

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District**

Forest City, Rutherford County, RF0466, Listed 5/15/2008

Nomination by Heather Fearnbach

Photographs by Heather Fearnbach and Clay Griffith, October and November 2006



Alexander Manufacturing Company, 1918 Building



Wilson Drive, looking east



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

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

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number Roughly bounded by Victory Drive on the south; Wilson Drive on the east; Allen Street on the north; and South Broadway Street on the west **N/A** not for publication  
city or town Forest City **N/A** vicinity  
state North Carolina code NC county Rutherford code 161 zip code 27292

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:)	_____	_____

Alexander Manufacturing Company

Mill Village Historic District

Name of Property

Rutherford County, NC

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
87	40	buildings
0	0	sites
0	5	structures
0	0	objects
87	45	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing Facility

EDUCATION: School

RELIGION: Religious Facility

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

INDUSTRY: Manufacturing Facility

EDUCATION: School

RELIGION: Religious Facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Colonial Revival

Classical Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

WOOD: Shingle

roof ASPHALT

other SYNTHETICS: Vinyl

METAL: Aluminum

**Narrative Description**

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

Alexander Manufacturing Company  
Mill Village Historic District  
Name of Property

Rutherford County, NC  
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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry  
Community Planning and Development  
Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1918-1956

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Draper, Earle Sumner (landscape architect)

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Alexander Manufacturing Company  
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Name of Property

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County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** Approximately 65 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>422120</u>	<u>3907920</u>	3	<u>17</u>	<u>422480</u>	<u>3907680</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>422200</u>	<u>3907720</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>422440</u>	<u>3907220</u>

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Heather Fearnbach  
organization Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc. date 4/20/07  
street & number 3334 Nottingham Road telephone 336-768-6551  
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

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## Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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## Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple Owners (more than fifty)  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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## 10. Geographical Data

### UTM References, con.

5. Zone 17 421920 Easting 3907240 Northing

## 7. Narrative Description

The Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District lies southeast of downtown Forest City (population 7,450) in Rutherford County and encompasses roughly sixty-five acres and 102 primary resources, including the textile mill complex, worker housing, Alexander School, and Alexander Baptist Church. The tracks of the former Southern Railway create a distinct division between the eastern and western sections of the mill village; variations in the street layouts further differentiate the two sections. Curvilinear streets in the eastern section wind around the rolling topography and end on a rise above a creek, while streets in the western section are arranged in a linear fashion parallel to the railroad tracks on fairly level terrain. A tall chain-link fence delineates the industrial complex parcel.

South Broadway Street serves as the district's western boundary. Commercial development along this busy thoroughfare has encroached on the western edge of the mill village, and a few residences have been converted into businesses. Alexander Baptist Church, a large Colonial Revival brick building, sits on the east side of, and faces, South Broadway Street. The municipal Alexander Mills Cemetery is south of the church and outside of the district boundary. The former Alexander School, a two-story Classical Revival-style brick building that faces School Drive, is located north of the church. The section of mill worker housing west of the railroad tracks runs north/south along South Broadway Street, Eastside Drive, Dillashaw Drive, and Railroad Street; the eastern section—northeast of the mill complex—lines Heritage Avenue, Millview Street, Wilson Drive, Summey Street, and Landis Street. The district's southern boundary follows Victory Drive and the south edge of the former Alexander Manufacturing Company tax parcel. The eastern boundary continues up the eastern side of the same parcel and around the rear lot lines of the houses on Wilson Drive, also forming part of the northern boundary. Allen Street and the north lot line of 129 Heritage Avenue comprise the remainder of the district's northern boundary.

The Alexander Manufacturing Company textile mill complex occupies a forty-five-acre parcel in the southeastern quadrant of the district. The complex includes a series of interconnected one- and two-story brick mill buildings constructed between 1918 and 1992, four freestanding brick buildings (the mill office, guard house, pump house, and boiler house), a water tower, a water reservoir, and an electrical substation. The mill's oldest section is a two-story brick building constructed in 1918. Tall, arched window openings pierce the first story of the east and west elevations and the second story of the south elevation, all of

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which have been enclosed with brick or boards. A series of nondescript additions extend from the north and south ends of the 1918 building. The mill office, erected on the west side of the complex in 1918, is a distinctive one-story flat-roofed building with a hip-roofed porch supported by tapered, wood-shingled posts on brick piers spanned by a brick balustrade. Although Alexander Manufacturing Company was once one of Rutherford County's largest and most productive textile manufacturing operations, the mill complex is now dormant. Schneider Mills Industries, Inc. purchased the property in 1988, ceased production at their Forest City plant in March 2005, and is currently using the mill buildings for storage.

The land within the Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District is primarily devoted to residential use and includes both single- and multi-family housing. The mill village's eastern section, probably constructed in 1918, follows landscape architect Earle Sumner Draper's curvilinear village plan. These dwellings are situated on much larger lots than the residences west of Railroad Street, allowing more space for gardens and outbuildings. The rear yard at 168 Wilson Drive, for example, encompasses vegetable and flower gardens as well as a chicken house and shed. The houses in the mill village's western section, erected in a second building phase around 1920, have compact front and back yards and narrow side yards. The average lot size is half that of those in the mill village's eastern section. Dwellings in both sections are similar, however, with eleven different Craftsman bungalow types appearing throughout the mill village.

Alexander Manufacturing Company residences are mostly one-story in height and are positioned near the street and close to one another, resulting in a harmonious rhythm of form, massing, and materials. A few two-story houses—a supervisor's house, a boarding house, and a teacherage—stand on the district's principal streets. The houses are frame and were originally sided with weatherboards (plain or novelty) or wood shingles. Most are three bays wide and double-pile, with front-gable, side-gable, or hipped roofs, brick foundations, and brick interior chimneys. Porches are inset or shed-roofed, and many are supported by the original tapered wood-shingled or square posts on brick piers. Many residences have rear shed or gable-roofed wings, quite a few of which are original or early additions, to allow for additional living space.

Frame, concrete block, or metal garages, sheds, and carports are located beside or to the rear of a few dwellings. Stone retaining walls line Wilson Drive, and stone steps lead to the front lawns of houses on this street. Most properties are shaded by mature deciduous and evergreen trees, and a variety of shrubbery and foundation plantings are found throughout the district.

Based on a comparison of the bungalows to identical house types in Reynoldstown or Cameron Park in Winston-Salem and Erlanger in Lexington it appears that they may have been constructed from kits

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manufactured by the Minter Homes Company.<sup>1</sup> Attempts to locate a Minter Homes mill village catalog, and thus identify the Alexander house types by name and/or model number, have not been successful. A 1916 residential catalog from the Huntington, West Virginia Minter Homes plant includes dwellings quite similar to those in Alexander; those house names are included in the following typology.<sup>2</sup>

As the floor plans of each dwelling were not readily accessible for classification purposes, eleven primary types of mill houses within the Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District were identified based on form. Variations exist within each type in elements such as siding material and porch posts. Roof and porch configuration are the key character-defining features. The typology reflects house forms that appear with great frequency (Types B, C, and D), as well as especially distinctive house forms that are relatively rare (Types F, H, J, and K). Four infill houses, a modular home, and a mobile home fall outside of these categories. Although most of the dwellings have been altered since they became privately owned (beginning in 1956 when the mill owners sold the company houses to individuals), all retain their original form and character. Typical modifications include replacement of window sash, porch posts, and porch railings; and application of aluminum, Masonite hardboard, or vinyl siding.

The eleven primary house types are as follows:

Type A: a one-story, double-pile, front-gable-roofed house with an almost full-façade shed-roofed porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, six-over-six sash, a brick interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards or wood shingles, exposed rafter ends, and gable vents. Some dwellings have, or originally had, two front doors; others have rear shed rooms. Many Type A houses display a modest Craftsman influence in the use of decorative triangular eave brackets in the gable ends. Seven mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 186 and 168 Wilson Drive are intact examples. Type A houses are quite similar to “The Rockwood,” a five-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 76.

