

NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic name Villa Place Historic District

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

2. Location

Street & number 200-300 blocks of S. Grace Street, north side of the 400-600 blocks of Hammond Street, 200-300 blocks of Howell Street, 400-600 blocks of Nash Street, 325 Nash Street, 700 Nash Street, 500 block of Park Place, 200-300 blocks of Pearl Street, 200-300 blocks of Villa Street, and the south side of the 400-500 blocks of Western Avenue, and 705 Western Avenue.

N/A not for publication

city or town Rocky Mount vicinity N/A state North Carolina code NC  
county Nash code 127 zip code 27804

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_ nationally statewide X locally.

( \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey Cross SHPO \_\_\_\_\_ 10/4/99  
Signature of certifying official Date

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

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

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

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

4. 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 Keeper Date  
of Action

=====  
5. Classification  
=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>170</u>	<u>32</u> buildings
	<u>      </u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<u>      </u> objects
<u>171</u>	<u>32</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

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

=====  
6. Function or Use  
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC/single dwelling, multiple dwelling; EDUCATION/school; COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC/single dwelling, multiple dwelling; EDUCATION/school;  
COMMERCE/TRADE/business; SOCIAL/meeting hall, clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne, Neoclassical Revival, Foursquare, Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial  
Revival, Bungalow/Craftsman, Elizabethan Revival, Tudor Revival, Moderne

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick  
roof asphalt  
walls weatherboard  
other concrete

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

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

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

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.



3 18 247245 3980620 4 18 246800 3980760

See continuation sheet.

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title M. Ruth Little and Michelle Kullen  
organization Longleaf Historic Resources date June 1, 1999  
street & number 2709 Bedford Ave. telephone (919) 836-9731  
city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27607

12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**Section 7 Page 1  
Villa Place Historic District  
Nash County, North Carolina**

**Section 7: Description**

The Villa Place Historic District stands on the west side of the business district of the city of Rocky Mount in Nash County. Rectangular in shape, the district spans approximately thirty-five acres and is composed of all or portions of twenty-three blockfaces. The district, the most intact residential area adjacent to the city center, contains single and multi-family dwellings and one school ranging in date from about 1900 to 1949. The district is bounded by the south side of Western Avenue on the north, the west side of Pearl Street on the east, the north side of Hammond Street on the south, and rear property lines of houses on the west side of Howell Street on the west. The blockfaces included in the district are the south side of the 400 to 700 blocks of Western Avenue, the 400 to 700 blocks of Nash Street, a portion of the 300 block of Nash Street, the 500 block of Park Place, the north side of the 400 to 600 blocks of Hammond Street, the 200 to 300 blocks of Howell, Villa, and Grace Streets, and the west side of the 200 and 300 blocks of Pearl Street. The four-lane, north-south South Grace Street, a main thoroughfare west of downtown, bisects the historic district near the east side. All other streets in the district are two-lane, one-way or two-way residential streets. A service alley bisects the block between Villa and Howell Streets and between Howell and Tillery Streets.

One-hundred seventy-one buildings and structures (eighty-four percent) contribute to the historical significance of the district. These are made up of 116 buildings, primarily houses, fifty-four garages and sheds and one brick wall. Of the total 203 resources, thirty-two buildings are noncontributing. Machaven, an impressive Neoclassical Revival residence at 306 S. Grace Street, is the central focus of the historic district. It is the only resource in the district listed in the National Register of Historic Places (1980).

The historic district encompasses early twentieth century residences, including a number of large dwellings erected for professionals and executives of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and leading industrialists in Rocky Mount. Less affluent ticket agents, bookkeepers, merchants and salesmen also built smaller yet stylish residences in the district. The tightly-knit neighborhood boasts mature shade trees and shrubs, sidewalks, and alley ways. The houses in the district epitomize nationally popular architectural styles of the early twentieth century.

A number of early twentieth century Queen Anne style houses stand in the district. The most impressive example is the W.D. Cochran House built at the turn of the century on South Main Street and moved to 326 Howell Street in 1923. This splendid house designed by local architect John C. Stout has such hallmark features as a large wraparound porch with turned posts and balustrade and a high hipped roof with cross gable wings. The Mary Thomas Bullock House at 304 Pearl Street stands as the most unusual example of the style. Recently restored, this frame, two-story, side-hall plan residence features unusual roof planes, shingled wall surfaces, ornate bargeboard, and a wraparound porch with turned posts, sawn drip molding and brackets. A smaller example of the style is the house at 342 Pearl Street. The circa 1907 one-story Queen Anne cottage with three hipped roofs of diminishing size exhibits a corner turret with turned finial and a hipped wraparound porch with Doric columns and dentil cornice.

Many of Rocky Mount's leading businessmen chose the Neoclassical Revival style for their residences in the early

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1900s. Two examples of the style, both architect designed, stand intact in Villa Place. The first is the stately residence of James W. Hines erected in 1907-1908. Known as Machaven, the impressive National Register property is surrounded by a brick wall in the 300 block of S. Grace Street and is the central focus of the district. Designed by Raleigh architect H. P. S. Keller, the two-and-a-half story brick residence features a deck on hip roof, symmetrical facade and a two-story entrance portico with fluted Doric columns. Another prestigious example of the style in the district is the James W. Keel House in the 300 block of Nash Street. Built in 1914 by Rocky Mount's foremost architect-builder, John C. Stout, the two-story house has an engaged two-story portico with fluted Corinthian columns, a Palladian front dormer, and fanlight entrance surmounted by a small iron balcony with decorative brackets.

A number of Foursquare dwellings were built throughout the district. The 500 block of Nash Street comprises an outstanding collection of these two-story, cubic form residences built in the early twentieth century. The Mills-Watson House at 526 Nash Street built for Goodwin Mills, an executive for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, is one such example. The circa 1914 dwelling with hipped roof and broad eaves expresses the movement towards restrained ornamentation. The best preserved example is the W.B. Darrow House at 522 Nash Street. This circa 1913 two-story cubic house exemplifies minimal ornament with its broad eaves, low pitched roof, and heavy columns supporting the wraparound porch.

Craftsman dwellings were a popular house style chosen by many of the middle-class residents in Villa Place. Several bungalows in the district are said to have been "kit houses" ordered from the Aladdin Homes Company. The Hilliard House at 300 Howell Street, built by an Atlantic Coast Line Railroad clerk, is an intact clipped front gabled bungalow with wood shake walls and a hipped roof porch with massive fluted boxed posts and turned railing said to be an Aladdin kit house. The largest and best executed example of the Craftsman style is the Eli Epstein House at 230 S. Grace Street. Built by prominent merchant Epstein circa 1925, the house has hallmark traits including a low-slung side-gable roof, an engaged porch with Craftsman posts, and an abundance of windows and gabled dormers. Another well-executed bungalow is the Broomsedge House at 226 Villa Street. Built in 1912, this one-and-a-half story side-gable stuccoed bungalow features an engaged porch with thick posts and railing and a contemporaneous stuccoed one-car garage.

One historic school stands on the edge of the district, in the 200 block of Pearl Street. The James Craig Braswell School is a 1940 two-story brick Moderne style school designed by Rocky Mount architect Harry J. Harles and built by contractor D. J. Rose and Son.

Notes:

Properties are organized alphabetically by street name and numerically by street number. The east side of north-south streets and the north side of east-west streets are listed first.

Dates are estimated using design and style, the 1907, 1912, 1917, 1923, 1954 and 1956 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (SM), the 1908-09, 1912-13, 1914-15, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1934, 1936, 1940, 1942, 1945, 1948, and 1950 Rocky Mount City Directories (CD), the 1979 *Central City Historic Buildings Inventory* for Rocky Mount by

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Kate Mearns (Mearns), and Rick Mattson's *The History and Architecture of Nash County, N.C.* (Mattson). Oral histories were provided by local residents (interview).

Houses are dated by the earliest Sanborn Map on which they appear and/or by the earliest city directory listing. Most houses are dated circa 1912, circa 1917, or circa 1923 as these are the earliest Sanborn Maps on which these houses appear. The 1930 city directory is the first directory available which includes a street guide, permitting the occupant to be found by his street address. This directory was used to establish an occupant who was then traced backward to previous city directories in an effort to establish the earliest known occupant. The name given to the properties in the district is based on the earliest known occupant, not necessarily the original builder or owner. The occupant is not distinguished as owner or tenant until the 1940 city directory.

All buildings are categorized as C (contributing) or NC (noncontributing) based on the following criteria. Any building built after the end of the period of significance, in 1948, is noncontributing due to its age (NC-age). Buildings built before 1948 that have lost their architectural integrity because of substantial additions and/or alterations incompatible with their original character are categorized as noncontributing because of these changes (NC-alt.). Examples of this are complete window, door, and porch replacements; artificial siding that obscures the original door, window, wall and eave detailing; and extensive post-1948 additions. Artificial siding such as aluminum, vinyl or asbestos shingles does not automatically render a building noncontributing as long as the application of the siding does not obscure the decorative finish of the openings and the eaves.

**Inventory:  
200 block S. Grace  
Street, E side**

201-209 S. Grace St.      **Commercial Building.** The one-and-a-half story, side-gable, commercial building  
NC-age                      features T-111 siding, five gabled dormers, and multi-paned display windows.  
ca. 1980

**200 block S. Grace  
Street, W side**

**V                                      Vacant Lot.**

206 S. Grace St.      **Westbrook House.** The one-and-one-half-story, frame, front gambrel roof house of  
C                              Colonial Revival design has side shed dormers features a cutaway corner bay, an  
ca. 1912                      interior brick chimney, one-over-one sash windows, and a glazed and paneled door  
covered by a shed stoop with knee braces. The house is covered with asbestos siding.

**a. C Garage. ca. 1917.** Front gable, common bond brick garage with wood hinged

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doors, tin roof, exposed rafter tails and a rear brick parapet wall with stone coping. (SM)

b. NC Garage/shed. ca. 1917. Dilapidated, frame, two-bay, side-gable garage with wide plain siding and tin roof. (SM)

The house was built before 1912. The earliest known occupant was John Westbrook in 1914-5. (CD, SM)

210 a and b S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Barnhill House.** The frame, two-story, hipped-roof house features weatherboard siding with cottage corners, paired one-over-one sash windows, exposed rafter tails, a two-story shed roof rear addition, and a one-story partially enclosed wraparound hip-porch supported by square Doric posts. The front entrance features three six-paneled doors, the middle one projecting. The house contains three brick chimneys, two of which have new stacks. The house is now a duplex.

The house was built circa 1917. Victor M. Barnhill, a Superior Court Judge, is the earliest known occupant in 1920. (CD, SM)

216 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1912

**Gordon House.** The one-story Queen Anne style cottage features a high hipped roof, a front bay window with gabled pediment, two interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps, a one-story hip-roof porch with Ionic columns, and a glazed and paneled door with a two-light transom. Alterations include vinyl siding and replacement one-over-one metal windows.

a. NC Garage. ca. 1950. Front gable, concrete block garage with side frame shed, metal casements, and exposed rafter tails.

The house was built circa 1912. Ethna D. Gordon, a railroad agent, is the earliest known occupant. (CD, SM)

224 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1908

**Fox House.** The frame, two-story, pyramidal hipped-roof Foursquare features plain siding, an interior brick chimney and three cross gable dormers with slate shingle siding, gable returns, and Palladian style three-part windows. A one-story hip-roof porch supported by square Doric posts and plain railing covers the entire front facade. Fenestration consists of one-over-one and two-over-two sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door with a slightly pedimented surround, and a two-part one-over-one sash window with the same surround as the door.

