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The West Raleigh Historic District is located in the city of Raleigh, the seat of Wake County and the capital of North Carolina. Raleigh, incorporated by the state legislature in 1794 and located on the Neuse River in the Piedmont of North Carolina, is named for Sir Walter Raleigh, the English statesman who sent the first English colonists to Roanoke Island. Laid out according to an eighteenth-century plan, Raleigh developed as a center of government and higher education.

The West Raleigh Historic District lies approximately one-and-a-half miles west-northwest of the state capitol and encompasses roughly three hundred and thirty-two acres. The district's topography varies from nearly level in the southeastern portion to more rolling terrain along the northern half of the neighborhood. The southeastern prong of Beaverdam Creek flows southward from Crabtree Creek to create a ravine in the park along the east side of Gardner Street and north of Van Dyke Avenue. Streets form an irregular grid of slightly curved thoroughfares and side streets intersected occasionally by a few serpentine streets. Linear, square, triangular, and trapezoidal medians divide streets and occupy intersections particularly at the junction of streets meeting at oblique angles. Within the district, nearly all the land is devoted to single-family residential use interspersed with recent and historic multi-family housing. A few churches stand on lots in the district and along the southern edge, commercial development lines Hillsborough Street. Buildings in the West Raleigh Historic District are fairly dense, although all houses have front and back yards and narrow side yards. In some sections, yards are larger and setbacks are deeper. Most historic dwellings in the district are frame, and sided with weatherboard or brick veneer. Stone veneer, other forms of wood siding, and concrete block construction are also common. While two-story dwellings are not uncommon, most houses are one-story in height, and the majority was constructed during a twenty-year period between the mid- and late 1930s and the mid- and late 1950s.

Enterprise Street and the rear lot lines of properties on Chamberlain Street and Rosemont Avenue form most of the district's eastern boundary, while the majority of the northern boundary terminates along the rear property lines of buildings on Mayview Road, Rosedale Avenue, and Ruffin Street and along the south side right-of-way on Furches Street. Faircloth Street—from Furches to Pollock Place—functions as the district's western boundary. Hillsborough Street marks the southern boundary, except in the area from roughly Dixie Trail to Henderson Street where the boundary dips southward to include industrial buildings and dwellings located in an enclave subdivided as College Crest, but now commonly referred to as Stanhope. Hillsborough Street is also the northern boundary of North Carolina State University, where many of the district's historic and current residents worked and studied.

The boundaries of the district—shown as a heavy dark line on the accompanying map—encompass several neighborhoods platted in the first half of the twentieth century including Bedford Heights (1918, 1927 extension), Bagwell (1919, 1922 extension), Blue Moon Ridge (1925), College Crest (1922), Fairmont (1926), Forest Hills (1927, 1938 extension), Harris-Chamberlain (1915, 1925 extension), and Wilmont (1925).

Because it is made up of several subdivisions platted separately in first decades of the twentieth century, the West Raleigh Historic District presents an intermingling of street patterns. The two blocks between Shepherd Street and Brooks Avenue correspond to the plats of Bagwell, Bedford Heights, and the 1938 Forest Hills extension and follow a neat grid plan. Portions of Wilmont, located west of Shepherd Street, contain graceful curving avenues. Following the tenets of the City Beautiful movement, the various developers who created the district set aside space for irregularly-shaped, small, informal parks along Gardner Street (#463), Kilgore Avenue (#576), Logan

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Court (#597), Merriman Avenue (#631), and at the western terminus of Clark Avenue (#643). The largest green space in the district is the Rose Garden (#669h) at the Raleigh Little Theatre (#669) where a large, cleared area is devoted to the cultivation of a variety of rose species.

The West Raleigh Historic District is a large district encompassing 1,157 contributing buildings—principally dwellings—six contributing sites, eight contributing structures, and two contributing objects. One contributing building has previously been listed in the National Register. One hundred and ninety-five buildings, two structures, and one site do not contribute to the significance of the district. Most of the noncontributing buildings were built after the end of the period of significance (1956), although a very small number are noncontributing because of radical alterations that compromise their integrity. In total, eighty-four percent of the district's resources are contributing. Of the 949 principal resources, two were built before 1901. Seven were constructed between 1901 and 1920. From 1921 to 1930, a total of 194 (20%) of the principal resources were constructed. Between 1931 and 1940, 260 (27%) were built. From 1941 to 1956, the period of greatest building activity in the district, 379 (40%) were constructed. Approximately 11% of the principal resources date to 1957 or later.

