

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Green Park Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Both sides U.S. 321 at Green Hill and Rock roads not for publication

city or town Blowing Rock vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Watauga & Caldwell code 189 & zip code 28605
027

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William S. Pin SHPO 7-15-94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Green Park H. D.
Name of Property

Watauga & Caldwell Cos., NC
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
47	38	buildings
3	1	sites
2	7	structures
0	0	objects
52	46	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/hotel
- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- RELIGION/religious facility
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
- DOMESTIC/hotel
- COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
- RELIGION/religious facility
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility
- LANDSCAPE/natural feature

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Queen Anne
- Colonial Revival
- Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation STONE
- walls WOOD
- SHINGLE
- roof ASPHALT
- other STONE
- WOOD

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance

1891-1944

Significant Dates

1891

1913

1935

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barnes & Champney

Hayes, J. Lee

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Green Park H. D.
Name of Property

Watauga & Caldwell Cos., NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property approx. 177 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>439920</u>	<u>3997960</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>4406100</u>	<u>3998760</u>

3	<u>17</u>	<u>441220</u>	<u>3996500</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>17</u>	<u>440460</u>	<u>3996280</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Davyd Foard Hood and Laura A. W. Phillips, Consultants

organization _____ date June 1, 1994

street & number 6907 Old Shelby Rd. / 637 N. Spring St. telephone (704)462-4331 / (910)727-1968

city or town Vale / Winston-Salem state NC zip code 28168 / 27101

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Watauga and Caldwell Counties, NC

DESCRIPTION -

Architectural Classification:

Late Gothic Revival

Materials:

walls: bark
 stone
roof: shingle
 slate

Description:

United States Geological Survey Maps reveal the geographical nature of the place that is the Green Park Historic District. The maps graphically identify the district as lying on the crest of the ridge at the edge of the great promontory of the Blowing Rock. The Green Park section of the community of Blowing Rock is a destination to be reached at the top of the mountain by way of the old Lenoir Turnpike, a roadway dating from the nineteenth century. As if to further emphasize the point, the Eastern Continental Divide crosses the district accompanied by such seminal geographic features as the springs of both the New and the Yadkin rivers. The district also straddles the Watauga-Caldwell county line.

The Green Park Historic District is a place where natural features play as great a role as man-made features in establishing the physical character of the district. Of central importance is the Blowing Rock itself, an unusual jagged rock formation on the southern edge of the district which forms a cliff overlooking the Johns River Gorge nearly three thousand feet below. Scenic mountain views inform the placement of many of the houses in the district, particularly along Pinnacle Avenue and Gideon Ridge Road. Rugged mountain terrain sets the stage for both the vegetative and architectural natures of the district. The rocky land is softened and enhanced by the presence of a thick covering of rhododendron along with such evergreens as firs and white pines.

Man-made features also make significant contributions to the physical character of the Green Park Historic District. First of all, the Lenoir Turnpike (U.S. 321) bisects the district. This busy two-

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lane highway--the primary access route to Blowing Rock--contrasts with the more quiet drives which wind through the district--such as Pinnacle Avenue and Gideon Ridge Road paralleling the Lenoir Turnpike, and Rock Road, Green Hill Road, and Goforth Road running in a more north/south direction. The 1891 Green Park Inn (#20; NR, 1982) located on the turnpike serves as the centerpiece of the district. It is surrounded by the Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course (#39) and the summer cottages which make up the bulk of the man-made resources of the district. Tying together the natural and man-made features of the district is the extensive use of stone retaining walls and other stone features.

The Green Park Historic District is a residential summer resort. Types of buildings and structures within the district include seasonal and year-round dwellings, a hotel, a gift shop, churches, and a footbridge, with such outbuildings as garages, servant's quarters, storage buildings, and sheds of various types. Because the Green Park Historic District is a picturesque destination resort and is not within an urban setting, the placement of buildings is closely tied with the nature and topography of the individual lots. There are no uniform facade lines and spacing between houses and no uniformity in lot size. Likewise, narrow roadways are informally planned and are curvilinear to accommodate the landscape. Open space within the district consists principally of the Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course (#39), which consumes approximately half of the land mass of the district. Additional open space comes with the lawn-like hillside across the Lenoir Turnpike from the Green Park Inn, which enhances the vision and setting of the hotel, and the wooded areas which remain vacant along Tarry Acres Circle northeast of the turnpike. District landscaping consists primarily of native vegetation grown up and situated in a naturalistic way, although there are also some planned gardens and intentional plantings of tree or shrub borders. The evergreen trees, rhododendrons, and stonework--both natural and planned--combine to create a strong visual unity in the district. There has been little change to this essential natural character over time.

There is a strong continuity in the physical character of the district's buildings. Architectural styles, as such, do not play a great role in this. They are, of course, present in the district, but in a reserved supply. The late Victorian Queen Anne style can be glimpsed in the Green Park Inn (#20) and in the McDowell Cottage (#17), but the Green Park Inn also reflects the Colonial Revival style. Most heavily represented is the Craftsman/Bungalow style,

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which is reflected in many of the cottages, but even here the representation is generally reserved. Late Gothic Revival styling is seen in the district's two churches.

Periods of building are more telling than architectural style in describing the physical character of the Green Park Historic District. During the three decades from 1890 to 1920, only six of the primary resources in the district were built. Then, during the single decade of the 1920s, eighteen primary resources which survive were built. Only seven primary resources were built in the following two decades. Clearly, the 1920s represent the period during which the district took on its essential architectural character, and thus the heavy representation of buildings reflecting in a simple way the Craftsman/Bungalow style.

With style not the determining factor in the architectural character of the district, such concepts as scale, use of material and color, and quality of workmanship and design become more important in defining the overall physical character of the place. Except for the mammoth Green Park Inn, the general scale of buildings in the district is relatively small. One-and-a-half-story houses are perhaps the most common, although there are some one and two-story examples. Dwellings are mostly summer vacation cottages, and as such, tend to project an informal, relaxed image.

Materials are closely tied to nature, consistent with Craftsman ideals. There is a prominent use of chestnut or other types of bark siding along with stone for foundations, chimneys, steps, and retaining walls. Stone is also used overall for some of the houses. Secondary materials in the district include wood shingles, German siding, weatherboard siding, and modern materials. One example of the more modern materials used in the district is slab siding--boards cut with an uneven edge giving a rustic appearance. This use of slab siding perpetuates the naturalistic treatment found earlier in bark siding. The use of materials also determines, to a great degree, the use of color in the district. Grey, brown, and green predominate because of the emphasis on natural materials and the blending of the built environment with the natural. Where paint is used, it tends to be in earthy colors.

Decoration of the district's buildings is minimal, with design relying more on the use of scale, material, and color. Workmanship is good, with much of the construction carried out by local builders J. Lee Hayes and Charles Moody. Moody, in fact, was described in the Watauga Democrat of February 5, 1914, as a popular builder of bungalows.

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While the buildings in the Green Park Historic District work together to provide an overall, cohesive picture of the physical character of the district, some buildings and sites do stand out as being particularly important. Primary among the buildings is the Green Park Inn (#20), a late nineteenth-early twentieth century expansive three-story frame hotel reflecting the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. It is already listed in the National Register (1982). In addition, the district is endowed with key buildings found at anchor points on the perimeter. These include the Robert A. Dunn Cottage (#18) at the southwest edge of the district, the Blowing Rock Reception Center/Gift Shop at the south end of the district, Gideon's Ridge (#9) at the east end of the district--all stone structures--the James Ross Cannon House (#35) near the southeast edge of the district, and the David Ovens Cottage (#42) at the north end. The most important sites in the district are the Blowing Rock (#1) itself and the Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course (#39). The Blowing Rock epitomizes the geographical grandeur of the district, while the golf course provides beautiful, manicured vistas for many of the houses which do not partake directly of dramatic mountain views. The network of roads, lanes, and pathways (#19) constitutes a structural unit of primary significance.

More buildings work together as a group to provide a unified picture of the architectural and physical character of the district. The best example of this is the group of bark-covered cottages. These are all of the related bungalow, Craftsman, and foursquare types. The group is represented by Much More (#5), Little More (#6), the McDonald Family Cottage (#7), the Shuford Family Cottage (#10), the Clement-Slane Cottage (#11), Faraway (#12), the A. G. Jonas Cottage (#23), the Craig Family Cottage (#26), the Green Family Cottage (#29), and the adjacent cottages (#43 and #44) on Goforth Road. These are defined not only by their use of bark siding (often chestnut bark), but also by stone foundations and chimneys. The houses also take advantage of the abundant native stone to create other associated architectural and landscape features, including steps and walks, retaining walls, terracing and other features. A particularly good example of this is the stonework around Much More (#5) and Little More (#6). The adjoining houses, once a part of the same property, are visually joined by a stone retaining wall with an inset millstone, behind which the steep hillside between the two houses is terraced with stone and is flanked by a pair of steep stone steps. Another excellent example is the Clement-Slane Cottage (#11). There the house is set downhill from Pinnacle Avenue and stone steps, a retaining wall, and a terrace

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make the house appear to have grown out of the landscape. Around the cottage, other built-in stone steps, retaining walls, terraces, and tapered porch piers work with the bark siding to create an organic appearance to the house. Many cottages other than those covered with bark also rely heavily on the use of stonework to create their naturalistic appearance. The James Ross Cannon Cottage (#35), for example, utilizes a high stone water table, or skirt, around the base of the wood-shingled house and multiple rows of low terraced walls on the hillside.

The Green Park Historic District retains its essential character from its period of significance, 1891-1944. During the earliest years of this period there were few buildings, and they were spread out (Green Park Inn, #20; McDowell Cottage, #17; Mt. Bethel Reformed Church, #41). The rest of the area was predominantly wooded. More than half of the buildings from the period of significance were built during the 1920s, following the partial macadamization of the Lenoir Turnpike, and by the end of that decade the district had taken on its essential character, including the eighteen-hole golf course. The greatest subsequent changes came in the 1950s, with the opening of Tarry Acres Circle. This placed a group of modern cottages near the center of the district, though they, like most of the houses in the district, are well-shielded by thick native vegetation. Only one condominium complex, the Village at Green Park (#38), has been built in the district, and because of their scale, detail, and close proximity to the Green Park Inn these three buildings do not create a significant intrusion to the overall character of the district.

Building conditions in the Green Park Historic District vary from excellent to ruinous. Most are in good-to-excellent condition, with only a very few in fair-to-poor condition. Although many of the buildings take a heavy beating from the wind and cold weather during much of the year, they are well maintained. Buildings from the period of significance--over half of all the resources--are largely intact, and alterations, where they have occurred, are generally in keeping with the original architectural character. A representative alteration is the replacement of weathered bark siding with wood shingles on either all or part of a house. Little vinyl or aluminum siding appears in the district, the exceptions being the Green Park Inn (#20) and the Cannon Family Cottage (#14). In the case of the hotel, the new siding is in the form of the original German siding. Any additions tend to be in keeping with the original structures. Most changes to the golf course during the mid-to-late twentieth century--such as the de-activation of fairways 5, 6, and 7--have been

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done to preserve the original character of the course as much as possible. Thus, though these three holes are no longer in play, they have been maintained to look as if they are still part of the golf course. On the other hand, the new clubhouse, cart and bag storage building, and parking lots along Country Club Drive which date from the last quarter of the twentieth century, effectively create a modern barrier separating fairways 1, 2, and 3 from the rest of the course. These holes have been excluded from the historic district. In short, the district as a whole maintains a high degree of historic integrity in terms of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship, and consequently in terms of feeling and association.

Two main factors distinguish the Green Park Historic District from its surroundings. First, the district consists of a high concentration of buildings from the period of significance, 1891-1944. Second, beyond the boundaries of the district the character changes in the following ways. To the south is a mountain gorge, to the east are both mountains and new construction, and to the north and west lies newer construction.

Inventory:

The following inventory of the district's resources is organized geographically starting with The Blowing Rock and then moving east along Gideon Ridge Road, west along Pinnacle Avenue, west along the Lenoir Turnpike (U.S. 321) from the Green Park Inn, then north along Green Hill Road, west along Galax Lane, west along Terry Acres Circle, north along Goforth Road picking up the golf course and the footbridge, Wonderland Trail, and then back south along Goforth Road and Green Hill Road. The inventory provides the name, address, date of construction, contributing or non-contributing status, and brief summary of each resource within the district. Primary resources are listed by number and are keyed to the accompanying sketch map. Secondary resources (outbuildings, etc.) are listed by letter following the associated primary resources and are also keyed to the sketch map. Sources utilized in obtaining information about the properties include field notes, property owner questionnaire forms, deeds, period newspaper articles, oral interviews, and Barry M. Buxton's A Village Tapestry: The History of Blowing Rock. For each property there is a file which contains the property historic survey form, photo proofs, and any documentary information available. These files will be maintained at the State Historic Preservation Office in

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Raleigh.

1. **THE BLOWING ROCK**
S. end Rock Rd.
Contributing site

The Blowing Rock is a jagged rock formation which forms a cliff overhanging the Johns River Gorge about three thousand feet below. It is so-called because the rocky walls of the gorge form a flume through which the northwest wind sweeps with such force that it is said to return light objects thrown over the edge. The Blowing Rock has attracted visitors since the mid-nineteenth century, and it was from the popularity of this geological curiosity that the town of Blowing Rock acquired its name. In the mid 1930s the Bernhardt family of Lenoir obtained the right to limit access and charge admission to The Blowing Rock, which was on their property. It was thereafter developed as a profitable tourist attraction. The path bordering the rock has a stone retaining wall with an ironwork railing.

RECEPTION CENTER/GIFT SHOP (A)
Contributing building

In 1935, Grover C. Robbins, Sr., who held a lease on The Blowing Rock property, constructed a stone reception center and gift shop which blocked free public access to The Rock and effectively controlled entrance to it. Robbins, who was mayor of Blowing Rock for several terms between 1928 and 1948, was an active proponent of the development of the town as a tourist resort. He saw The Blowing Rock as central to this development. Robbins's 1935 gift shop, which still serves as the entrance to the Rock, is well integrated with the surrounding landscape. It is a sturdy one-story stone building with a wood-shingled hipped roof, casement windows, and heavy arched wood doors. The north side, adjacent to the parking lot, has a massive stone chimney with an exterior fireplace and a recessed, gabled entrance. Low stone retaining walls with inset piers border the curving road and the parking lot which lead to the gift shop. The south side of the gift shop, facing the gorge, has a large arched window beneath a gable. This side opens to a rock-bordered informal garden with stone bridge, terraces, and overlooks. The stone mason is

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believed to have been Hardin Young. The interior of the gift shop is one large space with a huge fireplace and a beamed ceiling with copper chandeliers.

FORMER REFRESHMENT STAND (B) Non-contributing building

South of the rock is a second, smaller gift shop. It is a one-story frame structure with a wood-shingled gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, a stone chimney, vertical siding, and a south side deck. An apartment for the custodian is beneath the gift shop. The building was initially the refreshment stand built at The Blowing Rock in 1933 by co-lessees Grover C. Robbins, Sr. and C. H. Berryman. However, it has been substantially remodeled since that time.

OBSERVATION DECK (C) Non-contributing structure

South of the gift shops and The Rock, a long ramp with side rails and stilt-like metal supports leads to the octagonal observation deck which projects outward from the side of the mountain for an expansive view of mountain vistas. It was constructed around 1972.

