

STOKES COUNTY HISTORIC INVENTORY

- Final Report -

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## INTRODUCTION

In late 1983 the Stokes County Historical Society undertook to conduct an inventory of historically and architecturally significant properties in the county. A special appropriation from the North Carolina General Assembly, a matching grant from the U. S. Department of the Interior through the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, and contributions from the Stokes County Board of Commissioners and the Stokes County Historical Society provided funding for the inventory. Laura A. W. Phillips served as architectural historian and project director, while Marion F. Venable conducted the majority of the historical research. Wake Forest graduate student Amy T. Dantre provided supplementary research services.

Field work on the project began in the Fall of 1983 and continued until the Spring of 1985, followed by further research, survey analysis and interpretation, and project writing. During the course of the inventory, more than 750 properties were recorded, mapped, and photographed, and hundreds of others were noted with simple coding on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps for the county. Virtually every road in Stokes County which could be traveled was inspected for possible historic sites. Countless local residents shared information concerning the recorded properties, and a variety of written sources were consulted in an attempt to flesh out the documentation of each property. Nevertheless, because an inventory is just the beginning of a long-term preservation process, it should be understood that additional research can and should be conducted on many of the recorded properties in the future. For the present, this inventory provides an invaluable database for understanding the history of the county through its built environment.

The following essay provides an overview of the architectural history of Stokes County, based on an analysis of the properties recorded in the inventory. It is not intended to be a comprehensive history of the county. Rather, it strives to present sufficient information on Stokes County's history--the major trends and forces which have affected the development of the county--to provide a context for understanding the evolution of the built environment. In turn, the county's historic architecture constitutes a tangible reflection of the society which created it.

A quick perusal of the reference notes reveals that, in the absence of a scholarly county history, much reliance has been placed on information from census records and late nineteenth and early twentieth-century business directories along with supplementary information from the Stokes County Historical Society's The Heritage of Stokes County and a variety of other sources. Most of the historical information pertaining to individual properties has not been footnoted. This documentation can found in the inventory files (each recorded property has its

own file) which are maintained by the Survey and Planning Branch,  
State Historic Preservation Office, North Carolina Division of  
Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, North  
Carolina 27611; 919/733-6545.

## THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE

### Geographical Setting

Stokes County's history is inseparable from its geography. Located in the northwest piedmont section of North Carolina, Stokes is a rectangular county of 458 square miles. It is bounded on the east by Rockingham County, on the south by Forsyth County, on the west by Surry County, and on the north by Patrick and Henry counties in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The most distinguishing geographic feature of the county is that within its borders is an entire mountain range--the Sauratown Mountains--named for the Saura Indians who once inhabited the land. Located in the center of the county, the mountains rise more than 2,500 feet above sea level, in sharp contrast to the average 800-foot elevation of the hilly countryside which makes up the remainder of the county. Although the mountains occupy little more than five percent<sup>1</sup> of the county's total land area, they dominate the landscape.

The Sauratown Mountains have exercised both a positive and a negative influence on the character and development of Stokes County. First of all, the mountains--along with the rolling hills and valleys which wrap their base--have rendered a landscape of great beauty, complete with countless picturesque vistas. Home builders from the earliest settlers to twentieth-century residents have taken advantage of dramatic home sites afforded by the landscape.

Throughout much of the county's history, the mountains have provided opportunities for recreation which have been enjoyed by thousands of residents and nonresidents alike. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the mineral springs found in the mountains promoted the development of fashionable resorts which attracted people seeking both the purported curative powers of the waters and the considerable social life accompanying the spas. During the Great Depression, the Civilian Conservation Corps developed Hanging Rock State Park, which<sup>2</sup> has become one of the most popular parks in the state's system.

Nevertheless, the mountains have also hindered both transportation and communication in Stokes County throughout its history. Even today, direct routes between different parts of the county are almost nonexistent. Roads wind around the central mountains from north to south and from east to west and must otherwise respond to the irregular contour of the land. At the same time, the mountainous terrain has limited the size and layout of farms in much of the county as well as the acreage which can be cultivated. Indeed, census records reveal that during much of the nineteenth century "improved" farmlands--that under cultivation--constituted only around twenty percent of all farmlands.<sup>3</sup>

Like the mountains, Stokes's waterways contribute to the picturesque landscape of the county. The primary stream is the

Dan River, which meanders diagonally through the county from the northwest corner to the southeast corner. Along with the Dan, numerous creeks--mostly tributaries of the Dan--with descriptive names like Town Fork, Big, Snow, Pinch Gut, Crooked, and Flat Shoals, lace their way through the county providing good drainage and fertile lands for farming. In earlier years Stokes's waterways provided many suitable locations for water-powered grist mills and other small-scale industries which served the needs of a rural population. However, with the exception of short stretches of the Dan River, none of the waterways proved navigable.

### Early Settlement and the Formation of Stokes County

Extant documentary records provide a variety of clues concerning the earliest period of significant settlement in what is now Stokes County. Tax lists, land grants and deeds, the 1784-1787 state census, Moravian records, the survival of two substantial houses believed to have been built in the 1780s, and the dates of county formation in northwest North Carolina suggest that the most intensive settlement of what is now Stokes County took place largely in the third quarter of the eighteenth century. Settlement before that was very thin, and it slowed down after the Revolution. Many names in the 1784-1787 census are still present in Stokes County or at least remained evident for a century or more.

The majority of settlers were probably from Virginia (primarily from counties across piedmont Virginia), though many were from Pennsylvania and other Mid-Atlantic colonies. The eighteenth-century road, variously called "the Great Wagon Road" and other names, which led from Pennsylvania into western North Carolina, ran through the eastern part of Stokes and doubtless was the means by which many early settlers arrived in the county.

Those of English background appear to have made up the majority of settlers in the county, though there were also Germans, Scotch-Irish, and other groups represented. While the family names which survive from the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries attest to the presence of these and other ethnic groups, the record of the county's churches, as revealed in the nineteenth-century census records and business directories, provides a strong impression of the predominance of those people of English descent. Although the primary religious presence in the earliest years of the county was surely that of the Moravians, that presence was concentrated in the Wachovia Tract in the southern half of the 1789 county--that area which split off in 1849 to form Forsyth County. Moravian churches, in fact, were not reported in the area that comprises present-day Stokes County until the mid 1890s. A Lutheran congregation--another denomination historically associated with those of German ancestry--was also not listed until the 1890s. A Friends

(Quaker) church was not listed until the 1880s, and it was actually located in the Surry County section Westfield. Two Presbyterian churches, which were generally linked with the Scotch-Irish, were recorded in the 1850 census, but these subsequently disappeared from formal lists until 1896, when Branson's Business Directory recorded four Presbyterian churches.<sup>10</sup> Instead, it was the Methodist and Baptist (primarily Primitive Baptist) churches--drawing largely from those of English ancestry--which proliferated in the county during the nineteenth century. Even after a variety of other denominations appeared toward the end of the century, it was still the Methodist and Baptist congregations that dominated the Stokes religious scene.<sup>11</sup> Their churches remain the most numerous in the county today.

In 1770 Surry County was formed from Rowan and included the present-day counties of Surry, Yadkin, Stokes, and Forsyth.<sup>12</sup> Less than twenty years later, in 1789, Stokes County was formed from Surry, suggesting a substantial increase in the settlement and development of the area.<sup>13</sup> And yet, the bulk of Stokes's population at that time probably centered around Salem and the other well established Moravian communities which are now part of Forsyth County.

Stokes County was named for John Stokes (1756-1790), a native of Lunenburg County, Virginia, who was an officer in the Revolutionary War. After the war, he moved to Montgomery County, North Carolina, and then to Rowan County. Stokes was a member of the North Carolina General Assembly (first from Montgomery County and then from Rowan)<sup>14</sup> and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1789.

In 1790 Germanton was established as the county seat. It was laid out on a tract of land that was then approximately in the center of the county and is now at the dividing line between Stokes and Forsyth counties. In 1849 Stokes was divided by the creation of Forsyth County, thereby acquiring its present land size. Court continued to meet in Germanton until a new county seat could be established. The new "county town of Stokes" was created on the Dan River just east of the Sauratown Mountains in the center of the county. It was named Crawford in 1851, but in 1852 the name was changed to Danbury.<sup>15</sup> Danbury remains the county's center of government.

### Nineteenth Century through the Civil War

Stokes County farms during the nineteenth century (and early twentieth century) typically cultivated corn, wheat, oats, grasses, fruits (especially apples), and garden vegetables and raised primarily swine, cattle, and sheep.<sup>16</sup> Tobacco, however, was and remains the keystone of Stokes County's agrarian economy.<sup>17</sup>

In the two decades prior to the Civil War, Stokes County shared in the marked economic development experienced by North

Carolina and the nation as a whole. Land values increased, and there was great agricultural prosperity, at least for some.<sup>18</sup> Nevertheless, of the 591 farms in Stokes County in 1850, the average farm was relatively small--or at least relatively undeveloped--with only fifty-six of 281 acres (twenty percent) cultivated. Some farms, on the other hand, consisted of more than one thousand total acres.<sup>19</sup> A group of large and impressive Greek Revival plantation houses, including Pine Hall (NR), the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House (SK 272), the Benjamin Bailey House (SK 253), and the Hampton Bynum House (SK 281) provides physical evidence of the prosperity enjoyed by some of the larger landowners during this period.

Compared with many counties in North Carolina, Stokes did not have a large slave population. In fact, with the size of the average farm in the county, many--or any--slaves would have been impractical except for the largest land owners. Census records reveal that in 1860 only three percent of the white population owned slaves, and of these, only twenty-eight held twenty or more slaves.<sup>20</sup>

The resulting picture is of a county composed primarily of yeomen farmers with modest farms, few slaves, and simple dwellings which reflected their needs and economic position. This picture is a continuation of a pattern which began with eighteenth-century settlement. There were, of course, exceptions, as previously suggested by the survival of Pine Hall, the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House, and the Bailey and Bynum houses, among others.

The greatest deviation from the norm is demonstrated by the Hairston family. They were not only, by far, the richest family in Stokes County, but between their holdings in Stokes and Davie counties, they were one of the wealthiest families in North Carolina. Family members also owned considerable land and slaves in Virginia and the deep south. The 1790 Stokes Taxables List shows Peter Hairston with 2,507 acres and twenty-nine "Black Poles." The 1800 list shows him with 6,068 acres and fifty-five "Black Poles." The 1862 tax list shows Ruth Hairston, executrix of the estate of Pater Hairston, deceased, with 12,284 acres and 321 slaves--a phenomenal record for Stokes County.<sup>21</sup> The original Hairston Sauratown Plantation house, located on the east side of the Dan River in southeastern Stokes County, burned, and a house (SK 182) on the west side of the river was constructed around the 1870s. This house is one of the most sophisticated dwellings from its period in the county and is a strong expression of late nineteenth-century architectural romanticism. Other Hairston summer homes (according to tradition) and tenant houses are located in the area.

During the Civil War Stokes County did not experience the trauma of actual battle that affected many parts of the south. The only conflict came at the end of the war when General Stoneman's cavalry invaded the county and set up camp in Danbury on April 9, 1865, during a sweep through the mountains and western piedmont. After Stoneman determined that there was

little war effort of significance in the area, there were few reprisals, and the following day the troops left the county by way of Germanton. Nevertheless, during and after the war Stokes County did suffer a drain on manpower, having provided the Confederacy with many soldiers. In addition food, clothing, and other supplies in the county were depleted because of the demands of the army.<sup>22</sup>

### Post Civil War Nineteenth Century

The major effects of the Civil War on Stokes County were felt in the post-war years, particularly in the county's agricultural economy, which witnessed decreased production for a time and a revolution in land holdings and in the labor system. After the war farmers lacked both capital and credit for repairs, replacements, operations, or expansions.<sup>23</sup> The 1870 census recorded a significant drop in crop production levels--especially for the major crops, tobacco and corn--over those reported in 1860. By 1880, however, production had regained or surpassed its pre-war levels. Tobacco production, in particular, was one and a half times greater than its 1860 level, strongly suggesting that the county was well on the road to recovery.<sup>24</sup> By 1880, in fact, Stokes County was the fifth largest producer of tobacco in the state.<sup>25</sup> Indeed, a description of the county published at the turn of the century claimed that,

"The great crop of the county is tobacco, for which Stokes has long been noted--the dark rich leaf that characterizes the adjacent counties in Virginia, the product of dark, rich soils, and the bright yellow, the gift of the lighter soils, being equally responsive to culture."<sup>26</sup>

Much of this tobacco found a market in nearby Winston, but some of it was manufactured locally.<sup>27</sup>

Of greater and longer lasting importance than farm production levels, however, was the break-up of large land holdings and the accompanying changes in the labor system which developed during the post-war years. The rapid dismantling of the county's plantations and larger farms is suggested by both the increased number of farms and their decreased acreage reported in census records. Whereas in 1850 a total of 591 farms with an average of fifty-six improved acres were listed in Stokes County, by 1870 the number of farms had nearly doubled in number to 1119 while the average improved acreage had decreased to thirty-seven. This trend continued throughout the remainder of the nineteenth century, so that by 1900 there were 3234 farms listed--more than five times the number in 1850--but with an average of only twenty-seven improved acres--less than half the average improved acres of the 1850 farms.<sup>28</sup>

The fact that improved, or cultivated, farm acreage accounted for only a small percentage of the total farm acreage

during these years is also of significance. From the 1850s through the 1870s, improved acreage constituted only around twenty percent of total farm acreage, and by the end of the century cultivated lands had increased only slightly to around thirty to thirty-five percent of the total.

The striking contrast between improved and unimproved farmlands as reported in the census reveals much about the essential character of Stokes County through much of its history. Though it was a predominantly agricultural county in the nineteenth century (as well as in the eighteenth and twentieth centuries), the vast majority of farm lands were not even cultivated. A variety of factors was likely responsible, including the rugged terrain in much of the county which discouraged large-scale farming and the difficulty of transporting farm products to market. Thus both the landscape and the historical record contribute to an image of small-scale subsistence farms, self sufficiency, and relative isolation experienced by many Stokes County residents.

The surviving historical architecture clearly reflects these conditions within the county. Most dwellings were simple but sturdy log or frame houses of traditional construction, form, and detail and were little affected by stylistic trends popular in the outside world. Only the houses of the wealthier landowners--who tended to have a greater cultural exposure and who had the means to build in a more elaborate manner--showed strong evidence of the architectural fashions of the day. As time went on, of course, the less affluent farmers began to imitate in their own house construction some of the features they saw in the more stylish houses in the county, often resulting in delightful vernacular interpretations.

In North Carolina the tenant system of farming, composed primarily of white share-croppers, developed as one of the more significant responses to the loss of capital and slave labor as well as to the high price of land after the Civil War.<sup>30</sup> Stokes County followed the rest of the state in this trend. By the end of the century, owner-run farms had decreased dramatically. In 1890 the census listed only 55.5% of Stokes County's farms as owner-cultivated, while 44.5% were cultivated by tenants, 39.6% of which were share-croppers. By 1900 farms operated by owners (41%) had actually dropped below the level of farms in the county operated by share tenants (49%). However, by 1910 owner-cultivated farms were again in the majority (52.1%), if only slightly.<sup>31</sup>

As farm tenancy increased during the second half of the nineteenth century, so did the reliance on tobacco. For all practical purposes, the county's landlords and tenants functioned under a one-cash-crop policy. While economically profitable, this heavy reliance on tobacco did not come without problems, including depletion of the soil and total dependence on a fluctuating tobacco market.<sup>32</sup>

The system of farm tenancy was another factor which determined the type of farmhouses built in Stokes County during

the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Judging from extant examples, simple and traditional farmhouses built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries far exceeded those of considerable size or stylishness. The tenancy system so prevalent during the period simply was not conducive to the construction of large or particularly fashionable dwellings.

The arrival of rail service to Stokes County in the 1880s was pivotal to the growth and prosperity of much of the county. Two railroads transversed the southern part of the county. The Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad (later part of the Atlantic and Yadkin and then of the Southern railroads) entered the southeastern corner of the county from Greensboro and points east (as far as Wilmington) and traveled along the southern edge and then north along the western border of the county before exiting near Pilot Mountain, where it continued on to Mount Airy. It passed through Walnut Cove, Germanton, King, and Pinnacle. The other railroad was the Roanoke and Southern (later part of the Norfolk and Western system), which entered the eastern side of the county from Madison (in Rockingham County) and Roanoke, Virginia, and then passed through Pine Hall and Walnut Cove before exiting south into Forsyth County on its way to Winston.<sup>33</sup>

The railroads provided the means by which the county's farm and other products could be shipped to more distant markets, and at the same time improved communications between the county and the world beyond. Farmers could finally sell their crops to markets beyond the confines of the county and receive cash which in turn could generally bolster the local economy. Improved communications also brought an expanded cultural awareness which ultimately affected the stylishness of the county's architecture.

The history of the mineral springs resorts in central Stokes County was also closely tied to the arrival of rail service. Although Piedmont Springs, the oldest of the spas, had been developed in the Danbury area in the 1850s, both Moore's Springs and Vade Mecum were built after the rail service could make them more accessible to people from a broader geographic area. Indeed, the heyday of these three resorts came during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Although they did not extend to the Danbury area, the railroads at least brought people to southern Stokes County, from which they<sup>34</sup> could hire a hack to travel the rest of the way to the springs.

The railroads had a great impact on the communities through which they passed, bringing new or renewed growth and converting some into full-fledged towns. Walnut Cove benefited most, for both railroads passed through that community. Walnut Cove had had a long but slow history, but with the arrival of the trains, it became a busy railroad and trading center in which wholesale businesses, in particular, prospered. The town was incorporated in 1889 with a population of two hundred, streets were laid out, and construction proceeded at a rapid pace.<sup>35</sup> Nineteenth-century business directories dramatically reveal the extent of the changes in Walnut Cove. In 1884, prior to the arrival of the railroads, only three merchants were listed for the town, but by

1890 this number had increased to sixteen. Additionally, the twelve sawmills and one planing mill listed for Walnut Cove in 1890 suggest both the local building activity which took place and that trees were being cut for timber for shipment on the two rail lines.<sup>36</sup> Many structures from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries remain in Walnut Cove attesting to this flourishing period in the town's history.

Population figures for Stokes County during the second half of the nineteenth century add to our understanding of the county's history. From 1850 (after the separation of Forsyth County from Stokes) to 1900 Stokes County experienced slow but steady growth, from 9,206 to 19,866. Corresponding with the county's boom period, the greatest growth took place during the decades from 1870 to the end of the century. Even during those years, however, the maximum<sup>37</sup> growth per decade (during the 1870s) was little more than 3,000.

