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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic Boone Road Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Portions of the 400 and 500 blocks of Boone Road; the 400 block of Chestnut Street
the 500 block of Glovenia Street; and the 200 block of Highland Drive not for publication
city, town Eden n/a vicinity of

state North Carolina 27288 code 037 county Rockingham code 157

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rockingham County Courthouse

street & number North Carolina Highway 65

city, town Wentworth state North Carolina 27375

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

"Eden--A Tale of Three Cities": inventory report by Claudia Roberts for
title Eden Historic Properties Commission has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1985 (published by Eden Historic Properties / Commission, 1986)
 federal state county local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History

city, town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Boone Road Historic District is located in the western portion of Eden, a town which lies in north central Rockingham County in the North Carolina piedmont region, about five miles south of the Virginia border. Eden is the county's largest community, population approximately 15,600. The town was created in 1967 when the tri-city area of Leaksville, Spray and Draper were consolidated as a governmental unit. The Boone Road Historic District is located in what was originally the southeast corner of Spray and the northeast corner of the adjoining town of Leaksville. Glovenia Street, which bisects the district, was formerly the dividing line between the two corporate limits. Historically, the district is more closely associated with Spray, a textile manufacturing-based town which evolved during the mid-nineteenth century, received a post office and a name in 1889, and experienced a dramatic period of growth and prosperity during the last years of the nineteenth century and the first decades of the twentieth. With few exceptions (#s 9, 22 and 27), the district's structures date from c. 1895 to c. 1935. The neighborhood was developed between 1895 and 1905 by the Leaksville Cotton Mill's development and real estate division, the Spray Water Power and Land Company, and later during the 1910s and 1920s by its successor Marshall Field and Company. (The Boone Road district appears on only the 1921 and 1930 series of Sanborn Insurance Company Maps of Leaksville-Spray).

The roughly T-shaped historic district encompasses forty residential buildings (thirty-two contributing and eight non-contributing) and one contributing structure (a windmill, see #1a). Except for a former house now in use as a funeral home (#2), the buildings in the district are in residential use. The compact, approximately four block area includes portions of the 400 and 500 blocks of Boone Road, the main north-south street; a portion of the 400 block of Chestnut Street which lies across the railroad tracks and runs parallel to Boone Road at the west; a portion of the 500 block of Glovenia Street and a portion of the 200 block of Highland Drive which both run roughly east-west and form the cross arm of the T. The boundaries have been drawn to focus on early twentieth century residences constructed by the Spray Water Power and Land Company and Marshall Field and Company, and to exclude the industrial and commercial structures at the north and south edges of the district, and later residential construction at the east and west. The rolling topography of Rockingham County is reflected in the district's hilly primary street, Boone Road, a busy city thoroughfare which rises steeply from the Leaksville Central Business District (NR) at the south to a crest bracketed by Glovenia Street and Highland Drive, quiet side streets, and then descends at the north to the Spray Industrial Historic District (NR). At the west, Glovenia Street slopes down to the railroad tracks; across and uphill from the tracks, the houses on Chestnut Street are set on a high knoll which affords a dramatic view of the vast complex of brick textile mills which make up the Spray Industrial Historic District (NR). At the east, Highland Drive runs along a ridge which slopes down to the nearby Smith River.

In scale, the buildings range from one to two-and-one-half stories and are predominantly frame structures. A good, largely unaltered representative variety of fashionable late nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles are represented in the Boone Road district. These include vernacular folk types including two-story I-houses, some with triple-A rooflines, and two-story L-shaped houses with restrained Queen Anne details; elaborate Queen Anne

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 1

style residences; excellent examples of the Foursquare style; bungalows; and early twentieth century period revival styles including Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, and Dutch Colonial Revival. The houses are well cared for and notably free of replacement aluminum or vinyl siding and windows, alterations commonly found in Eden's other residential neighborhoods.

Good examples of the traditional vernacular I-house include the Wade-Collins House at 514 Boone Road (#6). The house was privately constructed c. 1897 by James Peyton Wade, a long-time foreman of the Leaksville Woolen Mill. The house exhibits the style's typical characteristics of a rectangular two-story, three-bay wide, single-pile form topped with a gable roof, two-over-two sash windows, and a nearly full-facade attached porch (here with replacement iron posts). Another good example of this early twentieth century style is the Osborne-Fleming House on Glovenia Street (#28) which is notable for its triple-A roofline with a very tall and narrow center gable ornamented with a decorative, braced bargeboard. This c. 1895 house retains the original standing seam metal roof and two-over-two sash windows; the original full-facade porch was replaced by a pedimented entrance bay at an undetermined date. An interesting variation on the Triple-A roof appears on the neighboring houses at 522 and 524 Glovenia Street (#s 25 and 26). Here the center gables have large sash windows, making the gables serve as wall dormers in the one-and-one-half story houses. More commonly, the center "A" in a triple-A roof serves little function other than decoration.

The Willis-Huggins House at 502 Boone Road (#3) is a good example of the traditional two-story L-shaped frame house with restrained Queen Anne decorative details. Ornament is concentrated on the gable-front wing of this well-preserved house and includes ornamental bracing in a sunburst motif and a Queen Anne style second-story window with multiple panes of stained glass. The Austin House at 510 Boone Road (#5) is similar in form to the Willis-Huggins House and, again, the Queen Anne ornament is concentrated on the front-facing gable-roofed wing; here the wing is dominated by a large first-story window with a decorative transom with pointed arch, tracery-like, muntins. A large diamond-shaped ventilator is located near the gable peak. This house also retains the handsome original front door with a pair of typical round-arch windows set above molded panels.

Several good examples of the ornate, full-blown Queen Anne style appear in the district. These include the Ray-McCollum House at 433 Boone Road (#15) which features a variety of decorative exterior woodwork including sawn brackets with bullseyes, drop pendants, curved raking boards with bosses, tall paneled and dentilled lintels above the main elevation's windows, turned posts and balusters and sawn foliate spandrels at the front porch. The Morehead-Sweaney-Stone House at 429 Boone Road (#14) is a particularly handsome and notable example of a Queen Anne style house with some classical elements. Typical Queen Anne features include a complex gabled and hipped roofline, tall corbelled interior chimneys, projecting polygonal bay, turned porch balusters and sawn ornamental bracing in the gable front. Classical elements include

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

pedimented gables, Tuscan columns at the wraparound porch and porte-cochere and, on the interior, mantels with Ionic columns, ribbons in relief, and egg-and-dart molding. Other fine examples of this ornate and popular turn-of-the-century style include the John M. Morehead II House (#1) which exhibits the characteristic irregular form, variety of rooflines, ornamental sawn and turned woodwork, and a variety of exterior sheathing; and the Wall-Nelson House at 401 Chestnut Street (#31) which also displays an irregular form and a varied hipped and gabled roofline.

In contrast to the ornamented and asymmetrical Queen Anne style is the boxy, two-story Foursquare style, popular in North Carolina's urban neighborhoods during the first decades of the twentieth century. This simple, spacious style is well represented in the Boone Road district in the McCollum-Truslow House at 421 Boone Road (#12). The house exhibits the characteristic cubical form topped with a hip roof, attic dormer, and deep overhanging eaves. Its spacious classically inspired wrap-around porch with Tuscan columns and a pedimented entrance bay has been partially enclosed as a sun room. The Clark House and the Knight House, neighbors at 507 and 511 Boone Road respectively (#s 17 and 18) and both constructed in 1919, are two excellent unaltered examples of the Foursquare style. Both are substantial two-and-one-half story frame houses with hip roofs, hip-roof dormers and full-facade hip roof porches. Both display evidence of the lingering influence of the Queen Anne in their dormer windows, and the second-story windows of the Clark House, which are composed of a single pane surrounded by numerous small panes. Both feature the typical full-facade front porch; the Clark House porch reveals the influence of the bungalow style in the square posts set on brick plinths; the porch on the Knight House is carried by classically inspired Tuscan columns.

