

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Spring Hope Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 26 blocks roughly bounded by Franklin, Louisburg, not for publication
city, town Spring Hope Second and Community streets vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Nash code 127 zip code 27882

3. Classification

| Ownership of Property | Category of Property | Number of Resources within Property | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Contributing | Noncontributing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <u>159</u> | <u>61</u> buildings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State | <input type="checkbox"/> site | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> structures |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal | <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> objects |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> object | <u>160</u> | <u>62</u> Total |

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 6-20-88
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Commerce/department store
Religion/religious structure
Transportation/rail-related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling
Commerce/department store
Religion/religious structure
Education/library

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne
other: triple-A cottage
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
walls weatherboard
brick
roof tin
other asphalt

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Spring Hope HD
Nash Co.

7. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located in western Nash County, where the piedmont meets the inner coastal plain, the Spring Hope Historic District epitomizes the development of a small railroad town in eastern North Carolina. The district, which comprises 26 blocks, includes a central commercial area oriented to the railroad tracks and depot, and contiguous residential streets. It comprises noteworthy and typical examples of the major architectural styles from the 1880s through the 1930s. Houses vary in size, form, and sophistication, reflecting the full range of small-town social groups. Some of Nash County's more prominent citizens lived in the district, as did an array of middling merchants, clerks, and working-class families. More homogenous in scale and design, commercial buildings in the district reflect Spring Hope's emergence as a vigorous agricultural trading center in the early twentieth century.

Spring Hope's first plat map, completed in 1889, shows the town streets laid out in a grid pattern oriented to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad (later the Atlantic Coast Line). The grid was well-suited to Spring Hope's even terrain that caps a slight rise of land about four miles west of the Tar River. The 100 block of Main Street (South Railroad Street on the 1889 map) is near the center of the historic district, and runs parallel to the east-west railroad tracks. Main Street is bordered on the east by Pine Street, and on the west by Ash. In the original plat these north-south streets intersected Branch Street two blocks south of the railroad tracks, and Nash Street one block north. This area, six blocks of which are in the district, historically formed Spring Hope's commercial core. Main and Pine streets, particularly, have a high concentration of attached one- and two-story brick buildings that occupy narrow lots with shallow setbacks. At the heart of this area is the former Wilmington and Weldon railroad station (No. 91). Today containing the Spring Hope Public Library as well as offices for the Nash County Railroad, this board-and-batten structure, with a bay window on the track side, illustrates graphically the central role of the railroad in the community's development.

The predominately residential blocks that encircle the commercial district are principally defined by East Nash and East Branch streets, Hopkins Avenue, Walnut Street, West Main, Ash Street, and Raleigh Street. Raleigh Street is a remnant of the former highway that linked Raleigh to Rocky Mount. Bunn Lane is also part of this route, which once skirted south around the Bluford Brantley House (No. 123) and then headed east, probably following the present path of First Street. The residential streets are all tree lined and include one-, one-and-a-half, and two-story frame and brick dwellings. Houses stand on medium-to-large-sized lots. Along East

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Branch, the Bluford Brantley House and the two adjacent homes built by Dr. Hassell Brantley (Nos. 124 and 125) have especially deep setbacks (about one-hundred forty feet). Their lawns, shaded by a canopy of oaks, magnolias, and dogwoods, join to create a verdant, park-like setting. These residences and many others along East Branch were the homes of many of Spring Hope's leading professionals and merchants, who contributed significantly to the community's early development. Prominent citizens also built homes on many of the other major streets, so that stylish houses reflecting the town's early affluence are visible throughout the historic district. The churches of the two largest Methodist and Baptist congregations stand at the junction of the commercial and residential zones. These religious structures perform the traditional role of small-town churches, serving as buffers between the two distinct land uses. The district contains 146 principal contributing buildings, 16 contributing outbuildings [159 total], and 58 principal noncontributing buildings, 3 noncontributing outbuildings [61 total]. There are two structures (No. 50) a contributing railroad bridge, and (No. 57) a noncontributing meat locker. The Dr. Hasell Brantley House (No. 125) is already listed in the Register. There are 11 vacant lots

The Spring Hope Historic District is characterized by a variety of architectural styles and forms popular during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Styles typically reflect national trends in architectural fashion derived from the popular pattern books and builders' catalogues of this period executed by local carpenters and contractors. The 1910 Spring Hope business directory listed five contractors and builders. Two architects, G. K. Hundley and Henry S. Poole (based in Rocky Mount), also advertised their services in the early 1900s.⁽¹⁾ Most of the district's commercial buildings date between 1900 and 1911. Typical of small-town buildings of this era, they are primarily one-story brick structures with twenty-foot-wide storefront bays. Recessed doorways are flanked by expanses of shopfront glass. Many of the display windows and entries have been modernized and the transoms concealed. However, several shopfronts remain intact, notably Sykes Seed Store (No. 198) and Spivey's General Merchandise (No. 77). Above the transoms, many of the facades feature ornamental pressed-metal cornices and corbelled brickwork. The most decorative facade belongs to the former Citizens Bank (No. 80). The 1908 building has a Neo-Classical Revival veneer with a dentiled cornice supported by Ionic pilasters, and an arcaded lower level. In addition to early twentieth-century storefronts, the commercial district has several noteworthy filling stations. The 1923 A. F. May gasoline station (No. 195) is a box-and-canopy design neatly typifying one of the country's more popular types of early gasoline stations. Hill's Auto Service (No. 31), built on busy U.S. 90 (today West Nash Street) in 1933-1934, is Spring Hope's only example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style.

Around the edge of the commercial area stand former warehouses and industrial buildings. They are all

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typical early industrial buildings: large gable-roofed structures with brick or metal-sheathed siding. The metal-venered, gable-front structure facing the tracks on West Nash Street is a former tobacco warehouse (No. 24). It represents one of two warehouses originally built at the turn of the century by the Taylor and Berry Tobacco Company. South across the street stands a large, functional brick building divided by firewalls; it is the former cotton press room for the Spring Hope Cotton Seed Oil Company (No. 22), whose assorted gins and hull houses once dominated an entire block of Nash Street west of Ash.

The houses in the historic district can be divided into categories based on form as well as style. Spring Hope has a number of traditional one- and two-story house types. They include two-room dwellings (with or without a central hall), double-pile hip-roofed cottages, L-plan cottages, and I houses. These dwellings were built throughout the district until about 1915. Frame constructed, they have a variety of ornamentation inspired by a range of popular styles: Italianate, Queen Anne, Neo-Classical Revival, and bungalow. Spring Hope also has more sophisticated house designs in which the forms are integral parts of the architectural styles. These include examples of dwellings in the Queen Anne, Neo-Classical Revival, bungalow, Prairie-Bungalow, and Tudor Revival styles.

The historic district's most popular house type is the traditional "triple-A cottage," a two-room house with a gable roof and a third gable centered over the facade. Twenty-two examples survive in Spring Hope, nine of them along Railroad Street. These structures, built between the 1890s and 1910, usually have rear kitchen ells and facade-width front porches. Many retain original turned-post porches and patterned wood shingles in the center cable. An especially intact example is the H. C. (Doc) Williams House (No. 7). Other triple-A cottages have bungalow-style tapered porch posts set in brick piers that were added between the 1920s and World War II. Other two-room houses and L-plan cottages are scattered throughout the residential area, typically first occupied by small shopkeepers, clerks, and millworkers. The houses occupied by blacks on South Pine Street falls into this category. The finest L-plan cottage, lavishly decorated with Queen Anne-inspired millwork, is the Joseph J. Spivey House (No. 174). Owner of a large hardware store on Main Street (No. 77), Spivey asserted his middle-class status with this exceptional turn-of-the-century dwelling.

More characteristically, prominent merchants and professionals of this period built three-bay I houses or double-pile, hip-roofed cottages. Eleven I houses are distributed about the district, five of these have triple-A roof configurations and three have two-tier porches. Among the oldest and most intact is the Cone-Brantley

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House (No. 87) on West Main Street. Completed in 1887 for merchant Bertis Cone, the house is decorated with vernacular Italianate elements. Later examples, built between 1900 and 1910, have traces of Queen Anne detailing, though porches have frequently been modernized with simpler square posts, and windows remodeled. One of the more well-preserved of the Queen Anne I houses is the Edwards-Wilson House (No.61), which anchors the west end of Railroad Street. Its traditional I-house form features a deep wraparound veranda, projecting center pavilion, and cutaway bay. The house has been recently restored. Less popular in Spring Hope were double-pile hip-roofed cottages. However, two outstanding examples stand side-by-side on East Nash Street. The William R. Wheless House (No. 44) is marked by such trademarks of the Queen Anne as a turned-post wraparound porch and an irregularly placed wing treated with delicate sawnwork. It was built in 1908 for Wheless, a salesman. The 1913 Genatus May House (No. 43) is more classical in design, as bold Corinthian columns support the wraparound porch.

While the vast majority of houses built in Spring Hope before the First World War represented conservative, traditional forms, a small group of designs embodied the height of architectural fashion. The Richardson-Chamblee House (No. 178) exemplifies the Queen Anne style. Built in 1901, the dwelling's complex two-story form, with a number of projecting bays and roof configurations, reflects the Queen Anne's penchant for irregular massings. In the 1910s, Spring Hope's most affluent residents selected Neo-Classical Revival House designs. Four handsome examples of the style stand in the district (Nos. 35, 125, 163, 176). Each has a two-story, hip-roofed, double-pile form, a wraparound porch, and prominent pedimented portico. The pillared Dr. Hassell Brantley House (No.125) is attributed to Rocky Mount architect John C. Stout.(2) Stout, who designed similar Neo-Classical residences in nearby Nashville and Rocky Mount, may have been responsible for the other three local examples. No documentation confirms this, however.

Relatively few post-World War I houses stand in the district. Yet those that do are handsome examples of styles popular nationally between the 1910s and 1930s. The national movement toward simpler and more functional domestic architecture in the early 1900s led to the appearance locally of bungalows and Prairie-Bungalows. In the mid-1920s, a pair of two-story cubic houses with brick veneers were constructed (Nos. 40 and 132). The dwellings' low hip roofs, broad eaves, and simple details reflect the Prairie-Bungalow. The Morgan-Vestor House (No. 40), completed in 1923 for tobacconist Paul Morgan, includes a porte-cochere and rear brick garage. By the 1920s, houses built in Spring Hope's historic district typically included separate auto garages, while wooden and metal-veneered garages were occasionally erected behind earlier dwellings (see, for

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example, Nos. 6 and 9). A small collection of bungalows were also built in the 1920s. An especially handsome example is the Ben Wood House (No. 34). The house represents a blend of the bungalow and Tudor Revival styles, including half-timber treatment in the cross gables and a wide overhang with exposed rafters. Five doors to the east, at 301 East Nash Street, the Finley Bissett House (No. 39) is a well-executed example of the Tudor Revival. Its front-facing fieldstone chimney and stone-trimmed entry in the "swing" of the front gable are characteristic elements of the style. Built in 1936, this house also represents the last fashionable, middle-class dwelling erected in the historic district until the appearance of several Colonial Revival cottages and ranch-style houses in the post-World War II period.

In addition to commercial, industrial, and residential structures, two early twentieth-century churches also stand in the district. Of brick construction, these buildings include the First Baptist Church, built in 1909 (No. 17), and the Gibson Memorial Methodist Church (No. 113), completed in 1910. The Baptist and Methodist structures are handsome examples of Romanesque Revival and Gothic Revival church architecture, respectively. The Baptist Church was designed and built by Rocky Mount architect Henry S. Poole. It is his only known commission in Spring Hope, and one of the few structures in the historic district that is identified with an architect.

Although Spring Hope's commercial core has suffered the effects of economic decline in recent decades, the community remains both socially and economically vital. Its location along U. S. Highway 64, a major east-west thoroughfare, has attracted a number of new industries. A large Masonite plant, for example, was built in the late 1970s several miles east of town. Furthermore, recent publicity concerning "Triangle East," a regional commercial development plan that would include Spring Hope near its center, has raised local interest in the town's special amenities. In recent years several commercial buildings, including the former railroad station, have been refurbished. Presently, a tree ordinance is being considered by the town council. As a whole, the Spring Hope historic district retains much of its pre-World War I building fabric. Intrusive structures are primarily commercial buildings concentrated on Nash Street (Alternate Highway 64). Intrusions constitute 12 percent of the total number of properties in the district.

NOTES: PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

1. *The North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory for 1910*, (Raleigh, North Carolina: The News and

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Observer, 1910), 340. Little is presently known about the work of either Hundley or Poole in Spring Hope. Hundley is said to have designed and built the Christman-Dillard House at 408 East Nash Street about 1910. Poole, whose major commissions were in Rocky Mount, built the First Baptist Church in 1909. See Richard L. Mattson, *The History and Architecture of Nash County, North Carolina*, (Nashville, North Carolina: Nash County Planning Department, 1987). Interview with Annie Pearl Brantley, Spring Hope historian, August 15, 1985, Spring Hope.

2. Richard Mattson, "National Register Nomination for the Dr. Hassell Brantley House," Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1986.

Key to inventory list:

C Contributing:

N Non-Contributing:

The following is a statistical analysis of the Contributing and Non-contributing properties in the district, organized by resource type. Of the 223 buildings and other structures in the district, 161, or 72 percent, are Contributing. Eleven vacant lots are distributed throughout the district.

NUMBERING:

The numbering of the following Inventory List begins with the first structure on the south side of East Branch Street at the eastern edge of the district and continues along this side of Nash Street to the western edge. The numbering then crosses to the north side of West Nash and continues again with the first property at the western edge of the district, proceeding to the west. Railroad Street, Main Street, Raleigh Road, Bunn Lane, Branch Street, First Street, and Third Street were numbered in a likewise manner. The numbering then

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continues, one street at a time, along the cross streets of Hopkins Avenue, Walnut Street, Pine Street, and Ash Street, beginning with the first property on the west side of each at the southern edge of the district and proceeding to the northern edge. The numbering then crosses to the east side of each street at the southern edge and continues to the north in a likewise manner.

SOURCES:

Information on buildings and residents was derived primarily from interviews with current residents, and particularly with local Spring Hope historian, Annie Pearl Brantley.

INVENTORY LIST

C 1. House, c. 1925. East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half frame dwelling represents one of the most popular bungalow designs of the 1920s in Nash County. It has a side-gable roof, engaged porch, and deep eaves with exposed brackets. The front porch was probably enclosed in the 1950s. A gable-front frame storage shed contemporary with the house stands at the rear of the lot.

C 2. J. E. McLean House, c. 1910. 508 East Nash Street. Although the McLean House conforms to the popular L-shaped plan, it is distinguished by a cutaway bay window and front-facing gable embellished with patterned wood shingles and moulded cornice. Such design elements, plus the lathe-turned porch posts and small panes of colored glass enframing the front door window, exemplify the Queen Anne style in Spring Hope.

The residence probably was built by a Mr. Strickland. Little is known of Strickland, and through the years the house has changed hands a number of times. One notable occupant was J. E. McLean, who served as principal of the Spring Hope Grade School.

C 3. Dr. F. G. Chamblee House, c. 1899. 504 East Nash Street. Almost a mirror image of the Mollie Griffen House located near the north end of Spring Hope, the Dr. Chamblee residence on Nash Street was one of the town's most prominent houses when erected in the 1890s. Like its counterpart, the dwelling is a basic I-house form enhanced by a variety of Queen Anne motifs. They include decorative millwork in the gables, a two-story front-facing cutaway bay, and a lunette over the entrance. The prominent two-tier porch was remodeled in the 1940s, when the porch's upper floor was removed and columns replaced. A two-story rear ell at one time

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accommodated teachers from the nearby Spring Hope Grade School. Chamblee was a dentist.

C 4. Christman-Dillard House, c. 1900. 408 East Nash Street. The Christman-Dillard House is one of Spring Hope's most decorative Queen Anne dwellings. Although numerous houses in Spring Hope exhibit traces of the Queen Anne style through the application of irregularly placed gables, or turned porch posts, this dwelling displays Queen Anne motifs in full panoply. The form's asymmetry is accented by the unusual meeting of gables on the east side. Each of the house's three principal gables is treated with alternating courses of sawtooth, scalloped, and straight-edge shingles. The small decorative windows in the gables contrast against the larger four-over-four windows below. The front-facing gable included spindlework suspended below the cornice.

The porch is exceptional. It features a beaded spindlework frieze, turned posts, and an unusual corner gable treated with spindles applied in a starburst pattern. Originally, the porch extended around the east side where it encompassed the rear bedroom wing. A 1920s sheet-metal garage stands on the property.

The house lot was purchased in 1900 by local architect and builder G. K. Hundley. Little is known about Hundley or his work in Spring Hope. Apparently soon after constructing the house he sold the property to E. B. Christman. Christman operated a saloon and bowling alley on South Ash Street. In 1906, the house was purchased for \$1,700 by Spring Hope insurance agent Paul C. Dillard. It is presently rental property.

C 5. Bunn-Wilder House, c. 1910. 404 East Nash Street. One of three hip-roofed cottages lining Nash Street, the Bunn-Wilder House reflects the trend toward bungalow-style remodelings that up-dated numerous houses in Spring Hope. During the 1920s, the original turned-post porch was replaced by this massive, tapered-column veranda with porte-cochere. At the same time, the interior chimneys were removed in favor of the partially engaged end chimney, its concrete shoulder cast in an angular geometric pattern. Compare this remodeled house with its ornate Queen Anne counterparts at 315 and 317 Nash Street.

