Survey Report for the
Garfield and Green Streets Historic District
Statesville, North Carolina

Prepared for

CITY of Statesville NORTH CAROLINA

Prepared by

Susan V. Mayer, MA
Architectural Historian

SVM HISTORICAL CONSULTING

Nick Linville, MA
Historian

LINVILLE HISTORICAL CONSULTING

June 2025

T T T

Introduction **3**
Methodology 4
Background Research 4
Fieldwork 4
Historical Context **6**
Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History 6
African Americans in the Early History of Statesville, 1788–1865 6
The Roots of Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, 1865–1900 7
Thriving Under Jim Crow, 1900-1929 12
The Great Depression and World War II, 1929–1945 19
Post-World War II and the Struggle for Equality, 1945–1975 24
Recent History of the District, 1975–2025 28
Criterion A: Historical Context for Civil Rights 28
Early Civil Rights Activism in Statesville, 1934 29
School Integration Efforts, 1954–1961 30
Desegregating Statesville, 1957–1965 31
The Final Push for School Integration, 1961–1970 37
Undoing Discrimination in Housing, 1967–1975 39
Comparative Analysis: The Historic African American Neighborhoods of Statesville, ca.1890-ca.1975 40
Architectural Narrative **46**
Development History 48
Architectural Inventory **51**
Broadway Court 53
Center Street, South 66
Chambers Street 85
Dockery Street 123
Elm Street, South 127
Falls Street 165
Garfield Street 176
Green Street, South 252
Harrison Street 303

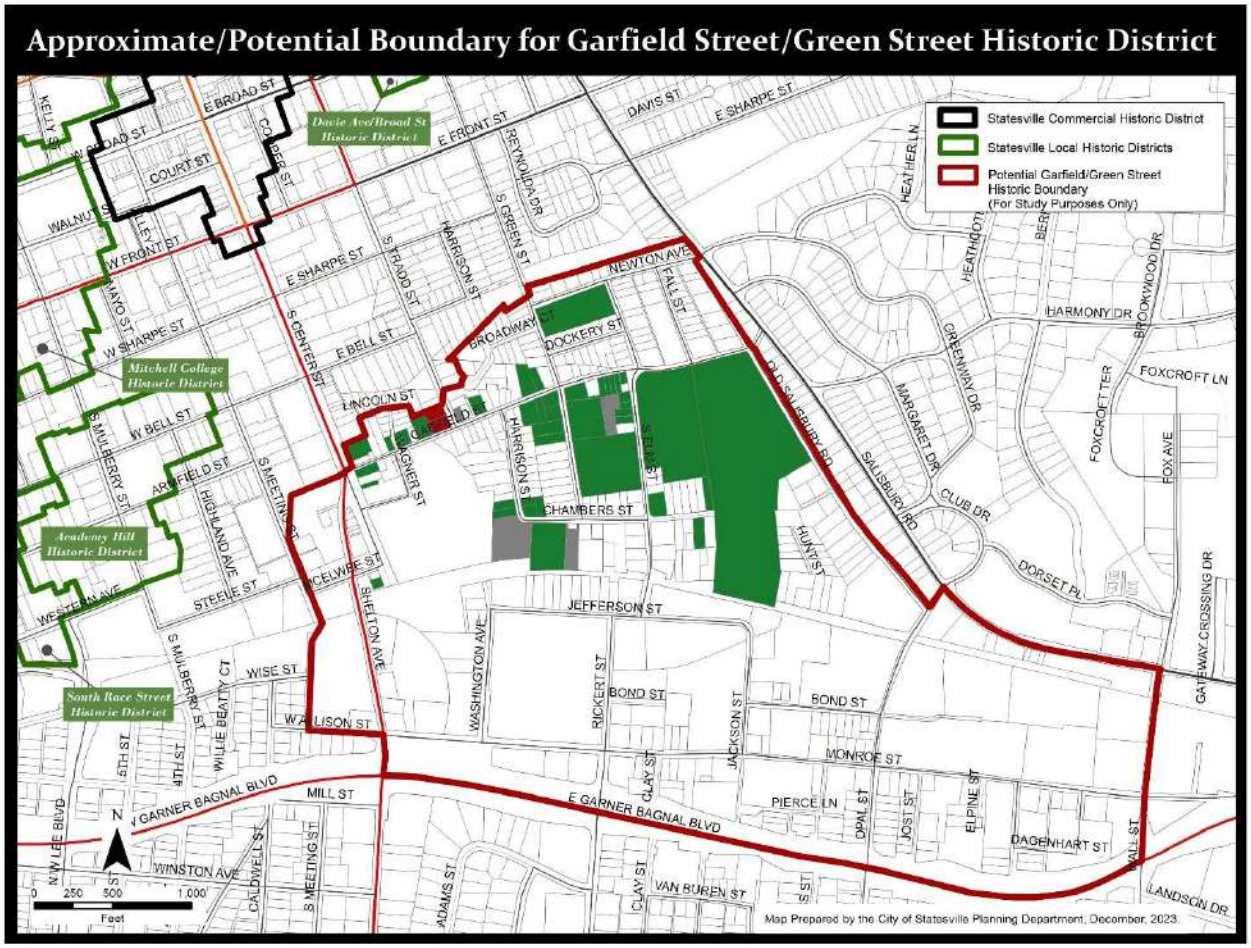
Lincoln Street 322
Newton Avenue 328
Old Salisbury Road 333
Tradd Street, South 336
Bibliography 346
Appendix A: Previously Identified Resources Outside the District 351
Appendix B: Notable Buildings Outside the District 358
Allison Street, East 358
Bond Street 360
Cass Street 362
Center Street, South 363
Jefferson Street 366
McLaughlin Stret 370
Monroe Street 373
Old Salisbury Road 382
Opal Street 383
Rickert Street 384
Shelton Avenue 389
Washington Avenue 391

T

Introduction

Established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places is managed by the National Park Service as part of a nationwide initiative that work to unite and assist both public and private efforts in recognizing, assessing, and safeguarding the United States' historic and archaeological sites. The National Register serves as the country's official list of locations considered significant and deserving of preservation.

In recent years, communities across the nation have worked to list places in the National Register that hold significance to African American history. The National Register Nomination for the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District arose from this interest. The City of Statesville and its residents worked to place the district on the North Carolina Study List, the first step towards attaining a listing in the Register. In June 2022, the District was added to the Study List. In September 2023, the City of Statesville received a grant from the Historic Preservation Fund Grant Program that included local matching. This grant allowed the National Register Nomination study to commence in 2024. The City selected a team of historic preservation consultants, Susan Mayer, MA (SVM Historical Consulting) and Nick Linville, MA (Linville Historical Consulting) to complete the study.



Completed in 2025, the National Register Nomination determined that the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District was significant to local history as one of the first Black neighborhoods in Statesville and the most historically prominent. The 95-acre neighborhood is the location of numerous sites of significance to the history of the city. Among them are the first graded Black school, the first Black congregation, the first Black funeral home, and the first communal Black cemetery where many of Statesville's African American residents are buried. The district also is the location of a historically Black high school, several churches, and a community park, along with many historic homes. In all, more than 135 contributing historic resources have been documented. The district was determined to be significant in the areas of Black Ethnic Heritage and Social History and Civil Rights. The period of significance spans nearly 90 years, beginning in 1886 with the establishment of Green Street Cemetery and ending in 1973.

This Survey Report is primarily excerpted from the National Register Nomination that was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office for review in 2025. It discusses the Methodology utilized to complete the Nomination. Following is the Historical Context and Architectural Narrative, and Architectural Inventory from the Nomination. The Bibliography also is presented. Appendix A discusses Previously Identified Resources Outside the District while Appendix B discusses Notable Building Outside the District.

Methodology

This National Register Nomination is based upon the results of extensive background research and thorough fieldwork. These tasks were completed in consultation with the City of Statesville and the State Historic Preservation Office. The bulletins of the National Register of Historic Places provided guidance for the background research, the fieldwork, and the determinations made in the nomination.

Background Research

The Background Research generally focused on understanding the history of the Garfield and Green Streets District. The goal was to identify prominent people, places, and events in the history of the area. The research also focused on historic property ownership of nearly every parcel in the district in order to associate people and events with specific sites.

The consultants reviewed published histories about Statesville and Iredell County. Many of these sources had little, if any, information about the history of the district, and the available information was not well documented. Therefore, the research was heavily focused on original sources of information. These included historic deeds, plats, maps, aerial photographs, city directories, cemetery records, and census records. Historical newspapers from Statesville and elsewhere in the state proved useful. The consultants also conversed with local informants who they encountered during the course of fieldwork. All sources consulted are listed in the Bibliography of the nomination and footnotes in the text provide citations for information from these sources.

Fieldwork

The fieldwork, which took place primarily in the summer of 2024, followed the standards set out by the National Register program and the State Historic Preservation Office. The fieldwork consisted of walking every street in the district and taking photographs of each property in addition to general views of each street. For each property, the consultants completed state site forms. The forms documented architectural features of all structures, from residences to churches, and also documented open areas like Garfield Park,

the Green Street Cemetery, and vacant lots. Information collected in the field was analyzed and each property was assigned a site number designated by the Historic Preservation Office. The details for each property were entered into an Access Database according to the Office's protocols.

Historical Context

Written by Nick Linville

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District in Iredell County, North Carolina meets the National Register of Historic Places Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History at the local level as the hub of Statesville's African American community. This collection of resources, including historic churches, educational sites, businesses, residences, a park, and a cemetery, preserves the story of African American life in Statesville from when freedpeople settled the community in the Reconstruction Period through the civil rights movement and the early 1970s. The historical resources are a lens into the lives of educators, pastors, church members, professionals, businesspeople, working class people, and their families who shaped the past in this western piedmont city. Evolving as a center of African American culture and strength amidst the oppressive backdrop of racial segregation, the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District also holds local level significance under Criterion A: Civil Rights. The district was home to participants and leaders in the local civil rights movement, such as pastor Jordan C. Clifton and funeral home director T.V. Mangum, and several important sites in the local movement, including Morningside High School, the Morningside School Annex, and Garfield Park, exist in the present. The district has a period of significance that begins in 1886 when burials began at its oldest extant resource, Green Street Cemetery, and ends in 1973 when the most recent construction of the historical period, Calvary Presbyterian Church, was completed.

Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church (537 South Center Street), built in 1903, was individually listed in the National Register in 1980 for local significance under Criterion A in the areas of Ethnic Heritage: Black and Religion. The nomination for the church, however, did not provide context for significance in the area of Religion, and because no evidence is available to support this area of significance, the nomination for the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District does not claim Religion as an area of significance. The Center Street A.M.E. nomination also established local significance for the church under Criterion C: Architecture, but this Criterion does not apply to the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District as a whole. However, Architecture has been added as an area of significance on the form because of the inclusion of Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church within the district boundaries. [1]

Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage: Black and Social History

African Americans in the Early History of Statesville, 1788–1865

African Americans have shaped the history of Iredell County and Statesville since the mid-eighteenth century when they were brought to this area between the Yadkin and Catawba rivers as enslaved people who broke the land and cultivated the plantations and small farms of the area. In 1788 the North Carolina General Assembly established Iredell County from this growing section of what was then western Rowan County. Named for Revolutionary War hero James Iredell, the new county elected leadership and chose the geographic center of the county as its seat. A year later, Federal census takers counted 5,435 residents in

[1] Laura A. W. Phillips, National Register Nomination: Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church, 3–4.

Iredell County, 858 enslaved and three free Black people.[2] By 1860 the county population had grown to 15,347, including 4,177 enslaved people and 29 free Black people.[3]

Through the late antebellum period, Statesville was, in the words of local historian Homer Keever, "not much of a town." Aside from the courthouse, the town had several stores, taverns, blacksmiths, and carriage makers.[4] When the nineteenth century began, the town had sold two dozen lots along several primary streets: Broad, Meeting, Center, Tradd, and Front.[5] With no river transportation and intersected by rough country roads, the town slowly grew as a government and commercial center for the farms and plantations in the countryside.[6] Change came with the completion of the Western North Carolina Railroad and the Atlantic, Tennessee, and Ohio Railroad through town in 1858. These lines provided connections to Asheville and Charlotte together with a promise of economic expansion.[7]

As the national crisis over enslavement evolved, white voters in North Carolina and Iredell County supported proslavery candidates who called for the state's separation from the Union during the secession crisis of 1860–1861. As the nation plunged into war, Statesville's economy crumbled. Union forces targeted stockpiled cotton and Confederate war supplies in the town. General George Stoneman led a cavalry raid against Statesville and destroyed the railroads. As the war closed in April 1865, the destructive days of conflict brought hope for enslaved people—the Emancipation Proclamation (1863), which abolished slavery in rebellious states. However, many enslaved people remained uncertain of their fate in the postwar political atmosphere.[8]

The Roots of Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, 1865–1900

African Americans began to settle in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District after the Civil War, a time when political and social progress for freedpeople gave them hope for a better future. In the Reconstruction Period (1865–1877), African Americans in North Carolina and the South won significant gains with two constitutional amendments. The Fourteenth Amendment (ratified in 1868) granted citizenship and equal civil and legal right to the newly-freed people and the Fifteenth Amendment (ratified in 1870) gave African American males the right to vote. African American voters swelled the ranks of the Republican Party, electing nearly 200 Black men to serve as state representatives and senators, giving the party of Lincoln a majority.[9] This new leadership sought to expand economic, educational, and political rights for Black people across North Carolina. The General Assembly drafted a new state constitution in 1868 which granted universal male suffrage, established a system of tax-supported schools, and eliminated property qualifications for holding

[2] Two notable sources for the early history of Statesville are Homer Keever, *Iredell: Piedmont County* (Iredell Bicentennial Commission, 1976), 135–202, and Rachel M. Kennedy and Elizabeth Hannold, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination: United States Post Office and Court House* (Iredell County, North Carolina, 2017), 22–25.
[3] United States Census Office, *Population of the United States in 1860: North Carolina* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1864), 348–355.
[4] Keever, *Iredell,* 158–161.
[5] Kennedy and Hannold, *United States Post Office and Court House*, 23.
[6] Thomas H. Clayton, "Close to the Land: North Carolina, 1820–1870," in *The Way We Were in North Carolina*, edited by Joe A. Mobley (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 289–292; Kennedy and Hannold, *United States Post Office and Court House*, 23–24.
[7] Kennedy and Hannold, *United States Post Office and Court House*, 24; Keever, *Iredell*, 219–220.
[8] Kennedy and Hannold, *United States Post Office and Court House*, 24; Keever, *Iredell*, 237–238.
[9] Emmett P. Tracy, "North Carolina," in *The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Paul Finkelman (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), 508–511.

office.[10] These amendments empowered freedpeople in the Statesville and across the South, although forces worked to turn back this progress.

Statesville's depressed postwar economy gradually revived as railroad companies rebuilt lines, creating important linkages that allowed manufacturing to become ingrained in the local economy. Small factories producing tobacco products, spokes and handles, barrels, tobacco boxes, and furniture arose along the railroad tracks at the south end of the district through the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s.[11] The wage-paying jobs that factories offered, and also religious, educational, and cultural institutions, attracted rural Black and white farmers who wished to escape the challenges of sharecropping, tenant farming, and poverty. Statesville grew to 644 residents in 1870, of whom 223 were Black. Two decades later, there were 2,318 residents of whom approximately one third were Black. African Americans initially settled in the Depot Hill area along the railroad tracks near where Garfield Street meets South Center Street.[12] There, land was available and inexpensive due to its proximity to factories and the railroad. African Americans also settled in several other communities scattered about Statesville, but of these, the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, with its cemetery, churches, school, and other sites for African Americans, became the heart of Statesville's African American community.[13]

While African Americans created new lives and communities in Statesville, white supremacists consistently worked to weaken their political and social status. The Ku Klux Klan gained followers and violent white mobs committed acts of extralegal violence against Black people to instill fear.[14] The pervasive racial injustice of the time was palpable in Statesville, as is illustrated the cases of Tom Dula, a white man accused of murdering Laura Foster in 1868, and Charles Campbell, a Black man accused of murdering John Redman in 1883. Dula was legally tried, determined guilty by jury, and hanged in 1868.[15] Campbell had been arrested after he was involved in a drunken fight along South Center Street that led to the shooting death of his opponent. He was jailed, but faced a different outcome than Dula, as mob violence stole the opportunity of a trial. Convinced of Campbell's guilt, a crowd of angry men descended upon the jail and extracted Campbell. They took him to a tree outside the city limits near the Western Carolina Railroad and hanged him. Statesville's newspaper reported that "many of the colored people [of Statesville] were full of indignation" at what transpired. Some had the bravery to arrange a meeting with city leaders in which they denounced lynching. The force of white supremacy, however, blocked further inquiry into the lynching of Campbell, and mob violence only increased as the nineteenth century progressed.[16]

---

[10] Clayton, "Close to the Land," 345–349.
[11] Keever, *Iredell*, 261–263.
[12] Laura A.W. Phillips, *National Register Nomination: Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church* (Iredell County, North Carolina, 1980), 3–4.
[13] U.S. Census Bureau, Statistics of Population, Ninth Census of the United States, 1870 (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1872), 52–53; U.S. Census Bureau, Compendium of the Eleventh Census: 1890 (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1894), 258.
[14] Christopher Waldrep, "Lynching and Mob Violence," *The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century* (volume 3), edited by Paul Finkelman (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), 220–231; Clayton, "Close to the Land," 345–349.
[15] The location of Tom Dula's hanging, according to a local historian, was in a field now encompassed by 755 Washington Avenue. Keever, *Iredell*, 108–109.
[16] Campbell initially was buried at the foot of the tree, but later in the week, his brother removed the body to Taylorsville. "Bloodshed and Vengeance," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 19, 1883, 3; "Minor Matters," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 26, 1883, 3; "The Meeting of the Night of the 18th," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 26, 1883, 2.

Figure 1 Rev. Caesar Allison, https://iredell.lib.nc.us/505/People-and-Places.

The oppressive atmosphere of Statesville did not deter African Americans from seeking a better life within the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. Born enslaved on the Allison plantation outside of Statesville in 1853, Rev. Caesar Allison Sr. was one of the many freedpeople who built the foundation of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. Against the laws of the state, Allison learned to read while enslaved. As he came of age, he developed a reputation as a skilled preacher. He founded Davidsonville Negro Baptist Church outside of town in 1874.[17] In 1889, Allison and his wife Cora bought a lot from Mary C. Bell at the corner of Garfield and Green Streets where they built a small frame house for their growing family.[18] Caesar worked as an independent Baptist preacher in Statesville for the next 40 years, dying in his home in 1933. He was buried at Green Street Cemetery.[19] A son, Caesar Allison Jr. (1894–1925), followed his father's calling and was a well-known street evangelist of Statesville and Charlotte and as far away as New Orleans and Los Angeles.[20]

The Black churches of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District were centers of spirituality, community, and influence in local history. The oldest congregation of the district is the Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church, also known as Center Street A.M.E. Zion (537 South Center Street). Reverend Sidney Smith Murdock (1825–1896), a freedman, blacksmith, and teacher in the Freedman's Bureau in Statesville, had attended a white Methodist Church throughout his life. In 1868, he led with other African American Methodists in the founding of Mount Pleasant on Center Street. Leading alongside Murdock was Alfred Bailey (1828–1902), a formerly enslaved person and fellow blacksmith. During its early years, the church was associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) denomination. The original building on Center Street consisted of two wood-frame buildings. In time, the congregation would raise a more substantial brick structure symbolizing their importance to the community through the decades.[21]

[17] "Notice of Tax Sale," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 15, 1908, 3.
[18] The agreement was made in 1889 and recorded in 1893. Mary C. Bell to Cesar [*sic*] M. Allison, Deed Book 18, page 370 (September 16, 1893), Iredell County Register of Deeds, Statesville, North Carolina.
[19] "Caesar Allison Dies While Alone," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 1, 1933, 5; Ralph Sloan, "An Ex-Slave Leaves His Mark," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 9, 1967, 2.
[20] "Rev. Caesar Allison Blows In," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 1, 1924, 3; "Caesar Allision in Serious Condition in Charlotte," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 5, 1925, 1; Sloan, "An Ex-Slave Leaves His Mark," 2.
[21] Phillips, *National Register Nomination: Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church*, 3–4; "Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church to Celebrate 156th Anniversary on May 19," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 16, 2024, A1.

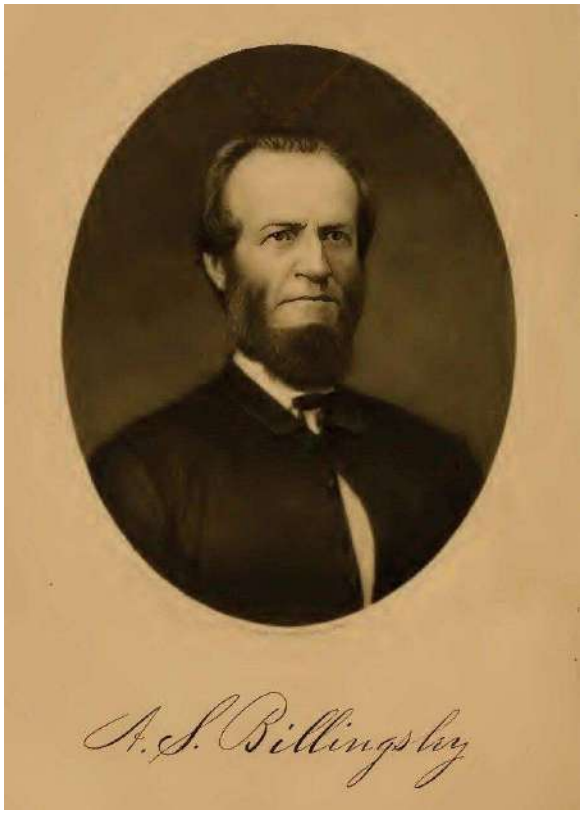


Figure 2 Rev. Amos S. Billingsley, https://iredell.lib.nc.us/505/People-and-Places.

In the midst of Reconstruction, African Americans in Statesville and the county found important allies in Amos and Emily Billingsley. Amos (1818–1897), a native Ohioan and veteran of the Union Army who had served in North Carolina during the war, was a trained Presbyterian minister of some renown who was inspired to help the freedpeople of the South. As missionaries with the Northern Presbyterian Church, the Billingsleys chose Statesville as their place of duty, settling in the city in 1869. Emily taught in a local Black school while Amos proselytized among the Black population. With their support, he established the Second Presbyterian Church in the 1870s at the present address of 222 East Broad Street.[22] Billingsley was prominent in the Presbyterian Church in both Iredell County, where he established two other churches, and Charlotte, as he joined the founding of Biddle University where many future Black professionals of Statesville received their education. Second Presbyterian is the ancestral congregation of the later Broad Street Presbyterian Church, which met in the same building, and the later Calvary Presbyterian Church, formed in Garfield and Green Streets Historic District in the late 1960s.[23]

Billingsley's pastorate over a Black congregation was unusual in the post-Reconstruction South where Black and white people worshipped in their own churches. In an act that demonstrated, perhaps, a growing desire for autonomy and self-determination among Statesville's African American population, the congregation of Second Presbyterian Church ousted Billingsley in favor of a Black pastor, Rev. Samuel F. Wentz, in 1884. The Billingsleys nevertheless continued to support the local Black community. In his will, Amos left a sum of money for the establishment of a hospital that would serve both Black and white patients. In 1900, three years after he died, Billingsley Memorial Hospital opened. This privately-funded hospital served both races, albeit in segregated wards, until its closure during the Great Depression.[24]

Another bastion of strength that emerged in Statesville's Reconstruction-era African American community was the Baptist Church. Beneath a brush arbor on the corner of Jefferson and Rickert Streets in 1874, Reverend Charlie Brown and several other devout Christians met to discuss the foundation of a new church they called Emmaus Baptist Church. It is unclear where they held services until 1883, the year they purchased a lot from Mary C. Bell on the southeast corner of Garfield and Green Streets where they built a new church (306 Garfield, structure non-extant) that was their home into the 1960s. Under Rev. V.T. Nunally's tenure

[22] The Second Presbyterian Church building was torn down in 1954. Reese, "Billingsley Memorial Academy: Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, Est. 1906," unpublished (Statesville, NC: Iredell County Public Library, not dated).
[23] Reese, "Billingsley Memorial Academy," 6.
[24] Billingsley Memorial Hospital was located east of downtown Statesville off Park Street outside of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. Reese, "Billingsley Memorial Academy," 6–15.

(1881–1890), Emmaus voted to change their name to First Baptist Church.[25] The present First Baptist Church (464 Garfield Street) is the descendant of this original congregation.

Green Street Cemetery (South Elm Street)—the first cemetery in Statesville that was strictly for African Americans—was established in 1885.[26] Black people, who were denied burial in public and white-owned cemeteries, are believed to have buried their dead in churchyards prior to this date when a group called the Colored Peoples Graveyard Association purchased half an acre of land from Mary C. Bell, the same woman who sold land to the organizers of the First Baptist Church. Burials began in 1886, and two years later, the cemetery expanded its grounds with the acquisition of three additional acres with some financial assistance from the City of Statesville.[27] The cemetery, where more than 2,000 people are buried, serves as a vital record of the history of the Black experience in Statesville as it contains the graves of the community's formerly enslaved ancestors, their descendants, and other residents.

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District's status as the historical center of Black education in Statesville and Iredell County dates to the late nineteenth century. A tract of land on the north side of Green Street Cemetery was the site of a "colored school house" by 1885 that may have been organized by the early residents of the vicinity.[28] Within several years, Statesville's civic leaders discussed plans to start a graded school system in the city. African Americans made certain their voices were heard when they held a meeting at the courthouse "in the interest of graded schools."[29] In 1891 the City launched a graded school system, providing a white and a Black school. The latter school came to be known as the Colored Free School or Colored Graded School.[30] This two-room, frame schoolhouse stood at present-day 611 South Green Street.[31] Upon this site, African Americans from the neighborhood and elsewhere in Iredell County received an education.

Across North Carolina and the South in the late nineteenth century, customary and legal discrimination against African Americans intensified, gradually eroding the constitutional rights they had won since Emancipation. In 1896 the Supreme Court's ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson* established the "separate but equal" doctrine of racial segregation, legitimizing discriminatory practices and profoundly impacting the Black community in Statesville by entrenching systemic inequalities in education, public services, and economic opportunities. The Wilmington Massacre (1898), in which white supremacists violently overthrew the biracial local government through a campaign of intimidation against Black voters, added to the pressure

[25] First Baptist Church, "Our History," First Baptist Church homepage, electronic document, www.fbcstatesville.com, accessed September 9, 2024.
[26] Green Street Cemetery is variously known in historical records as the Statesville Colored Cemetery, Union Grove Cemetery, and Greenwood Cemetery.
[27] Joel Reese, "History of Green Street Cemetery Still Being Researched," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 16, 2023, A1; Reese, "Green Street cemetery project discovering untold stories," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 9, 2023, A1; Joel Reese and Shellie Taylor, "Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research" (Statesville, NC: Iredell County Public Library, 2023), 3–10.
[28] This school is mentioned in an 1885 deed relating to the acquisition of the tract for the cemetery. Reese, "History of Green Street Cemetery Still Being Researched," A1.
[29] "Minor Matters," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 30, 1891, 3.
[30] "City Public Schools Offer Well-Balanced Program," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 24, 1961, 34; "Mulberry Street School in 1891 Started System," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 8, 1974, 4-E.
[31] Joel Reese, "Morningside, Unity schools have storied history," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 7, 2022, A1.

against African American political participation across the state.[32] On the heels of the tragedy in Wilmington was the election of 1900 in which white Democrats campaigned on a platform of white supremacy that promised to eliminate the Black vote through the implementation of literacy tests and poll taxes. Waves of violence against Black people swept the state. The *Statesville Mascot* newspaper saw this election as "the great battle for white supremacy," likening the African American right to vote "a millstone" that had been around the neck of white North Carolinians.[33] The Democratic victory restored white political dominance in North Carolina, further marginalizing Black people in Statesville through oppressive Jim Crow policies.

Thriving Under Jim Crow, 1900-1929

The new building for Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church, completed at 537 South Center Street in 1903, symbolized the strong sense of identity and community pride in the Statesville African American population as the new century opened. Built in an impressive Gothic Revival style, the brick building reflected the community's cultural sophistication. Rev. W.A. Blackwell oversaw the laying of the cornerstone for the new structure which was built with funds from both the Black and white community. Church elders from Statesville and Charlotte, pastors from local churches, and Black and white citizens attended the ceremony.[34] This occasion also marked a transition from the Methodist Episcopal Church (South) to a denomination that was sweeping across the Carolinas and Virginia—the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (A.M.E.Z.) Church. Then known as Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church, it served as a place of worship, a center for education, and a meeting place for social justice initiatives.

[32] Tracy, "North Carolina," 508–511; Bradford J. Wood and Paul Finkelman, "North Carolina," in *The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1619–1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass*, edited by Paul Finkelman (New York: Oxford University Press, 2006), 463–469.
[33] "Editorial Notes," *The Statesville Mascot* July 26, 1900, 1.
[34] "Cornerstone of the Colored Methodist Church Laid," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 26, 1903, 3.

Figure 3 This photo of Billingsley Memorial Academy was published in *Era of Progress and Promise, 1863-1910*, which highlighted African Americna education progress after Emancipation.

Private education was available to Black students through Billingsley Memorial Academy, which operated from 1906 until the Great Depression. Following Amos Billingsley's death, Rev. Samuel F. Wentz, the Black pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church (later known as Broad Street Presbyterian Church), petitioned Billingsley's widow Emily to aid in establishing an academy in Statesville. In 1901 Emily donated $100 toward the acquisition of land and $1,000 for the development of what was initially called Billingsley Memorial Academy and Industrial School. The Board of Missions of Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church, a northern philanthropic organization, acquired (with their own and Emily's funds) six acres along Green Street from Mrs. M.A. Tomlin for the school site.[35] The site of the Academy was in the District on the northeast corner of Dockery and South Green Streets directly south of present-day Calvary Presbyterian Church.[36] For the next several years, Wentz led fundraising efforts to which local African Americans heavily contributed, and by 1903, the building campaign had plans for a three story brick structure.[37]

[35] Mrs. M.A. Tomlin to Board of Missions of Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church, Deed Book 28, page 105 (September 20, 1901), Iredell County Register of Deeds, Statesville, North Carolina; "The Billingsley Memorial Academy and Industrial School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 9, 1901, 3.
[36] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925), Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Collection, Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.
[37] "The Colored People to Have an Educational Rally," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 8, 1905, 2; "Billingsley Memorial Academy," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 26, 1903, 3.

Statesville African Americans, joined by Mayor J.C. Steele, celebrated the groundbreaking for Billingsley Memorial Academy in 1905, the Academy reached completion the following year.[38] At a biracial meeting of Statesville's ministers the same year, Wentz appealed to white ministers to aid in the "material and moral uplift of the colored men" of Statesville by supporting the development of the industrial, normal, and common school curriculum of the academy. He asked, "in the consideration of our future, judge us not so much by the dizzy heights yet to be attained and things yet to be accomplished, but more by the distance we have come and the things already accomplished by us."[39] Wentz served as Principal of the Academy and pastor at Second Presbyterian until 1914 when he relocated to a pastorate in Winston-Salem.[40]

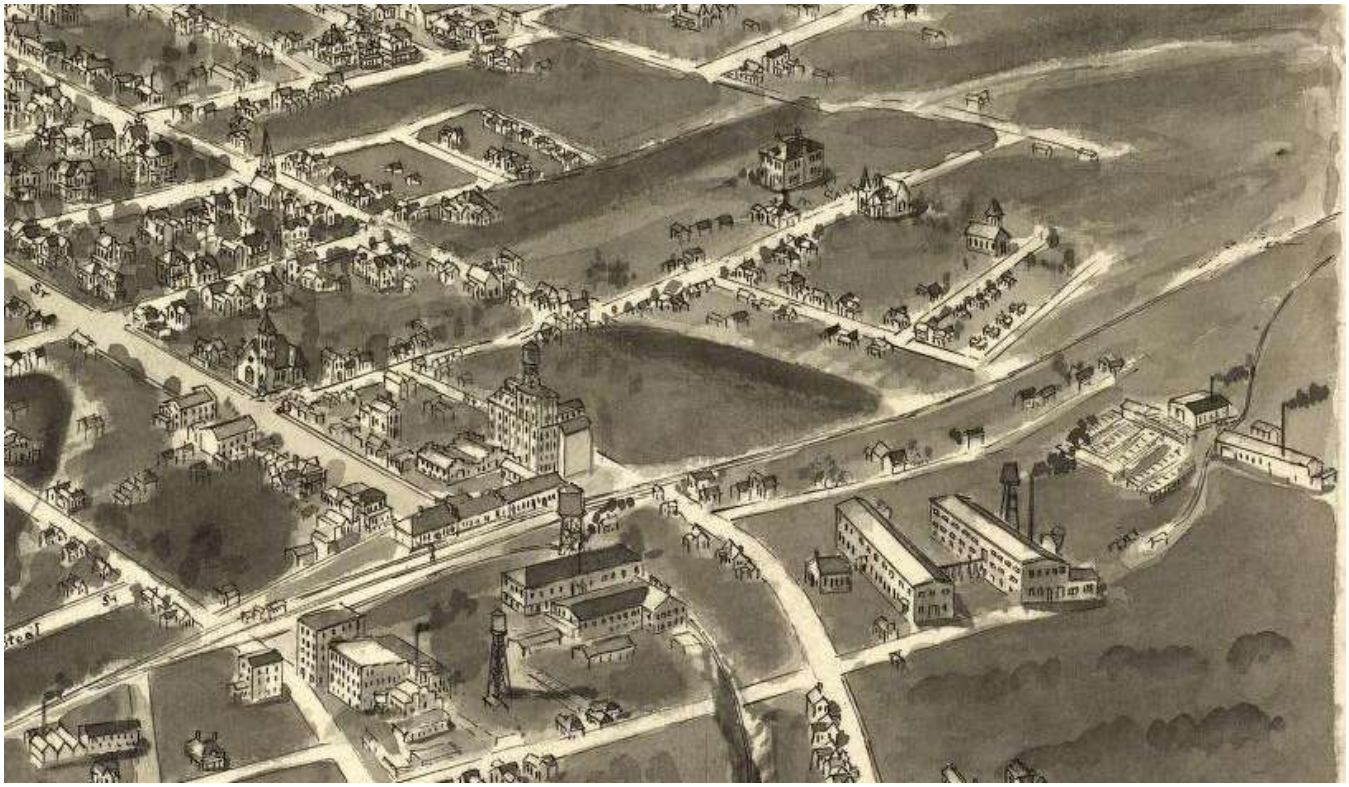


Figure 4 This excerpt from a 1907 birdseye illustration of Statesville shows the Garfield and Green Streets district.

A birdseye illustration of Statesville from 1907 provides a general depiction of the prominent landmarks, roads, and railroads of the city, including those of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District.[41] The illustration shows Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church on South Center Street, Scott's Chapel Methodist Church on Chambers Street, First Baptist Church on Green Street, Billingsley Memorial Academy on South Green Street, and many small residences. An open block between Garfield and Chambers represents the site of Green Street Cemetery, in use for over two decades by this time. Missing from the birdseye view was the Colored Free School which dated to 1891; however, the school was a symbol of pride to the residents of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. In May 1910, the local newspaper announced that the school

[38] "The Colored People to Have an Educational Rally," 2; Reese, "Billingsley Memorial Academy."
[39] "White Man's Help to Black Man," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 21, 1907, 4.
[40] "Rev. S.F. Wentz Will go to Winston-Salem," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 28, 1914, 1.
[41] A.E. Downs, *Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina* (1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.

wrapped up "the most successful [year] in its history with an enrollment of 210. The figure was impressive given that there were 254 Black children of school age in the City.[42]

The people who settled in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District in this period reflected the working class roots of the community: factory workers, general laborers, and domestics. Yet, there was a growing segment of Black professionals such as pastors, teachers, undertakers, and physicians. One of the new arrivals—Zander Adams Dockery (1870–1973)—became a respected figure in the community as a teacher, preacher, and leader in the struggle for racial equality. A native of Richmond County, Dockery received undergraduate (1899), divinity (1902), and doctorate of divinity (1919) degrees from Biddle University. After working in Charlotte, he took the position as pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Statesville in 1914, simultaneously serving as principal of Billingsley Academy into the 1930s. During the 1910s, Billingsley featured a normal school, twelve grade levels, and industrial training and grew to include a grass tennis court, three basketball courts, a 1,200 volume library, and affiliations with Johnson C. Smith and other Black colleges.[43] There were some 200 pupils in 1915 when Dockery wrote an editorial for the local newspaper, stating that the school's motto was "thorough work" and asked members of both races in the city to contribute to much needed repairs at Billingsley.[44] Dockery, who served as pastor until failing eyesight induced him to retire in 1954, remained involved in civic, religious, and fraternal organizations in Statesville until his death at 103 in 1973. Dockery Street, located between South Green Street and South Elm Street, was named in his honor.[45]

[42] "Close of the Colored Graded School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 13, 1910, 1.
[43] Z.A. Dockery, "Billingsley Memorial Academy to Run as Usual," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 8, 1931, 2.
[44] "Billingsley Academy, the Colored High School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 3, 1915, 8.
[45] City directories indicate that Dockery lived at two addressed along South Green Street over time, but none of the residences are extant. Forres Stewart, "Dr. Z.A. Dockery's Farewell Ends 41 Years Loyal Service," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 17, 1954, 10; "Dr. Z.A. Dockery Dies at Age of 103," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 9, 1973, 1.

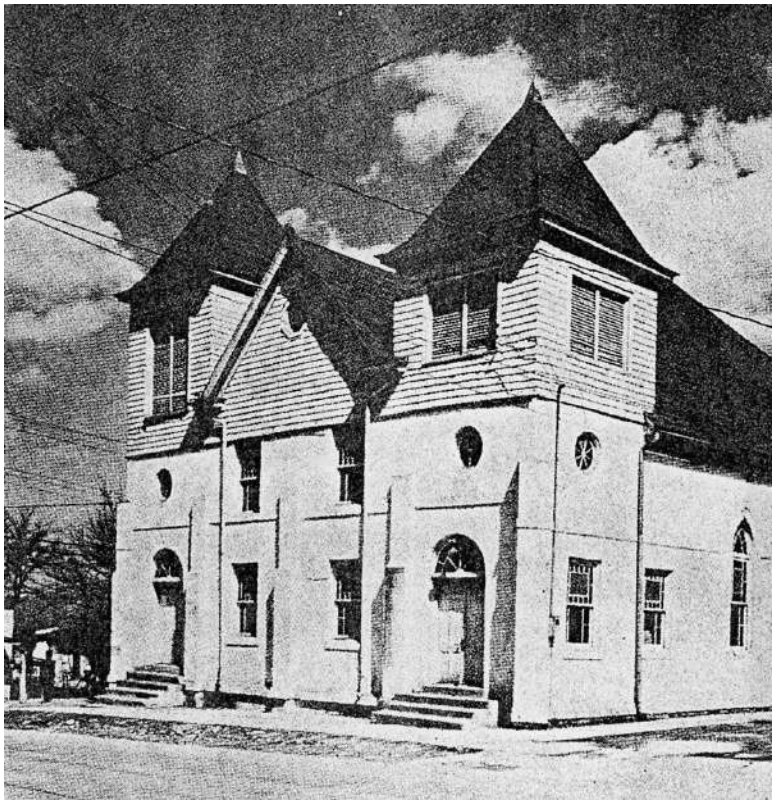


Figure 5 First Baptist Church, https://iredell.lib.nc.us/505/People-and-Places.

The number of churches of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District expanded in this period as the neighborhood's population increased. The First Baptist Church on the southeast corner of Garfield and Green Streets built a new brick church in 1905 and later enlarged the building.[46] Tradd Street Presbyterian Church was formed in 1902 after members of Second Presbyterian Church (later known as Broad Street Presbyterian Church) broke to form a new congregation. The original trustees of Tradd Street were R.H. Alexander, P.W. Steele, S.G. Gray, and J.P. Murphy.[47] Shortly afterwards, the church completed their new building on Tradd, but by 1907, they raised funds to relocate from this site to a new structure down the street.[48] Another new church of the period was Scott's Chapel United Methodist Church. Established in the Belmont neighborhood in the 1880s as Love Methodist Episcopal Church, the congregation purchased a lot on Chambers Street on the south side of Green Street Cemetery. They built their new spiritual home in 1905, renaming themselves Scott's Chapel to honor a church elder. This original site (307 Chambers Street) now serves as a parking lot for the most recent church building at 316 Chambers Street.

Educators, like pastors, were highly regarded in the community. Charles Webster Foushee (1873–1935) served as principal of the Colored Graded School in the district from about 1906 until his death in 1935. Raised on a farm in Moore County, he attended Dayton Academy, a private school for Black students. Charles trained as a teacher at Livingstone College in Salisbury, beginning his work in Lee County before transferring to Statesville about 1906. Under his leadership, the teaching staff at the school expanded from three teachers to sixteen.[49] One of the teachers when Charles arrived was Alma Carter whom he married in 1919, the same year he completed postgraduate studies at Columbia University.[50] In his time, Charles also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church, Sunday School Chairman, Chairman of the Boy Scout committee, deputy in the Knights of Pythias, and superintendent of the North

[46] First Baptist Church, "Our History."
[47] "A New Colored Presbyterian Church to be Built," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 23, 1902, 3.
[48] By 1907, Tradd Street Presbyterian Church was located in the vicinity of present-day 538 South Tradd Street. The building no longer stands. Untitled article discussing Tradd Street Presbyterian Church, *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 11, 1907, 3; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1942–1943* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1943), 310.
[49] Arthur Bunyan Caldwell, editor, "Charles Webster Foushee," in *History of the American Negro and His Institutions,* vol. 5 (North Carolina edition)(A.B. Caldwell, Atlanta) 223–225.
[50] "Former Teacher Claimed by Death," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 14, 1948, 4.

Carolina Mutual and Provident Association.[51] In this period the Foushees rented at 315 Garfield Street and, by 1930, moved into 628 South Green Street.[52]

Mary Charlton Holliday was another educator who left a remarkable legacy in the city and the county. Born in Pulaski, Virginia to a railroad brakeman and educated at Hampton, she settled in Statesville in 1915 when there were approximately 40 Black schoolhouses across rural Iredell. The schools often were held in shacks and lacked books and other resources. Working with the Jeanes Foundation and the Rosenwald Foundation, Holliday supervised the small schools, some of which only were reachable by horseback. She helped smaller communities consolidate their educational efforts and build 11 new schoolhouses over the next four decades. She was employed in the county school system until 1956.[53] Mary lived at 241 Garfield Street with her husband, prominent local doctor Robert S. Holliday, whom she married in 1915.

By 1916 there were 280 African Americans students from Statesville and nearby rural communities in attendance at the Colored Graded School. That year, disaster struck the morning of March 9. As students were making their way into their classrooms, a fire broke out in a stove flue of the building. Principal Foushee calmly led students outside the school as firefighters raced to extinguish the flames which also threatened neighboring First Baptist Church. After the hydrant closest to the school failed, firemen ran a hose all the way from South Center Street, but the school was destroyed. Students were heartbroken. "Many of them were greatly affected by the fire and they could be heard crying from some distance," the newspaper reported.[54] The loss of the school was a tragedy as it would take years to build another standalone school building. Until then, the community held classes in the basement of Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church and elsewhere in the neighborhood while school children began collecting pennies for a new school.[55]

[51] Miller, *Statesville and Iredell County Directory, 1909–1910*, vol. 2 (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1910), 90.
[52] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929* (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1929), 153.
[53] "Mrs. Mary C. Holliday Praised as Educator," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 31, 1956, 12; "Community changed Iredell's black education," *Statesville Landmark and Record* November 14, 2007, A14.
[54] "School House Burned," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 10, 1916, 1.
[55] "Public Schools Opened," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 12, 1916; "Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church to Celebrate 156th Anniversary on May 19," A1.

Figure 6 Classes outside Morningside School. 1C Morningside School with Class Cropped, Morningside High School, Statesville, Iredell County, N. C. Alumni Scrapbook, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/52718162665/in/album-72177720306360742.

With funds raised from the community and the local school board, a new school was completed in 1922 for $45,000. The two-story building accommodated 300 students and featured a library and a 500-person auditorium. The building stood in the same location as the previous school (611 South Green Street). Principal Foushee named the new school Morningside. What resulted was the "finest graded school building for colored children in North Carolina and one of the finest in the South" according to the city newspaper. Morningside offered grades one through nine, and by the end of the 1920s grades ten and eleven were added.[56]

Black-owned businesses, such as barber shops, tailors, and small grocery stores, provided goods and services to residents of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A notable business that opened in the 1920s was a Black funeral home—Rutledge & Bigham—that continues to serve the community in the present at 603 South Center Street. During the Jim Crow era in Statesville and elsewhere in the South, Black funeral home directors and owners served as vital community leaders, preserving cultural traditions while creating economic opportunities for Black entrepreneurs. The

[56] Morningside may have referenced Morningside Heights, the Manhattan neighborhood surrounding Columbia University where Foushee was educated. "The New Colored School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 5, 1922, 1; Reese, "Morningside, Unity schools have storied history," A1.

partners relocated to Statesville from Washington DC to open their business in 1922 at 109 Garfield Street (non-extant).[57]

The Great Depression and World War II, 1929–1945

The collapse of the national economy in 1929 came at a time when many African Americans in Statesville already were struggling to make ends meets. The Great Depression (1929–1941) exacerbated the issues they faced, from unemployment to discrimination. President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal promised assistance in part through the creation of jobs, although work relief agencies like the Public Works Administration (later known as the Works Progress Administration) and the Civilian Conservation Corps put projects in control of local offices that often discriminated against Black people. Later, relief agencies became more attentive to the needs of Black workers. World War II (1941–1945) alleviated unemployment and inspired many Black people to join the armed forces or leave Statesville to search for factory work in Northern cities. The people who stayed in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District fought with varying success to keep their churches, schools, and businesses open in the face of new challenges and worked together to fight discrimination.[58]

During the trying times of the Depression, the religious institutions of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, united to uplift many African Americans in Statesville. Sponsored for years by the Presbyterian Church, Billingsley Memorial Academy closed in this period; nevertheless, the tract on which it stood became a place of renewal. The Presbyterians maintained ownership of the tract, located directly south of the current Calvary Presbyterian Church (531 South Green Street), and made it the new home of Broad Street Presbyterian Church in 1932.[59] With economic hardships mounting, Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church faced foreclosure but ultimately pulled together resources to save their building.[60]

Business owners in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District also suffered as residents put their earnings towards basic essentials. Some establishments, however, managed to keep their doors open. Built in 1925, 609-611 South Center Street (The Holliday Building) has housed many businesses throughout history. During the Depression, Archibald Boyd operated a barber shop in the building and, through the 1960s, the Littlejohn family barbered there. Adjoining this address under the same roof was a space that served as the following: a dentist (B.J. Abernathy, c.1930–c.1940), a drug store (H.S. Byars 1931), a hairdresser (Golar Bradshaw 1930; Mabel Moseley, 1940), physician (H.A. Hogan, 1930; Floyd C. Carden 1940), a tailor Howard A. Houston (1940).[61]

A new Black funeral home opened in the district in 1934 when Arthur Torrence Peterson (1888–1966) moved from Salisbury to Statesville to serve the local community. He joined Travis Van Mangum two years

[57] "Rutledge Rites are Set Friday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 10, 1963, 1.
[58] L. Diane Barnes, "Great Depression" in *The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Paul Finkelman, vol. 3 (New York: Oxford University Press, 2009), 323–326.
[59] Neil Furr, "Black Schools Have Existed in Iredell Since Civil War," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 8, 1988, 2H; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, *Proquest*, electronic document, https://digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; Forres Stewart, "Dr. Z.A. Dockery's Farewell Ends 41 Years Loyal Service," 10.
[60] "Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church to Celebrate 156th Anniversary on May 19," A1.
[61] Joel C. Reese, "Black Business Index: Abstracted from the Statesville City Directories" (Iredell County, North Carolina), unpublished document (Statesville, NC: Iredell County Public Library, not dated).

later.[62] Mangum, in his years in Statesville, would become one of the most important Black leaders in the city's history. Born in Granville County, he attended the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati College of Embalming before settling in Statesville to start his business.[63] The first location of Peterson & Mangum was 662 South Green Street. In 1942, the business relocated to Mangum's large home at 206 Garfield Street. Mayor Wesley Jones spoke at the occasion of the reopening.[64] Peterson resided in a non-extant home (vacant lot - 202 Garfield Street) next door to the Garfield Street funeral home.[65]

There were several Black physicians in local history. Among the most well-known was Dr. Robert S. Holliday (1875–1966) who lived for many years at 241 Garfield Street with his wife, educator Mary Charlton Holliday. Holliday was educated at Shaw University and received his medical degree at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He began practicing in Statesville in the 1910s and continued into the early 1960s.[66]

Beginning in the 1920s and through the early 1940s, two women—Jane Abernathy Conner (1871–1941) and Daisy M. Conner Robinson (1892–1947)—provided essential nursing care to African Americans from their home at 249 Garfield Street (original residence non-extant).[67] The address, which appeared in censuses and city directories as a "private hospital" and as the "Colored Branch [of] Davis Hospital," served as an overnight hospital ward for African Americans in Statesville who were prohibited from staying overnight at the city's segregated Davis Hospital, a facility that opened in 1920. If an African American patient required care beyond a day, they were sent to the Garfield Street address for additional support.[68] By 1921 Jane was nursing patients in the home, including patients with injuries as serious as bullet wounds and amputations.[69] Her daughter, Daisy, followed in Jane's footsteps as a dedicated African American nurse.[70]

The Conners' professional dedication in addressing healthcare disparities, along with the work of the early physicians of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, helped inspire local African Americans to raise funds for their own hospital and, eventually, an integrated facility. In 1943, African Americans in Statesville embarked on a campaign dubbed the "Negro Hospital Fund" to build a hospital that would equitably serve them. The name of the proposed hospital Billingsley Memorial Hospital—echoed the name of the hospital that the Billingsley family helped establish in 1900.[71]. The proposed site was on Green Street. A year after the effort began, fundraising chair Travis Van Mangum announced at a gathering at Central Street A.M.E. Zion that $14,000 had been raised from Baptist Churches in western North Carolina, and from local Black and white-owned businesses. The Hospital Fund pulled in $60,000 by 1954 when Iredell Memorial Hospital opened with facilities for African Americans. The proposed Billingsley Memorial Hospital never came to be.[72]

---

[62] Keever, *Iredell*, 424.
[63] "T.V. Mangum is Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 6, 1969, 1.
[64] "Colored Funeral Home Moves to New Address," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 23, 1942, 5.
[65] "Death Comes to Peterson," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 16, 1966, 6.
[66] "Dr. Holliday, 90, Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 16, 1966, 7.
[67] "Jane Conner Dies Day Before Birthday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 14, 1; "Finding Statesville's nurse Daisy," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 11, 2014, A3.
[68] "Bullet in the Wall of Heart," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 1, 1921, 1; "David Rankin Stabbed by Pauline Blair," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 4, 1924, 7; "Finding Statesville's nurse Daisy," A3.
[69] "Albert Morrison in Jail," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 18, 1921, 1.
[70] "Cases in Magistrate Anderson's Court," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 3, 1925, 1.
[71] "Carpenter-Davis Hospital in Operation," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 13, 1920, 1.
[72] "Negroes Here to Mark First Year in Hospital Drive," *Statesville Daily Record* October 6, 1944, 1; Keever, *Iredell*, 401; "Billinglsey Memorial Hospital Officials Maintain Clinic Project is Still Alive," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 26, 1958, 1.

The community of Garfield and Green Streets Historic District lost a respected citizen when Principal Charles Foushee unexpectedly died at his home (628 South Green Street) in 1935. The crowd at his funeral is said to have "overflowed the spacious auditorium" of the Central Street A.M.E. Zion Church and lined the streets in all directions."[73] His widow Alma taught at Morningside until her retirement in 1946.[74] Following the death of Principal Foushee in 1935, Dr. Frank A. Toliver (1907–1983), who had taught at Morningside since the late 1920s, became Principal. Toliver was an alumnus of Atlanta University, the University of Michigan, and Columbia University. Frank married Dr. Anne Peace (1905–1964), and she taught English, Latin, and Drama at Morningside. The Tolivers rented at 211 Garfield Street in the 1920s and 1930s. By 1938, they resided at 626 South Green Street where they remained until they relocated to Asheville in 1941.[75]

Since its founding as the school for African Americans who lived in Statesville and outlying rural areas, Morningside School gradually outgrew its campus near the southeast corner of Garfield and Green Streets. In 1940 there were 825 students at the small school, described in the newspaper at the time as "a small, poorly equipped building over on South Green Street."[76] To alleviate the congestion and provide up-to-date facilities, the City decided in 1941 to build a high school building for African Americans who lived in Statesville.[77] The site (410 Garfield Street) was six acres at the corner of Garfield and Elm Streets. Another Black school—Unity High School—was developed in nearby Belmont to serve rural Iredell students.[78]

Along with the churches of the Garfield and Green Historic District, Morningside High School was a significant place in the educational and social history of the community. Opened in January 1942, the building was, in the words of the city school superintended L.S. Weaver, "a great alleviation of what has been the most distressing situation in the colored schools."[79] The school physically expanded through the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s.[80]

[73] T.E. Allison, "News of Statesville Colored People," *Statesville Daily Record* August 2, 1935, 3.
[74] "Former Teacher Claimed by Death," 4.
[75] "Dr. Frank Toliver Dies," *Asheville Citizen Times* February 1, 1983, 6; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929*, 261; Carolina Directory Company, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933* (Asheville, NC: Carolina Directory Company, 1933), 239; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1938–1939* (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1939), 272; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1940–1941* (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1941), 283.
[76] Sid Bost, "They Play Ball at Morningside," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 13, 1941, page 3.
[77] "New County Negro School to Open," *Statesville Daily Record* August 12, 1941, 12; "Contract Let for the New Colored High School Here," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 7, 1941.
[78] "New County Negro School to Open," 12; "City Public Schools Offer Well-Balanced Program," 34.
[79] "Contract Let for the New Colored High School Here"; "City Public Schools Offer Well-Balanced Program," 34.
[80] "Wilson Awarded School Contract; Work Begun," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 7, 1949, 9; "City Public Schools Offer Well-Balanced Program," 34.

Figure 7 A. D. Rutherford, 1957. Morningside High School Alumni Scrapbook, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/52718162650/.

Alan Douglas Rutherford (1906–1979) succeeded Principal Toliver at Morningside High School in 1941 and remained in the position, which also oversaw the elementary school, until 1968. Born in Oregon, Rutherford was educated at Pacific College in Oregon, the University of California, and Columbia University. He settled in Statesville in 1936 where he taught English and Chorus at Morningside and, in 1943, received a master's in education from Temple University in Philadelphia.[81] Rutherford rented at 303 Garfield Street in the 1930s before settling at 626 Garfield Street in the late 1940s where he remained into the 1960s.[82]

School athletics at the original Morningside School and the later High School offered African American students a space to demonstrate skills and foster community pride. In the 1930s and early 1940s, Morningside benefitted from the instruction of coach J. Royal Browning. A former Negro League Baseball player known as "Skink," he coached both football and basketball at Morningside. Browning lived at 626 S. Green Street in the 1930s.[83]

[81] "Rutherford, Peterson Get New Positions," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 14, 1968, 1; "Alan Rutherford Receives Degree," *Statesville Daily Record* August 12, 1943, 6.
[82] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1938–1939*, 245; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1948–1949* (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1949), 405.
[83] Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1938–1939*, 121; Joel Reese, "People who lived on Green, Garfield streets make area historically significant," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 13, 2023, A1.

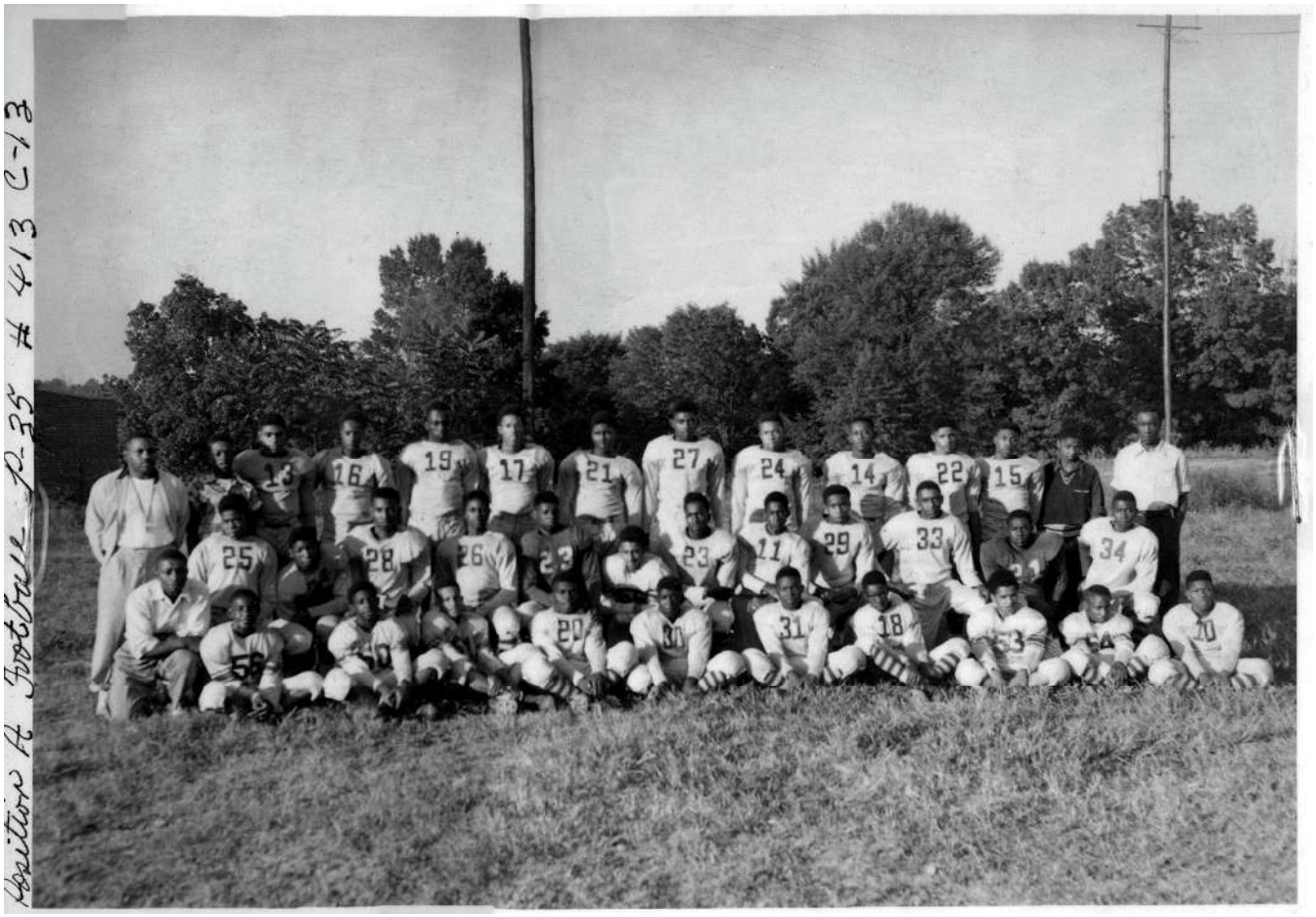


Figure 8 The 1960 Morningside High School football team. Morningside High School Alumni Scrapbook, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/52718162500/.

