United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

   historic name Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District
   other names/site number

2. Location

   street & number Junction NC 75, NC 84 & West Franklin Street
   city, town Monroe
   state North Carolina code NC county Union code 179 zip code 28110

3. Classification

   Ownership of Property Category of Property Number of Resources within Property
   X private building(s) Contributing
   □ public-local district 18
   □ public-State site 5 buildings
   □ public-Federal structure 2
   □ object 1
   □ other 0
   □ total 21

Name of related multiple property listing: None
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

   In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
   Signature of commenting or other official Date
   State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

   I, hereby, certify that this property is:
   □ entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
   □ determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
   □ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   □ removed from the National Register.
   □ other, (explain:) ____________________________
   Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
The Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District is located at the division of Waxhaw Road just west of Monroe into two arteries, North Carolina Highways 75 and 84, respectively. In the Y of the intersection is the Queen Anne style Heath House. To the south of the fork is the Neo-Classical Revival style Robert B. Redwine House, and to its east the smaller Queen Anne influenced Redwine Tenant House. Across the road on the north side are the Late Queen Anne style Crow's Nest (the Fetnah H. Crow House), and to its west the Prairie/Classical Revival style Edward Crow House. Each of the houses is the center of a small complex of outbuildings and subsidiary residences.

The larger houses sit from 100 to 150 feet back from the pavement on rises slightly above the level of the highway, surrounded by large trees and with spacious lawns at front. Although there is less that two hundred yards between any of the houses, they are substantially screened from each other by landscaping. Early documentary photographs of the Redwine House indicate that before the current house's construction there were few trees of any size, and today the area around the landscaped grounds is mostly open farmland. The line of the Seaboard Railway forms a northwestern boundary to the district. As the built-up portions of the city of Monroe extend out along the highway, commercial and residential development is beginning to approach the eastern boundary of the district.

With the exception of Crow's Nest, the houses have generally been well-maintained and are in good to excellent condition. Crow's Nest has suffered from neglect and termite and water damage, but is currently undergoing a careful rehabilitation.

Within the district are 21 contributing resources and 5 noncontributing ones.
Inventory List

Level of Significance Key

C=Contributing
Those properties which establish or contribute to the character of the district, through their historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics.

NC=Noncontributing
Those properties which do not contribute to the character of the district. They may clearly be of later construction than the district’s period of significance, or they may have been erected during the period of significance but altered or deteriorated to such a degree that they have lost the essential qualities which would contribute to the character of the district.

1. Redwine Tenant House-1709 Waxhaw Road-Ca. 1907 (C)

The Redwine Tenant House sits parallel to the R. B. Redwine House on a slight rise about 150 feet from the road, separated from the larger house by a hedge and a row of pecan and water oak trees. Cross-shaped in plan, the clapboarded one-story frame house has intersecting gable roofs with the west arm being several feet lower. There is a corbelled-capped chimney at the intersection of the gables and another astride the ridge of the larger gable.

A hipped-roofed porch fills the northeast angle of the building, its roof supported by turned columns that are hidden by a modern screen wire enclosure. The rear wall of the porch is sheathed with narrow shiplap siding. A matching porch at the rear of the house was enclosed ca. 1940 to form several rooms.

Most windows on the house are two over two, with plain surrounds. There are two entrances from the front porch, both with partially-glazed doors. Each of the gables has small rectangular louvers.

The interior of the house consists of four rooms, plus bath and kitchen added in the rear porch enclosure. Window and door surrounds have symmetrically-molded architraves with bull’s-eye corner blocks, and the doors are five-panel. Two of the rooms have Eastlake-derived mantels.

R. B. Redwine purchased the tract on which this house sits in 1897. According to family history, it was occupied by the Redwines following
the burning of their frame house and during construction of the existing brick one. Later it served as a tenant house.

Outbuildings

2. Ca. 1940 gable-roofed frame garage behind house. (NC)

3. Ca. 1940 shed-roofed frame shed/chicken house to rear of main house. (NC)

4. Deteriorated ca. 1900 frame one-story garage to southeast of main house. (NC)

5. Ca. 1930 gable-roofed frame storage building to southeast of main house. (C)

6. Robert B. Redwine House-1711 Waxhaw Road-Ca. 1908 (C)

Set about 150 feet from the highway at the apex of a semi-circular drive is the R. B. Redwine House. In front of the house is an open lawn, ending in a long privet hedge at the road, while to the sides and rear are mature trees of a variety of species, part of a planned landscape scheme.

