

RALEIGH COMPREHENSIVE ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY FINAL REPORT

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Methodology

This architectural and historical inventory of downtown Raleigh is a catalogue of the city's development between 1890 and 1941. Upon completion of the survey component approximately 3,100 properties were fully documented in the twenty-two month period between October 1989 and August 1991. Thirty rolls of color slides and over 300 rolls of black and white, thirty-six exposure film was shot. Phase I was composed of ten areas which had been identified as being the most fragile and endangered. They were: Downtown, Ashe-Cox-Morgan Avenues, Old Northwest Quadrant, College Crest, Wilmont, Fairmont, Mordecai, Oakdale, Roanoke Park and Georgetown. Increasing development pressure from public and private concerns may eradicate much of the built environment of early twentieth century Raleigh. As the new century fast approaches it is important to rediscover the growth patterns of the capital city.

Raleigh's early and mid twentieth century residential growth were the focus of the second year of the Raleigh Downtown Architectural Survey. The additional ten survey areas were Vanguard Park, Hayes Barton, Bloomsbury, Anderson Heights, Budleigh, College View, Watson Park, Longview Gardens, Caraleigh and Fuller Heights. Predominantly occupied by white and middle income persons, with the exception of Caraleigh, a mill workers' community, Raleigh's suburbs reinforced the mores and values of the inhabitants. Thus, for example, just before World War II, developers of Anderson Heights were still following tried and true formulae from the 1920s. A November 1940 News and Observer advertisement proclaimed that the Federal Housing Authority planned and approved Fallon Subdivision "has property which is covered by proper restrictions for the protection of homeowners (and) is the only development in suburban Raleigh that has completely installed all necessary improvements before offering the lots to the people."

Following the North Carolina Historic Preservation survey manual guidelines, the study and documentation of the Phase I survey areas was straightforward. All historic resources were documented with a completed computer form, photographs,

descriptive and analytical entry, and mapping. In recording clustered urban sites, a green (multiple structures) computer form was used for an entire block face. An urban block face contained between 4 to 25 buildings on one side of the street. However, Phase II methodological procedures varied slightly from the previous year in order to maximize the usefulness of the data. Neighborhoods were documented at one of two levels of intensity: "extensive" and "overview". The first category encompassed all building types, regardless of age. (This is especially pressing in light of the current trend of some homeowners who radically change the original form of pre- and post- World War II structures.) The second category identified an area with a thumbnail sketch of its development history, accompanied by several streetscape photographs. Another change in the recordation was greater utilization of the (green) multiple structures forms. More information was amassed on a single form -- a street or block as well as single block faces and the documentation of each on a separate sheet. Individual (yellow) forms were completed for the most significant properties. An exception to this format was Hayes Barton due to its high degree of integrity and significance. Here, the dwellings that possessed the most unique features were catalogued individually, but all properties were surveyed on green forms as well and an inventory list was prepared.

With the exception of several significant post World War II structures, everything inventoried is fifty years or older. The survey was also limited to a man-made boundary, the circumferential freeway, the Cliff Benson Beltline. In order to maintain a tight schedule it was agreed that all previously inventoried properties and districts would not be restudied. Already the documentation of the downtown business district has aided city planners in the formulation of a comprehensive study which will decide the future image of the city.

A few additional individual properties were not surveyed. These include the Thad Eure, Sr. House on New Bern Avenue, the Clarence Poe House also on New Bern Avenue, the Coley Farm compound behind the United Carolina Bank, off Glenwood Avenue, and the WPTF Radio Station



WPTF Radio Station

designed by William Henley Deitrick situated between Raleigh and Cary.

Before the Raleigh project, Helen P. Ross, the principal investigator, received a Master of Arts degree in American Civilization from the George Washington University. Miss Ross has an extensive

background in historic preservation including a stint with the City of Alexandria, Virginia, where she helped in the re-survey of the Old Town Historic District.

The 1989-1991 Raleigh Building Survey focused on areas not recorded in previous surveys of the city. These earlier projects were the 1978-1979 Raleigh Architectural Inventory conducted by Linda Harris and Mary Ann Lee which selectively documented key pre-1929 buildings; the North Carolina State University campus, (previously surveyed by David Brown); the early twentieth century suburbs Glenwood, Boylan Heights and Cameron Park, and the Moore Square area (recorded by Charlotte V. Brown in the early 1980s); and the 1988-1990 African-American Survey which covered the smallest and the largest neighborhoods where pre-World War II blacks resided.

The History and Architecture of Raleigh, North Carolina (1880-1970)

The expansion of Raleigh during the early twentieth century has created a city with two faces, an urbane and sophisticated downtown circled by a ring of introspective neighborhoods. In both spheres, the architecture is traditional in form and style. Although the character of the city is conservative, two aspects of its twentieth century development are decidedly progressive. The continual upgrading of the water system and the intensification of the railroad networks were two keys which permitted the city to maximize on its location as a distribution center. With another function besides government and education the city attracted a diversified labor force. As Raleigh became more populous, residential development began to spread out in all directions. The neighborhoods' architecture reflected mostly conservative styles and reinforced the social and cultural divisions in Raleigh society.

The Late Nineteenth Century: 1880-1900

After the city of Raleigh was surveyed and planned by William Christmas in 1792, it remained the size of one square-mile until 1857 when the city limits were extended approximately three blocks on all sides. [\[1\]](#) Up to that time Raleigh's commercial expansion had been slow. Two railroad lines complemented each other by 1855, the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad and the North Carolina Railroad. The 1872 Birdseye View of the City of Raleigh shows the arrangement of the community shortly after the Civil War. The commercial section emerged along Fayetteville Street, just south of the State Capitol. Foundries, factories and warehouses were located near the tracks on the north and west sides of town. The remaining spaces inside the city limits were occupied with boarding houses, private residences, and three hotels inhabited by poor and wealthy, black and white, young and old. In the final quarter of the nineteenth century, Raleigh's public and private sector leaders were determined to improve the cityscape to their advantage. Proximity to surface transportation spelled success for merchants in the form of shops and warehouses, stables and hotels. City alderman established streetcar lines and community leaders enlarged churches. Growth occurred in all directions as employment opportunities appeared in the form of the Water Works, 1887 (1800 block of Fayetteville Street), the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, 1886 (2714 Vanderbilt Avenue), the Dormitory and Factory for the North Carolina School for the Blind and Deaf, 1898 (Caswell Square), and the Caraleigh Cotton Mill, 1891-1892 (421 Maywood Avenue). Businessmen endeavored to make Raleigh a prosperous city before the turn of the twentieth century.

