

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Dr. Glenn R. Frye House

Hickory, Catawba County, CT1102, Listed 8/05/2009

Nomination by Beth Keane

Photographs by Beth Keane, January 2009



Façade view



Rear view

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of property

historic name Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 539 North Center Street, NE not for publication N/A

city or town Hickory vicinity N/A

state North Carolina code NC county Catawba code 035 zip code 28601

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
Name of Property

Catawba County, NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

private
 public-local
 public-State
 public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

building(s)
 district
 site
 structure
 object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling
DOMESTIC secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
roof asphalt
walls stone
weatherboard
other _____

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
Name of Property

Catawba County, NC
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1937

Significant Dates

1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Clemmer, Robert L., architect
Herman, Q. E., builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

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**Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
Catawba County, NC**

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The 1937 Dr. Glenn R. Frye House is located at 539 North Center Street in Hickory, the largest city in Catawba County. Hickory is located in the northwest quadrant of Catawba County and about ten miles northwest of Newton, the county seat. The east-facing house is situated several blocks north of the central business district and sits on a large rectangular lot centrally positioned on the west side of the block. The surrounding neighborhood, enhanced by tree-lined streets and sidewalks, is comprised of modest early-twentieth-century houses located on somewhat smaller lots. Frye General Hospital is located approximately one block south on the southeast corner of Fifth Street and North Center Street.

The impressive two-story, Colonial Revival-style house sits well back from the street on a slight rise. The house is faced with an unusual mix of various sized stones, primarily slate, in different shades ranging from brown to grey to black. In addition to the slate, there is some biotite mica, chlorite schist, and quartz mixed in for variation. The stone is laid in a horizontal or ledge-stone pattern with a random mix of large, medium, and small stones. The mortar, a mix of lime, sand, and cement, is a light sandy color, and complements the darker shades of the stones. Slate stone steps, flanked by a wrought-iron railing, lead to a slate flagstone walkway that extends to the central front door. The stone-veneered house is complemented by several large deciduous trees, original English boxwoods, and a spacious, manicured lawn. A paved driveway runs from the street to the south side of the house, leading to a garage west of the house. The two-story brick and frame garage, also built in 1937, is attached to the west-side rear wing of the house by a covered walk. A wrought-iron fence with a gate connects the northeast corner of the house to an iron fence that runs along the north border of the property. This fence then connects with a stone wall that stretches across the rear (west) property line to the garage.

An adjacent south-side lot with a garage built in 2001 is connected to the Frye lot by a driveway which passes through a break in a brick wall that runs along the south property line, but is not included in the nomination as it was not historically associated with the house.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 1. Dr. Glenn R. Frye House | 1937 | Contributing Building |
|----------------------------|------|-----------------------|

The Colonial Revival-style Dr. Glenn R. Frye House, designed by locally prominent Hickory architect Robert L. Clemmer, sits over a full basement with brick walls and foundation, visible on the interior basement utility rooms. The main block of the two-story, double-pile, side-gable frame house is faced with random-width stone,

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principally slate, laid in a horizontal pattern. A one-and-one-half-story, side-gable, south-side wing features weatherboard siding, two gabled wall dormers, and a front porch with a shed roof. The boards are flush on the front wall of the wing and the rear wall of the sun porch (originally the back porch). In addition, there is a one-and-one-half-story gabled rear wing, and a two-story centrally-located gabled rear bay, both with weatherboard siding. The roof of the house is comprised of asphalt shingles.

The façade of the main block of the house features a large central gable flanked on either side by smaller gables. The original copper downspouts descend between the three principal bays of the façade. The central bay features a recessed central six-panel door with paneled sidewalls and a classical door surround with a wide, flat, frieze and a molded cornice. The original ornate iron lantern is centered over the door. Single six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows flank the central door, while a large, double-hung, round-arched window with twelve lower panes and upper Gothic-arch tracery is centrally located over the door at the second level. Two small four-over-four sash windows flank the arched window and a narrow rectangular vent is centrally positioned in the central gable. The north- and south-side bays each have one eight-over-eight, double-hung, sash window symmetrically arranged at each level. Louvered wood shutters flank each window.