The dwelling was built between 1910 and 1915 by merchant G. W. Bunn, who used it for rental property. In 1919, it was sold for \$2,500 to R. E. Wilder. A carpenter, Wilder and his family lived here until 1931, when B. E. Morgan acquired the house and gave it to his son, C. S. Morgan. In 1953, the Morgan heirs sold the house and lot to Coswell D. Matthews. The dwelling remains in the Matthews family.

C 6. House, c. 1915. 322 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half frame dwelling represents a blend of the Colonial Revival and bungalow styles. The basic symmetry of the hip-roofed cubic form, three-bay facade, and center dormer are features marking numerous Colonial Revival dwellings in Nash County. In the bungalow style

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are the deep eaves and the exposed rafters evident in the dormer. The original porch posts were replaced by wrought-iron ones in the 1960s. The rear of the lot includes a host of frame outbuildings, such as a 1920s auto garage, a smokehouse, and several storage sheds.

C 7. H. C. (Doc) Williams House, c. 1900. 318 East Nash Street. A fine example of the very popular triple-A cottage in Spring Hope, the Williams House was built at the east end of Nash Street about 1900. The front porch features lathe-turned posts as well as a tongue-and-groove ceiling. The center gable is embellished with alternating courses of sawtooth and scalloped shingles. At the rear of the lot is a 1920s frame auto garage.

The house was built as rental property by hardware merchant Sidney P. Lamm and acquired by H. C. (Doc) Williams in 1945. Williams moved into Spring Hope from the country in that year, when he took employment in a local trucking business. The residence remains in the Williams family.

C 8. House, c. 1900. 316 East Nash Street. This one-story frame house originally was said to be a copy of the triple-A cottage to the east (318 Nash Street). Today, reflecting a remodeling in the 1950s, the front facade has a small pediment and fluted pilasters around the entrance. The front porch was removed and roofline modified with a facade-width overhang. A two-room kitchen and bedroom wing extends to the rear. Speculator and merchant Sidney P. Lamm probably built this house as rental property about 1900.

C 9. R. L. Pitts House, c. 1910. 312 East Nash Street. This early twentieth-century house represents several popular building trends in Spring Hope. The basic L-shaped plan, which includes a front-facing gable in the lateral wing, was popular during the first two decades of the twentieth century. The bungalow-style porch and porte-cochere were added later, perhaps in the late 1920s, during that style's peak of popularity in Spring Hope. The strong, simple lines inherent in the tapered porch columns set on brick piers, and the low-slung roof of the porte-cochere are characteristic bungalow elements. A 1920s frame auto garage stands behind the house.

Although the original occupant is not known, the house was acquired by R. L. Pitts in 1921. Pitts was a bookkeeper for the Spring Hope Grocery Company and later became the town's postmaster.

C 10. Sidney P. Lamm Tenant House, c. 1900. 308 East Nash Street. This triple-A cottage typifies the tenant houses erected by Sidney P. Lamm in Spring Hope. At the turn of the century, Lamm, a hardware merchant, built about eleven one-story frame houses along Nash and Railroad streets. In 1919, he sold the houses on their narrow lots to individual buyers for prices ranging between \$1,000 and \$1,330. Seven of Lamm's eleven were

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triple-A cottages. Characteristic of the period, each tenant house was decorated with Queen Anne elements, typically a turned-post porch, a shaped vent in the center gable, and a touch of ornamental millwork.

C 11. Manning-Marshbourne House, c. 1910. 300 East Nash Street. Simple frame dwellings like the Manning-Marshbourne House are integral to the architectural fabric of Nash Street. Built by speculator Sidney P. Lamm in the early 1900s, the house follows the traditional two-room, central-hall plan. However, its basic form is obscured by front-facing gables. The porch features classical columns, and a stylish lunette embellishes the pediment. Lamm sold this house to George E. Manning for the top price of \$1,330. Manning was a farmer and owned the Blount Hotel in Spring Hope. He lost the property in 1929, and Wilbur C. Marshbourne acquired it. A clerk at a dry goods store, Marshbourne moved to Wendell in 1941. The property was then purchased by A. L. Honeycutt.

N 12. House, 1948. 228 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half Colonial Revival dwelling has a brick veneer and wooden trim. A small pediment and fluted pilasters embrace the entry. The facade is dominated by a large center gable.

N 13. House, 1975. 224 East Nash Street. This one-story brick ranch-style house has an L-shaped form and gable returns on the front-facing wing.

N 14. House, c. 1945. 222 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half brick veneered cottage has Tudor Revival influences. A chimney with an exposed face is situated on the front facade. The cross-gable roof has a gable-roofed dormer centered on each side of the chimney.

N 15. House, c. 1945. 218 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half brick-veneered cottage features Colonial Revival trim. The entry is framed with paneled sidelights and fluted pilasters. Three dormers extend across the side-gable roof.

N 16. House, c. 1950. 216 East Nash Street. This two-story, three-bay house has aluminum siding and spare detail. Now under renovation, a new frame addition extends to west on the gable end.

C 17. First Baptist Church, 1909. Southwest corner East Nash and North Walnut Streets. The First Baptist

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Church is an outstanding example of small-town, Romanesque Revival church architecture. Constructed of common-bond brick, it comprises a gable-roofed sanctuary flanked by square entrance towers of different heights that are capped with slate conical roofs. The roof of the bell tower on the north side is accented with pointed arches and brick trim. The gable-front sanctuary is surrounded by a decorative brick stringcourse and features an arcaded corbel table that reflects the round-arched window and door openings — a predominant stylistic theme of the Romanesque Revival. The building's wealth of stained-glass windows are all outlined in brick trim. The architect was Henry Poole of Rocky Mount. The structure is Poole's only documented work in Spring Hope.

Over time, the church has undergone a number of additions and renovations. In 1950, with funds raised during World War II, a Tudor Revival educational building was constructed at the south side of the lot. The Wilson, North Carolina, architectural firm of Benton-and-Benton was commissioned to execute the design. In 1960, the sanctuary was extensively remodeled, and in 1963, the Morgan Chapel, located at the rear of the sanctuary between the two vestibules, was completed.

N 18. Auto Repair Shop, c. 1955. Southeast corner West Nash and North Pine streets. This one-story, porcelain-enameled structure was built in the mid-1950s as a filling station. In minor disrepair (porcelain panels are cracked or missing), it is now an auto repair shop.

N 19. L&L Food Stores, c. 1983. Southeast corner West Nash and North Ash streets. This one-story, brick and glass structure has a large pump canopy dominating the front.

N 20. Texaco Service Station, c. 1980, 201 West Nash Street. This brick and cinder-block station has pseudo-mansard roof and two service bays.

N 21. Car Wash, c. 1980, Southeast corner Poplar and West Nash streets. This two-bay brick and cinder-block car wash has a flat roof.

C 22. (Former) Cotton Seed Oil Mill, c. 1905. Alternate Highway 64. This one-story, brick, 20-by-150 foot structure is the only surviving building of one of Spring Hope's major early industries. Planter's Cotton Oil Company of Richmond, Virginia, operated a large cotton gin and seed oil press here in the early 1900s. The 1911 Sanborn Map of Spring Hope shows this brick mill as well as a related frame gin (to the west) and a hull house

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(to the east). A large platform for cotton bales extended along Main Street to the south. The present brick structure, used today for storage by a fertilizer company, includes parapet gables and three fire walls. The brick facade is laid in a common bond. The mill operated in Spring Hope until the 1940s.

C 23. House, c. 1910. Southeast corner of Hazel and West Nash (Alt. 64) streets. This typical L-plan cottage may have been originally occupied by a laborer for the Spring Hope Cotton Seed Oil Company. The dwelling stands adjacent to the former mill. Asbestos siding covers the weatherboarding, and wrought-iron columns support the shed roof of the porch. A two-room ell extends to the rear.

C 24. (Former) Tobacco Warehouse, c. 1900, West Nash Street, north side. This structure represents the last of four tobacco warehouses that in the early 1900s stood near the railroad tracks on the west side of town. The Taylor and Berry Tobacco Company built this warehouse and one to the east. They were both later owned by the Spring Hope Leaf Company. It is a wooden, gable-front building, about thirty-by-ninety feet. Resting on brick piers, it has two loading docks on each side and a main entrance in the east corner of the front facade. The entire building is now sheathed in corrugated metal. The structure is vacant.

N 25. House, c. 1910; remodeled 1980. 308 West Nash Street. This one-story, three-bay dwelling has a side-gable roof and rear ell. Original elements, including chimneys, windows, doors, details, and porch have been replaced or removed. The interior has been modernized and original center hall removed.

C 26. House, c. 1910. 302 West Nash Street. This basic two-room, gable-roofed house was probably built for a lumber mill worker. Montgomery Lumber Company once stood to the north. The house has a rear shed extension that contains the kitchen. Six-over-six windows survive, though the original shed-roofed, turned-post porch was replaced by a gable-roofed entry porch. Aluminum siding covers the weatherboarding.

C 27. House, c. 1910. 212 West Nash Street. One of Spring Hope's more intact triple-A cottages, this dwelling has a shed-roofed porch with turned posts and balustrade. The center gable is ornamented with patterned wood shingles and a pointed-arched vent. A two-room ell extends to the rear with a turned-post porch that is an exterior extension of the center hall. This house is one of two triple-A cottages in a row on West Nash Street. Both may have been built as worker cottages for the Montgomery Lumber Company.

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C 28. House, c. 1910. 208 West Nash Street. Built as a duplicate triple-A cottage to the one to the west (212 West Nash), this dwelling also includes decorative shingles in the center gable. A square vent is also located there. The original shed-roofed porch has been replaced by a gable-roofed entry porch.

N 29. House, c. 1975. 206 West Nash Street. This one-story frame house is three bays wide with a front-facing chimney. The center door is flanked by sidelights.

C 30. Mallie Asa Griffin House, c. 1900. Northwest corner North Ash and West Nash streets. Mallie Asa Griffin built this prominent house on the northwest corner of Nash and Ash streets about 1895. Griffin, a teacher, supervised the Spring Hope Academy in the late nineteenth century. In 1896, B. D. Creekmore, landowner and saloon keeper, acquired the property for \$733.33. J. Robert "Captain" Wheless purchased the house in 1912. The structure's unusual mix of wings, its two-story porch, and proximity to the railroad depot (one block south across the tracks) suggest that it may have been an early boarding house and hotel.

The property was converted into an apartment house in the 1930s, and has been vacant for at least the past decade. A number of original details survive, including intricate beaded spindlework along the porch, and decorative brackets along the eaves. The largely intact interior features tongue-and-groove wainscot in the center hall and two main rooms, and mantels with Ionic colonettes and mirrored overmantels.

C 31. Hill's Auto Service, 1933-1934. Northeast corner North Ash and West Nash streets. This gas station is Spring Hope's only expression of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. Its stucco walls, red-tile coping, and parapeted canopy are signatures of the style as it related to auto-oriented architecture in the 1930s.

Hill's Auto Service was constructed in 1933-1934 at the intersection of Ash and Nash streets. Nash Street was then part of U. S. 90, the principal east-west route between Rocky Mount and Raleigh, and a prime location for a filling station. The structure was originally a Sinclair service station, erected as an investment by Dr. Julian Brantley. In the 1940s, Brantley sold it to Dewey Liles, who expanded the structure and sold Studebakers in the adjoining wing.

C 32. (Former) Wagon Repair Shop, c. 1900. Northwest corner West Nash and North Pine streets. Baines, Strickland, and Company, a local carriage manufacturer, built this structure for storing and painting wagons. The 1905 Sanborn Map of Spring Hope indicates that it was originally a weatherboarded building, possibly with a simple gable-front facade. The brick veneer and parapet-gable front were probably added in the early 1920s,

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when this building and the one to the south across the street were acquired by the Spring Hope Grocery Company. The structure is now a retail furniture store.

C 33. B. F. Wood Tenant House, c. 1890. 201 East Nash Street. One of the oldest houses in Spring Hope, this two-room cottage has several distinguishing elements of style. Its profile reveals gable returns, wide frieze, and six-over-six windows, all features of the Greek Revival style that persisted in Nash County and Spring Hope into the late nineteenth century. The side oriel window is a twentieth-century addition. Inside, the dwelling features a fine mantel with decorative turned columns flanking the fire opening.

Probably in the 1920s, the porch was remodeled with bungalow-style tapered columns set on brick pedestals. The original porch posts probably matched the turned columns on the mantel. The rear shed extension appears in the 1905 Sanborn Map of Spring Hope and may be original. The kitchen ell, however, is a later addition.

Little is known about the early occupants. For many years the dwelling was owned by merchant B. F. Wood, who used the house as rental property.

C 34. Ben Wood House, c. 1925. 207 East Nash Street. This house represents a fashionable fusing of the Tudor Revival style with the popular bungalow. The cross-gable slate roof, brick-clad facade, and distinctive half-timber treatment in the gables are identifying Tudor Revival features. However, the wide overhang with exposed rafters, brick pedestals along the front landing, and abundant fenestration enhanced by a prominent screened-in porch are features popularized by the bungalow. A brick garage reflecting the Tudor Revival stands to the rear of the property.

The interior plan and finish represent trends toward free-flowing layouts and artful simplicity that marked bungalow-inspired designs of the 1910s and 1920s. The front door opens directly into the living room, where double doors lead to a hallway and a series of bedrooms, dining room, and kitchen. The functionalism of the interior is epitomized by the simple brick fireplace in the living room.

C 35. Dr. J. R. Wheless House, c. 1910. 211 East Nash Street. Built about 1910, the Dr. Wheless House is the earliest of four impressive Neo-Classical Revival residences in Spring Hope. It features numerous elements exemplary of the style, including a two-story, double pile form dominated by a full-height pedimented portico. The pediment, featuring a lunette and dentils along the cornice, is supported by a wide entablature on two pairs of fluted Corinthian columns. The one-story wraparound porch includes Ionic columns and a turned balustrade.

Like the exterior, the interior has retained many of its original features. The principal rooms include

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handsome mantels with free-standing Ionic columns and mirrored over-mantels. Handsome sets of mahogany sliding doors separate the enormous entrance hall from the parlor on either side. To the rear of the property is a two-room, two-door storage shed.

Dr. Wheless practiced medicine in Spring Hope between about 1910 and the early 1930s.

C 36. House, c. 1910. 215 East Nash Street. Sidelights around the entry and heavily moulded, deep eaves distinguish this one-story L-plan cottage. A decorative vent embellishes the gable of the front-facing wing. Original lintels with simple mouldings cap one-over-one sash windows. Two ells housing bedrooms and a kitchen, respectively, extend to the rear on opposite sides.

N 37. House, c. 1910; remodeled c. 1960. 219 East Nash Street. Originally a basic two-room, central-hall, frame house, this dwelling was extensively remodeled about 1960. Today, it is a brick-veneered structure with a bold pedimented portico.

C 38. Sanders-Marshbourne House, c. 1899. East Nash Street. Built in the 1890s, this house typifies the one-story, triple-A cottage. Like its counterparts in Spring Hope, the dwelling's modest ornamentation is concentrated on the center gable and front porch. In the gable the decorative attic vent and alternating courses of sawtooth and straight-edge wood shingles fashion a pattern of design repeated on a host of local examples. The hip-roofed porch has slender turned posts. Behind the dwelling is a gable-roofed shed probably built in the 1930s for wood storage.

Triple-A cottages in Spring Hope typically were erected for small shopkeepers or leased as rented property. J. J. Sanders, the first occupant of this house, operated a local hotel and was a dry goods merchant. George Marshbourne, the owner from 1934 to the present, was a farmer who moved to town to begin a new career in the oil business.

C 39. Finley Bissett House, 1934. 301 East Nash Street. Built in 1938, the Finley Bissett residence is one of Spring Hope's finest dwellings erected between the World Wars. It is a relatively late addition to Nash Street, where early twentieth-century houses prevail. Distinguished by a full complement of Tudor Revival motifs, the dwelling features a stone-trimmed entrance located in the "swing" of the front-facing gable, a fieldstone chimney prominently placed on the front facade, and brick-veneered wall surfaces. The arcaded porch not only opens up the interior, but also visually links the round-arched porte-cochere with the main body of the house.

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The brick-clad garage behind the porte-cochere also reflects the Tudor style and illustrates the growing role of the automobile in domestic architecture. For in the 1920s, garages were no longer typically architectural afterthoughts, but were incorporated consciously into the total designs of local residences.

Erected near the end of the Tudor Revival's popularity, which began in Nash County during the 1920s and tailed off by World War II, the Bissett dwelling is a handsome, small-town expression of a widely built suburban house type. It also represents one of the last fashionable dwellings to be erected in Spring Hope, until the coming of sprawling ranch-style houses at the outskirts in the 1970s. Finally, it is one of the last in-town dwellings erected by a local merchant. Bissett operated a general merchandise store in the business district.

C 40. Morgan-Vester House, 1923. 305 East Nash Street. Erected in 1923 for Paul Morgan, a tobacconist and wholesale grocer, this house is a rare example of the Prairie-Bungalow style in Spring Hope. It is one of two in town, both built in the 1920s, and both distinguished, in part, by their brick construction. Behind the bold, tapered porch pillars, which support a sweeping, low hip roof, is a simple two-story box. The house, like the porch, is capped by a low-slung roof with wide overhang and exposed rafters. The rooflines create a strong horizontal effect, a hallmark of the Prairie-Bungalow style. Also typical is the abundant fenestration, including pairs and bands of large one-over-one windows. Directly behind the porte-cochere is a brick garage, also reflecting the Prairie-Bungalow style.

In 1926, Morgan sold the house and one-acre lot to E. F. Vester, a farmer and local grocer. The lot includes many mature oak trees that shade the broad front yard.

N 41. House, c. 1945. 309 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half brick-veneered cottage has three gable-roofed dormers and a Colonial Revival entry. A lateral wing extends from the last gable end.

