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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic Wilson Central Business-Tobacco Warehouse Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number See Boundary description--continuation sheets ___ not for publication

city, town Wilson ___ vicinity of

state North Carolina code county Wilson code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
X district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	X commercial	___ park
___ structure	X both	___ work in progress	X educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	X entertainment	X religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	X government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	X yes: unrestricted	X industrial	X transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership--see continuation sheets

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Wilson County Courthouse

street & number 125 East Nash Street

city, town Wilson state North Carolina 27893

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wilson City Inventory has this property been determined eligible? X yes ___ no

date 1979 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning, N.C. Division of Archives and History

city, town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
x excellent	x deteriorated	x unaltered	original site
x good	x ruins	x altered	moved date
x fair	unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wilson Central Business and Tobacco Warehouse Historic District covers all or parts of thirty-six blocks in the heart of Wilson, a city of 34,059 (1980 census) and the seat and major city of Wilson County. Wilson County is located in the broad, upper coastal plain of eastern North Carolina, in the state's most productive agricultural area. The district's topography is flat to gently rolling. The rolling character is especially evident in the tobacco warehouse district where several of the warehouses, particularly the Woodard-Watson Warehouse (#205) and the Planter's Warehouse (#211), have partial basements due to the slope of the site. The residential neighborhoods of Wilson are known for their beautiful trees, but downtown Wilson has lost all of its street trees, save a large oak in front of Herring's Drug Store (#34) on East Nash Street. The district, except for scattered trees, is severely limited in mature vegetation.

The district is separated into four fairly distinct sections. The largest and most architecturally diverse is the main business area which focuses upon the principal artery, Nash Street, and includes the adjacent perpendicular streets of Tarboro, Goldsboro, Douglas, Lodge and Barnes. At the center is the intersection of Nash and Goldsboro streets, the four corners of which are occupied by impressive Neo-Classical Revival structures, including the Branch Banking Building (#26)(NR)(1903) and the Wilson County Courthouse (#27)(NR)(1924). The three tracks of the Atlantic Coastline Railroad and its adjacent Passenger Station and Freight Depot (#51) separate this main business district from a second key area of the City. The 400 and 500 blocks of East Nash Street southeast of the railroad have traditionally served as the business district for the large East Wilson black community. This area includes a mixture of modest early, twentieth century brick buildings and frame houses. The focuses of this neighborhoods are the soaring towers of the Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church (#275)(1913) and the St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Church (#273)(1915). The third section of the historic district is the tobacco auction warehouse area, and area centering upon the junction of East Kenan and South Goldsboro streets. Dominating this eight-block area are the massive blocks and the sweeping roofscapes of the eight surviving tobacco auction warehouses and the several thousand, raised, rectangular skylights which regularly punctuate the roofs. The fourth section lies southwest of South Lodge and East Barnes streets and straddles the railroad. Here were located the majority of the non-warehouse tobacco industry structures--the prize houses, the redrying plants, and the stemmeries, all dominated by the impressive plant of the Imperial Tobacco Company (#232)(1903, ca 1910, 1919). Here also are the Freight Depot (#110)(1924), the remaining buildings of two large cotton oil seed companies, and a small mill village of modest, frame workers' houses.

These four juxtaposed areas interdependently contributed and benefited from the growth of Wilson, especially during the boom years of the early twentieth century. The main business area contained the public buildings, the banks, and the majority of the mercantile and business establishments. The East Wilson business district was a natural extension of this main business area on the other side of the railroad to serve the neighborhood shopping needs of Wilson's increasing black population. These blacks came to Wilson in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and settled into dwellings near the cotton and tobacco factories, mills,

and warehouses where they worked. The whites who moved to Wilson during this same period to work in these same industries lived in rental and mill houses in the warehouse and industrial areas. The industrial area by necessity flanked the railroad, convenient to both white and black workers. The tobacco warehouse area, the last of the four areas to be established, began where it did primarily because of the availability of the site of the former town cemetery, which had been vacated and the graves moved in 1876 in favor of the new Maplewood Cemetery. The warehouses proved to be advantageously located to both the industrial area and the main business area. In the industrial area the cured leaf, the primary source of Wilson's affluence, was prepared for further processing and shipment at either a prize house (where the cured leaf was merely packed into hogsheads for shipment), a stemmery (where the tobacco stem was removed prior to packing into hogsheads), or a re-drying plant (where the stemmed leaf was dried until an ideal moisture content was achieved for storage). In the main business district the tobacco farmers spent their earnings and bought their supplies, completing the district's circle of interdependence.

1. Main Business Area

The main business district, covering all or parts of thirteen blocks, is composed mostly of two- and three-story brick commercial buildings. Only five buildings are over three stories in height. Modestly detailed, one-story storefronts are interspersed throughout the district except on the 100 block of West Nash Street and the 100-300 blocks of East Nash Street. These blocks form the busiest shopping district and contain the most architecturally significant buildings.

The oldest, relatively intact commercial fabric in Wilson dates from the 1860s and reflects the town's emergence into a major agricultural trading center during the post-Civil War development of the State. These buildings are characterized by the often exuberant use of raised, decorative brickwork. The most outstanding example is the Winstead-Hardy Building (#32)(ca 1866) which has a double tier of raised arches and corbels in the upper facade. Its boldly scaled and exuberantly ornamented metal cornice is one of the best late Victorian cornices surviving in North Carolina. The Rountree Building (#149)(ca 1870s) is lavishly detailed with corbeled arches, cornices, quoins and moldings, a treatment that is repeated on a simpler scale on the Nadal Building (#15)(1899). One of the most significant, late nineteenth century buildings is the outstanding pressed metal facade of the ca 1895 Tomlinson and Company Building (#147). The handsome twin storefront is the only survivor in Wilson of the four such buildings that are shown on the Sanborn Insurance Maps. It is an impressive example of the turn of the century metal storefronts that survive in such towns as Raleigh, Goldsboro, Smithfield, Clinton, Rocky Mount, and Benson. Documentary photographs of turn of the century streetscapes are unfortunately the only way we have of knowing the numerous handsome Victorian commercial buildings that once were situated

along East Nash Street. These buildings, several of which retain portions of their interiors, have all lost their original facades to either remodeling during the 1920s boom or to alterations in the post World War Two era.

The only nineteenth century interior to survive relatively intact is the second story of the Winstead-Hardy Building (#32)(ca 1866), which is boldly finished with handsome late nineteenth century pressed metal ceilings; pressed metal in a foliate motif even covers the walls of the stairs. The finest eighteenth century pressed metal ceiling is that in Herring's Drug Store (#34) (1885), which is lavishly embellished with grape and floral swags, foliate motifs, Victorian urns, and cherubs. Other nineteenth century pressed metal ceilings are found in several buildings which have lost their Victorian facades during remodelings in the twentieth century: Wilson Drug Store (#135), the (former) Oettinger Department Store (#16) and the Wilson Shoe Store Building (#19).

The twentieth century witnessed the erection of several Renaissance and Neo-Classical style public buildings in the main business district. Wilson's main intersection, Nash and Goldsboro streets, contains four impressive and monumental buildings on its corners. The earliest of these is the Branch Banking and Trust Company Building (#26)(NR)(1903). A restrained and elegant small-scale version of the Renaissance Revival Style, it is one of the most sophisticated designs of its period in the state. Its boldly arched Tuscan windows, quioned corners, rusticated finish story and forceful entrance portico create a surprisingly monumental composition. The four-story Davis Building (#28)(1916), one of the most important commercial buildings designed by Wilson architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), has three-story brick pilasters which rest on a limestone-veneered, first story base and which rise to carry a large dentiled stone cornice. The impressive, monumental Wilson County Courthouse (#27)(NR)(1924) anchors this intersection. Massive fluted Corinthian porticos support an elaborate cornice. Superb window detailing completes the structure. The courthouse nearly dwarfs the equally handsome Planter's Bank Building (#29), erected in the Neo-Classical style in 1920 across North Goldsboro Street from the courthouse. Paired three-story Ionic columns define the two visible elevations and support a handsome balustrated cornice.

A continuation of Wilson's classical architecture tradition for public building is seen on the Neo-Classical Revival style United States Post Office and Courthouse (#37)(1927). Here, the central pilastered section and the first story's tall arched windows are most impressive. The Cherry Hotel (#49)(NR) (ca 1920) is distinguished by classical elements which supply most of the ornamentation on the stone-veneered arched entrance and the noteworthy plumed cornice. The Charles L. Coon High School (#172)(1922), an elegant, large school structure with a handsome modillioned cornice and an almost ceremonial staircase, is one of the better examples of the Neo-Classical Revival Styles

used for educational buildings of this period in the state. Classical elements characterize several commercial buildings erected during the early twentieth century with limestone veneer, particularly the noteworthy Carroll Building (#45)(1922), the Wilson Morris Plan Building (#181)(1919), and the (former) Welfare Garage - The Wilson Daily Times Building (#176)(ca 1920).

The most popular design of commercial buildings in downtown Wilson during the 1910s, 1920s and 1930s was a relatively plain brick structure with a stepped parapet. The major architectural interest was supplied by panels of decorative brickwork and by the judicious use of cut stone for details. The variations of such detailing were endless and most of the rebuilding and remodeling of late nineteenth century buildings that occurred during the boom period of the 1920s was done using this versatile style. The best examples are the long block of storefronts on the northeast side of the 200 block of East Nash Street, which includes Herring's Drug Store (#34) and the various buildings of the Hackney Wagon Company (#35). These buildings were built as Victorian structures during the late nineteenth century and unified in 1922 by the present facades. The uninterrupted flow of ten, similarly-detailed storefronts is one of the more impressive architectural features of downtown Wilson. On the other end of the spectrum, the equally fine P. L. Woodard Building (#91)(ca 1925), is the best of the more modest examples of the finish and the Ruffin-High Building (#139)(ca 1920) is the finest of the one-story brick storefronts in Wilson. Later, in the mid and late 1920s, these vernacular brick buildings were often given a classical metal cornice and assumed more of a Colonial Revival flair. The Willis Building (#36) (ca 1926), noted for the unusual, subdued interest created by its alternating red, orange, and grey brick, is one of the best of these as is the near exquisite Koster Supply Company Building (#216)(ca 1929).

Two other popular styles of the 1920s, the Mission Revival Style and the Bungalow Style, have representative examples in the main business district. The 1924 Atlantic Coastline Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot (#51) is a noteworthy example of the prevalent use of the Mission Revival Style for railroad depots in the 1920s. Equally prevalent was the Mission Revival Style gas station, as illustrated on the early 1930s (former) Central Service Station (#220). The Bungalow Style, so popular and versatile for Wilson's expanding residential neighborhoods in the 1910s and 1920s, is seen in another function in the Boykin and Anderson Oil Company (#226) (ca 1921).

The tallest building in the historic district, the seven-story First National Bank of Wilson Building (#22)(1927), makes an impressive bridge between the classical styles of the 1910s and 1920s and the Art Deco Style of the 1930s. The building, with its rusticated first floor base, quoined five-story shaft, and top story capital, is the epitome of the affluence of the 1920s in Wilson

and was the last major commercial building erected in Wilson before the Great Depression caused a virtual cessation of commercial construction until the mid-1930s.

Several noteworthy Art Deco Style buildings were built during the late-1930s. The best and most characteristic examples are the Wilson Municipal Building (#178) and the Bus Station (#227), both of which were erected in 1938. These illustrate a low-cost, streamlined version of the style. Another noteworthy example is the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company Building (#2)(ca 1936), which features excellent brickwork.

The interiors of the downtown commercial buildings are characterized by the prevalent use of mezzanine floor arrangements. Those at the P. L. Woodward Company (#178)(ca 1925) and the Wilson Hardware Building (#24)(1922) are especially typical and unaltered. The quantity and quality of surviving pressed metal ceilings in Wilson is particularly impressive. Large, spacious showrooms, such as those of the Hackney Building (#189)(1922), as well as many of the more modest structures, retain all or parts of their grid patterned pressed metal ceilings which are usually embellished with a foliate and floral trim; the fleur-de-lis was an especially popular motif. Cornices were often quite ornate and were usually embellished with foliate motifs, anthemions, or reeded bands. The decorative pressed metal ceiling is often the only major surviving element of a building that has lost the rest of its original character through remodeling; often it is hidden above a modern suspended ceiling. No twentieth century pressed metal is more varied or elaborate than that on the second story of the Tomlinson Building (#195)(1916). Here, there are three different ceiling finishes which incorporate urn and garland borders, anthemion and fleur-de-lis cornices, cartouche corners, and egg-and-dart molding with foliate motifs to create the finest example in Wilson's large collection of pressed metal ceilings, one of the finest such collections in the state.

The finest and the most intact interior in downtown is that of the amazingly lavish and colorful Wilson Theatre (#11)(ca 1922). Combining brilliantly painted cornices, molded panels, tile friezes, intricate ceiling medallions with later Art Deco panels and wall lanterns, the theatre is an exceptional example of the flamboyant character often found in theatres during the 1920s.

While the downtown area contains much of the best-preserved and most intact architecture in the historic district, a majority of the buildings have undergone some manner of exterior remodelings. The remodelings have been popular since the 1950s as downtowns modernized in an attempt to compete with suburban shopping centers and mall. These range from minor entrance modifications to the complete obliteration of the original exterior. Several have metal screens which merely hide what remains of the original exterior.

2. East Wilson Business Area

Wilson's traditional black business district, the 400 and 500 blocks of East Nash Street southeast of the railroad, contains a mixture of modest one-and two-story commercial buildings and frame dwellings. It is approximately one-sixth the size of the main business area. Serving as a neighborhood extension of the main business district, the East Wilson Business District met the daily shopping and service needs of the black community. Located here also were the black businesses and organizations which enriched the lives of the residents--the churches, the fraternal organizations, the theatres and such black-owned enterprises as the (former) Commercial Bank (#56)(1920), and two funeral homes. These buildings were erected, primarily as rental property, by both white and black businessmen.

The 1896 Odd Fellows Lodge (#75), the only three-story building in the neighborhood, is the only commercial building that displays Victorian elements and these are limited to rather modestly detailed corbeled drip moldings above the windows. This is the oldest commercial building in Wilson that is essentially extant on both the exterior and interior. The other structures are relatively plain buildings with the architectural interest supplied by panels of brickworks and stone accents. The most outstanding is the Darden Building (#80)(ca 1928), which has rusticated pilasters that flank the arched central entrance. The Abbitt Building (#60)(ca 1925), is a handsome, yet modest one-story commercial building erected by a prominent white businessman as rental property; its six storefronts are remarkably intact.

This section also includes six frame dwellings, the survivors of a once rather handsome row of traditional and Colonial Revival Style houses. The most important of these is the Orange Hotel (#63), built in 1906 as Wilson's first hotel for blacks. The two-story, double-pile frame building follows the traditional lines of modest turn of the century dwellings and displays a five-bay, two-tier porch carried across the facade by turned posts. The central hall plan interior is intact and has handsome symmetrical moldings and modest mantels. The only unaltered dwelling in this district, other than the Orange Hotel, is the (former) Hamilton Funeral Home (#65)(ca 1918), a modest one-story, double-pile frame dwelling; the other dwellings have undergone porch or facade replacements.

The focal point of the black commercial district is the prominent, three-story tower of the handsome Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church (#275), erected in 1913 in the Romanesque Revival Style. Displaying numerous arched windows, a corbeled drop cornice, the church is a noteworthy example of early twentieth century religious architecture. Equally impressive is the imposing Gothic Revival edifice of the nearby St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Church (#273)(1915). With a massive corner tower, Gothic windows and entrance arcade, a marvelous minaret, and stone finials and rainspouts, the church's

elegance is magnified by the stately, domed interior. Both churches are the homes of the two largest and most influential of Wilson's black congregations Between these two churches is the 1947 home of Wilson's oldest black fraternal lodge, the Mount Hebron Masonic Lodge, #42 (#274).

Unfortunately, the East Wilson business area has suffered the most of the four areas in the loss of architectural fabric to remodeling. The cohesiveness of this black commercial section is also compromised by the number of vacant lots, comprising about one-fifth of the street frontage. Ten commercial stores and four dwellings have been lost since 1961.

3. Tobacco Warehouse Area

The third of the four areas that comprise this historic district is the tobacco auction warehouse section, which contains seven brick and one metal structures that were built between 1890 and 1947. This section occupies the western part of the historic district, with the main downtown area to its northeast and the industrial sector to its southeast. Its center is the junction of South Goldsboro and East Kenan streets, where the Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse (#205)(1890,1894), the Watson-Centre Brick #3 Tobacco Warehouse (#204)(1896), and the Farmers Tobacco Warehouse (#206)(1903) each occupy a corner. The Watson-Woodard Tobacco Warehouse was the birthplace in 1890 of the Wilson tobacco market, which since 1919 has been the largest market of flue-cured tobacco in the country.

The massiveness of the individual tobacco warehouses markedly distinguish them from the adjacent commercial section. Each of the warehouses is over an acre in size and is covered by multiple gable roof that contain several hundred raised rectangular skylights. The unified structure of Smith's Tobacco Warehouse A and B (#207)(1927 and 1928) measures 410 feet-by-340 feet, contains 139,400 square feet (3.2 acres) and occupies an entire block. Even longer elevations, 510 feet, are found on the Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse (#205), 1890, ca 1894 and ca 1920, and the Planters Tobacco Warehouse (#211), 1920, which also share an entire city block. These long elevations are broken by pilasters which, along with the repetitive stepped parapets, create a bold rhythm along the street. The Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse and the Liberty Tobacco Warehouse (#96)(1904), have rounded parapets.

A variety of brickwork is found on the warehouses. Arched windows and doors figure prominently in the design of the earlier warehouses, especially the Watson-Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse (1896) and the Liberty Tobacco Warehouse (1904). Both are similar in their parapet arrangement and the use of corbeled brick on the window and entrance drip moldings. The facade of the Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse, while having a prominent rounded parapet and round-arched drive-through entrances, lacks the corbeled brickwork that distinguishes the other early tobacco warehouses. The warehouse district's largest

and most impressive facade is that of Smith's Tobacco Warehouse A and B (#207) (1927 and 1928) on South Goldsboro Street. It has six stepped parapets and a rhymical progression of stone-capped pilasters that define the twenty-four bays. The five large drive-through entrances have notable brick arches, the transoms of which are filled with brickwork in a basketweave motif. Elegant cast iron lamps, like those at the earlier Farmer's Tobacco Warehouse (#206) (1903), flank each entrance. The side elevations of the individual warehouses contain many arched loading bays and several have covered ramps for these loading bays. The interior of each warehouse is a vast uninterrupted space, illuminated by the several hundred skylights which punctuate each warehouse roof. The large roof trusses are carried by orderly rows of large, wood piers.

There are three large vacant lots in the warehouse districts, each the site of a former major tobacco facility. These are the Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse #2 (#158), built in 1893, burned in 1951; the Banner Warehouse (#164)(1899), which was demolished in 1981; and the redrying plant of the Liggett-Meyers Tobacco Company (#173)(ca 1900), which was razed in the late 1960s. The tobacco warehouse area contains only three surviving examples of the once numerous small, one-story, two-room, frame, rental dwellings erected at the turn of the century for workers. One, a rental cottage (#175)(ca 1903), is a pleasant, shotgun plan house with a modest, decorative porch. At the edge of the warehouse area at the corner of the South Tarboro and Hines streets are the Lamm Rental houses (#170)(ca 1922), a picturesque row of four similar bungalows erected as rental property.

4. Mixed Industrial Area

The last of the four component sections of the historic district is the industrial area which contains all or parts of twelve blocks and straddles the railroad south and west of Lodge and Nash streets. Here were located the redrying plants, the stemmeries, and the prize houses that were a critical step between the selling of the tobacco at auction and the transportation of it for manufacture into cigarettes. Here also is the only surviving building associated with Wilson's short-lived cigarette manufacturing industry. The Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company (#112), built ca 1893 as the Corbett Hotel, is a large, two-story, brick structure under a prominent parapet gable roof; simple corbeled brickwork provides the architectural interest. The most imposing building of the industrial area is the massive Imperial Tobacco Company (#232)(1903). The original, twenty-seven-bay-by-seven-bay, three-story brick factory is characterized by notable cut-away corner pilasters and a splendid three-story tower. It is dominated by the soaring brick smokestack that rests on a tall octagonal base. Round-arched windows and a repetition of the cut-away pilasters highlight the rest of the sprawling complex, which occupies an entire block and is one of the handsomest industrial buildings in eastern North Carolina. Unfortunately, most of the other

industrial complexes have suffered from significant changes to their plants. The large, three-story, frame and brick Briggs and Fleming Prize House (#238)(ca 1895) has lost its topmost two floors and has a recent hip roof and aluminum siding. But it still enjoys a commanding appearance adjacent to the Imperial Tobacco Company. Later additions and the recent filling in of the windows have cluttered the clean, straightforward lines of the two older brick buildings of the Richmond-Maury Tobacco Company (#267)(ca 1897 and ca 1920). Located here also were the buildings associated with Wilson's cotton industry, which was second in importance only to tobacco. The Wilson Cotton Mills (1893), an impressive brick complex was razed in 1977. The Wilson County Gin Company Building (#117)(1919) is the more significant of the two cotton gins which survives in the area. The expansive plant of the Farmer's Cotton Oil Company (#113)(1902) has lost its oil mill buildings, leaving an interesting collection of early twentieth century fertilizer mills, and its gin and storage houses. The dominant buildings of the complex is the massive and impressive, round seed storage tank that enjoys a commanding view from downtown. The only major surviving structure at the adjacent Southern Cotton Oil Company (#268) is the massive, pyramidal-shaped, corrogated metal-covered seed storage house. Together, these two storage facilities dominate the skyline at the southern end of the district. Included in the industrial section is the historic district's only sizeable residential section. The twenty-three frame rental houses (nine were originally duplexes) were built for workers in the area factories, primarily by the adjacent Wilson Cotton Mills (built 1883, razed 1977), between the mid 1880s and the 1920s. The predominant house form is a two-room block with central chimney and twin front doors; several have rear shed rooms engaged under a "saltbox" type roof. Only two show any stylish reference, the identical Wilson Cotton Mills Rental Houses at 312 and 314 Layton Street (#252 and 253). Beneath a low hip roof that engages a porch, the three-bay-by-two-bay house displays paneled pillars and corner-board pilasters that support a bracketed boxed cornice; it is believed these two houses were occupied by overseerers or other men of some authority in the mill. With few exceptions, all of these rental dwellings have suffered some form of modernization, the most typical being the replacement of the porch posts, the lowering of the porch floor, and the application of new siding.

1
First Citizens Bank
126 West Nash Street
I

The local branch of the First-Citizens Bank opened in this modern brick, cement, and glass building in 1963. This was the site of the second and third structures of the First Baptist Church; the first church was built at the corner of North Lodge and Green Streets (now the site of the Bus Station and Taxi Stand #227) in 1862, two years after the congregation's organization. The second building, built here in 1894, was replaced in 1905 with an impressive Romanesque ediface with an unusually massive corner tower. By the 1950s the congregation had outgrown this building and in 1952 completed a large sanctuary two blocks west on West Nash Street. The vacated old building was razed in the mid-1950s.

2
Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company Building
123 West Nash Street
C

Behind the most unfortunate and intrusive two-story extension of the facade that was added in 1968, stands an impressive, brick, Art Deco building erected in the early 1930s; it was designed by Wilson architect Thomas Herman (1885-1956) and built by Rocky Mount builder D. J. Rose. The original, five-bay deep building was expanded in 1954 by a three-story, seven-bay deep addition on the rear (southwest) elevation that is detailed identically to the front. The use of several shades of blond brick on the structure add further vitality to the building's lively detaililng. The entire structure sits on a prominent cast concrete water table, from which rise the reeded brick pilasters which punctuate the North Pine Street (northwest) elevation, the only one of the two street facades that remains available for study. Each bay, defined by these pilasters, contains a six-over-six sash window at each level with intermediate, recessed panels of diagonally-laid brickwork centering upon a cast concrete rectangular insert. Several of the windows have been closed up. A brick soldier cornice lintel and cast concrete sill mark each window. The second and twelfth bays have a vertical shaft of square glass blocks that rises from the door to the top of the third floor; a circular cast concrete medallion is centered upon the face of the fourth floor. The entire North Pine Street elevation is crowned by a handsome cornice of cast concrete. Inspection from the rooftop reveals that the southeast elevation of the original building and the 1954 sections--now hidden by the 1955 Belk-Tyler Building--are similar to the North Pine Street elevations. At the rear of the building is a four-story, 1968 addition which is styled identically to the extension on the front facade. The interior was thoroughly renovated in 1968, at which time a Celotex ceiling was added. The simply molded door surrounds and chair rails were left intact in many of the areas. All three floors are now filled with numerous rows of computerized telephone call routing circuits. Only the middle (1954) section has a basement.

3
Belk-Tyler Budget Shop
121 West Nash Street
I

Built ca 1954 on a portion of the site of the Blue Gables Service Station, this tall, two-story building presents a large, blank and harsh cement upper facade to the street. The recessed and canopied first story is composed of centrally-placed double glass doors flanked by large plate glass display windows. The spacious interior has a mezzanine level along the rear and sides; the second floor is

presently used for storage. The building's massiveness is out of character with the otherwise pedestrian-scale streetscape.

4
Billy's Home Appliances
119 West Nash Street
I

This one-story, brick and glass storefront was built for the local offices of Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, and Smith, Stockbrokers in 1956-1957 on a part of the site of the Blue Gables Service Station, which had been erected in the early 1920s. The structure, besides its undistinguished appearance, is out-of-scale with the rest of West Main Street which is, with few exceptions, two stories in height.

5
Deans Building
117 West Nash Street
F

This small, two-story brick building was built between 1908 and 1913 (according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps) by Earnest Deans as rental property. Deans was the clerk for the Norfolk and Southern Railroad in Wilson. It was first occupied by the offices of Doctors Moore and Best. It has suffered from a complete facade alteration, including the replacement of the street level with new entrances and the obscuring of the upper facades behing an aluminum mesh screen. It is not known how much of the original facade remains behind this screen. The side elevation shows (closed) segmentally-arched windows. Its interior has also been thoroughly altered. Succeeding Moore and Best have been, successively, the Builders Supply Company, Doan's Ladies Wear, Fairfield Dairy Products, Ellen's Dress Shop, Jo Ann's Dress Shop, and Beneficial Finance Office. It has just recently been occupied by the Sugar Plum Shop.

6
Former Telephone Exchange Building
115 West Nash Street
F

This two-story brick building was built in 1907 as the Telephone Exchange Office, which remained here until the completion of their large Art Deco building (#2) at 123 West Nash Street in 1936. It has suffered from a major facade alteration that included the obscuring of the upper facade behind an aluminum mesh screen and the replacement of the storefront. It is not known how much of the original facade remains behind this screen. The southwest side elevation shows (closed) segmentally-arched windows. The rear elevation is three bays wide with segmental windows (closed). The interior has also been completely renovated. Succeeding the telephone office was the studio of WGTM Radio, and since 1947 the store has been occupied by Vann's Appliances.

7
Parking Lot
114 West Nash Street
I

This parking lot occupies the site of the home of R. C. Welfare, a prominent early car dealer in Wilson. Built about 1885, the large, two-story frame house was razed about 1938.

8
Wilson Home and Loan Association Building
112 West Nash Street
F

This modest one-story, building was built ca 1940 for the Wilson Home and Loan Association (Richard J. Grantham, pres., John N. Hackney, sec-tres, John F. Bruton, attorney) and for the John N. Hackney Insurance/Realty. It was occupied by them until 1963; Hackney Insurance/Realty stayed until 1966. Since then it has been occupied by County school offices and presently the realty firm of Charles Powell.

9
Culbreth Building/Jim's Camera Center
111 West Nash Street
F

Built in 1960 to house Jim's Camera Center, this plain, modern, two-story, brick building occupies a place in the streetscape of West Nash Street, but adds little to its visual character. The previous two-story, brick building had been erected in the early 1900s and was razed to make way for this building. The second floor is occupied by offices.

10
Bullock Building
110 West Nash Street
C

This handsome, two-story brick building was erected in the early 1930s and is one of the finest commercial buildings erected in Wilson during the Depression. It was built by the Bullock sisters--Misses Ula, Mamie, Annie and Fannie--as rental property and in honor of their late brother, J. Dempsy Bullock (1864-1928). He had operated J. D. Bullock Dry Goods (#143) at 127 South Tarboro Street from the mid 1880s until his death in 1928. The street facade has a deeply-recessed, central arched entrance. Especially fine here is the sophistication of detail shown in the copper classical style moldings of the arch, the slender columns which flank the arch, and the anthemion frieze above the display windows. Black marble carries below the display windows forms the base of the building. A marble terrazo floor completes the entrance. The second story contains a central, seven-casement window that is flanked by fluted pilasters and surmounted by a panel of foliate forms that impart a hint of Art Deco styling. Above this panel is a wide stone band that extends across the facade and continues down the first bay of the southeast side elevation. At the junction of this band and the pilasters is a carved rosette. The pilasters continue to the stone-capped parapet and are topped by classical stone urns. Crowning the facade is a handsome central stone cartouche with the letter "B". The interior has been recently and sympathetically renovated to house a restaurant and focuses upon the handsome staircase that leads to the rear mezzanine level. A full second story has been converted into a lounge/private party room.

The building was first occupied by the Belk-Brown Department Store. They were replaced in 1938 by Oettinger's Men's Store when the large Oettinger building (#16) at 100-106 East Nash Street was rented to the Woolworth Company. The Oettinger business, one of Wilson's most prominent establishments, closed in the Bullock Building in 1969. Since then several businesses have been located here; it is presently occupied by a restaurant.

11
Wilson Theatre-Grady Building
108 West Nash Street
P

Erected ca 1920 for Dr. L. V. Grady (1189-1939) this building, sometimes called the Grady Building, has since its opening contained the Wilson Theatre, advertised in the 1922-1923 City Directory as "The Finest Theatre in Eastern North Carolina". The architect for the building may well have been Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930) who had his offices on the second floor during the 1920s, and who designed a residence for Dr. Grady at 1527 West Nash Street in 1924. The three-bay facade is typical of many erected in Wilson at that time and is a modest version of the triumphal arch motif. The central bay projects slightly, is crowned by a stepped gable and contains a large recessed arch, stone keystone, and springing blocks. Brick pilasters with inverted-crosses near the cornice and channeling on the first floor flank the building. The altered pedestrian level contains two storefronts with modern metal awnings and a recessed entrance. The suspended marquee is modern. Fenestration of the second story consists of paired windows with stone lintels and sills. The central windows are arched with large keystones and are flanked by smaller windows.

The interior displays an unusually ornate finish, an interesting combination of Neo-Classical Revival forms and later Art Deco details. The size and depth of the stage indicates the theatre was built to present both live shows and moving pictures. The ceilings and walls are lavishly decorated with classical cornices, pilasters, and decorative panels. The proscenuim arch has a flat, heavily-molded cornice and the ceiling boasts of elaborate circular medallions from which hung light fixtures (now gone). An especially large and elaborate medallion is above the stage. Of note is the ornately carved front of the balcony railing which features lions heads. Later Art Deco elements are found in recessed niches in the two angled Walls that flank the stage and at one time contained light fixtures, and along the walls whre upturned Art Deco torch-like fixtures bathe the walls with subdued lighting. Five ornamental medallions with art glass panels are placed beneath the balcony and once also served to anchor hanging lanterns. Magnifying the interior's rich treatment is the robust paint scheme of golds, roses, reds and browns. A suspended ceiling has been added in the theatre, separating the balcony and upper walls from the seating area and also hiding the cornice of the proscenium arch. The entry and lobby of the theatre have been entirely remodeled. From the entry corridor a stairwell leads to offices on the second floor across the front of the building; numerous skylights provide additional illumination to the second story. Occupants of these offices during the 1920s, besides architect Moore, were E. L. Wynn, contractor, and B. J. Boyles and Company, general contractor. During the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, the second story was occupied by several apartments. The two storefronts flanking the entrance have been occupied by the Theater Soda Shop on the northeast and a novelty shop and jewelry store on the southeast.

In the 1920s the Carolina Music Publication Company operated out of the Wilson Theatre Building, as identified on a piece of music, "Wait Till I'm Gone", published in 1923. The music was by Earl Whittemore and the words by Paul V. Phillips; Phillips was manager of the theatre at that time. The theatre continues to operate as a movie theatre.

12.
Wilson Marble, Mantle and Tile Company Building
103 West Nash Street
C

The Wilson Marble Works was established on this site as early as 1908 by Fredrick J. Roberts and David F. Batts and a small frame building was erected. In ca 1903, they had occupied a small frame structure on North Goldsboro Street, the site of the present parking lot between the Municipal Building and the Police Department. By 1912, the business was operated by Ernest L. Cobb who, between 1916 and 1920 changed the name to Wilson Marble, Mantle and Tile Company. As this last name is handsomely set in mosaic tile at the entrance, the present two-story, brick building was apparently erected between 1916 and 1920; Sanborn Insuance Maps confirm a construction date between 1913 and 1922. The first story recessed central entrance is intact, modified only by the painting of the transom. A brick soldier course lintel spans the transom. The three-bay second story facade has one-over-one sash windows with stone lintels, sills, and diamond-shaped insets flanking each window. The upper facade contains a handsome, corbeled panel with square stone insets. A tile-capped parapet wall crowns the building. The interior is plainly finished and has a modest pressed metal ceiling with a fleur-de-lis cornice. Wooden shelves line the northwest wall. By 1922, Cobb had again changed the company's name to the Wilson Marble and Granite Company and had moved to 106 North Railroad Street. Succeeding him at 106 West Nash Street was an unamed walpaper store, John W. W. Thompson, electrical contractor from ca 1925 to 1950, and the Radio Center until 1979. It has been vacant since 1980.

13.
former Oasis-Center Theatre
104 West Nash Street
I

This two-story brick building has been entirely stuccoed, obscuring all detail with the exception of a central panel/bay that manages to be discernable beneath the stucco. Built ca 1915 as the Oasis Theatre (H. J. Paradis, manager), 104 West Nash Street continued to show motion pictures until 1969 when it closed; its name was changed to the Center Theatre in 1951. The smaller storefront at 104 West Nash Street (its rear was occupied by the theater), was first occupied by the Carolina Floral Company, and later in the 1920s by Tudor's Florist Shop, C. E. Tudor proprietor. During the 1940s and 1950s the Inez Shoppe, women's apparel was in number 104, and during the 1960s and 1970s Carters Jewelry occupied the 106 storefront. Both buildings were completely remodeled in the early 1970s and now are occupied by attorney offices on the first floor and the local cable television station on the second.

14.
Wells Building
101-109 West Nash Street
P

The Wells Building was built in 1923 for Stephen C. Wells (1850-1933), a prominent Wilson merchant, tobacconist and former co-owner of Wilson's most successful cigarette manufacturing company, the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company (#112). It incorporated into this new building an earlier two story, brick, commercial building which Wells had erected between 1897 and 1903. This 1912-1913 Hill City Directory lists this earlier building also as the Wells Building. The large, two story, five bay-by-three bay, brick building displays some of the finest molded terra cotta work in Wilson. It is prominently situated at a corner of West

Nash and South Tarboro Streets. Faceted two-story, brick pilasters with terra cotta Corinthian capitals define the bays of both elevations and support elaborate terra cotta friezes in a Greek key design with inset foliate blocks. The frieze turns at each corner and is carried to the base of the building, enframing the large, former display windows, the transom and the mezzanine windows (now all considerably altered, the upper two thirds being stuccoed) with this exceptional terra cotta frieze. A ca 1945 documentary photograph shows the original arrangement of the bays with recessed entrances on the first stories with tall, multi-pane transoms and second stories with quintuple windows over a paneled lower frieze. Also shown is the slightly different arrangement of the second story of the 109 storefront. The stepped parapet is capped by terra cotta and beneath the parapet is a dentiled terra cotta cornice and a broad frieze of patterned brickwork. The rear elevation of 101-107 is four bays wide and three stories in height (including the mezzanine level). The windows contain sixteen panes with a tilt-out central section. The rear of the older, ca 1900, building at 109 West Nash Street is two stories tall and two bays wide. It has segmental arched two-over-two sash windows. The interiors have all been renovated, some more sympathetically than others and several retain portions of their handsome pressed metal ceilings. The 109 upper facade has been given an unattractive metal screen and a metal awning shelters the first story of both the West Nash and South Tarboro Street elevations. Stephen C. Wells gave a store in the Wells Building to each of his children: James Wells, Emma Lee (Wells) Pleasants, Sudie (Wells) Mills, Lola 9Wells) Choate, and Francis Wells. The building was erected for J. C. Penney and Company, which occupied numbers 101-107 until the early 1930s. The four stores were rented individually until 1945, when the Belk-Tyler Department Store moved in and occupied the stores until 1955 whtn the Belk-Tyler Building at 121 West Nash Street was completed. Succeeding Belk-Tyler in numbers 101-107 was Moss and Company, men's and women's clothes and shoes; Moss remained in 101-103-105 until 1980. Moss vacated the 107 store in the late 1960s and was succeeded by Denny's Jewelers and Dot's Hallmark Shop. The earliest occupant of the building at 109 West was a gent's furnishing shop, according to the 1903 Sanborn Map. By 1908, Arthur W. Holler, plumber, occupied the first story with offices on the second story. He was succeeded by the Wilson Printing Company (E. B. and E. T. Stallings) and by the Princess-World Theatre (moving pictures) from ca 1920 until ca 1936. It was during the theatre tenancy that the building was joined with a common facade with 101-107 East Nash Street. Since then it has been occupied successively by Em-Jay Sporting Goods, Wimpy's Pocket Billiards, Miles Shoe Store and Don's Bicycle Sales and Service. Presently the five stores are occupied by The Children's Corner in 101, Howell and Company, interior decorators in 103 and 105, Mr. K's Hair Salon in 107, and Wilson Screen Printers in 109.

15
Nadal Building/Citizens Bank Building
100-102 West Nash Street
C

The 1897 Sanborn Map has this site labeled "Drugs to be constructed". The first section of this two-story commercial building, the southeast section at 100 West Nash Street, was erected ca 1899 for the drug store of Ernest F. Nadal (1872-1922), the son of Edward Moore Nadal.

The elder Nadal, a trained surveyor and pharmacist, came to Wilson from Washington, North Carolina soon after the outbreak of the Civil War and taught at the Wilson Collegiate Institute. In 1906, a nearby identical block was erected by the Nadals at 102 West Nash Street for The Citizens Bank, which had been incorporated on December 11, 1905, by tobacconist and businessman Roscoe G. Briggs, mill owner W. W. Simms, tobacconist Charlie M. Fleming, "the Grandfather of the

Wilson Tobacco Market", and William M. Farmer. Briggs and Fleming were the former partners of the Briggs and Fleming Prize House, ca 1895 until 1902, at 403 South Street. Briggs (1859-1933), was the bank's major stockholder, holding 497 of the 500 shares, worth $49,700, a large sum of money for 1905.

Unfortunately, both first story facades were completely altered during a 1970 renovation into the present cafeteria, although the store at 100 East Nash Street does retain its corner entrance. A simple molded metal cornice with a delicate key motif band remains above the former transoms and extends across the facade and down the first bay of the North Tarboro Street (southeast) elevation.

The handsome, symmetrically detailed second story facade is composed of two groupings of four arched windows, each grouping unified by a common brick surround with brick drop moldings, and stone lintel. The windows at 100 West Nash Street, the original Nadal Drug Store, are round, arched, and have slender keystone; a fifth window on the North Tarboro Street elevation is also joined with the facade windows by the continuous brick drip moldings. The windows in both sections have been closed. Both sections are unified by a bold, turned balustrade that carries around the top of the West Nash Street facade and across the first bay along North Tarboro Street elevation. Beneath this balustrade is a bold, moded metal cornice with egg-and-dart moldings and large dentils below; the frieze is plain. The southwest bay of the North Tarboro Street elevation continues the treatment of the facade of the Nadal Drug Store Building. The remainder of the first story has one (closed) window, one (closed) door, and an altered door at the alley. The second story has five pairs of segmentally-arched windows (also closed), each pair being unified by a common corbeled drip mold. The rear elevation has an irregular arrangement of segmentally arched doors and windows; all the second story windows have been closed. The first story interior of both sections have been altered by successive owners to the point that no original material survives. The second story of each section is fairly intact and consists of one large front room and two smaller rooms at the rear. The rooms upstairs are plastered, have wooden ceilings, and have simple moldings. A large double door joins the two front rooms. The individual stairs are at the rear; the stair for 100 has been altered and the stair at 102 has been removed. The rear of the 100 store has been converted into offices and the owners have plans to add an apartment here. The Nadal Drug Store occupied the 100 building until 1920 and was followed, successively, by Patterson's Drug Store until 1935, Pender's Grocery from 1935 to 1950, Singer Sewing Shop from 1950 until 1959, Betty Ross (women's wear) from 1960 until 1970, and by the Tastee Freeze cafeteria from 1970 until the present. The Citizens Bank closed in 1927 and was followed, consecutively, by Tudor's Florist, the Inez Shop from ca 1938 until the early 1950s, Carter's Jewelers from ca 1956 until 1975, and since 1980 by the Tastee Freeze Cafeteria. The second stories have been used primarily as storage, as they are now. During the 1930s and 1940s, Needham C. Holden had a photograph studio on the second story of the Citizens Bank Building at 102 West Nash Street.

16
(former) Oettinger's Department Store
100-106 East Nash Street
F

Long known as "The Dependable Store", Oettinger's Department Store was a Wilson landmark. The business was begun by 1866 when the firm of E. Rosenthal, Dry Goods was in operation on East Nash Street. Emil Rosenthal (1832-1892), a native of Firth, Germany and his wife, Eva Oettinger of Baltimore, had moved to Wilson in the early 1860s. The first Rosenthal store, a frame one, was destroyed by fire in December 1868 and was immediately replaced by a brick one, the core of which remains here. The two-story, brick, Victorian building was a composite of three similar

storefronts, each three bays wide, which were united by a massive metal cornice. Documentary photographs show heavy window hoods, a decorated frieze and large transoms supported by vast iron columns. In 1884, when Rosenthal moved to Goldsboro to join the firm of H. Weil and Brothers, he sold the store to his nephews, Jonas Oettinger (1857-1936), who had been helping his uncle in the store since 1869 and David Oettinger (1859-1899), who had come to Wilson from Baltimore in 1882. Under their leadership the store flourished.

A thorough remodeling in 1916 resulted in a building that was described at its re-opening as a "Handsome Modern Store, Metropolitan in All Its Appointments" and a "veritable fairyland". Unfortunately, this facade has also been lost. The present storefront at 100 East Nash Street dates from a 1958 remodeling by Barshay's Women's Shop, the 102 storefront from a 1961 remodeling by Oettinger's Men Shop, and the 104-106 storefront from a 1971 remodeling by the G. R. Kinney Shoe Store. The only surviving elements of the previous exterior are the four, second story, one-over-one sash windows and on the South Tarboro Street elevation of 100 East Nash Street, the metal cornice that crowns the South Tarboro Street elevation and the rear elevation of 100 East Nash Street, which is three bays wide and has one remaining tow-over-two sash windows with a raised brick segmental surround. While the first story interiors have all been drastically altered, the elaborate pressed metal ceilings fortunately remain on all the second stories. Among the finest in town, the coffered ceiling is embellished with foliate motifs and has a large cornice decorated with anthemion, egg-and-dart and foliate details. The Oettinger Department Store closed at this location soon after the death of Jonas Oettinger in 1936 (it occupied the smaller, Bullock Building at 110 West Nash Street from 1938 until 1958) and these four stores were occupied by the F. W. Woolworth Company from 1938 until 1958. There have been several businesses here since, including Oettinger's Men's Store in 102 and 104 from 1958 until 1981.

17
(former) Harris Building
101-103 East Nash Street
I

A two-story, brick building has stood here since at least the early 1880's according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps. A ca 1900 documentary streetscape photograph shows an elaborately, embellished facade with prominent rock-faced quoins, heavy bracketed window hoods, and a massive, ornate and bracketed wood cornice. Once known as the Harris Building, after a prominent Wilson merchant, William J. Harris (1839-1900), who had it erected for his mercantile store, the building had lost all of its exterior ornamentation, has had all of its second story and side elevations openings closed, and has been entirely stuccoed. The only surviving features are the triangular parapet at the top and a slight bow on the second story facade. First occupied by the dry goods, milliner and general mercantile store of Harris, the building has housed a number of businesses since, including the "Amuse You" vaudeville and motion picture theater in 1912 (E. B. Churchwell of Churchwell's Jewelers was the proprietor). The F. W. Woolworth Company was located here from ca 1925 until the late 1930s. Since that time, the building has been occupied by Mother and Daughter Shoes, the Glamour Shop, and since 1980, by Cato's Women's Apparell.

18
(former) Whitehead-Barnes Building
105-107 East Nash Street
I

These altered, two-story facades hide a commercial building erected between 1885-1888 (according to the Sanborn Maps) by Howell Gray Whitehead, Sr. (1839-1887) and Franklin Washington Barnes (1884-1910), two of the most prominent merchants and businessmen in Wilson during the late nineteenth century. A ca 1900 documentary photograph of the streetscape shows a handsomely detailed brick Victorian building with arched windows on the second story and an elaborately brick-detailed upper facade. Both storefronts were given modern replacements in the 1950s, at which time the second story of number 105 was entirely stuccoed and the second story of 107 was hidden behind a metal screen. It is not known how much of the original facade remains behind the present facades. Both first story interiors have been completely modernized. The plastered second story interiors are reasonably intact and have two, two-over-two sash segmental windows with heavy, molded surrounds in each storefront. The first occupant of the 105 store, according to the Sanborn Maps, was the post office, which was located here from ca 1885 until ca 1897. It was then occupied by a succession of businesses, including Churchwell's Jewelers (#20), now at 110 East Nash Street. The first occupant of the 107 store was a drug store, which was followed by a succession of businesses, including three cafes, Busy Bee, Taylors, and Monticello, from ca 1912 until the 1950s. The current occupants of both stores, Denny's Jewelers in number 105 and the Appel Barrel Mill Outlet in number 107, have been here since ca 1970.

19
Wilson Shoe Store Building
108 East Nash Street
F

The Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that by 1884 the three-story, brick, Internatinal Order of Odd Fellows Building has been erected here; the lodge facilities were on the third floor with rental stores on the first story and offices on the second story. In the 1910s the Lumina/Princess Theatre was located on the first floor. Sometime after 1930 the top floor was removed and the present unattractive brick facade was constructed by the Wilson Shoe Store, which occupied the building from ca 1922 until 1964. Fortunately, the rear interior stairwell leading to the second floor retains a superb, foliate motif, pressed metal ceiling that is embellished with an unusually large egg-and-dart molded cornice. Since 1966 the building has been occupied by Art's Clothing Store.

20
Churchwell's Jewelers
110 East Nash Street
F

A two-story, brick, commercial building has stood on this site since at least 1884 (according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps), although repeated remodelings have left no nineteenth-century fabric. Originally occupied by a grocery store, it was succeeded by a milliners, Saleeby's House of Sweets, and a barber shop. In the mid 1920s, the building was occupied by the Wilson Trust and Savings Bank, with John F. bruton, president; Jonas Oettinger, vice president; and E. T. Barnes, cashier. Closely allied with the First National Bank of Wilson across the street at 113 East Nash Street, the Wilson Trust and Savings Bank closed on December 22, 1931; the same day as First National Bank. It never reopened. The building was purchased by Mary Privette Churchwell (1880-1952), one of the first, leading businesswomen in

Wilson. She had begun her career in the jewelry business in 1900 in her brother's store on South Tarboro Street. In 1908, she and her husband, Edwin Barnes Churchwell (1879-1918), the son of William J. Churchwell, another jeweler on South Tarboro Street, started Churchwell's Jewelers at 105 East Nash Street (#18). The present facade at 110 East Nash Street is distinguished only by a handsome sandstone molded and dentiled cornice above the second story that was added when the bank remodeled the building in the mid 1920s. The rest of the facade is an unfortunate 1980 remodeling with neo-colonial elements. In the 1940s or 1950s, the lower facade was given a veneer of black carrara glass; this was all removed in 1980. Even the rear elevation was given a colonial finish in 1980. The tall, one-story interior dates from when the bank occupied the building and has a coved plaster ceiling supported by Doric pilasters with large moded panels between the pillars. The mezzanine level was altered in 1965 at which time the stairs were removed. The former bank vault does survive. The building continues to be occupied by Churchwell's Jewelers.

21
Commercial Building
112 East Nash Street
F

While a two-story, brick, commercial building has occupied this site since 1884, according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps, only a handsome wooden cornice and intels give any indication of the Victorian finish this building once possessed. The rest of the building was altered with a stuccoed facade and a replacement first story facade. The boldy molded cornice is supported by curved brackets with acorn drop pendants. The second story segmental arched windows (replacement panes) have heavily molded peaked lintels supported by scrolled blocks with floral motifs. The heavy sills also have supporting brackets. The first occupant of this building was a general store and it has seen many tenants through the years -- a cafe, drug store, meat store, clothing store, a bakery, and a thrift store. Its longest term tenant was the G. R. Kinney Shoe Company from ca 1936 until 1959. It is presently vacant.

22
First National Bank of Wilson Building
113 East Nash Street
P

Founded on February 16, 1874 as the first officially chartered bank in Wilson, the offices of the First National Bank of Wilson have always been located at this site. (Branch and Hadley, Bankers, now Branch Banking and Trust Company, had opened as a private bank in 1872.) Its first officers were Franklin Washington Barnes (1844-1910), president; Emil Rosenthal, vice president; and John Hutchinson, cashier. Little is known architecturally about the first building, presumably erected in 1874, other than it was a two-story, twenty-five-foot-by-fifth-five-foot, brick structure. The 1884 and 1885 Sanborn Maps listed the second floor as the meeting place of the Masonic Lodge. By the early 1900s a new building was needed, and The Wilson Times of August 8, 1902, announced that "In a short while hte new First National Bank will be ready for occupancy. . . The ceiling is of the prettiest design. . ." That building was torn down in 1926 to make way for the present structure. Interim banking offices in 1926-1927 were on East Barnes Street adjacent to P. L. Woodard and Company.

The present building was designed by C. C. Hartman of Greensboro and constructed by the John J. Wilson Company of Richmond, Virginia. Excavations for the building wwere begun on September 23, 1926 and a formal opening was held on August 27,

1927. Standing eight stories tall, and for many years the tallest building in Wilson, (being eclipsed by the BB&T Tower in 1966), the structure has a steel skeleton with reinforced concrete and sits on a base of Mount Airy granite; the elevations are of buff brick. The building is divided into the three parts of the classical column with the first two floors, which are rusticated throughout, forming the base. The two-story recessed central entrance is stone and has an elaborately scrolled and foliated surround with corner medallions. A twisted stone rope edges the inside of the entrance. The tall entrance transom has a handsome metal lattice grill. Triple windows with a larger central sash flank the entrance on both levels. A stone cornice with a foliate molded edge carries above the second floor and bears "FIRST UNION NATIONAL BANK" in modern, raised, metal letters. The shaft of the building, five stories in height, is entirely brick with corner quoins and paired one-over-one sash windows with stone sills. The topmost floor forms the entablature. A handsome frieze of alternating, stylized triglyphs and metopes form the cornice which also features a central frontpiece and reeded volutes at the corners of the building. A quartet of wide stone panels, between the paired windows, serve as corbels and rest on a stone architrave with mutules. The southeast elevation, facing the adjacent Wilson County Courthouse (1924)(NR) is eight bays wide and is finished identically to the East Nash Street (southwest) facade. The end bays are set off by quoins to frame the elevation and the windows are identical to those on the facade. At the front of the building, stairs descend to the basement. The northeast end bay contains the elevation's only entrance and has a transom and sidelights. The northwest elevation is plainly detailed and veneered with red brick. It is seven bays deep and has single, two-over-two sash windows with stone sills and soldier course lintels. The elevator shaft, at the front of the elevation, projects another two stories and is trimmed with stone borders. The stairwell shaft at the rear of the elevation is just one story taller than the building and has no stone ornament. The rear (northeast) elevation is four bays wide and combines the plain detailing of the northwest elevation with the spatial delineation of the two main elevations. The elevation's southeast corner has flush brick quoins of a darker brick which assist to visually unite the rear and southeast elevations. The rear elevation is divided into the same base-shaft-capital arrangement as are the front and southeast elevations. Except here the divisions are done by horizontal bands of brock soldier courses that continue the lines of the cornice between the second and third stories and the eighth floor capital treatment of the front elevations across the rear. The rear windows contain one-over-one sash windows with header course sills and brick soldier course lintels. The large rear entrance has been replaced with modern glass doors and surrounds.

A short vestibule leads into the handsomely finished lobby. Marble sheathed walls and marble floors give the lobby a handsome appearance. A large brass mail box highlights the northwest wall, adjacent to the two elevators. A double quarter turn closed stringer stair rises along the northwest wall. Its wooden handrail is carried by spiral metal balusters and the metal newels feature a classical foliate trim. The marble treads continue the polished appearance of the lobby. Entrance into the two-story with mezzanine banking lobby is through replacement, modern double glass doors. The lobby is five bays deep and three bays wide and is spanned by beams which rest on stylized corbels. Suspended flourescent lights illuminate the interior. The northwest recessed window bays are blind and contain large (approximately eight feet wide and twelve feet tall) photos of scenes associated with Wilson and Wilson County: Hackney wagons, cattle at pasture, a tobacco field, baskets of tobacco at auction, and the entrance to Kinsey Hall (razed in 1955) at Atlantic Christian College. The mezzanine level was closed in the 1960s, but the handsome wrought iron railing survives. The large, twelve-foot round door of the

vault dominates this room. The teller counter and all the furniture are 1960s replacements. The upper stories are reached by a pair of elevators and the stairs in the lobby. Numerous offices per floor open off a central hall. The upper floors are plainly finished. The doors have one large pane of translucent glass with transom and molded surrounds. The hall, floors and baseboards are terrazzo.

A list of the past directors and officers of the bank includes many of the prominent merchants, tobacco men and businessmen who were instrumenal in the life of Wilson. Such prominent Wilson leaders as Col. John F. Bruton, W. T. Clark, Ula H. Cozart, W. J. Davis, Ernest Deans, George Hackney, L. W. Hadley, Jonas Oettinger, Joe Rosenthal, W. E. Warren and Graham Woodard were directors when this building was constructed. The Bank closed on December 29, 1931, one day after the nearby Planter's Bank and the same day as the Wilson Trust Savings and Loan, across the street. It reopened on July 13, 1933 as the National Bank of Wilson; Graham Woodard was president, W. E. Warren was vice president and cashier and A. D. Shackelford and Edward Warren were assistant cashiers. In 1952 the bank was merged with the First Union National Bank of Charlotte. When First Union announced plans, in the early 1980s, to erect new Wilson offices, the First National Bank of Wilson Building was purchased by Wilson County for much-needed office space. With the occupation of the new bank building at 210 West Nash Street in February, 1984, the County began the conversion of the bank offices into County offices.

23
(former) Bissett's Drug Store
114 East Nash Street
I

While a two-story brick building is shown at this location on the 1884 Sanborn Insurance Maps, nothing of the exterior survives by which to authenticate the age of the present building. The first story facade has been replaced and is sheltered by am odern bellcast canopy; the second story is blind. The first story interior and mezzanine have also been completely altered. However the second story interior retains an ornate late-nineteenth century pressed metal ceiling and cornice. The building was occupied by several different concerns, including a bakery, furniture store, and jeweler during the nineteenth century and the Barned-Graves Grocery Company from 1902 to ca 1928. From the mid 1930s until the early 1970s the building was occupied by Bissett's Drug Store, Paul B. Bissette, proprietor. Bissett's was responsible for the present facade.

24
Wilson Hardware Company
116 East Nash Street
C

An invoice dated October 7, 1869, in the possession of the Wilson Hardware Company from Robert Lawson and Company of Baltimore, manufactures of saddles, harnesses, collars and trunks, to Messrs. Palmer and Green of Wilson, documents the operation of a hardware store at this address as early as 1869. Documentary photographs show that Green's building was a handsome, two-story, three-bay, brick Victorian structure that was embellished with hoods and corbels on the second story windows and boasted a large, bracketed, modillioned and paneled cornice; two cast iron columns supported a large, multi-paneled transom which spanned the entrance. In August 1907, Mr. Green retired and sold his store to John Bowie Gray, Sr. (1879-1939), J. Bennett Barnes, and S. W. Richardson, who incorporated as the Wilson Hardware Company. The building was remodeled into its present, modern appearance in 1945-1946. The first story now is completely occupied by glass and centers upon the recessed, double glass doors. Black carrara glass panels enframe the first story.

The three-bay second story has a pair of narrow, elongated windows that are filled with glass blocks and are united by a comon brick lintel and sill. Single one-over-one sash windows are in each flanking bay. The upper facade has no decorative brickwork. The interior retains its unaltered mezzanine office at the rear. The second story is unceiled and has exposed brick walls; it has always been used for storage. In the late 1910s a brick storage annex was erected behind the rear alley and is connected by an enclosed brick walkway that spans the alley at the second story; the drive-through's ceiling is finished with a simple, coffered, pressed metal ceiling that has a molded, foliate motif cornice. A native of Stafford County Virginia, J. B. Gray came to Wilson in1902, and as the longtime chairman of the Wilson Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, was well-known throughout the state for his activities against lawlessness in this section. His grandson is the present manager of the Wilson Hardware Company.

25
McLellan's Building
118-122 East Nash Street
C

One of the first large variety stores in Wilson, McLellan's established a store ca 1916 at 109 East Nash Street. By 1920 the business had moved to this present location into buildings built in ca 1888 to house the Branch Banking Company and the G. S. Tucker Furniture Store. These were later purchased by J. R. Boykin, whose will, probated in 1921, refers to a "double brick store located on the south side of East Nash Street known as the McLellan Stores". This facade probably dates from between 1925 and 1928 when the store expanded to is present four-bay wide size. The stepped gable and the brick edged panels with stone accents above the double, one-over-one sash windows on the second floor, are typical of commercial architecture in Wilson during the 1920s. The lower facade has been modernized. The spacious interior contains a lunch counter and a small mezzanine at the rear. The unfinished second floor has always been used for storage. There is a full basement, one of only a few in downtown Wilson.

26
Branch Banking and Trust Company Building (NR)
124 East Nash Street
P

The Branch Banking and Trust Company Building is among North Carolina's most elegant and best preserved examples of small but monumental Neo-Classical early twentieth century banks. It was erected in 1903 for the Branch Banking Company, a firm whose antecedent had been opened in Wilson by Alpheus Branch (1843-1893) and Thomas Jefferson Hadley (1838-1917) in 1872. Chartered in 1889, the firm remained a private institution until 1900 and during the twentieth century it expanded to become one of the State's major banks. This structure is its oldest building and first permanent banking facility.

Situated in the heart of Wilson's downtown area, directly across the street from the Wilson County Courthouse (1924) (NR), the two-story building of blond brick is set on grade over a full basement. Much of the architectural detailing of the formal neo-classical, Second Renaissance style structure is executed in a reddish, sandstone-colored soft concrete. The first floor exterior possesses the richest detail, especially the channelled brickwork, which raidates from the keystone and voussoirs surrounding the handsome circular-headed windows containing beveled glass. The main entrance is contained within an engaged triangular pediment carried on brick Ionic pilasters flanked to the interior by concrete fluted Ionic columns, both on a high pedestal. The entablature carries the name "Branch Banking Company"

and "1903" in the tympanem. The upper level has plain brick walls with chanelled pilasters. A pressed metal cornice wraps around the two principal facades; a classical-style parapet with turned balustrade originally crowned the building. The style of the original building was so faithfully reproduced in a 1934 three-bay extension to the rear of the building that it is difficult to detect the newer fabric. An arched passageway, partially carried on richly detailed consoles, connects the two sections and provides access to the rear alley.