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a. NC Garage. ca. 1960. Frame, two-car garage with vinyl siding and a low-pitched side-gable roof.

The house was built before 1908. James M. Fox, a manager of the George L. Parker Jewelry Store, is the earliest known occupant in 1909. (CD)

230 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Epstein House.** The impressive, frame, two-story, side-gabled Craftsman bungalow features an engaged porch with paired and triple battered posts on brick bases with plain railing, a four-bay gabled dormer with shingle siding, exposed rafter tails, and two-over-one sash windows. Other features include a three-bay facade with a Craftsman style glazed door, a six-paned leaded glass casement window, knee braces, two interior brick chimneys and an abundance of windows on the side facades. The front three-part window appears to be a replacement.

a. C Maid's Quarters. ca. 1923 Frame, hipped-roof house with wide eaves, an engaged wraparound porch, six-over-six sash windows, weatherboard siding, and exposed rafter tails.

Eli Epstein, a prominent local merchant of men's furnishings, had this house built between 1915 and 1920. (CD, Mattson, SM)

**300 block S. Grace  
Street, E side**

301 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1910

**William H. Newell House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay transitional Queen Anne-Colonial Revival style dwelling features a yellow painted brick veneer on the first story, a hip slate roof, a hipped dormer with Union Jack casements, exposed rafter tails, two interior end chimneys, large side bay wings, kicked eaves at the junction of the second story, and a hip-roofed porch with brick posts and clustered plain posts. Fenestration consists of nine-over-one sash windows, a trabeated entrance with leaded glass transom and sidelights, and leaded glass transoms over the front windows. Vinyl siding covers the second story, covering the original wood shingles.

Local architect H.S. Pool designed this house for William H. Newell, an executive with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, about 1910. (Mattson, CD, SM)

307 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1913

**Gray House.** The frame, high hipped roof bungalow with large gabled dormers on three sides with wide eave returns features two interior brick chimneys, one-over-one sash windows, an engaged porch with massive Craftsman posts with clustered

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battered posts, and a transomed and sidelighted entrance. Vinyl siding covers the original plain siding.

a. C Garage. ca. 1917. Frame, front gable one-car garage. (SM)

The house was built circa 1913. The earliest known occupant of the house is William W. Gray in 1913. (CD, SM)

311 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Griffin House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story Craftsman bungalow with side gable roof features exposed rafter tails and brackets, a wall dormer with a triple nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled door, a central chimney and six- and nine-over-one sash windows. The front porch is no longer intact and a Colonial style pediment has been added above the front door.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Clarence A. Griffin in 1925. (CD, SM)

315 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Singleton House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, three-bay, Dutch Colonial Revival style house exhibits plain siding with cottage corners, six-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, an exterior end brick chimney, an eyebrow window over the center bay, and a shed front porch with large stuccoed Doric columns.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is William B. Singleton, Secretary of North State Ice Company and Secretary-manager of Rocky Mount Ice & Fuel Company, in 1925. (CD, SM)

V

**Vacant Lot.**

327 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1912

**Badgett House.** The intact one-and-a-half story, side gable bungalow features a hipped dormer, two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, wide overhanging eaves with brackets and exposed rafter tails, and a low engaged porch with squat brick and battered posts and arcaded eaves. Fenestration consists of multi-paned casements, a shallow square bay window with ramped roof, twenty-over-one sash windows with drip caps, and a replacement front door.

a. C Shed. 1917. Frame, hipped roof shed with plain siding.

The house was built circa 1912. The earliest known occupant of the house is William Roy Badgett, a tobacconist, in 1925. (CD, SM)

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331 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Smith House.** The frame, two-story, Foursquare with hipped roof features multiple brick chimneys, boxed eaves, paired nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, and a shed front porch with Craftsman posts. Vinyl siding encases the house.

a. C Apartment/Garage. ca. 1923. Frame, pyramidal roof building with plain siding.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is C. Gordon Smith, a bookkeeper with Rocky Mount Ice & Fuel Company. (CD, SM)

335 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Ritner House.** The frame, Foursquare with hipped roof features a center chimney, a front hipped dormer with vents, one-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled door and a hip front porch with replacement posts. The house is covered with vinyl siding and has many smaller replacement windows.

a. NC Garage. ca. 1923. Altered, frame, front gable one-car garage with plain siding.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is Harry G. Ritner, an engineer, in 1925. (CD, SM)

339 S. Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1913

**Douglas House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story Queen Anne style cottage with pyramidal hip roof has two interior brick chimneys, a pedimented front dormer with louvers, bay windows with pedimented gables, one-over-one sash windows, a two-pane transomed door, and a hip front porch with replacement Craftsman posts. The house is covered with brick asphalt siding and has a replacement door.

a. NC Garage. ca. 1917. Front gable garage with brick veneer converted to an apartment. The original opening is enclosed with brick and a horizontal two-over-two sash window. (SM)

b. and c. C Sheds. ca. 1900. Pair of frame gabled sheds with plain siding moved to the site in the late 1950s. (SM)

The house was built circa 1913. The earliest known occupant of the house is Alexander Douglas, a dispatcher with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in 1913. (CD)

343 S. Grace St.  
C

**Wahmann House.** The two-story, three-bay, pyramidal roof house features two tall brick chimneys, front and side cross gables, and a hip front porch with square posts.

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ca. 1908 Fenestration consists of two-over-two and one-over-one sash windows and a replacement front door with original transom. Asbestos shingle siding covers the original exterior siding.

The house was built by 1908. The earliest known occupant of the house is William V. Wahmann, an agent with Southern Express Company, in 1908. (CD, SM)

**300 block S. Grace  
Street, W side**

306 Grace St.  
C  
ca. 1907-1908

**Machaven. (NR 1980)** The impressive Neoclassical Revival style two-and-a-half story brick dwelling stands on a half-acre plot surrounded by a Flemish bond brick wall, dominating the 300 block of South Grace Street. The five-bay, symmetrical house features a deck on hip roof with a dentiled cornice and Union Jack inspired balustrade, five interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps, six-, nine- and twelve-over-one sash windows with rusticated lintels and sills, and a two-story entrance portico with modillioned pediment with a frieze ornamented with triglyphs. The portico is supported by four Doric fluted columns. The central entrance consists of a classical surround with large leaded glass fanlight and sidelights accented by paneled pilasters. Interior features include a deep cornice molding with curved brackets and delicate classical style mantels with shell carvings and fluted columns.

a. C Kitchen. 1907. Brick, one-story, side-gabled kitchen with center cupola and flanking covered porches supported by paneled posts.

b. C Brick Wall. 1930s. Low, Flemish bond brick wall with iron gate surrounding property.

Erected in 1907-1908, the house was designed by Raleigh architect H.P.S. Keller for James Williams Hines, a leading Rocky Mount industrialist. It is currently owned by the City Club and operated as a dining facility. (NR Nomination, Mattson, CD, SM)

**400 block Hammond  
Street, N side**

412 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Renfroe House.** The two-story side-hall plan house with high-hipped roof features two interior brick chimneys and a front hip dormer with battered shingled buttresses flanking a pair of nine-over-one sash windows. Other features include a hipped front porch enclosed on the left side, one-over-one sash windows, a side two-story bay

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window with cross-gabled top, original classical porch posts and a glazed and paneled front door with transom. The house is covered with asbestos wall siding and features some replacement sash windows.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is H. Harvey Renfroe, in 1930. (CD, SM)

416 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1914

**Bracey House.** The frame, one-story Queen Anne style gable and wing cottage with high hipped roof features two interior brick chimneys, one-over-one sash windows, front and side cross gable wings with casement windows, a two-light transom over the front door, and a hip roofed front porch. Alterations include vinyl siding, an enclosed corner porch bay, and missing porch supports.

The house was built circa 1914. Otis D. Bracey, a foreman with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1914. (CD, SM)

**500 block Hammond  
Street, N side**

500 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1948

**Eatman Apartments.** Two-story, five-bay, brick veneer, side-gable roof apartment building with four units. Fenestration consists of paired and three-part six-over-six sash windows, and a six-panel door with glass brick sidelights. Other features include a dentil cornice and a covered stoop with scrolled wrought-iron brackets.

The apartment building was built between 1945 and 1948. The earliest known occupants of the building are Mrs. Goldie Eatman, Charles Eatman, Edmund Gravely and Peyton Gravely in 1948. Both Eatmans were listed as owners of the building. (CD)

514 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Broaddus Dominick House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare features a hipped tin roof, weatherboard siding, a shingle sided hipped dormer with six-paned casements, one-over-one sash windows, two interior brick chimneys, a one-story octagonal bay on the right side, and a one-story hip roofed wraparound porch with battered wood posts and replacement lattice railing. Modern alterations include a replacement front door.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupants are S. Broaddus Dominick, an engineer, and nurse, Ada Walker in 1925. (CD, SM)

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Villa Place Historic District  
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516-518 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1930

**Simpson Dominick House.** The two-story, three-bay, side-hall plan duplex with hipped roof features an engaged two-story porch with plain square posts and plain railing on the upper story, and double entrances on the first story. Other features include weatherboard and shingle siding, exposed rafter tails, triple six-over-one sash windows, an exterior end brick chimney, and a two-story screened porch on the rear. The first story porch has replacement railing.

The house was built circa 1930. The earliest occupants of the duplex are Simpson V. Dominick, an engineer, and Meade W. Carter in 1930. (CD, SM)

520 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Lewis House.** The one-and-a-half-story, side-gable Craftsman bungalow features a shed dormer with three nine-over-one sash windows, a one-story hip roofed porch with brick posts and plain railing, and an interior brick chimney. Other hallmarks include square knee brace posts, weatherboard siding, exposed rafter tails, and a tin roof. Fenestration includes a Craftsman style door and nine-over-one sash windows.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant is James S. Lewis, a salesman, in 1920. (CD, SM)

524 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Draper House.** The two-story, late Queen Anne style house features a cross gable on hipped roof, weatherboard siding, a tin roof, two brick chimneys, and a one-story wraparound porch with shingled pediment and battered wood posts. Fenestration consists of nine-over-one and twelve-over-one sash windows, and a Craftsman style door with sidelights.

a. NC Garage. ca. 1950. Front gable, concrete block garage with plywood doors.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant is Miss Bessie L. Draper, a teacher at Battle Public School, in 1925. (CD, SM)

532 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Rives House.** The one-story, Flemish bond brick veneered, side-gable bungalow features two porches with pebbled stucco and half-timbered gables supported by short battered posts on tall brick bases. A brick walled patio connects the two porches. Fenestration consists of six-over-one sash windows with flat arches and header row sills, and a Craftsman style glazed door. Other features include knee braces, an interior brick chimney and a header row water table.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant is James Rives, a timekeeper with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in 1930. (CD, SM)

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**600 block Hammond  
Street, S side**

612 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Terry House.** The intact one-and-a-half story frame bungalow with a side-gable roof exhibits knee braces, exposed rafter tails, plain siding, two interior brick chimneys, front and rear shed dormers, and a side recessed porch with boxed wooden posts and plain railing. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows and an original glazed and paneled front door.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is Belle H. Terry, a music teacher, in 1920. (CD, SM)

620 Hammond St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Pearsall House.** The frame one-and-a-half story bungalow with side gable roof features front and rear shed dormers with wood shakes, knee braces, exposed rafter tails, eight- and twelve-over-one sash windows and one interior brick chimney. The interior has suffered fire damage and the original plain siding is presently being covered with vinyl siding. The front door is also a replacement.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant is David Pearsall, a superintendent with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad shops, in 1930. (CD, SM)

**200 block Howell  
Street, E side**

201 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Vaughan House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare with hipped tin roof features an interior brick chimney, a one-story screen porch on the side elevation, and a one-bay hipped entry porch with Craftsman style wood posts. Fenestration consists of single and triple six-over-one sash windows and a glazed and paneled Craftsman style door. The house is covered with aluminum siding.

a. C Shed. ca. 1917. Brick, pyramidal hipped roof shed with exposed rafter tails and replacement door.

b. C Shed. 1940s. Frame, pyramidal hipped roof shed with aluminum siding, two-over-two sash windows, a horizontal six-panel door and a concrete block foundation.