### Early Twentieth Century

As did much of the country, Stokes County experienced great economic upheaval during the 1920s and 1930s. One after-effect of World War I was a great inflationary period which created what appeared to be tremendous prosperity. Everything, including farm products and especially farm lands, was high in price. Huge debts were contracted on the assumption that the high prices would remain. Not surprisingly, when the Great Depression occurred, Stokes County was hit particularly hard. Every bank in the county closed, and as a result, both land-speculating farmers and thrifty savers lost everything. Stokes County remained bankless until State Planters Bank was organized<sup>38</sup> in 1931. Recovery was slow during the 1940s and 1950s.

Stokes County's population during the first half of the twentieth century slowed almost to a halt. Indeed, whereas the population had increased by more than 10,600 between 1850 and 1900, in the decades from 1900 to 1950 the population grew by little more than 1,600 (from 19,866 to 21,520).<sup>39</sup> This unusually slow rate of growth, while not a positive economic indicator, was doubtless responsible in large measure for the retention of so many of the county's historic structures. With growth that was this slow, comparatively few new buildings were needed.

### Recent Growth

In recent years Stokes County has experienced a phenomenal rate of growth caused in large part by an economic development in Forsyth County near the Stokes border. In the 1980s R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company opened a large manufacturing facility in Tobaccoville (Forsyth County) just outside King. As a response to this new facility and to the years of planning for it, the town of King and the surrounding area has grown by leaps and

bounds. Census records for Stokes County and for King dramatically demonstrate this point. While the county population grew by less than 4,000 people from 1900 to 1970 (from 19,866 to 23,782), in the single decade between 1970 and 1980 the population expanded by over 9,000 (from 23,782 to 33,086). Most of this growth was in King itself, which mushroomed from 1033 to 8757 people in the decade of the 1970s.<sup>40</sup> While much of Stokes County remains relatively little changed from its appearance in earlier years, this growth in the southwestern section and its associated prospect of prosperity have been accompanied by a building boom of both housing and commercial development. This rapid change has drastically altered the face of this corner of the county and has brought extreme pressure on the area's historic resources.

## THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE OF STOKES COUNTY

Stokes County is and always has been primarily a rural, agricultural county. It has been characteristically slow to grow, slow to change, relatively isolated, and traditional in its lifeways and architecture. The fact that the county has witnessed far less physical change than have many counties has worked to the distinct advantage of its historic and architectural resources. Stokes retains a marvelous collection of buildings and structures--often little altered--which help to tell the story of the county's history.

### The Stokes County Farmstead

The basic functional unit of Stokes County's agrarian economy has always been the farmstead. Farmsteads are defined by three basic components: the land, the farmhouse, and the supporting outbuildings.

Hundreds of farmsteads from the late eighteenth century through the early twentieth century remain in Stokes County, and most retain at least some of their period outbuildings. Typical historic farm outbuildings included the kitchen (when kitchens were built apart from the house), the well house/shed, the privy, the smokehouse/curing house, the wood shed, the corncrib, the granary, the animal/feed barn, the tobacco barn, the tobacco pack house, and the equipment shed. In some instances farm complexes might include a chicken house, an animal pen, a wash house, a spring house, and a dairy. Only a few farmsteads, such as Pine Hall plantation (NR), the Wall-Reynolds House (SK 173), and the Sterling Adams House (SK 141) retain former slave dwellings. Depending on the size and type of the farming operation, some farms had multiple outbuildings of a single type.

There was no set or formal way in which outbuildings were arranged on Stokes County's farms, other than that they were laid out in a manner to best suit the working needs of the farmer. Usually the outbuildings most closely associated with household needs, such as the kitchen, the well house, the wash house, the smokehouse, and the wood shed, were located near the house, while those outbuildings associated more directly with the actual farm operations, such as the cultivation and storage of crops and the raising of livestock, were positioned further from the house. On some farms the outbuildings were arranged along one or more farm lanes, while on other farms they were arranged in various groupings. However they were arranged, and of whatever type, farm outbuildings can best be understood not as individual units but as part of the total farm entity.

Several farmsteads in the county retain particularly good collections of outbuildings from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and thereby are able to provide a good sense of the composition and appearance of farms from those years. The

Francis Jefferson Tuttle Farm (SK 203) is a neatly arranged farmstead set far back from NC 89 in Sauratown Township. The house itself is a typical late nineteenth-century two-story weatherboarded dwelling with a gable roof, gable-end chimneys, a front porch, and a one-story rear ell. Like many Stokes County farms, the Tuttle farm contains both log and frame outbuildings with metal roofs. Immediately behind the house are the frame well house and the smokehouse, a log structure with a gable roof which widely overhangs the gable-end entrance. The bulk of the remaining outbuildings are arranged along a farm lane running north from the side of the house. They include two log corncribs (one of which is a prototypical narrow log structure with a stone pier foundation and a gable roof with widely overhanging eaves), a frame center-passage feed barn, a small frame chicken house, and a log tobacco pack house with frame sheds.

The Samuel Kiser Farm (SK 367) in the Poplar Springs vicinity exhibits one of the most complete collections of outbuildings--totalling sixteen late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures--remaining in Stokes County. The house is a large but simple dwelling dating from ca. 1906 with an earlier ca. 1880s two-story house incorporated as the rear ell. The outbuildings are arranged in two distinct groupings. Immediately behind the house stand the well shed, the smokehouse, the wood shed, the milk house (an unusual narrow frame structure with a widely overhanging front gable and broad eaves), a log tobacco packhouse (not typically found so close to the house), a meat house, a wash house, and a privy. Most of these neat buildings are painted white, which further ties them to the house. The second group of buildings, more directly associated with the farm operation, is located south of the house beyond the primary lane. Arranged in a U-shaped formation with a large hay barn at the far end are a granary, a corncrib with sheds, two cow barns, a manure storage/corncrib/well shed building, an equipment shed, and a hog pen. Unlike the outbuildings near the house, these are unpainted. A shop where boards were planed and hardware was fabricated was also once located on the Kiser Farm.

The Joseph Edwin Johnson Farm (SK 345) in Yadkin Township nearly rivals the Kiser Farm in the number of its outbuildings, although they are not arranged in the neat groupings that characterize the Kiser Farm. The two-story frame farmhouse was built in stages between 1904 and 1914. Its eleven frame and log outbuildings--including a privy, a wash house, a smokehouse, a wood shed, a chicken house, a corncrib, a feed barn, a tobacco pack house, and various sheds and storage buildings--are spread out in no apparent pattern behind the house along either side of the road.

Among other notable farmsteads are the John H. Hamm Farm (SK 434) in the Chestnut Grove vicinity, the Simmons-Pratt Farm (SK 732) in the Sandy Ridge vicinity, and the Raleigh Gaston Gentry Farm (SK 385) in Yadkin Township. The Hamm Farm is a small but well-developed farmstead dating from 1881. Its one-and-a-half-story traditional Victorian frame cottage is

accompanied by twelve log, frame, and cinderblock outbuildings which surround a large garden north and east of the house. Closest to the house are the wash house and the smokehouse, and further removed are the chicken houses, the combination corncrib/tractor shed, the granary, the wood shed, the two garages, and other outbuildings. Of particular interest is the large double-pen log barn which retains its wood shake roof, a rare survivor in the county.

Although some of the outbuildings on the Simmons-Pratt Farm have been altered by the addition of asbestos shingles, the place remains a tight complex that provides a strong sense of the everyday activities associated with farm life in nineteenth-century Stokes County. Local tradition claims that the oldest buildings on the farm date from ca. 1860. Arranged close behind the simple two-story house are the combination kitchen and dining room (almost as big as the house), the dairy, the smokehouse, and the well house. East of, and separated from, these buildings is the combination corncrib and wood shed, and further east, lining the farm lane, are the tobacco pack house, the large log granary, a frame shed, and the center-passage frame feed barn. Farmers often supplemented their farm income with a secondary trade or business, and in addition to the fine collection of Simmons-Pratt outbuildings, this farm retains the general store operated in the nineteenth century by Ogburn H. Simmons. Located next to the main road, the former store building remains lined with shelves and drawers, although it has been converted to a residence.

The Gentry Farm is a good example of a rambling farmstead with a broad assortment of outbuildings dating from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The vernacular farmhouse sets the tone for the farmstead as a whole. Its casual arrangement of four parts was built in stages between 1870 and 1922. Within the circle formed by the driveway and road around the house are a smokehouse, a well shed, a wash house, a shed, and a garage. Spread out along the opposite side of the drive are a tobacco pack house, a wood shed, two equipment sheds, a corncrib, a granary, a double-pen log barn, and a large gambrel-roofed frame barn. Spilling across to the other side of the main road are a variety of chicken houses, tobacco pack houses and sheds. Like many houses and farms in the county, the Gentry Farm evolved over a period of time and was arranged according to utilitarian need.

### **Crossroads Communities**

Although the farmstead was the primary organizational unit within nineteenth and early twentieth-century rural Stokes County, it did not function in a vacuum. As self sufficient as farmers were, they generally did not supply all of their needs, even if those unmet needs were only of a social nature. Thus it was natural that crossroads communities developed and played a prominent role in the rural life of Stokes County. Crossroads

communities formed around a store, a post office, a mill, a school, a church, or some combination of the above. Some of these remain viable communities in one form or another, but most remain as not much more than a name on the map to serve as a reminder of their former existence. Several rural communities--all in north central Stokes County--are no longer active in the way they were during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but the physical vestiges which remain suggest the active role they and other communities like them once played in the rural life of the county.

Hart's Store (SK 796), at the junction of SR 1497 and SR 1454 in Big Creek Township, was primarily associated with the families of George William Hart and William Martin Moore. In the immediate vicinity of the crossroads are the George William Hart House (SK 790), an 1870s-1880s vernacular dwelling; the traditional 1906 home of his son, William Sanders Hart (SK 791); the Federal/Greek Revival-style dwelling of William Martin Moore (SK 793), dating from the early to mid nineteenth century; the unusual 1890s Queen Anne-style house of Dr. William Banner Moore (SK 794); and a one-story frame tenant house. Hart's Store (SK 792), located at the junction of the two roads, served as the focal point of the community. A typical one-story frame general store, Hart's Store was built in 1902 to replace an earlier store building on the site. It was in operation until the mid twentieth century. Just down the road stands the two-room school building known simply as "the Academy" (SK 795), which served the community from around the turn of the century until 1930. Also a part of this crossroads community was Dr. W. B. Moore's physician's office, located in his home, and the cemetery, located just up the road from the store.

Nearby is an early twentieth-century community centered on the homes and businesses of the Tilley family. The buildings as a group remain remarkably intact, largely because of the later twentieth century re-routing of NC 704 and because of the continued association with the family. Detached from the mainstream of mid and late twentieth century progress, the Tilley Community (SK 789) is located along the crescent-shaped loop of SR 1450. At the west end of the community is the Hall-Tilley House (SK 788), a mid nineteenth-century vernacular farmhouse which was substantially enlarged in 1896 and remodeled ca. 1950. At the east end of the complex of buildings is the Thomas W. Tilley House (SK 784), a late nineteenth-century two-story frame dwelling with several outbuildings. Among the outbuildings across the road from the T. W. Tilley House is the large mule barn which served Tilley's prosperous horse and mule trading business. On the hill northeast of the barn is the Hall-Tilley family cemetery. Also across from the T. W. Tilley House is the two-story frame building operated as the Tilley Store (SK 785) during the first quarter of the twentieth century. In the center of the community are two exceptional surviving structures. One is the large two-story frame industrial building which served as the Tilley Coffin, Casket, and Furniture Factory (SK 786)

operated by Thomas Isaac Tilley between ca. 1930 and ca. 1960. The other is the Tilley Sawmill (SK 787), a square frame structure with a long open shed which operated in conjunction with the factory next door. On the hill behind the factory and sawmill is a one-and-a-half-story bungalow, another Tilley family residence.

In the Francisco vicinity, the Moir family complex of buildings (SK 810) served as the focal point of the surrounding community for many years because of its particular components and because of its crossroads location. The house itself is an imposing two-story frame early twentieth-century dwelling (a replacement of the original) which is accompanied by several well preserved log outbuildings dating from the early to mid nineteenth century. But what was of primary importance from a community standpoint was the one-story frame building across the road from the house which dates from the mid nineteenth century. From at least as early as 1872 until the mid twentieth century it served as the Moir General Store. In one corner of the store was a small room which was used as the Francisco Post Office. Members of the Moir family served as postmaster from 1857 to 1866, from 1883 to 1905, in 1907, and from 1934 until 1959 when the post office was discontinued and mail delivered from Westfield. The store also functioned as a voting place during elections. Not surprisingly, local tradition and memories relate that the store was a real gathering place for people in the community where they conducted business, learned the latest news, and visited with each other. Another community draw was the one-room frame doctor's office located west of the house and immediately across the road from the store. Robert Franklin Moir practiced medicine throughout the second half of the nineteenth century, and his son, Sandy Alexander Moir, practiced during the first quarter of the twentieth century.

### **Towns and Villages**

While Stokes County is essentially a rural county, it does have centers of population in the form of small towns and villages.<sup>41</sup>

#### **Germanton**

The oldest of the towns--really hardly more than a village--is Germanton. Germanton was established in 1790 as the county seat of the newly formed county of Stokes. Virtually no buildings remain from Germanton's earliest years, except for the Gibson Storehouse (SK 291). Said to date from ca. 1810, it has been heavily altered through the years.

Germanton flourished as the center of government and trade in the county for half a century. Indeed, even in the mid nineteenth century when it lost its status as county seat, the

general prosperity of the times brought renewed building activity, as exemplified by the 1856 Germanton Methodist Church (SK 297) and the mid nineteenth-century Pepper-Blackburn-Petree House (SK 298), Samuel Hill House (SK 299), and Rainey-Savage House (SK 304).

Eventually, however, with Danbury having been established as the new county seat, Germanton's prominence faded until the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad rolled through town in the late 1880s, bringing a new infusion of energy and prosperity. Many of the historic buildings which survive in the town date from that late nineteenth/early twentieth-century period. Among those buildings are St. Philip's Episcopal Church (NR), the Bank of Stokes County (SK 289), the Chaffin-Vaughn Hotel (SK 293), the Edward J. Styers House (SK 303), the Alice and Mollie Hill House (SK 300), and the Will and Mildred Hill Chaffin House (SK 302).

Perhaps because of competition from the nearby town of Walnut Cove or from the burgeoning city of Winston-Salem not far south in Forsyth County, Germanton's growth slowed to a virtual standstill after the early twentieth century.<sup>42</sup> Change in its appearance has been correspondingly slow.

## Danbury

Danbury (NRHD), first called Crawford, was established specifically to serve as the county seat after Forsyth County was separated from Stokes in 1849. Partly because of its mountainous location, Danbury never grew beyond the size of a thriving village. Nevertheless, it has played a significant role in the county's history, primarily because of its continuing position as the county's government center.

Danbury's early growth was rapid, encouraged by the local tobacco producing and manufacturing and the nearby iron mining operations. The village spread outward from the central courthouse square and buildings were erected primarily along either side of Main Street (NC 8/89). Several buildings remain from this period, including the substantial brick dwelling of Wilson Fulton and the large frame house of Samuel H. Taylor. The town supported a number of businesses, but a 1925 fire destroyed many of the early commercial structures. One-story brick buildings replaced those earlier frame structures.

During the second half of the nineteenth century, and particularly during the last quarter, Danbury's economy was bolstered by the success of the several mineral springs resorts, particularly Piedmont Springs, which were located in the mountains just outside of town. So popular were these resorts that Danbury had to accommodate the overflow of visitors. Hotels, such as the handsome McCannless Hotel with its two-tier wrap-around porch located just west of the Courthouse, and the Samuel H. Taylor House down the street, which was converted to a hotel in the late nineteenth century, served both the tourists and those who were in town to conduct government business.

During the late nineteenth century there was a surge in population in Danbury and a corresponding building boom which lasted into the 1920s and 1930s. Most of the town's surviving historic buildings date from this period. Many two-story frame houses were erected, all displaying either a two-tier or a wrap-around porch, most with turned posts and sawnwork ornamentation. Representative of these houses are the N. A. Martin House, the N. M. Pepper House, the Joyce-Glenn House, the J. S. Taylor House, and the H. M. Joyce House. In the first decades of the twentieth century, handsome bungalows were also built, including the ca. 1921 N. E. Wall House, the 1919 E. P. Pepper House, and the Josie Pepper House. Churches, such as the handsome ca. 1894 Danbury Presbyterian Church with its corner bell tower and combination of decorative shingles and molded weatherboards, also reflect this prosperous period in the town's history. Perhaps most indicative of the turn-of-the-century prosperity was the erection in 1904 of splendid new government buildings: the Beaux Arts/Neo-Classical Revival Courthouse and the two-story brick jail. Both remain, though not with their original uses.

Since 1930 there has been little development in Danbury, allowing the place to retain much of its nineteenth and early twentieth-century character.<sup>43</sup>

### Walnut Cove

Of all Stokes County's towns and villages, Walnut Cove was the place whose growth and development was most strongly affected by the coming of the railroads in the late nineteenth century. Nevertheless, there had been settlement in the area of Town Fork Creek since the eighteenth century, as reported by the Moravians. The most prominent family in the vicinity during the nineteenth century was the Lash family,<sup>44</sup> and for a time the community was unofficially known as Lash. Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for the late 1860s suggests the role that the family played in the community. Only one store was listed in Walnut Cove, and it was operated by William A. Lash, as was the single manufacturing facility, a tannery. W. A. Lash, Jr. was listed as the postmaster.<sup>45</sup> The Lash House (SK 129), which was built or remodeled in the late nineteenth century by Dr. W. A. Lash, Jr., was a fabulous Queen Anne-style brick mansion that was demolished ca. 1970. By 1884 the village was prospering and had grown to include three stores, four blacksmiths/wheelwrights, two building and contracting firms, one cooper, three distilleries, one millwright, one saddle and harness maker, three tobacco factories, two tanneries,<sup>46</sup> and three corn and flour mills, one of which also had a saw mill.

In the late 1880s the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad and the Roanoke and Southern Railway both advanced to Walnut Cove, and by 1890 the town was incorporated. The impact of these events is reflected in the 1890 business directory, which lists

sixteen merchants, twelve saw mills, and a variety of manufactories. In addition, a hotel had been added to the list of town amenities.<sup>47</sup>

Prosperity and growth continued during the first quarter of the twentieth century as Walnut Cove became a primary trading center for farmers for miles around. Many of the buildings erected during these years remain. Main Street boasts buildings which originally served as two livery stables (SK 120 & 125), a hotel (SK 92), a bank (SK 123), a wholesale grocery (SK 118), and a variety of other commercial establishments (SK 91, 119, 121, 122, & 124). Houses of the period are scattered throughout much of the town, but there is a particularly handsome concentration along Summit Street (SK 96-108 and SK 110-114). On this same street is one of the most impressive churches in the county, Christ Episcopal Church (SK 109).