Type B: full-façade inset porch supported by tapered or square posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type A. Some dwellings have rear shed rooms or porches. Twenty-one mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 137 Wilson Drive and 124 South Broadway Street serve as representative

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<sup>1</sup> The attribution of the Erlanger and Alexander Manufacturing Company houses to Minter Homes is based on a reference to identical houses in Reynoldstown being “of the Minter-Holmes type of house.” See Nannie M. Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 270-271.

<sup>2</sup> *Minter Homes Catalogue Number 101* (Huntington, West Virginia: Huntington Lumber & Supply Co., 1916), William D. Wintz Collection (Ms2003-177), West Virginia State Archives, Charleston, West Virginia.

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examples. The house at 123 Millview Street is the only home in the mill village with a clipped-front-gable roof.

Type C: inset corner porch supported by a tapered or square posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type A. Some dwellings have side or rear shed or gabled additions. Eleven mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 133 Dillashaw Drive and 123 Wilson Drive are representative examples.

Type D: one-story, double-pile, three-bay, side-gabled-roofed house with an almost full-façade shed-roofed porch supported by tapered or square posts on brick piers, six-over-six sash, a brick interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards or wood shingles, exposed rafter ends, and gable vents. Some dwellings have a central shed or gabled dormer on the front roof slope and/or rear shed rooms. Many Type D houses display a modest Craftsman influence in the use of decorative triangular eave brackets in the gable ends. Sixteen mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 126 Wilson Drive and 113 Dillashaw Drive are substantially intact. The houses at 225 Heritage Avenue and 115 Millview Street are single-pile examples. Type D houses are quite similar to “The Sparta,” a five-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 35.

Type E: full-façade inset porch supported by tapered or square posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type D. Some dwellings have, or originally had, two front doors. Seven mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 239 Heritage Avenue and 201 Wilson Drive are substantially intact examples. Type E houses are quite similar to “The Edgewood,” a five-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 67.

Type F: inset corner porch supported by tapered or square posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type D. Five mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 115 and 189 Wilson Drive are substantially intact examples. Type F houses are quite similar to “The Denby,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 82.

Type G: one-story, double-pile, cross-gable-roofed house with inset corner and gabled porches supported by a tapered or square posts on brick piers, six-over-six sash, a brick interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards (plain or novelty) or wood shingles, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, and gable vents. Some dwellings have, or originally had, two front doors. Seven mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 122 South Broadway Street and 149 Victory Drive are substantially intact examples.

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Type H: one-story, double-pile, three-bay, hip-roofed house with an almost full-façade, shed-roofed porch supported by tapered or square posts on brick piers, six-over-six sash, a brick interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards (plain or novelty) or wood shingles, and exposed rafter ends. Some dwellings have, or originally had, two front doors; others have rear shed-roofed wings or porches. Two mill houses fall into this category, and both of them have been altered. The dwelling at 121 Dillashaw Drive is substantially intact in terms of form, although the front porch has been enclosed. Type H houses are quite similar to “The Adams,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 41.

Type I: full-façade inset porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type H. Eight mill houses fall into this category; the dwellings at 231 Railroad Street and 149 Dillashaw Drive are substantially intact examples. Type I houses are quite similar to “The Honeyby,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 49.

Type J: inset corner porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, but otherwise identical to Type H. Only two mill houses fall into this category: 143 Heritage Avenue and 251 Railroad Street.

Type K: two-story, double-pile, three-bay, hip-roofed house with an almost full-façade hip-roofed porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, six-over-six sash, a brick interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards or wood shingles, and exposed rafter ends. Some dwellings have a central shed-roofed dormer on the front roof slope and/or rear shed-roofed wings. Three mill houses fall into this category: 134 Summey Street, a supervisor’s house; 249 Heritage Avenue, a boarding house; and 995 South Broadway Street, the Alexander School teacherage.

### INVENTORY

The inventory list is arranged alphabetically by street name. For streets that run north to south, the east side of the street is presented first. Houses are then listed from north to south. For streets that run east to west, the north side of the street is presented first, with the inventory listing houses from west to east. In most instances, this approach results in the street addresses appearing in ascending order, however, in the case of South Broad and Railroad Streets, the street numbering is rather erratic.

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Each resource is designated as contributing or noncontributing to the historic significance and integrity of the district. The designation criteria are based on age and degree of alteration. Buildings are considered contributing if they were constructed by Alexander Manufacturing Company before 1956 (when the mill owners began selling the company houses to individuals), and retain architectural integrity from the period of significance. Most noncontributing buildings postdate 1956 or were built before 1956 and have been heavily altered by the application of synthetic siding, replacement of original windows, enclosure of original porches, and/or the construction of large additions, and therefore have lost their architectural and historical integrity. In other words, a noncontributing building's original form has been significantly altered and character-defining features have been lost. Each dwelling's inventory entry identifies the house type if applicable, (based on the eleven principal mill house forms), followed by notes regarding variations within the type or alterations from the original appearance. Dates of construction are based on interviews with local residents, Rutherford County deeds and property cards, newspaper articles, and the style and form of the building. Secondary resources within a property are described in the inventory list. Vacant lots are noted.

The Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District includes 102 primary resources, eighty-two percent of which are contributing, and thirty secondary resources—frame, concrete block, or metal garages, sheds, and carports—seventy percent of which are noncontributing prefabricated buildings and structures added after the period of significance.

### **ALLEN STREET**

#### South Side

##### Mill House

106 Allen Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered, brick-veneered, Type H with a gable over the partially-enclosed, shed-roofed front porch; a metal porch post and railing; replacement 1/1 and picture windows; rear shed room; attached gabled carport on north elevation; deck on south elevation.

##### Outbuilding

106 Allen Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Shed roof, plywood siding, screened eastern section, concrete block foundation.

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### **SOUTH BROADWAY STREET**

#### East Side

Mill House  
895 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type G with vinyl siding; replacement 6/6 sash; small gabled addition on south elevation.

Mill House  
903 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with two front doors; tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; German siding; rear shed room.

Mill House  
116 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type G with gabled front porch enclosed with brick veneer, Masonite hardboard siding elsewhere; 6/6 and replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; side and rear gabled and shed additions.

Mill House  
122 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type G with two front doors; one unaltered and one screened porch; German siding with wood shingles in the gables; complex triangular eave brackets; stuccoed interior chimney.

Mill House  
130 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; vinyl siding; rear shed room; gabled garage addition on north elevation.

Vacant Lot

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Mill House  
112 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with modern shed-roofed entry porch with square posts and wood-lattice railing; gabled side porch with plywood railing; wide German siding.

Shed  
112 South Broadway Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

Shed roof, concrete block walls, exposed rafter ends.

Mill House  
124 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; wood shingle siding; rear shed rooms; attached carport on north elevation.

Shed  
124 South Broadway Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Low gable roof, metal siding.

Shed  
124 South Broadway Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Low gable roof, metal siding.

Mill House  
132 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type E with a gabled dormer and tapered porch posts on brick piers; two front doors with louvered screen doors; wide German siding; triangular eave brackets; shed addition on south elevation.

Mill House  
140 South Broadway Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type G with wide German siding.

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Alexander School Teacherage  
995 South Broadway Street, 1926, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts; replacement 1/1 sash; one-story addition on north elevation; two-story rear shed addition; vinyl German siding; vinyl and chain-link fences.

Garage  
995 South Broadway Street, 2000, Noncontributing Building

Front-gable roof; double-leaf door; vinyl German siding.

