

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name (Former) Pomona High School

other names/site number (Former) Lindley Junior High School

2. Location

street & number 2201 Spring Garden Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Greensboro

N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC

county Guilford

code 081

zip code 27407

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

private

public-local

public-State

public-Federal

Category of Property

building(s)

district

site

structure

object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

3 buildings

0

0 sites

0

0 structures

0

0 objects

1

3 Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural Resources of Greensboro, North Carolina, 1880-1941
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.

William S. King
Signature of certifying official

7-28-92
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Education/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

Commerce/Trade/warehouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof other: built-up tar/gravel

other stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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The former Pomona High School was built in three sections. Its original U-shaped front block was constructed about 1920. In 1940 two projecting wings were added to the side elevations, their finish almost identical to the original block. The space between the rear wings was filled, in 1951, by a third and final addition. In the late 1940s and early 1950s three separate buildings were constructed to the east side and the rear of the school--a cafeteria, a classroom building, and a gymnasium/auditorium which replaced a rear wing that had served the same function.

The original section of the former school is two stories tall and U-shaped. Its long, north-facing, front facade of nine bays is flanked by end wings with windowless front elevations that project forward towards Spring Garden Street. Faced with dark bricks separated by wide white mortar joints, the building is accented with limestone, concrete, and terra cotta ornament. At the center of the front facade, stepped slightly forward, is an entry pavilion dominated by a shallow, carefully detailed, one-story Doric portico of limestone. The portico's four columns support an entablature and cornice decorated with triglyphs, metopes, and guttae. The narrow flat roof of the portico is fringed with a limestone balustrade of turned balusters and paneled piers at each end. A tall multi-paned transom tops the double-doored entry that opens behind the portico. At the second story, above the portico, is a triple group of double-hung sash windows. Crowning the pavilion is a curved, stepped parapet outlined in terra cotta. The windows that cross the front facade to either side of the pavilion are single, double, or triple groups of double-hung sash with limestone lintels. Adorning the space between the first-story and second-story windows are brick panels with raised brick diamonds.

The windowless front elevations of the end wings are decorated by a recessed concrete band forming the outline of a rectangle that fills much of their faces. Stretcher courses of brick outlining the sides of the rectangular concrete band have squares of green terra cotta tiles at their corners. The sides of the wings, facing east and west, mirror the front facade, their classroom windows separated between stories by raised brick panels and diamonds. These side facades also have doors at the south end of both stories opening onto iron fire escapes.

Running around the front and side facades of the original building is a raised brick watertable, beneath which are square,

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boarded-over, basement windows. The facades are also connected by a continuous terra cotta cornice and by the castellated parapet, fringed with terra cotta coping, that rises up in a semicircle over the central pavilion.

At the rear of the side elevations are two projecting two-story wings, built in 1940, that in many ways match the front facade wings. Their east and west elevations have blank faces that are outlined with concrete rectangles accented by brick bands and green terra cotta tiles. Their rear faces are filled with the same groups of sash windows separated between floors by the same patterns of brick panels and diamonds. However, these later wings lack terra cotta coping and cornices, their lintels are of concrete rather than limestone, and they are faced with a different type of brick. In 1951 the gap between them, at the rear of the school, was spanned by a two-story addition. Its smooth, putty-colored bricks and bands of double-hung, plainly finished, sash windows are adorned only by a few shallow pilasters. This final addition was constructed after the original gymnasium/auditorium, which was attached to and extended south from the rear of the main block, had been removed.

The interior of the school, now vacant, is simply finished and organized. Windowless corridors serve as a spine for the first and second floors. Classrooms opening off of the corridors are entered through five/^{stacked} panel doors with windows in place of the fourth panel. Three-light transoms, which swing open for ventilation, top the doors. The classrooms are, like the corridors, plainly finished. Stripped of their desks and empty, they retain long, overhead, florescent light fixtures and exposed plaster bands, wall to wall, where their blackboards once were. Broken windows, coupled with neglect, have led to deterioration of the interior. In many of the classrooms plaster has pulled away from the walls and ceilings.

