

OMB 1024-0018
EXP 10-31-84

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received _____
date entered _____

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic OAK RIDGE MILITARY ACADEMY HISTORIC DISTRICT

and/or common _____

2. Location

street & number North and south sides of North Carolina Highway 150, — not for publication
east of the junction with N.C. Highway 68, in Oak Ridge.

city, town Oak Ridge — vicinity of _____ congressional district Sixth

state North Carolina code 037 county Guilford code 081

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<u>N/A</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Oak Ridge Foundation, Inc. H. Miles Foy III
ORMA

street & number Attn: Col. Wm. Crabbe Post Office Box 377

city, town Oak Ridge, NC 27310 — vicinity of Oak Ridge, NC 27310

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Guilford County Courthouse

street & number 100 N. Eugene Street

city, town Greensboro state North Carolina 27402

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Architectural Resources: An Inventory
of Historical Architecture has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local ✓

depository for survey records Division of Archives and History

city, town Raleigh state North Carolina

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Set on a ridge among the woods and open fields of the surrounding countryside of northwestern Guilford County, the Oak Ridge Military Academy is the centerpiece of the rural community of Oak Ridge. Beginning in the mid-nineteenth century as Oak Ridge Male Institute, the campus grew from a single building set on a knoll along the old Danville-Salisbury road (now Highway 150), to a collection of buildings stretched out along both sides of the highway, with substantial homes dotting the surrounding expanses. Today, the campus is comprised of more than a dozen buildings, but retains its rural atmosphere. Included in this nomination is a collection of seventeen buildings associated with Oak Ridge Institute.

Situated among scattered deciduous shade trees, the present campus consists, for the most part, of early twentieth century structures. The homes of former co-principals J. Allen and Martin H. Holt are adjacent to the campus. Fires damaged the school in 1866 and 1914 and again in 1923 and 1927, partially explaining the dates of the remaining buildings.

To the east of the campus on the south side of the road is the oldest and architecturally most significant structure in this nomination, OAKHURST, the 1897 home of Martin H. Holt. West of the campus on the north side of the road, J. Allen Holt built MAPLE GLADE, his home, in 1905. It replaced a house which burned the year before. Across the road from Maple Glade is OAKLAND PARK HOTEL (now BENBOW HALL), constructed the same year. Adjacent to it to the west is the old DONNELL AND HOLT STORE (now the CADET STORE), thought to have been built about 1900. Two small houses stand behind these buildings; another small house stands farther to the east.

Commanding a small knoll on the north side of the road, the 1914 ALUMNI BUILDING oversees the campus. The CHAPEL, contemporary with it, is situated across the road to the east. Two 1920s dormitories remain on the campus being WHITAKER DORMITORY, just east of Oakland Park Hotel and OAKHURST DORMITORY (now HOLT DORMITORY) to the west of Oakhurst. Of the same period, KING GYMNASIUM lies north of the road across from the Chapel. Other buildings include the 1938 INFIRMARY, two modern school buildings (recently constructed) and a dormitory. Also included in this nomination are the athletic fields; one to the east of campus, historically known as the "playing fields", and one to the west, with a football field and stadium, occupying lands which were once part of Professor Holt's farm, known as the "wheat field." Both lie on the north side of the road.

Sharing a knoll overlooking the playing field's with the later Oakhurst dormitory, OAKHURST, the residence of Martin Holt, was erected in 1897. Oakhurst is the finest surviving Queen Anne style house in Guilford County,

Frank Milburn

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and "is as significant a Queen Anne house as any in North Carolina."¹ The house was designed by Frank P. Milburn (1868 - 1926), who at the time maintained an office in Columbia, South Carolina. Milburn was a "prolific and much sought-after Southern architect whose distinguished buildings appear in most major North Carolina cities."²

Local sources claim that the house was built for a total sum of about \$7,500.00. It has survived with a minimum of alteration. The house was originally built without a kitchen, according to local tradition, because Mrs. Holt did not care for cooking. The Holts are said to have obtained their meals from the dining hall at Oakhurst dormitory built adjacent to their house.

The main block of the house is square in plan, three bays wide by three deep, topped with a steep hipped roof. Several wings and extensions of rooms project from the main block at various angles to form bays and towers. The house is weatherboarded, and hexagonal asphalt shingles cover the many roof planes. The original wood shingles covering the roof burned in the 1920s and the present shingles were installed at that time. Several massive corbeled chimney stacks pierce the roof irregularly.

A broad veranda upheld by paired colonettes on brick bases sweeps across the front of the house and around the corners. A balustrade of turned spindles runs between these supports. The house is set on a brick foundation laid up in one to five common bond. Stretcher bond has been used to infill the porch foundations, replacing the original lattice. Fenestration is irregular, featuring mainly sash windows and fixed-pane stained glass windows.

The front facade features three major elements: the veranda, an octagonal domed tower rising three stories on the east corner, and a rectangular tower on the west corner, set at a forty-five degree angle from the house's main block and topped with a tent roof. The entrance boasts a carved oak door having an exquisitely executed stained glass panel with a shield of clear, beveled glass at the center. Sidelights over panels flank the door with a transom above, all executed in stained glass. The stained glass in the house is thought to have been executed by a local artisan and has been recently repaired and restored by the present owners.

The octagonal tower contains windows on four sides, on all three stories. The rectangular tower has double windows on both stories. Scrolled modillions decorate the overhanging eaves running between the towers. A large jerkinhead dormer dominates the front of the roof. It features stick-style half-timbering infilled with an aggregate of pebbles and bits of broken colored glass. Jerkinhead roofs with the same aggregate grace the projecting, two-story bays on the east and west sides of the house. The octagonal tower is covered by sawn shingles above the second story, and both towers are embellished with iron cresting.

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A porte cochere executed in the same manner as the porch is joined to the porch on the west side. Behind the porte cochere on the west elevation is a projecting bay window supported by scrolled brackets. A small side porch into the rear service wing was probably an early twentieth century addition and the rear wing was also expanded to accomodate plumbing during that period. A screened porch to the rear of the house, an addition made about 1960, occupies the space between the wing and an uncovered porch at the east end. A two-story early twentieth-century addition containing a kitchen with rooms above formerly stood in the space occupied by the open porch, but this appendage was removed in 1960. A large gabled bay wing projecting from the east rear of the east elevation is capped by a jerkinhead roof. The front porch originally continued down this side of the house, but the 1960 kitchen now occupies this space. A screened porch projecting from this addition was constructed using the original porch materials about 1960.

The first floor interior plan consists of a large reception hall and grand stairway on the east side opening into double parlors, one behind the other, on the west. The 1960 kitchen is to the east of the hall, with the dining room to the rear in the bay wing. The rear service wing contains a back stair hall and bathroom.

The second floor has four bedrooms and a bath. The large bedroom in the bay wing to the side was known as the "dormitory room," and was the room where students from the institute were accomodated.

The most notable interior feature of the first floor is the three-run stair, which rises from the center of the large reception hall. A magnificent portal upheld by a Tuscan column and two pilasters frames the stair and separates the front portion of the reception hall from the rear. Three arches with elaborately carved quarterfoil filigree carry between the columns and pilasters. The stair consists of molded handrails, delicately turned balusters, and elaborate newels at each landing. The landing at the top of the stair's first run is further adorned with an oval window set in a molded surround and filled with stained glass. The stair has closed stringers that are embellished with molded detail and buttons. At the rear of the reception hall is a fanlit passage adorned with a turned filigree screen. The reception hall, and the adjoining alcove at the front of the hall contained by the octagonal bay, have a high vertical beaded wainscot topped with a molded chair rail.

The house retains nearly all of its original woodwork, including a complement of elaborate mantels, on both the first and second stories. The first floor mantels are neo-classical in design, with fluted colonnettes framing mirrored overmantels, colorful tile inlays, and ornamental iron coal grates. The less massive mantels on the second story use a greater variety of turned elements that give them a lighter, Queen Anne flavor, but like the first floor facings, all of them have mirrored overmantels. Most of the doors on the first and second stories have retained their original hardware, have five horizontal panels and are topped with single-pane transoms.

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Six outbuildings remain standing at the rear of Oakhurst. The most notable of these is a weatherboarded log house, whose date of construction is unknown. Joined with half-dovetail corners, the house is two bays wide by one deep, with a centrally placed interior chimney. Frame additions to the sides and rear are also sheathed in weatherboard. A second accessory structure of note is an early twentieth century brick greenhouse, one bay wide by four deep, whose gabled roof is covered with pressed metal shingles. The south wall of the greenhouse is filled with windows. Other outbuildings include a pair of frame barns with vertical wooden siding, a brick smokehouse, and a brick pump house. The barns and smokehouse appear to date from the early twentieth century. The pumphouse was erected somewhat later.

MAPLE GLADE, 1905, was built as the home of J. Allen Holt. The house is square in plan with a hipped roof, and a rear gabled wing. Covered in asphalt shingles, the roof originally featured a balustraded deck on top. Three bays wide by four deep, the weatherboarded house is dominated by a splendid Ionic pedimented portico with full entablature, rising two stories. The portico is supported by six columns, three on each corner, and has matching monumental Ionic pilasters against the wall of the house. The ceiling of the portico is of coffered metal. An oval lunette pierces the pediment. The entablature continues all the way around the house, the eaves forming the cornice, decorated with block modillions. Corner boards on the house form pilasters with simple wood capitals. A one-story Doric porch stretches across the front of the house and down each side, ending in a matching porte cochere on the west side, which projects from the porch. The corners of the porch have pedimented pavillions which project at a forty-five degree angle; the eaves of the porch and the pediments are embellished with block modillions matching those on the house and portico. A stick balustrade encloses the porch, with a matching balustraded deck set on top of the porch within the portico.

