

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**DATA SHEET**

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED DEC 8 1976  
DATE ENTERED OCT 18 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Elizabeth City Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

*irreg pattern along Main St*  
(see boundary description)

CITY, TOWN

Elizabeth City

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

North Carolina

CODE

37

COUNTY

Pasquotank

CODE

139

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME John H. Bell, Jr., Mayor

STREET & NUMBER

Box 347

CITY, TOWN

Elizabeth City

VICINITY OF

North Carolina 27909

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Pasquotank County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Elizabeth City

North Carolina 27909

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The Elizabeth City Historic District, an approximately thirty-block area containing 50% residential fabric, and 50% commercial fabric, is bounded on the east by the Pasquotank River and on the west by post-1920 suburbs. The spine of the district is Main Street, extending through the central business district and through the neat Victorian suburbs along the Main Street extension. The most distinctive feature of the large district is a remarkable collection of commercial buildings spanning the nineteenth century, including seven antebellum commercial buildings in the Greek, Gothic, and Italianate Revival styles, and a number of well-preserved late Victorian commercial buildings. The historic county government buildings are among the most prominent landmarks in the district. Nine known antebellum houses are scattered throughout the district, and the later houses are concentrated in close groupings along W. Main Street.

### ANTEBELLUM BUILDINGS: DOMESTIC

The oldest known building in the historic district is the Grice-Fearing House, 200 S. Road Street, built between 1789 and 1808. The two-story frame gabled house with exterior end chimneys, now a composite of several periods, was built as a single pile dwelling in the Georgian style for Francis Grice, an important early settler. The side-hall plan of the main block indicates the antiquity of this arrangement in Elizabeth City. In 1840 a rear addition in the Greek Revival style doubled the house in size--for merchant Isaiah Fearing. The gable end windows, each with a six-over-six sash flanked by narrow two-over-two sash, have fluted surrounds with corner blocks and date from the remodeling. The double front porch, with full-height Doric posts, also dates from this era. The south wing, Federal in style, was built in the early nineteenth century, perhaps as an outbuilding, and joined to the house at a later date. The late nineteenth century north wing has ornate sawnwork details in the Queen Anne style. The only original feature visible on the interior is the fine closed-string stair of Georgian design, with diagonally set balusters, and a heavy molded handrail and newel cap. The stair rises in the front corner of the side hall from back to front. The south wing has a diminutive Federal style mantel, and several others are Greek Revival in style.

The district contains only two known Federal style buildings: the Goodman-Matthews-Pool House and the cottage at the rear of the Griggs-Toxey House. Both have undergone considerable alteration. The Goodman-Matthews-Pool House, 204 E. Colonial Ave., ca. 1808, originally sat on Main Street between Pool and Martin Streets and was moved to its present site ca. 1903 when the Federal Building was erected. The original house, a two-story frame structure one room deep, with a center hall and a one-story rear wing, retains beaded weatherboarding with flush sheathing on the main (south) facade, two-part molded surrounds, a double door entrance with transom with delicate semi-circular muntin pattern, and interior end brick chimneys with exposed faces (a late eighteenth and early nineteenth century coastal feature common in North Carolina). The interior retains nearly all of the original mantels, including two of ornate Federal tripartite design with lozenge, sunburst, reeding, dentil, and corbel course details; the secondary mantels are of transitional Georgian-Federal design with dentil and gougework details.

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About 1849 the owner of the house, Joseph H. Pool, was involved in a construction project--probably the Greek Revival style remodelling evident on the interior.<sup>4</sup> The present Doric portico was constructed after the house was moved, although the house had a portico in the nineteenth century.<sup>5</sup> The present porch follows the form of Greek Revival porches in the district, and is perhaps a copy of the earlier one.

One of the most interesting features of the Goodman-Matthews-Pool House is the Georgian reproduction woodwork, including an overmantel, cornices, and round-arched door, added in the 1930s. Copied in part from the nearby Old Brick House, ca.1760, the oldest house in the area, the fine work is believed to be by Charlie Griggs, a talented Elizabeth City cabinetmaker who worked between 1900 and 1930.

The frame cottage at the rear of the Griggs-Toxey House, 404 E. Church Street, apparently constructed between ca. 1800 and 1830, has beaded weatherboarding, nine-over-six sash with two-part molded surrounds, and molded box cornices of typical Federal design. The chimney has been removed. The interior is said to have been completely remodelled. The original function of the structure is unknown.

Increased traffic on the improved Dismal Swamp Canal resulted in a building boom in Elizabeth City after 1828. Eight Greek Revival style houses built between ca. 1834 and 1863 still stand within the historic district: the Dr. William Martin House, Pool-Kennedy-Lumsden House, Hinton-Pailin House, Shannon-Hollowell House, Bland-Overman House, Richardson-Burfoot House, Overman-Sheep House, and the Charles-Harney House. All but the Charles-Harney House are two-story frame houses, five with side-hall plans, three with center-hall plans.

The earliest is apparently the Dr. William Martin House, 405 E. Church Street, built ca. 1834 for the prominent early physician.<sup>6</sup> It has interior end chimneys, pedimented gable ends with large lunettes, and fine symmetrically molded surrounds with paneled corner blocks. A mid-twentieth century portico replaces a porch described in the late nineteenth century as having "six tall columns."<sup>7</sup> Conversion to a mortuary in the 1940s produced rear and east additions, but the original main block is basically intact. The interior, a center hall plan, contains fine woodwork with delicate Federal scale and Greek Revival character, including a graceful stair with a slender turned newel with a distinctive acorn cap, ramped railing, and open, bracketed string--a type used frequently in the city in this era. The first floor surrounds consist of convex molded frames and similarly-treated corner blocks; on the second floor are the simpler strip-paneled type with faceted corner blocks, typical of the Greek Revival style in the district.

The Pool-Kennedy-Lumsden House, 204 S. Road Street, was built ca. 1840 as a town house for the Pool family, who lived on a nearby plantation. The side-hall-plan house, one of the most handsome and best preserved historic buildings in the district, has

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interior end chimneys, pedimented gable ends, and corner block surrounds. The main entrance is surmounted by a multi-paned transom and entablature with corner blocks and a center tablet, and sheltered by an apparently original pedimented Doric entrance porch. The rear two-story porch originally served as a breezeway between the detached kitchen wing and main block, and is now partially enclosed. Interior surrounds repeat the simpler type of the second floor of the Dr. Martin House, and the elegant stair is also similar, including the acorn-capped newel. (An 1849 newspaper account referring to construction at this house, probably concerned the north side wing, nearly identical in finish to the main block.)

The Hinton-Pailin House, <sup>10</sup>202 W. Main Street, built between 1855 and 1857 for, and perhaps by, James W. Hinton, <sup>11</sup> is a side-hall plan house which follows the formula of the Pool-Kennedy-Lumsden House, although it is slightly less elaborate. Other deviations are the single interior end chimney with corner fireplaces and the front entrance with an elliptical fanlight and sidelights with curvilinear leaded muntin patterns. The stair has a particularly graceful ramped hand rail which terminates in a spiral at the newel with the distinctive acorn cap. An early twentieth century remodelling resulted in the present Colonial Revival one-story wrap-around porch and replacement mantels throughout the house.

The Shannon-Hollowell House, 112 E. Main Street, believed to have been built ca. 1850 for Will Shannon, local merchant, <sup>11</sup> is a simply finished member of the side-hall plan group, with exterior chimneys and a simple transomed entrance. The cross-gable of the center main facade and one-story bracketed porch are late nineteenth century additions, and replaced a classical portico with balcony similar to other Greek Revival porticos in the district. The unusually well-preserved interior trim consists of woodwork identical to that of the rest of the group, and each room of the original main block retains its original mantel, a pilastered Greek Revival design.

The Bland-Overman House, 501 W. Main Street, although altered since its construction ca. 1850, <sup>12</sup> including replacement of the original chimney and addition of side and rear wings, retains the basic features of the side-hall-plan group. The modest structure has a single door with transom, and a Doric pedimented stoop of uncertain age. The interior has simple strip-edged surrounds, replacement mantels, and a lovely acorn-newel stair.

The Richardson-Pool House, 301 Culpepper Street, and the Overman-Sheep House, 401 W. Main Street, built ca. 1860, are two of the most beautiful of the Greek Revival group. The first house was built by Daniel Richardson, a wealthy merchant, and bought at his death in 1868 by George D. Pool, a farmer and philanthropist. <sup>13</sup> The second house was built by Reuben F. Overman, a banker, and purchased by Samuel L. Sheep, prominent educator, in 1891. <sup>14</sup> The center hall plan houses, set on high foundations, have entrances with corner blocks and paneled center tablets, and full Doric porticos. Both have interior end chimneys. The Richardson-Pool House, a double pile structure, has heavier porch posts, a porch balcony, and a deep deck-on-hip roof. The Overman-Sheep House, a single pile structure, has a gable roof with a late Victorian cross-gable

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addition, and lacks the porch balcony. The east wing with a Doric entrance stoop appears to be original. Neither interior was available for inspection.

The Charles-Harney House, 400 W. Main Street, last of the side-hall group, has transitional Greek Revival-Italianate interior design features. The gabled structure, the only antebellum brick house in the district, is laid in one-to-five common bond. The exterior treatment is simple, with pedimented gable ends, trabeated main entrance, and large beaded window and door surrounds. The unaltered interior finish consists of crosstetted surrounds with pointed arch lintels, and simple mantels with pointed arch friezes. The stair with curtail has a newel with acorn-shaped cap, and is within the local Greek Revival idiom. The house is believed to have been built by George W. Charles, a local<sup>15</sup> contractor who, according to local tradition, also constructed the Bland-Overman House.

Another distinctive group of houses in the district--the Tillitt-Nixon House, the Bell House, and the house at 512 W. Main Street--was probably constructed in the early 1860s. These two-story frame houses with low hip roofs and side-hall plans are quite urban in appearance and do not conform to a recognizable architectural style. Construction of this house type was probably interrupted by the economic inertia brought on by the Civil War and Reconstruction. The Tillitt-Nixon House, 400 W. Church Street, perhaps<sup>16</sup> the earliest of the group, is said to have been built by Isaac Tillitt, a schoolmaster, and is the finest of the three. It has a lovely entrance transom with an oval leaded muntin pattern, molded wooden lintels above the openings, and a rear two-story porch which appears to be original. The house had a front porch in the late nineteenth century, probably also original, now removed. The wooden quoins on the main facade are a twentieth century addition. On the interior, the stair is typically Victorian in design, with a heavy turned newel and turned balusters, and part of a marblized slate Eastlake style mantel, probably original, remains in the rear first floor room. The Bell House, 315 W. Colonial Ave., also has molded wooden<sup>17</sup> lintels, but has a simple main entrance. 512 W. Main is the most modest of the group. Neither the Bell House nor 512 W. Main Street were available for interior inspection.

**ANTEBELLUM BUILDINGS: COMMERCIAL**

All of the seven antebellum commercial buildings known to exist in the historic district are located on South Road Street and in the first block of Main east of Road Street. Road Street was the principal north-south thoroughfare through Elizabeth City, leading north to Norfolk and south to Edenton, until the U. S. 17 Bypass was constructed. Three of the group--Cluff-Pool Store, Farmer's Bank, and the North Carolina Building--have replacement storefronts, and are of predominantly historical interest. The Cobb Building, Wood Building, 104 South Road Street, and Pool-Kennedy-Lumsden Store retain much of their original architectural character. The oldest surviving commercial building is the Cluff-Pool Store, 100 S. Road Street, at the Main Street intersection. Matthew Cluff's general

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store was located on this site by 1827, although perhaps not in this building.<sup>18</sup> The present building had been constructed by 1845, when it was known as the "Brick Store House".<sup>19</sup> The two-story brick structure, four bays square, has a flat roof, and no visible early nineteenth century fabric. The stuccoed walls, scored to simulate masonry block, and the tall, paired round-arched sash windows with stuccoed caps on the second story are probably the remains of an Italianate facelifting, ca. 1860, of the older store. The wooden bracketed balcony along the rear (east) side is probably a late nineteenth century addition. The molded pressed-tin cornice on the north eave and the plate glass storefronts with diagonal corner entrance and geometricized wooden Colonial Revival cornice treatment are early twentieth century additions. The store remains in commercial usage, and the interior is of twentieth century finish.