Eventually, the ease of automobile transportation encouraged much of Walnut Cove's trading to be transferred to the nearby bustling city of Winston-Salem. In addition, the town was hit especially hard by the Depression, and recovery was long and slow.<sup>48</sup> While in 1915 the population had reached 1,000, making Walnut Cove by far the largest town in the county, by 1984 the population had barely expanded to<sup>49</sup> 1,147, and King had surpassed Walnut Cove as the largest town.

## King

King's development pattern was quite different from that experienced by Walnut Cove. There was scattered settlement in the King area from at least as early as 1812, and local tradition relates that the town, first known as King's Cabin, was named for Charles King, who with his wife, Frances Kiser, occupied a log cabin in the vicinity from 1826 to 1833. The history of the churches and schools in the King area goes back to the early nineteenth century, yet the community appears to have been very slow to grow.<sup>50</sup> As late as 1884, Branson's North Carolina Business Directory still made no mention of King's Cabin.<sup>51</sup> In March 1888 a post office was established at King's Cabin, and several months later the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad first passed through the community. The following year King's Cabin built its own depot, but the community still did not experience the growth that characterized Walnut Cove's economy during the late nineteenth century. In 1894 the name of the post office changed to King.<sup>52</sup> By 1896 "King's" was listed in the business directory with a population of 50 (as compared to<sup>53</sup> Walnut Cove's 200), and with two stores and one tobacco factory.<sup>53</sup> In 1915 the town appeared somewhat more respectable with a population of 307, three churches, a school, a doctor, four merchants, a bank, two manufacturing<sup>54</sup> plants, two livery stables, and two hotels or boarding houses.<sup>54</sup>

The oldest buildings remaining in King date from the first quarter of the twentieth century. One of the most significant is

the former Bank of King (SK 402), incorporated in 1913 and built at the main intersection of town. On the opposite corner stands the 1926 King Drug Company (SK 403), and down the street are the early twentieth-century T. G. New Grocery (SK 400) and a one-story commercial row (SK 401). South of the commercial center is the 1920s King Milling Company (SK 396), an unusual industrial building with a gambrel roof. North of the commercial center is a small collection of early twentieth-century frame houses (SK 404-407) and two handsome 1920s churches, King Moravian Church (SK 408) and King Baptist Mission Church (SK 409).

King's growth was slow but steady during the 1920s-1940s. In 1965 the new US 52 was completed, and King began to grow at a more rapid pace. Its explosive growth since the late 1970s has far outdistanced that of any other community in the county and at the same time has reduced its remaining historic resources.

### **Pinnacle**

Other communities in Stokes County were once thriving villages. One such village was Pinnacle, originally called Culler for its founder, E. W. Culler. Culler decided to capitalize on the impending arrival of the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad and had a town laid out.<sup>55</sup> An 1887 map of the town shows seventy-three lots arranged in a grid pattern on either side of the railroad. Half the lots were owned by the railroad, and in the center was the two-acre depot lot.<sup>56</sup> The village developed rapidly, and within a decade it could boast eight general stores (more than any community except Walnut Cove), three tobacco factories, two churches, an academy, a newspaper, and a physician.<sup>57</sup> In 1901 the village was incorporated (although the charter was repealed within a couple of years), and the community continued to prosper into the early twentieth century with a variety of commercial and small industrial enterprises.<sup>58</sup>

Numerous surviving buildings from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries bear witness to Pinnacle's early prosperity. Among these are the Culler-Scott House (SK 454), one of finest Victorian houses in the county, the Fowler-Christian House (SK 445), the Smoak-Brown-Wall House (SK 456), the Culler Roller Mill (SK 446), the Pinnacle Baptist Church (SK 442), the T. O. Watson General Store (SK 452), and the Oddfellows Hall (SK 457). Other houses and stores of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century period range north and south along either side of the railroad tracks.

### **Pine Hall**

Pine Hall in the southeast corner of the county and Sandy Ridge in the northeast corner are other communities which were

once considerably busier than they are today, although they never rivaled the primary population centers of the county. Pine Hall, which shares its name with the nearby 1850s plantation of Leonard W. Anderson, owed its early prosperity to the coming of the Roanoke and Southern Railway (later the Norfolk and Western), which enabled the establishment of large-scale brick manufacturing facilities--principally Pine Hall Brick Co.--which operated just west of the community from the early twentieth century until 1970. Among the significant physical reminders of Pine Hall's past are the Depot (SK 157), Preston Brothers Store and Pine Hall Post Office (SK 156), Pole Bridge School (SK 154), the remnants of Pine Hall Brick Co. (SK 150), and a variety of houses (SK 158-163).

### Sandy Ridge

Unlike most of Stokes County's early towns and villages, Sandy Ridge did not benefit from the presence of the railroad. This eventually led to its declining economy in the face of competition from the railroad towns. Now composed primarily of a tight concentration of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century farmhouses (SK 720, 722-728, 730-732, 734), a central post office, and several modern commercial buildings, Sandy Ridge was once a rural manufacturing and education center. Of particular importance were the late nineteenth-century Sandy Ridge Academy and the enterprises of James E. Shelton, which included the production of furniture, wooden tobacco boxes, caskets,<sup>59</sup> and coffins, as well as a brickyard and a general store. Ironically, none of these buildings remains, although examples of Shelton company furniture and decorative mantels can be found in several houses in the area. While the academy itself is gone, reminders include the Sandy Ridge School of today, which is the academy's descendent, and the Hutcherson-Amos House (SK 726) up the road, which served as the main dormitory for the boarding school. Business directories reveal that Sandy Ridge also had several merchants, tanneries, blacksmiths, wagon makers,<sup>60</sup> roller mills, corn and flour mills, and saw mills in its prime.

### Dalton

In addition to the towns and villages of Stokes County which can still be identified as such, there are numerous places which nineteenth-century business directories and other sources suggest were once more than just a name on the current county map. One such place is Dalton, halfway between King and Pinnacle in the southwest corner of the county. For a time Dalton was essentially a one-man show operated by David Nicholas Dalton. In the 1850s he purchased a log house which he substantially enlarged and remodeled, using it partly as a stage coach stop and hotel.<sup>61</sup> In addition to running a large plantation, Dalton soon

began to manufacture tobacco. By 1884 he also had a tobacco box factory; a distillery; a corn, flour, and saw mill; and a general store. He was also instrumental in establishing and operating the Dalton Institute, a private academy which operated between 1872 and 1908.<sup>62</sup>

When the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad was completed in 1888, Dalton saw that the community which centered around his house had a depot.<sup>63</sup> Business directories suggest that for several years thereafter the Dalton community was a thriving place. In 1890 Dalton had a population of 87, making it the third largest community in the county (behind Danbury and Walnut Cove). There were three churches; a hotel; a blacksmith; a distillery; a tobacco box factory; a tobacco factory; a wagon manufacturer; a corn, flour, and saw mill; seven merchants; a lawyer; and a physician.<sup>64</sup>

In 1895 D. N. Dalton died, and the community began a slow but steady decline.<sup>65</sup> Today the community has a bucolic appearance that belies the once busy atmosphere of the place. Surviving structures from Dalton's heyday include the D. N. Dalton House (SK 839), which itself is in a greatly deteriorated state, the Dalton Institute Boarding House (SK 423), and the hillside cluster (where the road used to go) of the large and handsome Matthew Dalton Phillips House (SK 425), the J. H. R. Turner House (SK 426), and the Turner and Phillips Store (SK 427).

## Industry

While Stokes County's economy has always been predominantly agrarian, it has been by no means one-dimensional. Industry, commerce, and other factors have also played roles in the economy, complementing and supplementing the county's essential agrarian character in much the same way that the crossroads communities, villages, and towns have complemented and supplemented the farmstead existence. Most of the industry in Stokes County has been small in scale, rooted to the land and its resources, and located primarily in rural areas.

### Extractive Industries

Mining in Stokes County occurred over much of the county. During the nineteenth century mining of iron, limestone, asbestos, mica, soapstone, silver and lead, coal, white clay, plumbago, flexible sandstone, beryl, and chalcedony were all reported.<sup>66</sup>

Stokes County was one of many piedmont North Carolina counties which contained iron ore deposits, and numerous small iron works, called bloomeries, were established in the region during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. These

iron works generally consisted of a furnace to refine the ore and a forge, or hammer factory, to produce usable bar iron. By the early nineteenth century five such iron works had been founded in Stokes County: Martin's Forge, Perkin's Forge, Moore's Iron Works, Keyser's Bloomery, and Hill's Bloomery. Lack of adequate transportation and equipment, however, restricted the products of the iron works for the most part to local markets. In 1850 the U. S. Census listed five bloomeries in the county, two of which were owned by Nathaniel Moody. One of these was the "Tunnel Bloomery Forge," also known as "Moody's Tunnel Iron Works," which Moody and John Pepper built in 1843. Deeds suggest that an earlier forge may have occupied the site on the north bank of the Dan River below Danbury. In 1854 Moody's Tunnel Iron Works was purchased by Reuben Golding, who formed the Stokes Iron Mining Company. During the Civil War the industrial needs of the Confederacy stimulated increased interest in the state's iron works, and in 1862 Golding and a group of other men incorporated the Moratock Mining and Manufacturing Company. It did not survive the Civil War, and in 1875 it was sold at public auction to Col. Jonathan M. Heck of Raleigh. He reactivated the Moratock Company, and it continued until his death in 1894. The present Moratock Iron Furnace is believed to be Moody and Pepper's 1843 furnace, although it may be a replacement dating from the management of one of the two later companies which operated the iron works before the Civil War. It is one of the few and one of the best preserved of the structures remaining from the antebellum iron industry in North Carolina. The imposing granite structure is an excellent example of the stonemason's skill. Built of rough-quarried rectangular granite stones, unmortared on the exterior, the furnace is in the form of a trapezoidal cube, measuring roughly twenty-eight feet square at the base, twenty-eight feet high, and twenty-six feet square at the top. Three sides of the furnace are pierced by arched, vaulted openings. This important structure is being preserved as the focal point of a county park.<sup>67</sup>

### **Tobacco Manufacturing**

As tobacco cultivation has been the keystone of Stokes County's agricultural economy, so tobacco processing was the county's most significant industry during much of the nineteenth century. In fact, during the mid-to-late nineteenth century Stokes was one of the largest tobacco manufacturing counties in the state. In 1860 the U. S. Census, which only recorded industries producing at least \$500 worth of goods, reported seventeen tobacco factories in Stokes.<sup>68</sup> In 1870, at a time when North Carolina had a total of ninety-eight tobacco factories located in twelve counties, Stokes County claimed nineteen of those factories.<sup>69</sup> In 1877-1878, Branson's North Carolina Business Directory listed twenty-four tobacco manufactories in the county. From that point the number declined during the

remainder of the nineteenth century, and eventually the small factories were squeezed out of business by competition from the larger factories, especially those in Winston and Reidsville. Stokes's products included plug, twist, chewing, and, to a lesser extent, smoking tobacco and snuff. Stokes's numerous tobacco factories were located throughout most of the county. Three known examples survive and are currently either standing idle or are being used for storage. They include the Leake Tobacco Factory (SK 240) on NC 8 in Meadows Township, the Neal Tobacco Factory (SK 838) in the Meadows vicinity, and the Fallin Plug Tobacco Factory (SK 691) near Prestonville. The Martin Tobacco Factory (SK 738) in the Amostown vicinity was the largest of those recorded in the historic inventory. It has subsequently been razed. There may be other examples, such as the large log structure (SK 176) on Hickory Fork Road in Beaver Island Township, which have not yet been positively identified. The surviving factories are one-and-a-half and two-story log structures with gable roofs and with few irregularly placed door and window openings.

The large tobacco processing industry in Stokes County spawned a secondary industry in the manufacture of wooden tobacco boxes for packing the plug tobacco for sale. Among the tobacco box factories were those of D. N. Dalton in Dalton, R. W. Mitchell in Dillard, J. H. Bright in Jewell, and Peter Hutcherson, S. Amos, and J. E. Shelton, all in Sandy Ridge.<sup>72</sup>

### Grist and Roller Mills

Grist, and later, roller mills (variously also called flour, corn, corn and flour, feed, and flour and feed mills) comprised a mainstay, albeit small-scale, industry in Stokes County that was closely tied to the needs of a rural farming population. The late nineteenth century appears to have been the time when such mills proliferated. The 1860 Census reported only three flour and feed mills in the county (there may have been more which were producing less than \$500 worth of goods annually), and Branson's 1872 business directory listed only seven.<sup>73</sup> In 1880, however, the Census reported twenty-five flouring and grist mills.<sup>74</sup> Business directories reveal that the number had increased to thirty-one by 1884 and to thirty-seven by 1890.<sup>75</sup> In 1915 the number had dropped to nineteen.<sup>76</sup> Not surprisingly, those which survive date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Three rural mills are particularly good examples. Bob George's Mill (SK 524), located on Big Creek in the township of that name, is a two-and-a-half to three-story frame structure with a fieldstone foundation and several shed additions. Just west of the mill is a largely intact concrete dam and a narrow water race leading from it to the mill. Originally a corn and wheat mill owned by wealthy land owner and entrepreneur Robert W. George (who owned other mills including one, SK 807, near the

Hart's Store community), this mill was operated for some years after George's 1935 death as a cloth and sock mill. Though it has stood idle for more than a quarter of a century, the mill building remains well preserved.

Sheppard's Mill (SK 618) on Snow Creek was built by Calla Hill Sheppard in the early years of the twentieth century to replace an earlier grist mill on nearby Ugly Branch. Sheppard's Mill was a roller mill that produced corn meal, rye flour, hush puppy mix, plain flour, and feed. The mill is a two-story weatherboarded frame structure with a gable roof and a long one-story shed section which was used as a saw and planing mill. With its various operations, Sheppard's Mill was alternately called the Snow Creek Roller Mills and Wood Working Plant. Adjacent to the mill were a warming house (where people kept warm in winter while waiting for their flour) and a store, both still standing but adaptively re-used. The mill operated until the 1950s when Sheppard died and Hurricane Hazel washed away the wooden dam. In the 1960s the dam was rebuilt with concrete and the mill was restored, yet it now stands idle.

Located on the Dan River in the northwest corner of the county, Jessup's Mill (NR) is an outstanding three-and-a-half-story frame gable-roofed roller mill whose equipment dates primarily from the first two or three decades of the mill's operation. Built in 1910 as the Stokes County Union Milling Company, it began as a cooperative investment among local residents. The mill operated almost continuously from 1910 to 1979 when it was seriously damaged by a flood. During most of those years D. H. Jessup and then his son, Porter G. Jessup, were the millers. (After Porter Jessup's purchase of the property in 1943-45, it became known officially as Jessup's Mill.) The unusually well-preserved complex includes the mill, the 1913 dam, the millrace, the former miller's house, and the warming room.

Notwithstanding such mills as Jessup's and Sheppard's, roller mills generally functioned under steam or electric power rather than water power and therefore were found more typically in the towns rather than alongside the rural streams.<sup>78</sup> Three interesting examples in Stokes County are the Culler Roller Mill, the King Milling Company, and Monitor Roller Mills. Located in Pinnacle, the Culler Roller Mill (SK 446) is a handsome two-and-a-half-story brick structure with stepped parapet gables. Dating from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, the building is currently being used as the Pinnacle Milling Company, a feed mill. King Milling Company (SK 396) is a large two-and-a-half-story structure with a steep gambrel roof. Local tradition claims it was built in the early 1920s, and it remains in operation, producing flour, cornmeal, and animal feed. In Walnut Cove, Monitor Roller Mills dates from 1922, when Oscar Monroe Southern and T. J. Young purchased an earlier flour mill. Young soon sold his interest to Southern, and the milling company has remained a Southern family enterprise. The three-story wooden mill<sup>79</sup> burned in 1959 and was replaced by the present brick building. These three mills suggest the continuity of the

milling tradition to the present.

### Lumber and Woodworking

By the late nineteenth century, sawmills had become about as prevalent as grist mills. <sup>80</sup> Indeed, many were part of a grist or, later, roller mill complex, as at Sheppard's Mill. A good example of a rural sawmill remains in the Tilley community of Peters Creek Township. Built in the 1920s or 1930s to accompany the Tilley Coffin, Casket, and Furniture Factory next door, the Tilley Sawmill (SK 787) consists of a nearly square frame structure used as the boiler room and a long open shed running north from the boiler room which housed the steam engine and the actual sawing operation. During the sawmill's active years, the steam engine connected with its counterpart in the adjacent factory, and an inclined track transported the finished lumber between the two buildings. Behind the sawmill is a board-and-batten structure which was used as a dry kiln for the lumber.

The Tilley Coffin, Casket, and Furniture Factory (SK 786) itself is a good example of a rural industry in Stokes County. Thomas Isaac Tilley operated the factory during the second quarter of the twentieth century, initially specializing in the production of coffins and caskets. When government licensing requirements changed, however, he focused more on special-order furniture, such as tables and cupboards. The factory is a handsome and particularly well preserved example of a rural industrial building. It is a two-story, five-bay-wide, weatherboarded frame structure with a shed roof which slopes gently from front to rear. On the west side is a one-story shed room with front and rear loading doors. The interior of the Tilley factory is characterized by expansive open spaces with central support posts and a stair at the east end.

The William H. Cumbie Coffin Shop (SK 283) in the Germanton vicinity offers another, though smaller scale, example of this type of cottage industry in Stokes County. Cumbie was a cabinetmaker and undertaker in the late nineteenth century, and his shop remains standing in the back yard of his house. It is a simple one-story weatherboarded frame structure with a gable roof, a central chimney, and a double-leaf entrance flanked by two windows on the gable end.

One of the most prominent examples of the lumber and woodworking industry in Stokes County was the complex operated by James E. Shelton in Sandy Ridge during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Shelton first operated a sawmill, but by ca. 1880 had added a dry kiln, a furniture shop, and a roller mill, all powered by steam. An old photograph shows that Shelton's complex consisted of a variety of buildings. By the end of the century Shelton furniture was considered to be of high quality and included such items as bedsteads, dressers, cupboards, wash stands, pie safes, tables, and chairs,

constructed primarily of oak or walnut. Like both Tilley and Cumbie, in addition to furniture Shelton produced caskets and coffins. He also produced tobacco boxes.<sup>81</sup> Local tradition claims that the richly carved mantels of Colonial Revival influence found in houses of the area were also produced at Shelton's industrial complex. None of the Shelton buildings survives, but examples of the furniture remain with families around the county, and handsome mantels attesting to the skill of Shelton's craftsmen remain in some houses of northeast Stokes, such as the Cal Amos House (SK 704), Amos-Joyce House (SK 715), Steele-Amos House (SK 724), and Ziglar-Blair House (SK 756).