The high-ceilinged interior banking lobby with a mezzanine balcony occupies the entire floor of the 1903 section and continues the building's noteworthy Neo-Classical detailing. Especially interesting are the surrounds of the circular-headed windows which have pilasters carrying an entablature with egg-and-dart molding. Although the lobby has been remodeled several times, a large amount of the original fabric remains.

Alpheus Branch (1843-1893) was born in Halifax County and served in the Civil War. On November 7, 1865, he married Nannie Barnes (1844-1961), the only daughter of General Joshua Barnes, a respected leader in Wilson County. Having become a successful farmer and private banker in Halifax from 1865 to 1868, the Branches moved to Wilson where, by 1869, he had established a mercantile company named Branch and Company. He and Hadley, a native of that area of Wayne County which is now Wilson County, operated their joint business from 1872 until 1887 at the corner of South Tarboro and East Barnes Street. In 1887 Branch bought out Hadley's interest and changed the name to Branch and Company, Bankers. One of Wilson's wealthiest citizens, Branch was engaged in many business enterprises, including being the president and principal owner of the Wilson Cotton Mills (established 1883), a director and considerable stockholder of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, and was one of the original directors of the Bank of Wilson (later the First National Bank of Wilson), chartered in 1874. He was active in supporting educational, social and religious purposes. In 1885 the Branches erected an impressive tow-story Italianate dwelling with a three-story tower at 309 West Nash Street; it was demolished in 1958.

With the booming of the Wilson tobacco market at the turn of the century bringing a period of unprecedented prosperity to Wilson, the Branch Banking Company expanded its services to meet the town's new-found wealth. A savings department was opened in December 1902, and by 1903 the bank had expanded enough to require new quarters, for which this lot was acquired from H. G. Whitehead and this building erected. In 1907 the bank opened a trust department, thus becoming among the first in the state to actually engage in trust activities.

Branch Bank boomed in the 1920s and opened its first branch office at Bailey in 1921. It was the only bank to remain open during the Depression years in Wilson, and during the war and post-war years continued its expansion. Major mergers occurred with the Bank of Davie in 1967, giving the bank its first access to North Carolina's progressive Piedmont area, with the Bank of Halifax in 1968, and with the Bank of Statesville in 1970. A large, nine-story main office was erected in the early 1970s as the bank's corporate headquarters at 223 West Nash Street. A similar tower is under construction on an adjacent lot which was the site of a large, beautiful Italianate Villa style house in which the Branches first lived in Wilson. In 1982 the Branch Banking and Trust Company ranked sixth among North Carolina banks and 152nd among banks in the nation.

The Branch Banking and Trust Company Building was designated as a Wilson Historic Property on June 16, 1977 and was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on August 11, 1978. A monograph of the company, Branch: a Tradition With a Future, by Vidette Bass (Wilson, NC: Branch Banking and Trust Company) was published in 1979.

27
Wilson County Courthouse (NR)
125 East Nash Street
P

The dominant building on Nash Street, the Wilson County Courthouse, is a monumental Neo-Classical Revival edifice situated at the heart of downtown Wilson. Designed by architect Fred A. Bishop and built in 1924 by William P. Rose of Goldsboro, the building stands on the site of the first Wilson County Courthouse built in 1855 in the Tudor Revival style, complete with battlemented parapets. It was remodeled in 1902 with the addition of a Baroque belltower on the front and a hipped roof and was later torn down to make way for the present courthouse.

The massive three-story over-basement, nine bay-by-three bay limestone veneer building features a recessed, hexastyle portico on the East Nash Street facade that is carried by six monumental, fluted composite columns and two pilasters. Carried above is an elaborate entablature with modillions and dentils, a plain frieze, and a heavy moded architrave that carries around the building. Windows on the facade become shorter on rising floors and are simply treated, containing single one-over-one sash in the recessed portico. The window openings on the outer bays are significantly more elaborate and consist of a large central one-over-one sash windows flanked by narrower ones. Their surrounds also diminish in elaborateness, with the first floor windows having engaged columns supporting a bold entablature that consists of a projecting cornice with egg-and-dart molding, a decorated frieze featuring an elaborate scrolled cartouche, and a three-part molded architrave. The second story windows have a well-executed cornice and dividing pilasters and the cornice of the third floor windows is the architrave of the entablature. A round clock, surmounted by a plumed cartouche and embellished with a carved fruit wreath, is centered at the top of the East Nash Street facade. The words "1855 WILSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1924" is inscribed in the frieze above the recessed loggia.

The North Goldsboro Street elevation, three-bays wide, is similarly treated. It displays a central quatrastyle projecting portico similar to the front loggia with blind flanking elevations. It has a bold molded stone cornice with dentils over the entrance. A plain, three-story, T-shaped wing, set back from Goldsboro Street, occupies the rear (northeast) elevation and forms a connector to the 1980 Law Enforcement Center. The northwest elevation, facing the eight-story First Union National Bank Building (1927), (which the county has purchased for office space), is blond brick, four-bays wide, with single two-over-two windows and stone sills; a matching elevator shaft was added in the 1950s. The entire building rests on a raised basement with monumental flights of marble steps at each entrance.

The interior is characterized by a lavish use of marble. Although the entire building was renovated in 1966 with new wall textures, lowered ceilings and recessed light fixtures, the remodelings have not detracted seriously from the original character of the building. Wide cross halls with marble stairs and dadoes divide the offices of the first floor. Paired marble stairs appear on the north and south sides of the main hall and rise to the third floor. The upper floors and the courtrooms have received more extensive remodeling than the ground floor. The courtrooms were completely rebuilt with pine paneled walls, recessed flourescent lights and church-like pews for the gallery.

28
Davis Building
200 East Nash Street
P

Prominently located at the corner of East Nash and South Goldsboro Streets across the corner from the impressive Wilson County Courthouse (1925) (NR), the Davis Building is Wilson's largest Neo-Classical style commercial building. It was designed by prominent Wilson architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930) and erected for Elizabeth Barnes Davis (1871-1955) in 1916 as a rental invesement after the death of her husband, Floyd Stith Davis (1870-1913), a prominent Wilson fertilizer dealer. The building was built on land she had inherited from her father, Frank W. Barnes (1844-1910), one of Wilson's most successful businessmen and a co-founder and the second president of the First National Bank of Wilson. The previous building on this site, a ca 1893 three-story, brick commercial building known as The Rocket Department Store, was razed to make way for the Davis Building.

The impressive four-story, four bay-by-six bay brick building sits on a limestone-faced first story and has its upper stories defined by large brick pilasters which rise with stone Tuscan capitals to carry a bold, molded and dentiled stone entablature. Unfortunately, the first story facade was entirely replaced in the 1960s but the South Goldsboro Street (northwest) elevation (except for the northeast bay which was also replaced) remains intact. The side elevation's first story is divided by paired Doric pilasters and contains small, high windows and the entrance to the upper stories at the southwest. The entrance has a handsome stoe cornice door hood, once supported by (now lost) brackets, and surmounted by a lion's head and the words "DAVIS BUILDING" incised above. The door surround has a rope twist inner molding. The interior first story was entirely modernized in the 1960s. The upper stories have a 103 South Goldsboro Street address and are reached by an elevator and closed-stringer stair that rises from the vestibule at the South Goldsboro Street entrance. The vestibule has a marble floor, wide door moldings, and a large boxed cornice. The stairs have marble trends and the railing is carried by a wrought iron balustrade. Each of the upper stories consists of a broad central hall off of which are arranged the plaster-finished offices. Doors contain translucent glass panes.

The first occupant of 200 East Nash Street (the first story) was the Nash Street Pharmacy, with G. B. Walton as manager. It was succeeded in the late 1920s by Millers Drug Store (Frank M. Miller and Paul B. Bissette, proprietors), and then by Bruce Lamm's Men's Shop. The 202 store was first occupied by Stohes-Tomlinson Clothing Store (C. W. and H. B. Stohes and J. L. Tomlinson, proprietors) and was succeeded in the mid 1930s by the National Shoe Store. The two stores, 100 and 102 East Nash Street, were combined into one store about 1941 and have been occupied, successively, by Herbert's Men's Shop, Carolyn's Ladies Shop, Stellens Women's and Children's Shop, and since 1972 by the Value Pak Discount Store. The many offices on the upper three floors have been occupied by a variety of lawyers, real estate agents, insurance agents, and physicians during the years. Noteworthy tenants have included architect Henry T. Crittenden from ca 1916 until ca 1920; Joe W. Stout and Co., contractors in the early 1920s; Wilkins and Wilkins, contractors, from ca 1922 until ca 1941; and Dr. Michel Saliba from ca 1928 until ca 1941. Arthitect John G. Ashe had an office here ca 1960. The last occupant, WILY (later WLLY) Radio, had their station here from ca 1960 until 1972. The upper stories have been vacant since 1972.

29
Planter's Bank Building
201 East Nash Street
P

Built in 1920 on the east corner of East Nash and North Goldsboro Streets, the Planter's Bank is a handsome, three-story, one bay-by-six bay Neo-Classical Revival style structure. The building, sheathed with a limestone veneer (brick construction) and sitting on a granite base, is an excellent complement to the Wilson County Courthouse (1924) (NR), executed in the same style on the opposite corner across North Goldsboro Street. The architect and builder are unknown, but a photograph of the bank taken in the late 1940s in the collection of Jones Brothers Construction Company of Wilson implies that Jones Brothers probably were involved in the construction; Jones Brothers maintained their offices on the second (mezzanine) story of the building during the early and mid 1920s.

The East Nash Street facade is flanked by paired, unfluted monumental Ionic columns which rest on massive granite plinths, and which, along with seven similar engaged columns along the North Goldsboro Street elevation, support a handsome carved stone entablature which features a modillioned and dentiled cornice. A stone balustrade with squat stone corner posts enlivened by boldly-executed cartouches crowns the building. The entrance boasts an elaborate pediment formed by laurel wreaths, swags, and acanthus leaves supporting a blind circular oculus with an egg-and-dart molded edge; perhaps it was intended to house a clock. The doors and windows were altered in 1973-1974 by the present owners for conversion into offices. The rear (northeast) elevation is an asymmetrical five bays wide and also covers the rear of the Whitehead Building lot at 203 East Nash Street. Three stories in height, its window openings either have replacement windows or have been closed. A large, double-wide opening (now closed) is on the third story. The interior was substantially altered in 1973-1974 and little original fabric survives. Even the original, tall, two-story lobby was divided into two floors with the former mezzanine level being expanded to the full size of the bank.

The Planter's Bank was organized in 1919 with officers William E. Smith, president, George E. Walston, cashier, and Walter C. Grant, assistant cashier. In 1928, the bank boasted resources of $1,500,000. The bank failed on December 29, 1931 (one day before the First National Bank of Wilson) and never re-opened. The building was sold in 1934 to C. B. Cunningham, whose son retains ownership. It has since been occupied, successively, by the European Cafe (Thomas O. Noulles and Thomas K. Zrakas, proprietors), Bruce Lamm's Men's Wear from ca 1945 until 1963, Wright's Paraphenalia Shop, and since 1974, by Provident Finance Company. The third story has been occupied by numerous offices since 1920. Because of its proximity to the Courthouse, these offices have been especially popular with lawyers. The Planter's Bank was designated a Wilson Historic Property on March 3, 1981.

30
Whitehead Building
203 East Nash Street
C

The core of this building, as shown on a ca 1897 documentary photography, was a portion of the ca 1866 Winstead-Hardy Building at 205-209 East Nash Street. This section was occupied from ca 1878 until 1883 by the general mercantile store of Thomas J. Gardner (1836-1886), who had operated a store in Saraatoga as early as 1867. Gardner was succeeded by the general store of C. A. Young, and in the late 1890s by a bicycle shop. In 1903 this building was purchased by howell Gray Whitehead, Jr. (1874-1956), a prominent Wilson businessman and tobaccoman, who maintained the building as rental property. The present facade is believed to date

from 1920 when the adjacent Planters Bank Building at 201 East Nash Street was built to replace a three-story, brick building that had been built ca 1888 and was known as the Elks Building. The Whitehead Building is not as deep as the adjacent buildings and the rear of its lot is occupied by the Planters BAnk Building. Therefore only the Nash Street facade is available for observation. Brick pilasters flank the facade. The first story was entirely altered in the 1950s-1960s with a relacement, angeled storefront, fake ashlar stone veneer on the lower storefront and on the flanking pilasters, and with the covering of the transom. The transom retains a double brick soldier course lintel. The second story has a recessed central section that contains three, twelve-over-one sash windows with cast concrete sills. Another brick soldier course crowns this recessed section. The facade is crowned by a stone-capped parapet. The first story interior has been completely modernized with replacement walls and a suspended ceiling. The modest pressed metal ceiling survives above the new ceiling. The second story interior, closed off and accessible only by a pull-down stairs, contains one large, plastered room with a tongue-and-groove board ceiling. The first occupant of the renovated building in 1920 was W. J. Burden and Son, Jeweler, who had been located at this address since ca 1912. Successive occupants after Burden were Coplon's Economy Store, ca 1928 to ca 1936, De Mers Appliance Company, Jo Ann (women's) Shop, Howard Adkins's Men's Shop, and Home Credit Company. It has been vacant for several years.

31
P. H. Rose Company
204 East Nash Street
F

In September 1955, the Roses 5-10-25| Stores, Inc. signed a lease with the Wilson Hotel Company, Inc., H. B. Bruton, president, to rent a "certain building to be erected by the Landlord". This one-story building was erected soon thereafter on the site of the New Briggs Hotel which had been razed in 1955. It presents a tall, false front facade and extensive show windows to the street. The wide facade, all of the same finish, interrupts the rhythm of the single and double storefronts on East Nash Street. Its interior, one large space with tall ceilings, is typical of the mid 1950s.

The Briggs Hotel was an excellent example of late Victorian hotel architecture and was designed by architect E. G. Lind of Baltimore and built in 1873 to replace an earlier Briggs Hotel which had burned. It was the first of Wilson's large, major hotels, and remained a local favorite; its dining room was especially popular. It was named for B. F. Briggs, a native of Wayne County, the County Clerk of Courts both before and after the Civil War, the County Sheriff from 1868 to 1874, and a prominent Wilson businessman. The hotel is most associated with his son, Roscoe G. Briggs (1859-1933), who was a prominent tobacconist and businessman.

32
Winstead-Hardy Building
205-207 East Nash Street
P

Displaying the oldest architectural fabric in downtown Wilson and being Wison's most impressive example of Victorian architecture, this handsome, two-story brick building boasts exceptionally fine corbeled brickwork on the second story and one of the finest metal cornices to survive in the state. It was erected ca 1865 for the general mercantile store of Kinsey H. Winstead and David L. Hardy, who, according to a deed dated December 30, 1867, were "trading under the style of David L. Hardy and Company at Joyner's Depot (near present day Elm City) and as Winstead and Hardy in Wilson." The partnership apparently did not continue long because in 1867 the

building was sold to Willie Winstead (the relationship to Kinsey H. Winstead is unknown).

The building is six-bays wide and has two very altered storefronts on the first story that flank a central recessed entrance. (The 205 storefront is three bays wide, the 209 storefront only two bays wide.) This recessed entrance provides access to the second story (207 East Nash Street) and contains a double door with upper glass panels (now boarded over) and a large, square, translucent transom. A modest metal band of molding extends across the building above the former transom level. Seven pilasters define the six-bay second story and support two tiers of raised brickwork, the upper tier resembling icicles and the lower comprised of two rows of dentils. The one-over-one sash windows have segmentally arched tops and soldier course lintels; a double row of corbeled stretcher bond bricks extends across the facade above the lintels and act as capitals where they cross the pilasters. The elaborate metal cornice was added to the building at the turn of the century: a ca 1897 documentary photograph does not show the cornice but rather a tall, simply detailed parapet (however, the 1888 Sanborn Map indicates that a metal cornice replaced a previous wooden cornice betwen 1885 and 1886). This ornate cornice, one of the finest metal cornices in the state, has bold molded brackets encrusted with a leaf motif at each end while slightly small versions punctuate the arch-paneled frieze. Curved modillions with leaf motifs, a dentil course, and a top most band of molding complete the exceptional cornice. The asymmetrical rear alley elevation has closed windows and replacement doors on the first story. The second story contains an entrance with double doors, a single door with tall segmental transom, and two, segmental two-over-two sash windows. There is no indication of the former stair configuration. The interiors of both first story floors have been completely remodeled with replacement walls and suspended ceilings. The second story interior, even though somewhat deteriorated, is intact and is as architecturally elaborate as the exterior. The entrance vestibule and the walls of the stairwell are covered with pressed metal with an elaborate floral motif; the ceiling has a coffered grid design with an egg-and-dart molded cornice. The stairs rise into a wide central hall and have a slender turned balustrade with large newels and heavy molded handrail. The walls of the second story are plastered. The hall's pressed metal ceiling is a foliate-decorated grid pattern with an egg-and-dart and reeded ornice. Nine doors with transoms open off the hall into individual rooms. These rooms all have elaborate pressed metal ceilings heavily embellished with foliate details and with large molded cornices; some of the rooms have anthemion details in the corners of the cornices. The front southeast room has a circular metal cornice. Several examples of old wallpaper also remain in these rooms. The interior rooms have recessed skylights with pressed metal covering the interiors of the recessed boxes; the skylights have been boarded-up.

The building has had numerous changes of ownerships and tenants. In 1877, Thomas J. Gardner (1836-1888), a merchant who had operated a general mercantile store in Saratoga since 1867, purchased the building and operated a store here until 1883. In that year Calvin A. Young, a wealthy Wilson merchant, acquired the building and operated a store here for just four years, elling the building to Josiah Blackwell; it is not known what Blackwell's profession was. Since 1888, the 105 store has been successively occupied by a grocery store, offices, another grocery, the Southern Express Company, the European Care (from ca 1916 until the early 1930s), (Thomas O. Nouelles and Thomas K. Zrakar, proprietors), Lucille's Dress Shop, M & J Cafeteria (ca 1914 until 1962), Smart & Thrifty Shop, and currently, New York Fashions. Successive occupants of the 109 store have been a tailor, James F. Eason plumber, offices, the Dixie Lighting Company, a smoke shop, J. S. Adkins and Son Men's Clothing, vacant from ca 1941 until the 1970s, and since then by Downtown Wig. The Dixie Lighting Company was incorporated in 1907 by J. R.

Hardy, Joseph R. Joyner, and William and Mamie M. Teiser and specialized in gasoline lighting systems and supplies. According to Industrial and Commercial Wilson (1912), it was one of the largest concerns of its kind east of the Mississippi River and its business territory covered North and South Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia. The corporation was dissolved in 1915.

There is no record of what occupied the second story until Wilson's first Sanborn Map in 1884 listed it as a "Hall"; nothing more is recorded about this hall. In 1897, the second story was occupied by offices and from ca 1900 until ca 1912, James F. Easson, who had a plumbing shop in the 109 store in the 1890s, resided on the second story (he had purchased the building in 1900). From ca 1916 until the early 1930s the proprietors of The European Cafe in 105 East Nash Street operated the second story as the European Hotel. It was occupied by apartments until the 1940s, when the secod story was vacated. It has been vacant since.

33
Wilson Sanitorium Annex
210 East Nash Street
C

Established as a private hospital in 1897 by Dr. Charles E. Moroe (1855-1941) and Dr. Elijah Thomas Dickerson (1870-1951), the Wilson Sanitorium was the first hospital to be built in Wilson and treated surgical and non-contagious cases. The original building, a four-story; brick building with a two-story, front facade porch, was torn down in the 1920s for the construction of the Willis Building at 218-220 East Nash Street. This three-story brick annex was built in 1905. It was designed by John Christie Stout (1860-1921), a prominent Wilmington architet who worked in Wilson from 1904 until 1906 in partnership with Charles C. Benton (1888-1960) before moving on to a successful practice in Rocky Mount. The first story of the facade has been entirely altered and has replacement windows and an awning covered with false, plastic wood shingles. On the secod story, are three closed-up, square window openings which, according to a ca 1910 documentary photo, originally contained pairs of one-over-one sash. The third story is the most elaborately finished. It is divided by raised brick pilasters tat are suported by turned corbels and frame an arched central window (now closed) that has stone voussoirs. A double, closed window opening (originally containing a pair of one-over-one sash) flanks each side. The three, third-story windows are united by a rock-faced stone sill; a corbeled brick course extends above each side window. The upper facade has two bands of raised brickwork and is crowned by a shaped, curving parapet gable with a stone cap. The pilasters of the third story rise to the parapet to enframe the date, 1905, that is decorated with an applied swag decoration; a finial crowns each pilaster. Of special note it the surviving sign, "The Wilson Sanitorium", in metal letters at the top of the southeast elevation; because of the adjacent Willis Building, this sign is visible only from a distance. The rear elevation is two bays wide and has a large,double opening on the second story, and a segmental door with transom on the first story. All the openings except the door have been closed. The first story interior has been comletely remodeled. The upper two story interiors have been closed off and are inaccessible. The hospital closed a 1925; the original building was razed, and the annex was sold in January, 1926, to Dr. Albert F. Williams, who had joined the Wilson Sanitorium in late 1910. Williams maintained his private office here until ca 1936 (sharing the building with the real estate office of Hugh S. Sheppard in the late 1920s). Successive occupants of the first story have been Martha Park's Ladies Clothes, Terry's Thrift Shop, and presently, Colortyme TV Rental. There is no record of what, if anything other than storage, the upper two stories have been occupied by since the 1930s.

34
Herring's Drug Store and Office
211-213 East Nash Street
P

A favorite meeting place for Wilsonians since 1886, Herring's Drug Store was erected in 1885 for Dr. Needham Ridgeman Herring (1838-1923). The two-story, two-bay facade dates from the 1920s when all the buildings from 211-231 East Nash Street were unified with the same brick facade treatment with stone accents. Important details include brick pilasters with stone capps, a stone pediment holding a flush, stone plaque reading "H-1885", broad stone lintels and sills, and quoined surrounds. Both first floor facades, the Drug Store at 211 and Dr. Herring's office at 213 (now a bookshop), have been altered. While the interiors of both the drug and the office were remodeled in 1956 to some extent, their pressed metal ceiligns are intact. The one at 213 is a modest, coffered ceiling, while th edrug store ceiling, featuring quatrefoil motifs filled with floral and foliate decorations, panels with classical figures, urns, and grape clusters, and an elaborate frieze of floral swag, is among the most elaborate in Wilson. The second floor of 211-213, known as "Herring Hall", was the scene of many dances in the 1890s and was later used as an apartment. It contains several rooms and has plastered walls, a beaded tongue-and-groove ceiling, and wide moldings at the doors and windows. Three generations of Herrings worked in this building, the founder, his son Doane Herring (1863-1951), and his grandson, Needham B. Herring. Dr. Herring was a native of Nash County, moved to Elm City (Wilson County) in the early 1880s, and came to Wilson ca 1885 and established this thriving practice. His son, Doane Herring, graduated from the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy in 1886, and joined his father. He was chairman of the County Board of Education for twenty-three years, was the Mayor of Wilson from 1900 to 1906, and was chairman of the County Commissioners from 1910 to 1912. The founder's grandson, Needham Bridgeman Herring (1895-1961), was also a registered pharmacist. In 1959 the business was sold to John W. Gresham, the present manager. The 213 store, the former office, is now used as a bookstore. The second story is used for storage.

35
Hackney Buildings
215-217, 219, 221-225, 227-231 East Nash Street
P

No individual business is more publically associated with the growth and development of Wilson than the Hackney Wagon Company. The company, founded in 1854 on this site, had, by the late nineteenth century, expanded to cover the southeastern half of this block. In 1885 it was considered one of the few large manufacturers of carriages and wagons in the Southern States, was in a remarkably prosperous condition, and marketed its products through the Carolinas and Virginia. The present complex of buildings, primarily the showrooms and finishing areas, dates from 1885.

According to the monograph of the company, Hackney-The History of a Company, by J. M. Daniel, Jr. (Wilson, NC: Hackney Brothers Body Company, 1979), Willis Napoleon Hckney (1823-1887) was born in Nash County and gained valuable experience in Pomeroy Clark's coach and wagon factory in Rocky Mount. In the winter of 1851-1852 Clark moved his operations to Wilson and apparently began operation on this site, bringing Hackney with him. On September 16, 1854, Hackney formed a partnership with Caleb Lee Parker and they purchased much of Clark's operations. By August 2, 1856, when Hackkney sold his interests in Parker-Hackney to William Murray, Parker-Hackney was making a wide variety of buggies, wagons, carts, wheelbarrows, harnesses, coaches, and carriages. Hackney's activities between 1856 and 1871 are not cleraly defined,

but it seems justifiable to assume that he was involved in some capacity with the firm. On January 4, 1871 Hackney and William Murray, "doing business under the name of Hackney and Murray" bought this entire lot; since that date the Hackney name has never been out of the firm's title. Business was prospering in the post civil war expansion period and Hackney was joined in the business by his three sons, Thomas Jennings Hackney (1851-1914), George Napolean Hackney, Jr. (1854-1948), and Willis Douglas Hackney (1858-1937); the father and sons held prominent positions in the business, social, cultural, and educational activities of Wilson throughout their lives. In 1874, Thomas Jennings Hackney purchased the J. H. Chapman carriage factory in Rocky Mount and was joined in its operations by brother George in 1878. The Rocky Mount operations continued under the name Hackney Brothers until it was destroyed by fire on February 19, 1890; it was never rebuilt. The senior Hackney sold the Hackney Wagon Company in Wilson to his three sons on January 1, 1886 and retired. He died in Wilson on December 6, 1887 and is buried in Maplewood Cemetery.

By the early twentieth century the company was bursting at the seams and this downtown site was too crowded for its expanded manufacturing operations. A new larger complex was then begun along Gold Street. Between 1913 and 1922 a series of brick buildings were erected at the new site and the operations gradually moved there. After a December 24, 1921 fire destroyed the two main factory buildings on this downtown block (now the site of the parking lot behind the Municipal Building at 112 North Goldsboro Street and the Police Station at 134 North Goldsboro Street), the decision was made to move all the remaining manufacturing and finishing operations downtown to the Gold Street location. At that time, the facades of the various brick buildings along East Nash Street were remodeled into the present architecturally unified commercial block of nine storefronts.

The present row of Hackney Buildings at 215 to 231 East Nash Street consist of four individual buildings, ranging in dates from 1885 to 1922. The facade treatment employed here in1922 to unify these nine storefronts relied upon the use of restrained decorative brickwork and the use of cast concrete accents to distinguish the individual structures without creating an overwhelmingly massive single block. This same finish was used on numerous commercial buildings in Wilson during the 1920s. Its use here and on the adjacent Herring Drug Store at 211-213 East Nash Street creates the finest surviving uninterrupted streetscape in Wilson. The four component buildings will be discussed individually.

215-217 East Nash Street

The Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that this three-story brick building was erected in 1884-1885; it is the oldest of the Hackney buildings. The first story was used for storage (presumably of finished wagons and carriage), while the second story was given over to varnishing, painting, and triming, and the third story for more storage. The present 1922 facade is six bays wide, three bays per storefront. The first story level is flanked by rusticated brick pilasters and has two, double recessed entrances in the center with replacement display windows. The former transom is obscured by carrara glass. The upper stories contain single nine-over-nine sash windows with cast concrete lintels and sills; the sills have square brakets underneath each corner. Panels of soldier course bricks with cast concrete squares in the corners and a stepped parapet complete the building. The spacious plaster interior has one large room per floor. Like the other buildings, the only visible original elevation is the rear (southeast) elevation. The first story of the rear elevation is hidden by a ca 1930s one-story brick shed and a loading bay with an overhead door that was added in the 1960s. The six-bay wide second and third floors contain one-over-one sash windows with segmental lintels; these are the only windows on the Hackney Buildings which retain their shutter hardware. Only one star-shaped tie bar brace remains. The third bay from the northwest was bricked in

to facilitate the erection of a square, brick chimney in the 1960s. The 215-217 building was vacated by the Hackneys as early as 1913 wen the Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate a clothing store in 215 and offices in 217. By 1922 the 215 store was occupied by Graham Winstead and Son Stationers, and in 217 by Efird's Department Store. In the early 1930s the two stores were combined into one and have since been occupied by the J. C. Penney Company, from ca 1936 until 1965 and the Western Auto Store from 1967 until the present; it was vacant in 1966. The upper floors have been used for storage since Hackney vacated them.

219 East Nash Street

In 1922 the alley separating the 215-217 building and the 221-225 building was occupied by this single, one-bay storefront. The first floor of the facade, flanked by rusticated pilasters with stone caps, has ben completely replaced by modern, plate glass windows and its transom has been covered. The second story contains three nine-over-one sash windows with cast concrete lintels and corbeled sills, all set into a central panel enframed by brick in a basketweave pattern. A brick soldier course separates the second and third stories. Centered in the third story is a wide, quadruple arched window set beneath a segmental arch of soldier and header courses; corbeled consoles and a prominent cast concrete keystone complete the arch. The window contains twelve-over-one sash. Above this arch is a panel of basketweave brick. A stepped and raked parapet crowns the storefront. The unaltered rear elevation is three bays wide and has a double door entrance on the first level that is set in a segmental surround and is flanked by segmentally arched two-over-two sash windows with cast concrete sills. Similar windows occupy the upper floor bays. The first story interior has been completely remodeled with modern paneling and a dropped ceiling; fortunately the pressed ceiling remains above the newer ceiling. It is the same ceiling as on the upper stories, which is an elaborately detailed coffered ceiling with a medallion and foliate motif, a molded geometric border, and a garland cornice. Access to he upper floors, which are plastered and contain one narrow room per floor, is by a rear closed-stringer stair with turned balustrade. This building's first occupant in 1922 ws also a portion of Efird's Department Store. It was vacant for several years in the mid and late 1930s and from 1941 until ca 1979 ws occupied by Lucille's Dress and Bridal Shop. since 1980 the National Finance Company has had offices here.

221-225 East Nash Street

This three-storefront building was erected in 1897 by Rose Brothers of Goldsboro and featured an iron front, one of only four such storefronts erected in Wilson. As the Dewey Brothers Foundary in Goldsboro was actively making metal storefronts in 1897, one can assume that the Deweys were responsible for the Hackney storefront, seeing that the Deweys and the Roses, the contractors, were both from Goldsboro. The only known documentary photograph of the building is a ca 1885 streetscape taken from the intersection of East Nash and South Goldsboro Streets. It indicates a multi-bay building with raised pilasters flanking each window (much like that at the ca 1895 Tomlinson and Company building at 131-133 South Tarboro Street). The 1922 facade is nine-bays wide and continues the patterned brick and cast concrete accent finish of the other buildings. Here, all three first story entrances were modernized in the 1940s, including the covering of the transom. The upper two floors are marked by brick pilasters that rise to surround the center three bays. Fenestration on each story is composed of a central triple window of twelve-over-one sash flanked by individual single windows. The upper facade is decorated with panels edged with soldier course brick with cast concrete square accents. The roofline, unlike the others, is not stepped; it's flatness further adds to the visual variety of this large commercial block. Again the rear elevation is the only

surviving 1897 elevation and is nine bays wide, three bays per storefront. Each store originally had a rear eight-foot wide door with a round arched top; all three have been bricked in as have the first floor windows. The upper floors have two-over-two sash windows with segmental arched lintels. Six star-shaped tie bar ends remain on the rear elevation. All three interiors retain their pressed metal ceilings; the first floor's 1922 ceiling is decorated with motifs and egg-and-dart molding and has an anthemion frieze; the second floor's ceiling is a more elaborate, turn of the century ceiling, and the third floor ceiling has a small, square grid pattern with an anthemion frieze. The elevator and stairs are in the rear southeast corner. In 1897 the first floor was used for carriage displays, the second floor for varnishing, and the third floor for painting. These uses continued until the Hackneys vacated the building ca 1922 at which time the 221 store was occupied by the Charles Department Store and the double store at 223-225 by the Gay Brothers Department Stores. By 1936 the Charles Department Store occupied all three stores and continued to do so until 1980; the upper two floors were used by the store for their offices and storage. Presently the 221 store is occupied by Golden's Fashion Store and 223-225 are occupied by a bingo parlor; the upper floors are vacant.

227-231 East Nash Street

Sanborn Maps indicate that a two-story brick building was built here between 1893 and 1897. It was built by the Hackneys as rental property and was first occupied by O. W. Quinn and Company, furniture dealers. Between 1908 and 1913 the building, according to the Sanborn Maps, was given a metal front. The building was not raised to a full three stories until 1922 when all these buildings were remodeled into a unified commercial block. The 1922 facade is nine bays wide and is composed identically to that at 221-225, except here the rusticated pilasters are intact, as is the copper and granite trimmed first story of 231. The other two storefronts have been replaced with modern ones. The parapet is stepped. The southeast (North Douglas Street) elevation is seven bays wide. The first bay from East Nash Street has a display window that is flanked by rusticated brick pilasters on the first story. There are only five bays on the first floor, the central one having originally been an arched double door; it has been bricked in with only its keystone and its step remaining. The second story contains nine-over-one sash windows; the southwest bay of each story has identifal triple windows. The rear elevation, the only original one, contains three double doors and four windows on the first floor and seven bays with two-over-two sash windows with segmenetal brick label surrounds on each of the upper two floors. In 1922 covered passaged were erected to span the rear alley and connect the second and third floors of this building to another Hackney rental commercial building on the southeast at 105-109 North Douglas Street. These bridges were removed during the 1940s. The interior is divided into two stores, a much altered one at 227 and a double, spacious store at 229-231. The double store has the same pressed metal ceiling as in 225-227. Of note here is the excellent Colonial Revival finish of the corner display cases, which have raised panel wainscots and flanking pilasters. An open staircase at the rear of 227 leads to the upper stories, which cover all three stores. The second story has the same ceiling as the first and has frame partition dressing rooms arranged across the rear wall. The third story is the only one of all these Hackney buildings that does not have a pressed metal ceiling, but rather beaded tongue-and-groove boards. By 1913 the O. W. Qinnn and Company had changed to the Quinn-McGowan Furniture Company (A. D. McGowan, R. J. Rhodes, and J. W. Quinn, proprietors). They were succeeded by Gilmer's Department Store which occupied all three stores from 1922 until 1956. Since then, the 227 store has been occupied by the Public Finance Company and later Liberty Loan; it has been vacant since 1981. From 1956 until 1983 the double store at 229-231 was occupied by Stephens Hardware Store; it, too, is vacant presently.

36
Willis Building
218-229 East Nash Street
P

The Willis Building, constructed between 1922 and 1925 for Dr. Harry Clay Willis (1887-1966), is a handsome, yet modest, example of Wilson's commercial architecture of the 1920s. It was built on the site of the 1897 Wilson Sanitorium, which had ceased operations ca 1924 and which was razed to make way for the Willis Building. The two-story, three-bay structure is laid up in red, orange and grey brick, the patterning of which results in a most pleasant and lively appearance. It is enhanced by the vertical bands formed by single rows of stretcher brick which subtly enframe the facade's bays. The street facade is composed of two storefronts and a single foor on the northwest which leads to the second floor. The storefronts are little altered and have entrances that are recessed between large display cases, multi-pane transom lights, pressed metal ceilings, and copper and marble trim. The single door contains a large glass pane and has a multi-pane transom (now boarded up, as it the transom at number 218). The second floor has two large, segmentally arched, triple window openings with multi-pane transoms; stone keystones, spring blocks and sills decorate the windows. The sash are arranged with a large central pane flanked by one-over-one sash windows. A single window with one-over-one sash and a round fanlight lights the stairway on the northwest (right) of the facade. Between the second floor's windows and the first floor's transoms are rectangular panels of brickwork edged with stone. Crowning the facade and continuing along the southeast elevation is a large and handsome modillioned and dentiled metal cornice. The southeast elevation (facing the U.S. Postt Office and Courthouse) is six bays deep and has a display window at the street corner, small-high windows (bricked in) with stone sills on the first floor and paired, one-over-one windows on the second floor. Panels framed by soldier courses with square-stone-corner insets are placed above the windows. The rear elevation is four bays wide on the second story and contains windows similar to those on the front, eacept boarded up. The first floor is occupied by a brick storage addition. A double door is at the southeast corner.

The interiors of both stores have seen moderate modifications and retain their pressed-metal ceilings. The molded and coffered squares of the ceiling are framed by a handsome metal cornice with a motif of tied bundles of reeds and egg-and-dart molding. The second floor contains a number of offices and is surprisingly well-lit and spacious. Large skylights illuminate the interior rooms while the many windows on the front and side give light to the single rooms arranged along both elevations.

Dr. Harry C. Willis (1887-1966) was born in Morehead City and received his medical training at Harvard University, specializing in treating ailments, of the ears, eyes, nose and throat. He came to Wilson in 1922, had this building erected, and occupied offices on the second floor until his death in 1966. Tenants of the first floor storefronts have been, successively, in 218, Miller's Beauty Salon, the Lyric Theatre (ca 1928-1930), Hemby's Beauty Salon and presently, Cannon's Men's Shop, and in 220, the Lyric Theatre, M'Ladye's Beauty Shop, Grace's Ladies Shop, Nash Street Bowling Alley, Vally and Ellis Drug Store, and presently, Weslin's Women's Shop.

37
United States Post Office and Courthouse
224 East Nash Street
P

Occupied in 1930, this imposing four-story late Neo-Classical style post office was the first building in Wilson constructed specifically to house the postal service. The first post office in what is now Wilson was established near Toisnot Depot on April 29, 1840, with James Dempsey Barnes (b.1809), a store operator, as the first postmaster. The name of the post office was changed to Wilson in 1849 when the town was incorporated.

The post office was located at many different sites through the years, usually dependent upon the place of business of the postmaster. Two of the most locally prominent postmasters were Mary Cleaves Seabrook Daniels (1830-1923), the postmistress from 1866 until 1883, and Samuel H. Vick (1861-1946), postmaster from 1889 to 1894 and again from 1898 until 1903. Mrs. Daniels operated a millinery shop on Tarboro Street and later the Seabrook Hotel (#126) at the same location. Her sons helped putting up mail and one, Josephus Daniels (1862-1948), later became a prominent Democrat and newspaperman, working on the Wilson Advance, the Kinston Free Press, the Rocky Mount Reporter, and the Raleigh State Chronicle, and most importantly as the powerful editor of the Raleigh News and Observer from 1894 until 1948. He also was Woodrow Wilson's Secretary of the Navy from 1913 until 1921 and Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Ambassador to Mexico from 1933 until 1941. Vick, Wilson's first black postmaster, was a prominent leader in Wilson's black community, being a teacher and principal of the Colored Graded School, and a leader in the Jackson Chapel First Missionary Baptist Church. After 1903, Vick became a Presbyterian missionary and traveled throughout North Carolina organizing Sunday School classes. Vick was very active in the establishment of black fraternal organizations, Wilson's first black hospital in 1913, an early black Theatre, the first black hotel, the Orange Hotel in 1906, and the first bank operated by blacks, the Commercial Bank of Wilson, which operated from 1920-1929.

In 1909 the first move toward the erection of a permanent post office was taken with the purchase of this site from the Wilson Sanitorium Company; the lot, at that time, was occupied by a two-story frame dwelling, which stood until the mid 1920s. Designed by James A. Wetmore of the Treasury Department, this building was built under the direction of general contractor Charles Weitz's Sons of Des Moines, Iowa. However, several firms subcontracted for part of the work.

The impressive five bay-by-three bay building is limestone veneer over brick with a steel structural frame and rests on a full basement which has a prominent stone water table. The central three bays of the facade projects slightly and contain the richest treatment. The first floor, reached by a short flight of steps that spans the three-bay projection, has three large, tall, round-headed openings, the outer ones contain handsome windows and the central opening is recessed and contains the double entrance which is flanked by slender pilasters. Across the top of the entrance is a richly carved swag that extends from a central console. Carved rosettes are applied slightly lower at either side. The second and third floors of this central section are distinguished by paired Corinthian pilasters that flank the three-part windows that have lower panels; the second floor windows have pediment surrounds. The pilasters rest on a molded base and rise to carry a dentiled cornice. The words "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE AND COURT HOUSE" are incised in the frieze. These paired pilasters continue in a very restrained manner on the fourth floor, where they flank diminished eight-over-eight sash windows. A molded cornice crowns the fourth and topmost floor. A hipped, slate covered roof covers the building. The rest of the facade and the two elevations, the southeast one facing South Douglas Street nd the northwest one facing the Willis Building at 222 East

Nash Street, continue the fenestration and ornament of the central section and are unified by the continuous water table, the continuous base of the pilasters, the continuous dentiled cornice above the third floor, and the topmost cornice. The central bay of the South Douglas Street elevation contains the interior stair and its arched central opening is blind with only a narrow vertical slit to provide interior illumination. The rear of the building is brick faced with the same fenestration on the upper three floors. At the central section is a three story, five bay-by-two bay extension which is stone faced only on the first floor. A side entrance occupies the corner between this extension and the South Douglas Street elevation. A six bay-by-three bay service extension was added on the rear in 1961. It is stone faced and has a water table and cornice to complement the older building. This addition has five loading bays for mail trucks facing Douglas Street and one loading bay at the rear. The northwest elevation of the 1961 addition is stone-faced without any openings.

The interior has been little altered. The broad, L-shaped public corridor extends across the East Nash and South Lodge Street elevations and contains the handsome brass mailboxes, the service windows and the marble stairs that rise along the South Lodge Street elevation. This corridor has a high vaulted ceiling and black and white paved marble floors. Reached by the stairs and a brass detailed elevator, the offices on the upper floors are simply finished and radiate from a transverse hall. The courtroom on the second floor has a coved ceiling, a turned balustrade, and paneled walls of highly polished gum.

With the completion in 1981 of a new building, the post office, for the first time, is located away from Wilson's central business district. This building now houses only a few federal offices. The U. S. Post Office and Courthouse was designated a Wilson Historic Property by the City Council on October 28, 1982.

38

Highland Realty Company Building/The Red Apple Cafe
300-302 East Nash Street
C

The Highland Realty Company had this two-story, two bay-by-seven bay, brick building built in 1924 as rental property. The first occupants were the Wood-Whitley Electric Company and Spiers China and Gift Shop on the first floor and offices and apartments on the second floor. Highland defaulted on the loan in 1932 and the property was acquired by the Prudential Insurance Company. The 300 store was occupied by The Red Apple Cafe from 1941 until 1962, a period during which the building changed ownerships several times. Spero Moche purchased the building in 1945 and took over the operation of The Red Apple Cafe in 1950. It was sold to the present owners in 1962.

The building is built of red brick with rusticated brick piers on cement bases on the first floor facade. The lower facades have seen unfortunate alterations, including the replacement of both original entrance arrangements and a metal screen on the 300 store that covers the front facade and the display window on the northwest (South Douglas Street) elevation from the bottom of the transom to the second story window sill. The second floor has quadruple, one-over-one sash windows on the southeast (302). A brick soldier course comprises the lintel. Three diamond-shaped insets, a handsome modillioned and dentiled metal cornice and a stone-capped parapet complete the upper facade. The South Douglas Street elevation (northwest) is seven bays wide. The first floor consists of a display window in the first bay, four small-high, closed-up windows, the two-panel with glass pane door that leads to the second floor and two small narrow stores. These stores with addresses of 103 and 105 South Douglas Street, are flanked by rusticated brick pilasters that rest on limestone bases, have central doors with side window and

multi-pane transoms of grooved glass. A brick soldier course lintel unites both stores. The second story has double, one-over-one sash windows and a continuation of the same inset cornice finish found on the facade. The rear elevation fronts onto a narrow alley and is two bays wide on the first floor with a door and a tall window; three two-over-two windows are on the second floor. All the first story interiors have been modernized and have lost their architectural features.

The second story, which has an address of 101 South Douglas Street, has a plaster finish and contains thirteen rooms arranged in seven office/apartment suites; a wide hall adjacent to the party wall with the Abbitt Building at 302-304 East Nash Street provides access to the offices. Large skylights in the hall and in several of the interior rooms provide additional light. The hall doors and the doors between the inner and outer offices have large-upper panes, transoms, and square sidelights of translucent glass which further assist in illuminating the interior with natural light. The doors between office suites do not have panes, transoms or sidelights. Molded baseboards and plain surrounds complete the second floor. There are two bathrooms at the rear.

After The Red Apple closed in 1962, the 300 store was occupied by the Atlantic Credit Company until ca 1981 and by Martha's Dress and Hat Shop to the present. Successive tenants in 302 have been Speirs China and Gift Shoppe, LaBells Beauty Salon, Dutch Lunch, Standard-Jay Finance Company, The Lunch Box, Central Finance Company, and since the mid 1970s, James F. Best, accountant. The 103 South Douglas Street store was occupied during the 1930s by the Wilson Industrial Bank, which was incorporated in 1937. Offices were William M. Wiggins, president; James M. Fitzgerald, vice-president; ERwin B. Pittman, cashier; William R. Redding, assistant cashier; and Charles B. McLean, attorney. The bank maintained offices here until the early 1940s when they moved to 118 West Nash (now razed); they were acquired by the Branch Banking and Trust Company in 1958. They were succeeded here by Gregory Sign Service, Marvel Exterminating Company, John R. Harriss Insurance Agency and, presently, Doris's Beauty Shop. The 105 South Douglas Street store has been occupied successively by Harvey O. Johnson, locksmith; Elmo Walls and Sons, tailors; Dozier P. Watson, typewriters; and The Thrift Shop. The second floor contained several insurance and real estate agancies during the 1930s in addition to apartments. During the 1950s, there were seven apartments here; the last residents left in the 1960s. The second floor has been vacant since.

39
C. P. Farris Office Building
301 East Nash Street
I

This boxy, modern building was erected by C. P. Farris in 1959 on part of the site of the W. D. Hackney House which had been razed in the mid 1950s. The plain, undetailed walls of stone aggregate and the sparsity of windows make this building incompatible with the historic streetscape of East Nash Street. In addition to Farris's office, a number of other private, business and governmental offices haveen located here.

Built between 1893 and 1897 in the Queen Ann style and remodeled ca 1918 into the Classical Revival style, the Hackney House, located across Douglas Street from the original plant of the Hackney Wagon Company, was among the last of the fine downtown residences which survived into the mid-twentieth century.

40
Abbitt Buildling
304-306 East Nash Street
C

This two-story, two-storefront, brick commercial building was erected ca 1930 (it is included on the Sanborn Map of that year drawn "from plans") by Harry W. Abbott, Sr. (1881-1957) as rental property; the architect and builder are unknown. A native of Virginia, Abbitt came to Wilson in 1915 and became a pioneer in the automobile business. He opened the first Ford dealership in Wilson that year on East Barnes Street and built a large showroom at 221 South Douglas Street ca 1922. Abbitt was also the owner of a number of downtown properties, which continue in family ownership.

The building's two storefronts are flanked by pseudo-stone quoins and the facade's all-header brick finish creates a pleasing and unusual finish. Unfortunately, both original first level facades have been replaced and the transoms covered. A brick soldier course extends across each transom. The second floor facades each have three two-over-two sash windows with round fanlights, all set inan arched surround of headers with a central stone keystone. The upper facade contains a panel of vertically laid headers, a brick soldier course and a stone-capped parapet; the cornice that spanned both storefronts two feet from the top has been removed. The southwest elevation, adjoining a one-story byilding, has no windows on the second story, but carried a painted "ONE HOUR CLEANERS" advertisement for a former business at 308 East Nash Street. The rear elevation faces an alley and is an asymmetrical five bays wide and three stories tall, allowing for the rear mezzanine level. Two single doors give access to the rear interior. The windows contain sixteen panes with the central section tilting out. Both interiors have been modernized with suspended ceilings and paneled walls. Both rear mezzanines have been enclosed. Access to the second floors were not permitted; both were apparently used for storage, as there is no separate exterior entrance. Successive occupants of the 304 store have been the Carolina Fruit and Vegetable Market, Blackwood Auto Parts, Beland's Auto Supplies, and the E and B Shoe Gallery. Tenants of 306 East Nash have been the Marietta Paint and Color Company and the Standard Finance Company; it is presently vacant.

41
Commercial Building
307 East Nash Street
I

Built in 1957 on a part of the site of the W. D. Hackney House, this undistinguished two-story, brick building had as its first occupants the Central Loan and Finance Company on the first floor and the Fred Astaire Dance Studio on the second floor. Neither business stayed past 1961 and several different businesses have occupied these quarters since; presently, Val's Wigs and the Music Studio.

42
Commercial Building
308-312 East Nash Street
F

This one-story, three storefront brick building was erected in 1954 by Leo Brody and Isaac Kadis as rental property. Each of the two outer storefronts contain large glass windows and central doors. The middle storefront, number 310, has been entirely closed with a beaded weatherboard facade. One Hour Cleaners, the original occupant of 308 store, still occupies the 308 store. The first occupant of 310, Western Auto Associate Store, occupied the store for several years and was succeeded

by the Seaboard Finance Company, Walker Electric, and presently, the 310 Night Club. Sears-Roebuck and Company occupied the 312 storefrom 1954 until 1965, and was succeeded by the Thrifty Dollar Variety Store, and since 1981, by Quality Upholstery. The entire southwest elevation displays a giant painted "Thrifty Dollar Stores" sign, advertising the former occupant of the 312 store. a "One Hour Cleaners" sign is painted on the adjacent two-story Abbitt Building at 304-306 East Nash Street.

43
Carroll Bakery Building
309 East Nash Street
C

This pleasant little brick building was erected ca 1923 by the Hackney family (who had the Carroll Building built ca 1921 at 311-315 East Nash Street and who still occupied the Willis D. Hackney House at 301 East Nash Street) as rental property; it was occupied by the Carroll Bakery during the 1920s. (It is not known whether Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), the Wilson architect who designed the Carroll Building for the Hackneys, was also responsible for the design of the Carroll Bakery.) The building has a symmetrical stepped and raked cornice with stone caps. A handsome stone molded and dentiled cornice and simple brickwork decorate the structure. The building is one of a handful of small commercial buildings in the district which echo the architectural vocabulary of their larger counterparts. Although the entrance and the flanking display windows have been altered from their original configuration, the molded glass transom-which carries the length of the original arrangement, remains in place. The building was occupied by the Siberia Fur Coat Company, (Christ Lagas, owner), from ca 1936 until 1956 and by Nash Street News from 1959 to the present.

44
(former) Progressive Super Market
314 East Nash Street
I

Built in the early 1950s as the Progressive Super Market, this large, one-story, brick building has a parapet gable roof and large plate glass windows on the front. In 1969 Progressive was merged into the Piggly-Wiggly chain. There is parking both in front and on the southwest of the building.

45
Carroll Building
315-319 East Nash Street
P

Wilson's prominent Hackney family, owners of the Hackney Wagon Company and the builders of numerous commercial buildings in the central business district, had this impressive three-story, three-storefront, brick, commercial building erected ca 1921 for rental purposes. (At that time, the handsome frame house of Willis D. Hackney stood adjacent to the northwest at 301 East Nash Street; it was razed in the mid 1950s.) The building takes its name from the Carroll Grocery Company, Arthur B. Carroll, priprietor, which occupied number 315 from 1921 until the mid-1930s. It was designed by Wison architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930) and bears a resemblence to his earlier ca 1916 Davis Building (#28) at 200 East Nash Street. The design of the three fronts is a skillful breaking up of the mass of an otherwise large building. All three storefronts are limestone veneered at the first story level, but only 319 is stone veneered to its full height; 315 and 317 have brick elevations. The first story level of 315 and 317 are flanked by stone Doric

pilasters which support a stone entablature that extends across the entire facade. Alterations in the 1960s resulted in the replacement of the original entrance and transoms with modern ones. The upper facades of 315 and 317 are defined by three brick Doric pilasters with stone caps that support a handsome stone entablature and a molded and dentiled cornice and a surmounting stone-paneled balustrade. Quadruple, twelve-over-one windows occupy each of the floors with a soldier-course lintel spanning the second floor windows. The first story level of 319 is intact and has a large central plate glass window flanked by round-arched entrances that contain recessed foyers with black and white tiled floors. The northwest entrance provides access to an interior hall from which the stairs and an elevator rise to the upper floors and the southeast entrance permits entry into the 319 store. Above the first floor is a continuation of the stone entablature that extends across all three storefronts above the first story level. The second and third floors of 319, veneered with limestone, contain four bays each, with twelve-over-one sash windows on the second floor and smaller, twelve-over-one sash windows with demi-lune fanlights on the third floor; a continuous molded stone sill on the third floor serves to separate the two upper floors. The stone cornice and balustrade at the top of 319 is a continuation of the cornice above 315 and 317.

The southeast elevation (facing a parking lot) is ten bays wide on the third floor (eight bays on the second, but only two bays on the first) and contains an irregular arrengement of single and double twelve-over-two sash windows. A painted Coca-Cola sign on the lower southwest corner advertises "B-K SALES and SERVICE", an appliance store which occupied 319 during the 1970s. The rear (northeast) elevation has nine bays, with each storefront having a double door with transom and flanking windows of eight-over-one sach (the extreme northwest bay is occupied by another door instead of a window). The upper floors of the rear elevation contain the same twelve-over-one windows as the southeast elevation. The northwest elevation is occupied by an adjacent store on the first floor and has eight double, twelve-over-one sash windows on the second floor.

The plaster interiors of all three stories retain their original pressed-metal ceilings, a coffered square grid pattern with modest molded details and an anthemion frieze. The second and third floors of 315 and 317 contain one large room each (since partitioned by easily removed walls) and display the same handsome pressed-metal ceilings. The interior hall at number 319 extends through the building and contains the elevator at the front of the hall, twin and open stringer stairs along the northeast wall, one rising from the front and one rising from the rear. The stair's wooden handrail is carried by square metal spindles. The second and third floors of 319 are occupied by seven, small, plasteres and simply finished rooms/apartments along the southeast wall of each story. The door to each room has a transom.

After being vacated in the mid 1930s by Carroll Grocery, the 315-317 store was occupied for several years by the Siberian Fur Coat Manufacturing Company in 315 and by the Brunswick Automatic Recreation Bowling Alley in 317. Both stores were occupied from ca 1937 until 1973 by the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Store. This business opened on July 2, 1935, in the 319 storefront, just ten days after Wilson County had voted ten to one to become the first county in the State to approve county liquor control. This store, thus, became the first legal liquor store in North Carolina since prohibition. Since the ABC Store moved to larger quarters in 1973, the 315-317 has been occupied on the first floor by Chappells Graphic Arts. The second floor of 315-317 has been occupied by the Paris Hat Shop; a well known shop operated by Mrs. Mollie Paris for many years, and the Woman's Shop , which has only recently vacated their shop. The third floor has been occupied by the Holden PHotography Studio, N. C. Holden, proprietor, the Prudential LIfe Insurance offices, the Works Project Administration Sewing Room, and since 1947 by

the photography studios of Raines and Cox. The first occupant of the first floor store at 319 was a restaurant for just several years and later by Merchant's Bakery, the ABC Store and most recently B-K Sales and Service, electric appliances. The second and third floors of 319 have always been occupied by apartments, but only several on each floor are currenty rented.

46
Pat's Service Station
318 East Nash Street
I

A two-story frame dwelling is shown in this lot as early as the 1880s. Between 1925 and 1928 this was replaced with the present structure, a simple, stuccoed service station, originally known as Pat's Service Station, S. A. Patterson, manager. By 1935 it was managed by Mason F. Sykes who also operated a station at 311 East Nash Street (site of Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home). The building was occupied by a Texaco station during the 1960s, and has since the 1970s been occupied by Sammy's Used Cars.

47
Parking Lot
320 East Nash Street
I

This paved parking lot was the site of the Imperial Hotal, a brick, three-story byilding built between 1897 and 1903. The Imperial Hotel enjoyed an advantageous location across the corner from the depot and no doubt suffered a loss of business after the erection of the impressive Hotel Cherry (NR) across East Nash Street in 1921. The Imperial was torn down in the mid 1950s. The Masonic Lodge, chartered in 1848, built a building here in 1848, and hance the adjacent street is named Lodge Street. The former Lodge was razed for the construction of the Imperial Hotel.

Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home
325 East Nash Street
I

This undistinguished, boxy, brick structure was built in 1961 by the Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home to replace their previous building, the adjacent Deans-Batts house at 323 East Nash Street. They had moved into that house in 1932 and it was subsequently razed in 1961 for the present parking lot. The site of the present funeral home was the home of Henry Groves Conner (1852-1924), a prominent Wilson banker, a federal judge and a justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court, and was the birthplace of Robert Digges Wimberly Conner (1878-1950), secretary of the State Historical Commission from 1903 to 1921, Kenan professor of history and government at the University of North Carolina from 1928 to 1934, and first archivist of the National Archives from 1934 to 1941. The Conner House was razed in the 1930s and replaced with a filling station which was razed to make room for the present funeral home.

49
Hotel Cherry (NR)
333 East Nash Street
P

Advantageously located across from the Atlantic Coastline Railroad Passenger Station, this six-story, u-shaped, brick building is an impressive classical building, epitomizing hotel design in small cities. On March 20, 1919, Rufus A. Cherry, John T. Barnes, and William N. Harrell purchased this lot at the east corner

of East Nash Street and North Lodge streets from J. E. and Millie R. (Barnes) Giles. On this site then stood the Belmont Hotel, a two-story frame building that had been erected between 1897 and 1903. The adjacent two-story dwelling at 331 Nash Street was also purchased. On Novmeber 19, 1920, Cherry, Barnes, and Harrell (Barnes and Harrell were also partners in Barnes-Harrell Company (#109) wholesale grocers and later bottlers of Coca-Cola) incorporated the Hotel Cherry, each investing $66,667 in the enterprise. Shortly thereafter the two lots were cleared of their structures and construction began. Designed by Wilson architect Charles C. Benton (1887-1960) and constructed by Joe W. Stout and Company, the hotel was completed by 1922 when the Hotel Cherry, with Rufus A. Cherry as proprietor, advertised "200 Rooms of Solid Comfort-Absolutely Fireproof".

Of typical classical base-shaft-capital organization, the building features a two-story, arched, Beaux Arts entrance with lion's marks supporting the elaborate pressed metal canopy. The first story is faced with smooth stone and the entrance with rusticated stone; rusticated brick is seen on the short mezzanine level, above which a molded stone cornice extends across the facade. The upper four floors, six bays wide, contain a variety of symmetrically arranged windows, all with stone sills and brick soldier course lintels. An elaborate metal, molded, modillioned, and dentiled Beaux Arts Style cornice crowns the building and features plumed corner motifs. The southeast elevation, facing the railroad, is eight bays wide and has the same base-shaft-capital composition and details as the facade. Here, the second bay from East Nash Street has a modest canopied entrance and the third bay contains an entrance to the Hotel Cherry News Stand. The northeast five bays have large (boarded-up) windows with transoms that have stone keystones; these five bays are to the ballroom. The northwest elevation is ten bays wide and contains paired, one-over-one sash windows with brick segmental lintels and cast concrete sills. A canopied entrance is at the front. The rear (northeast) elevation contains two, three bay wide sections separated by a fifteen foot wide open space so as to provide light to the interior rooms; it has the same fenestration as the northwest elevation.