N 42. House, c. 1970. 313 East Nash Street. This story-and-a-half brick house has a screened porch on the east gable end, two gable-roofed dormers, and sidelights around the entrance. A large bay window dominates front facade.

C 43. Genatus May House, 1913. 315 East Nash Street. More classical in design and complicated in overall form than its counterpart to the east (317 Nash Street), this handsome and well-preserved cottage is strongly influenced by the Queen Anne style. It features a variety of asymmetrically-arranged wings, a dormer placed off-center, and wraparound porch. Its ornamentation, however, is restrained and strongly classical. Note, for

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example, the Corinthian columns and dentiled cornice that surround the porch, and the elliptical window in the front-facing pedimented gable. The roof has slate shingles rather than the far more common metal covering of the period, and is treated with finials at the peaks of the gables and central hip. The interior is intact, featuring richly carved mantels in the principal rooms and mirrored over-mantels in the dining and living rooms.

N43a The house was built in 1913 by J. L. Cornwell, who sold it the same year to merchant Genatus May. Set to the rear of the spacious one-acre lot is an early twentieth-century frame building now used as an antique store. It was moved onto the site by the present owners, and is therefore considered noncontributing.

C 44. William B. Wheless House, 1908. 317 East Nash Street. Built in 1908, the Wheless residence is one of two excellent double-pile, hip-roofed cottages located side-by-side on Nash Street. Its traditional form is clearly visible behind the Queen Anne facade. Characteristic of that style are the front-facing wing and turned-post, wraparound porch. The irregularly-placed wing features delicate sawnwork in its gable roof, a decorative attic window, and a cutaway bay.

The interior is also influenced by the Queen Anne. The four principal rooms include handsome mantels individually enriched with carved ornamentation, free-standing turned posts, and mirrored and bracketed mantels.

C44a. Like the Genatus May House to the west, the builder of this handsome dwelling was J. L. Cornwell, who then sold his investment to William B. Wheless. Like Mr. May, Wheless purchased the house for \$3,250. Listed in the 1900 U. S. Census as a "salesman," Wheless also raised dairy cows. At the rear of the large, one-acre lot is a gable-roofed outbuilding that might have been used as a small dairy.

45. Vacant lot

C 46. T. B. Hollingsworth House, c. 1900. East Nash Street. This triple-A cottage was remodeled with tapered, bungalow-style porch columns and a port-cochere during the 1920s. It is one of many turn-of-the-century cottages along Nash Street that were transformed into semi-bungalows between 1920 and 1930. On the Hollingsworth House, not only was the porch modified, but windows were also remodeled and enlarged. The new emphasis was on clean lines and abundant fenestration rather than intricate surface ornamentation.

T. B. Hollingsworth, an early occupant, directed a funeral home in Spring Hope. He was probably responsible for remodeling the house.

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N 47. House, c. 1970. 509 East Nash Street. This one-story, brick-clad ranch-style house has a frame addition on the east gable end and a central chimney.

N 48. House, c. 1970. 511 East Nash Street. This one-story, brick-faced ranch-style house is a duplicate of the house at 509 East Nash, but without the side addition.

C 49. R. I. Mitchell Tenant House, c. 1900. 513 East Nash Street. This dwelling neatly represents the two-room house type in Nash County. It includes a rear shed extension that provides additional living space, and a shed-roofed front porch. The porch is supported by bracketed spindle posts. The sidelights around the entry are rare for two-room houses and allows light into the small foyer. The windows have plain surrounds and four-over-four sash. Variations of this house plan and style appeared throughout the county in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. They were built for small farmers and their tenants, as well as for small-town clerks and laborers.

The original occupant of this house is not known. However, in the early twentieth century it housed tenants who worked for the R. I. Mitchell Lumber Company, located across the highway.

C 50. Railroad Bridge, c. 1925. Railroad Street at Bridge Street. Nash County's only railroad footbridge, this metal truss structure allowed school children to cross the railroad tracks on their way to school. The bridge joins Railroad Street with Branch Street at the east end of the historic district. Four iron columns with braces support the structure.

51. Vacant lot

N 52. Office Building, c. 1950. 124 West Railroad Street. This cinder-block, one-story building has a gable-front form masked by a brick false front. It is two bays wide and three bays deep.

N 53. Spring Hope Municipal Building, 1948. West Railroad Street. Valentine Construction Company erected this one-story, brick structure. The shaped-parapet roofline caps a four-bay-wide facade, including two bays for fire engines and emergency vehicles.

N 54. Office Building, c. 1950. 112 West Railroad Street. This one-story, brick building is three bays wide

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and six bays deep. The center door is flanked by shuttered eight-pane windows. The roofline is flat.

C 55. Show Side Grill, c. 1900. Northeast corner of North Pine and Railroad streets. This one-story brick commercial building today incorporates three early twentieth-century storefronts facing Pine Street. Original brick corbelling, dentils, and panels survive on the upper half and vary from bay to bay. The storefront bays are divided by heavy piers. Doctors' offices and a blacksmith shop, it is said, at one time operated out of the Pine Street storefronts. The facade at the corner contained a drugstore.

56. Parking lot

N 57. Meat Locker, c. 1950. 113 Railroad Street. This one-story, six-bay, brick structure has a concrete coping and short, corbelled smokestack.

C 58. (Former) May's General Merchandise, c. 1905. 115 Railroad Street. Distinctive curved brackets and tall iron columns mark the facade of this commercial building. The brackets support a broad wooden cornice. Beneath the cornice, two iron columns frame the original recessed entry. The expanses of glass and wide transom have been boarded, but the original shopfront elements are intact. A heavy recessed name panel spans the upper part of the facade. The brick has been stuccoed and painted. Originally, this 25-by-150-foot building is said to have been part of T. C. May's General Merchandise establishment. May was one of Spring Hope's first major retailers.

59. Vacant lot

C 60. House, c. 1900. 209 Railroad Street. A full six bays wide, this unusual triple-A cottage may have resulted from the joining of two three-bay dwellings. However, there is no clear evidence of this on the exterior, which features an engaged front porch and center gable with a diamond-shaped vent. The porch includes turned posts with decorative sawnwork and an intact lathe-turned balustrade. Six-over-six windows are also intact. A one-story ell extends to the rear. Tall oaks and magnolia trees shade the front yard. The interior retains simple post-and-lintel mantels and tongue-and-groove wainscot in the left front room.

C 61. Edwards-Wilson House, c. 1900, 215 Railroad Street. The most prominent house on Railroad Street,

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this large Queen Anne I house was built by Dr. William Edwards, a Spring Hope physician. The residence includes a massive wraparound porch with turned balusters and pairs of classical columns set on brick piers. The full two-story rear wing with one- and two-story lateral projections more than doubles the amount of living space. Like most Spring Hope houses built around the turn of the century, the Dr. Edwards residence features restrained Queen Anne styling. There is little applied ornamentation.

The dwelling does include, however, a decorative lancet attic vent in each gable, a cutaway bay window in one of the side wings, and a front door with incised decorative detailing surrounded by sidelights and transom. The interior of the house includes paneled wainscot in the central hall, where an open-string staircase ascends from back to front. The mantels in the two front rooms feature mirrored overmantels and Ionic colonettes.

Dr. William Edwards of nearby Peachtree built this house at the turn of the century. Opie Edwards, the doctor's son, occupied this dwelling for many years. He was a druggist in town. The house subsequently was sold and divided into apartments. Recently, it was acquired by Barry and Lynn Wilson who have restored the house.

C 62. Cornelius Stallings House, c. 1900. 221 Railroad Street. This triple-A cottage retains original gable returns and single-shoulder chimneys on the gable ends. These common-bond chimneys have been stuccoed. Original sidelights frame the center entry, and paired windows on the facade have simple, moulded lintels. The original front veranda, however, has been replaced by a small gable-roofed entry porch with turned posts. Notable is the rear kitchen wing that stands parallel to the main house, joined by a bedroom and dining room ell. This rear kitchen has flush eaves, contrasting the deep, moulded eaves of the triple-A portion. Cornelius Stallings took occupancy of this house in the early years of the twentieth century. Stallings was employed as a mail carrier in Spring Hope.

C 63. House, c. 1900. 223 Railroad Street. Sidelights and transom decorate the entry of this typical triple-A cottage. Though aluminum-sided, the dwelling features original six-over-six windows with simple mouldings, and a common-bond stepped-shoulder chimney on the west gable end. The kitchen wing was built separate from the main body of the house, connected in traditional fashion by a breezeway. This breezeway has been enclosed and subsequent additions made at the rear. Two original brick chimney stacks pierce the roof of the kitchen. The house follows a basic two-room, central-hall plan.

N 64. House, c. 1975, 225 Railroad Street. This one-story frame ranch house has a carport on the west side

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and a small porch on the east. It is capped by a low hip roof.

C 65. Bonnie Lamm House, c. 1900. 301 Railroad Street. This triple-A cottage includes a hip-roofed front porch with chamfered posts and sections of a cut-out balustrade. The center gable is decorated with scrolled millwork and an oval vent. A simple doorway opens into a central hall. The low pitched gable roof is trimmed with a wide frieze, though the gable ends are unadorned. Two rear ells create a U-plan and more than double the amount of living space. A kitchen appendage extends from the wing on the east side. Original six-over-six windows survive, capped by flat lintels. Bonnie Lamm was employed as a night watchman for a building supply company in Spring Hope.

C 66. S. P. Lamm Tenant House, c. 1900. 305 Railroad Street. The only L-plan dwelling on a street lined with triple-A cottages, this house retains striking millwork in the two front-facing gables. This sawnwork comprises spindles and curvilinear patterns reflecting the vernacular Queen Anne style. The remainder of the house is simple, though a cutaway bay accents the front-facing wing. This bay now includes a separate door. The hip-roofed porch features an entry gable and square columns, which probably replaced turned posts. To the rear is a two-room ell. The windows have all been modernized or weatherboarded. The interior is also primarily a product of the postwar era, but an original mantel with Doric columns survives in the west front room.

C 67. House, c. 1900. 309 Railroad Street. An exceptionally steep-pitched center gable distinguishes this triple-A cottage from the others along Railroad Street. Embellished with a diamond-shaped vent, the gable suggests the Gothic Revival roots of this house type. Although remodeled and aluminum-sided, the house retains original single-shoulder chimneys on the gable ends. The hip-roofed front porch has square columns and the main door and windows have been modernized. Shed-and gable-roofed wings extend to the rear.

C 68. Elmo Lamm House, c. 1900. 311 Railroad Street. This triple-A cottage remains largely intact. Cornice returns decorate the gables, patterned wood shingles and a diamond-shape vent embellish the center gable, and turned posts span the shed-roofed porch. Six-over-six windows surround the facade.

In 1899, hardware merchant S. P. Lamm built this house as rental property. In 1921, this dwelling the three other triple-A cottages owned by Lamm were sold to Sadie E. Morgan for \$4,800. Elmo Lamm, an insurance agent, occupied this house for many years until the 1950s.

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C 69. House, c. 1900. 315 Railroad Street. This triple-A cottage has a hip-roofed porch, six-over-six windows with simple, flat lintels, and patterned-wood shingles in the center gable. The porch was remodeled in the 1940s with tapered posts on brick piers. A two-room rear ell extends from the east side and includes the kitchen in the back room. This dwelling, like many such triple-A designs in the neighborhood, was probably built by speculator S. P. Lamm. A contributing frame auto garage (c. 1930) is located behind the house.

C 70. House, c. 1900. 317 Railroad Street. This typical one-story, triple-A cottage has narrow four-over-four windows and a shed-roofed porch. The original turned posts have been replaced by functional square supports. The center gable is embellished with patterned wood shingles. A two-room ell extends to the rear.

C 71. House, c. 1900. 321 Railroad Street. Typifying Spring Hope's triple-A cottages, this dwelling has a shed-roofed porch, two-room rear ell, and a corbelled chimney at the junction of the wing and main body of the house. The porch has wrought-iron supports. Narrow four-over-four windows survive intact.

C 72. John Lucien Barbee House, c. 1915. 403 Railroad Street. Although abandoned and deteriorating, this L-plan cottage retains numerous original elements. Reflecting the vernacular Queen Anne style are the patterned wood shingles in the front-facing gable, curvilinear sawnwork around the screen door and roof gables, and small panes of colored and frosted glass in the front door. Typical of middle-class dwellings in Spring Hope built in the 1910s, the porch has classical columns. The interior retains five-paned doors, tongue-and-groove wainscot and ceilings, and decorative mantels with brackets and reeded pilasters.

Barbee played an important role in the town's early development. A cotton gin and sawmill operator from Battleboro, he helped operate Webb's Mill near Spring Hope and is said to have been responsible for expanding the mill house.

C 73. Ted Green House, c. 1890, 140 Raleigh Street. This triple-A cottage features one of the most ornate front porches in Spring Hope. The porch has thick, lathe-turned posts, a turned balustrade, and an elaborate cutout frieze. Above the porch, the center gable is embellished with scalloped wood shingles. The interior has mantels in the two principal rooms with chamfered pilasters and arched fire openings. The doors have reeded surrounds. The abundant ornamentation suggests that the dwelling was built for a middle-class occupant, and in the early twentieth century this house was occupied by Ted Green, an engineer for Montgomery Lumber Company.

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C 74. Culpepper-Delbridge House, c. 1890. Raleigh Street. This two-story, frame dwelling is one of three late nineteenth-century I houses on West Main Street. Like the other two, it was built by an early Spring Hope merchant. Culpepper operated a general merchandise store. The three-bay, gable-roofed form follows a central-hall plan with a one-story, two-room ell to the rear. The facade has six-over-six windows with simple moulded lintels, and are paired on the first floor. The roof is trimmed by a wide frieze and heavy moulded cornice that return on the gable ends. The original brick end chimneys were replaced, probably after World War I, by interior end chimneys with exposed faces. Chamfered posts support the hip-roofed front porch. The interior has an opening stair with slender turned balusters and newel. Mantels with chamfered pilasters survive in the two principal first-floor rooms.

C 75. Taylor House, c. 1900; remodeled c. 1916. 406 Raleigh Street. This story-and-a-half, double-pile house is capped by a high hip roof. Patterned tin shingles dress the main roof as well as the hip roof of the wraparound porch. The gable-roofed kitchen wing is joined to the rear ell of the house by an enclosed breezeway. Functional square posts support the porch, which originally probably had turned posts. The original dwelling, with a two-room, central-hall plan, was built by T. C. May for his daughter, Mary Eliza. Her husband, a Taylor, was employed as a nightwatchman at the nearby cotton seed oil mill. The house was expanded and remodeled about 1916.

C 76. Commercial Building, c. 1905. 101 West Main Street. Although the lower section of this one-story facade has been modernized, the upper part is largely intact. Typical of the storefronts of this period in Spring Hope, it features a decorative pressed metal cornice over the display windows and transom (now covered), and brick corbelling along the flat roof line. Originally a clothing store, this 25-foot-wide commercial building later served as a grocery owned by Percy Pitts.

C 77. Commercial Building, c. 1905. 105 West Main Street. This typical Main Street storefront retains numerous original elements. Brick corbelling embellishes the roof line and a pressed-metal cornice extends above the transom. The original brick bulkhead is also intact, though the large transom has been covered in metal sheathing. The interior has been modernized. A grocery may have operated here originally, and later B. C. Delbridge ran his clothing in this one-story structure.

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C 78. (Former) Spivey's General Merchandise Store, c. 1906. 107-109 West Main Street. Between 1906 and 1910, Joseph J. Spivey established a general merchandise store in this one-story brick building. Incorporating two 20-foot-wide storefront bays, Spivey's enterprise sold clothing and dry goods on the east side and groceries and crockery on the west. Typical of numerous commercial buildings in Spring Hope, the facade features a heavy pressed-metal cornice. Beneath the metal cornice the two storefronts have original iron columns and setback designs, though the bulkhead on the west bay has been remodeled. The transoms above the display windows also have been modernized with corrugated metal veneers, a standard post-World War II feature typically accompanied by metal soffits and awnings, also visible here. Above the cornice are corbelled brick panels for the name of the business, as well as a course of bold brick dentils, which distinguishes this facade from other one-story facades in the business district.

C 79. (Former) Lamm's Hardware Store, c. 1908. 111 West Main Street. One of three two-story buildings erected on Main Street around 1908, this structure has one of Spring Hope's most stylish commercial facades. The ground floor was originally occupied by hardware merchant, Sidney P. Lamm. The separate entrance in the west bay led to a lodge hall upstairs, where dances were also held. The first floor remained a hardware business until the 1970s, when it assumed the present function as an auto parts store. The ground-floor has large areas reserved for display windows and a decorative pressed-metal cornice. The round-arched doorway on the west side blends nicely with the adjacent arcaded facade of the former bank. The brick beltcourses across the first floor continue along the second, giving the two-story facade a unified design. Similar to the Finch Building on the west end of Main Street, the second story is divided into three equal parts by brick piers. Each section includes a segmental-arched window with original four-over-four sash beneath a vent of similar shape.

C 80. (Former) Citizens Bank, 1908. 115-117 West Main Street. In 1908, the Citizens Bank opened for business on Main Street. As in many small towns, the new bank building featured the most stylish facade in the business district. The building's crisply defined metal cornice, several feet below a brick parapet, crowns a Neo-Classical facade. Characteristic of the style are the pairs of Ionic pilasters that flank four segmental-arched windows. The arcaded first floor features three keystone-arched openings supported by thick square brick columns. The bank closed at this location in 1961. In that year it was moved north across the railroad tracks to North Pine Street. Here, it now occupies a modern facility with more convenient parking and drive-through service.

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N 81. Commercial Building, c. 1960. 119-123 West Main Street. This one-story brick structure has a stepped-pediment roof with concrete coping. The plain facade has three doorways leading to individual offices.