### **Brick Manufacturing**

One of Stokes County's most distinctive industries dates from the twentieth century. Pine Hall Brick Company (SK 150) was incorporated in 1922 and purchased the property of the Shale Paving Brick and Fire Proofing Company which had stood idle since 1917. Located southwest of Pine Hall on the Norfolk and Western Railway, the plant initially included seven "beehive" kilns--fascinating round structures thirty-two feet in diameter and approximately eighteen feet high. By 1925 seven more kilns had been added and production had reached fifteen million bricks annually. Over the years Pine Hall developed many improvements in brick making, and it became one of the leading brick manufacturers in North Carolina. In 1928 a new plant was constructed nearby where clay pipes were manufactured. In 1936 Pine Hall's operations expanded to Rockingham County with the purchase of the Madison Shale Brick Company. However, in the 1960s the clay pipe plant was abandoned, and in 1970 the brick plant outside Pine Hall ceased operation. Of the numerous brick kilns and support buildings which once occupied this bustling industrial site, only ruins remain.

### **Other Industries**

A variety of other small-scale or cottage industries and trades were found in Stokes County during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Census records and period business directories suggest the wide range of these enterprises. Among them were blacksmithing and wheelwrighting shops, whiskey distilleries, tanneries, saddle and harness shops, wagon works, boot and shoe shops, and sash, door and blind factories.<sup>82</sup>

### **Resorts and Recreation**

A different type of industry--the resort and recreation "industry"--also played a significant role in Stokes County's economic history. From the 1850s to the 1920s Stokes County

participated in the "springs and spas" fad which became popular in North Carolina during the period. With the beautiful Sauratown Mountains and their accompanying mineral springs, it is not surprising that central Stokes County developed into a resort area. The various mineral waters were said to provide cures for a wide assortment of ailments, and both physicians and users provided advertising testimonials to their beneficial qualities. For many years the mineral waters were also bottled and sold elsewhere for wider distribution.

People from across the state and beyond flocked to the resort hotels in order to partake of the springs' "curative powers" and, perhaps more important, to enjoy the considerable social life the resorts offered. The legendary lavishness of the resorts included the consumption of great quantities of food to the accompaniment of music, as well as the diversions of dancing, swimming, riding horses, playing cards, and visiting with old and new friends.

The resort business was a boon to Stokes's economy in more ways than one. In addition to the money made by the resort owners, many local residents worked at the resorts or provided from their farms much of the food needed to feed the crowds. Since the resorts were all within several miles of Danbury, the hotels and merchants of that town benefited from the frequent overflow of visitors.

The success of the mineral springs resorts is closely linked with the transportation history of the area. Although the resorts started as early as the 1850s, their heyday came after the arrival of the railroads to the southern and western parts of the county in the 1880s. Ironically, while the railroads made the resorts more accessible, the later popularization of automobile travel brought their decline, in that more people could more easily travel greater distances to other vacation areas.

Piedmont Springs was the oldest of the resorts. Over the years three separate hotels operated in succession there. The first, dating from ca. 1851, was a two-story log structure. It burned and was replaced in the early 1870s by the second hotel, an elaborate building with a cupola and a porch across the front of each of the three stories. It could accommodate approximately 150 guests. This hotel burned in 1880 and was replaced in 1889 by the last Piedmont Springs Hotel, a two-and-a-half-story frame structure of fifty rooms with wrap-around porches and a central four-story tower. In 1930, like its predecessors, this hotel burned.

Nearby, Moore's Springs was developed at the end of the century by the Moore family. These springs quickly became popular, and a three-story frame hotel was built along with a store and several cottages. Moore's Springs flourished until ca. 1920, but in 1925 the hotel was destroyed by fire. The cottages remained standing, however, and later in the century they were joined in a linear pattern to create a long, rambling commercial dining room (SK 586). The more significant survivor of the

Moore's Springs resort is the Spring House (SK 585), located in a wooded area by Cascade Creek. It is an octagonal frame structure with a polygonal roof, a board-and-batten upper level, and a lattice-enclosed lower level which ventilates the partially-submerged, fieldstone-lined spring basin.

Vade Mecum (SK 576) was the last of the three resorts to be developed and the first to close, yet it is the only one of the three to retain one of its hotel buildings. Around the turn of the century the property served as the winter quarters of the Sparks Circus. John H. Sparks intended to develop Vade Mecum into a resort, but before he could carry out his plans, he died from injuries received from one of the circus lions. The actual resort development was carried out by Cicero Tise of Winston-Salem. He built a large three-story hotel and later in the 1910s a smaller hotel. The larger building burned in 1920, but the smaller hotel (SK 577) remains standing. It is a substantial nine-bay-wide, three-and-a-half-story frame building with an impressive two-tier porch which wraps around three sides of the structure. Also at Vade Mecum were a large lake, a dam, an octagonal latticework spring house, a post office, two stores, and a cottage for Tise. Of these structures, only the Tise cottage, the partially collapsed stone and concrete dam, and the sunken concrete basin of the spring house remain. Although no longer a resort, Vade Mecum has retained its recreational use. For several decades after Tise's ownership, the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina operated Vade Mecum as a church camp and retreat center. Subsequently it was used by the Sertoma clubs as a summer camp for handicapped children, and since 1981 it has served as a State 4-H camp.

Within a decade after the mineral springs resorts ceased to function, the other significant element of Stokes County's resort and recreation industry began to take shape, taking advantage of the same scenic beauty of the Sauratown Mountains. In 1935 the U.S. Civilian Conservation Corp began the task of creating Hanging Rock State Park (SK 588) in the rugged mountain terrain. It opened to the public in 1944 and now contains more than 4,000 acres and attracts over 200,000 visitors annually. The most impressive structure at the park is the bathhouse, a large stone and timber building whose rustic design and use of materials coordinates beautifully with the surrounding natural environment.

## Commerce

Complementing Stokes County's agricultural and industrial pursuits, the county's commercial establishments have always been a basic part of the local economy. Consisting primarily of stores and a few banks, these establishments have, of necessity, been spread throughout the county.

## Stores

Nineteenth-century business directories show that, like the economy in general, the county's mercantile businesses grew steadily during the second half of the nineteenth century. The thirteen stores listed in 1872 had tripled to thirty-nine by 1884 and had grown to seventy-five by 1890. Six years later the number had reached 105.<sup>87</sup> Reflecting the primary rural character of the county, most of those stores were small country stores, often combined with a post office or, later, a gas station and often located at crossroads. They were essential to rural life, not only because they provided the means for obtaining necessary goods for everyday life that could not be produced on the farm, but also because they were, in a sense, social centers where people visited and caught up on the latest news.<sup>88</sup> Most country stores were simple frame structures of one, one-and-a-half, or two stories. Many had front porches, and most had the gable end of the roof facing the road. Frequently the front gable was disguised by a parapet, creating a "false" front. The facades usually featured double-leaf entrances flanked by shop windows, and usually there were few, if any, windows along the side elevations. Inside, the walls were lined with shelves and there were one or more counters. Where a post office was part of a store, it was often located in one corner. The country store as a building type was slow to change in appearance, except that after the 1920s many were built with gas pumps in front, a sign of the changing times. Many good examples of country stores remain in Stokes County. Some continue in use, while others have been abandoned or are being adaptively re-used.

Two of the oldest rural stores in the county are the Moir Store (SK 810) in the Francisco community, dating from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, and the Simmons-Pratt Store (SK 732) in the Sandy Ridge vicinity, built prior to 1884. Unlike most of the later stores, these are characterized by a gable roof whose axis runs sideways rather than from front to rear. Both have a gable-end chimney, and in both cases the front slope of the roof extends beyond the facade to create an engaged front porch. By contrast, many of the later stores had attached front porches.

The Hartman-Priddy Store (SK 627), built in 1888 with twentieth-century side and rear additions, is a good example of a late nineteenth-century crossroads store which is still in operation. It is a typical two-story frame building with gable end facing the road, heavy double-leaf doors, a shed-roofed front porch, and handsome interior shelving, drawers, and hardware. By the end of the century, John Alley had built a smaller one-story store (SK 629) across the road, which for some years provided competition for the Hartman family store. Alley's store remains standing, but no longer in use.

The Sheppard Store (SK 601) in Lawsonville is a well preserved example of an early twentieth-century store. This one-story frame store features a stepped wooden parapet which hides the front gable of the roof. The double-leaf entrance and

flanking windows are sheltered by a braced shed roof which creates a "porch" across the facade. On the east side of the store is a broad shed with a loading dock across the front, and across the rear of the original building is another shed room--both utilitarian additions typical of the architecture of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century country stores.

Among the other good examples of this building type in Stokes County are the Jim Wall Store (SK 685) in Beaver Island Township, which has been operated continuously by the Wall family since its construction ca. 1905, and White's Store (SK 318) in the Friendship community, which has been associated with the White family since ca. 1933. Although no longer in operation, the 1890 Turner and Phillips Store (SK 427) is a tangible reminder that the Dalton community was once much more than simply a collection of several houses, and the T. O. Watson Store (SK 452) in nearby Pinnacle stands in lonely contrast to the community's modern convenience store.

Good representatives from the 1920s and 1930s are the Ross Store (SK 217) in Meadows Township, the Preston Brothers Store (SK 156) in Pine Hall, the Roberts Grocery (SK 171) in Beaver Island Township, and the Ward Store (SK 692) in Prestonville, each accompanied by gasoline pumps out front.

Typical in form though not in construction and detail is the 1934 Spencer Store (SK 241) in Meadows Township. In order to save construction costs and to provide an individualistic appearance, John Lee Spencer designed the building with six-inch split logs laid vertically with the rounded ends on the exterior and mortar in the spaces. Narrow beaded boards were then used to sheath the interior. Around 1945 Frank Hayden, a popular local stone mason, covered the store with stone veneer, creatively incorporating designs of the sun, moon, stars, serpents, and other figures in his stonework. The store has changed little since then and is still operated by the Spencer family.

Stokes County's towns, of course, developed collections of commercial buildings which served not only the local residents but also the farmers of the surrounding areas. Although many of these commercial structures were of frame construction and similar in appearance to their counterparts in the country, there were also a good number that were larger and more substantially built. In Danbury, the earlier stores were primarily frame, but after a 1925 fire destroyed several of them, the replacements were constructed of brick.<sup>89</sup> Other frame stores were lost through abandonment and neglect, as exemplified by Germanton's L. M. McKenzie Store (SK 290), a typical two-story commercial building which stood in ruinous condition when recorded for the historic inventory, and which subsequently has been destroyed. Indeed, most of the nineteenth and early twentieth-century commercial buildings which survive in Stokes's towns are of brick construction.

The oldest commercial building in the county is believed to be the Gibson Storehouse (SK 291) in Germanton. Local tradition asserts that this large two-story brick building was erected ca.

1810 as a storehouse operated by Jeremiah Gibson. Tradition continues that the building later was used as a tavern, an inn, a post office, a school, the Masonic Lodge (on the second floor), and since the late nineteenth century as a dwelling. Now converted to apartments, the building has been heavily remodeled.

Walnut Cove retains several handsome commercial buildings from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Foremost among them is the ca. 1900 Mercantile Building (SK 91), a large two-story brick structure whose well-preserved second story features nine bays divided by pilasters into three sections and a decorative brickwork cornice. A variety of businesses and professional offices have occupied the building through the years, and the early twentieth-century brick addition on the south side once housed the Walnut Cove Post Office.

Across the street is the former Dodson Hotel and General Store (SK 92), dating from 1912. It is an impressive three-story brick building with a corbelled cornice and round and segmental arched doors and windows. The one-story projection on the north side of the facade was used as a store. The hotel originally had a two-tier wrap-around porch, and except for its removal, the building remains largely intact. The hotel featured a lobby, a parlor, a dining room, a kitchen, and approximately twenty hotel rooms, and boasted its own sewer system and generator.

Up the street, other brick buildings stand as reminders of Walnut Cove's late nineteenth and early twentieth-century commercial life. The Stokes Grocery Company was a prosperous wholesale business housed in a ca. 1914 one-story brick structure (SK 118) with large front windows flanking a central double-leaf entrance and a slightly recessed brick panel across the upper part of the facade. The interior retains its decorative pressed metal ceiling, a popular treatment of the day.

Continuing up Main Street, an early twentieth-century livery stable building (SK 120) is a tangible reminder of this once-important local service. The handsome one-story structure with parapeted facade and fourteen segmental-arched stall windows along the north side was converted to a Buick dealership after the popularization of the automobile, and subsequently it has housed a variety of commercial enterprises.

At the corner of Main and Third streets, the former Lash Store (SK 122) illustrates a typical mid twentieth-century remodeling of the first story and interior, yet the second story windows with segmental-arched heads and the decorative corbelled cornice reflect the late nineteenth-century origin of this brick building.

## **Banks**

The banks which served Stokes County were located in the towns. Banks usually were designed in a more distinctive and prestigious fashion than were other commercial buildings so that they would convey an impression of importance, stability, and

permanence. In Stokes County, however, most of the remaining early twentieth-century bank buildings--such as the ca. 1910 Northwestern Bank and the ca. 1910 Bank of Stokes County in Danbury (both NRHD), the 1913 Farmers' Union Bank and Trust Company (SK 123) in Walnut Cove, and Germanton's branch of the Bank of Stokes County (SK 289)--differed little from the other brick commercial buildings of the day. Only the ca. 1914 Bank of King (SK 402) suggests by its design and prominent location the authority of banking. It is a handsome two-story brick building with an unusual recessed corner entrance with "battered" jambs. The first story of the facade is dominated by a large shop window headed by a broad segmental-arched fanlight, while the second story and the side elevation are designed with segmental-arched windows and an arched corbelled cornice.

### Professional Offices

Nineteenth-century Stokes County was endowed with numerous men engaged in the professions of medicine and law. Physicians, especially, seemed to proliferate in the county, with sixteen present during the late 1860s and twenty-two in practice by the end of the century. During the same time period, lawyers ranged in number from three to five. A surprising number of the professional offices of these men survive, providing additional pieces to the picture puzzle of nineteenth and early twentieth-century life in Stokes County.

Law offices were found almost exclusively in Danbury, the county seat. Representative of these is the Stack-Bickett Law Office (NRHD), built ca. 1888 behind the courthouse. It is a small weatherboarded frame structure with a gable-end facade, decorative sawn cornice brackets, and a clover-shaped ventilator in the gable end. The interior is divided into two rooms: the paneled law office in front and the law library with ample shelving in the back.

By contrast, physicians' offices were scattered throughout the county, found at least as often in the rural areas as in the towns. This was doubtless because Stokes doctors served a predominantly rural population whom they frequently attended with house calls and because many doctors also managed farms. Occasionally doctors' offices were located within the family home, as at the Reuben G. Tuttle Office (SK 111) in Walnut Cove, but more typically they were in a separate building located in the front or side yard of the house. Several excellent examples of these small, one and two-room weatherboarded structures remain, including the Dr. James H. Ellington Office (SK 727) in Sandy Ridge, the Dr. Elias Fulp Office (SK 207) near Walnut Cove, the Drs. Moir Office (SK 810) in the Francisco vicinity, the Dr. J. L. Hanes Office (NR) in Pine Hall, and the Dr. A. G. Jones Office (SK 89) in Walnut Cove. The most historically significant of these is the one which was probably built by Dr. Randall Duke Hay in the mid nineteenth century and occupied by Dr. Ellington

from 1872 until his death in 1929. The well-preserved building has retained a collection of Ellington's medicines, instruments, medical journals, and books from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, providing clues to an understanding of rural medical practice during that period. The most significant of these offices architecturally is that used by Dr. Fulp in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This delightful building boasts a stepped and curved parapeted front gable, segmental-arched lintels above the front door and windows, and on the inside, unusually handsome cabinets and shelving with a heavily molded cornice.

### Churches

Stokes County's churches have helped not only to fulfill the religious needs of the county but have also served as gathering places which further developed the sense of community in the county's agrarian-based society.

The physical expression of Stokes County's religious groups--its churches--forms an interesting chapter in the county's architectural history. Local church histories relate that many congregations built log structures as their first churches. However, only one known example survives: the former Bethel Methodist Church (SK 362) in the Poplar Springs vicinity. Built in 1879, it is a plain one-story log structure with half-dovetail corner joints, a low-pitched gable roof, two batten door entrances on the south gable end, and two windows on each of the other three elevations. Originally located about one-half mile north, it was moved to the present site and converted to a dwelling when the congregation's frame church was erected in 1923.

One of the most architecturally prestigious churches, as well as the oldest surviving church structure in the county, is the Germanton Methodist Church (SK 297), built in 1856. Plain in form and Greek Revival in detail, the building has been remarkably well preserved with few alterations. It is a two-story brick structure with gable end facing the road and a Classical belfry. A double-leaf entrance of three-panel doors leads to the vestibule which houses one of the most handsome features of the church--a double stair with gracefully turned newels and ramped handrails. The sanctuary itself retains two-panel doors and large sash windows with plain cornerblock surrounds, original handmade pews, and a three-sided balcony (the rear now enclosed) with a paneled skirt supported by plain Doric posts. The unusual (for a church) pressed metal ceiling probably dates from the early twentieth century. The cemetery, with gravestones dating back to the 1820s, is located in a stand of cedars on a hill behind the church.

Two of the most picturesque churches in the county--both Episcopal--were built within a few years and a few miles of each other along the southern border of the county. Both the

1886-1887 Christ Church (SK 109) in Walnut Cove and St. Philip's Church (NR) in Germanton, erected between 1887 and 1894, are representative of the small Gothic Revival board-and-batten churches built across America during the mid to late nineteenth century. Influenced by the designs and writings (Rural Architecture, 1852) of prominent American architect Richard Upjohn, these churches played on the American builder's affinity for wood, and by utilizing the board-and-batten construction technique, a steeply-pitched gable roof, a corner bell tower, and lancet-arched doors and windows, emphasized the sense of verticality so essential to the Gothic style. St. Philip's, in particular, has seen almost no alterations save for the stained glass altar window. Its unpainted, unelectrified interior retains original furniture as well as kerosene hanging lamps and wall sconce lamps.

At about the same time (ca. 1894) another expression of simple Victorian romanticism was erected in the Danbury Presbyterian Church (NR). It, too, boasts a corner bell tower, but here the similarity with the Gothic Revival Episcopal churches ceases. The Presbyterian church is a small, hip-roofed frame structure delightfully detailed with a combination of decorative shingles and molded weatherboard siding along with doors and windows with round-arched heads. The interior displays a vaulted ceiling and retains its original furnishings.

