

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR  THEMATIC NOMINATION

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC College Street Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 600 to 802 College Street, inclusive

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Clinton VICINITY OF Third CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE North Carolina CODE 037 COUNTY Sampson CODE 163

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Multiple Owners - list attached

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER REGISTER OF DEEDS  
SAMPSON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

CITY, TOWN

CLINTON, N.C. 28328

STATE

**6 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Thomas Butchko

Jim Sumner, Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Survey and Planning Branch

Research Branch

DATE

June, 1985

STREET & NUMBER

109 E. Jones Street

TELEPHONE

(919) 733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

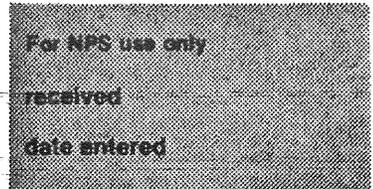
Raleigh

STATE

N. C. 27611

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Continuation sheet    Property Owner List    Item number 4    Page 1

PROPERTY OWNERS  
College Street Historic District  
Clinton, North Carolina

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>✓ 1. American Savings &amp; Loan Association<br/>P. O. Box 1049<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>2. Mrs. W. J. Calhoun<br/>103 Barrus Avenue<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 3. Clinton City Schools<br/>211 Kerr Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 4. R. C. Herring<br/>607 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 5. <del>Robert B. Matthis</del> <i>George E. Wilson</i><br/>609 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 6. Rogers Clark<br/>612 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 7. Mrs. Louise Jolitz <i>William Jordan</i><br/><del>Pine Knolls Shore</del> <i>105 1/2 Arsenal Avenue</i><br/><del>Morehead City, N.C. 28557</del> <i>Fayetteville 28301</i><br/><i>323-5430</i></p> <p>✓ 8. Rogers Clark<br/>612 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>9. A.E. Kennedy, Jr.<br/>107 Doris Avenue<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 10. Robert Werner<br/>614 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> | <p>✓ 11. Hank Stewart<br/>615 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 12. Mrs. H. I. Morris<br/>616 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 13. David L. McLemore, Jr.<br/>617 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>14. Dr. C. O. Floyd<br/>Pawtucket Mall<br/>Charlotte, N.C. 28200</p> <p>✓ 15. Mrs. Ethel L. Crummie<br/>1904 Morganton Road<br/>Fayetteville, N.C. 28303</p> <p>✓ 16. Mrs. Louise G. Hubbard<br/><del>701 College Street</del> <i>Mary-Gran Retirement Cntr. 120 Southwood Dr.</i><br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 17. Dr. Oscar L. Parker<br/>702 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>18. Mrs. Louise G. Hubbard<br/>701 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 19. Landron C. Boney <i>Certificate sent</i><br/>705 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>20. Harry Cromartie<br/><del>706 College Street</del><br/><del>Clinton, N.C. 28328</del><br/>2711 Clark Avenue<br/>Raleigh NC 27607</p> |
|---|--|

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>21. Dr. John H. Kendall<br/>715 Stewart Avenue<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 22. Mrs. E. G. Lee<br/>708 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 23. Sampson Technical College<br/>P. O. Box 318<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328<br/><i>Dr. Clinton W. Perkins</i></p> <p>24. Mrs. E. G. Lee<br/>708 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> | <p>✓ 25. H. L. Turlington<br/>Coharie Acres<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 26. Mrs. Margaret J. Parsons<br/>800 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 27. Allen J. Bass<br/>800 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 28. G. B. Rose<br/>801 College Street<br/>Clinton, N.C. 28328</p> <p>✓ 29. <del>Mrs. Charlie Powell</del><br/><del>609 Chester Street</del><br/><del>Fayetteville, N.C. 28303</del><br/><br/><i>Jesse Marshburn</i><br/><i>PO Box 186</i></p> |
|--|---|

# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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		

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

The College Street Historic District in Clinton is a small, lineal grouping of mid-19th century to 1930's residences on both sides of College Street. It extends from the Eastover-Beaman Street intersection on the southwest to just past the Park Avenue junction on the northeast, a distance of two-and-one-third blocks. The district lies three blocks northeast of the city's central courthouse square. The College Street neighborhood grew around and focused upon the Clinton Academy after 1859. This site is currently occupied by the College Street Elementary School. While the city's early leaders of the 1820s, 1830s and 1840s built in the West Main -North Chestnut Street-West Johnson Street Historic District, by the 1850's the Clinton Academy area was beginning to evolve as a fashionable neighborhood, where the wealthy were building substantial residences close to the academy. The linear district is unified by a consistent application of classical theme interpreted through the specific idioms of the successive Greek Revival style (the L. C. Graves House, the John R. Beaman House, the Col. John Ashford House), Classical Revival style (the College Street Elementary School and the Hobbs-Matthews-Small House), and the Colonial Revival style (the Dr. R. A. Turlington House, the Henry L. Stewart, Sr. House, and the Snipes-Bizzell-Parker House). This classical motif is best evidenced by the treatment of the district's many porches.

The street is now the major route northeast from the courthouse to the US 701 Bypass, although its traffic level has diminished with the rerouting of NC 24 via a bypass in the past ten years. House setbacks are generally in the 50 to 75 feet range, although the College Street Elementary School and the Hobbs-Matthews-Small House have deeper setbacks. Private lot sizes vary from one-sixth of an acre to almost two acres, (the school has almost six acres), with a majority being in the range of three-fourths to one-and-a-half acres. Lot depths also vary. Those on the northwest side of the street extend, on the average, about 300 feet to the property abutting at the rear. However, the house lots on the opposite side of the street, the southeast, generally extend back to the North Fork of Cat Tail Branch, a distance of about 700 feet. The entire district is shaded under a pleasant canopy of old oaks, pecans and magnolias. Street widening has claimed the street trees and portions of the front lawns of the houses, necessitating the construction of a low stone or brick, retaining wall along much of both sides of the 600 block. Still, the traditional neighborhood with a mixture of large antebellum houses, turn of the century dwellings and numerous 1920's and 1930's residences, retains its architectural integrity and forms a compact, defined community.