The house itself is a two-story, stretcher bond brick rectangle three bays wide and four deep. Projecting from the west elevation is a two-story, three-sided bay, and on the rear is a one-story brick kitchen wing. At the east side is a one-story, semi-circular enclosed porch. Centered in the front elevation is a one-story, hipped-roofed rectangular portico with triple Ionic columns at the front corners. This porch was originally topped by a low balustrade.

Covering the house is a hipped, slate-shingled roof capped by a sheetmetal pan. Flanking this pan are a pair of corbelled-capped chimneys. Over the west bay and centered in the front of the house are pedimented gables that have tin-shingled faces. The front gable has a lunette with tracery, while the side gable has a louvered lunette. Pairs of consoles support the ends of the boxed cornice at the front gable.

Most of the windows in the house have rock-faced stone sills and lintels and one over one, double-hung sash. On the second floor at the front, the tripartite center window has diamond-patterned muntins in the upper sash, while the first floor of the west bay has cross-muntined sash in small, triple windows set high on the dining room wall. The front door
has large sidelights and transoms fitted with leaded, bevelled glass in a lozenge pattern, and having shields worked in the glass in the upper corners.

The enclosed porch on the east elevation consists of a rectangular section immediately next to the house, with a semi-circular end. Large areas of glazing have been inserted between paired Tuscan columns above a vertical tongue and groove board wainscot. Documentary photos show a balustrade at the porch roof level which has disappeared.

On the interior, the house has a large central hall with panelled oak wainscoting and a prominent stair. On either side are two large rooms each. The east and front west rooms have relatively simple molded door and window surrounds and classically-detailed mantels with glazed tile faces around the fireplace openings. The rear west room, which extends into the bay, was originally the dining room and has a high, panelled oak wainscot and an oak mantel with mirrored overmantel flanked by glass-fronted cabinets.

On the second floor, the central hall is divided mid-way by a glazed divider. At each side of the hall is a pair of bedrooms. These rooms have relatively simple painted trim, six horizontal panel doors and classical or Craftsman-style mantels, except for the room over the dining room, which has an oak mantel.

Outbuildings

7. Two-story, gable-roofed brick building erected in 1941 as a smoke-house and utility building. Located directly behind main house. (NC)

8. One-story, hipped-roofed, weatherboarded frame garage, ca. 1920, located to the southwest of the main house. (C)

9. Ca. 1900 one-story, gable-roofed frame tenant house or pair of tenant houses which have been joined together. Located in the southwest corner of the property. (C)

10. Ca. 1920 one-story gable-roofed frame granary with attached shed garage adjacent to tenant houses. (C)

11. Heath House-1910 Waxhaw Highway-1897 (C)

The Heath House is located in the triangle formed by the Waxhaw and Weddington Roads, set well back from the intersection, but with an allee
of mature trees which lead back to the house. A drive curves directly in front of the building.

Two stories of frame construction, the house is in the Late Queen Anne style. Its assymetrical massing consists of a high hipped-roofed cube merged with a gable-roofed rectangle on the north, and with an engaged two and a half-story octagonal tower on the southeast corner. At the southeast corner of the house is a hipped-roofed one-story wing, and at the rear is a gable-roofed one-story kitchen wing surrounded by one-story porches and rooms.

The front and side elevations of the house have a one-story veranda of widely-spaced Tuscan columns on panelled pedestals. The front steps are covered by a projecting extension of the veranda, which also breaks out into a semi-circle on the north side. Like the main cornice of the house, the veranda cornice has a prominent dentil course.

Narrow novelty siding sheathes the house. The roof is of grey slate with strips of octagon butt shingles, and the attic level wall of the tower is also covered with octagon-butted slate. There are large, corbelled-capped internal chimneys on the north and south sides.

Most of the house's windows are tall and narrow with one over one sash in simple classical frames. However, the front gable has a Palladian window in the attic, the tower has rectangular, fixed windows, and on the north elevation is a small stained glass window high on the wall of the projecting bay that forms the dining room.

On the interior, the first floor is organized into a series of sequential spaces opening into each other. There is a large entrance hall with panelled wainscot, a classical mantel with an overmantel, and an elaborate staircase that is separated from the rest of the room by a screen of square columns topped by an elaborate spindled fringe. The closed-string stair ascends a half-story to a stage-like landing with a bowed face and a railing of turned balusters.