A critical element to Raleigh's future growth was the provision of a stable, potable water supply. From its founding in 1792, until the municipal water works went into operation, Raleigh depended on springs, wells and cisterns for its water supply. The water works complex (1810 Fayetteville Street) was designed by civil engineer Arthur Winslow and constructed in 1887 by the Raleigh Water Works. The red brick, slate covered, gable-roofed pumping station



pumping station

has corbelled brick cornices, and a central projecting pediment section. Situated to the west is the 1 1/2 story brick filter house erected in 1892. Filtered water was fed to the 2,500,000 gallon holding reservoir. A fourteen-inch main carried water to the city and elevated storage was provided by a water tower at 115 West Morgan Street. By the early 1900s, the water supply system had spread to cover the entire city, the N.C. College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and the State Fair Grounds, then located at the present Raleigh Little Theatre and Rose Garden site. The

pumping capacity was rated at five and one half million gallons per day and the filtering capacity was rated at two and one half million gallons per day. [2]

Besides the provision of water another amenity which was lauded by Raleigh's public and private sectors was transportation. The electrified streetcar in the capital city did not materialize until 1891, but for five years before this, mule-drawn, open-sided vehicles ran short routes in the square mile. Although Raleigh was one of the first cities in North Carolina to possess the technology for the creation of electric power, the City's system foundered repeatedly. In the 1890s and 1900s, streetcars, street lighting, and the power for newly located textile mills were the only uses to which electricity could be applied. Streetcars were a handy and relatively inexpensive justification for electrification requiring only a few large motors and auxiliary equipment plus the cost of generators and trunk lines. [3] The electric streetcar revolutionized transportation technology. Traversing and skirting the central business district, the tracks opened up a suburban ring and enabled the electric trains to travel fast, about four times faster than the horse-drawn systems they replaced. By 1910, the Raleigh routes consisted of a downtown, a ten block circulator and three radial routes to the north, east, and west. Within the city limits main arteries such as North Blount, East and West Hargett, Fayetteville and Hillsborough streets had tracks embedded in them. The longest distance trips were west, along Hillsborough to the N.C. College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts campus and north, along Glenwood Avenue to Bloomsbury Park. [4]

Other prime beneficiaries of the cheap electric power were the textile mills that settled in the city during the final decade of the nineteenth century. The founders of six new mills took advantage of nearby surface transportation systems and the opportunity to purchase power rather than generate it on site. One of the earliest and largest of such structures is the Caraleigh Cotton Mill



Caraleigh Cotton Mill

built between 1891 and 1892, south of Raleigh, in close proximity to the Norfolk-Southern Railway tracks. Soon, a spur track was built off the main line, leading to the mill for ease in shipping and receiving. In 1896,

the two-story, brick structure located at 421 Maywood Avenue, had 7,380 spindles and 268 looms. It and the Pilot Cotton Mill (c. 1894) were the only two mills in Raleigh that produced unfinished cotton sheets which were ultimately shipped to New England mills where the products were made into finished goods. [5]

Around the time that the Caraleigh mill began operations, the company also erected dwellings to house all of the mill workers, mainly along Thompson and Montrose streets.



The foremen lived in a single-family units which were one-story, frame, gable roofed dwellings, while mill hands resided in single-story, brick, hip-roofed duplexes. The floor plans were similar with three rooms and a rear back porch.

There was no indoor plumbing until the mill village was incorporated by the City of Raleigh on January 1, 1958. Backyard outhouses were a common sight as were the water pumps in every front yard. The narrow tree-lined streets were unpaved, and deep runoff ditches ran adjacent to them. [6] The Caraleigh Cotton Mill, is the only textile facility that still functions in Raleigh, and its housing composes the last surviving mill village in the city.

In addition to being North Carolina's capital, Raleigh in the late nineteenth century had emerged as an educational center. [7] As early as 1872, Leonidas L. Polk had proposed the establishment of an agricultural and industrial college. Five years later, in 1877, the N.C. Agriculture Experiment Station was founded. The Experiment Station was joined with the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts when the college was established March 7, 1887, by the General Assembly. The first classroom building, Holladay Hall



2714
Vander
bilt
Avenue

Holladay Hall

, ca. 1889, is a large three-story, Romanesque structure. The earliest structure associated with the university, however, is the two-story, frame, cross-gable roofed house located on 2714 Vanderbilt Avenue . Constructed in 1886, it served as the headquarters for the N.C. Agricultural Experiment Station. Still quite intact, it is now a private dwelling featuring an ornamental wooden roof ridge and upper gable and string course wood shingles.

One of the earliest public education facilities in Raleigh was the N.C. School for the Blind and Deaf (1848). Located on Caswell Square, the institution at the turn of the twentieth century boasted nine buildings. One of the final stages of construction occurred in 1898 with the dormitory and the broom and mattress shop. The dormitory



dormitory



broom and mattress shop

, designed by Frank P. Milburn, a Washington, D.C. architect, is on the National Register of Historic Places. [8] Situated north of the dormitory, facing Dawson Street, is the broom and

mattress shop . It is a two-story, painted brick, cross-gable roofed structure with a slate roof, and original 4/4 windows with brick segmental arches and rusticated stone sills. At the turn of the century, the building housed a broom factory in the north wing, a mattress shop and boiler room in the center, and in the south wing were found a carpenter and store rooms. Students were able to contribute to society by manufacturing brooms and sewing mattresses for the local economy. [9]

In the closing decades of the nineteenth century, a few blocks to the east of the N.C. State for the Blind and Deaf, some of the city's leading educators such as Needham Broughton and Cary J. Hunter lived in Oakwood, an area created from wooded land northeast of the city. The Oakwood neighborhood borrowed its name from the nearby cemetery, it was the first district in Raleigh solely created to be an exclusive residential suburb. Many prominent citizens, particularly George V. Strong and Marcellus Parker built and lived in the fine one-and two-story, frame and brick Victorian dwellings which reflect the primarily middle-class tastes of the era. [10] Residents of the neighborhood were employed in the banking and law firms in the central business district, the local and state governments, and the educational facilities of Peace College, St. Augustine's College, the Baptist Female University and the Raleigh Male Academy (demolished). Oakwood remained a bastion of the middle class through the early twentieth century.



Peace College



St. Augustine's College
(St. Agnes Hall renovation)

Another district, "Smoky Hollow", was located in and beyond the north city limits. The area had existed before the Civil War but grew in the 1870s and 1880s. The predominantly working class residents, both black and white, were employed by the nearby industries. These included the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad's machine shop, round house, foundry, and sawmill, the Standard Oil Company, the Foster Brothers Cotton Compress, the Ellington Royster and Company planing mill and the Ruffin Rolies furniture factory. Although demolished in the 1960s, Smoky Hollow, which received its name from the train smoke that hung over the bottomlands, was a vibrant, mixed use neighborhood. [\[11\]](#)



Site of the old Round House

In the southeast and southwest sections of the city, African-American neighborhoods such as Idlewild, College Park, Third and Fourth wards were experiencing tremendous expansion. The educational institutions such as Shaw University, St. Augustine's College and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum for Negroes attracted increasing numbers of students, staff and faculty to the area. Laborers and skilled workers were also drawn to Raleigh in search of employment. The domiciles that were constructed by and for these people are typical of those found throughout the Southern region of the

country. The one and two-story frame houses situated in Raleigh's African-American neighborhoods include Queen Anne cottages, shotguns, and Triple-As.

As the nineteenth century drew to a close, Raleigh's urban center and increasingly segregated neighborhoods reflected the emergence of a modern Southern capital. With a utility infrastructure firmly entrenched, water, electricity and inexpensive transportation provided better living conditions. Proximity to utilities permitted industrial endeavors to locate in or near the city limits. The surface transportation and a centralized, semi-skilled urban labor force were additional incentives to attracting textile mills in the final decade of the nineteenth century. Raleigh's educational institutions for blacks and whites, men and women, and facilities for the handicapped attracted families to the city from other parts of the State. The influx of people necessitated the development of new or existing residential areas. Whether the architectural character reflected vernacular as did Caraleigh's mill workers duplexes, or popular styles as Oakwood's middle class Victorian dwellings, the

neighborhoods and their locations would dictate the placement of Raleigh's twentieth century suburbs.