Setback from the public right-of-way and spatial arrangements vary throughout the district. Sidewalks serve most of the neighborhoods, but are not found in all sections, though their presence or absence does not appear to be an indicator of the wealth or social standing of the original residents. Along Stanhope Avenue, one- and one-and-a-half-story bungalows built in the 1920s are positioned near the street and close to one another creating a harmonious rhythm in form, massing, and materials. On the south side of Van Dyke Avenue where dwellings stand somewhat near the right-of-way, well-built stone walls and terraces bordering the sidewalk create a more vertical separation of space to shield the dwelling from passersby. Elsewhere, expansive front lawns create buffers between public spaces and private homes. Substantial dwellings on Furches Street are shielded from the street by gardens and well-tended lawns. Along Hillsborough Street, commercial and the few light industrial buildings border the sidewalk, while mid-twentieth century former service stations are set back from the street in order to accommodate gasoline pumps. The district's four churches and one school occupy large parcels at prominent corners.

Two properties listed in the National Register stand in the district. The North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station Cottage (#857; NR 2001) at 2714 Vanderbilt Avenue is a two-and-a-half-story weatherboard dwelling built in 1886 in the Picturesque mode that functioned as the office and home at the state's first agriculture experiment farm. The G. Milton Small and Associates Office Building (#98; NR 1994) is a Modernist glass and steel building raised above a lower parking area. Designed by the architect as an office for his firm, the 1966 building stands at 105 Brooks Avenue, just north of bustling Hillsborough Street.

West Raleigh, like the city's other suburban neighborhoods that developed primarily in the decades before World War II, abounds with indigenous and deciduous trees and shrubbery to create a sylvan oasis sandwiched between the busy thoroughfares of Wade Avenue, a few blocks north of the district, and Hillsborough Street. The influence of not only the City Beautiful movement, but also the numerous horticulturists associated with the University who have lived in the district, remains evident in the extensive plantings and gardens present in the district. Although Hurricane Fran, whose eye passed over Raleigh on September 6, 1996, destroyed numerous trees in the district and led to the condemnation of several properties, most streets remain shaded with a rich canopy.

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Because of the variety of functions of the resources, a wide range of building types, forms, and styles are found in the district. Domestic architecture—the predominant building type—is represented by Queen Anne dwellings, Colonial Revival houses, bungalows, foursquares, Period Cottages, Minimal Traditional dwellings, Cape Cods, and Ranch houses. Weatherboard and other types of wood siding, brick, and synthetic siding are the most common exterior materials for houses. About thirty-five dwellings are stone veneer. Nearly one hundred and twenty apartment buildings and duplexes are scattered among the district's single-family homes. Historic apartment buildings, constructed to accommodate students and faculty at North Carolina State University and to satisfy the increased need for housing in the late 1920s and following World War II, range in height from one to four stories and are most often executed in brick. Garages, sheds, and garage apartments accompany many dwellings. Garages are usually one-story, gable-front, weatherboarded buildings, but some brick examples and garages built to complement the dwelling are found at a few properties. Two-story garage apartments, usually executed in brick, frame, or concrete block, usually date from periods of housing shortages but were popular during all time periods due to the continuing demand for student housing close to the university.

Commercial and industrial buildings, including a post office, are limited to Hillsborough Street and the adjacent blocks. These mostly one- and two-story brick buildings typify those found throughout the city and include traditional commercial forms in which buildings stand on the edge of the sidewalk and house more than one shop or office, each with its own storefront and entrance, and mid-twentieth-century Moderne edifices. Several residential properties on Hillsborough Street have been converted to use as commercial buildings. Historic churches in the district follow the Gothic Revival style, while newer churches are Colonial Revival or Modernist in expression. The district's lone school—Fred Olds Elementary (#274)—is a two-story Classical Revival building constructed on Dixie Trail in 1927 and expanded in subsequent decades.

The earliest dwellings are Victorian-era houses built in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The district's earliest house and most outstanding example of the Queen Anne style is the two-story frame farmhouse (#857, NR 2001) built in 1886 on Vanderbilt Avenue as the residence and office of the North Carolina Agriculture Experiment Station and as a model farm dwelling. The cross-gable house features a sawnwork quatrefoil bargeboard with a pendant at the roof peak that outlines each gable. The imposing multi-gabled J. Thornton Rowland House (#324) at 6 Enterprise Street features a wraparound porch with Tuscan columns.

Many Colonial Revival and Dutch Colonial Revival style houses were built from the 1920s into the 1940s. The circa 1929 Samuel G. and Audrey Lehman House (#103), a two-story brick house with a pedimented portico with Tuscan columns, is typical of Colonial Revival style houses. The circa 1941 Raymond and Ruth Sermon House (#100) at 115 Brooks Avenue is a two-story, brick, Colonial Revival House with Tuscan columns supporting a gable-front one-story portico. The Dutch Colonial Revival style is represented by the two-story, stone-and-stucco Roy and Mildred Carter House (#850) on Vanderbilt Avenue.