Only the pointed-arched windows with delicate wooden tracery, molded window surrounds, and coursed stucco walls of the side elevations indicate the imaginative Gothic Revival design of the 1855 Farmer's Bank (now Hill's Confectionary) 108 E. Main Street. A documentary photograph shows the original design: a trefoiled pointed arch pediment flanked by finials, and front openings like those of the side elevations. The building was constructed by local builder William W. Griffin,<sup>20</sup> and according to an 1855 description, the exterior "under the cunning hand of Benjamin Richardson, exhibits an admirable counterfeit presentment of beautiful marble".<sup>21</sup> In the early twentieth century, the pediment of the one-story storefront was cut down to a simple triangular shape, and a plate glass storefront replaced the original Gothic openings. The interior has also been completely renovated.

A documentary photograph shows that the North Carolina Building, 106 E. Main Street, constructed as an office building in 1859,<sup>22</sup> was originally a Greek Revival style structure, with wide door and window surrounds and a gable end pediment. About 1880, the main facade was rebuilt in the Italianate Revival style probably for Dr. Palemon John, who published his newspaper "The North Carolinian" in the building, during this period.<sup>23</sup> The molded window caps, bracketed eave and storefront cornices and display windows with large transoms date from this change.

The Cobb Building, 111 S. Road Street, is the most significant and best-preserved antebellum commercial building in the district. The property was acquired by the Cobb family,<sup>24</sup> in 1798, and the building was constructed before the death of T. R. Cobb, Jr., in 1862. The utilitarian design is typical of brick antebellum commercial buildings of the 1840s and 1850s. The L-shaped brick building, laid in one-to-five common bond, is perhaps unique in North Carolina in its combination of business quarters in the front section of the "L", abutting the street, and residential quarters in the rear section, separated from the street by a small front yard enclosed by a cast-iron fence. The low gable roof is concealed by stepped end parapets, through which the chimney stacks rise, and the flanks have brick corbel cornices. Except for the twentieth century front entrance and flanking large display windows, the six-over-six sash windows with ovolo-molded

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surrounds and louvered shutters of the remainder of the building appear original. The front entrance of the residential wing is a double paneled and glazed door with sidelights. The interior was not available for inspection. Cobb was in the leather and shoe business in the 1820s,<sup>25</sup> and the building may have been constructed to house his business.

Opposite the Cobb Building, at 104 and 106-110 S. Road Street are two brick commercial buildings constructed ca. 1858.<sup>26</sup> 104, a two-story brick store laid in one-to-five bond, with six-over-six sash windows with ovolo-molded frames, is slightly older than 106-110. It housed a gunshop for most of the second half of the nineteenth century.<sup>27</sup> The structure at 106-110, believed to have been built for Sheriff John Wood,<sup>28</sup> is a three-story brick building also laid in one-to-five common bond, with a stepped front parapet and four-over-four sash windows. Both stores have late Victorian replacement street-level storefronts.

Probably typical of many small offices and stores located in the yards of residences in the historic district is the Kennedy-Pool-Lumsden Store, on the south front corner of the residence's front yard. The store, at 206 S. Road Street, is the earliest building of this type in the district. It was probably built between ca. 1840 when the house was constructed and 1864, when it is mentioned as "the brick store occupied by C. C. Greene".<sup>29</sup> The one-story brick building, of common bond with a main facade of pressed brick veneer, has a steep gable roof with bracketed eaves and windows of nine-over-nine sash with some sandstone and some marble sills. Its late Victorian character dates from a heavy reworking after 1891--it was lowered from two-and-one-half stories, the front removed, and a new roof and gable-end windows added.<sup>30</sup>

**ANTEBELLUM BUILDINGS: RELIGIOUS, FRATERNAL AND INSTITUTIONAL**

Only three buildings within the district fall within this category: the building at 100 E. Fearing Street, the former First Methodist Church, and Christ Episcopal Church.

The two-story frame building at 100 E. Fearing, now used for storage by the Blades family whose house is adjacent on the east side, may be the first lodge built for Eastern Lodge No. 89 of the Masonic Order, chartered in 1825 in Elizabeth City.<sup>31</sup> Both architectural and historical evidence supports this theory, although conclusive documentation has not yet been found. The following physical features indicate a construction date between ca. 1825 and 1850: pedimented gable ends, with molded box cornices and a large lunette in the north pediment, strip-paneled surrounds with plain corner blocks around several windows, exposed beaded ceiling joists on the first floor, and a barrel-arched plaster ceiling extending the length of the second floor, which is one large room. A similar treatment is found on the second floor on the Royal White Hart Lodge, which is the meeting room of the ca. 1820 Masonic Lodge in Halifax, North Carolina. The Fearing Street building is said to have originally been located on the northeast corner of Road and Fearing streets, where it served as a Negro fraternal lodge in the late nineteenth

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century. Existing documentation proves that the Eastern Lodge had a "temple" by 1826, <sup>32</sup> used also by the Episcopal congregation until their first church building was completed, and in 1882 the Masonic temple was located on Road Street. <sup>33</sup> If the structure was indeed built ca. 1826 for the Eastern Lodge, it is among the oldest Masonic buildings in North Carolina.

Two of the three earliest church congregations in Elizabeth City have antebellum buildings. The present Christ Episcopal Church, the second building of the congregation, located at the northeast corner of Church and McMorrine streets, was completed in 1857, <sup>34</sup> and is the most distinguished church building in the city. The handsome brick Early English Gothic Revival style building was designed by J. Crawford Neilson, noted Baltimore architect during the <sup>35</sup> second half of the nineteenth century. A Mr. Coates of Petersburg was the contractor. Its most striking feature is a three-stage corner stair tower with chamfered third stage, lancet windows and a crenellated wooden parapet. The gabled main facade and front tower elevations have arcaded corbel courses, and the structure is trimmed in stone, wood and metal. The well-preserved original interior consists of a small vestibule and large sanctuary with an open-timbered ceiling with hammerbeam trusses. A narrow balcony with a sawnwork railing at the rear of the sanctuary contains the organ pipes. There are no galleries. <sup>36</sup> The Tudor Revival style parish house north of the church is a 1925 addition.

The former First Methodist Church building, 305 E. Church Street, was completed in the same year as the Episcopal Church, is also the second building of its congregation. <sup>37</sup> The handsome, brick Greek Revival style building, with a distyle-in-antis porch, Doric pilastered elevations, and a bracketed bell tower, served the congregation until 1921 when the <sup>38</sup> present large church was erected at the northwest corner of Road and Church streets. Soon after, the 1857 church was gutted and converted to an architecturally undistinguished three-story apartment house, with three-story porches surrounding the entire building.

**POSTBELLUM BUILDINGS: DOMESTIC**

The earliest extant group of postbellum houses in the historic district dates from the 1880s. Reconstruction evidently dampened housing construction in Elizabeth City, but the coming in 1881 of the Norfolk and Elizabeth City Railroad, the town's first rail link, stimulated the economy. The majority of the postbellum housing in the historic district is located along West Main Street, one of a number of spokes along which large houses were built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. West Main Street was subdivided into lots much narrower than the residential lots within the original town limits, which extended west of Dyer Street, and many of the houses are set with the narrow gable ends facing the street. <sup>39</sup> By 1914 only a few of these lots from Dyer Street west to Holly Street remained empty.



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The earliest houses of this era were built in a bracketed Victorian style more closely related to the Italianate Revival style of the 1870s and 1880s than to the late Victorian Queen Anne style. Houses at 401, 209, and 108 East Fearing Street, built between ca. 1885 and 1896,<sup>40</sup> are good representatives of this style in the district. The plain surfaces of these two-story rectangular frame houses are articulated by a profusion of delicate sawnwork ornament, including fleur-de-lis cornices and drip courses, bracketed eaves, molded caps over windows and doors, and porches with turned railings extending the length of the flanks.

Between 1891 and 1914 the three blocks of West Main west of the original town limit of Dyer Street were filled with examples of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival style houses. These differed from the slightly earlier group in that articulation was achieved more by the shape of the house itself than by applied decoration. The picturesque rhythm of sawnwork porches, corner turrets, classical porticos, high gabled roofs and ornate chimney caps is interrupted only by the scattered older houses of simpler design and different scale than the dominant late Victorian fabric. All of the houses have porches, narrow front yards, and buffers of large bushes and trees. The most notable of this group are numbers 310, 312, 503, and 805 West Main Street.

The grandest example of the Queen Anne style in the district is number 312, built ca. 1902. The two-story frame house has a three-stage turretted tower, steep cross-gables with splayed eaves, shingled surfaces, palladian windows, and a wrap-around porch. The narrow beaded weatherboarding is a distinctive local characteristic of the group.

Number 310, built ca. 1914, is one of the two finest examples of the Colonial Revival-NeoClassical Revival style in the district. The severe, two-story frame rectangular main block of the house is softened by rich classical trim: pilastered and pedimented window and door frames, dentil cornices, small second story window balconies, and dormer windows. The massive pedimented Ionic portico forms an interesting contrast to the Greek Revival portico of the Overman-Sheep House across the street.

A less imposing but more harmoniously proportioned example of the Colonial Revival style is the Dr. Pendleton House, 503 W. Main Street. The two-story frame house is said to be a nineteenth century structure remodelled between 1902 and 1923. A deep deck-on-hip slate roof with pedimented dormers and a one-story Corinthian porch which extends around the east side as a porte-cochere distinguish the house. The main entrance bay of the porch is pedimented, with plaster floral ornament, and the trabeated main entrance has a heavy modillion cornice and sunburst ornament.

The J. W. Dent House, 805 W. Main Street, a two-story frame Colonial Revival style house, was built ca. 1915. Its classical detail is less rich than the above mentioned houses, but the structure has a unique concave mansard roof, covered with slate.

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The finest example of the Colonial Revival style, and perhaps the only house in the district which has the monumentality of the Neo-Classical Revival style, is the Charles O. Robinson House, 201 E. Main Street. The large two-story frame house was built ca. 1913 as a gift from William B. Blades of New Bern to his daughter Ivy on her marriage to Robinson, son of the founder of the Elizabeth City Cotton Mill.<sup>41</sup> Resting on a high foundation, the house is dominated by a two-story Corinthian portico with paired fluted columns. A one-story porch with a bowed entrance bay fits beneath the portico and wraps around the east and west sides of the house. The trabeated entrance is enriched with Corinthian pilasters and a modillion cornice. Many pedimented cross-gables and dormers enliven the hip roof. The house may have been designed by Herbert W. Simpson, a New Bern architect who worked in the first quarter of the twentieth century in New Bern. Simpson, a master of the New-Classical Revival style, designed several similar houses for the Blades family in nearby New Bern.<sup>42</sup> D. S. Kramer, prominent local builder, was the contractor.<sup>43</sup> (A watercolor sketch recently found by Janet Seapker in Simpson's papers strongly resembles the Robinson house, strengthening the Simpson attribution.)

The district contains only two post-1931 houses: 305 and 308 W. Main Street. Number 305 was built ca. 1950 in the Neo-Colonial, or Georgian Revival style, Number 308 was remodeled in this style about the same time, and both are compatible with the Victorian fabric in both scale and setback.

POSTBELLUM BUILDINGS: COMMERCIAL

The most significant postbellum commercial buildings within the district are these: Dr. Butt's Drug Store, the McMullen Building, 204-208 N. Poindexter, the Lowrey Building, former Citizens Bank, Robinson Building, Kramer Building, W. O. Saunders' Office, Weatherly Candy Factory, Selig Building and the Virginia Dare Hotel and Arcade. Constructed from ca. 1869 to 1931, these buildings have more varied architectural embellishments than the antebellum commercial buildings and are in an excellent state of preservation.