The house was built before 1917. DeWitt Vaughan and nurse, Ethel Gaynor, are the earliest known occupants of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

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203-205 Howell St.  
C  
1920s

**Villa Apartments.** The two-story, hipped roof duplex with Flemish bond brick veneer features exposed rafter tails, two interior brick chimneys, a four-bay first story with two entrances, and a one-story hipped roof porch with battered posts and some plain railing. Fenestration consists of single and paired six-over-one sash windows and two replacement doors.

a. C Shed/Garage. ca. 1930. Frame, front gable shed/garage with replacement siding, tin roof, double plywood doors, and exposed rafter tails.

The duplex was built between 1923 and 1930. Lee Peace and traveling salesman, George Marsh, are the earliest known occupants of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

209 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Robbins House.** The two-story, frame, four-bay Craftsman bungalow features a side-gable tin roof with shed dormer, an interior brick chimney, knee braces, exposed rafter tails, and an engaged porch with battered posts on brick bases with criss-cross wood railing. Fenestration consists of single and paired six-over-one sash windows and a glazed and paneled door with sidelights.

a. C Garage. ca. 1930. Frame, two-car garage with shed roof and shed awning, tin roof, vertical siding, exposed rafter tails, and vertical board siding. A small shed addition stands on the left side.

b. C Shed. ca. 1930. Frame, shed roof shed with vertical board siding, six-over-six sash windows, a tin roof, and exposed rafter tails.

The house was built circa 1917. Thomas C. Robbins, owner of a billiard hall, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1934. (CD, SM)

213 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Dorsett House.** The frame, one-story, three-bay, front gable bungalow features plain siding, exposed rafter tails, knee braces, and a front gable porch with battered posts on brick bases and replacement lattice paneled railing. The house is adorned with three- and seven-over-one sash windows and a multi-paneled glazed front door.

a. C Shed. ca. 1930. Small, frame, side gable shed with plain siding, exposed rafter tails, and four-pane casement.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant is Frank Dorsett, a clerk at Ricks Hotel in 1930. (CD, SM)

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217 Howell St.  
NC-age  
ca. 1956

**House.** The brick Ranch with Flemish bond veneer features a low hipped roof, paired and triple one-over-one sash windows, wide eaves, and a covered stoop with iron railing.

a. NC Garage. ca. 1990. Frame, flat roof two-car garage with plywood siding.

b. NC Shed. ca. 1990. Frame, side-gable shed with plywood siding.

223 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**John Nichols House.** The frame, three-bay, one-and-a-half story hipped roof cottage features a hipped dormer with three-over-two sash windows, two interior brick chimneys, a transomed glazed door and a hipped roof porch with paired and triple battered posts on brick bases and plain porch railing. The house has replacement one-over-one sash windows and aluminum exterior siding.

a. C Shed. ca. 1917. Frame, side gable shed with shed addition with plywood and plain siding. (SM)

b. NC Garage. ca. 1980. Frame, shed roof garage with open sides.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupants are John I. Nichols, a pipefitter, and Alexander C. Nichols, a cotton buyer, in 1920. (CD, SM)

227 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Alexander Nichols House.** The frame, two-bay, one-and-a-half story, clipped front gable bungalow features knee braces, a nine-paned casement in the front gable, an interior brick chimney, and a one-story hipped roof porch with battered posts on brick bases. Fenestration consists of twelve-over-one sash windows and a glazed and paneled door with multi-light transom and glazed and paneled sidelights. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

a. NC Garage/shed. ca. 1970. Frame, shed roof open garage with plywood shed addition.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant is Alexander C. Nichols, a cotton buyer, in 1930. (CD, SM)

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**200 block Howell  
Street, W side**

200 Howell St.  
C  
late 1940s

**Apartment House.** The frame, three-bay, front-gable, two-story apartment building features exposed rafter tails, knee braces, plain siding, a front enclosed gabled entry porch with exposed rafter tails, and a side gabled stoop on the right elevation. Metal fire escapes flank the building. Fenestration consists of six-over-six sash windows.

The apartment was built sometime between 1945 and 1954. (CD, SM)

204 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Johnson House.** The frame, one-story, front-gable bungalow exhibits plain siding, two interior brick chimneys, exposed rafter tails, knee braces and a front gable porch with battered posts on brick bases. Fenestration consists of eight-over-one Craftsman style sash windows and a glazed and paneled door.

a. C Garage. ca. 1923. Frame, front gable one-car garage with plain siding and exposed rafter tails.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is William S. Johnson, a pharmacist with H.L. Hicks Drug Company in 1925. (CD, SM)

208 Howell St.  
C  
1920s

**Adams House.** The frame, one-story, three-bay, hipped roof bungalow exhibits exposed rafter tails, knee braces, an interior brick chimney, and a front-gable porch with battered posts on brick bases. Fenestration consists of four-over-one Craftsman style sash windows and a glazed and paneled front door. The main block of the house is covered with vinyl siding. Plain siding remains in the gable end of the front porch.

The house was built between 1923 and 1930. The earliest known occupant of the house is Dennis G. Adams, a car inspector, in 1930. (CD, SM)

212-214 Howell St.  
C  
1930s

**House.** The frame, one-story, four-bay, front gable Craftsman style duplex exhibits plain siding, a tin roof, exposed rafter tails, two interior brick chimneys and a front gable porch with square Doric posts and plain railing. The front facade consists of two Craftsman style glazed and paneled doors flanked by six-over-six sash windows.

The house was built after 1930. The earliest known occupants of the duplex are Everett Grant, a clerk, and Charles Stengel, a carpenter, in 1940. (CD, SM)

216 Howell St.

**Arnold House.** The frame, one-story, hipped roof cottage features a shed dormer

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- C  
ca. 1923
- with traceried casements, a tin roof, plain siding, an exterior end chimney, single and paired one-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, and a one-story shed porch with Doric columns.
- a. NC Shed. ca. 1950. Frame, shed roof shed with plywood siding.
- b. NC Garage. ca. 1950. Frame two-car garage with a metal shed roof and plain posts.
- The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Hendricks Arnold, an engineer, in 1930. (CD, SM)
- 220 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923
- Pearson House.** The frame, three-bay, one-and-a-half story, side gable bungalow exhibits a shed dormer, an exterior end brick chimney, a Craftsman style glazed and paneled door, and an engaged full-facade porch with paired battered posts on brick bases. Alterations include vinyl siding and replacement sash windows.
- a. C Garage. 1930s. Frame, front gable one-car garage with vertical board siding, corrugated metal siding in the front gable and exposed rafter tails.
- The house was built circa 1923. George W. Pearson, a machinist, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)
- 224 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923
- Eames House.** The frame, three-bay, one-story, hipped roof bungalow features two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, exposed rafter tails, eight-over-one sash windows and an engaged front gable porch with battered posts on brick bases and plain railing. The front porch gable exhibits stucco and half timbering and a rectangular multi-paned window. Other fenestration consists of a leaded stained glass picture window and a multi-paned glazed front door.
- The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Mrs. Minnie Eames in 1930. (CD, SM)
- 300 block Howell Street, E side**
- 305 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1915
- Hedgepeth House.** The frame, two-story, late Queen Anne style dwelling features a hipped main block, plain siding, pedimented cross gables, a one-story hipped roof wraparound porch with tapering posts, boxed molded eaves, plain window surrounds with molded caps, and an original glazed and paneled front door with transom. All the one-over-one sash windows are replacements.

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The house was built circa 1915 for the Chief of Police O.P. Hedgepeth. (CD, SM, interview)

309 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Ethridge House.** The one-story, frame, three-bay, pyramidal hipped roof bungalow exhibits exposed rafter tails, a hipped dormer with small casements, one-over-one sash windows with wide surrounds and molded caps, a glazed front door, two interior brick chimneys, and an engaged porch with tapering wood posts and original railing. The house is now covered with aluminum siding.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant is John Ethridge, a plumber, in 1920. (CD, SM)

313-315 Howell St.  
C  
1920s

**Smith Duplex.** The frame, four-bay, one-story pyramidal hipped roof bungalow exhibits exposed rafter tails, two exterior end brick chimneys, plain siding, four-over-one sash windows, two original glazed and paneled front doors, a hipped dormer with louver and flanking casements, and a hip roofed porch with battered posts on brick bases and plain railing.

The duplex was built between 1923 and 1930. The earliest known occupants are Vernon Slaughter, a steamfitter, and Lee Shaw in 1930. (CD, SM)

317 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Williams House.** The frame, three-bay, front gable bungalow with knee braced eaves features exposed rafter tails, paired nine-over-one sash windows, one exterior end brick chimney, a glazed front door, and an offset gabled front porch with battered posts on brick bases, plain railing, and metal awnings. The house is covered with aluminum siding.

The house was built circa 1923. Edgar A. Williams, a machinist for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, occupied the dwelling during the early 1920s. (CD, Mattson, SM)

321 Howell St.  
C  
1920s

**Cronenberg House.** The frame, three-bay, one-and-a-half story side-gable bungalow with knee braced eaves exhibits exposed rafter tails, plain siding, four-over-one Craftsman style sash windows, an exposed face brick chimney on the left side with a decorative blind arch, and a Palladian-influenced window in the side gable end. The front gabled porch with Craftsman posts features half-timbering.

a. C Garage. ca. 1935. Frame, front gable garage with plain siding.

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The house was built between 1923 and 1930. John Cronenberg, a machinist, occupied the house in 1930. (CD, Mattson, SM)

325 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Williford House.** The small, one-story frame, three-bay front gable Craftsman bungalow features nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, exposed rafter tails, two interior brick chimneys, and a hip roofed porch with Craftsman posts and railing. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is William L. Williford, a bookkeeper with Jenkins-Daughtry Machine Works, in 1925. (CD, SM)

329-331 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1949

**House.** The frame, one-story, low hipped roof duplex features six-over-six sash windows, glazed and paneled front doors, two interior brick chimneys, and an engaged front porch with slender clustered posts. Vinyl siding covers the exterior siding and boxed eaves.

The duplex was built circa 1949. It was first occupied by George Joyner with Quinn's Inc., and grocer, Leslie Hill. (CD, SM)

333 Howell St.  
NC-alt  
mid 1920s

**(former) Ricks Store.** The frame, one-story, three-bay, front gable Craftsman building features knee braced eaves, five-over-one sash windows in front, an exterior side brick chimney, and a shed roofed porch with wrought iron posts. The exterior walls and eaves are covered with vinyl siding and a metal awning is attached to the front porch.

a. NC-age Shed/Garage. 1950s. Frame, gabled shed with vinyl siding.