2. CHARLES H. TURNER COTTAGE 6130 Gideon Ridge Rd. ca. 1923 Contributing building

On October 18, 1921, C. V. Henkel and wife sold the site of this house to Charles H. Turner, who operated a farm supply business in Statesville. The house apparently was built soon thereafter. In 1923 a deed was recorded for a second lot on which was to be located a cesspool that was to be built jointly by Turner and Hayden Clement (#11) between their two houses. Family tradition relates that the builder's name was (Charles) Moody and the stone mason's name was Hayes. The Turner Cottage, which has remained in family ownership, is a one-and-a-half-story wood-shingle-clad bungalow. It has a wood-shingled cross-gable roof with exposed rafter ends, a stone foundation and chimney, a weatherboarded apron which wraps around the base of the house, and three-over-

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one sash windows. A broad gable-roofed stone porch runs across the front of the house, while a shed-roofed stone porch carries across the rear. On the west side of the house is a hip-roofed porte cochere with stone piers. The stone work of the porches and porte cochere dates from the 1950s and 1960s. Prior to that there were wood supports. A low stone wall runs along the Rock Road side of the property.

SERVANT'S COTTAGE (A) Contributing building

Behind the house is a small frame cottage with board-and-batten siding, a gable roof, and a shed-roofed front porch. It appears to be contemporary with the house.

3. **JACK DUNAVANT COTTAGE** 6132 Gideon Ridge Rd. ca. 1920s Contributing building

Jack Dunavant is believed to have been the first owner of this one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow. He was the brother of Lila Dunavant Henkel (Mrs. C. V.). The house has a broad gable roof with widely overhanging bracketed eaves, slab siding, and a central stone chimney. A porch has been added to the rear, and the front porch appears to have been enclosed. A stone retaining wall runs along Gideon Ridge Road in front of the house, and the front yard has a stone terrace. The contractor's name is believed to have been Moody.

4. **PETREE COTTAGE** 6134 Gideon Ridge Rd. post 1960 Non-contributing building

This one-story frame cottage has vertical board siding, a front-facing gable roof, and an interior stone chimney. A rear deck overlooks the gorge. The house replaces the original cottage built by James H. Carson which burned twice.

5. **MUCH MORE**

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6136 Gideon Ridge Rd.
ca. 1923
Contributing building

Beginning in 1922, Jessie Mai Petty, the wife of William Calvin Petty, Sr., who was manager of the Selwyn Hotel in Charlotte, acquired several tracts of adjoining land. She apparently built her cottage, which she called Much More, soon thereafter. Charles Moody is believed to have been the contractor. The house remained in Petty family ownership until 1952. Much More is an unusually handsome chestnut bark-sheathed bungalow. The one-and-a-half-story dwelling has a broad and low gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves, a shed-roofed front dormer, stone chimneys, and an engaged front porch with square posts, plain balustrade, and bark frieze. The underside of the porch is particularly well detailed with a narrow bark skirt and a finely laid fieldstone foundation. Much More has sixteen-over-one sash windows and a multi-paned front door flanked by bronze plaques. Stone steps lead down the east side of the house to the back yard. The rear elevation has three levels, with a recessed porch on the top level. A stone wall with a central inset millstone runs between Much More and Little More next door. Downhill from this wall is a terraced garden between the two houses.

6. **LITTLE MORE**
6138 Gideon Ridge Rd.
ca. 1923
Contributing building

Little More was originally associated with Much More, the home of Jessie Mai Petty next door. Some local tradition claims that Little More first served as the garage for Much More, but that around 1928 it was enlarged and converted to a guest house. Little More was formally separated by deed from Much More in 1956 when J. Caldwell McDonald conveyed it to C. V. Garth of Hickory. The two houses are visually connected by a stone wall with inset millstone, behind and downhill from which are a matching set of stone steps and a terraced garden. Like Much More, Little More is a chestnut bark-sheathed building with a gabled roof and a stone foundation. The facade is diminutive and belies the true size of the house, which extends downhill to include multiple levels, rear porches, and a stone chimney.

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7. MCDONALD FAMILY COTTAGE

6140 Gideon Ridge Rd.

ca. 1922

Contributing building

Local tradition suggests that this house was built by the Hunt family. However, since the late 1920s it has been in the McDonald family. The first McDonalds to own it were brothers John Caldwell McDonald I and Samuel Howard McDonald I. Sam later sold his half to his brother and bought the Dunavant Cottage (#3) several houses away. The McDonald Family Cottage is a two-story frame house with a gable roof, widely overhanging eaves, an interior chimney, and nine-over-one sash windows are in singles and pairs. Most of the house is clad with chestnut bark, but the facade was re-sided with cedar shakes in 1989. The asymmetrical facade has a shed roofed porch with two bark-singled posts across the west half and a shed-roofed dormer above. The west elevation has a one-story projecting bay. With the grade drop, the rear elevation has three stories. The front yard is enclosed by a very low stone wall.

GARAGE (A)

Contributing building

Southeast of the house stands a bark-clad garage with hinged double-leaf doors. A bark-clad servant's room or shed is attached to the rear of the garage.

8. HARPER-SHUFORD-WISE COTTAGE

6142 Gideon Ridge Rd.

1923

Contributing building

Finley Gwyn Harper, Sr. (1880-1951) built this cottage in 1923, with J. Lee Hayes as contractor. The following year he sold it to Maude Ferguson Shuford, wife of Abel Alexander Shuford (1879-1932). Shuford sold the house--probably in the late 1920s--to Jessie Kenan Wise, a Flagler heir who made Shuford an offer he could not refuse. In 1958 Mrs. Wise sold the cottage back into the Harper family, where it remains. The house is a one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow with a gable roof, a shed dormer across

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the three-bay facade, a stone foundation, a gable-end stone chimney, and six-over-one sash windows. The gabled entrance porch has stone piers and a bark ceiling. In fact, the house originally was clad entirely with chestnut bark shingles, but these were replaced with square-cut wood shingles ca. 1930s. A one-story wing on the east side of the house is extended by a covered walkway leading to the garage. Stone steps lead around the west side of the house to the back yard, where several levels of stone terracing defines a garden.

GARAGE (A)

Non-contributing building

The garage, of uncertain date, is a three-level building with two car stalls on the ground story and what appears to be a two-story apartment above the garage.

9. GIDEON'S RIDGE

6148 Gideon Ridge Rd.

1940-1942

Contributing building

Gideon's Ridge was designed by Boston architect George M. Champney, a principal in the firm of Barnes and Champney, for Norman C. Lindau of Baltimore and Boston. He had inherited the property from his aunt, Bertha Lindau Cone, wife of Moses Cone, who had owned the property and had orchards there. A planting plan for Lindau's house was devised by landscape architects Vera Baker Hardy and Marjorie Stearns. The house remained with the Lindau family until 1958, and now functions as the Gideon Ridge Inn, a bed-and-breakfast inn. The house is built with Grandfather Mountain stone which is no longer quarried. The rambling one-and-a-half-story dwelling has a slate-shingled gable roof, stone chimneys, a hooded recessed entrance on the northeast side, and several porches. Extensive stone walls, flagstone-paved terraces, and terraced gardens complement the house. A circular drive fronts the main entrance on the northeast side, while the southwest lawn gives way to spectacular views of the mountains. A small pergola built in 1990 is on the southwest lawn. The property presently includes 4.7 acres, less than one-tenth of the original tract.

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10. **SHUFORD FAMILY COTTAGE**
6145 Gideon Ridge Rd.
1925-1927
Contributing building

This was the summer home of Hickory industrialist Abel Alexander Shuford (1879-1932) and his wife, Maude Ferguson Shuford, who had summered previously in another house on Gideon Ridge Road (#8). Still in Shuford family ownership, the house is a handsome two-story-with-attic dwelling sheathed in bark. It has a steep gable roof, front and rear shed dormers, stone chimneys, and six-over-one sash windows, and a mortared stone foundation. The rustic front porch with skinned pole supports and balustrade extends on the south side to form a porte cochere. A shed room is attached to the rear of the house. An expansive lawn and circular drive stretch southward from the house.

- GARAGE (A)**
Contributing building

Behind the house is a matching bark-covered former garage with upstairs living quarters.

11. **CLEMENT-SLANE COTTAGE**
6172 Pinnacle Ave.
1923
Contributing building

Hayden Clement of Salisbury acquired this property on June 18, 1923 from William Smith. By the following June he had built the cottage. In 1946 the Clements sold the cottage property to Statesville residents Fred T. Slane, Jr. and his wife who remain the owners. The cottage is now called Barkstone, doubtless a reference to the predominant building materials. The Clement-Stone Cottage is an expansive one-story bark-covered bungalow inset into the hill with a stone retaining wall. The cottage has a combination gable and clipped gable roof with overhanging eaves on triangular braces, a stone chimney, stone foundation piers with lattice infill, and single, paired, and triple windows of six-over-one and nine-over-one sash windows. A flagstone terrace wraps around the Pinnacle Avenue and northwest sides of the cottage, and on the northwest side it is sheltered by a gabled

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roof with bark ceiling and tapered stone piers. Stone steps lead to a deck at the rear of the house. The house is surrounded by trees and rhododendrons. Southeast of the house are two outbuildings, listed below.

GARAGE/SERVANT'S ROOM (A) Contributing building

The garage and servant's room is contemporary with the cottage. It is a bark-covered building with a gable roof.

WOOD SHED (B) Non-contributing building

Located immediately west of the garage/servant's room, the wood shed is a small German-sided building with a shallow gable roof, and five-panel door, and a cement block stack foundation. It appears to date from the mid-nineteenth century.

12. FARAWAY 6173 Pinnacle Ave. 1920s Contributing building

On February 19, 1927, Samuel Louis and Justine McKay Kone of San Antonio, Texas purchased the site of this house from Margaret Hayne Beatie Courtney and her husband, St. John Courtney of Richland County, South Carolina. The Courtneys, who had purchased the property in 1922, had built a one-story cottage with a living room, dining room, large bedroom, bath, small office room, kitchen, and a back and front porch. It was called Faraway, a name the Kones kept. Samuel Kone added a second story which consisted of four bedrooms and two baths. The property at that time had six acres--two above Rock Road which formed the site of the cottage, and four below the road where there was a vegetable garden and a stable with four stalls where the Kones kept horses. Faraway remained in Kone family ownership until 1972. Stone retaining walls line the house site along Pinnacle Avenue and Rock Road, and stepped terraces follow the hill downward toward The Blowing Rock. A drive leads to the house from Pinnacle Avenue, circling around a former goldfish pond in front of the house. Trees, rhododendrons, and hydrangeas

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surround the house and yard. Faraway is a two-story foursquare wood-shingled dwelling with a hipped roof, a central stone chimney, and a front porch with square posts and a plain balustrade. Several outbuildings, listed below, accompany the house.

GARAGE/SHOP (A)

Contributing building

West of the house stands a bark-covered building with gable roof which served as a combination garage and shop.

LUMBER SHED (B)

Non-contributing building

North of the garage/shop is a frame lumber shed with a gable roof. The siding has been removed.

WASH HOUSE (C)

Contributing building

Behind the garage/shop is what appears to have been a wash house. It is a square, bark-covered building with a pyramidal roof and bark eaves.

SERVANT'S QUARTERS (D)

Contributing building

North of the lumber shed is the two-room servants' quarters. It is bark-covered and has a gable roof, a central chimney, and a shed-roofed front porch.

PLAYHOUSE (E)

Contributing building

Behind the house and surrounded by rhododendrons is a small bark-clad building with a pyramidal roof and front and rear doors and side windows. It may have been a playhouse.

13. **KNOX FAMILY COTTAGE**
6175 Pinnacle Ave.
ca. 1910

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Contributing building

In September of 1908, John M. Knox of Salisbury acquired this property from the Green Park Development Company. By 1914 he had built a cottage. It was long the summer home of his daughters, Bertha, Clara, and Margaret, who in 1923 purchased the lots between their house and the Green Park Hotel which remain vacant to the present. In 1963 the property was sold out of the Knox family to Charles A. Cannon. The Knox Family Cottage is a two-story weatherboarded house with a side gable roof and a small center front gable, an interior brick chimney, and diamond-lattice sash and casement windows. A small one-story servant's wing is attached by its roof to the southwest side of the house, and an expansive screened porch and corner pavilion carry across the southwest side of the cottage overlooking the gorge and Grandfather Mountain. A large open lawn separates the cottage from Pinnacle Avenue. Behind the house are an unusual stone bird bath and bird feeder composed of stone slabs set on stone piers and bases.

SHED (A)

Contributing building

Southeast of the house is a small wood-shingled storage and wood shed with a shed roof and two batten doors.

14. CANNON FAMILY COTTAGE

6177 Pinnacle Ave.

1915

Contributing building

Mary Ella Bost Cannon, wife of Concord textile industrialist James William Cannon, acquired this house site from C. V. Henkel in 1914. She later acquired other property including lots in the green space between her cottage and the Green Park Hotel. The following year the Cannon Cottage was built by contractor J. Lee Hayes. On December 3, 1918 the property was conveyed to Charles A. Cannon, and it has remained in Cannon family ownership. The Cannon Family Cottage is a large two-story frame dwelling now covered with vinyl siding. It has a clipped gable roof with clipped gable dormers, interior chimneys, a stone foundation, and an asymmetrical facade with a hooded central entrance facing

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Pinnacle Avenue. The southeast side of the house has screened porch (enclosed on the north end) and a porte cochere with square wooden posts set on stone plinths. The southwest side of the house has a two-tier porch overlooking the expansive mountain view. An open lawn with stone terraces slopes downhill from the house. On the Pinnacle Avenue side of the house is a U-shaped wire trellis which may have been for climbing roses. Several outbuildings, listed below, accompany the Cannon Family Cottage.

GARAGE/SERVANTS' QUARTERS (A)

Contributing building

At the end of the driveway south of the house is a two-story, weatherboarded building with a clipped gable roof. The first story contains three car stalls, and the second story contains rooms for servants and has a porch across the northwest side. Beside the garage is a small wood doghouse.

PLAYHOUSE (B)

Contributing building

On stilts among the trees south of the house is a bark-covered playhouse with a wrap-around stair leading to it.

GAZEBO (C)

Contributing structure

South of the house on the edge of the mountain is an open gazebo with a pyramidal roof, braced corner posts, and a solid balustrade. It affords spectacular views of the mountains and valleys beyond.

15. HENKEL FAMILY COTTAGE

6181 Pinnacle Ave.

ca. 1914-1915

Contributing building

This two-story frame cottage was probably built for Columbus Vance Henkel, Sr. (1867-1925) in the mid 1910s, shortly after he acquired the property in 1914. Henkel, a Statesville businessman, was instrumental in the expanded development of Blowing Rock as a resort community during the early twentieth

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century. He was a partner in the Blowing Rock Development Company, which purchased the Green Park Hotel around 1913. The property remained in Henkel family ownership until after the death of Columbus Vance Henkel, Jr. in 1971. The Henkel Cottage is characterized by wood-shingled siding, a gable roof, shed wall dormers across the front, interior chimneys, and nine-over-one sash windows. At the northeast corner of the house is a shed-roofed porch with a recessed entrance. On the northwest side of the house is a bridge-like deck, and on the southeast side is an added one-story wing with basement-level garage. Rear porches have been enclosed with large windows overlooking the mountain view. Behind the house are stone walks and retaining walls creating a multi-level terraced lawn.

GARAGE (A)

Contributing building

South of the house is a frame garage with wood-shingle siding, a gable roof, and a wood floor.

WOOD SHED (B)

Contributing building

Adjacent to the garage is the somewhat smaller wood shed with wood-shingle siding, a gable roof, and a dirt floor.

