

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic Danbury Historic District

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Danbury \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_

state North Carolina code 037 county Stokes code 169

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: cemetery

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners

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

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Stokes County Courthouse

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

city, town Danbury state North Carolina

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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Surrounded by the hills of the Sauratown Mountains, in the center of Stokes County, the small town of Danbury, North Carolina, was established in 1850 to serve as the county seat. Though Danbury grew quickly, the town did not come of age until the turn-of-the-twentieth century, when it emerged as a bastion of judicial functions and social affairs. During this time, not only was a new, imposing Beaux Arts Neo-Classical Revival courthouse (#56) built in the middle of town, but nearby mineral springs boasted luxurious resorts which catered to the local community as well as pleasure seekers from afar. These landmarks represent two of the most compelling forces in the development of the town's visual landscape: local lawmakers and vacationing merry-makers.

The town's geography also played an important role in shaping Danbury's physical character. In following the natural contours of the land, Main Street winds around hills as it meanders through the town. The buildings which stretch down this road, are in relatively close proximity to one another and are set at varying distances from the road depending on the geography of the particular lot. There are no paved sidewalks in town, only well-worn paths crossing front property lines. Vestiges of the white picket fences that once lined the streets have all but vanished save for the ivy-covered gates of the H. M. Joyce House (#44). Large shade trees also feature predominantly in this landscape, many of which were set out as seedlings by Danbury's earliest settlers.

As the headquarters of local government, the town of Danbury was laid off along a main road with the courthouse, situated high atop a hill, serving as the town's centerpiece. Like other rural county seats, lots nearest to the courthouse provided space for government related activities and the town's commercial district, while the townspeople resided in houses lining the main thoroughfare. To this day, the courthouse still visually dominates the landscape and the town plan continues to follow the same arrangement as when it was first conceived.

Whereas the town layout makes a visual reference to mid-nineteenth century Danbury, the buildings that still line the streets recall a later chapter in the town's history. The surge of population in Danbury between 1880 and 1896 created a new demand for housing that continued well into the 1920s and 1930s. In 1893, a local newspaper, The Hornet took notice of this phenomenon and reported "All this looks like quite a building boom for Danbury considering the so-called hard times". But because Danbury was a town that revolved around governmental operations rather than agricultural enterprises, the "so-called" agricultural "hard times" felt by many North Carolinians throughout the state did not seem to disrupt the growth that Danbury had been experiencing during this time. The number of and types of buildings that survive in town from this period reflects the limited impact that this wave of economic hardship had in Danbury. Not only were a considerable portion of the structures in Danbury built in the late-nineteenth century, many of them were large two-story frame homes featuring decorative two-tier porches and trim popular with the area's more prominent residents. The character of this new wave of building, in part, was due to the stylish preoccupations spawned by the mineral springs resorts. Frequented by well-to-do North Carolinians, who were no doubt familiar with contemporary design, these resorts seemed to have stimulated an interest in the latest styles of the day. The residents of Danbury were not immune to these ideas as such notions were realized in many of the homes built in town during this time. However, the modest building tradition of subsistence farmers and miners who originally populated the

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immediate area, tempered the effect of this fashion-conscious mentality. The synthesis of these somewhat conflicting ideas resulted in buildings which were spacious, yet reserved in style and modest in ornamentation.

Unlike most other rural county seats, the majority of these turn-of-the-century buildings still stand today as testimony to the resplendent days of Danbury's past as a tourist center and courthouse community. There are sixty-nine structures included in the district of which nineteen are pivotal, thirty-one are contributing, fifteen are fill and four are intrusive.

The buildings in Danbury follow an informal, though well adhered to code, relating form to function. The visual composition of the buildings, specifically in terms of scale and materials, uniformly corresponds to types of functional categories. Public buildings including the former Stokes County Courthouse (#56), Jail (#39), and School (#71) are all substantial structures built of brick and are the tallest buildings in town. Commercial establishments were once typically frame, two-story buildings with a gable front. But after a fire near the old courthouse destroyed many such structures in 1925, all subsequent building of retail stores was done in brick. Office buildings while only one story in height, also shifted from frame to predominantly brick construction at this time.

The residential fabric in town varies somewhat in its adherence to this code. All houses, with the exception of any early antebellum residence, are either of frame or log construction; they range between one and two-and-a-half stories in height. Those built of log were originally one-story, one-room plan houses. Those of frame construction range in height from two-and-a-half story turn-of-the-century buildings to one-and-a-half story bungalows. These patterns indicate that Danbury residents had a preconceived notion of what visual qualities were essential to establishing the character of certain building types.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

In the early twentieth century, North Carolina witnessed a proliferation of government building. Both the Stokes County Courthouse (#56) and Jail (#39) emerged from this movement replacing the old 1851 courthouse of "plain brick", and a log jail of the same period. In 1903, the Charlotte architectural firm of Wheeler and Runge was hired by the county commissioners to provide plans for the new courthouse, while L. W. Cooper, also of Charlotte, was awarded the contract to erect the building. In 1904 the new Beaux Arts Neo-Classical Revival Courthouse was completed at a cost of \$20,000. This very large, imposing structure closely resembles the courthouses in Ashe and Watauga (demolished) counties which were also designed by the firm of Wheeler and Runge in the early twentieth century. This courthouse type was built of brick, three stories in height with a hipped roof and small polygonal cupola. The facade features a tetrastyle Ionic portico and assorted Neo-Classical details. Set immediately behind this portico is perhaps the hallmark of Wheeler and Runge's work: an oblong mansard cupola with porthole windows across its facade.

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The jail in Danbury was also raised by L. W. Cooper in 1904, this time according to plans submitted by the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis, Missouri. This jail combines features of both the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne styles. Also of brick, this two-story building is block-shaped with a corbeled cornice. Of particular note is the corner tower with pyramidal roof which at one time allegedly held scaffolding for the execution of criminals.

COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Half of the handful of retail establishments that survive in Danbury are situated around the courthouse. Both the Petree Store (#14) and the Martin Store (#52) are two-story brick commercial buildings with large storefront windows and flat parapet roofs typical of the first quarter of the twentieth century. The earliest surviving store in Danbury located farther from the center of town, was built by J. S. Taylor (#41) around the turn of the century, and is a two-story frame building with a false front.

Another important building type prevalent in a Courthouse community is offices-- usually law and insurance offices. Often these areas were situated in the upper levels of multi-storied buildings, but in Danbury such offices tended to be located in one-story, frame, gable-front buildings. Perhaps the earliest surviving example of this building practice in Danbury is the Stack-Bickett Law office (#55), sitting directly behind the courthouse. Built in 1888, it narrowly escaped the great fire of 1925, and while simple in form it boasts Eastlake inspired ornamental trim both inside and out. N. M. Pepper's office building (#19), constructed in 1923, was also one-story, of frame and with a gable-front but without the detail seen on the Stack-Bickett office. The fire which swept through the east side of Courthouse Road in 1925 however, in effect put a stop to any further building of frame offices in Danbury. One-story brick buildings with parapet roofs were raised in their place serving as symbols of both permanence and progress.

Banks were one of the earliest building types constructed of brick in Danbury. Although the Bank of Stokes County (#48) and the Northwestern Bank (#15) date only to the early twentieth century, they, along with the town's large public buildings, were visually distinct from all other structures in town by virtue of the construction materials employed. Today, it is difficult to distinguish between these banks and the office buildings as both are small, brick, one-story structures with flat parapet roofs.

There are two hotels in Danbury, which, at the turn of the twentieth century provided accommodations for both those conducting government business as well as the overflow of tourists from Piedmont Springs. In August of 1888, the proprietor of the McCannless Hotel (#57) publicly boasted that,

The house has been enlarged and newly fitted up for the special accommodations of summer visitors to Piedmont Springs and the mountains. It is a large hotel and has the best arranged and most airy rooms of any house in town. It has a well ventilated parlor furnished with piano.

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Surprisingly, he did not mention the long, two-tier verandas that wrap around the hotel. Popularized by the local mineral springs, these types of porches were the object of lavish architectural ornamentation on many buildings during the heyday of the mineral springs resorts. When the Samuel H. Taylor House (#46) was converted to a hotel sometime in the late nineteenth century, it too boasted a two-tier porch with sawn railing in addition to large spacious rooms. While neither hotel ventured to match the stylish standards set by Piedmont Springs, it was important to provide suitable accommodations for those seeking respite from city life even if what was offered was only a watered down version of the Greek Revival style. The emphasis that was placed on "well-ventilated" and "airy-rooms" translated into certain design features including elaborate porches and commodious rooms, which quickly became fashionable throughout town.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

The earliest houses that still stand in Danbury include the Wilson Fulton brick house ca. 1860 (#47), the James Pepper House ca. 1860s (#46), and the Samuel H. Taylor House/Hotel previously mentioned. From the outside each of these buildings appear to be quite different from one another. They are built of different materials and vary in height and depth. But at second glance there are some basic features common to all. On the exterior they each have two or more large, exterior, gable-end chimneys, and on the inside follow a center-hall plan. Never again have Danbury's buildings had such a consistent format.

Most of the residential fabric that survives today dates from the late nineteenth century through the 1930s. Though the more simple buildings in town tend to be clustered at the town's periphery, by and large lawyers, craftsmen, merchants and laborers resided side by side. This has resulted in much variety in Danbury's domestic architecture. Some of this diversity can also be explained through the town's building chronology; small, one-room, log houses were generally built at the turn of the twentieth century or before; large two-and-a-half story frame buildings seem to have emerged early in the 1880s and continued to be built into the early 1900s and a profusion of one-and-a-half story bungalows were raised in 1910 to 1935-40 period. There are, of course, exceptions to these groupings. Moreover, several frame board-and-batten sheds, barns, and smokehouses related to Danbury's domestic fabric still survive and deserve mention as important elements in establishing the character of the district.

Although most of Danbury's log buildings were traditionally one-and-a-half story, single-room structures with sleeping lofts, they, almost without exception, had wings added on within several decades of initial construction. Consequently, a majority of the log structures in town follow some variation of a saddlebag plan. Both the Wood Benton (#4) and William Mounce Houses (#38) are examples of log buildings with subsequent frame wings added to their sides. Before such additions were made to the Mounce House, it was described by the Danbury Reporter in 1907 as "A Lesson to Home Builders":

The case of William Mounce, of Danbury, is an example of thrift, economy, and improvement of opportunity and of untutored susceptibility to the beautiful that could be a valuable lesson to every farmer of Stokes County.

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Bill, as he is called, purchased for a song a little one-room log hut on the side of a hill near the jail. No shade, hillsides and gulleys in front and behind the house- not a very inviting prospect. But Bill, during his spare hours from hiring at 50 cents a day, improved his premises, until today there is not a more homelike and cosy little place in this country. Bill has built at the foot of the hill, a good stable and barn, which affords shelter for his cow and calf as well as a storing place for the stacks of stuff he produces in his lot, for he has not neglected the useful for the beautiful, but has made his acre highly productive. Last year he saved a stack or two of hay where most people would not have taken the trouble to now. The prettiest garden in the town is Bill's, as, by constant improvements, he has made his land rich, and besides has planted a nice orchard which is flourishing(.) A corn crib, and other useful accessories have recently been added. The house, which is an humble log structure, is almost hidden by clambering vines shrubberies, etc., while pretty walks bordered with white rows of rocks wind here and there, and an attractive row of shade trees are fast growing in front of the house. Along the street which Bill has constructed out of the place where formerly red gulleys ran.(sic) A neatly painted martenbox raised high on a pole, invites the feathered songsters as well as gives a touch of domestic comfort.

If everyone could see Bill's place as it was, and then look at it as it is, then follow his example, no country in the world would be more attractive than this. Bill is unlettered and unlearned, but there is a natural gift of the esthetic in his make-up which many of us would do well to imitate. His knowledge is not of books, his view-point not lush, his opportunity the smallest. But he has used his talent.....

The new wing was added soon thereafter.