The former store was apparently built by owner, John Ricks, between 1925 and 1930. The building still contained a store in 1956. (SM, CD)

**300 block Howell  
Street, W side**

300 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Hilliard House.** The intact, frame, one-story clipped front gabled bungalow exhibits knee braced eaves, exposed rafter tails, wood shake walls, a glazed and paneled front door, nine-over-nine and twelve-over-one sash windows, and a hipped roof porch with massive fluted boxed posts and turned railing. The two exterior brick chimneys

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appear to be replacements.

a. NC-age Garage. 1980s. Frame, front gable garage with wood siding.

The house is said to be an Aladdin kit house built between 1920 and 1925. Alex Hilliard, a clerk with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, is the earliest known occupant. It was also the long time home of sculptor Frank Thigpen. (CD, interview, SM)

304 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Suiter House.** The intact, frame, one-story, front gable bungalow with knee braces exhibits exposed rafter tails, wood shake walls, nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled front door, a cantilevered bay window, and a gabled front porch with massive brick piers and wood posts. A large replacement exterior chimney stands on the left side.

a. C Shed. ca. 1940. Frame gabled shed.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Andrew Suiter, a salesman with the Eli Epstein Men's Furnishing Store in 1925. (CD, SM)

308 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1925

**Bell House.** The intact, frame, two-bay, gable and wing bungalow features an exterior end brick chimney, knee braced eaves, exposed rafter tails, six-over-one sash windows, plain siding, a glazed and paneled front door, and a front gable porch with Craftsman posts and railing.

The house was built circa 1925 and first occupied by James A. Bell, a conductor with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. (CD, SM)

312 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Powell House.** The frame, pyramidal hipped roof cottage features a tin roof, plain siding, nine- and twelve-over-one sash windows, two interior brick chimneys, boxed eaves, a glazed and paneled front door, a hipped dormer with a pair of four-over-one sash windows, and a hipped front porch with classical posts and plain railing.

a. C Shed. 1940s. Small, frame shed with vertical siding.

The house was built 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Richard Powell, a salesman with J.S. Gorham Hardware, in 1925. (CD, SM)

316 Howell St.  
C

**Spruill House.** The frame pyramidal hipped roof cottage with two interior brick chimneys features boxed eaves, a front cross gable with stained glass casement,

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ca. 1923 Craftsman style four-over-one sash windows, a glazed Craftsman door, and a hipped roof porch with battered posts on brick bases.

a. C Garage 1940s. Frame, front gable garage with plain siding.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant is George E. Spruill in 1925. (CD, SM)

326 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1900

**W.D. Cochran House.** Built at the turn of the century on the 300 block of South Main Street, this two-story Queen Anne style dwelling was moved to its current location in 1923. This large rambling house features a high hipped roof with front cross gable, bracketed eaves, diamond shingles and bargeboard in the gable ends, plain siding, a wraparound one-story porch and second-story porch above the entry. The porches exhibit turned posts and railing, bracketed eaves and gingerbread. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows, Queen Anne casements and a sidelighted entrance.

The house was designed by Rocky Mount architect, John C. Stout circa 1900. Original owner W.D. Cochran was the owner of the largest clothing store on Main Street. Mr. Cochran had the house moved to its current site in 1923 to expand his clothing store on the site. (CD, Mattson)

332 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Dunn House.** The frame, three-bay, one-story, side gable Victorian cottage with rear gable ell features a tin roof, two-over-two sash windows, a glazed and paneled door, and a shed porch with turned posts. Alterations include the addition of metal awnings over the porch and side elevation windows and vinyl siding.

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is Frank Dunn, an auto salesman, in 1930. (CD, SM)

336 Howell St.  
C  
late 1920s

**Hooper House.** The one-story, frame, three-bay, side gable bungalow exhibits twelve-over-one sash windows, a Craftsman style door, an exterior end brick chimney, casements in the gable ends, and a front gable porch with battered posts on brick bases. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

a. C Garage 1930s. Frame, front gable garage with plain siding and vertical board door.

The house was built between 1925 and 1930. The earliest known occupant is Richard

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Hooper, a parts manager with G.T. Burnette Company in 1930. (CD, SM)

342 Howell St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Scott House.** The frame, two-story, two-bay, Foursquare features a hipped roof, six-over-one sash windows, an interior brick chimney, glazed and paneled door with sidelights, and a one-story shed roof porch with balustrade supported by paneled posts. The house is covered with aluminum siding.

a. C Shed ca. 1923. Frame, side gable shed with plain siding, and carport addition.

The house was built circa 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is John Scott, a telegraph operator with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. (CD, SM)

**300 block Nash Street,  
S side**

325 Nash St.  
C  
1914

**Keel House.** The grand two-story, Neoclassical Revival style house exhibits a pyramidal deck on hip slate roof, plain siding, a one-story enclosed side porch with a Chippendale-influenced balustrade, tall interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps, a Palladian front dormer window and an engaged two-story portico with dentil cornice and fluted Corinthian columns. The front entrance consists of a six-panel door with leaded glass sidelights and fanlight in a paneled surround with fluted pilasters surmounted by a small iron balcony with decorative brackets. The balcony entrance consists of a double glazed door with multi-light transom. The one-story side wing appears original.

a. C Garage. ca. 1914. Frame, one-story, hipped roof building with plain siding, a horizontal six paneled door with flanking six-paned casements, and a sliding paneled beadboard garage door.

James W. Keel, a lawyer for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, had this house designed by Rocky Mount's foremost architect, John C. Stout, in 1914. (Mattson)

**400 block Nash Street,  
S side**

409 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1920

**Proctor House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, clipped side-gable Craftsman bungalow features two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, a glazed front door, eight-over-one sash windows, a front gabled dormer with paired sash windows, wood shakes in the side gable ends, and a shed front porch with Craftsman posts.

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The house was built between 1917 and 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is W. Con Proctor Jr. of Hill-Proctor Print Shop in 1925. (CD, SM)

411 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1907

**Corey House.** The frame, two-story, Foursquare with pyramidal hipped roof exhibits front and side cross gables with Queen Anne casements, a one-story bay window on the left side and a wraparound hipped porch with battered posts on brick bases. Alterations include vinyl siding, replacement sash windows, and a replacement front door.

a. NC-age Garage 1960s. Frame, front gable garage with plywood siding.

The house was built circa 1907. The earliest known occupant of the house is Hugh Corey, a transportation clerk with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in 1925. (CD, SM)

417 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1920

**Edgerton House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare with hipped roof exhibits an exterior brick chimney, a front hip dormer with shuttered casements, a glazed front door, and a shed porch with Craftsman posts, plain railing and porte-cochere. Alterations include replacement one-over-one sash windows and vinyl siding.

The house was built between 1917 and 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Nathan Edgerton, an auditor, in 1930. (CD, SM)

421 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1925

**Brothers House.** The frame, one-story, hipped roof bungalow exhibits a hipped dormer with two casements, exposed rafter tails, five-over-one Craftsman sash, an exterior end brick chimney, and an engaged front porch with battered posts on brick bases and plain railing. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

William H. Newell, an executive with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, who lived next door at 301 S. Grace Street had this house built for his daughter, Mrs. Calena N. Brothers, a widow in 1925. (CD, Mattson, interview, SM)

**500 block Nash Street,  
N side**

518 Nash St.  
C

**John J. Wells House.** The frame, two-story, transitional Queen Anne-Craftsman style hipped roof house exhibits a side-hall plan, weatherboard siding, and a one-story

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- ca. 1917                      hip roof porch with thick Doric columns and plain railing. Other features include a one-story hipped side section with a tall corbeled brick interior chimney and plain bracketed eaves. Fenestration consists of twelve-over-twelve, sixteen-over-sixteen, and fifteen-over-fifteen sash windows, and a glazed and paneled door with transom.
- a. C Garage. ca. 1917. Brick, two-car garage with low pitched side gable tin roof and exposed rafter tails. (SM)
- b. C Maid's Quarters. ca. 1917. Frame, one-story, hip-roofed building covered with vinyl siding features a glazed and paneled door with transom, six-paned casements, six-over-six sash windows, exposed rafter tails, and a brick chimney stack with stove pipe. (SM)
- John Wells, a civil engineer and surveyor, had the house built circa 1917. Wells is most noted for platting and serving as the principal realtor of the wealthy subdivision of West Haven. (Mattson, CD, SM)
- 522 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1914                      **Darrow House.** The frame, two-story, four-bay, Foursquare with hipped roof features a shingle-sided hipped dormer with a three part window, plain siding with cottage corners, an interior brick chimney, and a wraparound hipped porch with heavy weatherboarded columns and railing. Fenestration consists of one-over-one sash and a picture window flanked by eighteen-light casements.
- William B. Darrow, an executive with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company, built the house circa 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Reese have owned the house since the 1960s. (CD, Mattson, interview, SM)
- 526 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1914                      **Mills-Watson House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare with hipped roof and symmetrical facade features a hipped dormer, slate roof, dentil cornice, and a one-story hip roofed porch with plain railing and paired battered posts on brick bases. The center entrance consists of a glazed and paneled door with a dentil surround. Alterations include the addition of vinyl siding, replacement one-over-one sash windows, and the conversion of dormer windows to vent openings.
- Goodwin Mills, an executive for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, built the house circa 1914. By 1930, Van Watson, a major landowner and cotton buyer, had acquired the house. It is now owned by the Stevenson family. (CD, Mattson, interview, SM)
- a. NC Shed. ca. 1950. Frame, front gable shed with vinyl siding, and double wood

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barn-like doors.

536 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**W. Henry Hardison House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare with hipped roof features exposed rafter tails, a side screened porch, a one-story kitchen section, two interior brick chimneys, and a one-story hip porch with paired Doric posts on brick bases and plain railing. Fenestration includes single and paired sixteen- and twelve-over-one sash windows, and a glazed and paneled front door. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

**a. C Garage. ca. 1917.** Hipped-roof, frame, three-bay, two-car garage with exposed rafter tails, and vertical and horizontal board doors. (SM)

**b. C Other house. ca. 1923.** Small, frame house with pyramidal roof, weatherboard siding, exposed rafter tails, nine-over-one sash windows, a glazed door, and a hipped porch with chamfered posts and plain railing. (SM)

William Henry Hardison, a lumber man, apparently built the house between 1915 and 1920. (Mattson, interview, SM)

**500 block Nash Street,  
S side**

521 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1940

**Moore-Early House.** The one-and-a-half story Period Cottage with Flemish bond brick veneer features a side gable roof, three gabled dormers, six-over-one sash windows, a stretcher row water table, and a side engaged porch with chamfered porch posts.

Bernice Moore, Secretary-Treasurer of the COD Drug Co., had the house built between 1936 and 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Early have owned the house since the 1960s. (CD, interview)

525 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Middleton House.** The frame Foursquare exhibits a pyramidal hipped roof, exposed rafter tails, plain siding with cottage corners, two interior brick chimneys with stone caps, nine-over-one sash windows, a multi-paned door with four-light transom and a one-story hipped roof porch with square Doric posts and plain railing.

Built between 1915 and 1920, the house's earliest known occupant is Willard Middleton, a foreman for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. (CD, Mattson, SM)

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529 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Hicks House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, Colonial Revival style cottage with hipped and side gabled main blocks exhibits a hipped dormer with shingle siding, two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, a projecting entrance bay with a doubleleaf glazed and paneled door, three-, six-, and eight-over-one sash windows, and a hipped porch with square Doric posts.

a. C Garage 1920s. Frame, hipped roof, two-car garage with side shed, exposed rafter tails, plain siding, and sliding barn-like doors.