Alexander Baptist Church  
1071 South Broadway Street, 1929, 1989, Noncontributing Building

Two-story-on-basement Colonial Revival sanctuary with a projecting entrance vestibule dominated by a monumental, tetrastyle, pedimented portico. The vestibule and a tall belltower with a conical spire were added to the façade in 1989; the portico gable and denticulated cornice are vinyl. Brick steps with metal railings lead to a double-leaf entry with a broken pediment surround. Stained-glass windows illuminate the sanctuary; replacement 6/6 sash elsewhere. All of the windows have cast-stone sills and soldier course brick lintels. Two-story, flat-roofed education wings extend from the north and south elevations; a full-height rear addition houses the elevator tower. A flat-roofed metal breezeway connects the sanctuary to a one-story, side-gable-roofed classroom/day care building with a gabled entrance porch, erected in 1989. The original church bell rests on top of a freestanding, arcaded brick monument north of the sanctuary.

### **DILLASHAW DRIVE**

#### East Side

Mill House  
107 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; two front doors; wide German siding with wood shingles in gables; partially enclosed rear shed porch.

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Mill House  
113 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with square porch posts; replacement 1/1 sash; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room; German vinyl siding.

Mill House  
121 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type H with enclosed shed porch; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; German vinyl siding.

Shed  
121 Dillashaw Drive, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

Low gable roof, metal siding.

Mill House  
133 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type C with a square porch post; weatherboards with wood shingles in the front gable; complex triangular eave brackets; side shed addition; rear gabled addition.

Mill House  
141 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed house with front and rear shed additions; 2/2 horizontal sash; wide German siding; brick foundation; brick stovepipe chimney; attached carport; chain-link fence.

Mill House  
149 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with square porch posts; wide German siding; partially-enclosed rear shed porch.

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Shed  
149 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Side-gable, metal roof; rolled asphalt siding.

Mill House  
159 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with metal porch posts; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room; Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
165 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type A with enclosed front porch; replacement 1/1 sash; complex triangular eave brackets; Masonite hardboard siding; shed-roofed hyphen attaches one-bay garage to house.

Shed  
165 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Shed roof; exposed rafter ends; Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
175 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type D with enclosed front porch; replacement 1/1 sash; partially-enclosed rear porch; vinyl siding.

Shed  
175 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Low gable roof; metal siding.

Carport  
175 Dillashaw Drive, circa 2000, Noncontributing Structure

Low, metal gable roof.

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Mill House  
185 Dillashaw Drive, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type A with no porch; 1/1 sash; vinyl German siding.

### **EASTSIDE DRIVE**

#### East Side

Mill House  
111 Eastside Drive, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type D with wood shingle siding on the main block; German siding on enclosed front porch and rear shed addition; complex triangular eave brackets; modern deck at front entrance.

Vacant Lot

Mill House  
133 Eastside Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with square porch posts; replacement 6/6 sash are smaller than original windows; wide German siding; partially-enclosed rear shed porch.

Mill House  
141 Eastside Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type C with a square porch post; replacement 6/6 and 1/1 sash; wide German siding; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room.

Shed  
141 Eastside Drive, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Front-gable roof; metal siding.

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### HERITAGE AVENUE

#### East Side

Mill House  
129 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type F with square porch posts; gabled rear addition; Masonite hardboard siding; 5V crimp metal roof.

Mill House  
133 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement partial-width front porch with slender square posts; weatherboards with wood shingles in the front gable; complex triangular eave brackets; shed addition on north side.

Mill House  
143 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type J with two front doors; wood shingle siding; replacement porch posts and railing.

Mill House  
151 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with square porch posts; weatherboards; modern wooden porch railing.

Mill House  
159 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement metal porch posts.

Mill House  
165 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type F with brick veneer and vinyl siding; metal porch posts; replacement 1/1, 6/6, and 2/2 horizontal sash; two gabled dormers; gabled addition on north elevation.

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Mill House  
173 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; wood shingle siding; rear gabled wing.

Mill House  
181 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with tapered porch posts; a large shed dormer; vinyl German siding; gabled carport on north elevation.

Mill House  
189 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with wood shingles above a low weatherboard wainscoting; metal porch posts; rear shed room.

Mill House  
201 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with metal porch posts; replacement 1/1 sash; vinyl German siding; small deck on north elevation.

Carport  
201 Heritage Avenue, circa 1970, Noncontributing Structure

Flat roof; tubular metal posts.

Mill House  
225 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Single-pile Type D with replacement square porch posts; concrete porch floor; replacement 1/1 sash; replacement German siding; rear shed additions.

Mill House  
231 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; wood shingle siding; rear porch.

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Mill House  
239 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; wood shingle siding; rear porch.

Boarding House  
249 Heritage Avenue, circa 1918, Noncontributing Building

Type K with two-story shed-roofed porch (tapered porch posts and brick piers are original, enclosed upper section appears to be an addition); replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; vinyl German siding.

### LANDIS STREET

#### North Side

Mill House  
101 Landis Street, circa 1918, Noncontributing Building

Type B with enclosed front porch; German siding; triangular eave brackets; auxiliary entrance with modern gabled porch on south elevation; rear addition with T-111 siding.

Carport  
101 Landis Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Structure

Low gable roof; metal posts.

Mill House  
119 Landis Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; weatherboards with wood-shingles in front gable; boarded-up windows; rear addition.

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### South Side

Mill House  
106 Landis Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with metal porch post; German siding with wood-shingles in front gable; replacement 1/1 sash; one enclosed entrance; stone veneer kneewall; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room.

House  
110 Landis Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable-roofed house with projecting front gable bay with inset corner porch; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; Masonite hardboard siding with stone veneer kneewall.

Mill House  
118 Landis Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with tapered porch posts; replacement 1/1 sash; vinyl German siding; gabled rear addition; rear deck.

### **MILLVIEW STREET**

#### East Side

Mill House  
101 Millview Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; wood shingle siding; rear shed room.

Mill House  
115 Millview Street, circa 1918, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered, single-pile Type D with enclosed front porch; metal awning shelters new porch; front-gable bay extends from east side of façade; replacement 1/1 sash; rear gabled addition.

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Mill House  
123 Millview Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with clipped-front-gable roof; square porch posts; German siding; triangular eave brackets; rear shed room.

Mill House  
129 Millview Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with a square brick porch post; weatherboards.

Mill House  
135 Millview Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; weatherboards; rear gabled addition.

Mill House  
147 Millview Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; wood shingle siding.

### **RAILROAD STREET**

#### West Side

Vacant Lot

Mill House  
124 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type D with enclosed wraparound porch; modern gabled entry porch; replacement 1/1 sash; vinyl German siding; stone veneer steps; brick end chimney.

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Shed

124 Railroad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

Shed roof; vinyl German siding.

Mill House

132 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement turned porch posts; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; Masonite hardboard siding; metal awnings; attached carport with board-and-batten gables and scalloped cornice on north elevation.

Shed

132 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Front-gable roof; German siding.

Mill House

142 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with metal porch posts; concrete porch floor; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; Masonite hardboard siding; rear shed room; gabled addition on south elevation.

Mill House

152 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with partially-enclosed front porch; replacement porch post; weatherboards with German siding on porch enclosure.

Shed

152 Railroad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

Low gable metal roof; German, plywood, and metal siding.

Mill House

160 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type G with enclosed porches; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; vinyl siding.

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Shed

160 Railroad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

Low side-gable roof; Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House

170 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with square porch posts; wood shingle siding; boarded-up windows and doors; rear shed room; German-sided, gabled addition on south elevation.

Mill House

178 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type C with screened porch with square post and wood lattice railing; wide German siding with wood shingles in the front gable; complex triangular eave brackets.