The interior focuses upon the spacious two-story lobby with mezzanine. Marble, oak, and brass are used to finish the lobby which has massive pillars supporting the mezzanine and a beamed ceiling decorarted with classical dential moldings. A marble staircase with wrought iron handrails leads to the mezzanine; adjacent to the stairs is the elevator. Flanking the lobby on the northwest are the grill, which was added in the 1940s, and on the southeast the tavern, the side entrance, the newspaper stand, and a handsomely appointed two-chair barber shop. At the rear southeast of the building is the impressive two-story ballroom which also served as the dining room. The large three bay-by-five bay room is defined by pilasters that divide the windows and interior panels and rise to support a molded and beamed ceiling, assisted by scrolled brackets. The bays on the northwest wall have molded panels with upper crossetts that contain panels of wallpaper with oriental bird scenes. The entrance from the lobby has wide molded surrounds and is surmounted by an entablature with dentiled frieze. A curved balcony with wrought iron railing overlooks the ballroom from the mezzanine. The rooms on the upper floors are arranged off both sides of the u-shaped hall. The rooms have simple molded surrounds, doors with transoms, and a mixture of private and shared baths. The rooms in the south and west corners contain two-room suites. The Hotel Cherry was a favorite with the many salesmen who traveled the railroads. It was equally popular with the tobacconists who were regular visitors during Wilson's prospering market season in the late summer and fall. The ballroom was one of the social centers of Wilson, hosting many dances, proms, and bridal parties, in addition to civic clubs and conventions. All the celebrities who came to Wilson, including Perrey Como, Arthur Godfrey, Guy Lombardo and the Fontane Sisters, stayed here. The Hotel

Cherry, succumbing to the improvements in the highway systems, the building of motels on U.S. 301, and the decrease in train traffic, declined in its pivotal role serving visitors to Wilson. It was closed in 1981 and a major renovation is planned for conversion into ninety-six apartments for the elderly. The Hotel Cherry was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 26, 1982.

50
Terminal Inn
400-412 East Nash Street
C

Terminal Inn was built in 1920 as rental property by John T. Barnes, a prominent and wealthy Wilson businessman and the secretary-treasurer of the Barnes-Harrell Grocery Company; he deeded the property to the Barnes-Harrell Grocers company in 1921. Designed by Wilson architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), the building is named for the Terminal Drug Company, which has always occupied the 408 store and for the hotel/boarding house which occupied the second floor (406 East Nash Street) from 1920 until 1961. Although the Terminal Drug Company was incorporated in 1916 by four men from Wilmington -- J. A. Orvell, B. B. Branch, W. H. Moroe, R. V. Kennedy -- there is no record in any of the city directories of the company operating before 1920 when Bernice C. Moore was the manager at this location (it is now known whether he was any relation to W. H. Moore, one of the incorporators).

The building Moore designed is a two-story, seven-bay, brick structure. Its 150 foot long northeast red brick facade is broken into a three-bay, picturesquely gabled, central block which is flanked by two-bay sections punctuated by brick pilasters. These pilasters define the six stores which flank the central, second-story entrance. Each store entrance is/was composed of a central, recessed entranc ewith flanking display cases and a multi-pane transom. The pressed metal ceiling of the interior continues to the ceiling of the display windows and also covers the exterior recessed entrance's ceiling. The 400 store has been altered by the relocation of the door; its transom panes have been painted. The 402 store is intact. The door to the 404 store has been removed and replaced with a third, large display window; its transom has been covered up. The central, second-story entrance at 406 East Nash Street has a double door with glass panes and round-arched fanlight with a large keystone. Set in a tall entrance faced with ashar stonre, it is crowned by an entablature with a dentiled cornice. An unfortunate application of pscudo-ashlar stone veneer to the lower facade of 406 during the 1950s mars the authenticity of the entrance. The 408 store is intact, 410 has suffered from a relocation of its door and the removal of the transom, and the end store at 412 also is intact. The second-story facade focused upon the picturesquely gabled central section. Two double windows containing an unusual eight-over-six sash arrangement flank a small square window above the entrance entablature. All three windows have stone sills with supporting square corbel blocks, have soldier courses of blond brick for surrounds, and have been closed up. In the center of the central facade is a round oculus with stone keystones at the four compass points. The lateral, two-bay sections, defined by the brick pilasters which have molded stone capitals, are recessed and contain single and double, eight-over-two sash windows with the same finish as those in the central bay. The pilasters carry a blonc brick soldier course lintel that spans the recessed sections. A similar blond brick soldier course lintel and stone caps crown the entire northeast facade. The side elevations have an asymmetrical arrangement of single and double windows on the second floor. The first story of the South Lodge Street (northwest) elevation has no openings, while the railroad (southeast) elevation has a large segmentally arched loading entrance. A small, brick, loading annex is on the southwest of this elevation. Both side elevations have identical, large painted signs: STAR CREDIT STORE -

Growing Since 1938 and TERMINAL DRUG STORE, QUALITY + SAVINGS + SERVICE. The unusual rear elevation is two stories in height for the 400, 404, 406, 408 and 412 stores, but the 402 and 408 stores are two stories in height for only half of their depths, thereby permitting side windows for the upstairs hotel rooms. A large, round-arched entrance is at 406. All the other doors and windows on the symmetrical, three-bay elevations of each store have closed up segmental windows and altered doors; only 408 retains its original wooden doors.

The interior of each of the six stores has a pressed metal ceiling with a small, square, coffered pattern with foliate details; the cornices and borders are lavishly decorated with flowing foliate and floral motifs. Only the 404 store has a lowered ceiling. Dominating the 408 store, the original Terminal Drug Store, is an incredibly large and ornate soda fountain, purchased for the store in the 1930s. Displaying paired marble columns with composite capitals, a large oval mirror and unusual panels of stained glass formed in a fish-scale pattern, the fountain is so large that the topmost cartouche had to be removed in order for the fountain to fit in the store. The 408 store interior also retains numerous wall cabinets with dark-stained, dentiled and egg-and-dart molded cornices supported by paneled pilasters. The second story is accessible by a staircase that has elaborate, foliate-motif, pressed metal panels for a wainscot. The foyer floor has a Greek key motif in black and white tile. The upstairs has plastered walls and each half of the building, divided by the central hallway, has individual sleeping rooms that are connected by arches. Only on the inside is the window arrangement visible, being an unusual eight-over-two sash.

The original occupant of the 400 store was J. L. Moody's Nash Street Cash (grocery) Store and was followed successively by B. D. Pridgen's Grocery, the Piedmont Clothing Store, Lee's Food Store, and since ca 1960 by Star Credit General Store. Tenants of 402 East Nash Street have been a plumbing-electrical supply store, H. C. Koster Barber Supplies, and since ca 1941 the Star Clothing and Star Credit General Store. The first occupant of 404 was a tailor, followed the Elite Cafe (George Pappas, proprietor), the Station Cafe, and the Plaza Restaurant. The second story, 406 East Nash Street, was used as a boarding hotel from 1920 until 1961 and was known as the Station Hotel and the Plaza Hotel when it was operated in conjunction with the restaurants of those names in 404. The Terminal Drug Store has always occupied the 408 store and was operated from 1932 until 1968 by Thomas J. Moore, who had a law office in the rear of the store from 1932 until 1955 before moving his law office to the First National Bank of Wilson Building at 113 East Nash Street. In 1932, Terminal Drugs expanded into the 410 store, which had originally housed the Gattrel Bakery and later the Wilson Bakery. The 410 store was occupied by the American Railway Express Company as the local offices from 1920 until 1961, when it was taken over by the Terminal Drug Store as storage. Presently, the 400, 402 and 404 stores are occupied by the Star Credit Stores, 406 (upstairs) is vacant, and 408, 410 and 412 are occupied by the Terminal Drug Store.

51
Atlantic Coastline Railroad Passenger Depot
401 East Nash Street
P

The railroad, more than any other factor, was responsible for the development of the village of Toisnot into the town of Wilson and therefore occupies a singularly important position. The Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad was begun in 1837 and completed to what is now Wilson by late 1839; its name was later changed to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. The entire 161 miles, then the longest railroad in the world, was opened on March 7, 1840.

53
Commercial Building
417-419 East Nash Street
C

Built ca 1920 and enlarged during the 1920s, this two-story, five-bay brick building has two altered storefronts on the first story and six-over-six sash windows enframed in a recessed brick panel on the second story. The simply finished building has decorative cornice. In the early 1970s, the interior underwent a thorough remodeling during conversion to a restaurant/lounge, including the placement of simulated wood paneling on the walls. Fortunately, the foliate detailed pressed metal ceiling survives on both stories and has a modest molded cornice. Its earliest occupants were the Wilson Cafe in 417 and Willie Johnson Cafe in 419. The Lincoln Theater occupied the 117 store in the late 1920s. Both stores were occupied by the W. L. Wooten (furniture) Company from ca 1936 until the early 1970s. The present occupant of the combined stores is a restaurant/lounge; the second story is used for storage.

54
Commercial Building
418-420 Nash Street
F

One story, brick, commercial buildings have stood here since the mid 1880s and during the 1890s were known as the Fulcher Block. The present double-storefront building apparently dates from the mid 1180s, but has been altered several times since, including being completely stuccoed in theearly twentieth century. The 420 lower facade retains its recessed entrance configuration with overhead transom, while the 418 lower facade has been raplaced by a modern door. The east corner of the building, facing towards the railroad, is clipped/angled and contains a modern replacement window. The South Railroad Street (northwest) elevation is six bays wide, with a closed-up display window at the front and altered segmental windows toward the rear. At the rear southwest is a 1954 cement block annex. The interiors have seen numerous changes during conversion to a furniture store in the 1970s. The building's first occupant was a general mercantile store and was succeeded by several grocery stores. From the early 1930s until ca 1971 the building was occupied by the Wilson-Purity-Holsum Bakery; since 1974 it has been occupied by the Adams Brothers Furniture Company.

55
Star Cafe Building
421-423 East Nash Street
F

A simple four bay-by-six bay building built with oversized bricks, this commercial building was built ca 1928 as rental property and has an acute angled corner at the East Nash Street juncture with North Pettigrew Street. The first story facade at number 423 has been altered with shortened replacement windows, a replacement door and its transom, which has a cast concrete lintel, has been closed. The 421 storefront has also been altered and its transom stuccoed. The second story windows have cast concrete sills and have been closed. The North Pettigrew Street (southeast) elevation steps down towards the rear and has closed bays. On the rear (northeast) elevation are two, one-story additions both ca 1930. The first one, 105 North Pettigrew Street, is built of cement block and is three bays wide and has a shed roof. Both additions have altered and closed bays. A barber has always occupied the 421 East Nash Street store, first Charles Woodard, then John Hargrove from ca 1936 until the 1950s, and since then by the Service

Shaving Parlor. The Star Cafe, Gus Glearmes, proprietor, occupied the 423 store from its construction until the mid 1940s and was succeeded, consequently, by the Wilson Cafe, the Tropical Grill, the Army-Navy Surplus Store, and storage for a grocery. It is currently occupied by the Whole Truth Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostalic Faith. The additions/stores at 105, 107-109 North Pettigrew Street have been occupied primarily for storage; both have been vacant for many years.

56
Wilson Bakery Annex
422 East Nash Street
F

This two-story, four bay-by-three bay, brick building was built in the 1940s to enlarge the Wilson Bakery, which had occupied the adjacent stores at 418-420 East Nash Street since the mid 1930s. The first story contains large windows filled with square glass blocks and the second story contains four-pane casements. A cement block, one-story section was added at the rear (southwest) in 1954. The Wilson-Purity-Holsum Bakery occupied the building until ca 1971; Adams Brothers Furniture has ocucpied the building along with 418-420 East Nash Street since 1974.

From 1921 until 1930 this site was the location of the Commercial Bank of Wilson, Wilson's first black-owned bank. Founded in March of 1921 by Samuel H. Vick (1863-1946), a prominent black Wilsonian who was involved in numerous civic, fraternal and business enterprises in the black community. Vick was responsible for the founding and erection of the 1894 Odd Fellows Building (#75) at 549 East Nash Street and the construction of the 1906 Orange Hotel (#63) at 526 East Nash Street. The directors of the bank included some of the most prominent black citizens in Wilson: F. S. Hargraves, I. A. Slade, J. D. Reid, Dr. W. R. Phillips, W. R. Hinnant, C. L. Darden (see the Darden Building (#80) at 559-561 East Nash Street), C. S. Thomas and Glenn McBrayer.

57
Joe's Quick Stop Grill
500 East Nash Street
I

This intrusive little grill was erected during the 1950s of cement blocks and faces the corner of East Nash Street and South Pettigrew Streets. Gas pumps are located in front of the building, which has a recent metal awning. Early Sanborn Maps show this to have been the site of a frame grocery store.

58
(former) Harrell Store Building
501-503 East Nash Street
C

Built in the early 1900s as a general mercantile store for white merchant Ephriam Harrell, this one-story, two-storefront brick building has some of the boldest brickwork found on small commercial buildings in Wilson. Raised cornices and dentils decorate the stepped parapet and the recessed panels of the upper facade. A raised dentil cornice also continues along the North Pettigrew (northwest) elevation. Unfortunately, both storefronts have been altered, although the 501 store retains its recessed central entrance. Both transoms have been covered. Succeeding Harrell in the 501 store was George W. Maynard's Market, the Yellow Front Grovery (W. L. Dickerson, proprietor) for about twenty years during the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, and the Red Front Grill. The restaurant of Rosa Rhyne occupied the 503 store from ca 1936 until the 1960s. Since the mid 1970s, Jimmy's

Pawn Shop has occupied both stores. The interior contains one large space and has replacement walls and ceiling.

59
Barnes Barbershop
505 East Nash Street
I

This small, one-story, brick building, completely altered by the bricking in of the display windows, was built ca 1922 as a restaurant and housed the barbershop of John Barnes from ca 1928 until 1961. Since 1962 it has been occupied by Rosa's restaurant.

60
Abbitt Building
506-516 East Nash Street
C

This modest, one-story commercial building was erected between 1922 and 1930 as rental property by Henry W. Abbitt 91881-1957), a prominent Wilson auto dealer who built several rental commercial buildings in Wilson during the 1920s. It is the most intact of any of the commercial buildings in the 500 block of East Nash Street, the traditional black commercial district. Each of the three wide bays, divided by brick pilasters, contains an identical pair of storefronts. The right (northwest) storefront has a recessed entrance on the northwest and the left (southeast) storefront has a street level door on the southeast; the respective display windows are in the center. Above each surprisingly intact storefront is a transom of multi-pane, raised glass and a brick soldier course lintel. A brick panel, defined by a brick soldier course and having square corner insets of cast concrete is located in the upper facade of each bay. The stepped parapet is capped by cast concrete. The six interiors are identical and intact. Each has plastered walls and a modest pressed metal ceiling with cornice. Only the 516 store has replacement paneled walls. The first occupants of the respective stores were the Jung Wah Laundry in 506, The City Taxi in 508, the Baltimore Shoe Shop in 510, Ezekial Braswell's Restaurant in 512, an unnamed cleaners in 514, and the Sanitary Shaving Parlor. Since then, a number of businesses have been located in each store--a taxi company, a beer hall, a flower shop, a shoe shine shop, a pool hall, and numerous beauty parlors and barber shops. The current occupants are Cleo's Beauty shop in 506, a church in 508, 510 is vacant, Mitchell's Pool Hall in 512, Taulor's Beauty Shop in 514, and The Pink Tulip Beauty Shop in 516.

61
Commercial Buildings
513, 515, 517, 519, 521 East Nash Street
F

These plain, modest, brick buildings, exhibiting simple brick details, were built in the 1930s to replace previous frame stores and have served a variety of commercial uses since: a shoe shine parlor, several barber and beauty shops, a cleaner, a bike repair shop, a grocery, two confectioners and several cafes. Presently the stores house a beauty shop, a bar, a barber shop, a party store and a jeweler. All the facades have been modernized at varying times.

62
(former) Wilson Variety Store
518-522 East Nash Street
F

Built in 1957-1958 by Irving Mink for rental purposes, this plain, one-story, three-storefront structure is simply detailed. Its first tenant, the Wilson Variety Store, John M. Pierce, manager, occuied the building only until 1964. Since then a variety of beauty shops and bars have occupied the building.

63
The Orange Hotel
526 East Nash Street
P

The Orange Hotel was built in 1906 for Samuel H. Vick (1861-1946) to serve as a hotel for Negro travelers through Wilson at a time that it is doubtful if any of Wilson's several hotels served blacks. The two-story, weatherboarded frame building is three-bays wide and four-bays deep and is sheldered beneath a low, hopped roof of standing seam metal; interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps pierce the roof. The house's only ornamentation is supplied by a five-bay, two-tier porch that is carried across the norht facade by turned posts with small curved brackets. A balustrade of slender turned balusters connects the posts on the second story; a replacement railing of "x" shaped two-by-fours is on the first story. The first story entrance has a double door with a two-pane transom; a single door is on the second floor. The narrow windows contain two-over-two sash in plain surrounds. A molded and boxed cornice with plain frieze completes the building. The rear elevation is occupied by a one-story ell. The front yard is set off by a pointed to picket fence. The center hall plan interior is plastered and has symmetrically molded door and window surrounds with circular corner medallions. The mantels are modest wooden ones with simple turned ornament and bracketed shelves. A handsome closed stringer rises from the front of the hall along the northwest wall.

Samuel H. Vick was a determined and successful businessman who cared about his race and aspired to alleviate injustice and therefore directed his business pursuits to the service of his people. He built livable rental houses for Wilson's expanding Negro population in the first decade of this century, established in 1920 the Commercial Bank of Wilson (#56), the first bank to serve Negroes in Wilson, the Wilson Hospital and Tubercular Home (known to most Wilsonians as Mercy Hospital) in 1913, a movit theatre, an insurance company, the Lincoln Benefit Society, and the Odd Fellows Lodge (#75) in 1894. He was also active in church and social activities. Botn in 1863 at Castalia in neighboring Nash County, Vick came by himself to Wilson in the mid 1870s to attend school, working in a grocery store to put himself through school. IN 1880 he enrolled in Lincoln University in Pennsylvania where he graduated in 1884. He pursued his graduate work by correspondence, obtaining his master's degree in 1887; during this time, 1884-1887, he was principal of the Wilson Graded School. He served two terms as Wilson postmaster, 1889-1894 and again from 1898-1903. After 1903 he served under sponsorship of Lincoln University as a Presbyterian Missionary and traveled for several years throughout North Carolina helping to organize Presbyterian Sunday Shcool classes. Afterward, he devoted his time to his many business and philanthropic activities in Wilson.

According to the Sanborn Maps, by 1913 the orange Hotel was known as the Lynn Haven Hotel and by 1922 it was a dwelling. Vick lost the building during the Depression and the Mechanics and Farmers Bank held title until 1944. The present owner, Mrs. Mattie B. Coleman, purchased the property in 1950 and continues to live here and rent furnished rooms.

64
(former) Dr. W. A. Mitchner's Office
528 East Nash Street
F

This little, two bay wide, brick structure was built ca 1936 as the office of Dr. William Arthur Mitchner (1882-1941), one of Wilson's earliest black doctors. A native of Clayton, North Carolina, he had practices in Wilson from ca 1910 until his death in 1941. The facade has a modern-glass door at the northeast and a large glass window at the southwest. The four windows on the northwest side have been closed. Since Mitchner's death the building has been occupied successively by three beauty shops.

65
(former) Hamilton Funeral Home
532 East Nash Street
C

This rather attractive, modest, one-story, double-pile house was built ca 1920 for Turner Stokes, a black carpenter, who lost the house during the Depression; while there is no record, it is assumed that Stokes did the construction himself. A rental property during the early and mid 1930s, the house was occupied from 1938 until 1960 by the Wilson branch of the Hamilton Funeral Home of Goldsboro, Levi Hamilton, proprietor. The house is sheldered beneath a hip roof that is pierced by stuccoed chimneys which have handsome corbeled caps. A three-bay porch with a turned balustrade is carried by turned posts across the three-bay facade. One-over-one windows in plain surrounds and a boxed cornice complete the center hall plan dwelling. A large shed or shed addition with rear porch occupies the rear elevation. In 1960 Hamilton Funeral Home moved to new quarters on Stantonsburg Road. This house has been used for rental since.

66
United City Cab Stand
534 East Nash Street
I

This tiny, cement block, flat-roofed structure was built as a taxi stand ca 1960 on the site of the Mack Bynun House, a ca 1900 two-story house which was torn down in the late 1049s. The ten-by twelve foot building has a small bathroom extension at the rear and small windows. It has been vacant since 1983.

67
Artis Barber Shop
535-537 East Nash Street
F

This two-story, two-storefront, cement block commercial building, now hidden behind a pierced aluminum screen and having been given modern glass storefronts in the mid 1960s, was built in the late 1920s as rental property and occupied the site of two frame one-story dwellings. The northwest side elevation is blind on the first story and has three modern windows on the second story. The interior has also been remodeled; apartments have occupied the second story since 1938. The 535 store had as its first occupant barber T. J. Honson who was followed, successively, by Dorothy Garrett's Restaurant, the offices of Dr. William C. Hines, Wade's Shoe Repair and, since the late 1960s, Wigarama. The grocery of W. T. Lucas was the first occupant of the 537 storefront. In 1938, Separise P. Artis opened a barber shop here which he still operates. He bought the building in 1944.

68
Sutzer-Taylor House
536 East Nash Street

C

Mary Jane Taylor Sutzer (_____-1929) had this two-story, single-pile house erected ca 1915 on front of a small, one-story dwelling which she had purchased some years before from Alfred Roberson. One of Wilson's most enterprising black women, she managed the old Union Hotel (razed in the 1930s) at 541 East Nash Street for many years and also operated several restaurants in the 500 block of East Nash Street. The house features a projecting pedimented central bay and a three-bay porch carried by turned posts that also has a central projection over the steps; a turned balustrade connects the posts. One-over-one sash windows, interior rear brick chimneys and returning boxed eaves complete the house. A transverse, gable-roofed wing with an ell is at the rear of the house. The house has been covered with aluminum siding and is currently used as a rooming house. In the rear yard are two small, four-bay by one-bay, two-room Bungaloid houses.

The house was inherited by her son, the Rev. R. Buxton Taylor (1878-1954), who occupied the house until his death. A 1911 graduate of Livingston College in Salisbury, Taylor later attended Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte where he received a theology degree in 1918. A minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Taylor served a number of pastorates in North and South Carolina before coming to Wilson in the late 1920s. While in Wilson he taught at the Pinetop School in the County and served churches in Statonsburg and Snow Hill.

69
Sutzer-Taylor Rental House
538 East Nash Street
F

This small, one-story, Colonial Revival cottage was built as rental property by Mary Jane Taylor Sutzer (_____-1929) about 1905. she lived in the adjacent house at 536 East Nash Street and resided here only briefly ca 1915 while the two-story front block was being built on her house. The house is sheltered beneath a hip roof and has a projecting front, gable roofed bay at the east corner. Unfortunate alterations in the 1960s included the partial enclosing of the front porth, the replacement of many windiws and the application of asbestos shingles. Upon Mrs. Sutzer's death, both houses were left to her son, the Rev. R. Buxton Taylor (1878-1954), who lived at 536 and kept his as rental property. Dr. D. C. Yancey, a pharmacist who operated the Ideal Pharmacy at 563 East Nash Street (now gone), lived here for many years. A 1906 graduate of the Leonard School of Pharmacy at Shaw University in Raleigh, Yancey was the first black pharmacist in Wilson. Buxton's daughter, Beatrice B. Barnes, has occupied the house since 1947.

70
Libby McPhatter Building
541-545 East Nash Street
F

This simple, one-story, two-bay building was erected ca 1950 by black businesswoman Libby (McDonald) McPhatter (1905-1981), the proprietor of Libby's Cafe here. It was one of two buildings to replace the Hotel Union, a three-story frame hotel for negroes which had burned in the late 1940s. The Hotel Union had been built by 1908 (according to the Sanborn Maps) and was later known as the Whitley Hotel. This simply finished, ca 1950, brick building has two pairs of recessed

storefronts, each of which has had only minor modifications. The upper facade lacks any decorative brickwork and has a tile-capped parapet. The interiors are simply finished. Libby McPhatter operated Libby's Cafe in the double 541 storefront until the early 1970s, when she turned over its operation to Neta Dupree; the cafe has been known as Neta Dupree's Cafe since 1981. The first occupant of the narrow, 543 store was Rosa Arrington's Beauty Shop; since the mid 1950s the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the state's leading black-owned insurance company, has maintained its Wilson offices here. The 545 store was first occupied by Smith Furniture, and since ca 1956 has been occupied by Zelma's and Lucille's Beauty Shop.

71
Anne Mitchell House
542 East Nash Street
C

This rather large, two-story, Colonial Revival house was built in the mid 1910s for Anne Mitchell by her sons, Floyd and Albert Mitchell, who were carpenters. Asymmetrically massed with projecting bays on the front (northeast) and southeast, the house is sheltered beneath a bellcast hip roof which is pierced by large brick chimneys with heavy corbeled caps. An altered porch extends across the front of the house. Completing the house are molded and returning boxed cornices and one-over-one sash windows. The entry hall contains an excellent quarter-turn staircase with paneled newels and is illuminated by beveled and colored windows with a fleur-de-lis motif. Several of the Colonial Revival mantels have overmantels of Tuscan columns. The interior has seen some modifications, including some simulated wood paneling, but is basically intact. Mrs. Mitchell lived here until her death in the mid 1920s. Her sons stayed until their deaths in the late 1930s, at which time the house was sold. Mrs. Bessie Richardson, the mother of the owner, has lived here since 1940.

72
Rental House
544 East Nash Street
C

A simple, one-story, frame dwelling, this house was built in the mid-1900s, according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps, and is three bays wide underneath a gable roof and is flanked by exterior single-shoulder chimneys. The original northwest chimney is stuccoed. Finishing details are a three-bay porch with replacement posts, six-over-six sash windows in plain board surrounds, boxed cornices that return at the gable ends and a short rear ell. Built as rental property, this house has been occupied by several families. Henry Uzzle, a furniture repairer, lived here for the longest period during the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s.

73
Commercial Building
547-549 East Nash Street
F

This modest, two-storefront, one-story, brick commercial building was one of two buildings built ca 1950 to replace the three-story frame Hotel Union which had burned in the late 1940s. The Union Hotel was built by 1908 (according to the Sanborn Maps) and was one of the earliest hotels in Wilson for blacks; the hotel was later known as the Whitley Hotel. This facade has a recessed central entrance for both stores; unfortunately the windows and transoms have been covered. The upper facade contains a simple recessed panel and a metal-capped parapet wall. The building's original occupants remain in their respective stores, Bailey Radio and TV in number 547 and Carroll's Billiards in number 549.

74
Dr. J. B. Rosemond Office
548 East Nash Street
I

This boxy brick building was built in 1967 by Dr. J. B. Rosemond and has a short, flat roof, large front window and corner entrance porch wqith a wrought iron post.

75
Odd Fellows Hall
549-551 East Nash Street
P

Built in 1894 (cornerstone) for the Hannibal Lodge Number 1552, this three-story, six-bay, brick structure is the oldest and most completely preserved commercial building in Wilson and is an important landmark in East Wilson, the historic black neighborhood. The lodge occupied the third story, with the first story devoted to commercial enterprises and the second to offices and various business concerns. The building was built for Samuel H. Vick (1863-1946), one of Wilson's leading blacks, who was extremely active in promoting fraternal organizations in the black communities of the state at the turn of the century; in the 1908 City Directory, Vick is listed as the permanent secretary of this lodge. Vick was also extrmely active in the religious, social, banking, educational and civic activities of Wilson's expanding Negro population, and served as the postmaster from 1889 to 1894 and from 1898 to 1903. The officers of the Hannibal Lodge were among the most prominent citizens in the black community and included J. Lewis Williams, A. D. Dawson, M. H. Cotton, Jacob Speight and Dr. F. S. Hargrove. The lodge disbanded in the early 1920s.

The facade is comprised of two identical three-bay fronts; the only difference is that the 551 is a lighter shade of brick. The first story of 549 is essentially intact. Each of the three entrances has a transom with segmental drip molds; only one has a replacement door. The first story of 551 was altered in the mid 1970s by the replacement of the central door with two windows. The second and third stories both contain four-over-four sash windows in segmental surrounds with corbeled segmental drip moldings. These drip moldings are connected by a corbeled band just above mid-window, thus uniting all six windows. The sills are cut stone. Crowning the facade is a noteworthy cornice composed of abbreviated corbeled pilasters, a frieze of recessed panels, and a cornice consisting of a row of brick soldier course dentils and top most bands of corbeled brick. The side elevations are identical and have seven bays containing the same windows with segmental drip moldings as on the front but minus the connecting corbeled band. The six-bay rear elevation is identical to the others with the exception of doors in the central bay of each store and a door in the northwest end bay of the second story that is reached by a wooden stair from the rear. A small cement block shed and a cement block fuel barrell holder hide a portion of the first story.

The first story interior contains a single large room in number 549 which has plaster walls and a tongue-and-groove ceiling. Number 551 is similarly finished and is used for storage by the owner; it had been divided into two narrow stores by a partition that was removed in the mid 1970s. The northwest front door leads to the stairs that rise along the northwest elevation to the second floor. Here the main hall extends from front to rear. Another hall to the southeast provides access to the five apartments on the second story; each door has a transom. A hall that extends across the rear of the building leads to the bathroom in the south corner of the building. From the rear of the second story hall rises the enclosed stair along

the rear wall to the third story. It opens onto a rear hall that contains a bathroom in the south corner. Single doors lead to the two, equal size lodge rooms; there is no direct access between these rooms. Both rooms are plastered and have wainscots and ceilings of beaded tongue-and-groove boards. At the front of each room is a raised platform. The room in 551 contains four tables/lecturns built of diagonally laid beaded tongue-and-groove boards with molded corners. Lodge emblems decorate these lecturne.

A number of businesses have been located in the Odd Fellows Building. There is no record of the original occupants on the first and second stories, and Sanborn Insurance Maps do not cover this part of East Nash Street until 1908. At that time a drug store is shown in the first story of 549 and a general store in 551; the 1908 city directory does not provide the name for either business. Successive occupants of the first story of 549 were Baker Brothers Grocery and, since 1936, Carroll's Billiards. The first story of 551 has been successively occupied, after the general store, by Kattar Fahad Billiards, and the restaurant of Alonca Davis ca 1936. The store was apparently not particioned until ca 1941, when the city directories show Mack's Merchandise (Daniel McKeithen, proprietor) and Betty's and later Mae's Beauty shop sharing the 551 store until the mid 1970s, when the partition wall was removed. The second story has been used for apartments, offices, beauty salons, and from ca 1916 until ca 1928 it housed the Globe Theatre, the first black owned and managed moving picture show in Wilson; this was another of the many enterprises of S. H. Vick. The second story is used exclusively as apartments/rooms now. The third floor has been used only for storage since the disbanding of the Odd Fellows Lodge in the early 1920s.

76
Alston-Williams Building
552 East Nash Street
F

Built ca 1920 as a jewelry shop for Robert T. Alston, this plainly-finished, one-story, brick commercial building was occupied by him until the 1940s. The flat roofed building has a tile-capped parapet and its original recessed entrance and flanking display windows, but displays no decorative brickwork on the upper facade. The single interior spcce has been renovated and has a lowered ceiling. Since being vacated by Alston, this building has been occupied by Lamm's Fish Shop, Hill's Bicycle Shop, Keen's Seafood Market, and since 1968, by William's Barber Shop.

77
Commercial Building
553 East Nash Street
F

This small, one-story, brick store was erected in the early 1920s by C. L. Darden (1884-1956) as rental property. Darden was a prominent black funeral director who also built several rental buildings on East Nash Street including the Darden Building at 559-561 East Nash Street. Although the building at 553 East Nash Street retains its original recessed entrance, its transom has been covered. The top of the facade has a simple corbeled brick cornice. The building's first occupant was a furniture store, name unknown. From ca 1941 until the 1950s it was occupied by two groceries, first the Progressive Store and later by Alton Sharpe. During the 1960s and 1970 Wardrobe Cleaners was located here. It is presently vacant.

78
Commercial Building
555 East Nash Street
F

This small, traditional, one-story, brick commercial building was erected in the 1920s by C. L. Darden (1884-1956), a prominent black funeral director. Its plainly detailed facade has seen modest changes in its recessed storefront, including the covering of the transom. A simple corbeled cornice crowns the facade. First occupied by the fish market of James Eaton, this building has been occupied since ca 1941 by a succession of beauty shops.

79
Commercial Building
557 East Nash Street
F

C. L. Darden (1884-1956), a prominent black funeral director, had this modest, one-story, brick, rental commercial building built in the 1920s, according to the Sanborn Insurance Maps. It is flaniked by other rental buildings which Darden built, including the handsome ca 1926 Darden Building at 559-561 East Nash Street. This simply detailed two-bay building has a large display window on the southeast and a simple door on the northwest; both have brick soldier course lintels. A simple corbeled brick cornice crowns the facade. Oscar Reid, a cleaner-presser was the first occupant, and he was succeeded by Wardrobe Cleaners, Dr. Joseph Cowan, Romulus Murphy, a lawyer, and the quarters for the Christie Memorial lodge 32 B.P.O. It has been vacant for several years.

80
Darden Building
559-561 East Nash Street
C

Erected in the mid 1920s as rental property by C. L. Darden (1884-1956), a prominent leader in Wilson's black community, this two-story, two-storefront, four-bay commercial building followed a popular commercial form in Wilson of that period in which most of the architectural interest was supplied by decorative brickwork and stone insets. The architect is unknown, but it may very well have been Charles C. Benton (1887-1960), who designed a house for Darden at 200 North Pender Street about the same time. Here, the building is further distinguished by the quoin-like first floor piers that flank the building and the central arch headed entrance to the secod floor. The entrance has a flush triangular pediment with a brick, basketweave pattern. Soldier courses comprise the lintels and extend across the boarded-up transoms. A stepped, stone-capped parapet gable crowns the facade. Unfortunately, both first floor storefronts have been altered and the central entrance has been marred by a new door placed flush with the facade instead of its original recessed location. The southeast (right) elevation has three windows of varying sizes clustered in the center of the second floor. The rear elevation is four bays wide with segmental arches above the four-over-four sash windows. A small cement block shed had been added at the southwast corner of the rear. Occupants of 559 have been Wardrobe Cleaners during the 1930s until the 1950s when it moved to 561, where it remained until 1964. Since the 1950s, the 559 storefront has housed several, short-lived businesses, and has been vacant at several times. The first occupant of 561 was the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, which stayed until the early 1940s, when the storefront was taken over by the Manhatten Billiard Parlor. After being vacant ca 1950, housing Wardrobe Cleaners from the mid 1950s until 1964, and Keen's Seafood until the 1970s, number 561 has been occupied by Mae's Beauty Shop since the

late 1970s. The second story for many years, from ca 1936 until the 1950s, housed offices for the Colored County Farm and Home Demonstration Agents and the dentist office of Dr. George Butterfield.

Carmillus L. Darden was the son of Charles H. Darden (1854-1931), a prominent black undertaker in Wilson and the founder in 1875 of a funeral business which continues today as the Darden Funeral Home. C. L. Darden attended Browns Embalming School in Raleigh and Eckels College in Philadelphia, was a charter member of the North Carolina Funeral Directors Association, and was a member of the Board of Trustees of Mercy Hospital, Wilson's first hospital for blacks. He organized several burial societies, including the Saratoga, the St. Rose and the Newvester societies and was a member of the Christian Aid Burial Society. A prominent church leader, Darden was chairman of the building committee when the present ediface of the St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Church was erected in 1915.

81
(former) C. E. Artis Funeral Home567-571 East Nash Street
F

One of only two black funeral directors in Wilson, Columbus Estelle Artis (1886-1973) had this modest, one-story, three-storefront building erected in 1922. His funeral business occupied the 571 store until the mid 1950s when he retired and closed his business; the other two stores have always been used for rental purposes, except for a brief period from ca 1945 until ca 1951 when Artis expanded his funeral home into the 569 store. The stuccoed brick structure has narrow stores at 567 and 569 that contain a simple door and a large adjacent display window, both of which have transoms of clear glass. The store at 571 East Nash Street has a central door with flanking display windows, also with transoms. Unfortunately, all of the windows and three of the window transoms have been boarded up. The blind northwest elevation originally abutted the drug store occupied by Darcey D. Yancy during the 1940s and 1950s; this building was razed in the mid 1960s. The rear elevation of the Artis building has a one central door per store. The southeast elevation wall is adjacent to the Jackson Chapel First Missioniary Baptist Church, which has maintained offices of the Artis building since 1980.

82
Vacant Lot
129-131-133 West Barnes Street
I

On this site in 1891 was built Wilson's second tobacco auction warehouse, the (first) Planters Warehouse. Its principals were T. Norman Jones, who came from Raleigh, and T. McKenzie Anderson (1843-1909), a native of Halifax County, Virginia. Anderson's sons, William P. (1869-1931) and Selby H. (1874-1962), received their first warehouse experience here and later went on to play leading roles in Wilson's tobacco markets. It is believed that the Planter's relatively small size, only 17,600 square feet of selling space, and its location away from the Kenan Street-South Goldsboro Street junction that was becoming the center of the tobacco market during the late 1890s contributed to the Planter's demise; it closed after the 1898 season and its operators moved to the Woodard-Watson Warehouse. Used as a warehouse for farm equipment and as a stable for animals, the all frame, 90 x 175 foot structure burned in the late 1920s.

83
Powell's Dry Cleaning and Dye Works Building
127 West Barnes Street
F

This modest, two-story, two-bay, brick commercial building was erected in the mid 1920s for Powell's Dry Cleaning and Dye Works, William T. Powell, proprietor. The first story consists of an intact storefront with a recessed entrance and a separate entrance to the second story. A mutli-pane transom of patterned glass with a brick soldier course lintel is over the storefront. The second story has two wide window openings with triple replacement one-over-one sash windows and brick soldier course lintels. The upper facade has only a simple brick panel enframed by a brick soldier course and a tile-capped parapet. The northeast elevation is blind and faces a two-story, two-storefront, brick building which was erected in the 1920s to replace the (first) Planters Tobacco Warehouse that burned in the late 1920s; the second building on this site also burned in the 1950s. Due to the slope of this lot, there is a partial basement at the rear of the Powell Building and the rear elevation is therefore three-stories in height. Its three bays contain twelve-pane metal windows with tile out sections. The interior is presently undergoing a sympathetic renovation which has included the addition of partition walls in the rear of the second story. Each of the interior stories contains one large room and has a handsome presssed metal ceiling with a cornice which has a bundled reed motif. An interior stair rises from the rear along the southeast wall and has square newels and balusters. Successive tenants of the building after Powell's vacated it in the 1940s were Quality Cleaners, Eastern Typewriter, and Farmers Fabrics; the new tenant will operate a photography studio here.

84
Fenner and Profitt Building
123-125 West Barnes Street
I

This two story brick commercial building was built in the mid 1920s as rental property by J. W. Byrd. It was occupied from ca 1936 until 1964 by the Acme Candy Company. This building was given a completely modern facade during extensive and unfortunate alterations at the 1967 purchase by its present owners, Fenner and Proffit Engineers. The interior has also been completely modernized with replacement walls and ceilings.

85
W. T. Lamm Cotton Company
119-121 West Barnes Street
F

Built in the mid 1920s and first occupied by the Singer Sewing Machine Company in the 119 store and the Gold Grocery Company (Couran M. Gold) in the 121 store, the W. T. Lamm Cotton Company has occupied the 121 premises since ca 1936 and expanded into 119 during the 1960s; other earlier tenants of 119 were a plumber and the Rocky Mount Production Credit Association. This two-story, two-storefront building is typical of many commercial buildings erected in Wilson during the 1920s, on which cast concrete details are used to enliven simple brick elevations. The first story contains two stores that share a recessed, double door entrance flanked by display windows. A multi-pane transom extends across the first story. The second story contains two large, closed-up windows with cast concrete sills and brick soldier course lintels. The upper facade has a raked and stepped cornice with cast concrete caps. The first story interior has a suspended ceiling that covers the modest pressed metal ceiling. Twin stairs rise to the second story, which is plastered and

has a simple pressed metal ceiling. The second story has been vacant for over twenty years. William Thomas Lamm (1894-1950), a member of a prominent Wilson family, organized his cotton buying company in the early 1920s and first located his concern at 111 South Goldsboro Street. At that time, cotton, second only to tobacco in production, was a major Wilson County crop. The W. T. Lamm Company was one of Eastern North Carolina's largest purchasers of cotton and continiues as such, even though very little cotton is grown in Wilson County. The company, the only cotton buyer in the area, today buys and sells cotton all over North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia under the management of W. T. Lamm's grandson, William T. Lamm, III.

86
Mercer Building
115-117 West Barnes Street
C

This two-story, brick building was erected in 1923 by James A. Mercer, who operated a plumbing business here until the mid 1930s. It is similar to the many modest brick commercial buildings built in Wilson during the 1920s, on which the architectural interest was supplied by panels of brickwork and the restrained use of stone or cast concrete accents. The somewhat modernized storefront has a recessed entrance with flanking display cases and a separate door on the southeast that leads to the second story. A multi-pane transom of patterned glass spans the storefront and has a soldier course lintel. The second story has five, six-over-six windows that are united by a continuous cast concrete lintel and sill. The upper facade has a brick panel enframed by a brick soldier course with cast concrete squares in the corners. The rear elevation is four bays wide and has a basement level due to the sloping lot. Succeeding Mercer in this building were the Dependable Grocery, the Hill Fish Company, and Cecil Lamm Real Estate; it has been vacant for several years. The interior was not available for inspection.

87
Perry Auto Storage Lot
114 West Barnes Street
I

On this lot stood a brick livery stable that had been erected ca 1903 for the Lacy Farrior Livery; Lacy was the son of Jefferson D. Farrior (1861-1934) who operated a large livery business (#155) at 208 South Tarboro Street. Farrior was succeeded here in the operation of the livery and livestock sales stable ca 1908 by Thomas R. Lamm and later by Joshua L. Matthew, William R. Ferrell, and Thomas Edward Dillon; the latter operated the sales stables until 1952. It was then acquired by Baily Perry, the manager of the adjacent Perry's Garage at 115 South Pine Street, and used as automobile parts storage until 1975 when it was razed. The lot continues to be used for automobile storage by Perry's Garage.

88
(former) Paramount Cleaners
112 West Barnes Street
F

Built in the mid 1920s for the Hollowell Motor Company, by 1936 this modestly finished one-story, brick, commercial building was occupied by Paramount Cleaners, which remained here until 1962. The front facade displays simple brickwork and a central panel enframed by soldier course surrounds that has cast concrete insets at the corners. The display windows have been modernized and the transoms covered up. The southeast elevation contains nine bricked-in windows. The interior has

also been modernized, including the removal of the original pressed metal ceilings. The Eastern Auto Supply Company has occupied the building since 1963.

89
Swinson's Furniture Company
106-108 West Barnes Street
C

This broad, two-story, four-bay two storefront, brick commercial building was built ca 1930 for the sheet metal business of Gary T. Fulghum and Company. (During the mid and late 1920s Fulghum had been located in the Abbitt Rental Buildilng (#212) at 217 South Street). The lower facades, divided by brick pilasters on stone plinths, have modern storefronts replacing the original recessed central entrances; the entrance to number 108 has been removed. Both transoms, surmounted by a soldier course lintel, remain although the 108 transom has been boarded over. The broad, second story windows, now closed, contain triple, nine-over-nine sash windows with brick soldier course lintels and stone sills with square brackets. An applied, modillioned, and dentiled metal classical cornice crowns the upper facade. Decoraring the pilasters are five inset diamond tiles. The southeast elevation has nine closed bays, the northwest elevation is blind, and the rear elevation contains an asymmetrical arrangement of loading doors and windows. The interior has been modified but retains a handsome pressed metal ceiling on the second story of number 108 with a cornice of triglyphs, mutules, and a band of wrapped reeds. Fulghum occupied the 108 store until ca 1941 and was succeeded by the Wilson Supply Company for several years. The first occupant of the 106 store was the ice cream store of Max Creech; he was succeeded ca 1941 by the Carolina Wine Company. In 1947 both stores were occupied by Liles-Mallison Furniture Company (Charles R. Swinson, president; M. B. Mallison, vice-president, and P. G. Liles, secretary-treasurer). In 1952 Swinson bought out the other two and changed the firm's title to Swinson's Furniture Company, which continues to occupy the building as their showrooms.

90
Watson Building
100 East Barnes Street
C

This modest, two-story brick commercial building was erected ca 1925 as rental property by Fannie (Morris) Watson on property she had inherited from her father, William Henry Morris (1833-1921). Morris operated a saloon in a previous building here in the late 1800s. The unaltered first story, recessed, double-door entrance retains its handsome multi-pane transom of patterned glass; a brick soldier course lintel extends across the transom. The second story has three (closed) window openings with brick sills and soldier course lintels. The upper facade has decorative brick panels enframed by raised soldier course bricks. The stepped parapet is crowned with tile caps. The South Tarboro (northwest) elevation has but one (closed) door with transom on the first story and three (closed) windows on the second story. There is one star-shaped tie bar above each window. The first story interior has a modest pressed metal ceiling with an ornate cornice of anthemions, egg-and-dart molding, and further foliate motifs. The second story contains one large, plastered room and is accessible only from the second story of the David-Pittman-Carolina Seafood Building directly to the rear at 203 South Tarboro Street. The building's first occupant was Smith's Shoe Shop. Successive occupants were George Katin, Confectioner; Carolina Candy Kitchen (George R. Saleeby, proprietor), Carolina Grocery Company, Family Clothing Store, Turnage Lawn and Garden Shop, Uptown Record Shack, and since 1981, June's Shoe Repair.

91
P. L. Woodard and Company
102-110 East Barnes Street
P

P. L. Woodard and Company was founded in 1899 by brothers Paul Lee Woodard (1869-1939), Frederick A. Woodard (1854-1915), and Sidney A. Woodard (1865-1915) and remains one of Wilson's leading general mercantile establishments. Early Sanborn Maps show two, two-story, brick stores at 102 and 104 East Barnes Street as early as 1885; the rest of the present Woodard site was occupied by the Hines, Hadley and Company Cotton Yard. It was these two buildings that P. W. Woodard and Company occupied in 1899. When the store was expanded in 1925 with the erection of the stores at 106-110 East Barnes Street, the present red brick facade was built to unite the old and new sections. Typical of 1920s construction in Wilson, with its stepped gables, the fifteen-bay facade is divided into five storefronts, each with large display windows flanking a central, recessed entrance. A multi-pane transom with a brick soldier course lintel is over each storefront, all of which are intact. The second story contains five groupings of three, six-over-one sash windows with brick sills and brick soldier course lintels. The upper facade is defined by three brick panels surrounded by brick soldier courses with square stone corners above the 102, 108 and 110 stores; the upper facades of 104 and 106 lack panels. Crowning the building is a stone-capped, stepped parapet. The southeast elevation has only one opening, a round-arched door in the center of the first story. At the upper northeast corner is a large, faded, painted P. L. WOODARD & CO./COCA-COLA sign. The rear elevation of both buildings, 102-104 and 106-110, are essentially intact, although the second story windows on 102 and 104 have been closed. Each rear elevation of 106, 108 and 110 has a central, segmental door flanked by small, raised windows on the first story and three segmental six-over-six sash windows on the second story. The 106 store, because of a different mezzanine arrangement at the rear, is three stories in height; the third story windows have been closed. The interior first stories all retain handsome pressed metal ceilings with foliate motif cornices. The 108 and 110 buildings are the main showroom of P. L. Woodard and Company and form one alrge interior space wtih the original mezzanine office at the rear. The ceiling in number 108-110 has a molded and coffered grid pattern, a decorative border, and a foliate motif cornice. The 106 store has the same ceiling as 108-110 but with a different cornice; its mezzanine level has been enclosed. The ceiling in 104 is identical to the one in 108-110 but is in poor condition; it has been removed at the rear. The most elaborate ceiling is found in 102 and has foliate motifs and a wide cornice. Unfortunately, most of it has been covered with pressed cardboard ceiling tile. The second stories have unfinished brick walls and have always been used for storage. In the early 1920s an auxiliary brick warehouse was built at the rear of the lot behind 108 and 110 East Barnes Street.

P. L. Woodard was one of Wilson's leading businessmen and had extensive farming, cotton, tobacco and fertilizer interests. In 1908, he, his two brothers, and their nephew, Graham Woodard (1879-1950), organized the Contentnea Guano Company; P. L. Woodard served as president until his death in 1939. He was a member of Branch Banking and Trust Company from 1917 until 1923. At his death, W. L. Adams, the Wilson County farm agent, stated that "Mr. Woodard did more in his lifetime for farming and agriculture in this section than any other individual in the last half century" (The (Raleigh) News and Observer, January 17, 1917). Woodard's nephew, Stephen Woodard Anderson (1180-1953), joined the firm after the deaths in 1915 of Sidney A. and Frederick A. Woodard, who were law partners in the firm Woodard and Woodard. Anderson took over control of P. L. Woodard and Company after P. L. Woodard's death and incorporated the company in 1947. Anderson also succeeded his

uncle as president of Contentnea Guano Company and was head of both companies until his death in 1953. A leader in Wilson's civic and agricultural affairs, he was also a member of the Board of Directors of Branch Banking and Trust Company from 1936 until his death and was chairman of the Wilson County Board of Commissioners from 1928 until 1932. His widow continues to own the buildings now occupied by P. L. Woodard and Company.

92
(former) Dildy and Agnew Hardware Building
113-115 East Barnes Street
F

Lewis T. and John R. Dildy and Samuel E. Agnew began their hardware company in 1903 at this location and erected a two-story brick building soon thereafter. It was enlarged in the 1910s into its present size. A marble table tinscribed "H. T. Crittenden-Builder" is set at the corner on the west side; he was an architect and a builder who practiced in Wilson for several years in the mid-late 1910s. Dildy and Agnew advertised roofing and sheet metal work, hardware, building materials, paints, oils, stoves and ranges, garden seeds, and sporting goods. By 1936 Agnew had left the partnership, the Dildys had moved across the street to 105 East Barnes Street; and this building was occupied by the local showrooms of Heilig-Myers Furniture Company. Heilig-Myers was responsible for the complete alteration of the facade which includes a tall metal screen covering the second floor. The original second floor facade is said to be intact behind the screen and, judging from the rest of the surviving fabric (primarily the good pressed metal ceilings of the second floor interior), the architectural elements of the facade should be quite good. The northwest side elevation (facing a parking lot) has seven segmentally-arched windows on the second floor (all cement blocked up). The southeast elevation faces the rear of commercial buildings fronting onto Goldsboro Street and has eight large twelve pane windows on the second floor, also closed. The first story interior has been entirely remodeled with replacement walls and a suspended ceiling. Only a portion of the modest pressed metal ceiling survives on the second story of the 113 store.

93
Perry Byuilding
118 East Barnes Street
C

Sanborn Maps indicate that the present two-story, double storefront, brick building was erected between 1903 and 1908. Built as rental property by Meyda (Gardner) Cutchin (1873-1927) on property her father, Thomas J. Gardner, a wealthy and prominent Wilson merchant, had purchased in 1886, the building is best known as the Perry Building. Her daughter, Madeline Cutchin, married Robert A. Perry, a prominent Wilson insurance agent. They (and later their estate) managed the property until P. L. Woodard and Company at 102-110 East Barnes Street acquired the building in 1980. The facade is defined by three, stone-capped brick pilasters. The arrangement of the first story interior is roughly original although all the materials are 1959 replacements. It is recessed in the center behind a centrla pilaster/pillar which is free-standing. The tall transoms have been covered and have a brick soldier course lintel. The second story contains quadruple, bungalow style, eight-over-eight sash windows with brick soldier course lintels. An inset stone diamond with a raised brick soldier course surround is placed in the upper facade above each window group. The stepped parapet is stone capped. The northwest elevation is blind (the adjacent, two-story brick building at 116 East Barnes Street was torn down in the late 1970s). The rear (southwest) elevation is four bays wide wna has bricked in doors on the first story and segmental one-over-one sash windows

on the second. The interior, vacant since 1979, has been allowed to deteriorate. The plastered first story, originally two spaces, but now one large space, has a modest, coffered, pressed metal ceiling with a cornice of band of tied reeds. The second story, reached by a quarter-turn stair in the rear south corner that has a peneled nervel and square balusters, is very deteriorated. It has exposed brick walls and an exposed truss ceiling. The Sanborn Maps list the building as a store in 1908, bicycles in 1913, and hardware in 1922; unfortunately, city directories for these years do not list such establishments at this address. The building, vacant ca 1928, had by 1936 been occupied by the Barnes Grocery, Nathan Barnes proprietor, and by Earnie Lucas, a beer distributor. They were succeeded ca 1941 by Joe Ellis men's wear and Louis Fagas' sandwich shop. In 1959, both stores were combined into one, at which time it is believed the storefronts were replaced, and the combined store was occupied until 1973 by Rabil's Clothing Store. The J and S Music Store and later the J and L Fabrics and Upholstery occupied the building until 1979. The building has been vacant since.

94
(former) Wilson Grocery Company Annex
120-124 East Barnes Street
C

Displaying a series of arched second floor windows, this two-story, three-storefront building was erected between 1903 and 1908 to enlarge the two-story byilding to the southeast that had been erected ca 1900 by the Wilson Grocery Company; the earlier building was razed in the 1950s. The three storefronts have undergone different degrees of modification, but the transoms remain, though covered with plywood. Six bays wide, the second story is distinguished by the six round-headed windows that are connected by a continuous corbeled lintel that extends across the facade. The windows contain four-over-four sash and have fanlights in the arches. A simply corbeled cornice marks the stepped gable. The interiors have also been altered somewhat, but still retain some of their pressed metal ceilings. The second stories, simply finished for warehouse space, are presently deteriorated and vacant.

The Wilson Grocery, with J. D. Farrior, a prominent livery owner, as president, and George L. Morgan as secretary/treasurer, went out of business between 1908 and 1912 and a number of businesses have occupied this building since. Successive tenants in 120 have been The Market Store Grocery (C. B. Walton and A. C. Bardin, proprietors), Dixie Lunch, City Finance and Wilson Janitor Service; it has been vacant since the mid 1970s. Tenants in 122 have been Lamm's Meat Market (J. Bryan Lamm, owner), the City Market, the Oak Cafe, Jolli's Records and Tapes and presently as storage. Number 124 has also been occupied by Lamm's Meat Market and the City Market and then by the Fidelity Insurance Office and from the 1960s to the present by the Wilson Billiard Parlor.

95
Parking Lot
126-128 East Barnes Street
I

On this site stood a two-story, brick commercial building erected between 1897 and 1903 for the Wilson Grocery Company. By 1916 the company was known as the Peacock Grocery Company with W. A. Peacock, president, and G. L. Morgan, secretary-treasurer. The Peacock Grocery Company stayed here until 1956, when the building was vacated. It was razed in 1961.

96
Liberty Warehouse
210 East Barnes Street
C

Completed in time for the opening of the 1904 market, this one-and-a-half story, 100 foot wide by 265 foot deep, brick building was erected for the Liberty Warehouse group, which had been founded in 1903 by Aldolphus O. Davis, Benjamin F. Lane, Samuel B. Currin, a Mr. Woodard, and a Mr. Harrison. The building's six-bay northeast facade has a stepped gable with quarter-circular extensions, a corbeled brick cornice, and seven brick pilasters that divide the facade. The lower facade displayed arched windows and doorways which have been greatly altered to accomodate square overhead loading doors. Arched and corbeled brick lintels form a continuous band above the three upper level windows which originally contained six-over-six sash but are now bricked in. The northwest side elevation of the original building is divided by pilasters into sixteen bays, with the second, fifth and seventh bays from the front containing paired sliding doors, two of which have been bricked in. The other bays contain six-over-six sash windows with segmental arches. Small segmentally arched openings provide ventilation in the foundation. A metal canopy shelters the fourth through seventh bays. The rear, mid 1920s addition, is six bays deep and is detailed similarly to the rest of this side elevation. The southeast elevation closely follows the treatment of the northwest, but only eight bays are unaltered, including only one of the four doors. At the rear of the mid 1920s addition is a one-story, four-bay deep, seven-bay wide, brick storage section also added during the 1920s.

Although the Liberty Warehouse only operated twelve seasons, it was involved with several groups of tobacconists, including such noted tobacco pioneers in Wilson as John P. Lovelace (1854-1930) and Elbert A. Darden (1864-1930). In 1916 it was converted into a redrying facility by W. T. Clark and Company and subsequently enlarged on the rear in the mid 1920s. W. T. Clark and Company closed in 1952 and the Liberty Warehouse has since been used for non-tobacco storage. Perhaps the Liberty is best rembered for "Pocohontas", the wooden dime store Indian which stood atop the parapet here until the 1950s when it was removed and sheltered in the office of the Centre Brick Warehouse #2 where it remains. The statue was acquired from a Richmond, Virginia antique store by Adolphus O. Redcap, who came to Wilson in 1899 from Danville, Virginia and stayed only until 1903. Of the other two known founders, Lane was a well-known tobacco planter and member of a large landowning family in the Stantonsburg area, and Currin is thought to have come from Granville County, North Carolina; Woodard and Harrison are known only by their surnames. (This building was destroyed by fire on June 5, 1984.)

97
General Supply Store Building
211-215 East Barnes Street
F

This two-story, three-storefront, brick building was erected ca 1928 for the General Supply Store, a general merchandise store with prominent warehouseman, J. C. Eagles as president, J. Lawrence Bryan as vice-president, and L. Hugh Flowers as secretary-treasurer. The three first story fronts have been altered to varying degrees. Number 215 retains its original recessed entrance, glass display windows, and mutli-pane transom. Nine six-over-six sash windows (eight are boarded up) on the second floor have lintels and sills of cast concrete. The tall upper facade is enlivened by a simple brick-patterned panel in the center and a stepped and concrete-capped parapet. The General Supply Store occupied the entire building until 1956, after which it was occupied by a blouse manufacturer, for storage and

most recently by a night club. The building suffered a major fire in October 1983 and its future is uncertain.

98
Hagan Building
217-219 East Barnes Street
C

This two-story brick building was built ca 1922 by Robert E. Hagan (1849-1938) as retirement rental property. He had operated a metal shop on a portion of this site since 1899. Erected in a form that was popular in Wilson during the 1920s--brick multiple bay parapet facades containing several storefronts with decorative accents supplied by brick panels and cast concrete details--this building housed several different wholesale grocers during the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. Both first story stores have seen minor changes to their recessed entrances which have multi-pane transoms of patterned glass. A single door between the two stores leads to the second floor interior. The ten-bay second story contains single two-over-two sash windows. The interior, like much of commercial Wilson, boasts a handsome pressed metal ceiling. An unusual feature is a panel of forty glass squares in the second-story floor beneath the skylight which permits natural light to reach the first floor interior. Each second story has one large room with exposed brick walls and the same pressed metal ceiling as on the first story. The first occupant of both stores was the House-Garner Company, wholesale grocers. Succeeding them in the 217 store was the J. H. Little (wholesale grocers) Company on the first story and quarters for the National Guard on the second story, the Carolina Casual Company (blouse manufacturers), and since the 1960s by an annex to Batten Auto Parts. Succeeding House-Garner in the 219 store was the Rose Wholesale (feed) Company, the Standard (wholesale) Grocery Company, and since 1945, Batten Auto Parts, J. E. Batten owner.