The house was built circa 1917. Druggist Herman L. Hicks, occupied the house by 1925. (CD, Mattson, SM)

535 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Coghill House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, side gable bungalow features two clipped gabled dormers, a transomed door, an interior brick chimney, paired six-over-one sash windows, and an engaged full facade porch with square posts and plain railing. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

a. NC-alt Maid's Quarters ca. 1917. One-story, hipped roof building with two-over-two sash windows, an interior brick chimney and plain siding. Half of the building has been removed. (SM)

The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is Cornelius Coghill with Wilkinson, Bulluck & Co. in 1920. (CD, SM)

**600 block Nash Street,  
E and W sides**

619 Nash St.  
C  
late 1940s

**Duplex.** The frame, one-story hipped roof duplex, six bays by three bays, exhibits a brick foundation, exposed rafter tails, asbestos shake walls, two interior brick chimneys, and two pedimented entry porches supported by square posts. Fenestration consists of six-over-six sash windows and replacement six-panel doors. (CD, SM)

620 Nash St.  
NC-age  
late 1950s

**Duplex.** The one-story, hipped roof duplex with Flemish bond brick veneer is six bays long by three bays wide. Other features include two-over-two sash windows, wide boxed eaves, and two entrances with flanking fluted pilasters. (CD, SM)

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**700 block Nash Street,  
N side**

700 Nash St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Weeks House.** The intact, one-story, frame side gable bungalow exhibits an interior brick chimney, tin roof, plain siding, exposed rafter tails, and a front gable porch with battered posts on tall brick bases. Fenestration consists of twelve-over-one and six-over-six sash windows and a glazed Craftsman style door.

**a. C Garage. 1940s.** Two-story, frame, two-car garage with side gable roof, plain siding, six-over-six sash windows, exposed rafter tails, and replacement doors.

The house was built circa 1923. W. Gordon Weeks, Jr., a salesman, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

**500 block Park Place, N  
side**

530 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1923

**Bennett House.** The frame, two-story, Dutch-Colonial Revival style house with gambrel roof features wide plain siding with cottage corners, a three-bay shed dormer, flanking exterior end stucco chimneys with scroll tie rods, paired and triple six-over-six sash windows and a one-story side porch with paired paneled posts. The central entrance consists of a pediment, fanlight, and Doric columns and pilasters.

**a. C Garage. ca. 1910.** Frame, front-gable, garage with tin roof, exposed rafter tails, and replacement plywood doors.

The house was built between 1917 and 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Stephen D. Bennett in 1925. (CD, SM)

532-534 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1925

**House.** The frame, two-story, pyramidal roof duplex with flanking brick chimneys features a one-story hip roofed porch with plain railing and battered posts on brick bases. The projecting double entrance bay consists of two glazed and paneled doors, flanked by paired six-over-one sash windows. Other features include weatherboard siding, six-over-one sash windows, exposed rafter tails, two shed stoops on the rear facade, and aluminum storm windows.

**a. C Garage. ca. 1925.** Frame, front-gable, two-car garage with weatherboard siding and exposed rafter tails.

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The building, built circa 1925, is one of the earliest duplexes in Villa Place. The earliest known occupants of the duplex are Edwin Powell in 1925 and Fred Nelson in 1930. (CD, SM)

**500 block Park Place, S  
side**

503 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1917

**Kornegay House.** The frame, two-and-a-half story, side hall plan Tudor Revival style dwelling exhibits a side gable roof with returns, a dentil cornice, a one-story screened porch on the left side, an exterior end brick chimney, bands of multi-paned casement windows, and a circular stoop supported with scrolled brackets. The house is covered with asbestos siding.

a. C Garage. ca. 1923. Frame, front gable garage with gable returns, and some plain and replacement siding.

Dr. Lemuel Kornegay, the proprietor of the Rocky Mount Sanitarium, had the house built between 1915 and 1920. (CD, SM, Mattson)

507 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1930

**Avera House.** The Foursquare with hipped roof and Flemish bond brick veneer features an exterior end brick chimney, a dentil cornice, four-over-one sash windows, wide eaves, and a hipped roof porch with porte-cochere supported by Craftsman posts. The sidelighted entrance exhibits a replacement door. A two-story frame rear addition has weatherboard and asbestos shake walls and five-over-one sash windows.

The house was built circa 1930. Attorney Thomas Avera is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

515 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1940

**Marshall House.** The one-and-a-half story, three-bay, Colonial Revival style cottage with side gable roof features a Flemish bond brick veneer, three gabled dormers, a bracketed cornice, plain siding in the gable ends, and an engaged front porch with paired and triple classical posts. Fenestration consists of six-over-six sash windows and a six-panel door with sidelights.

a. C Garage. 1930s. Frame, front gable building with plain siding, tin roof, and an interior chimney pipe. Original garage bay appears to have been enclosed by glazed and wood paneled windows and door.

The house was built circa 1940. Murray Marshall with the Carolina Telephone &

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Telegraph Co. is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1940. (CD, SM)

521 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1925

**Fleming House.** The two-story, five-bay, Colonial Revival style dwelling with Flemish bond brick veneer and side gable roof with front pediment exhibits flanking exterior end brick chimneys, a one-story side screened porch and porte-cochere with paired Doric columns, stretcher rows at lintels, beltcourse and foundation levels, and a broken pedimented entry stoop with Doric columns. Fenestration consists of eight- and nine-over-one sash windows with paneled shutters and a six-panel door with leaded glass transoms and sidelights topped by a stuccoed fanlight. A stuccoed round arch tops the center window on the second story.

C Garage. 1950s. Brick, hipped roof two-car garage with side shed addition with vertical board doors.

The house was built circa 1925. Ernest Fleming, secretary-treasurer of Coca-Cola Bottling Co., is the earliest known occupant of the house. (CD, SM)

533 Park Place  
C  
ca. 1936

**Alwran House.** The one-story, Elizabethan Revival brick duplex features a steeply pitched side gable roof with cross gables, arched windows, an interior and exterior brick chimney with corbeled caps, a gabled dormer, and a front bay window. Fenestration consists of six-over-six sash windows, a leaded oculus window, and a multi-paned door with painted rusticated brick surround. The shed roof porch supported by wrought iron posts may have been added in the 1950s.

a. C Garage. ca. 1936. Brick, hipped roof, two-car garage with paneled bead board doors.

Argus Alwran, a clerk for "Ry M S," had the duplex built circa 1936. Mrs. Alwran chose the house plans named "Ye Planry," attributed to a Dallas, Texas architectural firm, from *Holland Magazine*. Howell T. Livesay, a clerk with China-American Tobacco Company, shared the duplex with the Alwrans in 1940. (CD, interview, SM)

**200 block Pearl Street,  
W side**

200 block Pearl St., W  
C  
1940

**James Craig Braswell School.** The two-story, seven-bay Moderne style school with flat roof and one-to-five common bond brick veneer features bands of tall metal casement windows with concrete sills, brick banding in the eaves, and tall transom windows lighting the stairwells at each end. Geometric brick banding decorates the

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recessed entrance, and curved iron railings flank the front steps. At the side is a one-story side auditorium with streamlined Moderne awning. The main entrance with transom has a replacement double door.

The school was designed by Rocky Mount architect Harry J. Harles and built by contractors D.J. Rose and Son of Rocky Mount. The school was erected in 1940 replacing the 1901 West School Building that was demolished in 1939. The school was apparently named for the chairman of the board of trustees at the time, James Craig Braswell. (Plaque, cornerstone, SM)

200 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1920

**Taylor House.** The frame, two-story Foursquare with hipped roof exhibits a tall interior brick chimney, boxed eaves, hipped front and side dormers, and a hipped porch with massive paneled porch posts. Fenestration consists of a set of three narrow six-over-one sash windows at the sides of the upper facade, nine-over-one Craftsman sash, and a glazed and paneled front door. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

The house was built between 1917 and 1923. The earliest known occupant of the house is Wade Taylor, an accountant, in 1920. (CD, SM)

208 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1907

**Dawson House.** The one-story, three-bay, Classical style pyramidal cottage with front and cross gables exhibits plain siding, two interior brick chimneys, a tin roof, and a hipped front porch with projecting pediment over the entrance bay, dentil cornice and eccentric classical columns. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows, tiny Queen Anne windows or vents in the cross gables, and two replacement glazed doors. The house stands in deteriorated condition.

The house was built circa 1907. Benjamin T. Dawson, a clerk with Standard Drug Company, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1920. (CD, SM)

**300 block Pearl Street,  
W side**

304 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1901

**Mary Thomas Bullock House.** The wonderfully intact, frame, side-hall plan Queen Anne style dwelling with a one-story main block and two-story wing features plain siding, three-types of shingles in the upper story, ornate bargeboard, a bay window on the right side, and a one-story wraparound porch with turned posts, sawn drip molding and brackets. Fenestration consists of tall narrow two-over-two sash windows, Queen Anne sash in the cross gables, and a glazed and paneled door with

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sidelights and transom.

Mrs. Mary Thomas Bullock had this house built circa 1901. Susan A. Grice, widow of I.W. Grice, occupied the house in 1914. (CD, Mattson, plaque, SM)

a. C Playhouse/shed. ca. 1912. Tiny, frame, front gabled shed with plain siding, and drip molding. (SM)

308 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1901

**Mary Thomas Bullock House II.** The large, two-story Queen Anne style dwelling with deep hip roof and two-story front wing exhibits plain siding, tall interior brick chimneys, cross-gables with imbricated siding, and a wraparound hip porch with turned posts, brackets, drip cornice and turned railing. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows, stained glass casements in the gable ends, and a glazed and paneled door with transom and sidelights.

a. C Shed. ca. 1901. Tiny, frame, gabled shed with plain siding. It may have been used as a smokehouse. (SM)

Mary Thomas Bullock apparently had the house built circa 1901. Paul Langley, a brakeman with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad occupied the house in 1914. (CD, Mattson, SM)

312 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1907

**Mary Thomas Bullock House III.** The two-story, late Queen Anne style hipped roof dwelling with cross gables exhibits a tall brick chimney, plain siding, and a hipped wraparound porch with replacement classical posts. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows, Queen Anne casements in the gable ends, and a glazed and paneled door with sidelights.

Mary Thomas Bullock apparently had the house built circa 1907. Charles Holmes, a foreman, occupied the house in 1914. Samuel B. Weaver purchased the property about 1939. His daughter, Ernestine Deans, has lived in the house ever since. (CD, interview, Mearns, Mattson, SM)

316 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Skinner Rector House.** The one-story, Queen Anne style gable and wing cottage with hipped roof exhibits tall brick chimneys, plain siding, a front bay window, cross gables with ventilators, two-over-two sash windows and a hip-roofed porch with Doric columns. The transomed front entrance has a replacement door.

a. C Garage. ca. 1923. Frame, front-gable, one-car garage with plain siding.

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The house was built between 1907 and 1912. (SM, interview)

320 Pearl St.  
C  
1920s

**Harris House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, side gable bungalow exhibits a front shed dormer, interior end brick chimneys, and a shed porch with porte-cochere supported by Craftsman posts. Fenestration consists of four-over-one single and paired sash windows and a glazed front door. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

a. C Garage. 1930s. Frame, one-and-a-half story, front gable garage with plain siding.