The Early Twentieth Century: 1900-1920

Between 1900 and the advent of World War I, the composition of Raleigh's urban and suburban sections fluctuated as city leaders sought to mould the image of the capital city of North Carolina. The construction of hospitals, schools, churches, and residences added diversity to the urban fabric. Textile production and railroad traffic were expanding in Raleigh. In 1903 alone sixty-five buildings were under construction worth a total value of \$300,000. [12] Professionals such as educators, attorneys, physicians, entrepreneurs were enticed to the city as growth in commerce, health care and education increased. New tall office buildings of seven and ten stories such as the Masonic Temple and the Commercial National Bank buildings, began to tower above the nineteenth century two- and three-story stores downtown. Municipal responsibilities such as the provision of services were magnified to keep pace with the newly developing suburbs of Boylan Heights, Glenwood, and Cameron Park. Raleigh's residential growth was rapid as the population rose in 1920 to 24,418 persons, an increase of 10,775 from 13,643 in 1900 or sixty-eight percent. [13] This rise in Raleigh's population was accompanied by the development of a new industry, the distribution and storage of raw materials and finished products.

The maturation of a storage and distribution section occurred within close proximity to the Norfolk-Southern and Raleigh and Gaston railroad tracks in southwest Raleigh. Along Davie, Martin, West and Harrington streets, sand, gravel, and lumber lots intermingled with factories, warehouses and boarding houses. Through continual expansion, a few of the largest spaces were occupied by the more successful industrial enterprises such as Thomas Brigg's Sash and Blind Factory (1870s), and the North Carolina Cotton Oil Company (before 1888). The latter building is the earliest remaining structure in the area, at 406-412 West Davie Street. The New York-owned oil company continued to expand its operation between 1900 and 1914. Previously in 1896 the firm had converted from gas to electric lights and burned coal for fuel. The two-story, brick, flat-roofed structure housed the press room on the first floor and lint room on the second story. The same company owned the nearby guano warehouse which faces Harrington Street and had its gable-roof shaped attic space converted to a second story to facilitate the firm's operations.



North Carolina Cotton Oil Company



Johnson and Johnson Company



View from tracks

Smaller firms also benefited from the railroad vicinity. For example, the Johnson and Johnson Company warehouse located at 306 South West Street was erected between 1911 and 1912 by commission merchants. Up to that time the Johnson firm owned by two brothers operated from a nearby site that had one frame building and open storage space. By constructing a more substantial building, the company was investing in their future prosperity. The two-story, brick, high-stepped parapet gable-roofed structure originally functioned as a warehouse for hay, grain, and feed storage. With a loading platform on the west side, there was no need to utilize any other depot which helped reduce costs. The building, now utilized by Cal-Tone Paints, is the earliest and most intact warehouse in Raleigh.

Another railroad-related area grew up northwest of the city center also on the Norfolk-Southern Railway line. Here, affirmation of the drawing power of the railroad and continued filling of the city's boundaries came in 1908 when the Norfolk-Southern Railway Company constructed a passenger and freight depot at 518 West Jones Street. The two-story, flat roofed, orange brick structure was strategically located at the corner of West Jones and Glenwood Avenue, then known as North Saunders Street. The area of West Jones Street between Glenwood Avenue and North Harrington Street grew to become a transportation and electrical convergence point. At this location, the two railroad companies' tracks were parallel for roughly eight hundred feet. [14] The transfer of goods and passengers took place here. In turn, the railroad companies had formed a lasting relationship with the electric streetcar utility which was owned by the Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L). A block-long spur was built from the Hillsborough streetcar route, northwards to the passenger station. Thus, a traveler could alight from the railway train and walk to the electric streetcar or vice versa within a short distance. [15]



passenger and freight depot



steam plant

Conveniently located southeast of the railway depot was the 1,500 watt dynamo house and steam plant of CP&L. Previously, in 1905, it had been purchased from the Raleigh

Electric Company by the Electric Bond and Share Company of New York, who proceeded rapidly to enlarge the small electric facility. A new site was located in 1906, a 500-kilowatt vertical turbo generator was completed in 1908, and within a year a similar unit was added. Raleigh's electric service was preparing for rapid expansion by 1908, when CP&L came into existence. [16] The steam plant at 513-515 West Jones Street dates from 1910, and only the pair of three-story, brick, gable-roofed structures still survive, with well-executed brick corbelling in the upper gables. Just east on the same block as the dynamo house and steam plant stood the streetcar garage (at 115 North West Street), where cars were stored and repaired. Through the years as the streetcar system expanded, another car barn was constructed across the street from the original building. Still standing at 116 North West Street, the building has two levels, one for storage and the other for maintenance. With the exception of the south elevation which is completely void of

openings, the other wall planes are composed of brick piers and dimpled glass pane windows.



116 North West Street



Briggs Hardware Building

While the industrial and distribution centers continued to develop, the downtown business section also experienced growth, which was most dramatic in the form of tall office buildings. From 1874 to 1907 the tallest structure besides the 85-foot-high water tower had been the Briggs Hardware Building , a four-story, red brick, flat-roofed, commercial building with stamped metal trim such as quoins, cornice and window surrounds, at 220 Fayetteville Street. [17] However, in Raleigh as in Chicago twenty years earlier, two forces began to reshape commercial building in the downtown business district. Technological changes and innovations completely modernized the traditional structure and arrangement of the building industry. In addition, alternative concepts of how buildings should appear radically affected their form and parts. The nineteenth century inventions such as the telephone, the typewriter, and the incandescent light bulb were basic tools of early twentieth century business communications and American urban culture. The technological advances in building materials such as iron, steel, and concrete combined with the rising land costs in centralized business districts and the increasing density of urban populations made the development of the tall, self-contained skyscraper desirable. [18]

Still standing at 133-135 Fayetteville Street is the Masonic Temple

of 1908. The seven-story office building was the first structure in the state to utilize the new technology with reinforced concrete and steel. Designed by Columbia, South Carolina architect, Charles McMillan, the stone-faced skyscraper exemplifies the classic column with base, shaft and capital. This style of skyscraper architecture was begun in Chicago in the 1880s by Louis H. Sullivan and continued as a type into the mid twentieth century. The structure's base functions as retail space while the shaft is the middle five stories which are then crowned by the capital-like top floor. It is Raleigh's oldest tall office building. [19]



Masonic Temple

Several years later, the Commercial National Bank Building, rose at 14-20 East Martin Street. The ten-story building was designed by P. Thornton Marye, an Atlanta-based architect, and for two years, 1913 and 1914, it was Raleigh's tallest building. The elegant skyscraper, which featured rich Gothic Revival details such as pointed

arch doorways and stone-carved heads and gargoyles, was destroyed by implosion on March 24, 1991.