During the late nineteenth century, the town grew in both size and stature. Not only were there more people in Danbury, but there were more people of greater prominence choosing to living in town. Accordingly, those houses constructed during this period were large, two-and-a-half-story frame buildings reflective of both the town's coming of age and close ties to the culture of the mineral springs. All of the buildings from this period have either two-tier or wrap-around porches, most with turned posts and ornamentalsawnwork. The proliferation of these fashionable places in which to socialize seems to have been inspired by the local resorts. Mr. N. O. Petree even went so far as to have a latticed-twig gazebo placed in his front yard (#10). The N. A. Martin House (#8), the N. M. Pepper House (#18), the Joyce-Glenn House (#28), the J. S. Taylor House (#42), and the H. M. Joyce House (#44) all fit into this group and bear many other similarities besides porch details. The use of assorted types of sheathing on a single building was a common decorative device at this time, as was the predilection for buildings with consistently irregular rooflines.

Many of the bungalows built in Danbury between 1910 and 1935-40 also display a fascination with porch details. The N. E. Wall House, ca. 1921 (#36), has a wonderful engaged porch with columns supported by brick piers. E. P. Pepper's place (#11), built

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in 1919, has an equally interesting gabled porch of brick and concrete. Yet another porch variation can be seen in the Josie Pepper House (#6). It features an offset gabled porch and offset gable dormer on the facade.

CHURCHES

Danbury's physical growth, however, did not stop with the construction of new housing. The increase in population at the turn-of-the-twentieth century sustained four congregations each with their own meeting place. To date, only two of the four historic churches in town continue to hold services. The others have been without a parish for quite some time. Built during the town's boom period, these four structures are spaced evenly throughout the town. Three of them are very similar in appearance to one another: the Baptist Mission Church (#70), the white Presbyterian Church (#23) and the Methodist Church (#64) all follow a cruciform plan and bear either a tall bell tower or cupola. Windows are capped with arched or pointed heads, many which feature colored glass. The only elements, however, which identify the Clark Memorial Presbyterian Church as a meetinghouse are the gable front facade, double leaf door and pointed arch windows (#37). This church also served as a general assembly hall for Danbury's black community and sponsored picnics and other social activities. All the churches in town retain their original furnishings with the exception of the Methodist Church, which most recently has been used as storage space.

SCHOOLS

Though the children of Danbury now travel to neighboring communities to attend school, the town once had a thriving educational system. The earliest surviving schoolhouse was built in 1905 and has since been converted into a residence. A very simple one-story frame structure, it served as the first public school for white children in Danbury (#65), and bears a striking resemblance to several other rural Stokes County schoolhouses. By 1927, the number of children attending school in Danbury had increased so dramatically that a new, much larger, two-story brick school was built at the west end of town (#71). Again it was due to fluctuations in enrollment that led to the conversion of this structure into government offices. There was also a one-room, frame, gable-front schoolhouse (#33) built for Danbury's black children in the early twentieth century located near the Clark Memorial Presbyterian Church. It no longer is being used and has since been converted into a livestock barn.

There are relatively few intrusions in the Danbury streetscape. Although a handful of 1950s and 1960s cement block structures have appeared in town, they are small and for the most part inconspicuous. By and large, Danbury has retained its late nineteenth century character as both a tightly-knit courthouse community and a statewide tourist center, and as long as the descendants of those who established the town continue to preserve their heritage, the town will remain as such.

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INVENTORY LIST - DANBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT, STOKES COUNTY

Assessment: All properties are coded by letter as to their relative value within the district. The following is an assessment key:

- P - Pivotal Those properties which, because of their historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics, play a primary, central or "pivotal" role in establishing the qualities for which the district is significant.
- C - Contributing Those properties which, while not pivotal, are supportive of, and contribute to, the historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant.
- F - Fill Those properties which have neither an especially positive nor an especially negative impact on the general characteristics of the district.
- I - Intrusive Those properties which have a definite negative impact on the historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant.
- V - Vacant Lot Site currently unoccupied by any sort of structure.

Addresses: Due to the irregular and often inconsistent numbering system used in town to locate each structure, the addresses listed for each building have been keyed to the Danbury Township Maps 153A and 153B listing lot and map numbers.

Dates: The construction dates of the structures in this district are based not only on architectural evidence (style-construction) but also on documentary photos, contemporary newspaper accounts, information contained in The Stokes County Heritage book, and material obtained from property owners—many of whom grew up in Danbury and are decedents of the families who built the town. The particular sources consulted for each building are cited in the inventory according to the following notations:

DR - The Danbury Reporter, a local weekly newspaper published locally since the mid-nineteenth century. Past issues in the possession of Mr. Vance Pepper, the newspaper's current publisher.

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- H - The Hornet, a local weekly newspaper published for a brief period at the end of the nineteenth century; back issues held by Mrs. Ellen Tilley of Danbury.
- D - Documentary photograph exists which relates to this structure; copies located in Survey and Planning Branch files.
- ET - Interview with Ellen Tilley, a native of Danbury and local historian, by Kathy Goddard and Maury York on 5 April 1984; notes on interview in files of Research Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- JBD - Interview with Joe and Ben Davis, the sons of Jim Davis who was an early Black resident of Danbury by Kathy Goddard on 29 March 1984; notes on interview in files of Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- CO - Conversation with current owners of structure regarding the building's history; information recorded on survey forms located in Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- M - Franklin J. Martin's "Saga of the Sauratown: A History of Stokes County, North Carolina" an unpublished manuscript, n.d. located in Search Room, Archives, North Carolina Division of Archives and History. The reliability of this source is questionable; the author has cited his references only generally. The appendix on Danbury lists the following people as sources: Dr. Schaswook, Mode Mannering, John Bennett (the Fiddler), John Witter, Welsh, Welsh Sisters, Wood Benton (oldest Citizen), who presumably are/were long-time Danbury residents.
- HSC - The Heritage of Stokes County, North Carolina, 1981.

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1. Danbury Cemetery  
Southeast corner of Cemetery St. and Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 13 Map 153A  
Mid-Nineteenth Century  
C

Although it originally had a Methodist affiliation, this cemetery now serves all religious denominations. The first Methodist Church in town was built here in 1856 but was dismantled in the early twentieth century (HSC p.75). The oldest inscribed gravestone dates from the 1850s, though other unmarked stones may be earlier. The oldest plots were once marked with uninscribed rough-cut stones. These graves are located in the west end of the cemetery. When the markers which identify these sites fell into disrepair, they were replaced in the 1930s with small, plain, cement markers made by Jim Davis and Gaston Shelton, both residents of Danbury. The project was funded by N. O. Petree, a prominent Danbury attorney (JBD). This section of the cemetery is thought to be where Danbury's black residents were buried (ET), although no other documentation has been found to substantiate these claims. The remainder of the cemetery is landscaped with large boxwoods and assorted flowers and has stone walkways and curbs defining family plots. The markers in this area are of stone and inscribed with the following local family names: Davis, Benton, Joyce, Sisk, Biby, Mabe and Taylor. The cemetery has been and continues to be well maintained.

2. Davis Ranch House  
South side Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 12 Map 153A  
ca. 1966  
F

New brick ranch house built in 1966 by Joe and Ben Davis, the current residents.

3. Henry Benton House  
South side Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 11 Map 153A  
Late-Nineteenth Century  
C

Originally a one-room-plan log house with boxed winder stair leading to a sleeping loft, this house, built by Henry Benton, a black laborer and the grandfather of the current owner, now stands with several subsequent additions. A documentary photo shows the building with a fieldstone exterior gable-end chimney and a board-and-batten side wing. This addition, as well as a rear ell, were built out of materials salvaged from a local tobacco factory that

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was dismantled in about 1919 (site of E.P. Pepper Hse. #11). Another one-story frame section was added to the rear of this house in 1954 by Joe Davis (JBD). The building now features a four-bay asymmetrical facade with an attached shed roof porch extending the full length of the building. The house is sheathed in aluminum siding and the fieldstone chimney has been removed. As one of the few surviving residences of an early Danbury black family, this structure, although having undergone several periods of building, is an important part of the historical character of this district and therefore is listed as a contributing structure.

4. Wood Benton House  
South side Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 10 Map 153A  
ca. 1900  
C

Built at the turn of the twentieth century by Wood Benton, brother of Henry Benton (JBD), this one-and-a-half story house was originally a single-pen log structure (D). Since then, frame side (west) and rear (south) additions have been built and aluminum siding has replaced original weatherboards. The facade also has undergone several alterations. The construction of a side one-and-a-half story addition to the house increased the number of bays on the facade from two to four, half of which are doorways. The porch on the front of the house is a later replacement being attached to the house in the middle of the upper story windows. Despite these changes, the house contributes to the district architecturally as one of the few remaining examples of log construction in town, and historically as the homeplace of an early black family.

5. Vacant Lot  
South side Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 8 Map 153A
6. Josie Pepper House  
South side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 7 Map 153A  
ca. 1919  
P

Built in 1919 for Miss Josie Pepper, youngest child of N. E. Pepper (HSC p. 407; see entry #19), this two-story, frame bungalow appears much as it did sixty-five years ago. The attached gabled porch, gable dormer and gable ends all have decorative shingles, simple brackets and wide overhangs. The rest of the building is covered with weatherboard siding. Other original details include shaped and exposed rafter feet, several leaded-glass windows, decorative stonework with raised mortar joints in the foundation and chimneys, and stone jack arches over the cellar windows and doors. Also on the property is a small frame shed resting on a rock pier foundation. This is one of the finest examples of an early twentieth century bungalow in Danbury.

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7. James Pepper House  
South side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 6 Map 153A  
ca. 1860  
P

This small, three-bay, one-and-a-half story, frame house with rear ell was built in the 1860s by James Pepper (ET), who, prior to the Civil War, farmed and raised sheep in the nearby countryside (HSC p. 407). Still possessing its wood weather-board siding, large exterior gable-end fieldstone chimneys and front porch with gabled roof, the house has had only minor alterations. In about the 1920s a room was added to the end of the rear wing and some interior trim was replaced. The simple Greek Revival style mantels, however, were left untouched. Later, in 1960, another one-story shed addition was built - this time in the corner of the "L". None of these changes have affected the original center-hall plan. This is probably one of the earliest surviving structures in Danbury and is certainly the only one of its type in town.

8. N. A. Martin House  
South side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 5 Map 153A  
ca. 1894  
P

N. A. Martin, a local farmer and merchant born in 1857 (HSC p. 365), built this two-story, frame house on a high fieldstone foundation in 1894 right next to his old residence (James Pepper House, #7; ET). While many of the other large two-story residences in town have had their porches altered, the Martin house retains its original two-tier attached porch with turned posts and decorative sawn work. Judging from surviving documentary photos, this type of multi-leveled porch was extremely popular in Danbury during the turn of the century. The projecting gable wing on one side of the three-bay facade is also found in other Danbury houses of this period. Local legend has it that shortly after N. A. Martin built this house, another townsman, Mr. N. O. Petree liked it so much that he built an almost identical house several years later. Others contend that it was Mr. Petree who introduced this house type in Danbury which was later copied by Mr. Martin. Neither account has been substantiated. There are two outbuildings also on the Martin property: a frame shed and a tall, narrow, frame smokehouse with a steep gable roof.

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9. B. H. Harris House  
South side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 4 Map 153A  
Late Nineteenth Century  
C

Originally a simple, one-story, log structure with a large fieldstone exterior gable-end chimney, this house, according to the current owner, in the late nineteenth century served as the residence of B. H. Harris, a carriage maker (see Sec. 8 pg. 4 of this nomination). Since then, the house has undergone several stages of remodeling: in the 1920s by Samuel East, in the 1940s by Nonnie Pepper and most recently in the 1960s by Charles Martin (CO). Considering the many changes which have been made to the house, it retains much of its early character. All of the additions to the house were located in the rear, leaving the original three-bay facade undisturbed. The only alteration to the front fenestration has been the raising of two dormer windows in the 1940s and perhaps the removal of a front porch. The floor plan of the original log section remains intact: a single pen divided into two rooms of unequal size. The very plain original mantel also survives. There are several outbuildings associated with this property including a three-room frame shed, and a modern car port.