One of the most unusual commercial buildings in the district is Dr. Butt's Drug Store, 201 S. Road Street, a two-story brick building constructed between 1869 when Dr. Butt purchased the lot and 1884, when he sold it. It was described in 1885 as "Butts' old and well known stand"; therefore it was probably built soon after 1869.<sup>44</sup> The rectangular building, two bays wide and five bays deep, is laid in one-to-five common bond, and set with the gable end facing the street. The second floor was the Butt's residence.<sup>45</sup> The main facade has a side, double door entrance, a bay window with paneled dado and rich moldings on the first story and an oriel window resting on the bracketed wooden cornice between the first and second stories. The space flanking the bay window must originally have been window display area, but is now covered with flush vertical sheathing. The window sash have molded wooden caps, and wide boxed and bracketed eaves enclose the roof. Especially notable is the wooden balcony which extends the length of the south side. The intricate patterns of the brackets and basketweave railings, somewhat Eastlake in style, compose the most ornate sawnwork in the historic district. The

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cast-iron floral brackets which support the balcony are apparently original, but the metal posts appear to be mid-twentieth century reinforcements. The two-story brick rear wing is a ca. 1885 addition. The interior has been almost completely gutted.

The McMullen Building, 117 N. Water Street, is the only metal-front commercial building remaining in Elizabeth City, and one of the few left in the state. The first two stories of the building, three bays wide and seven bays deep, were built ca. 1887, with the third story, the five-bay rear addition, and the Italianate Revival style metal front added before 1908.<sup>46</sup> The street level storefront has a recessed entrance and large display windows with paneled wooden dados, cast-iron pilasters with the "Mesker Bros." trademark and lintel; the upper facade has pressed tin paired Corinthian colonnettes and ornate entablatures. The unusually well-preserved interior contains the original Eastlake style wooden display shelves and a wooden bracketed ceiling cornice.

Around the turn of the century, the retail business center began to shift from the docks and Road Street to Main Street. A large number of the commercial buildings constructed during this period still stand, although most of the street-level storefronts have been modernized. Less ornate than the McMullen Building, the two-story brick, twelve bay wide building at 204-208 N. Poindexter Street, built ca. 1896,<sup>47</sup> is typical of the oldest stores in the present commercial center. The modest Italianate Revival style structure is now one large store, although it contains three entrances and may originally have been partitioned into three stores. The street-level storefronts have been altered, but the handsome, well-preserved upper facade is covered with pressed brick veneer, and has bracketed window caps and a pressed tin bracket cornice with decorative metal end blocks.

One of the most prominent commercial landmarks in the district is the Lowrey Building, now Chesson's Department Store, 514-516 E. Main Street, built ca. 1897. The large brick commercial block, three stories high and twelve bays wide, originally contained Mitchell's Bee Hive, a retail emporium, on the first floor, and offices, a dance studio and the "Academy of Music" on the upper floors.<sup>48</sup> The street-level storefront has been altered, but the well-preserved upper main facade, of Italianate design, contains round-arched window panels extending through the second and third stories and a bracket cornice with center and corner parapets. The third floor "Academy of Music" is among the few well-preserved vaudeville theatres remaining in North Carolina. Although the stage floor is gone, the segmental-arched wood and plaster proscenium is still in place, with flanking fluted Doric colonnettes, spandrels and entablature decorated with Adamesque style motifs in brightly painted and gilded plaster, and a plaster bust of a Greek male head in three-quarter relief in the center of the entablature. The theatre auditorium has a rear balcony and a wooden coffered ceiling. The theatre was used for a variety of activities, including travelling shows and lectures, graduation exercises, and civic meetings.<sup>49</sup>

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The former Citizens Bank Building, 200 S. Poindexter, built ca. 1899,<sup>50</sup> is the most architecturally significant commercial building in the historic district. The two-story brick corner building is Chateausquein style, with pressed brick wall veneer, trim and string courses of deeper red rubbed brick, a stained glass entrance fanlight, and a deep hip roof, of slate, with cast-iron cresting and tall chimney stacks. The most outstanding architectural feature is the oriel window set above the diagonal corner entrance, supported on a vigorous foliated sandstone bracket with the inscription "Citizens Bank" on the base. The tall pointed spire which originally surmounted the oriel has been removed. The building now houses a clothing shop and has been completely remodelled on the interior.

By 1903, when the Robinson Building, 106-116 S. Poindexter Street, was erected,<sup>51</sup> the Neo-Classical Revival style had triumphed in commercial architecture in the district. The three-story brick twelve-bay-wide building, another of the large commercial blocks in the district, has six stores on the street level, and offices and meeting rooms upstairs. Several of the original street-level storefronts are well-preserved, each with a center recessed entrance, large flanking display windows with wood paneled dados, and wood-paned transoms surmounting door and windows. The prominent center bay entrance to the upper floors is a stone classical doorway with a segmental pediment on foliate brackets. The inscription "Robinson" and a monogrammed cartouche are located in the lintel and tympanum. The upper facade of pressed red brick, contrasts with the tan brick pilasters and quoins. A center dated frontispiece and corner pediments accent the main facade eave.

The Kramer Building, 500-512 E. Main Street, built in 1909 in the Neo-Classical Revival style,<sup>52</sup> occupies the west half of the block in which the Lowrey Building is located, forming a distinguished commercial streetscape. The three-story brick thirteen-bay-wide building has replacement street-level storefronts, but the upper main facade is unaltered. The classical design features quoins, voussoir window lintels on the second story, voussoir arches on the third story, and a wooden modillion cornice and parapet bearing the name "Kramer".

The Selig Building, 511 E. Main Street, built ca. 1925,<sup>53</sup> is basically Neo-Classical Revival in style, although the brightly-colored yellow and blue glazed terra-cotta tile which form the classical trim of the upper facade---the quoins, pilaster and lintel window frames, and corbel course--are derived from the Art Deco style popular during the 1920s and 1930s. The street-level storefront of the unaltered two-story building has two arched entrances with classical wooden trim, and marble dados beneath the display windows.

The last of the Neo-Classical Revival style commercial buildings, and the most prominent commercial landmark in Elizabeth City is the Virginia Dare Hotel and Arcade, 507-509 E. Main Street, built in 1927.<sup>54</sup> The lavishly-appointed complex, said to have

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been designed by Raleigh architect John Beamon,<sup>55</sup> contains a nine-story hotel in the center of the block, with a two-story lobby and office wing with a ballroom and roof promenade extending north to Main Street, and one-story wings containing small stores and a garage occupying the remaining block east and south. Beige brick veneer covers the walls, and the main facades, on Main and McMorrine streets, are distinguished by terra cotta veneer, bands of windows in brass frames, and marble dados. The Main Street facade is further elaborated by a classical parapet with a central cartouche containing carved symbols of Virginia Dare (the child born on nearby Roanoke Island, the first English baby born in the American colonies). The interiors of the complex are practically unaltered. The storefronts within the arcade, with marble, brass and terra cotta tile finish, are especially notable. The Virginia Dare Hotel and Arcade is now vacant and for sale.

Two utilitarian commercial buildings in the district have architectural significance: the office and print shop of The Independent, and Weatherly's Candy Factory. The Independent building, 110 E. Colonial Avenue, was constructed ca. 1923 for W. O. Saunders, the controversial editor of this famous<sup>56</sup> weekly. It is believed that Milton C. Savins, a local builder, designed the building,<sup>57</sup> which consists of a front two-story brick office section and rear one-story printing wing. The front block has a two-story porch engaged beneath the main hip roof. The first story is arcaded, with stuccoed keystones, and the second story is supported by wooden Doric columns enclosed by an iron balustrade. The utilitarian brick rear wing has large metal casement windows and a flat roof.

Weatherly's Candy Factory, 225 N. Water Street, built ca. 1923, is the only industrial building in the district still in industrial use. The company was founded about 1890 by W. H. Weatherly, and occupied two other buildings prior to the construction of the present plant, which is still in operation. About fifty employees worked for the factory in its heyday when this plant was constructed.<sup>58</sup> The large, three-story brick building, of utilitarian design, contrasts strikingly with the surrounding late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings with decorated fronts. Industrial features which came into general use in the second quarter of the twentieth century-- steel frame, large bands of metal casement windows, and absence of any stylistic references--are previewed in this building.

POSTBELLUM BUILDINGS: RELIGIOUS, FRATERNAL AND INSTITUTIONAL

The present courthouse, 206 E. Main Street, occupies a lovely landscaped square, the courthouse site since the county seat was established in 1800. Construction of this building, the most significant landmark in the historic district, began twenty years after the second Pasquotank County Courthouse burned in 1862. The design, for which<sup>59</sup> the county paid what the local newspaper considered the outrageous fee of \$500, was conceived<sup>60</sup> by A. L. West, a Richmond architect, and built by D. S. Kramer, prominent local builder.<sup>61</sup> The completed structure cost \$50,000. The two-story brick building, Neo-

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Classical Revival in style, is three bays wide and seven bays deep. The second story is treated as a piano nobile, emphasized by the shallow pedimented tetrastyle portico on the main (south) facade, which springs from rusticated stone-faced piers abutting the first story, and by its greater height. A cast-iron latticework railing encloses the portico. George Nowitzky, a Norfolk architectural critic, observed in 1887 that the courthouse was "By far the handsomest structure" in Elizabeth City, but that the four columns of the portico were "the great defect of the building, on account of being severely plain when they should be fluted to correspond with the capitals, which are Corinthian, thus giving the impression that the building committee had exhausted their funds before the edifice was completed."<sup>62</sup> The facings of the round-arched windows and doors are of Baltimore granite,<sup>63</sup> and most of the remaining trim is of wood or metal. The well-designed wooden cupola, the first stage a clocktower and the second a belltower, towers over the historic district. The interior of the first floor, containing offices, is relatively unaltered. The courtroom with jury chambers, occupying the entire second floor of the original main block, is unusually well-preserved, and contains a coffered wooden ceiling with heavy molded cornice, pew-like seating, and sawnwork railings, domestic in character, enclosing the judge's bench and jury areas.

First Baptist Church, 302 W. Main Street, a bright red brick Gothic Revival style building constructed in 1889,<sup>64</sup> is the most prominent landmark on W. Main Street. The rectangular, steeply gabled building, has a three-story corner tower with a polychromed slate spire and a west annex, of like materials and design, added ca. 1900.<sup>65</sup> The well-preserved sanctuary features a wooden coffered ceiling with applied, decorative trusses and a rear gallery with a Gothic paneled railing. The church cemetery, located behind the church on the north side of Colonial Avenue, is the only cemetery in the historic district, and contains gravestones dating to 1810, some with interesting carved ornament.

The United States Post Office and Courthouse, ca. 1906,<sup>66</sup> one of the finest Neo-Classical Revival style federal buildings in the state, occupies the block adjoining Courthouse Square to the east. The intervening street, Pool, was closed off in the early twentieth century, and a large Civil War monument occupies the center of this civic open space. The imposing building, five bays wide and three bays deep, has a rusticated stone first story, tan brick second and third stories, and a deep slate hip roof. Heavy stone window surrounds, a stone modillion cornice and oculus dormers articulate the structure. At the rear corners are lower, compatible additions. The interior is finished with classical appointments of equal quality to those of the exterior, and although much altered, has architectural significance. Materials used throughout include fine woods, cast-iron, and marble. The two grandest spaces are the groin-valted post office lobby on the first floor and the second floor courtroom, containing fully-paneled mahogany walls with Ionic pilasters, a heavy cornice, and pedimented entrances.

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INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS: ELIZABETH CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

MAIN STREET, SOUTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

1. 615 E. Main St. Gas Station. SW corner Main & Water. ca. 1931. 1½ story white brick building in Dutch Colonial style, with steep, blue-tiled gable roof, oriel window. Used adaptively as office.
2. 609, 611 E. Main. Commercial Building. ca. 1891, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick. Neutral architectural character.
3. 605, 607 E. Main. Commercial Building. ca. 1891, remodelled in 20th century, 2-story brick, plain stuccoed upper facade. Tin modillion cornice is only remains of original decoration.
4. 601, 603 E. Main. Commercial Building. ca. 1891, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick, with street facades covered with mid-20th century metal sheathing. Known as Kramer's Block in 1891.