Neighborhood residents James C. Caldwell and Thomas E. Allison authored a column in the local paper that featured local and national African American news of interest, providing a platform to highlight the issues and achievements of their community.[84] Caldwell began the column in 1932, with Allison taking the helm the following year. In his "News of Colored People of Statesville," Allison, who for many years lived at 536 South Green Street,[85] covered sports, school and church events, weddings, births, and deaths. Allison (1897–1966) was a teacher and also a salesman with Winston Mutual Life Insurance Company.[86]

The Garfield and Green Streets District was subjected to a form of racial discrimination in this period that had a lasting impact: redlining. From 1935 until 1940, the Home Owners' Loan Corporation (HOLC) created maps as part of its City Survey from 1935 to 1940, aimed at assessing mortgage-lending risks in various neighborhoods across the nation, including Statesville. Established under the New Deal, HOLC's goal was to aid struggling homeowners while stabilizing the housing market during the Great Depression. However, the survey's methods institutionalized racial discrimination, as neighborhoods predominantly inhabited by

[84] For example, T.E. Allison, "News About our Colored People," *Statesville Record and Landmark* December 31, 1937, 5.
[85] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926*, 105*;* Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933*, 104.
[86] Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933*, 104; Reese, "Black History Month," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 20, 2018, 4.

African Americans were marked as "hazardous" for lending. The process involved hiring a predominantly white team of field agents who collected data on local lending practices and real estate conditions, ultimately generating reports that influenced federal policy. For homeowners and prospective homeowners in the district, affordable loans were pushed far out of reach. Most of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District was included in the HOLC's map of Statesville from the 1930s. All of the included area was identified as "Poor" or "Blighted."[87]

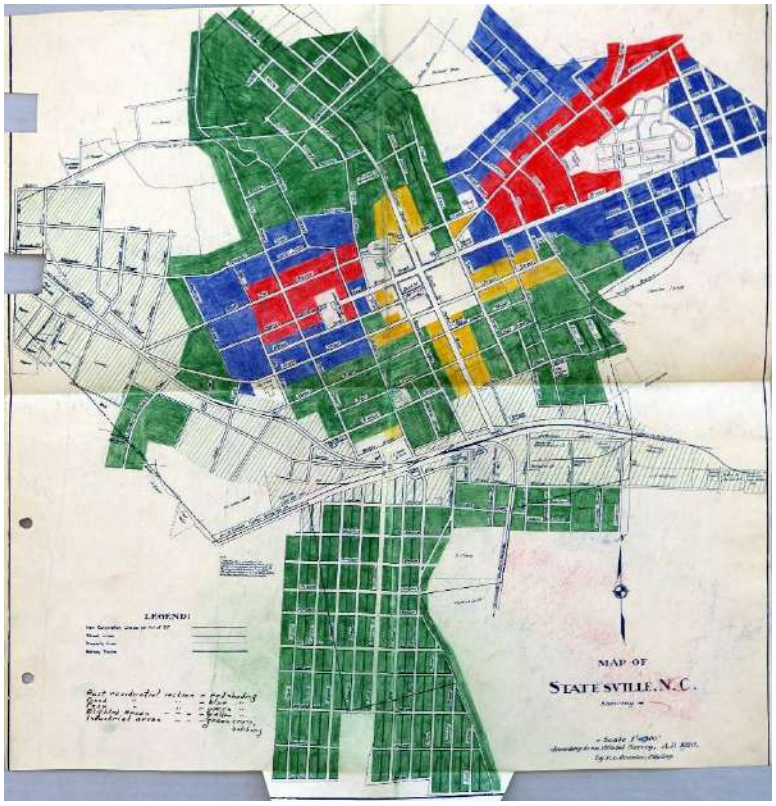


Figure 9 The 1939 redlining map of Statesville depicted the district as "industrial areas" (green hatch) and "poor residential section" (green).

One of the monumental projects of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) was a statewide inventory of both Black and white cemeteries. In 1939, WPA workers inventoried cemeteries in Iredell County, including Green Street Cemetery. Their survey, based only on visible gravestones, identified only 72 burials when, in fact, there were more than 2,000 people buried in the cemetery.[88] Some of the more recent burials took place in a section of the cemetery that served as a potter's field, which opened in the late 1920s. The cemetery was reaching capacity at the time of the survey. In 1943, the City opened a new cemetery for Black people–Belmont Cemetery, on the east side of Statesville.[89] Green Street Cemetery nevertheless remained hallowed ground, even as physical burial markers faded.

Post-World War II and the Struggle for Equality, 1945–1975

As the Garfield Green Street Historic District and the city of Statesville entered the post-World War II era, the interstate system reached Iredell County with the completion of Interstates 40 and 77. Textile and furniture manufacturing were the main industries with grain production a feature of both the city and the county. In the district, a variety of businesses continued to operate and congregations raised new houses of worship.[90]

Economic opportunities expanded for African Americans in Statesville in the post-war period, as evidenced by the number of Black-owned businesses operating in the district. Mangum and Peterson and also Rutledge

[87] University of Richmond Digital Scholarship Lab, "Statesville," *Mapping Inequality: Redlining in New Deal America*, electronic document, https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining, accessed September 12, 2024.
[88] Reese and Taylor, "Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research," 16–17.
[89] Reese and Taylor, "Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research," 3–10.
[90] Statesville Chamber of Commerce, "Statesville, North Carolina," brochure (1948), Iredell County Public Library Flickr, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/, accessed October 1, 2024.

and Bigham continued to provide funeral services. Travis Van Mangum exemplified how Black entrepreneurs could succeed as he also owned a motel outside of town and another funeral home in Salisbury.[91] The commercial building at 609 South Center continued to host a variety of businesses in this period: Mae's Beauty Nook (ca. 1950–ca. 1960), tailor Howard Houston (ca. 1950), dentist Blair Abernathy dentist (ca. 1950–ca. 1960), physician Alfred L. Coles (ca. 1950), and Winston Mutual Life Insurance Company (ca. 1960).[92] 131 Garfield Street also opened as a barber shop in the 1960s, and it continues to serve this function today as Rankin's Barber Shop.

In 1946, leading African Americans joined together to establish the Iredell Credit Union. Credit unions in North Carolina have a long history in the Black community, particularly as a means to save and borrow money during the Jim Crow era when traditional banking options were often inaccessible to African Americans. By 1940 there were 120 credit unions across North Carolina.[93] Among the founders of Iredell Credit Union were George Franklin Dalton, a Morningside schoolteacher, and Travis Van Mangum. Both men continued to serve as officers as the credit union grew. Initially starting with just 18 members, it expanded significantly, reaching 1,000 members by 1958. That year, the credit union opened a new office at 634 South Center Street, signaling its growth and success in serving the broader community.[94]

For years, the district lacked recreational facilities other than those available at Morningside, but this status changed in the 1950s. The City of Statesville purchased property at the northeast corner of Garfield and South Elm from Virginia L. Glenn of New York in July 1953 for the development of Garfield Street Park, a segregated facility that offered African American youths a swimming pool, recreation center, basketball courts, and softball fields (409 Garfield Street).[95] The City simultaneously built a recreation facility for white residents at Grace Park at 510 West Bell Street.[96] The ribbon cutting ceremony in June 1954 featured Mayor J. Garner Bagnal and Morningside High principal Alan B. Rutherford.[97] While primarily recreational, Garfield Street Park also hosted political events, such as in October 1954 when Congressman Hugh Alexander spoke in the recreation hall.[98] Each year, hundreds of Black children took swimming lessons at Garfield Street Park's swimming pool. Entry was 15 cents for the day.[99] All but the basketball courts were razed in the 2000s as the park was redeveloped.[100]

[91] "Modern 10-unit Motel for Negroes Opening," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 21, 1956, 8; "Mangum Seeks City Council Seat," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 2, 1963, 1.
[92] Reese, "Black Business Index: Abstracted from the Statesville City Directories," 4.
[93] Troy L. Kickler, "Credit Unions," North Carolina History Project, electronic document, https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/credit-unions/, accessed September 4, 2024.
[94] "Credit Union Opens New Offices," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 11, 1958, 3.
[95] Virginia L. Glenn to the City of Statesville, Deed book 242, page 593 (July 15, 1953), Iredell County Register of Deeds, Statesville, North Carolina; "City Recreation Program is Moving Forward," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 8, 1955, 6.
[96] "Plans Ready for Two Pools," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 28, 1953, 1.
[97] "Going Up!," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 11, 1954, 14; "Ribbon is Cut at Negro Pool," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 11, 1954, 1.
[98] "Attention Negro Citizens," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 23, 1954, 5.
[99] "Report Given on Pool's Use," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 19, 1957, 9.
[100] "Ribbon Cut at New Garfield Park," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 13, 2011, 2.

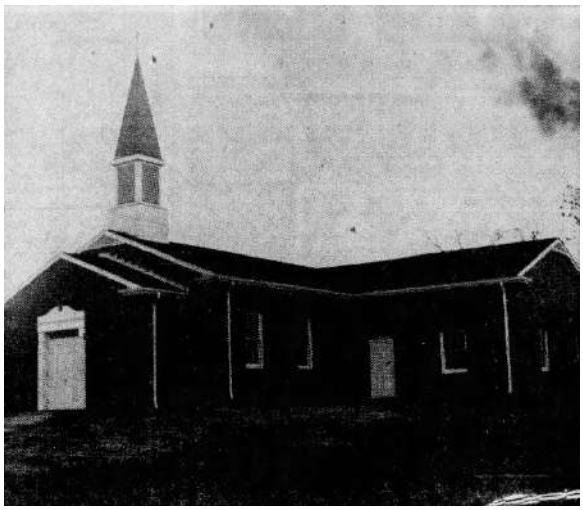


Figure 10 Scotts Chapel United Methodist Church shortly after completion in 1957. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 15, 1957.

Religious sites in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District continued to evolve in this period. Scott's Chapel U.M.C. began raising funds for a new sanctuary in the 1950s with Principal Alan Rutherford of Morningside High School as chair of the fundraising committee. Their efforts led the construction of a new brick building in 1957 (316 Chambers Street) across the street from their early 1900s sanctuary which was demolished to serve as their parking lot. The general contractor for the new sanctuary, which had a kitchen, pastor study, choir room, Sunday School classroom, and an overflow room, was G.L. Wilson Company. After paying off the loan on the project in 1963, the Scott's Chapel congregation held a dedication ceremony.[101]

Anchored at the southeast corner of Garfield and Green Streets since the late nineteenth century, the First Baptist Church congregation voted in 1963 to purchase 17 acres for a new church site at Garfield Street and Old Salisbury Road. The church hired local architect Ray Trexel to design the structure. In October 1965, they held a groundbreaking ceremony and, in 1967, Tierney Construction Company completed the work (464 Garfield Street). A notable feature of the church was a day care center that served children throughout Iredell County.[102]

The Presbyterian Church had a remarkable influence on the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District since the late nineteenth century. In 1968 the congregation of Calvary United Presbyterian Church was formed through the merger of three local churches: Broad Street United Presbyterian, Pleasant Grove United Presbyterian, and Race Street United Presbyterian. By 1969 the newly formed congregation began fundraising efforts for the construction of a new church building. They selected a site at the corner of South Green Street and Newton Avenue, directly north of where Billingsley Memorial Academy, founded in 1905, once stood. Statesville architect Tom H. Hutchins designed the 6,000-square-foot structure, which featured a prominent parabolic-roofed nave rising 56 feet high at the façade. The building, completed in November 1972 at a cost of $136,000, became the new home for the congregation. A dedication ceremony was held on June 24, 1973, and local newspapers provided further details about the design, along with an architect's drawing of the impressive building.[103]

Morningside School produced notable alumni who went beyond Statesville and some who returned home. Arthur Etheridge Peterson (1922–2010) grew up in Statesville as the son of funeral director Arthur T. Peterson and his wife, Mary Hattie Peterson. After high school graduation he served in the U.S. Army and received degrees from Johnson C. Smith University and New York

Figure 11 A. E. Peterson. Morningside High School Alumni Scrapbook, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/52717213077/.

[101] Jim Maxwell, "Program at School Honors Rutherford," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 10, 1971, 1; "Scott's Chapel Opening Slated," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 9, 1957, 2; Burwell Whittenton, "Scott's Chapel 100 Years Old," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 29, 1985, 29.
[102] First Baptist Church, "Our History."
[103] "Church Dedication is Planned Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 22, 1973, 10.

University.[104] Peterson came home to teach at Morningside High School (410 Garfield Street) in 1948.[105] When Race Street Elementary School opened in 1956, he went to teach and later became Principal in 1966. Following integration and the conversion of Morningside High School to lower grade levels, he became Principal in 1968.[106] In the late 1960s and early 1970s, Peterson, who was involved in coaching athletics as part of his teaching career, was one of two African Americans selected to serve on the 13-member Statesville Recreation Commission.[107] He retired from teaching in 1985 when he became the first African American to serve on the Statesville City Council.[108]

Peterson's wife also was a notable educator. Leola Croom Peterson (1921–2010) was the daughter of Reverend James Croom, former pastor of the First Baptist Church. A graduate of Morningside, Leola received her education from Shaw University and Columbia University. One of her chief accomplishments in four years as an educator was in 1971 when she established the first kindergarten class in Statesville at Avery Sherrill Elementary School.[109] The Petersons lived at 620 Harrison Street in the late 1950s and early 1960s before moving to 516 South Green Street in 1963.[110]

With the high school consolidated, the Statesville City School Board appointed Morningside's Principal Rutherford as Assistant Superintendent of Statesville City Schools.[111] One of Rutherford's legacies as principal was overseeing Morningside's accreditation by the State Department of Public Instruction (1952) and the South Association of Colleges and Schools (1963).[112] They honored his years of service in 1970 when they renamed Morningside School in his honor as the Alan D. Rutherford School. At the ceremony, former Principal Frank Toliver remembered Rutherford as a respected school leader who loved children. "From his own pocket, he has purchased shoes, clothes, books and food for those needing them," Toliver recalled, "and these acts have been performed in such a manner to preserve the student's personal pride and ambition."[113]

Despite these successes, the Black community still endured paternalistic control from local government. Green Street Cemetery, which had closed in the early 1940s, became a concern of the white-governed City

[104] "Statesville Man Attends NYU Camp," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 12, 1955, 8; "NCAE Chapter Picks Peterson for Honor," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 17, 1980, 13.
[105] "Arthur Peterson Obituary," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 27, 2010.
[106] "Mitchell Post Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 29, 1980, 1; "Rutherford, Peterson Get New Positions," 1.
[107] Jerry Josey, "Staff Carries Brunt of Full Program," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 2, 1970, 45.
[108] "Arthur Peterson Obituary."
[109] Jim Maxwell, "Parents Praising Program," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 27, 1971, 13; "Leola Peterson," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 11, 2010, 4.
[110] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963*, 345.
[111] "School's Name is Changed," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 31, 1970, 1.
[112] "Educational Leader Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 2, 1979, 1.
[113] Maxwell, "Program at School Honors Rutherford," 1.

Council. In September 1961, City Attorney Jack Harris recommended that the City "take control" of what they considered an "abandoned cemetery." Harris stated that the trustees who owned the cemetery were deceased and there were no successors. The City Council passed an ordinance in October whereby they took control of the cemetery.[114] The local government also sought to revitalize struggling neighborhoods and improve infrastructure in the mid-1960s through the establishment of the Statesville Redevelopment Commission in 1966 which could obtain Federal funds for such projects. As in many other cities, urban renewal often focused on redeveloping poor and blighted communities, often leading to displacement.[115] The Redevelopment Commission remained active into the 1980s, with one of its significant projects being the development of the east end cul-de-sac of Broadway Court which entailed the demolition of a number of residences and relocation of residents.[116]

Recent History of the District, 1975–2025

From 1975 to the present, the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District has seen ongoing efforts to preserve its history and maintain its role in the life of the city, even as Statesville has grown and changed. Some historic sites disappeared, such as the original First Baptist Church (306 Garfield Street, structure non-extant) at the corner of Garfield and Green Streets. In 1980–1981, Center Street AME Zion Church was restored under its pastor, Dr. M.L. Newman, who oversaw repairs to the foundation and basement walls, replacement of old mortar and the roof, and the construction of an addition. The church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.[117] The District's churches continued to be centers of community life. Scott's Chapel United Methodist Church, another long-standing church in the District, marked its 100th anniversary in 1985.[118] Mayor David L. Pressly officially recognized February as Black History Month in Statesville, following years of local celebration during Negro History Week and the efforts of Black history clubs and the Statesville NAACP.[119] In 1992, community fundraising led to the installation of a brick marker at Green Street Cemetery that honored the historical importance of the site.[120] More recently, Black residents have taken steps to document and protect the history of the District, contributing to a broader understanding of the area's past as the city continues to develop.[121]

Criterion A: Historical Context for Civil Rights

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District is eligible at the local level under Criterion A for Civil Rights. Statesville was a deeply segregated city throughout much of its history. Laws and custom separated white and Black patrons on trains, buses, movie theaters, and the courthouse. Black people could not use the same water fountains, bathrooms, hotels, and swimming pools as whites, and they could not receive medical care in the same facilities. Discrimination in housing and employment were entrenched. Voter rolls included few

[114] "Help of Public Sought in Handling Stray Dogs," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 19, 1961, 2; "Davie Realty Company Street Request Denied," October 3, 1961, 2.
[115] "City Planning Help is Urged by Committee," *Statesville Record and Landmark* December 14, 1965, 1; "Redevelopment Commission Begins Plans for Downtown," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 1, 1966, 1.
[116] Ann Wicker, "Reissuance of Bonds Authorized," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 19, 1983, 1; "707,264 Grant Received for Project," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 30, 1983, 1; "Right of Way Survey for Broadway Court," Iredell County Register of Deeds, Plat Book 19, Page 15, 1986.
[117] Sandra McHale, "Center Street Church Renovated," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 1, 1980, 10-A; "History of Church Highlighted," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 26, 1984, 12-A.
[118] Burwell Whittenton, "Scotts Chapel 100 Years Old," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 29, 1985, 1C.
[119] "Observance Proclaimed for Black History Month," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 31, 1985, 1.
[120] "Marker Dedicated," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 27, 1992, 1.
[121] "Statesville Takes Step Toward Preserving Black Neighborhood," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 4, 2022, A1.

Black people as poll taxes, reading tests, and other obstacles prevented them from participating in politics. In the area of education, the city's Black public schools received less support when it came to facilities and materials. Residential segregation restricted Black residents to specific neighborhoods.[122]

While the city promoted Statesville as "a wholesome place in which to live" in the mid-twentieth century, the truth was that a battle for equality was underway.[123] With roots in the 1930s, the local civil rights movement was a visible force of change in Statesville in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. There were people, places, and events in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District that made significant contributions to the movement as its residents stood up to challenge the status quo. Rev. Jordan Harris of First Baptist Church and other religious leaders and their congregations played important roles. Center Street AME Church, Garfield Park, and Morningside High School were the location of mass rallies that called for voter participation and the end of school segregation. The Mozers, Gibsons, Daltons, Robinsons, and other families whose former homes remain in the district participated in non-violent demonstrators. Teachers, students, and others associated with Morningside High and Morningside Elementary integrated the city's white schools while their neighbors banded together to march the streets of their neighborhood against racial injustice. Even as the District has lost some sites important to civil rights, such as the original First Baptist Church (306 Garfield Street, structure non-extant), the legacy of the movement is evident in a number of other properties.

Early Civil Rights Activism in Statesville, 1934

An important foundation for the modern civil rights movement was laid in Statesville in 1934 when two residents of the District, Travis Van Mangum, a mortician with Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home (662 South Green Street), and Robert W. Dockery, a teacher at Billingsley Academy (contributing site, northeast corner of South Green Street and Dockery Street) and the son of Presbyterian minister Zander Dockery, founded a branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).[124] In the years to come, the Statesville NAACP chapter would work to mobilize grassroots activism, address local injustices, and foster community engagement, all of which contributed to the larger struggle for equality.

Voting rights was an immediate area of focus for the NAACP in Statesville. Since 1900, poll taxes, reading tests, and other obstacles blocked African Americans from registering. Dockery and Thomas E. Allison (536 South Green Street), who also taught at Billingsley, stepped forward to attempt to register for the upcoming Democratic primary in May 1934.[125] Registrar C.R. Sharpe subjected the well-educated men to a literacy test, but failed them upon his dissatisfaction with the results. Dockery and Allison challenged the decision in local court, but the judge deferred the case to the North Carolina Supreme Court. The court ruled against Allison

[122] Keever, *Iredell*, 423.
[123] Statesville Chamber of Commerce, "Statesville, North Carolina," brochure (1948), Iredell County Public Library Flickr, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/, accessed October 1, 2024.
[124] Robert W. Dockery's address in the 1930s was 546 South Green Street, a residence that was demolished sometime after Zander Dockery's death in the 1970s. Keever, *Iredell*, 424; "Dr. Z.A. Dockery Dies at Age of 103," 2; Carolina Directory Company, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933* (Asheville, NC: Carolina Directory Company, 1933), 36; "Dr. Robert Wyatt Dockery," *The Courier-Journal* (Louisville, KY) December 21, 2001, 33.
[125] Carolina Directory Company, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933* (Asheville, NC: Carolina Directory Company, 1933), 104.

in its 1936 decision in *Allison v. Sharpe*; however, early voting rights cases like this one bolstered propel forward the fight for voting rights.[126]

School Integration Efforts, 1954–1961

Following World War II, the civil rights movement gained momentum across the nation. School integration became a central area of focus, and shockwaves emanating from this nationwide battle reached Statesville and the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. Statesville's public schools remained segregated by race. Black elementary school students residing in the district and elsewhere in the city attended Morningside Elementary School (611 South Green Street) while high school students attended the relatively new Morningside High School (410 Garfield Street; opened in 1941). In the monumental *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling in 1954, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled that racial segregation in public schools, such as those in Statesville, was unconstitutional. The ruling added momentum to the civil rights movement and also stoked white resistance. In North Carolina, state and local governments, which had minimal Black political representation, worked to prevent the integration of schools. The state legislature, backed by a public referendum, established the Pearsall Plan in 1956 which gave local school boards tools to avoid school integration. The Plan effectively stalled school integration in Statesville and in many other places in North Carolina for more than a decade.[127]

As the *Brown* ruling came down, the Statesville city school board was facing the issue of overcrowding at Morningside Elementary School, a 1920s building (non-extant; 611 South Green Street) where faculty and staff struggled to accommodate the rising number of students.[128] In defiance of *Brown*, the school board announced in 1955 that it would build a new elementary school for Black students on North Race Street. The school opened in 1956, and while it alleviated the crowded situation at Morningside Elementary for the time being, school segregation remained in place.[129] The school again became overcrowded, leading the local board to build an annex behind the main building. Completed in 1961, the annex (611 South Green Street) added six additional classrooms to the school. Although the brand new annex provided a modern facility for the education of Statesville's Black students, it nevertheless was a symbol of the city's ongoing resistance to school integration.[130] Morningside Elementary continued to serve students in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District through the 1960s as Statesville's population continued to grow.

---

[126] *Allison et. al v. Sharpe et. al,* February 26, 1936, Supreme Court of North Carolina, Thomson Reuters Westlaw, electronic document, https://content.next.westlaw.com/, accessed April 10, 2025.
[127] Adrienne Dunn, "Pearsall Plan: North Carolina's Response to Brown v. Board of Education," *North Carolina History Project*, electronic document, https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/pearsall-plan, accessed September 30, 2024.
[128] "Iredell County Schools Open," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 25, 1954, 1; "Kornegay Tells Lions About School Needs and Bond Issue," *Statesville Record and Landmark* October 11, 1955, 1.
[129] "New Negro School Planned," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 27, 1955, 1; "New School Opens Monday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 10, 1956, 1.
[130] "Negro School Opening is Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 5, 1956, 2; "New School Opens Monday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 10, 1956, 1; "Wayside Patrons Petition to Join City System," July 6, 1961; *Statesville Record and Landmark*, 1; "Schools Approve Local Insurance," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 29, 1961, 3.

Desegregating Statesville, 1957–1965

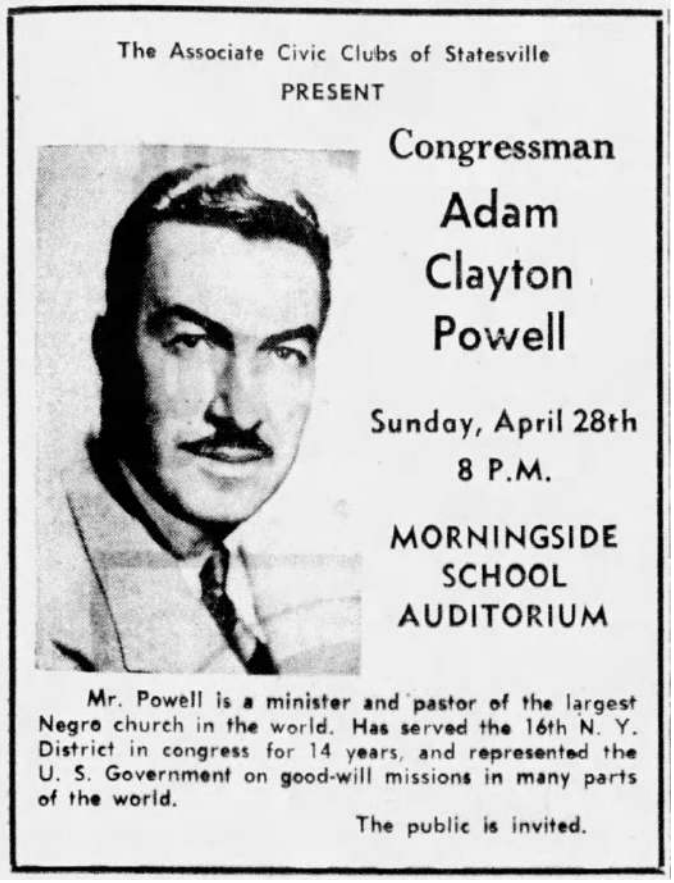


Figure 12 ***Statesville Record and Landmark*****, April 25, 1957.**

As the battle for school integration continued to evolve, residents of the District became involved in other areas of the expanding civil rights movement. Community interest in civil rights was evident on the evening of Sunday, April 28, 1957, when African American families from many of Statesville's Black churches gathered in the auditorium at Morningside High School where Travis Van Mangum, NAACP President, arranged for New York Representative Adam Clayton Powell to speak. Local pastors canceled services so their congregations could be free to attend. Six hundred people filled the space as Rev. Andrew N. Gibson of Center Street AME (537 South Center Street) introduced Clayton, a key leader in the national fight, who called for the integration of schools and the passage of a civil rights act.[131]

Rev. Gibson (1914–1993) exemplified the growing role of Black church leaders and their congregations in the local civil rights movement. Born in Franklin, he was a graduate of Livingstone College and Seminary in Salisbury who began preaching in North Carolina in the 1930s. He became pastor at Center Street A.M.E. Zion in the early 1950s. An active member of the NAACP, Gibson, in addition to helping coordinate the Powell rally, made headlines in 1958 when he became the first Black person to run for a seat on the Iredell County School Board.[132] At the time, he lived in the District at 115 Wagner Street (his former residence has since been demolished).[133] In May of that year, the First Baptist Church (the original, non-extant location on Green Street) hosted a rally for Gibson that hundreds attended. Though he was not elected,

[131] "Local Negroes Hear New York Representative," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* April 29, 1957, 1.
[132] "Negro Group Pledges Gibson Solid Support," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* May 5, 1958, 3.
[133] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1958–1959* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1959), 196.

Gibson's campaign set a precedent for later Black figures to run and hold political office in Statesville and Iredell County.[134] Myrtle Horrington (1892–1968), a retired teacher and President of the Negro Women's Association who lived on West Sharpe Street, became the first Black person to run for city council in 1959.[135] Funeral home director Travis Van Mangum (206 Garfield Street) would later challenge the status quo when he ran for a city council seat in 1963, stating in a letter to the local newspaper that he was running because he believed he could strengthen "the bond of friendship" between the Black and white communities in Statesville.[136] In 1966, he ran for a county commission seat while Rev. Jordan C. Harris of First Baptist Church unsuccessfully ran for school board.[137]

Figure 13 Travis Van Mangum speaks with Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY) after the latter's address at Morningside High School on April 28, 1957. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 29 1957.

Rev. Jordan Clifton Harris (1923–2013) was another Black pastor who prominently featured in the local civil rights movement. His efforts began as soon as he started as the pastor of the First Baptist Church in 1962. Through the 1960s, he led local sit-ins, lobbied the city government to integrate public facilities, and served as President of the NAACP, among other efforts that made him perhaps the most well-known figure in the local movement. As a young man, Harris, who grew up picking cotton in his native Franklin County, demonstrated an aptitude for preaching. He graduated from Shaw Divinity and began preaching at Wadesboro before settling in Statesville to serve as pastor at First Baptist. He continued this role until his death in 2011.[138]

Young people swelled the ranks of the civil rights movement in the 1960s, joining groups such as the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). They adopted the techniques of non-violent resistance to combat segregation and discrimination. The Greensboro Woolworth's lunch counter sit-ins of February 1960 inspired similar efforts in Statesville and around the South. The Statesville Woolworth's became the focal point of four sit-ins beginning on March 15. Nannie Ray Houston, Charles Napoleon Hart, Margaret Glenn, Shirley Ruth Moten, all Black college students who were completing teacher training at Unity High School in Belmont (two miles east of Statesville), participated in the first sit-in which resulted in the police escorting them out of the building. Unity later fired the teachers.

[134] Gibson relocated to New York in 1961. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1958–1959* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1959), 196; "Down in Iredell," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* June 2, 1958, 1; "Pastor of Memorial A.M.E. Zion to be honored," *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, New York), July 18, 1992, 4; "Rev. Gibson; retired A.M.E. Zion pastor," *Democrat and Chronicle* (Rochester, New York) July 29, 1993, 3.
[135] O.C. Stonestreet, "Civil rights sit-Ins in Statesville: Part II," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* May 9, 2010, 2B; "Negro Woman in Council Race," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 24, 1959, 1.
[136] "Mangum Seeks City Council Seat," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* May 2, 1963, 1.
[137] Bill Fuller, "Two Negroes Run for Countywide Offices in Iredell," *The Charlotte Observer,* April 29, 1966, 8A.
[138] Bethany Fuller, "Life of Service," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* July 15, 2011, 7.

The following evening, unidentified rock-and-brick throwers attacked the homes of local civil rights leaders, including the home of Myrtle Horrington (1892–1968) on West Sharpe Street.[139]

Local youths continued to put pressure on Statesville's Woolworth's lunch counter in the weeks to come. On March 21, several unidentified high school students sat down at the Woolworths lunch counter. Rather than serve them, the manager closed the lunch counter, and the students left.[140] Eight days later, a larger group of students—all from Unity School—returned. Eight sat at the counter and, again, the manager temporarily closed the lunch counter and the demonstrators left. Woolworth's then reopened the counter, but the students returned with a ninth demonstrator. Local law enforcement made them leave and arrested some of the students. Seventeen-year-old Joyce Ann Reed was said to be the "ringleader" of this sit-in. Along with James Riley Hammons and Stafford Ricks Turner, she would spend time in jail for her participation in the event.[141]

[139] "Negro Students Stage First Local 'Sit Down,'" *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 16, 1960, 16; William Kincaid, "Statesville Reports Sitdowns," *Greensboro News and Record* March 17, 1960, A11; O.C. Stonestreet, "Civil rights sit-Ins in Statesville: Part II," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 9, 2010, 2B; "Negro Woman in Council Race," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 24, 1959, 1.
[140] "Negroes Protest at Woolworths," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 22, 1960, 3.
[141] "9 Negroes Stage Brief Sitdown," *The Charlotte Observer* March 30, 1960, 8-A; "Students Found Guilty in Trespassing Case," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 12, 1960, 10; "4 Negroes Sentenced in Trespassing Case," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 13, 1960.

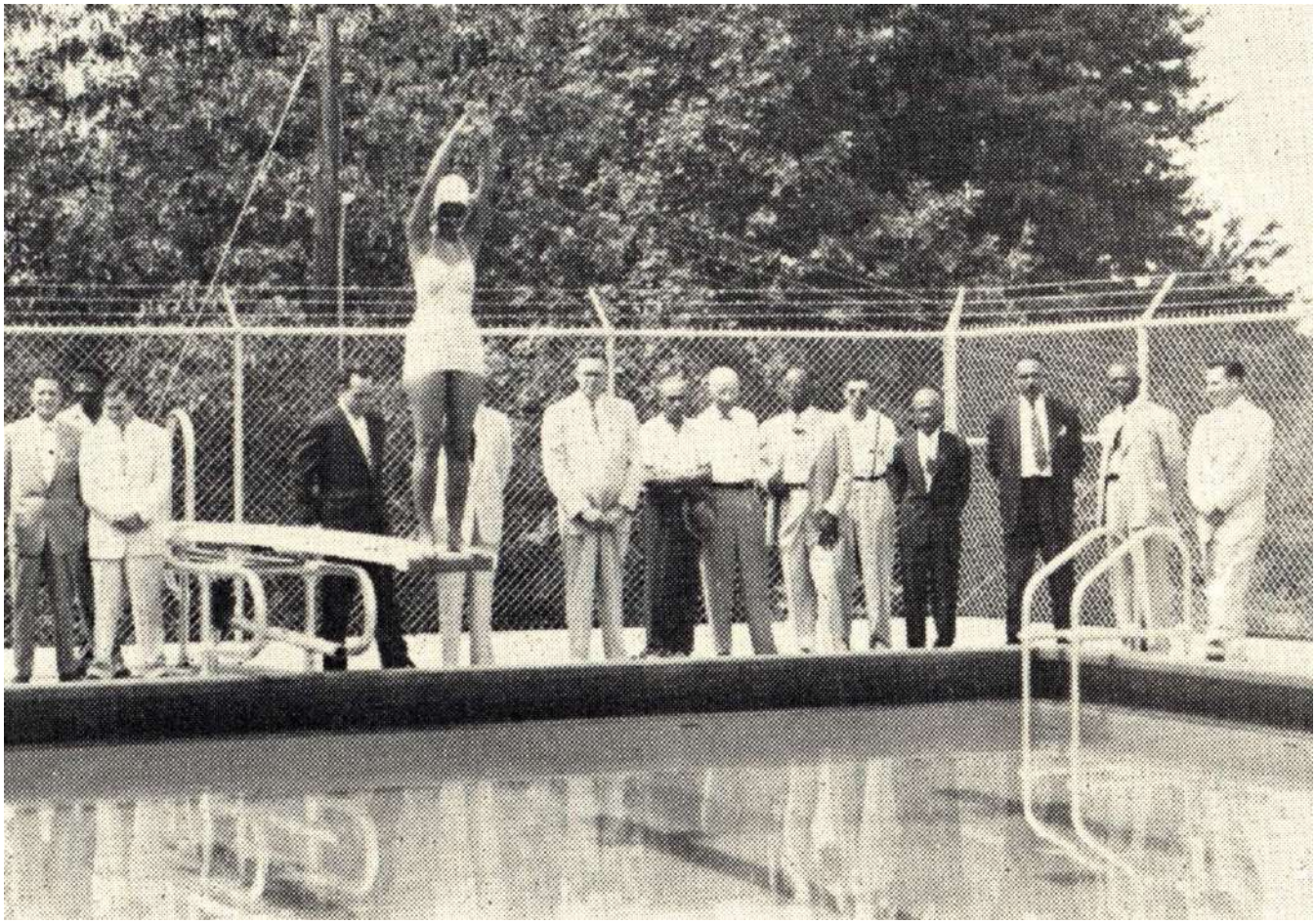


Figure 14 Garfield Park opened in June 1954 in the district to provide recreational facilities for Statesville's African American residents. City of Statesville, *1954 Annual Report: Statesville, 'The Best Town in North Carolina,"* Iredell County Public Library, 23.

Even though they could be fined, arrested, jailed, or attacked, African Americans in Statesville of all ages continued to employ nonviolent tactics to desegregate their city. On August 18, 1962, two unidentified Black girls tried to gain access to the pool at Grace Park, the city's white counterpart to Garfield Park. They were barred entry and the city temporarily closed the pool.[142]

[142] "Police Lodge Charges Against Forty Persons," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* August 20, 1962, 2.

Figure 15 The Statesville Howard Johnson's restaurant was a typical design as seen in this postcard of the Rocky Mount location. "Howard Johnson's, Rocky Mountain, N.C.," Braswell Memorial Library, DigitalNC, https://lib.digitalnc.org/record/10407.

A day later, civil rights organizations launched a statewide effort to integrate Howard Johnson restaurants. Aided by out-of-town comrades, Statesville demonstrators descended upon their local Howard Johnson eatery in northern Statesville.[143] The people of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District were notably among the demonstrators. Rev. Jordan Clifton Harris of the First Baptist Church (at the time, still at the corner of Garfield and Green Streets), Rev. Wilson W. Lee of St. John Baptist Church (in the Poplar Grove neighborhood), and NAACP President Travis Van Mangum (206 Garfield Street) organized and participated in the event. In addition to Mangum, other participants who lived in the District at this time were Morningside High graduates Peggy Ruth Mozer (314 Dockery Street) and Lillian Gibson (620 South Elm Street); Morningside teacher, George Franklin Dalton (625 South Elm Street; non-extant); and laundromat employee, Florene Robinson (678 South Elm Street).[144] The group of more than two dozen demonstrators sat for service in the restaurant and congregated outside, singing hymns. In response, local law enforcement arrested 21 demonstrators for trespassing.[145]

The arrests of peaceful protesters elicited a strong response from both allies and opponents of the civil rights movement. James Farmer, national director of CORE, sent a telegram to Mayor J. Garner Bagnal of Statesville, as well as North Carolina governor Terry Sanford and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, threatening "to turn Statesville into another Albany, Georgia, or Jackson, Mississippi" if such injustice continued.[146] Farmer referred to cities where hundreds had participated in mass demonstrations. To underscore his point, Farmer traveled to Statesville to demand the release of those jailed.[147]

Meanwhile, a group of local Black leaders went to the city council to call for an end to segregation and to lobby for the release of the demonstrators who were in jail under exorbitantly high bonds. Among the leaders

[143] "Howard Johnson Restaurant Opens Today on U.S. 64," *The Iredell Morning News* January 8, 1959, 1; James K. Batten, "32 to Face Trials in Protests," *The Charlotte Observer* August 21, 1962, 10; "Integration Units March in 5 Cities," *The Charlotte Observer* August 20, 1962, 12A; "Police Lodge Charges Against Forty Persons," 2.
[144] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 303; Obituary for Lillian Ann Templeton Norman, *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 3, 2009, 4; "John Templeton Sr.," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 28, 1995, 2; "Morningside Recital Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 24, 1954, 3; Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963*, 364; "Funeral is Slated," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 1, 1972, 4.
[145] "Police Lodge Charges Against Forty Persons," 2; Jack Claiborne, "C.O.R.E. Warns 'Statesville Could be Another Albany,'" *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 21, 1962, B1.
[146] Claiborne, "C.O.R.E. Warns 'Statesville Could be Another Albany,'" B1.
[147] Claiborne, "C.O.R.E. Warns 'Statesville Could be Another Albany,'" B1.

was Martha Dalton whose husband, George, had been released on bond.[148] Martha pleaded that the bonds for the remaining inmates be lowered. "Try to understand a little bit better those of us who live across the tracks, those of us who have black faces," she said to Mayor Bagnal. "To you $500 doesn't seem like that much, I'm sure."[149] Bagnal stated he had no say in the amount of the bonds. Following the city council meeting, residents of the District and other Black neighborhoods flooded the First Baptist Church on Green Street. The newspaper reported that this rally of support drew in 500 Black citizens who demanded the release of the inmates. As Martha arrived, they welcomed her with heavy applause.[150] They then marched down the streets of the District to the city jail where they sang hymns.[151] As they peacefully protested, a Jeep zoomed by them and sprayed them with an unidentified liquid. The city later investigated the incident and determined that the substance was insecticide. Mayor Bagnal defended the perpetrator, describing the incident as an accident.[152] The details surrounding the ultimate release of the inmates are not known, but it is clear that this event served to galvanize the local movement.

The civil rights events in Statesville of 1962 had a noticeable impact on the city. Afterwards, voters elected new city council members who promised to calmly resolve the segregation crisis, the local police chief in charge of the arrests resigned, and many businesses in town began to let down their racial barriers.[153] Still, civil rights leaders maintained pressure on the city. In a letter to Mayor Bagnal in June 1963, Black leaders in Statesville called for the desegregation of all recreational facilities in the city. The leaders who authored the demand were familiar faces in the local struggle: Rev. R.R. Woods (Tradd Street Presbyterian Church, at the time located in the District),[154] Rev. Jordan C. Harris (First Baptist Church, in the District at its original Green Street location), Rev. Wilson W. Lee (St. John Baptist Church in Poplar Grove), Myrtle Horrington, and funeral director and NAACP leader Travis Van Mangum (206 Garfield Street). The group also sent a letter to the Iredell County Board of Commissioners calling for the desegregation of Iredell Memorial Hospital.[155]

The people and places of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District continued to play a role in the local civil rights movement through the 1960s. Rev. Harris and other Black leaders pushed to dismantle the obstacles of employment discrimination. They worked with the Statesville Merchants Association in 1963 and 1964 to encourage business owners to give full consideration to Black applicants. The next year, Harris made a proposal to the Association to establish a retail training program for Black job seekers. The business community, once opposed to desegregation efforts, began to change their minds as a result of these efforts.[156]

Statesville's recreation facilities remained a target of desegregation efforts. In August 1963, after Black activists persistently attempted to integrate these places, the city council worked with Black leaders to issue a resolution authorizing the recreation department to desegregate the city's facilities. The announcement

[148] Obituary for Mrs. Martha Lillian Grady Dalton, *Scarborough and Hargett,* electronic document, https://www.scarboroughhargettcelebration.com/obituaries/Martha-Lillian-Grady-Dalton/#!/Obituary, accessed September 4, 2024.
[149] James Batten, "Chemical Ends Rally Near Jail," *The Charlotte Observer* August 21, 1962, 10.
[150] Batten, "Chemical Ends Rally Near Jail," 10.
[151] "Police Lodge Charges Against Forty Persons," 2; James Batten, "Chemical Ends Rally Near Jail," 10.
[152] James Batten, "Chemical Ends Rally Near Jail," 10.
[153] Dwayne Walls, "Statesmanship in Statesville," *The Charlotte Observer* June 17, 1963, 3c.
[154] Tradd Street Presbyterian was located in the District approximately at the present parcel of 538 Tradd Street which features a non-contributing residence.
[155] "Negro Leaders in City Asking Desegregation," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 18, 1963, 9.
[156] "Merchants to Accept Negroes' Applications," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 6, 1963, 4.

sent a shockwave through the community, compelling both white and Black residents into action. More than 800 citizens who were opposed to the resolution signed a petition calling for an election to recall the council members.[157] Days prior to the September 19 election, Black citizens who hoped to retain the city council held a mass rally at Center Street AME Zion (537 South Center Street) in an attempt to boost voter registration. The rally, emceed by Rev. Jordan C. Harris and attended by 300 people, was a show of community strength. Attendees took a collection of gas money to ensure unregistered voters could have transportation to register. Children came forward, promising to knock on doors to remind people to register. Rev. Edgar French of Livingstone College, who was a close associate of Martin Luther King, Jr., addressed the audience, imploring unregistered voters to skip work in order to register while Harris renewed the call for desegregation in Statesville, regardless of who may hold council seats. Travis Van Mangum, president of the NAACP, also addressed the audience, expressing his dismay that the peaceful process of desegregation had been derailed. He asked the crowd "Are you going to stand for it?" to which he received as resounding "No!" He then asked "Are you going to register and vote?" to which they replied "Yes!"[158] The election broke city records for voter turnout, but unfortunately for the local civil rights movement, the existing city council members who were willing to work with the Black community on desegregation were replaced.[159] Consistent pressure, nevertheless, would integrate city pools in the late 1960s.[160]

The efforts of local people, including those of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, helped win the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that further delegitimized segregation and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that ended voter discrimination across the nation. However, the struggle for the integration of schools, equal housing, and political office remained goals of African Americans in Statesville and other Southern cities.

The Final Push for School Integration, 1961–1970

School integration was one of the longest-fought battles of the civil rights movement in Statesville. The two Black schools of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District—Morningside High School and Morningside Elementary—were places of contention in the struggle. Their students, faculty, and staff, including many from the district, would ultimately integrate Statesville's school system, and only the High School site would remain open as a result of integration.

Morningside Elementary (611 South Green Street), whose annex had opened to relieve the pressure of overcrowding at the campus in 1961, remained the most heavily attended Black elementary school in the city in 1960s. About 620 students enrolled for the 1962–1963 school year while the other Black elementary school, North Race Street, had about 170 students. Morningside High had about 200 students.[161] An early crack in school segregation came in September 1963 as a result of recent court decisions which influenced the city school board to permit sixteen Black students to attend white schools.[162]

---

[157] Rockie Hodson, "827 Residents Sign Petitions for New Vote," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 19, 1963, 1.
[158] Rockie Hodson and Jim Minter, "City's Negroes Urged to Register to Vote," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 11, 1963, 1.
[159] Jerry Josey, "Write-In Candidates, Newcomers Win in Record-Making Turnout at City Polls," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 20, 1963, 1.
[160] "Swimming Pools Will Be Open," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 12, 1966, 12.
[161] "4,501 Students Attend School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 29, 1962, 1.
[162] Preston Spencer, "True Trailblazers," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 4, 20133, 1.

The city school board, emboldened by the Pearsall Plan (1956) and local white resistance to integration, had largely prevented the mixing of races in its schools until the mid-1960s when court challenges began to break down the walls of segregation. In the spring of 1964, several Black families from the Poplar Grove and Rankintown communities, represented by Julius Chambers and other NAACP attorneys, brought a suit (*Nesbitt v. Statesville Board of Education*) against the school board in which they claimed that ongoing school segregation violated their civil rights. The case reached the U.S. District Court which ruled in August that the school board had three years to integrate.[163]

The school board's reluctance to comply with full integration lingered into the late 1960s, but local Black activists refused to give up. Statesville's struggle for civil rights continued to bring significant leaders in the movement to the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. On April 30, 1965, the local NAACP chapter, now led by Rev. Harris, hosted its annual Freedom Fund Banquet at Garfield Recreation Center (known today as Garfield Park, 409 Garfield Street). The key speaker was Julius Chambers of Charlotte, a leading attorney in the fight for school desegregation who had helped win the *Nesbitt v. Stateville* case. In the coming years, he would argue eight cases in the Supreme Court and win all of them.[164] At the banquet, Chambers explained that the token integration occurring in Statesville did not follow recent court rulings and he encouraged all Black parents in Statesville to demand their children attend white schools. Rev. Harris, Travis Van Mangum, Rev. Wood of Tradd Street Presbyterian Church, and Myrtle Horrington also spoke at the event.[165] In the month afterwards, Harris sustained pressure. He sent letters to the local newspaper demanding immediate integration, and after the Ku Klux Klan marched down Center Street, he wrote a letter stating the movement's refusal to be intimidated.[166]

Pressure from rulings in civil rights cases resulted in the integration of Statesville's schools. Beginning in the fall semester of 1968, Morningside High School students enrolled in the previously all-white Statesville High School.[167] Race Street Elementary School students enrolled across the city's white elementary schools. However, Morningside Elementary, where most of the city's elementary-level Black students (766 students) received their education, remained entirely Black.[168] The impetus to finally integrate Morningside Elementary School followed federal court cases that declared the Pearsall Plan unconstitutional (1969) and mandated busing to achieve integration (1970). Morningside Elementary students transferred into Statesville's white elementary schools in the spring semester of 1970. The school board then closed their school on Green Street.[169]

---

[163] *Nesbitt v. Statesville City Board of Education*, U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina, https://clearinghouse.net/case/13719/, accessed May 31, 2025.
[164] Tom Hanchett, "Developing Opportunity: The Charlotte Office Building of Civil Rights Leaders Julius Chambers and Mel Watt," *The North Carolina Historical Review* XCVII no.4 (2021): 406–410.
[165] "NAACP Urged to Ask for Total Integration," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 1, 1965, 9.
[166] Jordan C. Harris, "Letter to the Editor," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 21, 1965, 9; Harris, "To the Editor," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 18, 1965, 2.
[167] Morningside high temporarily closed but later reopened as an integrated elementary and junior high school. "Board to Consolidate City's High Schools," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 14, 1968; Mildred Huskins, "580 Teachers Begin Duties," *Statesville Record and Landmark* August 24, 1968.
[168] "Court Given School Integration Report," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 26, 1968, 1.
[169] Adrienne Dunn, "Pearsall Plan: North Carolina's Response to Brown v. Board of Education," *North Carolina History Project*, electronic document, https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/pearsall-plan, accessed September 30, 2024; "Bus Routes Planned for School Children," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 2, 1970, 12.

Undoing Discrimination in Housing, 1967–1975

The new First Baptist Church (464 Garfield Street, completed in 1967) represented the enduring significance of this congregation and the leadership of its pastor, Rev. Harris, in the ongoing struggle for African American equality. Notably involved in desegregating the city, Harris turned to ending discrimination in housing. On November 7, 1967, he brought forward a complaint about the substandard housing and neighborhood conditions for African Americans in Statesville to the city council, imploring members and the mayor to do something. He urged the city to establish an integrated housing authority that would support middle- and low-income families. He asked the council to compel landlords in predominantly white neighborhoods to rent to Black tenants. Additionally, Harris requested improved street lighting in Black neighborhoods and better enforcement of housing codes. He warned the council that if these issues were not addressed, Statesville could experience the same type of violence occurring in other cities. Mayor Bagnal responded that the city was studying the issue of housing and considering an authority.[170] When Harris returned three weeks later to follow up on his concerns, the mayor announced that that the city would establish a housing authority.[171] The initial members of the Housing Authority, which began operating in 1968, included two African Americans, Travis Van Mangum and Richard J. Harris.[172] Lonnie P. Davis, a local teacher and the secretary of Peterson-Mangum Funeral Home (611 South Green Street), succeeded Mangum in 1970.[173] Statesville's first public housing units, open to Black and white applicants, were occupied in 1970 and the Authority also offered housing assistance to all of its inhabitants.[174]

Figure 16 Travis Van Mangum (back left) and Richard J. Harris (back right) were appointed to the Statesville Housing Authority when it began operating in 1968. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 10, 1968.

Even though equality in all aspects of life remained elusive for Statesville's Black residents, the local civil rights movement in Statesville in 1975 could look back at a long struggle with notable achievements. Public spaces such as schools, parks, and restaurants had desegregated. Black residents had filled voter registration rolls and they actively sought positions in local government. Black institutions, from churches to the NAACP, propelled the movement to important victories. The historical people, places, and events of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District were significant in these monumental changes.

[170] "Master Plan for Development of Municipal Airport is Accepted by City Councilmen," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 7, 1967, 1.
[171] "Council Hears Two Delegations," *Statesville Record and Landmark* November 21, 1967, 1.
[172] "Housing Authority," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 10, 1968, 1.
[173] "Davis Takes Oath of Office," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 19, 1969, 4.
[174] "Official Inspect New Development," *Statesville Record and Landmark* December 15, 1970, 1.

Comparative Analysis: The Historic African American Neighborhoods of Statesville, ca.1890-ca.1975

Along with the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, there were nine other African American residential neighborhoods in Statesville's history: Depot Hill, Wallacetown, Rabbittown, Sunnyside, Rankintown, Newtonville, Poplar Branch, Belmont, and Old Field. These neighborhoods, whose history is summarized below, were located two miles or less from the downtown center of the city.

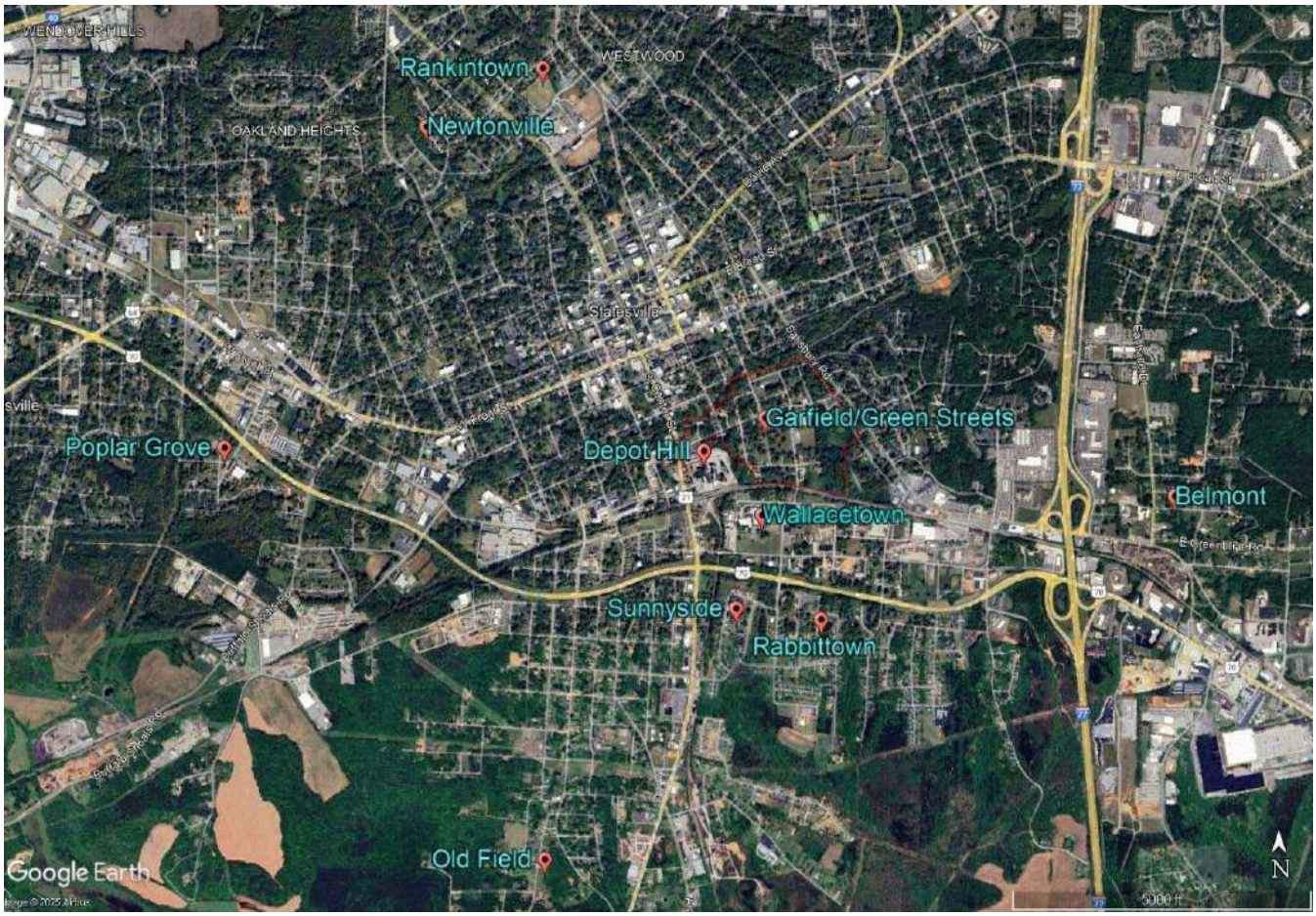


Figure 17 African American neighborhoods and communities in and around Statesville. Map by Nick Linville with Google Earth basemap, created May 1, 2025.

Depot Hill

As Statesville arose from the ashes of the Civil War, African Americans settled in Depot Hill. The neighborhood was generally located along either side of South Center Street between Bell Street and the Southern Railway. Depot Hill included homes and businesses along Wagner Street, McElwee Street, Chambers Street, the western end of Garfield Street, and the southern end of South Meeting Street. Transportation facilities and white-owned factories were the largest buildings in the area. There were perhaps a dozen white- and black-owned businesses in the two decades following the war. In 1868, freedmen Sidney Murdock and Alfred Bailey established a Methodist Episcopal church that later became known as

Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church (537 South Center Street).[175] African Americans continued to settle in Depot Hill and they continued to open businesses as the nineteenth century closed, including Jery Earnhardt who opened a hotel in 1884.[176] In 1889, there were at least a half dozen Black property owners in Depot Hill, and numerous Black residents appear in city directories into the early twentieth century.[177]

Depot Hill was characterized by a mix of property usages—religious, commercial, transportation, and residential—until about the time of a destructive fire in 1923. Among the losses was the Foushee Building, owned by Charles W. Foushee who served as principal of Morningside School in the District, and the barber shop of Angus Littlejohn.[178] Residential usage along South Center Street faded over the years, leaving an area of primarily transportation, commercial, and industrial uses. The remaining businesses and the Center Street AME Zion Church (537 South Center Street), linkages to the African American roots of Depot Hill, integrated into the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District whose western edge includes these sites and several others along South Center Street.