Although tall office buildings were highly visible in a city where two and three story structures were the norm, they were also very costly. Only large and ambitious companies -- often banks -- could afford to erect structures of seven or more stories. In 1914, the Citizens National Bank Building supplanted the Commercial National Bank's status as the tallest building in Raleigh. [20] The classical, eleven-story structure occupied the northeast corner of Martin and Fayetteville streets until it was razed in the early 1960s. The skyscraper epitomized the business community's pursuit of a powerful corporate symbol which led ultimately to the conquest of the capital city's skyline. The increasing availability of downtown office space left some skeptics unsure if there would be enough business and people to fill the vacant buildings. [21]

But in fact the economy prospered, and people moved to the city to find employment and housing facilities. Many sought to rent living quarters and for many years could only rent rooms in private homes, live in hotels, boarding houses or rental properties. During the first decade of the twentieth century, as a building type, the apartment house, did not exist in Raleigh as city directories indicate. Between 1911 and 1913, the Park (or Old Raleigh) Hotel formerly located at the corner of McDowell and Martin Streets overlooking Nash Square was converted into Raleigh's first apartment house. Although the building had not been designed as a multiple-family dwelling, it was a successful venture. [22]

Raleigh's first true apartment building is the five-story, yellow-brick, U-shaped, Capital Apartments



Capital Apartments

at 127 New Bern Avenue. Each story has the same floor plan which consists of six apartments each, including both one- and two-bedroom units. Constructed in 1917 by C. V. York, the apartment house is virtually intact and retains its character. The Capital Apartments were extremely popular because of the provision of modern amenities and the convenience to downtown shopping and government and business offices. [24] Capital Apartments were soon followed by the construction of the Vance Apartments in 1920 (demolished in 1990). [23]

Residential growth outward intensified to the west, as the Hillsborough Street streetcar line combined with the growth of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts to encourage residential development in "West Raleigh", which was until 1929 considered outside Raleigh proper. In the-early twentieth century, the college expanded by constructing more classrooms and dormitories for its growing student body. This building campaign fostered additional employment opportunities for everyone from janitors to professors and created a demand for nearby housing. Fresh air and proximity to the State Fairgrounds, which had relocated from the initial East Raleigh site in 1872, were additional selling points. Residential development began to occur just east of the college but beyond the 1907 city limits, along Ashe and Cox Avenues and north of Hillsborough Street behind Oberlin Road on Ferndell, Maiden Lane and Enterprise Street. [24] Typical of many was the house built at 4

Maiden Lane around 1900 by Samuel W. Brewer, an agricultural implements businessman. The two-story frame clipped gable roof dwelling has beaded novelty wood siding, 2/2 windows, and a wraparound front porch. Within the following fifteen years, more spacious houses appeared along Ferndell Lane, Enterprise and Hillsborough streets. Two professors in the engineering department lived in three houses at 8 Maiden Lane and 11 and 14 Enterprise Street: Lillian Lee Vaughan, professor of mechanical engineering, and Ross E. Shumaker, an associate professor of architecture in the department of civil engineering. [\[25\]](#)



4 Maiden Lane



8 Maiden Lane



11 Enterprise Street



14 Enterprise Street

A major chapter in Raleigh's early years of the twentieth century was the creation of three planned suburban

neighborhoods, Glenwood, Cameron Park, and Boylan Heights. All three of these suburbs were platted between 1906 and 1910 on lands situated to the north, west, and southwest of the 1907 expanded city limits. Although the neighborhoods were designed to attract Raleigh's newly arrived or those newly ascended to the middle class, they vary in their layout, architecture, and topography. From the outset, these neighborhoods had water and sewer services, electric power and access to streetcar transportation which were vital amenities to the new city dwellers. [\[26\]](#)

In addition to the white suburbs, black residential expansion continued at an unprecedented rate in the south and east sections of Raleigh. South Park, bordered by Bledsoe, Wilmington, Hoke and East streets, was platted in 1907 by the white-owned Raleigh Real Estate and Trust Company. Soon after, in a twelve month period, 122 lots had been sold and were in various states of improvement. Farther to the north and east, around St. Augustine's College, two other black suburbs were created in the early 1910s. Battery Heights and College Park attracted skilled workers and a rising middle class sector. The domestic architecture consists of one and two story frame Triple A's and shotguns, cottages and I-houses decorated in a variety of styles. Although South Park, Battery Heights and College Park were in outlying areas, by 1920, streetcar service along Hargett Street was extended and an increased use of automobiles attracted would-be homeowners. [\[27\]](#)

Besides providing improved access to the outlying residential areas, the Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L) sought to expand its ridership base. In 1911, the utility extended northward the Glenwood Avenue route to the Carolina Country Club which bordered a one hundred acre park. Bloomsbury Park opened in 1912 and featured an electric powered carousel, a roller coaster and a penny arcade. The general manager of CP&L reported, "we now have a long railway line for joy riders which terminates at the park and we are hopeful that the combination will prove most beneficial to us". [28] By 1915, however, Bloomsbury Park had ceased operations, terminated by CP&L. The carousel was bought by the city and placed in Pullen Park. What was left along both sides of the rail lines was mainly farmlands filled with cultivated fields, fallow expanses, and woods that had been ogled by every paying passenger up to that time. In mid-decade, continued residential expansion occurred when large plots of land were purchased by Thomas Ruffin, James H. Pou, and others. Situated north of the Five Points intersection, the lands would beckon to prospective homeowners for several more years until the outbreak of World War I temporarily suspended development.

By the end of the 1910s, Raleigh's commercial, industrial and residential areas expanded into separate and distinct enclaves. The form of the commercial district had begun to change as early as 1907 when building technology and maximum space utilization allowed more floors and offices to be added to a building. The urban core became more dense and business activities intensified as education and government and commerce drew workers to the city. Industry pursued the valuable areas located near surface transportation networks. Raleigh supported six textile mills, two railroad companies and scores of factories, warehouses and livery stables. In addition to office workers, another kind of labor force skilled in mechanical operations and manual trades was necessary to keep pace with competing towns and cities. With the 1907 expansion of the city limits came a rush of citizens to populate the outer fringes of the central business district and industrial sections. The electric streetcar provided the impetus to develop outlying acreage in areas that were away from the noise, pollution and crowding and that promoted living together in socially homogeneous neighborhoods.

The Decade of the 1920s: 1920-1929

Soon after the end of World War I, Raleigh experienced increased residential and commercial development in almost boom proportions. Building upon city leaders' pre-World War I successful attempts to attract commerce and industry, growth was unabated in the 1920s. Expansion of Raleigh's distribution functions continued in the warehouse district, the CP&L Company and Norfolk- Southern Freight Depot along West Jones Street and northward on Wake Forest Road. Government and educational institutions also expanded in this era. State College erected several new buildings, mainly in a red-brick neoclassical style, and in 1925 Meredith College moved to a rural site three miles west of the Capitol where the college developed a campus of restrained red brick neoclassical buildings. By 1925, there were fifty-seven manufacturing enterprises, thirteen public schools, six buildings with over four stories, and 5,210 registered automobiles. In addition, a massive civic improvements campaign was undertaken to upgrade amenities such as 25 miles of paved roads, an expanded water system, and continued electrification of outlying areas. Besides the commercial development in the urban core, residential growth in the north, northwest, and west sections was influenced, in part, by the expansion of the city

limits in 1920. During the most prolific stage of development, between 1922 and 1924, nearly seven hundred houses were erected. [\[29\]](#)

The majority of new homeowners were employed in Raleigh's mushrooming central business district where downtown office space doubled between 1920 and 1930. Besides numerous smaller structures, three tall commercial buildings erected between 1923 and 1924 effectively propelled downtown commercial development. They were the ten-story Odd Fellows Building (19 West Hargett Street), the eight-story Lawyers Building (320 South Salisbury Street), and the ten-story Sir Walter Hotel (400-412 Fayetteville Street). They continued the use of classical column organization of a tall building. The simply detailed, Federal Revival Lawyers Building boasted one hundred percent occupancy by 1925. The Odd Fellows Building and the Sir Walter Hotel are more elaborately Neo-Classical in style; the latter was designed by James A. Salter and constructed by C. V. York. The hotel was home to legislators and lobbyists who influenced the state's political history. [\[30\]](#)



Odd Fellows Building



Lawyers Building



Sir Walter Hotel

Likewise essential to the city's commercial architecture are the smaller, one-, two-, and three-story store front buildings which still remain on parts of Hillsborough Street, South Salisbury Street, Wilmington Street, North Person Street, and Glenwood Avenue. The majority are flat-roofed and composed of masonry construction. Nestled downtown in one of the few remaining commercial blocks is the Parker-Hunter Realty Company building at 128 South Salisbury Street, which features a Neo-Classical store front with a carved stone cornice, pilasters, and window sills, crowned by a monogrammed medallion centerpiece. An example of a neighborhood commercial structure is situated in Five Points at 1801 Glenwood Avenue, the Flat Iron Building, ca. 1922. The two-story, painted brick structure derives its name from the wedge-shaped site and floor plan. Its original function is still maintained, with retail space on the first floor and six apartment units on the second story.