Poindexter Street

5. Rucker & Sheely Department Store. 515 E. Main (sw corner Main & Poindexter). ca. 1902, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick building with well-preserved east side containing rusticated granite window sills and modillion cornice; main (north) facade covered with mid-20th century metal sheathing. Well-preserved original interior.
6. Selig Building. 511 E. Main. ca. 1931. 2-story brick commercial building with colored terra cotta tile ornament in Art Deco style on main facade. Elegant classical storefront and well-preserved original interior woodwork.
7. Virginia Dare Hotel & Arcade. 507, 509 E. Main. ca. 1927. 9-story brick hotel in center of block, with 2-story skylighted arcade extending north to Main, 2-story office wing extending west to McMorrine, and 1-story garage wing extending east to Poindexter. Neo-Classical Revival style, with yellow brick veneer, and stone and terra cotta decorative details.
8. 501-505 E. Main. (Law Offices). ca. 1970. 1-story brick commercial building, Williamsburg Phony-Colonial style.

McMorrine Street

9. Pasquotank Public Library. 205 E. Main. ca. 1973. Sprawling 1-story brick building, "Williamsburg" style. Second Empire style house built by the Robinson family formerly stood here.

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10. Charles O. Robinson House. 201 E. Main. 1913. Most ambitious Neo-Classical Revival style house in district. 2-story frame house built for Wm. B. Blades as gift to his daughter Ivy Blades on her marriage to Charles O. Robinson, founder of the Elizabeth City Cotton Mill. Probably designed by Herbert Simpson, prominent New Bern architect patronized by the Blades family.

Elliott Street

11. 107 E. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house with creative details. Very fine interior. Adaptively used as offices of county Department of Social Services.
12. 105 E. Main. ca. 1896, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story stuccoed late Queen Anne style house, now an apartment house.
13. Cluff-Pool Store. 100 E. Main. Pre-1845. 2-story stuccoed brick commercial building of Italianate design. Built by Matthew Cluff as general store, perhaps as early as 1820. Housed wide variety of activities, including serving as the courthouse from the burning of the previous courthouse in 1862 to completion of present courthouse in 1882. Present appearance dates from remodelling ca. 1858. Perhaps oldest commercial building in historic district.

Road Street

14. 101 W. Main. Spur Gas Station. ca. 1950. 1-story concrete building with large asphalt service area. Filling station located on site since before 1931.
15. 105 W. Main. ca. 1908. 2-story frame house with 1-story bracketed porch.

Cobb Street

16. 203 W. Main. ca. 1906. 2-story frame house, Neo-Classical Revival style, with deck-on-hip slate roof, pedimented double front porch. Cast-iron fence encloses front yard.

Dyer Street

17. 301 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house, vernacular design, with replacement 1930s brick-pillared front porch. Cast-iron fence encloses front yard.
18. 303 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house, Queen Anne style, with corner turret.
19. 305 W. Main. ca. 1950. 2-story brick Neo-Colonial style house.
20. 309 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Neo-Classical Revival style house.
21. Cann Memorial Presbyterian Church. 311 W. Main. ca. 1945. Brick Gothic Revival style church, of English parish church design.



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22. 313 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame transitional Queen Anne-Neo-Classical Revival style house, with turretted porch.
23. Overman-Sheep House. 401 W. Main. ca. 1859. 2-story frame Greek Revival style house with a full Doric portico. Built ca. 1859 by Reuben F. Overman, wealthy banker.
24. 403 W. Main. ca. 1908. 2-story frame transitional Queen Anne-Neo-Classical Revival style house.
25. Carter-Spencer House. 405 W. Main. ca. 1850, remodelled in 20th century, 1-story frame cottage which lost its historical integrity through remodelling. No original fabric is visible.
26. 407 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
27. 409 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
28. 411 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
29. 413 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
30. Bland-Overman House. 501 W. Main. ca. 1850. 2-story frame Greek Revival style house, side-hall plan. Much of exterior and interior historical integrity has been lost through remodelling. Built by Bland family.
31. Dr. Pendleton House. 503 W. Main. ca. 1915. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house with fine Corinthian portico.
32. 505 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
33. 507 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
34. 509 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame transitional Queen Anne-Neo-Classical Revival style house.

Persse Street

35. 601 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
36. 603 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Bungaloid style house.
37. 605 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.

Seldon Street

38. 801 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Neo-Classical Revival style house.
39. J. W. Dent House. 805 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house of Neo-Classical Revival design with concave mansard slate roof, unusual for this period.

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MAIN STREET, NORTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

40. 604-608 E. Main. People's Bank and Trust. ca. 1970. 1 and 2-story masonry commercial building with metal and plate glass main facade.
41. Guaranty Bank and Trust Co. 600 E. Main. ca. 1914, remodelled ca. 1930. 2-story masonry commercial building. Chicago Commercial style, with simple, elegant detailing. Lavenstein's Department Store in 1914. Now vacant.

Poindexter Street

42. Lowrey Building (Chesson's Department Store). 514,516 E. Main. ca. 1897. 3-story brick commercial building built as Mitchell's Bee Hive, a department store, with city opera house and dance studios on upper floors. Italianate Revival style. Remarkably well-preserved, with opera house auditorium and painted proscenium still in place.
43. Kramer Building. 500-512 E. Main. ca. 1909. 3-story brick commercial block of Neo-Classical Revival design, with stone, yellow brick, and wood ornament. Built by J. S. Kramer, prosperous Elizabeth City businessman.

Martin Street

44. United States Post Office and Courthouse. 306 E. Main. ca. 1906. Imposing 3-story brick and stone Neo-Classical Revival style building with a rusticated first story, heavy pedimented window caps, and slate hipped roof. Exceptionally beautiful courtroom. Well-landscaped grounds function as continuation of Courthouse Square. Owned by General Services Administration.
45. Pasquotank County Courthouse. 206 E. Main. ca. 1882. 2-story brick Classical Revival style building on a raised basement, with monumental Corinthian portico and clock tower. The courtroom, with sawnwork ornament, is well-preserved. Designed by A. L. West, a Richmond architect, and built by D. S. Kramer. Most architecturally distinctive landmark in historic district.

Elliott Street

46. Shannon-Hollowell House. 112 E. Main. ca. 1850. 2-story frame Greek Revival style house with late Victorian addition, side hall plan. Mid-19th century outbuilding. Believed to have been built for Will Shannon, local merchant.
47. Farmer's Bank. 108 E. Main. 1855, remodelled in 20th century. 1-story stuccoed building, with original Gothic Revival design intact on side elevations. Main facade remodelled as pedimented storefront in early 20th century. Built as Farmer's Bank by local builder William W. Griffin. Now a soda shop.

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48. North Carolina Building. 106 E. Main. 1859, remodelled ca. 1880. 2-story brick building, Italianate Revival style, with bracketed wooden cornices. Built as office building by local builder J. W. Hinton. Remodelled to present appearance as newspaper office of Dr. Palemon John's North Carolinian ca. 1880.

49. Southern Hotel. 100-104 E. Main. 1874, remodelled ca. 1930. Site of a hotel since 1829. The present 3-story brick building was built in 1874. No visible trace remains of the original appearance except the rusticated stucco rear (north) wall. Building is Art Deco in design, with yellow brick veneer. 1-story rear wing containing stores is part of 1874 building, but was also remodelled ca. 1930. One of the largest hotels in North Carolina in 1887.

Road Street

50. Noah Burfoot House. 104 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house with unusual bowed bay in main facade. Built by manager of Elizabeth City Hosiery Mill.

Cobb Street

51. 200 W. Main. ca. 1896. 2-story frame house.

52. Hinton-Pailin House. 202 W. Main. 1855-57, remodelled in early 20th century. 2-story frame Greek Revival style house, side hall plan. Enlarged in Neo-Classical Revival style, with wrap-around porch. Built for James W. Hinton, and residence of Pailins during second half of 19th century.

Dyer Street

53. First Baptist Church. 302 W. Main. 1889. Gothic Revival style brick church with prominent four-stage corner tower. Congregation, one of the oldest in Elizabeth City, was founded in 1786. Behind the church, on north side of Colonial Ave., is original cemetery containing gravestones dating to 1814.

54. 308 W. Main. ca. 1914, ca. 1950. 2-story frame late Queen Anne style house remodelled in Georgian Revival style ca. 1950.

55. 310 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house with full portico. One of the grandest early 20th century houses on W. Main.

56. 312 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house with a corner turret.

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Harney Street

57. Charles-Harney House. 400 W. Main. ca. 1853-1863. 2-story brick Greek Revival style house believed to be oldest brick dwelling in Elizabeth City. Side-hall plan, with best-preserved interior of antebellum houses in the historic district. Built either for John B. Mansard or for George W. Charles (perhaps by Charles, a local builder).
58. 402 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
59. 404 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
60. 406 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
61. 408 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
62. 500 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house of Eastlake Gothic style.
63. 502 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, corner turret.
64. 504 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
65. 506 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
66. 508 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame late Queen Anne style house.
67. 510 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame late Queen Anne style house.
68. 512 W. Main. ca. 1860. 2-story frame house with hip roof, side hall plan. One of a group of houses of similar form built during this period.

Locust Street

69. 600 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house with replacement 1940s porch.
70. 602 W. Main. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house with replacement 1930s porch.
71. 604 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house with corner turrett, turretted porch.
72. 606 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
73. 608 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
74. 610 W. Main. ca. 1914. Narrow 2-story frame house, gable-end to street.
75. 612 W. Main. ca. 1914. Narrow 2-story frame house, gable-end to street.
76. 614 W. Main. ca. 1923. 2-story frame Bungaloid style house.
77. 616 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.
78. 700 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house.
79. 702 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.

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80. 704 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.  
81. 706 W. Main. ca. 1923. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house.

Holly Street

82. 800 W. Main. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house with replacement 1930s porch.

COLONIAL AVENUE, SOUTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Dyer Street

83. Bell House. 315 W. Colonial. ca. 1860. 2-story frame house with hip roof, side hall plan, 1-story sawnwork porch. One of a group of houses of similar form built during this period.

COLONIAL AVENUE, NORTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

84. 608 Colonial. ca. 1896, remodelled in 20th century. 1-story stuccoed commercial building, with parapetted gable end storefront.  
85. 604 Colonial. ca. 1896. 2-story brick commercial building with six over six sash.

Poindexter Street

86. 504, 506 Colonial. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial building.

Pool Street

87. Goodman-Matthews-Pool House. 204 Colonial. 2-story frame house built ca. 1808 on Main Street by Jethro Goodman, on present site of U. S. Post Office & Courthouse. Remodelled ca. 1849 by Joseph Pool. Moved in early 20th century to present site, and enlarged.

Great architectural interest because of its three phases of design: Federal, Greek Revival, and 1940s Colonial Revival. The west first floor mantel installed during last phase is a copy of the vernacular Georgian mantel in the Old Brick House, on outskirts of Elizabeth City, built ca. 1760. Craftsman of the copy is believed to have been Charlie Griggs, a talented local cabinetmaker.

88. 202 E. Colonial. Colonial Office Building. ca. 1970. 1-story brick commercial building in Williamsburg Phony-Colonial style.

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89. 200 E. Colonial. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house. Cast-iron fence encloses front yard.

Elliott Street

90. 114 E. Colonial. ca. 1923. 2-story frame late Queen Anne style house with shingled upper story, 2 front oriel windows.
91. "The Independent" Office. 110 Colonial. ca. 1923. Unusual commercial building with 2-story front section with arcaded classical double porch, 1-story rear section. Built for noted newspaperman and social critic W. O. Saunders as offices and printing plant for his newspaper, published here until late 1930s.

ELIZABETH AVENUE., SOUTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

92. 603 Elizabeth. ABC Store. ca. 1970. 1-story brick and glass building.

FEARING STREET, SOUTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

93. 611 E. Fearing. ca. 1896. 2-story brick commercial building with original storefront, segmental-arched windows.
94. 609 E. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial building with original storefront, segmental-arched windows.
95. 607 E. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial building with segmental-arched windows.
96. 605 E. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial building with rectangular windows, brick veneer added to upper front.
97. 601, 603 E. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial building with segmental-arched windows.