Wallacetown

Wallacetown existed by 1895, but only its streetscape is identifiable in the present.[179] Located along Jefferson Street, Washington Avenue, Monroe Street, and Rickert Street (as it runs north of Monroe), Wallacetown may have been an outgrowth of African American settlement from Depot Hill, lying to the northwest, and the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District to the north. However, Wallacetown was separated from these neighboring areas by the Southern Railway tracks. A footpath, later replaced by the Elm Street Bridge in the mid-twentieth century, historically connected Wallacetown to the Garfield and Green Streets area to the north.

Wallacetown and nearby Rabbittown were home to 65 families in 1895.[180] City directories indicate residents primarily were working class people who were employed with the railroad or in nearby factories. Wallacetown had Episcopal and Methodist churches, as well as a grocer.[181] By the mid-1930s when the community was dominated by the Statesville Plywood and Veneer plant, about 225 people lived in Wallacetown.[182] There were about two dozen houses in Wallacetown by the World War II period.[183] Statesville's urban renewal program of the 1970s led to the destruction of nearly every residence in Wallacetown.[184]

---

[175] Phillips, *National Register Nomination: Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church*, 3–4; "Mount Pleasant A.M.E. Zion Church to Celebrate 156th Anniversary on May 19," *Statesville Record and Landmark* May 16, 2024, A1.
[176] "Notices of New Advertisements," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 6, 1884, 3.
[177] "Sheriff's Sale of Land for Taxes," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 10, 1889, 2; Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917).
[178] "$30,000 Fire on South Center," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 18, 1923, page 1.
[179] "Surveys and Surveys," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 7, 1895, 7.
[180] "Surveys and Surveys," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 7, 1895, 7.
[181] Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1907–1908* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1908); Miller, *Statesville and Iredell County Directory, 1909–1910*, vol. 2 (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1910).
[182] Joel Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 17, 2024, A1; Statesville Plywood and Veneer Company advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 2, 1970, 4F.
[183] United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025.
[184] Statesville Redevelopment Commission, Statesville Redevelopment Commission – Section 3 (Plat), May 19, 1978, on file, Iredell County Register of Deeds, Statesville, North Carolina.

Rabbittown

Southeast of Wallacetown across Monroe Road, Rabbittown was a larger African American neighborhood that was roughly bounded on the west by Rickert Street, on the south by Dobson Avenue, and on the east by Lerain Court.[185] One of the first settlers in this section was James W. Rickert (1849–1931) who was known in Statesville for his many years as a drayman. The date he settled Rabbittown, which he referred to as Rickertville, is not known, although he was a resident of Statesville by 1880.[186] The city newspaper described Rabbittown in the 1890s as a "notable" African American suburb.[187] Along with nearby Wallacetown, Rabbittown in 1895 was home to 65 families who worked with the railroad, in local factories, and in other blue-collar jobs.[188] Unlike Wallacetown, Rabbittown, was mostly residential. There was one grocery store in the neighborhood by 1910. The community grew to include an amusement hall, additional grocery stores, and a church.[189] There were 550 residents in Rabbittown by 1940.[190] In the 1970s, the neighborhood became a focus of urban renewal. Statesville's redevelopment commission rerouted and renamed streets and replaced older housing with new public housing. Industrial Boulevard, later renamed Garner Bagnal Boulevard, split the northern reaches of the community in half.[191]

Sunnyside

The African American neighborhood of Sunnyside also suffered losses due to urban renewal. C.A. "Jack" Stearns, a local white developer and businessman, platted Sunnyside in 1924. The location was directly west of Rabbittown across a creek that was oriented north-south.[192] The community may have been named after Sunnyside school that existed several years before in the vicinity.[193] The 1925 Sanborn map illustrated three dozen houses in Sunnyside.[194] There were about 190 residents by the mid-1930s when the community had a grocery store and a Methodist Church.[195] Sunnyside was completely demolished and redeveloped during Statesville's urban renewal period of the late 1970s. Today, nearly all of the buildings in former Sunnyside have build dates after 1975.[196] McCollough Street is the primary street of this area in the present.

Rankintown

---

[185] The 1917 Statesville city directory gives "s e of Wallacetown." Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917); Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 14), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, *ProQuest*, electronic document, https://digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56).

[186] United States Census Office, 1880 U.S. Census, Population Schedules, NARA microfilm publication MT9 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), *FamilySearch*, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024. "James W. Rickert, Colored Drayman, Dies at Age of 82," *Statesville Record and Landmark* July 30, 1931, 1.

[187] "War or Blue Ruin?" *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 4, 1891, 7.

[188] "Surveys and Surveys," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 7, 1895, 7.

[189] Miller, *Statesville and Iredell County Directory, 1909–1910*, vol. 2 (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1910); Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1930–1931* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1930); Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1940–1941* (Asheville, NC: Ernest H. Miller, 1941).

[190] Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.

[191] Michelle Harrison, "Years Erode South Side," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 27, 2003, 1.

[192] "Sunny-Side, South Statesville, Property of C. A. Stearns," October 1924 (Traced in 1933), Iredell County Register of Deeds, Plat Book 1, Page 95; "Jack Stearns, 51, is Laid to Rest," *Statesville Daily Record* March 16, 1950, P4; Michelle Harrison, "Years Erode South Side," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 27, 2003, 1.

[193] "School Houses and Lots at Auction," *Statesville Record and Landmark* December 30, 1920, 5.

[194] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 14).

[195] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1930–1931* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1930); "Negro is Fatally Stabbed in Fight Here Yesterday," *Statesville Daily Record* July 17, 1934, 1.

[196] Michelle Harrison, "Years Erode South Side," *Statesville Record and Landmark* September 27, 2003, 1.

About a mile north of the city center and across Kelly Creek, Rankintown (sometimes known as Rankinsville) is located along the east side of North Center Street, spreading across Brevard, Sylvia, Poplar, Hackett and Bingham streets.[197] The neighborhood existed by the start of the twentieth century when newspapers begin to mention it as "a colored settlement on the northern suburbs of Statesville."[198] Rankinsville Congregationalist Church, founded in 1907 and later known as Bethel Congregational (327 East Turner Street).[199] Another historical church was Gold Hill Baptist Church.[200] The population of the neighborhood in the 1930s and 1940s was about 180 people.[201] The city removed or demolished about a dozen homes in the 1940s to accommodate the construction of the all-white Statesville High School (474 North Center Street).[202] Today, there are about two dozen properties in Rankintown that were built prior to 1975.

Newtonville

To the west of Rankintown and a couple blocks from North Center Street was Newtonville. The neighborhood included West Bingham Street, North Mulberry Street, and a section of North Race Street, as well as several short streets. The neighborhood formed by 1897, and city directories through the 1930s refer to it as an African American settlement. There were about 130 people in Newtonville in the 1940s.[203] Statesville's school board, seeking to avoid integration, completed a new elementary school for Statesville's African Americans—Race Street Elementary (549 North Race Street)—in 1956.[204] By the mid-1970s, the city's urban renewal program considered Newtonville to be blighted and planned for its redevelopment. The neighborhood had about 110 structures and 99 families, including 24 white families who were displaced when their homes were razed in the mid-to-late 1970s.[205]

Poplar Branch

Settled by 1900, Poplar Branch is located about a mile-and-a-half west of downtown Statesville.[206] The neighborhood spans Woodruff, Secor, Miller, Church, and School Streets, an area south of two historic mills (both non-extant), Bloomfield Cotton Mill and Paola Cotton Mill. St. John Baptist (1438 Church Street) has been an anchor of the community since the early twentieth century. Poplar Branch had a graded school into the World War II years when the population was about 200 people.[207] The city paved the streets in the 1950s.[208] Poplar Branch remains a small neighborhood with about two dozen properties built prior to 1975.

---

[197] The neighborhood also appears as Rankin Town and Rankinsville. Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917).
[198] For example, see "Another Case of Smallpox," *Statesville Record and Landmark* January 20, 1903, 3.
[199] Miller, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1907–1908* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1908).
[200] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1930–1931* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1930).
[201] Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.
[202] "Contract Let for the New Statesville High School," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 23, 1942, 1; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56).
[203] Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.
[204] "New School Opens Monday," *Statesville Record and Landmark* March 10, 1956, 1.
[205] "Streets Permanently Closed," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 16, 1979, 10.
[206] The neighborhood is also known as Popular Branch. The earliest mention of the community is in a 1900 newspaper article. "Local," *The Statesville Mascot* December 27, 1900, 1.
[207] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1942–1943* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1943); Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.
[208] "Poplar Branch Paving Defined," *Statesville Daily Record* March 29, 1954, 5.

Belmont

About two miles east of downtown Statesville is the historically Black community of Belmont which came into existence along the Southern Railway corridor by the 1880s.[209] Love Methodist Episcopal Church was an early landmark in the community that later relocated to the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District to become Scott's Chapel UMC (316 Chambers Street). By the 1910s, Belmont had a small school and, by the 1930s, a couple grocery stores and a baseball park.[210] The population in 1940 was 260 people. A year later, Unity High School opened in the community to alleviate crowding at Morningside High in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. Unity served Black students in Belmont and the surrounding rural area.[211] Unity High closed with integration in 1969. Another important site in Belmont—Belmont Cemetery (2000 East Greenbriar Road)—opened after the Green Street Cemetery reached capacity in 1943.[212] Belmont is northeast of the intersection of Salisbury Road and Interstate 77, and today they area about 65 structures built prior to 1975.

Old Field

About a mile-and-a-half south of the center of downtown Statesville at the end of 7th Street is another historical African American neighborhood known as Old Field. The neighborhood, lying outside of the Statesville city limits up to the present, began to appear in city directories in the early 1930s. There were about 100 people living in the community by 1940. There was an all-Black graded school known as Rocky Knoll (162 Wallace Springs Road) until 1951. The school remains standing along with another landmark, Gray Chapel Congregational Church (1715 Lynwood Drive). There are about two dozen structures in Old Field that were built prior to 1975.[213]

In Comparison: Garfield and Green Streets Historic District

Statesville's Black neighborhoods have several historical similarities. All appeared in the decades following the Civil War, when African Americans settled in Statesville as it evolved into a transportation and manufacturing center. Along with residences, these neighborhoods typically included a church or two, a few businesses, and, in some instances, a small school for neighborhood children. All developed in the context of segregation which limited where African Americans could settle.

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District, however, differed from its historical counterparts in notable ways. In terms of size, the district was the largest of all the neighborhoods. Although specific population figures for the neighborhood are not available, historic maps and aerial photography demonstrate that the district had more density and larger streetscapes. The district today includes a greater number of historic properties than its counterparts due to size and also the fact that the district did not suffer extensive losses due to urban renewal. The district contains the most important sites in Statesville's Black history, places which hold prominence to Black people in Statesville and outlying areas. The Green Street Cemetery held importance to Black people beyond the district because it was the only place in Statesville where Black

[209] "Not a Cat, But John Pendleton," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* June 6, 1889, 3.
[210] "County School Board Meets," *The Statesville Sentinel* October 4, 1917, 1.
[211] Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.
[212] "Patrolman Thomas Gets Nite Capt. Rank," *Statesville Daily Record* September 4, 1943, 1; Reese and Taylor, "Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research," 3–10.
[213] Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1930–1931* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1930); Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953); Reese, "Iredell Library Branches Hosting Black History Month Events," 2024.

people, including those from Rabbittown, Newtonville, Poplar Branch, and elsewhere, could be buried until the 1940s when it reached capacity. Public educational institutions—the original Colored Grade School (later called Morningside School and Morningside Elementary) and Morningside High School (later known as Alan D. Rutherford High School)—served Black students from the late nineteenth century into the early 1970s. Moreover, the privately-funded Billingsley Academy educated students from 1906 through the 1930s. Similar to schools, several of the District's Black churches were large and influential, drawing congregants from across the city. They include First Baptist Church (464 Garfield Street), Center Street AME Zion (537 South Center Street), and Calvary Presbyterian Church (500 South Green Street), drew congregants from across Statesville. The district was home to working class people like other Black neighborhoods, but middle- and upper-class Black people—including teachers, principals, physicians, businesspeople, and religious leaders—were especially prominent in Garfield and Green Streets. Along with their families, they left a discernible legacy on the city's history.

Architectural Narrative

Written by Susan V. Mayer

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District is located southeast of the Statesville Downtown Central Business Area and two blocks east of the Academy Hill Historic District (NRHP 1980). The district is bounded at the north by a tributary of Fourth Creek, at the west by S. Center Street and Shelton Avenue, at the south by the Norfolk Southern Railroad, and at the east by Old Salisbury Road. The surveyed area comprises 95 acres and contains approximately 250 parcels and 139 contributing primary resources built through 1973. The district is largely residential with commercial properties at its west edge near S. Center Street.

Of the 176 primary resources identified in the district, 139 (79%) were determined as contributing due to integrity of design and historic association. Contributing resources are primarily residential buildings but also include religious, educational, and recreational buildings and sites. Residential resources were constructed between ca. 1890 and 1973 and include examples of traditional/vernacular, Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Period Revival, Minimal Traditional, and Ranch styles. Religious resources are primarily churches, with four extant resources in the district still utilized by active congregations. The oldest, Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church, dates to ca. 1903 and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. The other three were built ca. 1957 to 1973 and are Minimal Traditional with Colonial Revival detail or Modernist in style. Commercial resources date from ca. 1925 to ca. 1962 and are generally Vernacular Commercial in design.

There are few outbuildings in the district. Of the 22 outbuildings that were inventoried, over half (15) were garages for residential buildings. Other contributing secondary resources include two sheds, a basketball court, an athletic field, a concession stand, a pavilion, and a bathroom building. A number of prefabricated metal carports and frame sheds were observed in the district; these were not inventoried separately but are mentioned in the associated resource entry.

Four sites were identified and inventoried in the district. The oldest and most prominent of these is the Green Street Cemetery (S. Green Street), established in 1886 as the Black burial ground in Statesville. Adjacent to the cemetery to the north is a vacant parcel which served as a potter's field (Green Street Potter's Field, east of 611 S. Green Street). Garfield Park (409 Garfield Street) was developed in the 1950s with a recreation center, swimming pool, and basketball court. The recreation center and swimming pool are no longer extant, but the park remains a key site within the district with the addition of a ca. 2011 pavilion and bathroom building. The location of the private Presbyterian school Billingsley Memorial Academy (541 S. Green Street), which was later occupied by the congregation of Broad Street Presbyterian Church, is identified as a contributing site. While the two-story-with-basement brick building was demolished ca. 1972 when adjacent Calvary Presbyterian Church was built, the site holds special significance for the district.

The S. Elm Street Bridge (S. Elm Street) is the only contributing primary structure in the district. Located at the south edge and carrying S. Elm Street over the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks, the bridge connected the schools, churches, and residents of the district with Black neighborhoods south of the railroad tracks.

The topography of the district is marked by rolling hills, with the highest point at the intersection of Garfield and South Green Streets. This location is considered the historic core of the district, which was central to

educational, commercial, recreational, civic, and religious activity of Statesville's Black community. Most parcels with residential resources have mature trees. The district has a mix of two-lane streets with curbs and sidewalks and streets without curbs and sidewalks. The majority of resources in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District are single-family or duplex dwellings densely grouped and sited near the street with small front yards on lots approximately 0.25 acres or less in size.

A number of vacant lots, approximately 87, are interspersed throughout the district. Many vacant lots previously had buildings which have been demolished in recent years; however, many vacant lots were never developed and share ownership with adjacent parcels with extant resources. A concentration of vacant lots, most of which formerly had buildings and are historically considered within the boundaries of the district, are found along the north and south edges of the district. Pertinent information about vacant lots will be noted in inventory entries.

Residential buildings comprise the majority of resources in the district. The most common architectural type in the district is traditional/vernacular dwellings. These are typically one-story in height, front gabled, and of frame construction with a full-width front porch and little historic ornamentation. These common house types are either ca. 1925-ca. 1950 single-family dwellings or ca. 1941-ca. 1959 duplexes with two centrally placed front doors side by side. Several older dwellings dating to ca. 1910 or earlier follow the I-house form. Many resources are built in the Craftsman style, with many of these being side-gabled one-and-a-half story dwellings or one-story vernacular buildings with typical Craftsman stylistic features applied, including tapered square columns on brick piers, exposed rafter tails, dormers, or three or four-over-one wood sash windows. Some examples of the American Foursquare plan are extant. Period Revival Cottages with Tudor Revival detail dwellings are largely concentrated on South Green Street. After World War II, traditional/vernacular houses continued to be built, but Minimal Traditional and Ranch houses were also constructed as a mix of infill development by later generations of residents or replacement of older, smaller buildings. An influx of new construction from the late twentieth century and early twenty-first century is apparent, with these one-story and two-story frame dwellings reflecting the traditional/vernacular style, though larger in scale, found in the district. Many emulate Craftsman-style buildings, with tapered square columns on brick piers.

The historic integrity of architecture of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District is largely intact. Many residential resources have had original materials replaced or covered—vinyl replacement windows and vinyl siding likely over wood weatherboard or asbestos shingle siding is a common alteration. New porch materials, including columns, deck, and railing, are also common. Brick pier foundation construction was common for resources built before 1945, and many resources have had brick or concrete masonry unit infill, some with stucco, to close crawlspaces. There are a number of residential resources in deteriorated or even ruinous condition, though some of these buildings were undergoing renovation at the time of field survey. Many of these have been purchased by LLCs for rental properties. The grouping of one-story frame dwellings at the corner of Chambers and Harrison Streets (202-220 Chambers Street) were at varying stages of renovation at the time of survey. Some showed wood weatherboard siding being covered with vinyl siding and standing seam metal roofing replaced with asphalt shingles.

Ownership of residential resources in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District historically was a mix of Black owner-occupant, Black owned-tenant occupant, and white owned-Black tenant occupant. The

architectural style of these resources reflected ownership status, as tenant-occupied dwellings are typically traditional/vernacular in form and include a number of duplexes and other multi-family occupancies. Black owner-occupied residences tend to reflect the architectural trends of the period in which they were built. These are largely located along the 200-block of Garfield Street and 600-block of South Green Street, the latter known as "Teacher's Row." A large number of resources were found to have multiple generations of family ownership and/or occupancy.

Development History

The Garfield and Green Streets Historic District developed from the Garfield and South Green Street intersection and along the railroad tracks. The Green Street Cemetery (S. Elm Street) was established in 1886. Two years earlier, trustees of Emmaus Baptist Church, later renamed First Baptist Church, purchased a parcel and built a sanctuary (no longer extant). Adjacent to the south was the Colored Graded School (no longer extant). The oldest extant buildings are found near the intersection of South Elm Street and Chambers Street at the eastern edge of the district near the railroad tracks—the ca. 1890 Sanford Adams House (692 S. Elm Street), the ca. 1894 Daniel and Catherine B. Baucom House (423 Chambers Street), and the ca. 1894 Thomas G. and Gertrude G. Biddings House (401 Chambers Street).

Colored Folks' Opportunity

The Mrs. M. A. Tomlin property, near colored graded school property in Statesville, has been plotted and mapped into 83 building lots, with streets and avenues, and will be sold to the colored folks for cash, or small cash payments and balance on installment plan.

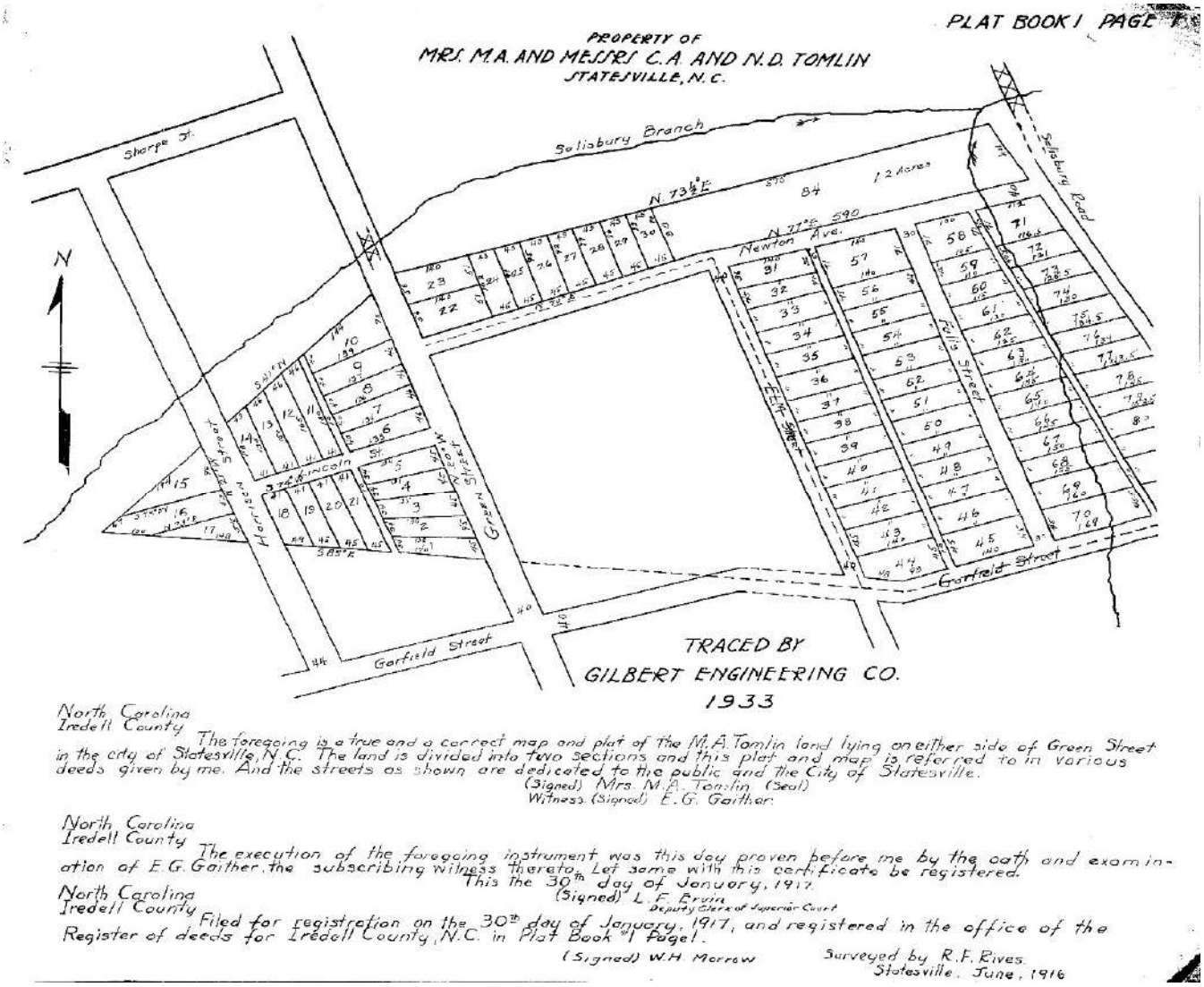
The chance of a lifetime to secure a centrally located lot on easy terms and become the owner of a home. For further information call on or write.

ERNEST G. GAITHER, GENERAL INSURANCE, RENTALS AND REAL ESTATE.
PHONE 23. OFFICE NO. 1, MILLS BUILDING.

Figure 18 ***Statesville Record and Landmark*****, August 1, 1916.**

Preceding the period of historic significance, most of the property comprising the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District was owned by a small number of white persons. Into the early twentieth century, these large parcels were platted and sold to a mix of Black and white buyers. Mary C. Bell is the earliest seller of land to Black buyers in the 1870s. Her property lay along the railroad tracks and north along South Elm and South Green Streets and included the tract which became the Green Street Cemetery. The first plat filed with Iredell County was the property of Mrs. M. A. Tomlin. In 1917 she subdivided land north of Garfield Street surrounding Billingsley Memorial Academy, which she had sold to its trustees in 1901. Eighty-four parcels of approximately 0.2 acres were purchased by many Black residents.[214]

[214] Iredell County Plat Book 1, Page 1; Iredell County Grantor Index to Deeds (From Formation to Dec. 31, 1923), Book B, Pages 129-135; Iredell County Grantor Index to Deeds (From Formation to Dec. 31, 1923), Book T, Pages 282-284; Iredell County Grantor Index to Deeds (From Jan. 1, 1924 to Dec. 31, 1963), Book T, Page 23.



The historic core of the area at the intersection of Garfield and South Green Streets was central to educational, commercial, recreational, civic, and religious activity of Statesville's Black community. Extant contributing educational resources are Morningside High School (410 Garfield Street) and the Morningside School Annex (611 S. Green Street). The former resource was the site of the original Morningside School, and a historic marker commemorates its significance. Garfield Park (409 Garfield Street) is located across from Morningside High School. The park has provided recreational activities to the neighborhood since 1954, though the gymnasium and swimming pool are no longer extant.

Four churches are located within the district. The oldest extant church is ca. 1903 Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church (NR 1980, 537 S. Center Street), located at the western edge of the district at the northeast corner of South Center and Garfield Streets. First Baptist Church (464 Garfield Street) constructed the extant Modernist facility in 1967, relocating from its original location at the intersection of Garfield and South Green Streets (not extant, 301 Garfield Street) to the eastern edge of the district. Presbyterian churches in the neighborhood, including Tradd Street Presbyterian Church (not extant, 538 S. Tradd Street), merged to form Calvary Presbyterian Church (531 S. Green Street) which built its extant facility in 1973 adjacent to the

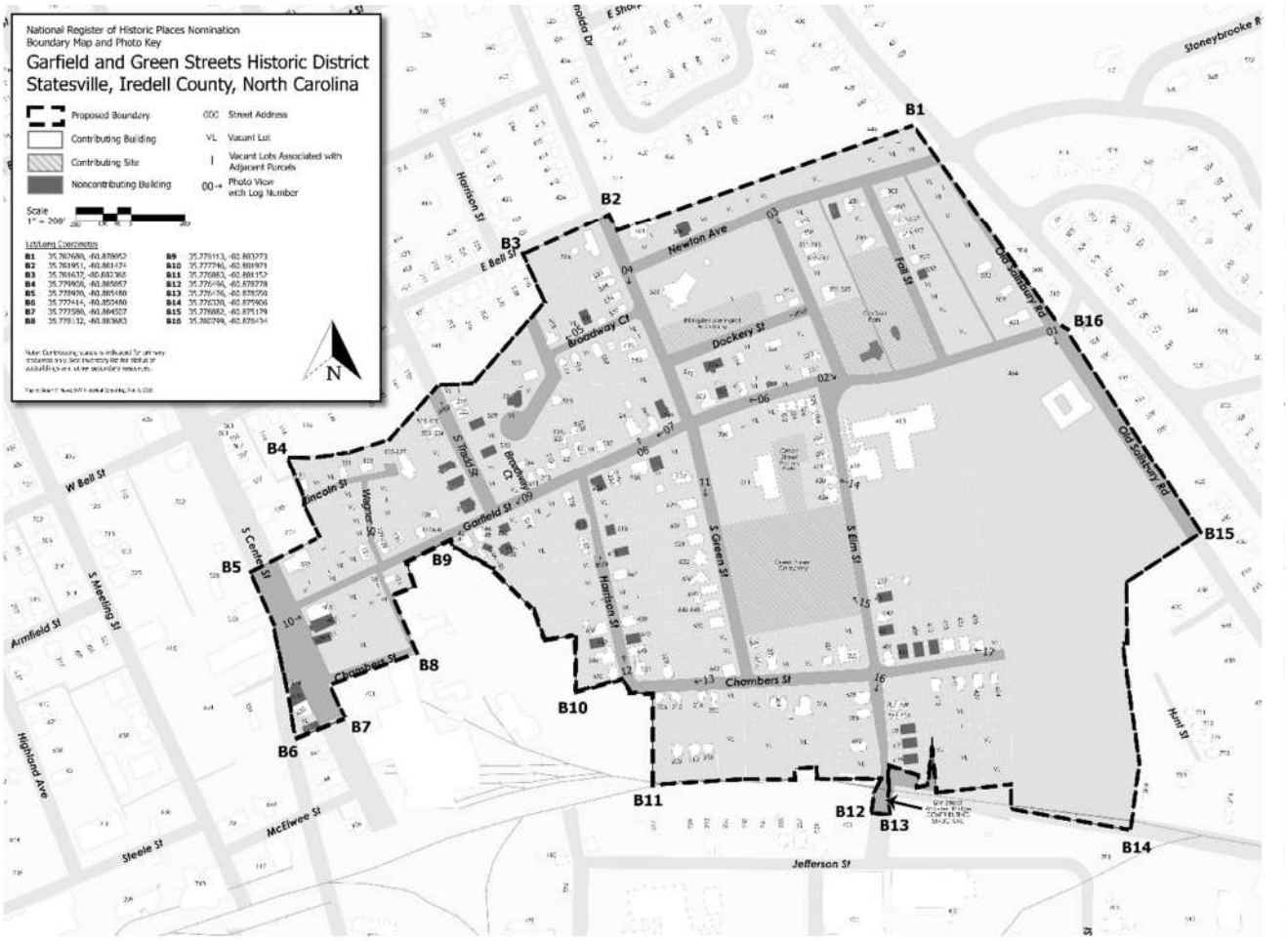
former site of Billingsley Memorial Academy (S. Green Street, contributing site). Lastly, Scotts Chapel Methodist Church (316 Chambers Street) at the southern edge of the district relocated to its current building in 1957 from the southwest corner of Chambers and S. Elm Street (vacant lot, east of 206-220 Chambers Street).

Small businesses including grocers, barbers, and lunch counters were scattered throughout the district, though few of these resources are extant. The best example is the Littlejohn Duplex (142-144 Garfield Street), which housed Littlejohn's Café, Littlejohn's Barber Shop, a dentist office, and real estate office in the 1920s. The primary business district was located at the western edge of the district south of the Garfield Street intersection of South Center Street, which terminated at the original site of the Statesville Depot. Extant commercial resources date from 1925 into the 1960s and include Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary (603 S. Center Street), the Holliday Building (609-611 S. Center Street, noncontributing), and Iredell Credit Union (634 S. Center Street, noncontributing). Nearby are Rankin's Barber Shop (131 Garfield Street) and Econ-O-Wash Laundromat (126 Garfield Street), which developed in the 1950s and 1960s.

The most prominent professional occupation in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District was in the funerary industry, and many commercial and residential resources have historical significance in this area. The oldest operating mortuary is Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary (603 S. Center Street), founded in 1922 by St. Charles Rutledge (423 Chambers Street) and Gadson Bigham. Descendants of the Bigham family still operate the business, and many resources in the district are connected with them. Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home (206 Garfield Street) operated in this location from 1943 until 1972, when they moved to the former Morningside School Annex (611 S. Green Street). The business opened in 1933 and occupied the Katie Golden House (662 S. Green Street) in its initial years.

Residents of the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District also provided professional and specialty services to their Black neighbors, as segregation impeded or prevented access to white facilities. Medical providers included physician Dr. Robert S. Holliday (241 Garfield Street) and dentist Dr. Blair A. Abernathy (622 S. Green Street), whose practice was located in the Holliday Building (609-611 S. Center Street, noncontributing). Zera Spann (650 Harrison Street) was a trained nurse, and the home of Jane Abernathy Conner and Daisy Conner Robinson (249 Garfield Street, noncontributing) served as the "colored ward" of Davis Hospital. Susie Adams Gillespie operated a rest home for Black elders in her home (123 Lincoln Street) until constructing Gillespie's Rest Home (125-127 Lincoln Street) next door ca. 1962.

Architectural Inventory



The district includes all or portions of Broadway Court, S. Center Street, Chambers Street, Dockery Street, S. Elm Street, Falls Street, Garfield Street, S. Green Street, Harrison Street, Lincoln Street, Newton Avenue, Old Salisbury Road, S. Tradd Street, and Wagner Street. Resource addresses were determined by the address number observed on the property during field work; Iredell County property records may provide a different number.

Building names and dates of construction were determined using information from Iredell County property records, Sanborn maps, Statesville city directories, and aerial imagery and photographs. Sources for aerial imagery include the Iredell County Library (aerial photography dating from ca. 1940 to 1955), Historic Aerials (1956, 1965, 1983, 1998, and 2002), and the Iredell County Tax Map (1993 and 2006).[215] As the

[215] Aerial shots (n.d.), Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/albums/72157632533769131/with/8385902569, accessed May 1, 2025; Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8394353887/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025; Historic

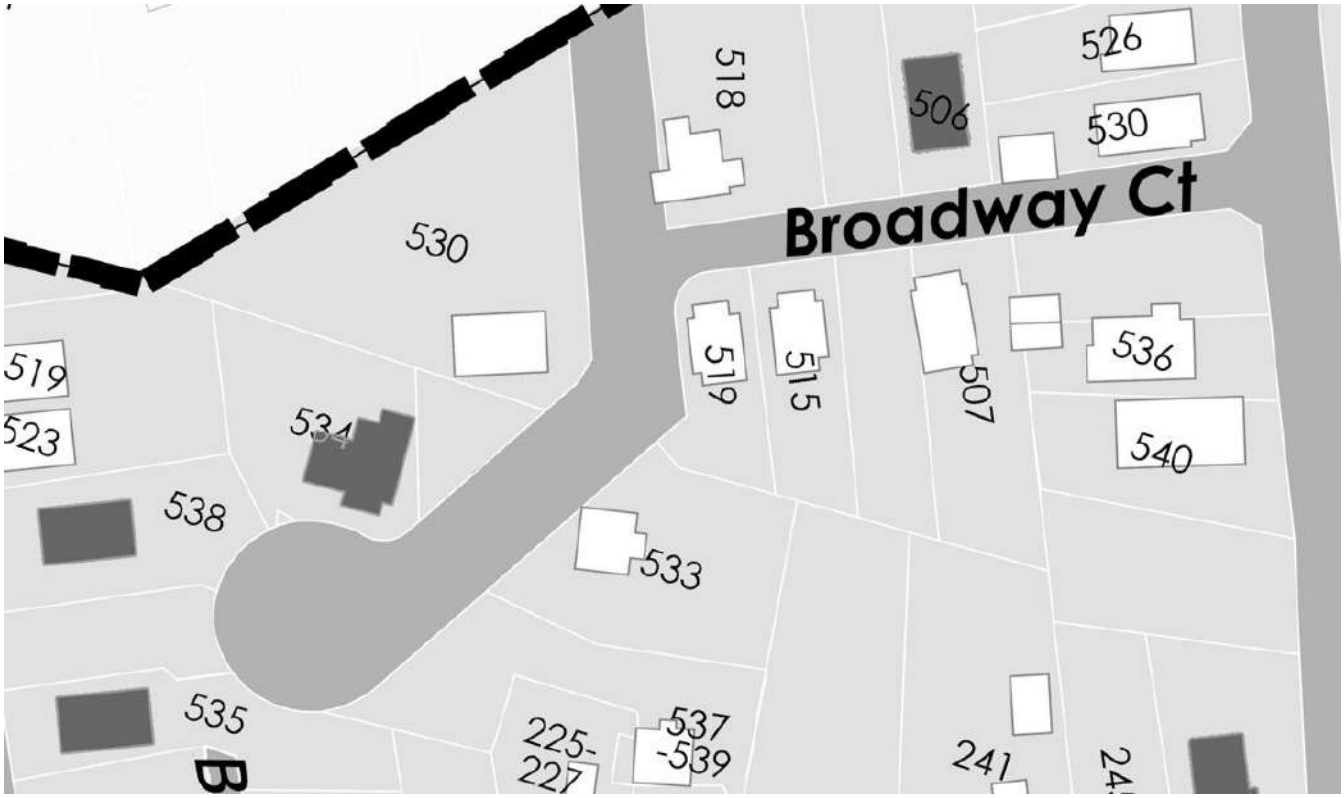
district had a larger number of tenants residing in dwellings, deed research was necessary to determine ownership and assign names. Some resources were home to long-term renters and are named accordingly.

All contributing resources were constructed during the period of significance, 1886 to 1973 and retain sufficient integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to contribute to the historic character of the district. Material changes made to buildings do not automatically disqualify a resource as contributing, and these may be considered contributing if made during the period of significance. Common material changes in the district include the installation of asbestos, aluminum, or vinyl siding over wood weatherboard; replacement of metal or composite roofing with asphalt shingles; replacement doors and windows; construction of rear additions; and enclosure of side or rear porches. While these changes in combination may render a property noncontributing, a building is contributing if it retains its original form, fenestration, and character-defining architectural features. Major aesthetic or structural alterations made after the period of significance may deem a resource to be noncontributing. These changes may include the enclosing or alteration of porches; large additions visible from the street; and changes to notable architectural features (i.e. dormers). For example, the ca. 1929 Bradshaw House (534 Broadway Court) was determined to be noncontributing due to a ca. 1998 gabled addition to the west elevation along the façade. Likewise, while the ca. 1914 White Blackwell House (242 Garfield Street) retains its form, fenestration, and historical pressed tin shingle roof, the nearly full-width shed porch was enclosed ca. 1999, altering its character. The replacement of windows and doors, installation of vinyl siding, roof replacement, and parged foundations do not disqualify a resource from consideration as contributing. A pair of 1956 duplexes at 511-513 S. Elm Street and 515-517 S. Elm Street represent this evaluation. Both have replacement windows and doors but differ in their exterior sheathing—the former has original wood German siding and the latter is sheathed with vinyl siding over most of the original wood German siding. However, both were deemed contributing because the mass, general appearance, and fenestration patterns were retained.

Outbuilding dates are estimates based on information from property records and field observation of forms and materials. Foliage and small-scale lots with buildings located relatively close together hindered the documentation and evaluation of outbuildings that were not visible from the public rights-of-way. Outbuildings which were not counted as resources include those considered to be temporary (prefabricated sheds and carports) or were largely visible on aerial photos or Google Street View; they are described in the inventory entries.

Aerials by NetrOnline, https://www.historicaerials.com, accessed May 5, 2025; Iredell County, North Carolina: MapGeo, https://iredellcountync.mapgeo.io/datasets/properties?abuttersDistance=100&latlng=35.782018%2C-80.88281, accessed May 5, 2025.

Broadway Court



Broadway Court underwent numerous name changes and layouts over the years. It was originally platted as Lincoln Street as shown on the Mrs. M. A. Tomlin plat filed in 1917. The 1925 Sanborn map shows the street as Harrison Street. Harrison Street expanded and curved down to Garfield Street as an alleyway, intersecting with then-Walker Street (today Harrison Street). The extant configuration of Broadway Court with cul-de-sac was made in 1986 as part of the Garfield Community Redevelopment Project. This severed the connection with the portion intersecting Garfield Street, although one property (564 Broadway Court) retains a Broadway Court address.[216]

[216] Iredell County Map Book 1, Page 1; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 19, Page 15.

House, ca. 2022
Noncontributing Building
506 Broadway Court
A one-story L-shaped dwelling is shown here on the 1950 Sanborn map. It was demolished between 1983 and 1993 according to aerial imagery.

This one-story, front-gabled, frame house is built on a masonry foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The half-width, gabled porch has vinyl board and batten siding and square section wood posts on a concrete slab floor.

Gladys Houston Owens White Alexander House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
507 Broadway Court

The house first appears on the 1925 Sanborn map. Gladys Houston Owens purchased the property in 1944, and the house remains in the family. She was a graduate of Morningside High School and worked as a domestic for private families, including William Allison, Sr. and Jack and Paulette Harris. She married three times—William Earl Owens in 1936, Ray Wood White in 1946, and William Floyd Alexander in 1970.[217]

This one-story frame house is built on a stuccoed masonry foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding. The hipped roof has asphalt shingles. It was under renovation at the time of field work in June 2024, and all windows were covered with plywood. Google Streetview imagery from June 2022 shows the house previously had a hipped dormer with a pair of 4-lite square wood sash windows and wrought iron railings and supports at the porch. The full-width hipped porch has new wood square section posts, decking, and railing with horizontal planking around the crawlspace.

[217] T. E. Allison, Jr., "News of Statesville Colored People," *Statesville Record*, May 29, 1936; Iredell County Indexed Register of Marriages Vol. S-Z, Page 178; "Marriage Licenses," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 20, 1970; "Gladys Alexander," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 18, 2013.

House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
515 Broadway Court

Junius McClelland purchased lot 19 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1916. A building does not appear on Sanborn maps until 1925, by which time Dr. Robert S. Holliday and Mary C. Holliday were owners. The Hollidays were granted a building permit in June 1925 to construct a "one-story frame dwelling on Lincoln street, estimated cost $850."[218]

This one-story house is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill and is sheathed in vinyl siding. The front-gabled roof has standing seam metal roofing. The site slopes from the rear to the street, and the shed-roofed porch foundation is tall with square section wood posts, decking, and railing. Wood steps approach from the east side. The porch is centered on the façade, which is two bays wide with a wood replacement door with storm door and typical two-over-two wood-sash windows with metal frame storm windows. A brick chimney rises through the ridge in the middle.

[218] *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 11, 1925.

William Harrison and Grace Wood Scott House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
518 Broadway Court

William Harrison Scott and Grace Wood Scott purchased lots 13 and 14 of the M. A. Tomlin property in November 1928. The house may have been extant as Mary Sherrill was listed as residing at 249 Lincoln Street in the 1925-1926 Statesville city directory. Harrison worked as a porter at Statesville Inn. The property remained in the family until 2013.

The Scott House is a one-and-a-half-story frame house with clipped front-gabled roof and Craftsman-style detailing. The site slopes sharply from the street to the rear of the parcel, and the house is built on brick foundation. It is sheathed vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. A hipped one-story porch at the west elevation has square section posts on brick piers and wood decking and railing. The façade is three bays wide. The first bay has a typical one-over-one vinyl replacement window with wood pergola supported by a square section post on brick pier. The second bay has a pair of typical windows in the gable and the entry porch, to which the pergola is connected. The clipped-gable porch has square section wood posts on brick piers and replacement door with storm door. The third bay has a typical window. A hipped wing at the east elevation is stepped back from the façade and has a pair of windows on the south and east elevations. A brick chimney extends through the roof at the west elevation. A gabled ell extends from the rear and has a wood porch at its east elevation.

House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
519 Broadway Court

Junius McClelland purchased lot 18 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1921. A building does not appear on Sanborn maps until 1925, by which time Dr. Robert Holliday and Mary Holliday owned the property. They were granted a building permit in June 1925 to construct a "one-story frame dwelling on Lincoln street, estimated cost $850."[219] The Hollidays owned numerous rental properties in the neighborhood.

Similar to 515 Broadway Court but with higher integrity, this one-story frame house is built on stuccoed masonry foundation and is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding. The front-gabled roof has standing seam metal. Typical windows are two-over-two wood sash. The site slopes from the rear to street, and the shed porch has a tall stuccoed foundation with concrete steps to the wood plank deck. Square section wood posts have solid railing with beaded weatherboard siding. The mid-century three-lite door has an aluminum storm door.

[219] *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 11, 1925.

Leach-Houston House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
530 Broadway Court

Florie Leach purchased lots 15-17 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1921. The house appears on the 1925 Sanborn map, and Leach was listed in the 1925-1926 Statesville city directory as living at 530 Harrison Street. She operated a boarding house there in 1930, with boarders including Thomas Jones, a Black man from Canada who she married. Flora died in 1931. The property was bank-owned until 1951, when Howard Andrew Houston, Jr. purchased it from his father's estate. The Houston family had lived in the house as early as 1938-1939. Howard Sr. owned a pressing club. Lois Chambers Houston was a sister of Gladys Houston Owens White, who lived at 507 Broadway Court. Howard Jr. worked for the Public Service Gas Company and died of a heart attack at age 45. His wife Mabel Steele Houston was a charter member of the Nicotiana Flower Club and retired from Bernhardt Furniture Company. According to deed records, the family still owns the house.

The Leach-Houston House is a one-and-a-half-story Craftsman-style frame house built on brick pier foundation. It is sheathed in asbestos shingle siding, though wood weatherboard siding is visible at the rear southwest corner and has a standing seam metal roof. The façade is three bays wide with an engaged porch. The porch has a concrete floor and battered wood posts on brick piers with metal railing. The replacement door with storm door is flanked by typical three-over-one Craftsman wood sash windows. A shed dormer is centered in the façade and has a trio of square windows. A flat-roofed wood frame carport is located north of the house.

House, ca. 1962
Contributing Building
533 Broadway Court

This flat-roofed house is constructed of concrete masonry units. It has a mix of original one-over-one aluminum windows and one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. A paired window on the façade has a metal awning, and the concrete porch is sheltered by an extension of the roof overhead.

Roberta Reid Johnson Bradshaw House, ca. 1929
Noncontributing Building
534 Broadway Court

Pearl Monroe and Roberta Reid Johnson purchased lot 10 of the Flora Lewis property in 1929. Pearl, who worked as a cook at Gray's Café, died two years later. Roberta married William Bradshaw in 1943. She worked as a domestic for private families, most notably the Henkel family for 26 years. Roberta died in 1997 aged 95. The family retains ownership of the house.[220]

The Bradshaw House is a one-story frame Craftsman-style house built on brick foundation. It is sheathed in aluminum siding and has an asphalt shingle roof with a clipped gable at the façade. A clipped gable porch has a concrete floor and is supported by wrought iron posts on brick piers with wrought iron railings. There are two typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows flanking the front door. A ca. 1998 gabled ell extends along the façade from the west elevation and has a pair of typical windows. A brick chimney rises through the ridge at the middle of the primary mass. A gabled wood frame shed is located west of the house.

[220] Susan V. Mayer and Nick Linville interview with Vernon Keaton, Jr., June 18, 2024.

House, 2024
Noncontributing Building
535 Broadway Court

This one-story front-gabled house was under construction by Habitat for Humanity at the time of survey in September 2024. The Craftsman-style house is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The hipped porch has brick piers and battered wood posts. Windows are six-over-one vinyl sash with pairs flanking the front entry. An entrance on the north elevation has brick-topped concrete stoop with a small shed roof extension. A plywood-sheathed gabled shed is located west of the house.

Duplex, ca. 1950
Contributing Building
537-539 Broadway Court

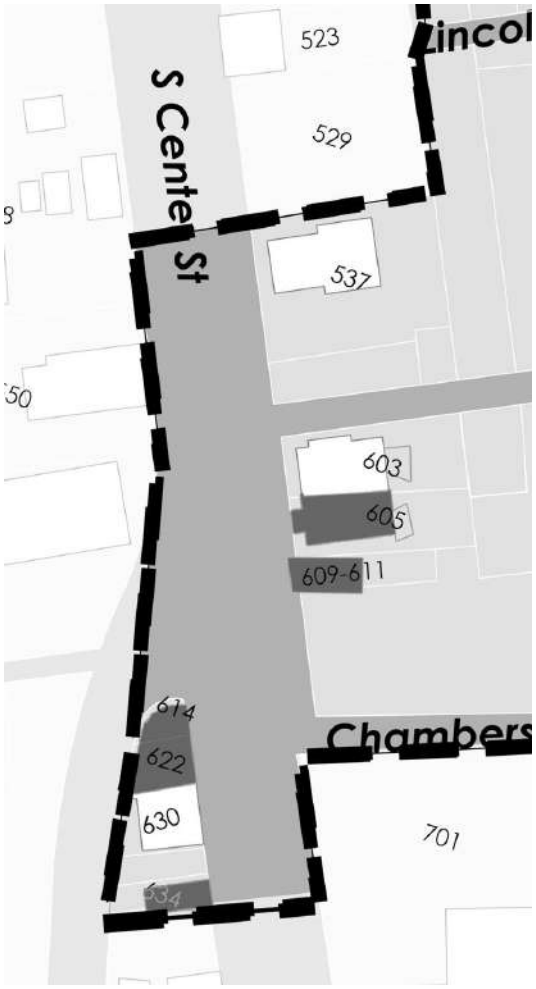
This two-story duplex is constructed of stuccoed concrete masonry blocks. The side-gabled roof has asphalt shingles, no eaves, and wood siding with small louvered vents in the gables. On the north elevation, wood stairs lead to a wood deck at the second level with a gabled porch over the upper unit entry. The stairs and deck, built after June 2022, replaced wood stairs running along the façade to a small wood porch under a shed roof. The lower unit entry is on the west elevation. Typical windows are one-over-one replacement vinyl with a mix of six-over-six vinyl sash.

House, 2024
Noncontributing Building
538 Broadway Court
Front-gabled house currently under construction by Habitat for Humanity. Hipped porch has brick piers, though posts were not installed as of survey date September 2024.

House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
564 Broadway Court

This one-story side-gabled house is located north of 211 Garfield Street along what was once a continuation of Broadway Court. The frame building is constructed on a stuccoed brick foundation and is sheathed in weatherboard siding with asphalt shingle roofing. Typical windows are one-over-one wood sash. The shed porch has wood decking and square section wood posts and railing. The wood steps approach the porch from the north side. A gabled ell extends from the north bay of the rear elevation.

Center Street, South



Center Street AME Zion Church, 1903, ca. 1930, ca. 1980
Previously Listed
537 S. Center Street

Center Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is the oldest building associated with a Black congregation within Statesville. Constructed in 1903, it is the congregation's third home on the site. Antebellum church rolls list numerous Black communicants attending the services of the white dominated congregations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Shortly after the Civil War, Black members withdrew and established their own congregations. Black Methodists in Statesville, led by Sidney S. Murdock and Alfred Bailey, organized a congregation known as Mt. Pleasant in 1868 or 1869. Murdock, who served as pastor to the congregation until 1886, donated a lot on South Center Street within the historically Black community known as Depot Hill. The group became aligned with the AME Zion denomination, and the name of the church became known as Center Street.[221]

The exterior of the church was described by historian Laura A. W. Phillips in the 1980 nomination for the National Register of Historic Places.

> The late Gothic Revival common bond brick church is three bays wide, seven bays deep, and has a steep gable roof covered with pressed tin. The brickwork detail is quite elaborate. The front boasts two corner entrance towers of unequal height. The south tower is the larger of the two with three stages. The first stage has two pointed-arch entrances. The second and third stages contain pairs of

[221] Laura A. W. Phillips, Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church, National Register of Historic Places Nomination (1980).

pointed-arch louvered vents [note: now infilled with vinyl siding] on each face. Corbelled brick string courses and brick corner stiles define each stage. The tower is topped by projecting corbelled corners with pyramidal finials. The north tower is smaller with only two stages: a smaller pointed-arch door at the base and only one louvered vent per face on the second level. Above the corbelled cornice is a pyramidal roof.

A large, pointed arch stained-glass window is the central feature of the lively facade. Above this window and near the peak of the gable is a round window with a Star of David muntin design. On either side of the large stained-glass window are unusual lozenge-shaped projections in the brickwork. The façade has a brick string course about one-third of the way up the wall, and a brick corbelled cornice matching that used on the towers outlines the gable.

The side elevations exhibit pointed-arch stained-glass windows with brick arched labels and brick pilasters between windows. A brick and cinderblock addition is attached to the rear of the building.[222]

[222] Phillips, 2.

The rear elevation of the church shows the nave gable intersecting the hipped transect roof. The gable has hexagonal wood shingle siding. Two additions extend from the rear. A two-story shed addition was made to the east elevation of the church between 1925 and 1930 according to Sanborn maps. It is sheathed in common bond brick. The roof, which intersects the primary roof about halfway up its run, is hipped at the north and has a gable with vinyl siding likely installed in the 1980s at the south. Its rear elevation has one-over-one windows at the lower level in the first bay and upper level in the second bay over a six-panel replacement door which enters into the basement. The north elevation has a one-over-one window in the upper level and a two-lite window in the basement.

A brick and concrete masonry unit two-story addition was likely made at this time, as it first appears on aerial imagery in 1983. The addition is shed roofed and starts at the eave of the primary mass. It has one-over-one windows centered in the east and south elevations at the upper level. A six-panel door is at the basement entry at the north elevation. A concrete paved area with concrete masonry unit retaining wall has concrete steps and wrought iron railings to the paved parking lot on the adjacent parcel to the south.

The church underwent a rigorous restoration program in 1980-1981 led by pastor Dr. M. L. Newman, noted as a "church architect and builder who serves at AME Zion churches while they are being restored or rebuilt."[223] A local newspaper interview with Dr. Newman provided a thorough description of the renovations. The foundation of the building was reinforced with new concrete block walls in the basement, which was accessed by new, safer stairways. The exterior brick was sandblasted, and mortar was repointed. New metal roofing was installed where older materials had failed. The bell tower and belfry were reconditioned, and the bell was restored to working order. The interior walls were plastered.[224]

[223] Sandra McHale, "Site Named Landmark: Center Street Church Restored," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 1, 1980.
[224] McHale, "Restored."

Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary, 1966
Contributing Building
603 S. Center Street

Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary has a high associative history as the oldest operating business in the district. The funerary industry offered one of the few professional paths open to Black persons during segregation. The mortuary is also architecturally significant as a well-preserved Modernist commercial building, and both the exterior and interior retain a high degree of integrity of materials and design.

St. Charles Rutledge and Gadson G. Bigham, Sr. founded Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary Service in 1921. The two men met while attending mortuary school in Washington, D. C. The company opened for business in a small frame building at 109 Garfield Street, and moved into one side of the Eureka Building, owned by the Statesville Masonic Lodge in 1925.[225] Gadson Bigham, Sr. died in 1934, and his widow Mary B. Bigham joined Rutledge operating the business. Rutledge suffered a stroke in the 1950s, and Mary, Gadson, Jr., and Marie Rutledge continued to maintain the business. Mary became sole owner of Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary in 1963. The following year, the Woods property at the corner of Garfield and Center Streets was acquired. Statesville architect Tom H. Hutchins was contracted to design the new facility to contain a chapel, offices, casket selection room, and apartment. The new facility was dedicated in October 1966.[226] Louise B. Moton, daughter of Gadson and Mary Bigham, joined the staff as a part-time employee in 1961. She received her funeral director's license in 1963 and graduated from Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science in 1972. Upon

[225] "Rutledge Rites Are Set Friday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 10, 1963.
[226] "Funeral Home," illustration, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 28, 1966; "Funeral Home Dedication Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 15, 1966.

the death of Mary B. Bigham in 1980, Margaret B. Booker, Charles W. Brown, and Louise B. Moton became the joint owners of Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary, Inc.[227]

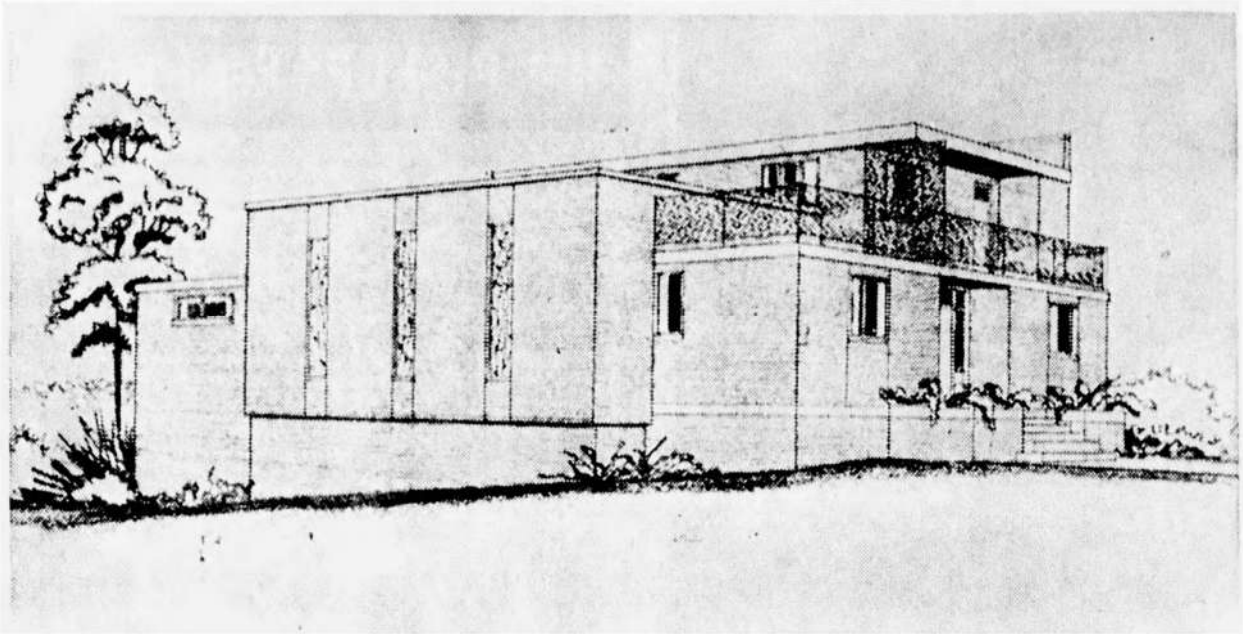


Figure 19 Sketch by architect Tom H. Hutchins of the proposed Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 28, 1966.

Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary is located at southeast corner of Garfield Street and South Center Street. The site slopes down from south edge of the parcel to the north, creating a three-story section at rear. The building is sited at the western end of the parcel, and there is an asphalt parking lot comprising the remaining two-thirds of the parcel. The modernist building is two stories with a basement opening at the east elevation and has flat roofs. Running bond brick veneer is utilized in three colors--red as primary, yellow brick at the chapel and detail on the façade, and brown brick at the chapel foundation. The façade is three bays wide. The main level has a recessed entry approached by concrete stairs and porch with typical metal railing with mesh panels. Double-leaf doors have full lites with transom and south sidelight. The two flanking bays have two-lite horizontal windows above contrasting yellow brick. Signage is located in the first bay with a granite cornerstone is at the northwest corner. The third bay has a solid metal door with transom; stairs with wrought iron railing approach from the sidewalk. Sidewalks and stairs are covered with artificial turf. The façade also has a shallow full-width concrete porch on brick foundation, though it is inaccessible due to the stair railing placement.

The asymmetrical upper level has an accessible flat roof with typical railing. The second story façade is set back and located above the second and third bays of the main level. It has a three-lite window, through wall A/C unit, and two-lite door under a flat roof overhang.

[227] "Illness Is Fatal," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 18, 1980; "Business Provides Help during Moment of Need," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 21, 2007.

The north elevation is comprised of the façade bay, the protruding four-bay chapel, and a three-story service section at rear which is two bays wide. The façade by has a two-lite window. The chapel is sheathed in yellow brick and overhangs the brick foundation. Each bay consists of vertical colored glass windows with tilting lites and red brick above and below. The service section has fenestration at the top level—a two-lite metal sash window in the first bay and a tall metal staircase to a solid door in the second bay.

