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 Downtown Garner Historic District
   other names/site number Garner's Station

2. Location
   street & number Garner Road and Main Street from New Rand Rd. to N/A not for publication
   city, town Garner Broughton Street N/A vicinity
   state North Carolina code NC county Wake code 183 zip code 27529

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   [X] private
   [X] public-local
   [ ] public-State
   [ ] public-Federal
   Category of Property
   [X] building(s)
   [ ] district
   [ ] site
   [ ] structure
   [ ] object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing Noncontributing
   [62] [27] buildings
   [1] [ ] sites
   [ ] [ ] structures
   [27] [ ] objects
   Total
   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 [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying 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
### 6. Function or Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)</th>
<th>Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOMESTIC/single dwelling</td>
<td>DOMESTIC/single dwelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMMERCE/department store</td>
<td>COMMERCE/specialty store</td>
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<td>RELIGION/religious structure</td>
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<td>EDUCATION/school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPORTATION/rail-related</td>
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### 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**

- Queen Anne
- Classical Revival
- Bungalow/Craftsman
- other: commercial vernacular

**Materials**

- foundation: brick
- walls: weatherboard, brick
- roof: asphalt
- other: metal

Describe present and historic physical appearance.
The Downtown Garner Historic District consists of approximately ten blocks of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial, residential and institutional buildings arranged along both sides of the North Carolina Railroad (now Norfolk Southern Railway) tracks. Extending from the southeast to northwest, the tracks run here in a straight path through the rolling countryside of southeastern Wake County and are bordered by a right of way of grass strips planted with crape myrtle trees. This landscaped corridor provides continuity to the district, tying together its loosely-arranged parts and almost rural atmosphere. To the south of the tracks is Main Street, while the tracks are paralleled on the north by Garner Road, formerly the line of NC Highway 70. The commercial area of the district is located largely on the south side of Main Street from Griffith to Purvis Streets, with a secondary node at the west end of the district along Garner Road. On the north side of the railroad tracks, across from the commercial area, is the ca. 1902 Garner Depot. The residential fabric of the district lines the north side of Garner Road and is interspersed with the commercial buildings on the south side of Main Street. At the northwest corner of the district is the 1923 (former) Garner High School and its grounds, while the northeast corner of the district is anchored by Hayes Chapel Christian Church and its accompanying cemetery north of Garner Road. Within the district are 63 contributing and 27 non-contributing properties.

The two-block commercial area of the district faces the slightly-elevated, landscaped line of the railroad across a wide Main Street. The single row of historic commercial buildings that make up this section is composed of one and two-story common bond brick structures with corbelled cornices and flat or segmentally-arched window heads. Reputedly the oldest, and among the most intact of these structures is the H. D. Rand Store [49] of ca. 1895. Next to it, and stylistically similar, though thirty years later, is the building erected by the Yeargan family which originally contained a grocery, pharmacy, and the office of Dr. J. S. Buffaloe [50]. The ca. 1910 Bank of Garner Building [55], though refaced with tapestry brick in the 1920s or 30s, exhibits the same vernacular detailing. At the far west end of the district, across from the (former) high school, is an unusually-intact brick 1920s filling station [34] with hipped Spanish tile roof.

Across from the Main Street commercial area, on the north side of the tracks, is the (former) Garner Depot [12], a modest frame passenger/freight station built by the Southern Railway that was damaged and then moved in the 1950s and 1960s, but which has been returned to
its original location and is in the process of being restored. Another railroad-related building is the ca. 1897 Section Foreman's House [17], a small, frame residence moved to the north side of Garner Road in 1921.

The residential fabric of the district is loosely-arranged along and south of Main Street, down one side of New Rand Road and Emory Street, and on the north side of Garner Road. Setbacks vary from shallow yards behind sidewalks along Main Street to deeper and more irregular sittings along Garner Road, where the houses are also in several places more widely spaced. Most yards have mature hardwoods around and behind the dwelling, providing a unity of vegetation that helps to bridge over such intrusions as a small apartment complex.

Residences in the district are mostly quite modest and date from the turn of the century to after World War II. The greater part of the earlier houses are Late Queen Anne or Classical Revival style one-story Triple A, T-plan or L-plan frame cottages, such as the Walton-Broughton House [8] and the Joe Broughton House [15], both on East Garner Road, the Gabriel Barbee House [18] on West Garner, and the Weathers-Penny House [42] on East Main. There are also one-story, hipped-roofed Classical Revival style houses such as the (Former) Methodist Parsonage [2] and the Numa Broughton House [3] on East Garner Road and the Frank Penny House [39] on East Main Street. A handful of two-story, Late Queen Anne/Classical Revival houses are located in the eastern part of the district, including the J. J. Bagwell House [4] and the Dr. Braxton Banks House [9], originally a one-story building. On New Rand Road are the two-story W. L. Brooks House [61] of about 1912, a well-composed Queen Anne/Classical Revival style house with octagonal corner tower, and the ca. 1910 Henry Bryan House [62], similarly two-story and Late Queen Anne/Classical in style, but with multiple gables and somewhat larger.