At the south side of the house are three parlors divided from each other by sets of tall, sliding doors. All three rooms have ornate mantels, the most distinctive of which is a classically-derived mantel in the front room which has a high, mirrored Eastlake overmantel of mahogany or cherry. The other two mantels are of oak. The first floor fireplaces have tiled faces and either brass trim or cast-iron inserts. Throughout the house are five-panel pine doors with cast brass hardware. Most of the window and door surrounds are also of pine, formed of molded archi-
traves that intersect in bull's-eye corner blocks.

On the north side of the house is the dining room, which extends out in a three-sided bay. This room has a high, panelled wainscot with a plate rail, surmounted by a small, stained glass window in the end wall. The mantel in this room is an ornate, classical design of oak with overmantel cabinets fitted with leaded glass.

The second floor has an L-shaped hall with panelled and tongue and groove beaded wainscot, off of which are three bedrooms. The bedrooms have woodwork similar to that of the first floor, except that all three have pine mantels with colonnettes, consoles and panelled friezes. A pair of doors leads from the northeast bedroom, previously a study, to the veranda roof.

Outbuildings

12. Ca. 1897 octagonal well house. Base is low brick wall on which are set turned columns which support an octagonal slate roof. Located in the allee of trees in front of the house. (C)

13. Ca. 1915 steel-framed windmill, now non-functional, located to the southwest of the house. (C)

14. Inscribed tombstone for W. C. Heath's pet dog Jack Heath, dated 1916, located to south of main house. (C)

15. Ca. 1910 frame gable and shed-roofed frame barn located at west property line. (C)

16. Ca. 1920 frame shed-roofed chicken house adjacent to barn. (C)

17. Ca. 1920 frame, one-story bungalow facing Highway 84 west of the main house. Apparently used as a tenant house. (C)

18. Edward Crow House-1906 Weddington Road-1916 (C)

The Edward Crow House is located approximately 100 feet from the north side of Weddington Road at the end of a U-shaped drive lined with mature oak and evergreen trees. The drive and trees continue around behind the house.

Two stories tall, and of frame construction, the main mass of the house consists of a Prairie Style-influenced two-story cube under a low,
hipped slate roof. The walls are sheathed with wide clapboards that are mitered at the corners. Across the front elevation is a one-story, low hipped-roofed porch with a low, central gable that projects slightly. The porch roof is supported at the corners with triple square piers, and triangular knee braces support the eaves of the porch gable. A square-section baluster railing runs between the columns, the space above and behind which has been enclosed with wire screening.

Centered in the front slope of the roof is a low dormer with a hipped roof. A large interior chimney with corbelled cap is located in the south slope of the roof, and there are tall exterior chimneys at the north and west sides of the house with plain stacks.

Most of the house's windows have double-hung, six over one sash. On the front elevation's second story, paired sash flank a central, multi-paned square window bracketted with narrow strip windows.

On the east side of the house is a hipped-roofed porch which was enclosed by the original owner to form a sunroom. The corners of the porch are supported by square columns, between which is a panelled dado with six over one sash above.

A two-story, gable-roofed wing projects from the center of the rear elevation. The second level of this wing is a sleeping porch with strips of windows on three sides and broadly-overhanging eaves. A one-story, flat-roofed brick extension added in the 1940s, projects from the rear of the wing. At the northwest corner of the house is a hipped-roofed, one-story frame kitchen wing.

The interior of the Crow House is arranged around a broad central stair hall. The stair rises in a quarter turn with landing through a quadrant-shaped stairwell. Pairs of two-panelled mahogany sliding doors lead from the stair hall into the sitting rooms on either side. From the west sitting room another pair of sliding doors leads into the dining room. Behind the east sitting room is a small bedroom and bath which connect to the sun porch. These principal rooms are very simply finished, with oak strip flooring, plain board window and door surrounds and modest classical mantels with tiled faces. The southeast sitting room mantel is of cherry wood, and there are built-in shelves added by the current owners. The front hall and dining room have molded chair-rails. Crown moldings have been added to several rooms, also during the current ownership. On the second floor are four bedrooms, all simply finished.
Outbuildings

19. One-story, hipped-roofed rectangular frame building directly behind and contemporary with the main house. Now used as residence, but probably originally a combined servants quarters/garage. (C)