McMorrine Street

98. 405 E. Fearing. ca. 1908. 2-story frame house
99. 403 E. Fearing. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house.
100. 401A E. Fearing. ca. 1950. Narrow 2-story frame building with Tudor half-timber style main facade. Now used as a beauty shop.
101. 401 E. Fearing. ca. 1891. 2-story frame house.

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Pool Street

102. 209 E. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, 1-story wrap-around porch.
103. 207 E. Fearing. ca. 1885. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, sawnwork porch.
104. 205 E. Fearing. ca. 1885. 1-story frame house with 1-story Classical porch.
105. 203 E. Fearing. ca. 1914. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house.

Elliott Street

106. 109 E. Fearing. ca. 1950. 1-story frame Neo-Colonial Revival cottage.

Dyer Street

107. 323 W. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house with molded window caps and a 1-story sawnwork porch.
108. 401 W. Fearing. ca. 1902. Narrow 2-story frame house, set gable-end to street.

FEARING STREET, NORTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

Water Street

109. 606, 608, 610 E. Fearing. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building.
110. 604 E. Fearing. ca. 1914, remodelled in 20th century. 1-story masonry commercial building.

Elliott Street

111. 108 Fearing. ca. 1896. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, moved to present site from NE corner Road and Fearing when the Oddfellows Building, 116 Road St., was built ca. 1914.
112. (former) Negro Oddfellows Lodge. 100 Fearing. ca. 1827, remodelled in early 20th century. Narrow 2-story frame building of late Federal-Greek Revival design. Notable features are the arched plaster ceiling of the second floor and the gable-end lunette. Building is believed to have originally sat on Road St., and moved to present site ca. 1910. Perhaps built as the first Masonic Lodge of Elizabeth City, whose first Masonic chapter was established in 1825.
113. 320 W. Fearing. ca. 1902. Narrow 2-story frame house, gable-end to street.
114. 400 W. Fearing. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house with 1-story sawnwork porch.

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CHURCH STREET, SOUTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

McMorrine Street

115. Dr. William Martin House. 405 E. Church. ca. 1834, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story frame late Federal-Greek Revival style house built by Dr. William Martin, prominent early physician. House converted to mortuary ca. 1950, and front portico, side chapel and rear 1-story addition added at this time.
116. 401 E. Church. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house of ornate Queen Anne design.

Martin Street

117. 307 E. Church. ca. 1902. 2-story frame house of ornate Queen Anne design.
118. (former) First Methodist Church. 305 E. Church. ca. 1857, remodelled ca. 1930. Large 3-story stuccoed brick shell of the 1858 church, the second building of this early congregation. The original building was Greek Revival in style, with a pedimented main facade and recessed portico. Ca. 1930 the structure was gutted and converted to apartments, and a 3-story wooden porch wraps completely around the building.
119. 301 E. Church. ca. 1877. 2-story frame house of ornate Queen Anne design, built as First Methodist Church parsonage. East 2-story wing is ca. 1910 addition, and finish of main block main date from this addition. Served as parsonage until 1956.

CHURCH STREET, NORTH SIDE, MOVING EAST TO WEST:

McMorrine Street

120. Griggs-Toxey House. 404 E. Church. ca. 1830, ca. 1920. 1-story gabled frame building at rear of house has Federal style features, including a molded box cornice, molded nine over six sash windows, and beaded siding. Now used as kitchen, this may be an early dwelling. The house, 2-story frame with late Queen Anne details, was apparently built ca. 1920 but may be an older house remodelled.
121. 400 E. Church. ca. 1891. Large 2-story frame house of ornate Queen Anne design with rear addition, now an apartment building.

Pool Street

122. 206 E. Church. ca. 1890. 2-story frame house.
123. 204 E. Church. ca. 1896. 2-story frame house.
124. 202 E. Church. ca. 1890. 2-story frame house.
125. 200 E. Church. ca. 1896. 2-story frame house.



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Dyer Street

126. Tillitt-Nixon House. 400 W. Church. ca. 1860, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story frame house with hip roof, side hall plan, ornate entrance transom. Original double front porch removed and front corner wooden quoins added in twentieth century. One of a group of houses of similar form built during this period. According to local tradition, Isaac Tillitt operated a private school here in the late 19th century.

WATER STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Elizabeth Avenue

127. 222 N. Water. Gulf Station. ca. 1950. Typical 1-story concrete gas station, with large asphalt service area.
128. 206-212 N. Water. ca. 1920. 1-story brick commercial building, with center vehicular passageway through building, flanking stores.
129. 204 N. Water. ca. 1923. 2-story brick building with batten double doors, some wooden sash and some replacement metal casement windows. Built as a warehouse.

Colonial Avenue

130. 110 N. Water. Hurdle True Value Hardware. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building, with 1940s main facade. Shell is probably remains of the 3-story Lathrop Oil Mills on the site in 1885.
131. 108 N. Water. General Tire Co. ca. 1896, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building with well-designed 1940s main facade accented with brick pilasters. Old wooden boat slips remain on the Pasquotank River bank behind the building.

Main Street

132. 100 N. Water. Rochelle Cleaners. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 1-story brick building laid in one to five common bond, probably dating from late 19th century, with front addition in the International Style ca. 1950. This front addition is an intrusion.
133. 106 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 1-story masonry commercial building.
134. 108, 110 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story masonry commercial building.

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135. 112 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. South side of this 3-story brick commercial building is unaltered, with sash windows with ornate metal window caps. Remaining elevations covered with yellow brick, with large metal casements dating from the 1940s.
136. 116 S. Water. Riggs Music Co. ca. 1885. 1-story brick commercial building with decorative brick cornice.
137. Site of Betsy Tooley's Tavern. At foot of Fearing St. on bank of Pasquotank River. According to local legend, Elizabeth City is named for Betsy Tooley, an early resident of the area whose tavern is believed to have been located on this site.

WATER STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Elizabeth Avenue

138. 231 N. Water. ca. 1923. 2-story brick commercial building with well-preserved original storefronts of Neo-Colonial Revival design. Elizabeth City Bottling Works inhabited building in 1923.
139. Weatherly Candy Factory. 225 N. Water. ca. 1923. Large 3-story brick factory with steel frame, metal casement windows in bands. 3rd building of the company, founded ca. 1890 by W. H. Weatherly, and employing about 50 employees during the heyday when this plant was built. Still in operation.
140. 209-215 N. Water. Perry Motor Co. ca. 1923. 2-story brick automobile showroom and garage area with original main facade featuring brick pilasters and multi-paned display windows.
141. 203-207 N. Water. Motor Bearings & Parts Co. ca. 1923. 2-story brick commercial building with stuccoed main facade with panelled parapet.

Colonial Avenue

142. McMullen Building. 117 N. Water. ca. 1887-1908. 3-story brick commercial building built by Dr. Oscar McMullen as drug store and hotel. The intact cast-iron and tin main facade, of ornate Italianate Revival design, was manufactured by the Mesker Bros., and is one of a handful remaining in North Carolina. On the north side are three small shops with original storefronts.
143. 115 N. Water. ca. 1902. 2-story brick store with original storefront, segmental-arched windows.
144. 113 N. Water. ca. 1902. 2-story brick store with original storefront, segmental-arched windows.
145. 109, 111 N. Water. ca. 1906. 2-story brick store with segmental-arched windows, hip roof.

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146. 105, 107 N. Water. ca. 1906. 2-story brick store with segmental-arched windows.
147. 105 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building.
148. 107, 109 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick store with arched recessed panels decorating the main facade.
149. 111, 113 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story masonry commercial building.
150. 115 S. Water. ca. 1902, remodelled ca. 1940. 2-story masonry commercial building.
151. 117 S. Water. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 3-story masonry commercial building.

POINDEXTER STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Elizabeth Avenue

152. 224 N. Poindexter. ca. 1902, remodelled ca. 1940s. 1-story brick commercial building with 1940s replacement storefront.
153. 220, 222 N. Poindexter. ca. 1940. 2-story brick commercial building.
154. 218 N. Poindexter. ca. 1902, remodelled ca. 1950. 2-story brick commercial building with replacement 1950s storefront.
155. 210, 212 N. Poindexter. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial block containing 2 stores. Italianate Revival style, with segmental-arched windows and bracketed metal cornice.
156. 204-208 N. Poindexter. ca. 1896. 2-story brick commercial block of Italianate Revival design, well-preserved. Contains 3 stores. Windows have bracketed metal caps. Bracketed metal cornice.
157. 202 N. Poindexter. ca. 1896, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building with metal sheathing concealing entire upper main facade.
158. 200 N. Poindexter. ca. 1896. 2-story brick store with original wooden storefront, segmental-arched windows, decorative cornice.

Colonial Avenue

159. 114, 116 N. Poindexter. ca. 1920. 3-story brick commercial building with plain design, with frontispiece plaque bearing date "1920".
160. 108, 110, 112 N. Poindexter. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story brick commercial building containing 3 stores.

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161. 104, 106 N. Poindexter. ca. 1885, remodelled in 20th century. 2-story masonry store with metal sheathing covering the main facade.

Main Street

162. Robinson Building. 106-116 S. Poindexter. ca. 1903. Handsome 3-story brick commercial block containing 6 stores with offices above. Neo-Classical Revival style. Main entrance has segmental stone pediment, with a cartouche and inscription "Robinson", while cornice frontispiece has date "1903". Well-preserved original wooden storefronts.

Fearing Street

163. (former) Citizens Bank, 200 S. Poindexter. ca. 1899. 2-story brick commercial building of Chateausque design, built as the Citizens Bank. Corner entrance with stained glass fanlight, corner oriel window with foliated sandstone bracket, and steep, hipped slate roof with iron cresting. Most architecturally distinguished commercial building in Elizabeth City.

POINDEXTER STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Elizabeth Avenue

164. 213 N. Poindexter. ca. 1902, remodelled ca. 1940. 2-story brick commercial building.
165. 211 N. Poindexter. Thornton's Furniture. ca. 1902. 2-story brick commercial block containing 2 stores. Romanesque Revival style, with segmental-arched windows with granite sills, and a decorative cornice.
166. 207 N. Poindexter. ca. 1896. 2-story brick commercial building with segmental-arched windows, decorative cornice.

Colonial Avenue

167. Carolina Theatre. 109-115 N. Poindexter. ca. 1950. 2 and 1-story brick commercial building, housing a movie theatre and stores, with marble-sheathed storefronts.

Fearing Street

168. Trailways Bus Station. 201 S. Poindexter. ca. 1931. Typical small bus station, International Style, with brick veneer walls, flat-roofed sheds extending outward from building. Asphalt service area.

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MCMORRINE STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Colonial Avenue

169. 114 McMorrine. Pre-1931. 1-story masonry commercial building.
170. 108 McMorrine. Early 20th century. 2-story masonry commercial building with parapetted gable-end facade, six over six sash windows. Built as the Alhambra Movie Theatre. Later remodelled as a store.

Fearing Street

171. Christ Episcopal Church & Parish House. 200 block S. McMorrine. 1856-57. Gothic Revival brick and brownstone church, with striking three-stage corner stair tower. Designed by J. Crawford Neilson of Baltimore. 2-story brick Parish House, of Tudor Revival style, was built in 1925.

MCMORRINE STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Fearing Street

172. 200 block S. McMorrine. Belk-Tyler Warehouse. ca. 1950. 2-story cinder block commercial building.

ELLIOTT STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Fearing Street

173. 200 S. Elliott. ca. 1923. 2-story frame house of Colonial Revival design.
174. 202 S. Elliott. ca. 1923. 2-story frame house of Colonial Revival design.

ELLIOTT STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Colonial Avenue

175. Marriage Center & Medical Building. 113 N. Elliott. ca. 1931. Large 2-story masonry commercial building, Romanesque Revival style, covered with yellow brick veneer.

ROAD STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Main Street

176. 104 S. Road. ca. 1858. Narrow 2-story brick commercial building laid in one to five common bond, with six over six sash with ovolo-molded frames. Late 19th century storefront with paneled wooden dado, bracketed wooden cornice. One of the oldest commercial buildings in Elizabeth City.