The simple, functional bungalow, a nationally popular style in the 1910s and 1920s is also popular in the Boone Road Historic District where there are five intact examples. They share similarities in their one or one-and-one half story form, gently pitched broad gables, gable or shed-roof dormers and spacious engaged porches; some also feature characteristic exposed rafter ends or triangular brackets at the eaves. The houses at 515 and 521 Boone Road (#s 19 and 20) are two good examples of the style; both are one-and-one-half stories tall with broad gable roofs and dormers (shed dormer on 515 and a gabled dormer on 521). The Coble House at 522 Boone (#8) exemplifies a popular one-story variation of the bungalow. It is characterized by an offset gable-front projecting porch carried by stocky tapered box posts set on brick plinths. The house has exposed rafter ends and shingled gable ends with applied dentils. Two other classic bungalows at 506 and 518 Boone Road (#s 4 and 7) were originally constructed c. 1898 as simple, one-story, single-pile houses and then were thoroughly remodelled in the early 1920s as bungalows.

Some notable examples of period revival styles are found in the district. These include the Colonial Revival, English Tudor, and the Dutch Colonial Revival. Ridgecroft, located at 238 Highland Drive (#21) is an outstanding example of the early Colonial Revival style. Constructed in 1902, the house is somewhat irregular in form

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 3

and has both hipped and pedimented gambrel roofs. The well-preserved house has a wealth of handsome ornament including heavy dentils in the deep molded cornices; Tuscan columns supporting the wraparound porch; a main entrance with fluted pilasters, dentil molding, leaded sidelights and transom; and egg-and-dart molding on the front door. The interior of the house is beautifully detailed with deep crown molding, wainscot, and Jacobean mantelpieces of brick and carved stone blocks. The Smith-Robertson House at 531 Glovenia Street (#30), constructed about 1930, is a good example of a later rendition of the Colonial Revival style. It is a symmetrical two-story brick house with heavy molded eaves and a pedimented entrance porch with Tuscan columns. The English Tudor style is represented in the district by the Mrs. Claude Jones House at 503 Boone Road (#16). The house was designed by local architect James W. Hopper who favored the English style; he used this picturesque style for his private residence (NR), located a few blocks southwest on Washington Street. The Mrs. Claude Jones House features a very tall stair hall window with diamond-pane casement window, and a front porch with heavy box posts and large, curved gable timbers. The Dutch Colonial style with its characteristic gambrel roof and compact massing is exemplified by the house at 421 Chestnut Street (#33), constructed about 1920.

Non-contributing structures are few and consist of an unsympathetically remodelled early twentieth century house (#2); a one-story brick veneer ranch style house (#22); a small one-story contemporary frame house (#27); and a cluster of four one-story brick veneer and weatherboard duplex apartments (#9). One of these duplexes fronts onto Boone Road and the others are located in the rear yard and are not visible from the road. These non-contributing structures do not severely detract from the overall impression of the district as an early twentieth century neighborhood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 4

INVENTORY LIST

The following inventory list includes all properties located within the Boone Road Historic District, keyed to the inventory map.

- Dating and Sources: Whenever possible specific sources for dates and historical information on individual buildings are indicated in parentheses at the end of the entries. Some sources are noted by code. The key to the coded source is as follows.
- SM Sanborn Maps for Leaksville (Rockingham County--Leaksville-Spray series. This series includes maps compiled in 1908, 1915, 1921 and 1930. The Boone Road area is included only on the 1921 and 1930 maps.
- HPC Historic Properties Commission, Eden, North Carolina. Between 1981 and 1984 members of the Eden Preservation Society and the Eden Historic Properties Commission conducted an architectural inventory of the City of Eden, including the Boone Road Historic District. They photographed the buildings; interviewed the properties' current owners and descendants of earlier or original owners; examined published information found in various local newspapers, journals and county history books (see Bibliographical References) and documentary photographs; and, under the direction of prominent local historian Marjorie Walker, conducted extensive deed research on the various properties. The HPC's inventory files are located at the Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History Raleigh, N.C.
- RPR A good deal of information on the dates and histories of the various residences is found in Mrs. R. P. Ray's "Leaksville History" (Typescript in Eden Public Library) written in 1947. Mrs. Ray was a long-time resident of the district and knew all of the early families. Her reminiscences provided the starting point for much of the HPC's subsequent research.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet	Description	Item number	Page
		7	5
CRB	Claudia Roberts Brown, perservation consultant to the Eden Historic Properties Commission. In 1984 Ms. Brown completed the inventory begun by the HPC, did additional historical and deed research, and wrote a lengthy inventory report, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities," which included an architectural and historical essay and individual building entries. Some of the entries in the following Inventory List are excerpted or adapted from her report which was published by the HPC in 1986. Ms. Brown's working files are also on deposit at the Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh. Some additional files, primarily on non-contributing buildings, were compiled in 1986 by Patricia Dickinson, preservation consultant. These files are also on deposit in Raleigh.		
CD	City Directory, Leaksville-Spray, 1929.		
Assessment:	All properties are coded by letter as to their relative significance within the district, and these assessments are, in turn, coded on the inventory map. The following is an assessment key:		
C - Contributing	Those properties which contribute to the historical architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant.		
NC - Non-contributing	Those properties which do not contribute to the historical, architectural and/or cultural characteristics for which the district is significant. Generally these properties do not meet the 50 year age criterion or they have been radically and/or unsympathetically altered.		
VL - Vacant Lot			

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 6

INVENTORY LIST

1. John M. Morehead, II House
C 420 Boone Road
c. 1900

One of Eden's most exuberant examples of the Queen Anne style, this large one-and-one-half story frame house is prominently sited at the crest of a hill on a very large lot. The house exhibits an irregular form and a variety of rooflines and materials. Several shed-roofed dormers accent the gable, clipped gable and gambrel main roofline; split shake shingles, German siding, and grids of decorative applied trim cover the upper elevations, and ornamental bargeboard appears in the gambrel and one of the gables. The deep wraparound porch, supported by heavy turned posts, is expanded by a porte-cochere with a spool frieze on the main elevation and by a semi-circular patio on the northeast elevation. The conversion of the south end of the porch to a sunroom concealed a one-story polygonal bay, still indicated by the polygonal roof above.

The house was built at the turn of the twentieth century for John M. Morehead, II, son of John Lindsey Morehead and grandson of Governor John Motley Morehead. When John M. Morehead, II, and his family moved to Charlotte around 1910, the James D. Taylor family lived here a few years, and were succeeded in the early 1910s by E. D. Pitcher and his family. According to Eden historian James E. Gardner, Pitcher, served as a mill administrator for the Morehead and Mebane interests and later provided executive guidance to the Marshall Field Company when it assumed control of six mills in Spray and Draper. Following the Pitchers, four bachelors (Karl Bishopric, J. Frank Wilson and Messrs. Lindsay and Thalivierro) lived in the house until Benjamin Carter Trotter, Marshall Field attorney, moved in with his family in the mid-1930s. The current owners purchased the house after Mr. Trotter's death. Several outbuildings (including two small dwellings for servants) have been removed from the rear of the property; a water tower with a wind-powered electric pump survives.