20. Ca. 1930 frame shed-roofed garage north of main house. (C)

21. Ca. 1920 two-story gable-roofed frame barn with shed located north of main house. (C)

22. Ca. 1920 one-story frame bungalow with jerkin-headed gable roof located northwest of main house. (C)

23. Crow’s Nest-1710 Waxhaw Road-Ca. 1905 (C)

The Fetnah H. Crow house is located on the north side of Waxhaw Road at the apex of a broad circular drive lined with mature water oaks. Two stories tall, it is a Late Queen Anne style frame dwelling with assymetrical massing. The central portion has a high hipped roof covered with tin shingles. At the southwest and northeast corners are two-story, gable-roofed rectangular bays. On the southwest corner is a two-story, three-sided bay with a gable roof. A two and a half-story engaged octagonal tower projects from the southeast corner of the front elevation. Extending from the rear of the house are a two-story, hipped-roofed wing and a one-story, gable-roofed kitchen wing. A one-story, L-shaped porch screened with lattice connects these two features. Two large chimneys with corbelled caps pierce the roof of the main block.

Across the front elevation of the house is a one-story, hipped roofed porch with a shallow, gable-roofed pavillion that extends over the front steps. The main porch roof is supported by heavy turned posts, while the front of the entrance pavillion is supported by Tuscan columns. The porch railings are ornamented with swags formed of balls set between the balusters.

Narrow clapboarding sheathes the house, except under the front porch, where the wall is covered with narrow novelty siding. The plain, boxed cornices are ornamented with dentil courses, a single row of dentils on the porch like those of the Heath House, and alternating large and small dentils on the main and tower cornices. The gable ends have scrollsawn verge boards and louvers with scrollsawn panels. Small pierced brackets support the roof returns on the west bay.
One over one double-hung windows with plain surrounds predominate. The main entrance has a tall doorway with an ornate surround of chamfered pilasters and bull’s-eye corner blocks, flanked by shorter sidelight windows. The door itself is veneered with oak and has applied spindle ornament.

On the interior, the first floor rooms are arranged around a central stair hall. Front and rear sections of this hall are divided by an arched screen richly ornamented with spindlework. The front portion of the hall has panelled wainscot, while the rear portion is wainscoted with beaded tongue and groove boards. The stair rises in the rear of the hall in a half turn with landings. At the foot of the stair are two large newel posts with applied spindle ornament, bull’s-eyes, and turned finials. Door and window surrounds throughout the house have symmetrically-molded architraves with bull’s-eye corner blocks. The woodwork in the hall is of pine and was originally finished with clear shellac.

Off the front hall to the left through a set of pocket doors is the front parlor. The Neo-Federal mantel and coved crown mold in this room date to ca. 1930. Another set of pocket doors leads to the dining room at the rear of the west side. This room has a panelled wainscot similar to that in the hall, but again the mantel and crown molding are ca. 1930. The three-sided west wall of the room includes a rectangular, multi-paned pastel glass window high in the center wall. In the rear wing of the building are the butler’s pantry and the kitchen, both sheathed in tongue and groove boards. At the other side of the hall are a front sitting room and a bedroom with an adjacent bath. The front room again has a Neo-Federal replacement mantel, while the bedroom is substantially intact and has a simple Queen Anne mantel.

Upstairs, the beaded board wainscot continues in the hall. There are two bedrooms on either side of the house with the same trim as the lower floor, but none have mantels.

Outbuildings

24. Ca. 1900 frame gable-roofed smoke house to which has been added ca. 1920 a shed-roofed frame garage. Located directly behind the main house. (C)

25. Ca. 1901 one-story gable-roofed frame servants quarters in fair condition located approximately 75 feet to northeast of main house. (C)

26. Ca. 1950 brick, gable-roofed well house. (NC)
8. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

| D nationally | D statewide | X locally |

Applicable National Register Criteria

| A | X | B | X | C | D |

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G |

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Social History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period of Significance</th>
<th>Significant Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>1897-1938</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1916</td>
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<td>ca. 1908</td>
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Cultural Affiliation

| N/A |

Significant Person

- Redwine, Robert B.