16. LAMAR COTTAGE

S. side Pinnacle Ave. bet. 6181 & 6183 Pinnacle Ave.
1978-1979

Non-contributing building

This modern cottage was built for Elizabeth Lamar. It was designed by architect Jack Kelso and built by contractor Kester Norris. The one-story frame house with vertical sheet siding has a broad gable roof, a stuccoed basement foundation, an interior stone chimney, inset porches on the mountain view side, and a garage ell on the Pinnacle Avenue side.

17. MCDOWELL COTTAGE

6183 Pinnacle Ave.
ca. 1890

Contributing building

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The McDowell Cottage is one of the oldest buildings in the Green Park area. It was built for Charlotte mayor Franklin Brevard McDowell. The cottage is a two-story Queen Anne frame dwelling with additions and remodelings. Features include German siding, a gabled roof, decoratively shingled gables with strapwork, and a wrap-around porch with square posts. On the mountain view side of the house the lawn contains stone retaining walls and a built-in stone barbecue pit. The Pinnacle Avenue side includes a stone retaining wall, a stone inset for a former garage, and stone steps leading up to the house.

18. **ROBERT A. DUNN COTTAGE**
6187 Pinnacle Ave.
1924
Contributing building

In 1919 and 1920, Robert A. Dunn and his wife, Adele Brenizer, acquired a series of tracts on Pinnacle Avenue where they soon built their stone house. It was designed by Charlotte architect L. L. Hunter. Dunn was a Charlotte banker. The house is a two-story stone dwelling of Grandfather Mountain stone and wood shingles with a hipped roof and large stone chimney. The main entrance is set within a gabled projecting bay and consists of a Craftsman-story glass and wood-paneled door, flanking nine-over-nine sash windows, and an encompassing bracketed hood. Above the entrance is a row of four six-over-six sash windows. The southeast end of the house has an engaged porch with stone posts and a stone skirt. The southwest side facing the gorge has flagstone terraces and a large arcaded stone porch. Above the porch is a balustraded deck. A series of French doors open to the terrace. At the northwest end of the house are an attached garage with servant's quarters above. Northeast and southeast of the house are gardens and lawns. The original winding driveway has been recreated, and the intermediate front drive closed. The house is now called Silverstone.

19. **CIRCULATION NETWORK**
Throughout district
Late 19th cent. through first half of 20th cent.
Contributing structure

Throughout the district is a network of roads, lanes, and

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pathways which make a significant contribution to the physical character of the place. The paved roads and smaller lanes are mostly narrow and curvilinear, conforming to the topography of the land. They are lined with grassy verges, native vegetation, and often with low stone retaining walls, closely tying them to the mountain landscape. The primary road--the Lenoir Turnpike (US 321)--bisects the district in a northwest-southeast direction. Part of the present turnpike dates from the nineteenth century and played a central role in the development of Green Park by providing an improved means of transportation from the lowlands. Originally it entered the area of the historic district from the southeast next to the Harper-Shuford-Wise Cottage (#8) and then generally followed the path of present-day Gideon Ridge Road westward to present-day Rock Road and then northwestward along the current Lenoir Turnpike (US 321). Other roads of particular significance are Pinnacle Avenue along the ridge of the mountain, Green Hill Road on the north side of the turnpike, and Goforth Road, which borders much of the golf course. Within the golf course, golf cart paths continue the winding patterns of the nearby roads and lanes.

20. **GREEN PARK INN**

N. side Lenoir Turnpike (U.S. 321), W. of Green Hill Rd.
1891/1914
Contributing building

The Green Park Hotel was listed in the National Register in 1982 as the Green Park Inn, its present name. It was built and opened for business in 1891 as a three-story frame Queen Anne-style building with expansive porches. In the 1920s the hotel was enlarged and modernized in the Colonial Revival style. There have been subsequent alterations and additions. Set close to the road, the long hotel building marks the entrance to the resort community of Blowing Rock from the south.

21. **COTTAGE**

S. side Lenoir Turnpike (U.S. 321) opp. Green Park Inn
ca. 1930
Contributing building

This one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow has a broad side-gable roof which extends in front to shelter an engaged porch. Other

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features include wide weatherboard siding with mitered corners, a central chimney, six-over-six sash windows, and a bay window on the southeast side of the house. A driveway with stone retaining walls circles in front of the house.

22. COXE COTTAGE

S. side Lenoir Turnpike (U.S. 321) W. of Goforth Rd.
ca. 1925
Contributing building

Local tradition claims that this was originally the home of a Coxe family from South Carolina. The house is a two-story frame dwelling with weatherboard siding, a side gable roof, a gable-end chimney, a stone foundation, and an inset first story front porch with a bracketed pent eave and heavy square posts. A one-story wing on the west side of the house is an addition. One of the most unusual features of the Coxe House is its stone garage, which is inset into the hill in front of the house and is topped by a deck which extends from the front porch. The yard is fronted by a stone retaining wall, and stone steps lead up the hill from road to the house.

23. A. G. JONAS COTTAGE

6122 Lenoir Turnpike
1920s
Contributing building

The first known owner of this house was Augustus Gustavus Jonas, who was in the mirror business in Lenoir. The house was later owned by Tom Boylan of Salisbury. It is a two-story four-square frame dwelling with a low hipped roof, bark siding, and a stone foundation. A one-story bark-clad shed carries across the rear of the house. Nine-over-nine and nine-over-one sash windows are paired or tripled. Of particular architectural interest is the shed-roofed front porch. It features tall stone piers topped by tapered bark-clad posts and a sawnwork balustrade. A low stone retaining wall borders the front of the property along the Lenoir Turnpike and along what used to be Cliff Drive, now closed and planted over.

24. COTTAGE

7002 Green Hill Rd.

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1920s
Contributing building

This one-story frame bungalow has a broad gable roof with widely overhanging eaves, exposed rafter ends, and a front dormer with an equally broad gable roof. The roof extends in front to encompass an engaged front porch with heavy square frame posts set on stone piers. Other characteristics of the house include slab siding, a gable-end stone chimney, six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows, and a small offset wing on the southwest side.

GARAGE (A)
Contributing building

Adjacent to the northeast corner of the house is a small open garage with pole supports and a slab-sided storage building at the rear. A shed is attached to the rear of the garage. The garage appears to be contemporary with the house.

25. **COTTAGE**
7004 Green Hill Rd.
Third quarter 20th cent.
Non-contributing building

This one-story frame cottage appears to have been built during the third quarter of the twentieth century. It has slab siding, a low hipped roof with widely overhanging boxed eaves, a brick foundation, a side brick chimney, and a two-level porch at the rear. The property has a modern brick retaining wall along the southwest side.

26. **CRAIG FAMILY COTTAGE**
7006 Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1920
Contributing building

Local tradition claims that the original section of this house was built as a cottage associated with the Green Park Hotel. Local builder J. Lee Hayes is said to have built the house. A two-story wing was added around the early 1920s when David J. Craig purchased the property, and a two-room addition was built

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onto the 1920s wing around 1938. The house remains in Craig family ownership. The house is a large bark-clad dwelling set on stone piers with cement block infill. It has a gabled and hipped roof, widely overhanging eaves either braced or with exposed rafter ends, a gabled porch with bark skirt, stone chimneys, and both eight- and twelve-over-one sash windows. Located in a sharp curve of Green Hill Road, the property is largely surrounded by a stone retaining wall with stone steps leading to the house. Behind the house is an expansive lawn with stone steps and a stone barbecue grill.

GARAGE/SERVANT'S ROOM (A) Contributing building

On the north side of the house is a bark-covered combination garage and servant's room. The one-story building has a gable roof.

27. **BASCOM BARRIE BLACKWELDER COTTAGE RUIN**
S side Green Hill Rd. just E of 7006 Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1930
Non-contributing site

This site consists of the remains of the one-and-a-half-story Bascom Barrie Blackwelder Cottage which suffered a destructive fire. Remains include a high stone foundation with basement, steep stone front steps, stone front porch piers and balustrade, a tall stone chimney and segmental-arched fireplace, and the first story flooring. On October 20, 1928, Bascom Barrie Blackwelder (1884-1961) and his wife Esther Shuford (sister of Abel Alexander Shuford, #8 and #10), purchased this lot from David J. Craig and his wife. Presumably, he built the house soon thereafter. Finley Gwyn Harper purchased the house during the 1940s, and during the settlement of his estate in the 1950s, the property went to Betty Finley Arbuckle.

GARAGE (A) Contributing building

The ca. 1930 garage at the rear of the Blackwelder House remains intact. The two-story bark-covered building has a clipped gable roof, two car stalls on the first story, and a side stair leading

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to the servants' quarter on the second level. The servants' quarter consists of two bedrooms, a bathroom, have five-horizontal-panel doors, and six-over-six windows.

28. COTTAGE

N side Green Hill Rd. opposite 7006 Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1980
Non-contributing building

This one-and-a-half-story modern frame house is characterized by board-and-batten siding, a wood-shingled mansard roof with arched dormers, and a wood-enclosed chimney. A handsome stone retaining wall and stone steps leading from the road to the house suggest that there may have been an earlier house on the site.

STORAGE BUILDING (A)

Non-contributing building

Adjacent to the house is a frame storage building with board-and-batten siding and a stuccoed foundation.

29. GREEN FAMILY COTTAGE

N side Green Hill Rd. behind Green Park Inn
1920s
Contributing building

This was the home of brothers Stanley and Sylvester Green. Stanley was caretaker of the Green Park Inn, and Sylvester was caretaker and superintendent of the golf course. Located behind the Green Park Inn, the house is a two-story cross-plan frame dwelling with bark siding, a stone chimney, and a gabled roof with overhanging eaves and exposed rafter ends. The house has twelve-over-one sash windows with board-and-batten shutters. A rustic porch with bark-sheathed pole posts and balustrade and bark-covered frieze extends across the southwest facade. Across the rear of the house is a cement-block shed addition.

30. COTTAGE

W side Green Hill Rd., N of entrance to Tarry Acres Circle
post-1950
Non-contributing building

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This modern one-story frame house features a broad gable roof, slab siding, and a cement block foundation. It has a brick chimney, three-over-one sash windows, and a large sun room overlooking the golf course and mountain vista. A stone retaining wall with inset stone steps runs along the Green Hill Road edge of the property.

BUILDING (A)

Non-contributing building

Just south of the house is a square stone building set into the bank of the hill. Its date and original use are unknown.

SHED (B)

Non-contributing building

Behind the house is a frame storage shed.

31. COTTAGE

W side Green Hill Rd., just S of 7045 Green Hill Rd.
post-1950
Non-contributing building

A large covered porch and a northeast side deck are the distinguishing characteristics of this one-story frame house. Other features include slab siding, a gable roof, a stone chimney, and four-over-four sash windows.

32. COTTAGE

7045 Green Hill Rd.
post-1950
Non-contributing building

This one-story slab-sided house has a low gable roof with slab bargeboards, eight-over-eight sash windows, an inset garage on the northwest corner, and a combination deck and porch on the southeast corner. A split-rail fence surrounds the house.

33. CHARLES CALVERT SMOOT, III, COTTAGE

7044 Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1935
Contributing building

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When Charles Calvert Smoot, III, the operator of a large tannery in North Wilkesboro, acquired this property in 1920, it included "George F. Harper's house." In 1924 Smoot expanded his holding, and in 1935 he conveyed the property to his wife, Rebecca U. Smoot. The present house was built about that time. In 1978 the Smoot children conveyed the property to E. J. Blackwell, the current owner. The Smoot House is a two-story with attic stone dwelling with a gabled roof, a central stone chimney, and six-over-six and four-over-four sash windows. Stone entrance porches are found on both the northeast and southwest sides of the house. On the southeast side of the house is a frame second-story addition set on stone piers. The house is enhanced by a collection of stone retaining walls, steps, and terraces.

GARAGE (A)

Contributing building

Southwest of the house adjacent to Green Hill Road is single-bay board-and-batten garage with a gable roof and side-hinged doors on the northeast side.

34. *Rankin - ARMSTRONG House*
7046 Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1935
Contributing building

In 1922 Blowing Rock Development Company principals C. V. Henkel and David J. Craig and their wives sold this lot to R. G. Rankin of Gaston County. Although Rankin may have had a house on the property, it is believed that the present dwelling was built soon after the property was conveyed to Helen Potts Armstrong in 1934. The house is a two-story frame dwelling with a low hipped roof, a stone foundation, and both interior and exterior stone chimneys. The original bark siding was replaced with slab siding around 1968 the late Rev. Frank Alfred Mathes and his wife, Jacqueline Woolfolk Mathes, the present owner. On the front of the house a gable-roofed entrance porch has square posts set on stone piers, and across the rear is an added porch. Stone retaining walls form terraces on the side the rear yards.

35. **JAMES ROSS CANNON COTTAGE**
7383 Galax Lane

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ca. 1924
Contributing building

In 1919, brothers James William Cannon, Jr. and James Ross Cannon acquired a ten-acre tract from the Blowing Rock Development Company. In 1927 J. W. Cannon, Jr. and his wife conveyed their interest in the property to Ross Cannon, who had previously (in 1921) conveyed his half interest to his wife, Ashley L. Cannon. It was probably at this time that the house was built. On August 27, 1945, Ross Cannon's heirs sold the property to Arthur R. Wall and his wife, who were from Greensboro. Mrs. Wall is said to have operated the house as the Tarry Acres Inn. In 1952 the Walls sold the property to Grover C. Robbins, Jr., the developer of the Tweetsie Railroad Theme Park. The following year Robbins hired Lenoir civil engineer Samuel B. Howard to survey and subdivide the property. That plat, completed in 1954, laid out the subdivision known as Tarry Acres Circle (#37). The James Ross Cannon Cottage is reached from Galax Lane by a circular drive lined on the outside by a row of fir trees and on the inside by a low stone retaining wall and thickly planted rhododendrons. The house is a large two-story wood shingled dwelling with a stone water table encircling the base. Other features include a gable roof with pent eaves, shed dormers, casement windows, stone chimneys, and a north side porte cochere with tapered stone pier supports. Low stone retaining walls and stone steps create a terraced lawn which overlooks the mountains to the east.

36. **CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**
N. side Galax Lane
1948
Non-contributing building

Although the Church of the Epiphany is architecturally compatible with the historic character of the district, it is non-contributing because it is less than fifty years old. Located next to the golf course, it is a one-story cut-stone building with a rusticated face, a nave plan, and a gabled roof. Stylistic features include buttresses, diamond-muntined casement windows, and a Tudor-arched entrance to the projecting narthex. Stone crosses surmount the narthex entrance and the rear of the nave above a large stained glass epiphany window. Side wings

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project from the southeast end of the nave. Although Catholics had held services in Blowing Rock since 1933 at donated spaces, it was not until the end of 1945 that the present site was acquired. The church was completed in 1948.

37. **TERRY ACRES CIRCLE HOUSES**
7000 block Terry Acres Circle
post 1950
Non-contributing buildings (15)

The land that is Tarry Acres Circle was once part of the ten acres associated with the James Ross Cannon Cottage (#35). In 1954, then-owner Grover C. Robbins, Jr. had the land subdivided around a U-shaped drive which became Tarry Acres Circle. Since then, fifteen houses have been constructed, and there remain several wooded lots. Most of the houses are of frame construction and are one-story in height. Designs vary from traditional to modern.