The school was expanded not only by additions to its main block. In the late 1940s and early 1950s three separate buildings, connected to it by covered wooden walkways, were constructed to its east side and south-facing rear. To the southeast of the main school building, a one-story, masonry cafeteria was built in the late 1940s. Faced in brick, it is simply finished with concrete coping at its flat roof and entries set in wide shallow pilasters with concrete caps. To the east a masonry classroom building was built in 1953. A functional, simply finished, one-story, flat-roofed structure, it is faced with wire-cut bricks. To the rear of the school is a two-story, concrete block,

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brick-walled gymnasium and auditorium built in 1953 on the site of the school's original gymnasium/auditorium. A large, flat-roofed box, it is lit by tall, wide windows. At its rear is a one-story, concrete block wing that held locker rooms. The covered wooden walkways that connect the school and the three buildings were built around 1953. Built within the past fifty years, the three buildings are non-contributing resources.

The main building and additional classroom building are vacant and the cafeteria is used for storage, as is the gymnasium. The latter building has been converted into a warehouse by Odell Hardware Company, which owns the property. Hardware supplies are stacked on pallets and shelves that reach to the ceiling and loading docks pierce the west elevation. Although these later buildings must be included in the nominated area due to the connecting covered walkways, they are unobtrusive and plain and do not detract from the architectural significance of the historic school building.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Education

Period of Significance

ca. 1920-1941

Significant Dates

ca. 1920

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

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The former Pomona High School, built about 1920, was among the first of the large brick schools erected during the consolidation of Greensboro's school system in the 1920s. As such, it is an important reflection of Greensboro's considerable advances in public education during the early twentieth century. The handsome symmetrical building, little altered except for the replacement of its rear auditorium, continues to represent the restrained, classical style of architecture popular for schools and many other non-residential structures in Greensboro in the 1920s. As a large structure, in comparison to the modest frame schools that had earlier been the rule throughout the city and county, Pomona High School further represents the scale of the consolidated schools during that booming decade. The school's period of significance extends from its ca. 1920 construction to the onset of World War II. Its educational context is found under "Modern Suburbanization and Industrialization, 1900-1941" in the Greensboro multiple property documentation form. The context for the building's architecture is found in the same form, in the discussion of educational buildings at Property Type 5. A more general description of the revival of classical design in Greensboro in the early twentieth century is found at Property Type 1.

Historical Background

John Van Lindley (1838-1913), a businessman, nurseryman, and proponent of public education, established the Pomona community, built its first two schools, and laid the groundwork for the construction of the high school. In 1877 he became the sole proprietor of the J. Van Lindley Nursery, at the eastern edge of which the high school was to be located. By the onset of the twentieth century, the nursery, located a few miles west of downtown Greensboro, was the leading nursery and cut flower producer in the state. Lindley's other business enterprises included organizing the Security Life and Annuity Company and the Pomona Terra Cotta Company, and serving as a director of the Pomona Cotton Mill (Ashe 1905:222-227; Greensboro Daily News, February 18, 1960; Arnett 1973:93-100). The name of the community--Pomona was the Roman goddess of fruit trees--reflects the extent and influence of Lindley's nursery activities.

After establishing his nursery, Lindley built a school for the Pomona community on Spring Garden Street (then Pomona Road) adjacent to his nursery (Greensboro Daily News, January 20, 1929; Greensboro Record, December 5, 1946). This school, a small, gable-front, frame

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structure, was replaced by a larger, U-shaped, one-story, frame building in 1905. As president of the Guilford County Board of School Improvement, a citizens' group organized to encourage the improvement of rural schools, he was a driving force behind the construction of the 1905 school and many other new county schools at the opening of twentieth century (Guilford County Board of School Improvement 1905).

Lindley has also been credited as the founder of the present school, although it was not built until after his 1918 demise (Greensboro Record, December 5, 1946; Greensboro Daily News, February 18, 1960). In 1920 the J. Van Lindley Nursery Co. agreed to sell a lot to the Morehead Township School Committee to be used for a school building and grounds (Guilford County Deed 353, Book 36). With lots deeded in 1920 and 1924 to the Guilford County Board of Education by Gurney S. Boren, a partner of Lindley's in the terra cotta works, this property was to house the Pomona High School and its playground (Guilford County Deed Book 349, Page 78, and Deed 518, Page 230).

The new school, named Pomona High School, was probably built around 1920. It was definitely standing by 1925 (Sanborn Map Company 1925). Originally the new structure served as a county high school, and elementary students in the community attended the old frame school, which stood to the east, on the other side of Cameron (now Bitting) Street. (By 1933 this frame structure had burned and been demolished (Sanborn Map Company 1925 map corrected through 1933).) In 1926, following the creation of the Greater Greensboro School District, both schools were brought into the city system. In the late 1920s a new school, named the Lindley Elementary School after Lindley, was built a few blocks to the north and the high school was converted into a junior high school (Greensboro Record, November 16, 1940, December 5, 1946, and January 8, 1947). In 1929 its name was changed to the Lindley Junior High School, also in honor of Lindley (Arnett 1973:427). The following year the junior high school had 450 students, nineteen teachers, and four part-time teachers ("Greensboro School Journal," February, 1930).