1a. Wind-powered electric pump. Near south corner of house. Contributing. (HPC: historical research by Marjorie Walker; interviews with Mrs. John Burks, Charles Fair, Alan Ivie; CRB; research by local historian James E. Gardner)

2. McAllister House
NC 432 Boone Road
c. 1905

Situated on a hill overlooking Boone Road, this large two-story frame house was built in the first decade of this century for J. E. McAllister, a Morehead Mills official. Distinguished by a tall hipped roof splayed over deep denticulated eaves, the house originally featured a one-story hip-roof porch across most of the main elevation. After McAllister and his family moved to Greensboro in the early 1910s, Marshall Field

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 7

executive Samuel H. Marshall and his family lived here for almost two decades. For over half a century, the house has been used as a funeral home, first by the Leaksville-Spray Funeral Home, established in 1934 by the consolidation of the Pace-Stone Furniture and Floyd Hill Furniture companies' funeral departments. Manager Alva E. Fair purchased the funeral home from its other stockholders in 1939 and changed the name of the business in 1950 to Fair Funeral Home. In 1971 Fair Funeral Home, under the direction of Fair's sons Charles and James and their partner Harold Lambert, extensively remodelled the house with an unsympathetic, monumental two-story replacement porch, the addition of a flat-roofed wing containing a chapel and offices on the southwest elevation, and a replacement "colonial" main entrance with broken pediment surround. Much of the generous lawn is now a landscaped, paved parking lot. (HPC, interview with James Fair; CRB; RPR; The Eden News, April 1, 1974, 50th Anniversary Edition)

- 3. Willis-Huggins House
- C 502 Boone Road
- c. 1900

This substantial two-story L-shaped frame house displays the influence of Queen Anne style architecture on traditional late nineteenth and early twentieth century house types. The most striking decorative feature is ornamental bracing in a sunburst motif with scalloped trim in the gables; the second story window in the gable-front wing is filled with stained glass. Windows elsewhere are two-over-two sash types. The spacious front porch is supported by box posts with molded caps connected by match stick balusters. Miss Sue Willis built the house in the first decade of this century as an investment. Her early tenants included Leaksville depot stationmaster George Clark and Baptist preacher, the Rev. R. E. White. D. G. Huggins, long-time manager of Jones Motor Company, purchased the house in 1926 and lived here with his family for many years. Mr. Huggins remodelled the interior of the house, installed plumbing and removed a two-story bay window originally located on the gable-front wing. (HPC, interview with Maude Snead; RPR)

- 4. Willis-Wyles-Carroll House
- C 506 Boone Road
- c. 1900; remodelled 1920s

About the same time that she had the house next door at 502 Boone Road (#3) built, Miss Sue Willis had this house constructed, also as an investment. Originally a simple one-story, one-room-deep house with an attached porch across the front, the house was extensively remodelled as a one-and-one-half story bungalow with the characteristic engaged full-facade porch and shed-roof dormer in the 1920s. The porch is carried by slender paired square posts set on brick plinths. An early and long-time tenant of the house was a Mr. Wyles. The 1929 Leaksville-Spray city directory lists this house as the residence of garage operator T. E. Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Carroll owned the house for many years. Mr. Carroll was the service and sales manager for Jones Motor Company. (HPC; RPR; SM indicate porch changed and house enlarged between 1921 and 1930; CD; CRB)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 8

- 5. Austin House
- C 510 Boone Road
- c. 1897

This two-story L-shaped frame house is similar in form to the Willis-Huggins House (#3). The Austin House is notable for the large first story window in the gable-front wing which has a decorative pointed arch muntin transom. The house also features diamond-shaped ventilators in the gable eaves, four-over-four sash windows, paired box posts supporting the hip-roof attached porch and a characteristic Victorian front door with a pair of narrow round-arched windows. Napoleon Bonaparte Austin purchased this lot in 1897 and probably built the house that same year. Austin was a prominent local brick mason and was probably the one who laid the retaining wall which extends up to eight feet high along the lots on this side of Boone Road. Austin's daughter, Katherine, was a teacher in the Leaksville Township schools until her death in 1965. The present owners, The J. G. Burchells, purchased the house from her estate. (HPC; RPR; CRB; interview with James G. Burchell and deed research)

- 6. Wade-Collins House
- C 514 Boone Road
- c. 1900

The Wade-Collins House is a typical example of the traditional two-story, one-room deep, three-bay wide, gable-roof house commonly known as an I-house. The house retains the original two-over-two windows. A two-story rear ell was added at an undetermined date (after 1930 according to Sanborn map) and the original porch posts have been replaced with metal posts set on brick plinths.

The earliest known owners of the house were Mr. and Mrs. James Peyton Wade who purchased the lot in 1897 and built the house soon thereafter. Most of Mr. Wade's long career in the textile industry was spent as a foreman with Leaksville Woolen Mills. J. L. Collins purchased the home from Wade's children in 1969 and continues to live there. (HPC; RPR; CRB, interview with Lucille Wade Owens)

- 7. London-Robertson House
- C 518 Boone Road
- c. 1898; remodelled between 1921-1925

In 1898 Christine London, a widow, bought this lot and built a simple one-story, one-room deep frame house with a rear ell. The house was remodelled as a bungalow between 1921 and 1926 and moved back on its lot when Boone Road was widened. Now, with its shed-roof dormer, simple triangular brackets in the wide eaves, and engaged full-facade porch supported by paired columns on brick piers, this house exemplifies the bungalow style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 9

Mrs. London's only daughter, Callie, married John J. Robertson, a skilled brick mason like his neighbor, N. B. Austin (#5). The Robertson heirs own the house today. (SM, 1921 and 1930; HPC interview with Clarice Robertson Edwards; CRB; RPR)

- 8. Coble House
- C 522 Boone Road
- c. 1930

An engaged cross-gable-roofed corner porch with large tapered box posts on brick piers characterizes this unaltered example of a popular variation of the one-story bungalow. It also features very narrow weatherboards, exposed sawn rafter ends, and applied dentils at the bases of the gables. Mr. J. G. Farrell, manager of Spray Cotton Mills, had the house constructed c. 1930 in his north side yard for one of his office workers, Mr. Coble. The two-story Farrell house has been destroyed. (HPC; RPR)

- 9. Duplex Apartments
- NC 524 Boone Road
- c. 1975

Group of four (#s 9a, b, c, d) contemporary one-story frame and brick veneer gable-roof duplex apartments. One of the duplexes fronts on Boone Road with the others located at its rear in a well-tended yard.

- 10. Farrell-Suggs House
- C 528 Boone Road
- c. 1930

J. G. Farrell (#8) constructed this unaltered one-and-one-half story frame house as a rental property in the early 1930s. The house features a multi-gable roofline, German siding, six-over-six windows, and a recessed corner porch supported by a robust, tapered and paneled column. Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Suggs purchased the house in the 1940s, and Mrs. Elizabeth Suggs still resides there. (HPC interview with Elizabeth Suggs)

- 11. D. Frank King House
- C 530 Boone Road
- c. 1910; 1922-1936; 1957

The several units of this frame house reflect a complex history. The house originally consisted of the low two-story unit constructed in the late nineteenth century; its builder remains unknown. Prominent Leaksville businessman Doctor Franklin King owned the property as early as 1896 and may have built the original unit during the 1910s as a rental house. Upon his death in 1922, the house passed to his son, D. Frank King, and his wife, Anadel, who enlarged it with a series of additions. In 1936, a large one-story ell with a gable-end chimney was constructed and connected to the original house with the enclosure of a rear porch. In 1957, the original front porch facing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 10

the street was replaced with a small late nineteenth-century story-and-a-half house moved from Bridge St. and attached to the front gable end. (The house moved from Bridge St. had been owned by D. Frank King's uncle, John Seward King, and occupied by several families, including the Saunders and D. M. Lashleys). The shed-roofed board-and-batten building (#11a, contributing) south of the house was the original home of the internationally renowned King Chandelier Company, founded by D. Frank King in the early 1930s. The naturalized garden that covers the hill behind the house was cultivated by the Kings. (HPC interviews with Harold Francis, Marjorie Walker; CRB; CD; RPR)