10. N.O. Petree House  
South side of Main St. West of the old Courthouse  
Lot 3 Map 153A  
ca. 1895  
P

Almost identical to the N. A. Martin house (#3) located two doors down, and built during the same period, this late-nineteenth century, two-story, frame structure was built by N. O. Petree, acclaimed as "the most prominent Republican in the county" and "recognized as a man of fine legal ability" (HSC p.164). What now seems to be a very plain building with two gable ends and a front gable to one side of the three-bay facade, interior brick chimneys and standard wood weatherboarding, originally had many more details than now appear. Documentary photos show there had once been a wrap-around, one-story porch attached to the facade with turned posts and decorative sawn work in addition to pierced brackets at the cornice. These features, in addition to a gazebo of latticed twigs once located in the front yard, are now gone. But other elements reflecting the polished finish of this house remain. The cornice is boxed and has partial returns while the attic-story vents in the gable ends have pointed arches. The front door boasts colored glass in its upper section and is flanked by side lights. Little change has altered the exterior appearance of this structure. The original porch has been replaced by a Mt. Vernonesque two-story affair supported by large square columns. Several shed wings have been added to the rear of the house. There are two frame barns located on this property: one with two pens and a center aisle, the other being modified a number of times and used for various functions. This house

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occupies the lot which formerly was the site of Mr. Amos Stack's residence (See #55).

11. E. P. Pepper House  
South side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 1 Map 153A  
ca. 1921  
P

On October 29, 1919 the Danbury Reporter announced that "...the old Smith tobacco factory, one of this sections oldest landmarks, is being torn down, erected long before the Civil War". Replacing it was the one-and-a-half story, frame bungalow built in 1921 for Emory Prather Pepper, who was partners with his brother N. E. Pepper in the newspaper business (HSC p. 407). This building currently occupies the lot, and has since passed in and out of family hands with little or no alterations to either its exterior appearance or interior center hall plan. Some of the original features retained over the years include the brick-wrap around porch with attached pedimented roof and decorative brackets, interior wood trim, hardware and light fixtures. Also located on this lot is a modern cement block garage.

12. Stokes County Office  
South side Main St. across from the old Courthouse  
Lots 14 and 15 Map 153B  
ca. 1966  
F

This one-story, concrete building was constructed in 1966 (ET) and has common-bond brick veneer on its facade. The structure is divided into two offices.

13. Barber Shop  
South side Main St. across from the old Courthouse  
Lot 13 Map 153B  
ca. 1940  
F

This one-story, masonry building with two-bays and brick-veneered facade was probably built in the 1940s.

14. Old Petree Store and Post Office  
South side of Main St. across from the old Courthouse  
Lot 12 Map 153B  
ca. 1925  
C

This two-story, brick store and office building with flat parapet roof was built in about 1925 as a grocery store by the Petree family (ET). Although the structure has served a variety of functions since then, ranging from office space to apartments, it

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remains in good condition. Laid in six-course common bond, the facade sports geometrical brick patterning above the second story windows, while flat arches cap all openings. The center storefront window is flanked by two doors: one leading inside to the ground floor, the other to the upper story. Inside, the original pressed tin ceiling survives.

15. Northwestern Bank  
South side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 11 Map 153B  
ca. 1910  
C

This small, one-story, six-course, common-bond brick building has been a bank since it was built in the early twentieth century. Although its facade has been plastered over and a hipped pent eave added, the basic center-door, three-bay composition remains the same. Segmental arches cap the two-over-two sash windows and the commercial parapet roof is nicely defined by two raised courses of stretchers.

16. Commercial Building  
South side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 10 Map 153B  
ca. 1960  
I

This block-like, cement building with flat roof was built in the 1960s. There are no openings in the building except for front and rear doors and a closed up window on the facade.

17. Leake's Plumbing & Heating  
South side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 4A Map 153B  
ca. 1927  
C

Built in 1927 as a restaurant (ET), this frame, two-and-a-half-story building with parapet roof has been used primarily as a retail establishment. The four-bay facade is covered with common-bond brick veneer and has two large storefront windows and two doors. One of these entrances is offset to the side and leads to the second story. The two-tier porch at the rear of the building is a later addition.

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18. N. M. Pepper House  
West side of Mill St.  
Lot 9 Map 153B  
ca. 1858 and 1870

P

The earliest part of this building is what appears to be a side wing. This simple one-story, frame section was built in about 1858-60 by N. M. Pepper, a local merchant (HSC p. 402) to serve as a family home until more substantial quarters could be built. Approximately ten years later, the large, two-story, frame, weatherboarded, "T"-shaped house was built onto the original section, boasting massive fieldstone exterior gable-end chimneys, and an impressive two-tier portico over the entrance with a projecting gabled roof and vernacular sawnwork details. The center door is flanked by small two-over-two sash windows - an unusual interpretation of side lights. The interior of this larger section follows a center hall plan and retains its open string stairway. Original mantels appear in each room and, however plain, suggest a Greek Revival influence. Other than the addition of a rear one-story section in the 1920s, all other exterior alterations have been confined to the porch configuration. In 1912, the two-story portico arrangement was stripped or its decorative sawnwork and a one-story wrap-around porch was added with classicizing features. (D). Subsequent remodelling removed the one-story wrap-around section and reduced the central section to a two-story single-tier Mt. Vernon type porch (CO).

19. Tilley House  
South side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 9A Map 153B  
ca. 1924

C

Now used as a residence, this one-story, frame structure was built as a gable-front office by N. E. Pepper, a newspaper man who published the Danbury Reporter (HSC p. 407), in 1924. Thirty years later, the building was converted into a house by adding both a side wing and a porch, and by closing up the original entrance. Currently faced with pressed tin siding which resembles rusticated cement block, this small structure appears akin to many of the other bungalows in town. At one time there had been a plug tobacco factory on this site which was dismantled at the turn of the twentieth century (ET).

20. House  
East side of Mill St.  
Lot 8 Map 153B  
Late Nineteenth century

F

This heavily reworked one-and-a-half-story, frame house has had several one-story

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frame back and side wings added to it, in addition to being resheathed with aluminum siding. The fieldstone exterior gable-end chimney suggests a late nineteenth century date for this structure.

21. Stokes County Maintenance Center  
South side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 7 Map 153B  
ca. 1950  
I

This one-story, three-bay, cement block garage and maintenance building was erected in the 1950s.

22. Gas Station and Garage  
South side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 5 Map 153B  
ca. 1940  
F

Currently used as an antique shop, this cement block, one-story, four-bay garage was built in the 1940s. Formerly the site of the old Taylor livery stable. (ET).

23. Danbury Presbyterian Church  
South side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse.  
Lot 4 Map 153B  
ca. 1894  
P

Built in 1894 from plans obtained from the firm of Brown & Hale of Winston, on a lot donated by Andrew H. Joyce (HSC p.71 ), this small church has a hipped roof with a corner bell tower and is sheathed in both tongue-shaped shingles and molded weatherboard. All openings on the four-bay facade are oversized and have simple arched semi-circular heads. Other details include frieze bands under the eaves at the first and second stage levels on the tower, simple gable trim, and double leaf paneled doors. The interior retains its original furnishings, is plastered and has a vaulted ceiling.

24. Edwin Taylor House  
North side of Old Walnut Cove Road  
Lot 6 Map 153B  
ca. 1942  
F

Built in 1942 by Edwin Taylor, local merchant and proprietor of Taylor's Tobacco Warehouse (HSC p. 479), out of materials salvaged from the ballroom of Piedmont Springs Hotel (CO), this frame one-and-a-half story house has board and batten siding, a stone foundation, stone exterior gable-end chimney, and is topped with

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a pressed tin shingle roof. The five-bay facade is composed of a center block with two side wings which are set back several feet from the face of the center section. Despite its late date this structure visually blends into the Danbury streetscape and is representative of the local tradition to build with salvaged materials. Therefore, it is denoted as a contributing structure.

25. ----- Bungalow  
South side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 3 Map 153B  
ca. 1935

F

This simple, one-story, frame, "L" shaped bungalow with brick stove stack was built circa 1935. It has six-over-one sash and paired sash windows on the three-bay facade and a small attached porch with gabled roof over the entrance.

26. Brick Ranch  
North side Old Walnut Cove Road  
Lot 3A Map 153B  
ca. 1930

F

Hiding beneath the brick veneer which encases this one-and-a-half story structure on all sides, stands a frame bungalow dating to about the 1930s. The house was heavily remodelled twenty years later during which the new brick exterior was added, as was the existing modern trim. At first glance this four-bay house appears to have been recently built, but its scale and proportions suggest an earlier date. Because this structure has sustained a considerable number of alterations which not only affect the appearance of the building but are irreversible, this house is denoted as non-contributing.

27. Booth's Car Wash  
South side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 2 Map 153B  
ca. 1960

I

Modern cement block self-service car wash. ca. 1960.

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28. Joyce-Glenn House  
North side Old Walnut Cove Road  
Lot 1 Map 153B  
ca. 1876  
P

According to a datestone in one of the two fieldstone exterior gable-end chimneys, this large two-story frame weatherboarded house with cross gables was built in 1876. Originally the home of Robert Joyce, whose parents moved to Danbury in 1852 (HSC p. 313), the house was soon after occupied by Robert B. Glenn who resided here for a short period before becoming governor of North Carolina in 1906. The Hornet reported that the house was purchased from Glenn in 1899 by W. W. King, a lawyer and local politician (HSC p. 323). Along with its historical significance, this building has notable architectural details. The three-bay facade features a center two-panel door with side and transom lights. The two-story portico with projecting gable, which shelters the entrance of the house, has been altered. This porch originally had two tiers with railings at each level (D). Inside the house, the open string stairway with turned newel post and bannisters is located in a center hall and leads all the way up to the attic. Greek Revival features include two-panel doors, and plain mantels with pilasters. The house has had several contemporary, yet sympathetic rear and side wings added in 1979. Several outbuildings also accompany this structure: a board and batten smokehouse and a frame shed. Currently the complex is occupied by decedents of W. W. King, who was the third owner of the house.

29. R. R. King Surveyor's Office  
South side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 1 Map 153B  
ca. 1923  
C

Built in 1923 by Robert Roy King (CO), a contractor and land surveyor (HSC p. 321), this small, three-bay, one-story, single-pile, frame office is sheathed in standing seam tin and has an earthfast foundation of creosoted telephone poles. Painted on the tin on either side of the front door reads: "Land Surveys/R. R. King/Maps · Prints". Situated on the outskirts of town, this frame building escaped the large fire of 1925 near the old Courthouse in which most of Danbury's nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial district was lost. The King office survives as one of the few examples of a frame commercial building in Danbury.

30. Shell Gas Station  
North side Main St. east end of town  
Lot 41 Map 153B  
ca. 1950s  
F

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Cement block service station with gable-ends and storefront built in the 1950s. This lot had previously been the site of another service station.

31. \_\_\_\_\_ House  
North side of Old Church Road Extension  
Lot 42 Map 153 B  
ca. 1930s

F

This small, box-like, one-story, three-bay, frame bungalow was probably built in the mid 1930s. An attached porch with gable front rests on metal post above the center door on the facade. The house has been recently resheathed with vinyl siding.

32. Mabe House  
North side of Old Church Road Extension  
Lot 42A Map 153B  
ca. 1940

F

Robah Mabe built this small, one-story, frame house in the early 1940s with an engaged front porch over the full three-bay facade (CO,D). The building rests on a fieldstone foundation and is covered in german siding. There is also a board and batten tobacco barn located in the rear of this lot.

33. Danbury Colored School  
North side Old Church Road  
Parcel 19 Map 153B  
Early Twentieth century

C

Built in the early twentieth century reportedly out of materials salvaged from the first Danbury United Methodist Church (JBD), this one-story, frame, gable-front, one-room schoolhouse is now being used as a livestock barn and has had an open pole shed attached to one side. Blackboards once flanked the interior brick stove stack located in the rear gable end.

34. Dr. Theodore Antonakos House  
South side Old Church Road  
Lot 38 Map 153B  
Late Nineteenth century

C

After extensive remodelling there are very few visible signs that this frame one-and-a-half story house was built in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Dr. Antonakos directed much of this remodelling shortly after purchasing the house in 1954. At this time he dug a new cellar, replaced the fieldstone foundation with

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concrete, built a rear shed addition, enclosed part of the porch, raised the ceiling of the first floor, and put new aluminum siding on the house. The building, however, does retain its nineteenth century form and engaged porch (CO).