Architect/Builder

- Hook, Charles Christian
- Tucker, G. Marion

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

The Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District is significant in the history of Monroe, North Carolina, as a unique cluster of distinctive late 19th and early 20th century suburban residences grouped around a Y-shaped intersection of two state highways located in a semi-rural setting some two miles from the county seat’s central core. By the end of World War I, the grouping, sometimes referred to as "West Monroe," was already recognized locally as a distinctive entity. The houses are associated with several Monroe citizens who were prominent in the commercial, industrial, political and judicial life of the city and county in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In particular, the many contributions of W. C. Heath and R. B. Redwine make the district eligible for the National Register under Criterion B. It is also eligible under Criterion C, both as containing locally outstanding and representative examples of the Queen Anne, Classical Revival and Prairie School architectural styles and as a significant and distinguishable grouping of resources. Two of the houses of are particular architectural merit. The 1897 Heath House, designed by C. C. Hook of Charlotte, is one of the two or three best examples of the Queen Anne style in Monroe. The ca. 1908 residence of R. B. Redwine, built by local contractor. G. Marion Tucker, is among the finer of the many Classical Revival style houses built in Monroe between 1900 and 1910 and is unusual as the only brick example of the style surviving from this period. The ca. 1905 Queen Anne-style house known as Crow’s Nest and the 1916 Prairie School/Classical Revival-style Ed Crow House are representative examples of those styles. Each house stands at the center of a complex of related contemporary and later outbuildings and subsidiary residences on a large home tract of four to six acres, sited well back from the roadways which form a principal boundary for each tract. The district’s period of significance extends from 1897 to 1938, the former being the date of construction of the earliest surviving house in the district and the latter year being that in which R. B. Redwine died, the last surviving of the original owners of the houses.

X See continuation sheet
Significant Person (continued)

Heath, William Crow

Historical Background

The location of the cluster of dwellings and outbuildings comprising the Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District reflects the proximity of the rapidly developing county seat of Monroe with its increasing commercial and social opportunities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, together with ready railroad access to other cities of the Piedmont and parts north. Against this growing urban attraction was balanced a desire to continue rural occupations in a less spatially restricting environment than the town. (1)

The district consists of approximately 25 acres, which are clearly delineated from their surroundings by the right of way of the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad and mature hedges and stands of trees. It is an area defined by the high architectural quality and shared design characteristics of the four principal houses and by the carefully landscaped, spacious grounds and deep setback of those houses.

The special and locally unique character of the area was recognized in Monroe as early 1918, within two years after the last of the four principal residences was constructed. In August of that year, the Monroe Journal published an article under the title, "Sketches: Some Farms and Farmers Just West of Monroe," which described the four men—R. B. Redwine, W. C. Heath, Ed Crow, and J. J. Crow—and the farms they operated here. Also included was the farm of Jim Winchester, whose residence is no longer in existence. (2)

Early in the article, the following physical description of the houses and their surroundings appears,

First, it might not be amiss to point out the home of Mr. Redwine. A structure of brick built upon a knoll, and surrounded by a green hedge, which encloses a multitude of shady trees, this home is the target for the admiration of the thousands of eyes which gaze upon it annually. No less imposing is the home of Capt. Heath, which stands in the fork of the road. On the left can be seen the handsome homes of the two Crow boys, Messrs. J. J. and E. W. Crow... (3)

The article goes on to discuss the various farming operations being carried out by Redwine, Heath, the Crows and Winchester, providing a
humorous account of their good-natured competition. Noting that all five were men who had long been actively involved in the business and professional life of Monroe, the author stated that,

By inquiry it was ascertained that none of these farmers were city-raised, but came from the rural districts away back. Afterwards having retired in a semi-way to the farm there was natural ambition and intuitiveness to recall the old usages as practiced by their forefathers with the desire, however, to keep apace with modern agricultural methods. (4)

In playful conclusion, the article's author indicates the true nature of the farming activities of the neighbors as mainly a hobby to animate their lives beyond the doors of their offices and businesses, unlikely to provide any of them with a substantial income.

Standing on an elevated site in the triangle created by the intersection of the two highways is the Heath House, the oldest of the four principal houses in the district. This was the residence of Osgood Pierce Heath (1856-1916), a native of Lancaster County, South Carolina, who had moved to Union County, North Carolina several years previously and engaged in a number of business enterprises with his brothers A. W. and B. D. Heath. In 1889, he moved the majority of his business activities to Charlotte, although he maintained his association with a number of Union County institutions into the early 20th century, serving as a member of the Board of Directors and president of the People's Bank of Monroe and president of the Monroe (Manetta) Cotton Mill, which he and his brother B. D. Heath purchased in 1895. (5) Deed and census records indicate that Heath also maintained his principal residence in Union County until the early 20th century.

