, vice-president and general manager of Caswell Cotton Mills (#13); George W. Sumrell (#14), a co-founder of the substantial wholesale grocery firm Sumrell & McCoy; and prominent local merchant J. A. Pridgen, who built a one-story Queen Anne/Colonial Revival residence (#15) occupied for many years by Carl W. Pridgen, a merchant, broker and Lenoir County Registrar of Deeds [Kinston Free Press, 18 August 1897; deed book 19, p. 65; deed book 22, p. 727; deed book 23, p. 301; Kinston city directories; 1900 U. S. Census; and Historical and Descriptive Review, p. 102].

Many of the houses built along East Gordon and Waters streets facing the McDaniel residence tract appear to have been either speculative or rental houses built by the McDaniels and others. J. C. Heath, assistant chief of police, purchased a frame Queen Anne cottage
Prominent insurance agent J. C. Rasberry owned a rental house (#8) on the north side of the park for many years [deed book 55, p. 694]. Well-known insurance agent and one-time Kinston City Clerk W. D. LaRoque, Jr., purchased a tract of land on Waters Street from McDaniel in 1915 and divided it into eight lots, most of which he sold within the next three years [Heritage, p. 299]. Jesse G. Brown, a prosperous dealer in wholesale produce, purchased three of the LaRoque lots and apparently built rental houses (#s 23 and 24) on two of them [deed book 60, p. 259].

Most of these rental and speculative houses are smaller than those in the western section of the district and architecturally less sophisticated. The earlier ones follow traditional forms—L-plans or three-bay, single-pile plans with rear wings—but are embellished with a variety of decorative devices, including turned porch posts and balusters, sawn brackets, spindle friezes, and ornamental wood shingling and sunbursts or classical columns and entrances with transoms and sidelights. Later houses, dating after about 1910, exhibit Bungalow forms and Craftsman details such as triangular knee braces and exposed rafter ends. The occupants of these houses were typical of Kinston's and North Carolina's broadening middle class, including barbers, postal carriers, watchmakers, salesmen, members of the building trades, insurance agents, and police officers [Kinston city directories].

McDaniel had other business interests in addition to his farming and real estate development activities. In the early 20th century he erected a three-story brick building in the central business district on Queen Street in which he operated the Caswell Hotel [Industrial Issue, 1906, p. 35]. Additionally, he was a dealer in bicycles, sewing machines, organs and a variety of other items (Grainger papers). He was also a director of the Kinston Cotton Mills and a city councilman and represented Lenoir County in the state legislature in 1907 [Heritage, p. 310].

In 1905, the McDaniels deeded their house at the end of East Gordon Street to James M. and W. T. Parrott, brothers and physicians [deed book 30, p. 427; and Heritage, p. 339]. The deed agreement stipulated that the Parrotts would "equip and maintain a hospital [in the house] . . . for the treatment of medical and surgical cases" [deed book 30, p. 427]. The hospital was to be called the Robert Bruce McDaniel Memorial Hospital in memory of a McDaniel son who had died in infancy. In addition to admitting private patients, the Parrotts were to set up wards to provide care for indigent white medical and surgical patients and "indigent colored patients such as are known in the medical
profession as 'emergency accident cases'" [deed book 30, p. 427]. Other covenants in the deed provided for the house to be moved from the western to the eastern end of the 1.9-acre tract with the remaining area " . . . to be kept open for a public park . . ." [deed book 30, p. 427]. This is said to have been the "first regular and fully staffed hospital in Kinston," and a great boon to the community [Heritage, p. 61].

Needing a new house and choosing to remain in East Kinston, the McDaniels had a large residence built on the northeast corner of East Gordon and Vance streets. The frame house (#2) is a handsome example of the transitional Queen Anne/Colonial Revival style popular during the early 20th century. It has a number of distinctive features, including a square hip-roofed dormer over the southeast corner and pebbledash in the pedimented gable ends with curved window braces and Palladian-influenced attic window-and-vents.