Two-story wings, almost identical in design to the original structure, were added at the southwest and southeast corners of the school in 1940 at a cost of about \$125,000 (Greensboro Record, November 16, 1940). In 1951 a two-story brick addition was built across the southern rear of the building, between the wings. Also in the early 1950s a classroom building was erected to the east, a cafeteria to the southeast, and an auditorium and gymnasium to the

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south which replaced an earlier auditorium/gymnasium that had been attached to the school's rear. These three buildings were connected to the main building by a covered walkway (Sanborn Map Company 1925 map corrected through 1957).

Pomona High School was among the first of the large brick schools built in the city in the 1920s, as part of a major consolidation of the school system. Like the others, it is a symmetrical, regular structure accented with classical ornament. Its restrained finish calls attention to its fine, limestone Doric portico, which dominates its front facade.

In the 1970s the building ceased to be a school and in 1979 the Greensboro Board of Education sold it to the Odell Hardware Company, which uses its cafeteria and gymnasium as warehouse space (Guilford County Deed Book 3012, Page 716). The main building and the 1953 classroom building are vacant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property 2.5

UTM References

A

1	7
6	0
3	3
6	0

3	9	9	1	3	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description The former Pomona High School occupies the northeast section of Greensboro Tax Map 158, Block 4, Parcel 1, which is bounded by Bitting Street on the east, Spring Garden Street on the north, Scott Avenue on the west, and the former northern edge of Hiatt Street on the south (see attached copy of tax map).

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification The boundaries of the former Pomona High School include all of the property historically and currently associated with the school.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marvin A. Brown date 9-15-91

organization Greensboro Preservation Society telephone 919-272-5003

street & number 447 West Washington Street city or town Greensboro state North Carolina zip code 27402

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Arnett, Ethel Stephens. 1955. Greensboro, North Carolina, the County Seat of Guilford. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.

_____. 1973. For Whom Our Schools are Named. Greensboro: Piedmont Press.

Ashe, Samuel A., ed. 1905. Biographical History of North Carolina. Greensboro: Charles L. Van Noppen.

Brewer, R.W. 1913. "Map of the City of Greensboro, North Carolina." Greensboro: M.M. Pruden. Located at Guilford County Register of Deeds, Greensboro.

Greensboro Daily News. January 20, 1929. Clipping of article entitled "Pomona School's Beginning is Recounted in Narrative of Late John Van Lindley" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

_____. February 18, 1960. Clipping of article entitled "School Names: John Van Lindley Gave Both Land and Money" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Greensboro Record. November 16, 1940. Clipping of article entitled "Greensboro City Schools Always Leader" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

_____. December 5, 1946. Clipping of article entitled "Boundary Extension Added Lindley to City's Schools" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

_____. December 19, 1946. Clipping of article entitled "Graded Schools Here Inaugurated by Action of Citizens in 1870" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

_____. January 3, 1947. Clipping of article entitled "Lindley School Built With Bond Issue" located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

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"Greensboro School Journal." February, 1930. Newsletter of the Greater Greensboro School District located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Guilford County Board of School Improvement. [1905] "Progress of Public Education in Guilford County, North Carolina, 1902-1905." Greensboro: Chas. G. Harrison Printing Company. Pamphlet picturing "old" and "new" Pomona Rural School, and other old and new county schools, located in the vertical files of the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Guilford County Deed Books. Located at Guilford County Courthouse, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Pease Engineering Co. 1927. "Map of the City of Greensboro, North Carolina, Towns of Hamilton Lakes and Pomona 'the pivot of the piedmont.'" Greensboro: Pease Engineering Co. Located at Guilford County Register of Deeds, Greensboro.