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177. Wood Building. 106, 108, 110 S. Road. ca. 1858. Large 3-story brick commercial building containing center entrance to upper floors, flanking stores. Main facade has four over four sash windows, brick laid in one to five common bond, a corbel brick cornice and stepped gable parapet. According to local tradition it was built by Sheriff John L. Wood.
178. 112 S. Road. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house, gable-end to street, 1-story Classical porch.
179. 114 S. Road. ca. 1914. 2-story frame house, gable-end to street, 1-story Classical porch.
180. (former) Oddfellows Building. 116 S. Road. ca. 1896, remodelled in 20th century. Narrow 2-story brick commercial building, with original bracketed metal cornice, replacement 1950s storefront.

Fearing Street

181. Grice-Fearing House. 200 S. Road. ca. 1800, ca. 1840, ca. 1885. 2-story frame house, one room deep, built ca. 1800, doubled in size and double front porch added ca. 1840, and 1-story north wing added ca. 1885. According to local tradition the house was built by Charles Grice, and came into Fearing family in 1832, where it has remained ever since. Isaiah Fearing, who lived here until his death in 1858, was a prominent merchant and well-known postmaster. Believed to be oldest structure in historic district.
182. Pool-Kennedy-Lumsden House and Office. 204, 206 S. Road. ca. 1840, ca. 1864. Greek Revival style 2-story frame house, side-hall plan, with elegant trabeated entrance, original pedimented entrance porch. Built by Mrs. Lovey Pool, the house is one of the most architecturally distinguished in the historic district. 1-story brick office in front yard has fine sandstone trim, and was built ca. 1864.

ROAD STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

183. Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co. 103 S. Road. ca. 1950. Oversized brick utility building with yellow-brick veneer main facade. The plain structure stretches west to Cobb and south to Fearing.
184. Cobb Building. 111 S. Road. ca. 1850. 2-story brick L-shaped building, of utilitarian Greek Revival design, laid in one to five common bond, six over six sash corbel cornice. Property was acquired by T. R. Cobb in 1798, and the building was constructed before the death of T. R. Cobb, Jr. in 1862. The combination residence and store is unique in North Carolina, and is one of the oldest commercial buildings in the district. The original use of the commercial section is unknown.

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Fearing Street

185. Dr. Butt Drug Store. 201 S. Road. between 1869 and 1884. 2-story brick commercial building, set gable-end to street, with ornate main facade featuring a bay window, an oriel window, and a wooden bracketed cornice. An Eastlake style sawnwork balcony extends along the south side.
186. First Methodist Church. Block bounded by Road, Fearing, Cobb & Church. 1921. Large Neo-Renaissance Revival style brick church with pedimented porticos on three elevations, and a center dome. 3rd building of the congregation, one of the oldest in Elizabeth City.

HARNEY STREET, EAST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Colonial Avenue

187. 104 Harney. ca. 1914. 1½ story frame house with 1-story Doric porch.

HARNEY STREET, WEST SIDE, MOVING NORTH TO SOUTH:

Colonial Avenue

188. 107 N. Harney. ca. 1902. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, narrow end to street, with 1-story sawnwork porch.
189. 105 N. Harney. ca. 1890. 2-story frame Queen Anne style house, said to have been moved from corner of Main & Harney ca. 1903 to present site. Original porch has been removed.

CULPEPPER STREET

190. Richardson-Pool House. 301 Culpepper. ca. 1859. 2-story frame Greek Revival style house with deck-on-hip roof, full Doric portico, trabeated entrance and handsome original interior woodwork. Built by Daniel Richardson. Home of George D. Pool, wealthy farmer and philanthropist, from 1868 to his death in 1880.

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FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book I, 284; Account books of Charles Grice & Co., 1800-1828. State Archives, N. C. Division of Archives & History, Raleigh, N.C.

<sup>2</sup>Pasquotank County Deeds: Book R, 262 (1808, Downs to Goodman); Book W, 239, 267 (sons of Goodman to Matthews); Book BB, 74 (1833, Matthews to Jos. H. Pool).

<sup>3</sup>The Elizabeth-City Star and North Carolina Eastern Intelligencer, May 18, 1833. (Notice of sale of Samuel Matthews House, with description).

<sup>4</sup>The Old North State (Elizabeth City), March 17, 1849.

<sup>5</sup>Temple, Mrs. W. O. "Elizabeth City 1865-1880," Pasquotank Historical Society Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 131.

<sup>6</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book S, 352; Will and estate papers of Dr. William Martin, State Archives.

<sup>7</sup>Temple, Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 133.

<sup>8</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book DD, 369 (1840 Nathan Perkins to Lovey S. Pool).

<sup>9</sup>The Old North State, March 17, 1849.

<sup>10</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book II, 530-31 (1855 Skinner & Riddick to James W. Hinton); The Democratic Pioneer, January 19, 1858; Book OO, 631 (1869 James W. Hinton to William Underwood); Book RR, 473 (1872 Land and Lumber Co. to William Pailin).

<sup>11</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book HH, 391 (1849 Mary Carmott & Samuel Jackson to Will Shannon).

<sup>12</sup>Simpson, Mrs. Martin, "The Road to Jones' Mill," Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 161.

<sup>13</sup>Pasquotank County Division Book B, June 1833: Levi Richardson Estate; Pasquotank County Deed Book OO, 307 (1868 Estate of Daniel Richardson to George D. Pool, Jr.).

<sup>14</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book NN, 114 (1859 Maxcy Sanderlin to R. F. Overman); Book 12, 353 (1891 R. F. Overman & wife to S. L. Sheep); Yearbook, Vo. I, p. 117.

<sup>15</sup>Pasquotank County Deed Book Y, 412 (1828 Thomas W. Thompson to John B. Mansard); Book LL, 299 (1853 widow of John B. Mansard to George W. Charles, see also LL, 601 of 1856); Book NN, 237 (1863 George W. Charles to William Steger); Book 9, 613 (1863 William Steger to Thomas Harney); Book OO, 539 (1867 Harney to son William A Harney).



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- <sup>16</sup> Temple, Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 133; Pasquotank County Deed Book 7, 643 (1886 I. N. & Alice A. Tillitt to W. B. Martin, Jr.); Book 30, 179 (1906 Malvern Tillitt to Addie Tillitt).
- <sup>17</sup> Simpson, Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 162.
- <sup>18</sup> Elizabeth-City Star, June 2, 1827; Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald, March 13, 1829 (quoted in Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 142.).
- <sup>19</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book FF, 153 (1845 Thomas Allen to William Shannon).
- <sup>20</sup> The Democratic Pioneer, (Elizabeth City), November 14, 1854.
- <sup>21</sup> Ibid., October 16, 1855.
- <sup>22</sup> Ibid., January 4, 1859.
- <sup>23</sup> U. S. Census, 1880. Pasquotank County, Population Schedule; Pool, Ralph, "Journalism in Pasquotank," Yearbook, Vo. II, p. 81-82.
- <sup>24</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book ), 356; Book PP, 261 (1867 T. R. Cobb Estate to Emma Cobb).
- <sup>25</sup> Elizabeth-City Star, October 16, 1824.
- <sup>26</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book MM, 410.
- <sup>27</sup> Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 240.
- <sup>28</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>29</sup> Will of Lovey S. Pool, written 1864. State Archives.
- <sup>30</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map of Elizabeth City, 1891. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N. C.
- <sup>31</sup> Archives of the Grand Lodge of the Masonic Order, The Masonic Grand Lodge, 2921 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, N.C.
- <sup>32</sup> Elizabeth-City Star, April 15, 1826; also The Elizabeth-City Star and North Carolina Eastern Intelligencer, June 17, 1826.
- <sup>33</sup> The Economist (Elizabeth City), July 4, 1882.

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- <sup>34</sup> The Democratic Pioneer, January 15, 1857; see also cornerstone.
- <sup>35</sup> Hill, George F. A Brief History of Christ Episcopal Church Parish. Elizabeth City, N. C.: June, 1948. p. 7; Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (deceased). Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970. p. 438.
- <sup>36</sup> Cornerstone of building.
- <sup>37</sup> The Old North State, November 26, 1853; October 20, 1857.
- <sup>38</sup> Cornerstone of building.
- <sup>39</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map of Elizabeth City, 1914.
- <sup>40</sup> Ibid., 1885, 1891, 1914.
- <sup>41</sup> Interview with Charles O. Robinson, Jr., son of Charles O. Robinson, 1976.
- <sup>42</sup> Herbert W. Simpson Collection, compiled by Janet Seapker. State Archives.
- <sup>43</sup> Interview with Charles O. Robinson, Jr. and Frank Benton, Jr. 1976.
- <sup>44</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book PP, 18 (1869 George Pool to James Butt); Book 6, 307 (1884 James N. & Isadora Butt to W. D. Pruden, Jr.); Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina: The Eastern Section. Vol. 2. The Eastern Section. Charleston, S. C.: Empire Publishing Company, 1885. p. 231.
- <sup>45</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book 6, 307.
- <sup>46</sup> Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1885, 1891, 1896, 1908; History written by and in possession of present owner, W. V. Anderson.
- <sup>47</sup> Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1891, 1896.
- <sup>48</sup> "Ghost Theatre Yields Dust and Memories," reprint of article from Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, August 16, 1964 in Yearbook, Vol. III, 1975, p. 63; also Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1896, 1902; also old photograph of building showing dated plaque.
- <sup>49</sup> Ibid., p. 64.
- <sup>50</sup> Elizabeth City. C. E. Weaver Series. Richmond, Va.: Centra Publishing Co., Inc., 1915. p. 12 (with photograph). (copy in collection of Fred Fearing, Elizabeth City).

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- 51 Date on frontispiece inscription; Sanborn Insurance Map, Elizabeth City, 1906.
- 52 Peele, Herbert. "Elizabeth City Celebrating 150th Birthday," The News and Observer, November 18, 1951; Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1908, 1914.
- 53 Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1923, 1931.
- 54 Peele, "Elizabeth City Celebrating 150th Birthday."; Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1925, 1931.
- 55 Interview with Elizabeth City builder Frank Benton, Jr., 1976.
- 56 Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1914, 1923; Interview with Elizabeth City historian Fred Fearing, 1976.
- 57 Interview with Frank Benton, Jr., 1976.
- 58 Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1914, 1923; Elizabeth City, C. E. Weaver Series, p. 13.
- 59 The Economist, August 9, 1881.
- 60 Marble plaque in first floor of building; Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (deceased), pp. 645-6.
- 61 Historical and Descriptive Review, Vol. 2, p. 220.
- 62 Nowitzky, George I. Norfolk; the Marine Metropolis of Virginia, and the Sound and River Cities of North Carolina. Norfolk, Va. and Raleigh, NC, 1888. p. 134.
- 63 The Economist, May 2, 1882.
- 64 Main facade plaque.
- 65 Sanborn Insurance Maps, Elizabeth City, 1896, 1902.
- 66 Ibid., 1902, 1908.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      founded 1793      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      various

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elizabeth City Historic District is the grid-patterned, densely developed heart of Elizabeth City, located on the Pasquotank River, the boundary between Pasquotank and Camden counties, near the mouth of the Albemarle Sound. The district contains most of the nineteenth century buildings remaining in Elizabeth City, the major port city of northeastern North Carolina since its establishment in 1793. As the terminus of the Dismal Swamp Canal, the oldest surviving artificial waterway in the United States, the town's history is a fascinating chapter in North Carolina's struggle to overcome its treacherous outer banks, the coastal island barricade, and lack of deep-water ports. The district is architecturally distinguished not only by a substantial group of Greek Revival, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival houses and one of the most handsome Victorian courthouses in the state, but has perhaps the largest number of antebellum commercial buildings of any business district in the state.

Although located in the heart of the Albemarle region, one of the oldest settled areas of North Carolina, Elizabeth City was not founded until 1793. In that year, a group of men petitioned the General Assembly to charter the town of "Redding" at the "Narrows" of the Pasquotank River, a ferry crossing since the 1770s. Redding would link the great port of Norfolk, on the Chesapeake Bay, with the Albemarle Sound, one of North Carolina's major inlets.