Flat Iron Building



Sanders Ford

Auto-related commercial building types likewise stood near the central business district and at outlying intersection. Two early twentieth century auto showrooms remain: the Hoover Buick Company (now Raleigh Furniture), at 118 West Hargett Street (*ed: demolished 2000*), and the Sanders Ford (now Artspace, Inc.), at 201 East Davie Street. About a dozen filling and repair stations survive from the 1920s. One of the most intact is found at the corner of Oberlin and Fairview Roads--the Budleigh Service Station, c. late 1920s, a brick, flat roofed building with a pressed metal cornice and a porte cochere, adorned by the juxtaposition of cream and red bricks below the pier caps. The most ornate automobile-related structure is the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company garage at 201 West Martin Street. The garage, erected around 1928 by James Davidson, the local building contractor, has Art Deco style elements in the decoratively capped piers and striated bronze window surrounds. The striking design and prominent locations of such buildings were intended to attract passing drivers into the establishments. These two components were part of a pattern adhered to by national hotel, gasoline and restaurant chains, which became popular in the post World War II era.



Budleigh Service Station



Firestone Tire and Rubber Company

The final grouping of commercial buildings erected during the 1920s construction boom are distribution and storage structures. In an effort to lure new and diversified manufacturing establishments, the city fathers continued to advance the idea of becoming a distribution center. [\[31\]](#) By providing increased transportation facilities, the Chamber of Commerce, among other interested parties, sought to encourage successful enterprises to locate their storage and distribution facilities in the capital. Three such establishments that settled in Raleigh during this time were the Pine State Creamery, the Gulf Petroleum Products Warehouse, and the Raleigh Bonded Warehouse -- all located on the Norfolk-Southern Railroad line.

In 1927, the Pine State Creamery moved into its new dairy plant at 426 Glenwood Avenue. Although the company began in 1919 at a downtown location, the dairy had outgrown its capacity. The two-story, cream-colored brick, structure was constructed by James Davidson. Proximity to the Norfolk-Southern Railroad (NSRR) tracks provided the means to transport incoming raw and outgoing finished milk products. The processing plant has wide bays on the north elevation for the loading of trucks. The original structure has been incorporated into the larger site, suffered two fires, and had many openings bricked over. [\[32\]](#)

Locations of the oil and cotton warehouses also took advantage of the surface transportation networks. Two key examples stood north of the city limits near rail lines. The Raleigh Bonded Warehouse



Raleigh Bonded Warehouse



Gulf Refining Company

, at 1505 Capital Boulevard, was constructed in 1923 alongside the NSRR spur. The two and one-half story, brick and concrete structure has twelve storage bays, metal casement

windows, and over one million cubic feet of storage space. When first constructed, the cotton warehouse was promoted to serve the market of the State's eastern cotton growers and the Piedmont's textile manufacturers. With future hopes of building a cotton compress, the Chamber of Commerce calculated that 60,000-70,000 bales of cotton would arrive annually in Raleigh. But as the annual size of the cash crop slowly dwindled, the company diversified in the 1930s and provided services such as the moving and crating of merchandise. [33] Within three years, another warehouse had been located close to the Seaboard Railway, just north of the Raleigh Bonded Warehouse--the Gulf Refining Company 's bulk plant, ca. 1926, at 1930 Wake Forest Road. The company stored and distributed its petroleum products to area gasoline and oil service stations. Today, all that remains are two, convex-roofed brick structures: the warehouse near the railroad and the three-bay garage near the road.

One of the most dramatic manifestations of 1920s growth in Raleigh was residential development. Inside the new (1920) city boundaries, previously established suburbs were intensely built up, while vacant lands were targeted for a second wave of subdivisions. An example of the infill pattern is especially noticeable in Raleigh's south and east black-occupied neighborhoods. The old boundaries remained unchanged in this part of the city, yet many of the streets were paved and water and sewer lines were installed. These improvements combined with greater streetcar access encouraged substantial building in the suburbs of South Park, Battery Heights, and College Park. [34] Subdivisions illustrating the expansive type of residential development are situated along the streetcar routes in north and west Raleigh, on land that had been cotton fields, cow pastures, and the grounds of the North Carolina State Fair. These areas are: Hayes Barton, begun in 1920, Roanoke Park and Mordecai, both 1922, to the north and College Crest, 1922, Wilmont, 1924, and Fairmont, 1926, in the west.

Northern suburbs flourished around the Five Points intersection in this era. Bloomsbury and Georgetown which had been platted before and after World War I, were the earliest settled neighborhoods. In Bloomsbury, the first roads carved out of the land were given names that instilled a sylvan image such as Myrtle, Woodland, and White Oak Forest (shortened to White Oak) roads. The electric streetcar provided fast access for the commuters who moved here. Between 1920 and 1922, thirteen dwellings had been erected inside and beyond the city boundary on either

side of Glenwood Avenue, north of Five Points and past the older Glenwood neighborhood and the Methodist Orphanage. Five of them were located along the streetcar route. They are one- and one-half and two-story, frame and brick foursquares and gable-roofed bungalows. The owners and neighbors were upper management and businessmen. And yet, a five-or ten-minute walk away from Glenwood Avenue on the side streets of Alexander or Creston roads were found homeowners with occupations such as meat cutters and managers, foremen and clerks. The houses were brick and frame bungalows and Colonial Revival houses with a wide range of architectural massing and details. Due to this mixture of inhabitants and dwelling designs, Bloomsbury grew to become an economically diverse neighborhood.

The other early 1920s residential development, situated east of Bloomsbury and north of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad tracks, was Georgetown. The land, owned by James H. Pou, developer of Glenwood, was platted in the 1910s. City Directories reveal that railroad workers occupied this stretch of the road. Significant examples of workers' housing still remain on Sunrise Avenue. One of the most intact is at 1512 Sunrise Avenue



1512 Sunrise Avenue

, a single-story, frame, gable front shotgun house with 2/2 windows, a brick foundation wall and two interior brick chimneys. During the 1920s, the adjacent vacant lands gave way to modest frame bungalows which were inhabited by tradesmen and working people. Within walking distance, nearby employers were the Wake County Home, Raleigh Bonded Warehouse, Gulf Warehouse, Pilot Mill, the Norfolk-Southern Railroad, and the Seaboard Air Line Railroad.

By contrast, the grandest of the second wave of suburbs is Hayes Barton, Raleigh's first twentieth century upper-class neighborhood. Bordered by Glenwood Avenue, Fairview Road, Williamson Drive, and St. Mary's Street, Hayes Barton is an exclusive residential district where pecan and willow oak trees shade Georgian and Colonial Revival houses along streets that bear the names of former North Carolina governors such as Jarvis, Reid, Stone, and Vance. The earliest house here dates back to June, 1920, when the suburb developed by the Allen Brothers and the Fairview Realty Company began its transformation from the cotton fields of B. Grimes Cowper. Marketed specifically towards the high end of the economic scale, Hayes Barton was named for Sir Walter Raleigh's birthplace in Devon, England.