The south elevation of the building is three levels in height. The basement has a protruding bay with three wood garage doors. The main level has a pair of two-lite metal sash windows and a trio of two-lite metal sash windows, and the top level has a large four-lite metal sash window and a tripartite metal sash picture window.

The interior has had few changes, with extant original wood paneling, doors, flooring, and pre-ADA bathrooms. Acoustic tile drop ceiling was added.

Mary B. Bigham Memorial Chapel, 1990
Noncontributing Building
605 S. Center Street

The Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary Chapel was constructed in 1990 adjacent to the extant building. It was dedicated in honor of Mary Belle Ramsey Brown Bigham, longtime owner of Rutledge and Bigham Mortuary Service who died in 1980.[228]

The symmetrical façade is one bay wide and has two gabled cast stone-capped parapet sections--one for the primary mass and a second lower portion for the entry. Concrete steps lead to the concrete slab of the flat-roofed porch with Doric column supports. Half-lite double doors have five-light sidelights. At either side of the façade are rectangular brick motifs with soldier row borders. The north elevation has four vertical stained glass windows. Stairs lead below grade to the basement. The east elevation has three stained glass windows, the middle window in a cross shape, and a solid steel door at the basement. The north interior wall of the chapel is shared with the south exterior wall of the mortuary. A single-width door connects the mortuary and chapel, but the building largely functions separately.

[228] "Chapel Dedication Service Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 19, 1991.

Holliday Building, ca. 1930
Noncontributing Building
609-611 S. Center Street

Dr. R. S. Holliday purchased a parcel on South Center Street in 1926. It had previously been the site of a frame building which housed Golden's Café. He was granted a building permit in December 1927 for a "two-story brick veneer building on South Center street to cost $4,500."[229] The building was not complete in time to be listed in the 1928-1929 city directory, but by 1932 it housed H. S. Byers's drug store (609), the dental office of Dr. Blair J. Abernathy (609 1/2), and Littlejohn's Sanitary Barber Shop (611).[230] Dr. Abernathy would be a long-term tenant until his retirement in the 1960s, while Littlejohn's Barber Shop continues to operate in the space.[231] The second story of the building was removed after 1950 according to aerial imagery.[232]

[229] "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 19, 1927.
[230] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, Miller's *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1933), 281.
[231] "Rites Planned for Abernathy," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 18, 1969.
[232] Max Tharpe, "Airviews250," Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8394353887/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.

Figure 20 This 1948 photo of S. Center Street looking north shows the two-story Holliday Building at right. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 19, 2016.

The Holliday Building is a one-story running bond brick building with stepped false front façade. It was previously two stories in height, but the second story was removed after 1950 which detracts from its integrity. The site slopes away from the street. A ca. 1994 gabled roof with asphalt shingles and vinyl soffit has been added to the previous flat roof behind the parapet. The façade is three bays wide, with glass storefront windows atop brick knee walls in the outer bays. The middle bay is recessed and has three entry doors, two full-lite doors to the main level units flanking a pair of narrow full-lite doors directly opening to stairs accessing the upstairs unit. A canvas awning hangs over the storefront, concealing transom windows running full width. The north and south elevations have no fenestration but do have murals painted on panels hung from the exterior walls. The east elevation is two bays wide, which are clearly delineated by differences in masonry. The first (south) bay has a pair of half-lite wood doors with storm doors and fenestration infilled with brick. The second (north) bay has a wood panel door with wood screen door and a six-over-six wood window. Both doors have wood steps leading to them. The brick at the top is stepped and in deteriorated condition. The gable roof is visible here with vinyl siding in the gable end. A concrete masonry unit retaining wall with aluminum fencing is north of the rear exit, which leads to an asphalt parking lot shared with Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary next door to the north (vacant lot, 615 S. Center Street).

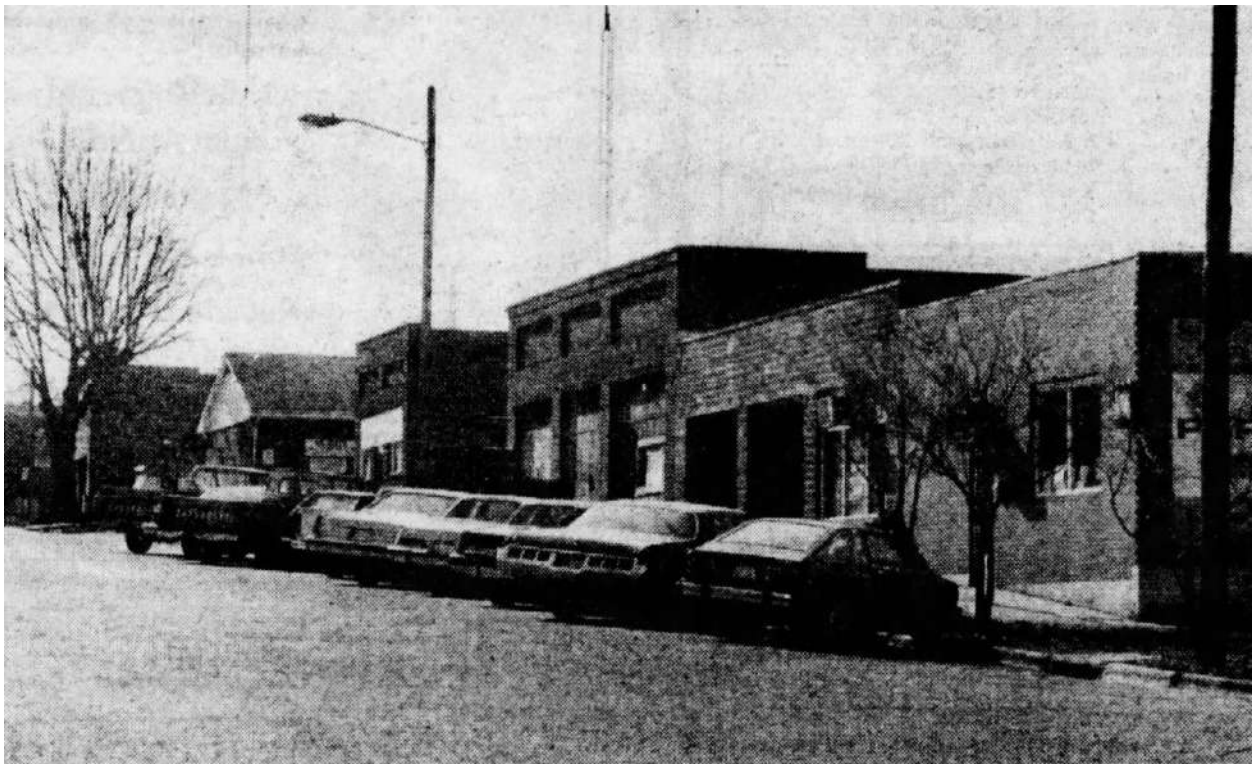


Figure 21 This 1986 photo shows the even-600 block of S. Center Street. Pictured from front to back are Commercial Building (614), Commercial Building (622), Steele's Café (630), and Iredell Credit Union (634). Keith Williams, "Mayor Asked to Clean Up Depot Hill," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 16, 1986.

Gilbert Building, 1965
Noncontributing Building
614 S. Center Street

Property owner John N. Gilbert was granted a building permit in October 1964 for a rental building of 1,060 square feet at a cost of approximately $7,500. His company Gilbert Engineering Company was the contractor.

The one-story brick veneer building has a flat roof and curved wall with one-over-one metal windows along Shelton Avenue elevation. The parapet has a metal cap. The entry at South Center Street has a new two-lite window and storefront door with fabric awning. A rear entrance is located on Shelton Avenue.

Commercial Building, ca. 1965
Noncontributing Building
622 S. Center Street

The one-story commercial building has a flat roof and is sheathed in oversized masonry veneer. The façade is three bays wide with fabric awnings over each bay. The south and middle bay have storefront windows with centered single storefront doors. The north bay has only storefront windows. The rear elevation faces Shelton Avenue and is parged with a single four-lite picture window; a doorway was filled by August 2016 according to Google Street View.

Steele's Café, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
630 S. Center Street

This commercial building, which historically was addressed 626-630 S. Center Street, was home to Black-owned and operated businesses which served the Garfield and Green Street community. The most prominent and longest tenured was Steele's Café. Stamey S. Steele moved his lunch room into 630 S. Center Street by 1943. He and wife Effie operated Steele's Café for about forty years.[233] Also in unit 626 S. Center Street were a barber shop and beauty shop dating back to 1946-1947—Rayvone Stewart operated Sunset Barber Shop, and Arie Nesbit Nicholson was the owner of Quality Beauty Shop.[234]

This common bond brick commercial building is three bays wide. The north bay is wider. Each bay has storefront windows, with the single storefront entry door in the middle bay. Fabric awnings and signage insets are above. The side elevations have stepped parapets with tile cap and corbel detail at the rear elevation. A corbelled brick chimney is at the west elevation. The rear elevation faces Shelton Avenue and is three bays wide with a parged foundation. The north bay has a concrete loading dock with steps and metal railing. The face of the building is parged, and it has a window filled with concrete masonry units and a door

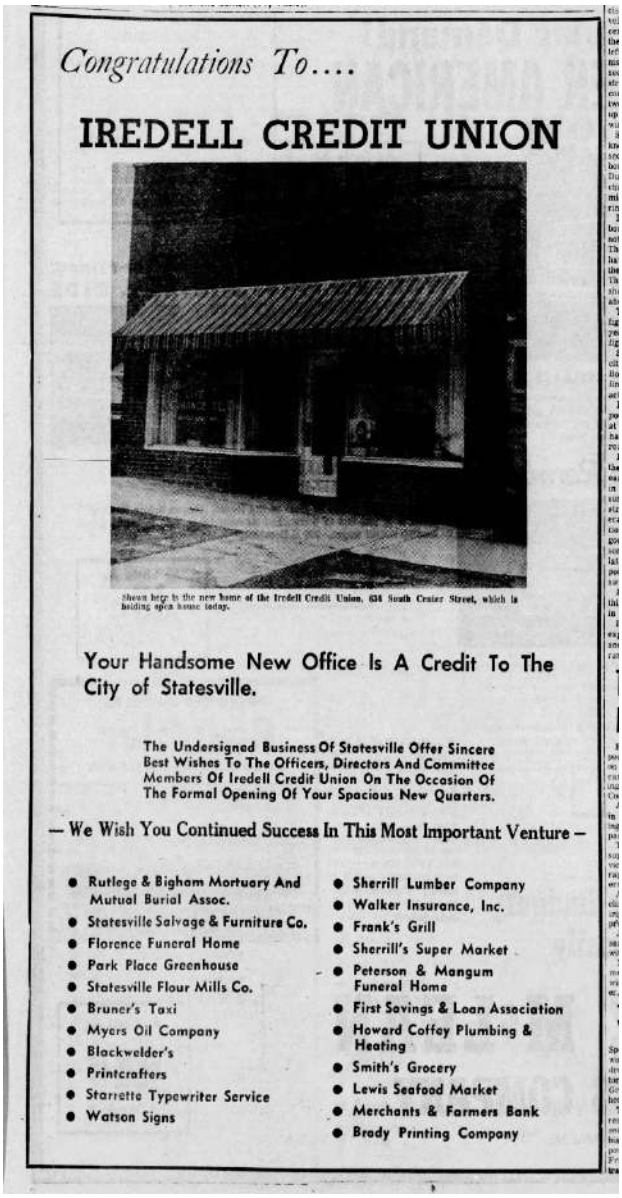
[233] "Effie S. Steele," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 13, 1991.
[234] Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1946-1947* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1947), 408; "Joins Staff at Sunset Barber Shop," photograph, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 19, 1959; Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 512; "Rayvone Stewart," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 25, 1985; "Arie Lee Nicholson," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 25, 1986.

with fabric awning above. The middle bay is a ca. 2006 shed concrete masonry unit addition extending to the sidewalk. The south bay has a solid steel door and perforated masonry block wall around a concrete deck.

Iredell Credit Union, 1948
Noncontributing Building
634 S. Center Street

J. H. Stimson received a building permit to construct a "one-story brick and cement building" on South Center Street.[235] The initial tenants were White-owned businesses, but by the late 1950s Black-owned businesses located here including the Iredell Credit Union, established in 1946. This institution provided vital financial services to Black residents of Statesville and the surrounding county. Among its founders were George F. Dalton, a Morningside schoolteacher, and Travis Van Mangum, a funeral director. Both men continued to serve as officers as the credit union grew. Initially starting with just eighteen members, the Iredell Credit Union expanded significantly, reaching 1,000 members by 1958. That same year, the credit union opened a new office at 634 South Center Street, signifying its growth and success in serving the broader community beyond just farmers.[236]

[235] "One Building Permit," *Statesville Landmark and Record,* April 22, 1948.
[236] "Credit Union Opens New Offices," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 11, 1958.



Congratulations To....

IREDELL CREDIT UNION

shown here is the new home of the Iredell Credit Union, 634 South Center Street, which is holding open house today.

Your Handsome New Office Is A Credit To The City of Statesville.

The Undersigned Business Of Statesville Offer Sincere Best Wishes To The Officers, Directors And Committee Members Of Iredell Credit Union On The Occasion Of The Formal Opening Of Your Spacious New Quarters.

— We Wish You Continued Success In This Most Important Venture —

- Rutlege & Bigham Mortuary And Mutual Burial Assoc.
- Statesville Salvage & Furniture Co.
- Florence Funeral Home
- Park Place Greenhouse
- Statesville Flour Mills Co.
- Bruner's Taxi
- Myers Oil Company
- Blackwelder's
- Printcrafters
- Starrette Typewriter Service
- Watson Signs
- Sherrill Lumber Company
- Walker Insurance, Inc.
- Frank's Grill
- Sherrill's Super Market
- Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home
- First Savings & Loan Association
- Howard Coffey Plumbing & Heating
- Smith's Grocery
- Lewis Seafood Market
- Merchants & Farmers Bank
- Brady Printing Company

Figure 22 *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 12, 1958.

The one-story commercial building has a flat roof and, according to the 1950 Sanborn map, brick veneer over concrete masonry unit construction. The façade brick has a decorative face. The original storefront has been filled with similar brick with plywood in transoms at an unknown date. Horizontal windows flank the replacement storefront door, above which is a metal canopy and inset brick for signage. The north elevation has a brick-infilled door and windows, one which may have been a drive-through window for the credit union. The stepped parapet has concrete cap at the façade and metal cap around the remainder. A chimney at west elevation has corbelled top. The rear elevation faces Shelton Avenue. It has aluminum siding with exposed concrete masonry units at top. A metal awning covers a small one-over-one vinyl window with metal bars, a 6-panel door with storm door, and one-over-one vinyl window with metal bars. A brick planter extends along the south boundary at the rear. There are metal supports for missing signage.

Chambers Street

Melvin and Lillian S. Feimster House, ca. 1916
Contributing Building
201 Chambers Street

Melvin and Lillian Sherrill Feimster purchased a 0.33-acre lot at the corner of Walker (now Harrison) and Chambers streets in 1915. They appear in the 1916-1917 Statesville city directory at that location. He worked in various blue collar and service jobs.[237]

The Feimster House is a side-gabled Craftsman-style house with a wide shed dormer across the façade. The foundation is stuccoed brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The house is sheathed in vinyl siding and has replacement six-over-six vinyl windows. The dormer may have had windows that have been covered with vinyl siding. The façade is three bays wide and has an engaged porch comprising the western portion. It has a wood deck with concrete steps leading up, groupings of small square section columns on brick piers, and wood railing. Under the porch are a typical window and a six-panel replacement door with an aluminum storm door. The east elevation is three bays wide, with a single window flanking a pair of windows; in the gable are pairs of windows. The west elevation has a pair of single windows at the lower level and a single window in the gable.

[237] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 128; "Death Comes to Feimster," *Statesville Landmark and Record*, March 13, 1969; "Mrs. Feimster's Funeral Is Set," *Statesville Landmark and Record*, March 27, 1964.

Smith and Mamie Byers House, ca. 1914
Contributing Building
209 Chambers Street

Smith and Mamie Byers purchased the lot from F. F. Chambers in 1907. They are listed as living on Green Street in the 1909-1910 Statesville city directory, but by 1914-1915 they had constructed the house. Smith died in 1931, and Mamie passed in 1943. Neighbors Melvin and Lillian S. Feimster purchased the property from the Byers heirs in 1943 as a rental.[238]

The Byers House is a one-story, side-gabled, wood frame house sheathed in vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. It is built upon parged foundation. Windows are vinyl replacement six-over-six. The hipped porch is centered on the façade and has wood decking on a stuccoed masonry foundation, wood square section posts, and wood railing. A gabled ell extends off the rear. A gabled frame shed is sheathed in OSB and has a small shed garage extension.

[238] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1914–1915* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1915), 114; "Smith Byers Dies at Home on Chambers Street," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 5, 1931; "Mamie Byers Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 19, 1943; Iredell County Deed Book 156, Page 583.

Figure 23 This image uses a ca. 1955 aerial photo looking northwest to show the building at 206-220 Chambers Street. Modern address numbers have been added, and "x" denotes a removed building. Max Tharpe, Airviews328 (n.d.), Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8395569162/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
206 Chambers Street

This ca. 1907 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four total fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[239] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and orientation as the group of houses.[240] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with 200 numbers along Chambers Street and Railroad Avenue, are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[241] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[242]

This one-story, side-gabled frame house was under renovation during survey. Layers of sheathing were visible, with vinyl siding partially installed over asbestos siding and original wood weatherboard. Gable vents are diamond shaped. The roof had new standing seam metal. Windows were one-over-one vinyl replacement,

[239] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[240] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.
[241] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[242] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.

and the entry door was a nine-lite replacement. The hipped porch has new wood plank decking on concrete masonry unit foundation, wood square section posts and railing, and old asphalt shingle roofing. A gabled ell is located at the rear west. A shed addition off the ell at east has a concrete masonry unit foundation, a new wood porch, and is sheathed in vertical wood board.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
208 Chambers Street

This ca. 1907 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four total fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[243] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and orientation as the group of houses.[244] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with 200 numbers along Chambers Street and Railroad Avenue, are inconsistent in city directories, making them

[243] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[244] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.

highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[245] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[246]

This one-story, side-gabled frame house was under renovation during survey in July 2024. It originally faced the railroad tracks but has since been reoriented so the former rear of the building is now the façade. The rear elevation of the house faces the railroad track along what was known as Railroad Avenue and was not accessible. The facade has a gabled ell and a shed addition infilling the L-shape. New materials include vinyl siding, standing seam metal roofing, vinyl one-over-one windows, six-panel door.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
210 Chambers Street

This ca. 1907 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[247] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and

[245] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[246] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.
[247] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.

orientation as the group of houses.[248] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with even 200 numbers, are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[249] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[250]

This one-story, side-gabled, frame house has asbestos shingle siding, new standing seam metal roof, four-over-four wood sash windows, and solid door. The brick pier foundation has concrete masonry unit infill. A stove pipe extends through the east elevation wall. At the east end of the rear is a gable roofed ell with porch. The hipped-roof porch has asphalt shingles, new wood deck on concrete masonry unit with square section posts and railing.

House, 1954
Contributing Building
212 Chambers Street

This 1954 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller

[248] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.
[249] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[250] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.

purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[251] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with 200 numbers along Chambers Street and Railroad Avenue, are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[252] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson. The 1950 Sanborn map shows an L-shaped house matching the others on the property. An October 1951 fire which killed five members of the Murray family in the home next door (218 Chambers Street) charred the east elevation of the house. It was demolished, as no listing appears in the 1952-1953 city directory. In March 1954 Nicholson was granted a building permit for a "four-room frame residence" on Railroad Avenue.[253] The house was extant when the 1954-1955 city directory survey was conducted, as it appears as the residence of Ophelia C. Gregory at 205 Railroad Avenue.

This one-story, side-gabled, frame house originally faced the railroad tracks but has since been reoriented so the former rear of the building is now the façade. The rear elevation of the house faces south toward the railroad track along what was known as Railroad Avenue and was not accessible. An aerial image dating to ca. 1955 shows the south elevation having a centered porch.[254] The house was under renovation at the time of survey in July 2024. The wood weatherboard siding was being covered with vinyl siding. A new standing seam metal roof had been installed along with one-over-one vinyl windows. The façade was austere with single windows flanking the entry and concrete stoop.

[251] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[252] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[253] "Building Permits Total $145,950 during March," *Statesville Record and Landmark*,
[254] Max Tharpe, Airviews328 (n.d.), Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8395569162/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
216 Chambers Street

This ca. 1907 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[255] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and orientation as the group of houses.[256] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with even 200 numbers, are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[257] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[258]

This one-story, side-gabled, frame house has masonry foundation and new asphalt shingle roof. It is sheathed in new vinyl siding, and fenestration has been replaced with one-over-one vinyl windows and a nine-lite door. The hipped roof porch has new wood plank decking on concrete masonry unit foundation, and wood square section posts and railing. A gabled ell extends from the rear west.

[255] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[256] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.
[257] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[258] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.

House, ca. 1955
Contributing Building
218 Chambers Street

This house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[259] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and orientation as the group of houses.[260] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with even 200 numbers, are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[261] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[262] A fire in October 1951 destroyed the house and killed five members of the Murray family. It was rebuilt by 1956 according to city directories.[263]

[259] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[260] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.
[261] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[262] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.
[263] "Mother and 4 Children Are Burned to Death," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 25, 1951.

This house was under renovation during survey in June 2024. This one-story, front-gabled, frame house has new vinyl siding, new standing seam metal roof, and one-over-one vinyl windows. An aerial image dating to ca. 1955 shows the south elevation having a centered recessed porch.[264] The west elevation, which is two bays wide, has a recessed bay that suggests it may be a porch which has been enclosed.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
220 Chambers Street

This ca. 1907 house is on one parcel with six other small houses—four fronting Chambers Street and three others facing the railroad and former location of Railroad Avenue. White landowners D. A. and Carrie Miller purchased property between Chambers Street and the North Carolina Railroad in 1905 and 1909.[265] A ca. 1907 birds-eye illustration of Statesville shows a grouping of one-story gabled houses similar in size and orientation as the group of houses.[266] Residents of these houses, historically addressed with 200 numbers,

[264] Max Tharpe, Airviews328 (n.d.), Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8395569162/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.
[265] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 173; Iredell County Deed Book 39, Page 126.
[266] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.

are inconsistent in city directories, making them highly likely to be Black tenant occupied.[267] Carrie Miller sold the property in 1949 to white real estate agent and investor Frances G. Nicholson.[268]

This one-story, side-gabled, frame house faces east and is perpendicular to the others on the parcel. It is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The house was under renovation at the time of survey in July 2024. New materials include an asphalt shingle roof, vinyl siding, one-over-one vinyl windows, and nine-lite doors. The shed porch has a new wood deck on concrete masonry unit foundation, wood square section posts and railing. An offset gable ell extends from the south elevation and has an entrance and low shed extension with new metal roof.

[267] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917), 222; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 229.
[268] Iredell County Deed Book 208, Page 342.

Fannie and Percy S. Houpe House, 1951
Contributing Building
301 Chambers Street

Fannie Johnson Houpe was issued a building permit on September 1, 1950, to construct a "five-room asbestos shingle residence on Chambers street."[269] Fannie and her husband Percy lived there until her death in 1989. She worked as a domestic for private families and was later a custodian in Statesville City Schools. Fannie was a member of Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church and was civically active. According to deed records, the Houpe family still owns the property.[270]

The one-story side-gabled house has vinyl siding on three elevations and composite shingles on the façade under the porch. New siding was installed between 2014 and 2019 over the original asbestos shingles. The house sits on a concrete block foundation. A hip-roofed porch has turned wood posts, concrete deck on concrete masonry unit. Windows are replacement six-over-six vinyl with a picture window on the façade. The roof is asphalt shingle with a square brick chimney at the front slope of the roof east of the front door. A hipped ell at rear has a shed extension.

[269] "Permits Approved for Three Homes," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 1, 1950.
[270] "Fannie J. Houpe," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 17, 1989; Iredell County Deed Book 804, Page 945.

Beulah S. and Ross Davidson House, 1964
Contributing Building
304 Chambers Street

The new home of Beulah Spann Davidson and her husband Ross was dedicated by Rev. Howard Irvis, pastor of Mt. Pleasant A. M. E. Methodist Church, on March 22, 1964. Bessie was a graduate of Morningside High School and attended college at Winston-Salem Teacher College, Livingstone College, and New York University. She taught in Iredell County Schools for forty years, retiring in 1973. Ross Davidson was a native of Mecklenburg County. He retired from Statesville Plywood and Veneer Company.[271]

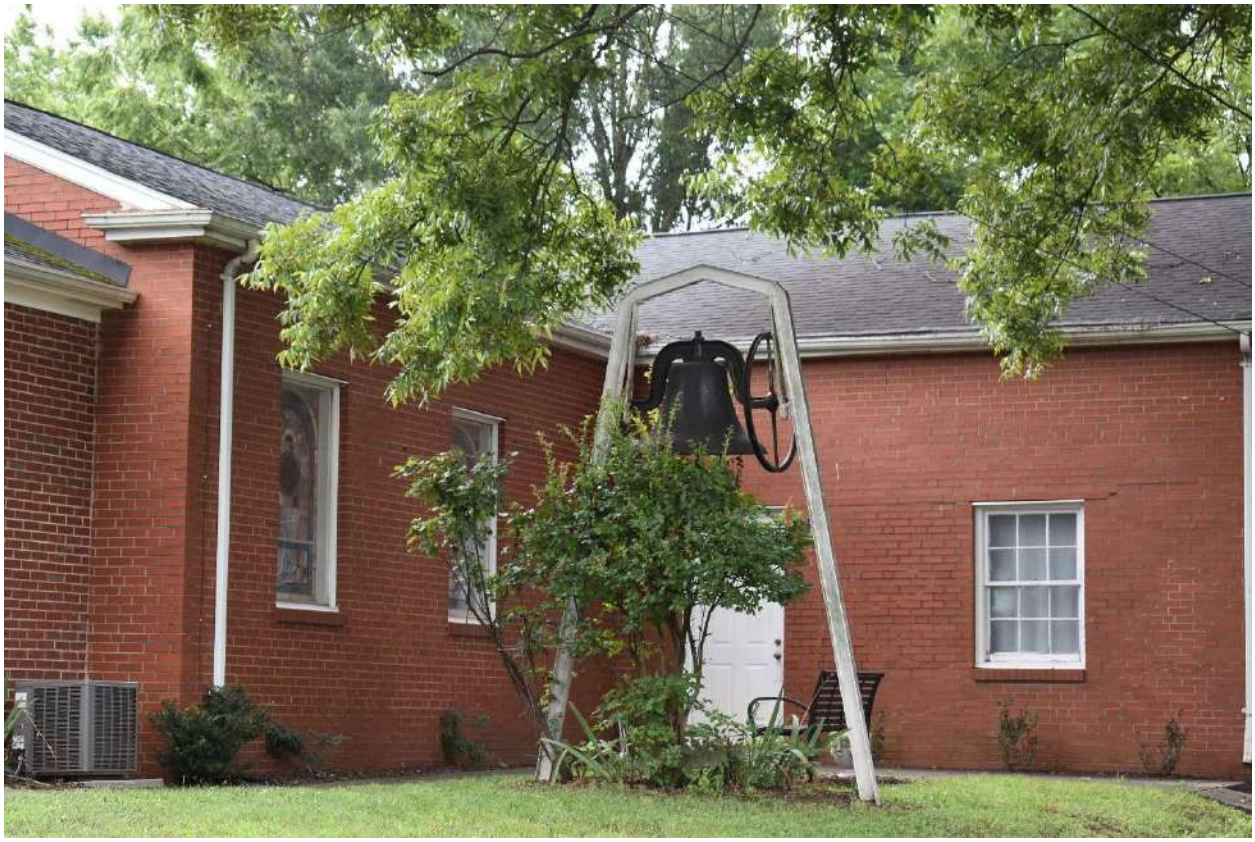
This one story, hipped-roof, brick Ranch house has a façade that is four bays wide. The center two bays step out, covered by a hipped porch has concrete deck with astroturf on a brick foundation; wrought iron supports and railing, concrete steps. Trio of three-lite aluminum windows, original wood door has two lites and two panels. Side bays have pairs of three lite aluminum windows. Metal awning wraps from side bay windows around porch. Wide chimney through roof. Metal awnings over windows at west elevation. Ell at east, entry porch in front of it with wrap metal awning, round metal post.

[271] "Teacher Honored," photograph caption, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 31, 1972; "Davidson Sticken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 10, 1980; "Beulah Davidson," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 14, 1998.

Scotts Chapel United Methodist Church, 1957, ca. 2017
Contributing Building
316 Chambers Street

This is the third location of the congregation, which was founded in October 1885 as Love Methodist Episcopal Church in the Belmont area near Statesville. Changes came in 1905 when a lot was purchased on the south side of Chambers Street, and the church also renamed to Scotts Chapel in honor of a member's father. The extant building was planned in 1956, with a groundbreaking ceremony held on September 26. A building permit was issued in November 1956, with G. L. Wilson Co. of Statesville as general contractor. The new facility was dedicated in February 1957. A gabled entry addition was made between 2014 and 2019 according to Google Street View; it replaced the original smaller gabled entry which had a simple broken pediment and recessed pair of 6-panel doors with six-lite transom. The extant stained glass windows replaced the original sash windows.[272]

[272] "Scotts Chapel Opening Slated," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 9, 1957; "Scotts Chapel Dedication Planned," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 3, 1963; Burwell Whittenton, "Scotts Chapel 100 Years Old," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 29, 1985; "Chapel Opened," photo caption, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 15, 1957.



This one-story, front-gabled, typical mid-century church features Colonial Revival influences. It is sheathed in brick veneer and has an asphalt shingle roof with eave returns and louvered vents in the gable peaks. The tall steeple near the façade has a tower with lower square stage with octagonal trim around a cross on all sides and middle square stage with louvers topped by a tall narrow spire. The façade has a gabled entry addition erected between 2014 and 2019 has brick veneer and an engaged porch with concrete slab and Doric columns. The gable has continuous eaves with board-and-batten siding with a plank cross detail. The recessed entry has storefront doors with transom. The east elevation is five bays wide with stained glass windows in the first four bays. The fifth bay has a shed extension with six-panel entry door facing north and a two-over-two window on its east elevation. The west elevation features three bays with stained glass windows. Beyond is a cross-gabled ell two bays wide and two bays deep. It has a replacement 6-panel door and original six-over-six wood sash window on the north elevation. A large bell on a metal frame is located northwest of the building. A brick sign has fluted columns supporting the peaked concrete cap.

Samuel A. and Mary G. Moore House, ca. 1957
Contributing Building
321 Chambers Street
Likely built by Samuel Albert Moore and his wife Mary Green Moore, who purchased the property in 1955 from Carrie E. Chambers.

The Moore House is a one-story, side-gabled, Minimal Traditional-style house built of concrete masonry units. The three bay façade has original two-over-two horizontal pane wood sash windows with storm windows. A pair of windows is west of the central entry door and to the east is a large eight-lite wood sash window, flanked by narrow two-over-two windows. A concrete stoop leads to a replacement door with storm door and aluminum hood over. A brick chimney extends from the asphalt shingled roof ridge. A prefabricated metal shed stands at the rear of the property.

Dalton Duplex, ca. 1959
Contributing Building
325 Chambers Street

The northwest corner lot of Chambers and S. Elm Streets was purchased by Morningside High School teachers George F. Dalton and wife Martha Grady Dalton in 1948. The adjacent west lot, formerly the location of the hall for the Independent Order of Good Samaritans, was acquired by the Daltons in 1959. The hall was gone by 1950, as Sanborn maps show the lot to be vacant. The duplex was likely built by 1960, when the Daltons are listed as living at 325 Chambers and Dewey G. Pearson at 323 Chambers in the city directory.[273]

[273] Iredell County Deed Book 199, Page 382; Iredell County Deed Book 315, Page 119; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1960–1961* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1961), 505.

The Ranch-style duplex was later converted to a four-unit property and remodeled in 2016. It has a hipped asphalt shingle roof and common bond with Flemish coursing brick veneer. The façade is two bays wide encompassing units A and B. Each bay has typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows asymmetrically flanking the 9-lite replacement doors and brick and concrete stoop. Two brick chimneys rise at the roof ridge. The east elevation shows the site slope from the façade to the rear. It is two stories with two bays with typical windows at each level. The rear elevation faces north and is two stories in height and four bays wide. All four bays have entrances, with the first bay labeled unit C. The entrance to unit D is in the upper level of the second bay. The first bay features a typical six-panel replacement door at ground level with concrete stoop covered by a metal canopy with narrow metal supports. Typical windows flank the door, and a typical window and small typical window are in the upper level. The second bay has a metal staircase to unit D on the upper level. The upper level has a small typical window and typical door. At ground level is a small typical window and typical door. The third bay has a typical window and typical door at ground level, and a typical window in the upper level above the door. The fourth bay has a typical door flanked by a typical window and a small typical window at ground level. In the upper level are two small typical windows. A brick retaining wall is visible along the west property line.

Thomas G. and Gertrude G. Biddings House, ca. 1894
Contributing Building
401 Chambers Street

Brick mason Thomas G. Biddings and his wife Gertrude Greenlee Biddings purchased the property from Mary Bell in 1894. Thomas was born enslaved in 1861. The Biddings raised their children in the home, and after their deaths in 1908 and 1930 respectively, son William Clarence Biddings, Sr. resided here. He worked as a presser at Sloan's Cleaners and Dyers and later owned Biddings Cleaners and Dyers. The final Biddings family member to own the house was William Clarence Biddings, Jr., who sold the home in 1986.[274]

The Biddings House is a two-story frame I-house built on brick piers with brick foundation infill. The hip roof has pressed tin shingles and a tall centered gable with non-historic octagonal vent on the façade. The hipped porch has a concrete floor on brick foundation and Craftsman-style square section wood posts on brick piers. Recent replacement elements include one-over-one vinyl windows, vinyl siding, and a wood door with leaded glass oval lite and storm door. A one-story hipped ell extends from the northwest corner and has a covered porch extending from the east elevation.

[274] Iredell County Deed Book 19, Page 182; "Thomas G. Biddings, Colored Brick Mason, Dies Suddenly," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 24, 1930; "Bidding Rites to Be Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 10, 1960; "William Biddings, Jr.," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 17, 1992.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
407 Chambers Street
Historically associated with the adjacent parcel (401 Chambers Street). A ruinous building was observed during field work in July 2024. It appeared to have been of wood frame construction, but only a concrete masonry unit chimney with terra cotta flue liner was standing.

This one-story front-gabled house is built on a concrete slab and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is two bays wide with a projecting gabled ell with eave returns and centered typical one-over-one vinyl window in the first bay. A hipped porch with square section wood posts comprises the second bay and has a six-panel door and paired typical windows. A corner porch at east rear has square section wood posts.

House, 2023
Noncontributing Building
409 Chambers Street
Formerly the site of the John Wesley Stevenson and Aquilla Star Stevenson House, which was demolished in 1974 after being condemned by the city.[275]

This one-story, three-bay wide, front-gabled, frame house has an asphalt shingle roof. The front gabled porch extends from the center and east bay of the façade. It has a concrete slab, square section wood posts, and vinyl imitating board-and-batten siding in the gable. The rest of the house is covered with horizontal vinyl siding and features paired vinyl windows.

[275] Eileen Wilkinson, "Search for House Yields No Leads," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 25, 1975.

Chambers-Watts House, ca. 1900, 2006
Contributing Building
412 Chambers Street

James Arthur Chambers and his family are listed in the 1900 U. S. Census as the household before that of Frank Belt, who lived across Chambers Street (413 Chambers Street). The parcel where the Chambers-Watts House is located was deeded to James Chambers from his father W.M.C.C. (Clay) Chambers in 1899. Clay Chambers was the son of Henry Jordan Caldwell Chambers, the son of white planter Andrew Caldwell and an Irish indentured servant, and his second wife Letitia "Lettie" Moore. After Emancipation, they resided on what was named Chambers Street after their family. James Chambers moved to Tennessee around 1906 and deeded the property to his brother Fred Fisher Chambers.[276] The house was occupied by tenants until the property was purchased by Viola Shives Watts in 1951. Two of her children, Emma Lois Watts and Billy Louis Watts, were among the group arrested for staging a sit-in at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant in August 1962.[277]

This one-story, side-gabled, frame residence sits on brick piers, with later concrete block foundation infill. It is covered with vinyl siding and an asphalt shingle roof. The wide gabled porch has concrete floor on concrete masonry unit foundation and square section wood posts. The steps are also concrete masonry unit with

[276] Iredell County Deed Book 24, Page 253; Iredell County Deed Book 33, Page 78; United States Census Office, 1900 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 102, Page 9B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed September 9, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 44, Page 240.

[277] "Police Officers Lodge 28 Charges," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 1, 1962.

concrete ledges. The entry has six-over-six vinyl replacement windows and new four-panel entry door with fanlight and storm door. A brick chimney rises from the roof ridge and has a concrete cap. A single-bay wide east addition has shallowly sloped roof and has a wood porch and entrance. A full-width gabled ell extends off the rear. These two additions were made by 1965 according to aerial imagery; a smaller gabled ell at rear is extant on the 1930 Sanborn map. The house was renovated in 2006 according to property records.

House, 2023
Noncontributing Building
413 Chambers Street
Formerly the location of the ca. 1915 Frank Belt House which burned in 1987 while undergoing renovation.[278]

This two-story, front-gabled, frame house has a shed roof porch on concrete slab with square-section wood posts. Under the porch is a pair of four-over-one vinyl sash windows and a single-light door. The upper level of the façade has three four-over-one vinyl sash windows, and the gable has vinyl imitating board-and-batten siding. The roof has asphalt shingles. The rear yard is enclosed by a wooden fence and includes a prefabricated wooden shed.

[278] David Ramsey, "Renovated Residence Burns," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 10, 1987.

Wilfred A. and Ophelia E. Morrison House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
414 Chambers Street

The house at 414 Chambers Street first appears in the 1932-1933 Statesville city directory as the residence of Leo and Viola Nicholson. The property was owned by Ruth Gray Renwick, who bought it from James E. Tharpe in 1924. The Nicholsons rented the property until around 1948, when Wilfred Alexander and Ophelia Eccles Morrison moved in. The Morrisons purchased the property from Renwick in 1953, and the house has remained in the family.[279] Daughter Adrienne Morrison participated in the sit-in at the Howard Johnson's Restaurant in Statesville in August 1962.[280]

The Morrison House is a one-story Craftsman bungalow with a clipped gable roof and brick masonry foundation. It was shown on the 1950 Sanborn map as having a full-width porch, which appears to have been partially enclosed after this date. The concrete porch deck is visible under the enclosed section, and bases of brick piers are visible in front of the brick foundation. The engaged corner porch has brick steps leading to the concrete floor, wrought iron supports on brick piers, and wrought iron railing. The brick foundation piers on the façade are stepped. Most windows are original three-over-one wood sash with storm windows; however, under the porch the fenestration has been replaced with a one-over-one vinyl window and a new six-panel door with storm door. The house has two brick chimneys, one on the east elevation through the

[279] Iredell County Deed Book 245, Page 428.
[280] "Police Officers Lodge 28 Charges," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 1, 1962.

eave in a classic Craftsman configuration with flanking windows, and a second with a concrete cap thru the west elevation roof.

Frank B. and Ruby B. Belk House, ca. 1966
Contributing Building
415 Chambers Street

Frank and Ruby Belk (originally spelled Belt) purchased the lot adjacent to his childhood home at 413 Chambers Street in 1967. Frank died in 1968, and Ruby initially put the house on the market. However, she did not sell it and lived there until her death in 1994.[281]

The Belk House is a one-story house with an asphalt shingle hipped roof and brick veneer. The façade if three bays wide, with two bays containing an engaged porch. It has artificial turf over concrete on a brick foundation with wrought iron supports. The original wood two-lite two-panel door has a newer storm door, and adjacent is a picture window. A single window on the façade west bay has a metal awning as do the three windows on the west elevation. Windows are vinyl replacement. A brick chimney extends through the eave on the east elevation. The site slopes away from the street, creating a walk-out basement at rear with a window at the east elevation.

[281] "Death Claims Frank B. Belk," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 9, 1968; real estate listing, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 23, 1968; "Ruby Brown Belk," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 4, 1994.

James Leon and Mary Belle Feimster House, ca. 1928
Contributing Building
422 Chambers Street

James Leon and Mary Belle Feimster built this 1.5-story Craftsman house by 1928, when they were first listed in the city directory as living at this address. They purchased the lot from M. E. and Alfred Fleming in 1919 and, according to city directories, rented in the area until they could afford to build their own house.[282] Leon held a variety of manual labor jobs, including janitor at City Hall, butler for a private family, and floor refinisher. Mary Belle Feimster died in 1949, and Leon remarried to Mary Elizabeth Kerr, who predeceased him in 1980. He died in 1984, and the house was sold outside the family.[283]

The Feimster House is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, frame Craftsman-style house. With an asphalt shingle roof. The foundation has brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The engaged porch has a concrete floor on concrete masonry unit foundation and groupings of square section columns—trios at the corners and pairs in the middle—on brick piers. Wrought iron railings span between the piers, and a brick sidewalk and steps with wood railing lead to the porch. A wood ramp has been built along the west elevation to access the front porch. The façade is three bays wide with a new six-panel door with a wrought iron door flanked by typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. The gabled dormer has a replacement vinyl

[282] Iredell County Deed Book 64, Page 137; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1921–1922* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1922), 130; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1926), 140; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1929), 315.
[283] "Mary Bell Feimster Claimed by Death," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 19, 1949.

three-lite horizontal sliding window. Vinyl siding and the windows were installed ca. 2005. The west elevation has a single shoulder brick chimney through the eave. A small wood frame shed is south of the house at its rear.

St. Charles Rutledge House, 1929
Contributing Building
423 Chambers Street

A building permit for a "two-story dwelling on Chambers street" at an estimated cost of $2,500 was issued to St. Charles Rutledge and his wife Marie in April 1929.[284] Rutledge partnered with Gadson G. Bigham in 1922 to establish Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary. A native of South Carolina, he had learned embalming during night classes while working for a member of Congress in Washington, DC. The home was sold to Mary E. Cowan in 1971 after Marie died; Cowan family members have owned it since.[285]

The Rutledge House is a two-story American Foursquare frame house on brick piers with asbestos siding and a pressed metal shingle hipped roof. Windows are largely original four-over-one wood sash. A hipped dormer with a pair of four-over-one wood windows is centered in the façade, which has a trio of windows under the porch and two pairs of windows with metal awnings in the upper level. The wood three-lite door may be original, and it has an aluminum storm door. The porch is accessed via brick steps from the south, west, and east. A brick chimney rises through the roof near the peak. The one-story porch has a concrete floor on brick foundation. Doric columns with wood railing support the hipped metal roof. The west elevation has a pair of hipped one-story projecting bays with pressed metal shingle roofs and trios of windows with metal awnings. The upper level has two pairs of windows, one original topped with a metal awning and the other replacement six-over-six vinyl windows. The east elevation is three bays wide, with single windows in

[284] "Building Permit Issued," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 22, 1929.
[285] "Rutledge Rites Are Set Friday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 10, 1963; Iredell County Deed Book 512, Page 236; Iredell County Deed Book 1016, Page 1264.

each level of the first bay. The second bay has a window located between the two levels, ostensibly at a staircase landing. The third bay at the rear has a pair of short windows at the lower level and two single windows at the upper level.

House, ca. 1948
Contributing Building
424 Chambers Street

Leon Feimster, Sr. and his wife Mary Belle, who owned 422 Chambers Street, purchased this property in 1947 from Alma Carter Smoot. It is likely that the "four-room frame residence at 422 Chambers street" which Leon received a permit for in November 1947 was this resource.[286] The house was constructed by 1949, as renters Fred and Louise Pharr reported living in the same house the previous year in the 1950 U.S. Census.[287]

This one-story, front-gable, frame house sits on a parged foundation, and is vinyl sided, with an asbestos shingle roof. Replacement one-over-one vinyl windows. New six-panel door. Shed porch has concrete floor on stuccoed masonry foundation with wood square section posts and railing. A shed porch at rear has been enclosed. A wood frame gabled shed is southeast of the house. It has an asphalt shingle roof but is unfinished with exposed OSB sheathing.

[286] "Two Building Permits Issued at City Hall," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 1, 1947.
[287] United States Census Office, 1950 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-42-B, Page 3 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

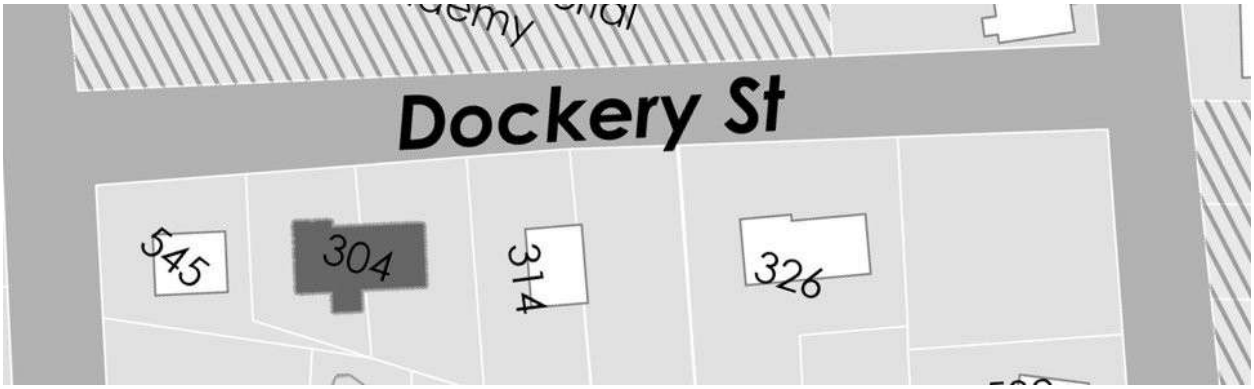
Daniel and Catherine B. Baucom House, ca. 1894
Contributing Building
425 Chambers Street

Daniel Baucom and wife Catherine "Katie" Burns Baucom purchased the lot at the end of Chambers Street in 1894 from Mary C. Bell.[288] The Baucoms came to Statesville from Monroe, Union County, after 1880. Dan was a barber who worked in the shop of John P. Murphy for over 15 years. He died suddenly in 1901 at age 40.[289] Katie sold the house in 1919 to H. G. and Kate Golden, who rented the property until selling it to Julia Howard in 1952. James and Elsie Carpenter were longtime renters.[290]

The Baucom House is a one-story side-gabled house with a new asphalt shingle roof. The house appeared to be undergoing repairs at the time of survey in July 2024. It is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. Wood weatherboard siding is installed atop vertical plank sheathing. Windows have been replaced with one-over-one vinyl. A series of shed additions have been made at the rear. The façade has a Triple A gable with pentagonal vent. The hipped porch has a concrete floor on brick foundation and square section posts and railing. The six-panel wood door does not appear original.

[288] Iredell County Deed Book 21, Page 71.
[289] "Sudden Death of Dan Baucum, the Barber," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 18, 1901.
[290] Iredell County Deed Book 62, Page 146; Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1946–1947* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1947), 408.; Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953), 430; Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 513.

Dockery Street

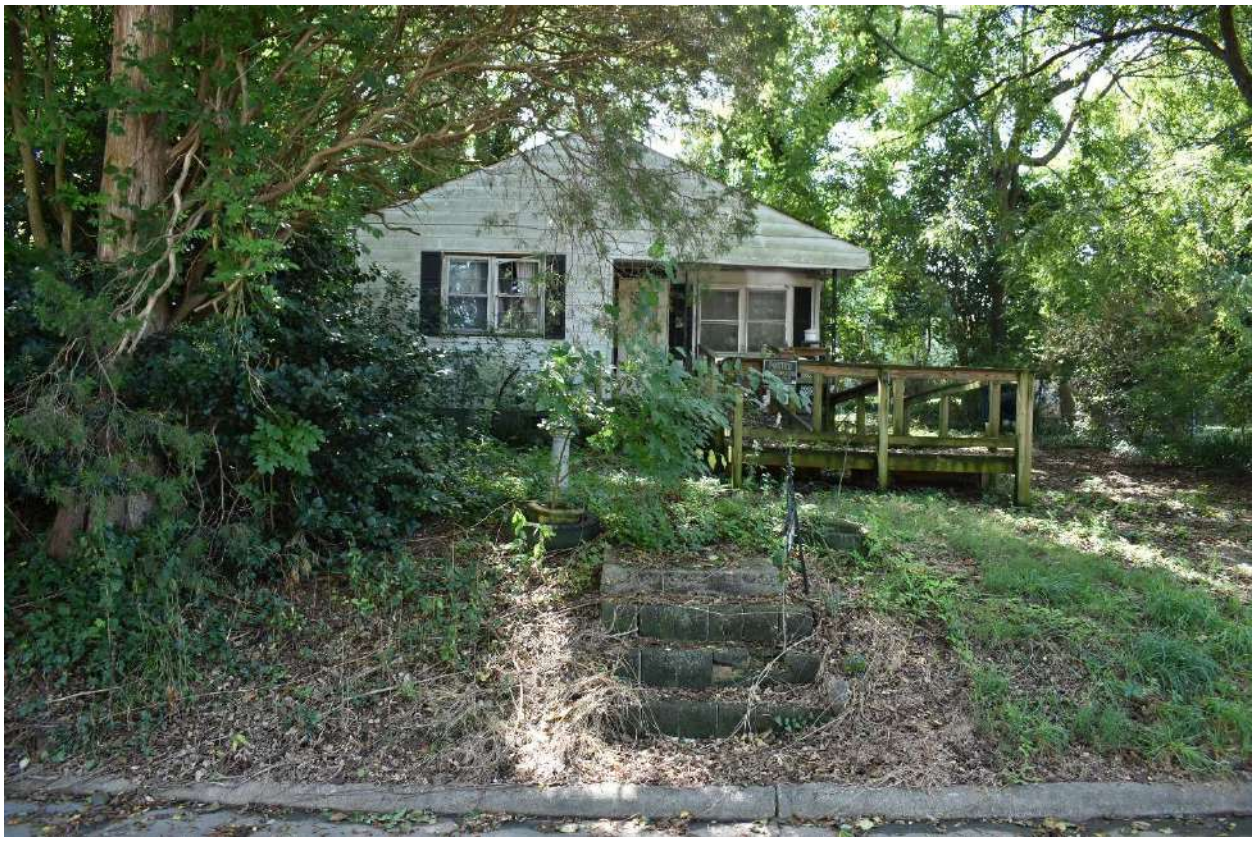


LaGrant and Ruby Stevenson Barnes House, ca. 1967, ca. 1985
Noncontributing Building
304 Dockery Street

LaGrant Barnes and Ruby Stevenson Barnes purchased the east parcel, which included a dwelling, in 1971 and the west parcel in 1975. According to property records, the house was expanded to its current configuration in 1985.[291]

The Barnes House is built on two parcels. The house is six bays wide, with the three west bays comprising the original ca. 1967 portion and the three east bays the ca. 1985 expansion. It is sheathed in vinyl siding, which according to a newspaper advertisement was first installed in 1976 on the original house.[292] The foundation is concrete masonry unit, and the roof has standing seam metal. The first two bays have one-over-one vinyl windows, with a pair in the second bay. The third bay is an entrance with six-panel door with storm door and concrete steps. The fourth bay has an original two-over-two wood sash window with storm window. The shed porch covers the fifth and sixth bays, which have a door with storm door and two-over-two wood window with storm window. The porch has a concrete deck and concrete steps at the west side. It is supported by wrought iron posts with railing.

[291] Iredell County Deed Book 502, Page 76; Iredell County Deed Book 568, Page 121.
[292] "Attention Homeowners!", *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 5, 1976.



Wood-Mozer House, ca. 1956
Contributing Building
314 Dockery Street

The dwelling first appears on a 1956 aerial image. The following year, Richard Wood and Mary Summers Wood purchased the property from the estate of Sallie Dalton Nance. Richard died a few months later. Mary deeded the property to daughter Peggy Wood Mozer Guerra in 1966.

The one-story front-gabled dwelling has no eaves, a small louvered vent in gable, and is sheathed in vinyl siding. The foundation is brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. Typical windows are original paired six-over-six wood sash with storm windows. The façade is three bays wide. The first bay has a pair of typical windows. The western two bays are under the engaged corner porch and consist of a wood two-panel door with a fanlight and storm door and a pair of typical windows. The porch has wrought iron supports on the concrete floor, which is accessed by wood steps with railing and a long wood U-shaped ramp. An overgrown concrete sidewalk with steps lead from Dockery Street. The west elevation is four bays wide with two typical windows, small paired windows, and a shed porch with square section wood post at rear.

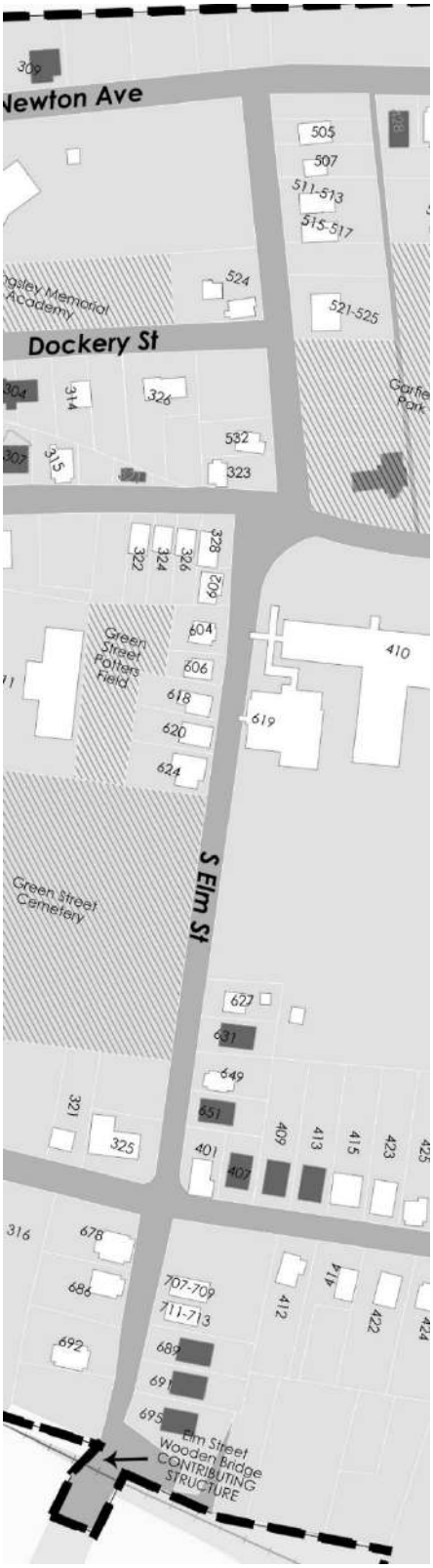
Malcolm and Katie Potts Lynch House, 1956
Contributing Building
326 Dockery Street

Malcolm Lynch and Katie Potts Lynch were granted a building permit in 1956 for a dwelling at 326 Dockery Street.[293] Katie died in 1978, and Malcolm remarried to Peggy Wood Mozer Guerra.

The Lynch House is a one-story brick veneer ranch house built on a crawlspace. The side gabled asphalt shingle roof has wood weatherboard siding in the gable ends. Throughout are original two-over-two horizontal pane wood sash windows with a trio of one-over-one wood casement windows on the façade. The flat roofed porch, which has a concrete floor on brick foundation, continues into the carport, which has round steel posts and a low brick knee wall. A storage room with exterior access forms the rear wall of the carport. The original wood front door has a diamond lite over a horizontal light.

[293] *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 3, 1956.

Elm Street, South



Thelbert and Daisy W. Weaver House, ca. 1922
Contributing Building
505 S. Elm Street

Thelbert Weaver and Daisy Woodsides Weaver purchased the property in 1922. Thelbert was a laborer at the flour mill, and Daisy worked as a cook in private homes. They divorced in 1943, and he died in 1951. His heirs sold the property in 1976.[294]

[294] Iredell County Deed Book 69, Page 565; United States Census Office, 1930 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-42, Page 14A (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024; "Nine Divorces Granted by Superior Court," *Statesville Daily Record*, May 24, 1943; "Weaver Funeral Set for Sunday," *Statesville Daily Record*, December 29, 1951; Iredell County Deed Book 586, Page 508.

Figure 24 Thelbert Weaver, January 1943. Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8165182571/in/album-72157631956148604/.

The Weaver House is a one-story front-gabled frame house built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. It is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Typical windows are six-over-six vinyl replacement. The shed porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts on brick piers. The façade has typical windows flanking the off-center replacement door, and there is a new octagonal louvered vent in the gable. The north elevation is three bays wide with typical windows flanking a pair of typical windows. The rear elevation has a small typical window and wood three-panel four-lite door with concrete steps and wood railing. The south elevation has two typical windows and a small typical window. The house was renovated after June 2022 according to Google Street View. Materials which were changed include three-over-one wood sash windows, asbestos shingle siding, wrought iron supports and wood railing at the front porch, and the front door.

Alice Clemons Cowan House, ca. 1929
Contributing Building
507 S. Elm Street

Alice Clemons Cowan purchased lot 33 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1922. She was born enslaved in 1864 and moved to Statesville after her husband Joe died. Alice lived at 321 Newton Avenue before building the house on South Elm Street. She died in 1960 aged 96, and her daughter Blanche Cowan Smith moved back from New York to live in the house until her death in 1986.[295]

The Cowan House is a two-story frame house built on brick pier foundation. It is sheathed in wood weatherboard German siding on the side elevations and vinyl siding on the façade. The side-gabled roof has asphalt shingles, and a brick chimney extends through the ridge at center. The façade is two bays wide. The wide gabled porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts on brick piers. The main level has a replacement door and a pair of typical six-over-one wood sash windows. The upper level has two six-over-one wood sash windows evenly spaced. The north elevation has a vinyl replacement window and a typical window at the main level and two typical windows at the upper level. The south elevation has two typical windows in the upper level and short one-over-one vinyl replacement windows in the main level.

[295] Iredell County Deed Book 69, Page 284; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1929), 136; "Mrs. Cowan's Rites Are Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 4, 1960.