C 82. Finch Building, c. 1908. 127 West Main Street. About 1908, prominent landowner and entrepreneur Nathaniel Finch erected Spring Hope's largest commercial building. Occupying a 60-foot-wide lot on the southeast corner of Main and Ash streets, this two-story building was divided originally into three 20-foot-wide stores. The 1911 Sanborn Map indicates a drugstore in the west corner bay of the Finch Building, a general merchandise store in the middle, and a restaurant in the east bay. The upper floor originally was used for storage and office space, notably T. H. Hester's photographic studio. Here, the three bays are clearly defined by slightly projecting brick piers that separate sets of three segmented-arched windows. The metal cornice is accented by dentils and modillions.

Whereas the second story reflects popular turn-of-the-century elements of design, the ground floor illustrates the tastes and merchandising needs of the post-World War II era in Spring Hope. During the 1950s the building was unified into Hathaway's Department Store, whose name was carried across the facade in huge letters impressed on a modern structural-glass surface. A bright metal veneer was applied over the brick storefront bays, and once-enclosed display windows were remodeled to allow full view of the store's interior. The objective of the fact lift was to promote business through a progressive image, easy store identification, and better merchandise visibility.

C 83. (Former) Filling Station, c. 1925. Southwest corner West Main and Nash streets. One of two "box-and-canopy" filling stations in Spring Hope's business district, this structure retains its original tile roof. The pump canopy, however, is now partly concealed for use as a car wash. An addition on the south side reflects the station's expansion after World War II, when the business began repairing automobiles as well as pumping gasoline. Like its counterpart on the other side of the business district, this brick-veneered structure was built by Albert May.

C 84. Vintage Tin Automotive, c. 1910. 207 West Main street. Typical of small industrial buildings of the early 1900s, this two-story brick structure features segmental-arched windows and doorways. Simple brick corbelling trims the flat roof line, and recessed name panels are evident above the second-story windows. Erected for industrial uses at the west end of Main Street, this building comprises three equal sections, each with a separate entry. Today, an auto restoration business operates here.

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N 85. American Sportswear Building, c. 1960. Southeast corner West Main and South Poplar streets. This one-story brick structure has a seven-bay, gable-end facade. It is nine bays deep.

N 86. House, c. 1970. 303 West Main Street. This one-story, brick, ranch-style house has simple Colonial detailing around the center entrance and cornice.

C 87. Cone-Brantley House, 1887. West Main Street. In the late 1880s, merchant and landowner T.C. May built four houses on the west end of Main Street. The Cone-Brantley House, the eastern-most of May's constructions, was acquired shortly after its completion by Bertis Cone, an early Spring Hope merchant.

The house illustrates the traditional I-house form adapted to the Italianate style. Typical of the Italianate are the long paired windows that are floor-to-ceiling on the first floor, heavily moulded window crowns, bracketed eaves, and bay window. The original porch featured chamfered columns with bracketed column caps, also characteristic elements of the style. The house includes a large rear ell, nearly the size of the main block, with a two-tier porch almost entirely covered in latticework. A one-story kitchen still exists and is connected to the rear wing by a small porch. The kitchen is a gable-roofed structure decorated with simple gable returns. The interior includes mantels in the two principal first-floor rooms with chamfered pilasters and arched fire openings. The open-string stair in the central hall has slender turned balusters and newel.

In 1919, the residence was acquired by Cornelius Brantley, a bookkeeper for the Spring Hope Cotton Oil Company. The house remains in the Brantley family.

C 88. S. E. May House, c. 1889. 321 West Main Street. This basic two-room, central-hall house was built by leading Spring Hope resident T. C. May for his son S. E. May. Whereas the one-story, three-bay, frame form is intact, the exterior and interior were largely remodeled in 1939. In that year the porch was removed and Colonial millwork applied to the entry. To the rear of the house the original two-room kitchen with gable returns survives. S. E. May was a cashier in the Citizens Bank on Main Street.

C 89. T. C. May House, c. 1887. 401 West Main Street. One of Spring Hope's leading early merchants and landowners, T. C. May built this two-story, frame house. May was a general merchant in town, as well as a prominent farmer, owning land to the west of the community. The house he built asserted his high social standing. It is a three-bay, gable-roofed, I house with a central hall. Sidelights frame the main entry and single-shoulder brick chimneys are on the gable ends. Originally, a two-story ell with a two-tier porch extended to the

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rear. Subsequent remodelings have stripped away early interior and exterior decoration and reduced the rear wing to one story. It is said that the original style resembled the Italianate-inspired doors on the house to the east. May built that residence as well.

C 90. Oliver May House, c. 1889. 409 West Main Street. The western-most of four dwellings built by T. C. May on Main Street, this one-story, frame house was first occupied by May's son Oliver. It is a triple-A cottage with a hip-roofed porch and two-over-two windows with flat lintels. Shingle-shoulder, common-bond brick chimneys flank the form, and a one-room ell extends to the rear. Wrought-iron posts now support the porch roof and the weatherboarding covered by aluminum siding. As with the S. E. May House (321 West Main), a two-room, gable-roofed kitchen stands to the back of the dwelling, now joined by an enclosed breezeway. Oliver May, S. E. May's brother, was employed in his father's general merchandise establishment.

C 91. (Former) Wilmington and Weldon Railroad Depot, c. 1887. Main Street. The nucleus of Spring Hope's business district and the clearest symbol of the railroad's integral role in the town's history, the railroad depot is perhaps the community's most historically significant structure. It was built about 1887 as a freight and passenger station for the Wilmington-Weldon Railroad. Originally it featured a platform that encircled the entire structure; today only the north platform, which faces the tracks, remains. A 60-foot cotton platform once stood on the east side, a testimony to Spring Hope's role as the largest inland cotton market in North Carolina in 1910. The platform disappeared, however, with the decline of the crop and the rise of tobacco during the second decade of the twentieth century.

These changes notwithstanding, the depot's exterior has retained much of its original appearance, including distinctive board-and-batten siding, overhanging eaves to protect passengers and goods from inclement weather, and a bay window to allow the station agent a clear view of the tracks in both directions.

For many years the depot handled two passenger trains daily, which arrived at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. However, by the 1960s, the railroad (which was then owned by the Atlantic Coast Line) provided only freight service on a car-load scale, three days per week. The Atlantic Coast Line vacated the building in the 1970s and gave it to the town. The depot now houses the Spring Hope Library and the offices of the Nash County Railroad.

C 92. George W. Bunn House, c. 1890. Bunn Lane. One of Spring Hope's older surviving houses, this triple-A cottage retains a host of original elements. The hip-roofed porch has a spindlework frieze, chamfered posts, and turned balustrade. The center gable is embellished with lacy sawnwork. Six-over-six windows with simple

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moulded lintels surround the form. A rear kitchen is situated parallel to the main body of the house, joined by an enclosed breeze-way. A single-shoulder, brick chimney is located on the west gable end. George W. Bunn was an early local dry goods merchant. In 1908, he moved from this dwelling into a larger, two-story house on the east end of Branch Street.

N 93. House, c. 1915; remodeled c. 1970. Northwest corner Bunn Lane and South Walnut Street. This aluminum-sided, one-story house has a door on the gable end facing South Walnut Street. The door was moved from its original placement facing Bunn Lane in the early 1970s when other original exterior features were stripped away and the interior modernized.

C 94. House, c. 1915. Bunn Lane. This one-story, L-plan house is distinguished by a cutaway bay in the front-facing wing, and two front-facing gables. The gables feature decorative vents. The hip-roofed front porch has wrought-iron supports, that replaced the original turned posts. The dwelling has aluminum siding.

C 95. House, c. 1900. Bunn Lane. A variety of original elements are intact on this triple-A cottage. The shed-roofed porch has pairs of slender shafts with decorative sawnwork. The front-facing gable includes patterned wood shingles and a pendant. Round-arched windows highlight the front door. The basic two-room, central-hall plan includes a rear kitchen and bedroom ell. The house also retains original six-over-six windows with flat lintels. The interior features a chamfered mantel in the west front room, and five-panel doors throughout.

C 96. House, c. 1910. Bunn Lane. One of two exemplary triple-A cottages in a row (and one of three along Bunn Lane), this dwelling features a turned-post porch. The thick posts support a shed roof. The center gable is C96a unadorned. A two-room ell and smaller shed-roofed appendages extend to the rear. A contributing frame 1920s auto garage with storage shed stands to the back of the lot.

C 97. House, c. 1912. Bunn Lane. This basic L-plan cottage retains the original interior chimney with a corbelled cap, and six-over-six windows with flat lintels. The porch, however, has been remodeled and aluminum siding applied throughout the exterior.

C 98. Alex Yarborough House, c. 1910. 412 East Branch Street. This house is the simplest of five imposing Neo-Classical Revival dwellings in Spring Hope. The two-story, double-pile, hip-roofed design includes a two-

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tier entry porch and one-story wraparound veranda, both with classical columns. The roof is pierced with two corbelled brick chimney stacks and capped by iron cresting. A one-story service wing extends to the rear. The interior is highlighted by outstanding mantels in the twin parlors, featuring Ionic colonettes and mirrored over-mantels.

Located at the east end of Branch Street, where a number of Spring Hope's early merchants built their homes, this dwelling was first occupied by Alex Yarborough. Yarborough operated a drugstore in the business district.

C 99. John Branch Hendricks House, c. 1887; remodeled and expanded c. 1910. 406 East Branch Street. Considered the oldest dwelling in Spring Hope, this house has been enlarged, remodeled, and repositioned over the years. It was built by John Branch Hendricks, who lived here with son, Nev, before the town was established. Hendricks owned a great deal of land in what is today the business district and east end of town.

The original house was a two-room, central-hall dwelling that faced First Street. In the early twentieth century, the house was purchased by Al Tunnel, a local merchant, who turned it 180 degrees to face Branch Street, where a number of new houses were being constructed. Over time, the dwelling acquired rear ells and gabled roofed dormers. The shingle-shoulder end chimneys with corbelled brick caps are original.

C 100. George W. Bunn House, 1908. East Branch Street. In 1908, George W. Bunn, owner of a general merchandise store in Spring Hope, moved from his one-story dwelling near the business district into this Queen Anne residence atop Branch Street. It was one of three prominent houses erected about this time on the east end of Branch, each owned by a local merchant. The dwelling's most striking element is the conical-roofed porch gazebo, perhaps inspired by the one on the W. W. Richardson House, built a decade before at the west end of the street. The porch also has classical posts and a turned balustrade. Lunettes decorate the roof gables that project at right angles from a high hipped central mass. The house remained in the Bunn family until about the 1960s, when it was converted into three apartments.

C 101. House, c. 1905. East Branch Street. A two-tier porch dominates the facade of this L-plan house. The porch has been altered but retain original turned balusters. The posts are square. Two-over-two windows surround the form. A kitchen wing extends to the rear. The partly remodeled interior has tongue-and-groove wainscot in the central hall, where an open-stair includes turned balusters and newel.

C 102. House, c. 1905. 316 East Branch Street. One of three L-plan cottages in a row on East Branch, this

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dwelling includes a shed-roofed porch extending across the three-bay facade. The porch has tapered supports that probably replaced original turned posts. Single and paired one-over-one windows surround the form. A two-room ell extends to the rear. The back of the lot has a non-contributing metal-veneered garage, built about 1950.

C 103. House, c. 1915. 314 East Branch Street. A typical L-plan cottage, this dwelling has a shed-roofed porch with tapered posts on brick piers. It is one of four L-plan cottages on East Branch, and three in a row. A contributing hip-roofed garage with exposed rafters stands at the rear of the property.

C 104. Ben Morgan House, c. 1900. 310 East Branch Street. This frame L-plan cottage is one of three in a row. The shed-roofed porch has square posts and a match-stick balustrade. Windows have original two-over-two sash. Decorative pressed-tin shingles adorn the roof, rare for Spring Hope. Businessman Ben Morgan built the house. He was a proprietor of the Spring Hope Grocery Company. Morgan subsequently moved into a larger, two-story house on Hopkins Avenue.

N 105. House, c. 1950. 308 East Branch Street. This story-and-a-half brick-clad house has a colonialized entry with a curved pediment, and a gable-roofed dormer. The form is L-shaped and an engaged porch is located at west side.

C 106. House, c. 1905. 300 East Branch Street. Although now veneered in brick, this triple-A cottage has a number of distinctive original elements. The center roof gable has patterned wood shingles and a round-arched vent. The shed-roofed porch includes turned posts and balusters and decorative sawnwork. The interior has been modernized.

N 107. House, c. 1975. 224 East Branch Street. This one-story, brick-veneered house is six bays wide and has stock Colonial Revival millwork around recessed entry.

C 108. House, c. 1915. 220 East Branch Street. This relatively late example of the two-room, central-hall house has a bungalow-style porch with sturdy tapered posts on brick piers. The paired windows on the front facade have two-over-two sash and flat lintels with simple mouldings. In addition to the rear ell, this house includes a kitchen wing set parallel to the main body of the dwelling. Gable returns dress the form.

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N 109. House, c. 1980. 214 East Branch Street. This one-story, brick-clad ranch-style house has a carport on the east elevation and entry stoop.

N 110. House, c. 1980. 212 East Branch Street. This one-story, frame cottage has a gable-roofed porch centered on the three-bay facade.

C 111. Dr. Samuel Baines Dew House, c. 1900. 208 East Branch Street. Shaded by a large oak tree at the west end of Branch Street, this frame I house is distinguished by a decorative center gable, a bracketed, turned-post porch, and a front-facing wing with a separate entrance onto the porch. Dr. Dew, a physician, used this gable-front wing for his office. Its well-conceived decoration complements the house's Queen Anne ornamentation and represents a successful solution to the problem of combining living and working spaces into one unified design. Dr. Dew also maintained an office behind Yarborough's drugstore on Pine Street.

C 112. (Former) United Methodist Church Parsonage, c. 1900. 206 East Branch Street. This triple-A cottage is distinguished by round-arched vents and patterned wood shingles in the three principal gables. The house follows a two-room, central-hall plan with a train of ells. Two-over-two windows flank the main entrance and paired windows are at the gable ends. All the window have simple mouldings. The hip-roofed porch has simple square posts that probably replaced turned posts. Herman Finch may have built this house before he moved into his large Neo-Classical Revival house on Walnut Street. The property was then acquired by the United Methodist Church on lot to the west and used as its parsonage.

C 113. Gibson Memorial United Methodist Church, 1910. Southeast corner East Branch and South Walnut streets. Like so many churches of the major denominations in small towns, Gibson Memorial United Methodist Church helps define the division between commercial and residential land uses. It is a buffer between the business district to the west (supermarket, post office, municipal parking) and tree-shaded streets moving south and east. Its pivotal location aside, this structure stands as a fine example of early twentieth-century Gothic Revival architecture. Built in 1910 (soon after the First Baptist Church, located on the northeast corner of the commercial district), it is distinguished by a variety of decorative elements executed in a range of materials, brick, granite, slate, metal, and glass. The masonry facade features pointed-arched, stained-glass windows outlined with moulded brick. Moulded and incised tin parapets capped by finials beautifully accent the double

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towers on the west side. These square towers, the taller one serving as the principal entrance to the church, also feature patterned-slate shingles above the roof lines. Scalloped shingles embellish several of the roof gables as well. Rough-faced ashlar stone is used in the window sill as well as in the trim of the buttress on the building's east side.

The Gothic Revival style is echoed on the interior where pointed-arched entranceways separate the sanctuary from the chapel and enframe the chancel. The sanctuary is also a wonderful combination of white plaster walls set against stained-glass windows and deep brown oaken pews.

The Gibson Memorial edifice is the latest of three Methodist churches erected in Spring Hope. The first was located in a community building that the Methodists shared with the Baptists in the 1890s. The second, located at the southwest corner of Nash and Pine streets, was destroyed by fire in 1908. The name Gibson Memorial refers to the church's second pastor, J. W. Gibson, who died of tuberculosis in 1931.

The major addition to the structure has been the educational building on the south side. The wing was constructed in the Tudor Revival style during the 1950s.

C 114. Timberlake-Griffin House, c. 1895. Southwest corner of South Walnut and West Branch streets. This handsome two-story house includes a two-tier porch and well-executed Queen Anne elements. The gable roof has a fashionable center gable and moulded cornice returns. On the east elevation, a bay window provides a stylish, asymmetrical touch to the otherwise balanced central-hall plan. The facade, which today is deeply shaded by mature trees, is embellished with chamfered and bracketed porch posts and lathe-turned balusters. Paired single-pane windows offer light into the front room. The interior typifies a middle-class Queen Anne house in Spring Hope. Doors have reeded surrounds with corner blocks, and mantels in the two principal first-floor rooms have Ionic colonettes. Upper floor mantels have chamfered pilasters. The shaded walkway leading to the main entrance is paved with embossed bricks.

Situated across from the Gibson Methodist Church, at the southeast edge of the commercial district, the house occupies a pivotal location in town. Its distinguished architecture beneath a magnolia canopy marks the beginning of a handsome residential district on the town's southeast side.

The dwelling was built in the 1890s by J. P. Timberlake, who also used the structure as a hotel. In 1905, it was acquired by merchant W. H. Griffin. Griffin operated a grocery one block west.

N 115. House, c. 1950. 108 East Branch Street. This story-and-a-half brick cottage has an L-shaped form and a carport on the east gable end. A gable-roofed dormer pierces the roof.

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N 116. People's Bank, c. 1975. Southeast corner East Branch and South Pine streets. This story-and-a-half, gable-roofed brick building has stock Colonial Revival detail around entry and cornice and a porte-cochere for drive-through banking on the east side.