During the 1920s and 30s a number of Craftsman style or influenced bungalows were constructed in Garner. The district contains the ca. 1923 D. H. Buffaloe House [1] and the Andrew Bryan House [24], both on Garner Road. Also in the district is the brick Colonial Revival/Mission Revival style Walter and Geneva Rand House [5] from about 1935.

Outbuildings in the district consist mainly of small, gable-roofed frame garages. An exception is the brick carbide generator house [OB-16] behind 201 West Main.

There are two churches in the district, the ca. 1870 Hayes Chapel Christian Church [6], a cruciform Gothic Revival frame church to which a
new, brick sanctuary was added in 1962, and the 1955 Bible Way Church [36]. In the church yard to the west of Hayes Chapel is an irregular cemetery dating from the late 19th century [S-1]; an additional 1/2 acre annexed in 1918 has correspondingly later stones.

Set well back from the road on a low rise at the west end of the district is the (Former) Garner High School [31], a two-story, Classical Revival style brick school building constructed in 1923 and enlarged in 1927. At either end of the high school are a ca. 1945 Colonial Revival brick cafeteria building [32] and the (former) vocational building [33].

Bordering the downtown district to the east is an industrial plant, while to the northeast are hardwood woodland and recreation fields for the town of Garner. To the north and northwest are mostly post-World War II housing developments. On the west and southwest of the district are also modern housing, while to the south of the downtown is a mix of housing of various periods, open lots, and baseball fields, interspersed with wooded lots, all sloping down to the current line of US 70.
**INVENTORY LIST**

Information contained in the following inventory listings is derived principally from the files of an inventory of historic buildings in Garner conducted by Kelly Lally in 1988, with additional research by Melissa J. Delbridge. Given the limited documentary resources available for the town, interviews with older residents and material gathered from earlier interviews formed the primary source for research. Other main sources of information are contained in the bibliography of this nomination.

**Key**

C = Contributing  
N = Noncontributing  
OB = Other buildings  
S = Structures  
SI = Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List #</th>
<th>Street #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Description/Original Owner-Occupant, If Known</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C 1.</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>ca. 1923</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td><strong>D. H. Buffaloe House;</strong> frame, Craftsman style bungalow with cross-gable roof and projecting gabled front porch; first floor clapboarded, gable ends shingled; triangular braces in eaves; square-section balustrade between brick piers of porch; nine over one sash; rear shed wing; interior and exterior chimneys; built by Andrew Bryan for D. H. Buffaloe.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C OB-1</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>ca. 1923</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gable-roofed frame shed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C OB-2</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>ca. 1923</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gable-roofed frame barn with shed roofs both sides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 2.</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>(Former) Methodist Parsonage;</strong> high-hipped frame cottage with pedimented gables on the front three sides; wrap-around porch with Tuscan columns; pedimented dormer at front; rear gabled wing; one surviving corbelled-capped chimney, others replacements; aluminum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section</td>
<td>House Name</td>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C OB-3</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Siding; brick pier foundations infilled; one over one sash; from 1915 to 1954 served as parsonage for Garner Pastoral Charge, then Garner-Ebenezer Charge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NC OB-4</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>ca. 1950</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gable-roofed frame garage with shed attached.</td>
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<tr>
<td>C 3.</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Concrete block garage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C OB-5</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><strong>Numa Broughton House:</strong> high hipped-roofed frame Classical Revival house with pedimented gable at front; hipped front porch with Tuscan columns; half-glazed front door with transom; pair of interior chimneys, one retaining corbelled cap; rear gabled ell with interior sheds; two over two sash; Numa Broughton early owner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 4.</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>ca. 1895</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>J. J. Bagwell House:</strong> Late-Queen Anne style frame house with L-plan open to the road; gable roofs, including pedimented gable over stair hall in inner corner of L; rear two-story stair hall and one story gable and shed wings; hipped full-width front porch with Tuscan columns, pedimented gable in center; ornamental vents and small piercework gable ornaments in gable ends; shinglework in stair gable; two over two sash; half-glazed front door with German siding; deteriorated, corbelled-capped chimneys; original owner merchant J. J. Bagwell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 5.</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>ca. 1935</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Walter and Geneva Rand House:</strong> five-bay, double-pile, brick-veneered frame Colonial/Mission Revival style house with broad gable roof; gable ends are stuccoed and have round-headed windows; pair of exterior chimneys at each gable end; hipped sunroom on east end; hipped porch across front with segmental-arched brick arcade; central front door with sidelights; six over six sash; built for</td>
</tr>
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Walter and Geneva Rand after previous house burned on site.

Gable-roofed frame garage.

Hayes Chapel Christian Church; rear portion is original cruciform frame Gothic Revival church with high gable roofs; windows are pointed-arched with four over four or Gothic sash; additional two bays added to west gable end, rear hipped and shed-roofed additions; vinyl sided; front portion of church added in 1962 is rectangular, gable-roofed brick veneered building with vinyl-sided short steeple, opalescent glass windows; congregation organized in 1859, founded by Rev. Henry B. Hayes.