The house was built between 1923 and 1930. The earliest known occupant of the house is Charles Harris, a stock dealer, in 1930. (CD, SM)

322 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1915

**Chambliss House.** The frame, two-story, side hall plan house with pyramidal hipped roof exhibits a central brick chimney, plain siding, two-over-two sash windows, two glazed and paneled front doors with transoms and a one-story hipped porch with Doric columns. This may have been built as a duplex.

The house was built between 1912 and 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is John R. Chambliss, an agent with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in 1920. (CD, SM)

326 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Burgess House.** The frame, one-story, four-bay, pyramidal roof cottage with front cross gable exhibits two tall brick chimneys, plain siding, dentil cornice, a small cross gable over the center bay, and a hipped roof porch with Doric columns and turned balustrade. Fenestration consists of tall one-over-one sash windows and a stained glass window in the front gable. The house has been converted into a duplex. The front door appears to be a replacement.

The house was built sometime before 1912. The earliest known occupant of the house is Benjamin Burgess, a railroad conductor, in 1912. (CD, SM)

328 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1912

**Pierce House.** The frame, two-story Foursquare with hipped roof and off center front gable exhibits an interior brick chimney, boxed eaves, six-over-one sash windows, a transomed front door and a wraparound porch with Doric columns and a center cross gable. The house is covered with aluminum siding.

a. C Garage 1930s Frame, front-gable two-car garage with asphalt roll siding.

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The house was built circa 1912. J. Clifton Pierce is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

334 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1912

**Scott-Early House.** The intact and recently restored two-story gable and wing Queen Anne style dwelling with pyramidal roof features an interior brick chimney, plain siding, tin roof, a two-story cutaway bay window on the right side, and a wraparound hipped porch with Doric columns and plain railing. Other features include two-over-two sash windows, Queen Anne style casements, and a transomed front door now replaced.

a. NC Shed ca. 1955 Frame, front gable shed. (SM)d

The house was built circa 1912. Brothers Harry and Jesse Scott occupied the house by 1912. Harry was a dispatcher and Jesse, a brakeman for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. In the 1930s Addie Early acquired the house. (Mattson, CD, SM)

338 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1907

**Harry Scott House.** The large, two-story, Queen Anne style dwelling with pyramidal roof with cross gables exhibits a tall center brick chimney, plain siding, a second story balcony with Doric columns and turned railing on the right side, a two-story bay window on the left side, and a wraparound hipped porch with a cross gable over the center bay. Fenestration consists of one-over-one sash windows, a multi-paned casement in the front gable, and two front doors with two-pane transoms. Alterations include replacement posts and railing on the front porch and a replacement front door.

a. C Garage 1940s. Frame, side-gable two-car garage.

The house was built sometime before 1907. Harry B. Scott, a telegraph operator with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, occupied the house by 1920. Maude Thompson occupied this house at one time. (Mattson, CD, SM)

342 Pearl St.  
C  
ca. 1907

**Respass House.** The frame, one-story pyramidal roofed Queen Anne cottage is one of the most ornate of the style in the district. It has tall brick chimneys, a corner turret with turned finial over the corner bay window, two front glazed and paneled doors with transoms, one-over-one and two-over-two sash windows, and a hipped wraparound porch with Doric columns and dentil cornice. The house is covered with asbestos siding and is presently a duplex.

The house was built sometime before 1907. The earliest known occupant of the house

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is Samuel J. Respass in 1930. (CD, SM)

**200 block Villa Street,  
E side**

217 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1927

**Harper House.** The one-and-a-half story, three-bay, Colonial Revival style cottage with side gable roof and Flemish bond brick veneer exhibits two gabled dormers with six-over-one sash windows, a tin roof, and a stucco pedimented entry with brick posts flanked by a brick patio roofed by a wooden trellis supported by brick posts. The side gables are stuccoed, with Palladian influenced windows. Other fenestration includes paired six-over-one sash windows and a six-panel door with sidelights and fanlight.

a. C Garage. ca. 1927. Frame, front gable garage with stuccoed gable, cottage corners, plain siding, exposed rafter tails, and sliding barn-like doors.

b. NC Shed. 1950s. Frame, front gable shed with vertical board siding, brick foundation, exposed rafters and tin roof.

c. NC Playhouse 1950s. Frame, front gable playhouse with five-paneled door, four-paned casements, exposed rafters, and German siding.

The house was built for Paul Harper, a grocer, circa 1927. The house was later rented to a Mr. Gardner until his death. Tamara Frank-Pourvady purchased the house from a Harper after Mr. Gardner died. (interview, CD, SM)

219 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1949

**House.** The frame, one-story, four-bay, Minimal Traditional dwelling with cross gable roof features an interior brick chimney, six-over-six sash windows, a pedimented porch with iron railing, plain posts and a metal awning. The house is covered with aluminum siding. (CD, SM)

a. C Shed. ca. 1949. Frame, front gable shed with plain siding, exposed rafters and a side shed extension with vertical board siding.

b. NC Shed 1950s. Frame, front gable shed with vertical board siding, concrete block chimney flue, and open shed garage bay supported by plain posts.

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**200 block Villa Street,  
West side**

202 Villa St.  
NC-age  
late 1950s

**House.** The five-bay, one-story brick veneer Minimal Traditional dwelling with side gable roof features a frame, side-gable extension with aluminum siding, and a pedimented-stoop with paired classical posts. Fenestration consists of six-over-six sash windows, a eight-over-eight sash bay window with fluted sides, brackets and crosettes, and a six-panel door with Classical surround. (SM)

a. NC Garage. 1950s. Hipped roof, brick two-car garage with paneled vinyl doors. (SM)

206 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Harper House.** The frame, one-story, three-bay hipped roof bungalow features a tin roof, plain siding, exposed rafter tails, a hip dormer with three Union Jack paned casements, one-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled door, and an engaged porch with paired and triple battered posts on brick bases with cross braces.

a. C Shed. ca. 1923. Frame, side-gable shed with exposed rafter tails, five-panel door, and vertical board siding. (SM)

The house was built circa 1917. John A. Harper, assistant secretary of the YMCA, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. Fannie Gorman, a school teacher, lived in the house for many years. (CD, interview, SM)

210 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**W.B. Rector House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, side-gable bungalow features plain siding, a shed dormer with four- and six-over-one sash windows, boxed eaves, a center brick chimney, knee braces, and a hipped roof porch with paneled posts on brick bases. Other fenestration consists of six-over-one sash windows and a glazed Craftsman door.

a. C Shed. 1940s. Large, frame, front gable shed with tin roof and vertical board and plywood siding.

The house was built circa 1917. W.B. Rector, a dispatcher with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, is the first known occupant of the house in 1930. Estele Powell, a nurse, also lived here in 1930. (CD, Mattson, SM)

214 Villa St.

**Pearce House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, side-gable bungalow features plain

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- C  
ca. 1917
- siding, a shed dormer with four- and six-over-one sash windows, exposed rafter tails, a center brick chimney, knee braces, and a hipped roof porch with turned posts. Other fenestration consists of six-over-one sash windows and a glazed Craftsman door. The house is almost identical to 210 Villa Street with the exception of the boxed eaves and porch posts.
- a. NC Garage. 1950s. Steeply pitched front gable two-car garage with plain siding, and a double door with modern fanlight in the front gable. (SM)
- The house was built circa 1917. Traveling salesman C. Wood Pearce is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)
- 218 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917
- Thomas House.** The frame, two-story, two-bay Foursquare with hipped roof features flanking interior brick chimneys, eight-over-one sash windows, a glazed door with sidelights, and a hipped roof porch with square Doric posts. The house is covered with vinyl siding.
- a. NC Garage 1950s. Frame, front gable two-car garage with board and batten siding, exposed rafter tails, a glazed side door, and plywood sided garage doors.
- The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is John J. Thomas, an agent with Gulf Refining Co., in 1925. (CD, interview, SM)
- 222 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917
- McCall House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, hipped roof, three-bay bungalow features a hipped roof dormer with shingle siding, two interior brick chimneys, and an engaged wraparound porch with paired battered posts on brick bases and plain railing. Fenestration consists of a glazed and paneled door with leaded glass sidelights and a three-part transom, large fixed windows with leaded glass transoms, and small Craftsman sash windows in the hipped dormer. The house is covered with vinyl siding.
- a. NC Other House 1950s. Frame, two-story, shed roof building with vinyl and plywood siding, and louvered windows.
- The house was built circa 1917. The earliest known occupant of the house is Thomas McCall, with McCall Drug Co., in 1920. (CD, SM)
- 226 Villa St.  
C
- Broomsedge House.** The one-and-a-half story, three-bay, side-gable bungalow with stucco siding features a four-bay shed dormer, exposed rafter tails, an interior brick

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- 1912 chimney with stone coping, and an engaged porch with stuccoed railing and posts. Fenestration consists of a twelve-paned casement on the front facade, paired nine-over-one sash windows, and a glazed and paneled door with a six-light transom.
- a. C Garage. ca. 1912. Hipped roof, one-car garage with stuccoed siding.
- A plaque on the front facade identifies the house as the Broomsedge Bungalow built in 1912. Apparently it and the house at 230 Villa Street were built by two sisters and the plans are mirror images of one another. The earliest known occupant of the house is Edwin Dodge, a dispatcher with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in 1920. (CD, plaque, interview, SM)
- 230 Villa St.  
C  
1913 **Knowles House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, three-bay, side-gable bungalow features a four-bay shed dormer, knee braces, an interior brick chimney with stone coping, and an engaged porch with thick aluminum-sided posts. Fenestration consists of nine-over-one sash windows, a paneled door with a three-light transom, and a nine-paned casement on the front facade. The house is covered with aluminum siding.
- a. C Garage ca. 1917. Frame, front gable one-car garage with aluminum siding, paneled garage door, and a pair of six-over-six sash windows flanking a glazed and paneled door on the right side. (SM)
- The house was built circa 1913. Apparently it and the house at 226 Villa Street were built by two sisters and the plans are mirror images of one another. The earliest known occupant of the house is Dr. Daniel Knowles in 1925. The house was once owned by the Fryer family who sold it to the Holdsworths in 1995. (interview, CD, SM)
- 300 block Villa Street,  
W side**
- 302 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917 **Dunn House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, hipped roof dwelling features two exterior end brick chimneys, a projecting entrance bay with a paneled door with leaded glass transom and sidelights, a bracketed cornice, leaded glass windows in the first story, and a one-story, full-facade porch with a pediment over the entrance and slim, paired battered posts on brick bases. A brick patio with brick posts and iron railing extends the width of the right side, probably a later addition. Alterations consist of replacement one-over-one sash windows in the upper story and vinyl siding.

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The house was built circa 1917. Garnett C. Dunn, a special claim agent with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1920. (CD, interview, SM)

306 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Blackwell House.** The frame, two-story, Foursquare with hipped roof features a hipped dormer with shingle siding, plain siding, two interior brick chimneys, and a one-story hipped wraparound porch with paired battered posts on brick bases and plain railing. Fenestration consists of a glazed and paneled door, an oval leaded glass window, a two-story bay window on the left side and one-over-one sash windows. The small casement windows in the hipped dormer are covered with plywood.

The house was built circa 1917. James W. Blackwell, a machinist, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1930. (CD, SM)

308 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1925

**Shearin House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Craftsman house with side gable roof features weatherboard siding with cottage corners, a projecting entrance bay, an exterior end brick chimney, ornate knee braces, a shed dormer with multi-paned casements, and a one-story hipped roof porch with paneled battered posts. Fenestration consists of triple six-over-one Craftsman sash windows, and double six-paneled doors with seven-light transom with Union Jack panes on the ends.