N 117. Filling Station, c. 1975. Northeast corner South Pine and West Branch streets. This one-story, cinder-block box has a separate pump canopy.

N 118. Office Building, c. 1965. East Branch Street. This one-bay, brick-faced, cinder-block building has a center doorway framed by large plate-glass windows.

N 119. United States Post Office, c. 1970. East Branch Street. This one-story, brick veneered structure has a simple square form. It typifies post office buildings of the period. The Post Office does not own this building, but is a tenant.

C 120. Griffin-Stallings House, c. 1900. 209 East Branch Street. This dwelling exemplifies the two-room, central-hall house type. It has gable returns, a double-door entrance, and a hip-roofed porch with turned posts and balustrade. To the rear area train of wings containing a bedroom, dining room, and kitchen.

Broadus Griffin, Spring Hope born but a Raleigh resident in the early twentieth century, probably erected the dwelling for his sister and mother who lived here for many years. Around 1930, Norman Stallings acquired the property. Stallings operated a trucking express business in Spring Hope. Annie Stallings, wife of Norman, resides in the house today.

C 121. Dr. Julian Brantley House, c. 1900; remodeled c. 1925. 211 East Branch Street. This side-gable bungalow resulted from the remodeling and expansion of a two-room, central-hall dwelling. The remodeling was undertaken in the 1920s by Dr. Julian Brantley, son of noted Spring Hope physician, Hassell Brantley. Typical of this popular bungalow design, the house has broad eaves with exposed rafters and an engaged porch with tapered posts on brick piers. A contributing hip-roofed garage stands to the rear of the lot.

N 122. House, c. 1960. 215 East Branch Street. This one-story, brick-clad dwelling incorporates a c. 1900 dwelling. The original house faced north toward the Nashville Road. The present structure includes a rich Colonial Revival doorway with stock pilasters and dentiled cornice.

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C 123. Bluford Brantley House, 1894. 221 East Branch Street. Originally a two-room, central-hall house, this dwelling was expanded in 1894 when Bluford Brantley added the present I-house portion. Influenced by the Neo-Classical Revival style, the residence features a pedimented central pavilion treated with a lunette, as well as lunettes in both of the pedimented side gables. A gable-roofed porch entry with a wide, moulded entablature and groupings of Tuscan columns also reflect the classical theme. The prominent wraparound porch remains intact, with classical columns and a turned balustrade. The interior includes a paneled, closed-string stairway in the hallway, which begins one room deep and runs along the rear ell. Mantels in the two principal rooms have mirrored overmantels. In the left (west) front room, the oval mirror above the fireplace is flanked by slender turned posts that support a second mantel shelf.

A merchant, Brantley built this house along the Nashville Road (now Bunn Lane) that once skirted south past the house. Large oaks fill the broad front lawn. The Brantley House is the easternmost of three two-story houses in a row on Branch Street, all of them set about one hundred feet back from the street and shaded by mature trees.

C 124. Dr. Hassell Brantley House, c. 1894. 225 East Branch Street. The first of three elegant houses built by Dr. Hassell Brantley, Spring Hope physician, this Branch Street residence is highlighted by an elaborately decorated Queen Anne porch. The porch has heavy lathe-turned posts, intricately carved and incised brackets, a millwork frieze, and cut-out balustrade. The shed-roofed porch is capped by a pedimented entranceway.

The house's two-story L-shaped form is a departure from the more common symmetrical, two-story, side-gable shape (the traditional I house). Note the front-facing gable in the lateral wing, which is a design theme repeated on several one-story, cross-gable cottages in town. The bracketed cornice and double-arched vented window, however, are details found only on the Brantley residence.

The interior of the house has an open-string stairway with slender turned balusters and a chamfered newel. Chamfered pilasters mark the dwelling's mantels, except for one in the first-floor bedroom, which has brackets and colonettes. The doorways feature reeded surrounds and bull's-eye corner blocks.

Dr. Brantley erected the dwelling between 1893 and 1894 upon his return from Bucklin, Missouri, where he had resided and practiced medicine since 1891. Brantley, it has been said, moved to Missouri for the reputed healing powers of the sulphur springs after his wife, Nannie (Taylor), had taken ill. Nannie died in 1892 and Brantley with his son, Julian, returned to Spring Hope. In 1903, however, the doctor and his second wife, Ida (Westry), would make their home in the country, only to return to town in 1910. In 1912, Brantley built the prestigious Neo-Classical Revival dwelling that stands at 301 Branch Street.

Located under a canopy of oak and magnolia trees, and set almost 100 feet back from the street, this first Dr.

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Brantley House is one of Spring Hope's premier late nineteenth-century residences. The well-executed style and luxuriant setting establish the architectural and aesthetic tone for the entire street.

C 125. Dr. Hassell Brantley House, c. 1912. 301 East Branch Street. ^[NR] Standing on a broad lawn, well back from the street, this residence highlights a group of distinctive late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century frame houses along Branch Street. Like the other three pillared Neo-Classical Revival houses in Spring Hope, it asserted high social standing during the town's tremendous growth between 1900 and 1915. Dr. Hassell Brantley, a local physician, built the dwelling about 1912. It was his second house in town, the first he had erected one door west in 1893-1894. State Representative Allen Barbee and his wife, Mabel, acquired the property in 1949 and reside here today.

The dwelling's prominent full-height, pedimented portico, fanlight, and Ionic columns are hallmarks of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The symmetrical front facade has one-over-one sash windows with plain lintels and simple mouldings. Interior end chimneys with corbelled stacks rise above the hip roof that is capped by a deck.

The entrance leads to a spacious central hall with two principal rooms on either side. An open-string staircase rises in three flights to the rear, and is the hall's main feature. The mantels in the first-floor rooms are impressive. Fluted Ionic colonettes support full dentilled entablatures, and a delicate egg-and-dart motif mantel embellishes each cornice beneath the mantel shelf. The dining room mantel is especially noteworthy. It consists of fluted Doric colonettes and heavy Doric entablature, including the full complement of triglyphs, metopes, and guttae. A simpler version of this mantel stands in the bedroom across the hall. The dining room is further distinguished by six-foot high wainscot consisting of two vertical ranges of recessed panels capped by moulding cut in a deep profile. Two rows of exposed square beams intersect the dining room ceiling.

The design of the Brantley House is attributed to John C. Stout, Rocky Mount's preeminent architect of this period. He designed almost identical Neo-Classical Revival dwellings in nearby Nashville (Bissette-Cooley House) as well as in Rocky Mount (James Keel House). This house was listed in the National Register in 1986.

C 125a. A contributing former smokehouse, later converted into a playhouse, stands at the rear of the lot.

C 126. Dr. Hassell Brantley Tenant House, c. 1893. 305 East Branch Street. This typical L-plan cottage is one of four on Branch Street. It has paired windows in the ell as well as in the front-facing wing. The windows have four-over-four sash, flat lintels, and simple mouldings. The hip-roofed porch has square posts and balusters,

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both added later. A kitchen wing extends to the rear.

It is said that Dr. Hassell Brantley lived here before occupying a two-story Queen Anne house (225 Branch). Rental property until the 1930s, the cottage was then acquired by John Pitts, a bank cashier.

C 127. Lamm-Tunnell House, c. 1910. 309 East Branch Street. This L-plan cottage has a blend of simple Neo-Classical and Queen Anne motifs. Lunettes embellishes the front-facing gables while a turned-post porch with matching balusters is carried across the facade. Paired and individual two-over-two windows surround the form. A kitchen ell extends to the rear. J. Wiley and Dollie (Vester) Lamm were the first occupants of the house. However, after Mr. Lamm's death, the property was transferred to Al Tunnell, who married Dollie. Tunnell operated a grocery in town. The Tunnells occupied the dwelling until the 1920s, when they moved into a two-story brick house on the east end of Branch Street.

C 128. House, c. 1910. 311 East Branch Street. This typical triple-A cottage has diagonal siding in the center gable and an entry gable on the hip-roofed porch. The porch posts are tapered columns set on brick piers. Paired six-over-six windows flank the main door that opens into a two-room, central-hall interior plan.

C 129. Joyner-Baker House, 1900. 315 East Branch Street. Displaying restrained Queen Anne elements, this two-story dwelling's major decorative features are the gable returns and wide frieze that follow the cornice around the roof line and the deep wraparound porch. The porch has functional square posts and balusters and a gabled entry. Windows have six-over-six sash and flat lintels. The house follows a basic L-plan with a rear kitchen wing. The interior has a simple Queen Anne finish. The central hall has tongue-and-groove wainscot and a closed-string stair with slender turned balusters and newel. The mantel in the parlor is the most impressive, with a mirrored overmantel, bracketed shelf, and tall Doric colonettes.

The house was built on East Branch by George Wright Joyner, taking its place in a growing line of middle-class and upper-middle-class residences on that tree-shaded street. During the 1930s, it was purchased by John R. Baker, who operated a livery stable in town.

C 130. Harris-Baines House, c. 1895. 321 East Branch Street. This triple-A I House typifies the early middle-class residence in Spring Hope. Cornice returns dress the gable ends and a hip-roofed porch spans the three-bay facade. The porch has slender turned posts and balusters. The main entrance is flanked by sidelights and leads into a central hall. Windows have six-over-six sash. Captain W. A. Harris, the first owner, was an employee of

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the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. His wife, Jennie, owned a millinery business. O. B. Baines acquired the property in the early 1900s. Baines operated a hardware store as well as a carriage works.

131. Vacant lot

C 132. Al Tunnell House, 1928. 329 East Branch Street. One of the two houses inspired by the Prairie-Bungalow style in Spring Hope, this dwelling displays such hallmarks of the style as a low hip roof, deep eaves, and simple two-story cubic form. The facade is dominated by a large porch and porte-cochere. Also typical of the Prairie-Bungalow style, the residence has a free-flowing interior plan. No entrance hall interferes with the relationship between living room and porch. A commodious living room encompasses the entire width of the house; and the stairway is conveniently located in the center of the plan, one room back from the entrance. Stylistically, the accent is on simple geometric forms rather than surface decoration and spatial complexity.

Al Tunnell, who formed and operated a grocery and feed store, built the house in 1928. He had previously resided in a small cottage several houses west on Branch Street.

C 133. Albert Bunn House, c. 1900. 331 East Branch Street. A typical turn-of-the-century triple-A house, this dwelling was erected by Albert Bunn, a Spring Hope merchant with the dry goods establishment Spivey, Bunn, and Mathews. The builder was a Mr. Taylor, who also constructed the G. W. Bunn residence across the street. The house features a diamond-shape vent in the center gable and patterned tin roof shingles. Originally built as a two-room, central hall residence, the house added a rear wing. The porch originally extended around three sides, but was reduced to one bay in the 1960s.

Located at the east end of Branch Street, it is one of a cluster of houses occupied there by Spring Hope merchants. Indeed, Bunn's partner in business, John Mathews, resided several doors east (417 East Branch).

C 134. House, c. 1910. 415 East Branch Street. This L-plan cottage has a bungalow-style porch with tapered posts on brick piers, exposed rafters, and a porte-cochere on the west elevation. The one-over-one windows are paired on the principal facades and have flat lintels.

135. Vacant lot

C 136. John Mathews House, c. 1900. 417 East Branch Street. The most noticeable features of this two-story

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house are the cutaway bays that mark the two wings of the L-shaped plan. They form distinctive sets of bay windows consisting of four narrow, one-over-one windows on each floor. Originally, perhaps, the residence was more decorative, but over the years a remodeled porch and a layer of asbestos shingling have left it bereft of surface ornamentation and stylistic detailing. The dwelling has retained its fine wrought-iron fence that runs along a brick supporting wall across the front yard. It is the only such yard ornamentation in Spring Hope and reveals that attention to detail and appreciation of ornament that at one time may have been applied to the house as well.

Local merchant John Mathews built the dwelling. Mathews was in business with the firm of Spivey, Bunn, and Mathews, general merchants. The site Mathews selected for his new house was the far east end of Branch Street, where three other Spring Hope store owners would soon join him.

C 137. Rob Rackley House, c. 1910. 508 First Street. This two-room, one-story dwelling typifies Spring Hope's worker cottages of the early 1900s. Although the original porch has been modified with tapered posts set on brick piers, the dwelling's four-over-four windows are intact. A special feature is the patterned tin roof shingles. To the rear is a two-room ell containing a kitchen and bedroom. Tall oaks shade this house along the former stage route to Nashville. Rob Rackley (1876-1956) was a farmer.

N 138. House, c. 1940. 501 First Street. This remodeled and expanded one-story house has personalized sawnwork decoration across porch. This basic two-room plan recalls earlier houses in the neighborhood.

C 139. G. W. Edwards House, c. 1910. First Street. This one-story frame dwelling retains elements typical of triple-A cottages in Spring hope. The porch features narrow chamfered posts under a shed roof, four-over-four windows are evident throughout, and patterned wood shingles embellish the center gable. Tin shingles cover the roof. Carpenter G. W. Edwards probably built this house. His daughter, Annie May Bass, was born here in 1910.

140. Vacant lot

C 141. G. W. Edwards House, c. 1910. 515 First Street. This typical double-pile, hip-roofed cottage retains original turned porch posts and four-over-four windows. It also has an assortment of contributing outbuildings, including a smokehouse and a large shed. This one-story, gable-roofed structure was the original dwelling on the

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property. It was owned by Monroe Raines, who sold the tract to G. W. Edwards in the early 1900s. Edwards was a carpenter.

C 141a. A 1920s auto garage stands to the rear of the tree-shaded lot.

C 142. Edwards House, c. 1915. 521 First Street. Shaded by tall oak trees on the former route to Nashville, this L-plan cottage is distinguished by a cutaway bay. The original porch posts have been replaced by square ones, but still intact are the four-over-four windows, pointed-arch vents in the gables, and corbelled brick chimney stack. The interior features tongue-and-groove ceilings and wainscot, and bracketed mantels.

G. W. Edwards, who lived at 515 First Street, built this dwelling for his father.

143. Vacant lot

N 144. House, c. 1948. 211 Hopkins Avenue. Three gable-roofed dormers pierce the roof of this Colonial Revival cottage. The dwelling is brick veneered, features decorative dentils and fluted pilasters around the entry, and an attached garage to the rear. An open porch with a roof deck extends from the south gable end.

C 145. House, c. 1910. 309 Hopkins Avenue. This well-preserved L-plan cottage features decorative patterned shingles in the front-facing gable. Original windows surround the form, including paired windows with simple moulded lintels on the gable-end facade. The present tapered porch columns set on brick piers probably replaced lathe-turned posts in the 1940s. The interior chimney is capped by brick corbelling. A two-room kitchen and dining room wing extends to the rear on the north side. Beside it, a smaller one-room ell houses a bedroom. Later rear additions extend this dwelling almost to the back of the 100-foot-long lot.

C 146. Robert A. Ricks House, c. 1905. 311 Hopkins Avenue. One of four two-story turn-of-the-century residences along Hopkins Avenue, this dwelling is an unusual variation of the I-house type. The facade has a projecting central pavilion that is flanked along the roof line by two front-facing gables. The result is a structure composed of five gables, each accented by the heavy cornice surrounding the house. The interior chimney placement is rare for Spring Hope, where I houses typically have exterior end chimneys. The chimney stacks are treated with flared brick corbels and stringcourses. Original four-over-four windows surround the two-story main portion of the house and paneled sidelights flank the main entry. The square porch posts, however,

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represent a recent renovation that also included extensive vinyl siding on both the I-house portion and the one-story rear wing.

This house may have been built by speculator John Dodd. The first occupant was Robert A. Ricks, a local merchant.

C 147. Wilder-Morgan House, c. 1900. 313 Hopkins Avenue. This two-story, L-shaped house closely resembles the Dodd-Brantley House across the street. Like that dwelling, it features a front-facing gable in the ell and one-and two-story rear wings that house the kitchen and bedrooms, respectively. The deep wraparound porch, however, has classical columns instead of the turned posts on the Dodd-Brantley house. Sidelights flank the main entrance and patterned wood shingled embellish the gables.

The house was built by Joseph Troy Wilder. Wilder was a farmer in the Wilder's School community in Franklin County and moved to Spring Hope and into the mercantile business with Sam Marshburn at the turn of the century. The dwelling later was acquired by B. E. Morgan, a leading wholesale grocer.

N 148. House, c. 1950. Hopkins Avenue. This story-and-a-half Cape Cod Cottage has stock Colonial Revival millwork around the front entry and cornice. Shutters grace the windows across the three-bay facade. A screened porch is on the north gable end.

C 149. Dodd-Brantley House, c. 1905. Hopkins Avenue. One of several two-story, L-shaped houses in Spring Hope, this dwelling is marked by a highly decorative front porch and entrance. The veranda is enclosed by turned balusters and posts, as well as a beaded spindlework frieze. Delicate brackets complete the stylish millwork. The doorway is framed by sidelights and transom composed of small panes of colored glass. Original long four-over-four windows are intact around the house.

The residence was built before 1909 by John Dodd, a speculator who possessed property along the eastern periphery of town known as Dodd's Bottom. In the early 1920s Smith Brantley acquired the house. The house is at the present abandoned and in disrepair. A grove of mature oaks shade the property.

N 150. House, c. 1948. 302 Hopkins Avenue. This frame Colonial Revival cottage has two roof dormers flanking the main entry. Five bays wide and two rooms deep, the house has a porch in the north gable end and a rear, shed-roofed kitchen wing. Decorative wrought-iron columns support the roof of the side porch.