Cemetery, Hayes Chapel Christian Church; south section is irregularly-plotted cemetery adjacent to church with marked burials dating from late 19th century; some wooden and rough stone markers; north half acre purchased in 1918 by John F. Broughton for town cemetery has subsequent stone markers in rows.

Commercial Building; one-story cinderblock commercial building with gable roof behind stepped parapet; rear frame gable-roofed ell covered with asphalt siding.

Gable-roofed frame storage building.

Walton-Broughton House; T-plan (side of T facing street) frame Late Victorian Eclectic house; rear gabled ell with sheds; hipped porch across front with bracketed, chamfered columns, heavy turned baluster railings; gable in street side of T leg; quatrefoil gables in gable ends; half-glazed front door with tabernacle panels, applied ornament; two over two sash; corbelled-capped chimneys; purchased from Ben Walton in 1906 by farmer John Broughton and wife Alice Penny.
Downtown Garner Historic District

South Side, East Garner Road

Dr. Braxton Banks House; three-bay, single-pile, cross-gable frame house with central, projecting gabled wing at front; three gables on facade have round windows; first floor, east end of house, including hipped front porch with turned columns and brackets, reportedly original, one-story house purchased from George Montague; west side of front elevation has hipped porch with pedimented gable, fronts doctor's office; rear dining room wing and wings added in 1940s; tall, corbelled-capped chimneys; expanded and remodelled before turn of century by Dr. Braxton Banks, who died 1903.

Storage Building; Gable-roofed metal storage building on concrete block foundation.

Garner Depot; Small frame combined passenger/freight depot; originally had freight room with two waiting rooms attached at east end; east part of building destroyed by hurricane in 1954, freight depot only rebuilt; building moved offsite in 1960s, returned in 1987; now being restored; German siding; deep, overhanging eaves with triangular brackets; board and batten freight doors; six over six sash; five-panel doors; built in 1902 for Southern Railway.

North Side, West Garner Road

J. B. Brown House; three-bay, double pile brick Colonial Revival house with gable roof; hipped, one-story wing on either side elevation; east wing has French doors on three sides; hipped front porch with trellis supports; rear catslide wing with gabled
C 14. 104 ca. 1905 1
dormer; large exterior chimney on east
elevation; six over six sash; built for
pharmacist J. B. Brown following burning of
earlier house on site.

Sam Carroll House; small, triple-A frame
house; rear ell with gabled side addition;
central chimney with corbelled cap; hipped
porch across front with square modern posts;
ornamental louvers in gables; eight over
eight sash on front, six over six on sides;
tabernacle panel front door with glazed upper
panels; central corbelled cap chimney; said
to have been occupied in early twentieth
century by Sam Carroll.

C 15. 108 ca. 1905 1

NC 16. 200 ca. 1955 1

C 17. 202 ca. 1897 1

C 18. 206 ca. 1900 1

Section Foreman's House; small, one-story,
gable-roofed frame house; rear gabled ell
with shed addition; hipped porch across front
with square posts; corbelled-cap interior
chimney; six over six sash; German siding
(railroad records indicate was originally
board and batten); built for Southern
Railroad as dwelling for section foreman,
moved back from tracks in 1921 to make way
for Garner Road.

Gabriel Barbee House; small frame Late
Victorian cottage with multiple gables; hip
and shed rear additions; hipped front porch
wraps around southeast corner; has bracketted
square posts; diamond-shaped gable louvers have star overlays; corbelled-capped interior chimneys with crosses on face; four over four sash; half-glazed door with tabernacle panels and applied ornament; was home of Gabriel Barbee, a Garner merchant.

House; small, T-plan frame house with multiple gables; rear shed addition; diamond gable louvers; two front doors; small porches in front interior corners of T have metal trellis posts; front picture window added; interior chimneys removed.

Henry Woods House; small, Craftsman-influenced frame triple-A house; rear gable and hipped ells; hipped porch across front with panelled pyramidal columns on brick piers; four over one vertical pane sash; aluminum sided; built for Henry Woods, a black farmer.

Gable-roofed, metal-sided frame garage.

House; hip-roofed, one-story frame house.

House; small, very plain, T-plan frame house; hipped porch across front with square posts; numerous small additions to side and rear; four over four sash; corbelled cap chimneys.

Woods House; small, gable-roofed frame house with rear engaged shed portion; shed-roofed addition; hipped porch across front with square Tuscan piers; mix of sash types, including six over six and three over one; aluminum-sided; said to have been built for a member of the black Woods family.

Andrew Bryan House; Craftsman-influenced rectangular frame house with low hipped roof; recessed porch at front has double and triple square posts; hipped dormer at front with pair of four over one vertical pane sash; all
roofs have exposed rafter ends; sash four over one vertical pane; rear shed wing; interior and exterior chimneys with plain caps; built for Andrew Bryan.

Gable-roofed frame shed with side entrance, deep overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends.

Gable-roofed frame garage.

Apartment Building; gable-roofed brick apartment building.

Apartment Building; plain, gable-roofed brick apartment building.

House; gable-roofed stone house.