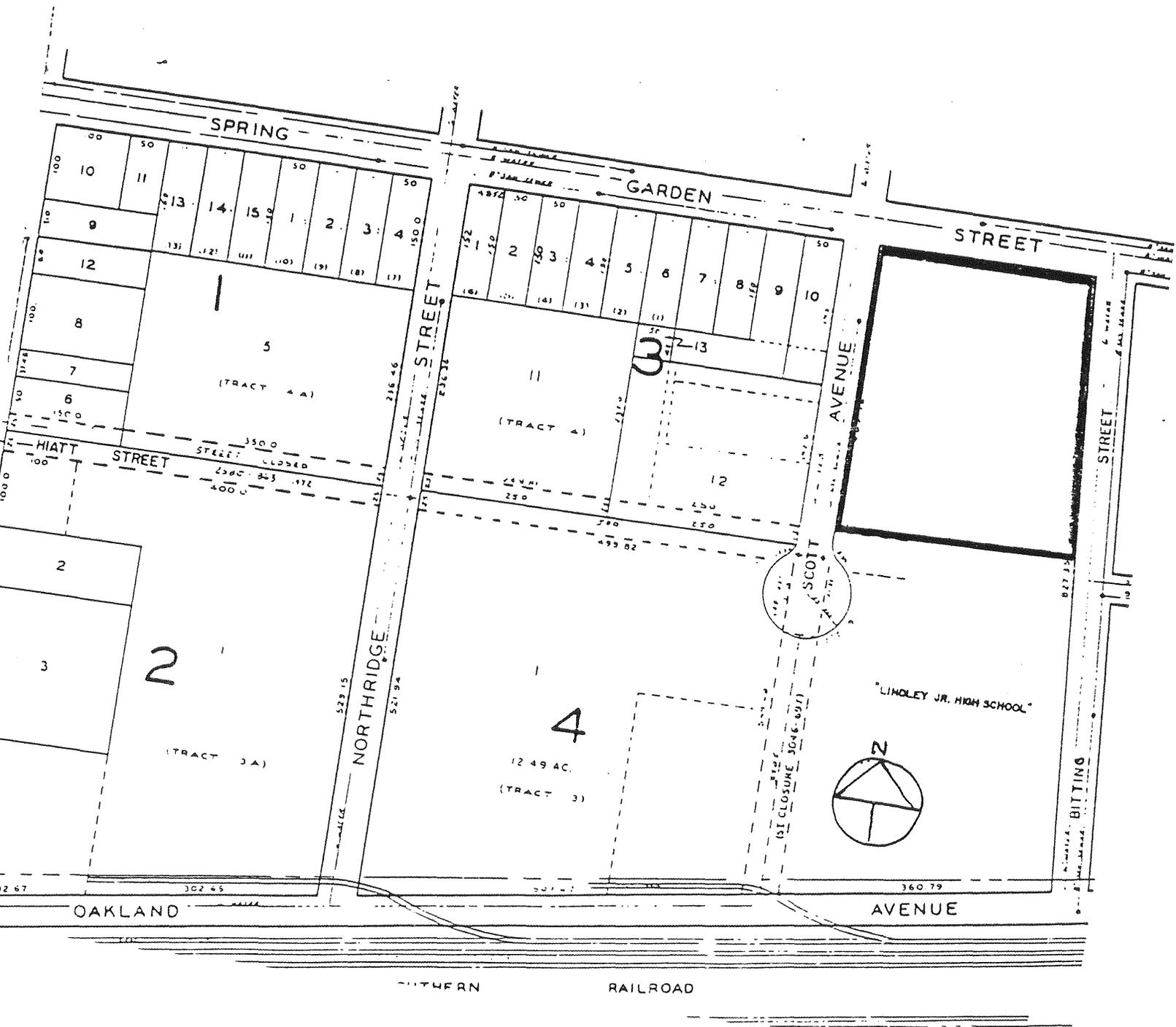
Sanborn Map Company. 1919 and 1925. "Greensboro, North Carolina." Microfilm of 1919 and 1925 maps located at the Jackson Library, University of North Carolina at Greensboro; originals of two separate sets of 1925 maps corrected through 1933 and through 1957 located at Greensboro Historical Museum.

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Guilford County Tax Map 158, partial page
one inch = one hundred feet





Lyndon Street Townhouses
 195201 Lyndon Street
 Greensboro, Guilford Co., NC
 Easting Northing
 609380 3992320

Edward J. Forney House
 1402 Spring Garden Street
 Greensboro, Guilford Co., NC
 Easting Northing
 606870 3991660

GREENSBORO GUAD
 ZONE 17 1:24000
 (Former) Pomona High School
 2201 Spring Garden Street
 Greensboro, Guilford Co., NC
 Easting Northing
 605360 3991360

3994 3993 3992 3991 3990
 KERNERSVILLE 15 MI (GUILFORD 15 MI)
 5056 III SW (GUILFORD 15 MI)
 3990