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C 151. Sidney R. Pierce House, c. 1910. 210 Hopkins Avenue. This triple-A cottage includes a distinctive wraparound porch and multi-paneled side lights enframing the entrance. Now supported with square posts, the porch originally had turned posts in keeping with other turn-of-the-century houses in the neighborhood. The house was built by John Dodd, who occupied a large two-story home to the north, and perhaps erected this dwelling for family members. In 1919, grocer Sidney R. Pierce acquired the property. The Pierce family lost the home in the Depression, and lumberman R. I. Mitchell purchased it as well as surrounding property also owned by Dodd. Mitchell used the dwelling as rental property for employees of his lumber mill located to the south, along the railroad tracks.

C 152. Dodd-Mitchell House, c. 1900. Hopkins Avenue. John Dodd, owner of property on the east side of Spring Hope, may have built as many as five houses on Hopkins Avenue around the turn-of-the-century. Three of them, including this one at the south end of the street, are traditional I houses treated with projecting central pavilions. Largely intact, the Dodd-Mitchell residence includes a hip-roofed porch supported by delicate turned posts with decorative brackets. The entranceway is enframed by sidelights and transom composed of many small panes of colored glass. A kitchen ell extends to the rear.

The interior of the house, like the exterior, is intact though in need of repair. Notable is the parlor mantel (in the front-facing wing) that has Ionic colonettes and a beveled over-mantel.

In the early twentieth century, the house was acquired by R. I. Mitchell, who operated a lumber company nearby to the south. By the early 1920s, the property was acquired by B. F. Gardner, a farmer and proprietor of a livery stable in Spring Hope. The house has been a rental for a number of decades. Tall oak trees surround the dwelling.

N 153. House, c. 1940. 202 Hopkins Avenue. This brick and weatherboarded L-plan cottage has a porch along the ell supported by decorative wrought iron posts. Part of the facade is sheathed in board-and-batten siding.

C 154. Elijah F. Vester House, c. 1910. 301 Second Street. The only two-story house on the 300 block of Third Street, this residence, like a number of the one-story houses in the area, has a triple-A roof. The dwelling follows an I-house form, with a central hall and rear ell. Gable returns and four-over-four windows are original elements, though the porch has been remodeled with bungalow-style posts and the facade has been aluminum-sided.

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Elijah Vester was a local merchant operating a grocery on Main Street. He built the house before 1916, the date of his son's birth.

C 154a. An early twentieth-century smokehouse stands to the rear of the lot.

C 155. House, c. 1910. 305 Second Street. One of two triple-A cottages in a row, this dwelling retains original four-over-four windows and shed porch roof. The porch columns, however, are square replacements of turned posts. A kitchen ell extends to the rear.

C 156. House, c. 1910. 307 Second Street. This basic triple-A cottage is marked by a paneled front door with two round-arched windows. The shed-roofed porch has simple square posts. A smaller two-room cottage stands to the rear of the lot and may have housed domestic help.

C 157. House, c. 1910. 311 Second Street. The L-plan dwelling is distinguished by a cutaway bay in the front-facing wing. It also retains original window frames and a round-arched vent in the gable front. The original classical porch posts have been replaced by square ones accompanied by a matching balustrade. The porch's hip roof is intact. A two-room kitchen and bedroom ell extends to the rear.

C 158. House, c. 1910. 315 Second Street. Inspired by the Queen Anne style, this basic double-pile, hip-roofed cottage features projecting bays on the front and east elevations. The original porch posts have been replaced by tapered columns on brick piers. Four-over-four windows survive.

C 159. House, c. 1910. 317 Second Street. Turned porch posts and a corbelled brick interior chimney are original features on this frame dwelling. The house follows an L-shaped plan with a rear kitchen wing. It is one of three L-plan dwellings in this neighborhood of one-story houses.

N 160. House, c. 1950. 325 Second Street. This one-story hip-roofed brick house has a projecting hip-roofed bay. The roof has a low pitch.

C 161. House, c. 1910. 327 Second Street. This locally popular two-room, central-hall house plan retains original gable returns and single-shoulder brick end chimneys. Remodeled over time, the dwelling now has

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aluminum siding, wrought-iron porch columns, and altered one-over-one windows. A kitchen wing extends to the rear.

162. Vacant lot

C 163. Nathaniel Finch House, 1908. 404 South Walnut Street. In 1908, Nathaniel Finch (1857-1949) built this imposing Neo-Classical Revival on the south end of town. Finch was a prominent local merchant, banker, and landowner during Spring Hope's initial period of prosperity around the turn of the century. He operated a general merchandise store on Ash Street, invested in the Finch Building on the southeast corner of Ash and Main streets, and owned three farms totalling about 4,000 acres.

Finch's new Neo-Classical Revival house symbolized his commercial achievements. Characteristic of the style, it features a two-story, double pile, hip-roofed form, with a prominent classical porch. The porch includes a two-story porticoed entry supported by groups of Tuscan columns and treated with a lunette in the tympanum. The wraparound one-story veranda is similarly supported by Tuscan columns. A rhythm of lathe-turned balusters is carried across both tiers of the porch. One unusual element of the house design is the two-story cutaway bay projecting from the north side. At the rear, the raised foundation still retains original lattice between brick piers, and originally enclosed a space for carriages.

The original interior is largely intact. The central hall has paneled wainscot and includes a closed-string staircase with turned balusters, thick, square newel, and paneling. The mantels in the two front rooms feature mirrored overmantels and full-height Doric columns. Original light fixtures and hardware are evident throughout the house. Five-panel doors with simple moulded surrounds survive as well. The house is now occupied by Nathaniel Finch's son, Herman.

N 164. House, c. 1945. 318 South Walnut Street. This one-story, frame Cape Cod cottage is three bays wide with a central chimney. It is covered with asphalt siding.

N 165. House, c. 1950. 316 South Walnut Street. This L-shaped, frame, ranch-style house includes two gable-roofed dormers and an engaged porch. A brick chimney stands on the north gable end.

C 166. House, c. 1910. 312 South Walnut Street. This typical triple-A cottage has a shed-roofed front porch with slender lathe-turned posts. The original rear ell has been enlarged and the interior of the entire dwelling

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modernized. Post-World War II one-over-one sash windows surround the form.

C 166a. A contributing frame carriage barn that dates from the construction of the dwelling stands to the rear of the lot.

C 167. House, c. 1910. 308 South Walnut Street. One of four triple-A cottages on Walnut Street south of Branch, this dwelling is distinguished by decorative round-arched vents in the three principal gables. Original four-over-four windows with flat lintels remain intact. The shed-roofed front porch has square posts that probably replaced original lathe-turned ones. A two-room ell extends to the rear and is original to the main body of the house.

168. Vacant lot

N 169. Walnut Street Apartments, c. 1979. 210 South Walnut Street. This two-story, mansard-roofed, brick apartment building follows an L-shaped form.

C 170. Harold Jackson House, c. 1910. 208 South Walnut Street. Built perhaps by W. H. Griffin, who owned the large two-story residence next door to the east, this turn-of-the-century triple-A cottage is a characteristic Spring Hope house type. Its shed-roofed porch supported by turned posts, vented center gable embellished with patterned wood shingles, six-over-six windows, and rear kitchen ell are all typical features. The front door is distinguished by a pair of round-arched windows. The decorative sawnwork in the gables was added by the current owner in 1985, when the dwelling was renovated.

The house was rental property from at least 1917 to 1935. In 1936, Harold Jackson, a town employee, acquired the property from Presley Griffin, W. H. Griffin's son. It remained in the Jackson family until 1984.

C 171. J. D. Luper House, c. 1890; remodeled in 1912. 210 North Walnut Street. One of the older cottages in Spring Hope, the J. D. Luper House was remodeled in 1912 with Neo-Classical Revival lunettes and porch columns, and a front-facing wing. J. D. Luper, a dry goods merchant, built the original two-room, central-hall house about 1890. The house's up-dating and expansion 20 years later reflected Mr. Luper's increased financial security, as well as the spatial demands of his growing family. The interior retains bracketed and reeded mantels in the original two main rooms, and classical-inspired mantels with mirrored overmantels and colonettes in the

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two front rooms added in 1912.

N 172. House, c. 1947. 208 North Walnut Street. This one-story, frame, gable-front dwelling was built in the late 1940s on a lot sold by the Luper family. It features a lunette in the gable that reflects the classical styles of the Luper residence at 210 Walnut.

C 173. Pearson House, c. 1910. 206 North Walnut Street. This typical one-story, frame, L-plan cottage includes bungalow-style tapered porch posts. The posts were probably added in the 1920s, when the house was moved to its present site from a lot on Franklin Street. The dwelling has been rental property for many years.

C 174. Joseph J. Spivey House, c. 1900. 110 North Walnut Street. The one-story, L-plan cottage epitomizes the vernacular Queen Anne style in Spring Hope. It is one of Nash County's most intact houses in the Queen Anne mode and Spring Hope's finest example today. Although the basic form of the dwelling is commonplace, the surface decoration is locally extraordinary. The front porch across the wing has heavy turned posts, decorative incised brackets and matching frieze, and a turned balustrade. The front door includes a large glass window surrounded by smaller panes of glass, and encased by a richly carved frame. The front-facing wing has a cutaway bracketed bay, and is finished with a delicate, arrow-shaped pendant suspended from the peak of the gable. Brackets surround the eave of the principal L-shaped block as well as extend along the rear ell, where the kitchen is located.

The interior includes much of the original woodwork. Notable are the reeded door surrounds with bulls-eye corner blocks, tongue-and-groove wainscot in the central hall, and the mantels with lathe-turned posts.

Joseph J. Spivey was the proprietor of J. J. Spivey and Company, a general merchandise store on Main Street. Today the house is used for an antique shop.

N 175. House, c. 1915; remodeled and enlarged c. 1983. 108 North Walnut Street. This one-story frame dwelling is the product of several renovations and additions. Today, a shed-roofed wing extends to the front, adjoined to a gable-front block with a cutaway bay. A modern chimney, porch, and enlarged windows mark the exterior. The interior has been modernized.

C 176. Albert May House, c. 1915. 106 North Walnut Street. This two-story pillared house is one of four outstanding Neo-Classical Revival residences in Spring Hope. Exemplifying the early Neo-Classical style in

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North Carolina, the May House displays a prominent full-height pedimented portico supported by four colossal Corinthian columns. The pediment encloses an elliptical window and is accented by crisply defined dentils and modillions along the cornice and raking cornice. The portico overlaps the one-story wraparound porch. Marked by a heavy entablature, this porch has smooth Ionic columns. It terminates into a porte-cochere on the north side. The double-pile, hip-roofed main block is pierced by corbelled brick chimney stacks and topped by a small deck. A one-story kitchen wing extends to the rear. When constructed about 1915, this house was Spring Hope's only load-bearing masonry residence.

The interior finish is exemplary of the finest Neo-Classical homes of the period. The spacious central hall includes a fireplace with a bracketed mantel and an open-string, paneled stairway. Mahogany sliding doors lead into the parlor (north front door) as well as separate the parlor from the dining room. The mantels in the principal rooms are excellent. The most notable is in the dining room. Bold, fluted Doric columns flank a wide, arched fire opening.

The architect of the May House is unknown, though Rocky Mount John C. Stout was actively building handsome Neo-Classical Revival houses in this period. The interior carpentry was executed by black artisan Butler Wiggins. The first owner, Albert May, was the son of T. C. May, a large merchant and landowner. Albert May was employed in his father's enterprises.

C 177. Richardson-Chamblee House, 1901. 109 South Walnut Street. In 1901, merchant, banker, and farmer W. W. Richardson constructed this prestigious Queen Anne residence at the northeast corner of Walnut and Branch streets. It was the second house on the site, the first was moved several blocks east on Branch Street. At the date of construction, the dwelling was a model of architectural fashion. In contrast to the traditionally symmetrical dwellings around it, the massing of the Richardson House is boldly complex. Patterned-shingle gables jut in irregular fashion from a high hip roof, where a massive corbelled-brick chimney projects to one side of the roof ridge. Windows vary in size and shape. The one in the dormer, for example, features small diamond-shaped panes, contrasting the large, one-over-one windows across the first two stories. The wraparound porch includes pairs of turned columns supporting a conical-roof gazebo at the southwest corner, as well as false half-timber decoration in the pedimented entry. Inside, the first-floor plan consists of an intricate arrangement of sitting, living, and dining rooms connected by an enormous hall. The original kitchen is located in a rear appendage.

W. W. Richardson owned a Spring Hope general merchandise store and a cotton oil company, and was instrumental in the establishment of the town's first bank. In the 1920s, Dr. F. G. Chamblee, a dentist and

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husband of Richardson's daughter, Alga, acquired the property. Today, the dwelling remains in the Chamblee family.

C 177a. The tree-shaded lot includes a contributing former schoolhouse (c. 1900). Now a garage, the one-story frame structure retains its original gable-front form with heavy gable returns and a wide frieze.

C 178. Dillard-Bissette House, c. 1921. 317 South Walnut Street. Edward Dillard (1843-1929), a retired farmer, built this double-pile, hip-roofed cottage. Dillard owned a large farm in the Stanhope vicinity before moving to Spring Hope in the early 1920s. During the 1930s, the property was acquired by W. S. Bissette, also a farmer in retirement. The house remains in the Bissette family.

A late example of the double-pile, hip-roofed cottage, it does not feature the host of decorative millwork and classical porch posts visible on earlier interpretations, such as the Genatus May and William B. Wheless House (Nos. 43 and 44). Its clean lines and tapered columns supporting a wraparound porch reflect the bungalow style.

C 179. House, c. 1915. 316 South Pine Street. A black farmhand probably built this two-room, one-story house in the early 1900s. A shed-roofed addition extends across the rear. Extensive remodelings have resulted in altered window frames and sash, square porch posts, and an aluminum-sided veneer. The front door has been moved from the center of the facade to the south side.

C 179a. Frame smokehouse.

C 179b. Frame woodshed.

C 180. House, c. 1900. 314 South Pine Street. This two-room, central-hall house is one of the oldest and most intact dwellings at the south end of Pine Street. The shed-roofed porch has slender lathe-turned posts, two-over-two windows with simple moulded lentils surround the form. A two-room ell extends to the rear. The front door has two round-arched windows. The interior includes post-and-lintel mantels in the two main rooms and the room on the left (south) side has tongue-and-groove wainscot. The original central hallway has been removed.

C 180a. A contributing one-room shed, possibly a former wood shed, with an attached automobile lean-to stands to the back of the lot.

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C 181. Ben Williams House, c. 1925. 310 South Pine Street. Ben Williams, a black farmer who worked land at the south end of Spring Hope, built this house in the 1920s. The L-shaped form is capped by a low hipped roof with a front ell. Bungalow-style tapered posts on brick piers support the porch's shed roof. Windows have five-over-one sash.

C 182. House, c. 1915. 308 South Pine Street. This typical one-story, L-plan cottage has a steeply pitched roof and pointed-arched vent in the front-facing gable. The shed-roofed front porch has functional square posts, which probably replaced turned posts. Original windows survive and include five-over-one sash and simple flat lintels. A kitchen ell extends to the rear. The facade has been aluminum siding. This house was probably owned originally by a black laborer, possibly a farm worker.

183. Vacant lot

C 184. Griffin-Batchelor House, c. 1895. 206 South Pine Street. This triple-A cottage is an early example of the type — as Spring Hope's most ornate surviving models tend to be — built in the 1890s by W. H. Griffin. Griffin operated a general merchandise business in a two-story frame building located next door, on the southwest corner of Pine and Branch streets.

The porch has a wealth of decorative details, including turned posts and balusters, ornate bracketing, and delicate sawnwork beneath the cornice line. The body of the house is treated with gable returns, decorative sawnwork in the center gable, and brackets under the eaves. The brackets continue along the receding train of bedroom and kitchen wings.

John Astor Batchelor acquired the house in 1944. An automobile mechanic, he operated his garage next door to the south. This distinctive triple-A cottage remains in the Batchelor family.

N 185. Office Building, c. 1975. 202 South Pine Street. This one-story, brick and glass structure has a plain facade with large canted windows on each side of double doors.

N 186. R. O. Mullen and Company, c. 1910; refaced c. 1970. 122-126 South Pine Street. This one-story, three-bay brick commercial building has been modernized with a plain brick facade and simple glass entries. Original brickwork and transoms, which probably reflected the detailing of facades to the north, have been removed. A metal canopy extends across the two southern shopfront bays.

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C 187. (Former) S. A. Marshburn's General Merchandise, c. 1905. 120 South Pine Street. One of three handsome one-story storefronts on the 100 block of South Pine Street, this structure features decorative brickwork and a pressed-metal cornice. The display area is intact, with a recessed entry and two-foot-high brick bulkheads. Originally, this building contained a general merchandise establishment operated by S. A. Marshburn.

C 188. (Former) C. B. Brantley's General Merchandise, c. 1905. 116-118 South Pine Street. This one-story brick commercial building comprises two twenty-foot-wide storefront bays that are identical in decorative trim. Each shares a pressed-metal cornice that spans original prism-glass transoms. Recessed name panels and brick corbelling mark the upper facades. The building originally contained a general merchandise store owned by C. B. Brantley. The bays divided the interior into two departments, one selling dry goods, the other groceries. The interior retains a pressed-metal ceiling.

C 189. (Former) Tunnell's Grocery, c. 1908. 112 South Pine Street. About 1908, William Tunnell established a grocery in this twenty-foot-wide storefront. The facade retains many original features, including a decorative pressed-metal cornice above the transom (now boarded). Intricate patterned brickwork embellishes the roof line and name panel. The display windows, recessed entry, and brick bulkheads are original.

N 190. First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, c. 1961. 103 North Pine Street. This brick and glass bank building features a two-story glazed central block separated into five sections by aluminum mullions. The flanking brick wings are capped by composite-stone trim. It is an excellent small-town bank design of the 1960s, replacing the turn-of-the-century bank on Main Street.