Hayes Barton is one of several upper and middle-income suburbs in North Carolina designed by Earle Sumner Draper, a distinguished landscape architect. His layout of Hayes Barton was similar in overall character to Myers Park in Charlotte; in 1911, John Nolen, a pioneering city planner, had created the Myers Park design which was a highly influential diagram for spatial and social organization throughout the south. There, Nolen formulated components for a successful suburban enclave such as curving streets, greenway parks, streetcar transportation, and a restricted number of entrances. [35] Hayes Barton appealed to the well-to-do with its promise of privacy, large wooded lots, and commuting distance to downtown Raleigh.

Soon after utility linkages and paved roads were installed, there was a rush to build on the 175 acres. The design of the 1920s housing stock followed traditional and popular tastes, mainly large Colonial Revival houses. The majority of dwellings are two stories tall, built of masonry, with gable roofs and handsome restrained classical details. A substantial proportion of the houses are custom designs by local architects such as Thomas W. Cooper, William H. Deitrick, Charles Atwood, Arthur C. Nash, and James A. Salter. The most prolific builders in Hayes Barton were James A. Davidson, C. V. York, Howard Satterfield, John W. Coffey, and Roland Danielson. In some cases these men built from architects' designs, but some, such as Satterfield, designed as well as built houses. Nearly half of all the dwellings in Hayes Barton were erected during the 1920s; they were inhabited by insurance agents and bankers, physicians and attorneys, salesmen and administrators, many of whom were employed in downtown Raleigh. Hayes Barton was and is an area of impeccably manicured landscapes, and pristinely maintained residences which still house some of the capital city's political and social leaders.

Another form of residential growth came with an increase in the number of apartment buildings during the 1920s. By 1925 there were eleven such structures strategically located near busy intersections and in outlying suburban areas. [36] The apartment houses varied in size, fenestration and height. Downtown were the Vance Apartments (razed in 1990), sited at the corner of East Edenton and Wilmington Streets and built in 1920, and the Bailey Apartments, also on East Edenton Street, built in 1923. Following the westward trend of residential development, the Irene and the Hart Apartments, were built ca. 1922 and 1924, respectively, at 7-9, 11-15 Glenwood Avenue (*ed: no longer exist*), and they took the form of brick rowhouses. In the late 1920s, the most westerly apartment building was the Wilmont Apartments at 3200 Hillsborough Street, a four-story, brick, U-shaped, flat-roofed structure that housed twenty-four one-and two-bedroom apartments. The Wilmont was the first of its type constructed west of the North Carolina State College campus and south of the newly created suburb, Wilmont, from which it derives its name. Some of the occupants were white collar workers and employed downtown who relied upon private automobiles and public transportation for conveyance to and from their jobs. Others were associated with nearby State College and Meredith College. [37]



Bailey Apartments



Wilmont Apartments

The Years Before World War II: 1930-1941

In January 1929 the nation seemed to be prosperous, but before the year ended economic disaster had begun with the stock market crash in October, which was followed by the Great Depression. In the decade between 1930 and 1941, the

building economy plummeted, then gradually improved from extremely low levels of construction to an upward swing at the decade's end. Nationally, between 1928 and 1933, the construction of residential property declined by 95 percent and expenditures on home repairs fell by 90 percent. In Raleigh, between 1930 and 1936, the worst years of the Depression, an average of 125 permits were issued at an average total value per year of \$457,000. In 1930, 182 houses were erected: in 1931, only 54 dwellings were built, and in 1932, only 34. Recovery came between 1937 through 1941, when an average of 241 permits per year were issued and the average annual value of the new construction was worth \$2.5 million. [38] As these numbers indicate, the Recovery era buildings represent a tremendous proliferation of construction, and this resulted in rapid filling-in of suburban neighborhoods and inner-city areas as well as continued outward expansion of the city's suburbs.



2700 block of Van Dyke Avenue

The dominant residential form of the Recovery Era are houses which reflected economical use of materials and labor, recently termed "minimal traditional" dwellings. These typical Recovery era houses are characterized by their reduced architectural detailing, smaller scale and mass, and the facade treatment of modestly projecting entry ways, gables and chimneys. These houses appear with regularity all over Raleigh, but are

especially concentrated in Wilmont and Forest Hills (two subdivisions in West Raleigh) and Anderson Heights, Budleigh, and the northern edge of Bloomsbury. An especially fine collection of minimal traditional dwellings is found along the north and south sides of the 2700 block of Van Dyke Avenue in Forest Hills. Constructed on small lots between 1939 and 1940, twenty frame structures on this block are mainly one-story, simplified Colonial Revival houses with 6/6 windows, interior and exterior brick chimneys. In 1941, occupants of the housing were mainly newly hired State College faculty, office workers, and tradespeople.

New apartment houses were also erected in this era. Six were built between 1934 and 1939, on or near Hillsborough Street. Owners of the large Boylan and Cameron estates sold off large parcels of land which became the sites of Boylan Apartments, Cameron Court Apartments, Grosvenor Gardens Apartments, and the Raleigh Apartments. Also, located on Hillsborough Street are the St. Mary's Apartments , 8 St. Mary's Street and the Fincastle Apartments , 3109 Hillsborough Street. The U-shaped building at 1101 Hillsborough Street, Grosvenor Gardens Apartments, was the third of three large complexes constructed within a three-block area along Hillsborough Street. The three-story, painted brick, gable roofed building represents the epitome of well-planned siting. The owner and developer, Sidney J. Wollman, originally from Westchester, New York, drew upon previous experience for the design. Wollman termed its style "Georgian Colonial" in a Raleigh Times article, and claimed it was the first time in Raleigh that the design had been employed on such a large scale. Local architect James M. Edwards, Jr. put the design on paper and G. Robert Derrick did the landscaping for the garden to complement the apartments.

[39]



St. Mary's Apartments



Fincastle Apartments



Grosvenor Gardens Apartments



Chavis Heights

As the Grosvenor Gardens Apartments were nearing completion, the city's first federally-funded public housing projects, Chavis Heights - for blacks - and Halifax Court Apartments (*ed: demolished 2001*)- for whites - were under construction. Designed by architect William H. Deitrick, these complexes share innovative features found in Clarence Stein and Henry Wright's celebrated Radburn, New Jersey, community of 1928-1929. The house rows were spaced to admit sunlight; and there were play areas for children and no through streets. Leland Roth wrote of the New Jersey prototype "though the housing itself had no radically innovative planning or stylistic treatment, it was well designed with a view to function and was solidly built". In addition, the Federal government-sponsored Halifax Court and Chavis Heights offered nursery school facilities, a community building for activities such as movies and dances, and proximity to transportation, shopping, employment and schools. [\[40\]](#)

Besides the public housing units, other federally-funded building projects of the Recovery Era are located in downtown Raleigh. The Education Building , 1938, at the corner of Edenton and Salisbury Streets and the Justice Building , 1940, at 10 East Morgan Street are the most elaborate Works Progress Administration-assisted structures. The largest cluster of Recovery era government buildings is located on Caswell Square, the former site of the North Carolina School for the Blind and Deaf. There are three utilitarian warehouses, the State Hygiene Laboratory, and the Caswell Office Building. The latter two buildings, constructed in 1939, demonstrate the juxtaposition of varying architectural styles. The Clarence A. Shore Laboratory of Hygiene



Education Building



Justice Building

Building is a three- and-one-half story, brick and stone-trimmed Georgian Revival building located at 214 West Jones Street. Next to it, at 200 West Jones Street, is the Caswell Office Building. Designed by local architect, Frank B. Simpson, the five-story, red brick, L-shaped building features restrained Art Deco motifs in its striated stone entry and the fluted stone capitals atop its four corner piers. [\[41\]](#)