Duplex, 1956
Contributing Building
511-513 S. Elm Street
Built in 1956 by contractor William C. York for white landlord Robert A. Collier, who purchased the property the previous year.[296]

This one-story front-gabled duplex is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and is sheathed in wood German siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The hipped porch has concrete floor and square section wood posts. The façade has a pair of replacement six-panel door for two separate entrances and one-over-one vinyl windows are typical. Exposed rafter tails are visible at the roof line and two brick chimneys extend through the roof ridge.

[296] Iredell County Deed Book 268, Page 298; "Year's Volume," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 7, 1956.

Duplex, 1956
Contributing Building
515-517 S. Elm Street
Built in 1956 by contractor William C. York for white landlord Robert A. Collier, who purchased the property the previous year.[297]

This one-story front-gabled duplex is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding, with original wood German siding visible in the façade gable, with an asphalt shingle roof. The hipped porch has concrete floor and square section wood posts. The façade is four bays wide with one-over-one vinyl windows flanking two replacement six-panel doors. Exposed rafter tails are visible at the roof line, and two brick chimneys extend through the roof ridge.

[297] Iredell County Deed Book 268, Page 298; "Year's Volume," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 7, 1956.

Margaret Brown Booker Duplex, ca. 1971
Contributing Building
521-525 S. Elm Street

Built ca. 1971 to replace two front-gabled homes on the parcel. Margaret Bernice Brown was the daughter of Mary Belle Ramsey Brown Bigham, who took over operation of Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary after the death of her husband. Margaret was educated at Shaw University and North Carolina Central University and retired from teaching in 1979. The duplex is still owned by her extended family members.[298]

The one-story, side-gabled brick Ranch duplex has a standing-seamed metal roof. It is symmetrical with unit entrances at the side elevations. The engaged corner porches have a concrete floor with square section wood posts and wrought iron railing. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement.

[298] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; "Margaret B. Booker," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 20, 2012; Iredell County Deed Book 682, Page 750.

John Walker and Nera Sharp Stockton House, ca. 1948
Contributing Building
524 S. Elm Street

John Walker Stockton worked as an orderly at Davis Hospital and retired as a janitor from North Carolina National Bank. His poem "Hero or Heel" was included in My Favorite Poems, part of an anthology series by Exposition Press, published in 1944. Nera was a cook in a private home. The Stocktons owned the house until 1998; John died in 2000 and Nera in 2003.[299]

The Stockton House is one-story front-gabled Minimal Traditional bungalow located at the corner of Elm and Dockery Streets. The house faces east and is sited near the street intersection. The house is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation with asbestos sheathed wood framing and a new metal roof. The asbestos siding continues into the gable, which has a half-round vent in the façade. Original six-over-six wood sash windows are covered with metal storm windows. A brick one-shouldered chimney on the south elevation has decorative brick details in the stack. The front porch is located at the northeast corner and extends from the façade. It has a concrete walk leading from Elm Street to concrete steps with wrought iron railing. The porch has a concrete floor and trios of square section wood posts with wood lattice infill. A gabled vestibule has been added on to the west elevation and has one-over-one aluminum sash windows and an arched hood over the door.

[299] "Poem of Local Man Included," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 17, 1944; "John Stockton," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 8, 2000; "Nera Stockton," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 13, 2003.

Garage, ca. 1956, ca. 1968, Contributing Building – The one-story detached garage/carport is sited behind the house and faces south with a concrete driveway from Dockery Street. The front-gabled roof has a metal roof and wood German siding in the gable. The building is two bays wide. The west bay is the original ca. 1956 garage constructed of concrete masonry units with no extant garage door. The east bay is a ca. 1968 carport; its slab is stepped down toward the house and has a brick knee wall around its east and north elevations. The roof is supported with decorative wrought iron posts, and metal siding has been installed at the north elevation atop minimal wood framing. A triangular section of driveway added to the original portion accesses this carport bay.

James Troy and Lottie Reaves Colvert House, ca. 1955
Contributing Building
532 S. Elm Street

J. Troy Colvert, a mechanic, and Lottie Reaves Colvert purchased lot 10 of the Broad Street Presbyterian Church property in December 1952. The Colverts sold the property to the Hollidays in 1961.[300]

The Colvert House is a one-story front-gabled building constructed of stuccoed concrete masonry units. The gable ends have asbestos siding and rectangular vents. The front gabled porch, built upon stuccoed concrete masonry units, has concrete stairs and wood railings to the concrete floor. The roof is supported by square section posts, and there are wood railings. Windows are replacement one-over-one vinyl sash.

[300] Iredell County Deed Book 236, Page 430; "Colvert Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 10, 1969; Iredell County Deed Book 350, Page 262.

Elvert W. and Theritha B. Cowan House, ca. 1964
Contributing Building
602 S. Elm Street

Elvert W. Cowan, Sr. and Zoreatha Cowan deeded to their son and daughter-in-law in 1964 a small parcel on S. Elm Street. Elvert Walter Cowan, Jr. married Theritha Byers in 1960. The house was likely built after they acquired the property in 1964, as the address does not appear in the 1962-1963 Statesville city directory. The Cowans lived in the house until before October 1980 and sold it in 1986.[301]

This one-story, Minimal Traditional-style house is side gabled with an asphalt shingle roof and vinyl siding. It is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation. The low slope shed porch has a tongue and groove wood deck and square section wood posts. Most windows have been replaced with one-over-one vinyl windows, though some likely original aluminum slider windows are extant. The south gabled extension has a rear shed wing with an entry door. A brick chimney rises through the ridge near the north end of the building. A prefabricated metal shed stands southwest of the house.

[301] "Marriage License," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 12, 1960; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 523; Iredell County Deed Book 395, Page 484; "First Business Scholarship Award Is Presented by Local BPW Club," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 11, 1981; Iredell County Deed Book 733, Page 373.

Henry C. and Allie O. Ijames House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
604 S. Elm Street

Henry Clay Ijames and Allie Oakley Ijames purchased the parcel at 604 S. Elm Street in 1938 from the heirs of Lee Fraley. A house was likely extant, as Samuel Smyre and Grace Smyre are listed as residents in the city directory in 1932-1933. Henry worked at the Statesville Steam Laundry, and Allie was a housekeeper for a private family. They sold the property in 1961, by which time Henry had moved to Philadelphia and Allie to Forsyth County.[302]

This one-story, side-gabled, frame Minimal Traditional-style house sits on a concrete masonry unit foundation and had its German weatherboard siding covered with vinyl between 2014 and 2022. The façade is three bays wide. A central wooden entry door is flanked by one-over-one vinyl replacement windows, can see original windows were taller as the openings have been filled. Concrete masonry unit chimney. Concrete porch on concrete masonry unit foundation has wrought iron supports, and the shed roof continues the roof plane.

[302] Iredell County Deed Book 134, Page 573; Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1933), 227; United States Census Office, 1940 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-32, Page 5A (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 361, Page 97.

Fraley-Cowan House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
606 S. Elm Street

The chain of title could not be traced beyond 1948, when the heirs of Lee Fraley deeded the property to James A. Fraley. The house was extant on the 1925 Sanborn map. The Fraleys resided in the house until at least 1960. Arthur D. Cowan purchased the house in 1973. He resided in the house since ca. 1962, when he was hired as a full-time custodian at the Iredell County Health Department.[303]

This front-gabled vernacular house is in deteriorating condition. It has a brick chimney with concrete cap extending through the south roof. The engaged porch has square section wood posts, and the tongue and groove wood deck has collapsed at the north side. What appear to be original four-over-four wood sash windows are obscured behind screens. The entry is a newer panel door. A shed extension at the rear has four-lite square windows.

[303] Iredell County Deed Book 201, Page 314; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 540, Page 192; "Cowan Is Hired as Custodian," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 29, 1962.

William Lee Cowan House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
618 S. Elm Street

The William Lee Cowan House was likely built by William Lee Cowan, who purchased the lot from Lee and Maggie Fraley in 1927. He lived in the house until his death in 1947. His heirs rented the property until selling it to John Robert Templeton and Lillian Gibson Templeton in 1979. Their son John R. Templeton, Jr. currently resides in the house.[304]

The William Lee Cowan House is a one-story, front gabled house with elements of the Craftsman style built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. It has a pressed metal shingle roof, exposed rafter tails in the eaves, and wood weatherboard siding. The façade has wood brackets at the lower eaves. The hipped porch has a concrete floor on brick pier with concrete masonry unit infill foundation and wood turned posts and railing. A concrete sidewalk leads to concrete masonry unit steps, and an aluminum ramp has been added from the street to the side of the porch. Brick chimney with terra cotta flues rise through the north and south portions of the roof. Windows are original four-over-one wood sash. The wood door has a storm door installed over.

[304] Iredell County Deed Book 85, Page 461; William Lee Cowan, Certificate of Death, "North Carolina, Deaths and Burials, 1898-1994", database, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:H4Z9-BX6Z), accessed April 7, 2025; Nick Linville and Susan V. Mayer interview with John Templeton, July 24, 2024.

Harris-Dalton House, 1925
Contributing Building
620 S. Elm Street

Silas Harris purchased a lot on S. Elm Street in 1924. He was issued a building permit for a "one-story frame dwelling on South Elm street, estimated cost, $1,200" in June 1925.[305] Harris worked at the Statesville Flour Mill. He and his wife Annie resided in the house until it was foreclosed upon and sold to First Building and Loan Association in 1931. The house was rented throughout the 1930s and sold to Fred Clark and Bessie Clark in 1940. The Clarks lived in the house for seven years before selling it to Horace Dalton and Bessie Dalton in 1946. Bessie died two months after, and Horace passed in 1951. The house remained in the family with the heirs of their daughter Annie Dalton Mattox.[306]

The Harris-Dalton House is a one-story, hipped roof, Craftsman-style house with wood weatherboard siding and standing seam roof. It is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The façade has an engaged porch with a concrete deck on concrete masonry unit and wrought iron supports and railing. The solid door has a wrought iron storm door. Windows are four-over-one original wood sash with metal storm windows over top. A small hipped dormer has two wood windows, one covered with plywood and the other missing

[305] "Building Permits Amounting to $26,700 Issued," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 25, 1925.
[306] Iredell County Deed Book 77, Page 2; Iredell County Deed Book 103, Page 18; Iredell County Deed Book 142, Page 145; Iredell County Deed Book 177, Page 6; "Funeral Thursday for Bessie Dalton," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* May 16, 1946; "Horace Dalton Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 4, 1951; Nick Linville and Susan V. Mayer interview with John Templeton, July 24, 2024.

glass. The brick chimney extends from the north slope of the roof. At the rear is a screened porch with steps on the south side. Eaves have exposed rafter tails.

Anna Lee Harris Williams Moore House, ca. 1902, ca. 1960
Contributing Building
624 S. Elm Street

A 1915 deed recorded that an Amanda Lee Williams purchased a one-eighth acre parcel "on which James (sic) Green builded and resided upon" on Green Street from George Steele.[307] Her name was likely recorded incorrectly on the deed, as she was known as Anna Lee Harris Williams, born in 1888 to Henry Harris and Virginia Summers Harris in Iredell County. Anna married twice—to Elijah Williams in 1904 and Benjamin Lum Moore, 25 years her senior, in 1919. Elijah died of pneumonia a few months before she purchased the property, while Benjamin passed two years after their marriage. Anna lived in the house until her death in 1965.[308] Her only daughter, Mary Anna Williams, inherited the property. Mary was educated at Morningside High School and Shaw University, and she returned to teach at her alma mater as well as other schools in Statesville and Newton. She died in 1979, and her cousin Virginia Louise Glenn, who had lived with Anna, inherited the house. Virginia had graduated from Morningside High School and Shaw University before enlisting in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. She sold the property in 1980.[309]

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled house has two shed dormers on the façade and windows in gables. The foundation is brick with concrete masonry unit infill. Windows are vinyl replacement six-over-six or one-over-one. Google Street View imagery from May 2014 shows that the house had a pressed tin roof and

[307] Iredell County Deed Book 52, Page 286.
[308] "Death Claims Mrs. Moore," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 6, 1965.
[309] "Educator Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 4, 1979; *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 3, 1944; "Studying in Paris," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 1, 1946.

three-over-one wood windows in the dormer. The porch has concrete floor on concrete masonry unit, wrought iron supports and railing. The front door is a replacement with a wrought iron storm door. The roof is asphalt shingle, and the two dormers have pairs of windows. There are two brick chimneys—one which rises through the façade roof with a tall metal stovepipe cap, and the second at the eave on the north elevation at the rear shed ell. A ca. 1960 addition at the south was likely a carport later enclosed; it has a low slope shed roof and replacement door with fanlight and wrought iron gate.

Zettie Elizabeth Gibbs House, 1952
Contributing Building
627 S. Elm Street

Zettie E. Gibbs received a building permit on November 8, 1951, for a "four room frame residence on South Elm street."[310] Her mother Annie Gibbs purchased land which included the parcel in 1896 from Mary C. Bell. Zettie worked as a cook for private families and died in 1963. The house remained in the Gibbs family until 2023.[311]

This one-story, side-gabled, Minimal Traditional-style house was under renovation at the time of survey and was recorded in August and September 2024. It has an asphalt shingle roof. Aluminum siding observed in August had been removed in September, exposing the original wood German siding. The foundation is stuccoed concrete masonry unit. Original six-over-six wood sash windows were been removed, and frames are currently empty. The façade has a gabled bay with window at the south and an engaged porch to the north with arched beam, concrete floor, and square section wood posts (two are missing- one from the northwest corner and one from the southwest corner). The front door is two panel six-lite wood with an adjacent window to the north. The north elevation had a pair of windows, a single shorter window, and gable vent. The south elevation had two windows flanking a shorter window and gable vent. The building was observed in May 2025 with sheathing removed and covered with housewrap.

[310] "Building Permits," *Statesville Daily Record*, November 8, 1951.
[311] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 350; "Illness Is Fatal to Mrs. Gibbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 3, 1963.

Shed, Contributing Building, ca. 1952 – A frame shed has shed roof, weatherboard siding, and wood door and window.

House, 2024
Noncontributing Building
631 S. Elm Street

The land was formerly part of the Annie Gibbs property. In 1963 Eunice Gibbs Knox sold the parcel, which had a house on it, to teachers Herman Horne and Thellena Dalton Horne. Herman was a teacher and coach at Morningside High School, while Thellena taught in schools at Conover and Newton before retiring from Mulberry Street School in Statesville. The house was demolished before 2007.[312]

The two-story house has a cross gabled roof with asphalt shingles. It is built on a concrete foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding. The façade has a prominent two-story front gabled bay with projecting shed bay with two windows over a two-car garage opening. The gable has decorative brackets. The shed porch has a concrete floor, square section posts, and four lite farmhouse door.

[312] Iredell County Deed Book 385, Page 175; "Thellena Dalton Horne," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 22, 2016.

Benjamin F. and Daisy Gibbs House, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
649 S. Elm Street

This parcel was part of the property purchased by Annie Gibbs from Mary C. Bell in 1896. Zettie Elizabeth Gibbs deeded the parcel to her son Benjamin Franklin Gibbs in 1941. Benjamin retired from the maintenance department of Statesville City Schools. He also served as an assistant coach for the Morningside High football team. His widow Daisy Stamey Gibbs Walker sold the house in 1980.[313]

This one-story, front gabled house is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and has an asphalt shingle roof. It is sheathed in vinyl siding. A brick chimney extends through the roof at the north slope. The shed roofed porch has a concrete floor and wrought iron supports and railing. The porch ceiling and gable ends are wood panel. A shed ell extends from the rear and has a porch with wrought iron railing. Windows are four-over-four vinyl replacement, and the front door is a six-panel replacement with storm door.

[313] Iredell County Deed Book 32, Page 350; Iredell County Deed Book 146, Page 205; "Gibbs, 62, Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* September 1, 1976; "Morningside Club Improved Machine," *Statesville Daily Record,* September 9, 1947; Iredell County Deed Book 657, Page 290.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
651 S. Elm Street
This one-story front-gabled house is built on a concrete slab and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is two bays wide with a projecting gabled ell with eave returns and centered typical one-over-one vinyl window in the first bay. A hipped porch with square section wood posts comprises the second bay and has a six-panel door and paired typical windows. A corner porch at south rear has square section wood posts.

Adams-Phelps House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
678 S. Elm Street

Minor Revere Adams and Annie Beatrice Bailey Adams appear in the 1925-1926 Statesville city directory as residents of 678 S. Elm Street. In the 1930 U. S. Census, they are listed as owners of the house, valued at $2,000. They defaulted on a deed in trust in 1936, and the property was sold by the Virginia Finance Corporation to G. M. and Mattie Phelps.[314]

The Adams-Phelps House is a one-and-one-half-story, front-gabled Craftsman house with an asphalt shingle roof and built on brick piers. Windows are a mix of original three-over-one wood sash and two-over-two, horizonal light wood sash. The hipped porch has concrete steps with knee wall and floor. It is supported by battered wood posts on brick piers at the center and brick piers at the corners and wrought iron railing spans between the piers. The façade has pairs of wood windows flanking the door. In the front gable are a pair of aluminum windows. The wood half-lite front door has a wrought iron storm door. The hipped porch at the rear has been enclosed. It has concrete steps and wood railing.

[314] Iredell County Deed Book 70, Page 431; Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1926), 102; Iredell County Deed Book 122, Page 559; Iredell County Deed Book 127, Page 339.

Sallie Adams Sherrill Rental House, ca. 1923
Contributing Building
686 S. Elm Street

Sallie Adams Sherrill, wife of John Andrew Sherrill, was granted Lot 2 of the Adams property along South Elm Street in 1922. The house was likely built after this. Sherrill lived at 631 Walker Street (later Harrison Street), so listed residents of the house were renters. One family member, her son Andrew, lived there in 1928-1929. Sallie died in 1954, and the Sherrill family sold the property in 1986.[315]

This one-story front gabled house has a standing seam metal roof, asbestos siding, and brick pier foundation with concrete masonry unit infill. Typical windows are four-over-one wood sash. The shed porch has wood decking and square section wood posts and railing. The replacement door has a wrought iron storm door and is flanked by typical windows. There are two brick chimneys—a larger rectangular chimney with brick cap through the south roof slope, and a smaller square chimney with terra cotta flue through the north slope. The north and south elevation each have two windows evenly spaced. At the rear is a shed ell.

[315] Iredell County Deed Book 70, Page 431; Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1929), 241; "Sherrill Rites Set for Sunday," *Statesville Daily Record*, February 6, 1954; Iredell County Deed Book 1192, Page 1076.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
689 S. Elm Street

Former site of the Aggie and Zena R. Colbert House**.** A one-story dwelling appears on the 1925 Sanborn map. It is listed as the residence of Aggie John Colvert and Zena Viola Rickert Grant Colvert in the 1922-1923 city directory. Zena was noted in a 1948 newspaper article as "the first woman to cross the new bridge nearing completion on South Elm street over the tracks of the Southern Railway."[316] The house was gone by 1956 according to aerial imagery, which shows a smaller building in its place.

This one-story front-gabled house is built on a concrete slab and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is two bays wide with a pair of typical one-over-one vinyl windows in the first bay. A gabled porch extends slightly forward in the second bay. It has square section wood posts, paired typical windows, and a six-panel door facing east. A half-lite door is at the south elevation. The house is built below street level, which slopes up to the S. Elm Street Bridge.

[316] "First Woman to Cross New Bridge," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 1, 1948.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
691 S. Elm Street

This one-story front-gabled house is built on a concrete slab and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is two bays wide. A gabled porch extends slightly forward in the first bay. It has square section wood posts, paired typical windows, and a six-panel door facing east. A pair of typical one-over-one vinyl windows are the second bay. A half-lite door is at the north elevation. The house is built below street level, which slopes up to the S. Elm Street Bridge.

Sanford Adams House, ca. 1890
Contributing Building
692 S. Elm Street

Sanford Adams built this house before he died by ca. 1890. He purchased two parcels of land totaling one acre from Mary C. Bell in 1882.[317] In 1922 his heirs including his widow Jennie Cowan Adams Feimster sought to divide his lands. Son Will Adams had been missing for at least fifteen years, so the Adams heirs pursued legal action to make a clear division. A one-third portion of interest in the parcel with "the dwelling house offices, out-houses, building and improvements thereon" was given to Jennie, though lots 3 and 4 with the house were assigned to daughter Ada Adams and Susie Adams Headen (or Heyden).[318] Ada and Susie deeded their interest in the property to the latter's daughter Annie Belle Heyden Withers in 1947 and 1966. Annie sold the property to Lucille W. Chipley, a neighbor who had been a long-term renter, in 1969.[319]

This one-story side gabled house is set below the street, as South Elm Street was built up when the bridge over the railroad was constructed in 1948. It is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill, is sheathed in vinyl siding, and has an asphalt shingle roof. A prominent centered front gable with vent is over the hipped façade porch. Windows appear to be three-over-one wood sash, though many were hard to see. The porch has wood plank flooring and square section wood posts and railing. The front door appears to be

[317] Iredell County Deed Book 8, Pages 70-71.
[318] Iredell County Deed Book 70, Page 431.
[319] Iredell County Deed Book 470, Page 141.

wood with a storm door. Gable ells extend from the rear at the north and south ends. A tree had fallen on the south gable ell as observed in May 2025.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
695 S. Elm Street

Former site of the Williamson House. Alexander "Alex" Williamson and Connie Kimbrough Williamson purchased the property in 1920, on which a one-story frame house was recorded in the 1925 Sanborn map. Aerial photography ca. 1955 shows the house as side-gabled with a prominent centered façade gable.[320] The house was demolished between 1965, when it last appeared in aerial imagery, and 1983.

The two-story house is built on a concrete slab and has a front-gabled asphalt shingle roof with continuous eave. The façade is three bays wide with each level having different fenestration patterns. The main level has a pair of typical two-over-two vinyl windows in the first bay and a three-lite door in the middle bay. The full-width shed porch has square section wood posts. The upper level has a pair of typical windows in the first bay and a typical window in the third bay. The house is built below street level, which slopes up to the S. Elm Street Bridge.

[320] Max Tharpe, "Airviews221," Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8394353887/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025

Duplex, ca. 1954
Contributing Building
707-709 S. Elm Square

Dr. Robert Holliday and Mary C. Holliday purchased the property in 1949 and constructed the duplex by 1954-1955, when it first appeared in the city directory.[321]

This one-story, front-gabled duplex has a standing seamed metal roof with composite shingles and octagonal vent in the gable end. It is constructed of concrete masonry units. The shed porch has a concrete floor with square section wood posts. A pair of replacement six-panel doors are flanked by one-over-one vinyl replacement windows, which are typical throughout. The eaves have exposed rafter tails. It is nearly identical to the duplex next door at 711-7-13 S. Elm Street.

[321] Iredell County Deed Book 210, Page 75; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1954–1955* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1955), 447.

Duplex, ca. 1952
Contributing Building
711-713 S. Elm Street

Dr. Robert Holliday and Mary C. Holliday purchased the property in 1949 and constructed the duplex by 1953, when it first appeared in the city directory.[322]

This one-story, front-gabled duplex has a standing seamed metal roof and is sheathed in vinyl siding on its side elevations, composite shingles with octagonal vent in the gable, and board and batten siding on the façade. The shed porch has a concrete floor with square section posts. A pair of replacement six panel doors are flanked by one-over-one vinyl replacement windows, which are typical throughout. It is nearly identical to the duplex next door at 711-7-13 S. Elm Street.

[322] Iredell County Deed Book 210, Page 75; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953), 438.

S. Elm Street Bridge, 1948
Contributing Structure
S. Elm Street

The Statesville Board of City Aldermen made final approval of plans to construct a bridge over the Southern Railway tracks at South Elm Street in March 1947. The bridge replaced a "one-horse crossing located about a block east of the proposed bridge."[323] The bridge was built by Southern Railway and constructed of creosote timbers. It was finished in January 1948, though it did not open to traffic until after the city completed grading approaches and paving extensions of South Elm Street to Jefferson Street. The bridge provided safer access for students walking to Morningside School, but it also increased traffic in the neighborhood as large trucks and other vehicles could more easily access the industrial sites on Monroe Street. Owners along South Elm Street were compensated in 1949 for damage to their property in the construction of the graded approaches.[324]

The South Elm Street Bridge carries South Elm Street over three tracks of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The substructure consists of creosote timber trusses on concrete pediments and concrete retaining wall on either end of the span. The superstructure of timber floor on steel I-beams supports the asphalt deck. Built on the superstructure is a wood plank on raised wood frame pedestrian sidewalk running along the east edge of the bridge. Horizontal wood railing is on either side of the bridge.

[323] "Southern," *Statesville Daily Record*, March 5, 1947, 8.
[324] "Elm Street Bridge Approved by City," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 8, 1947; "Tree Trimming Project Planned for Statesville," *Statesville Daily Record*, January 8, 1949.

772

Falls Street

Powell-Mattox House, ca. 1923
Contributing Building
503 Falls Street

Louisa Powell purchased lot 58 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1922. She died in 1926, and her daughter Florence Carlton Taylor lived there until her death in 1952. Artis Mattox and Susie Starks Mattox purchased the house from the heirs and were long-time residents.[325]

The Powell-Mattox House is a one-story, front-gabled frame house built on masonry foundation and sheathed asbestos siding over wood weatherboard. It has a standing seam metal roof. Typical windows are two-over-two wood sash. The shed porch has a concrete floor and wrought iron decorative posts. A brick chimney rises through the north plane of the roof.

[325] Iredell County Deed Book 73, Page 22; Iredell County Deed Book 235, Page 409; "Taylor Rites at 2 Monday," *Statesville Daily Record*, February 16, 1952; "Mattox, 70, Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 26, 1977.

Murdock-Bruner House, ca. 1945, 1956
Contributing Building
505 Falls Street

William Franklin "Will" Murdock, a carpenter, and Ola Lee Murdock purchased lot 59 of the Tomlin property in September 1945; it is unknown if the house was extant, as the grantor was the estate of white landlord Isidore Wallace. Will was granted a building permit in 1956 to enclose the back porch and convert it into a room.[326] They lived in the house until after Ola's death in 1963, when the property was sold to Rama Cowles and Alberta Hewitt Bruner. Rama worked as a taxi driver for Barney Ramsey until purchasing a taxi license to operate Bruner's Taxi Service on South Center Street.[327]

The Murdock-Bruner House is a one-story, front-gabled brick veneer house built on brick foundation. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The partial-width, front gabled porch has a brick-edged concrete floor and square section wood posts on brick piers. The gable has horizontal wood composite paneling.

[326] Iredell County Deed Book 171, Page 219; United States Census Office, 1950 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-42-B, Page 11 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024; "New Construction in City Soars Beyond $2 Million Mark," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 1, 1956; "Murdock Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 31, 1975.
[327] Iredell County Deed Book 378, Page 411; "Funeral Set for Bruner," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 6, 1973.

Henry W. and Katie S. Mozer House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
510 Falls Street

Henry William Mozer and Katie Sparks Mozer purchased lots 54-55 of the Tomlin property in 1942. A house may have been extant according to the 1930 Sanborn map, though it is identified as a one-story building unlike the extant resource. Henry worked as a fireman at Statesville Plywood and Veneer Company. They lived in the home until their deaths in 1970 and 1975.[328]

The Mozer House is located on a hill above Falls Street and is accessed by concrete steps with tube steel railing. It is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gable house, built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. The shed porch has concrete steps and floor and wrought iron supports and railing. The façade has three-over-one wood sash windows flanking the off-center front door. The side elevations have four-over-one Craftsman wood sash windows. The north elevation has a single window and pair of windows in the ground level and a pair of windows in the gable. The south elevation has two single windows in the ground level and a pair of windows in the gable. At rear are a metal prefabricated carport and wood frame shed.

[328] Iredell County Deed Book 148, Page 278; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed April 10, 2025; "Mozer, 79, Is Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 26, 1970; "Mrs. Mozer Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 1, 1975.

McDowell Duplex, ca. 1957
Contributing Building
511-513 Falls Street

Effie L. Morrison and Clarence Morrison sold lots 60, 61, 73, and 74 of the Tomlin plat to Dr. Edward A. McDowell in 1950.[329] Local builder W. C. York was granted a permit to construct "two duplex apartments" on "East Fall Street" in July 1956, likely this building and the identical one at 517-517 Falls Street.[330] Dr. McDowell was a native of Statesville who attended Morningside High School, Johnson C. Smith University, and Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He practiced medicine in Philadelphia and died in 1967. His estate sold the property to white landlords E. Julian Webb and Irene Webb in 1976.[331]

This one-story, front-gabled frame duplex is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and is sheathed in German wood siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are a mix of six-over-six wood sash and one-over-one vinyl replacement. The hipped front porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts and railing. The façade is four bays wide, with the entries to the individual units flanked by windows. The first bay has a replacement window, and the second bay has a five-panel wood door. The third bay has a six-lite wood door with wood screen door, and the fourth bay has a wood sash window. The south elevation has a replacement window, wood window, and smaller wood window. There are exposed rafter tails at the eaves.

[329] Iredell County Deed Book 18, Page 286.
[330] *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 3, 1956.
[331] T. E. Allison, Jr., "News of Statesville Colored People," *Statesville Daily Record*, December 15, 1933; "Death Claims Dr. McDowell," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 10, 1967; Iredell County Deed Book 587, Page 306.

Two brick chimneys extend from the roof ridge near the front and rear of the building. This building is identical to the duplex at 515-517 Falls Street.

McDowell Duplex, ca. 1957
Contributing Building
515-517 Falls Street

Effie L. Morrison and Clarence Morrison sold lots 60, 61, 73, and 74 of the Tomlin plat to Dr. Edward A. McDowell in 1950.[332] Local builder W. C. York was granted a permit to construct "two duplex apartments" on "East Fall Street" in July 1956, likely this building and the identical one at 511-513 Falls Street.[333] Dr. McDowell was a native of Statesville who attended Morningside High School, Johnson C. Smith University, and Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He practiced medicine in Philadelphia and died in 1967. His estate sold the property to white landlords E. Julian Webb and Irene Webb in 1976.[334]

This front-gabled frame duplex is built on concrete masonry unit foundation and is sheathed in wood German siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are a mix of six-over-six wood sash and one-over-one vinyl replacement. The façade is four bays wide, with the entries to the individual units flanked by windows. The first bay has a replacement window, and the second bay has a six-panel replacement door. The third bay has a five-panel wood door, and the fourth bay has a wood sash window. The hipped front porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts and railing. The north elevation has a replacement window, a window filled with an opaque panel, and a smaller replacement window. The south elevation has a wood sash window, one-over-one wood sash window, and smaller wood sash window. Rafter tails are exposed in the

[332] Iredell County Deed Book 18, Page 286.
[333] *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 3, 1956.
[334] T. E. Allison, Jr., "News of Statesville Colored People," *Statesville Daily Record*, December 15, 1933; "Death Claims Dr. McDowell," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 10, 1967; Iredell County Deed Book 587, Page 306.

eaves. Two chimneys rise through the roof ridge. This building is identical to the duplex at 511-513 Falls Street.

House, ca. 1963
Contributing Building
525 Falls Street

White landlords Sherrill R. Holland, Jr. and Winnifred L. Holland purchased lot 63 of the Tomlin plat in August 1961 from Clarence and Effie L. Morrison, who lived next door at 533 Falls Street. The house was built for Black tenants ca. 1963 according to tax records, and the address does not appear in the 1962-1963 Statesville city directory.[335] The Hollands sold the property to Sallie Holland Taylor in July 1974. Sallie was the daughter of Will Holland and Addie White Holland. She was a graduate of Morningside High School who resided in Columbus, Ohio. Her brother Theodore R. "Bub" Holland was living in the house when he passed in April 1974, and it is likely that her mother Addie also resided there until moving to Ohio. She owned the property until 1988, when she sold it to Allen F. Morrison, son of Clarence and Effie, and Karen M. Morrison, who lived at 533 Falls Street.[336]

This house is a one-story frame building constructed on a concrete masonry unit foundation and sheathed in wood weatherboard siding. The side-gabled roof is asphalt shingle. A shed extension of the roof comprises the porch and is supported by turned wood posts on a concrete slab. Windows are two-over-two wood sash.

[335] Iredell County Deed Book 350, Page 292, Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 523.
[336] Iredell County Deed Book 561, Page 282; "Holland Rites Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* April 9, 1974; "Death Takes Mrs. Holland," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 3, 1979; Iredell County Deed Book 774, Page 109.

A shed porch is located on the south elevation. A single shoulder brick chimney rises through the eave at the south elevation.

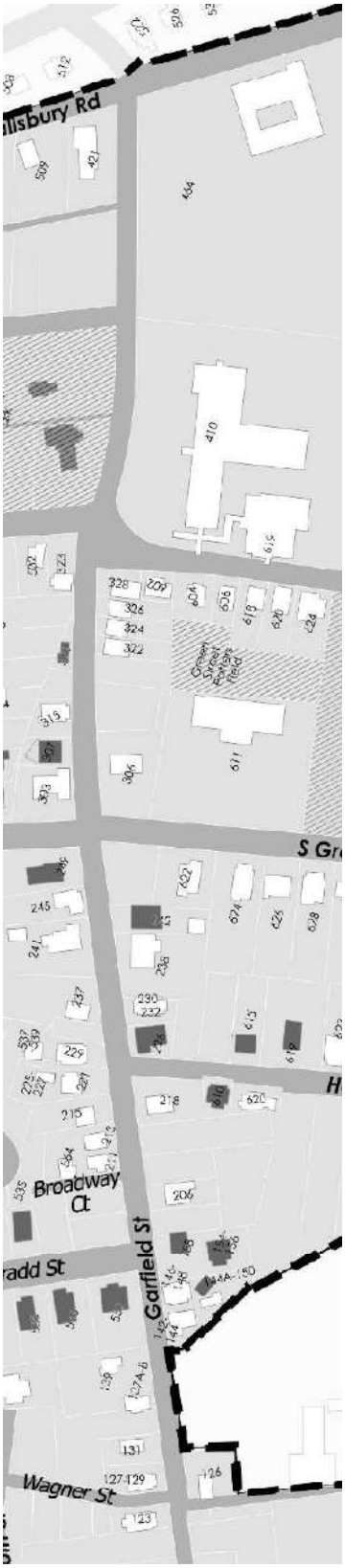
Clarence R. and Effie L. Morrison House, ca. 1954
Noncontributing Building
533 Falls Street

Clarence Raleigh Morrison and Effie L. Atwater Morrison purchased lots 64-67 of the Tomlin development in July 1953. They had previously lived at 624 Falls Street, but they moved when their rental house was sold to make way for the Garfield Recreation Center pool. Effie advertised as an Avon consultant in 1955 and was part of a handicraft club which sold handmade garments and crocheted linens at Houston's Pressing Club. Effie died in 1960, and Clarence remarried to Mamie James Morrison. Clarence retired from Statesville Flour Mill and passed away in 1981.[337]

The Morrison House is a one-story, side-gabled house built of concrete masonry units with coarsely textured stucco. The uncovered porch, which had a shed roof removed after 2014 according to Google Street View, has wood railing and concrete deck. Typical windows are six-over-six vinyl replacement windows with concrete sills. The walkout basement has a door on the north elevation covered with plywood.

[337] Iredell County Deed Book 242, Page 597; Iredell County Deed Book 245, Page 131; "Down in Iredell," *Statesville Daily Record*, July 21, 1953; "Avon Products," classified advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 24, 1955; "Talented Handicraft Club," classified advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 12, 1948; "Mrs. Morrison Taken in Death," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 11, 1960; "Morrison Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 5, 1981.

Garfield Street



Duplex, ca. 1960
Contributing Building
123 Garfield Street

The property, then addressed 121 Garfield Street, was acquired by Dr. R. S. Holliday and Mary C. Holliday in 1945. Sanborn maps up to 1950 as well as a 1941 aerial photograph show a side-gabled one-story building in this location. City directories show the property as occupied or extant until 1960-1961, when it was not listed. In the 1962-1963 city directory, 123 Garfield Street was occupied by the family of Rosa L. Robertson, indicating that the extant building was built by this date. In 1981 Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church purchased the property from the Holliday estate.[338]

This one-story front-gabled house was converted from a duplex by 2020 according to property records. It is constructed of concrete masonry units. The façade is four bays wide, with typical six-over-six wood sash windows flanking a CMU-infilled doorway and a six-panel replacement door with storm door. The gabled porch has a concrete masonry unit foundation with concrete floor and narrow round columns. German wood

[338] Iredell County Deed Book 171, Page 603; Iredell County Deed Book 71, Page 393; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 15), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 20, 2024; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1958–1959* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1959), 489; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1960–1961* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1961), 523; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963), 531; Iredell County Deed Book 665, Page 35.

siding is in the gable ends of the porch and main roof. Side elevations are three bays wide with typical windows in each bay. Two concrete masonry unit chimneys with terra cotta flues rise through the roof ridge.

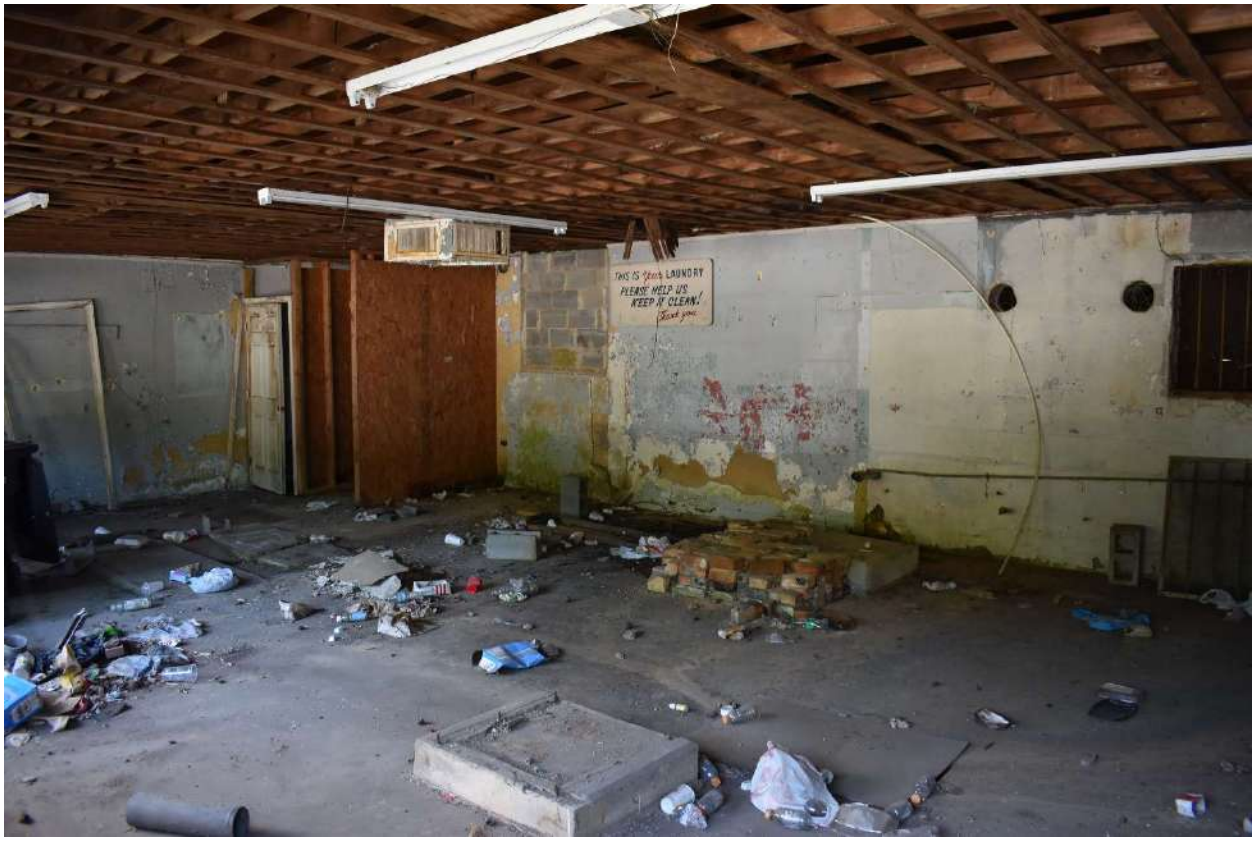
Econ-O-Wash Laundromat, 1956
Contributing Building
126 Garfield Street

The property, which had a one-story duplex addressed 126-128 Garfield Street, was purchased in 1945 by Frances G. Nicholson, a white real estate agent.[339] In May 1956 Nicholson received a permit to "build one seafood market."[340] Lewis Seafood Market opened in July 1956 and operated at the location until moving to S. Center Street and Bell Street in October 1957. In November 1958 Erskine L. Johnson, Jr. asked city council to amend the blue laws to allow operation of a coin-operated automatic laundry in the building, but the measure was unanimously voted down.[341] Nicholson sold the property to Paul S. Grier, Jr., a white former Statesville resident living in South Carolina, in 1966. The Econo-Wash (or Econ-O-Wash) laundromat opened in the space by 1969 and operated at least through 1981.[342]

The one-story, side-gabled asphalt shingle roof is asymmetrical, giving a mansard appearance at the façade. The façade is five bays wide with two replacement 9-lite doors in the first and fourth bays. The second, third,

[339] Iredell County Deed Book 172, Page 152.
[340] "Year's Volume Thus Far Hits $1,310,000 Mark," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 7, 1956.
[341] "New Seafood Market Opens on Garfield," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* July 5, 1956; "Seafood at Its Finest!", advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 28, 1957; "Seafood Market at New Location," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* October 29, 1957; "Hearing Set on Rezoning," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* November 8, 1956.
[342] Iredell County Deed Book 422, Page 180; "Damage Estimated in Auto Accidents," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 15, 1969; Advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 2, 1981.

and fifth bays have original metal frame windows, unglazed due to broken glass. The concrete masonry unit exterior has been stuccoed.



Duplex, ca. 1941
Contributing Building
127-129 Garfield Street

The property was acquired by Dr. R. S. Holliday and Mary C. Holliday in 1928. A one-story frame building was recorded on the site on the 1930 Sanborn map. A 1941 aerial photograph shows the current one-story front-gabled house, with the lot appearing cleared of grass suggesting that the building was either under construction or recently completed. The 1944-1945 city directory is the first to record the duplex as 127-129 Garfield Street.[343]

This one-story, front-gable frame house features a brick foundation, German wood siding, and asphalt shingle roof. The shed porch has brick foundation with concrete floor and wrought iron supports. A wood ramp to the porch is built over the steps. Brick chimneys pierce the roof slope on the east and west sides. Windows include a mix of original six-over-six wood sash windows and six-over-six vinyl replacement windows.

[343] Iredell County Deed Book 97, Page 55; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 15), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed April 7, 2025; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1944–1945* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1945), 384.

Rankin's Barber Shop, ca. 1967
Contributing Building
131 Garfield Street

Barber Leon Rankin and cosmetologist Mary Dula Rankin purchased the property in 1967. Up through the 1950 Sanborn map, a one-story house had been extant. Shortly after purchase, Rankin requested the Statesville Planning and Zoning Board rezone the site from residential to business "for a barber shop."[344] A native of Iredell County, Rankin attended Fayetteville State University. He served in the military during World War II, after which he enrolled at Modern Barber College in Winston-Salem. Upon moving to Statesville, he worked at Littlejohn's Sanitary Barber Shop and Jimmie's Barber Shop before opening his own business. Rankin was an active civic leader, serving as an officer in the NAACP and as a commissioner for the Statesville Housing Authority.[345]

[344] "Planning Board Meets Tuesday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 22, 1967.
[345] "Leon Rankin, obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 23, 1994.

Figure 25 Leon Rankin was sworn in as a five-year term on the Statesville Housing Authority board of commissioners in October 1981. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 16, 1981.

This commercial building is a one-story, front-gable, concrete masonry unit building with a running bond brick façade. Window lintels and sills are brick. Façade has replacement nine-lite 2-panel steel door, original window opening has infill vinyl siding with replacement vinyl 2-lite window. West elevation has entrance approached by wood ramp with wrought iron railing and similar replacement door as façade. Asphalt shingle roof and wide wood weatherboard in gable. The basement has a small window. Thru-wall AC units at side elevations.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
137A-B Garfield Street

A 1907 birds eye view map of Statesville shows two houses in the approximate location of this parcel sited as they appear today. The earliest Sanborn map to show this portion of Garfield Street dates to 1918, which shows the building as 139 Garfield Street. In the 1920 U. S. Census, the family of Mattie Howard was listed as renters at this address.[346] In 1932 the owners defaulted on the parcel, with the deed noting, "On this lot is two dwelling houses."[347]

This one-story-on-basement, cross-gabled residence has an asphalt shingle roof and is sheathed in vinyl siding. It has been converted to a duplex with one unit at street level and the other in the basement level. The façade has a prominent gable bay extending from the side-gabled two-story portion of the house and a shed porch at its west elevation. The street level unit is approached by a concrete walkway from the Garfield Street sidewalk to the newly rebuilt shed porch with concrete masonry unit foundation, wood decking, railing, and square section posts. The new porch was nearly doubled in width when rebuilt by expanding to the west. A new four-lite two-panel farmhouse door and replacement vinyl windows (a mix of one-over-one and six-

[346] A. E. Downs, *Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina* (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; United States Census Office, 1920 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 102, Page 9B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.
[347] Iredell County Deed Book 106, Page 50.

over-six) have been installed. The site slopes down sharply from the sidewalk, with a parged masonry foundation at the facade. The basement unit is accessed at the east elevation under a shed porch with concrete floor and square section wood posts. A shed ell extends from the north/rear elevation.

House, ca. 1907
Contributing Building
139 Garfield Street

A 1907 birds eye view map of Statesville shows two houses in the approximate location of this parcel sited as they appear today. The earliest Sanborn map to show this portion of Garfield Street dates to 1918, with the house having the address 143 Garfield Street.[348] In 1932 the owners defaulted on the parcel containing 137 and 139 Garfield Street, which deed noted "On this lot is two dwelling houses."[349] In 1953 white owner Isaac T. Avery, Jr., was granted a building permit "to add a kitchen and a bath."[350]

This one-story cross-gabled has standing seam metal roof and vinyl siding. Windows are four-over-four wood sash. The façade is two bays wide, with entry door with storm door under the shed porch in the first bay. The second bay consists of the prominent front-gabled ell. The porch has square section wood posts and wood decking on stuccoed masonry foundation. A wood ramp approaches the porch.

[348] A. E. Downs, *Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina* (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.
[349] Iredell County Deed Book 106, Page 50.
[350] "Chair Company Adds 2nd Story," *Statesville Daily Record*, April 1, 1953.

Littlejohn Duplex, ca. 1923
Contributing Building
142-144 Garfield Street

Built by Angus and Ida Littlejohn after his barber shop burned in a large fire along S. Center Street in January 1923. The Littlejohns purchased a lot on Garfield Street from R. D. and Eliza Watts. They built a two-story building in which the family resided and operated businesses, as well as a house next door that was rented. In the 1925-1926 Statesville city directory, Ida operated Littlejohn's Café at the property while Angus and son William ran a barber shop on South Center Street. Commercial space was also rented out to dentist V. R. "Dock" Davis and real estate agent Chavis Renwick.[351] Angus died in 1926 and Ida in 1927. William, who lived in Wallacetown and became principal at Rocky Knoll School, rented out the properties. Rev. Anderson Ballard Smoot operated a grocery store here in 1928-1929 according to the city directory. After this date the property was converted to rental housing, with Hattie Knox and her family listed as renters. According to the 1940-1941 city directory, the property had been converted to a duplex.[352]

This two-story, clipped gable building features a two-level, engaged porch with solid railing. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has a standing seam metal roof. The building has a mix of windows, including one-over-one aluminum sash, six-over-six wood sash, four-over-one wood sash, and one-over-one vinyl sash. The façade is two bays wide with access to the east and west units. The east unit entry has a solid wood door flanked by a pair of fixed windows and a pair of aluminum sash windows. A pair of fixed windows are on the east elevation, and a doorway is visible inside. The west unit entry has a storm door accessing a porch with stairs with wrought iron railing to the upper porch and obscured window. Flanking the storm door are a fixed window and a cased opening, which formerly had a fixed window according to Google Streetview. The upstairs porch previously had windows, but only cased openings are extant. The upstairs façade is two bays wide with a replacement fanlight door with storm door and four-over-one wood sash window. The west elevation has a stepped shed ell with cased doorway and window openings; it appears in aerial imagery by 2002. There are two brick chimneys through the roof ridge.

[351] "$30,000 Fire on South Center," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 18, 1923; "Real Estate Transfers," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 12, 1923; "Colored Dentist Located Here," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 14, 1924; Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1926), 175-176, 275.

[352] Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1929), 195, 322; United States Census Office, 1930 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-28, Page 17B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1940–1941* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1941), 335.

Duplex, ca. 1993
Noncontributing Building
144A-150 Garfield Street

Built as a rental property behind 142-144 and 146-148 Garfield Street. This one-story side-gabled house has a standing seam metal roof and is sheathed in aluminum siding. The shed porch has square section wood posts. The concrete masonry unit foundation is stuccoed and has architectural stone on the façade. The wood screen doors appear original, and the windows are vinyl replacement one-over-one.

Littlejohn House, ca. 1923
Contributing Building
146-148 Garfield Street

Built by Angus and Ida Littlejohn ca. 1923 after Littlejohn's barber shop burned in a large fire along S. Center Street in January 1923. The Littlejohns purchased a lot on Garfield Street from R. D. and Eliza Watts. They built the house and a two-story building next door at 142-144 Garfield Street. In the 1925-26 Statesville city directory, dentist V. R. "Dock" Davis lived in the house and maintained his practice next door at 144 Garfield Street. Angus died in 1926 and Ida in 1927. The property was inherited by son William, who converted it into a rental property. In the 1930 U. S. Census, the family of James Turner were listed as renters. It is now a duplex.[353]

This one-story-on-basement, front-gabled building has a stuccoed foundation. It is sheathed in vinyl siding with a standing seam metal roof. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl sash. The façade has a prominent gabled enclosed porch. The main level is accessed by a wood deck with railing at the east elevation and replacement fanlight door with flanking typical window. The façade has three pairs of typical windows, and the west elevation has a pair of typical windows. The basement level is two bays wide. The east bay has an

[353] "$30,000 Fire on South Center," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 18, 1923; "Real Estate Transfers," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 12, 1923; Ernest H. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1926), 275; United States Census Office, 1930 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 49-28, Page 17B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

infilled window adjacent to a damaged wood door with storm door. The west bay has a replacement door with storm door and typical window. There are two chimneys through the roof plane, a larger stuccoed chimney at east and a square brick chimney at west. Six-over-six wood sash windows remain on the main level of the side elevations.

Duplex, ca. 1984
Noncontributing Building
154-156 Garfield Street

This two-story side-gabled duplex faces west. It has a parged foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are one-over-one vinyl sash. The gabled porch has wood square section posts, decking, and railing.

House, ca. 1993
Noncontributing Building
158 Garfield Street

This two-story, side-gabled building is sheathed in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. It has a two-car garage entry on the west elevation with a single-leaf door to the south of it and the main entrance to dwelling via wood deck that leads to the second story on the south elevation. The primary entrance is not visible from the right-of-way. The foundation is clad in architectural stone. Windows are one-over-one vinyl sash.

Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home, 1926
Contributing Building
206 Garfield Street

In April 1926 Max Osborne was granted a permit to build "a residence on Garfield street, $3,600."[354] Max worked for Carolina Motor Company, and his wife Mary Redding Osborne was a math teacher in Winston Salem. They owned the house until foreclosure in 1937.[355] Euva Lee Mangum purchased the property in 1940. Her husband Travis Van Mangum had partnered with Arthur Torrence Peterson to found Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home in 1933. The business relocated to 206 Garfield Street in 1943 and would remain at the location until 1972.[356]

[354] "Building Permits for April," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 3, 1926.
[355] "Maxie Osborne Celebrates 15th Marriage Anniversary," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 30, 1926; Iredell County Deed Book 112, Page 235.
[356] Iredell County Deed Book 140, Page 618; "Business Expands in Moves," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 8, 1974.

Figure 26 Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home was located at 206 Garfield Street from 1943 until 1972. "Business Expands in Move," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 8, 1974.

The former Peterson & Mangum Funeral Home is located above street level, and there is a brick retaining wall at the sidewalk. Two runs of brick stairs lead to the entry. This unusual two-story running bond brick veneer building has a low-pitched hipped roof with exposed rafter tails and a stuccoed chimney near the peak. Typical windows are one-over-one wood sash, but many are broken or covered with plywood. Fenestration at the main level has soldier row lintels, and brick sills at both levels. The asymmetrical façade is three bays wide. The east bay has a square opening in the main level, formerly a trio of windows, and a single typical window above . The entry bay has an inset doorway with hipped bracketed hood with a polygonal bay window above. The bay window has narrow typical windows, with two in the façade face, and weatherboard siding below. The west bay has typical windows aligned. A brick porch extends across the façade and has wrought iron railing at the west end.

Jennie Pearson House, ca. 1900
Contributing Building
211 Garfield Street

In 1919 Jennie Pearson purchased from Nannie Truesday "the house and lot where said Jennie Pearson has lived for about fifteen years and where she now lives."[357] Her son Fred Pearson later owned the property. In 1942 Dr. Lyman C. Holliday of Cumberland County, North Carolina, brother of Dr. Robert Holliday, purchased the property, which became a long-term rental.[358]

The Pearson House is a one-story frame house built on a parged brick foundation. It is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding with an asphalt shingle side-gabled roof. Typical windows are four-over-one Craftsman wood sash. The shed porch has a mix of wood tongue and groove and plank replacement decking and square section wood posts and railing. A gabled ell extends from the rear. The house showed evidence of fire damage at the eaves during time of survey in June 2024.

[357] Iredell County Deed Book 71, Page 61.
[358] Iredell County Deed Book 153, Page 54.

House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
213 Garfield Street

This one-story, clipped gable house is built on a parged brick foundation and is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding with asphalt shingles. The shed porch has plywood decking and square section wood posts and railing. The façade has typical four-over-one wood sash windows flanking the off-center entry door. A small louvered vent is in the gable. The brick chimney is stuccoed.

House, ca. 1959
Contributing Building
215 Garfield Street

J. Talmadge Adams, a white postal carrier, and Sadie E. Adams purchased the property at 215 Garfield Street in 1959, and they built a small house which they rented to Black tenants.

The small, one-story, side-gabled Minimal Traditional-style house is built on concrete masonry unit foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is symmetrical with typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows near the corners and the replacement entry door is centered in the elevation. An uncovered concrete porch has wrought iron railing. A concrete block chimney pierces the roof ridge.

Ezra A. and Bessie Patterson Abernathy House, ca. 1916
Contributing Building
218 Garfield Street

Ezra Alfred Abernathy and Bessie Patterson Abernathy purchased the parcel from Jerry Richardson in 1916. Ezra and Bessie were teachers, though Ezra left the classroom when he moved to Statesville to work at Fraley Grocery Store. He retired from Thomas & Howard wholesale grocery. Bessie died in 1951, and Ezra remarried to Jimmie Keck. He died in 1957.[359]

The Abernathy House is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, frame Craftsman-style house built on a brick foundation. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. The house was renovated ca. 2023. According to a real estate listing, it previously had four-over-one wood sash windows and a brick chimney through the roof at rear.[360] The façade is three bays wide with an engaged porch. The porch has wood plank decking and larger square section wood columns, possibly original or historic, and railing. Under the porch are two typical six-over-six vinyl replacement windows, smaller than the original fenestration, flanking a replacement door. The extant gabled dormer with typical window centered in the façade replaced a shed dormer.

[359] Iredell County Deed Book 67, Page 290; "Abernathy Rites Set for Friday," *Statesville Daily Record*, April 12, 1951; "Ezra Abernathy Rites Saturday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 25, 1957.
[360] 218 Garfield Street, Statesville, NC 28677, Realtor.com, https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/218-Garfield-St_Statesville_NC_28677_M58898-25420, accessed May 5, 2025.

Ethel Barrett Greene House, ca. 1946
Contributing Building
221 Garfield Street

Ethel Barrett Greene was deeded the property from Mary Belle Wood McNeely Frink Tomlin, her foster mother, in May 1946. The next month, her husband William Arthur Greene was granted a building permit for a "six-room cement block dwelling" on Garfield Street.[361] City directories show that Ethel moved into the house ca. 1958. Ethel was an entrepreneur best known for operating Greene's Beauty Nook, located in a building behind her home on Garfield Street. She also operated at various times the Skyland Hotel and Greene's Oil Company and owned many rental properties.[362]

The Greene House is a one-story, front-gabled Minimal Traditional-style house built of concrete masonry units covered with stucco and vinyl siding in the gables. It is three bays wide with a typical one-over-one vinyl replacement window and a three-lite vinyl window flanking the gabled porch stoop with replacement door. The porch is concrete with wrought iron supports and railing. An enclosed shed porch off the east elevation has steps to a now-infilled wall.

[361] "Three New Homes Planned in City," *Statesville Daily Record*, June 25, 1946.
[362] "Recorder's Court Jury Finds Negroes Guilty," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* August 7, 1957; "Ethel V. Barrett Greene," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 6, 1998.

Greene's Beauty Nook, ca. 1949
Contributing Building
225-227 Garfield Street

Ethel Barrett Greene was issued a building permit in October 1949 for a "one story cement block structure 14 by 30 feet at the rear of 225 Garfield street to be used as a beauty shop."[363] According to city directories, she operated the shop at her home at 625 Nassau Place in 1952-1953 before moving to the Garfield Street location. Ethel moved to the house in front of her shop by 1957. The building was listed as two stories on the 1950 Sanborn map, and city directories list residents for the address in the upstairs apartment unit.[364]

Greene's Beauty Nook is a one-and-a-half-story building constructed of concrete masonry units on the main level and frame with vinyl siding on the upper level. It has a gabled asphalt shingle roof. The upper level is accessed by wood stairs and deck on the north elevation. The original primary entrance (presumably on the first-floor east elevation) is not visible from the public-right-of-way. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement.