C 191. Time Keepers Watch and Clock Service, c. 1899. 115 North Pine Street. One of four two-story commercial buildings in the business district, this structure is distinguished by handsome brickwork. Contrasting the deep red brick of the facade is a blond-brick trim that defines the three upper-story windows and cornice. Although the first floor exterior has been remodeled, it maintains the high brick bulkheads and small windows of the original design. The rear of the building has a two-flight, wooden stairway that leads to a second-story entrance. Here, the local telephone switchboard operated until 1963-1964. The first floor contained the First National Bank of Spring Hope, and later served as the mayor's office. The bank vault is still inside.

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N 192. Marlowe's Pastime Recreation, c. 1905; remodeled 1959. 117 North Pine Street. This one-story brick facade represents a refacing that occurred in 1959. At this time a metal soffit was also placed across the twenty-foot-wide storefront. The interior has been modernized.

C 193. (Former) Spring Hope Grocery, c. 1910. 125 North Pine Street. This brick structure is a fine example of an early twentieth-century warehouse/wholesale building. It is a large and utilitarian structure, forty-five feet by one hundred feet, with wide, wooden doors and rows of windows on the north and south sides. Yet the building is not without elements of style. The facade includes a stepped parapet gable, brick beltcourses, and a recessed entrance, that originally featured large windows over decorative wood panels. Around the entire structure are round-arched windows trimmed with brick.

Spring Hope Grocery, a large wholesale grocery, erected this brick-clad structure in 1908. It operated here until the early 1980s, when the business relocated into a larger modern facility outside of town. Presently, Heilig-Meyers Furniture Company, whose retail store is in a related building across the street, uses the structure as a warehouse.

C 194. Commercial Building, c. 1905. 120 North Pine Street. Brick dentils along the cornice and a transom above the display window mark this early twentieth-century storefront. Modernized probably in the 1950s, the lower section now includes a small garage. The common-bond brick facade has been stuccoed. The interior has been modernized.

C 195. (Former) A. F. May's Filling Station, 1923. 116 North Pine Street. In 1923, A. F. May built this rare surviving "box-and-canopy" filling station in the Spring Hope business district. The compact brick-clad building with pump canopy was a popular filling station form nationwide before oil companies began promoting brand recognition through their own distinctive architectural designs. At one time there were two similar stations in Spring Hope's business district. Typical of many early auto-related businesses, May's filling station replaced a horse-related enterprise, a livery stable.

May was an independent dealer who marketed Standard Oil products, and later, in 1929, became a Shell Oil distributor. Presently, the station he established over 50 years ago continues to service automobiles — pumping gas as well as repairing vehicles in a service bay added in the 1950s.

N 196. Commercial Buildings, c. 1910; remodeled c. 1945. 112-106 North Pine Street. These four one-story

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brick storefronts have been modernized and refaced. Original brick corbels stripped away and transoms replaced or masked with metal. Each bay is 15-to-20 feet wide. Interiors have been modernized.

C 197. (Former) Yarborough's Drugstore, 1901. 101 South Pine Street. Comprising the north bay of a two-bay commercial building containing Sykes Seed Store, this storefront survives largely intact. Tall display windows flank the recessed entry; a wide transom extends across the top of the windows; pressed-metal trim accents the upper corners. The structure initially housed a dry goods store, but soon was acquired by Alex Yarborough, who operated a drugstore here. Dr. William Edwards maintained a doctor's office to the rear. Brick corbelling around a rear entry on the north side of the building indicates Edwards' office. The interior was modernized when this structure was converted to a laundry.

C 198. Sykes Seed Store, 1901. 103 Pine Street. In 1901, Edward Bass constructed this remarkably preserved one-story brick building. The structure was designed to contain two narrow stores, each with a facade including decorative brick corbelling and pressed metal trim set above expanses of shopfront glass. The bay on the north side contained a dry goods store and later a drugstore, while the seed store operated out of the south bay. The fashionable brick building replaced a wooden store, razed by fire, where Bud Sykes had owned a general merchandise business.

Inside, the store retains original wood counters and wall-to-wall spindled shelves. A coal-burning stove occupies the center of the hardwood floor. The establishment continues to operate as a seed and general merchandise store.

C 199. Pope's, c. 1930. 105-107 South Pine Street. The simple brick facade on this one-story commercial building reflects its comparatively late construction date. The 40-foot-wide front includes two recessed entry bays and two-foot-high brick bulkheads. Expanses of shopfront glass open up the interior to public view. The stepped-parapet roof is trimmed with cast concrete coping. The interior of the store retains a decorative pressed-metal ceiling. Metal awnings shade the two entrances.

C 200. (Former) Drs. Hassell and Julian Brantley's Professional Offices, c.1920. 109-111 South Pine Street. Noted Spring Hope physician Dr. Hassell Brantley built this commercial building as a drugstore and professional offices. The drugstore, first operated by Opie Edwards, operated out of the north bay. This section features a transom (boarded) and a slanted entry. A metal awning shades the front. Dr. Brantley and his son, Dr. Julian

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Brantley, had offices in the south bay, which has a doorway flush with the facade and a three-part window. The offices are six bays deep (about 75 feet) terminating into a five-bay dentist's with a small parapet gable that matches the gable of the main, Pine Street, facade. Dr. F. G. Chamblee was the first dentist here. The drugstore later became a dress shop operated by Estelle Hathaway. The adjacent doctor's offices remain an office complex, including insurance and heating repair businesses.

N 201. Red and White Supermarket, c. 1970. South Pine Street. This one-story, cinder-block and brick structure is set to the back of a lot dominated by automobile parking. The simple building is capped by a pseudo-mansard fascia.

N 202. Office Complex, c. 1975. South Pine Street. This one-story, metal building is nine bays deep and faces gable end to the street. A covered walkway extends along the north elevation.

C 203. (Former) Tobacco Warehouse, c. 1915. South Pine Street. This board-and-batten, gable-front structure was probably built as a tobacco warehouse by the Planter's Tobacco Company. Remodeled and expanded over the years (and damaged by fire at least once, according to the 1923 Sanborn Map of Spring Hope), the present building has an altered parapet-gable roof with two large front entries. A shed addition extends to the rear. The tin roof includes skylights allowing in natural light, presumably for the grading and sale of tobacco. The structure, now abandoned, has been used for a variety of purposes, including, in recent years, a chicken house.

N 204. Builders Supply Company, c. 1970. 303 South Pine Street. This cinder-block, brick-faced structure includes an office on the south side and a larger work area to the north. The complex is one story high.

C 205. House, c. 1910. 307 South Pine Street. The finest house in Spring Hope's black neighborhood, this dwelling has many original elements intact. A triple-A cottage, its center gable has a round-arched vent. The shed-roofed porch has thick, turned posts; gable returns and a wide frieze decorate the main roof. Flat lintels crown four-over-four windows. A two-room ell extends to the rear. The interior of the main two-room, central-hall block, includes tongue-and-groove wainscot in the hallway and bracketed mantels in the principal rooms.

C 206. House, c. 1908. 309 South Pine Street. This two-room house was built in Spring Hope's black district

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as rental property. The gable roof is steeply pitched. The shed-roofed porch has slender lathe-turned posts. A kitchen ell extends to the rear.

C 207. House, c. 1910. 311 South Pine Street. This two-room dwelling typifies black housing in Spring Hope's south end. Three bays wide, it has two-over-two windows and a rear kitchen wing that is aluminum sided. Several original turned porch posts remain. A noncontributing smokehouse stands to the rear of the lot.

C 208. Butler Wiggins House, c. 1910. 315 South Pine Street. Noted Spring Hope builder Butler Wiggins built this house as his own in the early 1900s. Wiggins, a black artisan, is best known for crafting the interior woodwork of the Neo-Classical Revival Albert May House in Spring Hope. The Wiggins House is a typical two-room, central-hall, triple-A cottage. A paired round-arched vent is located in the front-facing gable. The present bungalow-style tapered porch posts on brick piers were probably added in the 1920s. The windows have five-over-one sash. A two-room ell extends to the rear. A chimney pierces the roof where the ell meets the triple-A portion of the house and has a stuccoed-brick stack.

N 209. Ice House, c. 1950. Ash Street. This gable-front ice house is veneered with asbestos shingles. Resting on cinder blocks, it is about ten-by-ten feet. It is abandoned and in disrepair.

N 210. Spring Hope Enterprise, c. 1950. 113 Ash Street. A false front with a stepped-parapet roof masks this building's one-story gable-front form. The front includes rough-cut stone blocks, while the rest of the structure is cinder block.

N 211. Little River Corporation, c. 1970. 115 Ash Street. This one-story, cinder-block structure has a flat roof and center entrance. Large three-part windows flank the door.

C 212. Robert Wheless Tenant House, c. 1910. 205 Ash Street. One of Spring Hope's more intact triple-A cottages, this dwelling features a shed-roofed porch with turned posts and balustrade. Paired two-over-two windows flank the main entry, where the original door includes a pair of round-arched windows. The center gable encloses a pointed-arched vent. The roof is pierced by two tall interior chimney stacks topped by brick corbelling. Two rear ells give the house a U shape. Heavily moulded cornice returns finish the gable ends of the main body of the form. According to earliest recollections, this house was rental property for Robert Wheless,

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who lived next door to the west.

C 213. House, c. 1915. 207 Ash Street. A high hip roof caps this story-and-a-half frame bungalow. The roof includes a matching hip-roofed dormer in the front, and extends over the facade-width porch. Four tapered posts set on brick piers support the porch roof. These posts and the exposed rafters under the eaves are the dwellings key elements of the bungalow style. All of the windows are original, having simple, moulded lintels and five vertical panes in the upper sash with one large pane below. The spacious triple-pile form includes a central hall. Built as a single-family residence, it is presently a duplex.

C 214. House, c. 1900. 211 Ash Street. This basic two-room, one-story, frame house includes a rear gable-roofed kitchen set parallel to the main dwelling. This arrangement was popular among the turn-of-the-century, one-story houses in Spring Hope. The kitchen is now attached to the house by an enclosed breezeway. The shed-roofed front porch has also been enclosed and remodeled.

C 214a. A contributing 1920s frame auto garage stands on the lot.

N 215. House, c. 1975. 212 Ash Street. This one-story, frame ranch-style house is three bays wide with a small entry stoop.

C 216. House, c. 1900. 208 Ash Street. This basic two-room, central-hall dwelling retains flanking end chimneys and two-over-two windows on the gable ends. A patterned tin shingle roof caps the form. During a modernization that occurred probably in the early 1970s, the three-bay front porch was replaced by a small entry porch and the exterior was aluminum sided. A two-room ell extends to the rear.

C 216a. To the back of the lot stands a contributing gable-front auto garage with attached shed, built in the early 1930s.

C 217. Upchurch-Brantley House, c. 1900. 206 Ash Street. One of a number of turn-of-the-century I houses in Spring Hope, the Upchurch-Brantley residence features a handsome wraparound porch supported by slender chamfered posts. It also includes a wide frieze along the cornice line and gable returns, which simulate classical pediments on the two side gables. The frieze and returns, as well as the six-over-six windows and sidelights

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around the main door, represent popular decorative features in Spring Hope until the early 1900s.

The residence was erected by B. W. Upchurch (1844-1927), who operated a general merchandise store in Spring Hope. Upchurch later sold the house to Dr. Julian Brantley, who rented the property. Originally located on the northeast corner of Ash and Neal streets, it was moved a half lot to the north in the early 1930s when sold to H. L. Brantley, a blacksmith. The move allowed Dr. Brantley to invest in a Shell gasoline station on the commercially valuable corner lot.

N 218. Commercial Building, c. 1955. 108-112 North Ash Street. This gable-front, one-story structure includes a stepped-parapet extension on the south side. The extension contains a fish market; the main part of the structure holds a recreational center. The entire building is cinder block.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

Period of Significance

1888-ca. 1937

Significant Dates

1888

1889

1911

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Stout, John C.

various/unknown

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

See continuation sheet

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

Statement of Significance

The Spring Hope Historic District exemplifies the development of an eastern North Carolina railroad town in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The district reflects Spring Hope's emergence as the most affluent of the small railroad towns in Nash County. Located amid small farms in western Nash County, the town of Spring Hope developed at the end of a railway line that, in 1886, extended twenty-five miles west from Rocky Mount. Surrounded by productive cotton and tobacco fields and thick stands of pines, Spring Hope flourished as a transshipment point and farming service center. Between its incorporation ⁱⁿ 1889 and the First World War, Spring Hope emerged as a major inland exporter of cotton, as well as the home of a large lumber mill and cotton seed oil factory. The full complement of small-town mercantile establishments also appeared, oriented to the railroad tracks and depot. Spring Hope's merchants, professionals, and workingmen built residences along streets around the commercial core. They erected their major churches at the junctions of residential and commercial land uses. The Spring Hope Historic District contains about two hundred buildings which are the most cohesive group of architecturally and historically significant commercial, residential, and religious structures representing the town's formative years. The buildings include the popular architectural styles of this period, reflected in traditional house types as well as in the latest, most sophisticated designs.

Criteria Assessment

A. The Spring Hope Historic District clearly illustrates the development of an eastern North Carolina railroad town in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The district comprises an intact commercial area oriented to the tracks, and contiguous blocks of houses built for Spring Hope's early merchants and professionals.

C. The Spring Hope Historic District encompasses the most cohesive groups of intact late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures in the town, including commercial, residential, and religious examples built in a variety of period styles.

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HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

The history of the town of Spring Hope, in Nash County, began in 1886 when the Wilmington-and-Weldon Railroad extended a spur line twenty-five miles westward from Rocky Mount, North Carolina.(1) The line cut through thick stands of pine trees as well as rich agricultural land — natural resources that would be the foundation of Spring Hope's commercial growth. The construction of the railroad line not only spurred local farming and lumbering, but also provided a focal point for settlement. The terminus of the railroad, about two miles east of the Tar River, attracted a host of merchant-farmers and speculators who were to shape Spring Hope's physical appearance and economy. Many came from nearby crossroads communities, such as Stanhope, Peachtree, and "Old Spring Hope." Located by a spring about five miles southeast, the original Spring Hope community was effectively abandoned as its small group of inhabitants relocated to the railroad tracks in the late 1880s and early 1890s.(2)

The town's first plat map, executed in 1889, depicts a gridiron of streets comprising thirty-three blocks oriented to the railroad tracks running east and west.(3) The tracks split Railroad Street (today Main Street on the south side) with Branch Street on the south and four streets, notably Nash, on the north. Running north and south, Hazel Street marked the west end of town and Walnut Street the east. A stage route between Raleigh and Rocky Mount angled into Spring Hope, merging with Railroad Street west of Hazel. The Spring Hope Historic District includes this original section of town as well as later additions that, by 1911, had pushed the eastern border to the Louisburg Road.

Spring Hope progressed rapidly during the first two decades of the twentieth century, its population growing from 500 in 1900 to a peak of 1500 in 1914. The community's growth reflected town construction and expansion throughout the region in this period. Nearby Middlesex (1908) and Bailey (1908) both owed their existence to new railroad lines that spanned the western reaches of the county by 1910. Meanwhile, established railroad towns such as Whitakers, Battleboro, Sharpsburg, and Rocky Mount rapidly grew into thriving trading centers, their economies supported by timber, cotton, as well as flue-cured tobacco, eastern North Carolina's major crop of the new century. The county seat of Nashville, situated about seven miles east of Spring Hope, grew rapidly in the early 1900s as well, similarly benefiting from the Wilmington-and-Weldon Railroad line. In all of these towns building construction soared, and handsome examples of houses, churches, and civic and commercial structures appeared between the 1890s and World War I. However, with the exception of Rocky Mount, with a

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population of over 10,000 by 1915, Spring Hope boasted the finest assortment of architecture in the county.(4)

The train depot defined the heart of early Spring Hope. Built in 1888, the Wilmington-and-Weldon Passenger and Freight Station (No. 91) is a board-and-batten structure which stands intact and on its original site near the center of the historic district. Until the 1930s the station was flanked on the east side by an eighty-foot-long platform for loading cotton bales. A local historian has written that during the 1910s 10,000 bales a season were shipped from Spring Hope, ranking the town as North Carolina's premier inland exporter of cotton.(5) Mercantile enterprises quickly developed along the block of Main Street facing the depot (between Ash and Pine streets) and on two blocks of Pine Street between Nash and Branch. This core of retail land use is an integral part of the historic district. Most of the present-day brick buildings along Pine Street were completed by the early 1900s, and are depicted in the 1905 Sanborn Map. Here, the map shows the standard small-town melange of general stores, groceries, drugstores, hardware stores, and livery stables. Within the next decade, Main Street on the south side had acquired its present appearance — a contiguous row of one- and two-story buildings.(6) Situated at the center of the block was the community's leading financial institution, the Citizens Bank (No.80). The bank was established in 1908 in a two-story Neo-Classical building, whose arcaded facade contrasts with the more open, glass-encased shopfronts in the district. Unlike the bustling south side of the street, the north side remained largely vacant until after World War II. A frame livery that had stood on the block in 1905 had disappeared by 1911, and a few small wooden stores were razed in a 1922 fire that also consumed several brick buildings along the west side of Pine Street north of the tracks.(7)

A diversity of warehouses and industries grew up around the periphery of the business district, including Baines and Strickland Wagon Company (No. 32), Spring Hope Cotton Oil Company (No. 22), a cluster of tobacco warehouses (No. 24), and, dominating the north end, the Montgomery Lumber Company. The lumber mill was the town's leading employer between its establishment in 1906 and closing in 1930. At the mill's height of operation in the 1920s, approximately 20 workers were on its payroll.(8) Although the mill and many associated houses have been razed, several worker cottages still stand along West Nash Street (Nos. 26-28).