In early August 1897 Mrs. Annie Lee Heath, wife of O. P. Heath, purchased a 24.75-acre tract of land from M. D. Myers which adjoined the lands of, among others, R. B. Redwine and Mrs. F. C. Crow and through which the Georgia, Carolina and Northern Railway ran. (6) It was at the eastern corner of this tract, located just west of Monroe, that the Heaths built their impressive Queen Anne style residence. On 31 August of that year, the Charlotte Daily Observer reported that, "Architect Hook will . . . prepare plans for the new residence of Mr. O. P. Heath at Monroe . . . ." (7) This reference is to prominent Charlotte architect Charles Christian Hook (1870-1938), who earlier that year had designed a house for R. B. Redwine and had previously designed additions and a new facade for the Charlotte residence of O. P. Heath's brother,
Charles Christian Hook, who was employed by the Heaths to design their home, was a native of Wheeling, West Virginia, who moved to Charlotte around 1890, after graduating from Washington University. During his nearly fifty-year career as an architect, Hook, in conjunction with several different partners, including his son Walter W. Hook, designed a large number of important buildings in the city of Charlotte and throughout the state. Included were Charlotte's municipal building, the Richmond County Courthouse in Rockingham, several buildings at the University of North Carolina and Duke University, and wings for the state hospitals at Raleigh and Morganton.

In addition, Hook was a prolific designer of houses, including many for the Charlotte Consolidated Construction Company, developers of Dilworth, an early streetcar suburb. It has been said that he "... occupied a place of pivotal importance in the evolution of the built environment of Charlotte... Indeed, he introduced the Colonial Revival style in this community and, consequently, established the aesthetic norms which dominated the architecture of the affluent suburbs of Charlotte." (10) By late 1904, O. P. Heath had moved to Charlotte, selling his house outside Monroe to a nephew and business associate, Major W. C. Heath.

William Crow Heath (1866-1937) was also born in Lancaster County, South Carolina, a son of Allen W. and Nannie Crow Heath. Like his uncle and father, he was active in the business life of Monroe and North Carolina. Although his principal occupation was as an owner, officer and long-time manager of the Monroe Cotton Mill, Union County's first entry in the state's textile industry, Heath was also involved in numerous other local enterprises in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These included the Monroe Oil and Fertilizer Company (organized in 1899), Heath-Lee Hardware Company (1900), the McRae Mercantile Company (1902), of which he was president, Monroe Manufacturing Company (1903), Icemorlee Cotton Mills (1905), Houston-Heath Realty Company (1909), and Jackson Mills (1913). He served two terms as Union County's representative to the North Carolina General Assembly and one term in the state Senate.

W. C. Heath's widow died in 1944, but the house remained in family ownership and occupancy until 1975. In the latter year, the executor of the estate of Mary Heath McMullan (1897-1974), Major Heath's younger daughter, sold the property to John L. LaMarre. Mary McMullan had inherited the property from her older sister Lura Heath (1891-1971), who
had continued to live in the house after her parents' deaths. Since 1975, the house has had several owners, most of whom have undertaken efforts to restore it, a time-consuming and still incomplete process.

The second oldest house in the district is Crow's Nest, a handsome late example of the Queen Anne style built early in the 20th century by Fetnah Heath Crow, the widow of William Crow. Master millwright William Crow (d. 1884), a native of Lincoln County, North Carolina, lived with his family in the Waxhaw area just east of the Union County border with Lancaster County, South Carolina. Although Crow's second wife Fetnah Heath (1836-1909) was born in Union County, her father was one of a large family of Heaths who migrated from Lancaster to Union County in the mid to late 19th century.

Crow owned several tracts of land in Union County, one of which he deeded to his wife in 1883. After her husband's death the following year, Mrs. Crow is said to have moved her family (consisting of three surviving sons, John J., Robert D. and Edward W., and a widowed step-daughter, Maggie Sturdivant) to this property, which was located west of the town of Monroe on the waters of Bearskin Creek. The house which they occupied apparently burned shortly after the turn of the century, and Crow's Nest was erected to replace it. Neither the builder nor an architect has been identified for the house; however, in style, form and a number of design features, it is similar to the nearby Heath House, which predates it by several years.