House; Craftsman-influenced, brick veneered bungalow (present veneer may be later); cross-gabled with projecting, gabled front porch with round-headed arches, adjacent patio; eight-over-one crossette pattern window sash; exposed rafter ends; later rear shed wing and concrete block garage.

House; Craftsman-influenced frame bungalow with side-gable roof; shed porch across front has broad arch supported at corners by pyramidal columns on brick piers; intermediate posts added; broad, gabled dormer in front of roof has small, multi-light windows; all roofs have exposed rafter ends; sash four over one vertical pane type; rear gabled ell.

House; frame triple-A house; rear gabled ell with cross gable at end; hipped porch across front with tapered square posts on brick piers; arched louvers in gable ends; four over four sash.
Main Building (Former) Garner High School; large, brick school building on hillside; central block with stepped/pedimented parapet; end pavillons with stepped parapets joined by symmetrical wings with central entrances; center and wing entrances have limestone classical surrounds; corbelled brick cornices; modern aluminum windows replace original pivoting six over six sash; rear wings including one-story auditorium wing; central block (including first group of windows on either side) completed in 1923; wings and auditorium completed in 1927; originally elementary/high school for whites, later the high school wing in a school-complex, converted to elementary school in 1969.

(Former) Garner High School Cafeteria; rectangular, gable-roofed brick Colonial Revival style cafeteria building joined to high school by breezeway.

(Former) Garner High School Vocational Building; rectangular, hipped-roofed brick building; porticoed entrances at either end of front elevation with paired, square Tuscan columns; rear shed wing; east half of building has larger windows than west half; all sash modern replacements; built in 1940 as vocational building to house vocational agriculture and home economics departments.

Filling Station; stuccoed brick filling station with hipped, metal Spanish tile roof; canopy over pumps is supported by metal posts on pump islands; office has central doorway flanked by large windows, all with multi-light transoms; side elevation windows and restroom doors similar; brick exposed below water table; said to have been owned and operated originally by Numa Broughton.
### Downtown Garner Historic District

**South Side, East Main Street**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Number</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>514</td>
<td>1955</td>
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<td>C 36.</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>ca. 1925</td>
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<td>NC OB-11</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>ca. 1950</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>C OB-12</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>ca. 1925</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>C 37.</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>C 38.</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>ca. 1915</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>NC OB-13</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>ca. 1915</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 39.</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>ca. 1910</td>
<td>1</td>
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**Bible Way Church**: modern, gable-roofed brick church.

**Carroll House**: frame, side-gable bungalow; gabled wings at west side, rear; engaged porch across front and west side has Tuscan columns; gabled dormer at front, lunettes in west gables; four over one vertical pane sash; some replacement siding; said to have been built for Carroll family.

**Flat-roofed concrete block garage**.

**Gable-roofed frame shed with plywood siding**.

**Carter House**: small, L-plan frame house with engaged shed porch in front; four over four sash; asbestos siding and turned porch posts are replacements; rear shed addition; said to have been occupied in early twentieth century by Carter family.

**Geneva Bryan House**: Craftsman-influenced, gable-roofed frame house with a rectangular, two-story section and a one-story portion perpendicular to it; rear shed wing across entire house; exposed rafter tails; two over two sash; hipped front porch remodelled, one turned pilaster survives; referred to locally as Geneva Bryan homeplace.

**Much-altered gable and shed frame garage**.

**Frank Penny House**: small Classical Revival frame house with high hipped roof; three pedimented dormers at front corners and in front elevation; rear gabled and shed wings; hipped porch across front with replacement turned posts (original pilasters indicate square classical columns); pair of corbelled cap interior chimneys; one over one sash;
front door with transom; said to have been owned for many years by Frank Penny.

Small, much-altered, gable and shed-roofed frame garage with metal siding.

House; small, gable-roofed frame house covered with asphalt roll roofing.

House; rectangular, concrete block house with front gable roof; gable ends are clapboarded; L-shaped porch wraps around front and east side, has square Tuscan columns; exposed rafter ends on roofs; shed dormer on west elevation, shed wing at rear; six over six sash.

Small, gable-roofed frame garage with sheds, asphalt roll roofing-covered walls.

Weathers-Penny House; Late Victorian frame house consisting of two gable-roofed sections joined by a central connector; hipped porch runs across front and one side; porch partially screened in, retains turned posts and spindle frieze; modern turned balusters; four over four sash; arched louveres in gable ends; central chimney; rear shed addition; said to have belonged to bank clerk J. Weathers in early twentieth century, later Penny family.

Commercial Building; rectangular, common bond brick building; flat roof with stepped parapets at side; front elevation has segmentally-arched openings; central double doorway with transom is flanked by large display windows; reportedly contained Post Office at one period.

Commercial Building; rectangular, flat-roofed common bond brick commercial building; round-arched central doorway flanked by four over...
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet
Downtown Garner Historic District
Section number 7. Page 7-14

Downtown Garner Historic District

NC 45. 116 ca. 1950 1

NC 46. 114 ca. 1950 1

NC 47. 110-112 ca. 1950 1

NC 48. 104-108 ca. 1950 1

C 49. 102 ca. 1910 2

South Side, West Main Street

C 50. 105 ca. 1925 2

six and six over six window; reportedly originally a doctor's office.