Mill House

186 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type A with screened porch with square posts; replacement 6/6 sash; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room; vinyl siding.

Mill House

196 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type C with a square porch post; two front doors; German siding; complex triangular eave brackets.

Mill House

206 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type G with front-gable porch supported by tapered, wood-shingled posts on brick piers spanned by a pierced-brick kneewall; vinyl siding; partially-enclosed porch with bay window on south elevation; hip-roofed addition on north elevation.

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Mill House

197 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts; auxiliary gabled porch on north elevation at side entrance; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; vinyl siding.

Mill House

205 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with square porch posts; wide German siding; rear shed room.

Mill House

217 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement porch posts; replacement 6/6 sash; two front doors; rear shed room; vinyl siding.

Mill House

231 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; rear shed room; vinyl siding.

Shed

231 Railroad Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated; metal.

House

241 Railroad Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, front-gable-roofed house with a shed porch and large deck on the façade; Hardiplank siding.

Shed

241 Railroad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

Front-gable roof; Hardiplank siding; concrete block piers.

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Mill House  
251 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type J with replacement square porch posts and modern wood railing; replacement 2/2 horizontal sash; shed addition on south end of façade; large hip-roofed addition on north elevation; vinyl German siding.

Shed  
251 Railroad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated; gambrel roof; T-111 siding.

Mill House  
272 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type B with enclosed front porch; concrete stoop with metal railing at new front entrance; replacement 2/2 horizontal and picture windows; German siding with wood shingles in the front gable; triangular eave brackets; brick end chimney.

Shed  
272 Railroad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Side-gable roof; German siding; exposed rafter ends.

### **SCHNEIDER DRIVE**

#### South Side

Alexander Manufacturing Company  
181 Schneider Drive, 1918, with additions in 1923, 1942, 1960, 1968, 1969, 1992, Contributing Building

The Alexander Manufacturing Company complex occupies a forty-five-acre parcel in the southeastern quadrant of the district. The complex includes a series of interconnected one- and two-story brick mill buildings constructed between 1918 and 1992, four freestanding buildings (the mill office, guard house, pump house, and boiler house), a water tower, a water reservoir, and an electrical substation.

The mill's oldest section is a two-story brick building—Warehouse Number One on the attached site plan—constructed in 1918. Tall segmentally-arched window openings pierce the first story of the east

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and west elevations and the second story of the south elevation, all of which have been enclosed with brick or boards. The second-story windows on the east and west elevation are even taller, and the large rectangular window opening have also been boarded-up. Triangular eave brackets support the deep roof overhang. Two-story stair towers project from the east and west elevations at regular intervals; a one-story shop extends from the south end of the east elevation. Three loading docks sheltered by a flat-roofed metal canopy were added to the center of the west elevation.

A series of nondescript additions extend from the north end of the 1918 building. The two-story, brick, 1942 addition (Building No. 1-A) has large metal casement windows on the second story while the first-story windows have been enclosed. Triangular eave brackets support the deep roof overhang. Fieldcrest purchased Alexander Manufacturing Company from the Erlanger Mill Corporation in 1964 and added warehouse space to the west elevation of the 1942 addition in 1968 (Building No. 6) and to the north elevation in 1969 (Building Nos. 4-A and 5). The northeast corner of Building No. 5 is clipped to accommodate a railroad spur line.

Schneider Industries purchased the mill complex in 1988 and connected Warehouse No. 1 (on the north side) to Building No. 2 (on the south side) with a one-story, brick-veneered, concrete block hyphen in 1992. Building No. 2, a two-story, brick building completed in 1923, was originally a sheeting plant and later served as warping room with a slashing area in the southwest corner. Large curved eave brackets support the deep roof overhang. A series of one- and two-story brick additions with metal casement windows obscure the east elevation; the windows on the west elevation have been bricked-up. An addition on the southeast corner of the 1923 building has board-and-batten siding and six-over-six sash on the second story. The mill complex's most recent addition, a 1992 warehouse, extends from the west elevation. Loading docks line the 1992 warehouse's north elevation.

The Warehouse No. 1 and Building No. 2 interiors retain exposed brick walls with wood joists. Sliding steel doors are mounted on tracks above arched doorways. Round cast-iron posts were added at a later date to support the heavy machinery load on each floor. The first floor of Warehouse No. 1 now serves as bolt storage, and rows of steel shelving have been constructed to accommodate this function. A concrete floor was poured over the original wood floor on the first story of Warehouse No. 1, and a concrete ramp extends through the beam storage hyphen to the north end of Building No. 2.

The Erlanger Mills Corporation purchased Alexander Manufacturing Company in 1956 and constructed Building No. 3, the largest building in the complex, on the south elevation of Building No. 2 in 1960. The one-story, brick, windowless building was constructed as a large, open weave room full of air-powered looms. A series of concrete tunnels under the building served to force air to each loom; rows of steel tracks in the concrete floor have removable plates to allow for changes in loom placement. Three air

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washer rooms on the east elevation provided the climate control necessary for acetate manufacture (seventy to seventy-two percent humidity). A compressor room at the southeast corner and a small canteen at the northeast corner are the only other enclosed spaces in this warehouse. A dropped acoustical tile ceiling diminished the equipment noise, and air cleaning and vacuum systems removed airborne lint particles.

The mill office, erected on the west side of the main mill in 1918, is a distinctive one-story, flat-roofed, brick building with a hip-roofed porch supported by tapered, wood-shingled posts on brick piers spanned by a pierced brick balustrade. The building retains eight-over-one sash. The interior has been remodeled to accommodate a conference room and office space. A concrete retaining wall extends across the façade at the south edge of a planting bed. A small, square, flat-roofed, brick, circa 1960 guardhouse with deep overhanging eaves and metal sash windows is adjacent to the mill office.

The boiler house and pump house, located southeast of the original mill building, were constructed circa 1918. The boiler house is characterized by stepped parapets on the front and rear elevations. Metal casement windows on the east, west, and south elevations illuminate the one-room building; two metal roll-up doors on the north elevation were added to allow for equipment replacement.

The pump house is a two-part, one-story, shed-roofed, brick building. Arched door openings on the west elevation allow access to both sections. The pump drew water from the adjacent 190,000 gallon reservoir for the mill's sprinkler system; the large water tower located at the complex's northeast corner provided additional water storage.

### **SCHOOL DRIVE**

#### North Side

Mill House  
125 School Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts; 1/1 and 2/2 horizontal sash; rear shed room; Masonite hardboard siding; metal awnings.

Carport  
125 School Drive, circa 1950, Contributing Building

Front gable roof; rear shed room; Masonite hardboard siding.

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### South Side

Alexander School/The Master's Academy  
120 School Drive, 1925, 1963, 2005, Contributing Building

Two-story, five-bay, Classical Revival-style school with projecting end bays. Cast-stone window and door sills and lintels provide a striking contrast to the red brick exterior. A central pointed parapet and recessed brick panel surmount the cast-stone cornice, which encircles the building. A projecting one-story bay with a stepped parapet and a segmentally-arched lintel delineates the main entrance. Replacement metal sash fill the original window openings. A steel stair on the east elevation provides exterior access to the second floor; a two-story brick addition houses a stairwell on the building's west side. Tall rectangular panels with raised-brick borders and square cast-stone corner blocks embellish the projecting bays.

Original interior features include plaster walls, simple window and door trim, blackboards, cast-metal ceilings, and hardwood floors. The collapse of the main level's flooring system resulted in the building's abandonment; it is currently being used only for storage. The Master's Academy's restoration plan would refurbish the second floor classrooms; convert the first floor classrooms to a kitchen, cafeteria, library/media center, conference room, workroom, and offices; and add a fitness center, athletics room, and coach offices to the basement.