99
Shealy's Bake Shop
220 East Barnes Street
F

Built around 1940, this undistinguished, double storefront, brick building has been occupied by several establishments. The present occupant, Shealy's Bake Shop, has occuied at least one of the stores since the late 1950s. Recessed doors are flanked by display cabinets and are sheltered by recent asphalt-shingled awnings. The only architectural decoration are plain, recessed brick panels above each storefront.

100
L. C. Woodall Furniture Store and Warehouse
221 East Barnes Street
F

Erected ca 1921 for the Blackwood Tire Sales Company (O. C. and W. T. Blackwood, owners), this modest two-story, three-bay brick commercial building is most commonly associated with the L. C. Woodall Furniture Company which was located here during the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. The building lacks any decoration other than a simple recessed brick panel in the upper facade. The building's second story windows and the large first floor transom have been boarded up. The interior first story is plainly and simply finished, with exposed brick walls and it has lost its ceiling finish. An enclosed stair rises at the rear to the second story which is similarly finished and has a celotex ceiling. A janitor-maintenance service now occupies the building. A one story brick warehouse at the rear of the building, built and

enlarged during the 1930s and 1940s, is now occupied by an auto repair shop and a machine shop for Batten Auto Parts at 317-319 East Barnes Street.

101
Ruffin's Filling Station
222 East Barnes Street
F

Built in the mid 1920s for Arthur A. and Harvey B. Ruffin, who also operated Ruffin's Accessory Shop at 130 South Goldsboro Street, this stuccoed, brick building is representative of the early gas stations in Wilson. A metal, pseudo-tile canopy above the former service bays imparts a modest hint of the Mission Revival style. The building is presently used for auto repairs.

102
(former) Norfolk and Southern Railway Passenger Station
300 East Barnes Street
I

Concealed behind this building is the former Norfolk and Southern Railroad Passenger Station. The Norfolk and Southern Railroad build through Wilson in 1907 and 1908 as part of its merger with the old Raleigh and Eastern North Carolina Railroad, which was organized in 1903 to connect Raleigh and Washington, NC. This station, of which only the hipped roof remains, was built ca 1908. The completion of the Norfolk and Southern gave Wilson the advantageous position of being located on the main trunk line of both a major north-south and east-west railroad. This passenger station continued to operate until the late 1940s when passenger service was terminated. This building was then vacated and subsequently purchased and completely remodeled and expanded by the Dixie Supply Company of Wilson, Inc. It has stood vacant for several years.

103
Wilson Hardware Company Warehouse
306 East Barnes Street
F

Organized and incorporated in 1907 by J. B. Gray, Sr., Bennett Barnes and S. W. Richardson, the Wilson Hardware Company erected this simple two-story, two-bay by eight-bay brick warehouse ca 1920 to house their wholesale building supply materials. This is evidenced by the faded sign that extends across the top of the 150 foot long parapeted northwest side elevation. Under capital letters stating STORAGE, WILSON HARDWARE COMPANY, their wares are listed: Lime, Cement, Plaster, Sash, Doors, Columns, Mantels, Shingles, Laths and Metal Roofing. Two sets of double doors and five small, four-pane windows on the first floor opened advantageously onto a spur of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad; the Norfolk and Southern Railroad Station is adjacent on the northwest. The two-bay facade has been altered with replacement windows and a brick veneer. The interior is plain, stucco over brick, with one vast unfinished room upstairs. Of note are the seven star tie bar ends along the northwest elevation and the bottoms of cash iron downspouts on the facade.

104
(former) D. L. Herring and Company
307-309 East Barnes Street
F

The core of this modernized building, now an auto repair shop, was built ca 1912 as the livery and veterinary clinic of Dr. Lawrence J. Herring (1882-1964), one of Wilson's earliest veterinarians. In the 1912-1913 City Directory he advertised as a "Veterinary Physician, Surgeon and Dentist". He expanded in the 1930s adding a lucrative farm implement dealership, the L. J. Herring Implement Company; the implements company survived until 1961. The large brick building has had unfortunate facade modifications since and is now occupied by a car repair shop.

105
(former) Dillon and Bryan Livery Stable
310 East Barnes Street
F

Erected ca 1922 as the Dillon and Bryan Livery Stables (T. E. Dillon and W. R. Bryan), this one-story, two-bay, brick building displays recessed upper panels, simple corbeled brickwork and a large lower storefront with transom, all characteristic of modest early twentieth century commercial buildings in Wilson. Dillon and Bryan remained here until ca 1930, after which the building was occupied until the mid 1940s by the Wilson Marble and Granite Company (Ernest L. Cobb, proprietor), a concern which had been previously located at 106 West Nash Street (#12) in the early 1900s. Presently the building is occupied by an electrical contractor and a furniture refinisher.

106
(former) Brown Motor Company
311-313 East Barnes Street
F

This modernized brick building was built in the mid 1920s as the showrooms for the Brown Motor Company, which had been estabilshed by J. C. Brown ca 1915. Their first showroom was at 308 East Barnes Street. It was later occupied by the Lovelace-Green Motor Company, the Horace Colley Motor Company, and the Hicks and Batts Motor Service. Since ca 1970, it has been used as a warehouse for the adjacent Barnes Motor and Parts Company. The rpesent owners added the false metal screen on the upper facade and altered the front bays. The gable roof, which has a front stepped parapet, is full of skylights. The interior has also been remodeled for conversion into warehouse space.

107
Wilson Iron Works Annex
312 East Barnes Street
I

This large, brick building was erected in 1951 as storage for the Herring Implement Company and since the 1960s has been used as a shop for the Wilson Iron Works nearby on South Lodge Street (#233). The facade has one large overhead door and a small entrance door and is devoid of any architectural significance.

108
Barnes Motor Company
315-317 East Barnes Street
F

This brick building was erected in 1924 for the Barnes Motor Company, which had been established several years previously by J. Bennett Barnes, P. H. Foreman, and R. E. Kirkland, in the adjacent southeast building. Although the storefronts have been greatly altered and a metal screen hides the upper facade, the brick building has a parapet gable with a clerestory and skylights illuminating the interior. Barnes Motors and Parts, a descendent of the original company, continues to occupy the building.

109
Barnes-Harrell Building-Coca-Cola Bottling Plant
320 East Barnes Street
C

The Barnes-Harrell Company was incorporated in 1909 to bottle "non-alcoholic and non-intoxicating drinks" and is said to have been one of the first bottlers of Coca-Cola in North Carolina; they also bottled Hires Root Beer. Its principals were John T. Barnes, W. N. Harrell and W. S. Cross, the latter of Suffolk, Virignia. John T. Barnes was a prominent Wilson businessman involved in several business adventures. Also a wholesaler of groceries and produce, the Barnes-Harrell Company was first located at 112-114 South Goldsboro Street (#182). By 1912 W. D. Adams had joined the management. The company had this large, nine bay-by-seven bay,three-story over partial basement brick building erected about 1921. The bottling works occupied the first floor while the upper floors were taken by the wholesale grocery business. The (unknown) architect skillfully provided surface interest to the East Barnes Street (front) and South Lodge Street elevations of the large building by combining the windows vertically with brick soldier course surrounds and by thejudicious use of stone inset details. The central section of the facade projects and contains the handsome entrance portal, which features the words "Cocal-Cola" in trademark script in a wide, flat lintel. This is a replacement of the original entrance (known from documentary photographs) which had two brick pilasters with stone capitals supporting a simple doric entablature. The recessed entrance is reached by a flight of steps. Enframing the three stories of the entrance bay is a wide stone surround. The remainder of the facade is symmetrically arranged with each vertical pair of twenty-five pane fixed windows on the second and third stories being enframed by a brick soldier course surround. Stone sills and inset diamond details between floors provide additional architectural interest. The first story has thirty-pane metal sash windows, except on the southeast where modern display windows occupy the bays. A stepped parapet with stone caps and additional stone details crowns the building. The seven-bay, South Lodge Street (southeast) elevation is finished similarly to the front. The three smaller windows on the northeast first floor replaced four garage delivery doors which provided access for the wholesale grocery. Two additional garage doors were added at the southwest corner in 1967.

The first story of the interior is occupied by offices that were built in 1941 when Barnes-Harrell remodeled the interior. the rear of the first story contained the bottling facilites and consists of one large space with large wooden posts. Steel beams and posts were added in 1941 by Shakford Construction of Kinston o further support the upper stories which were then used for bottle storage. The main stair is in the east corner and connects all three floors and the partial basement. The upper two stories contain one large main room per floor, although there is a small room in the front of the second floor where the Coca-Cola syrup was mixed. Each story contains six rows of chamfered posts. All three floors have sprinklers.

The Barnes-Harrell Grocery Company continued to occupy the building and bottle Coca-Cola here until 1967 when the company built a new bottling plant out of downtown Wilson. This buiding was then purchased by C. Sarvis Bass, the owner of the adjacent Wilson Iron Works at 210 South Lodge Street. Since 1967, the building has been used for storage and offices and warehouse space for the Sarvis Ski Company, one of the largest wholesale distributors of water skiing equipment in the eastern United States. C. Sarvis Bass and his son, C. Sarvis Bass, Jr., are the owners of Sarvis Ski Company.

110
Atlantic Coastline Railroad Freight Depoit
402 East Barnes Street
C

This handsome, trapezoid-shaped, brick building was erected ca 1920. It replaced a smaller freight depot which was rendered inadequate due to a need for more space to meet the demands of Wilson's expanding exonomy in the early twentieth century. The depot has a symmetrical, seven-bay facade with single windows on the outer bays, twin-arched entrances and a trio of windows in the center of the elevation. Each entrance has a raised, brick-drip molding and provides access to a recessed door reached by a flight of steps. A prominent water table, stone lintels and sills (the windows have been bricked in) and stone trim at the stepped roofline enliven the building. The northwest elevation is similarly detailed and has six windows (also bricked in) and three, short chimney flues at the roofline. The southeast elevation (fronting on the railroad) has two, small-raised, six-pane windows of which one is bricked in. To the southwest, behind the building, extends the 425 foot long, gable-roofed warehouse and freight platform. The southeast elevation has sliding doors fronting the railroad tracks. Thirteen, arched-loading doors, separated by high-double windows, stretch along the northwest elevation. Vacated by the Seaboard Coastline Railroad in 1972, the former office has been occupied as offices for the Caldwell and Jones Fertilizer Company since 1975. A furniture refinisher is located at the extreme southwest end of the warehouse.

111
Parking Lot
407-415 East Barnes Street
I

On this vacant lot, now used for parking for the adjacent Imperial Tobacco Company Building, stood the two-story, brick Southern Grain and Provisions Company Building and the one-story, brick House-Garner Wholesale Grocery Building; both erected in the 1920s. Both buildings were razed in the 1960s.

112
Wells-Whitehouse Tobacco Company
417 East Barnes Street
P

The original section of this brick structure, the two-story, ten bay-by-ten bay section that fronts onto East Barnes Street, was erected between 1888 and 1893 as the Corbett Hotel with Wiley Corbett (1855-1924) as the proprietor. At that time, only the first story was brick; the second story was frame. In 1893, the first floor contained the hotel office, a store (vacant), a grocery, and a saloon in the rear north corner; the hotel rooms were on the second floor. Corbett defaulted on a loan in 1895, and the hotel closed. The 1897 Sanborn Map shows the building being used for cotton storage.

The Wells-Whitehead Company was incorporated on January 3, 1900, "for the manufacturing of tobacco into cigarettes and the selling of the same" and this building was purchased on February 14, 1900. The Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company was the most successful of the several cigarette manufacturing companies which operated in Wilson during the early 1900s and included among its principals and directors many prominent tobaccomen and businessmen who were (or would be) directly involved with the ownership and operation of Wilson's many tobacco warehouses and industries: Stephen Wells of the (Second) Planters Warehouse; Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956) of the Banner and Watson Warehouses; Stephen C. Wells (1850-1933) of the First Planters, Farmers, and Watson Warehouses; Will P. Anderson (1869-1931) of the First Planters, Farmers, and Watson Warehouses; Roscoe G. Briggs (1859-1933) of the Briggs and Fleming Prize House; Ula h. Cozart (1869-1948) of the Centre Brick Warehouse; Charels M. Fleming (1862-1931), the "Grandfather of the Wilson Tobacco Market", of the Briggs and Fleming Prize House and later the longtime manager of the Imperial Tobacco Company; and Tom M. Washington of the Centre Brick Warehouse. In the spring of 1900, Whitehead went to Winston-Salem where he met rupert C. Welfare (1859-_____), who held patents on several parts ofthe then-used cigarette machines and who had perfected the paste for cigarette paper. Whitehead employed Welfare to manage the Wells-Whitehead Company, with Welfare arriving on April 17, 1900. Welfare later refused an offer by the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company to lure him back to Winston-Salem.

In 1903, after the fledgling Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company had gained a slight foothold in the cigarette market with its "Carolina Brights", fifty-one percent of the stock was purchased by James B. Duke's Durham-based American Tobacco Company. This was done blindly in the name of Blackwell Durham Bulls out of fear of anti-trust suits. In fact, the acquisiton of the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Comapny later figures prominently in an anti-trust suit brought by the federal government. In 1907, the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company, by then solely owned by the American Tobacco Company manufactured 92,000,000 "Carolina Bright" Cigarettes in Wilson. Soon after 1908, the machinery was moved to Durham and cigarette manufacturing ended in Wilson.

The Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company was responsible for the present appearance of the building. The ten-bay wide southwest facade features a prominent raked gable that has a cornice of corbeled dentils. The first story has been extensively altered through the years with its arched entrances and windows bricked in. All the openings in this building were originally segementally arched and now have replacement flat-topped windows. Above the facade's first story are several surviving star-shaped ends of metal tie rods. Dividing the first and second stories is a string course of corbeled dentils that spans the entire facade. The second story has ten bays that have all been either completley or partially bricked in. The side elevations ten bays on the northwest (railroad side) and seven on the southeast (South Pettigrew Street), have also been partially or completely bricked in. Both elevations have a simple tile capped, corbeled cornice and numerous star tie rod ends. The northwest elevation has a string course of corbeled brickwork between the stories. Between 1900 and 1903 the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company erected a three-story, nine-bay wide, flat-roofed, brick addition on to the read (northeast) of the original structure. Simply finished with no decorative brickwork, its windows and doors, originally segmentally arched, have all been partially bricked in.

The interiors of both sections have one large room on each floor, have four rows of large wood posts supporting the ceiling, and are in excellent condition. Only on the first story of the original section are there later partition walls. The original section of the first story suffered a minor fire in the 1930s or 1940s and has restuccoed walls and replacement ceilings. The enclosed stair rises from the

offices (along the northwest elevation) to a landing in the center of the second story. The rear addition is similarly finished and is unceiled. The enclosed stair here rises along the south party wall with the original building. Large, centrally located doors provide access between the two sections. Both buildings are completely empty.

The 1908 Sanborn Maps indicate that the first story of the original building was used for storage and the second story for manufacturing. In the addition the first and second stories were also used for manufacturing and the third story was the leaf room (exact purpose unclear). A (now gone) furnace plant and drying room occupied a one-story building at the rear (northeast) of the three story addition.

The Wells-Whitehead Company closed in either 1908 or 1909 and in September 1909 this building was sold to the Runnymead Mills Number 3, a manufacturer of textiles that was based in Tarboro. Runnymead operated a plant here until 1929; the name was changed to Wilson Knitting Mills in 1917. Wilson Knitting Mills defaulted in 1929 and the property was sold at public auction to David S. Boykin (1863-19410, a wealthy Wilson businessman and the builder of the Boykin Building at 201-209 South Goldsboro Street in 1906. The property was sold in 1937 to William Windsor Woodard, the president of the C. Woodard Company, wholesale grocers, at 210-212 South Douglas Street; it remains in the ownership of his heirs. During the 1930s and early 1940s, the building was occupied by Rogers Company, food products, and in 1941, was known as the Rogers Terminal Buildilng. It was during the Rogers Period that five brick warehouse bays were erected at the northeast, adding 170 feet to the length of the building. Bissett's Drug Store used a portion of the original building for storage from ca 1950 until 1973. Except for a brief occupancy by Furniture Salvage Company in the late 1970s, the building has been vacant since 1974, although the Rogers warehouses continue to be used for storage.

113
Farmers Cotton Oil Company Complex
500 East Barnes Street
C

The Farmers Cotton Oil Mill was founded in 1902 during the period when Wilson was knwon as one of the larger cotton markets in eastern North Carolina. According to one source, its organizers (early stockholders were required to be cotton farmers) were dissatisfied with the prices they were getting at the adjacent Wilson Oil Company, later Southern Cotton Mill (#268), and formed the Farmers Cotton Oil Company in protest. In 1904 Furman N. Bridgers (1878-1956) was brought from Raleigh to manage the company and it was under his leadership that the present complex was built. Encompassing the entire city block bounded by East Barnes, Grace, Stemmery and South Railroad Streets, the Farmers Cotton Oil Mill, in addition to the oil mill and cotton gin, also operated an extensive fertilizer manufacturing operation; a feed mill plant was never fully developed due to a lack of room for expansion and the busy operations of the rest of the complex. In the early 1920s, the Farmers Cotton Oil Company bought the Fertilizer Plant and Cotton Gin Company in Lillington, North Carolina and in 1928 acquired the Farmers Guana Company of Norfolk, Virginia. After 1940, most of the Company's fertilizer was manufactured at the Norfolk plant and then shipped here for distribution throughout eastern North Carolina. F. N. Bridger's three sons continued the operation of the plant after his death in 1956. They retired and sold the plant in 1965 to the Southern Nitrogen Company of Savannah, which, in turn, was acquired by the Kaiser Chemical Company of Wilmington, North Carolina in 1966. At the height of its operations in the late 1920s, Farmers Cotton Oil Mill bought cotton seed from gins all over eastern North Carolina. With the decline of the growth of cotton in this area, the oil mill and the cotton gin ceased operations entirely in the late 1960s. (There is presently just one operating cototn gin in Wilson County.) The fertilizer business continues.

Component Buildings:

1) Cotton Gin - This twenty-five foot-by-seventy foot frame building covered by a gable roof and sided with corrogated metal, was built ca 1935-1940 to replace the second, ca 1903-1910 frame gin. A small gable, cantilevered to provide shelter to unloading trucks, extends from the northwest. The gin ceased operations in the late 1960s and is now used as a machine shop.

2) Feed Plant - The oldest standing building on the site, this two-story over basement, three bay-by-five bay, fifty foot-by-eighty foot structure was erected in 5:1 common bond brick between 1913 and 1922, according to the Sanborn Maps. The most distinguished of the buildings on the site, it has a parapet gable and six-over-six window sash in segmentally arched openings. The small, segmentally arched basement windows are filled with pierced brick so as to allow ventilation of the basement. It has been vacant for a number of years and is extremely deteriorated; much of the wooden interior floor has rotted from rain damage.

3) Cotton Seed Hull House - This large, sixty foot-by-135 foot, metal sided storage barn for hulls from the adjacent former Oil Mill is connected to the feed plant by a gable roofed truck passage. The hull house was erected in 1902 as the Seed House and has been enlarged several times since. It is presently vacant and in fair condition.

4) Site of Oil Mill - At the heart of the complex, the oil mill was built in 1902 and enlarged and modernized through the years as increased volume and improved technology demanded. It continued operations for two or three years after the 1966 purchase by Kaiser and was razed ca 1980.

5) Fertilizer Plant/Bulk Storage - The most dominant and largest building on the site, this tall, 75 feet wide and 110 feet deep, frame structure has a prominent weatherboarded clerestory mixing tower that runs the full depth of the building. Built between 1922 and 1930, its cavernous interior was ideal for the mixing and stockpiling of various brands of fertilizer. It was later used for bulk storage of fertilizer and now is vacant.

6) Fertilizer Plant - Added to the complex between 1903 and 1908, this rectangular brick structure hosued the main fertilizer plant. Erected in five-to-one brick under a wide parapet gable, the building's simple detailing consists of five rows of brick corbeling at the eaves. Along its southwest elevation are three, wide-arched entrances. The southwest elevation has loading platforms facing the railroad spur, which was built ca 1905. In the east corner is situated the two-story, frame (asbestos-sided) office.

7) Cotton Seed House - This large gambrel-shaped structure is covered with corrogated metal and has interior steel trusses, leaving the interior space free of supports. Extending along the ridge of the roof of the seventy-five foot-by-ninety foot structure is a narrow, gable-roofed shed that sheltered the conveyors used to pile the seeds. It was built during the late 1920s and was converted to fertilizer storage ca 1940. It is used for fertilizer now.

8) Fertilizer Storage Building - Built ca 1940, this large corrogated metal-sided warehouse replaced five, frame worker dwellings which had stood along South Railroad Street since the late-nineteenth century. The dewllings were never owned by the Farmer Cotton Oil Company, but were built for rental by various Wilson businessmen.

9) Water Tower

10) Seed Storage Tank - This large, tall, circular metal tank was built during the 1940s to replace a wood storage house, which was then torn down. Located across the Grace Street Alley (unpaved) from the rest of the complex, it was built on a part of a whole block which the Company had purchased and which contained an assortment of speculative frame worker houses built for rental by

various Wilson businessment. As early as 1903 two, single-family dwellings and ten duplexes were located on this block. These dwellings were gradually razed or moved away, the last ones during the 1930s. These houses and others along East Barnes, South Railroad, South Pettigrew, South Stantonsburg and East Stemmery streets were built to house workers in the nearly industries.

114
J. and F. Service Center
501 East Barnes Street
F

Although extensively altered, the core of this structure, a rectangular frame dwelling under a low hip roof, dates from the late 1180s according to the Sanborn Insuance Maps. In the mid 1890s a smokehouse was added at the east corner; the pleasant gable roofed structure has returning boxed eaves and a standing seam roof. About 1940 Reuben A. Wilder added a small, three bay-by-two bay, frame store onto the west (along South Pettigrew Street) and converted the property into the Wilder Grocery and Cafe. It presently houses an auto repair business and a large sliding garage door has been added to the Barnes Street elevation of the original dwelling.

115
Electric Substation
509 East Barnes Street
F

The City of Wilson maintained facilities for their street department on this lot from the 1920s through the 1950s, after which the lot has been a power substation of Carolina Power and Light Company. Enclosed within the barbed wire-topped chain link fence, in addition to the large transformer and numerous high-voltage circuits, is a square metal shed.

116
Wilson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
513 East Barnes Street
F

The Wilson Missionary Baptist Church was origanized in 1872 and had by 1880 erected a small frame church at this site. That congregation, now known as the Jackson Chapel First Missioniary Baptist Church, was a leader in the black community and in 1913 erected their present Romanesque Revival style church nearby at the corner of the North Pender and East Nash Streets (#275). In 1915 the old frame church was sold to the Wilson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. It was replaced in 1958 by this present building, a gable front, three bay by six bay brick structure that contains triangular pointed windows and a crennelated, partially-inset tower, all of which are faintly reminiscent of the Gothic Revival style. The site has played a significant role in the religious life of East Wilson for over one hundred years.

117
Wilson County Gin Company
531 East Barnes Street
C

The Wilson County Cotton Gin Company was incorporated in 1919 by W. W. Tomlinson, Ula H. Cozart, and L. S. Tomlinson to provide facilities for the county's large and important cotton crop (25,624 bales in 1919). This two-story, brick building was erected at that time. The central section of the building features a

prominent stepped gable parapet and a large central entrance for trucks. This entrance is flanked by raised six-over-six sash windows with segmental surrounds completing the center section is a four-course corbeled water table and simple corbeling at the tile-capped parapet. The side elevations contain the same six-over-six sash windows on the southwest first floor and small six-pane windows at the secod story rear. The rear elevation has three bays. Two wings flank the building. The small two-by-two bay wing on the southeast contained the original office. The northwest wing is taller and its southeast bay has a double, segmental arched bay. Only this first bay is original; it was the original engine room. The rest of the wing is a late 1940s expansion. The interior, with a large intermediate level, is intact although allt he cotton gin machinery has been removed. Al so lost is the one-story frame cotton seed house that stood to the northwest.

Even though the corporation was dissolved in 1923, the gin operated under the name of Wilson County Cotton Gin Company through the 1930s. In 1941, the property was occupied by Robert Hinson, a coal dealer. In 1945, the building was purchased by Littlejohn Fualkner (1905-1974), a native of Henderson. A talented worker with neon lights, he had come to Wilson in 1940 from New York City, where he had owned and operated a studio. In the late 1940s he expanded the northwest wing. He was responsible for much of the neon sign work in the Wilson County area until his death. His son, Herbert, continues the Faulkner Neon Shop at the present. Stretching across the central section is a handsome "Falukner Neon" neon sign. Inside, in addition to many signs, are the plans of all the designs Littlejohn Faulkner executed while in business in Wilson.

118
Perry's Garage
115 South Pine Street
F

Built ca 1925 for Custus L. Perry, as a filling station and auto repair business, this stuccoed three bay-by-three bay brick building enjoys a prominent corner location at South Pine and West Barnes Streets. The sheltered gas pumps are located in the corner drive-through which is distinguished by a ceiling of pressed metal. Other features of the building include segmental arches at the service doors on West Barnes Street and on the second floor windows of the drive-through, and multi-pane transom lights above the larger windows of the office. In the early 1960s, Baily Perry, the builder's son and the proprietor of the store, purchased the adjacent Dillon Livery at 114 West Barnes Street, which had been erected in the 1930s for Edward T. Dillon. The livery was razed in 1964 and the lot is now used for automobile storage.

119
Wilson Radiator Shop
207 South Pine Street
F

Erected ca 1928 for the Wilson Radiator Shop, B. A. Pietri, proprietor, this plain, one-story, brick building lacks any distinguishing brickwork. ITs facade has two bays, one a large display window and the other an overhead garage door, and has been modified somewhat during the years by successive tenants. The upper facade has a modest recessed brick panel and a cast concrete capped parapet. The southwest elevation has three segmental windows, all closed. Occupied by the Wilson Welding and Machine Works from ca 1941 until 1952, the building was vacant for over twenty years before being used in the mid 1970s as storage by W. W. Furniture and Tastee Freeze.

120
R. L. Smith Auto Paint Shop
211 South Pine Street
F

Erected ca 1928 for Stallings and Riley, "General Repairers of Vehicles, Blacksmiths, Auto Springs, Horseshoeing and Welding", the central section of this brick building has two large overhead garage doors with a single door, with tall closed transom, at the southwest of the facade. The doors have brick header course lintels. Header courses also define a modest brick panel in the upper facade. The northeast elevation has a wide, segmental-arched door at the rear. The rear elevation has two-segmental, twelve-pane sash with tilt out central section. The rear elevation has a stepped parapet. From ca 1936 until 1959 the building was occupied by the Robert L. Smith Auto Paint Shop. During this period two wings were added to the building--a one-story, cement block office on the northeast and a one-bay, brick service bay with overhead garage door on the southwest. Since 1960 Moore's Body Shop has occupied the premises. Painted advertising signs of all three occupants survive on the building. On the upper northeast elevation is STALLINGS &; a smaller R. L. SMITH AUTO & TRUCK PAINTING sign obscures the Riley from Stallings and Riley. The upper facade contains a large MOORE'S PAINT & BODY SHOP sign.

121
Municipal Water Tower #1
306 South Pine Street
C

Popularly known as the "Coon Tower" because of its location adjacent to the Coon School, this tall water tower was erected in 1939 by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company. Its flattened, flobular shape rests on a large central pipe (around which a stairs ascends) and is supported by braced metal supports at its edges. Reinforcing ribs on the tank top are lightened by open braces which meet at a central cupola; the wooden weathercock that crowns the tank has become an unofficial Wilson trademark. Approximately 150 feet in height, the water tower dominates the skyline at the western section of the district.

122
First Union National Bank Drive In
122 North Tarboro Street
I

Built in 1959, this undistinguished brick and glass building has a flat roof and drive-in windows along the south elevation. It was built on the site of a turn of the century Farmer family house.

123
Parking Lot
119 North Tarboro Street
I

On this site stood the former home of Mrs. Mollie Farmer (widow of James E. Farmer). The two-story frame house was erected before 1885 and given a two-story projecting portico about 1905. It was occupied during the 1950s and 1960s by the Hunt and Shingleton Funeral Home, and was razed in the mid 1970s.

124
Loyal Order of Moose Lodge
111-117 North Tarboro Street
C

Built in 1946 on the site of the elaborate Queen Anne style Charles M. Fleming House, this cement block structure has a dominant horizontal orientation provided by the three recesssed storefronts, the bold stone and channeled brick frieze above the storefronts, and the continuous band of windows on the second story. As a counterpoint to this horizonality a strongly vertical, two-story entrance bay projects slightly at the east corner. Large second floor windows illuminate the interior of the entrance/stairwell. The building is faced with a lovely pinkish brick ad accented with stone details. Three commercial storefronts are located on the first floor while the Moose Lodge was on the second floor. Past occupants of the first story have been the Moose Building Farm Equipment Company, Chappell's Printing Service, Cecil B. Lamm Insurance Company from ca 1950 to the present, and Joseph H. Hanchrow, Accountant. The Moose Lodge erected a new building in the 1970s and since 1977 the lodge area has been occupied by the Wilson County Board of Education as offices. The interior lodge area has been completely renovated. Charles M. Fleming (1862-1931) was one of the most prominent tobaccomen in Wilson and is considered the "Grandfather of the Wilson tobacco market". From 1902 until his death he was the supervisor of the Imperial Tobacco Company on South Lodge Street (#232).

125
(former) Colonial Supermarket
109 North Tarboro Street
F

Built soon after World War Two to house the Colonial Supermarket, this one-story, two-bay brick building has seen facade and interior alterations. Vacated by Colonial during the 1960s, it was occupied by Carolina Office Equipment, Inc. during the 1970s and presently the North Carolina Employment Security Commission has its offices here. It was built on the site of a large dwelling known as the Futrell House.

126
Parking Lot
108 North Tarboro Street
i

This parking lot was the site of the Seabrook Hotel, a three-story, brick building housing five storefronts on the first floor with rooms on the upper floors. Built between 1897 and 1903 by uniting a conglomeration of attached one- and two-story frame and brick buildings, it was named for Mary Cleaves Seabrook Daniels (1835-1923), who operated the hotel for a number of years and who served as the Wilson Postmistress from 1866 to 1883. Although the post office was not located here during her tenure, it was during the early twentieth century. She was the mother of Josephus Daniels (1862-1948), who became a prominent Democrat, the power editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, Secretary of the Navy under Woodrow Wilson, and the Ambassador to Mexico under F. D. Roosevelt. He grew up in another house on Tarboro Street, long since razed. The hotel was torn down in the 1970s.

127
Griffin Building
107 North Tarboro Street
C

This charming, two-story building was built ca 1947 as the law offices for Charles M. Griffin and since 1957 has been occupied by the Wilson Beauty Shop. The brick building has a handsome one-story facade featuring stone details on the cap of the parapet wall, on the balustrade panel in the parapet, on the classical cornice, and as keystones, spring blocks, and end voussoirs at the arched door and the shingle front window. The southwest (left) elevation steps upward from the front to a full, but diminished, two story height and has eight bays with six-over-six windows on the second floor; a sizeable one-story extension is at the rear. The interior of the beauty shop has been modernized but the second floor, accessible by an enclosed staircase from the front interior of the beauty shop, retains its simple finish.

128
Whitehead Building
106 North Tarboro Street
C

This small, one-story, brick late nineteenth century commercial building was built as rental property by Howell Gray Whitehead, Sr. (1839-1887) about 1886. It first appears on the Sanborn Insurance Maps in 1886 and was left to his son, Robert G. Whitehead by will dated September 16, 1887. First occupied by a shoe shop, in 1893 it housed a printing shop and in 1897 the Barnes and Deans insurance office was located here. From ca 1908 until ca 1923 it was the photography studio of Orrin V. foust (1873-1931), who operated one of Wilson's most prominent studios during the early twentieth century. Foust had already gained a national reputation before moving to Wilson and won the First Prize at the Appalachian exposition in Knoxville, Tennessee in 1910. The three-bay, fifteen foot-wide brick building has a tall, central entrance door with transom that is flanked by segmental arched windows containing six-over-six sash. A corbeled eyebrow lintel acts as a drip molding and unites the three bays. A recessed rectangular panel in the upper facade and a simple cornice completes the northeast facade. The northwest elevation contains two bricked up windows; the southeast elevation, originally adjacent to the former Seabrook Hotel (now gone), is blind. A gable-roofed extension, added ca 1905, occupies the rear of the building. Its windows have also been closed. By 1925 Foust had moved his studio to his residence 314 Warren Street. Since then this building has been occupied by an office/tinshop, Boykin Realty, Carolina Building and Loan Association, Walter Walston plumber, Wilson Beauty Shop, Perry Lamm watch repair, dentist Wallace Umstead, Glamour Beauty shop, Roy B. Webb Insurance, and a gift shop. It currently is occupied by the local property tax re-evaluation office.

Howell Gray Whitehead was a prominent Wilson farmer and businessman and in 1872 purchased and enlarged the James Davis House at 606 West Nash Street. One of the last Italianate style residences in Wilson, the Davis-Whitehead-Harriss House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on June 14, 1982.

129
Edward D. Jones and Company
101 North Tarboro Street
F

Built in the mid 1950s, this typical brick, commercial building with large glass windows on the facade was built on the site of the former Carolina Building, a three-story, brick building erected between 1903 and 1908. The Carolina Building

contained three storefronts and housed the masonic Temple (white) on the third floor. It was razed in the 1950s.

130
London Shop
105-107 South Tarboro Street
C

This handsome, one-story, double-storefront, brick commercial building was erected ca 1920 as rental property by James B. Batts. Both of the storefronts, divided by brick pilasters on stone plinths, were given replacement recessed entrances in the 1940s and their transoms covered. A brick soldier course lintel spans the transoms. The upper facade features the type of modest brick panels edged with header courses and stone corner accents that were a prevalent feature of modest commerial buildings erected in Wilson during the 1910s and 1920s. Crowning the facade is a handsome, stone-capped, stepped and raked parapet. The northeast (alley) elevation has three, small, high windows. The interiors were completely remodeled in 1977. The first occupant of the building was Isear's, a dry goods ladies wear and millinery shop. In the late 1920s and early 1930s, the building was occupied by the Anchor Store, dry goods (Michael Barker, proprietor). In ca 1936, the building was taken over by the London Shop, men's and women's clothes, Frank London, owner. The London Shop continues to occupy the store today.

131
Em-Jay Sporting Goods
106 South Tarboro Street
F

This plain, yellow brick, one-story, commercial building was erected ca 1897 for the Cash Grocery Company, R. L. Stallings and S. E. High, owners. The lower acade's recessed central entrance has been remodeled with modern materials and its transom has been covered up. The upper facade displays no decorative brickwork and is crowned by a modest stepped parapet. The interior is plainly finished with plywood sheathing and a tongue-and-groove ceiling. The Charles Scarratt Dry Goods Store and Alphin Plumbing and Heating occpuied the store successively until 1942 when M. J. Bird moved his sporting goods store into the building, uniting two tiny stores into one. Bird's widow still contiues the operation of Em-Jay Sporting Goods.

132
Flowers Shoe Store
108-111 South Tarboro Street destroyed 4/95
I

A modern screen completely hides the facades of these two, one-story, commercial buildings; the two, recessed, first story entrances have also been completely altered. Built in the early twentieth centuries, the 108 store was originally occupied by a five and dime store and was succeeded by a furniture store, the Bullock Furnishing Company (dry goods), a jeweler and a plumber, and since 1937 by Flowers Shoe Store, which remodeled the facade in 1957. The 110 store was built for a saloon and has been successively occupied by the Wilson Dye Works (L. H. High, proprietor), Clayton's Cleaners, the Stork's Nest (maternity-children's clothes) and since 1968 by Flower's Shoe Store. In 1968 the 110 storefront was remodeled to match the facade at 108 South Tarboro Street.

133
Central Lunch Building
112 South Tarboro Street
I

Sanborn Maps indicate that a one-story, brick commercial building has stood here since before 1888; it was occupied in 1888 by a saloon. However, a thorough remodeling and facade replacement by the Central Lunch Restaurant sometime in the 1940s, 1950s or 1960s resulted in the loss of all original significant architectural fabric. The present building has an entirely glass storefront and a blind brick upper facade. Central Lunch was succeeded in the late 1960s by Ralph's Country Kitchen. It is presently occupied by Vernetta's Music Center.

134
Commercial Building
113-115 South Tarboro Street
F

While Sanborn Maps indicate that a one-story, brick commercial building has stood on this site since before 1884, it is not known for sure when this particular two-storefront building was built because of a lack of surviving fabric. Both te facade entrances and the interiors are replacements and the upper facade's modest corbeled brick panels and cornice are not distinctive enough to indicate a precise date. Much of the rest of this block was rebuilt or given new facades during the 1910s and 1920s and this very modest building may have been remodeled then also. Built as rental property, it has been occupied by a number of various tenants, including, in the 113 store, the barber shop of William Hines (colored) from ca 1908 until ca 1928; barber Clifton Hardy (colored) continued here until ca 1945. The current tenant of the 113 store, The Flower Basket, has been located here only several years. Occupants of the 115 store included a jewelry store, John M. Riley drugs and sundries, and since the 1960s, Land W. Barber Shop.

135
Wilson Drug Store
114 South Tarboro Street
F

A one-story brick commercial building has stood here since before 1888 according to the Sanborn Maps and was occupied in that year by a grocery. By 1897 the building was occupied by a drug store. The 1908 City Directory first gives the name of Wilson Drug Store, with proprietors Dr. W. S. Anderson and Graham Winstead. Unfortunately, a remodeling in te post World War Two period resulted in the loss of all the exterior architectural fabric. The facade now consists of a recessed glass storefront with carrara glass base, closed transom and a stuccoed upper facade. The interior, although it does have replacement fake paneled walls, does retain its elaborate Victorian pressed metal ceiling, lavishly embellished the foliate motifs and having an ornate foliate cornice. Wilson Drug continues to occupy the building.

136
Leder Brothers
116 South Tarboro Street
F

The Sanborn Insurance Maps show that a one-story, brick building was built here between 1908 and 1913 to replace two small individual buildings. Clark Brothers (Charles P. and Sidney P. Clark, owners), a dry goods and clothing store, was the first occupant and remained here until ca 1928. Between 1913 and 1922, the building was enlarged and raised to two stories and connected by an enclosed second story

passage way to a two-story storage building behind the rear alley. In the mid 1960s, the facade was completely altered with a replacement storefront and a metal screen that obscures the second story. The rear storage building and over-the-alley passage are, therefore, the only surviving original elevations that are visible. They contain double, segmental-arched entrances on the first-story and single segmental windows on both stories with six-over-six sash; a double window is located on the second story of the southwest elevation of the storage building. At the top of this elevation is a faded advertising sign: CLARK BROTHERS LADIES READY TO WEAR DEPARTMENT. The first story interior has been thoroughly modernized but does retain its pressed metal ceiling above a suspended ceiling. The rear mezzanine, originally with a flight of stairs along each side wall, has been altered; only one stair remains. It has a slender turned newel and a molded handrail carried by tapered spindles. The mezzanine ceiling is an ornate design with foliate details and cornice, while the second story ceiling is rather modest. The warehouse is plainly finished with exposed brick interior walls. The Teacher-Woodall Furniture Company (L. H. Teacher, proprietor) occupied the store during the late 1920s and early 1930s. In 1934, Leder Brothers moded into the building and still occupy it. Leder's, a well-known family owned clothing store chain in eastern and southeastern North Carolina, oened its first store in Whiteville in 1925. At the top of the southwest (left) elevation is a large, freshly repainted, colorful sign, "Leders Department Store, Famous In the Carolinas Since 1934".

137
Luper-Riley Hat Shoppe
117 South Tarboro Street
C

While a brick commercial building has stood here since the mid 1880s, the present facade dates from a remodeling in the late 1920s or early 1930s. While this may have taken place during the tenancy of the Monte Fashion Shoppe, the building is better known as the Luper-Riley Hat Shoppe, a millinery shop of reknown; ladies were said to have traveled from all over eastern North Carolina to buy and have their hats made here. According to Doris (Crosby) Bissett, the business was begun in the late 1890s by her great-aunt Martha Jane (Riley) Luper (1856-1934). Mrs. Luper operated a hat shop in the second story of the Tomlinson and Riley Company at 131 South Tarboro Street (#147). (Her brother, John W. Riley (1861-1948), was a partner in the store, ahving married Debbie Cornelia Tomlinson, the daughter of Jonathon Thomlinson, one of the other partners). Mrs. Luper was joined in the operation of the shop in the 1910s by her neice, Bertha (Riley) Crosby (1890-1982). It was after Mrs. Luper's death in 1934 that Mrs. Crosby moved the shop to this store at 117 South Tarboro Street, into a building then owned by Thomas Woodard. Mrs. Crosby continued the shop here, with the assistance of her daughter, Doris Crosby Bissett, until her retirement in 1980 at the age of 92. The store has been vacant since.

The construction date of this handsome, small, one-story, brick commercial building is believed to be in the late 1920s or early 1930s because it follows a popular finish of that period by which architectural interest was supplied to modest storefronts with panels decorative brickwork. Additionally, the only other storefronts in Wilson with copper trimmed display cases, the much larger Willis Building, ca 1925, at 218-220 East Nash Street, and the elegant Bullock Building, 1935, at 110 West Nash Street, date from that period. The narrow, fifteen foot wide storefront here has a recessed central entrance with simple, copper trimmed, rectangular display windows. An overhead multi-pane transom has patterned glass and a brick soldier course lintel. The upper facade contains a section of brickwork that is set off by an upper and lower soldier course and a stone-capped, raked, and stepped gable. The plaster interior has a modest pressed metal ceiling with

anthemion motif frieze. A noted tenant of 117 South Tarboro Street before the redesign of the facade was William J. Churchwell, who operated a jewelry store in Wilson from ca 1884 until ca 1913; he was located here from ca 1903 to 1913. He was the father of Edwin B. Churchwell (1879-1918), who started Churchwell's Jewelers in 1908 with his wife, Mary (Privette) Churchwell. Churchwell's Jewelers is still in operation at 110 East Nash Street.

138
Commercial Building
119 South Tarboro Street
F

This modest commercial building, an integral part of the row of one-story commercial buildings that comprise the 100 block of South Tarboro Street, was built by the Barnes Family in the early twentieth century as rental property. Referred to as the Riley Store in deeds, J. W. Riley and Company, Growers, (J. W. Riley and Martha Jane (Riley) Luper, proprietors), operated here only briefly during the late 1900s. The storefront, containing a recessed central door with flanking display windows, is original. Only the transom has been covered; it has a brick soldier course lintel. The upper facade is typical of the modest commercial buildings erected in Wilson during the early twentieth century and is simply finished with a brick panel edged with a brick header course and is capped with stone. The interior has a replacement accoustical tile ceiling. The Riley Grocery was succeeded by Powell Brother's Pressing Club during the 1910s and since then a number of businesses have occupied the premises successively: Samuel Ward dry goods, George Saleeby dry goods, Webb's Shoes, The Hub, Vaughn's Jewelers and since the late 1960s the Fireplace Shop.

139
Ruffin-High Company
120 South Tarboro Street
P

In 1906, William D. Ruffin (1861-1935), a merchant who was known as "The Hustler" because of his aptitude for business, founded a general merchandise store and had this one-story building built. During the 1920s the facade was modernized using raised and patterned bricks and colorful tiles in a highly decorative, yet simple, symmetrical design. The building is completely intact, including the original display windows, the tiled recessed entrance, the oak cabinets, and the rolling ladder along the side shelves. Even the ca 1917 Toledo Scales and the original metal ceiling fan are intact. The three-bay rear elevation faces the rear alley and a three-bay brick storage building. By 1928 the store was under the sole management of J. D. High. Since the 1930s it has operated as a seed store by A. D. Massey and Charles R. Watson, by Tom and Van D. High from 1945 until 1974, by R. Clarence Grice, and since 1974 by Billy Price.

140
Mayo Hardware Building
121 South Tarboro Street
F

The simple brickwork that details this one-story facade is typical of the type of modest finished given commercial buildings in Wilson during the early twentieth century. A one-story, brick commercial building stood here as early as 1883, according to the Sanborn Maps, and was occupied from ca 1888 until 1914 by Mayo and Watson Hardware, Edwin B. Mayo and Stephen J. Watson, owners. In 1914, after Watson had left the partnetship, Mayo (1860-1935) formed E. B. Mayo and Son Hardware, which

continued here until ca 1936. The present facade is believed to date from the founding of E. B. Mayo and Sons in 1914. Modest brick pilasters flank the facade and enclose the replacement angled storefront, which has a brick soldier course lintel above the closed transom. The upper facade has a simple central brick panel with brick soldier course surrounds and a stone-capped raked and stepped parapet wall. The interior has a suspended ceiling. Succeeding E. B. Mayo and Son Hardware here in the mid 1930s was The Bonnie Shop, ladies wear, until 1965. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, a loan office was here. The building has been vacant since the late 1970s.

141
Adkins Building
112-124 South Tarboro Street
I

This one-story, two-storefront building, like its neighbor at 126 South Tarboro Street, was erected in the early twentieth century and suffered a complete facade alteration in the 1960s. The past occupants in 122 have been two clothing stores, a paint store, Blairs Shoe Repair Shop, and Gate Way Variety Store. Three groceries have occupied 124, including the Great Atlantic and Pacific Food Store during the 1930s. Both stores have not been rented since the 1960s remodeling.

142
Commercial Building
123 South Tarboro Street
I

While a one-story brick commercial building has occupied this site since the 1880s, no fabric survives on this completely remodeled store from which to date the building. In the 1950s and 1960s, the entire storefront was replaced with a modern one, the facade was veneered with fake ashlar stone, and the interior was completley remodeled with replacement walls and a suspended ceiling. A number of businesses have located here, including Mayo and Watson Hardware during the 1900s, Eastern Auto Supply in the 1940s and 1950s, Freedman's Department Store in the 1960s, and since the late 1970s, Pioneer Pawn Shop.

143
Bullock Building
125-127 South Tarboro Street
C

This one-story, two-storefront, brick commercial building dates from the 1930s and replaced a two-story brick building which had been built here before 1884. Dempsy Bullock (1864-1928) operated a general mercantile business on the first story of this earlier building and the second story contained an opera house known as Mamona Hall. Built by three of the most prominent businessmen in Wilson during the late nineteenth century, Frank W. Barnes (1844-1910), Howell Gray Whitehead, Sr. (1839-1887), and Alpheus Branch (1843-1893), Mamona Hall derived name from the first two letters of the Christian names of the owners' wives: Mattie Barnes, Mollie Whitehead, and Nannie Branch. Sometime in the early 1930s, this two-story building was replaced by the present one-story building; the Dempsy Bullock Store (women's clothes) continued in the 127 store until 1945, operated by Bullock's sister, Miss Lula Bullock (1870-1945). The asymmetrical facade is defined by shallow pilasters and has two similar but unequal-sized storefronts; the 127 store is wider than the 125 store. Both retain their original recessed entrances with flanking display windows, have overhead transoms (now covered up), and brick soldier course lintels. The upper facades have simple brick panels surrounded by brick header

courses and tile-capped stepped parapets. The interiors are intact although only the 127 store has a pressed metal ceiling. Unlike the vast majority of the pressed metal ceilings in Wilson which have a coffered grid pattern, this ceiling has foliate motifs that run in narrow bands from the front of the store to the rear. it is finished with a pleasant garland cornice. The first occupant of the 125 store was the Family Department Store and was succeeded by the Anchor Department Store during the early 1940s. Since 1945 it has been occupied by Bridgers Paint and Wallpaper Center. Succeeding the Bullock Store in the 127 store was the Firestone Stores until the 1960s when Bridgers Paint expanded into that store also.

144
Dinner Bell Restaurant
126 South Tarboro Street
I

Built in the early twentieth century and occupied by a wide variety of retail establishments--dry goods store, grocery, clothing store, finance company--and during the 1970s as the Mount Lebanon Lodge No. 117, F. and A.M., this completely altered building now houses the Dinner Bell Restaurant. Its modern glass entrance and paneled upper facade is incompatible with the traditionally simple brickwork of the mostly one-story, turn of the century buildings of the 100 block of South Tarboro Street.

145
Carolina-Drake Theater
128-130 South Tarboro Street
F

According to Mrs. Lettie Mae (Lamm) Nichols, her father, Charles A. Lamm (1873-1944), had this modest theater built in 1930 on the site of a merantile store tha his father, Thomas Ruffin Lamm (1840-1915), had operated from ca 1884 until ca 1913; both Lamms also operated general mercantile stores in the Lamm community of Old Fields Township. A documentaty photograph from the 1930s shows the two-story, two-bay, double-width theater as it originally appeared before a thorough remodeling in the late 1960s removed much of the theater's distinguishing character. The building consisted of two, similarly finished sections that were divided by three pilasters. The northeast section at 128 South Tarboro Street originally contained the entrance for the whites and had a ticket booth sheltered in the recessed outer lobby; a simple awning sheltered this entrance. The 128 (southwest) block was occupied by a small fruit stand/confectionary and included a separate box office and balcony entrance at the extreme southwest for the negroes, who were permitted only in the balcony. The facade's asymmetrical second and third stories conrain triple, narrow, casement windows with brick soldier course lintels and cast concrete sills. Recessed brick panels edged with a header course on the 128 section and by a soldier course on the 130 section are located between the upper stories. The upper facade of 128 has another recessed, header course-edged panel and a soldier course-capped parapet. The parapet above 130 is capped with cast concrete. In the late 1960s, the entrance at number 128 was closed (making a larger interior lobby), the store at number 130 was removed, the balcony entrance was removed, and a new ticket booth was built to accommodate both races. Also at that time, wooden louvers replaced the casement windows and the entire facade was painted white, obscuring all the modest, decorative brickwork. The interior lobby was also remodeled in the later 1960s with replacement walls and a suspended ceiling. The main theatre space is plastered and, even though all of its seats have been removed, it has not suffered the loss of its simple, uncluttered lines. The major finishing elements are Art Deco light fixtures on the walls. The theatre continued in operation,

although the name was changed to the Drake Theater ca 1942, until 1973. The building has been vacant since.

146
Young Mercantile Company
129 South Tarboro Street
C

In 1898 William Beauregard Young (1863-1948) had this handsome, two-story, brick commercial building erected on a lot he had purchased from the Alphesus Branch estate (this lot had occupied a portion of the Alpheus Branch and Company Cotton Yard). According to city business directories, Young had operated a general store at an unspecified Tarboro Street address since the early 1890s. The entirely modernized first story has a central, recessed entrance configuration with double doors and uses all modern materials; the transom has been obscured. The three-bay upper facade is divided by raised brick pilasters into three bays and has closed up windows with segmental arches and a corbeled drip molding on the second story and false windows at the top of the elevation. A cornice of two rows of dentil-like corbelling spans the cornice and a stepped parapet with a recessed panel crowns the building. All the openings on the rear elevation, with the exception of the replacement central door, have been closed-up. The second story of the northeast side elevation, only partially visible from the rear, contains six segmental arched windows (all closed-up) and a stepped parapet wall. The first story interior has been thoroughly modernized with simulated wood paneling and a suspended ceiling although the pressed metal ceiling survives above the lowered ceiling. The second story--along with the second story of 131 South Tarboro Street--at one time in the early twentieth century was occupied by a theatre of some sort; a wooden stage remains at the rear of 129 South Tarboro Street. Nothing else is known of this theatre. The Young Mercantile Company vacated the building in the mid 1930s upon W. B. Young's retirement and the building was occupied by Peoples (variety) Store, Julius Switzer manager until 1966. After being vacant for several years, Rabil's clothing store has occupied the store since the early 1970s.

147
Tomlinson and Company Building
131-133 South Tarboro Street
P

The only surviving metal-clad building in Wilson, these paired storefronts are impressive examples of the use of metal to embellish commercial buildings in turn of the century North Carolina. They were built ca 1895 by merchant Jacob Tomlinson and occupied from about 1903 to 1917 by the grocery and general mercantile store of his sons Jacob (1897-1922) and lewis (1875-1929). Each of the first story facades were altered in the 1950s but retain their flanking cast iron pilasters, each of which has a molded and foliate embellished capitals. The 131 store has a replacement, recessed central door arrangement with a band of carerre glass surrounding the entire lower facade, while 133 South Tarboro Street has a shallow, angled, central entrance of brick and glass. Both transoms have been covered. Extending across both storefronts above the transoms is a molded cornice that is decorated by a row of raised, connected buttons. This cornice also forms the sill for the six windows on the second floor, three windows per storefront. Each window (now closed) is flanked by short engaged Corinthian columns on pedestals which have inset floral squares. These columns support a series of impost blocks, on which rests another band of raised buttons and the elaborately moded, bracketed, and modillioned cornice; the brackets are decorated with a fleur-de-lis motif. The fascia of the cornice has a decoration of foliate motifs. Each storefront is crowned by a central

peaked gable decorated with a garland swag and fleur-de-lis motif. Both the East Barnes Street (southwest) and the rear (southeast) elevations wree completely covered by a stucco finish in the 1950s. The only openings are a small, display window at the lower northwest corner and a small, square window on the southeast corner of the Barnes Street elevation and a single, replacement metal door on the first story of each rear elevation. Both interiors have been renovated. The 131 store has a suspended ceiling, replacement walls and a narrow, enclosed rear stair leading to the plastered second story. This second story is contiguous with the second story of the adjacent Young Mercantile Company Building at 129 South Tarboro Street and was, during the 1910s and 1920s, occupied by a theatre. It has been used for storage since. The first story interior of 133 south Tarboro Street (vacant since the 1950s) has lost its original plaster wall finish and now has exposed brick walls. The pressed metal ceiling, an elaborate coffered grid design, has foliate embellishments and an anthemion of egg-and-dart motif. The second story of 133 South Tarboro Street was not accessible for inspection. Tomlinson and Company occupied both stores until ca 1917, after which a variety of mercantile establishments have been located here. Successive occupants of the 131 store include an expansion of the Young Mercantile Company at 129 South Tarboro Street until the mid 1930s, and an expansion of Young's successor, The People's (variety) Store, Julius Switzer, manager, until 1966; since then a dress shop and an office machine store have occupied the store. The store at 133 South Tarboro Street was vacant during much of the 1920s and was occupied successively by The Bee Hive (department store) and Shik's Recreation Parlor; it has been vacant since the 1950s.

The manufacturer of the storefronts is not known, but the Dewey Brothers Foundry in Goldsboro were manufacturing identifal storefronts at the turn of the century. Known examples of Dewey storefronts survive in Goldsboro and Smithfield, with attributed examples in Clayton and Clinton.

148
Adkins Building
132 South Tarboro Street
I

An all brick facade with a glass first floor, the result of a 1960s remodeling, hides a two-story brick building which was erected during the late-nineteenth century as a dry goods and cleaning store. From the mid 1930s until 1960 it was an annex to the adjacent Moss Cobb and Son Department Store; it has been vacant since. It's only surviving architectural feature is a plain pressed metal ceiling in the first floor.

149
Rountree Building
134-136 South Tarboro Street
P

Moses Rountree (1824-1887) was one of Wilson's most respected nineteenth century merchants. He and his brother, Johnathan D. Rountree (1819-1865), organized their first business concern here in 1846. However, the present building dates from between 1868, when a fire razed much of the business district, and 1882, when the building is shown on Gray's Map. In 1885 the Rountree store was described in the booklet Industries and Resources of the South-North Carolina as "a substantial two-story brick structure, 60 x 90 feet in extent". Moses Rountree was described by Josephus Daniels in Tar Heel Editor (1939) as "the oldest and most successful merchant in Wilson in his boyhood days, and the most beloved". Rountree was active in local politics, was a co-founder in 1858 of the Wilson Male Academy, and in 1858

had prominent local architect Oswald Lipscomb (1826-1891) build him a handsome Gothic Revival cottage (NR); his house is one of the few survivirs of LIpscomb's many houses. The two-story Rountree building has two identical, three-bay storefronts and boasts some of the most distinguished brickwork in Wilson on the unaltered upper facade which is divided and flanked by quoin-like pilasters. The segmental-arched windows are joined by raised brick drip moldings. An elaborate cornice features extensive raised brickwork and a corbeled dentil course. The (now entirely stuccoed) Barnes Street (southwest) elevation had six bays that originally contained four-over-four sash windows, now visible only on the second floor interior. The six-bay rear elevation has identical windows. The lower facade has been drastically altered and the West Barnes Street elevation entirely stuccoed. The interior of 134, now an antique store, is reasonably intact and retains its unaltered mezzanine, but has a new ceiling. The 136 store, now a gun shop, has been completely remodeled on the first floor, but retains a simple pressed metal ceiling on the second floor, now an archery range. In 1894 Samuel Ward bought the building from Moses Rountree's sons, James and Herbert Rountree, and operated a well-respected clothing store here until ca 1916. in 1916 the building was purchased and occupied by brothers Cobb and Vernon F. Moss, Jr., who operated a department store here; it was known as Cobb Moss and Son after 1936. The Mosses vacated the building in the 1960s, and several businesses have been located here since.

150
Hadley, Harriss and Company Building
200-202 South Tarboro Street
C

Founded in 1880 as J. C. Hadley and Company by J. C. Hadley (1845-1922), a grandson of Revolutionary War patriot Thomas J. Hadley, this general mercantile, cotton buying and fertilizer enterprise was one of the leading Wilson stores during the late nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. In the late-nineteenth century Hadley entered into partnership with J. S. Harriss, forming, Hadley, Harris and Company. The building was built about 1895 and altered ca 1920, at which time it was stuccoed. It now boasts an unusual corner entrance and a stepped and raked gable; the interior has been remodeled several times. The rear elevation withits corbeled gable and the unaltered southwest side elevation, with corbeled eaves, are original and suggest the decorations of the building's original appearance. A number of businesses have occupied the two storefronts after being vacated by Hadley and Harriss ca 1920. In 1922 the Farmers Banking and Trust Company was in number 200 and a clothing store in number 202. From the mid 1920s until the early 1930s the entire building was occupied by the funeral parlor of Amerson-Boswell Company. From the mid 1930s until the 1950s the 200 storefront was occuied by the Wilson Supply Feed Store (Walter Harrison and William H. Davis, owners) and 202 was occupied successively by the Bright Leaf Grocery and the Wilson Hatchery and Seafood Market. Since the early 1960s the Robbins Music Company has occupied both storefronts. At the rear of the building are three smal, three bay, stuccoed offices. Built in the early 1920s and fronting onto 107, 109 and 111 West Brnes Street, they have housed a variety of concerns--A. B. Barnes cotton buyer, the Brantley and Zeb Lane groceries, veternarian offices for Rosser Lance and Nationwide and State Farm Insurance.