12. McCollum-Truslow House
C 421 Boone Road
 c. 1920

The McCollum-Truslow House is a large example of the Foursquare dwelling, a style popular from the late 1910s through the 1930s. Marshall Field Co. built the house for mill official W. G. McCollum in the early 1920s. Later, it was the home of Mr. Truslow, another mill official. The imposing house features a tall hipped roof with a front attic dormer and banks of eight-over-one double-hung sash windows; the south end of the large wraparound porch with Tuscan columns and pedimented entry bay was enclosed by 1930 (according to Sanborn Map) for use of as a sunroom. (SM, 1921 and 1930; CRB interview with J. C. Forbes; RPR)

13. Pitcher House
C 425 Boone Road
 c. 1915

This spacious one-and-one-half story house is one of the most elaborate of the several bungalows along Boone Road. It has a complex roofline covered with diamond-shaped asbestos shingles and composed of the main, steeply pitched gable-side roof fronted by a high hip roof from which a hip-roof dormer projects; a hip-roof one-story full-facade front porch is carried by pairs and trios of box posts set on brick piers and connected by decorative staggered balusters.

Exterior sheathing consists of weatherboards on the first story, with wider boards at the base, and split shake shingles covering the front dormer and gable ends. Multi-paned transom and sidelights enframe the main entrance. On the interior, tall ceilings, vertical board wainscot, and neoclassical mantels and overmantels are typical of the period of construction. Built in the late 1910s by Marshall Field Company, the house is best known for its long-time occupant, Marshall Field executive E. D. Pitcher, who moved to this house after his house in Spray burned in the 1920s. After a few years, the Pitchers moved to the John M. Morehead, II House across the street, but Mr. Pitcher purchased and returned to this house following his wife's death and remained here for many years. In the interim, one of the occupants was W. D. Carter. (HPC; RPR; CRB; SM 1921)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only
received
date entered

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 11

- 14. Morehead-Sweaney-Stone House
C 429 Boone Road
 c. 1895

This large, carefully preserved two-story frame dwelling exemplifies a popular variation of the late Queen Anne style in its elaborate turned and sawn ornamental bracing in the gables above full-height polygonal bays and a wraparound porch with Tuscan columns and turned balusters and extended by a porte-cochere. The infusion of classical elements with such classic Queen Anne features as multiple gabled and hipped rooflines, tall corbelled interior chimneys, polygonal bays, and ornate millwork reflects the circa 1900 construction date of the house. Notable interior features include pocket doors to the principal rooms; the entrance hall contains a mantel with delicate Ionic columns, ribbons in relief, and egg-and-dart molding at a corner fireplace. Spray Water Power and Land Company built the house and leased it first to John Motley Morehead, III, grand-nephew of Governor John Motley Morehead. He was succeeded by John Hunter Sweaney, a physician who moved to Durham around 1920. The third and long-time occupant was druggist A. Herman Stone who moved from Reidsville to run the Spray Drug Co. in the Spray Mercantile Building. Stone's estate sold the house to its present owners. (HPC; RPR; Marjorie Walker deed and lease research; CRB)

- 15. Ray-McCollum House
C 433 Boone Road
 c. 1900

Like the Morehead-Sweaney-Stone House next door, this house was constructed by Spray Water Power and Land Company around the turn of the century for the use of its mill officials; its decorative elements, however, more emphatically evoke the nineteenth century in their expression of the Queen Anne style. Sawn brackets with bull's eye and drop pendants appear at the base of the gable surmounting the front polygonal bay, and the gable features curved raking boards with bosses and a pointed arched surround at the small attic window. The front porch is typical of the period with its turned posts and balusters and sawn foliate spandrels. Another distinctive feature of the property are the tall panelled and dentilled lintels above the six windows of the front wing. The earliest known occupants of the house were R. P. Ray and his family who lived here during the first decade of this century; Ray operated the Spray Mercantile. Later, Dr. A. Herman Stone lived here a short while with his mother and sister before moving to the Morehead-Sweaney-Stone House (#14). The Stones were succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. Numa H. McCollum who remained here until their natural deaths, both on the same day, in the early 1960s. The house is currently being refurbished and restored by new owners. (CRB and HPC interviews with James Fair, Marjorie Walker; RPR)

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 12

16. Mrs. Claude Jones House
C 503 Boone Road
 c. 1935

Designed by local architect James W. Hopper and built by contractor John Smith, this period house is one of the few houses in Eden displaying characteristics of the Tudor Revival style. Its identifying features include a very tall stair hall window with diamond-paned casements and heavy box posts and gable timbers at the front porch. The house was built for Mrs. Claude Jones in the mid-1930s. Recently widowed, Mrs. Jones chose this property in order to be close to D. G. Huggins, her business manager, who lived across the street (#3). Mrs. Jones' husband had operated a Ford agency on The Boulevard. Due to a Ford Motor Company regulation prohibiting women from owning a Ford agency, Huggins converted the agency to a Chevrolet dealership, now Mize Motors. (CD; CRB; HPC interview with Mrs. S. P. Ray)

17. Clark House
C 507 Boone Road
 1919

This unaltered two-and-one-half story three-bay wide, double-pile hip-roofed Foursquare style dwelling with full-facade hip roof attached porch supported by paired box posts on brick plinths was constructed in 1919 for railroad station agent and Leaksville Mayor, George H. Clark. The house has a hip-roof dormer lit by a trio of small windows with numerous small panes surrounding a single larger pane; twelve-over-one sash windows elsewhere; a tall modestly corbelled brick interior chimney; and exposed rafter ends. (SM, 1921; HPC; RPR; Eden News, 50th Anniversary Edition, April 2, 1974)

18. Knight House
C 511 Boone Road
 1919

Another excellent intact example of a Foursquare style dwelling, this two-and-one-half story house was constructed in 1919 for a Mr. Knight who moved to Leaksville from Ridgeway; by the late 1920s it was occupied by garage operator T. A. Williams. The unaltered two-bay wide, double-pile house is covered with a hip roof from which a hip-roof dormer projects. The house is notable for a latticed first-floor window on the north (side) elevation; the upper second-story window sashes featuring numerous small panes around a single large pane; multi-pane sidelights flanking the main entrance; and for the handsome random course stone retaining wall which defines the front yard. (CD; CRB; HPC interviews with Hester Stanford and Mrs. Gordon Siler)

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 13

19. Smith House
C 515 Boone Road
 c. 1910

This large one-and-one half story bungalow displays exposed face gable-end chimneys, decorative multi-paned upper window sashes, and a shed-roofed dormer lit by a quartet of multi-pane sash windows. The house was built by prolific local contractor John Smith for himself and his family. Sometime prior to 1930, Smith enlarged the house with a one-story north (side) wing and a porte-cochere at the south and added a projecting gabled entrance bay to the engaged full-facade porch. Smith served as Leaksville's Mayor for eight, two-year terms from 1943-1955 and from 1963-1967. (Leaksville News, Feb. 10, 1944; HPC; RPR)

20. House
C 521 Boone Road
 c. 1920

This typical builder's bungalow style house is one-and-one stories tall, three-bays wide, two-bays deep, with a gently pitched gable roof and gable-roof dormer, with exposed rafter ends and triangular brackets, split shake shingles on the dormer, and a full-facade engaged porch upheld by paired box posts on brick piers. (SM, 1921)

21. Ridgcroft (Clark-Fagg House)
C 238 Highland Drive
 1902

This house is one of the most distinctive and best preserved early academic examples of the Colonial Revival style in North Carolina. It is sited near the street, at the west end of a large, heavily landscaped yard that is terraced as it descends toward the Smith River. The house was built for L. W. Clark on a two-acre tract deeded to him in 1902 by Spray Water Power and Land Company for ten dollars. The deed granted Clark the privilege of erecting a house on the property and reserves for Spray Water Power and Land Company the privilege of buying it back at a price to be determined by an arbitrator. Local tradition ascribes the design of the house, particularly its interesting interior features, to Clark, a textiles designer who had come to Spray from Cone Mills in Greensboro to work for Frank Mebane, head of many of the local mills. Clark's father, a Boston, Massachusetts contractor, lived in Spray for one year while he supervised construction of the house.