Flat-roofed, open breezeways connect the school to the 1963 gym/auditorium and classroom wing, which were renovated in 2005 for The Master's Academy. Classroom wing renovations include the installation of a new 5-V crimp metal roof, replacement windows and doors, and interior improvements. The gym/auditorium received a new vinyl floor, acoustical tile ceiling, and stage. Small storage rooms on the building's west side now serve as offices. A gabled 2005 addition to the gym's rear (south) elevation provides additional classroom space, a computer lab, restrooms, and a kitchen.

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### SUMMEY STREET

#### South Side

Supervisor's House  
134 Summey Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type K with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; two-story rear shed addition; one-story, hip-roofed addition on east elevation; weatherboards on façade, Masonite hardboard siding elsewhere; 5V crimp metal roof.

Mill House  
140 Summey Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with square porch posts; 2/2 horizontal sash; small shed dormer; Masonite hardboard on façade, weatherboards elsewhere.

Mill House  
146 Summey Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with tapered, wood-shingled porch post; 1/1 sash; complex triangular eave brackets; Masonite hardboard siding; shed addition on west elevation.

Shed  
146 Summey Street, 2006, Noncontributing Building

Side-gable roof; plywood.

Mill House  
154 Summey Street, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with metal porch posts and concrete floor; 2/2 horizontal sash; rear shed room; vinyl German siding.

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### VICTORY DRIVE

#### North Side

Mill House  
131 Victory Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; 1/1 sash; aluminum siding; metal awnings; rear shed addition; attached carport on west elevation.

Mill House  
149 Victory Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type G with tapered wood porch posts and wood railings; 2/2 horizontal sash; complex triangular eave brackets; rear shed room; aluminum siding; metal awnings

Shed  
149 Victory Drive, circa 1950, Contributing Building

Shed roof; exposed rafter ends; aluminum siding.

Carports  
149 Victory Drive, circa 1970, Noncontributing Structures

Two flat-roofed, metal carports.

#### South Side

Mill House  
126 Victory Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with replacement porch columns; 1/1 sash; rear shed room; vinyl German siding.

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Mill House  
130 Victory Drive, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts and a modern wood railing; rear shed room; weatherboards; chain-link fence.

### WILSON DRIVE

#### East Side

Modular Home  
107 Wilson Drive, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

One-story; low side-gable roof with a front-gable bay at the entrance; 4/4 sash; vinyl German siding; wood handicapped ramp.

Mill House  
115 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type F with a square porch post; vinyl siding.

Mill House  
123 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with a square porch post; wood shingle siding; rear shed room; small shed porch addition at northwest corner.

Mill House  
131 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type F with a square porch post; 1/1 sash; weatherboards; side entrance (east elevation) sheltered by a bracketed hood; rear shed addition; 5V crimp metal roof.

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Mill House  
137 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts spanned by a modern wood railing; rear shed room; wood shingle siding.

Mill House  
143 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with a replacement square porch post; weatherboards.

House  
149 Wilson Drive, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed house with gabled, bracketed hood over entry; 6/6 and 2/2 horizontal sash; wood siding.

Mill House  
181 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with replacement square porch post; 1/1 sash; vinyl German siding; stone veneer foundation and chimney; small wood deck at side entrance (west elevation).

Mill House  
189 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type F with tapered, wood-shingled porch post; wood shingle siding; German-sided rear shed addition; auxiliary entrance on south elevation.

Mill House  
191 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with metal porch posts and concrete porch floor; 1/1 sash; vinyl siding.

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Mill House  
197 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts and a modern wooden porch railing; 1/1 sash; rear shed room; vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
201 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts and a modern wooden porch railing; 1/1 sash; rear shed room; weatherboards.

Shed  
201 Wilson Drive, circa 1940, Contributing Building

Front-gable roof; German siding; equipment shed addition on south elevation.

Mill House  
209 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; rear shed room; wood shingle siding.

Shed  
209 Wilson Drive, circa 1940, Contributing Building

Shed roof; vertical and horizontal board siding.

Mill House  
215 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type C with a tapered porch post and a modern wooden porch railing; complex triangular eave brackets; German siding; shed addition on north elevation with narrow weatherboards; 2/2 horizontal sash; concrete block foundation; metal awnings at porch.

### West Side

Vacant Lot

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Mill House  
126 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type D with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; 1/1 and picture windows; wood shingle siding.

Mill House  
134 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type B with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; rear shed addition; weatherboards.

Vacant Lot  
144 Wilson Drive

Stone steps and a stone retaining wall mark the former location of a mill house.

Mobile Home  
152 Wilson Drive, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Flat-roofed, single-wide mobile home with two entrances; 1/1 sash. Stone steps and retaining wall along Wilson Drive.

Mill House  
168 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type A with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts spanned by a modern wood railing; 2/2 horizontal sash; rear shed room; vinyl German siding.

Shed  
168 Wilson Drive, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Side-gable roof; synthetic siding.

Chicken House  
168 Wilson Drive, circa 1930, Contributing Building

Metal shed roof; horizontal board siding.

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Mill House  
178 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type D with half-story addition; replacement turned porch posts; 1/1 sash; rear shed addition; vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
186 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type A with tapered, wood-shingled porch posts; 2/2 horizontal sash; rear gabled addition; wood shingle siding.

Mill House  
202 Wilson Drive, circa 1918, Contributing Building

Type E with metal porch posts; shed dormer; rear shed room; weatherboards.

Shed  
202 Wilson Drive, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Front-gable roof; plywood siding.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

The Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District, which lies southeast of downtown Forest City in Rutherford County, meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion A for industry and community planning and development and Criterion C for architecture. J. F. Alexander, a prominent local businessman and civic leader, established Alexander Manufacturing Company in 1917 to produce cotton twine, yarns, and cloth. The company subsequently became one of Rutherford County's largest and most productive textile manufacturing operations. Charlotte landscape architect Earle Sumner Draper laid out the mill village plan in 1918; the curvilinear street configuration east of the railroad tracks follows his plan exactly.<sup>3</sup> Draper's design for the section west of the railroad tracks was modified to allow for greater housing density, but dwellings in both sections are similar, with eleven different Craftsman bungalow types appearing throughout the mill village. Draper also designed two other Rutherford County mill villages: Florence Mill, in downtown Forest City, and Spindale, five miles northwest of Forest City. The Florence Mill village is no longer extant, however, and little of the Draper plan survives at Spindale. Thus, Alexander serves as the most intact example of an Earle Draper-designed mill village in Rutherford County.

The Classical Revival-style Alexander School, erected in 1925, is the only extant community building and now serves local children as The Master's Academy (a private preschool through high school). With its collection of dwellings, community buildings, and the textile mill complex, the Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District remains the most intact mill village in a county that once boasted many such communities. The district's period of significance begins in 1918, with the construction of the original mill building and first phase of worker housing, and continues to 1956, encompassing mill and mill village expansion phases and ending when the Erlanger Mill Company began selling mill houses to individuals. Although the mill remained in operation until 2005, the period after 1956 does not meet Criteria Consideration G for exceptional significance in the area of industry.

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<sup>3</sup> Earle S. Draper, "Alexander Manufacturing Company Plan," 1918, Rutherford County Photo Files, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill.