38. **VILLAGE AT GREEN PARK**
7380 Goforth Rd.
post 1970
Non-contributing buildings (3)

The Village at Green Park is a group of three condominium buildings with six units each. The three-story Victorian Revival buildings are identical in design, except for siding types and gable ornamentations. Common characteristics include wood shingled roofs with multiple steep gables with gable peak ornamentation, three tiers of balustraded porches along the Goforth Road facades, casement windows, and balustraded exterior stairs.

39. **BLOWING ROCK COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE**
N.E. side Lenoir Turnpike
1915/1922/1950s
Contributing site

In 1913 David J. Craig, L. P. Henkel, C. V. Henkel and others formed the Blowing Rock Development Company and purchased the Green Park Hotel and 365 surrounding acres. In 1915 the company signed an agreement with neighbor Rufus L. Patterson to construct

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a nine-hole golf course on their adjoining lands. Five of the nine holes were to come from Patterson's land and the rest from the land of the Blowing Rock Development Company. Lute Nelson supervised the building of this course, originally known as the Green Park-Norwood Golf Course. In 1922 the course was expanded to eighteen holes, and it is believed that famous golf course architect Donald J. Ross was the designer. The course had public access. In 1950 C. V. Henkel, Jr. and F. G. Harper, Sr. leased the golf course to the Blowing Rock Country Club for twenty years. In 1973 the country club purchased the golf course. In the early 1950s, when U.S. 321 was developed from old Highway 17, fairways five, six, and seven were de-activated, but because of a deed restriction, have maintained their appearance as part of the current course. The golf course is composed of beautiful undulating hills, streams which feed a series of small lakes, and sand traps. It stretches northward uphill from the Green Park Inn to Wonderland Drive. Located near the south end of the course is the New River Spring.

GOLF SHELTERS (A)

Non-contributing structures (5)

The course contains five golf shelters, small frame buildings with vertical board siding, a pyramidal roof, a cement block foundation, and one open side. They probably date from post 1950.

REFRESHMENT STAND (B)

Non-contributing building

Near the junction of Goforth and Rankin roads is a weatherboarded frame refreshment stand with a gable roof and a front porch with rustic pole supports and railing.

RESTROOM (C)

Non-contributing building

Next to the refreshment stand is a green-painted cement block restroom building with a shed roof.

STORAGE BUILDING (D)

Non-contributing building

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Near the point where Goforth Road crosses the golf course is a small frame storage building with vertical board sheathing and a clipped gable roof.

GOLF MAINTENANCE SHED (E)
Non-contributing building

On the western edge of the golf course and shielded from view by plantings of white pines, rhododendrons, and junipers is a large pre-fab metal building with a nearly flat roof, three overhead garage doors, and two conventional doors. An open shed is on the east side.

40. **GOLF CART/FOOT BRIDGE**
Over U.S. 321, S.E. of Green Hill Rd.
ca. 1950
Non-contributing structure

This narrow bridge over U.S. 321 allowed golfers and golf carts safe passage over the road between fairways number five and six. The metal truss bridge with wooden deck is carried on wood supports on either side of the road. The bridge was probably built in the early 1950s, when Highway 17 was improved as U.S. 321.

41. **MT. BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH AND CEMETERY**
E & W sides Goforth Rd. bet. Rankin Rd. & Sunset Dr.
ca. 1893
Contributing building

Mt. Bethel Reformed Church is the oldest church building in Blowing Rock. Earliest members were largely from Rowan County. In 1883 the Rev. John Ingle moved to Blowing Rock and began to hold services and a Sunday School in a local schoolhouse. The church was formally organized on the fourth Sunday in July, 1886 in the Estes schoolhouse. On June 4, 1887, Jacob Klutz and his wife conveyed approximately one acre to George Thomason, David Trexler, S. L. Bolinger, and Jacob Klutz, officers of the church. The deed was corrected on April 29, 1893. The church building was probably erected about this time and was dedicated on the first Sunday in November 1894. In 1921 the congregation was disbanded, but in the 1940s summer services were re-instituted.

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Mt. Bethel Reformed Church is a simple weatherboarded frame building with a gable roof, stone foundation, pointed-arched windows with four-over-four sash (the front windows with hoods), a double-leaf entrance, and a small three-sided rear apse. The front entrance is particularly handsome. Although the doors are flush with the front all, the entrance appears to be recessed, because it is sheltered by a projecting gabled porch with splayed side walls. In front of the church stands the church bell on a pole, and next to the church is a small metal shed. The front lawn is separated from the road by a stone retaining wall.

CEMETERY (A)

Contributing site

The cemetery is in two sections, the smaller of which is across Goforth Road in front of the church. It is separated from the golf course by a tight row of white pines. The larger section of the cemetery stretches outward from the rear of the church. Both areas date from the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries and have conventional stones, the oldest dating from the 1890s. Buried here are Jacob Klutz (1827-1912) and his wife Mary Louvinia (1840-1922), numerous members of the Green family for whom Green Park was named, and Grover Cleveland Robbins, Sr. and Jr., both strong developers of Blowing Rock as a tourist destination. Among other families represented are the Trexler, Holshouser, Hayes, Coffey, Cox, and Lentz families.

42. **PINEACRES**

7302 Wonderland Dr.
ca. 1937
Contributing building

David Ovens was a prominent Charlotte businessman associated with Ivey department stores and a philanthropist with a special interest in music. Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte was named for him. On October 14, 1936, David Ovens purchased this property from George W. Clark and his wife, Gertrude. Apparently soon thereafter he built this one-story frame bungalow. The wood-shingled house has a low hipped roof with shaped rafter ends, a front dormer with five windows, stone chimneys, a stone foundation, and a wrap-around porch with square posts and a simple balustrade. The west corner of the porch has been enclosed as a sun room. A one-and-a-half-story ell projects from the rear

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of the house, and attached to it is a modern, one-story, flat-roofed, four-bay garage. Pineacres, as David Ovens called his cottage, stands on a hilltop with an expansive lawn and a stone retaining wall along the road. Clipped shrubs surround the house. The house commands an impressive view of the golf course.

43. **COTTAGE**

E side Goforth Rd. just S of 7349 Goforth Rd.
1920s
Contributing building

Land along this stretch of Goforth Road overlooking the golf course was subdivided in 1924, and it is likely that this house was built within the next few years. It is a two-story, foursquare, bark-clad dwelling with a low hipped roof, a central stone chimney, six-over-one sash windows, and a stuccoed foundation. A hipped roof porch with square posts extends across the front of the house, and it is surrounded by a recently built deck. A frame shed is attached to the rear of the house. The wooded lot is thickly planted with rhododendrons and is enhanced by a stone retaining wall at the road and stone steps leading to the house.

44. **COTTAGE**

7349 Goforth Rd.
1920s
Contributing building

This one-and-a-half-story frame cottage features bark siding, a high pitched gable roof with a pair of front dormers, an engaged front porch, and a gable-end stone chimney. A picture window and a small shed-roofed service porch are found on the south side of the house. Like its neighbor to the south, this cottage is situated on a wooded hill overlooking the golf course. The property is thickly planted with rhododendrons, and there are curving stone steps and a stone retaining wall bordering the driveway.

45. **COTTAGE**

E side Green Hill Rd., just S of 7044 Green Hill Rd.
post 1960
Non-contributing building

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A gravel drive leads downhill from Green Hill Road to this large one-story modern frame cottage. The house has a broad, low gable roof covered with wood shingles, widely overhanging braced eaves, an interior stone chimney, and mitered weatherboard siding over a stuccoed foundation. A porte cochere is on the front of the house, and a rear has a deck with an impressive view of the mountains. The property features stone walls and stone wells around trees, a suggestion that there may have been an earlier house on the site.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE -

Architect/Builder:

Hunter, L. L.
Moody, Charles

Summary:

The Green Park Historic District, a residential resort community located on a ridge topped by the picturesque, winding Lenoir Turnpike, contains the Green Park Hotel, the Green Park/Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course, Mt. Bethel Reformed Church and Cemetery, and some two dozen late nineteenth and early twentieth century summer cottages and their associated landscape features. The district is important in the history of western North Carolina as one of a small number of turn-of-the-century resorts in North Carolina which have survived largely intact to the present. The history of the resort begins in the antebellum period when James Clarence Harper secured incorporation of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike Company and his uncle James Harper built the first known summer house at Blowing Rock, a cottage called Summerville. Since that time the Harper family has been engaged in the history and development of the resort as have a number of other important western North Carolina families including the Bernhardtts of Lenoir, the Henkels of Statesville, the Cannons of Concord, and the Robbins family of Blowing Rock. In the 100-year history of the resort at Green Park, incorporated into the town of Blowing Rock in 1926, there has been a strong tradition of close business and family relationships among the men who have led its development as a premier resort and the men and women--and their families--who have built summer cottages there and returned year after year and generation after generation.

Following the precedent of Flat Rock, a resort developed in Henderson County by Charlestonians in the early nineteenth century, Green Park is one of a small number of resorts developed in western North Carolina in the decades around the turn of the century when new railroad lines and improved roads opened up the counties in the Blue Ridge Mountains to tourists and travelers seeking to enjoy the scenery and climate. The Green Park Hotel, the state's second oldest surviving resort hotel, was built in 1891 and it is one of three nineteenth-century buildings in the district. The primary growth of the colony

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occurred after 1913 when a consortium of mostly Statesville businessmen, incorporated as the Blowing Rock Development Company, acquired ownership of the hotel and the surrounding acreage. In the 1910s, a small number of lots were sold to men who would build picturesque summer cottages along narrow, curvilinear lanes defined by stone walls, terraces and informal, native plantings. One of the first and most prominent members of the early summer colony of cottage builders was James William Cannon, the founder of the Cannon textile dynasty. In the 1920s the largest number of lots were sold in Green Park and the cottages built in this period, most of which were covered with chestnut bark, shaped the architectural character of the summer resort. During those heady days the Blowing Rock Development Company joined forces with Rufus Lenoir Patterson, II, a millionaire industrialist who had a large summer estate at Green Park and laid out a nine-hole golf course in 1915-1916 which they jointly expanded to eighteen holes in 1922. The essential architectural character of the Green Park Historic district was shaped in the 1920s, a decade during which well over one-half of the primary contributing resources were constructed. The handsome Craftsman/bungalow cottages were mostly of frame construction and most were sheathed with chestnut bark shingles. Stone retaining walls, plantings of native trees and shrubs, and other landscape features contribute to the impressive period character throughout the district.

Beginning with the earliest history of the region, the bold geological formation which gave the area its name was an image which remained etched in the memories of explorers, travelers, tourists, and summer residents who came to "The Rock" and savored the spectacular views. In 1935, the Bernhardt family confirmed their ownership of "The Rock" and they have continued to lease the property to Grover C. Robbins and his family who have been at the forefront of tourism development in the area.

The Green Park Historic District fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register because of its local significance in the area of social history as one of a very small number of intact summer resorts in western North Carolina that reflect the lifeways of upper class North Carolina society in the period from 1891 until 1944. The Green Park District satisfies Criterion C for listing because of its local significance in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture. The Green Park Hotel, erected in 1891 and the second oldest surviving resort hotel in North Carolina, together with the adjoining golf course, a collection of some two dozen summer cottages--mostly dating from the 1920s, the Mt. Bethel Church and Cemetery

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where many members of the Green/Greene family are buried, and the Blowing Rock--one of the best known natural features of North Carolina--compose the fabric of a summer colony that reflects the architectural styles of the period and the building traditions, materials, and craftsmanship of western North Carolina.

Historical Background and Social History Context:

At the turn of the century America's fascination with the North Carolina mountains resulted in greatly increased tourism to the region as well as numerous articles and notices in the popular press. One of the finest and most evocative works on western North Carolina was Margaret Warner Morley's The Carolina Mountains, published in 1913. In the fourteen-page chapter given the description of Blowing Rock and its environs, she exclaimed over the extraordinary character of the Resort and its relation to Grandfather Mountain.

. . . from Blowing Rock to Tryon Mountain the Blue Ridge draws a deep curve half encircling a jumble of very wild rocky peaks and cliffs that belong to the foothill formations. Hence, Blowing Rock, lying on one arm of a horseshoe of which Tryon Mountain is the other arm, has the most dramatic outlook of any village in the mountains. Directly in front of it is an enormous bowl filled with a thousand tree-clad hills and ridges that become higher and wilder towards the encircling wall of the Blue Ridge, .. Far away, beyond this wild bowlful of mountains, one sometimes sees a faintly outlined dome, Tryon Mountain,...

Off to the left from Blowing Rock, seen between near green knobs, the shoreless sea of the lowlands reaches away to lave the edge of the sky. And looking to the right, there lies the calm and noble form of Grandfather Mountain, its rocky top drawn in a series of curves against the western sky.

Sometimes Grandfather Mountain stands solidly out, showing in detail the tapestry of green trees that hangs over its slopes; again it is blue and flat against the sky, or it seems made of mists and shadows. Sometimes the sunset glory penetrates, as it were, into the substance of the mountain, which looks translucent in the sea of light that contains

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it. As night draws on, it darkens into a noble silhouette against the splendor that often draws the curves of its summit in lines of fire.

Blowing Rock at times lies above the clouds with all the world blotted out excepting the Grandfather's Summit rising out of the white mists.

Near the village of Blowing Rock, at the beginning of those green knobs between which one looks to the lowlands, is a high cliff, the real Blowing Rock, so named because the rocky walls at this point form a flume through which the northwest wind sweeps with such force that whatever is thrown over the rock is hurled back again.

Blowing Rock, four thousand feet above sea level, is a wonderfully sweet place. The rose-bay and the great white Rhododendron maximum crowd against the houses and fill the open spaces, excepting where laurel and the flame-colored azaleas have planted their standards. And in their seasons the wild flowers blossom everywhere; also the rocks are covered with those crisp, sweet-smelling herbs that love high places, and sedums and saxifrages trim the crevices and the ledges.

So strong was the local pride in Blowing Rock in the later nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries that this romantic description was repeated in 1915 by John Preston Arthur in his A History of Watauga County, North Carolina (Arthur: 214-216). The spell which the landscape cast over the visitor in that period has remained powerful in its attraction throughout the twentieth century. The vast mountain scenery drew visitors of all types--tourists, artists, developers, builders, industrialists, lawyers, doctors, educators, and ministers--seekers of health, recreation, and pleasure. In short, all manner of men and women came to Blowing Rock to savour the scenic landscape and the climate. Some men, such as Moses Herman Cone (1857-1908), and their families were world famous. They summered at Blowing Rock from the 1890s until Bertha Lindau Cone's death in 1947, for most of this period at a 3000-plus acre estate at the edge of Blowing Rock in a grand summer cottage called Flat Top Manor. A fellow textile industrialist, James William Cannon, Sr. (1852-1921) and his son Charles Albert Cannon (1892-1971) likewise summered at Blowing Rock

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from the turn of the century until their deaths. While the Cone Family stayed almost exclusively at their impressive Colonial Revival Style mansion cottage, members of the Cannon Family built a series of more modest but nevertheless handsome houses on smaller grounds. Two of these cottages, including the house (#14) built in 1915 for James William and Mary Ella (Bost) Cannon and occupied to the present by descendant generations of their family, stand in the Green Park Historic District. (For the purpose of clarification, it should be noted here that the Green Park Historic District comprises one part of the larger resort area commonly known as Blowing Rock. Although the Blowing Rock, itself, is located within this district, the village which first carried the name "Blowing Rock" was located some two miles to the north, further along the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike. The land area of this specific resort community, known as Green Park, takes its name from the Green/Greene family who long owned the land upon which the Green Park Hotel was built and the surrounding resort community was established. Green Park was a separate community with its own post office at the turn of the century. In 1926, Green Park and Mayview Park, a later resort community at the edge of the Blowing Rock village center, were both annexed by the town of Blowing Rock, In this report, when the term "Blowing Rock" is used it denotes the larger resort community including the village center, Green Park, and Mayview Park.)