Typical of the early Colonial Revival style, Ridgcroft is somewhat irregular in form--slightly L-shaped, ranging from a single tall story to a full two stories with an attic, and displaying hipped and pedimented gambrel roofs. The weatherboarded exterior features deep molded cornices with heavy dentils in all of the eaves, a balustraded wraparound veranda with slender Tuscan columns on weatherboarded piers, and latticework muntins in all of the upper and single window sashes. The main

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 14

entrance incorporates fluted pilasters and dentil molding with leaded sidelights and transom and the solid front door has panels outlined in egg-and-dart molding. Deep crown molding, wainscot of alternating flat and molded vertical boards, a built-in china closet with classical moldings, Jacobean mantelpieces of brick and carved stone blocks, and elaborate brightly colored bathroom tile patterns are among the house's many unusual interior details. The focal point of the first floor is the very wide central hall that serves as the living room. The stair well at the rear of this room is open to the second story. At the rear of this room, the back wall of the open stair well is covered with banks of diamond-paned casement windows rising to the second-story ceiling.

Clark died around 1930 and in 1934 his widow sold the house to D. Bringle King, owner of a local furniture factory. In 1942, present owners attorney Henry L. Fagg and his wife purchased the house from the Kings.

21a. Contributing. One-story frame house at the south edge of the property was built as a servants' house at the same time that the main house was constructed. Ornamentation on this cottage is confined to pierced brackets on the porch posts. (CRB, deed research, interview with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fagg)

22. House
NC 223 Highland Drive
c. 1960

One-story, six-bay wide brick veneer ranch style house with low pitched gable-side roof and projecting front facing gable which contains a large, multi-pane bay window.

23. Hodges House
C 233 Highland Drive
c. 1925

This two-story hip-roofed frame house is distinguished as the long-time home of former North Carolina Governor Luther H. Hodges. It was built for Hodges and his family by Marshall Field and Company in the mid-1920s when Hodges was one of the textile firm's young executives. Flanked by two one-story hip-roofed wings, one enclosed and the other a screened porch, the house is fronted by a gabled entrance hood on Tuscan columns and a swan's neck pediment crowns the front door.

Hodges began a long and successful career in the textile industry as a mill operative. After graduating from the University of North Carolina, he was hired by Marshall Field in 1919 as a private secretary to L. W. Clark (#21), then general manager of the mills. Hodges' rise in the company was steady; he became manager of some of the mills in 1932 and production manager of all the plants in 1936. After further promotions to general manager of manufacturing and then head of sales and production, he became vice president of Marshall Field and Company in 1943. In 1950 he left Marshall Field after

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 15

thirty years of service to accept an appointment with the Economic Cooperation Administration. Hodges is perhaps best known for his distinguished career as a public servant. In 1952 he was elected Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina and two years later, when William B. Umstead died in office, became the state's governor, a post to which he was re-elected in 1956. Later he served as U.S. Secretary of Commerce from 1960 to 1964. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges sold this house when they moved to Washington, D.C. (CRB; Reidsville Review, Nov. 16, 1967)

24. Morehead-Wannamaker House
C 239 Highland Drive
 c. 1900

As the oldest building on Highland Drive, the carefully preserved one-and-half story Morehead-Wannamaker House exemplifies popular turn-of-the-century architecture. The tall varied roofline and long wraparound porch with turned posts and balusters distinguish this house. The most distinctive exterior features of the house are its tall hipped roof with a very large engaged gabled dormer and the wide front door with a large window containing dozens of small panes of glass. It is believed that John M. Morehead, II, built this house, perhaps for mill official Gillam Grissom, shortly after he purchased the property in 1899. In 1907 Morehead sold the house to Grissom, who apparently already was living in it, and six years later Grissom sold it back to Morehead. In 1914, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Wannamaker, for whom the house is best known, purchased the property from Morehead. Mr. Wannamaker was a cattle dealer and his wife operated an antique shop in the house, which remained in the possession of the Wannamaker family until the 1950s. (HPC; CRB, deed research and interview with Harry C. Smith; RPR)

25. Barksdale-Martin House
C 522 Glovenia Street
 c. 1900

This one-and-one-half story three-bay wide, single pile frame house, and the neighboring house at 524 Glovenia (#26), are interesting variations on the standard two-story frame house with Triple-A roofline. Here there is a large sash window in the center gable and no other windows in what would ordinarily be the full second story. This house is also distinguished by a large two-story rear ell. The house is named for its long-time occupants, Roxie H. Barksdale, widow of a local railroad employee, and later owners, Eanlean Martin. (HPC; CRB)

26. House
C 524 Glovenia Street
 c. 1910

This one-and-one-half story three-bay wide, single-pile frame house with one-story rear ell has the same triple-A roof variation as seen on 522 Glovenia (#25). Here the window which dominates the center gable is taller, narrower, and set in a molded surround.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 16

27. Robertson House
NC 528 Glovenia Street
 c. 1975

Small, one-story four-bay, L-shaped frame contemporary house, largely hidden from view on a heavily wooded lot. The house features very wide unpainted weatherboards, a shallow-pitched roof which extends at the right (east) to form a porch for the recessed entry bay, and a three-pane clerestory window in the projecting bay. The house was built c. 1975 by artist, Jack Robertson and is located on a lot formed from the rear portion of the originally very deep lot of the house around the corner at 433 Boone Road (#15). (Patricia Dickinson interview with William Robertson)

28. Osborne-Fleming House
C 523 Glovenia Street
 c. 1895

The substantial two-story three-bay wide, single-pile frame house is distinguished by its triple-A roofline with an extremely tall and narrow center gable with ornate braced bargeboard. The house retains the original standing seam metal roof and two-over-two sash windows. The original full-facade one-story porch has been replaced by a pedimented entrance by porch. The house was probably built prior to 1900 by R. V. Osborne who operated a store nearby on Railroad Avenue. He and his son P. F. Osborne later operated a general store on Washington Street. The house was later owned by A. E. Fleming, also a merchant. (HPC interview with G. Hundley and P. F. Osborne)

29. Emerson House
C 527 Glovenia Street
 c. 1910

Altered one-story frame house with gable-side roof with returns and pierced pinwheel ventilators in the gable ends. The main entrance is presently located in a gable-roof recessed addition which is sandwiched between the main block and gable-front porte-cochere supported by tapered box posts on brick plinths. An early owner was E. E. Emerson, who owned a real estate and insurance company. (HPC)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 17

30. Smith-Robertson House
C 531 Glovenia Street
 c. 1930

Classic two-story, three-bay wide, two-bay deep brick Colonial Revival style house with exterior end chimney, heavy molded eaves, paired six-over-six sash windows, projecting hip-roofed entrance bay with pedimented entry porch supported by Tuscan columns. The house was constructed in the early 1930s by contractor John Smith for James T. Smith, president of the Leaksville Bank and Trust Company. William Robertson, owner of the house since 1950, constructed the garage and breezeway (#30a, non-contributing). (Patricia Dickinson interview with William Robertson)

31. Wall-Nelson House
C 401 Chestnut Street
 c. 1901

This house was built by Spray Water Power and Land Company for the use of its executives. Upon its completion around 1901, it was leased to C. P. Wall, who later left the textile industry and, among many business activities, invested in area real estate and an insurance agency, and operated a furniture store in the Spray Mercantile Building. Wall and his family occupied the house for a few years, and were succeeded by William Harris Morehead Nelson, a great-grandson of John Motley Morehead. Nelson was the secretary and treasurer of Morehead Cotton Mills Company and Spray Water Power and Land Company. Nelson's son, W. H. M. Nelson, Junior and his family lived here for several years until Spray Water Power and Land sold the house. Later owners included Dr. Joseph H. Sanford, company physician for Fieldcrest Mills, and Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Lemons.