Commercial Building; plain, rectangular brick commercial building with large display window at front.

Commercial Building; plain, rectangular brick commercial building with large display windows at front.

Commercial Building; frame, brick and concrete block double commercial building with modern plywood panelled front; overhanging asphalt-shingled roof.

Commercial Building; brick and concrete block double commercial building with modern clapboarded wood front and overhanging asphalt-shingled roof.

H. D. Rand Store; rectangular, common bond brick store building with hipped roof; front elevation rebuilt; has high parapet, central double doors flanked by display windows, second floor windows with six over six sash; originally corner entrance; side and rear elevations original common bond brickwork with segmentally-arched windows, label moldings; two over two sash; clipped rear corner with squint-quoins; rear one-story angled wing originally stables; built for H. D. Rand dry goods and wholesale grocery store; current front appears to be ca. 1930 replacement.

Commercial Building; common bond brick double commercial building; street elevation has double-doored entrance to east shop in clipped corner, adjacent display window with modern sash; west shopfront has modern wood entrance and display windows; second floor of...
building has large two over two windows; corbelled brick cornice; side entrance in projecting two-story bay; built by Yeagans family; originally contained grocery store on west side, pharmacy on east with Doctor J. S. Buffaloe's offices on second floor.

Gabriel Barbee's Store; narrow, common bond brick store building with corbelled brick cornice; modern aluminum and glass shopfront with canvas awning; originally dry goods store of Gabriel Barbee.

Henry Bryan's Store; common bond brick triple store building; six bay front elevation with corbelled brick cornice; segmentally-arched four over four windows with hood moldings on second floor; first floor has three shopfronts with mix of original and modern materials; modern metal marquee; flat roof with stepped parapets at side; contained Henry Bryan's furniture, grocery and dry goods stores in early twentieth century; reputedly first brick commercial building in town.

Hamilton-Mitchiner Building; front-gabled brick building with frame gable ends; full basement level exposed on downhill side; segmentally-arched front door; garage door filled in; eight over eight sash; built as blacksmith shop by Edison Hamilton, who later converted it to a garage; used as grocery store by Ken Mitchiner in 1920s.

Ed Penny's Store; plain, rectangular common bond brick commercial building; three-bay facade has segmentally-arched second floor windows with six over six sash; first floor shopfronts modern brick and glass; rear elevation has broad, segmentally-arched opening at basement level.
Bank of Garner Building; plain, rectangular common bond brick building; three-bay facade has segmentally-arched six over six windows on the second floor; central entrance with flanking windows; lower main facade now covered with board and batten, added wooden awning on street sides; rear three-sided bay with squint-quoined corners; flat roof with stepped parapets on sides; Bank of Garner opened 1910, changed name to Garner Banking and Trust Company in 1918, closed in 1931.

Montague-Penny House; small, frame triple-Late Queen Anne house; tin-shingled roof; hipped porch across front with turned columns (now on brick piers), spindle frieze, one original bracket; mock shingling, quatrefoil vent in front gable; rear gabled wing; shec additions; asbestos siding; three over one vertical pane sash; said to have been owned early by George Montague, later Ed Penny.

Carbide Generator House; small brick building with arched metal roof used to house generator for acetylene lighting gas.

Commercial Building; small, gable-roofed frame house with later stepped brick facade, concrete block and brick additions, plywood siding.

House; heavily-renovated, small, gable-roofed frame house.

House; rectangular, front-gabled frame Craftsman style bungalow; hipped porch across front with modern trellis posts; rear shec and gabled wings; exposed rafter ends, triangular brackets in gable end; four over one vertical pane windows.

House; pyramidal-roofed frame cottage; rear hipped and shed wings; hipped side addition; large, hipped dormer at front; small, hippe
United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet  
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West Side, New Rand Road</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 61.</strong> 104 ca. 1912 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. L. Brooks House; large, frame Queen Anne/Classical Revival style house; high, hipped roof with gables at three corners; engaged octagonal corner tower with conical roof; hipped porch wraps around two sides, has Tuscan columns and pediment over steps; Palladian window in front gable; rear pedimented dormer; corbelled cap chimneys; one over one windows; rear one-story hipped wing; built for W. L. Brooks on lots purchased in 1912.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C OB-17</strong> 104 ca. 1912 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Servants' Quarters; small, frame, gable-roofed servants' quarters with exterior end chimney; covered with asphalt siding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 62.</strong> 106 ca. 1910 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Bryan House; large, frame Queen Anne/Classical Revival style house; high hipped roof with pedimented gables at each corner; front three corners have three-sided bays below gables; hipped porch wraps around front and sides, has pedimented gable over front steps; porch columns replaced with square posts; pair of interior, corbelled-capped chimneys; Queen Anne sash in gable ends; one over one windows, some with original blinds; rear, one-story gabled wing; built for Henry Bryan, one of Garner's most prosperous merchants, on lots purchased about 1910.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C OB-18</strong> 106 ca. 1910 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>One-story, gable-roofed frame garage converted to apartment.</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NC 63.</strong> 102 ca. 1900 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>House; substantially-altered small frame house.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Downtown Garner Historic District

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C 64.  106  ca. 1900  1

House; small, frame, Late Queen-Anne style
triple-A cottage; hipped porch across front
with turned columns; shed side and rear
additions; four over four windows at front
replaced with paired six over six and picture
windows.