While Moses Herman Cone, James William Cannon, and Charles Albert Cannon were men of international reputation and the products of their textile factories could be found in homes throughout the United States, many of those who came to spend their summers in Blowing Rock and who lingered into September and October to enjoy the rich colors of autumn were men and women who flourished on a somewhat smaller stage. William Whittingham Stringfellow (d.1932), the son of the Rev. Dr. Horace Stringfellow, rector of the Episcopal Church in Hyde Park, New York, and his wife--heir to a large Alabama banking fortune, came to Blowing Rock in the 1890s and developed a seasonal estate called Chetola where he summered until 1919. In 1926, Chetola became the summer place of James Luther Snyder(1873-1957), a self-made man who earned the nick-name "Coca-Cola King of the Carolinas" for his widespread and successful investment in bottling plants for the increasingly popular beverage (Buxton: 54-60). Julian Price(1867-1946) served as president of Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company of Greensboro from 1916 until 1946 and he also came to Blowing Rock in the summer: he and the insurance company provided financing for various projects. His legacy in the town is not a fine mansion but

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the 4,200-acre Julian Price Memorial Park (Buxton:68-70). A native of Greensboro, Robert Sloane Mebane (d.1934) built a great stone castle called Greystone Towers in Mayview Park and was secretary of the United States Chamber of Commerce at his death.

The accomplishments of Cone, the Cannons, and Price form important chapters in the industrial and financial history of North Carolina, the South, and arguably the nation. Their hospitality, that of the Stringfellows and Snyders at Chetola and of artist Elliott Dangerfield(1859-1932), his wife and daughters at their successive summer houses, Windwood and Westglow, and the entertainments and house parties of others, remain significant in the social history of Blowing Rock and western North Carolina(Buxton:60-66). While the wealth, talents, and cottages of these men, their wives, and their families stand tall in accounts of Blowing Rock, it becomes clear that in the making of the resort community at Blowing Rock they were part of a much larger upper class society of important business men and women, socialites, and political and civic leaders. In short, the development of the larger Blowing Rock resort and the life of the enclave at Green Park were forged by a close system of business and family relationships which have persisted, generation to generation, from the late nineteenth century to the present. Prominent among this roster of summer people who came to Blowing Rock from North Carolina, the nearer regions of the South, as well as Florida, Texas, and New York are members of the Harper, Bernhardt, Cone, Cannon, Snyder, Henkel, Craig, Shuford, Knox, Patterson, Alexander, Kone, and Broyhill families, among others.

The creation of a summer resort at Blowing Rock in the decades around the turn of the century was part of a larger movement in the development of summer and seasonal residences in communities across western North Carolina. Probably the earliest of these summer colonies was established at Flat Rock by wealthy Charlestonians in the early nineteenth century who removed upland to the rolling country in Henderson County, North Carolina, just across the South Carolina border. Here a series of substantial houses, expansive enough to accommodate large, extended families, were joined in the antebellum period by an Episcopal church, St. John's-in-the-Wilderness, and the Flat Rock Hotel (Woodfield Inn). In retrospect, Flat Rock, with its cottages anchored by a church and a hotel at the near center of a rural village, established the precedent which would be followed by resort communities in western North Carolina for the next half-century and longer. Religion and worship remained an important part of summer life and it is not coincidental that the major Protestant

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denominations in America have established conference centers and retreats in western North Carolina.

This movement into and through western North Carolina was made possible by increasing wealth and the growing network of major railroads and secondary narrow-gauge lines which reached most parts of the mountain region by the turn of the century and certainly by World War I. In the 1910s and the 1920s, the Good Roads Program in North Carolina facilitated even easier travel as automobiles became the standard form of transportation. Wealth, better and easier means of transportation, and increasing leisure time gave rise in the closing years of the nineteenth century to the creation of a new, important group of summer colonies in the counties of western North Carolina lying in the Blue Ridge Mountains. In time places like Burnsville, Black Mountain, Little Switzerland, Saluda, Tryon, Cashiers, and Highlands developed as centers of summer retreat. Two of the most important of these were Linville and Blowing Rock which are situated in close proximity in adjoining Avery County and Caldwell and Watauga counties, respectively. Linville and Blowing Rock developed almost simultaneously around the turn of the century as did the resort at Roaring Gap in Allegheny County which was favored by the wealthy families of Winston-Salem.

The Green Park Historic District, which includes two of Blowing Rock's major landmarks--the Blowing Rock(#1) and the Green Park Hotel(#20)--represents a critical chapter in the history of the resort. Unlike Linville which developed as a tightly clustered village under the leadership of the McRae Family, Blowing Rock was much less organized in its growth and more informal in its layout. In Blowing Rock, as the rhapsodical description implies, the views across the mountainous landscape were virtually unequalled in western North Carolina and cottages and estates were built and developed to take advantage of these great natural landscape pictures. The first of Blowing Rock's important hostelries, the Watauga Hotel, was built and opened in 1884 at what can now be described as the village center. It was soon joined by cottages, stores, boarding houses, and other buildings which developed around it and along the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike(Main Street and US 321A). The Blowing Rock Hotel was completed and opened in 1889 some distance away. However, the geological formation which gave the community its name was located about two miles southeast of the Watauga Hotel and in an area known as Green Park. Named for the Green/Greene Family who settled the area and owned most of the lands on which the resort developed, Green Park existed as a separate unincorporated community with its own post

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office until it was annexed by the town of Blowing Rock in November 1926 (Buxton:18).

Following on the model of the Green Park Hotel and the surrounding neighborhood developed by the Green Park Improvement Company and its successors, Walter L. Alexander developed Mayview Park in the later 1910s and early 1920s. This colony of summer houses was laid out west and southwest of the village center and likewise focused on a great hotel, the Mayview Manor, and a club house (Buxton:99-104). It, too, was annexed by the town of Blowing Rock in November 1926. Although the Mayview Manor hotel was later demolished, the neighborhood which surrounded it survives. That colony of summer houses, the Green Park Historic District, and a cluster of buildings near the present village center represent the three most important concentrations of historic buildings in the town of Blowing Rock.

Green Park in the Nineteenth Century:

The nineteenth-century history of Green Park is most closely connected with the Harper Family of Lenoir whose progenitor James Harper (1799-1879) came to what was then Burke County about 1827 and established himself as a merchant. James Harper donated the land on which the town of Lenoir, the county seat of Caldwell County, was located and is said to have bought the first lot, thereby providing the initial monies with which the county could proceed to the erection of public buildings. The town of Lenoir was laid out by Harper's nephew James Clarence Harper (1819-1890) who had likewise removed south from Pennsylvania and quickly showed great enterprise in his new home. He led the efforts to secure the incorporation of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike Company in 1845 and in 1846-1847 he proceeded to both lay out the route of the turnpike and to oversee the construction of the road which linked Lenoir to Blowing Rock by way of Patterson where the Harper Family had substantial investments in manufacturing and mercantile enterprises. The honor of building the first known summer cottage at Blowing Rock was held by James Harper, who built a frame dwelling which he and his wife Caroline Finley (1808-1867) called Summerville. According to tradition, the cottage was destroyed during the Civil War occupation of Blowing Rock by forces under the command of Major W. W. Rollins (DNCR, 3:38-39).

In the mid 1870s, some ten years after the end of the Civil War, the movement began which culminated at Green Park in 1891 with the construction of the Green Park Hotel. About 1870, H. C. Martin built

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a private residence in the small village of Blowing Rock which he expanded and opened as lodgings for summer tourists. About four years later William Morris bought the Amos Green house and opened the Morris House to guests (Buxton:4). Travel to the mountain resort was by horseback, by wagon, or hack. The nearest rail connection at that time was some thirty miles away in Hickory which lay on the path of the Western North Carolina Railroad. The completion and opening of a spur line connecting Lenoir with Hickory in 1884 was the critical event which fostered the later-nineteenth-century development of Green Park and Blowing Rock. Henkel, Craig & Company, of Lenoir, operated a stage line from Lenoir to Blowing Rock via the turnpike (Buxton:7). That same year, the Watauga Hotel opened and four years later the Blowing Rock Hotel was completed and first occupied in the summer of 1888. In 1889 the McRae Family incorporated the Linville Improvement Company and on 11 March 1889, the North Carolina General Assembly ratified the charter of the town of Blowing Rock. The corporate limits were set as "Three-fourths of a mile in every direction from W. M. Morris' store-house." The first mayor was Joseph Bogle Clark (d.1910) who had removed to Blowing Rock from Lenoir in 1871 (Buxton:10-11).

The path of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike rose up to the Blowing Rock and across the Eastern Continental Divide and the Caldwell/Watauga County border and northward to the village center. Here at a point astride the Eastern Continental Divide and the county line, a syndicate of Lenoir businessmen decided to build a new hotel. The site of the proposed hotel and the surrounding acreage was purchased on behalf of the company by its incorporators. Although the formal certificate of incorporation was not drawn up until 24 July 1891, after the hotel had been completed and opened to the public, it is clear that the five investors in the company had been acting in concert for some time.

The leader in the formation of the Green Park Improvement Company and its president was Major George Washington Finley Harper (1834-1921), the eldest son of James and Caroline Ellen (Finley) Harper. He was a veteran of the Civil War and upon his return to Caldwell County he made broad and successful investments in manufacturing, mercantile, railroad, and banking enterprises in Lenoir. He founded the Bank of Lenoir and served as its president from 1894 until his death. His younger and only surviving brother, Samuel Finley Harper, managed the Harper Family's cotton and woolen mills at Patterson: he was also an investor in the hotel and real estate company (DNCR, 3:37-38. Harper Interview). Two of the other investors were also brothers, being the

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sons of Mathias Alexander Bernhardt (1818-1877), a native of Cabarrus County who had relocated to Lenoir about 1850 and thereby became the progenitor of a family which likewise distinguished itself in manufacturing and mercantile operations. Both George Lynn Bernhardt (1858-1912) and John Mathias Bernhardt (1860-1935) worked for James Harper in his Lenoir mercantile store and eventually became partners in Harper, Bernhardt & Company. George Lynn Bernhardt remained a merchant until his death: the former Harper and Bernhardt concern remains in operation as Bernhardt-Seagle Company. John Mathias Bernhardt was married to Ellen Douglas Harper, the only daughter of Major G. W. F. Harper: like his father-in-law, John Mathias Bernhardt made substantial investments in manufacturing and railroad construction as well as lumbering. He founded the Lenoir Furniture Company which continues to operate today as a plant of Broyhill Industries (Heritage/Caldwell:252-254). At present little is known of A. G. Breniger, the fifth investor in the Green Park Improvement Company.

The real estate holdings of the Green Park Improvement Company had been acquired by the individual investors who appear to have moved quickly toward the construction of the Green Park Hotel. The expansive three-story Queen Anne Style frame hotel was built north of the Blowing Rock and downgrade from the promontory of Giddings Ridge. (Over time Giddings Ridge was corrupted in usage to "Gideon's Ridge.") The first known notice of the hotel was a short paragraph published in the 15 April 1891 issue of the Lenoir Topic:

The Green Park Hotel at Blowing Rock is finished on the outside and is an imposing looking building. Work is progressing upon it and it will soon be completed and richly furnished. There will not be a finer hotel in the South. It will have 60 rooms, each one of which will be furnished with an electric bell and with water from a complete system of waterworks. There will be fireplaces in every room.

Three months later, on 18 June 1891, the Watauga Democrat carried a single sentence in its column of news from the resort entitled "Blowing Rock Breezes," stating "The Green Park people will have their magnificent hotel finished in a few days." At its opening, the Green Park Hotel was the finest of Blowing Rock's hotels and it remained the resort's leading hotel until the Mayview Manor opened in the 1920s.

Having acquired far more land than was needed for the operation of the hotel, Major Harper and his fellow investors sold tracts of

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land to private individuals, presumably for the construction of cottages which would enhance the attractiveness of Green Park to future tourists. These cottages and a resident summer colony would also protect their major investment in the hotel. One of the first sales by the Green Park Improvement Company was made on 20 September 1892 to Moses Herman Cone, a co-founder of the Cone textile dynasty. Cone initially purchased a tract of thirty-one acres to the southeast of the hotel; the parcel included Giddings Ridge (Caldwell Deed Book 24:511). Later in 1892 and 1893, Cone purchased two additional tracts here from members of the Greene and Holshouser families giving him a total of seventy-one acres (Caldwell Deed Book 24:592 and Book 25:236). In view of the fact that these were his first purchases of land in Blowing Rock, it seems likely that he contemplated building a cottage here prior to making the decision to buy property to the north of Blowing Rock where he assembled his summer estate largely between 1897 and 1899.

The deed from the Green Park Improvement Company to Moses H. Cone did not cite any references to a plat of the Green Park Improvement Company lands, however it is clear from subsequent deeds that at least a portion of the company's acreage was subdivided into lots. On 12 October 1892, the company deeded lots #47 and #48 on Green Hill drive to Major G. W. F. Harper for \$250 (Watauga Deed Book 12:163). Major Harper's only son George Finley Harper acquired these lots from his father in December 1909: the deed stated that the younger Harper had "built and occupied a summer resort cottage" on the tract (Watauga Deed Book 12:164). That house no longer stands and the site is occupied now by the second house erected for Charles Calvert Smoot, III (#33).

It is unknown, at present, if any other cottages were erected in the nineteenth century on lots acquired from the Green Park Improvement Company. None now survive. The oldest summer cottage in Green Park is a late-Victorian two-story frame cottage (#17) built for Franklin Brevard McDowell which stands on Pinnacle Avenue to the southwest of the hotel. It is known to predate 1897.

Religious worship was an early and prominent feature of summer life in Green Park and Blowing Rock. On 14 May 1884, the Lenoir News reported that the Rev. John Ingle (1835-1926) had organized a "Union Sunday school" at Morris's school house on 4 May 1884 and that it would meet each Sunday morning. Ingle is said to have been one of several citizens of Rowan County of the Reformed denomination who relocated to Watauga County in the early 1880s and was preaching here as early as December 1882 at the home of Jacob Kluttz (1827-1912),

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another of the former residents of Rowan County. In July 1886, the Rev. Jacob C. Clapp (1832-1910) and the Rev. Mr. Ingle organized a Reformed mission congregation in Blowing Rock. A year later, on 4 June 1887, Jacob Kluttz deeded an acre to the trustees of Mt. Bethel Reformed Church as the site of a church. A correction deed for the property was made on 29 April 1893 (Watauga Deed Book N:262 and Book R:26). This was done to secure title to the property on which the congregation was about to build. Mt. Bethel Church (#41) was dedicated on the first Sunday of November 1894 (Peeler:307-309). The church grounds had apparently been used for some time as a burying ground since the 1893 deed cites an "old Grave yard" here. Mt. Bethel is the oldest religious building standing in the resort town of Blowing Rock.