Except for the installation of picture windows on the north (side) elevation, the house remains relatively intact. Its slightly irregular one-and-one-half story configuration with a varied hipped and gabled roofline is typical of late Queen Anne style houses dating from the turn of the century. A long wraparound porch with turned posts and balusters that extends to form a porte cochere on the south side and a large gabled dormer with shingles and a pointed arch attic window characterize the main elevation. One of the most distinctive aspects of the property is the enormous front yard dotted with tall hardwoods and evergreens. (Marjorie Walker, research for HPC)

32. R. E. Wall House
C 411 Chestnut Street
 c. 1900

This large, asymmetrical two-story late Queen Anne style house is notable for its high hipped roof main block and clipped gable front wing containing a projecting polygonal entrance bay. Classical influences on this turn-of-the-century frame house include gables with returns and a Tuscan-columned wraparound porch. The house was constructed by Spray Water Power and Land Company for mill executive, R. E. Wall. (CRB)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 18

33. House
C 421 Chestnut Street
 c. 1920

This dwelling was constructed in the early 1920s by Marshall Field Company as housing for mill executives. The two-story frame house exhibits elements of the Dutch Colonial Revival style in its compact massing and gambrel roof from which long shed-roofed dormers extend along both sides. A demi-lune louvered ventilator is centered near the eave of the gambrel front. The house also has a full-facade screened porch across the main elevation. (HPC; SM, 1921)

34. House
C 425 Chestnut Street
 c. 1920

This two-story frame house was constructed about the same time as its neighbor (#33) by Marshall Field Company for one of the mill's executives. It features a gable-front roof with shed-roof dormers along each side. A demi-lune ventilator is located in the gable front and the house retains its original six-over-six windows. The full-facade porch carried by Tuscan columns has been screened. The house is located in a large, well-landscaped yard with mature hardwood trees. (CRB)

35. House
NC 433 Chestnut Street
 c. 1940

This one and one-half story house of stone, brick and frame is a diluted example of the Elizabethan Revival style and is noncontributing because of age.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates c. 1895 - c. 1935 **Builder/Architect** Unknown; J. W. Hopper, architect
John Smith, contractor

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Boone Road Historic District in Eden (formerly Leaksville) is primarily significant under Criterion A within the theme of North Carolina mill housing. It is one of the largest known groupings of executive mill housing in the state. The typical mill village in North Carolina includes managers' houses among the workers' housing, while the mill owners and upper-level executives normally built their own large residences separate from the mill village. The Boone Road Historic District is an executive "suburb" located approximately one mile from the Spray mills and mill villages, themselves already listed in the National Register as the Spray Industrial Historic District. Of the forty dwellings in the Boone Road District, nine of the earliest are documented as having been constructed by the Spray mill owners, first the Spray Water Power and Land Company and later Marshall Field and Company. In addition, a tenth house, Ridgcroft, the most architecturally significant house in the district, was built in 1902 on a site donated by Spray Water Power and Land Company. Although the house was built by an executive himself rather than the mill, the mill retained right-of-first-refusal on the property. Between 1895 and 1925, Boone Road, which linked Spray with the mercantile center of Leaksville, was lined with substantial frame houses and was the most fashionable residential district in the Leaksville-Spray area. The locally significant collection of distinctive Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Foursquare, Bungalow, and vernacular houses make this district eligible under Criterion C.

Criteria Assessment

- A. The district is an unusual type of mill housing, an executive enclave, significant within the theme of mill villages in North Carolina. It has state significance under this criterion.
- C. The houses in the district represent distinctive characteristics of particular styles popular during the late 19th and early 20th centuries: the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Foursquare, Bungalow, English Tudor, Dutch Colonial Revival, and various vernacular styles. The district has local significance under this criterion.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 1

The emergence of Spray as a distinct community is closely tied to the 1797 establishment of the adjoining town of Leaksville. Leaksville's growth was slow and by 1810 the town was little more than a small collection of frame and log buildings and 204 platted, but largely unsold, lots owned by the town's founder and namesake, John Leak.¹ In 1813 James Barnett, an early Leaksville settler, purchased almost 3,000 acres bordering the east edge of Leaksville and extending north on both sides of the Smith River.² This acreage later became the core of the village of Spray and the location of much of the Spray Industrial Historic District (NR). Barnett constructed a wooden dam and a canal which powered a grist mill, the first phase of "an industrial hub that eventually would evolve under the direction of Barnett. . .and later by the Morehead family and their successors, into one of the foremost manufacturing centers of the southeast."³

James Barnett emigrated west to the frontier lands about 1819 leaving the mill's management with his cousin, William Barnett.⁴ In 1831 William Barnett and James Motley Morehead formed a partnership to operate the small industrial complex which grew up around, and included, the original Barnett gristmill; the complex also included a sawmill, oil mill, carding mill, cotton gin, blacksmith shop and general store.⁵ James Motley Morehead is best known as governor of North Carolina from 1841 to 1845 and as a strong advocate of the North Carolina Railroad.

Morehead purchased William Barnett's share of their business and about 1,000 acres of the Barnett family land in 1836.⁶ Morehead recognized the untapped potential of the canal and constructed and a cotton mill located next to the grist mill. Known variously as Leaksville Factory and Morehead's Mill, the mill began operation in 1840 as Rockingham County's only textile factory.⁷ The mill, which produced cotton cloth and a limited amount of cotton yarn, prospered and was gradually expanded to include a wool carding, spinning and weaving operation and eventually a wool blanket manufacturing operation.⁸ The mills operated throughout the Civil War, producing cloth for Confederate uniforms.

After Morehead's death in 1866, his son, James Turner Morehead, assumed control of the family's Leaksville interests and become the majority shareholder of the newly formed J. Turner Morehead and Company. J. Turner Morehead, a former major in the Confederate cavalry, was in the forefront of North Carolina's rapid post-Reconstruction industrial development.⁹ He moved to Leaksville Factory (population about 300) and began a concentrated program of expanding his family's mills. (His grand Italianate style brick residence, formerly located on Chestnut Street, was destroyed in the late 1970s). In 1889 Major Morehead established the Spray Water Power and Land Company to manage the family-owned mills and real estate.¹⁰

As the name of the new company indicated, the growing industrial village of Leaksville Factory had emerged as a separate community, one which needed its own post office by the end of the 1880s. When Morehead applied for a post office, the government requested a name for it. Morehead first submitted "Splashy," but the citizens complained that the name suggested a mud hole and an alternative name, "Spray," (referring to the water tossed by the cotton mill's water wheel) was chosen instead.¹¹

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

In 1892 a new generation of the Morehead family assumed control of the company when J. Turner Morehead's son-in-law, B. Frank Mebane, became president of Spray Water Power and Land. Also that year the family's vast holdings in Rockingham County were organized into two principal companies, Leaksville Cotton and Woolen Mills and the Spray Water Power and Land Company, both headed by Mebane.¹²

In 1893 the original Leaksville Cotton Mill factory burned, but rather than proving a catastrophe, this event served as a catalyst for a vigorous twelve-year mill expansion campaign led by B. Frank Mebane. The cotton mill was rebuilt almost immediately and Mebane embarked on building new mills at the astonishing pace of almost one a year. These new mills included Spray Cotton Mill (yarn), 1896; Nantucket mill (gingham and outings), 1898; American Warehouse (finishing, packing and shipping for the other mills), 1899; Lily Mill (fine gingham), 1900; Spray Woolen Mill (wool blankets) and Morehead Cotton Mill (yarn), both 1902; and Rhode Island Mill (yarn and cotton blankets), 1903.¹³ In 1905 he constructed two other mills, German-American Mill (hosiery, yarns) and Indo-Chi-Am (wool blankets), in the nearby village of Draper.