151
Harriss Building
202-204 South Tarboro Street
C

William S. Harriss (1870-1947) had this handsome two-story, brick commercial building built as rental property in 1916. The son of William J. Harriss (1839-1900) a prominent Wilson businessman and a co-founder of the general mercantile firm Hadley and Harriss Company at 200 South Tarboro Street, William S. Harriss succeeded his father in the management of Hadley and Harriss Company. He also was vice-president of the Atlantic Building and Loan Association. Constructed of red brick and faced with blond brick, the Harriss Building is a handsome example of the many rental commercial buildings which were erected in te 1910s and 1920s by Wilson's prospering merchants. The first story of the facade consists of two storefronts that are framed by brick pilasters. The 204 store, while retaining its recessed central door configuration, has suffered from the coverig of its transom; the 206 storefront has been completely replaced. A soldier course lintel extends across both storefronts. The second story and upper facade is divided into three sections by raised brick pilasters which carry a cornice formed by a soldier course and corbeled brick. The outer bays of the wide, three-bay facade contain triple windows; the central bay has a double window below transoms. All of the openings, containing two-over-two sash windows, have broad stone lintels and stone sills with square corbel block. An arched gable contains a rectangular stone plaque, "HARRISS 1916", in the center of the stone-capped parapet. The southwest elevation is blind. The rear elevation is eight bays wide and contains two-over-two sash in segmental surrounds with stone lintels. The main entrance has a double door and a tall transom. Many of the rear bays have been closed. The interior's of both stores have been altered with replacement walls and ceilings. Access to the second floor of each is by individual stairs at the rear of each store. The second story interiors both have exposed brick walls and a handsome, foliate-detailed, pressed metal ceiling and fleur-de-lis cornice. The second stories are presently used for storage. J. W. Riley and Company, grocers, and occupied both stores from 1916 until ca 1928. They remained in the 204 store until ca 1941 when they were succeeded by Aldric Massey, feed store, the Wilson Hatchery, the Wilson Seafood Market, and since 1960 by Godwin's Barbeque. Riley was succeeded in the 206 store ca 1928 by Winstead's Cafe, and then by Ledford's Cafe from ca 1936 until 1956. In 1946 Robbin's Jewelery and Music Company at 200 South Tarboro Street expanded into the 202 store and continues to occupy it.

152
Davis-Pittman-Carolina Seafood Building
203 South Tarboro Street
C

This modest, yet handsome, two-story brick commercial was erected ca 1925 by Fannie (Morris) Watson as rental property and was first occupied by the Davis Seafood Company. This was one of two buildings Mrs. Watson erected on a lot she has inherited from her father, William Henry Morris (1833-1921), a merchant. The other building, the Watson Building at 100 East Barnes Street, occupies the front (northeast) of the lot. This small, twenty foot-by-thirty-two foot, building occupies the rear (southwest). The two-bay facade has a large entrance bay consisting of the door and side display window that are both covered by a tall, segmental, multi-pane transom. three courses of header bricks form the shallow raised surround. To the northeast is the door to the second story. It has a tall, round-arched transom, and a similar header surround. Above this door is a handsome panel of raised basketweave brick. The second story facade follows the same

configuration of arches as on the first story, but without transoms. Both windows have been boarded up. The upper facade has a simple brick panel enclosed by a header course and a tile-capped parapet. The southeast elevation is two-bays deep with two-over-two sash windows with brick soldier course lintels and stone sills. The first story door and window have been closed. The first story interior is somewhat deteriorated but retains a handsome pressed metal ceiling with a cornice of fleur-de-lis and egg-and-dart molding. The rear of the single room is occupied by a large cement block cooler that has an altered mezzanine level above. The second story contains two deteriorated plaster-finished rooms reached by a short central hall. The hall has a most unusual metal balustrade at the stairs that is comprised of heavy wire that is intertwined into a decorative screen; metal rosettes embellish the design. It has a molded wooden handrail. In the center of the hall is a small, unusually deep, skylight that projects with a box above the roof; it has windows on the front and rear faces instead of on the top. At the head of the stairs is a door that provides the only access to the second story of the Watson Building at 100 East Barnes Street. The Davis Seafood Company (A. C. Davis, owner) occupied the building for only several years, and he was succeeded by Pittman Seafood (V. R. Pittman, owner) ca 1928. Pittman continued until the 1950s when Carolina Seafood took over the premisses. The building has been vacant since 1966.

153
Morehead City Seafood Company
205 South Tarboro Street
F

Dr. Charles Augustus Woodard (1876-1948) had this little one-story brick building erected in the mid 1920s as rental property for the Morehead City Seafood Company, George L. Hagins and Charles E. Mann, managers. The lot is a part of the site of the former Primitive Baptist Church, past of which Woodard purchased in March 1920. The three bay-by-two bay structure has stepped side gables and lacks any decorative brickwork. A simple frame and cement block addition was added in the 1960s along the entire southwest elevation.

154
Woodard Building
207 South Tarboro Street
C

Dr. Charles Augustus Woodard (1876-1948) had this two-story, four-bay, brick, commercial building built for rental purposes in the mid 1920s on a part of the site of the Wilson Primitive Baptist Church which he had purchased in 1920. The Primitive Baptist congregation had erected a new sanctuary on West Green Street and vacated their church here, an 1859 Gothic Revival frame church that was a replacement for an 1803 church on this same site; the 1859 church was subsequently razed in 1920 or 1921. The first story facade has paired entrances with replacement doors which are flanked by sidelights and display windows. Overhead is a multi-pane transom with a soldier course lintel. The second story has four closed-up windows with soldier course lintels and header course sills. A triple row of corbeled bricks extends across the facade above the lintels, separating the second story from the upper facade, which contains two recessed brick panels enclosed by a brick soldier course. A tile-capped stepped parapet crowns the facade.

While the 1930 Sanborn Insurance Maps show the building as containing two interior store spaces, there is no indication of a former partition wall on the interior, nor is there any record in the city directories that more than one business was located here at any given time. The interior was remodeled in the 1960s with modern paneled walls and a celotex ceiling. The second story has been

completely blocked off for over twenty years and was unavailable for inspection. Successive tenants of the building have been Ellis Rabil Dry Goods, Wilson Hatchery, People's Hardware, and Wimpy's Billiards from the 1960 to the present.

155
Jefferson D. Farrior Livery Stables
208 South Tarboro Street
P

This two-story, four-bay wide, 60-by-140 foot, brick livery stable was erected ca 1895 for Jefferson D. Farrior (1861-1934), a prominent Wilson businessman. On the first story of the southeast facade a large central arched drive-in door is flanked on the left (southwest) by a large square door and on the right (northeast) by a modern metal building that hides the original bay. A cornice of some sort has been removed from above the first story as evidenced by slits in the brick wall. The second story contains four bricked-in windows with brick soldier course lintels. The upper facade is paneled above a band of corbeling that extends across the building. A central projecting section of the stepped gable roof has three pilasters dividing two (bricked-in) windows. The northeast elevation has three drive-in doors and six small windows on the first story and ten (closed) windows on the second story. Painted on this elevation at the top are J. L. FARRIOR SALES STABLES and DRINK PEPSI-COLA. The interior has exposed brick walls and features massive beams supporting the exposed truss roof. In 1925 the livery stables were incorporated into the Carolina Tobacco Warehouse at 210-220 South Tarboro Street. The first stories of the northwest (rear) and southwest elevations were removed to combine the interior of the stables with the warehouse's large interior. The Carolina Tobacco Warehouse closed after 1951 and it and the former stables have either been used for storage or have stood vacant since. Farrior was Wilson's most successful livery operator and enjoyed a lucrative location adjacent to the historic tobacco warehouse district. In 1903-1904 he built an impressive Neo-Classical Revival house at 314 North Goldsboro Street. It was razed in 1964 by the City and is now used as a parking lot.

156
(former) Wilson Wholesale Company Building
209 South Tarboro Street
F

Built ca 1927 by Michael Barker to house his dry goods store, the Wilson Wholesale Company, this two story, (originally) single storefront building retains its original first story display windows and handsome transom of numerous panes of patterned glass even though the original recessed single entrance was modified in the 1940s or 1950s into its present recessed double configuration. The second story facade was given an unfortunate brick veneer at the same time as the entrance modification; this veneer obscures the original facade. There are only two, eight-pane casement windows on the second story facade. The southwest elevation was originally adjacent to the Centre Brick Warehouse #1 (which burned in 1951) and has no openings. The rear elevation has three, six-over-six sash windows on the second floor. The interior boasts an elaborate pressed metal ceiling with a wreath motif, egg-and-dart molding, and a fleur-de-lis cornice. The Wilson Wholesale Company remained here until the late 1930s and was succeeded successively by John's Center Lunch, Uncle Dan's Lunch and Thompson's Shoes; the building is presently vacant. The lot on which the building stands was a portion of the Primitive Baptist Church property which was sold in 1920 when the congregation erected a larger sanctuary. This particular lot was purchased by E. L. Cobb.

157
Carolina Tobacco Warehouse
210-220 South Tarboro Street
P

This massive (160 x 220) brick tobacco auction warehouse occupies mouch of the block bounded by South Tarboro, Kenan, South Pine and West Barnes Streets. Erected in 1925, it was originally named the New Smith Warehouse Company after its manager, Samuel W. (Billy) Smith, who died the next year. The warehouse incorporated the ca 1895 Jefferson D. Farrior Livery Stables (55 x 155 feet) at its eastern corner. (The appropriation of a livery stable to tobacco auction and warehouse purposes, while new to Wilson, had first occurred in Winston-Salem when T. J. Brown renovated an old livery stable to hold that market's first auction on February 14, 1872.) In 1928 a new group, the Wilson Warehouse Company, L. C. Blade, manager, purchased this building and changed the name, briefly, to the Wilson Warehouse. By 1930 the warehouse had been sold again, this time to the Carolina Warehouse Company, W. Boyd Clark (1890-1972), president, Mrs. Bessie S. Clark (his wife), vice-president, and J. Joyce Gibbons, secretary-treasurer; another name change was undertaken. The building's seven-bay, two-story facade dominates the block's streetscape. Large (replacement) metal doors cover the drive-in entrances at each end. An unfortunate metal shed, the Sidewalk Produce Center, was built in the 1950s and spans the area between the doors and hides the facade's first floor. The upper facade has two prominent stepped parapets that correspond to the two gable spans of the building; these parapets have only the simplest of brickwork. The large windows contain sixteen sash with tile out central sections. The older (1895) Farrior Stables section at the right (east) of the Facade is two stores in height and four-bays wide. The southern half of the east elevation is the ten bay Farrior Stables. The northern ten-bays is a continuation of the Carolina Warehouse, here two stories in height, but because of the slope of the lot, the second story of this rear section is a continuation of the main floor. The North Pine Street rear (north) elevation istwo stories in height with storage space (now businesses) on the first floor and the warehouse floor on the second. It is twelve-bays wide and has three multi-stepped parapets with dividing pilasters. The west elevation, only partially visible because of adjacent buildings, has the same windows as the front. The Carolina Warehouse, with 57,000 square feet of floor space, was the smallest operable tobacco auction warehouse. It closed after the 1951 season and its valuable allotment of sales time was transferred to the Wainwright Warehouse until 1960. In that year the Deans family acquired the Carolina and transferred its allotment to their Farmer's (#206) and later Smith's (#207) Warehouses. During this time the Carolina was used for tobacco storage; it has been vacant since 1973, except for various, non-tobacco storage. The North Pine Street storefronts continue to be used for various storage, wholesale and distributing concerns.

158
Parking Lot
211 South Tarboro Street
I

This expanse of asphalt, extending through the block between South Tarboro and South Goldsboro Streets, covers much of the site of the former Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse. The second warehouse built in Wilson, the Centre Brick was erected in 1893 for Ula Hubert Cozart (1869-1948), the founder of one of Wilson's most prominent tobacco families. The original warehouse fronted onto South Goldsboro and the larger sections along South Tarboro Street were erected during several major expansions between 1908 and 1930. The entire building was destroyed by fire on August 8, 1951.

159
Cicero Culpepper Carriage Shop
222 South Tarboro Street
P

Cicero Culpepper (1862-1943) came to Wilson ca 1885 from his native Nash County and by 1907 had established his carriage making and repairing business. In that same year he purchased the lot upon which the oldest block of this building, the two-story, five-bay section on the right (east) was built, as indicated on the incised stone plaque set in the lower right corner. The first story of the three-bay section was also built at this time, although it was separated from the main building by an alley. It was raised to two stories and connected to the main building between 1913 and 1922 according to the Sanborn Maps. In 1908 the first story of the main building was used for woodwork and the second story for painting. The one story building was used as a wagon repository and for the storage of baled hay. Attached at the rear of the main building was the brick blacksmith shop and at the rear of the lot were framed storage sheds; these sheds were replaced with brick sheds between 1913 and 1922.

The main building is essentially intact and has a central recessed double door entrance (originally the wagon entrance) on the first story that is flanked by display cases with transoms. A modest metal cornice is above the transom. The second story contains a wide double window (now closed) in the center flanked by two, six-over-six sash windows, all with segmental lintels and brick sills. The upper facade has a modest brick panel enframed by raised bricks. A peaked parapet conceals the gable roof and is capped with tile. The west (alley) elevation is eight bays deep and contains the same fenestration as the second story facade. The first and third bays from the front contain doors (both now closed); the third bay door is double. The rear (northwest) elevation is three stories in height with storage in the basement. This elevation is four bays wide and has a multiple stepped parapet. The interior has plastered walls, a beaded tongue-and groove board ceiling, and an enclosed stair that rises from the front along the west (alley) wall. It has been divided into two main rooms. The front one is occupied by an antique shop and the rear room is used for storage.. The second story contains one large room with exposed brick walls and an unceiled ceiling.

The three-bay wide annex on the left (west) contains two small storefronts (both slightly modified) on the west and an open alley between the two buildings on the east. This alley was for the delivery of wagons and was covered between 1913 and 1922 when the second story was added to the annex. The metal cornice above the transom in the main building continues across this annex also. The annex's second story has four single windows identical to those on the main building and the same brick panel in the upper facade. Its flat parapet roof is capped identifally to the other building. The annex is ten feet deeper than the main building and is three stories in height and three bays wide with the same windows as the front. The basement has a dirt floor. A door with transom occupies the center of the main story. The first story interior has had large doors cut in the west wall for its use as expaded display space for the W and W Furniture and Appliance Company at 230 South Tarboro Street (owned by the owner of the Cicero Culpepper Carriage Shop). The annex's second story has a large storage space with an exposed truss ceiling. A large sliding door provides access to the second story of the main building.

The one-room blacksmith shop at the rear (north) of main building is a one-story, three bay-by-three bay brick structure with a shed roof and the same six-over-six sash windows as the rest of the building. A deteriorated awning shelters the west elevation. The deteriorated interior has been used as storage for many years; none of the original tools remain.

The storage sheds at the rear of the lot are simple, shed-roofed brick structures open on the south. They also are in a deteriorated condition.

In 1920 Charles Douglas Culpepper joined his father in Cicero Culpepper and Son, but by 1925, as automobiles and trucks were beginning to replace mules and wagons on the farm and blacksmiths and wagon factories were being put out of business, the Culpeppers closed their shop. Cicero turned to farming and Charles became an auto mechanic. The main building was occupied by Moss's Bicycle Shop (Samuel H. Moss) until 1972, when it was converted into the present antique shop. The annex has been occupied by general mercantile concerns since. Both second stories have been vacant, except for storage, since Culpepper left.

160
Bryan Livery Stables-Dailey Motor Company
226-230 South Tarboro Street
C

J. T. Hinnant opened a livery stable at this location between 1897 and 1903 and by 1908 brothers James L. (1859-1947) and William R. Bryan had taken over the business. They expanded the original brick livery stables, the wide central storefront at 228, with the erection of the storage building at 226. The entrance for the animals and wagons was through what still remains as the central door. The Bryans remained in business here through ca 1917. By 1920 the building was occupied by the Dailey Motor Company (John W. Dailey, owner) and the structure was expanded to its present, three-bay wide form. Brick piers divide the bays, each of which contains large glass windows and boarded-up transoms. The top of the building hs a tile-capped raked parapet and the upper facade over 226 has a panel of basketweave brickwork. The bay at 230 contains two narrow storefronts, the right one being the original office and the left having originally been a covered driveway to the rear auto repair area; this driveway was enclosed by the present owner in 1946. The 226 store has a recessed entrance with flanking display windows. Only at the extreme rear of the 228 block are the building's livery origins, the wide interior trusses, still evident; alterations by several tenants through the years have completely changes the interior. After Dailey (later Oakland Oldsmobile) left the building in the 1930s, the 226 storefront was occupied by the wholesale fruit store of Oscar Sasser. In 1938 Womble Vending Machine Company occupied 228 and 230, expanding into 226 in the 1940s. W. W. Furniture and Appliance Company, a continuation of the vending machine company, has occupied the entire building since the 1940s.

161
Service Top Auto Building
232 South Tarboro Street
F

This modest, one-story, brick building was erected in the mid 1920s for Automobile Top Service Company (W. D. Rose and J. H. Webb, owners), specialists in automobile tops and trim. The building features two recessed panels in the upper facade that are handsomely framed by corbeled brick cornices. The lower facade has seen unfortunate alterations. Service Top Auto remained here until the 1960s. It has since been successively occupied by an automobile repair shop, a florist, and presently, Bradley's Bicycle Shop.

162
Commercial Building
234-238 South Tarboro Street
F

According to the Sanborn Insurance Maps and the city directories, these three similar, brick, one-story buildings were erected ca 1920 and are representative of the plain structures that were prevalent at the outer edges of the central business district. Of the three, 236 is the most intact and has segmental-arched windows that flank a double segmental-arched door. Similar arches are seen along the North Kenan Street elevation of the 338 store. Both the 234 and 238 stores have replacement windows with 234 also having suffered an entirely new brick facade. The first occupant of the 234 store was blacksmith J. A. Barnes, who was succeeded by confectioner Cola P. White from ca 1936 until 1963. Since then a realtor and the present tenent, Hair Styles Unlimited, have occupied the store. Plumber J. R. Hinton was the first occupant of the 236 store and was followed, successively, by Ivey's Piano, Godwins' Barbeque, Johnnie's Barbeque, the Gun Hut and the present tenant, The Home Place, antique store. The 238 store was first occupied by J. Albert Mercer, a plumber, who in 1923 built the Mercer Building at 115 West Barnes Street and moved his business there. Following him, successively, were upholsterer, C. H. Duke, William Lofton's restaurant, the grocery of Don B. Sasser and the grocery of Ralph Pate. The present occupant, Winstead Business Machines, has been in the store since the late 1960s.

163
Southside Used Cars
300 South Tarboro Street destroyed 12/95
I

This intrusive corner used-car lot occupies the site of a modest dwelling that was erected in the 1890s for workers in the nearby business and tobacco warehouse districts. The building here now is a small, plain frame office with added porches.

164
Vacant Lot
301 South Tarboro Street
I

Built in 1899 as the fifth tobacco auction warehouse in Wilson, the Banner Warehouse stood on this block until it was torn down in April 1981 due to deterioration and storm damage. It was built on the site of a prize house (a place that just packed leaf tobacco for shipment), known as the William Anderson Tobacco Warehouse, which had been built between 1893 and 1897. The founding partners of the Banner Warehouse were John P. Lovelace (1854-1930), John A. Clark (1869-1909), Elbert A. Darden (1864-1930), and Haywood Edmundson, all prominent Wilson tobaccomen and businessmen. Other prominent tobaccomen associated with the Banner Warehouse at one time were Charles Mortimer Fleming (1862-1931), the "Grandfather of the Wilson Tobacco Market", James Edmunson Crute (1866-1943), and Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956). The Banner Warehouse was enlarged three times: ca 1917, ca 1927 and in the late 1920s. The Banner, of all the tobacco warehouses built before 1920, was the least altered before it was razed.

165
Rental House
302 South Tarboro Street
F

This modest one-story frame house is one of only three survivors of many similar dwellings that were built in this area during the 1890s to house workers in the adjacent tobacco warehouses and commercial district. The three bay-by-one bay dwelling has a gable roof, interior chimney with a corbeled cap, four-over-four sash windows, and a hipped front porth that has two original turned posts with brackets. There are two arched panes over the central door; a second door has been added to the right of the original door. Molded and boxed cornices with returns and a rear ell complete the building.

166
Bissette Blacksmith Shop
307 South Tarboro Street
F

Charles H. Bissette (1868-1938), who had previously been employed by the Hackney Brothers Carriage Company for thirty years, opened this blacksmith shop in 1925 and in 1928 advertised in a city directory for "Practical Horseshoeing and Repairing, Manufacturers Tobacco Trucks". The plain, one-story building has a stepped parapet facade and stuccoed side elevations. The facade windows are replacements. Eight skylights pierce the roof and visually tie it with the adjacent tobacco warehouses. The building has been extended at the rear. After Bissett's death in 1938, his son, C. Tom Bissett, continued to operate here until the early 1950s. Since then, the building has seen several uses, presently Davis Heating and Air Conditioning Service.

167
Commercial Building
309-315 South Tarboro Street
F

This one-story, brick, commercial building was built ca 1948 for Nasry Richard Saleeby (1892-1956), who ran a notions shop here for several years before he built an adjacent store at 106 Jones Street ca 1950. Each of the four, simple storefronts has a recessed entrance flanked by display windows. Only the transoms and the panels below the windows have been modified. While a number of businesses have been located here, the Wilson Donut Shop, John W. Wells, owner, was the only longterm tenant, occupying the 311 store and later the 309 store from the building's erection ca 1950 until the early 1970s. The only occupied store now is 315, which is occupied by Leonard William's Furniture Refinishing.

168
The Salvation Army Church
316 South Tarboro Street
F

Built ca 1940 on the site of several frame dwellings, the Salvation Army church is a modestly styled three bay-by-five bay brick Colonial Revival structure with an inset, central tower and a pyramidal spire. The building has a pedimented front and has sidelights and transom at the entrance. Two auxiliary buildings have been erected at the rear of the lot--a gymnasium/boys club and educational center.

169
Rental House
317 South Tarboro Street
F

destroyed 5/95

This modest, moderately-altered frame dwelling was built ca 1910 as housing for workers in the adjacent warehouse district. It was one of many similar houses on this block and one of only three in the entire warehouse area that survives. The L-plan house has seen several extensions. A two-story garage is at the rear of the lot.

170
Lamm Rental House
320 South Tarboro Street
102, 104, 106 Hines Street
C

According to Lettie Mae (Lamm) Nichols, her father, Charles A. Lamm (1873-1944), built these four modest, frame, one-and-a-half story bungalow style rental houses soon after he bought this property in 1922. They were among the numerous rental houses that were erected adjacent to the tobacco warehouse district and the finest that survive. The house at 320 South Tarboro Street is larger and more sophisticated than those that face Hines Street and is sheltered under a clipped gable roof. It has an engaged porch that is carried by tapered pillars on brick pedestals and that wraps across both the southeast facade and the (southwest) Hines Street elevation. It alao has eight-over-one sash windows, triangular brackets at the eaves, and woodshingled gables. The plastered center hall interior is modestly finished with Colonial Revival moldings, doors, and mantels. The other three houses at 102, 104, and 106 are nearly identical. Each is sheltered beneath a side gable roof which has a prominent front gable and a large gable dormer; triangular brackets emphasize the roof eaves. The windows contain two-over-two sash windows. The only difference between the three houses is that 102 and 104 have wrap around porches and 106 has a simple facade porch with a small side porch on the southeast. Charles A. Lamm was the oeprator of a general mercantile store in the Lamm Community in Old Fields Township for many years. In 1930 he had the Carolina-Drake Theater (#145) erected at 128-130 South Tarboro Street on the site of a general store which his father, Thomas Ruffin Lamm (1840-1915), had operated for several years after 1898.

171
Farmer Family Cemetery
West Kenan Street
F

On this little plot of land, marked only by a stone wall along South Pine Street, on the northeast side of Kenan Street between South Pine and South Tarboro Streets, is all that remains of the Farmer Family Cemetery. Buried here are Benjamin Farmer (1756-1827), his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" (Dew) Farmer (1766-1852), at least nine of their descendents, and at least six others. The only remaining gravemarkers are the broken tombstone of William Batten (1817-1881) and a marker erected in the late 1920s by the local Thomas Hadley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It reads: Benjamin Farmer, Capt. Lyttle's Company. However, according to noted Wilson historian Hugh B. Johnston, Jr., this plaque is incorrect. His extensive research reveals that the roster of Captain Lyttle's Company (of present Johnston County) included the names of brothers Benjamin and William Farmer of Johnston County. The Benjamin Farmer buried here, a first cousin of the Johnston County Farmer brothers, was from Edgecome County and there is no record of his having a brother William. (Wilson County was created in 1855 in part

from Edgecombe and Johnston counties; the portion that is presently the City of Wilson lies in the former Edgecombe County section). Hugh Johnston believes that the Benjamin Farmer buried here probably served in the militia, if anything. Both the Farmer and Dew families were large landowners in this area during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. It is said that at one time the combined lands of Benjamin Farmer and his wife, Elizabeth (Dew) Farmer included all the land that is now Wilson northwest of the Atlantic Coastline Railroad. On December 29, 1802, Benjamin and Elizabeth (Dew) Farmer and other heirs of her father, Arthur Dew, deeded one acre of land on the Tarboro Road (now North Carolina Route 42 to the Toisnot Baptist church; this church was the beginning of a settlement which eventually grew into the town of Wilson.) It is not known where the house of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Dew) Farmer stood, but it is believed to have been in the vicinity of this cemetery. A Farmer family house, built by some of their descendents, stood nearby on the site of the present Municipal Water Tower; it was razed ca 1929.

According to the July 4, 1976 issue of The Wilson Daily Times, the following people are known to have been buried here; it is not known how many others might have been. Many of the dates and additional information are from Johnston's research (see "Looking Backward" in The Wilson Daily Times, May 24, 1958, also January 10, 1950).

1) Benjamin Farmer (1756-1827)
   s/o Isaac and Elizabeth Farmer
   born in present Halifax County
2) Elizabeth "Betty" (Dew) Farmer (1766-1852)
   d/o Arthur and Mary Dew of Edgecombe County
   (present Wilson)
   m. Benjamin Farmer in 1779
3) Arthur Dew Farmer (1794-Jan 1843)
   s/o Benjamin Farmer
4) Pamela (Eason) Farmer (ca 1796-after 1860)
   w/o Arthur Dew Farmer
5) Ceborn Farmer (1826-1884)
   s/o Arthur Dew Farmer
6) Teresa (Thomas) Farmer (1828-_____)
   w/o Ceborn Farmer
7) Nannie Farmer (1852-between 1860 and 1870)
8) Joseph Farmer (1860-between 1870 and 1880)
   c/o Cebron Farmer
9) Iredell Farmer (1830-1884)
   s/o Arthur Dew Farmer
10) Mourning (Thomas) Farmer (1842-_____)
    w/o Iredell Farmer
11) Nancy (Farmer) Sharpe Edwards (1836-_____)
    c/o Arthur Dew Farmer
    her two husbands: 12) Gray Sharpe
                      13) Howell Edwards
14) Thomas Gray Farmer (May 29, 1858-1859)
15) Nancy Lewizar Farmer (May 10, 1861-1861)
    c/o Arthur Dew Farmer, Jr.
16) Joseph Farmer (_____-1899)
    said to have been the last burial here
17) William Batten (March 31, 1817 - March 29, 1881)

172
Charles L. Coon High School
205 Kenan Street
P

Designed in the Colonial Revival style by C. C. Wilson of the Columbia, South Carolina firm of Wilson and Berryman and constructed by W. P. Rose of Goldsboro in 1923, the Wilson High School was renamed in 1928 for Charles L. Coon (1868-1927), one of North Carolina's most outstanding early twentieth century educators. Coon is credited with creating a county school system for Wilson that set a pattern for consolidation in the state. Coon was the Wilson Graded School Superintendent from 1907 to 1927, and he was the county school superintendent for the last fourteen years of this period, 1913 to 1927. Born in Lincoln County in 1868, he was educated at the Lutheran School at Conover in Catawba County. At the age of eighteen, he began a teaching career that lasted the rest of his life. Among his important positions prior to coming to Wilson in July 1907 were: Superintendent of Salisbury Public Schools from 1899 to 1903; Secretary to the Bureau of the Southern Education Board in Knoxville, Tennessee, from 1903 to 1904; Superintendent of the Negro Normal Schools of North Carolina from 1904 until January, 1907; Chief Clerk in the Office of the State Superintendent from January 1, 1907 until July 1, 1907. He was also president of the North Carolina Teacher's Assembly in 1911, Secretary of the North Carolina Child Labor Committee from 1904 until his death in 1927, and Associate Editor of the North Carolina Historical Review from 1922 until 1927. In 1926, the Degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him by the University of North Carolina. He was elected president of the North Carolina Historical and Literary Society just a few weeks before his death.

Coon and Wilson built quite an educational reputation for themselves. In 1923, the Salisbury Evening Post asserted that "Wilson County is the educational leader of the state:. Also in 1926, The News and Observer (Raleigh) said that Wilson County had, "the finest system of county schools in the state". The reputation of the Wilson consolidation idea extended beyond the state. The Rural School Administration of the United States Bureau of Education requested information on the plan and in 1923 Coon told the Wilson story to the Fourth Conference of the National Education Association meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

Upon his death in December, 1927, he was honored with the following eulogy in The North Carolina Teacher, February, 1928:

> It is impossible to estimate the value of his contribution toward the realization of the ideals which meant so much to him, but some effort must be made to give due honor to his accomplishments. As instructor in institutes and summer schools, as well as through personal contact with the members of his own system, he inspired hundreds of teachers to a worthy conception of the ideals and opportunities of their profession. Through his power of debate on the floor of education assemblies and through the vigor and accuracy of his criticism in the daily press he shamed many listless or careless educators out of hypocrisy and laziness into straighter thinking and more vigorous action. Through the consolidation of schools in Wilson County, he led the whole state in placing good school buildings, well-trained teachers, and longer school terms within reach of county boys and girls. To him belongs much of the credit for the present improved plan of certification of teachers, though he was far from satisfied with the system as it now stands.

The Charles L. Coon School is a large, 215 x 65 foot, three-part building. The central portion is an elegant, three-story, Neo-Classical T-plan brick building that recalls the impressive nature of Wren's Palladian structures. A projecting central block is reached by a ceremonial brick and stone staircase and contains a recessed entrance framed by Tuscan columns in antis that support a broken pediment. A pediment with a bold, modillioned, wooden cornice crowns the entrance block and carried around the building's shallow, hip roof. Flanking the pediment are symmetrical arrangements of quintriple and triple windows that contain nine-over-nine sash. On each side of the school's main section are two-story blocks which contain the gymnasium on the southeast and the auditorium on the northwest. Each of the wings has brick quoined corners and a five-bay facade defined by the quoinsa nd brick pilasters. Three large windows with overhead round fanlights distinguish the facades. The auditorium facade has stone-arched first story doors and four large, round-arched windows on its northwest (Moss Street) elevation. The gymnasium wing has large, triple windows on its southeast elevation and blind openings on the first floor.

The interior is arranged around a transverse hall off of which the classrooms open. The gymnasium has no bleacher area, only a small balcony. A swimming pool was originally in the wing's first story. This pool area has been filled in and now is occupied by the locker room. The unusually ornate auditorium is as elegant as the exterior and centers upon the exceptionally handsome proscenium arch that is enframed by a large reeded surround and decorated with foliate motifs. The u-shaped balcony extends along both sides and is supported by oversized corbels. The beamed ceiling rests on pilasters and is heavily molded with egg-and-dart and foliate bands. The chairs are original and display the WHS initials. Even the ceiling's air vents are elaborate, finished with a basket-weave screen.

173
Vacant Lot
315 Mercer Street
I

This vacant lot, occupying half a block, was the site of the redrying plant of the American Tobacco Company which was built ca 1900. After the breakup of the company in 1911 through anti-trust action, the plant became the property of the Liggett-Meyers Tobacco Company, which continued to operate here until the mid 1960s when they closed their Wilson redrying operations. The large complex, including a two-story brick storage warehouse facing South Goldsboro Street, was razed in the early 1970s.

174
(former) G. R. Saleeby and Brothers Building
106-108 East Jones Street
F

Built in 1949 as G. R. Saleeby and Brothers, a notions store, this plain, cement block building (with a veneer of brick only on the facade) has stepped side gables and altered windows on the facade, two of the three having been enlarged to become garage doors. It has seen several occupants since the Saleeby's vacated the building in the early 1950s: the Davis and Knight Garage, the Wilson Company, the O and P Tent Manufacturing Company, and since 1973, Engines Parts Service.

175
Rental Cottage
110 Jones Street
C

Built adjacent to the tobacco warehouse area around the turn of the century, this frame house is one of the few survivors of typical workingman's housing; its shotgun plan was one of the most common house types for worker dwellings during this period. The use of a hipped roof here is unusual and has a pleasing effect on the two bay-by-two bay weatherboarded dewlling. The modest decoration consists of turned posts with cut-out brackets on the two-bay porch. The window openings contain four-over-four sash.

176
(former Welfare's Garage) The Wilson Daily Times Building
115-121 North Goldsboro Street
C

The Anderson-Welfare Company was established ca 1908 and by 1912 had become the Welfare Automobile Company with William Woodard as president, L. P. Woodard as vice-president, Rupert C. Welfare as secretary-treasurer and general manager and William F. Welfare as machinist. The company was incorporated in 1911. Between 1908 and 1913, they erected a one-story garage at 115-117 North Goldsboro Street. By 1922, the business demanded a larger building; and a large, four-story brick building was built east of the original building at 119-121 North Goldsboro Street. This four-story building is the largest of the early automobile sales buildings known to survive in North Carolina. Designed by Wilson architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), it was stone veneered on the first two floors, and segmental second story windows and featured prominent brick pilasters with stone capitals defining the four-bay facade above. An unfortunate remodeling ca 1966 resulted in a most intrusive modern storefront being placed over the bottom two stories and the entire facade of the one-story building. Fortunately, interior inspection reveals that the original stone finish is intact beneath the new facade. The third and fourth floors of the facade have double, twelve-pane windows with tilt-out central sections, stone sills and soldier course lintels. Panels of decorative basketweave brick with stone corner insets are placed between the third and fourth floors. A stone cornice originally crowned the facade; it too has been removed. The northeast (East Green Street) elevation is ten-bays wide and contains the same windows as the facade. Most of the first story windows have been bricked in. The modern lower facade wraps to obscure the first southeast bay. The southeast elevation, partially obscured by the original one-story building and a 1930s two-story building at the rear of the one-story building, is an indentical ten-bays deep. The rear northwest elevation is four-bays wide and has a stepped parapet.

The interior of the one-story building was completely altered during the ca 1966 renovation with new walls and lowered ceilings. The interior of the front story of the four-story building has also been thoroughly remodeled, but retains its pressed metal ceiling and anthemion frieze above the suspended ceiling. The rear first story also has a pressed metal ceiling. The upper stories, each containing one large space with two rows of supporting central steel posts and beams, become more intact as they ascend. The second story is unceiled. Only the front wall is plastered, and it even has a tongue-and-grooved wainscot. The side walls are exposed brick as are both upper floors. The third floor has the same metal ceiling as the first floor. The fourth floor has a slightly arched ceiling with a rather modest pressed metal ceiling. It is enlivened by foliate borders and features medallions from which light fixtures were hung. A later partition wall divides the fourth floor.

By 1928, the Welfare Company was no longer in operation, having been succeeded by the dealership of L. P. Woodard and Son. Woodard had been the Welfare Company's vice president. The Woodard Company continued only until the early 1930s. Succeeding the Welfare Company in the 115 address was the Goodyear Tire Store. Successive occupants of 117 were Barrett's Printing Shop and Bill's Quick Lunch. Succeeding L. P. Woodard and Son in 119-121 North Goldsboro Street were Noe-Sugg Batteries and Tires, Simmons (Wholesale Furniture) Company, and from ca 1936 until ca 1945, the North State Bonded (Cotton) Warehouse; and from ca 1945 until 1966, the Johnston Cotton Company of Wilson. The offices of The Wilson Daily Times, the chief newspaper in Wilson and the publisher of Zion's landmark, the semi-monthly news organ of the Primitive Baptist Church, moved into 115-117 ca 1945 and expanded into 119 and 121 during the later 1950s and early 1960s. From 1967 until 1982, when a new building was completed in the suburbs, the newspaper occupied the entire building.

Both the paper and the magazines were published by the P. D. Gold Publishing Company, which had been founded by Pleasant Daniel Gold (1833-1920), a prominent Primitive Baptist Minister. Gold, a native of Rutherford County, moved to Wilson in 1870 and assumed the publication of Zion's Landmark, which the North Carolina Business Directory, (1867-1968) records was published in Wilson with L. I. Bodenheimer as the editor for fifty years. His son, John D. Gold (1867-1954), founded the Wilson Times on February 17, 1902. The two papers merged in 1936. Another son, P. D. Gold, Jr. (1876-1965), was the founder of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company.

177
Wilson County Law Enforcement Center
113 North Goldsboro Street
F

Built in 1980 to house the county sheriff's department and the county jail, this large, concrete building is dominated by its sheer mass and is enlivened by the horizontality created by the bands of alternating windows and brushed cement panels that occupy the top two floors; a parking garage is at street level. Designed by Williams and Associates of Matthews, North Carolina, and constructed by the J. M. Thompson Company of Raleigh, North Carolina, the distinctly modern building complements both the Wilson County Courthouse, to the rear of which it is attached, and the 1938 Art Deco Wilson Municipal Building across the street. It replaced the original ca 1855 brick County Jail which stood northwest of the Law Enforcement Center, on what is now the parking lot behind the First Union Bank Building. The site of this building was earlier occupied by the Fidelity Mutual Building, 1910, and popularly known as the Gold Professional Building. The brick, three-story building, designed by the partnership of Charles C. Benton (1887-1960) and Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), was one of the finest Neo-Classical Revival buildings in the central business district. It was razed in 1977 for the Law Enforcement Center.

178
Wilson Municipal Building
112 North Goldsboro Street
P

On January 29, 1849 the settlements of Toisnot Depot and Hickory Grove were incorporated into the town of Wilson. The new town was named for General Louis D. Wilson, a native of Tarboro and a state senator from Edgecombe County, who died of yellow fever in 1847 during the Mexican-American war. Wilson was a close friend of General Joshua Barnes (1815-1890), the leading businessman and citizen of the new town. Barnes served as the first mayor from 1849 until 1851. The first town

council consisted of James D. Barnes, Arthur Farmer, and Jonathan Rountree, all prominent businessmen. It is not known where the city officers first met, probably in either a hall above someone's store, or, after the creation of Wilson County in 1855 and the erection of the first courthouse, in the Wilson County Courthouse. Historical records are scant as to the meeting site. On April 7, 1853, an election was held at W. D. Thomas' store; no location was given of the store. The (Wilson) Ledger of April 28, 1858, reported that a meeting had been held on April 20 at the courthouse to organize a city fire company. The first record of a separate building for city offices is the 1893 Sanborn Map which shows a two-story brick building on the site of the present municipal building. It was occupied by the engine house on the first story and the City Hall on the second story. A documentary photo shows the thirty-five foot-by-fifty foot structure having two wide arched entrances for the fire engines on the first story facade and single two-over-two windows on the second story. In 1906, this building was replaced by an impressive two-story structure built by D. J. Rose of Rocky Mount. It was known as the City Market for the market which was located on the first story along with the fire department; (it was a failure as a market). The municipal offices and the police courts were located on the second story. Documentary photographs show a symmetrically arranged two-story brick building that had a four-story, Romanesque, pyramidal-roofed tower inset into the hip-roofed central part of the building; flanking blocks presented tall, stepped parapet gables to the street. The first story had a series of round arched entrances and windows while double and single windows occupied the second story. In 1926 a separate fire station was ercted at 109 North Douglas Street. A notable addition to the architectural fabric of prospering Wilson and a great source of civic pride, the handsome Market House was destroyed by fire on December 4, 1929. A small portion of the building remained standing and housed city offices until the present Municipal Building was erected. No attempt was made to build a new city hall until the Works Projects Administration helped to finance the present structure in 1938. Designed by Wilson architect Frank W. Benton (1882-1960) and built by Jones Brothers, the three-story, brick building is Wilson's finest example of Art Deco architecture. The impressive five bay-by-eleven bay structure is faced with limestone on the North Goldsboro Street (northwest) facade and on the parking lot (northeast) elevation and rests on a base of granite veneer. The facade is symmetrically arranged with a tall, three-bay central section flanked by three-story bays. The first story has replacement double glass doors set in a handsome surround with rounded corners and incised detail on the inner edge and at the top. Wide, fixed windows and a tall transom occupy the botton two stories of the central section, providing illumination to the interior's lobby. A simple, recessed, stone panel forms a lintel for the transom. The third story has three, small, four-pane casement windows that are slightly recessed into the elevation. Crowning this is a shallow, modillion course. The raised central section contains incised letters MUNICIPAL BUILDING and is flanked by short recessed, fluted pilasters. The identical end bays of the facade contain the stairwells and are flanked by shallow, incised pilasters that create an added vertical emphasis fo the facade. Each end bay has an opening on the first story that is handsomely finished with incised and sounded details. The northeast end bay has a recessed replacement door that provides access to the northeast stairwell. The southwest end bay has a window (now closed); its door to the stairwell was through a wide door on the southwest elevation (now closed) that has a dentiled segmental arch. This entrance was altered in 1973 when an elevator was added in a portion of the original stairwell. The end sections have a single opening on each floor, containing a casement window with single transom on the second story and a casement window with double transom on the third story. This elongation of the window openings further emphassizes the vertical element. The windows on the southwest end bay were closed in 1973 when the

elevator was installed. A circular medallion is placed above the third story window and an incised keystone crowns each end bay. The northeast elevation (facing a parking lot) is also faced with stone but lacks the incised or rounded detailing that distinguishes the facade except on the noerheast bay (the arairwell bay adjacent to North Goldsboro Street) which is finished like the front end bays but with a blind second story. The first story of the northeast elevation contains three wide windows with casement windows flanked by sections of glass blocks; the northwest window has been altered into a drive-up payment window and has a modern porte cochere with a stuccoed roof fascia. There are two small windows at the southeast end of the elevation. The upper stories both have casement windows with stone sills and single transoms on the second story and double transoms on the third. The five northwest windows on the second story have replacement, single pane windows of tinted glass. There is no finishing detail at the rooftop. The southwest elevation (facing onto an alley) is stone veneered for the first three bays and contains the original stairwell entrance (closed in 1973 when the elevator was added) and the present stairwell entrance. The rest of the elevation is vaced with a blond brick and contains the casement windows. The central six bays contain tall, six-pane casements with triple transoms; these are the windows of the council chambers and are contained within a raised central section. The rear (southeast) elevation is faced with red brick and has an asymmetrical arrangement of casement windows. A large, square, exterior chimney with a corbeled cap rises along the rear elevation.

The central interior lobby is two stories in height and has a rear mezzanine arrangement that was added during the renovations in 1973-1974. Prior to these renovations, the southwest half of the building housed the police department and the northeast half the city hall; the rear of the police department contained the city jail cells. The third floor with its taller ceiling was occupied by the District Court Room. In 1971, the court moved to the Wilson County Courthouse (1924) (NR) across North Goldsboro Street and the third story courtroom was renovated by the addition of replacement walls and ceilings into the City Council Chambers. After the new police station was completed adjacent to the northeast at 134 North Goldsboro Street in the early 1970s, the interiors of all three stories were completely renovated with replacement walls and suspended ceilings. At that time, the mezzanine offices that overlook the lobby were added to unify the second story (there had previously been no access between the second stories of the City Hall half and the police department half). The only surviving interior element is the northeast stairwell, which has a steel, closed stringer stairs with a steel balustrade.

179
Rex Shoe Shop/(former) New York Cafe Building
105-107 South Goldsboro Street
F

According to the Sanborn Insurance Maps and city directories, this two-story, two-storefront, brick commercial building was erected between 1916 and 1922. Both entrances were replaced during the 1950s and the lower facade was veneered with granite. The second story has four, double one-over-one sash windows with wide stone surrounds and lintels. The upper facade has a modest, molded limestone cornice and a stone-capped parapet wall punctuated with plinths. Both first story interiors have been replaced. The second story interiors are plastered and have always been used for storage. The first occupant of 105 was a barber shop and was succeeded ca 1928 by William W. Sugg Electric; since ca 1936, it has been occupied by Rex Shoe Shop. The New York Cafe (John Nackos and Christ Soufas, proprietors0 occupied the 107 store from its construction until 1956. They had occupied the

previous one-story building on this site since ca 1908. The cafe was succeeded by Dotty Lou's Children's Apparel Shop, Mozelle Dress Shop, and presently, the Wig Salon.

180
Bailey's Jewelry (former Branch Banking and Trust Savings Department)
109 South Goldsboro Street
F

Built ca 1919 over an alley and occupied until the early 1930s by the savings department for the Branch Banking and Trust Company, this one-story brick storefront shows typical modest details in the recessed panel across the top of the building, a stone facade cap, and large transom windows. Unfortunately, both the transom and the entrance have been altered. The building was occupied by several concerns from the mid-1930s until 1956; Bailey's Jewelry has been here since 1957.

181
Wilson Morris Plan Company Building
111-119 South Goldsboro Street
C

One of only several brick buildings in downtown Wilson that are veneered with limestone, this handsome, four-storefront facade unites two, two-story buildings that were erected in 1919. The building at 111-117 South Goldsboro Street was built by the Wilson Morris Plan Company, a real estate investment firm that incorporated in 1916 by some of the most prominent businessmen in Wilson--Graham Woodard of the Wilson Insurance and Realty Company (the owner of 119 South Goldsboro) and Contentnea Guano Company; grain broker, Patrick B. Deans; George T. Stronach of the Wilson Insurance and Realty Company and the Atlantic Building and Loan Association; Paul Lee Woodard of P. L. Woodard and Company (#) and the Contentnea Guano Company; John T. Barnes of Barnes-Harrell Grocery Company (#); Dr. Wade H. Anderson of the Moore-Herring Hospital; and Furman N. Bridgers of the Farmers Cotton Oil Company (#). The Wilson Morris Plan Company purchased the lot from Catherine Fryor in 1919. The building at 119 South Goldsboro Street was built by the Wilson Insurance and Realty Company on a lot bought in 1919 from the Wilson Hotel Company (i.e., the Briggs Hotel (now razed). Two of the officers of the Wilson Insurance and Realty Company, vice-president Graham Woodard and secretary-treasurer George T. Stronach, were also incorporators of the Wilson Morris Plan Company. The first story of the refined classical (northwest) facade is divided into five bays by paneled Doric pilasters. The northeast bay contains the recessed door to the second story (111 South Goldsboro Street). Each of the other four bays is occupied by a replacement storefront below a transom. The 119 storefront also has an exterior door leading to its second story, separate from the other. All the transoms have been covered except a portion of the one above the 113 store. Above the transoms is a continuous shallow cornice, supported by the pilasters. The second story contains six pairs of twelve-over-one sash and a single nine-over-one sash window over the second story entrance. Each pair is separated by a paneled stone pilaster, enframed by a molded stone surround, and has a stone sill; the single window has the same surround and sill. The upper facade is finished by a stone cornice and a topmost balustrade that is joined by stone plinths that correspond to the pilasters on the first story. It is on the rear elevation that the two component buildings are distinguishable--the 111-117 building is not as deep as the 119 building. However, both contain an asymmetrical arrangement of doors and one-over-one sash windows (several with tall transoms) in segmental surrounds. The southwest side elevation of the 119 store faces an alley and has only one door (now closed) on the first stoy and four segmental one-over-one sash windows on the second story. The interiors of

all four stores have been remodeled with replacement walls and ceilings and the second story over 113-117 has been substantially altered into a night club. The second story of 119 retains its original plaster finish and simple Colonial Revival moldings. It is divided into two former offices.

The Wilson Morris Plan Company was dissolved in 1924 and the various storefronts sold individually. The original occupant of the 113 store was The Wilson (meat) Market Company (H. C. McGlawhorn, proprietor), and was succeeded by Duff Piano Company, and Red's Barber Shop (John W. Hawkins and O'Berry Stevens, proprietors) from ca 1936 until 1956, it has been occupied by City News since 1957. The Wilson Market Company was also the first occupant of the 115 store, and was succeeded by fruit dealer James Moskos, Southeast Optical, Reid Music, and City Barber from 1957 until the late 1970s. Presently vacant, it has most recently been occupied by a night club. A bakery was the first occupant of the 117 store, and was replaced by tailor H. F. Wall. Three bakeries--Britt's, Quality, and Shealy's--occupied the store from ca 1936 until 1961. Townsend Insurance occupied the store during the 1960s and 1970s and it is presently occupied by a night club. The 119 store was built for the Wilson Insurance and Realty Company and occuied by them and their companion company, the Atlantic Building and Loan Association (Furman N. Bridgers, president; Samuel W. richardson, vice-president; George T. Stronach, secretary-treasurer) until 1961. Occupied during the 1960s and 1970s by C. C. Powell Insurance and Real Estate, the store has been occupied for several years by a beauty salon; its second story has been vacant for a number of years. The second story at 111 South Goldsboro Street has been occupied by several offices and businesses including the W. T. Lamm Cotton Company ca 1928, the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company from the mid 1920s to the mid 1940s, carpenter Edward C. Wynn, Walls Tailoring, and surveyor F. T. Green. It has been occupied by the present night club for several years.

182
(former) Anderson-Welfare Company Garage
112 South Goldsboro Street
C

Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that a one-story, brick building was built on this site by 1893, and between ca 1897 and ca 1903 it housed a beer bottling factory, possibly the Robert Portner Brewing Company mentioned in the 1902 Hill's Business Directory. By 1908 the present two-story, three-bay, brick structure had been erected and housed one of the first garages in Wilson, belonging to the Anderson-Welfare Company (#176). Unfortunately, the original lower facade was renovated in the 1950s; although the recessed configuration remains. The second story has three boarded-up windows with cast concrete lintels and sills. An elaborate dentiled metal cornice with raised foliate motifs on the end brackets and a tile-capped parapet crown the building. The interior retains a handsome pressed metal ceiling with anthemion frieze on the first story. Enclosed rear stairs lead to the second story which has exposed brick walls and is unceiled. An old elevator is at the rear. By 1912 this building was occupied by the wholesale grocery of Barnes-Harrell Company. It has since housed an expansion of the Wilson Hardware Company ca 1922, the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company Grocery Store in the mid 1930s, and a variety of tenants since. It is currently occupied by the Wilson Downtown Redevelopment Corporation.

183
Allen-Worley Furniture Company Building
114 South Goldsboro Street
C

This two-story, four-bay commercial building was erected in the late 1910s for the Allen-Worley Furniture Company (P. C. Worley, president, C. H. Allen, vice-presdient, G. I. Allen, secretary-treasurer). The first story of the modestly detailed building has a central recessed door with flanking display windows. A modernization in the 1950s resulted in replacement transom glass and a wide frame of black cararra glass around the entire first story. The second story has four (closed-up) windows. The upper facade has a large recessed brick panel that is edged by a brick soldier course with cast concrete stone inserts at the corners. Diamond-shaped inserts mark the sides of the panel. A raked and stepped parapet with cast concrete caps crowns the facade. The interior has one large space with an ornate pressed metal ceiling per story. The individual squares of the ceiling have a quartrefoil motif with fleur-de-lis details. A wide border, and an unusually large fleur-de-lis and cartouche cornice completes the handsome ceiling. By 1928 the Allen-Worley Furniture Company had moved next door to 116 South Goldsboro Street and were replaced here by the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company. The A & P remained here until the 1950s, except for a brief period ca 1936 when the J. L. Cafe (Jerry Lucas, proprietor) was located here and the A & P was located next door at 112 South Goldsboro Street. Succeeding the A & P in the 1950s was Robbins Jewelry and Music and later the Wonder Company; the present occupant is Carr's Audio and Television Service.

184
Woodard Building
116-118 South Goldsboro Street
I

The core of this entirely rebuilt brick and glass building was built between 1922 and 1930 to replace a two-story, brick building with an iron clad front built here in the mid 1890s. It was one of only four iron front buildings known to have been built in Wilson. A number of businesses have been located here including a jewelery, a grocery, a men's clothing store and a billiard parlor. The building is presently offices for an insurance firm, a jewelers, a shoe store, a law firm and as opticians offices. The incompatible facade and the complete renovations were undertaken in 1966.

185
G. S. Tucker and Company Annex
120 South Goldsboro Street
F

According to the Sanborn Maps, this two-story building was erected between 1893 and 1897 as a hardware store. The present facade is said to date from ca 1915. A 1950s remodeling of the first floor resulted in the installation of a modern entrance and the covering of the transom. The three-bay, second story has single windows flanking a double window (all boarded up); a continuous soldier course litnel extends across the facade. Above these windows are panels of dark, header bricks with square accents. At the top of the upper facade is a typical molded and modillioned metal cornice; a tile-capped parapet crowns the facade. The 1950s remodeling also resulted in a suspended acoustical tile ceiling on the first story of the interior, which hides a simple pressed metal ceiling. Stairs rise from the rear northeast corner to the second story, which has a ceiling of beaded tongue-and-groove boards. The interior walls are plastered. The renovated building was first

occupied ca 1915 by the Wilson Furniture Company, L. M. Garner, president, J. H. Wright, vice-president, and J. J. Amerson as secretary-treasurer-manager. It has been occupied by a furniture business since then, with the brief exception of a billiard parlor in the mid 1930s. Johnson Furniture Company was here from ca 1941 until 1966. Since then it has served as an annex for the adjacent G. S. Tucker and Company at 122 South Goldsboro Street.

186
(former) R. E. Townsend Insurance Agency Building
121 South Goldsboro Street
I

Erected ca 1915 as offices for the insurance agancy of R. E. Townsend, this one-story, brick building was thoroughly altered in 1965 when the present owner purchased the store. In deteriorated condition, the Townsend Building was altered to match the adjacent D. S. Boykin Building which had been remodeled in 1957 into a restaurant. The Townsend Building facade has a modern door and windows and a most unattractive upper facade of vertical stripes of grey and white bricks. The original pressed metal ceiling was removed in 1965 when the interior was completely remodeled. The northeast (alley) elevation retains five (closed-up) doors and windows with segmental surrounds and stone lintels. A brick addition with soldier course lintels was built on the rear in the 1930s. After the Townsend Agency vacated the building in 1950, the A-1 Shoe Repair Shop, Super Hits Records, and currently Subs and Spuds cafe have occupied the building, successively.

187
122 South Goldsboro Street
I

The facade of this three-story, brick building has been completely obscured by an attached metal screen that was added by the Tuckers ca 1956. Fortunately, the interior pressed metal ceilings--rather simple, square grid coffered ceiling and an egg-and-dart frieze--remain intact on the first and second stories. The third story is unceiled and has exposed brick walls. The open stringer stair rises from the rear southwest. There is no indication of the former window arrangement on the facade from the interior. The building dates from between 1908 and 1913 and was built for the Wells Grocery Company, named for president-treasurer, Stephen C. Wells (1850-1933), a prominent Wilson merchant and tobacconist and his brother, C. K. Wells, the firm's secretary. Since 1914 it has been occupied by G. S. Tucker and Company, a Raleigh-based furniture company which was founded in 1886 and which opened its store in Wilson in 1896 at 121 East Nash Street.

188
(former) D.S. Boykin Building
123 South Goldsboro Street
I

Built between 1913 and 1922 by D. S. Boykin as rental property, this two-story, brick building was thoroughly altered into its present appearance in 1957 when it was remodeled for a restaurant. The first story has been completely closed up and the second story contains four, small, rectangular windows set in a bizzare arrangement of grey and white brick vertical strips. First occupied (according to the 1922 Sanborn Insurance Maps) by a wholesale tobacco firm, the building was occupied from ca 1928 until 1956 by The Wilson Meat Market, H. R. Lawhorn, manager, and since then by the Rainbow and Worrell's Restaurant. It currently is occupied by a night club. Boykin (1863-1941), a prominent Wilson businessman, started the Boykin Grocery Company in 1887 and erected the impressive Boykin Building in 1906 at 201-209 South Goldsboro Street.

189
Hackeny Building
124-130 South Goldsboro Street
P

This unusual two-story brick building, faced with cream-colored terra cotta tiles and embellished with polychrome tiles, is the only one of its type in Wilson and is an important feature in the downtown streetscape. It was built ca 1922 for the Hackney Brothers, who operated a tire and auto supply business in various sections of the building from ca 1922 until the 1960s. The fourteen-bay wide building is divided into four storefronts by Doric pilasters that have orange and green egg-and-dart capitals, complete with triglyphs and mutules. Similar, but slightly smaller, pilasters divide the one-over-one sash second story windows in each storefront. A dentiled cornice with yellow egg-and-dart molding decorates the top of the building. Bands of joined green and yellow circles and green and white plumes comprise the continuous sill. Unfortunately, new storefronts have been installed between the pilasters and some of the colorful tiles on the lower level have been painted. The interiors all retain noteworthy pressed metal ceilings which feature large, elaborate cornices. However, the mezzanine at the rear of each store has been altered to varying degrees. This building has had many occupants during the years, in addition to the Hackneys who have occupied one, two, or three of the storefronts at various times. The first occupant of 124 was the Teacher-Woodall Furniture Company, followed by J. W. Stallings Dry Goods ca 1928, the Hackney Auto Supply Store during the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, Rice's Men's Wear in the 1960s, a wholesale fabric shop during the 1970s and, since ca 1980, Mr. Whipple's Night Club. Matthew's Drug Store (W. R. Matthew, proprietor) occupied the 126 store until the early 1930s, after which the store was occupied by Hackney Tires and Auto Supply until the 1960s and since then by Stallings Printers. The 128 store was first occupied by tailor, Harry F. Walls, but by 1928 Hackney Tire had moved here, which they occupied until the 1960s when Stallings Printers occupied this store also. The 130 store was the first loctation of Hackney Tire, but only until ca 1928, when they moved to 126 and the 128 store was occupied by barber, W. C. Reid, and later barber William Hines, until the 1960s; since then the storefront has been occupied by Blackman Insurance.

190
Deans-Boyette and Company
clark Hardware/Wilson Furniture Company Building
125-127 South Goldsboro Street
F

This plainly finished, two-story brick commercial building was erected ca 1921 for Boyette-Deans and Company, a wholesale and retail hardware store and grocery. The proprietors, William Clayton Boyette and Joe Fred Deans, were also partners with the Farmer's Warehouse and Deans later was president of the Planter's Bank. By 1928 the building was occupied by the Clark Hardware Company, with W. T. Clark, president, C. O. Boykin, vice president, and George S. Warren, secretary-treasurer. William Thomas Clerk was a prominent Wilson merchant and tobacconist, having founded W. T. Clark and Company at the turn of the century. IN 1915, the company took over the recently vacated Liberty Warehouse at 210 East Barnes Street and operated a sizable redrying facility here until 1952. In the early 1920s Clark was also involved with his brother, J. J. Clark, as Clark Brothers and Company in operating a harness and bicycle shop at 121-123 South Goldsboro Street and a livery at 131-133 South Goldsboro Street. by 1941 this building was occupied by the Wilson Furniture Company, John M. Wilson, manager, which remained in the building until

1979. The asymmetrical five-bay facade contains two slightly altered recessed storefronts that are flanked by pilasters. A simple molded metal cornice remains above the (painted over) transoms. The second story contains five, segmentally arched one-over-one sash windows with brick lintels and sills. A simple, three-course, corbeled brick cornice crowns the parapet. The intrior, one large space on both stories, has a suspended ceiling on the first story and some modern replacement walls. The second story, accessible by a rear stairs, is plainly finished. Vacated by the Wilson Furniture Company in 1979, the building was occupied for several years by the Acme Candy Company; it is currently vacant. A new coat of paint in the early 1980s covered a painted CLARK BROTHERS & COMPANY sign that spanned the building above the second story windows.

191
Carolina-Colony Theater
129 South Goldsboro Street
F

This stuccoed theater building was erected in the late 1930s as the Carolina Theater and has been known as the Colony Theatre since the early 1960s. The simple exterior exhibits the fluid lines and restrained details that were popular in the 1930s and 1940s. The interior repeats the uncluttered lines of the exterior and focuses upon the simple proscenium arch which has a curved inner edge and a flat top. Large, modern drapes cover the roughly-textured stuccoed walls.