The district is primarily single family residential, with only one intrusion. The College Street Elementary School and the Hobbs-Matthews-Small House, now used as auxiliary classrooms by Sampson Technical College, are educational in their use. There are two doctors offices, neither occupying contributing structures and one financial institution, the American Savings and Loan which restored and now occupies the pivotal L. C. Graves House. Of twenty three residences in the district, three are vacant and three have been divided into apartments; the pivotal John R. Beaman House is the only one that is both.

Twenty-nine major structures constitute the district, seven pivotal, fifteen contributing, four fill, one intrusion and two vacant lots. The seven pivotal structures, with one exception being the Turlington Rental House, are all two story structures. Frame construction dominates the district, with the 1911 College Street Elementary School and several contributing residences from the 1920s and 1930s being of brick or masonry. A majority of the houses have some sort of outbuilding, usually a garage. The surviving carriage house/garage at the L. C. Graves House is especially nice, as is the pillared child's playhouse behind the Hobbs-Matthews-Small House.

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The district contains a cross-section of architectural styles from mid 19th century to the 1930s; there is no dominant style. The district's oldest house is the Colonel John Ashford House, the first portion being built prior to 1839, with the house being completed in its present Greek Revival form in 1869. A double pile, center hall, three bay wide form of the county's Greek Revival architecture and exhibits the battered two-part surrounds with peaked lintels and dog-eared corners so prevalent in Clinton. Similar in plan is the John R. Beaman House, early 1850s, except here there was a second story porch and a bracketed cornice also. The district's dominant building, and it's oldest as it now stands is the recently-restored L. C. Graves House-Office for the American Savings and Loan Association. Built in 1845 for the principal of the Clinton Female Academy, a native of Philadelphia, the imposing, temple front residence is one of the finest Greek Revival houses in the county. Its exterior detailing is exceptional, particularly the sheathed tympanum, the porch, and the battered surrounds. This architectural gem serves as the district's anchor on its southwest boundary. Several large antebellum mansions have been lost, most notable being the large Stevens-Butler House on the vacant lot at 613 College Street. The only other surviving antebellum structure is the large Hobbs-Matthews-Small House, which was extensively remodeled into the Classical Revival style after 1926; it serves as the major pivot for the northeast end of the district.

The next substantial wave of construction did not come until the turn of the century when several handsome frame residences were built northeast of the Graves and Beaman Houses and the Clinton Female Academy, whose original frame structure was replaced with the present two-story, Classical Revival brick school building in 1911. The most notable of these residences is the two-story, frame Dr. Fleet Rose Cooper House (1890s). It and the Jim McArthur House (1905-1910) are the only large decorative Victorian-Queen Anne houses in the district, and are given their turn of the century appearance by the application of simple sawn and millwork to traditional two-story, frame houses. Three one-story houses date from the period and style at the northeast end of the district. The finest, smallest and most intact is the Kate Powell House, ca. 1900, a charming L-plan residence with wrap-around porch and wood-shingled gables. The Hines-Boney House ca. 1904, and the Morrison-Caison-Rose House, ca. 1900, are similar in form with a tall gable roof and front porch with turned posts, balusters and sawn scrolls.

The majority of the district's residences, twelve, are of Colonial Revival, Gothic Revival or Bungalow forms. The Goode House and the Snipes-Bizzell-Parker House are similar, early 29th century, two-story frame houses that were significantly remodeled in the 1910's with the addition of new Tuscan columned wrap-around porches and porte cocheres. In 1916 Dr. E. G. Lee built his rather plain two-story Colonial Revival frame house. These three dwellings were all built at the northeastern end of the district. In the late 1920's three masonry Colonial Revival residences were built among these Greek Revival houses: the Henry L. Stewart House (1926), a two-story block residence; the Dr. R. A. Turlington House (ca. 1928), a two-story brick house; and the one-story brick James Hubbard House.

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There are three houses of Bungalow extraction, two highly important to the district. The large Carroll-Morris House (ca. 1920) and the charming, small Turlington Rental House (1929), are the county's only wood-shingled Bungalows, and are prime examples of the popularity and versatility of the styles' use during the growing 1910's and 1920's in Clinton. The most recent contributing house in the district is a picturesque, little Tudor Revival cottage, the Allen J. Bass, Sr. House, built in brick in 1936.

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Inventory List  
College Street Historic District- Clinton

Inventory Number, Name  
 Address  
 Date (Sm indicates Sanborn Map)  
 Assessment (Pivotal, Contributing, Fill, Intrusive, or Vacant Lot)  
 Description

### Key to Inventory List

- P Pivotal** Structures which, because of their historical associations and/or architectural characteristics, play a central or primary role in establishing the distinctive qualities of the district.
- C Contributing** Structures which, while not pivotal, are supportive of, and add to, the historical and/or architectural characteristics for which the district is significant.
- F Fill** Structures which have neither an especially positive nor an especially negative impact on the general characteristics of the district. They may be similar in form, height, and materials to contributing buildings in the district, but cannot be considered contributing because of the date of construction.
- I Intrusive** Structures whose design and/or materials are totally out of character with the historic fabric of the district, and which therefore have a definite negative impact on the district as a whole.