Bungalows are in almost all areas of the district. One of the largest concentrations of intact bungalows is on Stanhope Avenue (#805-#831) in the subdivision platted as College Crest. The one- and one-and-a-half-story brick, weatherboard, and German-sided dwellings feature side-gabled, front-gabled, and jerkinhead roofs. Foursquares—two-story, hipped-roof houses, of which there are about nine examples in the district—are

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contemporaneous with bungalows, but were built with less frequency. The duplex (#330) at 17 Enterprise Street dates to circa 1924 and is a weatherboard foursquare with hipped-roof dormers. The J. Gregory and Anna Boomhour House (#517) at 3402 Hillsborough Street, built for a dean and professor at Meredith College, is a brick foursquare with an off-center entrance sheltered by a flat-roofed, one-story porch.

Like suburban neighborhoods that developed across the state during the first half of the twentieth century, the West Raleigh Historic District includes an array of period revival styles, most notably the English cottage form, also called the Period Cottage, and the Tudor Revival style. The overwhelming majority of these houses are brick, but many exhibit significant stone detailing. An outstanding example of the Period Cottage is the Gary H. and Ruth F. Singleton House (#496) at 15 Henderson Street. It dates to circa 1936 and is a one-and-one-half-story brick dwelling with a side-gable roof and intersecting front-gable roof, projecting front-gable stone entrance bay, engaged porch supported by square, random-stone and brick posts, and stucco and half-timbered side-gables. The Hugh and Ann Sloan House (#469) at 513 Gardner Street dates to circa 1940 and is a one-and-a-half-story stone Tudor Revival cottage with a side-gable roof and a round arched front door set in a projecting front-gable with half-timbering.

From the late 1930s through the 1950s hundreds of Minimal Traditional houses—typically modest, one-story, brick side-gabled dwellings, often with front-facing gables—appeared in the neighborhood. The Minimal Traditional dwelling is one of the district's most common house types. The largest concentration of these houses dates to the post-World War II period. The duplex (#697) at 3107-3109 Raymond Street was built circa 1949 and typifies the Minimal Traditional form. The one-story, side-gabled brick house exhibits an off-center front-facing gable. Its neighbor, 3111-3113 Raymond Street (#680), is an L-shaped brick Minimal Traditional duplex also constructed circa 1949.

Ranch houses were built on undeveloped lots in the district from the 1940s into the 1960s. The circa 1950 William D. Martin Jr. House (#685) at 2712 Rosedale Avenue is a one-story, brick and weatherboard Ranch with a hipped roof and vertical-light windows. The Baxton and Alice Smith House (#715) at 817 Rosemont Avenue dates to 1953 and is a one-story, brick and synthetic-sided Ranch house with a low-hipped roof, large interior chimney, and wide overhanging eaves.

The Modernist idiom dating from the 1940s and forward is expressed in a few dwellings, although most post-date the period of significance. The Donald and Marion Anderson House (#694) at 2715 Rosedale Avenue dates to circa 1950 and is a one-story, brick house with a low gable roof, attached carport, and surrounding brick wall.

Numerous historic apartment buildings were constructed to house students and the city's growing population in the 1920s until just after World War II. The forms and styles vary but they generally followed the tastes of the period in which they were constructed. For example, apartments from the 1920s often employed the same Craftsman style or period revival treatments, including decorative motifs, fenestration, and roof shapes, seen on individual houses from the same time; similarly, post-World War II apartment buildings were usually in the Minimal Traditional style, like their single-family counterparts. The multi-family dwelling (#150) at 105-109 Chamberlain Street dates to circa 1924 and is a two-and-one-half-story, brick, hipped-roof rectangular edifice with minimized Craftsman elements, hipped dormers, and a front porch with a hipped roof and brick columns.

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The circa 1927 two-story, Colonial Revival apartment building (#135) at 216-218 Chamberlain Street has a hipped roof and a full height piazza on square posts. Another two-story, Colonial Revival apartment building (#136) (circa 1928) stands next door at 220-226 Chamberlain Street and features stuccoed walls, a hipped roof, and two-story front-gable porches with Tuscan columns that flank the center entrance and stairwell. The circa 1928 Wilmont Apartments (#511), located at 3200 Hillsborough Street, exhibit a Mission Revival influence in its green-tile roof and parapets. The four-story, U-plan, brick building features prominent cast-iron balconies. Post-World War II apartment buildings were generally one to two stories and were built of brick. U-shaped arrangements with a center courtyard proved especially common and are found along Clark Avenue, Kilgore Avenue, Chamberlain Street, and Gardner Street. The apartment building (#137) at 300-304 Chamberlain Street dates to circa 1948 and is a single-story, U-shaped brick Minimal Traditional building with two front-gable wings joined by a side-gable unit.