192
G. R. Saleeby and Brothers Building
132 South Goldsboro Street
C

In 1916, brothers George R., John R., Joe R., and Charles R. Saleeby, bought this lot at the corner of South Goldsboro and East Barnes Streets from livery owner Jefferson D. Darrior and had this two-story brick commercial building built soon after. The previous building on this site was a two-story, double-storefront structure erected between 1893 and 1897 which, on the 1897 Sanborn Map is shown as having an iron front. The Saleebys, confectioners, grocers, and immigrants in the early twentieth century from what is now Lebanon, had operated the Palace of Sweets at 110 East Nash Street (now Churchwell's Jewelers) since ca 1912. This new building housed their confectionary, and wholesale and produce store on the first story until the mid 1920s. Offices reached by a door at the rear East Barnes Street (southwest) elevation occupied the second story. The modest, two-story, three bay-by-seven bay building is typical of the many commercial buildings erected in Wilson during the 1910s and 1920s on which the major architectural interest was supplied by patterned brickwork and stone accents. Unfortunately, the storefront was replaced with modern materials in the 1960s, although its corner orientation and entrance has been retained. A single rusticated brick pilaster flanks the storefront on the northeast. A smaller entrance with a display window (also replaced) is in the center of the East Barnes Street (southwest) elevation. The door to the second story is located adjacent to the rear alley. The second story contains (closed) fifteen-over-one bungalow style windows with stone sills and lintels. The second story extends to cover the alley at the rear (northwest) forming a covered passage on the ground level. The upper facade is modestly finished with a panel of basketweave bricks that extend across both elevations; a tile-capped stepped parapet crowns the elevations. The first story interior was entirely renovated with new walls and a suspended ceiling during the early 1970s. The second story contains seven offices and two baths arranged along the street elevations (the hall is along the party wall with the Hackney Building at 128 South Goldsboro Street). The

plastered offices have doors with translucent glass panes and transoms, simple moldings, and wooden ceilings. The Saleeby's occupied the building until the mid 1920s and were followed, consecutively, by G. S. Tucker and Company, the Wilson Cash Store, Matthews Drug Store, and from ca 1941 until 1962, by Bissetts Drug Store Number Three. Vacant during the mid 1960s, it has since been occupied by the Discount Music House, and currently, by Valli's Record and Tape Center. The small storefront on the side elevation, 117 East Barnes Street, was first occupied by the Saleebys and then by the Barnes Street Barber Shop (Nathan T. Fields, proprietor) from ca 1928 until the late 1930s when it was incorporated into the rest of the main store, as it has continued. Records of the occupants of the second story are sparse--Robert H. Drake, Loans, ca 1928; offices for G. R. Seleeby, ca 1936; and later the H. C. Spivey Tailoring Company. The second story has been vacant since the 1950s.

193
R. E. Qinnn and Company Building
135-137 South Goldsboro Street
C

This large, three-and-a-half story brick commercial building was erected at the corner of South Goldsboro and East Barnes Streets in the late 1930s for R. E. Quinn and Company, furniture dealers. The five-bay, four-story facade is divided into three sections by metal-covered pilasters. The central section contains a deep, recessed, double door entrance. Large transoms span the entire facade above the entrance and flanking display windows. The second and third stories of the facade are divided into three sections by paired brick pilasters. These pilasters frame a central bay that contains one window and end bays with two windows. The pilasters rest on a shallow, corbeled base which doubles as a modest cornice for the transom and support a shallow, corbeled entablature. The upper, fourth floor has no corbeled brickwork and is crowned by a tile-capped parapet. The windows contain three-part metal frame windows with the central three-pane section being flanked by three-pane casement windows. The transoms are six-pane on the second floor and three-pane on the third and fourth floors. The northwest two bays of the East Barnes Street (southwest) elevation are four stories in height and have the same display windows, paired pilasters, and window arrangement as the facade. The southeast four bays of the East Barnes Street elevation are three stories in height and have a single entrance, three, closed-up windows, and an overhead delivery door on the first story, and small, ten-pane windows in the upper elevation. This three-story section has no decorative brickwork and is crowned by a tile-capped stepped parapet. The rear, four-bay, three-story elevation has sixteen pane windows which have tilt-out central sections. The only entrance is a single door. A four-course corbeled cornice crowns the rear elevation. The spacious interior contains one large room on each story, with offices at the rear of the first story. Two rows of interior piers support the floors. The small, partial, fourth story contains a mezzanine-type office that is now used for additional storage. An elevator is at the rear east corner.

R. E. Quinn was a prominent Wilson merchant, first appearing in the 1922-1923 Hill's City Directory under R. E. Quinn and Company, with partners H. V. Woodall and T. H. Thurson and showrooms in the Wilson Dispensary Building at 223-233 South Goldsboro Street. By 1928 the company was located in a portion of the Boykin Building at 201-203 South Goldsboro Street, where it remained until the erection of this building. The Quinn business remained here until 1972 when the business was sold to the Furniture Corner Company, which remains here. The previous occupant of this prominent corner site was a livery stable built ca 1888 for John Selby. It was later enlarged and occupied during the 1910s, 1920s and 1930s as a livery and a

warehouse for W. T. Clark and Company's tobacco redrying facility in the former Liberty Warehouse at 210 East Barnes Street.

194
Boykin Building
201-209 South Goldsboro Street
P

Erected by Wilkins Brothers in 1906 for the Boykin Grocery Company, this handsome, two-story, five-storefront, brick building displays a vigorously detailed facade that has been little altered through the years. The use of grey brick on its two street elevations is unique in Wilson. The Boykin Grocery Company, founded in the late 1880s and exclusively wholesale since 1897, was incorporated in December 1900 by D. S. Boykin, J. A. Corbett, and George W. Corbett. This building was built by July 1906. The storefronts are each three bays wide and are separated by prominent quoin pilasters. The symmetrically arranged facade has identical, double storefronts, 201-203 and 207-209, flanking the central storefront, 205. The first story facade of 205 South Goldsboro Street retains its pair of tall, slender iron columns with Corinthian capitals that flank the recessed entry. Its transom and the upper half of the display windows have been covered by a metal screen. The lower facade of the 201-203 store has been little altered and retains its central, recessed entrance and its overhead transom, although the transom glass has been replaced with plywood. The 207-209 lower facade has been significantly altered with the addition of new doors and windows. Its transom has also been closed up to support the anchoring rods of an awning that shelters the new facades. The central, second story facade of 205 has round-headed, one-over-one sash windows with brick drip moldings and rusticated stone keystones. The adjacent stores, 203 and 207, are identical and have segmentally-arched, one-over-one sash windows with brick drip moldings. The end storefronts, 201 and 209, display flat lintels with prominent keystones. The second floors are united on the facade by a notable corbeled and arched cornice. The windows, three per storefront, contain one-over-one sash, many of which have been boarded up. The ten-bay East Barnes Street (northeast) elevation is equally handsome. The first story has a series of two, double doors, six segmentally arched one-over-one sash windows and a single door. A double course of corbeled bricks forms a string course between the first and second stories. The second story contains eight segmentally arched windows in pairs, all united by a continuous corbeled brick moldings and a continuous corbeled brick sill. The upper elevation is marked by a double row of corbeled bricks above the windows and a large corbeled cornice that extends across thhe first nine bays from South Goldsboro Street. The stepped parapet is capped with tiles. The rear (southeast) elevation is fifteen bays wide--three bays per storefront with segmental surrounds. A replacement cement-topped platform extends across the building at the first story level and shelters segmentally arched doors and ventilation openings in the foundation; the partial basement was used just for storage. The first story has single doors in the central bay of each store, each flanked by two-over-two sash windows, all with segmental surrounds. There is no remaining evidence of what configuration the stairs to the second story took or if there ever were stairs. Prominent on the rear elevation are the star-shaped ends of the metal tie bars. Here one star is located on each side of the base of all ten doors and one above each second story door. The original interiors were plainly finished, plastered on the first floor with a tongue-and-groove ceiling and exposed brick walls on the second stories. Enclosed stairs rise at the rear of each storefront. The interior of 201-203 has seen no changes, 205 has been modified slightly and 207-209 has seen major alterations resulting in replacement walls and lowered ceilings.

Many of Wilson's most prominent citzens and business leaders were at one time associated with the Boykin Grocery Company, including J. T. Barnes, Silas Lucas, W. F. Eagles, J. S. Bynum, S. W. Anderson, Ida Robbins and W. H. Sharpe. Its founder, David Stevens Boykin (1863-1941), came to Wilson in 1887 from Sampson County and established the forerunner of this company. In 1907 he also established the Boykin Realty Company. A prominet member of the community, he served as a director of the Branch Bank and as a president of the Carolina Building and Loan Association.

In the mid 1920s, the Boykin Grocery Company, which had occupied the entire building, moved to the ca 1921 Barnes-Harrell Building at 320 East Barnes Street. It was replaced in the 201-205 storefront by R. E. Quinn and Company (furniture) which remained until the late 1930s when the new R. E. Quinn and Company Building was completed immediately to the northeast across East Barnes Street at 137 South Goldsboro Street. Quinn was replaced by Barker's Department Store, (Morris Barker, proprietor) which remained until the early 1970s. This double-storefront is currently used as storage by Boone's Antiques, Inc., a large antique business in Wilson which owns the 201-203, 205 and 207 storefronts. Succeeding the Boykins in 205 South Goldsboro Street were, successively, the Merchants Produce Company, wholesale fruit and produce, with prominent tobacco warehouseman J. C. Eagles as president and W. J. Williams as manager, an expansion of Barker's Department Store, the Good Shephard Church, and the warehouse for Robbin's Wholesale Paper Supplies. The Pepsi-Cola Bottling Works succeeded the Boykins in the double 207-209 storefront during the early and mid 1920s, followed by the Wilson Exchange Department Store and the Smith Furniture Store during the 1950s through 1975. Since then 207 has been occupied by the Wilson Pawn Shop and 209 by the Robbins Wholesale Paper Supplies. (The Boykin Building was destroyed by fire on June 5, 1984.)

195
Tomlinson Building
206-208 South Goldsboro Street
F

Built in 1916 for the general merchandise business of Jacob Tomlinson (1877-1922), the Tomlinson Building was a handsome addition to the South Goldsboro streetscape. Its officers in 1916 were Louis S. Tomlinson, president; Kinchen S. Watson, vice-president; and N. L. Finch, secretary-treasurer. (Kinchen Watson (1850-1929) was a prominent Wilson County tobacco farmer and was active in the early years of the Wilson Market, being a co-founder in 1896 of the Watson (now Centre Brick #2) warehouse, which bore his name.) While the Tomlinson Company occupied the first floor, the second floor housed several lodges, primarily the Enterprise Lodge, Number 44 of the International Order of Odd Fellows from 1916 until ca 1928.

The building, as originally built, had two storefronts with a central door leading to the lodge on the second story. The red brick facade was trimmed with a lighter brick, lending interest to the eccentric ornamental cornice and surrounds of the large display windows; this eccentric appearance has been much obscured by the p recent coat of paint. Major alterations undertaken by the automobile dealers which occupied the building during the 1930s-1960s resulted in the near total loss of the first story facade, including the removal of the entire 208 storefront to facilitate a ramp to the service and storage area on the second story. The second story of the facade centers upon a diamond-shaped window, which illuminated the (now removed) original staircase. This window separates the twin second story facades, each with three, one-over-one sash windows with stone sills and brick header course lintels. A stone-capped, stepped, and raked cornice tops the facade and features a stone plaque with the data 1916 in the central parapet. At the southeast of the facade is a narrow, one-story wing, built in 1916 with a stepped and raked parapet and modest basketweave brick patterning in the upper facade; the lower facade has been altered

and the original central recessed door moved to the northeast elevation. A larger one-story wing with the same stepped and raked parapet is on the southwest elevation; it is the E. L. Hawkins Livery Stable at 212 South Goldsboro Street. The northeast elevation is five bays wide and has segmentally arched windows on the second story containing replacement ten-pane windows. The pattern of the five-to-one common bond brick is particularly noticable on this elevation. The five first story windows have been cement blocked in. A "Champion Sparksplugs, Southern Auto Supplies" sign is painted in the upper front corner of the northeast elevation. The rear elevation has six bays and four prominent brick chimney flues. The first story is occupied by a later brick shed.

The first story interior has suffered major alterations during its conversion to automobile dealership showrooms. Remarkably, though, the elaborate pressed metal ceiling survives in the 208 store, the one which was altered to facilitate the entrance for the ramp to the second story. This ceiling has a molded grid pattern and features a large egg-and-dart molded cornice. The second story, originally divided into the lodge and several adjacent rooms, now contains one large room with two small offices in the front. The former wall locations are readily discernible due to the differences in the pressed metal ceiling patterns. The northeast half of the building, the original lodge, has one of the most elaborate pressed metal ceilings in Wilson. The heavily molded squares are lavishly detailed with foliate motifs. A wide garland-and-urn border and a bold frieze with anthemions, fleur-de-lis, egg-and-dart molding, and cartouche corners completes the ceiling, which is in fair condition. The southwest portion of the second story has a similar, but much less ornate ceiling. The two front offices have pressed metal ceilings with a small scale grid pattern and modest, but handsome, molded cornices. This use of three different pressed metal ceilings--with finishes from modest to lavish--on one story, is unique in Wilson. The Tomlinson Company had vacated the first story by 1925 and it remained vacant for several years before being occupied successively by Wilson Auto Sales (Packard, DeSotos, and Plymouth), C. H. Joyner Motor Company (Pontiac), Sandifer-Batts Pontiac Company, Central Service Motors, and since the 1960s, Southern Auto Supply. It is believed that the interior was altered by the car ramp addition by Wilson Auto Sales sometime after Enterprise Lodge, Number 44 of the International Order of Odd Fellows vacated the second story in the early 1930s. Also meeting here in 1928, when the building is listed in the city directory as the International Order of Odd Fellows Building, were the Enterprise Lodge, Number 44, IOOF; Wilson Encampment, Number 40, IOOF; Modern Woodmen of the World, Wilson Lodge; the Knights of Pythias Lodge, number 255; The Wilson Lodge, Number 40, of the Junior Order United American Mechanics; and the Knights of Ku Klux Klan, Wilson Lodge 101.

196
Commercial Building
211-213 South Goldsboro Street
F

This modest, one-story, two-storefront, brick commercial building was erected ca 1921 and was first occupied by an auction company in number 211 and by a battery charging firm in 213; it has been occupied by numerous businesses since the late 1920s. Now completely stuccoed on the upper facade and with modern storefronts, this commercial building maintains architectural interest with the curves of the stucco over panels and cornices of corbeled brick. The interiors have also been completely modernized with suspended ceilings and replacement walls. Ruffin-Rawlings Tire Company and the Motor Sales Company (used car department) occupied the 211 and 213 stores, respectively, during the 1930s. They were followed, successively, in the entire building by Corbett Motor Company, Barnes Engineering Company, and Wiffiford's Used Cars (storage). In the 1970s, M. & R. Grill occupied the 211 store

and Jay's Discount the 213 store. Since the late 1970s, Jay's Pawn Shop has occupied both stores. (This building was destroyed by fire on June 5, 1984.)

197
(former) Hawkins Walston Livery Stable
212 South Goldsboro Street
C

Erected ca 1916 for E. L. Hawkins and Hyman H. Walston, Jr. to replace an earlier livery building, this one-story, brick structure features a prominent stepped and raked cornice with a circular vent and simple decorative brickwork in a basket-weave pattern. The building has a large central overhead door and a single door with transom to the southwest. At each end of the facade is a metal downspont with a fleur-de-lis ornament. A raised clerestory on the roof provides light to the spacious interior. The rear elevation is stepped and has windows with segmental surrounds. By 1920 Walston had left the partnership, which continued as the E. L. Hawkins Livery, Boarding and Sales Stables until the early 1930s. He was succeeded in the building by the used car department of the Corbett Motor Company, the used car department of the C. H. Joyner Motor Company, the body shop of Sandifer-Batts Pontiac Company, and since the late 1960s by the Wilson Starter and Generator Service.

198
Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc. Building
215-219 South Goldsboro Street
F

Extensively renovated with a modern facade, the Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc. has occupied the center storefront of this ca 1908 one-story, three storefront brick building since ca 1941. Each of the three storefronts has a large display window with an adjacent glass door. The lower facade has a modern composition panel while the tall, false upper facade is stuccoed and has raised plastic letters spelling "WILSON TOBACCO BOARD OF TRADE, INC. BUILDING". The rear elevation, also three bays, has seen the removal of a rear wing, leaving some of the original five-to-one brick building exposed. Long term occupants of the building include Clark and Walston Livestock and H. H. Walston and Sons, farm managers, both in 219 South Goldsboro Street. Both the 215 and 219 stores have been vacant for over ten years.

199
Thompson TV
220 South Goldsboro Street
I

This brick building with its intrusive metal and glass facade was erected in the early 1960s on a portion of the site previously occupied by the Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse. Erected in 1893 as the second warehouse in Wilson, the Centre Brick burned on August 8, 1951.

200
Commercial Building
221-225 South Goldsboro Street
C

Erected ca 1922 as rental property by the heirs of S. A. Woodard (-1915) and the location of a number of business concerns through the years, this one-story, four-bay, brick building has three different storefronts united beneath an irregular stepped and raked stone-capped parapet. The facade is simply treated with panels of modest brickwork highlighted by stone accents. The 221 storefront was divided ca

1941 into two, narrow stores, but retains its original openings and its multi-pane transom of pattern glass. Brick soldier course ilntels are above all three of the building's transoms. The storefront at number 223 has been boarded up but retains its recessed central entrance configuration. A brick soldier course is above the transom and encloses a brick panel in the upper panel that has square stone corners. The facade of 225 is two-bays wide, and contains an unaltered storefront with recessed entrance on the northeast and a large, paneled, double garage door that leads to a former automobile repair garage. The rear (southeast) elevation contains an irregular arrengement of six-over-six sash windows and doors (with tall transoms) all with segmental surrounds. The interior of number 211 has beaded tongue-and-groove boards on the walls and ceilings. The interior of number 223 was unavailable for inspection. The interior of the storefrot at number 225 has a suspended ceiling and partition walls while the rear garage area is intact and has exposed roof trusses and numerous skylights. The first occupants of the building (according to the 1922 Sanborn Map) were a softdrink bottler in 221, a general supplies store, and a livery stable. The Hill Directory, 1922-23, unfortunately, supplies none of the occupants' names. Successive occupants have been in 221, the Acme Candy Company, the Wilson Tire Company, (ca 1936-1962), theBusy Bee Cafe (ca 1941 until 1962), and since 1963, O'Brien Locksmith and Worrell's Fish Market; in 223, storage for Southern Distributors (wholesale grocers); Irivng Baker (dry goods), a night club; and in 225, J. L. Wiggins Sales Stables Agnew-Barnes Company (sheet metal contractors) (ca 1936 to 1975), Dildy's Heating and Roofing and presently, American Software Market in the storefront and Whole Tires in the rear garage section.

201
(former) Fenton Amoco Service Station
224 South Goldsboro Street
F

Erected in the mid 1950s on a portion of the site of the Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse which had burned on August 8, 1951, this plain two-bay brick gas station displays no decorative brickwork. Known as the Fenton Amoco Service Station until the early 1960s, the Wilson Charter Bus Company has been located here since 1968.

202
Commercial Building
227-229 South Goldsboro Street
F

Erected in the early 1900s and first occupied by a barber and restaurant, these two storefronts are best known for the Whitehead-Anderson Tobacco Company which occupied the 227 store from ca 1928 until 1956. Founded by three of Wilson's leading tobacconists, Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956) (see Wells-Whitehead Cigarette Company) and brothers Selby Hurt Anderson (1874-1962) and William P. Anderson (1869-1931), the firm was a prominent tobacco buyer and exporter. All three men were prominent in all aspects of business in Wilson, with S. H. Anderson having served as Branch Bank and Trust president from 1913 to 1915 and as chairman of the Board from 1915 to 1962. (He had married a daughter of Alpheus Branch.) Both storefronts have been altered with the southeast one (227) still retaining its original recessed entrance configuration although elements have been replaced. Noteworthy is the black and white tile entrance at 227 that is paved in a basketweave pattern. Black carrara glass was added to the lower facade in the 1940s or early 1950s. Molded metal cornices at the roofline and above the transoms and quoined pilasters are the building's major architectural features. A handsome pressed metal ceiling with cornice remains in 227. Replacing Anderson-Whitehead in

the 227 store was the offices of the Leaf Tobacco Packers Exchange until 1978; Short's Sewing center has occupied the store since 1980. Successive tenants in 229 have been the Roberts and Bass Bowling Alley ca 1913, Horne's Cafe, Sasser's Beer Distributor, storage for Pete and Mike's Cafe, the Bright Leaf Supply Company, the Brightleaf Pet Shop and since the mid 1970s, Pike's News Service.

203
Wilson Dispensary Building
231-233 South Goldsboro Street
P

Sidney Albert Woodard (1865-1915), a prominent and wealthy Wilson businessman and a partner with his brother, Paul, in P. L. Woodard and Company at 102-110 East Barnes Street, had this two-story, two-storefront brick building erected ca 1905 as an alternative to the town's many saloons. The first recorded manager of the Wilson Dispensary was Joshua B. Farmer in 1908. Prominently located at the corner of South Goldsboro and South Streets in the heart of Wilson's historic tobacco warehouse district, the two-storefront northwest facade is defined by three pilasters which are rusticated on the second story. Both first story facades have seen only minor modifications. The first story at 231 has a central door with flanking display windows and the door to the second story in the northeast corner. The transom has been removed. The 231 first story has a corner pillar behind which is the cut away and angled entrance door with sidelights and transom. Its transom has also been removed. A molded metal cornice extends above both transoms. The second story has three boarded-up windows, (originally with a four-over-four sash), in each storefront. Each window has a stone sill and a brick voussoir lintel with stone keystone. Crowning the facade is a metal cornice with dentiled frieze. The South Street (southwest) first-story elevation has a display window at the South Goldsboro Street corner, and on the rest of the first story only a double freight door and a single entrance with transom. The second story has ten segmental windows, (all boarded up), with stone sills. The stepped parapet has a tile cap. The stuccoed rear elevation faces an alley and has two groups of three six-over-six sash windows; the first story is hidden by Sutton's Restaurant at 107 South Street. Both first story interiors have been completely modernized with replacement walls and lowered ceilings. The second story is reached by an unusually long and steep flight of stairs and consists of one large room with small rooms/offices along the South Street and rear elevations. The outer walls are stuccoed while the interior walls are covered with vertical tongue-and-groove boarding. The upstairs has not been occupied, except for storage, for many years.

The Wilson Dispensary only operated for several years and was closed by 1912. According to the Sanborn Insurance Maps and the city directories, it was vacant until ca 1922 when R. E. Quinn and Company occupied the building for approximately five years. In 1930, a movie theatre briefly occupied the building. The building's best known occupant was the "Pete and Mike Cafe" (Pete Lysimakos and Mike Yionoulis), which occupied the entire building from ca 1936 until 1952. The cafe was a fixture in the tobacco warehouse district, and it had begun in the late 1920s across the street at 228-230 South Goldsboro Street. Successive occupants in the 231 store since 1952 have been Nationwide Insurance, Short's Sewing Service. it is currently used as storage for Pike's News Agency at 129 South Goldsboro Street. Occupants at 233 have been Pike's and, currently, the Pin Cushion Custom Sewing.

Several painted signs survive on the building. Below the facade's cornice is a large sign that spans all six bays, "Woodard Company". Superimposed above this are smaller letters, "R. E. Quinn & Company". At the upper Goldsboro Street corner of the South Street elevation is a large, "Pete & Mike Cafe" sign. Superimposed over this is a much later (post 1952), "First Union Bank" sign, listing the three Wilson

branch officers. On the first story is a sign of which only "Camels and -ard" (obviously woodard) is legible.

204
Watson Centre Brick Warehouse #2
232 South Goldsboro Street
P

Built in frame in 1896, the Watson Warehouse (first) as it was then known, or the Cooper, Watson, and Gibbons Warehouse, as it is sometimes referred, was Wilson's fourth tobacco auction house. The principals were Ed Cooper, who came to Wilson from Granville County, Kinchen Watson (1850-1929), a native of Wilson County and a porminent tobacco planter, and Joyce N. Gibbons of Richmond County. Watson was one of the pioneer tobacco growers in Wilson and wrote and distributed articles known as "Watson's Tobacco Letters", about its culture. These articles were re-issued in booklet form as the Tobacco Almanac, published in 1897, and were widely distributed throughout Wilson, Pitt, Greene, and Lenior Counties. The original frame Watson Warehouse building was damaged by fire about 1900 and was rebuilt with brick walls that still stand. In 1905, the warehouse was purchased by Will P. Anderson (1869-1931) and Selby H. Anderson (1874-1962), the sons of T. McKenzie Anderson (1843-1909), one of the pioneers of the Wilson Tobacco Market. Selby Anderson was one of the leaders of the Wilson tobacco market until his death. The Anderson years at the Watson Warehouse (first) (the already-established name was kept) continued through the 1929 season and included several enlargements that more than quadrupled its original 100 x 160 foot size to its present size, 155 feet along South Goldsboro Street and extending 420 along South Kenan Street to South Tarboro Street. Other prominent Wilsonians associated with this warehouse during the Anderson years were William M. Carter (1865-1938); Elbert A. Darden (1864-1930), a co-founder of the Banner Warehouse in 1899; Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956), the co-founder of the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company; Hugh Bruckner Johnston, Sr.; and W. Boyd Clark (1890-1972), who later founded the Clark Tobacco Warehouses. In 1930, the Watson Warehouse was acquired by Centre Brick organization of Ula H. Cozart (1869-1948) and J. C. Eagles, Sr. (1871-1952). The Anderson group then moved across Goldsboro Street and took over management of the Woodard-Smith/Ferrell Warehouse (now known as the Watson Warehouse). Cozart was one of Wilson's warehouse pioneers and in 1893, erected the Centre Brick #1 as Wilson's second warehouse on the adjacent site at 220-228 South Goldsboro Street. The original Centre Brick burned to the ground on Augut 8, 1951. The Centre Brick #2 continues in the ownership and operation of the Cozart and Eagles grandsons, although they have not had active sales for years.

The warehouse building displays some of the best examples of the brickmason's art to be found in the warehouse district. Its main (southeast) five-bay stepped facade is punctuated by six pilasters and is composed of a series of dramatic arches of corbeled brick that surround rounded-headed, one-over-one sash windows and a single, large, arched wagon door. The upper stepped-gable facade contains two windows. It has lost part of its crowning circular design. Corbeled brick cornices, continuous sill sourses, and molded window surrounds further enliven the facade. After the 1951 fire at Centre Brick #1, a new, five-bay brick office was added on the northeast of Centre Brick #2. The Kenan Street (southwest) elevation of the original building is dominated by the massive brick piers/pilasters that carry the building over the sloping lot. Along this elevation is a covered loading platform with access to the interior provided by a serios of large, arched doors. The rear (South Tarboro Street) elevation has two treatments, one a four-bay, tall, single-story block dominated by five brick pilasters, and the other, a two-story, six-bay wide block at 229 South Tarboro Street with a raked and stepped cornice. The cavernous interior features lofty ceiling trusses and massive supporting wooden

posts. It has a cement floor. A raised, frame, observation office is along the second story of the South Goldsboro Street facade.

Of note in the Centre Brick office is Pocohontas, a wooden dime store Indian which was brought to Wilson ca 1900. She surveyed the heart of Wilson's tobacco auction market from the top of the nearby Liberty Warehouse at 210 East Barnes Street until the 1950s. It has been sheltered here since. A large, vacant lot at the west corner of South Tarboro and Kenan Streets, part of the Cozart-Eagles property, was the site of the substantial Carolina Steam Laundry, built in the 1900s and razed in the 1960s. This lot previously was occupied by the cottin gin of Frank Barnes, built in the mid 1890s.

205
Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse
302 South Goldsboro Street
P

This site, the location of Wilson's town cemetery until 1876 when Maplewood Cemetery was established and all the previous burials were moved there, is where Wilson's tobacco industry began. In 1890 the Wilson Warehouse Company, organized that year by Captain Franklin Washington Barnes (_____-1909), Mayor George D. Green (1847-1912), Cavin Barnes (_____-1899), Wiley W. Farmer, Alexander Green, L. F. Lucas, James Rountree, and Walter Farmer Woodard (1871-1923), all of whom were among the most prominent men in Wilson, purchased the old cemetery lot and erected Wilson's first tobacco warehouse, a 160-by-100 foot frame structure. And so, on this site on September 19, 1890, began what would grow to be the country's largest market of flue-cured tobacco. The Wilson Warehouse Company dissolved following the 1891 season and it was purchased by brothers Walter Farmer Woodard (1871-1923), James Edwin Woodard (1867-1915), and David Warren Woodard (1878-1922) who were prominent farmers with large tobacco acreages in Saratoga, Stantonsburg, and Wilson Townships. By 1893 the Woodard brothers had also purchased one of the two prize houses which had been built on this site ca 1890 (the Alexander Greene Prize House and the Wilson Tobacco Warehouse Company Prize House) and in 1894 or 1895 the Woodards undertook a renovation, replacing the wooden walls with brick ones and adding 7000 square feet of floor space at the rear (southwest). In 1896 Sidney M. Bobbitt of Oxford, North Carolina joined the firm and the name was changed to the Woodard and Bobbitt Warehouse; the name reverted back to Woodard in 1899 when Bobbitt left and joined the Centre Brick organization. After 1907 the warehouse went through several name and ownership changes--the Farmers Alliance Warehouse in 1912-1913; the Smith Warehouse Company from 1914-1920, owned by Samuel William (Bill) Smith (_____-1926) of Granville County, who enlarged it to 45,000 square feet; the Smith-Ferrell Warehouse in 1922; and the Ferrell's Warehouse from 1923-1930, with the principals James W. and Marshall Ferrell of Petersburg, Virginia, during which time it was enlarged to its present size, approximately 82,500 square feet. In 1930 the warehouse was purchased by the Anderson brothers' (Will P. and Selby H. Anderson) Watson Warehouse organization, which was located across South Goldsboro Street in the present Centre Brick #2 Warehouse. The Andersons then moved into the Woodard/Smith/Ferrell Warehouse and changed the logo to the Watson Warehouse name by which it goes today.

The oldest section of the warehouse is at the southern corner of the junction of South and South Goldsboro streets. The one-story South Street facade is seven-bays wide and has two rounded and stepped parapet gables with large WATSON WAREHOUSE signs painted on the upper facade. Two large, arched drive-through doors and a large square hooded door provide vehicular access to the interior. Three, double, four-over-four sash windows have segmental lintels. A fourth opening contains a door. The South Street-Goldsboro Street corner is clipped and has a gable over a

large square garage door. The long south Goldsboro Street elevation, stretching 550 feet from South Street to Jones Street, has a shed roof covering the raised loading platform for the first 150 feet from South Street. Then, because of the slope of the site, it becomes two stories in height for the remainder of the elevation. The upper floor is rhythmically punctuated by segmentally arched four-over-four sash windows and the street level is occupied by repetitive clusters of windows and doors to the offices and loading areas that were beneath the sales floor. As with all the warehouses, the dominant features of the roof are the hundreds of regularly spaced, raised rectangular skylights that pierce the standing seam gable roof. The Jones Street elevation (southwest) is two-stories in height and continues the rhythm of the second floor windows beneath two dominating stepped gables. It is on the South Goldsboro and Jones Street elevations that the patterning andcreated by the six-to-one common brickbond is most noticeable and pleasing. The first floor of the west corner (Goldsboro and Jones Streets) is presenlty occupied by a small manufacturing concern. The entire southeast elevation is a common party wall with the Planters Warehouse, with whom Watson shares this block. The spacious, high ceilinged interior is amply lighted by the skylights and features massive roof trusses suppported by a central single row of large, wood posts that extend the length of the building. Three recessed loading ramps provide access from the South Street drive-through entrances. Of note are surviving examples of local advertising that were painted on the truss beams in the eastern corner. These include: HERRING'S DRUG STORE FOR SEEDS; BUY YOUR DRUGS AT HERRING'S DRUG STORE OPPOSITE BRIGGS HOTEL; BEST DRUGS AT HERRING'S DRUG STORE; WOOTEN & STEVENS FURNITURE DEALER AND FUNERAL DIRECTORS; AND FAR SEEING PEOPLE VISIT FIRST THE CASH RACKET STORE NASH (illigible) ONE PRICE (illigible). City directories indicate that these signs date from ca 1900. The basement level, reached by a stairs along the South Goldsboro Street elevation, has five plastered rooms with additional closets and two baths. It is plainly finished with metal screens at the teller cages and has transoms over the doors. The Watson Warehouse has not had an active sales for several years, and like Centre Brick Warehouse #2, is used only during large crop years.

206
Farmer's Tobacco Warehouse
310 South Goldsboro Street
P

Erected in 1903 as a wide, single-span brick building fronting 200 feet along South Goldsboro and 100 feet along East Kenan Street in the heart of Wilson's warehouse district, the Farmers Warehouse was built for Paul Lee Woodard (1869-1915), a prominent attorney. The first managers were brothers, William P. Anderson (1869=19310, Selby H. Anderson (1874-1962), and William Martin Carter (1865-1938). TheAndersons and Carter were among the most active and prominent of the early Wilson tobacconists. However, the three men stayed here only for two seasons and then moved across Kenan Street into the management of the Watson Warehouse, now Centre Brick #2. They were replaced by brothers John Augustine Clark (1869-1909) and James Clerk, and W. E. Bass. The warehouse closed for several years after the death of John A. Clerk. In 1912-1913 it was leased to the Export Leaf Tobacco Company. It was reorganized by prominent Wilson tobaccomen and businessmen Joe F. Deans (1877-1947), W. R. Briggs, William C. Boyette, and John S. Leach (1877-1939) and a second 60 by 200 feet span was added about 1920 on the northwest of the original span. In the late 1920s the building was again enlarged by adding two more spans on the northwest. This brought the warehouse to its present size, measuring 200 feet along South Goldsboro Street, 240 feet along East Kenan Street, 215 feet along Mercer Street, and containing approximately 54,000 square feet of floor space.

By 1930, Deans and Leach owned all the interest in the warehouse and in 1935, S. Grady Deans, a leader in the Wilson market even today and the manager of the Smith Warehouses, joined his father. The Farmers Warehouse closed as an active sales structure in 1964 and has been used intermittently for storage since. When the Liggett-Myers Tobacco Company closed its adjacent redrying plant to the southeast in the mid 1960s, they moved their local offices to the Farmers Warehouse Office until they withdrew from the Wilson Market completely.

The only warehouse in Wilson to have double fronts on two streets, South Goldsboro (southeast) and East Kenan (northwest), the Farmers Warehouse, while typical of the other multiple span, brick warehouses, is distinguished by the series of buttressed stepped gables along each elevation. The main, South Goldsboro Street (southeast) facade, is divided by stone-capped pilasters into twelve bays. The central, five-bay, section is marked by a stone-capped stepped parapet and is compossed of three central bays with closed windows flanked by drive-through entrances. The entrances contain large, paneled, overhead doors, brick soldier course lintels, and are flanked by a pair of handsome, classically-styled, cast iron lamps. A similar entrance is at the northeast bay, adjacent to East Kenan Street. The window openings, all bricked in, have brick soldier course lintels and stone sills. A handsome frieze of corbeled and vertically-laid header course brick extends across the facade above the entrance and ties together the entire facade. Completing the detail of this elevation are stone diamond shaped insets above each of the three entrances and a large, painted sign, Farmers Warehouse, on the central stepped parapet. The East Kenan Street (northeast) elevation is comprised of the four, stepped parapet ends of the four roof spans. The southeast bay, adjacent to South Goldsboro Street, has a drive-through entrance and bricked-in segmental arched windows. The original (southeast) span is two stories in height and features a painted sign, Farmers Warehouse, at the top and a broad painted band with two tobacco leaf motifs between the first and second story windows. The northwest span, adjacent to Mercer Street, is smaller and shorter than the other spans. The southwest elevation has the same, four span parapet arrangement as the northeast (East Kenan Street) elevation, except here the southeast three parapets are raked, not stepped. Only the northwest parapet, adjacent to Mercer Street, is stepped. Because of the rhomboid shape of the Mercer Street end of the building, this parapet is much wider and taller than the corresponding parapet at the East Kenan Street (northeast) end of this span. The southwest elevation also contains an asymmetrical arrangement of wide, arched loading doors and bricked in windows. The Mercer Street (northwest) elevation is punctuated by pilasters/buttresses but has no parapets. It has three, wide, arched entrances on the northeast. The rest of the elevation is partially recessed into the ground due to a slight rise in the land from northeast to southwest. Because of this rise and the unequal rhomboid plan of the northwest span, the gable roof of that span has a slight, belcast indention in the roof. This makes the display of the roof's 316 skylights even more dramatic. The cavernous interior features large overhead trusses which are carried by massive wooden piers. The two-story brick office is in the east corner of the building, the second story frame observation office is in the oldest section along East Kenan Street. Of note are the painted signs for the water fountains that survive from segregation--one is labeled White, the other, Colored.

207
Smith Warehouses A, B and C
410 South Goldsboro Street
P

The Smith Warehouses, the youngest of the tobacco warehouses in the historic tobacco warehouse district, are massive brick structures, prominently located on South Goldsboro Street. Smith Warehouse A, a 210 foot by 320 foot brick structure, was built in 1927 at the corner of South Goldsboro and East Jones Street by Jones Brothers of Wilson for Herbert Harriss (1879-1947), a wealthy Wilson businessman. Harriss engaged brothers Ben (1887-1944) and RIchard T. Smith (1893-1953), prominnet Wilson tobaccomen, to manage the warehouse. The warehouse carries the Smith name. It was expanded by the construction of a 200 foot by 320 foot brick structure, Smith Warehouse B, to the southwest in 1928 by Wilkins and Wilkins of Wilson. The two buildings thus occupied the entire block bounded by South Goldsboro, East Jones, Mercer and Hines Streets. In 1932 R. T. Smith left to assist in the re-organization of the Planter's Warehouse (#211) which he had helped organize in 1920. Harriss's son, Herbert H. Harriss, Jr., joined the firm ca 1933. In 1947 Smith's Warehouse C, the last warehouse to be built in the tobacco warehouse historic district, was built on a site across Mercer Street from A and B. A prefabricated Butler Company warehouse, this 190 foot by 280 foot metal building was put up by the R. N. Rouse Construction Company of Goldsboro. The Harriss family continued ownership of the warehouses until 1965 when they were sold to S. Grady Deans, a prominent Wilson tobaccoman. The Smith Warehouses are the only warehouses in the historic district which have contained yearly sales of tobacco to the present.

Said to have been designed by Wilson architect Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), the pleasing rhythm of the design of Smith's A and B and the patterned brickwork on the 410 foot side Goldsboro Street facade is outstanding for such a massive building. Each facade has multi-stepped, stone-capped parapet gables and is divided into twenty-four bays by stone-capped brick pilasters that rise to the parapet. The five large drive-in entrances have notable brick overhead arches whose transoms are filled with brickwork in a basketweave motif. Elaborate cast metal lamps flank each of these doors. The metal, sixteen pane windows are paired in eah bay and have tilt-out center sections. The three southwest bays adjacent to Hines Street were built as commercial property and have housed a variety of groceries and cafes since their erection in 1928. Only the lower facade of the store adjacent to Hines Street remains intact, having a recessed central entrance and a multi-pane transom with a soldier course lintel. The other fronts were remodeled during the 1960s. The side elevations, Jones Street on the northeast and Hines Street on the southwest, are occupied by loading bays with sliding double doors and are dominated by the hundreds of skylights that punctuate the eight gable roof spans. The rear elevation on Mercer Street has stepped parapet gables but without the stone details, pilasters or patterned brickwork that distinguishes the South Goldsboro Street facade.

The contiguous, cavernous interiors of both warehouses features the regular placement of large wood pillars that carry the roof trusses. The roof of Smith A is composed of four, wide spans covered with four-faceted, gambrel-type roofs. The four spans of Smith B are covered by gable roofs. Each of these eight spans is pierced by over one hundred, regularly spaced rectangular skylights which provide the interior's only illumination. Ceiling fans assist in ventilating the huge interior, which contains over 120,000 square feet of selling space. Twin offices at the front center of the building are of frame construction with replacement doors and numerous six-over-six sash windows. The office of Smith A is the only intact one, and retains its long, bookkeeping and payment counter. The sales floor of the warehouse is marked by painted stripes which divide the floor into orderly placement of the tobacco in preparation for the auction.

Smith Warehouse C is a five-span, gable-roofed, one-story building that is sided with corrogated sheet metal. According to Herbert Harriss, Jr., the son of the first owner, Smith C was a prefabricated Butler Building, purchased in sections, shipped here and erected on this site across Mercer Street to then orthwest of Smith A and B. It has four entrance doors on the Mercer Street (southeast) and Tarboro Street (northwest) elevations and eight, back-in loading doors along the Hines Street (southwest) elevation. Its interior also features many metal piers that support the roof and several hundred skylights.

208
R. H. Sutton's Restaurant
207 South Street
F

Built in ca 1922 in the heart of Wilson's tobacco warehouse district, this narrow, three bay-by-seven bay building was one of several restaurants erected in the tobacco market district during the 1910s and 1920s to feed the workers and farmers who came to Wilson's expanding tobacco market. Operated by Arthus Lewis until 1926 and then by R. H. Sutton, the restaurant continued for many years and closed in the 1950s. The building has a simple stepped parapet gable and boarded-up windows. These windows occupy the entire southeast elevation along an alley. It was built as rental property by heirs of S. A. Woodard (1865-1915) whi owned much land in this area and who had the adjacent Wilson Dispensary erected ca 1905 at 231-233 South Goldsboro Street.

209
Sutton's/Braswell's Cafes
209-211 South Street
F

This one-story building was erected ca 1920 to provide space for two restaurants by heirs of S. A. Woodard (1865-1915) for M. C. Braswell (in 209) and M. W. Sutton (in 211); Sutton was a brother to R. H. Sutton who operated a restaurant at 207 South Street. The two buildings were unified into the present, twin-storefront building in the 1930s; the central door with tall transom occupies the original four foot wide space between the buildings. Only the 209 lower facade is intact with brick soldier course intels over the cental door and the large flanking windows. the lower facade of number 211 was altered by the addition of a large overhead garage door. Each upper facade has a simple, brick panel edged with a raised header course and a tile-capped, stepped parapet. Skylights and raised ventilators are on the roof. The northwest elevation (facing an alley) has nine, large window openings now all boarded up. Succeeding Braswell in the 209 building were, consecutively, Godwin's cafe, Little's Bar-B-Q, and storage for Blackwell Peanut Company; the building has been vacant since the late 1960s. Sutton occupied the 211 building until ca 1950 after which it was vacant for many years. It is now used as storage for Pike's News Services.

210
(former) Walston Livery Stable
213 South Street
F

Built in 1934 as a livery stable for Hyman H. Walston, Jr., (1887-1969), this brick building was one of the last liveries built in Wilson as the automobile and truck replaced the horse and mule in hauling farming. Walston had previously operated alivery with E. L. Hawkins at 212 South Goldsboro Street. The tall, one-story building has a prominent tile-capped, stepped parapet gable with a tall,

second-story clerestory. The asysmmetrical first story has a large overhead garage door, a single entrance door, and two fixed pane metal windows with tile out center sections. The upper facade has two central twelve-pane metal windows with tilt out center sections. There is no decorative brickwork and only a pair of metal downspouts mark the four-bay facade. By 1950 the livery was out of business and was replaced by the Bridgers Electrical Service. The building has been occupied by LuJak's Automobile Repairs since ca 1960.

211
Planters Warehouse
216 South Street
P

Sharing half of a city block with the Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse, the first section (the northeast half) of the Planters Warehouse was built in 1920 and was the second tobacco warehouse in Wilson with the name "Planters". The first Planters Warehouse was built in 1891 at the corner of West Barnes and South Pine streets. It closed prior to the 1899 season and was destroyed by fire in the late 1920s. The second Planter's Warehouse was organized by brothers Samuel William (Bill) Smith (1874-1926), Ben Thorp Smith (1887-1944), and Richard T. Smith (1893-1953), all prominent men in Wilson's tobacco history. Also associated with its founding were three prominent county tobacco farmers, E. B. Capps of Lucama, and J. B. Cox and M. M. Wells of Elm City. The site was the location of the former prize house of the American Tobacco Company, ca 1893. In 1928 B. T. and R. T. Smith left to join Herbert Harriss in the organization of the Smith Warehouses. By 1930 the Planters had expanded by almost 28,500 square feet, but did not reach its present size until the addition of over 9,000 square feet of sales space on the southwest in 1938. The Planter's Warehouse failed in 1931 due to low prices and did not re-open in 1932. In 1933 R. T. Smith returned to the Planters and with William G. Carr, Jr. and Bryan W. Carr, purchased the warehouse, renaming it the New Planters Warehouse. The name was again modified to New Planters Warehouse #1 in 1940 with the group's construction of a larger warehouse outside the central warehouse district. The New Planters #1 was a favorite place (because of reflooring in the mid 1930s) for dances with big name bands that often attracted two to three thousan dancers; it was also the site of the Tobacco Festival Grand Balls in the late 1930s. With the purchase of both New Planters Warehouses after the 1968 season by S. Grady Deans and George Wainwright, over fifty successive years of ownership of tobacco auction warehouse property in Wilson by descendants of Samuel W. Smith was brought to an end. Along with the Smith Warehouses A, B and C, the Planters was the only tobacco warehouse in the central warehouse district to have operated during the 1983 season.

The large, 115 feet wide-by-515 feet deep, brick building is sheltered under two adjacent gable spans which contain 576 rectangular sky lights. The building sits on a partial basement that was originally used for stables and later, at the southwest corner, by various commercial enterprises (the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company in the 1930s and later a wholesale florist). Lacking the decorative brickwork that is found on the other nearby warehouses, the eight-bay, South Street (northeast) facade has twin stepped and raked parapet gables. It has one large, arched truck entrance at the northwest anda square entrance with an overhead door on the extreme northwest. The facade has wide, segmentally arched windows on the first story and narrow windows, three per gable, in the upper facade; all have been closed. The South Street-South Douglas Street corner is angled. Its large entrance, also closed, is flanked by cast iron lamp brackets. The long, Sough Douglas Street (southeast) elevation is thirty bays wide, with each bay being defined by plain brick pilasters. The four northeast bays contain segmental windows. The next

eleven bays contain alternating segmental windows and double loading doors, all sheltered by a covered loading ramp that was added in 1938. The southwest fifteen bays continue with closed, arched windows on the second story (the southwest three bays have flat-topped fifteen-pane windows). The lower level contains a series of arched and overhead garage doors providing access to the basement storage and commercial areas. The Jones Street (southwest) elevaton is two stories in height and contains an asymmetrical arrangement of bays. The four southeast first story bays contain display windows with transoms while the five northwest bays contain two garage doors and three pairs of fifteen-pane windows. The second story also contains an irregular arrangement of windows and loading bays. Twin stepped parapets crown this elevation. The interior is one vast space and has a single row of large wood posts spanning the length of the building and supporting the junction of the twin gable roofs. Wooden floors, painted to indicate the placement of tobacco piles for auction, numerous roof trusses, and brick walls complete the interior. The basement stable area is closed off, but has a packed dirt floor. The former commercial areas in the southwest basement are completly closed and unavailable for inspection.

212
Abbitt Rental Building
217-219 South Street
C

Prominent Wilson businessman, H. W. Abbitt (1881-1957) had this plainly finished, two-story, six bay wide, brick, commercial building erected about 1928 for rental purposes at the rear of H. W. Abbitt Motor Company Building which he had had erected ca 1922 at 221 South Douglas Street. The new building was built along the same lines as the Abbitt Motor Company Building, with two large windows with multi-pane transoms on the first story. Unfortunately, these windows have been greatly altered by the addition of garage doors, but much of the original transoms, which have soldier course lintels, do survive. The second story contains six, sixteen-pane metal windows with tilt-out sections, cast concrete sills and soldier course lintels. These windows are identical to those on the adjacent Abbitt Motor Company Building; together the two buildings display an uninterrupted row of twelve, second-story windows. Above the windows a double band of corbeled bricks further unites the two buildings. The Abbitt Rental Building has a soldier course-edged panel in the upper facade and a tile-capped stepped parapet crowns the building. The first story interior has one large space with a handsome pressed metal ceiilng that is intact, but deteriorated. The second story is reached by replacement stairs and also has one large room. The room is unceiled and has numerous skylights. Problems with the leaking roof are evident. The first occupant of the building was G. T. Fulghum and Company, roofing and sheet metal contractors, which moved to 108 West Barnes Street by 1936. Successive occupants after Fulghum were Boykin and Kimbrough, auto body repairs and since ca 1960, the Wilson Auto Sales Paint and Body Shop has occupied the building. The second story has been vacant since the 1940s. (This building was destroyed by fire on March 21, 1984).

213
(former) R. E. Deans Annex
Commercial Building
109 North Douglas Street
F

Erected in the 1950s as an annex for the R. E. Deans Plumbing (later gas) Company, this plain brick storefront with its large glass windows stands adjacent to the three-story commercial building at 105-107 North Douglas Street. It now is occupied by City of Wilson offices.

214
Gilmer's Department Store Annex
105-107 North Douglas Street
C

This handsome, Neo-Classical Revival style, three-story, brick building was erected ca 1921 by the Hackney Wagon Company as an annex for the Gilmer's Department Store to the southwest at 227-231 East Nash Street. The store on East Nash Street was also in a Hackney Building and was separated from this annex by a fifteen foot wide alley. Both buildings were sold by the Hackneys to Gilmer's, Inc. (head offices in Winston-Salem) in 1922. The Gilmer's Department Store Annex has a symmetrical nine bay wide facade that is veneered with blond brick; the other elevations are red brick. The three storefronts (105 is double, 107 is single) are defined by limestone-veneered pilasters and have modern replacement storefronts. A molded stone cornice rests above a stone veneer frieze that extends across the three altered transoms. This cornice serves as a continuous sill for the second story windows. The end pilasters rise as quoins to enframe the second and third stories which contain a symmetrical grouping of double, one-over-one sash windows in each store. The second-story windows have stone keystone and eyebrow lintels and the third-story windows have flat stone lintels with bracketed stone sills. An elegant incised stone balustrade with stone plinths crowns the facade. The southwest elevation (facing an alley) contains an irregular arrangement of double entrance doors and one-over-one sash windows with stone sills and lintels. Two covered walkways originally spanned this alley on the second and third stories and connected this annex to the main Gilmer's Department Store to the southwest; these walkways were removed ca 1950. The northeast elevation is blind and has the one-story (former) R. E. Deans Annex at 109 North Douglas Street occupying the first story. The rear elevation is also blind and has a metal shed awning on the first story. The interior of the double store at number 105 retains a handsome pressed metal ceiling with foliate details, egg-and-dart molding and a foliate cornice. The interior of the 109 store has been completely modernized with a lowered ceiilng and replacement walls. the upper stories are reached by a stair and a freight elevator in the rear north corner of the 105 store. The second story contains one space that spans all three stores and has the same pressed metal ceiling as the first story of number 105. The third story, also one space, has always been used for storage and has unfinished brick walls. Gilmer's Department Store operated a bakery in the 107 store for just several years in the early 1920s and vacated both stores in the early 1930s. Gilmer's then sold both the East Nash Street store and this annex to Efird's Department Stores. Efird's occupied the store on East Nash Street until 1956 and only occupied the Gilmer Annex Building for several eyrs, if at all, and later used it as rental property. In 1936, the 105 store was occupied by the Rockwell Casket Company, William T. Hearnes, branch manager. The 105 store was vacant during the mid and late 1940s. In 1949, the entire building was purchased from the Efird-Davis Company by W. W. Woodard. The C. Woodard Company, office supplies, occupied the 105 store from 1951 until 1974 and were succeeded by Benton Office Supply Company, the current occupant. Succeeding the Gilmer's Bakery in the 107 store was additional sales space for Gilmer's and later Efird's. By 1935, the store was occupied by R. E. Deans, a plumbing and heating contractor. Deans stayed here until 1951 when he built and moved into the R. E. Deans Building adjacent to the northeast at 109 North Douglas Street. He was followed, successively, in number 107 by R. E. Townsend Real Estate, W. W. Woodard Insurance, Credit Bureau of Wilson, National Finance Company, and presently, the Living Waters Pentecostal Holiness Church.

215
Thomas-Yelverton/Hackney Building
104-106-108 North Douglas Street
C

According to Mrs. Shellie E. Bailey, the secretary-bookkeeper of the Thomas-Yelverton Company for over forty years, these two, adjacent, nearly identical commercial buildings were built by Willis D. Hackney (1858-1937), the president of the Hackney Wagon Company, Inc., as rental property in 1920-1922. Both buildings appear on the 1922 Sanborn Map. The building at 104 North Douglas was quickly built in 1920 for the Thomas-Yelverton Company, furniture dealers and funeral directors. The Thomas-Yelverton Company was begun in 1920 by Jesse W. Thomas, H. Paul Yelverton and Vivian C. Martin. Both Thomas and Martin had worked previously for the furniture and funeral business of Quinn-McGowan Furniture Company at 227-231 East Nash Street (in another Hackney building). In 1920 Quinn-McGowan sold their business to Gilmer's Department Store and Thomas, Yelverton, and Martin soon thereafter organized their furniture-funeral business and moved into this building at 104 North Douglas Street. Thomas-Yelverton did not incorporate until May 19, 1922. They purchased their store at 104 North Douglas Street from the Hackneys in 1936 and continue to occupy these premises. The Thomas-Yelverton Company was and remains a prominent furniture store and one of Wilson's earliest and largest funeral directors. In 1932, the funeral business moved out of these premises into an adjacent dwelling on East Nash Street. The Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home continues in an adjacent 1961 building (#49) at 325 East Nash Street. Mrs. Bailey further states that the two-story, two-storefront building at 106-108 North Douglas Street was erected by Hackney as rental property immediately after the completion of the 104 store. Its first occupants were Motor Service Company, T. C. Tilghman, manager, in the 106 store and Motor Sales Company, Hudson and Essex Motor Cars, Edwin D. Barnes, owner, in the 108 store.

The two nearly identical buildings, number 104 and number 106-108, form a handsome commercial block that is representative of the rental structures that were being erected in the 1910s and 1920s by Wilson's prospering businessmen. The major distinction between the two buildings is the color of the facade brick--104 is faced with dark red brick while 106-108 is faced with blond brick. The three storefronts are flanked by brick pilasters with stone capital and stone plinths; the pilasters at 106-108 are rusticated with contrasting brick. Above the large, multi-pane transoms are a brick, soldier course lintel. Only the 104 Thomas-Yelverton storefront hs been altered with replacement material and the covering of the transom, although it does retain a recessed central entrance. The 106 storefront is divided by a pilaster into a small, recessed entrance and a flanking display window. The 108 storefront is intact and boasts an elegant pressed metal canopy, supported by large scrolls, over the central double door (not recessed). The large, flanking display windows have marble bases. The second story of the combined building consists of nine window groups, three per storefront, of bungalow style ten-over-two sash windows with multi-pane transoms and brick lintels with stone keystones. All the window groups are double except for the outer bays of the 106-108 building, which are triple. A molded limestone sill extends across the entire facade uniting the window. The upper facade has a modest dentiled stone cornice and a handsome, brick balustrade wall with a brick soldier course and which is punctuated by stone plinths decorated with the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew. The southwest elevation has only a door at the rear, a stair descending to a small basement under the rear of the 104 store on the rear first story and two two-over-two sash windows on the rear second story. The northeast elevation contains a small display window at the front, a segmentally arched single entrance and a double garage door towards the rear; the second story is blind. The rear

elevation of the 104 store has a variety of windows and a double door on the first story and six, two-over-two sash windows on the second story. The 106-108 building, slightly taller than the 104 building, has a central loading door at each storefront which is flanked by two, four-over-four sash windows. Five similar windows are on the second story of each storefront. The windows on number 106 are slightly more elongated than those on number 108. The interiors of all three stores consist of one large space per floor, with offices and the former embalming room at the rear of number 104. The modest, original pressed metal ceilings remain throughout the building and have an egg-and-dart molded grid motif and cornices of foliate motifs and egg-and-dart molding. The second story of number 104 is used for additional furniture display and the second stories of numbers 106-108 for tire storage. Succeeding Motor Sales Company in the 106 store was Auten-Martin Company, (Vivian C. Martin, H. Paul Yelverton and Frank J. Auten), dealers of refrigerators. Motor Sales Company remained in number 108 until 1941 when both the 106 and 108 stores were occupied by Williford Brothers Motor Company (Clarence T. and Robert L. Williford), dealers of Plymouth, Packard, and Cadillac cars and GMC trucks. In the mid-1950s, the building was occupied by the Hackney Tire Company (B. F. Goodrich tires), managed by Willis N. Hackney, a son of the building's first owner. Since 1975 both 106 and 108 have been occupied by the B. F. Goodrich Tire Center. The building has three large advertisements painted on its exterior: BETTER FURNITURE, THOMAS-YELVERTON CO., MODERN EQUIPPED FUNERAL DIRECTORS, J. W. THOMAS, MANAGER, on the southwest (right) elevation; HACKNEY TIRE COMPANY, GOODRIGH TIRES-BATTERIES on the northeast (left) elevation; and a faded MOTOR SALES CO., HUDSON-ESSEX sign at the rear of 108 painted between 1921 and ca 1936.

216
Koster Supply Company Building
107-113 South Douglas Street
C

Referred to in the 1928 Hill's City Directory as the Wilson Trust Building, this handsome Colonial Revival brick building is more recently known as the Koster Supply Company Building for the barber/beauty supply business that has occupied at least a part of the building since 1920. Built ca 1925, the classically detailed facade contains three, first story stores, each with a multi-pane transom of patterned glass, and a handsomely designed entry to the second floor. The second story contains asymmetrical triple windows which correspond in width to the first story windows. These second story windows also have multi-pane transoms. Stone details accent the entire building: on the voissoir surround of the entry to the second floor, as sills, keystones and end voissoirs on the second story windows, and as diamond insets in the upper facade. An applied modillioned and dentiled metal cornice extends across the top of the facade; a stone-capped parapet crowns the building. Only the entrance at the 107 store has been replaced; the other two are intact. The three interior first story spaces have been modified somewhat but all retain their modest pressed metal ceiling. The second story is divided into seven rooms of varying sizes and for a while in the 1920s was used by henry C. Koster, the company's founder, as his apartment. The rear elevation has six, alternating double and single one-over-one sash windows on the second floor. A cement block warehouse was added on the rear in the late 1940s. A variety of businesses have been located here, the most significant being the Wilson Trust Company upstairs during the late 1920s, Wilkins and Constractors, also upstairs, ca 1936, and the C. C. Powell Insurance Agency and Realty in 111 from ca 1941 until the 1960s. Koster began his business ca 1928 in the 107 store and did not occupy the entire building until the 1970s.

217
John R. Raines Office
115 South Douglas Street
F

John R. Raines (1878-1955), the retired manager of the Raines Motor Company at 117-119 South Douglas Street, ahd this simple, unadorned, one-bay, brick building erected as his personal office about 1950. When the Briggs Hotel (204 East Nash Street) was razed in 1955, Walter Hines moved his barbershop here where it continued until the late 1970s. The barber mirrors and cabinets still remain inside, although it is currently occupied by a piano repair shop.