35. A. H. Joyce House Site  
South side Old Church Road  
Lot 39 Map 153B  
Mid-Nineteenth century  
C

All that remains of A. H. Joyce's house is bits of fieldstone foundation, one of the chimneys and the likelihood of archeological artifacts. Born in 1827, Joyce had served as a member of the armed forces and was a local lawyer (HSC p. 313). What had been built on this site was a two-story, three-bay, frame building with gable-ends and a rear wing. On the facade was a one-story attached porch with shed roof supported by turned wood posts. A more substantial two-tiered porch was located in the rear and had a railing with latticed strips of wood. The large exterior gable-end fieldstone chimneys suggest a mid-nineteenth century date (D).

36. N. E. Wall House  
South side Old Church Road  
Lot 40 Map 153B  
ca. 1922  
C

On July 13, 1921 the Danbury Reporter noted the "N. Earl Wall has purchased a lot from Mr. H. M. Joyce adjoining the homeplace of the late A. H. Joyce and will erect a residence in the near future. Danbury is showing a tendency to do some building." During the period, many frame bungalows such as the Wall house were built in Danbury. One-and-a-half stories in height, the house has a three-bay facade with center door and engaged porch. Gable dormers with triple sash windows and brackets under the eaves project from the front and rear facades. Relatively few changes have been made to this building.

37. Clark Memorial Presbyterian Church  
North side Old Church Road  
Lot 37 Map 153B  
ca. 1893  
P

This very plain, one-story, frame church was built by a Mr. and Mrs. Clark (origin unknown-possibly from Virginia) for the black residents of Danbury (JBD). On October 3, 1893 a local newspaper, The Hornet reported that "much material has been put on the ground for a new colored presbyterian church on the hill above the Dan (river)". The building was completed soon afterwards. Simplicity best describes the appearance of the church. While the other churches in town follow some type of

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cruciform plan and feature either a two-story bell tower or cupola, the Clark Memorial Church boasts neither. Instead, what identifies this building as a church are such details as a gable-front facade with center double leaf door, and the pointed arches on the windows which line the sides of the building and are suggestive of a Gothic Revival influence. The outside is sheathed in beaded weatherboard and the roof is covered with pressed tin shingles. Inside, the vaulted ceiling refers again to the building's functions, not to mention the presence of the original interior furnishings including the pews, pulpit, piano and portraits of the Clarks, all of which are still housed in the building. The church is currently inactive.

38. William Mounce House  
North side of Old Church Road  
Lot 36 Map 153B  
ca. 1870-80  
C

Described in the Danbury Reporter in 1907 as "a little one-room log hut" belonging to Bill Mounce, a laborer who hired out "at 50 cents a day" (DR), this structure has since expanded into a double-penned saddlebag house. Built in about 1870-80, and resting on a fieldstone foundation, the original log section (west end) has half-dovetail notching, clay infill, six-over-six pegged sash windows and was once covered with weatherboards. Inside, the walls are whitewashed with no other architectural details other than a corner winding stair, and a very plain mantel. There is no interior access to the adjoining pen which is of frame construction and dates to the first quarter of the twentieth century. During this later period other improvements were made to the structure. The areas on each side of what had been an exterior gable-end chimney pile of fieldstone rubble were enclosed to serve as a closet and stair passage in the newer section, and a rear shed addition spanning both pens was constructed. To unify the appearance of the exterior, the structure was then completely recovered in board and batten siding. The interior of the frame pen is paneled with plain horizontal boards, and has a mantel with some beaded trim. The windows in this section are nine-over-six sash. This building has been unoccupied for quite some time and has fallen into disrepair. Still, it remains a contributing structure in the district as one of the few surviving examples of this house form.

39. Stokes County Jail (old)  
North side of Old Church Road  
Lot 35 Map 153B  
P

Built in 1904 by the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis, Mo. for \$8687.50 (HSC p. 40), the second Stokes County Jail is an unusual example of a public building that displays elements of both the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne styles. Block-like in shape, the two-story, seven-course common-bond brick jail features a raised brick belt course and water table, corbeled brick cornice, two-over-two

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and doors capped with segmental arches, a hipped roof covered in pressed tin shingles, and a corner tower with pyramidal roof. The asymmetrical facade originally had no porch, and another large box-like, two-story, five-course common-bond brick section was added to the rear in 1923. Presumably this was when the front wrap-around porch was also added. The jail no longer serves as the county detention center but has been adapted for use as government offices. Consequently, the interior has undergone a good deal of remodeling. On the second floor, however, some of the original non-structural cell blocks remain. This structure is one of the few surviving jails built during the public building boom era of the early twentieth century.

40. Stokes County Jail (new)  
North side Old Church Road  
Lot 34 Map 153B  
ca. 1970  
F

The new Stokes County Jail was built in 1970 after the old, two-story, frame Blair house which had occupied this lot was razed (ET). The Blair house was very similar to the N. A. Martin House (#8) and the N. O. Petree House (#10) which are still standing on Main St., and probably date to the same period, circa 1895. A documentary photo shows that this building had gable-ends with an offset gabled front wing, and two-tier porch with sawn railing and turned posts. Standing in its place is a one-story, flat roof, cement block building with brick veneer that serves as the County Jail. There is also a frame barn currently located in the rear of this lot which probably served as an outbuilding to the Blair House.

41. J. Spot Taylor Store  
North side of Old Church Road  
Lot 33 Map 153B  
ca. 1890s  
C

Initially operated as a retail store in the 1890s, the old Taylor Store has since been converted into the Danbury Volunteer Fire Station, altering the first story front fenestration but leaving the rest of the structure much as it had been at the turn of the century. J. Spot Taylor was born in 1864 and held major interests in tobacco farms all over the county and the Taylor's Warehouse, as well as running this general store, and the nearby Piedmont Springs Hotel (HSC p. 478). In traditional commercial form with gable-end facing the street and a false front, the building is frame, two-story with six-over-six sash windows, covered with weatherboards and a pressed tin shingle roof. The foundation is of cinderblocks which replaced an older fieldstone foundation when the building was moved about twenty feet east on its lot. Several cement block additions have been made to the old store to accommodate the needs of the fire department, but again have not changed the outward character of the structure.

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42. Vacant Lot  
North side of Old Church Road  
Lot 32 Map 153B
43. J. Spot Taylor House  
North side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 31 Map 153B  
ca. 1893  
P

Built in 1893 by tobacco entrepreneur J. Spot Taylor (HSC p. 478), this two-and-a-half story, frame house with exterior fieldstone gable-end chimneys had undergone substantial remodelling. Based on a documentary photo from about 1922, this building originally had a one-story, wrap-around porch with turned posts and decorative sawn work, and a central projecting front gable with partial returns. These two features can no longer be found on the building; a large two-story Mt. Vernonesque attached porch with shed roof built probably in the late 1920s replaces them. At this time two one-story, frame wings with flat roofs were also added in the rear corners of the original "T" shaped houseplan. The facade now consists of three-bays with a center door flanked by side lights. Inside, a center-hall plan leads to spacious rooms with original Victorian mantel surrounds. According to local legend this house was touted as being the most elegant social gathering place in town.

44. <sup>M</sup>H. N. Joyce House  
North side of Main St. East of the old Courthouse  
Lot 30 Map 153 B  
ca. 1883  
P

One of the largest homes in Danbury, this structure was built in 1883 by Robert T. Joyce and soon thereafter sold to his brother Hamilton Martin Joyce, a Danbury merchant (HSC p. 314). Ten years later, The Hornet reported that "Mr. H. M. Joyce was having his house remodelled". Today, the two-story, frame building retains much of its nineteenth century character and displays many features of the Queen Anne style. Not only does the house rest on a foundation of mixed materials, it is decoratively sheathed in a combination of board and batten siding (first floor facade), weatherboards and shaped shingles. One portion of the structure is capped with a gable roof, the other section with a hipped roof. The asymmetrical four-bay facade has two ornate doors with colored glass and one-over-two paired sash windows. A wrap-around porch completed the front fenestration, is one-story in height with a hipped roof and is supported by turned post. A railing with turned ballusters in addition to a spindle frieze runs the full length of this area. Inside is found a irregular floor plan with open string stair, while original mantels survive in most hearth rooms. The picket fence which still surrounds the house is the only one of its kind left in town, and judging from documentary photos had been quite a popular feature in Danbury during the late nineteenth century. There is also a frame privy in the backyard as well as the site of the old well. Unfortunately, this house has fallen into disrepair and is currently at battle

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with being consumed by kudzu.

45. Danbury Reporter Building  
North side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 29 Map 153B  
ca. 1965  
I

Modern, cement block structure built in 1965. Formerly the site of H. M. Joyce's frame general store.

- GONE*  
46. Samuel H. Taylor House  
North side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 22 Map 153B  
ca. 1860  
P

The gable-end, two-story, frame structure was built in three sections, the first in the 1860's to serve as the home of Samuel H. Taylor, director of both the Danbury Hydraulic Company, and the Salem, Winston and Virginia Turnpike and Plank Road Company (HSC p. 477). It was a freestanding three-bay building with center door flanked by side and corner lights and topped with a transom light. Two exterior gable-end brick chimneys provided heat for the building. Inside, the house was arranged along a center hall plan with three rooms on the first floor and four on the second story. Each room still has its original fireplace and mantel; most of which are corner hearths with plain Greek Revival surrounds. The stairway, once located in the center hall, has been removed, and the front door has been relocated. The frame addition which joins this building to the neighboring brick house is also two-stories in height with a gable roof and probably dates to the late nineteenth century. It is likely that this is when the house was converted into a hotel, catering to the growing tourist trade and the everpresent needs of those conducting government business. Combined, these two sections form a five-bay facade with a mixture of six-over-six and nine-over-six sash windows irregularly spaced, and are united by a two-tier wrap-around porch with turned posts and sawn railing. Later, in the 1920s several one-story frame shed wings were attached to the rear of the building. Although the building now stands empty and is in need of repair, it was most recently used as apartments.

47. Wilson Fulton House  
North side of Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 21 Map 153B  
ca. 1860  
P

This is the only surviving nineteenth century brick building in town, built probably in 1860 by Wilson Fulton, an early Danbury merchant and tanner (HSC p. 87). It is a substantial, two-story, double pile house with paired brick chimneys at each

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gable end. There is a full basement with two rooms that have dirt floors, fireplaces, shelving and were once plastered. The three-bay facade features an attached, one-story, hipped-roof porch with railing and square posts sheltering six-over-six sash windows, painted mortar joints and original putlog holes. In the rear of the house is a small one-story frame ell added sometime in the early twentieth century. Inside, the house follows a center hall plan and retains hints of the Greek Revival style: each of the eight mantels in the house have plain flat pilasters, an archway leads from the front hall to a rear hall where the stair is located. The open string stairway is also very simple with square wood bannisters and newel post. The house is currently undergoing restoration.

48. Bank of Stokes County  
North side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 20 Map 153B  
ca. 1910  
C

The small, one-story, five-course common-bond brick building now stands empty, but once served as the Bank of Stokes County. Built in about 1910, it has a standard commercial parapet roof, storefront window, and offset door. Two tiers of brick headers crown one-over-one sash windows on the sides and rear of the building and form segmental arches. Destroyed by fire, little of the interior survives with the exception of the old walk-in vault and remnants of beaded wainscoting that had covered the lower sections of the walls. A brick addition has been tacked onto the rear of the building but does not detract from the original section.

49. Stokes County Farm Bureau  
North side Main St. east of the old Courthouse  
Lot 18 Map 153B  
ca. 1975  
F

Brick veneered ranch style commercial building, ca. 1975.

50. United States Post Office  
East side Courthouse Road  
Lot 17 Map 153B  
ca. 1966  
F

This one-story, brick veneered, cement block building with flat roof was constructed in 1966. It has an offset door and large storefront window. It is on the site formerly occupied by the old McCannless Drug Store (ET).

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51. V. L. DeHart Law Office  
East side of Courthouse Road  
Lot 17A Map 153B  
ca. 1925  
C

This one-story, frame office was built in 1925 (ET) and has subsequently had brick veneer and a hipped pent roof added to the facade. It has an offset door and large storefront window on the facade. Its very survival as an example of a frame commercial building warrants its inclusion in the district as a contributing structure.

52. N. A. Martin Store  
East side of Courthouse Road  
Lot 19 Map 153B  
ca. 1925  
C

On May 20, 1925 the Danbury Reporter announced the "N. A. Martin will rebuild his store destroyed by fire February 8, and put a brick store in place of the older one." The "older one" had been a two-story, frame, gable-front building with a two-tier porch across the facade (D). Replacing it was another two-story structure but of six-course common-bond brick and without a porch. There is decorative brick and cement patterning above the second story windows on the facade and a pressed tin frieze above the center door and two large storefront windows. An offset door leads to the upper story. The interior has been remodelled and converted into office space.