Like most North Carolina mill owners of that era, Mebane wanted complete control not only over his factories, but also over his employees' social, commercial and housing needs. His building campaign included the construction of the large two-story brick Spray Mercantile Building. Constructed in several stages between 1890 and 1904, it housed the company store, various businesses, professional offices, post office, bank, barber shop, drug store, shoe repair shop, jewelry shop, the local court, meeting space for civic organizations, and even a community roller skating rink. This building was the commercial, professional and social center of Spray until the 1950s when it gradually fell into disuse and was vacant by 1978. In 1983 all of the post-1890 additions of the sprawling complex were demolished and the original unit was converted to mill offices.¹⁴

Beginning about 1896, the Spray Water Power and Land Company hired various local contractors and architects (whose names are largely unknown) to construct scores of small, frame houses clustered on the edges of the vast mill complex.¹⁵ Also about that time the Spray Water Power and Land Company began developing the area along the main road between Spray and Leaksville, originally known as Factory Road, and now Boone Road. This area, which lay north of the corporate limits of Leaksville, overlooked the Spray industrial complex. Originally dotted with small farms, this area quickly began to evolve as a suburban neighborhood when several substantial, stylish houses were constructed here for the mills' upper level management. Other businessmen, professionals and artisans were also attracted to this fashionable turn-of-the-century neighborhood; they, and some mill executives, leased or purchased lots from the Spray Water Power and Land Company and constructed their own homes or investment rental houses in the Boone Road Historic District. Those houses identified by members of the Eden Historic Properties Commission through deed research and interviews with long-time neighborhood residents as having been built by either the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

Spray Water Power and Land Company or privately by mill executives between 1895 and 1905 include numbers 1, 2, 6, 14, 15, 21, 24, 31, 32 (see Inventory List for details). Houses constructed by or associated with skilled craftsmen during this period include numbers 5, 7 and 19. Those constructed between 1895 and 1919 for various businessmen such as automobile dealers, furniture factory owners, bankers or as investment properties include numbers 3, 4, 11, 18, 28, 29. Some of the neighborhood's residents were employed as managers by the railroad and they are responsible for constructing numbers 17 and 25.

B. Frank Mebane's tremendous expansion of the local textile industry and housing stock brought prosperity to the area, but the large indebtedness incurred and a business recession in 1911 brought five of the mills (American Warehouse, Lily, Rhode Island, Spray Woolen and German-American) into receivership in 1911 and 1912.¹⁶ Marshall Field and Company, a Chicago-based merchandising firm and one of Mebane's major creditors, took control of the five bankrupt mills and purchased all the outstanding stock of the financially sound Nantucket Mill.¹⁷ Marshall Field and Company operated the mills profitably and provided economic stability to the area. As the work force continued to grow, Marshall Field Company built numerous houses for the mill operatives as well as for its mill executives. They constructed several houses for management personnel in the Boone Road district between 1915 and 1920 including numbers 12, 13, 23, 33, and 34 (see Inventory List). Development of this district was largely complete by the early 1930s. The last houses were privately constructed and include investment properties constructed by a mill executive (numbers 8 and 10) and homes built by private individuals (numbers 16 and 30).

The designers and builders of most of the district's buildings are unknown, however the works of Eden's most prolific architect, J. W. Hopper, and contractor, John Smith, are represented in the district. J. W. Hopper (1888-1965) was the third generation of his family involved in Eden's building trade. His grandfather, R. M. Hopper, was a prominent ante-bellum builder and his father, J. M. Hopper owned a brickyard and is considered one of the area's pioneer builders. He erected many houses, commercial and industrial structures throughout Rockingham County. J. W. Hopper continued his father's contracting business and was a practicing architect. He designed many public buildings such as the North Spray and Lakeside schools, as well as several residences. He favored period revival styles, particularly English Tudor Revival, a style he chose for his private residence located at 819 Washington Street (NR, Central Leaksville Historic District). In the Boone Road district he designed the Tudor Revival style Mrs. Claude Jones House (#16) and contractor John Smith built the house. Smith came to Leaksville c. 1916 from Charlotte as this superintendent of the J. A. Jones Construction Company which was building a Leaksville textile mill for Marshall Field and Company. Smith stayed in Leaksville and opened his own company. Much of his work was for the textile company, but he also constructed many other local commercial and residential structures including the Realty Building on Washington Street (NR, Leaksville Commercial Historic District). In the Boone Road district he constructed the Smith-Robertson House (#30) and his private residence (#19), as well

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4

as the Mrs. Claude Jones House (#16). John Smith's sons joined the business in the late 1930s. The Smiths owned a lumberyard and provided both materials and construction expertise for much of the Tri-Cities construction over the next few decades.¹⁸

Probably the most notable of the Marshall Field executives who lived in the neighborhood is former North Carolina Governor Luther H. Hodges. The Hodges House on Highland Drive (#23) was constructed c. 1925 for the young textile mill executive and was his home for about thirty-five years. After graduation from the University of North Carolina, Hodges was hired by Marshall Field as a private secretary to L. W. Clark (see #21), then general manager of the mills. Hodges rose steadily through the management ranks, becoming vice-president of the company in 1943, a position he held until he retired after thirty years with Marshall Field and Company. He then began a distinguished career as a public servant by being appointed by President Harry Truman as chief of the Economic Cooperation Administration's industrial division in West Germany in 1950-1951. He was elected North Carolina's lieutenant governor in 1952. Hodges became the state's chief executive upon the death of Governor William B. Umstead in November 1954. Hodges served as governor until 1961. Hodges was instrumental in developing the 5,000 acre Research Triangle Park, located in Durham and Wake counties, which is a center of industrial, governmental and academic research laboratories and programs. This world-class research park draws on the talent found at surrounding universities, Duke University, University of North Carolina, and North Carolina State University, and an educated area labor force to attract national and international companies such as IBM and Burroughs-Wellcome. Hodges served as Chairman of the Board of the Research Triangle Foundation from 1965-1972. Hodges served as United States Secretary of Commerce from 1961 to 1965.¹⁹ The Boone Road district was also the home of two of Leaksville's mayors, George Clark (#17), 1930-1937, and contractor John Smith (#19) who holds the distinction of serving longer than any Leaksville mayor, a total of eight, two-year terms from 1943-1955 and 1963-1967.

Spray Water Power and Land Company continued operating after the arrival of Marshall Field Company, although its manufacturing interest was only in Morehead Cotton Mill after 1930. The company continues in operation to the present and exerts considerable influence on the development of Eden through management of its real estate.