The house was built circa 1925. Ernest L. Shearin, a tobacconist and bookkeeper with Fenner's Warehouse, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, Mattson, SM)

312-314 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Lindsey Duplex.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, five-bay duplex features a gable on hip roof, interior brick chimneys, two front doors, a hipped dormer with Union Jack casements, and an engaged full facade porch with Doric columns. Fenestration consist of large one-over-one sash windows, and glazed and paneled doors. The house is covered with asbestos shingle siding, has some replacement windows, and has vinyl sided soffits.

a. C Garage/shed ca.1917. Frame, shed roofed two-car garage with vertical board door, plain siding, and exposed rafter tails. The second garage bay has been enclosed with a multi-paned window and a horizontal five-paneled door.

The house was built circa 1917, apparently as a duplex. The earliest known occupant of the house is F. Alan Linsey, an accountant, in 1930. (CD, SM)

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318 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Ruck House.** The two-story, frame Foursquare with hipped roof features a hipped dormer with triple casements, plain siding, two interior brick chimneys, and a one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns and turned railing. Other features include a glazed front door, one-over-one sash windows, and a small bay window on the left side.

a. NC Garage 1950s. Frame, side gable, five-bay building with weatherboard siding, an enclosed bay with glazed door, and four garage bays with beadboard and glazed doors. A shed addition extends from the front of the far right garage bay.

The house was built circa 1917. George Ruck, an engineer, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1920. (CD, SM)

322 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Dobie House.** The frame, one-story, three-bay pyramidal hipped roof cottage exhibits a hipped roof dormer with nine-paned casements, nine-over-one sash windows, a transomed entrance, and a full facade engaged porch with Doric columns. The house is covered with vinyl siding and has a replacement front door.

a. C Garage ca. 1917. Frame, front-gable, two-car garage with plain siding, and replacement double louvered doors.

The house was built circa 1917. George Dobie, a CPA, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, SM)

326 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Boyd House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, Foursquare with hipped roof features two interior brick chimneys, exposed rafter tails, plain siding, and a one-story hipped roof wraparound porch with Doric posts and plain railing. The windows and front door are replacements.

The house was built circa 1917. William R. Boyd, a manager at Carolina Motor Co., is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1920. (CD, SM)

330 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1917

**Peele House.** The frame, one-story, hipped roof Queen Anne cottage with front gable features three interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps, weatherboard siding, and a one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns and turned railing. Fenestration consists of two-over-two sash windows, a glazed door with transom, and a small Queen Anne window in the front gable.

The house was built circa 1917. Lewis Fountain, a ticket agent, is said to have built

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the house. A later occupant of the house was John L. Peele, an engineer, in 1930.  
(Mattson, CD, SM)

334 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1915

**Joseph Bobbitt House.** The frame, one-story, asymmetrical Queen Anne cottage with a high hipped roof with cross gables features a narrow hipped dormer, two interior brick chimneys, a tin roof, plain siding, and a one-story hipped roof porch with Doric columns and plain railing. Fenestration consists of six-over-one sash windows, multi-paned casements, and a glazed and paneled door.

Joseph Bobbitt, a local wholesaler, built the house circa 1915 after moving here from the Aventon (Fishing Creek) community in northern Nash County. (CD, Mattson, SM)

336 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1923

**James O. Bobbitt House.** The frame, one-and-a-half story, four-bay, side gable bungalow exhibits two front doors, a three-bay shed dormer with exposed rafter tails, knee braces, an interior stuccoed chimney, plain siding, and a one-story full-facade shed porch. Fenestration consists of single and paired sixteen-over-one sash windows and two glazed front doors. Alterations include replacement porch posts and railing, asphalt shingles covering the shed dormer, and the addition of a second door to the front facade when it was converted to a duplex.

a. C Shed. ca. 1923. Frame, front gable shed with German siding, exposed rafter tails, and plywood door.

The house was built between 1917 and 1923. James Bobbitt is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, SM)

338 Villa St.  
C  
ca. 1925

**Vann House.** The two-bay Foursquare with Flemish bond brick veneer exhibits a hipped roof, interior brick chimney with concrete coping, a dentil cornice, wide boxed eaves, and a flat roofed entrance porch with triple Doric columns and dentil cornice. A low hipped porch extends from the left side with the same cornice and porch supports. Fenestration includes paired and triple eight-over-one Craftsman sash and a six-paneled door with a multi-light transom and sidelights. Other features include a concrete capped brick patio connecting the two porches, flat arches over the first story windows, and a header row across the front facade at the second story window sills. A modern sliding glass door opens onto the side porch.

The house was built circa 1925. John A. Vann, a railroad conductor, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, SM)

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**400 block Western  
Avenue, S side**

419 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1910

**Robert Thomas Watson House.** The frame, Queen Anne and Neoclassical Revival style dwelling with pyramidal hipped roof features tall corbeled chimneys, a front wing with pedimented gable and cutaway bay, and a wraparound porch with Doric columns, turned railing and center cross-gable with sunburst. Fenestration includes one-over-one sash windows, a glazed and paneled door with transom and paneled surround, an oval stained glass window with keystones, and Queen Anne stained glass windows in the cross gables. The house is covered with vinyl siding.

a. NC-age Garage. ca. 1950. Frame, side-gabled, three-car garage.

Robert Thomas Watson had this house built by a contractor named Hall between 1907 and 1912. (CD, Mearns, SM)

**500 block Western  
Avenue, South side**

525 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Wilson House.** The frame, one-story, front-gable bungalow with plain siding features an interior brick chimney, exposed rafter tails, a tin roof, and a hipped front porch with battered posts on brick bases. Fenestration includes two-over-two sash windows and a glazed and paneled door.

The house was built between 1917 and 1923. H. Claiborne Wilson, a machinist, is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, SM)

531 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1936

**Johnston House.** The frame, one-story, hipped roof bungalow with cross gables exhibits German siding, a gabled dormer, flanking exterior end brick chimneys, a tin roof, exposed rafter tails, six-over-six sash windows, a glazed front door, and a hipped roof porch with exposed rafter tails and Craftsman posts.

a. C Garage. 1940s. Frame, front-gable two-car garage with German siding and exposed rafter tails.

The house was built between 1936 and 1940. The earliest known occupant of the house is Mary B. Johnston in 1940. (CD, SM)

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535-537 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1930

**Williams House.** The frame, two-story, three-bay, front gable Craftsman house exhibits exposed rafter tails, knee braces, an interior stone chimney, a stone foundation, and a side-gabled porch and porte-cochere with exposed rafter tails, tin roof, and battered stone posts. Fenestration consists of triple windows with three- and eight-over-one Craftsman sash, a diamond paned casement in the gable end, and two glazed front doors, one with sidelights. The house has asbestos shingle siding.

a. C Garage. 1920s. Frame, front gable two-car garage with plain siding, front knee braces, beadboard sliding doors and a side shed roof extension with aluminum siding.

The house was built between 1923 and 1930. The earliest known occupant of the house is Bryant C. Williams in 1930. (CD, SM)

539 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1936

**Dunning House.** The two-story, two-bay, brick dwelling with front gambrel roof features side shed dormers, two exterior end brick chimneys, four-over-one Craftsman sash windows, and a one-story hipped porch with brick posts and railing. The front door is a replacement.

a. C Garage. 1930s. Frame, front gable one-car garage with plain siding and exposed rafters. The garage bay is covered with plywood.

Built between 1936 and 1940, Carson S. Dunning, a railroad conductor, is the earliest known occupant of the house. (CD, SM)

**700 block Western  
Avenue, South side**

705 Western Ave.  
C  
ca. 1923

**Strum House.** The frame, one-story, two-bay, front gable bungalow exhibits exposed rafter tails, two interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps, knee braces, plain siding, and a front gabled porch with battered posts with carved caps on brick bases. The porch gable end features a modillioned cornice and a leaded glass casement. Fenestration consists of eight-over-one Craftsman sash windows and a replacement door.

The house was built circa 1923. George Strum with Bishop Laundry Co. is the earliest known occupant of the house in 1925. (CD, SM)

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**Section 8: Statement of Significance**

Villa Place, a roughly nine-block neighborhood located three blocks west of Main Street, is the most intact early twentieth century residential subdivision in the city of Rocky Mount. The densely developed neighborhood is filled with well-preserved Queen Anne, Foursquare, Craftsman, Colonial Revival and Neoclassical Revival style houses built between about 1900 and the 1940s by employees of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and other businesses in the bustling railroad and tobacco town. The West End Land Development Company laid out the east half of the district in 1891 and sold lots until about 1907 when the American Suburban Corporation took over the development. In 1913 this company platted the west half of the district as Villa Place. The entire area is now known by this name. West School, the first public graded school in Rocky Mount, was built in the district in 1901. Its successor, the James Craig Braswell School, a brick Moderne style building, was erected on the Pearl Street site in 1940 and is still in use. The principal district landmark is Machaven (NR 1980), a spectacular Neoclassical Revival style brick mansion built in the middle of the subdivision in 1908 from a design by Raleigh architect H. P. S. Keller. The strong local significance of Villa Place in the history of Rocky Mount's community development and architectural development render it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. Villa Place is undergoing a renaissance as young families move back to the inner city and restore the delightful architectural features of its dwellings.

**Villa Place: Historical Background**

The village of Rocky Mount grew up along the tracks of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, which came through in 1840 along the border between Nash County and Edgecombe County. As Rocky Mount grew at the turn of the century, due to the arrival of tobacco in the late 1880s, a burst of expansion created a sizeable business district built from the 1890s into the 1920s. This was generated by the establishment in the 1890s of the Rocky Mount Tobacco Market and the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad (formerly the Wilmington and Weldon) repair shops. Some seventy trains a day passed through Rocky Mount in 1905.<sup>1</sup> Population rose from 650 in 1890 to 12,000 in 1920 and to over 20,000 in 1930.<sup>2</sup> Developers built stylish residences on both the west, Nash County side of town, and on the east, Edgecombe County side, but the most prestigious developments happened on the west side.

The compact nine-block section of the western suburban development of Rocky Mount between Pearl, Western, Howell and Hammond Streets is known as Villa Place. The eastern half of the district, Pearl and Grace Streets, were subdivided by the Rocky Mount West End Land Improvement Company in 1891. Formed by a group of Pennsylvania capitalists who considered the growing railroad town of Rocky Mount as a good opportunity for residential development, the company purchased hundreds of acres of land west of the railroad tracks and subdivided it. The area, apparently known as the West End, grew as individuals purchased lots and had large frame houses built in the 1890s and early 1900s. Local physician W. W. Whitehead served as president

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<sup>1</sup>O'Quinlivan, *Rocky Mount Centennial Commemorative Book 1867-1967*.

<sup>2</sup>Bishir and Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina*, 333.

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of the company; local capitalist J. W. Hines as secretary.<sup>3</sup> At this time, Rocky Mount had a population of 650, and its booming commercial growth necessitated large-scale housing construction to accommodate newcomers. West End gradually filled in with houses, and a 1907 Bird's Eye View Map of Rocky Mount shows an even scattering of houses over to Pearl Street. By this date additional westward streets had been laid out as far west as Tillery Street, where another railroad line, the Seaboard Coastline, curved in to meet the central railroad line. But less than a dozen houses stood in Villa Place District, almost all of them along Pearl Street.