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### Historical Background, Community Planning and Development, and Rutherford County Textile Industry Context

Rutherford County was formed from Tryon County in 1779 and named for Griffith Rutherford, an Indian fighter, member of the Provincial Congress, and Revolutionary War general. Rutherfordton, incorporated in 1793, is the county seat. The county's population, isolated by poor roads, consisted primarily of subsistence farmers until the introduction of the textile industry in the late nineteenth century. The powerful Broad and Second Broad Rivers in the county's southeastern section provided the incentive for local investors to build waterpowered textile mills, while the arrival of the railroad created an outlet for cash crops and accelerated industrial development.<sup>4</sup>

The town of Forest City, located seven miles southeast of Rutherfordton, was incorporated in 1877 as Burnt Chimney. The small crossroads community was so named after a circa 1855 fire that destroyed the home of James McArthur, leaving only a blackened chimney. The Burnt Chimney Post Office (no longer extant) had served the community at the intersection of the Shelby-Rutherfordton Road (now Main Street) and a major north-south road (now Cherry Mountain Road and Depot Street) since 1869. John Bostic built the first dwelling on Main Street (no longer extant) between 1825 and 1830, and other early residents included Dr. G. E. Young, Dr. T. E. Lovelace, Reverend J. E. Yarborough, A. H. McDaniel, John Blanton, John B. Harrill, Alfred Harrill, Thomas Wilkins, Amos McBrayer, Matt McBrayer and Wallace Jackson. A few frame commercial buildings were constructed at the center of town, followed by the Burnt Chimney Academy in 1874. The population grew to 110 in 1880, the first year the federal census documented statistics for the town independently of the county. By 1882 there was a movement to rename Burnt Chimney in honor of Forest Davis, a local lumber merchant, and the post office became Forest City, although it was not until 1887 that the community was officially renamed. The first Forest City newspaper was established in 1885, but its offices were destroyed in an 1886 fire along with most of the businesses in town.<sup>5</sup> The commercial district was reconstructed in brick, and many of those late 1880s buildings are contributing resources in the Main Street Historic District (NR 2002).

Although plans for railroad lines through Rutherford County were in place before the Civil War, it was not until 1887 that the Wilmington, Charlotte, and Rutherford (Seaboard) Railroad reached Forest City and Rutherfordton. The Southern Railway, which ran from Charleston to Cincinnati and Chicago, soon followed, arriving in Rutherfordton by way of Forest City in 1890. The Cliffside Railroad connected

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<sup>4</sup> Kimberly I. Merkel, *The Historic Architecture of Rutherford County* (Forest City: Rutherford County Arts Council, 1983), 3,4.

<sup>5</sup> Clarence W. Griffin, *Essays on North Carolina History* (Forest City: The Forest City Courier, 1951), 145-149, 164.

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Cliffside Mills, on the Second Broad River in the southeastern corner of the county, to the Seaboard Railroad by 1907. The Clinchfield, Carolina, and Ohio Railroad was extended through Rutherford County in 1909, at which time twelve passenger trains stopped in Forest City daily.<sup>6</sup>

Raleigh Rutherford (R. R.) Haynes and his partner, Simpson B. Tanner, are credited with bringing the modern textile industry to Rutherford County about the same time the first railroad lines arrived.<sup>7</sup> R. R. Haynes began to acquire land in the High Shoals area of the Second Broad River as potential locations for textile mills in 1885. His partners included Simpson B. Tanner, J. S. Spencer, and J. M. Scott. Work on the first mill, named Henrietta after Simpson Tanner's mother-in-law, Mrs. Henrietta Spencer, commenced in 1887. When the Henrietta Mill was completed in 1893, it was the largest textile plant in North Carolina. The mill started out with 10,000 spindles and soon increased to 28,000. The second Henrietta Mill, with 48,000 spindles, was constructed in the nearby community of Caroleen in 1896.<sup>8</sup>

Haynes and his partners financed the construction of the Florence Mill in Forest City in 1897, but Haynes sold his interest in the project soon after completion of the new building to concentrate on other endeavors. Florence Mill continued to be an extremely significant force in the growth and development of Forest City, as evidenced by the fact that Forest City tripled in population after the mill and railroads came, growing from a small community of 419 residents in 1890 to a booming town of 1,592 residents in 1910. Haynes began purchasing property along the Second Broad River for a new mill, Cliffside, or Haynes Plant No. 1, in 1899. The mill, completed in 1902, was one of the last waterpowered mills built in Rutherford County and the largest gingham mill in the southern states at the time of its construction.<sup>9</sup>

The development of textile mills in Rutherford County created not only jobs, but entire communities, as mill owners constructed small self-sufficient villages to sustain mill workers and their families. Mill villages contained homes, schools, churches, and company stores adjacent to the mills and soon boasted sizable populations. Most mill workers brought the habits and accoutrements of their former life on the

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid., 20; William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I* (Forest City: Genealogical Society of Old Tryon County, Inc., 1984), 27.

<sup>7</sup> Merkel, *The Historic Architecture of Rutherford County*, 20-21. Earlier attempts at establishing cotton mills in Rutherford County were short-lived due to capital and equipment deficiencies.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., 595; W. E. Christian, "Life Story of Late Raleigh Rutherford Haynes," *The Charlotte Observer*, March 11, 1917; Ina Fortune Haynes, *Raleigh Rutherford Haynes: A History of His Life and Achievements* (Cliffside, 1954), 11.

<sup>9</sup> Clarence W. Griffin, *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties, North Carolina, 1730-1936* (Spartanburg, South Carolina: The Reprint Company, 1977), 596-597.

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farm to their new setting. Southern mill village design thus allowed for enough room for small gardens and livestock pens behind the company houses. This practice provided sustenance for the families in addition to some extra income from the sale of any surplus commodities.<sup>10</sup>

The Haynes family continued to develop new mill properties and to contribute to the growth of southeastern Rutherford County after R. R. Haynes died in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 1917. Charles H. Haynes, R. R. Haynes's son, opened Haynes Plant No. 2 in Avondale in 1917, and financed the construction of the first modern school building in Rutherford County, an impressive brick Classical Revival-style edifice, at Cliffside in 1921 (NR 1997). R. R. Haynes' former partner, Simpson B. Tanner, also continued to influence the development of Rutherford County's textile industry through the establishment of the mill group at Spindale in 1916.<sup>11</sup>

Another one of R. R. Haynes's business associates, Rutherford County native Jacob F. (J. F.) Alexander (1859-1925), chartered the Alexander Manufacturing Company with \$500,000 in capital in December of 1917. The textile mill initially produced cotton twine, yarns, and cloth. J. F. Alexander was a prominent local businessman and civic leader with diversified interests in the lumber industry, real estate, and banking throughout the southeastern United States. He served as the first Alexander Manufacturing Company president, with K. S. Tanner as vice-president and W. P. Leister as secretary/treasurer.<sup>12</sup>

Although J. F. Alexander had moved to St. Petersburg, Florida in 1911 for his health, Alexander Manufacturing Company's establishment just outside Forest City was a logical business maneuver for him. Alexander had partnered with Rutherford County textile magnate and fellow St. Petersburg resident R. R. Haynes and other Forest City businessmen, including T. B. Lovelace and Dr. C. E. Young, on lumber company enterprises for many years. He married Dr. Young's daughter Kathleen on June 22, 1915, further solidifying his association with Forest City.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, James Leloudis, Robert Korstad, Mary Murphy, Lu Ann Jones and Christopher B. Daly, *Like a Family: The Making of the Southern Cotton Mill World* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1987), 114-115.

<sup>11</sup> Ina Fortune Haynes, *Raleigh Rutherford Haynes*, 21; Griffin, *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 596.

<sup>12</sup> Rolland Ernest Price, *Rutherford County: Economic and Social* (Durham: The Seeman Printery, 1918), 13, 23; Griffin, *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 375; Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Rutherford County, 1937-1951* (Asheville: The Inland Press, 1952), 29.

<sup>13</sup> Griffin, *The History of Old Tryon and Rutherford Counties*, 375.