1. L. C. Graves House (Offices for American Savings & Loan Association)  
600 College Street  
1845  
P

Built as the residence for L.C. Graves (dates unknown), a Philadelphia native who came to Clinton to become the principal of the Clinton Female Institute (on the site of the adjacent College Street Elementary School #3), this imposing, two-story, double-pile, temple front Greek Revival house was moved here in the 1870s by Jonathan Lafayette Stewart (1835-1920), a lawyer and Baptist minister, who had become the school's principal. The house was acquired from the Stewart heirs by the W. T. McLeans in about 1945; they sold it to the American Savings and Loan Association who have restored and sympathetically converted the house for their offices. The two-story with attic, five-bay-by-three-bay structure has a front, five-bay, hip porch having large squatty pillars and a turned baluster railing. The center entrance with trabeated

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transom and sidelights, and the six-over-six sash have battered and peaked dog-eared surrounds. Corner pïllasters support the boxed cornice, which encloses a front tympanem of sheathed boarding. On the rear are the ell and shed rooms. The plastered, center hall interior is simple, with a large, unusual dog-ear mentel in the west parlor. The only area structurally altered in the conversion to offices was the east room which necessitated removal of the hall wall to accommodate the teller and drive-in areas. In the rear of the lot is the restored frame carriage house. A small frame shed and the frame garage were removed during restoration work.

2. 605 College Street  
VL

This vacant lot was the site of the William Belfield Stewart House, a son of Johathan Lafayette Stewart who lived across the street. Built in the 1880s, the house was razed in the 1950s. The site has several large trees.

3. College Street Elementary School  
606 College Street  
1911  
P

This large, two-story school was built in 1911 as the Clinton School on the site of the Clinton Academy, which was organized in 1826. The Academy evolved into the well-respected Clinton Female Academy by 1859 and in 1873 the L. C. Graves heirs sold the property to the Academy's stockholders with the provision that the property was to be used only for educational purposes. Around 1900 the academy became the Clinton public school. Built of 5:1 American bond brick, the five-bay-by-twelve-bay structure, resting under a low hip roof, is 90 feet wide by 100 feet deep. Extensive campus brick additions in the rear include a large one-story classroom wing at the rear, the auditorium which was built in 1954, and a number of auxiliary mobile classrooms brought in during the 1970s. A central, flat-roofed, projecting portico is carried by four Ionic, two-story columns; originally rough-textured timber, the columns were stuccoed in 1980 due to continual rot problems. Sash on the front facade are two-over-two and in groups of four; the side windows are individual. A through hall interior surrounds a central service core that now contains the lounges and restrooms. This core was originally the open staircase which was removed because of fire regulations. The rear transverse hall now contains the twin staircases.

4. James Hubbard House  
607 College Street  
ca. 1928  
C

This one-and-a-half story, brick Colonial Revival house was built for banker and insurance man James Hubbard by contractor Landron C. Boney. The three-by-three bay house has a front gable porch supported by Tuscan columns; the gables are stuccoed. A real ell is on the back.

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5. Dr. R. A. Turlington House  
609 College Street  
ca. 1928  
C

This handsome Colonial Revival house was built for local dentist R. A. Turlington about 1928; it was sold out of the Turlington family in 1981. The two-story common bond brick house, having a gable roof with exterior end chimneys, is three-bay-by-two-bay with flanking side porches - the southwest one being enclosed and enlarged with an additional second story. A one-room ell is on the rear. A small central porch consisting of a classical pediment supported by two fluted free-standing Corinthian columns and four similar pilasters shelters the entrance. The six-over-six sash have decorative shutters and continuous corbeled brick sills and lintels.

6. D. L. Herring House  
610 College Street  
ca. 1900  
C

David Livingston Herring, an area farmer who moved to Clinton and became an independent cotton buyer, had this two-story double-pile frame residence built around the turn of the century. Covered with a hipped roof having projecting side gables and a front false gable, the three-bay-by-two-bay structure has a rear ell with shed rooms and a screened porch. A porch carried by paired pillars on paneled wooden pedestals extends across the front three bays. The five-over-one sash and the doors have peaked, flat surrounds. The house has been vacant for a number of years.

7. John R. Beaman House *Burned*  
611 College Street  
early 1850s  
P

John R. Beaman (1818-1882) was a wealthy area farmer, moving into Clinton apparently in the early 1850s, and was named by the General Assembly in December 1852 as one of five commissioners for the town of Clinton. Previously, he had served the county as it's state representative in 1844-45. The house Beaman had built here in the early 1850s is a large frame two-story, double-pile structure projecting a handsome front porch of paneled pillars. A low hipped roof is pierced with interior brick chimneys and shelters the three-bay-by-two-bay front block; a large two-story ell with enlarged shed porches is at the rear. The house's prominent pilasters carry a bracketed and boxed cornice. Windows on the first floor of the main block are paired four-over-four sash, with the single windows above in the second floor are six-over-six. Both are original and have flat two-part surrounds. In the center bay of both floors are entrances with transom and side-lights; the railing is gone from the central porch platform on the second floor. The plastered interior has standard pilaster-and-frieze mantels and simple unadorned woodwork. After Beaman's death the house was owned and occupied by

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a Dr. Thompson, by Captain George St. John, who worked on the railroad spur, and by Dr. James Parker, who lived here from 1918 until he moved back to Norfolk in 1927. In that year Haywood Jackson (1893-1937), a merchant, bought the house. After 1937 the house was divided into five apartments, which were vacated in the spring of 1981. The house, owned by Jackson's daughter, is currently for sale with owner attached restoration covenants.