A centrally-positioned, double-shoulder, stone chimney can be found on the north gable end of the main block of the house. A straight stone chimney stack pierces the front slope of the south-side wing, opposite the north-side chimney. This chimney stack rises from the second level of the house and was built solely for symmetry, serving no utilitarian purpose. The second-story floor under the chimney has been reinforced with steel beams to support the chimney. A third interior chimney with a straight stone stack is located on the south side of the west (rear) elevation of the house.

Single eight-over-eight, double-hung, sash windows flank the north-side chimney at both levels, while the south-side elevation has one comparable window flanking the chimney at the second level. A six-over-six and a four-over-four, double-hung sash window are located at the first level, east of the chimney, and protected by the porch of the south-side wing. In addition, the north-side chimney is flanked on each side by quarter-round windows at the attic level, while the south-side chimney has one quarter-round window east of the stack. An additional eight-over-eight, double-hung, sash window is positioned at the second level of the west (rear) elevation's north side. A gabled dormer with an arched window is located on the west slope of the roof. A former attached, one-story, porch with a shed roof, located on the north side of the west elevation of the house, was enclosed in 1984 and now functions as a sun room.

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A one-and-one-half-story south-side wing, of frame construction with weatherboard siding, is stepped back from the front of the house. The wing's side-gable roof is pierced by two, gabled, wall dormers, each with a six-over-six, double-hung, sash window. A one-story, shed-roof porch, supported by three wood posts spanned by segmental arched spandrels, extends across the façade. A single door opens from the porch into the home's library. The wing's fenestration is comprised of six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows. One window is positioned south of the door on the front wall, while two windows are at the first and second levels on the south-side gable end. The windows at the second level are of different sizes. A narrow rectangular vent is positioned in the south-side gable. Another window is located at the second level of the west elevation, centrally located above a small, one-story, shed-roof, ell that houses a half-bathroom. The bathroom ell also has a window in the west wall.

The south elevation of the west (rear) wing features a three-sided bay window with a bell cast, metal, roof. Two gabled wall dormers, each with a six-over-six, double-hung, sash window, are located on the southern slope of the roof, while one gabled dormer with a similar window is positioned on the northern slope. A covered flagstone walkway with segmental arched spandrels that ran along the north side of the wing from the back of the house to the garage was partially enclosed in 1984, thereby enlarging the kitchen. Two arched, single-pane, fixed-sash, windows are located on the enclosed north-side elevation of the wing, fitting under the original spandrels. Two flagstone terraces flank the covered walkway. The wing's west (rear) elevation features a single door that opens from the kitchen to the covered walkway and a fixed arched window located south of the door, both added when the kitchen was enlarged. Two original six-over-six, double-hung, sash windows are also located on the wing's west elevation: one positioned south of the arched window at the first level and one centrally located at the second level. A triangular vent is located in the gable. Steps descend along the west wall to the basement level of the house. The stairwell is enclosed by an iron railing.

The centrally located, two-story, gabled bay on the west side (rear) of the house features a three-sided bay window with a bell cast metal roof at the first level and an eight-over-eight, double-hung, sash window centrally located at the second level. In addition, there is a small two-over-two sash window located south of the central window and a semi-circular vent in the gable. An additional six-over-six, double-hung, sash window is located at the second level of the bay's north-flanking wall.

The floor plan features a spacious, central entry hall with a wide, elegant, staircase. The living room, spanning the depth of the house, is located north of the entrance hall, with the rear sun porch accessed from the living room. The dining room is positioned behind the entrance hall with a small passage separating the two rooms.

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A guest bedroom is located at the front of the house, south of the central hall and at the end of the passage. A hallway to the west of the guest bedroom contains an enclosed service staircase leading to the former servant's quarters and the master bedroom. The library and a small bathroom are located at the end of this hallway in the south-side wing, while the kitchen and breakfast room are in the rear wing.

The house retains the original oak and heart pine floors, plaster walls, paneled wainscoting, fireplaces with Colonial Revival-style mantels, built-in corner dining room cupboards, doors, hardware, and built-in bookshelves. With the exception of the master bathroom, the additional bathrooms retain the original tile floors and walls and ceramic fixtures. The kitchen was modernized and enlarged in 1984.