The house rests on a brick foundation laid up in one to five common bond, with infill of stretcher bond. Corbeled chimney stacks pierce the roof. The entrance is flanked by sidelights set over a panel, and matching transom in leaded beveled glass. The oak door has a beveled glass light. Above the entrance is a corresponding entryway opening onto the deck. Entryways on both levels at the rear correspond with the front, but have sidelights and transom executed in stained glass. Oval stained glass lights flank the front beveled glass entryway. Windows are, for the most part, one-over-one sash with stained glass panels irregularly throughout the house. Three-part moldings surround the windows, which are capped with boxed hoods in imitation of the entablature carried about the house. A cross-gable corresponds with the two-story bays on both sides of the house; the gable ends feature a palladian motif with the center light filled in. A one-story screened porch, a later addition, fills in the space from the rear gabled wing to the end of the house.

The interior of Maple Glade features a central reception hall, divided into two rooms, running from the front to the back, with rooms opening from each side. The room arrangement is symmetrical. Parlors flank the entrance

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of the house, with library and dining room behind. The kitchen is contained in the wing. The stair rises from the rear portion of the hall, bedrooms upstairs correspond to the rooms below. Original oak woodwork has remained intact throughout the house, and the architectural integrity has been well preserved. The house retains nearly all of its original interior woodwork, including a full complement of eight mantels of classical design adorned with colonnettes and mirrored overmantels.

The distinctive OAKLAND PARK HOTEL (now BENBOW HALL) was erected across the road from Maple Glade, adjacent to the Donnell and Holt Store. It was built as a school hotel for students at the "Institute", and originally contained twenty-five rooms. The Year Book of 1912-1913 described it as follows: "Oakland Park Hotel is a dormitory for students recently built, steam heated, rooms for two each, Mission style of architecture, wealth of porches, commodious dining room and accessories."

Two stories high, the frame building is twelve bays across and two bays deep, with a six-by-two bay ell to the rear of the west end. A three-story tower is built on the corner, joining the ell to the rest of the building. The hipped roof is covered with patterned metal shingles; the eaves are embellished with curved sawn brackets, forming a visual extension of the rafters. An arcaded gallery sweeps across the front of the building, and around the east corner on both stories, comprised of round arches on the first level, and depressed elongated arches with wood balustrades on the second level; the galleries are flush with the roof. Rooms open out onto the galleries, with alternating doors and windows.

The square three-story tower is capped by a low, flared pyramidal roof. Rows of three windows light the tower on all three stories, front and side. The windows, all of which have latticed upper panes, are round-arched at the first and third stories and rectangular at the second floor. The ell, which contains the dining room and kitchen on the first floor and rooms on the second, has an inset gallery on the upper floor that continues the depressed elongated arch design from the front. Dining hall windows are multi-paned arched sash windows like those on the tower.

The exterior of the Hotel was originally covered in stucco, accentuating its Mission Revival flavor. Several one and two-story shed additions were later made to the rear of the structure and along the inside and end of the ell, increasing the number of rooms. The dining room was enlarged by a gable-roofed addition projecting from the east side of the ell, about 1925. Brick patterned composition siding was added to the exterior at about the same time to cover the badly deteriorated stucco walls.

Although the dining room was used until 1980, when a new cafeteria was built on campus, the dormitory rooms have not been occupied for many years. The school is contemplating an adaptive resoration that would include converting it to classroom space. Work on this project may well begin during 1982.

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The DONNELL AND HOLT STORE building, constructed around 1900, is a two-story frame structure, covered in wide weatherboards with a front parapet and gabled roof of tin. Two bays wide by five bays deep, the simple commercial structure has a one-story shed addition to the west, a shed porch is to the rear of this wing. The east side has a shed addition, covered in weatherboard as well. There is a smaller shed addition to the rear of this appendage. The entrance of the main building is recessed with typical store-front windows set above a panel, angling in toward the doors. A one-story shed porch supported by square wood posts is attached to the front. Originally built as a general mercantile store, it now serves as the cadet store and lounge for the Oak Ridge Military Academy. The eastern shed addition contains a barber shop.

Several small houses were built on and around the campus by the academy, and by individuals, to house students, teachers and others associated with the school. Two of these houses remain, both of which were erected about 1905. One of the houses, east of the Hotel (to the rear of the Chapel) was built to house students. The simple frame dwelling is three bays wide by two bays deep, one story with a gable roof, shed addition across the rear, with a small shed addition to that. A shed porch with simple supports carries across the front. Walls of the house are weatherboarded; asphalt shingles cover the roof. The house is now known as the COMMANDANT'S HOUSE, and was refurbished in 1980, at which time false shutters were added to the front. The second house is similar in form to the Commandant's residence, except that it has an engaged rear shed wing. It sits behind the present Infirmary, just east of the store building, and was probably built as a CARETAKER'S RESIDENCE.

The Alumni Building and Chapel were built in 1914 to replace Holt Hall (1891) and the Chapel (1884), the major buildings of the Oak Ridge Institute campus, which were destroyed by fire early in 1914. The Centerpiece of the campus, the monumental ALUMNI BUILDING was described in the 1914-1915 Year Book, just after it was completed, as follows:

It is 140 x 70 feet, two stories high, with a basement 40 x 70 under the east wing. It is constructed of red brick and trimmed with stone . . . The Alumni Building is as fire-proof as can be made unless constructed of cement and iron.

The two-story, I-plan building, fifteen bays wide by nine deep, is laid up in stretcher bond and covered by a complex hipped roof of asphalt shingles. The roof was originally covered in slate, with eight domers perched on its slopes. The domers were removed, and the present roof installed, in 1967.

The principal (South) facade of Alumni Hall has a recessed seven bay center section with projecting wings of four bays each. The building rests on a shallow projecting corbeled foundation, with pilaster strips on the corners

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and walls, dividing the facades into two- and three-bay sections. A tetra-style Ionic portico with a plain frieze, whose shingled pediment has a semi-circular lunette window, is the principal feature of the main facade. The slightly raised portico is reached by a flight of four granite steps. An identical portico with a round ventilator is the main element of the western facade. The frieze is continued around the building in the form of a cemented strip. Simple modillion blocks embellish the eaves and pediments.

The main entrance consists of double doors with glass set over a shallow panel; sidelights over similar panels, and a broad, three-light transom. The west entrance has double doors with transom above; the east entrance has a similar door. The first floor windows are six-over-six sash openings with three-light transoms, and are set between lintels and sills of granite. Second floor fenestration is six-over-six sash set on granite sills with semi-circular transoms above. The brick arches have granite keystone and springers, with voussoirs in three rows. The transoms have been covered-over on the interior, some by wood panels, others by dropped ceilings.

The interior plan has been altered somewhat over the years, but the original ground floor plan remains basically intact. The ground floor consists of a front vestibule and lobby with stairs behind, and a central hall running east to west with classrooms on either side. The mosaic tile floors of the vestibule and lobby are carpeted. During remodelings, partitions have been moved and added, and some ceilings have been dropped. The most significant ground floor change has been the extension of the hallway through the "assembly hall" to the east entrance on the first floor.

The second floor originally featured literary society halls in the west wing and an auditorium in the east wing. These rooms were partitioned during a 1967 remodeling, ceilings were tiled, and the hallway extended east and west to fire escapes at the ends of the building. The society halls and auditorium, or chapel, were described in the 1914-1915 Year Book as follows:

On the second floor of the west wing are the two literary society halls, 40 x 22 feet each, with companion rooms 12 x 18 feet. The lobby fronting the society halls is commodious. . . . The Chapel is 40 x 72 feet, with a stage at the north end 24 x 16 feet. . . It has a most beautiful ornamental steel ceiling, is well lighted, and has seating with folding chairs.

The most notable interior features of the building were the literary society halls on the second floor, appointed with "opera" seats, frescoed ceilings, trompe l'oeil painting and carpets. These had small "companion" rooms. Also on the second floor was a 250-seat auditorium with a vaulted "ornamental steel ceiling."³ The architect and builder was G. Will Armfield of Greensboro.⁴ The architecture of Alumni Hall can be compared to other

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Guilford County buildings, such as the Jamestown Public School, Whitsett Public School and Palmer Memorial Institute in Sedalia.⁵

The CHAPEL building is a brick temple form edifice with a prostyle Ionic portico. Like those on Alumni Hall, the pediment of the Chapel is finished with shingles and has a semi-circular lunette window. The portico shelters the well-detailed entrance, which consists of a two-leaf door with panels forming inverted tracery arches, sidelights over panels, and a broad fanlight. Paired one-over-one sash windows topped with semi-circular transoms flank the entrance. These openings are set above granite lintels and are filled with stained glass.