Fifty acres of "the land commonly called the Narrows Plantation" were purchased from Adam and Elizabeth Tooley and seventyseven numbered lots were laid off within a rectangular grid street pattern. In 1794 the town was renamed Elizabeth, and in 1801 Elizabeth City. The settlement grew slowly, with the last of the original lots not selling until after 1800. Apparently these were purchased as investments by nearby residents, for there are few records of activity on the site until 1800, when the town was designated the county seat of Pasquotank County. By summer of this year the new courthouse and prison were finished. Dual concentrations of activity evolved: the river front, already an important ferry crossing to Camden County; and Road Street, seven blocks west, the major north-south highway from Norfolk to Edenton. The widest street between these two areas was designated Main Street on the earliest extant map of the town, drawn by Exum Newby in 1832. In the approximate center of Main Street was Courthouse Square. Also vital to the town's development was the Dismal Swamp Canal. Upon its completion in 1805, the canal made Elizabeth City a depot of imports and exports from the Albemarle area, and was the major influence on the town's development until usurped by the railroad in 1881.

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Elizabeth City grew steadily during the early nineteenth century. In 1807 the town boundaries were extended to include the property of the Baptist Church, just outside the original west boundary of Dyer Street, where the first church building in town would soon be erected, and a few blocks north and south.<sup>10</sup> In the same year, publication of the first newspaper, the Elizabeth City Gazette and Public Advertiser, began.<sup>11</sup> In 1816 the north and south boundaries were further extended.<sup>12</sup> By 1819, steamboat lines operating between New Bern and Elizabeth City met with limited success.<sup>13</sup> Episcopal and Methodist church congregations were established during the mid-1820s.<sup>14</sup> In 1836 Elizabeth City's first bank, a branch of the Bank of North Carolina, opened.<sup>15</sup> The energetic young town attracted immigrants from far and wide.

Isaiah Fearing, a merchant from Massachusetts, was one of the most prominent of the New England immigrants drawn to Elizabeth City in the early nineteenth century. Educated at Harvard, he fought in the War of 1812 and was captured by the British. Following his 1814 release, he settled in Elizabeth City and operated a general store until his death in 1858. He served as postmaster from 1823 to 1829, when he was removed from office by political enemies because of an anti-Jackson political cartoon which he mailed to his family during a trip north.<sup>16</sup> His home, the Grice-Fearing House, is believed to be the oldest in the district.

A history of Elizabeth City, written in the late nineteenth century, called the canal during this early phase of operation "a big ditch through which flats were sometime slowly pushed."<sup>17</sup> Because of its shallow depth, it was passable only to flat-bottomed boats, and its traffic consisted primarily of barges bringing shingles and other lumber products out of the Dismal Swamp. From 1826 to 1828 the canal was deepened, enabling sailing vessels to use it.<sup>18</sup> Elizabeth City's trade, particularly with the West Indies, was greatly stimulated, and a boat loaded with staves owned by Matthew Cluff, an Elizabeth City merchant, was the first vessel cited as clearing the improved canal.<sup>19</sup> The Elizabeth-City Star (later lengthened to the Elizabeth-City Star and North Carolina Eastern Intelligencer) had a regular "Marine News" column which chronicled the arrivals and departures of schooners and brigs which carried the area's primary products: staves, shingles, and tar, to the West Indies; and corn and wood products to New England and the major adjacent ports of Norfolk and Charleston. West Indian molasses, sugar, and coffee were the major imports.

The town's growing importance as a port is seen in the moving of the customs house of the Port of Camden to Elizabeth City in 1827 with the appointment of Asa Rogerson as customs collector.<sup>20</sup> The town became a shipbuilding center: during one three-month period in 1849 three ships were built in Elizabeth City shipyards, two large vessels for the West Indian trade and one for the canal.<sup>21</sup> The industrial schedule of the 1850 census listed three shipbuilding firms valued at almost \$27,000.<sup>22</sup> The 1850 population schedule illustrates the town's economic dependence upon the water: among the marine-related occupations listed are seaman, mariner, ship carpenter, ship builder, caulker, sailmaker, and captain. The places of birth of the heads of families also illustrates the cosmo-

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politan character of the town during this period, for many were born in Austria, Germany, Ireland, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, and Virginia.<sup>23</sup> In 1860 over 85% of the adult population of Elizabeth City was literate,<sup>24</sup> an unusually high rate perhaps explained by this influx. The town's closest ties were with Norfolk, of course, and the local newspapers were filled with advertisements of Norfolk business firms. By 1860, with a population of slightly over 1000, Elizabeth City was one of the thirteen largest towns in North Carolina.<sup>25</sup> When Edward C. Brice of Harper's New Monthly Magazine visited the North Carolina coast on the eve of the Civil War, he sojourned briefly in Elizabeth City:

Elizabeth City is not contemporary with the maiden queen. When it was set on foot we have forgotten, but take it to have been near a century after her time. It is a beautiful village—the rus in urbe rather overdone if any thing. You stroll through a grove from one house to another; and the view up the principal street from the wharf might almost be taken for a vista in a park. This peculiarity arises mainly from fear of fire, the insatiate foe of the well-(no pun designed) watered towns of the South. Most of a square in the business centre of the place we found covered with fresh ashes. We were away forty hours; and in the interim the two most prominent buildings in the town, on the next square and opposite the hotel, shared the same fate.<sup>26</sup>

Two blows ended this antebellum boom, stifling growth for twenty years: the construction of a major rival canal and the Civil War. The Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal, completed in 1859, was located east of and parallel to the Dismal Swamp Canal, and connected Chesapeake Sound with the Currituck and Albemarle Sounds. Through traffic switched to this shorter, larger, and more easily navigable canal, and the Dismal Swamp Canal was beset by financial problems which permanently crippled its operation.<sup>27</sup> Then, on February 10, 1862, the Union fleet of Commander S. C. Rowan, and the overwhelmingly outnumbered Confederate "mosquito fleet" of six small steamers and a flagship, met in battle a few miles downriver from Elizabeth City. With the exception of two steamers, the entire fleet was destroyed or captured. Historian Samuel Ashe claimed that this was the end of the North Carolina Navy.<sup>28</sup> An eyewitness account of the aftermath of the battle, written by a Cincinnati Gazette correspondent, is reprinted in Moore's Rebellion Record:

When it became evident that nothing but disaster awaited them, the rebels, after firing their gunboats, fled to the village, and commenced firing the principal buildings...Capt. Rowan (of the Union Navy) besought them to cease inflicting injury on themselves by setting fire to their beautiful village...but several<sup>29</sup> of the best buildings were already in flames, among them the court-house.

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The Dismal Swamp Canal escaped blockage during the war, but went through a period of neglect during Reconstruction, with traffic limited primarily to timber lighters. A limited steamboat passenger service between Elizabeth City and Norfolk operated during these years, with three separate lines plying the canal in 1880. Boats, many of them "double-decked", left Norfolk in the morning, arrived at Elizabeth City the same afternoon, and returned early the next morning. The mail was also carried by this service.<sup>30</sup>

The arrival in 1881 of the Norfolk and Elizabeth City Railroad, 57 miles in length (renamed the Norfolk and Southern Railway Company in 1906), ended the lethargy.<sup>31</sup> The railroad and its connecting steamer lines to smaller towns on the Albemarle Sound quickly superseded the canal service.<sup>32</sup> The local newspaper The Economist proclaimed proudly in 1883 that "There are more buildings in construction in old Betsy than was ever known at one time. We rejoice to see it."<sup>33</sup> The population increased from 2,315 in 1880<sup>34</sup> to nearly 4,000 in 1885, and in that year the editors of the Historical and Descriptive Review of North Carolina described Elizabeth City as:

...probably the most energetic, enterprising, and progressive town in Northeastern North Carolina....with over a hundred stores, five hotels, one of them as large and handsome as any in the State, two saw and grist mills, two planing mills, a carriage manufactory, a net and twine factory, a cotton seed oil mill, two brick yards, one to press brick, a steam cotton gin, an oyster packing establishment, five blacksmith shops, a ship yard, three newspapers, three job printing offices, a bank, three livery stables, a theatre, a beer-bottling and soda establishment, a handsome and commodious academy, a number of private and public schools, a normal school for the colored race, a State normal school for the white race, four churches for whites and two for colored.<sup>35</sup>

The railroad linkage increased Elizabeth City's economic dependence on northern cities. This is graphically illustrated in local newspapers, in which local and regional advertisements dominated until the late nineteenth century, when those from Norfolk, Baltimore, Philadelphia and other northern cities gradually became preponderant. Talent and capital were also imported. In the last quarter of the century, energetic businessmen like the Blades, Kramers, and Robinsons emigrated to Elizabeth City from Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York, and other northern states. Many of these were attracted by Dr. Palemon John's newspaper North Carolinian, published in Elizabeth City from 1869 to 1894 and distributed in the North for this purpose.<sup>36</sup> In 1872 the Kramer brothers, natives of Pennsylvania, established a saw and planing mill which became one of the area's largest wood-processing plants.<sup>37</sup> Charles Hall Robinson,<sup>38</sup> from New York, was instrumental in the establishment of the Elizabeth City Cotton Mill,<sup>39</sup> and the Elizabeth City Hosiery Mill in 1902. The population increased fourfold between 1890 and 1915, when 12,000 people, many

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of them attracted by the new factories, inhabited the town.<sup>40</sup> Cotton yarns, hosiery, lumber, shingles and other wood products were the major manufactured products during this period.<sup>41</sup>

During this period of rapid growth, the focus of commercial activity shifted from Water and Road streets to Main Street. The original Water and Road streets areas continued as the retail centers until the late nineteenth century. As late as 1891, commercial development on Main Street was limited to the two blocks west of the wharves, with the remaining blocks residential. Water Street, closed off by a brick city market at the north end (just north of the present Colonial Avenue intersection) and by two brick row stores at the south end (just south of the Fearing Street intersection), formed an interesting commercial space which has now disappeared.<sup>42</sup> Fires and continual rebuilding have erased most of the late nineteenth century commercial fabric from this area. The Road Street commercial district, however, is remarkably intact, primarily because it was largely abandoned in the early twentieth century. During the second half of the nineteenth century, South Road Street was the major banking and residential street in town.<sup>43</sup> The earliest known reference to road surfacing in town is an 1857 record of the purchase of bricks to pave the sidewalks along Road Street.<sup>44</sup>

The intensive usage of this area throughout most of the nineteenth century is well represented by the succession of activities in the Cluff-Pool Store at 100 Road Street, at the Main Street intersection. The construction date of the two-story brick store is unknown. Matthew Cluff, one of the town's earliest storekeepers, bought the lot in 1819, had a store on the site by 1827, and the present store had been constructed by his death in 1845.<sup>45</sup> Like many early residents, Cluff's residency alternated between Norfolk and Elizabeth City. In 1826, while living in Norfolk, he invented a new type of steam engine which was acclaimed in the Norfolk newspaper.<sup>46</sup> His ownership of the first boat to clear the enlarged Dismal Swamp Canal in 1828 has already been noted. The first floor of the building remained in general store or drugstore use throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century. During the 1850s the second floor contained the office of the local newspaper The Democratic Pioneer.<sup>47</sup> From 1862 to 1882 the upstairs held the records recovered from the burning courthouse following the Union capture of the town, and the building was known as the "Court House."<sup>48</sup> The law office of federal judge George W. Brooks, one of the judicial heroes of Reconstruction in North Carolina, was upstairs during the mid-nineteenth century.<sup>49</sup> Brooks gained fame in 1870 when he issued a writ of habeas corpus which freed a number of North Carolinians imprisoned illegally by "Kirk's Army."<sup>50</sup> In the late nineteenth century, the Masonic Lodge room was located upstairs.<sup>51</sup>

During the early twentieth century, with the construction of the United States Post Office and Courthouse in 1906, the Kramer Building of 1909, and the Hinton (Carolina) Building of 1912, now demolished,<sup>52</sup> Main Street assumed its present dominant role. This rapid development of the central business district required efficient handling of traffic, and the extant information concerning street paving materials illustrates this effort.