Since World War I, Marshall Field and Company's mills have been at the heart of Eden's economy. In 1935 the company reorganized and the mills were operated as the Manufacturing Division of Marshall Field and Company.²⁰ In 1947 the Manufacturing Division was renamed Fieldcrest Mills under a plan to advertise and promote the mills' various products under the Fieldcrest brand. Marshall Field and Company sold Fieldcrest Mills in 1953 to Amoskeag Company.²¹ Today Fieldcrest Mills is on the Fortune 500 list of the country's largest manufacturers with annual sales of more than \$500 million.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

The Boone Road Historic District survives largely intact and is a good example of an early twentieth century neighborhood with a wide variety of architectural styles represented. The houses have been well-preserved and remain in use as single family homes. The Eden Historic Properties Commission has played an active role in preservation education in the town. The Commission oversaw the completion of a city-wide survey and inventory of historic resources in 1984 and initiated and funded the preparation of nominations for four National Register of Historic Places Historic Districts in 1985-1986.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

FOOTNOTES

¹Charles D. Rodenbaugh, editor, The Heritage of Rockingham County North Carolina, 1983 (Winston-Salem: Rockingham Historical Society, Inc. in cooperation with Hunter Publishing Company, 1983), pp. 16, 117; and Lindley S. Butler, Our Proud Heritage, A Pictorial History of Rockingham County, N.C. (Bassett, Virginia: Bassett Printing Co., 1971), see p. 4 for "Old Map of Leaksville, N.C." copied by James W. Hopper 1916 and reproduced here, and p. 11.

²Lindley S. Butler, Rockingham County: A Brief History (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1982), p. 31.

³Claudia Roberts Brown, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities," inventory report prepared in 1985 for the Eden Historic Properties Commission (to be published 1986) p. 10. Typescript on deposit with the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, N.C. Also see National Register of Historic Places Inventory--Nomination Form, "Spray Industrial Historic District," August 1986.

⁴Rockingham County Deed Book Q, p. 70; and Butler, Rockingham County, p. 33.

⁵Daniel E. Field, "Leaksville of 'Ye Olden Times,'" with notes by Robert W. Carter, Jr., The Journal of Rockingham County History and Genealogy, vol. VIII no. 1, June, 1983, p. 7.

⁶Rockingham County Deed Book H, p. 125; and Field 'Ye Olden Times,' p. 7.

⁷Rodenbaugh, p. 75.

⁸Rodenbaugh, p. 20.

⁹Hugh T. Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, The History of a Southern State: North Carolina 2nd ed. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1954 and 1963), p. 476.

¹⁰James E. Gardner, Eden, Past and Present, 1880-1980, Eden: Friends of the Eden Public Library, 1982.

¹¹Mrs. R. P. Ray, "Leaksville History," typescript (in Eden Public Library), 1947, p. 2.

¹²Butler, Our Proud Heritage, p. 70.

¹³The mill operations in Spray were under the aegis of Spray Water Power and Land Company which set up the American Warehouse Company as the "parent" mill of the chain.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

¹⁴Brown, "Spray Industrial Historic District," National Register Nomination.

¹⁵Local historian James Gardner observed that although the volume and magnitude of construction in Spray was remarkable, the history of the building boom remains obscure. Mill construction was probably "done by out-of-town contractors who apparently brought in a cadre of skilled workers but recruited laborers from the area." In 1902, 1903 and 1907 Spray Water Power and Land Company granted J. Sanford Patterson the contract to build a number of mill operatives' houses. A similar agreement was reached with D. F. King in 1903. The name of J. M. Hopper has been associated also with the construction of mill houses. See Gardner, pp. 11 and 13.

¹⁶Gardner, p. 7.

¹⁷Ibid.

¹⁸Brown, "Eden--A Tale of Three Cities," pp. 52, 55.

¹⁹Lefler, pp. 594, 648, 650, and 658; David E. Brown, North Carolina, New Directions for an Old Land (Northridge, California: Windsor Publications, 1985), pp. 91-92; also see Robert Sobel and John Raimo, eds., Biographical Directory of the Governors of the United States, 1789-1978 (Westport, Ct.: Meckler Books, 1978), III, pp. 1162-1163.

²⁰Butler, Rockingham County, p. 76.

²¹Gardner, pp. 69, 85-86, and 89.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 1

The boundaries of the Boone Road Historic District have been drawn to include all those properties which contribute historically and/or architecturally to the almost exclusively residential district. The structures in the district include those constructed between c. 1895 and c. 1925 by the Spray Water Power and Land Company and the Marshall Field Company for executive and management level personnel employed by their various textile mills located in the Spray Industrial Historic District (NR) which lies a short distance to the north. Other structures in the district were constructed privately between c. 1895 and 1935 by various professionals, businessmen and craftsmen. The boundaries have been drawn to exclude later residential development primarily to the east and west of the district's boundaries, and industrial and commercial development at the north and south. The district includes portions of the 400 and 500 blocks of Boone Road; the 400 block of Chestnut Street; the 500 block of Glovenia Street; and the 200 block of Highland Drive.

Commencing at the southeast corner of the intersection of Boone Road and Highland Drive, the boundary line extends east along the south side of Highland Drive to include the houses at 223, 233, and 239 Highland Drive, then crosses the street and extends north to include the house at 238 Highland Drive. The line then turns roughly southwest running along the rear property lines of 239 and 233 Highland Drive, and then turns south to run along the rear property lines of those houses which line the east side of Boone Road extending as far south as, and to include, the property at 530 Boone Road. The line then runs north along the east side of Boone Road to a point opposite 521 Boone Road. The boundary line then crosses Boone Road and runs along the side property line of 521 Boone Road to include that house. The line then turns to run a short distance along the west side of Boone Road, and then turns west and runs generally north along the rear property lines of those houses at 515, 511 and 507 Boone Road to include them. The line turns west and runs along the rear property lines of the houses which lie on the south side of Glovenia Street between Boone Road and the railroad tracks and then crosses the street to run along the side property line, and include, the house at 522 Glovenia Street, and then north along the rear property line of 425 Boone Road, including that house. The line then turns west, crosses the railroad tracks to run along the side property line and include the house at 433 & 425 Chestnut Street. The boundary then runs generally north along the rear property lines and includes the houses at 421, 411 and 401 Chestnut Street. The line then turns south and runs along the west side of Chestnut Street, then turns east to run along the side property line of 421 Boone Road. The line crosses Boone Road and runs a short distance north to the point of origin.

Those properties included in the Boone Road Historic District are as follows: on Boone Road, numbers 420, 421, 425, 429, 432, 433, 502, 503, 506, 507, 510, 511, 514, 515, 518, 521, 522, 524, 528 and 530; on Highland Drive, numbers 223, 233, 238 and 239; on Glovenia Street, numbers 522, 523, 524, 527, 528 and 531; on Chestnut Street, numbers 401, 411, 421 and 425 and 433.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 21.5

Quadrangle name Southwest Eden

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	7	6	1	0	8	4	0	4	0	3	9	8	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

1	7	6	1	1	2	4	0	4	0	3	9	5	5	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	7	6	1	0	8	8	0	4	0	3	9	1	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

1	7	6	1	0	7	8	0	4	0	3	9	4	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia S. Dickinson, Consultant

organization N/A

date January 30, 1987

street & number Rt. 1, Box 1034

telephone (919) 732-5439

city or town Hillsborough

state NC 27278

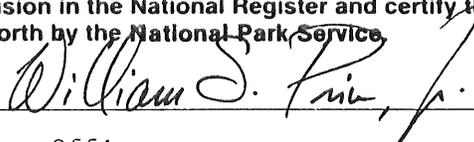
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date April 9, 1987

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



**BOONE ROAD
HISTORIC DISTRICT
EDEN, N.C.**

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY <A PHOTOS
BUILDINGS

C CONTRIBUTING NC NON-CONTRIBUTING
a,b,c OUTBUILDINGS/OBJECTS/CLUSTERS
NUMBERS KEYED TO INVENTORY LIST