A graceful, open string, staircase rises west along the north wall of the central hall to a landing, turns south, and then continues along the west wall to the second story. The balustrade consists of slender balusters, turned at the bottom with three per step, and a molded handrail. The balusters spiral at the bottom of the staircase. The balustrade continues around a curved stairwell in the second-story central hall. An arched door opening with molded wood surrounds and a molded wood keystone and springer stones provides access from the central hall to the living room, while a similar opening located on the west wall, south of the staircase, opens into the passage separating the entrance hall from the dining room.

Paneled wainscoting with a molded cap is found in the central hall, along the staircase, in the downstairs hallways, and in the dining room. Vertical bead board wainscoting is utilized in the library and breakfast room. Plaster ceilings and walls, crown molding, four-inch wide baseboards with top molding, and six-panel birch doors can be found throughout the house. The ceilings are ten feet high at the first level and eight feet high at the second level. The floors in the main block of the house are standard-width oak, while random-width pegged oak floors are found in the south-side wing's library and breakfast room. Pine floors were used in the former servant's quarters, located at the second level in the rear wing.

A fireplace with a black marble surround and hearth serves as the focal point of the spacious living room. The Colonial Revival-style mantel is composed of architrave moldings with crossettes, a convex frieze, a classical cornice with dentils, and a molded mantel shelf. The large windows, which reach to the ceiling, flood the room with light. The living room retains the original chandelier centered in a molded plaster ceiling medallion. The rear sun porch is entered through French doors, each with eight panes of glass, centered in the west wall of the living room. A single-light transom surmounts the doors. The sun room retains the slate flagstone floor that was original to the porch.

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The formal dining room can be accessed directly from the living room through arched double-leaf doors with molded surrounds identical to the central hall door surrounds. The dining room is distinguished by a three-sided bay window providing an abundance of natural light to the room. In addition, two built-in corner cabinets, enhanced by a carved shell motif in the cabinet's upper section, are located in the northwest and southwest corners of the room. The dining room also retains its original chandelier centered in a molded plaster ceiling medallion.

A door on the south side of the dining room opens to a short passage that leads to the kitchen. A small butler's pantry with built-in cabinets is accessed from this passage. When the kitchen was enlarged and modernized in 1984, a portion of the wall between the kitchen and breakfast room was removed and floor cabinets with a counter and hanging cabinets were installed in its place. A large kitchen island was also installed, along with additional cabinets and new appliances. A tile floor was laid over the original linoleum.

The library in the south-side wing features built-in, floor-to-ceiling, bookshelves on the west wall. The fireplace on the north wall has a brick hearth and firebox surround and a wide flat cornice with a molded mantel shelf. The firebox connects to the rear (west), chimney. An additional built-in narrow bookshelf with scalloped sides flanks the east side of the fireplace. The remaining north wall of the library is sheathed with vertical bead board paneling from floor to ceiling. A short hall links the library to the breakfast room. A powder room can be accessed from this hall. The breakfast room features a bay window on the south wall. The guest bedroom at the front of the house has an adjacent bathroom with original tile and fixtures.

The second floor of the house is comprised of the central hall, a small trunk room located over the entrance hall, four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Two bedrooms with a shared bathroom are located north of the central hall, over the living room; a bedroom with an adjoining bathroom is located over the dining room; and the master bedroom with an adjoining dressing room and bathroom is located south of the central hall, over the first-floor guest room and library. The former servant's room, located over the breakfast room and the rear portion of the kitchen, is linked to the master bedroom by a short hall and several steps.

The spacious master bedroom features its own fireplace with a green marble tile hearth and firebox surround. The mantel has a molded surround, a cornice with curvilinear edges and a long, thin, centrally-applied, decorative molding, and a molded mantel shelf. The master bathroom was reconfigured and updated with new fixtures including a Jacuzzi bathtub in 1984, although the original shower and wall tiles remain.

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An enclosed staircase, located in the hall adjacent to the master bedroom, ascends to the attic. The unfinished attic runs the width of the main block of the house. Enclosed service steps also descend from the first-floor hall to a basement that contains a large recreation room, a smaller laundry room, and a furnace room. The recreation room, located under the south-side wing's library, is paneled with beaded vertical boards. A fireplace in the north wall has a brick hearth and firebox surround with molded trim and mantel shelf. In addition, the room features built-in cabinets along one wall, bead board ceiling, and oak floors. The laundry room (located under the breakfast room) and the furnace room (located under the kitchen) reveals exposed brick foundation walls. These rooms also feature bead board ceilings. A door in the west wall of the laundry room opens to the outside stairwell at the rear of the house. An original laundry shoot, located approximately in the middle of the house, runs through the house from the second-floor hall to the basement.