8. Dr. Fleet Rost Cooper House  
612 College Street  
ca. 1890s  
P

Dr. Fleet Rose Cooper (1859-1911), who served Sampson County in the 1893 state senate had this house built in the 1890s. His wife, Ida Ashford, was a daughter of Col. John Ashford who built the large Greek Revival house across the street. This large handsome two-story L-plan frame house is sheltered under a hipped roof and projects a staggered front facade with a bayed projecting center entrance bay, which is crowned by a woodshingled gable with returns. The decorative front porch of turned posts, balusters, frieze and simple scrolls follows the staggered facade of the three-bay-by-two-bay block. Chimneys are brick and interior. On the two-over-two window sash openings are the original louvered shutters. The plastered interior follows a center hall plan from which rises the handsome staircase. Simple ceiling cornices, beaded tongue-and-groove hall wainscoting and several mantels complete the interior. The house remained in the Ashford family until 1980.

9. 613 College Street  
VL  
F

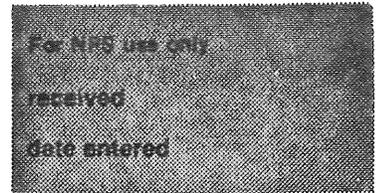
This expansive green lawn is the rear yard of a ca. 1950s brick one-story ranch house that fronts on 107 Doris Avenue; the house is not included in the district. The lawn, which has several old oak trees, was the site of the Dr. Stevens-A. B. Butler House, which was razed in 1955.

10. Landon-Bethune Rental House  
614 College Street  
ca. 1913  
C

Thelma Johnson Bethune (1903-1970) acquired this simple bungalow about 1926 for rental purposes. It had been built for a Mr. Parker, a lawyer, who only lived here for one year, and then the house was occupied by Minnie Lee Landon until about 1926. The pleasant one-and-a-half-story frame house has a cross gable roof with interior and exterior end chimneys. The four-by-three-bay house is fronted by a shed roof porch of weatherboard piers and a railing wall. The window sash are two-over-two with flat surrounds. The plastered interior is representative.

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11. Col. John Ashford House  
615 College Street  
ca 1839 ca / ca 1870  
P

The original section of this house (the two-story, southwest rooms, and the central hall) was built for a Mr. Marsh, who operated a local sawmill, at least by 1839. In 1869, Col. John Ashford (1837-1889) bought the house, added the northeast rooms and the porch, essentially completing the house as it now stands. A prominent Civil War officer and civic and political leader, it is said that when Ashford was killed in a sawmill accident, the state legislature adjourned for the first time for a non-member. The handsome three-bay-by-three-bay structure is crowned by a hipped roof which is pierced with interior chimneys, the southwest one having been removed. At the rear are enlarged shed rooms. On the front facade is a handsome, three-bay porch of Doric pillars with slender, square spindles supporting the molded railing. Full corner pilasters carry the boxed cornice and frieze. Fenestration is six over six, with the porch windows having lower panels that open; all windows retain their shutters. The surrounds on the front are battered and peaked with dog ears; the other surrounds are flat and two part. The plaster interior is center hall in plan, with the handsome staircase rising from the front. Two excellent, Greek Revival pilaster-and-frieze mantels and several two-panel doors survive. The south parlor was sheathed in the mid-20th century with boarding from a former city jail that Marsh had moved here before 1869, converting it into a detached kitchen. Rear additions include the ca 1965 garage and the ca 1970 carport. The house, having been out of the Ashford family for only three years since 1869, is currently occupied by a great-grandson of Col. John Ashford.

12. Carroll - Morris House  
616 College Street  
ca 1920  
C

Lumberman Clyde C. Carroll had this charming, woodshingled Bungalow built about 1920; in 1928, he sold it to local insurance/hardware dealer Lindall A. Powell. The house was acquired in 1944 by H. I. Morris, a local beer and wine dealer, whose widow still resides here. The broad gable roof, having a large, front, central dormer, sweeps down to engage a wrap-around porch supported by brick piers. The three-bay-by-two-bay house is two stories tall at the rear and one-and-a-half stories tall in the front. Exposed rafters highlight the eaves. An interior brick chimney with corbeled cap pierces the roof. On the rear is an ell with engaged porch and a shed room.

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13. Henry L. Stewart, Sr. House  
617 College Street  
1926  
C

This house was built for Henry L. Stewart, Sr. (1866-1960) who also designed it, according to the present owner. It was built on a lot given to Stewart's wife by her father, Col. John Ashford, who lived next door. The two-story, double-pile house was constructed of blocks specially made in Kinston--brick-like, made of a cement-like mixture with a raised interior face--and was originally meant to be stuccoed but never was. Sheltered under a low-hip roof and having exterior end chimneys, the three-bay-by-four-bay house has a front porch of block square piers that wraps to include a porte cochere at the east corner. The five-over-one sash have flat surrounds and corbeled sills. The plaster, center-hall interior is handsomely done in the currently-popular Colonial Revival style, with representative mantels, a tall, paneled wainscot in the dining room, and a handsome paneled staircase. In the rear yard, the house's lot having originally been a part of the Ashford garden, is a grape arbor supposedly planted by Colonel Ashford and some camellias that are said to have been brought from New Orleans and to be among the oldest in the city.

14. Offices for Drs. Frederick Chisholm and Joseph Leinwand  
620 College Street  
late 1970s  
I

This small, one-story Williamsburg Revival office has a Chippendale porch railing, a dentiled cornice and beaded weatherboard. The three-bay-by-five-bay office is very deep. Located on a corner lot, the extensive asphalt parking lot has no landscaping, and presents a hot, barren site to an otherwise shaded street.