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Alexander hired landscape architect Earle Sumner Draper of Charlotte to design the layout of the Alexander Manufacturing Company mill village. Alexander was one of Draper's first projects as an independent practitioner. His firm, established in 1917, designed hundreds of subdivisions, mill villages, college campuses, estates, and parks throughout the southeastern United States before Draper left private practice in 1933. Draper specialized in upper-class residential subdivisions characterized by curvilinear, tree-lined streets. North Carolina examples of his subdivision designs include Hayes-Barton in Raleigh, Forest Hills in Durham, Eastover in Charlotte, and Emerywood in High Point. Draper also designed many North Carolina mill villages, including two others in Rutherford County, Florence Mill, in downtown Forest City, and Spindale, five miles northwest of Forest City. However, the Florence Mill village is no longer extant, and little of the Draper plan survives at Spindale.<sup>14</sup>

Draper's June 1918 Alexander Manufacturing Company village plan included eighty house lots, a village square and bandstand, baseball fields, community gardens, a school, and a small park. Three large lots facing South Broadway Street were reserved for the mill superintendent and "office men."<sup>15</sup> As with his other mill village designs, Draper used existing topography and vegetation to guide his plan, arranging low-density housing around gently curving roads in a manner designed to appeal to mill residents' "rural and mountain origins." House lots were deep, allowing plenty of room for family gardens and outbuildings. Rows of street trees were intended to screen houses from the main mill complex and each other. Draper's mill village plans drew from Frederick Law Olmsted's naturalistic landscape design tradition as well as the lessons of textile industry theorist Daniel Tompkins, who felt that gardening was "conducive to general contentment among the [mill] operatives," and thus promoted sizable (half-acre) mill house lots.<sup>16</sup>

The construction of the Alexander Manufacturing Company mill and the first phase of worker housing began in 1918.<sup>17</sup> While the northeastern quadrant of the mill village and the main mill location were

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<sup>14</sup> Thomas W. Hanchett, "Earle Sumner Draper: City Planner of the New South," in *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina: Essays on History, Architecture, and Planning*, ed. Catherine W. Bishir and Lawrence S. Earley (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1985), 79; Frank R. Burgraff and Charles E. Aguar, "Earle Sumner Draper," in *Pioneers of American Landscape Design*, ed. Charles A. Birnbaum and Robin Carson (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2000), 100-103.

<sup>15</sup> Earle S. Draper, "Alexander Manufacturing Company Plan," 1918.

<sup>16</sup> Margaret Crawford, *Building the Workingman's Paradise: The Design of American Company Towns* (London and New York: Verso, 1995), 185-186.

<sup>17</sup> Clarence W. Griffin, *History of Rutherford County, 1937-1951* (Asheville: The Inland Press, 1952), 29.

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executed almost exactly as specified in Earle Draper's plan, most of the housing in the southeast quadrant was never built. Draper indicated that the school should be constructed opposite the mill office and west of the railroad between a playing field and community gardens; when the school was constructed in 1925 its location was shifted northwest so the building would face School Drive, with the playing field to the rear. Alexander Baptist Church, erected in 1929, occupied the site specified for community gardens.

J. F. Alexander, like other mill owners, perpetuated "a distinctive ideology of paternalism," which "invoked the image of family to justify extending authoritarian and hierarchical discipline to workers."<sup>18</sup> Benevolent acts and mill village amenities might boast worker morale, but they also served to produce dependence. An April 15, 1920 article in the *Forest City Courier* stated that in a gesture "typical of his treatment of his people," Alexander sent "a fruit feast, consisting of oranges and grapefruit" to company employees. The article boasts that Alexander Manufacturing Company workers enjoyed not only a neat and clean work environment, but "the very best of houses of the bungalow type, with electric lights and running water and shower baths." Secretary/treasurer J. R. Moore and superintendent S. A. Summey managed the plant at that time, with L. R. Champion overseeing the carding room and G. C. Hamrick the spinning room.<sup>19</sup>

Alexander Baptist Church was founded in 1919 to serve the mill village and the surrounding community. The small town of Alexander Mills was incorporated in 1925, and Alexander School constructed the same year. Mill owners often qualified school and church construction as philanthropic efforts, but the 1910 *Federal Report on Women and Child Wage Earners* dismissed this assertion, stating that "mills had to build complete communities to attract workers and these expenditures counted as normal costs of doing business."<sup>20</sup>

H. J. Cherry chronicled Alexander School activities in a *Forest City Courier* column. On February 12, 1925, for example, he reported that students were working on a program to commemorate the birthdays "of three great Americans, Washington, Lincoln and Longfellow." The community used Alexander School's auditorium for entertainment and fundraising events such as the performance of a "negro minstrel," which raised \$44.00 for Alexander Baptist Church.<sup>21</sup> A small frame church served the

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<sup>18</sup> Crawford, *Building the Workingman's Paradise*, 178.

<sup>19</sup> "Items from Alexander," *Forest City Courier*, April 15, 1920.

<sup>20</sup> Crawford, *Building the Workingman's Paradise*, 177.

<sup>21</sup> H. J. Cherry, "Alexander School News," *Forest City Courier*, February 12, 1925.

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Alexander Baptist congregation until 1929, when it was replaced with the current brick Colonial Revival sanctuary.<sup>22</sup>

A sheeting plant, the first major addition to the Alexander Manufacturing Company mill complex since its construction in 1918, began operation with 248 looms in December 1923, with the potential to install an additional 152 looms at a later date. *Forest City Courier* editor R. E. Price wrote a glowing description for the *Charlotte Observer* and his paper in 1925, claiming “the trade admits that the Alexander sheets and pillow cases in 64 square are the best in the United States.” Mill output numbered 36,000 yards of sheeting weekly, the majority of which was sold nationally to department stores, hotels, hospitals, and other business concerns. Local individuals and businesses also purchased goods at the plant store, with local sales totaling about \$2,500 a month.<sup>23</sup>

After J. F. Alexander’s death in 1925, his brother Abe C. Alexander was named president of Alexander Mills and J. F.’s widow was appointed to the board of directors. A. C. Alexander had been actively involved with the Forest City operation as a stockholder and director since its inception, in addition to serving as vice-president of the Alexander National Bank in St. Petersburg and managing the Alexander brothers’ lumber interests. J. B. Lattimore, J. R. Moore, T. J. Lattimore, D. G. Bland, T. A. Moore, and J. P. Lattimore comprised the remainder of the 1926 board of directors.<sup>24</sup>

Alexander Manufacturing Company continued to invest in community improvements, as evidenced by the construction of two new buildings in the mill village in the summer of 1926, a parsonage for Alexander Baptist Church and a residence for Alexander School teachers.<sup>25</sup> A laudatory newspaper article, which appeared in both the *Charlotte Observer* and the *Forest City Courier* in October 1926, painted an idyllic picture of the Alexander community, stating that “the rosy-cheeked children playing in the yards and attending the school, the attractive houses and the well-kept flower beds and gardens” supported the company’s claim that Alexander was a model mill village in which to work and live. The article also noted that Alexander Mills’ 745 residents (including 248 children) were “deeply religious,” as most

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<sup>22</sup> Tom Elkins, Alexander Baptist Church pastor, interview with the author, April 2005. The church was remodeled and an education wing added in 1989.

<sup>23</sup> R. E. Price, “High Praise for Local Plant: Splendid Write-Up of Alexander Manufacturing Company,” *Forest City Courier*, March 12, 1925.

<sup>24</sup> “Mr. A. C. Alexander Named President Alexander Mills,” *Forest City Courier*, May 6, 1926.

<sup>25</sup> “Model Town is Growing Fast—All the News of Interest,” *Forest City Courier*, May 6, 1926.