Clarence A. Shore Laboratory of Hygiene



Caswell Office Building

There was also a resurgence in construction in the commercial sector. (The importance of Raleigh as a distributing center was verified when, in 1939, the heads of 131 out of 429 -- nearly one third -- newly relocated families were engaged in retail and wholesale distribution. Only 84 new household heads, or twenty percent, were employed in government agencies.) The established distribution and storage sites, the warehouse district and the West Jones Street area, slowly lost their monopoly to Hillsborough Street, in particular the area between N.C. State College and Meredith College. By locating both inside and beyond the old city limits, the manufacturing and service industries had begun in the 1930s to take advantage of congestion-free downtown areas and the absence of zoning and building restrictions. [\[42\]](#) The North Carolina Equipment Company at 3101 Hillsborough Street started the advance to the west around 1934 erecting a substantial brick building, whose distinctive caterpillar sign atop the roof has been a favorite west Raleigh landmark since after World War II. By 1942, there were also an electrical equipment company, a laundry, a warehouse, a bakery, and a bottling plant. The most stylish of these industrial buildings is the latter structure, The Raleigh Nehi Bottling Plant, at 3210 Hillsborough Street. Designed by architect William H. Deitrick, the two-story, flat roofed Art Moderne building has a black Bakelite entry way and a glazed white brick facade.



Nehi
Bottling
Plant

During this time, in West Raleigh, the water supply was hard pressed to meet the demands of increased suburban and industrial development. Fortunately, after the Depression, plans were prepared by the engineering firm, W. C. Olsen, Inc., for new facilities at the old Walnut Creek treatment plant site. The new facilities, named after Raleigh's first water works superintendent, Ernest Battle Bain, were completed in 1940 and had the capacity to treat eight million gallons of water a day. The large, red brick and cast stone detailed structure has Art Deco design elements such as a strong vertical emphasis, inset windows, and striated brickwork patterns. [\[43\]](#)



Ernest Battle Bain

By the beginning of World War II Americans had undergone a decade of hard times. In the first half of the 1930s the entire nation was in the grip of the Great Depression, as all aspects of life were radically affected in that employment and housing were scarce, and people went hungry. The mid and late 1930s, however, brought a period of recovery and economic rejuvenation as evidenced by industrial and office buildings and a growing supply of new housing. During these years the capital city had grown in size and population, reflected in city limit extensions in 1920, 1929, and 1941. The population had almost doubled from 24,418 people in 1920 to 46,897 citizens in 1940. The municipality had kept pace with the influx of people by improving capacities of the existing water, electrical, and road systems. By keeping abreast of business activities, the city fathers had succeeded in moulding Raleigh into a vital distribution hub as well as an educational and government center. Raleigh was well out of the depression when America entered World War II on December 7, 1941.

The Mid Twentieth Century: 1945 - 1970

During World War II, with shortages and rationing of food, labor and materials, construction again tapered off dramatically; for example in 1943, only 30 building permits were issued at a value of \$134,218, as compared to 81 permits issued in 1934, one of the worst years of the depression. Residents accommodated neighbors and newcomers by converting single-family dwellings into apartments. Families doubled up with relatives and friends and persevered with the shortages.

After the Japanese surrender brought the end of World War II in 1945, one of the most pressing problems of peacetime was to meet the housing shortage. The federal government responded by underwriting a sweeping residential construction

campaign. The creation of two mortgage programs, one for the Federal Housing Administration and the other for the Veterans Administration, stimulated an unprecedented building boom. The number of national residential construction starts, which amounted to only 114,000 in 1944, had reached an all-time high by 1950 of 1,692,000. In Raleigh, the number of building permits spurted from only 41 in 1944, to 544 in 1946, to 857 in 1948, and 989 in 1950. [44]

The building of homes in Raleigh in the immediate postwar years occurred in neighborhoods inside and beyond the city limits. Pockets of FRA and VA housing were constructed in Oakdale, Mordecai, Georgetown, Vanguard Park, Anderson Heights, Budleigh, Wilmont, and College View. The houses range in size, form, and materials. For example in Georgetown, lining the north and south sides of New and Georgetown roads, are single story, frame, gable-roofed, VA houses with flush gables and diminutive facades. The lots are deep and narrow, only 50 to 55 feet wide at the building line. The houses share the same floor plan: kitchen, living room, two bedrooms and bath off a center hallway. The Georgetown houses were affordable - only \$200 down with the rest, \$6,000, financed by a government loan. [45]

Farther from the railroad tracks in the sparsely populated neighborhoods of Anderson Heights, Budleigh, and Fallon Park, larger minimal traditional houses were rapidly constructed. These FHA dwellings differed from their VA counterparts in a crucial way: the FHA promoted the housing for the benefit of urban middle- income people. In order to achieve "neighborhood stability", the FHA succeeded in imposing construction and design controls. In effect, the character of a neighborhood depended primarily on the overt policies of racial segregation. [46] Consequently, in the south and east areas of Raleigh, the majority of housing was constructed with little, if any, assistance from private lenders or government loans.



3060 Granville Drive

In the years following World War II, an innovative and influential group of designers made their mark on Raleigh's architecture. During the 1950s, architects associated with North Carolina State College's newly established School of Design produced several important modern houses in the capital. These men included the dean of the School of Design, Henry L. Kamphoefner, as well as faculty members George

Matsumoto, Edward W. Waugh, James W. Fitzgibbon, Eduardo Catalano, and Harwell H. Harris.

Several of these architects were influenced by the patriarch of modern American architecture, Frank Lloyd Wright, while a few, including George Matsumoto, as well as non-faculty architects G. Milton Small and to a lesser degree, William H. Deitrick, were affected by the International Style, whose advocates were Europeans Walter Gropius and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. The hallmarks of Wright's Prairie style are elements such as large stucco or wood panels, harmonious blending of natural materials, and cantilevered roof or porch planes. These qualities are evident in the house at 3060 Granville Drive which Kamphoefner designed for himself, especially in the rear porch. Similar themes appear in Fitzgibbon's house design for George

Paschal. Built in 1950 and located at 3334 Alamance Drive , the dwelling is an exercise in the close relationship between the land and the structure. The very low unobtrusive roofline complements the hillside, and the naturalness of the landscape is reflected in the materials selected for the house.



3334 Alamance Drive

In contrast, the distinguishing features of the latter style are the ribbon windows and ground-floor piers. The International Style is based upon modern structural principles and materials. Concrete, glass and steel were the most commonly used materials. [47] The influence of Mies van der Rohe is particularly noticeable in the oeuvre of G. Milton Small where sharp geometry, restrained elegance, and good use and expression of materials are evident. The G. Milton Small and Associates Office, 1969, at 105 Brooks Avenue, remains unchanged in its appearance and is the epitome of Miesian architecture in Raleigh. Domestic architecture examples by Matsumoto, Catalano and Harwell enrich the palette of the School of Design era modern houses.



G. Milton Small and Associates Office



Cameron Village Shopping Center

Paralleling thriving residential development in the suburban ring during the 1950s and 1960s was an intense focus on commercial building. Commercial architecture was characterized by a confident and enthusiastic desire to get on with the business of progress. Consequently, architecture became an increasingly important form of public relations. [48] In postwar Raleigh, the largest embodiment of changing civic and social life while selling merchandise was the development of the region's first planned shopping center. In 1947, the last remaining 158 acres of the former Duncan Cameron estate were made available to C. V. York. Thus, the Cameron Village Shopping Center was created to serve the existing community. Chief architect Leif Valand designed the initial clusters of brick, flat roofed buildings on the north and south sides of Cameron Street, bordered by Daniels Street and Woodburn Road. [49] His work was patterned after the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri,

which was developed by J. C. Nichols in 1928. The layout of the shopping center was focused on six square blocks connected by intersecting streets.