The Chapel is five bays deep and has a two-bay chancel that projects from the rear of the building. The building is laid up in stretcher bond; a stringcourse encircles the building at the floor level. The four windows on each side of the chapel are one-over-one sash openings with rectangular transoms. Like the facade windows, they are filled with stained glass, and bear the surnames of individuals prominently associated with the institution: Lowery, Donnell, Linville, Holt, Stafford, Whitaker and others.

The COOKS' HOUSE stands to the rear of the Oakland Park Hotel. Four bays wide by one deep, the small structure is laid up in common bond, and covered by a hipped roof of patterned tin shingles, with central flue. The face of the building, laid up in stretcher bond and dovetailed into the side walls, appears to have been remodeled to harmonize with the Alumni Building of 1914. A duplex in plan, the facade has two doors and sash windows with semi-circular fanlights. The porch is hipped, with squarewood supports. The interior is a single room on each side, opening into bathrooms contained in a rear shed wing, an addition made about 1930.

Built in 1921 by ROBERT HOLT in memory of his brothers J. Allen and Martin H. Holt, the ornamental well canopy is an octagonal structure. The roof is of wood and covered in green tile. It is supported by eight round granite columns set on a three-stepped granite base. A pump stands at the center of the area sheltered by the canopy.

During the 1920s, four new buildings were constructed on the Oak Ridge campus; three of these buildings remain. KING GYMNASIUM was built to the east of the Alumni Building in 1922. The five bay by four bay structure was described in the 1928-1929 Year Book as follows:

It is built on the side of a hill which gives it a one-story effect from the highway . . . but, in reality, it is two stories. The main hall is 60 x 90 feet."

Laid in stretcher bond, the brick gymnasium has a gambrel roof with standing seam metal covering, and exposed rafters under the eaves. Original windows

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are of two-over-five sash. Hipped roof additions, probably constructed in the late 1920s, stand to either side of the rear lower portion. A 1934 addition to the rear section containing a tiled swimming pool is laid in common bond with a flat parapet roof, and joined to the hipped additions. The main hall of the gymnasium has a maple floor; the vaulted and self-supporting ceiling is above a new dropped ceiling of acoustical tile. The entrance originally opened directly onto the playing floor, and resulted in the 1959 brick addition to the front of the building with a double doorway in the center.

Crowning the hill overlooking the athletic fields, OAKHURST DORMITORY (now HOLT DORMITORY), was built in 1924 on the site of the old Oakhurst dormitory, which burned the year before. According to the 1928-1929 Year Book, the building is 120 by 41 feet, two stories, and was "one of the most complete dormitories for boys in the country." Laid up in stretcher bond nine bays wide by three bays deep, the dormitory has a hipped roof of metal shingles with three hipped dormers on the front slope of the roof. Porches stand at the center of the front facade and on the ends of the building; each porch is supported by four brick columns. Fenestration is paired six-over-six sash. The entrance has paired doors flanked by sidelights, all two-over-four sash. Above the entrance is a single door with a metal awning and flanked by single sash windows. The interior follows a typical dormitory plan with rooms opening from center shall on both floors.

East of Oakland Park Hotel, and across the road from the Alumni Building, the WHITAKER DORMITORY was built in 1927. Laid up in one to five common bond, with hipped roof covered in standing seam metal, the dormitory is eleven bays by three bays. According to the 1928-1929 Year Book: "In architecture it is colonial." The two-story building features six-over-six sash with a projecting gabled central pavillion. The entrance is contained in three bay pavillion; it is flanked by engaged colonettes supporting a full Doric entablature. An oval lunette embellishes the pavillion's gable roof. The main block is four bays wide on each side of the pavillion. Quoins embellish the corners of the building, and flat arches with radiating voussoirs and cement keystones top the windows.

There are matching brick porches with arcades on the east and west sides of the main block. The interior follows a typical dormitory plan, with rooms opening off center halls on both stories.

HOLT INFIRMARY, built in 1938, is a one-story brick building, seven bays wide by five bays deep, laid up in stretcher bond with a flat roof and parapet facade. The facade features three entrances; the central entrance has a shallow pedimented portico with square colonettes and pilasters flanking the door. Each end of the facade has a pedimented entrance flanked by pilasters, repeating the motif of the central entrance portico, but on a smaller scale. Sash windows, two on each side, pierce the walls between the entrances. A one bay by one bay addition has been made to the west end of the building; a one bay shed addition stretches across the rear.

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Three buildings have been erected on the campus during the past decade and a half. The BELK SCIENCE BUILDING (1971) sits to the east of, and stretches behind the Alumni Building. The long red brick building with asphalt shingled roof, is sixteen bays long by four wide, with the short side facing the road. It is built on a hill, with two stories on the east side and one story on the west side. An off-center gabled porch supported by four square columns projects from the west side, with a corresponding porch on the lower level of the east side, opening out to the amphitheater. The architecture is unobtrusive and does not detract from the other buildings.

Directly behind the Alumni Building, a new CAFETERIA was constructed in 1980. The one-story building is of brick and has a flat parapet canopy porch supported by brick columns. Double glassed doors are flanked by large expanses of glass, but all contained under the canopy. The building is strikingly modern, but is situated on lower ground than the Alumni Building, making it very unobtrusive, especially from the highway.

ARMFIELD DORMITORY (ca. 1970) is situated far to the east toward the rear of the playing fields, on the edge of the woods, north of the gymnasium. It is a long two-story, brown brick building with gable roof covered in asphalt shingles and metal stairs and balconies along the side. The short end of the building faces the road. Because of its location, Armfield Dormitory does not detract from the rest of campus buildings.

FOOTNOTES

1. H. McKeldon Smith, Architectural Resources An Inventory of Historic Architecture. (Raleigh Division of Archives and History, 1979), pp. 24, 159.
2. Architectural Resources, p. 24.
3. Year Book 1914-1915, pp. 16-17; Letter dated 11 May 1977 in Survey File.
4. Letter dated 11 May 1977 in Survey File.
5. Architectural Resources, pp. 31, 76, 102 and 107.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> invention				

Specific dates	Unknown	Builder/Architect	Unknown
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Oak Ridge Military Academy Historic District includes sixteen buildings comprising the present school campus and an adjacent building historically associated with it. Most of these structures were constructed during the first quarter of the twentieth century and represent the school's evolution from a classical preparatory and business school to a military training school. Established in 1852 as Oak Ridge (Male) Institute, the school has operated continuously except for the years 1862-1866, at this site. It has survived other private schools established during the nineteenth century, including several which operated in Guilford County, and holds the distinction as the only remaining military school in North Carolina. During its heyday, Oak Ridge Institute ranked with other preeminent nineteenth century North Carolina schools, such as the Bingham and the Horner schools.

These frame and brick structures at Oak Ridge are typical of vernacular and high style design in the state. Pivotal buildings include Oakhurst (1897), the fanciful Queen Anne home of Martin H. Holt, adjacent to the campus, and the more formal Maple Glade (1905), the Neo-Classical home of J. Allen Holt, now used by the school as the president's house. Built the same year, the Oakland Park Hotel, a school dormitory, is of the Mission style. The monumental Colonial Revival Alumni Building was built in 1914; the Chapel is contemporary with it. Of the remaining eleven buildings, eight contribute to the character of the district; the other three buildings were constructed within the last decade. Although alterations have been made to the various buildings within the district, the splendid grouping retains the charm and presence of the past, while remaining in use as an educational institution.

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Criteria Assessment

- A. The Oak Ridge Military Academy Historic District is associated with the growing prosperity of the North Carolina piedmont during the decade preceding the Civil War and during the final three decades of the nineteenth century. It is also associated with the North Carolina tradition of private schools and academies which were established to provide secondary training before the advent of public high schools during the early twentieth century.
- B. Associated with J. Allen Holt and Martin H. Holt, prominent North Carolina educators who served as co-principals of the school for over thirty-five years. The Holt brothers were members of an important North Carolina family that played a key role in developing the state's textile industry.
- C. Representative of institutional, commercial, and residential styles of architecture. The district embodies characteristics of vernacular, as well as high style design in North Carolina; is representative of late nineteenth and early twentieth century construction techniques. "Oakhurst", the residence of Martin H. Holt, was designed by the prominent Southern architect, Frank P. Milburn (1868-1926), whose distinguished buildings appear in most major North Carolina cities

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Located on a ridge in northwest Guilford County along the former stage road from Danville (Virginia) to Salisbury, the community of Oak Ridge is believed to be the highest point in the county.¹ The area was settled in the mid-eighteenth century, mostly by Quaker families. Concerned that their children receive a proper education, the residents contracted for a "nine months' one-teacher school" as early as 1825.²

In 1834, the Quakers opened the New Garden Boarding School in western Guilford County (now a part of Greensboro).³ However, by 1850 the citizens of Oak Ridge felt the need to establish a local educational institution. On April 7, 1850, forty-three residents pledged a total of \$629 and resolved the following:

The undersigned subscribers being desirous of promoting the cause of education have appointed Jesse Benbow, Allen Lowrey, James B. Clark, Wyatt F. Bowman and John H. Saunders as Trustees for the purpose of erecting a suitable building for a schoolhouse near Allen Lowrey's on the Danville Road, and we agree to pay the sums annexed to our names to the said Trustee when called for.⁴

The new school was to be called Oak Ridge Male Institute (later called Oak Ridge Institute.)⁵