Davis Chapel (SK 637) continued the romantic tradition of the nineteenth century, although it was not erected until 1923 to replace an earlier church on the site. This Methodist church located near the Dan River in Beaver Island Township is a weatherboarded frame building of symmetrical design with a center front bell tower/vestibule, side classroom wings near the rear, a rear apse, and pointed-arched windows which provide a hint of the Gothic Revival. Davis Chapel remains virtually unaltered and located in a pristine wooded hilltop setting.

Fulp Moravian Church (SK 205), erected in 1894 south of Walnut Cove, was present-day Stokes County's first Moravian church. Its design was typical of other simple Gothic Revival-influenced churches of the period. The 1925 King Moravian Church (SK 408), on the other hand, made obvious architectural reference to Home Moravian Church in Salem, as have many other twentieth-century Moravian churches in the region. The handsome brick church in King features round-arched doors and windows, round-arched door hoods, tiny gable windows, and a small belfry atop the steeply-pitched gable roof.

The most common type of church architecture built in Stokes County during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, however, took the simplest form. Particularly representative of Primitive Baptist churches, these austere simple structures are one-story weatherboarded frame buildings with broad gable roofs, one or two front entrances, plain sash windows down either side, and a general lack of ornamentation. Snow Creek Primitive Baptist Church (SK 602) in Lawsonville and Flat Shoals Primitive Baptist Church (SK 227) are two excellent late nineteenth-century

examples. Other denominations also adopted this popular form, as exemplified by the 1921 Smith's Chapel Methodist Church (SK 767) in Snow Creek Township, the late nineteenth-century former Dan River Presbyterian Church (SK 808) near the Hart's Store community, and the ca. 1890 former Bethany Lutheran Church (SK 232) near Flat Shoals.

### Schools

Surviving school buildings from the late nineteenth century through the 1920s form an important element in Stokes County's architectural history. The first school to operate within the territory of present-day Stokes County is believed to have been the Germanton Academy, a private school established in 1810.<sup>93</sup> As with many predominantly rural counties in North Carolina, however, both private and public schools in Stokes County were scattered geographically and were sporadic in operation until the late nineteenth century. A major boon to education in the state came with the adoption in 1839 of a statewide publicly supported system of free common schools for all white children. During the following two decades, many white children attended school to learn such basic skills as reading, writing, and arithmetic.<sup>94</sup> In 1850, the census reported thirty-six public schools in Stokes County, and by 1860 the number had grown to forty-seven.<sup>95</sup> At the same time, private schools which charged tuition--both subscription schools and the more stable academies or institutes which were chartered by the legislature--continued to minister to the educational needs of a smaller group.<sup>96</sup> During the Reconstruction period following the Civil War, the state system of common schools collapsed, and the responsibility for public education fell to local resources. Although towns and counties were empowered to levy taxes for schools, few did so because of the popular aversion to taxation along with educational indifference and the prevalence of poverty.<sup>97</sup> Thus, further advances in public education were for a time forestalled, and in 1870 the census reported that thirty-six percent of Stokes's population still could not read, and forty-one percent could not write.<sup>98</sup> By the end of the century, however, progress was again being made in public education, and by the mid 1890s the number of schools in Stokes County had increased dramatically to eighty-eight public schools (sixty-six white and twenty-two black) and nine private schools.<sup>99</sup> After 1900 the statewide crusade for public education took on renewed fervor, and during the first decade of the century 3,000 schoolhouses were built in the state. In 1907 a compulsory school law was enacted in North Carolina, and after 1910 public school expansion and improvement came at an even more rapid pace.<sup>100</sup>

As with many other building types in Stokes County, a remarkable number (thirty) of school buildings from this late nineteenth/early twentieth-century period of educational expansion survive. Some have been re-used for other purposes,

some stand vacant, and one--the Nancy Reynolds School--continues in active use. Judging from those which remain, many of the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century schools in the county were practical frame buildings with one or two rooms and little or no ornamentation. Two types were particularly common. One of these, as exemplified by the ca. 1895 Francisco School (SK 815), the ca. 1910 Zebulon School (SK 674) in Prestonville, and the ca. 1905-1910 Brown Mountain School (SK 566) in Quaker Gap Township, consisted of a one-story rectangular weatherboarded structure with a central entrance on the gable-end facade and numerous windows along one or more of the remaining elevations. The other common school building type looked much like the first but had an added side wing forming an L-shaped structure. Each of the two classrooms in these schools had its own front entrance. Representative of this second type are the Rosebud School (SK 251) in Sauratown Township and the Stewart School (SK 645) in Meadows Township. Not all schools of the period conformed to these types, however. The Academy (SK 795) in the Hart's Store community is a weatherboarded two-room schoolhouse whose facade conforms with the long side of the building rather than with the gable end. This school has large sash windows, a narrow central hall, and rear walls painted black to create blackboards. The Mount Tabor School (SK 279) near Germanton served children from both Stokes and Forsyth counties. It was a larger-than-usual two-room schoolhouse with a hipped roof and a projecting central gabled vestibule.

Schoolhouses for black children of the period closely paralleled those of the white children. The 1901 Brown Mountain School (SK 554) is a good example of the one-room frame variety. Although in deteriorated condition, it retains along its windowless wall a painted blackboard with alphabet and numerals still clearly visible. Exemplifying the two-room schoolhouse type are the ca. 1904/1910s Prestonville Colored School (SK 694) and the ca. 1900/ca. 1916 Pole Bridge, or Pine Hall Colored, School (SK 154). Pole Bridge School began as a school for white children, but when a larger school was built for them, this building was given to the blacks. Both the Prestonville and Pole Bridge schools were built in two stages, and both operated until the consolidation of Negro schools in Walnut Cove in the 1950s.

The schools for white children in the county consolidated into fewer and larger structures during the 1920s and early 1930s. It was at this time that most, if not all, of the small frame schoolhouses ceased operation. Several medium-sized brick veneered schools were erected in the 1920s, including Palmyra School (SK 263) in Meadows Township and Capella School (SK 343) in Danbury Township. The two are virtually identical in form with a nearly square plan, a low-pitched gable roof, a slightly projecting center front vestibule flanked by arched windows, and large windows down each side. The schools are individualized by differences in detail.

Significantly larger schools were also erected. Germanton Union School (SK 305) was built in 1923 according to a plan

popularized throughout the area in the 1920s. Many examples remain in neighboring Surry County, though not in Stokes. The type is characterized by a central two-story frame auditorium core with a gable-on-hip roof, surrounded by a ring of one-story brick veneer classrooms. At Germanton Union School the east elevation is adorned with a Classical entrance porch with four Tuscan Doric columns. Built to house primary through high school grades, the school consolidated the students from Germanton Academy, Red Bank School, Mount Tabor School, Horsehead School, and other smaller schools in both Stokes and Forsyth counties. It operated until 1975.

The most impressive of the early twentieth-century schools in Stokes County was, like Germanton Union School, erected in 1923. Nancy Reynolds School (SK 563) was made possible primarily through the generosity of brothers William Neal and Walter R. Reynolds, who built the school as a memorial to their mother, Nancy Jane (Cox) Reynolds, who had grown up on the site. The large brick structure originally consisted of a two-story central auditorium with a Classical entrance portico and a louvered belfry and flanking one-story wings with six classrooms and two offices. The several additions built in subsequent years were designed to complement the original structure. Located on a high ridge in one of the more isolated areas of the county, the school commands a dramatic view of the Sauratown Mountains to the south.

Starting in the 1920s, larger schools were also built for black students. In the late 1920s and 1930s a new Brown Mountain School (SK 552) was built, operating until the 1960s when racial integration consolidated the students with Nancy Reynolds School. The oldest parts of Brown Mountain School are frame (now covered with ersatz "paper" brick) with long rows of large windows, while the southeast side "T" addition is of brick veneer construction. At the south end of the county, London School (SK 132) was built in Walnut Cove in 1921 to replace the earlier and smaller Walnut Cove Colored School, also known as Old London School. The 1921 schoolhouse is a five-room structure with a broad clipped gable roof, numerous large nine-over-nine sash windows, and small projecting vestibules at front and rear. In 1952 it was superceded by the new London High School, which consolidated many of the small black schools in the county into an eleven-room structure which served grades one through twelve. The 1921 school remains standing, unaltered but vacant, while the 1952 school has been enlarged on several occasions and is currently used as the Walnut Cove Intermediate School.

### Public Buildings

Stokes County's eighteenth and nineteenth-century public buildings do not remain. The last courthouse in Germanton, a two-story brick structure built in 1833, stood until 1959, when it was demolished for road construction.<sup>101</sup> Danbury's nineteenth-century courthouse and jail were replaced by new

buildings erected in 1904.

Although the 1904 courthouse and jail are no longer used as such, they remain in adaptive use so that they still lend a strong air of visual authority to the center of Danbury. The former Stokes County Courthouse (NR) is one of six remaining courthouses in the state designed in the imposing Beaux Art/Neo-Classical Revival style at the turn of the century by Charlotte architect Oliver Duke Wheeler and his various associates.<sup>102</sup> William Gaines Slate, a prominent Stokes County builder and entrepreneur, served as building supervisor.<sup>103</sup> The monumental brick building with three-story central core and two-story side wings is fronted by an Ionic portico and crowned by a majestic mansard cupola. Behind the mansard cupola, in the center of the building, is a smaller polygonal cupola. Down the street the former Stokes County Jail (NRHD) is somewhat less imposing, but it is nevertheless a substantial building of handsome design erected by the Pauly Jail Building Company of St. Louis.<sup>104</sup> The two-story brick structure features segmental-arched doors and windows, a corbelled cornice, and a slightly projecting corner tower with a pyramidal roof. The wrap-around porch is an addition.

### Bridges

An altogether different type of surviving historic resource in Stokes County reflects the progress in transportation that took place during the early twentieth century. Primarily during the first quarter of the century, numerous metal truss bridges were built throughout North Carolina, as they were elsewhere. These sturdy bridges made a significant contribution toward the improvement of transportation in the state. As vehicular traffic continued to grow with the passing years, however, many of these bridges were replaced with larger, stronger, and more modern structures. Probably because its rural character has remained so little changed, Stokes County retains one of the largest collections of these bridges the state.<sup>105</sup> Fourteen metal truss bridges survive in the county, and all but four remain in active use. Most are examples of the small Pratt Pony Truss type, the most popular variety of those built in North Carolina.<sup>106</sup> Representative of these are the bridges over Town Fork Creek (SK 312), Neatman Creek (SK 313), Vade Mecum Creek (SK 578), and the Dan River near Asbury (SK 828). Larger bridges were also erected, including the one over West Prong Little Yadkin River (SK 431), the 345-foot-long Seven Island Bridge (SK 610) over the Dan River near Danbury, and the now-abandoned bridge (SK 687) with arched top chord over the Dan River near its confluence with Snow Creek.

### Domestic Architecture

Dwellings, of course, constitute the backbone of any community or county-wide architectural survey, for regardless of the geographic and climatic conditions of the area, whether the economy historically revolved around agriculture, industry, or commerce, whether the area was rural or urban, and whether the population was generally affluent or poor, the people occupied some type of housing. An area typically has more dwellings than any other single type of building or structure, and the make up of an area's housing has much to say about the developmental history of the place and the character of its people.

Stokes County's architectural history contains a proliferation of simple dwellings--well built but plain--which reflect the self sufficient character typical of most of the population. At the same time, a surprising number of well detailed, stylish houses are also a part of the county's architectural history. Until the late nineteenth century, log construction was most common in the county, although there were also houses of frame or brick construction and even one surviving example of stone construction. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, frame construction predominated.

### **Log House Traditions**

Houses of log construction had a major impact on Stokes County's overall architectural character. Log houses were built in the county from its earliest years of settlement until well into the twentieth century. Log construction constituted a traditional form of building which changed little over time and which utilized readily available materials and basic construction skills. Stokes County's log houses fall into three general categories: 1) those which were built to provide immediate and temporary shelter; 2) those which utilized logs as the structural system for permanent, often sophisticated, dwellings which were frequently sheathed with weatherboards; and 3) those which were built in the twentieth century as a romanticized revival of an earlier "pioneer" architecture.

The most basic form of log house, and the most prevalent of those in Stokes County, was the single-pen house, consisting of one room (often with a loft) with a gable-end exterior chimney and doors centered on the front and rear. Single-pen houses usually had a separate log kitchen which was often attached to the main house by a breezeway, sometimes enclosed in later years. A rarer alternative to the separate kitchen was a log lean-to across the rear of the house. Single-pen houses often featured exposed, whitewashed log walls on the interior and an enclosed corner stair to the loft. Countless single-pen houses are found throughout the county, many of which remain un-named. Often, but by no means always, they were the homes of tenant farmers. The 1909 Charles Reid Christian House (SK 510), the ca. 1903 Columbus Green Hall House (SK 802), and the late nineteenth-century Henry Kiser House (SK 347) are excellent examples of the single-pen

house type. The mid nineteenth-century Austin C. Rhodes House (SK 772) is an earlier and somewhat more substantial example of the type. It has two-panel Greek Revival-style doors painted dark green with red panels, interior trim painted dark green, and weatherboard sheathing. The Coy Tuttle House (SK 248), probably built during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, is a good example of a single-pen house with an original rear shed room. It features handsome half-dovetailed corner joints and three five-panel doors which line up, front to rear, in the center of the house.

Double-pen houses were formed by the joining of two single pens in such a way that each pen retained its own front and rear central doors and gable-end chimney. A separate kitchen was frequently attached by a breezeway to the rear of one of the pens. Sometimes these houses were built all at one time, but in many cases they were the result of a single pen being added to an earlier single pen. A house (SK 809) on SR 1462 in the Francisco vicinity is an excellent example of a double-pen dwelling. Its simple character and exposed log walls reveal in a straightforward manner its house type. The 1840s Mirtilla F. Knight House (SK752) is a larger and more elaborate example. Its square-notched walls are weatherboarded, and its gable roof is outlined by a scalloped bargeboard, unusual for Stokes County. The John A. Martin House (SK 746) has been remodelled, but its double-pen form remains clearly evident. This house has been in the same family ownership throughout its history and is an example of a single-pen house which grew to form a double-pen dwelling. Family tradition relates that the first pen was erected by John A. Martin prior to the Civil War and that soon thereafter he added the second pen to the west side of the original structure. Both pens display simple Greek Revival interior detailing.

A third log house type found to a lesser extent in Stokes County was the dogtrot, formed by two pens joined by a central covered breezeway. In those examples recorded in the county, this central passage invariably has been enclosed. Two good examples are the Luther Frye House (SK 493) and the Martin Rent House (SK 640), both of unknown construction date. Both feature V-notched logs.

Saddlebag log houses were also erected in Stokes County, but like the dogtrot, to a lesser extent than those houses of the single-pen and double-pen types. The saddlebag house type consisted of two pens joined by a central chimney which opened into both pens. The spaces formed between the pens on either side of the chimney were often used as an entrance hall or for storage. Sometimes the pens were of different sizes, and often they were built at different times. The John Wilkins House (SK 621), probably dating from the third quarter of the nineteenth century, is an excellent example of the saddlebag type. Its two V-notched, weatherboarded pens of unequal size are joined by a huge stone chimney. With its decorative vernacular mantel and loft, the larger of the two pens appears to have been the main

living space of the house, while the smaller pen with its large fireplace may have been the kitchen. The Early Hairston House (SK 179) and the Joyce Tenant House (SK 736) are other good examples of the type. Both were probably built in the late nineteenth century. While the two pens of the Hairston House may have been erected at the same time, the east pen of the Joyce Tenant House appears to have been built prior to the west pen.

Larger, two-story log houses utilizing a variety of plans were also erected in Stokes County. While some of these had exposed log walls, many were weatherboarded and featured distinctive stylistic details. A good example is the John Jacob Spainhour House (SK 391). This relatively simple but impressive house with unusual double-shouldered stone chimney, elegantly molded door casings, and beaded-edged stair sheathing may have been built during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Around 1894 Walter Fowler built a basic two-story log house (SK 420) with a three-bay facade, a gable roof with widely overhanging eaves, and a hall-and-parlor plan. It was attached to an earlier one-story log house which then became the kitchen wing of the two-story house. Both parts of the house retain exposed log walls, leaving a clear impression of this structural form. Both the Arch Frye House (SK 592) and the Simmons House (SK 570) are substantial log dwellings which appear to have been built during the mid nineteenth century, if not earlier. Both have a two-story section with a one-story side wing. The Frye House is particularly handsome with its two-story section, one-story side wing, and rear shed rooms all constructed of half-dovetail logs sheathed with weatherboard siding. The house also has a mammoth gable-end stone chimney which boldly protrudes into the one-story wing. Both fireplaces of the Frye House are overscaled.

The log houses built in Stokes County well into the twentieth century--particularly during the second quarter of the century--are especially intriguing for what they say about the strong role of tradition in the county's architecture. Both the Willie Taylor House (SK 608) and the Alex Brim House (SK 665) demonstrate the persistence of traditional forms of building in Stokes.

The Taylor House is a weatherboarded log dwelling with a gable roof, a gable-end stone chimney, a central entrance flanked by two small windows, and a single-pen interior with exposed ceiling joists, whitewashed walls, a tall post-and-lintel mantel, and an enclosed corner stair to the loft. A log kitchen ell is attached to the rear of the house by a frame connector. The Taylor House gives every impression of having been built in the nineteenth century, yet its construction date was actually 1939.

The Brim House began as a single-pen structure built in 1921 with a gable roof, a gable-end stone chimney, and batten doors. It was attached by a frame connector to a pre 1921 log kitchen which had been moved to the site from another location on the farm. Around 1940 the last section was erected--a log pen connected to the east side of the house by a narrow frame room.

All three log sections have V-notched corner joints. Like the Taylor House, the Brim House looks like it could easily have been built in the nineteenth century rather than in the second quarter of this century.

The Taylor and Brim houses are examples of the survival of log building traditions. The E. C. Willis House (SK 308), on the other hand, suggests a revival interpretation of Stokes County's log building traditions. Built ca. 1930, the Willis House is a two-story double-pen structure with a one-story rear ell. Its saddle-notched corner joints, river rock chimneys, and way in which the ell directly abuts the house rather than being detached or semi-detached are not survivals from Stokes's long-held traditions. Instead, this appears to be a twentieth-century romanticized version of a Stokes County log house. So in Stokes County log building continued until survival met revival.

### **Eighteenth-Century Houses**

Houses dating from the eighteenth century in Stokes County are extremely rare. In fact, only two known examples survive, and one of these has long been in ruins. Both the Matthew Moore House and the John Martin House, also known as the Rock House, were substantial dwellings in their day and remain impressive in our time, which doubtless has contributed to their very survival. Both are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Matthew Moore was among the wealthiest and most prominent of the early settlers in Stokes County. Built in 1786, the Moore House is a rare and important example in North Carolina of eighteenth-century Germanic-influenced domestic architecture with cultural links to the nearby Moravian community of Salem. Located on a picturesque knoll in the Dan River Valley of central Stokes County, the Moore House is a one-and-a-half-story cottage with Flemish bond brick walls and a raised basement of uncoursed fieldstone. Other features of significance include segmental-arched openings which are asymmetrically arranged, a steep gable roof, gable-end interior chimneys, and a three-room Quaker plan with simple but well-executed period details.