The final event of significance in the nineteenth century history of Green Park occurred in 1897. On 15 September, George Lynn Bernhardt and his wife Lucy deed a large tract of land adjoining the property of the Green Park Improvement Company on the southwest for \$3,500 to a quartet of investors. They were T. C. Leak, Henry Clay Wall (1841-1899), and W. C. Leak, all of Richmond County, and John Mathias Bernhardt (Caldwell Deed Book 30:102). This tract was subsequently subdivided into lots (Caldwell Map Book 1:1). A plat of the "Leak and Wall Property," named for the major investors shows the "Leak Cottage" and the "Wall Cottage" standing beside each other and across the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike Road from the Green Park Hotel. Neither of those cottages survives to the present, however three later cottages (#21-#23), all facing the turnpike road, stand on lots of that tract together with the great stone cottage (#18) built on Pinnacle Avenue for Charlotte banker Robert A. Dunn.

Green Park in the Early Twentieth Century:

In the opening decade of the twentieth century there was little known change in the resort life at the Green Park colony in Blowing Rock, however, at least one house dates to this period. On 9 September 1908, John Marshall Knox of Salisbury purchased lot #22 on Pinnacle Avenue from the Green Park Improvement Company and erected a house (#13) which remained the summer cottage of his unmarried daughters Bertha, Clara, and Margaret until 1963 (Caldwell Deed Book 47:97).

For reasons that are now unclear, there was a dramatic change in the ownership of the Green Park Hotel and its acreage in 1913 that

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resulted in improvements to the hotel facility, the laying out of a nine-hole golf course in 1915, and the subdivision of acreage around the hotel and golf course in the early 1920s. The 1913 summer season apparently opened as usual in mid June with a typically glowing account of the early season appearing in the Watauga Democrat on 3 July.

It is reported that the Green Park Hotel, the nearest to the famous rock from which the village takes its name, has opened with a goodly number of guests with more to follow. The present management with Major Cobb, of Raleigh, at the head, "drawing like a magnet," as the Major, with his State-wide and wider reputation as a hotelist, is doing all he can to bring to Green Park the success it deserves and the continued popularity to which it is entitled through the devoted interest of the Harpers.

Three weeks later, on 24 July, the Watauga Democrat reported further evidence of the success of the season.

Up to the present date the Green Park hotel has registered over 300 guests since it opened the 15th of June. Numerous automobile parties were up Saturday evening and Sunday....The Green Park is daily filling up and has over one hundred summer visitors "permanently located" for the season.

On 25 September 1913, at the close of the summer season, the Watauga Democrat carried a front page story of the sale of the hotel under the headline, "Green Park Hotel Sold." This article listed a group of stockholders which was in the process of preparing the certificate of incorporation as the Blowing Rock Development Company.

It is the purpose of the company first to improve and refurnish the Green Park hotel. The hotel will be put in first class condition by next season and will be put in charge of a first class hotel man, who will give the very best service. The development of the other property is a matter for the future, but the growth of Blowing Rock as a resort place, which is assured, means that future development is certain.

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That same day, 25 September 1913, the Green Park Improvement Company deeded its holding of 325 acres to the Blowing Rock Development Company for \$30,000. The above paragraph from the newspaper article closely paraphrases the wording of the object of the corporation for the certificate of incorporation.

To purchase and develop the holdings of the Green Park Improvement Co., Green Park, N. C., consisting of 325 acres of land, the Green Park Hotel and all its improvements--to operate hotel at Blowing Rock, N. C., or elsewhere; to purchase, sell and own real estate; borrow and loan money; to make investments in other enterprises that will promote the general interest of the corporation, and to do a general land business in the County of Watauga as well as other sections of the State (Watauga Record of Incorporations A:82).

The names in the roster of stockholders listed in the Watauga Democrat article varied somewhat from those of the men who signed the certificate of incorporation, however, two characteristics were true to both lists: the majority of the stockholders were men from Statesville; and they were men who were all familiar with the Green Park Hotel, Green Park, and the potential of the Blowing Rock area as a resort. The name listed first in both instances was that of James William Cannon, Sr., of Concord who, within a year, would acquire a lot with fine views and erect a summer cottage (#14). Joseph Duckworth Elliott (1854-1930) of Hickory founded the Elliott Building Company and had investments in a number of manufacturing concerns, including textiles: in 1912 he had become president of the First National Bank of Hickory. David J. Craig and Columbus Vance Henkel were partners in Henkel, Craig & Company which had operated a stage line from Lenoir to Blowing Rock for many years and had livery stables in the larger towns and county seats of the foothills region of North Carolina (Buxton:7 and Harper Interview). C. M. Steele, A. P. Steele, H. O. Steele, and F. F. Steele were all members of the Steele Family of Statesville which was engaged in manufacturing and other enterprises. L. L. Jenkins of Asheville, J. A. Durham of Charlotte, and Thomas L. Craig of Gastonia also signed the certificate of incorporation for the Blowing Rock Development Company. Within this group of eleven men, it becomes clear that the leadership of the company resided in Columbus Vance Henkel and David J. Craig. Henkel was elected president of the company and Craig served as secretary-

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treasurer.

The stockholders of the Blowing Rock Development Company met in Statesville in mid February 1914, and an account of the meeting, first appearing in the Statesville Landmark, was reprinted in the Watauga Democrat on 26 February 1914. The company's plans for the hotel and Green Park were detailed to readers.

The hotel building will be thoroughly renovated, the exterior being repainted and the interior being worked over and refinished, and a new kitchen department will be built. The old furniture is to be sold and the building refurnished with modern furnishings, the purpose being to make the hotel modern and up to date in every particular. Several new cottages will be erected on the property, a new bowling alley will be built and a deep well will be bored to furnish pure water for all purposes, the company having a private water system which will be extended to the cottages.

The improvements are to be made before the opening of the next season at Blowing Rock and the development company has arranged with Mr. O. W. Spencer of Salisbury, a member of the company to manage the hotel. Mr. Spencer who is proprietor of the Empire Hotel of Salisbury, is one of the best known hotel men in the state and the Green Park Hotel will be conducted in a first class manner....

The improvements to be made for the next season are but a beginning, it being the purpose of the company to make Blowing Rock not only one of the most popular summer resorts in the State, but the most popular in the South. Nature has done about all that could be done in the way of climate and scenery.

Work on the turnpike between Lenoir and Blowing Rock is now in progress. Macadam will be used at many places and before next season one of the best turnpikes in the mountains will be ready for use, making Blowing Rock easily accessible by automobile.

Presumably the renovations to the Green Park Hotel were put into effect for the summer season of 1914, and before the season ended, two of the major stockholders in the Blowing Rock Development Company

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acquired title to lots on which they shortly built cottages. On 14 August 1914, Columbus Vance Henkel acquired one of the prime lots on Pinnacle Avenue, southwest of the hotel, with superb views to Grandfather Mountain (Caldwell Deed Book 43:396). Here he built a two-story frame cottage (#15) which remained a family summer place until after the death of his son C. V. Henkel, Jr., in 1971. Three weeks later, on 4 September, Henkel, as president of the development company, sold the lot adjoining his on the southeast to Mary Ella Bost Cannon, the wife of James William Cannon, Sr. (Watauga Deed Book 16:503). Within the space of four months, Cannon had laid plans to build a summer cottage (#14) and on 21 January 1915, the Watauga Democrat informed the readers of its column, "Blowing Rock Breezes," that "Our well known contractor, Mr. J. Lee Hayes, with a squad of master workmen, is resuming the cottage building interrupted by the unprecedentedly early very cold weather last Autumn, at present Mr. Hayes (is) erecting near Green Park a fine dwelling for the Concord millionaire, J. W. Cannon, Esq...."

Other events pertinent to the success of the resort were occurring simultaneously. One of the larger tracts of privately held land which lay between Green Park and the village center of Blowing Rock was the summer estate of John A. Boyden (1828-1912) of Salisbury and his wife Mary Ledbetter Cole Boyden (1836-1909). On 5 October 1912, that property was acquired by Rufus Lenoir Patterson, II (1872-1943), a wealthy tobacconist and the president of the American Machine and Foundry Company and the International Cigar Machinery Company (Watauga Deed Book 15:155,163). Patterson had been born in Salem, North Carolina, to Rufus Lenoir and Mary Elizabeth (Fries) Patterson, however, the Patterson Family had long been prominent in Caldwell County. He fitted up the former Boyden summer cottage as a seasonal retreat, but it appears that he continued to spend most of his time in New York City or at Lenoir, his Southampton, Long Island estate (Marquis:2023. Harper Interview). The former Boyden property lay adjacent to the larger holding of the Blowing Rock Development Company.

On 2 September 1915, the Watauga Democrat carried a front page article announcing a major undertaking by the development company.

...the Blowing Rock Development Company has just decided at a stockholders' meeting to spend fifteen thousand dollars or more on the laying out of a modern golf course. Additional funds will be spent upon other amusements and attractions, and before another season is on Blowing Rock will be

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provided with the various sports and amusements which have contributed to the success of other resorts, in addition to its superlative scenery and cooling breezes.

Despite its large holding, the issue of appropriate land on which to construct a golf course presented something of a problem to the company. This matter was resolved in 1915 when it entered into an agreement with Rufus Lenoir Patterson to construct a nine-hole course on contiguous lands belonging to the development company and Mr. Patterson. As it turned out, five holes of the course were built on Patterson's property and four holes were constructed on the company's land (Harper Interview).

On 30 September 1915, the Watauga Democrat noted that "Mr. Lute Nelson is in charge of the laying out of the new golf course belonging to the Green Park Hotel Company." Later, on 4 November 1915, it gave wider description to his duties in the column, "Blowing Rock Breezes."

Mr and Mrs. Lute Nelson are enjoying the beautiful autumn weather at Green Park where Mr. Nelson has charge of the vast work planned and being executed by the Green Park Hotel Company, which is having a golf course made, shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery set out to ornament and beautify the already handsome grounds, other improvements contemplated.

Work on the golf course and landscaping around the hotel seems to have continued into 1916 and to have been completed in that year. During the spring of 1916, J. Lee Hayes constructed an annex to the hotel which was apparently ready for the 1916 summer season (Watauga Democrat, 5/18/16). After the season, Nelson and his crew were again busy with their landscaping efforts. All of this activity reflected the improvements which the development company had intended to carry out at Green Park. It was also a program of improvement which they featured in a special promotional brochure for which local photographer W. C. Vannoy was engaged in the autumn of that year. On 23 November 1916, the Watauga Democrat, in its "Blowing Rock Breezes" column reported that "Mr. W. C. Vannoy has completed the set of handsome views of the Green Park Company's property, including the famous golf course, one of the finest in America; also many other views of the grand scenery hereabout."

The golf course built in Green Park was not the first course in this area of the mountains. A nine hole course had been constructed

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at Linville by the mid 1890s and five additional holes were added in 1900; players could have a round of eighteen holes by playing four holes twice (Linville NR Nom.). Golf became an enormously popular sport in the resort and, in fact, the favorite active pastime. Some town leaders, especially the Rev. Edgar Tufts, a Presbyterian minister at Blowing Rock, felt that it had become too popular. In 1917, he was instrumental in securing the introduction of legislation in the North Carolina General Assembly that would prohibit the playing of golf in Caldwell, Watauga, and Avery counties on Sundays. Clearly, this legislation was aimed at forbidding play on the courses at Green Park and Linville. As it turned out, the legislation was reported unfavorably out of committee and never adopted (Watauga Democrat, 2/22/17).

The larger news of 1917, however, concerned the development proposals of Walter L. Alexander and his plans to create an entirely new residential resort community, Mayview Park, to the southwest of the Blowing Rock village center. Alexander's intention was to create the finest resort in the Blue Ridge Mountains and he moved quickly to lay out the residential part of his development in which cottages were built for lease and lots would be made available for sale. By 1922, he had constructed his resort hotel, Mayview Manor, a vast Shingle Style building which hugged the mountainside and afforded its guests extraordinary views over the Johns River Gorge and to Grandfather Mountain. Mayview Park quickly became a very fashionable resort colony and Alexander secured the prestige of his development by hosting the North Carolina Press Association's annual meeting at Mayview Manor in the summer of 1923 (Buxton:99-104).

Green Park in the 1920s:

While Walter L. Alexander was garnering publicity for his project, increasing tourism in Blowing Rock, and earning the appreciation of town leaders, the stockholders of the Blowing Rock Development Company saw the challenge which the Mayview Park project represented to their own efforts. Although Mayview Manor would eventually replace the Green Park Hotel as the center of Blowing Rock's social activities, Green Park retained its cachet and it had one very special feature which did not and would never exist at Mayview Park. It had Blowing Rock's only golf course in a period when golf was the major sport of the business and professional men and women who frequented summer resorts of that era. As a result, Green

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Park also thrived in a period when it, otherwise, could have been cast permanently into the shade by Alexander's brilliant undertaking.

That said, the stockholders of the Blowing Rock Development Company did not stand idly by. In 1922, they moved forward, in cooperation with Rufus L. Patterson, to enlarge the golf course to eighteen holes. They also began to market portions of the company's acreage for the construction of private summer cottages. Lots were laid out along a road leading to the Giddings Ridge holding of Bertha Lindau Cone; it became Gideon Ridge Road and houses built along its south side enjoyed views across the John's River Gorge. In the summer of 1924, Hickory surveyor Cyrus C. Babb laid out and plated large portions of the company's acreage which lay on the east side of the newly enlarged golf course. These lots lay along Goforth Road, Wonderland Road, and other streets and included portions of the Green Hill area of Green Park (Watauga Plat Book 1:15,17). This subdivision reflected contemporary planning and development practices, particularly in suburban communities designed around country clubs where choice lots were laid out overlooking the tees, fairways, and greens of the attendant golf course.

During the period from 1919 to 1929, lots were sold and cottage were erected on a scale unprecedented in the history of Green Park. In 1918, James William and Mary Ella (Bost) Cannon sold their Pinnacle Avenue house (#14) to their youngest son, Charles Albert Cannon (1892-1971) who was destined to take over the reins of the family's textile operation and guide the company to world power as a producer of linens and towels for home, institutional, and commercial use (Watauga Deed Book 121:108). In 1919, James William Cannon, Jr., and his brother James Ross Cannon jointly purchased a ten-acre tract on Green Hill Road (Watauga Deed Book 24:141). In 1927 James Ross Cannon and his wife became sole owners of the property and built a handsome expansive summer cottage (#35) (Watauga Deed Book 36:412). In 1919-1920, Charlotte banker Robert A. Dunn assembled lots on Pinnacle Avenue where he built a large two-story stone cottage (#18) which is perhaps the costliest house erected in Green Park (Watauga Deed Book 26:257, and others). In 1920, Charles Calvert Smoot, III, of Wilkes County, purchased the former George Finley Harper summer cottage and land on Green Hill Road where he and his wife would build two successive houses including the stone cottage (#33) which stands on the site today (Watauga Deed Book 26:222). The lot at the corner of Gideon Ridge Road and the road leading from the turnpike road to the Blowing Rock was purchased in 1921 by Charles H. Turner of Statesville who built a shingle-clad bungalow (#2) by 1923 (Caldwell Deed Book

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110:270). In 1922, Margaret Hayne Beatie Courtney purchased nearby acreage at the junction of Pinnacle Avenue and the Rock Road where she built a one-story cottage which was raised to two stories and covered with chestnut bark by Samuel Louis Kone of San Antonio, Texas, after he acquired the property in 1927 (Caldwell Deed Book 115:66 and Book 130:283). Also in 1922, Jessie Mai Petty, the wife of William Calvin Petty, the manager of the Selwyn Hotel in Charlotte, acquired lots on Gideon Ridge Road where she built a cottage named Much More (#5) and a guest house (#6) which was named Little More (Caldwell Deed Book 115:453, Book 117:23-25, 404, and Book 125:363).