On a knoll overlooking the waters of "Beaver and Reedy Fork (creeks), on the south, and Haw River, on the north," the first building for Oak Ridge Male Institute was erected.⁶ It was a "commodious house," one story 24 x 50 feet, containing two rooms.⁷ The two acres of land for the building was deeded to the Trustees of the Institute by Allen Lowrey.⁸ Tradition holds that a nearby distillery was dismantled in order that the school be built there. The surroundings were reputed later to be "favourable to the building up and perpetuity of a great school."⁹

John M. Davis, a graduate of Emory and Henry College in Virginia, was chosen as the first principal and teacher, assisted by William T. Shields.¹⁰ The building was completed, and preparations were made to open the school in the spring of 1853. An announcement was made in the Greensboro Patriot,

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February 12, 1853, that the "institution" would open March third of that year "for a term of four months, after which time the school will reorganized and continue ten months without intermission."¹¹

Of the sixty-three students enrolled in the first full term (1853-1854), most were from Guilford and adjacent counties; two were from Virginia. Tuition ranged from five to ten dollars. No extra charge was made, "except for lights."¹² Students apparently lodged with local families while attending the school.¹³

The "course of instruction" included subjects in English, Natural Science, the Classics, Mathematics and History. There were four classes: Academic, Intermediate, Preparatory and Primary.¹⁴ A literary society bearing the name "Philomathean" was organized during this term (a companion literary society, the "Athenian" was organized in 1883).¹⁵ An account of the 1854 "Annual Public Examination," held June 26-28, appeared in the Greensborough Patriot July 8, 1854. It stated that the "institute" was "a most excellent school; is bound to prosper, but not a money making concern."¹⁶

By 1855, patronage had increased to eighty-five students, with the Rev. David R. Bruton serving as principal and teacher.¹⁷ The role of Oak Ridge Institute as a preparatory school was stated in the Catalogue, 1855-1856:

As this institution is preparatory to no other one, especially, the officers have adopted such a course of study, and plan of instructing, as its increasing patronage demands. They have not, however, differed materially from the general course of other institutions, but have kept an eye single to the interest of those who are now, and may be hereafter, in school preparing for the higher Collegiate Classes.¹⁸

The school flourished and grew in enrollment and prestige during the rest of the decade under the leadership of Davis and Bruton, and later the Rev. T. S. Whittington, and A. P. Pickard, although it "was not a financial success," according to local historian Sallie Stockard.¹⁹ It should be noted that schools were numerous in North Carolina at this time; the 1860 Census reported 434 academies and other private schools were in operation.²⁰

Oak Ridge Institute attained "an enviable and extended reputation, being well known even beyond state lines." before the outbreak of the Civil War.²¹ Tradition has it that every student old enough to bear arms (which at the time of the war numbered about one hundred), with the exception of two girls, and a boy too young to serve, volunteered and "marched away to join the Army of Northern Virginia."²² Apparently the school was forced to close during the war years, 1862 to 1866, suspending even the primary classes.²³

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The Institute was scheduled to reopen in the fall of 1866, but the original school building burned several days before classes were to begin. Accordingly, the trustees resolved "with the help of God," to rebuild the school, and classes were conducted in temporary quarters until a new building was constructed.²⁴ Local tradition claims that the building was burned by a jealous man because he could not tolerate the presence of so many young men near his wife.²⁵

Operating under a succession of principals from its reopening in 1866 until 1875, Oak Ridge Institute began to decline after 1869.²⁶ Until the arrival of J. Allen Holt in the fall of 1875, the school "took no rank as a permanent Institution."²⁷ Holt brought new energy to the post of "Senior Principal", and the school began once again to prosper and enjoy high academic standing with the enrollment growing from forty students that first year to over 200 by the turn of the century. Joined by his brother, Martin H. Holt in 1879, the two became co-principals of the school.²⁸ Their association with Oak Ridge Institute spanned nearly four decades.

The Holt brothers were born in the northern Guilford County community of Hillsdale; J. Allen in 1852 and Martin three years later. Their father was John Foust Holt, a farmer. He was of a well known family of North Carolina Holts and a descendant of Michael Holt, who settled in what is now Alamance County in the eighteenth century. The family pioneered in cotton manufacturing in that county and was said to have done more than any other family "in advancing the cause of this industry." John Holt moved his family to Oak Ridge about 1857.²⁹ It is said that he moved there so that his four sons could attend Oak Ridge Institute.³⁰

J. Allen Holt attended Williams College in Massachusetts after graduating from the Institute, and completed his education at Ohio Wesleyan University. He assumed the superintendence of Oak Ridge Institute shortly thereafter. Said to possess "fine business judgment" and an interest in the mercantile business and banking, J. Allen later became a director of the City National Bank of Greensboro, and of the North State Fire Insurance Company. He chaired the county Board of Education for over twenty years, was a trustee of the University of North Carolina, and served in the state legislature in 1906 and 1907.³¹

Martin H. Holt took his degree from Western Maryland College.³² Before joining his brother at Oak Ridge Institute, Martin had built up a flourishing local school at Tabernacle in southern Guilford County.³³ He helped establish and later became a director of the North Carolina School for the Deaf and Dumb in Morganton, served in the state legislature in 1893, and was a trustee of the state university. Both of the Holts were also involved in many church and civic activities.³⁴ It is speculated that the Holt brothers held stock in the family-owned textile mills in Alamance County, and they may have drawn some income from that as well as from the school.³⁵

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By 1878, enrollment at the Institute had increased enough that additions were made to the 1866 building "for the better accomodation of students."³⁶ Together, J. Allen and Martin H. Holt built Oak Ridge Institute into a flourishing school. One observer of education during the period (1880s) compared it with the "preeminent" Bingham school, then located in Mebaneville (later relocated to Asheville), and with other similar institutions such as the Horner School in Oxford, the Raleigh Male Academy and the Davis School in LaGrange.³⁷

In the 1880s (probably 1884), the trustees of the Institute decided to deed the school over to the Holts, since they had been so successful in the conduct of the school.³⁸ By 1884 a "spacious" brick Chapel, 52 x 72, "built on the Corinthian order of Architecture" was constructed, its lower level accomodating the Literary Society Halls and classrooms as well.³⁹ The Register for the year 1885 claimed that the school's growth had been "almost unprecedented in the history of N. C. schools", and that

. . . the Principals have not failed to make such additions from year to year in school furniture, physical apparatus, school room, and teaching force as the growth of the school demanded.⁴⁰

Enrollment at the school was reported as 259 in 1885.⁴¹

Under the stewardship of the Holts, Oak Ridge Institute became "a first-class literary and commercial school for young men and women." The work of the school was divided into two courses of study, "Literary" and "Business".⁴² A Female Department was added as well

We have no apology to make for mixed schools. They need none. . . Distinguished Educators. . . say that the best education for both sexes is education in common; . . .⁴³

A contemporary history of education in the state listed Oak Ridge Institute among the few coeducational institutions of the day.⁴⁴ The goal of the Holts was to provide a school "equal to the very best, and at a cost within the reach of all."⁴⁵

In 1891, HOLT HALL, the "handsomest private school edifice in the state", was constructed. It was a large Queen Anne style frame building, two and one-half stories high. The building contained study halls, recitation rooms, principal's office, a library, and on the top floor a Y.M.C.A. Hall with a gymnasium.⁴⁶ An article appearing in the North Carolinian (Raleigh) in 1893 claimed that Holt Hall was the handsomest "country building" in North Carolina, with "more real working rooms than any other one school building."⁴⁷ The 1894-1895 Register described its appointments in every way first-class and modern, with no equal in any other school in this State." By this time, the old building had been converted into dormitory space.⁴⁸

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By a special act of the legislature of 1891, Oak Ridge Institute was incorporated "as a school of high grade", and was given the power to grant diplomas to those students completing any one of its various courses of study. The Institute was advertised in 1894 as:

A Strictly First-Class Fitting School. Thoroughly
 Equipped for Young Men and Boys. Where to Prepare
 for College, for Business, for Life.