In 1914, the McDaniels began construction of a third residence, Maxwood, on their farm in Lenoir County's Falling Creek Township [Heritage, p. 310]. Early that year, they sold the remainder of the 1.9-acre tract at the end of East Gordon Street to the Parrott brothers, who changed the name of the hospital to Parrott Memorial Hospital. The Kinston city government had refused to take any responsibility for maintaining the site for use as a public park [deed book 49, p. 205]. The Kinston Free Press reported the transaction as follows:

Doctors Parrott have purchased the ground of the hospital park and will soon erect a brick and stone addition to the hospital. The rumor has it that the building will be 2 stories and a basement and contain between 30 and 40 additional rooms [Kinston Free Press, 3 January 1914, p. 8].

Construction of the addition was said to have been " . . . made necessary by increasing patronage of this institution" [Kinston Free Press, 3 January 1914, p. 8]. Photographs of the addition show a two-story hip-roofed brick building with Renaissance Revival influences in its broad bracketed eaves and arched second-floor windows [Kohler, p. 122]. A two-story brick-veneered Nurses Home was built at the southeast corner of the tract between 1925 and 1930 [Sanborn maps]. The hospital continued in operation until 1973 when the new Lenoir Memorial Hospital was constructed, and the Parrott Hospital buildings were demolished later in the 1970s [Heritage, p. 62].
Even though James McDaniel's first house and the buildings later erected when it had been converted to a hospital are no longer standing, the site on which they stood remains undeveloped and their presence remains strong in the memories of neighborhood residents. McDaniel's 1904 house survives as do the rental and speculative houses he and other prominent men built along the streets which flank the hospital tract. Several other large houses remain which were occupied by individuals who played significant roles in the city's early 20th century development. Although other buildings erected by McDaniel and other neighborhoods developed by him survive in Kinston, the Trianon Historic District is the one most clearly associated with this noted developer and civic benefactor and the only one with the special focus of the hospital site and McDaniel's early 20th century residence.

The majority of houses along both sections of East Gordon Street were constructed prior to 1910, while most of the eleven houses on Waters Street were apparently built after that date. Development in the district was largely complete prior to 1930. Only one house, a gable-front frame bungalow with Craftsman influence (#21), was built after that date; it was likely built early in the 1930s and is similar to houses on Waters Street dating from the 1920s. A few changes within the district since 1930 involve construction of additions. They include the addition of a one-story brick commercial building to the house at J. C. Rasberry Rental House (#9) and the replacement of an attached frame garage with a small brick attached office building at the Wooten-Black House (#13). Several of the larger houses have been converted to multi-family use, but the majority remain single-family, both rental and owner-occupied.

With the demolition of the hospital complex, the central open tract has been allowed to become overgrown with weeds. But many of the trees planted by J. A. McDaniel survive, having grown to mature heights to provide shaded streets. The general character of the area also remains intact, reflecting late 19th and early 20th century efforts to provide good quality housing for the growing population of Kinston, in popular or familiar styles and amid a pleasant setting.

The Trianon Historic District is distinguished from its surroundings by commercial development, by the different character of much of the residential construction in East Kinston, by its historical and physical associations with James A. McDaniel, and through its focus around the site of the Parrott Memorial Hospital. A great many houses were built in this area during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but the majority were relatively modest, unadorned frame dwellings.
designed for workers in the town's industries, particularly the textile mills. In contrast, several of the houses in the Trianon Historic District are generally larger and more architecturally sophisticated than their neighbors.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Survey #
Record #

Primary location of additional data:
☐ State historic preservation office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Specify repository:

Geographical Data

Acreage of property approx. 9.5

UTM References

A 1|8 |2 |6 |5 |9 |4 |0 |3 |9 |0 |4 |9 |4 |0
Zone Easting Northing
B 1|8 |2 |6 |6 |2 |8 |0 |3 |9 |0 |4 |9 |2 |0
Zone Easting Northing
C 1|8 |2 |6 |6 |2 |8 |0 |3 |9 |0 |4 |7 |6 |0
D 1|8 |2 |6 |5 |9 |6 |0 |3 |9 |0 |4 |7 |7 |0

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are as shown on the attached sketch map.

Boundary Justification

The district consists of the blocks of houses to the north and south of the site of the Parrott Memorial Hospital and parts of the two blocks of East Gordon Street as it approaches the site. West of the district is mixed commercial and residential from after the period of significance. Residential development of a different character surrounds the district to north and south, while dilapidated buildings of different materials and uses are at the east end of the hospital tract.

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