15. Jim McArthur House  
700 College Street  
ca. 1905-10  
C

This two-story, frame, L-plan, Queen Anne residence was built for local lumberman Jim McArthur and acquired from his heirs by the current owner in 1959. The three-bay-by-three-bay house, having a short rear ell and shed rooms, has a projecting north bay with a two-story bay window. The hip roof has front and side gables with interior, common bond brick chimneys. A front porch wraps to the west, carried by turned posts decorated with side scrolls and connected by the balustrade and frieze of squared, turned balusters. The sash are two over two. The eclectic, turn-of-the-century interior is center hall in plan, having stair balusters similar to the porch's, Colonial Revival mantels and a vigorous Victorian mantel. The house has been divided into three apartments for a number of years.

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16. Goode House  
701 College Street  
ca 1900/remodeled 1911  
C

Built for Dr. Morris Bell about 1900 and acquired in 1911 and completely remodeled by Seddon Goode who was involved with the lumber industry, this Colonial Revival house is two-story in height and double-pile in plan. Crowned with a shed-dormered hip roof, the three-bay-by-three-bay house has an extensive, partially screened, wrap-around porch of pillars and with a square spindle railing. The interior, common bond brick chimneys have corbeled caps. Window sash are six over six. Located on the rear is an ell and the enlarged shed. The house, occupied by Goode's daughter, has been divided into four apartments, two per floor.

17. Snipes-Bizzell-Parker House  
702 College Street  
ca 1905/remodeled ca 1918  
C

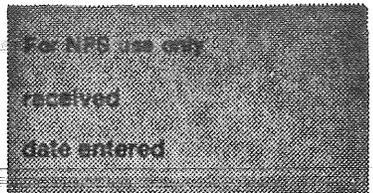
Built for Eugene Snipes about 1905, this house was bought by Jesse Bizzell in 1916; he remodeled and added the porch and porte cochere about 1918. In 1921, Dr. Oscar Lee Parker bought the house and still resides here. The large, two-story, L-plan, Colonial Revival, frame house is sheltered under a hip roof with shed dormers. With its wrap-around porch of Tuscan columns on brick pedestals terminating at the porte cochere on the southwest, the house is very similar in form to the Goode House at 701 College Street. A projecting pediment shelters the steps. The three-bay-by-three-bay house has an ell and shed rooms at the rear. The plaster, center-hall plan interior has treatment representative of the town's Colonial Revival houses of the period and a simple staircase.

18. Hubbard Rental House  
704 College Street  
ca 1910s  
F

A small, frame, one-story Bungalow, this three-bay-by-three-bay house has a further set back from the street than the majority of its neighbors and, therefore, is often overlooked. It has a small, front gable porch with pillars on brick pedestals at the northwest corner.

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19. Hines-Boney House  
705 College Street  
ca 1904  
C

This one-story, double-pile, frame house apparently dates from after 1904 when Henry Hines, editor of the Sampson Democrat for a number of years, bought the property from J. M. Lucas. Under a shallow gable roof pierced by interior common bond chimneys, the three-bay-by-two-bay house presents a porch of turned posts with side scrolls and a turned baluster railing across the front; a small pediment is placed over the steps. The window sash are six over six with a simple surround having molded edges. The center hall, plastered interior has simple mantels and surrounds. On the rear is a long ell with porch, and a single shed room. The house was sympathetically renovated soon after 1937 when local contractor L. C. Boney bought the house.

20. Hubbard Rental House  
706 College Street  
1938  
F

Louise Goode Hubbard, who lives in the Goode House at 701 College Street, had this brick, one-story cottage built for rental purposes. The small, three-bay-by-three-bay house projects a center porch with brick arches. Overgrown pine trees in the front yard obscure much of the house.

21. Office of Dr. John H. Kendall  
707 College Street  
1946  
F

Dr. John H. Kendall had this structure built for his office in 1946, three years after his coming to Clinton. Prior to the construction of the local hospital, he had a maternity ward here and was the only doctor to deliver babies in Clinton in his office. The stuccoed, three-bay-by-nine-bay, one-story building has a small front stoop, with the various examining rooms extending back seventy feet behind the porch. At the rear of the lot is a brick duplex built by Kendall in the early 1960s for rental purposes.

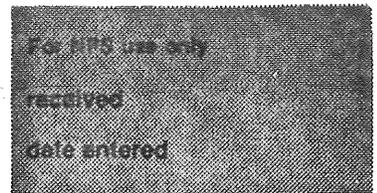
22. Dr. E. G. Lee House  
708 College Street  
1916  
C

Dr. E. G. Lee (1897-1967) a local dentist, bought this lot in 1916 and had this two-story, double-pile, frame house built soon thereafter. Crowned with a hip roof with exterior end and interior chimneys, the five-bay-by-two-bay house



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25. Turlington Rental House  
711 College Street  
1929  
P

Prominent local lumber dealer F. L. Turlington (1890-1951) had this charming little one-story Bungalow built as rental property, for which use it is still maintained by his son. The frame, three-bay-by-two-bay house has a long rear ell and a screen porch at the east corner. The gable end roof with triangular brackets has a small gable over the central porch, which rests on pillars and shelters the entrance; a broken tile terrace extends across the front of the house. The multi-paned, small sash are sixteen over sixteen, arranged in groups of three.

26. Matthews-Dawson-Parsons House  
712 College Street  
ca 1919  
C

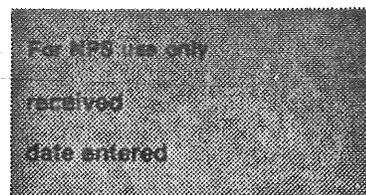
This two-story, single pile frame house was built for Lemon L. Matthews (1871-1918) who at one time owned most of the property on this end of College Street. He never lived here, though. In 1919, Harvey Dawson, an area farmer, bought the house and lived here until he sold it to farmer and tobacconist M. T. Parsons in 1948. The three-bay-by-three-bay house has a projecting entrance bay crowned with a pedimented gable. All the house's gables have wooden shingled typanemns. A front three-bay porch has turned posts and balusters. The sash are two over two with simple surrounds, and the plastered interior is representative of the area's period houses. On the rear is the ell and enlarged porch with shed rooms.