By 1907 a new development company, American Suburban Corporation of Norfolk, Virginia, had apparently bought out some of West End Company's unsold lots and redeveloped the area as Villa Place. The subdivision plat known as Villa Place was recorded in 1913, consisting of Villa, Howell and Tillery Streets, which extend westward from Grace Street. [Nash Co. DB 200, 601]. In 1916 J. W. Perry was president; William Leigh Williams was vice president. The corporation was selling lots in Villa Place as early as 1907. Between 1907 and 1917 they sold approximately seventy lots in the subdivision to new owners, with restrictions that included that the property was not to be sold or rented to persons of African descent, and that no liquor be sold on the property for twenty-one years. Over the years, as business development has destroyed much of the eastern blocks of West End, the Pearl and Grace Streets blocks have become associated with their neighbor, Villa Place.

Since Rocky Mount grew out from the railroad tracks, the oldest houses in the district stand at the eastern edge of the neighborhood, in the 300 block of South Pearl Street. Seven of the eleven houses on the block appear on the 1907 bird's eye view map. Three of the other four were built by 1915. The houses at 304, 308 and 312 Pearl Street were built from 1901 to 1907 for Mary Thomas Bullock. Mrs. Bullock apparently lived at 308, and either rented or sold the other houses. The three are two-story vernacular Queen Anne style houses said to have been built by the same contractor.<sup>4</sup>

Most of the houses in the district are custom houses built for individual purchasers of the lots. In 1905 J. W. Hines (1858-1928) purchased the 300 block of South Grace Street from R. L. Huffines (vice-president of Rocky Mount Insurance and Realty Company) for \$3,100. In 1907-1908 Hines constructed a spectacular Neoclassical Revival style brick mansion, known as Machaven, for his family (NR 1980). Designed by Raleigh architect H. P. S. Keller, the house with its detached kitchen occupies one half of a block. Hines made his fortune as the "ice king" of North Carolina, owning ice plants in railroad towns across the state from Rocky Mount to Salisbury. He became a developer and industrialist in later years, and is credited with being instrumental in spurring Rocky Mount's early twentieth century growth. Hines built tobacco warehouses and was instrumental in bringing the Atlantic Coast Line repair shops, Emerson Shops, to south Rocky Mount in 1892.<sup>5</sup>

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad workers occupied a number of the earliest houses, the Queen Anne

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<sup>3</sup> Means, *Central City Historic Buildings Inventory: Rocky Mount, North Carolina*.

<sup>4</sup> Plaque on 304 South Pearl Street; Means, *Central City Historic Buildings Inventory*; interview with Ernestine Deans, owner of 312 Pearl Street.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

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cottages. Agent Ethna Gordon was the first known occupant of the cottage at 216 S. Grace Street about 1912, Alexander Douglas, dispatcher, was the first occupant of the cottage at 339 S. Grace Street about 1913, and foreman Otis Bracey the first occupant of the cottage at 416 Hammond Street about 1914. Ticket agent Lewis Fountain built the Queen Anne cottage at 330 Villa Street, thus at least some of the railroad workers owned their houses.<sup>6</sup> Ten years later, railroad workers were building Craftsman style houses, such as the house at 300 Howell Street that is said to be an Aladdin kit house. It was built for Atlantic Coast Line Railroad clerk Alex Hilliard about 1923. W. B. Rector, a dispatcher, built the bungalow at 210 Villa Street for himself about 1917.<sup>7</sup>

High-ranking Atlantic Coast Line railroad officials and wealthy businessmen built homes along Grace and Nash Streets. William H. Newell, an executive with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, bought a lot at 301 South Grace Street in 1910 from J. W. Hines (Nash Co. D.B. 186, 174) and built a handsome house designed by local architect H. S. Pool. The eclectic two-story frame house has Queen Anne, Colonial and Craftsman features. Local merchant Eli Epstein purchased a lot at 230 S. Grace Street from Rocky Mount Insurance and Realty Company in 1913 [Nash Co. D.B. 208, 49] and built a substantial bungalow, one of the town's first example of the new residential style. Civil engineer John J. Wells purchased a lot in the new subdivision at 518 Nash Street and built a late Queen Anne style two-story house about 1917. Goodie J. Mills, executive for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, purchased a lot at 526 Nash Street and built a large Foursquare dwelling about 1914. Next door at 522 Nash St, W. B. Darrow, another railroad officer, bought a lot in 1913 and built a large house of similar appearance. [Nash Co. D.B. 203, 463]. In 1914 James W. Keel, lawyer for the ACL railroad, had an imposing Neoclassical Revival style house designed by local architect John C. Stout and built at 325 Nash Street.<sup>8</sup>

Middle class businessmen built houses for their families in Villa Place. Joseph O. Bobbitt bought lot 41 in block D in 1911 [Nash Co. DB 194, 335]. Bobbitt, a local wholesaler who moved to Rocky Mount from the Avention community in northern Nash County, built a vernacular Queen Anne style cottage about 1915 that still stands at 334 Villa Street.<sup>9</sup>

Howell Street developed in the 1920s with bungalows built for railroad workers such as E. A. Williams, a machinist for the ACL railroad, who built the house at 317 S. Howell Street. Among the bungalows on Howell Street is a large Queen Anne style house that represents the displacement of Rocky Mount's turn-of-the-century residences built close to the central business district as it grew in the 1920s. W. D. Cochran had built his splendid house from a design by local architect John C. Stout on South Main Street about 1900. In 1923 he moved his house to a large lot on Howell Street and erected a commercial building on its original site.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Mattson, Rocky Mount Survey files, State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

<sup>7</sup> Mattson, Rocky Mount Survey files, State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh.

<sup>8</sup> Mattson, *The History and Architecture of Nash County, North Carolina*, 284-291.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, 287.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, 290.

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In the 1920s and 1930s Villa Place continued to be a desirable residential location. Colonial Revival style houses, both frame and brick, one and two-stories in height, became popular in Villa Place. Grocer Paul Harper had the brick-veneered Colonial Revival style cottage at 217 Villa Street built for his family about 1927. Argus Alwan, a clerk for "RyMS" (Rocky Mount Sanitarium) ordered an Elizabethan Revival style plan for a brick duplex from *Holland Magazine* and had it built at 533 Park Place.<sup>11</sup> Murray Marshall, who worked with the Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company, apparently built the Colonial Revival style house at 515 Park Place for his family about 1940.

The only contributing non-residential building in Villa Place is the James Craig Braswell School at the corner of Pearl and Nash Streets. The West School, the first graded public school erected in Rocky Mount, was erected on this site in 1901.<sup>12</sup> In 1940 a new school, the James Craig Braswell School, replaced it. This two-story brick building of Moderne style was designed by local architect Harry J. Harles and built by local contractor D. J. Rose & Son. The building with an auditorium occupies one-half of a block and still serves as an elementary school.

Villa Place was superseded as Rocky Mount's premier residential area by suburbs located farther west from the business district—West Haven, Englewood, and the area along Falls Road were developed with imposing houses on large lots in the late 1920s. Villa Place held its own until World War II, then began to decline as its large old homes were subdivided into apartments and many of the homes were owned by absentee landlords. In the 1980s young families were once again attracted to the inner-city neighborhood. They began to buy the architecturally distinguished houses and to restore them. Today, Villa Place continues to slowly reclaim its past dignity. The city of Rocky Mount and the district's neighborhood association, known as Machaven Neighborhood Association, are working together to stabilize the area. Listing of the district on the National Register of Historic Places will help to accomplish this goal.

**Criterion A: Community Development and Criterion C: Architectural Significance**

Villa Place is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as the most intact early twentieth century residential suburb in Rocky Mount. The district represents Rocky Mount's second phase of residential growth. The original dwellings in Rocky Mount were built along Main Street and Church, Washington and Franklin Streets flanking Main Street and the railroad tracks in the late 1800s. These houses have disappeared as twentieth century commercial development devoured the town's nineteenth century fabric. Because older residential streets have lost their historic houses, Villa Place forms the western historic residential corridor that defines the boundary of the commercial district. Its solid streetscapes of fashionable Queen Anne, Foursquare, Colonial Revival and Craftsman style houses, with the landmark mansion of Machaven in the center, represent the conservative following of fashion by Rocky Mount's affluent professional and business classes, as well as middle and lower middle-class families from about 1900 to about 1930. The district was remarkably complete by

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<sup>11</sup> Interview with Elizabeth Scott, current owner. She has a copy of the house plan.

<sup>12</sup> *Rocky Mount Centennial Commemorative Book, 1867-1967.*

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about 1930, so that it represents an unusually cohesive cross-section of architectural development during the first three decades of the twentieth century.

The residential architecture of Villa Place reflects building practice in Rocky Mount from 1900 to the 1940s, when local architects and builders supplied nationally popular house designs to their clients. Rocky Mount's most prolific contractor, D. J. Rose and Son, and its foremost architect, John C. Stout, built solid stylish houses in Villa Place, sometimes from architects' plans, sometimes from mail order house plans. At least one house in the district is built from a kit supplied by the Aladdin Company, which had a factory in Wilmington, North Carolina. One architectural feature relates the house designs to eastern North Carolina's hot and humid climate—the deep hipped roofs that shelter many of the houses. Regardless of the house style, whether Queen Anne, Foursquare, or Craftsman, the dominant type of roof is the high hipped roof. Combined with the tall hardwood trees growing in the sidewalk medians and the front and rear yards of the houses, the hipped roofs provide insulation from the intense coastal plain sun.

The development of the Villa Place district contains planning features typical of inner-city neighborhoods built before World War II. The grid patterned streets, small front yards, side driveways leading to frame garages set at the rear property lines, service alleys between blocks in the western section, and the location of the graded school at the eastern edge created an orderly, tightly-knit neighborhood that has served its residents well for nearly one hundred years.

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Villa Place Historic District  
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**Section 10: Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

The boundaries of the district are shown by a black line on the accompanying map, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100 feet. The base map is the City of Rocky Mount Engineering Map I-108, mapped in 1969.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundaries are drawn to include the densest concentration of contributing resources in the historic Rocky Mount neighborhood. Boundaries follow streets, service alleys and property lines.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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**Section Photos Page 48  
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Nash County, North Carolina**

**Photographs:**

The following information pertains to all photographs:

Photographer: Ruth Little or Michelle Kullen

Date: October to December 1998

Location of negatives: North Carolina Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh

- A. 500 block of Nash Street, looking east.
- B. Machaven, 306 Grace Street, looking west.
- C. James Craig Braswell School, 200 block Pearl Street, west side, looking west.
- D. Houses, 300 block Howell Street, east side, looking southeast.
- E. W.D. Cochran House, 326 Howeli Street, looking west.
- F. Keel House, 325 Nash Street, looking southeast.
- G. 500 block Nash Street, south side, looking southwest.
- H. 200 block Villa Street, west side, looking northwest.
- I. Darrow House, 522 Nash Street, loking north.
- J. Mary Thomas Bullock House, 304 Pearl Street, looking west.
- K. House at 202 Villa Street, looking west (noncontributing example).



**Villa Place National Register Historic District**

- District Boundary
- Buildings identified by street address
- See Inventory List for presence and status of outbuildings
- Contributing Resource
- ▨ Noncontributing Resource
- ↑ N
- Scale: 1"=100'

Map Source: City of Rocky Mount, Dept. of Public Works Engineering Division, 1969  
 Prepared by: Longleaf Historic Resources, 1999