The second owners of the house made several modifications including enclosing the rear porch, enlarging and modernizing the kitchen, and updating the master bathroom. In addition, they covered the weatherboards on the side and rear wings with aluminum siding. They also updated the heating system by replacing the coal furnace with an oil furnace. On November 17, 2000, they added to the property by buying the adjacent lot to the south from Ruth N. Meadows (Deed Book 2236, p. 427). The following year, they constructed a three-car garage on the newly purchased lot.

The current owners have recently updated the heating system once again by replacing the oil furnace with a gas furnace and installing heat pumps and central air conditioning. They have taken the aluminum siding off the side and rear wings and are restoring and painting the original hemlock weatherboards. They also plan to reverse some of the changes made by the Ingles - restoring the kitchen and master bathroom to their previous specifications and installing appropriate fixtures for the time period of the house. Additionally, they intend to complete the paneling along the fireplace wall in the living room which was originally proposed for the house but never realized. In 2008, they updated the plumbing and electricity, sealed the basement, and installed a new gas furnace and electric heat pumps for central air conditioning. They have recently removed the vinyl siding from the side and back wings, exposing the original hemlock weatherboards.

2. Garage 1937 Contributing Building

A two-car garage is located about fifteen feet west of the rear kitchen wing, facing south. Resting on a stone foundation, the east, west, and north walls of the garage are constructed of brick, while the south (front) wall has weatherboard siding. Fenestration includes four six-over-six, double-hung sash windows: one each on the

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east- and west-side gable ends and two on the north elevation. A pedestrian door in the east gable end of the garage that opens into a small garden shed room is connected by a covered walkway to the rear kitchen door of the house. The south elevation includes two automobile doors, surmounted by segmental wood arches, and a pedestrian door that accesses the garden shed room. An asphalt shingle roof covers the garage. The original iron lantern hangs between the car doors. A wood shed with a side-gable roof, an early addition to the garage, is attached to its west gable end. The shed is supported by slim posts resting on the brick wall that encloses a portion of the back yard. A flagstone terrace and walkway occupies the space between the garage and the rear of the house. The original round cover for the coal shoot is located in the terrace.

3. Wrought-iron balustrade, fence, and gates 1937 Contributing Object

A wrought-iron balustrade with an elegant curvilinear design flanks the steps of the flagstone walk in front of the Frye House. In addition, a fence and gates featuring the same design are positioned on the south side of the front of the house with the gates crossing the driveway. A second wrought-iron fence and gate, comprised of stakes, is located on the north side of the house. The fence continues along the north border of the property where it connects to a stone wall. A third wrought iron gate is located in southwest corner of the original lot.

4. Stone Wall 1937 Contributing Structure

A stone wall about three feet high, constructed of the same type of stone used on the house, stretches across the west border of the property from the wrought-iron fence to the back of the 1937 garage.

5. Brick Wall 2000 Noncontributing Structure

The wall is a combination of a solid brick wall built between brick piers, that connects to the wrought-iron fence on the south side of the driveway and runs adjacent to the driveway to the southwest corner of the original lot, and approximately six-foot sections of brick laid in an open pierced pattern between solid brick piers that stretches along the rear of the property from the solid brick fence to the 1937 garage.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1937 Dr. Glenn R. Frye House is locally significant and meets National Register Criterion C for architecture. The house is a superb and intact example of a Colonial Revival-style dwelling designed by architect Robert Lee Clemmer, known for his design of many of Hickory's Colonial Revival-style buildings. In addition, the Frye House is the only building in Hickory that utilizes native slate stone, quarried and imported from Spruce Pine and laid in a distinctive ledge-stone pattern. The home and the grounds remain in pristine condition and with its prominent setting along North Center Street, the property continues to reflect Dr. Frye's status in Hickory during the first half of the twentieth century as a prominent physician, philanthropist, civic leader, and businessman. The period of significance is 1937, the construction date of the house and garage.