27. Allen J. Bass, Sr. House  
800 College Street  
1936  
C

This pleasant, one-and-a-half story, brick, late Tudor Revival house was built in 1936 for oil dealer Allen J. Bass. Crowned by a cross-gable roof with a gabled front dormer, the three-bay-by-three-bay house has side sun porches and rear ell rooms. The chimney is exterior rear. The builder's son occupies the house.

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28. Morrison-Caison-Rose House  
801 College Street  
ca 1900  
C

Sheriff Mac Morrison had this pleasant, triple-pile, frame house built about 1900. The house has a false front gable at the front east corner. The house is one story in front and one-and-a-half-story in the rear. A porch of turned posts with side scrolls and turned balusters extends across the front and along the northeast elevation. Window sash are four over four and six over six. R. J. Caison was an interim owner when the present owner acquired the house in 1956. A cement block carport has been added in the rear.

29. Kate Powell House  
802 College Street  
ca 1900  
C

This one-story, L-plan, frame house was built about 1900 and features a front wrap-around porch of turned posts and balusters. The roof gables are wood-shingled and have peaked, louvered vents. The rambling, three-bay-by-two-bay house is enlarged in the rear with a two-room ell and engaged shed rooms. The house has been vacant for two years.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

NATIONAL

STATE

XX

LOCAL

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input 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 checked="" 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
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca 1839 to 1936

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The College Street Historic District in Clinton, comprising twenty-two pivotal and contributing structures, is a linear district flanking both sides of College Street for a distance of two-and-one-third blocks. The district grew up around the Clinton Female Academy, which started in 1826 as the Clinton Academy. The school became a public school around 1900 and in 1911 the present structure, a handsome, large, two-story building with a center bay pedimented portico of Ionic columns, replaced the original frame building; it is currently used as the College Street Elementary School. L. C. Graves, an early principal, built a large academic Greek Revival house near the school in 1845. This temple form house, the district's largest and oldest, was moved to its present site adjacent to the school in the 1870s by another academy principal. The structure, completely restored in 1980 and converted into a financial institution, occupies a commanding site at the district's southwest corner. The district is characterized by many handsome frame structures displaying a wide variety of classically-derived forms, especially on the porches. The Greek Revival, Classical Revival and Colonial Revival styles dominate the district; unifying the different dwellings by the similar classical nature of their porches. The several representatives of the Bungalow, Victorian and Queen Anne styles give the district a proper degree of decorative embellishment, just enough to prevent the classical features from becoming overwhelming. The district is sheltered under a lush canopy of old oaks and pecan trees, punctuated by a number of large magnolias. The College Street Historic District, from its inception until the present, centers on the educational purposes of the Clinton Academy, Clinton Female Academy and the College Street Elementary School.

## CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The College Street Historic District comprises the neighborhood that developed around the Clinton Academy and its successor, the Clinton Female Academy, in the middle of the 19th century and is associated with the establishment of the county's first major educational institution to prepare future citizens of the county.
- B. The district includes the residences of a number of men who played significant roles in the growth of Clinton from the 1840s until the 1960s. Among them were: L. C. Graves (unknown) and Jonathan Lafayette Stewart (1835-1920), principals at the Clinton Female Academy; John R. Beaman (1818-1882), a prosperous county planter, state representative and town commissioner; Colonel John Ashford (1837-1889), a prominent Civil War officer and local leader, whose sons-in-law built adjacent houses, one being Dr. Fleet Rose Cooper (1859-1911), a state senator; Lemon L. Matthews (1871-1918), a prominent Clinton businessman and former owner of much of the 700 block of College Street; and Dr. Victor R. Small (1888-1971), a leading local physician.
- C. The district contains notable examples of architecture, with the similar characters of the related Greek Revival, Classical Revival and Colonial Revival styles providing a unifying bond to the district's many frame houses of those styles. The L. C. Graves House is one of

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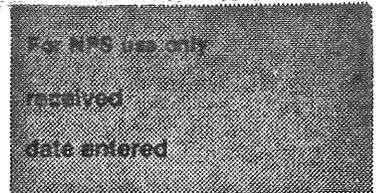
Page 1

Criteria Assessment continued.

,the county's finest academic Greek Revival dwellings, an imposing temple form with front pediment. Besides the residences illustrating a variety of classical forms from 1845 until the 1930s, two outstanding shingles Bungalows exist in the district, one a large handsome residence and the other a charming little rental house.

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skills that the school was able to remain open, although it did close during the war for a period.

Graves died in 1873. A newly formed group of stockholders purchased the school from the Graves estate for \$5,500 with the stipulation that the property be used for educational purposes. These new stockholders were Allmand McKoy, Langdon Hubbard, Jonathan L. Stewart, John R. Beaman, James A. Ferrell, William A. Faison, William H. Moore, John K. Morrissey, Luke Powell, Henry Bizzell, Matthew Faison, John Ashford and Abram Hobbs. A number of these men were supporters of the school prior to the Civil War. Clinton businessman Alfred Johnson loaned the money to purchase the school shortly before his death in 1873. Johnson had been a trustee in the antebellum period.<sup>4</sup>