In 1923, the Green Park Hotel Company was incorporated as a separate entity from the Blowing Rock Development Company, however, the stockholders were mostly the same men (Watauga Record of Incorporations B:6): 1923 was also a busy year for real estate sales and construction in Green Park. Finley Gwyn Harper, Sr. (1880-1951), the son of Samuel Finley Harper, and his wife Corrine Henkel (1887-1955) built a two-story cottage (#8) at the end of Gideon Ridge Road at the edge of the Cone property: Corrine Henkel Harper was the daughter of Lafayette Polycarp Henkel (d.1931), a brother of Columbus Vance Henkel and one of the original stockholders in Henkel, Craig & Company, the Blowing Rock Development Company, and the Green Park Hotel Company. In the summer of 1924, the Harpers sold the cottage to Abel Alexander Shuford (1879-1932), then probably Catawba County's wealthiest citizen (Caldwell Deed Book 119:279); three years later Shuford sold the cottage to Jessie Kenan Wise, the sister and heiress of Mary Lily Kenan Flagler Bingham (Caldwell Deed Book 121:260).

In 1923, three individuals acquired lots on which they built impressive cottages immediately or shortly thereafter. On 18 June, Hayden Clement of Salisbury acquired property on the northeast side of Pinnacle Avenue where he built a one-story cottage (#11) covered with chestnut bark (Caldwell Deed Book 119:113). He was a kinsman of Kate Clement Knox (1837-1933) who with her husband John Marshall Knox and their unmarried daughters occupied the cottage (#13) on the opposite side of Pinnacle Avenue. Amy Jonas, the wife of Augustus Gustavus Jonas of Lenoir, bought lots #9 and #17 of the Leak and Wall Property on 10 August where a bark-covered house (#23) would be built (Caldwell Deed Book 119:243). After the close of the summer season, on 28 September, the Blowing Rock Development Company deeded property on Green Hill Road to David J. Craig, secretary of the company, where he built a large two-story house (#26), covered with chestnut bark, which remains a summer cottage of the Craig family (Watauga Deed Book 30:432).

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As impressive as the developments in Green Park were in 1923, events of 1924 had the potential for even greater change or improvement in the summer colony. Walter L. Alexander, the developer of Mayview Park and Mayview Manor, was a man of seemingly limitless ambition in his efforts to make Blowing Rock "the greatest summer resort and playground in the mountains of western North Carolina." On the front page of its 21 August 1924 issue, the Watauga Democrat announced that Alexander had completed a deal with the Blowing Rock Development Company whereby he would acquire all of its assets including the Green Park Hotel, the Green Park-Norwood Golf Course, and the other developed and undeveloped real estate in its ownership. This purchase of approximately 300 acres, together with his ownership of 317 acres at Mayview, placed 517 acres in Blowing Rock under his control.

Blowing Rock has long been known as one of the most picturesque mountain communities in America, occupying a strategic position on the very top of the Blue Ridge and on the very rim of cloudland. With the new activity in progress and new publicity and advertising campaigns launched, Blowing Rock is destined to be known from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, if Mr. Alexander's plans are consummated.

These grandiose plans were very short-lived and brought to a crushing halt by the death of Alexander in the autumn of 1925. Greatly overextended, his estate was placed in the hands of receivers. Slightly over a year after Alexander's death, in November 1926, Green Park and Mayview Park were annexed by the town of Blowing Rock (Buxton:30).

The years of 1925 and 1926 were critical ones in the history of Green Park for other reasons. Columbus Vance Henkel, Sr., who had guided the progress of the Blowing Rock Development Company as its president since 1914, died on 7 January 1925. His leadership in the community was lost at the same time Alexander assumed ownership of the Green Park properties. For practical purposes, the Blowing Rock Development Company had ceased to exist, however, it was not officially dissolved until 1928. Meanwhile, a new company by the name of the Blowing Rock Improvement Company was formed in October 1926 to acquire the Green Park property, including the golf course, in the settlement of the Alexander estate (Watauga Record of Incorporations B:59). Lafayette Polycarp Henkel was elected president of the new

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company which included his long-time business partner David J. Craig as a stockholder. George T. Penny of High Point, a real estate speculator, was the largest stockholder. Also in 1926, the Lenoir Chamber of Commerce produced a handsomely printed and illustrated booklet, "The Lenoir-Blowing Rock Wonderland," promoting the relationship between the two towns and gave full-page notices to both the Green Park Hotel and Mayview Manor and other hotels, businesses, and commercial and real estate enterprises.

In the later 1920s, real estate sales and new construction did not equal pre-1925 levels, however, there were significant buildings erected in this period and important sales of property. In 1927 Samuel Louis Kone acquired the summer cottage of the Courtneys and enlarged and improved it to the summer place (#12) called Faraway which his family enjoyed until 1972. On 14 September 1927, Abel Alexander Shuford and his wife sold their cottage (#8) to Mrs. Wise and in that year or 1928 they built a larger two-story bark-clad cottage (#10) on the north side of Gideon Ridge Road which remains the summer cottage of their descendants to the present. At the end of the decade, on 25 September 1929, Bertha Lindau Cone deeded her Giddings Ridge holding of 72.49 acres to her Lindau relatives who were then living in Baltimore (Caldwell Deed Book 138:572). Some ten years later, her nephew Norman C. Lindau would built a stone cottage there. One of the last houses erected in the 1920s in the Green Park summer colony was the cottage built off Green Hill Road for Bascom Barrie Blackwelder (1884-1961) of Hickory and his wife Esther Shuford (1883-1957), the sister of Abel Alexander Shuford: the former Blackwelder cottage (#27), later the residence of Finley Gwyn Harper, Sr., is now a burned ruin (Harper Interview).

Although there was relatively little construction in the Green Park section of Blowing Rock in the 1930s, it was a decade in which significant decisions were made and implemented which had a long term positive effect on both Green Park and Blowing Rock. The five most important of these were: a joint promotional scheme undertaken by the towns of Blowing Rock and Boone; the founding of a local newspaper, "The Blowing Rocket"; the development of "The Rock" was a tourist attraction; the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway; and the incorporation of the Blowing Rock Country Club in October 1939. An important figure in two of the projects was Grover Cleveland Robbins, Sr. (1886-1956) who served as mayor of Blowing Rock in 1928-1934, 1939-1944, and 1947-1948. Robbins and C. V. Henkel, Jr. (1908-1971) represented the third generation of leadership in Green Park and Blowing Rock, succeeding the Henkel brothers and David J. Craig who,

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in turn, had succeeded members of the Harper and Bernhardt families who had established Green Park. There were at least three summer cottages built in Green Park in the decade. On Green Hill Road Helen Potts Armstrong erected a two-story cottage (#34) in the mid-1930s and, next door, the Smoots are believed to have built the present stone cottage (#33) about the same time. In 1936 David Ovens of Charlotte acquired a series of adjoining lots at the junction of Goforth and Wonderland roads, then covered with a grove of white pines, where he built a one-story shingle-covered cottage (#42) which he called Pineacres (Watauga Deed Book 46:99. Buxton:162)

Robbins's first series of consecutive terms as mayor came at a time when many resorts experienced reduced patronage and tourism. Fortunately for both Green Park and Blowing Rock, many of the cottages were privately owned and their owners resided within a relatively short driving distance of the resort. The hotels, restaurants, and boarding houses were vulnerable to the effects of broadly reduced incomes as they depended upon a more transient trade. Robbins saw the value of increased advertising aimed to vacationers who could motor to Blowing Rock for a few days, a weekend, or a week rather than a full season. He also understood that the best success would be gained by a cooperative advertising and promotional campaign undertaken jointly with Boone. Robbins unveiled his plan at a meeting of the Boone Civitan Club on 3 April 1930. The principal feature was a two-page four-color map of Watauga County, highlighting the attractions of Boone and Blowing Rock, which would appear as the center feature of a booklet, "Vacationing in North Carolina," to be issued by the Carolina Motor Club (Watauga Democrat, 4/10/30 and 4/24/30). Following upon this successful venture, a tourist center was established in 1931 in a cottage in central Blowing Rock (Buxton:159).

Since Green Park and the town of Blowing Rock had been made accessible by the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike, visits to "The Rock" were frequently made by tourists and residents of the summer colony alike. It was the site of picnics, a scene of contemplation, and the point at which breath-taking views of Grandfather Mountain, the Johns River Gorge, and a vast panorama of mountain landscape could be enjoyed by all. Eventually, the heavy visitation and use of the site created problems of maintenance for the Bernhardt family who owned "The Rock." In 1933, they leased the site to the partnership of Grover C. Robbins, Sr., and C. H. Berryman who erected a refreshment stand along the path of the rock. In 1935, the claim of the Bernhardt Family to the property was upheld over challenges by the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development (Watauga Democrat,

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10/31/35). As a result, Robbins bought out Berryman's interest in the partnership and undertook his own initiatives at the site to make it more of a tourist destination. The most important was the construction of a stone building to serve as a reception center and gift shop. It was constructed across the earlier, open path of the rock. Now, visitors were required to pay a small admission charge. The Bernhardt Family continues to own the property and to lease it to the Robbins family who operates the attraction (Buxton:159-160).

The opening of a tourist office in Blowing Rock in 1931 and the advertising which Robbins undertook to draw visitors to "The Rock" were part of a larger series of efforts undertaken on various fronts to promote Blowing Rock. One of the most important was the establishment of a local newspaper. In the 1920s, as Boone's leaders were attempting to promote the town as a tourist destination in addition to its role as the Watauga county seat and the site of Appalachian State Teachers College, the Watauga Democrat, published in Boone, increasingly publicized activities in Boone and gave less and less attention to Blowing Rock efforts and events. The joint publicity venture in 1930 pointed out the fact that both communities could prosper together with neither profiting at the expense of the other. C. V. Henkel, Jr., recognized the need for a separate town newspaper and in 1932 he founded "The Blowing Rocket." Initially, under the editorship of A. T. Robertson, Jr., "The Blowing Rocket" was published as a weekly during the summer season (Heritage/Iredell:317. Buxton:164). In time, it came to be published the year around as the local population increased and tourists came earlier in the spring and lingered longer in the autumn.

As important as all this activity was in promoting Blowing Rock, the construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway was clearly the most important event in the history of the resort in the 1930s. The leaders of Blowing Rock succeeded in drawing the path of the parkway close to the town and the wisdom of this action was seen in the increased tourism when the parkway was opened (Buxton:161).

At the end of the decade the organization of the Blowing Rock County Club coincided with the reorganization of the ownership of the Green Park-Norwood Golf Course. In January 1939, Finley Gwyn Harper, Sr., his cousin Richard G. Finley, and C. V. Henkel, Jr., formed a partnership called Norwood, Ltd. for the purpose of acquiring the Patterson property on which ten holes of the eighteen hole course were located (Caldwell Deed Book 180:141). At the end of October 1939, Norwood, Ltd. and the Blowing Rock Improvement Company as owners of component parts of the golf course entered into an agreement to

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consolidate the golf course and a map of the consolidated golf course was prepared (Caldwell Deed Book 193:46). Simultaneously, leaders of the summer colony including Harper and Henkel moved forward with plans to organize a country club. The incorporators listed in the certificate of incorporation for the Blowing Rock County Club were Henkel, James Luther Snyder, and Charles G. Beck (Watauga Record of Incorporations B:177). Snyder was elected president of the club; Harper, Martin L. Cannon--a son of James William Cannon, Sr., and David Ovens were elected vice-presidents; Beck was elected treasurer and Henkel was elected secretary (Buxton: 170). On 5 July 1940, Norwood, Ltd., donated a tract of 5.89 acres of the former Patterson property as the site of the club house (Watauga Deed Book 53:157). The Blowing Rock County Club erected a club house which opened on Independence Day 1941. It stood at the edge of the golf course and remained in use until fire destroyed it on 21 September 1974 (Buxton:170-171).

In addition to the construction of the Blowing Rock Country Club club house, the decade of the 1940s began with the erection of a stone summer cottage (#9) on the highest point of Giddings Ridge for Norman C. Lindau. Up to this time there had been no residence on this seventy-two acre tract which Bertha Lindau Cone had deeded to her Lindau relatives. There were remnants of the apple orchards which Moses Herman Cone had established here around the turn of the century. The summer cottage, designed by George M. Champney of the Boston architectural firm of Barnes & Champney is one of only two buildings in the Green Park Historic District for which the architect is known. The grounds of the house were designed by Vera Baker Hardy and Marjorie Stearns, a partnership also believed to have been located in Boston (Milner Interview).

For most of the 1930s the Green Park Hotel was held by one man and a like situation occurred in the 1940s. Paul Moldenhauer purchased the hotel in 1932 and operated it until his death in 1942 (Watauga Deed Book 40:499). On 31 May 1943, the hotel property was put up at public auction to satisfy a deed of trust held by the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company. Richard H. Gore, the president of the Cloudland Hotel Company, was the highest bidder and acquired the hotel and its furnishings for \$31,000 (Watauga Deed Book 55:350). Gore and/or his Cloudland Hotel Company held Green Park Hotel until 1952 when it was sold to the Lenoir Furniture Company, a holding of the Bernhardt Family (Watauga Deed Book 69:610). On 31 December 1945, Gore and his wife donated a tract of land on what is now Galax Lane to the Catholic Diocese of North Carolina (Watauga Deed

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Book 60:554). The Church of the Epiphany (#36) was later built here.

Green Park in the 1950s and Thereafter:

The principal events of the 1950s which affected the fortunes and appearance of the Green Park summer colony was the subdivision of the grounds of the James Ross Cannon and the Norman C. Lindau summer cottages. At that time these cottage acreages were the largest individually-held tracts in the district. On 27 August 1945, the heirs of James Ross Cannon sold the house and its ten-acre ground to Arthur Wall and his wife (Watauga Deed Book 59:401). The Walls operated the house as the Tarry Acres Inn for a period and, on 14 August 1952, they sold the property to Grover Cleveland Robbins, Jr. (1919-1970) and his wife (Watauga Deed Book 71:193). Robbins did not own the summer estate a full year before he hired Samuel B. Howard, a civil engineer in Lenoir, to survey and subdivide the property. The main house was set aside on relatively spacious grounds. The remainder of the property was divided into twenty-seven lots laid out around a then-unnamed street now known as Tarry Acres Circle. The plat of the subdivision was completed in June 1954 (Watauga Plat Book 2:67). At the end of the 1950s, in 1958, the Lindau family sold their estate, Gideon's Ridge, to Kenneth Hanelin who undertook a far less sympathetic subdivision of the handsome property (Milner Interview). Beginning in the mid 1950s, a series of modern summer houses, mostly built for possible year-around occupancy, were erected on these newly laid out lots. It was, in fact, these two subdivisions which first introduced year-around residency in the Green Park Historic District. Nevertheless, the majority of the houses in the district remain summer places and are occupied mostly in the summer-early autumn season.

Except for the construction of new residences in Green Park, the principal event of recent years has been the sale of the consolidated golf course to the Blowing Rock Country Club. In 1950, C. V. Henkel, Jr., and Finley Gwyn Harper, Sr., together with the Blowing Rock Improvement Company leased the golf course to the country club for twenty years (Watauga Deed Book 66:385). On 26 January 1973, Finley Gwyn Harper, Jr., his wife Banks McPherson Harper, and his sister Betty Harper Arbuckle, together with the North Carolina National Bank, the administrator of the estate of C. V. Henkel, Jr., deeded the golf course to the country club (Watauga Deed Book 136:568).