Commercial, industrial, and office buildings in the district are located along Hillsborough Street, primarily west of Dixie Trail. The commercial block (#522) at 3013-3015 Hillsborough Street dates to circa 1935 and is a one-story brick edifice retaining original storefronts with transoms and recessed entrances. The well-preserved 1936 North Carolina Equipment Company building (#527) at 3101 Hillsborough Street is a two-story, brick industrial building with metal casement windows and a lighted sign atop the roof that depicts a piece of heavy machinery. The circa 1937 Raleigh Nehi Bottling Company (#512) at 3210 Hillsborough Street is a Moderne two-story, brick, flat-roof commercial building with metal casement windows and Carrara glass surrounding the front entrance with a canopy. Raleigh Linen Service Company (#534), now Servitex, at 3301 Hillsborough Street dates to circa 1941 and is a prominent one-story, Moderne brick industrial building with metal-frame and structural glass block windows. The northeast corner is curved at the street intersection and holds a recessed entrance with a flat-roof canopy.

Half of the district's four church buildings are contributing resources in the district. The earliest church is the circa 1927 West Raleigh Presbyterian Church (#554) at 27 Horne Street. The brick, Gothic Revival sanctuary features a square tower and Gothic arched windows. A later Gothic Revival church is Fairmont Methodist (#209) on Clark Avenue. The circa 1950 building is also brick with Gothic arch windows. A towering portico with Corinthian columns dominates the Dixie Trail façade of the 1960 Forest Hills Baptist Church (#302) which is nearly the stylistic opposite of the dramatic Modernist sanctuary of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, built in 1968 at Clark Avenue and Brooks Avenue (#227).

Besides the churches, the only significant non-residential buildings within the district not on or immediately adjacent to Hillsborough Street are the Raleigh Little Theatre (#669a) and Fred A. Olds School (#274). The Little Theatre was originally designed by William H. Dietrich and Thaddeus Hurd and stands in the rose garden (#669h) between Pogue and Gardner streets. The two boxy original sections of the brick building house the lobby and auditorium and the stage and fly gallery. Fred A. Olds School is a two-story, Classical Revival, brick building with a flat stone cornice, tetra-style portico with limestone pilasters, and modillions.

Although office buildings are less common than retail establishment, the district contains two noted post-World War II buildings designed for professional offices. The State Capitol Insurance Company Building (#500) at 2610 Hillsborough Street was built circa 1948 and is a three-story, Modernist, brick-veneer-over-steel-frame edifice

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with aluminum-frame louver windows with slate spandrel panels and a three-bay stripped Classical entrance approached by a concrete stair. The G. Milton Small and Associates Office (#98, NR, 1994) at 105 Brooks Avenue, arguably one of the most important Modernist buildings in North Carolina, showcases the architect's interpretation of Miesean principles in his use of steel columns as a frame for a curtain wall.

The West Raleigh Historic District comprises a well-preserved collection of domestic, institution, commercial, and industrial architecture from the period when Raleigh developed as the state's hub of government and the home for several institutes of higher learning. Although some of the historic properties have been altered with the installation of modern windows and synthetic siding and a small number of modern buildings post-dating the period of significance have been constructed, the district retains a high degree of integrity.

INVENTORY

The following inventory is arranged alphabetically by street name. For streets that run north to south, the north side of the street is presented first. For streets that run east to west, the east side of the street is presented first. For each side of the street, the properties are presented in ascending order by address number. Properties 950-955 are out of order numerically, but appear on the list at their geographic location.

Each property in the inventory is assigned a name, where possible, based on the first-known or possibly a long-term occupant. Information about these early occupants comes from the Raleigh City Directories located at the State Library of North Carolina. Dates of construction are based on interviews with local residents, the city directories, Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps, and Wake County deeds.

BAGWELL AVENUE, East Side

1. Rental House
 6 Bagwell Avenue, ca. 1925, Contributing Building

One-story bungalow, weatherboards, front-gable roof, 9/1 sash, full-width porch with hip roof and square posts, knee braces and exposed rafter tails.

2. Rental House
 8 Bagwell Avenue, ca. 1925, Contributing Building

One-story, brick bungalow, weatherboards in the gable-end, front-gable roof, 3/1 sash windows, full width porch with modern iron posts, interior brick chimney, two three-light attic windows and knee braces in the gable-end.

3. Rental House
 10 Bagwell Avenue, ca. 1925, Contributing Building

Nearly identical to #8, one-story, brick bungalow with weatherboards in the gable-end, front-gable roof, 3/1 sash, knee braces, full-width hip roof porch with tapered posts.