Historical Background

Early Catawbans, mostly of German or Scotch-Irish descent, migrated to the Catawba Valley beginning in the mid eighteenth century from Pennsylvania by way of Virginia. Catawba County, located in the western portion of North Carolina in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, was established on December 12, 1842. Newton was selected as the county seat on January 8, 1845. Hickory, located approximately 10 miles northwest of Newton, was initially known as Hickory Tavern, named for a small tavern established near the intersection of three wagon roads. A small settlement grew around the tavern during the early nineteenth century. With the arrival of the Western North Carolina Railroad, along with the establishment of a post office in 1860, the village experienced growth as a trading center. The name of the town was changed to Hickory in 1876, and in 1889 Hickory was incorporated as a city. Between 1861 and 1900, the city's population and economy expanded along with an increased development in cultural and educational facilities. Large-scale furniture plants and hosiery and textile mills were established in the early years of the twentieth century (Mohney, pp. 1-2).

Glenn Rayner Frye was born on a farm in Iredell County on April 29, 1894. He was the youngest of twelve children born to Eli Davidson and Mary Rayner Frye. After growing up and attending schools in Iredell County, he entered Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory in 1913 (*Hickory Daily Record*, September 6, 1952). While attending college, he met his future wife, Barbara Kathryn Aderholdt (b. July 13, 1897), a native of Kings Mountain and the daughter of Marcus L. and Emma Carpenter Aderholt (*Hickory Daily Record*, March 23, 1982). Frye went on to receive his medical training at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with an additional two years at Jefferson Medical College

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in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He then served his internship at the Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia. On August 1, 1922, he was hired as one of only eight general practitioners on staff at Richard Baker Hospital (Hickory Daily Record, January 4, 1934). Dr. Frye married Kathryn Aderholdt on November 22nd of that year. In the ensuing years, Dr. Frye and his wife had three daughters: Mary Kathryn, Martha, and Ruth. During his long and illustrious career, Dr. Frye was very active in the medical community, holding various posts of responsibility in Hickory, Catawba County, and the state. In addition, he became widely known as a humanitarian, philanthropist, businessman, churchman, and civic leader. His wife, Kathryn, was also very active in their church and held leadership positions in some of Hickory's well-known clubs and associations (Hickory Daily Record, March 23, 1982).

The Dr. Glenn R. Frye House is in a neighborhood of Hickory known as Claremont, located north and east of the central business district. Prior to the institutional and residential development of Claremont, much of the then primarily vacant lots and farmland was owned by brothers, John M. and Adolphus L. Shuford. Another large landowner in the area, William A. Lenoir, owned a 400-acre farm. The Shuford and Lenoir property was eventually subdivided with neighborhood development beginning in 1883 along with the establishment of the Claremont Female College, now known as Lenoir-Rhyne University. From the beginning, the Claremont neighborhood attracted businessmen and other professionals who built impressive homes well into the twentieth century (Mohney, pp. 54-55).

Dr. Frye purchased a lot on what was then known as North Twelfth Street (currently North Center Street) on July 3, 1936 (Deed Book 272, p. 113). He hired local Hickory architect, Robert L. Clemmer, to design a house for the site. Clemmer, in turn, contracted with Q. E. Herman and his construction company, Herman-Sipe Co., to build the two-story, twelve-room, stone-veneered residence. The specifications, written by Herman, called for "the materials and the labor to be the best of their respective kinds on the market and the work executed in a skillful manner." The October 2, 1937 issue of the Hickory Daily Record reported that "among the beautiful new residences which have been erected in Hickory this past summer, one of the most outstanding is that of Dr. and Mrs. Glenn R. Frye on North Twelfth Street. The house has just been completed for occupancy this week." The article goes on to describe the house in great detail and reports that the main portion of the house is of native North Carolina stone from the Spruce Pine area.

Dr. Frye was one of western North Carolina's most outstanding and highly respected surgeons. He was elected a fellow in the American College of Surgeons in 1931. In 1934, Dr. Frye purchased Richard Baker Hospital from Dr. J. H. Shuford.

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Under Dr. Frye's leadership the hospital expanded from 14 beds to 119 beds, while maintaining its reputation as one of the most modern and up-to-date institutions in the state (Hickory Daily Record, June 6, 1970).