Among the district's burgeoning enterprises were those operated by many of Spring Hope's leading citizens. These people built commercial establishments and nearby homes that are significant elements of the historic district. T. C. May, an early arrival to Spring Hope, established a general merchandise store on Railroad Street (No. 58), and occupied an impressive "I house" (No. 89) on West Main. His sons were actively involved in the

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family enterprises, that also included farms west of town. In 1913, Genatus May built a handsome Queen Anne, hip-roofed cottage (No. 43), one of two in a row on East Nash Street. His brother, Albert, built a pillared Neo-Classical Revival residence (No. 176) in 1915 on South Walnut Street. May's imposing home is one of four grand Neo-Classical Revival houses in town — structures that exemplify Spring Hope's prosperity in the 1910s. Merchant-farmer Nathaniel Finch, from nearby Stanhope, occupied a distinguished example (No. 163) on the south end of the historic district. He also invested in the Finch Building (No. 82), the largest commercial structure in town. This structure's sixty-foot-wide facade, capped by a heavy metal cornice, anchors the west end of Main Street. Local physicians J. R. Wheless and Hassell Brantley also erected stylish Neo-Classical Revival residences (Nos. 35 and 125) in the 1910s. About twenty years earlier, ca. 1892, Dr. Brantley had built the Italianate-Queen Anne house at 225 East Branch (No. 124). In the early 1900s, Brantley maintained an office to the rear of the Finch Building, and later, with his physician son, Julian, built a one-story brick office building at 109-111 South Pine (No. 200).

A host of other professionals and entrepreneurs made important contributions to Spring Hope's early residential and commercial development. Hardware merchant Sidney P. Lamm not only built a handsome two-story communal building on Main Street (No. 79), but also invested in a number of rental houses — many of them triple-A cottages — along Railroad and East Nash streets (Nos. 7, 8, 10, 11, 66, 68). Developer and farmer John Dodd is said to have built as many as five houses along Hopkins Avenue between 1900 and 1910 (Nos. 146, 147, 149, 151, 152). W. W. Richardson was instrumental in establishing the First National Bank, as well as operating a general merchandise store and cotton oil mill in Spring Hope. Richardson's prominent status was reflected in his grand Queen Anne house, the town's finest example of the style, on South Walnut Street (No. 177). About 1900, Dr. William Edwards, a physician, moved to town from Peachtree, a settlement five miles north. Edwards built a house on Railroad Street (No. 61) and established his office to the rear of Yarborough's Drugstore (No. 197). This former drugstore (today a dry cleaners) still includes decorative brickwork around a rear entrance where Dr. Edwards, and before him Dr. Samuel Barnes Dew, practiced medicine. Dr. Dew also maintained an office in the front-facing wing of his house (No. 111) near Dr. Brantley's, on Branch Street. At the far east end of Branch, near the eastern edge of the historic district, three important entrepreneurs, including Alex Yarborough (No. 98) and dry goods merchants John Mathews (No. 136) and G. W. Bunn (No. 100) built two-story Queen Anne houses at the turn of the century. Bunn's dwelling, completed in 1908, represented his growing financial success — for he had previously occupied a decorative, but smaller, triple-A cottage near the heart of the business district (No. 92).

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In a 1951 newspaper interview, Mr. Bunn recalled Spring Hope's early years of vigorous commercial activity. He remembered three saloons operating in the early 1900s, and as many as twenty general merchandise stores, including Bunn's own "racket store."⁽⁹⁾ *The North Carolina Yearbook* for 1910 confirms his recollection, recording nineteen general merchants as well as four blacksmith shops, a photographic studio in the Finch Building, and three hotels.⁽¹⁰⁾ One former hotel, the Timberlake-Griffin House (No. 114), still stands at the southwest corner of South Walnut and West Branch streets. Typical of small-town hotel architecture at the turn of the century, it is a two-story frame structure with a two-tier porch.⁽¹¹⁾ Spring Hope's growth was represented as well in the development of its religious institutions and in the sophistication of their architecture. The two churches in the historic district were constructed between 1909 and 1910 by the town's Baptist and Methodist congregations, respectively (Nos. 17 and 113). In the 1890s, both congregations shared a small frame community building at the southwest corner of East Nash and North Pine streets. The present brick edifices, with educational buildings added in the 1950s, are refined and creative interpretations of popular ecclesiastical designs.⁽¹²⁾

During the 1910s and 1920s, Spring Hope continued to show physical signs of progress, though the population remained stable. The uptown streets were paved in 1911, and waterworks installed in 1922-1923. In 1923-1924, U. S. Highway 90 was completed through Spring Hope, following east-west Nash Street.⁽¹³⁾ While U. S. 90 (today Alt. 64) and the subsequent paving of other county roads afforded local residents unprecedented mobility, the increased use of the automobile also changed the look and commercial character of the business district. In 1937, local historian Constance Mathews counted ten filling stations in Spring Hope, most of them strung along U. S. 90, two blocks north of Main Street.⁽¹⁴⁾ A. F. May's filling station (No. 195), built in 1923, and Hill's Auto Service (No. 31), completed in 1933-34, represent the emergence of auto-related businesses.

During the 1930s, the Depression, compounded by the exhaustion of lumber resources and the boll weevil's devastation of the local cotton crop, severely affected Spring Hope's economy. The hard times also brought this small town's cultural shortcomings into bold relief. Constance Mathews criticized the fact that Spring Hope had no library nor YMCA. Young people congregated in the drugstores, filling stations, and at streetcorners. Like small towns nationwide in the 1930s, Spring Hope was losing its ambitious youth to the opportunities of the big city. "Spring Hope is the home of good [human] material, it seems," observed Mathews, "but the material must go abroad to find its own."⁽¹⁵⁾

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Although Spring Hope's economy recovered in the postwar decades, the new commercial activities and houses of this period tended to arise outside the historic district. As the community's role as a railroad stop and agricultural trading center diminished, the town's bankers and other leaders sought new and diversified industries that could benefit from the area's available labor force and Spring Hope's proximity to major highways.(16)

As a result of this focus on progress, one newspaper writer, in 1964, portrayed the original downtown and surrounding streets in especially romantic terms:

Honorable old rambling white houses age gently
'neath great green shade trees, faded-red buildings
lean against each other like grizzled comrades in
the sun-baked Main street business section and
the dark greasy rails move away hairline-straight
to the heat-hazy horizon.(17)

The writer was describing, in effect, the Spring Hope Historic District. Today, led by the owner of Sykes Seed Store (No. 198), a growing number of owners of stores on Main and Pine streets are refurbishing their facades. The "whites houses" on surrounding avenues are occupied by many long-time residents — now retired. But these streets are also the home of a host of young people who commute daily by automobile to Raleigh, about thirty-five miles west. Although the commercial area has lost its traditional role as a vital agricultural trading center, hardware stores, general merchandise establishments, a drugstore, and a host of retail shops remain. Few buildings are presently vacant. Furthermore, Spring Hope has gained a new role as the home of the National Pumpkin Festival, which each October attracts thousands of visitors to the town. Taken as a whole, the Spring Hope Historic District remains a focus of economic and social activities, while epitomizing an early twentieth-century railroad town in eastern North Carolina.

Notes: Historical Development

1. Constance Mathews, *Stagecoach to Streamline* (Spring Hope, North Carolina: Constance Mathews, 1937), 1-5.
2. "Spring Hope Boasts Interesting History; Growth is Slow," *The Rocky Mount Sunday Telegram*, Septem-

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ber 30, 1951.

3. Nash County Register of Deeds, Book 73, page 474.

4. For a description of urban growth in Nash County, as well as an architectural inventory of all towns in the county, see Richard L. Mattson, *The History and Architecture of Nash County* (Nashville, N.C.: Nash County Planning Department, 1987). A brief description of Spring Hope's early affluence is included in M.W. Weaver, "Spring Hope: Home of the National Pumpkin Festival," *Nashville Graphic*, October 15, 1976.

5. Mathews, 55.

6. *Sanborn Map of Spring Hope, North Carolina* (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1905).

7. *Sanborn Map of Spring Hope, North Carolina*, 1911 and 1923.

8. "The Montgomery Lumber Company 1906-1930." Unpublished manuscript authored by the Spring Hope Historical Society, Spring Hope, North Carolina, ca. 1980.

9. *The Rocky Mount Sunday Telegram*, September 30, 1951.

10. *The North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory for 1910*, (Raleigh, North Carolina: *The News and Observer*, 1910), 340.

11. Spring Hope's other early hotels also were two-story frame buildings with two-tier porches. See *Sanborn Map of Spring Hope*, 1923.

12. Variation of these Gothic and Romanesque church designs were built in towns across the county in the early 1900s. See Mattson, *The History and Architecture of Nash County*.

13. Interview with Annie Pearl Brantley, Spring Hope historian. September 15, 1986, Spring Hope, North Carolina.

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14. Mathews, 37.

15. *Ibid.*, 90.

16. Bill Pierce, "Industries Help Diversify Economy of Spring Hope," *Rocky Mount Evening Telegram*, June 2, 1955.

17. Wally Avett, "Spring Hope Seeks Marriage to Industry," *Rocky Mount Evening Telegram*, July 12, 1964.

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| UTM REFERENCES: | | Zone 17 |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Easting</u> | <u>Northing</u> |
| A | 761300 | 3981900 |
| B | 761420 | 3981620 |
| C | 760780 | 3980960 |
| D | 760520 | 3981200 |
| E | 760200 | 3980860 |
| F | 760040 | 3981020 |
| G | 760240 | 3981240 |
| H | 760160 | 3981320 |
| I | 760720 | 3982080 |
| J | 760800 | 3982120 |

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

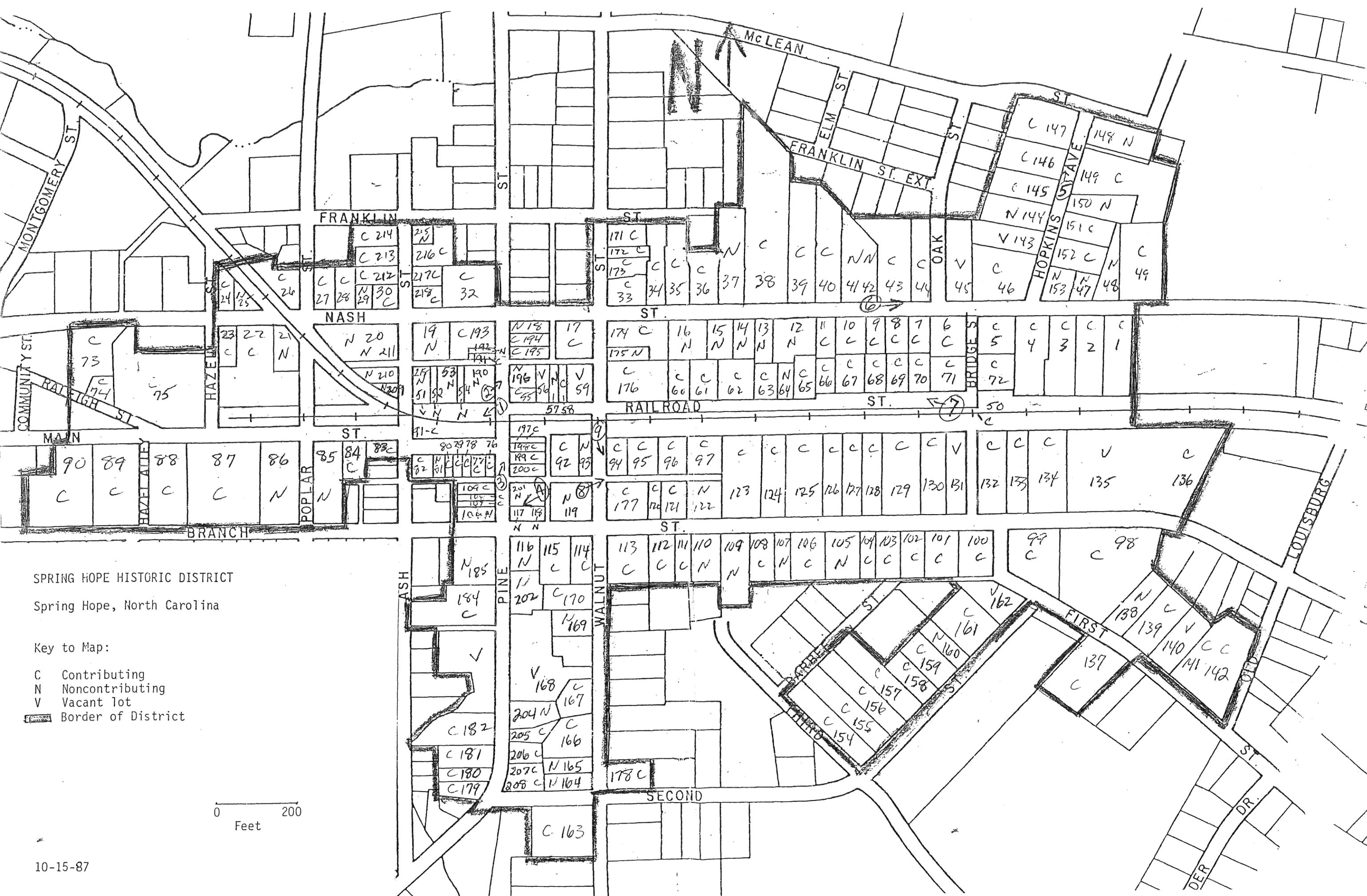
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10. BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Beginning at the southern, or rear, boundary of the property located at the southwest corner of West Main and Community streets (409 West Main) and continuing east along the rear boundaries of the 400 block on the south side of West Main street, crossing Hazel Street and continuing along to Poplar Street, crossing Poplar and encompassing the property at the southwest corner of West Main and Ash streets. Continuing east along the southern, or rear, boundaries of the properties facing the 100 block of West Main, then south along the western, or rear, boundaries of the properties on the west side of South Pine Street, terminating at the southern boundary of the property at 316 South Pine. Proceeding east along the south side of Second Street encompassing the property at the southwest corner of Second and South Walnut streets, crossing South Walnut and encompassing the property at the northeast corner of South Walnut and Second streets. Proceeding north along South Walnut Street to the southern, or rear, boundaries of the properties on the south side of East Branch Street, then continuing east along these boundaries terminating at the northeastern corner of the property at 327 Second Street. Proceeding south, encompassing the west side of the 300 block of Second Street. Continuing east along the south side of First Street, encompassing the property at 508 First Street. Proceeding north, crossing First Street, following the north side of First along the 500 block, terminating at the west side of Louisburg Road. Proceeding north along the eastern boundary of the property at 521 First Street, then proceeding west along the northern, or rear, boundaries of the properties in the 500 block of First Street to the eastern boundary of the property at 412 East Branch Street. Continuing north along this boundary, crossing East Branch Street at a point even with the eastern boundary of the property at 417 East Branch. Proceeding north along the boundary, and continuing west along the northern boundary of the property to a point even with the eastern boundary of the property at 512 East Nash Street. Proceeding north, across the Seaboard System Railroad tracks, and along the eastern boundary of 512 Nash, then crossing Nash Street at a point even with the eastern boundary of the property at 513 East Nash, terminating at the northern boundary of the property. Proceeding west along the northern, or rear, boundaries of the properties in the 500 block of east Nash, then continuing north along the eastern, or rear, boundaries of the properties in the east side of Hopkins Avenue terminating at McLean Street. Proceeding west along McLean Street, crossing Hopkins Avenue, to the western boundary of the property at 313 Hopkins, then continuing south along the western, or rear, boundaries of the properties on the west side of Hopkins Avenue to the northern, or rear, boundary of the easternmost property on the 300 block of East Nash Street. Proceeding west along the northern, or rear, boundaries of the properties on the north side of West Nash, encompassing the 200 and 300 blocks. Continuing north along the eastern, or rear, boundaries of the properties on the east side of the 200 block

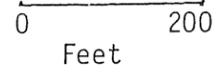
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of North Walnut Street, terminating at Franklin Street. Proceeding south along the eastern edge of North Walnut to east Nash Street, then crossing North Walnut and continuing west along the north side of East Nash, crossing North Pine Street to the eastern boundary of the property at the northwest corner of North Pine and West Nash streets. Continuing north along this boundary to the northern, or rear, border of the property, then proceeding west along the northern boundaries of the properties on the north side of the 100 block of West Nash terminating at the eastern, or rear, boundary of the properties on the east side of the 200 block of Ash Street. Proceeding north to the northern boundary of the property at 208 Ash Street, then continuing west along this boundary, crossing Ash Street and continuing north along the east side Ash Street to Franklin Street. Continuing west along the south side of Franklin Street to the western, or rear, boundary of the property at 211 Ash Street, then proceeding south along the western boundaries of the properties on the 200 block of Ash Street encompassing the properties on the north side of the 200 block of West Nash Street. Proceeding west, crossing North Poplar Street at a point even with the northern, or rear, boundary of the property at the northwest corner of North Poplar and West Nash streets, and continuing west to encompass the property at the northeast corner of West Nash (Hwy. 64) and Hazel streets. Proceeding south crossing West Nash (Hwy. 64) at a point even with the east side of Hazel Street, continuing south along Hazel to a point even with the northern, or rear, boundaries of the properties along Raleigh Street. Proceeding along these boundaries to the western boundary of the property at 140 Raleigh Street, then proceeding south, across Raleigh and West Main streets to a point even with the western boundary of the property at 409 Main Street, and continuing to the point of beginning, the whole area containing approximately 65 acres.



SPRING HOPE HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Spring Hope, North Carolina

Key to Map:
 C Contributing
 N Noncontributing
 V Vacant lot
 [thick line] Border of District



10-15-87