53. Brick Commercial Building  
East side of Courthouse Road  
Lot 24 Map 153B  
ca. 1925  
C

This small, one-story, brick office building, built in 1925, has a three-bay facade, six-over-six sash windows and windowheads composed of vertically set brick stretchers. It follows a standard commercial format with flat parapet roof and is of six-course common-bond. It is currently used as an insurance office.

54. Law Office  
East side of Courthouse  
Lot 23 Map 153B  
ca. 1970s  
F

This new, two-story, three-bay, frame law office with aluminum siding was raised in the 1970s on the site where A. G. Sisk's grocery store and log dwelling had been before both burning in the fire of 1925 (ET).

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55. Stack-Bickett Law Office  
North side of Courthouse  
Lot 24B Map 153B  
ca. 1888  
P

This small, one-story, weatherboarded, frame structure was built in 1888 as the law office of Amos M. Stack and Thomas W. Bickett, two North Carolina statesmen of the early twentieth century. The gable-end facade has partial returns and sawn brackets suggestive of the Eastlake style of ornamentation found on many buildings of this period. There is also a clover-shaped vent in the gable-end over a carved center door with transom light. The facade has three-bay with two-over-two sash windows. The inside of the building is divided into two rooms. The front one served as office space and features panelled walls and a mantel said to have been carved by a local carpenter. The back room was used as a library and accordingly has shelves built into the walls. The office is in good condition and is the only nineteenth century frame office building still standing in Danbury.

56. Stokes County Courthouse  
Courthouse Square  
Lot 16 Map 153B  
ca. 1904  
P

The Stokes County Courthouse is one of six remaining courthouses designed in the Beaux Arts Neo-Classical Revival style at the turn of the century by Charlotte architect Wheeler and his various associates. Crowned by a distinctive Second Empire cupola, these buildings were especially popular in western North Carolina with three identical Wheeler and Runge designs being built in 1904 in Ashe, Stokes, and Watauga (demolished) counties. The main facade of the brick courthouse is a five-part composition with a three-story hipped roof core topped with a small polygonal cupola and fronted by a tetrastyle Ionic portico. The unusual oblong mansard cupola is set directly behind the portico. Two-story flat roof wings project from the sides. All corners are defined by brick pilasters and windows are set in segmental arch surrounds. One-story wings and two-story rear additions were appended in 1940 by a Works Progress Administration grant, but the scale, detail and materials were handled so as to be nearly indistinguishable from the original. All of Wheeler's 1904 buildings have common decorative features: foliate scrolls with a shield bearing the construction date in the tympanum of the portico, bullseye windows in the base of the mansard cupola, and masonry egg and dart caps on the corner pilasters. The interior -- a long hall flanked by offices on the first floor and a second floor courtroom reached by a pair of stairs from the entrance vestibule-- remains virtually untouched since it was completed in 1904. A heavily molded chair rail tops a high vertical wainscot, and door and stair reveals and soffits are paneled. The finish on the 1940 WPA addition attempts to match the earlier section, especially the paneled newel and turned balustrade. In the courtroom the gallery has not been enclosed and the ornate pressed tin ceiling remains. The same wainscot is used in

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the courtroom and windows and door surrounds are symmetrically molded with roundel corner blocks. The furnishings which are also original further emphasize the quality of materials and craftsmanship of the past and the importance of the community's pride in the maintenance of its courthouse. (Description by Renee Gledhill-Earley located in the North Carolina Courthouse Thematic Nomination).

57. McCannless Inn  
North side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 31 Map 153B  
ca. 1860s  
P

This large, frame, two-story, "L"-shaped building was erected in several sections, the earliest of which dates to the 1860s. It was to serve as a hotel accomodating both the overflow of tourists from Piedmont Springs and those people conducting government business. It originally had a five-bay facade with nine-over-six sash windows and center door surrounded by side and transom lights. In August of 1888, Dr. William W. McCannless, who also owned a drug store and a soapstone and white fire-proof clay mine (HSC p. 344), publically boasted that,

The house has been enlarged and newly fitted up for the special accomodations of summer visitors to Piedmont Springs and the mountains. It is a large hotel and has the best arranged and most airy rooms of any house in town. It has a well ventilated parlor furnished with piano (HSC p. 87).

This must have been when several of the side additions were built. The five-bay facade was then expanded to nine bays, and a rear wing was also added. Several other one-story frame shed additions have since been attached to the rear of the building sometime in the early twentieth century. The exterior of the building now stands with a plastered first floor, and weatherboarded second floor and a two-tier wrap-around porch with latticed railing. The interior seems to have initially followed a center hall plan. However, due to the addition of side and rear wings and later conversion of the building into office space and then apartments, the interior details organization of space has undergone many changes. Nevertheless, some interior details do remain including the stair newel post and several two panel doors. The building is currently being rented as apartments, and whereas the interior has been heavily remodelled, the exterior appears with little modern alterations.

58. Steven's Building  
North side Main St. west of the Old Courthouse  
Lot 30 Map 153A  
ca. 1947  
F

Now vacant, the one-story, cement block building was constructed for Jarvis Stevens in 1947 (CO).

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59. H. M. Joyce's Grill  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 29 Map 153B  
ca. 1947

*Gone*  
**F**

Built in 1947 as a service station and grill for H. M. Joyce and Jarvis Stevens, this cement block building is faced with a decorative stone veneer popular throughout the county. For this reason, Joyce's Grill is included as a contributing structure in the district despite its late date of construction. Frank Hayden has been credited as the craftsman who designed and executed the facade of this structure. In 1952-3 the service station/grill closed, reopening in 1954 as Joyce's Grill (C0).

60. H. M. Joyce Ranch House  
North side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 28 Map 153A  
ca. 1966  
F

New ranch house built in 1966 for H. M. Joyce with brick veneer and wide board and batten siding (C0).

61. W. G. Petree House  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 27 Map 153A  
ca. 1919  
C

This frame, one-and-a-half story bungalow with shed dormer and engaged porch, was built in 1919 for its first owner W. G. Petree (ET). Only a few changes have been made to the structure since then. In 1979 side and rear additions were built necessitating several windows be closed and a new interior door cut. The three-bay asymmetrical facade of the main section, however, was not affected by these changes, and features three-over-one single and paired sash windows which flank the center doorway.

62. Danbury Methodist Church Parsonage  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 26 Map 153A  
ca. 1910  
C

Although this early twentieth century two-story, frame building with a fieldstone and brick foundation no longer serves as the Methodist Parsonage, it continues to be used as a private residence. Set close to the road, its three-bay facade is sheltered by a wrap-around, one-story, attached porch with shed roof. The west end

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of the porch retains part of the original railing with square wood ballusters. Other details include shingles in the front center gable and a boxed cornice with partial return on front and side gables. Unlike the exterior, the interior of this building has been heavily remodelled, though its center-hall plan remains in tact. The rear wing is a later addition.

63. Danbury Methodist Church  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 25 Map 153A  
ca. 1959  
F

In 1950 this three-bay, brick, gable-front church was erected by John M. Taylor between the old Methodist Church and the Methodist Parsonage as a memorial to the Spotswood B. Taylor and Grace McGeeHee Taylor Family. With a raised belt course of brick headers, the church also has brick segmental arches with central keystone over all openings. On the interior the church boasts a vaulted ceiling with exposed decorative trusses. Lacking a regular congregation, the church is inactive.

64. Danbury United Methodist Church  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 24 Map 153A  
ca. 1903  
P

*Gone*  
When Danbury Methodists first organized in 1854 they met in a church which once stood next to the cemetery (ET). In 1903, however, a new church site was selected by the trustees situated closer to the center of town. A year later, work was begun on the frame church which still stands on this lot (HSC p. 75). Built on the site of the Danbury Female Academy (ET), this small "L" shaped church has a tall tower with pyramidal roof rising from the corner of the "L". Windows are capped with triangles and feature colored glass. Currently used by the Stokes County Arts Council for storage, all of the interior furnishings have been removed. Beaded paneling covers the walls and the vaulted ceiling.

65. Danbury School I  
North side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 23 Map 153A  
ca. 1905  
C

This very simple, one-and-a-half story, "L" shaped, frame, two-room schoolhouse is very similar in appearance to several other local schools built at the turn of the nineteenth century. The facade has an offset front gable and side gable at the other end with two doors and two six-over-six sash windows completing the front fenestration. Built in 1905, this building was the first public school for white children in

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Danbury (ET). Still sheathed in original weatherboards, the school no longer serves its intended purpose, but has been converted into a residence.

66. S. P. Christian House  
North side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 22 Map 153A  
ca. 1940

F  
This nice, two-story, frame bungalow with gable ends and three shed dormers was built on a stone foundation as late as 1940. An attached, one-story, gable porch extends across all three bays but does not continue across the full facade. The center door is flanked by six-over-six paired sash windows. Brackets formed from projecting pulins adorn each gable-end while plain exposed rafter feet are found on the front and rear facades of the structure.

67. J. R. Leake House  
North side of Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 21 Map 153A  
ca. 1942

F  
Built in 1942 by J. R. Leake, who ran a grocery store in Danbury (HSC p. 336), this one-and-a-half story, brick, center-hall plan bungalow features four-over-one sash and paired sash windows, patterned brickwork at water and belt course levels, and purlin brackets. The three-bay facade is sheltered by an engaged porch with railing composed of brick bannisters. The house is currently unoccupied.

68. Manuel's Superette  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 20 Map 153A  
ca. 1930s

F  
This frame, gable-front store built in the mid-1930s with a cement block foundation has asbestos siding and a standing seam metal roof. It has been used as a variety of commercial establishments over time, most recently being outfitted as a video arcade. This lot had been the site of the John Hawkins House--a frame one-and-a-half story, three-bay house with exterior gable-end chimneys (D).

69. R. E. Leake House  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 19 Map 153A  
ca. 1922

C

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R. E. Leake, who reportedly ran a grocery store in Sandy Ridge, N. C. (HSC p.336), built this large, frame, two-story bungalow in 1922 with gable-end roof, center-gable dormer, german siding, and large attached gabled porch. Typical bungalow features incorporated in this structure include such details as purlin brackets, shingled gable-ends and exposed rafter feet beneath a long overhanging roof. A one-story gabled wing was added to the rear of the building probably during the 1950s.

70. Danbury Baptist Church  
North side Main St. west of the old Courthouse  
Lot 18 Map 153A  
ca. 1927  
P

Built in 1927, the Danbury Baptist Church is a plain, frame, one-and-a-half story vernacular structure with bungalow details. The church's cross plan is accentuated by large nine-over-nine sash windows with transom lights, purlin brackets, and cross-gable cupola. The interior retains its original furnishings and has a flat ceiling with ornamental cross beams. Colored glass is found throughout. The church currently holds regular services.

71. Danbury School II  
Intersection of NC 89 and Old Sheep Rock Road  
Lot 17 Map 153A  
ca. 1925  
C

This school was raised during North Carolina's public building movement in the early twentieth century. On July 8, 1925 the Danbury Reporter announced that "the Board of Education awarded a contract for the erection of a new school at a cost of \$17,835.00. Sam T. Johnson, a Graham contractor was the successful bidder. The structure (is) to be completed by fall". Laid in five-course common-bond brick, the building is three-stories high with a hipped roof. The central block features large arched openings on the second-story level, and is flanked by two pedimented wings. When the building was remodelled to serve as government offices in the 1960s the openings were filled-in with board-and-batten type material leaving only enough space for small windows.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Tourism
<input type="checkbox"/> invention				
<b>Specific dates</b>	1860-1930	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Various	

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Retaining much of the physical character it had achieved by the year 1930, the Danbury Historic District encompasses the majority of the town created by the state legislature in 1848-49 to serve as the county seat of the newly redrawn Stokes County. This character was determined by both the geography and the terrain of the area and the broader trends affecting the state's development in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After more than five decades of steady development as a courthouse town, a commercial and social center for the surrounding rural farming and mining areas, and a mineral springs resort, Danbury was eclipsed by the town of Walnut Cove and the booming metropolis of Winston-Salem. Today, Danbury stands as a picturesque and vivid reminder of these trends in the state's development, with its dominant 1904 courthouse and jail, and attendant office buildings, commercial dbuilding, homes, churches, schools, and hotels, representing the major architectural styles of the period, as well as the more traditional building forms typical of small towns across the state.