Soon after Dr. Frye's death on September 9, 1973, at the age of seventy-nine, the Richard Baker Hospital was renamed the Glenn R. Frye Memorial Hospital, as a tribute to Frye's hard work and dedication (Hickory Daily Record, April 16, 1974). Kathryn Frye died suddenly at her home on March 22, 1982 at the age of eighty-four (Hickory Daily Record, March 23, 1982). On January 25, 1983, Dr. Glenn and Kathryn Frye's three daughters sold the Frye house and property to Ira Paul and Susan L. Ingle, Jr. (Deed Book 1308, p. 324). The property was sold by the Ingle's on February 26, 2003 to Dr. Carlos and Barbara de La Garza, the current owners (Deed Book 2442, p. 52).

Criterion C Context: Architecture

Following on the heels of America's Centennial celebrations, the Colonial Revival style emerged in the early 1880s. The style, based on early American architecture, particularly Georgian- and Federal-style buildings, was largely an outgrowth of a new pride in America's past. Among the leaders of the movement were the partners at McKim, Mead, and White who had made a tour of New England's historic towns in 1878. Although early versions of the style tended to be free interpretations with details inspired by colonial precedents, during the first decade of the twentieth century, Colonial Revival fashion shifted toward carefully researched copies with more correct proportions and details. Colonial Revival-style houses built in the years between 1915 and 1935 reflect these influences by more closely resembling early prototypes than did those built earlier or later. The economic depression of the 1930s, World War II, and changing postwar fashions led to a simplification of the style in the 1940s and 1950s (McAlester, p. 326).

Hickory was still a small town in 1880 and there are few extant houses that predate that time. Houses built in the last two decades of the nineteenth century by Hickory's more prosperous citizens tended to be large, rambling, Queen Anne-style dwellings. As in many North Carolina towns, by the early twentieth century, the houses in Hickory began to transition to a combination of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, incorporating elements of both. As the town's fortunes grew in the 1920s and 1930s with the establishment of many furniture and textile mills, the leaders of these industries, along with bankers, doctors, and businessmen, began to favor the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles for their residence.

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**Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
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Dr. Frye employed architect Robert Lee Clemmer (1903-1990) to design the striking stone Colonial Revival-style house on North Center Street within walking distance of the hospital. Clemmer, a well-established architect in Hickory during the 1930s and 1940s was known for his design of impressive Colonial Revival-style homes. In addition, he also designed some of Hickory's public buildings including the 1939 (former) Polio Hospital, the 1940 First National Bank Building, the 1940 Ridgeview School Gymnasium (now known as the Brown-Penn Recreation Center), and the 1957 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Twice heading the North Carolina chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Clemmer was appointed a member of the State Board of Architecture by Governor Dan K. Moore (Keiser, p. 205).

The Dr. Frye House is unique to Hickory's housing stock in that it is the only dwelling that incorporates stone mined from a quarry in the Spruce Pine area of North Carolina. While other stone-veneered houses in the town typically utilized granite, the Frye House is faced primarily with slate, mixed with smaller amounts of biotite mica, chlorite schist, and quartz. The combination of different type stones provides variation and interest to the overall wall texture. In addition, the irregular-sized stones are laid in a horizontal or "ledge stone" pattern with wide, flat, mortar joints. The light, sandy color of the mortar complements the different colors of the stone. The superior craftsmanship required of the home's stonemasons is evident in the overall effect and design of the selected stone and the pattern in which it is laid.

In addition to the Frye House, Robert Clemmer designed several other 1930s houses in Hickory. The 1937 Fuller-Burns House located at 406 Sixth Street, NW, and the 1937 Edgar L. Fox House located at 525 Second Avenue, NW, are both two-story brick-veneered Colonial Revival-style dwellings, each with a side-gable roof, a five-bay façade, and a side gable wing. Following a prototype of the Colonial Revival style, the Fuller-Burns House has a central entrance with sidelights and a fanlight and is sheltered by a classical entrance porch with Tuscan columns and an arched soffit beneath the gable roof. The Fox House, like the Frye House, has gable-end chimneys and a one-and-one-half story gabled wing with a gabled dormer and an attached porch supported by square posts connected by segmental arches (Keiser, pp. 142 and 153).