In Raleigh's central business district, newly constructed buildings were easily recognizable because they stood apart from the visual order of their surroundings. [50] Three examples of modern urban structures have their roots in the International Style: the Wake County Social Services Building, 1950, 201 West Davie Street (*ed: demolished 1998*), designed by William H. Deitrick; the First Federal Building, 1961, 300 South Salisbury Street, designed by St. Louis architect Howard T. Musick; and the Char-Grill, 1960, at 618 Hillsborough Street, designer unknown. The buildings draw attention with such features as ribbon windows, multicolored glass panels or concave roof shapes. These particular examples are also remarkably intact making them some of the most pristine instances of commercial architecture in the popularized International Style in the capital city.



First Federal Building



Char-Grill



Night scene

The influences on Raleigh's modern architecture came from outside sources just as in previous decades when the Victorian style was in vogue. The style makers who came to North Carolina's capital brought with them the knowledge of the latest trends in the major cities such as Atlanta or Washington, D.C. But, Raleigh's public officials and private sector businessmen wavered between being architectural leaders of fashion or remaining followers. They desired the image of the fancy buildings from the large metropolises although toned down and with a little less polish. So, with little exception, the architects and designers, engineers and builders of Raleigh were adept followers, rather than leaders of fashion; they adhered to traditional and popular tastes of the period. In general, building designs were selected for their broad appeal and unique association, two good reasons for maintaining statewide respect as the capital city of North Carolina.

END NOTES

1. Linda Harris, [An Architectural and Historical Inventory of Raleigh](#), North Carolina (Raleigh: Raleigh City Planning Department, 1978), p.16.
2. Raleigh's first water filter was prepared by the New York Filter Company and was far in advance of the times for a small southern city. it was an horizontal filter which was eight feet in diameter and twenty feet long. The filtering house protected three iron filters. See also State of North Carolina, [Wake County Water Use Study](#) June

- 1970, n.p. and Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Insurance Map of Raleigh, 1896.
3. City of Raleigh Planning Department, "The Potential for Light Rail Transportation in Raleigh, North Carolina," p.4.
 4. *Ibid*, p.4.
 5. Charlotte Abbate, Pilot Mill National Register of Historic Places nomination, 1989, Section 8, p.3, and Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Insurance Map of Raleigh, 1896.
 6. City of Raleigh Planning Department "Annexation Information," 1989, p.1, and Linda L. Tutor, 1604 Thompson Street, interview by author, July 2, 1991.
 7. The North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts was essentially a late comer to the educational facilities previously established in Raleigh. It joined St. Mary's College (1842), N.C. School for the Blind and Deaf (1848), Peace College (1858), St. Augustine (1867), and Shaw University (1875).
 8. Harris, p.88.
 9. Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Insurance Map of Raleigh, 1903.
 10. Harris, p. 138.
 11. Richard Mattson, "The Evolution of Raleigh's African-American Neighborhoods in the 19th and 20th Centuries," November 1988, p.18.
 12. Harris, p.28.
 13. Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Survey of Raleigh, North Carolina, (Raleigh: Chamber of Commerce, 1962), p. 33.
 14. City of Raleigh Planning Department, Planimetric Map Number 5521 1987.
 15. City of Raleigh Planning Department, "The Potential for Light Rail Transportation in Raleigh, North Carolina," p.5.
 16. Jack Riley, Carolina Power and Light Company: A Corporate Biography, 1908-1958, (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Co., 1958), p.24.
 17. Harris, p.59.
 18. Leland M. Roth, *A Concise History of American Architecture*, (New York: Harper and Row, 1979), p.173.
 19. Harris, p.30.
 20. Raleigh Times, February 28, 1925.

21 *Ibid.*

22. Raleigh Historic Property Designation Application and Report, Capital Apartments, 1989, Sections D and E.

23 *Ibid.*

24. The Raleigh city limits were extended on March 8, 1907. The city encompassed four square miles which means there was an additional 1,452 acres to clear and occupy.

25. Hill Directory Company, City of Raleigh Directory, (Raleigh: Hill Directory Company, 1910, 1915, 1920, and North Carolina State University Archives, faculty files).

26. Charlotte V. Brown, "Three Raleigh Suburbs: Glenwood, Boylan Heights, Cameron Park," in Catherine W. Bishir, and Lawrence S. Earley, eds. Early Twentieth Century Suburbs in North Carolina, (Raleigh: Archives and History, 1985), p.36.

27. Mattson, pp. 24, 25, and 27.

28. Riley, p.25, and Steven Solpen, Raleigh A Pictorial History, (Norfolk, Virginia: Donning Company), 1977, p. 129.

29. In 1920, the city limits were extended to include areas such as Mordecai, Georgetown, Five Points, Oberlin, the N.C. State Fairgrounds, and the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. However, there was a difference between this expansion and previous ones. The boundaries did not advance in a symmetrical fashion as in previous annexations, but instead incorporated development as it had occurred, primarily in the north, northwest and west sections. Raleigh's twentieth century suburbs, Glenwood, Boylan Heights, and Cameron Park were absorbed into the city. Vacant adjacent lands were almost immediately targeted to be part of a second wave of suburbs farther away from the central business district. See also Raleigh Times, February 28, 1925, and News and Observer, August 27, 1939.

30. Jim Sumner, Sir Walter Hotel National Register of Historic Places nomination, 1978, Section 8, p.l.

31. Raleigh Times, February 28, 1925

32. Ben Kilgore, President of Pine State Creamery, interview by author, December, 1989.

33. Raleigh Times, October 28, 1920.

34. Mattson, p. 25.

35. Thomas W. Hanchett, "Xarle Sumner Draper: City Planner of the New South, in Catherine W. Bishir, and Lawrence S. Earley, eds. Early Twentieth Century Suburbs in North Carolina, (Raleigh: Archives and History, 1985), p.79.

36. Raleigh Times, February 28, 1925.
37. Elizabeth C. Waugh, "North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh, (Raleigh: Junior League of Raleigh, 1967), p.157.
38. Kenneth Jackson, The Crabgrass Frontier, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985), p.187; Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Survey of Raleigh, North Carolina, (Raleigh: Chamber of Commerce, 1962), p.33; and Hugh T. Lefler, The History of a Southern State, North Carolina, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954), p. 606.
39. Russ Wollman, grandson of Sidney Wollman, interview by author, November, 1989, and Raleigh Times, December 16, 1939.
40. Roth, pp. 266-267.
41. Writer's Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of North Carolina, Raleigh: Capital of North Carolina, (Raleigh: Sesquicentennial Commission, 1942), pp. 107-108 and Harris, pp. 51-52.
42. News and Observer, January 12, 1940, and February-13, 1941.
43. State of North Carolina, "Wake County Water Use Study," June, 1970, n.p. and News and Observer, February 13, 1941.
44. Industrial Survey . . . , p.33, and Jackson, pp.232-233.
45. Raleigh Times, September 17, 1979.
46. Gwendolyn Wright, A Social History of Housing in America, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1981), p. 247.
47. John C. Poppeliers, What Style is it?, (Washington, D.C. The Preservation Press, 1983), pp. 80, 92.
48. Roth, pp. 275, 277, and 314.
49. Waugh, p. 183.
50. Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, (Washington, D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1987), p. 129.

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