### Criteria Assessment:

- A. Is representative of the establishment of new county seats in various parts of North Carolina as the state's population grew in the mid-19th century and new counties were created, and is associated with the growth of mineral springs resorts in various parts of the state in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- C. Contains structures representing the major architectural trends of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, as well as more traditional building forms of the period, including examples of residential, commercial and institutional construction.

### Criteria Exceptions:

- A. The Danbury Presbyterian Church (23), Clark Memorial Presbyterian Church (37), Danbury Methodist Church (62) and the Danbury Baptist Church (70), all contribute to the character of the district, and compliment the architectural fabric of the district.
- D. The Danbury Cemetery (1) is a focal point at the east end of the district, and is a representative example of 19th and early 20th centuries rural cemeteries in the piedmont/ foothills of North Carolina, having stones dating from at least the 1850s, and likely before. The cemetery is landscaped with large boxwoods, flowers, stone walkways and stone markers. Some family plots are separated by stone curbs.

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Unlike most courthouse towns in North Carolina, Danbury retains much of its early character. Its scale, physical relationships among buildings, and aura of isolation remain essentially undisturbed after 135 years. Since commissioners, appointed by the General Assembly of 1848-1849, created the town as the seat of government for the newly divided Stokes County, geography, the county's dependence on tobacco as a cash crop, the proximity of mineral springs and mines, the condition of transportation in the relatively isolated northwestern Piedmont, and the growth of nearby cities have affected Danbury's development. Today, however, Stokes' turn-of-the-century courthouse still dominates this quiet village, even though the county now conducts most of its business in an impressive new courthouse complex west of town.

Geographic aspects of Stokes County have influenced Danbury. The town is located near the center of the county, just east of Sauratown Mountains. This range, whose highest peak rises about 2,500 feet above sea level, extends in a northeasterly direction from Pilot Mountain in Surry county to near Danbury. These mountains and the hills that surround them have for many years attracted tourists, but have also hampered travel and development. The terrain in Stokes County has forced most farmers to cultivate small farms that are difficult to mechanize. Danbury's location near the Dan River and one of its tributaries,<sup>1</sup> once the site of an iron forge and gristmill, also has affected the town's economy.

This hilly and well-watered area was settled first by Indians, then by a variety of Europeans. Saura Indians lived in villages along the Yadkin, Catawba, and Dan rivers as early as 1670. William Byrd of Virginia discovered Saura villages on the Dan River in 1728, but they were deserted.<sup>2</sup> White settlers, primarily of English, Scotch-Irish, and German stock, later poured into the North Carolina back country, especially after about 1750. Many of them journeyed to what then was Rowan County from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia on the "Great Philadelphia Wagon Road." Notable among these settlers<sup>3</sup> were the Moravians, who in 1753 purchased a 100,000-acre tract called Wachovia.

The influx of settlers led to the repeated division of counties. The General Assembly carved Surry County from Rowan in 1771. To meet the need for more effective government, legislators in 1789 divided Surry County to create Stokes. The county seat, which came to be known as Germanton,<sup>4</sup> was located near the center of the county and on the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road. The new county apparently proved satisfactory until the 1840s.<sup>5</sup> In 1846 some residents requested the opportunity to vote on whether to divide Stokes<sup>5</sup>; three years later the General Assembly responded favorably to proponents of division. Lawmakers on January 16,<sup>6</sup> 1849, severed from Stokes the southern part of the county, naming it Forsyth County.

The division necessitated the selection of a new site for the county seat of Stokes County. The General Assembly appointed Alexander King, William C. Moore, James Byerson, John Banner, and Stephen Smith as commissioners to select a seat of<sup>7</sup> justice, purchase land, lay off and sell lots at auction, and erect public buildings. The county court in March, 1849, ordered the commissioners to erect a courthouse at a cost not exceeding

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\$3,000 and a jail costing \$2,000 or less. In June the commissioners purchased from Samuel Shackelford 47 acres of land on the Dan River and Bugk Island Road. Shackelford, who owned a tavern and a small farm, sold the land for \$75.

Soon County Surveyor John J. Terry laid off lots, which the commissioners proceeded to sell. Despite a request of 24 justices of the peace in June, 1849, to halt the process, the commissioners held an auction on August 22 and 23 to dispose of additional lots. They auctioned 37 lots at a total cost of \$3,356.50. By March, 1850, space for 20 or 25 lots remained. The commissioners surmised that the sale of remaining lots would raise enough revenue to pay for construction of the courthouse and jail. Eventually, Terry laid off 51 lots, leaving space for the courthouse in the center of the town.

The commissioners contracted with the firm of Worth and Houston to complete the public buildings by the second Monday in June, 1851. They rose according to schedule, for in August, 1851, "A Looker On" reported that "the Court House stands in bold relief on an open space or square of one hundred and eighty feet. The Court House is a plain brick building of forty-five by thirty-five feet, with a very plain Courtroom on the second floor. From every window of the Court room you have a commanding prospect of the surrounding country."<sup>10</sup>

The county court made arrangements for improving the appearance of the new county seat. In June, 1850, the court appointed Wilson Fulton, Joseph A. Houston, and E. L. Martin as a committee to effect the removal of trees, shrubs, and rocks from the streets. Appropriate shade trees were to be left in place.<sup>11</sup>

Agreeing on a name for the "county town of Stokes" proved to be difficult. The General Assembly in January, 1851, named the town Crawford, in honor of the wife of John Hill, a long-time clerk of court and member of Congress. The local post office gained the appellation Danbury, the name of Governor Alexander Martin's plantation in Rockingham County. Residents voted their preference in 1852 and petitioned the General Assembly to change the name to Danbury. Legislators acquiesced, and the change occurred in March, 1853.<sup>12</sup>

More significant changes took place. One observer noted in the summer of 1851 that a new spirit captivated the people of the region:

Three years since it was regarded by all as being just beyond the confines of law and gospel. Where the devotees of Bachus, and the furies held their court untrammled by the formalities of civilization, you now see a Division of the Sons of Temperance, numbering some sixty members, offering their devotions at nature's pure and sparkling fountains as they gush forth from the mountain's side. . . . On Sunday morning may be heard from the Temple of Justice, prayer and peans of praise to the architect of the Universe,<sup>13</sup> for the spiritual and temporal prosperity of the citizens and country.

These people owed their prosperity to more than Danbury's sudden emergence. During the antebellum period the farmers of Stokes County grew tobacco in increasing quantities. Farmers in counties bordering Virginia, from Halifax in the east to Stokes in the west,

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embraced a new curing process that produced what came to be known as bright leaf tobacco. Prior to the Civil War this popular product brought higher land values and widespread prosperity to the Bright Leaf Belt. Farmers sold tobacco in Danville, Virginia, or established small local "factories," where they produced plug tobacco that could be peddled in other areas.<sup>14</sup>

Iron mining also affected the local economy. Although better transportation and higher prices for agricultural products in North Carolina reduced the incentives for manufacturing iron products for local consumption by the 1840s and 1850s, some forges and furnaces continued to operate. Among them was Moody's Tunnel Iron Works, built in 1843 by Nathaniel Moody and John Pepper on a 107-acre site east of Danbury on the Dan River. Reubin Golding purchased the property in 1854 and formed the Stokes Iron Mining Company. Moody and Golding probably mined ore from the "Rogers ore bank" and floated it to the forge on flatboats. There, in the 1850s, Golding utilized slaves and other workers to produce iron, which was sold to local residents and businesses for 5 cents per pound. By 1860 Golding had invested \$5,000 in the forge operation and produced annually 75,000 pounds of iron valued at \$3,750. He also operated a blacksmith shop valued at \$5,000.<sup>15</sup>

Mineral springs in the area attracted health-seekers and wealthy socialites. Residents of coastal towns sought relief from summer heat and miasma during the colonial period by visiting springs on the edge of the Piedmont. By the antebellum period, however, trips to resorts in North Carolina and elsewhere became a fashionable symbol of prosperity. Piedmont Springs, located about two miles north of Danbury, emerged as a resort in the early 1850s. Thornton Reddick purchased the property in May, 1849, and by August, 1851, he was rapidly improving the property for the "accommodation of the afflicted," who sought the chalybeate water. The facilities included eight cabins (then under construction) and a two-story log hotel. The spring provided income for area residents who worked there or sold produce with which to feed guests.<sup>16</sup> Subsequent owners dramatically improved Piedmont Springs. One visitor in 1858 described the changes that occurred:

It seems but yesterday, I used to come to these springs when in their original native simplicity. The worst kind of 'old corn Whisky' was retailed by 'Flinchem' in a gourd, from a brown jug with a corn-cob stopper. Now champagne, &c., is the order of the day.--We then scraped away the 'trash,' leveled the dirt, and sprinkling down the bran, had the real bran dances of primeval times the music of the Banjo. Now, fair ladies trip the light fantastic in fine saloons, to the music of brass, catgut, or whatever you wish. Then, a tough sheep, stolen by 'Dick Chamberlain,' was a delicacy rare as tough. Now 'anything you call for' is furnished by polite and trained servants. Then, log cabins, ox wagons, and tents sheltered our beavers from the mountain showers. Now, splendid big buildings, all white and stately, cast their proud shadows across the way.<sup>17</sup>

Changes also took place in nearby Danbury. Its role as a courthouse town and the favorable economic climate fostered rapid development during the 1850s. An observer noted in August, 1851, that the principal buildings were being built along the Main

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Street, which "commences at the river, and runs due west along the undulating slope, five hundred yards, to a pretty oval knoll, the summit of which is on the north side. . . . By 1860 at least forty people, including two free blacks and two free mulattoes, resided in Danbury. They lived in such substantial dwellings as Wilson Fulton's brick house (#47) and the Samuel H. Taylor house (#46), as well as in modest dwellings like that owned by James Pepper (#7).<sup>18</sup>

Danbury supported a variety of businesses. Wilson Fulton owned a mercantile firm prior to leaving Danbury in 1860. Other merchants included Lash and Moore, King Hiram Bray and Henry Null, a grocery keeper. Joseph W. Kelly and Jacob Waggoner worked as blacksmiths, and B. H. Harris built carriages. William Golding made shoes and boots for the people of Danbury, and D. F. Dalton painted their residences and other buildings. W. W. Hampton and Lafayette Smith dealt in tobacco. Smith, who owned a farm and nine slaves, operated a tobacco factory and store in a three-story structure that also served as his family's residence.<sup>19</sup>

At least one inn accommodated court attendants or guests who found no room at Piedmont Springs. Alexander Moody owned a large tavern or inn just west of the courthouse, as early as 1854; in December of that year he deeded it to his brother, Nathaniel.<sup>20</sup>

A variety of improvements enhanced the quality of life in Danbury. The Sons of Temperance erected a two-story frame building in the west end of Danbury by June, 1854, and opened Danbury Female Academy in it. The Pepper School, located west of Dr. John Pepper's home on the south side of Main Street, was in operation probably by the mid-1850s. Local Methodists purchased an acre of land in the west end of town in 1856 and soon erected a church. In 1855 the Danbury Hydraulic Company worked to construct a waterworks located three-fourths of a mile west of the courthouse.<sup>21</sup>

Improvements to public property in the antebellum period included an addition to the two-story log jail and the erection of a plank fence around the jail. These projects, as well as the construction of a whipping post, were completed in 1860.<sup>22</sup>

The Civil War apparently had no overwhelming impact on Danbury, although local men enlisted in the Confederate army and Union troops passed through town. Rufus Pepper, a son of Dr. John Pepper, and other men enlisted in the Twenty-first Regiment of North Carolina Troops in Danbury on May 29, 1861. Pepper was elected captain of company F. Spottswood B. Taylor served as captain of Company H, Fifty-third Regiment of North Carolina Troops.<sup>23</sup> Enrolling officers visited Danbury on at least two occasions in 1863 to induct men into the 72nd Regiment of North Carolina Militia.<sup>24</sup> Union troops commanded by General George Stoneman passed through Danbury on April 9, 1865. Although they did no damage to the town, the troops did close the Moratock Mining and Manufacturing Company, which had furnished supplies to the Confederacy. Reubin Golding and other investors had formed the corporation in 1862.<sup>25</sup>

The development of Danbury and Stokes County during the late nineteenth century in some ways reflected trends throughout North Carolina. Agricultural production after the Civil War suffered from such handicaps as farmers' lack of credit and labor, poor

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transportation, tenancy, and low prices. Although production of crops quickly reached pre-war levels (tobacco recovered as a cash crop during the 1880s), prices generally remained depressed throughout the century. Nevertheless, the state experienced rapid industrial expansion during the 1880s and 1890s. Extensive construction of railroads and the rapid development of the furniture, textile, and tobacco industries led to a dramatic increase in material wealth and the growth of urban centers.<sup>26</sup>

Danbury apparently experienced economic difficulties during the late 1860s and early 1870s. A business directory reported in 1869 that the town hosted only two lawyers, two physicians, two dry goods firms, a general store, a drug store, two hotels, a tobacco factory, and an iron forge.<sup>27</sup> Owners of the Moratock Mining and Manufacturing Company soon accumulated excessive debts and mortgaged the property in 1871.<sup>28</sup> Four years later it was sold at public auction to Colonel Jonathan M. Heck of Raleigh. Poor roads, which had always plagued the area, continued to retard growth. A summer resident who boarded with a "clever" family in 1873 complained that "the roads are bad here at best but the rain washed them so its almost impossible [sic] to get over them now."<sup>29</sup> He also observed that "This is a ugly country round here and poor is git out. . . ."