The "Literary" course was a five year course, four years compulsory, and the last year optional. Coursework included Latin, Greek, mathematics, English and natural science. The "Business College" department offered bookkeeping, shorthand, typewriting, and telegraphy. Tuition ranged from \$15 for a primary course, to \$50 for a combination of courses.⁴⁹

By the turn of the century, Oak Ridge Institute was "one of the most flourishing and important schools in the State."⁵⁰ J. Allen and Martin H. Holt had been able to expand the school, and, for the first time in its history, to make it a financial success. One historian, who had been a pupil and a teacher at the Institute, wrote that the Holts "charge(d) good terms and have made money."⁵¹ According to another contemporary historian, the goal of the co-principals was "to make it not only a monetary success, but a school entirely up-to-date, where pupils may be qualified for any branch of commercial life."⁵²

It seems that the offering of both "literary" and "commercial" coursework was the key to the success of Oak Ridge Institute. A contemporary newspaper article said that the school offered "unusual advantages for a business education."⁵³ Sallie Stockard wrote of the school's "commercial" training:

It is this training which has made a place for Oak
 Ridge Institute. This influence is felt in every
 trade centre in this State. Her graduates are
 everywhere.⁵⁴

The school was said to be "one of the most remarkable high schools in the whole country."⁵⁵ Few schools could claim this distinction; in the words of another contemporary writer: "This school. . .has a record of which many such more pretentious institutions might well be proud." In 1893, the faculty numbered twelve, with members representing "leading American and European institutions."⁵⁶

Several private schools were in operation in rural areas of Guilford County by the late nineteenth century. Of these, Oak Ridge Institute is the best known, and the only one still functioning, other than the previously mentioned New Garden Boarding School (now Guilford College). Among the schools no longer in operation are the Whitsett Institute, located in the Whitsett community in the eastern part of the county, and Jefferson Academy,

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located in nearby McLeansville. Both schools closed in the early part of the twentieth century.⁵⁷

Each of the Holt brothers acquired land over the years, and additions were made to the campus. Collectively, J. Allen and Martin Holt controlled over 300 acres in Oak Ridge.⁵⁸ Each of the brothers built a dormitory on tracts adjacent to their homes. This, and the produce of their farms, apparently added to the Holts' income from the school. It should be noted here that, although the Institute was a money-making concern for the Holt brothers, their devotion to the school for better than thirty-five years was because they believed in education and that their students would go on to build a better state.⁵⁹

By the early 1900s the campus and the adjacent Holt lands contained a number of buildings lining both sides of the old Danville-Salisbury road (now Highway 150). Several substantial homes surrounded the campus as well. As early as 1885, the Register advertised that "building lots may be had on the best of terms."⁶⁰ On the eastern edge of the campus, Martin Holt built his splendid home, "Oakhurst"--the epitome of the Queen Anne style of architecture--in 1897. The house was sold to T. E. Whitaker in 1917 and remained in his family until 1981 when the present owners, Miles H. Foy and his wife, Jane, purchased it.⁶¹

To the west, adjacent to the house, was Oakhurst dormitory. Built on M. H. Holt's tract and contemporary with the house, the two-story Queen Anne structure had a long veranda across the front, and a central projecting conical tower. Oakhurst dormitory contained dormitory rooms and a dining hall, and sat on a knoll overlooking the playing fields across the road.⁶³ Farther west, across a large expanse of lawn or park-like area, a simple store building was situated. The two-story building is thought to have been built about 1900 to replace an earlier store which had burned. J. Allen Holt, his son, Earl P. Holt and W. O. Donnell are said to have been partners in the store, known as "Donnell and Holt" (later known as Oak Ridge General Mercantile). The store remained in the hands of the Donnell and Holt families until 1945 when it was deeded over to the school.⁶⁴ It is now known as the Cadet Lounge and has for years housed a barber shop as well.

North of the store building, across the road, was the home of J. Allen Holt. It was a two-story, relatively elaborate Queen Anne style house with a corner conical tower and verandas wrapping around the first floor.⁶⁵ On J. A. Holt's tract, to the east of his house behind the Chapel and Holt Hall, was Saunders Hall, a dormitory. It was contemporary with the house, but was less elaborate than Oakhurst dormitory. Saunders Hall had an inset galleria porch, and was capped with a simple cupola.⁶⁶

The Chapel and Holt Hall sat adjacent to one another in front of Saunders Hall, and across the road from the "lawn". The two buildings were connected

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on both stories by covered walkways. A short distance to the east was the Church-on-Campus. It was a simple board-and-batten structure topped by a steeple, or belfry. East of these buildings lay the playing fields.⁶⁷ An 1893 account of the Oak Ridge Institute campus described it thus: "The campus on which the buildings are situated is a beautiful rolling lawn beautified and improved by the art and industry of man."⁶⁸

The Oakland Park Hotel, a dormitory now known as Benbow Hall, was constructed on the land of J. Allen Holt across the road from his home, east of and immediately adjacent to the Donnell and Holt Store. The following description appeared in the 1905-1906 Register:

In 1905, Messrs. Donnell and Holt erected a school hotel, with 25 rooms, large dining-room capable of seating 100 guests, fitted with large kitchen, pantries, and cellars, amply and expensively furnished throughout, and the whole heated by steam. It is built on the Mission style of architecture, and finished in stucco. Every room opens out upon a porch, and is well lighted. This adds greatly to our equipment.⁶⁹

The architect is not known. Additions were later made to Oakland Park Hotel, increasing the number of rooms and enlarging the dining hall. The stucco finish deteriorated heavily, and was covered with "brick" composition siding sometime before 1928.⁷⁰

Also in 1905, J. Allen Holt built his house, Maple Glade, to replace his home which burned in 1904. The home remained in the Holt family, later being occupied by J. Allen's son, Earl, who was a "professor" and later principal of the school. It has survived with little alteration. The house was deeded over to the school in 1964, and now serves as the president's house.⁷¹

Students not accommodated in one of the dormitories stayed in the homes of the Holt brothers, with professors, or in the homes of local families. Census statistics appear to verify this. Mess clubs, where students resided together in a house, were also formed. The house on campus now known as the commandant's house was probably built for this purpose.⁷² The North Carolina Yearbook, a business directory published in the early twentieth century lists several houses in Oak Ridge as "boarding houses."⁷³

In January 1914, the Chapel and Holt Hall, the two main school buildings for Oak Ridge Institute, were destroyed by fire. The Church-on-Campus was destroyed as well. For the rest of the spring session, "the classes assembled wherever room could be provided for them." No other buildings burned.⁷⁴ Soon telegrams arrived in Oak Ridge from several towns, "offering land and money if the school would move to them." The offers were declined, and the Institute was rebuilt once again.⁷⁵

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The school was also reorganized that year, ill health forcing the retirement of the Holt brothers. T. E. Whitaker, a former student and long-time teacher at Oak Ridge Institute, took over the principalship of the school.⁷⁶ The Holts sold all their interest in the school to the trustees in 1914, including the dormitory tracts and Oakland Park Hotel.⁷⁷ The trustees sold stock subscriptions for the school, many of which were sold to businessmen in Greensboro, as well as to area residents and others connected with the school. Martin H. Holt died in November 1914, and J. Allen Holt died in June 1915.⁷⁸

The stock subscriptions allowed the school to "rebuild larger and better than the Professors Holt or any other individuals could have done."⁷⁹ In June of 1914, the cornerstone for the Alumni Building was laid.⁸⁰ The Chapel was built during the same year. Alumni Hall was built on the site of Holt Hall.⁸¹

In 1917, during World War I, Oak Ridge Institute was designated as one of the schools for military training. The conversion to a military school was rationalized in the 1919-1920 Year Book:

Systematic exercise is essential to health. One of the best forms of exercise is military drill and calisthenics. Obedience is one of the first lessons that should be learned. Without it there can be no assured success. Military organizations command obedience. . . . Uniformity of dress prevents class distinction in matters of dress.⁸²

In 1926, the school became a junior unit of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (Jr. R.O.T.C.). The name of the school was changed to Oak Ridge Military Institute in 1929. Oak Ridge has consistently⁸³ been classified as an "Honor Military School" by the United States Army.

Under the leadership of Col. T. E. Whitaker, many buildings were added to the Oak Ridge Institute campus. Brooks Hall was erected in 1920, and was located across from Alumni Hall. It was demolished about 1970.⁸⁴ King Field House (King Gymnasium) was built in 1922. An addition to the rear of the building which included a handsomely-tiled pool was constructed in 1934, largely due to the efforts of the Cone family of Greensboro (Cone Mills). An addition to the front of the structure was made in 1959.⁸⁵ Oakhurst dormitory, now known as Holt dormitory, was built in 1924 on the site of the old Oakhurst dormitory, which was destroyed by fire in 1923.⁸⁶ Whitaker dormitory was constructed in 1927, and is located across the road from the Alumni Building. It replaced the old Saunders Hall, located to the rear of Alumni Building, which burned in 1927.⁸⁷

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T. E. Whitaker died in 1929, and Earl P. Holt, the son of J. Allen Holt, filled the post of principal, having served as a teacher for many years. It was under his leadership that the school added junior college classes to the curriculum. The school accepted students from grades nine through the sophomore year of college.⁸⁸ The Infirmary was built in 1938.⁸⁹ Earl Holt retired in 1949 and was succeeded by T. O. Wright who served for many years.

In 1952, an Alumni Association was organized and it began methodically acquiring the capital stock of Oak Ridge Military Institute, Inc. This took about twelve years. Oak Ridge Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization was formed, and the assets of the school were turned over to it in 1965 when Oak Ridge Military Institute, Inc. was dissolved.⁹⁰ The Oak Ridge Foundation owns and operates the school today. After several years of declining enrollment, the school was reorganized again in 1971, changing its name to Oak Ridge Academy with the admission of female day students. The essential military program was retained. In 1975, the school became fully coeducational, and today offers a program for grades seven through twelve. Several modern buildings have been added to the campus within the last decade.

The name of the school was changed again in 1981 to Oak Ridge Military Academy, recognizing the fact that it is the only surviving military school in North Carolina. The school is now recognized as a leading military academy on the East Coast.⁹¹ Oak Ridge Institute was the first boys' preparatory school in North Carolina to be listed as an accredited school (1899).⁹²

Oak Ridge Military Academy now has in planning stages a four-year campaign to "restore" and renovate all buildings more than fifteen years old, including the Infirmary, Cadet Lounge, and Benbow Hall. A complete exterior restoration of Benbow Hall, the old Oakland Park Hotel, is to begin in 1982. Plans are to replace the stucco and return the building to its 1905 appearance, with an adaptive rehabilitation planned for the interior.⁹³

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FOOTNOTES

¹Greensboro Daily News, 29 May 1971, p. F17.

²Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926, p. 013; Blackwell P. Robinson and Alexander R. Stoesen, History of Guilford County, U.S.A., to 1980 A.D., 1981, 1:136.

³Listed in Ruth Little-Stokes, An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 1976, p. 67.

⁴See original document entitled Subscription List in the possession of Oak Ridge Military Academy; also reprinted in Early Years of a Century of Service, 1952, pp. 1-2, hereinafter cited as Century of Service.

⁵Oak Ridge Male Institute and, simply, Oak Ridge Institute were used interchangeably during the first few years, and then became standardized as Oak Ridge Institute.

⁶Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926.

⁷Oak Ridge Institute Register 1995, p. 18; see original document entitled Performance Bond in the possession of Oak Ridge Military Academy; also reprinted in Century of Service, pp. 1, 3.

⁸Guilford County Deed Book 39, p. 407 (23 March 1852); Allen Lowrey's home nearby is still standing. See H. McKeldon Smith, ed., Architectural Resources: An Inventory of Historic Architecture, 1979, p. 157. The homes of Jesse Benbow are also located nearby. See Architectural Resources, pp. 17, 150.

⁹Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952, p. 1, feature section; see also Register 1885.

¹⁰Oak Ridge Male Institute Catalogue 1853-1854; see also Century of Service, pp. 7, 19-20. Davis served as principal until 1855, and then again from 1858 to 1860.

¹¹Century of Service, p. 7.

¹²Catalogue 1853-1854; see also Century of Service, pp. 9-10.

¹³Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952.

¹⁴Catalogue 1953-1854; and Catalogue 1954-1855; see also Century of Service, p. 16.

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- ¹⁵Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926.
- ¹⁶Century of Service, p. 14; paper entitled The Founding of Oak Ridge Military Institute in Survey File, Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.
- ¹⁷Catalogue 1955-1856; Century of Service, p. 16. Bruton served as principal until 1857.
- ¹⁸Catalogue 1955-1856, p. 8.
- ¹⁹The State (Magazine), 24 May 1952, p. 19; Sallie W. Stockard, History of Guilford County, 1902; and Century of Service, p. 19.
- ²⁰Hugh Lefler and Albert Newsome, History of a Southern State: North Carolina, p. 405.
- ²¹Register 1885, p. 18.
- ²²Greensboro Daily News, 29 May 1971, p. F17; Robinson and Stoesen, History of Guilford County, 1:146. Females, especially local females, have apparently attended from time to time throughout its history, including periods when the school operated as a male school. A female department was instituted by 1885; the school later became a male only school, and in 1971 became coeducational again.
- ²³Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952, Robinson and Stoesen, History of Guilford County, 1:136.
- ²⁴Register 1885, p. 18; Greensboro Daily News 29 May 1971.
- ²⁵Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952; Interview with Col. Zack Whitaker (son of T. E. Whitaker, head of Oak Ridge Institute from 1914 to 1929, and connected with Oak Ridge Institute himself for many years), and his daughter, Martha Weatherford, 22 January 1982.
- ²⁶Century of Service, pp. 19-21; Stockard, History of Guilford County, pp. 96-97; Charles Lee Raper, The Church and Private Schools of North Carolina. A Historical Study, 1898, pp. 222-223.
- ²⁷Register 1885, p. 18.
- ²⁸Raper, Church and Private Schools, p. 223.
- ²⁹Prominent People of North Carolina, 1906, pp. 48, 72; Samuel Ashe, Biographical History of North Carolina, 1908, Vol. 7, pp. 225, 229.
- ³⁰Eighth Census, 1860; Whitaker interview.

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- ³¹Prominent People, p. 72; Biographical History, pp. 227-228.
- ³²Prominent People, p. 48.
- ³³Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926; see also The State, 24 May, 1952, p. 19.
- ³⁴Biographical History, p. 231; Prominent People, p. 48.
- ³⁵Interview with Willow Way Benbow Terrell (resident of the Oak Ridge community and a student at Oak Ridge Institute from 1919 to 1921; Mrs. Terrell was the only female in her graduating class, 1921), 26 January 1982.
- ³⁶Register 1885, p. 18.
- ³⁷John Moore, School History of North Carolina, from 1584 to the Present Time, 1901, p. 306; Charles Lee Smith, History of Education in North Carolina, 1888, pp. 131-137.
- ³⁸Prominent People, p. 48; Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952; and Guilford County Deed Book 85, p. 600.
- ³⁹Register 1885, p. 19; see also Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926.
- ⁴⁰Register 1885, p. 18.
- ⁴¹Register 1885; Note. For the year 1886-1887, Bingham School reported 220 students; 1885-1886, Horner School reported 106. From Smith, History of Education, pp. 133, 135.
- ⁴²Register 1885, p. 21.
- ⁴³Ibid, p. 26.
- ⁴⁴Smith, History of Education, pp. 130-131.
- ⁴⁵Register 1885, pp. 20-21.
- ⁴⁶Register 1894-1895, p. 12; Oak Ridge Institute Year Book 1911-1912, p. 16.
- ⁴⁷The North Carolinian (Raleigh), 28 July 1893.
- ⁴⁸Register 1894-1895, pp. 15, 17.
- ⁴⁹Register 1894-1895, pp. 18-25, 33. The Register for 1894-1895 bills the Institute as a school for "Young Men and Boys", with no mention of females.

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- ⁵⁰The North Carolinian, 28 July 1892.
- ⁵¹Raper, Church and Private Schools, p. 224.
- ⁵²Biographical History, p. 227.
- ⁵³The North Carolinian, 28 July 1893.
- ⁵⁴Stockard, History of Guilford County, p. 97.
- ⁵⁵Church and Private Schools, p. 223.
- ⁵⁶The North Carolinian, 28 July 1893.
- ⁵⁷Architectural Resources, p. 31; see also pages 80, 94, 90 and 107.
- ⁵⁸Guilford County Deed Books. Over 30 transactions between 1881 and 1905.
- ⁵⁹Terrell interview, 26 January 1982.
- ⁶⁰Register 1885, p. 31.
- ⁶¹Whitaker interview, 22 January 1982; Guilford County Deed Book 298, p. 450 (11-2-17); Guilford County Deed Book 3166, p. 166 (7-15-81).
- ⁶³See photos of Oakhurst dormitory in year books prior to 1923.
- ⁶⁴Whitaker interview, 22 January 1982; Guilford County Deed Book 1090, p. 499.
- ⁶⁵See photos of J. A. Holt home in the Register 1902 through 1904.
- ⁶⁶See photos of Saunders dormitory in year books prior to 1927.
- ⁶⁷See photos of the Chapel, Holt Hall and the Church-on-Campus in year books prior to 1914.
- ⁶⁸The North Carolinian, 28 July 1893.
- ⁶⁹Register 1903-1906-, p. 17.
- ⁷⁰See photos of Benbow Hall, Year Book 1928-1929, and the Bulletin 1939-1940; Whitaker interview; see also Architectural Resources, p. 158.

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⁷¹Whitaker interview, 22 January, 1982; Architectural Resources, p. 159; Guilford County Deed Book 2156, p. 393.

⁷²Year Book 1912-1913, p. 29; also Register 1906; Whitaker interview; and Census records for 1860, 1880, and 1900.

⁷³North Carolina Yearbook, 1902, 1906 and 1910.

⁷⁴Year Book 1913-1914, p. 45.

⁷⁵Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926; see also Greensboro Daily News, 29 May 1971.

⁷⁶Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926; Whitaker interview; and Year Book 1913-1914, p. 45.

⁷⁷Guilford County Deed Book 263, pp. 658, 692, 693, and 694.

⁷⁸Greensboro Daily News, 15 August 1926; Whitaker interview; and Guilford County Will Book I, pp. 15, 57.

⁷⁹Year Book, 1913-1914, p. 45.

⁸⁰The State, 24 May 1952, p. 19.

⁸¹Architectural Resources, p. 158.

⁸²R. D. W. Connor, et. al., North Carolina: Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth, 1928, 3:8; Year Book 1919-1920, p. 25.

⁸³Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952.

⁸⁴Year Book 1928-1929, pp. 22-23.

⁸⁵Year Book 1928-1929, p. 25; Bulletin 1936-1937, p. 33.

⁸⁶Year Book 1924-1925, p. 14.

⁸⁷Year Book 1928-1929, P. 24.

⁸⁸Bill Sharpe, A New Geography of North Carolina, 2:833; Greensboro Daily News, 18 May 1952.

⁸⁹Bulletin 1939-1940, p. 34.

⁹⁰Guilford County Deed Book 2177, p. 394; Articles of Dissolution in possession of Oak Ridge Military Academy.

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⁹¹Newsletter, Oak Ridge Military Academy, October 1981.

⁹²Year Book 1928-1929, p. 30; Greensboro Daily News, 6 February 1977.