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Architecture Context:

The local architectural significance of the Green Park Historic District resides in the collective merit of the group of buildings as an important body of resort architecture, dating from the turn of the century, and the special qualities of individual buildings in the district. Two of the most impressive cottages, both stone, are the work of known architects, however, much of the character of the resort is formed by a larger group of five cottages which were built by local Blowing Rock contractor/builders. These cottages and others erected in the 1920s, define the remarkably cohesive character of the district. The Green Park Hotel (Inn), erected and opened in 1891 and expanded in 1916 and later, is the second oldest surviving resort hotel (Woodfield Inn in Flat Rock is the oldest) in western North Carolina which retains its essential integrity to the present.

Religious worship was always an important part of summer resort life in North Carolina. The Rev. John Ingle, a Reformed minister, established a "Union Sunday school" at Blowing Rock in 1884 and in 1886 he and the Rev. Jacob C. Clapp organized a Reformed mission at Blowing Rock. In 1893-1894 the congregation built a small weatherboarded frame Gothic Revival church which was dedicated in November 1894. Although it was built for use by both the local, resident population and the summer colony, Mt. Bethel Church likewise enjoys the distinction of being one of the oldest churches in western North Carolina associated with the religious side of resort life. Its simple, traditional, and unpretentious form stands in contrast to the rustic elegance of All Saints Episcopal Church erected two decades later at Linville to the designs of Henry Bacon.

At Flat Rock, the summer cottages were mostly built on substantial acreages and stood in relative isolation in their own cultivated grounds. At Blowing Rock and Linville, there were individual houses erected on large land holdings--Flat Top Manor being the outstanding example, however in both these later resorts, most houses were built in close proximity to each other and a visible resort community of buildings came into existence. At both Linville and Blowing Rock, many of the turn-of-the-century cottages were covered with chestnut bark shingles and in both places a number of important cottages retain those sheathings to the present. (It must also be said that probably more of the Linville cottages retain their original and repaired bark shingles than do those of the eleven surviving Green Park cottages in the present district. That fact can be attributed in part to the matter of location: the Linville resort

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occupies a relatively sheltered position in the shadow of the taller mountains whereas Green Park lies on the top of a mountain chain, astride the Eastern Continental Divide, and at "the edge of Cloudland". In that privileged position its summer residents and travelers enjoy views that indeed "may be unequalled in western North Carolina", however, the penalty is a certain exposure to the extremes of winter weather and strong winds.)

At Linville, the character of the village was largely formed by the handsome bark-sheathed buildings designed by Henry Bacon and those who imitated him. In Green Park there are two known buildings designed by professional architects: both of them are of stone masonry construction. Charlotte architect L. L. Hunter designed the Robert A. Dunn cottage (#18) about 1920 and situated the house so that the Dunns and their guests could enjoy spectacular views to Grandfather Mountain from the large living room and from the terrace which wrapped around the southeast end of the house. Twenty years later, in 1940, George M. Champney, a principal in the architectural firm of Barnes & Champney designed a house (#9) built of "Grandfather Mountain red stone" as the seat of the Lindau family's seventy-two acre domain, Gideon's Ridge, then the largest private summer estate in Green Park. Each of these cottages stand within their own, reduced grounds to the present.

More visible and architecturally cohesive is the small group of at least five known houses built in Green Park which are the work of local contractor/builders J. Lee Hayes and Charles Moody. Hayes's first known house is the cottage (#14) he and his workmen erected on Pinnacle Avenue for James William and Mary Ella (Bost) Cannon in 1915. The design and finish of the house is typical of better houses of its era. The next year, 1916, Hayes erected the annex to the Green Park Hotel which forms the southeast wing of the present building. In the 1920s he built two surviving houses, both of which were originally covered with chestnut bark shingles. The Craig Family Cottage (#26) retains its bark-sheathed elevations while the Harper-Shuford-Wise Cottage (#8), at the edge of the mountain and high above the Johns River Gorge, was re-sheathed in square-cut wood shingles about 1930. J. Lee Hayes also built Westglow for Elliott Dangerfield and it appears likely that he must have built other cottages in Green Park as there are marked similarities among the eleven chestnut bark covered houses in the district, including the Shuford Family Cottage (#10), which suggest a common hand in their construction. A notice in the Watauga Democrat on 5 February 1914 suggests that Charles Moody worked in partnership with John F. Benfield (d. 1916); the pair are described

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as "popular builders of Bungalows (who) have just completed another cottage...." Moody later built two cottages on Gideon Ridge Road, both of which are bungalows. The cottage (#2) he constructed for Charles H. Turner about 1923 is covered with square-cut wood shingles now: whether it was originally sheathed with chestnut bark shingles is unknown. The contemporary cottage (#5) he built for Jessie Mai Petty, Much More, retains its chestnut bark sheathing. The nearby cottage (#11) built about this time for Hayden Clement is similar in appearance and might have been built by Moody or Hayes.

A final building of outstanding merit in the Green Park Historic District is one of a type about which little is known at present. In 1933 when Grover Cleveland Robbins, Sr., and C. H. Berryman leased "The Rock" property from the Bernhardt Family they built a small frame refreshment stand for tourists and visitors to the natural wonder. After the ownership of the site was confirmed in the courts in 1935, Robbins bought out the interest of Berryman in their partnership. That year he built a handsome stone lodge to serve as a reception center and gift shop. The frame refreshment stand has been altered over time; however, the stone building has survived virtually intact to the present. As the reception center for the attraction, it is one of the earliest known and surviving visitor centers erected in western North Carolina which is associated with the promotion of tourism to the region's natural and man-made attractions. Further research is required to establish the specific significance of this building within the context of tourism development in the region and the state. Nevertheless, it is an important example in Green Park, Blowing Rock, and western North Carolina of a building type used by thousands of visitors who have traveled there to savor the climate and scenery of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Landscape Context:

As the few sentences taken from Margaret Warner Morley's The Carolina Mountains suggest, the extraordinary natural features of the Blowing Rock area were a powerful lure for the tourist and the seasonal resident alike. Those same features determined the routes of access, up from the lower lands to the mountain tops, and they prescribed the character of the resort development which occurred at Green Park in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The route of the antebellum Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike, climbing northward from Patterson in Caldwell County, generally followed the

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route of today's US 321, however a series of road improvements in this century, coupled with new technology, has resulted in certain more convenient re-routings of the highway. The path of the old turnpike road entered the Green Park Historic District from the southeast, on the east side of the Harper-Shuford-Wise House (#8), and then turned to the northwest and generally followed the path of today's Gideon Ridge Road to its intersection with the Rock Road. A secondary lane led to the southwest to the Blowing Rock, itself, while the main turnpike road continued to the north and then turned to the northwest. The path of present-day US 321, in front of the Green Park Hotel, generally follows the path of the antebellum Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike. The path of the modern highway largely overlaps the antebellum turnpike as it continues in a curvilinear fashion toward the Blowing Rock village center.

At the point where the turnpike crossed the Eastern Continental Divide, there is a small plateau and it was here that the investors in the Green Park Improvement Company chose to locate the Green Park Hotel in 1891. This open, relatively flat area provided the necessary site for the large building, its dependencies, and related facilities. A quarter of a century later, in 1915-1916, the somewhat more rolling terrain to the north/northwest of the hotel would become the site of the Green Park-Norwood Golf Course. Although the location of the hotel disallowed its guests spectacular views over the mountainous landscape, they were free to walk over the large acreage owned by the Green Park Improvement Company and the planted grounds of the hotel which are visible in documentary photographs. They could also partake of waters from the springs which rose on either side of the hotel and formed the head of the New and Yadkin rivers.

Although there is no known surviving plat of the property of the Green Park Improvement Company, it is clear from surviving deeds that roads were laid out and lots for private resort cottages could be purchased. Just as the terrain dictated the route of the Lenoir-Blowing Rock Turnpike, the topography likewise influenced the routing of the secondary roads and lanes. Gideon Ridge Road, a part of the turnpike path, carries along the edge of the plateau, and lots along its south rim offered spectacular views into the Johns River Gorge. The Rock Road hugs the side of the mountain and, embanked by stone retaining walls, carries out to the Blowing Rock. Pinnacle Avenue was laid out along the crest of the hill, in front and southwest of the hotel, and parallel to the turnpike. The lots laid out on its southwest side offered the best views in Green Park to Grandfather Mountain. Green Hill Road extends off the turnpike, just southeast of

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the Green Park Hotel, and then carries in curvilinear fashion up to the top of Green Hill. Like Pinnacle Avenue's lots, lots along Green Hill Road were platted to provide cottage owners with handsome views and cooling breezes. It is unclear, at present, whether professional expertise was involved in the routing of these roads and lanes in Green Park at the turn of the century: it seems unlikely. Probably roads, such as the one rising up Green Hill, followed a path long established by usage by the Green family.

Much of the significance of the landscape at Green Park rises from the sympathetic fashion in which the resort community is gently laid over a richly picturesque natural landscape. This mostly domestic landscape takes into account rock outcroppings and other natural features which, in turn, form the basis of stone retaining walls, terracing, and other stonework which integrates the man-made with the natural. The pervasive use of native plant materials further weaves the man-made landscape with the natural woodland setting. The use of stone, native plantings, and bark shingles are three principal features which also appear at the Linville resort. The use of stone, native plant materials, and wood shingles are features which Green Park holds in common with other resort communities including Roaring Gap, Highlands, and Flat Rock.

It is uncertain what expertise was involved in the design of the first nine-hole golf course at Green Park in 1915-1916, just as the designer of the nineteenth-century golf course at Linville is also unconfirmed. Given the fact that five of the nine holes of the Green Park course were laid out on land belonging to Rufus Lenoir Patterson, II, who was a resident of New York and might have had contacts there, it seems possible that professional design skills were engaged at Green Park. The only person mentioned in the Watauga Democrat in connection with the work on the course is Lute Nelson who is said to have been an employee of the hotel. He is also cited for his planting of the hotel grounds and it is possible that he also did plantings for private cottage owners. The redesign of the course in 1922 is attributed to Donald James Ross, America's most prolific golf course architect in the 1920s. Ross's first known venture into western North Carolina resort golf course design occurred at the Tryon Country Club in 1916. He designed the revamped eighteen-hole course at the Linville resort in 1924 and in 1926 he designed the golf courses at the Roaring Gap and Highlands resorts. All of these mountain resort courses offered varied topography for a variety of shots. At the same time mountain springs provided the opportunity for natural water hazards; a spring rising on the Blowing Rock Country Club Course is

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the head of the New River.

The expansion of the golf course in 1922 proved to be the basis for the subdivision of substantial acreage surrounding the course. These lots were arranged to provide views over the course, fairways, tees, and greens in largely the same fashion that lots were arranged in country club developments throughout North Carolina. The Green Park-Norwood Golf Course, expanded and remodeled in the mid-1970s by the Blowing Rock Country Club, is the principal man-made landscape feature in the district. Like the cottage grounds in Green Park, it is planted with evergreen trees and shrubs, principally white pines, hemlocks, and rhododendrons. These plantings occur in both naturalistic groups and in more artificial plantings, mainly rows of white pines. There is relatively little use of stonework on the golf course. The legal requirement that the portions of the golf course on the south side of US 321, abandoned after the 1970s remodeling, be maintained as a golf course supports the significance of this important landscape feature in the Green Park Historic District.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the Green Park Historic District is as follows: Starting on the southwestern side of the Lenoir Turnpike (US 321) at its junction with the former Cliff Dr.; then southwest along the northwest property line of the A. G. Jones Cottage (#23), then southeast along the rear property lines of properties on the southwest side of the Lenoir Turnpike to the northeast corner of the house lot at 6182 Pinnacle Ave.; then southwest along the southeast property line of 6182 Pinnacle Ave.; then northwest along the northeast side of Pinnacle Ave. to the northwest boundary of the Robert A. Dunn Cottage (#18); then southwest along the northwest property line of the Dunn Cottage to Cliff Dr.; then southeast along Cliff Dr. to the point where it turns northeast, then southeast along the 3600-ft. contour line on the USGS (Globe Quad) map; then southeast and south along this contour line to the point when it turns to the southeast; then southeast in a straight line to the west side of the Lenoir Turnpike; then moving northeast along the northwest side of the Lenoir Turnpike to the southeast corner of the Harper-Shuford-Wise Cottage property (#8); then northwest along the northeast property line of the Harper-Shuford-Wise Cottage to the south side of Gideon Ridge Rd.; then east along Gideon Ridge Rd. and continuing eastward along the south property line of Gideon's Ridge (#9) to the west side of the Lenoir Turnpike; then north along the west side of the Lenoir Turnpike to the northeast corner of the Gideon's Ridge property; then west along the north property line of the Gideon's Ridge property to the rear property line of the Shuford Family Cottage (10); then following the rear and north side property lines of the Shuford Family Cottage to the Lenoir Turnpike; then crossing the Lenoir Turnpike and proceeding northeast along the east side of the Blowing Rock Golf Course former fairway #6; then continuing northeast along the southeast property line of properties on the southeast side of Green Hill Rd. to the northeast corner of the Helen Potts Armstrong Cottage lot (#34); then west along the north line of the Armstrong property to Green Hill Rd.; then crossing Green Hill Rd. and continuing northwest, northeast, and north along the east boundary of the Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course to Wonderland Dr.; then crossing Wonderland Dr. and continuing north and northwest along the east and north property lines of the David Ovens Cottage (#42); then south along the west side of Goforth Rd. to the northeast corner of the Mt. Bethel Reformed Church property

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(#41); then west, south, and east along the north, west, and south property lines of the church to Goforth Rd.; then south along the west side of Goforth Rd. to its junction with Rankin Rd.; then west and south along the western edge of the Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course (excepting fairways 1, 2, & 3 on the west side of Country Club Dr.) until it intersects the Lenoir Turnpike; then crossing the Lenoir Turnpike to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary of the Green Park Historic District has been drawn to encompass those properties on either side of the Lenoir Turnpike which relate historically to the Green Park Hotel and to the residential and recreational resort which developed around it in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In addition to the hotel and private cottages, the boundaries include two churches, a cemetery, the Blowing Rock, the Blowing Rock Country Club golf course (except for fairways 1, 2, and 3 which are separated from the rest of the golf course by a cluster of modern buildings and parking lots), associated landscape features, and non-contributing resources interior to the district which could not be drawn out. Beyond the boundaries are areas of modern development and expansive mountain terrain.

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PHOTOGRAPHS -

The following information applies to all nomination photographs:

- 1) Green Park Historic District
- 2) Blowing Rock, Watauga/Caldwell counties, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) 4/94
- 5) State Historic Preservation Office

The photographs are keyed by letter to the district sketch map.

- A: 1) Overall view, showing Much More, Shuford Family Cottage,
Golf Course, Golf Cart/Foot Bridge, & Lenoir Turnpike
6) View to southwest
- B: 1) The Blowing Rock
6) View to southwest
- C: 1) Green Park Inn
6) View to north
- D: 1) Pinnacle Avenue
6) View to northwest
- E: 1) A. G. Jonas Cottage
6) View to southwest
- F: 1) Clement-Slane Cottage
6) View to south
- G: 1) James Ross Cannon Cottage
6) view to northwest
- H: 1) Driveway, James Ross Cannon Cottage
6) View to west
- I: 1) Gideon's Ridge
6) View to northwest
- J: 1) House on Tarry Acres Circle
6) View to southwest
- K: 1) Blowing Rock Country Club Golf Course
6) View to north
- L: 1) Mt. Bethel Reformed Church
6) View to southwest