The headmaster of Clinton Female Academy during this period was Jonathan Lafayette Stewart. A native of Monroe County, Mississippi, Stewart was born in 1835. He came to North Carolina to attend the University of North Carolina, from where he graduated in 1857. He moved to Clinton in 1864 to practice law. He also was an ordained minister of the Missionary Baptist Church and served as moderator of the Eastern Baptist Association for thirty years. A trustee of the University of North Carolina, Stewart was nearly elected first president of North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanics College (now North Carolina State University) and was a State Senator. The school continued to suffer from the economic difficulties of the period. According to one source, "the stockholders or many of them had failed to pay subscription, whereby the trustees ... were prevented from taking up ... notes at their maturity." In 1874 Stewart purchased one-half interest in the school for \$3,000, \$2,000 of which went to pay off the mortgage and \$1,000 of which was for improvements. The next year the Johnson estate was forced to sell the mortgage on the remaining half interest. This mortgage was purchased by John R. Beaman, a longtime supporter of the school and eventually acquired by Stewart.<sup>5</sup>

It is not certain how long Stewart remained headmaster of the school in view of his other interests. E. P. Mangum and Benjamin Franklin Grady were principals in the 1890s.<sup>6</sup>

In 1900 Clinton Female Institute became part of the public school system, with D. L. Ellis the first principal. In 1911 the original building was replaced by the present brick building. In 1922 Clinton High School was constructed and the old Institute became Clinton Elementary School, with grades one through seven. A PTA was organized the next year. The school became the College Street Elementary School in 1954. The school continues to operate as an elementary school, with classes offered kindergarten through grade three.<sup>7</sup>

The College Street Historic District contains a number of buildings with considerable historical significance to the school. Perhaps the most important is the L. C. Graves House. The house was built around 1845 by Graves along Cattail Branch, near the Institute. Jonathan Stewart purchased the house and moved it a short distance to its present location in the 1870s, during the period when he was principal of the school. Thus this structure houses two of the school's most prominent principals.

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The oldest house in the district is the John Ashford House. Built around 1839 by Clinton lumberman George Marsh, the house was purchased and expanded in 1869 by Colonel John Ashford (1837-1889). A Civil War hero wounded at Manassas and Gettysburg, Ashford and his wife Elizabeth Hines lived on College Street "while overseeing their farming and lumbering interests." Ashford and two of his sons were killed in 1889 following an explosion at one of his Clinton sawmills. His widow lived at the house until her death in 1922. It is presently owned by a great-grandson, Henry L. Stewart.

The John Robert Beaman house was built for Beaman around 1850. A strong supporter of the school, Beaman lived on College Street until his death in 1892. A number of his children and grandchildren attended the academy.<sup>10</sup>

The Dr. Fleet Rose Cooper House was built about 1900 for Cooper, a Clinton lawyer, state legislator and supporter of the school. Cooper's wife Ida Ashford (1868-1951) was the daughter of John Ashford.<sup>11</sup>

Other houses in the district date from the twentieth century. The Thelma Bethune house was built about 1900 for banker Walter Petersen and owned for many years by Mrs. Bethune (1903-1970). Also built around 1900 was the Herring House, constructed for David Livingston Herring, a cotton buyer. The Goode House was built about 1900 and was purchased and remodeled about 1909 by Seddon Goode, a lumberman. Also in the lumber business was James Albert McArthur, for whom the McArthur House was built around 1905. The Snipes-Bizzell-Parker House was constructed about 1905 by Eugene Archibol Snipes, a carpenter and farmer. It was remodeled in 1918 by Jesse Bizzell and purchased in 1921 by Oscar Lee Parker, a prominent physician who opened an office in Clinton that same year. The Hines-Boney House was constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century by Henry Hines and purchased in 1937 by Landron Boney, editor of the Sampson Democrat.<sup>12</sup>

Several houses were constructed in the district between 1910 and 1920. These are the Morrison-Caison-Rose House, built about 1910 for Katie Powell; the Hobbs-Matthews-Small House, built 1910 and owned for many years by Dr. Victor R. Small (1888-1971); the Dawson-Parsons House, built about 1915 by W. E. Evans, purchased by Harvey Dawson in 1918, and by M. T. Parsons in 1948; and the E. G. Lee House, built in 1818 for Lee (1897-1967), a dentist. Two houses date from the 1920s. The Carroll-Morris House was built in 1920 for Clyde Carroll, a lumberman, and owned for many years by prominent businessman H. I. Morris. The R. A. Turlington House dates from the late 1920s and was built for Turlington, a dentist. All nineteenth century school buildings were replaced by the 1911 construction of the present school building.<sup>13</sup>

Until the early part of the twentieth century the quality of North Carolina public schools was generally poor. Academies like Clinton Female Institute were designed to fill the void. These academies "were more stable and offered a more through and advanced type of education" than could be found in the public school of the time. For this reason almost three hundred academies were chartered by the General Assembly in the period from 1800 until 1860. Relatively few of these were exclusively for girls. The Civil War and subsequent Reconstruction somewhat reduced the number of academies but more severely reduced the number of public school, thereby maintaining the importance of the academy.<sup>14</sup> Given the importance of the Clinton Female Institute to the educational and social fabric of the town, it is

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not surprising that one of Clinton's finest residential neighborhoods grew up around it. The changes that made the school a part of the public school system in the early part of the century did not greatly diminish either the academic character of the neighborhood, or its importance to Clinton.

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Oscar M. Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina (Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company for the Sampson County Historical Society, 1983), 28, 68-72, 101, 437-438, hereinafter cited as Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County; Sampson County Deed Book 21, p. 271; The Laws of North Carolina Enacted in the Year 1821 (Raleigh: Thomas Henderson, 1822), 48-49.

<sup>2</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 69-71, 101, 209, 306, 318, 330, 456-457, 529-530; Laws of the State of North Carolina Passed by the General Assembly at the Session of 1850-51 (Raleigh: T. J. Lemay, 1851), 541.

<sup>3</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101; Sampson County Deed Book 34, p. 436.

<sup>4</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101.