The economic slump soon abated, however, and Danbury experienced growth during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The increasing availability of goods and services, new mining ventures, improvements in transportation, building construction, popularity of local resorts, and an increase in population characterized the trend.

New businesses joined established firms. Dr. John Pepper and his sons began publishing the Danbury Reporter and Post in a building east of the courthouse in 1872. A business directory in 1878 listed eight merchants, including Aaron Waggoner, who owned a corn and flour mill. Six years later Danbury supported two blacksmiths and wheelwrights; two building contractors, one of whom (Elijah W. Blair) owned a cabinet shop; a distillery; two saddle and harness makers; a livery stable; five general stores; a tannery; a book and job printer; a drug store; two corn and flour mills; and two sawmills.<sup>30</sup>

Tobacco continued to be an important commodity. Lafayette Smith's tobacco factory, where he produced plug tobacco in manufactured boxes, remained in operation during most of the 1870s. Others engaged in aspects of the tobacco business included John Neal, Asa Neal, J. W. Lawson, and the Pepper family.<sup>31</sup>

Investors began new mining operations in the area. J. M. Heck and his heirs operated the Moratock concern well into the 1890s. Thomas Ruffin of Hillsborough and such prominent local residents as W. W. McCanless, Nathaniel Moody Pepper, and Walter Winbourne King mined asbestos, mica, blue soapstone, silver, lead, iron, white fire-proof clay, flexible sandstone, and other minerals during the 1880s and 1890s.<sup>32</sup>

The increasing prosperity apparently created a need for more lawyers, some of whom eventually achieved statewide prominence. Robert Broadnax Glenn, later a governor of North Carolina (1905-1909) practiced in Danbury between 1878 and 1886. When he left, Glenn sold his two-story dwelling to another attorney, W. W. King (#28). Amos M. Stack in 1888 erected a two-room law office behind the courthouse (#55); five years later

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Thomas Walter Bickett joined Stack's practice. Bickett served as governor between 1917 and 1921.<sup>33</sup> Prior to 1900 as many as four attorneys at a time maintained offices in Danbury.

Improvements in transportation probably abetted Danbury's growth. The county commissioners authorized work on roads to Danbury on several occasions during the 1870s and 1880s.<sup>34</sup> In March, 1875, the General Assembly incorporated the Dan River Navigation Company, which was organized to render the river navigable for steamboats and other craft "from the Virginia line near Danville, to [the] Virginia line near Danbury. . . ." Danbury's N. M. Pepper served as a commissioner of the corporation. Railroad may have had a greater impact. Residents of Danbury were among the voters of Sauratown and Meadows townships who in 1880 agreed to be taxed for a subscription of stock in the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway Company. The railroad, which eventually stretched from Wilmington to Mount Airy, included five branches. Tracks reached Walnut Cove, eleven miles from Danbury, in 1888. Within a year the Roanoke and Southern Railway<sup>35</sup> Company had made considerable progress on a line between Winston-Salem and Walnut Cove.

These improvements in transportation stimulated the development of local resorts. The hotel at Piedmont Springs burned in 1880 but a huge facility replaced it in 1889. The rambling two-story structure, noted for its imposing observation tower over the front entrance, could accommodate 150 guests. During the summer of 1890 the Piedmont Springs Company expanded the resort by building cottages, the lumber for which passed through Danbury in wagons. Piedmont Springs featured such amenities as a ballroom located in a separate building, a billiard and pool room, stables, a tennis court and croquet ground, and impressive bands engaged for entire seasons. "Turnouts" from the resort met every train at Walnut Cove. A resort developed<sup>36</sup> by the late 1890s at Moore Springs, located a mile west of Danbury's courthouse.

By the 1890s, then, Danbury evidenced notable growth. The Hornet, a local newspaper, reported in October, 1893, that N. A. Martin was having lumber delivered for a nice dwelling to be built near his store, on the east side of the courthouse square. J. Spot Taylor prepared to build a "big store house" on Main Street near the handsome residence he had just completed (#41). Drs. W. L. and W. V. McCanless were in the process of remodeling their drug store. R. H. R. Blair was making arrangements to build a house and cabinet shop on Main Street. Directly across the street, local white Presbyterians had already completed the stone foundation for their new church (#23). Local blacks assembled lumber for<sup>37</sup> their new Presbyterian church, to be built at the extreme east end of town (#37).<sup>38</sup> By 1896 Danbury's population, only about 145 in 1880, had grown to 265.

Cultural and social amenities accompanied the growth. Such prominent men as Robert B. Glenn, Drs. W. V. and W. L. McCanless, J. W. Pepper, and J. Spot Taylor in 1882 organized a cornet band. Spottswood B. Taylor, who by 1869 had opened a hotel in his home for the accommodation of court attendants and tourists, eventually developed it into a facility that attracted lavish evening dances and other social events. In 1893 Danbury Male and Female College flourished, and the white<sup>39</sup> Presbyterian congregation planned another school for the rear of their new church.

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Danbury continued to grow during the first quarter of the twentieth century, a period characterized by improvements in the status of agriculture, better transportation facilities, and industrial expansion in North Carolina and the nation.<sup>40</sup> New public buildings, businesses, and residences enhanced the town. Local resorts flourishes. Nevertheless, the faster development of Walnut Cove and nearby Winston outstripped Danbury's progress. Ironically, improvements in North Carolina's roads and the widespread use of automobiles eventually diminished Danbury's importance as a tourist center.

New public buildings rose after the turn of the century. The Stokes County commissioners in 1903 hired the architectural firm of Wheeler and Runge to design a new courthouse. Contractor L. W. Cooper of Charlotte built the imposing brick structure on the site of the old courthouse, which was torn down. The structure was completed late in 1904 at a cost of \$20,000 (#56). The following spring the commissioners voted to have a stone wall built on the south side of the courthouse square.<sup>41</sup> Concurrently, the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis and L. W. Cooper built a new brick jail on the east end of town (#39).<sup>42</sup> County commissioners accepted the completed building on January 16, 1905. Danbury received its first public school building, a two-room, frame structure, in 1905 (#65). In July, 1925, the board of education awarded a contract to contractor Sam T. Johnson, of Graham,<sup>43</sup> for the erection of a large brick school west of Danbury. It was to cost \$17,835 (#71).

Local congregations built new churches. The Methodists in 1904 erected a frame building in the west end of town (#64). The Danbury Baptist Church, which was organized in 1926,<sup>44</sup> dedicated their frame edifice, located west of the Methodist church, in 1929 (#70).

Merchants and other investors opened new businesses or built new buildings during this period. Danbury acquired its first bank in 1905 when the Bank of Stokes County opened a small brick office on the north side of Main Street (48). The bank improved and expanded the building in 1910. Another financial institution began a one-story, brick building on the south side of Main Street in 1919 (#15).<sup>45</sup> Danbury's worst fire on the evening of February 8, 1925, destroyed six frame structures fronting the courthouse on its east side, including the stores of N. A. Martin, W. G. Petree, and J. J. Booth. Martin soon decided to replace his frame store with a brick building (#52);<sup>46</sup> eventually the other buildings were also replaced. By November, 1927, J. R. Leake had erected a store and filling station and garage at the other end of Main Street.<sup>47</sup>

Construction of residences proceeded apace. The Martin and Petree families built two-story, frame dwellings around the turn of the century (#8, #10), and the Methodist congregation erected a parsonage near their church about 1914 (#62). A flurry of building activity took place after World War I. Among the new homeowners were E. P. Pepper (#11), N. Earl Wall (#36), Harry H. Leake, and Roy E. Leake (#69), who built their houses between 1921 and 1927. H. M. Joyce in 1922 extensively renovated the home he had built about forty years before (#44).<sup>48</sup>

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The popularity of Danbury's nearby resorts peaked during the first quarter of the century. Piedmont Springs operated until 1930, when it was destroyed by fire. Moore's Springs flourished until about 1921, when the family closed it rather than undertake repairs. The hotel at Moore's Springs burned in 1925. A third resort, Vade Mecum, attracted pleasure-seekers until its primary hotel was destroyed by fire in 1924. The fires ended an era that had already begun to fade. Better roads and widespread availability of automobiles by the 1920s<sup>49</sup> allowed vacationers to forsake Stokes County's resorts for the mountains or the coast.

Development in general forsook Danbury for such places as Walnut Cove and Winston. Walnut Cove grew rapidly after two railroad companies built lines passing through it. In 1910 the Danbury Reporter noted that the Cove was enjoying strong, healthy growth, with new citizens, enterprises, and dwellings. The same year the Stokes County Farmers' Union organized the Stokes County Dry Prizery in Walnut Cove to dry tobacco and pack it in hogsheads. By about 1913 local promoters touted Walnut Cove as the "ganglionic commercial center" for Stokes and parts of Rockingham and Forsyth counties.<sup>50</sup> Winston undoubtedly had a significant impact, as one sarcastic observer noted in 1929:

Today . . . [Danbury] is merely a little village near the mountain. It's [sic] sole attraction is the courthouse and its sole connection with the outside world a state highway. Mail is brought once a day by a star route mail carrier. A six month's school is provided for its children. The politicians of both parties continually scheme<sup>51</sup> to keep the county from being absorbed by the neighboring county of Forsyth.

Danbury's character has changed very little since the 1920s. Although Stokes County now possesses some industry and nearby Hanging Rock State Park, developed during the Great Depression, draws thousands of visitors to the county each year, the area to a certain extent serves<sup>52</sup> as a "bedroom" community for persons who commute to Winston-Salem and other cities. The public buildings, residences, and commercial structures that line Main Street, some of which are in need of rehabilitation, stand as reminders of more energetic days.