218
Raines Motor Company Building
117-119 South Douglas Street
F

The Raines Motor Company Building, a one-story structure containing two interconnected storefronts, was built between 1922 and 1930 according to the Sanborn Maps. The 1928 Hill's Wilson City Directory indicates that the firm was in business by 1928 at this address. John R. Raines (1878-1955) was the secretary-treasurer-manager. The company carried the Dodge and Plymouth lines. The storefront at 117, twice as wide as the 119 storefront, suffered major facade alterations in the 1950s, while the 119 facade is relatively unchanged. Both storefronts are flanked by pilasters that display blond brick pilaster stripes and rest on stone plinths. The 119 storefront retains its recessed central entrance, its tile entry, its multi-pane transom with a brick soldier course lintel, and an unusual corbeled brick cornice that has the appearance of a pent roof. The 119 facade has a modern, replacement storefront but does retain its multi-pane transom above the display window on the northeast side elevation (facing an alley). The upper facade of both buildings have an unfortunate raised, infill section of a lighter, red-colored brick that was added during the alteration of the 117 facade in the 1950s. The modest pressed metal ceilings of both interiors are intact and have simple, molded cornices. The Raines Motor Company vacated the building in the mid 1940s and was followed by Wilson Auto Sales in the 117 store and a billiard Parlor and later the Elliott Beauty Parlor in the 119 store. Both stores have been occupied by Refrigeration and Appliances, Inc. since the 1960s.

219
Williams Building
121-127 South Douglas Street
C

Erected ca 1928 by D. C. Williams as rental property, this two-story, seven bay wide, brick building relies upon continuous stone sills beneath the paired one-over-one sash windows and a plain stone cornice band to relieve its boxy appearance. The building's distinguishing characteristic is the excellent, multi-pane transoms of molded glass over the three, first story storefronts and the door to the second floor. Both the 121 and 125 storefronts have carrara glass bases. Good, but not ornate, pressed metal ceilings remain in the interior of the stores. A number of businesses have been located here, including Womble Vending Machine Company and Carney's Furniture Store in the 1930s; Daniel Roofing Supply in the 1940s and 1950s; Motor Parts and East Carolina News Service in the 1940s, Carolina Photo Service in the 1950s; and Safeway Finance Corporation in the 1960s. The second story has always been occupied by apartments and contains six rooms arranged off a transverse hall that is reached by stairs from the central door. Except for a second-hand store at 127, the building has been vacant for a number of years.

220
Central Service Station
126 South Douglas Street
F

This modestly styled Mission Revival Style filling station was erected in the early 1930s as rental property by Edward G. Farmer, the manager of the Carolina General Hospital. The stuccoed building has a variety of picturesque asymmetrical sections that focus on the office at the southwest. It features a raked parapet on the facade, a tall chimney and crenelated parapet on the southwest elevation, and round arched windows. Canopies covered with clay tile shelter the doors. The two service bays at the northeast have tall, round-arched entrances, a shallow dentiled frieze and a tile roof. Another two-bay service area occupies the middle of the station. The Central Service Station (managers George L. Morgan and Robert Leach) operated here until the early 1940s, and was succeeded, successively, by Williford Brothers Auto Incorporated (Chryslers, Plymouths, Packards, Cadillacs, and GMC Trucks), Lewis Brothers Tire Company, Royal Tire Company and Sullivan Dean Tire Company. In 1966, the building was imaginatively reused to house R. R. Townsend and Company, insurance and real estate, and the D & C Electrical Construction Company. However, the building was unfortunately altered during the transition, including the addition of new fronts to the central service bays and interior changes. The filling station ws built on the site of the four-story Carolina/Southland/Brookland Hotel, built in the late 1910s and burned in the mid 1920s. Its builders were brothers M. C. and W. G. Whitley; Edward G. Farmer married a daughter of W. G. Whitley.

221
Peacock-Morgan Tire Company Building
131 South Douglas Street
C

This stuccoed, two-story, four-bay commercial building was built in 1929 for the Peacock-Morgan Tire Company (James W. Peacock and George L. Morgan, Jr., owners). The only originally stuccoed building in downtown Wilson, the modest raised brickwork on the northwest facade is even more prominent, although an unfortunate overall gray coat of paint tends to lessen the brickwork's contrast. The first story has a central entrance recessed behind a piller. Flanking the entrance are display windows with transoms and, in the western bay, an original sliding, multi-pane garage door. A simple raised brick drip border enframes the first story. Similar drip molds surround the four, double, twelve-over-one sash windows on the second story. The upper facade has a central brick panel and the stepped parapet is capped by a soldier brick course. The first story interior has a modest pressed metal ceiling with an elaborate fleur-de-lis frieze. The second story is finished similarly. The Peacock-Morgan Tire Company occupied these premises until the late 1940s. After being vacant for several years, it has been occupied since 1955 by Carolina Photo Finishers.

222
(former) Forbes Guld Service Station
133 South Douglas Street
F

This one-story, stuccoed brick, former gas station was built in 1930 for Arthur Ruffin, the local Gulf dealer, and was first managed by Vance T. Forbes. It is plainly detailed with crisp, incised bands in the cornice and shallow flutes in the large pilasters that define the three bay-by-two bay structure, and has an almost

Art Deco feeilng in its fluid, crisp appearance. Unfortunately, all of the bays have been closed and only one section of transom survives. An unfortunate all-over dark brown paint masks what should be a sturdy, yet light, appearance. Forbes continued to manage the station until the 1940s, when it was taken over by William B. Morris and known as Morris's Gulf Station until the mid 1960s. Since then it has been used as storage for the nearby Barnes Motors and Parts Supply Company at 313-315 East Barnes Street.

223
Norfolk and Southern Railroad Freight House
205 South Douglas Street
C

The first freight house of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad, a smaller structure than this, was erected here ca 1907 soon after the railroad had completed its line through Wilson. (The passenger station, now completely altered, stands immediately to the northeast facing East Barnes Street.) The freight house was enlarged several times and by 1922 has reached its present 240 foot length and was covered with corrogated metal, as it remains today. The building is sheltered beneath a gable roof and has eight bays along both of its long elevations, each bay having a pair of sliding doors built of diagonally placed boards. The railroad ceased its Wilson operations in the late 1940s. The freight house has been used since for storage.

224
~~C.~~ Woodard Wholesale Grocery Buildilng
210-222 South Douglas Street
C

This large, two-story brick building was erected ca 1918 for C. Woodard and Company, Wholesale Grocers, and it features a handsome display of decorative brickwork. The firm had incorporated in 1908 with Calvin Woodard, his wife, Suddie E. Woodard, and John E. Woodard being the principals. Their first place of business was in the Boykin Building at 201-209 South Goldsboro Street, where they remained until this building was built. A cornerstone in the southeast (front) corner of the northeast side elevation indicates that Henry T. Crittenden, an architect who practiced in Wilson during the late 1910s, was the architect. Rusticated brick pilasters divide the fifteen-bay southeast facade into five sections. Three of the four sections contain large, three-part display windows; all have been changed, including the covering of the transoms. The second section from the northeast contains a recessed entrance flanked by display windows. The double entrance doors are reached by a short flight of steps. Brick soldier course lintels with corbeled header courses span each of the first story sections. Each second story section cntains three one-over-one sash windows with rock-faced limestone sills and lintels. The upper facade has a decorative band of interlocking brick soldier courses bordered by corbeled header courses; this band extends the length of the building and is supported by the rusticated pilasters. A stepped parapet with stone cap and a brick soldier course crowns the facade. The northeast elevation has two double delivery doors and two one-over-one sash windows; there are no windows on the second story. A "Wilson Motor Parts" sign is painted below the stepped parapet. The rear elevation has only three small, square, four-pane windows. The interior of the office (the section behind the entrance) is simply finished with plastered walls and a tongue-and-groove board ceiling. Access to the rest of the building was not permitted. The Woodard Company stayed here until the early 1930s when they moved to 311 East Barnes Street. The building was then occupied for several years as storage for the Lovelace-Green Motor Company. Since ca 1940, it had been occupied by Wilson Motor Parts.

225
(former) H. W. Abbitt Auto Company Building
221 South Douglas Street
C

Built ca 1922 to house the auto dealership of Harry W. Abbitt (1881-1957), this two-story, eleven-bay-by-seven-bay, brick building stnds at the corner of South Douglas and South Streets. Henry W. Abbitt, a native of Virginia, came to Wilson in 1915 and opened Wilson's first Ford Dealership on East Barnes Street. The company remained at that location until this building was completed.

The lower facade has three, boarded-up former show windows with multi-pane transoms of grooved and swirled glass on the southwest, a central door with transom and four boarded-up windows and another door with transom on the northeast. The second story facade has eleven, twenty-pane metal windows with tilt-out central sections. The upper facade is crowned by a stone-capped stepped parapet and a continuous band of corbeled bricks and brick panels framed by soldier courses enliven the otherwise plain upper facade. The South Street (southwest) elevation has two display windows/garage doors flanking a central door--all with transoms--and six second-story windows, identical to those on the first, that flank a large, central window of double twelve-pane windows. Unfortunately, all of the transom glass on both elevations has been painted. The spacous interior is plastered and is divided into two, equal-sized rooms and retains its handsome pressed metal with egg-and-dart molding and cornice on the first floor. A staircase (now enclosed) at the central rear of the building leads to the large, single room on the second story. The walls here are of exposed brick. A large, centrally placed elevator brought autos to the second floor for repair and storage.

The Abbitt Motor Company remained here until ca 1941, when it was replaced, successively by the Corbett Motor Company, which used the building for storage, by the Rackley Motor Company and finally during the 1960s by Wilson Auto Sales, Inc. The first story is now occupied by a night club and the second story is vacant. (The building was destroyed by fire on March 21, 1984.)

226
Boykin and Anderson Oil Company
312 East Green Street
C

Built in 1922 as a Standard Oil filling station for Robert S. Boykin and Jesse S. Anderson, this wonderful bungalow-like filling station resembles many of the houses of that period when the Bungalow style was so popular in Wilson. The engaged overhang of the gable roof that shelters the gas pumps is (now) supported by slender posts. This rather top-heavy appearance is relieved somewhat by the bold treatment of the central dormer and the curved eaves brackets. There are modest stick style braces in the stuccoed gables. Built of stuccoed masonry, the five-bay facade is composed of a central door and flanking casement windows, each with a multi-pane transom. A two-bay, cement block garage is at the west corner of the lot. Walter Alton Batts (1907-1967) purchased the station in 1942 and continued its operation unthil his death in 1967. It is presently managed as an independent station by the Turner Oil Company of Wilson, Inc.

227
Bus Station and Taxi Stand
307 East Green Street
C

Built in 1938 for Miley Glover by Jones Brothers, the Bus Station is one of the few Art Deco style buildings in Wilson. In that same year Jones Brothers also erected the Art Deco style Municipal Building (#178) at 112 North Goldsboro Street. Rounded corners and horizontal banding give this building a streamlined, modern appearance. The two-story, stuccoed building rests on a slightly flared brick base and features a handsome, off-center projecting bay with lattice windows on the front facade. The main entrance, located in the center of the facade, is marked by a heavily molded Art Deco surround with cevron devices. The first story window is large and contains two casements. The asymmetrical southeast elevation has a single door that provides direct access from the interior waiting lobby to the buses. The second story contains two-over-two sash windows, tied together with a continuous stuccoed sill band that curves around the front and side elevations. Above the second story windows is a wide molded band that also extends around three sides. The side elevations continue the treatment of the facade. The interior of the first story contains a spacious waiting area, the ticket windows, and the lunch counter (presently used), all with replacement Ponderosa pine paneling. The second floor, accessible by a stairs in the projecting bay contains offices and is finished like the first floor. At the rear (southeast) of the lot is a two-bay, stuccoed garage, also having rounded corners. The Bus Station continues to serve bus passengers.

The Taxi Stand, located southeast of the Bus Station, was built for Miley Glover in 1937 as an Amoco Filling Station. It was built around a large oak tree, the reason for its round shape. The tree was struck by lightening ca 1942 and was removed. Built on a raised concrete base, the building features a circular overhanging roof which flares at its juncture with the walls and has two entrances with sidelights and trasnom and six large, two-over-two sash windows. Of note is a panel of lights recessed beneath the rim of the roof. It has been used as a taxi stand since the mid 1940s.

228
Jap Davis Auto Service Building
113 North Lodge Street
F

Built in 1945 or 1946 to house the auto service business of "Jap" Davis, the steel trusses in the parapet gable roof of this plain, four bay-by-seven bay, brick building are said to have been the first steel to come to Wilson following the easing of World War II steel restrictions. The facade has paired one-over-one windows that flank a central overhead garage door; a pedestrian entrance is at the far right. The side elevations contain sixteen-pane metal windows with tilt-out center sections; another garage door is at the rear of the southwest elevation. The building continues to be occupied by auto repair business. In the rear of the lots is a two-bay garage and in the front east corner a curiour cement block, eight foot square, former tattoo parlor. Built in the 1950s, the hip-roofed tattoo parlor has been vacant for many years.

229
Carolina Builders' Supply Company
109 South Lodge Street
F

This nondescript two-story brick building was erected during the 1940s as offices for the Carolina Builders Supply Company, which had been established on this site in 1919 by D. J. Rose, S. E. Ballentine, J. J. Barnes, and T. B. Ward. The three bay-by-three bay boxy structure has no distinguishing architectural elements and currently houses Eastern Elevator Service, Inc. There are several surviving metal and frame storage sheds at the rear of the lot, which opens onto the railroad tracks.

230
Lovelace Motor Company
115 South Lodge Street
F

Samuel D. Lovelace organized his own motor comapny in 1937 after having gained experience in partnership with William 1. Green in the Lovelace-Green Motor Company. The Lovelace Motor Company was located at 311 East Barnes Street until this somewhat Art Deco-ish, one-story brick showroom was erected ca 1949. The stuccoed building displays a series of horizontal bands on the parapet above the show windows and gives the building a streamlined appearance. A vertical tower at the north corner anchors the building and provides a vertical counterbalance to the building's horizontality. The building is covered by a broad gable roof. It has six bays along the southwest elevation which contains five pairs oflarge, twelve-pane metal windows and a rear service entrance. Two more service bays and a shed occupy the rear spoutheast of the lot.

231
Eastern Carolina Bakery Company Building
118-124 South Lodge Street
F

The main section of this building, the southwest four bay-by-two bay section, was built in the mid 1930s by prominent Wilson car dealer and businessman H. W. Abbitt (1881-1957) for the Eastern Carolina Bakery Company (Kasper W. Badlow, manager). The bays are divided by brick pilasters that rise from cast concrete bases and have soldier course lintels. Only one bay retains its multi-pane transom and even this bay has a replacement display area. All the other bays were altered during the early 1950s whtn eht building was converted into an automobile dealership. A pseudo-tile, Mission Revivsl Style awning shelters the two southwest bays of the facade and the two identical bays along East Barnes Street. The upper facade over the southeast two bays has a brick panel edged with a brick soldier course with case concrete accents and a tile-capped stepped parapet. In 1938 Abbitt enlarged the building for the bakery by having Jones Brothers erect a three-bay garage addition on the southeast. A central door with transom is flanked by an overhead garage door on the southwest and three, large, twenty-pane windows on the southeast. Its brick soldier coure-enclosed upper panel has a faint, painted sign, COLUMBIA BAKING CO., as the firm's name was changed around 1950. The interior of the original section retains a simply detailed pressed metal ceiling and replacement walls. The addition has brick walls with an exposed rafter ceiling. The Columbia Baking Company occupied the entire building until the early 1950s and was succeeded by the Lovelace Motor Company which used the building for automobile storage. The 118 storefront is now occupied by an automobile body shop, 120 by C-and-E Plate Glass and 122-124 by Beach Bingo. At the north corner of the building is a small

shop, with address at 317 East Barnes Street, that is contiguous with this building and continues the same reserved decorative exterior treatment, although its two-bay windows have been altered somewhat. Added in 1941 by Barnes Motor Parts for storage, it has been successively occupied by Toledo Scales, B-K Sales and Service, and by a flower shop since the 1970s.

232
Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain and Ireland, Limited
200 South Lodge Street
P

The most impressive example of industrial architecture in Wilson and the only surviving large, turn of the century brick factory building in eastern North Carolina, the Imperial Tobacco Company occupies the entire block bounded by South Lodge, East Barnes and South Streets, and the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. According to a monograph of the company, The First Sixty Years (Sue V. Dickenson, Richmond, Va; Whitlet and Shepperson, 1965), the company was formed in 1901 by British and Irish tobacco companies in an effort to prevent tobacco tycoon James Buchanan Duke's American Tobacco Company from taking over the British markets. An agreement was reached whereby the two companies agreed not to enter the other's market. The British manufacturers, who had previously acquired their American leaf through local dealers, in 1902 established a leaf-buying and handling organization in the United States with Richmond as headquarters. The Wilson plant was one of two North Carolina plants built in 1903, the other being in Rocky Mount; plants in Kinston and Greenville had opened the previous year. Described as a model for the most economical handling of tobacco and the best fire protection ever used in tobacco facilities, the Wilson plant was headed by one of the foremost leaders of the Wilson tobacco market, Charles Mortimer Fleming (1862-1931). A native of Vance County, Fleming had the distinction of having purchased the first lot of tobacco sold on the opening day of the Wilson Market in September 1890. As manager of Imperial's Wilson operations from 1902 to 1931, Fleming supervised the rapid growth of the Wilson complex. during the 1950s Imperial consolidated many of its American facilities and by 1959 had located all of its processing and buying operations in one giant new plant in Wilson. The old factory was sold in 1965 to Miley C. Glover who operated the Boykin-Southern Wholesale Company on the premises. It has been occupied since 1981 by Wallace Murray Fiberglass Products, manufacturers of molded bathroom shower units.

The oldest section, 1903, is the three-story-over partial basement block 9250 x 160 feet) at the corner of South and South Lodge Streets. The twenty-seven bay-by-seven bay structure has diminishing sash windows--sixteen-over-sixteen on the first floor, nine-over-nine on the second, and six-over-six on the third--each with a segmental brick lintel and a stone sill. The seven-bay South Lodge Street elevation has a stepped parapet gable. At the upper corner of each building are square pilasters that cut in under the third floor. Between the second and third floors is a sign with metal letters, THE IMPERIAL TOBACCO COMPANY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, LTD., that spans the seven central bays of the South Street facade; a smaller sign is located at the top of the railroad (east) elevation. Located at this railroad elevation are the two most prominent features of the complex, the exceptional four-story tower with cut-away pilasters and a corbeled drip cornice, ad and the soaring brick smokestack that rests on a two-story octagonal base. Between the smokestack and the building is the two-story boiler room. A one-story, 250 x 70 foot brick section, containing the drying machine and storage, occupied the north elevation of the original building. Distinguishing the east (railroad) elevation of this section are five handsome arched windows with large rounded fanlights and the same cut-away corner pilasters that are found on the larger block. Large, two-story

additions were built to the north of the original building ca 1910 and ca 1919-1920 on the sights of the former prize houses of the American Tobacco Company and the W. J. Boykin and Company; Imperial thus occupied the entire block. Both additions were designed by Richmond architects C. C. Davis and Otis K. Asbury and were built by D. J. Rose of Rocky Mount. The additions continue with segmental arched windows and the cut-away corner pilasters; there is also a short two-and-a-half story tower similar to the other tower. The larger of the later buildings has eighteen bays along East Barnes Street and eight bays along South Lodge Street. The central portion of the South Lodge Street elevation is presently used for truck loading. A shed-roofed train platform extends from East Barnes Street 175 feet along the railroad spur.

The interior of the oldest section, now used just for storage, has chamfered interior posts with one large room per story; the third story ceiling is slightly arched. The other two sections have been modified only slightly for use as modern manufacturing facilities. The massive Imperial complex is in a good state of preservation although many of its windows have been bricked in.

233
Wilson Iron Works
208 South Lodge Street
F

According to C. Sarvis Bass, Sr., his father, M. G. Bass, had this modest, cement block workshop built ca 1925-1926 for the Wilson Iron Works. Mack Gilbert Bass (1884-1944), a native of Halifax County, came to Wilson ca 1914 and worked in the machine shop of Harper and Company before founding Wilson Iron Works in 1920 with Rowland D. Edwards. The first shops were along the railroad near East Barnes Street. By 1925 Bass was the sole proprietor and moved the shops to this address, located at the frings of Wilson's industrial section (the Imperial Tobacco Company is directly across South Lodge Street) and with access at the rear (northwest) to a spur of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad. The original building is a plain, three bay-by-ten bay, one-story, cement block structure with a stepped parapet. The central bay contains a replacement, double glass door and is flanked by six-over-six, sash windows; the northeast window has been closed. A single, (boarded up) window occupies the upper parapet. A sign, WILSON IRON WORKS, MACHINE SHOP, MILL SUPPLIES, 1920, is painted on the upper facade. The building was enlarged on the rear in 1928. The interior contains office space in the front and one large work room, spanned by wooden trusses, in the remainder of the building. Surviving here are six machines which are original to the building: a lathe from The Fairbanks Company, New York; a lathe from Draper Machine Tool Company, Worchester, Massachusetts; a milling machine from Cincinnati Milling Machine Company; a planer from Whitcomb Manufacturing Company, Worchester, Massachusetts; a pipe filter from Oster-Williams Company; and a shaper from Gould and Eberhard Company. An enclosed, covered, brick passage was erected in 1983 between this building and the adjacent Barnes-Harrell Building at 320 South Barnes Street. (C. S. Bass purchased the Barnes-Harrell property on this block in 1967.) C. S. Bass took over the company after his father's death in 1944 and during the mid-1940s to 1950s (in four stages) added a forty-two foot wide addition on the northwest connecting the original building to the Hajoca building at 212 South Lodge Street. This addition is four bays wie and has a large, oerhead garage door on the northeast and three (closed) windows on the southwest. A painted WILSON IRON SHOP INC. WELDIG SHOP sign occupies the upper facade. Bass acquired the Hajoca buiding in the late 1960s and used it as a warehouse, for which it continues.

About 1960, a large, two-bay garate (steel frame, concrete block walls with brick veneer) was built along the South Street side of the property. This garage

occupied the site of a former, small frame house, 311 South Street, which had been erected as worker housing in the early 1900s.

Located between this garage and the Hajoca building was a small, one-story, frame church which had been erected between 1897 and 1903 (according to the Sanborn Maps) as St. Mark's (Negro) Episcopal Church. The St. Mark's congregation occupied this church until ca 1928, when St. Mark's moved across South Street and this church was occuied by the Salvation Army Hall and later the Gospel Holiness Tabernacle. Bass acquired the property in 1967, had the church demolished, and built a large, flat-roofed, steel storage building (steel frame, concrete block walls, brick veneer) on the site. This steel storage building connects the Hajoca building tothe ca 1960 garage.

234
Hajoca Building
212 South Lodge Street
C

According to Sketches of Wilson - 1928, this one-story, seven-bay brick building was built and first occupied by Hajoc Corporation of Philadelphia, a wholesale distributor of plumbing and heating supplies. P. C. Smith was the local manager. The southest facade has a central segmental entrance that is flanked on each side by three fixed metal windows--tall twelve-over-one windows on the southwest and shorter eight-over-eight windows on the northeast. A tile-capped, stepped parepet crowns the building. The roof has numerous skylights and several raised ventilators. The interio has exposed trusses and was originally one large space; it was partitioned in the 1960s. Successive occupants after Hajoca vacated the building ca 1935 have been United Sales Company (beer distributor), Wilson (wholesale) Motor Parts, George H. Barnes Tin Shop and, since ca 1967, s storage for the Wilson Iron Works at 208 South Lodge Street.

235
Commercial Building
218 South Lodge Street
F

This small, five-bay-by-two-bay, cement block building was erected ca 1945 as rental property by the Barnes-Harrell Company at 320 East Barnes Street. The facade has an irregular arrangement of two doors and three (boarded up) six-over-six, sash windows. The buiding enjoyed an advantageous corner location for business, easily accessible by the workes at the Imperial Tobcco Company across South Lodge Street and by the workers at R. P. Watson and Company across the corner of South Lodge and South streets. The first occupant, the confectionary of Mary E. Bruner, was followed successively by the soft drink shop of Mrs. Susie Hall, the confectionary of Annie Pittman, Robert Pittman's Grocery (no relation), Lodge Street Snack Shop and the paint shop of Edward T. Gordon. It has been vacant since 1978.

236
Wilson Storage Company Warehouse
305 South Lodge Street
C

This large, one-story, 110 x 220 foot, brick building was erected ca 1901 by the Wilson Storage Company as a tobacco storage warehouse. It is the only such storage facility that remains in the historic tobacco district. The ubilding is comprised of three connected warehouses, all contained under a gable roof with end parapets. the Wayne Stret (soutwest) elevation has an asymmetrical arrangement of large, round-arched evliery doors, later overhead doors, and three, thirty-two pane metal

windows. The interior has large roof trussesw hcih are partially supported by brick corbels. The Wilson Storage Company was incorporated in 1901 by porminent Wilson tobaccomen, R. P. Watson, R. G. Briggs, U. H. Cozart, E. A. Darden, and S. W. Vendble, Jr.; Watson and Briggs weret he major stockholders. It as managed by R. P. Watson (1869-1932) whose redrying company in the former Briggs and Fleming Prize House was located adjacent to this warehouse to the northeast, separated only by a shared railroad spur. The Wilson Storage company continued to occupy this building until the 1960s. It is currenly occupied by a fertilizer and seed distributor.

237
Barnes-Harrell Company Truck Garage
307 South STreet
F

The Barnes-Harrell Company at 320 East Barnes Street (#109), bottlers of Coca-Cola, had this one-story, concrete block, truck repair garage erected in the 1940s. The three bay-by-three bay structure has a large central overhead garage door, a single entrance to the southeast and small, raised, four-pane windows that flank the garage door and occupy the side elevations; all the openings have brick soldier lintels and the windows also have brick sills. It has been used as an auxiliary garage/paint shop by Wilson Iron Works since the company purchased the property in 1967 from Barnes-Harrell.

238
Briggs and Fleming Tobacco Prize House
403 East South Street
P

Built in 1895, and expanded in 1897, the Briggs and Fleming Tobacco Prize House was the largest of the early prize houses (where cured leaf was packed for transportation to re-drying plants elsewhere) in Wilson and was built and operated by two of the most prominent men in Wilson, businessman and farmer Roscoe G. Briggs (1859-1933), the proprietor of the Briggs Hotel (now razed) at 206 East Nash Street, and Charles Mortimer Fleming (1862-1931). Flemming was associated with the Wilson Tobacco Market from its opening day on September 10, 1890, when he purchased the first lot of tobacco marketed in Wilson, until his death in 1931. His extensive interest and leadership earned him the nickname "The Grandfather of the Wilson Tobacco Market". Briggs and Fleming continued to operate their prizery until 1902 when Fleming became the manager of the adjacent Imperial Tobacco Company and Briggs became involved with other tobacco interests. The building was then used for tobacco storage for several years. The property was purchased in 1907 by R. P. Watson and Company who operated a prizery and re-drying plant there until 1968. Rom Purefoy Watson (1869-1932) was another of the early tobacco leaders in Wilson. He came to Wilson in 1893 from Henderson and opened the R. P. Watson Tobacco Prize House (razed ca 1908) at 201 South Pine Street. He later built a three-and-a-half story prize house on part of the present Imperial Tobacco Company lot at ca 1903. After his death in 1932, the company was managed by his sons Pen T. and Rommie P. Watson, Jr.

The original part of the building, the section at the south corner of South and South Lodge Streets, was originally a four-story-over basement frame structure that was covered by a gable roof, as shown in a ca 1902 photography. Only the basement and first floor of the L-plan building are of brick; the upper floors are weatherboarded. By 1922 the plant had been expanded to occupy the entire rectangular lot. It is not known when the fourth story was removed, the original gable roof replaced by the prsent low hip roof, and the original tilt-out windows replaced. In 1969, the building's upper two floors were aluminum sided. The

building as it now stands is twenty bays wide on the South Street (northeast) facade and eleven bays wide along the South Lodge (northwest) Street elevation. A low hip roof shelters the entire, L-plan structure and the windows contain replacement six-over-six sash. On the southeast elevation is a ca 1970, two-story brick office annex. The southwest elevaion is occupied by a large, one-story brick warehouse (ca 1922) with a loading area in the basement that provides access to South Lodge Street. At the southeast end of the property is a four-bay brick garage and frame water plant building, both of which were originally part of the Imperial Tobacco Company's complex across South Street. The garage has the same cut-away brick pilasters and corbeled brickwork which are the trademark of the Imperial buildings. Soaring over these two Imperial buildigns are two tall water towers, erected by the Imperial Tobacco Company at the same time as the garage and the frame bilding, ca 1920.

The interior originally contained one large space per floor, although later partition walls have subdivided the spaces. The ceilings are supported by large, ten inch square wood piers. The entire building has a sprinkler system.

After being vacated by R. P. Watson and Comapny in 1968, the Briggs and Fleming Building was occuiped by Genbearco, a manufacturer of ball bearings. Since 1980, it has been used as a warehouse for White's Tire Company.

239
Vacant Lot
501 Jones Street
I

On this lot stood a grocery-general store built between 1908 and 1913 for Jack Wells, who, according to his daughter now living at 503 Jones Street, also moved ten dwellings into this areas as rental properties. The houses at 503 and 505 Jones Street are the only ones that remain. There were also two dwellings (now gone) at the rear of this lot that faced onto Lodge Street.

240
Jack Wells House
503 Jones Street
F

Acording to Sally (Wells) Watkins, Jack Wells, her father, moved this house, the houses at 505 Jones Stret, and eight others to this area at the turn of the century as rental properties for workers in the area factories. The traditional five bay-by-one bay house has a gable roof, replacement porch posts, four-over-four window sash, returning boxed eaves, and asbestos siding. The rear ell has been enlarged.

241
Rental House
50 Jones Street
C

One of only two survivors of ten houses moved into this area by Jack Wells at the turn of the century, this ca 1890, one-story frame cottage has a front porch carried by pillars on brick pedestals, paired four-over-four windows, a gable roof, and enlarged rear ell. It is now covered with asbestos siding.

242
Vacant Lot
507 Jones Street
I

On this lot stood a ca 1890 dwelling erected for workers in the adjacent factories.

243
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
509 Jones Street
F

Like other neighboring dwellings, this traditional three bay-by-one bay frame cottage was built ca 1896 by the Wilson Cotton Mills as worker housing. It has a gable roof, central chimney, and rear ell. It has been aluminum sided.

244
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
509 1/2 Holly Street
C

This modest, one-story, four bay-by-one bay frame duplex was built betweeen 1913 and 1922 by the Wilson Cotton Mills to house its workers. The weatherboarded dwelling has four-over-four sash windows, a shed porch with lowered floor and replacement posts, returning molded and boxed cornices, a central brick chimney, and a two-room rear ell. Except for the porch, it is one of the more intact houses in this neighborhood.

245
Vacant Lot
511 Jones Street
I

A ca 1896 worker's cottage stood on this lot. It was, no doubt, similar to the houses flanking it, also dating from the 1890s. They were built by the nearby Wilson Cotton Mills (razed 1977).

246
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
513 Jones Street
C

Built ca 1896 by the Wilson Cotton Mills (razed 1977) as housing for its workers, this weatherboarded three-bay-by-one bay frame dwelling is the most intact of the surviving houses in this small mill village. It has a three-bay porch with turned posts and oe remaining section of its turned balustrade. The house also has six-over-six sash windows, a central chimney, and returning molded and boxed eaves.

247
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
515 Jones Street
F

The only shotgun plan house in this neighborhood, this two bay-by-three bay house was erected in the 1930s by the Wilson Cotton Mills and has four-over-four sash windows, an exterior chimney, and replacement wrought iron posts.

248
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
517 Jones Street
F

Built in the "salt box" form which was popular for duplexes for workers at the adjacent Wilson Cotton Mills (razed 1977), this dwelling was erected in the 1930s and has four-over-four sash windows, a replacement exterior and chimney, and turned porch posts. It now has asbestos siding on the walls.

249
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
306 Layton Avenue
C

This four bay-by-one bay, single-pile frame dwelling appears on the 1888 Sanborn Map and is one of the oldest of the dwellings ereted here by the Wilson Cotton Mills (erected 1883, razed 1977); the mills stood directly across Layton Avenue from this house. Double front entrances, six-over-six sash windows, returning boxed cornices, a central chimney, and an enlarged rear ell complete the house. One of the more intact of the mill houses in this neighborhood, renovations have resulted in the replacemnt of the original porch floor and in modern wrought iron posts.

250
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
308 Layton Avenue
C

Like many of the other rental houses tht were built in this area by the Wilson Cotton Mills during the 1890s, 1900s and 1910s for its workers, this frame house has two rooms divided by a central chimney, two front doors, six-over-six window sash and returning boxed eaves. It also has an enlarged rear ell. Replacement wrought iron posts are on the porch. Adjacent, at 306 Layton Avenue, is a small, two-bay, cement block former store; it is vacant.

251
Tabernacle Holiness Church
310 Layton Avenue
F

This former rental dwelling, built in the 1890s for workers in the nearby mills, factories and warehouses, has had its porch enclosed during conversion to a church. The house has projecting eaves with fascia boards, a pitched roof, four-over-four window sash, and a large rear ell. Its chimney has been removed. Adjacent to the building on the corner with Wayne Street is a tiny frame, board-and-batten store, last known as Clyde's Store with an address of 308 1/2 Layton Avenue; it has a shallow, front gable roof, a side animal pen, a rear shed, an a shed porch on the front.

252
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
312 Layton Avenue
C

Identical to the adjacent house at 314 Layton Avenue, except for its enclosed porch bay being on the southeast end, this house has had its porch altered with a cement floor and has replacement wrought iron posts and railing. Both of these houses, because they are more substantial than the other nearby rental property, were possibly built for the homes of the foremen or management connected with the

Wilson Cotton Mills (1883), which stood across Layton Avenue before it ws razed in 1977. The center hall plan interior is simply finished with molded surrounds; only one, traditinal pilaster-and-frieze mantel remains.

253
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
314 Layton Avenue
C

The most ambitious of the numerous dwellings built by the Wilson Cotton Mills for their workers on property adjacent to their mill, this one-story, three bay-by-two bay, double-pile frame cottage does not appear in the Sanborn Maps in its present form until 1922. But is architecture certainly suggests an earlier date, perhaps ca 1883, when the Wilson Cotton Mills was erected cross the street (pehraps it and its twin at 312 Layton Street were moved her). A low hipped roof, pierced by an interior chimney (the other chimney having been removed), covers the house and engaged a deep front porch, the northwest bay being enclosed. The handsomely paneled cornerboards and replacement porch pillars are assisted by paris of sawn brackets in carrying the boxed cornice around the house. Six-over-six sash windows in plain surround, a central entrance with transom and sidelights and a wide sill board complete the house. The house is surprisingly unaltered on the exterior. The interior was unavailable for inspection. The Wilson Cotton Mills closed in 1946 and sold its mill village to Edna Williams Short, who has since sold the houses individually. Most of the houses remain as rental property.

254
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
315 Layton Avenue
F

The same house type as 318 Layton Street, this 1890s dwelling has a large rear ell. It has seen the same alterations as 318.

255
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
318 Layton Street
F

This one-story, frame three bay-by-one bay rental house was erected in the 1890s as mill housing for the workers at the Wilson Cotton Mills, which stood across Layton Street until it was razed in 1977. A central chimney pierces the gable roof of the two-room with rear shed rooms. Simple boxed cornices return at the gable ends. Turned posts are on the replacement cement block porch. Asphalt siding covers the original weatherboard.

256
Rental house
500 Wayne Street
C

Built between 1897 and 1903, according to the Sanborn Maps, this triple-pile, frame dwelling was, like its neighbors, erected to house workers in the nearby industries--Wilson Cotton Mills, Briggs and Fleming Prize House, and Imperial Tobacco Company. The low hip roof is pierced by interior stuccoed chimneys. A four-bay porch rests on replacement wrought iron posts. Completing the house are a boxed cornice, plain cornerboard, six-over-six sash windows and an engaged porch (one now enclosed) at the rear corners.

257
Vacant Lots
502, 504, 506 Wayne Street
508 Holly Street
I

On these lots stood four frame duplexes erected between 1897 and 1922 to house workers at nearby mills, factories and warehouses.

258
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
512 Wayne Street
F

This frame, double-pile with rear shed dwelling was built by the Wilson Cotton Mills between 1913 and 1922 as a duplex for its workers. Its pyramidal roof is pierced with a stuccoed chimney that has a simple corbeled cap. The four bay-by-two bay has been aluminum sided and its doors and windows replaced. A modest three-bay shed porch shelters the facade.

259
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
513 Wayne Street
C

Identical to the adjacent house at 517 Wayne Street in form, detail and age, this former duplex differs only in the treatment of its also-modernized porch.

260
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
514 Wayne Street
F

This double-pile frame dwelling, originally a duplex, was built between 1913-1922 by the Wilson Cotton Mills and has the "saltbox" type roof which is seen on several neighboring rental houses. The four bay-by-two bay house has an altered front porch, six-over-six sash windows, and has been aluminum sided. The central chimney has been removed.

261
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
515 Wayne Street
F

Dislaying the same "salt-box' form as other nearby houses, this weatherboarded, four bay-by-two bay dwelling was built between 1913 and 1922, according to the Sanborn Maps. It was erected by the Wilson Cotton Mills as a duplex for its workers. It has an altered front porch and four-over-four window sash; its central chimney has been removed.

262
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
516 Wayne Street
F

Built before 1897 as part of mill housing for workers at the nearby Wilson Cotton Mills, this four bay-by-one bay frame house is one of the oldest of the workers' dwellings in the neighborhood. Originally a duplex, it has six-over-six sash windows, a central chimney with metal flue, an altered porch with wrought iron posts, and an enlarged rear ell.

263
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
517 Wayne Street
F

This one-story, four bay-by-one bay frame dwelling was built as a duplex ca 1890 for workers at the Wilson Cotton Mill. With gable roof, a central sruccoed chimney, six-over-six window sash and a front, hip-roofed porch with replacement posts, the house is typical of worker houses during that period.

264
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
304 Cedar Street
C

Erected between 1903 and 1908 by the Wilson Cotton Mills (razed 1977) to house workers in their nearby mill, this four bay-by-two bay, weatherboarded, double pile, frame dwelling is covered by a roof that is pitched in the front and extends to cover the rear rooms, much like a salt box roof. Completing the house, a prevalent form in Wilson worker houses, are four-over-four sash windows, two front doors, a central chimney, slender porch posts and an enclosed end bay on the porch.

265
Wilson Cotton Mills Rental House
306 Cedar Street
C

This duplex is identical to the adjacent one at 304 Cedar Street except it lacks the enclosed bay on the porch.

266
Vacant Lots
308-310 Cedar Street
I

On these two vacant lots stood two duplexes, presumably identical to those at 204 and 306 Cedar Street, that were erected between 1903 and 1908 by the Wilson Cotton Mills.

267
Richmond Maury Tobacco Company
301 South Railroad Street
C

Richmond Maury of Danville, Virginia purchased this site in 1895 and erected a five-story frame building (the bottom two stories were brick) at the south corner of South Railroad and Stemmery Streets; this building burned ca 1920 and was replaced by the present three-story brick building by 1922. Richmond Maury and Company operated a tobacco stemmery here, a facilitly where the stem of the cured tobacco leaf was removed prior to re-drying, packing, shipping, and further processing. In 1896, Maury sold the plant to Tobacco Warehousing Trading Company, Inc. of Virginia, who kept the Richmond Maury and Company name. The original complex also included a boiler room, a warehouse, and a cooper shop; only the boiler room remains. By 1903, when the plant was known as the Maxwell Tobacco Importing Company, Limited, (of West Virginia) the two-story, six bay-by-twenty-one bay, brick storage warehouse had been erected along Maury Street, a re-drying facility had been added, and a railroad spur had been built along the southwest property line. In 1913 the complex was purchased by J. M. Edmunds and Company, Inc. (of Virginia); they were acquired in 1916 by

Dibrell, Inc. of Danville, Virginia. In 1928, the property was sold again to the Wilson Tobacco Comany, Inc., a Virginia-based subsidiary of Dibrell Brothers, Inc. Re-drying and stemming operations continued under the Wilson Tobacco Company name until 1963 when the company was consolidated with three North Carolina companies (E. V. Webb and Company, Inc., E. B. Ficklen Tobacco Company, Inc. and G. R. Garrett Company, Inc.) into Carolina Leaf Tobacco Company, Inc. Since 1973, when the buildings were vacated as a redrying plant, the factory has been occupied by Montrose Hanger Company, Inc., one of only two manufacturers of wooden coat hangers in the country. A diversification of the Carolina Leaf Tobacco Company, the Montrose Company was moved here from Montrose, Pennsylvania. The manager of Montrose is James F. Dibrell, a grandson of Richard Dibrell who was one of the partners in Dibrell Brothers, Inc. of Danville, Virginia, the forerunner of the parent corporation of Montrose Hanger Company.

The components of the present complex are:

Main Building

This two-and three story, brick building was erected ca 1920-1922 by Dibrell, Inc. to replace the original five-story building which had burned. The core of this building is the three-story, twenty-one bay-by-seven bay structure that extends along Stemmery Street. The first story of the Stemmery Street facade has two large, segmental arched delivery doors, each sheltred beneath a replacement five-bay wide canopy. The first story windows are all bricked in. The upper floors contain twelve-pane sash with tilt out central sections; these have been boarded up from the interior. The northwest (South Railroad Street) and southwest elevations of this three-story brick structure which originally contained the offices and the steam redryer. The corner at South Rialroad Street-Stemmery Street is angled. The eleven-bay Railroad Street elevation has the same windows as the three-story building. At the southwest of this block is a shorter, two-story, seven-bay, brick building addition that was erected in the 1940s. The interiors of all three segments are occupied by large spaces marked by the regular spacing of large frame piers. The interiors have undergone modest renovations in conversion from a toacco redrying plant to a hanger factory. The second and third stories are used for storage.

Warehouses

The second oldest surviving building of the complex (ca 1900), this two-story, six bay-by-twenty-one bay, brick building extends 240 feet along Maury Street at the factory's southeast border. Placed perpendicularly to the three-story main building the two structures are connected by a one-story, section build ca 1920 to facilitate transport of leaf between the two without being exposed to the elements. The warehouse has only two freight doors on the first story of the Maury Street elevation, both sheltered by metal awnings. The window openings have segmental tops and cut stone sills; all the openings have been bricked in. The building is presently vacant.

Power Plant

Located to the southwest of the main building, the power plant is a one-story three bay-by-three bay building that was erected ca 1895. It contains twelve pane windows with tilt out central sections and cast concrete sills, a large double, central door with louvered transom on the southwest elevation, and a stepped parapet. A tall brick chimney stack with corbeled cap rises from the building and dominates the complex.

Tobacco Scrap Warehouse

This 60 foot-by-110 foot gable roofed shelter was erected in the 1950s to shelter scrap tobacco and is located along South Railroad Street southwest of the main building. It is entirely covered with corrogaged metal and is currently used for storage and as a garage.

268
Southern Cotton Oil Mill
518 Stemmery Street
P

Cotton has long been an important crop to Wilson County and was second only to tobacco as late as the 1930s. During the late nineteenth century Wilson was at the heart of North Carolina's cotton belt and had one of the largest markets in eastern North Carolina. The cotton textile industry came to Wilson in 1883 with the construction of the Wilson Cotton Mills (razed 1977). In 1899, Wilson's first cotton oil mill, the Wilson Oil Company, was incorporated by some of the most prominent businessmen in Wilson: Jacob C. Hales (1864-1913), the president of Branch Bank from 1907 until 1913; Roscoe G. Briggs (1859-1933), tobacconist, industrialist and president of the Wilson Cotton Mills; Benjamin F. Lane (1859-1916), farmer and tobacconist; Stephen C. Wells (1850-1934), businessman and cigarette manufacturer; and Silas Lucas 91852-1916), farmer, tobacconist and real estate developer. This complex was begun ca 1900 on this block that is bounded by Stemmery, Moore, Mellis and Maury streets. By 1913, these buildings had either been razed or incorporated into the Southern Cotton Oil Company Plant. By 1902, the Wilson Oil Mill Company had merged twice, in August of 1901 with the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company and in December 1901 with the Southern Cotton Oil Company of New Jersey. In the 1910s, a fertilizer plant was added to the complex. The oil mill ceased operating in 1962 and the site was sold to the Kaiser Chemical Company which uses the complex for fertilizer storage. Several buildings survive:

Seed House (Pivotal)

This massive (95 x 145) pyramidal structure was built ca 1940. It has a prominent sloping corrugaged metal roof that is crowned by a gable clerestroy. The building is one of the dominent visual features of the southern portion of Wilson's industrial section. The interior is cavernous, has a cement floor and is illuminated only by the windows in the clerestory. It is presently used for fertilizer storage.

Loading Shed (Fill)

Located southwest of the seed house, this two story, gable-roofed, corrogated metal-sided building was built ca 1940 and housed the mechanism used to load cotton seed into the seed houses. It has large, drive-through openings on the southwest and northeast ends and a three-story, gable-roofed tower. The elevator shaft connecting the loading shed to the conveyor of the seed house has been removed.

Cotton Seed Meal Storage Building (Fill)

Located along Mellis Place at the southwest boundary of the plant, this 70 x 120 foot gable-roofed building is also covered with corrogated metal. It has an engaged shed overhead that extends along the northeast elevation along the former railroad spur. It was erected ca 1920 for the storage of cotton seed meal and now is used for storage.

Warehouse (Intrusion)

This flat-roofed, modern metal building wsa erected in the 1970s for expanded fertilizer storage. It measures 60 x 110 feet and has only three overhead drive-through entrances.

The only other structures on the site are an abandoned cement block, gable-roofed building erected in the mid-1960s and several round, metal storage tanks for liquid fertilizer. The seed mill, the hull house, the cotton shed, the fertilizer mixing and storage warehouse, the fertilzier warehouse, the oil house, the nitrate soda house, and five frame duplexes that occupied the north corner of the block, were all razed before 1961. The cotton gin and the office were razed in the mid-1960s.

269
(former) Purity Bakery Garage
111 South Pettigrew Street
I

Built ca 1960 as the garage for the Purity Bakery Company across Pettigrew Street at 422 East Nash Street, this plain, square, cement block box has a single large overhead door on the southwest and small windows on the other elevations. The lot, containing several abandoned automobiles, is surrounded by a chain-link fence topped with barbed wire. It is presently used as a car repair garage.

270
Duplexes
113 and 115 South Pettigrew Street
F

These two identical frame duplexes, erected during the 1920s to house workers in the nearby factories and mills, are the only survivors of many such dwellings which once were along South Pettigrew, East Barnes and South Railroad streets. Each of the front gable dwellings is four bay-by-five bays and has a front hip-roofed porch, board-and-batten siding and replacement windows. The only distinctive architectural element is a peaked louvered vent in the gable.

271
Union Hall
121 South Pettigrew Street
F

Built in 1957 as a union hall, this plain three bay-by-three bay, one-story brick building has a tile-capped stepped parapet roof and replacement aluminum frame windows. It houses the local offices of the Bakery, Confectionary and Tobacco Workers Union Locals 259-T, 270-T and 271-T.

272
Rental House
121 North Pender Street
F

This modest, turn of the century, two bay-by-two bay, frame dwelling is sheltered beneath a hipped roof of standing seam metal that is pierced by a brick chimney. Occupied by black renters since its construction, the house has four-over-four sash windows and a two-bay front porch carried on plain posts. It and a similarly modest dwelling at 123 North Pender Street were acquired in 1976 by the adjacent St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church for future expansion. The house at 123 was razed in November 1983; the church has plans to raze this house also.

273
St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and Parsonage
119 North Pender Street
P

One of the earliest black congregations in Wilson, the St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church was deeded this property in 1880 by prominent white businessman E. M. Nadal (1843-1896). A frame church, of which there is scant information, was erected on this site soon thereafter. This frame church was razed in 1914 to make way for this impressive and imposing Gothic Revival ediface, which was erected in 1915 by talented Wilson brick mason John Barnes, who was a brother-in-law to Charles H. Darden (1845-1931). Darden was one of the leaders in Wilson's

black community, the first black undertaker in North Carolina, and a member of this congregation. While the architect is unknown, there is a reason to believe that the church may be the work of Charles C. Benton (1887-1960), who designed several buildings for the Darden family. Dominating the large brick church is the three-story square tower which has corner buttresses, Gothic arched windows, projecting stone rainspouts, a louvered and arched belfry with limestone trim, and stone finials, crosses, and caps at the top. Molded stone Gothic arches that rest on clustered stone columns are used prominently in the arcade that shelters the recessed entrance on the Pender Street (southeast) facade. The truncated hip roof (slate covered) has prominent gables on the sides, each containing an arched window with a wide, stone surround. Square, one-and-a half story towers with crenelated tops mark the east and west corners; the east tower is augmented by a marvelous octagonal minaret with a bellcast roof. The handsomely finished interior focuses upon the recessed central dome which is carried by arches springing from the four corners of the sanctuary. This dome, like all of the church's windows, has its original lovely stained art glass windows. The altar in the east corner is flanked on the northwest by the recessed choir and on the northeast by adjoining church school rooms. A spacious balcony, accessible by stairs in the corner towers, extends across the two street elevations. The interior's woodwork retains its lustrous dark finish. A modern Sunday School wing was added on the rear in the 1960s. The church was designated by the City Countil on February 26, 1981, as a Wilson Historic Property.

The adjacent two-story, three bay-by-four bay brick parsonage, built soon after the church, continues the Gothic character of the church in its Gothic arched and recessed entrance. These arches are framed by wide, bold, stuccoed surrounds and rise from round piers. However, the rest of the parsonage is Colonial Revival in style. The parsonage has a low, pyramidal roof supported by shallow brackets beneath the eaves. Nine-over-nine sash windows have brick sills and soldier course lintels. The recessed porch has two entrances, the southwest one leading to the pastor's study and the northeast one providing access to the living quarters. The interior is plastered and simply finished.

274
Mount Hebron Masonic Lodge #42
115-117 North Pender Street
F

The Mount Hebron Masonic Lodge #42, the oldest black fraternal organization in Wilson, was chartered on December 15, 1881. G. A. Farmer, Alfred Robinson, I. H. Harris, J. W. Hood and Joseph Hill, all prominent leaders in Wilson's small, but growing, black community, were the first officers. The craft met in various churches until 1896 when this lot at the corner of North Pender and Smith Streets was purchased from the St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and a small, two-story frame lodge hall was built here. (The impressive 1915 Gothic Revival ediface of St. John's stands across smith Street from the lodge.) This building was occupied by the craft for over forty years until it deteriorated and was replaced in 1947 by the present, plainly-finished, two-story, two-bay-by-five bay concrete block building. It was erected by prominent Wilson bricklayer, B. Frank Barnes, according to the marble cornerstone; Barnes was a lodge member. The facade contains two (rental) storefronts with recessed central entrances; number 117 has suffered major alterations while the 115 storefront is basically intact. The second story contains paired six-over-six sash windows flanking a central inset marble tablet bearing the masonic emblem. The stepped parapet has tile caps. The side and rear elevations contain an irregular arrangement of doors and small raised windows on the first story and single six-over-six sash windows on the second

story. The interior was completely remodeled in 1960. The lodge rooms are on the second story. The 155 store was occupied by the Wilson County Negro Library from 1947 until ca 1974, when the library moved to 205 South Pender Street and the name was changed to the East Branch of the Wilson County Library. Since then it has been occupied by the Squire Club (social lounge) of the lodge. The 117 store was first ocupied by lodge member Linwood Moore as a grocery until 1950 and from 1950 until ca 1980 it was operated as the Stop Light Grill by James Morrison, also a lodge member. It is presently vacant. The membership of the Mount Hebron Lodge has included, since its organization, most of the leaders in Wilson's active black community. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries its members also included all the members of the Red Hot Hose and Reel Volunteer Fire Company, a black fire department which assisted the City of Wilson's fire department; the company is still in existence, but hasn't actively fought fires for many years. With a present membership of about 140, the Mount Hebron Lodge is one of the largest and most active black masonic lodges in eastern North Carolina.

275
Jackson Chapel First Missionary Baptist Church
101 North Pender Street
P

In 1872, a congregation of black Christians, under the leadership of Rev. Andrew Jackson, established a Missionary Baptist Church in Wilson; the present name of the church serves as a memorial to its founder. The congregation first met in a downtown building but by 1880 had raised enough money to erect a small wooden church at 513 East Barnes Street. The church enjoyed a steady growth and became a strong and influential element in Wilson's black community, leading to the initiation in 1905 of a drive for a larger sanctuary. In 1906 the present lot was deeded to the church by Samuel H. Vick (1861-1946), a prominent educator, former postmaster, and a leader of educational, cultural and business causes in the black community of Wilson. The Trustees of the Jackson's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church at that time were Parker Battle, George W. Woodard, S. D. Henderson, and Watler Foster, each a prominent citizen of Wilson's progressive black community. Led by their minister, the Rev. M. A. Tally, and several members who mortgaged their personal property, by 1913 the congregation was able to hold a corner stone ceremony which Booker T. Washington is said to have attended. In 1915 the original church was sold to the Wilson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, who altered the building and eventually replaced it. However, a church continues to exist on the site at 513 East Barnes Street, one block south of this sanctuary.

Erected in 1913 in a boldly Romanesque form (architect and builder unknown) at the corner of East Nash and North Pender Streets, the Jackson Chapel First Missionary Baptist Church, with its tall, three-story corner belltower, is a visual landmark in East Wilson (the traditional black community), especially when approaching from the east. Constructed of red brick and covered with a hipped roof with wide, open eaves under which is a corbeled and arched cornice panel, the church focuses upon the three-story tower at the south corner (corner of East Nash and North Pender Street). Crowned by a bellcast pyramidal roof with finial and support by curved brackets, the tower is pierced at all levels by rounded openings, with those on the first floor on Pender Street containing the door. Three smaller ones on the Nash Street side illuminate the interior stairwell. The elongated openings on the third level are subdivided by columns into three round-headed arches and contain the bell. A similar, but shortened tower is at the west corner. The southeast facade (North Pender Street) contains one large, roundheaded, three part window flanked on each side by similar, two part windows. The East Nash Street elevation contains two tiers of paired one-over-one windows, each surmounted by a

round fanlight; the central window on the first floor has been enlarged to make an entrance and the flanking windows have been bricked in. A rose window occupies the top of the East Nash Street gable.

The handsome interior is plastered and has a sloping floor and curved pews which focus on the recessed chancel in the northeast elevation. The ceiling is a coved cross vault, from a central, ornate metal rosette hand and hexagonal lantern. The walls of the chancel area are finished in a pseudo-half timber fashion. The baptistry is recessed into the upper chancel wall. A U-shaped balcony extends along each side and curves at the rear. It is supported by Tuscan columns and the balcony's fascia treated like an entablature; a brass railing is on top. The balcony is reached by four separate flights of stairs, one in each of the towers and on e at the front of each wing of the balcony. Behind the altar are the choir rooms, the parson's study, and Sunday School rooms. Additional Sunday School rooms and a large meeting room are found in the basement. The Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church was designated as a Wilson Historic Property by the City Council on March 21, 1979.

PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX

Wilson Central Business-Tobacco Warehouse Historic District

1. N. 84-5-939
NE side 200 & 300 blocks E. Nash Street looking SE (L-R) entries 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 39, 41, 43, 45, 49.

2. N. 84-5-920
View from Coon Water Tower (entry 121) E. toward 1st National Bank of Wilson (entry 22), Wilson County Court House (entry 27); Carolina Tobacco Warehouse (entry 157) - foreground.

3. N. 84-5-919
View from Coon Water Tower (entry 121) SE toward Imperial Tobacco Co. (entry 232) - tobacco warehouses in foreground.

4. N. 84-5-925
NE side 200 & 300 blocks E. Nash Street standing at 315 E. Nash Street looking N. (R-L) entries 45, 43, 41, 39, 35.

5. N. 84-5-932
View from top of Davis Bldg. (entry 28) looking SE down E. Nash Street. Tower of Jackson Chapel - First Baptist Church (entry 275) in background.

6. N. 84-5-929
SW side 200, 300, 400 blocks E. Nash Street looking S. from 305 E. Nash Street (R-L) entries 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40.

7. N. 84-5-936
SW side 100, 200 block E. Nash Street looking S. from 110 E. Nash Street (R-L) entries 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 33, 36, 37.

8. N. 84-5-943
SW side 500 block E. Nash Street looking NW with Orange Hotel (entry 63) in foreground and (L-R) entries 62, 60.

9. N. 84-5-946
NW side of 500 block E. Nash Street (edge of district), looking NW with Jackson Chapel - First Baptist Church (entry 275) in foreground (L-R) entries 81, 80, 79, 77, 75 (3 story).

10. N. 84-5-988
Wilson Central Business - Tobacco Warehouse HD

11. N. 84-5-947
Tobacco Warehouses, NW side S. Goldsboro Street (R-L) entries 204 (Centre Brick #2), 206 (Farmer's), 207 (Smith's A & B)

12. N. 84-5-923
Imperial Tobacco Company, entry 232

13. N. 84-5-934
Intersection of S. Pender Street and E. Barnes Street looking NE with Farmers Cotton Oil Co. entry 113 on left and Wilson Cotton Gin Co. entry 117 on right.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Wilson Central Business and Tobacco Warehouse Historic District contains the main commercial district, the tobacco auction warehouses, and the surviving tobacco and cotton related industrial facilities which have been significant in the development of Wilson into the largest market of flue-cured tobacco in the nation and a major commercial and industrial center in eastern North Carolina. Juxtaposed are four distinguishable areas--a large main business district northwest of the railroad, a small, historically black business district southeast of the railroad, the tobacco warehouse district, and the industrial district--which contributed interdependently to the development of present day Wilson. With the introduction of tobacco cultivation in this area in the 1870s and its phenomenal expansion during the 1880s, the need arose for a market in the area, one which opened in Wilson on September 10, 1890. This attracted experienced warehousemen from the border counties of North Carolina and Virginia to join county natives in the development and growth of the Wilson market, a process that took Wilson to the forefront of the nation's tobacco market industry. By 1919 Wilson had overtaken Danville, Virginia as the nation's largest flue-cured tobacco market, a position which hasn't been seriously threatened since. Also a major tobacco processing center, Wilson briefly flirted with the manufacture of cigarettes, enjoying a successful, if rather short-lived, production of "Carolina Brights" during the first years of the twentieth century. While all of the major late nineteenth and early twentieth century architectural styles are represented, most of the architectural fabric in the district dates from the early twentieth century when the booming tobacco (and to a lesser extent, cotton) markets ushered Wilson into a period of unprecedented prosperity, growth, and commercial and residential construction. Included here are a number of impressive Renaissance-Neo Classical style public buildings and a large and varied collection of modestly-finished brick vernacular commercial buildings dating from the boom period of 1910s and 1920s. The eight massive brick tobacco warehouses date from 1890 to 1928 and are individually significant and impressive; together they comprise the most important such collection in the country. The impressive complex of the Imperial Tobacco Company (#232) (1903, 1909, 1920), the focal point of the mixed industrial area, is the largest early industrial plant in eastern North Carolina and one of the handsomest such facilities in the state. Three local architects, Solon Balias Moore and brother Frank W. and Charles C. Benton, were responsible for much of this construction. Wilson today continues as one of the commercial, business, political, agricultural, educational and industrial center in Eastern North Carolina and as the flue-cured tobacco market leader of the United States.

Assessment of Criteria

A. The Wilson Central Business and Tobacco Warehouse Historic District occupied a pioneer and leadership position in the development and expansion of the tobacco culture and economy in Wilson County, in North Carolina and the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (The Wilson flue-cured tobacco market, founded in 1890, has since been the nation's largest.)