C 65.  110  ca. 1900  1

House; small, gable-roofed, L-plan frame
house; hipped porch at front with modern
square posts and railings; asbestos siding;
four over four sash.

West Side, Rand Mill Road

C 66.  112  ca. 1900  1

House; small, frame triple-A plan house with
rear ell; hipped porch across front has
modern square posts, screening; diamond vents
in gable ends; modern one over one windows;
corbelled cap chimney.

West Side, Griffin Street

C 67.  104  ca. 1900  1

Ed Penny House; small frame house consisting
of two parallel, gable-roofed portions
connected by a cross gable; hipped front
porch wraps around side and is screened in,
has modern square posts; rear shed additions;
arched vents in gable ends; corbelled cap
chimney; six over six sash; purchased by Ed
Penny in 1920s, subsequently contained local
telephone exchange owned by Penny.

East Side, Center Street

C 68.  102  ca. 1900  1

House; small frame house with front gable,
small cross gable wing; rear gabled wings;
hipped porch across front with wood trellis
posts; corbelled cap chimney; four over four
sash.
West Side, Avery Street

C 69. 105 ca. 1925 1

House; front-gabled Craftsman style bungalow; porch across front has hipped and gabled sections with tapered square columns on brick piers; exposed rafter tails on roofs; triangular braces in gables; eight over one crossette pattern sash; side gabled bay and gabled wing; interior and exterior side chimneys

East Side, Cedar Street

NC 70. 100 ca. 1970 1
NC OB-19 100 ca. 1970 1

House; gable-roofed brick ranch house.
Concrete block shed and double carport.
8. Statement of Significance

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

- [ ] nationally
- [x] statewide
- [ ] locally

Applicable National Register Criteria

- [x] D
- [ ] B
- [ ] C
- [ ] D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)

- [ ] A
- [ ] B
- [ ] C
- [x] D
- [ ] E
- [ ] F
- [ ] G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

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<th>Category</th>
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<th>Significant Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>ca. 1870-1940</td>
<td>1882</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>1923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Affiliation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant Person

- [ ] N/A

Architect/Builder

- Bryan, Andrew, builder

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

[ ] See continuation sheet
The Downtown Garner Historic District contains the original limits of the town of Garner's Station, incorporated in 1883, as well as the (former) Garner High School, built in 1923. These areas comprise the two focal points of Garner prior to the Second World War. Their significance falls under Criterion A through their association with the growth and development of Garner in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a representative linear example of the railroad-generated towns that proliferated in the period. The (former) High School is also significant as a local reflection of the development of public education in the state and county on the secondary school level in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The 1940 vocational building addition to the High School marked Garner's last spurt of pre-World War II growth.

Historical Background

Like many North Carolina towns established in the second half of the nineteenth century, Garner owes its existence to the coming of the railroad. Construction on the North Carolina Railroad, reaching from Goldsboro to Charlotte, began in 1852 and was completed in 1856.(1) Right of way maps from the 1850s show the railroad passing through the lands of Barnabas Johnson, A. Bagwell and J. Dupree, among others, along, and approximately where downtown Garner is now, crossing the line of the county road through St. Mary's township. They also indicate that there were no buildings in the area which was to later become Garner.(2)

The North Carolina Railroad did locate a section house in the area, a structure which is marked on the 1870 Pendel Bevers map of Wake County, and which appears to have been in the vicinity of the later downtown.(3) Beginning in 1871, the Richmond and Danville Railroad leased the North Carolina Railroad for thirty years, and an 1871 inventory lists a section house, "(ceiled)," of 49 x 17 x 11 feet with a foundation of stone pillars; a house for hands; a smoke house; and a well with top.(4) It was near this section house and crossing that the settlement grew. Although there was no station or platform, the nearest depot being at Clayton or Raleigh, trains may have stopped at the section house.

In 1859 a Congregational Christian Church ministry was organized in the area, meeting in a schoolhouse nearby. Land was purchased in 1867 from Eli Dupree and a church, the rear wing of the present Hayes Chapel Christian Church, was constructed soon after.(5) The earliest merchant in the area was reputedly a black furniture maker named Henry Fort who purchased 52.5 acres of land from Eli Dupree in January, 1875. Fort was
said to have been a fine cabinetmaker and carpenter, making wardrobes, bureaus and other pieces of furniture still in use in the area. (6)

Dupree sold small parcels of his land along the railroad to a number of persons in the years after the Civil War. By the late 1870s Garner had acquired the name and status, if not the facilities, of a station. Its first post office was established in 1878, with merchant Thomas A. Bingham as first postmaster. Bingham was followed to Garner by grocer Thomas W. Bennett, the Spence brothers and the Carter brothers, all engaged in the grocery business. (7)

In March of 1883, the North Carolina General Assembly granted a charter to Garner's Station. This modest charter set the city limits at "two hundred yards each way from T. W. Bennett's store." The mayor was to be T. A. Bingham, the constable E. Rogers, and the commissioners T. W. Bennett, J. M. Spruce (Spence?) and Eli Dupon (Dupree?). (8) Branson's Business Directory for 1884 lists seven merchants in Garner, all operating general stores. (9) The linear development of a business district and a few houses along the railroad tracks set a pattern for the town's growth for many years.