<sup>5</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101, 614; The Sampson Democrat, December 23, 1920.

<sup>6</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101.

<sup>7</sup>Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101.

<sup>8</sup>Tom Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, Sampson County, North Carolina (Clinton, City of Clinton, n.d.), 83, hereinafter cited as Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture.

<sup>9</sup>Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 84; Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 282-283; Sampson County Deed Book 37, p. 430.

<sup>10</sup>Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 84; Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 299.

<sup>11</sup>Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 84; The Sampson Democrat, August 17, 1911.

<sup>12</sup>Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 83-86; Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 500-501, 544-545, 605.

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<sup>13</sup> Butchko, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 83-86; Bizzell (ed.), The Heritage of Sampson County, 101.

<sup>14</sup> Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 3rd Edition, 1973), 404, 534.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bizzell, Oscar M., ed. The Heritage of Sampson County, North Carolina. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, 1983.

Butchko, Thomas. An Inventory of Historic Architecture, Sampson County, North Carolina. Clinton: City of Clinton, n.d.

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## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 34

### UTM REFERENCES

A	1,7	74,50,5,0	3,87,59,0,0	B	1,7	74,53,5,0	3,87,60,7,5
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,7	74,51,5,0	3,87,60,0,0	D	1,7	74,51,2,5	3,87,58,5,0

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The College Street Historic District consists of those properties on either side of the 600 and 700 blocks of College Street and those properties at 800, 801 and 802 College Street. A sketch map is enclosed.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the east corner of the intersection of College Street and Eastover Street, being the same corner of the American Savings and Loan Association office, and running along the rear property lines of properties on the southeast side of College Street, crossing Warsaw Street, and terminating at its junction with the northeast property line of the house lot at 802 College Street; the rear lines of all these properties, except at 600, 620, 700, 800, and 802 College Street extend back to the North Fork of Cat Tail Branch, an average of 700 feet from College Street. From here, crossing to the northwest side of College Street and, starting with the northeast line of the house lot at 801 College Street, running along the rear property lines of properties on the northwest side of College Street; crossing Stewart Avenue (the continuation of Warsaw Street) and continuing, with the exception of the house lot at 613 College Street, to the northeast line of the Goodyear Tire lot at 601 College Street. From this junction, proceed southeast to the northwest edge of College Street, and from here to the beginning. The house lot at 613 is actually the rear yard of the house at 107 Doris Avenue; therefore this lot's depth for the historic district will be 208 feet, that being the depth of the adjacent lot at 615 College Street and the approximate boundary of the rear driveway at 613 College Street.

Boundary Justification

The College Street Historic District includes all the historic properties along this street that still retain the character of a residential neighborhood. The recently restored American Savings and Loan Offices anchors the southwest edge of the district and separates the district from a section, leading southwest toward downtown, which contains substantial commercial encroachment. The North Fork of Cat Tail Branch provides an excellent natural boundary, being the historic one, along the southeast, except where the depth of a property has been shortened due to subsequent subdivision from a side street. The northeast boundary is the end of any significant historic structures and the start of another zone of commercial development. Beyond the northwest boundary are pleasing, middle-class neighborhoods of small 1915 to 1970 houses, which have never been historically linked to the larger structures along College Street.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The College Street Historic District is located in the Sampson County seat of Clinton. The district grew up around Clinton Female Institute, originally Clinton Academy, in the nineteenth century. The district includes the residences of a number of Clinton civic leaders who were instrumental in developing the school. In the early twentieth century the school became part of the public school system.

The school dates back to the earliest days of Clinton. The town was laid out in 1818, but not formally incorporated until 1822. The Clinton Academy was chartered in 1821 but received its major boost in 1826. In that year the academy moved to its present location with the purchase by the trustee of two acres on present College Street from Owen Holmes (1795-1840) a well-to-do planter and lawyer who represented New Hanover County in the State Senate. The school's trustees were a distinguished group and included two of Holmes' brothers, James Holmes (1788-1861), a planter, and Hardy Holmes (1804-1862), a physician. James Holmes represented Sampson County in the State Senate in 1819 and was one of the large number of trustees who served in the General Assembly. Other original trustees who served in Raleigh were William Robinson (Senate, 1822), Hardy Royal (Senate, 1827-1829), William Kirby (Representative, 1858-1859), and Thomas Sutton (Representative 1818-1820, 1826-1827). Other 1826 trustees were Charles Butler, Owen Mobley, John Owen, Archibald Calquhoun, Jonathan W. Mosely, John Bryan and John Wright.<sup>1</sup>

Clinton Academy became Clinton Female Institute in 1852. Under the leadership of principal Luke C. Graves the school continued to prosper and gain the support of leading citizens of Clinton and Sampson County. Trustees during the immediate antebellum period included Thomas Bunting, a Clinton physician who was in the North Carolina Senate from 1836-1839, 1850-1852, and who was a delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Conventions in the early 1860s; Matthew Faison, a member of perhaps the county's wealthiest antebellum planter family and a State Senator from 1848 until 1849; Henry Bizzell (1818-1873), a Philadelphia-educated physician and Clinton town commissioner; John L. Boykin, a state representative from 1850 until 1851; Alfred Johnson (1809-1873), a Connecticut native who moved to Sampson County at a young age to become one of the county's leading businessmen; Patrick Murphy (1801-1874), a planter, lawyer and legislator; and John R. Beaman (1813-1892), a legislator and businessman.<sup>2</sup>

In 1850 Luke Graves became the sole owner of Clinton Female Academy, when he purchased the grounds (by now over six acres), the buildings, the library and all the rest for \$8,000. Graves became owner of the school shortly before the Civil War and subsequent Reconstruction threw Sampson County into severe hard times. It is a tribute to Graves'