The seat of government in Wilson County since the County's creation in 1855, Wilson has been the leader in the political, agricultural, educational, industrial, commercial, banking, transportation, social, and religious development of the County and of eastern North Carolina.

B. Associated with the district, in addition to the political, industrial, business, commercial and agricultural leaders in Wilson and Wilson County, are tobaccomen who were in the forefront of the phenomenal spread of tobacco cultivation throughout eastern North Carolina during the late nineteenth century and in the development of the nation's largest market for flue-cured tobacco. Also associated with the district are several of the most prominent citizens in Wilson's Black community, especially Samuel H. Vick (1863-1946); Elder P. D. Gold (1833-1920), the publisher of Zion's Landmark, the monthly magazine of the Primitive Baptist Church; Alpheus Branch (1843-1893) the founder in 1872 of the forerunner of Branch Banking and Trust Company, now the sixth largest bank in the State; Charles L. Coon (1868-1927), one of the State's leading educators in the early twentieth century; and Robert D. W. Connor (1878-1950), the first Archivist of the United States. The district includes important examples of the work of Wilson's three major architects during the early twentieth century boom period: Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), Frank Whitaker Benton (1882-1960), and Charles Collins Benton (1887-1960).

C. In this district are represented all the major architectural styles of the late nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, featuring an especially impressive number of public buildings in the Renaissance-Neo-Classical tradition and a large number and variety of modestly finished vernacular brick buildings from the 1910s and 1920s. Wilson's collection of pressed metal ceilings is the largest and finest known in the State, and the cornice on the Winstead-Hardy Building (#32) is one of the finest metal Victorian cornices surviving in the state. The eight massive-brick tobacco warehouses, dating from 1890 to 1928, are individually significant and impressive; collectively they comprise the most important such collection in the nation.

Statement of Historical Significance

Located on the broad upper coastal plain of eastern North Carolina, the city of Wilson grew from the trading settlement of Toisnot in the late eighteenth century; the name is said to be derived from Tosneac, the name of a Tuscoroa Indian town located in the area in the early eighteenth century.[1] The first settlers of this area, which became part of Edgecombe County in 1741, came in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. The Toisnot Baptist Church was organized in 1759 and the nearby village of Hickory Grove soon became a center for the production and marketing of naval stores. The development of Hickory Grove as a trading center was dependent on the availability of transportation, which was first supplied by Contentnea Creek. Hickory Grove also was a stop on the Raleigh to Greenville post road which supplied a measure of regular delivery of goods and services into the community.[2]

North Carolina from ca 1815 until ca 1835 suffered from a sluggish economy and rural isolationism, a situation which earned it the nickname of the "Rip Van Winkle State." As throughout much of North Carolina, it was the advent of the railroad in the mid nineteenth century which brought economic and cultural development to the community of Hickory Grove. The construction of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad began in 1836 and its completion in April 1840[3] connected Hickory Grove and Toisnot to Petersburg, Virginia and the port at Wilmington.[4] This gave area merchants and farmers, the first time, a dependable, rapid, and comparatively inexpensive means of transportation to both the northern and export markets. A permanent depot was built at the Barnes Street crossing (now the site of the Freight Depot (#110)) and on April 29, 1840[5] the Toisnot Depot post office was established.

The railroad brought an immediate influx of new settlers to town, including brothers Jonathan (1819-1865) and Moses Rountree (1824-1887) who established a general merchandise store in 1846, General Joshua Barnes (1815-1890), whose name became "synonymous with progress and enterprise",[6] Amos Battle (____-1870), a minister of the Disciples of Christ Church, who came in 1843 and opened the town's first hotel, the Battle House Inn, in 1852,[7] and members of the Barnes, Daniels, Farmer, Joyner, Rountree, and Tomlinson families, who would play leading roles in the growth and development of the town throughout the nineteenth century.[8] In 1847 a group of progressive citizens established the Toisnot Academy for boys and another school opened for girls (both outside this district); this began Wilson's reputation as a leading educational community in eastern North Carolina. In 1848 a Masonic Lodge was chartered.[9]

In 1849 Oswald Lipscomb (1826-1891), a master builder, and farmer, moved to town; he dominated building design here until his death. His two marriages to daughters of the Rountree and Barnes Families furthered his influence in town, where he designed impressive Italinate residences for some of the leading men in town.[10] Unfortunately, few of these houses survive, and those that do are in areas to be nominated as the Old Wilson Historic District.

Growth was rapid and on January 29, 1849 the town of Wilson was chartered, incorporating the settlements of Toisnot Depot and Hickory Grove. The town was named for General Louis D. Wilson, a native and state senator from Edgecombe County who died of yellow fever in 1847 during the Mexican-American War.[11]

In 1853 the local transportation network was expanded with the completion of a plank road from Wilson to Greenville. This plank road followed the route of the earlier Raleigh to Greenville post road; the plank road was never completed between Wilson and Raleigh. This road is now Nash Street, Wilson's main thoroughfare and the main axis of this historic district. Access to the ports of Washington and Wilmington was thus easier for local farmers.[12] Wilson, like many other small inland towns flourished in the 1850s, a period of unprecedented prosperity in North Carolina, a prosperity drawn from an economy based on agriculture. Among those who came in the early 1850s was Willis Napoleon Hackney (1823-1887), who came from neighboring Nash County and established a carriage and wagon factory in Wilson in 1852.[13] The Hackney firm, now known as the Hackney Brothers Body Company, (#35) became a large and well-known manufacturer of carriages and wagons. The Hackney Company, moved their operations out of the downtown in the early twentieth century.[14]

Another important family to come to Wilson during the 1850s was that of David and Mary Groves Connor from Wilmington. Their son, Henry Groves Connor (1852-1924) was a prominent local lawyer, local politician, and judge. He served as president of the Branch Banking Company (#34) from 1896 until 1907, when he resigned to devote full time to his position as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, on which he served from 1902 until 1909. In 1909 he was appointed justice of the United States District Court for the Eastern District where he remained until his death in 1924.[15] Connor and his wife, the former Kate Whitfield, built a large frame house in the 1870s at 325 East Nash Street, now the site of the Thomas-Yelverton Funeral Home (#48). Their oldest son, George Whitefield Connor, was a prominent local judge, and was later an Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court.[16] Another son, Robert Digges Wimberly Connor (1878-1950) became a noted historian. He organized the North Carolina Historical Commission, the forerunner of the State Division of Archives and History, and served as its secretary from 1903 to 1921. In 1934 he was appointed by Franklin Delano Roosevelt as the first Archivist of the United States, a position he held until returning in 1941 to the University of North Carolina where he taught until his death in 1950. Connor was the author of many books and his North Carolina-Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth, 1584-1925 (1929), is a well-known reference book on North Carolina.[17]

During the thriving early 1850s the goal of a separate county was undertaken with renewed vigor by Wilsonians and others a long distance from the Edgecombe County seat at Tarboro. Finally in February 1855 the General Assembly passed an act creating Wilson County (named also for General Louis D. Wilson) from Edgecombe, Johnston, Nash, and Wayne counties.[18] The first courthouse, an impressive Gothic Revival style building, was erected later that year on the site of the present courthouse.[19] Wilson had a population of "probably 250" in 1854.[20]

While the earliest center of town was, as expected, around the depot at the Barnes street crossing, the erection of the courthouse on Nash Street caused a gradual shift of business to Nash Street. Nash Street, known in the early 1850s as the Plank Road[21], was the route of the Greenville to Wilson plank road. The road continued (unimproved) north to the Nash County seat at Nashville. Wilson's new position as the county seat further enhanced its business climate, as merchants opened stores to serve county residents to town on legal matters. The attractiveness of Wilson as a place to work, conduct business, educate the children, and live continued to draw more residents to town. With its advantageous railroad location, Wilson, at the close of the antebellum period was a prosperous and ambitious, if small town.[22]

The growth of Wilson slowed during and immediately following the Civil War. While the county was spared any major fighting (the Wilson Female Academy was converted into a Confederate hospital in 1863), the war brought an important influx of refugees from other parts of the state to Wilson. Many of them chose to stay, and they and their families made important contributions to Wilson's growth and development. Perhaps the best known of these was the Daniels family. Mary Cleaves Seabrook Daniels (1835-1923), whose husband died during the war, came to Wilson after the war to be near her sister. In 1866 she was appointed postmistress and served until 1883. She also operated a millinery shop and the old Seabrook Hotel (#126) on North Tarboro Street. It was in Wilson that one of her sons, Josephus Daniels (1862-1948), Wilson's most famous "native son", got his start in journalism. In 1878 Josephus Daniels and his younger brother began an amateur newspaper, The Cornucopia, and in 1881 he purchased the Wilson Advance. He moved onto papers in Kinston, Rocky Mount and Raleigh. In 1894 he purchased the Raleigh News and Observer and under his active management he built the paper into one of the most influential newspapers in the state. A strong supporter of the Democratic Party, he served as Woodrow Wilson's Secretary of the Navy from 1913 to 1921, and as Franklin Deleano Roosevelt's Ambassador to Mexico from 1933 until 1941.[23]

Among the many newcomers to Wilson during the post War recovery were Alpheus Branch and Pleasant Daniel Gold. Alpheus Branch (1843-1893), a native of Halifax County, by 1869 had moved to Wilson with his wife, Nannie Barnes Branch, the only daughter of General Joshua Barnes. In 1872 he opened Branch, Hadley and Company, private bankers, with Thomas Jefferson Hadley (1838-1917). In 1887 Branch bought out Hadley's interest, moved to new quarters on East Nash Street, and changed the name to Branch and Company, Bankers,[24] the forerunner of Branch Banking and Trust Company, now the sixth largest bank in North Carolina.[25] The bank in 1903 built an impressive office (#26)(NR) in the heart of Wilson's downtown and presently maintains corporate headquarters at 223 West Nash Street, just outside this historic district.

Pleasant Daniel Gold (1833-1920) was born in Rutherford County and became a clergyman in the Missionary Baptist Church as a young man. On November 15, 1867 he published the first issue of Zion's Landmark in Goldsboro. This publication was to become the monthly news organ of the Primitive Baptist Church under his ownership. In 1871 he moved, to Wilson, bringing the Zion's Landmark with him.

He served Primitive Baptist congregations at Wilson, Tarboro, and Falls of the Tar River for almost fifty years.[26] His oldest son, John D. Gold (1867-1954) founded the Wilson Times as a weekly newspaper on February 17, 1896 and six years later started the Daily Times.[27] Elder Gold was president of the publishing company that printed all three publications until his death in 1920, when his son John D. Gold took over. The two newspapers were combined in 1936 into the Wilson Daily Times, which continues as Wilson's only newspaper. In 1982 the paper moved from its downtown offices on North Goldsboro Street (#176) to a modern plant outside the district.

Recovery during the post War period was fairly rapid, and by the 1870s Wilson was again a bustling town, spurred by the increasing prosperity of the area's farmers. Cotton, the chief cash crop during the antebellum years (3,012 bales in 1859), recovered and expanded quickly; the 1870 census records a crop of 5,225 bales. While gins were a necessity and Wilson, because of its railroad connections, was the logical location for them, the first record of a cotton gin operating in Wilson is one in 1872 by R. J. Taylor,[28] in 1878 there were two. While Wilson County had been a major producer of cotton during the 1850s, 1860s, and 1870s and was near the center of North Carolina's cotton belt, all of this cotton had to be shipped out of Wilson. In 1880, however, several of the town's business leaders, led by Alpheus Branch, incorporated the Wilson Cotton Mills. Located in a large brick plant that featured an impressive four-story Romanesque tower along the railroad at South Street (outside the district), the Wilson Cotton Mills, in providing for local consumption, further enhanced the growth of cotton in Wilson County. (The mill was razed in 1977.) In reporting that Wilson had handled 23,410 bales of cotton in the preceeding year, The Wilson Mirror on September 13, 1887 claimed that Wilson "is one of the best cotton markets in the state".

It is from this post War recovery period that Wilson's earliest surviving buildings date. By the 1880s much of the original frame stores in the heart of downtown had begun to be replaced with more permanent brick structures. Several devastating fires led to the enactment of an ordinance in 1884 to prohibit the erection of wooden structures in the block bounded by Nash, Tarboro, Barnes, and Goldsboro streets and within 120 feet of Nash Street from the Briggs Hotel (now Roses Department Store #30) to what is now Pine Street.[29] Most of the bricks used in this construction came from two successful brick yards which operated in Wilson during this period. Calvin Barnes (-1899) operated one on South Goldsboro Street between Barnes and Kenan streets (later the site of the Centre Brick Tobacco Warehouse, now a parking lot #158). Silas Lucas (1852-1916) began a brick yard in 1880 northeast of the city limits. The Lucas yard continued into the early twentieth century under the management of his son Wyatt G. Lucas (1872-1939).[31] Surviving buildings of this post war expansion include the Winstead-Hardy Building (#32)(1866), the Rountree Building (#149)(ca 1870s), and the Whitehead Building (#128)(1885). It was during this period that Oettinger's Department Store (#16) was established, although it has been remodeled several times since.

Several years of low low prices and poor crops led several far-sighted local farmers to direct their attention to the cultivation of flue-cured tobacco. Tobacco had been grown in North Carolina since the mid seventeenth century[31] and had been an important cash crop during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the northern tier of counties which bordered on Virginia. But tobacco had been scarely planted in Wilson County prior to the 1880s. Census records show that in 1859 just 312 pounds were grown in Wilson County; 1.898 pounds in 1869, and 8,745 pounds on but seventeen acres in 1879. However, experiments in the late 1870s in the heart of the cotton section had demonstrated that yellow-tobacco (or flue-cured as it is known today)[32] was particularly suited to the dry, warm, gray, sandy, light soils with the yellow, sandy-clay subsoils which abounded in eastern North Carolina.[33] Furthermore, "old fields of the proper soil, which have been worn out and abandoned, make . . .the best tobacco lands.[34] Fields tired from decades of planting cotton were common in Wilson County.

But what spurred the growth of tobacco the most was the favorable price it drew at market when compared with cotton. Various experiments and attempts were made at tobacco culture in the coastal region of the state before cotton prices dropped to a point sufficiently low to cause a general shift to tobacco.[35] In 1884, several area farmers marketed their cured leaf in Henderson and in an interview in the Wilson Advance reported that the prices they received were four times as much per acre as they had netted on cotton.[36] Three consecutive years in the late 1880s of cotton prices which were only eight cents per pound produced outspoken dissatisfaction and for many farmers made the substitution of another crop obligatory.[37] It is easy to understand why the county's farmers adopted tobacco so readily. Consequently, the production of tobacco soared in Wilson County during the 1880s, from 8,745 pounds in 1879 to 232,966 pounds in 1889.[38]

The pioneer tobacco farmers in Wilson county were forced to market their cured leaf away from Wilson in such places as Durham, Henderson, Oxford, Raleigh, and Roxboro.[39] These markets were in the state's traditional tobacco-producing area (now known as the Old Belt), the area which was the leader in the post Civil War development of the tobacco industry. Here, the first auction house sale of tobacco had been held in Durham in 1871, followed rapidly by the opening of markets at Reidsville and Winston in 1872 and at Henderson in 1873.[40]

The phenomenal spread of tobacco cultivation in the upper coastal plain demanded a local market. The town of Wilson took a leading role in encouraging the cultivation of tobacco and the establishment of a local tobacco market by offering to exempt the owners of Wilson's first prize house (where cured tobacco was pressed into hogsheads to await shipping and further processing) from taxes for five years.[41] The response to this offer was enthusiastic and a prize house was constructed by local subscription before May 1890 on the site of the present Woodard-Watson Warehouse. (#205) The Wilson Tobacco Warehouse Company was founded by such eminent Wilsonians as F. W. Barnes, Alexander Greene, Calvin Barnes, L. F. Lucas, Walter F. Woodard, J. S. Rountree, and W. W. Farmer, and was placed under

the management of Edmund Martin Pace (1836-1907).[42] Pace was one of the legendary personalities within the post Civil War growth period of tobacco auction markets all the way from Danville, Virginia to a number of markets in South Carolina. He had beenapprovinglybailed as "tobaccoland's traveling troubador". A compiler of booklets about tobacco-farming practices, he distributed them among prospective growers; perhaps the most popular of these was Tobacco: How to Grow It! And Best of All--Make it Pay.[43] In 1906 he even touted Wilson with a pamphlet, "WILSON HAS ADVANTAGES over all competitors for high prices in selling Tobacco and Country Produce and the lowest to farmers when it comes to selling them their supplies". On September 10, 1890 the Wilson Tobacco Market officially opened, but the first sale was made the day before to the firm of Charles M. Fleming and Roscoe Briggs.[44] Fleming (1862-1931) was one of the leaders in Wilson and became known as "the Grandfather of the Wilson Tobacco Market."[45] While a market had tried to open in Rocky Mount several years previously, Wilson's was the first successful tobacco market for flue-cured tobacco in eastern North Carolina[46] and from the start led the way for the spread of tobacco throughout eastern North Carolina.

The location chosen for the first tobacco auction house was the site of the former town cemetery at the corner of South Goldsboro and South streets. In 1876, when the much large Maplewood Cemetery had been established at the northeastern limits of Wilson to provide a more park-like setting and room for expansion, the old town cemetery was condemned. The internments were then moved to the new cemetery.[47] This location proved advantageously located adjacent to the central business district, where the farmers and their families could shop on market days and near to the railroad for convenient transportation. It is also far enough away from major residential or commercial areas to allow for expansion.

Growth now was rapid in Wilson. From the border counties of North Carolina and Virginia came experienced and ambitious tobaccomen to the fledgling market. Drawn by the tremendous tobacco-growing and marketing potential of the Wilson County area, many left the center of the "old" Virginia market, the Danville area, where the looseleaf auction system that is still in use throughout the southeastern United States had originated in 1858.[48] And so came these experienced tobaccomen, men who would involve themselves in all aspects of the Wilson Tobacco Market-organizing, building, and operating auction warehouses, prizeries, stemmeries[49] and redrying plants. From Vance County, North Carolina, in addition to Fleming, came Rom Purifoy Watson (1869-1932) in 1893. The Andersons, father T. McKenzie (1843-1909) and sons William P. (1869-1931) and Selby Hunt (1874-1962), came from Halifax County, Virginia in the early 1890s and were among the most prominent tobacco families in Wilson. Selby H. Anderson was involved in more tobacco business than any other person of his period, in addition to being president and later Chairman of the Board of the Branch Banking and Trust Company from 1913 until his death in 1962. From Granville County, North Carolina in 1893 came Ula Hubert Cozart (1869-1948), who co-founded the Centre Brick Warehouse (#158) in 1893, and in the early 1900s John S. Leach (1877-1939) of the Farmers Warehouse (#206) and the Smith brothers, Samuel W. (1874-1926), Ben Thorpe (1887-1944), and Richard T. (1893-1953), whose tobacco careers took them into the organizations of several warehouses, most notably the Planters (#211) and Smith

Warehouses (#207). Among the other prominent tobaccomen to come to Wilson were Ed Cooper from Granville County, N.C. in the 1890s, William Martin Carter (1865-1938) from Virginia in 1890, James E. Crute (1866-1943) from Mecklenberg County County, Virginia in 1912, and Elbert A. Darden (____-1930) in the early 1890s. Joining these men were many prominent Wilson County natives including Roscoe Briggs (1859-1933), Joseph Fred Deans (1877-1947), Joseph Collins Eagles (1871-1952), Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956), and Walter Farmer Woodard (1871-1923).

These experienced tobaccomen instructed the local farmers to profitably cultivate tobacco. Through their ambitious promotion of the local market, they led Wilson to the forefront of the nation's tobacco marketing industry. In the first year 1,508,109 pounds of tobacco were sold in Wilson at one warehouse, and in 1900 15,129,708 pounds were sold in five warehouses, making Wilson's market one of the largest in the state. In 1919 the Wilson market handled 42,330,509 pounds, surpassing Danville, Virginia as the nation's largest market for flue-cured tobacco, a position that has only been seriously threatened once since.[50]

Wilson's tobacco facilities expanded rapidly in the 1890s and 1900s. The 1897 Sanborn Insurance Maps list eleven prize houses, although only one, the Briggs and Fleming Tobacco Prize House (#238)(ca 1895), operated for a number of years (taken over by R. P. Watson ca 1905), and one stemmery, the Richmond-Maury Company (#267) later the Wilson Tobacco Company). In about 1900 the American Tobacco Company, the trust of American tycoon James Buchanan Duke, built a large redrying facility; this plant came under the ownership of the Liggett-Meyers Tobacco Company (#173) after the court-ordered breakup of the American Tobacco Company in 1911. In 1904 the owners of the Imperial Tobacco Company (#232) built their impressive redrying, stemming and prize facility adjacent to the railroad. The early 1900s saw the erection of two more tobacco auction warehouses, the Farmers (#206) in 1903 and the Liberty (#96) in 1904.

While Wilson was becoming an important market for flue-cured tobacco, it flirted only briefly with the manufacture of cigarettes. In 1900 Stephen C. Wells (1850-1933) and Howell Gray Whitehead (1874-1956) founded the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company (#112). Wells-Whitehead had its greatest success with "Carolina Brights" cigarettes, but in 1903, after the "Carolina Brights" had gained a slight foothold in the cigarette market, fifty-one percent of its stock was sold blindly to James B. Duke's Durham-based American Tobacco Company. In 1906 the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company, then solely owned by the American Tobacco Company manufactured 92,000,000 "Carolina Brights" cigarettes in Wilson. Soon thereafter the machinery was moved to Durham and cigarette manufacturing came to an end in Wilson. Former employees of the Wells-Whitehead Tobacco Company tried twice to break into the local manufacturing market. About 1902 W. M. Carter and Ernest M. Nadal started to manufacture "Contentnea" cigarettes at a South Goldsboro Street location. And around that same time a Mr. Ware and Mr. Cramer began to make "White Rose" cigarettes on the South Lodge and East Barnes street site now occupied by the Imperial Tobacco Company. Neither cigarette was as successful as "Carolina Brights".[51]

Further expansion of the Wilson market necessitated additional auction floor space and new warehouses were built and existing ones expanded during the 1920s. The first new one was the (second) Planters (#211) in 1920, followed by the Carolina (#157) in 1925 and Smith's A and B (#207) in 1927 and 1928. However, by the 1930s the central warehouse district, bounded roughly by Tarboro, Kenan, South, Douglas, and Hines Streets and centering upon Goldsboro Street, was crowded. This area, with its seven surviving brick warehouses that are characterized by the thousands of raised skylights that pierce their roofs, today contains the finest, largest, and most important collection of tobacco auction warehouses in the country. Since the 1930s, all new auction warehouse expansion, with the exception of Smith's C in 1947, has taken place away from this historic core of the Wilson Tobacco Market, at first several blocks to the southwest on Tarboro and Goldsboro streets and later along the U.S. 291 and 264 Bypasses south of downtown.

Concurrent with the growth of the tobacco industry in the early twentieth century was the peak of the area's cotton production and industry. Despite the inroads made by tobacco, Wilson was still one of eastern North Carolina's leading cotton markets in 1928, selling over 50,000 bales annually, with Wilson and its contiguous counties (Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt, Greene, Wayne, and Johnston) producing 80 percent of North Carolina's cotton crop.[52] As late as 1929 cotton still led tobacco in acreage in Wilson County (32,549 to 32,418).[53] The impact of the boll weevil in the 1920s, the Great Depression, and depleted soils drastically reduced the crop, so much that in 1945 the Wilson Cotton Mill was forced out of business.[54]

Developing along with the cotton and tobacco industries in Wilson was the industry of fertilizer manufacturing, which was vital to the production of both crops on the area's relatively poor soils. Three fertilizer plants developed in Wilson, two connected with cotton oil mills, the Southern Cotton Oil Company (#268) in 1900 and the Farmers Cotton Oil Company (#113) in 1902. A third, Contentnea Guano Company, was located outside this district.

Tobacco brought an unprecedented prosperity to Wilson. While Wilson had been known for its excellent private schools since the 1850s, public school funding did not occur until the mid 1880s when Wilson became the first city in the state to levy a sales tax in support of education. However, in 1886 the state Supreme Court ruled this tax unconstitutional because it discriminated against the black children.[55] Public tax support of education was not reinstated until 1891 when approval was gained for a special school tax to be divided without discrimination as to race and to provide for separate buildings for both races.[56] Wilson's enhanced educational posture attracted more people to town, especially blacks who came in increasing numbers to work in the mills, factories, and shops.

This general prosperity of the late nineteenth century generated a tremendous amount of business activity in Wilson. Major firms were established to serve the citizens of Wilson and the farmers who traded here. Included were such well-known stores as Herring's Drugs (#34), founded in 1885 and whose turn of the century advertising signs are still visible on the interior beams of the Woodard-Watson Tobacco Warehouse (#205). Other advertising in the warehouse includes that of

Wooten and Stevens, Furniture Dealer and Funeral Directors, and the Cash Racket Store, a department store which operated at the site of the Davis Building (#28) (1916). Several large general mercantile stores were established in the 1890s, the most successful being P. L. Woodard and Company (#91), which supplied the needs of the areas farmers, carrying a wide range of supplies from seeds and fertilizers to work clothes and kitchen utensils. Tomlinson and Company (#147) and the Young Mercantile Company (146) were typical of the turn of the century general mercantile stores. All of the needs of Wilsonians were met by Wilson's enterprising merchants, including such diverse stores as Wilson Hardware Company (#24), Nadal Drug Store (#15), Allen T. Gay, dry goods and notions, G. S. Tucker Furniture (#187), a bottling company (#182), Churchwells Jewelers (#18 and #20), Luper-Riley Hat Shop (#137), Bullock Dry Goods (#143), and Wilson Marble, Mantel, and Tile Company (#12). Wilson also developed into a wholesale center, boasting several large wholesale grocers such as Boykin Grocery Company (#194) (founded in the late 1880s), C. Woodard Wholesale Grocery (#224), and Barnes-Harrell Company. (#109)

The Hackney Wagon Company (#35) prospered during the late nineteenth century and in 1885 was reported as "one of the few large manufacturers of carriages and wagons in the Southern States.[57] Several other carriage makers operated in Wilson at the turn of the century on a much smaller scale. Chief among them was the Cicero Culpepper Carriage Shop (#159). Livery stables and sales houses were important businesses in meeting transportation needs and Wilson had numerous successful livery stables. The Jefferson D. Farrior Livery Stable (#155) was the largest and most successful. With few exceptions, these liveries were located in the vicinity of the tobacco warehouses, where their services were in great demand by the farmers who brought their leaf to market. Also associated with this area were a number of blacksmiths and wheelwrights, only one of which, the Bissette Blacksmith Shop (#166)(ca 1926), survives.

At the turn of the century bustling Wilson could offer a wide variety of services and social activities to its residents and visitors. In 1897 the Wilson Sanitorium (#33) was formed as Wilson's first hospital and during its short existence (it closed in the early 1920s) it also operated a training school for nurses, one of the first such schools in this section of the state. Much of the social activities centered on the schools and churches, all of which were located outside of this district except for the Baptists and Primitive Baptists, each in a building that has since been razed (see #1 and #154). Several halls and theaters had been built for staging shows and dancing during the late nineteenth century, but they have either been replaced by newer buildings in the 1920s or were completely remodeled (see #13 and #143). Only the upstairs of the Young Mercantile Company (#146) and Herring's Drug Store (#34) retain a portion of their former theatre-dance halls. A number of fraternal lodges and hotels were also in operation at this time; they too, have all been lost.[58]

The late nineteenth century witnessed the significant commercial development in that part of town now known as East Wilson, the traditional black community of Wilson. After the Civil War and emancipation, this neighborhood became the home to Wilson's increasingly large black community. As blacks were attracted from the area's farms to work in the mills, stores, and business of Wilson, an active and relatively prosperous black community developed, one which had residential, commercial, religious, and social needs. The oldest surviving structures in the commercial portion of East Wilson that is included in this district[59] date from the turn of the century. These include several modest brick commercial buildings, such as #52 and the former Harrell Store (#58) that catered to the needs of Wilson's black community. Serving the community's social needs were such facilities as the impressive three-story Odd Fellows Hall (#75) (1894), Mount Hebron Masonic Lodge Number 42 (#274)(Chartered 1881), the Wilson Missionary Baptist Church (organized 1872)(see #116 and #275), and St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (#273), and the Orange Hotel (#63)(1906). The Orange Hotel was the first hotel for blacks in Wilson and is Wilson's only surviving frame hotel. The earliest surviving houses in the district, such as number 72, date from the early 1900s.

No individual in Wilson's Black community asserted greater leadership than did Samuel H. Vick (1863-1946). Vick was principal of the local colored graded school from ca 1884 to 1889, a position which gave him the lifelong honorary title of "Professor". He also was the Wilson postmaster from 1889 to 1894 and again from 1898 to 1903. A determined and successful businessman who sought to alleviate injustice, Vick directed his business practices to the services of his people. He built livable houses for Wilson's expanding black population during the first decade of this century; built the Orange Hotel (#63) in 1906 as Wilson's first hotel for blacks; was instrumental in the building of the Odd Fellows Hall (#75) in 1894; established the first Negro bank, the Commercial Bank, at 424 East Nash Street in 1920; operated the Globe Theatre; founded Wilson's first hospital for blacks, the Wilson Hospital and Tubercular Home in 1913; and organized the Lincoln Benefit Society Inc., a fraternal insurance organization. He was equally active in church and civic activities. For several years after 1904 he served as a Presbyterian missionary under the direction of his alma mater, Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, and traveled throughout North Carolina helping to organize Presbyterian Sunday School classes. He also organized many Odd Fellow Lodges across the state and traveled around the county speaking for political candidates who supported the Negro cause.[60]

The booming local economy made Wilson a good location for business, banking, and trading, and much of downtown Wilson was enlarged or rebuilt with larger, more impressive buildings in the first third of the twentieth century. This activity was a magnet for promising young architects, and three particularly left an important imprint on downtown Wilson: Solon Balias Moore (1872-1930), and Wilson natives and brothers Frank Whitaker Benton (1882-1960) and Charles Collins Benton (1887-1960). Moore was a native of Cleveland County and came to Wilson in

1905; the 1908 Wilson Directory lists him as a foreman. He went into partnership with Charles C. Benton about 1910, leaving about 1915 to establish his own office. During this partnership Benton and Moore designed the Fidelity Mutual Insurance Building (1910)(razed 1977) the Wilson Hospital and Tubercular Home (1913), and the Woodard-Herring Hospital (1914)(razed). His documented downtown buildings include the Davis Building (#28)(1916), the Carroll Building (#45)(1922), Terminal Inn (#50)(ca 1920), and the Smith Warehouses A and B (#207) 1927, 1928). He may have also designed the Wilson Theatre (#11) (1916), where he maintained offices for many years. Over twenty of his residences survive in Wilson.[61] He is buried in Wilson's Maplewood Cemetery, for which he designed the impressive Mission style gates in 1922.[62]

Charles C. Benton (1887-1960) was a graduate of M.I.T. and was responsible for much of the building in Wilson. In addition to his partnership with Moore, he had a partnership with his brother Frank from 1915 until 1935, when he withdrew to form C. C. Benton and Son with his sons, Henry, a civil engineer, and C. C. Benton, Jr., an architect. The firm did a great deal of work in the western part of the state, particularly around Statesville, and maintained offices in South Carolina and Norfok, Virginia in addition to the home office in Wilson. His fondness for colonial style architecture earned him the nickname "Charles Colonial Benton". Unfortunately, few Benton Buildings are documented because of a fire which destroyed most of the original plans and blueprints after Benton's death in 1960. His Wilson works are undoubtedly numerous and include several local churches and church additions, several buildings on the Atlantic Christian College Campus, and the Cherry Hotel (#49)(1921)(NR).[63]

Frank W. Benton (1882-1960) was a graduate of the Architectural Institute of Oklahoma and worked in Oklahoma for several years before returning to Wilson to join his brother about 1915; he worked on his own after the partnership's dissolution in 1935. He was designer of many local WPA projects, including the Wilson Municipal Building (178) (1938), the Recreation Center Bath Houses (1938), and the Wilson County Public Library (1938) on West Nash Street.[64]

H. T. Crittenden, who was active in Wilson ca 1916 to ca 1920, has several documented surviving buildings in Wilson : the Dildy and Agnew Hardware Store (#92)(ca 1916), and the C. Woodard Wholesale Grocery - Wilson Motor Parts Building (#224)(ca 1916-1917), the W. R. Bryan House, (1917), and the Colonial Apartments (1918).[65] Thomas B. Herman (1885-1956) a draftsman with Benton and Benton ca 1922-1928 and active as an architect from 1928 until 1956, designed the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Building (#2) (ca 1936) and at least seven known houses in Wilson.[66] John Christie Stout (1860-1921), a well-known architect and builder of this period, achieved a great measure of success during practices in Wilmington (ca 1891-ca 1904) and Rocky Mount (ca 1906-1921). Between these cities he formed a partnership with Charles C. Benton in Wilson where his only known building are the Wilson Sanitorium Annex (#33) and four dwellings.[67] Out-of-town architects represented in downtown Wilson are Fred A. Bishop of Richmond, Virginia, Wilson County Courthouse.(#27)(1925)(NR); C. C. Davis and Otis K. Asbury of Richmond,

Virginia, additions to the Imperial Tobacco Company (#232)(ca 1910 and 1919); A. M. Griffin of Wilmington, Atlantic Coastline Passenger and Freight Station (#51) 1924; Charles C. Hartman of Greensboro, First National Bank of Wilson, (#22)(1927); James A. Wetmore of Washington, DC, United States Post Office and Court House (#37) (1927); and Charles Wilson of Columbia, South Carolina, Charles L. Coon High School, (#172)(1922).

Furthering Wilson's position as a regional transportation center was heightened in 1907 and 1908 when the Norfolk and Southern Railroad completed a line through Wilson, connecting Raleigh, Wilson, Greenville, and Chocowinity. This gave Wilson the advantageous position of being located on the main trunk line of both a major north-south (Atlantic Coast Line) and east-west (Norfolk and Southern) railroad. The Norfolk and Southern discontinued passenger service to Wilson in the late 1940s. Its depot (#102) has been thoroughly altered several times since Wilson's prosperity of the 1910s and resulted in increased economic vigor and building. The best examples of this prosperity are the impressive edifices erected by Wilson's leading black congregations, Jackson Chapel-First Missionary Baptist Church (#275)(1913) and St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (#273)(1915). Other important buildings erected in the 1910s include the Davis Building (#28)(1916).

The year 1919 was a magic year for Wilson. The tobacco market's largest season to date, 42,330,509 pounds, made it the nation's largest flue-cured tobacco market. And the unheard of price of 53.67 cents per pound (the previous highs were 36.03 cents in 1918, and 30.87 cents in 1917) generated almost twenty-three million dollars in sales for the area's farmers.[69] Increasing crop sizes and steady, if somewhat low, prices of the 1920s, averaging sixty-six million pounds and 24.6 cents per pound, ushered in a decade of prosperity unprecedented in Wilson's history.[70] This growth of the market resulted in the erection of four new tobacco warehouses--Planters (#211)(1920), Carolina (#157)(1925), and Smiths A and B (#207)(1927, 1928)-and substantial additions to several others and to the city's tobacco processing plants.

It is from the flush 1920s that much of Wilson's architectural fabric dates. It was during this time that the impressive neo-classical public buildings--the Wilson County Courthouse (#27)(1924)(NR), the Charles L. Coon High School (#172) (1921), the Planters Bank (#29)(1920), the United States Post Office and Court House (#37)(1929), and the Cherry Hotel (#49)(1921)(NR)--were built. The Mission Revival Style Atlantic Coastline Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Station (#51)(1924) was also erected during this boom. Also dating from this decade are several of Wilson's handsomest commercial buildings, still in the neo-classical tradition: First Bank of Wilson (#22)(1927), the Carroll Building (#45)(1922), the Wells Building (#14)(1923), the Hackney Building (#189)(ca 1922), and the Thomas-Yelverton/Hackney Building (#215)(1921). The prosperity of the late 1910s and the 1920s resulted in the replacement of Victorian facades with handsome vernacular ones, facades which feature the textural quality of brick work with the judicious use of stone accents; the quantity and quality of these vernacular commercial buildings

is one of the main features of downtown Wilson. The finest example of this is the impressive row of ten similar storefronts of the Herring's Drug Store (#34) and the Hackney Buildings (#35), all dating from 1922.

East Wilson shared in the prosperity of the 1920s. It was during this period that the Commercial Bank, Wilson's black-owned bank operated (see #56). Several handsome commercial buildings and numerous modest brick stores were erected in the 500 block of West Nash Street, the finest being the Darden Building (#80)(mid 1920s). It was erected as rental property for Camillus L. Darden (1884-1956), a prominent leader in the black community. He was the sone of Charles H. Darden (1854-1931), the first black undertaker in North Carolina.[71] Both were prominent businessmen in Wilson and the Darden Memorial Funeral Home continues today at a site outside this district.

Wilson's population near the close of the prosperous 1920s was estimated at 16,929 in 1928.

Cultural and educational opportunities continues to expand in Wilson during the 1920s. Perhaps no building exemplified Wilson's opinion of itself as a major city as did the Wilson Theatre (#11)(ca 1920), one of the most lavishly finished small theatres of this period in the state. The guiding force behind Wilson's educational development in the early twentieth century was Charles L. Coon (1868-1927), who was the Wilson Graded School Superintendant from 1907-1927. Author, spokesman for educational reform, and one of North Carolina's most outstanding early twentieth century educators, Coon is credited with creating a county school system for Wilson that set a pattern for consolidation in the state.[72] In 1928 the Charles L. Coon High School (#172)(ca 1920) was named in his honor.

The stock market crash of 1929 hit Wilson hard. The prosperity of the previous decades had attracted numerous Wilson County farmers to the City, many of whom sold their farms to do so. As unemployment rose, these people often found themselves lacking the means of even raising their own food. Growth, development, and the expansion of the downtown area was brought virtually to a halt. The Commercial Bank, Wilson's only black-owned bank, failed in 1930 and both the First National Bank of Wilson (#22)(1927) and the Planters Bank (#29) (1927) and the Planters Bank (#29)(1920) closed in December 1931. Neither the Commercial Bank nor the Planters Bank ever reopened.

Nevertheless, Wilson's economy was till centered around tobacco and, with the exception of 1931 and 1932 when tobacco market revenues sank to one-third of their levels of the late 1920s, tobacco production levels and auction prices remained near their pre-crash levels.[73] In 1933 Govenor Ehringhaus closed the tobacco markets for three weeks and led a committee representing tobacco interests to Washington to ask for federal aid.[74] This marked the beginnings of the stabilization of Wilson's economy. Among the first commercial buildings built during this period were the Bullock Building (#10)(ca 1935) and the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company (#2)(ca 1936). Other construction came to Wilson in 1938 with large amounts of money spent on three major civic buildings by the

Works Progress Administration (WPA_: the Wilson County Library, the Wilson Swimming Pool and Bath Houses, and the Municipal Building (#177).[75] Also in 1938 the Art Deco Bus Station (#227).

The post-World War II era brought major changes to the life and character of the business and tobacco districts. Highway construction and the decline of the railroad as a major means of passenger travel took much of the traveling business away from downtown Wilson, and its several hotels, especially the Cherry Hotel, ca 1920, and the Briggs and the Imperial Hotels, went into a long period of decline; the latter two were both demolished in the 1950s. As stated earlier, the Wilson Cotton Mill closed in 1945 due to poor cotton crops and the crowded tobacco auction warehouses were forced to expand away from the historic tobacco district and closer to the more prevalent mode of transportation, the highways.

Improved roads made shopping in the nearby larger cities, primarily Raleigh and Greenville, more accessible and downtown Wilson in the 1960s and 1970s lost some of its former dominant role as the county's commercial center as people traveled out of town and the suburban shopping centers. But the opportunities afforded to its residents continued to attract newcomers, and Wilson's population grew steadily from 19,234 in 1940 (census) to 29,347 in 1970 (census).

But Wilson's tobacco market, even if no longer centered in the historic warehouse district, had continued its role as the nation's largest market for flue-cured tobacco.[61] In fact, in 1982 Wilson sold almost double the poundage of the next largest market in the nation, Greenville, North Carolina.[76] Since the designation system of selling went into effect in 1974, whereby farmers are required to designate before planting at which warehouse within 100 miles of their farm they will sell their tobacco, Wilson has the possibility of marketing tobacco from forty-six North Carolina and ten Virginia counties, with farmers from thirty-five of the North Carolina's one hundred counties actually traveling to the Wilson Market. Prior to this system, Wilson's reputation as the best flue-cured tobacco market was enough to attract farmers from Georgia and Alabama![77] Although Wilson, like many small cities (1980 population of 34,059) has diversified its industrial economy since the 1950s, tobacco still forms the base of its economic health. Wilson, a child of the railroad but raised by "bright-leaf" tobacco, will continue to change with its tobacco market, which it proudly claims as the "World's Greatest."

FOOTNOTES

1 Robert C. Bainbridge and Kate Ohno, Wilson, North Carolina Historic Buildings Inventory (Wilson, Noeth Carolina: City of Wilson, 1980), p. 3.
2 ibid., p. 4.
3 ibid.
4 Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, The History of a Southern State-North Carolina (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 1973), p. 363.
5 Hugh B. Johnston, Jr., "County Post Offices", The Wilson Daily Times, February 15, 1951.
6 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 4.
7 ibid., p. 7.
8 Daily Hendly Gold, "A Town Named Wilson", 1949, p. 13. Unpublished work available at the Wilson County Public Library.
9 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 4.
10 ibid., pp. 4 and 235.
11 ibid., p. 5. The first commissioners were General Joshua Barnes, Jonathan D. Rountree, John W. Farmer, James D. Barnes, and Arthur Farmer.
12 ibid., p. 5.
13 J. M. Daniel, Jr., Hackney-The History of a Company (Wilson, North Carolina: Hackney Brothers Body Company, 1979), pp. 5, 7.
14 These later Hackney buildings are included as entry 212 in the Old Wilson Historic District.
15 Vidette Bass, Branch-A Tradition with a Future (Wilson, North Carolina: Branch Banking and Trust Company, 1979), p.89.
16 National Register nomination for the Wilson County Courthouse, included in the North Carolina Courthouse Thematic Nomination, entered on the Register May 10, 1979.
17 "Noted Historian Dies at 71", The News and Observer (Raleigh, North Carolina), February 26, 1950.
18 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 5.
19 ibid.
20 Gold, op.cit., p. 43.
21 ibid., p. 45.
22 The 1860 census records a population of 9,720 in Wilson County; the population of the town of Wilson is believed to have been about 300.
23 Crittenden, Powell, and Woody, eds., 100 Years-100 Men (Raleigh, North Carolina: Edwards and Broughton Company, 1971), pp. 103-104.
24 Bass, op.cit., p. 85.
25 Branch Banking and Trust Company.
26 R.D.W. Connor, North Carolina-Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth, 1584-1925 (Chicago: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1929) Vol. IV, p. 23.
27 ibid.
28 Levi Branson, The North Carolina Business Directory for 1872 (Raleigh, North Carolina: Levi Branson, 1872), p. 243.
29 "Minutes of City Countil, Wilson, North Carolina, 1850-1885", p. 295, unpublished work available at the Wilson County Public Library.

30 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 11.
31 Lefler and Newsome, op.cit., p. 14.
32 Flue-cured or "bright leaf" tobacco was discovered quite by accident about 1852 in Caswell County, North Carolina. Stephen, a slave on the plantation of Abisha and Elisha Slade had a blacksmith shop and a pit where he prepared charcoal for the forge. One rainy night he fell asleep while watching a barn of curing tobacco and allowed the wood fires to become almost extinguished. When he awoke, he rushed to the nearby charcoal pit, seized several charred butts of logs and threw them on the dying embers. The result was six hundred pounds "of the brightest yellow tobacco ever seen". At first it was thought that this curing process was the secret of producing "bright yellow tobacco" but later it was found that the soil was the principal factor. Leffler and Newsome, op.cit., p. 392.
33 1880 Census-Report of the Products of Agriculture (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1883), p. 445.
34 ibid., p. 706.
35 Nannie May Tilley, The Bright-Tobacco Industry, 1860-1929 (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 1948), p. 141.
36 Bass, op.cit., p. 21.
37 Tilley, op.cit., p. 141.
38 1890 Census-Report of the Statistics of Agriculture (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1895), p. 445.
39 Dr. W.B. Clark, Jr., unpublished manuscript of the history of the Wilson tobacco market, in his possession in Wilson, North Carolina, Vol. III, p. 59.
40 Tilley, op.cit., pp. 207-211.
41 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit, p. 12.
42 ibid., p. 12.
43 Clark, op.cit., Vol. III, p. 66.
44 According to Dr. W.B. Clark, Jr., Fleming was called the "Grandfather" rather than the "Father" during Fleming's lifetime because the first title indicated more respect.
46 O.L Joyner, Eastern North Carolina As a Tobacco Producing Section (Greenville, North Carolina: O.L Joyner, 1898), p. 5.
47 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 13.
48 "The tobacco auction scene...in Danville, Virginia", promotional brochure distributed by the Danville Tobacco Association, Inc. Prior to the "Danville System" of marketing, tobacco was inspected and sold by taking samples from each of the 1000-pound hogsheads.
49 A stemmery was a facility where the central stem of the cured leaf was removed because of its strong nicotine content and bitter taste. A redrying plant completely dried the cured leaf and then uniformly re-introduced the proper amount of moisture to insure proper aging and storage. Most Wilson tobacco factories combined both stemming and redrying operations.
50 Records of the Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc. and the Danville (Virginia) Tobacco Association, Inc.
51 Clark, op.cit., Vol. I, pp. 76-77.
52 Sketches of Wilson, North Carolina-Who's Who and What's What (Richmond, Virginia: Central Publishing Company, 1928), p. 8.

53 The census records of acres planted in Wilson County in tobacco and cotton are: in 1879, 17 acres tobacco and 23,706 acres cotton; in 1889, 483 acres tobacco and 33,285 acres cotton; in 1899, 9,465 acres tobacco and 18,699 acres cotton; in 1909, 11, 285 acres tobacco and 33,091 acres cotton; in 1919, 20,563 acres tobacco and 31,980 ares cotton; and in 1929, 32,418 acres tobacco and 35,549 acres cotton.
54 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 39. The Wilson Cotton Mill was demolished in 19.
55 Gold, op.cit., pp. 115-117.
56 ibid., pp. 118-119.
57 Daniel, op.cit., pp. 21-22. The report continues to state that the Hackney "manufacturing enterprise forms a pleasant oasis in this monotonously agricultural county", p. 23.
58 Information on Wilson's former hotels are included in the entries for the structur which replaced them. See: P.H. Rose and Company (former Briggs Hotel)(#31), Parking Lot (former Imperial Hotel)(#47), Parking Lot(former Seabrook Hotel)(#126), and Central Service Station (former Carolina Hotel)(#220.
59 The rest of East Wilson contains an impressive variety of dwellings associated with Wilson's large black population and constitutes one of the largest and most intact such collections in the state. It will be nominated to the Register as the East Wilson Historic District at a later date.
60 Robert C. Bainbridge, Designation Report of the Orange Hotel as a Wilson Historic Property, approved by City Council on March 21, 1979.
61 Many of these will be nominated in the Old Wilson Historic District and the West Nash Street Historic District.
62 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., pp. 235-236.
63 ibid., p. 254. See also the Old Wilson Historic District and the West Nash Street Historic District.
64 ibid. Benton's residence is included in the West Nash Street Historic Distirct as entry number 53.
65 See the Old Wilson Historic District and the West Nash Street Historic District.
66 ibid.
67 ibid. See also Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 236.
68 Richard E. Prince, Norfolk-Southern Railroad, Old Dominion Line and Connections (Millard, Nebraska: R.E. Prince, 19720,p. 15.
69 Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc., op.cit.
70 ibid. Crop sizes ranged from 42.3 million pounds in 1922 to 84.2 million pounds in 1928. Prices per pound ranged from 20.32 cents in 1929 to 29.94 cents in 1922.
71 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., p. 186.
72 ibid., p. 87.
73 Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc., op. cit.
74 Sue V. Dickinson, The First Sixty Years: A History of the Imperial Tobacco Company (Richmond, Virginia: Whilet and Shepperson, 1965), p. 80.
74 Bainbridge and Ohno, op.cit., pp. 21-22.
75 Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc., op.cit. Until the 1950s Wilson claimed to be the largest market of flue-cured tobacco in the world. That title has been lost to the market in Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) which markets all of that country's crop (annually in excess of 90 million pounds) in just two warehouses on one market. In comparison, the greatest year in Wilson, one of eighty-four markets in North

Carolina, was 1975 when 102,872,560 pounds were sold. This was the only time in the United States when a single market had surpassed the 100 million pound plateau. The most recent crop, 1983, was 66,414,698 pounds, a figure diminished due to adverse weather and a ten-percent cut in federal allotments for all flue-cured crops.
77 Wilson Tobacco Board of Trade, Inc., op.cit.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 141

Quadrangle name Wilson, N.C. Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	236650	3957380	B	17	237030	3957100
C	17	237220	3956780	D	17	237020	3956330
E	17	236640	3956460	F	17	236260	3956770
G	17	236040	3957290	H	17	236320	3957160

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheets

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Butchko, Preservation Consultant

organization date June 29, 1984

street & number 293 Newton Road telephone (919) 847-3588

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27609

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 date

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

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Mayo's Map of Wilson, 1872. original drawing by E.B. Mayo, copied by F.R. Thompson in 1923.

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Wilson Historic Properties Commission. Municipal Building. Designation reports for the following Wilson Historic Properties: First Baptist Church, Orange Hotel, Atlantic Coastline Passenger and Baggage Depot, Branch Banking and Trust Company, St. John's A.M.E. Zion Church, Planters Bank Building, U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, Cicero Culpepper Carriage Shop.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The Wilson Central Business and Tobacco Warehouse Historic District contains the commercial and industrial heart of Wilson, the area that was the center of the business life of Wilson from the 1840s until the present. Although most of Wilson's present industrial development has occured away from this district, many of the early buildings of Wilson's all-important tobacco industry-the auction warehouses, the prize houses, and the stemmeries-survive today, although only several continue actively with tobacco uses. The boundary is as follows:

Begin at the alley that runs along the northeast side of the Municipal Building at 112 North Goldsboro Street and continue southeasterly through the block and cross North Douglas Street; turn left (northeast) and continue to the alley between the building at 108 North Douglas Street and the ABC Store; turn left and continue to include a one-story brick warehouse; continue around the warehouse to East Green Street but exclude a frame house and a one-story brick building; cross East Green Street to include the property of the Bus Station at 307 East Green Street, and then turn south, continue southerly along the railroad tracks to East Nash Street, turn left (easterly) and continue along the rear (east) lot lines of the businesses fronting onto the east side of the 400 and 500 blocks of East Nash Street to the rear lot lines of those properties on the northwest side of North Pender Street; turn left (northeasterly), along the rear lot lines to Church Street (including the St. James AME Zion Church and Parsonage). Continue from the northwest corner of North Pender and Church streets, follow Pender Street in a southerly direction, across its junctions with Smith, East Nash and East Barnes streets (excluding the two buildings facing South Pender Street between East Nash and East Barnes streets to its junction with Stemmery Street; turn right (northwesterly) and continue a short distance to Moore Street; turn left (southwesterly) and continue to Taylor Street. Turn right (northwest) and continue along Taylor Street to its junction with Maury Street; turn right (northeast) and continue to the southwest property fence of the Montrose Hanger Company; turn left and continue to South Railroad Street. Turn right at South Railroad Street and continue to the South Street crossing, turn left (northwest), and cross the railroad tracks to Layton Avenue. Here turn left (southwest) and continue to Jones Street, turn right (northwest) and continue to South Lodge Street, and turn right (northeast) and continue along South Lodge Street back to South Street. Turn left (northwest) and continue along South Street one block to South Douglas Street; turn left and continue one block to Jones Street; turn right and continue one block to South Goldsboro Street; and turn left and continue alongside the Smith Tobacco Warehouse one block to Hines Street. Turn right (northwest) at Hines Street and continue two blocks to South Tarboro Street, and continue along Hines Street to include the four bungalows at 100, 102, 104, and 106 Hines Street. Turn right (northeast) along the northwest lot line of 106 Hines Street, continue to the fence surrounding the Salvation Army property, and turn left (northwest) and follow this fence (around the gymnasium) to the fence that marks the rear boundary of the Charles L. Coon School. Follow the school property line to and along Jackson Street, back to Moss Street, and finally southwesterly along Kenan

Street to the South Pine Street intersection. From this intersection, follow the southeastern edge of South Pine Street northeasterly, crossing West Barnes and West Nash Street, to the alley on the southwest of 108 North Pine Street. Turn right (southeast) and continue to the rear lot line of the Loyal Order of Moose Building (now Board of Education offices) at 117 North Tarboro Street, turn left (northeast) and continue to West Green Street. Turn right (southeast) on West Green and continue to North Goldsboro Street, turn right (southwest) and continue to the beginning.

NORTH CAROLINA, Moore County, Pine Bluff vicinity, McLeod Family Rural Complex, .4 miles west of US 1 (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Pitt County, Greenville, Ficklen, E.B., House, 508 W. 5th St. (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Randolph County, Franklinville, Franklinville Historic District, Roughly bounded by Deep River, Sunrise Ave., Clark St., and Greensboro Rd. (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Richmond County, Little's Mills vicinity, Little, John Phillips, House, Off NC 73 (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Rowan County, Kannapolis vicinity, Stigerwalt, John, House, E of Kannapolis off SR 1221 (Old Beatty Ford Rd.) (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Rowan County, Spencer, Spencer Historic District, Roughly bounded by N to S Salisbury Ave., 8th St., Whitehead Ave., and Jefferson St. (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Wilson County, Wilson, Old Wilson Historic District, Roughly bounded by Nash, N. Cone, Gold and Railroad Sts. and Maplewood Cemetery (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Wilson County, Wilson, West Nash Street Historic District, West Nash St. (12/20/84)
NORTH CAROLINA, Wilson County, Wilson, Wilson Central Business-Tobacco Warehouse Historic District, Roughly bounded by Pender, Green, Pine, S. Jackson, and Hines Sts. (12/20/84)

OHIO, Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Medical Centre Building, 1001 Huron Rd. (12/20/84)
OHIO, Franklin County, Columbus, Plaza Hotel, 736-740 E. Long St. (12/20/84)
OHIO, Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Courtland Flats, 117-121 E. Court St. (12/20/84)

PENNSYLVANIA, Bedford County, Bedford, Bedford Springs Hotel Historic District, US 220 (12/20/84)

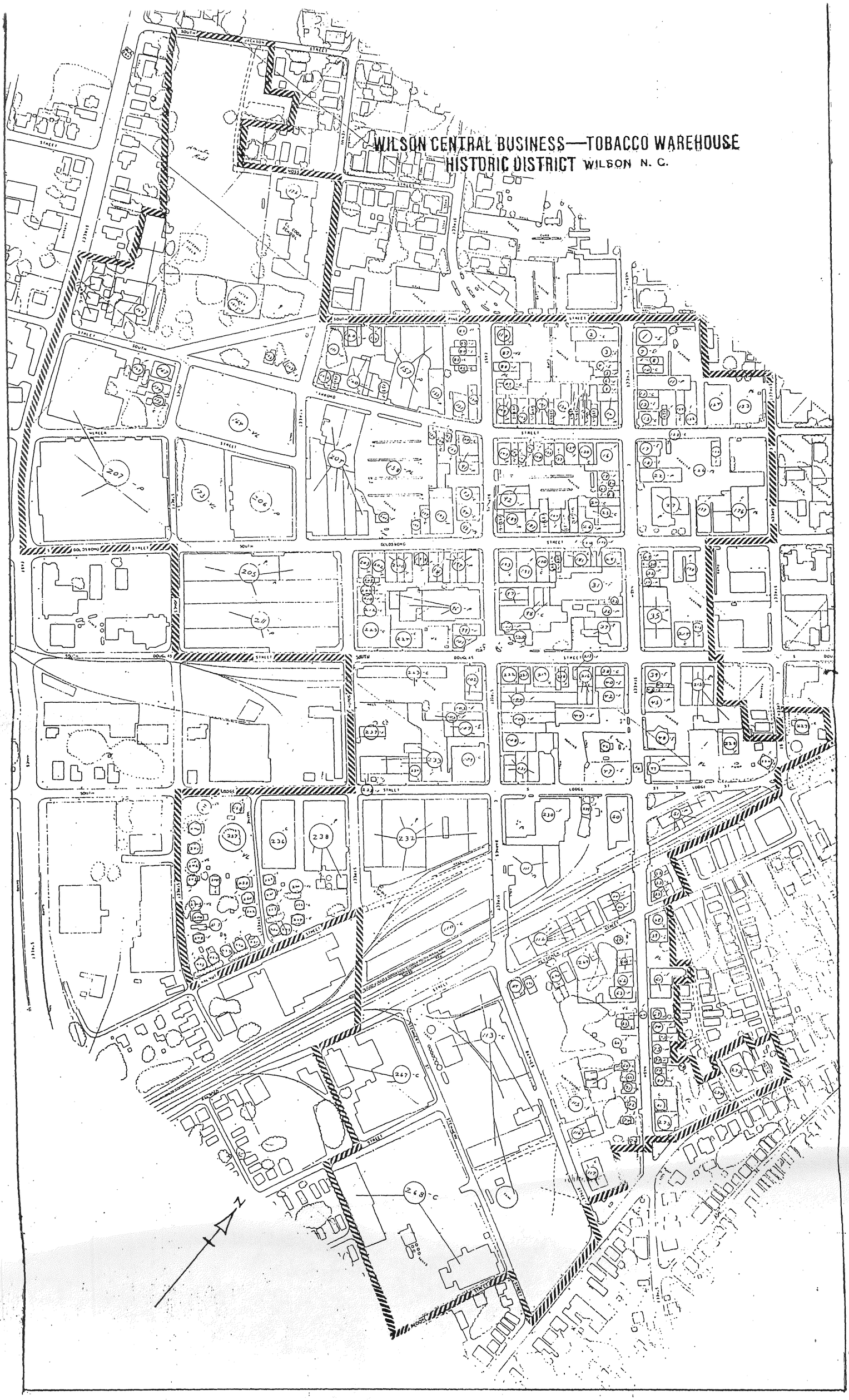
SOUTH CAROLINA, Lancaster County, Lancaster vicinity, North Carolina-South Carolina Cornerstone, Off US 521 (12/20/84)

TENNESSEE, Knox County, Knoxville, Market Square Commercial Historic District, Market Sq. Mall (12/20/84)
TENNESSEE, Rutherford County, Eagleville, McCord, William Harrison, House, US 41A (12/20/84)

WISCONSIN, Sheboygan County, Greenbush, Robinson, Charles, House, Center St., Old Wade House State Park (12/20/84)
WISCONSIN, Sheboygan County, Town Herman, Mission House Historic District, County Trunk M (12/20/84)

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

SOUTH DAKOTA, Bon Homme County, Cihak Farmstead (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Edmunds County, Strouckel, John, House (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Hutchinson County, Hofer, Enoch, House-Barn (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Hutchinson County, Holzworth-Lang House (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Hutchinson County, Stern, Gottlieb, House (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Hutchinson County, Wollman, Joseph, House (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)
SOUTH DAKOTA, Walworth County, Moser, Wilhelm, House-Barn (German-Russian Folk Architecture TR), (11/28/84)


WILSON CENTRAL BUSINESS—TOBACCO WAREHOUSE
HISTORIC DISTRICT WILSON N. C.

Provident Finance
NO LEFT TURN
GOLDS