[363] "Building Permit," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 6, 1949.
[364] Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953), 190; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

Moore-Black House, ca. 1907, ca. 1930, 1994, 2020-2021
Noncontributing Building
226 Garfield Street

A house on the site dates as early as 1907, when a side-gabled house appears on a birds-eye map of Statesville. Margaret Dalton Moore purchased a parcel on Garfield Street in 1893. She died in 1910, and husband B. Lemuel Moore remarried to Anna Harris Williams in 1919 and passed in 1922. Robert Moore, son of Margaret and Lemuel who lived in Washington, D.C., inherited the property and sold it the following year to Black landlord Barney Ramsey. Mattie Campbell Black purchased the property in 1943 and resided in the house until her death in 1968.[365]

The Moore-Black House is a one-story frame house which has substantial additions to the rear and west side. Sanborn maps and aerial images show the building was altered from a dwelling with full-width porch and small ell at west rear in 1918 and 1925. The 1930 and 1950 Sanborn maps show the building with similar footprint, but several alterations—a front porch not quite full-width, the west rear ell expanded at south and west, and a longer east rear ell constructed with porch between the ells. Aerial images and photographs from ca. 1955 show the roofline altered to its current appearance. Property records note that the building was

[365] A. E. Downs, Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina (c.1907), Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024; "Real Estate Transfers," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* September 20, 1923; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 23), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 156, Page 581; "Mrs. Black, 73, Death Victim," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 14, 1968.

remodeled in 1994, when the west addition was made, and renovated in 2020-2021. The primary portion is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill, and additions have concrete masonry unit foundation. The side-gabled roof has asphalt shingles, and the house is sheathed in vinyl siding. Windows are vinyl replacement. The façade is four bays wide, with the engaged shed porch comprising the first two bay. It has a concrete floor and square section wood posts, and there is a pair of windows and a replacement door with wrought iron storm door. The third bay has a single window, and the exposed foundation shows this is an older section of the house. The fourth bay also has a single window in a new gabled ell, which has a window and octagonal louvered vent in the gable. The rear of the house has paired French doors with wood deck and a window on its west elevation. A concrete block wall runs along the front yard.

Frink-Grant House, ca. 1946
Contributing Building
229 Garfield Street

The Frink-Grant House is located on land formerly owned by the Wood family. Mary Belle Woods Frink Tomlin was the daughter of Robert and Jane Clark Woods, who had lived in a house at 227 Garfield Street just behind the new Frink residence. Mary Belle operated the Skyland Hotel boarding house at 625 S. Meeting Street Alley in the 1920s-1940s. In the 1948-1949 city directory, she and her second husband George Frink lived at the Skyland Hotel while George's brother and sister-in-law William and Mary Frink are listed as living at 229 Garfield Street.[366] The house was likely built by nephew Henry Ford Woods, who was granted a building permit in June 1946 to construct "an eight-room dwelling of concrete blocks on Garfield street."[367] Mary Belle died in 1965, and Kenneth Louis Grant and Elaine Delores Grant purchased the property from her estate. Kenneth was a graduate of Unity High School who served over twenty years in the U. S. Army.[368]

The Frink-Grant House is a one-and-a-half story Minimal Traditional house with Craftsman detailing constructed of stuccoed concrete masonry units. It is side gabled with an asphalt shingle roof and asbestos shingle siding in the gables. The façade is three bays wide with permastone siding. It has a centered gabled dormer with a pair of typical six-over-six wood sash windows with storm windows topped with a metal

[366] Iredell County Deed Book 181, Page 51; Charles W. Miller, *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1948–1949* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1949), 229.
[367] "Three New Homes Planned in City," *Statesville Daily Record*, June 25, 1946.
[368] "Mrs. Tomlin's Funeral Is Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 8, 1965; Iredell County Will Book 19, Page 343-345; "Front and Center," *Statesville Daily Record*, March 17, 1954; "Kenneth Grant," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 5, 2000.

canopy and asbestos shingle siding. The shed porch has metal awnings at the sides and has concrete steps with brick knee walls to the concrete deck. Wrought iron supports are on cast stone-capped brick piers with brick railings. The façade has a picture window with 8-lite panels at the sides, wood 3-lite mid-century door with storm door, and typical window. The east elevation has three windows--two typical windows flanking a smaller typical window--topped with metal awnings and a typical window in the gable. A shed extension at the rear has a smaller typical window. The west elevation has a pair of typical windows and a typical window widely spaced, both with metal awnings. A typical window is in the gable.

Duplex, ca. 1954
Contributing Building
230-232 Garfield Street

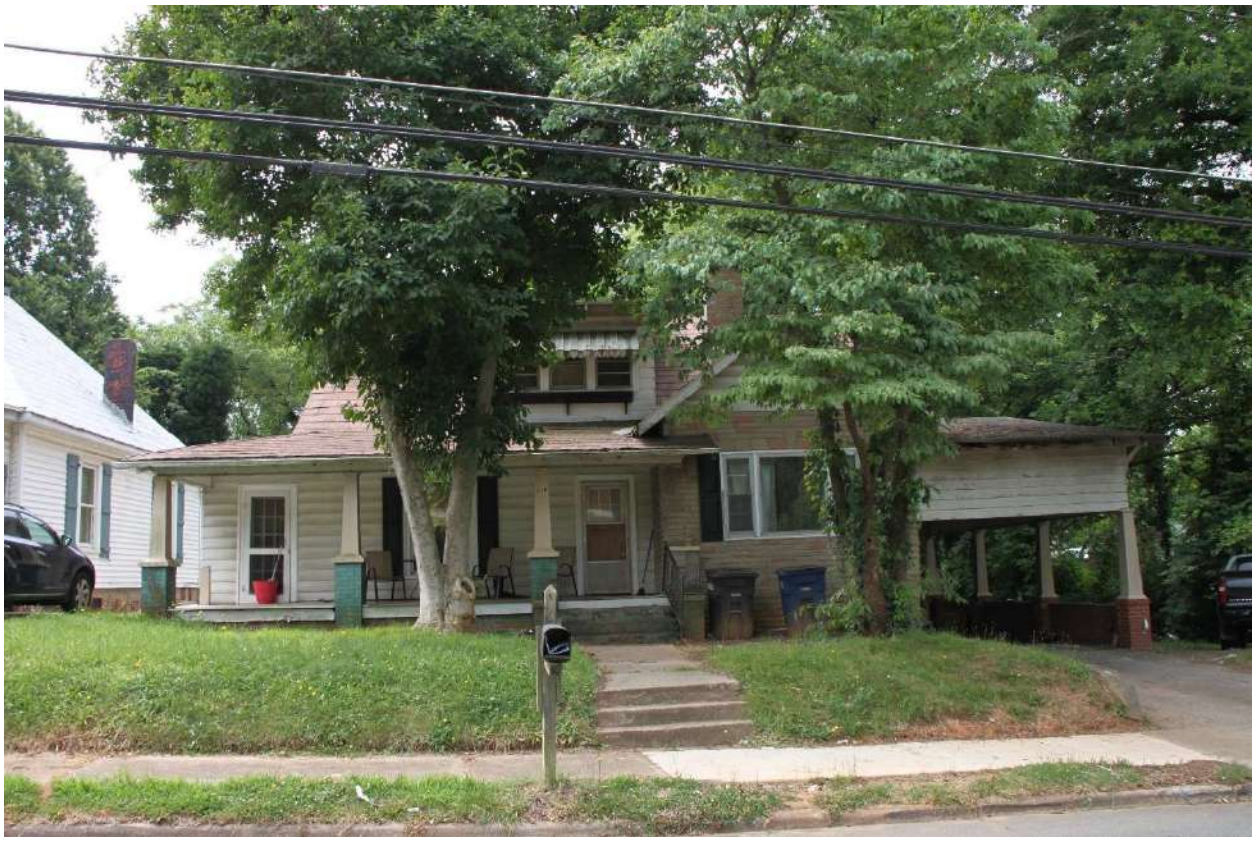
This one-story duplex is constructed of concrete masonry units and has a front-gabled asphalt shingle roof. The gabled porch has wood German weatherboard siding and a louvered vent in the gable, and square section wood posts sit on the concrete floor. Windows are primarily six-over-six wood sash. The façade has two windows, six-over-six vinyl replacement and a typical window, flanking two replacement doors.

Wood-Downer House, ca. 1930
Contributing Building
237 Garfield Street

Richard and Mary Wood purchased the property in 1927 and by 1930 had constructed a house. Willie Spann Pless Downer bought the property in 1942. The daughter of Luther and Dora Spann, Willie graduated from the graded school later known as Morningside School. She worked as a domestic in private homes and was an active member of the Nicotiana Garden Club and Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church.[369]

The Wood-Downer House is a two-story Queen Anne house built on brick foundation. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has a gable-on-hip asphalt shingle roof. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The façade is two bays wide and has a full-width hipped porch with concrete floor and recent replacement square section wood posts and railing. The concrete steps have brick knee walls. The first bay of the façade has a replacement door and window at the main level and window in the upper level. The second bay is a two-story bay window.

[369] Iredell County Deed Book 90, Page 364; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 151, Page 168; "Willie Downer," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 7, 1994.



William H. and Mildred M. Littlejohn House, ca. 1909
Contributing Building
238 Garfield Street

Harriet Ennis, who is listed in the 1909-1910 city directory at the address, may have built the house at 238 Garfield Street. She purchased the property with her husband Cornelius in 1884 from Mary C. Bell.[370] The trustees of the Center Street AME Zion Church purchased it in 1915 to serve as a parsonage. Among the pastors who lived in the residence were Rev. D. E. Thompson, Rev. H. E. Wilson, Rev. W. A. Stewart, and Rev. I. J. Jackson. The church added three rooms to the house in 1928 according to building permit records.[371]

William Henry Littlejohn and Mildred Madaline McDowell Littlejohn purchased the house in 1935 and were longtime residents. William was a teacher who received degrees from Livingstone College and Columbia University. He taught at Unity High School for the entirety of its operation from 1942-1962, where he was the first Black drivers education teacher in Iredell County. He also owned and operated Littlejohn's Barber Shop. William served on the Statesville Recreation Commission and board of directors of Iredell Memorial Hospital and was appointed by Gov. Dan K. Moore to the Advisory Committee of the North Carolina Good Neighbor Council. Mildred was also a teacher and graduate of Livingstone College. She also earned a Master of Arts degree from Pennsylvania State University and a professional diploma in special childhood education

[370] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1909–1910* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1910), 88; Iredell County Deed Book 8, Page 798.
[371] Iredell County Deed Book 53, Page 46; "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 19, 1928.

from Teachers College of Columbia University. Mildred taught at Morningside Elementary School and served as assistant principal.[372]

This one-and-a-half-story house is built on brick foundation and typically sheathed in aluminum siding. The side gabled roof has pressed tin shingles, and the eaves are bracketed. The façade is four bays wide, with the first three bays delineated by the hipped wrap around porch. The porch has plywood decking and battered wood columns on brick piers. The concrete steps have brick ledges and wrought iron railing. The first bay has a French door with wood screen door, the second bay has a pair of one-over-one vinyl replacement windows, and the third bay has a French door with aluminum screen door. The fourth bay is front gabled with siding and a louvered vent in gable above permastone siding. A picture window is flanked by two-over-two horizontal pane wood sash windows. A shed dormer is centered in the façade roof and has a trio of three-over-one wood sash windows with metal awning. The east elevation is four bays wide. The first three bays consist of the porch, formerly wraparound but now partially enclosed in the first bay with a nine-lite door with wood screen door. The second bay has a one-over-one vinyl window at the main level, and the third bay has a nine-lite door with aluminum storm door. The fourth bay is front-gabled with two six-over-six vinyl windows with siding and a louvered vent in the gable. In the upper level gabled end of the primary mass is a pair of three-over-one wood sash windows. The west elevation has an asymmetrical gabled porte cochere, added after 1956 according to aerial imagery, with wood weatherboard upper section supported by battered

[372] Iredell County Deed Book 117, Page 375; "Educator Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 21, 1980; "Mildred Littlejohn," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 2, 1986; "City Teacher Wins Office," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 23, 1959.

wood posts on brick piers. The porte cochere covers the main level with two one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. In the gable of the primary mass is a pair of three-over-one wood sash windows with metal canopy. A brick chimney with corbel detail at top rises through the west eave of the primary mass of the house.

Dr. Robert S. and Mary Charlton Holliday House, 1918-1919
Contributing Building
241 Garfield Street

The American Foursquare home of Dr. Robert Sumner Holliday and Mary Charlton Holliday is the most prominent and highest integrity residential resource in the district. The dwelling appears to retain most original materials, including weatherboard and shingle siding, windows and other fenestration, and the pressed tin shingle roof. The Holliday House also has an extant contributing garage. The Hollidays owned numerous residential and commercial properties in the district, including the Holliday Building on South Center Street and single-family and duplexes on Garfield Street, South Green Street, Newton Avenue, Broadway Court, and S. Elm Street.

The Holliday House was built in 1919 for Dr. Robert Sumner Holliday and educator Mary Augusta Charlton Holliday, who were both among the most notable and influential residents of the neighborhood. Dr. Holliday was the primary doctor serving the medical needs of Black residents for many years. Mary was supervisor of schools for rural Black children in Iredell County.

Dr. Holliday was born in 1875 in Fayetteville. He graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1898. He attended medical school at Leonard Medical College in Raleigh, graduating in 1905, and trained at hospitals in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. He was licensed in North Carolina in 1908, and in June the local newspaper reported that he paid a special privilege tax on June 15, 1908, to practice medicine in Iredell County. Dr. Holliday served the Black community of Statesville for over fifty years. In addition to his private practice, which he conducted from the Garfield Street house, he provided public health services to the community including vaccination and medical clinics at Morningside School. Dr. Holliday was a founder of the Piedmont Medical Society and member of the Old North State Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Society.[373]

Mary was born March 16, 1893, in Draper, Virginia. She was the daughter of Sarah Miller Hunter and James Albert Hunter, a brakeman for Norfolk and Western Railroad. Her father may have died when she was an infant, as her mother married William Manning Charlton in 1894. Mary attended Hampton Institute, graduating with honors in 1911. She moved to North Carolina and served as supervisor of rural Black schools in Columbus County for four years. In 1916 Mary came to Iredell County as the county supervisor of Black rural schools. She was funded by the Jeanes Foundation, founded by a wealthy Philadelphia heiress to support Black teachers in the South. When Mary arrived in Iredell County, rural Black children were educated at 39 one-teacher schools. Buildings were inadequate, and there was little or no transportation for students. Mary organized "Better Homes Clubs" and homemaking classes for adults and coordinated the organization of a county Parent Teacher Association. Under Mary's supervision, a School Improvement Program built Rosenwald Schools in several communities, small schools were consolidated, Unity High School was opened to serve rural Black students, and transportation was provided, ushering in a new era of progress for Iredell County. Mary served as state president of the North Carolina Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers and served on many boards of the North Carolina Teachers Association. During the Roosevelt Administration, Mary was honored as one of the Ten Outstanding Women in the World for her achievements in rural education. She earned a master's degree

[373] "Minor Matters," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 16, 1908; "Representatives of the Medical Profession," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 18, 1934.

from Columbia University in 1943, and during summers she taught at Tuskegee University and other HBCUs. She retired in 1956 after over forty years of service in Iredell County.[374]

The Hollidays married in 1918 in Pulaski, Virginia. They moved into their new home at 241 Garfield Street in October 1919. In addition to their individual pursuits, the Hollidays owned rental and commercial properties in the neighborhood. The most notable commercial property was the Holliday Building on South Center Street, which was home to Black medical providers and businesses. Robert died in 1966, and Mary passed in 1980.[375]

[374] Douglas Eisele, "Mrs. Mary C. Holiday Praised as Educator," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 31, 1956; O. C. Stonestreet, "Mary C. Holliday, an Iredell Education Pioneer," *Hickory Record*, February 26, 2012, https://hickoryrecord.com/column-mary-c-holliday-an-iredell-education-pioneer/article_a8356b2c-5999-5638-81f4-db70307cba0e.html, accessed April 18, 2025.
[375] "Respected Colored Couple Married," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 3, 1918; "Minor Local Items," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 24, 1919.

The Holliday House is a two-story American Foursquare which retains a high degree of integrity of materials and design. It is built on a brick foundation and sheathed in weatherboard siding on the first level and wood shingle siding on the upper level. Typical windows are nine-over-one wood sash. The roof is pressed tin shingle. The façade is two bays wide with a hipped porch extending three bays into a porte cochere at the east end. The porch has tongue and groove wood flooring and battered wood columns on brick piers with wood railing. Under the porch roof is a trio of typical windows and a wood full-lite Craftsman door with sidelights. The upper level has two windows covered with decorative metal panels and metal awnings. A hipped dormer extends from the roof ridge in the center of the façade and has a eight-lite window. The east elevation is three bays wide. The porte cochere covers the first bay, which has typical windows at each level. The second bay has an entry door with hood and two windows, one a shorter typical window, in the upper level. The third bay has a pair of shorter typical windows in the upper level. Beyond is an ell extending from the rear. It has a typical window on the south elevation, and on the east elevation are a pair of typical windows and a typical window. The west elevation is two bays wide. All windows have metal awnings. The main level has a typical window and a pair of windows, and the upper level has two typical windows. Beyond is an ell off the rear, but it is obscured by landscaping. Brick chimneys rise through the roof—a wide chimney at the west plane and a tall narrow chimney near the northeast corner.

Garage, Contributing Building, ca. 1925 – The detached frame garage has wood siding and metal roof, possibly original tilt-up garage door with pair of 6-lite windows, and metal pent roof over door.

Clyde T. and Ozella B. White Blackwell House, ca. 1914
Noncontributing Building
242 Garfield Street

Two months after they married in November 1910, Clyde Thomas White and Annie Ozella Byers White purchased the property from Harriet Ennis. It is unknown if the house was extant, but the White family appears in the 1914-1915 Statesville city directory as living in the residence. A one-story house with full-width porches on front and rear first appears on the 1918 Sanborn map, and by 1930 additions had been made to the rear flanking a smaller porch.[376] Clyde and Ozella added the surname Blackwell to their name at least by 1930, when they were living in Manchester, Vermont, where Clyde worked for the Equinox House hotel as a doorman. Ozella's brother James lived in the house for a time while they were in the north.[377] The family owned the house until 2006.

The White Blackwell House is a one-and-a-half-story house with Colonial Revival massing built on brick foundation. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has pressed tin shingles on the hipped roof with platform. There are two brick chimneys, one through the east roof plane and another at the rear of an ell at the west elevation.

[376] Iredell County Deed Book 45, Page 84; "Swell Wedding in Colored Social Circles," *Statesville Landmark*, November 18, 1910; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1914–1915* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1915), 205; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 23), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.
[377] "Death Claims C.W. Blackwell," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 14, 1955; "Down in Iredell…", *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 23, 1955; "Final Rites Scheduled," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 13, 1977.

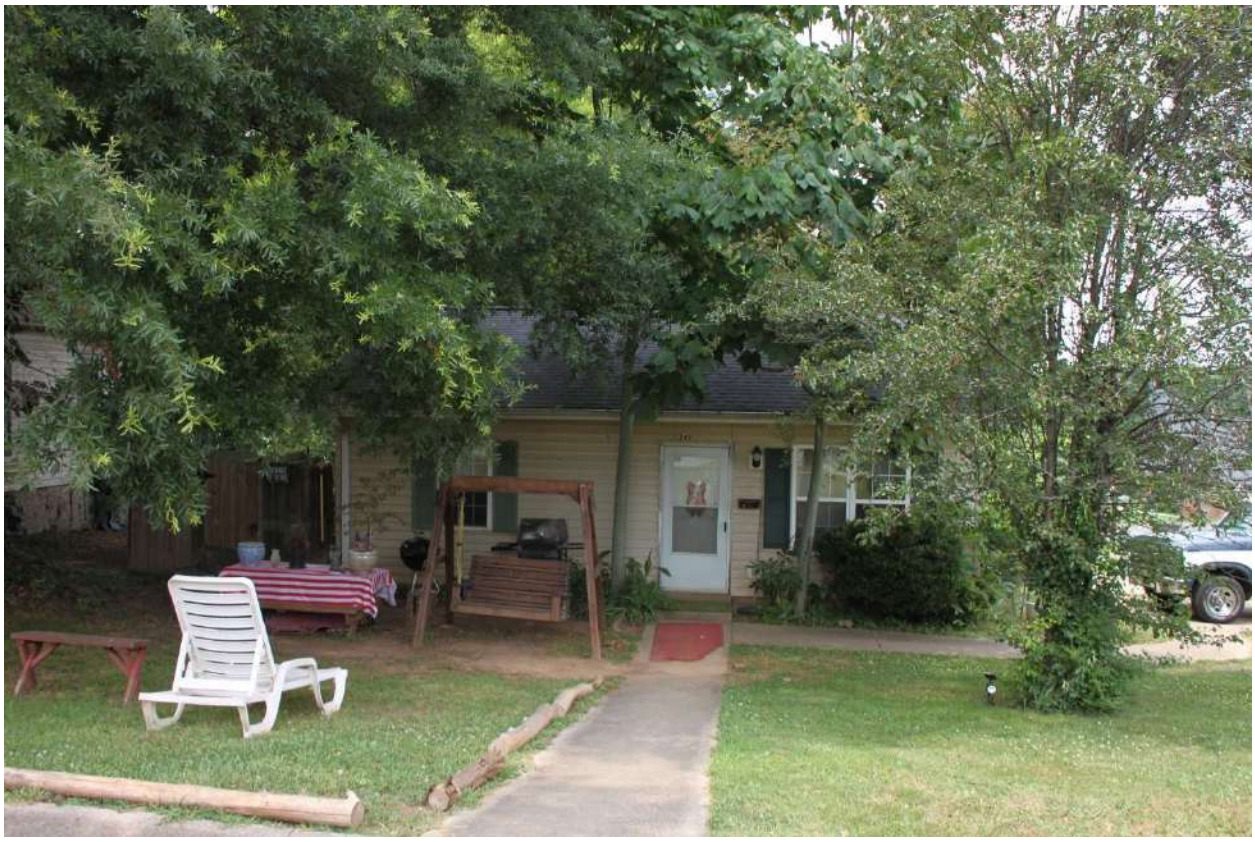
The nearly full-width shed porch was enclosed ca. 1999 and has pairs of six-over-six vinyl windows flanking the entry door. Above is a hipped dormer with a one-over-one vinyl replacement window, smaller than the original fenestration with infill trim around it.

Roberts-Knox House, ca. 1909
Contributing Building
245 Garfield Street

Henry and Bessie Roberts purchased the property in 1905 and were listed as living there in the 1909-1910 Statesville city directory. Henry was a meat cutter and volunteer with the Defiance Fire Company. In 1922 neighbors Dr. Robert Holliday and Mary C. Holliday purchased the property. Annie Mae Knox, a longtime renter from 1925-1955, worked as a maid for a private family.[378]

The Roberts-Knox House is a one-story frame house built on stuccoed brick foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding. The tall hipped roof has a standing seam metal roofing. The hipped porch has a concrete floor on stuccoed concrete masonry units and replacement fluted columns on brick piers. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The façade has typical windows flanking the four-panel front door with 4-lite sidelights.

[378] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1909–1910* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1910), 132; *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 27, 1909; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1926), 112; Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1954–1955* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1955), 234.



Duplex, ca. 1994
Noncontributing Building
249 Garfield Street

Notable as the former site of the Conner House. Jane Abernathy Conner and daughter Daisy Conner Robinson were Black nurses who operated the "Colored ward" of Davis Hospital in Statesville. As Black patient s were not allowed to stay overnight at the hospital, the home of Jane and Daisy served this purpose. The house was demolished before 1994, when the current duplex was built.[379]

This one-story duplex consists of a side-gabled primary portion facing Garfield Street with a gabled ell off the rear with an entrance from S. Green Street. It is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is three bays wide with a typical six-over-six vinyl sash window, a six-panel door with storm door, and pair of typical windows. The east elevation has two typical windows. The gabled ell has a typical window, six-panel door, and pair of windows on its east elevation.

[379] "Bullet in the Wall of Heart," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 1, 1921; "Jane Conner Dies Day before Birthday," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* July 14, 1941; "Funeral Thursday for Daisy Conner," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* January 9, 1947; Joel Reese, "At the Library: Finding Statesville's Nurse Daisy," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 11, 2014.

Lee A. and Maggie Holman Fraley House, ca. 1936
Contributing Building
303 Garfield Street

The 1930 Sanborn map shows a one-story frame dwelling facing S. Green Street. Owned by Caesar Allison, a Baptist preacher and founder of First Baptist Church, he purchased the property in 1889 from Mary C. Bell. Caesar was found deceased in his home in August 1933, aged 86. His widow Cora Allison, who lived in Los Angeles, conveyed the property to undertaker St. Charles Rutledge, possibly as payment for her estranged husband's funerary costs.[380] Rutledge sold the property to Lee A. Fraley and Maggie Holman Fraley, who built this house ca. 1936 according to property records. Lee worked as a school janitor and for the white Allison family until his death in 1938. Daughter Florence Fraley Davidson lived in the home with her mother, who died in 1961, and until her own passing in 1969.[381] Also on the parcel at the corner of Garfield and S. Green Street (301 Garfield Street) was a one-story store, extant through at least 1956 according to aerial imagery.

This one-story, front-gabled brick veneer house has an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is three bays wide with a typical one-over-one vinyl replacement, a wood four-panel two-lite door with storm door, and pair of typical windows. The shed porch has brick steps to the concrete floor and wrought iron supports and railing. Side elevations have centered projecting shed bays, with two typical windows on the east elevation and a

[380] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1930)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; "Caesar Allison Dies While Alone," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 1, 1933.

[381] "Funeral Wednesday for Lee A. Fraley," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* March 3, 1938; "Rites Scheduled for Mrs. Fraley," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 2, 1961; "Davidson Rites Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 27, 1969.

pair of typical windows on the west elevation. A ca. 1985 addition at rear is sheathed in vinyl siding and has an entrance with wood deck.

First Baptist Church Classroom Building, 1948
Contributing Building
306 Garfield Street

This building is the only remaining resource from the original site of First Baptist Church at the corner of Garfield and S. Green Street, addressed 601 S. Green Street. The parcel originally spanned along Garfield Street and included the First Baptist Church Parsonage, a two-story dwelling built ca. 1915 at 310 Garfield Street, a one-story Sunday School building at 312 Garfield Street, and three accessory buildings. The extant building at 306 Garfield Street replaced a ca. 1925 small frame dwelling used by the church as classroom space.[382] A building permit was granted in June 1948 for a "new Sunday School annex" to be "one-story brick with eight rooms."[383] The church sold the property in 1972, and it was converted into residential usage.

The one-story building has brick veneer and a pressed metal gable-on-hip roof with exposed rafter tails in the shallow eaves. The gables have louvered vents. Vegetation obscures views of the building, though the description may be supplemented by the May 2014 Google Street View. Its façade faces west and is six bays wide. An uncovered porch with concrete masonry unit foundation and concrete deck and steps is three bays wide. The entry is at the first bay, which has a shed hood with wood brackets, and consists of a nine-lite door

[382] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.
[383] "Building Permit," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 17, 1948.

with storm door. The other five bays are short one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. The north elevation faces Garfield Street and is three bays wide with two one-over-one vinyl replacement windows and a small vinyl window.

Willis and Ethel James House, ca. 1977
Noncontributing Building
307 Garfield Street

The 1950 Sanborn map shows two dwellings on the site of the extant building—a narrow frame dwelling, possibly a shotgun house, at 307 Garfield, and two small frame dwellings at 311 Garfield. The property was purchased by Willis and Ethel James in 1976.[384]

This one-story, side-gabled Ranch house has brick veneer and a composite shingle roof. The brick stoop has wood decking. Typical windows are original two-over-two horizontal metal sash. The façade is four bays wide with a typical window, replacement fanlight door with storm door, a pair of taller three-over-two metal sash windows and a single taller window. Gable ends have wood weatherboard siding.

[384] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

Williams-Nesby House, ca. 1918
Contributing Building
315 Garfield Street

Arthur Williams and Dora Cornelia Grinton Williams purchased the property from Rev. Oscar J. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church who lived across the street at in the First Baptist Church Parsonage, in 1918. A house may have been extant, as they assumed a mortgage of $445. The 1918 Sanborn map shows a one-story house with full-width porch matching the footprint of the extant building.[385] Arthur worked as a janitor and headed the Black volunteer fire brigade. Dora died in 1932, and Arthur lived to age 90 and passed in 1975. Daughter Clara Williams Nesby was a graduate of Morningside School and Shaw University. She taught for over forty years in Statesville schools, including 31 years at Morningside starting in 1926, and retired in 1968 from Race Street School. Clara was the first local Black person employed by Statesville city schools. She was also the first Black woman in Iredell County to be appointed a notary public in 1947. Clara retired from teaching in 1968, after which she and husband William sold the house and moved to Winston-Salem.[386]

The Williams-Nesby House is a one-story, front-gabled frame house built on a brick foundation and sheathed in aluminum siding, installed in 1989 according to property records, with a corrugated metal roof. The gable has a large square vented opening. Windows are two-over-two wood sash. The shed porch has a concrete

[385] Iredell County Deed Book 60, Page 579; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.
[386]"Colored Man's Home Is Damaged by Fire," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 10, 1933; "Williams Rites Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* September 2, 1975; "Clara Williams Nesby Appointed Notary Public," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 27, 1947; "Mrs. Nesby Is Retiring," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 3, 1968.

floor on brick foundation and wrought iron supports and railing. The façade has a pair of typical windows and single window flanking the off-center diamond-lite wood entry door with storm door. Brick chimneys are located in the roof ridge near the front and at the rear.

House, ca. 1955
Noncontributing Building
321 Garfield Street

Originally the site of a two-story store, first appearing on the 1925 Sanborn map, operated by Rev. O.J. Allen. The building was converted to a dwelling by 1950 and demolished by March 1955, when H. T. Klugel, who was white, received a building permit to build a dwelling. He sold the property in 1956 to Martha I. Collier, who rented the house to Black tenants.[387]

Renovation of this small side-gabled house appeared complete at the time of survey in June 2024. The house is built on stuccoed concrete masonry unit foundations and is sheathed in wood composite siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Windows are six-over-six vinyl replacement. The small gabled porch has square section wood posts and railing, replacing a bracketed shed porch overhang. A brick chimney through the roof was removed. A shed porch at west rear was demolished, and a gable ell was added with its peak from the façade.

[387] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; "Building Permits Total $144,470," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 1, 1955.

Fraley House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
322 Garfield Street

Lee Fraley constructed four rental houses on property he owned on Garfield Street by 1925, when they appear on Sanborn maps. This house was resided in and owned by Fraley heirs until 2009.[388]

This one-story, front-gabled house is built on a brick foundation and is sheathed in asbestos siding with an asphalt shingle roof. A concrete masonry unit retaining wall is at the sidewalk, and concrete steps lead to the porch. The engaged porch has a concrete floor and wrought iron posts and railings. Eaves have exposed rafter tails, and a horizontal louvered vent is in the gable. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. There are two chimneys through the roof ridge near the middle and toward the rear. A gabled shed is located at the south edge of the property.

[388] Iredell County Deed Book 67, Page 117; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 668, Page 910.

George A. and Juanita Newman Walker House, ca. 1945, ca. 1953
Contributing Building
323 Garfield Street

Thomas R. Bailey was issued a building permit for a dwelling on Garfield Street in 1945. He and wife Rena are listed as living in the home in the 1948-1949 city directory. He worked as a driver for H-B Co. and operated Bailey's Place, possibly a bar, on the home site. Rena died in 1950, and he sold the property to Rev. Z. A. Dockery the following year.[389] George and Juanita Newman Walker were listed as residents of 323 Garfield Street in the 1952-1953 city directory. George was the son of Ethel Dockery Walker, the oldest daughter of Z. A. Dockery, and she purchased the property in 1961. The Walker family has owned the property since, with George and Juanita gaining ownership in 1990. George attended Morningside High School and North Carolina A&T University and retired from Fiber Industries. Juanita was a nurse.[390]

The Bailey-Walker House is a one-story front-gabled frame house built on brick foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. A square brick chimney rises through the roof ridge near the rear, and a rectangular chimney is on the east elevation with flanking windows. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The façade is two bays wide and has a vent in the gable. The first bay has a typical window. The second bay, which has a pair of typical windows, was originally a gabled front porch enclosed

[389] Iredell County Deed Book 171, Page 331; "List of Building Permits Given," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 25, 1945; "Funeral Wednesday for Rena Bailey," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 4, 1950; Iredell County Deed Book 221, Page 32.
[390] Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953), 359; Iredell County Deed Book 356, Page 1; "Educator Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 26, 1981; "George Walker Sr.," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 10, 2014; Iredell County Deed Book 807, Page 679.

by 1953.[391] The front entry is at its west elevation, with a small porch with a round metal post, and the façade of the bay has a trio of windows.

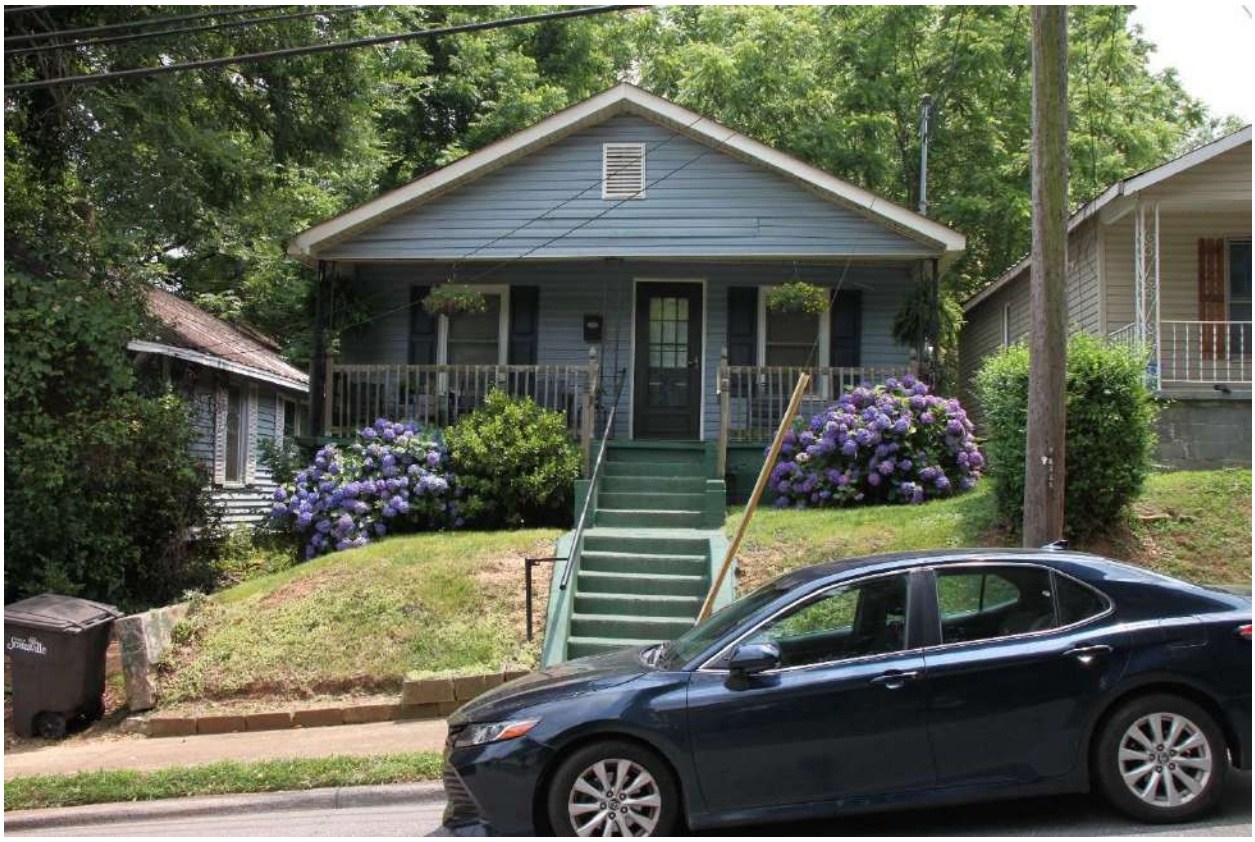
[391] *The Morningside Oracle*, Morningside High School (1953), Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/23062390892/in/album-72157660525987197/, accessed May 5, 2025.

Charlie and Millie Pearson Bailey House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
324 Garfield Street

Lee Fraley constructed four rental houses along Garfield Street ca. 1925. Closiel Davidson, brother-in-law of Florence Fraley Davidson, purchased the house from the Fraley estate in 1938. He sold it to Charlie and Millie Pearson Bailey in 1945, and the house remained in their family until 2021. Charlie worked at the plywood plant and died in 1954 after being stabbed. Millie lived in the house until her death in 1974.[392]

This one-story, front-gabled house is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill and is sheathed in vinyl siding with a standing seam metal roof. Concrete steps lead from the sidewalk to the porch. The engaged porch has a concrete floor and wrought iron posts and railings. Windows are four-over-four wood sash. There is a brick chimney through the roof ridge near the middle.

[392] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 172, Page 265; Charlie Bailey, Certificate of Death, "North Carolina, Deaths and Burials, 1898-1994," https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:HHS2-QRN2?lang=en, accessed April 20, 2025; "Mrs. Bailey Is Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 13, 1974.



Carlton-Heath House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
326 Garfield Street

Lee Fraley constructed four rental houses along Garfield Street ca. 1925. Benjamin and Mildred Carlton purchased the house from the Fraley estate in 1938. They moved to Newton Avenue by 1962 and sold the Garfield Street house to Troy and Dorothy McAuley Heath in 1969. Troy retired from Gilliam Furniture Company. Dorothy trained as a nursing assistant in her 50s and retired from Hill Haven Nursing Home. The Heath family still owns the property.[393]

This one-story, front-gabled house is built on concrete masonry unit foundations and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Two runs of concrete steps lead from the sidewalk to the porch. The engaged porch has a concrete floor and wrought iron posts and wood railings. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement.

[393] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 135, Page 265; Iredell County Deed Book 477, Page 301; "Illness Is Fatal," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* June 4, 1982; "Dorothy Heath," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 18, 2005.

Smith-Cowan House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
328 Garfield Street

Lee Fraley constructed four rental houses along Garfield Street ca. 1925. Henry E. Smith, Sr., and Odessa Smith purchased the house from the Fraley estate in 1938. They owned the property until selling it to Elvert W. Cowan and Zoreather Turner Cowan in 1953. The Cowan family retains ownership.[394]

This one-story front-gabled house is built on masonry foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding with a standing seam metal roof. The site slopes down from the southwest corner. Two runs of concrete steps lead from the sidewalk to the porch. The engaged porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement with picture windows on the façade.

[394] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 134, Page 570; Iredell County Deed Book 238, Page 247.

Garfield Park, 1954
Contributing Site
409 Garfield Street

In July 1953 the City of Statesville purchased property at the northeast corner of Garfield and South Elm Streets for the development of a swimming pool, recreation center, bath houses, basketball courts, and softball fields for Black residents. The ribbon cutting ceremony in June 1954 featured Mayor J. Garner Bagnal and Morningside High principal A. B. Rutherford. While primarily recreational, Garfield Street Park also hosted political events, such as in October 1954 when Congressman Hugh Alexander spoke in the recreation hall. Each year, hundreds of Black children took swimming lessons at Garfield Street Park's swimming pool. All but the basketball courts were razed in the 2000s as the park was redeveloped.[395]

Garfield Park encompasses approximately 2.2 acres over five parcels located between Garfield, South Elm, and Falls Streets. The L-shaped park has a gabled pavilion, bathroom building, and asphalt parking lot at the southwest portion of the parcels. The linear eastern parcel steps down to the concrete basketball court along Garfield Street, while the ca. 2011 playground is level with the other features. The eastern edge of the parcel slopes down to Falls Street. The park is shaded by mature trees along its northern edges.

[395] "Pools Open," photo caption, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 12, 1954; "Attention Negro Citizens," advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 23, 1954; "Report Given on Pools' Use," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 19, 1957; Jim McNally, Jim McNally, "Council Votes to Raze Former Rec Center," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 19, 2010; "Ribbon Cut at New Garfield Park," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 13, 2011.

Basketball Courts, Noncontributing Site, ca. 1974 – Two concrete basketball courts have tall cyclone metal fencing around perimeter.

Bathroom, Noncontributing Building, ca. 2011 – Bathroom building is built of concrete masonry units on concrete slab and has a gabled roof with standing seam metal roof.

Pavilion, Noncontributing Structure, ca. 2011 – The gabled picnic pavilion has concrete slab floor, square wood supports, and standing seam metal roof. The pavilion is on the former site of the Garfield Park Recreation Center gymnasium.

Morningside High School, 1942, 1949, 1954, 1957, 1964
Contributing Building
410 Garfield Street

Morningside High School (410 Garfield Street), the only high school for Black students in the Statesville city limits before integration, has high associative and architectural significance. Many residents of the neighborhood are proud graduates and consider the resource to be one of the most important in the Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. The school was also a prominent employer of teachers and other educated personnel, whose homes in the neighborhood share this significance.

The first public school for Black students in Statesville opened in 1891 adjacent to Green Street Cemetery. The two-room frame building was destroyed by fire on March 9, 1916, and a two-story brick building opened in 1921 at the same location at 611 South Green Street. In 1942 Morningside High School was built at the corner of Garfield and South Elm Streets to house the growing high school student population. The high school served Black students in Statesville until May 1968, and students transferred to Statesville Senior High School. The former high school, renamed after longtime principal Alan D. Rutherford, remained open as an elementary school until 2002. Today, it houses offices for Iredell-Statesville Schools staff. [396]

[396] "City Public Schools Offer Well-Balanced Program," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 21, 1961; Eileen Brown, "Mulberry Street School in 1891 Started System," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* April 8, 1974; Bill Moose, "Statesville City Schools System Is Now 'Almost 100'," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 23, 1991; Cara Froedge, "Farewell Open House Set at A.D. Rutherford Elementary," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 15, 2002.

The Morningside High School site includes two brick buildings, Morningside High School and the Morningside High School Classroom Building (619 S Elm Street). All but the original 1942 building were designed by local architect Tom H. Hutchins. The Morningside High School building at the north end of the complex consists of the original 1942 building with a 1949 gymnasium/auditorium addition. Students in the masonry class helped construct a 1957 addition to the south side of the gymnasium/auditorium. The addition included a ten-foot expansion of dressing room space and construction of a second floor for a band room and utility room/classroom. Additions were made to the east of the gymnasium/auditorium in 1954 and 1964, consisting of a one-story-with-basement addition and a two-story addition with science laboratories. The complex also includes 1948 athletic fields and a 1952 concession stand behind the school at the south end of the parcel.[397]

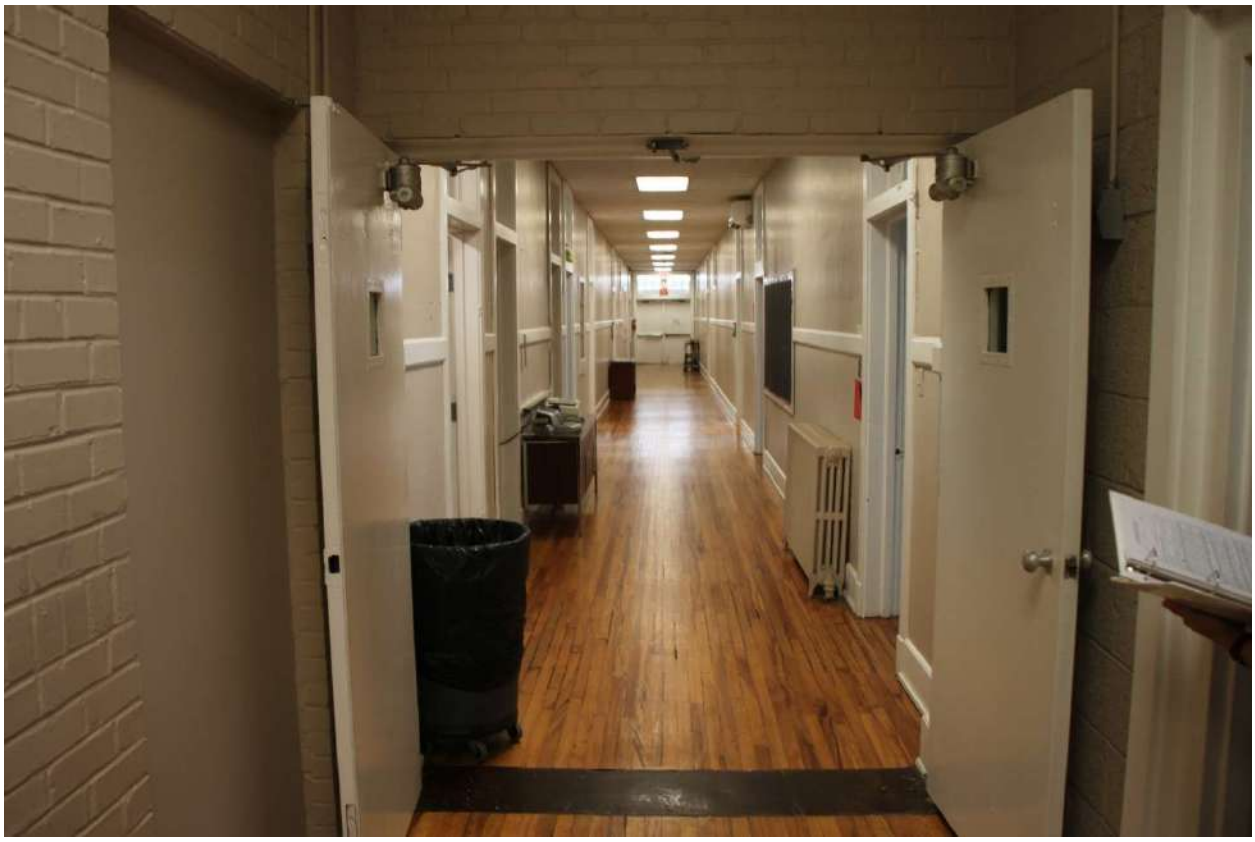
The primary façade of the original school building faces north and features a one-story, four bay wide, 1942 building to the west and a one-story, six bay wide, 1949 entrance addition to the east. It is six bays wide and one bay deep. Typical windows are horizontal 4-lite metal sash, which are paired in the 1949 portion. The east end of the 1949 addition has two inset brick sections, possibly originally opened and later enclosed, flanking a pair of typical windows. The entrance is distinguished by a slightly projecting brick bay, topped by

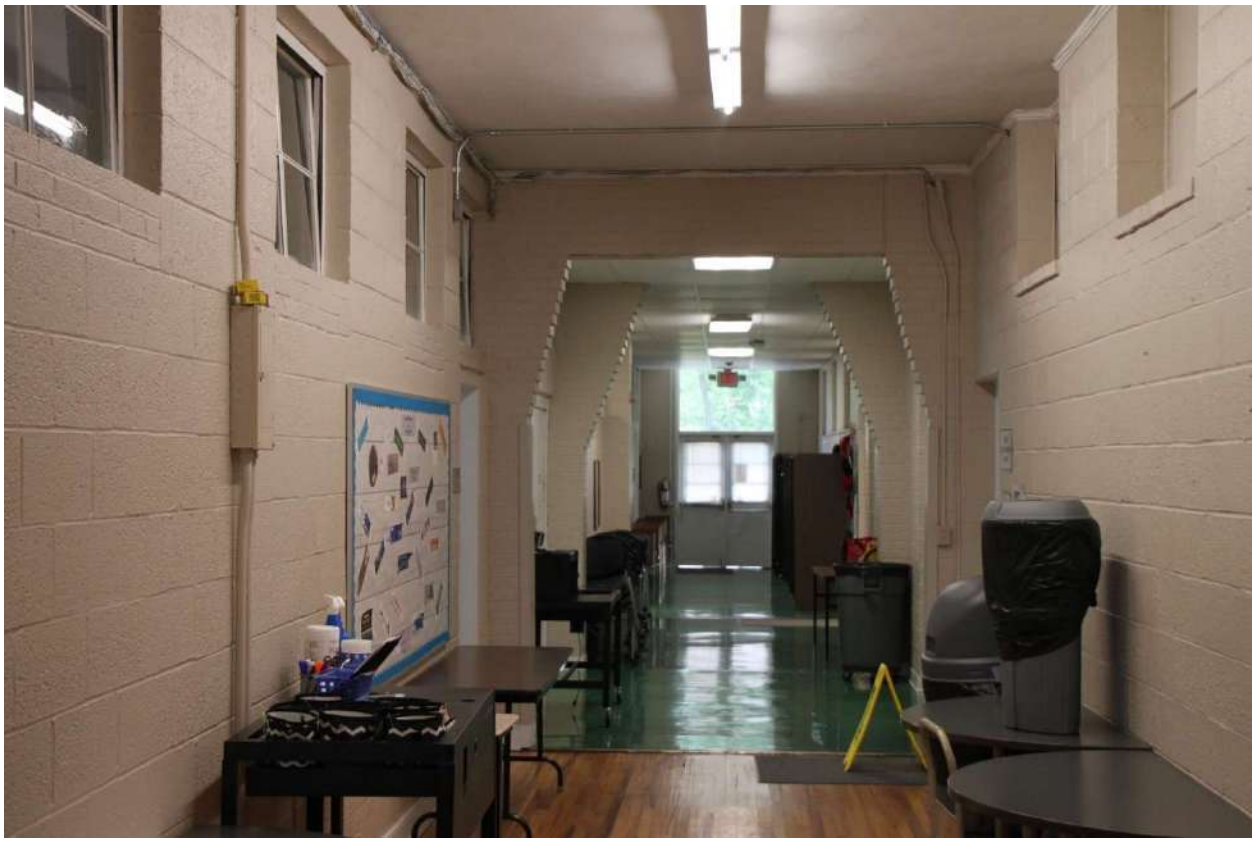
[397] Contract Let by City School Board for New Colored School," *Statesville Daily Record*, August 6, 1941; "Notice of Bidders: Two Class Room Addition to Morningside School," legal notice, *Statesville Daily Record*, September 11, 1951; "School to Get New Addition," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 13, 1957, "City Schools Ask $236,500," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 28, 1958; "Kornegay, Principals Re-Elected by Board," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 22, 1959; "Morningside Students Using Two New Labs," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 8, 1964; "Plans Discussed for Two New City Schools," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 9, 1964.

a cast stone lintel. The inset entrance has a pair of 6-lite metal doors. A metal canopy has been added. The entrance is flanked by pairs of typical windows. The next three bays on the 1942 portion feature four typical windows with two round cast stone medallions above. The final bay to the west bay has a typical window. The west elevation faces S. Elm Street and has a recessed doorway with paired steel doors flanked by brick rowlock and stretcher framing with cast stone cornerstones. Three round cast stone medallions are evenly distributed above. A metal canopy extends from the doorway and along the sidewalks parallel to the elevation.

he 1949 gymnasium/auditorium addition extends perpendicular from the east elevation of the original building to the south. It is comprised of the main entrance to the school (as described above), the gymnasium/auditorium, and a two-story section at the south end. The gymnasium/auditorium is eight bays deep, with each bay delineated by a cast-stone capped brick pilaster. The first two bays have no fenestration with 1951-1952 classroom addition extending east. The remaining bays have 12-lite metal sash windows high in the elevation. Two bays have paired metal doors, and the last bay has A/C ductwork through the window. The two-story section is four deep. The north three bays have one-over-one metal sash windows at the main level and three horizontal metal sash 4-lite windows in the upper level. The fourth bay has a metal door in the main level and a horizonal metal sash 4-lite window above. The south elevation is six bays wide with the west bay stepped down. The first four bays have infilled brick openings at the main level and four horizontal metal sash 4-lite windows. At the fifth bay is a wood door with transom in the upper level. A metal staircase leads down with a landing at the sixth bay, which has a wood door at the upper level.

The one-story-on-basement classroom addition is located east of the original building and gymnasium/auditorium addition. The site slopes down to the east, and the lower level of the classroom addition is below grade while the upper level connects to the adjacent original building. It has two sections, with the 1954 first section aligned with the façade of the 1949 addition and the 1964 second section stepped forward. The first section has three bays. The first bay has a pair of horizontal 6-lite metal sash windows at the basement level at the first level and horizontal 4-lite metal sash windows at the upper level. The second bay has fenestration at the basement level and inset brick at the upper level. The third bay has pairs of horizontal 4-lite windows at the upper level, and at the basement level are a horizontal 6-lite window and steel door with transom. The second section is two bays wide, with each bay at the upper and basement level having groupings of five horizontal 6-lite metal sash windows. The east elevation has a steel door in the basement level at the northeast corner and steel door with canopy at the upper level.





The interior has high degree of integrity with retained double-loaded corridor, transoms, wood floors in original section, and bathrooms.

Classroom building, Contributing Building, 1952, 1958, 1960 – In October 1951 the contract to construct a new two classroom building at Morningside High School were awarded to Gaither Brothers Building Company. The building, which was designed by local architect Tom H. Hutchins, was to house the vocational and home economics departments of the school. The building was expanded in 1958 with a four-classroom addition for junior high grades at its east side and in 1960 with a second story on the addition including two classrooms, a cafeteria, and kitchen.[398]

The Morningside High School Classroom Building is located south of the original building and faces S. Elm Street. It is comprised of two sections, a one-story building facing S. Elm Street and a two-story addition at east. The classroom building has a flat roof and brick veneer. The west elevation is four bays wide. The north bay has a half-lite steel door with 4-lite transom above. The second bay has a wide steel door with 2-lite sidelights and 8-lite transom. A metal canopy extends over the sidewalk. The third and fourth bay each have a pair of large one-over-two windows. The north elevation is comprised entirely of vertical 12-lite metal sash windows. A vented brick equipment room with flat roof is located approximately halfway down the elevation, which extends to the perpendicular gymnasium/auditorium addition. The south elevation has three bays of large one-over-two windows and a shed extension. The extension has two steel doors with transoms on the west elevation and ten one-over-one metal sash windows across the south elevation.

[398] "Contracts Let for Additions at Morningside," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 15, 1951; "School to get New Lighting," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 30, 1958; *The Morningside Oracle*, Morningside High School (1960), Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/22798306981/in/album-72157660766139766, accessed May 6, 2025.

Concession stand, Contributing Building, ca. 1957 – Square, one-story, brick concession stand is located at the southwest corner of the parcel adjacent to the athletic field. The flat roof has a wide overhang. There are two wood doors at east elevation and fenestration at north elevation.

Playing field, Contributing Site, ca. 1948 – The athletic fields of Morningside High School were built immediately south of the school in 1948. They included a baseball diamond and football field. A cyclone fence backstop is located at the southeast corner of the parcel, and stadium lights in deteriorated condition are located along the south and east sides.

Christine Mapp Carson House, 1973, 1988-1989
Contributing Building
421 Garfield Street

Christine Mapp Carson taught at Morningside School starting in 1962 and was a longtime special education teacher in Statesville schools. She and her then-husband Isaiah Lafayette Carson purchased the Garfield Street property in 1971 and completed the home by 1973. The Carsons divorced, and Christine retained ownership until selling the property in 2015.[399]

The one-story-with-basement, side-gabled brick veneer Ranch house has a stepped asphalt shingle roof. Gables have vinyl siding with louvered vents in peak. The walkout basement at the west elevation has a gabled porch with square section wood posts on concrete slab. The façade is three bays wide. The first bay, which is within the taller stepped section, has three typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows. The middle bay contains the recessed porch with turned wood posts on brick and concrete deck. The bay has vinyl siding, a six-panel door, and trio of typical windows. The third bay has two typical windows. The east elevation has a single-bay garage with vinyl siding surround and original six-over-six wood sash windows. A shed ell, added 1988-1989, extends from the rear. A wide brick chimney rises through the roof between the second and third façade bays. Brick piers with lanterns flank the driveway from Old Salisbury Road.

[399] "New Morningside Teachers," photo caption, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 27, 1962; Iredell County Deed Book 499, Page 222.

First Baptist Church, 1967
Contributing Building
464 Garfield Street

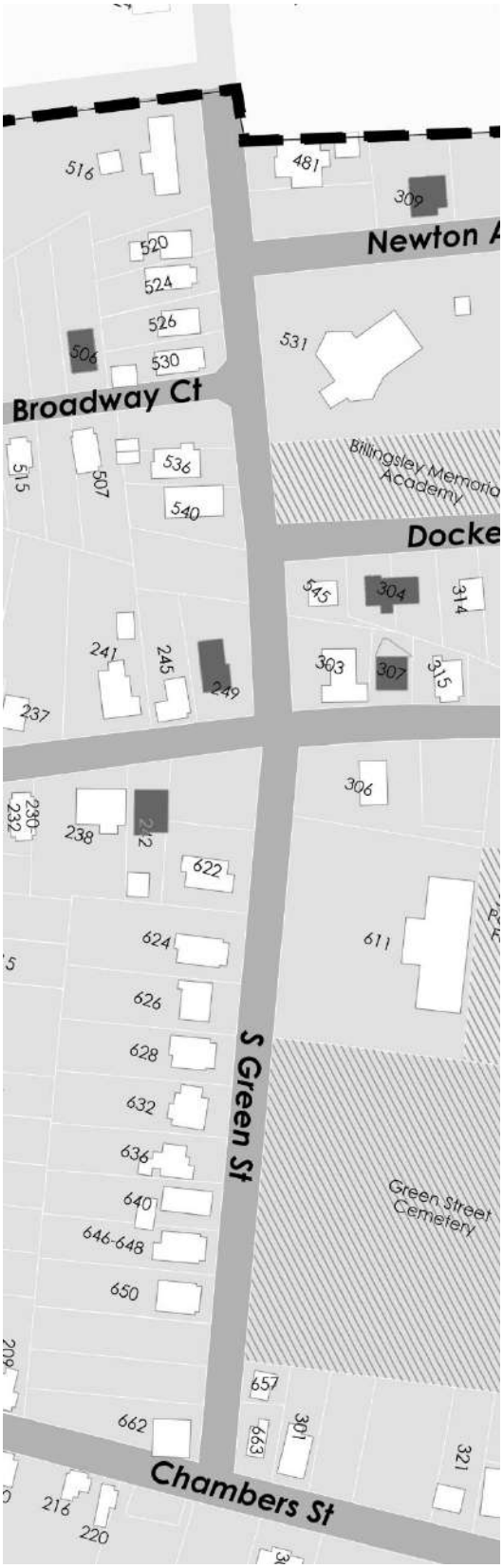
First Baptist Church purchased 16 acres of property at the east end of Garfield Street in 1964. Architect Ray Troxell of Statesville was contracted to design the new church. The final service at the church's longtime location at southeast corner of Garfield Street and South Green Street was held on Sunday, March 5, 1967, and the first service at the new First Baptist Church at 464 Garfield Street was held the following Sunday.[400]

First Baptist Church is located at the southwest corner of Garfield Street and Old Salisbury Road at the eastern boundary of the Garfield and Green Streets district. The Modernist church consists of the tall front-gabled sanctuary and a one-story, flat-roofed, L-shaped classroom building with basement level on its west side. The sanctuary has vertical colored glass with offset muntins in its façade. The eaves angle outward at the gable peaks and have exposed rafters. The simple steeple has a square base and spire with modernist spherical finial. A one-story symmetrical section along the full width of the façade is five bays wide and has corbelled brick at the centered entry. Flanking bays have brick pilasters with vertical five-lite windows on either side. The east elevation of the sanctuary is six bays wide with six-lite vertical windows with paneling below in all bays but the third bay, which has a solid door.