A third house designed by Clemmer is the 1939 Lester Clark Gifford House located at 720 Second Street, NE. Also a two-story, side gable brick dwelling with gable-end chimneys and a one-story gabled wing, the Gifford House is three bays wide and features a central two-story, pedimented portico supported by Tuscan columns. The entrance is framed by sidelights and a classical dentiled entablature topped with a swan's neck pediment. The Herman-Sipe Company was the contractor for this house as well as the Fox House and the Frye House (Keiser, p. 195).

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Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
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Although many fine Colonial Revival-style houses were built in Hickory during the first half of the twentieth century, only a small number of these houses were rendered in stone. The 1921 Robert E. Simpson House, located at 506 Second Avenue, NW, is clad with Mount Airy rusticated granite, a stone light gray in color. The handsome two-story, three-bay, Colonial Revival-style dwelling features a side-gable roof with modillioned eaves, two gable-end chimneys, and a paneled entrance with leaded glass sidelights and transom and Tuscan and Doric pilasters. Palladian windows are located on the rear and west-side elevations. A classical porch with Tuscan columns and a curved soffit pediment shelters the front door. The two-story, west-side wing was added to the house in 1994 and the kitchen was expanded on the northeastern side of the house in 2001 (Keiser, p. 139).

The 1938 Harris-Neal House at 8 Seventh Avenue, NE, is also an impressive two-story, five-bay, Colonial Revival-style house with rusticated granite stone veneer, similar to the Simpson House. The house features a modillioned cornice and a Georgian Revival-style entrance with a segmental-arched portico. The house has a two-story, single-bay, recessed, side wing with an arched window and hood that projects through the roofline (Keiser, pp. 193-194).

A third stone house located at 735 Eighth Avenue, NE, also built in 1938 for Cleveland E. Miller, resembles the Frye House most closely. Although it also is veneered with granite, light gray in color, the house features three front gables, similar to the Frye House. Five bays wide, the house has one exterior side-gable chimney and a rear chimney. In addition, it features several round-arched windows. However, unlike the Frye House, it has a central front portico with an arched soffit. The front entrance is framed by three-pane sidelights and a six-pane transom. The house has a rear frame two-story addition that appears as if it was added at a later date (Keiser, p. 195).

Most of the extant Colonial Revival-style houses in Hickory constructed around the same time period as the Frye House were built with brick. One of the few examples of the use of stone on the exterior, the Frye House is unique in its use of multiple types and sizes of stone quarried from the Spruce Pine area of North Carolina and laid in a ledge-stone pattern. The outstanding design and superior quality of materials and workmanship led to the Frye House being featured in the 1940 edition of *Carolina Architecture and Allied Arts*, a pictorial review of Carolina's representative architecture.

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Catawba County, NC

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**Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
Catawba County, NC**

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated parcel consists of Block A, Lots 8-10, parcel number 3070319622245, according to the tax map of Hickory, Catawba County, North Carolina.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the property historically associated with the Dr. Glenn R. Frye House and provides an appropriate setting.

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**Frye, Dr. Glenn R., House
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The following information applies to all photographs:

Name of Property: Dr. Glenn R. Frye House
County and State where property is located: Catawba County, North Carolina
Address: 539 North Center Street, NE, Hickory, NC 28601
Name of Photographer: Beth Keane
Date of Photographs: Photos 1-4 (Mar, 2009); Photos 5-10 (Jul, 2008);
Photos 12-14 (Jan, 2009)
Location of Original Negatives: North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh

Photographs:

Photograph 1: South and east elevations (façade); camera looking northwest

Photograph 2: East elevation; camera looking west

Photograph 3: South elevation; camera looking north

Photograph 4: South and west elevations; camera looking northeast

Photograph 5: West elevation, camera looking southeast

Photograph 6: North elevation, camera looking southeast

Photograph 7: Interior, central hall and staircase

Photograph 8: Interior, living room

Photograph 9: Interior, dining room

Photograph 10: Interior, library

Photograph 11: Garage, camera looking north

Photograph 12: Rock Wall, camera looking west

Photograph 13: Wrought-iron gate and fence, camera looking west

Photograph 14: Brick Wall (non-contributing)