The oldest of Mrs. Crow's surviving sons, John J., lived with his family on Franklin Street in Monroe, while the two younger sons remained at Crow's Nest with their mother. Shortly after their move from Waxhaw to the outskirts of Monroe, the three brothers formed a business under the name of Crow Brothers. The mercantile firm was multifaceted, as the brothers acted as cotton buyers and handled commercial fertilizers and farm supplies. The firm was dissolved in 1920, although John and Robert Crow continued to operate a grocery business on Main Street in Monroe. In addition to their mercantile operations, the three Crow brothers, both individually and through the firm, participated in a variety of local enterprises. Many of these were the same as those involving their neighbors, W. C. Heath and R. B. Redwine, including the Monroe Oil and Fertilizer Company, Monroe Manufacturing Company, the Waxhaw Telephone Company (1903), Icemorlee Cotton Mills, and Houston-Heath Realty Company.

Fetnah Crow died in 1909, and the 1910 Census indicates that Crow's Nest
was occupied in that year by her sons R. D. and Ed Crow, the latter of whom had been married in 1908 to Mary Hanes of Mocksville, North Carolina.(25) In 1915, the brothers divided their mother's estate, with John J. Crow receiving two tracts of land, including the Crow's Nest property.(26) John J. Crow (1863-1942), mayor of Monroe several years previously, moved his family to Crow's Nest; his daughters continued to occupy the house after his death, Adeline until her death in 1976, and Mary until about two years before she died in 1984.(27)

The third major house in the district is said to have been built between 1908 and 1910 for Judge R. B. Redwine, following a fire which had destroyed an earlier frame dwelling on the same site. Redwine had acquired property in this location in the mid 1890s, building on the site in 1897 to designs provided by C. C. Hook of Charlotte. An early 20th century photograph shows the earlier house to have been a typical late Victorian farmhouse.(28) While the new and substantial brick residence was under construction by local contractor G. Marion Tucker, the Redwines lived in a small frame house to the east of the main house site; this building survives as rental property.(29)

Robert B. Redwine (1860-1938) was a native of Union County, a son of Dr. T. W. Redwine. He was licensed as an attorney in 1889, beginning his practice in Monroe in 1891. At various times, he formed partnerships with other Union County legal luminaries, including D. A. Covington, Judge A. M. Stack, and John C. Sikes. During the gubernatorial term of Angus W. McLean (1925-29), he was appointed as a superior court judge. (30)

Redwine served his community and state in many capacities, including chairman of the county commissioners, the county board of education and the county board of exemptions during World War I, in the state General Assembly and Senate, and on the board of trustees of the University of North Carolina for 32 years. At the time of his death, he was president of the Union County Bar Association and was known as the "dean of the Monroe bar."(31)

In 1895, Redwine was married to Sallie McAlister of Anson County, who survived him by little more than one year.(32) When Redwine was declared bankrupt in 1927, most of the farmland that he owned at the time was sold so that he and his wife could buy back their residence, which they later deeded to two of their daughters. The latter sold the house after their parents' deaths to another Monroe attorney, Oscar L. Richardson.(33) Richardson's widow sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. James H Belk in 1967; it was acquired in 1986 by Dr. and Mrs. Virgilio S. Ipapo,
In the division of the Crow estate, Ed Crow (1870-1930) received two tracts, one of which was between Crow's Nest and the right of way of the Seaboard Coastline Railway. The 23 November 1915 issue of the Monroe Journal reported that Crow was "... securing lumber now with which to begin building a nice residence ... next spring."(35) After completing his large Prairie/Classical Revival style house, Ed Crow was occupied principally with farming at his suburban residence until his death.(36) His widow and children sold the property in 1933 to S. H. and Seelye Adams. During World War II, Mr. and Mrs Adams divided the house into apartments which were rented to soldiers stationed at nearby Camp Sutton. S. H. Adams died in 1946, but his wife remained in the house for nearly twenty years after his death. In 1965, it was acquired by the current owners, Dr. and Mrs. John W. Hearn, Jr.; the Hearns returned the house to a single-family residence and continue to occupy it today.(37)

A survey of Monroe's historic architecture was conducted in 1978, during which nearly 250 of the community's most significant historic architectural resources were identified. Reflecting the city's development from 1844 to 1978, the buildings recorded included more than 150 late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses, with a significant collection of large Classical Revival residences. The four houses in the Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District were among about fifteen percent of the buildings selected for intensive recording, and one, the Heath House, has been accorded local designation by the Monroe/Union Historic Properties Commission (1985). Approximately 130 of the buildings shown in the publication resulting from the survey have been included in the Monroe Residential Historic District. Two other suburban Monroe houses have been nominated to the National Register--the John C. Sikes House (listed in 1978) and the M. K. Lee House (nominated in 1987). Architecturally and historically, two of the four principal houses Waxhaw-Weddington Roads Historic District--the Heath House and the R. B. Redwine House--are comparable with the pivotal houses in the Monroe Residential Historic District and the two individually nominated houses. The other two are comparable with the best of the contributing houses in the Monroe Residential Historic District. Their significance as a group is especially outstanding.