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belonged to local Baptist or Methodist churches, and that the town policeman thus had “nothing to do.”<sup>26</sup> Churches and mill officials insured stability and order by withdrawing church membership and mill employment from anyone who compromised the moral character of the mill village through drunkenness, disorderly behavior, or criminal activity.<sup>27</sup>

As the mechanization of the textile industry resulted in the loss of jobs, decreased pay, and poor working conditions, unions found more support in mill employees. The Great Depression further contributed to layoffs and pay cuts at Alexander and elsewhere, and set the stage for mill workers across the South to participate in the General Textile Strike of 1934, which closed down all but two Rutherford County textile mills. Workers at Spindale led the strike, walking out on February 12, 1934. Spindale owner and former Alexander Manufacturing Company vice-president K. S. Tanner immediately fired known union members and sympathizers. Union efforts were not in vain, however, as the Roosevelt administration’s social and economic reform programs eventually resulted in the institution of a forty-hour work week and increased worker pay.<sup>28</sup>

By the late 1930s, Alexander Manufacturing Company produced cotton sheeting, sheets, and pillow cases in a complex containing 16,896 spindles and 382 looms. Increased production associated with World War II resulted in some resurgence for the southern textile industry, including Rutherford County mills. During World War II approximately fifty percent of Alexander Manufacturing Company’s production, including raincoat cloth, sheets, and pillow cases, went to the war effort, with the remaining product being reserved for “rated and critical civilian needs.”<sup>29</sup>

Alexander Mills was absorbed into the Erlanger Mills Corporation—created by Milton Erlanger in 1956—which also encompassed the North Carolina Finishing Company (Salisbury), Leward Cotton Mills (Worthville), and Erlanger Mills, Inc. (Lexington). Milton served as honorary chairman of the board of directors until 1960, when his son Michael assumed the top management position. The Alexander Mills

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<sup>26</sup> “Pays Tribute to Model Mill Village: Charlotte Observer Gives Splendid Write-up of Alexander Mills,” *Forest City Courier*, October 7, 1926.

<sup>27</sup> “Officials Stand for Right,” *Forest City Courier*, May 13, 1926.

<sup>28</sup> Hall, et. al, *Like a Family*, 202-208; Crawford, *Building the Workingman’s Paradise*, 194-195.

<sup>29</sup> Hall et. al, *Like a Family*, 202-208; William B. Bynum, ed., *The Heritage of Rutherford County, Volume I*, xxv.

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complex was greatly expanded in 1960 with the addition of a commodious weave room utilizing the most up-to-date technology—forced air—to power the looms.<sup>30</sup>

Fieldcrest purchased Alexander Manufacturing Company from the Erlanger Mill Corporation in 1964, and added a series of warehouses at the north end of the complex. Fieldcrest operated the sheeting plant at full capacity until 1988, when Schneider Mills Industries, Inc. purchased the property. Schneider Mills produces military and industrial fabric, in addition to textured polyester, with a staff of thirty-seven people at the Taylorsville plant in Alexander County. The Forest City plant manufactured surgical tape acetate until it ceased production in March 2005; the complex is currently being used for storage.<sup>31</sup> The mill houses have been privately owned since 1956 when the Erlanger Mill Corporation began selling the company houses to individuals, and many are rental properties. The municipal government of Alexander Mills was absorbed into Forest City in 2000, but the Alexander community still retains a cohesive identity.

### Architecture Context

Based on a comparison of the Alexander Manufacturing bungalows to identical house types in Reynoldstown or Cameron Park in Winston-Salem and Erlanger in Lexington, it appears that they may have been constructed from kits manufactured by the Minter Homes Company.<sup>32</sup> Attempts to locate a Minter Homes mill village catalog and thus identify the Alexander house types by name and/or model number have not been successful. However, a 1916 residential catalog from the Huntington, West Virginia Minter Homes plant includes dwellings quite similar to those in Alexander; those house names are included in the following typology.<sup>33</sup>

The Minter Homes Company, like Aladdin, Montgomery Ward, and Sears, Roebuck & Company, produced pre-fabricated house kits for a wide range of dwellings, from modest mill houses to elaborate

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<sup>30</sup> Marjorie W. Young, ed., "Milton S. Erlanger," *Textile Leaders of the South* (Columbia, S. C.: R. L. Bryan Company, 1963), 59.

<sup>31</sup> Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village resident testimony at public meeting, November 14, 2006; Ray Fields, Schneider Mills, Inc., interview with the author, November 14, 2006; [www.schneidermills.com](http://www.schneidermills.com).

<sup>32</sup> The attribution of the Erlanger and Alexander Manufacturing Company houses to Minter Homes is based on a reference to identical houses in Reynoldstown being "of the Minter-Holmes type of house." See Nannie M. Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 270-271.

<sup>33</sup> *Minter Homes Catalogue Number 101* (Huntington, West Virginia: Huntington Lumber & Supply Co., 1916), William D. Wintz Collection (Ms2003-177), West Virginia State Archives, Charleston, West Virginia.

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Colonial Revival mansions. The company also produced plans, specifications, and construction materials for community buildings such as schools, churches, bunk houses, boarding houses for mill and industrial villages and mining and lumber camps throughout the southeast. The United States War Department purchased 1,724 Minter Homes bungalows for construction in the town of Nitro, West Virginia between February and July, 1918. The Minter Homes Company Greenville, South Carolina division went into receivership in April 1921, but the Minter Homes Corporation of Huntington, West Virginia manufactured ready-made houses until 1954 and custom millwork until 1983.<sup>34</sup>

Extant houses in other Rutherford County mill villages are not as numerous or distinctive as those in Alexander. Cliffside Mill's housing and most of its community buildings were razed in the 1960s and 1970s. Housing associated with Rutherfordton's Cleghorn Mill consists primarily of modest, one-story side-gable dwellings and bungalows constructed circa 1910 to 1925. The Caroleen Mill Village includes one- and two-story frame houses, many of which are duplexes with central chimneys and rear ells. Board-and-batten siding distinguishes a few dwellings. The Henrietta Mill Village retains a collection of two-story, side-gable-roofed, frame duplexes with full-width front porches and one-story rear ells.<sup>35</sup>

Charlotte landscape architect Earle S. Draper designed two other Rutherford County mill villages, Florence Mill, in downtown Forest City, and Spindale, five miles northwest of Forest City. The Florence Mill village is no longer extant, however, and most of the Spindale Mill Village has been destroyed; only a few early-twentieth-century dwellings survive northeast of the railroad. Thus, Alexander serves as the most intact example of an Earle Draper-designed mill village in Rutherford County.

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<sup>34</sup> Cora Teel, "Minter Homes Corporation," draft *West Virginia Encyclopedia* entry, 2005.

<sup>35</sup> Catherine Bishir, Michael T. Southern, and Jennifer F. Martin, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Western North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1999), 176-178.

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## 10. Geographical Data

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District are indicated by the bold line on the enclosed map. Scale 1" = 200'

### Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Alexander Manufacturing Company Mill Village Historic District are drawn to encompass the majority of contributing resources associated with the mill village and textile mill complex. The area immediately outside the district is characterized by modern commercial and residential development.

### Photograph Catalog

All photographs by Heather Fearnbach and Clay Griffith, Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., 3334 Nottingham Road, Winston-Salem, NC, October and November, 2006. Digital images located at the North Carolina SHPO.

1. Textile Mill complex, 181 Schneider Drive, 1918 building, east elevation
2. Textile Mill complex, 181 Schneider Drive, mill office and guard house, southwest oblique
3. Alexander Baptist Church, 1071 South Broadway Street, southwest oblique
4. Alexander School, 120 School Drive, northeast oblique
5. Alexander School Teacherage, 995 South Broadway Street, southwest oblique
6. Type B Mill House, 137 Wilson Drive, southwest oblique
7. Type G Mill House, 122 South Broadway Street, southwest oblique
8. Type H Mill House, 106 Allen Street, northeast oblique (noncontributing building)
9. Streetscape, looking west from 149 Wilson Drive