Just where the name Garner's Station came from has been a mystery since at least the early twentieth century. (10) Both the North Carolina Gazetteer and the New Geography of North Carolina state that the town was named for its founder, H. C. Garner. (11) However, no Garner appears in census or land records for the period. While there are many Garner families in the state, none appears to have lived in St. Mary's township until the late 1890s. Garner may have been the section foreman in the late 1870s when Bingham was establishing his post office.

For unknown reasons, Garner had its town charter repealed in 1891, but the town was at that point just beginning an important period of growth. In the mid-1890s Garner attracted a number of businessmen, including H. D. Rand, who established a general store and other enterprises, and George B. Montague, who set up a drug store, as well as others. The 1897 edition of Branson's Business Directory lists five general stores and Montague's drug store in Garner, which was listed with a population of 250. (12) South of the tracks, Main Street was built up with a mix of frame and brick stores.

At the turn of the century, agriculture in eastern Wake County centered around the production of cotton. Garner was well-provided with gins (in 1903 there were at least five) and served as a market and shipping point for baled cotton. (13)
Garner was once again incorporated in 1905.(14) During the early years of the century the town had, in addition to general stores and cotton gins, saw mills, blacksmith shops, a barber shop, a wagon shop, livery stables, undertaking parlors and boarding houses.(15) The Bank of Garner opened in 1910, with H. D. Rand as its president.(16)

In 1910 Frank Allen subdivided several acres of land between Bagwell and Rand Streets south of Main (then Railroad) Street, providing small lots on which were built a scattering of small houses and two large dwellings, the W. L. Brooks House [61] and the Henry Bryan House [62].(17) Most development in this period, however, was piecemeal as landowners sold off portions of their holdings for house lots a few at a time, beginning along Main Street and on the main highway north of the tracks.

Around World War I, the county road joining Garner to Raleigh was paved and included in the new, state "central highway." Running from the mountains to the sea, it was North Carolina's first state highway. Authorized by the General Assembly in 1911, portions of the highway were initially built by county governments after 1916, using the first federal highway grants. Originally NC Highway 10, it later became US 70, linking downtown Garner to points east and west and enhancing its status as a central location in the southeastern part of the county.(18)

With the construction of a new high school at the west end of town in 1923, that area opened up for development, with subdivisions platted on the Joe Broughton property west of the high school in 1927, south of Main Street on Montague Estate land from Montague to Pearl Streets in 1923, and on John F. Broughton property south of Main Street from Pearl to St. Mary's Streets in 1925.(19) Although a number of these lots were sold and built on during the late 1920s and 1930s, pre-World War II development did not approach the densities suggested by the subdivision plans.

In the 1950s the line of US 70 was rerouted to a bypass south of the downtown area. Garner developed as a bedroom community for Raleigh, with new subdivisions and shopping centers south and west of the downtown area. Earlier subdivisions were also filled in with postwar development. The original downtown went into a gradual decline, but has been undergoing a gradual rejuvenation in recent years under revitalization efforts by merchants and the Town of Garner.
Community Development Context

With few exceptions, the history of Wake County towns in the second half of the nineteenth century is one of communities either spawned or spurred in their growth by the arrival of railway lines. Wake was served early by rail lines, the Raleigh and Gaston being completed from Raleigh north in 1840, while the North Carolina Railroad, passing through the area that is now Garner, through Raleigh, and out the northwestern side of the county, was completed in 1859. A third line, the Chatham Railroad, was completed south from Raleigh to Chatham County in 1869. Late in the century several additional rail lines were added, including the Raleigh and Cape Fear, and the Cape Fear and Northern, to which was added the Raleigh and Pamlico in 1907.

Only a few communities in the county which later became towns were already extant when the railroads arrived. These include Cary, Morrisville, Wake Forest, Rolesville, Fuquay Springs (then Sippihaw) and Holly Springs. In these areas the arrival of the railroad meant the subdivision of new commercial and residential areas, generally in grid plans.

In Apex, Wendell, Zebulon, and Knightdale, the arrival or imminent arrival of the railroad led to the creation of new towns out of what had previously been farmland. These towns, too, were laid out in grids or modified grids.

Garner appears to be the only town in the county whose genesis was created by the railroad, but which developed gradually, strictly in a linear mode, rather than immediately generating accompanying subdivision in a grid. Like many railroad towns in the state, its commercial district paralleled the tracks, but so did the residential fabric. Attempts to create subdivisions were largely unsuccessful until the late 1920s. By far, the greatest growth of the town has occurred since World War II with the development of bedroom neighborhoods linked to Raleigh by US 70.