Several miles west of the Moore House is the Martin House, probably built soon after John Martin purchased four hundred acres from Micajah Clark in 1787. The house has stood in ruins since the late nineteenth century, but these ruins are among the grandest in the state. Like Matthew Moore, John Martin was a Stokes County landowner of considerable wealth. His house was a large two-story fieldstone structure with a raised basement. Remains indicate that door and window openings and fireplaces were segmental-arched, that there were exterior end chimneys, that the house was at one time stuccoed, that the interior was arranged in a hall-and-parlor plan, and that the rear stone wing was an addition. Now owned by the Stokes County Historical Society, the ruins are being stabilized and protected.

## Early Nineteenth-Century Houses

Houses in Stokes County which can be identified as surviving from the first decades of the nineteenth century--ca. 1800-ca. 1840--are not numerous, but for the most part, like their counterparts from the late eighteenth century, they are handsomely detailed. Houses dating from the early years of this period reflect a transitional Georgian/Federal stylistic influence, while those built near the end of the period display a transitional Federal/Greek Revival influence. The quality of these houses suggests the relative affluence and cultural awareness of their owners.

Associated primarily with Solomon Petree, the Petree House (SK 273) may actually have been built in the late eighteenth century by his father, John Henry Petree (1755-1804). Standing on a hill overlooking the bottom lands of Town Fork and Neatman creeks, the Petree House displays a traditional, two-story, gable-roofed form with gable-end brick chimneys and a hall-and-parlor plan. Notable interior features provide the best clues to the age of the house: mantels with paneled friezes and molded shelves, a wide-board center partition with beaded-edged vertical boards, enclosed stairs to both the second floor and attic, originally-exposed ceiling joists with molded edges, broad four-panel doors, and batten doors with molded battens, beaded-edged vertical boards, and wrought iron hardware. The batten door of the first floor partition exhibits one the most unusual period features in the county: rare back-to-back wrought iron strap hinges with one strap running along the door in typical fashion but with the mirror-image strap running along the partition wall. The leather hinges which once joined the iron straps have worn away.

Until it was dismantled and moved to Tobaccoville in Forsyth County in 1986, the Frost-Pepper House (SK 322) was one of the most architecturally significant structures in Stokes County. Although it was in deteriorated condition, the early nineteenth-century house boasted refined and consistently-applied detailing in the transitional Georgian/Federal style. It was an excellent early example in the county of log construction being used for a substantial, sophisticated, permanent house. The Frost-Pepper House was a two-story dwelling with beaded weatherboard siding, a fieldstone foundation, a steep gable roof with a boxed and molded cornice, and large gable-end stone chimneys. The southeast chimney was particularly spectacular because of its huge battered base. The raised six-panel doors were handsomely grained. The interior followed a hall-and-parlor plan and featured plastered walls, green and blue-painted trim including a molded chair rail and baseboard in all the rooms and two-part door and window surrounds. Three fireplaces with broad, segmental-arched fire boxes remained in the house, although the transitional Georgian/Federal-style mantels had been removed. One of the most elegant features of the interior was the plastered underside of

the enclosed stair which spiraled upward between floors. The Frost-Pepper House stood in a picturesque setting overlooking Neatman Creek. Ezekial Frost (1772-1835), who operated one of the early iron forges in the county on Neatman Creek, is believed to have built the house.

One of the most intriguing representatives of the period is the Ralls House (SK 170). It demonstrates that even small log dwellings were at times built with a great deal of refinement. The Ralls House is a one-story dwelling with a hall-and-parlor plan and a loft. The most extraordinary feature of the house is the unexpected Flemish bond brick chimney with paved shoulders, unique in Stokes County. Although the house has been remodeled, numerous significant interior features remain evident in the corner stair and loft areas. Among these are vertical board sheathing with beaded edges, exposed ceiling joists with beaded edges, tightly laid logs, and mortise-and-tenoned rafters, collar beams, and gable-end framing. Particularly interesting is the loft window, which is unglazed and has only a batten shutter held in place by wrought iron strap hinges.

The James Rierson, Sr., House (SK 642) appears to have been built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century and enlarged and remodeled during the mid nineteenth century. Though deteriorated, it is one of Stokes County's finest architectural treasures. Located high on a ridge overlooking Flat Shoals Creek with a scenic view of the hills to the south, the Rierson House is one of the most sophisticated and least altered of the dwellings which remain from the pre Civil War period. With all its refinement of detail, the Rierson House is relatively modest in size, with a one-story hall-and-parlor plan, two rear shed rooms, and a two-room loft. The main body of the house is of log construction, while the shed rooms are of brick-nogged, mortise-and-tenon frame construction. The exterior is characterized by a fieldstone foundation, beaded siding (now mostly replaced with plain weatherboarding), large gable-end chimneys, and a steep gable roof with a slight double pitch which enables it to shelter the rear shed rooms and the full facade porch. One of the most striking parts of the house is the front porch. Among its noteworthy features are the flush-sheathed facade wall, the smoke-painted ceiling (a popular nineteenth century decorative painting treatment in this part of the state), and the heavy turned posts of transitional Federal/Greek Revival style influence which are sand-painted to suggest the appearance of stone. Surviving posts of this type are unique in Stokes County and rare elsewhere. Sections of the rounded handrail and evidence of the balustrade remain. On the interior, the two main rooms have paneled wainscots, plastered walls, and flush-boarded ceilings. Embedded in the plaster of the log partition wall is a wooden coat rack. Doors are of the two-panel variety, some exuberantly grained, and both mantels are large post-and-lintel ones with austere Greek Revival moldings. An enclosed corner stair in the west room leads to the loft. The loft rooms are sheathed with wide flush boards, and in the west room the walls

are spattered-painted and the ceiling is smoked. The batten door of the center partition is made of beaded-edged boards and features slender wrought iron strap hinges which span nearly the entire width of the door. The shed rooms across the rear of the Rierson House are an addition probably dating from the mid nineteenth century. Each room originally had an exterior end chimney, but these have been removed. The shed rooms are treated with flush-boarded wainscots, plastered walls, and flush-boarded ceilings and central partition wall. The exceptional feature of these rooms is their vernacular decorative painting, most prominently displayed in the east room. Here the ceiling is smoked, the wainscot is painted in imitation of stone with broad spattered strokes of white on grey, and the partition wall above the wainscot has a startling treatment of bold, upward-directed spattered strokes in a rich emerald green, perhaps an allusion to Virginia greenstone. This important house was built by James Rierson, Sr. (1798-1888), a large landowner and tobacco manufacturer who purchased the property in 1823. It remained in his family ownership until 1914.

In the northeastern section of Stokes County, the Newton and Pink Martin houses exemplify the latter part of the early nineteenth-century building activity in the county. The houses are handsome two-story dwellings with three-bay facades and gable roofs with a brick chimney at each gable end. The two appear to have been built during the second quarter of the century and both display similar stylistic details of the transitional Federal/Greek Revival period. The Newton Martin House (SK 701) has simple but refined exterior moldings, and the hall-and-parlor-plan interior features plastered walls and ceilings, cornerblock door surrounds, paneled wainscots, and enclosed stairs leading to the second floor and attic. Vernacular stylistic expressions include three-panel and eight-panel doors, a post-and-lintel mantel with a heavily molded and oddly blocked frieze, and, on the second floor, a pegged clothes rack embedded in the plaster along one wall.

Nearby, the Pink Martin House (SK 702) has refined and consistently-applied Greek Revival exterior cornice, door, and window moldings. The interior, arranged in a hall-and-parlor plan with rear shed and ell rooms, features plastered walls (including the attic), a corner stair, two-panel, six-panel, and eight-panel doors with transitional Federal/Greek Revival-style molded surrounds, post-and-lintel mantels, and wainscoting. Although they have been over-painted on the first floor, handsomely marbled baseboards and stair risers remain on the second floor.

### **Mid Nineteenth-Century Greek Revival Houses**

The mid nineteenth century, prior to the Civil War, was a period of prosperity in Stokes County, as it was throughout North Carolina and the nation as a whole. The period witnessed the

erection of some of the county's finest houses which utilized the popular Greek Revival style to express in a tangible way the success and prominence of the owners. Both substantial plantation houses and smaller, yet stylistically distinctive, dwellings were erected.

One of the most impressive of these houses is Pine Hall, also known as the Anderson-Hanes House. Completed in 1859 as the seat of Major Leonard W. Anderson's 879-acre plantation, the house is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The original part of this stately house is a large two-story brick structure with a three-bay facade, an entrance portico with Doric posts, and a low hipped roof with interior chimneys. The center-hall plan interior is one room deep to the right of the stair hall and two rooms deep to the left. The handsome open-string stair has turned newels and a paneled spandrel. Other features of note include plastered walls, two-panel doors with cornerblock surrounds, and boldly simple Greek Revival post-and-lintel mantels. In some rooms a cupboard is built into the wall adjacent to the projecting mantel.

Just north of Germanton is the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House (SK 272), believed to have been built by David Leake in the mid 1850s. Although the house has been altered by the addition of a wrap-around porch dating from ca. 1905, an old photograph reveals that the house originally looked nearly identical to Pine Hall. There are so many similarities in form and detail between the two houses that they may well have been erected by the same builder. There is no known documentation, however, to substantiate this. Like Pine Hall, the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House is a substantial two-story brick dwelling with a three-bay facade (originally with a hip-roofed Doric entrance portico), a low hipped roof, and interior chimneys. Double-leaf paneled doors with mullioned sidelights and transom lead to the center-hall plan interior. Here, as at Pine Hall, the house is one room deep to the right of the stair hall and two rooms deep to the left. The two rooms to the left of the hall are separated by a secondary, transverse stair hall. The interior of the house features plastered walls and consistently applied, chaste Greek Revival detailing including post-and-lintel mantels, two-panel doors with cornerblock surrounds, and cupboards next to the projecting fireplace in every room except the parlor. The primary stair has a graceful handrail, a turned newel, and a paneled spandrel. The secondary stair features an elegant ramped handrail and turned newels. It continues in this form down to what was originally the basement dining room, one of the most unusual features of the house and a rare survivor in Stokes County's architectural history. Also rare is the surviving brick kitchen behind the house.

The Jefferson Tuttle House (SK 256) in the Brook Cove vicinity closely resembles Pine Hall and, especially, the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House in form and stylistic detail. Probably built in the late 1860s, it, too, is a two-story house with a low hipped roof, a three-bay facade with, until recent

years, hip-roofed entrance porches, and paneled entrances with sidelights and transom. Once again the interior displays a plan with two stair halls and consistently applied Greek Revival detailing including front and side stairs with turned newels, ramped handrails, and paneled spandrels; two-panel doors with cornerblock surrounds; post-and-lintel mantels; and built-in cupboards next to two of the mantels. However, whereas the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House and Pine Hall are both of brick construction, the Tuttle House is a more vernacular adaptation of the type using weatherboarded log construction.

Another group of equally impressive mid nineteenth-century Greek Revival houses is best exemplified by the Benjamin Bailey House (SK 253) and the Hampton Bynum House (SK 281), though both have seen more alterations (especially on the interior) than have Pine Hall, the Leake-Chaffin-Browder House, or even the Jefferson Tuttle House. Local tradition suggests that once there were at least five or six houses of this type in the Germanton-Walnut Cove area, but most have been lost. The Rainey-Savage House (SK 304) is still clearly recognizable as a member of the group, although it has been substantially altered. Tradition also maintains that the houses were designed by a "German architect," name unknown. While some of the detailing of these houses is similar to the detailing of Pine Hall and associated houses, the form is altogether different. The houses in this group are two-story weatherboarded frame dwellings, and each has a broad pedimented gable roof with a boxed and molded cornice, interior chimneys, and molded door and window surrounds. The focal point of the three-bay facade is the two-level central portico with Doric posts and a full Classical entablature with a pedimented gable echoing that of the main roof. Each level of the portico boasts a double-leaf, paneled door with mullioned sidelights and transom emphasized by the plain flush-boarded background of the portico wall. The interior of each house follows a center hall, double pile plan with Greek Revival details such as post-and-lintel mantels and two-panel doors with cornerblock surrounds (except where altered).

A variety of other Greek Revival houses of distinction was also built in Stokes County during the mid nineteenth century. One of the most impressive of these is the Covington House (SK 202), proudly situated on a hilltop along NC 89 in Meadows Township. This unusually large house is the result of two major building periods, believed to date from ca. 1820 and ca. 1860. While the original section of the house, located between the westernmost two chimneys, retains some design features from the earlier period of building, the primary character of the house dates from the Greek Revival period. When the two-story, two-room addition was built to the east end of the house ca. 1860, it was designed with refined Greek Revival detailing, including a well-proportioned mantel, two-panel doors, and crosssetted door and window surrounds. Around the same time, much of the detailing in the rest of the house was updated in the Greek Revival style. The most outstanding feature of the

Covington House--that for which it is most memorable--is the nine-bay, two-level porch with Doric posts which extends across the entire facade of the house.

The full-facade porch is an architectural theme which appears elsewhere in some of Stokes County's more impressive houses from the mid nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. A prime example from the mid nineteenth century is the David Nicholas Dalton House (NRSL) in the Dalton community. Like the Covington House, it has an impressive hilltop setting, and also like the Covington House, it is an unusually large dwelling (for Stoke County) built in several phases. Initially an antebellum two-story log structure with a hall-and-parlor plan, the house was enlarged prior to the Civil War by Dalton, who had purchased the property by 1857. Other alterations were made in the 1880s, including a third-floor ballroom. Dalton, who was a prominent planter, tobacco products manufacturer, and a diversified entrepreneur, used his large home not only as the family residence, but also as a hotel and stagecoach stop. The house is a two-and-a-half-story, weatherboarded dwelling with pairs of gable-end chimneys. Its handsome two-tier full-facade porch features square posts and a latticed balustrade. Like the porch of the James Rierson, Sr., House, the Dalton House porch is distinguished by decorative smoke-painted ceilings.

The Wall-Reynolds House (SK 173) in Beaver Island Township is of smaller scale than those Greek Revival dwellings discussed thus far, and yet it is one of the most sophisticated houses of the period in Stokes County. It is a two-story, weatherboarded frame house with a three-bay facade, a low hipped roof, exterior end chimneys, nine-over-six and six-over-four sash windows with louvered shutters, and a one-story rear ell which appears to have been originally detached from the house. The stylistic focal point of the exterior is the Classical entrance portico with paired Tuscan columns, a plain balustrade, and a full entablature. It shelters the two-panel front entrance with sidelights and Classical surround. The refined interior follows a center-hall, single-pile plan and features plastered walls and consistently applied Greek Revival detailing such as two-panel doors with cornerblock surrounds, post-and-lintel mantels, paneled aprons beneath the windows, and a delicate stair with a tapered octagonal newel and a ramped handrail. Of particular significance is the well-executed decorative painting which highlights some of the interior features, including marbled and grained mantels, marbled baseboards, and marbled stair risers. Behind the Wall-Reynolds House stands a rare survivor in Stokes County: a two-room, central-chimney, frame slave house which was one of the three listed with Zachariah Wall's property in the 1860 Census.

Of yet smaller scale is the Samuel Hill House (SK 299), one of the most architecturally interesting dwellings in Germanton. Although the house has been enlarged and altered since 1920, much of the original plan and Greek Revival detailing remains intact.

The original house was a one-story weatherboarded cottage with a low hipped roof, exterior end brick chimneys, and a center bay Doric porch (enlarged in the 1920s to a full-facade porch) which sheltered a two-panel front door (now replaced) with mullioned sidelights and transom. The two windows of the three-bay facade are unusual, having six-over-six sash with mullioned sidelights like those flanking the entrance. The interior is also unusual with a modified Quaker plan consisting of a center hall, one large room with a central fireplace to the left of the hall, and two rooms, each with a corner fireplace, to the right of the hall. Interior details include plastered walls, post-and-lintel mantels, two-panel doors, and Greek Revival moldings. A now-removed stair led from the center hall to the cellar, which includes two large rooms originally used as a kitchen and as a dining room, unusual features for Stokes County.

### **Traditional Houses of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries**

While the succession of stylistic trends popular in America continued to find expression in houses erected throughout Stokes County's architectural history, the force of local tradition remained strong and played a decisive role in the design of countless dwellings built in the county for a century and a half. In the traditional building patterns of Stokes County, as elsewhere, form was much slower to change than detail, and stylistic detail was often only alluded to, if not ignored completely. For these reasons it is often difficult to date with much certainty the traditional folk housing of the county. Thus it was that the Willie Taylor House (see discussion under Log House Traditions) was built in 1939, though its form was a hold-over from at least the early nineteenth century and the overall appearance of the house suggested that it was most likely built fifty to seventy-five years prior to its actual construction date.

One of the most popular of the traditional house forms in Stokes County during the early to mid nineteenth century is exemplified by the Gideon Ferguson House (SK 325) in Meadows Township, begun just prior to the Civil War and completed shortly thereafter. This little-altered house is a two-story, weatherboarded log dwelling of hall-and-parlor plan with a fieldstone foundation, a gable roof, a gable-end stone chimney, a shed-roofed front porch with the west third enclosed as a room, and a one-story frame shed across the rear. A single-pen log kitchen with a large gable-end stone chimney stands just west of the house. Interior detailing includes a combination of white-washed log walls, flush-sheathed walls, exposed ceiling joists, a log partition wall, an enclosed stair along the partition with entrances from the west room and from the front porch, a simple post-and-lintel mantel, and both two-panel and batten doors with decorative wrought iron strap hinges (a late

usage).

Nearby, the mid nineteenth-century John H. Carroll House (SK 327) bears the same basic form as the Ferguson House but is somewhat smaller and less detailed. It is a two-story weatherboarded log structure with a gable roof, a gable-end stone chimney with a brick stack, a shed-roofed front porch with an enclosed room on the west end, and a large single-pen interior with exposed log walls and ceiling joists and with an enclosed corner stair. Both two-panel and batten doors are found in the house. Refinements are few, but include a boxed roof cornice and flush sheathed walls and ceiling on the front porch. Attached to the rear of the house by a frame connecting room is a two-room log kitchen and dining room ell. These rooms, divided by a log partition, are treated with exposed log walls and flush-sheathed ceilings. An unusual feature of the Carroll House is that the four doors leading from the front porch to the rear kitchen are aligned in shotgun fashion.