[400] Iredell County Deed Book 385, Page 514, "Council," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 3, 1964; "Final Worship Set at Old Sanctuary," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 3, 1967; "Our History," First Baptist Church, https://www.fbcstatesville.com/, accessed April 21, 2025.

A breezeway enclosed with six-lite windows and two pairs of full-lite double doors with transom connects to the L-shaped classroom building. The classroom building is one-story-with-basement. Its façade is four bays wide delineated by brick pilasters with flanking vertical five-lite window at the ground level. The basement level has vertical three-lite windows, one in the second bay and two in the third bay. The west elevation is fourteen bays wide with pilasters between bays three and four and flanking the eleventh bay, which has a recessed entry with solid door and transom. The first seven bays also have fenestration at the basement. Most bays also features five-lite vertical windows with panels below except as noted. The first bay has a solid door at the basement, and the second bay has a window at basement. The third bay has a pair of solid doors with transom at the basement and two windows above. The four consecutive bays at basement have windows with corrugated metal light wells. The south elevation of the classroom building is thirteen bays wide. Most bays have vertical five-lite windows over paneling. A full-depth recessed entrance to the sanctuary is located in the eleventh bay, and the sixth bay has paired steel doors with transom. An asphalt parking lot is located south of the church.

Green Street, South



Louise Bigham and James A. Moton House, ca. 1957
Contributing Building
481 S. Green Street

In 1957 Louise Bigham Moton and James A. Moton built a brick house on the parcel next door to her mother Mary Belle Brown Bigham (515 South Green Street, no longer extant). Louise's father Gadson Bigham, Sr., co-founded Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary with St. Charles Rutledge, and after his death in 1934 her mother entered the business. After a teaching career, Louise took over the business in 1980 when her mother's health declined. Louise died in 2021, and the house remains in family ownership.[401]

The Moton House is a one-story brick veneer ranch. Its side-gabled roof is sheathed in asphalt shingle. Typical windows are original two-over-two horizontal wood sash. The façade is four bays wide, with two typical windows with metal awnings in the north bays under a front-facing gable and vertical wood siding in the gable end. The shallow engaged porch comprises the third and fourth bays, which have a wood door with storm door and picture window. A metal awning extends from under the eave, and there are wrought iron posts and railing. A single-shoulder chimney flanked by narrow typical windows is on the south elevation. At a paired window bay, a flat-roofed carport with angled wood supports on a brick knee wall extends along the side elevation of a gabled bay off the rear. Beyond is a porch enclosed with windows.

[401] "Louise Moton (Bigham)," Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary, Inc., https://memorials.rutledgeandbigham.com/Moton-Louise/4479380/index.php, accessed April 21, 2025.

Arthur E. and Leola Croom Peterson House, ca. 1963
Contributing Building
516 S. Green Street

Arthur Etheridge Peterson and Leola Croom Peterson built this split-level house ca. 1963 and moved from their first home at 620 Harrison Street. Arthur was a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University who came to Statesville in 1948 after military service during World War II. He taught at Morningside High School until 1956, when he transferred to Race Street School where he later served as principal. He returned to Morningside in 1968 as principal. He retired from education in 1985 and became the first African American to serve on the Statesville City Council. Leola was the daughter of Rev. James Croom, pastor of First Baptist Church. She graduated from Morningside High School and Shaw University. Leola was also a career educator who established the first kindergarten class in Statesville public schools at Avery Sherrill Elementary School. Both Arthur and Leola passed in 2010.[402]

The site slopes down from south to north along S. Green Street toward the creek, which forms the northern boundary of the parcel. This brick veneer split-level house is comprised of a one-story gabled south bay and a two-story hipped north bay. Typical windows are original one-over-one aluminum sash. The façade's one-story south bay has a pair of three-lite aluminum sash windows. The two-story portion has a gable porch with wrought iron posts and vinyl siding at its first bay. The second bay and upper two bays have typical windows. Two gabled ells extend from the north elevation of the two-story bay. A one-story section has a 9-

[402] 'Leola Peterson," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 11, 2010; "Arthur Peterson," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 26, 2010.

lite entry door with wrought iron gate and typical window. The second ell is a two-car garage, which is below the grade of the previous ell. There are two brick chimneys, one on the south elevation of the two-story bay and a second at the rear elevation of the first gabled ell.

Walker-Linney House, ca. 1928
Contributing Building
520 S. Green Street

J. Henry Walker, an employee of the City of Statesville, and Lucy Walker purchased the property in 1927. Henry remarried to Emma Linney by 1937, and her descendants own the property.[403]

This one-story front-gabled Craftsman-style house is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill which is taller at the rear as the site slopes down from the street level. It is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is asymmetrical with typical one-over-one vinyl replacement windows flanking the offset entry door. The hipped porch has wood plank decking and railing and square section wood posts on brick piers. A pair of original four-lite Craftsman windows are in the gable. A prefabricated metal carport is located at rear.

[403] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932-1933* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1933), 243; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1937-1938* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1938), 277; "John Walker's Funeral Is Set," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 25, 1963; "Mrs. Walker Dies at 69," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 13, 1982.

Duplex, ca. 1941
Contributing Building
524 S. Green Street

Dr. Robert S. Holliday and Mary Charlton Holliday purchased the parcel in 1921. A duplex first appears on the 1950 Sanborn map, and the property appears cleared for construction on a 1941 aerial image.[404]

This one-story, front-gabled duplex was built ca. 1941, but it was later converted to a single-family residence. It is built on a brick foundation and is sheathed in wood German siding with a standing seamed metal roof. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The shed porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts and railing. The façade has a louvered vent in the gable, and typical windows flank the entry. There is one replacement 6-lite Craftsman door.

[404] Iredell County Deed Book 73, Page 502; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

James A. and Jencie C. McClelland House, ca. 1922
Contributing Building
526 S. Green Street

The house first appears in the 1922-1923 Statesville city directory as the residence of James Sherrill. Jencie Campbell McClelland acquired the property in 1939, and she and husband James Alfred McClelland were longtime residents. Jencie worked as a maid at the Carolina Hotel, and Alfred was a laborer. The home was owned by their heirs until 2010.[405]

This one-story, hip-roof bungalow is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and as a seamed metal roof. Typical windows are two-over-two wood sash and appear original. The façade is two bays wide, with the first bay obscured by overgrown shrubs at the time of survey in June 2024; however, photos from a December 2024 real estate listing show the bay having a trio of six-over-six wood sash windows in an enclosed portion of the original porch.[406] The porch was enclosed after 1950 according to Sanborn maps. The second bay consists of an engaged porch with concrete floor and wrought iron supports with wood railing. The entry door is two-lite three-panel wood with a typical window adjacent. A small hipped dormer extends from the roof ridge and has louvered vents flanking a vinyl siding-infilled

[405] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922-1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 235; Iredell County Deed Book 132, Page 130; "McClelland Is Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, Mary 26, 1972; Gary Freeze, "Carolina Hotel Closes Its Doors after Many Years of Service to Statesville," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 5, 1975; "Jensie C. McClelland," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 20, 1987.
[406] 526 S. Green Street, Statesville, NC 28677, Realtor.com, https://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/526-S-Green-St_Statesville_NC_28677_M62038-59861, accessed May 5, 2025.

fenestration opening. A brick chimney rises through the roof ridge near the center of the house. Property records note vinyl siding was installed in 1985, and the building was remodeled in 1987.

Vivian Wellman Smith House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
530 S. Green Street

Dim Smith purchased lot 6 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1916, but no building appears on the site until the 1925 Sanborn map. His parents James I. Smith and Lou Justice Smith lived in the house until their deaths in 1928 and 1932. Dim married Vivian Wellman in 1933, and they divorced ten years later with Vivian retaining the house. She became one of the first women and first Black woman to work for the Statesville Police Department when she was selected as an alternate traffic director in 1953. The following year she became a foot patroller assigned to the Garfield and Green Streets area. Vivian retired from the department after 25 years of service. She died in 1984.[407]

[407] Iredell County Deed Book 65, Page 70; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1925)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; "Louisa Smith Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 21, 1932; "Nine Divorces Granted Today in Court Here," *Statesville Daily Record*, January 28, 1943; "Five Policewomen Chosen Here," *Statesville Daily Record*, August 29, 1953; "Mrs. Smith, 71, Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 5, 1984.

Figure 27 Vivian W. Smith was one of the first women and first Black woman to work for the Statesville Police Department. She is pictured second from right with the six other women sworn in on August 31, 1953 (*Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 3, 1953). She served for twenty-five years, and this photo was published with her obituary in 1984 ("Mrs. Smith, 71, Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 5, 1984).

The Smith House is a one-story front-gabled house built on stuccoed masonry foundation and sheathed in aluminum siding with a standing seamed metal roof. The gabled porch has a concrete floor and square section wood posts and railings. Eave brackets have been wrapped in aluminum, and the tall gable has a louvered vent. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement.

Garage, Contributing Building, ca. 1970 – Flat-roofed frame one-car garage has vinyl siding.

Calvary Presbyterian Church, 1973
Contributing Building
531 S. Green Street

In 1968 the congregation of Calvary Presbyterian Church formed with merger of Broad Street United Presbyterian, Pleasant Grove United Presbyterian, and Race Street United Presbyterian. In 1969 they begin fundraising for a new building on adjacent to Billingsley Memorial Academy. Statesville architect Tom H. Hutchins designed the building, which a local newspaper described as, "more than 6,000 square feet, and includes seven classrooms for church school, a kitchen, choir room, pastor's study, library and storage areas," and the nave "stands 57 feet high on the front, descending to 18 feet in the rear."[408] The building was completed in November 1972 and dedicated on June 24, 1973.[409]

[408] "Church Dedication Is Planned Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 22, 1973.
[409] "Church Is Planning New Structure," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 19, 1971.

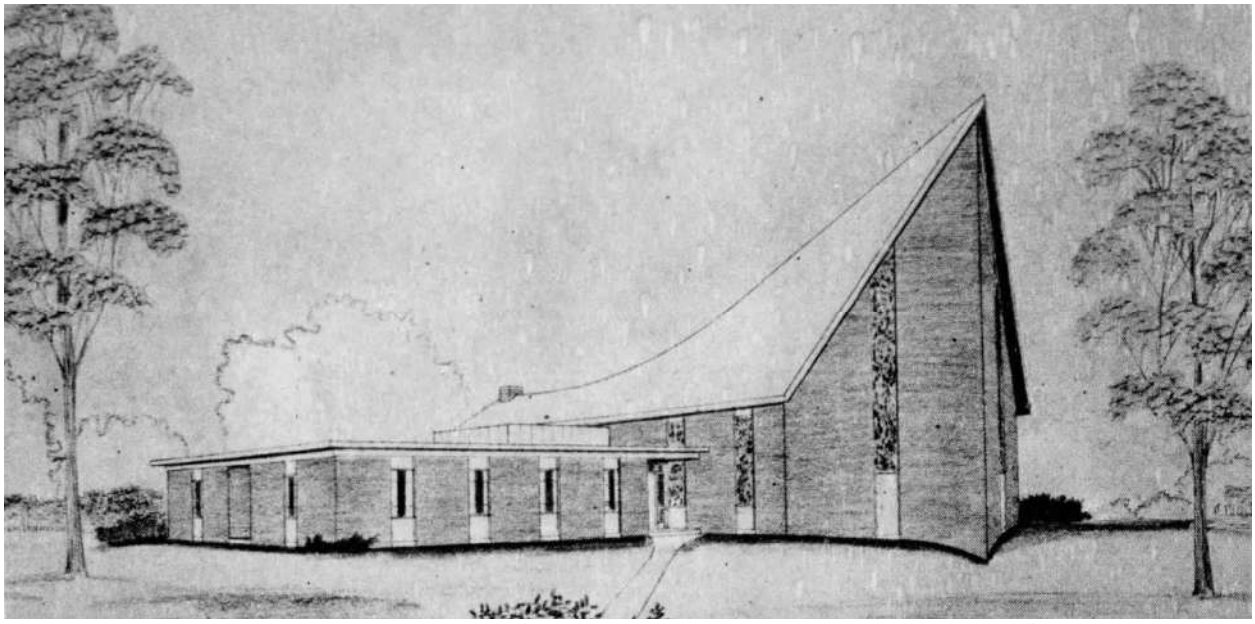


Figure 28 Sketch by architect Tom H. Hutchins of his design for Calvary Presbyterian Church. "Church Dedication Is Planned Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 22, 1973.

Figure 29 Groundbreaking ceremony for Calvary Presbyterian Church. *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 19, 1971.

Calvary Presbyterian Church is comprised of the prominent nave with square flat-roofed building at its east elevation and small flat-roofed ell at its west elevation. The paraboloid roof of the nave is oriented with its highest point toward the corner of S. Green Street and Newton Avenue. The façade faces north and is comprised of two angled faces coming to a point. It features pilasters flanking variegated stained glass over solid doors centered in each face. Side elevations also have vertical colored glass windows with a small operable pane at bottom, with three windows and a solid door on the west elevation and one window on the east elevation. The rear nave elevation, like the façade, has two angled faces. It has two three-lite colored glass windows on each face, and a brick chimney rises through the roof. The flat-roofed building east of the nave is five bays wide and three bays deep. Bays primarily have typical original three-lite metal windows. The north elevation has solid steel doors with storefront sidelights and transom in its fifth bay. The east elevation has a recessed entry with a flat metal canopy extending out. The small flat-roofed ell west of the have has a small picture window on its north elevation. The south elevation is three bays wide with a solid door, a door with storm door, and picture window. Signage is located at the corner of S. Green Street and Newton Avenue, consisting of a brick base with piers supporting a metal bell.

Calvary
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, USA
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
WED. BIBLE STUDY 6 PM

Billingsley Memorial Academy
Contributing Site
541 S. Green Street

The property was formerly the site of Billingsley Memorial Academy, a private school serving both Black and White students. The school was created from funds willed by Rev. Amos S. Billingsley (1818-1897) for the construction of a school for African Americans in Statesville. Rev. Billingsley and his wife Emily Hamilton Billingsley (1825-1908) were Presbyterian missionaries who settled in Statesville in 1871. Trustees of the Board of Missions of Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. purchased the property from the Tomlin family in 1901. The academy opened in 1906 and operated until closing early in the depression of the 1930s. Broad Street Presbyterian Church moved into the space in 1932. When three Presbyterian churches merged to form Calvary United Presbyterian Church in 1969, the former school served the congregation while a new church was built at the corner of South Green Street and Newton Avenue. Billingsley Memorial Academy was demolished after November 1972.[410]

[410] Iredell County Deed Book 28, Page 105; "Thes Billingsley Memorial Academy and Industrial School," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 9, 1901; Boots Clanton, "Dr. Dockery Reaches Age 100, Five Generations Present for Birthday Celebration," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 11, 1970; "Church Dedication Is Planned Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 22, 1973.

Figure 30 This photo of Billingsley Memorial Academy was published in *Era of Progress and Promise, 1863-1910*, which highlighted African Americna education progress after Emancipation.

Thomas M. and Nettie Stockton Allison House, ca. 1925
Contributing Building
536 S. Green Street

Thomas M. Allison and Nettie Stockton Allison purchased lot 4 of the Tomlin property in 1916, and by 1925 they built a two-story home on South Green Street. Thomas owned a grocery store on North Tradd Street and later worked as a carpenter. Nettie died in 1930. In the 1930s son Thomas Eugene Alllison, Jr., wrote a regular column, "News of Statesville Colored People," in the Statesville *Record*. Thomas M. Allison died in 1942, and the house stayed in the family through at least 1995.[411]

The Allison House is a two-story, hipped-roof Foursquare built on brick foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is two bays wide with typical four-over-one wood sash windows in the upper level. The main level has a pair of windows in the first bay. The second bay has a square four-lite window adjacent to the entry door, which has narrow transom and sidelights around the replacement door with storm door. The hipped porch has a stone foundation and wood plank flooring with large square section wood posts and railing. A hipped dormer is centered in the roof, and its fenestration has been covered with vinyl siding. The north elevation has a shed porch at the first bay of the main level with wood stairs to an upstairs unit.

[411] Although father and son had different middle names/initials, son Thomas Eugene Allison denoted himself as Junior. "Nettie Stockton Allison Dies," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 17, 1930; "Rites for T. M. Allison," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 1, 1942; "Public Auction – Real Estate," advertisement, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 29, 1995.

Garage, Contributing Building, ca. 1930 – The frame garage has a metal gambrel roof and wood siding.

Barney and Josephine Ramsey House, ca. 1921
Contributing Building
540 S. Green Street

Barney Alexander Ramsey and Josephine Cowan Ramsey purchased lot 16 of the M. A. Tomlin property in 1921. They likely built the house soon afterwards as they are listed at the address in the 1922-1923 Statesville city directory. Barney held a taxi franchise and was an officer of the Iredell Credit Union. Their nephew James T. "Jim" Ramsey inherited the property. He was a counselor in Statesville schools and co-owner of Ramsey & McClelland Funeral Home.[412]

The one-story house is built on a brick foundation. The brick veneer exterior was added at a later date. The hipped roof has asphalt shingles and a hipped dormer with a pair of louvered vents above infill paneling. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The engaged porch has concrete floor and wrought iron supports and railing.

[412] Iredell County Deed Book 67, Page 158; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922-1923* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923), 177; "Mrs. Ramsey's Rites Planned," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* December 4, 1962; "Death Claims B. A. Ramsey," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 21, 1968; "Bid Made by Ramsey," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 29, 1976.

House, ca. 1967
Contributing Building
545 S. Green Street

White couple James C. Joyner and Ann Joyner purchased in 1966 from Peggy Wood Moser a parcel on which they constructed a rental house. They sold it to Harold C. Barnes, whose brother LaGrant lived next door, in 1985.[413]

The one-story Minimal Traditional frame house is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and has vinyl siding and a side-gabled asphalt shingle roof. The concrete porch has a shed roof extension. Windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement.

[413] Legal notice, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 5, 1966.

Morningside School Annex, 1961
Contributing Building
611 S. Green Street

This parcel is the original site of Morningside School, opened in 1891 to serve the Black students of Statesville. A frame schoolhouse was destroyed by fire in 1916, and a two-story brick building was completed in 1921. A new high school building was constructed a block down Garfield Street in 1941, and the building continued to serve students up through the sixth grade. A detached six-classroom building addition was approved by the Statesville Board of Education at their July 1961 meeting, with the contract for construction awarded to G. L. Wilson Building Company. A smaller frame building was demolished on the site, and the annex was in use by November 1961. After the integration of Statesville schools in 1969, Morningside School closed.

The facility hosted two daycare centers until 1972, when Peterson and Mangum Funeral Home, then operated by Oakwood Junior High assistant principal Lonnie P. Davis, Sr., purchased the annex. The company relocated their facilities from 206 Garfield Street. They demolished the brick school building and constructed a parking lot in its place. Local lore holds that burial plots for paupers are located behind the building. In 2006 a commemorative marker and plaque was placed on the site of the former Morningside School.[414]

[414] "Wayside Patrons Petition to Join City System," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 6, 1961; "Mulberry Street School in 1891 Started System," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* April 8, 1974; Business Expands in Move," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 8, 1974.

Figure 31 Classes outside Morningside School. 1C Morningside School with Class Cropped, Morningside High School, Statesville, Iredell County, N. C. Alumni Scrapbook, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/52718162665/in/album-72177720306360742.

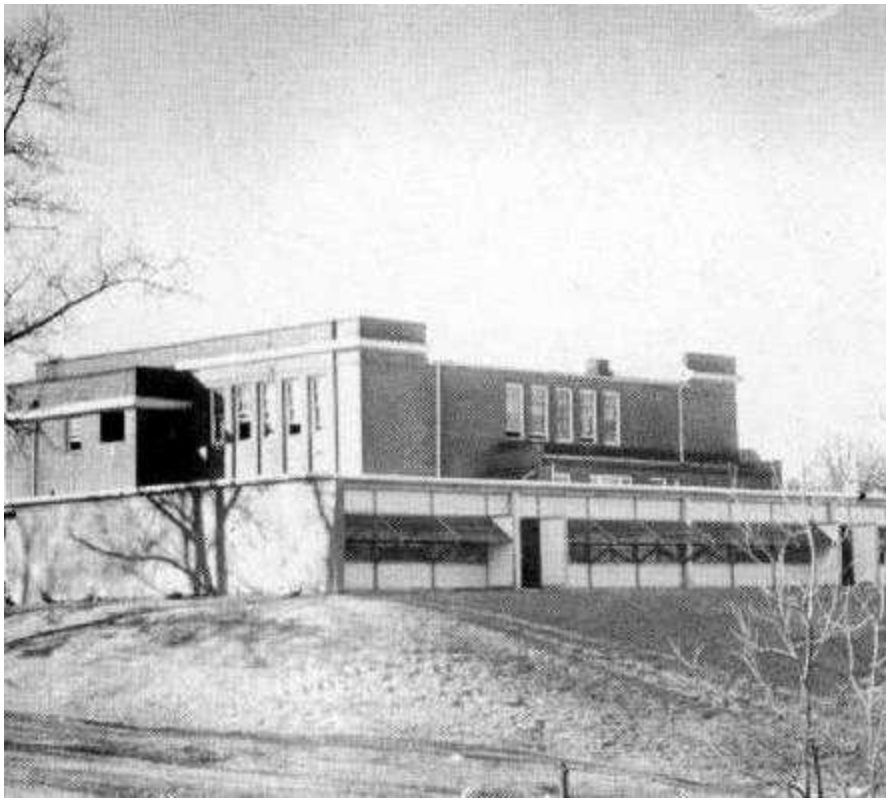


Figure 32 Morningside School Annex behind Morningside School, from the 1963 Morningside High School yearbook.

The Morningside School Annex is a one-story brick veneer Modernist institutional building with a flat roof. The façade is six bays wide, each bay delineated with simple brick pilasters. A ca. 1994 gabled portico with square brick columns and vinyl siding was added after the period of significance to the façade, covering the two central entrance bays which each have a pair of storefront doors with wide sidelights and transoms. Flanking bays are blank brick walls. The south end bay formerly had storefront floor-to-ceiling windows but are now covered in plywood. The north end bay is a flat-roofed garage bay. Originally recessed, it is sheathed in vinyl siding with a paneled garage door and six-panel steel door. The north and south elevations have no fenestration. The rear elevation facing east was inaccessible. The Morningside School Annex is in deteriorating condition, with missing siding panels, broken windows, and a general lack of maintenance.[415]

[415] "New Quarters," photograph, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 5, 1973.

FORMER SITE OF
MORNINGSIDE SCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1891 - 1968
DEDICATED SEPT 2, 2006
RUTHIE ALLISON - CHAIRPERSON
JOHN FOSTER
CORTEZ SPANN
BILLY LACKEY
PHILLIP MORRISON
MEMBERS
NATALIE REYWICK
MARGARET STOVALL
MARY ANN MILLER
RUSSELL MORRISON
VIVIAN BRAWLEY
ODELL WILLIAMS
ANNETTE DAVIS
SARAH REEVES
BRENDA CLARK
BRENDA BLACKWELL
WYOMA STEVENSON
HORACE SMITH
BUILT BY
LANDOWNER
BOBBY REDMOND
LONNIE DAVIS SR.

Dr. Blair J. and Connie M. Abernathy House, 1935
Contributing Building
622 S. Green Street

In November 1935 the local newspaper reported, "Dr. B. J. Abernathy, colored, is building a new residence on South Green street, estimated cost $2,500."[416] Blair James Abernathy was a dentist and 1921 graduate of Bennett College in Greensboro. His practice was located in the Holliday Building on South Center Street. Connie Martin Abernathy also attended Bennett College, and she received degrees from Winston Salem Teacher College and Columbia University. She taught at Morningside School from 1927 to 1963. They were members of Scotts Chapel Methodist Church.[417]

[416] "New Residence Going Up," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 4, 1935.
[417] "Some Thinks Statesville Has Not Mentioned Elsewhere," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 18, 1934; "Tribute Paid to Mrs. Abernathy," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 28, 1963; "Rites Planned for Abernathy," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 18, 1969; "Final Rites Scheduled," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 8, 1971.

Figure 33 Dr. Abernathy sees a patient in his office in the Holliday Building, 609 1/2 S. Center Street. From Statesville R&L Facebook, May 20, 2018, https://www.facebook.com/StatesvilleRL/posts/pfbid0xrrR6oNUj6iGQhFK6bcYtTdFGyXxak7Q2L7Abn2C1kY16fKkNjSTdsLWDTtRvtsml?__tn__=%2CO*F.

The Abernathy House is a one-story hipped roof Period Cottage. The corner porch has an arched brick façade and concrete floor on brick foundation. The single shoulder façade chimney has decorative brick work and breaks through a front gabled roof section. It is flanked by pairs of narrow four-over-four wood sash windows. Six-over-six wood sash windows are otherwise typical throughout. The side elevations have dormer vents. There are two entrances into the house from the porch. A brick chimney and basement access are at the rear. A prefabricated metal carport is located at rear.

Green Street Cemetery, 1886
Contributing Site
S. Green Street

Green Street Cemetery—also mentioned in records as "the colored cemetery," Union Grove Cemetery, and Greenwood Cemetery—was established as the first cemetery in Statesville for African Americans. In 1885 the Colored Peoples Graveyard Association purchased one-half acre from Mary C. Bell. Burials began in 1886, and two years later the cemetery added three acres with financial assistance from the City of Statesville. Green Street Cemetery was the final resting place for Statesville's Black community until 1943, when the city opened Belmont Cemetery as the latter site was reaching capacity. The last documented burial in Green Street Cemetery was in 1949. The City took over maintenance of the property in 1961.[418]

Green Street Cemetery sits on 3.38 acres on land and is surrounded by Green and Elm streets and rear property lines along Chambers Street. The property has gently rolling topography sloping from the southwest to the northeast. Mature trees are scattered in the middle of the cemetery but primarily line the southern and western edges. A brick pillar with engraved vertical granite "Green St" signage is located at the northwest corner. There is no fence around the cemetery, and it is open and grassy with the few extant headstones scattered throughout.

[418] Joel Reese, "History of Green Street Cemetery Still Being Researched," *Statesville Record and Landmark* February 16, 2023; Reese, "Green Street Cemetery Project Discovering Untold Stories," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 9, 2023; Joel Reese and Shellie Taylor, "Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research" (Statesville, NC: Iredell County Public Library, 2023), 3–10.

Green Street Potter's Field, ca. 1930s
Contributing Site
East of 611 S. Green Street

According to a report published in 2023 about the cemetery, the parcel located north of the cemetery and east of the Morningside School Annex was utilized in the late 1930s as a potter's field. Six stone markers were identified during the 2022-2023 survey by Iredell Public Library staff. Property records classify the property as zoned for funeral use.[419]

[419] Reese and Taylor, 12.

Murphy-Hamilton House, 1929
Contributing Building
624 S. Green Street

The Murphy-Hamilton House is named for two generations of a family who built and lived in the house for nearly half a century. In June 1929 barber John Peltier Murphy was issued a building permit for a "one-story residence on Green street between Sharpe and Garfield, to cost $3,300."[420] He lived in the house with wife Julia Emma Murdock Murphy. After their respective deaths in 1937 and 1942, their daughter Lillian Beatrice Murphy Hamilton resided in the house with her husband Paul. Lillian was educated at Scotia Seminary, Livingstone College, and Johnson C. Smith University. She taught in Statesville schools for forty-six years, retiring in 1957. The Hamiltons were members of Calvary United Presbyterian Church.[421]

This one-story, front-gable brick veneer house has Craftsman-style detailing. It has vinyl siding and a window with an awning in the gable. A soldier row is placed at the floor level. The shed porch was enclosed with brick veneer after 1950 according to Sanborn maps. The porch has six-over-six vinyl windows and a scalloped metal awning over the entry door. Side elevations have four-over-one wood sash windows with vertical muntins. The addition at rear continues the roof line and has basement access and a window on the north elevation. The south elevation has a brick chimney through the eave and gable bay with eave brackets. Eaves have exposed rafters. A porch with square section wood post is visible at the south rear.

[420] "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 17, 1929.
[421] "Julia E. Murphy," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 29, 1937; "Hamilton Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 31, 1972; "Educator Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 22, 1976.

Toliver-Rutherford House, ca. 1935
Contributing Building
626 S. Green Street

In November 1935 the local newspaper reported that Frank A. Toliver, principal of Morningside School, "has recently completed a bungalow on South Green street and he and his family are now occupying their new home."[422] Frank was a native of Atlanta and earned a bachelor's degree from Atlanta University, master's degree from the University of Michigan, and doctorate from Columbia University. He married Anne Peace, a teacher and Greensboro native, in 1929. Annie was also highly degreed, having attained a master's degree in literature from Pennsylvania State University and her doctorate from Columbia. Both taught at Morningside, where Frank became principal in 1935. He held this position until 1941, when he took a similar position in Asheville.[423]

[422] "New Residence Going Up," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 4, 1935.
[423] "Dr. Frank Toliver Dies," *Asheville Citizen Times* February 1, 1983.

The Tolivers rented the house to Alan Douglas (A. D.) Rutherford, Toliver's successor at Morningside, who purchased the property in 1959. A. D. was a native of Oregon who Rutherford was educated at Pacific College in Oregon, the University of California, and Columbia University. He settled in Statesville in 1936 where he taught English and Chorus at Morningside and, in 1943, received a master's in education from Temple University in Philadelphia. A. D. served as principal of Morningside until 1969, when he was promoted to assistant superintendent. Morningside was renamed in his honor in 1971. He retired in 1972, selling the property and moving to Raleigh.[424]

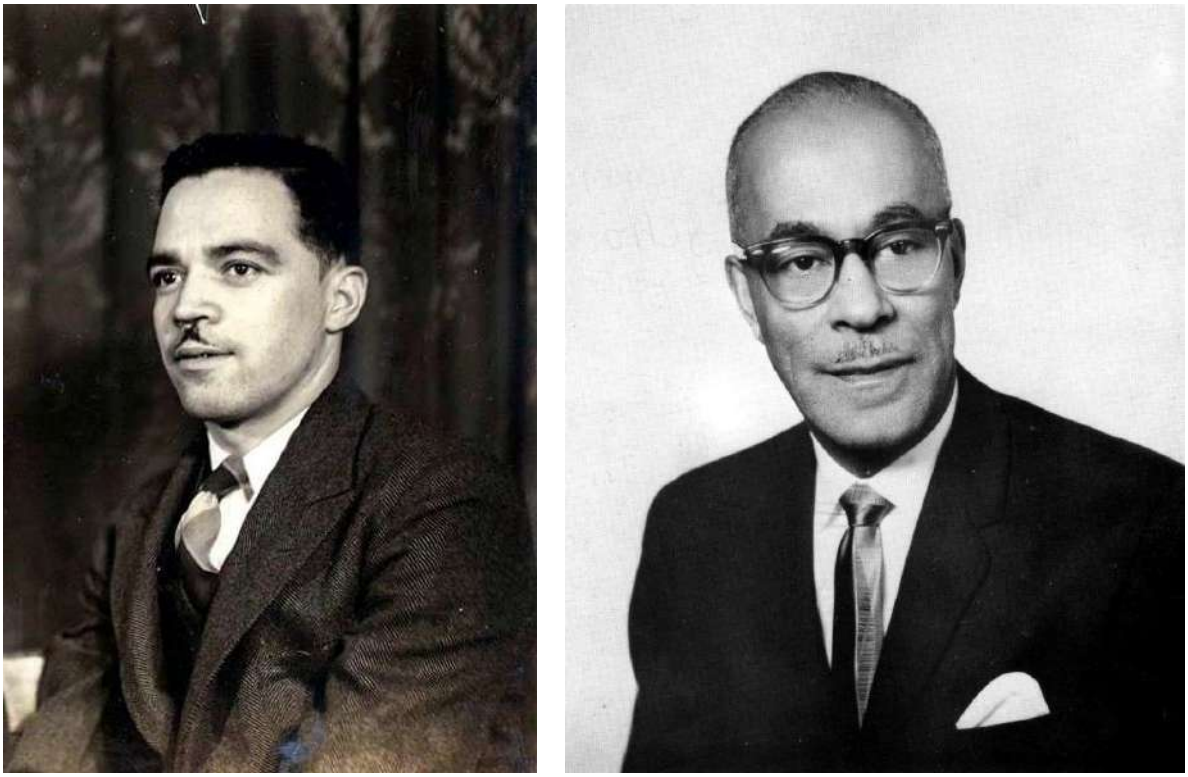


Figure 34 Two principals of Morningside School, Frank A. Toliver (left) and A. D. Rutherford (right) resided in the house. Photos from Morningside High School Alumni Scrapbook and 1966 Morningside High School yearbook, Iredell County Public Library.

This one-story, hipped-roof Period Cottage has an original brick veneer. The façade is four bays wide. A corner porch at the south end of the façade has an arched opening has and a concrete floor and steps. The second bay has a clipped gable and double ten-lite vinyl window with original 4-lite wood window in gable. The façade chimney extends through the roof and has decorative brickwork. The third bay has a brick stoop to a four-panel replacement door with fanlight and a pair of six-over-six vinyl windows comprise the fourth bay. A row of brick headers are placed at the floor level. The eaves feature exposed rafters. All windows appear to be replacements. A door and corner porch is infilled with brick and an inset alcove detail.

[424] "Rutherford, Peterson Get New Positions," *Statesville Record and Landmark* June 14, 1968; "Alan Rutherford Receives Degree," *Statesville Daily Record* August 12, 1943.

Julia Murphy Sherrill Chatman House, ca. 1924
Contributing Building
628 S. Green Street

In 1919 John P. Murphy deeded the property at 628 S. Green Street to daughter Julia Murphy Sherrill. No listing for the property appears in city directories until 1925-1926, with Julia as the occupant.[425] The house may have been built by January 1924, when Lillian Murphy married Paul Hamilton "at the home of the bride's sister, Julia Sherrill, on South Green street."[426] Julia married Ivey Sherrill, who died in 1917, and William C. Chatman, who died in 1949. Charles and Alma Carter Foushee, principal and teacher at Morningside School, were tenants in 1932-1933. Julia moved to Asheville by 1935 and Richmond, Virginia, by 1940. She sold the property to Herman Horne and Thellena Dalton Horne, who resided next door, in 1967. Julia died in Richmond in 1996 at age 107.[427]

[425] Iredell County Deed Book 85, Page 23; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925-1926* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1926), 211.
[426] "Married Thursday Night," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 14, 1924.
[427] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932-1933* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1933), 143; United States Census Office, 1940 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Richmond, Virginia, ED 118-167, Page 9B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed April 21, 2025; Iredell County Deed Book 447, Page 22; "Chatman," obituary, *Richmond Times Dispatch*, December 9, 1996.

The Sherrill Chatman House has an interesting application of Craftsman details on an I-house form. The two-story, frame house has a parged foundation and has side-gabled, asphalt-shingled roof with eave brackets. Wood weatherboard siding appears original. Six-over-one Craftsman wood sash windows have off-center horizontal muntins. The front gabled porch is full width with angled pediment frieze and wood posts, battered at corners and square section in middle, on brick piers, and concrete porch on stuccoed brick foundation. The low centered dormer is gabled with horizontal four-lite wood sash window. A full-width gabled rear ell has a smaller ell at its north corner with stuccoed chimney. Two small prefabricated sheds are visible in the back yard.

Burton-Horne House, ca. 1913
Contributing Building
632 S. Green Street

The Burton-Horne House was likely built by Ashley Aaron Burton, Sr. after 1913, when he purchased the "Sally Dean lot" from J. A. Albea.[428] Ashley and wife Mary Ann Carson Burton appear at the location, then addressed 129 Green Street, in the 1916-1917 city directory. Ashley worked as a janitor at Commercial National Bank for fifteen years. He also operated an eating house on S. Center Street in the Foushee Building, which was destroyed by fire in 1923. Ashley died in 1929, and by 1931 his widow was in danger of losing their home. Local undertaker St. Charles Rutledge purchased the property at tax sale, and Mary Ann remained in their home until her death in 1936.[429]

[428] Iredell County Deed Book 48, Page 442.
[429] "$30,000 Fire on South Center," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 18, 1923; "Ashley Burton, Well Known Colored Man, Dead," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 10, 1929; ; "Mary Anna Burton Dead," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 3, 1936.

Herman L. Horne and Thellena Dalton Horne, teachers at Morningside High School, purchased the property in 1949. Herman was a native of Asheville who graduated from Tennessee State University and received a master's degree from Columbia University. He came to Morningside in 1945 as a coach and teacher. During his tenure at Morningside, his teams won four state championships in basketball and three district titles in football. Thellena was an alumna of Morningside who grew up in the Rankintown community. She earned a bachelor's degree from Winston-Salem State University and a master's degree from North Carolina A&T University. She taught for over thirty years, retiring from N. B. Mills Elementary in 1981. Herman died in 1995, and Thellena passed in 2016.[430]

The one-and-one-half-story side-gabled house is sheathed in a combination of aluminum siding and stone veneer. The north end of the facade has a simulated stone water table on a projecting portion. The engaged front porch has concrete masonry unit foundation with concrete floor with wrought iron supports and railing. The entry door is a replacement wood six-panel door with storm door. The façade has a centered shed dormer with wood shingle siding and pair of one-over-one aluminum windows. A shed carport addition, made in 1956 to the north elevation, has been enclosed with wood composite paneling and has a doorway. At the south elevation is a wood pergola. The chimney appears to have been sheathed with narrow midcentury stone. Windows are a mix of four-over-one wood sash covered with storm windows and one-over-one vinyl replacement. The roof is asphalt shingle.

[430] Iredell County Deed Book 210, Page 83; "Herman L. Horne," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 8, 1995; "Thellena Dalton Horne," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 22, 2016.

Wilmer N. and Edith M. Derr House, 1954
Contributing Building
636 S. Green Street

Wilmer N. and Edith M. Derr were granted a building permit in May 1954 for a "five-room brick-veneer residence" at 636 S. Green Street.[431] The Derrs were career educators, with Edith teaching in Taylorsville and Wilmer in Newton at the time they built the house. Edith started at Morningside School in 1955, moving to Race Street School in 1958 and N. B. Mills Elementary School in 1968 from where she retired in 1981. Wilmer began teaching at Morningside High School in 1960. After integration, he moved to Statesville Senior High School where he taught sociology, economics, and Black history until retiring in 1982. Both were members of Scotts Chapel United Methodist Church, and Wilmer was also civically active. He was appointed by the governor to the board of trustees of the North Carolina Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System in 1971, and in 1974 he began service on the Statesville Civil Service Board. Wilmer died in 1984, and Edith passed away in 2023.[432]

[431] "Building Shows Decline in May," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 2, 1954.
[432] "Educator Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 30, 1984; "Edith M. Derr, #42" Pride Edition, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 21, 1986.

This one-story, side-gabled, brick veneer ranch house has Colonial Revival-style detailing including eave returns and wide frieze. The façade is three bays wide with a gabled bay with typical six-over-six wood sash window and nine-lite oculus in gable. An uncovered concrete porch on brick foundation with wrought iron railing spans two bays, which has the entry with shed hood and pair of typical windows. The six-lite two-panel wood door has an aluminum storm door. A chimney rises through the eave at the north elevation, which has flanking typical windows and a single window.

Henry C. and Henrietta H. Moyer House, ca. 1909
Contributing Building
640 S. Green Street

Rev. Henry C. Moyer, Presbyterian pastor, and Henrietta Henderson Moyer purchased the lot where they built their home in 1901. They were listed in the 1909-1910 Statesville city directory as living at 117 Green Street, which was later renumbered to 640 S. Green Street. Henry died in 1916. Henrietta remarried to John Wyatt, though they divorced in 1928. She lived in the house until she died at home in 1951.[433]

[433] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1909-1910* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1911), 121; "Death of a Colored Minister—Blind Blacksmith Dead," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 21, 1916; "Moyer Funeral Set for Sunday," *Statesville Daily Record*, January 13, 1951.

This one-story, side-gabled house is covered with aluminum siding. The brick pier foundation has been filled with concrete masonry units. A shed dormer is centered in the façade, and its windows have been replaced by vented siding panels. The roof is pressed tin shingle. The façade is two bays wide, consisting of the enclosed full width engaged porch. The south/left bay appears to function as a sunporch and has a trio of short one-over-one aluminum windows on solid wood railing and a storm door. Partially visible inside are a sash window and door. The north/right bay has a trio of six-over-six wood sash windows and appears to have been enclosed after 1950 but during the period of significance. A deteriorating brick chimney extends through the roof ridge near center. The north elevation has a single six-over-six wood sash window near the façade. Two two-over-two vertical muntin wood sash windows with storm windows are located at the first level, and a pair of one-over-one wood sash windows are in gable. The south elevation has a pair of aluminum windows at the enclosed porch and shed bay with pair of two-over-two wood windows; a pair of one-over-one wood windows is in the gable. A full-width gabled ell extends off the rear and has exposed rafter tails in the eaves. The ell has a single window and paired window opening filled with plywood on the north elevation. The south elevation is obscured with vegetation, but a pair of windows are visible.

Lewis C. and Louise C. Renwick House, 1926
Contributing Building
646-648 S. Green Street

A building permit was issued to brothers Lewis Chester Renwick and Chavis Leonard Renwick in July 1926 to construct "a two-story dwelling on Green street, estimated cost, $3,000."[434] Their two families lived in the house as late as 1937, by which date Chavis moved to a house on Walker Street (now Harrison Street). Lewis worked as a bellman/porter at the Vance Hotel, retiring after thirty years. He opened a pool hall on S. Center Street and died in 1958. Louise operated a beauty shop for forty years. She lived in the house until her death in 1989.[435] The house was converted into a duplex.

This two-story, hipped-roof frame house is built on a parged foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding. The asphalt shingle roof has two stuccoed chimneys. Typical windows are original one-over-one wood sash with storm windows with some are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The hipped porch is enclosed with large glass panels, though which two entrances with new six-panel doors are visible. The upper level of the façade has three typical windows. Vegetation obscures the north elevation, which appears to be three bays wide. The south elevation is also three bays wide, with replacement windows in the first and third bays and a pair of replacement windows in the middle bay of the main level. The upper level has a similar fenestration pattern, though the windows are typical original.

---

[434] "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 22, 1926.
[435] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1937-1938* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1938), 240; "Lewis Renwick Taken in Death," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 2, 1958; "Louise C. Renwick," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 18, 1989.

Fraley-Harper House, ca. 1903
Contributing Building
650 S. Green Street

The Fraley-Harper House is named for Lee Fraley and Maggie Fraley, who purchased the property in 1903 from Alice Tomlin Wood, and the family of Rev. Charlie Roscoe Harper, whose family owned the house for sixty years. Lee Fraley grew up in Bethany Township and moved to Statesville. He was a longtime employee of the white Allison family, including sheriff Thomas Johnston Allison and son William Locke Allison. Maggie died in 1961.[436] Rev. Charlie Roscoe Harper and Georgia McIntosh Harper purchased the property in 1937. He worked for Statesville Flour Mill until becoming a full-time minister, serving as pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church in Hickory for over forty years. Georgia died in 1966, and he remarried to Beulah Pearson.[437]

[436] "Lee Fraley, Respected Colored Man, Dies from Pneumonia," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 28, 1938; "Rites Scheduled for Mrs. Fraley," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 2, 1961.
[437] Iredell County Deed Book 126, Page 83; "Minister Stricken," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, August 24, 1979.

This two-story, side-gabled frame house has minimal detailing, but retains its I-house form. It is built on brick piers. The original wood weatherboard siding is visible in places but is primarily covered with asbestos shingle. The façade has a centered gable with vent and continuous eave. Original two-over-two wood sash windows are typical throughout. The shed porch has a beadboard frieze board and ceiling. Turned wood columns and scroll brackets sit on brick piers, and the porch deck is concrete. Eave soffits are sheathed in weatherboard. The façade is three bays wide, with typical windows flanking the half-lite wood front door. An aluminum storm door has integrated house numbers. The full-width gable ell at rear has a paired window opening in gable filled with plywood. A gabled ell in deteriorated condition is at its north corner, and a shed addition with jalousie window extends from its south corner.

House, ca. 1950
Contributing Building
657 S. Green Street

A building on this site first appears on the 1950 Sanborn map, similar in relationship to the streetscape as the extant house.[438] This one-story, front-gabled house has a two-room shed addition at its south elevation with a gabled entry porch with turned wood posts and wood railing, concrete stoop with brick fan step. Off the rear/east elevation is a shed addition containing a bathroom. The house was under renovation on the date of survey in July 2024. It has replacement one-over-one vinyl windows and vinyl siding. A wood deck with gazebo is located at the rear. The renovation retains the form of the house. The front gabled section has high ceilings and may have originally been a hall-and-parlor house.

[438] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 38), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

Hinton-Golden House, ca. 1909
Contributing Building
662 S. Green Street

While the house may be older, the earliest known resident of the property was Rev. Merritt H. Hinton, pastor of Scott's Chapel Methodist Church, as listed in the 1909-1910 Statesville city directory. The church was located across Chambers Street. Katie Golden purchased the house from Rev. John D. Cowan and his wife Leila Rankin Cowan in October 1919, eight months after the death of her husband Haywood Golden. The Goldens operated a café on S. Center Street. Katie moved to Queens, New York in the 1930s with her daughters, during which time they rented the property. A notable renter was Peterson and Mangum Funeral Home, which opened here until moving to 206 Garfield Street in 1942. The house remained in the family until 1980.[439]

[439] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1909-1910* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1910), 99; Iredell County Deed Book 63, Page 122; "Colored Funeral Home Moves to New Address," *Statesville Daily Record*, April 23, 1942.

This one-story, hip-on-gable roof frame house has a parged foundation, vinyl siding, and a standing-seam metal roof. Windows are vinyl replacement, with six-over-six windows on the north elevation, west elevation, and façade and one-over-one windows on the south elevation. The L-shaped porch has a concrete block foundation, concrete floor, and wrought iron columns. A brick chimney rises through the center roof ridge. A ca. 1955 aerial photograph shows the form of the house resembles its modern appearance.[440] A prefabricated wood shed is located at the northwest corner of the parcel.

[440] Max Tharpe, Airviews328 (n.d.), Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8395569162/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.

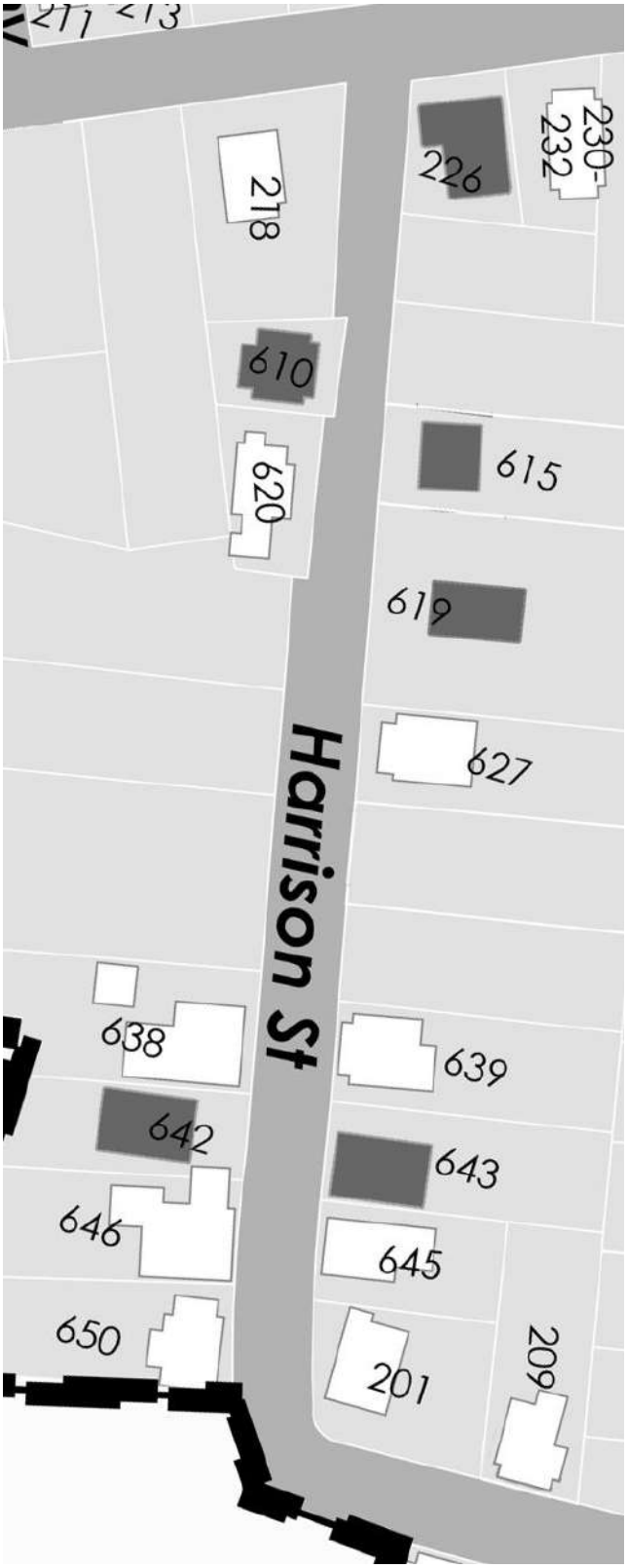
Pearlene McLelland House, ca. 1950
Contributing Building
663 S. Green Street

Pearlene McLelland was issued a building permit on August 15, 1949, for a "six-room cinder block dwelling on South Green street."[441] She worked as a domestic. Pearline deeded the property to the trustees of her home church, Third Creek Baptist Church, in 1977, and resided there until her death in 1983.

This one-story, side-gabled Minimal Traditional-style house is constructed of concrete masonry units. Windows have brick sills and are original one-over-one wood sash with storm sash. Gables have wood weatherboard siding. An exterior brick chimney is located on east elevation. The façade is four bays wide with two typical windows differing in height flanking an A/C unit through wall in the first three bays. The fourth bay consists of the small front-gabled porch has square section wood posts and railing on concrete deck. The north elevation has a small typical window and small gabled enclosed porch with weatherboard siding and trios of typical windows on the west and north elevations.

[441] "Building Permit," *Statesville Daily Record*, August 15, 1949.

Harrison Street



Charlie and Josephine G. Freeman House, ca. 1918
Noncontributing Building
610 Harrison Street

The house at 147 Walker Street, later renumbered as 610 Harrison Street, first appeared on the 1918 Sanborn map. The first known residents are Charlie Freeman and Josephine Gray Freeman, who purchased the property in 1920. Charlie operated a pressing club and café before his death under suspicious circumstances in December 1924. Josephine married Arthur Rhyne in 1925, and the following year they sold the house to George and Myrtle Smyre.[442]

This one-story, side-gabled house was built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The weatherboard siding was recently covered with vinyl siding. It has a standing-seam metal roof with a visible patch at the ridge from the removal of a brick chimney. The shed porch has turned wood posts and railing, and concrete steps at the south side lead to the concrete porch deck on brick foundation. A ca. 2023 full-width shed addition at rear extends to continue roof line.

[442] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; Iredell County Deed Book 65, Page 76; "Colored Man's Body Found," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* December 22, 1924; "Colored Couples to Wed," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 23, 1925.

Meacham-Rankin House, 1950
Noncontributing Building
615 Harrison Street

Livie Carl Meacham, masonry instructor at Morningside High School, purchased the lot in June 1950 and was a building permit for "a five-room cinderblock dwelling on Walker street" a few days later.[443] As Meacham resided in Forest City and commuted to Statesville, he rented the house. It first appeared in the 1952-1953 city directory as the residence of teacher John Blackburn and Albertus S. Young, employed by North Carolina Furniture Company, and Grace B. Young.[444] Meacham sold the property in 1957 to Lola Mae Rankin, who resided in the home until her death in 1998.

This one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled roof Period Cottage is clad with painted brick veneer and has an asphalt shingle roof. Decorative brickwork includes stepped brick around the entry and soldier rows at the floor level and window lintels in the gabled façade bay. According to property records, the house underwent renovation between 2018 and 2022. The façade is three bays wide, with the first bay having a typical one-over-one replacement vinyl window. The middle bay consists of the entry, which has a tiled stoop and steps with ledge. The gable roof has vinyl siding and is supported by Doric columns. Stepped brick surrounds the new leaded glass/panel door. The third bay features a single shoulder chimney bay through the gable eave. Typical windows flank the chimney. A gabled dormer with two one-over-one vinyl windows replaced the

[443] "City Issues Two Building Permits," *Statesville Daily Record*, June 10, 1950.
[444] Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953), 119, 377.

original shed roof dormer. At the rear is a full width shed porch. The brick retaining wall and ledge at concrete steps at sidewalk were added after 2023.

House, 2023
Noncontributing Building
619 Harrison Street

The Chavis and Ruth Renwick House was demolished ca. 2013. The property was acquired by Habitat for Humanity of Charlotte in 2020. The new house aesthetically blends in with many of the original homes along Harrison Street in scale and Craftsman style. It is a one-story, front-gabled frame house with an asphalt shingle roof and vinyl siding. The hipped porch has battered wood posts on brick piers and wood railing. Windows are one-over-one vinyl. The north elevation has a side entrance with hood.

Arthur E. and Leola C. Peterson House, 1950
Contributing Building
620 Harrison Street

This is the first of two houses directly connected to Arthur E. Peterson and Leola Croom Peterson. The Petersons purchased property on Walker Street (now Harrison) in 1951. A garage and breezeway were permitted in August 1951. They lived in the house until moving to a new house on South Green Street in the 1960s.[445]

The Peterson House is a one-story, Minimal Traditional-style house, constructed of concrete masonry units and has a side-gabled asphalt shingle roof. Gables have vinyl siding. Windows are six-over-six replacement vinyl sash. The façade has a gabled bay with a pair of windows and a shed porch with concrete deck on concrete masonry unit foundation and wrought iron supports. The replacement four panel door has a fanlight and is adjacent to a pair of windows. A single shorter window is beyond the porch. A brick chimney is on the south elevation near the façade. The breezeway includes the second bay with entry door to the house, and a window is at rear. A shed roofed porch off the north elevation has been enclosed with vinyl siding and a six-panel door. A prefabricated shed is located southeast of the house.

[445] "Small Building Permits Issued," *Statesville Daily Record*, August 27, 1951.

Garage, Contributing Building, 1951 – A front-gabled garage south of the house is connected to via a breezeway with concrete floor and wood lattice screening.

Renwick Rental House, 1927
Contributing Building
627 Harrison Street

Chavis Renwick, a bellman at the Vance Hotel who also invested in real estate, was issued a building permit in December 1926 for a "one-story dwelling on Walker street, estimated cost $1600."[446] Among the renters were J. W. Gunn (1928-1929), Oscar and Soma Young (1932-1933), Tomacher Davis (1942-1947), Arthur Williams (1948-1949), and Millard Floyd (1954-1955). He made updates to the property in 1957, receiving a permit for "celotexing and sheetrocking one family dwelling."[447] Renwick died in 1973, and the family sold the property in 1988.

The one-story, Craftsman-style Renwick Rental House has a clipped gable asphalt shingle roof and is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. It is sheathed in vinyl siding, and the eave brackets are wrapped in vinyl. The hipped porch has wood decking on concrete masonry unit foundation and battered wood posts on brick piers. The windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. A prefabricated shed is east of the house.

[446] "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 2, 1926.
[447] "'57 Building Volume at $324,000 to Date," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 3, 1957.

Rev. J. L. and Mozella H. Hollowell House, ca. 1914
Contributing Building
638 Harrison Street

Rev. James Leslie Hollowell, Sr. was born on April 11, 1881, in Goldsboro to Samuel Hollowell and Hepsie Jane Hicks Hollowell. He attended Winston-Salem Teachers College followed by Johnson C. Smith University (then Biddle University), earning a bachelor's degree in 1903 and a master's degree in 1910. He began ministry in Statesville at Tradd Street Presbyterian Church, where he was pastor from 1906 until 1929, as well as Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church in rural Iredell County. Rev. Hollowell married Elizabeth Beatty in 1909, and he purchased two lots in Statesville on Walker Street. The house was built by 1914 when the Hollowells appear in the Statesville city directory. Elizabeth died of complications from epilepsy in 1921; Rev. Hollowell remarried in 1923 to Mozella Hill. He resigned his pastorate in June 1929 to accept the presidency of Harbison Agricultural College in Irmo, South Carolina, but suddenly died four months later of cerebral hemorrhage. Mozella taught for thirty years at Morningside School and retired in 1955. She owned the house until 1963.[448]

[448] Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1914-1915* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1915), 144; "Colored Woman Dead," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, April 4, 1921; "Rev. J. L. Hollowell Dies Suddenly," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, October 21, 1929; "Educator Succumbs," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 28, 1969.

Figure 35 Ca. 1921 photo of Rev. J. L. Hollowell, Sr. published in A. B. Caldwell, ed., *History of the American Negro*, Vol. IV (Atlanta: A. B. Caldwell Publishing Co., 1921), 68.