Perhaps a poet's assessment in 1927 remains true today:

What an image of peace and  
quiet  
Is this little town among the  
hills!  
All is so quite; the troubled  
breast,  
The wounded spirit, the heart  
oppressed,  
Here will find a repose that  
thrills.  
This is Danbury!<sup>53</sup>

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- 1 Rixie Hunter, Stokes County, North Carolina (Winston-Salem: Pepper Printing Company, n.d.), 1, hereinafter cited as Hunter, Stokes County; Timber Resources of Stokes County (N.p.: N. C. Geological Survey, Press Bulletin No. 81, 1912), 1; John R. Woodard (ed.), The Heritage of Stokes County, North Carolina (Germanton: Stokes County Historical Society, 1981), 3, hereinafter cited as Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County.
- 2 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 6-7. Byrd noted the villages during an expedition to survey the dividing line between North Carolina and Virginia. Apparently the Saura returned to South Carolina, where they lived before journeying northward. Cherokees later settled in the area inhabited by the Saura.
- 3 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 10-11; Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, third edition, 1973), 76-86, hereinafter cited as Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina.
- 4 Stokes County was named for Colonel John Stokes, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, who later served as a United States District Court Judge. Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 18-20. William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1968), 476, 482, hereinafter cited as Powell, North Carolina Gazetteer.
- 5 To the People of Stokes County (broadside, 1846, in North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill).
- 6 Laws of North Carolina, 1848-1849, c. 23, hereinafter cited as N. C. Laws, 1848-1849.
- 7 N. C. Laws, 1848-1849, c. 24.
- 8 Minutes of the Stokes County Court of Please and Quarter Sessions, March, 1849, term, March, 1850, term, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Stokes County, North Carolina, Productions of Agriculture Schedule, 15-16, manuscript copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Eighth Census, 1860, with appropriate schedule, county, and page number; Samuel Shackelford to William A. Lash, chairman of the county court of Stokes County, June 10, 1849, Stokes County Deed, Office of the Register of Deeds, Stokes County Courthouse, Danbury, Book 17, pp. 295-296, hereinafter cited as Stokes County Deeds. Most references to Shackelford invert the "e" and "l".
- 9 Minutes of the Stokes County Court of Please and Quarter Sessions, September, 1849, term, March, 1850, term, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Copy of plat of Danbury, ca. 1850, Stokes County Deeds, Book 69, p. 67.
- 10 Minutes of the Stokes County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, March, 1849, term, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; People's Press (Salem), August 2, 1851, hereinafter cited as People's Press.
- 11 Minutes of the Stokes County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, June, 1850, term,

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Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh. Fulton's given name has been seen as Wilson and Winston. It will appear hereinafter as Wilson.

12 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 36-37; Laws of North Carolina, 1850-1851, c. 355; Laws of North Carolina, 1852, c. 32; Powell, North Carolina Gazetteer, 133.

13 People's Press, August 2, 1851.

14 Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 392; J. Franklin Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns: A History of Stokes County, North Carolina" (unpublished manuscript, n.d., Search Room, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh), 53, 163, hereinafter cited as Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns."

15 Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 395, 399-400; Moratock Iron Furnace File (Stokes County), Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Moratock Iron Furnace File; Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," 162-163, Appendix [2]; Eighth Census, 1860, Products of Industry Schedule, 1; Danbury Iron Works Daybook, 1855-1858, A.B. 375, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Danbury Iron Works Daybook. The daybook reveals that Golding's slave Andrew produced 44,090 pounds of iron in 1856; 31,165 pounds in 1857; and 13,770 pounds in 1858. Danbury Iron Works Daybook, 26, 30, 32.

16 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 146-147; People's Press, August 2, 1851.

17 Raleigh Register, August 4, 1858, quoted in Guion Griffis Johnson, Antebellum North Carolina: A Social History (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1937), 189.

18 People's Press, August 2, 1851; Eighth Census, 1860, Population Schedule, 109. The free black and mulattos resided in the household of Nathaniel Moody. They were Margaret Stuart (black), 45; Martha Stuart (black), 16; Sarah (mulatto), 5; and Ruth (mulatto), 6/12. The 1860 Census indicates that only forty people lived in Danbury. Local tradition holds that additional residents, including the families of attorney Andrew Hamilton Joyce, Dr. John Pepper, and Dr. William Walter McCanless resided in town by the 1850s. They are recorded in the census, but not on the single page designated for the town of Danbury. Eighth Census, 1860, Population Schedule, 109, 192, 198; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 87, 313, 406.

19 Eighth Census, 1860 Population Schedule, 109; Eighth Census, 1860, Productions of Agriculture Schedule, 11-12; Eighth Census, 1860, Slave Inhabitants Schedule, 10; Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," Appendix, 3; Winston Fulton Ledger, 1851-1855, Manuscript Department, Duke University Library, Durham; author's interview with Mrs. Ellen Tilley, local historian, Danbury, April 4, 1984 (notes on interview in files of Research Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh), hereinafter cited as Tilley interview; Danbury Reporter, October 29, 1919; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 87.

20 Alexander Moody to Nathaniel Moody, December 12, 1854, Stokes County Deeds, Book 18, 379-380; Tilley interview.

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- 21 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 75, 86, 89; Condemnation proceedings for the Danbury Hydraulic Company--1855, Stokes County Land Records, C. R. 090.408.3, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- 22 Report of S. B. Taylor, commissioner, Records pertaining to repair, building, and general maintenance of public buildings, 1793-1860, Stokes County Miscellaneous Records, C. R. 090.928.11, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- 23 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 154, 156.
- 24 Order of B. Bailey to Captain Franklin Pringle, February 11, 1863, Pringle Family Papers, East Carolina Manuscript Collection, J. Y. Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, hereinafter cited as Pringle Family Papers; Commission of Franklin Pringle as captain in Company F, 72nd Regiment, North Carolina Militia, January 29, 1863, Pringle Family Papers; Enrolment of Conscripts to 45, broadside, August 8, 1863, Pringle Family Papers.
- 25 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 86-87; Moratock Iron Furnace File.
- 26 Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 505-512, 517-518, 520-526.
- 27 Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1869 (Raleigh: J. A. Jones, Publisher, n.d.), 146, hereinafter cited as Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1869.
- 28 Moratock Iron Furnace File.
- 29 James R. Coble to Dear Sister & Brother, August 23, 1873, William R. Hardin Papers, Manuscript Department, Duke University Library, Durham, hereinafter cited as Hardin Papers.
- 30 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 134; Levi Branson (ed.), The North Carolina Business Directory, 1877 and 1878 (Raleigh: L. Branson, 1878), 279, hereinafter cited as Branson, North Carolina Business Directory, 1877-1878; Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1884 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1884), 601-603, hereinafter cited as Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1884.
- 31 Ninth Census of the United States, 1870: Stokes County, North Carolina, Products of Industry Schedule, Meadows Township, 1, Microfilm of National Archives Manuscript Copy, Archives Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Branson, North Carolina Business Directory, 1877-1878, p. 278; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1884, p. 602; Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1890. Only one firm dealt in tobacco in 1889. By that time most local tobacco was taken to large factories in Durham, Danville, and Richmond for processing. Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," 175-176.
- 32 Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1884, p. 603; Levi branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1896), 575,

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hereinafter cited as Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896.

- 33 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 87; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896, p. 573.
- 34 Minutes, Stokes County Board of Commissioners, November 1, 1875; February 2, 1885; December 4, 1888, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Commissioners Minutes.
- 35 Commissioners Minutes, June 7, 1880; November 1, 1880; June 6, 1881; May 7, 1888; October 1, 1888; January 7, 1889; Private Laws of North Carolina, 1874-1875, c. 152; The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway: Its Origin, Construction, Connections, and Extensions (Philadelphia: Allen, Lane & Scott, Printers, 1889); Roland B. Eutsler, "The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway," North Carolina Historical Review, II (October, 1925), 435-436, 441.
- 36 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 147; Piedmont Springs Hotel, Danbury, N. C. Season 1911 (N.p., n.d., unpaginated [copy in North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill]); Hornet (Danbury), July 10, 1890, hereinafter cited as Hornet.
- 37 Hornet, October 3, 1893.
- 38 Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Stokes County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 48-50, microfilm of National Archives Manuscript copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1896, p. 572.
- 39 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 87-88; Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1869, p. 146; Hornet, July 4, October 3, 1893.
- 40 Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 576.
- 41 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 40; Commissioners Minutes, August 12, 1903; January 14, 1905; April 3, 1905. The Stokes County Courthouse is one of six remaining courthouses designed by Charlotte architect Wheeler and his associates in the Beaux Arts Neo-Classical Revival style. This type of building was especially popular in the western part of the state. In 1904 virtually identical courthouses were built in Ashe, Wilkes, and Watauga counties. Robert P. Burns, 100 Courthouses: A Report on North Carolina Judicial Facilities (Raleigh: Administrative Office of the Courts, 2 volumes, (1978), 2, p. 543.
- 42 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 40; Commissioners Minutes, January 16, 1905. A cornerstone at the rear of the jail indicates that an addition was constructed in 1923.
- 43 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 89; Danbury Reporter, July 8, 1925.
- 44 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 55, 75; Danbury Reporter, September 1, 1904.

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- 45 Walnut Cove and Stokes County: Wonderful Opportunities in a Land of Vast Possibilities (N.p., [1913?, reprint in files of Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh]), 6, hereinafter cited as Walnut Cove and Stokes County; Danbury Reporter, September 7, 21, 1910; October 8, 1919.
- 46 Danbury Reporter, February 11, 1925; May 20, 1925; Author's interview with Ms. Elizabeth Smith, local historian, Danbury, April 5, 1984 (notes on interview in files of Research Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).
- 47 Danbury Reporter, November 2, December 14, 1927.
- 48 Tilley interview; Danbury Reporter, January 12, July 13, December 10, 1921; July 5, 1922; October 25, 1927.
- 49 Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 146-147; Danbury Reporter, March 19, 1930. Vade Mecum later was operated by the Episcopal church and now is a summer camp for handicapped children. Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 147-148.
- 50 Danbury Reporter, August 17, November 30, 1910; November 29, 1911; Walnut Cove and Stokes County, 2.
- 51 Edward A. Terry, "County Government and County Affairs in Stokes County, N. C." (unpublished manuscript, Institute for Research in Social Sciens, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1929), ii.
- 52 Hunter, Stokes County, 1; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, 2, 148-150.
- 53 Danbury Reporter, April 13, 1927.

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**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of lot 13, Map 153A where it meets Old Sheep Rock Road and continuing south the the back property line of that same lot, thence running east along the back property lines of adjoining lots 12, 11, 10, and 8 on Map 153A, thence continuing south along the western property line of lot 6, Map 153A to the rear property line of that same lot, and continuing east following the rear boundaries of lots 6, 5, and 3 of Map 153A, thence proceeding north on the eastern property line of lot 3, Map 153A to where it meets the southwest corner of lot 1, Map 153A, thence continuing east along the back boundary of lot 1, Map 153A crossing over Bank Road to the western property line of lot 9, Map 153B, and continuing south until reaching the rear boundary of said lot, thence proceeding east along the Mill Creek until meeting NC 89, (Main St.), thence continuing north along the western border of lot 9, Map 153B until meeting the southwest corner of lot 1, Map 153B, thence crossing east over NC 89, thence crossing over SR 1652 headed north to the southern corner of lot 43, Map 153B and following the southernmost property line of that same lot eastwards, thence continuing along the rear boundaries of lot 42A, Map 153B and Parcel 19, Map 153B to the rear property line of lot 37, Map 153B, and continuing westward along the back borders of lots 36, 35, 34, 33, 32, 31, 30, and 29 all on Map 153B, thence crossing over Mill St. where it intersects the eastern border of lot 29, Map 153B, and following the rear property lines of lots 22, 20, and 23, on Map 153B, thence crossing over Courthouse Road, thence crossing over Meadow Road heading north and continuing along the east border of lot 24B, Map 153B to the rear property line continuing west to the westernmost border of said lot and thence continuing south to Meadow Road, crossing over Meadow Road and following the rear property lines of lot 16, Map 153A east and crossing over Bank Road and continuing along the back boundary lines of lots 31, 29, 28, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, 22, 21, 19, and 18 all of Map 153A, until reaching the intersection of Meadow Road and NC 89, thence proceeding southwest across NC 89 to lot 17, Map 153A, and continuing north along the northeast property line of this lot until reaching the corner, thence following the westernmost boundary line of said lot until reaching the north side of Old Sheep Rock Road and thence proceeding east along the north side of Old Sheep Rock Road being the southern boundary of lot 17, Map 153A approximately 200 feet, and thence crossing said road to the point of the beginning as outlined in red on the Danbury Township Maps 153A and 153B.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approx. 88 acres

Quadrangle name Danbury

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	7	5	7	0	5	5	0	4	0	2	9	5	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

1	7	5	7	1	4	6	0	4	0	2	9	5	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

1	7	5	7	1	8	2	0	4	0	2	9	4	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

1	7	5	7	1	5	6	0	4	0	2				0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

1	7	5	7	0	8	5	0	4	0	2	9	0	2	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

1	7	5	7	0	5	6	0	4	0	2	9	3	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The district is on either side of Main Street from Danbury Cemetery Road to NC 89. See map with boundary in red and continuation sheet.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county N/A code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Description, Kathy Goddard, consultant;  
Significance, Maurice York, consultant

organization N. C. Division of Archives & History date July 12, 1984

street & number 109 E. Jones St. telephone 919 733-6545

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*William S. Pinf...*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date July 12, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