One of the most common traditional house forms which continued throughout the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century was the two-story log or frame house of rectangular configuration with a gable roof and a stone or brick chimney at each gable end. These houses generally had a front porch and a semi-detached kitchen on the rear in earlier years or a rear ell in later years. Interiors generally followed a hall-and-parlor or a center-hall plan.

The Petree-Bolejack House (SK 314) in Meadows Township is a good mid nineteenth-century example. It is a weatherboarded log house with a flush-sheathed front porch wall. A pair of four-panel front doors leads to the two main rooms of the house, which are finished with wide, flush-sheathed walls and ceilings, large but simple post-and-lintel mantels, and an enclosed corner stair.

Another example of the type, dating from ca. 1875, is the Allen-Tillotson House (SK 235). Like the Petree-Bolejack House, it has flush-sheathed porch walls in contrast to the weatherboarding of the rest of the house and a pair of front doors which lead to the two-room-plan interior. Interior features include flush-sheathed walls and ceilings, two-panel doors, and simple but handsome post-and-lintel mantels. The distinguishing feature of the Allen-Tillotson House is its vernacular decorative painting, a once fairly common way of dressing up an otherwise plain house. At the Allen-Tillotson House the second floor mantels are marbled--each in a different way--and the ceilings are smoked. One of the ceilings even bears what appears to be the initials "WHW," presumably those of the painter. (The first floor may also at one time have displayed decorative painting, but any such painting is no longer in evidence.)

The Chandler-Martin-Joyce House (SK 735) in the Amostown vicinity was probably built during the third quarter of the nineteenth century and is another typical frame example of this traditional house type. It is somewhat more refined than many

houses of the type, yet typically, the refinements come primarily with the interior detailing. The house has a longer three-bay facade than those houses previously discussed, but its shed-roofed porch shelters only the front entrance. Exterior details include latticework porch posts and a double-leaf entrance with sidelights and transom. The vernacular interior refinements provide a surprisingly romantic contrast to the general austerity of the exterior. The interior boasts a generously proportioned central stair hall; plastered walls; two-panel doors; a handsome stair with unusual carved newels, ramped handrail, and curvilinear applied brackets; and a robust vernacular parlor mantel with heavy corner and center blocks and a three-dimensionally-curved frieze and pilasters.

The traditional house type illustrated by the Petree-Bolejack, Allen-Tillotson, and Chandler-Martin-Joyce houses continued in popularity through the late nineteenth century and into the early twentieth. Proportions changed somewhat from house to house, front porches varied in size and detail, and interiors increasingly followed the center hall plan, but the basic form remained, providing continuity through decades of the county's architectural history. Good examples from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries of the continuation of this form are the ca. 1888 Francis Jefferson Tuttle House (SK 203) in Sauratown Township, the ca. 1890 Sanders Fountain Slate House (SK 370) in Yadkin Township, and the ca. 1905 John Hill Alley House (SK 630) in Peters Creek Township. Around the turn of the twentieth century a variation on this traditional house form gained popularity. The primary difference was in the placement of the chimneys--from the exterior gable ends to the interior, where they formed a pair near the center of the house. A typical example of this variation in form is the ca. 1900 Rufus A. Bennett House (SK 380) in Yadkin Township.

### **Late Nineteenth-Century Romanticism**

While traditionalism was an ever-present factor in Stokes County's architecture, the second half of the nineteenth century--from the Greek Revival to the late Victorian Queen Anne--was a period, nationally, of romanticism in architecture that was expressed in a variety of Victorian period styles. In Stokes County this romanticism in building design was evident, but to a lesser extent than in many places, particularly more urban places. The latter half of the nineteenth century--especially the last quarter--was a time of growth and change in Stokes County, but it was not, for the most part, a time of great individual wealth. Thus housing in general tended to cling to comfortable traditionalism with only tentative forays into the world of stylish romanticism.

The most significant example of this romanticism can be seen in the Hairston Sauratown Plantation House (SK 182), built on the west side of the Dan River near Walnut Cove, probably in the

1870s. The Hairstons were the largest land and slave owners in Stokes County during the nineteenth century. The original plantation house was located across the river, but it burned (date unknown), and this house was later erected by combining and redesigning the former plantation office and the manager's house, according to family tradition. The result was a sophisticated house whose design and detail are unique in Stokes County. It is a one-and-a-half-story structure with an unusually long facade, interior chimneys, and a cross plan consisting of two central back-to-back rooms flanked by mirror-image stair halls with single rooms beyond. The porch which nearly encircles the house and the doors which originally opened to it from each of the first floor rooms provided excellent ventilation for what was used primarily as a summer residence, according to family tradition. The exterior of the Hairston House strongly hints of the Gothic Revival, with its slender fluted and chamfered porch posts, two lancet-arched windows on the central projecting bay, and multiple gables and dormers with sawnwork and pierced work bargeboards. The handsome interior displays a combination of stylistic influences and includes conservative paneled wainscots, Greek Revival-inspired two-panel doors and post-and-lintel mantels, and other mantels and doors of Italianate and later Victorian inspiration. Adding to the sophistication of the house is a collection of expertly wood-grained doors. The romanticism of the Hairston House continues with its only remaining nineteenth-century outbuilding. This square, weatherboarded log structure is detailed with a scalloped bargeboard and a pedimented entrance.

The ca. 1900 Sheppard-Moore House (SK 771) in Peters Creek Township reflects the same spirit of romanticism as seen at the Hairston House. Like the Hairston House, its form and detailing are unique in Stokes County. The Sheppard-Moore House is a two-story, weatherboarded frame structure with a symmetrical H-shaped plan consisting of a central stair hall (which forms the hyphen of the H) flanked on either side by two back-to-back rooms separated by a central chimney. Fanciful exterior detailing includes a multi-gabled roof (two of the gables are clipped) with a sawnwork bargeboard and wood-shingled gables and a recessed, two-tier front porch with a variety of sawnwork ornamentation. The Sheppard-Moore House barn--a twelve-sided structure with a stall on each side--was as unusual architecturally as the house. It no longer stands and constitutes one of Stokes County's true architectural losses.

Like the Hairston House and the Sheppard-Moore House, the William Gaines Slate House (SK 340) is architecturally unique in Stokes County, but unlike the other two houses, it appears to be related, primarily in detail, to a group of houses of the late nineteenth century in the county. One of the best expressions in the Stokes County of the Italianate style, the Slate House stands on a hill in the Quaker Gap vicinity with a commanding view of the Sauratown Mountains. The two-story frame dwelling follows a cross-shaped plan with a center front projecting bay and a

two-story central rear ell flanked by two-tier porches. The entirety of the low gabled roof is bordered by a bracketed cornice, and both the shed-roofed entrance porch and the rear ell porches are treated with matching chamfered posts and sawnwork brackets and balustrades. The front entrance of double-leafed, paneled doors flanked by sidelights and a slightly pedimented surround leads to a small vestibule. Here lies the most unusual feature of the house--an enclosed central stair bordered by a beaded wainscot and terminated at its base by three circular steps of graduated size. The remainder of the interior is treated with a beaded board wainscot as well as beaded board walls and ceilings.

William Gaines Slate (1843-1915) was a prominent builder and entrepreneur in central Stokes County who is credited with bringing the first circular sawmill and planing machine into the county. He is associated with the building of many of the houses and churches in the area, and in 1904 served as building supervisor for the new county courthouse. Slate's saw and planing mill may have been the source for much of the decorative exterior woodwork in central Stokes County; certainly numerous houses in the area exhibit sawnwork brackets and/or balustrades identical to those found on the Slate House. Among these are the William Jasper Johnson House (SK 336), built for Slate's daughter and son-in-law in the Quaker Gap community; the Francis E. Petree House (SK 316) in the Friendship community; and the Bennett-Gentry House (SK 378) in Yadkin Township. The Bennett-Gentry House also recalls, with some modifications, the form of the Slate House.

Other houses of simple but handsome Italianate influence were also built in Stokes County during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Located primarily in the towns, these houses made use primarily of gabled roofs with overhanging eaves and bracketed cornices, pedimented door and window surrounds, and fancy porches with chamfered posts and sawnwork brackets and balustrades. These houses were usually two stories in height, though various configurations and plans were used. Two excellent examples are the Cahill-Fulton-Cates House (SK 102) in Walnut Cove and the Edward J. Styers House (SK 303) in Germanton.

As the end of the nineteenth century approached, Stokes County houses constructed with an interest in style were less influenced by the Italianate, reflecting instead a variety of late nineteenth-century stylistic conventions. The Joe Henry Hawkins House (SK 616) in Snow Creek Township is one such example. This two-story, L-shaped, weatherboarded dwelling with a paneled cornice frieze and pedimented and crosssetted window surrounds retains a simple Italianate influence, but its real significance lies in the parlor which once served as the focal point of the interior. This imaginative room, which was sold and removed from the house in recent years, utilized a decorative painting scheme to achieve its Victorian romanticism. The entire ceiling of the flush-boarded room was painted in broad concentric circles with a large stylized flower in the center. Each corner

of the room was painted to imitate a wooden porch post with brackets that appeared to support the ceiling. On the west wall was an outstanding mantel with painted and carved decorative details. The frieze, in particular, was highlighted by three well-executed landscape paintings: an oval panel in the center flanked by two rectangular panels. Flower blossoms painted on the mantel appear related to the center of the ceiling medallion. The segmental-arched firebox which remains with the house has scored stucco surfaces in imitation of stone, and four-panel doors (now removed) were grained. The other rooms of the Hawkins House are painted with such colors as dark brown, light green, aqua, putty, and a dark blue-green. Martin Luther Hutcherson (1856-1924), a furniture carver and decorator at the J. E. Shelton Furniture Factory in nearby Sandy Ridge, is believed to have painted the decorative work at the Hawkins House. He is also credited with having painted in similar fashion the parlor of the nearby Andrew Steele House (SK 617).

A different type of Victorian romanticism was achieved at the Bynum-Watts House (SK 260) in the Brook Cove community. The form of the house, with its two-story, three-bay facade, gable roof with gable-end chimneys, and two-story rear ell with wrap-around porch, is quite traditional. The effect of the two-tiered facade porch, however, is that of a Victorian update of the Greek Revival-influenced Covington House (SK 202). At the Bynum-Watts House the five-bay first story of the porch appears to have been altered with the use of Tuscan Doric columns and a turned balustrade, while the second floor retains its fanciful seven-bay form with latticework posts, sawnwork brackets, and plain balustrade. The broad fields leading up the road to the house add to its romantic quality.

As the Bynum-Watts House seems a Victorian update of the Greek Revival Covington House, so the Matthew Dalton Phillips House (SK 425) in the Dalton community appears to be a Victorianized version of the Greek Revival Benjamin Bailey and Hampton Bynum houses. One of the most handsomely detailed dwellings of the late Victorian period, the 1890 Phillips House repeats the substantial two-story frame, center hall, double-pile plan of the earlier houses. Like the Greek Revival houses, it also has a broad gable roof, interior chimneys, and a two-tiered, gabled, center-bay porch which shelters a double-leaf entrance with sidelights and transom at each level. What differentiates the Phillips House from the Bailey and Bynum houses is primarily the detailing. Instead of boldly simple Greek Revival features, the Phillips House exhibits Victorian frills, such as a bracketed cornice and paneled frieze, turned posts and balustrades, sawnwork brackets, and windows with crossetted surrounds. The Phillips House also boasts a two-story porch on the northeast side of the house which originally matched the southwest porch but was altered in 1936-1937.

Style consciousness during the late nineteenth century was not confined to Stokes County's larger two-story dwellings. One-story cottages, particularly in the towns, were also on

occasion decorated with the latest stylistic treatment. As with the two-story houses, porches were a prime target for late Victorian embellishment. One such example is the Will and Mildred Hill Chaffin House (SK 302) in Germanton. This one-story, weatherboarded dwelling with a gable roof, central chimney, and three-bay facade is a simple structure enlivened by a fancy front porch with chamfered posts, sawnwork brackets, and a sawnwork balustrade.

While many houses in late nineteenth-century Stokes County displayed an array of period stylistic influences, most of these houses remained conservative in form, focusing on detail for their stylistic expression. Few houses ventured far from tradition to convey more fully the exuberant Queen Anne style which was so popular across the nation at the end of the nineteenth century. The Queen Anne was characterized by irregularity of plan and massing and by a variety of materials, textures, and ornamentation. Even the few houses in Stokes County which clearly demonstrate the Queen Anne style, as opposed to displaying some detailing associated with the style, are relatively conservative in approach. One of these houses is the Dr. William Banner Moore House (SK 794) in the Hart's Store community. It is particularly unusual for being a rural example of the Queen Anne style, but Dr. Moore had attended medical school in Baltimore and would have been exposed to higher style urban architecture. The fact that Moore married a Baltimore woman in 1893 probably also influenced the choice of design for his house. Situated on an expansive hill, the 1890s Moore House is a two-story frame dwelling of irregular massing. The steeply pitched gable roof is interrupted by the two most notable exterior features--the projecting, two-story, tower-like front bay with polygonal roof and the square two-and-a-half-story central stair tower with bellcast pyramidal roof. A corner porch with turned posts is nestled beneath the slope of the main roof, while a secondary decorated porch shelters the side entrance to what was Dr. Moore's office. The interior of the Moore House continues the Queen Anne ambiance through its completely asymmetrical plan with rooms of various sizes and unusual shapes. From the small entrance hall, the stair winds tightly upward to the second floor and tower peak. Much of the woodwork in the house is wood-grained.

The Culler-Scott House (SK 454) is the most stylish of the surviving late nineteenth-century dwellings in Stokes County. This sophisticated two-story frame house is the architectural focal point of the town of Pinnacle, appropriate in view of the fact that the house was first owned by Pinnacle's founding family, the Cullers. Typical of late Victorian architecture, the Culler-Scott House has an asymmetrical plan with projecting and receding planes. The house is dominated by a central three-story tower with an impressive mansard roof and louvered dormers. The textural variety popular with the Queen Anne is achieved through the use of novelty siding on the first story and decorative wood shingles on the second story, tower, and gables. Other period

features which contribute to the stylishness of the house are a front bay window, decorated gables, sawnwork frieze borders, a wrap-around porch with turned posts and balustrade, and a lunette window around the corner from the decorated double-leaf entrance at the base of the tower. A 1912 photograph of the house shows that it has changed little since its early years.

By far the grandest Queen Anne-style house in Stokes County, and indeed one the most outstanding houses of any period in the county, was the Dr. W. A. Lash House, demolished ca. 1970. The house was probably built (or the earlier home of W. A. Lash was substantially enlarged and remodeled) by William A. Lash, Jr., a Walnut Cove physician and prominent local landowner. Old photographs show that the Lash House was a huge two-story brick structure with a basement and an attic. The dominant feature of the exterior was the three-story central tower with wood shingled third story and bell-cast roof. Additional exterior features of significance included a crested hipped and gabled roof, decorated gables, round-arched windows bordered with stained glass, and a one-story, full-length facade porch with a turned balustrade and frieze. An unusual aspect of the house was that it was symmetrical in form, a departure from the characteristic asymmetry of the Queen Anne style. The front entrance, two mantels, and a stair newel re-used in the present one-story replacement house show that the interior of the Lash House was as ornately detailed as the exterior.

### **Early Twentieth-Century Styles**

Around the turn of the twentieth century, the influence of the late Victorian Queen Anne style on Stokes County's dwellings subsided in favor of a renewed interest in America's Colonial architecture and the Classical Revival. The houses erected at this time, however, were not mere copies of the architectural styles popular in America during the eighteenth and mid nineteenth centuries. Rather, they were re-interpretations of selected forms and details from these periods, combined to form the new styles known as the Colonial Revival and the Neo-Classical Revival. The change was not instantaneous, of course. As in other periods, there were many houses which exhibited "transitional" stylistic images, such as late Victorian-Colonial Revival and Colonial Revival-Neo-Classical Revival. The new styles were, to a certain extent, a reaction against the relative visual complexity of the Queen Anne and related late Victorian styles. The Colonial Revival was a sentimental style with a conservative Classicism grounded in tradition and a formality which dispensed with Victorian exuberance and irregularity. At the same time, the Neo-Classical Revival was bolder in detail and proportion and generally more ostentatious than had been the mid nineteenth-century Greek Revival.

The Capt. Robert L. Murphy House (SK 105) in Walnut Gove and

the Abner Chilton House (SK 825) in the Asbury vicinity are representative of those houses which display the transitional influences of the late Victorian and Colonial Revival periods. The 1890s Murphy House reflects the Colonial Revival in its blocky form, steep gable roof with pedimented dormers, and modillioned cornice outlining the main roof, porch roof, and dormers. The interior continues the theme with turn-of-the-century interpretations of Colonial mantels. At the same time, the house retains Queen Anne-style influence in its asymmetrical interior plan, in its combination of weatherboard and wood shingle siding, and in its two-story projecting bay which breaks away from the Colonial Revival rectangular block.

The 1914 Chilton House displays a late Victorian stylistic attitude in its boldly projecting center bay with wrap-around porch which establishes a significant variation to the otherwise traditional farmhouse form. The pedimented gables and Tuscan Doric porch columns, however, provide a Classicism which suggests the influence of the Colonial Revival.

The John R. Lackey House (SK 114) in Walnut Cove illustrates a particular form of the Colonial Revival which was popular in Stokes County during the mid 1910s. It is a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling dominated by a gambrel roof with a front cross gambrel. Characteristic of the houses of this type, the first story is weatherboarded while the upper story is sheathed in wood shingles. Other typical features include the hip-roofed front porch with Tuscan Doric columns and the Colonial Revival fireplace mantels.

The Fulton-Sands House (SK 139) in Walnut Cove displays another popular Colonial Revival house form. Built ca. 1910, it is a two-story weatherboarded frame dwelling, three bays wide and two bays deep, with a steep hipped roof, a hipped front dormer, interior chimneys, and a Tuscan Doric porch. The interior is arranged in a center-hall, double-pile plan with Colonial Revival closed-string stair and mantels.

The rather pompous Neo-Classical Revival style did not gain wide popularity in the generally unpretentious, rural environment of Stokes County. The style was sometimes suggested in a tentative way that pushed beyond the more readily accepted Colonial Revival. The ca. 1910 Smoak-Brown-Wall House (SK 456) in Pinnacle is an example. It is a large, two-story, weatherboarded frame house with a hipped roof and a wrap-around porch with square Doric posts set on brick plinths. Adding a bit of grandeur to the Classicism of the house is the second-story, center-bay porch with its pedimented gable and Doric posts. The glass and wood-paneled entrance with sidelights and transom adds another Classical touch.