⁹³Newsletter, Oak Ridge Military Academy, October 1981.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 38.6

Quadrangle name Summerfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1 1 7	5 9 1 0 8 1 9 1 0	4 1 0 0 1 3 8 1 8 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	1 1 7	5 9 1 1 3 1 0 1 0	4 1 0 0 1 3 9 1 6 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	1 1 7	5 9 1 1 4 1 4 1 0	4 1 0 0 1 3 6 1 6 1 0
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D	1 1 7	5 9 1 0 8 1 8 1 0	4 1 0 0 1 3 4 1 0 1 0
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
-------	-----	------	--------	-----	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Fomberg

organization _____ date March 5, 1982

street & number 4712 Middleton Drive telephone Area Code 919-674-0026

city or town Greensboro state North Carolina 27406

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature William J. Price, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date April 8, 1982

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date _____
Keeper of the National Register	date _____
Attest:	date _____
Chief of Registration	

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Item number 9 PAGE 2

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Survey File -- Oak Ridge Military Academy. Archeology and Historic Preservation Section, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

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Item number 10 PAGE 1

Beginning at the northeast corner of the junction of North Carolina Highways 150 and 68, and running north approximately 1200 feet with Highway 68, along the western boundary of parcel 5 (block 1118N) to the edge of the woods. The boundary of the district continues along the edge of the woods as follows: approximately 650 feet in a southeasterly direction, approximately 300 feet in a northeasterly direction, approximately 100 feet in a southeasterly direction, approximately 275 feet in a northeasterly direction, approximately 200 feet in a northwesterly direction, continuing approximately 225 feet to the north, and then following the northern boundary of parcel 7 (block 1101) in a northeasterly direction approximately 600 feet to the corner of the parcel.

From this point, the district boundary follows the eastern boundary of parcel 7 (block 1101) along the edge of the woods, approximately 750 feet in a southeasterly direction to Highway 150. Crossing the highway, the district boundary continues along the eastern boundary of parcel 23 (block 1101) approximately 450 feet in a southeasterly direction, then turning and running approximately 1100 feet in a southwesterly direction to the western boundary of parcel 7 (block 1101). The district boundary follows this line approximately 50 feet in a northwesterly direction, and then turns and runs approximately 225 feet in a southwesterly direction along the southern boundary of parcel 6 (block 1118N) and parcel 7 (block 1118N) to a corner, then approximately 300 feet along the western boundary of parcel 7 (block 1118N) in a northwesterly direction, crossing Highway 150. Following Highway 150 in a southwesterly direction, the district boundary continues approximately 450 feet along the southern boundary of parcel 5 (block 1118N) to the beginning.

The district contains the buildings and scenic entity of Oak Ridge Military Academy, including the house known as Oakhurst, and its grounds which adjoin the campus to the east. Included in the district are scenic buffers comprised of the athletic fields to the east of the campus, and the football field and stadium to the west.

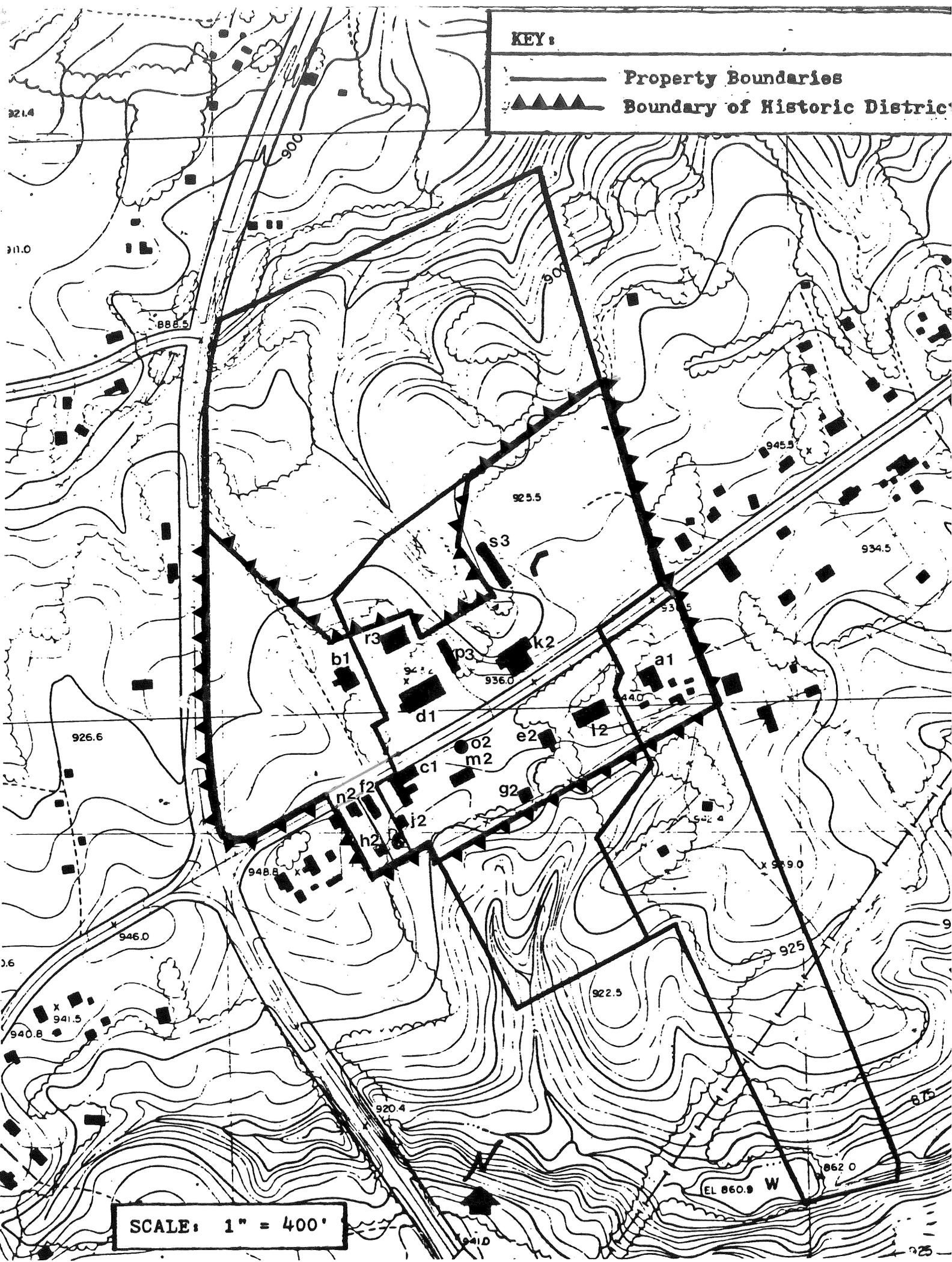
KEY:



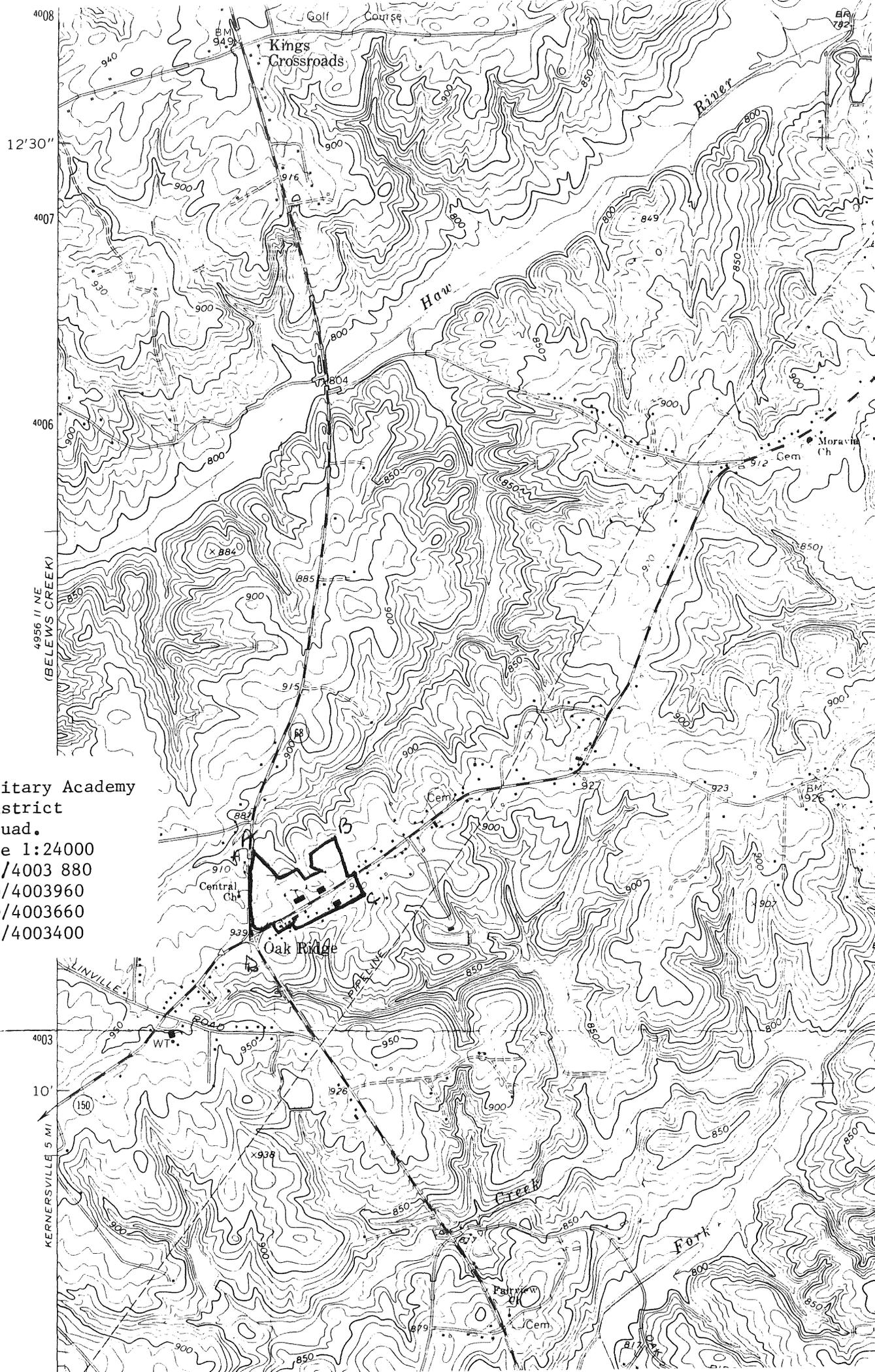
Property Boundaries



Boundary of Historic District



SCALE: 1" = 400'