The Hollowell House is a two-story house built on a brick foundation. It is sheathed in asbestos shingles with an asphalt shingle hipped roof. Its primary mass is relatively square in footprint. Windows appear to largely be vinyl replacement one-over-one sash, though there are some variations. The façade is asymmetrical, with two windows flanking the off-center front door at the street level. The windows upstairs are narrower, with two windows aligning with their counterparts below and a third window located in the middle slightly off-center. A two-story hipped ell extends from the south elevation, and the full-width hipped porch wraps around in an L-shape with screening on the south portion. The porch has a concrete deck on brick foundation, wrought iron supports along the façade, and 2x4 framing in the screened section. Concrete steps with knee wall and brick caps lead from the sidewalk to the porch. The front door is six panel wood with a wrought iron door storm door. The primary mass under the porch is sheathed in vinyl siding.

The north elevation of the Hollowell house is simple with two windows evenly spaced at the first level. The windows in the upper level are largely aligned, with a narrower window and a short window likely in a bathroom. A portion of the double-gabled ell off the rear is visible. The south elevation offers more complexity. The hipped ell has a door opening to the porch with a window centered in its elevation facing Harrison Street. The south face has a sliding window in the upper level and a window at the main level. The wall continues to the rear ell, which has a window, beyond which is a shed ell with short window. The lot slopes sharply from Harrison Street to the rear of the parcel, allowing for a walk-in basement.

Carl L. and Cornelia P. Maston House, ca. 1918
Contributing Building
639 Harrison Street

Carl Lee Maston and Cornelia Phifer Maston were longtime renters of the house until purchasing it in 1972. They were first listed as living in the house in the 1928-29 Statesville city directory. Carl worked for Sloan Cleaners and Dyers for many years. When he moved to Jenkins Cleaners in 1951, the company ran an announcement that "Carl Maston who has 32 years of experience in the dry-cleaning business, has joined this firm in the cleaning department."[449] Carl died in 1971, and Cornelia passed in 1974. Her nephew Garland E. Weaver and his wife Mildred inherited the house.[450]

The one-story, frame Maston House has a hall-and-parlor appearance with side-gabled asphalt shingle roof and parged masonry foundation. New vinyl siding and typical one-over-one vinyl sash windows have been installed. The façade is three bays wide with a picture window, a six-panel replacement door, and pair of typical windows under the hipped porch. The porch has wood decking on parged brick with concrete masonry unit infill foundation, square section wood posts, and wood railing. Gables have octagonal vents, and a typical window is in each side elevation. An ell with a low sloped roof extends from the rear south, with a six-over-six small replacement window, smaller typical window with frame infill, and picture window at its south elevation. Aerial images show a gable ell extending from the north rear, which was obscured by

[449] Jenkins Cleaners advertisement, *Statesville Daily Record*, November 6, 1951.
[450] Iredell County Deed Book 515, Page 94; Ernest H. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928-1929* (Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1929), 202; "Death Takes Maston, 73," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, July 12, 1971; "Illness Is Fatal," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, December 3, 1974.

vegetation during field work. Google Street View imagery from May 2014 shows a concrete masonry unit exterior chimney and pair of small typical windows at its north elevation.

House, 2025
Noncontributing Building
642 Harrison Street

Formerly the Dunnigan-Martin House, demolished by 1993. A one-story frame house first appeared on the 1918 Sanborn map, and Lee Dunnigan and Laura Mayberry Redding Dunnigan were listed as residing at the location in the 1909-1910 city directory. Lee died in 1911, and Laura passed in 1924. Her son James Thomas "Tom" Redding of Wilkesboro purchased the property from his brother Ransom Redding in 1930. Tom rented the house until selling it to longtime tenants Clyde W. Martin and Loretta Connor Martin in 1942. They resided in the home until Clyde's death in 1967, and Loretta moved to New York to live with her daughter.[451]

The one-story front-gabled house has an asphalt shingle roof and is sheathed in wood composite siding. It is built on a concrete foundation which steps down from the street following the parcel slope from east to west. The façade of the house is two bays wide with a pair of typical one-over-one vinyl windows in the first bay. The second bay is comprised of a gabled porch with board-and-batten wood composite siding in the gable. It has a brick foundation and steps with concrete floor and square section wood posts and railing. Under the porch are a two-panel door with leaded glass lite and typical window.

[451] Iredell County Deed Book 150, Page 77.

Reatha Cowan House, 1991
Noncontributing Building
643 Harrison Street

This property was deeded by the estate of Roy C. West, Sr. to Habitat for Humanity. Five local churches sponsored its construction. The house was built for Reatha Cowan and was dedicated in November 1991.[452]

Figure 36 The Cowan House under construction in September 1991. Annette Privette, "Local Habitat for Humanity Project One of Nationwide Work Camp Sites," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 24, 1991.

The Cowan House is one-story, front gabled with an asphalt shingle roof and vinyl siding. It is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation. The engaged porch has a wood deck, railing, and square section posts. Windows are one-over-one vinyl.

[452] "Family Moves into New Habitat," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, November 24, 1991.

Julia Clark Sherrill House, ca. 1920
Contributing Building
645 Harrison Street

The Sherrill House was likely built by Lillian Sherrill Feimster and her husband Melvin for her mother Julia Clark Sherrill. Julia was born enslaved and the widow of Rev. John Sherrill, a founder of First Baptist Church. She recounted her enslavement in an interview with the local newspaper in 1944, which noted that Aunt Julie "lives in her own house, by her daughter, Lillian Feimster," and with granddaughter Carrie Bell Byers.[453]

The Sherrill House is a one-story, front-gabled house with asphalt shingle roof and vinyl siding. It is built on stuccoed brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill. The full-width shed porch is approached by concrete stairs with knee wall and has a wood deck and square-section square posts and railing. The site slopes from the rear of the parcel down to the street. All windows have been replaced with one-over-one vinyl, and the front door is a new six panel door with storm door.

[453] "Fitful Flashes," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 3, 1944.

Osborne-Smoot House, ca. 1916
Contributing Building
646 Harrison Street

Mamie Redding Osborne purchased from her mother Laura Redding Dunnigan the adjacent parcel to her on Walker Street in 1915. The house was completed by 1918, as it appears on the Sanborn map. Mamie and husband Max Osborne are listed in the 1920 U. S. Census, with Mamie working as a teacher and Max as a mechanic in a garage. They sold the property to A. B. and Emma Smoot in 1924 and moved to Garfield Street.[454] Rev. Anderson Ballard Smoot was a native of Rowan County and served numerous Baptist congregations as a missionary pastor. He married Emma Caldwell in 1900 and settled in Statesville. He died in 1937 of pneumonia and was buried in Green Street Cemetery. Emma died two years later. Their daughter Mabel Smoot Brent inherited the property and resided there until her death in 1983.[455]

The Osborne-Smoot House is a one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled Craftsman house constructed on brick foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding. The full width shed porch has plywood decking on a brick foundation, square section posts on brick piers, and wood railing. A screened bay is located at the north end. The façade under the porch has a pair of large windows flanking the wood entry door. The shed dormer has

[454] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1918)(Sheet 13), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; 1920 U.S. Census, Population Schedule, Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, ED 102, Page 9B (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed July 12, 2024; "Real Estate Transfers," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 22, 1924.

[455] T. E. Allison, Jr., "News about Our Colored People," *Statesville Daily Record*, May 21, 1937.

two narrow one-over-one wood sash windows with wide flanking trim. A stuccoed brick chimney rises through the ridge. The south elevation has one-over-one wood sash windows with wide trim at the main level and a four-over-four wood sash window with wide trim in the gable. The primary mass of the house is three bays wide at the north elevation. The first bay is comprised of the enclosed portion of the façade porch, which has a horizontal screened section in the wall. The second bay has a window, and the third bay projects out with a window and hipped roof. A gabled wing with a single window on the façade and paired windows on the north face extends to the rear at this bay. The parcel slopes gradually from the street, allowing for basement access at the rear.

J. Luther and Carrie Bell Spann House, ca. 1910, 1928
Contributing Building
650 Harrison Street

James Luther Spann and Carrie Bell Sales Spann purchased the house in 1913 from L. C. and Mary Wagner; the deed was not filed until 1929, and it is possible that the Spanns rented the property until they had paid it off. Luther worked as the custodian and caretaker of Center Street (later Mt. Pleasant) AME Zion Church. In 1928 the Spanns received a building permit to "repair and remodel his two-story residence on Walker street, to cost $1350."[456] Luther and Carrie died in early 1938 within six weeks of each other. The house passed to daughter Zera Belle Spann, a 1919 graduate of Morningside High School who trained as a nurse at Lincoln Hospital in Durham. She was a leader of the Billingsley Memorial Hospital fundraising campaign in the 1940s. Zera worked for the Ausley and Allison families and the polio center in Hickory. She died in 1952 of kidney disease. The house remains owned by extended family.[457]

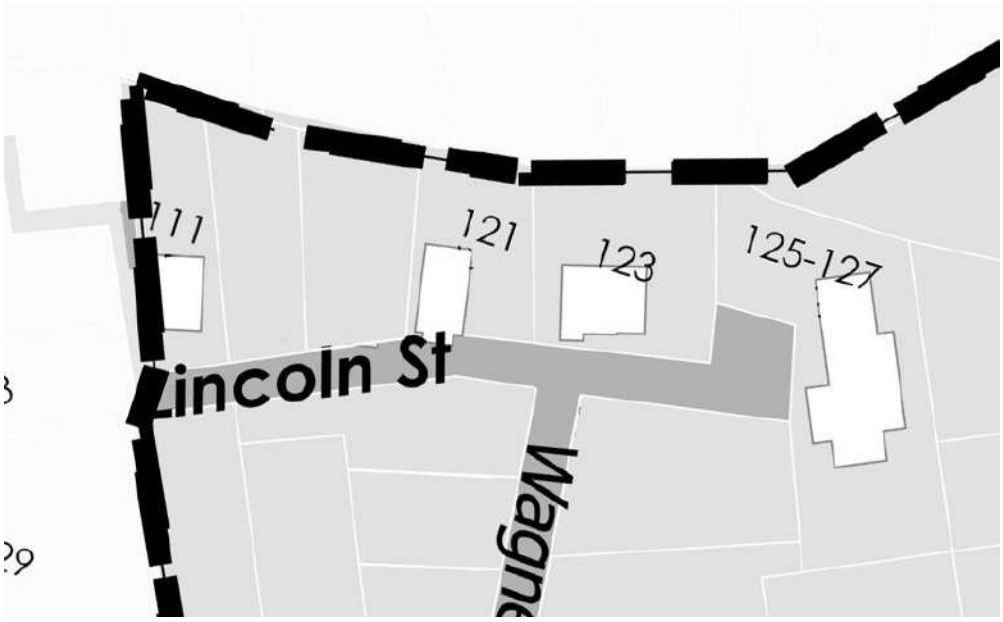
The Spann House is a two-story house with a low hipped roof, Colonial Revival massing, and Craftsman detailing in the windows. It is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill, which are visible at the rear as the site slopes steeply from the street level. It is likely that the four-over-one wood Craftsman windows date to the 1928 remodel. A ca. 1955 remodel added a carport with aluminum-sided gable and wrought iron supports on thick concrete slab to the north elevation. The full-width porch was replaced with

[456] "Building Permits," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 13, 1928.
[457] T. E. Allison, Jr., "News about Our Colored People," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 7, 1938; Allison, "News about Our Colored People," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 18, 1938; "Zera Spann Is Stricken," *Statesville Daily Record*, January 12, 1952.

a gabled porch with wrought iron supports on concrete slab.[458] The façade of the Spann House is symmetrical and is three bays wide. The center bay has the front entrance porch at street level, with replacement six panel door and storm door, and a shorter window above. The flanking bays have a window at each level. A metal stovepipe rises through the roof. The north and south elevations are the same, with two windows at each level. The windows at the street level are covered with plywood. A ruinous frame shed is at the west edge of the property.

[458] Max Tharpe, Airviews328 (n.d.), Airviews, Max Tharpe Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/8395569162/in/album-72157632546463042/, accessed May 1, 2025.

Lincoln Street



Thomas L. and Lillie Mae W. Nichols House, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
111 Lincoln Street

Thomas Lee Nichols and Lillie Mae Weaver Nichols purchased lot 22 of the Flora Lewis property on Lincoln Street in 1940. Thomas was a cook at Hefner's Café on East Broad Street for about thirty years and died in 1967. Lillie was a member of the neighborhood Nicotiana Garden Club and Mt. Pleasant AME Zion Church. She died in 1987.[459]

This front-gabled house is built on brick piers with concrete masonry unit infill and sheathed in wood German weatherboard siding with an older asphalt shingle roof. All windows and fenestration are covered in plywood. The façade is two bays wide with a window in the first bay and engaged corner porch as the second bay. A louvered vent is in the gable, and the shallow eaves are boxed. The east elevation is three bays wide consisting of the corner porch and two bays with fenestration, between which is a square brick chimney through the eave. The west elevation has four bays of fenestration. A square brick chimney is visible at the west side of the rear elevation. A stovepipe is through the roof near the center ridge.

[459] "Nichols Rites at 3 Sunday," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* February 11, 1967; "Lillie Mae Nichols," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 22, 1987.

House, ca. 1955, 2014
Contributing Building
121 Lincoln Street

This front-gabled house is built on stuccoed masonry foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The gabled porch has wood plank flooring and square section wood posts. The façade has pairs of 12-lite vinyl casement windows flanking the replacement six panel door. The west elevation has three typical six-over-six vinyl replacement windows. The east elevation has two typical windows flanking a replacement six panel door and wood deck and railing.

Susie Chaney Gillespie Freeman House, 1949, 1956
Contributing Building
123 Lincoln Street

Gaston Gillespie and Susie Chaney Gillespie received a building permit for a "six-room frame residence on Lincoln street" in September 1949.[460] Susie was a native of Florida who moved to Statesville in 1942. In 1956 she was granted a permit to extend the dining room of the house, likely to accommodate the residents of her rest home, which opened in July 1957. She constructed a Ranch house next door for a new facility ca. 1962, and Gillespie's Rest Home operated until she retired in 1982. Susie and Gaston divorced in 1960, and she remarried to James Freeman in 1965.[461]

The Gillespie Freeman House is a one-story side-gabled frame dwelling with a walkout basement. It is built on a concrete masonry unit foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. The façade is three bays wide with the west two bay consisting of a low-slope shed porch with concrete floor and square section wood posts. In these two bays are a trio of windows--a picture window flanked by one-over-one windows--and a replacement six panel door. The third/east bay is gabled with a pair of windows. Two chimneys are visible at the façade, a small square chimney with tall metal smokestack approximately in the center and rectangular chimney at the west elevation breaking the eave. A gable ell with shed addition at rear, which was expanded in 1956, extends from the west elevation. It has a typical window and replacement door at the façade and pair of windows on

[460] "Building Permit," *Statesville Daily Record*, September 20, 1949.
[461] "City Construction at Peak," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 1, 1957; "Jury Hearing Damage Suit," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, May 31, 1960; "Susie C. Freeman," obituary, *Statesville Record and Landmark*, September 1, 1986.

the west face. A flat-roofed carport extends toward the street from the ell and has square section wood posts and wrought iron railing along the west side, which has a steep drop as the site slopes sharply from the street.

Gillespie's Rest Home, ca. 1962
Contributing Building
125-127 Lincoln Street

Since July 1957, Susie Chaney Gillespie operated a rest home for elderly Black persons in her house at 123 Lincoln Street. In January 1959 she successfully petitioned the Statesville Planning and Zoning Board for the adjacent property to be rezoned; she planned "to build a larger nursing home" on the site.[462] The new facility was constructed by 1962 according to property records. Gillespie's Rest Home operated until Susie's retirement in 1982.[463]

The one-story, side-gabled Ranch house is built on a crawlspace and has brick veneer and an asphalt shingle roof. Typical windows are two-over-two horizontal light wood sash. The façade is five bays wide with two typical windows comprising the northern two bays, a brick porch with wrought iron railing and shed hood extension over a replacement six panel door in the middle two bays, and a front-gabled bay with a picture window flanked by two-over-two horizontal light wood sash windows in the south bay. There is a louvered vent in the gable. A gabled carport with wrought iron railing extends off the south elevation, which has a brick chimney. Another brick chimney is through the roof at the west side. It was converted to a duplex ca. 2020.

[462] "Trailer Policy Changed Asked," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, January 21, 1959.
[463] "Facility Is Closed," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, June 2, 1982.

Newton Avenue

House , 2024
Noncontributing Building
309 Newton Avenue

Former site of the Johnson and Mary J. Davis House, a one-story pyramidal-roofed dwelling built ca. 1922. The property was foreclosed upon, and Morningside teacher Frances Maxwell purchased the property in 1937, who resided in the house. The building was demolished 2018-2019.

This two-story side-gabled house is sheathed in wood composite weatherboard on the first level and composite board and batten on the second level.

Duplex, ca. 1944, 1989
Noncontributing Building
428 Newton Avenue

White landlords J. Talmadge and Sadie Adams purchased the property in 1941 and constructed a duplex by 1944, when it first appeared in the city directory.[464]

The one-story, front-gabled duplex was converted to a single-family house ca. 1989. It is built on a brick foundation and is sheathed in vinyl siding, first installed ca. 1985, with a standing seam metal roof. The site slopes from the rear to the street, and the foundation is tall at the façade. The shed porch is enclosed and has pairs of six-lite windows. It is accessed via concrete masonry unit stairs with concrete stoop at the east side. Windows are a mix of six-over-six wood sash and one-over-one vinyl replacement. Two brick chimneys are through the roof.

[464] Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1944–1945* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1945), 393.

Duplex, ca. 1944
Contributing Building
430 Newton Avenue

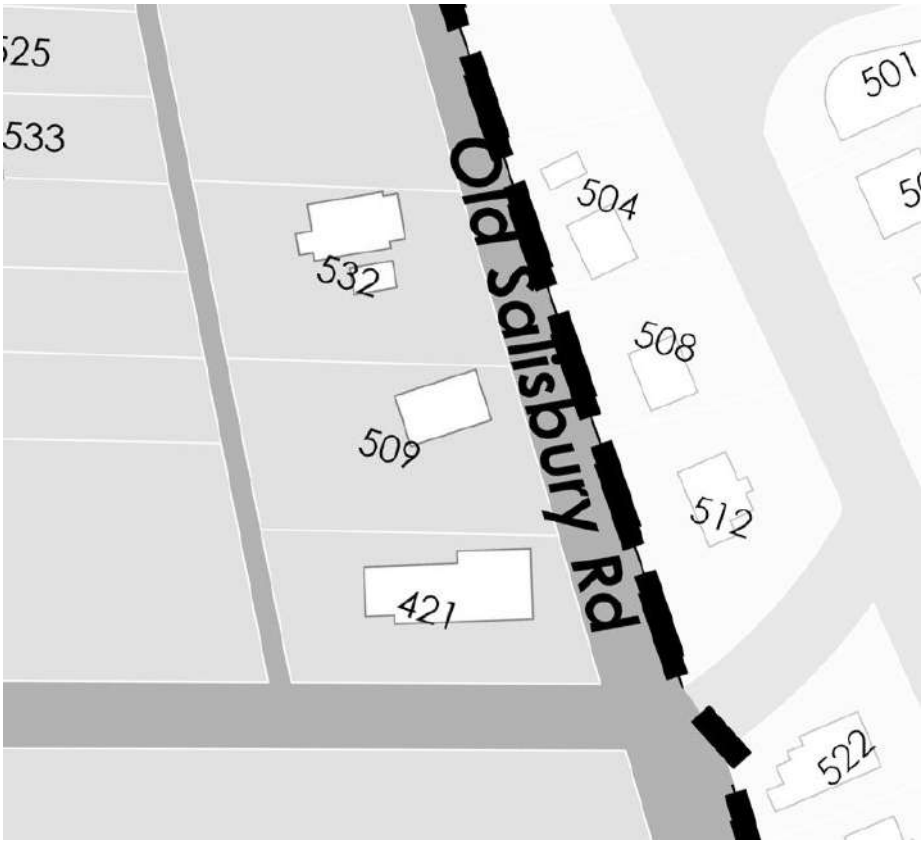
White landlords J. Talmadge and Sadie Adams purchased the property in 1941 and constructed a duplex by 1944, when it first appeared in the city directory.[465]

The front-gabled house is built on a brick foundation and is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding with a standing seam metal roof. The site slopes from the rear to the street, and the foundation is tall at the façade. The shed porch is screened and has plywood panels along the bottom. It is accessed via wood stairs and deck at the east side. Typical windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement. Two brick chimneys with exposed flue liners are through the roof.

[465] Charles W. Miller, compiler, *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1944–1945* (Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1945), 393.

Garage, Contributing Building, ca. 1925 – A gabled garage has corrugated metal roofing, rotted weatherboard siding on diagonal plank sheathing, and six-over-six wood sash windows.

Old Salisbury Road



Matthew M. and Mattie E. Maxwell House, 1954
Contributing Building
509 Old Salisbury Road

Matthew McKinley Maxwell and his wife Mattie Ethel Rucker Maxwell purchased the property in January 1954. Matthew was granted a building permit in March for a "five-room cinder block residence" at 537 Old Salisbury Road, the address of the property at the time.[466] He worked at the Statesville Flour Mill. The property is still owned by their heirs.

The Maxwell House is a one-story, front-gabled Craftsman-style house is built of concrete masonry units and has an asphalt shingle roof with brick chimney through the ridge. The front gabled porch has a concrete floor and battered wood posts on brick piers. The front door is flanked by typical six-over-one wood sash windows.

[466] "Eleven Permits Issued by City," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, March 11, 1954.

Weston and Margaret McClain Butler House, ca. 1948
Contributing Building
532 Old Salisbury Road

Bricklayer Weston Butler was granted a permit to construct at five-room cement block dwelling on Salisbury Road in 1948. He and his wife, Margaret Simms McLain Butler, had purchased the property in 1946 according to their great-grandson.[467]

The Butler House is a one-story house with some Craftsman detailing and a front-gabled asphalt shingle roof. It is built of concrete masonry units and has a walkout basement. The façade has a deep front-gabled porch with concrete floor and decorative wood posts on brick piers. Asbestos or older asphalt shingles are in the gable end of the porch. The front door is flanked by typical two-over-two wood sash windows. There are two brick chimneys through the roof.

Garage, Contributing Building, ca. 1948 – One-story gabled garage is built of concrete masonry units and has plywood doors.

[467] "City Issues Six Building Permits," *Statesville Daily Record*, February 9, 1948; Susan V. Mayer and Nick Linville interview with Joey Clyburn, June 17, 2024.

Tradd Street, South

Triplex, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
518-520 S. Tradd Street

The multifamily units at 518-520 and 522-524 South Tradd Streets were built by ca. 1940 by G. H. and Estelle M. Huffman, White landlords who owned the property until 1975. 518-520 South Tradd Street was originally a triplex but has been converted into a duplex.[468]

The duplex at 518-520 South Tradd Street is a one-story frame building atop a concrete masonry unit raised basement. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and the front-gabled roof is standing seamed metal with decorative eave return brackets. The basement unit is accessed in the north bay of the façade, with wood stairs leading up to a wood deck and porch to access the upstairs unit. The two-story gabled porch has square section posts, with concrete masonry unit supports at the south bay of the basement. There are two brick chimneys rising through the roof ridge. The north elevation is four bays wide with pairs of typical one-over-one vinyl windows in the first two basement bays and second upstairs bay and single windows in the first and third bays. The fourth bay upstairs is an engaged porch which has been enclosed.

[468] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

Triplex, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
519 S. Tradd Street

James A. Brady and L. W. McKesson purchased from J. E. French a parcel with "a 12 room two story apartment house and a four room tenant house wooden structure" in 1929.[469] In 1938 McKesson quitclaimed his interest in the property, which was described in the deed as the same buildings. The 1950 Sanborn map shows the two new buildings, numbered 519 South Tradd Street and 521-523 South Tradd Street, as one-story with basement frame multi-family dwellings; these buildings are also extant on a 1941 aerial photograph.[470]

The triplex at 519 South Tradd Street is a one-story frame building with a raised brick basement. It is sheathed in vinyl siding, and the front-gabled roof is standing seamed metal with eave returns. There are two units at the upper level and one unit at the lower level. The two-story gabled porch has a louvered vent in the gable. There are brick supports at the basement level and square section wood posts at the upper level. Concrete masonry unit steps with tube steel railing lead to the wood plank porch deck. The façade is four bays wide, with typical six-over-six wood sash windows flanking sold wood doors to two units. The basement has a solid wood door and typical window. The north elevation is three bays wide at the basement, with a

[469] Iredell County Deed Book 97, Page 165.

[470] Iredell County Deed Book 128, Page 416; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025.

typical window, a pair of typical windows, an entry door, and a typical window. The upper level has three bays, with typical windows flanking a pair of typical windows. The south elevation is obscured by vegetation, but a typical window was visible.

Quadraplex, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
522-524 S. Tradd Street

The multifamily units at 518-520 and 522-524 South Tradd Streets were built by ca. 1940 by G. H. and Estelle M. Huffman, White landlords who owned the property until 1975. 518-520 South Tradd Street was originally a quadraplex but is now a duplex.[471]

The duplex at 522-524 South Tradd Street is a two-story building with a concrete masonry unit ground level and frame upper level. It is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding, and the front-gabled roof is standing seamed metal with boxed eaves. The two-story gabled porch has vertical wood paneling in the gable. There are concrete masonry unit supports at the ground level and square section wood posts at the upper level. Wood stairs with railing and concrete masonry unit support at the landing lead to the wood plank porch deck. There are two brick chimneys rising through the roof ridge. The south elevation is three bays wide with paired fenestration openings covered with plywood in basement bays. The upper level has a typical one-over-one vinyl replacement window in the first bay and pairs of typical windows in the other bays. A wood deck with square section wood posts is located at the rear. The building was under repair at the time of survey in June 2024.

[471] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

Triplex, ca. 1940
Contributing Building
523 S. Tradd Street

James A. Brady and L. W. McKesson purchased from J. E. French a parcel with "a 12 room two story apartment house and a four room tenant house wooden structure" in 1929.[472] In 1938 McKesson quitclaimed his interest in the property, which was described in the deed as the same buildings. The 1950 Sanborn map shows the two new buildings, numbered 519 South Tradd Street and 521-523 South Tradd Street, as one-story with basement frame multi-family dwellings; these buildings are also extant on a 1941 aerial photograph.[473]

The triplex at 523 South Tradd Street is a one-story frame building with a raised brick basement. It is sheathed in vinyl siding, and the front-gabled roof is standing seamed metal with eave returns. The two-story gabled porch has a louvered vent in the gable. There are brick supports at the basement level and square section wood posts at the upper level. Concrete masonry unit steps with tube steel railing lead to the wood plank porch deck. There are two units at the upper level and one unit at the lower level. Typical windows are six-over-six wood sash.

[472] Iredell County Deed Book 97, Page 165.
[473] Iredell County Deed Book 128, Page 416; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024; United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025.

House, ca. 2001
Noncontributing Building
538 S. Tradd Street

This was formerly the site of Tradd Street Presbyterian Church. Tradd Street Presbyterian Church was formed in 1902 after members of Second Presbyterian Church (also known as Broad Street Presbyterian Church) broke to form a new church. The original trustees of the church were R. H. Alexander, P. W. Steele, S. G. Gray, and J. P. Murphy. Shortly afterwards, the church completed their new building on the namesake street. By 1907 they had raised funds to complete a new building at 538 South Tradd Street. According to the 1950 Sanborn map, the church featured a twenty-foot-high belfry at its southeast corner. Tradd Street Presbyterian Church merged into what became Calvary Presbyterian Church. The church was demolished by 1983 according to aerial imagery. The extant house was constructed by Habitat for Humanity in 2001.[474]

This one-story, front-gabled frame house is built on a parged concrete masonry unit foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is three bays wide with a pair of typical one-over-one

[474] "A New Colored Presbyterian Church to be Built," *Statesville Record and Landmark* April 23, 1902; "Mr. Brown to Come to Loray about December 1st—Church Items," *Statesville Record and Landmark,* October 11, 1907; Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Statesville Sanborn Map (1950)(Sheet 16), Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970, ProQuest, www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed June 12, 2024.

vinyl windows in the third bay. The first and second bays have a pair of typical windows and a paneled fanlight door with storm under the gabled porch. The porch has turned wood posts and railing and has a wood deck on parged masonry foundation. The south elevation is four bays wide, with two small typical windows flanking a nine-light door and a typical window. A wood deck with railings and steps is at rear. The north elevation is three bays wide with typical windows. A prefabricated storage shed is behind the house.

House, ca. 2001
Noncontributing Building
546 S. Tradd Street

Sanborn maps show this property was historically vacant. The extant house was constructed by Habitat for Humanity in 2001. This one-story front-gabled house is built on parged masonry footings. It is sheathed in vinyl siding and has an asphalt shingle roof. The façade is three bays wide with a pair of typical six-over-six vinyl windows in the first bay. The second and third bays have a solid door with metal screen door and pair of typical windows under the gabled porch. The porch has turned wood posts and railing and has a wood deck on parged masonry foundation. The porch deck wraps around to the north elevation, which is five bays wide with typical windows flanking a solid door with storm door and two small typical windows. The south elevation is four bays wide with typical windows.

House, 2002
Noncontributing Building
552 S. Tradd Street

Sanborn maps show a one-story dwelling here between 1925 and 1950. Aerial images show it was gone by 1956. The extant house was constructed by Habitat for Humanity in 2002. This one-story, side-gabled house is built on parged concrete masonry unit foundation and sheathed in vinyl siding with an asphalt shingle roof. It has a centered gabled porch with turned wood posts and railing and wood deck on parged concrete masonry unit foundation. The façade is four bays wide with a pair of typical six-over-six vinyl windows, a door with storm door and pair of typical windows under the porch, and a typical window. The south elevation has a typical window near the rear, and the north elevation is three bays wide with a smaller typical window flanked by typical windows. A prefabricated shed is located behind the house.

Bibliography

Archival Material

Deed Books. Iredell County Register of Deeds. Statesville, North Carolina.

Plat Maps. Iredell County Register of Deeds. Statesville, North Carolina.

Articles

Barnes, L. Diane. "Great Depression." The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century. Edited by Paul Finkelman. Volume 3 New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Caldwell, Arthur Bunyan, editor. "Charles Webster Foushee," in History of the American Negro and His Institutions, Volume 5 (North Carolina Edition). Atlanta: A.B. Caldwell, 1921.

Clayton, Thomas H. "Close to the Land: North Carolina, 1820–1870." In The Way We Were in North Carolina, edited by Joe A. Mobley. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Dunn, Adrienne. "Pearsall Plan: North Carolina's Response to Brown v. Board of Education." In North Carolina History Project, electronic document, https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/pearsall-plan, accessed September 4, 2024.

Hanchett, Tom. "Developing Opportunity: The Charlotte Office Building of Civil Rights Leaders Julius Chambers and Mel Watt." The North Carolina Historical Review 97 no.4 (2021): 406–410.

Kickler, Troy. "Credit Unions." In North Carolina History Project, electronic document, https://northcarolinahistory.org/encyclopedia/credit-unions, accessed September 4, 2024.

Tracy, Emmet P. "North Carolina." In The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Waldrep, Christopher. "Lynching and Mob Violence." The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century (volume 3), edited by Paul Finkelman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Wood, Bradford J. and Paul Finkelman. "North Carolina." The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1619–1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass, edited by Paul Finkelman. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Books

Finkelman, Paul, editor. The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1619–1895: From the Colonial Period to the Age of Frederick Douglass. 3 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

--. The Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present: From the Age of Segregation to the Twenty-First Century. 5 vols. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Keever, Homer M. Iredell, Piedmont County. Statesville, NC: Iredell County Bicentennial Commission, 1976.

Mobley, Joe A., editor. The Way We Lived in North Carolina. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Censuses

United States Census Office. 1860 U.S. census, population schedule. NARA microfilm publication M653. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. Statistics of Population, Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1872.

--. 1870 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication M593. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1880 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT9. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. Compendium of the Eleventh Census: 1890. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1894.

--. 1900 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT623. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1910 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT624. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1920 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT625. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1930 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT626. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1940 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. NARA microfilm publication MT627. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. 1950 U.S. Census, Population Schedules. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. FamilySearch, electronic document, www.familysearch.org, accessed June 27, 2024.

--. Population of the United States in 1860: North Carolina. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1864.

City Directories

Miller, Ernest H., compiler. *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1907–1908*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1908.

--. *Statesville and Iredell County Directory, 1909 Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1909–1910*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1910.

--. *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1916–1917*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1917.

--. *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1922–1923*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1923.

--. *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1925–1926*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1926.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1928–1929*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1929.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1930–1931*. Asheville, NC: Piedmont Directory Company, 1930.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1932–1933*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1933.

Miller, Charles W. *Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1938–1939*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1939.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1940–1941*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1941.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1942–1943*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1943.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1944–1945*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1945.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1946–1947*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1947.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1948–1949*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1949.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1952–1953*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1953.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1954–1955*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1955.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1956–1957*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1957.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1958–1959*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1959.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1960–1961*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1961.

--. *Miller's Statesville, North Carolina City Directory, 1962–1963*. Asheville, NC: Southern Directory Company, 1963.

Maps and Aerial Photographs

Downs, A.E. *Bird's-eye-view of Statesville, North Carolina* (c.1907). Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.

Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867–1970. ProQuest. www.digitalsanbornmaps.proquest.com, accessed September 9, 2024.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Collection. Library of Congress, electronic document, www.loc.gov, accessed September 9, 2024.

United States Department of Agriculture, Aerial Photographs: Iredell County, North Carolina (Series 1, 1941)(CSD-41B-56), North Carolina State Archives, electronic document, https://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/43046384345/, accessed April 7, 2025.

Newspapers

Asheville Citizen Times (Asheville, NC)
The Charlotte Observer (Charlotte, NC)
Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester, NY)
The Iredell Morning News
The Statesville Mascot
The Statesville Daily Record
Statesville Record and Landmark

Reports

Kennedy, Rachel M. and Elizabeth Hannold. National Register of Historic Places Nomination: United States Post Office and Court House. Iredell County, North Carolina, 2017.

Martin, Jennifer and Sarah Woodard, National Register of Historic Places Registration Form: Mitchell College Historic District Boundary Expansion. Iredell County, North Carolina. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 2002.

Mattson, Richard and Frances P. Alexander. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: South Race Street Historic District. Iredell County, North Carolina. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 1994.

Phillips, Laura A.W. National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: Academy Hill Historic District. Iredell County, North Carolina. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, 1980.

--. National Register Nomination: Center Street A.M.E. Zion Church. Iredell County, North Carolina, 1980.

Reese, Joel. "Billingsley Memorial Academy: Statesville, Iredell County, North Carolina, Est. 1906." Unpublished. Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, North Carolina, not dated.

--. "Black Business Index: Abstracted from the Statesville City Directories." Unpublished. Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, North Carolina, not dated.

Reese, Joel and Shellie Taylor. Green Street Cemetery and Historical Research. Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, North Carolina, 2023.

Vacca, Michele and Claudia Brown, National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet: Mitchell College Historic District (Amended). Iredell County, North Carolina, 2001.

Online Resources

Allison et. al v. Sharpe et. al, February 26, 1936, Supreme Court of North Carolina, Thomson Reuters Westlaw, electronic document, https://content.next.westlaw.com/, accessed April 10, 2025.

Digital NC. https://www.digitalnc.org/.

First Baptist Church homepage. www.fbcstatesville.com.

Mapping Inequality: Redlining in New Deal America. https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining.

North Carolina Digital Collections. https://archives.ncdcr.gov/researchers/digital-collections.

North Carolina History Project. https://northcarolinahistory.org/.

Iredell County Local History and Genealogy Research Collection. https://sites.google.com/view/icpl-local-history-genealogy/home.

Iredell County Register of Deeds. Online Database. https://iredellcountync.gov/540/Land-Records.

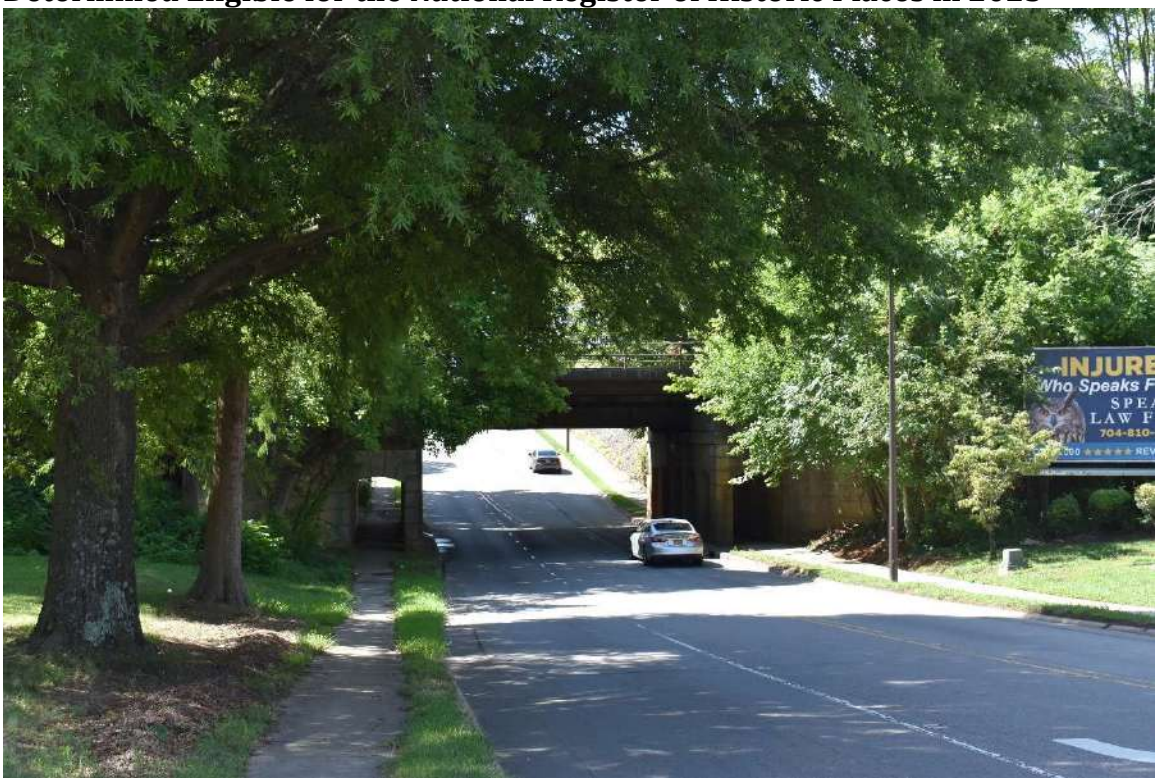
Newspapers.com. https://www.newspapers.com.

Scarborough and Hargett. www.scarboroughhargettcelebration.com.

Statesville Main Library. History Articles from Iredell County Newspapers. https://iredell.lib.nc.us/462/History-Articles-from-Iredell-County-New.

Appendix A: Previously Identified Resources Outside the District

Shelton Avenue Underpass (1937)
Determined Eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 2023



From Charlotte Gateway Mitigation Plan Phase II (2023), 42-43 (https://www.hpo.nc.gov/pdfs/er-15-2204-june-2022-report/open):

> The Southern constructed the Shelton Avenue Underpass in 1937 to provide easier and safer access across its tracks into and out of downtown Statesville ([Statesville] Landmark, March 8, 1937 and July 1, 1937). No later than 1916, citizens, merchants, and the county commissioners had begun to lobby the Southern Railway for construction of an underpass or overpass across the tracks that would allow easier and safer access to Statesville's businesses. The matter resurfaced in the news in 1929, when the Chamber of Commerce sought to have an underpass put in at the railway station. The issue gained momentum in the mid-1930s, when the state began studies to replace an undersized road bridge that crossed the tracks (Statesville Sentinel, May 18, 1916; [Statesville] Landmark, May 23, 1929; Statesville Record, October 19, 1934).
>
> In 1935 the federal government, through the Works Progress Administration (WPA), approved $1,579,000 for eliminating grade crossings in North Carolina. Statesville received $85,000 of this funding for the construction of the underpass. Finally, in the spring of 1937, the underpass opened just west of the station. In honor of mayor T.G. Shelton, the city formally named it the Garland Shelton Underpass. It renamed the street for Shelton as well. The underpass allowed the city to close two at-grade crossings, to either side of the station,

that had been manned by watchmen to direct traffic ([Statesville] Landmark, October 21, 1935, March 8, 1937 and July 1, 1937). On July 3, 1937 the city dedicated the underpass. The Statesville Band played, and former State Senator Kemp Battle Nixon and US Senator Robert R. Reynolds addressed the crowd ([Statesville] Landmark, July 5, 1937).

McElwee Hotel/Ante-Bellum Hotel, 706-708 S. Center Street (1911)
Placed on the NC Study List in 2001

The Ante-Bellum Hotel was built on the site of the former McElwee Tobacco Factory, which burned ca. 1910-1911. Acme Sales Company, a leather goods firm, moved to the property in January 1946. Today, it is a private residence.

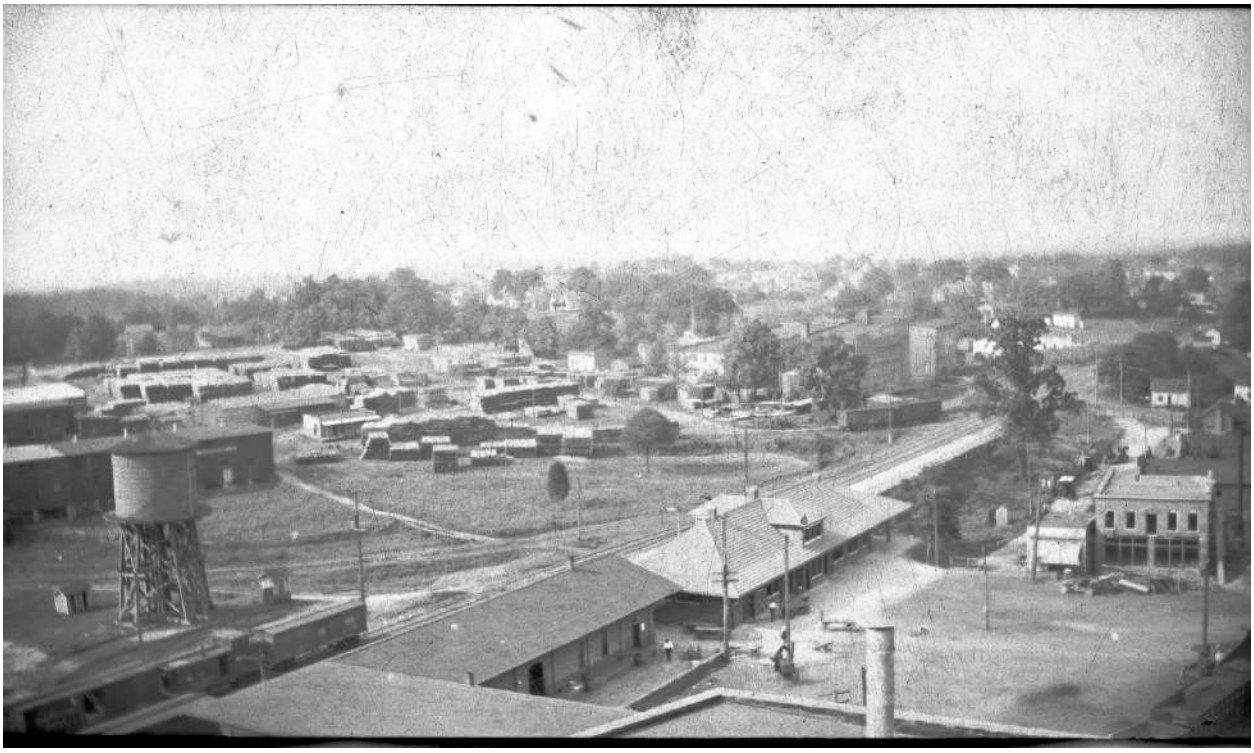
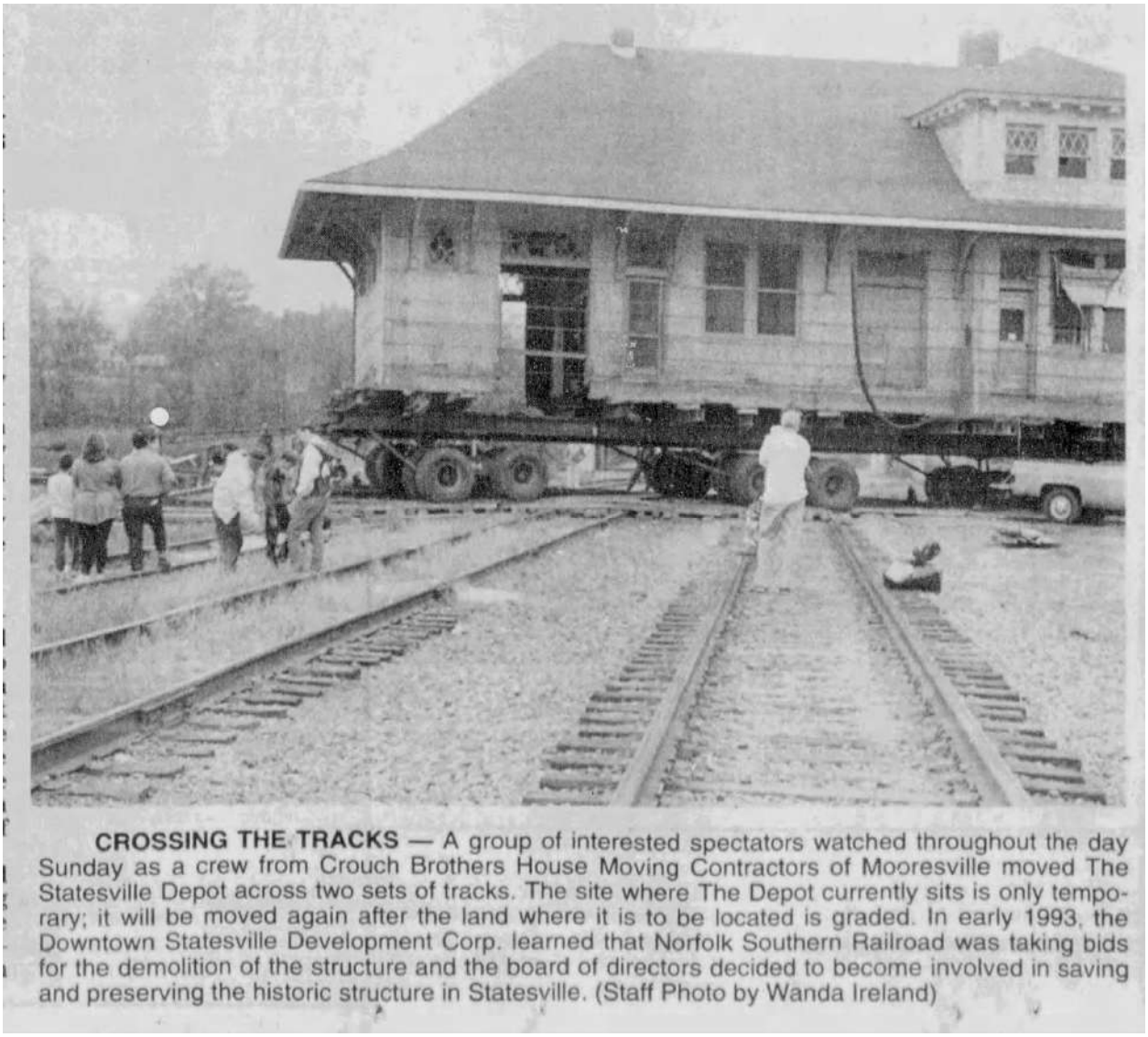


Figure 37 This photograph looking southwest from the Statesville Flour Company shows the Ante-Bellum Hotel under construction ca. 1911. William J. Stimson, "Old Statesville negs 23," Old Statesville, Stimson Studio Photograph Collection, Iredell County Public Library, https://www.flickr.com/photos/icplphotos/14554385455/in/album-72157637153753966.

Statesville Depot, 111 Depot Lane (1911, 1994)
Placed on the NC Study List in 2001, Designated a Local Landmark in 2008

The depot was moved from its original location in October 1994.



CROSSING THE TRACKS — A group of interested spectators watched throughout the day Sunday as a crew from Crouch Brothers House Moving Contractors of Mooresville moved The Statesville Depot across two sets of tracks. The site where The Depot currently sits is only temporary; it will be moved again after the land where it is to be located is graded. In early 1993, the Downtown Statesville Development Corp. learned that Norfolk Southern Railroad was taking bids for the demolition of the structure and the board of directors decided to become involved in saving and preserving the historic structure in Statesville. (Staff Photo by Wanda Ireland)

Figure 38 ***Statesville Record and Landmark, October 31, 1994.***

Appendix B: Notable Buildings Outside the District

The area south of the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks was determined to not be part of the historic Garfield and Green Streets Historic District. These buildings were identified as notable for their period of construction, design, or historic association.

Allison Street, East

Duplex, 113-115 E. Allison Street (ca. 1925)

Duplex, 115-117 E. Allison Street (ca. 1925)

Bond Street

Lyons-Foote House, 505 Bond Street (ca. 1927)

Richmond Lyons purchased one-quarter acre of land from Thomas M. and Mary R. Smith in 1903.

T. Dalton and Jessie D. Stewart House, 520 Bond Street (ca. 1923)

This parcel was part of the J. H. McElwee development platted in 1923 and were occupied by White owners into the 1960s. Built by Thomas Dalton Stewart and his wife Jessie Dagenhart Stewart ca. 1923. Dalton worked as a truck driver for Gulf Refining Company. The moved from the house by 1932, and he died two years later. The house has only been under White ownership.

Cass Street

Beard-Turner House, 841 Cass Street (ca. 1930)

Built ca. 1930 by white farmer W. Henry Beard and his wife Amanda Grant Beard, who purchased lots 37-40 of the C. L. Cruse development in 1928. The Beards lived in the house until their deaths in 1941 and 1959. Daughter Roena Beard Parks sold the property in 1960 to Black family Woodrow Wilson Turner, Sr. and his wife Elizabeth Turner. Woodrow was a brick mason and carpenter who retired from Troutman Foundry. He was pastor of Holiness Church of God in the Belmont community. They mortgaged the property. He died in 2003, and Elizabeth passed away in 2017. The house remains in the Turner family.

Center Street, South

Statesville Flour Mill, 701 S. Center Street

The Statesville Flour Mill is a large industrial complex at the end of South Center Street at the Southern Railway tracks. The plant includes nearly 11 acres of land at the southwest edge of the Garfield and Green Streets neighborhood.

Jefferson Street

Nellie Morrison Murphy House, 233 Jefferson Street (ca. 1950)

Nellie Morrison Murphy was issued a building permit in May 1950 for a "four-room cement block residence on Jefferson street." Nellie was married to Thomas Eli Murphy, a barber, who died in 1977. She lived in the house until her death in 1993, and the house remains in the family.

House, 255 Jefferson Street (ca. 1948)

In 1908 Lydia Chipley Rumple purchased at foreclosure sale the property she and her late husband Thomas Richard "Dick" Rumple owned south of the railroad tracks. The Rumples had purchased the property from J. S. Miller and mortgaged it with Fred H. Conger. In the 1909-1910 Statesville city directory, she is listed as living on Kincaid Street, today Jefferson Street, in Depot Hill. She sold the property to George and Myrtle Smyre who lived next door in 1931. However, the address does not appear again in the city directory until 1948-1949, nor does a structure appear on the parcel in a 1941 aerial photograph.

George B. and Myrtle M. Smyre House, 257 Jefferson Street (ca. 1923)

In 1921 Mariah Witherspoon sold to George and Myrtle Smyre the western portion of the one-half acre lot she and her husband Lafayette had purchased in 1890. George worked as a brakeman for Southern Railway. He died in 1948. Myrtle lived in the house until 1967, when she sold it to Joe Henry and Delaney Rucker Holland, sister of neighbor Benjamin J. Rucker. Myrtle died in 1989 aged 101.

Witherspoon-Rucker House, 259 Jefferson Street

In 1890 Lafayette "Fayette" Witherspoon and his wife Mariah Chambers Witherspoon purchased one-half acre of land along the railroad tracks on Depot Hill. Fayette died the following year, and Mariah's house was one of five burned on June 16, 1898, because of a smallpox outbreak. The house was rebuilt by 1900, when Mariah appeared in the U. S. Census living in a house she owned. She died in 1922, and her heirs sold the property "being the identical lot upon which Maria Witherspoon lived at the time of her death."[475] The house was sold in 1955 to Benjamin J. and Elizabeth S. Rucker, whose heirs still own the property. Benjamin worked at Superior Masonry Company. In 1957 he received a building permit to replace the porch and repair the roof of the house.

[475] Iredell County Deed Book 71, Page 290.

McLaughlin Stret

House, 900 McLaughlin Street (ca. 1930)

House, 901 McLaughlin Street (ca. 1930)

House, 902 McLaughlin Street (ca. 1930)

House, 903 McLaughlin Street (ca. 1933)

House, 904 McLaughlin Street (ca. 1930)

Monroe Street

Potts-Hughes House, 319 Monroe Street (ca. 1925)

This property was purchased Walter F. Potts and his wife Mary in 1919 from C. A. Dulin. The one-story frame house first appeared on the 1925 Sanborn map. Later residents included Sidney and Annie Harwell. Annie contracted to sell the property to Black couple Samuel and Bessie Hughes in 1960, and they completed the purchase in 1970 after her death. The Hughes family still owns the property, which is in disrepair.

Barkley-Howell House, 409 Monroe Street (ca. 1925)

Biard S. and Nera Barkley purchased property adjoining the Kincaid Veneer property in 1921. It was built by 1925, when it first appeared on Sanborn maps. The house was owned and occupied by white families until purchased by Julia Campbell Howell, her daughter Anna Louise Williams, and Waddell Brown in 1969. The house is still owned by the family of these individuals.

House, 530 Monroe Street (ca. 1930)

House, 539 Monroe Street (ca. 1937)

Drum-Owens House, 543 Monroe Street (ca. 1940)

This parcel was part of the J. H. McElwee development platted in 1923 and were occupied by White owners into the 1960s. Built ca. 1940 by Thomas Clifford Drum and his wife Gladys. He worked at Stimpson Hosiery Mill. They sold the property in 1955, and in 1963 Zelia E. Owens became the first Black owner of the house. She moved from Savannah, where she was a home economics instructor at Savannah State College, to Statesville to teach third and fourth grades at Morningside School. Owens sold the property in 1966.

Wilson-Barber House, 549 Monroe Street (ca. 1925)

This parcel was part of the J. H. McElwee development platted in 1923 and were occupied by White owners into the 1960s. The Wilson-Barber House was built by ca. 1925 by David and Mollie Wilson, though they only resided in the house a short time. Henry B. Barber and his wife Mary purchased the house in 1963 and were its first Black owners for over a decade. They sold it in 1974 to Aaron Edward Baker and his wife Bertha M. Young Baker. Aaron retired from Statesville Chair Company and died in 1988. Bertha sold the house in 1996.

House, 600 Monroe Street (ca. 1929)

House, 608 Monroe Street (ca. 1928)

House, 610 Monroe Street (ca. 1928)

House, 616 Monroe Street (ca. 1930)

Statesville Chair Company, 800 Monroe Street (1931)

Designed and built by Gilbert Engineering Company for the Statesville Chair Company.

Old Salisbury Road

House, 638 Old Salisbury Road (ca. 1920)

Opal Street

House, 820 Opal Street (ca. 1925)

Rickert Street

Southern Screw Company, 741 Rickert Street (ca. 1947)

Southern Screw Company opened in the former Sterling Mills building at 741 Rickert Street in 1945. Two years later, they expanded with a large machine shop at the historically undeveloped southeast corner of Rickert and Jefferson Streets. The company operated at the site until 1955, when they moved to a new facility on the Salisbury Road (today US-70 near Interstate 77).

CARDINAL

CARDINAL

Sterling Mills, 741 Rickert Street (1917, ca. 1920, 1951-1952)

Sterling Mills was chartered in February 1917 to manufacture flour. Construction began on April 12, 1917, with Holtsclaw & Triplett of Lenoir as contractors. The electrical equipment contract was awarded to Westinghouse. Bricklaying was completed the week of September 7, 1917, and roof construction was scheduled to begin soon with machinery installation a week later. Sterling Mill operated until September 1930, when the company closed due to lack of operating capital.

In October 1933, plans were announced to convert the former flour mill into the Old South Brewing Company, which would brew 3.2% beer. Organizers hoped to have the facility operating by the beginning of the year with shipments going out in March 1934. However, the venture must have been short-lived, as there was little news reported. The Sterling Mill facilities were used in the 1940s by Cooperative Mills as a storage warehouse. Southern Screw Company opened next door in 1945, and it used part of the former mill for its operations. They acquired the property and made major renovations to the building in 1951-1952, removing the top two stories and constructing a two-story addition.

Shelton Avenue

Statesville Furniture Company Office, 731 Shelton Avenue (1923)

In March 1923 the Statesville Furniture Company announced plans to erect a "fireproof office building" of concrete and brick with a green tile roof.[476] The company operated from the building until closing due to a fire which destroyed the plant in February 1933. Later occupants included subsequent furniture companies, the Salvation Army, and New Deal program offices and workshops. New Victory Baptist Church acquired the property in 1981.

[476] "Building Contracts Awarded," *Manufacturers Record* 83, no. 10 (March 8, 1923), 99.

WELCOME

Washington Avenue

Statesville Plywood and Veneer Company, 755 Washington Avenue (1934, ca. 1946)

In February 1927 Statesville Furniture Company Plant No. 2, located on this site, was destroyed by fire. Six years later, the primary plant was also destroyed by fire. The directors formed a new corporation in 1934 as the Statesville Plywood and Veneer Company "to manufacture and sell veneers, plywoods, panels, tops and other wood products."[477] A new office building was constructed in 1946, and by 1959 the facility had expanded from 75,000 square feet to 200,00 square feet of production space. The company was acquired by Masonite Corp. in 1982.

Formerly on the site were Holy Cross Episcopal Church and eight dwellings as shown on the 1950 Sanborn map. Local lore holds that this location may have been the site of the infamous 1868 hanging of Tom Dula, which inspired a litany of folklore including the 1958 hit song "Tom Dooley" by The Kingston Trio.

[477] "Charter Granted a Local Company," *Statesville Record and Landmark*, February 2, 1934.