The Smith-Simmons House (SK 831) in the Asbury community is the best domestic example of the Neo-Classical Revival style in Stokes County. Ironically, even this house retains evidence of its late nineteenth-century origin. Local tradition relates that Walter Smith built the original house, a simple two-story frame dwelling with a hipped roof, interior chimneys, and a center-hall

plan. The simple late Victorian stair remains intact toward the rear of the present house, and what was the parlor of Smith's house retains a sophisticated late Victorian mantel with a paneled and mirrored overmantel that is one of the finest examples of its type in the county. Around 1908 G. L. Simmons enlarged the house by adding a new front parlor and a large reception hall with its own stair. At the same time he added a one-story wrap-around porch with tapered, paneled posts set on brick plinths and a two-story central portico with paired Doric columns and a full Classical entablature. Simmons's alterations converted the house into a majestic Neo-Classical Revival dwelling that architecturally dominates the Asbury community.

While the Colonial Revival and Neo-Classical Revival styles were finding expression in dwellings built in Stokes County during approximately the first fifteen years of the twentieth century, another architectural movement--quite different from these and the various late Victorian styles--was beginning to appear in the more fashionable houses of the period. The nationally-popular Craftsman style and its most typical house form, the bungalow, gradually became a part of the Stokes County architectural scene during the first two decades of the twentieth century and reached a peak in popularity during the 1920s. The Craftsman style emphasized simplicity, informality of plan, and an emphasis on the natural qualities of building materials so as to be in harmony with the surrounding natural environment.

The most popular manifestation of the style in Stokes County was the one or one-and-a-half-story bungalow. Typical characteristics of the bungalow included asymmetrical design, low sweeping profiles, broad gables, widely overhanging bracketed eaves, one or more wide porches--often offset--supported by heavy posts, the use of a combination of materials which frequently gave a rustic appearance, and informal interior arrangements. Many of the examples in Stokes County were as sophisticated as those built in more style-conscious urban areas. In fact, Stokes County's landscape provided, in many cases, a particularly appropriate setting for these houses which were intended to be related to nature.

The James Booker Greene House (SK 219) in Meadows Township is an early and well-developed example of the bungalow house type in Stokes County. It has been little-altered since its ca. 1905 construction date. The Greene House is a one-and-a-half-story dwelling with a broad gable roof, widely overhanging braced eaves, front and rear gabled dormers, a weatherboarded first story, a wood-shingled upper story, and a broad wrap-around porch with tapered wood posts set on brick plinths which extends on the south side to form a porte-cochere. Around 1920 a low stone wall was built around the front yard, further connecting the man-made and natural elements of the property.

One of the most outstanding bungalows in Stokes County is the 1923-1924 Harry Sanders House (SK 87) in Walnut Cove. Harry and Willie (Hairston) Sanders had spent a couple of years in California prior to moving to Walnut Cove and building their

house. While in California they had become enamored of the bungalow house type and chose it for their own dwelling, calling it their "California bungalow." The impressive house makes good use of dark-stained, wood-shingle siding and contrasting Mount Airy granite for the foundation, chimneys, porch, and porte-cochere. Typically, the front porch is offset, the low roof lines have widely overhanging eaves with braces and exposed rafter ends, and windows are primarily in groups of two, three, or four. Less typical is the small, wood-shingled second story which rises from the center of the house. Continuing the use of natural materials, the dominant feature of the interior is a huge granite fireplace. Behind the Sanders House is an unusual two-story garage/storage building/apartment with an engaged second-story porch. Coordinating with the main house, it is sheathed in square-cut wood shingles.

Wood shingles, in fact, were among the most popular of the building materials used with bungalows. In addition to the Sanders House, the Gaston Hill House (SK 506) and the Bernie Smith House (SK 507), both in Westfield, are excellent examples of houses sheathed completely in square-cut wood shingles. The 1920s Hill House exhibits one of the most typical bungalow forms. It is a one-and-a-half-story dwelling with a broad gable roof, widely overhanging braced eaves, a large gabled front dormer, and a broad front porch. The porch is sheltered by a low-sweeping continuation of the main roof which is supported by tapered wood posts set on rusticated concrete block plinths connected by a wood-shingled skirt. Down the road, the 1926 Smith House exhibits another variation on the bungalow. It, too, has a broad gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves and matching dormers, but this time the gables are on the front and rear of the house instead of on either side. Beneath the front gable is an engaged front porch. A camp-like rusticity is encouraged by the combination of dark-stained wood-shingle siding and rock chimneys, porch post plinths, and foundation.

Located on rugged terrain below Sauratown Mountain, the ca. 1915 Numa Covington House (SK 376) demonstrates well the integration of a bungalow house form with the surrounding environment. The Covington House is a one-and-a-half-story weatherboarded frame dwelling with the typical broad gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves. What distinguishes it from other bungalows in the county is the engaged porch which wraps around three of the four sides, providing a strongly protective quality to this hillside dwelling. The unusual upper-story porches, recessed beneath the gable peaks at both north and south ends of the house, suggest the appearance of a mountain chalet, reinforcing the relationship between the house and its environment.

The Craftsman style was also manifested in houses somewhat larger than the typical bungalow, though the detailing remained the same. A good example is the James Reid Owens House (SK 531) in Big Creek Township. An early photograph shows that the 1924-1925 house has seen almost no alterations since its

construction, perhaps because it was family-built and has remained in family ownership. The handsome dwelling is almost a full two stories in height and contrasts German-siding on the first story with wood shingles on the upper story. The facade-oriented main gable roof with smaller side cross gables and the gabled front porch and side porte-cochere all display the same widely overhanging braced eaves and exposed, curved rafter ends. According to family tradition, the original paint scheme consisted of grey for the German siding, brown for the shingles, and white for the trim. The present colors vary little from the original.

The most outstanding example of the larger Craftsman-style houses in Stokes County is the N. Spencer Mulligan House (SK 220) in the Ross Store community of Meadows Township. The two-story dwelling features a weatherboarded first story and a wood-shingled second story, while the north side chimney, the side porte-cochere, and the front porch posts are all of rock construction. The exceptionally broad gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves is repeated on the offset front porch. Grouped windows feature diamond-shaped muntins in the upper sash. The landscaping of the Mulligan House contributes significantly to the association of the house with the Craftsman movement by acknowledging the important relationship between the house and its environment. Surrounded by trees, the Mulligan House is set far back from the road at the end of a long drive which winds through an expansive open lawn, establishing a setting of natural isolation. South of the house stands a white-columned pergola which provides an "outdoor living room" for communing with nature.

### Modern Stokes County

Stokes County's architectural history did not cease with the Depression, though it is generally difficult to appropriately evaluate the significance of more recent building trends until at least fifty years have lapsed. Consequently, the present survey focused on those buildings erected prior to 1930 (although several later buildings and structures were recorded), and it must be left to future historians to carefully assess the character and significance of the county's more recent building history.

Nevertheless, several observations concerning Stokes County's post 1930 built environment can be made as a result of this study. The most striking observation is that many of the county's nineteenth and early twentieth-century buildings--particularly houses--have continued to be used by successive generations of the same family. This has had the dual effect of preserving a large number of Stokes County's early dwellings while limiting the number of newer houses. This trend may be due, in part, to the fact that Stokes has remained an essentially rural, conservative, and relatively non-affluent

county, and to the fact that from 1900 until 1970, the county experienced an extremely slow rate of growth which did not necessitate a significant increase in the number of dwellings. Newer housing which has appeared in the county has consisted primarily of one-story ranch-style dwellings and house trailers.

Rapid population growth in Stoke County during the 1970s and 1980s has brought a heavy wave of building activity, particularly in the southwest corner of the county. This, in turn, has placed pressure on the preservation of the county's tangible historic resources. As the county continues along this path, it will become more important than ever for its history and architectural history to be better understood and appreciated by more county residents and for the preservation of the significant aspects of that history to become a part of Stokes County's planning process.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Bill Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina, Vol. IV (Raleigh: Sharpe Publishing Co., 1965), p. 2071.

<sup>2</sup>John R. Woodard, ed., The Heritage of Stokes County North Carolina (Germanton: The Stokes County Historical Society, 1981), pp. 148-150.

<sup>3</sup>Rixie Hunter, Stokes County North Carolina (Winston-Salem: Pepper Printing Co., 1963), p. 1; Statistical View of the United States, a Compendium of the Seventh Census (Washington: Beverly Tucker, Senate Printer, 1854), p. 286; Agriculture of the United States in 1860 Compiled from the Original Returns of the Eighth Census (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1864), p. 108; The Statistics of Wealth and Industry of the United States from the Original Returns of the Ninth Census, 1870 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), p. 218.

<sup>4</sup>These observations are based in large part on the personal research of Michael T. Southern, Head, Survey and Planning Branch, State Historic Preservation Office, as conveyed to Laura A. W. Phillips by letter dated July 7, 1989.

<sup>5</sup>Michael T. Southern Letter.

<sup>6</sup>William H. McGee, "The Great Wagon Road: The Route Traveled by the First Settlers in This Area" (unpublished report, 1984).

<sup>7</sup>Michael T. Southern Letter.

<sup>8</sup>Levi Branson, comp. Branson's North Carolina Business Directory (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1886-1897).

<sup>9</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1896-1897, 1884.

<sup>10</sup>The Seventh Census of the United States - 1850 (Washington: Robert Armstrong, Public Printer, 1853) Table XIV, Churches, Church Property, Etc., p. 329; Branson, Business Directory, 1896.

<sup>11</sup>Seventh Census, pp. 327-330; "Social Statistics of Stokes County, the State Census of 1860, Stokes County Year Ending June 1, 1860 enumerated, R. W. Hill; Ninth Census of the United States - 1870: Population and Social Statistics, Vol. I, p. 550; Branson, Business Directory, 1867-1868, 1869, 1872, 1877-1878, 1884, 1890, 1896-1897.

<sup>12</sup>David Leroy Corbitt, The Formation of the North Carolina Counties 1663-1943 (Raleigh: State Dept. of Archives and History, 1950), p. 199.

<sup>13</sup>John L. Cheney, Jr., ed., North Carolina Government 1585-1979: A narrative and Statistical History (Raleigh: N. C. Dept. of the Secretary of State, 1981), p. 1274.

<sup>14</sup>Cheney, North Carolina Government, p. 1274; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 20-21.

<sup>15</sup>Cheney, North Carolina Government, p. 1274.

<sup>16</sup>Compendium of the Seventh Census, pp. 286-289; Agriculture of the United States in 1860, pp. 108-111; Compendium of the Ninth Census, pp. 768-769; Compendium of the Tenth Census, p. 802-803, 894-895; Statistics of Eleventh Census, pp. 260, 301, 341, 445, 484, 524; Agriculture, Twelfth Census, pp. 177, 254, 385, 466-467, 550-551, 566, 614, 658, 670-671, 736; 1910 Agricultural Statistics, pp. 264, 268; Branson, Business Directory, 1884; Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," p. 54.

<sup>17</sup>Sharpe, A New Geography, p. 2074.

<sup>18</sup>Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (3rd ed.; Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1973), p. 391.

<sup>19</sup>Compendium of the Seventh Census, p. 286.

<sup>20</sup>Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Stokes County, North Carolina, Slave Schedule.

<sup>21</sup>Michael T. Southern letter.

<sup>22</sup>J. Frank Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns: A History of Stokes County, North Carolina" (unpublished typescript, ca. 1948), pp. 168-170.

<sup>23</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 520.

<sup>24</sup>Agriculture of the United States in 1860, p. 109; Compendium of the Ninth Census (June 1, 1870) (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), p. 769; Compendium of the Tenth Census (June 1, 1880) (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883), pp. 802-803.

<sup>25</sup>Report of the Productions of Agriculture, Tenth Census - 1880 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883), p. 10.

<sup>26</sup>North Carolina and Its Resources (Raleigh: State Board of Agriculture, 1896), p. 397.

- <sup>27</sup> North Carolina Resources, p. 397.
- <sup>28</sup> Compendium of the Seventh Census, p. 286; Statistics of Wealth and Industry, Ninth Census, pp. 218, 359; Agriculture Part I, Twelfth Census - 1900 (Washington: U. S. Census Office, 1902), p. 291.
- <sup>29</sup> Compendium of the Seventh Census, p. 286; Agriculture of the United States in 1860, p. 108; Statistics of Wealth and Industry, Ninth Census, p. 218; Statistics of Agriculture in the United States, Eleventh Census - 1890 (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1895), p. 222; Agriculture, Twelfth Census, p. 291.
- <sup>30</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 522.
- <sup>31</sup> Statistics of Agriculture, Eleventh Census, pp. 170-171; Agriculture, Twelfth Census, p. 110; Agricultural Statistics by County-1910, p. 254. No census figures for owner vs. tenant occupancy were available for years prior to 1890. This in itself may suggest that while tenancy developed after the Civil War, in 1870 and 1880 it had not yet taken on such proportions that would merit its consideration in the census.
- <sup>32</sup> Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," pp. 173, 177-178.
- <sup>33</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 146.
- <sup>34</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 146.
- <sup>35</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 102; Branson, Business Directory, 1890.
- <sup>36</sup> Branson, Business Directory, 1884, 1890.
- <sup>37</sup> Cheney, North Carolina Government, 1276.
- <sup>38</sup> Martin, "Saga of the Sauratowns," pp. 182-183; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 126-127.
- <sup>39</sup> Cheney, North Carolina Government, p. 1276.
- <sup>40</sup> Cheney, North Carolina Government, p. 1276; 1980 Census of Population, Vol. 1 - Characteristics of the Population, Chapter A - Number of Inhabitants, Part 35 - North Carolina (Washington: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1982), p. 20.
- <sup>41</sup> This overview does not attempt to describe the histories of these places in detail, for that has been accomplished to some extent in The Heritage of Stokes County. Rather, the intent here is simply to expand the overall view of the county and to provide a general context for understanding the architecture.

<sup>42</sup>The North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory for 1915 lists Germanton's population as 162, and the 1984 Stokes County Highway Map prepared by the N. C. Department of Transportation gives the same figure for Germanton's population in that year.

<sup>43</sup>Kathy Goddard and Maurice York, "National Register Nomination for Danbury Historic District," Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1984.

<sup>44</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 102.

<sup>45</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1867-1868, 1869.

<sup>46</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1884.

<sup>47</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1890.

<sup>48</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 102-103; Sharpe, A New Geography, p. 2085.

<sup>49</sup>The North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory (Raleigh: The News and Observer, 1915); Stokes County Highway Map (Raleigh: N. C. Department of Transportation, 1984).

<sup>50</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 94-95.

<sup>51</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1884.

<sup>52</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 44, 95-96.

<sup>53</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1896.

<sup>54</sup>North Carolina Year Book, 1915.

<sup>55</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 99.

<sup>56</sup>Map of the Town of Pinnacle, Stokes Co., N. C., Nov. 4, 1887.

<sup>57</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1896.

<sup>58</sup>North Carolina Year Book, 1905.

<sup>59</sup>Darrel Lester, Seasons in Stokes: A Proud Look Back (Madison, N. C.: Darrel Lester, 1984) pp. 170-171, 117-119.

<sup>60</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1890, 1896; North Carolina Year Book, 1905.

<sup>61</sup>Wilson Angley, "David Nicholas Dalton House" (research for non-processed National Register nomination, N. C. Division of Archives and History, Raleigh).

<sup>62</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1884; Angley, "Dalton House."

<sup>63</sup>Angley, "Dalton House."

<sup>64</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1890.

<sup>65</sup>Angley, "Dalton House"; Branson, Business Directory, 1897; North Carolina Year Book, 1905.

<sup>66</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1872, 1877-1878, 1884, 1890, 1896-1897.

<sup>67</sup>Survey and Planning Unit, "National Register Nomination for Moratock Iron Furnace," North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1974.

<sup>68</sup>Manufactures of the United States in 1860, compiled from the original returns of the Eighth Census (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1865), p. 433.

<sup>69</sup>Selected Statistics of Manufactures, Ninth Census - 1870, p. 710; Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 510.

<sup>70</sup>Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 511.

<sup>71</sup>Statistics of Manufactures - 1870, p. 710; Statistics of Manufactures, Tenth Census - 1880, p. 319; Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 122.

<sup>72</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1884, 1896-1897.

<sup>73</sup>Manufactures of the United States in 1860, p. 433; Branson, Business Directory, 1872.

<sup>74</sup>Statistics of Manufactures - 1880, p. 319.

<sup>75</sup>Branson, Business Directory, 1884, 1890.

<sup>76</sup>North Carolina Year Book, 1915.

<sup>77</sup>Drucilla G. Haley and Jerry Cross, "National Register Nomination for Jessup's Mill," Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1980.

<sup>78</sup>Haley and Cross, "Jessup's Mill."

<sup>79</sup>Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 129.

<sup>80</sup> Branson, Business Directory, 1884, 1890; North Carolina Year Book, 1915.

<sup>81</sup> Lester, Seasons in Stokes, pp. 117-118.

<sup>82</sup> Manufactures of the United States in 1860, p. 433; Branson, Business Directory, 1867-1868, 1877-1878, 1884, 1890, 1896; North Carolina Year Book, p. 1915.

<sup>83</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 146-148.

<sup>84</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 146, 88.

<sup>85</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 146.

<sup>86</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, pp. 146-147.

<sup>87</sup> Branson, Business Directory, 1872, 1884, 1890, 1896.

<sup>88</sup> Laura A. W. Phillips, Simple Treasures: The Architectural Legacy of Surry County (n.p., Surry County Historical Society, 1987), p. 29.

<sup>89</sup> Goddard and York, "Danbury Historic District."

<sup>90</sup> Branson, Business Directory, 1867-1868, 1872, 1877-1878, 1884, 1890, 1897.

<sup>91</sup> Laura A. W. Phillips and Jim Sumner, "National Register Nomination for St. Philip's Episcopal Church," Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1981.

<sup>92</sup> Goddard and York, "Danbury Historic District."

<sup>93</sup> Woodard, Heritage of Stokes County, p. 109.

<sup>94</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 403.

<sup>95</sup> Seventh Census, p. 313; "Social Statistics, State Census, 1860."

<sup>96</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 404.

<sup>97</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 531.

<sup>98</sup> Ninth Census: Population and Social Statistics, p. 424.

<sup>99</sup> Branson, Business Directory, 1896-1897.

<sup>100</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, p. 591.

<sup>101</sup> Sharpe, A New Geography, p. 2084.

<sup>102</sup>Mary Ann Lee and Joe Mobley, "National Register Thematic Nomination for Courthouses in North Carolina," Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1978.

<sup>103</sup>T. J. Covington, Walnut Cove and Stokes County (n.p., n.d. [1914?], reprinted by Stokes County Farm Bureau, 1970), p. 53.

<sup>104</sup>Goddard and York, "Danbury Historic District."

<sup>105</sup>George Fore, North Carolina's Metal Truss Bridges: An Inventory and Evaluation (n.p.: North Carolina Division of Archives and History and North Carolina Division of Highways, 1979), pp. 6-13.

<sup>106</sup>Fore, Metal Truss Bridges, pp. 6-13.