Oak Ridge Military Academy
 Historic District
 Summerfield Quad.
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24000
 A 17 590890/4003 880
 B 17 591300/4003960
 C 17 591440/4003660
 D 17 590880/4003400

KEY --

1 PIVOTAL STRUCTURES:

- a. Oakhurst (1897)
- b. Maple Glade (1905)
- c. Oakland Park Hotel (1905)
- d. Alumni Building (1914)

2 CONTRIBUTING:

- e. Chapel (1914)
- f. Donnell and Holt Store (ca. 1900)
- g. Commandant's House (ca. 1905)
- h. House (ca. 1905)
- j. Cooks' House (ca. 1914)
- k. King Gymnasium (1922)
- l. Oakhurst Dormitory (1924)
- m. Whitaker Dormitory (1927)
- n. Infirmary (1938)
- o. Well (1921)

3 NON-CONTRIBUTING:

- p. Belk Science (1971)
- r. Cafeteria (1980)
- s. Armfield Dormitory (ca. 1970)

Property Boundaries



Boundary of Historic District

MARYLAND, Baltimore (Independent City), Mercantile Trust and Deposit Company, 202 E. Redwood St. (03/17/83)

MINNESOTA, Houston County, Caledonia, Houston County Courthouse and Jail (Houston County MRA), Courthouse Sq. (03/18/83)

NEW JERSEY, Mercer County, Titusville, Titusville Historic District, River Dr. (03/17/83)

NEW JERSEY, Somerset County, East Millstone, East Millstone Historic District, Amwell Rd. and Delaware & Raritan Canal (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Alamance County, Mebane vicinity, Griffis-Patton House, NW of Mebane on SR 1927 (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Buncombe County, Asheville, Chestnut Hill Historic District, Roughly bounded by Hillside, Washington, Broad, Hollywood, Orchard Sts. and Merrimon Ave. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Forsyth County, Winston-Salem, Ludlow, Col. Jacob Lott, House, 434 Summit St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Forsyth County, Winston-Salem, Nissen Building, 310 W. Fourth St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Forsyth County, Winston-Salem, Salem Town Hall, 301 S. Liberty St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Gaston County, Gastonia, Gastonia High School, S. York St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Gaston County, Lucia vicinity, Carpenter, Andrew House, SR 1820 (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Guilford County, High Point, Tomlinson Chair Manufacturing Company Complex, 305 W. High St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Guilford County, Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge Military Academy Historic District. NC 150 and NC 68 (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Hertford County, Murfreesboro, Myrick-Yeates-Vaughan House, 327 W. Main St. (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Moore County, Cameron, Cameron Historic District, Carthage St. from US 1 to Seaboard RR tracks (03/17/83)

NORTH CAROLINA, Scotland County, Silver Hill vicinity, Monroe, Robert Nancy, House, SR 1328 (03/17/83)

OKLAHOMA, Carter County, Ardmore, Ardmore Historic Commercial District, Main St. and Hinkle Ave. (03/14/83)

OKLAHOMA, Cleveland County, Stella vicinity, Mardock Mission, SE of Stella off OK 9 (03/14/83)

OKLAHOMA, Creek County, Drumright vicinity, Wheeler No. 1 Oil Well, Off OK 99 (03/14/83)

PENNSYLVANIA, Chester County, Parkerford, Parker's Ford, Old Schuylkill Rd. (03/17/83)

PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia County, Philadelphia, Manayunk Main Street Historic District, Roughly bounded by Reading RR, Flat Rock Dam, Schuylkill River, and Lot 4025 Main St. (03/18/83)

TENNESSEE, Polk County, Ducktown, Burra Burra Mine Historic District, TN 68 and Burra St. (03/17/83)

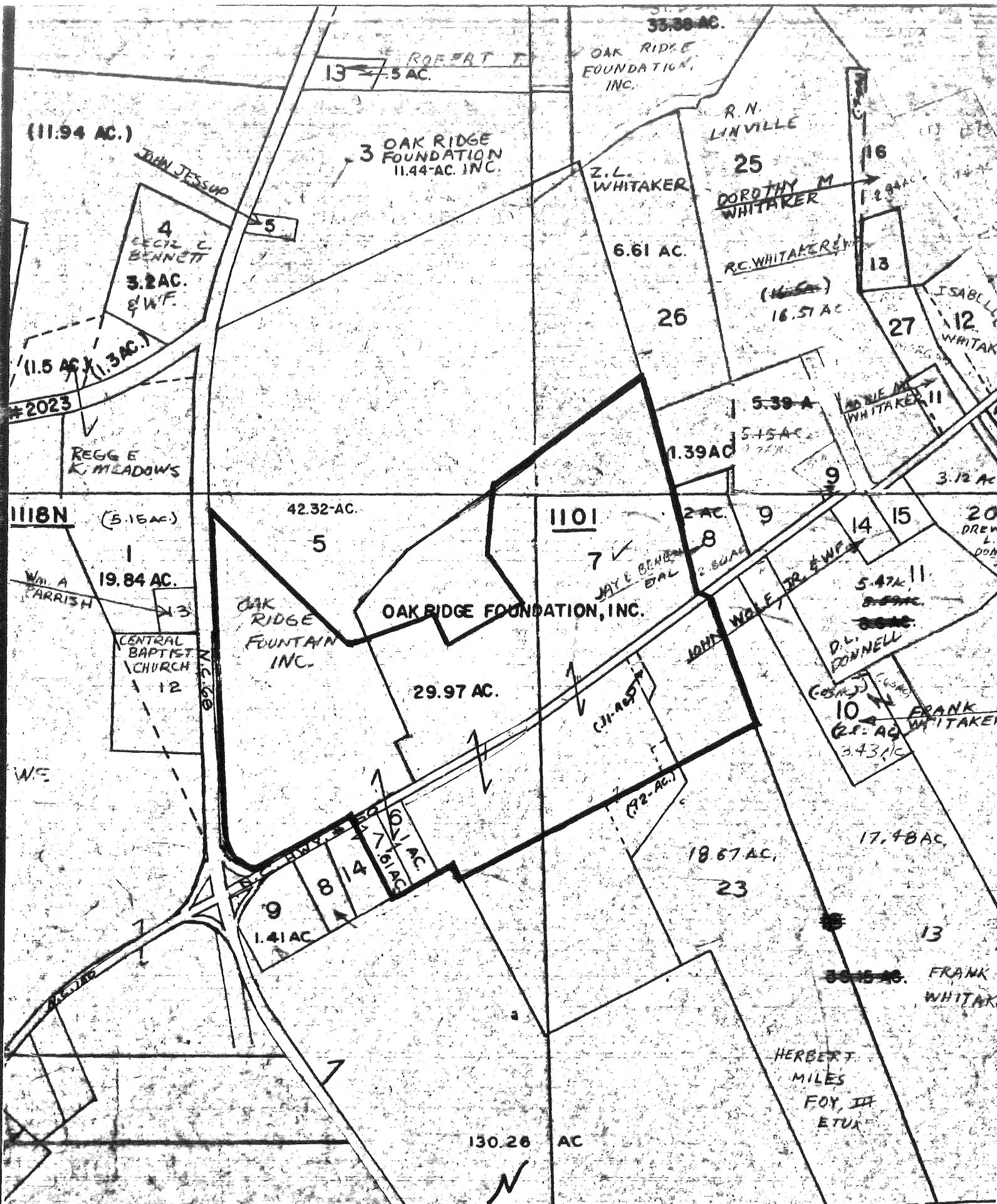
VERMONT, Windsor County, Bethel, Harrington House, River St. and VT 107 (03/16/83)

WISCONSIN, Monroe County, Sparta, St. John's Episcopal Church, 400 N. Water St. (03/18/83)

WYOMING, Sublette County, Pinedale vicinity, Redick Lodge (Chambers Lodge), N of Pinedale (03/18/83)

The following properties were also entered in the National Register but were excluded from a previous notice:

NEVADA, Washoe County, Reno, Clifford House, 339 Ralston St. (03/07/83)



KEY :

- Property Boundaries
- Boundary of Historic District

SCALE: 1" = 400'

130.26 AC