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Perhaps the earliest material used was oyster shells. The Economist of October 20, 1899, mentions that "Martin Street has become very popular with the teamsters since the shelling of same". The December 6, 1901, issue notes that Water and Poindexter streets would soon be treated to an additional coat of oyster shells. The main streets were given more durable surfacing: The Economist of September 15, 1899, announced that John H. Armbricht of Berkeley, Virginia, had been awarded the contract for paving and curbing the section of Poindexter Street within the central business district with "Belgian block" (granite block). Most of the residential streets in the historic district are paved with large bricks imprinted "Baltimore Block, W. P. B. Co.", laid between 1910 and 1920.<sup>53</sup> Like the Belgian block, the brick was unfortunately covered with asphalt in the later twentieth century.

Although the canal has been outmoded since the advent of the railroad, it continues to exercise some influence on Elizabeth City. In 1899, the Lake Drummond Canal and Water Company opened the reconstructed Dismal Swamp Canal, and by 1906 it had recaptured much of its former trade from the Albemarle-Chesapeake Canal. During the early twentieth century logs and lumber made up the majority of the northbound cargo; and coal, cement, and general merchandise the majority of the southbound. In 1929 the United States government purchased the canal, and its operation became the duty of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. It became part of the intra-coastal waterway system and has flourished since then, a large proportion of the vessels being pleasure craft.<sup>54</sup> The early twentieth century era of growth and progress was outstanding as well for the work of editor W. O. Saunders. Saunders, one of the most influential southern editors of his day, published The Independent in Elizabeth City from 1908 to his death in 1939. An iconoclastic crusader for such liberal principles as Negro rights, birth control and animal conservation, he became one of the best-known weekly newspaper editors in the United States during the 1920s, when he published a series of articles in American Magazine and Colliers.<sup>55</sup>

The early twentieth century character of the central business district of Elizabeth City changed little until recently. The 1950 population was identical to the 1915 population.<sup>56</sup> By 1960, however, population had risen to 14,000,<sup>57</sup> and this gradual increase is continuing. Commercial development of incompatible character and scale now threatens the integrity of the historic district.

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FOOTNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Laws of North Carolina, 1793, c. LV.
- <sup>2</sup> Pugh, Jesse F. Three Hundred Years along the Pasquotank. (Old Trapp, N. C.: privately published, 1957). p. 44.
- <sup>3</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book M, 355; Laws, 1793, c. LV.
- <sup>4</sup> Laws, 1794, c. LVIII; Laws, 1801, c. LXII.
- <sup>5</sup> Griffin, William A. Ante-Bellum Elizabeth City: The History of a Canal Town. Elizabeth City, N.C.: Roanoke Press, Inc., 1970. p. 34.
- <sup>6</sup> Laws, 1800, c. LXXII; Minutes of the Pasquotank County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. June, 1800. State Archives, N.C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC.
- <sup>7</sup> Plan of the town of Elizabeth City. Exum Newby, 1832. Copied by F. A. Vaughan, no date. Recopied by Hyman, City Engineer, 1950. Reprinted in Griffin, p. 35.
- <sup>8</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book P, 161.
- <sup>9</sup> Brown, Alexander Crosby. The Dismal Swamp Canal. Chesapeake, Va.: Norfolk County Historical Society, 1967. p. 39 and Appendix A.
- <sup>10</sup> Laws, 1807, c. XLVII.
- <sup>11</sup> Griffin, p. 89.
- <sup>12</sup> Laws, 1816, c. XLIII.
- <sup>13</sup> Lefler, Hugh Talmage and Newsome, Albert Ray. North Carolina. Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina Press, 1963. p. 300.
- <sup>14</sup> Elizabeth-City Star, March 4, 1826; Vestry Book (ca. 1844) of Christ's Church, Christ's Church, Elizabeth City.
- <sup>15</sup> Notes, Elizabeth City Branch of the Bank of North Carolina, State Archives.
- <sup>16</sup> Pasquotank Historical Society Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 281.

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- 17 The Economist, May 31, 1881.
- 18 Brown, p. 52.
- 19 Ibid.
- 20 Elizabeth-City Star, March 31, 1827.
- 21 The Old North State, November 3, 1849.
- 22 U. S. Census, Pasquotank County, 1850. Industrial Schedule. State Archives.
- 23 Ibid., Population Schedule.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 Lefler and Newsome, p. 378.
- 26 Harpers New Monthly Magazine, Edward C. Brice.
- 27 Brown, pp. 75-77.
- 28 Ashe, S. A. "The End of the North Carolina Navy". unpublished manuscript, no date. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C.
- 29 "Capture of Elizabeth City, N. C." Moore, Frank. The Rebellion Record; a diary of American Events, with documents, narratives, illustrative incidents, poetry, etc. New York: G. P. Putnam, 1861-1863, Vol. 4, p. 125.
- 30 Brown, pp. 87-101.
- 31 The Economist, May 31, 1881.
- 32 Historical and Descriptive Review of the State of North Carolina: The Eastern Section. Vol. 2. Charleston, S. C.: Empire Publishing Co., 1885. p. 221.
- 33 The Economist, May 1, 1883.
- 34 U. S. Census, Pasquotank County, 1880. Population Schedule.
- 35 Historical and Descriptive Review, p. 221.
- 36 Ibid., p. 228.

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- <sup>37</sup> Elizabeth City. C. E. Weaver Series. (Richmond, Va.: Central Publishing Co., Inc., 1915.) p. 17. (Copy in Historical Collection of Fred Fearing, Elizabeth City, N. C.)
- <sup>38</sup> Ibid., p. 23.
- <sup>39</sup> Ibid., p. 6.
- <sup>40</sup> Ibid., p. 1.
- <sup>41</sup> "Elizabeth City, N. C. Hub of the Albemarle Region". edited by H. L. Grant. no date (ca. 1904). (Copy in Historical Collection of Fred Fearing, Elizabeth City, N. C.)
- <sup>42</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, Elizabeth City, 1891. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C.
- <sup>43</sup> Overman, Harold Speight, "Leather Hill in the Nineties", Yearbook, Vol. II, p. 155.
- <sup>44</sup> Minutes, Town of Elizabeth City, July 6, 1857. State Archives.
- <sup>45</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book V, 355 (1819 Thos. D. Martin to Mary C. Cluff); Elizabeth-City Star, June 2, 1827; Pasquotank County Deed Book FF, 153.
- <sup>46</sup> Elizabeth-City Star, May 15, 1824; August 19, 1826; January 20, 1837.
- <sup>47</sup> The Democratic Pioneer, March 16, 1858; see newspaper credits and advertisement of watch repair business of George Sartorius; Pasquotank County Deed Book MM, 410 (1858).
- <sup>48</sup> Pasquotank County Deed Book OO, 532 and 559; Temple, Mrs. W. O. "Elizabeth City, 1865-1880". Pasquotank County Historical Society Yearbook, Vol. 2, 1956-57. p. 131.
- <sup>49</sup> Notes of Fred Fearing, local historian; Elizabeth City, N.C.
- <sup>50</sup> Lefler and Newcome, op. cit., p. 467, 468.
- <sup>51</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, Elizabeth City, 1885.
- <sup>52</sup> Sanborn Insurance Map, Elizabeth City, 1908 & 1914; documentary photos of Main Street in Historical Collection of Fred Fearing, Elizabeth City, N.C.
- <sup>53</sup> Little-Stokes, Ruth, Interview with Frank Benton, Jr., Elizabeth City builder, 1976.
- <sup>54</sup> Brown, pp. 107-131.

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<sup>55</sup> Saunders, W. O. "The Autobiography of a Crank," reprinted in Yearbook, Vol. II, pp. 269-280; unpublished biography of Saunders submitted by Dr. James T. Baker, Western Kentucky University, 1975, to North Carolina Historical Review.

<sup>56</sup> An Appraisal of Potential for Outdoor Recreation. Soil Conservation Service, Elizabeth City, N.C. September, 1972. p. 34.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

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- Ashe, S. A. "The End of the North Carolina Navy". unpublished manuscript, no date. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C.
- Brown, Alexander Crosby. The Dismal Swamp Canal. Chesapeake, VA: Norfolk County Historical Society, 1967. p. 39 and Appendix A.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	_____	_____	_____
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C	_____	_____	_____

	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
A-	36° 18' 0"	76° 18' 302"
B-	36° 17' 56"	76° 18' 304"
C-	36° 17' 58"	76° 18' 343"
D-	36° 18' 03"	76° 18' 343"
B	_____	_____
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	_____	_____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Description and Significance by Ruth Little-Stokes, Survey Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Dept. Archives & History, Preservation Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

109 East Jones St.

TELEPHONE

829-4763

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*Sam E. Pin*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 11/15/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 10/18/77

DATE 10/12/77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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ELIZABETH CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARIES:

Beginning in the center of the Pasquotank River Channel (Intracoastal Waterway) beneath the N. C. 168/US 158 bridge on the boundary line between Pasquotank and Camden counties, thence south with said county line to the point where a line 150 feet south of and parallel to Fearing Street would intersect the county line; thence west with said line to the center of Water Street, thence west along rear property lines of 611-603 E. Fearing to Poindexter Street, thence west along south property line of 201 S. Poindexter Street to the east property line of Christ Episcopal Church, thence south with said line to the center of Church Street, thence west along said center to center line of McMorrine Street, thence south with said center to the rear property lines of 405, 401, 307, 305, 301 E. Church Street to the center of Pool Street; thence north with said center to the center of intersecting Church Street; thence west along said center to the center line of intersecting Cobb Street; thence north along said center to the center of intersecting Fearing Street, thence west along said center to the center line of intersecting Dyer Street, thence north along said center to the rear property lines of 301-401 W. Main Street, thence west along said property lines to the east property line of 320 W. Fearing Street; thence south with said line across Fearing and continuing south along the east property line of 323 W. Fearing to the north and east property lines of 400 W. Church Street, (Tillitt-Nixon House), thence east and south along said lines to the center line of Church Street, thence west along said center to the center line of intersecting Culpepper Street, thence south along said center to the south property line of 301 Culpepper Street, (Richardson-Pool House); thence west and north along property lines of said property to the center line of Church Street, thence with said center east to west property line of 400 Church Street, thence north and east along said lines to the west property line of 401 W. Fearing Street, thence north along said line across Fearing to the west property line of 400 W. Fearing, thence north along said line to the rear property lines of 405-605 W. Main Street, thence west along said lines to the west property line of 605 W. Main Street, thence north along said line to the center line of W. Main Street, thence west along said center to the center line of intersecting Selden Street, thence south along said center to the rear property lines of 801-805 W. Main Street, thence west and north along said lines to the center line of W. Main Street, thence west along said center to the west property line of 800 W. Main Street, thence north along said line to the rear property lines of 800-402 W. Main Street, thence east along said lines to the rear property lines of 105-107 Harney Street, thence north along said lines to the center line of Colonial Avenue, thence east along said center to the first Baptist Church Cemetery, thence north, east and south with said property lines to the center line of W. Colonial, thence with said center to the center line of Cobb Street, thence south along said center to the rear property line of 104 W. Main Street, thence with the property lines of said property east and south to the center line of W. Main Street, thence east along said center to the center line of Road Street, thence north along said line to the center line of E. Colonial Avenue, thence east along said center to the west property line of 110 E. Colonial Avenue (The Independent Office), thence north along said line to the rear property lines of 110-204 E. Colonial Avenue, thence east along said lines to the center



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line of Pool Street, thence south along said center to the center line of E. Colonial Avenue, thence east along said center to the center line of Martin Street, thence south along said center to the center line of E. Main Street, thence west along said center to the center line of Pool Street, thence south along said center to the center line of Church Street, thence east along said center to the center line of Martin Street, thence north along said center to the center line of E. Fearing Street, thence east along said center to the center line of McMorrine Street, thence north along said center to the center line of E. Colonial Avenue, thence east along said center to the west property line of 506, 504 E. Colonial Avenue, thence north with said line to the rear property lines of 211-213 N. Poindexter Street, thence north along said lines to the north property line of 213 N. Poindexter, thence east with said line to the center line of N. Poindexter Street, thence north with said center to the center line of Elizabeth Street, thence east with said center to the beginning point.