Education Context

The period from World War I through the 1920s was one of great progress in the public schools of North Carolina. During the administration of State Superintendent E. C. Brooks (1919-23) the six-months school term was made effective; salary schedules were set for teachers, principals and superintendents; certification requirements were increased; building funds of $10 million were loaned to the counties to build schoolhouses;
a school bus transportation system was begun; and many small rural schools were consolidated in accordance with countywide plans of school organization. (20) Under Brooks' successor, Arch T. Allen, the building program was continued through two special building funds (1925 and 1927) which totalled $7.5 million. (21)

The preamble to the 1921 "Act to Provide a Special Building Fund" summarizes the condition of North Carolina schools in the early 1920s:

...the enrollment of children in the public schools of North Carolina has so greatly increased within the past two years that the entire school plant in a large majority of the counties must be greatly enlarged or rebuilt altogether, and in all counties school buildings are inadequate to provide accommodations for the children now attending;... (22)

Instead of calling for an increase in the number of existing, small, frame rural schools, the act recognized the need for centralization in larger, more substantial buildings:

...the larger type of community school for the rural districts should be constructed of a more permanent nature, and planned for a larger service in order that the school may serve the community more effectively;... (23)

Although provided with better resources than many North Carolina counties, Wake County outside of Raleigh in the years after World War I reflected the typical situation of large numbers of small, frame elementary school houses for both blacks and whites, with a few larger, mostly frame high school buildings. Exceptions to this order were a handful of brick schools built in small towns in the county, such as the Wakelon School (1908) between Wakefield and Zebulon, Holly Springs School (1907-13), and the Cary Academy (1913), all combined elementary/secondary schools.

The late teens and early 1920s saw the construction of new, brick school buildings for whites in Apex (1922); Millbrook (1922); Wake Forest (1922-23); Fugay Springs (1918); Wendell (1917); West Wake (1922); Green Level (1924); and Garner. With the exception of Wendell, all of these schools were combined elementary/secondary facilities. (24)

Along with the construction of new, more substantial buildings went the consolidation of large numbers of one and two-room schoolhouses into a central district school served by school busses. In 1923 the
southeastern Wake County communities of Ebenezer, Cade Springs, Panther Branch, and Auburn agreed to send their high school students to Garner, provided that feeder elementary schools would be built at Auburn, Panther Branch and Vance. L. W. Umstead became principal of all the schools in the district in the fall of 1925, and the Garner High School, Vance, Auburn and Garner Consolidated Schools became the Garner District School System, with the principals of each of the feeder schools responsible to the principal of the central school.(25) An article in 1927 notes that the Garner School District had grown in the previous four years from 25 to 65 square miles.(26)

Prior to the construction of a new building, white Garner elementary and secondary students attended a frame school on Pearl Street built in 1912.(27) The two-story, brick Garner High School on Garner Road was completed in 1923 at a cost of more than $30,000.(28) Set on a seven acre tract, it contained nine classrooms, five used for the high school. 148 students attended grades 8 to 11 in the 1923-24 school year under the supervision of a local man, Thomas A. Banks.(29) (During this period students were graduated from high school after 11 years.)

A documentary photo of the initial appearance of the Garner High School shows the present central block, but with a simpler entrance sheltered by a flat, metal marquee. The facade of the building at that point ended just beyond the first set of five windows on either side, windows which had distinctive, pivoting six over six sash. In the parapet was a large sign that said "Garner High School."(30)

The accelerating pace of school consolidation caused the Garner School to be inadequate almost as soon as it was finished. Wings and an auditorium addition were completed in 1927.(31) In 1940 a vocational arts building for the vocational and home economics departments was constructed, followed by a cafeteria in 1945, a new gymnasium, and in 1951 a new primary building.(32) The last senior class graduated from the building in 1956, and by the late 1960s, under pressures caused by integration of the black and white systems, the school became entirely elementary.(33)
Notes


4 "Inventory of the Property of the North Carolina Railroad Company Sold and Turned Over to the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company, September 12, 1871," in North Carolina Railroad Company Papers, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, no date.


6 Ibid., page 4.


14 Ibid., p. 6.
15 Ibid., p. 7.
16 Ibid., p. 7.
21 Ibid.
23 Ibid.
24 High School Principals' Reports, Papers of the Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh.
25 Survey Files, Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N. C.
27 Survey Files.
28 Principals' Reports.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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29 Ibid.
30 Survey Files.
32 Survey Files.
33 Ibid.
Major Bibliographical References


High School Principals' Reports, Division of Instructional Services, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, in North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N. C.


Survey Files, Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N. C.


Wake County, N. C., Register of Deeds, Deed Books.

Wake County, N. C., Register of Deeds, Map Books.
9. Major Bibliographical References

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
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering 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: approximately 44

UTM References

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Downtown Garner Historic District are indicated by the dashed line on the accompanying Town of Garner planimetric map, drawn at a scale of 1"=200'.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  David R. Black/Architectural Historian
organization Black & Black/Preservation Consultants
date September 1, 1989
street & number 620 Wills Forest Street
telephone (919) 828-4616
state N.C.
city or town Raleigh
zip code 27605