Ownership of the properties in the district has remained relatively stable since their construction, with two remaining in the same families until the 1970s and 1980s, with the result that the houses and the
tracts of land on which they stand survive with a high degree of integrity and an unusual lack of intrusive elements. Since the mid 1970s, several different owners of the Heath House have undertaken efforts to restore it, and the current owner of Crow's Nest is working to repair damage caused by neglect. The Redwine House and the Ed Crow House remain in good condition, having been continuously occupied and maintained to the present.

Footnotes


(3) Ibid.

(4) Ibid.


(6) Union County Register of Deeds (hereinafter cited as UCRD), deed book 27, p. 66.


(10) Charlotte/Mecklenburg Historic Properties Commission, Survey

(11) UCRD, deed book 37, p. 487.


(13) "Death Takes Major Heath."


(16) United States Census, Union County, North Carolina, 1850, 1860 and 1870, population schedules; North Carolina Division of Archives and History, WPA Graves Index; and "Last Rites Held For Three Prominent Men," Monroe Enquirer, 10 August 1942, p. 1.


(18) UCRD, deed book 17, p. 410.

(19) "The Death Record;" United States Census, Union County, North Carolina, 1880, population schedule; and UCRD, deed book 17, p. 410.

(20) Albert Esposito, 1710 Waxhaw Road, Monroe, North Carolina, Allison and David Black interview, 9 January 1987.

(21) UCRD, Marriage Register; United States Census, Union County, North Carolina, 1900 and 1910, population schedules.


(23) UCRD, deed book 56, p. 585; and Monroe City Directory, 1922-23.

(25) "Edward W. Crow Dies At Mocksville Home," Monroe Enquirer, 26 May 1930; United States Census, Union County, North Carolina, 1910, population schedule; and Davie County Register of Deeds, Marriage Register.

(26) UCRD, deed book 55, p. 299.

(27) Monroe Cemetery, Crow Family tombstones; and Esposito interview.


(32) Stack & Beasley, Sketches, p. 69; and UCRD, Death Certificates, book 24, p. 314.

(33) UCRD, deed book 65, pp. 444, 449 and 454; deed book 72, p. 24; deed book 93, p. 86; deed book 82, pp. 511 and 512; and Belk interview.


(36) Ibid.

(37) John W. and Betty S. Hearn, 1906 Weddington Road, Monroe, North Carolina, Allison and David Black interview, 9 January 1987; and UCRD, deed book 199, p. 337.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings
Survey # ______________________
Record # ______________________

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Approx. 36 acres

UTM References

A 1, 7 5 3, 8 7, 8, 0 3, 8, 7, 1, 0, 5, 0
Zone Easting Northing

B 1, 7 5, 3, 9, 2, 2, 0 3, 8, 7, 1, 3, 0, 0
Zone Easting Northing

C 1, 7 5, 3, 9, 3, 0, 0 3, 8, 7, 0, 9, 4, 0

D 1, 7 5, 3, 8, 9, 5, 0 3, 8, 7, 0, 7, 8, 0

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the district are indicated by the dashed line marked on the accompanying Monroe planimetric map, drawn at a scale of 1"=200', with dimensions drawn from Union County Tax Maps #9-313 and 9-274.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the district are drawn to reflect the current property lines around each of the houses, which in turn correspond to the home tracts for the residences making up the district.

11. Form Prepared By

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date 6/30/87
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"Last Rites Held For Three Prominent Men." Monroe Enquirer, 10 August 1942, p. 1.

Lee, Mary Ann. An Inventory of Historic Architecture. (Monroe: City of Monroe, 1978.)
Monroe Cemetery. Crow and Heath families tombstones.


North Carolina Division of Archives and History. WPA Graves Index.


Union County Register of Deeds Office. Deed records, Vital Statistics--Births and Deaths, Death Certificates and Marriage Register.

